

eyes turned skyward alternate history

****Eyes Turned Skyward Alternate History: Imagining a World Rewritten by the Stars****

Eyes turned skyward alternate history invites us to peer beyond the familiar timeline of human civilization and imagine a world where our ambitions, discoveries, and destinies were radically altered by the heavens above. Alternate history, also known as speculative history, explores "what if" scenarios that challenge the accepted flow of events. When we combine this with the concept of humanity's gaze fixed on the skies—be it the stars, planets, or mysterious cosmic phenomena—the results are as captivating as they are thought-provoking.

In this article, we'll explore how an alternate history shaped by early or intensified interest in space exploration, astronomy, and cosmic events might have transformed technology, culture, politics, and even philosophy. From ancient civilizations decoding celestial messages to futuristic societies that evolved under different cosmic influences, the narrative possibilities are endless. Let's dive into this fascinating crossroads where history meets the cosmos.

The Origins of Skyward Gazing: An Alternate Past

Humanity has always been fascinated by the sky. From ancient stone circles aligned with solstices to the mythology of constellations, the heavens have inspired awe and curiosity. But what if this fascination had taken a drastically different turn?

Ancient Astronomers as World-Changers

In many alternate history scenarios, the pivotal moment occurs when a civilization's astronomical knowledge surpasses what we currently know. Imagine if the ancient Babylonians, Egyptians, or

Mayans developed precise spacefaring technologies based on their celestial observations. This shift could have:

- Accelerated technological development centuries ahead of schedule.
- Changed the power dynamics of empires as space technology became the ultimate tool for dominance.
- Altered religious and philosophical beliefs, centering them around cosmic understanding rather than terrestrial or divine matters.

The idea of ancient astronauts or lost civilizations with advanced star knowledge often finds its roots in such speculative history. While mainstream scholarship remains skeptical, these narratives fuel creative explorations of "eyes turned skyward alternate history."

The Renaissance of Celestial Curiosity

Fast forward to the Renaissance period, a time of rediscovery of classical knowledge and scientific revolution. What if Copernicus, Galileo, and Kepler had access to more advanced knowledge or instruments that allowed for early space travel or colonization?

The butterfly effect in this timeline might look like:

- Early colonies on the Moon or Mars by the 17th century.
- A shift in global exploration priorities from terrestrial lands to celestial bodies.
- Political alliances and conflicts centered around control of space resources.

This alternate Renaissance would not just be about art and science but about humanity beginning its cosmic journey much earlier.

Technological Advances in an Alternate Skyward History

Any alternate history focusing on humanity's eyes turned skyward would naturally entail unique technological trajectories.

Space Travel and Communication Technologies

In our timeline, human spaceflight began in the 20th century. But what if breakthroughs had come centuries earlier? Advanced propulsion methods, such as nuclear or antimatter engines, might have been developed in the 18th or 19th centuries, leading to:

- Interplanetary trade networks.
- Early warning systems for cosmic hazards like solar flares or asteroid impacts.
- Sophisticated communication arrays using quantum entanglement or laser-based messaging.

These technologies would have reshaped daily life, commerce, and warfare, blending terrestrial and extraterrestrial realities.

Impact on Earth-Based Science and Industry

The focus on space would have profound effects on terrestrial industries. Mining asteroids for rare elements could alleviate resource scarcity on Earth, influencing global economies. Scientific disciplines like astrophysics, exobiology, and planetary geology would dominate academia and research funding.

Additionally, environmental science might flourish differently. Perhaps the urgency to protect Earth would be amplified by seeing firsthand the fragility of our planet from orbit or other worlds.

Cultural and Societal Shifts with Eyes Turned Skyward

A society that prioritizes the sky naturally develops distinct cultural norms, values, and worldview.

Religion and Philosophy in a Cosmic Context

Religious doctrines often intertwine with humanity's understanding of the cosmos. An alternate history where space exploration is commonplace might see:

- New spiritual movements centered on the cosmos, perhaps recognizing multiple inhabited worlds.
- Philosophical questions about humanity's place in a universe teeming with life.
- Ethical debates on colonizing other planets and interacting with extraterrestrial intelligence.

These shifts would ripple through art, literature, and social behavior, fostering a culture that sees itself as part of a vast cosmic tapestry.

