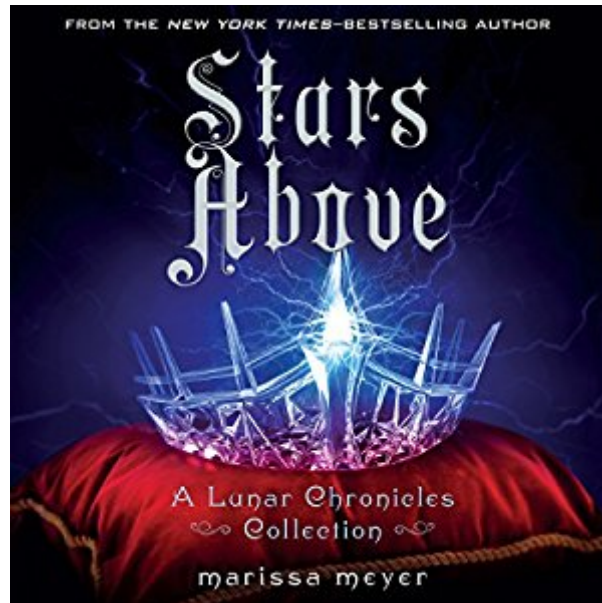


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# Stars Above: A Lunar Chronicles Collection



## Synopsis

The enchantment continues.... The universe of the Lunar Chronicles holds stories - and secrets - that are wondrous, vicious, and romantic. How did Cinder first arrive in New Beijing? How did the brooding soldier, Wolf, transform from young man to killer? When did Princess Winter and the palace guard, Jacin, realize their destinies? With six stories - two of which have never before been published - and an exclusive never-before-seen excerpt from Marissa Meyer's upcoming audiobook, *Heartless*, about the Queen of Hearts from *Alice in Wonderland*, *Stars Above* is essential for fans of the best-selling and beloved Lunar Chronicles.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 9 hours and 58 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Macmillan Audio

Audible.com Release Date: February 2, 2016

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

ASIN: B0167DA9FO

Best Sellers Rank: #14 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Children's Books > Fairytales &

Folklore #16 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Short Stories #62 in Books > Teens >

Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy > Fairy Tales & Folklore

## Customer Reviews

The Lunar Chronicles are a series with lots of complexity and history -- whether the characters are from Earth or Luna, they have a lot going on in their lives. So it only seems natural that Marissa Meyer expanded her science-fiction fairy-tale series with "*Stars Above*," a collection of her short stories that fill in all the gaps of the characters' pasts -- and though readers of her series will know where each story goes, every one is a gripping little tale that fleshes out the wider story. Each of the stories focuses on a character -- some major, some supporting -- in the Lunar Chronicles universe, but several years before the events of the main series. They're in roughly chronological order, beginning with "*The Keeper*," and Michelle's struggle to care for and hide the Lunar princess in the basement of her farmhouse. Then there is "*Glitches*," where a small cyborg child is brought to live with her new stepfamily, only to be stranded with a cruel, bitter stepmother and bratty stepsister. And

then there are stories for other characters -- Z, a boy torn from his family and forever altered into an elite, wolfish soldier for the Lunar Queen; Carswell, a wealthy young boy whose schemes and con games are interrupted by compassion; Cress, a young "shell" whose ingenuity causes her to be exiled into space; Winter's regret over the use of her gift prompts her to vow not to use it again, with terrible results; and Kai brings his beloved android to a simple mechanic's shop, with life-changing results. There is also "The Little Android," a bittersweet tale based on "The Little Mermaid," where a robot falls in love with a human.

Because I came to this series a bit late, I had not read any of the previous novellas that were released. So I went into this very blind, and let me tell you, Meyer is just as talented at novellas as she is at long-form stories. From a literary point of view, a novella should be intriguing, a bit of a tease for the longer series it represents -- but it should also stand alone as a story. To me, Meyer imbues each story with just enough detail so that we feel for the characters, but holds back enough that if I were a new reader, I would definitely want more. I should note, though, that I felt a marked difference in the newer and older stories -- while the previously released stories provide insight, they don't quite have the depth that the newer ones achieve. The new material not only spans more half of this book, but those stories also boast a confidence and more descriptive writing that really makes them breathe. Although I enjoyed each and every one of these stories, the new ones have arrow-sharp theme and direction, and because of that, I liked them the most. **THE KEEPER** The Keeper is the story of Michelle Benoit, and of how this tough, wonderful woman came to care for two of our heroines, Cinder and Scarlet. We also finally get Scarlet's proper genealogy. A short prequel, but one that really characterizes Michelle, and why Scarlet was so desperate to find her. It was also amazing to hear all that happened BEFORE Cinder but AFTER Fairest. **GLITCH** Taking place very soon after the end of The Keeper, this is the story of Cinder's first few weeks of consciousness and how she came to live with the Linhs.

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