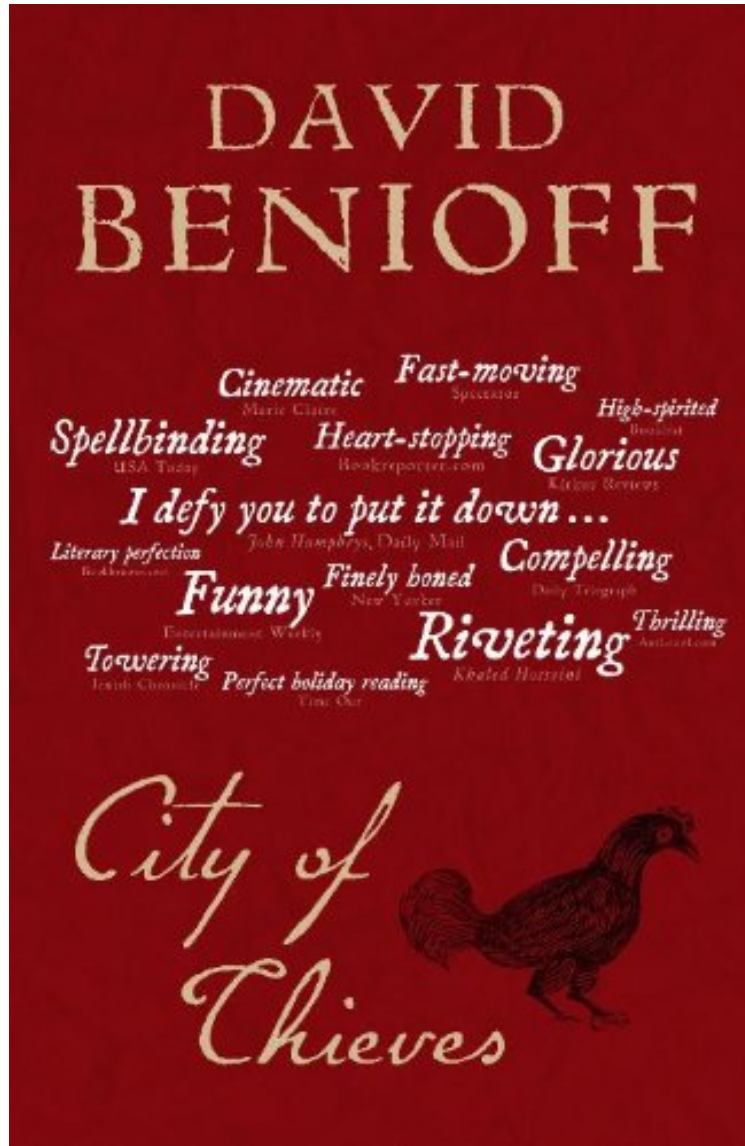


(Free and download) City of Thieves (English Edition)

City of Thieves (English Edition)

Von David Benioff

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Von David Benioff : City of Thieves (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised City of Thieves (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Superb WW II tale with unforgettable charactersVon Alfred J. KwakThis book is the most addictive piece of writing I have come across in ages. Its venue is Leningrad (L) (St. Petersburg) during WW II, which the German army surrounded and incapacitated by cutting off its air, rail and road links in order to starve it into submission.Food and warmth have

long been on the minds of all of its citizens, many of whom, fortunately, sent wives and children away before the 900-day siege started. Pets and pigeons have been eaten and food substitution takes many forms. Harsh emergency laws are in effect, people can be shot on the spot for many reasons. Two unlikely youngsters end up in the same jail cell, miraculously saved from a neck shot. The next morning they face an NKVD colonel with an urgent private problem. He gives the pair until Thursday morning before daybreak, to deliver something, life-saving for them, on his desk. This was said on a Saturday. The pair is called Lev and Kolya. Lev is 17, small and skinny, half-Jewish, no mean chess player, a male virgin and a neurotic worrier. He has a big nose and was commander of the fire brigade of his apartment building, when an unlikely incident causes him to be accused of looting. Kolya is 20-year old Cossack Red Army soldier with an Arian physique, an expert on girls and married women, literature and a great talker and resourceful negotiator. While chasing girls in L after 4 months on the front, he fails to return on time and is accused of desertion. The pair is set free without food coupons and with 300 rubles in cash with one objective: satisfy the NKVD colonel and live on. What follows is one of the funniest, scariest, and occasionally most shocking tales ever. The two uneven, often arguing heroes are unforgettable. So is a skinny tom boy partisan sniper. Characters, context, dialogues and pace and structure of this masterpiece are perfect. Not a word in the wrong place. And with a great ending.

3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. sehr gut geschrieben Von Lesley Daniel Man denkt, schon viel ber Kriege gelesen und in Dokumentarfilmen und Berichten gesehen zu haben, jedoch erfahrt man das am besten ber Menschen, die es selbst erlebt haben und das Erlebte nach so langer Zeit mit anderen teilen. So schrecklich htte ich mir viele Geschehnisse nicht vorgestellt und vieles ist mir bewusster geworden nachdem ich dieses Buch gelesen habe. Ganz toll geschrieben, sehr gut dargestellt, der Galgenhumor fehlt auch nicht. Das war mein erstes Buch von Benioff, wird nicht mein letztes sein.

