

2025* book awards

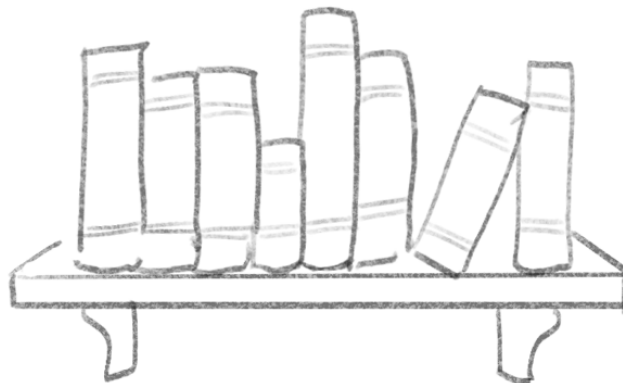
presented by clover



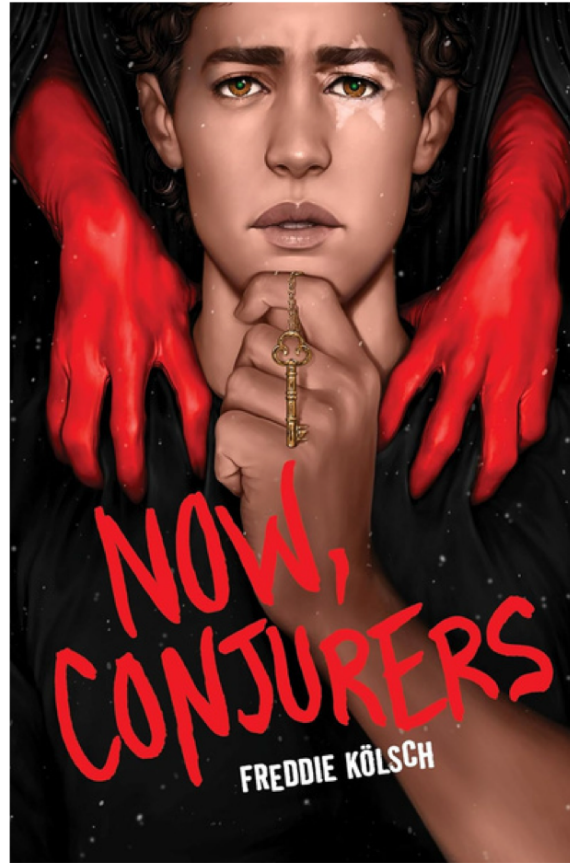
* books i read in 2025, not necessarily released in 2025.

categories

- **most exciting (pg 3)**
- **biggest letdown (pg 4)**
- **favourite romance (pg 5)**
- **favourite fantasy (pg 6)**
- **favourite sci-fi (pg 7)**
- **took me by surprise (pg 8)**
- **most painful (pg 9)**
- **most fun (pg 10)**
- **funniest couple (pg 11)**



