

children of time

children of time is more than just a title—it's a captivating concept that explores the intersection of science fiction, evolutionary biology, and the resilience of civilizations across eras. This article provides a comprehensive overview of the acclaimed novel "Children of Time" by Adrian Tchaikovsky, delving into its thematic complexity, plot intricacies, and the enduring impact on the sci-fi literary landscape. Readers will discover the novel's groundbreaking approach to depicting non-human intelligence, its exploration of time, survival, and adaptation, and the philosophical questions it raises about humanity's place in the universe. Whether you're a seasoned fan of speculative fiction or simply curious about why "children of time" continues to resonate, this guide will equip you with insightful analysis, engaging summaries, and essential details. Continue reading to uncover the layers of meaning, character development, and the evolutionary saga that defines "Children of Time."

- Overview of Children of Time
- Main Themes and Concepts
- Plot Summary and Structure
- Evolution and Non-Human Intelligence
- Character Analysis
- Impact on Science Fiction
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Overview of Children of Time

"Children of Time" is a science fiction novel written by Adrian Tchaikovsky, published in 2015. Set against a backdrop of interstellar exploration and the remnants of human civilization, the story offers a sweeping narrative that spans thousands of years. The novel is celebrated for its ambitious scope, originality, and thought-provoking themes, earning prestigious awards such as the Arthur C. Clarke Award for Best Science Fiction Novel. The central premise revolves around the attempts of humanity to survive and adapt after Earth's collapse, juxtaposed with the development of a new species on a distant terraformed planet.

Through intricate storytelling, "Children of Time" challenges readers to reconsider the definition of intelligence, civilization, and progress.

Main Themes and Concepts

The novel "Children of Time" stands out for its depth of philosophical and scientific exploration. Tchaikovsky's narrative is built around several core themes that drive both the plot and the reader's engagement. These themes are integral to the book's reputation as a modern classic in speculative fiction.

Evolution and Adaptation

One of the most prominent themes in "Children of Time" is evolution. The story examines how species change and adapt over millennia, highlighting the unpredictability and creativity inherent in the process of natural selection. The terraformed planet's inhabitants are subject to engineered evolution, leading to the rise of an intelligent spider civilization, a concept that challenges the anthropocentric view of intelligence.

Survival and Civilization

Survival forms the backbone of the novel's narrative. The remnants of human society, aboard the spaceship *Gilgamesh*, struggle to preserve knowledge, culture, and their own existence. The parallel development of spider civilization on the planet tests the boundaries of what it means to be civilized and prompts readers to compare different models of society and cooperation.

Time and Legacy

The title "Children of Time" underscores the importance of legacy and the passage of time. The novel's structure, which spans generations, emphasizes how actions and decisions ripple through history, shaping the destinies of future societies. The interplay between the ancient and the contemporary provides a rich field for exploring the consequences of technological and ethical choices.

- Exploration of evolutionary theory
- Examination of non-human cultures

- Reflection on morality and progress
- Analysis of technology's role in shaping societies

Plot Summary and Structure

"Children of Time" employs a dual narrative structure, alternating between the desperate journey of the surviving humans and the accelerating evolution of the intelligent spiders on the terraformed planet. The plot begins with the collapse of Earth's civilization and the launch of the *Gilgamesh*, a ship carrying the last hope of humanity. Meanwhile, a terraforming experiment intended to seed a planet with uplifted monkeys goes awry, resulting in the accidental uplift of spiders instead.

As centuries pass, the spiders evolve, developing complex societies, technologies, and philosophies. The novel interweaves the struggles of the *Gilgamesh*'s crew, their encounters with existential threats, and their eventual discovery of the planet that hosts the burgeoning spider civilization. The narrative is punctuated by dramatic shifts in perspective, allowing readers to witness the rise and fall of civilizations from both human and non-human viewpoints.

Key Plot Points

1. Collapse of Earth and launch of *Gilgamesh*
2. Failed terraforming experiment and rise of intelligent spiders
3. Generational journey through space by human survivors
4. Spiders' evolution, technological progress, and internal conflicts
5. First contact and the challenge of coexistence
6. Resolution and new beginnings for both species

Evolution and Non-Human Intelligence

A defining feature of "Children of Time" is its portrayal of non-human intelligence. Rather than relying solely on human characters, Tchaikovsky's narrative gives equal weight to the spiders, exploring their cognitive development, social structures, and technological advancements. This approach broadens the scope of speculative fiction and invites readers to question the limits of consciousness and culture.

Development of Spider Society

The spiders in "Children of Time" undergo a dramatic evolution, both biologically and socially. Their society is built on unique forms of communication, cooperation, and technological innovation adapted to their physiology. The depiction of spider civilization is grounded in scientific plausibility, blending biological accuracy with creative speculation.

Challenges of Inter-Species Understanding

The eventual encounter between humans and spiders serves as a focal point for the novel's exploration of empathy, fear, and the possibilities of coexistence. The contrast between the two civilizations highlights the difficulties inherent in understanding and accepting radically different forms of intelligence, raising profound questions about prejudice and adaptation.

Character Analysis

"Children of Time" features a cast of characters that drive the narrative's emotional and philosophical core. Both human and spider characters are developed with depth and nuance, reflecting the complexities of leadership, survival, and ethical decision-making.

Key Human Characters

- Holsten Mason: A classicist aboard the *Gilgamesh*, Holsten serves as a bridge between the past and future, interpreting ancient knowledge and guiding humanity's decisions.
- Isaac: A central figure in the terraforming experiment, whose choices inadvertently shape the fate of two species.
- Karst: A pragmatic leader grappling with the challenges of survival and authority.

Key Non-Human Characters

- Portia: A recurring spider character whose lineage embodies the progress and struggles of her species.
- Bianca: Another influential spider, representing innovation and adaptability.

