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Champion



Synopsis

The explosive finale to Marie Lu's New York Times bestselling LEGEND trilogy "perfect for fans of THE HUNGER GAMES and DIVERGENT! He is a Legend. She is a Prodigy. Who will be Champion? June and Day have sacrificed so much for the people of the Republic and each other and now their country is on the brink of a new existence. June is back in the good graces of the Republic, working within the government's elite circles as Princeps Elect while Day has been assigned a high level military position. But neither could have predicted the circumstances that will reunite them once again. Just when a peace treaty is imminent, a plague outbreak causes panic in the Colonies, and war threatens the Republic's border cities. This new strain of plague is deadlier than ever, and June is the only one who knows the key to her country's defense. But saving the lives of thousands will mean asking the one she loves to give up everything he has. With heart-pounding action and suspense, Marie Lu's bestselling trilogy draws to a stunning conclusion. New York Times bestseller YALSA BFYAALA Top 10 nominee Chicago Public Library Best Book VOYA YA Perfect Ten List Bank Street Best Book Featured on Entertainment Weekly's Must-List From ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY: "Fine writing and excellent execution. Sequel, please!" From THE NEW YORK TIMES: "Legend doesn't merely survive the hype, it deserves it." From USA TODAY: "Marie Lu's dystopian novel is a Legend in the making."

Book Information

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Fantasy > Science Fiction

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

Yeah, I'm a guy...who cares? (Obsessed with Dystopian Novels...dunno why)After the extremely disappointing read of Allegiant, and the s***ty conclusion to Divergent, I was pretty worried about the ending to this series, because of what Marie Lu said in an interview, "I hope people still like me after the ending! I'm honestly not entirely sure if I'm going to be getting a lot of hate mail, but we'll see what happens"!; as many people have said, life sucks as it is, we want a good ending :P. Some of the people reading this book might not like the ending...but it gave me a really good feeling as Day said the exact lines in a previous book, not sure if it was Legend or Prodigy, but Marie Lu brought the ending full circle. I bought Legend, Prodigy, and The 5th Wave (apocalyptic novel, great read, 1st book in a trilogy) in July. I read The 5th Wave first, and then I read Legend and Prodigy in two successive days. After the cruel ending/cliffhanger of Prodigy (already had one of these with The Mark of Athena), I was annoyed that I had to wait another 4 months for the final book, BUT IT WAS WELL WORTH THE WAIT!!! Sucks for the people that had to wait longer...PLEASE DON'T CONTINUE IF YOU DON'T WANT SPOILERS (If you don't want to buy the book, and get a summary of pretty much what happens in the story, you can read below. If not, just read what I wrote above, and get the book for yourself as you won't be disappointed *cough cough* Veronica Roth)If you read the Preview of Champion, you would know the story starts 8 months after Day left June. Thomas and Commander Jameson are sentenced to death (They escape). So, overall, the story was very good (spent 3 and a half hours reading through all 369 pages), just like Legend and Prodigy. There was a good amount of action, and some amazing scenes that I felt were powerful (one sexual one that was a bit awkward...). So pretty much, we know that the Colonies are going to war again, with the Republic, because of Eden and the stupid plagues. The Republic, tries to get help from other countries, particularly Antarctica. For some reason, Africa (apparently a super power now) has already decided to help the Colonies, and they initiated a surprise attack against the Republic. No doubt, the Republic is going to lose this war, as they have no strong army. Antarctica is apparently one of the most powerful country/continent in the world now, and they can change the weather as they please, change the color of their skyscrapers as they please, and have a built in level system. This level system is actually pretty cool, as you automatically go into the system at the age of 13, and the system tries to make it so you don't do "bad" things. Such as cheating, which

