

alan garner red shift

alan garner red shift is a fascinating topic that intersects the fields of astronomy, physics, and cosmology, capturing the curiosity of scientists and enthusiasts alike. The term often appears in discussions about the expansion of the universe and the ways in which celestial objects are observed to be moving relative to Earth. Understanding the concept of red shift, especially in relation to Alan Garner's work or research, provides key insights into how astronomers interpret the universe's vast and dynamic nature. This article aims to explore the concept of red shift, its significance in modern astronomy, and the specific connections to Alan Garner's contributions or references, if applicable.

Understanding Red Shift in Astronomy

What Is Red Shift?

Red shift is a phenomenon observed when the light emitted from an object in space—such as a star or galaxy—is shifted toward the red end of the electromagnetic spectrum. This shift indicates that the object is moving away from the observer, causing the wavelength of light to stretch out, or elongate.

This phenomenon can be explained through the Doppler effect, which describes how the frequency of waves changes relative to an observer when the source of the waves is moving. In the context of astronomy:

- If a celestial object is moving away, its light appears redder.
- If it is approaching, the light shifts toward the blue end, known as blue shift.

Red shift is crucial because it provides direct evidence of the universe's expansion, supporting the Big Bang theory and other cosmological models.

The Types of Red Shift

There are three primary types of red shift observed in astronomy:

- **Cosmological Red Shift:** Caused by the expansion of the universe itself. As space expands, light traveling through it is stretched, resulting in a red shift proportional to the distance of the object.
- **Gravitational Red Shift:** Occurs due to the influence of massive objects like black holes or neutron stars, where intense gravity causes light to lose energy and shift toward the red spectrum.
- **Doppler Red Shift:** Results from the relative motion of the source and observer, similar to the Doppler effect in sound waves.

The Significance of Red Shift in Cosmology

Evidence for Universe Expansion

The observation of red shifts in distant galaxies was pivotal in establishing that the universe is expanding. Edwin Hubble's groundbreaking work in the 1920s demonstrated a proportional relationship between a galaxy's distance and its red shift, now known as Hubble's Law:

- Hubble's Law: The velocity at which a galaxy recedes is directly proportional to its distance from Earth.

This discovery transformed cosmology, shifting the paradigm from a static universe to an expanding one. Red shift measurements continue to be a primary tool in understanding the universe's rate of expansion, known as the Hubble constant.

Understanding the Age and Size of the Universe

By analyzing red shifts, scientists estimate how fast the universe is expanding and, consequently, infer its age and size. Observations of cosmic microwave background radiation, combined with red shift data, have refined our models of the universe's history.

Alan Garner and the Concept of Red Shift

While Alan Garner is primarily known as a British author famous for his fantasy and folklore-inspired novels, some literary interpretations and analyses draw metaphoric parallels between his work and scientific concepts like red shift. Alternatively, there might be references or research by individuals named Alan Garner that relate to red shift in scientific contexts. For clarity, this section explores potential intersections, interpretations, and how Garner's work or influence could relate to or inspire understanding of red shift.

Alan Garner's Literary Themes and Cosmological Ideas

Alan Garner's novels often explore themes of time, space, and the universe, blending mythology with a sense of cosmic scale. For instance:

- His storytelling sometimes evokes the idea of shifting perspectives, akin to how red shift indicates movement and change.
- The mystical and timeless qualities in his works can metaphorically relate to the concept of space stretching and the universe's expansion.

While Garner may not have contributed directly to astrophysics, his literary exploration of myth and cosmic cycles can serve as a poetic analogy to scientific phenomena like red shift.

Possible Scientific Collaborations or References

If there are specific research papers, projects, or collaborations involving an Alan Garner related to red shift, they might include:

- Scientific investigations into the cosmic expansion.
- Contributions to the understanding of gravitational effects on light.
- Educational initiatives explaining red shift in accessible ways.

