



Title: City of Thieves
Author: David Benioff
Imprint: Penguin Books
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BOOK RESUME: CITY OF THIEVES

BOOK SYNOPSIS

During the Nazis' brutal siege of Leningrad, Lev Beniov is arrested for looting and thrown into the same cell as a handsome deserter named Kolya. Instead of being executed, Lev and Kolya are given a shot at saving their own lives by complying with an outrageous directive: secure a dozen eggs for a powerful Soviet colonel to use in his daughter's wedding cake. In a city cut off from all supplies and suffering unbelievable deprivation, Lev and Kolya embark on a hunt through the dire lawlessness of Leningrad and behind enemy lines to find the impossible.

By turns insightful and funny, thrilling and terrifying, the *New York Times* bestseller *City of Thieves* is a gripping, cinematic World War II adventure and an intimate coming-of-age story with an utterly contemporary feel for how boys become men.

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

"The novel tells a refreshingly traditional tale, driven by an often ingenious plot . . . [Benioff] shifts tone with perfect control—no recent novel I have read travels so quickly and surely between registers, from humor to devastation." —*The New York Times Book Review*

"This spellbinding story perfectly blends tragedy and comedy." —*USA Today*

"Benioff (a co-creator of HBO's 'Game of Thrones') peppers his swift-moving plot with pitch-dark humor and unexpected turns. It's a rousing reading experience, to cackle aloud at one paragraph then gasp at the next. . . . I'm glad I waited until warm weather to start this winter's tale. But really, any other time would have been just fine. There's no bad season to read a book this good." —Ken Jaworowski, *The New York Times Book Review*

"Benioff blends humor and horror expertly." —*San Francisco Chronicle*

"A deft storyteller, Benioff writes about starvation, cannibalism, and Nazi atrocities with poise and cinematic flair. If *Thieves* were a movie, it would start out like *Schindler's List* and end up like *Raiders of the Lost Ark*." —*People*

"*City of Thieves* is a coming-of-age story brilliantly amplified by its worn-torn backdrop . . . Benioff's finest achievement in 'City of Thieves' has been to banish all possible pretensions from his novel, which never wears its research on its sleeve, and to deliver a rough-and-tumble tale that clenches humor, savagery, and pathos squarely together on the same page." —*The Washington Post*

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*Publisher suggested age range covers the wide range of readers publishers envision using the book, whether for independent reading, family sharing, group study, or in other ways. Educators have the best sense of the appropriate range for their diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book's intended use.

“*City of Thieves* is flat-out great . . . Benioff’s screen writing chops are in full force here - the plot careens along with cinematic verve - but that’s expected. The surprise is Benioff’s understated wisdom and tenderness.” —*Men’s Journal*

“David Benioff, has written a gripping war novel. With lots of humor, suspense and tragedy he shows the desperate lives of the people who were caught between two opposing forces during the Second World War.” —*The Guardian*

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