

Introduction

Shadows of Dystopian Nightmares

Oriana Palusci

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Abstract

Since the interwar era of the twentieth century (1920s and 30s), illustrations and moving images have been an essential element of the dystopian imagination.

The birth and development of popular science fiction – the younger sister of the utopian/dystopian tradition – gave a strong impulse to graphic representations of a menacing and out of joint future world. The so-called *pulp magazines* (starting from Hugo Gernsback's *Amazing Stories* in 1926) relied on usually rather naive white-and-black illustrations and a glamorous cover.....