

Acknowledgments

The essays and articles in this book originally appeared in the following publications, sometimes in earlier versions and under previous titles.

“The Embarrassments of Science Fiction” appeared in *Science Fiction in Dimension*, edited by Peter Nicholls (Harper & Row, 1976).

Foundation published “Ideas: A Popular Misconception,” “A Different Different World,” “UFOs and the Origins of Christianity,” “Science Fiction as a Church,” and “A Closer Look at *Close Encounters*.”

“Mythology and Science Fiction” appeared as the introduction to *New Constellations*, edited by Thomas M. Disch (HarperCollins, 1976).

“Big Ideas and Dead-End Thrills: The Further Embarrassments of Science Fiction” appeared in the *Atlantic Monthly* 269, no. 2 (1992).

The *Los Angeles Times* published “Poe’s Appalling Life” and “Time, Space, the Limitlessness of the Imagination—and Abs to Die For.”

“Luncheon in the Sepulcher: Poe and the Gothic Tradition” appeared as the introduction to *Strangeness*, edited by Thomas M. Disch and Charles Naylor (Avon, 1983).

“*Brave New World* Revisited Once Again” appeared in *Omni*.

The *New York Times Book Review* published “A Tableful of Twinkies” under the title “Our Wild Future in Space,” “The Champion of Cyberpunk: On Two Works by William Gibson,” “Queen Victoria’s Computers,” and “Measures of Hanging.”

The *Times Literary Supplement* published “Sic, Sic, Sic,” “A Bus Trip to Heaven,” “Jokes across the Generation Gap,” “SF: Guides to the Ghetto,” and “The Secret Code Language of Bright Kids.”

“The Doldrums of Space” appeared in *Inquiry*.

“Isaac Asimov (1920–1992)” appeared in *Entertainment Weekly*.

“The King and His Minions: Thoughts of a *Twilight Zone* Reviewer” and “The Feast of St. Bradbury” appeared in *Twilight Zone*.

Fantasy and Science Fiction published “Talking with Jesus,” “The Labor Day Group,” and “1979: Fluff and Fizzles.”

The *Washington Post Book World* published “Crowley’s Poetry,” “Wolfe’s New Sun,” and “The Day of the Living Dead.”

“Dick’s First Novel” appeared as the introduction to *Solar Lottery*, by Philip K. Dick (Gregg Press, 1976).

“In the Mold of 1964” appeared as the afterword to *The Penultimate Truth*, by Philip K. Dick (Bluejay, 1984).

The *Nation* published “The Village Alien” (244, no. 10); “The Road to Heaven: Science Fiction and the Militarization of Space” (242, no. 18); “Speaker Moonbeam: Newt’s Futurist Brain Trust” (260, no. 8); and “Primal Hooting” (247, no. 14).

The *Hudson Review* published “The Evidence of Things Not Seen” and “Double Talk, Double Dutch, Dutch Chocolate.”

“The Fairy Tale Kingdom of Baghdad” appeared in the *Chicago Tribune* (February 3, 1991).

“Over the River and Through the Wood” appeared in the *Wall Street Journal* (January 15, 1995).