However, based on available data up to 2023, there is no prominent scientific figure named Alan Garner directly associated with red shift studies. It is possible that the name appears in a niche publication, a fictional context, or as part of a case study.

Modern Techniques and Tools for Measuring Red Shift

Spectroscopy

Spectroscopy is the primary method used to measure red shift. By analyzing the spectra of light from celestial objects:

- Astronomers identify specific absorption or emission lines.
- The shift of these lines from their known positions indicates the degree of red shift.

Telescopes and Observatories

Several advanced telescopes contribute to red shift measurements:

- The Hubble Space Telescope provides deep-field images and spectral data.
- Ground-based observatories like the Very Large Telescope (VLT) in Chile.
- Radio telescopes, which can observe red shifts in radio waves emitted by celestial objects.

Data Analysis and Cosmological Models

Modern data analysis involves:

- Comparing red shift data with distance measurements.
- Using statistical models to refine estimates of the universe's expansion rate.
- Integrating red shift data with other cosmological observations, such as cosmic microwave background radiation.

Implications of Red Shift Discoveries

Understanding Dark Energy

The observation that the universe's expansion is accelerating has led to the hypothesis of dark energy, an unknown force driving this acceleration. Red shifts of distant supernovae have been instrumental in revealing this phenomenon.

Future Research Directions

Upcoming projects aim to:

- Measure red shifts of even more distant galaxies.
- Map the large-scale structure of the universe.
- Better understand the nature of dark energy and dark matter.

Some notable future missions include the James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) and the Euclid mission.

Conclusion

Red shift remains a cornerstone of modern cosmology, providing vital clues about the universe's past, present, and future. Whether through the direct scientific application or metaphorical parallels in literature and culture, the concept of red shift encapsulates the dynamic and expanding nature of our universe. While Alan Garner's literary work may not directly engage with astrophysical phenomena, the evocative themes of cosmic change and timelessness he explores resonate with the profound implications of red shift measurements. Continued advancements in observational technology and theoretical models promise to deepen our understanding of this remarkable phenomenon, revealing the universe's secrets one spectrum at a time.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Alan Garner's connection to the concept of red shift in astronomy?

Alan Garner is a British author known for his fantasy novels and has no direct connection to the scientific concept of red shift in astronomy. The term 'red shift' refers to the phenomenon where light from distant galaxies shifts toward the red end of the spectrum, indicating their movement away from us.

How does the concept of red shift relate to Alan Garner's works?

There is no direct relation between Alan Garner's literary works and the scientific concept of red shift. However, Garner's stories often explore themes of time, change, and perception, which can metaphorically relate to the idea of shifting perspectives similar to

red shift observations in cosmology.

Are there any recent scientific discoveries by Alan Garner regarding red shift?

No, Alan Garner is not a scientist but an author. Therefore, he has not made scientific discoveries related to red shift or cosmology.

Why is red shift important in understanding the universe, and has Alan Garner contributed to this field?

Red shift is crucial for understanding the universe's expansion and the Big Bang theory. Alan Garner has not contributed to this scientific field; his work is focused on literature and storytelling.

Can Alan Garner's storytelling be used to explain the concept of red shift to a general audience?

While Alan Garner's stories are engaging and can illustrate themes of change and transformation, they are not typically used as scientific explanations for red shift. For understanding red shift, it is best to refer to educational resources in astronomy.

Additional Resources

Alan Garner Red Shift: An In-Depth Exploration of a Literary and Thematic Masterpiece

Introduction to Alan Garner and Red Shift

Alan Garner, a celebrated British author renowned for his mastery of fantasy, folklore, and psychological depth, crafted a seminal work titled *Red Shift* in 1973. This novel is often hailed as a cornerstone of British speculative fiction and is considered one of Garner's most complex and profound contributions to literature. *Red Shift* diverges from traditional storytelling by weaving together three interconnected narratives set in different historical periods, exploring themes of violence, trauma, and the human condition through a layered, non-linear narrative structure.

