

Suggested Science Fiction Texts

Novels

Anderson, M.T. *Feed*. Candlewick, 2002.

For Titus and his friends, it started out like any ordinary trip to the moon - a chance to party during spring break and play with some stupid low-grav at the Ricochet Lounge. But that was before the crazy hacker caused all their feeds to malfunction, sending them to the hospital to lie around with nothing inside their heads for days. And it was before Titus met Violet, a beautiful, brainy teenage girl who has decided to fight the feed and its omnipresent ability to categorize human thoughts and desires.

Atwood, Margaret. *The Handmaid's Tale*. Anchor, 1985.

Offred is a Handmaid in the Republic of Gilead, serving in the household of the enigmatic Commander and his bitter wife. She may go out once a day to markets whose signs are now pictures because women are not allowed to read. She must pray that the Commander makes her pregnant, for in a time of declining birthrates her value lies in her fertility, and failure means exile to the dangerously polluted Colonies. Offred can remember a time when she lived with her husband and daughter and had a job, before she lost even her own name. Now she navigates the intimate secrets of those who control her every move, risking her life in breaking the rules.

Bacigalupi, Paolo. *Ship Breaker*. Little, Brown and Company, a division of Hachette Book Group, 2010.

Near a drowned New Orleans ravaged by hurricanes and global warming, Nailer and his young crew eke out a meager existence by scavenging materials on the ship-littered coast.

Bloor, Edward. *Taken*. Knopf, 2007.

BY 2035 THE RICH have gotten richer, the poor have gotten poorer, and kidnapping has become a major growth industry in the United States. The children of privilege live in secure, gated communities and are escorted to and from school by armed guards. But the security around Charity Meyers has broken down.

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

The picnic on the beach is Eva's last memory. As she lies in the hospital bed while her mother explains about the accident and the coma, Eva senses there is something they are not telling her--a price she must pay to be alive.

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

A young clone (Matteo Alacran) is being raised by a drug lord named "El Patrón" (The original Matteo). They live in the fictional country of Opium, which is located between the United States and Mexico, now called Aztlán. It is a story about the struggle to survive as a free individual

Huxley, Aldous. *Brave New World*. Harper Perennial, 1932.

In Huxley's darkly satiric yet chillingly prescient imagining of a "utopian" future, humans are genetically designed and pharmaceutically anesthetized to passively serve a ruling order. A powerful work of speculative fiction that has enthralled and terrified readers for generations, it remains remarkably relevant to this day as both a warning to be heeded and as a thought-provoking yet satisfying entertainment.

Lowry, Lois. *The Giver*. Bantam, 1993.

When Jonas turns 12, he is singled out for special training from The Giver. Now, it's time for Jonas to receive the truth. There is no turning back

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

There has been a nuclear explosion which Burdon valley survived, as the valley is a nuclear enclave which means a place has its own climate, and Anne a girl who was left at home when her family went out in search of survivors, is convinced she is the only person left on earth.

Short Stories

"The Machine that Won the War" by Isaac Asimov

"Farewell to the Master" by Harry Bates

"By the Waters of Babylon" by Stephen Vincent Benet

"Planet of the Apes" by Pierre Boulle

"There Will Come Soft Rains" by Ray Bradbury

"The Pedestrian" by Ray Bradbury

"The Sentinel" by Arthur C. Clarke

"We Can Remember it For You Wholesale" by Philip K. Dick

"Rapaccini's Daughter" by Nathaniel Hawthorne

"Flowers for Algernon" by Daniel Keyes

"The Fly" by George Langelaan

"Harrison Bergeron" by Kurt Vonnegut

"The Time Machine" by H.G. Wells

"There Will Come Soft Rains" by Ray Bradbury

"The Naming of Names" by Ray Bradbury

Nonfiction

Environmental Disasters. World Almanac Library.

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.

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)

Science on the Edge. Blackbirch Publishing.

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.

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)