



The Fourth World

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Buried deep below the Nevada desert, is a very special school where the best and brightest children come from around the world to learn the technology that will bring mankind to its next step of evolution -- a place amongst the stars. 'The Fourth World' follows four children through a year in this school where they learn how to pilot a UFO, take a field trip to mars, and learn from aliens!

The Fourth World Details

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From Reader Review The Fourth World for online ebook

Renee says

Entertaining read; young adult driven. At points seemed to be very similar to the Harry Potter storyline. It definitely became more engaging and interesting as the book progressed. I am planning on reading the second book in the series.

Brandon says

Okay, so general consensus that I've read say that this book is like a sci-fi Harry Potter. However, it's only half HP...the other half is Ender's Game. It's like Ender and Harry had a lovechild. Sort of. This is it.

I gave Ender's Game and the majority of the HP series 5 stars. This, I give 4, because although I enjoyed it, it was like a bit of a lesser HP, and a bit of a lesser Ender. This book also was written with the specific purpose of continuing the story in "The Million Year Journey." In essence, this book shouldn't be read as a standalone. I would say the closest comparison would be The Empire Strikes Back...big drama, good guys are somewhat defeated, etc.

So I'll break it down a bit more, without giving spoilers.

HP similarities:

1. Young kid (12 years old I think) has a bad family life, goes to a special school where they're taught non-mundane skills
2. The popular school game is played in space ships, but is closest in gameplay to Quiddich.
3. Kids normally go home for holidays and summers, but Fintan of course doesn't want to go home.
4. A lot of the story is about Fintan's daily life, classes/learning, and finding his place in the school
5. School "squadrons" split into 4 groups (should have just named them Ravenclaw, Hufflepuff, Slytherin, and Gryffindor, lol)

Ender similarities:

1. Young kid is super smart (details of why found out in the book), chosen as "the One" by the leaders, whatever that means.
2. The leaders have a brief back-and-forth discussion of the progression of the main character at the beginning of each chapter
3. The popular school game is played in space ships rather than space suits in zero gravity, but the game strategy teaches the kids a skill they'll need in the "real" world.
4. Sure there's other good comparisons, but I'm getting bored of this.

So anyway, the story is good. The second book should flesh out the first and give the story a bit more of a finale. The ending was just too abrupt. Moving on to "The Million Year Journey" now.

Jenny Boyce says

This started out somewhat like the story 'The Mysterious Benedict Society', which is a young adult/children's book that I loved. This book though never really took off, all of the relationships in this story seemed awkward or forced and this book was somewhat of a drag to read. But, that given, I think that any young kid who enjoys space and aliens and who is just getting into reading would enjoy this book.

Katreena says

It took me a while to read this story simply because of the cover design. Once I started reading it though, I was completely hooked. I don't like to give away story plots, but I definitely encourage others to read this. Since reading this book, I have bought the other two books in the series and I have not been disappointed.

Faye says

Loved this book, even though its YA scifi, it could hold its own elsewhere. Can't wait to read book 2, can recommend it.

Dawn says

I definitely agree w/ the Harry Potter reference. The world these kids are thrust into is odd and full of twists and turns. They sense there is something more going on and there is. But that's for later... It's sci-fi and YA but I was sucked right in and finished it in one night. There is also a strong Navajo(American Indian) presence woven into the story. I immediately bought the second book when I finished this one. How could I not?

Caz Ward says

Brilliant book but the story is totally unfinished so book 2 is a must.

Sarah Crawford says

The problem is with the too-young age of the characters. They all act like they are much older and in a story like this, which has extremely serious things going on, it just doesn't work. The main characters would almost have to be uber-children to have the physical abilities and emotional abilities to handle what they are doing.

Basically, the Earth has either been visited or taken over by aliens. That isn't really made clear. Anyhow, there's some race of beings that could attack the Earth and wipe it out and the kids are being used as combat

pilots. Doesn't make sense. There's also no indication that any other kind of defenses are being prepared.

This is all a shame since the characters are done so well.

Gavin says

[I didn't care in the

Manoj says

It's a combination between Harry Potter and Ender's Game. At times it is an annoying copy of these books, while at others it brings some new and interesting ideas.

Overall, a decent read.

Michael says

I judge my science fiction on a modified version of the Baen criteria: the technology has to be something I can put my head around, there must be a believable plot, and if there are aliens they have to have names I can understand. The author hits it on these three crazy things, and writes a pretty good tale that could be enjoyed by adults as well as children. He does leave a cliff-hanger ending, making you want more as the book comes to an end so I hope there is a sequel coming soon before I forget about this one.

Clayton says

This is actually a review of "Fourth World" and the second in the series, "The Million Year Journey". I actually paid for the second, as I left the first volume feeling there was a lot of potential: good idea, good story, good writing, decent characters.... But #2 did not quite live up to that feeling, and I am getting just too much "young adult" vibe from the story to want to continue at this time. That is not necessarily a bad thing, but not what I am looking for. I can see how others might rate this book a lot higher than I have. If some day I come back and buy the third installment, I promise to bump it up to four stars. ;-)

Sabrina Riley says

What an awesome story this one turned out to be!

The main characters are 4 easy-to-like and believable children, from different countries, embarking on a journey to a very special, very secret school.

Once they get there, they realize just how special this school really is. I don't want to give away any spoilers,

but let's just say that their curriculum involves more than reading, writing, and arithmetic. Maybe a little space-age technology. :)

The story line is blended into real-life mythology as well, and information is given out at just the right intervals; keeping the reader guessing without getting bored. The relationships between the children are endearing, and while I know this book was meant for young readers, I was drawn into the action and the mystery.

I've seen other reviews comparing it to the Harry Potter series and Ender's Game. There are definitely aspects that are similar to each, and at first I was concerned. However, it ends up being that the similarities are vague and expected of a book about very special children in a very special school, and what they learn, academically and otherwise.

Nat says

It's a bit like Harry Potter goes to space!!

A really good story though - onto the sequel!

Rasma says

I didn't think I would like this book, but I ended up loving it. It had aliens and futuristic scenarios and was well written and attention grabbing, looking forward to the next book in the series.