The novel's title, *Red Shift*, alludes to the astrophysical phenomenon where light from distant objects shifts towards the red end of the spectrum due to the expansion of the universe. Symbolically, Garner employs this concept to explore the idea of shifting perspectives, the passage of time, and the cyclical nature of human history and violence.

Overview of the Plot and Structure

The Three Interwoven Narratives

Red Shift is distinguished by its tripartite structure, each narrative set in a different era but linked by thematic resonances:

1. Prehistoric Britain (Paleolithic period):

- Focuses on a young hunter or cave dweller confronting survival and the primal aspects of human existence.
- Themes include the origins of violence, rituals, and early human connection to nature.

2. Medieval Britain (12th-13th century):

- Centers on a young boy or adolescent living through turbulent times marked by feudal conflicts, religious upheaval, and brutal societal structures.
- Explores themes of innocence lost, societal violence, and superstition.

3. Modern Britain (20th century):

- Follows contemporary youths experiencing the aftermath of World War II, urban decay, and social unrest.
- Addresses themes of trauma, alienation, and the cyclical nature of violence.

This tripartite structure allows Garner to demonstrate the recurring patterns of human behavior across time, emphasizing that violence and conflict are persistent aspects of human history.

Narrative Technique and Style

- Garner employs a non-linear narrative, intertwining the three stories with lyrical prose and poetic imagery.
- The language oscillates from raw and visceral in the prehistoric sections to more formal and reflective in the medieval and modern parts.
- The novel incorporates symbolism, mythic archetypes, and folklore, enriching the text with layers of meaning.
- Intertextual references to legends, historical events, and scientific concepts deepen the reader's engagement and understanding.

Thematic Analysis of Red Shift

Violence and Human Nature

- One of the central themes is the omnipresence of violence, depicted as an intrinsic part of human evolution and societal development.
- Garner illustrates how acts of brutality—whether in prehistoric hunts, medieval conflicts, or modern wars—are interconnected.
- The novel suggests that violence is not merely a product of specific circumstances but rooted in the core of human nature.

The Passage of Time and Cycles of History

- The concept of Red Shift symbolizes the shifting perspective across different eras, emphasizing that history tends to repeat itself.
- Garner portrays history as a series of cycles, where lessons are often unlearned, leading to recurring violence and chaos.
- The novel invites reflection on whether humanity is doomed to repeat its past or capable of breaking free from destructive patterns.

Trauma and Memory

- Garner explores how trauma persists across generations, shaping identities and behaviors.
- The characters in each narrative grapple with losses, betrayals, and violence that haunt them.
- The novel emphasizes the importance of memory, storytelling, and understanding in confronting and healing trauma.

Myth, Folklore, and Archetypes

- Garner draws heavily on mythic motifs—such as the hero's journey, the shadow self, and the cyclical nature of death and rebirth.
- These elements serve to universalize the stories, linking individual experiences to collective human mythos.
- Folklore acts as a bridge connecting the past and present, enriching the narrative's depth.

Environmental and Societal Commentary

- The novel subtly critiques societal structures that perpetuate violence and oppression.
- The prehistoric sections highlight humanity's primal connection to nature, contrasting with the destructive tendencies of modern civilization.
- Garner prompts readers to consider how societal development may have alienated humans from their roots and each other.

Character Analysis and Symbolism

Key Characters Across the Eras

While Red Shift does not follow traditional character arcs in a linear fashion, certain archetypes and figures recur across the narratives:

- The Hunter (Prehistoric): Represents primal instincts and survival.
- The Young Boy (Medieval): Embodies innocence amidst chaos, often confronting societal cruelty.
- The Modern Youths: Symbolize alienation and the search for identity in a fractured world.

These characters serve as vessels for exploring universal human experiences.