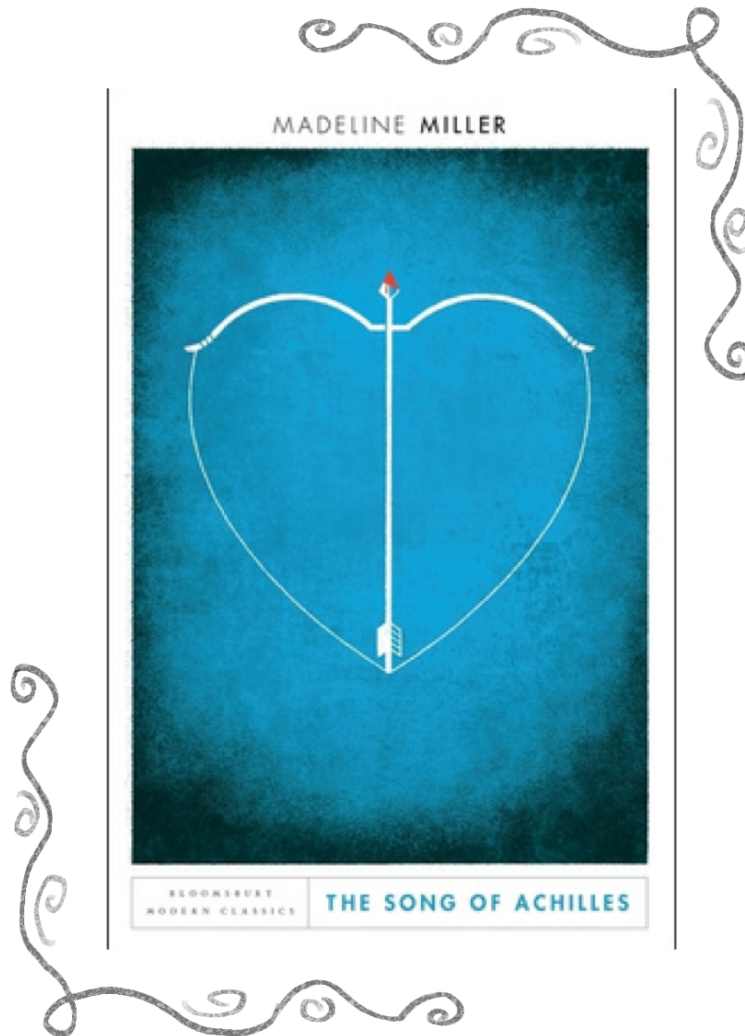
☆ ☆ ☆
most exciting !!



when i tell you that this book kept me on the edge of my seat, i mean it!! there were so many aspects of this book that i just loved – the mystery/ intrigue, the magic, the horror elements, and of course bastion!! a book that definitely deserves more love.



biggest letdown



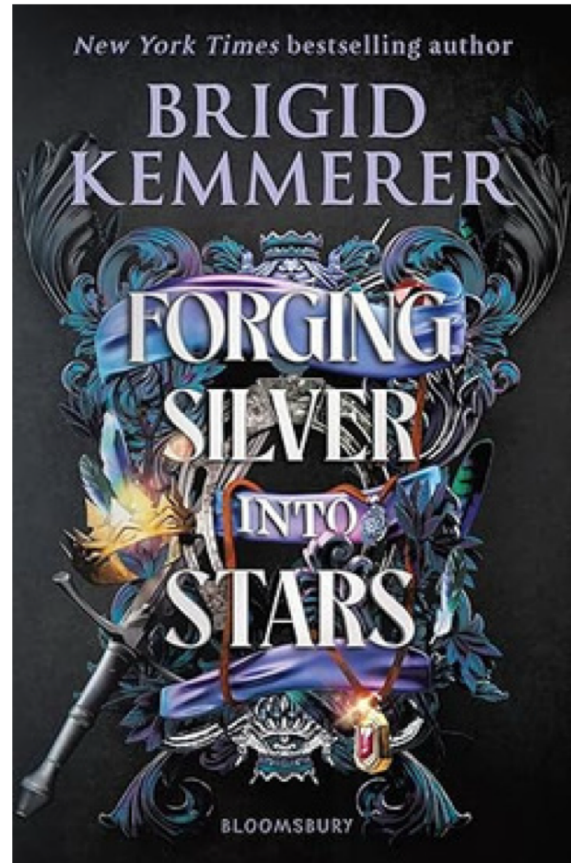
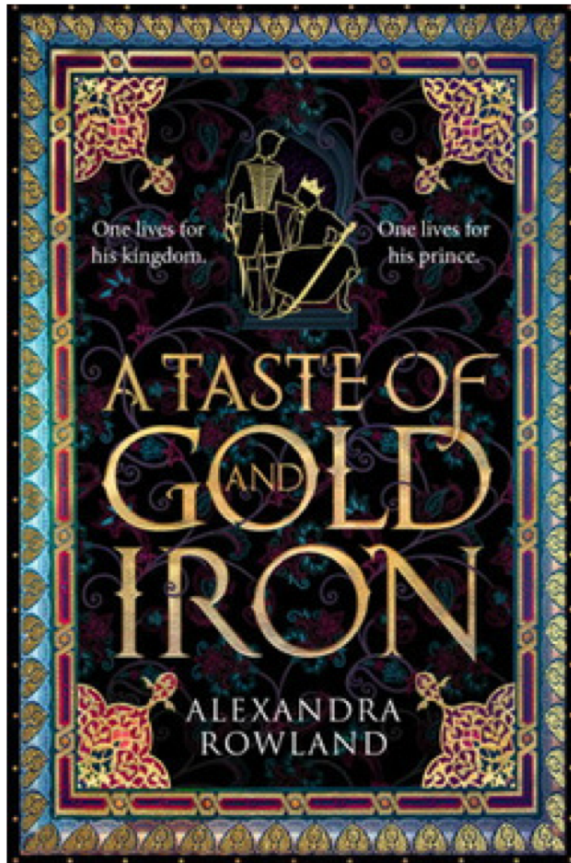
with all the hype surrounding this book, i kind of went into it with too high expectations (my own fault). it was an interesting read but i was underwhelmed by the characters and didn't really gel well with the writing style.

