# Standing At an Angle to the Universe Reading List

**Episode I**: "The Tyranny of the Printed Word"

**Episode II**: "The Midnight Shores of Space" (Science Fiction)

**Episode III**: "Sisters of Mercy" (Women Writers)

**Episode IV**: "Tell Us a Scary Story" (Horror Fiction)

Episode V: "With Truthful Hands" (Poetry)

**Episode VI**: "In Praise of Lost Books"

Episode VII: "DIY Publishing, A Masterclass"

**Episode VIII:** "Building Character"

**Episode IX**: "When the Blade Cuts Too Deep" (Satire)

Episode X: "Kafka & Me"

## Episode I: "The Tyranny of the Printed Word"

Ballard, J.G. High Rise; Running Wild; The Complete Short Stories

Baum, L. Frank The Wizard of Oz

Beattie, Ann Chilly Scenes of Winter; Secrets and Surprises

Beaumont, Charles *The Fiend in You* (Ed.); *Yonder* (stories)

Beckett, Samuel The Complete Short Prose; End Game

Bradbury, Ray Something Wicked This Way Comes; The Golden Apples of the Sun

Borges, Jorge Luis Labyrinths; Ficciones

Burgess, Anthony Earthly Powers; A Clockwork Orange

Butler, Octavia Parable of the Talents; Kindred

Celine, Louis-Ferdinand Journey to the End of the Night; Death on the Installment Plan

Chandler, Raymond The Big Sleep; The Lady in the Lake

Christie, Agatha

Crumley, James The Last Good Kiss; One to Count Cadence

Dahl, Roald Switch Bitch (stories)

Delillo, Don Underworld; Mao II

Dick, Philip K. A Scanner Darkly; Ubik

Doyle, Arthur Conan

Eagleton, Terry Literary Theory: An Introduction

Ellison, Harlan I Have No Mouth and I Must Scream

Greene, Graham The End of the Affair; A Burnt Out Case

Hemingway, Ernest

Highsmith, Patricia

Illingworth, Dustin (Writer & Literary Critic)

Johnson, Adam Fortune Smiles

Kafka, Franz

Kalfus, Ken A Disorder Peculiar to the Country

Kipling, Rudyard

LeGuin, Ursula The Lathe of Heaven

Lehane, Dennis A Drink Before the War (and other books in "Kenzie/Gennaro" series)

Mailer, Norman The Executioner's Song

Marra, Anthony The Tsar of Love and Techno; Mercury Pictures Presents

Matheson, Richard The Shores of Space; Third From the Sun

McCarthy, Cormac Blood Meridian; Child of God

Nabokov, Vladimir Invitation to a Beheading

Pynchon, Thomas The Crying of Lot 49; V

Roth, Philip The Ghost Writer

Saunders, George CivilWarLand in Bad Decline; Tenth of December

Shakespeare, William

Sheckley, Robert Citizen in Space

Shepard, Jim The World to Come; Like You'd Understand Anyway

Solnit, Rebecca Men Explain Things to Me; Hope in the Dark

Stach, Reiner

Stone, Robert Outerbridge Reach; Damascus Gate

Thompson, Jim The Killer Inside Me; The Getaway; The Grifters

Vonnegut, Kurt *Cat's Cradle*; *Welcome to the Monkey House*Wallace, David Foster *Brief Interviews With Hideous Men*; *The Broom of the System*Whitehead, Colson *Underground Railroad*; *The Intuitionist*Willeford, Charles *Miami Blues*; *Cockfighter* 

#### Episode II: "The Midnight Shores of Space"

Akkad, Omar El American War; What Strange Paradise

Aldiss, Brian Man in His Time (stories)

