1…..The Toy Makers(4.6/5) 125

5-78

4-16

3-4

2-0

1-2

Helpful(6)

The perfect book to read whilst it was snowing outside. Magical and whimsical I loved all the characters oh and I really want a patchwork dog! Lovely and a bit haunting I really enjoyed this book.

5 star Rating

1. It's as if Terry Pratchett has come back to life Disney ToyStory style. The magic of a child's imagination when it comes to their toys. How I wanted for it to be real so I could step through the doors of Papa Jacks Emporium and be a child again. But there is still ordinary magic that sustains us through life; and, if you are wise, the wonder to be seen in the world around us through the child's eyes.
2. I was transported, uplifted, amazed and delighted. My heart soared with joy, I cried and was uplifted again. I wish I had written this book!  
   Put aside a weekend - because you wont be able to put it down -and live the magic that comes alive in between these pages.  
   It is The Velveteen Rabbit, The Phoenix and the Carpet, Willy Wonka’s Chocolate Factory and Bedknobs and Broomsticks - and more - combined.  
   Pure magic!
3. Wow! Wow! And yet again....Wow!! What an absolutely wonderful, captivating, magical tale this was to read. I loved it from start to finish and was extremely sad when I came to the end.

1 star

1. Need the mind of a child to enjoy this fantsy
2. Don't waste your money
3. Such a disappointment. Having ordered this in hardback, which I rarely ever do since I have a kindle, I couldn’t wait to get stuck into this book. The first chapter starts off okay but by the 4th I’d thrown it on my ‘to give to charity shop’ pile. The story is just plain daft - not magical at all. There is no authenticity to the time, it just feels like a flimsy story written in 2017 but purporting to be set around the war. I guess I was expecting another book thief but the only thing this book stole was my money and four chapters’ worth of my time.

2……Ready Player One (4.7/5) 2116

5-77

4-13

3-5

2-2

1-3

Helpful Review--34

I loved this book! As a woman in her 40s, I'm definitely not the target market for this. It’s a young adult book, and scifi, both of which I don’t usually read. However, as a bit of a gamer geek and an 80s nut, this was recommended to me by friends, and I’m so glad I read it – it was just brilliant!  
  
It’s set in a dystopian future in 2044 – oil has run out, the climate is a wreck, and most people escape reality by spending their lives inside an immense virtual reality video game called the OASIS (similar to Second Life, if you’ve ever played it). It has its own currency, and kids even go to school inside the game. The creator of the game, James Halliday, died years earlier, without an heir to his immense empire, but left a video will with clues/easter eggs to be tracked in the game. Whoever solves these will inherit the OASIS, and the immense wealth that goes with it, and it’s an international obsession. Halliday was a teenager in the 80s and remained fixated with the era, so this means that everyone who is trying to solve the puzzle is just as fanatical, leading to some wonderful references. Wade Watts, our protagonist, is one of the millions trying to crack this. He’s a teenager, stony broke, living with his aunt, and at the bottom of the OASIS food chain. Through a combination of luck and skill with 80s arcade games, Wade somehow manages to be the first solve the first clue, and that’s when everything changes.  
  
I’m not going to give you any spoilers, but I can’t recommend this highly enough. Great characters, very nasty baddies, loaded with 80s references, and actually worryingly possible – it’s definitely worth a read. Oh, and Steven Spielberg bought the film rights – the movie will be released in 2018. I hope he does it justice.

5 star

1. I loved this book and I can't wait for the film of it to be released, I just hope they do the book justice. If you are a gamer, and I don't mean you have only played cod or other shooters, then this book would be a must read in my opinion. It is still a good read even if you don't get all of the 80's pop culture references, which I didn't to be honest, though it will help if you have some knowledge of old game systems and 80's pop culture.
2. I know it's a cliché but this book is SUCH a page-turner. Absolutely loved it. You do not have to be a geek or even a gamer to enjoy this wonderful, wonderful book. Read it before the film comes out as I find it hard to believe that the film will be able to get the rights for all the incidental material such as TARDISs, X wing fighter, D'loreans etc etc
3. If you love the 80s, gaming culture or PURE adventure then this is for you. I have been WANTING to go to work instead of working from home as I then have time to read more of this EPIC book on the train. Have not been able to put this down. Mind-blown!  
     
   Update: Just finished this and whilst the end is great, its not the grand spectacle I wanted to see, it felt short BUT this was one of my favourite books of all time. Honestly SO MUCH detail! Loved it.

