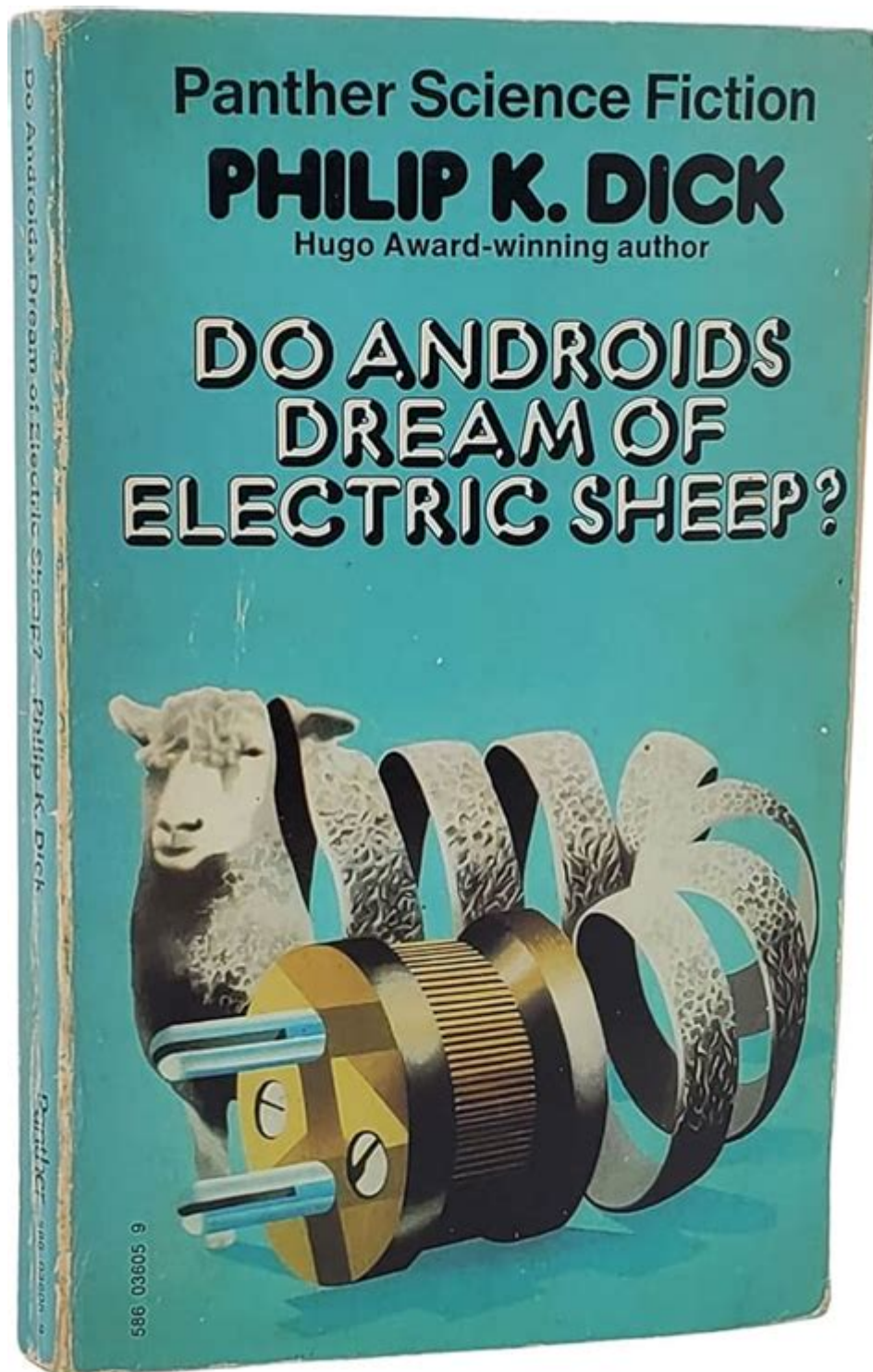


Sparknotes Do Androids Dream Of Electric Sheep



SparkNotes Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep: A

Deep Dive into Philip K. Dick's Dystopian Masterpiece

Are you facing the daunting task of tackling Philip K. Dick's philosophical sci-fi masterpiece, *Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep*? Feeling overwhelmed by the complex themes and intricate plot? This comprehensive guide serves as your ultimate SparkNotes for *Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep*, providing a detailed summary, analysis of key themes, and insights to help you fully appreciate Dick's visionary work. We'll unravel the complexities of empathy, humanity, and what it truly means to be alive in this chillingly relevant dystopian future.