Asimov, Isaac

Atwood, Margaret The Handmaid's Tale; Oryx and Crake

Ballard, J.G. The Atrocity Exhibition; Crash

Banks, Iain M. Excession; Consider Phlebas

Barnes, John A Million Open Doors

Bisson, Terry Talking Man

Bixby, Jerome Space by the Tale

Bradbury, Ray The Martian Chronicles

Brown, Christopher Tropic of Kansas; Rule of Capture

Butler, Octavia Kindred; Bloodchild and Other Stories

Chabon, Michael A Model World and other Stories; Manhood for Amateurs

Clarke, Arthur C. The Nine Billion Names of God; Childhood's End

Daniel, Tony Metaplanetary; Superluminal

Danvers, Dennis Circuit of Heaven; End of Days

Dick, Philip K. Three Stigmata Of Palmer Eldritch; Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep

Disch, Thomas Camp Concentration; On Wings of Song

Ellison, Harlan Strange Wine; Spider Kiss

Harrison, M. John Settling the World (stories)

Heinlein. Robert H.

Hjortsberg, William Gray Matters; Falling Angel

Ishiguro, Kazuo Never Let Me Go

Jemsin, N.K. The Hundred Thousand Kingdoms

Jeter, K.W. Dr. Adder; Farewell Horizontal

Kessel, John Good News From Outer Space

Laidlaw, Marc Kalifornia

LeGuin, Ursula The Left Hand of Darkness

Lem, Stanislaw Solaris; The Cyberiad

Mandel, Emily St. John Station Eleven; The Sea of Tranquility

Matheson, Richard I Am Legend; The Shrinking Man

McDonald, Ian Out On Blue Six; Desolation Road

Michel, Lincoln The Body Scout; Upright Beasts

Mitchell, David The Cloud Atlas; Ghostwritten

Morgan, Richard Altered Carbon; Woken Furies

Morrow, James Towing Jehovah; City of Truth

Wollow, James Towing Jenovan, City of Tr

Mosley, Walter Blue Light; Futureland

Pohl, Frederick The Age of the Pussyfoot

Reynolds, Alastair Revelation Space; Beyond the Aquila Drift

Robinson, Kim Stanley Aurora; The Years of Rice and Salt

Sheckley, Robert Pilgrimage to Earth; Citizen in Space

Shepard, Lucius Life During Wartime; Green Eyes

Silverberg, Robert The Best of Robert Silverberg

Smith, E.E. "Doc"

Smith, Michael Marshall Only Forward

Sorokin, Vladimir Telluria; The Ice Trilogy

Tiptree, James (Alice Sheldon) Her Smoke Rose Up Forever; The Starry Rift

Varley, John Steel Beach; The Barbie Murders (stories)

Vinge, Vernor A Fire Upon the Deep; A Deepness in the Sky

Vonnegut, Kurt Cat's Cradle; Slaughterhouse Five; Welcome to the Monkey House

Whitehead, Colson The Intuitionist; Zone One

Wilson, Adam Sensation Machines

Winters, Ben H. The Last Policeman; The Quiet Boy

Womack, Jack Ambient; Terraplane

#### Episode III: "Sisters of Mercy"

Acker, Kathy My Mother: Demonology; Pussy, King of the Pirates

Armstrong, Karen A Short History of Myth; A History of God

Atwood, Margaret The Edible Woman; Surfacing; The Year of the Flood

Austen, Jane

Barker, Pat The Eye in the Door; The Silence of the Girls; The Ghost Road

Beard, Mary S.P.Q.R.; Twelve Caesars; Confronting the Classics

Beattie, Ann Secrets & Surprises; Falling in Place; Park City

Bell, Gertrude Gertrude Bell: Queen of the Desert, Shaper of Nations (Georgina Howell)

Bishop, Elizabeth The Complete Poems

Elizabeth Barrett Browning Sonnets From the Portuguese

Robert Browning Men and Women

Carter, Angela Wise Children, The Bloody Chamber, Artificial Fire

Caws, Mary Ann The Milk Bowl of Feathers (Ed.) Surrealist Painters and Poets (Ed.)