Art, Literature, and Popular Culture

Cultural expressions would naturally reflect skyward aspirations. Imagine art movements inspired by alien landscapes or the visual spectacle of nebulae and galaxies. Literature might explore alternative histories where humanity's destiny is intertwined with spacefaring adventures, philosophical introspection, or cosmic mysteries.

Popular culture could celebrate space pioneers as mythic heroes, and festivals might coincide with celestial events rather than seasonal cycles. Even architecture could be influenced, incorporating designs that symbolize or align with cosmic phenomena.

Political and Geopolitical Dimensions of a Skyward Alternate History

The exploration and colonization of space would inevitably create new arenas for political power and conflict.

Space Colonies and Governance

Establishing colonies beyond Earth raises questions about governance, sovereignty, and rights.

Alternate histories might imagine early space colonies forming independent nations or federations, leading to:

- New political entities with distinct identities.
- Conflicts or alliances shaped by distance, resource competition, and cultural divergence.
- Innovations in law, such as space treaties or interplanetary constitutions.

The balance of power on Earth could shift dramatically, especially if certain nations or groups dominate space technology.

Space as a Theater of Conflict or Cooperation

Just as the seas became battlegrounds and trade routes, space could become a contested domain.

Alternate history scenarios often explore:

- Space militarization and wars fought beyond Earth's atmosphere.
- Collaborative efforts to explore or protect against cosmic threats like asteroids or alien invasions.
- The role of international institutions in managing space resources and technologies.

These dynamics would shape not just political relations but also global security and economic systems.

Speculative Scenarios: Imagining Specific Alternate Histories

To better grasp the richness of eyes turned skyward alternate history, here are some intriguing speculative scenarios:

1. **The Celestial Empire:** An ancient Chinese dynasty that masters rocketry and space travel during the Ming era, establishing colonies on the Moon and Mars centuries before the modern era.
2. **The Renaissance Astronauts:** European explorers in the 1500s who, instead of crossing oceans, venture into space with advanced navigation tools, reshaping the Age of Discovery into a cosmic exploration age.
3. **The Cosmic Cold War:** A 20th-century conflict where superpowers extend their rivalry to the Moon and beyond, with space stations and colonies as strategic assets, leading to new arms races and diplomatic crises.
4. **The Interstellar Renaissance:** A future where human culture blossoms through contact with extraterrestrial civilizations, causing revolutions in science, art, and philosophy.

Each scenario is a playground for imagination but also a way to reflect on our real-world relationship with the cosmos.

Why Alternate Histories with a Skyward Focus Captivate Us

These narratives resonate deeply because they tap into fundamental human desires: exploration, understanding, and transcendence. Looking up at the stars has always sparked wonder—a reminder that our story might be just one chapter in a much grander cosmic tale.

Exploring alternate histories where our eyes never left the sky challenges us to reconsider what might have been, what could be, and what it means to be human in a universe full of possibilities. It pushes the boundaries of creativity while grounding us in the power of history and science.

Whether you're a history buff, science enthusiast, or lover of speculative fiction, the notion of eyes turned skyward alternate history offers a fascinating lens through which to view our past, present, and future.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the central theme of 'Eyes Turned Skyward' in alternate history?

The central theme of 'Eyes Turned Skyward' in alternate history explores humanity's altered trajectory in space exploration and technological development due to different historical events.

How does alternate history shape the narrative of 'Eyes Turned Skyward'?

Alternate history reshapes the narrative by imagining key historical moments diverging, leading to unique advancements or setbacks in space travel and societal evolution.

What are some key historical divergences depicted in 'Eyes Turned Skyward' alternate history?

Key divergences include alternate outcomes of the Space Race, different political alliances, and technological breakthroughs occurring earlier or later than in actual history.

How does 'Eyes Turned Skyward' address the impact of space exploration on society in an alternate timeline?

It examines how accelerated or delayed space exploration influences cultural, political, and economic aspects of society, highlighting changes in global cooperation and priorities.

Are real historical figures portrayed differently in 'Eyes Turned Skyward' alternate history?

Yes, many historical figures are depicted with altered roles or decisions, reflecting the changed circumstances and their impact on space and technological progress.

What role does technology play in the alternate history of 'Eyes Turned Skyward'?

Technology serves as a pivotal element, showcasing how different historical choices lead to varying advancements or stagnations in aerospace engineering and related fields.

Does 'Eyes Turned Skyward' explore alternative political landscapes in its alternate history?

Yes, it often features reimagined political alliances, rivalries, and conflicts that influence humanity's approach to space exploration and technological development.

