

Science Fiction and Fantasy: The Cosmic Players

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The Golden Age (1930s-1950s)

Isaac Asimov	A.E. van Vogt	Fritz Leiber C.L.
Alfred Bester	Leigh Brackett	Moore Frederik
Ray Bradbury	Bertram Chandler	Pohl Theodore
Arthur C. Clarke	Hal Clement	Sturgeon A.E. Van
Robert A. Heinlein	Lester Del Rey	Vogt

New Wave (Late 1950s-1970s)

Philip K. Dick	Harlan Ellison	Ursula K. LeGuin	Michael Moorcock
Frank Herbert	Thomas Disch	Walter M. Miller, Jr.	Robert Silverberg

Space Opera

C.J. Cherryh	Ray Cummings	Edmond	E.E. "Doc" Smith
Iain M. Banks	Stephen Baxter	Peter F. Hamilton	Paul J. McAuley
Alastair Reynolds	Justina Robson	Dan Simmons	

Military

Lois McMaster Bujold	Jack Campbell	Orson Scott Card	David Drake
Joe Haldeman	Robert A. Heinlein	Elizabeth Moon	Larry Niven
Jerry Pournelle	John Scalzi		

Apocalyptic/Post-Apocalyptic

Margaret Atwood	Jeanne DuPrau	Mira Grant	Stephen King
Richard Matheson	Cormac McCarthy	Walter M. Miller	Jerry Pournelle
Larry Niven	George R. Stewart	Sheri S. Tepper	

Dying Earth

Jack Vance	Brian Aldiss	Greg Bear	John Brunner
C.J. Cherryh	Arthur C. Clarke	Philip Jose Farmer	Edmond Hamilton
Michael Moorcock	Gene Wolfe		

Biopunk/Nanopunk:

Paolo Bacigalupi	Octavia Butler	Paul Di Filippo
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Cyberpunk:

William Gibson	Neal Stephenson	Bruce Sterling
Charles Stross	David J. Williams	

Steampunk:

James Blaylock	Gail Carriger	William Gibson	Bruce Sterling
K.W. Jeter	Jay Lake	China Miéville	Tim Powers
Cherie Priest			

Alternate History

Michael Chabon	Philip K. Dick	Stephen Fry	Guy Gavriel Kay
Kim Stanley Robinson	Robert Charles Wilson	Harry Turtledove	Philip Roth

“Literary” SF

Michael Crichton	Kazuo Ishiguro	Jonathan Lethem	Cormac McCarthy
Audrey Niffeneggar	Kurt Vonnegut		

Science Fantasy

Leigh Brackett	Anne McCaffrey	Tim Powers	Gene Wolfe
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Other Important/Popular Authors of the Day

Tobias S. Buckell	Jeff Carlson	Kay Kenyon	Jay Lake
Ian McDonald	Larry Niven	Kim Stanley Robinson	Robert J. Sawyer
Connie Willis	Robert Charles Wilson		

High and Epic Fantasy

J.R.R. Tolkien	Marion Zimmer Bradley	Terry Brooks	Robert Jordan
Stephen King	Mercedes Lackey	C.S. Lewis	Terry Pratchett
R.A. Salvatore	Kevin J. Anderson	David Anthony Durham	Terry Goodkind
George R.R. Martin	Philip Pullman	Patrick Rothfuss	Brandon Sanderson
Ken Scholes	Kim Vandervort		

Urban Fantasy/Paranormal Romance

L.A. Banks	Jim Butcher	Gail Carriger	Jocelynn Drake
Kelly Gay	Laurell K. Hamilton	Kim Harrison	Marjorie M. Liu
Richelle Mead	C.E. Murphy	Lilith Saintcrow	Linnea Sinclair

Dark Fantasy

C.S. Friedman	Charlaine Harris	Justine Musk	Garth Nix
Anne Rice	Brent Weeks		

New Weird

China Miéville	Jeff VanderMeer		
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Other Popular Fantasy Authors of the Day

Joe Abercrombie	Elizabeth Bear	James Blaylock	Susanna Clarke
Neil Gaiman	Robin Hobb	Guy Gavriel Kay	Elizabeth Kostova
Scott Lynch	Naomi Novik	K.J. Parker	Tim Powers
Ekaterina Sedia	Catheryne M. Valente		

Comic Books and Graphic Novels

<i>Watchmen</i> (Alan Moore and Dave Gibbons)	<i>Flight and Amulet</i> series (Kazu Kibuishi)
<i>Sandman</i> series (Neil Gaiman)	<i>Fables</i> series (Bill Willingham)
<i>The Walking Dead</i> (Robert Kirkman, Tony Moore, & Charlie Adlard)	
<i>Scott Pilgrim</i> series (Bryan Lee O’Malley)	

