

Home Page



SFE THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF SCIENCE FICTION

ABOUT US CONTACT

AUTHORS THEMES MEDIA CULTURE ALL ENTRIES NEWS

All entries

Welcome to the Third Edition of the [Encyclopedia of Science Fiction](#), edited by John Clute, David Langford, Peter Nicholls (emeritus) and Graham Sleight (managing). All 16,700+ entries are free online. A few sample entries appear below. [Click here for the Introduction](#) and more on the text; [here for Frequently Asked Questions](#); [here for advice to students on citations](#). Find entries via the search box above ([more on searching here](#)) or browse the menu categories to the right of the SFE logo. To identify contributors, whose initials appear at the end of each entry, click the [Incoming](#) button.

JULY 12, 2016
World Fantasy Award
 Tagged: [Award](#)

The World Fantasy Awards have been presented in various categories since 1975, for work first appearing in the previous year. Presentations take place at the annual World Fantasy Convention. Although the award is naturally biased towards Fantasy and horror, a number of sf or near-sf novels have been honoured, and most of the winning authors have entries in this encyclopedia. We therefore list the winners for best novel of the preceding year, and for lifetime achievement, both listed by year of award. It has become a tradition of the life awards – inaugurated in 1998 (though prefigured by the five-way split of 1984) and generally followed since 2000 – that two lifetime achievement awards are...

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News

[Awards Season](#)
August 25, 2016

[SFE in the News](#)
May 24, 2016

[Fifteen Thousand Images](#)
March 09, 2016

[All news items...](#)

Extras

[Random](#) Show a random entry

[Random New](#) Random new entry

[What's New](#) Show the latest entries

[On This Day](#) Anniversaries; also [Timeline](#)

[Gallery](#) SFE Picture Gallery

Logo



URL

<http://www.sf-encyclopedia.com/>

Subject

Science -- Encyclopedias.

Science fiction -- Encyclopedias.

Accessibility

Free

Language

English

Publisher

Orion Publishing Group

Brief History

The Encyclopedia of Science Fiction is an English language reference work on science fiction, first published in 1979.

This first edition, edited by Peter Nicholls with John Clute, was published by Granada. It was retitled *The Science Fiction Encyclopedia* when published by Doubleday in the United States. Accompanying its text were numerous black and white photographs illustrating authors, book and

magazine covers, film and TV stills, and examples of artists' work.

A second edition, jointly edited by Nicholls and Clute, was published in 1993 by Orbit in the UK and St. Martin's Press in the US. The second edition contained 1.3 million words, almost twice the 700,000 words of the 1979 edition.

The paperback edition included an addendum. Unlike the first edition, the print versions did not contain illustrations. There was also a CD-ROM version in 1995, styled variously as *The Multimedia Encyclopedia of Science Fiction* and *Grolier Science Fiction*. This contained text updates through 1995, hundreds of book covers and author photos, a small number of old film trailers, and author video clips taken from the TVOntario series *Prisoners of Gravity*.

The companion volume, published after the second print edition and following its format closely, is *The Encyclopedia of Fantasy* edited by John Clute and John Grant.

All print and CD-ROM editions are currently out of print.

In July 2011, Orion Publishing Group announced that the third edition of **the Science Fiction Encyclopedia** would be released online later that year by SFE Ltd in association with Victor Gollancz, Orion's science fiction imprint. The "beta text" of the third edition launched online on 2 October 2011, with editors John Clute, David Langford, Peter Nicholls (now Editor Emeritus) and Graham Sleight. The encyclopedia is updated regularly (usually several times a week) by the editorial team with material written by themselves and contributed by science fiction academics and experts.

Scope and Coverage

The encyclopedia provides entries under following categorical division and subdivision.

➤ **Authors**

- ✓ **Art** (This category contains entries for artists and other topics related to sf art).
- ✓ **Author** (This category contains entries for sf authors).
- ✓ **Editor** (This category contains entries for editors in the sf field).
- ✓ **People** (This category contains entries for people who are notable in sf media: film- and TV-makers are tagged as People to distinguish them from productions).
- ✓ **Critic** (This category contains entries for critics, reviewers, and academics of importance to sf).
- ✓ **House name** (This category contains entries for "house names" - that is, pseudonyms owned by a publisher and used by one or more authors).

