



The Year 3000: A Dream (Frontiers of Imagination)

Paolo Mantegazza, Nicoletta Pireddu (Editor), David Jacobson (Translator)

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First published in 1897, *The Year 3000* is the most daring and original work of fiction by the prominent Italian anthropologist Paolo Mantegazza. A futuristic utopian novel, the book follows two young lovers who, as they travel from Rome to the capital of the United Planetary States to celebrate their “mating union,” encounter the marvels of cultural and scientific advances along the way. Intriguing in itself, *The Year 3000* is also remarkable for both its vision of the future (predicting an astonishing array of phenomena from airplanes, artificial intelligence, CAT scans, and credit cards to controversies surrounding divorce, abortion, and euthanasia) and the window it opens on fin de siècle Europe. Published here for the first time in English, this richly annotated edition features an invaluable introductory essay that interprets the intertextual and intercultural connections within and beyond Mantegazza’s work. For its critical contribution to early science fiction and for its insights into the hopes, fears, and clash of values in the Western world of both Mantegazza’s time and our own, this book belongs among the visionary giants of speculative literature.

The Year 3000: A Dream (Frontiers of Imagination) Details

Date : Published November 1st 2010 by Bison Books (first published 1897)

ISBN : 9780803230323

Author : Paolo Mantegazza , Nicoletta Pireddu (Editor) , David Jacobson (Translator)

Format : Paperback 224 pages

Genre : Science Fiction



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From Reader Review The Year 3000: A Dream (Frontiers of Imagination) for online ebook

Giuseppe Palladino says

Non è un libro per gli amanti della fantascienza. E' molto "italiano" e il futuro non è per niente futuro, bensì una proiezione di uno status quo, senza una vera e propria lungimiranza del progresso, senza quell'inventiva che i romanzi del tempo dovrebbero avere. Comunque un visionario per quei tempi.

Leslie says

Mantegazza was a visionary, but he lost me at the eugenics..still, a book worth reading, if a bit slow at times. I had to keep reminding myself he wrote it in the 1890's -- pretty remarkable.

the gift says

breaking a rule here: i will write about it even as i only give it a two...

fascinating, repelling, as any utopia suggests more of its time than its predictions. saw this on a translated books website, decided to try it, knew it is of the subgenre of fantastic utopias in late 19th century, thought maybe the italian perspective might be different...

no.

it is perhaps more european in that it focus is less on technical advances, more on the society. how he imagined the future people would be. there is a good, long, introduction, placing its influences by verne and bellamy etc. but it also suggests how easy it is to write a horror against these ideas, how 1984 is prefigured. yes, eurocentric, casually racist, politically and socially often progressive, often conservative, artistically restrained, tech thought primary...

sorry, that is all to say. i wanted to like it, i was ready to like it. it gets a two because i did read it all and it did raise interesting sense of its context.

Martha says

Now that I'm on this distopia kick, I figured I'd read this one. It is entirely possible that this author is a genius. He describes planes, computers and other technologically advanced things. How he foresaw all of this will remain a mystery. One mystery solved, though: this novel is worthy of praise.
