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A Game Of Thrones: A Song Of Ice And Fire, Book 1



Synopsis

NOW THE ACCLAIMED HBO SERIES GAME OF THRONES From a master of contemporary fantasy comes the first novel of a landmark series unlike any youâ™ve ever read before. With A Game of Thrones, George R. R. Martin has launched a genuine masterpiece, bringing together the best the genre has to offer. Mystery, intrigue, romance, and adventure fill the pages of this magnificent saga, the first volume in an epic series sure to delight fantasy fans everywhere. A GAME OF THRONES A SONG OF ICE AND FIRE: BOOK ONE A Long ago, in a time forgotten, a preternatural event threw the seasons out of balance. In a land where summers can last decades and winters a lifetime, trouble is brewing. The cold is returning, and in the frozen wastes to the north of Winterfell, sinister forces are massing beyond the kingdomâ™s protective Wall. To the south, the kingâ™s powers are failingâ™his most trusted adviser dead under mysterious circumstances and his enemies emerging from the shadows of the throne. At the center of the conflict lie the Starks of Winterfell, a family as harsh and unyielding as the frozen land they were born to. Now Lord Eddard Stark is reluctantly summoned to serve as the kingâ™s new Hand, an appointment that threatens to sunder not only his family but the kingdom itself. Sweeping from a harsh land of cold to a summertime kingdom of epicurean plenty, A Game of Thrones tells a tale of lords and ladies, soldiers and sorcerers, assassins and bastards, who come together in a time of grim omens. Here an enigmatic band of warriors bear swords of no human metal; a tribe of fierce wildlings carry men off into madness; a cruel young dragon prince barter his sister to win back his throne; a child is lost in the twilight between life and death; and a determined woman undertakes a treacherous journey to protect all she holds dear. Amid plots and counter-plots, tragedy and betrayal, victory and terror, allies and enemies, the fate of the Starks hangs perilously in the balance, as each side endeavors to win that deadliest of conflicts: the game of thrones. Unparalleled in scope and execution, A Game of Thrones is one of those rare reading experiences that catch you up from the opening pages, wonâ™t let you go until the end, and leave you yearning for more. From the Hardcover edition.

--This text refers to the Mass Market Paperback edition.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This review is primarily to give a feedback on the sizes of leather bound and paperback printed books. I initially bought leather bound books. They were really pretty and paper quality was very good. But the down side is they are really small books. So I got the paperback edition books. These books are bigger than leather bound and easy to read. So it totally depends on the customer what size book you would like to buy. I attached a photo to compare. Hope this helps

Extremely pleased with this leather edition. Absolutely stunning. Ten times more gorgeous in person.

What could be said about Game of Thrones, the first of George R.R. Martin's epic series, that hasn't been said a million times? It's absolutely brilliant. Going into these books (I read them after the show began but before I'd seen the show...), I enjoyed my share of sci-fi/fantasy along the lines of Harry Potter, Buffy the Vampire Slayer... fairly light-hearted stuff (in comparison, at least) that always felt grounded in the same world I live in. The one genre I really disliked was "Middle Ages Fantasy" as I called it. Lord of the Rings, for instance, while the films were visually appealing, was not my cup of tea... too detached from reality. So when I first saw articles and clips from the HBO Game of Thrones series, I thought it looked like the one type of fantasy series that I would never enjoy. I held out for a looong time, until 3 different friends of mine with similar tastes in books/shows/films promised me that, while they too disliked this sub-genre of fantasy, this series was different, and I HAD to read the books or start the show. Grudgingly, I picked up the first book, figuring that I'd push myself half-way through it and let my friends know I tried and they were totally wrong. Of course they weren't wrong. What George R.R. Martin has done here defies genre, period. It doesn't matter if you're like me and don't care for this sub-genre of fantasy... it doesn't matter if you like my spouse, and don't like fantasy at all. If you enjoy brilliant, incredibly-developed, thought-provoking stories...

those with a strongly developed cast of characters who blissfully lack being "good vs. evil" and instead all display their shades of grey, good traits, evil traits, unique traits, all sorts of traits... then this book is for you. Buy it. Open it up. Start reading. You won't regret it.

To be clear, I'm not writing a review of a plot. I love the books and I was happy when I got them. However, my issue is with the books themselves. When I got to the second book I noticed that approximately 70 pages are missing. I can't tell if this is the case for the rest of the books, but I'm certainly dissatisfied with the product.

I have read this several times. I read this and book 2 back to back when the second came out. 3 came shortly after. Since then it's been far too long between books. Still waiting on 6. Each time through, I love it more. If you are reading this review wondering if you should purchase it, the answer is a resounding yes with 1 caution. Martin is very slowly turning out the latest books. At this pace it will be 2025 when finished. Robert Jordan died before completing *The Wheel of Time*. That could be a very real piss if Martin doesn't at least maintain the current glacial pace. The world he has built is tremendous. His storytelling is very real and feels more grounded than anything else I have encountered in the fantasy genre. It reads almost like a journal of real people that lived long ago in our world. I'm trying not to review the series, only book 1. It is an excellent beginning to an amazing ride. It is the excitement of the ride up the hill before the big drop off the coaster. Buy it, love it and the other four as well and then sit in line waiting for the next one with the rest of us. You won't regret it.

I'm a big fan of the show and what I have previously read of the books. Bought these as they were similar priced to the mass market paperback but looked a lot nicer. While I am pleased with the look of the set, I wish the books were somewhat larger. Having them so compact makes the book harder to read and keep open, especially when you are in the middle without damaging the binding over time. The text is also a bit smaller than I would have liked, but still big enough to read without too much difficulty. No missing pages or strange smells to the books like some other review have said, though the pages are thin enough that you can see outlines of the next page. It is somewhat reminiscent of a pocket bible, in make, but larger in size. Overall, a decent investment

The Song of Ice and Fire (Game of Thrones) books are something of a mixed bag. They're all very well written -- which was/is a great pleasure after checking out a number of e-books (and print

books) that aren't. And the characters are as interesting and compelling as anything in literature. The real rival the SolaF books have is... Themselves. Compared to other books, each of these probably deserves five stars, but compared to themselves: Books 1 and 3 are brilliant, top notch. Fantasy (and literature) doesn't get better than these. Book 2 is good, but less memorable because it's sandwiched between greatness. Books 4 and 5 contain a lot of great stuff, but for me they lack focus and drive. (I'm not surprised that the TV show may be condensing them, as opposed to making them longer; book 3 is taking 2 TV seasons, deservedly.) I also feel it was a mistake to split the characters between the two books, making readers wait a _long_ time to see some of their favorites again. Because of those issues, I can't rate the last 2 books (so far) as anything more than good, with some very good stuff in them. Overall, this is still a great series, and I'm eagerly awaiting book 6 -- along with what seems like half the world. If you've seen the TV show, chances are you'll like the books, and the other way around. If you like fantasy, you owe it to yourself to read this series.

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