

Dear Agent,

I am excited to send you TRIAL BY SEA AND SPIRITS, a YA fantasy complete at 94,000 words with series potential. It combines the enchantingly dangerous setting and sibling bonds of Emily J. Taylor's Hotel Magnifique and the generational family secrets of All the Stars and Teeth by Adalyn Grace. This book features a cruise ship setting, found family, and a major character with a chronic illness inspired by my own.

Seventeen-year-old Rosaline "Roe" Damarcus never holds back when raising spirits of the dead, even if it might spare her some trouble. As a morphic, a descendant of witches, Roe must pass a high-stakes trial to keep her treasured morphia magic. Failure means single-handedly disgracing her esteemed family and ruining her plans to follow in her deceased brother's footsteps as a hunter of dangerous morphics. That is, unless she's willing to serve a punishment sentence on The Celestial cruise ship, a vessel that keeps extracted magic out of the realm, for a chance at a retrial.

To Roe's horror, she fails her trial and makes the difficult choice to join the staff onboard. Seeing as her family was responsible for creating the trials and ship that protects the realm, the shame is almost unbearable. High-paying guests experience the thrill of morphia magic without limits, but the morphic staff compete to earn guest votes for a retrial. Between starry shades of magic and extravagance, bosses chop appendages for mistakes and hallways attack workers after dark. Now labeled a dangerous morphic herself, Roe is thrust into a twisted popularity contest against staff members who are more experienced and just as desperate.

While serving as personal concierge to a family of pretentious guests, Roe receives help from a talented aerial silks performer with the ability to shift his painted nails into claws. With charm and frustrating honesty, he makes her question the purpose of the ship and the legacy of her family.

When Roe is framed for a guest's murder, she realizes that the only way she'll escape The Celestial alive and with her magic is by challenging the rules she once believed in and her family who helped create them .

I am a graduate student in mental health counseling with a tendency to scribble plot points in the margins of my school notes. I am a member of SCBWI, Manuscript Academy, and I live with my twin sister in Orlando, Florida. When I'm not writing, you can find me on local weekend adventures and adding to my growing wall of bookish fanart.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Julia Alexandra