How does the alternate history in 'Eyes Turned Skyward' affect humanity's relationship with space?

The alternate history alters humanity's ambitions, challenges, and achievements in space, potentially changing colonization efforts, space missions, and public perception.

What genres does 'Eyes Turned Skyward' intersect with in its alternate history storytelling?

It blends science fiction, speculative fiction, historical fiction, and sometimes political thriller elements to create a rich alternate history narrative.

Why is 'Eyes Turned Skyward' significant in the context of alternate history literature?

It is significant because it offers a thought-provoking exploration of how small changes in history could dramatically reshape humanity's destiny in space and technology, encouraging reflection on our real-world choices.

Additional Resources

****Eyes Turned Skyward Alternate History: Exploring a World Reimagined****

Eyes turned skyward alternate history presents a fascinating lens through which to examine humanity's relationship with space, technology, and the broader cosmos. This speculative approach reimagines pivotal moments in history where, had different choices or circumstances prevailed, human civilization might have prioritized the heavens far earlier or in radically different ways. By investigating these alternate timelines, historians, writers, and futurists gain valuable insights into the interplay between cultural ambition, technological innovation, and geopolitical dynamics.

In this article, we delve into the concept of eyes turned skyward alternate history, analyzing key divergences where humanity's gaze shifted upward. We explore the implications for scientific development, international relations, and societal transformation. The discussion incorporates relevant alternate history scenarios, technological forecasts, and the cultural resonance of space exploration as a catalyst for global change.

Understanding the Premise: What Constitutes Eyes Turned Skyward Alternate History?

Eyes turned skyward alternate history is a subgenre of alternate history focusing specifically on divergent developments in humanity's engagement with outer space. Unlike broader speculative histories that might revolve around wars, political regimes, or economic shifts, this niche zeroes in on moments when the trajectory of space exploration—and humanity's cosmic perspective—could have taken a different path.

For instance, consider a world where the Space Race between the United States and the Soviet Union began decades earlier, or a scenario where early 20th-century rocketry breakthroughs accelerated orbital travel by the 1930s. Such divergences open avenues for reimagining not only technological timelines but also social priorities, educational emphases, and even philosophical outlooks toward the universe.

Key Historical Divergences in Space-Oriented Alternate Histories

Several pivotal historical junctures serve as fertile ground for alternate history narratives emphasizing eyes turned skyward themes:

- **The Early Rocketry Revolution:** What if pioneers like Robert Goddard or Konstantin Tsiolkovsky

had received robust governmental support in the 1910s and 1920s? Accelerated rocketry research could have led to earlier spaceflight achievements.

- **World War II and Technological Spin-offs:** In many alternate histories, the war catalyzed innovations in jet propulsion and missile technology. A scenario where spaceflight became a strategic military goal during the war could have transformed post-war geopolitics.
- **The Cold War Space Race:** The well-documented competition between the USSR and the USA is ripe for alternate history exploration. What if the Soviet Union had successfully landed on the Moon first? Or if China had emerged as the dominant space power in the 1960s?
- **Private Sector Involvement:** In many eyes turned skyward alternate histories, commercial spaceflight and private investment emerge decades earlier, reshaping economic models and global cooperation.

These points of divergence shape the contours of alternate timelines, producing fascinating variants where humanity's relationship with the sky—and beyond—is fundamentally altered.

Technological and Cultural Impacts of Alternate Space Histories

Exploring alternate histories centered on eyes turned skyward offers a unique perspective on how technological advancement correlates with cultural shifts. When societies prioritize space exploration, they tend to experience ripple effects across education, industry, and international cooperation.

Accelerated Innovation and Its Consequences

In timelines where space technology developed earlier or more rapidly, the consequences are multifaceted:

- **Scientific Advancements:** Earlier space missions could have expedited discoveries in materials science, telecommunications, and environmental monitoring. The development of satellite technology in the 1950s, for example, revolutionized weather forecasting and global communication.
- **Economic Opportunities:** A thriving space economy might have emerged sooner, fostering industries in mining (e.g., asteroid resources), manufacturing in low gravity, and space tourism.
- **Geopolitical Dynamics:** Nations leading in space technology often gain strategic advantages. Alternate histories might depict shifting alliances or conflicts centered on control of orbital platforms or lunar bases.

