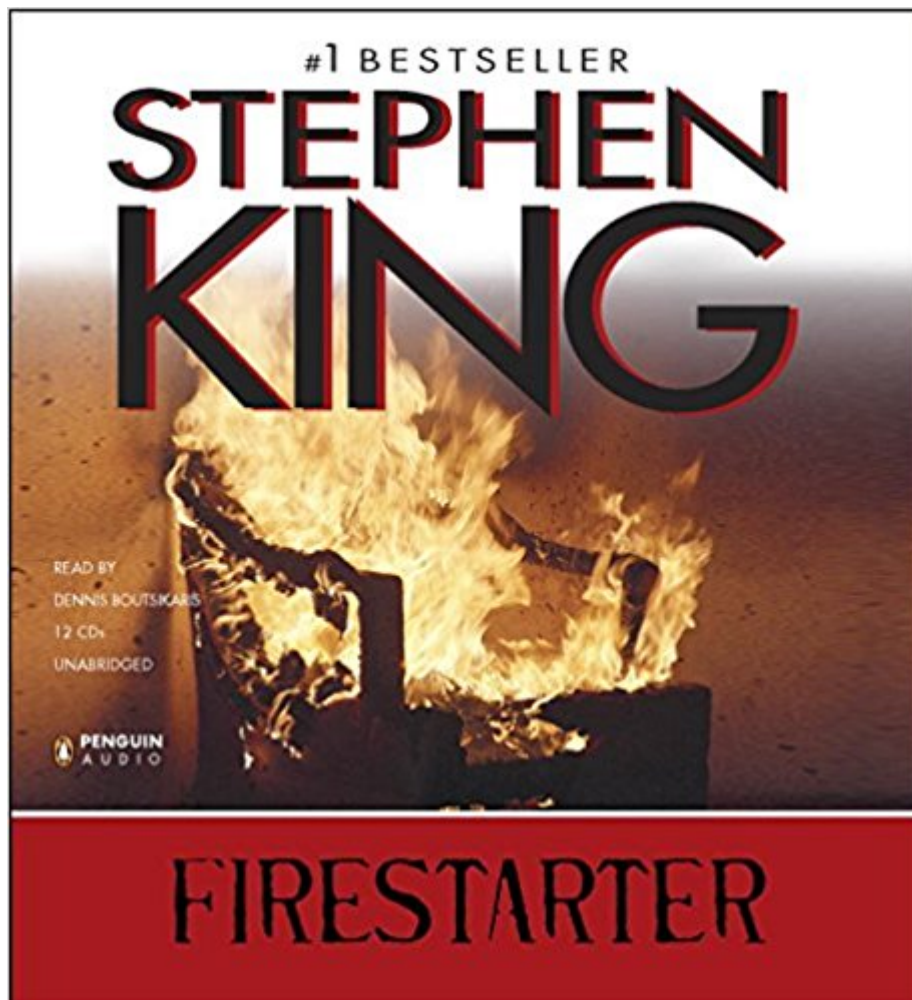




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Firestarter



Synopsis

Unabridged CDs, 16 CDs, 13 hours Read by TBA Charlie McGee inherited pyrokinetic powers from her parents, who had been given a low-grade hallucinogen called "Lot Six" while at college. Now the government is trying to capture young Charlie and harness her powerful firestarting skills as a weapon.

Book Information

Audio CD: 1 pages

Publisher: Penguin Audio; Unabridged edition (April 1, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0142427845

ISBN-13: 978-0142427842

Product Dimensions: 5.9 x 5.5 x 1.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 402 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,316,665 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #57 in [Books > Books on CD](#) > Authors, A-Z > (K) > King, Stephen #169 in [Books > Books on CD > Horror](#) #2341 in [Books > Books on CD > Literature & Fiction > Unabridged](#)

Customer Reviews

"In a special and startling way, King has created a small American gem of a story." [Chicago Tribune](#) "You'll be bewitched by King's ingenious insights into human behavior, unique characterizations and novel dialogue." [Columbus Dispatch](#) "Stephen King is superb." [Time](#) "In a special and startling way, King has created a small American gem of a story." [Chicago Tribune](#) "You'll be bewitched by King's ingenious insights into human behavior, unique characterizations and novel dialogue." [Columbus Dispatch](#) "Stephen King is superb." [Time](#) "Terrifying and gripping." [The Miami Herald](#)

--This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Stephen King, the world's bestselling novelist, was educated at the University of Maine at Orono. He lives with his wife, the novelist Tabitha King, and their children in Bangor, Maine.

