

scythe book

scythe book has captivated readers worldwide with its unique blend of dystopian fiction, moral dilemmas, and thought-provoking themes. This comprehensive guide explores every aspect of the acclaimed novel by Neal Shusterman, diving into its plot, characters, underlying messages, and lasting impact on the world of young adult literature. Readers will discover a detailed synopsis, character analyses, insights into the novel's themes, reviews, and background about the author. Whether you are a longtime fan or new to the world of the Scythedom, this article will inform, entertain, and provide valuable context. With a focus on SEO optimization, relevant keywords, and authoritative information, continue reading to uncover all you need to know about the scythe book.

- Overview of Scythe Book
- Main Plot and Setting
- Key Characters and Character Development
- Themes and Symbolism
- Author Background and Writing Style
- Reception and Reviews
- Impact and Legacy
- Frequently Asked Questions

Overview of Scythe Book

The scythe book is a critically acclaimed young adult novel written by Neal Shusterman. First published in 2016, it serves as the opening volume of the Arc of a Scythe trilogy. Set in a future where disease, war, and hunger have been eradicated, humanity's only challenge is population control. This task falls to Scythes, elite individuals entrusted with the responsibility of "gleaning" lives to maintain balance. The story introduces readers to a utopian society overseen by the Thunderhead, an advanced artificial intelligence, and explores the consequences of immortality, morality, and power.

Regarded as an innovative and thought-provoking entry in dystopian fiction, the scythe book has earned praise for its compelling narrative, memorable characters, and exploration of ethical dilemmas. It appeals to a wide audience, including teens, adults, educators, and book clubs, due to its layered storytelling and social relevance. This section provides an essential introduction to the novel's premise, genre, and literary significance.

Main Plot and Setting

Premise and Worldbuilding

The scythe book unfolds in a post-mortal world where humanity has achieved technological perfection. Disease, old age, and hardship are obsolete, thanks to scientific advancements and the omnipresent Thunderhead. However, to prevent overpopulation, a select group known as Scythes is tasked with "gleaning"—permanently ending lives according to strict guidelines. This system raises profound questions about justice, ethics, and the value of life.

Central Narrative Arc

At the heart of the story are two teenagers, Citra Terranova and Rowan Damisch, chosen as apprentices to Scythe Faraday. Their journey through rigorous training exposes them to the moral complexities and political intrigue within the Scythedom. As their apprenticeship progresses, both face difficult choices that test their principles and challenge the corrupt factions vying for power. The plot is driven by suspense, emotional depth, and philosophical inquiry, keeping readers engaged from start to finish.

Setting and Atmosphere

The novel's futuristic setting combines advanced technologies with timeless human struggles. Cities are efficient, citizens are immortal, and the Thunderhead ensures order. The Scythedom itself operates outside the Thunderhead's control, creating a parallel society with its own traditions, hierarchies, and conflicts. Shusterman's vivid descriptions and imaginative worldbuilding immerse readers in a society where the cost of perfection is measured in lives.

Key Characters and Character Development

Citra Terranova

Citra emerges as a principled, intelligent, and determined protagonist. Her initial reluctance to become a Scythe transforms into a deep examination of justice and morality. Throughout the novel, Citra's growth is marked by her empathy, strategic thinking, and unwavering dedication to ethical gleaning practices.

Rowan Damisch

Rowan's character arc is defined by internal conflict, resilience, and the struggle to maintain his humanity in the face of corruption. His experiences within the Scythedom challenge his values and force him to confront difficult truths about power and consequence. Rowan's journey is both compelling and relatable, resonating with readers who appreciate multi-dimensional heroes.

Scythe Faraday, Scythe Curie, and Scythe Goddard

- **Scythe Faraday:** A wise and compassionate mentor who embodies the ideals of the Scythedom. His teachings influence both Citra and Rowan, shaping their beliefs and decisions.

- **Scythe Curie:** Known as the "Grande Dame of Death," Curie represents the nobility and gravity of the Scythe's role. Her guidance provides emotional depth and historical perspective.
- **Scythe Goddard:** A controversial figure who challenges the ethical foundation of gleaning. Goddard's ambition and ruthlessness serve as a catalyst for conflict and moral debate.

Each character contributes to the novel's exploration of personal growth, ethical dilemmas, and the tension between tradition and change.

Themes and Symbolism in Scythe Book

Mortality and Immortality

The scythe book delves into the philosophical implications of a society free from natural death. By examining what it means to live forever, the novel raises questions about the value of life and the necessity of mortality. Scythes symbolize humanity's attempt to impose order on a world without natural endings.

Ethics and Power

Ethical decision-making is central to the story. Citra and Rowan's experiences highlight the conflict between personal values and institutional authority. The Scythedom's rules, rituals, and politics illustrate how power can be wielded responsibly or abused, prompting readers to consider their own moral frameworks.

Social Commentary and Symbolism

- Corruption within the Scythedom reflects broader societal issues.
- The Thunderhead represents the potential and limits of artificial intelligence in governance.
- Gleaning serves as a metaphor for justice, sacrifice, and the consequences of unchecked authority.
- Character names and traditions draw on historical and literary references, enriching the novel's symbolism.

Through these themes, the scythe book encourages readers to reflect on contemporary challenges and the nature of human progress.

Author Background and Writing Style

Neal Shusterman's Literary Profile

Neal Shusterman is an award-winning author renowned for his contributions to young adult and speculative fiction. With a career spanning decades, Shusterman's works often tackle complex social issues, psychological depth, and inventive worldbuilding. The scythe book exemplifies his skill in blending philosophical inquiry with accessible storytelling.

