

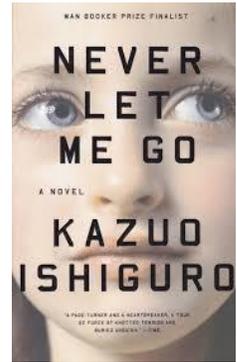
Sci Fi Book Clubs

NEVER LET ME GO by Kazuo Ishiguro [free PDF download](#)

As children, Kathy, Ruth, and Tommy were students at Hailsham, an exclusive boarding school secluded in the English countryside. It was a place of mercurial cliques and mysterious rules, where teachers were constantly reminding their charges of how special they were.

Now, years later, Kathy is a young woman. Ruth and Tommy have reentered her life. And for the first time she is beginning to look back at their shared past and understand just what it is that makes them special—and how that gift will shape the rest of their time together.

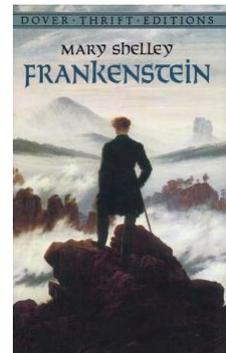
I'd tell you more about how exactly this book involves clones, but it'd give too much away.



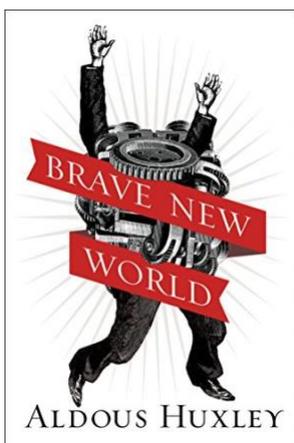
FRANKENSTEIN by Mary Shelley or try [free PDF download](#)

Frankenstein is an old classic about a scientist who creates a monster and the awful events he unintentionally causes. Victor Frankenstein is a hard-working young man at university who discovers how to give life to an inanimate body and uses his knowledge to create a man-monster. He believes his discovery will lead to further scientific advances but when he succeeds in bringing his creation to life he is filled with loathing.

I enjoyed this book, which ultimately questions what it is to be human. Every book that has been written about artificial intelligence since Frankenstein owes something to Mary Shelley. I found the relationship between monster and creator compelling and fascinating.



BRAVE NEW WORLD by Aldous Huxley [free PDF download](#)



Children are genetically programmed in the womb and sent through indoctrination programs, preparing them for lives in predetermined castes. It's a utopian society that maintains its peace by removing the humanity of its members, and only one man is brave enough to vocally challenge the status quo.

Both Brave New World and 1984 saw dystopian futures, but Huxley seems to have gotten much of it right (though Orwell did nail the surveillance state).

According to social critic Neil Postman:

“What Orwell feared were those who would ban books. What Huxley feared was that there would be no reason to ban a book, for there would be no one who wanted to read one. Orwell feared those who would deprive us of information. Huxley feared those who would give us so much that we would be reduced to passivity and egotism... Orwell feared we would become a captive

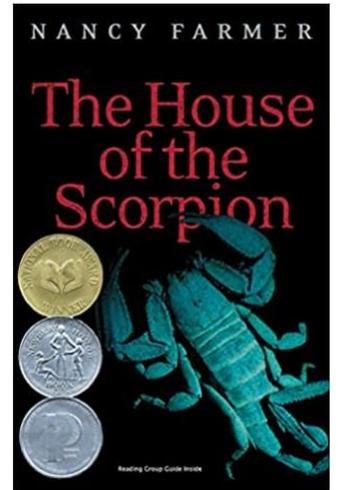
culture. Huxley feared we would become a trivial culture, preoccupied with some equivalent of the feelies, the orgy porgy, and the centrifugal bumblepuppy.”

HOUSE of THE SCORPION by Nancy Farmer [free PDFdownload](#)

Matteo Alacrán was not born; he was harvested.

His DNA came from El Patrón, lord of a country called Opium--a strip of poppy fields lying between the United States and what was once called Mexico. Matt's first cell split and divided inside a petri dish. Then he was placed in the womb of a cow, where he continued the miraculous journey from embryo to fetus to baby. He is a boy now, but most consider him a monster--except for El Patrón. El Patrón loves Matt as he loves himself, because Matt is himself.

As Matt struggles to understand his existence, he is threatened by a sinister cast of characters, including El Patrón's power-hungry family, and he is surrounded by a dangerous army of bodyguards. Escape is the only chance Matt has to survive. But escape from the Alacrán Estate is no guarantee of freedom, because Matt is marked by his difference in ways he doesn't even suspect.



JURASSIC PARK by Michael Crichton [free PDF download](#) or [PDF Jurassic Park-](#)

Like Frankenstein, Jurassic Park explores the unintended consequences of biological tinkering.

I'm going to assume you know the story, and instead tell you how Michael Crichton realized "there is no pressing need to create a dinosaur," except perhaps for entertainment. Thus, the idea of an amusement park was born.

