



BAEN BOOKS

TEACHING AND STUDY GUIDES CATALOG



**EDUCATIONAL GUIDES TO TEACHING
GREAT SCIENCE FICTION NOVELS**

Great Science Fiction Teacher's Guides

Written *by* Teachers *for* Teachers

Baen Teacher's Guides are developed by teachers and education experts for use by teachers in the classroom. The books included in this catalog offer young readers an exciting introduction to the science fiction genre. The accompanying teaching guides provide a framework for addressing the relevant themes and issues raised in each book in an educationally sound and rigorous manner.

Science fiction provides a popular and readymade window into *all* literature. Here is the support material you need to allow one of these delightful books to become your students' next step in a lifetime of reading and critical thinking.

All Baen Teacher's Guides provide a background of the novel, a complete and comprehensive summation of the story, a vocabulary list, individual chapter summaries, focus questions and initiating activities, reading comprehension quizzes, and thought-provoking discussion questions.

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1632 by Eric Flint

1636: The Kremlin Games by Eric Flint, Gorg Huff, and Paula Goodlett

A Beautiful Friendship by David Weber

Farmer in the Sky by Robert A. Heinlein

Fire Season by David Weber and Janet Lindskold

Going Interstellar, edited by Les Johnson and Jack McDevitt

Into the Hinterlands by David Drake and John Lambhead

On Basilisk Station by David Weber

The Rolling Stones by Robert A. Heinlein

The Star Beast by Robert A. Heinlein

Starman Jones by Robert A. Heinlein

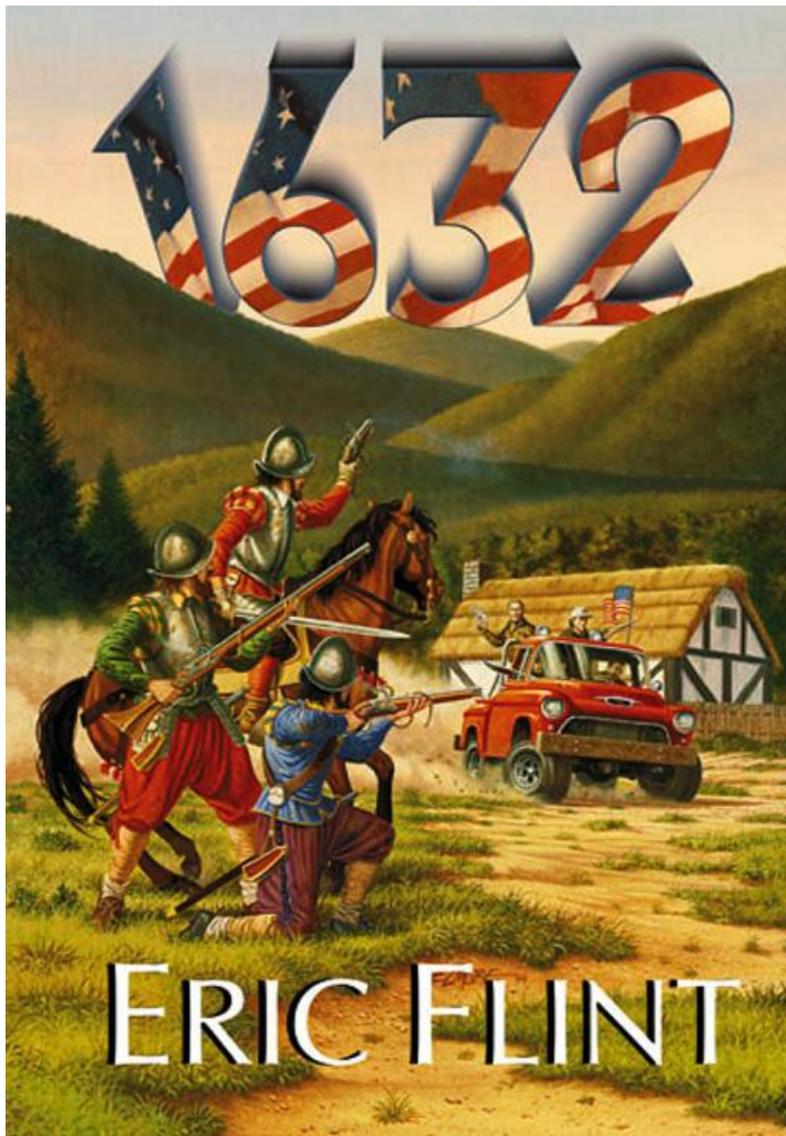
The Man Who Sold the Moon/Orphans of the Sky by Robert A. Heinlein

Beyond This Horizon by Robert A. Heinlein

Eight Million Gods by Wen Spencer

Rising Sun by Robert Conroy

It's Up to Charlie Harden by Dean Ing

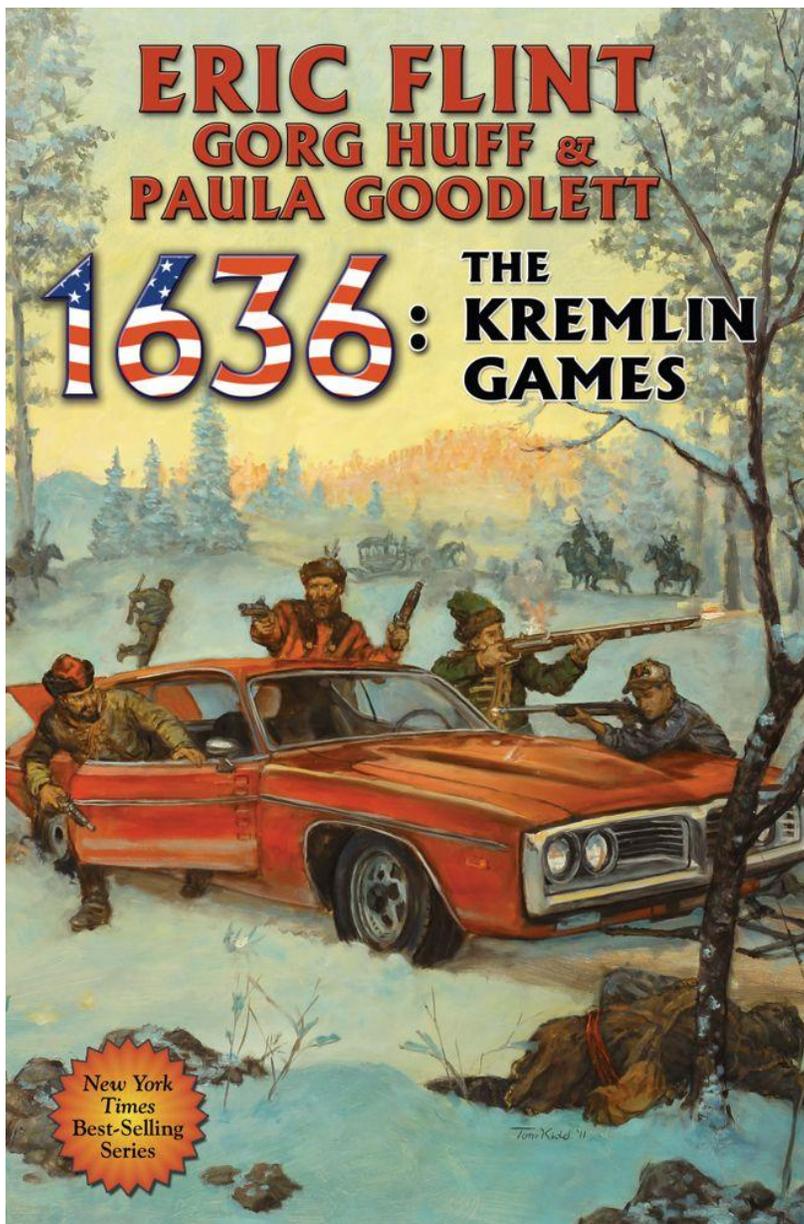


1632

Eric Flint

When the town of Grantville, West Virginia is transported in time to 17th century Germany, a group of can-do Americans must find a way to survive and thrive in one of Europe's darkest periods.

