

Thought Probes Philosophy Through Science Fiction Literature

Social problems through science fiction *Philosophy through Science Fiction Stories* *Sociology Through Science Fiction* *The Road to Science Fiction: From Wells to Heinlein* *Science Fiction and the Theatre* *The Stuff of Science Fiction* *Once and Future Antiquities in Science Fiction and Fantasy* *Decoding Gender in Science Fiction* *Science Fiction and Philosophy* *Science Fiction and the Moral Imagination* *New Outlook* *Amazing Science Fiction* *Psience Fiction* *Illinois Technograph* *Samuel R. Delany* *Science Fiction: 101* *Outlook* *Science in Cinema* *Philosophy of Time Travel in Science Fiction* *British Books in Print* *Martin H. Greenberg* *Helen De Cruz* *John W. Milstead* *James Gunn* *Ralph Willingham* *Gary Westfahl* *Brett M. Rogers* *Brian Attebery* *Susan Schneider* *Russell Blackford* *Ted White* *Damien Broderick* *Seth McEvoy* *Robert Silverberg* *Leroy W. Dubeck* *Emmanuel Joseph*

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bringing together short stories by award winning contemporary science fiction authors and philosophers this book covers a wide range of philosophical ideas from ethics philosophy of religion political philosophy and metaphysics alongside the introductory pieces by the editors that help readers to understand how philosophy can be done through science fiction you will find end of story notes written by the authors that contextualize their stories within broader philosophical themes organised thematically these stories address fundamental philosophical questions such as what does it mean to be human is neural enhancement a good thing what makes a life worthwhile what political systems are best by making complex ideas easily accessible this unique book allows you to engage with philosophical ideas in entertaining new ways and is an ideal entry point for anyone interested in using fiction to better understand philosophy

now in paperback between an ancient roman s trip to the moon and the fantastic tales of h g wells lies a journey through time and space and an awesome evolution in scientific thinking from gilgamesh s search for immortality to lucian s odyssey on the moon from jonathan swift s hilarious satire on scientists in gulliver s travels to mary shelley s horrifying description of a scientist who has gone too far in frankenstein from edgar allan poe s balloon trip in the year 2848 to jules verne s prophesies of the impact of scientific inventions on future civilization from edward bellamy s utopian escape from the industrial revolution to h g wells s magnificent story of earth threatened by an inescapable menace here are the chief ancestors of the modern science fiction story for the first time in paperback these and other key works are gathered together in one anthology complete with revealing commentary on the authors their eras and the role each played in establishing what we today recognize as science fiction the road to science fiction is a six volume anthology of science fiction that covers the development of science fiction from its earliest prototypes in the sumerian gilgamesh and the greek epics to approximately 1990 created originally to provide anthologies for use in classes these volumes have become mass market sellers as well since they are not only a source of outstanding stories but also explain what constitutes science fiction how it developed and the contribution the authors and the stories have made to the evolution of science fiction volume 2 from wells to heinlein samples the science fiction of the first 40 years of the 20th century from a wide variety of authors that paved the way for the golden age cloth edition originally published in 1979

willingham presents a historical survey of science fiction drama and focusses particularly on the history of attempts to stage science fiction little attention has been given to science fiction drama though numerous science fiction plays exist this volume gives special attention to works intended for adult audiences with emphasis on the nature of science fiction drama its origins and history the staging of science fiction plays and works by representative playwrights the appendix offers an annotated list of 328 science fiction plays with entries grouped in five categories original drama adaptations musicals and operas theatre pieces and multi media works and frankenstein dramas an extensive bibliography concludes the volume

while students and general readers typically cannot relate to esoteric definitions of science fiction they readily understand the genre as a literature that characteristically deals with subjects such as new inventions space robot and aliens this book looks at science fiction in precisely this manner with twenty one chapters that each deal with a subject that is repeatedly addressed in science fiction of recent centuries based on a packet of original essays that the author assembled for his classes the book could serve as a supplemental textbook in science fiction classes but also contains material of interest to science fiction scholars and others devoted to the genre in some cases chapters offer thorough surveys of numerous works involving certain subjects such as imagined vehicles journeys beneath the earth and undersea adventures discovering intriguing patterns in the ways that various writers developed their ideas when comprehensive coverage of ubiquitous topics such as robots aliens and the planet mars is impossible chapters focus on major themes referencing selected texts a conclusion discusses other science fiction subjects that were omitted for various reasons and a bibliography lists additional resources for the study of science fiction in general and the topics of each chapter

in 15 all new essays this volume explores how science fiction and fantasy draw on materials from ancient greece and rome displacing them from their original settings in time and space in points of origins and genre and encouraging readers to consider similar displacements in the modern world modern examples from a wide range of media and genres including philip pullman s his dark materials and the novels of helen oyeyemi the rocky horror picture show and hayao miyazaki s spirited away and the role playing games dungeons and dragons and warhammer 40k are brought alongside episodes from ancient myth important moments from history and more all together these multifaceted studies add to our understanding of how science fiction and fantasy form important areas of classical reception not only transmitting but also transmuting images of antiquity the volume concludes with an inspiring personal reflection from the new york times bestselling author of speculative fiction catherynne m valente offering her perspective on the limitless potential of the classical world to resonate with experience today