Distinctive Writing Style

Shusterman's prose is both concise and evocative, balancing suspenseful action with introspective moments. He employs alternating perspectives to deepen character development and maintain narrative tension. His use of symbolism, dialogue, and ethical dilemmas creates a richly layered reading experience that appeals to diverse audiences.

By weaving together contemporary relevance and timeless questions, Shusterman ensures the scythe book remains engaging, memorable, and influential.

Reception and Reviews

Critical Acclaim

The scythe book has been widely praised by critics, educators, and literary organizations. It received the Michael L. Printz Honor and featured on numerous best-of-year lists for young adult fiction. Reviewers highlight the novel's originality, ethical depth, and thought-provoking narrative.

Reader Response

- Engaged teens and adults appreciate the relatable characters and suspenseful plot.
- Book clubs and educators utilize the scythe book to spark discussion about morality, governance, and technology.
- Fans of dystopian fiction commend its fresh take on familiar themes.

Positive reviews emphasize the novel's ability to provoke reflection and inspire ongoing conversation, solidifying its reputation as a modern classic.

Impact and Legacy

Influence on Young Adult Literature

Since its release, the scythe book has influenced a new wave of speculative fiction. Its success paved the way for the Arc of a Scythe trilogy and inspired authors to explore ethical dilemmas and futuristic societies in innovative ways.

Adaptations and Cultural Significance

The novel's popularity has led to interest in film and television adaptations, expanding its reach beyond the world of books. The scythe book's exploration of artificial intelligence, immortality, and social justice resonates with contemporary readers, ensuring its continued relevance and impact.

As a thought-provoking and imaginative work, the scythe book remains essential reading for anyone interested in the future of literature and society.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is the main plot of the scythe book?

A: The scythe book follows two teenagers, Citra and Rowan, as they are selected to become apprentices to a Scythe in a world where natural death has been eliminated. Their journey explores moral dilemmas, power struggles, and the responsibilities of those who control life and death.

Q: Who is the author of the scythe book?

A: Neal Shusterman is the author of the scythe book. He is a renowned writer of young adult fiction, known for his imaginative storytelling and exploration of ethical and social issues.

Q: What are the main themes in the scythe book?

A: Major themes include mortality, ethics, power, corruption, and the societal impact of immortality. The novel also touches on artificial intelligence and the value of human life.

Q: Is the scythe book part of a series?

A: Yes, the scythe book is the first installment in the Arc of a Scythe trilogy, followed by "Thunderhead" and "The Toll."

Q: What age group is the scythe book best suited for?

A: While marketed as young adult fiction, the scythe book is suitable for mature teens and adults due to its complex themes and moral questions.

Q: Has the scythe book won any awards?

A: The scythe book received the Michael L. Printz Honor and has been nominated for several other literary awards.

Q: Are there film or TV adaptations planned for the scythe book?

A: There has been interest in adapting the scythe book for film or television, but as of now, no official release has been confirmed.

Q: How does the scythe book address artificial intelligence?

A: The Thunderhead, an advanced AI, governs society in the scythe book, raising questions about technology's role in morality and governance.

Q: What makes the scythe book stand out among dystopian novels?

A: Its unique premise of a utopian world with controlled death, layered character development, and philosophical depth distinguish the scythe book from other dystopian works.

Q: What is the significance of the Scythedom in the book?

A: The Scythedom represents both order and ethical ambiguity, functioning as a self-governing body responsible for population control in a world without natural death.

Scythe Book

Find other PDF articles:

<https://fc1.getfilecloud.com/t5-w-m-e-06/Book?trackid=AHf93-1112&title=joy-luck-club-spark-notes.pdf>

Scythe Book: A Deep Dive into Neal Shusterman's Dystopian Masterpiece

Are you ready to explore a world where death is a job? Where teenagers are chosen to become Scythes, tasked with ending lives in a society that has conquered mortality? Then prepare yourself for a journey into the captivating world of Neal Shusterman's Scythe, the first book in a thrilling dystopian series. This comprehensive guide will delve into the plot, characters, themes, and overall impact of Scythe, providing you with everything you need to appreciate this award-winning young adult novel. We'll examine its compelling narrative, analyze its complex characters, and discuss its

enduring relevance in today's world. Get ready to reap the rewards of understanding this remarkable work of fiction.

H2: A Glimpse into a World Without Death: The Plot of Scythe

The premise of *Scythe* is immediately intriguing. In a future where technology has eradicated disease and aging, death has become a manufactured necessity. To maintain population equilibrium, trained individuals known as Scythes are responsible for gleaning – the act of ending a person's life. This is no simple task, however; it's a position of immense power and responsibility, fraught with ethical dilemmas and moral complexities. The story follows Citra and Rowan, two teenagers chosen to apprentice under a Scythe. They are pitted against each other in a deadly competition, forced to learn the art of gleaning while navigating the treacherous societal landscape they inhabit. The plot unfolds through their experiences, revealing the intricacies of their world and the brutal choices they must make. The suspense builds with each chapter as the reader grapples with the philosophical questions posed by the novel.

H2: Meeting the Characters: Citra, Rowan, and the Intriguing Cast of Scythes

Citra and Rowan, the central protagonists, are remarkably different yet equally compelling. Citra is thoughtful and strategic, while Rowan possesses a more rebellious and unpredictable nature. Their contrasting personalities create a dynamic tension that fuels the narrative. Beyond the apprentices, the book introduces a fascinating array of Scythes, each with their own unique methods and philosophies of gleaning. From the seemingly benevolent but ultimately ruthless Scythe Goddard to the enigmatic and unpredictable Scythe Faraday, these characters add layers of complexity to the story, challenging the reader's perception of good and evil. Each Scythe's gleaning style reflects their individual beliefs and provides insight into the different interpretations of their morally ambiguous role.

