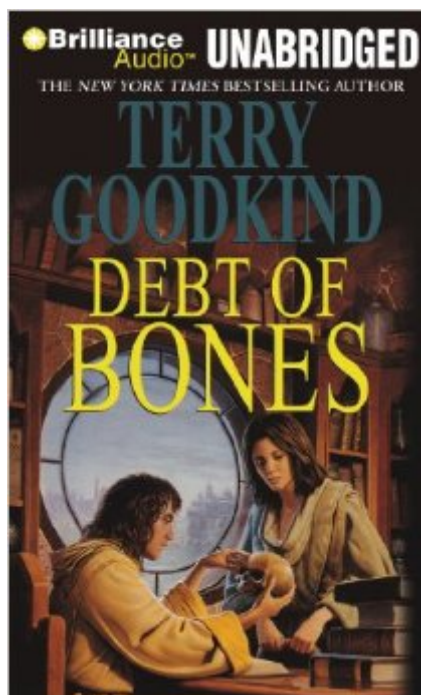


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# Debt Of Bones (Sword Of Truth Series)



## Synopsis

A milestone of storytelling set in the world of *The Sword of Truth*, *Debt of Bones* is the story of young Abby's struggle to win the aid of the wizard Zedd Zorander, the most important man alive. Abby is trapped, not only between both sides of the war, but in a mortal conflict between two powerful men. For Zedd, who commands power most men can only imagine, granting Abby's request would mean forsaking his sacred duty. With the storm of the final battle about to break, both Abby and Zedd are caught in a desperate fight to save the life of a child...but neither can escape the shadow of an ancient betrayal. With time running out, their only choice may be a debt of bones. The world - for Zedd, for Abby, for everyone - will never again be the same.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Terry Goodkind has become well-known amongst fantasy fans for his epic "Sword of Truth" series. Now, with "Debt of Bones", he revisits the world of his creation with a tale of old history. This is a story about Zedd, the First Wizard of the Midlands. Readers of Goodkind's books will know some of the events that took place when Zedd's wife was killed and his daughter's life also at stake; now the story is revealed in detail. Grieving, bitter and disillusioned, Zedd closets himself from the world and its troubles. It takes a courageous young woman with a desperate need of her own to reach him and convince him to help her. The events that follow will change the world and shape the course of history. Although I enjoyed reading this book- Goodkind's skill at weaving a convincing, enthralling

story is as obvious as ever- I was somewhat disappointed with it. The book is quite short, more a novella than a novel, and is largely a reworking of a story by the same title that was previously published as part of an anthology, "Legends". Excellent novels can sometimes be produced in a similar manner, and many classic books (especially of the sci-fi genre) had their start as a short story. However, I feel that in this case, little has been added to the original in terms of quality or quantity. In summary: I will always read Goodkind's books, but this one wasn't as worthwhile as I have come to expect. 7 stars out of 10

A most pleasant one hour diversion! In *Debt of Bones*, Goodkind has not only provided us with an excellent tale in its own right but has filled in some of the background to the war with the D'Harans, the Rahl dynasty, and the inside story on the history of the land outside the Midlands where no magic is allowed. It is quite astounding that *Debt of Bones* has all the requisites of a full length fantasy novel - good, evil, war, magic, epic battles, love, loyalty, treason, deceit and treachery - but he has managed to squeeze it into the size of a novella barely over 100 pages. Goodkind, no doubt, achieved this brevity by omitting detailed explanations of some of the things that his fans would already understand - the devastating results of the touch of the Mother Confessor and the sadistic behaviour of the Mord Sith, for example. If you're a first-time Goodkind reader, my prediction is that you'll feel quite bewildered at times. Don't start here! Set this aside and go read the first three or four novels in *The Sword of Truth* series. Then come back and pick this up again for a thoroughly enjoyable quickie!

This Terry Goodkind Novel was not as interesting as the original *Sword of Truth* books but it wasn't bad! I am a freshman in high school and it took me 2 1/2 hrs to read; so it is not nearly as long as the others. I really liked it because it was a chance to get reunited with Zedd. We learn what happens before Richard is born and how the war with Panis Rahl and D'Hara ends. The boundaries are created and some new characters are even introduced. I recommend this book to someone who has already read the *Sword of Truth* series or to someone who has a new interest.

Four stars for the story, one star for this printing. This is a good prequel to the *Sword of Truth* series, giving background information on Zedd. Don't bother buying it as a separate book, when you can get basically the same story in the *LEGENDS* collection of short stories. Plus, there's a short story by George R.R. Martin (*A Song of Ice and Fire* prequel) in the same book.

Finally, Mr. Goodkind puts out a story that is a good read from cover to cover. It is enjoyable in the way his first books were. This story takes place before any of the characters that we so love (Richard, Kahlan, Cara) are born. Zedd is a young man and his wife has been killed by The Lord Rahl of the time. Zedd is about to give up on everyone when a young woman comes into the picture and helps steer him back. This book is very short in comparison to his other books, but that is not necessarily bad. The short length means that the book has to concentrate on the story and its characters and as a result you don't get the pages of preaching that has become Goodkind's trademark as of late. I recommend this book to all Sword of Truth readers and especially to those longing for a return to Goodkind's earlier writing style.

I've read some of the reviews here, and many of them mention how short the book is. Yes, the book is short, but the impact of the book is greater due to its brevity. It would be nice to have a full-length novel of the time before the boundaries, but Goodkind has decided to give us as readers a teaser, a little tidbit of history to whet our appetites. Will Goodkind give us a full-length novel of pre-Boundary times? Maybe he will, maybe he won't. The point is that the brevity of Debt of Bones is part of the reason it's such a good story. It's also a nice change of pace for Goodkind, whose novels are very epic and grand in scope. Maybe he was just trying to do what other great authors have done, stretching his skills to see what he can accomplish. Goodkind has broadened his writing style to include small, self-contained stories as well as grand, world-sweeping epics. Kudos to you, Terry Goodkind.

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