A Quick Synopsis: Setting the Stage

Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep? is set in a post-apocalyptic San Francisco, ravaged by a nuclear war that decimated the Earth's population and environment. Society is deeply fractured, with a palpable sense of societal decay and spiritual emptiness. The story centers around Rick Deckard, a bounty hunter tasked with "retiring" (killing) escaped Nexus-6 androids, virtually indistinguishable from humans. The novel explores Rick's internal struggles as he grapples with his assignment, questioning the very nature of humanity and the meaning of empathy in a world where it's increasingly difficult to tell the difference between human and machine. The central conflict revolves around Rick's mission, his own emotional and spiritual state, and the blurring lines between human and android.

Key Characters: Unveiling the Players

Understanding the characters is crucial to grasping the novel's complex themes. Here's a brief overview:

Rick Deckard: The protagonist, a bounty hunter wrestling with his conscience and the ethical implications of his job. His emotional journey forms the backbone of the narrative.

Rachael Rosen: A particularly advanced Nexus-6 android whose emotional depth challenges Rick's perception of what it means to be human. Her existence forces him to confront his own biases and prejudices.

John Isidore: A "chickenhead," a mentally handicapped human, who provides an alternative perspective on humanity and societal outcasts. His connection with the androids highlights the limitations of societal classifications.

The Nexus-6 Androids: These escaped androids, each with unique personalities and motivations, force the reader to question the very definition of humanity. Their actions and desires challenge the moral boundaries set by society.

Major Themes: Exploring the Philosophical Depth

Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep? is far more than a simple science fiction thriller. Dick masterfully weaves together several profound and enduring themes:

The Nature of Empathy:

This is arguably the central theme. The novel explores the significance of empathy, its rarity in the post-apocalyptic world, and its role in defining humanity. Owning an empathy box, a device that simulates emotional connection, becomes a status symbol, highlighting the societal devaluation of genuine human connection.

The Definition of Humanity:

Dick challenges the reader to question what truly separates humans from machines. Are humans simply biological beings, or is there something more—a spiritual essence or inherent capacity for empathy? The androids' increasing sophistication blurs the lines, forcing a critical examination of our own humanity.

The Illusion of Reality:

The prevalence of electric animals (artificial replacements for real animals, wiped out by nuclear war) and the potential for false memories in androids raise questions about the nature of reality itself. What is real, and what is merely a manufactured simulation? This questioning of reality underscores the novel's exploration of truth and perception.

The Dangers of Technology and Dehumanization:

The novel serves as a cautionary tale about the potential negative consequences of technological advancement. The reliance on technology to compensate for environmental devastation and emotional deficits highlights a potential path toward dehumanization and societal collapse.

The Significance of the Voight-Kampff Test:

The Voight-Kampff test, used to distinguish between humans and androids, becomes a crucial plot device. Its fallibility underscores the difficulty in objectively defining humanity and highlights the limitations of technological solutions to complex moral dilemmas.

A Final Thought: The Enduring Legacy

Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep? remains relevant today, prompting us to consider the ethical

implications of technological advancements, the importance of human connection, and the ever-blurring lines between humanity and artificial intelligence. Dick's insightful exploration of these themes continues to resonate with readers decades after its publication, solidifying its status as a classic work of science fiction.

Conclusion:

Navigating the complexities of *Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep* can be a rewarding experience. By understanding the characters, exploring the central themes, and appreciating the novel's exploration of philosophical questions, you can gain a deeper appreciation for Dick's visionary storytelling and its enduring relevance to our modern world. This SparkNotes guide is just a starting point; delve into the book itself to uncover the full richness and depth of Philip K. Dick's literary masterpiece.

