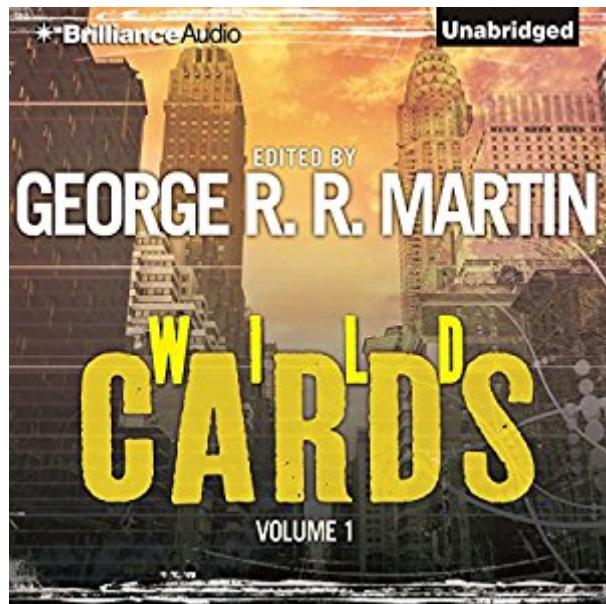


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## Wild Cards I



## **Synopsis**

In the aftermath of WWII, an alien virus struck the Earth, endowing a handful of survivors with extraordinary powers. Originally published in 1987, the newly expanded saga contains additional original stories by eminent writers.

## **Book Information**

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 18 hoursÂ andÂ 59 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Brilliance Audio

Audible.com Release Date: November 8, 2011

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

ASIN: B0064I1AAQ

Best Sellers Rank: #2 inÂ Books > Audible Audiobooks > Science Fiction > Anthologies & Short Stories #22 inÂ Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy > Anthologies #24 inÂ Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Science Fiction > Anthologies

## **Customer Reviews**

I got into the series because I am a fan of George R.R. Martin. Originally I thought the Wild Card series would be a collection of short stories done by various authors, Boy was I wrong. The Wild Card series takes place just after world war 2. A deadly virus, The Wild Card virus, arrives from an alien planet and naturally we fail to contain it and it's released over New York city. It kills thousands and those it doesn't kill, It transforms. There are aces with end up with Superman like powers and there are jokers, Nasty looking creatures who are often treated like trash. There are other classifications but those are the main ones in this book. Anyways, Wild Cards 1 tells us the story of how people deal with the virus and how it effects the world around them. Personally, I think it's a fantastic book. Highly original and written by a great team of authors, Including George R.R. Martin himself. I would highly recommend it, Especially if you are a fan of George R.R. Martin or a fan of science fiction in general. Mind you though it's incredibly different from the Song of Ice and Fire series but it's just as great.

My son picked out this book as he'd read all the books we have and hadn't read for awhile. I told

him he needed to find something interesting so he could get busy reading like he used to. He loves this book. The stories are set in post world war II. There are many short stories written by many great authors including The Game of Thrones creator George R.R. Martin. It's a wonderful book for those of us who have a difficult time putting a good book down as you can choose to stop after each story. I'm so happy to see him addicted to another series. There are twelve books in the original series and three from Baen Books and 2 from ibooks inc. Should keep him busy for a bit. :)

This is the first book in a shared universe series where normal humans have been infected by an extra-terrestrial virus. The virus was designed to give the aliens super powers but still had some "bugs" in the process so they decided to test it on humans because we were biologically similar. Not quite sure how that works... :-) Anyway, one of the aliens tried to stop it but in true human fashion we messed that up. I won't go into any other details but the series is essentially several short stories that occur in the same shared world. Many excellent authors line the pages of the books and they are edited by George R. R. Martin. He has a few stories in there as well. The over all tone is kind of dark with spots of hopeful light shining through. This book starts us off and it's an interesting ride through the series, which has been picked up for television by Universal Cable Productions (UCP). I highly recommend the series, its not so much a superhero story as it is stories about people in all walks of life that happen to have super powers.

I hadn't heard about this series until I found out it is going to be an hbo show. Decided to try it out before it comes on t.v. This book is truly unlike anything else I've ever read. I was captivated from the very beginning. Don't be misled of you like George R. r. Martin because it is not like Game of Thrones. If you like comics and super heroes, this will appeal to you, but in a very different way. It's hard to explain, so just give it a shot and hopefully you'll be surprised like I was.

Wild Cards is a good book. Its not great but its good. There are some chapters where your counting the pages till it ends and others where you're left craving more. The Sleeper is one of my favorite parts of the book. He has one POV chapter and then he pops up or is mentioned in at least five or six chapters after that briefly. My favorite chapter is Comes a Hunter. Its one of the best in the book.

I read Wild Cards the week it was released in paperback. I probably read it five more times until the paperback fell apart - or more likely my son absconded with it when he went to college. And it had been out of print for a long time.I requested that the publisher put out a Kindle edition and was

thrilled when it showed up. Better than showed up as, apparently, the original work had some revision done before the release. Not having read it for more than a decade, I can't really spot what was added, deleted, modified. But I enjoyed it as much as I ever did on any previous read. And, the subsequent Wild Card novels are starting to appear for Kindle too. I have my work cut out for me! If you are new to the Wild Cards saga - this is the place to start. The later books in the series read like novels rather than a collection of short stories. But this is the place to learn the history of the WC universe and meet the characters that shaped it.

Certainly Wild Cards is an interesting world, with intriguing characters to spare. But that's also a weakness. The stories are short, often too short, and I felt overwhelmed sometimes with the sheer number of new characters I had to become familiar with, as each story almost always introduced a handful more. The stories where key, recurring characters are featured are where this book shines. It's also an often depressing, too realistic style for my taste. George RR Martin's influence is definitely present. Overall, interesting and worth a read.

These are a collection of stories by different authors about a central theme - an alien bio warfare caused when their ship crashed. It causes mutations in human, some good some bad. The stories tell about the experiences of the victims and how they deal with this new life after their change and how their friends, family, etc. react to them and how they think of themselves. Although there's a not too subtle message here, it still makes for a good read.

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