

Grayson Stone is no stranger to deception. Under the watchful eye of his uncle, the High Chancellor, he has been well trained in all four types of magic, while secretly working against his uncle's corrupt rule. Years of plans depend on him being marked Gifted during his University entrance exam, proving that he is the perfect heir and allowing him to gain his uncle's trust. Unfortunately, things don't go as he had hoped, and he has only one person to blame: Eloise Belrose.

Raised by a family of Laborers, Eloise is the most unlikely student to become a Mage. But after years of hard work, she is finally admitted to the prestigious University of Magical Arts, guaranteeing safety and security for her whole family. Until things go very wrong and she somehow becomes magically linked to Grayson Stone, the school's arrogant, annoyingly attractive golden boy, putting not only her University acceptance but also her and her family's lives at risk.

Eloise and Grayson are given less than two weeks to solve an impossible mystery—one that will give the High Chancellor even more power and control—or face the consequences. Forced to room together and share all the same classes, they pretend to date to hide their secret quest . . . and sparks definitely fly. As their feelings grow more real, their necessary deceptions become increasingly difficult. With time running out, will they be able to trust the bond between them, or will their lies tear them apart forever?

ADRIANA MATHER is a *New York Times*–bestselling author who has written *Alchemy of Souls* and *How to Hang a Witch*, among other YA and adult novels. She's also a producer and actor who lives in Massachusetts with her family and too many rescue animals. Follow her @adriana_mather or @adrianamatherauthor.

Read by Stacy Carolan and Caitlin Kelly



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