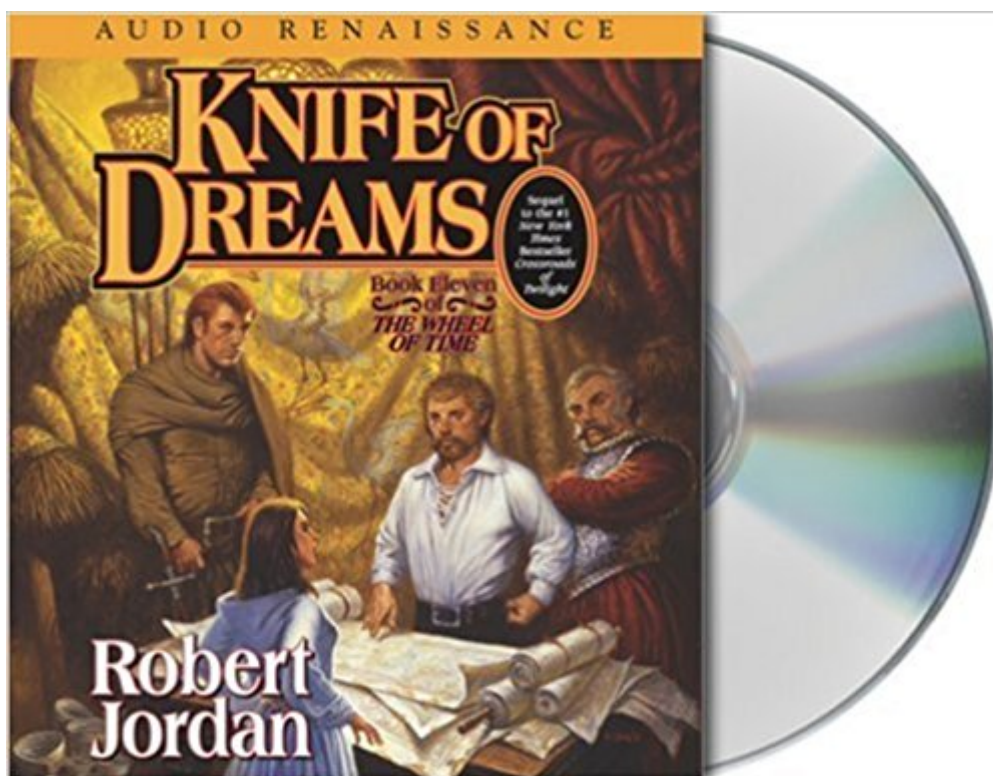


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Knife Of Dreams (The Wheel Of Time, Book 11)



Synopsis

The Wheel of Time turns, and Robert Jordan gives us the eleventh volume of his extraordinary masterwork of fantasy. The dead are walking, men die impossible deaths, and it seems as though reality itself has become unstable: All are signs of the imminence of Tarmon Gai'don, the Last Battle, when Rand al'Thor, the Dragon Reborn, must confront the Dark One as humanity's only hope. But Rand dares not fight until he possesses all the surviving seals on the Dark One's prison and has dealt with the Seanchan, who threaten to overrun all nations this side of the Aryth Ocean and increasingly seem too entrenched to be fought off. But his attempt to make a truce with the Seanchan is shadowed by treachery that may cost him everything. Whatever the price, though, he must have that truce. And he faces other dangers. There are those among the Forsaken who will go to any length to see him dead--and the Black Ajah is at his side....Unbeknownst to Rand, Perrin has made his own truce with the Seanchan. It is a deal made with the Dark One, in his eyes, but he will do whatever is needed to rescue his wife, Faile, and destroy the Shaido who captured her. Among the Shaido, Faile works to free herself while hiding a secret that might give her her freedom or cause her destruction. And at a town called Malden, the Two Rivers longbow will be matched against Shaido spears. Fleeing Ebou Dar through Seanchan-controlled Altara with the kidnapped Daughter of the Nine Moons, Mat attempts to court the woman to whom he is half-married, knowing that she will complete that ceremony eventually. But Tuon coolly leads him on a merry chase as he learns that even a gift can have deep significance among the Seanchan Blood and what he thinks he knows of women is not enough to save him. For reasons of her own, which she will not reveal until a time of her choosing, she has pledged not to escape, but Mat still sweats whenever there are Seanchan soldiers near. Then he learns that Tuon herself is in deadly danger from those very soldiers. To get her to safety, he must do what he hates worse than work....In Caemlyn, Elayne fights to gain the Lion Throne while trying to avert what seems a certain civil war should she win the crown....In the White Tower, Egwene struggles to undermine the sisters loyal to Elaida from within....The winds of time have become a storm, and things that everyone believes are fixed in place forever are changing before their eyes. Even the White Tower itself is no longer a place of safety. Now Rand, Perrin and Mat, Egwene and Elayne, Nynaeve and Lan, and even Loial, must ride those storm winds, or the Dark One will triumph.

Book Information

Series: Wheel of Time (Book 11)

Audio CD

Publisher: Macmillan Audio; Unabridged edition (October 11, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1593977654

ISBN-13: 978-1593977658

Product Dimensions: 5.3 x 0.1 x 5.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 917 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #688,971 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #4 in [Books > Books on CD > Authors, A-Z > \(J \) > Jordan, Robert](#) #253 in [Books > Books on CD > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy](#) #885 in [Books > Books on CD > Literature & Fiction > Unabridged](#)

Customer Reviews

About the Author Robert Jordan lives in Charleston, South Carolina. He is a graduate of the Citadel.

