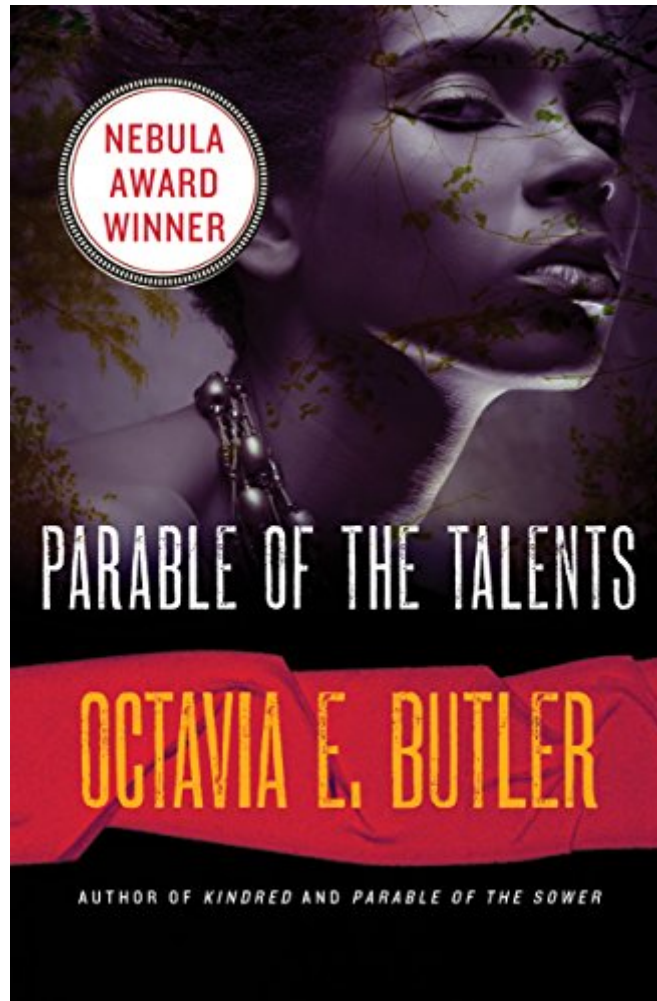




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Parable Of The Talents



Synopsis

Winner of the Nebula Award for Best Novel: The powerful and compelling sequel to the dystopian classic *Parable of the Sower* Lauren Olamina was only eighteen when her family was killed, and anarchy encroached on her Southern California home. She fled the war zone for the hope of quiet and safety in the north. There she founded Acorn, a peaceful community based on a religion of her creation, called Earthseed, whose central tenet is that God is change. Five years later, Lauren has married a doctor and given birth to a daughter. Acorn is beginning to thrive. But outside the tranquil group's walls, America is changing for the worse. A Presidential candidate Andrew Steele Jarret wins national fame by preaching a return to the values of the American golden age. To his marauding followers, who are identified by their crosses and black robes, this is a call to arms to end religious tolerance and racial equality—a brutal doctrine they enforce by machine gun. And as this band of violent extremists sets its deadly sights on Earthseed, Acorn is plunged into a harrowing fight for its very survival. Taking its place alongside Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale*, Butler's eerily prophetic novel offers a terrifying vision of our potential future, but also one of hope. This ebook features an illustrated biography of Octavia E. Butler including rare images from the author's estate.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Unfortunately Sower set the bar so high it was almost impossible to match or surpass it. Butler continued to use the device of telling the story through journal entries and, in this book, an alternating first-person that expands the ability to provide context immensely. I was frustrated with the ending as it felt incomplete. This is possibly due to the fact that Butler was supposedly working on a third book or possibly just true to her vision of the story. In the end it does not take away from the fact that Butler is an objectively good writer and one of the most groundbreaking women of color authors in the Science-Fiction genre. Subjectively she a superb author and I learn from and enjoy every work of hers I encounter even if they are not OMG-my-favorite. Butler is worth reading. Every time.

Octavia Butler's amazingly prescient story of a dystopian US not far afield from today's continues the story started (albeit less compellingly) in *Parable of the Sower*. A worthwhile read, especially in these times. If it weren't so prescient, I would probably have rated it a mid-four star read.

This book feels deeply prophetic. Often uncomfortably so. The writing is clear and straightforward. Not the most elegant prose, but it doesn't need to be because the plot is so gripping and the ideas so provocative. An important book especially today.

I wish I had discovered Butler years ago - I read a lot of science fiction but somehow she escaped me. Reading this book during the current Donald Trump campaign made it seem really prophetic, since it deals a lot with the effects of certain religio-political beliefs on people of varying races in an era of changing values. Now I've got to catch up with years of her writing that I somehow missed for so long.

I found the book very interesting. I kept finding myself comparing to today's (2017) problems. I have a son who lives in Humboldt county and for that reason the area for most of the story felt more familiar.

After reading *Parable of the Sower* I was expecting a different book. I think it was because of those

expectations that it took me much longer to finish this one than it did the first. (Possibly because I stopped liking the lead character.) May not have been the sequel I wanted but given all that is going on in the world today the plot line was definitely food for thought.

Along with "Parable of the Sower" these two books are a scary reflection of our current existence and where we could be headed if we don't pay attention. So good. So very good.

I love Parable series! I actually got a tattoo related to the series because that's how much I was enamored with the title character, Lauren. This book follows her as she is trying set up/found her group while also trying to remain safe from...well, everyone else! In this book you have traveling junkie bandits, cannibals, and religious nuts galore. Lauren's group is the safe middle-ground that people are wanting and needing. So, of course, everything goes pear-shaped and Lauren must ask herself what she is willing to give up in order to survive. The novel takes place "twenty minute into the future," so one doesn't have to hand wave anything. A lot of the social and religious issues that are front and center in the novel, are also present today. So, I really liked how Ms. Butler took those issues and naturally progressed them as the economy of the book's US continued to nosedive. I also liked the dual perspectives the novel uses to progress the story. You're not only hearing about Lauren's life, but you're also hearing from her daughter. The reader gets to hear Lauren's child speak about the impact her mother's choices had on her.

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