

# Utopia Or Bust A Guide To The Present Crisis Ebook Benjamin Kunkel

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Slouching Towards Utopia J. Bradford DeLong 2022-09-06 From one of the world's leading economists, a grand narrative of the century that made us richer than ever, yet left us unsatisfied Before 1870, humanity lived in dire poverty, with a slow crawl of invention offset by a growing population. Then came a great shift: invention sprinted forward, doubling our technological capabilities each generation and utterly transforming the economy again and again. Our ancestors would have presumed we would have used such powers to build utopia. But it was not so. When 1870–2010 ended, the world instead saw global warming; economic depression, uncertainty, and inequality; and broad rejection of the status quo. Economist Brad DeLong's *Slouching Towards Utopia* tells the story of how this unprecedented explosion of material wealth occurred, how it transformed the globe, and why it failed to deliver us to utopia. Of remarkable breadth and ambition, it reveals the last century to have been less a march of progress than a slouch in the right direction.

**Democratic Eco-Socialism as a Real Utopia** Hans A. Baer 2017-10-01 As global economic and population growth continues to skyrocket, increasingly strained resources have made one thing clear: the desperate need for an alternative to capitalism. In *Democratic Eco-Socialism as a Real Utopia*, Hans Baer outlines the urgent need to reevaluate historical definitions of socialism, commit to social equality and justice, and prioritize environmental sustainability. Democratic eco-socialism, as he terms it, is a system capable of mobilizing people around the world, albeit in different ways, to prevent on-going human socio-economic and environmental degradation, and anthropogenic climate change.

*Utopia in the Age of Survival* S. D. Chrostowska 2021-10-19 A pathbreaking exploration of the fate of utopia in our troubled times, this book shows how the historically intertwined endeavors of utopia and critique might be leveraged in response to humanity's looming existential challenges. *Utopia in the Age of Survival* makes the case that critical social theory needs to reinstate utopia as a speculative myth. At the same time the left must reassume utopia as an action-guiding hypothesis—that is, as something still possible. S. D. Chrostowska looks to the vibrant, visionary mid-century resurgence of embodied utopian longings and projections in Surrealism, the Situationist International, and critical theorists writing in their wake, reconstructing utopia's link to survival through to the earliest, most radical phase of the French environmental movement. Survival emerges as the organizing concept for a variety of democratic political forms that center the corporeality of desire in social movements contesting the expanding management of life by state institutions across the globe. Vigilant and timely, balancing fine-tuned analysis with broad historical overview to map the utopian impulse across contemporary cultural and political life, Chrostowska issues an urgent report on the vitality of utopia.

**Becoming Utopian** Tom Moylan 2020-11-26 A dream of a better world is a powerful human force that inspires activists, artists, and citizens alike. In this book Tom Moylan – one of the pioneering scholars of contemporary utopian studies – explores the utopian process in its individual and collective trajectory from dream to realization. Drawing on theorists such as Fredric Jameson, Donna Haraway and Alain Badiou and science fiction writers such

as Kim Stanley Robinson and China Miéville, *Becoming Utopian* develops its argument for sociopolitical action through studies that range from liberation theology, ecological activism, and radical pedagogy to the radical movements of 1968. Throughout, Moylan speaks to the urgent need to confront and transform the global environmental, economic, political and cultural crises of our time.

