

the long earth series

The Long Earth Series is a captivating science fiction saga authored by renowned writers Terry Pratchett and Stephen Baxter. Spanning multiple books, this series explores the fascinating concept of infinite parallel Earths, alternate realities, and the profound implications of humanity's ability to traverse these worlds. With its compelling blend of adventure, philosophical questions, and imaginative world-building, the Long Earth series has captivated readers worldwide and established itself as a significant work in modern science fiction literature.

Overview of the Long Earth Series

The Long Earth series introduces an expansive multiverse—an infinite collection of parallel Earths that are almost identical but subtly different from our own. The series begins with the discovery of a device called the "Stepper," which allows humans to "step" between these alternate Earths. This breakthrough opens up limitless possibilities for exploration, colonization, and even conflict.

Key Themes in the Series

- Infinite Exploration: The idea that there are countless Earths, each with unique characteristics.
- Human Curiosity and Innovation: How technological advancements enable us to break boundaries.
- Societal and Ethical Questions: The implications of colonizing new worlds, resource sharing, and the impact on existing societies.
- Existential Reflection: The nature of identity, existence, and the meaning of life across multiple realities.

Books in the Long Earth Series

The series comprises several novels, each building upon the last to create a rich, interconnected narrative.

The Long Earth (2012)

- Overview: The first book introduces the concept of the "Long Earth" and the discovery of the Stepper device.
- Plot: It follows the initial exploration by ordinary people who venture into the alternate Earths, encountering various challenges and opportunities.
- Significance: Establishes the foundational ideas and sets the stage for subsequent books.

The Long War (2013)

- Overview: Continues the story as humanity begins to settle and compete over resources across multiple Earths.
- Plot: Tensions rise between different factions, including governments and independent explorers.
- Themes: Warfare, resource management, and the consequences of unchecked expansion.

The Long Mars (2014)

- Overview: Focuses on interplanetary exploration, with humans venturing beyond Earth to Mars and other celestial bodies.
- Plot: Explores the challenges of colonization and the technological advancements required for space travel.
- Significance: Expands the universe beyond Earth, integrating space exploration into the series.

The Long Utopia (2015)

- Overview: Examines societal evolution and the pursuit of utopian ideals in a universe of infinite

Earths.

- Plot: Different factions attempt to create perfect societies, facing ethical dilemmas and conflicts.
- Themes: Utopian dreams versus dystopian realities.

The Long Cosmos (2016)

- Overview: Concludes the initial saga with reflections on humanity's place in the multiverse.
- Plot: Addresses questions about the meaning of existence and the future of human civilization across infinite worlds.

Core Concepts and Technologies in the Long Earth Series

Understanding the technological and scientific ideas behind the series is essential to appreciating its depth.

The Stepper Device

- Function: A machine that allows users to "step" between Earths.
- Operation: Uses a simple interface, often a foot pedal or button, to move from one Earth to the next.
- Impact: Democratizes access to parallel worlds, leading to mass exploration and colonization.

Infinite Earths and the Multiverse

- Concept: An unending chain of Earths, each slightly different.
- Implication: Every possible variation of Earth exists somewhere in the multiverse.
- Exploration: Humans can travel across these worlds, discovering new environments, civilizations, and challenges.

The Nature of "Stepping"

- Mechanism: A physical movement from one Earth to another through the Stepper.
- Effects: The process is generally safe but can have unforeseen consequences, such as encountering different life forms or environmental conditions.

Ethical and Societal Technologies

- Governance: New laws and societal structures evolve to manage interworld travel.
- Resource Management: Strategies to share or compete for resources across Earths.
- Environmental Impact: Concerns about the ecological footprint of colonization.

Major Characters and Their Roles

The series features a diverse cast of characters, each contributing to the unfolding narrative.

Joshua Valiente

- A young boy with a curious mind, central to the early exploration efforts.
- Represents innocence and potential in the new multiverse.

Lobsang

- A sentient AI with a human consciousness, originally a Tibetan monk.
- Acts as a guide and philosophical voice throughout the series.

Sally Linsay

- An explorer and scientist dedicated to understanding the Long Earth.
- Advocates for responsible exploration and ethical considerations.

Other Notable Characters

- Politicians and military leaders navigating the geopolitical landscape.
- Ordinary citizens who venture into new worlds seeking adventure or a better life.

