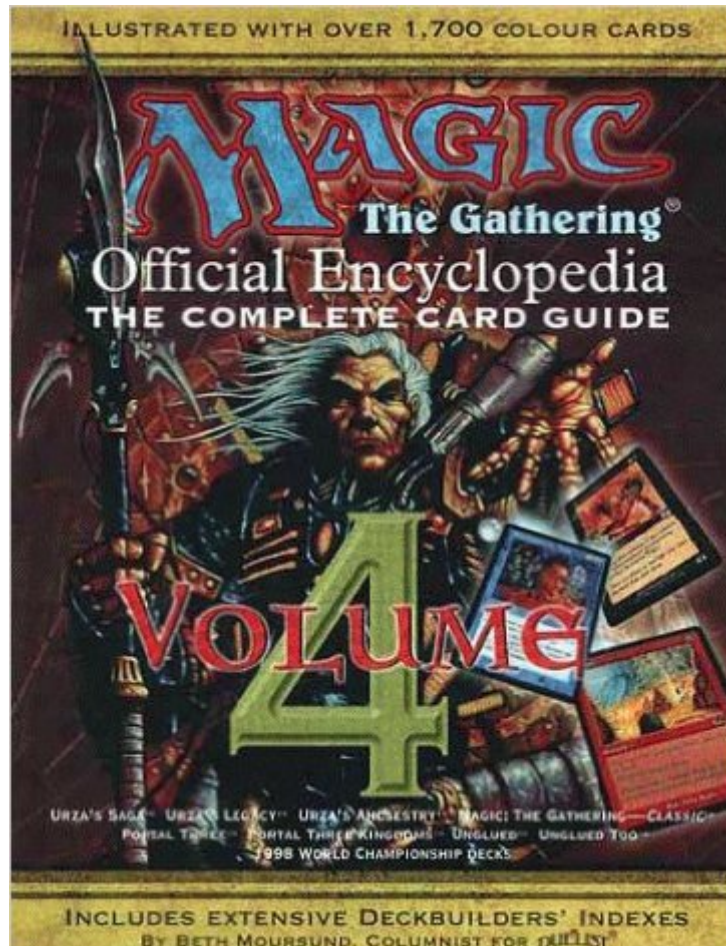


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Magic: The Gathering -- Official Encyclopedia Volume 4



Synopsis

In association with Wizards of the Coast, the creators of Magic: The Gathering, and the Magic experts at The Duelist (Wizards' official trading-card game magazine), Thunder's Mouth Press presents the next book in this reference series: Magic: The Gathering - The Official Encyclopedia Volume 4. With full-color reproductions of over 1,700 new Magic cards, it includes the full Urza's Saga and its two expansions. The new basic set, Sixth Edition, and Wizards of the Coast's "broken" expansion, Unglued, are also featured.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (8 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

Volume 4 covers Urza's Saga, Urza's Legacy, Classic, Urza's Destiny, Portal: Three Kingdoms, Unglued, and Starter. As always, this volume covers ONLY those expansions released since the previous volume of the encyclopedia. After covering the individual sets, the book gives an overview of 1998 World Championship decks. The book concludes with a "Deckbuilders Indexes" section, as in the earlier volumes of the Magic encyclopedia, but this is now out of date (see Volume 6 or higher). The introductory material (i.e., the section before the expansions are presented) is a bare minimum in this volume: "How to Use this Guide" and "A Visual Guide to Magic Cards". Each expansion covered in Volume 4, as usual, is provided with an introduction, describing any new twists added for that set (including new types of decks that came about as a result), and any noteworthy cards in that set. The introductions provide an informative overview (including

descriptions of storylines that were added or updated by the release being described). The entertainment value of the introductions is in inverse proportion to the number of broken cards in the expansion and the severity of the flaws, so with the exception of the deliberately broken Unglued expansion, the introductions in this volume are rather bland. The individual cards for each expansion are listed in alphabetical order; they're shown at about 3/4 actual size. The versions of Magic that included those cards (at the time of printing) are specified, as well as any errata. The card lists' images artwork and flavour text came out well. Having said all that, I would rate this as a mediocre, and even dull volume of the encyclopedia.

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