

The Hunger Games is a book set in a dystopian world called Panem with 12 Districts and the Capitol (which as its name suggests is the capital city of Panem). Katniss and Prim Everdeen live with their mother Carine Everdeen in District 12. Prim gets picked in the Reaping for Hunger Games which is a sick form of entertainment in the Capitol where kids from the ages of 12-18 get put in an arena to fight to the death with a series of weapons that are placed in the arena by the gamemakers (the people who set up the arena).

Concise summary - good

I thought that the Hunger Games were a cruel method of entertainment and President Snow and all the other Gamemakers should be put in their own creation. Overall I think that the book was really good but at some bits it was a bit hard to follow and a bit dark.

Think about your reader - who might this be too much for?

The Hunger Games book sold 28 million copies and was written in 2008. Suzanne Collins has written many books, a few being the rest in the Hunger Games world, Catching Fire, Mockingjay and The Ballad Of The Songbird And The Snake, but there is also the five-book long series of The Underland Chronicles . Anthony Horowitz, the writer of the Alex Rider series, announced that the Hunger Games was “One of the best written and most thought-provoking book I’ve read for a long time” and John Green from the New York Times told the world that the Hunger Games is a brilliantly plotted and perfectly paced book.

Great facts

The Hunger Games may be seen as inhumane because of the fact that it is about kids being put in an arena and forced to fight to the death while their friends and family watch them die. That might make readers feel disturbed. I don’t disagree with the above view as the idea of the Hunger Games is sick, dark and twisted but I enjoyed the constant suspense and the interesting plot that pulled me into the book. There is also Katniss’s sacrifice when she volunteers for Prim so that she could go to the games instead of Prim. Peeta also gave Katniss some burnt bread that otherwise would have been given to the pigs that Peeta’s family owned. That may not seem like much but it saved the lives of the Everdeen family.

Try to avoid specific plot details like this - you want your reader to want to find out themselves.

As I read the book there were some points where I felt emotional like when the kindest character in the book (in my opinion) died and also when Prim got picked for the games. Some happy moments in the book (again in my opinion) when Peeta confessed his love for Katniss and when Katniss made an alliance with Rue because both of those gave Katniss a higher chance at winning the games. Overall, I mainly felt sad because of the deaths and the fact that kids are being taken from their homes and dropped in an arena with their only mission being to survive. I think that the most powerful part of the book is when Peeta and Katniss defy the Capitol and win against all the odds.

Overall, I would say that this is a great read and has some really powerful moments but it is quite dark so I would recommend it for 11 years and upwards. I think that if you like action-packed books that are quite dark this would be a great read.

Good - you are thinking more about what your reader needs here

This concludes my book review and thank you for reading.