

we write about the things we build and the things we consume

 written by Adam Millican on 30 January 2017 in people

one of my favourite authors – brandon sanderson

I recently lost my Kindle on a train, and realised just how much I love reading and becoming immersed in worlds from the fantasy genre, so I thought I'd write a post about one of my favourite authors - [Brandon Sanderson](#).

the cosmere

The Cosmere is the name of a universe created by Brandon Sanderson which many of his works are meant to be from, in an attempt to link many of his books without creating a 30ish book long series that needs to be read in order. You can read almost any of his standalone series without needing to have read everything he's ever written, and they still link in some way if you read enough of them.

There is even one character called Hoid, who pops up seemingly at random throughout many of his books, apparently able to travel between worlds, interfering with characters and plots all over the place.

It's also worth mentioning that the movie rights to the entire Cosmere were purchased by DMG Entertainment, so fingers crossed we'll one day see some pretty awesome films come out of this, bringing Sanderson's works to the masses.

robert jordan

You can't talk about Brandon Sanderson as an epic fantasy writer without mentioning the fact that he was selected to finish off Robert Jordan's Wheel of Time series, which spanned 14 large volumes, and a prequel and a companion book, after Robert Jordan died before completing it. I can't talk too much about the Wheel of Time series myself, having only managed to read the first 8 volumes (they're BIG), but I do wish to one day read the entire series through, if only to see how the damn thing ends.

the stormlight archive

You also can't talk about the Wheel of Time without mentioning Sanderson's projected 10 book series called The Stormlight Archive. The first two books are out and the series is already my joint favourite (with Patrick Rothfuss's Kingkiller Chronicle, and [Eliezer Yudkowsky's Harry Potter and the Methods of Rationality](#)). The first book - The Way of Kings, is over 1000 pages (for the hardback anyway) of pure gold.

mistborn

Mild magic system spoilers for Mistborn below.

The first books by Brandon Sanderson that I read were those of the Mistborn Trilogy, which now looks to be shaping up to become a trilogy of trilogies. This is set in a world where certain people, born with the ability, can ingest small amounts of certain metals and 'burn' them internally to release magic and allow abilities. These abilities vary from sensory enhancement to being able to push or pull metals towards or from you, allowing techniques such as launching yourself from stationary metal objects to leap great distances, which can be chained to allow some sort of flight like fast travel.

the fantasy universe as a concept

I particularly love the fantasy genre due to the author's freedom to build magical concepts into the laws of science for that particular universe. You have to look at it like you're rediscovering the laws of physics, but a few bizarre and awesome things are different, allowing people to do incredible things. You can't help but see the author as a God in their own right as far as the universe is concerned, reshaping the fundamental ways in which everything is possible, and guiding you through epic tales of their own creation.

What about you? What books do you enjoy and why? Let us know in the comments!

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