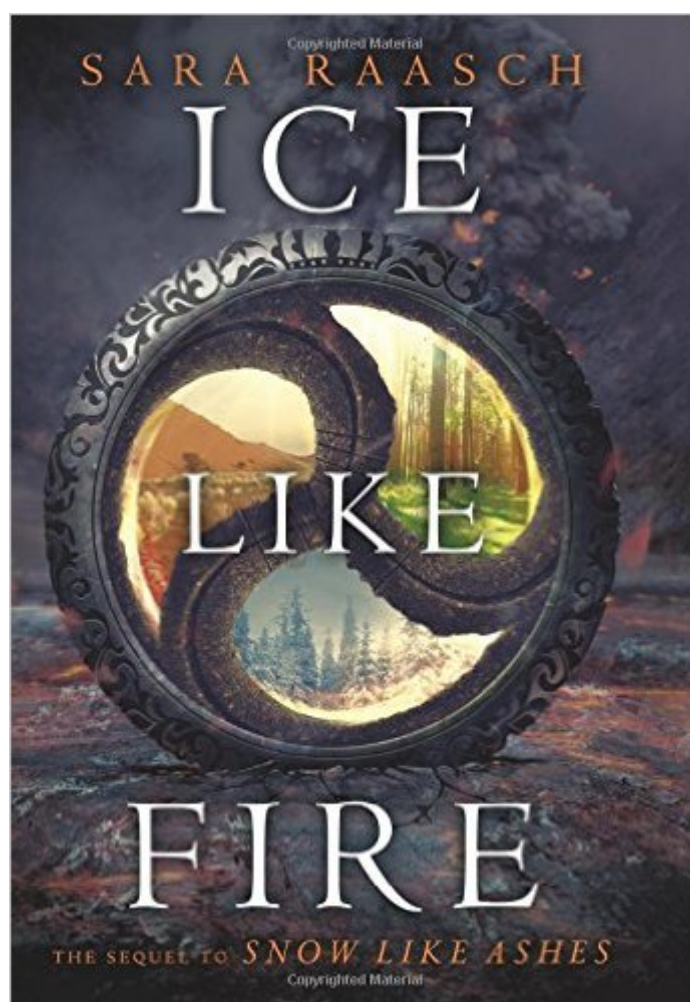


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Ice Like Fire (Snow Like Ashes)



Synopsis

Game of Thrones meets Graceling in this thrilling fantasy filled with shocking twists and heart-pounding action, the highly anticipated sequel to *Snow Like Ashes*. This action-packed series is perfect for fans of *An Ember in the Ashes* and *A Court of Thorns and Roses*. It's been three months since the Winterians were freed and Spring's king, Angra, disappeared—thanks largely to the help of Cordell. Meira just wants her people to be safe. When Cordell's debt forces the Winterians to dig their mines for payment, they unearth something powerful and possibly dangerous: Primoria's lost chasm of magic. Theron sees this find as an opportunity—“with this much magic, the world can finally stand against threats like Angra. But Meira fears the danger the chasm poses—the last time the world had access to so much magic, it spawned the Decay. So when the king of Cordell orders the two on a mission across the kingdoms of Primoria to discover the chasm's secrets, Meira plans on using the trip to garner support to keep the chasm shut and Winter safe—even if it means clashing with Theron. But can she do so without endangering the people she loves? Mather just wants to be free. The horrors inflicted on the Winterians hang fresh and raw in Jannuari—leaving Winter vulnerable to Cordell's growing oppression. When Meira leaves to search for allies, he decides to take Winter's security into his own hands. Can he rebuild his broken Kingdom and protect them from new threats? As the web of power and deception is woven tighter, Theron fights for magic, Mather fights for freedom—and Meira starts to wonder if she should be fighting not just for Winter but for the world.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

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I really liked the first book of this series, but this follow up suffers from the second book slump. There were just too many holes in the story, some things were just "too" easy to be believable, and there were so many things that happened just to continue the story line and were unrealistic. Everyone is traumatized and spends the whole book thinking they can't do anything because of their past. The Queen Meira is supposed to be great with her chakram, except when she isn't, she's supposed to be self assured, except she isn't, she makes stupid mistakes, finds the keys she is looking for but can't hide them or keep them. They are plucked from her like candy from a baby. She can't make a decision to save her life. Is constantly getting pushed around, beaten up, manhandled. For having all this magic she is helpless and I don't see where it does any good at all. She can't figure anything out and is let around and bossed around by everybody, both good and evil. This book basically went nowhere. However, with all that going against it the book is well written. The author knows how to write and the book isn't boring and doesn't drag on. I have read books that didn't have the problems this book had but would bore you to tears or were poorly written.

I want to preface this review with a statement— Ice Like Fire is NOT Snow Like Ashes. I loved reading SLA, but honestly I didn't want to read another SLA. Ice Like Fire delivered what I wanted - something NEW! ILF packs a punch, combining the best of SLA with the excitement of the unexplored. Author Raasch has delivered truly an elevated story, and seeing the world through dual points of view makes it even more captivating as a reader. Ice Like Fire has shown Raasch to be the maturing author she is. With so many stories out there selling the same scenes in every book, I realize many readers might prefer glazing over the same explosive story, retold again and again, but not me. I grew up reading books that required commitment. For a story's plot to evolve, it takes time, and some readers aren't willing to do that. But for those of you who are, I guarantee ILF will not disappoint! With this sequel, Raasch has sculpted the world further, opening it up to all its inner workings, both political and cultural. Winter and Spring kingdoms, look out — "you're not alone anymore. I was glad to see Meira, Mather, and Theoron faced with new challenges in uncharted environments. While ILF may not pull you through countless bloody battles

like SLA, what Raasch has built in ILF will leave you holding your breath and wanting more.

While SLA was a bit take it or leave it to me (only 3 stars), this book was wonderful. It builds upon the development in SLA, and we see much more of Primoria, becoming world travelers. The people Meira meets are not simply "good" or "bad" but much more likely a mixture. The stakes are higher, for when before the Winterians had nothing to lose and everything to gain, now they have a tenuous freedom to try to retain. Still, their freedom is not all they expected. ILF includes more characters, more development, and more emotional conflict for Meira. This sequel was just *more* in so many ways. Now that Meira knows she is queen she feels an enormous amount of pressure, which makes sense. She struggles to make the best choices, but often is not aware of her options. This book is as much a journey of Meira's personal rediscovery as it is a journey to save Winter and find knowledge. Thankfully, the twists in this book are not as easy to predict as in SLA. ILF hints enough at things to come without giving an undue amount away. There's a lot to love in this book. I look forward to reading the final installment of the series.

I can't wait for the Third book in this series! I really like Ceriwden and her part in this book. She is a really good and unexpected asset to the series. I didn't not how Mather acting during the first part of this book, getting drunk and not being himself. I knew everyone should've listened to Meira about Angra being back and how dangerous his power is. Theron confuses me and how he wants to save Meira but still wants all the power.

All I can say is I don't ever want to be involved in a game of political cat and mouse with Sara Raasch. Wow... I just finished the book and my head is still spinning with all the plots and counter plots and counter-counter plots that are revealed near the end as the pace nears break neck speed. As an author it's hard to...Read full review on my blog at [...]

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