

# Colonialism and the Emergence of Science Fiction



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This is the first full-length study of emerging Anglo-American science fiction's relation to the history, discourses, and ideologies of colonialism and imperialism. Nearly all scholars and critics of early science fiction acknowledge that colonialism is an important and relevant part of its historical context, and recent scholarship has emphasized imperialism's impact on late Victorian Gothic and adventure fiction and on Anglo-American popular and literary culture in general. John Rieder argues that colonial history and ideology are crucial components of science fiction's displaced references to history and its engagement in ideological production. He proposes that the profound ambivalence that pervades colonial accounts of the exotic "other" establishes the basic texture of much science fiction, in particular its vacillation between fantasies of discovery and visions of disaster. Combining original scholarship and theoretical sophistication with a clearly written presentation suitable for students as well as professional scholars, this study offers new and innovative readings of both acknowledged classics and rediscovered gems. Includes discussion of works by Edwin

A. Abbott, Edward Bellamy, Edgar Rice Burroughs, John W. Campbell, George Tomkyns Chesney, Arthur Conan Doyle, H. Rider Haggard, Edmond Hamilton, W. H. Hudson, Richard Jefferies, Henry Kuttner, Alun Llewellyn, Jack London, A. Merritt, Catherine L. Moore, William Morris, Garrett P. Serviss, Mary Shelley, Olaf Stapledon, and H. G. Wells.

作者介绍:

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标签

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评论

煤气灯时代的早期科幻。帝国殖民的探索、失落世界的冒险，工业革命的影响，意识形态幻想的三重角色：发现者、传教士和人类学家。兼谈类型流动边界的相似性网络，引用论证很有层次感和说服力。

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从资本主义、殖民主义历史来看科幻小说的兴起，于此同时提出修正genre的定义，Rieder的切入点既有新意也极具说服力。另外推荐他的一篇获奖论文"Defining SF or Not".

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书评

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