

Utopian Literature and Science

From the Scientific Revolution to Brave New World and Beyond

Patrick Parrinder

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Patrick Parrinder is a leading authority on H.G. Wells and his book *Shadows of the Future* won the 1996 University of California Eaton Award. He is author of *Nation and Novel* (2006) and General Editor of the ongoing 12-volume *Oxford History of the Novel in English*. A Fellow of the English Association, he is Emeritus Professor of English at the University of Reading.

About the book

Scientific progress is usually seen as a precondition of modern utopias, but science and utopia are frequently at odds. *Utopian Literature and Science* traces the interactions of sciences such as astronomy, microscopy, genetics and anthropology with 19th- and 20th-century utopian and dystopian writing and modern science fiction. Ranging from Galileo's observations with the telescope to current ideas of the post-human and the human-animal boundary, the author's re-examination of key literary texts brings a fresh perspective to the paradoxes of utopian thinking since Plato. This book is essential reading for teachers and students of literature and science studies, utopian studies, and science fiction studies, as well as students of 19th and early 20th-century literature more generally.

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PATRICK PARRINDER



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