

the death of grass book

The Death of Grass Book: An In-Depth Exploration of the Classic Post-Apocalyptic Novel

Introduction: The Death of Grass Book and Its Significance

The death of grass book is a compelling and thought-provoking post-apocalyptic novel written by British author John Christopher, published in 1956. Set against the backdrop of a devastating biological catastrophe that renders grass and crops infertile, the story delves into the struggles of survival, societal collapse, and human resilience. As a seminal work in the dystopian genre, the book has garnered critical acclaim for its realistic portrayal of a world pushed to the brink by ecological disaster.

The novel's relevance has only grown over the decades, resonating with contemporary concerns about environmental degradation, climate change, and global crises. Its compelling narrative and vivid characters make it an enduring classic, inspiring adaptations and scholarly analysis alike. This article provides a comprehensive overview of *The Death of Grass* book, exploring its plot, themes, characters, and lasting impact, aiming to optimize understanding and appreciation for this literary masterpiece.

Plot Overview of The Death of Grass Book

Setting and Context

The novel is set in a near-future Britain, where society is functioning but increasingly fragile. A mysterious biological agent, known as the "Crisis," causes widespread destruction of plant life, especially grasses and staple crops. This ecological disaster sets off a chain reaction that threatens food security, economic stability, and social order.

Main Plot Points

The narrative follows several characters as they navigate this bleak new world:

- Mark and Beth: A young couple living on a farm, striving to protect their land and family.
- Captain John Parsons: A military officer tasked with maintaining order amidst chaos.
- Ted and Ruth: A couple from urban backgrounds struggling to adapt to rural survival.

The story unfolds through their perspectives, illustrating the diverse challenges faced as society

collapses and new power structures emerge.

Key Events Include:

1. The Onset of the Crisis: The biological agent begins killing off grasses, leading to crop failures and famine.
2. Societal Breakdown: Governments falter, lawlessness rises, and warlords establish control over territories.
3. Survival Strategies: Characters form alliances, defend their homes, and seek sustainable sources of food.
4. Climactic Confrontations: Conflicts between different factions highlight the moral dilemmas and human cost of survival.
5. Hope and Resilience: Despite despair, some characters work toward rebuilding and discovering new ways to sustain life.

Themes Explored in The Death of Grass Book

Ecological Collapse and Environmental Awareness

One of the central themes is the devastating impact of ecological neglect and the consequences of environmental imbalance. The novel serves as a warning about over-reliance on monoculture crops, pollution, and the fragility of ecosystems.

Survival and Human Resilience

The story emphasizes human ingenuity and resilience in the face of catastrophe. Characters demonstrate resourcefulness, adaptability, and moral strength as they confront life-threatening challenges.

Societal Decline and Anarchy

As civilization crumbles, the novel examines the breakdown of social order, the emergence of new hierarchies, and the loss of moral compass. It explores how crises can lead to both barbarism and solidarity.

Moral and Ethical Dilemmas

The characters face tough choices—how far they are willing to go to survive, whether to trust strangers, and how to balance individual needs with communal welfare.

The Fragility of Modern Society

The novel advocates reflection on the dependence of modern life on stable ecological and social systems, urging readers to consider sustainability and preparedness.

Character Analysis and Development

Mark and Beth

As protagonists, Mark and Beth symbolize hope and perseverance. Their relationship is tested by the hardships of the new world, and their journey reflects themes of love, loyalty, and resilience.

Captain John Parsons

A figure representing authority and military discipline, Parsons grapples with moral complexities in maintaining order while facing limited resources.

Ted and Ruth

Their characters exemplify adaptability and the human capacity for hope amidst despair. Their experiences highlight the importance of community and cooperation.

Literary Significance and Critical Reception

Influence on Post-Apocalyptic Literature

The Death of Grass is considered a pioneering work in the post-apocalyptic genre, influencing countless authors and stories that explore ecological disaster and societal collapse.

Critical Acclaim

Reviewers praise the novel for its realistic portrayal of ecological catastrophe, complex characters, and thought-provoking themes. Its foresight into environmental issues has made it a subject of academic interest.

Adaptations and Cultural Impact

While primarily a literary work, the novel has inspired radio adaptations, discussions on environmental policy, and remains relevant in environmental activism circles.