1 star

1. Story is ok, nothing new. Certainly should never be put on a level with the likes of brave new world, 1984 etc. It’s not even close! This book has hugely boosted my confidence as a budding author, Jesus Christ, this almost feels like a rough draft! People who don’t take reading seriously will jump on the band wagon and scream from the roof tops how great it is, it’s not!
2. Sad, nostalgia-masturbatory wish fulfillment. I expected this to have been written by someone much younger.
3. this is bad, very bad sci fi....buy only 2nd hand!

3……. Extracted(4.2/4) 444

5-59

4-18

3-11

2-6

1-6

Helpful Review (16 people)

I came across this book and was interested by the blurb so gave it a go.The idea of the story is actually pretty good though i feel i've seen it before - time travel, fix a wrong doing etc but with a twist (with regards to the extraction part). It was a nice read, easy to get through and the story was built up well, though I found some of the central chapters somewhat repetitive and the writing a little crude in places. This isn't a ground breaking novel, though if you like reading this kind of genre it does well to hold your attention. I will definitely check out the next installment when its released.

5 star

1. Just finished this book which I enjoyed very much despite the pantomime dialogue at times. This put me off at first but I carried on reading and am glad I did. The ideas were original and the characters were interesting and complex, they made a great team in the end with loyalty to each other which was endearing. The storyline ramped up to a point where I can't wait to read the second book. I am hooked..
2. Well this was a very good find and would highly recommend this book to all. Stick with it at times and you will be rewarded with a very good story of life and death with a lot of intrigue along the way that just keeps you turning the pages right pass the point when you know you Should put the book down and go to Sleep but you just keep turning the pages. Hope Book 2 is not that far in the future? Enjoy it.
3. This was my first Kindle book and a bit of a impulse read, as I usually stick with my favourite authors like Stephen King, or other big names in fiction. Was pleasantly surprised how good this story was. Well written and very exciting, I also like how the author expands on the characters without padding things out as some tend to do. Can't wait to read the next instalment !

1 Star

1. Sounded like my sort of story and had 4.2 stars. I managed to get a little way through but at one point, having got bored, I skipped several pages on unnecessary dialogue and didn’t miss them. Very rarely do I not finish a book I’ve started but this was one of those rare occasions.
2. This really had me hooked on the first few chapters but then it just sort of petered out and didn't really go anywhere. It felt like it was the first part of a book rather than an entire story arch. I don't mind if it's a trilogy style, so long as each book also has a complete story beginning, middle and end. This just feels like a really really really long beginning to me.
3. I'd like a time machine to prevent myself from wasting my time with this book. Such a shame, the beginning is promising but the writing turns tiresome and repetitive. The plot stagnates, I ended up skipping pages and sometimes full chapters without missing anything in the story. I tried to keep reading in the hope that it would pick up again but in the end couldn't even finish it.

4……………The Race of Dragon(96) 4.8

90

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Helpful(14)

A thoroughly enjoyable read. I wasn't expecting it to be so good and so well written I couldn't put it down and had to book a day off work to finish it. Previous reviews refer to the difficulties people had with the names and I agree, but this is also part of what draws you in. I don't tend to read many fantasy novels, other than the classics, like Lord of the Rings, American Gods, etc so I'm really glad I stumbled across this one even though the title is pretty uninspiring. I have a literary void until the next volume comes out.

5 star

1. What an incredible ride this was. I couldn't have given it less than 5 stars. It was beautifully imperfect, a coming of age story with all its heart break, that one could expect to find in an epic fantasy. Only thing I needed was a map just to illustrate the parts that make up the land.
2. A really unique fantasy setting, the action starts from the beginning and the pace of the story doesn't let up. I was engaged with the characters, the world felt visceral, the story takes interesting turns. I can't wait for the second book.
3. This book is every bit as good as Blood Song, and promises to get better if that is even possible. The names can be a bit jarring at first but believe you me, it doesn't take long before you get completely sucked in.

3 Star

1. I found this book slow and tedious, so much so that I couldn't even finish it. But we're all different and others may enjoy it.
2. Fun but too short but really do enjoy the mc who is really bad ass bit naive hope next book comes soin

5……….. The Golden Age(4.2/5)

48

33

13

4

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Helpful(7)

This is the first book I had read by James Maxwell, and I got this as a prime kindle first freebie of the month. It is not a genre of book that I would generally read, preferring crime and thriller novels. However, I thoroughly enjoyed this book. I was drawn to the main characters immediately. I found myself looking at the map to get a better understanding of the story line, which really helped and I would recommend it. Very easy to read, and I look forward to reading more of James Maxwells books and will also look out for the next book in this series.

