



A Storm of Swords: Blood and Gold

George R.R. Martin

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The Starks are scattered.

Robb Stark may be King in the North, but he must bend to the will of the old tyrant Walder Frey if he is to hold his crown. And while his youngest sister, Arya, has escaped the clutches of the depraved Cersei Lannister and her son, the capricious boy-king Joffrey, Sansa Stark remains their captive.

Meanwhile, across the ocean, Daenerys Stormborn, the last heir of the Dragon King, delivers death to the slave-trading cities of Astapor and Yunkai as she approaches Westeros with vengeance in her heart.

A Storm of Swords: Blood and Gold Details

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From Reader Review A Storm of Swords: Blood and Gold for online ebook

Amy | shoutame says

I have slowly been making my way through the Song of Ice and Fire series and this has been my favourite of what I have read so far. In case you are wondering I have watched all of the TV show so I do know what is going to happen in the books before I read them but this doesn't really bother me. I won't go into detail about the plot of this book as I wouldn't want to spoil it for anyone but I would definitely recommend to anyone who hasn't yet picked up the series. All of my favourites characters were doing awesome things in this book and I simply loved it! ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Shovelmonkey1 says

Do you remember that bit in the Scream movie where Stu Macher (played by Matthew Lillard), turns to all the other film geeks and sets out the now famed set of rules for surviving a horror film and making it into the sequel? (FYI those rules were: Never have sex. Do not drink and never say "i'll be right back")

Well someone should be writing a similar set of rules for the characters in the Song of Fire and Ice Series because, oh boy are these guys in trouble. Despite the numerous sellswords, hedge knights, rogues, assassins, Sers and Lords running about the place in full armour and with more oversized silverware and valerian steel than the kitchen department at John Lewis, no one is more fearsome in the culling stakes than George RR Martin himself. Watch out Westeros, Wildlings beyond the wall and everyone in the Land Beyond the Sea... Martin has the biggest axe and no one can stop it from falling.... or knows where it might fall next!

Once again, this review will be scant on detail as it is impossible to discuss one iota of this epic without giving the game away and creating civil unrest amongst a legion of George RR Martin fans in the making. So... here's what has happened so far:

XXXXX is dead

And so is XXXXX

XXXXX has been poisoned

Ooh and so was XXXXX but they had it coming really and the only tears you'd want to shed in their direction are Tears of Lys.

XXXXX is mortally wounded and so is XXXXX although probably it would only be a matter of time before the killed each other anyway.

XXXXX and XXXXX are both dead too.

XXXXX is also gone to the grave. XXXXX went to the grave and then came back.

And XXXXX, XXXXX, XXXXX, XXXXX, XXXXX, XXXXX, XXXXX, XXXXX, XXXXX, XXXXX, XXXXX, XXXXX, XXXXX, XXXXX, XXXXX, XXXXX, XXXXX, XXXXX all died in various battles but they were mostly just lesser characters with walk on/carried off parts anyway.

XXXXX died on the toilet.

None of them will be making it into the sequel unless they're getting a free pass to Wight world.

XXXXXX and surprisingly XXXXXX are still alive. So is XXXXXX.

XXXXXX and XXXXXX are on the run. XXXXXX has become an unlikely ally. XXXXXX and XXXXXX are at the wall. The XXXXXX has turned up and so has XXXXXX. No one seems to be looking for XXXXXX and XXXXXX is out of sight and out of mind and growing in strength.

So, how do you learn to duck, quick enough and low enough to avoid the George RR Martin cull?

1. Don't offer to be a king, appoint yourself as king or have any claim to any throne or kingdom anywhere. There are a lot of kings around at the moment too but believe me, there is no safety in numbers.
2. Don't be a hero.
3. Don't be a coward either.
4. Don't treat with sellswords
5. Don't become a born again religious convert.
6. Don't be jealous.
7. Don't be covetous.
8. Don't be related to any Starks.
9. Don't be related to any Lannisters.
10. Don't be in possession of anything that either the Starks, Lannisters, Tullys, Freys, Boltons, Baratheons, Targaryens, Florents, Redwynes, Umbers, Flynts, Fossoways, Kettlebacks, Ostermonts, Karstarks, Mollens, Talharts, Glovers, Seaworths, Greyjoys, Slynts, Celtigars, Cerwyns or Marbrands want.

In short there is very little you can do in order to make it into the sequel. Maybe your safest option would be to take the black?

Kirstine says

AT LAST I SEE THE LIGHT!

