A fresh, fierce take on Cinderella that's a little bit fairy tale, a little bit Terminator, and totally genius.

CINDER
By Marissa Meyer

“Thanks to Marissa Meyer, Cinderella is getting the cyborg treatment. Fairy tales are becoming all the rage, with the TV shows Once Upon a Time and Grimm spinning them through a modern filter. The 26-year-old Meyer's debut novel Cinder, though, combines a classic folk tale with hints of The Terminator and Star Wars in the first book of The Lunar Chronicles young-adult series due out Jan. 3.”
– USAToday.com

“Cinderella is a cyborg in this futuristic take on the fairy tale, the first book in Ms. Meyer's planned ‘Lunar Chronicles’ series.”
– Wall Street Journal, in a round-up called “After Harry Potter: The Search for the Magic Formula”

“First in the Lunar Chronicles series, this futuristic twist on Cinderella retains just enough of the original that readers will enjoy spotting the subtle similarities. But debut author Meyer’s brilliance is in sending the story into an entirely new, utterly thrilling dimension.” – STARRED, Publishers Weekly

“Meyer creates here a feminist fairytale for modern teens.” – Shelf Awareness

This winter, Macmillan Children’s Publishing Group is proud to introduce CINDER (January 3, 2012), the first book in The Lunar Chronicles. CINDER is author Marissa Meyer’s YA debut and it marks the first of a quartet featuring an unforgettable heroine and a masterfully crafted new world. It is the perfect mash-up of fairy tale (Cinderella) and science fiction that will surely appeal to wide and varied audiences, teen and adult alike!
In New Beijing, humans and androids crowd the raucous streets while a deadly plague ravages the population. From space, a ruthless lunar people watch, waiting to make their move. No one knows that Earth’s fate hinges on one girl . . .

Sixteen-year-old Cinder is considered a technological mistake by most of society and a burden by her stepmother. Being cyborg does have its benefits, though—Cinder’s brain interface has given her an uncanny ability to fix things (robots, hovers, her own malfunctioning parts), making her the best mechanic in New Beijing. This reputation brings Prince Kai himself to her weekly market booth, needing her to repair a broken android before the annual ball. He jokingly calls it a matter of national security, but Cinder suspects it’s more serious.

As Cinder’s life becomes intertwined with the handsome Prince Kai’s, she suddenly finds herself at the center of an intergalactic struggle and a forbidden attraction. Caught between duty and freedom, loyalty and betrayal, she must uncover secrets about her past in order to protect her world’s future.

In books two, three and four, Scarlet (inspired by Little Red Riding Hood), Cress (inspired by Rapunzel) and Winter (inspired by Snow White and the Seven Dwarves) will all become the leading ladies. Marissa Meyer has created fantastically imaginative stories based on the fairy tale characters we all remember and love from childhood. See below for more from the author herself!

Marissa Meyer on CINDER, Desert Islands, and Leading Men:

**Which of your characters is most like you?**

I wish I could say that I’m clever and mechanically-minded like Cinder, but no—I can’t fix anything. I’m much more like Cress, who makes a brief cameo in CINDER and then takes a more starring role in the third book. She’s a romantic and a daydreamer and maybe a little on the naive side—things that could be said about me too—although she does find courage when it’s needed most. I think we’d all like to believe we’d have that same inner strength if we ever needed it.

**If you were stranded on a desert island, which character from CINDER would you want with you?**

Cinder, definitely! She has an internet connection in her brain, complete with the ability to send and receive comms (which are similar to emails). We’d just have enough time to enjoy some fresh coconut before we were rescued.

**The next book in the Lunar Chronicles is called Scarlet, and is about Little Red Riding Hood. What is appealing to you most about this character as you work on the book?**

Scarlet is awesome—she's very independent, a bit temperamental, and has an outspokenness that tends to get her in trouble sometimes. She was raised by her grandmother, an ex-military pilot who now owns a small army in southern France, who not only taught Scarlet how to fly a spaceship and shoot a gun, but also to have a healthy respect and appreciation for nature. I guess that's a lot of things that appeal to me about her, but she's been a really fun character to write! (The two leading men in Scarlet, Wolf and Captain Thorne, aren't half bad either.)
About the Author

Author Marissa Meyer has already gathered a tremendous following on her blog, facebook, and twitter. She was born and raised in Tacoma, Washington, home of Almond Roca and Stadium High School, which was made famous when Heath Ledger danced down the stadium steps in 10 Things I Hate About You.

Marissa fell in love with books as a child, devouring such classics as The Chronicles of Narnia, The Lord of the Rings, and Goosebumps. She immersed herself in young adult literature as a teen and has yet to grow out of it. She’s also been in love with fairy tales and their retellings since she was a kid and doesn’t think those are meant to be grown out of at all.

See more about CINDER online at https://www.facebook.com/#!/lunarchronicles

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