

Mandycfit Skyn Magazine

The Conductors John Joseph Adams

A gruesome war results in the old gods' departure from earth. The only remnants of their existence lie in two girls. Twins, separated at birth. Goddesses who grow up believing that they are human. Daughters Of Nri explores their epic journey of self-discovery as they embark on a path back to one another. Strong-willed Naala grows up seeking adventure in her quiet and small village. While the more reserved Sinai resides in the cold and political palace of Nri. Though miles apart, both girls share an indestructible bond: they share the same blood, the same face, and possess the same unspoken magic, thought to have vanished with the lost gods. The twin girls were separated at birth, a price paid to ensure their survival from Eze Ochichiri, the man who rules the Kingdom of Nri. Both girls are tested in ways that awaken a mystical, formidable power deep within themselves. Eventually, their paths both lead back to the mighty Eze.

Descendants of the First is the thundering sequel to Reni Amayo's epic YA fantasy, Daughters of Nri. Amayo takes us back to the ancient kingdom of Nri. With the king dead, the reunited twin goddesses must now face mythical beasts, a volatile resurgence of lost gods & unseen enemies as they fight to stop the Nri from succumbing to a looming curse. Deep cracks are forming throughout the kingdom of Nri with whispers of deadly successors lurking beneath the shadows. Despite having the same face, it seems the deepest crack is forming between Naala and Sinai, the reunited twin goddesses, who must put their differences aside as they travel through a broken Nri. Unbeknownst to the girls, their use of the mystical Ndu crystal has awakened mythical beasts and the lost gods, each returning to Nri one by one. One thing is clear, the twins will have to face enemies at every corner of the kingdom... one of whom lies hidden amongst those they hold dearest. As ongoing turmoil spreads throughout the kingdom, the daughters of Nri must unmask the true face of their enemy, as they discover that their unique blood has marked them with magic strong enough to restore true peace to the world - a task only they can complete. But with beasts lurking far and wide, will they be able to do so before the kingdom succumbs to its looming curse? Descendants of the First is the thundering sequel to Reni K Amayo's epic feminist young adult fantasy, Daughters of Nri, lauded as "literary magic" by Buzzfeed and a piece of "Excellent writing, brilliant book." by best-selling author, Dorothy Koomson.

THE LATEST NOVEL FROM YA SENSATION BETHANY C. MORROW Meet Naema Bradshaw: a beautiful Eloko, once Portland-famous, now infamous, as she navigates a personal and public reckoning where confronting the limits of her privilege will show Naema what her magic really is, and who it makes her. Teen influencer Naema Bradshaw has it all: she's famous, stylish, gorgeous--and she's an Eloko, a charismatic person gifted with a melody that people adore. Everyone loves her--until she's cast as the villain who exposed a Siren to the whole world. Dragged by the media, and canceled by her fans, no one understands her side: not her boyfriend, not her friends, not even her

fellow Eloko. Villified by those closest to her, Naema heads to the Southwest where she is determined to stage a comeback... to her family, her real self, and the truth about her magic. What she finds is a new community in a flourishing group of online fans who support her. At first, it feels like it used to--the fandom, the adoration, the community that takes her side--but when her online advocates start targeting other Black girls, Naema will realize that--for Black girls like her--even the privilege of fame has its limits. And only Naema can discover the true purpose of her power, and how to use it. "A watery and melodic crossroads of the real and the mythic, *A Chorus Rises* lures readers with its seductive and beautifully Black siren song. An enthralling tale of Black girl magic and searing social commentary ready to rattle the bones." —Dhonielle Clayton, New York Times bestselling author of *The Belles* series *A Chorus Rises* is a timely confrontation of the evolving nature of popularity in a society that chooses "exceptions" and rewards "model minorities." At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

A compelling debut by a new voice in fantasy fiction, *The Conductors* features the magic and mystery of Jim Butcher's Dresden Files written with the sensibility and historical setting of Octavia Butler's *Kindred* introducing Hetty Rhodes, a magic-user and former conductor on the Underground Railroad who now solves crimes in post-Civil War Philadelphia. As a conductor on the Underground Railroad, Hetty Rhodes helped usher dozens of people North with her wits and magic. Now that the Civil War is over, Hetty and her husband Benjy have settled in Philadelphia, solving murders and mysteries that the white authorities won't touch. When they find one of their friends slain in an alley, Hetty and Benjy bury the body and set off to find answers. But the secrets and intricate lies of the elites of Black Philadelphia only serve to dredge up more questions. To solve this mystery, they will have to face ugly truths all around them, including the ones about each other. In this vibrant and original novel, Nicole Glover joins a roster of contemporary writers within fantasy, such as Victor LaValle and Zen Cho, who use speculative fiction to delve into important historical and cultural threads.

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