Dickinson, Emily *The Essential Emily Dickinson* (Ed. Joyce Carol Oates)

Dillard, Annie Holy the Firm; Pilgrim At Tinker Creek

Findley, Timothy Not Wanted on the Voyage

Forche, Carolyn The Country Between Us; What You Have Heard Is True

Gellhorn, Martha The Face of War; Travels With Myself and Another

Perkins, Charlotte Gilman Moving the Mountain; Herland

Gluck, Louise Poems: 1962-2012; Winter Recipes From the Collective

Godwin, Doris Kearns Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln

Highsmith, Patricia The Talented Mr. Ripley

Homes, A.M. This Book Will Save Your Life; The Safety of Objects

Jackson, Shirley We Have Always Lived in the Castle; The Haunting of Hill House

Kafka, Franz

Kelton, Stephanie The Deficit Myth

Klein, Naomi This Changes Everything; No Logo; The Shock Doctrine

Koja, Kathe *The Cipher*; *Bad Brains*; *Velocities* (stories)

Krilanovich, Grace The Orange Eats Peaches

Laurence, Margaret The Stone Angel

Lawrence, T.E. The Seven Pillars of Wisdom

LeGuin, Ursula Earthsea; Always Coming Home; The Dispossessed

Le Tellier, Herve *The Anomaly* (trans. Adriana Hunter)

Levertov, Denise Candles in Babylon; Selected Poems

Levrero, Mario Luminous Novel (trans. Annie McDermott)

Luxemburg, Rosa Social Reform or Revolution?

Moore, Marianne The Complete Poems of Marianne Moore

Munro, Alice The Progress of Love; The Moons of Jupiter

Nye, Naomi Shihab Words Under the Words

Oldenbourg, Zoe The Cornerstone; The Heirs of the Kingdom

Olds, Sharon Stag's Leap; Strike Sparks: Selected Poems

Oliver, Mary Devotions: Selected Poems; A Thousand Mornings

Pagels, Elaine The Origin of Satan; The Gnostic Gospels

Parker, Dorothy Big Blond and Other Stories; The Portable Dorothy Parker

Plath, Sylvia Ariel; The Bell Jar

Rich, Adrienne Diving Into the Wreck; Of Woman Born

Rossetti, Christina Georgina Goblin Market and Other Poems

Rowling, J.K. A Casual Vacancy

Sappho The Poems of Sappho

Scurati, Antonio *M: Son of the Century* (trans. Anne Appel)

Sexton, Anne Mercies: Selected Poems; Live or Die; Transformations

Solnit, Rebecca The Faraway Nearby; Orwell's Roses

Stein, Gertrude The Autobiography of Alice B. Toklas; Tender Buttons

Szymborska, Wislawa Here; Nothing Twice: Selected Poems

Tartt, Donna The Secret History; The Goldfinch; The Little Friend

Thier, Hadas A People's Guide to Capitalism

Tiptree, James Warm Worlds and Otherwise; Brightness Falls From the Air

Tuchman, Barbara The Guns of August

Wilde, Oscar The Picture of Dorian Gray

Woolf, Virginia The Waves; To The Lighthouse; A Room Of One's Own

#### Episode IV: "Tell Us a Scary Story"

Banks, Iain The Wasp Factory

Barker, Clive The Damnation Game; The Books of Blood (I-VI)

Beaumont, Charles Perchance to Dream; The Hunger; Night Ride & Other Stories

Bisson, Terry Talking Man

Bradbury, Ray Something Wicked This Way Comes

Brite, Poppy Z.

