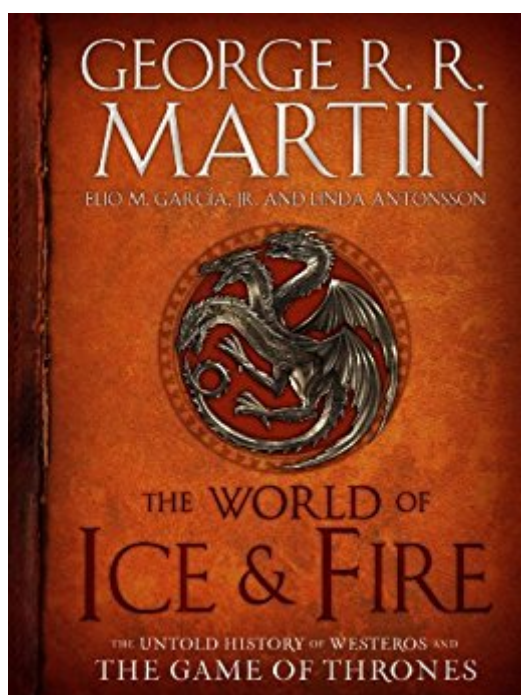


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The World Of Ice & Fire: The Untold History Of Westeros And The Game Of Thrones (A Song Of Ice And Fire)



Synopsis

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER *—* THE NEVER-BEFORE-SEEN HISTORY OF WESTEROS AND THE LANDS BEYOND *—* WITH HUNDREDS OF PAGES OF ALL-NEW MATERIAL FROM GEORGE R. R. MARTIN

If the past is prologue, then George R. R. Martin's masterwork *—* the most inventive and entertaining fantasy saga of our time *—* warrants one hell of an introduction. At long last, it has arrived with *The World of Ice & Fire*. This lavishly illustrated volume is a comprehensive history of the Seven Kingdoms, providing vividly constructed accounts of the epic battles, bitter rivalries, and daring rebellions that lead to the events of *A Song of Ice and Fire* and HBO's *Game of Thrones*. In a collaboration that's been years in the making, Martin has teamed with Elio M. Garcia, Jr., and Linda Antonsson, the founders of the renowned fan site *Westeros.org* *—* perhaps the only people who know this world almost as well as its visionary creator. Collected here is all the accumulated knowledge, scholarly speculation, and inherited folk tales of maesters and septons, maegi and singers, including *—* full-color artwork and maps, with more than 170 original pieces *—* full family trees for Houses Stark, Lannister, and Targaryen *—* in-depth explorations of the history and culture of *Westeros* *—* 100% all-new material, more than half of which Martin wrote specifically for this book. The definitive companion piece to George R. R. Martin's dazzlingly conceived universe, *The World of Ice & Fire* is indeed proof that the pen is mightier than a storm of swords. From the Hardcover edition.

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Customer Reviews

I pre-ordered a few months ago, not knowing what to expect. So unwrapping an oversized book of extensive production quality was a surprise, since I was expecting something that would line up on the shelf next to the five ASOIAF books. Note that you're getting an oversized book with very nice cover, page, and print quality, which helps the artwork stand out. As far as the text, which many of the reviews here are quick to slam or to praise, I felt the truth was in the middle and uneven would be the best word to describe. Some of the narratives are very well done - the "short story" of the Conquest, the reign of King Jaehaerys, and the history of the Vale in particular stood out as well done; the narrative flowed well, and the characterizations were very satisfying, but most importantly gave itself identity and value. As far as a common identifier of the best pieces, the text is at its best and finds a nice rhythm when it becomes character-centric as opposed to purely event-centric.

