

Re: The Future, Space Travel, and Immortality

Source: <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/General/comp.theory/2004-08/0737.html>

From: Joel Olson (jeolson_at_webzone.net)

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Can anyone think of books that has mankind being virtually immortal in the far future? The only books I can think of are *_The Man Who Awoke_* by Laurence Manning, and *_Time Enough for Love_* by RAH(which I never read in it's entirety).

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James Blish's Cities in Flight novels.

<http://www.technovelgy.com/ct/content.asp?Bnum=136>

A short list:

<http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/tg/listmania/list-browse/-/358QFCUOHD62C/002-2651447-5366404>

Also relevant:

Philosophical Models of Immortality in Science Fiction

by John Martin Fischer and Ruth Curl

...

Our discussion will use as its base the analytical framework presented in Bernard Williams's influential discussion of immortality, *The Makropulos Case: Reflections on the Tedium of Immortality*.⁹ This simple and natural framework involves two criteria to make immortality truly appealing: first, there must be a future in which an individual can recognize himself or herself—someone genuinely identical to the individual, not just qualitatively similar or with several identical properties. Second, the future life of the individual must be appealing [in some way] to that individual; it cannot involve constant torture, hard labor, tedium, or the like. These conditions can be dubbed the identity condition and the attractiveness condition. With these, we can construct a taxonomy of different models of immortality [see table I]. ...

<http://www.poems2u.com/writings/immortal.html>