H2: Exploring the Themes: Mortality, Choice, and the Nature of Humanity

Scythe is not merely a thrilling adventure; it's a profound exploration of fundamental human questions. The novel tackles the complexities of mortality, forcing the reader to confront their own preconceived notions about death and its significance. The choice between life and death, a power usually relegated to fate or natural processes, is now deliberately manipulated, highlighting the immense responsibility and potential for abuse that comes with such control. Shusterman skillfully weaves in philosophical discussions about free will, the nature of good and evil, and the ethical

considerations surrounding the value of human life. The stark contrast between a world without natural death and the inherent human desire for meaning and purpose forms the heart of the book's enduring appeal.

H3: The Impact of Immortality and its Societal Consequences

The implications of immortality are deeply explored. The novel doesn't paint a utopian picture; instead, it shows how the absence of death leads to its own set of problems, including overpopulation, societal stagnation, and a profound sense of meaninglessness for many. The characters grapple with the existential questions that arise from a world where life stretches on indefinitely, highlighting the importance of finding purpose and meaning in a context devoid of the natural limitations of mortality.

H2: Why Scythe Remains Relevant and Enduring

Scythe's impact goes beyond its captivating narrative. Its exploration of mortality, choice, and the human condition resonates deeply with readers of all ages. In a world increasingly concerned with technological advancements and their potential consequences, Shusterman's novel serves as a cautionary tale, prompting reflection on the ethical implications of our choices. The book's enduring appeal lies in its ability to spark conversation and critical thinking, encouraging readers to confront difficult questions about life, death, and the very nature of humanity.

H2: Conclusion

Scythe is more than just a young adult dystopian novel; it is a thought-provoking and thrilling exploration of life's most fundamental questions. Its compelling characters, intricate plot, and powerful themes make it a must-read for anyone interested in exploring the complexities of mortality and the human condition. The book's lasting impact is a testament to Shusterman's masterful storytelling and his ability to tackle profound themes in a captivating and accessible way. Prepare yourself for a journey that will challenge your assumptions and leave you pondering the meaning of life long after you turn the final page.

FAQs

1. Is Scythe a standalone novel? No, Scythe is the first book in a trilogy, followed by Thunderhead

and The Toll.

2. What age group is *Scythe* appropriate for? While classified as Young Adult fiction, *Scythe* explores mature themes and is suitable for older teenagers and adults.

3. What makes *Scythe* different from other dystopian novels? *Scythe* uniquely focuses on the ethical implications of eliminating death, offering a fresh perspective on common dystopian themes.

4. Are there any graphic depictions of violence in *Scythe*? While the concept of gleaning involves death, the descriptions are not excessively graphic, focusing more on the emotional and philosophical implications.

5. Where can I buy *Scythe*? *Scythe* is available at most major bookstores, both online and in physical locations, as well as through online retailers like Amazon.

scythe book: *Scythe* Neal Shusterman, 2017-11-28 In a world where disease has been eliminated, the only way to die is to be randomly killed ('gleaned') by professional reapers ('scythes'). Two teens must compete with each other to become a scythe--a position neither of them wants. The one who becomes a scythe must kill the one who doesn't--Provided by publisher.

scythe book: *Scythe* Neal Shusterman, 2016-11-22 In a world where disease has been eliminated, the only way to die is to be randomly killed ('gleaned') by professional reapers ('scythes'). Two teens must compete with each other to become a scythe--a position neither of them wants. The one who becomes a scythe must kill the one who doesn't--

scythe book: Thunderhead Neal Shusterman, 2019-06-04 "Intelligent and entertaining." —Kirkus Reviews (starred review) "Even better than the first book." —School Library Journal (starred review) Rowan and Citra take opposite stances on the morality of the Scythedom, putting them at odds, in the chilling sequel to the Printz Honor Book *Scythe* from New York Times bestseller Neal Shusterman, author of the *Unwind* dystology. Humans learn from their mistakes. I cannot. I make no mistakes. The Thunderhead is the perfect ruler of a perfect world, but it has no control over the scythedom. A year has passed since Rowan had gone off grid. Since then, he has become an urban legend, a vigilante snuffing out corrupt scythes in a trial by fire. His story is told in whispers across the continent. As *Scythe* Anastasia, Citra gleans with compassion and openly challenges the ideals of the "new order." But when her life is threatened and her methods questioned, it becomes clear that not everyone is open to the change. Old foes and new enemies converge, and as corruption within the Scythedom spreads, Rowan and Citra begin to lose hope. Will the Thunderhead intervene? Or will it simply watch as this perfect world begins to unravel?

scythe book: The Arc of a Scythe Trilogy (Boxed Set) Neal Shusterman, 2019-11-19 Two teens must learn the "art of killing" in this Printz Honor-winning series from Neal Shusterman, author of the New York Times bestselling *Unwind* dystology. This collectible boxed set includes hardcover editions of: *Scythe* *Thunderhead* *The Toll*

scythe book: The Murderer's Ape Jakob Wegelius, 2017-01-24 This may be the most charming book I've read all year. --The New York Times I don't know when I last read a book with such pure and unalloyed pleasure. --Philip Pullman, internationally bestselling author of the *His Dark Materials* series Winner of the Mildred L. Batchelder award, this is a captivating story about dark truths and heinous crimes as well as unexpected friendships, with detailed black-and-white illustrations throughout. Perfect for fans of Brian Selznick and mystery and detective stories. Sally Jones is not only a loyal friend, she's an extraordinary individual. In overalls or in a maharaja's turban, this unique gorilla moves among humans without speaking but understanding everything. She and the Chief are devoted comrades who operate a cargo boat. A job they are offered pays big bucks, but the deal ends badly, and the Chief is falsely convicted of murder. For Sally Jones this is the start of a

harrowing quest for survival and to clear the Chief's name. Powerful forces are working against her, and they will do anything to protect their secrets.