Relevance Today: Why The Death of Grass Book Matters

Environmental Concerns and Climate Change

With increasing awareness of climate change and ecological fragility, *The Death of Grass* serves as a cautionary tale about the consequences of neglecting environmental stewardship.

Food Security and Global Crises

The novel underscores the importance of sustainable agriculture and resilience planning in the face of potential global crises.

Societal Resilience and Human Values

It prompts reflection on societal structures, moral choices, and the human capacity for both destruction and hope.

Conclusion: The Enduring Legacy of The Death of Grass Book

The death of grass book remains a powerful and relevant piece of literature, combining compelling storytelling with urgent ecological and social themes. Its exploration of ecological disaster, societal collapse, and human resilience offers valuable lessons for contemporary readers. As environmental challenges continue to mount, the novel encourages vigilance, sustainability, and compassion—qualities essential for navigating an uncertain future.

Whether you are a lover of dystopian fiction, an environmental advocate, or a scholar interested in post-apocalyptic narratives, *The Death of Grass* provides a profound and thought-provoking reading experience. Its timeless themes and realistic portrayal of catastrophe make it a must-read for understanding the delicate balance of our ecological and social systems—and the importance of safeguarding them for generations to come.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main theme of 'The Death of Grass'?

'The Death of Grass' explores the collapse of society due to a deadly plant virus that devastates global crops, highlighting the importance of sustainability and resilience.

Who is the author of 'The Death of Grass'?

The novel was written by British author John Christopher, a pseudonym for Samuel Youd.

When was 'The Death of Grass' published?

'The Death of Grass' was first published in 1956.

Why is 'The Death of Grass' considered a dystopian classic?

Because it depicts a bleak future resulting from ecological and societal collapse, reflecting fears of environmental disaster and societal fragility.

How does 'The Death of Grass' relate to contemporary environmental issues?

The book's themes of ecological vulnerability and the importance of sustainable agriculture resonate with current concerns about climate change and food security.

Are there any recent adaptations of 'The Death of Grass'?

While there haven't been major film or TV adaptations, the novel continues to influence modern dystopian and ecological fiction.

What lessons does 'The Death of Grass' offer for today's society?

It underscores the importance of environmental stewardship, resilience, and preparedness in facing ecological crises.

Is 'The Death of Grass' suitable for modern readers interested in environmental fiction?

Yes, its themes remain relevant, making it a compelling read for those interested in ecological and dystopian narratives.

Additional Resources

The Death of Grass Book: An In-Depth Examination of a Post-Apocalyptic Classic

Introduction

The death of grass book is a seminal work that has captured the imaginations of readers and critics alike since its original publication in 1956. Written by British author John Christopher, the novel explores a dystopian future where a mysterious biological catastrophe devastates the world's crops, threatening human civilization with collapse. Over the decades, the book has garnered praise for its prescient themes, compelling narrative, and thought-provoking social commentary. This article delves into the origins, themes, impact, and enduring relevance of *The Death of Grass*, highlighting why it remains a cornerstone in the genre of speculative fiction.

Origins and Context of *The Death of Grass*

The Author: John Christopher

John Christopher, born Samuel Youd in 1922, was a prolific British science fiction and adventure novelist. Under his pen name, he crafted numerous stories that often combined technological speculation with social commentary. *The Death of Grass* was his first major foray into dystopian fiction, published in 1956, during a period marked by Cold War anxieties and rapid technological advancement.

Historical and Cultural Backdrop

The 1950s were a turbulent time. Post-World War II recovery was underway, but fears of nuclear conflict, ecological disasters, and societal upheavals persisted. The advent of chemical fertilizers, the Green Revolution, and concerns about environmental degradation influenced the novel's themes. *The Death of Grass* reflects these anxieties, projecting a future where the collapse of agriculture could lead to societal collapse.

Inspiration and Influences

While there is no single source that explicitly inspired *The Death of Grass*, the novel echoes contemporary fears of ecological fragility, the reliance on monoculture crops, and the potential for biological crises to threaten civilization. It also draws from earlier dystopian literature, such as George Orwell's *1984* and H.G. Wells' *The War of the Worlds*, blending societal critique with speculative scenarios.

