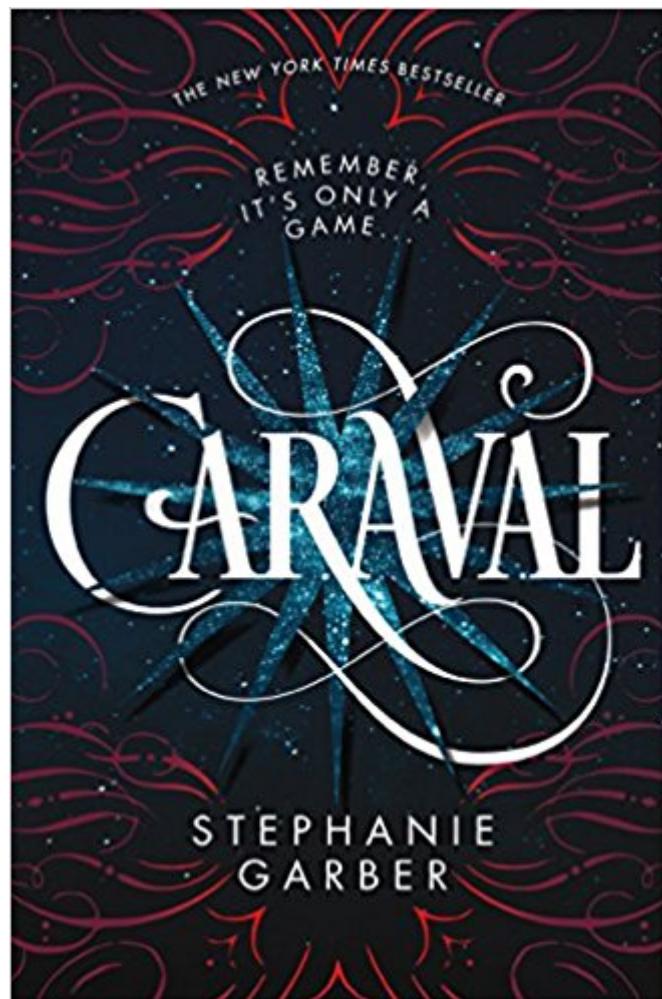


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# Caraval



## Synopsis

The Instant New York Times bestseller from Stephanie Garber! #1 IndieNext Pick! Entertainment Weekly Must List! Whatever you've heard about *Caraval*, it doesn't compare to the reality. It's more than just a game or a performance. It's the closest you'll ever find to magic in this world... Scarlett has never left the tiny island where she and her beloved sister, Tella, live with their powerful, and cruel, father. Now Scarlett's father has arranged a marriage for her, and Scarlett thinks her dreams of seeing *Caraval*, the far-away, once-a-year performance where the audience participates in the show, are over. But this year, Scarlett's long-dreamt of invitation finally arrives. With the help of a mysterious sailor, Tella whisks Scarlett away to the show. Only, as soon as they arrive, Tella is kidnapped by *Caraval*'s mastermind organizer, Legend. It turns out that this season's *Caraval* revolves around Tella, and whoever finds her first is the winner. Scarlett has been told that everything that happens during *Caraval* is only an elaborate performance. But she nevertheless becomes enmeshed in a game of love, heartbreak, and magic with the other players in the game. And whether *Caraval* is real or not, she must find Tella before the five nights of the game are over, a dangerous domino effect of consequences is set off, and her sister disappears forever. Welcome, welcome to *Caraval* . . . beware of getting swept too far away.