**Capitalism on Edge** Albena Azmanova 2020-01-14 The wake of the financial crisis has inspired hopes for dramatic change and stirred visions of capitalism's terminal collapse. Yet capitalism is not on its deathbed, utopia is not in our future, and revolution is not in the cards. In *Capitalism on Edge*, Albena Azmanova demonstrates that radical progressive change is still attainable, but it must come from an unexpected direction. Azmanova's new critique of capitalism focuses on the competitive pursuit of profit rather than on forms of ownership and patterns of wealth distribution. She contends that neoliberal capitalism has mutated into a new form—precarity capitalism—marked by the emergence of a precarious multitude. Widespread economic insecurity ails the 99 percent across differences in income, education, and professional occupation; it is the underlying cause of such diverse hardships as work-related stress and chronic unemployment. In response, Azmanova calls for forging a broad alliance of strange bedfellows whose discontent would challenge not only capitalism's unfair outcomes but also the drive for profit at its core. To achieve this synthesis, progressive forces need to go beyond the old ideological certitudes of, on the left, fighting inequality and, on the right, increasing competition. Azmanova details reforms that would enable a dramatic transformation of the current system without a revolutionary break. An iconoclastic critique of left orthodoxy, *Capitalism on Edge* confronts the intellectual and political impasses of our time to discern a new path of emancipation.

**Tinkering toward Utopia** David B. TYACK 2009-06-30 For over a century, Americans have translated their cultural anxieties and hopes into dramatic demands for educational reform. Although policy talk has sounded a millennial tone, the actual reforms have been gradual and incremental. *Tinkering toward Utopia* documents the dynamic tension between Americans' faith in education as a panacea and the moderate pace of change in educational practices. In this book, David Tyack and Larry Cuban explore some basic questions about the nature of educational reform. Why have Americans come to believe that schooling has regressed? Have educational reforms occurred in cycles, and if so, why? Why has it been so difficult to change the basic institutional patterns of schooling? What actually happened when reformers tried to reinvent schooling? Tyack and Cuban argue that the ahistorical nature of most current reform proposals magnifies defects and understates the difficulty of changing the system. Policy talk has alternated between lamentation and overconfidence. The authors suggest that reformers today need to focus on ways to help teachers improve instruction from the inside out instead of decreeing change by remote control, and that reformers must also keep in mind the democratic purposes that guide public education.

**The Utopia of Rules** David Graeber 2015-02-24 From the author of the international bestseller *Debt: The First 5,000 Years* comes a revelatory account of the way bureaucracy rules our lives. Where does the desire for endless rules, regulations, and bureaucracy come from? How did we come to spend so much of our time filling out forms? And is it really a cipher for state violence? To answer these questions, the anthropologist David Graeber—one of our most important and provocative thinkers—traces the peculiar and unexpected ways we relate to bureaucracy today, and reveals how it shapes our lives in ways we may not even notice...though he also suggests that there may be something perversely appealing—even romantic—about bureaucracy. Leaping from the ascendance of right-wing economics to the hidden meanings behind Sherlock Holmes and Batman, *The Utopia of Rules* is at once a powerful work of social theory in the tradition of Foucault and Marx, and an entertaining reckoning with popular culture that calls to mind Slavoj Žižek at his most accessible. An essential book for our times, *The Utopia of Rules* is sure to start a million conversations about the institutions that rule over us—and the better, freer world we should, perhaps, begin to imagine for ourselves.

**Gale Researcher Guide for: Utopian and Dystopian Fiction: Aldous Huxley** M. Keith Booker Gale Researcher Guide for: *Utopian and Dystopian Fiction: Aldous Huxley* is selected from Gale's academic platform Gale Researcher. These study guides provide peer-reviewed articles that allow students early success in finding scholarly materials and to gain the confidence and vocabulary needed to pursue deeper research.

*Marcuse* Robert B. Pippin 1988 Distinguished scholars--Jurgen Habermas, Claus Offe, Douglas Kellner, and Martin Jay, among others--draw upon historical, theoretical, and biographical information to assess Marcuse's

philosophy, from its grounding in classical German idealism, through the break with Heidegger, to his role in the American counterculture of the sixties and seventies. Indispensable for anyone interested in an in-depth understanding of one of the most burning issues of our time: the relation of critical theory to social action.

