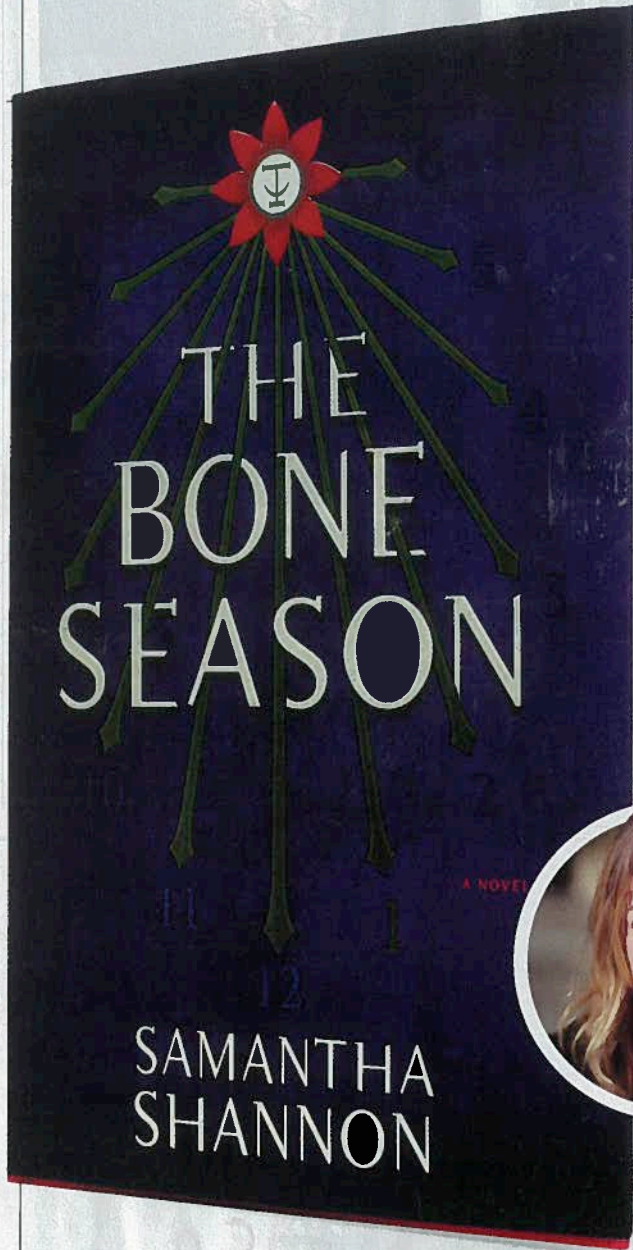


Books



The Bone Season

by *Samantha Shannon* ★★☆☆

REVIEWED BY SUE CORBETT

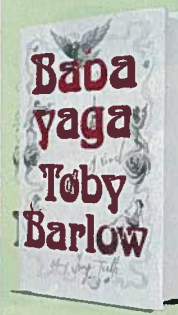
NOVEL

Here's another reason not to eat lunch at your desk: The idea for this compelling, buzzed-about novel came to then-Oxford student Samantha Shannon while she was strolling through London on lunch break during an internship in 2011. Six months later she had a fat manuscript with a heroine every bit as gutsy as Katniss Everdeen—and a publishing deal.

Shannon's story centers on Paige Mahoney, a 19-year-old clairvoyant able to enter others' "dreamscapes." In mid-21st-century London that's trouble: "Unnaturals" are illegal. Paige is captured and sent to a penal colony, where prisoners are enslaved to cruel masters. J.K. Rowling's now-grown readers are the natural audience for this complex fantasy, but unlike the Potter books, *Bone Season* has no humor to leaven the violence. Still, there's a great imagination at work here, and Shannon's just getting started. That publishing deal? It's for a seven-book series.

A dark fantasy by a 21-year-old Brit draws comparisons with J.K. You-Know-Who

GREAT READS NEW IN FICTION



BABAYAGA
by *Toby Barlow*
Set in Paris during the Cold War, this fun brew of witches, CIA spies and fraught romance by *Sharp Teeth* author Barlow casts a magical spell.



AFTER HER
by *Joyce Maynard*
A teen tries to help her detective dad find the "Sunset Strangler"—with devastating results—in Maynard's smart whodunit.



THE VIOLET HOUR
by *Katherine Hill*
Cassandra Green has it all—until her handsome doctor husband throws himself off their boat during a fight. A gripping debut.