Cinder
Marissa Meyer
Reviewed by: Paufa Phanachet, 14
Star Teen Book Reviewer of Be the Star You Are! Charity
www.bethestaryouare.org

Cinder is a science fiction novel inspired by the classic fairytale: Cinderella. In this novel set in a futuristic world, Linh Cinder is a gifted mechanic and cyborg who operates a market stall in New Beijing. She lives with her two stepsisters, Linh Peony and Linh Pearl, under the guardianship of her cruel stepmother Linh Adri. But when the handsome Prince Kai steps into her life, her life gets infinitely more complicated. She becomes stuck in the conspiracies that plague Earth-Lunar relations. Cinder has to make some very difficult choices and uncover secrets from her past to protect Earth's future.

I simply adore this book. It spins the age-old fairytale into a completely new light. It mashes up a worldwide pandemic and imminent war between Earth and the moon set in the future with a fairytale romance. The whole backstory with Luna and Earth and the pandemic and such is so interesting and well thought through. The romance, however, was also sweet and endearing. The book does suffer from some predictability, but there were also some unexpected elements from the plot. Furthermore, the protagonist, Cinder is so human. Even as a cyborg, she has very human thoughts and emotions. I did not see her as an inhuman robot but as a relatable person.

I would recommend this book to children 10 years old and up. There are a few deaths and the romance does not really go beyond a kiss. I would recommend giving this book as a gift. The amounts of time I have reread it is unbelievable. It as an awesome book that I think would be great for any lovers of sci-fi, romance, and fiction in general.

Recommended Titles:
- Legend by Marie Lu (Book #1 of the Legend Trilogy)
- Ella Enchanted by Gail Carson Levine
- Uglies by Scott Westerfeld
-