scythe book: Alice: From Dream to Dream Giulio Macaione, 2018-10-10 Writer/artist Giulio Macaione makes his comics debut in this breathtaking story about family and friendship. Alice can enter and share dreams by sleeping near someone, a power utterly outside her own control. After moving back to Cincinnati, Alice is stuck sharing a bedroom with her brother and worse, sharing his dreams. The bright spot in her life is her best friend, Jamie, but there's more history between their families than Alice realized, and there are secrets buried deep.

scythe book: The Toll Neal Shusterman, 2019-11-05 In the highly anticipated finale to the New York Times bestselling trilogy, dictators, prophets, and tensions rise. In a world that's conquered death, will humanity finally be torn asunder by the immortal beings it created? Citra and Rowan have disappeared. Endura is gone. It seems like nothing stands between Scythe Goddard and absolute dominion over the world scythedom. With the silence of the Thunderhead and the reverberations of the Great Resonance still shaking the earth to its core, the question remains: Is there anyone left who can stop him? The answer lies in the Tone, the Toll, and the Thunder.

scythe book: White Night Ellie Marney, 2018-02-21 In Bo Mitchell's country town, a 'White Night' light-show event has the potential to raise vital funds to save the skate park. And out of town, a girl from a secretive off-the-grid community called Garden of Eden has the potential to change the way Bo sees the world. But are there too many secrets in Eden? As Bo is drawn away from his friends and towards Rory, he gradually comes to believe that Eden may not be utopia after all, and that their group leader's goal to go off the grid may be more permanent - and more dangerous - than anyone could have predicted. A wonderfully compelling novel from the acclaimed author of the Every series. 'Gutsy characters, a cracking plot, and the perfect amount of swoon - everything Ellie Marney does best.' Vikki Wakefield

scythe book: Arc of a Scythe Pack Neal Shusterman, 2019-11 All three titles in the internationally bestselling Arc of a Scythe series: Scythe, Thunderhead and The Toll. Collect each title in the explosive Arc of a Scythe series by New York Times bestseller Neal Shusterman.

scythe book: Gleanings Neal Shusterman, 2023-11-07 The New York Times bestselling Arc of the Scythe series continues with "captivating...thrilling" (School Library Journal) stories that span the timeline. Storylines continue. Origin stories are revealed. And new Scythes emerge! There are still countless tales of the Scythedom to tell. Centuries passed between the Thunderhead cradling humanity and Scythe Goddard trying to turn it upside down. For years, humans lived in a world without hunger, disease, or death with Scythes as the living instruments of population control. Neal Shusterman—along with collaborators David Yoon, Jarrod Shusterman, Sofia Lapuente, Michael H. Payne, Michelle Knowlden, and Joelle Shusterman—returns to the world throughout the timeline of the Arc of a Scythe series. Discover secrets and histories of characters you've followed for three volumes and meet new heroes, new foes, and some figures in between. Gleanings shows just how expansive, terrifying, and thrilling the world that began with the Printz Honor-winning Scythe truly is.

scythe book: Goodbye, Perfect Sara Barnard, 2018-01-30 When I was wild, you were steady . . . Now you are wild - what am I? Eden McKinley knows she can't count on much in this world, but she can depend on Bonnie, her solid, steady, straight-A best friend. So it's a bit of a surprise when Bonnie runs away with the boyfriend Eden knows nothing about five days before the start of their GCSEs. Especially when the police arrive on her doorstep and Eden finds out that the boyfriend is actually their music teacher, Mr Cohn. Sworn to secrecy and bound by loyalty, only Eden knows Bonnie's location, and that's the way it has to stay. There's no way she's betraying her best friend. Not even when she's faced with police questioning, suspicious parents and her own growing doubts. As the days pass and things begin to unravel, Eden is forced to question everything she thought she knew about the world, her best friend and herself. WINNER OF THE BOOKSELLER'S YA BOOK PRIZE 2019

scythe book: Downsiders Neal Shusterman, 2012-02-21 Beneath the sewer grates and

manholes of the city lies a strange and secret world called the Downside. Every Downsider knows that it's forbidden to go Topside, and most fear a collision of the two worlds. But fourteen-year-old Talon is curious about what goes on above ground, and one day he ventures out in search of medicine for his ailing sister. There he meets Lindsay, who is as curious about Talon's world as he is about hers. When Lindsay visits the Downside for the first time, she marvels at the spirit of the Downsidiers, and the way they create works of art from topside trash, like old subway tokens and forgotten earrings. As awed as she is by the Downside, however, she also questions its origins, and when she finds out that this fantastic world is not all it appears to be, she is determined to tell Talon the truth. Then a construction accident threatens to crush Talon's world, and his loyalty is put to the test. Can the truth save the Downside, or will it destroy an entire civilization? Neal Shusterman takes readers on an amazing journey into a place that's only a few steps away, yet beyond their wildest dreams.