Plot Summary and Narrative Structure

The Premise: A World Without Grass

The novel opens with the sudden, inexplicable death of all grass and cereal crops worldwide—an

event referred to as the "Blight." This biological disaster rapidly spreads, wiping out wheat, rice, barley, and other staple crops essential for human sustenance.

Main Characters and Their Journey

The story follows a British family—Mark and Laura Cole, along with their children—who navigate the chaos following the catastrophe. As food supplies dwindle, they are forced to leave their home and embark on a perilous journey across a Britain descending into anarchy. Along the way, they confront:

- Societal breakdown and lawlessness
- Factions vying for control of limited resources
- The moral dilemmas of survival in a collapsed society

The Societal Collapse

As the food crisis intensifies, traditional social structures crumble. Governments fail, and communities fragment. The novel vividly depicts the erosion of civility, the rise of violence, and the desperate measures people take to survive.

Resolution and Themes

Without spoiling the ending entirely, it's notable that the novel offers a bleak yet realistic portrayal of humanity's resilience and vulnerabilities. It emphasizes that ecological stability is vital for societal continuity and warns against complacency regarding environmental health.

Themes and Symbolism

Ecological Fragility and Human Dependence

At its core, *The Death of Grass* underscores how fragile human civilization is, hinging on the delicate balance of ecological systems. The sudden loss of staple crops exemplifies how environmental disruptions can have catastrophic consequences.

Socioeconomic and Political Commentary

The novel examines how crises exacerbate existing inequalities and power structures. Wealthy factions hoard resources, while the poor suffer most. It critiques societal complacency and explores themes of authority, anarchy, and the human tendency toward violence under stress.

Moral and Ethical Dilemmas

Survival scenarios force characters into morally complex situations. Decisions about resource allocation, loyalty, and violence challenge readers to consider what they might do in similar circumstances.

Symbolism of Grass and Agriculture

Grass and crops symbolize sustenance, stability, and life itself. Their death signifies the potential

end of civilization as we know it, serving as a stark metaphor for ecological catastrophe.

Impact and Critical Reception

Initial Reception and Popularity

Upon release, *The Death of Grass* was praised for its realism and gripping narrative. Its portrayal of ecological disaster was considered ahead of its time, foreshadowing contemporary concerns about climate change and food security.

Influence on Science Fiction and Environmental Literature

The novel influenced subsequent dystopian and ecological fiction, inspiring writers and thinkers to consider the fragility of human systems. Its depiction of societal breakdown has been cited in academic discussions on environmental ethics and disaster preparedness.

Adaptations and Cultural Footprint

While *The Death of Grass* has not been extensively adapted into films or television, its themes resonate in modern media addressing ecological collapse, such as the Hulu series *The Handmaid's Tale* and various environmental documentaries.

Enduring Relevance in Contemporary Society

Climate Change and Food Security

Today, the novel's themes are more relevant than ever. Climate change, pandemics, and ecological degradation threaten global food supplies. The story serves as a cautionary tale, urging proactive measures to prevent similar crises.

Lessons on Societal Resilience

The Death of Grass reminds us that societal resilience depends on sustainable practices, social cohesion, and preparedness. It highlights the importance of valuing ecological health as integral to human survival.

Ethical Considerations and Policy Implications

The novel challenges policymakers, scientists, and citizens to consider the ethical dimensions of environmental stewardship. It advocates for responsible resource management and global cooperation to avert ecological disasters.

Conclusion

The death of grass book remains a powerful and prescient work in the canon of dystopian and

ecological fiction. Its exploration of how a sudden ecological catastrophe can unravel civilization continues to resonate in an era increasingly concerned with environmental sustainability. By blending compelling storytelling with profound social critique, John Christopher crafted a narrative that warns, educates, and inspires. As we confront our own ecological challenges, *The Death of Grass* stands as a stark reminder of the fragile web of life that sustains us all—and the dire consequences of neglecting it.