Symbolic Elements

- The Red Light: Often associated with violence, danger, or transformational moments.
- Shadows and Darkness: Represent ignorance, fear, or the unknown, prevalent in all three narratives.
- The Forest or Wilderness: Symbolizes the primal, untamed aspects of human nature and the subconscious.
- Artifacts and Rituals: Connect the characters to their cultural and historical contexts, emphasizing continuity and change.

Stylistic and Literary Devices

- Poetry and Prose: Garner's lyrical language immerses the reader into each epoch's atmosphere.
- Allegory: Each story functions as an allegory for contemporary concerns and timeless themes.
- Fragmentation: The non-linear, fragmented narrative mirrors the fractured understanding of history and memory.
- Imagery: Vivid descriptions evoke sensory experiences, intensifying the emotional impact.

Critical Reception and Legacy

- Red Shift received critical acclaim for its ambitious scope, poetic language, and profound thematic explorations.
- Garner's blending of folklore, history, and psychology set new standards for experimental fiction.
- The novel influenced subsequent writers exploring cyclical history, trauma, and myth.
- It remains a staple in academic discussions of postmodern literature, mythopoetics, and trauma studies.

Interpretations and Personal Reflection

Readers and critics often interpret Red Shift as an indictment of humanity's inability to escape its violent tendencies, emphasizing the importance of understanding our past to forge a more compassionate future. Garner's poetic style and layered storytelling invite multiple readings, each revealing new insights into the human condition.

The novel's enduring relevance lies in its portrayal of violence as both a historical constant and a psychological shadow. It challenges readers to confront uncomfortable truths about human nature and the societal systems that sustain cycles of conflict.

Conclusion: Why Red Shift Matters

Alan Garner's Red Shift stands as a towering achievement in modern literature, offering a profound meditation on the interconnectedness of past, present, and future. Its intricate structure, poetic language, and thematic richness make it a compelling read for those interested in exploring the depths of human history, myth, and psychology.

By weaving together stories from different eras, Garner emphasizes that understanding our origins is essential in grasping the complexities of contemporary life. Red Shift is not merely a novel but a philosophical inquiry into the cyclical patterns of violence, the persistence of trauma, and the enduring power of myth to illuminate the human experience.

Whether approached as a literary challenge or a philosophical reflection, Red Shift remains a vital work that continues to inspire and provoke thought decades after its publication. It exemplifies Garner's unique ability to blend folklore, history, and psychology into a cohesive, poetic tapestry that resonates with universal themes and personal introspection.

[Alan Garner Red Shift](#)

alan garner red shift: Red Shift Alan Garner, 2011 Three young men from three different time periods influence each other's destiny with the help of a stone axe.

alan garner red shift: The Case of Peter Pan, Or the Impossibility of Children's Fiction Jacqueline Rose, 1993 Peter Pan, Jacqueline Rose contends, forces us to question what it is we are doing in the endless production and dissemination of children's fiction. In a preface, written for this edition, Rose considers some of Peter Pan's new guises and their implications. From Spielberg's Hook, to the lesbian production of the play at the London Drill Hall in 1991, to debates in the English House of Lords, to a newly claimed status as the icon of transvestite culture, Peter Pan continues to demonstrate its bizarre renewability as a cultural fetish of our times.

alan garner red shift: A Green and Pagan Land David Huckvale, 2018-02-01 British literature often refers to pagan and classical themes through richly detailed landscapes that suggest more than a mere backdrop of physical features. The myth-inspired writings of Alfred, Lord Tennyson, Algernon Blackwood, Aleister Crowley, Lord Dunsany and even Kenneth Grahame's *The Wind in the Willows* informed later British films and television dramas such as *The Owl Service* (1969-70), *Blood on Satan's Claw* (1971), *The Wicker Man* (1973), *Excalibur* (1981) and *Monty Python and the Holy Grail* (1975). The author analyzes the evocative language and esthetics of landscapes in literature, film, television and music, and how psycho-geography is used to explore the influence of the past on the present.

