What to Read: A Brief Survey of Science Fiction

Winter 2013

Dr. Agatha Taormina ([ataormina@nvcc.edu](mailto:ataormina@nvcc.edu))

General Overview

* The Science Fiction Hall of Fame anthologies
  + Vol. I ed. Robert Silverberg (1970)
  + Vol. IIA and Vol. IIB ed. Ben Bova (1973)
  + Vol. III ed. Arthur C. Clarke and George W. Proctor (1982)
  + Vol. IV ed. Terry Carr (1986)
* Hugo Winners
* Nebula Winners

Dystopia

* *We* (trans. 1924) by Yevgeny Zamiatin
* *Brave New World* (1932) by Aldous Huxley
* *1984* (1949) by George Orwell
* *Fahrenheit 451* (1953) by Ray Bradbury
* The Hunger Games Trilogy (2008-10) by Suzanne Collins

Feminist Societies

* “When It Changed” (1972) by Joanna Russ
* ***Herland*** (magazine publication, 1915; book 1979) by Charlotte Perkins Gilman
* *The Handmaid’s Tale* (1985) by Margaret Atwood
* *The Gate to Women’s Country* (1988) by Sheri S. Tepper

Post-Disaster Societies

* “The Machine Stops” (1909) by E. M. Forster
* *On the Beach* (1957) by Nevil Shute
* *A Canticle for Leibowitz* (1960) by Walter E.Miller, Jr
* *Lucifer’s Hammer* (1977) by Larry Niven and Jerry Pournelle
* *The Postman* (1997 )by David Brin
* *Life as We Knew It* (2006) by Susan Beth Pfeffer

The Solar System

* The Moon
  + *The Moon is a Harsh Mistress* (1966) by Robert Heinlein
* Mars
  + *A Princess of Mars* (1912) by Edgar Rice Burroughs
  + *The Martian Chronicles* (1950) by Ray Bradbury
  + *Man Plus (*1976)by Frederik Pohl
  + *The Mars Trilogy* (1993-96) by Kim Stanley Robinson

First Contact

* “A Martian Odyssey” (1934) by Stanley Weinbaum
* *Childhood’s End* (1953) by Arthur C. Clarke
* *Rendezvous With Rama* (1972) by Arthur C. Clarke
* *The Sparrow* (1996) by Mary Doria Russell

Future War

* *The War of the Worlds* (1898) by H. G. Wells
* The Dorsai novels of Gordon R. Dickson
  + *Soldier, Ask Not* (exp. 1967)
* The Honor Harrington novels of David Weber
  + *On Basilisk Station* (1992)
* *Starship Troopers* (1959) by Robert A. Heinlein
* *The Forever War* (1974) by Joe Haldeman
* *Cobra* (1985) by Timothy Zahn
* *Old Man’s War* (2005) by John Scalzi

Religion

* The Perelandra trilogy (1938-45) by C.S. Lewis
* *A Case of Conscience* (1958) by James Blish
* *Stranger in a Strange Land* (1961) by Robert Heinlein

Language

* *Babel-17* (1966) by Samuel R. Delany
* *Native Tongue* (1984) by Suzette Haden Elgin
* *Embassytown*  (2011) by China Mieville

Interspecies Mating

* Lilith’s Brood (Xenogenesis trilogy) by Octavia Butler (1987-9)

Animal Consciousness

* *Planet of the Apes* (1963) by Pierre Boulle
* Uplift Universe series by David Brin
  + *Startide Rising* (1983)

Medical Intervention

* “Flowers for Algernon” (1959) by Daniel Keyes
* *The Speed of Dark* (2003) by Elizabeth Moon

Cyborgs

* *The Ship Who Sang* (1969) by Anne McCaffrey
* *Cyborg* (1972) by Martin Caidin
* *Man Plus (1976)* by Frederik Pohl

Experimentation

* *Frankenstein* (1818) by Mary Shelley
* *The Island of Doctor Moreau* (1896) by H.G. Wells
* *The Invisible Man* (1897) by H. G. Wells

Cloning

* *The Boys from Brazil* (1976) by Ira Levin
* *Where Late the Sweet Birds Sang* (1976) by Kate Wilhelm
* *Jurassic Park* (1990) by Michael Crichton

Computers

* “The Machine Stops” (1909) by E. M. Forster
* *“The Moon is a Harsh Mistress (1966)* by Robert Heinlein
* *2001: A Space Odyssey (1968)* by Arthur C. Clarke

Robots

* *I, Robot* (1950) by Isaac Asimov
* “With Folded Hands” (1947) by Jack Williamson

Androids

* *The Caves of Steel* (1954) and *The Naked Sun* (1957) by Isaac Asimov
* “The Bicentennial Man” (1976) by Isaac Asimov

Perception

* Drugs
  + *A Scanner Darkly* (1977) by Philip K.Dick
* Mind Control
  + *A Clockwork Orange* (1962) by Anthony Burgess
* Manipulation of Memory
  + *All My Sins Remembered* (1977) by Joe Haldeman
* Dreaming
  + *The Lathe of Heaven* (1971) by Ursula K. Le Guin
* ESP
  + *The Demolished Man* (1953) by Alfred Bester
* Group Mind
* *More Than Human* (1953) by Theodore Sturgeon

Virtual Reality

* *Ender’s Game* (1985*)* by Orson Scott Card
* *Ready Player One* (2011) by Ernest Cline

Time Travel

* *The Time Machine (1885)* by H.G. Wells
* *The End of Eternity* (1955) by Isaac Asimov
* *Time and Again* (1970) by Jack Finney
* *Timescape* (1980) by Gregory Benford
* The Doomsday series by Connie Willis
  + “Fire Watch” (1983)
  + *Doomsday Book* (1993)
  + *To Say Nothing of the Dog* (1999)
  + *Blackout/All Clear* (2011)
* *11/22/63* (2011) by Stephen King

Time Dilation

* *Time for the Stars* (1956) by Robert A. Heinlein
* *The Forever War* (1974) by Joe Haldeman
* *Gateway* (1977) by Frederik Pohl

Time Loops

* *Replay* (1987) by Ken Grimwood

Wandering Through Time

* *The Time Traveler’s Wife* (2003) by Audrey Niffenegger

Parallel Universes

* *The Gods Themselves* (1972) by Isaac Asimov
* The Apprentice Adept Series (1980-90) by Piers Anthony
* **The Neanderthal Parallax** (2002-3) trilogy by Robert J. Sawyer
* *The City & the City* (2009) by China Mieville
* *1Q84* (trans. 2011) by Haruki Murakami

Alternate History

* *Bring the Jubilee* (1953) by Ward Moore
* *The Man in the High Castle (*1962)by Philip K. Dick
* *The Best Alternative History Stories of the 20th Century* (2001) ed. Harry Turtledove and Martin Harry Greenberg