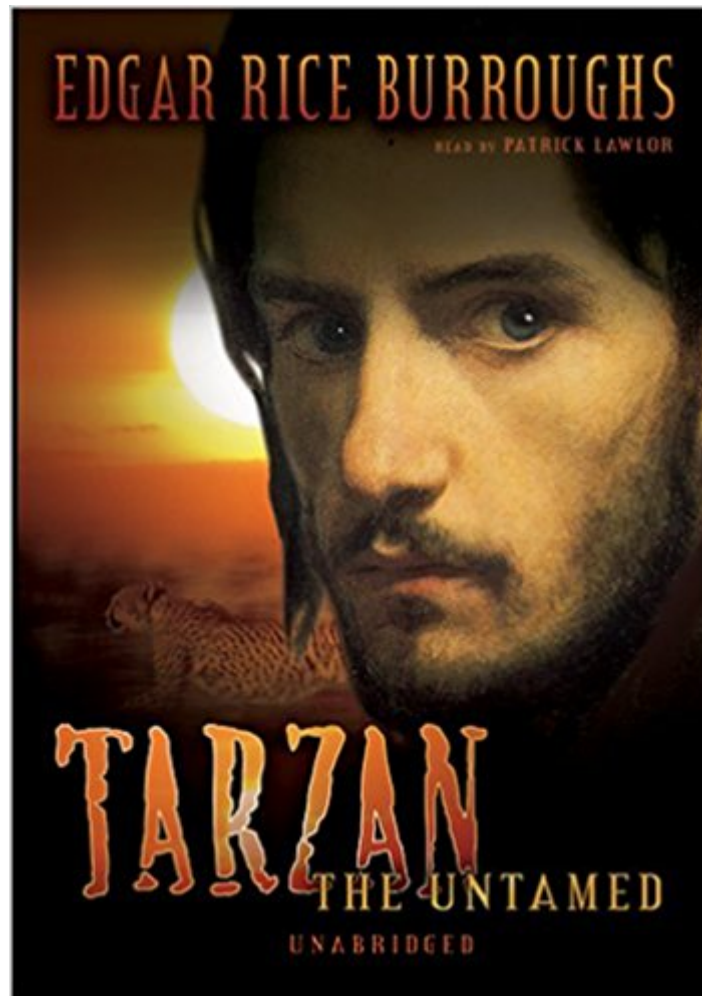




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Tarzan The Untamed



Synopsis

Here is the continuing adventure of one of fiction's most dramatic heroes, Tarzan the ape-man. In this new episode, Tarzan has given up his jungle ways and is living contentedly on a farm with his beloved wife, Jane, as a wealthy member of British nobility. But when he returns one day from a trip to Nairobi, he finds his farm has been laid to waste by German troops--with no one left alive. In grief and rage, he casts off the veneer of civilization to become once again the primitive ape-man, ranging the country in search of those who killed his mate to mete out the vengeance of the jungle. Never has master storyteller Edgar Rice Burroughs so skillfully shown the struggles within the breast of his ape-man hero who, through dozens of adventures and hair-breadth escapes, tracks down his enemies and triumphs in a crashing, action-packed climax.

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Customer Reviews

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With the speed of the great apes, Tarzan rushed through the jungle toward his home and family. But he was already too late. The marauders had been there before him. His farm was in shambles and no one was left alive. Of his beloved wife there was only a charred, blackened corpse, still wearing the rings he had given her. Silently, he buried the body and swore his terrible vengeance against those who had done this terrible deed. Then he set out grimly to track them . . . through warring