gives you -5 points, while doing simple things such as bowing down to higher ups give you +1, and watering a plant gives you +1 points. June goes on and on about how advanced Antarctica is about, but unfortunately, the Republic cannot get Antarctica's help, unless they find a cure to stop the disease that has spread, or if the Republic is willing to give up Dakota (greatest land territory in the Republic). The story continues, where pretty much Day is torn up about loving June, since she's the person that technically caused the death of many of his family members, and June is torn up with Day, because she hates the fact that every time he sees her, he'll also see the pain she has caused for him. Pretty much, in one scene, Day just goes to June and says that "billions of people will come and go, but no one will ever be like you". Since he's dying, he regrets this, so he then asks if June loves him. If she doesn't, he can finally let go, and it'll be ok if he dies, but June says she does love him, and then they pretty much spend the night together. In the morning, Day thinks that June is still sleeping, even though she's not. Day leaves to go to his old house, where he grew up, and he's so torn up about his feelings, that he just goes to where his old room was, and starts crying his eyes out, knowing that he'll always love June, but he'll always see the pain she's caused. June follows him secretly, and only sees that he's crying (she's smart though, Lu gives you the impression that she knows everything Day's thinking). The story goes on, and pretty much, without Antarctica's help, the Republic will fall, so Day comes up with the idea of a fake surrender, and then attacking the Colonies where it hurts. This is because the leader of the Colonies somehow hacked into the Republic's frequencies, and contacted Day, and told him that pretty much, if Day helps the Colonies win the war, everyone Day loves will be spared, but if he doesn't, June dies, Eden dies, Tess dies, etc. Meanwhile, the plague is still destroying the lives of many people, and Day has agreed to let Eden help the people by trying to find a cure. However, we figure out that Eden is not Patient Zero of the new strain of disease (you also find out that the Colonies created this new plague to make a fake outrage. There was never going to be a peace treaty, they wanted to win the war all along. Commander Jameson was helping them the entire time). However, in Prodigy, June was sick, when she and Day went over to the Colonies. June believes that this is the other side of the disease the Colonies used to create the new strain, and it turns out she's correct. They find a somewhat cure. So the fake surrender happens, and Day gets everyone in the cities to rally behind him, and fighting the Colonies at every turn (I'm leaving out small details). Eventually, the Colonies fight back, and... Pretty much, what happens is that Commander Jameson escaped her trials (I mentioned this earlier). She's on top of a rooftop with some other soldiers of the Colonies, and she's sniping down all the Republic soldiers down below. This part is narrated from June's point of view. June pretty much says that "something of interest" catches Jameson's attention. Someone's charging below

toward Eden, and of course it's Day. I had an Allegiant flashback...Jameson starts aiming her sights on Day, and she shoots but misses, and she shoots but misses again. Day has retrieved Eden at this time, but then Jameson shoots again. June says that a "shriek of pain from a voice I knew all too well erupted below". Jameson shoots again, hitting Day one more time, and then June shoots her...but misses. So pretty much, Day's been shot twice, and now Jameson is trying to kill June. In the end, June throws her off the building, but Jameson catches June as well...so June is dangling over the edge with Jameson clutching to some of the building's support. June yells at the soldiers below to shoot Jameson, and Jameson says "I knew you couldn't kill me yourself". Jameson gets shot, and June's alright. June's on the ground running over to Day, and then she holds him up, while he's bleeding to death. After Day loses consciousness, June screams about how cruel fate is, and that after everything they've been through, they deserve each other. June makes a deal with "God". She pretty much prays and says that she's willing to sacrifice anything for Day to stay alive. Well, sure enough, Day stays alive...after being in a coma for many months. One day, she's waiting outside his hospital room like she does everyday, and a doctor comes out saying that Day's awake. The bad news is that Day has slight amnesia, and doesn't remember much of what has happened in the last few years, so pretty much Day has no clue who June is. However, the doctor says that there's a decent chance that Day will remember sooner or later, if people help him with his memories (Eden, and Tess). June goes into see Day, but Day just sits there looking at her like she's a stranger. June goes on for a few pages about how much pain she's caused Day, and that this is her one chance to not hurt him...so she lies to him and tells him that she's just a person sent from the Republic to see how well he's doing. He obviously believes her. We find out that in a bit, Day and Eden go to live in Antarctica because Eden's very smart in construction, mechanics, and building structures...and now we get to the epilogue. 10 YEARS LATER We find out that it's June's 27th birthday, and that in her past birthdays, she's dated the Elector for a few years, but then broke up with him because she could never love him the way she loves Day. However, this birthday is hard for her, because Metias died when he was 27, and now she's going to be the same age as him. Tess and June are good friends now, and June was going to go over to her house for dinner that night, and Tess told her that if she watched the news, she would be in for a surprise. Naturally, June watches the news, and finds out that Eden is coming back to work for the Republic, and so Day would be coming with him. As June walks on the road to Tess's apartment/house, she sees two tall figures, one jabbering on about stuff (Eden), and one that's listening intently. She notices that it's Eden and Day, but she doesn't want to hurt Day again, so she doesn't say anything as she walks past them two. However, as she walks past, Day turns to look at her, and asks her if she knows him.