**Postcapitalism** Paul Mason 2016-02-09 We know that our world is undergoing seismic change—but how can we emerge from the crisis a fairer, more equal society? Over the past two centuries or so, capitalism has undergone profound changes—economic cycles that veer from boom to bust—from which it has always emerged transformed and strengthened. Surveying this turbulent history, Paul Mason's *Postcapitalism* argues that we are on the brink of a change so big and so profound that this time capitalism itself, the immensely complex system within which entire societies function, will mutate into something wholly new. At the heart of this change is information technology, a revolution that is driven by capitalism but, with its tendency to push the value of much of what we make toward zero, has the potential to destroy an economy based on markets, wages, and private ownership. Almost unnoticed, in the niches and hollows of the market system, swaths of economic life are beginning to move to a different rhythm. Vast numbers of people are changing how they behave and live, in ways contrary to the current system of state-backed corporate capitalism. And as the terrain changes, new paths open. In this bold and prophetic book, Mason shows how, from the ashes of the crisis, we have the chance to create a more socially just and sustainable economy. Although the dangers ahead are profound, he argues that there is cause for hope. This is the first time in human history in which, equipped with an understanding of what is happening around us, we can predict and shape the future.

*Political Uses of Utopia* S. D. Chrostowska 2017-03-21 Utopia has long been banished from political theory, framed as an impossible—and possibly dangerous—political ideal, a flawed social blueprint, or a thought experiment without any practical import. Even the "realistic utopias" of liberal theory strike many as wishful thinking. Can politics think utopia otherwise? Can utopian thinking contribute to the renewal of politics? In *Political Uses of Utopia*, an international cast of leading and emerging theorists agree that the uses of utopia for politics are multiple and nuanced and lie somewhere between—or, better yet, beyond—the mainstream caution against it and the conviction that another, better world ought to be possible. Representing a range of perspectives on the grand tradition of Western utopianism, which extends back half a millennium and perhaps as far as Plato, these essays are united in their interest in the relevance of utopianism to specific historical and contemporary political contexts. Featuring contributions from Miguel Abensour, Étienne Balibar, Raymond Geuss, and Jacques Rancière, among others, *Political Uses of Utopia* reopens the question of whether and how utopianism can inform political thinking and action today.

**Seventeen Contradictions and the End of Capitalism** David Harvey 2014 "David Harvey examines the internal contradictions within the flow of capital that have precipitated recent crises. While the contradictions have made capitalism flexible and resilient, they also contain the seeds of systemic catastrophe"--

*Envisioning Real Utopias* Erik Olin Wright 2010-06-14 A leading sociologist proposes a new framework for a socialist alternative.

**General Intellects** McKenzie Wark 2017-05-16 A guide to the thinkers and the ideas that will shape the future. What happened to the public intellectuals that used to challenge and inform us? Who is the Sartre or De Beauvoir of the internet age? *General Intellects* argues that we no longer have such singular figures, but we do have general intellects whose writing could, if read together, explain our times. Covering topics such as culture, politics, work, technology, and the Anthropocene, each chapter is a concise account of an individual thinker, providing useful context and connections to the work of the others. McKenzie Wark's distinctive readings are appreciations, but are also critical of how neoliberal universities militate against cooperative intellectual work to understand and change the world. The thinkers included are Amy Wendling, Kojin Karatani, Paolo Virno, Yann Moulier Boutang, Maurizio Lazzarato, Franco "Bifo" Berardi, Angela McRobbie, Paul Gilroy, Slavoj Žižek, Jodi Dean, Chantal Mouffe, Wendy Brown, Judith Butler, Azumo Hiroki, Paul B. Prédiado, Wendy Chun, Timothy Morton, Quentin Meillassoux, Isabelle Stengers, and Donna Haraway.

**Utopia Teacher Guide** COLLEGE OF WILLIAM & MARY 2010-12-20

**Gale Researcher Guide for: Sir Thomas More's Utopia** Dan Brayton Gale Researcher Guide for: Sir Thomas More's *Utopia* is selected from Gale's academic platform Gale Researcher. These study guides provide peer-reviewed articles that allow students early success in finding scholarly materials and to gain the confidence and

vocabulary needed to pursue deeper research.

