

The Mortal Instruments Series by Cassandra Clare

City of Bones, City of Ashes & City of Glass

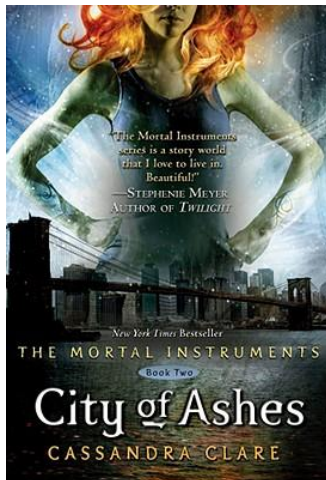
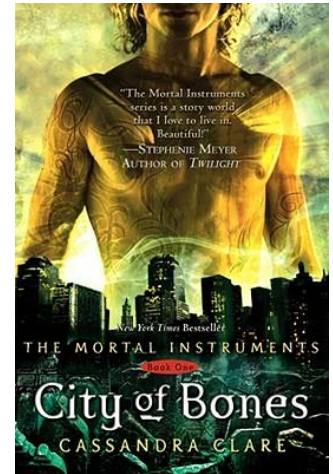
Sixteen year old Clary Fray's life changes completely the night she sees three other teens kill a boy in a nightclub. Shocked, Clary calls security. When help arrives, the body has vanished, and Clary realizes that only she can see the murderers.

The culprits, Jace Wayland and Isabelle and Alec Lightwood, are Shadow Hunters – descendants of angels who are charged with protecting humankind from demons. They're baffled when they realize Clary can see them, since most humans can't see through the magic used by Shadow Hunters to hide themselves in public.

Jace, Alec and Isabelle live and train at the New York Institute. When their tutor, Hodge Starkweather, hears of Clary's unique ability, he sends Jace to bring Clary to the Institute so that he can try to get to the bottom of the matter.

It turns out that Clary's whole life has been built on a lie. Her mother, Jocelyn, is a Shadow Hunter. She left that life behind before Clary was born, deciding that in order to keep her daughter safe, she must raise her as a mundane. When Clary goes home to confront Jocelyn, she narrowly escapes a demon attack and discovers that her mother is missing.

Desperate to find her mother, Clary turns to Jace, the Lightwoods and the Institute. As their investigation develops, Jace begins to suspect



that there is something much more sinister than random demon attacks behind Jocelyn's disappearance.

Valentine Morgenstern was once a powerful Shadow Hunter. Sixteen years ago, he led an uprising against the governing body of the Shadow Hunters, the Clave, which failed. The Clave believes that he killed himself and his infant son the night of the uprising. Jace and Clary have reasons to believe that not only did he survive that night, but that he is also behind the recent attacks.

As Clary and Jace hunt for Jocelyn, they must face demons, werewolves, faeries, vampires, warlocks and even Valentine himself, who reveals that Clary is not the only character who doesn't really know her true identity. The truth, or at least Valentine's version of it, has devastating consequences for Clary and Jace.

City of Bones is the first book in Cassandra Clare's *Mortal Instruments* series. The subsequent books, *City of Ashes* and *City of Glass* take Clary, Jace and the Lightwoods deeper into the unseen world. I can't wait for the newest book, *City of Fallen Angels*, which is coming out later this year!

Clare's story captivated me from the first chapter. Each book is packed with mystery, excitement, humor and romantic tension. If you've read all of the *Twilight* books and you're looking for a new series to love, stop by the library check out *The Mortal Instruments*. I promise you'll be hooked! I know I was.

