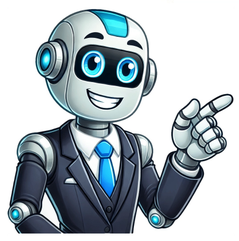
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A court of wings and ruin

A Court of Wings and Ruin is the third installment in Sarah J. Maas's A Court of Thorns and Roses series. It follows Feyre as she returns to the Spring Court, where she must gather information on Tamlin's actions while facing the threat of war from an invading king. To achieve this, Feyre must play a deadly game of deceit, balancing her struggle to master her powers with her love for her court and family. The book explores Feyre's struggles as she navigates the complexities of High Fae politics and her relationships with Rhysand and other characters. Feyre's efforts in undermining Tamlin's authority lead to widespread distrust among the Spring Court faeries, causing Lucien to defect along with her. They devise a plan to escape through a secret tunnel into the Autumn Court. However, Eris and his brothers track them down, forcing Feyre and Lucien to fight for their lives on a frozen lake. High Fae individuals are facing personal struggles. Nesta exhibits bitterness and anger, while Elain appears depressed and emotionally drained, even surpassing her initial state in "A Court of Mist and Fury." Fortunately, Cassian and Azriel remain unaffected by their experiences. The Inner Circle convenes to discuss strategies for defeating Hybern, with Feyre's sisters being enlisted as allies. Nesta agrees to aid in repairing the Wall and visits the Court of Nightmares for training. The group seeks assistance from various sources, including the Bone Carver. Keir declines to offer support unless granted access to Velaris and Eris promises his father will attend a High Lords meeting if they support his claim to the throne. Morrigan is outraged by Rhysand's deal with Eris, while Azriel trains Feyre to fly. Elain's bond with Lucien helps heal her mental state, but she becomes a seer after revealing the existence of another mortal queen. A faebane antidote is proposed for High Lords protection during a meeting at the Dawn Court. Feyre encounters Tarquin, who rejects her offer of aid due to past grievances. The Inner Circle faces internal and external threats, including a mysterious wave of power rippling across the lands. Rhys informs everyone about the Cauldron bringing down the Wall. Feyre meets with Bryaxis, offering him a second bargain in return for his help against Hybern's attack. The others winnow to Graysen's manor to ask Elain's fiancé to shelter humans. Jurian arrives and reveals he has been fighting Hybern from the inside, saying they'll launch their attack tomorrow from the Summer Court. Graysen is disgusted with Elain now that she's Fae and refuses to marry her. Mor and Feyre watch the battle from atop a hill until Cassian returns needing healing. They put a glamour over the war camp to ambush Hybern without their knowledge. Once they discover more of Hybern's forces, Feyre realizes it's not the true army. Feyre asks the Suriel for answers and learns she must use Nesta to find and nullify the Cauldron. However, Ianthe and two Hybern soldiers shoot down the Suriel before it can reveal more. Feyre escapes into the Weaver's Cottage and traps Ianthe and guards inside. The Suriel tells her she was kind when no one else was. Nesta finds the location of the Cauldron and opens a link between it and other Made, allowing Hybern to take Elain. Feyre rescues Elain with Azriel's help, while Jurian leaves an injured human Feyre wants to free. Mor tells Feyre she prefers females and doesn't love Azriel. Feyre goes to the Court of Nightmares to retrieve the Ouroboros for the Bone Carver. He reveals he only wanted to see if Feyre was worthy of helping. As everyone prepares for battle, Feyre reveals the Bone Carver, Bryaxis, and the Weaver will join them. Rhys doubts their chances of winning just as Tamlin, Beron, and Graysen arrive. Nesta screams as the Cauldron unleashes its power, killing Illyrian soldiers. She warns Cassian before he's killed. Feyre's father and Drakon bring their ships to fight against Hybern. Amren betrays Feyre, taking her to Nesta, who faces the King of Hybern with their father captive. Cassian is badly injured while trying to save Nesta, and the King kills their father. Elain thrusts Truth-Teller into the king's throat, and Nesta cuts off his head, killing him. Amren reveals she betrayed them so she can free herself but will now kill everything in her path and forget her past. Feyre realizes that Rhysand gives himself as a conduit for the High Lords' power, but the strain kills him temporarily. He's later resurrected and manages to pull Amren back from death. Meanwhile, Feyre convinces Miryam and Drakon to hide the Cauldron on their island. She calls a meeting to discuss a potential treaty between human and Fae lands before returning to Velaris with her people. The Target special edition of ACOWAR includes a letter from Sarah J. Maas, signed on the case cover. Certain versions in Canada and the US feature fan art on the endpapers, while an Australian edition is also available. This book marks the second longest written by Sarah J. Maas for the A Court of Thorns and Roses series, with 864 pages. Feyre returns to the Spring Court, intent on gathering intel on Tamlin's actions and the invading king threatening her land. To achieve this, she must play a treacherous game of deception. One misstep could lead to catastrophic consequences for herself, those she loves, and the entire realm. As war looms over them all, Feyre strives to find her place among the High Fae, balancing her burgeoning powers with her political ambitions and love life. Amidst struggles within her court and family, Feyre must navigate the treacherous landscape of High Lords to find allies in unexpected places alongside Rhysand. The story begins with a flashback from Rhysand's point of