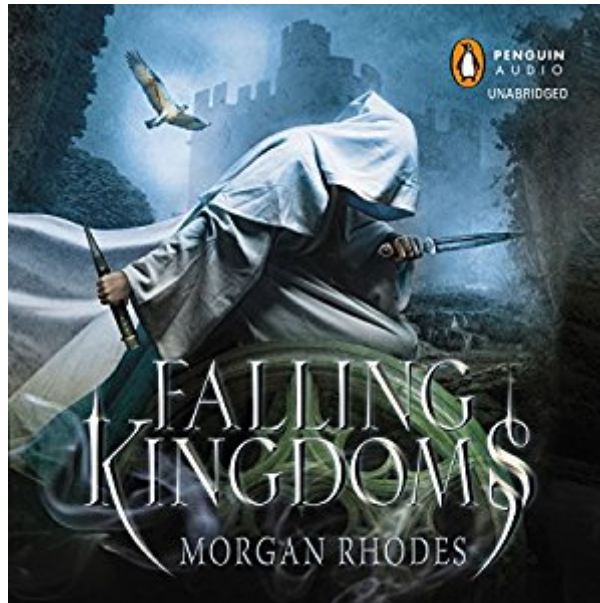


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Falling Kingdoms: Falling Kingdoms, Book 1



Synopsis

In a land where magic has been forgotten but peace has reigned for centuries, a deadly unrest is simmering. Three kingdoms grapple for power - brutally transforming their subjects' lives in the process. Amidst betrayals, bargains, and battles, four young people find their fates forever intertwined: Cleo: A princess raised in luxury must embark on a rough and treacherous journey into enemy territory in search of a magic long thought extinct. Jonas: Enraged at injustice, a rebel lashes out against the forces of oppression that have kept his country impoverished - and finds himself the leader of a people's revolution centuries in the making. Lucia: A girl adopted at birth into a royal family discovers the truth about her past - and the supernatural legacy she is destined to wield. Magnus: Bred for aggression and trained to conquer, a firstborn son begins to realize that the heart can be more lethal than the sword.... The only outcome that's certain is that kingdoms will fall. Who will emerge triumphant when all they know has collapsed?

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I heard of this book a while ago, but am just now reading it, and I'm so glad I did! Unlike many other YA books, this book really does remind me of Game of Thrones (though I haven't read the series). But I digress. Falling Kingdoms is a complex, action-packed book laying the groundwork for a solid series. We see Cleo, from Auranos, standing by while a horrendous act is committed, thus bringing about her kingdom's demise. We also see Magnus, who's anything but a prodigal son, and his sister who is more than she seems. Finally, we have Jonas, who suffers a great loss and ends

up on a journey towards ruination. This book wasn't easy to fall into, though it wasn't difficult. The beginning throws us into a scene without much context, but as the book continues, you understand more. Keep this mind when it comes to characters, as well; names are mentioned off handedly, but sometimes great detail isn't given. All of that considered, I still fell into this book! My only downfall about this book is the lack of the Watchers. The Watchers are these supernatural who can travel from realm to realm, though when they come into our book's realm, they take the form of an eagle. I was extremely curious to learn more about them and their mythos, but they weren't very present. I'm assuming they will be in future books, but this was a let down. I will definitely be reading the rest of this series! I highly recommend this book!

Genre: Fantasy Young Adult Type: Book 1 in the Falling Kingdoms Series POV: First Person

