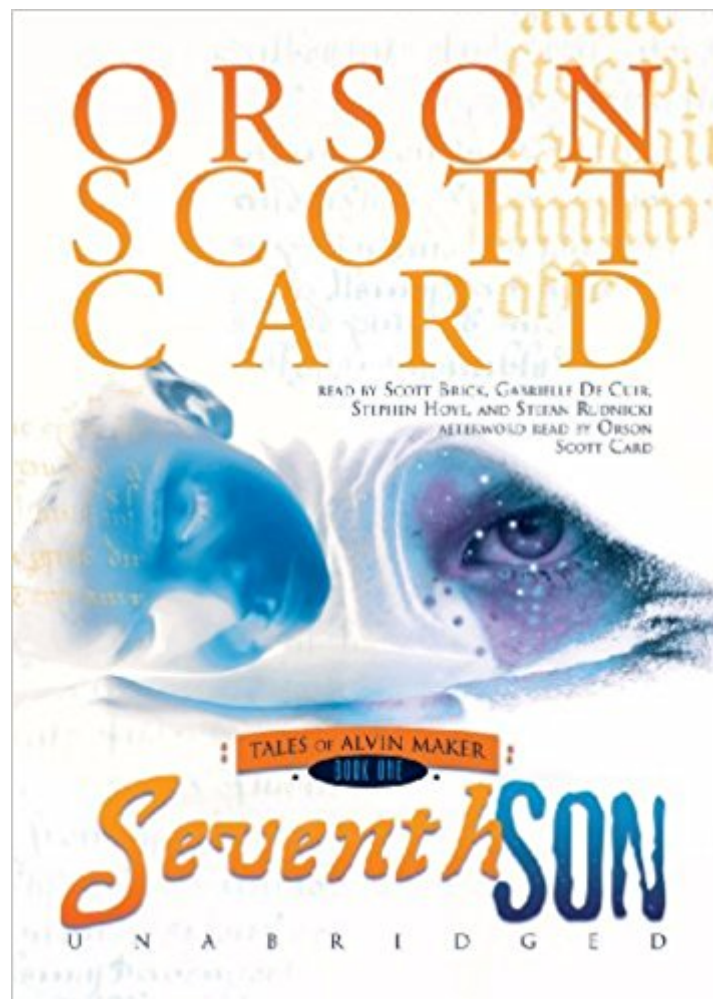


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Seventh Son (Tales Of Alvin Maker, Book 1) (Tales Of Alvin Maker (Audio))



Synopsis

[Audio CD Library Edition in vinyl case] [Read by Scott Brick, Gabrielle De Cuir, Stephen Hoye, Stefan Rudnicki] [*Afterword read by Orson Scott Card] From the author of the award-winning Ender's Game comes the unforgettable story of young Alvin Maker, the seventh son of a seventh son. Born into an alternative frontier America where life is hard and folk magic is real, Alvin is gifted with power, but he must learn to use his gift wisely. Dark forces are arrayed against Alvin, and only a young girl with second sight can protect him.

Book Information

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Audio CD

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Customer Reviews

From the award-winning Ender's Game on, each of Card's last three novels has featured a secular saint, less a character than a catalyst to galvanize those around him into reexamining the thorny moral tangles in which they live. This first volume of the Tales of Alvin Maker introduces young Alvin Miller Jr., the seventh son of a seventh son, who lives on the frontier of an alternate early 19th century America, where folk magic such as faith healing and second sight really works. While Alvin embarks on his mythic struggle against the Unmaker of all things, he is watched over by a flesh and blood guardian angel; he is pursued by the rigid, zealous Reverend Thrower; and he is guided by the wandering Taleswapper, William Blake. This beguiling book recalls Robert Penn Warren in its robust but reflective blend of folktale, history, parable and personal testimony, pioneer narrative. The series promises to be (in Warren's phrase) a "story of deep delight." Copyright 1987 Reed

