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Science Fiction: The Illustrated Encyclopedia



Synopsis

Featuring more than a thousand illustrations in full color, a decade-by-decade timeline includes fascinating facts about science fiction films, television series, magazines, and novels, making it the most thorough visual reference book on science fiction available.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Rumor has it that critic John Clute, in the aftermath of the success of The Encyclopedia of Science Fiction, was given carte blanche to develop an illustrated reference. This lavish volume, studded with graphics and nuggets of information, is the pleasing result. Science Fiction : The Illustrated Encyclopedia showcases the prophecy and pageantry of science fiction. It weaves together world history with literary history and technical developments with SF trends, providing a cultural context to the Zeitgeist of the genre. Words truly cannot do justice to the visual delights of this colorful tome: time lines, charts, author biographies and bibliographies complete with photos and signatures, illustrated analyses of SF traditions, magazine covers, classic book covers, film and television snapshots, and historical photos. Use it as a reference, read it through, or pick it up and enjoy it in bits. Science Fiction : The Illustrated Encyclopedia will arouse curiosity, joy, and pride in the hearts of SF lovers. --Bonnie Bouman

YA?Clute defines science fiction as "...any story that argues the case for a changed world that has not yet come into being." Arranged primarily by decade within each of eight chapters, the book

covers visions of the future (accurate and off the mark); themes in history; influential magazines (from early pulp to the present); major authors (there are sketches of over 100 writers, photographs, signatures, and chronological bibliographies of major works); classic titles; graphic works; and genre films and international television. Timetables in the chapter on history include science-fiction events; film, radio, and TV; and magazines and world events. Pictures of magazine and book covers are first or early editions. ?Barbara Hawkins, Oakton High School, Fairfax, VACopyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc.

The book was not only VERY cheap, but also in extremely good conditions! I feel like buying three more, just because it is so cheap. When I bought it for 5 dollars I was very suspicious whether the book was actually going to be a book or just the cover or something... but was I wrong! It barely looks used! Furthermore, it is an excellent encyclopedia. I use it as a resource for a college-level science fiction class and I recommend it for the multiple valuable pictures it has and for the timelines of SF. The written part is not as brilliant, but for 5 dollars, you can't go wrong. Useful for little kids, for old folks, and for college students. After reading this and some other, deeper and harder book about SF (I recommend Adam Roberts' "Science Fiction: the New Critical Idiom"), you will never watch movies or read science fiction like before.

I received this book only a few years ago, but due to my interest in early science fiction (of the 1940s, 50s and 60s) I have been drawn time and time again to Mr. Clute's incredible, well-illustrated book. It has yet to be removed from my living room coffee table! There is a year by year overview of critical science fiction works (and movies and TV series), and a synopsis of all the major writers of serious, quality science fiction up to the mid-1990s (when the book was published). An invaluable reference for the avid science fiction fan, especially one who wishes to learn about the many overlooked, but decent, writers of yesteryear. I have learned about many "new" (to me) writers this way, and now when I go to my favorite used bookstore, I know what to look for! Highly recommended and worth every penny.

This is a very good book to review and the arts work was great and if you are a science fiction or a comics fan you will love this book.

For what it is supposed to be it is very good.

Excellent!!

This is an excellent sci-fi overview, decade-by-decade. Next-best after Rough Guide.

OK

This is a great book for someone who has started reading science fiction books or watching science fiction movies to get a background on the genre. At only 312 pages long it is truly just a snapshot. It has some great eye candy in the inclusion of some older science fiction books and magazines that you will probably never run into. It highlights what the author considers the main science fiction authors of their times with a short history of their books. Movies are covered as well as illustrators, only a few, as well as foreign and Japanese science fiction. A nice read with lots of great illustrations covering the period from 1818 to 1995. Recommended as part of your reference library or just like I said as a great introduction to the Science Fiction genre

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