FAQs:

1. Is the movie *Blade Runner* a direct adaptation of the book? While inspired by the novel, *Blade Runner* takes creative liberties and departs significantly from the book's plot and themes.
2. What is the significance of the electric sheep in the novel? The electric sheep symbolizes the artificiality and lack of authenticity in the post-apocalyptic world, highlighting the longing for genuine connection with nature and life.
3. How does the novel explore religious themes? The novel touches upon religious themes through Rick's wavering faith and the significance of Mercerism, a religious movement emphasizing empathy and collective consciousness.
4. What is the meaning of the title? The title itself poses the central question of the novel: Can androids, with their advanced capabilities, experience emotions and consciousness on par with humans?
5. What is the overall message of the novel? The novel ultimately encourages reflection on what defines humanity, the importance of empathy, and the potential dangers of unchecked technological advancement and the resulting dehumanization.

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: *Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?*
Philip K. Dick, 1975 By 2021, the Terminus War had driven mankind off-planet and entire species into extinction. Now only the rich can afford living creatures; others may buy amazingly realistic simulacrae: horses, cats, sheep ... Even humans. These artificial people are so advanced it's impossible to tell them from true men and women--except for their lack of empathy. Without empathy, androids can--and do--kill their owners and blend into society, so they're illegal on Earth. It's Rick Deckard's job to find these rogues and retire them. But androids tend to fight back--with deadly results.

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: We Can Remember It for You Wholesale Philip K. Dick, 1987 This volume of the classic stories of Philip K. Dick offers an intriguing glimpse into the early imagination of one of science fiction's most enduring and respected names. Since his untimely death in 1982, interest in Dick's work has continued to mount and his

reputation has been enhanced by a growing body of critical attention as well as many films based on his stories and novels. Featuring the story *We Can Remember It for You Wholesale*, which inspired the major motion picture *Total Recall*, this collection draws from the writer's earliest fiction, written during the years 1952-55. Also included are fascinating works such as *The Adjustment Team* (basis of the 2011 movie *The Adjustment Bureau*), *Impostor* (basis of the 2001 movie), and many others. A useful acquisition for any serious SF library or collection. --Kirkus Reviews More than anyone else in the field, Mr. Dick really puts you inside people's minds. --Wall Street Journal The collected stories of Philip K. Dick are awe-inspiring. --Washington Post

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: *The Secret of Dreams* Yacki Raizun, 2009-05-01 Have you ever awoken from a particularly vivid dream to wonder what it could possibly mean? Do our nighttime reveries have real meaning and significance, or are they nothing more than random white noise generated as our brains recharge? In *The Secret of Dreams*, author Yacki Raizun presents a remarkably comprehensive overview of the deeper meaning of these strange and wondrous mental fantasies.

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: *The Android's Dream* John Scalzi, 2007-04-01 From New York Times bestseller and Hugo Award-winner John Scalzi, a wild-and-woolly caper novel of interstellar diplomacy A human diplomat creates an interstellar incident when he kills an alien diplomat in a most . . . unusual . . . way. To avoid war, Earth's government must find an equally unusual object: a type of sheep (*The Android's Dream*), used in the alien race's coronation ceremony. To find the sheep, the government turns to Harry Creek, ex-cop, war hero and hacker extraordinaire, who, with the help of a childhood friend turned artificial intelligence, scours the earth looking for the rare creature. But there are others with plans for the sheep as well. Mercenaries employed by the military. Adherents of a secret religion based on the writings of a 21st century SF author. And alien races, eager to start a revolution on their home world and a war on Earth. To keep our planet from being enslaved, Harry will have to pull off a grand diplomatic coup, a gambit that will take him from the halls of power to the lava-strewn battlefields of alien worlds. There's only one chance to get it right, to save the life of the sheep—and to protect the future of humanity. Other Tor Books *The Android's Dream* Agent to the Stars Your Hate Mail Will Be Graded Fuzzy Nation Redshirts 1. Lock In 2. Head On The Interdependency Sequence 1. The Collapsing Empire 2. The Consuming Fire Old Man's War Series 1. Old Man's War 2. The Ghost Brigades 3. The Last Colony 4. Zoe's Tale 5. The Human Division 6. The End of All Things At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: *84K* Claire North, 2018-05-22 A powerful dystopian vision of a world where money reigns supreme, from a World Fantasy Award-winning author. An extraordinary novel that stands with the best of dystopian fiction, with dashes of *The Handmaid's Tale*. --Cory Doctorow The penalty for Dani Cumali's murder: \$84,000. Theo works in the Criminal Audit Office. He assesses each crime that crosses his desk and makes sure the correct debt to society is paid in full. These days, there's no need to go to prison -- provided that you can afford to pay the penalty for the crime you've committed. If you're rich enough, you can get away with murder. But Dani's murder is different. When Theo finds her lifeless body, and a hired killer standing over her and calmly calling the police to confess, he can't let her death become just an entry on a balance sheet. Someone is responsible. And Theo is going to find them and make them pay. Perfect for fans of *1984* and *Never Let Me Go*, Claire North's moving and unnerving new novel will resonate with readers around the world.