scythe book: The Scythe Book David Tresemer, 2021-05-01 For the gardener, farmer, or homeowner, a good scythe is an efficient and enjoyable tool for cutting grasses and weeds and harvesting small grains. Author David Tresemer presents the results of years of research and practical experience so that the reader may learn to use and enjoy the scythe. In an age when most wonder how they can accomplish anything without the aid of electricity or gasoline, *The Scythe Book* shows how a traditional hand tool can often outperform more modern technology. This new edition includes an addendum on the practical use of the scythe by Peter Vido. Beginning with his recollections from boyhood in Slovakia, Vido shares what he has learned from European mowers and scythe-makers during trips to countries where scythes are still routinely used. He also provides detailed guidance on fitting the scythe (blade and snath) to the individual, care and repair of the blade, principles of movement, and much fascinating lore.

scythe book: Roxy Neal Shusterman, Jarrod Shusterman, 2021-11-09 Two siblings get caught up in a wager between two manufactured gods, Roxicodone and Adderall, in this new thriller inspired by the opioid crisis--

scythe book: Dry Neal Shusterman, Jarrod Shusterman, 2019-09-03 "The authors do not hold back." —Booklist (starred review) "The palpable desperation that pervades the plot...feels true, giving it a chilling air of inevitability." —Publishers Weekly (starred review) "The Shustermans challenge readers." —School Library Journal (starred review) "No one does doom like Neal Shusterman." —Kirkus Reviews (starred review) When the California drought escalates to catastrophic proportions, one teen is forced to make life and death decisions for her family in this harrowing story of survival from New York Times bestselling author Neal Shusterman and Jarrod Shusterman. The drought—or the Tap-Out, as everyone calls it—has been going on for a while now. Everyone's lives have become an endless list of don'ts: don't water the lawn, don't fill up your pool, don't take long showers. Until the taps run dry. Suddenly, Alyssa's quiet suburban street spirals into a warzone of desperation; neighbors and families turned against each other on the hunt for water. And when her parents don't return and her life—and the life of her brother—is threatened, Alyssa has to make impossible choices if she's going to survive.

scythe book: The Scythe and the Rabbit Kay Amert, 2012 This book offers offers insightful and informative research about Simon de Colines, one of the greatest typographers and printers of the Renaissance.

scythe book: Highway Bodies Alison Evans, 2019-02-04 Bodies on the TV, explosions, barriers, and people fleeing. No access to social media. And a dad who'll suddenly bite your head off - literally. These teens have to learn a new resilience... Members of a band wield weapons instead of instruments. A pair of siblings find there's only so much you can joke about, when the menace is this strong. And a couple find depth among the chaos. *Highway Bodies* is a unique zombie apocalypse story featuring a range of queer and gender non-conforming teens who have lost their families and friends and can only rely upon each other.

scythe book: This Dreamer Sara Watterson, 2022-05-03 A mortal life is but a mist. When Evie, an immortal Watcher turned reluctant assassin, finds herself captivated by her intended target,

Adan the Dreamer, is it worth the cost to prevent his untimely end?

scythe book: Spinal Catastrophism Thomas Moynihan, 2019-12-03 The historical continuity of spinal catastrophism, traced across multiform encounters between philosophy, psychology, biology, and geology. Drawing on cryptic intimations in the work of J. G. Ballard, Georges Bataille, William Burroughs, André Leroi-Gourhan, Elaine Morgan, and Friedrich Nietzsche, in the late twentieth century Daniel Barker formulated the axioms of spinal catastrophism: If human morphology, upright posture, and the possibility of language are the ramified accidents of natural history, then psychic ailments are ultimately afflictions of the spine, which itself is a scale model of biogenetic trauma, a portable map of the catastrophic events that shaped that atrocity exhibition of evolutionary traumata, the sick orthograde talking mammal. Tracing its provenance through the biological notions of phylogeny and "organic memory" that fueled early psychoanalysis, back into idealism, nature philosophy, and romanticism, and across multiform encounters between philosophy, psychology, biology, and geology, Thomas Moynihan reveals the historical continuity of spinal catastrophism. From psychoanalysis and myth to geology and neuroanatomy, from bioanalysis to chronopathy, from spinal colonies of proto-minds to the retroparasitism of the CNS, from "railway spine" to Elizabeth Taylor's lost gill-slits, this extravagantly comprehensive philosophical adventure uses the spinal cord as a guiding thread to rediscover forgotten pathways in modern thought. Moynihan demonstrates that, far from being a fanciful notion rendered obsolete by advances in biology, spinal catastrophism dramatizes fundamental philosophical problematics of time, identity, continuity, and the transcendental that remain central to any attempt to reconcile human experience with natural history.

scythe book: Scythe Tleppo Nathan Rich, 2018-10-17 Inspirational true story of a boy escaping the clutches of a cult, homelessness, emotional decimation, and rampant drug abuse. The story of surviving on the streets, completely without family, friends or hope. The story of how to overcome against all odds; of will to carry on. Born into Scientology, Nathan resisted indoctrination from the start. Eventually he was sent to the cult's infamously abusive Mace Kingsley Ranch, at age 8. He was sent again to the ranch at age 14, where he was not allowed contact with his family for nearly 3 years. After finally getting away, his family disowned him. He lived for 7 long years homeless and without hope. Drugs, violence and despair plagued his mind until he was finally able to rise out of the gutter, face his past and live in the present. From wild LSD experiences to gangs and past life recall, Nathan bears all in this brutally open memoir.

