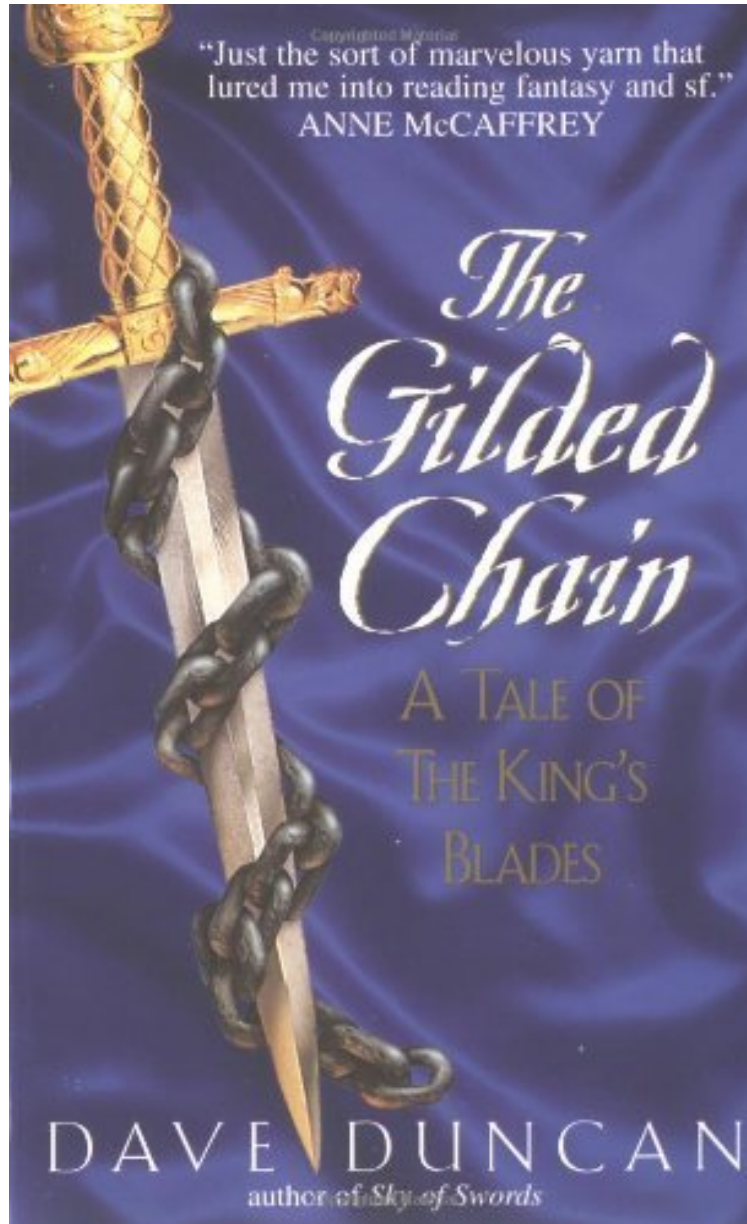


(Read free) Gilded Chain: A Tale Of The King's Blades

Gilded Chain: A Tale Of The King's Blades

Von *Dave Duncan*

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Von Dave Duncan : Gilded Chain: A Tale Of The King's Blades before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Gilded Chain: A Tale Of The King's Blades:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.

