DYSTOPIAN/SCI-FI BOOK GROUP 2022-2023

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 2022

A House Between Earth and the Moon by Rebecca Scherm

A gripping story of one scientist in outer space, another who watches over him, the family left behind, and the lengths people will go to protect the people and planet they love.



October 2022

Light from Uncommon Stars by Ryka Aoki

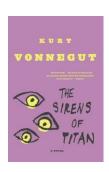
A defiantly joyful adventure set in California's San Gabriel Valley, with cursed violins, Faustian bargains, and queer alien courtship over fresh-made donuts.



November 2022

Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep? By Philip K. Dick

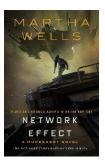
By 2021, the World War has killed millions, driving entire species into extinction and sending mankind off-planet. Those who remain covet any living creature, and for people who can't afford one, companies built incredibly realistic simulacra: horses, birds, cats, sheep. They've even built humans.



January 2023

The Sirens of Titan by Kurt Vonnegut

The richest, most depraved man on Earth, Malachi Constant, is offered a chance to take a space journey to distant worlds with a beautiful woman at his side. Of course there's a catch to the invitation.



February 2023

Network Effect (Murder Bot series) by Martha Wells

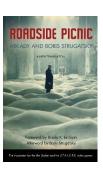
You know that feeling when you're at work, and you've had enough of people, and then the boss walks in with yet another job that needs to be done right this second or the world will end, but all you want to do is go home binge your favorite shows? And you're a sentient murder machine programmed for destruction? Congratulations, you're Murderbot.



March 2023

A Psalm for the Wild-Built and A Prayer for the Crown-Shy by Becky Chambers

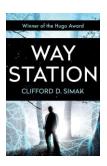
Centuries before, robots of Panga gained self-awareness, laid down their tools, wandered, en masse into the wilderness, never to be seen again. Now the life of the tea monk who tells this story is upended by the arrival of a robot, there to honor the old promise of checking in. The robot cannot go back until the question of "what do people need?" is answered.



April 2023

Roadside Picnic by Arkady and Boris Strugatsky

Red Schuhart is a stalker, one of those young rebels who are compelled to venture illegally into the Zone to collect the mysterious artifacts that the alien visitors left scattered around. But when he and his friend Kirill go into the Zone together to pick up a "full empty," something goes wrong.



May 2023

Way Station by Clifford Simak

Enoch Wallace is not like other humans. Living a secluded life in the backwoods of Wisconsin, he carries a nineteenth-century rifle and never seems to age – a fact that has recently caught the attention of prying government eyes.



June 2023

Goliath by Tochi Onyebuchi

In the 2050s, Earth has begun to empty. Those with the means and the privilege have departed the great cities of the United States for the more comfortable confines of space colonies. Those left behind salvage what they can from the collapsing infrastructure.