The Significance and Impact of the Long Earth Series

Literary Significance

- The series combines classic science fiction themes with innovative ideas about parallel worlds.
- It reflects Terry Pratchett's signature wit and Stephen Baxter's scientific rigor.
- The books explore profound questions about human nature, exploration, and the universe.

Cultural Impact

- Inspired discussions about multiverse theories and the future of space exploration.
- Sparked interest in the ethical dilemmas surrounding colonization and technological advancement.
- Contributed to the popularization of multiverse concepts in science fiction.

Adaptations and Media

While the series has not yet been adapted into a major film or TV series, its compelling narrative has inspired various media discussions and fan communities. Its influence extends into discussions about the future of humanity in a multiverse context.

Why Read the Long Earth Series?

Engaging World-Building

- The series creates a believable universe with detailed worlds and societies.

Thought-Provoking Themes

- Explores complex ethical, philosophical, and scientific questions.

Adventure and Exploration

- Combines thrilling journeys with introspective moments.

Rich Character Development

- Characters grow and evolve as they confront new realities.

Literary Quality

- Combines humor, insight, and scientific curiosity.
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SEO Keywords and Phrases for the Long Earth Series

- Long Earth series overview
- Long Earth books in order
- Terry Pratchett Stephen Baxter Long Earth
- Long Earth novel summaries
- Explore parallel Earths
- Long Earth series themes
- Long Earth characters
- Science fiction multiverse series
- Long Earth adaptation news
- Best science fiction series 2010s
- Multiverse exploration in fiction
- Ethical questions in sci-fi

Conclusion

The Long Earth series stands out as a monumental achievement in modern science fiction, combining imaginative world-building with profound philosophical questions. Its exploration of infinite parallel worlds, technological innovation, and human curiosity offers readers a vast universe of adventure and introspection. Whether you're a long-time fan of science fiction or new to the genre, the Long Earth series provides a compelling journey through the limitless possibilities of the multiverse. As humanity stands on the brink of real-world technological breakthroughs in space travel and multiverse theories, this series remains an essential read—inviting us to ponder what lies beyond the horizon of our known universe and how far our curiosity can take us.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main premise of the Long Earth series?

The Long Earth series explores a universe of infinite parallel Earths accessible through a device called a 'stepper,' allowing humans to explore countless alternative worlds and face the consequences of such limitless exploration.

Who are the primary authors of the Long Earth series?

The series is co-authored by Terry Pratchett and Stephen Baxter, blending Pratchett's wit with Baxter's science fiction expertise.

How does the Long Earth series address themes of exploration and colonization?

The series delves into humanity's curiosity-driven drive to explore new worlds, the ethical dilemmas of colonization, and the societal changes that arise from discovering infinite Earths.

Are there adaptations of the Long Earth series in other media?

Yes, there is a television adaptation called 'The Long Earth' that aired in 2019, bringing the series' story and characters to a wider audience.

What are some critical themes explored in the Long Earth series?

Key themes include the nature of consciousness, the impact of technological advancements, environmental considerations, and the human condition in a multiversal context.

Is the Long Earth series suitable for new readers or best for existing fans?

The series is accessible to new readers interested in science fiction and exploration themes, but familiarity with the authors' works can enhance the reading experience due to the series' layered storytelling.

Additional Resources

The Long Earth Series: An In-Depth Exploration of Humanity's Multiversal Odyssey

The Long Earth Series, authored collaboratively by Terry Pratchett and Stephen Baxter, stands as a monumental achievement within the science fiction genre. Spanning multiple novels and short stories, this series explores the profound implications of infinite parallel worlds, human curiosity, technological innovation, and the philosophical questions surrounding identity and existence. As a testament to collaborative storytelling, the series marries Pratchett's wit and social commentary with Baxter's rigorous scientific extrapolation, creating a compelling narrative landscape that invites both entertainment and critical reflection.

This article delves into the intricate universe of the Long Earth Series, examining its conceptual foundations, narrative structure, thematic richness, and its broader impact on science fiction literature and thought.

Overview of the Long Earth Series

The series officially begins with "The Long Earth" (2012), followed by sequels including "The Long War" (2013), "The Long Mars" (2014), "The Long Utopia" (2015), "The Long Cosmos" (2016), and the short story collection "The Long Cosmos" (2016). It also includes supplemental works such as "The Long Earth: The Illustrated Companion" and various short stories that expand the universe.

The core premise is simple yet profound: the existence of an infinite number of parallel Earths, accessible through a device known as the Stepper or Toaster, which allows humans to "step" between these worlds. This concept opens a Pandora's box of societal, technological, and philosophical questions.