Impact on Science Fiction

The release of "Children of Time" marked a significant moment in the evolution of science fiction literature. The novel's unique blend of hard science, evolutionary theory, and philosophical inquiry has inspired both readers and writers to reconsider the boundaries of the genre. Its success is reflected in numerous awards, critical acclaim, and its enduring popularity among fans of speculative fiction.

By focusing on non-human intelligence and the long arc of civilization, "Children of Time" has expanded the possibilities for storytelling within science fiction. The novel has influenced discussions on artificial intelligence, ecological adaptation, and the ethics of technological intervention.

Legacy and Influence

"Children of Time" has left a lasting legacy, spawning sequels and contributing to the broader conversation about humanity's future. Its exploration of complex themes and innovative narrative techniques have made it a touchstone for modern science fiction. The novel continues to be studied, discussed, and recommended as a prime example of the genre's ability to tackle profound questions.

The success of "Children of Time" has reinforced the importance of speculative fiction in addressing real-world issues, from climate change to the nature of consciousness. Its influence is evident in subsequent works that seek to balance scientific rigor with imaginative storytelling.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is the central premise of "Children of Time"?

A: "Children of Time" centers on the survival of humanity after Earth's collapse and the parallel evolution of an intelligent spider civilization on a terraformed planet, exploring themes of adaptation, intelligence, and the passage of time.

Q: Who wrote "Children of Time"?

A: The novel was written by Adrian Tchaikovsky, a British author known for his works in fantasy and science fiction.

Q: What makes the book's depiction of evolution unique?

A: The novel portrays the evolutionary rise of spiders as the dominant intelligent species, showcasing their societal development over thousands of years, which is rarely done in science fiction.

Q: Are there sequels to "Children of Time"?

A: Yes, Adrian Tchaikovsky has continued the story in sequels such as "Children of Ruin," which expands on the themes and universe established in the original book.

Q: What awards has "Children of Time" won?

A: "Children of Time" won the Arthur C. Clarke Award for Best Science Fiction Novel and has been shortlisted for other prestigious awards, affirming its critical acclaim.

Q: What are the main themes explored in "Children of Time"?

A: The main themes include evolution, adaptation, the nature of intelligence, survival, legacy, and the ethical dilemmas of technological progress.

Q: Why is "Children of Time" considered influential in science fiction?

A: The novel's innovative approach to non-human intelligence and its exploration of long-term evolution have expanded the boundaries of the genre, inspiring new discussions and creative works.

Q: What role do the spiders play in the story?

A: The spiders become the central non-human civilization on the terraformed planet, developing complex societies and technologies, and eventually interacting with the human survivors.

Q: How does the novel address the concept of legacy?

A: "Children of Time" examines how actions, technology, and culture are passed down through generations, affecting both human and spider societies across epochs.

Q: Can "Children of Time" be recommended for readers new to science fiction?

A: Yes, its engaging narrative, accessible themes, and unique perspective make it an excellent introduction to modern science fiction for new readers.

Children Of Time

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Children of Time: Exploring Adrian Tchaikovsky's Masterpiece

Introduction:

Have you ever wondered about the vastness of space, the potential for life beyond Earth, and the unpredictable paths evolution can take? Adrian Tchaikovsky's "Children of Time" isn't just science fiction; it's a breathtaking exploration of evolution, intelligence, and the very definition of what it means to be sentient. This post will delve into the captivating world of "Children of Time," analyzing its themes, characters, and the enduring impact it has had on the science fiction genre. We'll explore why it's a must-read for fans of speculative fiction and discuss its enduring relevance in a world increasingly concerned with the future of humanity and the planet. Prepare to journey into a world brimming with spiders, sentient species, and profound questions about survival and adaptation.

The Intriguing Premise of "Children of Time"

"Children of Time" unfolds across millennia, weaving together two distinct narratives. On the one hand, we follow the desperate attempts of humanity to colonize a distant planet, a desperate attempt to secure the future of a species facing ecological collapse. On the other, we witness the extraordinary evolution of a spider species on the same planet, driven by a genetically engineered virus meant to accelerate their development. This seemingly disparate narrative strands eventually intertwine in a breathtaking climax that forces readers to reconsider their anthropocentric views of intelligence and progress.

Humanity's Struggle for Survival: A Bleak but Compelling Narrative

The human narrative in "Children of Time" is far from utopian. Facing resource depletion and societal breakdown, humanity's initial attempts at colonization are fraught with difficulties. The novel realistically depicts the challenges of interstellar travel, the fragility of human civilization, and the unforeseen consequences of ambitious scientific endeavors. This section of the story serves as a compelling counterpoint to the spider narrative, highlighting the inherent limitations and vulnerabilities of even the most technologically advanced species.

The Astonishing Evolution of the Spiders: A Testament to Nature's Power

The parallel narrative focuses on the genetically modified spiders. Tchaikovsky masterfully portrays their evolutionary journey, showcasing the unpredictable and often brutal process of natural selection. We witness the spiders develop intelligence, social structures, and eventually, a complex culture. The detail and depth given to this evolution are truly remarkable, offering a fascinating glimpse into the potential for life to adapt and thrive in the most unexpected of ways. This isn't just a story about spiders; it's a testament to the resilience and adaptability of life itself.

Themes Explored in "Children of Time"

"Children of Time" is more than just a compelling story; it's a rich tapestry of interwoven themes that resonate long after the final page is turned.

The Definition of Intelligence: Challenging Anthropocentric Views

The novel masterfully challenges our anthropocentric biases regarding intelligence. By showcasing the emergence of a highly intelligent spider species, Tchaikovsky forces us to question what constitutes intelligence and whether our human-centric definitions are truly valid. The spiders' unique evolutionary path leads to a form of intelligence vastly different from our own, highlighting the diversity of potential paths for cognitive development.