The Death Of Grass Book

the death of grass book: Modern Classics the Death of Grass John Christopher, 2009-04-14
A thought experiment in future-shock survivalism' Robert MacFarlane 'Gripping ... of all science fiction's apocalypses, this is one of the most haunting' Financial Times WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY ROBERT MACFARLANE A post-apocalyptic vision of the world pushed to the brink by famine, John Christopher's science fiction masterpiece *The Death of Grass* includes an introduction by Robert MacFarlane in Penguin Modern Classics. At first the virus wiping out grass and crops is of little concern to John Custance. It has decimated Asia, causing mass starvation and riots, but Europe is safe and a counter-virus is expected any day. Except, it turns out, the governments have been lying to their people. When the deadly disease hits Britain, society starts to descend into barbarism. As John and his family try to make it across country to the safety of his brother's farm in a hidden valley, their humanity is tested to its very limits. A chilling psychological thriller and one of the greatest post-apocalyptic novels ever written, *The Death of Grass* shows people struggling to hold on to their identities as the familiar world disintegrates - and the terrible price they must pay for surviving. John Christopher (1922-2012) was the pen name of Samuel Youd, a prolific writer of science fiction. His novels were popular during the 1950s and 1960s, most notably *The Death Of Grass* (1956), *The World in Winter* (1962), and *Wrinkle in the Skin* (1965), all works depicting ordinary people struggling in the midst of apocalyptic catastrophes. In 1966 he started writing science-fiction for adolescents; *The Tripods* trilogy, the *Prince in Waiting* trilogy (also known as the *Sword of the Spirits* trilogy) and *The Lotus Caves* are still widely read today. If you enjoyed *The Death of Grass*, you might like John Wyndham's *The Day of the Triffids*, also available in Penguin Modern Classics.

the death of grass book: Imagining the End James Craig Holte, 2019-11-11 *Imagining the End* provides students and general readers with contextualized examples of how the apocalypse has been imagined across all mediums of American popular culture. Detailed entries analyze the development, influence, and enjoyment of end-times narratives. *Imagining the End* provides a contextual overview and individual description and analysis of the wide range of depictions of the end of the world that have appeared in American popular culture. American writers, filmmakers, television producers, and game developers inundated the culture with hundreds of imagined apocalyptic scenarios, influenced by the Biblical Book of Revelation, the advent of the end of the second millennium (2000 CE), or predictions of catastrophic events such as nuclear war, climate change, and the spread of AIDS. From being raptured to surviving the zombie apocalypse, readers and viewers have been left with an almost endless sequence of disasters to experience. *Imagining the End* examines this phenomenon and provides a context for understanding, and perhaps appreciating, the end of the world. This title is composed of alphabetized entries covering all topics related to the end times, covering popular culture mediums such as comic books, literature, films, and music.

the death of grass book: The Death of Evolution Michael Ebifegha, 2007-04 Ebifegha shows that scanning through the Scriptures in proper order reveals them to be a compilation of the details of God's claim on creation, presented in the format of a conventional patent. (Christian)

the death of grass book: John Christopher, The Death of Grass Graham Handley, 1988

the death of grass book: Nightmare Movies Kim Newman, 2011-04-18 Now over twenty years old, the original edition of *Nightmare Movies* has retained its place as a true classic of cult film criticism. In this new edition, Kim Newman brings his seminal work completely up-to-date, both reassessing his earlier evaluations and adding a second part that assess the last two decades of horror films with all the wit, intelligence and insight for which he is known. Since the publication of the first edition, horror has been on a gradual upswing, and taken a new and stronger hold over the film industry. Newman negotiates his way through a vast back-catalogue of horror, charting the on-screen progress of our collective fears and bogeymen from the low budget slasher movies of the 60s, through to the slick releases of the 2000s, in a critical appraisal that doubles up as a genealogical study of contemporary horror and its forebears. Newman invokes the figures that fuel the ongoing demand for horror - the serial killer; the vampire; the werewolf; the zombie - and draws on his remarkable knowledge of the genre to give us a comprehensive overview of the modern myths that have shaped the imagination of multiple generations of cinema-goers. *Nightmare Movies* is an invaluable companion that not only provides a newly updated history of the darker side of film but a truly entertaining guide with which to discover the less well-trodden paths of horror, and re-discover the classics with a newly instructed eye.

