

Putting Technology Ramifications into Your World Building

By Roger Bourke White Jr.

Introduction

The goal is to help you write about something
new...

...and not have your hot new item come out
sounding like the same old, same old

First question

- What is your story about?
- People or neat tech?
- If it's tech, plan on a short story

Concept One

- How to think about a new invention:
- commodity use
- surprise use

Concept Two

- Birds and Boeings
- The inspiration versus the final reality
- Birds and Boeings
- Robot Butlers and industrial robots
- Clones and new proteins

Concept Three

- Tattoos and T-Shirts
- When will old technologies survive?
- Personal expression content

Structuring Society around Technology

- Who Gets It, Who Doesn't?
- Social Justice and Entrepreneurship
- How will government change?
- How will social relations change?
- French Revolution through Berlin Wall

Good and Bad examples

- Good: “Limitless” and “Moon”
- Bad: “In Time”
- Good shows off new uses
- Bad is editorializing on contemporary issues

Conclusion

- This isn't easy to do.
- If you do it well the result will be a very different style of story
- You will be a visionary