The Uncertainties of Scientific Advancement and Technological Progress

Tchaikovsky doesn't shy away from the potential downsides of scientific advancement. The initial genetic manipulation of the spiders, while intended to benefit humanity, has unpredictable and far-reaching consequences. This underscores the ethical dilemmas inherent in manipulating life and the importance of considering the long-term implications of technological progress.

The Fragility of Civilization and the Resilience of Life

The novel powerfully depicts the fragility of human civilization in the face of environmental challenges and internal conflicts. However, it also showcases the surprising resilience of life in all its forms. The spiders' remarkable evolutionary journey serves as a powerful counterpoint to humanity's struggles, suggesting that even in the face of adversity, life finds a way.

The Enduring Legacy of "Children of Time"

"Children of Time" has cemented its place as a modern science fiction classic. Its innovative approach to world-building, its exploration of profound themes, and its intricate and compelling plot have captivated readers worldwide. It stands as a testament to the power of science fiction to challenge our assumptions, expand our understanding of the universe, and inspire us to consider the future of life on Earth and beyond. The novel's influence can be seen in subsequent science fiction works, demonstrating its lasting impact on the genre.

Conclusion:

"Children of Time" is more than just a captivating read; it's a profound exploration of evolution, intelligence, and the enduring power of life. It's a story that stays with you long after you finish reading, prompting reflection on our place in the universe and the intricate web of life that surrounds us. If you're seeking a thought-provoking and beautifully written science fiction masterpiece, "Children of Time" is an absolute must-read.

FAQs:

1. Is "Children of Time" suitable for young adults? While not explicitly violent, the novel deals with complex themes that might be challenging for younger readers. Parental guidance is suggested for younger audiences.
2. Are there any sequels to "Children of Time"? Yes, there is a sequel titled "Children of Ruin."
3. What makes the spider civilization so unique in the novel? Their unique evolutionary path, driven by the genetically engineered virus, leads to a form of intelligence and social structure radically different from humanity's. They develop a complex communication system and intricate social hierarchies.
4. How does the novel address the topic of human expansionism? The novel critically examines the potential downsides of human expansionism, portraying the unintended consequences of interfering with other life forms and ecosystems.
5. What is the overall message of the novel? "Children of Time" ultimately argues for a greater understanding and appreciation of the diversity of life and challenges our anthropocentric view of intelligence and progress. It prompts us to consider the ethical implications of our actions and the interconnectedness of all living things.

children of time: *Children of Time* Adrian Tchaikovsky, 2015-06-04 Winner of the 30th anniversary Arthur C. Clarke Award for Best Novel. Adrian Tchaikovsky's critically acclaimed novel *Children of Time*, is the epic story of humanity's battle for survival on a terraformed planet. Who will inherit this new Earth? The last remnants of the human race left a dying Earth, desperate to find a new home among the stars. Following in the footsteps of their ancestors, they discover the greatest treasure of the past age – a world terraformed and prepared for human life. But all is not right in this new Eden. In the long years since the planet was abandoned, the work of its architects has borne disastrous fruit. The planet is not waiting for them, pristine and unoccupied. New masters have turned it from a refuge into mankind's worst nightmare. Now two civilizations are on a collision course, both testing the boundaries of what they will do to survive. As the fate of humanity hangs in the balance, who are the true heirs of this new Earth? Continue the far-reaching space opera with *Children of Ruin* and *Children of Memory*. 'Children of Time is a joy from start to finish. Entertaining, smart, surprising and unexpectedly human.' - Patrick Ness, author of *A Monster Calls*.

children of time: Children of Ruin Adrian Tchaikovsky, 2019-05-16 'My most anticipated book of the year' - Peter F. Hamilton, Britain's no.1 science fiction writer *Children of Ruin* follows Adrian Tchaikovsky's extraordinary *Children of Time*, winner of the Arthur C. Clarke award. It is set in the same universe, with new characters and a thrilling narrative. It has been waiting through the ages. Now it's time . . . Thousands of years ago, Earth's terraforming program took to the stars. On the world they called Nod, scientists discovered alien life – but it was their mission to overwrite it with the memory of Earth. Then humanity's great empire fell, and the program's decisions were lost to time. Aeons later, humanity and its new spider allies detected fragmentary radio signals between the

stars. They dispatched an exploration vessel, hoping to find cousins from old Earth. But those ancient terraformers woke something on Nod better left undisturbed. And it's been waiting for them. 'Books like this are why we read science fiction' - Ian McDonald, author of the Luna series All underpinned by great ideas. And it is crisply modern - but with the sensibility of classic science fiction' Stephen Baxter, author of the Long Earth series (with Terry Pratchett)

children of time: *Guns of the Dawn* Adrian Tchaikovsky, 2015-02-12 *Guns of the Dawn* is a pacey, gripping fantasy of war and magic, from Arthur C. Clarke Award-winning author, Adrian Tchaikovsky. 'One of the best books I've ever read' - Peter Newman, author of *The Vagrant* The first casualty of war is truth . . . First, Denland's revolutionaries assassinated their king, launching a wave of bloodshed after generations of peace. Next they clashed with Lascanne, their royalist neighbour, pitching war-machines against warlocks in a fiercely fought conflict. Genteel Emily Marshwic watched as the hostilities stole her family's young men. But then came the call for yet more Lascanne soldiers in a ravaged kingdom with none left to give. Emily must join the ranks of conscripted women and march toward the front lines. With barely enough training to hold a musket, Emily braves the savage reality of warfare. But she begins to doubt her country's cause, and those doubts become critical. For her choices will determine her own future and that of two nations locked in battle. 'An engrossing story, beautifully told' - SFX 'Moving, gripping and wonderfully paced' - The Bookbag

