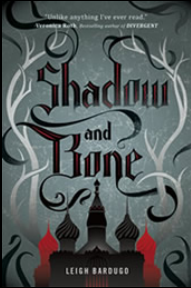


Leigh Bardugo

Leigh Bardugo was born in Jerusalem, grew up in Los Angeles, and graduated from Yale University. She indulges her fondness for glamour, ghouls, and costuming in her other life as makeup artist L.B. Benson. She lives in Hollywood and can occasionally be heard singing with her band, Captain Automatic.



Leigh's debut novel *Shadow & Bone* (retitled as *The Gathering Dark* in the UK), the first book in the Grisha Trilogy, made it onto the New York Times Best seller list and just over a week ago was optioned for movie rights by Dreamworks.

The Grisha Trilogy is set in the once-great nation of Ravka, a fantasy world inspired by Russia - always nice to see a non-western inspired setting!

Leigh also has a connection to *Game of Thrones*. At Worldcon 2011 in Reno, David J Peterson, the creator of the Dothraki language, gave several lucky audience members the opportunity to have their names entered into the Dothraki dictionary. Here's what David came up with:

lei (animate noun) ghost (also the adjective for "lost", this is a term for an adult whose body is not burned, and, hence, is not able to ride into the Night Lands). The word derives from *leyi*, which one might spell "leghi".

We promise Leigh will neither be lost nor a ghost at TitanCon. She is a fully fledged member of the BWB, completed a quest for an Awful Awful Burger and has been knighted by George RR Martin.



Joanna Volpe

Joanna Stampfel-Volpe is a literary agent and vice-president of Nancy Coffey Literary & Media Representation in New York. Joanna represents author and fellow TitanCon guest Leigh Bardugo (yes they come as an adorable set of two guests for the price of one, we just couldn't resist).

Joanna represents all brands of fiction, from children's books to adult. She has a particular affinity for fantasy and sci-fi that has a darker, grittier feel, and she is drawn to horror with a strong psychological story line.