alan garner red shift: Folk Horror Adam Scovell, 2017-10-24 Interest in the ancient, the occult, and the *wyrd* is on the rise. The furrows of Robin Hardy (*The Wicker Man*), Piers Haggard (*Blood on Satan's Claw*), and Michael Reeves (*Witchfinder General*) have arisen again, most notably in the films of Ben Wheatley (*Kill List*), as has the *Spirit of Dark* of *Lonely Water*, *Juganets*, cursed Saxon crowns, spaceships hidden under ancient barrows, owls and flowers, time-warping stone circles, wicker men, the goat of Mendes, and malicious stone tapes. *Folk Horror: Hours Dreadful And Things Strange* charts the summoning of these esoteric arts within the latter half of the twentieth century and beyond, using theories of psychogeography, hauntology, and topography to delve into the genre's output in film, television, and multimedia as its sacred demon of ungovernableness rises yet again in the twenty-first century.

alan garner red shift: From Morality to Mayhem Julian Lovelock, 2018-01-01 The stories we read as children are the ones that stay with us the longest, and from the nineteenth century until the 1950s stories about schools held a particular fascination. Many will remember the goings-on at such earnest establishments as Tom Brown's Rugby, St Dominic's, Greyfriars, the Chalet School, Malory Towers and Linbury Court. In the second part of the twentieth century, with more liberal social attitudes and the advent of secondary education for all, these moral tales lost their appeal and the school story very nearly died out. More recently, however, a new generation of compromised schoolboy and schoolgirl heroes – Pennington, Tyke Tiler, Harry Potter and Millie Roads – have given it a new and challenging relevance. Focusing mainly on novels written for young people, *From Morality to Mayhem* charts the fall and rise of the school story, from the grim accounts of Victorian times to the magic and mayhem of our own age. In doing so it considers how fictional schools not only reflect but sometimes influence real life. This captivating study will appeal to those interested in children's literature and education, both students and the general reader, taking us on a not altogether comfortable trip down memory lane.

alan garner red shift: (Re)Visions of History in Language and Fiction Dorota Gutfeld, Monika Linke, Agnieszka Sowińska, 2013-02-21 In imagining history, one must inevitably rely on its textual representations, whether fictitious or supposedly "objective", yet always subject to the constraints and conventions of textuality. Still, it is precisely by exploiting and consciously relying on the textual in the presentation of the past that contemporary authors, including politicians and makers of history, strive to provide it with current significance, emotional impact and universal

meaning. The study of such attempts benefits from a variety of perspectives, encompassing not only classical, but also popular texts and media. An interdisciplinary collection of papers devoted to the issues of retelling, rewriting, and representation of the past in fiction and various text-types, this volume juxtaposes modern and post-modern understanding of collective versus personal history. The contributors are scholars specializing in literary studies (e.g. postcolonialism and popular fiction), linguistics (e.g. critical discourse analysis) and cultural studies (e.g. media studies), bringing a wide spectrum of theoretical insights into the field. The collection opens with papers on the general changes in viewing history that have occurred since the 19th century. Further papers discuss postcolonial, feminist and gender-related perspectives on history reflected in postmodern fiction, revealing the power struggle around the depiction of the past. The next part of the volume is devoted to the presentation of historical breakthroughs in political and media discourse. Finally, the collection draws attention to some unorthodox visions of history involving alternative worlds and fantastic elements encountered in the genre of speculative fiction.

alan garner red shift: *Children's Fantasy Literature* Michael Levy, Farah Mendlesohn, 2016-04-16 Fantasy has been an important and much-loved part of children's literature for hundreds of years, yet relatively little has been written about it. *Children's Fantasy Literature* traces the development of the tradition of the children's fantastic - fictions specifically written for children and fictions appropriated by them - from the sixteenth to the twenty-first century, examining the work of Lewis Carroll, L. Frank Baum, C. S. Lewis, Roald Dahl, J. K. Rowling and others from across the English-speaking world. The volume considers changing views on both the nature of the child and on the appropriateness of fantasy for the child reader, the role of children's fantasy literature in helping to develop the imagination, and its complex interactions with issues of class, politics and gender. The text analyses hundreds of works of fiction, placing each in its appropriate context within the tradition of fantasy literature.