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YA Set in the Northwest Territory in the late 18th Century, this is an American fantasy in the tradition of T. H. White's *Sword in the Stone* (Putnam, 1939). Mixing fantasy with philosophy and historical figures with imaginary ones, this first book in the ``Tales of Alvin Maker'' series succeeds on several levels. Alvin Miller, seventh son of a seventh son, is heir to great powers that he must learn to use and control. A rich cast of characters try either to help or destroy Alvin in his childhood. It is apparent that Alvin is the focus of gathering forces of good and evil preparing for battle. Readers will be left at the end of the book wondering what will happen to young Alvin in his coming apprenticeship. The sequel will be eagerly awaited. Mary Williams, Harris County Public Library
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Card is a fine author, among my favorites. I can even overlook the religious underpinnings in a lot of his work, because it is such a relief not to find some shock value horror or salacious nonsense or gratuitous unrealistic profanity on every page of a book for a change. All the same, I wish I had never started this series, because he doesn't finish it. I was feeling, 'long about book three, that he was kind of spinning this one out a little thin, but it was engaging enough, and I trusted him to make it worth my while. He must have gotten tired of the project, because he drops the story on its rump when he hits the word count quota for book seven. No doubt a million true believers out there are insisting it's a brilliant literary device, and a truly strategic and dramatic ploy: fried bologna. He spends seven books building the ending, and just fails to write it. Sad.

If you enjoy either fantasy/sci-fi, alternate history, or even both at the same time, then this book is perfect for you. The story takes place in the alternate history-American colonies where everyone is gifted at birth with a special and sometimes magical talent referred to as a "knack." All throughout the story there exists a struggle between those who freely use their knacks as natural gifts from God, and those who see the knacks as witchcraft that should be abolished: a continual struggle between the perceived notions of what is "good" and what is "evil." Orson Scott Card is a master at sci-fi, as seen from his "Ender's Game" series, and this series is no exception. The characters are fleshed out and believable, the dialogue is candid and thought provoking, and the entire series, this book included, is peppered with notable wise sayings and cameos from some of the most famous historical figures of the particular time period. While Card takes some liberty in placing a few

characters from history a little closer to each other than factually possible, these instances are so minute as to be negligible, and besides, anything can happen in an alternate universe, right? If you decide to read this book, prepare to feel emotional connections with the well conceived characters, and the immersion that comes with a masterfully described universe.

Good book, required reading that I enjoyed. Although Card did write *The Ender's Game* which was made into a movie, This book has is not the *Seventh Son* movie and is an entirely different story line which was set in an alternate historic America of the 1800s. Alvin Miller Jr. the seventh son of a seventh son, which has a magical birthright which has given him among other things a gift or "knack" for making things. This is the premise for the series the *Tales of Alvin Maker*. The book is a good first in a series, action, suspense, the fight of good vs evil. I am ready for book two "The Red Prophet"

Good read. I didn't really spend much time researching this book. I like Card's books and so I just went for it. I was expecting Sci Fi and got alternate reality. Once I adjusted I couldn't put it down.

I'm used to having some questions answered in the first book maybe a little progress but the seventh son didn't do that. If anything I'm still not sure what is going on. I like that Alvin is a clever little boy and all and aware that he has some great ability but what else he went from six to ten and he made absolutely no progress or issues other than near deaths? So far all I know is that Alvin is a maker(duh) and a seventh son. Olson Scott made seem so important but doesn't delve into it until the next book is very frustrating. Don't get me wrong it's a good read kind of short for me but good nonetheless. I plan on reading the one simply because I want to know why Alvin takes so long to start his apprenticeship and such.

I loved this book and read it as an adult. Just bought it for my 14 year old and he liked it as well.

I missed this when it came out. My favorite opening scenes of any drama.

I loved the start of this grand series. It was extremely well written and I just could not put it down until it was finished. This was a great character study and the plot left me reeling for more. Orson Scott Card did a wonderful job of weaving a tale that is actually written about an area where I grew up. I live on the Wobish River(Wabash) in Indiana and so it was like a fantasy that I was a part of.

The plight of the Indians was marginalized but I guess things like that tend to happen unless a fantasy then turns into a true to fact historical documentary. I can not wait to read the next installment. Thank you for a great read.

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