Winterfell

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Research Summary

Restate and simplify a summary of the compiled research here.

Internet Citations

Will fill out this section after book quotes have been compiled. Don't want duplicate info complicating the doc.

Book Quotes

Not sure how you want to split these up. The total number of chapters in ACOK and ADWD is equal to the number in AGOT, so that might be one way. Though I must admit, I'm kind of interested in rereading the ADWD chapters. These are chapters that take place in Winterfell.

A Game of Thrones:

A Game of Thrones: 2. Catelyn I

- For Catelyn's sake Ned built a small sept
- The Godswood is a "dark, primal place, three acres of old forest untouched for ten thousand years as the gloomy castle rose around it. It smelled of moist earth and decay.

No redwoods grew here. This was a wood of stubborn sentinel trees [...], of mighty oaks, of ironwoods as old as the realm itself. Here thick black trunks crowded close toghether while twisted branches wove a <u>dense canopy</u> overhead and misschapen roots wrestled beneath the soil."

- "At the center of the grove an ancient weirwood brooded over a small pool where the waters were black and <u>cold."</u>
- "Catelyn had found her Husband below the Weirwood, seated on a moss-covered stone.
- "A thousand years of hummus lay thick upon the godswood floor, swallowing the sound of her feet, [...]"
- "'In the kitchen, arguing about names for the wolf pups.'"

A Game of Thrones: 4. Eddard I

- "The wheelhouse in which they had ridden, [...], was <u>too wide</u> to pass through the castle gate."
- "Ned knelt in the <u>snow</u> to kiss the Queen's ring."
- On the way down to the crypt there are "winding stone steps [that] were narrow."
- "Robert was <u>breathing heavily</u> by the time they reached the bottom of the stairs,[...] as they stepped out into the <u>darkness</u> of the crypt."
- "[...] a long procession of granite pillars that marched ahead, two by two, into the dark. Between the pillars, the dead sat on their <u>thrones against the wall</u>, backs against the <u>sepulchres</u> that contained their mortal remains."
- "[...] and echoed in the vault overhead."
- "Their likenesses were carved into the stones that sealed the tombs."
- "In long roes they sat, [...], direwolves curled round their feet."
- [...] an <u>iron longsword had been laid across the lap</u> of each who had been <u>Lord of Winterfell.</u>[...]. The oldest had long ago rusted away to nothing, leaving only a few <u>red stains</u> where the metal had rested on the stone."
- "The crypt continued into darkness ahead of them, but beyond this point the tombs were empty and unsealed; black holes waiting for their dead, [...]"
- "There were three tombs, <u>side by side</u>. Lord Rickard Stark [...], had a long stern face. [...] In two smaller sepulchres on either side were his children."

A Game of Thrones: 5. Jon I

- "The Great Hall of Winterfell was hazy with smoke [...]"
- "Its grey stone walls were draped with Banners."
- "A singer was playing the high harp [...] but, down at this end of the hall his voice could scarcely be heard above the roar of the fire, [...].
- "Jon's Brothers and Sisters had been seated [...] beneath the <u>raised platform</u> where Lord and Lady stark hosted the king and queen."
- "His eyes stung. Jon rubbed them savagely, cursing the smoke."
- "He wrenched free of their grip and ran [...] for the door. [...] <u>The yard was quiet and empty.</u> A lone sentry stood high on the battlements of the inner wall, [...]."

- "The sound of music and song spilled through the <u>open windows behind him</u>." From the great hall to the yard, on the same face of the wall as the main door is.
- "Tyrion Lannister was sitting on the ledge above the door to the Great Hall, looking for all of the world like a gargoyle."

A Game of Thrones: 6. Catelyn II

- "Of all the rooms in Winterfell's Great Keep, Catelyns Bedchambers were the hottest. She seldom had to light a fire."
- "The Castle had been built over <u>natural hot springs</u>, and the scalding water rushed through its <u>walls and chambers</u>, [...], driving the chill from the stone halls, filling the <u>glass</u> gardens with a moist warmth, keeping the earth from freezing. <u>Open pools smoked</u> day and night in a <u>dozen small courtyards</u>."
- "Catelyns's bath was always hot and steaming and her walls warm to the touch."
- "[...], Ned rolled off and <u>climbed from her bed</u>, [...]. He crossed the room, pulled back the <u>heavy tapestries</u>, and threw open the <u>high narrow windows</u> one by one, letting night air into the chambers."
- Ned turned away from her, looking out of the window where he could <u>see the sentries on</u> the wall.
- "Ned crossed to the wardrobe and slipped on a heavy robe."
- Luwin says this: "Only a carved wooden box, left on a <u>table</u> in <u>my observatory</u> while I napped. <u>My servants</u> saw no one [...]."
- "The maester placed the paper on the table beside the bed."
- "She threw back the furs and climbed from the bed."
- "Lighting a fire;' Catelyn told him. She found a dressing gown and shrugged into it, then knelt over the <u>cold hearth</u>."
- "'Yes,' said Ned dully. He seated himself in a chair by the hearth."
- "Winterfell, was such a vast place."

A Game of Thrones: 7. Arya I

- "Her voice cut through the afternoon quiet of the tower room." This is where Septa Mordane teaches them needlework. A room large enough for several girls and ladies sitting on the floor and on chairs.
- "Arya stopped at the door and turned back [...]."
- "Then she whired and made her exit, running down the steps as fast as her feet would take her."
- "Nymeria was waiting for her in the guardroom at the base of the stairs."
- "The boys were at practise in the yard"
- "There was a window in the <u>covered bridge</u> between the <u>armory and the Great Keep</u> where you had a <u>view of the whole yard</u>. That was where they were headed. They arrived, <u>flushed and breathless</u>, to find Jon seated on the <u>sill</u>,[...].
- Joffrey is standing "to the back" of the yard "under the shade of the high stone wall"