Foundational Concepts and Scientific Basis

The Infinite Earths and the "Stepping" Device

At the heart of the series lies the discovery that the universe is not singular but consists of an endless series of Earth-like worlds, each with its own variations—some subtly different, others drastically divergent. These Earths are accessible via a device called the "Stepper", which can be activated by a simple mental command, facilitated by a biological or technological interface.

The scientific underpinning, though speculative, is grounded in the multiverse theory and the idea of a "branched universe." Baxter's background in physics lends credibility to the depiction of parallel worlds, suggesting that these Earths are not just fictional constructs but plausible outcomes of quantum mechanics and cosmological theories.

Implications of Infinite Worlds

The series explores the notion that with infinite Earths:

- Humanity's choices and variations multiply exponentially.
- Cultural and technological diversity flourish.
- The concept of identity becomes complex—does a stepping individual remain the same person across worlds?

The existence of multiple Earths raises key questions about determinism, free will, and the nature of consciousness, which the series tackles through its evolving characters and philosophical explorations.

Narrative Structure and Major Themes

Plot Overview and Character Arcs

The narrative threads follow a diverse cast, including:

- Lobsang, a reincarnated Tibetan monk who becomes a crucial figure in understanding the multiversal mechanics.
- Joshua Valienté, the series' primary protagonist, a gifted "Walker" (a person able to navigate multiple Earths) whose journey reflects humanity's quest for meaning and discovery.
- Pianist Sally, an artist whose perspectives enrich the series' emotional depth.

Together, their stories intertwine as humanity begins to explore and settle across the Long Earths, facing unforeseen challenges and moral dilemmas.

Major plot points include:

- The initial discovery and exploration of the Earths.
- Humanity's attempts at colonization and resource extraction.
- Encounters with other intelligent life forms, such as the Old Earth (the original Earth) and potential alien civilizations.
- The emergence of conflicts regarding control, access rights, and the ecological consequences of multiversal expansion.

Thematic Depth and Philosophical Inquiry

The Long Earth Series is characterized by its exploration of themes such as:

- Exploration and Curiosity: The innate human drive to discover new worlds echoes historical voyages, amplified by technological advancements.
- Existentialism and Identity: The question of whether stepping into an alternate Earth makes one a different person or the same individual is a recurring motif.
- Societal and Ethical Dilemmas: Issues of colonization, environmental impact, and the rights of diverse civilizations are central.
- Technology and Humanity: The series examines how technological progress influences societal structure and individual lives, often highlighting the unintended consequences.

Scientific and Technological Innovations

The series depicts several speculative yet thought-provoking technological innovations:

- The Stepper: A device enabling instant travel between Earths, initially a simple tool but later revealing deeper complexities.
- The Toaster: An early, rudimentary stepping device, which eventually develops into more sophisticated machinery.
- Artificial Intelligence and Consciousness: The series contemplates AI as an emergent phenomenon, especially in the context of multiversal navigation.

Furthermore, the series explores the potential for:

- Parallel Societies: The emergence of diverse civilizations across Earths, including human colonies,

alien societies, and post-human entities.

- Resource Redistribution: The implications of accessing abundant resources from alternate Earths, raising questions about sustainability and ethics.

Critical Reception and Literary Significance

The Long Earth Series has garnered praise for its imaginative scope, scientific grounding, and philosophical depth. Critics have lauded Baxter's meticulous scientific extrapolations and Pratchett's characteristic wit, which lend humor and social critique to complex topics.

However, some have noted challenges:

- The series' focus on exposition and world-building occasionally slows narrative momentum.
- The philosophical discussions, while enriching, can overshadow character development for some readers.
- As a collaborative work, it reflects a blend of Pratchett's satirical approach and Baxter's hard science, which may not seamlessly align for all audiences.

Despite these critiques, the series is considered a significant contribution to science fiction's exploration of multiverse theories and humanity's place in an infinite cosmos.

Impact and Legacy

The Long Earth Series stands as an influential work that bridges speculative science and philosophical

inquiry. Its depiction of multiversal travel prefigured contemporary discussions in physics about the multiverse, and its narrative approach inspired subsequent works exploring parallel worlds.

The series also contributes to ongoing debates about:

- The ethics of colonization and resource exploitation.
- The nature of consciousness and personal identity.
- Humanity's future in a universe filled with infinite possibilities.