Campbell, John W. Who Goes There?; The Best of John W. Campbell

Campbell, Ramsey The Face That Must Die, The Lonely Lands, Fellstones

Carroll, Jonathan Land of Laughs; The Bones of the Moon; Sleeping in Flame

Etchison, Dennis The Dark Country; Red Dreams; Talking in the Dark

Farmer, Philip Jose Image of the Beast

Fowler, Christopher Roofworld; Rune

Gaiman, Neil Coraline; American Gods; Ocean At the End of the Lane

Hawkins, Scott The Library At Mount Char

Herbert, James

Jackson, Shirley Dark Tales; We Have Always Lived in the Castle

James, M.R. Ghost Stories of an Antiquary; Collected Ghost Stories

Johnson, George Clayton All of Us Are Dying and Other Stories

Jones, Stephen Graham The Only Good Indians; Don't Fear the Reaper

Ketchum, Jack

King, Stephen The Shining; Salem's Lot; Night Shift

Koja, Kathe The Cipher; Strange Angels; Skin

Koontz, Dean

Kureishi, Hanif Love & Hate (Stories and Essays); The Buddha of Suburbia

Lansdale, Joe Savage Season; The Drive-In

Laymon, Richard

Lee, Edward

Leonard, Elmore Glitz; Killshot; Touch

Levin, Ira Rosemary's Baby; A Kiss Before Dying

Ligotti, Thomas Songs of a Dead Dreamer; Noctuary

Lovecraft, Howard Philips

Matheson, Richard I Am Legend; Duel: Terror Stories

McDowell, Michael Toplin

McEwan, Ian The Cement Garden; The Child in Time; Black Dogs

Nolan, William F. Logan's Run

Ruff, Matt Lovecraft County; Fool on the Hill

Serling, Rod

Skipp, John

Spector, Craig

Stein, Gertrude Tender Buttons

Topor, Roland *The Tenant* 

Tremblay, Paul Growing Things and Other Stories; A Head Full of Ghosts

Van Vogt, A.E. The Voyage of the Space Beagle; Black Destroyer

Wells, H.G. The War of the Worlds; The Island of Dr. Moreau

#### Episode V: "With Truthful Hands"

Arnold, Matthew Dover Beach and Other Poems

Bachmann, Ingeborg Darkness Spoken; Songs in Flight: Collected Poems

Baudelaire, Charles The Flowers of Evil; Selected Poems; Intimate Journals

Bachmann, Ingeborg Der Regenbaum; Die Sternenmühle

Byron, George Gordon (Lord) Major Works; Selected Poems

Celan, Paul Memory Rose Into Threshold Speech; Breathturn Into Timestead

Collins, Billy Picnic, Lightning; Sailing Alone Around the Room (New & Selected Poems)

Dickinson, Emily The Complete Poems; Letters of Emily Dickinson

Ginsberg, Allen Howl and Other Poems

Hall, Donald Without; Essays After Eighty

Heine, Heinrich Poems of Heinrich Heine

Hennen, Tom Darkness Sticks to Everything: Collected and New Poems

Hopkins, Gerald Manley Poems and Prose by Gerald Manley Hopkins

Housman, A.E. A Shropshire Lad; Last Poems

Jeffers, Robinson Cawdor and Other Poems; Selected Poetry

Kooser, Ted Delights and Shadows; Kindest Regards: New & Selected Poems

Millay, Edna St. Vincent Renascence and Other Poems; A Few Figs From Thistles

Milocz, Czeslaw Collected Poems

Moore, Marianne The Poems of Marianne Moore

Nye, Naomi Shihab Words Under the Words; A Maze Me (Poems For Girls)

Olds, Sharon Strike Sparks; Stag's Leap; The Dead and the Living

Oliver, Mary Why I Wake Early; Devotions; The House of Light

Owen, Wilfred Collected Poems

Plath, Sylvia The Unabridged Journals of Sylvia Plath; Colossus and Other Poems

Pound, Ezra Selected Poems

Rimbaud, Arthur Complete Works (trans. Paul Schmidt); Rimbaud (Graham Robb)

Sassoon, Siegfried War Poems of Siegfried Sassoon; Memoirs of an Infantry Officer

Shakespeare, William

Shelley, Percy The Major Works

Simic, Charles Come Closer and Listen; The Monster Loves His Labyrinth; The Lunatic

Swinburne, Algernon Selected Poems

Symborska, Wyzlawa View With a Grain of Sand; Poems New and Collected

Tennyson, Alfred (Lord) Maud and Other Poems; The Complete Works

Thomas, Dylan Collected Poems

Whitman, Walt Leaves of Grass

Wordsworth, William Selected Poems

Yeats, William Butler When You Are Old: Early Poems, Plays & Fairy Tales; Collected Poems