1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. One of the best novels I have a read in a number of years ' and I like to read Von Peter Berlin It is hard to imagine that a story set during the WW II in January 1942 during the 900-day-siege of Leningrad could be as engaging, entertaining and darkly humorous as this novel, but the author succeeds completely in writing a great novel on a dark subject. He has done an excellent job of bringing a diverse set of characters to life- it does not seem like a realistic story, if you really think about it, but it is convincing all the same - thanks to the author's superb writing skills. There are two characters - Lev, a teenage Jewish boy and Kolya, a deserter from the Red Army who have been given an impossible mission in a starving city under siege - find a dozen eggs - in a simply unbearable situation - the city suffering in a famine. The two dozen eggs are needed to make a wedding cake for a general. If they fail, they will be executed. And with that bizarre quest they are sent off to fight on their own for a dozen eggs that simply are not available anywhere in this city under siege. So they go into the surrounding countryside in a quest to find enough eggs to save their lives. The novel is told from the perspective of the teenage boy. It is a terrible and horrible situation - the reader is spared none of the horrors and they are presented in graphic detail - which only bearable because of the dark and very black humor that is used to ease the tension. The two main protagonists - the first-person narrator Lev and his friend Kolya - carry the book and deserve to be remembered as a classic pair - like Don Quixote and Sancho Pansa. Their interactions, observations and the journey they take on their absurd quest are very memorable - very clever and witty in this desperate situation. By the end of the story, these two have created a real bond and a deep friendship - one that seems convincing and not just for the sake of the story. All characters are extremely convincing, even if they are only sketched. Everybody comes to life. So is a serious novel about a horrible, which is funny in its dark humor and at the same time a coming-of-age story. There are simply too many reasons why I like this novel so very much: it is a great story of a bizarre quest of two very likable characters who are caught in circumstances beyond their control. I admire the style the novel is written in and I highly recommend this book to anyone who likes an excellent read. I am more than curious to read more by this great author.

Kurzbeschreibung From the writer of the award-winning Game of Thrones series for HBO based on the books of George R. R. Martin. 'David Benioff is an exceptional storyteller . . . CITY OF THIEVES is tender, illuminating, and, be warned, often shocking.' Khaled Hosseini Four months into the siege of Leningrad, the city is starving. Seventeen-year-old Lev fears for his life when he is arrested for looting the body of a dead German paratrooper, while his charismatic cellmate, Kolya, a handsome young soldier arrested for desertion, seems bizarrely unafraid. Dawn brings, instead of an execution squad, an impossible challenge. Lev and Kolya can find a dozen eggs for an NKVD colonel to use for his daughter's wedding cake, and live. Or fail, and die. In the depths of the coldest winter in history, through a city cut off from all supplies and suffering appalling deprivation, man and boy embark on an absurd hunt. Their search will take them through desolate, lawless Leningrad and the devastated countryside surrounding it, in the captivating journey of two men trying to survive against desperate odds. From Publishers Weekly Starred . Author and screenwriter Benioff follows up The 25th Hour with this hard-to-put-down novel based on his grandfather's stories about surviving WWII in Russia. Having elected to stay in Leningrad during the siege, 17-year-old Lev Beniov is caught looting a German paratrooper's corpse. The penalty for this infraction (and many others) is execution. But when Colonel Grechko confronts Lev and Kolya, a Russian army deserter also facing execution, he spares them on the condition that

