The authors show us that science fiction can not only give us visions of the future but can help us design a better future as well. - Brian David Johnson, Futurist and Director, Future Casting and Experience Research, Intel Corporation.

It has been both revealing and refreshing to see a book that, for the first time, so deeply explores the contrasts, connections, and influences from the realm of fantasy to the real. In the end, however, this book felt a little bit too much like a laundry list of how SciFi has treated various categories of 'fantastic' UX, covering topics like volumetric displays and natural input. There are so many astounding science fiction books out there that this has been one of the hardest lists for me to put together. I have added and culled but finally I have a list of the most important 15 Science Fiction Books of all time. I realise that not everyone will be satisfied with this list so please use the comments to add the books that I couldn’t due to space and time. In no particular order…

Considered by many to be one of the greatest science fiction novels of all time, this book coined the term ‘Time Machine’ which is almost exclusively used to refer to any device that allows humans to move through time. The book’s main character is an amateur inventor who lives in London. He is never identified, instead being referred to simply as ‘The Time Traveller’. A FREE 9-page ESL Lesson Listening plan on Science Fiction. A graded article, two online quizzes, a printable worksheet and a 60-second mp3 listening on this topic.

Science fiction is one of my favourite genres of books and movies. I like the kind of science fiction that shows what the future might look like on Earth. Science fiction movies like Star Wars are OK but they are full of strange creatures and things we’ll never see. I much prefer movies that are on Earth that show all of the inventions of the future. Robot movies are good. I can see how that will come true. I think people like science fiction because it is like a glimpse into the future. Many of the things that were in science movies from many years ago are true today. Even simple things like I started with a book called Science Fiction Prototyping: Designing the Future with Science Fiction. It was recommended to me by a senior executive at the firm I worked for at the time, as the most important book he could recommend for innovation, and my curiosity was piqued. It describes a loose process of using the common elements of sci-fi stories to conceive and test the implications of new technologies. Just as storytelling mirrors human experience, SF prototyping uses fiction to explore the potential experience of new technologies. One of my favorite futurists, Thomas Frey, uses a proces