the death of grass book: *Challenging Anthropocentrism in Eco-Science Fiction Novels* Fatma Gamze Erkan, 2024-01-03 This book explores the relationship between humanity and nature while challenging the notion that anthropocentric behaviour causes the environmental catastrophes depicted in the four selected British eco-science fiction novels. These novels are John Christopher's *The Death of Grass* (1956), J. G. Ballard's *The Drought* (1965), Brian Aldiss's *Earthworks* (1965), and John Brunner's *The Sheep Look Up* (1972), all of which fictionalise the fact that the consequences of environmental problems can be diverse but equally serious. This book examines how even the smallest damage caused by human beings to the environment negatively affects them, other living beings, and the ecosystem they need to live and flourish. In conjunction with these, the factors and conditions that push characters in the novels to ignore and harm the environment are also scrutinised. While examining how and why the environmental problems in the novels have arisen, it is evaluated whether the authors propose solutions to these problems and, if so, what they are.

the death of grass book: *Song of Myself: The First Edition of 1855 + The Death Bed Edition of 1892* Walt Whitman, 2013-11-10 This carefully crafted ebook: "Song of Myself: The First Edition of 1855 + The Death Bed Edition of 1892" is formatted for your eReader with a functional and detailed table of contents. *Song of Myself* is a poem by Walt Whitman that is included in his work *Leaves of Grass*. It has been credited as representing the core of Whitman's poetic vision. The poem was first published without sections as the first of twelve untitled poems in the first (1855) edition of *Leaves of Grass*. The first edition was published by Whitman at his own expense. In 1856 it was called *A Poem of Walt Whitman, an American* and in 1860 it was simply termed *Walt Whitman*. Walter Walt Whitman (1819 - 1892) was an American poet, essayist and journalist. His work was very controversial in its time, particularly his poetry collection *Leaves of Grass*, which was described as obscene for its overt sexuality.

the death of grass book: *The Death Series, Books 7-9* Tamara Rose Blodgett, 2018-01-18 FOR the LOVE of DEATH: The year is 2049 and in the new dystopian order, the Randoms have risen to the top. Because of the Helix Complex and their illicit use of mass sterilization, Earth faces dire consequences. The virulent Zondorae concoction of 2030 made many who could have children into mules. Now middle-aged, Death's children do their best in a world where technology and paranormal powers collide in a mix of tragedy and circumstance. Those in power have raised zombies for the slave trade. Paxton and Deegan Hart are grown and on the radar for those that understand how critical they are for future exploit. The tight-knit circle of friends are forced to network for solutions to the depravity that has taken hold. Can the original group protect a new talent, so dangerous it shouldn't exist? Will the new generation of Randoms find a solution for propagation, or will their power base cannibalize those who choose harmony over greed? DEATH BLINKS: Paxton Hart has used his ability to escape the grasp of the Sanction Police, who want him for the illegal import of the

undead. From a parallel plane. Unfortunately, Pax has blinked the entire group to an earth more corrupt than his own, where the undead serve the living in illicit sex trade, and cyborg-human hybrids are slowly taking over humanity. When Deegan and her zombie, Mitchell, become separated from Paxton during a recent blink, they find themselves in a world where soldiers have a form of blinking they call Reflecting. Reflective Lance Ryan pronounces himself judge and jury as he discovers that Deegan has more than Affinity for the Dead, but the dangerous Atomic ability. Deegan just wants to find her family and return to their earth before the Reflectives can punish her for an ability she can't help having; and doesn't want. As the group finds one another, a new reality of fertility and danger rears its head. Do the women stay where they can conceive children who are so rare and risk their lives? Or do they return to an earth where certain persecution awaits them, and a lifetime of barrenness? Should Deegan put Mitchell to rest? Or will he become more than anyone thought possible? Including her. **DEATH INCARNATE:** Deegan Hart's very existence hangs in the balance. Mitchell, her zombie from a world where Cyborg's roam is about to make a decision that could erase her from not just her home earth—but every earth. Does Mitchell interfere with fate and save the lives of his brother or sister? Or does destiny have different plans. In the aftermath of a pivotal blink, a reordered future unfolds, and the original group of paranormals are needed to right a wrong. But at what cost? Is a new government order intent on ripping Deegan away from her family for their own purposes? Or worse: will Brad Thompson find a way to see his evil plans of an Atomic super race to fruition—with Deegan Hart as the catalyst? Finally, can the changes the paranormals make set into motion the events that would give earth hope for the first time in a generation? The Death Series, 7-9 is 206K words; 17+ audience.

