

# Ultimate Encyclopedia of Science Fiction the De by David Pringle (1997-10-03)

*David Pringle*

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**David Pringle : Ultimate Encyclopedia of Science Fiction the De by David Pringle (1997-10-03)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Ultimate Encyclopedia of Science Fiction the De by David Pringle (1997-10-03):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. David Pringle RulesBy Thomas J. LandryDavid Pringles "Ultimate Guide" is my bible to great sci-fi literature so its only fitting he wrote the encyclopedia as well. this guy will not steer you wrong. I just wish he published more often....4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. The "Other" Science Fiction EncyclopediaBy Greg HughesThis is an excellent reference book for science fiction enthusiasts, as well as the uninitiated. This encyclopedia is very similar to John Clute's "SF: The Illustrated Encylclopedia" (1995), but not quite as packed with information. (I bought David Pringle's version first. I found John Clute's version two years later.) I think this book gives a more detailed account of film and TV than John Clute's one, but less about the works of the writers and the social/political issues that influenced them.Like John Clute's book, we get an informed, thorough description of science fiction's beginnings, which go back quite a few centuries, as well as an overview of the various sub-categories that fall within the overall genre (space opera, disasters, alternative histories, time travel, nuclear war, etc). A list of the most memorable books within each category is also mentioned.Seven decades of science fiction cinema are covered (up to 1995), along with television shows, many that are well-known, some a bit more obscure. Biographies of writers and film makers are included. These are understandably brief, due to the limited amount of space within the book's 300 pages. But to compensate for this we get a list of famous heroes and villains,

including Alex from "A Clockwork Orange", Batman, Spiderman, Superman, Dan Dare and the Mekon. Don't forget the Daleks. David Pringle's book has plenty of illustrations and photographs with witty captions, an exhaustive list of reading material to go through and a useful glossary. For anyone new to science fiction, this book is a very good place to start. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Not Free SF ReaderBy averageIt is interesting to compare the differences, particularly when they are talking about early SF, for example, between the Clute encyclopedia and this one. This is also worth a look, but it is much more focused on video, in general, but does give an author list with bios, and a 'heroes/villains/characters' list, which is fun, indeed.