from frankenstein to futuristic feminist utopias decoding gender in science fiction examines the ways science fiction writers have incorporated explored and revised conventional notions of sexual difference attebery traces a fascinating history of men s and women s writing that covertly or overtly investigates conceptions of gender suggesting new perspectives on the genre

a timely volume that uses science fiction as a springboard to meaningful philosophical discussions especially at points of contact between science fiction and new scientific developments raises questions and examines timely themes concerning the nature of the mind time travel artificial intelligence neural enhancement free will the nature of persons transhumanism virtual reality and neuroethics draws on a broad range of books films and television series including the matrix star trek blade runner frankenstein brave new world the time machine and back to the future considers the classic philosophical puzzles that appeal to the general reader while also exploring new topics of interest to the more seasoned academic

in this highly original book russell blackford discusses the intersection of science fiction and humanity s moral imagination with the rise of science and technology in the 19th century and our continually improving understanding of the cosmos writers and thinkers soon began to imagine futures greatly different from the present science fiction was born out of the realization that future technoscientific advances could dramatically change the world along with the developments described in modern science fiction space societies conscious machines and upgraded human bodies to name but a few come a new set of ethical challenges and new forms of ethics blackford identifies these issues and their reflection in science fiction his fascinating book will appeal to anyone with an interest in philosophy or science fiction or in how they interact this is a seasoned balanced analysis of a major issue in our thinking about the future seen through the lens of science fiction a central art of our time everyone from humanists to technologists should study these ideas and examples blackford s book is wise and savvy and a delight to read as well greg benford author of timescape

science fiction has often been considered the literature of futuristic technology fantastic warfare among the stars or ruinous apocalypses on earth the last century however saw through john w campbell the introduction of psience fiction which explores such themes of mental powers as telepathy precognition of the future teleportation etc and symbolic machines that react to such forces the author surveys this long ignored literary shift through a series of influential novels and short stories published between the 1930s and the present this discussion is framed by the sudden surge of interest in parapsychology and its absorption not only into the sf genre but also into the real world through military experiments such as the star gate program

explains how dyslexia affected delany s career as a writer analyzes his major novels and discusses delany s style and common themes

the grand master details his development as a writer and shares thirteen favorite sci fi stories from his youth and what they taught him about writing every writer must start somewhere robert silverberg was once simply a young man learning the art and craft of writing before he found success but how did he get from there to winning four hugo awards three locus awards and six nebula awards as well as being named a grand master of science fiction in science fiction 101 the prolific author looks back to his roots in the genre to answer that question with thought provoking essays silverberg details the inspiration lessons strategies and skills he gained from thirteen groundbreaking science fiction stories from the 1940s 50s and 60s all included in this volume it s an entertaining and enlightening read perfect for those interested in sci fi history and the craft of writing featuring thirteen classic stories from brian w aldiss alfred bester james blish philip k dick damon knight cyril m kornbluth henry kuttner c l moore frederik pohl bob shaw robert sheckley cordwainer smith and jack vance previously published as robert silverberg s worlds of wonder praise for science fiction 101 an excellent introduction to the most important roots of modern sf the washington post offers encouragement and sound counsel anyone interested in writing science fiction and fantasy will profit from this book san francisco examiner chronicle a virtual primer on the writing of science fiction a fascinating portrait of a young man becoming a writer finally we have the 13 stories almost all of which are classics in the field wonderful to reread and in some cases to encounter for the first time publishers weekly a unique and successful work los angeles times

book description philosophy of time travel in science fiction time travel has been a perennial fascination of humanity and science fiction has been its most wondrous vessel chronicles of time takes you on an exploratory voyage through the rich tapestry of time travel narratives in science fiction dissecting the profound philosophical questions that this genre raises in twelve meticulously crafted chapters this book embarks on a thought provoking odyssey from the very essence of time to the paradoxes that time travel introduces from the ethical dilemmas that temporal journeys entail to the exploration of causality and free will chronicles of time navigates the captivating intellectual terrain that time travel narratives inspire this book goes beyond the narratives it delves into the interplay of science and art technology and creativity that brings time travel devices to life it explores the cultural impact of time travel stories how they permeate our society influence scientific thought and serve as metaphors for personal growth social change and the human condition as we journey through the chapters we also gaze toward the horizon contemplating the future of time travel in science fiction how will emerging technologies and societal concerns shape the narratives of tomorrow what new themes and perspectives will arise in the ever evolving genre of time travel philosophy of time travel in science fiction invites readers to grapple with the complexities of time and reality to ponder the profound questions raised by time travel narratives

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Introduction

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