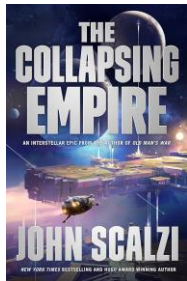


DYSTOPIAN/SCI-FI BOOK GROUP 2021-2022

Led by librarian Elise Katz, we meet monthly throughout the year via Zoom. We mainly read current literature, but also revisit classics. Our selections include a wide range of science fiction, from artificial intelligence, climate fiction, robotics, space opera, hard-science fiction, and dystopian fiction, to humor! Currently, titles for this book group are being decided month-to-month. Book suggestions are welcome.

No prior experience with science fiction is required! We welcome novices as well as serious readers of the genre.

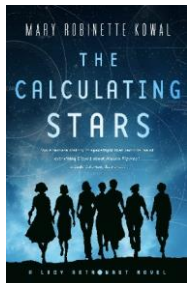
For additional information and to receive the Zoom link, please contact ekatz@minlib.net.



September 2021

The Collapsing Empire by John Scalzi

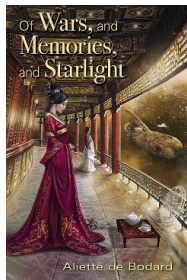
Our universe is ruled by physics and faster than light travel is not possible – until the discovery of The Flow, an extra-dimensional field we can access at certain points in space-time that transport us to other worlds, around other stars.



October 2021

The Calculating Stars by Mary Robinette Kowal

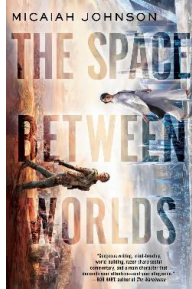
On a cold spring night in 1952, a huge meteorite fell to earth and obliterated much of the east coast of the United States, including Washington D.C. The ensuing climate cataclysm will soon render the earth inhospitable for humanity, as the last such meteorite did for the dinosaurs. The looming threat calls for a radically accelerated effort to colonize space, and requires a much larger share of humanity to take part in the process.



November 2021

Of Wars, and Memories, and Starlight by Alette de Bodard

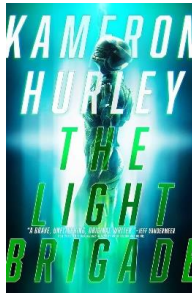
Come discover the breadth and endless invention of her universes, ranging from a dark Gothic Paris devastated by a magical war; to the multiple award-winning Xuya, a far-future space opera inspired by Vietnamese culture where scholars administrate planets and sentient spaceships are part of families.



December 2021/January 2022

***The Space Between Worlds* by Micaiah Johnson**

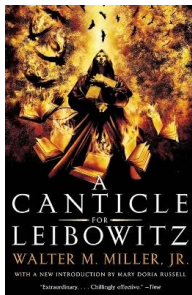
Multiverse travel is finally possible, but there's just one catch: No one can visit a world where their counterpart is still alive.



February 2022

***The Light Brigade* by Kameron Hurley**

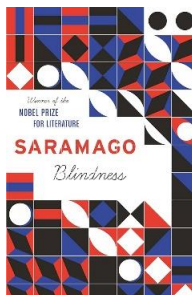
The Light Brigade: it's what soldiers fighting the war against Mars call the ones who come back...different. Grunts in the corporate corps get busted down into light to travel to and from interplanetary battlefronts. Everyone is changed by what the corps must do in order to break them down into light. Those who survive learn to stick to the mission brief – no matter what actually happens during combat.



March 2022

***A Canticle for Leibowitz* by Walter M. Miller Jr.**

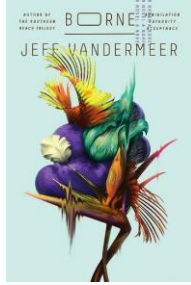
In a nightmarish ruined world slowly awakening to the light after sleeping in darkness, the infant rediscoveries of science are secretly nourished by cloistered monks dedicated to the study and preservation of the relics and writings of the blessed Saint Isaac Leibowitz.



April 2022

***Blindness* by José Saramago**

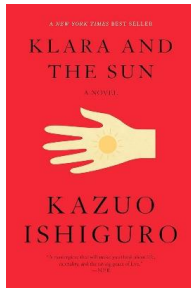
In a provocative parable of loss, disorientation, and weakness, a city is hit by an epidemic of “white blindness” whose victims are confined to a vacant mental hospital, while a single eyewitness to the nightmare guides seven oddly assorted strangers through the barren urban landscape.



May 2022

***Borne* by Jeff VanderMeer**

In a ruined, nameless city of the future, a woman named Rachel, who makes her living as a scavenger, finds a creature she names “Borne” entangled in the fur of Mord, a gigantic, despotic bear. Driven insane by his torture at the Company, a biotech organization that did experiments on him, Mord terrorizes the city even as he provides sustenance for scavengers like Rachel.



June 2022

***Klara and the Sun* by Kazuo Ishiguro**

Here is the story of Klara, an Artificial Friend with outstanding observational qualities, who, from her place in the store, watches carefully the behavior of those who come in to browse, and of those who pass on the street outside. She remains hopeful that a customer will soon choose her.