♡ fave romance ♡



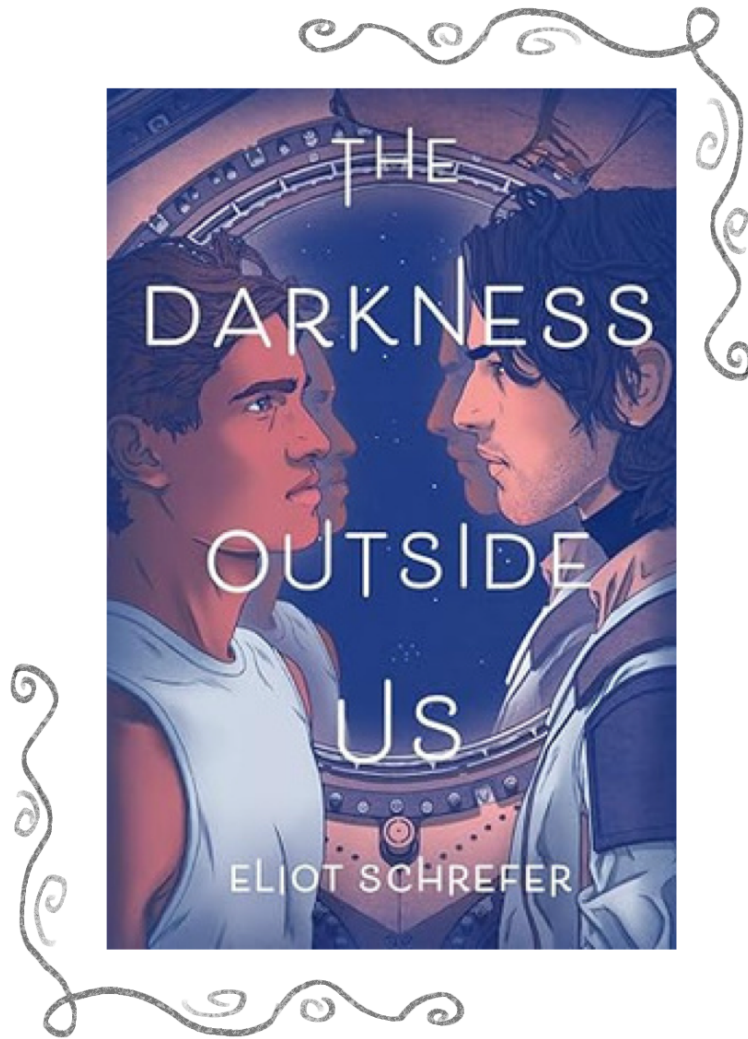
i love a good sports romance and (as an aussie) the fact this was one centered around AFL was even better. the characters quickly won me over and the inclusion of the AFLW made it even better. i loved how it navigated some tough issues and it was a very sweet read.

fave fantasy



i couldn't pick just one for this category. both of these books had excellent worlds that fascinated me. *A Taste of Gold and Iron* had some really intense moments and i enjoyed the development of kadou and evemer's relationship. *Forging Silver into Stars* was a solid fantasy story that reminded me of some of the greats but made better with some gay mixed in.