A Game of Thrones: 8. Bran II

- "[...] the man in the glass gardens, who gave him a blackberry when he came to visit...".
- "He had gone to the <u>stable</u> first, and seen his pony there in its stall,[...] He turned and ran off before <u>Hodor and the other stableboys</u> could see the tears in his eye."
- "The wolfling was smarter than any of the hounds in his father's kennel [...]"
- "He hadn't been up to the <u>broken tower</u> for weeks [...]. He raced <u>across the godswood</u> taking the <u>long way around</u> to avoid the pool where the heart tree grew. [...]. 'You stay here,' he told him at the base of the <u>sentinel tree near the armory wall</u>."
- [...]up the tree, until finally he jumped off onto the armory roof [...]"
- "To a boy, Winterfell was a <u>grey stone</u> labyrinth of <u>walls and towers and courtyards and tunnels</u> spreading out in all directions. In the older parts of the castle, the <u>halls slanted up and down</u> so that you coudln't even be sure what floor you were on. The place had <u>grown over centuries</u> like a monstrous stone tree [...]"
- "Bran could perch for hours among the <u>shapeless</u>, <u>rain-worn gargoyles</u> that brooded over the <u>First Keep</u>, watching it all: the men <u>drilling with wood and steel in the yard</u>, the cooks tending their <u>vegetables in the glass garden</u>, restless dogs running back and forth in the <u>kennels</u>, the girls gossiping besides the <u>washing well</u>."
- "There was a covered bridge that went from the fourth floor of the bell tower to the second floor of the rookery."
- "And he knew he could get inside the <u>inner wall</u> by the <u>south gate</u>, climb three floors and run all the way around Winterfell through a <u>narrow tunnel in the stone</u>, and then come out at <u>ground level at the north gate</u>, with a <u>hundred feet</u> of wall looming over you.
- [...], until one night he had gone out of the <u>window of his bedroom</u> when <u>his brothers</u> were fast asleep."
- "There were crows' nests atop the broken tower [...]"
- "[...] the ancient owl that slept in the dusty loft above the old armory."
- The <u>broken tower</u> had once "been a <u>watchtower</u>, the tallest in <u>winterfell</u>. [...] The top third of the structure had <u>collapsed inward</u>, and the tower had never been rebuilt. Sometimes his father sent ratters into the base of the tower, to clean out the nests they always found among the <u>jumble of fallen stones and charred and rotten beams</u>. But no one ever got up to the jagged top of the structure now except for Brand and the crows."
- There are two ways up: 1. Straight up the side but the "stones were loose" and the "mortar gone to ash". 2. Best way! Start from the godswood, up the tall sentinel, cross over [the roofs of] the armory and the guards hall leaping roof to roof. "That brought you up to the <u>blind side</u> of the First Keep, the oldest part of the castle, a <u>squat round fortress</u> that was taller than it looked. Only rats and spiders lived here now but the old stones still made for good climbing. You could go straight up to where the <u>gargoyles leaned out blindly over empty space</u>. [...]". Bran explains how you can swing around from gargoyle to gargoyle to the north side. From there "if you really streched, you could reach out and pull yourself over to the broken tower where it leaned close. The last part was to scramble up the blackened stones to the eyrie, no more than ten feet [...]"

- "There was a <u>row of windows beneath him</u>, and the voice was drifting out the <u>last</u> <u>window on this side</u>."
- "They might <u>glimpse his feet</u> if he tried to swing by".
- "There was a narrow ledge beneath the window, only a few inches wide. He tried to lower himself toward it. Too far. He would never reach."
- "Bran pulled himself up, climbed over the gargoyle, crawled onto the roof."
- "The courtyard rushed up to meet him."

A Game of Thrones: 9. Tyrion I

- "[...] though the library was snug and warm."
- "[...] as dawn light leaked through the high windows."
- "[...] and limped heavily to the table where the septon [Chayle] was snoring softly, [...]"
- "Outside, Tyrion [...] began his laborious descent of the <u>steep stone steps that</u> <u>corkscrewed around the exterior</u> of the library tower. It was slow going; the steps were <u>cut high and narrow</u>, [...]"
- "[...] the men were already hard at it in the <u>vard below</u>."
- "A cold, cheerless meal had been laid out in the <u>morning room</u> of the <u>Guest House.</u>
 Jamie sat at a table with Cersei and the children [...]"
- "' I stopped by the sickroom last night, ' Tyrion announced."
- "The creature is outside his window [...]."

A Game of Thrones: 10. Jon II

- <u>"Jon climbed the steps</u> slowly [...]. Outside, <u>snow swirled through the castle gates</u>, [...] but inside it was still warm and quiet."
- "He reached the landing and stood for a long moment, afraid."
- "She had her meals brough to her there, and chamber pots as well, and a <u>small hard</u> <u>bed</u> to sleep on, [...]"
- "The window was open. Below, a wolf howled."
- "It was a long walk down to the yard."
- "Jon left him standing there in the snow, surrounded by wagons and wolfes and horses."
- "Arya was in <u>her room</u> [...]"

A Game of Thrones: 14. Catelyn III

- "Bran's Sickroom [...]".
- "She wondered whether they might move his bed under the window, so he could get the morning sun."
- "Maester Luwin set the lamp in a <u>niche by the door</u> and fiddled with its wick."
- "I said my farewells to them here, and watched them ride out from that window."
- "The library was across the bailey, there was no way the fire would reach them here."
- "Outside, there were shouts of 'Fire!' in the yard, screams, running footsteps, the whinny
 of frightened horses, and the frantic barking of the castle dogs. [...] <u>Across the bailey</u>,
 long tongues of flame shot from the windows of the library. [...] Then she closed the
 shutters.
- "[...] and led her back to the Great Keep, to her own chambers."

• "[...],the stalls where half-empty"

A Game of Thrones: 17. Bran III

- "He saw Winterfell as the eagles see it, the <u>tall towers</u> looking squat and stubby from above, the castle walls just lines in the dirt. He saw Maester Luwin on his <u>balcony</u> studying the sky through a [...] bronze tube [...]."
- <u>"At the heart of the godswood</u>, the great white weirwood brooded over its reflection in the <u>black pool</u>."
- [...], and then he realized he was in Winterfell, in a bed <u>high in some chilly tower room</u>, [...].