.com Exclusive Content .com's Significant Seven Robert Jordan kindly agreed to take the life quiz we like to give to all our authors: the .com Significant Seven. Q: What book has had the most significant impact on your life? A: The King James version of the Bible. That seems a cliché, but I can't think of any other book that has had as large an impact in shaping who I am. Q: You are stranded on a desert island with only one book, one CD, and one DVD--what are they? A: The one book would be whatever book I was currently writing. I mean, I hate falling behind in the work. The one CD would contain the best encyclopedia I could find on desert island survival. The DVD would contain as much of Beethoven, Mozart, and Duke Ellington as I could cram onto it. Q: What is the worst lie you've ever told? A: It's hard to think of one since I am genetically incapable of lying to women and that takes out 52% of the population right there. Q: Describe the perfect writing environment. A: Any place that has my computer, a CD player for music, a comfortable chair that won't leave me with a backache at the end of a long day, and very little interruption. Q: If you could write your own epitaph, what would it say? A: He kept trying to get better at it. Q: Who is the one person living or dead that you would like to have dinner with? A: My wife before anybody else on earth living or dead. That's a no-brainer. Q: If you could have one superpower what would it be? A: That depends. If I'm feeling altruistic, it would be the ability to heal anything with a touch, if that can be called a superpower. If I'm not feeling very altruistic, it would be the ability to read other people's minds, to finally be able to get to the bottom of what they really mean and what their motivations are. See all books in the Wheel of Time series. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Starred Review. The previous book in Jordan's massive Wheel of Time, *Crossroads of Twilight*, may have come out in 2003, but don't let that fool you; the 11th tome in this epic fantasy is the one Jordan fans have been eagerly waiting for the better part of a decade. The breakneck pace, lyrical beauty and astonishing scope of the early Wheel of Time volumes established Jordan as one of the top writers in the Tolkien tradition. While more recent entries have maintained that beauty and scope, the pace has slowed to a crawl as the central characters dispersed in six directions. In contrast, the latest explodes with motion, as multiple plot lines either conclude or advance, and the march to Tarmon Gai'don—the climactic last battle between the Dragon Reborn and the Dark One—begins in earnest. Faile's captivity with the Shaido, Mat's pursuit of Tuon and Elayne's war for Caemlyn come to a close, while Egwene's capture brings the Aes Sedai war to the heart of the Tower. Jordan has said that readers will be sweating by the end of the book, and he's probably right. Sweating or not, they'll also be dreading the long year or two before the 12th installment.

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So, book ten taught me how to read the rest of this series. I just wish I wasn't this far into the series. Basically, when Jordan starts describing people's clothes or the town's layout, feel free to skip to the next page or so. Jordan takes forever to describe how someone is standing, what they are wearing, how it looks, and whether or not they think it'll rain later. Who really cares? Especially after reading where everyone was last book and barely anything plot related happening. This book finally moves ahead but there's still not enough of what's going on with Rand. He is the main character after all. Overall, still a good series. Some really good parts with Matt kicking but as usual, Perrin getting Faile back, and Elayne getting the support of the main houses that she needs. Looking forward to reading through the rest of the books!

I just got it cause I have most of the books already and just wanted to get a complete set. The story was more interesting at the beginning and started to drag on as time went on... the story plot really began to drag and have no story advancement for 2 or 3 books. The author started to put too much time into describing everything in too much detail and letting the story get dragged down by putting in too much detail in every little thing and forgetting to advance the plot in a smooth timely manner. I found out later that the reason may have been because the health of the author was going downhill and latter passed away... but gave the reigns to another author to finish the series. Brandon Sanderson finished up the series.

"Knife of Dreams" is the 11th book in the "Wheel of Time" series, and I was pleasantly surprised that Jordan started to pull things together in this book compared to the previous one. Many people claim female characters in the series are weak, but I thought Jordan did a great job of adding dimension to Egwene's character as she faces her custody in the White Tower and her punishments for refusing to yield to Eladia's command. She is subjected to severe penance, but embraces it in Aiel fashion with great honor. In addition, I also thought Nynaeve grew immensely in this book in her relationship with Lan, and there was an awesome scene involving Lan and his destiny in the story. After meandering for the last two books, I thought Jordan did pleasing advanced the story arcs of Perrin/Faile, Mat/Tuon, and Elayne while including and some battles with trollocs and the Black Ajah. Rand's story also advanced, although it is a bit slower since so much focus was on the other main characters. I've already finished book 12, and I can tell you the story is really getting exciting now! I thought Jordan really got the story back on track with book 11, and Sanderson cranks things up in the remaining books. It is so worth the long read if you've been involved since the first book in the series!

So, I give 5 stars to Knife of Dreams, only because I am addicted to the entire series. I am reading it for the first time as a 50+ year old, who was told to read it by her sister and niece. Now, deeply into the 13th book, having started them only seven months ago, I cannot stop myself. The complicated, interweaving plot lines leave me hanging every moment; as the author acquaints me with these characters, I must know what happens both to each one of them, and their relationships to each other. The weave never stops surprising me, nor does it stop becoming more complicated at every turn. While there is redundancy in the telling of the tales, one can skim those areas and move on through. I do not like the violence, but that is a personal preference. Thankfully, there are so many other plot lines and embellishments, that the violence recedes in importance. So I don't have anything specific about the Knife of Dreams to relate. But if you have gotten this far, continue. It IS worth it. Keep on reading. You will be enthralled.

Knife of Dreams is a return to fine form for Jordan. Multiple plots are moved forward in this book, leaving the reader feeling satisfied by the end of the book. Still, it's not as good as when the Aiel were a large part of the books. A plurality of the book focuses on Mat's continuing journey away from Ebou Dar into Altara. There's quite a bit that goes on here, but the good part is that Moiraine's letter to Thom is finally shared with Mat, setting up some later events. How much later? Two books.

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