 **fave sci-fi** 



the book was a very, very wild ride! and i loved practically every moment! it had me hooked the whole way through and was unlike anything i had read before. i was totally not prepared for the twists it had.

took me by surprise

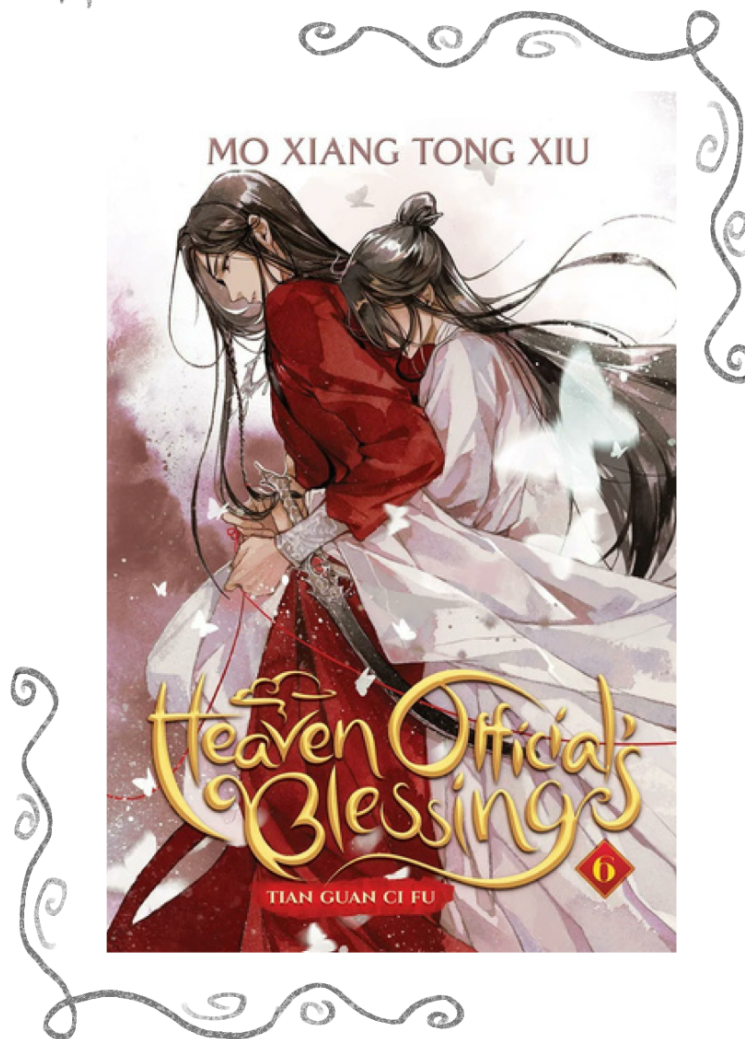


after reading the premise of this book, my expectations were low – i didn't think i'd like it much because of the political aspect. however, i ended up really loving it! jax calder always delivers in such an emotional and nuanced way, you can't help but be endeared to the characters.



