

*“Military Science Fiction”/Action Novels*

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“I went into a public-'ouse to get a pint o' beer,  
The publican 'e up an' sez, "We serve no red-coats here."  
The girls be'ind the bar they laughed an' giggled fit to die,  
I outs into the street again an' to myself sez I:  
O it's Tommy this, an' Tommy that, an' "Tommy, go away";  
But it's "Thank you, Mister Atkins", when the band begins to play,  
The band begins to play, my boys, the band begins to play,  
O it's "Thank you, Mister Atkins", when the band begins to play.” - “Tommy” A Poem  
by Rudyard Kipling respected military fiction writer.

The theme of my collection is military science fiction with an emphasis on martial arts, the cyber-punk sub-genre and varied approaches to this theme. My collection includes numerous books/graphic novels by foreign author's (principally from Japan) which I believe represent an undervalued sub-genre of books that are generally overlooked in this country. As both an engineer and a student of military history, speculative fiction on the topic of war in the future and the many other themes related to that topic has appealed to me since I was about six or seven years of age.

My actual collection of science fiction novels both as part of this genre and outside of it has given me a lot of pleasure over the years and I continue to add books I consider to be of high quality. In addition, fascinating and intelligent characters are a staple of this genre, which I feel has always been a major point of interest for me in all fictional books. Taking perhaps something as simple as a single idea and transforming that into a believable, compelling portrait of a person with foibles and faults and a history is a pure form of art. My dream has been to write stories like these since I was extremely young. The novels I have collected represent a great deal of study and time in finding stories I consider compelling and insightful and examining what I feel makes these stories so purely enjoyable with the hope that I might someday write something just as entertaining and intelligent.

This is no small task, given the many excellent authors I feel are represented in my collection but I know for a fact that my reading and intense study of numerous and varied writing styles like the ones seen here has led to a decided improvement of my own creative writing. The characters in the novels I have collected are soldiers, prostitutes, cowards, heroes, martyrs, mad-men and above all very human. In addition, many of them are warriors. This is a noble if sometimes tragic occupation, but I have enjoyed reading all of their stories and I hope my interest in such stories that have taken the classic construct of “warrior” and gone to the future with it is obvious. Thank you for your time.