

the gathering storm is written by

The Gathering Storm is Written By: Exploring the Minds Behind the Epic Tale

the gathering storm is written by two remarkable authors whose collaboration brought to life one of the most celebrated entries in the fantasy genre. This book, part of the expansive Wheel of Time series, is co-authored by Robert Jordan and Brandon Sanderson. Understanding who wrote The Gathering Storm and how it came to completion offers fascinating insights into the world of epic fantasy writing and the legacy of a beloved series.

The Gathering Storm is Written By Robert Jordan and Brandon Sanderson

The Gathering Storm is a pivotal novel in the Wheel of Time saga. Originally, Robert Jordan, whose real name was James Oliver Rigney Jr., created the entire Wheel of Time universe and penned the first eleven books. Unfortunately, Jordan passed away in 2007 before he could complete the final volumes. The task of finishing the series was entrusted to Brandon Sanderson, a young and talented fantasy author known for his own series, Mistborn.

Robert Jordan: The Creator of the Wheel of Time

Robert Jordan's vision and storytelling prowess are what laid the foundation for The Gathering Storm. Starting the series in 1990 with "The Eye of the World," Jordan built a richly detailed fantasy world filled with intricate cultures, magic systems, and a sprawling cast of characters. His writing style combined epic storytelling with deep character development, attracting millions of readers worldwide.

Jordan's influence on The Gathering Storm is still very much present, as he had left extensive notes and outlines for the concluding books. His fans appreciate how the later volumes strive to stay true to his voice and vision, despite the change in authorship.

Brandon Sanderson: Completing a Legendary Saga

When Robert Jordan passed away, his widow and editor, Harriet McDougal, selected Brandon Sanderson to finish the series. Sanderson was chosen not only for his writing talent but also for his respect and understanding of Jordan's work. With access to Jordan's notes and guidance, Sanderson took on the monumental challenge of concluding a story beloved by many.

Sanderson's involvement began with *The Gathering Storm*, the twelfth book in the series. He successfully merged his narrative style with Jordan's, earning praise from fans for maintaining continuity while injecting fresh energy into the saga. His ability to handle complex plot threads and dynamic characters made *The Gathering Storm* a critically acclaimed entry.

How *The Gathering Storm* Fits Into the *Wheel of Time* Series

Understanding who *The Gathering Storm* is written by also means appreciating its place within the larger *Wheel of Time* series. This book continues the story after the events of "*Winter's Heart*," focusing on the efforts of key characters Rand al'Thor and Egwene al'Vere as they face escalating threats.

The Importance of *The Gathering Storm* in the Series

The Gathering Storm is significant because it marks a turning point in the storyline. The narrative intensifies, conflicts become more complex, and characters evolve in profound ways. For readers, it is the bridge between the earlier developments and the series' climax.

By knowing that *The Gathering Storm* is written by both Jordan and Sanderson, readers can appreciate how the novel blends the original vision with new narrative techniques. This collaboration was crucial to resolving long-standing plot issues and setting the stage for the final books.

Key Themes and Developments

Several themes stand out in *The Gathering Storm*, reflective of both Jordan's and Sanderson's influence:

- **Leadership and Responsibility:** Characters like Rand and Egwene struggle with their roles and the burdens of leadership.
- **Reconciliation and Conflict:** The story explores the tension between different factions and the hope for unity.
- **Growth and Change:** Personal growth amid chaos is central to the narrative arc.

These themes resonate deeply with fans who have followed the series from the beginning, showcasing the depth that both authors brought to the story.

The Writing Process Behind The Gathering Storm

The question of who *The Gathering Storm* is written by naturally leads to curiosity about how the book was crafted, especially given the transition between two authors.

Robert Jordan's Preparation and Notes

Before his passing, Robert Jordan had prepared extensive notes covering the series' conclusion. These documents included character arcs, plot outlines, and world-building details. This treasure trove of information was crucial for Brandon Sanderson to create a seamless continuation.

Jordan's meticulous planning meant that the core storylines were intact, allowing Sanderson to focus on writing and interpreting the material without having to invent major components from scratch.

Brandon Sanderson's Approach to Finishing the Series

Brandon Sanderson approached the project with great care and respect. He studied Jordan's style, tone, and pacing to ensure the transition would be as smooth as possible. Sanderson also engaged with fans and editors to maintain the integrity of the series.

His process included:

1. Reviewing Jordan's notes and previous books thoroughly.
2. Outlining the concluding volumes with input from Jordan's widow and editors.
3. Writing drafts while balancing his own style with Jordan's voice.
4. Incorporating feedback to fine-tune characterizations and plotlines.