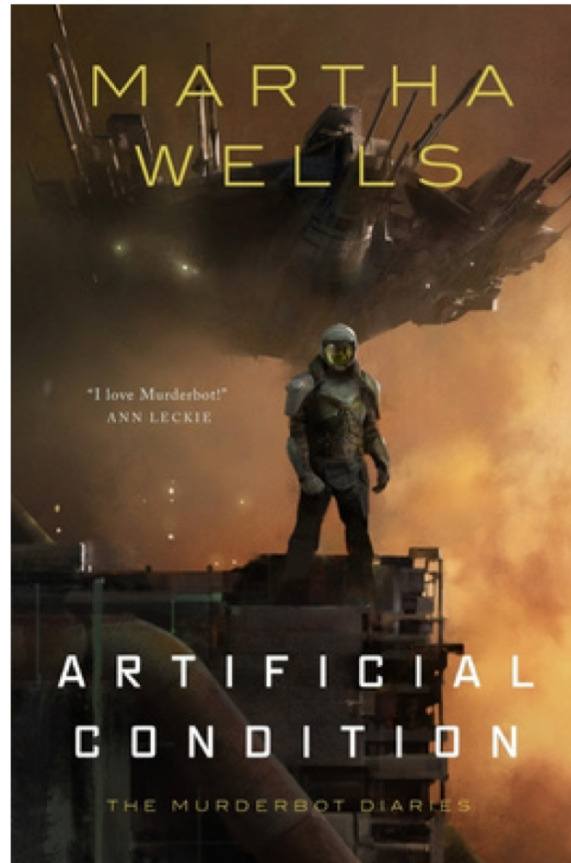
most painful

ouch



oooof this one hurt a lot. poor xie lian suffered so much, physically and mentally. it was definitely hard to read the flashbacks.

most fun 101

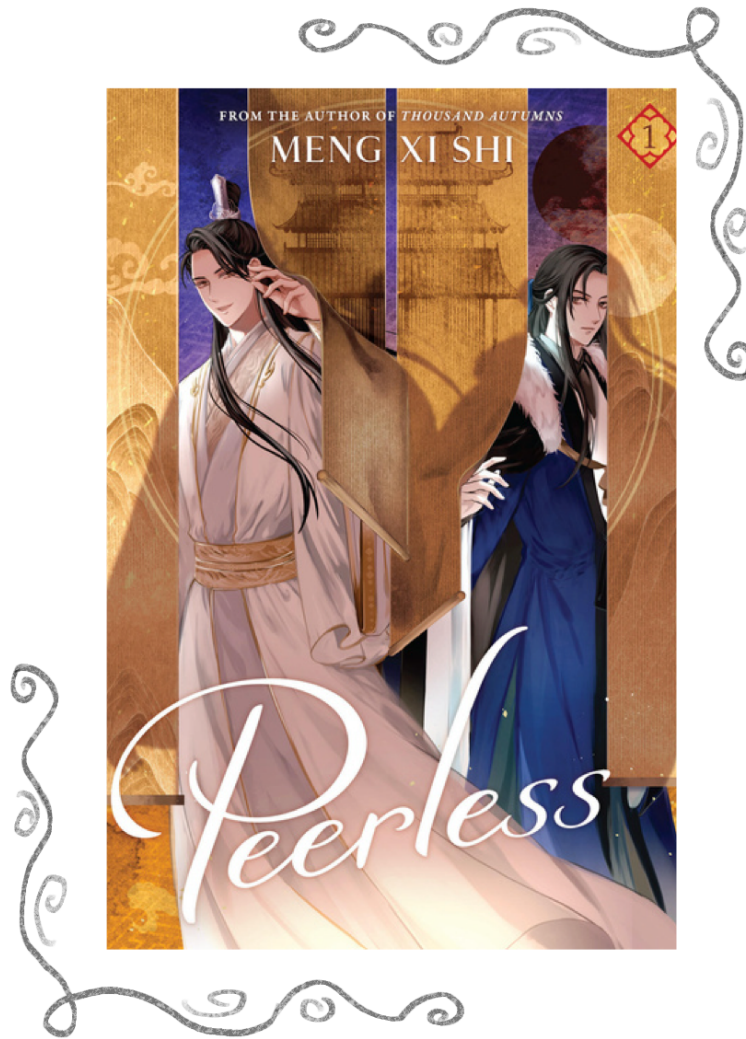


the interactions murderbot had with art were just so good. they were very amusing but also unexpectedly wholesome. it was a highly entertaining read.

HA
HA

funniest couple

75



feng xiao and cui buqu are soooo funny oh my god.

the way they bicker and set each other up for failure and disaster is just hilarious. i can't wait to continue this series and see how their dynamics change into something more romantic (while hopefully retaining some of the comedic aspects too).

the end!
thanks for reading :)

**disclaimer: book covers and the Marykate font
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