Teaching Guide: This book is suitable for upper-level high school students in English and upper-level history of Western Civilization classes. Areas examined include modern culture compared and contrasted with early Renaissance/medieval European culture, and historical developments and questions of rights and values examined in an engaging new light.



[1636: The Kremlin Games](#)

Eric Flint, Gorg Huff,
and Paula Goodlett

In this continuation of the Ring of Fire series, a prince from Russia recognizes the potential benefits that Grantville's advanced technology and knowledge could afford his country. Not everyone in Russia welcomes these changes, however, and the stage is set for conflict of ways old and new.

Teaching Guide: This book is suitable for upper-level high school students in English, European History, World History, or Western Civilization. Areas examined include modern culture compared and contrasted with early Renaissance/medieval European culture, particularly in czarist Russia, and historical developments and questions of rights and values examined in an engaging new light.

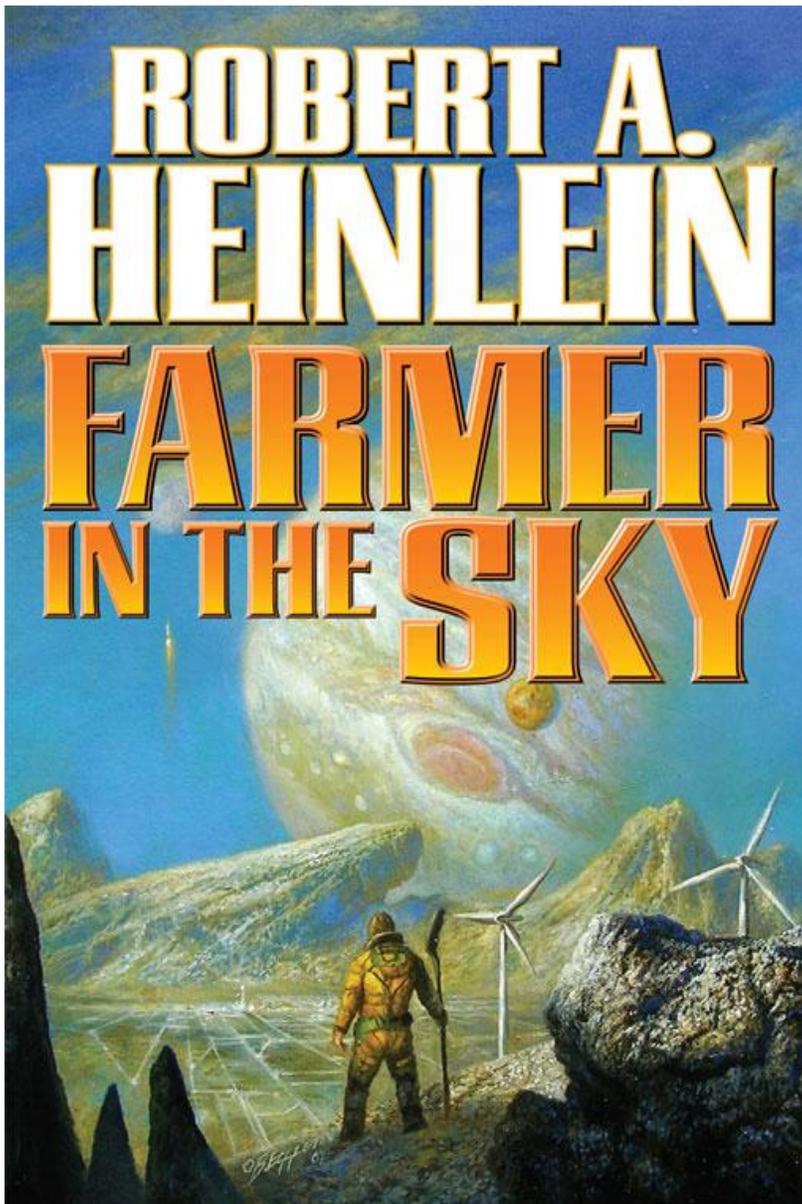


A Beautiful Friendship

David Weber

Twelve-year-old Stephanie Harrington settles with her parents on planet Sphinx where natural curiosity and drive lead her to a world-changing discovery: an intelligent alien species she names the treecats, which have the ability to telepathically bond with humans.

Teaching Guide: This book is suitable for eleven and up, including middle school and upper level high school students in English, science, social studies, and history. Areas examined include comparison of cultures, first contact narratives, the meaning of communication, and examination of what intelligence means in a species. Contains anti-bullying messages and reflections on the meaning of friendship.