Erstklassige Sword-and-Sorcery Von Javelin In den trostlosen Weiten von Starkmoor befindet sich Ironhall, wo heimatlose Straenjungen zu der Elite der "King's Blades" herangezogen werden. Diese sind erstklassige Kmpfer, die in einem magischen Ritual an Knig Ambrose IV gebunden werden und seine Knigliche Leibgarde bilden. Der beste Kmpfer unter ihnen ist Sir Durendal. Durch eine Intrige wird er nicht an den Knig gebunden, sondern an den nichtsnutzigen Adligen Nutting, den Bruder der derzeitigen Bettgefhrtin des Herrschers. Als diese die Gnade des Monarchen verliert, gert Durendal in einen Loyalittskonflikt, der ihn das Leben kosten kann. Dies soll nicht die letzte Herausforderung im Dienste des Knigs bleiben...THE GILDED CHAIN stellt die erste Folge einer Serie um die legendren "King's Blades" dar, die inzwischen wie einige andere Serien des Autors schon zu den Klassikern der Sword-and-Sorcery gehrt und fr Fans ein echter Genu zu lesen ist. In einer detailreich ausgestalteten High-Fantasy-Kulisse, die an England zu Zeiten Heinrichs VIII erinnert, wird Durendals Werdegang von seiner Ausbildung in Ironhall bis ins hohe Alter geschildert. Herausragend ist dabei die Szenerie in Ironhall, wo die jungen Kmpfer ausgebildet werden; das ist so realistisch und wunderbar in Szene gesetzt, da man sich richtig vorstellen kann, selber in den althehrwürdigen Hallen zu wandeln, wo die Schwerter der gefallenen Helden an der Decke hngen und ihre Abenteuer in der Heldenlitanei verewigt werden. Die Geschichte Durendals ist eine temporeiche Mischung aus Heldenepos, Abenteuerroman und historisch angehauchter Fantasy, die wie eine Mischung aus "The Tudors" und "3 Musketiere" wirkt, beraus realistisch, aber angereichert mit einem System aus Elementarmagie, das durch seine Einfachheit, Klarheit und innere Logik berzeugt. Das magische Ritual, mit dem die Klingen an ihren knftigen Herren gebunden werden, durchzieht wie ein roter Faden alle Folgen der Serie. Die vielen gut gezeichneten Charaktere, vor allem die einzelnen Kmpfer mit ihren Kampfnamen und ihren Schwertern, die "Fang" oder "Reason" heien, bereichern die oft in rasantem Tempo voranschreitende Handlung ebenso wie die einzelnene Episoden um den Mibrauch von Magie, tdliche Intrigen bei Hof, Turniere und Duelle, abgerundet von einem spitz-ironischen Humor, der Durendal als Held wider Willen, der zu Ruhm und Ehre gert, obwohl er nur seine Pflicht zun will, strahlen lt. Sehr empfehlenswert! 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A pleasant surprise...and a stand-alone novel! Von Ein Kunde I hadn't read Dave Duncan up until now, but I received this book as a gift. I was expecting another saga of a scullion who grows up to discover that he's the warrior foretold in prophecy, blah, blah, blah. Instead, it's the story of a virtuous man living in troubled times, and doing his duty as honor binds him. The central theme of the King's Blades is different from most magic systems in fantasy novels, and the exploration of the concept was interesting. And I was especially pleased to discover that the novel stands completely alone; there's little room to return to this character in a sequel. However, I would certainly be interested in another novel of the King's Blades. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Not as good as I'd hoped. Von Ein Kunde I enjoyed this book quite a bit. I really did. The plot was the usual intrigue-at-court kind of thing, but well-told and with interesting supernatural elements thrown in. I do agree that it felt rather rushed, or rather it felt like large chunks had been edited out, which at almost 400pp is probably true, but it might have been somewhat annoying to be held in suspense much longer. It certainly hooked me. My problem is that, upon finishing it, I felt strangely uneasy. Part of the reason for this is perhaps trite: it's hard for me to find a book in which few people are seen to change and grow with experience emotionally satisfying. (I know we see at least three different versions of Durendal, but it all felt really disjointed to me.) Maybe it's just because I find it hard to really feel for protagonists who seem to be naturally good at just about everything including the resolution of moral dilemmas. But the main reason was that many, many things seemed a little too familiar. The themes, certainly: the pull of loyalty to a charismatic leader, the choice of duty over love, the clash between bull-headed honest decency and politics. Now, these are fine themes and I don't mind reading about them over and over again. However, there is a certain worrying repetitiveness in the characters that arise in Mr. Duncan's preferred kind of situation. Durendal is a mix of Wally and Rap. Quarrel is Ylo reborn - the language used to describe his experiences near the end of the book is very, very similar to the language used to describe Ylo's experiences in eerily similar circumstances. There was even a jotnar guy at one point. It's disturbing. You keep expecting Inos or someone to show up.

Kurzbeschreibung As unwanted and rebellious boys, they find refuge in Ironhall... Years later they emerge as the finest swordsmen in the realm A magical ritual of a sword through the heart binds each to his ward if not the king himself, then to whomever else the monarch designates with absolute loyalty. And the greatest Blade of them all was and is Sir Durendal. But a lifelong dream of protecting his beloved liege from enemies, traitors, and monsters is dashed to bits when Durendal is bonded till death to an effete noble fop at his king's orders. Yet Destiny has many strange and inscrutable plans for the young knight for a mission, a contest, and, perhaps, a treasure await him in a faraway land. But he soon finds himself enmeshed in treason and foul intrigues, compelled to betray the king he had hoped to serve. The Blades have ways to protect their own, but death and madness haunt the path to salvation and few ever return unscathed. As unwanted and rebellious boys, they find refuge in Ironhall... Years later they emerge as the finest swordsmen in the realm A magical ritual of a sword through the heart binds each to his ward if not the king himself, then to whomever else the monarch designates with absolute loyalty. And the greatest Blade of them all was and is Sir

Durendal. But a lifelong dream of protecting his beloved liege from enemies, traitors, and monsters is dashed to bits when Durendal is bonded till death to an effete noble fop at his king's orders. Yet Destiny has many strange and inscrutable plans for the young knight for a mission, a contest, and, perhaps, a treasure await him in a faraway land. But he soon finds himself enmeshed in treason and foul intrigues, compelled to betray the king he had hoped to serve. The Blades have ways to protect their own, but death and madness haunt the path to salvation and few ever return unscathed. Swords-and-sorcery fans aren't always proud. At times, they're left feeling a little embarrassed when they get a fix for their "pulp" addiction, maybe even sheepishly admitting that the genre isn't always that... sophisticated. Well, with Dave Duncan's *The Gilded Chain*, no apologies are necessary. The author presents traditional high fantasy, with knights and magic (and even a few monsters) in a Tudoresque setting. *The Gilded Chain* satisfies all the usual cravings, while still managing to be both original and thought-provoking. Subtitled *A Tale of the King's Blades* (an indication that more excellent stand-alones should follow), *Gilded Chain* follows the career of Durendal, one of the King's magical and deadly swordsmen, who's compelled to serve his ward until death with single-minded purpose. Bound to a conniving, sniveling courtier and apparently doomed to a boring--or worse, compromising--existence, Durendal must find a way to fulfill both his potential and his duty. Events quickly hurl him halfway across the world to investigate the grisly secret behind a brotherhood of immortal swordmasters. This quest fuels the plot for the remainder of the book, which is nearly impossible to put down after the halfway point (just about the time a side story involving a Lord Roland cleverly dovetails with the main narrative). An inventive, intelligent exploration of duty and honor, and just a corking good adventure besides, *The Gilded Chain* is swords-and-sorcery at its best. --Paul Hughes *Pressestimmen* "Fast-paced...Sharp humor and swashbuckling action add charm and vigor to this fantasy adventure." --"Library Journal" "Good characters; fine plotting; a lean and supple narrative." --"Kirkus s