“The Hunger Games meets The Night Circus. Grade: A-. — Entertainment Weekly

“Impressive, original, wondrous. — Publishers Weekly

“Spellbinding. — US Weekly

“Magnificent. — Sabaa Tahir, author of *An Ember in the Ashes*

“Beautifully written. — Renée Ahdieh, author of *The Wrath and the Dawn*

“Shimmers with magic. — Marie Rutkoski, author of *The Winner's Curse*

“Darkly enchanting. — Kiersten White, author of *And I Darken*

“Decadent. — Roshani Chokshi, author of *The Star-Touched Queen*

“Like stepping into a living dream. — Stacey Lee, author of *Outrun the Moon*

“Destined to capture imaginations. — Kirkus Reviews

“Ideal for fans of *The Night Circus*, *Stardust*, and *The Hunger Games*. — School Library Journal

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

A New York Times and National Bestseller#1 IndieNext PickA Publishers Weekly Flying StartEntertainment Weeklyâ€s Must Listâ€“Caraval is The Night Circus Jr., with a dash of Alice in Wonderland and a sprinkle of Fantasy Island. If blood and madness, â€œshameless curves and immoral promisesâ€ entice you, well, come to the cabaret.â€• â€¢The New York Times Book Reviewâ€“The Hunger Games meets The Night Circus in this tale of two sisters enmeshed in a deadly game. Grade: A-â€• â€¢Entertainment Weeklyâ€“There are elements of Neil Gaiman fantasy, Wizard of Oz, and Hunger Games killer competitiveness in Stephanie Garberâ€s debut. But whatâ€s most impressive is how original her wondrous Caraval really is. Garber creates a world brimming with energy, mystery, surprises, backstabbing, and even some unforeseen romance.â€• â€¢USA Todayâ€“Spellbinding.â€• â€¢US Weeklyâ€“A magnificent debut, and a spellbinding tale of love, loss, sacrifice, and hope.â€• â€¢Publishers Weekly, starred review"This twisty, terrifically fun page-turner is ideal for fans of Erin Morgenstern's The Night Circus, Neil Gaiman's Stardust, and fantasy novels where relationships between sisters drive the plot, such as The Hunger Games. VERDICT: A must-have fantasy debut for high school collections." â€¢School Library Journalâ€“Caraval sweeps you into a treacherous and romantic world that takes center stage in this story of two sisters and their longing for more.â€• â€¢Justineâ€“A spellbinding tale of sisterhood, love and betrayal. I lost myself in this dangerous, enchanting worldâ€ and never wanted to come out.â€• â€¢Sabaa Tahir, #1 New York Times bestselling author of An Ember In the Ashes and A Torch in the Nightâ€“Enchanting and mysterious, Stephanie Garber's Caraval is a story rich with sumptuous detail, beautifully

written.â•â¢Renâ©e Ahdieh, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *The Wrath and the Dawn*â•â“Caraval shimmers with magic. This is an inventive, delightful tale with several aces up its sleeve.” â•â¢Marie Rutkoski, New York Times bestselling author of the *Winner’s Trilogy*â•â“In a book where nothing is as it appears, one thing is certain: *Caraval* is the darkly enchanting adventure youâ•â¢ve been looking for!â•â¢Kiersten White, New York Times bestselling author of *And I Darken* and *Paranormalcy*â•â“A decadent and enchanting tale. *Caraval* will sink its teeth into you, and you will not want to leave.” â•â¢Roshani Chokshi, New York Times bestselling author of *The Star-Touched Queen*â•â“A tale of sisterly devotion painted in colors of cerise and shimmering gold. If you ever wondered how it would feel to step into a living dream, here’s your ticket.” â•â¢Stacey Lee, critically acclaimed author of *Outrun the Moon*â•â“Stephanie Garber doesn’t just dazzleâ•â¢she makes me believe.” â•â¢Jodi Meadows, New York Times bestselling coauthor of *My Lady Jane*â•â“*Caraval* delights the senses: beautiful and scary, described in luscious prose, this is a show readers will wish they could enter. A double love story, one sensual romance and the other sisterly loyalty, anchors the plot, but the real star here is *Caraval* and its secrets. Immersive and engaging . . . destined to capture imaginations.” â•â¢Kirkus Reviewsâ•â“Readers invested in the sistersâ•â¢s fates (not to mention the outcome of steamy will-they-or-wonâ•â¢t-the? tension between Scarlett and Julian) will hang on tight and enjoy the ride. Garberâ•â¢s darkly beautiful and brutal magical world is the star here, full of luscious details that invite readers to linger.” â•â¢The Horn Bookâ•â“An enchanting mix of mystery, romance, and magic, this immerses readers in its gorgeous setting with lush prose. The setting is a captivating blend of beauty and danger . . . the chemistry between Scarlett and Julian is intoxicating. Readers will want a return ticket to this one.” â•â¢Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Booksâ•â“Rich, vivid scene-setting and descriptions make for entertaining reading . . . a colorful, imaginative fantasy with some steamy romance for good measure.” â•â¢ALA Booklist

