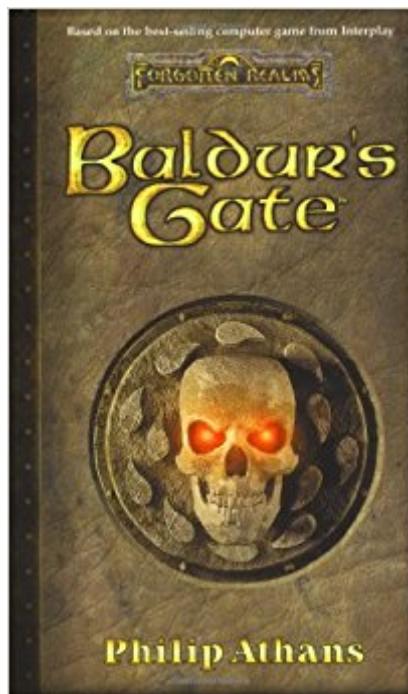


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Baldur's Gate: A Novelization



Synopsis

Bhaal must be stopped! Someone is sabotaging the iron mines of the Sword Coast, pushing powerful realms toward a bloody war, and a young mercenary toward an unimaginable secret. Evil gods, giant spiders, murderous doppelgangers, flesh-eating ghouls, and wicked Zhentarim come to life in the action-packed novelization of the Baldur's Gate computer game from BioWare and Interplay.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I bought this novel after finishing playing both Baldur's Gate, and Baldur's Gate II-Shadows of Amn. As is my usual habit, I did not read any reviews of the book beforehand, and now I really wish I had. This book has none of the epic feel of the games. It ignores some of the best events and plot devices of the game (Imoen's weakness, Minsc's incredible one-liners) in favor of creating an artificial relationship between the main character (Abdel? Who came up with that name? It sounds almost Indian... not what one would expect of someone growing up on the Sword Coast) that doesn't exist in the first game at all. I can only guess that the writer of the game never actually played the game the novel was based on. And especially was not given information about Baldur's Gate II -- or he couldn't have killed certain characters and ignored the existence of others. Given that no book based on a game can fit with the entire plotline, I suppose some of these problems can be overlooked... but they add up. When you add into it the author's inability to make you CARE about any of the characters, good or ill, and his lack of actual writing talent, the book becomes downright

awful. It took me less than 3 hours to read it from cover to cover, and I was relieved when it was finally over. The writing style is disjointed, and as someone who has done some editing in my life, looks like every third page was cut so that the book would be shorter. The descriptions are choppy and uninteresting, and the story just doesn't flow at all. All in all, I wouldn't recommend buying this book if you previously enjoyed the game (or even just the first one). It just doesn't live up to the epic story that Baldur's Gate is supposed to tell.

this book doesn't deserve all the crap reviews it gets. First of all it was written before the game ever came out, second it is not the same plot if you expect it to follow the game then it will disappoint you. That being said it isn't a bad book at all and Athans isn't a terrible writer, the book is a good quick read and a lot of fun. If you like fantasy and not expecting an epic tale it's a fun adventure. I repeat it's not the same plot as the game which is why I'm assuming it's got so many bad reviews. It's not a bad book at all..

As a writer who is about to complete a similar novel, I found this series very entertaining.

Imagine some of the worst fanfics you've ever seen, and you can get a good idea of what this piece of crap is. Want an idea of how bad this is? Most of the BG characters die within the first third of the book just so the romantic leads can bone. I'm not joking, I wish I was. Beyond that, the writing is about average for something on Fanfiction.net. A multitude of run on sentences, no understanding of grammar, more typos and misspellings than you could even care to keep track of... I refuse to believe this had an editor. Avoid this book like the plague, especially if you're a fan of the game. Ignore the few 5-star reviews, they're all voted as unhelpful for a good reason: They're not telling the truth. I'm willing to believe several actually have ties to the book. Not that I'm not willing to believe this book doesn't have a fanbase, I mean even the worst Troma films have fans, but a lot of the five-star reviews just sound fake.

If you love the R.A. Salvatore books than read this. Its not by him but I got into this book almost as much as I did his other books.

Baldur's Gate was a great disappointment. Athan's writing was stale and flat. Main character Abdel was a sociopath whose love of killing and general self-centered and selfish personality overshadowed any positive traits he might have. Gorion (Abdel's guardian) is barely dead in the

grave, before Abdel kills a drunk in a bar in an excessive use of dimwitted machismo. More disappointing than the treatment of the hero was the treatment of the subplot characters. Romantic couple Khalid and Jahiera were reduced to a mockery of themselves. Khalid, instead of being loyal and diffident was portrayed as a womanizing rake (!) and sarcastic and aggressive Jaheira was reduced to a simpering ninny slinking around in a nightgown after Abdel. Battlescenes were gory and choppy, with Abdel delighting in killing and mayhem, doing credit to his evil father. I find it hard to imagine Abdel survives with such an inhumane attitude... Wait....Who was the bad guy again? Spare yourself the pain and skip this book. It couldn't be worse.

This is not a good book. AT ALL. the characters are bland and not relatable. The pacing is poor and the narrative feels like it doesn't know when to give interesting details and when to move on from less necessary areas. The main characters have no chemistry and their romance is so forced and unbelievable it made me cringe at times. The end was supposed to be a cliff hanger but felt like his save file corrupted and this was all he could recover. There's plenty more wrong with the book but it's not worth elaborating on any further. Don't read it. If you see it on a shelf just leave it where it is.

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