Young Adult (SF and Fantasy)

Douglas Adams	Orson Scott Card	Cassandra Calare	Suzanne Collins
Cory Doctorow	Janice Hardy	Justine Larbalestier	Madeleine L’Engle
Robin McKinley	Stephenie Meyer	Christopher Paolini	Veronica Roth
J.K. Rowling	Carrie Ryan	Maggie Stiefvater	Scott Westerfield

Religious Bent

Madeleine L'Engle
Gene Wolfe
Kim Stanley Robinson

C.S. Lewis
Kameron Hurley
David Brin

Mary Doria Russell
Orson Scott
Michael Chabon

J.R.R. Tolkein
L. Ron Hubbard

Feminist Speculative Fiction

Margaret Atwood
Joanna Russ

Elizabeth Bear
Sheri S. Tepper

Octavia Butler

Ursula K. LeGuin

Race in Science Fiction & Fantasy

- #racefail
- *Mammoth Book of Mindblowing SF*
- *Liar* and *Magic Under Glass* cover controversies

Notable writers of color

African and/or Caribbean ancestry: L.A. Banks Stephen Barnes Tobias Buckell Octavia Butler Samuel R. Delany Tananarive Due David Anthony Durham Nalo Hopkinson N.K. Jemisin Alaya Dawn Johnson Karen Lord Nnedi Okorafor Helen Oyeyemi Charles Saunders Nisi Shawl Sheree R. Thomas	Asian ancestry: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Aliette de Bodard• Ted Chiang• Hiromi Goto• Kazuo Ishiguro• Marjorie M. Liu• Haruki Murakami Indian ancestry: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Salman Rushdie• Nalini Singh• Vandana Singh Middle Eastern ancestry: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Saladin Ahmed• Mahtab Narsimhan Native American ancestry: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sherman Alexie• Daniel Heath Justice• Gerald Vizenor

Additional writers who break beyond the “white norm”

Note: Some of these authors may be people of color as well. I do not know their ethnic background, ancestry, etc.

Paolo Bacigalupi
Kameron Hurley
Mary Doria Russell

Lauren Beukes
Guy Gavriel Kay
Neal Stephenson

Daniel Fox
Justine Larbalestier
Liz Williams

Neil Gaiman
Ursula K. LeGuin

Getting Started: Best Books for New Readers

Here is a list of books and authors that are often popular with new readers of speculative fiction.

1. *Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card
2. *The Sparrow* by Mary Doria Russell
3. *Spin* by Robert Charles Wilson

4. *Dune* by Frank Herbert
5. *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood
6. *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* by Douglas Adams
7. *The Stars My Destination* by Alfred Bester
8. *Slaughterhouse-Five* or *Cat's Cradle* by Kurt Vonnegut
9. *Fledgling* by Octavia Butler
10. *Stranger in a Strange Land* or *Starship Troopers* by Robert A. Heinlein
11. *Snow Crash* by Neal Stephenson
12. *The Man in the High Castle* or *Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?* by Philip K. Dick
13. *Feed* by Mira Grant
14. *Soulless* by Gail Carriger
15. *American Gods* by Neil Gaiman

Major Awards

The Hugo

The John W. Campbell Award for the Best New Writer

The Nebula

The World Fantasy Award

Locus Award

Arthur C. Clarke Award

Philip K. Dick Award

James Tiptree, Jr. Literary Award

Lambda Literary Awards

American Library Association Awards

Major Publishers and Imprints

Big 6:

- Tor (imprint of Macmillan)
- Orbit (imprint of Hachette)
- Ace (imprint of Penguin)
- Bantam Spectra (SF division of Bantam/Random House)
- Del Rey (imprint of Ballantine/Random House)
- Eos (imprint of HarperCollins)
- Firebird (imprint of Penguin)
- Knopf (imprint of Random House)
- Simon & Schuster

Others:

Apex Book Company
 Baen
 DAW
 Dragon Moon Press
 Night Shade Books
 Phoenix Pick
 Pyr (imprint of Prometheus)
 Subterranean Press

Good Resources to Keep up with SF/Fantasy News

- SF Signal
- SF Site
- Suvudu
- io9
- Big Dumb Object
- A good list of blogs that aggregate speculative fiction news is at <http://www.distancelearningnet.com/blog/2009/top-100-science-fiction-blogs/>.
- A very good series on How to Start Reading Science Fiction is at <http://www.kirkusreviews.com/blog/science-fiction-and-fantasy/sf-signal-how-start-reading-science-fiction-part-1/>.
- The Internet Speculative Fiction Database (<http://www.isfdb.org>) is a great resource!