

# ONLINE ANYTIME BOOK CLUB: JUNE 2019

## IN A GALAXY FAR FAR AWAY—BOOKS ABOUT SPACE

### STRANGE NEW WORLDS:

Books about other planets & galaxies

- *An Alchemy of Masques and Mirrors* by Curtis Craddock: On a planet whose continents float in midair and are fractured into different kingdoms, a musketeer must accompany a brilliant young princess to her wedding & protect her from conspiracies that would see her dead [ADULT FIC Craddock, Curtis]
- *The Pluto Files* by Neil deGrasse Tyson: astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson explores the cultural significance of the (former) planet Pluto, and what caused it to lose its planetary status [ADULT NF 523.4922 T994p ]
- *Dune* by Frank Herbert: On a desert planet that is the galaxy's only source of a life-altering drug, a young man becomes involved in events that could change the fate of the universe [ADULT CLASSIC FIC Herbert, Frank]
- *Artemis* by Andy Weir: A petty criminal on the Moon's only city gets more than she bargained for when she accidentally stumbles into a conspiracy that will change the colony's fate [ADULT FIC SCI-FI Weir, Andy]

### IT STARTED WITH A BIG BANG:

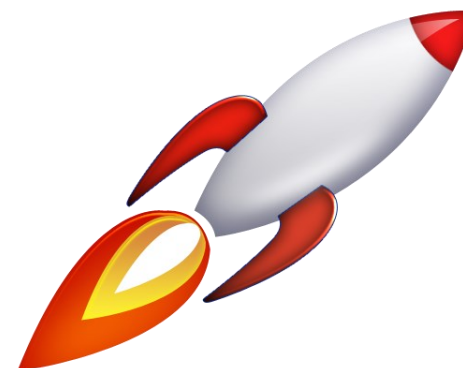
Books about the universe and its origins

- *Cosmos* by Carl Sagan: Sagan's classic work about the history of the universe, and humanity's attempts to find our place in it [ADULT NF 520 S129c ]
- *A Brief History of Time* by Stephen Hawking: Classic study on the nature and origins of the universe [ADULT NF 523.1 H392b ]
- *Astrophysics for People in a Hurry* by Neil DeGrasse Tyson: Want to understand the universe but not ready to read Hawking or Sagan? This book breaks down the complexities of the universe into bite-sized, easy-to-digest chapters [ADULT LP 523.01 T994a ]
- *Catching Stardust: Comets, Asteroids, and the Birth of the Solar System* by Natalie Starkey: Although comets and asteroids are usually associated with death and destruction, in this book Starkey shows how they can help us better understand the origins of our planet, and how we came to exist here [ADULT NF 523.2 S795c]

### ONE GIANT LEAP FOR MANKIND:

Books about astronauts and space travel

- *Hidden Figures* by Margot Lee Shetterly: Details the lives of the black female mathematicians who helped launch the US into the space race [ADULT NF 920.72 S554h ]
- *A Big Ship at the Edge of the Universe* by Alex White: Outcast from society & determined to crawl back, a group of unlikely heroes take on a mission to find a legendary space ship that will change their destiny [ADULT NEW FIC SF White, Alex]
- *The Right Stuff* by Tom Wolfe: Wolfe's definitive history of the Space Race and America's mission to put a man on the moon [ADULT CLASSIC NF 629.4 W855r]
- *The Book of Strange New Things* by Michael Faber: A missionary sent to a galaxy far from home finds his own faith tested when he begins receiving messages from his wife about the collapse of Earth [ADULT FIC CHRISTIAN Faber, Michael]





## CONTACT: Books about aliens

- *Tomorrow's Kin* by Nancy Kress: After aliens land in New York Harbor to warn the U.N. about an interstellar virus, humanity must confront the reality that we may have more in common with aliens than we think [ADULT FIC SCI-FI Kress, Nancy]
- *The War of the Worlds* by H.G. Wells: Wells' classic novel about invaders from Mars [ADULT CLASSIC FIC Wells, H.G.]
- *Everyone's a Aliebn When Ur a Aliebn Too* by Jomny Sun: In this cute cartoon, a lonely alien exiled to Earth discovers that Earthlings can feel lonely too, and makes friends with bears, ghosts, and more [YA GRAPHIC NOVEL Sun, Jomny]
- *The Three Body Problem* by Liu Ciuxin: During China's Cultural Revolution, China's government initiates a secret program to make alien contact. Decades later, a virtual reality game may hold the key to finding out what the aliens want from Earth [ADULT FIC SCI-FI Liu, Ciuxin]
- *The Darkest Time of Night* by Jeremy Finley: When the grandson of a vice-presidential candidate goes missing in the woods behind their home—with the only witness saying that "the lights took him"—his grandmother must find out what happened to him, and confront her own past in the woods [ADULT FIC SCI-FI Finley, Jeremy]

## LAUGHING ACROSS THE GALAXY: Funny books about space



- *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* by Douglas Adams: Don't panic and don't forget your towel for this classic romp across the galaxy, featuring aliens that torture people by reading poetry, the Galactic President, a clinically depressed robot, and more [ADULT CLASSIC FIC Adams, Douglas]
- *Packing for Mars—The Curious Science of Life in the Void* by Mary Roach: Roach gives an entertaining look into the study of life in space—from the big picture of "is it possible" to little details like "what about space beer?" [ADULT NF 571.0919 R628p ]
- *Space Opera* by Catherynne M. Valente : Eurovision, but in space—and the loser gets their planet annihilated [ADULT FIC SCI-FI Valente, Catherynne]
- *The Long Way to a Small, Angry Planet* by Becky Chambers: When an introverted young explorer joins the crew of a raggedy spaceship, she finds the family she's been looking for—as well as more than a handful of trouble [ADULT FIC SCI-FI Chambers, Becky]

## ARMAGEDDON: Books about space cataclysms and conflicts

- *Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card: After humanity is almost wiped out by an alien invasion, the government begins training teenagers to become war machines through a vicious series of computer games [YA TEEN PBK C]
- *Saga* by Brian K. Vaughan: This epic graphic novel series follows two soldiers on opposite sides of a galactic war who fall in love, and their struggles to protect their new family [YA GRAPHIC NOVEL Saga]
- *On the Edge of Gone* by Corinne Duyvis: With a comet set to hit the Earth within the next few hours, an autistic teenager must find her missing sister and mother, and try to find a place for them on a sanctuary ship where the passengers have all been selected for their "usefulness" to humanity [YA Duyvis, Corinne]
- *How It Ends: From You to the Universe* by Chris Impey: Astronomer Impey discusses the end of all things, from tiny microbes to entire species, and from humankind to the death of stars and galaxies [ADULT NF 523.1 I34h]

