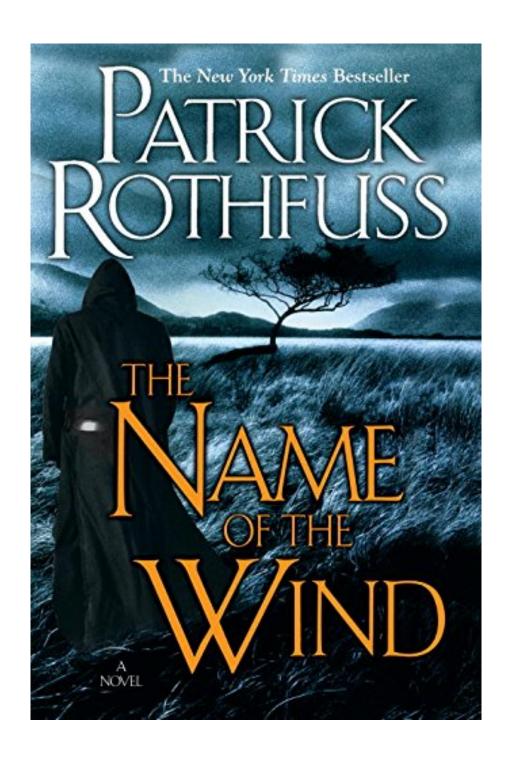


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Brand: Patrick Rothfuss
Published on: 2009-04-07
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Original language: English

• Number of items: 1

• Dimensions: 8.94" h x 1.37" w x 6.01" l, 1.54 pounds

• Binding: Paperback

• 672 pages

Features

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Most helpful customer reviews

56 of 58 people found the following review helpful.

First and foremost, a well-written tale.

By Amazon Customer

Here's the thing you should really get about this book: Patrick Rothfuss can *write*. He's clever and knows how to turn a phrase. He narrates in such a way that the destination -- which, since the book is told in flashback, you already know -- is not as important as the journey. The plot does not move quickly or predictably, and yes, there are many "slow" spots that other readers have criticized as unimportant. But to me I just wanted to know what was going on with the characters, and didn't really care how long it took to get there. This book, and especially the next, are long novels that meander through various rich landscapes and characters, never hurrying to reach any notable crux. It's a good read first and foremost.

However, readers should be warned that, at this time, the third book in the series is not yet published and there is no publication date. Apparently Rothfuss is methodical, and doesn't churn out novels at as rapid a pace as other authors, so it may yet be a while before the series is resolved with a third (and possibly a fourth) book. I don't mind that there is more to look forward to, although of course it is hard to wait.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful.

Enjoyable on it's own, might be great at series completion

By Benjamin Halbach

Personally, it is difficult for me to fully judge individual books without first completing the series. However, I did enjoy the author's descriptive writing style, the unique idea that Kvothe is telling this whole story after it has happened, the interesting magic system, and some intriguing secondary characters (Fela, Devi, Elodin, Auri). While a rather slow-paced book, I found I didn't really mind, and I enjoyed being introduced to a new fantasy "universe" and soaking it all in.

Along with many others, I do think Kvothe is a little too perfect. Seems like the author keeps hinting that Kvothe's legend has grown to exceptional heights mainly due to the nature of storytelling, with many of his feats exaggerated or embellished. However, this idea is somewhat negated when Kvothe actually is perfect in almost everything he does. In fact, the only thing he seems to struggle with is being poor, which I feel is almost focused on TOO much - it's constantly emphasized that he has only two shirts, he has to go to the workshop yet again to earn some more towards his debt to Devi, he has to play some music yet again to earn some more towards his debt to Devi, etc. Would be nice to see him struggle and overcome something other than financial hardship.

The Chandrian have potential to be the major enemy in the series, but aside from the one major scene, they haven't instilled any fear/dread in me like the nemesis' in other series in the genre (e.g. Shannara, LOTR, Codex Alera, Wheel of Time). The story seems to build towards them, but make very little progress.

Overall - the magic system and descriptive writing style have me eager for more, but would like to see Kvothe become a little more relatable and the story to move past the repetitive day-to-day University life and into the broader world.

After one read, I'd give it about 3.5 stars, but I'll round up because I have faith that by the time I finish the series, I will look back fondly on this book.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

Tragic yet fun

By Kevin S.

I find it ironic and interesting that the mystery to the entire story has yet to truly unfold but already little secrets have been established. I'm totally enamored by the writing except I get a little irritated when every few chapters is repeated this "and I guess that makes a good beginning", because it almost sounds like - well that actually is true - that several stories are being told at once both literally in the book and figuratively by the characters in the book. It's fun to see an anti hero treated as such a complex tragic character.

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