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# ISJ

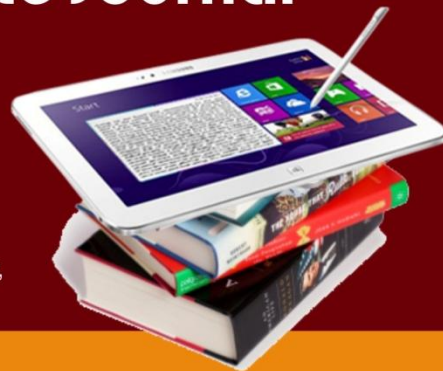
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Science fiction is no more written for scientists than ghost stories are written for ghosts. Most frequently, the scientific dressing clothes fantasy. And fantasies are as meaningful as science. The phantasms of technology now fittingly embody our hopes and anxieties. Science in science fiction is analogous to a TV set or a telephone in a household. Its installation may make a significant difference in the domestic or social arrangements of the family. But members of the family need not understand the complex theoretical and technological details that have brought its existence, they need only know what its function is and how to put it to use. The reader of science fiction too needs to make out only that much in the work s/he is reading.

## 26. CONTOURS AND NUANCES OF SCIENCE FICTION IN THE *MODERN*

	Prof. Manik Bhatane Asst. Professor Dept of English, Balbhim Arts, Science and Commerce College, Beed
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Without the aid of the imagination all the pleasures of the senses must sink into grossness.

– Mary Wollstonecraft

If the imagination is suppressed, humans will mature physically, but will remain at worst ‘eggplants’ and at best stunted and unhappy people afraid of anything ‘childish’ or ‘untrue.’ If the imagination is nurtured, however, each person can become a truly mature adult: ‘not a dead child, but a child who survived.’

– Ursula K. Le Guin

Mary Wollstonecraft Godwin Shelley (1797-1851), an eminent English novelist, biographer, short story writer, travel writer and editor, initiated the genre of science fiction through her classic, *Frankenstein 1818*). In her lifetime, she was often overshadowed by the many literary influences with whom she associated, from her own parents, Mary Wollstonecraft and Godwin, to her husband, Percy Bysshe Shelley and his friend Lord Byron. However, Mary Shelley’s *Frankenstein: or, The Modern Prometheus* from its inception on a stormy night to its publication in 1818 to its numerous forms on stage and screen, crept into the popular psyche more deeply than anything written by her associates. Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley was the product of what has been described as “the most famous radical literary marriage of eighteenth century