A Game of Thrones: 24. Bran IV

- "Rickon was running across the yard toward the gatehouse,[...], but the tower faced the wrong way for bran to see what was happening."
- "'Hodor, will you help Bran down to the hall?' [...]They left Old Nan in the tower room with her needles and her memories. [...] down the steps and through the gallery [...]. Robb was seated in his Father's high seat,[...]. A dozen guardsmen lined the grey stone walls beneath the tall windows.
- "[...] and set Bran in the high seat of the Starks, where the Lords of Winterfell had sat since the days when they called themselves Kings in the North. The seat was cold stone, polished smooth by countless bottoms; the carved heads of direwolves snarled on the ends of its massive arms."
- "The door to the yard flew open. Sunlight came streaming across the hall as Rickon burst in, [...]"
- "I saw an inn outside of your walls, in the winter town."
- "When it was time he carried him down to the Great Hall, where a long trestle table had been set up near the fire. The Lord's seat at the head of the table had been left empty, [...]"
- "That night [...] Robb carried Bran up to the bed himself. [...] but the stairs were steep and dark, Robb was breathing hard by the time they reached the top."

A Game of Thrones: ??. Bran V

- "He sat straight atop his horse, watching as the iron portcullis was winched upward."
- "The passed beneath the gatehouse, over the drawbridge, through the outer walls."
- "Beyond the castle lay the market square, its wooden stalls deserted now. They rode
 down the muddy streets of the village, past rows of small neat houses of log and
 undressed stone. Less than one in five were occupied, thin tendrils of woodsmoke
 curling up from their chimneys. The rest would fill up one by one as it grew colder."
- [...], Old Nan said, left their frozen fields and distant holdfasts, loaded up their wagons and then the winter town came alive."
- "Two serving wenches stood beneath the sign of the Smoking Log, the local alehouse."

- "Side by side, they urged they mounts off the Kingsroad and struck out into the wolfswood."
- "The stream was running high and fast. Robb dismounted and led the gelding across the ford. In the deepest part of the crossing, the water came up to midthigh. [...] The current foamed around rock and root and Bran could feel the spray on his face as Robb led him over."

A Game of Thrones: 53. Bran VI

- "Bran watched them from a guard turret atop the outer wall, [...]"
- "A series of chisel-cut handholds made a ladder in the granite of the tower's inner wall."
- "Robb ordered both portcullises kept up and the drawbridge down between them [...]. A long column of armored lancers was crossing the moat between the walls when Bran emerged from the tower [...]."
- "As they passed beneath the gatehouse portcullis, Bran put two fingers into his mouth and whistled. Summer came loping across the yard."
- "The armory doors were open, and Bran glimpsed Mikken at his forge, [...]."
- "He tried not to flinch as hodor ducked through a low door. They walked down a long and dim hallway, Summer padding easily beside them. [...] The godswood was an island of peace in the sea of chaos that Winterfell had become. Hodor made his wy through the dense stands of oak and ironwood and sentinels, to the still pool beside the heart tree."
- "You go soak. Go to the pools!" [...] Across the godswood, beneath the windows of the Guest House, an underground hotspring fed three small ponds. Steam rose from the water day and night, and the wall that loomed above was thick with moss. [...] whenever a bubble rose from the murky green depths to break upon the surface."
- "Beneath the shadow of the first keep was an ancient lichyard, its headstones spotted with pale lichen, where the old Kings of Winter had lain their faithful servants. It was there they burried Lady, [...]."
- "Osha stood across the pool, beneath an ancient oak [...]."
- "But that night when they feasted in the Great Hall, Robb was not with them. He took his meal in the solar instead, [...]."

A Game of Thrones: 66. Bran VII

- "Bran watched them from the balcony of Maester Luwin's turret, [...]"
- "[...] as Osha carried Bran across the yard and down the spiral steps to the cold vault under the earth."
- Down in the crypt Maester Luwin shines his light on the carved gravestones: "Some where hairy and bearded, shaggy men fierce as the wolves that crouched by their feet. Others were shaved clean, their features gaunt and sharp-edged as the iron longswords across their laps."
- "The vault was cavernous, longer than Winterfell itself and Jon had told him once that there were other levels underneath, vaults even deeper and darker where the older kings were buried."

- "His daughter Lyanna and his son Brandon are in the tombs beside him. [...]. They're not supposed to have statues, that's only for the lords and the kings, but my father loved them so much he had them done."
- "Maester Luwin's turret was so cluttered that it seemed to Bran a wonder that he ever found anything. Tottering piles of books covered tables and chairs, rows of stoppered jars lined the shelves, candle stubs and puddles of dryied wax dotted the furniture, the bronze Myrish lense tube sat on a tripod by the terrace door, star charts hung from the walls, shadow maps lay scattered among the rushes papers, quills and pots of ink where everywhere, and all of it was spotted with droppings from the ravens in the rafters."
- "[Rickon] was peeking through the lense tube at the gargoyles on the First Keep."
- "He stood abruptly, crossed the room and returned with a green jar in his good hand."

A Clash of Kings: 4. Bran I

- "He liked to watch the windows begin to glow all over Winterfell as candles and hearth fires were lit behind the diamond-shaped panes of tower and hall, [...]
- "[...] as if they were in the yard below Bran's window. Other times he would have sworn they were up on the curtain walls, loping around like sentries."
- "He could see the comet hanging above the Guards Hall and the Bell Tower, and farther back the first keep, squat and round, [...]"
- "Mikken had hampered a row of iron bars into the wall, so bran could pull himself about the room with his arms."
- "Ser Roderik decreed that [the Walders] would share Jon Snow's old bedchamber,[...]"
- "Behind the trees the walls rose, piles of dead man rock that loomed all about this speck
 of living wood. Speckled grey they rose, and moss-spotted, yet thick and strong and
 higher than any wolf could hope to leap. Cold Iron and splintery wood closed off the only
 holes through the piled stones that hemmed them in."

A Clash of Kings: 16. Bran II

- "[...] pried apart Bran's <u>shutters</u>, [...]"
- "This morning they would be tilting at at quintains in the yard."
- "He must play the prince in his Father's Solar"
- "Bran had welcomed them to Winterfell from his <u>father's high stone seat with the direwolves carved into the arms</u>, [...]"
- In his room still: "Bran gazed up at the rough stone ceiling above his head"
- "The stableboy stood near seven feet tall all by himself; on his back Bran's head almost brushed the ceiling."
- "[...] as they descended the winding stair."
- "Two quintains had been errected in the courtyard [...]"
- "His long strides caught up with the maester's furiously pumping legs on the steps of the Great Keep. Maester Luwin held the door open, and Bran hugged Hodor's neck and ducked as they went through."
- "They put Bran in his father's oak chair with the grey velvet cushion, behind a long plank-and-trestle table."

