

# MALINDA LO



Photo by Sharona Jacobs

Malinda Lo is the author of several young adult novels, including *A Line in the Dark* (forthcoming Oct. 17, 2017 from Dutton Books for Young Readers). Her novel *Ash*, a lesbian retelling of Cinderella, was a finalist for the William C. Morris YA Debut Award, the Andre Norton Award for YA Science Fiction and Fantasy, the Mythopoeic Fantasy Award, and was a Kirkus Best Book for Children and Teens. She has been a three-time finalist for the Lambda Literary Award. Malinda's nonfiction has been published by *The New York Times Book Review*, NPR, The Huffington Post, The Toast, *The Horn Book*, and AfterEllen. She lives in Massachusetts with her partner and their dog. Her website is [www.malindalo.com](http://www.malindalo.com).

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*Coming Oct. 17, 2017*

## A LINE IN THE DARK

The line between best friend and something more is a line always crossed in the dark.

Jess Wong is Angie Redmond's best friend. And that's the most important thing, even if Angie can't see how Jess truly feels. Being the girl no one quite notices is OK with Jess anyway. While nobody notices her, she's free to watch everyone else. But when Angie begins to fall for Margot Adams, a girl from the nearby boarding school, Jess can see it coming a mile away. Suddenly her powers of observation are more curse than gift.

As Angie drags Jess further into Margot's circle, Jess discovers more than her friend's growing crush. Secrets and cruelty lie just beneath the carefree surface of this world of wealth and privilege, and when they come out, Jess knows Angie won't be able to handle the consequences.

When the inevitable darkness finally descends, Angie will need her best friend.



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“A beautifully written and compellingly well-observed psychological thriller.” — Kate Elliott, New York Times bestselling author of *Court of Fives* and *Cold Magic*

“As soon as I finished, I had to read it again.” — Justine Larbalestier, author of *My Sister Rosa* and *Liar*

## *Bibliography*

### NOVELS

- *A Line in the Dark* (Dutton - Oct. 17, 2017)
- *Inheritance* (Little, Brown - 2013)
- *Adaptation* (Little, Brown - 2012)
- *Huntress* (Little, Brown - 2011)
- *Ash* (Little, Brown - 2009)

### SHORT FICTION

- "Meet Cute" — In *Lift Off* (We Need Diverse Books YA anthology) edited by Lamar Giles (Crown - Forthcoming 2018)
- "New Year" — In *All Out* edited by Sandra Mitchell (Harlequin Teen - Forthcoming 2018)
- "The Cure" — *Interfictions*, 2015
- "The Twelfth Girl" — In *Grim* edited by Christine Johnson (Harlequin Teen, 2014)
- "Natural Selection" — A digital novella, part of the *Adaptation* series (Little, Brown, 2013)
- "Ghost Town" — In *Defy the Dark* edited by Sandra Mitchell (HarperTeen, 2013)
- "One True Love" — In *Foretold* edited by Carrie Ryan (Delacorte, 2012)
- "Good Girl" — In *Diverse Energies* edited by Tobias S. Buckell and Joe Monti (Tu Books, 2012)
- "The Fox" — A companion short story, set after *Huntress* (Subterranean Online, 2011; reprinted in *Huntress*, 2012)

### OTHER FICTION PROJECTS

- *Tremontaine* — Staff Writer on Season 1 (Original digital serial published by Serial Box Publishing, 2015-16; print edition published by Saga Press, 2017)

### NONFICTION - SELECT CLIPS

- "Forever Feminist." *Here We Are: Feminism for the Real World*, edited by Kelly Jensen (Algonquin Young Readers, 2017).
- "A Sort of Fairy Tale." *Scratch: Writers, Money, and the Art of Making a Living*, edited by Manjula Martin (Simon & Schuster, 2017).