alan garner red shift: *The Routledge Companion to Folk Horror* Robert Edgar, Wayne Johnson, 2023-10-09 *The Routledge Companion to Folk Horror* offers a comprehensive guide to this popular genre. It explores its origins, canonical texts and thinkers, the crucial underlying themes of nostalgia and hauntology, and identifies new trends in the field. Divided into five parts, the first focuses on the history of Folk Horror from medieval texts to the present day. It considers the first wave of contemporary Folk Horror through the films of the 'unholy trinity', as well as discussing the influence of ancient gods and early Folk Horror. Part 2 looks at the spaces, landscapes, and cultural relics, which form a central focus for Folk Horror. In Part 3, the contributors examine the rich history of the use of folklore in children's fiction. The next part discusses recent examples of Folk Horror-infused music and image. Chapters consider the relationship between different genres of music to Folk Horror (such as folk music, black metal, and new wave), sound and performance, comic books, and the Dark Web. Often regarded as British in origin, the final part analyses texts which break this link, as the contributors reveal the larger realms of regional, national, international, and transnational Folk Horror. Featuring 40 contributions, this authoritative collection brings together leading voices in the field. It is an invaluable resource for students and scholars interested in this vibrant genre and its enduring influence on literature, film, music, and culture.

alan garner red shift: *Topologies of the Classical World in Children's Fiction* Claudia Nelson, Anne Morey, 2019-10-24 Beginning with Rudyard Kipling and Edith Nesbit and concluding with best-selling series still ongoing at the time of writing, this volume examines works of twentieth- and twenty-first-century children's literature that incorporate character types, settings, and narratives derived from the Greco-Roman past. Drawing on a cognitive poetics approach to reception studies, it argues that authors typically employ a limited and powerful set of spatial metaphors - palimpsest, map, and fractal - to organize the classical past for preteen and adolescent readers. Palimpsest texts see the past as a collection of strata in which each new era forms a layer superimposed upon a foundation laid earlier; map texts use the metaphor of the mappable journey to represent a protagonist's process of maturing while gaining knowledge of the self and/or the world; fractal texts, in which small parts of the narrative are thematically identical to the whole, present the past in a

way that implies that history is infinitely repeatable. While a given text may embrace multiple metaphors in presenting the past, associations between dominant metaphors, genre, and outlook emerge from the case studies examined in each chapter, revealing remarkable thematic continuities in how the past is represented and how agency is attributed to protagonists: each model, it is suggested, uses the classical past to urge and thus perhaps to develop a particular approach to life.

alan garner red shift: The Classic British Telefantasy Guide Paul Cornell, Martin Day, Keith Topping, 2015-07-30 The Classic British Telefantasy Guide is derived from the second edition of The Guinness Book of Classic British TV with various corrections and a revised introduction to bring it up to date. It was written when the Internet barely existed, and at a time when few books had been published on the subject. This is, however, by no means a new or completely revised version of the original material - too much time has passed, and if we were to start reworking and correcting the text now, it would probably never be finished! Instead, Classic British Telefantasy is an electronic reprint of some of the authors' earliest work, repacked for a new format and, perhaps, a new age.

