

## Press Release:

# How do [Science Fiction and Psychology](#) Complement One Another in the World of Literature?

*Gavin Miller investigates how psychology itself has used the rhetoric of science fiction.*

**(24<sup>th</sup> July 2019, Liverpool University Press):** In science fiction books, the psychologist often appears as the herald of utopia or dystopia. Literary studies have used psychoanalytic theories to interpret science fiction, and psychology has employed science fiction as an educational medium. [Science Fiction and Psychology](#) is the first book that goes beyond such incidental observations by using the history of psychology to enrich our understanding of science fiction.

Rather than dwelling on psychoanalytic readings, [Science Fiction and Psychology](#) merges with the history of psychology to offer firm textual readings that explore five key psychological schools: evolutionary psychology, psychoanalysis, behaviourism, existential-humanism, and cognitivism.

Miller's investigation includes new perspectives on genre landmarks such as *The Body Snatchers* by Jack Finney, and rediscovers forgotten classics like Vincent McHugh's *I Am Thinking of My Darling*. By evaluating these works, readers can explore the numerous functions of psychological discourses in science fiction, which range from the birth of modern psychology in the late nineteenth century to the ascendance of neuroscience in the late twentieth century.

Ultimately, [Science Fiction and Psychology](#) shows that without the use of science fiction, psychology itself might not have been able to teach, to secure legitimacy as a discipline, and to comment on the present.

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[Science Fiction and Psychology](#) is available for pre-order and is due to be published on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020 via the [Liverpool University Press website](#).