Doctor Who and Philosophy - Bigger on the Inside

Not only is Doctor Who the longest-running science fiction TV show in history, but it has also been translated into numerous languages, broadcast around the world, and referred to as the “way of the future” by some British politicians. The Classic Doctor Who series built up a loyal American cult following, with regular conventions and other activities. The new series, relaunched in 2005, has emerged from culthood into mass awareness, with a steadily growing viewership and major sales of DVDs. The current series, featuring the Eleventh Doctor, Matt Smith, is breaking all earlier records, in both the UK and the US. Doctor Who is a continuing story about the adventures of a mysterious alien known as “the Doctor,” a traveller of both time and space whose spacecraft is the TARDIS (Time and Relative Dimensions in Space), which from the outside looks like a British police telephone box of the 1950s. The TARDIS is “bigger on the inside than on the outside”—actually the interior is immense. The Doctor looks human, but has two hearts, and a knowledge of all languages in the universe. Periodically, when the show changes the leading actor, the Doctor “regenerates.”

Rethinking Gender in Popular Culture in the 21st Century - Marlboro Men and California Gurls

This book explores popular culture representations of gender, offering a rich and accessible discussion of masculinities and femininities in 21st-century popular media. It brings together contributors from various European countries to investigate the workings of gender in contemporary pop culture products in a brave, original, and rigorous way. This volume is both an academic proposal and an exercise of commitment to a serious analysis of some of the media that influence us most in our everyday lives. Representation matters, and the position we take as viewers or consumers during reception matters even more.

More Doctor Who and Philosophy

More Doctor Who and Philosophy is a completely new collection of chapters, additional to Doctor Who and Philosophy (2010) by the same editors. Since that first Doctor Who and Philosophy, much has happened in the Whoniverse: a new and controversial regeneration of the Doctor, multiple new companions, a few creepy new enemies of both the Doctor and planet Earth. And the show’s fiftieth anniversary! We’ve learned some astounding new things from the ever-developing story: that the Doctor’s number one rule is to lie, that he claims to have forgotten his role in the mass extermination of the Time Lords and the Daleks, that the Daleks do have a concept of divine beauty (divine hatred, of course), and that Daleks may become insane (didn’t we assume they already were?) Oh, and the cult of the Doctor keeps growing worldwide, with more cultish fans in the US, more and bigger Who conventions, more viewers of all ages, and more serious treatment by scholars from many disciplines. New questions have been raised and new questioners have come along, so there are plenty of new topics for philosophical scrutiny. Is the “impossible” girl really impossible? Is there anything wrong with an
inter-species lesbian relationship (the kids weren’t quite ready for that in 1963, but no one
blinks an eye in 2015)? Can it really be right for the Doctor to lie and to selectively forget? We
even have two authors who have figured out how to build a TARDIS—instructions included!
(Wait, there’s a catch, no . . . ?) And then there’s that old question that just won’t go away:
why does the Doctor always regenerate as a male, and is that ever going to change? An added
feature of this awesome new volume is that the editors have reached out to insiders of Who
fandom, people who run hugely successful Who conventions, play in Who-inspired bands, and
run wildly popular podcasts and websites, to share their privileged insights into why the Doctor
is so philosophically deep. No more spoilers. It’s time for the truly thoughtful travelers in both
time and space to rev up the TARDIS once more. . . . Allons-y, Alonzo!

**Robots in Popular Culture: Androids and Cyborgs in the American Imagination**

Robots in Popular Culture: Androids and Cyborgs in the American Imagination seeks to provide
one go-to reference for the study of the most popular and iconic robots in American popular
culture. In the last 10 years, technology and artificial intelligence (AI) have become not only a
daily but a minute-by-minute part of American life—more integrated into our lives than anyone
would have believed even a generation before. Americans have long known the adorable and
helpful R2-D2 and the terrible possibilities of Skynet and its army of Terminators. Throughout,
we have seen machines as valuable allies and horrifying enemies. Today, Americans cling to
to their mobile phones with the same affection that Luke Skywalker felt for the squat R2-D2.
Meanwhile, our phones, personal computers, and cars have attained the ability to know and
learn everything about us. This volume opens with essays about robots in popular culture,
followed by 100 A–Z entries on the most famous AIs in film, comics, and more. Sidebars
highlight ancillary points of interest, such as authors, creators, and tropes that illuminate the
motives of various robots. The volume closes with a glossary of key terms and a bibliography
providing students with resources to continue their study of what robots tell us about ourselves.
Provides readers with detailed information on popular examples of robots/AI in American
popular culture Provides readers with considerable "Further Reading" suggestions, including
scholarly, pop culture, and scientific readings on each topic Places popular examples of
robots/AI in pop culture in proper historical perspective Provides scholarly material that gives
readers additional important historical context in five essays Gives equal coverage to a diverse
array of robots, from the well-known to the obscure

**Television Program Master Index - Access to Critical and Historical Information on 2,273 Shows in Books, Dissertations and Journal Articles, 3d ed.**

