

FOR GIRLS WHO WALK THROUGH FIRE

Book Club Kit



Discussion Questions

01

Who was your favorite character and why? Was there a character you most related to?

02

Music is important to Elliott throughout the book - what do each of the songs say about what she is feeling? Do you use music to express what you're feeling?

03

When Elliott recruits the girls for her coven, Kaylie is uninterested. Why do you think that is?

04

Elliott is angry at the idea of "forgiving and forgetting" in order to move forward. Do you think it's necessary to forgive someone in order to heal?

05

When Elliott first recruits Madeline, Elliott is far more zealous, but over the course of the book Madeline becomes the zealous one. Why do you think that is?

06

At one point Elliott mentions the idea of "Himpathy," a term coined by Kate Manne - the idea that people oversympathize with the perpetrator instead of the victim. Do you think that's true? Explain.

07

The adults in the book handle things differently when they learn what happened to each of the girls - compare and contrast their reactions.

08

How do you think labeling someone "witch" is similar or dissimilar to labeling someone "slut"?

09

Within the book, the girls re-process their experiences and, in the end, see them differently. Does this story make you think differently about anything?

10

If you had access to The Book of Reflection and could form a coven, would you do it? And how would you use your coven's power?

Burning Ritual

Magic is all about intention. Here's a ritual for your book club to get you into the witchy spirit, and collectively set intentions. Bonus points if it's a full moon!



WHAT YOU'LL NEED:



Paper



A fire-proof container



Pen



Matches or flame

INSTRUCTIONS:



To invite in the new you must release the old. Close your eyes and take a moment to think about what you're ready to release.



Write down your intention on a piece of paper; crumple or tear the intention(s) and place in a fire-proof container.



Burn the intention(s).



Bury the ashes in the earth, ideally under a full moon.

Awards & Reviews



2024 Millikin Medal Winner for Excellence in Young Adult Literature



"The rich depiction of all four girls and how each works to find the power of their interconnected magic, along with an attentive handling of sexual assault, make the novel an important one to add to any collection."

- *School Library Journal STARRED Review*
-

"DeRose unflinchingly examines the impact of sexual assault on teens and the various paths there are toward healing...A searing examination of sexual assault centering teen witches who fight back."

- *Kirkus Reviews*
-

"DeRose uses witchcraft to underscore both the lasting effects of trauma and the importance of community in healing. A bold and compassionate debut."

- *Booklist*
-

"DeRose has written a powerful story about teen witches who fight back against the people who've wronged them, with sometimes unintended, but always entertaining consequences."

- *Santa Barbara Independent*
-

"Fierce, electric, and ultimately empowering, *For Girls Who Walk Through Fire* is a brave and bold piece of fiction about the discovery of one's true power, the journey toward healing, and the magical bonds of friendship. For victims who suffer in silence, this novel screams.."