children of time: *Let All the Children Boogie* Sam J. Miller, 2021-01-06 From the Nebula-Award-winning author of *The Art of Starving* comes Sam J. Miller's sci-fi time traveling tale, *Let All the Children Boogie*, a Tor.com Original As the Cold War stalls and the threat of nuclear warfare dominates the news, small-town misfits Laurie and Fell bond over a shared love of music and the mystery of the erratic radio messages that hint at the existence of a future worth reaching out for. At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

children of time: *Spiderlight* Adrian Tchaikovsky, 2016-08-02 *Spiderlight* is an exhilarating fantasy quest from Adrian Tchaikovsky, the author of *Guns at Dawn* and the *Shadows of the Apt* series. The path to victory will only be seen through a spider's eyes... The Church of Armes of the Light has battled the forces of Darkness for as long as anyone can remember. The great prophecy has foretold that a band of misfits, led by a high priestess will defeat the Dark Lord Darvezian, armed with their wits, the blessing of the Light and an artifact stolen from the merciless Spider Queen. Their journey will be long, hard and fraught with danger. Allies will become enemies; enemies will become allies. And the Dark Lord will be waiting, always waiting... At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

children of time: *The Child in Time* Ian McEwan, 2014-05-13 Stephen Lewis, a successful writer of children's books, is confronted with the unthinkable: his only child, three-year-old Kate, is snatched from him in a supermarket. In one horrifying moment that replays itself over the years that follow, Stephen realizes his daughter is gone. With extraordinary tenderness and insight, Booker Prize-winning author Ian McEwan takes us into the dark territory of a marriage devastated by the loss of a child. Kate's absence sets Stephen and his wife, Julie, on diverging paths as they each struggle with a grief that only seems to intensify with the passage of time. Eloquent and passionate, the novel concludes in a triumphant scene of love and hope that gives full rein to the author's remarkable gifts.

children of time: Children of Time Anne H. Weaver, 2012-04-15 Ancient relics--stone tools, bones, footprints, and even DNA--offer many clues about our human ancestors and how they lived. At the same time, our kinship with our human ancestors lies as much in their sense of humor, their interactions with others, their curiosity and their moments of wonder, as it does in the shape of their bones and teeth. And the evolution of human behavior left no direct fossil traces. *Children of Time* brings this vanished aspect of the human past to life through Anne Weaver's scientifically- informed imagination. The stories move through time, following the lives of long-ago hominins through the eyes of their children. Each carefully researched chapter is based on an actual child fossil--a baby, a

five-year-old, a young adolescent, and teenagers. The children and their families are brought to life through illustrator Matt Celeskey's vividly rendered paleoenvironments where they encounter saber-toothed cats, giraffids, wild dogs, fearsome crocodiles, and primitive horses. Their adventures invite readers to think about what it means to be human, and to speculate on the human drama as it unfolds in many dimensions, from social organization and technology to language, music, art, and religious consciousness. Visit the website at www.children-of-time.com.

children of time: Running Out of Time Margaret Peterson Haddix, 1995-10 When a diphtheria epidemic hits her 1840 village, thirteen-year-old Jessie discovers it is actually a 1996 tourist site under unseen observation by heartless scientists, and it's up to Jessie to escape the village and save the lives of the dying children.

children of time: Children of Time (The After Cilmeri Series) Sarah Woodbury, 2012-10-22 November 1288. Bereft of a king or rightful heir, England hurtles towards civil war for the second time in a generation. When David, Prince of Wales, and his wife, Lili, travel to London to attend the wedding of William de Bohun and Princess Joan, they have no intention of involving themselves in local politics. But as infighting leads to murder, David and Lili find themselves at the center of a far-reaching conspiracy. Trapped between history and legend, they must decide how much they are willing to sacrifice to save not only their own country, but the people of England as well. Meanwhile, back in Wales, Llywelyn and Meg discover that time is no barrier to either adventure or trouble ... Children of Time, book four in the After Cilmeri series, continues the story of Llywelyn, Meg, and their children in the medieval kingdom of Wales. Complete series reading order: Daughter of Time, Footsteps in Time, Winds of Time, Prince of Time, Crossroads in Time, Children of Time, Exiles in Time, Castaways in Time, Ashes of Time, Warden of Time, Guardians of Time, Masters of Time, Outpost in Time, Shades of Time, Champions of Time, Refuge in Time, Outcasts in Time, Hidden in Time. Also, This Small Corner of Time: The After Cilmeri Series Companion.

children of time: A Wrinkle in Time Madeleine L'Engle, 2010-04-01 NEWBERY MEDAL WINNER • TIME MAGAZINE'S 100 BEST FANTASY BOOKS OF ALL TIME • NOW A MAJOR MOTION PICTURE FROM DISNEY Read the ground-breaking science fiction and fantasy classic that has delighted children for over 60 years! A Wrinkle in Time is one of my favorite books of all time. I've read it so often, I know it by heart. —Meg Cabot Late one night, three otherworldly creatures appear and sweep Meg Murry, her brother Charles Wallace, and their friend Calvin O'Keefe away on a mission to save Mr. Murray, who has gone missing while doing top-secret work for the government. They travel via tesseract—a wrinkle that transports one across space and time—to the planet Camazotz, where Mr. Murray is being held captive. There they discover a dark force that threatens not only Mr. Murray but the safety of the whole universe. A Wrinkle in Time is the first book in Madeleine L'Engle's Time Quintet.