Allow me to finally applaud you, George R.R. Martin without apprehension or dissatisfaction, without a hint of weariness or disappointment. Allow me to finally pass beyond the **"I want to love it, but I don't"** into **"I was swept away by fire and ice and I ascend now as a different woman"**.

My favourite things about this book:

- 1) Jon Snow's every move (the light of my heart)
- 2) Jaime's journey to discover morals, honor and true love

Now, I can't tell you what it was about this installment that finally did it. I have absolutely no clue why I have found the past three books so tedious to get through while this one passed by as easy as breathing.

That most of the current plot lines culminated, crashed and made way for new ones was definitely a major influence. *A Game of Thrones* would have been brilliant if I hadn't watched the show first, but it suffered a bit from too many character introductions and too little happening. *A Clash of Kings* was chaos and confusion and a shitload of pain. *A Storm of Swords pt. 1* was no better, but with nothing happening for the first 300 pages and some of the chaos bleeding through from ACoK it wasn't exactly **thrilling**, it was mostly just a mess of characters and plots and whatnot.

This, however, this is the book I've been waiting for. This is the reason I persisted and struggled through the others.

This is where I finally come face to face with the greatness that you've all been babbling about, but that I had yet to see.

This is in many ways the conclusion to the events that followed the execution of Ned Stark, which makes it a more pleasant read, because instead of throwing us more plotlines again and again and again, it actually *explains* some of it. It doesn't whirl the characters about, and throws them into rocks with sand in their eyes, it manages to *ground* them a bit instead.

(When I say "pleasant" I, of course, don't mean to imply it will not cause you emotional pain and take a few stabs at your soul.)

Still, those who have to die, die (and there aren't exactly few), those who don't, grieve and survive. And through it they all seem to find their feet a little better in this new world, even with the scales shifting and the balance thrown. They've gone from being lost creatures to having some resemblance of purpose - and just like the characters, the story has also grown and matured.

I still don't give much of a damn about Dany - and a few of the other characters, shh -, she's a great character and all, but until I am told what purpose she serves for the story, I'm gonna continue not giving a damn. I can't help it, she's over there, everyone else is over here and I won't care until her dragons are huge and can carry her across the sea.

Let's see if this experience will repeat itself with the next books or if I have to wait three books again. Oh well, if I have to, I will.

Charlotte May says

"Night's King was only a man by light of day...but the night was his to rule. And it's getting dark."

This one is definitely a game changer! I've never known so many major and minor characters to be killed off in a book - must be some kind of record!

I really can't say a lot without spoilers. The war for the iron throne is ongoing but it seems being away from the battle can be just as deadly as fighting in it!

"It was not for murder that the gods punished him...but for slewing a guest under his roof; that the gods cannot forgive."

I am loving this series! All the action that is happening at the same time to the different characters in different areas is so addictive! I love seeing how the characters interlink - and I fear for what will happen to them all next!

Arya is about to head off across the water after escaping numerous brigands, Sansa has found new troubles in a new place, Bran keeps on travelling, Davos still fights on for Stannis despite his Red Priestess, Brienne has fulfilled part of her vow and is off to fulfill the rest. Jaime is changed from his time with Robb and Catelyn, Tyrion's family issues just get worse! Jon and Sam are having their own problems on the wall, far removed

from all those in the South. Daenerys is conquering the East city by city. And where is Theon Greyjoy?

Bring on A Feast for Crows!

"We are puppets dancing on the strings of those who came before us, and one day our own children will take up our strings and dance on in our stead."

C.G. Drews says

I DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW TO BEGIN TO REVIEW THIS BOOK. I NEED TO CRY FIRST. SQUALL ACTUALLY, LIKE A MURDERED ZUCCHINI BECAUSE OMG. NO AND YES AND NOOOOOOO. *breaks down* All you really need to know is that every book is better than the last and this is probably my *favourite* book yet. It was so incredible. So many plot twists. We got answers for questions in bk 1 like a) who killed John Erand and b) who tried to kill Bran with the knife. There were horrific deaths. Like REALLY REALLY BAD. I'm absolutely bawling. And some were shocking and woooooah, but I didn't cry because I hated those characters. So at least it's semi even??? Although I am so not over 98% of them. SO NOT OVER.

pause for a moment to thank and hug and scream in horror at Engie who got me started on these books

Ahem. I'm good now.

So usually I go through the narrators and give a quick recap on my feelings for them. SO I'LL DO THAT. Although I reviewed A Storm of Swords in TWO PARTS so you can see my review of PART ONE here.