Stephanie Garber loves Disneyland because itâ•â¢s the one place on earth where she feels as if the fantastical stories she loves to write about could actually come to life. When she’s not writing young adult fantasy, she teaches creative writing at a private college in northern California, where sheâ•â¢s known for turning assignments into games and taking students on field trips that involve book signings. *Caraval* is her first novel for young adults. She would love to hear from you on social media.

Welcome, welcome to Caraval . . . beware of getting swept too far away. After watching countless bloggers rave about this book, and reading the synopsis of the book, I caved and bought the book. I always worry about buying books that have a huge hype on them because I have high hopes for the book then, only to be let down when I read it, but Caraval didn't disappoint.

Caraval isn't just a book, it's an experience!! "Whatever you've heard about Caraval, it doesn't compare to the reality. It's more than just a game or performance. It's the closest you'll ever find yourself magic in this world." And magic did I find! This book was a magical page-turner that I couldn't put down! When people ask me what it reminds me of, I tell them to image Alice in Wonderland mixed with a circus and an amusement park. Most of the book takes place on an island, where the Master of Caraval, Legend, invites. Caraval is a magical performance that travels to a new place every year, but this year, the Master and his performers aren't traveling, but are having a private performance and Master Legend invites our main character, Scarlett, and her sister Tella. You can choose to either watch the game unfold, or join in and try to win that year's prize before the other participants do! And this year's prize is something everyone wants, a wish. I told you a bit about the plot, and Caraval, but what I didn't tell you about is how much I love this book! I love everything about it, from the bonds it shows between siblings, to the magic you can find in every page! I haven't had this much fun reading a book since I read Harry Potter. Yes, I'm comparing it to Harry Potter (My favorite series). Why? Because I felt the magic every time I picked up the book! I felt as if I was in the book, playing Caraval alongside Scarlett. And just like I want to experience Hogwarts, I want to be a part of Caraval. Would I want to play? Um, different story! HAHAHA I'd probably be that person who goes mad and gets swept away, but how a beautiful way I could be swept! "What happens beyond this gate may frighten or excite you, but don't let any of it trick you. We will try to convince you it's real, but all of it is a performance. A world built of make-believe. So while we want you to get swept away, be careful of being swept too far away. Dreams that come true can be beautiful, but they can also turn into nightmares when people won't wake." I loved all the characters in this novel, especially Julian and Scarlett. Scarlett is hesitant, but brave. She thinks too much, but since she has so much to lose in life, I can't blame her. What I love about her,

besides her honest and caring heart, is her willingness to put aside her own happiness for her sister. I'm very close to my two sisters, especially my older sister, so their bond really hit home for me. Scarlett reminds me of my older sister and while I'm not entirely like the courageous, and sometimes infuriating Tella, I can't lie and say I don't see myself in her because I do. Both are likable characters, but Scarlett really won me over. I adored her character and loved that this book showed the power of love between siblings. Now, Julian. Like Scarlett, I didn't trust the man right at the start. There was something about him that made me cautious, but when she started to fall for him, I fell for him too! His character is indescribable! But I'll try to say a little about him. He's bold, and courageous. He's stubborn, strong, and so, so likable! God, can you see I have a mini crush on him? Mini? Yeah, I could hear the lie myself. I'm a huge Julian lover! If I didn't like Scarlett with Julian so much, I would beat her with a stick for him!! (I wouldn't, but it's tempting when he acts all mysterious and charming!) "She imagined loving him would feel like falling in love with darkness, frightening and consuming yet utterly beautiful when the stars came out." My overall thoughts? This book is magical, whimsical, and utterly enchanting! My favorite book of 2017 so far!