5 Star

1. When I saw the front of the book I was intrigued. The story lived up to it. The idea of warring factions is nothing new, but add to it a race of shape shifters and you get a book that you can't out down.
2. I  liked the Evermen saga. And this was a good first book for what I assume will be another good saga. Although a little predictable and possibly too descriptive at places. But some people might find it more helpful of course. I like the way both male and female characters are given equal importance like it was in the Evermen saga. The author has a good way of make you like and care about the characters. Recommend it.
3. I enjoy the historical setting and fantastical nature of the story. They co-mingle extremely well. The attention to detail in the battles both land and sea is exhilarating to read and immerses you in the theatre of war. The setting is well described enabling your imagination to soar.

1 star

1. Disappointing, by the numbers bit of nonsense. Jumped around like a fish on a hook, never resting long enough to engage.
2. Predictable story line. flat unengaging writing. found myself skipping forward note really caring about the characters or stoyline. will definitely not be reading the rest of this series.
3. I actually stopped reading this at about 86% complete as I just got so fed up of the writing style. As a reader you get no opportunity to wonder or work anything out yourself, everything is over explained & hammered home. Characters make very unrealistic decisions, reactions & advances in their skills! I also found it all a bit melodramatic - like when a character has been captured & held hostage for a matter of days & you get descriptions like "she tried to remember what it was like to be free". Please. A shame as I really wanted to like it & found the premise intriguing.

6……………….. Red Sister (266 4.4/5)

65

23

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Helpful (9)

I've long been quite a fan of Mark Lawrence so, in picking up Red Sister, I thought that I knew what to expect.Oh no! Mr Lawrence has found a whole new level of competence that lifts Red Sister even above the high standards that he's already set in previous work. This is the first in a trilogy and I have just one, massive, complaint; I've got to wait another year before getting my hands on the second in the series!  
  
The fantasy world created here will be fairly familiar to readers of previous ML works as, although a different world, it's still a sort of pseudo-medieval society that exists in a world that seems to be the Earth that we know but at some future date, when we have destroyed lots of it. As with other of his works, the world in Red Sister is not described in one, huge, lump of detail but, rather, the reader finds an impression forming throughout the entire book so, for instance, the reality of the 'Red Moon' and its 'Focus' is not immediately evident but becomes clear part way in.  
  
The main character here, Nona, is a young girl, but the gender of this character is irrelevant as the reader has no trouble at all latching on to this character. As always, all of the other characters are extremely well drawn, with a depth and clarity that draws the reader in. One thing that I would have appreciated is some sort of map of the convent, just to orientate the movements of the characters through this establishment in which so much of this story is set.  
  
Again as always, but this time even more poignantly, there are shifts in perception to deceive the reader. A story is, for example, told by one of the characters which the reader, understandably, accepts as fact and when, later, it is revealed that the narrator's view was flawed, parts of the story fall into place like tumblers in a lock.  
  
Mark Lawrence doesn't dwell, unnecessarily, on sexual matters and thank goodness for that as I'm tired of seeing other authors shoe-horn in a love interest or sex scene, clumsily, into the narrative just because someone thought that it's an essential art of every book. There's certainly no prudishness on the part of Mr Lawrence, it's just the story doesn't call for a red hot sex scene. Matters of lesbian relationships, love between women and menstruation are all covered here appropriately, so there's no dodging of issues; it's just placed into the story in a naturally proper way.  
  
The combat scenes in here are riveting and they're also very frequent, so if you've loved the gore in previous books, you won't be disappointed. Again, the gender thing is irrelevant as it isn't the gender of opponents that is a factor but simply size and strength pitted against speed and skill. Mr L never shies away from killing off significant characters and such is the case here. And, more than in previous books, heroes become villains and then, possibly, back to heroes again. One character, Yisht, kept me guessing right up until the end.  
  
Obviously, the scene is now set for the second in this trilogy; 'Grey Sister', and, for me, waiting is just agony!