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: *Digital Culture* Charlie Gere, 2009-01-15 From our bank accounts to supermarket checkouts to the movies we watch, strings of ones and zeroes suffuse our world. Digital technology has defined modern society in numerous ways, and the vibrant digital culture that has now resulted is the subject of Charlie Gere's engaging volume. In this revised and expanded second edition, taking account of new developments such as Facebook and the iPhone, Charlie Gere charts in detail the history of digital culture, as marked by responses to digital technology in art, music, design, film, literature and other areas. After tracing the historical

development of digital culture, Gere argues that it is actually neither radically new nor technologically driven: digital culture has its roots in the eighteenth century and the digital mediascape we swim in today was originally inspired by informational needs arising from industrial capitalism, contemporary warfare and counter-cultural experimentation, among other social changes. A timely and cutting-edge investigation of our contemporary social infrastructures, *Digital Culture* is essential reading for all those concerned about the ever-changing future of our Digital Age. "This is an excellent book. It gives an almost complete overview of the main trends and view of what is generally called digital culture through the whole post-war period, as well as a thorough exposition of the history of the computer and its predecessors and the origins of the modern division of labor."—*Journal of Visual Culture*

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: *The Bladerunner* Alan E Nourse, 2013-04-12 Billy Gimp was a bladerunner . . . one of the shadowy procurers of illegal medical supplies for the rapidly expanding, nightmare world of the medical black market. Doc was a skilled surgeon at a government-operated hospital by day . . . and an underground physician by night, providing health care for the multitudes who could not - or would not - qualify for legal medical assistance. Trapped by Health Control Police, Billy Gimp knew he had to warn Doc that they were closing in on him. But something even more deadly than the law had already made its first move . . . a new plague that Health Control could not handle!

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: *Oxford Bookworms Library: Stage 5: Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?* Philip K. Dick, Andy Hopkins, Joc Potter, 2007-12-06 Word count 31,300

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: *The Crying of Lot 49* Thomas Pynchon, 2012-06-13 One of The Atlantic's Great American Novels of the Past 100 Years "The comedy crackles, the puns pop, the satire explodes."—*The New York Times* "The work of a virtuoso with prose . . . His intricate symbolic order [is] akin to that of Joyce's *Ulysses*."—*Chicago Tribune* "A puzzle, an intrigue, a literary and historical tour de force."—*San Francisco Examiner* The highly original satire about Oedipa Maas, a woman who finds herself enmeshed in a worldwide conspiracy. When her ex-lover, wealthy real-estate tycoon Pierce Inverarity, dies and designates her the coexecutor of his estate, California housewife Oedipa Maas is thrust into a paranoid mystery of metaphors, symbols, and the United States Postal Service. Traveling across Southern California, she meets some extremely interesting characters, and attains a not inconsiderable amount of self-knowledge.

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: *The Yellow Sign* Robert W. Chambers, 2024-10-18 In *The Yellow Sign*, a painter and his model become ensnared in a series of eerie events linked to a mysterious, unsettling symbol. As they uncover more about *The King in Yellow*, an enigmatic play that drives people to madness, their lives spiral into paranoia and terror. The story explores themes of fate, madness, and the supernatural as they face a grotesque figure from the artist's nightmares.

