

BLOOD LIKE MAGIC

by Liselle Sambury

Published in 2021

Rating (0 stars is the absolute worst, 10 stars is the BEST BOOK EVER)



Genre(s):

☐

Contemporary/Realistic

☒

Action/adventure

☒

Science Fiction

☒

Fantasy

☐

Romance

☐

Horror

☐

Mystery

☐

Nonfiction

☐

Historical fiction

☐

Other:

Voya Thomas is a teenage witch who must complete a dangerous task to secure her family's magic: she must sacrifice her first love. The problem? She's never been in love. As she navigates her family's expectations, a futuristic genetic matchmaking program, and her own moral dilemmas, she must decide how far she's willing to go to protect her heritage.

This book is a fascinating blend of urban fantasy and sci-fi, with a strong focus on family, identity, and difficult choices. Sambury's world-building is immersive, and the magic system is unique, making it stand out in the YA fantasy genre. Readers who enjoy morally complex protagonists, rich family dynamics, and a mix of magic and technology will appreciate this novel. If you're looking for another book with strong themes of power and responsibility, *If You Could See the Sun* by Ann Liang offers a compelling mix of supernatural elements and ethical dilemmas.

However, the story can feel overwhelming at times due to the many themes and subplots. Some readers may struggle with the pacing, but those who enjoy layered storytelling and deep character exploration will find it rewarding. If you love dark, thought-provoking fantasy with a strong emotional core, this book is a great pick. *Made in Korea* by Sarah Suk might also appeal to you, as it explores competition and ambition in a contemporary setting, much like Voya's struggles.

By Sophie C, 10th grade, enjoys reading mystery, fantasy, horror, romance, and action/adventure