scythe book: Challenger Deep Neal Shusterman, 2015-04-21 National Book Award * Golden Kite Award Winner * Six Starred Reviews A captivating novel about mental illness that lingers long beyond the last page, Challenger Deep is a heartfelt tour de force by New York Times bestselling author Neal Shusterman. Caden Bosch is on a ship that's headed for the deepest point on Earth: Challenger Deep, the southern part of the Marianas Trench. Caden Bosch is a brilliant high school student whose friends are starting to notice his odd behavior. Caden Bosch is designated the ship's artist in residence to document the journey with images. Caden Bosch pretends to join the school track team but spends his days walking for miles, absorbed by the thoughts in his head. Caden Bosch is split between his allegiance to the captain and the allure of mutiny. Caden Bosch is torn. Challenger Deep is a deeply powerful and personal novel from one of today's most admired writers for teens. Laurie Halse Anderson, award-winning author of *Speak*, calls Challenger Deep a brilliant journey across the dark sea of the mind; frightening, sensitive, and powerful. Simply extraordinary.

scythe book: unlock your storybook heart Amanda Lovelace, ladybookmad, 2022-03-15 "life is not something that can be experienced on a deadline." amanda lovelace, the bestselling & award-winning author of the "women are some kind of magic" poetry series, presents unlock your storybook heart, the third & final installment in her feminist poetry series, "you are your own fairy tale." this is a collection about being so caught up in the fable that is perfectionism that you miss out on your own life. be honest: when was the last time you stopped to take in the everyday enchantment all around you?

scythe book: Big Digger Little Digger Timothy Knapman, 2019-07 A modern day The Little

Engine Who Could - a story about a little digger with a very big heart, perfect for all fans of construction site stories! Little Digger loves to work hard, digging holes all day long. Little digger, little digger, little digger, he hums happily as he digs. But, one day, an especially BIG hole needs to be dug, and so in comes ... BIG DIGGER. Big Digger like to dig down DEEP! he roars, and he begins to dig the biggest hole that anyone on the building site has ever seen... With the arrival of Big Digger, will there still be a place for Little Digger on the building site? A heart-warming read-aloud story about the power of hard work, teamwork and positivity from the author of Follow the Track All the Way Back and award-winning illustrator Daron Parton.

scythe book: This Last Adventure Ryan Dalton, 2022-02-01 When Archie's beloved grandpa is diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, Archie desperately wants to slow the progression of his grandpa's memory loss. Using Grandpa's old journal entries as inspiration, he creates shared role-playing fantasies with epic quests for them to tackle together—allowing Grandpa to live in the present and stay in touch with his fading memories. But as Grandpa's condition gradually worsens, Archie must come to terms with what's happening to his hero. The limits of the fantasies, revelations about Grandpa's past, and a school project about the future force Archie to grapple with what it truly means to live a life worth remembering.

scythe book: Hope Never Dies Andrew Shaffer, 2018-07-10 The New York Times Best Seller [Hope Never Dies is] an escapist fantasy that will likely appeal to liberals pining for the previous administration, longing for the Obama-Biden team to emerge from political retirement as action heroes.—Alexandra Alter, New York Times Vice President Joe Biden and President Barack Obama team up in this high-stakes thriller that combines a mystery worthy of Watson and Holmes with the laugh-out-loud bromantic chemistry of Lethal Weapon's Murtaugh and Riggs. Vice President Joe Biden is fresh out of the Obama White House and feeling adrift when his favorite railroad conductor dies in a suspicious accident, leaving behind an ailing wife and a trail of clues. To unravel the mystery, "Amtrak Joe" re-teams with the only man he's ever fully trusted: the 44th president of the United States. Together they'll plumb the darkest corners of Delaware, traveling from cheap motels to biker bars and beyond, as they uncover the sinister forces advancing America's opioid epidemic. Part noir thriller and part bromance, Hope Never Dies is essentially the first published work of Obama/Biden fiction—and a cathartic read for anyone distressed by the current state of affairs.

scythe book: This Golden State Marit Weisenberg, 2022-03-01 Marit Weisenberg's This Golden State follows a family on the run, a restless teenage daughter hungry for the truth, and the simple DNA test that threatens their carefully crafted world The Winslow family lives by five principles: 1. No one can know your real name. 2. Don't stay in one place too long. 3. If you sense anything is wrong, go immediately to the meeting spot. 4. Keeping our family together is everything. 5. We wish we could tell you who we are, but we can't. Please—do not ask. Poppy doesn't know why her family has been running her whole life, but she does know that there are dire consequences if they're ever caught. Still, her curiosity grows each year, as does her desire for real friends and the chance to build on something, instead of leaving behind school projects, teams, and crushes at a moment's notice. When a move to California exposes a crack in her parents' airtight planning, Poppy realizes how fragile her world is. Determined to find out the truth, she mails in a home DNA test. Just as she starts to settle into her new life and even begins opening up to a boy in her math class, the forgotten test results bring her crashing back to reality. Unraveling the shocking truth of her parents' real identities, Poppy realizes that the DNA test has undone decades of careful work to keep her family anonymous—and the past is dangerously close to catching up to them. Determined to protect her family but desperate for more, Poppy must ask: How much of herself does she owe her family? And is it a betrayal to find her own place in the world?

scythe book: The Scythians Barry Cunliffe, 2019-09-26 Brilliant horsemen and great fighters, the Scythians were nomadic horsemen who ranged wide across the grasslands of the Asian steppe from the Altai mountains in the east to the Great Hungarian Plain in the first millennium BC. Their steppe homeland bordered on a number of sedentary states to the south - the Chinese, the Persians and the Greeks - and there were, inevitably, numerous interactions between the nomads and their

neighbours. The Scythians fought the Persians on a number of occasions, in one battle killing their king and on another occasion driving the invading army of Darius the Great from the steppe. Relations with the Greeks around the shores of the Black Sea were rather different - both communities benefiting from trading with each other. This led to the development of a brilliant art style, often depicting scenes from Scythian mythology and everyday life. It is from the writings of Greeks like the historian Herodotus that we learn of Scythian life: their beliefs, their burial practices, their love of fighting, and their ambivalent attitudes to gender. It is a world that is also brilliantly illuminated by the rich material culture recovered from Scythian burials, from the graves of kings on the Pontic steppe, with their elaborate gold work and vividly coloured fabrics, to the frozen tombs of the Altai mountains, where all the organic material - wooden carvings, carpets, saddles and even tattooed human bodies - is amazingly well preserved. Barry Cunliffe here marshals this vast array of evidence - both archaeological and textual - in a masterful reconstruction of the lost world of the Scythians, allowing them to emerge in all their considerable vigour and splendour for the first time in over two millennia.