- "Maester Luwin sent Poxy Tym down to the kitchens, and they dined in the solar [...]"
- "Bran could hear the squires at their swordplay in the yard below, [...]"
- "[...]he'd seen serving women in the hot pools too."

A Clash of Kings: 21. Bran III

- "The low stone steps balked Dancer only for a moment. When Bran urged her on, she took them easily. Beyond the wide oak-and-iron doors, eight long rows of trestle tables filled Winterfell's Great Hall, four on each side of the center aisle.
- The Dais seems to be large enough for lots of lords to be seated and apparently "on the benches below, Winterfell men mixed with smallfolk from the wintertown, [...]."
- There is a single table for all the lords on the dais, so when Jojen and Meera come in through the door at the far end, "serving men hurried to lenghten the table on the dais, fetching trestles and chairs.
- "They went out the rear rather than walk the length of the hall, Bran ducking his head as they passed through the <u>lord's door</u>. In the dim-lit gallery outside the Great Hall, they came upon Joseth the master of horse engaged in a different sort of riding."

A Clash of Kings: 28. Bran IV

- "The women talk of it at the well, and the guard in their hall."
- "The maester's turret beneath the rookery was one of Bran's favourite places. Luwin was hopelessly untidy, but his clutter of books and scrolls and bottles was as familiar [...]"
- "He found Luwin perched on a high stool, writing."

A Clash of Kings: 35. Bran V

- "Alebelly found him in the forge, working the bellows for Mikken."
- "Bran asked Osha as they crossed the yard"

A Clash of Kings: 46. Bran VI

Nothing new.

A Clash of Kings: 46. Bran VI

- "A gate loomed up, a black iron snake coiled tight about a bar and post. When he
 crashed against it, the gate shuddered and the snake clanked and slithered and held.
 Through the bars he could look down the long stone burrow that ran between the walls
 to the stony field beyond."
- "Hodor would be asleep above the stables, but maybe if he yelled loud enough he'd hear, [...]"
- "I sent four men over the walls with grappling claws and ropes, and they opened a postern gate for the rest of us."
- "Alebelly was on the gate, they suprised him in the turret and killed him."
- "Rickon's bedchamber was half a turn down the steps."
- "Below they came on Meera and Jojen being herded from their room [...]"
- "One of the Ironmen went before them carrying a torch, but the rain had started again and soon drowned it out. As they hurried across the yard they could hear the direwolves

howling in the godswood.[...] Theon was seated in the high seat of the Starks.[...] His hands rested on the wolves' heads carved at the ends of the wide stone arms.[...] A few torches had been lit, and a fire kindled in the great hearth, but most of the hall remained in darkness. There was no place to sit with the benches stacked against the walls, so the castle folk stood [...]"

- "The last man marched through the doors was the prisoner Reek, whose stench preceded him, ripe and pungent. [...] 'We found this one in a tower cell'."
- "The ironmen slammed shut the tall doors at the foot of the hall."

A Clash of Kings: 50. Theon IV

- "A few embers still smoldered in the hearth."
- "He leaned against the stone sill and looked out on dark towers, empty yards, black sky and more stars than a man could ever count [...]. A half-moon floated above the Bell Tower and cast its reflection on the roof of the glass gardens."
- "Outside he heard sobbing as the castle folk were pulled from their beds and driven into the yard."
- "The hunter's gate was conveniently sited close to the kennels and kitches. It opened directly on fields and forests allowing riders to come and go without first passing through the winter town, and so was favoured by hunting parties."
- "Disgusted he walked back to the drawbridge. Winterfell was encircled by two massive granite walls, with a wide moat between them. The outer wall stood eighty feet high, the inner more than a hundred.
- "Four guards at the main gate[...]"
- "Then you hear a noise and move toward the gate, and [...] see eyes at the top of the stair, [...]"
- "Joseth who'd groomed his horses, Farlen who'd taught him all he knew of hounds, Barth the brewer's wife who'd been his first [...]"
- "They assembled by the Hunter's Gate as the first pale rays of sun brushed the top of the Bell Tower, their breath frosting cold in the morning air."
- "Beyond the outer wall the tracks were plain to read in the soft ground, [...]"
- "[...] the trail lead north by north west, into the very heart of the wolfswood."
- "The wood grew wilder. The pines and sentinels gave way to huge dark oaks. Tangles of hawthorn concealed treacherous gullies and cuts. Stony hills rose and fell. They passed a crofter's cottage, deserted and overgrown, and skirted a flooded quarry where the still water had a sheen as grey as steel."
- "Less than an hour later the trail led down a slope toward a muddy brook swollen by the recent rains.[...]"
- "If I was them, I would have gone north and east, maybe. To the Umbers.[...] The boys will shelter someplace nearer. [...] You know that old mill, sitting lonely on the Acorn Water? We stopped there when I was being dragged to Winterfell a captive. The miller's wife sold us hay for our horses while that old knight chuckeled over her brats."

• "Theon knew the mill. [...] 'Why there? There are a dozen villages and holdfasts just a s close"

A Clash of Kings: 56. Theon V

- "He found her in the high seat of the Starks, [...]"
- "There were no more than fifty men at the trestle tables,[...]. Winterfell's Great Hall could have seated ten times the number."
- "Theon had no choice but to lead Asha to Ned Stark's solar. There, before the ashes of a dead fire, he blurted [...]"
- "Half the men she'd braught returned with her as trheatened, riding out the same Hunter's Gate [...]"
- "He left a sleeping draught, but Theon poured it down the privy shaft the moment he was gone"

A Clash of Kings: 66. Theon VI

- "[...], Theon climbed climbed the watchtower at the angle where the eastern and southern walls came toghether to have a look at his doom. The northmen were spreading out to encircle the castle. [...] He saw no siege towers rumbling up the kingsroad, [...]"
- "He rode to the gatehouse with his crown on his head. A woman was drawing water from the well and Gage the cook stood in hte door of the kitchens."
- "When the drawbridge was lowered, a chill wind sighed across the moat. [...] Into the teeth of that wind he rode under the portcullis, over the drawbridge. The outer gates swung open to let him pass. [...] Ser Roderik waited at the market [...]."
- "A fire had been laid in Ned Stark's bedchamber. Theon sat beside it and filled a cup with heavy-bodied red from the castle vaults, [...]"
- "When the wine brought no solace, Theon sent Wex to fetch his bow and took himself to
 the old inner ward. There he stood, loosing shaft after shaft at the archery butts[...]
 Women came to the well but did not linger; whatever they saw on Theon's face sent
 them away quickly. Behind him the broken tower stood, its summit as jagged as a crown
 where fire had collapsed the upper stories long ago.
- "The Inn was burning he saw"
- "[...] as he struggled to reach the well that stood at the center of the market square."
- "Another man whipped a torch round and round his head and then lofted it toward the thatched roof of the stables."