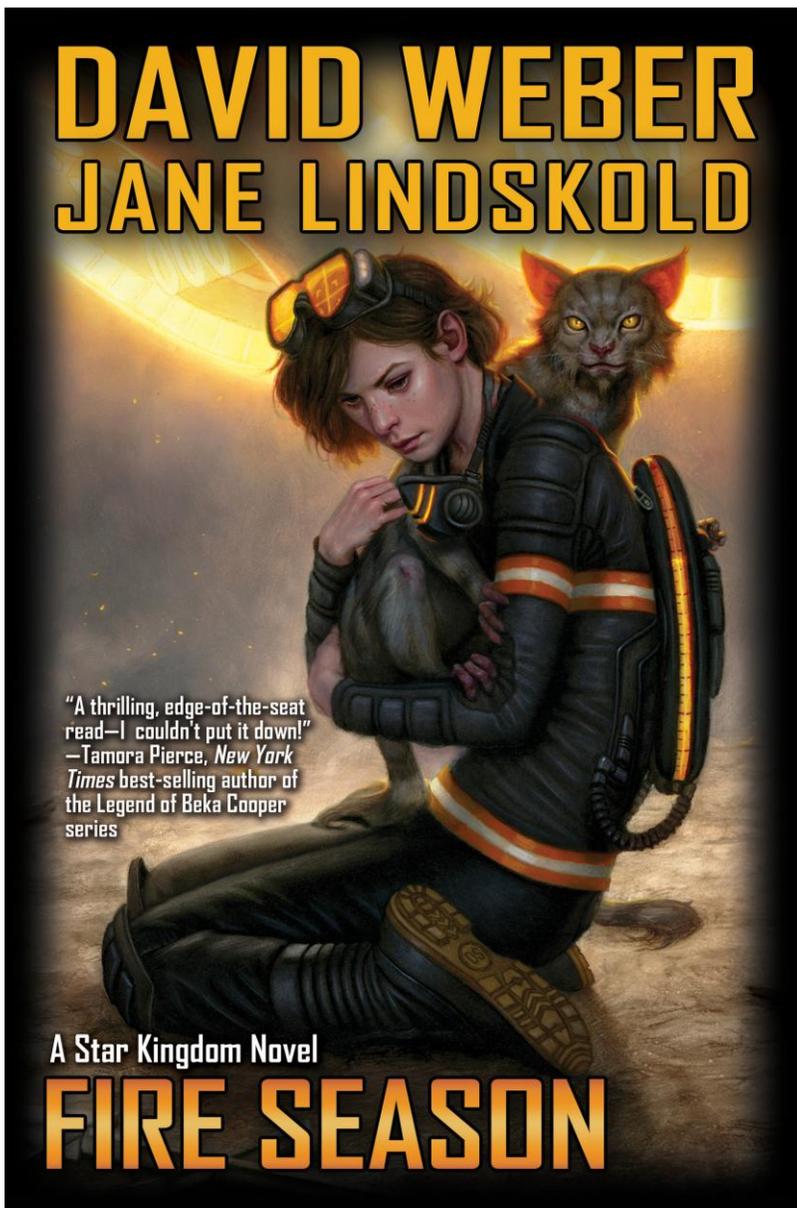


Farmer in the Sky

Robert A. Heinlein

The Earth is crowded and food is rationed, but a colony on Ganymede, one of the moons of Jupiter, offers an escape for teenager Bill Lermer and his family. On Earth, the move sounds like a grand adventure, but Bill soon realizes that life on the frontier is dangerous, and in an alien world with no safety nets, nature is cruelly unforgiving of even small mistakes.

Teaching Guide: This book is appropriate for middle school and early high school reading levels. The guide includes biographical information on legendary SF writer Robert Heinlein. Examination of questions of colonization, pioneering, frontier ethics, use of science and scientific knowledge to adapt to difficult conditions.

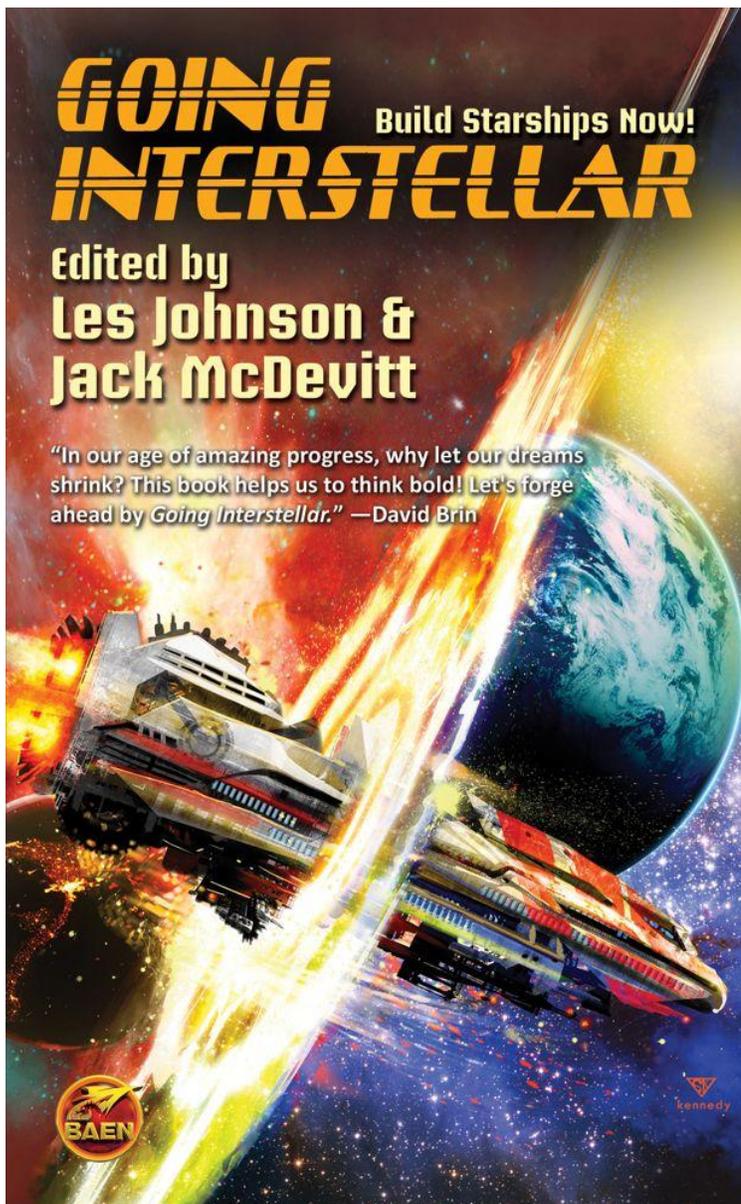


[Fire Season](#)

David Weber
and Jane M. Lindskold

Sequel to *A Beautiful Friendship*. Thirteen-year-old forest ranger Stephanie Harrington and her treecat companion battle natural forest fire and very human enemies on a pioneer planet. Stephanie and her treecat must work to protect their planet from those who would use it—and its treecat inhabitants—for personal gain.

Teaching Guide: This book is suitable for middle school and early high school reading levels in English, social studies, and history. Areas examined include comparison/contrast of cultures, cultural first contact narratives, the meaning of communication, examination of what intelligence means in a species. Also contains an anti-bullying message and reflection on the meaning of friendship.



