Subject: The Best Science Fiction Show
Posted by Manualblock on Sun, 16 Apr 2006 11:48:01 GMT
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I vote for the four part TV adaptation of Ray Bradbury's "Martian Chronicles". After that; "The Prisoner" with Patrick McGhoohan.

Subject: Re: The Best Science Fiction Show
Posted by MWG on Sun, 16 Apr 2006 15:18:32 GMT
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My vote goes to Science Fiction Theatre with it's host Truman Bradly. It goes back a few years before The Twilight Zone which was also excellent. I got hooked on Sci-Fi in the 4th grade and still enjoy all the classics from the 40-50's. I wish I had a dollar for every Ace double novel I read in back then Some of my favorite authors are A.E. Van Vogt, Issac Asimov, Robert Heinlein, Andre Norton, Fredric Brown, Pohl Anderson, Fredrick Pohl & his wife C. M. Kornbluth, Robert Sheckley, Alfred Bester and many more that CRS wont let me recall

Subject: Re: The Best Science Fiction Show
Posted by Leland Crooks on Sun, 16 Apr 2006 16:07:18 GMT
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I've never seen Science Fiction Theatre. Too young. (Hard to believe). Babylon 5 was the best written sci fi I'd seen on TV until the current Battlestar Galactica. It's a great show. Most fun, Dr. Who.

Subject: Addendum : The Best Science Fiction Show
Posted by Leland Crooks on Sun, 16 Apr 2006 16:12:04 GMT
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Favorite author? Impossible. I've read too much, from the all the classics to some of the new horrible crap. Lots of retreads out there now. Not a lot that's really a new idea.

Subject: Re: The Best Science Fiction Show

Posted by lon on Sun, 16 Apr 2006 17:23:13 GMT
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SF is about all I do these days: been catching up on series I missedafter turning off the tv years ago.I much prefer seeing this stuff on dvd-- no commercials.What I'd like to see in this thread is some fresh meat:things I haven't encountered. All that said, I have never waivered from saying thatForbidden Planet is the best science film ever made.I probably had a crush on Ann Fancis when she played HoneyWest too. Forbidden Planet is in the 'seen more than once or twice'category. Also in that category is Dark City. I have a particular fascination with the Steam Punksubgenre of SF: Victorian settings with fantastic machineryala' Jules Vern and Mary Shelly. There's a variety of filmincluded in this category. I like the remake of the Time Machine better than the George Pal one. The Leaugueof Extraordinary Gentlemen was ruined by the cartoonishending. As to The Prisoner-- it's simply in a class by itself.

Subject: Re: Addendum : The Best Science Fiction Show
Posted by MWG on Sun, 16 Apr 2006 17:45:11 GMT
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If you like SF with humor then check out Fredric Brown (Nightmares & Geezenstacks) he wrote some pretty funny yet telling stories. Robert Sheckley is another. Read his Citizen in Space. Alfred Bester's The Stars my Destination is the best SF book written in my opinion. His Demolished Man isn't bad either. Next would be the Weapon Shop series by A.E. Van Vogt (Weapon Shops of Isher and Weapon Makers of Ishar) Also his Slan is a classic. These are are old books. Some written in the 30's, 40's & some in the 50's. I watched Babylon 5 because of the funny characters in it. The best movies I've seen were The Day the Earth Stood Still, Forbidden Planet and Invaders from Mars. Both Invaders & Invasion of the body Snatchers (original version) scared the tar out of me as I was around 10 or so when they came out.I don't read much of the new stuff since it's pretty poor IMHO.

Subject: Re: Addendum : Science Fiction Theatre
Posted by MWG on Sun, 16 Apr 2006 17:49:00 GMT
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The show always started with a demonstration of some new development in science that was usually related in some way to the story line. The show would be boring to today's audience.Rod Serling's Twilight Zone was usually heavy on irony and always had a message for those who saw it.