A Clash of Kings: 69. Bran VII

- "[...] but there was Winterfell as well, grey with drifting smoke, the massive oak-and-iron gates charred and askew, [...]"
- "[...], Osha said when they reached the twisting stone stairs that led up to the surface, and down to the deeper levels where kings more ancient still sat their dark thrones."
- "Something is blocking the door. I can't move it."
- "The steps were narrow so they had to climb in single file."

- "The door to the crypts was made of ironwood. It was old and heavy and lay at a slant to the ground. Only one person could approach it at a time [...] They had to pull Bran from his basket so he would not get squished. [...] From above came a dull rumble. Then suddenly the door jerked upward and a shaft of daylight fell across Bran's face. Another shove brought the sound of shifting stone, and then the way was open."
- "The sky was pale grey, and smoke eddied all around them. They stood in the shadow of the First Keep, or what remained of it. One side of the building had torn loose and fallen away. Stone and shattered gargoyles lay strewn across the yard. They fell just where I did, Bran thought [...]"
- "The First Keep had not been used for many hundred of years, but now it was more of a shell than ever. The floors had burned inside it, and all the beams. Where the wall had fallen away, they could see right into the rooms, even into the privy. Yet behind the broken tower still stood, no more burned than before."
- "The doors of the great hall were charred and smouldering, and inside the rafters had given way and the whole roof had crashed down onto the floor. The green and yellow panes of the glass gardens were all in shards, the trees and fruits and flowers torn up or left exposed to die. Of the stables, made of wood and thatch, nothing remained but ashes, embers and dead horses. [...] There was a shallow steaming lake beneath the Library Tower, and hot water gushing from a crack in its side. The bridge between the Bell Tower and the rookery had collapsed into the yard below, and Maester Luwin's turret was gone."
- "They saw a dull red glow shining up through the narrow cellar windows beneath the Great Keep, and a second fire still burning in one of the storehouses."
- "'Believe I'll try the East Gate, and follow the Kingsroad a ways.' 'We'll take the Hunter's Gate', said Meera."

A Dance with Dragons: 37. The Prince of Winterfell

- "Theon Greyjoy was no stranger to this godswood. He had played here as a boy, skipping stones across the cold black pool beneath the weirwood, hiding his treasures in the bole of an ancient oak, stalking squirrels with a bow he made himself."
- "There was a path of sorts, a meandering footpath of cracked stones overgrown with moss, half-buried beneath blown dirt and fallen leaves, and made treacherous by thick brown roots pushing up from underneath."
- "thousands huddled amongst the ruins, crowding every court, sleeping in cellar vaults and under topless towers, and in buildings abandoned for centuries."
- "Plumes of grey smoke snaked up from the rebuilt kitchens and reroofed baracks keep."
- "[...] as Theon led the girl out of the back of the hall and across the frigid yard to the Great Keep. It was up three flights of stone steps to Lord Ramsay's bedchamber, one of the rooms the fires had touched but lightly."

A Dance with Dragons: 41. The Turncloak

- "Winterfell might be ruined, but its granite walls would still keep the worst of the wind and weather at bay"
- "The rest of the horses were tethered in the wards."
- "Theon made his way deeper into the ruined parts of the castle. As he picked through the shattered stone that had once been Maester Luwin's turret, ravens looked down from the gash in the wall above, muttering to one another"
- "He stood in the doorway of a bedchamber that had once been his own (ankle deep in snow that had blown in through a shattered window), visited the ruins of Mikken's forge and Lady Catelyn's sept. Beneath the Burned Tower, he passed Rickard Ryswell nuzzling at the neck of another one of Abel's washerwomen, the plump one with the apple cheeks and pug nose."
- "Theon trudged away from them. There was a stair beyond the mews, seldom used; it was there his feet took him. The steps were steep and treacherous. He climbed carefully and found himself alone on the battlements of the inner wall [..]"
- "Winterfell's inner wall was the older and taller of the two, its ancient grey crenellations rising one hundred feet high, with square towers at every corner. The outer wall, raised many centuries later, was twenty feet lower, but thicker and in better repair, boasting octagonal towers in place of square ones. Between the two walls was the moat, deep and wide ... and frozen"
- "Farther off, the rutted kingsroad had vanished, lost amidst the fields and rolling hills, all one vast expanse of white"
- "Somewhere beneath us are the crypts where the old Stark kings sit in darkness. My men have not been able to find the way down into them. They have been through all the undercrofts and cellars, even the dungeons, but ...'"
- "The entrance to the crypts was in the oldest section of the castle, near the foot of the First Keep, which had sat unused for hundreds of years."
- ""There." Theon pointed to where a snowbank had crept up the wall of the keep. "Under there. Watch for broken stones."
- "Her serjeant had to go find an axe before he could pull it open, hinges screaming, to reveal stone steps spiraling down into darkness"
- "The way was narrow and steep, the steps worn in the center by centuries of feet. They
 went single file—the serjeant with the lantern, then Theon and Lady Dustin, her other
 man behind them."
- "The steps go farther down,' observed Lady Dustin. 'There are lower levels. Older. The lowest level is partly collapsed, I hear. I have never been down there."
- "He pushed the door open and led them out into a long vaulted tunnel, where mighty granite pillars marched two by two into blackness."
- "Only a little farther on, three tombs were closely grouped together. That was where they halted."

