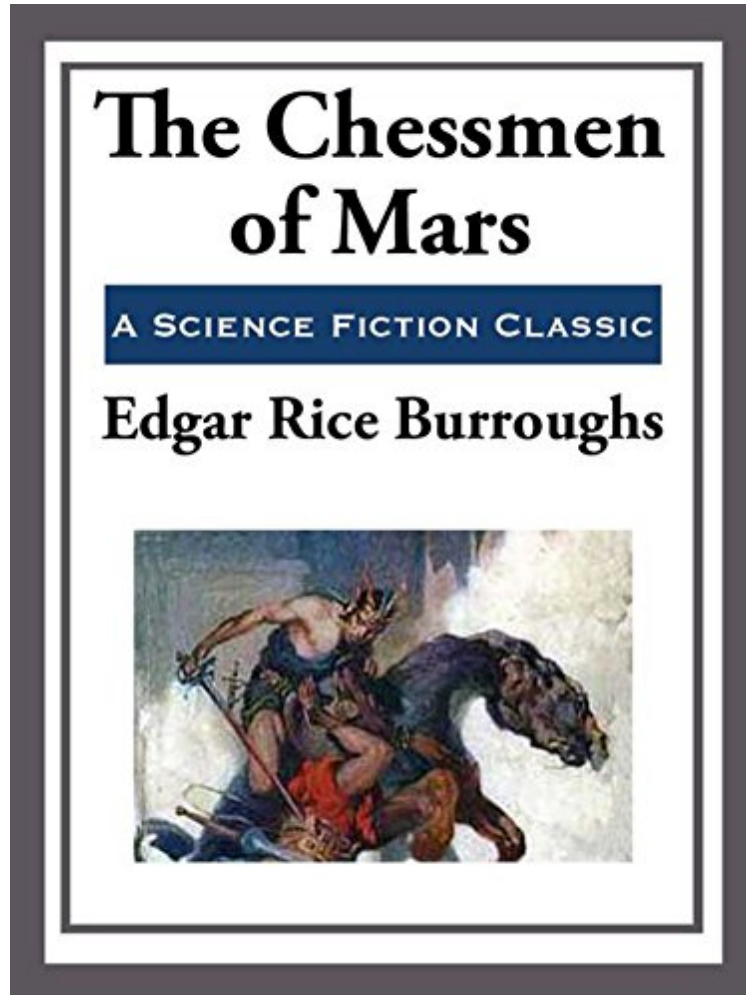


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The Chessmen of Mars (Barsoom Series Book 5) (English Edition)

Von Edgar Rice Burroughs

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Von Edgar Rice Burroughs : The Chessmen of Mars (Barsoom Series Book 5) (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Chessmen of Mars (Barsoom Series Book 5) (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Burroughs' Best Martian TaleVon George R DekleConventional wisdom has it that the first three books of Burroughs' Martian series, "A Princess of Mars," "The Gods of Mars," and "The Warlord of Mars" form an excellent trilogy and all the rest of the Martian tales are quite poorly done in comparison. I disagree.I will cite two examples as to why "Chessmen" is Burroughs' best work in this series.[1] You can hardly conceive of a more ghastly creature than a spider-being who lives as a parasite on headless human bodies, but that is a perfect description of Ghek the Kaldane, one of the central figures of the book. Burroughs takes this repulsive monstrosity and makes him such a loveable character

