

Christoph Bode (Ed.)

NARRATING FUTURES

Kathleen Singles

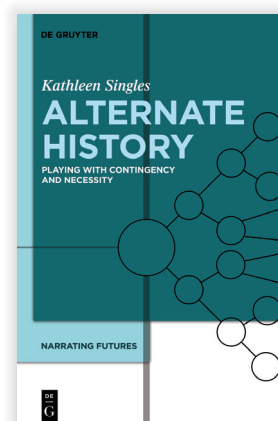
VOLUME 5: ALTERNATE HISTORY

Playing with Contingency and Necessity

- ▶ European Research Council Advanced Investigator Grant Research Project
- ▶ First large-scale conceptualization of future narratives Offering a theoretical blueprint for mediating political, environmental, and business decision processes

While, strictly speaking, Alternate Histories are not Future Narratives, their analysis can shed a clear light on why Future Narratives are so different from past narratives. Trying to have it both ways, most Alternate Histories subscribe to a conflicting set of beliefs concerning determinism and freedom of choice, contingency and necessity. For the very first time, Alternate Histories are here discussed against the backdrop of their Other, Future Narratives. The volume contains in-depth analyses of the classics of the genre, such as Philip K. Dick's *The Man in the High Castle* and Philip Roth's *The Plot against America*, as well as less widely-discussed manifestations of the genre, such as Dieter Kühn's *N*, Christian Kracht's *Ich werde hier sein im Sonnenschein und im Schatten*, and Quentin Tarantino's film *Inglourious Basterds*.

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