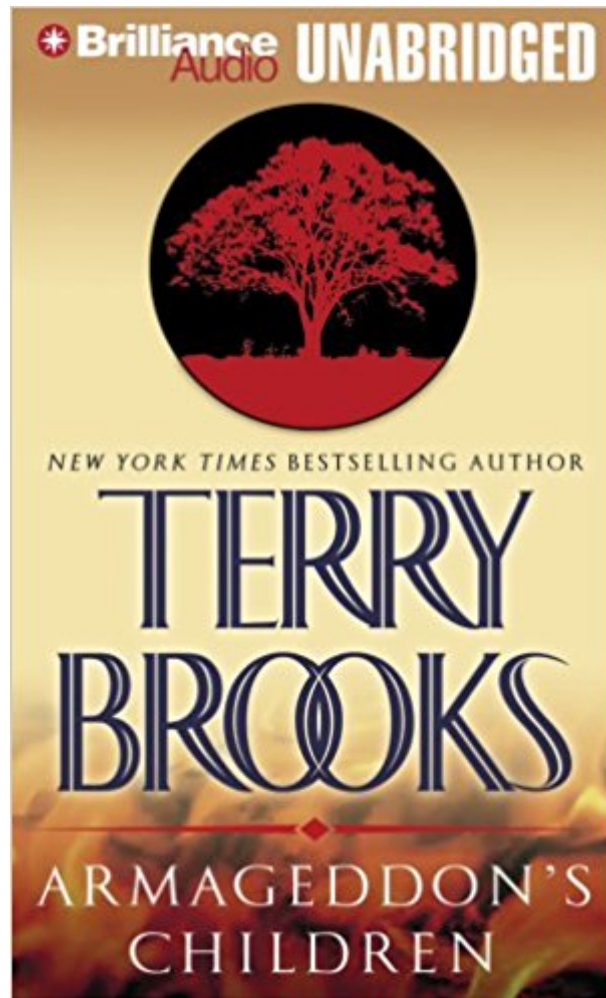




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Armageddon's Children (Genesis Of Shannara Series)



Synopsis

Terry Brooks is one of a handful of writers whose work defines modern fantasy fiction. His twenty-three international bestsellers have ranged from the beloved Shannara series to stories that tread a much darker path. *Armageddon's Children* is a new creation - the perfect opportunity for listeners unfamiliar with Brooks's previous work to experience an author at the height of his considerable storytelling powers. It is a gripping chronicle of a once-familiar world now spun shockingly out of control, in which an extraordinary few struggle to salvage hope in the face of terrifying chaos. Logan Tom is doomed to remember the past and determined to rescue the future. Far behind him lies a boyhood cut violently short by his family's slaughter, when the forces of madness and hate swept our world after decadent excesses led to civilization's downfall. Somewhere ahead of him rests the only chance to beat back the minions of evil that are systematically killing and enslaving the last remnants of humanity. Navigating the scarred and poisoned landscape that once was America and guided by a powerful talisman, Logan has sworn an oath to seek out a remarkable being born of magic, possessed of untold abilities, and destined to lead the final fight against darkness. Across the country, Angel Perez, herself a survivor of the malevolent death-dealing forces combing the land, has also been chosen for an uncanny mission in the name of her ruined world's salvation. From the devastated streets of Los Angeles, she will journey to find a place - and a people - shrouded in mystery, celebrated in legend, and vital to the cause of humankind . . . even as a relentless foe follows close behind, bent on her extermination. Meanwhile, in the nearly forsaken city of Seattle, a makeshift family of refugees has carved out a tenuous existence among the street gangs, mutants, and marauders fighting to stay alive against mounting odds - and something unspeakable that has come from the shadows in search of prey. In time, all their paths will cross. Their common purpose will draw them together. Their courage and convictions will be tested and their fates will be decided, as their singular crusade begins: to take back, or lose forever, the only world they have. In *Armageddon's Children*, Brooks brings his gifts as a mythmaker to the timeless theme of the unending, essential conflict between darkness and light - and carries his unique imaginative vision to a stunning new level. Prepare for a breathtaking tour de force. To those who are new to Terry Brooks, welcome. And to those who have read him for many years: prepare for a dramatic surprise.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In a postapocalyptic America, legions of demons and mutants known as "once-men" roam the landscape. Two teens, Logan Tom and Angel Perez, are the last surviving Knights of the Word, and may be humanity's last hope against the forces of darkness. Although the characters here are sketchily drawn, and many of the postapocalyptic tropes Brooks employs are either overly familiar or not fully developed, Hill does an admirable job of breathing life into the story and characters. He skillfully gives voice to a panoply of child characters, and alters his voice just enough to indicate their youth without becoming overly cutesy. Hill's overall tone is dark and somber, giving an appropriate ambiance to the narrative. As good as Hill is, though, this audio might have benefited from a second narrator; since the narrative unfolds in two primary threads (Logan's and Angel's), it would have been easier for the listener to keep track had there been a different narrator for each. Which is not to say that Hill's performance is in any way lacking; quite the contrary: it is exemplary.