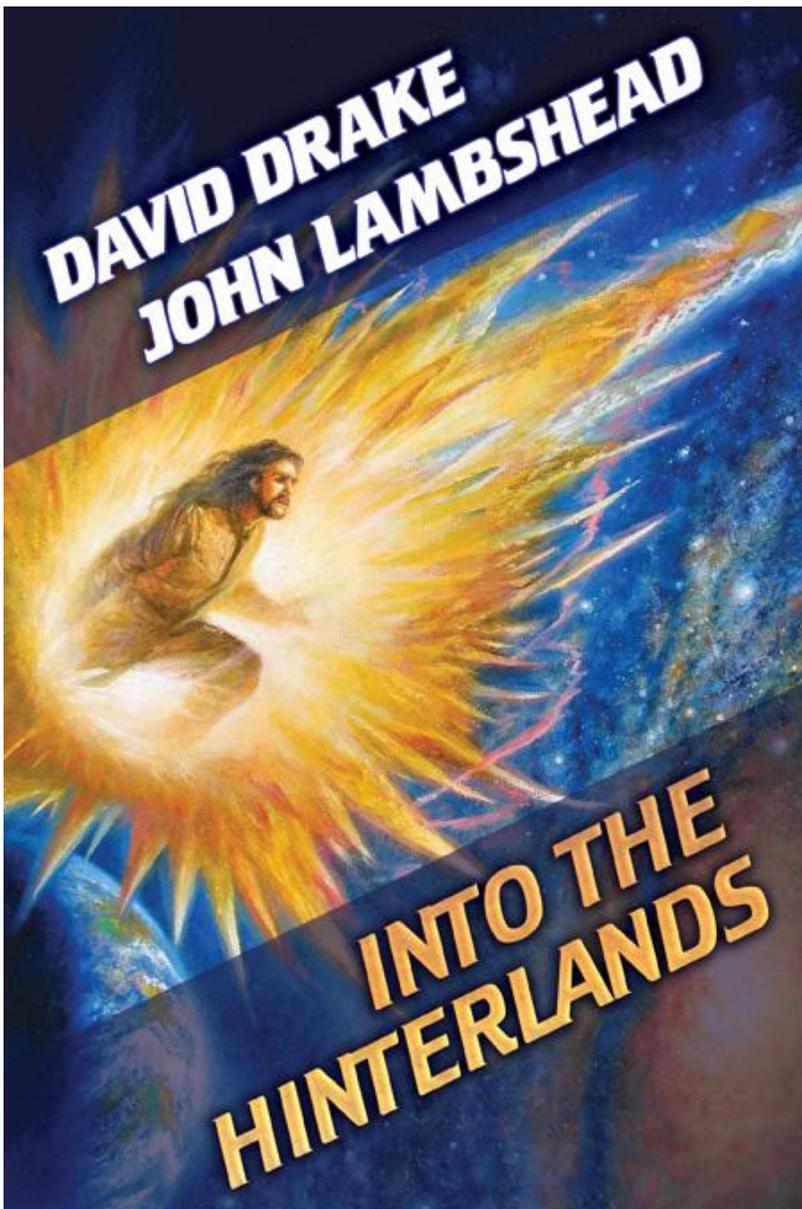
Going Interstellar

edited by

Les Johnson and
Jack McDevitt

Essays by space scientists and engineers on a variety of means to get humanity to the stars, along with related fictional short stories by an all-star assortment of award-winning writers.

Teaching Guide: This book is suitable for upper middle school to high school students in English and the sciences. A detail and comprehensive look at each essay and story, including background and development of the scientific and literary ideas in each, and the manner in which they interrelate and build upon one another. Excellent resource for teaching young scientists.

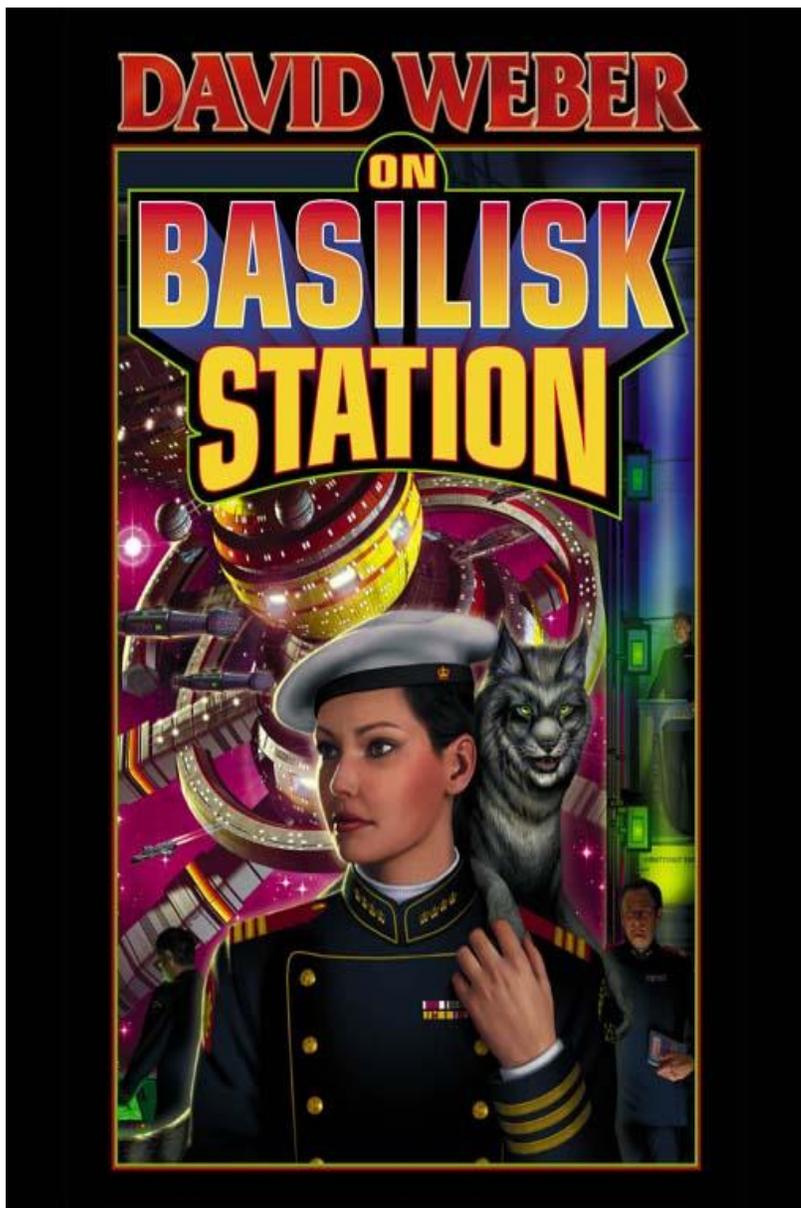


Into the Hinterlands

David Drake and
John Lambhead

A young colonial ventures into the intergalactic wilderness to drive off an incursion by corrupt Terrans and mysterious aliens. Echoes of the biography of Young George Washington in science fiction form.

Teaching Guide: This book is suitable for an older young adult or adult audience, or upper-level high school students and college students in English and history. Contains science fictional historical parallels to young George Washington's life and the French and Indian War. Examines cultural first contact, the meaning of frontier and boundary, and conflicts between radically distinct cultures.