A Dance with Dragons: 46. A Ghost in Winterfell

- "Winterfell's great main gates were closed and barred, and so choked with ice and snow that the portcullis would need to be chipped free before it could be raised. Much the same was true of the Hunter's Gate, though there at least ice was not a problem, since the gate had seen recent use. The Kingsroad Gate had not, and ice had frozen those drawbridge chains rock hard. Which left the Battlements Gate, a small arched postern in the inner wall. Only half a gate, in truth, it had a drawbridge that spanned the frozen moat but no corresponding gateway through the outer wall, offering access to the outer ramparts but not the world beyond."
- "The bleeding freerider was carried across the bridge and up the steps, still protesting."
- "Outside the snow was swirling, dancing. Theon groped his way to the wall, then followed it to the Battlements Gate."
- "The next morning Ser Aenys Frey's grizzled squire was found naked and dead of exposure in the old castle lichyard, his face so obscured by hoarfrost that he appeared to be wearing a mask."
- "The Bastard's Boys gathered beneath a wall sconce where a torch was flaming smokily."
- "Steelshanks led him back to the Great Keep and the solar that had once been Eddard Stark's."
- "The drumming seemed to be coming from the wolfswood beyond the Hunter's Gate. They are just outside the walls. Theon made his way along the wallwalk, one more man amongst a score doing the same. But even when they reached the towers that flanked the gate itself, [...] "
- "They were only miller's sons, from the mill by the Acorn Water"

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A Dance with Dragons: 51. Theon I

- "White walls rose to either side as he and Rowan made their way to the godswood; the
 paths between keep and tower and hall had turned into a maze of icy trenches, shoveled
 out hourly to keep them clear."
- "Even the godswood was turning white. [...] Rowan pulled Theon away from the north-men praying before the tree, to a secluded spot back by the barracks wall, beside a pool of warm mud that stank of rotten eggs."
- "Squirrel answered for herself. "Out a window, and straight down to the godswood. I was twelve the first time my brother took me raiding south o' your Wall. That's where I got my name. My brother said I looked like a squirrel running up a tree. I've done that Wall six times since, over and back again. I think I can climb down some stone tower."
- "Winterfell's cavernous kitchen occupied a building all its own, set well apart from the castle's main halls and keeps in case of fire."
- "Half a dozen seasoned Dreadfort men guarded the doors of the Great Keep.[...]Two of the guards pushed open the double doors."
- "The entryway was nigh as cold as the air outside."

- "Theon led the way up the stairs.[...]. He and Robb had fought many a heroic battle on these steps, slashing at one another with wooden swords. Good training, that; it brought home how hard it was to fight your way up a spiral stair against determined opposition."
- "Not ten yards from the door, Rowan dropped her empty pail, and her sisters did likewise. The Great Keep was already lost to sight behind them. The yard was a white wilderness, full of half-heard sounds that echoed strangely amidst the storm. The icy trenches rose around them, knee high, then waist high, then higher than their heads. They were in the heart of Winterfell with the castle all around them, but no sign of it could be seen."
- "Instead he took Jeyne by the arm and drew her down the pathway to the Battlements Gate. Only a half-gate, he reminded himself. Even if the guards let us pass, there is no way through the outer wall."
- "through the gate, and over the frozen moat. And perhaps the old gods were still watching over them; the drawbridge had been left down, to allow Winterfell's defenders to cross to and from the outer battlements more quickly. From behind them came alarums and the sounds of running feet, then the blast of a trumpet from the ramparts of the inner wall."
- "Theon was staggering by the time he reached the foot of the stair.[...]

Reorganized & Interpreted Canon

General Facts about Winterfell

- In book one, there is snow in Winterfell. On the ground and swirling through the castle gates.
- There are a dozen small courtyards with open hot water pools.
- Winterfell is a vast labyrinth of walls and towers and courtyards and tunnels. In the old
 parts of the castle the floors slant up and down, so you can never be sure which floor
 your on. The place has grown over centuries.
- There is one washing well.
- Winterfell consists of tall towers.
- North of Winterfell a few minutes west of the kingsroad in the wolfswood there is a stream running high (midthigh) and fast (water foams around "rock and root"). There is a ford across the stream.
- There are tower cells in Winterfell
- There are several separate rooms for all the castle folks outside of the keep e.g. a Barth the brewer and his wife are mentioned.
- There is an old inner ward with archery butts. This is where the well is! Facing the archery butts, behind Theon is the broken tower!
- There is a storehouse on the compound somewhere.
- There are several: undercrofts and cellars, and dungeons.

Surrounding lands of Winterfell

- Leaving Winterfell through the Hunter's Gate: Fields and forest. A trail leading north by
 north west, into the very heart of the wolfswood. The woods grow increasingly wilder. At
 first there are pines and sentiles and then later predominantly huge dark oaks. Tangles
 of hawthorn conceal gullies and cuts. stony hills rise and fall. There is a crofters cottage
 (deserted and overgrown), a flooded quarry and finally a muddy brook in that direction.
- There is an old mill sitting lonely on a stream called Acorn Water, near Winterfell between there and the Dreadfort. The Miller's wife sells hay. They have two children, bovs.
- There are about a dozen villages and holdfasts just as close as the Acorn Water

The Guards Hall

• From his "actual bedroom" window Bran can see the Red Comet above the Guards Hall, the bell tower and farther back the first keep.

Bran's Sickroom

- Not his regular bedchamber, as it is denoted specifically as his sickroom. Also, not in the Great Keep as Catelyn is lead from this room to the Great Keep. It is a tower room, I assume somewhere in the rookery tower near the maesters turret.
- There is a window facing east in his sickroom. A yard is below. There is a niche by the door. The window has shutters.
- The library can be seen across the bailey, hence the yard is the same as the training vard.
- A circular stairwell leads up to Bran's sickroom. It is a long, steep walk to the yard.
- In his room there is his bed aswell as a small hard bed for Catelyn.
- The room is cold.
- Bran can see Rickon running towards a gatehouse in the yard but not the gatehouse itself, for the tower "faces the wrong way".
- There is a gallery at the bottom of the stairwell connecting the tower of Bran's sickroom to the Lord's entrance at the back of the great hall.