**Utopia by Thomas More (Book Analysis)** Bright Summaries 2016-10-12 Unlock the more straightforward side of Utopia with this concise and insightful summary and analysis! This engaging summary presents an analysis of Utopia by Thomas More, based on the tales of a fictional explorer who visits an island society governed by wisdom and directed by the principles of justice, equality and happiness. As well as a riveting work of fiction, the work is significant in the domain of political philosophy, is responsible for coining the word 'utopia' as well as for the entire genre of utopian fiction, and has been translated from Latin into numerous languages. Thomas More was a noted Renaissance humanist whose philosophical writings are studied and respected to this day, and he has been venerated as a saint in the Catholic Church since 1935. Find out everything you need to know about Utopia in a fraction of the time! This in-depth and informative reading guide brings you: A complete plot summary Character studies Key themes and symbols Questions for further reflection Why choose BrightSummaries.com? Available in print and digital format, our publications are designed to accompany you in your reading journey. The clear and concise style makes for easy understanding, providing the perfect opportunity to improve your literary knowledge in no time. See the very best of literature in a whole new light with BrightSummaries.com!

**Utopia Guide to Thailand** John Goss 2006 Utopia has assembled a comprehensive guide to gay and lesbian life in 18 Thai cities, including Bangkok, Chiang Mai, Phuket, Samui and Pattaya. Listings include organizations, bars, discos, accommodations, spas, restaurants, and more. Plus, a special section of the book highlights Thai groups, clubs, and spaces that are especially welcoming for women. Enjoy savvy comments and recommendations from local Utopians, as well as dozens of gay travelers who share their experiences and discoveries in The Land of Smiles. The Utopia Guide to Thailand offers a remarkable insider's glimpse at the vibrant gay and lesbian scene in one of Asia's most welcoming cultures.

**Archaeologies of the Future** Fredric Jameson 2005 In an age of globalization characterized by the dizzying technologies of the First World, and the social disintegration of the Third, is the concept of utopia still meaningful? *Archaeologies of the Future*, Jameson's most substantial work since *Postmodernism, Or, the Cultural Logic of Late Capitalism*, investigates the development of this form since Thomas More, and interrogates the functions of utopian thinking in a post-Communist age. The relationship between utopia and science fiction is explored through the representations of otherness, alien life and alien worlds and a study of the works of Philip K. Dick, Ursula LeGuin, William Gibson, Brian Aldiss, Kim Stanley Robinson and more. Jameson's essential essays, including "The Desire Called Utopia," conclude with an examination of the opposing positions on utopia and an assessment of its political value today. *Archaeologies of the Future* is the third volume, after *Postmodernism and A Singular Modernity*, of Jameson's project on the Poetics of Social Forms.

**A Tour Guide in Utopia** Lucy Sussex 2005

**DIY Utopia** Amber Day 2016-12-22 This collection examines contemporary artist and activist-inspired utopian projects and DIY communities of interest. Throwing into relief the immense difficulty of thinking beyond the current system of consumer capitalism, coupled with the powerful desire to do just that, this anthology explores what our ideals and desires tell us about ourselves.

**Utopian Entrepreneur** Brenda Laurel 2001 A guide to doing socially positive work in the context of business.

**Democratic Theory as Public Philosophy** Norman Wintrop 2000 This text contends that there are pronounced ideological (apologetic) and utopian biases in how democracy is now viewed by most academic writers, politicians and journalists. Ideological biases result from democracy being seen in formal and procedural ways as parliaments, free elections and competitive parties and pressure groups - irrespective of the standards which guide or the effects produced by these procedures. Utopian democrats reject this narrow empiricism for normative approaches and, instead of realistic norms, they offer impractical, perfectionist and counter-productive standards and goals.