- “‘Dream On, Amber’ and ‘Full Cicada Moon.’” *The New York Times Book Review* (Nov. 6, 2015). Link: <https://www.nytimes.com/2015/11/08/books/review/dream-on-amber-and-full-cicada-moon.html>
- “Reimagining the World.” *The Horn Book* (June 2015). Link: <http://www.hbook.com/2015/06/authors-illustrators/transformers-reimagining-the-world/#>
- “Perceptions of Diversity in Book Reviews.” *Diversity in YA* (Feb. 18, 2015). Link: <http://www.diversityinya.com/2015/02/perceptions-of-diversity-in-book-reviews/>
- NaNoWriMo Pep Talk. (November 2013). Link: <http://nanowrimo.org/pep-talks/malinda-lo>
- “A Second Female Author Talks About Sexism and Self-Promotion.” *The Toast* (Nov. 12, 2013). Link: <http://the-toast.net/2013/11/12/second-female-author-talks-sexism-self-promotion/>
- “LGBT Young Adult Books 2003-13: A Decade of Slow But Steady Change” (Oct. 28, 2013). Link: <http://www.malindalo.com/2013/10/lgbt-young-adult-books-2003-13-a-decade-of-slow-but-steady-change/>
- “Race, Sexuality, and the Mainstream.” *Diversity in YA* (Sept. 25, 2013). Link: <http://www.diversityinya.com/2013/09/race-sexuality-and-the-mainstream/>
- “10 LGBTQ Young Adult Novels To Make It Better.” *The Huffington Post* (July 19, 2012). Link: [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/malinda-lo/10-lgbtq-young-adult-novels\\_b\\_1683996.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/malinda-lo/10-lgbtq-young-adult-novels_b_1683996.html)
- “‘Miseducation’: A Cowgirl Coming-Out Story for Teens.” *NPR* (Feb. 7, 2012). Link: <http://www.npr.org/2012/02/07/146472994/miseducation-a-cowgirl-coming-out-story-for-teens>
- “Dear Malinda, Age 16.” *The Letter Q: Queer Writers’ Letters to Their Younger Selves*, edited by Sarah Moon. (Arthur A. Levine Books, 2012).
- “Girls Girls Girls: A Trio of Epic Adventures.” *NPR* (May 25, 2011). Link: <http://www.npr.org/2011/07/14/135952459/girls-girls-girls-a-trio-of-epic-adventures>
- “A Healthy Dose of Diversity.” *School Library Journal* (May 1, 2011). Link: <http://www.slj.com/2011/05/opinion/a-healthy-dose-of-diversity-up-for-discussion/>

## *Praise*

### ASH

- Finalist for the 2010 William C. Morris YA Debut Award
- Nominated for the 2009 Andre Norton Award for Young Adult Science Fiction and Fantasy
- Finalist for the 2010 Mythopoeic Fantasy Award for Children's Literature
- Finalist for the 2010 Lambda Literary Award (LGBT Children's/Young Adult)
- Finalist for the 2010 Northern California Book Award (Children's Literature)
- Finalist for the NCIBA 2010 Book of the Year (Teen Fiction)
- Nominated for the 2011 Rhode Island Teen Book Award
- A Kirkus Best Young Adult Book of 2009



★ “An unexpected reimagining of the Cinderella tale, exquisite and pristine, unfolding deliberately. ... Beautiful language magically wrought; beautiful storytelling magically told.” — *Kirkus*

“Somber and lovely. ... Ash feels pulled between two worlds — the fairy realm, where a haughty prince named Sidhean waits for permission to possess her, and the charmed hours she spends with Kaisa. ... How can Ash decide between Kaisa, in her riding leathers, and the austere, almost irresistible Sidhean?” — *New York Times*

“In this groundbreaking, gender-mixing retelling, it’s another woman at court, not the prince, who captures Cinderella’s heart. ... Part heart-pounding lesbian romance and part universal coming-of-age story, Lo’s powerful tale is richly embroidered with folklore and glittering fairy magic that will draw fans of Sharon Shinn’s earthy, herb-laced fantasies.” — *Booklist*

“This debut, a retelling of Cinderella in which the heroine falls in love with a beautiful huntress rather than a prince, should establish Lo as a gifted storyteller. ... Lo’s prose is beautiful, her descriptions lush ... Lo offers an important twist on a classic story that will appeal to a wide readership, especially those looking for a girl romance.” — *Publishers Weekly*

“*Ash* ... presents gay relationships the same way it does heterosexual relationships, which makes it a terrific book for young teenagers — whether they think they might be gay or not. Lo’s refreshing voice is a needed one, and hopefully a sign of more progressive young adult lit to come.” — *Washington Blade*

## HUNTRESS

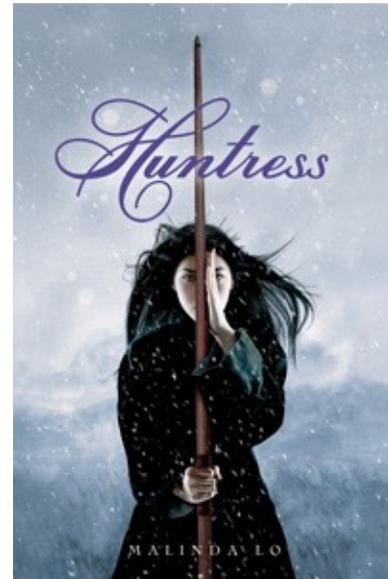
- Finalist for the 2012 Lambda Literary Award (Children's/Young Adult)
- An ALA Best Book for Young Adults
- Long-listed for the 2011 James Tiptree, Jr. Award

