Summer Reading: The Future



Enjoy these Green Earth Book Award winners, bestowed by The Nature Generation to literature that teaches youth how to respect nature. This list contains books that create a vision of the what the future could look like if we don't take efforts to protect the planet today.

Young Adult Fiction Winners (for readers ages 13 -21)



2021- Three Days till EOC: A Novella

by Abhimanyu Sukhdial

It is the year 2100 and water, the thing that matters to all life, is wiping out life itself.

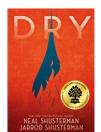
The ice sheets have melted, the Earth has passed its last cataclysmic tipping point, and now there are only three days till EOC: the End of Civilization. Climate scientist Graham Alison, one of the last 1,000 humans left on the planet, is racing against the odds to save the world before the last rescue shuttle leaves for the Mars colonies. Will he manage to persuade the leaders of the past to change their behavior so that the present can be different? Or will it be precious networks of family relationships across time and space that actually save humanity?



2020- The Casket of Time

by Andri Snaer Magnason

An entrancing adventure for today's troubled planet, a fantastical tale of time travel and environmental calamity. Teenage Sigrun is sick of all the apocalyptic news about the "situation" and, worse, her parents' obsession with it. Sigrun's family—along with everyone else—decides to hibernate in their TimeBoxes, hoping for someone else to fix the world's problems. But when Sigrun's TimeBox opens too early, she discovers an abandoned city overrun by wilderness and joins a band of kids who are helping a researcher named Grace solve the "situation."



2019- Dry

by Neal Shusterman and Jarrod Shusterman, illustrated by Jay Shaw

When the California drought escalates to catastrophic proportions, one teen is forced to make life and death decisions for her family in this harrowing story of survival.

The drought—or the Tap-Out, has been going on for a while now. Lives have become an endless list of don'ts: don't water the lawn, don't take long showers. Until the taps run dry. Suddenly, Alyssa's quiet suburban street is a warzone of desperation; neighbors and families turned against each other on the hunt for water. And when her parents don't return and her life—and her brother's —is threatened, Alyssa has to make impossible choices if she's going to survive.

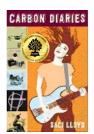


2016—The Beast of Cretacea

by Todd Strasser

Master storyteller reimagines Moby Dick as set in the future—and takes readers on an epic sci-fi adventure.

When 17 year-old Ishmael wakes up from stasis aboard the *Pequod*, he is amazed by how different this planet is from the dirty, dying Earth he left behind. But Ishmael isn't on Cretacea to marvel at the fresh air, sunshine, and endless blue ocean. He's here to work, risking his life to hunt down great ocean-dwelling beasts to harvest and send back to the resource-depleted Earth, especially the elusive Great Terrafin. It's rumored that the ship's captain, Ahab, lost his leg to the beast years ago, and that he's now consumed by revenge. But there may be more to Captain Ahab's obsession.



2010—The Carbon Diaries: 2015

by Saci Lloyd

Told in short diary entries filled with scrapbook clippings, this riveting ecothriller is one girl's attempt to stay grounded in a world where disaster has become the norm. It's the year 2015, a time when global warming has begun to ravage the environment. In response, the UK mandates carbon rationing—a plan that goes tragically awry. When her carbon debit card arrives in the mail, sixteen-year-old Laura is just taking exams, managing her ecopunk band, and catching the attention of her gorgeous classmate Ravi. A drought sparks fires and deadly riots; and hurricanes strike London. With the death toll in the thousands and climbing, Laura and her family face the unimaginable as her older sister clings to life.

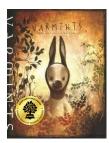


2006—The Secret Under My Skin

by Janet McNaughton

In the year 2368, humanity struggles to recuperate from a technocaust that has left a generation of orphans in its wake. Strict government regulations convince people that technology is dangerous; confusion and fear rule the earth. Blay Raytee is a government work-camp orphan with a bleak future. But when is chosen for a special mission by a guardian of the environment named Marrella, she discovers that all may not be as it seems. The secrets she uncovers could hold the key both to the healing of the world and to her own past. What she learns may just empower her to join those who struggle to restore democracy -- and to discover at last who she really is.

Picture Book Winner (for readers ages 3-8)



2009—Varmints

by Helen Ward, Marc Craste (ill.)

Striking, surreal illustrations and a haunting, evocative text tell a mysterious tale of a threatened natural world and a hopeful new start.

Once, the only sounds to be heard were the buzzing of bees in the grass, the murmuring of moles in the earth, and the song of birds in the sky. These warmed the hearts of those who cared to listen - until the others came to fill the sky with buildings and the air with a cacophony of noise. With dramatically lit artwork and a spare, intriguing text, *Varmints* tells of a pastoral world in need of protection and of the souls who love it enough to ensure its regeneration. Includes vellum pages and French flaps as part of a gorgeous paperback design.

Children's Fiction Winner (for readers ages up to age 12)



2019- The Flooded Earth

by Mardi McConnochie

After the earth was devastated by flooding, four children on one small sailboat flee corrupt authorities and pirates to overcome the dangers of the sea in the not-so-distant future full of new technology and old human failings.

Twins Will and Annalie thought the hardest part about this year was going to be their separation when bookish Annalie began went off to boarding school and avid sailor Will stayed behind in the flood-damaged slums. But that was before the Admiralty raided their father's engineering workshop. Before they threatened Annalie at school. Before their father disappeared, leaving a single coded clue to his destination. Desperate to find him, the twins set out in the family's small sailboat. But though they are both experienced sailors, they have no idea what dangers the sea has in store for them.