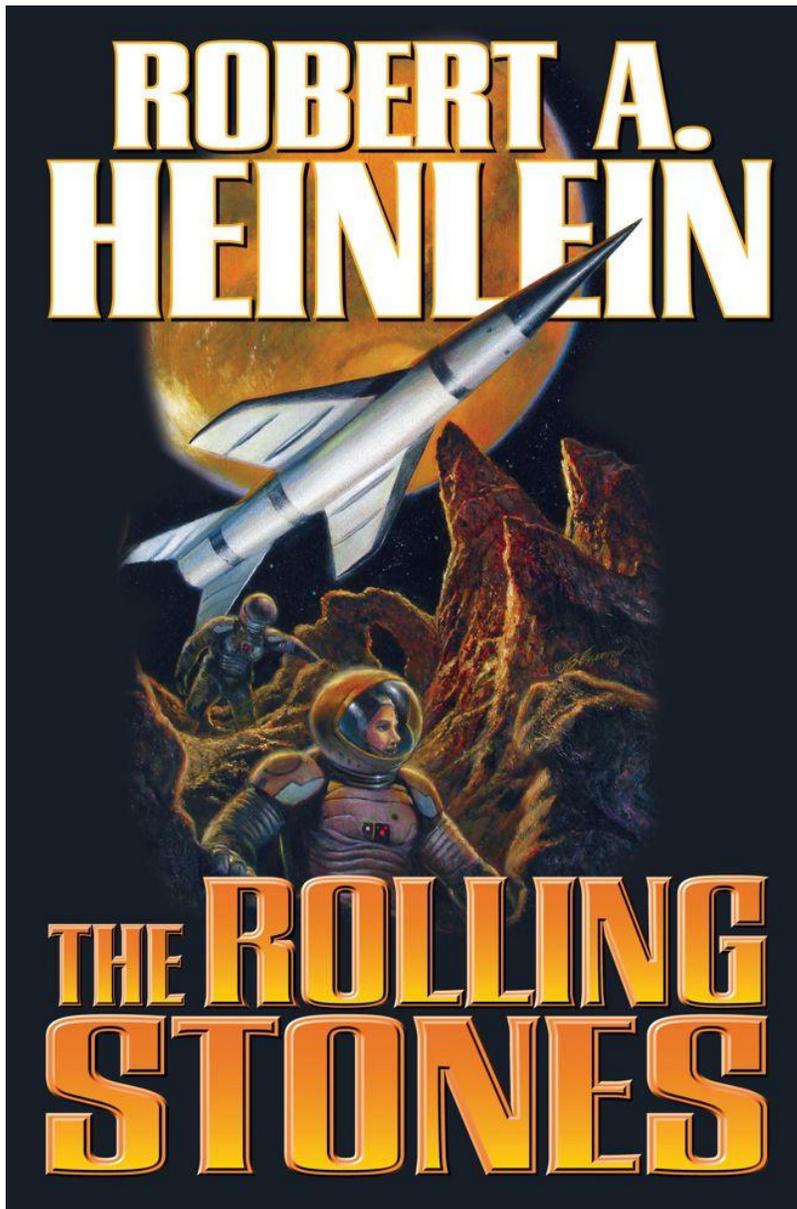


On Basilisk Station

David Weber

Smart and resourceful starship captain Honor Harrington is assigned to a frontier region where the republic she serves contends against an oppressive empire. Soon her assignment takes on danger and adventure as the enemies engage in a deadly maneuver to take over the system and to send Honor and her Star Kingdom forces packing.

Teaching Guide: This book is suitable for high school students in English, history and social studies. Examines heroism, cultural contact and conflict, women's rights in a military context, and questions on the ethics of colonization and the proper and improper use of armed conflict.

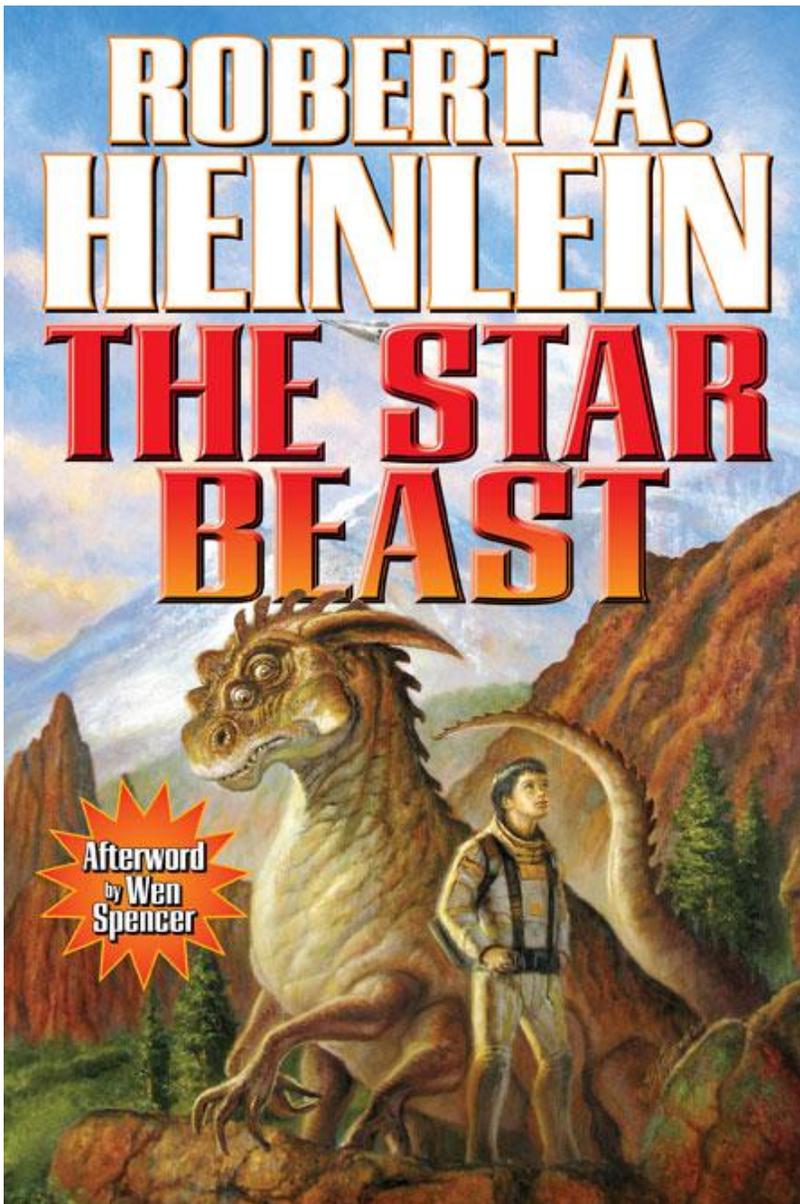


The Rolling Stones

Robert A. Heinlein

The Stone clan is off to the asteroid belt to educate their brood and find a new life away from stuffy, bureaucratic Lunar City. The Stones know that making a living in deep space and facing the dangers of exploration are the pioneer's great challenge—and the only path to a hopeful tomorrow for humankind.

Teaching Guide: This book is suitable for a middle school and early high school reading level. The guide includes biographical information on legendary SF writer Robert Heinlein. Examination of the meaning of heroism, questions of pioneering, frontier ethics, use of science and scientific knowledge to adapt to difficult conditions, and more.

