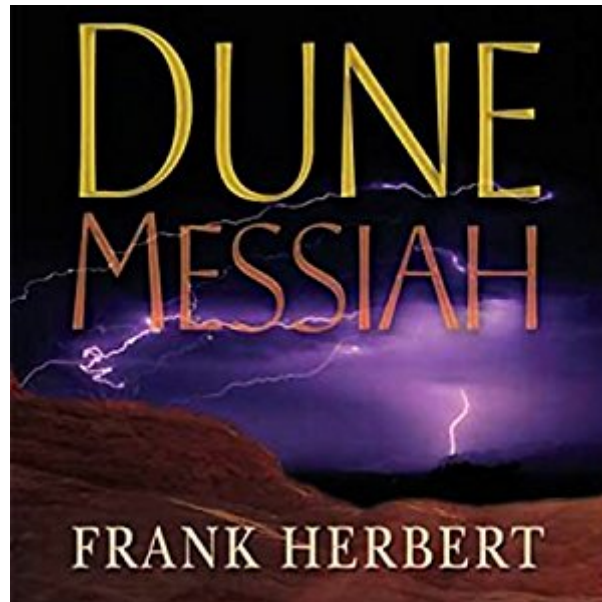


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Dune Messiah



Synopsis

FOR USE IN SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES ONLY. The sisterhood of the Bene Gesserit plots to seize control of the galaxy-wide empire of their supernatural leader. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

After many readings since my first when a child, Dune remains a series of transitive ability. One cannot come away from these books and see religion, politics, laws nor government in the same light. Frank Herbert used fiction to tell stories full of education and truth.

Dune Messiah is the second book from Frank Herbert in the Dune Series. Paul Atreides is now the Emperor/Duke of Arrakis with his Fremen wife Chani and his Imperial concubine, Irulan. In Dune Messiah, the reader starts to see the internal struggle that Paul battles throughout the book. A battle between trying to prevent the jihad from his fremen followers that he sees so much in his future vision and trying to be a husband to Chani and protecting Alia (his sister) at the same time. As with any Emperor with such a following, there are those out to make Paul's life miserable at every turn. I felt this was a much more personal book than Dune itself. It gives you a glimpse at how life is for an Emperor in such a position and the reader gets to see that Paul is infact a human being that struggles with being the possible messiah that his people and all those around him need. Overall, an outstanding book in the Dune series and every bit as enjoyable as Dune.

This novel, and the entire series, is a must read for our generation. I know some critics didn't/don't enjoy this book in the series because it shows the downfall of the first novel's hero protagonist. However, that is what makes it wonderful. Herbert gives us a real protagonist character. He gives us the natural progression of all messianic rules. They rise and then they fall. Herbert is to be praised for his willingness to treat his readers with respect. He knew we wanted meat, not baby food. Frank Herbert was a genius who breathed real life into this series.

Reread Dune recently and decided to continue the series; it's been decades since I've read past the first book, and I'm glad I did! This book takes us into Paul's perspective and struggles - providing a different way of experiencing / recalling the first book and preparing us as readers for the third (Children of Dune, which I started a couple of days ago on the heels of finishing Dune Messiah). I enjoyed the preface by Frank Herbert's son -- and I plan to look into his books after finishing the rest of this series. If you've seen the Dune and Children of Dune mini-series, you'll recognize parts of Dune Messiah in each: the makers of those on-screen versions integrated more of Paul's internal thoughts, his efforts to "disengage, disengage, disengage," and the roles Alia, Chani, and Jessica play in his decision making. Not as "thrilling" as the first book from an action perspective, but very engaging politically and emotionally.

So far I'm in my 12th reading of the DUNE saga and I'm having a ball discovering new things I didn't notice before every time. Is it love? Nah, this borders on the compulsive obsessive; without my daily dose of "spice" I'm a mere shadow of myself, unable to function properly, be it only a page or two. It (the whole Dune saga) is indeed a very powerfully addictive sci-fi entertainment drug and the new drug lords, you know - Brian and Kevin - have been concocting new variants of this ultra strong stuff so beware, forewarned is forearmed. Come to think of it, is there such a thing as enjoying something too much? Dune Messiah won't let you down if you enjoyed Dune. You just have to know why the Kwisatz Haderach needs to kill his own myth if you want to understand "God Emperor Of Dune" a bit further down the line.

Better had it been a short story or the first part of "Children of Dune". I first read the chronicles decades ago and forgotten that I did not like this book even though I loved Dune so much I went on to read the 'House' trilogy by his son which was fantastic and just read it (them) a second time. I seriously could not wait to get to the end knowing I had to finish it for the background to "Children of

Dune". Having read the chronicles so long ago it was almost like reading them for the first time, 'almost'.

I'm not going to write a full review. I'll just say this... I came to the world of Dune later than others. I fell in love with the world of Dune. The plots , moves, and counter-moves, the characters, all of it intriguing. Coming from the first book straight into Dune Messiah, I can say that the move from the hero to the despot is one that is refreshing. A hero struggling with his abilities, taking the only paths leading to what? The jihad has happened, what other paths lead to ruin? The lengths people will go for power, to save loved ones. The ideas expressed in this book ring true today as it did when it was first released. I'm happy to have finally found Frank Herbert's wonderful works. There is truth to be found in his words. A great work to follow up Dune.

Very nice series. This is book 2 of it. If you are a SF fan and somehow haven't read Herbert's original Dune trilogy, please do.

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