



**GODS  
OF  
GEEKDOM**

## **GEORGE R. R. MARTIN**

Best known for writing the book series that became *Game of Thrones*, George rates a respectable 5 on the geek scale. You can take an extra point if your friends know who you're talking about when you refer to him as the Angel of Death. Basically, if you've ever read one of his books or watched the show, he's killed someone you liked. More importantly, if you ever wanted a fictional resource for monarchy and more generally the authoritarian executive, George is the guy. *Game of Thrones* is roughly based upon the English civil war, which was essentially a big old-fashioned blood-bath over who got to wear the fancy hat and also rule over

a damp and drizzly land that was, at the time, one of the least desirable places in or near Europe. The show, sex and gore and all, is both a pretty good representation of the books, a pretty good representation of the brutality of the time, and a spectacular representation of historical monarchs and the monarchy. From the mad kings, to the puppets, to the true leaders...they are all there. You can see that despite being a singular authority, they are all constrained by tradition, wealth, circumstance, or the need to sustain support in order to fend off challenges for the throne.