Fourth Wing (Empyrean #1) by Rebecca Yarros

If you like the *Game of Thrones* and the *Hunger Games*, this is a series for you! This adult fantasy book includes war games, dragons, and romance. It became a hit on BookTok with more than a billion views. It then leapt to number one on Amazon's bestseller list as well as the number one spot on *The New York Times* Bestseller list, where it stayed for 18 weeks. The second book in the series, *Iron Flame*, released in November of 2023, has also placed on the *NYT* Bestseller list.

Twenty-year-old Violet Sorrengail suffers from a brutal joint disease which lands her in the infirmary a lot. Entering into a deadly competitive school for dragon riders was not part of her plan. Her plan was always to become a scribe, living a quiet, non-deadly life among books. Her mother, the commanding general, however, has other plans and Violet has no choice but to try for the Riders Quadrant. Its live or die trying. Violet has to draw on her unrecognized strength and wits to survive daily life – especially since so many want her dead due to her famous mother.

This is a fascinating book with an endearing main character, a cast of supportive friends, a dangerous love interest, and dragons! It's a hefty read too – but the pace of the story and the characters keep you turning the pages. Geared towards adults, there is definitely language and spicy scenes – but there is a lot of character and story development before you get to that part. The ending definitely had me putting my name on hold for the next book in the series. The author plans on writing an additional three more books, and I heard its already been opted for television. Enjoy!