



Decoding Gender in Science Fiction

By Brian Attebery

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From *Frankenstein* to futuristic feminist utopias, *Decoding Gender in Science Fiction* examines the ways science fiction writers have incorporated, explored, and revised conventional notions of sexual difference. Attebery traces a fascinating history of men's and women's writing that covertly or overtly investigates conceptions of gender, suggesting new perspectives on the genre.

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Decoding Gender in Science Fiction By Brian Attebery Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Review

"Brian Attebery is wonderfully fitted by nature, training, and experience to take on the complex subject of this book. Fair-minded and vastly tolerant, knowledgeable in every field of science fiction and fantasy, writing with vitality, clarity, and humor--he has given us a work that will engage and reward both the scholar and the interested lay reader." *Ursula K. Le Guin*

"*Decoding Gender* addresses [Science Fiction] issues in powerful ways through its nuanced exploration of both masculine and feminine SF writing traditions. Attebery's wide-ranging but judicious use of feminist theory balances especially nicely with his detailed analyses of individual SF texts; both, in turn, provide fresh perspectives on SF history--or, more accurately, on SF's multiple histories. The concluding chapters convincingly demonstrate why these multiple histories matter...he has given us a way to see them more clearly. Highly recommended." *Lisa Yaszek, Extrapolation*

"*Decoding Gender's* greatest strength is its methodology. Attebery uses cultural theory to play the kind of "what if" game so near and dear to the collective heart of the SF community. This framing technique is more than just a useful device for decoding gender and genre; it's also quite fun. The "what if" game also enables Attebery to tell dynamic SF histories that complicate their smooth evolutionary predecessors. Elsewhere, feminist theory provides Attebery with the means to generate new histories across conventional SF periodization. Rather than giving readers a Darwinian tale of the triumph of a single literary species, Attebery depicts the development of SF as a series of complex and sometimes contradictory processes." *Lisa Yaszek, Extrapolation*

"This is a thorough examination of the good, the bad, and the ugly in the history of gender representations in science fiction." *Regina Cross, Journal of the Fantastic of the Arts*

"*Decoding Gender in Science Fiction* is a commendable work, a pleasure to read and a source of new insights into the political minefield that gender studies have become over the years." *Donna Spalding Andreolle, Utopian Studies*

"Brian Attebery's *Decoding Gender in Science Fiction* is a welcome addition to the list of key texts...that address science fiction's problematic relationship with gender. [I]t is vital precisely because it theorizes gender as a dual system rather than conflating the study of gender with the study of the female." *Science Fiction Studies*

"Attebery approaches science fiction as a literary scholar; his book reads like a series of lectures, and it would make an excellent course book." *Robin Roberts, Modern Fiction Studies*

"I heartily recommend the entire book both to experienced sf readers and to those for whom fantasy and science fiction are a huge, hostile terra incognita." *Susanna J. Sturgis, Women Review of Books*

"Overall, *Decoding Gender* is a pleasure to read, not least because of Attebery's wide-ranging samplings of sf. One of the book's greatest virtues is its exploration of the fringes of sf without neglecting the center." *Joe Milicia, The New York Review of Science Fiction*

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rather than conflating the study of gender with the study of the female." *Sherryl Vint, St. Francis Xavier University, Science Fiction Studies*

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From the Publisher

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About the Author

Brian Attebery is Professor of English and Director of American Studies at Idaho State University. He is author of *Strategies of Fantasy* and *The Fantasy Tradition in American Literature*, and co-editor, with Ursula K. Le Guin, of *The Norton Book of Science Fiction*.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Thomas Lemos:

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The experience that you get from *Decoding Gender in Science Fiction* is a more deep you digging the information that hide within the words the more you get considering reading it. It does not mean that this book is hard to understand but *Decoding Gender in Science Fiction* giving you thrill feeling of reading. The article writer conveys their point in selected way that can be understood by anyone who read that because the author of this guide is well-known enough. This specific book also makes your current vocabulary increase well. Therefore it is easy to understand then can go with you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We suggest you for having this kind of *Decoding Gender in Science Fiction* instantly.

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Kevin Diaz:

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