the death of grass book: *The Death Chronicles II* J.E. Taylor, 2021-04-10 Death is the family business, but not one I want to pursue. Thankfully, it's been passed down from father to son for generations, so it should skip over me as Death's daughter. Then I won't have to stop being alive and can actually live my life. Right? Well, the reapers don't agree. And neither do the angels. One thinks I'm destined to take over, the other believes I will destroy existence. Both want me dead to match their own agendas. I have an agenda of my own, and Leviathan who has sworn to protect me. But once my family and friends start being targeted, the family business, while grim, might be the only choice I have to save those I love. The Death Chronicles II includes the following titles Grim's Daughter Finding Death Reap the Dead Kissing Fate

the death of grass book: *Penguin by Design* Phil Baines, 2005 Since the creation of the first Penguin paperbacks in 1935, their jackets have become a constantly evolving part of Britain's culture and design history. Looking back at seventy years of Penguin, Phil Baines charts the development of British publishing, book cover design and the role of artists in defining the Penguin look.

the death of grass book: *Christ and Anti-Christ. 1. The death of the gods, tr. by H. Trench* Dmitrii Sergeevich Merezhkovskii, 1901

the death of grass book: *The Literary Filmography* Leonard Mustazza, 2006-05-17 From the very infancy of the film industry, filmmakers have relied heavily upon literature as the foundation for their movie material. Well-known literary works such as Dickens's *A Christmas Carol* and Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter* were adapted to film in the silent era, as were such books as Thomas Dixon's Jr.'s *The Klansman*, basis for the film *Birth of a Nation*. In recent years, Nick Hornsby's *About a Boy* and each of Helen Fielding's *Bridget Jones's Diary* novels were the basis for popular movies bearing the same names. A guide to English-language works that have been adapted as theatrical and television films, this volume includes books (both fiction and non-fiction), short stories, newspaper and magazine articles and poems. Entries are arranged alphabetically by literary title with cross-listings for films made under different titles. Each entry includes the original work's title, author, year of first publication, literary prizes, and a brief plot summary. Information on film adaptation(s) of the work, including adaptation titles, director, screenwriter, principal cast and the names of the characters they portray, major awards, and availability in the most common formats (DVD, VHS), is also offered.

the death of grass book: The Death of Che Guevara Jay Cantor, 2011-05-11 In his critically acclaimed epic first novel, Jay Cantor, author of *Krazy Kat* and *Great Neck*, draws on history, myth, and his own prodigious imagination to take on the life and death of revolutionary icon Che Guevara. In his now famous progress through modern times, Ernesto "Che" Guevara, the scion of a liberal Argentine family, abandoned a medical career to become a revolutionary. A fiery comrade of Fidel Castro's who joined him in overthrowing the Cuban government of Batista, Che later broke with Castro to lead a guerrilla movement in Bolivia. As the novel charts Che's bold evolution, it also offers an incisive look at Latin America's revolutionary struggles, an exploration of the nature of truth and storytelling, and a brilliant exegesis of the psychology of radical activism.

the death of grass book: *The Death of Classical Cinema* Joe McElhaney, 2012-02-01 *The Death of Classical Cinema* uncovers the extremely rich yet insufficiently explored dialogue between classical and modernist cinema, examining the work of three classical filmmakers—Alfred Hitchcock, Fritz Lang, and Vincente Minnelli—and the films they made during the decline of the traditional Hollywood studio system. Faced with the significant challenges posed by alternative art cinema and modernist filmmaking practices in the early 1960s, these directors responded with films that were self-conscious attempts at keeping pace with the developments in film modernism. These films—Lang's *The Thousand Eyes of Dr. Mabuse*, Hitchcock's *Marnie*, and Minnelli's *Two Weeks in Another Town*—were widely regarded as failures at the time and bolstered critics' claims concerning the irrelevance of their directors in relation to contemporary filmmaking. However, author Joe McElhaney sheds new light on these films by situating them in relation to such acclaimed modernist works of the period as Godard's *Contempt*, Fellini's *La dolce vita*, Antonioni's *Red Desert*, and Resnais's *Last Year at Marienbad*. He finds that these modernist films, rather than being diametrically opposed in form to the work of Hitchcock, Lang, and Minnelli, are in fact profoundly linked to them.

