



Race for the Iron Throne: Political and Historical Analysis of "A Game of Thrones"

By Steven Attewell



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A GAME OF THRONES

How would you like to read *A Game of Thrones* with a PhD by your side?

Steven Attewell, creator of *Race for the Iron Throne* (racefortheironthrone.wordpress.com), is one of the most insightful scholars in political theory and history, but instead of devoting his talents to academia, he's delving into George R.R. Martin's *A Song of Ice and Fire* saga to give the most comprehensive deconstruction – and explanation – yet offered.

Each one of *Thrones*'s 73 chapters is broken down in meticulous detail in four key areas. The **Political** and **Historical Analyses** explore the political ramifications that each character's decisions entail while digging into the real-world historical incidents that inspired Martin's narrative twists and turns. **What If?** offers up a tantalizing look at how these political and historical elements could have played out in dozens of alternative scenarios, underscoring the majesty and complexity of Martin's storytelling. And **Book vs. Show** looks at the key differences – both good and bad – between the story as originally conceived on the printed page and as realized in HBO's *Game of Thrones*.

At nearly 204,000 words, it's literally impossible to imagine a more exhaustive or authoritative reading companion for any novel ever before published.

Note: there are spoilers for all five published novels in the Song of Ice and Fire series.

COMPLETE LIST OF CONTENTS

- **Race for the Iron Throne** – political, historical, and hypothetical examination of all of *A Game of Thrones*
- **From the Blue Buddha Archives** – extensive samples covering *A Clash of Kings* and the first season of *Game of Thrones*
- **Blue Buddha Daibutsu: “Night Falls and Lights Rise”** – a never-before-published fantasy short story incorporating magic, the divine, and the meaning of life... and death, written by **Remy J. Verhoeve**, of Is Winter Coming? and Tower of the Hand fame
- **Blue Buddha Gaiden: “Why Do We Fall, Bruce? To Write Horribly Cheesy Dialogue, Part III”** – an exclusive essay examining what the *Man of Steel* series needs to learn from the *Dark Knight* trilogy and what DC needs to learn from Marvel, written by **Marc N. Kleinhenz**, the features editor of Tower of the Hand and author of *It Is Known*
- **Blue Buddha Sneak Peek** – an *exclusive* sample from the highly anticipated *Tower of the Hand: A Hymn for Spring*, written by History of Westeros's Ashaya and Aziz

About the author

Steven Attewell is the author of *Race for the Iron Throne*, a blog that examines the history and politics of the *Song of Ice and Fire* series and HBO's *Game of Thrones*. He has a recent PhD in History from the University of California, Santa Barbara, where he studied the history of public policy and was a political and union activist. In addition to *Race for the Iron Throne*, Steven is also a co-podcaster on *Game of Thrones* at the Lawyers, Guns, and Money podcast, writes about public policy at the Realignment Project, and is a co-author of the upcoming *Tower of the Hand: A Hymn for Spring* anthology book.



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