



Afrofuturism: What if...?

Our theme for the coming year

With so many strange and horrifying things happening in the world, so many things changing quickly for better and for worse, so many old patterns of power, disparity and oppression entrenched, and the future as uncertain as it always was, only feeling a little more so, **what if we could turn to Afrofuturist literature to show us a way forward?**

Black folks and other oppressed people in America and the world have been imagining creative futures that can help us ask and answer questions like:

- What if we all were free?
- What if nobody ever went hungry?
- What if the oceans rose 10 feet in one year?
- What if we could travel through space?
- What if we could live forever?
- What if plants could talk?

Afrofuturist speculative fiction lets us ask, what if...?

Narratives of imaginary times and places, of things that exist far, far away and times long ago or still to come can be a powerful avenue for contemplation and creative engagement with the problems and possibilities of living.

'Afrofuturism' and 'Speculative fiction' are broad categories that include but aren't limited to science fiction, fantasy, alternative history. What if now's a great time for imagining?