

Environmentalism in the Realm of Science Fiction and Fantasy Literature

By Chris Baratta



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The collection of essays titled Environmentalism in the Realm of Science Fiction and Fantasy Literature discusses the environmental and ecocritical themes found in works of science-fiction and fantasy literature. Organized into four sections titled "Industrial Dilemmas", "The Natural World, Community, and the Self", "Materialism, Capitalism, and Environmentalism", and "Dystopian Futures", the essays analyze important literary works to yield an understanding of how they address the environmental issues we are facing today and the solutions that these works present to ensure the sustainability of our natural world and, in turn, the sustainability of humanity. With topics ranging from the dangers of industrial progress to the connection between environmental degradation and the destruction of the individual, and from the environmental dangers posed by capitalistic societies to ignored warnings of ecological crises, the essays tactfully analyze the relationship between the environmental themes in literature and how readers and scholars can learn from the irresponsible treatment of the environment. This collection will appeal to a broad range of scholars, including those who focus their studies on one of, or all of, the following fields: Ecocriticism, Science Fiction and Fantasy Literature, and Environmentalism in Literature.



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Editorial Review

About the Author

Chris Baratta is currently (2011) a doctoral candidate in English at Binghamton University (SUNY) in Binghamton, New York. His scholarly interests include the emerging field of ecocriticism, nature writing, and post-WWII American literature and culture. He is currently working on his dissertation titled Everything Will Again be Great and Mighty: How the Counterculture Shaped and Influenced Current Environmental Thought, which looks at the role of the American counterculture of the 1950s through the 1970s in shaping a new environmental awareness in American society and American politics.

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