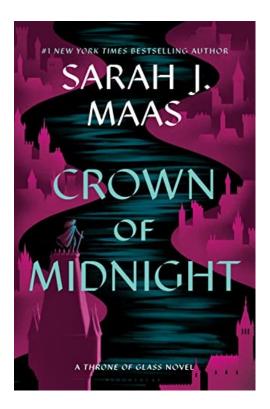


## **CROWN OF MIDNIGHT**



Young Adult

## By Sarah J. Maas

ISBN: 978-1-61963-063-5

## **Summary of Concerns:**

This book contains inexplicit sexual activities; nudity; violence; alcohol use; and mild/infrequent profanity.





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58	His mouth was a work of art, too, all sensual lines and softness that begged to be explored.
	Celaena knew the scarlet dress was a little scandalous. And she knew that it was definitely not appropriate for winter, given how low the front dipped, and how much lower the back went. Low enough to reveal through the black lace mesh that she wasn't wearing a corset beneath it.  But Archer Finn had always liked women who were daring with their clothes, who were ahead of the trend. And this dress, with its close-fitting bodice, long, tight sleeves, and gently flowing skirt, was about as new and different as it came. Chaol stood in the hallway, his bronze eyes traveling down the front of her dress, then up again. "You're not wearing that."
	"Our professions have always been similar, yours and mine. I can't tell which is worse: training us for the bedroom, or the battlefield."
	Archer looked at her and gently twined her fingers with his before raising her hand to his lips. It was a soft, slow kiss that burned through her. He murmured onto her skin. "Do you want to come inside?"
93	No one noticed as they slipped through, and if they had, Archer's hands roaming over her bodice, her arms, her shoulders, her neck, would suggest that they were going through the door for some privacy.
	"And then," Ress was saying, his boyish face set with fiendish delight, "just as he got into her bed, stark naked as the day he was born, her father walked in"—winces and groans came from the guards, even Chaol himself—" and he dragged him out of bed by his feet, took him down the hall, and dumped him down the stairs. He was shrieking like a pig the whole time."
	He shoved that feeling down, even as the silken texture of her hair against his fingers made him want to bury his face in it, and the smell of her, laced with mist and night, had him grazing his nose against her neck. There were other kinds of comfort that he could give her than mere words, and if she needed that kind of distractionHer fingers were moving down his back, still digging into his muscles with a fierce kind of possession. If she kept touching him like that, his control was going to slip completely.
188	So Chaol brushed away her tears, lifted her chin, and kissed her. The kiss obliterated herShe twined her arms around his neck, her mouth meeting his in a second kiss that knocked the world out from under her. She didn't know how long they stood on that roof, tangled up in each other, mouths and hands roving until she moaned and dragged him through the greenhouse, down the stairs, and into the carriage waiting outside. And then there was the ride home, where he did things to her neck and ear that made her forget her own name.
1	His eyes blazed with hunger that matched her own, and she kissed him again, tugging him into her bedroom. He let her pull him, not breaking the kiss as he kicked the door shut behind them. And then there was only them, and skin against skin, and when they reached that moment when there was nothing more between them at all, Celaena kissed Chaol deeply and gave him everything she hadHis hands grazed lower, down her back, not even stumbling over the scar tissue. He'd kissed every scar on her back, on her entire body, last night.



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	"Who said anything about shame?" She gestured down to her naked body, even though it was covered by the blanket. "Honestly, I'm surprised you're not strutting about, boasting to everyone. I certainly would be if I'd tumbled me."The relief in his eyes made her kiss him.
191	The grin Chaol gave her was hungry and wicked enough that she shrieked when he yanked her under the blankets.
199	He'd barely breathed during that first time, and he'd done his best to be gentle, to make it as painless for her as possible. She'd still winced, and her eyes had gleamed with tears, but when he'd asked if she needed to stop, she'd just kissed him. Again and again. All through that first night he'd held her and allowed himself to imagine that this was how every night for the rest of his life would be.
200	There was color high on her cheeks that set her eyes sparkling, making him think of how she looked when they were tangled up with each other. He kept a respectable distance until they rounded a corner into an empty hallway and he stepped closer, needing to touch her. But his eyes drifted to the small wooden door just a few feet away. A broom closet. She followed his attention, and a slow smile spread across her face. She turned toward it, but he grabbed her hand, bringing his face close to hers. "You're going to have to be very quiet." She reached the knob and opened the door, tugging him inside. "I have a feeling that I'm going to be telling you that in a few moments," she purred, eyes gleaming with the challenge. Chaol's blood roared through him, and he followed her into the closet and wedged a broom beneath the handle. And gods above, Chaol was well, she blushed to think about just how much she enjoyed him after her body had adjusted. Just the touch of his fingers on her skin could turn her into a feral beast.
211	Chaol sighed, untangling his legs from Celaena's as he sat up and grabbed his pants from where he'd thrown them on the floor.
252	She'd become entwined in his life—from the morning runs to the lunches to the kisses she stole from him when no one was looking—and now, without her, he felt hollow.
260	The barkeep mopped his brow again and poured her a brandy.

Profanity	Count
Ass	9
Bitch	3
Piss	3
Shit	3