

Synopsis

Norman Niblock House is a rising executive at General Technics, one of a few all-powerful corporations. His work is leading General Technics to the forefront of global domination, both in the marketplace and politically - it's about to take over a country in Africa. Donald Hogan is his roommate, a seemingly sheepish bookworm. But Hogan is a spy, and he's about to discover a breakthrough in genetic engineering that will change the world...and kill him. These two men's lives weave through one of science-fiction's most praised novels. Written in a way that echoes John Dos Passos' U.S.A. Trilogy, *Stand on Zanzibar* is a cross-section of a world overpopulated by the billions and society is squeezed into hive-living madness by god-like mega computers, mass-marketed psychedelic drugs, and mundane uses of genetic engineering. Though written in 1968, it speaks of our present time and is frighteningly prescient and intensely powerful.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 21 hours 20 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Macmillan Audio

Audible.com Release Date: August 2, 2011

Language: English

ASIN: B005FIPL0G

Best Sellers Rank: #75 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Science Fiction > Anthologies & Short Stories #723 in Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Science Fiction > Anthologies #1416 in Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Science Fiction > Genetic Engineering

Customer Reviews

If the word prescient means anything to you fellow reader this is the book. Published in 1968 it was part of my teenage sci fi reading binge. The author magically [predicts almost all the major technological devices that are so ubiquitous in our daily lives. Computer processing cell phone tech video chat and the list goes on. This is a fine read. Quite fun with the style utilized by the author. Not exactly linear at all times. I guess even the style is akin to the way we get stories on television. This book will appeal to fans of the genre as well as readers that enjoy literature. Yes literature. This is an important book that grows in stature and greatness as the years continue. Buy this read this enjoy this and then live right.

I read this when it was first published - of course I was MUCH too young (lol) to understand much of it. Now? I am understanding too much of it. I began reading primarily because I remembered certain scenes; I now to my dismay am finding truisms I had been too young to grasp. I am also discovering events and trends and attitudes which were futuristic then, but are discernible - -or frighteningly obvious - now. Well worth a careful read!!!

I read this title when it first appeared in the late sixties. Couldn't remember that much of the details, but only the impact it made on me. Here it is seven years past the supposed date of 2010 and indeed we are in a mess.

A great book to reread in these days. Please reread this to see where we are headed.

This book is an old friend that got lost a long time ago. When someone re-recommended it, I needed to find it once again. It is prescient because one of the characters is similar to Obama, in name and features. 'Eptification' is something that should be taken into serious consideration in this day and age.

Definitely shows its age in spots, but does resonate heavily in others. I found myself nodding in agreement heavily with certain passages, while thinking that others were missing the mark by a large margin. The one major "sticking point" I did have was the extremely simplistic "progression" of American culture in 50 years. As if the 60s were merely frozen in time and transplanted... Very jarring, and made the novel quite dated.

John Brunner's pacing is impeccable. In such a medium where it is so hard to get the reader to really *feel* the physical space of what is happening in the book, Brunner achieves it effortlessly. Some of the language is definitely a product of the time it was written in, but I think the language is generally easy enough to gain by context and further helps to wrap you in the reality of the book. The plot is wonderful and remarkably spaced out and staged just right to keep you on the edge of your seat throughout. Really a wonderful book.

It is such a fascinating world, Brunner writes about. The imaginary society he dreamed up is absolutely believable and the characters are just great. The story is so well told, I almost feel as if I

watched a movie version. Together with The Sheep Look Up this is one of my favorite SF books. The 'Hipcrime Vocabulary' by Chad Mulligan of which several quotes are woven into the story is nothing less than hilarious and embarrassing correct at the same time. Reading it, it completely absorbs you!

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