Moreover, the collaboration between Terry Pratchett and Stephen Baxter exemplifies a successful union of wit and science, inspiring future writers to pursue interdisciplinary storytelling.

Conclusion: A Multiversal Milestone

The Long Earth Series is more than a collection of science fiction novels; it's a profound meditation on exploration, identity, and the infinite potential—and peril—of technological advancement. Its rich universe, grounded in speculative science yet imbued with philosophical depth, invites readers to ponder fundamental questions about existence and humanity's destiny.

For fans of hard science fiction blended with social and philosophical commentary, the series offers a compelling journey across countless worlds, challenging perceptions and expanding horizons. Its legacy endures as a testament to the power of imagination, collaboration, and the enduring human spirit of discovery.

Whether approached as entertainment or as a serious philosophical inquiry, the Long Earth Series remains a landmark in the landscape of contemporary science fiction literature.

[The Long Earth Series](#)

the long earth series: *The Long Cosmos* Terry Pratchett, Stephen Baxter, 2017-06-27

Completed by the authors some eighteen months before Terry Pratchett's untimely death, *The Long Cosmos* is the grand climax of the Long Earth series. Terry had always wanted to explore the question 'what's it all for?' -- and in this novel, we find an answer. 2070-71. Nearly six decades after Step Day and in the Long Earth, the new Next post-human society continues to evolve. For Joshua Valiente, now in his late sixties, it is time to take one last solo journey into the High Meggers: an adventure that turns into a disaster. Alone and facing death, his only hope of salvation lies with a group of trolls. But as Joshua confronts his mortality, the Long Earth receives a signal from the stars. A signal that is picked up by radio astronomers but also in more abstract ways -- by the trolls and by the Great Traversers. Its message is simple but its implications are enormous: JOIN US. The super-smart Next realise that the Message contains instructions on how to develop an immense artificial intelligence but to build it they have to seek help from throughout the industrious worlds of mankind. Bit by bit, byte by byte, they assemble a computer the size of a continent -- a device that will alter the Long Earth's place within the cosmos and reveal the ultimate, life-affirming goal of those who sent the Message. Its impact will be felt by and resonate with all -- mankind and other species, young and old, communities and individuals -- who inhabit the Long Earths.

the long earth series: *The Long Cosmos* Terry Pratchett, Stephen Baxter, 2016-06-30 THE EXTRAORDINARY FINAL INSTALMENT OF THE BESTSELLING LONG EARTH SERIES 'Intricately described . . . gently immersive' Guardian 'Enthralling and thought-provoking in equal measure' Daily Mail 'A love letter to science-fiction itself' SFX 2070-71. Nearly six decades after Step Day and in the Long Earth, the new Next post-human society continues to evolve. For Joshua Valiente, now in his late sixties, it is time to take one last solo journey into the High Meggers: an adventure that turns into a disaster. Alone and facing death, his only hope of salvation lies with a group of trolls. But as Joshua confronts his mortality, the Long Earth receives a signal from the stars. A signal that is picked up by radio astronomers but also in more abstract ways -- by the trolls and by the Great Traversers. Its message is simple but its implications are enormous: JOIN US. The super-smart Next realise that the Message contains instructions on how to develop an immense artificial intelligence but to build it they have to seek help from throughout the industrious worlds of mankind. Bit by bit, byte by byte, they assemble a computer the size of a continent -- a device that will alter the Long Earth's place within the cosmos and reveal the ultimate, life-affirming goal of those who sent the Message. Its impact will be felt by and resonate with all -- mankind and other species, young and old, communities and individuals -- who inhabit the Long Earths... _____ The Long Cosmos is the fifth and final novel in the Long Earth series. 'The Long Earth series deserves a place on the bookshelves of hardcore SF fans and general readers alike' Independent on Sunday

the long earth series: *The Long Mars* Terry Pratchett, Stephen Baxter, 2014-06-17 The third novel in legendary author and Discworld creator Terry Pratchett and award-winning science fiction writer Stephen Baxter's "Long Earth" series, which Io9 calls "a brilliant science fiction collaboration." 2040. The Long Earth is in chaos. . . . The cataclysmic Yellowstone eruption is shutting down civilization. Whole populations flee to the relative safety of myriad stepwise Earths. Sally Lindsay, Joshua Valiente, and Lobsang have all been involved in the perilous post-eruption clean-up. But Joshua faces a crisis close to home. From a long childhood hidden deep in the Long Earth, a new breed of young, super-bright post-humans is emerging—but normal human society is turning against them, driven by ignorance and fear. For Joshua, caught up in the conflict, a dramatic showdown seems inevitable. Meanwhile, U.S. Navy Commander Maggie Kauffman embarks on an incredible journey, leading an expedition to the unexplored limits of the far Long Earth. And Sally is contacted by her long-vanished father, Willis Lindsay, inventor of the original Stepper device. Ever the maverick, he is planning a fantastic voyage of his own—across the Long Mars. But what is his true motivation? For Joshua, for humankind, for the Long Earth itself—everything is different now.