#### Episode VI: "In Praise of Lost Books"

Arendt, Hannah The Origins of Totalitarianism; Eichmann in Jerusalem

Baker, James Robert Fuel-Injected Dreams

Baker, Lorie The Glass Ocean

Baker, Nicholson Mezzanine

Barthelme, Donald Sixty Stories

Beaumont, Charles The Intruder

Benjamin, Walter One Way Street; The Arcades Project

Burroughs, William Cities of the Red Night

Cervantes, Miguel de *Don Quixote* (trans. Edith Grossman)

Christopher, Nicholas Somewhere in the Night; Veronica; A Trip to the Stars

Collins, Michael Lukan War

Deeping, Warwick

Di Filippo, Paul Ribofunk; Fractal Paisleys

Dodge, Jim Not Fade Away; Stone Junction

Dostoevsky, Feodor

Einstein, Charles The Only Game in Town

Ellison, Harlan Love Ain't Nothing But Sex Misspelled; Slippage

Erickson, Steve Days Between Stations; Tours of the Black Clock

Fairchild, William The Poppy Factory (aka No Man's Land)

Flaubert, Gustave

Goyen, William Collected Stories

Grant, Craig The Last India Overland

Grimwood, Ken Replay

Huston, Charlie The Mystic Arts of Erasing All Signs of Death

Kafka, Franz

Kersh, Gerald Night and the City; Nightshade & Damnations (stories)

Klise, Thomas S. The Last Western

Knipfel, Jim Slackjaw, The Buzzing

Kotzwinkle, William The Fan Man; Swimmer in a Secret Sea

Krilanovich, Grace The Orange Eats Creeps

Levi, Primo The Periodic Table; If This is a Man

Morgan, Seth Homeboy

Ohle, David Motorman

Othmer, James The Futurist

Redekop, Corey Shelf Monkey; Husk

Rodriguez, Abraham Spidertown

Schulz, Bruno The Street of Crocodiles and Other Stories

Southern, Terry Red Dirt Marijuana (stories); Blue Movie

Spinrad, Norman Bug Jack Barron

Tolstoy, Leo

Trocchi, Alexander Cain's Book; Young Adam

Wallace, Rich Wrestling Sturbridge

Ward, Mary

Welch, Denton A Voice Through a Cloud; In Youth is Pleasure

Wright, Harold Bell Yourgrau, Barry A Man Jumps Out of an Airplane; Wearing Dad's Head

#### Episode VII: "D.I.Y. Publishing"

Algren, Nelson Nonconformity

Alison, Jane Meander, Spiral, Explode

Dillard, Annie The Writing Life; Living by Fiction

Franzen, Jonathan How To Be Alone; Farther Away

Goldberg, Natalie Writing Down the Bones

Kakutani, Michiko The Death of Truth; Ex Libris: 100+ Books to Read and Reread

Kilodney, Crad Bang Heads Here Suffering Bastards; Sex Slaves of the Astro Mutants