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: *Klara and the Sun* Kazuo Ishiguro, 2021-03-02 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • Once in a great while, a book comes along that changes our view of the world. This magnificent novel from the Nobel laureate and author of *Never Let Me Go* is "an intriguing take on how artificial intelligence might play a role in our futures ... a poignant meditation on love and loneliness" (*The Associated Press*). • A GOOD MORNING AMERICA Book Club Pick! Here is the story of Klara, an Artificial Friend with outstanding observational qualities, who, from her place in the store, watches carefully the behavior of those who come in to browse, and of those who pass on the street outside. She remains hopeful that a customer will soon choose her. *Klara and the Sun* is a thrilling book that offers a look at our changing world through the eyes of an unforgettable narrator, and one that explores the fundamental question: what does it mean to love?

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: *I Still Dream* James Smythe, 2018-04-05 "The best fictional treatment of the possibilities and horrors of artificial intelligence that I've read"

Guardian In 1997 Laura Bow invented Organon, a rudimentary artificial intelligence.

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: *The Physics of Superheroes: Spectacular Second Edition* James Kakalios, 2009-11-03 A complete update to the hit book on the real physics at work in comic books, featuring more heroes, more villains, and more science Since 2001, James Kakalios has taught Everything I Needed to Know About Physics I Learned from Reading Comic Books, a hugely popular university course that generated coast-to-coast media attention for its unique method of explaining complex physics concepts through comics. With *The Physics of Superheroes*, named one of the best science books of 2005 by Discover, he introduced his colorful approach to an even wider audience. Now Kakalios presents a totally updated, expanded edition that features even more superheroes and findings from the cutting edge of science. With three new chapters and completely revised throughout with a splashy, redesigned package, the book that explains why Spider-Man's webbing failed his girlfriend, the probable cause of Krypton's explosion, and the Newtonian physics at work in Gotham City is electrifying from cover to cover.

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: *Marionettes, Inc* Ray Bradbury, 2009 In five stories (one of them original to this collection, plus a rare, previously unpublished screen treatment) Bradbury explores the concept of Robotics and examines its impact on the day-to-day lives of ordinary people.

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: *How to Read Like a Writer* Mike Bunn, When you Read Like a Writer (RLW) you work to identify some of the choices the author made so that you can better understand how such choices might arise in your own writing. The idea is to carefully examine the things you read, looking at the writerly techniques in the text in order to decide if you might want to adopt similar (or the same) techniques in your writing. You are reading to learn about writing. Instead of reading for content or to better understand the ideas in the writing (which you will automatically do to some degree anyway), you are trying to understand how the piece of writing was put together by the author and what you can learn about writing by reading a particular text. As you read in this way, you think about how the choices the author made and the techniques that he/she used are influencing your own responses as a reader. What is it about the way this text is written that makes you feel and respond the way you do?

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: *Second Variety* Philip K. Dick, 2016-01-18 In a world torn apart by endless warfare between the Soviet Union and the United Nations, humanity struggles to survive amidst the desolation of a nuclear wasteland. Philip K. Dick's captivating short story, *Second Variety*, delves deep into the consequences of war and the relentless pursuit of power. Originally published in 1953, this chilling science fiction masterpiece has inspired blockbuster films like *Screamers* and its sequel *Screamers: The Hunting*. From the author that brought you timeless cinematic classics such as *Blade Runner*, *Total Recall*, and *Minority Report*, comes an unforgettable adventure that will leave you questioning the boundaries of trust and the cost of destruction. As Russia pushes the United States to the brink, the UN devises a last-ditch effort to win the war-- an arsenal of deadly, self-replicating assassin machines known as claws. Equipped with the ability to evolve and the sole objective to exterminate all living organisms, the claws are programmed to recognize and spare those who wear designated badges. But when the machines begin to uncover unexpected ways to outsmart their creators, the very existence of life on Earth is threatened. *Second Variety* presents a gripping and thought-provoking story that challenges the nature of humanity and the ramifications of technology gone awry. With unforgettable characters, nail-biting suspense, and an unsettling take on a dystopian future, this is one book you won't be able to put down.