children of time: Cage of Souls Adrian Tchaikovsky, 2019-04-04 Humanity clings to life on a dying Earth in an epic, far-future science fiction novel from an award-winning author. The sun is bloated, diseased, dying perhaps. Beneath its baneful light, Shadrapar, last of all cities, harbours fewer than 100,000 human souls. Built on the ruins of countless civilisations, Shadrapar is a museum, a midden, an asylum, a prison on a world that is ever more alien to humanity. Bearing witness to the desperate struggle for existence between life old and new is Stefan Advani: rebel, outlaw, prisoner, survivor. This is his testament, an account of the journey that took him into the blazing desolation of the western deserts; that transported him east down the river and imprisoned him in the verdant hell of the jungle's darkest heart; that led him deep into the labyrinths and caverns of the underworld. He will meet with monsters, madman, mutants. The question is, which one of them will inherit this Earth?

children of time: The Doors of Eden Adrian Tchaikovsky, 2020-08-20 They thought we were safe. They were wrong. Lee and Mal went looking for monsters on Bodmin Moor four years ago, and only Lee came back. She thought she'd lost Mal forever, now miraculously returned. But what happened that day on the moors? And where has Mal been all this time? Mal's reappearance hasn't gone unnoticed by MI5 either, and their officers also have questions. Julian Sabreur is investigating

an attack on top physicist Kay Amal Khan. This leads Julian to clash with agents of an unknown power – and they may or may not be human. His only clue is grainy footage, showing a woman who supposedly died on Bodmin Moor. Dr Khan's research was theoretical; then she found cracks between our world and parallel Earths. Now these cracks are widening, revealing extraordinary creatures. And as the doors come crashing open, anything could come through. Adrian Tchaikovsky brought us far-future adventure with *Children of Time*. Now *The Doors of Eden* takes us from Bodmin Moor to London and alternate versions of earth. This is an extraordinary feat of the imagination and a page-turning adventure. 'Inventive, funny and engrossing, this book lingers long after you close it' - Tade Thompson, Arthur C. Clarke Award-winning author of *Rosewater*

children of time: The Tiger and the Wolf Adrian Tchaikovsky, 2016-02-11 The first in the *Echoes of the Fall* series, *The Tiger and the Wolf* is an epic fantasy novel by Adrian Tchaikovsky, winner of the Arthur C. Clarke Award and British Fantasy Award for Best Novel. 'One of the most interesting and accomplished writers in speculative fiction' – Christopher Paolini In the bleak northern crown of the world, war is coming . . . Maniye's father is the Wolf clan's chieftain, but she's an outcast. Her mother was queen of the Tiger and these tribes have been enemies for generations. Maniye also hides a deadly secret. All can shift into their clan's animal form, but Maniye can take on tiger and wolf shapes. She refuses to disown half her soul so escapes, rescuing a prisoner of the Wolf clan in the process. The killer Broken Axe is set on their trail to drag them back for retribution. The Wolf chieftain plots to rule the north, and controlling his daughter is crucial to his schemes. However, other tribes also prepare for strife. Strangers from the far south appear too, seeking allies in their own conflict. It's a season for omens as priests foresee danger and a darkness falling across the land. Some say a great war is coming, overshadowing even Wolf ambitions. A time of testing and broken laws is near – but what spark will set the world ablaze? Continue this sweeping coming-of-age fantasy with *The Bear and the Serpent*.

children of time: The Redemption of Time Baoshu, 2019-07-16 Set in the universe of the New York Times bestselling *Three-Body Problem* trilogy, *The Redemption of Time* continues Cixin Liu's multi-award-winning science fiction saga. This original story by Baoshu—published with Liu's support—envisions the aftermath of the conflict between humanity and the extraterrestrial Trisolarans. In the midst of an interstellar war, Yun Tianming found himself on the front lines. Riddled with cancer, he chose to end his life, only to find himself flash frozen and launched into space where the Trisolaran First Fleet awaited. Captured and tortured beyond endurance for decades, Yun eventually succumbed to helping the aliens subjugate humanity in order to save Earth from complete destruction. Granted a healthy clone body by the Trisolarans, Yun has spent his very long life in exile as a traitor to the human race. Nearing the end of his existence at last, he suddenly receives another reprieve—and another regeneration. A consciousness calling itself *The Spirit* has recruited him to wage battle against an entity that threatens the existence of the entire universe. But Yun refuses to be a pawn again and makes his own plans to save humanity's future... At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

children of time: The Children of Men P. D. James, 2012-01-11 The year is 2021. No child has been born for twenty-five years. The human race faces extinction. Under the despotic rule of Xan Lyppiat, the Warden of England, the old are despairing and the young cruel. Theo Faren, a cousin of the Warden, lives a solitary life in this ominous atmosphere. That is, until a chance encounter with a young woman leads him into contact with a group of dissenters. Suddenly his life is changed irrevocably as he faces agonising choices which could affect the future of mankind. NOW A MAJOR MOTION PICTURE

children of time: Dogs of War Adrian Tchaikovsky, 2018-06 My name is Rex. I am a good dog. Rex is also seven foot tall at the shoulder, bulletproof, bristling with heavy calibre weaponry and his voice resonates with subsonics especially designed to instil fear. With Dragon, Honey and Bees, he's part of a Multiform Assault Pack operating in the lawless anarchy of Compeche, Mexico. As a genetically engineered Bioform, Rex is a deadly weapon in a dirty war. But all he wants to be is a

Good Dog. And to do that he must do exactly what Master says and kill a lot of enemies. But who, exactly, are the enemies? What happens when Master is tried as a war criminal? What rights does the Geneva Convention grant weapons? Do Rex and his fellow Bioforms even have a right to exist? And what happens when Rex slips his leash?

