These fantasy novels featuring diverse urban and contemporary characters concentrate on imaginary elements, including magic, the supernatural, alternate worlds, superheroes, monsters, fairies — essentially, anything that an author can imagine.

K.D. Edwards
The Tarot Sequence
In The Last Sun, Edwards’s debut, Rune Saint John, last child of the fallen Sun Court, is hired to search for Lady Judgment’s missing son, Addam, on New Atlantis, the island city where the Atlanteans moved after ordinary humans destroyed their original home. In looking for Addam, can Rune find the truth behind his family’s death and the torments of his past?

Fonda Lee
The Green Bone Saga
Stylish and action-packed, full of ambitious families and guilt-ridden loves, this is an epic drama reminiscent of the best classic Hong Kong gangster films but set in a fantasy metropolis that’s gritty and well-imagined. The series opener begins an epic tale of family, honor, and those who live and die by the ancient laws of jade and blood.

P. Djeli Clark
Akata Witch series
Twelve-year-old Sunny Nwazue, an American-born albino child of Nigerian parents, moves with her family back to Nigeria, where she learns that she has latent magical powers which she and three similarly gifted friends use to catch a serial killer.

Aiden Thomas
Cemetery Boys
Yadriel, a trans boy, summons the angry spirit of his high school's bad boy, and agrees to help him learn how he died, thereby proving himself a brujo, not a bruja, to his conservative family.

TJ Klune
The House in the Cerulean Sea
Linus Baker leads a quiet, solitary life. As a case worker, he oversees the well-being of orphans. Then Linus is unexpectedly given a curious and highly classified assignment: travel to Marsyas Island, where six dangerous children reside: a gnome, a sprite, a wyvern, a green blob, a were-Pomeranian, and the Antichrist.

L.L. McKinney
Nightmare-Verse series
This isn’t the Wonderland you remember. The first time the Nightmares came, it nearly cost Alice her life. Now she’s trained to battle monstrous creatures in the dark dream realm known as Wonderland with magic weapons and hardcore fighting skills. Yet even warriors have a curfew.

Daniel Jose Older
Bone Street Rumba series
Carlos Delacruz in one of the New York Council of the Dead's most unusual agents- an inbetweener, partially resurrected from a death he barely recalls suffering, after a life that’s missing from his memory. He thinks he is one of a kind - until he encounters others walking the fine line between life and death.

Na’amen Gobert Tilahun
Wrath & Athenaeum series
Erik, a former teen star, thought his life was complicated; having his ex-boyfriend in jail because of the scandal that destroyed his career. Then Erik learned he was descended from the Gods. Erik discovers that a secret government agency is selling off Blooded to a San Francisco in an alternate dimension.