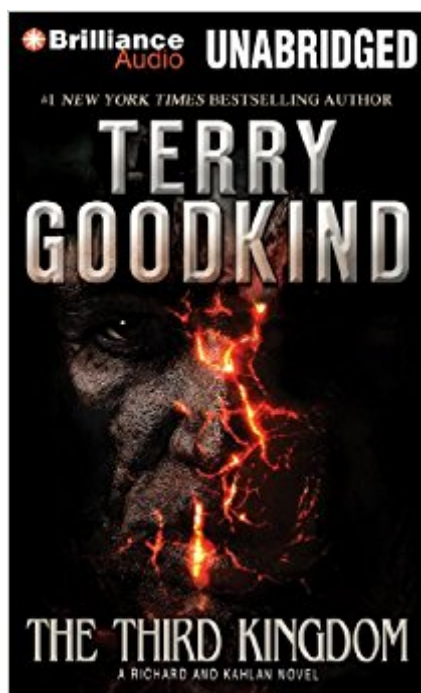


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The Third Kingdom



Synopsis

Terry Goodkind returns to the lives of Richard Rahl and Kahlan Amnell in *The Third Kingdom*, the direct sequel to his #1 New York Times bestseller *The Omen Machine*. “Richard saw the point of a sword blade sticking out from between the man’s shoulder blades. He spun back toward Richard after throwing the woman out of the opening, ready to attack. It seemed impossible, but the man looked unaffected by the blade that had impaled him through the chest. “It was then, in the weak light from the fire pit off to the side, that Richard got his first good look at the killer. “Three knives were buried up to their brass cross guards in the man’s chest. Only the handles were showing. Richard saw, too, the broken end of a sword blade jutting out from the center of the man’s chest. The point of that same blade stuck out from the man’s back. “Richard recognized the knife handles. All three were the style carried by the men of the First File. “He looked from those blades that should have killed the big man, up to his face. That was when he realized the true horror of the situation, and the reason for the unbearable stench of death. • Sequel to the #1 New York Times bestseller *The Omen Machine*

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“Outstanding|Characters who actually behave like adults. Highly

recommended. • “Goodkind’s greatest triumph: the ability to introduce instantly identifiable characters. His heroes, like us, are not perfect. Instead,

each is flawed in ways that strengthen, rather than weaken their impact. •

• SFX • “Few writers have Goodkind’s power of creation. • Publishing News • “Teeming with violence, treachery, and intrigue. • Publishers Weekly • “Eminently readable. • Booklist • “A tour de force of mesmerizing storytelling. • RT Book Reviews --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

One of the most popular writers of fantasy today, Terry Goodkind divides his time between Maine and Nevada.

It’s unbelievably difficult for me to say what I’m about to say because of the fact of how much I’ve loved the Sword Of Truth novels over the years but I’ve made it to chapter 39 of this book hoping it would get better and not just continue to be an extremely irritating dialogue between Richard and some little almost a woman girl he meets in a secluded little village that just so happens to be so secluded because its there to guard a "gasp!" barrier! Seriously Terry? Chapter 39 and they’re still fricking talking instead of walking?!? I’ve learned 82 times that Sammie is "almost" a woman. Oh and it’s dangerous to walk in the dark for fear of hurting oneself? Are we sure? Lets take 5 pages and debate this fact. Grrr. What happened? These books used to be soo good! I’m actually sad like I lost an old friend right now. Series should have ended 3 books ago. Ok, finished it. Nothing changes. Will I buy the next one? No!.....who am I kidding, course I will.

I never rate books but feel like I have to rate this one. I have been a fan of this series from the beginning but the style of writing has changed. The storyline is interesting. But it gets bogged down in simplicity and repetition. Almost the entire story is told from inside the head of Richard. It is his interpretation of events and his thoughts. Instead of letting events and interaction of the characters develop the plot and the new ancillary characters, the author flat out states what he wants the reader to think by stating Richard's thoughts. It was more fun to interpret the character’s perceptions and thoughts in the initial books. We could relate to the characters better. By writing in this new style the author is essentially dumbing it down for the reader. And it is way too repetitive. The thoughts repeat constantly. I thought it was a one time practice with the First Confessor. But incredibly it is worse with this book. This book could easily have been condensed by half if the author did not repeatedly state the same concepts, thoughts and conversations. The new characters need better development. I liked reading about Darken Rahl in the first book because of how the character was

developed. In this book Hannis Arc is just thrown at us. We are told he is devious and skilled but that could have been done in a more creative way. (see Sword of Truth and interaction of Darken Rahl with the boy buried in the sand). All the new characters are simply superficial elements described through Richard's thoughts. I have read every book until now and it may be done. Thanks for the early books Mr. Goodkind. You should have stopped after the Chainfire series (and possibly sooner) or continued in your original style.

I wish I would have read the other disappointed reviews before I spent money on this disappointment. It reads like bad fan fiction. I'm honestly wondering what Goodkind was going through as he wrote this, because so much of the writing is repetitive, shallow, and not nearly as suspenseful or satisfying as everything else he's written in this series.

I think Goodkind has finally lost his touch. I've used to love his books but this one was really a task to get through. First off, the first 200 pages are simply Richard in a cave speaking about the current issues they're having. It's so dreadfully boring. Then the book eventually introduces zombie-type foes and another predictable bad guy similar in mannerisms to Emperor Jagang. But what's worse than the plot is the writing style. The author uses the word "life" 285 times! That's once every 1.8 pages and it's almost always used as "life itself" or "the world of life". It drove me nuts and I hope I never read the word again. I know Goodkind LOVES to over emphasize his motifs as if he's worried we'll miss them but this is just crazy. Things are repeated to the point of being absurd. Samantha (Richards traveling companion) is a little girl that has lived in a cave her whole life but she speaks with the diction of a college scholar with almost no emotions befitting a child. Her character is a hodgepodge of traits that don't exist in the same person. For instance, she's initially meek and afraid and then will have outbursts of uncharacteristic attitude. Sometimes she speaks like a child and other times like Kahlan or Richard. The plot lacks any type of clever resolution to any problem. Richard conquers all through sheer will power alone which has become a frustrating trend. I won't give any spoilers but the entire book goes like this: Richard talks, Richard walks somewhere, Richard kills many people, Richard walks back". It could be narrowed down to 100 pages. I loved most of Goodkind's books but the last 2 or 3 have just been awful. He's lost his muse and I wish he'd find it again because I miss the books I used to love.

Continues the series story line. Always hate to see one book come to an end, but so look forward to the next. Am nearing the end of the series as thus far published. Can only hope that Terry

Goodkind has yet more book out of his pen for I so look forward to listening to them as I drive. Makes trips go so much faster. Good thing I can multi-task as I can visualize each moment in his books. Far better than any movie. When the series came on TV years ago, it was such a disappointment as the casting as all wrong. I'm glad it didn't last long. Books are so much better. Keep them coming.

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