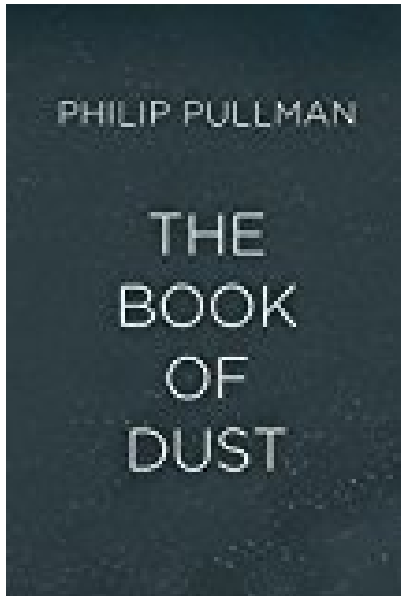


# The Book of Dust Volume 1

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## BOOK DETAILS

- Author : Philip Pullman
- Pages : 416 Pages
- Publisher : Knopf Books for Young Readers
- Language : English
- ISBN : 0375815309

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## BOOK SYNOPSIS

The much-anticipated new work from the author of *The Golden Compass* is coming at last! Renowned storyteller Philip Pullman returns to the parallel world of Lyra Belacqua and *His Dark Materials* for a thrilling and epic adventure in which daemons, alethiometers, and the Magisterium all play a part. The *Book of Dust* will be a work in three parts, like *His Dark Materials* (*The Golden Compass*, *The Subtle Knife*, *The Amber Spyglass*). The title and cover of this first story will remain under wraps until a later date, but it can be revealed that the book is set ten years before *The Golden Compass* and centers on the much-loved character Lyra and her daemon Pantalaimon. Philip Pullman offers these tantalizing details: "I've always wanted to tell the story of how Lyra came to be living at Jordan College, and in thinking about it, I discovered a long story that began when she was a baby and will end when she's grown up. This volume and the next will cover two parts of Lyra's life: starting at the beginning of her story and returning to her twenty years later. As for the third and final part, my lips are sealed. "So, second: is it a prequel? Is it a sequel? It's neither. In fact, *The Book of Dust* is . . . an 'equel'. It doesn't stand before or after *His Dark Materials*, but beside it. It's a different story, but there are settings that readers of *His Dark Materials* will recognize, and characters they've met before. Also, of course, there are some characters who are new to us, including an ordinary boy (a boy we have glimpsed in an earlier part of Lyra's story, if we were paying attention) who, with Lyra, is caught up in a terrifying adventure that takes him into a new world. "Third: why return to Lyra's world? Dust. Questions about that mysterious and troubling substance were already causing strife ten years before *His Dark Materials*, and at the center of *The Book of Dust* is the struggle between a despotic and totalitarian organization, which wants to stifle speculation and inquiry, and those who believe thought and speech should be free. The idea of Dust suffused *His Dark Materials*. Little by little through that story the idea of what Dust was became clearer and clearer, but I always wanted to return to it and discover more." The books of the *His Dark Materials* trilogy were showered with praise, and the *Cincinnati Enquirer* proclaimed, "Pullman has created the last great fantasy masterpiece of the twentieth century." With *The Book of Dust*, Philip Pullman embarks on an equally grand adventure, sure to be hailed as the first great fantasy masterpiece of the twenty-first century.

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