armies . . . across a vast desert that no man had ever crossed . . . and to a strange valley where only madmen lived. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Tarzan the Untamed was published in 1920 and against his publishers wishes Edgar Rice Burroughs got a bit political and involved Tarzan in World War I. Ironically WW I ended in 1918 lasting less than 4 years so the book was already a tad out of date. The book is a bit of wish fulfillment as Tarzan does a number on the German's helping the Brits. In actuality although the German's lost the war they trounced the British in Africa. At the start of the book Tarzan returns to his African estate to find it burned to the ground with an unrecognizably burned female body bearing Jane's jewelry and evidence that German's were to blame. Tarzan sets off to wage a one man war against the German army. There are some neat parts of the book but the flow fails. Very early in the book Tarzan manages to exact revenge on the commanders he blames for his wife's death so that problem is solved. There is a long section where Tarzan captures a Lion and places leather bags over its head and paws and trains it to obey. Later he releases it on a group of Germans and the Lion is forgotten about. The payoff wasn't worth the effort. In another part Tarzan makes his way through a desolate part of Africa. He nearly dies from fatigue and thirst but in a move that appears to have later been stolen by the 1982 Conan the Barbarian movie Tarzan feigns death until a buzzard lands on him whereupon he kills the buzzard to sustain him. It's all pretty cool but in the end Tarzan inexplicably ends up where he started making the whole exercise pointless. In my opinion the publisher was correct in advising against politicizing Tarzan. There is a comic cover of an adaptation of the story with Tarzan firing a huge Gatling gun. It just doesn't look right. Burroughs also repeats himself with Tarzan's estate being destroyed and Jane taken with the exact same thing happening just two books prior. Tarzan becomes embroiled with a beautiful German spy named Bertha Kircher whom he despises because she's German but protects because she's a lovely woman. This leads to what I call the Jane problem. At one point Burroughs wanted to kill off Jane but his publisher pushed back. It's clear that Burroughs wanted Tarzan to engage in romances but he's always stopped by the existence of Jane. Even a possibly dead Jane kills any possible relation with Kircher since the whole motivation of Tarzan is revenge and to hook up with a new woman, particularly a German woman involved with the people who possibly killed his wife seems incredibly tacky. Halfway through the book Tarzan comes across one of the first of many lost cities he will discover. In the city of Xuju the residents revere parrots and use Lions as pets. Oh, and they are also all maniacs. I'm talking stark raving lunatics with bulging eyes and homicidal tendencies including randomly killing children. However, they are able to maintain a well-organized city in the

midst of a very harsh environment. If you're thinking that makes no sense you're correct. Once Tarzan, Bertha and a British pilot named Harold Percy Smith-Oldwick arrive at Xuju this already rather disorganized story just falls apart. The ending also makes little sense as Bertha's true identity is revealed. This is not the worst Tarzan book I've read but it's far from the best. At least Tarzan himself is handled well in the book even if the plot doesn't support the character.

The beginning abruptly pulls in the reader with a shocking premise that gives cause for Tarzan's choice to return to his wild beginnings and abandonment of all the trappings of civilization. True to Burroughs's style, the background is as much a character as the humans in the story and the action is fast paced as the reader is pulled into unknown territories full of danger and personal self exploration. It's a great for diehard Tarzan fans.

Fantastic story. German soldiers invade West Africa and burn Tarzan's homestead while he is away, killing several Waziri guards and, Tarzan assumes, killing Jane. He buries the charred body that wears Jane's rings, then heads for the war in East Africa to exact revenge. The most memorable scene takes place on the East Africa front of World War I. Tarzan uses up a German machine gun and starving lion to clear out German trenches in World War I. When the British troops, from across No Man's Land, see the enemy scrambling out of the trench and Tarzan standing above them with the gun, they let out a yell and attack. It's a scene ready-made for movies, though I can't remember ever seeing it in a movie. Tarzan thinks he's getting soft, like a woman, when he renders assistance to a woman he considers a German spy. In the end, he learns the truth about the woman. The end leaves the reader hanging. The story continues in "Tarzan the Triumphant".

I do not know how Burroughs` does it, but he does! What a marvelously well written book! I have been reading Edgar R. Burroughs novels now for the past couple months. Starting from the barsoom books (which happens to be my favorite work of his) and now to the Tarzan books (which are equally well written). I just can not put his books down! In this adventure the story starts off with something happening to Jane. Believing that she is dead, Tarzan goes on a one man wreaking machine of vengeance. He then decides to live out the rest of his life alone back in his father's cabin. He then sets off to his father's cabin, when the journey/adventure really takes off... is Jane dead? Does Tarzan make it to his father's cabin? So many questions, you just have to read the book to figure out the rest. It is well worth it. Oh, did I mention that he takes on an entire legion of German soldiers? And that's just the beginning of the book! Enjoy.

Book in Great Condition

very good

This is one of the series of the Tarzan books written by this prolific author. The book is written in an easily readable style, and makes enjoyable pleasant, light reading. The author is writing at the beginning of the 20th century, when much of the African continent was unknown. It is interesting to follow the workings of his mind, as he creates a series of interesting and unique civilizations for Tarzan and the reader to explore. As part of the format, one knows that our hero will find himself in mortal peril, but will predictably always escape, allowing us to look forward to the next book in the series.

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