However, accelerated space development is not without drawbacks. Increased militarization of space could heighten tensions, while rapid technological changes might exacerbate inequalities between nations or social groups.

Cultural Resonance and Public Imagination

The collective imagination is deeply influenced by space exploration milestones. An alternate history where eyes turned skyward earlier could see:

- **Education Reforms:** STEM education might be emphasized globally much earlier, inspiring generations to pursue careers in aerospace, astrophysics, and related fields.
- **Artistic and Literary Movements:** Space themes could dominate cultural expressions—from literature and film to visual arts—shaping societal values and aspirations.
- **Philosophical Shifts:** Earlier cosmic awareness might foster new worldviews, emphasizing planetary stewardship and humanity's place within a larger universe.

Such cultural effects reinforce the idea that eyes turned skyward alternate history is not merely about technology but about how humanity sees itself and its destiny.

Comparative Cases: Real History Versus Alternate Scenarios

To better grasp the significance of eyes turned skyward alternate history, it helps to compare real-world developments with speculative alternatives.

The Actual Space Race (1957–1975)

The Space Race began with the Soviet launch of Sputnik in 1957, followed by a sequence of milestones including Yuri Gagarin's orbit and the Apollo Moon landings. This competition was fueled by Cold War rivalry, resulting in rapid technological innovation and a surge in public interest.

Alternate Scenario: A 1930s Space Race

Imagine if the United States and Germany had initiated a space race during the 1930s, spurred by

breakthroughs in rocketry. This earlier competition could have resulted in:

- Moon landings occurring before World War II.
- Space stations functioning as military outposts during the war.
- Post-war alliances shaped by space-faring capabilities rather than nuclear arsenals.

Such a scenario would drastically shift the 20th century's political and technological landscape.

Alternate Scenario: A Unified Global Space Effort in the 1960s

Another compelling alternate history envisions a world where geopolitical tensions gave way to cooperation, resulting in a unified international space program. This could have:

- Accelerated scientific progress through pooled resources.
- Reduced duplicative costs and competition.
- Fostered a stronger sense of global identity.

The trade-offs include potential bureaucratic stagnation or political conflicts within the coalition, but the overall trajectory might emphasize collaborative exploration over rivalry.

Modern Reflections and the Future of Eyes Turned Skyward

Today's renewed interest in space exploration—driven by governmental agencies like NASA, ESA, CNSA, and private companies such as SpaceX and Blue Origin—echoes themes from eyes turned skyward alternate history. The current era might be seen as a convergence of multiple alternate history pathways, where technology, economics, and culture align toward a more spacefaring humanity.

Contemporary Drivers of Space Engagement

- **Technological Feasibility:** Advances in reusable rockets, miniaturized satellites, and AI have lowered barriers to space access.
- **Economic Incentives:** Space mining, satellite internet constellations, and tourism present lucrative opportunities.
- **Geopolitical Competition:** Renewed rivalry among global powers fosters investment and innovation.
- **Scientific Curiosity:** Missions to Mars, asteroid sampling, and deep space probes push the boundaries of knowledge.

These factors create a present-day environment reminiscent of alternate histories where eyes turned skyward much earlier, suggesting that humanity is on the cusp of significant cosmic engagement.

Implications for Future Alternate History Narratives

As real-world space exploration accelerates, alternate history scenarios may evolve to incorporate the outcomes of current missions. Writers and analysts might explore futures where:

- Permanent lunar or Martian colonies reshape human civilization.
- Interstellar travel becomes viable, triggering new epochs of exploration.
- Space-based governance structures emerge, redefining sovereignty.

These narratives offer rich terrain for examining not only technological possibilities but also ethical, social, and political dimensions of humanity's cosmic future.

In sum, eyes turned skyward alternate history provides a compelling framework to analyze how shifts in humanity's focus toward space could have transformed—and might yet transform—our world. By examining both historical milestones and speculative divergences, we glean insights into the complex forces that shape technological progress and cultural identity. This exploration underscores space not merely as a frontier of exploration but as a mirror reflecting humanity's aspirations, fears, and potential.

Eyes Turned Skyward Alternate History

eyes turned skyward alternate history: *Reclaiming Mni Sota* Colin Mustful, 2023-10-10 Two cultures met in Minnesota—one striving to maintain its homeland and traditions, another trying to create a life of freedom, prosperity, and abundance. Samuel Copeland was just a teenager in 1859 when he and his family left Vermont for the promise of a new life in Minnesota. But life is harder and more dangerous than he expected. Devastated by the loss of his father at the hands of Indians and seeking to protect his brother, Samuel joins the Union army believing he'd be safe on the frontier.

