

Reviewer: Savannah Gomes

Quarter: 1

School Year: 2012-2013

Title: *Ender's Game*

Genre: Science Fiction

Author: Orson Scott Card

of Pages: 324

The book I read was *Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card. In this book, the main character, Ender, is sent off for military training at an extremely young age. He was a genius among geniuses, excelling at maneuvering in null gravity and the mind game he played, getting farther than anyone else. As he moves up the ranks, people come to resent him because he is much younger than them and also much better. He gets into a fight and unknowingly kills one of the boys. As he continues up the ranks, eventually getting to command his own small army, he wins battles that were set up to make him lose. When he is finally moved to Command School, he plays another simulation where he must try to beat the buggers. Eventually, he figures out how to beat the buggers: their queen thinks for all of them, so they must go down together. It turns out that the game at the command school was real, though. When he won the game, the battle with the buggers was over in real time.

A passage that interests me is, "He felt then what the hive-queen felt, watching through her workers' eyes as death came to them too quickly to avoid, but not too quickly to be anticipated. There was no memory of pain or fear, though. What the hive-queen felt was sadness, a sense of resignation," (319). Ender was the one who killed the buggers and now he got to see his battles from a different view. After this, he made it his mission to find a new place for the buggers to nest. It was like his penance to them after all the harm he did.

Out of the book, I got that lies can sometimes work just as well as the truth. The military thought that the best way to win against the enemy was to have their little prodigy think he was only playing a harmless game. It wasn't heartbreaking for Ender to send so many to their deaths while he was doing it because he didn't know it was real. The military got what they wanted, too. Eventually, it hurt Ender, but he got over it with the help of the queen.

I'd recommend the book as long as it isn't being read for school. I think reading it at your own pace is better because you get to enjoy how convoluted Ender's world is. You get to feel for him without having to think about what the blue pain on the wall means about his emotions.