- **Themes**
 - ✓ **Theme** (This category contains entries for themes, motifs, and terminology).
- **Media**
 - ✓ **Game** (This category contains entries for sf-related games and game designers).
 - ✓ **Film** (This category contains entries for sf movies and movie-makers).
 - ✓ **TV** (This category contains entries for sf tv series and people associated to sf tv).
 - ✓ **Comics** (This category contains entries for sf comics and graphic novels, and their creators).
 - ✓ **Music** (This category contains entries for sf-related music and its creators).
 - ✓ **Character** (This category contains entries for characters who have appeared in sf-related media).
 - ✓ **Radio** (This category contains entries for sf radio programmes and their creators).
- **Culture**
 - ✓ **Publication** (This category contains entries for sf magazines and fanzines, including online magazines).
 - ✓ **Community** (This category is for entries related to the larger sf community, such as conventions, organizations, and publishers).
 - ✓ **Fan** (This category is for entries about sf fandom, fanzines, and fanzine producers).
 - ✓ **Award** (This category is for entries about awards in the sf field).
 - ✓ **International** (This category is for entries about sf across the world).

[Note: Here sf means science fiction.]

The online edition of *The Encyclopedia of Science Fiction* was released in October 2011 with 12,230 entries, totaling 3,200,000 words. It contained 4,000,000 words in January 2013. As of the latest update to this page on 25 August 2016, the encyclopedia contains 16,760 entries totaling 5,215,996 words. There are 186,283 internal hyperlinks between entries, corresponding to cross-references in past book editions.

Kind of Information

The articles in this encyclopedia give a provision to know about the various topics of science fictions.

Example from “Authors” category

The article under the category author, named “Adeler, Max” gives following kind of information:

- ❖ Brief description about the author including his works;
- ❖ Gives one see also reference “[Shared Worlds](#)”;
- ❖ Under his pseudonym “Charles Heber Clark”, the article includes the date and the place of the birth and death of the author;
- ❖ Chronological and alphabetical checklist of author’s works. The following screen shot displays the chronological list of 10 works of this author:



- ❖ Under the heading “links” there are following links :

- [Internet Speculative Fiction Database](#)
- [The Encyclopedia of Fantasy](#): [Tall Tales](#)
- [Picture Gallery](#)

- ❖ Also includes previous version of this entry;

Example from “Theme” category

The article “Aliens” is under the “Theme” category. This entry gives following kinds of information.

- ❖ Publication date of the article, i.e., April 23, 2016;
- ❖ The category name, i.e., Theme;
- ❖ The sharing options, like “Print”, “Tweet”, “Share”, “Email”, “Google +”;
- ❖ Links to previous and next 858 number of articles from the alphabetic list of articles under Theme category. Under “Incoming” option, the encyclopedia provides an alphabetic list of cross referenced articles from various categories along with Theme category;
- ❖ This article gives a comprehensive description on the topic “aliens” and includes many hyperlinked words in the article which are connected to the related articles of the encyclopedia;
- ❖ Within the text of the article, the encyclopedia provides links of see references articles;
- ❖ Further reading list;
- ❖ Two see also references, like Music and SF Music;
- ❖ 24 Previous versions of this articles;
- ❖ At the top right hand side of the article there is a list of recently viewed articles.

Special Features

- This encyclopedia is connected with Twitter, Facebook. User can also give feedback to the SFE editors.



The screenshot shows a 'Connect with SFE' section with the following elements:

- SFE on Twitter**: A blue button with a Twitter icon, the text 'Follow @sfencyclopedia', and a follower count of '5,026 followers'.
- John Clute on Twitter**: A blue button with a Twitter icon, the text 'Follow @john_clute', and a follower count of '3,431 followers'.
- Send email feedback to the SFE editors**: A blue link with an external icon.
- Donate towards SFE expenses**: A blue link with an external icon.
- SFE on Facebook**: A blue button with a Facebook icon, the text 'Like', and '3.7k people like this'.

- User can browse the whole collection by clicking the following

blue hyperlinked buttons.



- The encyclopedia provides news about the encyclopedia.
- The encyclopedia has a link to SF Gateway. Thousands of classic science fiction and fantasy titles are provided through the Gateway.



Arrangement Pattern

All entries are arranged alphabetically under its categories.

SFE THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF SCIENCE FICTION

AUTHORS THEMES MEI

All entries

Radio A-Z

This category contains entries for sf radio programmes and their creators.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

- Radio

- 2000 Plus

A - Radio

B - Radio

- BBC Radiophonic Workshop, The
- Beyond This World
- Beyond Tomorrow
- Buck Rogers in the 25th Century

C - Radio

- CBS Radio Workshop
- Chilton, Charles
- Chronic Rift, The
- Columbia Workshop
- Cooper, Wyllis

D - Radio

- Dan Dare - Pilot of the Future
- Dark Fantasy
- Dimension X

Remarks

Despite its being a work in progress, this third edition of the encyclopedia won the 2012 British Science Fiction Association Award for Best Nonfiction, the 2012 European SF Society award as Best Promoter (of the sf genre) and the 2012 Hugo for Best Related Work.

Comparable Tools

- New World Encyclopedia
(http://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Science_Fiction)
- The Canadian Encyclopedia
(<http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/science-fiction/>)

Date of Access

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