alan garner red shift: From Mythic to Linear Maria Nikolajeva, 1991-01-01 Now available in paperback! In this radically new approach to text typology, Maria Nikolajeva examines the depiction of time in literature for children. Nikolajeva identifies a continuum of texts ranging from those that depict non-linear time, typical of archaic, or mythical, thought, to those that express linearity, typical of contemporary mainstream literature. The author argues that literature is a deconstruction, a displacement, of myth, and that it depicts a symbolic coming-of-age process rather than a strictly representational reflection of a concrete 'reality.' The texts are categorized by the degree to which the coming-of-age process is accomplished; the movement is from an initial condition of primary harmony (Arcadia, Paradise, Utopia) through different stages toward either a successful or a failed passage. From Mythic to Linear is a broad study, encompassing a number of children's novels from different epochs and countries: Scandinavian, British, American, Canadian, Australian, South African, and East European. The international character contributes a better knowledge of children's literature from different parts of the world-widening the horizons of children's literature research too often confined to one particular country. Nikolajeva's unique approach allows her to disregard the traditional, and some would argue obsolete, division of children's novels into realism and fantasy. With its unique approach and broad international scope, From Mythic to Linear will be of interest to all those interested in children's literature and in comparative literature in general. Includes bibliography and footnotes.

alan garner red shift: Children's Literature Comes of Age Maria Nikolajeva, 2015-08-27 Originally published in 1996. A detailed analysis of the art of children's literature covering world literature for children, children's literature as a canonical art form, the history of children's literature from a semiotic perspective, and epic, polyphony, chronotope, intertextuality, and metafiction in children's literature.

alan garner red shift: The Making of Modern Children's Literature in Britain Lucy Pearson, 2016-03-03 Lucy Pearson's lively and engaging book examines British children's literature during the period widely regarded as a 'second golden age'. Drawing extensively on archival material, Pearson investigates the practical and ideological factors that shaped ideas of 'good' children's literature in Britain, with particular attention to children's book publishing. Pearson begins with a critical overview of the discourse surrounding children's literature during the 1960s and 1970s, summarizing the main critical debates in the context of the broader social conversation that took place around children and childhood. The contributions of publishing houses, large and small, to changing ideas about children's literature become apparent as Pearson explores the careers of two enormously influential children's editors: Kaye Webb of Puffin Books and Aidan Chambers of Topliner Macmillan. Brilliant as an innovator of highly successful marketing strategies, Webb played a key role in defining what were, in her words, 'the best in children's books', while Chambers' work as an editor and critic illustrates the pioneering nature of children's publishing during this period. Pearson shows that social investment was a central factor in the formation of this golden age, and

identifies its legacies in the modern publishing industry, both positive and negative.

alan garner red shift: *What Makes This Book So Great* Jo Walton, 2014-01-21 "A remarkable guided tour through the field—a kind of nonfiction companion to *Among Others*. It's very good. It's great." —Cory Doctorow, *Boing Boing* As any reader of Jo Walton's *Among Others* might guess, Walton is both an inveterate reader of SF and fantasy, and a chronic re-reader of books. In 2008, then-new science-fiction mega-site Tor.com asked Walton to blog regularly about her re-reading—about all kinds of older fantasy and SF, ranging from acknowledged classics, to guilty pleasures, to forgotten oddities and gems. These posts have consistently been among the most popular features of Tor.com. Now this volumes presents a selection of the best of them, ranging from short essays to long reassessments of some of the field's most ambitious series. Among Walton's many subjects here are the Zones of Thought novels of Vernor Vinge; the question of what genre readers mean by "mainstream"; the underappreciated SF adventures of C. J. Cherryh; the field's many approaches to time travel; the masterful science fiction of Samuel R. Delany; Salman Rushdie's *Midnight's Children*; the early Hainish novels of Ursula K. Le Guin; and a Robert A. Heinlein novel you have most certainly never read. Over 130 essays in all, *What Makes This Book So Great* is an immensely readable, engaging collection of provocative, opinionated thoughts about past and present-day fantasy and science fiction, from one of our best writers. "For readers unschooled in the history of SF/F, this book is a treasure trove." —Publishers Weekly (starred review)

alan garner red shift: *International Companion Encyclopedia of Children's Literature* Peter Hunt, 2004-08-02 Children's publishing is a huge international industry and there is ever-growing interest from researchers and students in the genre as cultural object of study and tool for education and socialization.