- *Laurie Faria Stolarz, author of JANE, ANONYMOUS*



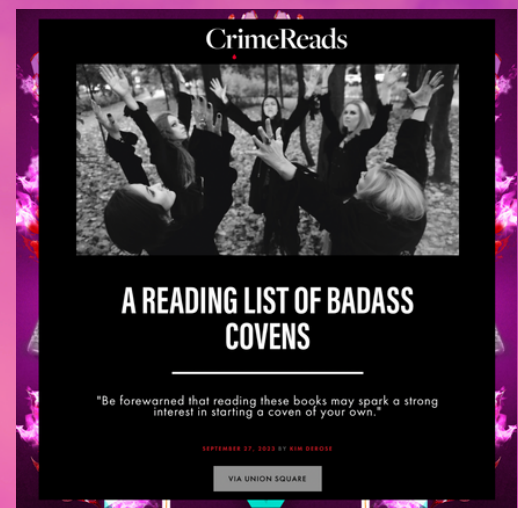
Media Coverage



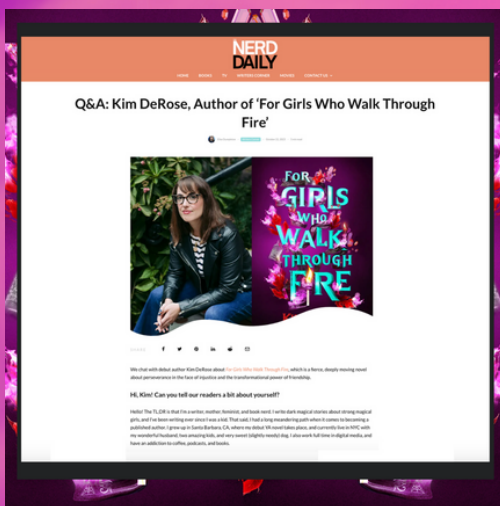
• School Library Journal – Guest Essay



• Lit Hub – Guest Essay



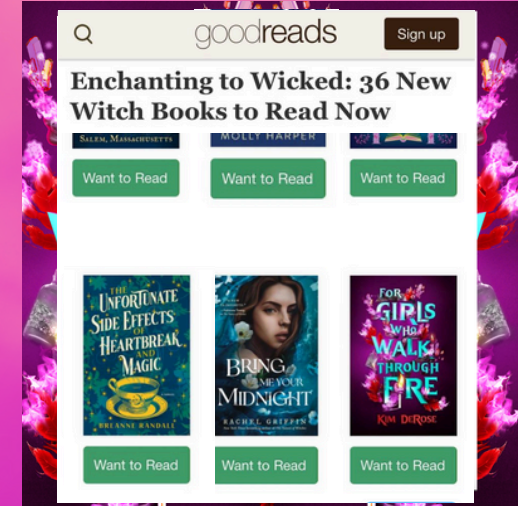
• CrimeReads – Guest Post, Reading List



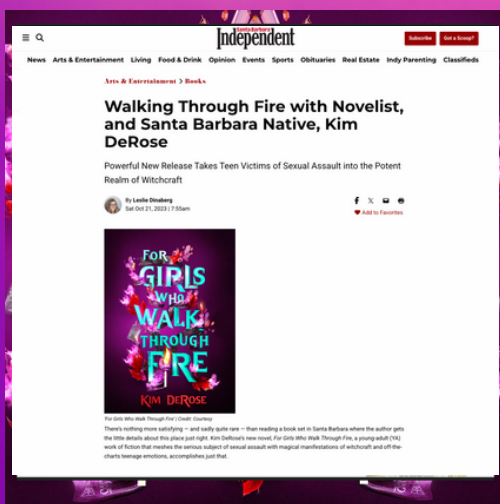
• Nerd Daily – Q&A



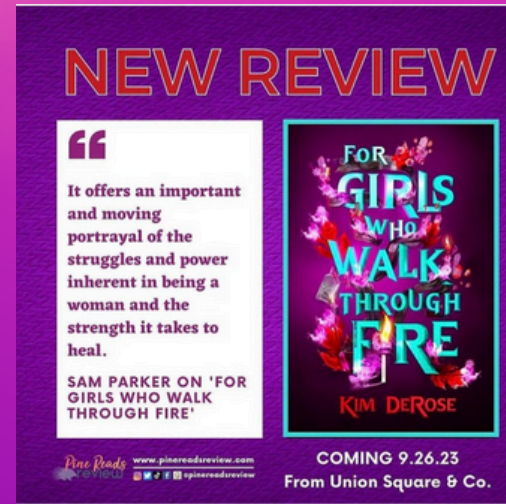
• Forever Young Adult – Best Books of 2023



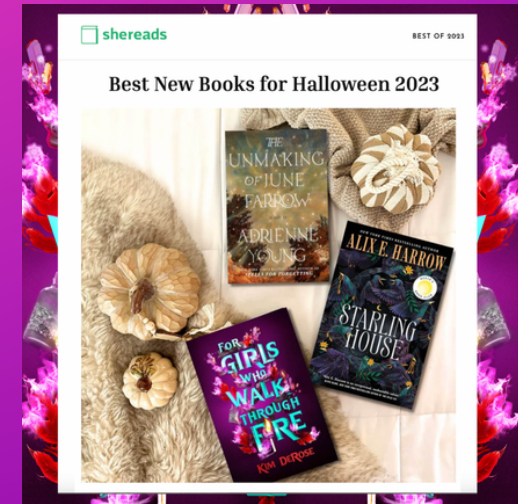
• GoodReads – 36 New Witch Books to Read Now



• Santa Barbara Independent – Interview



• Pine Reads Reviews – Interview & Review



• She Reads – Best New Books for Halloween 2023



Kim DeRose

Author Bio

About Kim ---

Kim DeRose writes dark, magical stories about strong, magical girls for teens and former teens. She grew up in Santa Barbara, California, where she spent childhood summers reading books and writing stories (which she was convinced her local bookstore would publish). She now lives in New York City, where she spends all seasons reading books and writing stories. Kim earned her MFA in film directing from UCLA. When she's not reading or writing she can be found listening to podcasts on long walks, drinking endless cups of coffee, and spending time with her family.

 Learn more at www.kimderose.com

 Represented by Kathy Green, Kathryn Green Literary Agency
