

College Essay

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A topic or concept that I find very engaging is science fiction. Science fiction is a genre of fiction that is speculative in nature and usually deals with concepts that are both futuristic and imaginative. The artists who use this particular genre in their movies or writings take artistic liberties when discussing different concepts or ideas. One of the very first instances of science fiction being used in a novel was done by the author Mary Shelley. Mary Shelley's novel *Frankenstein* is often credited with being one of the first science fiction novels even though most of the elements of the novel fit into the horror genre. A recurring theme in most science fiction novels or movies is the theme of parallel universes and alien life forms. This concept of science fiction has always captivated me because the stories belonging to the science fiction genre take an existing form of technology and add a futuristic or imaginative context to it. This means that even though the stories are fictionalized, the science being used in the stories is present in the world of today—another reason why I am captivated by the concept of science fiction because I am an avid reader. I read comic books and stories in my free time, and I find that science fiction novels and comics that employ the trends of science fiction are mostly the ones I enjoy reading.

Another thing that captivates me about science fiction is how much of an impact it has had on the people who read or watch this genre. Science fiction forces people to imagine a futuristic world and how today's decisions can impact the lives of people in the future. By observing these changes in the future, people can be better prepared to handle the present and make those choices that would have a profound impact on the future. In addition, the world and setting of the various science fiction movies and novels can truly captivate the person watching or reading them. These alternate worlds and realities also allow people to connect more with their own reality and world.

The person who introduced me to science fiction novels and movies, or the concept of science fiction in general, was one of my older cousins. I remember watching old science fiction films like *Alien*, *The Matrix*, and the *Star Wars* series with my older cousin, who explained the concept of the science fiction genre to me for the very first time. Ever since the first time, it became a ritual to watch science fiction movies whenever we visited each other's house. Similarly, this older cousin of mine was also responsible for introducing me to the world of science fiction comics. I distinctly remember going to a comic store with this older cousin of mine and browsing the endless variety of science fiction comic books, graphic novels, and stories on display. Even to this very day, if I want some new information regarding science fiction or want to know the name of an old science fiction movie, I would go to this cousin of mine or call them up and have an hour-long discussion with them. However, when my cousin is not available or if they are busy with their own lives, I turn to the internet, where there are plenty of forums available for discussion. These forums are a great place for other people who find the concept or genre of science fiction interesting and who have managed to watch or read almost every mainstream science fiction movie or novel in recent years.