**The One Woman** Thomas Jr. Dixon 2019-12-11 "The One Woman" by Thomas Jr. Dixon. Published by Good Press. Good Press publishes a wide range of titles that encompasses every genre. From well-known classics & literary fiction and non-fiction to forgotten?or yet undiscovered gems?of world literature, we issue the books that need to be read. Each Good Press edition has been meticulously edited and formatted to boost readability for all e-readers and devices. Our goal is to produce eBooks that are user-friendly and accessible to everyone in a high-

quality digital format.

**Utopia Is Creepy: And Other Provocations** Nicholas Carr 2016-09-06 A freewheeling, sharp-shooting indictment of a tech-besotted culture. With razor wit, Nicholas Carr cuts through Silicon Valley's unsettlingly cheery vision of the technological future to ask a hard question: Have we been seduced by a lie? Gathering a decade's worth of posts from his blog, Rough Type, as well as his seminal essays, *Utopia Is Creepy* is "Carr's best hits for those who missed the last decade of his stream of thoughtful commentary about our love affair with technology and its effect on our relationships" (Richard Cytowic, *New York Journal of Books*). Carr draws on artists ranging from Walt Whitman to the Clash, while weaving in the latest findings from science and sociology. Carr's favorite targets are those zealots who believe so fervently in computers and data that they abandon common sense. Cheap digital tools do not make us all the next Fellini or Dylan. Social networks, diverting as they may be, are not vehicles for self-enlightenment. And "likes" and retweets are not going to elevate political discourse. *Utopia Is Creepy* compels us to question the technological momentum that has trapped us in its flow. "Resistance is never futile," argues Carr, and this book delivers the proof.

**A Study Guide for Tom Stoppard's "The Coast of Utopia"** Gale, Cengage Learning 2015-03-13 A Study Guide for Tom Stoppard's "The Coast of Utopia," excerpted from Gale's acclaimed *Literary News For Students*. This concise study guide includes plot summary; character analysis; author biography; study questions; historical context; suggestions for further reading; and much more. For any literature project, trust *Literary News For Students* for all of your research needs.

**A Study Guide for Sir Thomas More's "Utopia"** Gale, Cengage Learning 2015-03-13 A study guide for Sir Thomas More's "Utopia", excerpted from Gale's acclaimed *Novels for Students* series. This concise study guide includes plot summary; character analysis; author biography; study questions; historical context; suggestions for further reading; and much more. For any literature project, trust *Novels for Students* for all of your research needs.

**Utopia for Realists** Rutger Bregman 2017-03-14 Universal basic income. A 15-hour workweek. Open borders. Does it sound too good to be true? One of Europe's leading young thinkers shows how we can build an ideal world today. "A more politically radical Malcolm Gladwell." --*New York Times* After working all day at jobs we often dislike, we buy things we don't need. Rutger Bregman, a Dutch historian, reminds us it needn't be this way--and in some places it isn't. Rutger Bregman's TED Talk about universal basic income seemed impossibly radical when he delivered it in 2014. A quarter of a million views later, the subject of that video is being seriously considered by leading economists and government leaders the world over. It's just one of the many utopian ideas that Bregman proves is possible today. *Utopia for Realists* is one of those rare books that takes you by surprise and challenges what you think can happen. From a Canadian city that once completely eradicated poverty, to Richard Nixon's near implementation of a basic income for millions of Americans, Bregman takes us on a journey through history, and beyond the traditional left-right divides, as he champions ideas whose time have come. Every progressive milestone of civilization--from the end of slavery to the beginning of democracy--was once considered a utopian fantasy. Bregman's book, both challenging and bracing, demonstrates that new utopian ideas, like the elimination of poverty and the creation of the fifteen-hour workweek, can become a reality in our lifetime. Being unrealistic and unreasonable can in fact make the impossible inevitable, and it is the only way to build the ideal world.

**Automation and Utopia** John Danaher 2019-09-24 Automating technologies threaten to usher in a workless future, but John Danaher argues that this can be a good thing. A world without work may be a kind of utopia, free of the misery of the job and full of opportunities for creativity and exploration. If we play our cards right, automation could be the path to idealized forms of human flourishing.