This work indexes books, dissertations and journal articles that mention television shows.
Memoirs, autobiographies, biographies, and some popular works meant for fans are also
indexed. The major focus is on service to researchers in the history of television. Listings are
keyed to an annotated bibliography. Appendices include a list of websites; an index of groups or
classes of people on television; and a list of programs by genre. Changes from the second
edition include more than 300 new shows, airing on a wider variety of networks; 2000-plus references (more than double the second edition); and a large increase in scholarly articles. The book provides access to materials on almost 2300 shows, including groundbreaking ones like All in the Family (almost 200 entries); cult favorites like Buffy: The Vampire Slayer (200-plus entries); and a classic franchise, Star Trek (more than 400 entries for all the shows). The shows covered range from the late 1940s to 2010 (The Walking Dead). References range from 1956 to 2013.

**Zombies, Vampires, and Philosophy - New Life for the Undead**

"A collection of philosophical essays about the undead: beings such as vampires and zombies who are physically or mentally dead yet not at rest. Topics addressed include the metaphysics and ethics of undeath"--Provided by publisher.

**Louis C.K. and Philosophy - You Don't Get to Be Bored**

Charlie Rose has called Louis C.K. “the philosopher-king of comedy,” and many have detected philosophical profundity in Louis’s comedy, some of which has been watched tens of millions of times on YouTube and elsewhere. Louis C.K. and Philosophy is designed to help Louis’s fans connect the dots between his pronouncements and living philosophical themes. Twenty-five philosophers examine the wisdom of Louis C.K. from a variety of philosophical perspectives. The chapters draw upon C.K.’s standup comedy, the show Louie, and C.K.’s other writings. There is no attempt to fit Louis into one philosophical school; instead the authors bring out the diverse aspects of the thought of Louis C.K. One writer looks at the different meanings of C.K.’s statement, “You’re gonna be dead way longer than you were alive.” Another explores how Louis knows when he’s awake and when he’s dreaming, taking a few tips from Descartes. One chapter shows the affinity of C.K.’s “sick of living this bullshit life” with Kierkegaard’s “sickness unto death.” Another pursues Louis’s thought that we may by our lack of moral concern “live a really evil life without thinking about it." C.K.’s religion is "apathetic agnostic," conveyed in his thought experiment that God began work in 1982.

**Divergent and Philosophy**

Courtland Lewis has scoured the planet to bring together the most talented faction members, factionless, and even a few from the Bureau to discuss the philosophy of Divergent. Divergent and Philosophy begins by examining the personal struggles that all people face at some time: What sort of person should I be? What if I find out my life is a lie? What do I owe my parents? Am I normal? Once readers have finished answering these questions they’re ready for the “choosing ceremony." Part two examines each faction, looking at its virtues, vices, and other features that will help readers pick the “right” faction. This part gives readers a glimpse into what it’s like to be faced with the most important decision of our lives, the one that will forever determine who we are. Part three takes a step back in order to question Chicago’s ordering of society. Chicago is on the verge of revolution, but is this the result of the faction system itself, or is it the people within the factions that are behind the social discord? Part four shifts the focus individuals and those who hold power. Part five tells us how to recognize
injustice.

**Orphan Black and Philosophy**

In *Orphan Black*, several apparently unconnected women discover that they are exact physical doubles, that there are more of them out there, that they are all illegally produced clones, and that someone is having them killed. They find themselves in the midst of a secret and violent struggle between a fundamentalist religious group, a fanatical cult of superhuman biological enhancement, a clandestine department of the military, and a giant biotech corporation. Law enforcement is powerless and easily manipulated by these sinister forces. The clones are forced to form their own Clone Club, led by the resourceful Sarah Manning, to defend themselves against their numerous enemies and to find out exactly where they came from and why. *Orphan Black* continually raises philosophical issues, as well as ethical and policy questions deserving philosophical analysis. What makes a person a unique individual? Why is it so important for us to know where we came from? Should we have a say in whether a clone is made of us? Is it immoral to generate clones with built-in health problems or personality defects — and if so, does that mean that producers of clones must practice eugenic selection? What light does the behavior of members of the Clone Club shed on the nature-nurture debate? Is it relevant that most are heterosexual, one is a lesbian, and one is a transgendered male? This TV show shows us problems of biotechnology which will soon be vital everyday issues. But what kind of a future faces us when human clones are commonplace? Will groups of human clones have a tight bond of solidarity making them a threat to democracy? If the world is going to be taken over by an evil conspiracy, would it better be a scientific cult like Neolution or a religious cult like the Prolethians? Should biotech corporations be able to own the copyright on human DNA sequences? What rules of morality apply when you can't trust the police and powerful groups are ready to murder you?

**Doctor Who and Philosophy - Bigger on the Inside**

Philosophers look at the deeper issues raised by the adventures of Doctor Who, the main character in the long-running science fiction TV series of the same name. Original.