5 Star Rating

1. Well written, fresh themed fantasy (soupcon of Sci-Fi) with believable characters and not-too predictable (if at all) plot line. Not at all like Hogwarts, the Convent of Sweet Mercy is how I imagine Bene Gesserit education went down! Looking forward to the next installment, not because this one was left unfinished (my pet hate), but because the world is so rich, there are plenty more stories to enjoy. Recommended!
2. I  really enjoyed this book. I am a great fan of the Broken Empire series and was interested to see how a new series on a different world would work. I am happy to say that it is captivating, again the worldbuilding is extraordinary and after the first 20 pages i knew that i was going to enjoy this book a great deal. I cannot wait for the next installment.
3. What an exciting start to a new series. Mark Lawrence has a knack of capturing your attention from the start and as in all his previous novels this one is no different. Likeable characters, great plot, imaginative setting this new novel has the lot and I cannot wait for the next book. I highly recommend this book to all fantasy fans. The genre is safe in writers like Marham Lawrence and Joe Abercrombie's hands.

1 Star Rating

1. Dribble. The biggest dissapointment of the year. From the writer of such brilliant books as the broken empire series it's heartbraking.  
   A boring story of a bunch of nuns that goes nowhere fast.
2. liked this book better the first time i read it, last year, when Jay Kristoff released Nevernight.  
     
   In all seriousness, its not a bad book but it's earily similar. Girl cast out. Ends up in assassin school. Has magic powers. Has issues with the local high priest/pope character. Its all in Nevernight, which is also a better book by the way.  
     
   Once again, not a bad book but it's been done before.
3. Not worth the excessive price for a kindle edition.

7……………………… Executed (4.7/5) 368

5-82

4-12

3-3

2-2

1-1

Helpul(23)

Damn that was so good. Time travel without the mind bending theoretical physics, with plenty of violence and humour. Would Stephen Hawking like it? No, probably not. So if you're a theoretical physicist or maybe just have a stick up your butt and can't just enjoy a good yarn, then this isn't for you. However, if you like plenty of action, occasional sexy goings-on and a fast paced unpredictable story then you'll love it. Of course this is all entirely pointless if you bought the first book, because you'll already know it's a great story and you're just hopping straight to the next volume. If you haven't read the first book then what are you doing here? Go read the first one!

5 star

1. The second book out passes the first in pace and action. Even the sexy romantic bits fit in perfectly amongst all the carnage as our hero's strive to save the day, and the planet. Time travel screws with your mind as this fast action packed adventure plays out. Loved ever minute of the three hours it took me to read.
2. A great follow on with great characters & with some new ones also. Again it makes you think about time travel. Maybe that's why the world is in such a mess with all the time travellers going back & forwards.  
   The book does have it's slow parts but then it's off with a bang. The confusing parts are all tied up at the end leaving just 1 question. If this is a trilogy, Where is the third book?
3. Have read book 1 and book2 and am waiting for 3! The characters are very human and believable with humour and lots of action. What seems at first a repetition of several different actions in same time zone, can be seen as the time frames the team go through in their training. It is a tale right up there for action, humour and thoughtfulness. Bring on book 3. RR is highly recommended.

1 star

1. What a waste of money. Could not understand any of it. I've read over 300 books on kindle and this is the absolute worst. It aS just a constant explosion of characters no tie ins nothing could have done better myself. Am utterly speechless!
2. Nothing wrong with the book. I was unable to purchase it on my iPhone "This item is not available for purchase from your device" (same message when using the app. and on the actual site). I had to purchase on Macbook. No good to me if travelling with access only to iPhone. A pity that the only way to feedback on poor service is this way as the one star is not a fair reflection on the book or the author. Sort it out Amazon/Kindle
3. The premise of this book sounds remarkably like Alex Scarrow's Time Riders series for young teens. In Time Riders 3 young people are "rescued" at the point of death in 1912, 2010 and 2026". They find themselves working for the mysterious inventer of a time machine who has recruited them to prevent time travel destroying the world.

8………….. Iron Will(127) 4.7/5

79

18

3

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Helpful(11)

I enjoyed the story but was distracted by a couple of things which distracted from the story as a whole. Firstly, the author seemed to loose count of the dragons. After several battles where many dragons were killed when we get to the final battle they were almost all still alive. Secondly, a lot of the weapons used earlier in the book such as the poison for example became almost ineffective by the end. The final battle just didn't make sense. Felt like author tried to cram to many elements in at the end for it to work well

5 Star

1. Another ''could not put down'' book from James Maxwell.. from the first page to the end... I am always disappointed when I come to the end or a James Maxwell Book because I know I will have a difficult time finding something else to read.... which keep me totally captured in his fantasy world....
2. I have left my review until I finished the last book.very often the first story is good only for the next to disappoint. Not the case in this series. Every page wants you to turn the next. Wonderful.
3. Loved this series - just a minor niggle, namely in the last book and the climatic final, the number of dragons seems to inexplicably grow irrespective of how many have already been killed. Bugged me slightly. But overall a great series that keeps you entertained