that you cannot help but like him.[2] Burroughs not only wrote a good yarn, he wrapped his tale around a striking boardgame that he had invented--jetan, or Martian chess.It's no real trick to invent a chess variant. There are thousands of them, and most of them are rubbish. What is so singular about jetan is that it is a good chess variant. I read "Chessmen" as a child, and after reading it, the first thing I had to do was make a jetan set and play the game. I whiled away several enjoyable hours with the game. John Gollon, a noted authority on chess variants, had a similar experience when he was writing "Chess Variations." He thought he'd include a chapter on jetan for some comic relief, so he made a jetan set and played a few games. He found jetan "quite good--very playable and interesting." He then pronounced jetan "not a mere novelty, but ... a respectable game."These two singular achievements (Ghek jetan) are not the only details that make "Chessmen" so enjoyable. Gahan of Gathol (aka Turan the Panthan) makes for a satisfying hero, and Tara of Helium fills the bill quite nicely for a damsel in distress.The heroes are noble, the villains are wicked, the cause is just, and the action is nonstop. Great escapist reading.0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Grand adventure with Tara, Gahan and Ghek on ERB's MarsVon Michael MorrowFifth book in the series of eleven, Chessmen of Mars paints three main characters: Tara (daughter of John Carter of Mars), Gahan (Jed of Gathol, disguised as Turan the panthan), and Ghek the Kaldane (a man-like creature). It was written in 1922, but in 1996 a Kaldane action figure along with other Mars, Pellucidor and Tarzan action figures came on the market associated with Tarzan, the Epic Adventures, etc. I enjoyed the character of Ghek the Kaldane so much during my college years that I have used it as my nickname and handle in the modern world since 1981. Storyline: Carried away in a great storm, Tara is lost on Mars with but a slim dagger to guard herself...only to fall into the hands of the strange Kaldanes who happen to consider human flesh a delicacy (when nicely fattened up, of course). Also visited is Manator, where the dead are preserved as lifelike statues and where Jetan (Martian chess - rules for play are included in the book) is played with living warriors contesting for possession of a square when a move is made. George Lucas admits that 1/3 of the inspiration for Star Wars came from the Books of ERB, especially the Mars series and in Robert A. Heinlein's "The Glory Road", Oscar, the main character wished several times for the hurtling moons of (ERB's) Mars...read for yourself the books that inspired them. Love, romance, adventure, action and strange cultures are all waiting for you.0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Burroughs' Best Martian TaleVon George R. DekleConventional wisdom has it that the first three books of Burroughs' Martian series, "A Princess of Mars," "The Gods of Mars," and "The Warlord of Mars" form an excellent trilogy and all the rest of the Martian tales are quite poorly done in comparison. I disagree.I will cite two examples as to why "Chessmen" is Burroughs' best work in this series.[1] You can hardly conceive of a more ghastly creature than a spider-being who lives as a parasite on headless human bodies, but that is a perfect description of Ghek the Kaldane, one of the central figures of the book. Burroughs takes this repulsive monstrosity and makes him such a loveable character that you cannot help but like him.[2] Burroughs not only wrote a good yarn, he wrapped his tale around a striking boardgame that he had invented--jetan, or Martian chess.It's no real trick to invent a chess variant. There are thousands of them, and most of them are rubbish. What is so singular about jetan is that it is a good chess variant. I read "Chessmen" as a child, and after reading it, the first thing I had to do was make a jetan set and play the game. I whiled away several enjoyable hours with the game. John Gollon, a noted authority on chess variants, had a similar experience when he was writing "Chess Variations." He thought he'd include a chapter on jetan for some comic relief, so he made a jetan set and played a few games. He found jetan "quite good--very playable and interesting." He then pronounced jetan "not a mere novelty, but ... a respectable game."These two singular achievements (Ghek jetan) are not the only details that make "Chessmen" so enjoyable. Gahan of Gathol (aka Turan the Panthan) makes for a satisfying hero, and Tara of Helium fills the bill quite nicely for a damsel in distress.The heroes are noble, the villains are wicked, the cause is just, and the action is nonstop. Great escapist reading.

KurzbeschreibungThe Chessmen of Mars is the fifth novel in Edgar Rice Burroughs' amazing Barsoom series. John Carter's daughter, Tara, and her glider are lost in a storm. Gahan, a young noble man who is in love with Tara, must race into the storm if he is to have any hope of saving her. This edition has a new introduction by World Fantasy Award winner Darrell Schweitzer. Schweitzer, the former Editor of Weird Tales and a pre-eminent scholar of fantastic fiction, places the Barsoom novels in their proper context. These novels will transport you to a lush Mars that never was. A Mars filled with strange and wonderful flora and fauna; giants and monsters; and, most importantly, maidens in distress and fabulous adventures.**Kurzbeschreibung**The Chessmen of Mars is the fifth novel in Edgar Rice Burroughs' amazing Barsoom series. John Carter's daughter, Tara, and her glider are lost in a storm. Gahan, a young noble man who is in love with Tara, must race into the storm if he is to have any hope of saving her. This edition has a new introduction by World Fantasy Award winner Darrell Schweitzer. Schweitzer, the former Editor of Weird Tales and a pre-eminent scholar of fantastic fiction, places the Barsoom novels in their proper context. These novels will transport you to a lush Mars that never was. A Mars filled with strange and wonderful flora and fauna; giants and monsters; and, most importantly, maidens in distress and fabulous adventures.**Synopsis** John Carter's daughter rejects her suitor

Gahan, who pursues her to the land of the Manatorians, experts in Martian chess. There Gahan plays the game to fight for the woman he loves.