



Shards and Ashes

By Melissa Marr, Kelley Armstrong, Veronica Roth, Kami Garcia, Margaret Stohl



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The world is gone, destroyed by human, ecological, or supernatural causes. Survivors dodge chemical warfare and cruel gods; they travel the reaches of space and inhabit underground caverns. Their enemies are disease, corrupt corporations, and one another; their resources are few and their courage is tested.

Powerful original dystopian tales from nine bestselling authors offer bleak insight, prophetic visions, and precious glimmers of light among the shards and ashes of a ruined world.

Stories from:

Kelley Armstrong

Rachel Caine

Kami Garcia

Nancy Holder

Melissa Marr

Beth Revis

Veronica Roth

Carrie Ryan

Margaret Stohl



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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 8 Up-This collection of dystopian short stories features some of the genre's greatest voices along with the work of popular paranormal romance authors. The nine original tales all center on themes of revolution, class wars, and romance. Standouts include Veronica Roth's "Hearken," in which musical prodigies are schooled to hear the life songs-or death songs-of individuals with the help of an implant, Margaret Stohl's "Necklace of Raindrops," a lyrical piece about the value of truly living; and Rachel Caine's "Dogsbody," a tale of corporate control gone wrong. Along with selections by Beth Revis and Carrie Ryan, these pieces move quickly, make good use of the limited word count, and are likely to stick with readers. However, other offerings-Kelley Armstrong's "Branded," Nancy Holder's "Pale Rider," Melissa Marr's "Corpse Eaters," and Kami Garcia's "Burn 3"-are forgettable due to predictability, far-reaching plots, and unbelievable circumstances. All in all, the action is fast paced and the variety of storytelling tones appealing, making this an ideal addition to libraries in which dystopian and paranormal romance books are popular.-Jennifer Furuyama, Pendleton Public Library, ORα(c) Copyright 2013. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

From [Booklist](#)

The future is bleak but love endures in this collection of dystopian tales from nine popular YA authors. All the standard dystopian trappings are here, so much so that several stories form an indistinguishable haze of corrupt governments and environmental ruin. But there are some stories that create more unusual futures. Holder's "Pale Rider" reads like the first section of a hallucinatory novel and involves a girl who discovers her gift for finding lost things in a world filled with the lost. Marr's "Corpse Eaters" has teens looking for a safe haven from the religious followers of a Lovecraftian god. Caine's excellent "Dogsbody" has a strong narrative voice and doesn't shy away from a grim but strangely joyful ending. Fans of Revis' novels will enjoy seeing the character Orion as a teenager in "Love Is a Choice." The stories are tied together by a belief in the power of relationships to create hope, and though the collection is uneven, it has something for anyone who loves a good world-gone-wrong scenario. Grades 8-12. --Krista Hutley

About the Author

Melissa Marr is the author of the bestselling Wicked Lovely series as well as the adult fantasy novels *Graveminder* and *The Arrivals*. When not writing, editing, or traveling, Melissa is buried under a plethora of books, dogs, and children in Virginia or online at www.melissa-marr.com.

When librarians finally granted Kelley Armstrong an adult card, she made straight for the epic fantasy and horror shelves. She spent the rest of her childhood and teen years happily roaming fantastical and terrible worlds, and vowed that someday she'd write a story combining swords, sorcery, and the ravenous undead. That story began with the *New York Times* bestselling *Sea of Shadows* and continues with *Empire of Night*.

Armstrong's first works for teens were the *New York Times* bestselling *Darkest Powers* and *Darkness Rising* trilogies. She lives in rural Ontario with her husband, three children, and far too many pets.

Veronica Roth is the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *Divergent*, *Insurgent*, *Allegiant*, and *Four: A Divergent Collection*. Ms. Roth and her husband live in Chicago. You can visit her online at www.veronicarothbooks.com.

Nancy Holder is the nationally bestselling author of forty-two novels and two hundred science fiction, fantasy and horror short stories. She has received four Bram Stoker Awards from the Horror Writers Association, and her latest novel, *Ghost Roads*, appeared on the *USA Today* Bestseller list. Her work has been translated into more than two dozen languages. She has spoken at World Fantasy conventions, and at World Horror conventions, among others. She currently lives in San Diego with her husband Wayne, her daughter Belle, and their three dogs, Mr. Ron, Maggie, and Dot.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Marilyn Daniels:

In this 21st hundred years, people become competitive in each and every way. By being competitive currently, people have do something to make these people survives, being in the middle of the actual crowded place and notice simply by surrounding. One thing that at times many people have underestimated the idea for a while is reading. Yeah, by reading a reserve your ability to survive improve then having chance to stay than other is high. In your case who want to start reading a new book, we give you this Shards and Ashes book as starter and daily reading guide. Why, because this book is greater than just a book.

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