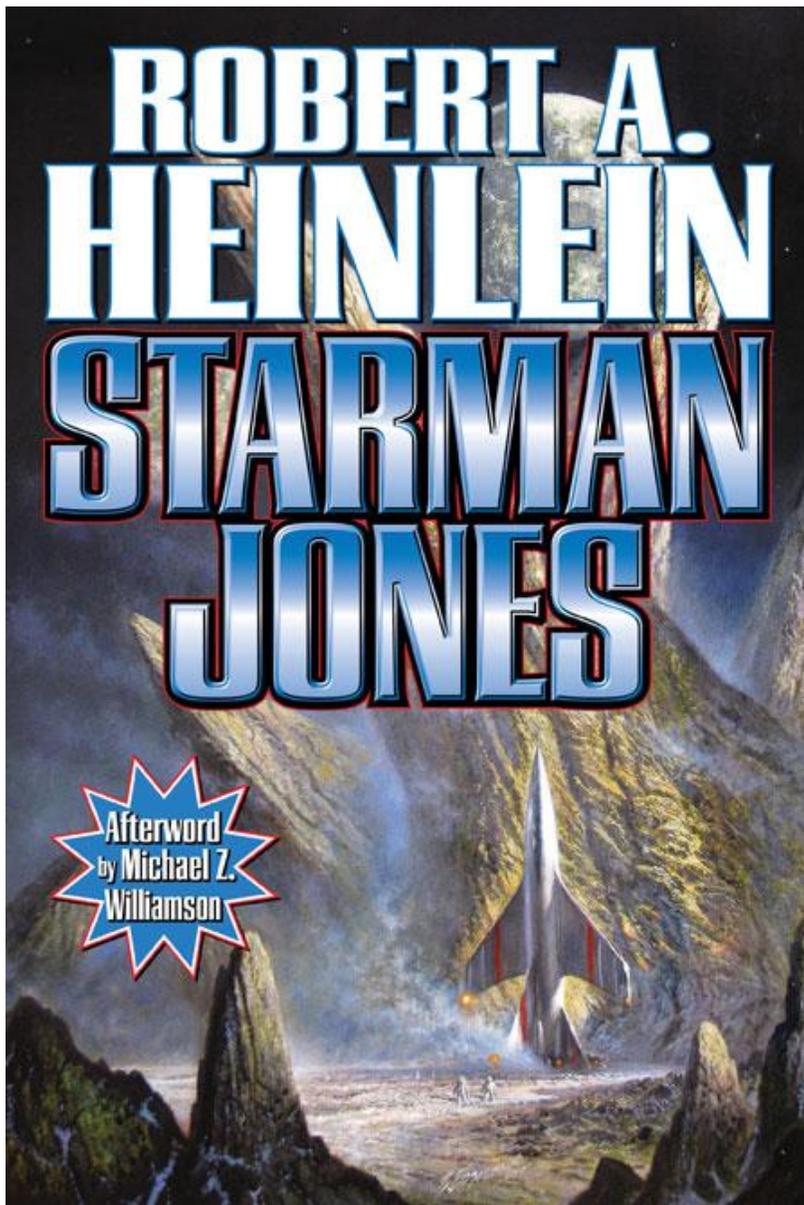


The Star Beast

Robert A. Heinlein

Huge star beast LummoX has been the pet of John Stuart's family, but now the authorities want him carted away. Young John isn't about to let anyone deport his friend—even if it takes leaving his old life behind forever.

Teaching Guide: This book is appropriate for middle school and early high school reading levels. The guide includes biographical information on legendary SF writer Robert Heinlein. Examination of questions of cultural differences and similarities, the ethical choices involved in friendship, and what intelligence might mean in a species.

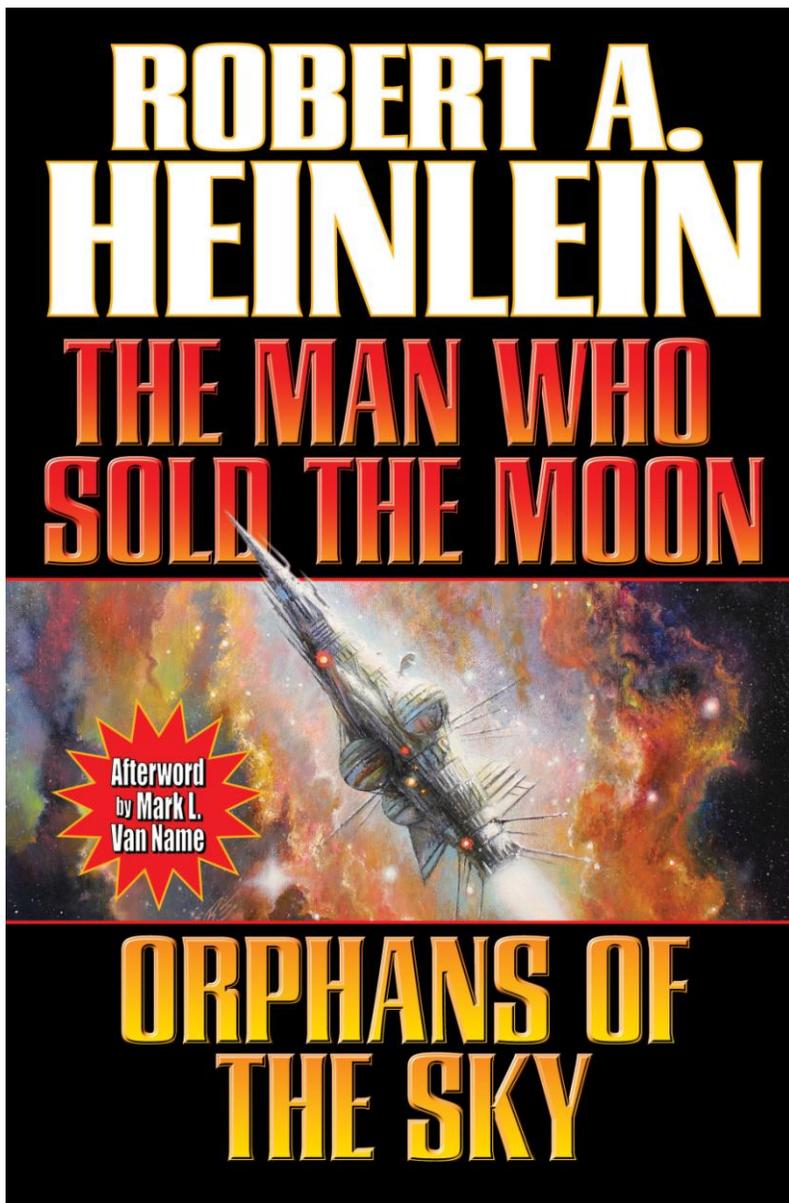


Starman Jones

Robert A. Heinlein

Young starship crewman Max Jones has fought his way to the stars. Now disaster strikes and it's going to take every trick Max learned from his hard-scrabble life to save his ship from doom. With a new afterword by Michael Z. Williamson.

Teaching Guide: This book is appropriate for middle school and early high school reading levels. The guide includes biographical information on legendary SF writer Robert Heinlein. Examination of the meaning of heroism, questions of the ethics of exploration, the use of science and scientific knowledge to adapt to difficult conditions, and more.