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Terry Brooks published his first novel, *The Sword of Shannara*, in 1977. It was a New York Times bestseller for more than six months. He has published twenty-five New York Times bestsellers since. Two of those--the novels *Running with the Demon* and *A Knight of the Word*--were chosen by the Rocky Mountain News (Denver) as among the best fantasy novels of the twentieth century. A practicing lawyer until his third book was published, Brooks now writes full-time. He lives in the Pacific Northwest with his wife, Judine.

I've not previously read any books in this series or by Terry Brooks. This story is compelling from the first line and read really well in a moody fashion that enabled me to really visualize the scenes and get deeply involved with the characters. No previous understanding of the story line was needed for me to enjoy this book. Dick Hill the reader, did such a good job that I have found myself looking for other books read by him. Also another really great aspect of this particular book is the 'MP3 CD' format. After having downloaded a few books from Audible with DRM restrictions on how many devices and an authorization process that I find a real pain in the rear end I will go out of my way to only buy audio books in this 'MP3 CD'. Because the 'MP3 CD' has no restrictions I was able to share the book with my family all of whom are now hooked on the series.

Terry Brooks is my all time favorite author. This man transports my soul. His continuing groups of stories carry me away to his private world of fantasy. I want to go there, and he take me along. The vendor was prompt and the book came in excellent condition.

It takes a while to get into this one, largely because it's one of those dark, dreary future fiction things. Eventually the plot and characters become interesting enough to make you want to buy the sequel.

I had never read anything by Terry Brooks, so I thought I would try listening to Armageddon's Children because I thought the premise sounded interesting. I guess the story is interesting, but I found it extremely slow and boring. The narrator has a dreary boring voice that drove me crazy. I couldn't even finish listening to the whole thing because it became torture.

This new novel by Terry Brooks, is, I think, his best yet. Set on earth several years in to the future, it describes a world far removed from our own, ravaged by nuclear attacks and climate change. It's population devastated by the effects of chemical poisonings and radiation. The demons that also populate this world make it a gripping fantasy novel, but the likelihood that some elements of this world may well become a reality in a not-too-distant future certainly gives the reader pause for thought. Let's hope it has the same effect on other people too. In this world, where survival of the fittest really does determine who lives and who dies, a group of characters struggle to stay alive. Terry Brooks has created many memorable characters over his long career, but I think he may have outdone himself this time. In Armageddon's children, he has created a deep and complex cast of characters that the reader can identify with and relate to right away. From Logan and Angel, the

last of a dying breed fighting a losing battle to protect human kind from the demons who would eliminate them, to Hawk. Leader of a street gang trying to survive in a city where enemies and danger could lie round every corner, and orphans of the streets are regarded as people not important enough to concern anyone. The strong bond between this unlikely family, thrown together by circumstances and held together by loyalty and friendship is beautifully captured. As well as having a moving love story as a sub plot between Hawk and a girl from one of the compounds who are forbidden to mix with people of the streets, Terry also continues to champion disabilities in his books which is wonderful to see. He has had characters both deaf and blind, who, far from being helpless and dependant on others, are strong characters in their own right. His latest, Owl, is no exception. Confined to a wheelchair, she is nevertheless a strong wise character and a decisive leader. This was a deep, thought-provoking read, and as is typical of Terry, leaves the reader begging for the next instalment. I really don't know how I'll survive the weight for this one!

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