BABEL

OR THE NECESSITY OF VIOLENCE

An Arcane History of the Oxford Translators' Revolution



R.F. KUANG



This is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are products of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously and are not to be construed as real. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, organizations, or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.

BABEL. Copyright © 2022 by R. F. Kuang. All rights reserved. Printed in the United States of America. No part of this book may be used or reproduced in any manner whatsoever without written permission except in the case of brief quotations embodied in critical articles and reviews. For information, address HarperCollins Publishers, 195 Broadway, New York, NY 10007.

HarperCollins books may be purchased for educational, business, or sales promotional use. For information, please email the Special Markets Department at SPsales@harpercollins.com.

Harper Voyager and design are trademarks of HarperCollins Publishers LLC.

FIRST EDITION

Crest illustration copyright © 2022 HarperCollinsPublishers Map and tower illustration copyright © 2022 Nicolette Caven

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data has been applied for.

ISBN 978-0-06-302142-6

22 23 24 25 26 LSC 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1



