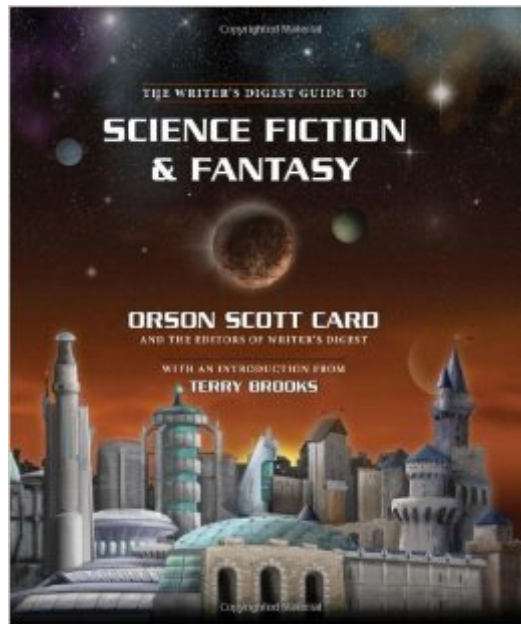


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# The Writer's Digest Guide To Science Fiction & Fantasy



## Synopsis

Craft an otherworldly experience for your readers! Do you dream of writing tales that pull readers into extraordinary realms? The Writer's Digest Guide to Science Fiction & Fantasy gives you everything you need to build a fantastic world, inhabit it with original and believable characters, and create an authentic and enthralling story. Two complete books in one, this comprehensive guide includes invaluable and timeless advice for writing and selling speculative fiction from best-selling author Orson Scott Card's *How to Write Science Fiction & Fantasy*, as well as world-building information and instruction from the indispensable classic *The Writer's Complete Fantasy Reference*. You'll discover: how to wield story elements that "define" the science fiction and fantasy genres ways to build, populate and dramatize fantastic new worlds how to construct compelling stories by developing ideas, characters, and events that keep readers turning pages historically accurate information about world cultures, legends, folklore and mysticism how to authentically portray the rituals of magic and witchcraft in-depth descriptions of mythological creatures, fantasy races, clothing, weapons, armor, and more The boundaries of your imagination are infinite, but to truly hook your reader you must ground your fiction with credible details. Let this book be your guide as you venture into the fantastic and you'll create vibrant, captivating new worlds that spring off the page.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

A uniquely organized book chock full of interesting information about world building and historical peoples. The fantasy section is very interesting just for the information about ancient peoples, their

lives and even the diagram of a castle. All in all a pleasure to read for both the science fiction writer and fantasy writer. The books cover nearly everything from the ground up and will be on my shelf for years as a valuable resource and interesting read for ideas.

This book is functionally identical to *How to Write Science Fiction & Fantasy* and *How to Write Science Fiction and Fantasy (Genre Writing)*. If you are interested in what Card has to say, get one of those second-hand, on the cheap. Please be aware the title is misleading and actually only covers Science Fiction well. For fantasy, this isn't what you are looking for. This volume contains plenty of anecdotes about Card's favorite books, but little do with writing for publication. You will find comparable advice in hundreds of other writing books, and I'd only consider buying this if you want to write science fiction in a style similar to early Orson Scott Card. The only new material are two pages of intro by Terry Brooks; otherwise it's an advice guide written 20 years ago, completely repackaged. (It predates urban fantasy, JK Rowling, and the resurgence of Hollywood superheroes.) For a better book by Orson Scott Card that will help your writing, try *Elements of Fiction Writing - Characters & Viewpoint*. It personally taught me more than this superficial glance at the Science Fiction genre. If you just want a superlative book on how to write, then go with *Techniques of the Selling Writer*.

I was seduced into buying this book. With Terry Brooks on the cover to promote the book. It turned out to be simply new packaging, a hard and expensive edition of old stuff that was written years and years ago! I did have the original books by the contributing authors. Therefore I was greatly disappointed. Didn't the authors have anything NEW to say after twenty years since the publication of their original books? ...shame shame shame on the publishers and authors. The only new material was a 2 page introduction by Brooks and a few websites added here and there.. A money making device ...

I purchased this book for my husband for his birthday. He is interested in writing a book and has really enjoyed reading this one. There is very helpful information for a beginning writer.

Personally I found the book to be a five star piece of work, endlessly useful for the science fiction and fantasy writer.

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