



2017

Glass Sword

Abigail Packard

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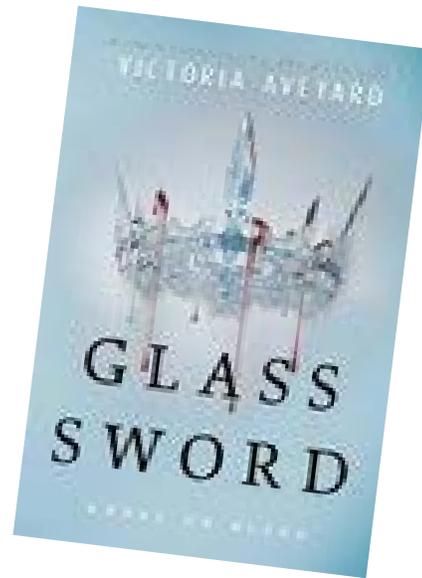
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Book Review

Title: Glass Sword
Author: Victoria Aveyard
Reviewer: Abigail Packard
Publisher: HarperTeen
Year: 2016
ISBN: 9780062310668
Pages: 464
Interest Level: Young Adult
Rating: Dependable



Review

After Maven's despicable betrayal, Mare, Cal, and the Scarlet Guard are on the run. They arrive at a Scarlet Guard Base, but Cal is taken into custody and Mare is estranged as a newblood. Mare and Kilorn break Cal free and escape on a stolen plane determined to find the other newbloods. Mare and her gang meet Jon, a newblood man who can see the future. He refuses to join them, but directs them to Cameron, a newblood girl that escaped from Maven's prison. Mare and her group of newbloods infiltrate the prison, free the prisoners, kill Queen Elara, and escape, but not without losses. Mare and some volunteers set out to rescue the 5,000 children that Maven is sending to the front lines of the war, but they are caught; Mare offers herself to Maven as a trade for the others to be set free.

Victoria Aveyard's second novel in the Red Queen series is filled with bursts of action and tangles of loyalties and relationships. However, just as in the first novel, the setting is vague and underdeveloped. Mare is a girl torn asunder by her past actions and her feelings for Cal, a cliché that became more annoying than anything as her internal struggles dragged on. Cal offers little by way of character development as well, acting merely as a handsome object of desire. The plot consists mainly of monotonous wandering between one newblood and the next, providing little real development to the story as none of the new characters are memorable. Overall, a link between novels that does little to further the overarching plot and even less to endear readers to the characters.

*Contains mild language and moderate violence.