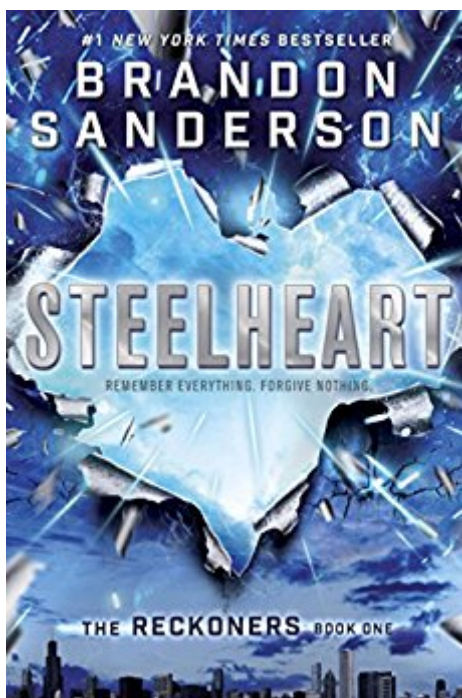


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Steelheart (Reckoners Book 1)



Synopsis

The #1 New York Times bestseller that James Dashner called "fantastic" with "relentless" suspense and an "explosive" climax from Brandon Sanderson, the #1 New York Times bestselling author of *Words of Radiance*, coauthor of Robert Jordan's *The Wheel of Time* series, and creator of the internationally bestselling *Mistborn* trilogy. And don't miss the rest of the *Reckoners* series: *Firefight* and *Calamity*. How far would you go for revenge if someone killed your father? If someone destroyed your city? If everything you ever loved was taken from you? David Charleston will go to any lengths to stop Steelheart. But to exact revenge in Steelheart's world, David will need the Reckoners—a shadowy group of rebels bent on maintaining justice. And it turns out that the Reckoners might just need David too. Look for book two in the *Reckoners* series, *Firefight*, available now.

Praise for the *Reckoners* series #1 New York Times Bestselling Series "The suspense is relentless and the climax explosive." —James Dashner, #1 New York Times bestselling author of the *Maze Runner* series "Another win for Sanderson . . . he's simply a brilliant writer. Period." —Patrick Rothfuss, author of the New York Times and USA Today bestseller *The Name of the Wind* "Action-packed." —EW.com "Compelling. . . . Sanderson uses plot twists that he teases enough for readers to pick up on to distract from the more dramatic reveals he has in store." —The A.V. Club

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Customer Reviews

Brandon Sanderson takes the superhero genre and turns it on its head in this YA series. Thanks to an unknown cosmic event referred to as just "Calamity" super powered individuals now rule the earth. And they're all villains. David was a young boy when his father was killed by Steelheart, one of the strongest Epics that world has ever seen. Ten years later and David teams up with the Reckoners, who specialize in one thing: killing Epics. It's a fast paced story with plenty of twists and turns to keep your attention focused and your imagination guessing.

This book was AWESOME!!! But nothing less than what I'd expect from Brandon Sanderson. Just, he is amazing at genres other than epic fantasy. In fact, I think writing action is one of his strengths. OK, so yes this book is heavy on action, but not in an annoying or overwhelming way. It's intense, but not too intense. It's actually a really fun read. I had a hard time putting it down. And it has some great language. So great characters, good worldbuilding. The world could have been a bit more explained, but at the same time, the main character didn't know why it was like that, just that it was, so it lends credibility for the reader to not know either. I really love how this book takes all superhero tropes and COMPLETELY turns them UPSIDE DOWN. You go in expecting one thing and it's something completely different. One thing I really loved about David the main character was his competence. He is just a perfectly ordinary guy, but he has devoted his life to studying epics and so he knows things. He is not the typical Oh Woe Is Me, how'd I get caught up in this mess character. He put himself in this mess and he GETS THINGS DONE! He's great and I didn't realize incompetence in a main character annoyed me, until I read this book and saw how great it was to have such a good at his job main character. Anyway, the plot was also great. Everything about this book was great. I loved how all the unnecessary parts were cut. This book was just so tight. Like the editing and construction of this book were perfect. And the ending was AH-MAZ-ING. I loved the ending. All the little questions were answered/explained. In short, read this book. It's awesome. I'm so glad my mediocre book streak was broken. This book is great. I can't wait for the sequel. Brandon Sanderson, you are my hero, lol.

Another great take on the fantasy genre, Brandon Sanderson once again subverts our expectations. A mysterious comet lights up the sky, and one year later people all over the world gain strange new powers. Sounds like a cliched superhero book, right? How about the fact that there are no superheroes? What makes this book so original is that nobody who gains powers becomes a superhero. There are only supervillains, and they very quickly take over the world and rule their fiefdoms with iron fists. Enter the Reckoners, a group of humans fighting back against their god-like overlords, hunting them down and assassinating them one by one. Enter David, a young man with a dubious grasp of the metaphor, who just so happens to be the one person who has seen Steelheart, the mightiest of the Epics, bleed. As usual, Sanderson does not go with the boring route of having the hero just be super special or a prodigy, or anything like that. He's just an ordinary man fighting extraordinary and sometimes invincible beings. What makes the book so good is that the Reckoners never kill the Epics by being stronger than them, but by identifying a small weakness and ruthlessly exploiting it. The character development is well crafted and each member of the Reckoners is believable as a person, with their own quirks and views on life, and even those who question the justification of assassinating one of the few epics who runs a stable, secure city. There were a few twists in this book, and while one of them I could see coming from a fair distance, there were others that came as a complete surprise, although looking back at it Sanderson did do an excellent job foreshadowing it. Unlike his other books, this is marketed towards young adults, and it is not part of the Cosmere, but the quality of writing remains consistently high, and it is certainly worth reading (and re-reading).

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