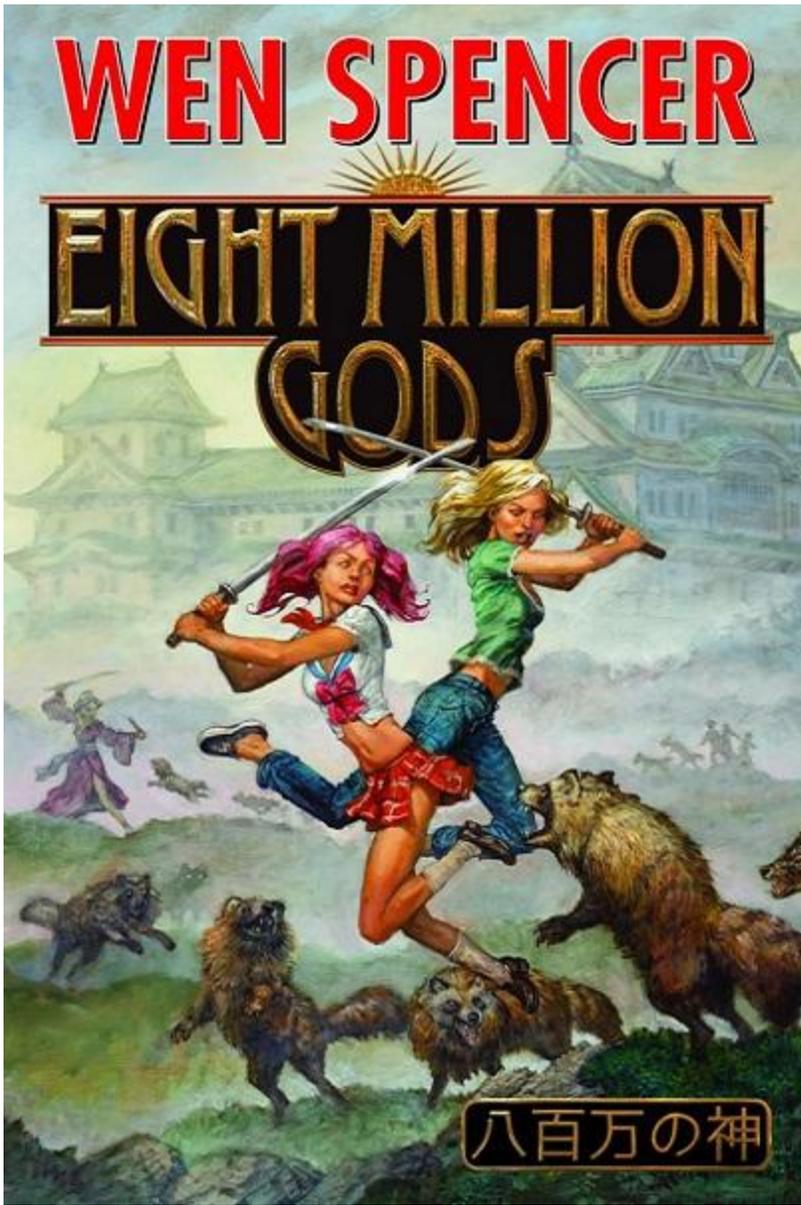
[Man Who Sold the Moon/Orphans in the Sky](#)

Robert A. Heinlein

D. D. Harriman is a billionaire with a dream: space for all mankind. The method? *Anything that works*. Maybe Harriman goes too far. But he will give us the stars...

Hugh had been taught that the Ship was on a voyage to faraway Centaurus. He understood that this must be a voyage to spiritual perfection. After all, the real world was only metal corridors and nothing else, right? And then Hugh begins to suspect the truth. . .

[Teaching Guide:](#) These books are appropriate for middle school through college level. The guide includes biographical information on legendary SF writer Robert Heinlein. Examination of the meaning of heroism, questions of ethics in business and science, use of science and to adapt to difficult conditions, and more.

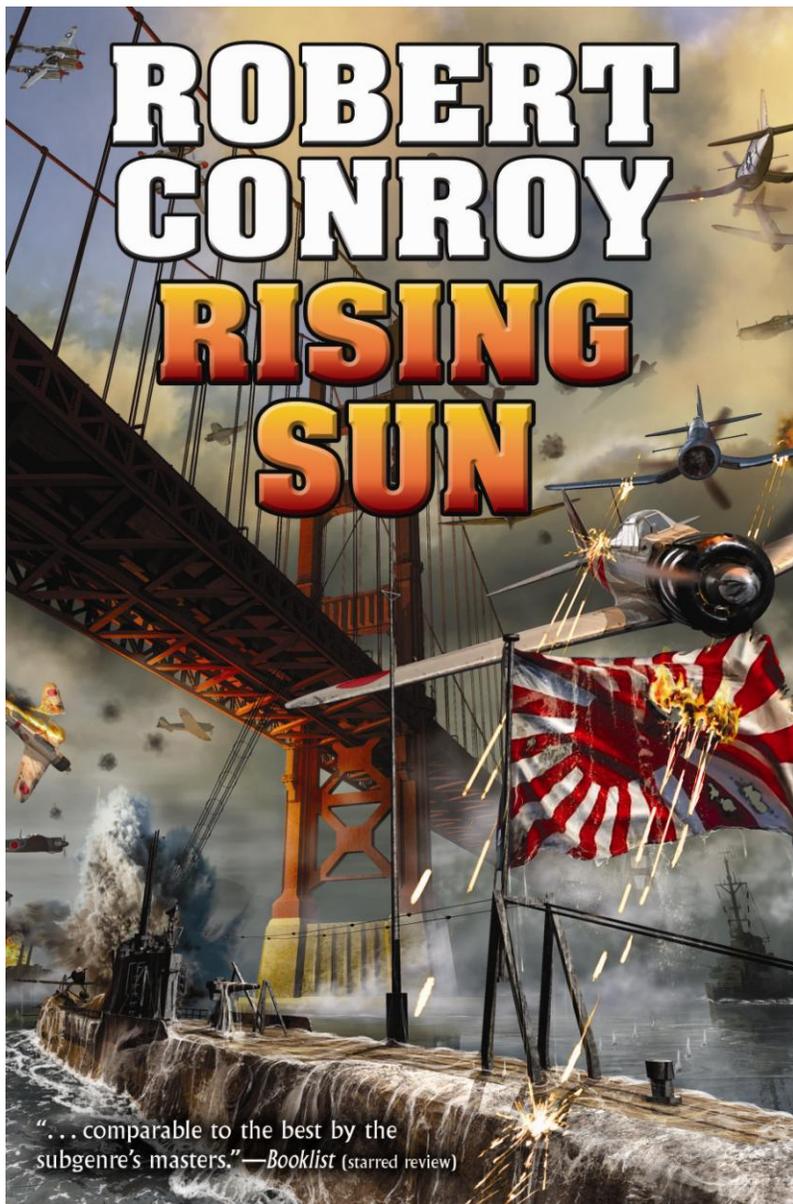


[Eight Million Gods](#)

Wen Spencer

Nikki is a horror novelist. Her career is dictated by an Obsessive Compulsive Disorder that forces her to write stories of death. She can't control it. Reality starts to unravel when Japanese myths and legends come to life and force her work to take on a deadly life of its own.

Teaching Guide: This is suitable for high school students. Examines comparison/contrast of cultures, cultural myths, mystery and death, and more.

