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Six of Crows

Cynthia Frazier

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Book Review

Title: Six of Crows
Author: Leigh Bardugo
Reviewer: Cynthia Frazier
Publisher: Henry Holt and Company
Publication Year: 2015
ISBN: 9781627792127
Number of Pages: 465
Interest Level: Young Adult
Rating: Excellent



Review

Kaz Brekker, a criminal mastermind has been offered the opportunity to win a fortune. All he has to do is rescue a chemist from the Ice Court, a secure prison that has never been breached before. His gang for the heist consists of Inej, an acrobat who has become adept at spying and using knives; Jesper, a gambler and sharpshooter; Nina, a lovely Grisha heartrender; Matthias, who knows the way into the Ice Court; and Wylan, the engineer. One of the problems they will face is that the Ice Court is the headquarters for witch hunters (Grisha hunters) and they have a Grisha on their team. This story is filled with action, intrigue, betrayal, and adventure as each uses his wits and special skills to accomplish specialized tasks. Each member of the gang is risking everything for a chance to reach their own type of freedom, but trusting each other is the hardest part of the mission.

Expanding on the Grisha from the Grisha Trilogy, Bardugo's strength in this book is character development. She accomplishes this by telling the story in third person. Each of her protagonists have a back story that is cleverly divulged and adds emotion and understanding to the reader's acceptance of the members of the gang and their personal reasons for their actions. Rich in detail, Bardugo weaves a tale with twists and turns in the plot that cannot be anticipated. This New York Times best seller is a fast paced, fun read and was also one of YALSA's 2016 Teen's Top Nominees. The sequel to *Six of Crows*, *Crooked Kingdom* is expected in September 2016.

*Contains substance abuse, mild language, moderate violence and sexual content.