scythe book: *Scythe and the City* Christian Henriot, 2016-05-18 The issue of death has loomed large in Chinese cities in the modern era. Throughout the Republican period, Shanghai swallowed up lives by the thousands. Exposed bodies strewn around in public spaces were a threat to social order as well as to public health. In a place where every group had its own beliefs and set of death and funeral practices, how did they adapt to a modern, urbanized environment? How did the interactions of social organizations and state authorities manage these new ways of thinking and acting? Recent historiography has almost completely ignored the ways in which death created such immense social change in China. Now, *Scythe and the City* corrects this problem. Christian Henriot's pioneering and original study of Shanghai between 1865 and 1965 offers new insights into this crucial aspect of modern society in a global commercial hub and guides readers through this tumultuous era that radically redefined the Chinese relationship with death.

scythe book: The Everlost Neal Shusterman, 2009-08-01 Nick and Allie don't survive the crash, and now they are in limbo, stuck halfway between life and death, in a netherworld known as Everlost. Everlost is home to those who didn't make it to their final destination: A magical yet dangerous place filled with shadows where lost souls run wild. Shocked and frightened, Nick and Allie aren't ready to rest in peace just yet. They want their lives back. Desperate for a way out, their search takes them deep into the uncharted regions of Everlost. But the longer they stay, the more they forget about their past lives. And with all memory of home fading fast and an unknown evil lurking in the shadows, Nick and Allie may never escape this strange, terrible world. In this imaginative, supernatural thriller, Neal Shusterman explores questions of life, death, and what just might lie in between.

scythe book: *The Hiddenseek* Nate Cernosek, 2021-08-24 In this spine-chilling middle grade debut--perfect for fans of *Small Spaces* and the *Goosebumps* series--a brother and sister are transported to a cursed world based on the game hide-and-seek, where the only way to get home is to win. You hid. But you were not found. You thought you were playing a harmless game. You were wrong. After Holly and Hector Thorn are left behind during a simple game of hide-and-seek, they find themselves transported to a gloomy, magical world seemingly trapped in time--the Hiddenseek. There, It, a witch with the ability to transform into a raven and a wolf, stalks children day and night, turning any she can lay hands on into statues, frozen forever in their final moments of terror. Together with the other lost children they encounter, Holly and Hector will have to unravel the mysterious origins of the Hiddenseek and find a way to put a stop to the curse once and for all, before they get stuck there forever . . . Because in this twisted game of hide-and-seek, they are playing for their lives.

scythe book: Social Queue Kay Kerr, 2021-09-28 A funny and insightful novel about an autistic teen who realises she's been missing all the signs when it comes to her romantic life.

scythe book: Unwind Neal Shusterman, 2009-08-01 In a society where unwanted teens are salvaged for their body parts, three runaways fight the system that would 'unwind' them.? Perfect

for fans of THE HUNGER GAMES. Unwinding: the process by which a child is both terminated and yet kept alive. Unwinding is now a common, and accepted, practice in society. Connor's parents want to be rid of him because he's a troublemaker. Risa has no parents and is being unwound to cut orphanage costs. Lev's unwinding has been planned since his birth as part of his family's strict religion. Brought together by chance, and kept together by desperation, these unlikely companions make a harrowing cross-country journey, knowing their lives hang in the balance. If they can survive until their 18th birthday, they can't be harmed - but when every piece of them, from their hands to their hearts, is wanted by a world gone mad, eighteen seems far, far away... Gripping, brilliantly imagined futuristic thriller... The issues raised could not be more provocative - the sanctity of life, the meaning of being human - while the delivery could hardly be more engrossing or better aimed to teens. Publishers Weekly, starred review A thought-provoking, well-paced read that will appeal widely School Library Journal, starred review A breathless tale turning pages for teenage boys, as it challenges not just where life begins and ends, but what it means to be alive. Educ8 magazine a powerful, shocking, and intelligent novel... It's wonderful, wonderful stuff. The Bookbag This is the kind of rare book that makes the hairs on your neck rise up. It is written with a sense of drama that should get it instantly snapped up for film. The Times Also by Neal Shusterman: Everlost Everwild Everfound UnStrung Unwholly Unsouled Undivided

scythe book: Not the Girls You're Looking For Aminah Mae Safi, 2018-06-19 Lulu Saad doesn't need your advice, thank you very much. She's got her three best friends and nothing can stop her from conquering the known world. Sure, for half a minute she thought she'd nearly drowned a cute guy at a party, but he was totally faking it. And fine, yes, she caused a scene during Ramadan. It's all under control. Ish. Except maybe this time she's done a little more damage than she realizes. And if Lulu can't find her way out of this mess soon, she'll have to do more than repair friendships, family alliances, and wet clothing. She'll have to go looking for herself. Debut author Aminah Mae Safi's honest and smart novel is about how easy it can be to hurt those around you even if —especially if—you love them.