WaabiskiMakwa was still a boy in 1850 when his father perished at Sandy Lake because of the negligence of U.S. government officials. Seeing his way of life crumbling around him, WaabiskiMakwa leaves his home to mourn his father and seek a new way, one that includes his lost-love, Agnes. Seeking their own solutions, neither Waabi or Samuel could see the collision course their paths had been set upon by a world in conflict. War was in their future and it was inevitable. But when war breaks out, and their cultures collide, so do their individual paths. Though they can't stop the war, maybe they can help each other. Fueled by years of mistreatment and seeing the opportunity provided by the War with the South, Dakota spokesman Little Crow and Ojibwe leader Bagone-giizhig, join forces in an effort to reclaim their Native lands. Spurred by early victories over Fort Ridgley and New Ulm, the Dakota-Ojibwe Alliance heads north to Fort Snelling, the beacon of American strength in the region. Once thought impenetrable, the fort and its small group of volunteer militia fights to hang on when a new enemy arrives from the West. In *Reclaiming Mni Sota*, the true and lasting results of history are challenged. Acting as individuals, striving to protect ourselves and our families, it's impossible to understand our role and impact in the much larger march of time. The United States is an abundant, beautiful land filled with wealth and opportunity, but its history is scarred by inequity and loss. What if the defeated became the victors? What would that mean for the world today and how would that illuminate the wrongs of the past?

eyes turned skyward alternate history: Second Front Alexander M. Grace, 2014-03-25 What would have happened if Churchill's Mediterranean strategy was overruled? This novel of an alternate D-Day explores this fascinating scenario. One of the great arguments of World War II took place among Allied military leaders over when and where to launch a second front against Germany in Europe. Stalin, holding on by his teeth in Russia, urged a major invasion from the west as soon as possible. The Americans, led by Marshall and Wedemeyer, argued likewise. It was Churchill who got his way, however, with his Mediterranean strategy, including a campaign on the Italian peninsula, which he mistakenly called the "soft underbelly of Europe." This realistic, fact-based work posits what would have happened had Churchill been overruled, and that rather than invading North Africa in the fall of 1942, then Sicily and Italy, the Allies had hit the coast of southern France instead. The key element that enables the alternative scenario is the cooperation of Vichy, which was negotiated at the time but refused. If the Allies had promised sufficient force to support the French, however, the entire southern coastline of France would have been undefended against a surprise invasion. In this book, once the Allied armies are ashore, Germans stream toward the front, albeit through a gauntlet of Maquis, Allied paratroopers, and airpower. Meantime the Allied forces push up the Rhône Valley and titanic armored clashes take place near Lyons. Already in desperate straits at Stalingrad, where they had committed their air and armored reserves, the Germans had also yet to switch to a full total-war economy, with tanks like the Panther and Tiger not yet deployed. This fascinating alternative history comes close to informing us exactly what might have happened had D-Day in Europe come as early as some had wished.

eyes turned skyward alternate history: Queen'S Man: Beyond the Corridor AnnaMarieAlt, 2016-08-08 The constant threat of assassination stalks Queen Rejeena of Kriiscon. Her cousin, Ishtabarra, strives to slay her to claim the queenship sending killers to slice the queens throat in her tent. Rejeena escapes death by a hairs breadth saved by Aarvan, her queens man and slave. Ishtabarra, angered and frustrated by his interference, places a price on Aarvans head. Anyone can collect the bounty. Avarice and hostile forces abound back way groups, loose men, wander women. Assuredly, some will seek the reward and notoriety perhaps the queens own guards? Rejeena and Aarvan will each traverse personal corridors. The queen must transcend generations of ingrained bigotry such as men are working slaves, good only for procreation. He struggles to surmount the physical agony and mental misery of slave status. Aarvan declares that Ishtabarra will attack again through the deadly LaSheenas Corridor, the next challenge on their trek to Queens Council. Rejeena and her guard captain believe the feat impossible. As they enter the corridor with scant guard protection, will the outlaws try again? Can the queen emerge alive? To survive and remain together, Rejeena and Aarvan must not only battle outside forces determined to destroy them but demolish the

barriers that separate them.