When Martin et. immerse you in the rich characterizations of Nymeria, Aegon, Robar Royce, and Tywin, and let the history flow around them is extremely enjoyable. Other portions were frustrating - several histories of reigns and a couple of the Kingdoms really felt like obligated filler as opposed to a seized opportunity to provide rich lore, and all too often the "Untold History" teased on the cover produced only empty text containing no more than "going through the motions" summations of previously known information, providing no additional lore or color. It is understandable in areas where it's obvious that Martin isn't ready to show his cards; others such as the War of the Ninepenny Kings from a 10,000 foot view and the Greyjoy Rebellion being reduced to a couple paragraphs and passing on the opportunity to add color and depth as opposed to regurgitation due to necessity were a letdown. The choice of the maester as a point of view was overall a sound decision. The additional layer adds richness: bias is introduced, sources are referenced, and the environment of the ASOIAF novels needs to be taken into account by the reader - a very Martin-esque move. The "cop outs", where the decision to use a maester as the writer leads to lack of expansion or evasion were an unfortunate consequence. As far as the artwork, I expected the illustrations to be filler, almost an annoyance beside the lore. It was the exact opposite - the illustrations are impressive, most absolutely stunning. The amount of artwork, fantastic detail, and

affording a quality template for the production really stood out. I'm not sold that AWOIAF will be a frequent reread or that the table of contents and index reference enough consistency in the text for it to serve as a reference, but there will definitely be portions worth a bookmark and others worth perusing at times, and the art is worth a complete page through anytime.

Amazing book, awesome drawings and art. Perfect for the GOT lovers. It arrived on time and in perfect state. This is not a continuation of the books, instead is an extended and well described previous and ancient world of GOT. It explains all the stories of the old kings, origin of families, events that are only mentioned in the books or the series such as previous wars are explained and why they occurred. You can have weeks enjoying this reading since it is not a novel so you can read different parts, not chronologically. Sorry got a little bit excited jaja

Just an expansion to the ASOIAF universe. I would have liked some more in depth stories, very good for a general backstory. Some of the names are a bit corny since they reuse a lot. I guess that shows the folks are fairly simple minded in some aspects in the old days of Westeros. Would like to see more on the older histories maybe mythos of the ASOIAF world. Especially on the old cities and cultures. As we all know, that'll never happen since GRRM can't even finish the main series. Overall, very good read with some nice illustrations. I would like to see that trend continue. I am wondering if GRRM is running out of material given length of time and all the useless time he's spent on the incredibly boring Daenerys storyline.

Great "Game of Thrones" book. Loaded with rich lore and tons of stories that pre-date the HBO show. The paintings are nice and I hope to see more dragons in the near future...

For those of us in dire need of the 6th book in the ASOIAF series, this is a great placebo with deep, factually styled story telling of the history of the universe as told through the pen of a Maester preparing a young lord for the world ahead of him. It serves as a history that invests time into understanding the source of the histories for the reader to judge for themselves on the validity of the facts. If you are reading the series, this is a must. I think if you are only watching the show this book can help, but you really need to read the book series, as well. This isn't the cliff notes. This book is a rich dive into a universe that we all love. Reading GRRM's blog you can tell this book is one of his pride's and joys. It definitely helps to solidify how he visualized the realm in his mind and shared with his book series. The tv show has to make compromises to keep the budget manageable.

Talk about world building is an understatement, almost on par with Tolkien. Trying to determine which stories in this expansive tome HBO is using for the possible spin-offs.

I loved the Game of Thrones, starting with the first book and through the fifth book. The TV series is also spectacular and hopefully it will resume soon. The World of Ice and Fire is good. Obviously written as a "before the Game of Thrones series". It reads like a history book, which is exactly how it is advertised...."The Untold HISTORY of Westeros and The Game of Thrones". I found it to be mundane at times and no one except the authors can possibly keep up with the characters and the locations. I speed read it. The price of the book was a bit high and if I knew then what I know now I would not have bought it. Overall the story is amazing and I hope the author can continue on with this tale and end it and not leave us hanging.....Thanks, Shelly Webb webbswebb@prodigy.net

Great book for game of thrones lovers (both of books and of the show) It's interesting and the pictures are great! Nice coffee table book

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