



# The Power of One

*By Bryce Courtenay*

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## **The Power of One** By Bryce Courtenay

In 1939, hatred took root in South Africa, where the seeds of apartheid were newly sown. There a boy called Peekay was born. He spoke the wrong language—English. He was nursed by a woman of the wrong color—black. His childhood was marked by humiliation and abandonment. Yet he vowed to survive—he would become welterweight champion of the world, he would dream heroic dreams.

But his dreams were nothing compared to what awaited him. For he embarked on an epic journey, where he would learn the power of words, the power to transform lives, and the mystical power that would sustain him even when it appeared that villainy would rule the world: The Power of One.

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## **The Power of One** By Bryce Courtenay Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #201968 in Books
- Published on: 1989-06-11
- Released on: 1989-06-11
- Ingredients: Example Ingredients
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Binding: Hardcover
- 518 pages

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### Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

"Episodic and bursting with incident, this sprawling memoir of an English boy's lonely childhood in South Africa during WW II pays moderate attention to questions of race but concerns itself primarily with epic melodrama," noted PW.

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Review

"*The Power of One* has everything: suspense, the exotic, violence; mysticism, psychology and magic; schoolboy adventures, drama in the boxing ring."

—*The New York Times*

From the Publisher

In the Ballantine publicity department, we have an informal book club. It usually gets started is when one of us reads a book, loves it, and then passes it on to a friend in the department. Once one person has read a book and loves it, then we ALL have to read it too! THE POWER OF ONE by Bryce Courtenay was one of those books. You may have seen the movie with Morgan Freeman, but I urge you to read the book because it was much better than the movie. It's a coming-of-age story of a young boy in South Africa. He has such a hard time of things! He's picked on as a young boy, then he befriends an older man who teaches him the wonders of life. The book is beautifully written, and the story is extremely compelling. If you liked Anna Quindlen's OBJECT LESSONS or Edward Albee's A DEATH IN THE FAMILY or John Irving's A PRAYER FOR OWEN MEANY, you will love this book too.

Jennifer Richards

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**Nathan Osborne:**

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