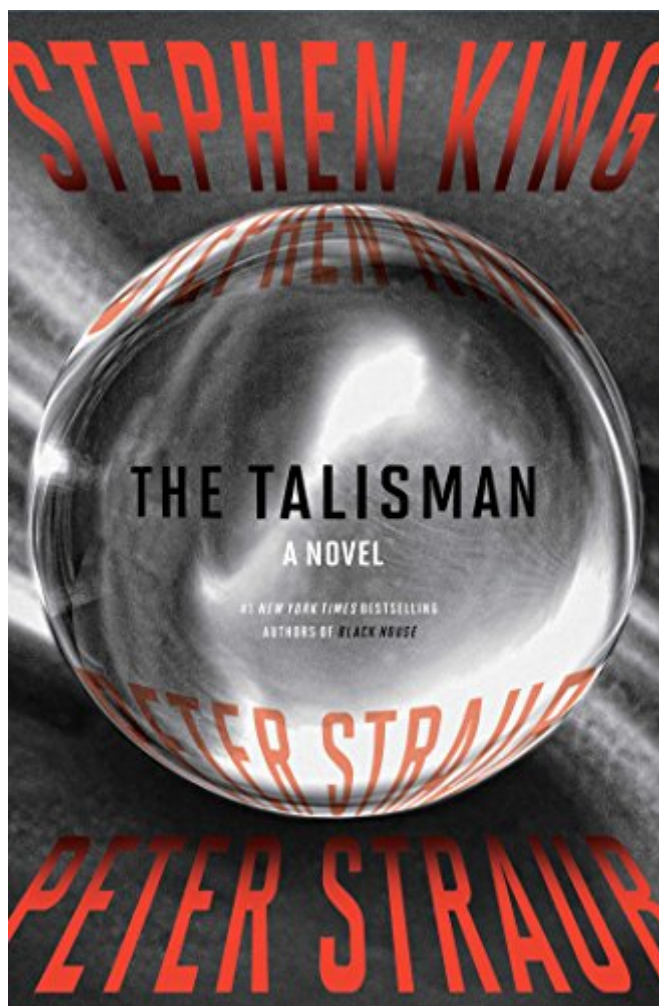


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# The Talisman: A Novel



## Synopsis

The iconic, “extraordinary” (The Washington Post) collaboration between #1 bestselling author Stephen King and Peter Straub—an epic thriller about a young boy’s quest to save his mother’s life. Why had twelve-year-old Jack Sawyer’s mother frantically moved the two of them from Rodeo Drive to a New York City apartment to the Alhambra, a fading ocean resort and shuttered amusement park in New Hampshire? Who or what is she running from? She is dying . . . and even young Jack knows she can’t outrun death. But only he can save her—for he has been chosen to search for a prize across an epic landscape of dangers and lies, a realm of innocents and monsters, where everything Jack loves is on the line.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I read the Talisman many times in my youth. It was an amazing story that was not tailored for kids, and that is what drew me to it. It does not hold your hand, nor does it sugar coat life on the road. The awesome characters are what brought me back, and I was excited to see them illustrated. The art in

this book is beautiful, and I was not disappointed with any of the character's appearances (except, maybe for Wolf). I feel like the pacing needs to be improved upon, though. The pacing in the original book was at times too slow, but I feel like it is too fast in this comic. What's worse, is I won't be able to see how the rest of the story is beautifully illustrated, because the rest of the comics were canned. Maybe, one day, they will see the folly of their ways, and revive this series.

It's a Stephen King novel -- he is a great writer and can make anything work, so it was bound to be at least "good." Notwithstanding the excellent reviews, however, this was really not his best work. It seemed overlong (and I'm used to King's long novels) and the entire story line of the "other world" just didn't resonate with me.

I read *The Talisman* back when I myself must have been about 11 or 12, like the protagonist. I always liked reading and books but this was my first introduction to Stephen King and adult books. This wasn't the mild, adventurous fantasy I grew up on, it was vibrant but darker, the stakes were higher and the threat felt more real. I always loved fantasy-quest type books and this one is probably what sparked my interest. :-)

This story of a wondrous adventure has been a treasured part of my life for some 30-odd years. I've drifted into Jack and the beloved Wolf's world many times, and what a joyful journey it is. It illustrates beautiful friendships and breathtaking adventures that leave the reader moved beyond words.

A modern and old series of adventures of an ordinary, extraordinary 12 year old boy named Jack Sawyer. He touches and saves the lives of many and will touch the life of the reader as, well. You will not be able to put this book down. His adventures will make you laugh and make you cry. The 924 pages will not only fly by, but you will finish this book wanting more. You will join Jack as he flips back and forth through different worlds in this Stephen King masterpiece of good versus evil.

While this is a creditable adaptation of the novel, each issue of the comic had material in the back that was a delightful addition to the main tale. The hardcover seems to have excluded the meat of it. While it does contain a character sketchbook, a how-to section on the art, and a partial interview with King and Straub that takes up barely a half page, it is missing sections written by Robin Furth in every issue that, frankly, I found a lot more interesting than the aforementioned filler. Her articles

gave fascinating insight into the authors, the story, the characters, etc. Marvel pulled this same nonsense with their collected editions of THE DARK TOWER, and THE STAND. The only way to get this juicy Robin Furth goodness in hardcover was to shell out \$80-100 for the OMNIBUS editions. Lame. Other than the missing stuff, I have no overall complaints.

I've read this story several times over the years. If you haven't read it yet please do! You won't be sorry at all. Stephen King and Peter Straub are the perfect match. I keep lending it out and not getting it back so this is my 4th copy. I'll try to hang on to this one but sharing a story I love is too hard to resist.

Stephen King and Peter Straub joined forces to produce this mediocre novel about young Jack Sawyer's travels through a fantastical dual-verse on a quest to save his mother's life. Along the way Jack makes some new friends, encounters some old enemies and ultimately spends a lot, and I do mean a lot of time, perambulating across the country. This book fell short of its potential and because I am a Stephen King fanboy I will blame Peter Straub. Sorry Peter.

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