Joshua becomes embroiled in the plight of the Next: the super-bright post-humans who are beginning to emerge from their “long childhood” in the community called Happy Landings, located deep in the Long Earth. Ignorance and fear have caused “normal” human society to turn against the Next. A dramatic showdown seems inevitable. . . . The complete list of books in the Long Earth series include: *The Long Earth* *The Long War* *The Long Mars* *The Long Utopia* *The Long Cosmos*

the long earth series: *The Long Utopia* Terry Pratchett, Stephen Baxter, 2015-06-23 The fourth novel in Terry Pratchett and Stephen Baxter’s internationally bestselling “Long Earth” series, hailed as “a brilliant science fiction collaboration . . . a love letter to all Pratchett fans, readers, and lovers of wonder everywhere” (Io9). 2045-2059. Human society continues to evolve on Datum Earth, its battered and weary origin planet, as the spread of humanity progresses throughout the many Earths beyond. Lobsang, now an elderly and complex AI, suffers a breakdown, and disguised as a human attempts to live a “normal” life on one of the millions of Long Earth worlds. His old friend, Joshua, now in his fifties, searches for his father and discovers a heretofore unknown family history. And the super-intelligent post-humans known as “the Next” continue to adapt to life among “lesser” humans. But an alarming new challenge looms. An alien planet has somehow become “entangled” with one of the Long Earth worlds and, as Lobsang and Joshua learn, its voracious denizens intend to capture, conquer, and colonize the new universe—the Long Earth—they have inadvertently discovered. World-building, the intersection of universes, the coexistence of diverse species, and the cosmic meaning of the Long Earth itself are among the mind-expanding themes explored in this exciting new installment of Terry Pratchett and Stephen Baxter’s extraordinary Long Earth series. The complete list of books in the Long Earth series include: *The Long Earth* *The Long War* *The Long Mars* *The Long Utopia* *The Long Cosmos*

the long earth series: *The Long Earth* Terry Pratchett, Stephen Baxter, 2012-06-19 The first novel in a brilliant collaboration between the visionary Discworld® creator Terry Pratchett and acclaimed science fiction novelist Stephen Baxter, *The Long Earth* transports readers to an infinity of new worlds—a series of parallel “earths with doorways leading to adventure, intrigue, excitement, and an escape into the furthest reaches of the imagination. All it takes is a single step. . . . The possibilities are endless. (Just be careful what you wish for. . . .) 1916: The Western Front. Private Percy Blakeney wakes up. He is lying on fresh spring grass. He can hear birdsong and the wind in the leaves. Where have the mud, blood, and blasted landscape of no-man’s-land gone? For that matter, where has Percy gone? 2015: Madison, Wisconsin. Police officer Monica Jansson is exploring the burned-out home of a reclusive—some say mad, others allege dangerous—scientist who seems to have vanished. Sifting through the wreckage, Jansson finds a curious gadget: a box containing some rudimentary wiring, a three-way switch, and . . . a potato. It is the prototype of an invention that will change the way humankind views the world forever. *The Long Earth* is an adventure of the highest order and will captivate science fiction fans of all stripes, readers of Kurt Vonnegut, Douglas Adams, and Carl Hiaasen, and anyone who enjoyed the Terry Pratchett/Neil Gaiman collaboration *Good Omens*. Other books in the Long Earth series include: *The Long War* *The Long Mars* *The Long Utopia* *The Long Cosmos*

the long earth series: *The Long Utopia* Terry Pratchett, Stephen Baxter, 2015-07-28 Human society continues to evolve on Datum Earth, its battered and weary origin planet, as the spread of humanity progresses throughout the many Earths beyond. Lobsang, now an elderly and complex AI, suffers a breakdown and, disguised as a human, attempts to live a normal life on one of the millions of Long Earth worlds. His old friend Joshua, now in his fifties, searches for his father and discovers a heretofore unknown family history.