**When the English Fall** David Williams 2017-07-11 A riveting and unexpected novel that questions whether a peaceful and non-violent community can survive when civilization falls apart. Again, all are asleep, but I am not. I need sleep, but though I read and I pray, I feel too awake. My mind paces the floor. There are shots now and again, bursts here and there, far away, and I cannot sleep. I think of this man in his hunger, shot like a rabbit raiding a garden. For what, Lord? For stealing corn intended for pigs and cattle, like the hungry prodigal helpless in a strange land. I can hear his voice. When a catastrophic solar storm brings about the collapse of modern civilization, an Amish community is caught up in the devastating aftermath. With their stocked larders and stores of supplies, the Amish are unaffected at first. But as the English (the Amish name for all non-Amish people) in

the cities become increasingly desperate, they begin to invade nearby farms, taking whatever they want and unleashing unthinkable violence on the gentle communities. Written as the diary of an Amish farmer named Jacob who tries to protect his family and his way of life, *When the English Fall* examines the idea of peace in the face of deadly chaos. Should members of a nonviolent society defy their beliefs and take up arms to defend themselves? And if they do, can they survive? David Williams's debut novel is a thoroughly engrossing look into the closed world of the Amish, as well as a thought-provoking examination of how we live today and what remains if the center cannot hold.

**Utopia** Thomas More 2020-05-05 The classic political satire about an imaginary ideal world by one of the Renaissance's most fascinating figures. Named after a word that translates literally to "nowhere," Utopia is an island dreamed up by Thomas More, a devout Catholic, English statesman, and Renaissance humanist who would be canonized as a saint centuries after he was executed for choosing God over king. More's novel introduces us to Utopia's society and its customs. It is a place of no private property and no lawyers; of six-hour workdays and simple ways; and, intriguingly, of a combination of values that blend the traditional with the highly controversial, from euthanasia to married priests to slavery. Remarkably thought-provoking, it is a novel that asks us to question what makes a perfect world—and whether such a thing is even possible.

**Study Guide to Utopia by Thomas More** Intelligent Education 2020-02-15 A comprehensive study guide offering in-depth explanation, essay, and test prep for Thomas More's Utopia, originally written in Latin in 1516 and considered a great political and philosophical satire. As a rhetorical work from the early 16th century, there has been much debate amongst scholars on what More's intentions were for writing. Moreover, Utopia makes a mirror so that readers may be able to see themselves more clearly and more realistically. This Bright Notes Study Guide explores the context and history of More's classic work, helping students to thoroughly explore the reasons it has stood the literary test of time. Each Bright Notes Study Guide contains: - Introductions to the Author and the Work - Character Summaries - Plot Guides - Section and Chapter Overviews - Test Essay and Study Q&As The Bright Notes Study Guide series offers an in-depth tour of more than 275 classic works of literature, exploring characters, critical commentary, historical background, plots, and themes. This set of study guides encourages readers to dig deeper in their understanding by including essay questions and answers as well as topics for further research.

*Utopia or Bust* Benjamin Kunkel 2014-03-11 After the financial crash and the great recession, the media rediscovered Karl Marx, socialist theory, and the very idea that capitalism can be questioned. But in spite of the publicity, the main paths of contemporary critical thought have gone unexplored outside of the academy. Benjamin Kunkel's *Utopia or Bust* leads readers – whether politically committed or simply curious – through the most important critical theory today. Written with the wit and verve of Kunkel's best-selling novel, *Indecision*, this introduction to contemporary Leftist thinkers engages with the revolutionary philosophy of Slavoj Žižek, the economic analyses of David Graeber and David Harvey, and the cultural diagnoses of Fredric Jameson. Discussing the ongoing crisis of capitalism in light of ideas of full employment, debt forgiveness, and "fictitious capital," *Utopia or Bust* is a tour through the world of Marxist thought and an examination of the basis of Western society today.