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: *Make Room! Make Room!* Harry Harrison, 2010-07-01 A detective hunts down a killer in a dystopian, overpopulated NYC in this classic science fiction novel that inspired the film *Soylent Green*. Originally published in 1966, *Make Room! Make Room!* imagines a world at the end of the twentieth century where Earth is so overwhelmed by rampant population growth that it teeters on the edge of self-destruction. In New York City alone, thirty-five million people are squeezed into its packed boroughs, scrambling like rats for the world's

dwindling resources. The only food available is a product called soylent. And while the government tries to maintain order, the rich get richer and the poor stay underfoot. Finding a killer in this broken world is one hell of a job. But that's exactly what Det. Andy Rusch has been assigned to do. If he can stay alive long enough, he might just solve the biggest case he's ever been on—unless humanity finally fulfills its promise and destroys itself first.

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: The World Jones Made Philip K. Dick, 2012 What if you could see into the future? Award-winning author Philip K. Dick examines precognition in this influential novel.

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: In Search of Our Mothers' Gardens Alice Walker, 2004 Walker's essays and articles written between 1966 and 1982 discuss the concept and influence of art and the artist's life, criticisms of authors such as Jean Toomer and Zora Neale Hurston, studies in the civil rights movement and feminist movement, and her own ideas while writing her book *The Color Purple*.

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: The Lottery Shirley Jackson, 2008 A seemingly ordinary village participates in a yearly lottery to determine a sacrificial victim.

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: Valis Philip K. Dick, 2004-08-03 Valis is the first book in Philip K. Dick's incomparable final trio of novels (the others being *The Divine Invasion* and *The Transmigration of Timothy Archer*). This disorienting and bleakly funny work is about a schizophrenic hero named Horselover Fat; the hidden mysteries of Gnostic Christianity; and reality as revealed through a pink laser. Valis is a theological detective story, in which God is both a missing person and the perpetrator of the ultimate crime. The fact that what Dick is entertaining us about is reality and madness, time and death, sin and salvation--this has escaped most critics. Nobody notices that we have our own homegrown Borges, and have had him for thirty years.--Ursula K. Le Guin, *New Republic* From the Trade Paperback edition.

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: The Golden Man Philip K. Dick, 2014-12-16 The DCA is a government agency tasked with tracking down humans born with superhuman mutations, all of whom are considered a threat to the continued survival of the human race. But even seasoned veterans of the DCA worry that one day they will encounter a mutant that they cannot best—the mutant who will be the first of an entirely new species that will replace *Homo sapiens* as the dominant species on the planet. Philip K. Dick was an American science-fiction novelist, short-story writer and essayist. His first short story, "Beyond Lies the Wub," was published shortly after his high school graduation. Some of his most famous short stories were adapted for film, including "The Minority Report," "Paycheck," "Second Variety" (adapted into the film *Screamers*) and "We Can Remember It For You Wholesale" (adapted into the film *Total Recall*). HarperCollins brings great works of literature to life in digital format, upholding the highest standards in ebook production and celebrating reading in all its forms. Look for more titles in the HarperCollins short-stories collection to build your digital library.

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: Philip K. Dick is Dead, Alas Michael Bishop, 1994 Science fiction-roman.

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: 24/7 Jonathan Crary, 2013 Capitalism's colonization of every hour in the day

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: The Best of Walter M. Miller Jr Walter M. Miller, 2000 From the author of the acclaimed *A Canticle for Leibowitz* (for which he won the Hugo Award) comes this classic collection of short fiction.

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: Bük #13 Richard Wright, 2005

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: Silent Interviews Samuel R. Delany, 2018-08-14 Collected interviews featuring the Nebula Award-winning author and his thoughts on topics like literary criticism, comic books, race, and sexuality. For nearly three decades, Samuel R. Delany's science fiction has transported millions of readers to the fringes of time, technology, and outer space. Now Delany surveys the realms of his own experience as a writer, critic, theorist, and gay Black man in this collection of written interviews, a type of guided essay. Because the written