scythe book: **Michael Rosen's Sticky McStickstick: The Friend Who Helped Me Walk Again** Michael Rosen, 2022-08 After being admitted to hospital in 2020 with coronavirus, Michael Rosen had to learn to walk again. With the support of doctors and nurses and a walking stick he names Sticky McStickstick, he manages to embark on the slow steps to recovery. This moving picture book from the former Children's Laureate, with illustrations from Tony Ross, tells a story of perseverance and hope, and is a testament to the importance of overcoming fear and learning to accept help.

scythe book: **School of Deaths** Christopher Mannino, 2015-04-16 Thirteen-year-old Suzie Sarnio always believed the Grim Reaper was a fairy tale image of a skeleton with a scythe. Now, forced to enter the College of Deaths, she finds herself training to bring souls from the Living World to the Hereafter. The task is demanding enough, but as the only female in the all-male College, she quickly becomes a target. Attacked by both classmates and strangers, Suzie is alone in a world where even her teachers want her to fail. Scythes hungry for souls, Deaths who enslave a race of mysterious magicians, and echoes of an ancient war with Dragons. Caught in the middle of a plot to overthrow the World of Deaths, Suzie must uncover the reason she's been brought there: the first female Death in a million years.

scythe book: **A Rush of Wings** Laura E. Weymouth, 2021-11-16 For fans of Serpent & Dove and A House of Salt and Sorrows comes a "transportive and beautiful" (Chloe Gong, New York Times bestselling author of These Violent Delights) romantic fantasy about an untrained witch who must unlock her power to free her brothers from a terrible curse and save her home. Rowenna Winthrop has always known there's magic within her. But though she hears voices on the wind and possesses unusual talents, her mother Mairead believes Rowenna lacks discipline, and refuses to teach her the craft that keeps their Scottish village safe. And when Mairead dies a sinister death, it seems Rowenna's only chance to grow into her power has died with her. Then, on a fateful, storm-tossed night, Rowenna rescues a handsome stranger named Gawen from a shipwreck, and her mother

miraculously returns from the dead. Or so it appears. The resurrected Mairead is nothing like the old one. To hide her new monstrous nature, she turns Rowenna's brothers and Gawen into swans and robs Rowenna of her voice. Forced to flee, Rowenna travels to the city of Inverness to find a way to break the curse. But monsters take many forms, and in Inverness, Rowenna is soon caught in a web of strangers who want to use her raw magic for their own gain. If she wishes to save herself and the people she loves most, Rowenna will have to take her fate into her own hands and unlock the power that has evaded her for so long.

scythe book: *UnWholly* Neal Shusterman, 2013-10-15 Thanks to Connor, Lev, and Risa, and their high-profile revolt at Happy Jack Harvest Camp, people can no longer turn a blind eye to unwinding. Ridding society of troublesome teens and, in the same stroke, providing much-needed tissues for transplant might be convenient, but its morality has finally been brought into question. However, unwinding has become big business, and there are powerful political and corporate interests that want to see it not only continue, but expand, allowing the unwinding of prisoners and the impoverished. Cam is a teen who does not exist. He is made entirely out of the parts of other unwinds. Cam, a 21st century Frankenstein, struggles with a search for identity and meaning, as well as the concept of his own soul, if indeed a rewind being can have one. When a sadistic bounty hunter who takes trophies from the unwinds he captures starts to pursue Connor, Risa and Lev, Cam finds his fate inextricably bound with theirs--

scythe book: *The Skinjacker Trilogy* Neal Shusterman, 2011-06-14 Not every child who dies goes on to the afterlife. Some are caught halfway between life and death, in a sort of limbo known as Everlost: a shadow of the living world, filled with all the things and places that no longer exist. It's a magical, yet dangerous place where bands of lost kids run wild and anyone who stands in the same place too long sinks to the center of the Earth. Allie and Nick don't survive the car crash, and end up in Everlost, where coins are more valuable than anyone knows, fortune cookies tell the truth, monsters are real, and the queen of lost souls lives in a once-beloved tower. Nick and Allie have to learn to survive in a world with different rules, and figure out who they can trust--and who they must oppose at all costs. At stake is nothing less than the fate of Everlost and the living world they have left behind. In this gripping trilogy, Neal Shusterman explores questions of life, death, and what just might lie in between.

scythe book: Courage to Dream: Tales of Hope in the Holocaust Neal Shusterman, 2023-10-31 Sydney Taylor Honor Award winner National Jewish Book Award finalist Neal Shusterman, Margaret A. Edwards Award Winner National Book Award winner Neal Shusterman and acclaimed illustrator Andres Vera Martinez present a graphic novel exploring the Holocaust through surreal visions and a textured canvas of heroism and hope. *Courage to Dream* plunges readers into the Holocaust - one of the greatest atrocities in human history - delving into the core of what it means to face the extinction of everything and everyone you hold dear. This gripping, multifaceted tapestry is woven from Jewish folklore and cultural history. Five interlocking narratives explore one common story - the tradition of resistance and uplift. Neal Shusterman and Andres Vera Martinez are internationally renowned creators who have collaborated on a masterwork that encourages the compassionate, bold reaching for a dream.

scythe book: UnStrung Neal Shusterman, Michelle Knowlden, 2012-07-24 How did Lev Calder move from an unwillingly escaped Tithe to a clapper? In this revealing short story, Neal Shusterman opens a window on Lev's adventures between the time he left CyFi and showed up at the Graveyard. Pulling elements from Neal Shusterman's critically acclaimed *Unwind* and giving hints about what is to come in the riveting sequel, *UnWholly*, this short story is not to be missed.

Back to Home: <https://fc1.getfilecloud.com>