**Anarchy, State, and Utopia** Lester H. Hunt 2015-06-22 *Anarchy, State, and Utopia: An Advanced Guide* presents a comprehensive and accessible introduction to the ideas expressed in Robert Nozick's highly influential 1974 work on free-market libertarianism—considered one of the most important and influential works of political philosophy published in the latter half of the 20th-century. Makes accessible all the major ideas and arguments presented in Nozick's complex masterpiece Explains, as well as critiques, Robert Nozick's theory of free market libertarianism Enables a new generation of readers to draw their own conclusions about the wealth of timely ideas on individualism and libertarian philosophy Indicates where Nozick's theory has explanatory power, where it is implausible, and where there are loose ends with further work to be done

**Viagra Nation** Lee Eisenberg 1998-08-05 Attention all Viagrans, friends of Viagrans, and Viagrans-to-be... With this book, Bruce McCall and Lee Eisenberg plant the flag on a brave new land called Viagra Nation, the blissful and outrageous state of mind where everybody is beautiful, where old-age dysfunction is a thing of the past, and where sexual fears, worries, and anxieties are declared null and void. Using drawings, diagrams, charts, graphs, postcards, stamps and just about anything else they can get their hands on, McCall and Eisenberg bring to life an

earthly paradise made possible by the most phenomenal, notorious, and talked-about tablet since Moses. *Viagra Nation* is the uproarious and definitive guidebook to this glorious utopia, where men and woman are suddenly able to enjoy active, athletic sex lives long after they've lost day-to-day bladder control. So whether you're already an upstanding citizen of *Viagra Nation*, or just thinking about the day you'll set sail, you're bound to get a rise out of this book. But in the unlikely event you don't, see your doctor. Includes: special *Viagra* aptitude test a *Kama Sutra* for Seniors sneak preview of *Viagra* fashions your own Sexual Security card exclusive *Viagra* Horoscope the *Viagra* Model Bedroom of Tomorrow plus commemorative stamps, postcards, charts, graphs, sexual aids, anatomical diagrams, and more!

**Critique, Norm, and Utopia** Seyla Benhabib 1986

**Woke** Caitlin Johnstone 2017-12 For those that look with both eyes -- this book is for you.

**Utopia** Mark Stephen Jendrysik 2020-04-09 Human beings universally dream of a better world. For centuries they have expressed their yearning for ways of life that are free from oppression, want and fear, through philosophy, art, film and literature. In this concise and engaging book, Mark Jendrysik examines the multifarious ways utopians have posed the question of how human beings might establish justice and realize truly human values. Drawing upon a range of sources, from Plato's *Republic* and Thomas More's *Utopia* to Ursula Le Guin's *The Dispossessed*, he argues that, though for many utopia means 'demanding the impossible', the goals that seemed out of reach for one generation are often realized in the next. Nonetheless, he shows that, while utopian thought points toward our most noble aspirations, it also illustrates the dangers of totalitarianism, of the surveillance state and of global climate change. This engaging book will be an invaluable guide for anyone seeking to understand how, for good or ill, utopian aspirations shape our lives, even in times that seem designed to close off dreams of a better world.

*Four Futures* Peter Frase 2016-11-01 An exploration of the utopias and dystopias that could develop from present society Peter Frase argues that increasing automation and a growing scarcity of resources, thanks to climate change, will bring it all tumbling down. In *Four Futures*, Frase imagines how this post-capitalist world might look, deploying the tools of both social science and speculative fiction to explore what communism, rentism and exterminism might actually entail. Could the current rise of the real-life robocops usher in a world that resembles *Ender's Game*? And sure, communism will bring an end to material scarcities and inequalities of wealth—but there's no guarantee that social hierarchies, governed by an economy of "likes," wouldn't rise to take their place. A whirlwind tour through science fiction, social theory and the new technologies are already shaping our lives, *Four Futures* is a balance sheet of the socialisms we may reach if a resurgent Left is successful, and the barbarisms we may be consigned to if those movements fail.

*Utopia* COLLEGE OF WILLIAM & MARY 2010-12-28