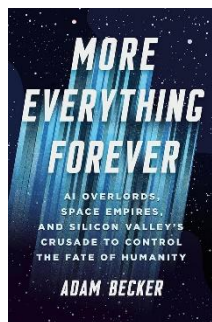


DYSTOPIAN/SCI-FI BOOK GROUP 2025-2026

Led by librarian Elise Katz, we meet monthly via Zoom from Fall 2025 to Spring 2026. We will start meeting in person starting March 2026. 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.

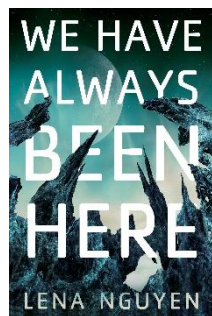
For additional information and to receive the Zoom link, please contact ekatz@minlib.net.



October 2025

More Everything Forever: AI Overlords, Space Empires, and Silicon Valley's Crusade to Control the Fate of Humanity by Adam Becker

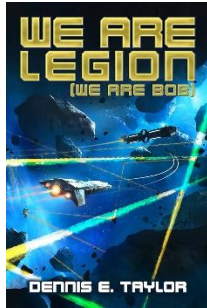
In *More Everything Forever*, science journalist Adam Becker investigates these wildly implausible and often profoundly immoral visions of tomorrow—and shows why, in reality, there is no good evidence that they will, or should, come to pass.



November 2025

We Have Always Been Here by Lena Nguyen

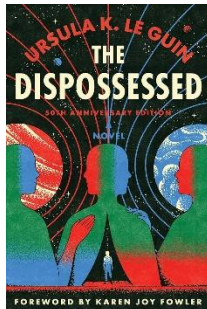
Misanthropic psychologist Dr. Grace Park is placed on the Deucalion, a survey ship headed to an icy planet in an unexplored galaxy. Her purpose is to observe the thirteen human crew members aboard the ship—all specialists in their own fields—as they assess the colonization potential of the planet, Eos. But frictions develop as Park befriends the androids of the ship, preferring their company over the baffling complexity of humans, while the rest of the crew treats them with suspicion and even outright hostility.



December 2025

We Are Legion (We Are Bob) by Dennis E. Taylor

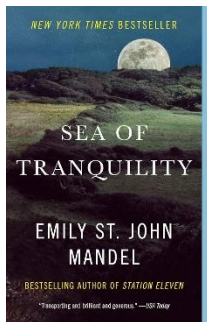
We Are Legion (We Are Bob) is the first book in the "Bobiverse" science fiction series, following Bob Johansson, whose consciousness is uploaded into a self-replicating AI probe after his death to explore space for habitable planets, leading to humorous and action-packed adventures as he encounters other probes and alien life.



January 2026

The Dispossessed: An Ambiguous Utopia by Ursula K. Le Guin

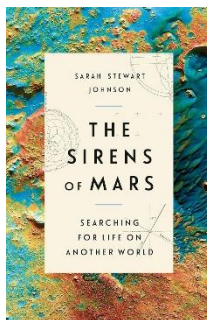
A novel that contrasts a bleak, anarchist moon (Anarres) with a wealthy, capitalist planet (Urras) through the journey of physicist Shevek, who travels from his home to challenge the isolation between the two worlds.



February 2026

Sea of Tranquility by Emily St. John Mandel

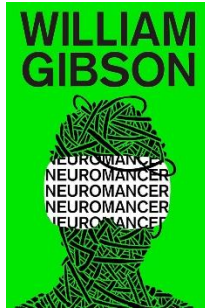
Sea of Tranquility weaves together multiple timelines and characters, exploring themes of time, pandemics, and reality through a central mystery involving a time-traveling investigator.



March 2026

The Sirens of Mars: Searching for Life on Another World by Sarah Stewart Johnson

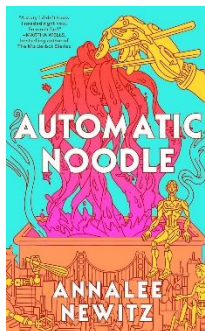
Mars was once similar to Earth, but today there are no rivers, no lakes, no oceans. Coated in red dust, the terrain is bewilderingly empty. And yet multiple spacecraft are circling Mars, sweeping over Terra Sabaea, Syrtis Major, the dunes of Elysium, and Mare Sirenum—on the brink, perhaps, of a staggering find, one that would inspire humankind as much as any discovery in the history of modern science.



April 2026

***Neuromancer* by William Gibson**

Case was the sharpest data-thief in the matrix—until he crossed the wrong people and they crippled his nervous system, banishing him from cyberspace. Now a mysterious new employer has recruited him for a last-chance run at an unthinkable powerful artificial intelligence.



May 2026

***Automatic Noodle* by Annalee Newitz**

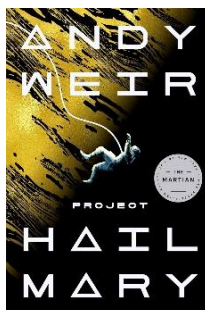
You don't have to eat food to know the way to a city's heart is through its stomach. So when a group of deactivated robots come back online in an abandoned ghost kitchen, they decide to make their own way doing what they know: making food—the tastiest hand-pulled noodles around—for the humans of San Francisco, who are recovering from a devastating war.



June 2026

***The Ministry of Time* by Kaliane Bradley**

In the near future, a civil servant is offered the salary of her dreams and is, shortly afterward, told what project she'll be working on. A recently established government ministry is gathering "expats" from across history to establish whether time travel is feasible—for the body, but also for the fabric of space-time.



July/August/September 2026 Summer Read

***Project Hail Mary* by Andy Weir**

Ryland Grace is the sole survivor on a desperate, last-chance mission—and if he fails, humanity and the earth itself will perish.

Except that right now, he doesn't know that. He can't even remember his own name, let alone the nature of his assignment or how to complete it.

All he knows is that he's been asleep for a very, very long time. And he's just been awakened to find himself millions of miles from home, with nothing but two corpses for company.