



Rebel Heart (Dust Lands Book 2)

By Moira Young

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Nothing is certain and no one is safe in the scorching sequel to *Blood Red Road*, which MTV's Hollywood Crush blog called “better than *The Hunger Games*.”

There is a price on Saba's head. She brought down a ruthless tyrant and saved her kidnapped brother. But winning has come at a terrible cost. Saba is haunted by her past—and a new enemy is on the rise, an enemy who searches for her across the Dust Lands.

Saba needs Jack: his moonlit eyes, his reckless courage, his wild heart. But Jack has left. And her brother is haunted by ghosts of his own. Then news comes that tells her Jack can never be trusted again. Deceived and betrayed, haunted and hunted, Saba will need all of her warrior's strength just to survive. For the enemy has cunning plans of his own...

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Rebel Heart (Dust Lands Book 2) By Moira Young Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From [Booklist](#)

Saba and Jack are connected so deeply that when she hears he is in danger, she puts her beloved twin brother, younger sister, and friends old and new at risk to rescue him in a postapocalyptic world being ruthlessly rebuilt by a fanatic known as The Pathfinder. This sequel to *Blood Red Road* (2011) continues Saba and Jack's love story and explores a complicated sibling relationship while also advancing the story line related to the visionary Pathfinder and his Tonton henchmen. Character voices are as spare as the pockmarked, wreck-littered landscape, and they come with a distinct western twang as Young masterfully moves through the seamless fantasy world she has created. Less secure readers may have trouble following the prose because the spelling supports the dialect, and the lack of quotation marks can make it difficult to track conversations. The older age designation has nothing to do with sex or violence, but reflects the mature decisions and complex relationships present in this romantic quest. Grades 9-12. --Cindy Welch

Review

REBEL HEART

Author: Young, Moira

Review Issue Date: October 1, 2012

Online Publish Date: September 15, 2012

Publisher: McElderry

Pages: 432

Price (Hardcover): \$17.99

Publication Date: October 30, 2012

ISBN (Hardcover): 978-1-4424-3000-6

Category: Fiction

Series: Dustlands

Volume: 2

Good post-apocalyptic fiction raises questions about humankind's capacity to learn from its mistakes, but this thinly-plotted second installment of the *Dustlands* trilogy is not up to the task.

Here, the common folk, with all the trappings of peasantry from centuries past, are lifted from their mean lives by shamans, sweat lodges and vision quests. Heroes and heroines rise from the ranks to battle the evil Tonton and their new leader, the Pathfinder, who's set upon slaughtering the old and weak and creating a race of settlers for New Eden. Wrecker civilization has left car-strewn hillsides, imposing concrete buildings and wastelands for Saba and her motley crew to traverse. But Saba, with a price on her head, mostly wants to be left alone to ride west to reunite with her one true love, Jack—although she's tempted by others along the way. Derivative plot elements, from the nine black-robed men on horseback to the Wraithway, are not helped by the progressively garbled syntax that connotes not so much a dialect as the well-worn trope of the noble savage. Saba finds the Wraithway filled with evidence of Wreckers' "earth hate....The skellentons of their buildins. The toppled chimleys," a place haunted by "the spirits of earth an water."

Where *Blood Red Road* (2011) was fast-paced and chaotic, this meandering book just bogs down. (Post-apocalyptic adventure. 12 & up)

Kirkus Review, October 1, 2012

Rebel Heart: Dust Lands #2

by Moira Young

Rebel Heart picks up precisely where *Blood Red Road* leaves off, with Saba's true love, Jack, on his way to the Lost Cause tavern to tell Molly of Ike's death. Meanwhile, Saba, her twin, Lugh, and their younger sister, Emmi, are on their way to the Big Water in the West.

Saba may have killed Vicar Pinch (the self-appointed monarch, à la Louis XIV), but "you can't kill all the badness in the world," Jack thinks to himself, as he observes what seems to be a new strain of Tontons at the Lost Cause. These black-robed men are clean-shaven with short-cropped hair, gleaming boots and groomed horses. Only one man could be behind this: DeMalo. Saba sees the dead following her, and hears stories about Jack joining the Tontons, and once again finds herself torn between DeMalo and Jack in surprising ways. Lugh told Saba she couldn't trust Jack. Is he right?

Young introduces new landscapes as breathtaking as the heroine's environments in the first book. Saba starts out in the aptly named seemingly endless Waste and travels through a lush land called Weeping Water. She meets memorable characters such as the lithe Sky Speaker, Auriel Tai and old man Slim, who wears a pink dress and drives a dilapidated contraption called the Cosmic, pulled by a camel named Moses. Saba continues to struggle to determine which rules her fate--her heart or the stars. Readers will be champing at the bit to get to the conclusion of this poetic, action-packed trilogy. --Jennifer M. Brown, children's editor, *Shelf Awareness*

Discover: The page-turning sequel to *Blood Red Road*, as Saba and her siblings make their way West and search for Jack. (Jenny Brown Shelf Awareness)

Readers will be champing at the bit to get to the conclusion of this poetic, action-packed trilogy. (Jennifer M. Brown Shelf Awareness)

Rebel Heart

By Moira Young

(McElderry; ISBN 9781442430006; October 2012; Fall Catalog)

In Young's second Dust Lands book, she returns to the gritty world of *Blood Red Road* and to the gruff, colloquial voice of Saba, a fierce girl living in a bleak, post-apocalyptic future that incorporates elements of the fantasy and western genres. Saba is haunted by the deaths on her shoulders (particularly that of her friend Epona), and she believes she might be going insane. Her rescued twin brother, Lugh, also bears emotional scars from his time in captivity, and the siblings often battle each other as they quest to reach an oasis called the Big Water. Meanwhile, Saba's new love, Jack, discovers that the evil slavers known as the Tonton are rising again, led by someone called the Pathfinder. Young is even more ambitious this time out, interweaving

multiple plot threads and narrative voices, and while her stylistic choices do not always result in easy reading (the same stream-of-consciousness style that makes Saba's voice so effective can be awkward when describing Jack's actions in the third person), her immersive storytelling will lure readers deeper into this dangerous, starkly lovely terrain. Ages 14-up.

--*Publishers Weekly*, *STAR (Publishers Weekly)

"Her immersive storytelling will lure readers deeper into this dangerous, starkly lovely terrain." (Publishers Weekly STARRED)

About the Author

Moira Young is the author of the Dust Lands series. The first book, *Blood Red Road*, won the Costa Children's Book Award, was a Cybils Award Winner for fantasy and science fiction, and was a Best Fiction for Young Adults selection. The Dust Lands continues with *Rebel Heart*, which received a starred review in *Publishers Weekly*, and *Raging Star*. A native Canadian, Moira lives with her husband in the UK. Learn more at MoiraYoung.com.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Michael Cooke:

Have you spare time for just a day? What do you do when you have a lot more or little spare time? Yeah, you can choose the suitable activity regarding spend your time. Any person spent their very own spare time to take a stroll, shopping, or went to the Mall. How about open as well as read a book entitled *Rebel Heart* (Dust Lands Book 2)? Maybe it is being best activity for you. You recognize beside you can spend your time together with your favorite's book, you can more intelligent than before. Do you agree with the opinion or you have different opinion?

Luis Martin:

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