Lamott, Annie Bird by Bird

McDermott, Alice What About the Baby: Some Thoughts on the Art of Fiction

Munro, Alice Lives of Girls and Women; Dear Life

Pressfield, Stephen Gates of Fire; Do the Work; The War of Art

Robinson, Edwin Arlington

Scott, A.O. Better Living Through Criticism

Truss, Lynne Eats, Shoots and Leaves

Updike, John Due Considerations: Essays and Criticism

Wood, James How Fiction Works

#### Episode VIII: "Building Character"

Amis, Martin Dead Babies

Blatty, William Peter The Exorcist; The Ninth Configuration

Burgess, Anthony Earthly Powers

Chandler, Raymond Farewell, My Lovely; The Long Goodbye

Crews, Harry A Feast of Snakes; Scar Lover

Crumley, James The Last Good Kiss

Dickens, Charles

Fagles, Robert The Odyssey; The Iliad

Ford, Richard Independence Day

Hamsun, Knut Hunger

Harris, Thomas The Silence of the Lambs

Harrison, Jim Brown Dog: Novellas; Legends of the Fall

Hassler, Jon Staggerford; A Green Journey

Haruf, Kent Plainsong; Benediction

Irving, John The World According to Garp

James. P.D. Cover Her Face; The Black Tower

Kotzwinkle, William The Fan Man

Lee, Harper To Kill a Mockingbird

McCarthy, Cormac Blood Meridian; Outer Dark

Russo, Richard Nobody's Fool; Somebody's Fool

Toole, John Kennedy A Confederacy of Dunces

Twain, Mark

Unknown The Epic of Gilgamesh

Williams, John Stoner

Yates, Richard Easter Parade

## Episode IX: "When the Blade Cuts Too Deep"

Amis, Martin Dead Babies; Money; London Fields

Apollinaire, Guillaime Alcools (poems)

Beatty, Paul The Sellout; White Boy Shuffle

Coe, Jonathan Winshaw Legacy (What a Carve-Up); Eleven

Gogol, Nicolai The Inspector General; Dead Souls

Hasek, Jaroslav The Good Soldier Svejk

Heller, Joseph Catch-22

Hodgart, Matthew Satire

Hooker, Richard M\*A\*S\*H; M\*A\*S\*H Goes to Maine

Juvenal *The Satires* 

Metcalfe, John General Ludd

Milligan, Spike Mussolini: His Part in My Downfall

Orwell, George Animal Farm; 1984

Palahniuk, Chuck Fight Club; Choke

Rabelais, François Gargantua and Pantagruel

Richler, Mordecai: Cocksure, Joshua Then and Now; Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz

Russo, Richard Straight Man

Serge, Victor Memoirs of a Revolutionary

Sorokin, Vladimir Telluria

Southern, Terry The Magic Christian; Blue Movie

Swift, Jonathan Gulliver's Travels

Thompson, Hunter S. Fear & Loathing in Las Vegas

Tolkin, Michael *The Player* 

Voltaire (aka François-Marie Arouet) Candide

Vonnegut, Kurt Breakfast of Champions, Slaughterhouse Five

Waugh, Evelyn Decline and Fall; Vile Bodies; Scoop, The Loved One

Zizek, Slavoj Living in the End Times; Heaven in Disorder

## Episode X: "Kafka & Me"

Baudelaire, Charles *The Flowers of Evil* 

Benjamin, Ross (Ed.) The Diaries of Franz Kafka

Benjamin, Walter Illuminations

Goodman, Brian K. The Nonconformists: American and Czech Writers Across the Iron Curtain Greene, Graham Collected Essays

Hawes, James Why You Should Read Kafka Before You Waste Your Life

Kafka, Franz Investigations of a Dog (Trans. Michael Hofmann); The Great Wall of China (trans. Malcolm Pasley); The Complete Stories (trans. Willa & Edwin Muir); The Complete Novels (trans. Muirs); Lost Writings (trans. Michael Hofmann); The Blue Octavo Notebooks (trans. Ernst Kaiser & Eithne Wilkins); The Penal Colony: Stories and Short Pieces (trans. Muirs)

Kilcher, Andreas (Ed.) Franz Kafka: The Drawings

Musil, Robert The Man Without Qualities

Rimbaud, Arthur Complete Works (trans. Paul Schmidt)

Schulz, Bruno Sanatorium Under the Sign of the Hourglass; The Street of Crocodiles
Stach, Reiner Three-volume biography: The Early Years; Years of Insight; Decisive Years
Also: Is That Kafka?; The Aphorisms of Franz Kafka (trans. Shelley Frisch)

Walser, Robert A Schoolboy's Diary; Selected Stories

<sup>&</sup>quot;The Trial" (1962) Written and Directed by Orson Welles (Astor Pictures)