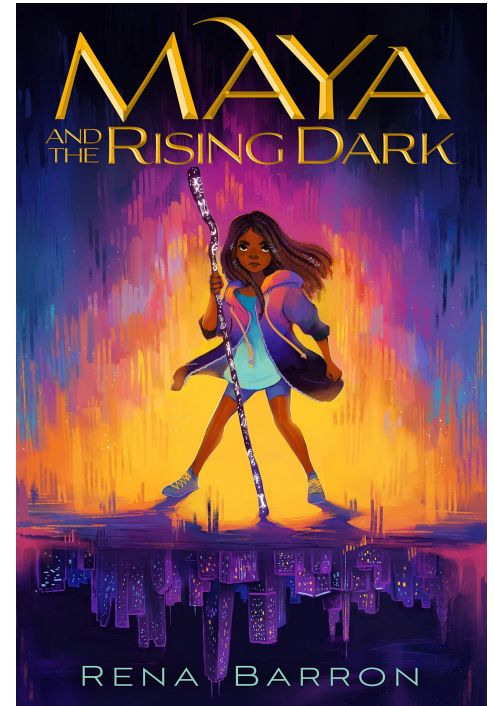


RENA BARRON

Rena Barron grew up in small-town Alabama where stories of magic and adventure sparked her imagination. After penning her first awful poem in middle school, she graduated to writing short stories and novels by high school. Rena loves all things science fiction, ghosts, and superheroes. She's a self-proclaimed space nerd. When she's not writing, she can be found reading or brushing up on her French.



From a very young age she loved reading stories where kids saved the world, tamed dragons, wielded magic, flew spaceships, became the chosen one. She desperately searched for characters in books who looked like her and was always disappointed to find none, which fueled her early interest in writing.¹ Barron's YA Fantasy series, *Kingdom of Souls* is high fantasy with a West-African inspired setting. Barron's aim when writing the first novel was to create the kind of magical world that she loved reading about growing up so that Black teens could see themselves in fantastical tales too.

In addition to the *Kingdom of Souls* series, Rena also has written a middle grade contemporary fantasy series *Maya and the Rising Dark*, pitched as 'Stranger Things meets Percy Jackson'.

¹ <https://renabarron.com/bio/>