they acquire a dozen eggs for the colonel's daughter's wedding cake. Their mission exposes them to the most ghoulish acts of the starved populace and takes them behind enemy lines to the Russian countryside. There, Lev and Kolya take on an even more daring objective: to kill the commander of the local occupying German forces. A wry and sympathetic observer of the devastation around him, Lev is an engaging and self-deprecating narrator who finds unexpected reserves of courage at the crucial moment and forms an unlikely friendship with Kolya, a flamboyant ladies' man who is coolly reckless in the face of danger. Benioff blends tense adventure, a bittersweet coming-of-age and an oddly touching buddy narrative to craft a smart crowd-pleaser. (May) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.PressestimmenThe book's eight stories are written with both a literary writer's care and a film writer's instinct for courting his readers or viewers. He hooks them, reels them in and does his best to make them happy to be in the boat with him - until he lets them go a few hours later (USA Today)'David Benioff's glorious second novel is a wild action-packed quest and much else besides: a coming-of-age story, an odd-couple tale and a juicy footnote to the siege of Leningrad...Will keep your adrenaline pumping...This gut-churning thriller will sweep you along and, with any luck, propel Benioff into bestseller land' (Kirkus s (starred review))The latest master of the zippy, punchy, knee-to-the-groin story is David Benioff . . . Wonderful collection (Independent on Sunday)'Hard-to-put-down novel . . . Benioff blends tense adventure, a bittersweet coming-of-age and an oddly touching buddy narrative to craft a smart crowd-pleaser' (Publishers Weekly (starred review))'A high-spirited adventure' (Booklist)'Beautifully paced and seemingly effortless' (Maile Meloy)'Benioff has produced a funny, sad, and thrilling novel.' (Entertainment Weekly)'hard-to-put-down novel . . . Benioff blends tense adventure, a bittersweet coming-of-age and an oddly touching buddy narrative to craft a smart crowd-pleaser' (Publisher's Weekly)'David Benioff's glorious second novel is a wild action-packed quest and much else besides: a coming-of-age story, an odd-couple tale and a juicy footnote to the siege of Leningrad...Will keep your adrenaline pumping...This gut-churning thriller will sweep you along and, with any luck, propel Benioff into bestseller land' (Kirkus - starred review)'David Benioff is an exceptional storyteller. With humor, heart, and at times relentless suspense, he has written a riveting war novel and an engaging coming of age story. City of Thieves is tender, illuminating, and, be warned, often shocking. It is the kind of compellingly readable book that lingers long after it is read.' (Khaled Hosseini)'expert tone ... fine sense of pace.' (FT)'This is an arresting, original story of desperation and survival' (Waterstone's Books Quartley)'A master storyteller...Benioff's inventiveness carries you along with no pause for breath... A testament of towering imagination' (Jewish Chronicle)'A zipping and unexpectedly amusing read...Gifted with the touch of a fairy-story teller himself, Benioff manages to combine a sense of dark realism with entertaining brio' (Herald)'A fast-moving adventure story . . . it had me gripped' (Spectator)'Expert tone . . . fine sense of place' (Financial Times)'A cinematic tale of a scared boy and a nonchalant man traversing the famished, snow-bound city of Leningrad in search of 12 eggs for a wedding cake . . . it's the pair's jaunty argumentative friendship that gives this novel such heart' (Marie Claire)'Pacy, but with more depth than that suggests' (City A.M.)'Benioff's buddy story is hotwired with a breakneck plot that hurtles along at rabid intensity' (Time Out Sydney)'The finest sort of novel, one that takes the reader on a wild ride leaving him breathless, ending with such a rush of compassion it's impossible to remain unmoved.' (bluestalking.typepad.com)'A fine adventure, well-told' (thefictiondesk.com)'Incredible - one of the best books I've read this year, and I'd easily read it again' (Tom Fryer, Waterstone's High Wycombe)'Reaching incredible highs and affecting lows...lives on and on in the reader's imagination' (Waterstone's.com)'Harrowing and funny at the same time . . . I loved it!' (abookaweek.blogspot.com)'A modern masterpiece, both heart-stopping and heartbreaking . . . a shatteringly beautiful and brilliant work. And on rare occasions we're handed a gift of a novel that's so filled with truth it has the power to change the way we look at the world. CITY OF THIEVES is one of them.' (bookreporter.com)'Sad, funny, wonderfully written, compelling'"A wonderful, well-told story of survival and friendship in an extremely difficult time' 'One of the best books I have read in the last 3 years. Thrilling from start to finish' 'What a sad and beautiful book . . . I'll think of this book for a long time, and when I get rid of the lump in my throat I may just read it again' 'A tale of terror, bravery, friendship and humor. A fabulous read!' 'Benioff's ability to mix ribald humor with the horrors of war is superb' 'One of the best novels I have read recently' 'Fantastic book'"Compelling and thoughtful. . . kept me glued to the page' (librarything.com)'The research never stands out because Benioff weaves it in so deftly. He shifts tone with perfect control -- no recent novel I've read travels so quickly and surely between registers, from humour to devastation' (New York Times)'This book is as close to literary perfection as I have found all year! . . . I love, love, love this author' (bookbrowse.com)'Mr. Benioff puts flesh on the formula with skills at characterization that are first-rate . . . and his careful attention to landscape, his research into the horrors of the siege, and his deft use of vivifying detail give the novel an unexpected and very welcome richness.' (Dallas Morning News)'Full of everything I look for in a story: adventure and danger and mystery, some absurdity, some emotional moments, an "ah-ha" moment or two (for the characters, not me), and good writing. I loved this book, and heartily recommend it.' (bookcannibal.blogspot.com)'Full of likable characters and humor even in the face of atrocities, City of Thieves deserves to be recommended' (jaclemens.wordpress.com)'From the opening pages to the last moments City of Thieves is a top notch story. Benioff gives us a thrilling ride that is a shocking and profound historical document and wild adventure story' (ainitcool.com)'A stunning page-turner' (nowtoronto.com)'Vividly cinematic, touching on the fragility of life and the

tenderness of human relationships against a backdrop of hardship, desperation and the will to survive' (Courier Mail)'Funny and serious at the same time. Like all really good books, the ending was perfect' (gothamgal.com)'Benioff is a skilled creator of atmospheres...Told with compelling power' (Daily Telegraph)'A deft storyteller, Benioff writes ... with poignance and cinematic flair' (WHO Weekly Magazine Australia)