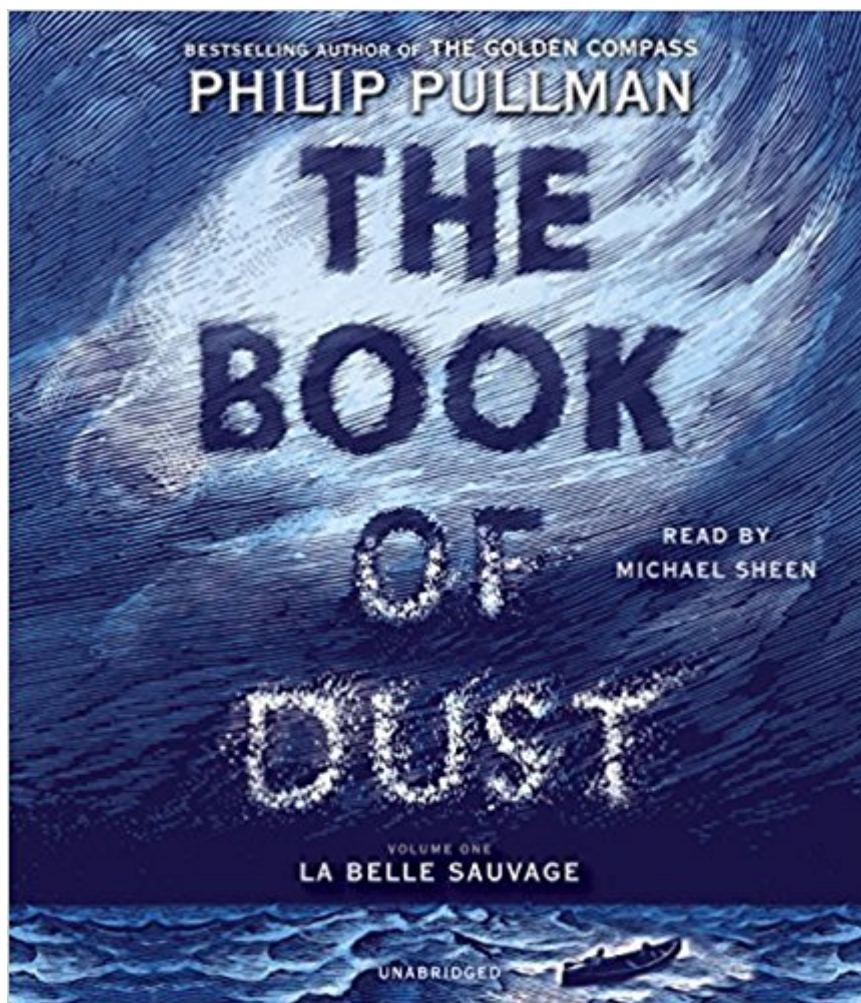


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The Book Of Dust: La Belle Sauvage (Book Of Dust, Volume 1)



Synopsis

The much-anticipated new work from the author of *The Golden Compass* is coming at last! Renowned storyteller Philip Pullman returns to the parallel world of Lyra Belacqua and His Dark Materials for a thrilling and epic adventure in which daemons, alethiometers, and the Magisterium all play a part. *The Book of Dust* will be a work in three parts, like His Dark Materials (*The Golden Compass*, *The Subtle Knife*, *The Amber Spyglass*). The title and cover of this first story will remain under wraps until a later date, but it can be revealed that the book is set ten years before *The Golden Compass* and centers on the much-loved character Lyra and her daemon Pantalaimon. Philip Pullman offers these tantalizing details: "I've always wanted to tell the story of how Lyra came to be living at Jordan College, and in thinking about it, I discovered a long story that began when she was a baby and will end when she's grown up. This volume and the next will cover two parts of Lyra's life: starting at the beginning of her story and returning to her twenty years later. As for the third and final part, my lips are sealed. So, second: is it a prequel? Is it a sequel? It's neither. In fact, *The Book of Dust* is . . . an equal. It doesn't stand before or after His Dark Materials, but beside it. It's a different story, but there are settings that readers of His Dark Materials will recognize, and characters they've met before. Also, of course, there are some characters who are new to us, including an ordinary boy (a boy we have glimpsed in an earlier part of Lyra's story, if we were paying attention) who, with Lyra, is caught up in a terrifying adventure that takes him into a new world. Third: why return to Lyra's world? Dust. Questions about that mysterious and troubling substance were already causing strife ten years before His Dark Materials, and at the center of *The Book of Dust* is the struggle between a despotic and totalitarian organization, which wants to stifle speculation and inquiry, and those who believe thought and speech should be free. The idea of Dust suffused His Dark Materials. Little by little through that story the idea of what Dust was became clearer and clearer, but I always wanted to return to it and discover more. • The books of the His Dark Materials trilogy were showered with praise, and the *Cincinnati Enquirer* proclaimed, "Pullman has created the last great fantasy masterpiece of the twentieth century. • With *The Book of Dust*, Philip Pullman embarks on an equally grand adventure, sure to be hailed as the first great fantasy masterpiece of the twenty-first century.

Book Information

Series: The Book of Dust (Book 1)

Audio CD

Publisher: Listening Library (Audio); Unabridged edition (October 19, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0525522980

ISBN-13: 978-0525522980

Shipping Weight: 8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

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Best Sellers Rank: #1,191,907 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #4 in Books > Books on CD >

Authors, A-Z > (P) > Pullman, Philip #305 in Books > Books on CD > Children's Fiction >

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Customer Reviews

“Once in a lifetime a children’s author emerges who is so extraordinary that the imagination of generations is altered. Lewis Carroll, E. Nesbit, C. S. Lewis, and Tolkien were all of this cast. So, too, is Philip Pullman.”
“The New Statesman”
“Pullman is quite possibly a genius . . . using the lineaments of fantasy to tell the truth about the universal experience of growing up.”
“Newsweek

PHILIP PULLMAN is one of the most acclaimed writers working today. He is best known for the His Dark Materials trilogy (The Golden Compass, The Subtle Knife, and The Amber Spyglass), which has been named one of the top 100 novels of all time by Newsweek and one of the all-time greatest novels by Entertainment Weekly. He has also won many distinguished prizes, including the Carnegie Medal for The Golden Compass (and the reader-voted “Carnegie of Carnegies” for the best children’s book of the past seventy years); the Whitbread (now Costa) Award for The Amber Spyglass; a Booker Prize long-list nomination (The Amber Spyglass); Parents’ Choice Gold Awards (The Subtle Knife and The Amber Spyglass); and the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award, in honor of his body of work. In 2004, he was appointed a Commander of the Order of the British Empire. Philip Pullman is the author of many other much-lauded novels. Three volumes related to His Dark Materials: Lyra’s Oxford, Once Upon a Time in the North, and The Collectors. For younger readers: I Was a Rat!; Count Karlstein; Two Crafty Criminals; Spring-Heeled Jack, and The Scarecrow and His Servant. For older readers: the Sally Lockhart quartet (The Ruby in the Smoke, The Shadow in the North, The Tiger in the Well, and The Tin Princess); The White Mercedes; and The Broken Bridge. Philip Pullman lives in Oxford, England. To learn more, please visit philip-pullman.com and hisdarkmaterials.com, or follow him on Twitter at @PhilipPullman.

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