

The Bookish* Newsletter!

CORRECTED: Issue No. 4 | May 2025

Check out updates on my good reads progress, upcoming titles, lists, and reviews.



[Latest ARC Review] Mayra

Thank you to Net Galley and Random House Publishing for the advanced copy of this title.

I'm still trying to understand what this story is about, other than two friends reconnecting after a long separation. There is unfinished business and hurt feelings between Mayra and Ingrid. My first impression is that Mayra seems complicated to love and be around. Most of this story is about rehashing their relationship, in which Mayra has some gaps in her memory.

The relationship started wonderfully, but then turned toxic for them both. The girls had planned to go to college together close to home, but Mayra had other dreams and aspirations. She wanted to thrive in new surroundings. When Ingrid doesn't support Mayra's choice, it would affect the friends as they move forward.

✨4.00 STARS✨

The story focuses on the weekend for these estranged friends and vividly describes the tranquility of the home, which is very secluded in the swamp. Ingrid saw this as a getaway from her current environment. However, the house has a sinister history of keeping its occupants docile and quiet.

Benji enters the story as Mayra's boyfriend. He has inherited this home and is obsessed with its upkeep and caring for his guests' every want and need.

At this point, Ingrid doesn't know how long she's been in the house as days spill into one another with her friend, eating great food, and reminiscing. Benji makes sure they never have to leave. Ingrid is also intrigued by the design of the house and that it doesn't make sense, so she spends her time exploring and, in doing so, finds a journal. This journal would be critical as the story goes on.

Will Ingrid and Mayra ever leave this tranquility? Or is that the house masking another dark, insidious secret?

I found this story to be a lot more than I expected. Yes, it's about friendship, love, and family, about appreciating your movements in this world and understanding life and your place in it.

More Updates & Progress!

Upcoming Thriller TBR!

LUCKY DAY

By Chuck Tingle

(August 12, 2025)

HORROR 🍷 QUEER 🍷 FANTASY



Vera is a survivor of a global catastrophe known as the Low Probability Event, but she definitely isn't thriving.



Once a passionate professor of statistics, she no longer finds meaning in anything at all.

But when problematic government agent Layne knocks on her door, she's the only one who can help him uncover the connection between deadly spates of absurdity and an improbably lucky casino. What's happening in Vegas isn't staying there, and the world is at risk of another disaster.



AUDIBLE PURCHASE! 🛒

The House That Horror Built, Christina Henry

✨ *Also Reading* ✨

Ninth House, Leigh Bardugo 📖

Good Reads Challenge Progress

My math was off when it came to my GR Challenge. I realized that I pledged an actual number, which was almost impossible to meet. I have since updated this to a reasonable book total. 🎯

50% (14/28)

ARC TITLES IN THE QUEUE



BOOK SOURCES

BookTrib [<https://booktrib.com/>]

Good Reads [<https://www.goodreads.com/>]

Book Riot [<https://bookriot.com/>]

NPR [<https://www.npr.org/books/>]

Literary Hub [<https://lithub.com/>]

May Reading Challenge!

"Read a debut novel."

Stay tuned for more
reading updates.