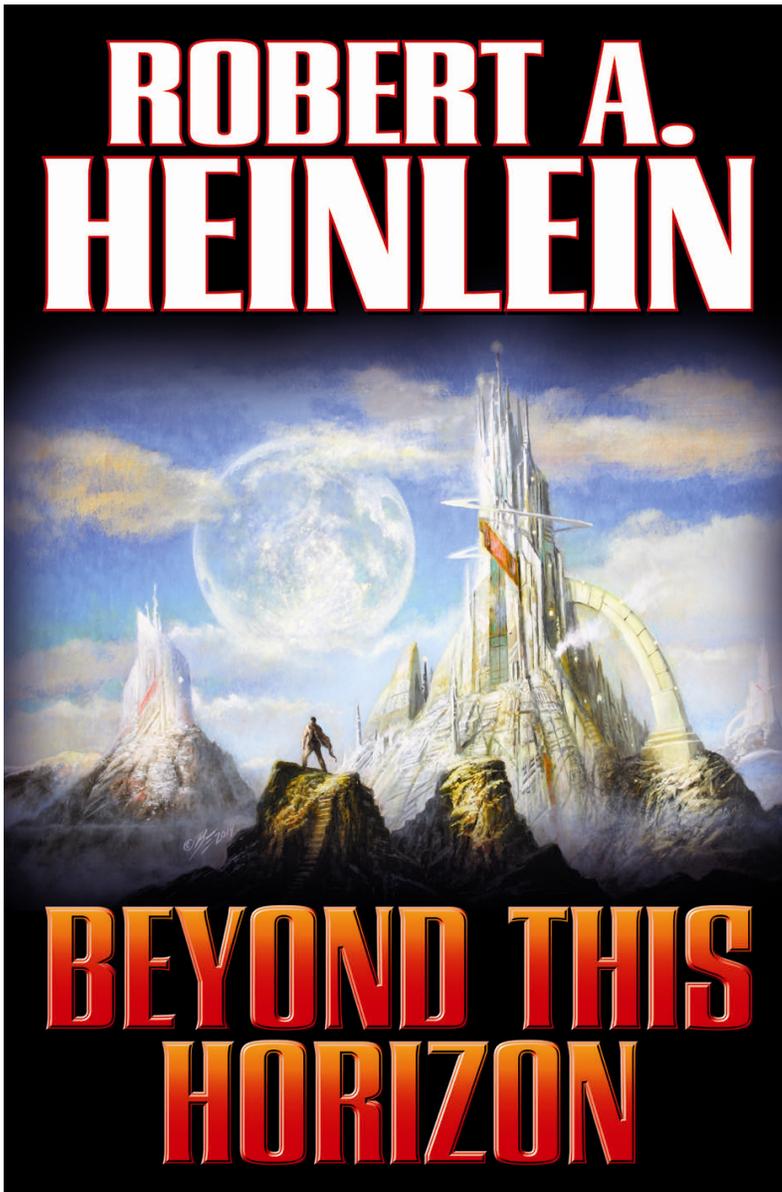


[Rising Sun](#)

Robert Conroy

The victory in the Battle of Midway has become a horrendous disaster. The Pacific belongs to the Japanese. Despite disaster, the U.S. is determined to fight back. A plan is put forth to lure the Japanese into an ambush that could restore balance in the Pacific and give freedom a fighting chance once more.

Teaching Guide: This book is suitable for classroom use for upper high school students. Areas examined include comparison/contrast of cultures, cultural/societal/economic expectations for women, military ethics, and more. Also contains vocabulary lists, suggested supportive media for adding insight, and suggested activities and projects for each chapter.



[Beyond This Horizon](#)

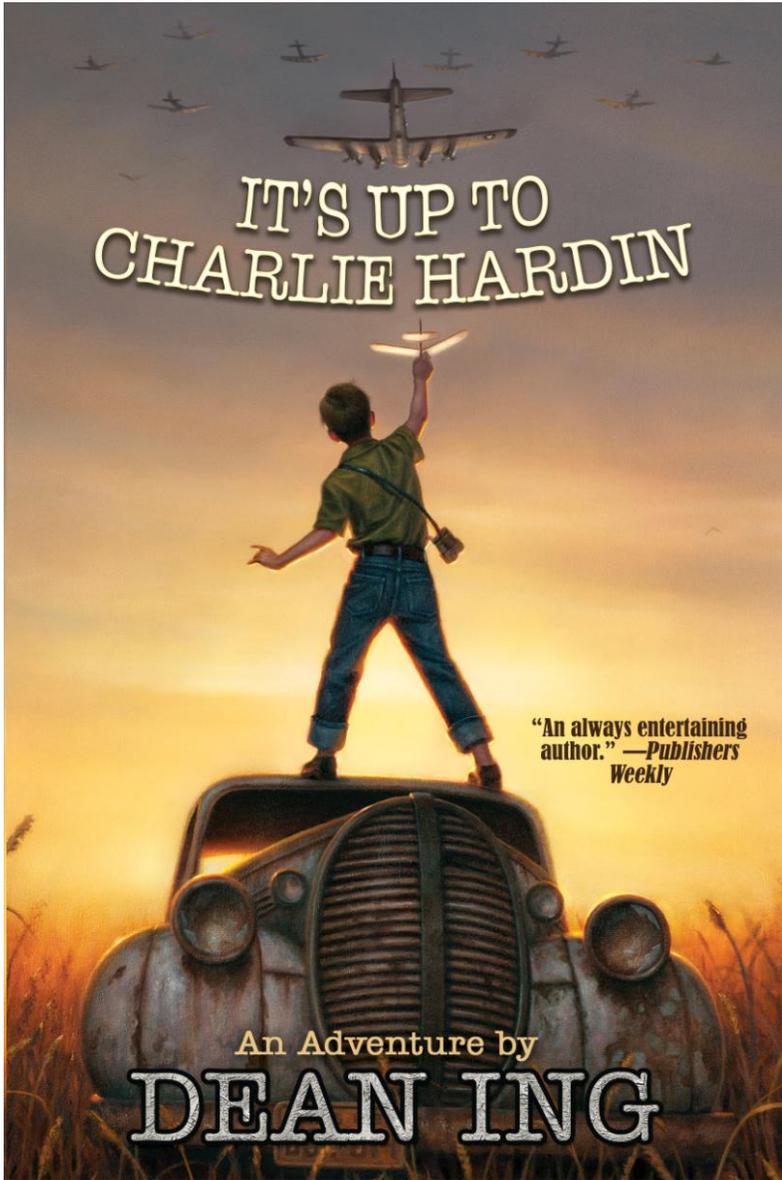
Robert A. Heinlein

Utopia has been achieved. For centuries, disease, hunger, poverty and war have been things found only in the history tapes. And applied genetics has given men and women the bodies of athletes and a lifespan of over a century. They should all have been very happy . . .

But Hamilton Felix is bored. And he is the culmination of a star line; each of his last thirty ancestors chosen for superior genes. Hamilton is, as far as genetics can produce one, the ultimate man. And this ultimate man can see no reason why the human race should survive, and has no intention of continuing the pointless comedy.

Revolutionaries are about to find out that recruiting a superman is definitely *not* a good idea . . .

[Teaching Guide:](#) For use in the classroom, *Beyond This Horizon* is probably most appropriate for readers in 9-12.



It's Up to Charlie Hardin

Dean Ing

An adventure-filled pre-teen coming of age story set in World War II era Austin, Texas from *New York Times* bestseller Dean Ing. It is the summer of 1944, and young teen Charlie Hardin has been set loose on the streets of Austin. Charlie never wants to disobey, but he understands that, no matter the cost, when danger arrives at his doorstep, to be brave, resolute, clever—and sometimes just a tiny bit nuts—is the only thing that matters.

Teaching Guide: Because of some of the material in this book, including some violence and language, classroom use of this book is probably most appropriate for intermediate grades, such as grades 5-8. The book would be particularly effective for units covering Texas History or American History.



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