This dedication resulted in a book that felt authentic to long-time readers and welcomed new fans alike.

Impact and Legacy of The Gathering Storm

The question of who *The Gathering Storm* is written by also connects to its impact on the fantasy literary world. This novel is a testament to collaboration and legacy in storytelling.

Fan Reception and Critical Acclaim

The Gathering Storm was met with enthusiasm and relief by fans, who were eager to see the series move toward its conclusion. Critics praised Sanderson's ability to honor Jordan's vision while revitalizing the narrative. The book's success demonstrated that a beloved series could continue beyond its original author with care and respect.

Influence on Fantasy Literature

The Gathering Storm's unique authorship story has inspired discussions about authorship, collaboration, and series completion in the fantasy community. It has shown that with proper planning and passion, even seemingly impossible tasks—like finishing a massive saga after the original author's death—can be achieved.

For aspiring writers and fans, it serves as an example of dedication to craft and respect for storytelling heritage.

Exploring Related Works by the Authors

Knowing who *The Gathering Storm* is written by opens doors to exploring other works by Robert Jordan and Brandon Sanderson, each offering different but equally compelling fantasy experiences.

Robert Jordan's Other Contributions

Beyond the *Wheel of Time*, Robert Jordan wrote several historical fiction novels under different pen names. However, the *Wheel of Time* remains his most influential legacy, inspiring numerous adaptations and a dedicated fan base.

Brandon Sanderson's Expanding Universe

Brandon Sanderson has since become one of the most prolific fantasy authors of his generation. His *Mistborn* series, *Stormlight Archive*, and other standalone novels showcase his talent for complex magic systems and intricate plots. Fans of *The Gathering Storm* often explore Sanderson's works to experience his unique

voice and storytelling skills beyond the Wheel of Time.

The story behind *The Gathering Storm* is written by two authors whose combined efforts crafted a memorable and essential chapter in one of fantasy's most beloved sagas. This collaboration not only fulfilled the fans' hopes for closure but also enriched the genre with a remarkable example of creativity and dedication. Exploring the backgrounds, writing processes, and impacts of Robert Jordan and Brandon Sanderson brings new appreciation for this monumental work.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is the author of 'The Gathering Storm'?

'The Gathering Storm' is written by Robert Jordan and Brandon Sanderson.

Is 'The Gathering Storm' a standalone novel or part of a series?

'The Gathering Storm' is part of the Wheel of Time series.

Which authors contributed to the writing of 'The Gathering Storm'?

Robert Jordan started writing 'The Gathering Storm,' and Brandon Sanderson completed it after Jordan's death.

What genre does 'The Gathering Storm' belong to?

'The Gathering Storm' is a fantasy novel.

When was 'The Gathering Storm' published?

'The Gathering Storm' was published in 2009.

Why did Brandon Sanderson write 'The Gathering Storm' instead of Robert Jordan?

Brandon Sanderson finished 'The Gathering Storm' after Robert Jordan passed away before completing the final books of the Wheel of Time series.

Is 'The Gathering Storm' the final book in the Wheel of Time series?

'The Gathering Storm' is the twelfth book in the Wheel of Time series, followed by three more books to conclude the series.

Additional Resources

The Gathering Storm Is Written By: An In-Depth Exploration of Its Authorship and Impact

the gathering storm is written by Robert Jordan and Brandon Sanderson, a fact that often intrigues readers and literary enthusiasts alike. This novel represents a unique collaboration born from circumstance, bridging the gap between Jordan's original vision and Sanderson's narrative craftsmanship. As the twelfth book in the acclaimed "Wheel of Time" series, The Gathering Storm holds a pivotal place in the epic fantasy genre, embodying both the culmination of decades of world-building and the seamless transition of authorship.

Understanding who penned The Gathering Storm is essential not only for appreciating the novel itself but also for recognizing the complexities of continuing a beloved series under extraordinary conditions. This article delves into the background of the authorship, the stylistic elements that define the book, and how it fits within the broader context of epic fantasy literature.

The Authorship of The Gathering Storm

Robert Jordan: The Original Visionary

Robert Jordan, born James Oliver Rigney Jr., was the original creator of the Wheel of Time series. His work, beginning with "The Eye of the World" in 1990, quickly garnered a devoted following due to its intricate plotlines, deeply developed characters, and richly textured world. Jordan's writing style was characterized by detailed descriptions, complex political intrigue, and a slow, methodical buildup of tension. Tragically, Jordan passed away in 2007 after completing approximately eleven books in the series.

The gathering storm is written by Robert Jordan in the sense that the foundation, characters, and overarching story were all conceived and mostly outlined by him. Before his death, Jordan left extensive notes, partial drafts, and guidance for how the series should conclude, which proved crucial in continuing the saga.

