



# Fall of Giants (The Century Trilogy, Book 1)

By Ken Follett

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**Fall of Giants (The Century Trilogy, Book 1)** By Ken Follett

**Ken Follett's magnificent new historical epic begins as five interrelated families move through the momentous dramas of the First World War, the Russian Revolution, and the struggle for women's suffrage.**

A thirteen-year-old Welsh boy enters a man's world in the mining pits. . . . An American law student rejected in love finds a surprising new career in Woodrow Wilson's White House. . . . A housekeeper for the aristocratic Fitzherberts takes a fateful step above her station, while Lady Maud Fitzherbert herself crosses deep into forbidden territory when she falls in love with a German spy. . . . And two orphaned Russian brothers embark on radically different paths when their plan to emigrate to America falls afoul of war, conscription, and revolution.

From the dirt and danger of a coal mine to the glittering chandeliers of a palace, from the corridors of power to the bedrooms of the mighty, *Fall of Giants* takes us into the inextricably entangled fates of five families—and into a century that we thought we knew, but that now will never seem the same again. . . .

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## **Fall of Giants (The Century Trilogy, Book 1) By Ken Follett Bibliography**

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### Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

**Amazon Best of the Month, September 2010:** Welcome to the 20th century as you've never seen it. At over 1,000 pages, *Fall of Giants* delivers all the elements that fans of Ken Follett have come to treasure: historical accuracy, richly developed characters, and a sweeping yet intimate portrait of a past world that you'll fully inhabit before the first chapter is through. The story follows five families across the globe as their fates intertwine with the extraordinary events of World War I, the political struggles within their own countries, and the rise of the feminist movement. Intriguing stories of love and loyalty abound, from a forbidden romance between a German spy and a British aristocrat to a Russian soldier and his scandal-ridden brother in love with the same woman. Action-packed with blood on the battlefield and conspiracies behind closed doors, *Fall of Giants* brings the nuances of each character to life and shifts easily from dirty coal mines to sparkling palaces. There is so much to love here, and the good news is the end is just the beginning: *Fall of Giants* is the first in a planned trilogy. --*Miriam Landis*

From Publishers Weekly

Using characters from different countries—Russia, Wales, England, the U.S., and Germany—and from different classes, Follett's first book in the Century trilogy provides a compelling mesh of interactions that push the story forward and allow a panoramic view of WWI's burden on five families. With over 30 hours, this audiobook would be a challenge for any narrator, but John Lee proves a solid and engaging choice. His deep voice moves through the prose smoothly and forcefully; he manipulates his tone, emphasis, and accent to develop vocal personas for the extensive cast of characters, and keeps a solid pace through the dialogue. It's a marathon performance of a mammoth book that will leave listeners eagerly anticipating the next installment. A Dutton hardcover. (Sept.)

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From [Booklist](#)

After a sequence of spy thrillers, Follett burst onto the historical fiction scene in 1989 with the megahit *The Pillars of the Earth*, set in twelfth-century England, and nearly two decades later (having written many other novels in the meantime), he followed with a sequel, *World without End*. His new book inaugurates what is to be a trio of historical novels (called the Century Trilogy), and it duplicates in structure the two novels mentioned above: showcasing the lives of five families from all walks of life and involved in various ways with the issues of the day from the outbreak of WWI to the early 1920s and reflecting these issues over a broad geographical range, the families here being from Britain, the U.S., Russia, and Germany. The social range of this big, sweeping, completely enveloping novel is announced in the very first line: "On the day King George V was crowned at Westminster Abbey in London, Billy Williams went down the pit in Aberowen, Wales." Actual historical figures populate the narrative along with fictional characters, all of whom experience in different ways war, revolution, and the fight for women's rights. --Brad Hooper

### Users Review

**From reader reviews:**

**Phyllis Baudoin:**

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**Monica Ceja:**

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**Tara Thornton:**

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**Brooke Lambeth:**

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