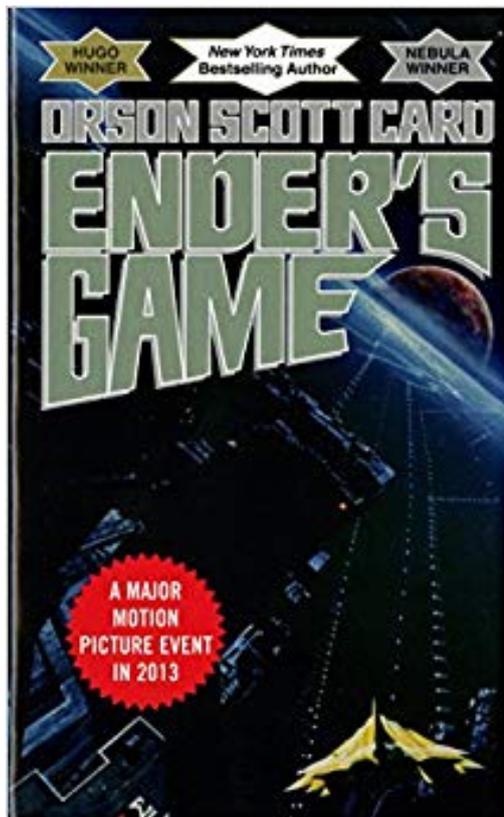


## Ender's Game (The Ender Quintet) by Orson Scott Card



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## Reviews of the Ender's Game (The Ender Quintet) by Orson Scott Card

### BoberMod

For me, the most interesting books involve strong, well-developed characters. Ender's Game is a 5 Star book because of Ender Wiggin; a complex and compelling boy whom the reader can't help but empathize with and cheer for throughout the read.

Does this book really need another review? Probably not. Clearly, Ender's Game is the mark of an excellent sci-fi read, so a lot of people probably agree with my assessment of Card's work. But let me just say, any book that has aliens (check), really really ridiculously smart children (check), a fast-paced and interesting plot line (check), action and battle and war! (check), and beautiful writing (check), should be read.

### Fordrekelv

When I was in ninth grade, we were taken to the library and told to choose a book so we'd have

something to read between standardized tests. Instead of picking a book, I started screwing around in the library. Generally getting into trouble. Typical teen stuff.

The librarian eventually nabbed me, and asked what sort of books I liked reading. For some reason that I still can't explain to this day, I thought that all the "cool" kids read science fiction. So that's what I said.

"Then you should read this book," she told me, handing me a fairly worn copy of 'Ender's Game,' and telling me that she loved it enough to re-read it every year.

I wasn't thrilled with it, to be honest. The cover seemed kind of hokey. It smelled funny (hey, I was a kid). I had no idea what a "Hugo" or "Nebula" award might be. But the bell was ringing, testing would begin shortly, and I was kind of stuck for options. I checked out the book, and went on my way.

I've always been a fast test taker, and so about an hour into a three-hour test I was done and bored. I opened the book and started reading. And a two hours later I was done.

Up to that point, I'd read tons of books—mostly of the "Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing" and "Encyclopedia Brown" variety. This was the first "grownup" fiction I'd ever read. And I was hooked. I went on to read everything I could find by Orson Scott Card. I wrote tons of short stories as creative writing assignments, all featuring Battle School or Ender himself. And I took what was a sorta-hobby of writing short stories and "books" (very short books, I assure you) and ended up turning it into a lifelong pursuit.

And, like the librarian, I've taken to re-reading this book every year. I've given away more copies of this single book than I can count. And I've owned every English-language version of it ever released. It's a benchmark, life-shaping book for me.

'Ender's Game' was the book that taught me that books could be what you do for a living. And for that, I'm incredibly grateful. My only regret is that I can't give it more than five stars.

### **Ishnsius**

I got this book when I saw a trailer for the movie. I was so intrigued by the trailer, I felt I needed to read the book. And I am so glad I did. There was so much they had to cut from the book to make the movie. Plus, getting to be in Ender's head was pretty cool.

Basic premise of the book: future dystopian world undergoing population control. The world has been attacked by aliens and humans were so scared, they decided to track down and wipe the aliens out. But they realized adult reflexes were too slow and their decisions weren't ruthless enough. So they created a battle school to find the smartest, most ruthless and most strategic of kids, and so they found Ender. To train him, they used games simulating battles they were actually having in space and they were amazed at the choices he made. Through video games, they were able to make Ender into a perfect military leader.

I won't tell any more than that because I don't want to spoil the book. But if you find yourself thinking "why is this kid so freaking important to these battle school leaders", at least you will understand going in. Definitely read it. I've read it twice now and it still amazes me.

### **Quynaus**

One of my favorite books. I have read this several times over the last 15 years and enjoy it each time. It is a sci-fi story that very much reads like a "Harry Potter" coming of age story so I am sure Potter

heads will love it too. There is a twist at the end I NEVER saw coming when I first read it in High School. I even named my cat Ender Wiggins to honor my favorite book character.

Yes, there is a movie, and if you never read the book you will enjoy it but to be honest I enjoyed the movie more having read the book. That is rare, but it gave great visuals for what was hard to imagine in the book.

Note: If you read and enjoy this book, check out Ender's Shadow. It is a parallel novel about the character Bean and is every bit of exciting.

### **Makaitist**

This is an interesting book. Of course it is completely fictional and highly improbable, but the excellent writing allows you to get into the story and to feel a part of the action. There is a lot of political exaggeration from the supporting characters, but the main guy seems to be believable and make rational decisions. My biggest hangup with the character is that he functions well beyond his age. He is a child genius, so his thought processes and ability to meet certain challenges are acceptable, but, smart or not, maturity comes with age and experience, so his interactions with his superiors are not very likely.

Still, an interesting concept with good writing. I recommend this book.

And then I recommend you stop. I read the next few books in this series and, instead of good books with good stories, I found the main character to be increasingly self-righteous, over developed, condescending, and boring. I got the distinct impression that the author was taking a swipe at certain religious elements by giving the impression that Ender is something of a [self-centered] Messiah or Savior. This book: worthwhile and entertaining. The next ones: progressively disappointing and increasingly annoying.

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