

Consult the Cat

by Shannon Roy, Continuing Education Coordinator

The Cat saw Scifan.com recommended in a passing e-mail and had a great time with it.

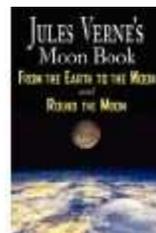


The Cat is feeling old. She has a lot of favorites in fantasy and science fiction, but most of them are collectibles, if not classics. She has decided to make it her holiday project to sample new titles in both fields. She has said nothing about finishing them. She is a cat, after all, and science fiction and fantasy are matters of very personal taste. The Cat has no intention of being caught in a war that goes on for seven books.



Scifan.com is a lot of fun if you like to play around with science fiction or fantasy, or both. It is a good site to know about even if neither is your thing and you have no intention of adopting them. It collects an incredible volume of titles, authors and series and the site is organized in an interesting and useful way. It is even accompanied by a chatty blog.

There are New and Upcoming Releases, an incredible list of themes that goes on and on, a Classics page that is divided between All-time Classics and Award Winners, a page on Series and Writers, and even Yearly Releases tells you what was released in each calendar year. Since titles are linked to Amazon and other sellers, it is usually possible to reach reviews. The one thing you might need to know is that titles should be put in without the initial article. Otherwise, you might wonder if the site's creators had completely lost it.



It might be fun to look reasonably intelligent in front of the originals, free spirits, futurists, nerds and just plain nuts who bathe in these genres. It would be even more fun to simply drop them in and watch them slowly disappear like the Cheshire Cat.

Unless your interests are completely and entirely elsewhere, it is easy to get sucked in and find yourself happily following thread after thread. After re-visiting 50 lifetime favorites, the Cat began to feel, if not young, at least ageless. Imaginary worlds will do that for you.

The Cat would be absolutely delighted to have anyone share their favorites in either science fiction or fantasy for her holiday delectation. Such sharing readers would certainly deserve a purr from the

Cat.