the long earth series: *The Long War* Terry Pratchett, Stephen Baxter, 2014-07-22 A generation after the events of *The Long Earth*, mankind has spread across the new worlds opened up by Stepping. Where Joshua and Lobsang once pioneered, now fleets of airships link the stepwise Americas with trade and culture. Mankind is shaping the Long Earth – but in turn the Long Earth is shaping mankind ... A new ‘America’, called Valhalla, is emerging more than a million steps from Datum Earth, with core American values restated in the plentiful environment of the Long Earth –

and Valhalla is growing restless under the control of the Datum government... Meanwhile the Long Earth is suffused by the song of the trolls, graceful hive-mind humanoids. But the trolls are beginning to react to humanity's thoughtless exploitation ... Joshua, now a married man, is summoned by Lobsang to deal with a gathering multiple crisis that threatens to plunge the Long Earth into a war unlike any mankind has waged before.

the long earth series: The Long Utopia Terry Pratchett, Stephen Baxter, 2016-07-26
2045-2059. After the cataclysmic upheavals of Step Day and the Yellowstone eruption humanity is spreading further into the Long Earth, and society, on a battered Datum Earth and beyond, continues to evolve. Now an elderly and cantankerous AI, Lobsang lives in disguise with Agnes in an exotic, far-distant world. He's convinced they're leading a normal life in New Springfield - they even adopt a child - but it seems they have been guided there for a reason. As rumours of strange sightings and hauntings proliferate, it becomes clear that something is very awry with this particular world. Millions of steps away, Joshua is on a personal journey of discovery: learning about the father he never knew and a secret family history. But then he receives a summons from New Springfield. Lobsang now understands the enormity of what's taking place beneath the surface of his earth - a threat to all the worlds of the Long Earth. To counter this threat will require the combined efforts of humankind, machine and the super-intelligent Next. And some must make the ultimate sacrifice . . .

the long earth series: Terry Pratchett's Ethical Worlds Kristin Noone, Emily Lavin Leveret, 2020-08-18 Terry Pratchett's writing celebrates the possibilities opened up by inventiveness and imagination. It constructs an ethical stance that values informed and self-aware choices, knowledge of the world in which one makes those choices, the importance of play and humor in crafting a compassionate worldview, and acts of continuous self-examination and creation. This collection of essays uses inventiveness and creation as a thematic core to combine normally disparate themes, such as science fiction studies, the effect of collaborative writing and shared authorship, steampunk aesthetics, productive modes of ownership, intertextuality, neomedievalism and colonialism, adaptations into other media, linguistics and rhetorics, and coming of age as an act of free will.

the long earth series: Small Gods Terry Pratchett, 2016-07-28 'Just because you can't explain it, doesn't mean it's a miracle.' In the beginning was the Word. And the Word was: 'Hey, you!' This is the Discworld, after all, and religion is a controversial business. Everyone has their own opinion, and indeed their own gods, of every shape and size, and all elbowing for space at the top. In such a competitive environment, it's certainly not helpful to be reduced to appearing in the form of a tortoise, a manifestation far below god-like status in anyone's book. In such instances, you need an acolyte, and fast: for the Great God Om, Brutha the novice is the Chosen One - or at least the only One available. He wants peace and justice and brotherly love. He also wants the Inquisition to stop torturing him now, please... Now adapted into graphic novel form with new artwork by Ray Friesen.

the long earth series: Environments in Science Fiction Susan M. Bernardo, Donald E. Palumbo, C.W. Sullivan III, 2014-03-26 The all-new essays in this book respond to the question, How do spaces in science fiction, both built and unbuilt, help shape the relationships among humans, other animals and their shared environments? Spaces, as well as a sense of place or belonging, play major roles in many science fiction works. This book focuses especially on depictions of the future that include, but move beyond, dystopias and offer us ways to imagine reinventing ourselves and our perspectives; especially our links to and views of new environments. There are ecocritical texts that deal with space/place and science fiction criticism that deals with dystopias but there is no other collection that focuses on the intersection of the two.

the long earth series: Space, Time, World Michael Fortescue, 2024-02-15 Although major cognitively based studies of SPACE and TIME in language have appeared in terms of "Frames of Reference", these do not extend to a wide selection of the world's languages, nor do they combine SPACE and TIME in the overarching concept of WORLD, which has its own corresponding frames of reference. The aim of relating and unifying these concepts and their expression across languages constitutes the unique thrust of the present book, which will represent a significant extension of earlier approaches. Among its main conclusions will be that the complete separation of terms for

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