interview avoids the “mutual presence positioned at the semantic core” of traditional interview, Delany explains, “a kind of cut remains between the participants—a fissure in which the truths there may be more malleable, less rigid.” Within that fissure Delany pursues the breadth and depth of his ideas on language and theory, the politics of literary composition, the experience of marginality, and the philosophical, commercial, and personal contexts of writing today. Gathered from sources as diverse as *Diacritics* and *The Comics Journal*, these interviews reveal the broad range of Delany’s thought and interests. “Delany has a unique place in late twentieth century letters. A lifelong inhabitant of the margins, both social and literary, he has used his marginalized status as a lens to focus his astute observations of American literature and society. From these interviews his voice emerges, provocative, precise, and engaging.” —Kathleen Spencer, University of Nebraska “Samuel R. Delany never shies away from contestable positions or provocative opinions. In his fiction, Delany can write like quicksilver, and in lectures or panel discussions, he is easily SF’s most articulate spokesperson in academia. . . . There is much here that is not covered in Delany’s critical or autobiographical writings, and much that anyone seriously interested in SF—or many of Delany’s other favorite topics—ought to consider.” —*Locus* “Delany is fascinating whether discussing SF, comics, or his experiences as a Black American, and this collection . . . is as entertaining as it is informative.” —*Science Fiction Chronicle* “Yevgeny Zamyatin? Stanislaw Lem? Forget it! Delany is both, with a lot of Borges and Bruno Schultz thrown in.” —*Village Voice*

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: Burning Chrome William Gibson, 2014-04-15 “A breath of fresh air . . . the vision is deeply imagined, very complete and controlled . . . Gibson is truly brilliant.”—*Washington Times* magazine From a true master of science fiction comes a collection of short stories that show how, no matter the length, Gibson is one of the greatest writers working today. Known for his seminal science fiction novel *Neuromancer*, and for the acclaimed books *Pattern Recognition*, *The Peripheral*, and *Agency*, William Gibson is actually best when writing short fiction. Tautly written and suspenseful, *Burning Chrome* collects 10 short stories, including some written with Bruce Sterling, John Shirley, and Michael Swanwick, and with a preface from Bruce Sterling, now available for the first time in trade paperback. These brilliant, high-resolution stories show Gibson’s characters and intensely realized worlds at their absolute best, from the chip-enhanced couriers of “Johnny Mnemonic” to the street-tech melancholy of “Burning Chrome.”

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: The Witches Stacy Schiff, 2015-10-27 The Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Cleopatra*, the #1 national bestseller, unpacks the mystery of the Salem Witch Trials. It began in 1692, over an exceptionally raw Massachusetts winter, when a minister's daughter began to scream and convulse. It ended less than a year later, but not before 19 men and women had been hanged and an elderly man crushed to death. The panic spread quickly, involving the most educated men and prominent politicians in the colony. Neighbors accused neighbors, parents and children each other. Aside from suffrage, the Salem Witch Trials represent the only moment when women played the central role in American history. In curious ways, the trials would shape the future republic. As psychologically thrilling as it is historically seminal, *The Witches* is Stacy Schiff's account of this fantastical story -- the first great American mystery unveiled fully for the first time by one of our most acclaimed historians.

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: A Journey Edith Wharton, 2014-03-01 *A Journey* is a short story by Edith Wharton. Edith Wharton (born Edith Newbold Jones; January 24, 1862 – August 11, 1937) was a Pulitzer Prize-winning American novelist, short story writer, and designer. She was nominated for the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1927, 1928 and 1930. Wharton combined her insider's view of America's privileged classes with a brilliant, natural wit to write humorous, incisive novels and short stories of social and psychological insight. She was well acquainted with many of her era's other literary and public figures, including Theodore Roosevelt. Wharton was born to George Frederic Jones and Lucretia Stevens Rhineland in New York City. She had two brothers, Frederic Rhineland and Henry Edward. The saying Keeping up with the Joneses is said to refer to her father's family. She was also related to the Rensselaer family,

the most prestigious of the old patroon families. She had a lifelong friendship with her Rhinelander niece, landscape architect Beatrix Farrand of Reef Point in Bar Harbor, Maine. In 1885, at 23, she married Edward (Teddy) Robbins Wharton, who was 12 years older. From a well-established Philadelphia family, he was a sportsman and gentleman of the same social class and shared her love of travel. From the late 1880s until 1902, he suffered acute depression, and the couple ceased their extensive travel. At that time his depression manifested as a more serious disorder, after which they lived almost exclusively at The Mount, their estate designed by Edith Wharton. In 1908 her husband's mental state was determined to be incurable. She divorced him in 1913. Around the same time, Edith was overcome with the harsh criticisms leveled by the naturalist writers. Later in 1908 she began an affair with Morton Fullerton, a journalist for *The Times*, in whom she found an intellectual partner. In addition to novels, Wharton wrote at least 85 short stories. She was also a garden designer, interior designer, and taste-maker of her time. She wrote several design books, including her first published work, *The Decoration of Houses* of 1897, co-authored by Ogden Codman. Another is the generously illustrated *Italian Villas and Their Gardens* of 1904.

