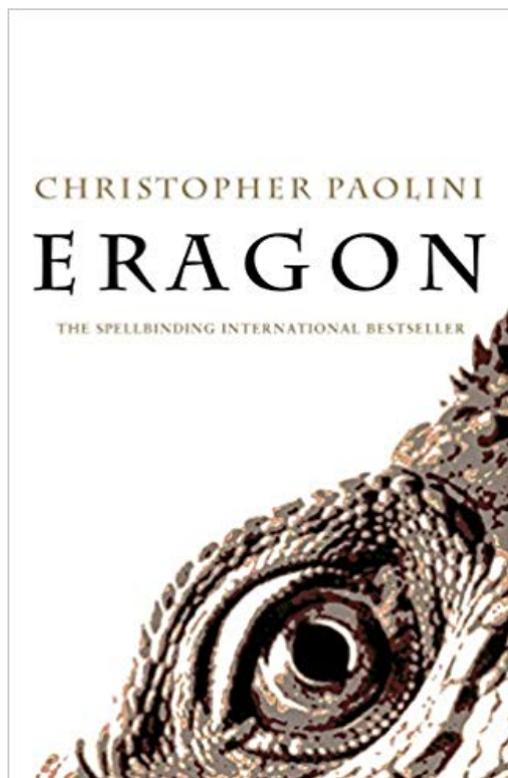


## Eragon by Christopher Paolini



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## Reviews of the Eragon by Christopher Paolini

Tall

I thoroughly enjoyed Eragon, Eldest, Brisingr, and Inheritance of Chris Paolini's The Inheritance Cycle series. Originally intended as a trilogy, their bestselling success spawned a fourth book, which was a very welcome addition. I have since handed them down to my nephew where they are enjoying a new life with a new generation.

Though they've been out for quite awhile now, I have to be honest and say I bought them years ago, and only got them off the shelf a few months ago. Having been grown up as an avid fan of Dungeons and Dragons, Lord of the Rings, and the usual fantasy fare, I was pretty excited to re-enter that universe.

These have been reviewed ad infinitum; so I think I can really only add to the discussion my own

experience with the four books as a 47-year-old reader. I was a bit concerned that they might be written a bit too much for kids, as I'd heard they were. But, I have to say, I was definitely misinformed. These are as applicable to adults as the Harry Potter or Hunger Games books or any other well-written fantasy tales that were initially marketed to the teen reader market, but obviously found runaway success with readers from all age brackets.

In short, each of the four books was a very fun read, and I would absolutely recommend the series to anyone with an interest in the fantasy genre.

Gavirus

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These have been reviewed ad infinitum; so I think I can really only add to the discussion my own experience with the four books as a 40-something-year old reader. I was a bit concerned that they might be written a bit too much for kids, as I'd heard they were. But, I have to say, I was definitely misinformed. These are as applicable to adults as the Harry Potter or Hunger Games books or any other well-written fantasy tales that were initially marketed to the teen reader market, but obviously found runaway success with readers from all age brackets.

In short, each of the four books was a very fun read, and I would absolutely recommend the series to anyone with an interest in the fantasy genre.

Thohelm

Can't say it's the best written book ever if you're an adult. Much of the book is written a little vanilla plain. However, it is a very good story and well written considering Paolini was fifteen years old when he started to write this novel. This entire series is worth reading a few times. Don't waste your time on the movie as it's nothing like the book and the only thing used from the book in the movie is the character names.

Balladolbine

My favorite dragon series is Paolini's. Why do I like it? Of course, Saphira, the Blue Dragon, is a wonderful character. She is a wise and wise-cracking creature with a tremendous sense of humor. Eragon is a believable hero who grows in complexity as he ages and meets the many challenges in his life. We meet elves, dwarves, sorcerers, monsters, witches, a werecat and humans, some good, some evil. What sets this series above the typical dragon fantasy is its very practical understanding of politics. I am amazed at the astuteness of the young author of these works. He understands the impact politics has on our morality and presents numerous examples of the dangers all of us face when presented with political decision making.

Dogrel

I liked reading this book so that I could discuss it with my grandson who'd read it. He let me know he'd read the series, but warned me the movie wasn't so hot. I suppose for a fantasy novel (of which genre I rarely read), it was fine. The best part was enjoying it with someone else. I think it's pretty impressive that the author wrote it at such a young age too.

There's a lot of imagination here, but at times, I felt like Paolini was trying to be a Tolkien, and just adding a dragon into the mix.

Fordregelv

The most surprising thing about this book, the most recent of a long series, is that you can read it all by itself. I had not read the previous books, but found my way into the narrative thread with no trouble. The characters caught the emotions and the plot led gracefully, but with several expected and unexpected hitches, to a very satisfactory conclusion. It's difficult to write a series book that stands alone as well as this one.

My one worry is that characters, human and dragon, wield various forms of magic that remain unexplained. It's true that demonstration beats theory every time, but mention is made of training, training to use the magical powers some characters have or acquire. It leaves the reader wanting to know more, but vaguely dissatisfied at the same time.

Above all the writer uses Tolkien's eucatastrophe well, the culminating point of the story where a totally unexpected victory emerges from the jaws, if not the very guts, of defeat. And saves the world. He also includes, as is only proper, the hero's wounds and isolation after the victory, his need for distance, which in this book, fairy-tale fashion, takes the form of physical distance. I recommend this book very highly, although, because I have not read them, I cannot make any assessment of the previous books in the series.

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