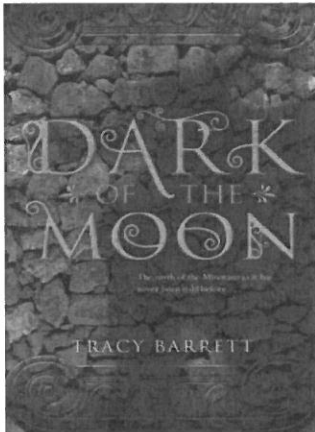


## So You Liked Percy Jackson...

By Kassondra Torraville

This urban fantasy series has increased in popularity over the years, with several spin-off series and two films so far. The series are meant primarily for children and young teens aged nine to twelve. Teens who loved Percy Jackson as children may find that the series is too easy now that their tastes in reading and media are changing. For the teen reader who enjoys urban fantasy, folklore, and mythology, here are some suggestions:



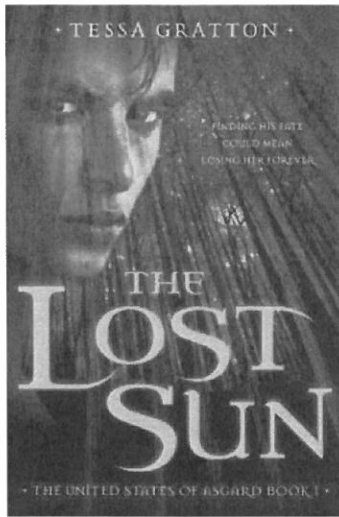
### **Dark of the Moon** by Tracy Barrett (Harcourt, 2011)

*Dark of the Moon* is a retelling of the Greek myth of the minotaur. The main character is Ariadne, a princess of Crete who is training to become a priestess. When a ship of slaves arrives on the island with Theseus, the prince of Athens, everything changes. Ariadne must choose between her new friendship with Theseus or the love of her brother, the Minotaur. Barrett's retelling of the myth creates a dark, realistic tale that both teens and adults will like.



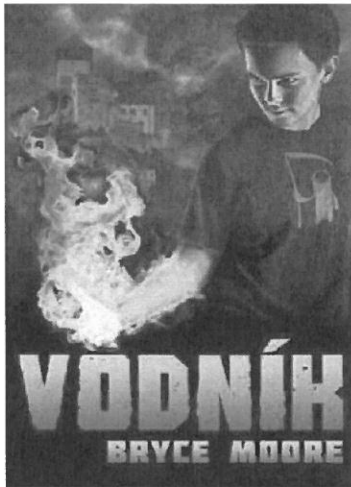
### **The Savage Fortress** by Sarwat Chadda (HarperCollins, 2012)

While on vacation in India, Ash Mistry's uncle is given an offer to translate work found in a recent archaeological dig. After a terrible accident, Ash and his sister must race to stop the Iron Gates from opening and releasing the demon king Ravana. Pulled from Hindu mythology, Chadda's vivid storytelling pulls the reader into the streets of Varanasi, India. This book is fast paced and meant for younger readers.



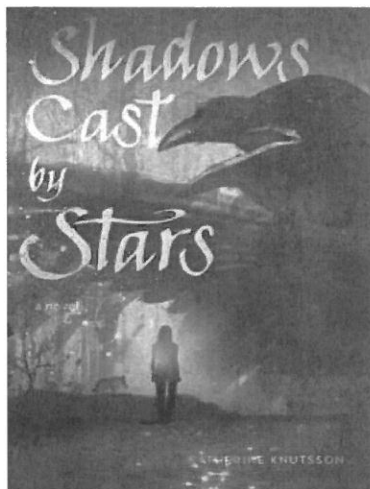
**The Lost Sun** by Tessa Gratton (Random House Books, 2013)

Soren Bearksin can't deny his lineage: his father killed thirteen people while in a berserker rage. Soren struggles to keep calm and keep his powers under control. Astrid Glyn is coming into her own powers and growing into a strong fortuneteller. When Baldur, son of Odin, goes missing, Astrid "sees" where he is and convinces Soren to go with her. *The Lost Sun* is a coming-of-age story set amongst a modern-day world where the Norse gods are real and living among mortals. Teens who enjoyed both *Percy Jackson* and Neil Gaiman's *American Gods* will enjoy this series.



**Vodnik** by Bryce Moore (Tu Books, 2012)

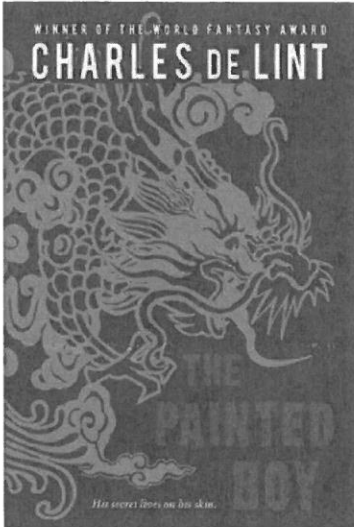
When Tomas was six, something tried to kill him. It scared his parents enough to move from Slovakia to the United States- but now, ten years later, they're back in Slovakia; and Tomas must face the creatures after him while struggling to fit in a home country he barely knows. *Vodnik* is richly packed with Slavic folklore that weaves into a modern story of racism and corruption.



**Shadows Cast by Stars** by Catherine Knuttson (Atheneum, 2012)

Cassandra Mercredi and her twin brother are on the run. In a world where a plague has decimated the population. The only people immune are the ones with aboriginal descent; and their blood holds the antibodies to make a cure. They flee to a place called "The Island", where Cassandra comes face-to-face with the spirit world. This series is a mix of urban fantasy and

dystopian fiction, with an interesting blend of Aboriginal folklore, Arthurian legends, and Greek mythology.



**The Painted Boy** by Charles De Lint (Viking Books, 2010)

James Li is a member of the Yellow Dragon tribe, trained in the ancient ways to become a protector. His quest takes him to the Arizona desert, to a town overrun by gangs led by El Tigre from another animal clan. De Lint's storytelling is rich and interweaves both Chinese and Mexican folklore into an interesting and compelling narrative. *The Painted Boy* is a rite of passage story of a teen trying to find his place in the world.