JAIME: Maaaaybe just one of my most favouritest people ever. ;) Brienne and his relationship is THE BEST and I SHIP IT. I don't ship Jaime/Cersei so hard anymore. Cersei is so focused on her kids she just walks over EVERYONE including Jaime. Omg, I'm so sad. I *did* ship them though...so you can see how far I've fallen. -_-

TYRION: Of course I love Tyrion. I ADORE HIM. HE WENT TOTAL PSYCHO BY THE END THOUGH. OMG. But I still love him and don't really feel bad for (view spoiler)

SANSA: I feel SO SORRY FOR HER, but I still love her. I love how she's getting a lot more smarter and savvy, but she's *only thirteen years old*, AHHHHHH. Poor little poppet. Petyr is a total pervert though and every second that he's around Sansa makes me freak out.

ARYA: I...I feel awful about saying this but as MUCH as I love Arya's attitude and epicness, her chapters often get boring. I do like her character development and my heart keeps breaking every time she's sooo cloooooose to being saved and then SO FAR. I have mixed feelings when she ends up with the Hound. I kind of wished he'd started teaching her sword play and stuff? But he didn't. What a let down.

JON: AWK JON MA DARLING. I cried, of course, when (view spoiler) died, but but but I really REALLY badly wanted Jon to be made a Stark. SO BADLY. I also want Jon for King of the Universe.

DANEYRS: I felt she wasted a lot of time. She sacked cities and I ADORED how she did the whole "I'm a silly little girl and don't know anything" and then -- BOOM -- smites a city. And I LOVED the plot twist with Jorrah. I never liked Jorrah. Shady dude who's like in his 40s kissing a 16 year old? Not okay. Also Selme. I LIKE SELME.

SAMWELL: I looove Sam's chapters! I love his little crush on Gilly. And I adore how he's so matured and gotten stronger. Craven? HA. He does so so much manipulating in the last chapter in his soft, squishy trembling way IT'S JUST AMAZING.

Catelyn: OH CATELYN. Poor thing, she was so so tired and sad.

Bran: DEFINITELY the most boring narrator of ever. I'm so disappointed in Bran's chapters. Half the time he was just having Jojen and Mira telling old tales and stuff and WHOOO CAAAAARES when in King's Landing all this STUFF is going down. Gah.

Davos: Stilll. NOPE. I don't care about Davos. But his chapters were important and I'm glad he finally stood up to Stannis, the iron donkey.

OKAY BUT LEMME JUST QUICKLY LIST THE DEATHS:

(view spoiler)

It was just non-stop brilliance the WHOLE TIME AND I LOVED IT. It's my favourite book. Did I mention that?! and I'm sooo obsessed. Like I literally am always thinking about it and I can't wait to sit down and devour 2 seasons of the show! I love the character development. I love how NO ONE is safe. I love how it tears out my Vulcan heart and I feeel aaaall the awful things. Wait. Did I say I loved that? I TOTALLY HATE IT BUT STILL. I'm still a fan of the Lannisters, even though they're like melon heads. And I LOVE Tyrion a lot, and Jon so so much. I guess they'll die soon. OMG. I'm so not handling all the deeeaths. And the size of teh world?! I JUST LOVE HOW IT KEEPS GETTING BIGGER AND BIGGER. And while I felt A Clash of Kings was totally just rabbiting along, I think A Storm of Swords NEVER let the tension slide. Perfection.

Okay. I need to go, eh, drown myself in chocolate or something and then start bk 4 straight away.

Lisa says

Possibly the most devastating, awesome, exciting and surprising instalment yet, and I'm starting to get a sneaking suspicion that the real story is only just starting...

If you'd told me during the first book that by this point I would be pinning all of my hopes on The Hound and Jaime freaking Lannister, of all people, I'd have thought you were certifiable. But that would appear to be where we are at the moment, with Jaime in particular evolving into being one of the more interesting characters.

Containing a ton of gruesome deaths it's now quite clear that absolutely no character is safe in this story, and

I'm really enjoying being taken along on the remaining characters stories. I can only begin to imagine what may happen now with Arya possibly on her way to a reunion with Jaqen, Jon commanding the Wall and Tyrion having, awesomely, killed Tywin Lannister. Can't wait to find out...

