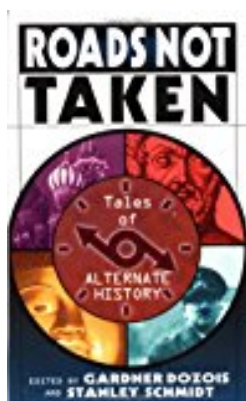


[PDF] Roads Not Taken: Tales Of Alternate History

Gardner Dozois, Stanley Schmidt - pdf download free book



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Description:

Although none of the stories in this anthology take place in the future, they qualify as science fiction (or perhaps speculative fiction would be more accurate) because at the heart of each one lies the question "What if...?" Only in this case, instead of a question like "What if we had faster-than-light travel?" all the questions revolve around alternative historical events. What if the Chinese had colonized America before the Europeans? What if Joseph McCarthy had become president? As in science fiction, the question is the seed from which the author extrapolates a future and a narrative.

The stories in this anthology cover a wide range of other pasts and presents. Highlights include "Must and Shall" by , the modern master of alternative history. His fictional present stems from an alternative Civil War, one that the North still won, but in a very different manner. presents a timeline in which World War II is settled by an automobile race, and looks at a modern-day world in which the Roman Empire never fell. This anthology will definitely appeal to those who enjoy the curious mental frisson that comes from exploring worlds that are in many ways similar to our own, but also quite different. --*Brooks Peck*

From the Publisher The thing about Alternate History is that not enough people know it exists. Sure, they may have read the occasional Alternate History novel or story, but they probably didn't know the genre has a name (Alternate History!) or even that it is a genre! So we at Del Rey decided to do a book of short stories as a kind of introduction to the genre. Fortunately, the editors of Isaac Asimov's Magazine and Analog magazine had already had the idea for an anthology made up of stories they originally published in their two magazines. Perfect. After all, there's nothing I like better than having someone else do my work for me!

--Shelly Shapiro, Executive Editor

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