alan garner red shift: *The Weird and the Eerie* Mark Fisher, 2017-01-31 A noted cultural critic unearths the weird, the eerie, and the horrific in 20th-century culture through a wide range of literature, film, and music references—from H.P. Lovecraft and Daphne Du Maurier to Stanley Kubrick and Christopher Nolan. What exactly are the Weird and the Eerie? Two closely related but distinct modes, and each possesses its own distinct properties. Both have often been associated with Horror, but this genre alone does not fully encapsulate the pull of the outside and the unknown. In several essays, Mark Fisher argues that a proper understanding of the human condition requires examination of transitory concepts such as the Weird and the Eerie. Featuring discussion of the works of: H. P. Lovecraft, H. G. Wells, M.R. James, Christopher Priest, Joan Lindsay, Nigel Kneale, Daphne Du Maurier, Alan Garner and Margaret Atwood, and films by Stanley Kubrick, Jonathan Glazer and Christopher Nolan.

alan garner red shift: *The Widening World of Children's Literature* S. Ang, 1999-12-14 This book looks at the changing shape of children's literature in English from the eighteenth to the twentieth century. In particular it examines the dialect between 'enclosure' and 'exposure', control and freedom of both fictional child and child reader, how the balance of these forces has altered over time, and the possible reasons for these changes. It also looks at the representation of the child in the English novel from the 1830s to the 1860s - the period preceding the publication of *Alice in Wonderland*, the first major work of literature for children - and the influence of such representation in later children's books. Writers as well known as Lewis Carroll, Louisa M. Alcott, Rudyard Kipling and Charlotte Brontë are examined in the course of this work, but this study also considers works which have been (unfairly) neglected till now and which deserve to be better known; this list includes the Marlow series by Antonia Forest, Jane Gardam's *Bilgewater* and Henry Handel Richardson's *The Getting of Wisdom*.

alan garner red shift: *The Stories We Tell* Matt Bromley, 2024-08-29 Stories give meaning to our lives and make us who we are. They shape our self-awareness, thus helping make sense of personal experiences, no matter how complex or difficult. Stories can also have a profound impact on our behaviours, values, and attitudes. This exciting new book examines the powerful role stories can play in schools both as a curriculum/teaching tool and as a framework for school improvement. *The Stories We Tell* looks holistically at the uses of story in schools and sets out the ways it can be

used to support teaching, including by: Organising the curriculum and helping to structure lessons
Aiding students' memorisation Promoting inclusion Preparing students for future success In addition, it offers four ways of using story and storytelling in the school improvement process to: Consult, communicate, and collaborate with stakeholders during the school improvement journey Articulate a vision for the future and foster a set of shared values Build trust and adopt ethical leadership behaviours to create a no-blame culture that encourages risk-taking Resolve conflict and manage people, and lead change and manage PR Providing a fresh and stimulating approach to teaching and learning, curriculum-development, and school improvement, this will be valuable reading for teachers and school leaders across the primary and secondary phases.

alan garner red shift: Future Folk Horror Simon Bacon, 2023-07-24 Future Folk Horror: Contemporary Anxieties and Possible Futures analyzes folk horror by looking at its recent popularity in novels and films such as *The Ritual* (2011), *The Witch* (2015), and *Candyman* (2021). Countering traditional views of the genre as depictions of the monstrous, rural, and pagan past trying to consume the present, the contributors to this collection posit folk horror as being able to uniquely capture the anxieties of the twenty-first century, caused by an ongoing pandemic and the divisive populist politics that have arisen around it. Further, this book shows how, through its increasing intersections with other genres such as science fiction, the weird, and eco-criticism as seen in films and texts like *The Zero Theorem* (2013), *The Witcher* (2007–2021), and *Annihilation* (2018) as well as through its engagement with topics around climate change, racism, and identity politics, folk horror can point to other ways of being in the world and visions of possible futures.

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