Sercan Vatansever says

Bu seride en sevdi'im ?ey hiçbir karakterin öylesine yarat?lmam?? olmas?. Nefret edin veya sevin. Kar??la?t???m?z her karakter, göz ucuyla bile kar??m?za ç?kan her karakter bir süre sonra tekrar kar??m?za ç?k?yor ve olay ak???n? de?i?tirebiliyorlar. Olay örgüsüne de?inmek bile istemiyorum, nereye kadar övebilirim ki? Gerçekten büyüleyici.

Buraya kadar zaten okumu?tum bundan sonra okuyacaklar?m benim için de yeni olacak. Ama ilk kez okuyormu?um gibi ?a??rd???m ?eyler oldu ve verilen o ince detaylar? her ?eyi kavrad?ktan sonra daha net fark etmek hayranl???m? art?rd?. Gözlerimizin önünde bir dünya in?a ediliyor ve buna kay?ts?z kalan insanlar var. Ne ac?.

Kai says

“We look up at the same stars and see such different things.”

God that took me months and months! At first I couldn't find the motivation, then there were other books I desperately wanted to read. So this giant of a book had to wait. When I finally picked it up again, I finished it in a week. While I had a slow start (I really did not want to read about the Red Wedding), I didn't want to put it down again. The plot thickened and every single chapter was intruiging, even those of the less interesting characters.

Here's the list of POV's from what I liked most to what I enjoyed the least:

Daenerys
Tyrion
Sansa
Jon
Arya
Jaime
Bran
Samwell
Davos
Catelyn

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James says

This is the ending that book three should have had. The first half, A Storm of Swords: Steel and Snow, just

wasn't strong enough to stand on its own. But that's okay as the second half more than makes up for it. From the off, there are bodies. Not just secondary characters either, but people we thought were going to be key players in The Game.

A number of characters get built out a lot more as well. Jamie continues his transition to three-dimensions with the start of a conscience. Stannis starts to come out of his shell a little and Petyr's role in the history so far starts to make a lot more sense – he did warn us not to trust him!

As a combined single book it would have been a five star rating, as part two more than rescues any failings in part one. I strongly suggest reading them back to back, and thinking of them as one logical book, if you're going to buy them individually.

LENA TRAK says

Seven hells...what did I just read???

A Storm of Swords or as I call it the wedding book is by far the best book in the series ASOIAF! Long yes, but for those of you who have watched or heard about the series this book describes the events we have watched both in season 3 and 4 ! Though, I have to say I have read about things they never showed us in the series(YET?) and I'm not talking about about small details, I'm talking about major stuff...Well I can't say anymore without spoiling something..But the epilogue left me speechless!

I couldn't find the full edition of the 3rd book so I bought part 1 and part 2. Due to their length it felt like reading 2 books so it was pretty obvious to me that the first part (abt 600 pages) was not so action-packed as I expected, so I gave it 4 stars. But boy, the second part was like 10 stars!

Like I said there are a lot of weddings described in this book and I personally hate weddings but these were really something! Master Martin makes sure you will cry, laugh, even bite your nails while reading this book. I think I have said that before, but I really love the fact that each chapter is told through a different character each time so we get a deeper insight into our beloved heroes while viewing the events from their perspective! Jaime appears to be a major character now, there's a lot being narrated from his point of view, but if I am not mistaken this is Arya's book! Her journey becomes even more treacherous and difficult and strangely enough it seems that most of the events revolve around her. I best liked Tyrion, Bran and Jaime-Brienne chapters!

I really don't know what else to say!!! I can't wait to get my hands on the next book!

Fantasy lovers enjoy!!!

Alexandra says

Oh my bloody hell and fuck...

Dear George,

I have read A Game of Thrones, A Clash of Kings, and A Storm of Swords one after another and in any

spare moment over the last couple of months. As a result, I think that this reality is starting to take over. My emotional involvement in the lives of your characters is reaching an unhealthy depth, and your brutality with them is breaking my motherfucking heart. I just finished ASOS a moment ago, and said motherfucking heart is beating some serious drum and bass. I often do and recently have read books to love, admire, and learn from. But dang dawg, I don't remember the last time reading was so damn EXCITING. I have NO IDEA what you're going to do or where you're going to take me next - all bets are off, because your world is a real one, where heroes get savaged and baddies prevail and shit happens that leaves you staring at the heavens and thinking WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN?

You're MAD. A mad marvellous genius and I love you. But I kind of hate you. Because you are KILLING me and I am becoming an obsessed crazy person.

Shattered but scintillated,
Alex

Elena says

Even though I knew what was going to happen, I was SO not prepared for any of this. This installment is by far my favourite so far!

Hasham Rasool says

I think part 2 is a lot better than part 1. I absolutely love this book. Alhamdulillah.