view, set on a battlefield during the War 2 years before the construction of the Wall. He searches among the dead for his Illyrian brothers, but finds none. The narrative then shifts back to Feyre, who is struggling to find her place in Tamlin's manor. Feyre recalls her past life and compares it with her current self, feeling disconnected from those around her. Her thoughts are disrupted by memories of her sisters' abduction by the King of Hybern, as well as her encounter with Cassian. Feyre becomes increasingly agitated, leading to a moment where she unconsciously breaks one of her paintbrushes in half. Tamlin and Lucien's arrival interrupts this emotional outburst. The trio meets with Ianthe, discussing her role in leading the King of Hybern to abduct Feyre's sisters. Feyre and Lucien are cautious, sensing deception from Ianthe, while Tamlin rushes through the confrontation. Tamlin reveals his plan to allow Hybern forces into the Spring Court as part of a bargain, relocating most of the people to the eastern border for protection. Feyre expresses her concerns about allowing Hybern in, fearing it will harm the people of the Spring Court. Feyre learns that Hybern is sending a small group, including Jurian, to the Spring Court. She sends information down her mating bond to Rhysand, asking about the well-being of the Inner Circle. Rhysand's reassurance helps hold Feyre over as she feels alone in enemy territory. The next day, Jurian and two Hybern commanders arrive at Tamlin's manor, discussing an exploration that sparks further unease among the characters. Feyre's journey continues as she seeks to destroy Tamlin's court from within. Using her cunning, she creates chaos among the faeries, causing many to lose respect for Tamlin. With Lucien by her side, they navigate through secret tunnels to reach the Autumn Court, where they encounter Eris and his brothers. A fierce battle ensues, but Feyre's unique powers and those of Cassian and Azriel allow them to gain the upper hand. Eris and his brothers are forced to retreat due to Feyre's royal status and their own injuries. The four flee to the Night Court, where Rhysand plans a meeting with all High Lords to unite against Hybern. However, Feyre's sisters struggle with their newfound roles as High Fae. Nesta is bitter and angry, while Elain appears depressed. Feyre and the Inner Circle discuss strategies to stop Hybern, deciding to enlist her sisters' help in repairing the Wall. Nesta agrees to visit the Court of Nightmares to practice her powers, while Rhys and Feyre seek information about the Wall in the library. They recruit the Bone Carver, but Keir is hesitant to offer assistance unless he can gain access to Velaris. Eris is invited to the meeting, where his presence sparks tension among the Inner Circle. High Lords meeting looms, as Rhysand's claim to the throne hangs in balance. Morrigan's ire simmers at the deal with Eris, while Azriel trains Feyre on her wings. Elain's mating bond with Lucien eases her mind's turmoil. However, Nesta and Feyre are ambushed by Hybern Ravens, forcing them into hiding. Feyre forges an alliance with a monstrous creature to counterattack, only to discover the Cauldron's true power is a threat to all. Mor and Rhys fight to evacuate the Spring Court, while Tarquin spurns Feyre's plea for aid. The Inner Circle converges on the Dawn Court, only to face treacherous alliances and hidden agendas. A wave of power ripples across the land, foretelling disaster. Jurian reveals himself as a Hybern foe within, warning of an impending attack from the Summer Court. As the war escalates, Feyre seeks guidance from the Suriel, but her quest is soon cut short by betrayal and loss. Weaver's Cottage traps Ianthe and Feyre with the Suriel as it dies, revealing to Feyre that she was kind when no one else was. Nesta uses her abilities to locate the Cauldron, opening a link between it and other Made faeries, allowing Hybern to take Elain. Feyre sneaks into Hybern's camp using Ianthe's appearance to rescue Elain, with Azriel assisting them. However, Feyre leaves herself defenseless for a time until Tamlin intercepts Hybern's naga-hounds saving her. Mor informs Feyre that she prefers females and doesn't love Azriel. Before the final battle, Rhys orders everyone to escape harm before fighting starts. Feyre retrieves the Ouroboros from the Court of Nightmares for the Bone Carver. As the Cauldron unleashes its power, killing Illyrian soldiers, Nesta warns Cassian but is killed by the King of Hybern while trying to save him and their father. Elain thwarts Truth-Teller into the king's throat, followed by Nesta cutting off his head, killing him. Amren betrays Feyre to free herself, but after freeing herself, she vows to destroy everything in her path, forgetting her previous life. Rhysand is killed during the Cauldron's power but manages to be resurrected and save Amren from dying. Lucien returns from finding Vassa, while Feyre meets with Miryam and Drakon who agree to hide the Cauldron on their island. Feyre calls a meeting to discuss a new treaty between humans and Fae lands before returning to Velaris. She intentionally included the word "WAR" in the acronym for a book cover, hinting at events in the novel. The book's cover was unveiled on January 25th, 2017. Before its release, Bloomsbury shared two teaser images of the cover on Snapchat. The final design was created by Adrian Dadich. Although the dress depicted on the cover originated with Charlie Bowater and was later modified by Dadich for the final version. Due to the book's high page count, the pages are thinner than those in other books from the same series. It won the 2017 Best Young Adult Fantasy & Science Fiction Book Award on Goodreads. The book is dedicated to her husband Josh Maas and their dog Annie.

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