★ “Lo’s storytelling and prose are masterful, and her protagonists will fascinate . . . . As with *Ash*, Lo’s characters are emotionally reserved, which makes the unfolding of romance between Kaede and Taisin all the more satisfying. Fans of Garth Nix’s *Abhorsen* trilogy will love this.”  
— *Publishers Weekly*

“A gripping fantasy with high appeal for fans of Ursula K. Le Guin as well as for readers in search of a smart, female-dominated adventure tale.” — *Booklist*

“A ‘Tam Lin’-inspired rendition of fairy society blends nicely with the author’s Chinese and I Ching-inspired human society, creating a delicate, unusual setting. . . . Most notably, the inclusion of gay characters in a young adult fantasy, and the natural unfolding of their relationship, comes as a refreshing change.” — *The Horn Book*

“Lo excels at keeping the reader engaged during action scenes — whether the characters are battling for their lives or their hearts. . . . Readers of *Ash* will revel in the heavily Chinese-influenced, non-fairytale perspective on the Kingdom’s past offered here, while readers new to Lo’s work will find it an excellent starting point.” — *Locus*

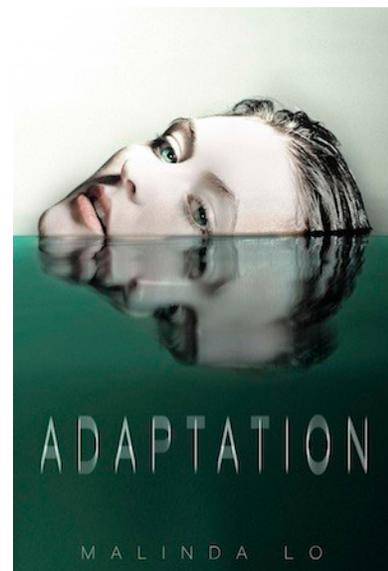


## ADAPTATION

- Finalist for the 2013 Lambda Literary Award (Children's Young Adult)
- A Bank Street College Best Children's Book of 2013

“Fast-paced and thoroughly engaging, with very effective stakes-raising and threat levels, this is a thrilling read.”  
— NPR

“This novel takes off like a shot. . . . Lo’s (*Huntress*) writing sparkles throughout, Reese’s efforts at self-acceptance after the accident are engaging, and the exciting ending will leave readers ready for the sequel.” — *Publishers Weekly*



“Absolutely compelling ... A sharp twist at the climax makes everything that happened before an even more satisfying puzzle to unravel. Readers interested in conspiracy theories will enjoy how many are sprinkled throughout, and any few who came in thinking our government would never hide information may leave feeling a bit more wary.” — *Horn Book*

“The tension is relentless ... Lo manages a diverse cast (Asian-American smart stud; gay conspiracy nut; debate nerd) without ever falling into stereotypes. ... slot this on the shelf between Cory Doctorow’s *Little Brother* and *The X-Files*.” — *Kirkus*

“Lo moves into the territory of *The X-Files* without a hitch, crafting a well-developed character in Reese and making us believe her slow discovery that she is now part of something larger. All the twists and turns you’d expect from a good SF thriller are here, but they are deepened by how real (and how sensible) Reese’s character is, and by the fact that she realistically grapples as much with who she’s attracted to as with what’s happening to her on a larger level.” — *Locus*

## INHERITANCE

- Winner of the 2014 Bisexual Book Awards for Bisexual Teen/Young Adult Fiction

“The inside look at the Imria, only peripherally understood in the previous novel, is intriguing—they are the stars here as much as Reese. ... The graceful, thoughtful look at [spoiler redacted] is an unexpected twist, and for this reason alone readers may find Reese (and her ex- and new boyfriends) just as memorable as the clever plot and strong world-building that are the strengths of this novel.” — *The Horn Book*

“As in the first book, dialogue rings true, and the characters are appealing. ... The alien and political machinations provide menace, a brisk page-turning plot and lots of fun.” — *Kirkus*

“In less than 500 pages, Malinda explores race relations, sexual fluidity, gender identity, Internet commenting culture, modern news media, and other really important topics I can’t talk about because of spoilers. And she does it all seamlessly. One of the big motifs of *Inheritance* is empathy, and the book itself is a prejudice-vanquisher for vastly underrepresented members of the queer community. I did a literal air-punch alone in my bedroom when I finished it.” — *AfterEllen*

