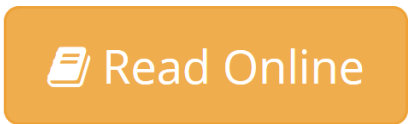



Anatomy of Wonder: A Critical Guide to Science Fiction


By Neil Barron, Neil, editor Barron



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Barron's classic work has been updated and reorganized to reflect changes in the genre over the past decade, and meet the needs and tastes of today's readers and those who work with them. Renowned experts in the field have contributed to this new edition, providing authoritative historical and contemporary coverage of the best in science fiction. Users will find succinct, critical discussions of more than 1,400 SF novels, story collections, and anthologies. In addition, there is a comprehensive survey of the secondary literature—books and other resources that discuss fantastic literature, film, and illustration—plus chapters on teaching SF and a directory of libraries containing significant collections of science fiction. Titles appropriate for or appealing to teens are noted, as are award-winning titles and titles of literary merit. Author, title, and theme indexes provide additional points of access. An essential tool for collection development, research, and reference, this book also supports readers' advisory work. Young adult and adult. Grades 9 and up.

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

An update of a book widely considered to be one of the bibles of scholarship on the genre. It offers an overview of the English-language science-fiction field for a wide audience, including casual readers, devoted fans, librarians, teachers, and scholars. The volume is divided into three parts: a history of science fiction; a critical examination of 1400 novels, single-author collections, and multiple-author anthologies; and a survey of the secondary literature such as film and illustration. Each annotation in the bibliography includes cross-references to similar works and a listing of relevant themes. The contributors include scholars, professors, and critics; their writing styles differ greatly, adding to the volume's appeal. The final chapter, Listings, consists of the best books chosen by the contributors, major awards, important series, young adult books, translations, and organizations. There are indexes for titles, authors, and themes. There have been many changes made since the fourth edition: young adult books have been integrated with the adult books in the annotated bibliography section, Web sites and author e-mail addresses have been added, and the comics section and poetry have been dropped. The third edition was the last to have an extensive listing of science fiction in 13 languages, so libraries that still have it may want to keep it even if they plan to update. This is a book that belongs in every public library. Those with a large science fiction readership might want to consider pairing it with Barron's *What Fantastic Fiction Do I Read Next?* (Gale, 1997), which is more of a reader's advisory than a collection-development tool.—*Michele Capozzella, Chappaqua Public Library, NY*
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Review

Over 2,000 works of fiction and over 800 works of non-fiction are critiqued in this newly revised fourth edition of a classic work, which appears anew for the first time in seven years. This includes the new 'cyberpunk' genre, film and TV show listings, and organization and publication descriptions to round out the book focus. The book is most notable for its well-rounded synopses. -- *Midwest Book Review*

About the Author

NEIL BARRON editor of previous editions of this popular and critically acclaimed work, has written extensively in the field of speculative fiction. In 1982 he received the Pilgrim award for his overall contributions to science fiction and fantasy scholarship.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Robert Stratton:

As people who live in typically the modest era should be revise about what going on or information even knowledge to make these individuals keep up with the era that is certainly always change and move forward. Some of you maybe will update themselves by examining books. It is a good choice for yourself but the problems coming to you actually is you don't know which one you should start with. This Anatomy of Wonder: A Critical Guide to Science Fiction is our recommendation so you keep up with the world. Why, as this book serves what you want and want in this era.

Carmen Russell:

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