Brandon Sanderson: The Chosen Finisher

Following Jordan's death, the responsibility of completing the Wheel of Time series fell to Brandon Sanderson. Selected by Jordan's widow and editor Harriet McDougal, Sanderson was tasked with honoring Jordan's vision while bringing his own narrative strengths to the final volumes.

Brandon Sanderson is a celebrated fantasy author in his own right, known for his innovative magic systems and fast-paced storytelling. *The Gathering Storm* is written by Sanderson as a continuation and partial completion of Jordan's work, making it a collaborative effort across time. Sanderson's influence is evident in the book's brisker pacing and more action-oriented sequences, which contrast with Jordan's signature style but complement it effectively.

Stylistic and Thematic Analysis

Blending Narrative Voices

One of the most notable aspects of *The Gathering Storm* is the blending of Jordan's and Sanderson's literary voices. Critics and readers have observed that the book transitions smoothly from Jordan's intricate, slow-burning approach to Sanderson's more direct and energetic prose. This hybrid style serves to maintain continuity for long-time fans while injecting new momentum into the series.

The thematic core of *The Gathering Storm* revolves around the impending conflict between good and evil, a hallmark of epic fantasy. However, the novel also explores themes of leadership, redemption, and the burdens of prophecy, reflecting Jordan's nuanced character development and Sanderson's skill at crafting emotionally resonant moments.

Character Development and Plot Progression

Given its position as the twelfth book in a sprawling series, *The Gathering Storm* advances multiple plotlines simultaneously. The narrative focuses heavily on Rand al'Thor, the Dragon Reborn, as he struggles to unite the fractured nations and prepare for the Last Battle. This internal conflict, combined with external pressures, offers a psychological depth that is characteristic of Jordan's earlier work but presented with Sanderson's sharper pacing.

Other key characters, such as Egwene al'Vere and Perrin Aybara, also receive significant attention, with their arcs reaching critical turning points. *The gathering storm* is written by these authors to ensure that each character's development contributes meaningfully to the story's progression, balancing personal

growth with epic stakes.

Impact and Reception

Fan and Critical Response

The announcement that Brandon Sanderson would complete Robert Jordan's series was met with a mixture of anticipation and skepticism. Fans were concerned about whether the new author could faithfully replicate Jordan's voice and satisfy the high expectations built over decades.

Yet, upon release, *The Gathering Storm* received generally positive reviews, with praise often directed at Sanderson's respectful handling of Jordan's material and his ability to inject renewed energy into the series. Sales figures reflected strong demand, and the book revitalized interest in the *Wheel of Time* franchise.

Comparisons to Other Posthumous Collaborations

The gathering storm is written by two authors under unique circumstances, making it a notable example of posthumous literary collaboration. Compared to other series completed after the original author's death, such as Philip K. Dick's unfinished works or Robert Ludlum's continuations, the *Wheel of Time*'s final volumes are often highlighted for their careful balance between fidelity and innovation.

Sanderson's approach—rooted in extensive notes and a deep respect for Jordan's legacy—serves as a model for how to handle such transitions. This collaboration underscores the challenges and opportunities in completing beloved series and contributes to ongoing discussions about authorship and creative continuity.

Legacy within the Wheel of Time Series

The Gathering Storm's Place in the Epic Narrative

As the twelfth entry, *The Gathering Storm* marks a narrative crescendo, setting the stage for the series' climactic conclusion. Its dual authorship enriches the text, offering readers a complex interweaving of styles and perspectives.

The gathering storm is written by Jordan and Sanderson not just as a continuation but as a

bridge—connecting the original groundwork to the final resolution. This connection is vital for understanding the series' themes of fate, struggle, and renewal.

Influence on Modern Fantasy Literature

The Wheel of Time series, bolstered by The Gathering Storm's successful completion, has influenced numerous contemporary fantasy authors and media adaptations. The collaboration between Jordan and Sanderson highlights how legacy projects can be managed effectively, preserving the spirit of the original while adapting to new creative voices.

In an era where fantasy literature often spans multiple volumes and decades, The Gathering Storm stands as a testament to the resilience and adaptability of storytelling traditions.

In exploring the question of who The Gathering Storm is written by, it becomes clear that the novel represents more than just authorship; it embodies a collaborative spirit bridging generations of fantasy writing. The successful melding of Robert Jordan's foundational vision with Brandon Sanderson's narrative vigor has not only satisfied longstanding fans but also enriched the fantasy genre as a whole. This dual authorship continues to spark discussion about the nature of literary legacy and the future of epic storytelling.

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