3 star

1. Always worth the read when a series ends well.  
   Slightly predictable in some parts but generally a very good read.
2. I enjoyed the story but was distracted by a couple of things which distracted from the story as a whole. Firstly, the author seemed to loose count of the dragons. After several battles where many dragons were killed when we get to the final battle they were almost all still alive. Secondly, a lot of the weapons used earlier in the book such as the poison for example became almost ineffective by the end. The final battle just didn't make sense. Felt like author tried to cram to many elements in at the end for it to work well

9……….. Snow Crash(174) 4.1

58

19

10

5

8

Helpful(7)

The beginning of this book has some of the most relentless and funny SF action I have ever read.Phrases from it have entered my vocabulary.It's a brilliant,believable future full of 3 dimensional characters who stick in your mind and I don't want to say why because of spoilers.I'm so glad to get an E version as I've nearly worn out my pb copy.

5 star

1. Cyberpunk and sci-fi readers who haven't read this are missing out. Should appeal to fans of the genre, its funny, witty, absurd, intelligent and absolutely cram packed with some of the most outlandish imagery from a true literary genius. Diamond Age is marginally better as the story is more full realized, but this is a blast to read if you enjoy the style! Buy it at your nearest Buy 'n' Fly, and grab a pizza to go!
2. The only bummer to this futuristic tribute (with the backwards appreciation to Sumner) is that it's too short! You won't regret getting this if you like a clever spin on tech.
3. This is my 3rd time with this title. The first time I bought the paperback from amazon fairly close to the date it came out. The second time I bought the audible version, and now the kindle version. The book is just as fresh and compelling as it was the first time. I find myself dwelling over the details much more this time than before. Quite possible required reading for anyone who works in software development.

1 Star

1. Just doesn't stand the test of time. Technical material is out-dated and the plot is nonsensical at best. I enjoyed Cryptonomicon and wanted more of Stephenson but will be giving him a long, if not permanent break.
2. I devoured Anathem and adored The /Primer. For me, this one was a dull, disappointment. It had good elements but the arguments didn't hang together.
3. I like a nice thriller to unwind between serious reads, but I didn't have the patience for this one: all the worst feaures of the genre are here - cardboard characters, unbelievable plotting and weak dialogue.

10………….. Quidditch through the ages(391) 4.8

81

14

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Helpful(29)

1. I found this book to be far better than "fantastic beasts and where to find them" as it goes in to more depth with the history, which could be seen as very convincing. The book starts off by going into explaining the humble beginnings of the game in a wizard's family garden. The book continues on to the more primitive, earlier version of the game, the rules and the controversies, the historic games, the advances in broomsticks - how it was popular to make your own in the early stages of the games before witches and wizards eventually decided to buy them made from companies. It also talks about the balls used in the game and what they were once originally made of and what the Golden Snitch was based on. It finishes by explaining how the game is played today.Throughout there are mentions of prominent Teams and Players throughout the world and how it spread throughout. A whole chapter being dedicated to the Quidditch teams of The UK and Ireland. I love how Rowling does a great job making this world believable that it's actually real. I think all Harry Potter fans should at least read this once.

5 star

1. This is definitely worth its star rating . Joanne has a wonderful way capturing the imagination with wit and wisdom of all things magic. First rate, keep them coming JK.
2. Always great to venture in to the world of JK Rowling. This book is written in true Rowling style with a lot of laughs along the way with Lot of fun facts about quidditch.
3. Very good I know that the companys are milking the Harry Potter name but it is still good reading

1 Star

1. Ok i;ve got nothing against the author i'm sure she's a very nice lady but i don't think she wrote this and in saying this i've read the Brewers gride to myths and fairy tales and the strange thought of "repertation" and "cut and paste2 kept leaping into my head. it's raied millions for chartiy so it's a good thing but i don't think she was the author of this book
2. Remember that fable about the emperors new robes? Only a un-indoctrinated child realised he was actually buck-naked? Well... I think this book has recieved a few 'blinded' reviews. Harry potter books are brilliant... i'd give them all 5 stars. The two comic relief books however were extremely bland and ordinary, and though I'd recommend anyone to buy them for their charity value... don't kid yourself that they're a particularly good read.
3. A little repetitive in parts and not very long, but enough new information to justify the price.