



## **Children of Time**

Adrian Tchaikovsky

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### **Introduction**

Adrian Tchaikovsky is a prolific science fiction and fantasy writer based in England. Since his first published book in 2008, he has written at least 29 books. The award-winning book *Children of Time* was published in 2015 as a stand-alone novel, and is a tale of Humanity's last chance at survival and the unexpected rivals they encounter.

### **Summary of Children of Time**

Several thousands of years in the future, Earth has become uninhabitable. The last vestiges of the human race have taken to the deep unknown of space in the hopes that they will find a suitable planet to become their new home. The *Gilgamesh* has found such a planet that was part of a near-mythical terraforming experiment thousands of years

before they even reach it; nearly forgotten over time. However, the crew finds unexpected rivals when they try to colonize.

To the humans' great surprise, the millennia-old terraforming experiment was a success, but not in the way it was originally intended. Giant insects that have evolved into something very special colonize the planet. The story revolves around the insects as we watch their evolution, and the humans' struggle to save their species.

### Questions for Discussion

1. Do you feel like the author did a good job of explaining the evolution of the creatures in the book?
2. What do you think of what happened to the Human race? Is it plausible?
3. Which side did you initially take in the following conflicts? Did you change your mind as you kept reading?
  - a. The *Gilgamesh* vs. Avrana/Eliza
  - b. Eliza vs. Avrana
  - c. Humans vs. Spiders
  - d. Humans vs. Humans
4. Do you find yourself empathizing with any character in particular? Why?
5. Did you like the ending of the book? What do you think a sequel would contain?
6. Have you ever read a book like this? In what ways was it similar or different?

Which book was more successful at telling the story?

  - a. If you haven't read a similar book, what makes this one so unique?
7. Did this book make you think about larger ideas, or was it an insulated story?

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8. Is there anything you would have changed about the story? How would that make it better?