



## The Iron King (The Accursed Kings, Book 1)

By Maurice Druon

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‘This is the original game of thrones’ George R.R. Martin

From the publishers that brought you A Game of Thrones comes the series that inspired George R.R. Martin’s epic work.

“Accursed! Accursed! You shall be accursed to the thirteenth generation!”

The Iron King – Philip the Fair – is as cold and silent, as handsome and unblinking as a statue. He governs his realm with an iron hand, but he cannot rule his own family: his sons are weak and their wives adulterous; while his red-blooded daughter Isabella is unhappily married to an English king who prefers the company of men.

A web of scandal, murder and intrigue is weaving itself around the Iron King; but his downfall will come from an unexpected quarter. Bent on the persecution of the rich and powerful Knights Templar, Philip sentences Grand Master Jacques Molay to be burned at the stake, thus drawing down upon himself a curse that will destroy his entire dynasty...

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## **The Iron King (The Accursed Kings, Book 1) By Maurice Druon Bibliography**

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### Editorial Review

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\*Starred Review\* Sporting an enthusiastic introduction by George R. R. Martin (in which he calls the book “the original game of thrones”), this is the first U.S. publication of the first volume of French novelist Druon’s seven-volume historical saga, collectively known as The Accursed Kings. Originally published in 1955, the novel is set in the year 1314. Philip IV, the king of France, has disbanded the Knights Templar, arresting, torturing, and executing most of them. Relations between France and England are as strained as they have ever been. Philip’s increasingly desperate search for money to pay his massive debts has virtually bankrupted the country. Against this sprawling backdrop, Druon tells the story of Robert of Artois, a French lord whose lands have been taken from him by his greedy aunt and whose efforts to reclaim his birthright will lead to all-out war between France and England. Unlike Martin’s multivolume Song of Fire and Ice, Druon’s saga is based on real history and features real people as its central characters. It’s historical fiction on a grand scale, full of political intrigue, family drama, and characters who, while drawn from life, are larger than it. Fans of historical epics who have not yet discovered Druon’s saga will be thrilled with this one. --David Pitt

#### Review

‘Iron kings and strangled queens, battles and betrayals, lies and lust, the curse of the Templars, the doom of a great dynasty – and all of it (well, most of it) straight from the pages of history, and believe me, the Starks and the Lannisters have nothing on the Capets and Plantagenets. Whether you are a history buff or a fantasy fan, Druon’s epic will keep you turning pages. This was the original game of thrones’ George R.R. Martin

‘Blood-curdling tale of intrigue, murder, corruption and sexual passion’ The Sunday Times

‘Dramatic and colourful as a Dumas romance but stiffened by historical accuracy and political insight’ The Sunday Times

‘Barbaric, sensual, teeming with life, based in wide reading and sound scholarship...among the best historical novels’ The Times Literary Supplement

#### About the Author

Maurice Druon was a French resistance hero, a Knight of the British Empire and a holder of the Grand Croix de la Légion d’Honneur. He was also a member of the Académie française and a celebrated novelist, best known for his series of seven historical novels under the title of The Accursed Kings, which were twice adapted for television. A passionate Anglophile, he was a great expert on all things English, including its medieval history, which provides great inspiration for the series. His many and diverse fans include George RR Martin, Nicolas Sarkozy and Vladimir Putin.

### Users Review

#### From reader reviews:

**George Carter:**

Spent a free time and energy to be fun activity to accomplish! A lot of people spent their spare time with their family, or their very own friends. Usually they carrying out activity like watching television, gonna beach, or picnic inside the park. They actually doing ditto every week. Do you feel it? Do you need to something different to fill your personal free time/ holiday? May be reading a book could be option to fill your cost-free time/ holiday. The first thing you ask may be what kinds of e-book that you should read. If you want to try look for book, may be the guide untitled The Iron King (The Accursed Kings, Book 1) can be good book to read. May be it is usually best activity to you.

**Frank Miller:**

Your reading sixth sense will not betray you, why because this The Iron King (The Accursed Kings, Book 1) guide written by well-known writer whose to say well how to make book which can be understand by anyone who read the book. Written within good manner for you, still dripping wet every ideas and publishing skill only for eliminate your hunger then you still skepticism The Iron King (The Accursed Kings, Book 1) as good book not only by the cover but also through the content. This is one guide that can break don't ascertain book by its handle, so do you still needing yet another sixth sense to pick this!? Oh come on your reading sixth sense already alerted you so why you have to listening to an additional sixth sense.

**Miguel Philip:**

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**Clyde Traynor:**

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