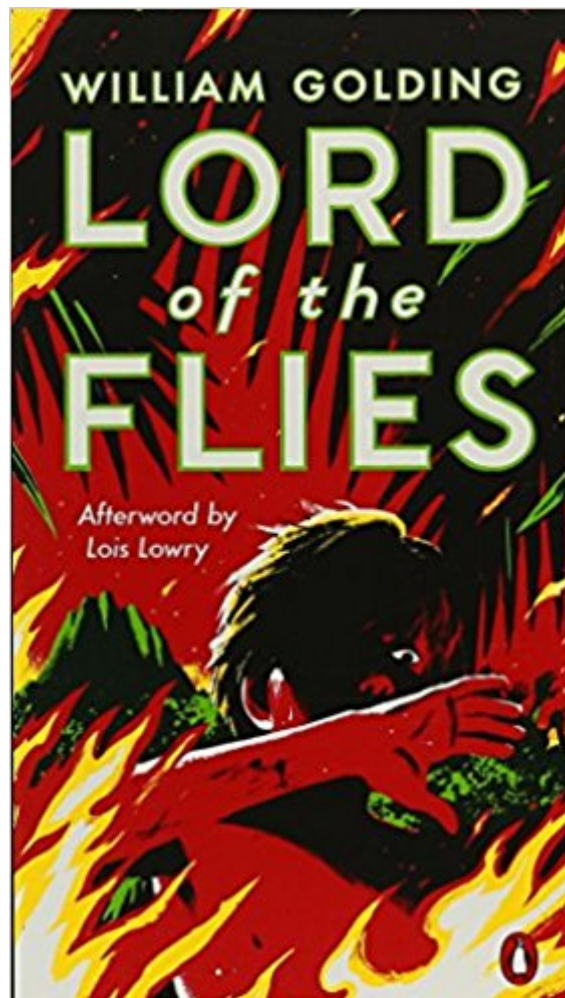


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Lord Of The Flies



Synopsis

Golding's iconic 1954 novel, now with a new foreword by Lois Lowry, remains one of the greatest books ever written for young adults and an unforgettable classic for readers of any age. This edition includes a new Suggestions for Further Reading by Jennifer Buehler. At the dawn of the next world war, a plane crashes on an uncharted island, stranding a group of schoolboys. At first, with no adult supervision, their freedom is something to celebrate. This far from civilization they can do anything they want. Anything. But as order collapses, as strange howls echo in the night, as terror begins its reign, the hope of adventure seems as far removed from reality as the hope of being rescued.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

William Golding's classic tale about a group of English schoolboys who are plane-wrecked on a deserted island is just as chilling and relevant today as when it was first published in 1954. At first, the stranded boys cooperate, attempting to gather food, make shelters, and maintain signal fires. Overseeing their efforts are Ralph, "the boy with fair hair," and Piggy, Ralph's chubby, wisdom-dispensing sidekick whose thick spectacles come in handy for lighting fires. Although Ralph tries to impose order and delegate responsibility, there are many in their number who would rather swim, play, or hunt the island's wild pig population. Soon Ralph's rules are being ignored or challenged outright. His fiercest antagonist is Jack, the redheaded leader of the pig hunters, who manages to lure away many of the boys to join his band of painted savages. The situation deteriorates as the trappings of civilization continue to fall away, until Ralph discovers that instead of

being hunters, he and Piggy have become the hunted: "He forgot his words, his hunger and thirst, and became fear; hopeless fear on flying feet." Golding's gripping novel explores the boundary between human reason and animal instinct, all on the brutal playing field of adolescent competition.

--Jennifer Hubert --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"Lord of the Flies" is one of my favorite books. I still read it every couple of years.

•Suzanne Collins, author of "The Hunger Games" trilogy "I finished the last half of Lord of the Flies in a single afternoon, my eyes wide, my heart pounding, not thinking, just inhaling....My rule of thumb as a writer and reader is largely formed by Lord of the Flies is feel it first, think about it later."