Firestarter, Stephen King First thoughts: Great story, fast-paced. I'd call it

Horror-Science Fiction. Story & Fav Plot Points: The story begins in the middle, actually, which I thought was an imaginative way of introducing the story and grabbing interest. Andy and his daughter are on the run. They both have abilities (he, through a psych experiment gone horribly wrong, and she through genetics). Andy can make people do what he wants by pushing his intention. But he gets major migraines that can cause brain hemorrhaging if he does that too often. His wife, who could close refrigerator doors by thinking about them (now THAT's convenient!) was killed by "The Shop" (one of those clandestine organizations run by one megalomaniac, who has a money pipeline from Congress - no fiction there), the instigators of the experiment that gave Andy and his wife special abilities for their own nefarious ends. The daughter has the ability to start fires. Except rather than headaches she gets a rush of pleasure from it! The story really picks up when they are both captured, after much loss of life and property, to an idyllic ranch where the bad guy lives. But he later rues that day, as King tells us in gory detail about the demise of "The Shop".

Final Comments: Great story, how we could chemically induce someone to increase their latent psychic ability and how the government plans to use that for global power. The usual plot (since it's close to the truth) but imaginatively done. Recommended.

I don't think Stephen King gets the attention he deserves for his writing. He is consistently interesting, writes well, and has wonderful character driven plots. Yes, some of his themes do deal with the supernatural, but if you can get past that... I read Firestarter quite a while back and loved it then, and now loved it again. I think this is one of King's more credulous books, doesn't quite strain the ideas of the supernatural. Everything is quite believable, and he knows how to draw you into the story and make his characters live for you. That's more than can be said for quite a few authors out there today. Honestly I think King has written some great books, The Stand and Firestarter being two of my favorites.

I'll begin by saying this was my first Stephen King book, so it took me about 10-15 pages to get used to his writing style. Once I got used to his style, I really liked it. This Story had a very strong start. I flew through the first 150 pages because I didn't want to stop..but then it became a slow crawl all the way until the very end. That's what made it an "okay" experience. Amazing concept, but could have had a lot more epic, suspenseful moments. I felt the ending was just underwhelming. The climax was short-lived unfortunately. There weren't many memorable moments altogether. (I noticed

reviewers mentioning "Horror" there was very little to no Horror elements)I liked the book but probably won't remember it in a few months and I wouldn't really recommend it.

Firestarter is the story of Andy McGee, possessing mild powers of mind domination, and his young daughter, Charlie McGee, possessing very un-mild powers of pyrokinesis. The story begins with Andy and Charlie on the run from agents of a mysterious government intelligence agency called the Shop. We learn how Andy and his wife got their powers and how she died from flashbacks interspersed with the main story. The antagonist the government, as represented by the Shop, and the primary antagonist from the Shop is Rainbird, kind of a poor man's Anton Chigurh, so loaded with traits and quirks something the whole is less than the sum. It is very much the kind of story Stephen King is known for. Heavy on suspense (with a lot of prescient comments dropped), use of science fiction tropes (psionic powers), heavy characterization, and philosophical sensibilities. The characterization isn't nearly as strong as in *The Stand*, for example, but the philosophical musings are better. King's strength isn't from dealing with it in the abstract (*The Stand* suffers from too much of this), but from dealing with it on a visceral level, e.g., capturing the impotent rage people feel when confronted by the Shop. He also nails the bureaucratic inefficiency inherent to a government agency, especially one as unanswerable to the public as a covert intelligence shop.

I bought this in hardback to replace my worn out paperback copy. I've read this book multiple times over the years. It's one of King's best! His early work is darker than the books he's released lately. *Firestarter* is a classic. If you haven't read it, put it on your must read list!

There are few Stephen King books that I haven't read this being one. While unsettling this was a very good book, a dark book and a beautiful book I felt for the characters and thoroughly enjoyed this experience

Quite a fun read. I don't think this book is quite as 'literary' as some of King's other works -- but for pop fiction it's definitely top shelf entertainment.

If I was just rating the book I would give it 5 stars as I really enjoyed it, but whoever was responsible for converting this book to the kindle version did an awful job. There are a ridiculous number of typos (misspelled words, incorrect or missing punctuation, incorrect capitalization, missing spacing) and I am by NO means an expert in such things, so I can only imagine how many of the typos I

missed. The frequency (every couple of pages, sometimes multiples on a page) actually got in the way of my enjoyment of the book. When I sent an email to to let them know that they should really have someone go through and fix the typos they asked me to send them the location and nature of all the typos I'd found...I was already half way through the book and had probably come across 50! I wasn't going to go back and find the typos for them! So be warned, if typos are something that tend to really bother you then get the paperback version of this book because the kindle version will annoy you.

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