The Rookery

- There is a covered bridge connecting the second floor of the rookery to the fourth floor of the bell tower.
- The maester's turret is just below the rookery.
- The turret is very cluttered: Piles of books covered tables and chairs, rows of jars lined the shelves, candle stubs and puddles of dried wax everywhere, the Bronze Myrish lense tube on a tripod by the terrace door, star charts hung from the walls, shadow maps lay scattered among the rushes and papers, quills, and pots of ink plus droppings of ravens.
- The maester of Winterfell is Maester Luwin. He has an undisclosed amount of servants.
- There is a table in Maester Luwin's observatory. There is a balkony for him to study the sky from.
- There is a high stool on which Maester Luwin sits to write.
- Through the lense tube from Luwins balcony one can see the gargoyles of the first keep.
- The rookery is across the yard from the great hall

The Glass Gardens

- There are blackberries growing in the glass gardens. The underground hotspring keeps the earth in the gardens from freezing and fills it with moist warmth.
- There is one man and the cooks tending to the vegetables in the glass gardens.
- The glass is green and yellow.
- Trees and fruit and flowers were cultivated here.

The Stables

- There is a stall for Bran's Pony.
- Several stableboys tend to the horses (Hodor, .., ..)

- There is a stable master = Joseth
- Hodor sleeps above the stables (in a room? in the hay? no idea)
- The stables have a thatched roof. The rest is made of wood.
- The stables are on the west wall.

The Armory

- Is connected to the Great Keep via a covered bridge.
- Borders directly to the godswood. Near the wall they share, stands a tilted sentinel tree, that Bran climbs to jump onto the Armory roof.
- Mikken's forge is visible through the opened doors (double door) inside the armory. The forge has a bellows.
- The Armory is described as square.

The Library Tower

- "Snug and warm" due to the water pumped through the walls.
- There are high windows, which let the dawn's light through and can be seen from the west across the yard.
- There is a table inside
- The library is accessed by high and narrow steps that corkcscrew around the exterior of the tower.
- The training yard is down below (the yard that you can also see from the covered bridge between armory and great keep)

The Guest House

- There is a morning room in the guesthouse with a table and room for the whole lannister bunch.
- One wall of the guesthouse borders the godswood. There are windows on that wall.

The Broken Tower

- There are crow's nests at the jagged top of the broken tower.
- Used to be the tallest watchtower in winterfell.
- The top third collapsed inward after a fire, and had never been rebuilt. Beams and stones have fallen through into the base of the tower.
- There are two ways up: 1. Straight up the side but the "stones were loose" and the "mortar gone to ash". 2. Best way! Start from the godswood, up the tall sentinel, cross over [the roofs of] the armory and the guards hall leaping roof to roof. "That brought you up to the <u>blind side</u> of the First Keep, the oldest part of the castle, a <u>squat round fortress</u> that was taller than it looked. Only rats and spiders lived here now but the old stones still made for good climbing. You could go straight up to where the <u>gargoyles leaned out blindly over empty space</u>. [...]". Bran explains how you can swing around from gargoyle to gargoyle to the north side. From there "if you really streched, you could reach out and pull yourself over to the broken tower where it leaned close. The last part was to scramble up the blackened stones to the eyrie, no more than ten feet [...]"

The First Keep

- Shapeless gargoyles crown the first keep, and lean out over empty space..
- The oldest part of the castle, an abandoned squat round fortress that is taller than it looks.
- On the east or west side there are rows of windows right underneath the gargoyles.
- There is a courtyard beneath, this is where the entrance to the crypt is!
- There is also an ancient lichyard beneath, containing several headstones spotted with lichen, for the servants of the Kings of Winter.

On the side of the courtyard are several rooms and a privy.

The Kennels

- Are close to the Hunter's Gate.
- The Kennelmaster is Farlen

The Sept

- There is a small sept in Winterfell, that Ned built for Catelyn.
- Septon Chayle and Septa Mordane are tasked with maintaining it aswell as teaching other things.
- The sept is made of wood.

The Great Keep

- Steps lead up to the Great Keep. It has a double door. There is a short entryway that leads to the spiral stairwell.
- Septa Mordane teaches needlework in a room in one of the towers of the great keep.
- A room large enough for several girls and ladies to be sitting on the floor and on chairs
- At the bottom of the tower, down a circular staircase, is a guardsroom
- There is a covered bridge that connects the great keep to the armory, from here you can see the whole yard that is used for sparring.
- There is some distance between the sewing room and the bridge, as Arya arrives "flushed and breathless"
- There is a sill for John to sit on. From this bridge Arya can see Joffrey standing in the shade of the hight stone wall.
- Catelyn has a separate bedchamber from Ned. Her bedchamber is always hot, due to
 the scalding water that is pumped through its walls. She does have a fireplace, which
 she hardly needs to light. Her bed is elevated. Across the room from it there are several
 high narrow windows, with tapestry infront of them. Looking out of the windows, one can
 see the sentries on the wall. There is also a wardrobe in her bedchamber, a table next to
 her bed and a chair by the hearth.
- Ned Stark's Bedchamber contains a hearth, windows through which you can see the bell tower and its reflection on the roof of the glass gardens. There is a privy shaft in his bedchamber.
- Bran was able to climb out of the window of his room to explore the castle.
- Ned Stark has a solar with a long enough plank-and-trestle table for several people.
 Ned's chair is made from oak and has a grey velvet cushion. The solar is not on the ground floor! There is a hearth.
- Arya has a room to herself in the Keep presumably. Jon Snow has a bedchamber of his own, which is later occupied by both of the Walders.

- I believe that Bran moves back into the keep after recovery, yet still his room allows for
 the rising sun to shine in. Mikken installs iron bars into the wall so Bran can pull himself
 about the room. The ceiling is made from rough stone. Again, there is a dark spiral
 staircase connecting to Bran's room (or the floor). Half a turn below Bran's room is
 Rickon's room, below are Meera and Jojen.
- The keep has many windows with diamond-shaped panes.
- There are cellars beneath the Great Keep. Narrow windows enable you to see into them.
- Ramsay occupies a room in the great keep that is up 3 flights of stairs.

