

# Suggested Science Fiction Texts

## Science Fiction

Dickinson, Peter. *Eva*. Laurel Leaf, 1989.

From the Back Cover:

Thirteen-year-old Eva wakes up in the hospital unable to remember anything since the picnic on the beach. Her mother leans over the bed and begins to explain. A traffic accident, a long coma . . . .

But there is something, Eva senses, she is not being told some other price she must pay to be alive at all. What have they done, with their amazing medical techniques, to save her?

Farmer, Nancy. *The House of the Scorpion*. Simon Pulse, 2002.

From the Front Flap of the Dust Jacket:

At his coming-of-age party, Matteo Alacrán asks El Patrón's bodyguard, "How old am I? . . . I know I don't have a birthday like humans, but I was born."

"You were harvested," Tam Lin reminds him. "You were grown in that poor cow for nine months and then you were cut out of her."

To most people around him, Matt is not a boy, but a beast. A room full of chicken litter with roaches for friends and old chicken bones for toys is considered good enough for him. But for El Patrón, lord of a country called Opium—a strip of poppy fields lying between the U.S. and what was once called Mexico—Matt is a guarantee of eternal life. El Patrón loves Matt as he loves himself for Matt *is* himself. They share identical DNA.

As Matt struggles to understand his existence, he is threatened by a sinister, grasping cast of characters, including El Patrón's power-hungry family. He is surrounded by a dangerous army of bodyguards and by mindless slaves of Opium, brain-deadened eejits who toil in the poppy fields.

O'Brien, Robert C. *Z for Zachariah*. Collier Books, 1987.

From the Back Cover:

Ann Burden is sixteen and, as far as she knows, the only person left in the world. The nuclear radiation that destroyed the rest of the world has not touched the valley where she lives, and so she has remained, surviving as best she knows how, for the past year.

The smoke from a distant campfire shatters Ann's solitude. Someone else is still alive, and making his way toward the valley: John Loomis, a scientist, protected from the radiation by a "safe-suit." He asserts his will almost immediately. And as his behavior becomes more and more extreme—finally culminating in a violent confrontation—Ann must choose how she will live, in a world unlike any she has known.

## Nonfiction

*Environmental Disasters*. World Almanac Library.

Individual titles in the series include the following:

*Los Alamos: Wildfires* by Nichol Bryan (2004)

*Love Canal: Pollution Crisis* by Nichol Bryan (2003)

*Danube: Cyanide Spill* by Nichol Bryan (2003)

*Exxon Valdez: Oil Spill* by Nichol Bryan (2003)

*Chernobyl: Nuclear Disaster* by Nichol Bryan (2003)

*Bhopal: Chemical Plant Accident* by Nichol Bryan (2003)

Each book in this series offers details on an environmental disaster, its aftermath, and the social and political issues that the disaster raised. The books include details from first-hand observations, scientists, and others who provide details on the event and its long-term effects.

*Science on the Edge*. Blackbirch Publishing.

Titles in the series include the following:

*Predicting Natural Disasters* by John Allen (2006)

*Stem Cells* by Jenny E. Tesar (2003)

*Gene Therapy* by Linda George (2003)

*Cloning* by Don Nardo (2003)

*Nanotechnology* by Dianne Maddox (2005)

Each book in this series explores a specific scientific topic that is the subject of controversy or cutting-edge technologies. The books mix photos and microscopic images with clear text that presents the facts without sensationalizing the issues.