•Stephen King "This brilliant work is a frightening parody on man's return [in a few weeks] to that state of darkness from which it took him thousands of years to emerge. Fully to succeed, a fantasy must approach very close to reality. Lord of the Flies does. It must also be superbly written. It is."

•The New York Times Book Review

Before I read the book, all I knew of The Lord of the Flies was it was placed in that genre of books that deal with the darker side of the human conscience, so I had certain expectations of the book. If this genre interests you, then definitely it. Lots of school children find themselves stranded on a deserted island and, in the absence of adults, quickly elect a chief, delegate jobs and make some rules in order to keep them all alive until they are rescued. But, as with human society everywhere, the lack of basic needs and the addition of fear turns this fledgling society on its head, and the children aren't children any longer. The ending came very abruptly, and mercifully so - it was like waking up from a disturbing dream. The Lord of the Flies didn't give me the same rush as 1984 did, but I didn't expect it to. The book teaches you that there is no such thing as a good or bad person, or even childhood innocence. It blurs the lines between play-fighting and real fighting. Very thought-provoking.

AMAZING book. I had to read this as a required reading for my lit class. Now I have a research paper on it that is (hopefully) going to get published. Such an awesome book whether you read it just for fun or dig deep into it as a scholar

Having only just taken up reading classic literature again after the strain of reading for class, I must confess that this one had me from the beginning. It seemed to drag on a bit towards the middle, but

the foreshadowing and the title gave away many of the plot twist which were still delightful to see play out. By that I mean you feel bad when something bad happens even if that something only gave you five or so pages of emotional investment. You feel happy when things look up, even though you know they will get much worse. I even felt myself frantically turn pages at points just to see how exactly something would play out even if I saw it coming. I took off one star solely because I should have read this book in high school before I had so many of these wonderfully original story points relayed to me in one way or another through various films and books through the years. Basically, it lived up to what I was expecting but still left a bitter taste and some unfulfilled sense of more when I finished. While this speaks volumes to the investment I found myself having in the story at the end, it's only because I had to trudge through so much in the middle, and just to a point where I finally accepted what the book was offering before it snatched those things away. My recommendation is to read this book with as open a mind as possible, and even at the boring rough patches to keep going because the final chapter is so well done it earned three stars for that alone.

Published more than 60 years ago, "Lord of the Flies" is a story that is meaningful for all ages--especially today. A group of British schoolboys is plane-wrecked onto an island, apparently in the middle of a war, and they must fend for themselves. Although they are very young, they create rules, have assemblies and meetings to plan their new existence, elect a leader and generally attempt to form a civilized society. Until it all goes terribly, tragically, horribly wrong. What causes the breakdown of civilization? William Golding has written a tale that is gripping, compelling and thought-provoking with characters and a plot that keeps the reader fully engaged.

For the feeling of back to basics, it is OK but if it would happen like this in real life, I doubt it. With girls the story would have been too complex, I can accept that. As it seemed to be in WWII there is, in my opinion, an anachronism when the author is talking about a jet, (pages 174 and 194). First commercial jet was in 1952. Any comparison with a religion is wishful thinking. I had to read this book parallel with Remarque's "All quiet on the Western Front". Yes, then you can notice similarities. And the truth of Maslow's "Hierarchy of needs".

Lord of the Flies was a required reading for my daughter while she was going to school. We purchased a used copy and she was able to share the book with her classmates. As far as the writing, I have no clue, since I haven't read it, but delivery was fast and on point. No complaints.

The book is very tedious, as well as graphic. And the end leaves you dissatisfied, as there are too many loose ends not tied up. It is poorly ended and definitely NOT my favorite book.

Good book, but the introduction by Stephen king is a huge spoiler. If you have not read the book before, do not start with the introduction. I likely would have been enamored by this book if I hadn't read the intro. So it is. Otherwise the cover artwork is neat and it has torn edge pages which I like as well. Looks less mass produced... Writing is good and it is an interesting story. Just can't stress enough that you should not read the intro first. Kind of blown away that an author like Stephen king wouldn't preclude his spoiler by some kind of warning. Wah wah.

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