the death of grass book: *The Death of Science* Andrew Holster, 2016-07-26 Modern science is in unprecedented crisis. It is a crisis at many levels, continuous with larger crises of modern society. It is a crisis for the vocation of the scientist working within the modern institutionalised structures of science. It is a crisis for our capacity to use science benevolently to help solve larger material, organisational, and ultimately political problems of the modern era. And it is a crisis for philosophy, for the role of natural science to help inform our world-view. *The Death of Science* is an account of deeper causes of this malaise. It starts by taking up the reins of López Corredoira's (2013) *The Twilight of the Scientific Age*, a recent critique that concludes with modern science on its death bed. It dissects key themes in detail, illustrated in the same frank style, drawing on personal examples. It starts with deep issues in the philosophy of science, recounting failed modern concepts of scientific progress, method and truth, going on to failures of peer review and gate-keeping as quality control systems, the domination of propaganda and marketing channels as the critical tools for professional success, and the major outcome for creative scientists themselves: the destruction of scientific creativity and exclusion of heterodox thinkers in this degraded environment. It connects the behavioural symptoms with a psycho-social analysis of the bureaucratic mode of organisation under which science, like all other modern vocations, is now subsumed. The account supports López Corredoira's appraisal, which sees a modern science industry driven by greed and ambition, repressing imagination and freedom, destructive of novelty and diversity of ideas, controlled by bureaucratic-academic power hierarchies. While science is irrevocably corrupted by its modern mass-institutionalisation, the true spirit of science can only be sustained by individuals with a real vocation as scientists, or natural philosophers, who seek understanding and meaning and wisdom, rather than technocratic specialisation and careers. But it is increasingly impossible for scientists to withstand forces of professional conformity, and maintain their personal sense of value. A number of current controversies in some core sciences are also discussed, and it is argued that the greatest revelations of real science are yet to come. While Establishment Science has locked itself into dogmatic paradigms, the failures of present theories show that we are really on the cusp of major revolutions, spanning sciences of physics and cosmology, information and intelligence, biology and

evolution, and mind and consciousness. If these are realised, they will profoundly change our understanding of the nature of the world and ourselves. But any such revolutions challenge a Science Establishment locked into the self-interest of its power-brokers, and are unlikely to occur except through independent scientists working outside the institutional system. The book concludes with a brief discussion of the place of independent scientists.

the death of grass book: Major Authors and Illustrators for Children and Young Adults , 1993

the death of grass book: **Songs on the Death of Children** Friedrich Rückert, 2022-12-30
German poet Friedrich Ruckert's (1788-1866) youngest children died of scarlet fever, the pandemic of his age. Over a six month period in 1834, he wrote hundreds of laments that were published posthumously in the classic poetry collection Kindertotenlieder. Here in English for the first time, these evocative modern translations by a fellow bereaved father reveal an honest grappling with grief (The Christian Century). Each poem is accompanied by insights into the bereaved, along with personal anecdotes, historical and cultural information, the latest research on grief, and discussions of literary and biblical allusions.

the death of grass book: *Berkshire World and Cornbelt Stockman* , 1914

the death of grass book: *The Death Penalty* Sanjeev P. Sahni, Mohita Junnarkar, 2020-03-14
This book offers a broad overview of public attitudes to the death penalty in India. It examines in detail the progress made by international organizations worldwide in their efforts to abolish the death penalty and provides statistics from various countries that have already abolished it. The book focuses on four main aspects: the excessive cost and poor use of funds; wrongful executions of innocent people; the death penalty's failure as an efficient deterrent; and the alternative sentence of life imprisonment without parole. In closing, the book analyses the current debates on capital punishment around the globe and in the Indian context. Based on public opinion surveys, the book is essential reading for all those interested in India, its government, criminal justice system, and policies on the death penalty and human rights.

the death of grass book: *Last Words; or the truth of Jesus sealed in the death of his martyrs, with which is connected a brief sketch of the History of the English Church, ... to the close of Queen Mary's reign. By the author of 'Little Mary,' etc* , 1834

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