children of time: The Children of the Sky Vernor Vinge, 2011-10-11 The Children of the Sky continues the epic sci-fi adventure of Hugo award-winning *A Fire Upon the Deep*! "Vinge is one of the best visionary writers of SF today." —David Brin Thousands of years in the future, humanity is no longer alone in a universe where a mind's potential is determined by its location in space, from superintelligent entities in the Transcend, to the limited minds of the Unthinking Depths, where only simple creatures, and technology, can function. Nobody knows what strange force partitioned space into these regions of thought, but when the warring Straumli realm use an ancient Transcendent artifact as a weapon, they unwittingly unleash an awesome power that destroys thousands of worlds and enslaves all natural and artificial intelligence. Ten years have passed on Tines World, and Ravna and the children have survived a war. While there is peace among the Tines, there are those among them—and among the humans—who seek power...and no matter the cost, these malcontents are determined to overturn the fledgling civilization that has taken root since the humans landed. Tor books by Vernor Vinge Realtime/Bobble Series The Peace War Marooned in Realtime Other Novels The Witling Tatja Grimm's World Rainbows End Collections Collected Stories of Vernor Vinge True Names At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

children of time: The Expert System's Brother Adrian Tchaikovsky, 2018-07-17 Bestselling British master of science fiction Adrian Tchaikovsky brings readers a new, mind-expanding science fantasia in *The Expert System's Brother* After an unfortunate accident, Handry is forced to wander a world he doesn't understand, searching for meaning. He soon discovers that the life he thought he knew is far stranger than he could even possibly imagine. Can an unlikely saviour provide the answers to the questions he barely comprehends? At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

children of time: Semiosis Sue Burke, 2018-02-06 Human survival hinges on an bizarre alliance in *Semiosis*, a character driven science fiction novel of first contact by debut author Sue Burke. Esquire's Best Science Fiction Books of All Time 2019 Campbell Memorial Award Finalist 2019 Locus Finalist for Best Science Fiction Novel Locus 2018 Recommended Reading List New York Public Library—Best of 2018 Forbes—Best Science Fiction Books of 2019-2019 The Verge—Best of 2018 Thrillist—Best Books of 2018 Vulture—10 Best Sci-Fi and Fantasy Books of 2018 Chicago Review of Books—The 10 Best Science Fiction Books of 2018 Texas Library Association—Lariat List Top Books for 2019 Colonists from Earth wanted the perfect home, but they'll have to survive on the one they found. They don't realize another life form watches...and waits... Only mutual communication can forge an alliance with the planet's sentient species and prove that humans are more than tools. Other Books by Sue Burke *Semiosis* duology *Semiosis* *Interference* *Immunity* *Index* *Dual Memory* At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

children of time: Thin Air Richard K. Morgan, 2019-07-02 An atmospheric tale of corruption and abduction set on Mars, from the author of the award-winning science fiction novel *Altered Carbon*, now an exciting new series from Netflix. NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY THE GUARDIAN Hakan Veil is an ex-corporate enforcer equipped with military-grade body tech that's made him a human killing machine. His former employers have abandoned him on a turbulent Mars where Earth-based overlords battle for profits and power amid a homegrown independence movement. But he's had enough of the red planet, and all he wants is a ticket back home—which is just what he's offered by the Earth Oversight organization, in exchange for being the bodyguard for an EO investigator. It's a beyond-easy gig for a heavy hitter like Veil . . . until it isn't. When Veil's charge starts looking into the mysterious disappearance of a lottery winner, it stirs up a hornet's nest of intrigue and murder. And the deeper Veil is drawn into the game, the more long-buried

secrets claw their way to the Martian surface. Now it's the expert assassin poised against powerful enemies hellbent on taking him down—by any means necessary. Praise for Thin Air "Kick-ass . . . Mixed in with the thriller-esque action and cyberpunk backdrop is a hard-boiled noir story complete with a twisting and turning plot that keeps readers on their toes."—Los Angeles Times "Richard K. Morgan wants to destroy your Mars fantasies. . . . It's a grim vision, but one that Morgan finds far more plausible than the cheerful visions of plucky Mars colonists common in sci-fi."—Wired "A robotically enhanced Jack Reacher [in a] dazzlingly intricate game of political double- and triple-cross, spiced with tastily kinetic battle sequences."—The Guardian "If you ever imagined that the core esthetics and themes of cyberpunk—lowlives and high tech; corporate dominance; future noir; post-human evolution and cyborg adaptations; hardscrabble urban environments—were played out, Thin Air will set you straight, and kick your butt in the process. . . . Both kinematic and cinematic, [Thin Air is] limned by Morgan with balletic precision and smashmouth grace."—Paul Di Filippo, Locus

children of time: What Kids Did Erin Silver, 2020-10-27 In the spring of 2020, the Covid-19 virus changed the world and made daily life much more challenging. We had to stay apart, away from work, school, and our normal routines. But, all around the world, kids came up with creative and thoughtful ways to help others. From making 3-D printed medical equipment to food bank fundraising to a neighbourhood joke stand, to creating a semi-automatic hand-washing machine, kids made a difference in their communities. Let's celebrate and take inspiration from their stories.

