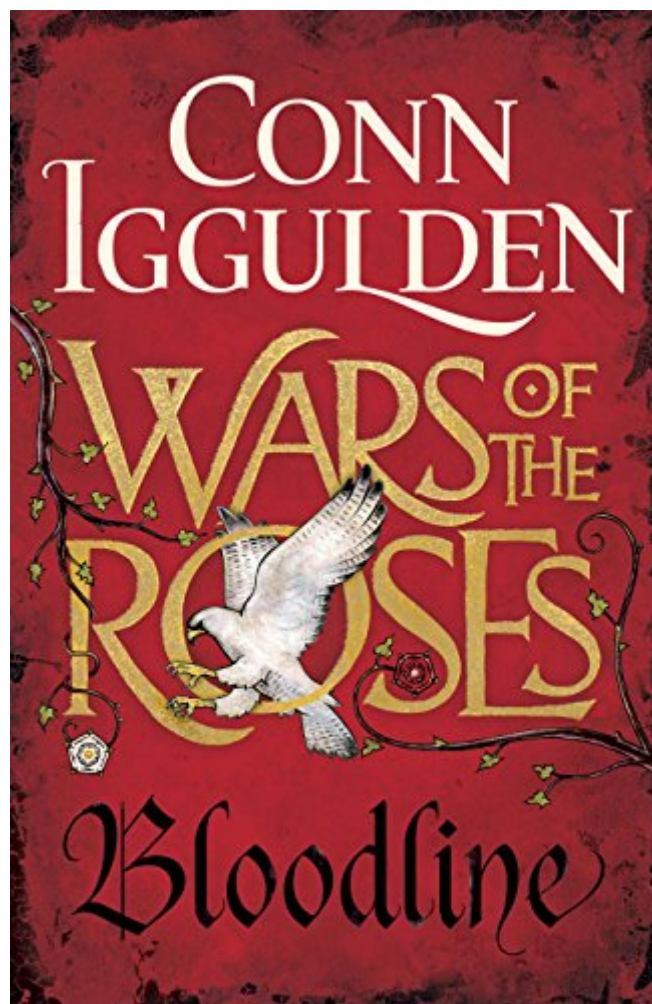


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Wars Of The Roses: Bloodline



Synopsis

The brilliant retelling of the Wars of the Roses continues with *Bloodline*, the gripping third novel in the new series from historical fiction master Conn Iggulden. **Winter 1461: Richard, duke of York, is dead—his ambitions in ruins, his head spiked on the walls of the city.** King Henry VI is still held prisoner. His Lancastrian queen, Margaret of Anjou, rides south with an army of victorious northerners, accompanied by painted warriors from the Scottish Highlands. With the death of York, Margaret and her army seem unstoppable. Yet in killing the father, Margaret has unleashed the sons. Edward of March, now duke of York, proclaims himself England's rightful king. Factions form and tear apart as snow falls. Through blood and treason, through broken men and vengeful women, brother shall confront brother, king shall face king. Two men can always claim a crown—but only one can keep it. Following Margaret of Anjou, *Bloodline* is the third epic installment in master storyteller Conn Iggulden's new Wars of the Roses series. Fans of the *Game of Thrones* and the *Tudors* series will be gripped from the word *œgo*. •From the Hardcover edition.

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Customer Reviews

In 1461 three men's heads are mounted on Micklegate Bar's entry to York Castle: Richard Neville, Earl of Salisbury; Richard, Duke of York; and Edmund, the son of Richard, Duke of York. Queen Margaret of Anjou and her husband, the weak and mentally challenged King Henry VI, have no idea what these murders have elicited from within the hearts and minds of the York clan. Richard Neville, Earl of Warwick and his brothers mourn the loss of their father by vowing unceasing vengeance on the Lancaster enemy. Edward of March, son of Richard Plantagenet, Duke of York, declares himself King and uses his grief to forge a fierce, dauntingly powerful presence in battle and an equal vow to wipe out the Lancaster forces. This third novel in this memorable series is chiefly characterized by two major battles and strategies of the York and Lancaster contenders to grasp and hold the Crown of England. While characterization is stereotypical, the plots of both sides is superbly presented and engaging (even if the reader is familiar with the course of English history in this time period). At the first battle of St. Albans, one can hardly believe that a change in strategy completely changes the tide of victory, a choice brought about by brutal winter weather. The second battle at Towton is as vividly depicted with its own breathtaking surprises. The realism of these battles is precisely conveyed by Iggulden in a way that makes the reader practically hold one's breath from the tension and suspense, from the exhaustion and ferocious killing cycles that seem to go on and on endlessly until victory is won by Edward's Yorkist troops.

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