

"Shot through with myth and fairy tales, punctuated with bursts of raw physicality, *Infandous* lays bare the sometimes toxic bonds of family and the searing power of art."
—Laura Ruby, Printz Award-Winning Author of *Bone Gap*

Infandous

A NOVEL

ELANA K. ARNOLD

INFANDOUS

Description

Sephora Golding lives in the shadow of her unbelievably beautiful mother. Even though they scrape by in the seedier part of Venice Beach, she's always felt lucky. As a child, she imagined she was a minor but beloved character in her mother's fairy tale. But now, at sixteen, the fairy tale is less Disney and more Grimm. And she wants the story to be her own.

Then she meets Felix, and the fairy tale takes a turn she never imagined.

"Things don't really turn out the way they do in fairy tales. I'm telling you that right up front, so you're not disappointed later."

Sometimes, a story is just a way to hide the unspeakable in plain sight.

Selected Critical Acclaim

- Westchester Fiction Award, **Winner, 2016**
- ALAN Pick, **Winner, 2015**
- YALSA Best Books for Young Adults, **Winner, 2015**
- Amelia Bloomer Project List, **Winner, 2015**

"A novel that is as artful as it is emotionally disconcerting."—*The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books*

"...Sephora's painful journey and its lack of easy answers will stick with readers, as will its razor-sharp commentaries on sexual and societal double standards."—*Publishers Weekly*

"A coming-of-age story consciously reminiscent of *Lolita*, this multifaceted portrayal of family bonds surprises with its nuanced and sometimes-searing emotional gravity."—**starred**, *Kirkus Reviews*

"Sephora herself is a narrator who defies convention, and her story, harsh and spare, is unforgettable."—**starred**, *Booklist*

"Arnold's fresh and exciting plot twist is unexpected, elevated by the lyrical writing style.... A well-written and evenly paced dramatic tale about finding peace in ones own situation."—*School Library Journal*

"Raw and dreamy, tragic and brilliant, *Infandous* is both about a girl trapped within her own dark fairytale and the cruel fairytale that all girls are trapped inside. There's no looking away as Arnold's astute heroine journeys through the thorny myth and riddle of her sexuality. How can she own what she's given up or lost? How can she not feel taken?"—**Stephanie Kuehn, Morris Award-winning author of *Charm & Strange***

Interest Level: Grades 8-12

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