children of time: Redemption's Blade Adrian Tchaikovsky, 2018-07-24

children of time: Childhood's End Arthur C. Clarke, 2012-11-30 In the Retro Hugo Award-nominated novel that inspired the Syfy miniseries, alien invaders bring peace to Earth—at a grave price: "A first-rate tour de force" (The New York Times). In the near future, enormous silver spaceships appear without warning over mankind's largest cities. They belong to the Overlords, an alien race far superior to humanity in technological development. Their purpose is to dominate Earth. Their demands, however, are surprisingly benevolent: end war, poverty, and cruelty. Their presence, rather than signaling the end of humanity, ushers in a golden age . . . or so it seems. Without conflict, human culture and progress stagnate. As the years pass, it becomes clear that the Overlords have a hidden agenda for the evolution of the human race that may not be as benevolent as it seems. "Frighteningly logical, believable, and grimly prophetic . . . Clarke is a master." —Los Angeles Times

children of time: Monstrous Little Voices Adrian Tchaikovsky, Jonathan Barnes, Emma Newman, Kate Heartfield, Foz Meadows, 2016-03-08 Mischief, Magic, Love and War. It is the Year of Our Lord 1601. The Tuscan War rages across the world, and every lord from Navarre to Illyria is embroiled in the fray. Cannon roar, pikemen clash, and witches stalk the night; even the fairy courts stand on the verge of chaos. Five stories come together at the end of the war: that of bold Miranda and sly Puck; of wise Pomona and her prisoner Vertumnus; of gentle Lucia and the shade of Prospero; of noble Don Pedro and powerful Helena; and of Anne, a glovemaker's wife. On these lovers and heroes the world itself may depend. These are the stories Shakespeare never told. Five of the most exciting names in genre fiction today – Jonathan Barnes, Adrian Tchaikovsky, Emma Newman, Foz Meadows and Kate Heartfield – delve into the world the poet created to weave together a story of courage, transformation and magic. Including an afterword by Dr. John Lavagnino, The London Shakespeare Centre, King's College London.

children of time: Elder Race Adrian Tchaikovsky, 2021-11-16 A Ursula Le Guin-like grace... Ten out of 10. —New York Times In Adrian Tchaikovsky's Elder Race, a junior anthropologist on a distant planet must help the locals he has sworn to study to save a planet from an unbeatable foe. Lynesse is the lowly Fourth Daughter of the queen, and always getting in the way. But a demon is terrorizing the land, and now she's an adult (albeit barely) with responsibilities (she tells herself). Although she still gets in the way, she understands that the only way to save her people is to invoke the pact between her family and the Elder sorcerer who has inhabited the local tower for as long as her people have lived here (though none in living memory has approached it). But Elder Nyr isn't a

sorcerer, and he is forbidden to help, and his knowledge of science tells him the threat cannot possibly be a demon... At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

children of time: *Time of Wonder* Robert McCloskey, 1989-06-15 Winner of the Caldecott Medal! For fans of *Blueberries for Sal*, *One Morning in Maine*, and *Make way for Ducklings*. Out on the islands that poke their rocky shores above the waters of Penobscot Bay, you can watch the time of the world go by, from minute to minute, hour to hour, from day to day . . . So begins this classic story of one summer on a Maine island from the author of *One Morning in Maine* and *Blueberries for Sal*. The spell of rain, the gulls and a foggy morning, the excitement of sailing, the quiet of the night, the sudden terror of a hurricane, and, in the end, the peace of the island as the family packs up to leave are shown in poetic language and vibrant, evocative pictures.

children of time: A Deepness in the Sky Vernor Vinge, 2007-04-01 Tor Essentials presents new editions of science fiction and fantasy titles of proven merit and lasting value, each volume introduced by an appropriate literary figure. After thousands of years of searching, humans stand on the verge of first contact with an alien race. Two human groups: the Qeng Ho, a culture of free, innovative traders, and the Emergents, a ruthless society based on the technological enslavement of minds. The group that opens trade with the aliens will reap unimaginable riches. But first, both groups must wait at the aliens' very doorstep, for their strange star to relight and for the alien planet to reawaken, as it does every two hundred and fifteen years... Amidst terrible treachery, the Qeng Ho must fight for their freedom and for the lives of the unsuspecting innocents on the planet below, while the aliens themselves play a role unsuspected by Qeng Ho and Emergents alike. More than just a great science fiction adventure, *A Deepness In the Sky* is a universal drama of courage, self-discovery, and the redemptive power of love. This new Tor Essentials edition of Vernor Vinge's *A Deepness In the Sky* includes an introduction by the Hugo, Nebula, and World Fantasy Award-winning Jo Walton, author of *Among Others*. At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

children of time: *Firewalkers* Adrian Tchaikovsky, 2020-05-12 FIREWALKERS ARE BRAVE FIREWALKERS ARE RESOURCEFUL FIREWALKERS ARE EXPENDABLE The Earth is burning. Nothing can survive at the Anchor; not without water and power. But the ultra-rich, waiting for their ride off the dying Earth? They can buy water. And thanks to their investment, the sun can provide power. But someone has to repair the solar panels when they fail, down in the deserts below. Kids like Mao, and Lupé, and Hotep; kids with brains and guts but no hope. The Firewalkers. "This is a must-read for fans of dystopian and climate change fiction." - Publishers Weekly, Starred Review

children of time: The Little Engine That Could Watty Piper, 2005-09-27 I think I can, I think I can, I think I can... Discover the inspiring story of the Little Blue Engine as she makes her way over the mountain in this beloved classic—the perfect gift to celebrate the special milestones in your life, from graduations to birthdays and more! The kindness and determination of the Little Blue Engine have inspired millions of children around the world since the story was first published in 1930. Cherished by readers for over ninety years, *The Little Engine That Could* is a classic tale of the little engine that, despite her size, triumphantly pulls a train full of wonderful things to the children waiting on the other side of a mountain.

children of time: A Traveller in Time Alison Uttley, 2015-07-02 *A TRAVELLER IN TIME* by Alison Uttley is a much-loved time-slip novel which vividly captures life at the time of Mary, Queen of Scots. Penelope lives in the 20th Century, and it is only when she visits Thackers, a remote, ancient farmhouse, that she finds herself travelling back in time to join the lives of the Babington family, and watching helplessly as tragic events bring danger to her friends and the downfall of their heroine Mary, Queen of Scots, whom they are seeking to rescue.

