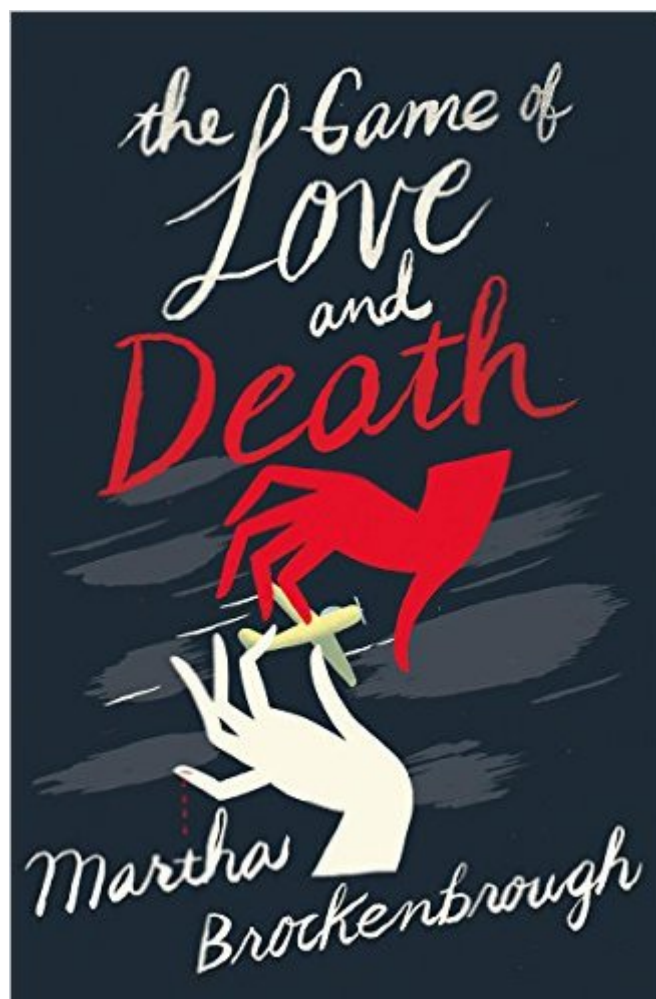


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# The Game Of Love And Death



## Synopsis

Flora and Henry were born a few blocks from each other, innocent of the forces that might keep a white boy and an African American girl apart; years later they meet again and their mutual love of music sparks an even more powerful connection. But what Flora and Henry don't know is that they are pawns in a game played by the eternal adversaries Love and Death, here brilliantly reimagined as two extremely sympathetic and fascinating characters. Can their hearts and their wills overcome not only their earthly circumstances, but forces that have battled throughout history? In the rainy Seattle of the 1920's, romance blooms among the jazz clubs, the mansions of the wealthy, and the shanty towns of the poor. But what is more powerful: love? Or death?

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (54 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #152,414 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #86 in [Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > United States > 20th Century](#) #219 in [Books > Teens > Romance > Historical](#) #307 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Fiction](#)

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

I just finished Martha Brockenbrough's brilliant novel, THE GAME OF LOVE AND DEATH. It's all I hoped it would be and rightfully deserves every starred review. The characters are all players, though only Love and Death know the high-stakes game to begin with. We meet Love and Death as they choose the male and female infants who will grow up to play their haunting Game. Love chooses Henry Bishop. Death chooses Flora Saudade. The players come from different races, different classes, different sides of town. On the surface Flora and Henry are opposites, yet as we come to know them, we see beyond all surfaces to the music that runs through their veins, the strong temperaments that set them apart, that make them bound to meet and catch fire. The plot

sizzles with many unexpected twists and turns, but the twists all come from within the characters themselves, from Love, Death, Flora, Henry and from those closest to them who are also burned by the Game. And it's the character twists that drive the novel to breathtaking heights and depths that make you hold your breath as you turn pages, and barely let it out again. I've only whispered hints about the plot in THE GAME OF LOVE AND DEATH because you must play the Game whose characters make and break the rules. Clever. Heartbreaking. Memorable. Read and experience this masterful work by Martha Brockenbrough.

This book is as unexpected, engaging and original as any book I've ever read, and I recommend it for adults as much as for teens. There's romance without a shred of predictability. There's a supernatural drama that becomes entirely believable. There's real history. There's relevant social commentary. There's music, war, airplanes, shanty towns and characters that we don't see enough in books. And all of this wrapped up tightly, beautifully, and smartly in a story that's just plain great.

The Game of Love & Death was truly unusual. For fans of The Night Circus, this might be one for you to check out! The plot line was intense, and kept me guessing throughout the entire story. I was a bit frustrated by the character development, and the ending of the story seemed a bit out of control. Martha Brockenbrough did an excellent job creating a story that hadn't been told before, but I'm not sure I fell in love with this. It was somewhat addicting to read, but left me feeling a bit uncomfortable and off. I didn't love it, and it was a strange book overall. The writing was good, and again I was impressed by the idea but felt like it was just a bit too strange for my taste. I was surprised that it came up as a "recommended for you" because I typically read more light hearted material. I think this could have been excellent, but the details were lacking!

This book! What a delicious page-turner, filled with jazz and characters to love (die) for. The prose is lush, laced with sharp witticisms in just the right mix. The game played by Love and Death, and the romance between Flora and Henry, drew me in and had me by the throat through a heart-pounding climax! I'd recommend this book to anyone who enjoys a thrilling love story, especially if they're a fan of Maggie Stiefvater, Laini Taylor, or Laura Ruby.

I really love this book right from the start you're pulled in and you're able to feel the 1920's and 30s for how times were. The premise of the book really makes you wonder as you see whom you would choose by love or death. This book really challenges the reader to consider the love in their life.

or the death in there life. In the book we see different forms of death besides the idea of some just dying but how we oddly allow and invite death through thoughts such I as I can't do, this won't happen, etc never really giving life a chance. And we see how easily love is over looked when we are faced with differences. Overall is fun to see the transformation of love and death and Flora and Henry this book is very action packed and a very few slow parts we even get to see times in history of the 30s play out recreated. This is a tear jerker as well however it will make you value what you have and if you have nothing it will inspire to look inside of yourself and see if your playing the game till time runs out or living a life you were made to grow and love in.

Honestly this book just bothered me - it was clear it could have been great, but something went wrong with the writing process. The secondary characters and storylines were far more interesting than our heroes. The side characters of Love and Death could have been fascinating but weren't fully explored, and Henry's best friend Ethan had an interesting story arc but was only a secondary character. Henry and Flora were supposed to be our romantic main couple, but they seemed like a jumbled mass of character traits/interests which kept pulling me out of the story and to me were rather unbelievable given the time period this was supposed to have been set in, In terms of a romance, there was really no chemistry between Henry and Flora, there was a lot more chemistry between other characters. There was essentially no action of any kind, and even when important things happened, they tended to happen offscreen. In summary, four stars for concept, one star for execution.

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