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: *Generation X* Douglas Coupland, 1991
Three twenty-something young adults, working at low-paying, no-future jobs, tell one another modern tales of love and death.

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: *Tender Is the Flesh* Agustina Bazterrica, 2020-08-04
Working at the local processing plant, Marcos is in the business of slaughtering humans—though no one calls them that anymore. His wife has left him, his father is sinking into dementia, and Marcos tries not to think too hard about how he makes a living. After all, it happened so quickly. First, it was reported that an infectious virus has made all animal meat poisonous to humans. Then governments initiated the “Transition.” Now, eating human meat—“special meat”—is legal. Marcos tries to stick to numbers, consignments, processing. Then one day he’s given a gift: a live specimen of the finest quality. Though he’s aware that any form of personal contact is forbidden on pain of death, little by little he starts to treat her like a human being. And soon, he becomes tortured by what has been lost—and what might still be saved.

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: *Machines Like Me* Ian McEwan, 2019-04-23
From the Booker Prize winner and bestselling author of *Atonement*—“a sharply intelligent novel of ideas” (*The New York Times*) that asks whether a machine can understand the human heart, or whether we are the ones who lack understanding. Set in an uncanny alternative 1982 London—where Britain has lost the Falklands War, Margaret Thatcher battles Tony Benn for power, and Alan Turing achieves a breakthrough in artificial intelligence—*Machines Like Me* powerfully portrays two lovers who will be tested beyond their understanding. Charlie, drifting through life and dodging full-time employment, is in love with Miranda, a bright student who lives with a terrible secret. When Charlie comes into money, he buys Adam, one of the first generation of synthetic humans. With Miranda's assistance, he codesigns Adam's personality. The near-perfect human that emerges is beautiful, strong, and smart—and a love triangle soon forms. Ian McEwan's subversive, gripping novel poses fundamental questions: What makes us human—our outward deeds or our inner lives? Could a machine understand the human heart? This provocative and thrilling tale warns against the power to invent things beyond our control. Don't miss Ian McEwan's new novel, *Lessons*, coming in September!

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: *Tears of the Trufflepig* Fernando A. Flores, 2019-05-14

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: *Minority Report* Philip K. Dick, 2002
Imagine a future where crimes can be detected before they are committed, and criminals are convicted and sentenced for crimes before committing them. This is the scenario of Philip K. Dick's classic story, now filmed by Steven Spielberg, starring Tom Cruise. In addition to 'Minority Report' this exclusive collection includes nine other outstanding short stories by the twentieth century's outstanding sf master, three of which have been made into feature films.

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: *The Divine Invasion* Philip K. Dick,

2005-03-08 n The Divine Invasion, Philip K. Dick asks: What if God--or a being called Yah--were alive and in exile on a distant planet? How could a second coming succeed against the high technology and finely tuned rationalized evil of the modern police state? The Divine Invasion blends Judaism, Kabbalah, Zoroastrianism, and Christianity into a fascinating fable of human existence (West Coast Review of Books). From the Trade Paperback edition.

sparknotes do androids dream of electric sheep: My Mother is a Fish William Faulkner, Janet C. Nosek, 2000 This book is a powerful discussion of the novels, short stories, and poems of William Faulkner. Intended for both the general reader as well as those already fully acquainted with his work, My Mother is a Fish illustrates the wisdom and genius of this great modernist of classical twentieth century American Literature. Janet C. Nosek provides a personal commentary on quotations and short passages that show the wide range of style, language, themes, and connections found in Faulkner's fiction. Both instructive and entertaining, this book will be of great interest to literary scholars and a helpful ancillary text as well.

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