children of time: In the Orbit of Sirens T. A. Bruno, 2020-10-04 Nightmarish machines have driven humanity into the depths of space. The survivors are forced to adapt to a planet filled with monsters.

children of time: *Children of the Land* Marcelo Hernandez Castillo, 2020-01-28 An NPR Best

Book of the Year A 2020 International Latino Book Award Finalist An Entertainment Weekly, The Millions, and LitHub Most Anticipated Book of the Year This unforgettable memoir from a prize-winning poet about growing up undocumented in the United States recounts the sorrows and joys of a family torn apart by draconian policies and chronicles one young man's attempt to build a future in a nation that denies his existence. "You were not a ghost even though an entire country was scared of you. No one in this story was a ghost. This was not a story." When Marcelo Hernandez Castillo was five years old and his family was preparing to cross the border between Mexico and the United States, he suffered temporary, stress-induced blindness. Castillo regained his vision, but quickly understood that he had to move into a threshold of invisibility before settling in California with his parents and siblings. Thus began a new life of hiding in plain sight and of paying extraordinarily careful attention at all times for fear of being truly seen. Before Castillo was one of the most celebrated poets of a generation, he was a boy who perfected his English in the hopes that he might never seem extraordinary. With beauty, grace, and honesty, Castillo recounts his and his family's encounters with a system that treats them as criminals for seeking safe, ordinary lives. He writes of the Sunday afternoon when he opened the door to an ICE officer who had one hand on his holster, of the hours he spent making a fake social security card so that he could work to support his family, of his father's deportation and the decade that he spent waiting to return to his wife and children only to be denied reentry, and of his mother's heartbreaking decision to leave her children and grandchildren so that she could be reunited with her estranged husband and retire from a life of hard labor. *Children of the Land* distills the trauma of displacement, illuminates the human lives behind the headlines and serves as a stunning meditation on what it means to be a man and a citizen.

children of time: The Handmaid's Tale Margaret Atwood, 2011-09-06 An instant classic and eerily prescient cultural phenomenon, from "the patron saint of feminist dystopian fiction" (New York Times). Now an award-winning Hulu series starring Elizabeth Moss. In this multi-award-winning, bestselling novel, Margaret Atwood has created a stunning Orwellian vision of the near future. This is the story of Offred, one of the unfortunate "Handmaids" under the new social order who have only one purpose: to breed. In Gilead, where women are prohibited from holding jobs, reading, and forming friendships, Offred's persistent memories of life in the "time before" and her will to survive are acts of rebellion. Provocative, startling, prophetic, and with Margaret Atwood's devastating irony, wit, and acute perceptive powers in full force, *The Handmaid's Tale* is at once a mordant satire and a dire warning.

children of time: Children of Time R. Siler, 2018-04-14 The Doctor's Companions. They've been through Dalek Invasions, Android Invasions, Zygon Invasions and Christmas Invasions. They ask questions, get in trouble, get out of trouble, and challenge the Doctor to think and act in new (usually better) ways. *Children of Time: The Companions of Doctor Who* features profiles of companions from all formats of Doctor Who: television, novels, comics and audio dramas. Our contributors include well-known authors, four librarians, two ukelelists, a playwright, podcasters, publishers, students, and the writers and artists behind some of the Doctor's companions.

children of time: Children of Blood and Bone Tomi Adeyemi, 2018-03-06 Zlie Adebola remembers when the soil of Orsha hummed with magic. Burners ignited flames, Tiders beckoned waves, and Zlie's Reaper mother summoned forth souls.

children of time: Shards of Earth Adrian Tchaikovsky, 2021-08-03 The Arthur C. Clarke award-winning author of *Children of Time* brings us an extraordinary space opera about humanity on the brink of extinction, and how one man's discovery will save or destroy us all. The war is over. Its heroes forgotten. Until one chance discovery . . . Idris has neither aged nor slept since they remade him in the war. And one of humanity's heroes now scrapes by on a freelance salvage vessel, to avoid the attention of greater powers. After earth was destroyed, mankind created a fighting elite to save their species, enhanced humans such as Idris. In the silence of space they could communicate, mind-to-mind, with the enemy. Then their alien aggressors, the Architects, simply disappeared—and Idris and his kind became obsolete. Now, fifty years later, Idris and his crew have discovered

something strange abandoned in space. It's clearly the work of the Architects—but are they returning? And if so, why? Hunted by gangsters, cults and governments, Idris and his crew race across the galaxy hunting for answers. For they now possess something of incalculable value, that many would kill to obtain.

children of time: *A World Out of Time* Larry Niven, 1976 Jaybee Corbell awoke after more than 200 years as a corpsicle -- in someone else's body, and under sentence of instant annihilation if he made a wrong move while they were training him for a one-way mission to the stars. But Corbell picked his time and made his own move. Once he was outbound, where the Society that ruled Earth could not reach him, he headed his starship toward the galactic core, where the unimaginable energies of the Universe wrenched the fabric of time and space and promised final escape from his captors. Then he returned to an Earth eons older than the one he'd left...a planet that had had 3,000,000 years to develop perils he had never dreamed of -- perils that became nightmares that he had to escape...somehow!

children of time: *The Recorder* Cathy McCrumb, 2021-11-30

children of time: *My First Book of Time* Claire Llewellyn, 1992 Explains how to tell time and discusses such aspects of time as day and night, days of the week, and months of the year. Includes a fold-out clock face for practice.

children of time: *Of Ants and Dinosaurs* Cixin Liu, 2021 The alliance between ants and dinosaurs created a veritable Age of Wonder! But such magnificent industry comes at a price - a price paid first by Earth's biosphere, and then by all those dependent on it. A satirical fable and ecological warning.

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