The Godswood

- Three acres of ancient forest consisting of oaks, ironwoods, sentinel trees but no redwoods!
- The mentioned trees have thick black trunks and stand so close that they form a dense canopy overhead.
- Roots stick out over the moist forest floor, that consists of a thick layer of hummus.
- At the center of the Godswood, there is a Weirwood near a small, cold (non-geothermal!) pond, that is unfathomably deep.
- Below the Weirwood near the pond is a moss-covered stone.
- One access passage through the godswood leads through a low door and a long and dim hallway. At the end there is an iron gate.
- All passages that access the godswood can be locked with iron gates or wooden doors.
 All the walls surrounding it are too hight for direwolves to jump.
- Beneath the windows of the Guesthouse, there are 3 hydrothermal ponds. The wall there is thick with moss. The water of the pools is murky green.
- There is an ancient oak, where theon used to hide treasures as a child (easter egg?)
- "There was a path of sorts, a meandering footpath of cracked stones overgrown with moss, half-buried beneath blown dirt and fallen leaves, and made treacherous by thick brown roots pushing up from underneath."
- The Barracks share a wall with the godswood. It is situated in somewhat secluded from the center Weirwood, and there is a pool of warm mud.

The Great Hall

- There are low stone steps infront of the main entrance of the Great Hall.
- The main door are wide oak-and-iron doors.
- 8 long rows of trestle tables filled Winterfell's Great Hall, four on each side of the center aisle.
- Winterfell can seat more than 500 men (10x fifty)
- The great hall has a large firepit in the center, that produces a lot of smoke and noise.
- The walls are grey stone, which are draped with banners at the start of AGOT.
- At one end there is a raised platform for the noble at the other there is the main entrance.
- Outside of the Great Hall's main entrance there is a yard, from which you can see the inner wall. The wall of the main entrance also has several tall windows.
- The door to the main entrance has a ledge large enough for Tyrion to sit upon.
- At the end of the dais, there is a separate entrance for the Lord.
- The Dais seems to be large enough for lots of lords to be seated and apparently "on the benches below, Winterfell men mixed with smallfolk from the wintertown, [...]."
- There is a single table for all the lords on the dais, so when Jojen and Meera come in through the door at the far end, "serving men hurried to lenghten the table on the dais, fetching trestles and chairs.
- There are wall sconces for torches.
- A dozen guards fit beneath the tall windows (so they are tall and high up)
- On the dais, there is the hight seat of the Starks, made from cold stone, with carved heads of direwolves snarled on the ends of its massive arms.
- There are movable trestle tables which can be rearranged depending on the amount of people in the hall. When the Hall isn't needed or cleaned the tables are stacked against the wall.
- The roof of the great hall is held up by wooden rafters.

The Crypts of Winterfell

- The entrance is beneath the First Keep inside an ancient lichyard. The door is made of ironwood, old and heavy and lies at a slant to the ground. It opens directly to the outside. The door is at the foot of the First Keep, snow can pile up against the wall of the First Keep and cover the entrance.
- A very narrow spiral staircase leads down to all of the layers of the crypt.
- The highest tier is a long way down, but there are even more levels underneath. That is
 where the older kings are buried. There are older lower levels, of which the last one has
 collapsed.
- There is a door closing off the Crypt Tunnel from the staircase.

- The crypt is pitch black without any torches.
- The crypt is supported by granite pillars and a vaulted ceiling. It is cavernous.
- It consists of a long dark tunnel with the spiral staircase at one end and a seemingly endless row of empty graves at the other. The tunnel is longer than Winterfell itself.
- Between the pillars stand the carved sepulchres that seal the graves of Starks.
- The Sepulchres usually depict a man sitting on a throne. Those carvings that depict former lords of winterfell have iron longswords laid across their laps. The oldest have long ago rusted away, leaving only red stains. The faces are all carved after the likeness of the old Lords of Winterfell, some are bearded some are clean shaven. All of them have carved direwolves crouching by their feet.
- Between one set of pillars, there are three tombs, side by side, instead of usually just one. There are also 3 statues, which is unusual, because usually just the lords and kigns get a statue. The center one depicting Lord Rickard Stark, and the two on either side depict his children (Brandon and Lyanna)

The Kitchen

- There is a separate building for the kitchen. Gage is the cook in charge of the kitchen.
- The Kitchen is close to the Hunter's Gate (and probably within reach of the Great Hall and Keep aswell)
- The Kitchen is described as cavernous. It is set well apart from the castle's main halls and keeps in case of a fire.
- The Kitchen is described as round.

The Castle Walls and Gates

- The Queen's wheelhouse was too wide to fit through the gate (Main Gate).
- At the south gate, on the third floor, there is an access to a tunnel within the inner wall that leads all the way around winterfell and has an exit on the ground floor at the north gate. (Terrain elevation difference and slanted floors)
- The inner walls are more than 100 feet tall, the outer walls are roughly 80 feet tall. The inner walls are older and has grey crenellations with square towers at every corner. The outer wall was raised many centuries later, 20 feet lower, but thicker and in better repair, boasting octagonal towers in place of square ones.
- One Gate leads to the Kingsroad. It has an iron portcullis and a drawbridge the massive oak-and-iron outer gates swing open. It opens up straight to the market square of Wintertown. On the way to the gate from the tower where south and east wall meet, theon rides past the well and the kitchens. This is later referred to as the Great Main Gate.
- The outer wall has several guard turrets. A series of chisel-cut handholds make up the ladders inside the tower's inner walls.
- The inner walls have straight stairs (not circular)
- Sometimes both the inner and outer gatehouses have portcullises.
- There is a wide moat between the walls.
- One Gate, is referred to by Theon as postern gate. This gate is later revealed to be called: The Battlements Gate, a small arched postern in the inner wall. Only half a gate in truth as it has a drawbridge but no gateway through the outer wall. At the end of the drawbridge is a rampart to the top of the wall.
- One Gate, is called the Hunter's Gate. It is close to the kitchen and kennels. The outside opens directly on fields and forests, without passing through wintertown. (I assume thats west, i.e. towards the Wolfswood => confirmed!.) You can see the morning sun brushing top of the bell tower from infront of the inside of the gate. The gate is flanked by towers.
- There is a watchtower at the angle where the eastern and southern walls come toghether.
- The East Gate opens up to the Kingsroad (I assume this is a sortie gate and not the main gate).

Wintertown

- There is an Inn
- There is an Alehouse called "The Smoking Log". You can stand under the sign.
- The roads are muddy and during summer only one in five of the neat log and undressed stone houses are occupied. The rest fills up as it gets colder.
- The market square has wooden stalls and a well in the middle of it. One of winterfell's gates opens directly to it.

Inspirational Images:

<u>Interpretations from Web Artists:</u>















