

## Sci-Fi Movie Freak

Robert C. Ring

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**Robert C. Ring : Sci-Fi Movie Freak** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Sci-Fi Movie Freak:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Can Hardly Put It Down By Anton Karidian Like almost all other reviewers on here, I have thoroughly loved SCI-FI MOVIE FREAK by Robert C. Ring since someone gave it to me as a gift this past Christmas. I keep the book lying around the house various places, and it's so much fun to read and look at that it's like a box of addictive candy that I can hardly put down! I usually find Ring's analyses of these movies to be right on the mark, with many insightful comments throughout. I like too that Ring appreciates a wide variety of science fiction, and tries to find what is good in a film rather than nitpicking it to death as many movie critics do. And the book is also great to look at with its many well-chosen photos and movie posters. Of course, no two people are going to have exactly the same opinions about everything, but I'm surprised how often I agree with Ring. I'm especially pleased that he has a lot of good things to say about my favorite sci-fi film, 2001 - A Space Odyssey (Two-Disc Special Edition) such as his comment "It is a masterpiece, and is arguably the greatest science fiction film ever made." On the other hand, I've neglected to see some recent sci-fi films that Ring eloquently endorses, so I can't wait to check those out! Ring divides SCI-FI MOVIE FREAK into the categories "Best of the Best," "Vital Viewing," "Further Essentials," "Lesser-Known Gems," and "The Failures." Also very helpful are his Top 10 Lists of movies, directors, female characters, robots, and villains. There's also an index. Several reviewers have complained that some films should not have been omitted from SCI-FI MOVIE FREAK, or should have been given more than just a mention or two, and I've thought of a few myself - This Island Earth, When Worlds Collide, 2010: The Year We Make Contact,

and the 1977 version of *The Island of Dr. Moreau*. Seems to me it would have been helpful to include among the book's lists another entitled "Honorable Mentions" and give a couple of paragraphs to several more movies, listing the director, principal cast, and writers, while giving a brief plot summary and a comment or two from Ring. Might add another 5 or 10 pages to the book, but it would prevent many good movies from getting little or no attention. On the other end of the spectrum, I'm occasionally puzzled why Ring included some film among the better ones. For instance, when "Tron" and "Earth vs. the Flying Saucers" were released they at least had cutting edge special effects going for them, but for today's viewer they offer very little of interest. And I disagree with Ring's assessment that the best "Star Trek" movies are "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan" and 2009's "Star Trek." I see both of those as little more than action films with no compelling stories. Further, 2009's "Star Trek" contains many inconsistencies with Star Treks of the past. I maintain that Star Treks 4 (*The Voyage Home*), 6 (*The Undiscovered Country*), and 8 (*First Contact*) are better films. However, I disagree with those who suggest that *SCI-FI MOVIE FREAK* should have included fantasy films, since that would either have made the book a lot longer or caused many sci-fi films to be deleted. Why not have a second volume that is solely fantasy films? What a bargain it is that the book includes a DVD of "Plan 9 From Outer Space," which we all love to poke fun at. Watch it and see how NOT to make a sci-fi film! WOW, what fun it must be to have a job of watching and writing about science fiction movies!! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. the Kindle version....By jgI scanned the images of this book and now wonder if i might pick up the print version. Although many of the pics i saw are of oft printed posters and screen shots, it would be nice to have the companion visuals while i read. Sci-fi is such a visual genre and my memory isn't what it used to be. But the book itself? A lot of fun. The author isn't afraid to go deep into the philosophy of some of these flicks but also never forgets how flat out fun they can be when there is seeming no thought involved (he even includes a Transformers movie in here). I flew through the thing as each review just primed me for the next one. Ring doesn't get overly wordy or dwell too long on one movie which helps keep it light, fast and entertaining. Are there omissions? Yup. Of course there are. You cannot make a compendium or even a simple list without offending someone by omitting a favorite. But i take no issue with what Ring did here. You want a better list?... make your own. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Worth Every Penny By David Sobral While the synopsis of the individually reviewed movies aren't very detailed, everything about this is a fun read! If you haven't seen "Plan 9 From Outer Space" you appreciate really bad sci-fi then, this is the book to get because there's a DVD of the film included. Bottom line is this book was worth every penny it's beautifully illustrated. Check it out!

"I'll be back." -- *The Terminator*, *The Terminator* (1984) To the movies, that is. And so will you with the help of *Sci-Fi Movie Freak*, a celebration of some of the greatest science-fiction movies of all time. Your inner geek will freak finding everything from classics like *Metropolis*, *Forbidden Planet*, and *2001: A Space Odyssey* to modern movies including *Avatar*, *Moon*, and *Inception*, and even the entertaining "failures" like *Robot Monster*, *Gamera the Invincible*, and *Battlefield Earth*. Movies are divided into various chapters including *Best of the Best*, *Further Essentials*, and *Lesser-Known Gems*. Features more than 100 movies 250+ photos of movie stills and posters Top 10 lists of the best directors, female characters, villains and more Free DVD included of the magnificently bad cult classic *Plan 9 From Outer Space*.

About the Author Robert C. Ring is editor-in-chief of *ScifiBlock.com*, which he started two years ago to be a place to discuss science fiction and learn more about the genre. Robert has been a science fiction devotee since watching *Star Wars* at the impressionable age of before-he-knew-how-old-he-was. Among other things, the image of the severed arm on the floor of the Mos Eisley cantina burned itself into his memory, and he has ever since been driven to all things sci-fi. One semester in college, he accidentally enrolled in a film studies course, which prompted within him a keener interest in film as well as a desire to explore more fully the sci-fi genre in its other forms. Though science fiction is his favorite genre, he is always watching movies from all genres, eras, and countries, and he retains an insatiable need to consume all types of art. When he decided to make something useful out of his many hours spent watching movies, thus was born *The Sci-Fi Block*.