She says no, but then he's like "I swear I know you". After a few more moments of looking at her, he says "I remember you". June looks at him, and she narrates that when she looks into Day's eyes, there are no more painful glances, and that there is a scar that is healed. So pretty much Day has somewhat forgiven June. Day says, "It's you", and June replies "Is it?". Day then goes on and says "There's a fog around you, that I would like to clear". June says that she doesn't want to be the first person to do anything, and that she's getting anxious, but finally Day reaches out and shakes her hand. "Hi," he says. "I'm Daniel" "Hi," I reply. "I'm June" FULL CIRCLE!!! A fitting ending to this masterpiece trilogy by Marie Lu. I really hope she gives us a short story like maybe a few years after (like the prequel, but a short sequel)... NOW GO MAKE SOME BABIES :D!

4.5 Star Rating for Champion 4 Star Rating for the complete Legend Series After a few very disappointing endings to dystopian trilogies this year... Requiem I'm still upset and Allegiant you're still in the corner, you know what you did.... I was worried that Marie Lu would follow that trend. OMG thank god she didn't. Marie Lu actually remembered what her trilogy was about and stayed very true to the meaning of the overall story. Yes, there are heartbreaking moments, tragedies, sacrifices but they were all believable and well within what I thought the characters would do. Honestly this was not one of my favorite dystopian series going into Champion. But Marie Lu has completed a very strong series overall and the last book in the series is my favorite. There is something for everyone in this series. It has enough action to keep things entertaining, a sweet complicated romance aspect, love of family, honor, duty, struggles, heroism and sacrifice. - "What's the point of keeping in touch with the girl you're crazy about, when you're dying?" - Day Champion starts out eight months after Prodigy ended. Day and June haven't really talked after their tear filled break up. Day is still hiding that he is sick, but can't get June out of his mind even after all this time. He is still fiercely protective of his little brother Eden who is still recovering after getting a mutated version of the plague. Anden is desperate to convince Day to let the republic use Anden to try and make a vaccine since the plague is now going through the colonies and the republic will soon be under attack if they can't provide a cure. June is caught in the middle as she can see both Day and Anden's side of the argument. June will protect Day as much as she can since she still feels responsible for the death of his mother and brother. In Prodigy we learned that the colonies while different than the republic might not be better. A country run completely by corporations still had so many issues that it wasn't the perfect haven some had expected it to be. The republic is broken and Anden needs some outside help if they want a chance of holding out against the colonies. Anden and June go to Antarctica in search of an alliance but the price they ask is steep. I liked how the culture of

Antarctica was represented. We have seen a republic pretty much ruled by a dictator, the colonies ruled by corporations and now Antarctica which is based mostly on a reward system similar to a video game. It was a very interesting concept and I liked the visualization of it. The main storyline of the republic becoming more than it was under the regime of Anden's father and being broken but change taking some time was steady with what I expected from the trilogy. June and Day's continued involvement against the new threat was engrossing and I felt like they were both in real danger multiple times. Day got to go back to his roots from Legend where he pulled stunts for the republic now against the colonies instead of the other way around. June really grows into the woman she is going to be. There are some very hard choices she makes and her emotions sometimes broke my heart as she struggle to do the right thing. Some people get to redeem themselves against the mistakes made in Legend and Prodigy while others continue down more destructive paths. Thomas and June had quite a moment in the book reliving the death of Matias and it is a very well written argument where you could see the motivations behind what Thomas did even if you can't forgive his betrayal. He really did strive protect the republic in his own twisted way. There is also some good time spent on the June/Day relationship. Their lives have been intertwined in love and pain. Each trying desperately to do what is best for the other. - "Do you have any idea," He says in a soft broken hoarse whisper, "Do you know how, how badly I wish?" He pulls away long enough to look me desperately in the eyes. "If you don't love me, just say it. You have to help me. It would probably be for the best. It would make it easier to stay away from you. Wouldn't it?" - Day to June June really proves how unconditionally she loves Day how much she is willing to sacrifice for him. It was beautiful and heartbreaking. Marie Lu gives us a look 10 years in the future at the end and I think that ties up all the loose ends rather well. I liked how the entire story really comes full circle. The last chapter is really beautiful and full of Hope for a better future.

This book was such a sweet relief after finishing the Divergent series and being utterly disappointed. Lu did a fantastic job wrapping up this story and now I'm just sad it's over. Definitely worth the wait :)

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