This story was so magical, so whimsical, and so perfect. I was skeptical, because I'm pretty much the only person on Goodreads that did not like The Night Circus, but this didn't remind me of The Night Circus at all. Well, at least the 15% I read before I couldn't force myself to read more. I mean, I can see where people would draw the parallels because of the plot, but the writing in this is much more reminiscent of The Raven Boys or Heartless. The prose is the epitome of lyrical, with descriptions that were nothing short of magical, and I devoured it all with a smile on my face. "It looked like a storybook come to life. She peered down at bright pointy rooftops, moss-covered towers, gingerbread cottages, gleaming gold bridges, blue-brick streets, and bubbling fountains, all lit by candled lamps that hung everywhere, giving an appearance of time that was neither day nor night." Can we talk about how this is Stephanie Garber's debut novel? I am seriously shocked, because this is not the writing of a new or amateur writer. She has perfected her craft, and made just a really addictive and impressive first story. I hope and pray she wins 2017's Best Debut Goodreads Author award, because she is so deserving with this masterpiece. I'm in awe of her talent, honestly. God, the writing was so good. The descriptions were perfection. I understand this might not be for everyone, but this world consumed

me and I didn't want to leave when I turned the last page. I know this book is about a magical place, but it truly ended up being a magical experience that I'm not going to forget anytime soon. Caraval is the first book I gave five stars to in 2017, and it is so very deserving of that title. The plot of this has a perfect thriller tempo, too! Yes, I've been raving about how magical and lyrical this book is, but I have to emphasize that the pace is fast, too! Each chapter holds a new mystery, and I felt so compelled to never put this book down. Caraval truly is a fast and magical journey that I can't help but recommend everyone take! Caraval is a magical game that is played once a year. Not everyone can go, but the lucky ones are sent tickets, and once they arrive they are able to choose if they'd like to watch the game or actually play the game. Scarlett has been writing to the master of Caraval, Legend, her whole life in hopes to acquire tickets for her and her sister, and after all these years she finally gets a letter back. And the sibling love in this is so amazing. My brother and I are really close, and there is nothing I wouldn't do for him. Scarlett's devotion to her sister warmed my heart completely and I loved reading about it. Also, seeing them pick each other over boys is my freaking jam. This book also tackles the hard topic of parental abuse, emotional, mental, and physical. This topic is so important, and doesn't seem to be in much YA, unless it is the center of the story. So many kids grow up being abused, yet, it doesn't become the center of their life. Seeing Scarlett realize she is not the value of her father's rage was beautiful. We need more books that handle this issue, because Uncle Vernon and Harry Potter isn't close to being the epitome of an abusive relationship. Many parents can be manipulative, abusive, terrible, and it isn't the victims fault, ever. "People think no one sees all the nasty things they do in the dark. The foul acts they commit, or the lies they tell as part of the game. Caraval takes place at night because you like to watch, and see what people do when they think there are no consequences." This book does border on unreliable narrative though, because as Scarlett is learning the rules of the game and the magic of Caraval, so is the reader. Caraval is a facade, it might be a beautiful facade, but it is still a facade. The reader is never sure if what they are reading is true, and that is because Scarlett never knows if what she is experiencing is true. I loved the mystery factor and thought it worked perfectly, but I can see where others might not like it as much as me. And the characters and players in this world are so wonderful! Scarlett was my favorite, and I feel like it would be almost impossible not to fall in love with her. Her sister, Tella, has a good heart and her actions were coming from a good place, but she was a little frustrating. Hopefully, in the next book, my love for Scarlett will carry over to Tella. Julian is the other main character you read about, alongside Scarlett. His character was so endearing and I absolutely loved this story-arc and twist(s). Not knowing whether to root and cheer for him or wish him dead was a unique experience to say the

least!! I loved this book. I loved it with my whole heart. I read this in one day; I couldn't put it down. This book is the definition of a sensory read. Please give it a try. I understand that not every book is for everyone, but this book is pretty close to perfection, in my eyes. I whole heartedly expect this to show up on my "Best of 2017" list, and I cannot wait to get my hands on the sequel.

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Caraval

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