My Favorites

My favorite book of all time is *Ender’s Game*. Orson Scott Card’s ingenuity and creativity mixed with just the right amount of controversy makes for a truly enthralling book. What is presented as the ultimate conflict is vastly overshadowed by the riveting themes of psychology, morality and intellectual power that drive Ender’s game. When you consider that the ultimate conflict is the threat of mankind’s annihilation by a vastly superior alien species, that’s quite impressive. I was captivated by the fascinating portrayal of intellect and personality – with the perfect mix of both, Ender manipulates and strategizes his way to victory in games, fights, and ultimately, the survival of the human race. With a boldly unique set of characters and an astonishing plot, *Ender’s Game* delivers an unforgettable experience that can be enjoyed again and again.

My favorite author is Anthony Horowitz. I have grown up with the *Alex Rider* series. First introduced to the books eight years ago, I have followed Rider through his daring escapades, finally arriving at a satisfying conclusion just last year. I enjoy Horowitz’s horror compilations and am anxious to finish his Power of Five series, an unmatched supernatural epic. How I wish *Oblivion*’s release in Canada was not eight months late.

*The Dark Knight* and *Looper* are among the films which have bolted me to the edge of my seat and left me stricken in awe at the end. *The Dark Knight* goes above and beyond a ‘super’ hero movie. It tugs at our sanity with a psychotic criminal whose disturbing analysis of society cannot be disproved and the moral ambiguity of the only one who can stop him. Batman, who lies to preserve the soul of a city, is subject to the same protection by his butler. This reversal of roles exposes the almighty guardian as a fragile and susceptible human, a chilling thought with profound effect.

*Looper* uses a gripping dystopian environment to parallel many of the problems that plague society today – violence, promiscuity, unrestrained substance abuse and pollution. Yet, *Looper* carries hope, the promise of free will and a man who defies his destiny to perpetuate a vicious cycle. Joe who can see the delusions of his future self chooses his own fate, changing the life of a child who holds the world in his hands. *Looper*’s emotional depth and tragic but hopeful ending evokes sentiment and awe, an inspiring and memorable film.