Subject: Re: Addendum : The Best Science Fiction Show
Posted by Leland Crooks on Sun, 16 Apr 2006 21:44:17 GMT
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I've read all of Van Vogt. Slan sticks out in my mind,the Weapons books less so. Hangning my head I have not read The Stars My Destination, but I have read about everything else Bester wrote. Harlan Ellison's stuff always gave me chills. In new stuff try out David Brin's Uplift Wars, the first 2 or 3 books, Greg Baer's Darwin's Radio, and Orson Scott Card's Ender Wiggins Books. Enders Game is brilliant, as is Speaker for the Dead. The Day the Earth Stood Still is the best. The best science fiction is where the science is merely a vehicle to hang a good story on. That movie embodies that.

Subject: Re: The Best Science Fiction Show
Posted by Leland Crooks on Sun, 16 Apr 2006 21:49:30 GMT
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Not a show, but "The Difference Engine" by William Gibson is in a victorian setting much like Verne. Good read.

Subject: Re: The Best Science Fiction Show
Posted by lon on Mon, 17 Apr 2006 00:25:15 GMT
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Yes, I read it and always hoped it would get some film attention.Sterling and Gibson wrote it separately online and used a specialdictionary/search and replace to use Victorian phrases in the place of modern English.For all things Steam Punk, check out the Wiki.And for reading, if you don't know Michael Moorcock's Captain Bastable stories, those are good as well.

Subject: Re: Addendum : The Best Science Fiction Show
Posted by MWG on Mon, 17 Apr 2006 00:34:40 GMT
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I've read Ender's game and didn't know it was a series. Thanks for the tip, I'll look the rest of the series up.Also I forgot a couple of others that have humor which are the Grey Mouser series by Fritz Lieber and The High Crusade by Poul Anderson. The High Crusade is one of my favorite stories.When I was in the 4th grade I brought home Heinlein's Red Planet from the school library to read. I didn't even know what science fiction was but I went back and read everything by him I

could find. Then I discovered a Andre Norton a lady who wrote the Ross Murdock/Time Traders series.

Subject: Re: The Best Science Fiction Show
Posted by Leland Crooks on Mon, 17 Apr 2006 10:22:23 GMT
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I can't believe Moorcock's written something I haven't read Do they also fall under the Eternal Champion umbrella?Elric is my all time favorite S&S hero. Thanks, I'll check it out.

Subject: Re: The Best Science Fiction Show
Posted by colinhester on Mon, 17 Apr 2006 14:41:00 GMT
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That's a new Moorcock to me as well.....Colin

Subject: Re: The Best Science Fiction Show
Posted by Alona Parham on Mon, 17 Apr 2006 16:59:54 GMT
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You have my reply on your previous post below.

Subject: Re: The Best Science Fiction Show
Posted by lon on Mon, 17 Apr 2006 17:07:01 GMT
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Actually my all-time favorite Moorcock is a trilogycalled The Dancers At The End Of Time.If the Eternal Champion has something to do with Jerry Cornelius... no.I haven't read s-f in a long time. But the current bookshelveslook like they have an interesting character: the female NavvyCaptain which also puts me in mind of Steam Punk. I don't know the author, nor can I think of it.

Subject: Re: The Best Science Fiction Show
Posted by lon on Mon, 17 Apr 2006 17:22:15 GMT
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?I mentioned several. Which is this one that nobody knows?Bastable? Bastable comes from the period and an alternatetimelime of Mrs. Amelia Underwood. The Bastable stories were in the old Ace style dime novels around 1976... short novels,not really stories. He's an airship captain in the alternatetimeline where nuclear technology was never invented.I used to make a steady diet of this stuff: Phil Farmer, Sturgeon,and the ace of pulps Ron Goulart. I still listen to the oldtime radio stories when they're on like "X Minus One." And thereis some current news about Norman Corwin -- like a retrospective--but I lost track of that.

Subject: Re: The Best Science Fiction Show
Posted by Wayne Parham on Mon, 17 Apr 2006 17:43:56 GMT
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I dug the Firefly series; Too bad it didn't run very long.

Subject: Re: Addendum : The Best Science Fiction Show
Posted by Shane on Wed, 19 Apr 2006 19:00:39 GMT
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Bester's stuff is indeed excellent. My favorite series is Robert Holdstock's Mythago Wood (4 books that I know of).