There is an enormous twist in this book.

This book is one of my favourite. Alhamdulillah.

Jadranka says

Martin i u Oluji ma?eva na vrhunski na?in nastavlja svoju sagu o borbi za Gvozdeni presto.

Na moju radost Džejmi Lanister kona?no dobija svoje poglavlje. Jako mi se dopada u kom pravcu Martin vodi njegovu pri?u i moram re?i da mi je on omiljeni Lanister, antiheroj koga u po?etku niko ne voli, a onda malo po malo nekako ti se prišunja i postane ti drag...pa, dobro meni bar. On je zapravo, kad pogledamo celu pri?u, jedini koji sve što radi - radi zbog ljubavi, dobro nije to baš najzdraviji odnos koji je mogao da izgradi, ali njega ne zanima ni da vlada, niti da se petlja u celu špansku seriju odnosa i spletki, on siromah samo želi da ga svi puste na miru da voli ženu koju je izabrao, što je meni kao devojci ono kao cool....naravno da nije te nesre?ne okolnosti, ali dobro niko nije savršen ;)

Osim Džejmija svoje poglavlje je zaslužio i Semvel Ubica. Ne znam kako je sa ostalim ?itaocima Martinovog serijala, ali ja nikako ne mogu da izbacim iz glave pore?enje Martinovog Sema i Tolkinovog Sema - nekako mi se ?ini da ima tu poprili?no sli?nosti: verni saputnik jednog od glavnih junaka, bucko koji nije u prvom planu, a ipak od njega zavisi dosta toga, preplašeni u?esnik bitnih doga?a koji ipak pronalazi

svoju hrabrost u ključnim momentima...I jako mi je zanimljivo da pratim tok misli lika koji nije sav hrabrica i junačina nego je preplašen i ne zna šta će sa sobom.

S druge strane moram da priznam da mi Stanis i nije baš najjasniji....ta nije Stanis je jedini lik do sada u pogledu koga sam potpuno ravnodušna. Nadam se da će se malo konkretizovati njegova uloga u svemu i da će pokazati zube onoj Crvenoj beštiji.

Što se ostalih junaka tiče: Sansa me i dalje nervira, Arja je sve bolja, Džon Snežni postaje pravi macan :), a od Tiriona otkujem daleko više u nastavku, Deneris mi je malo falila, ali kad pomislim šta me čeka u Gozbi za vrane treba da budem zadovoljna i ovim.

Sve u svemu uživala sam i jedva čekam nastavak :)

Jade says

My favourite book of the series so far! I will not ruin it for anybody, but this book turned me into an emotional wreck in the best and worse possible ways. It gave me moments where I found myself jumping round like a child who actually did get a pony for christmas, moments when I bawled like a baby and finally, moments when I was yelling my head off, threatening to never read another page and swearing like a banshee. This series needs to form part of everyone's life - it is so unpredictable and engrossing that it has to be up there with the greats.

Evripidis Gousiaris says

Το καλύτερο βιβλίο της σειράς μέχρι στιγμής!

(Νομίζω ότι ο Martin θ'λειτουργήσει να με κάνει να αντιπαθώσω την πλοκή της τηλεοπτικής σειράς :())

Zoe Targaryen says

DAMN GOOD!! Nothing is predictable, no main character is safe. Starks bled heavily. Lannisters bled. Winter is coming for everyone. Valar morghulis.

Ahmad Sharabiani says

A Storm of Swords: Steel and Snow (A Song of Ice and Fire #3, Part 2 of 2), George R.R. Martin
A Storm of Swords is the third of seven planned novels in A Song of Ice and Fire, a fantasy series by American author George R. R. Martin. It was first published on August 8, 2000, in the United Kingdom,[1] with a United States edition following in November 2000. Its publication was preceded by a novella called Path of the Dragon, which collects some of the Daenerys Targaryen chapters from the novel into a single book.

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0.0

So, after an extended break after reading *A Clash of Kings*, it was time to jump into *A Storm of Swords*.

.. Even the Davos chapters.

And though slightly spoiled for part of the story, I was entirely unprepared for the feels.

At first I was all, "**This book is DEAD TO ME.**"

Then my grief became anger.

Then resignation..

And finally determination.

Until.. *that ending.*

Laura Evlolle says

Dieser Teil hat mir bisher bei weitem am besten gefallen! Es ist so unfassbar viel passiert und ich bin aus dem Staunen gar nicht rausgekommen. Absolut geil!