eyes turned skyward alternate history: *Great Lakes TPA* , 2007

eyes turned skyward alternate history: *Reading in These Times* Tat-siong Benny Liew, Fernando F. Segovia, 2024-03-22 In this follow-up to *They Were All Together in One Place?* (2009) and *Reading Biblical Texts Together* (2022), biblical scholars from different racial/ethnic minoritized communities move beyond defining and pursuing cross-cultural interpretation to investigating how spatial-geographical and temporal-historical locations affect the purposes and practices of minoritized biblical criticism today. Through an examination of a range of contemporary issues from HIV/AIDS to US immigration policy, contributors establish that how and why they engage the Bible are the result of the intersection of social and cultural factors. Contributors Cheryl B. Anderson, Hector Avalos†, Jacqueline M. Hidalgo, Tat-siong Benny Liew, Yii-Jan Lin, Vanessa Lovelace, Francisco Lozada Jr., Roger S. Nam, Aliou Cissé Niang, Hugh R. Page Jr., Jean-Pierre Ruiz, Fernando F. Segovia, Abraham Smith, and Vincent L. Wimbush demonstrate that interpretations carry broader implications for society and that scholars have ethical and political responsibilities to their communities and to the world.

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Vincent B. Sherry, 2015 This volume explores the idea of decadence through readings of major modernist writers such as Ezra Pound and T. S. Eliot.

eyes turned skyward alternate history: *Routledge Companion to Sports History* S. W. Pope, John Nauright, 2009-12-17 The field of sports history is no longer a fledgling area of study. There is a great vitality in the field and it has matured dramatically over the past decade. Reflecting changes to traditional approaches, sport historians need now to engage with contemporary debates about history, to be encouraged to position themselves and their methodologies in relation to current epistemological issues, and to promote the importance of reflecting on the literary or poetic dimensions of producing history. These contemporary developments, along with a wealth of international research from a range of theoretical perspectives, provide the backdrop to the new Routledge Companion to Sports History. This book provides a comprehensive guide to the international field of sports history as it has developed as an academic area of study. Readers are guided through the development of the field across a range of thematic and geographical contexts and are introduced to the latest cutting edge approaches within the field. Including contributions from many of the world's leading sports historians, the Routledge Companion to Sports History is the most important single volume for researchers and students in, and entering, the sports history field. It is an essential guide to contemporary research themes, to new ways of doing sports history, and to the theoretical and methodological foundations of this most fascinating of subjects.

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eyes turned skyward alternate history: **Foucault, Freedom and Sovereignty** Sergei Prozorov, 2016-04-15 Against the prevailing interpretations which disqualify a Foucauldian approach from the discourse of freedom, this study offers a novel concept of political freedom and posits freedom as the primary axiological motif of Foucault's writing. Based on a new interpretation

of the relation of Foucault's approach to the problematic of sovereignty, Sergei Prozorov both reconstructs ontology of freedom in Foucault's textual corpus and outlines the modalities of its practice in the contemporary terrain of global governance. The book critically engages with the acclaimed post-Foucauldian theories of Giorgio Agamben and Antonio Negri, thereby restoring the controversial notion of the sovereign subject to the critical discourse on global politics. As a study in political thought, this book will be suitable for students and scholars interested in the problematic of political freedom, philosophy and global governance.

eyes turned skyward alternate history: [Queer Times, Black Futures](#) Kara Keeling, 2019-04-16
Finalist, 2019 Lambda Literary Award in LGBTQ Studies A profound intellectual engagement with Afrofuturism and the philosophical questions of space and time [Queer Times, Black Futures](#) considers the promises and pitfalls of imagination, technology, futurity, and liberation as they have persisted in and through racial capitalism. Kara Keeling explores how the speculative fictions of cinema, music, and literature that center Black existence provide scenarios wherein we might imagine alternative worlds, queer and otherwise. In doing so, Keeling offers a sustained meditation on contemporary investments in futurity, speculation, and technology, paying particular attention to their significance to queer and Black freedom. Keeling reads selected works, such as Sun Ra's 1972 film *Space is the Place* and the 2005 film *The Aggressives*, to juxtapose the Afrofuturist tradition of speculative imagination with the similar "speculations" of corporate and financial institutions. In connecting a queer, cinematic reordering of time with the new possibilities technology offers, Keeling thinks with and through a vibrant conception of the imagination as a gateway to queer times and Black futures, and the previously unimagined spaces that they can conjure.

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