Multiple "Magic will find those with pure hearts, even when all seems lost. And love is the greatest magic of all." The story opens up right away with a shocking scene, I honestly did not see coming. We meet princess Cleiona aka Cleo the second daughter to the King of Auranos who at only sixteen years of age finds herself fighting for survival in a world where everyone is fighting for power. On a visit to Paelsia she meets Jonas; a seventeen year old Paelsian rebel. What happened to Jona's brother will be the beginning of a war between the three kingdoms (Auroanos, Paelsians, and Limeros) and only the beginning of a journey full of action and unforgettable events. "No one at all had ever looked at her this way. Angry and fierce and vastly unfriendly...but there was something else there. As if Cleo was the only girl in the entire world and now he owned a part of her." Jonas wanted to avenge the death of his brother but instead he found a better way to avenge his brother and it was by fighting for freedom for his people. He was so smart and strong; I really liked his determined character and felt terrible for his loss and sorrow. I did however love the relationship he had with his friend Brion; I liked how they easily understand each other. "You know what you have to do," Felicia whispered fiercely. "Avenge him." And so here he was. A predator prepared to hunt an entirely different kind of prey. "Magnus is the prince of Limeros; at seventeen years old he is forced to grow up too quickly. With the high demands of his father; he tries to be more like him to please him. However; deep down Magnus has a noble heart and I really like that about him. He is conflicted when he admits to having feelings toward his sister. He knows is a forbidden love one that he is afraid to speak of. I felt so much for his character I wanted to save him from his misery. "All his life he'd endured so much pain and developed only a thin mask to cover his true feelings. But masks could easily be removed and smashed with only a few words....His heart, now broken into a thousand pieces, slowly began to turn to ice." Lucia is Magnus' sister and

the princess of Limeros. She was Magnus best friend and confident. I liked her and how much she cared for his brother but at the same time I found her weak and lacking strength. Even though she is only sixteen years old I found myself loving Cleo more. Lucia is special though; she is a key to the entire story so her character is important. After her sixteenth birthday she found herself able to do unnatural things and it scared her. This book was told on four different point of views Cleiona, Magnus, Lucia and Jonas there are couple of other characters we will see their point of views but not too much. These four characters were the main focus of the story. I found myself growing fond of each of them. The story was surprisingly addicting; I was unable to stop reading and craving more. The book was packed with suspense, angst, action, and deep feels, oh my gosh the feels were ridiculously good. This book has magic and death as well so much blood and lost. I don't think I cried because I think I was so shocked with everything I didn't even had time to cry I was barely trying to maintain my sanity haha. Readers who enjoy Game of Thrones will find this series appealing. Is basically like the YA version of GoT. I literally couldn't breathe until I finished and even when I was done I couldn't believe everything that happened!!! Sooo good it will have your heart in your throat until the end. One word of advice do not get attached to any characters or you will be heartbroken. I am freaking out of what is to come on the next books but I am still diving into next book soon because is so good not to."In any case, her fight was not over-not nearly over. It had only begun. And yes, Cleo would be strong. Just as her father and Emilia had asked her to be. She would be strong."I read a digital copy via my local library loan overdrive.

I'm in utter shock after reading the first book in this series. It was fast pace, the plot thickening and the character development than any high fantasy series I have read so far. I can see why it is compared to Game of Thrones because the world and characters are so well developed that you will never know what will happen to each character. Falling Kingdoms was amazing from beginning to end as I was envisioning what is happening while I was reading. When I was done reading I already had a feeling I would be hooked to this series. In the world where Elementia is a secret, three kingdoms are on the verge of war. After what happened to his brother Jonas seeks revenge. Living in Paelsia which was known for its beautiful lands and resources has now turned into a wasteland. It is by stealing and selling wine that he has kept his family alive. Princess Cleo of Auranois has witnessed the murder of Jonas' brother from the hands of Aron. She is also on the quest to save her sister to find magic. By her side she has her best friend Nic and bodyguard Theon. In the kingdom of Limeros lives Lucia and Magnus who are brother and sister. When Lucia finds out that the power within her can change the world and future. I loved how each character was

laid out so clearly that you couldn't help root for each one of them. Each one of them matures throughout the whole novel. I definitely saw it with Cleo, Magnus and Jonas as they each go through the novel. By the end the villain of the story will be determined all because of power. I did hate King Gavis and his brutality, especially towards Magnus. From the beginning I hated Aron who is such an a-whole and manipulative that I wish I could kill him through most scenes. Each kingdom is known for something important like how Auranos is for wealth and resources, where Paelsia is more known as a wasteland and for their wine. It really connected how in real life the Wars and what countries are really facing when they are poor. The writing was easy to understand and the characters were rich with development as well as that plot! I felt like crying during some scenes because most of them were shocking. Falling Kingdoms is a must read for those who love fantasy, romance, action and definitely magic!

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