

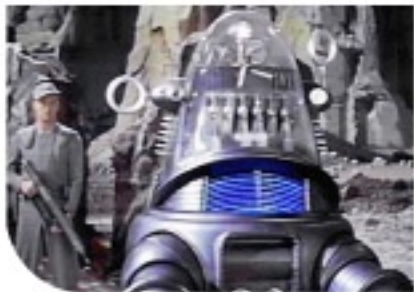


# FIFTIES SCI-FI



In just 30 years, wars that were once fought on horse back were now being fought using jet-engined planes and nuclear bombs. It is easy to see why in the 1950's, nothing seemed impossible. The technological progress that was driven by two world wars would soon bring space travel (SPUTNIK I, the first man-made earth satellite was launched by U.S.S.R. October 4th, 1957). The two emerging super-powers of America & USSR saw space as the next battleground, just as air superiority had been key to World War II. It was also a matter of national pride to achieve the first manned mission, and the first moon landing.

Little wonder that people turned their attention to the science of the stars. This was reflected in the movies of the era: When Worlds Collide (1951), It Came From Outer Space (1953), Earth vs the Flying Saucers (1956) and many other titles. Fifties Sci-Fi gave the audience good stories and fantastic visuals. They projected current issues and concerns into a futuristic or fantastic dimension. The universe had begun to seem less like an unfathomable mystery and more like a frontier to be conquered with all the technology of the age, but once we ventured to the stars, what would we find ?



In the late 40's and the 50's, UFO sightings quite regularly appeared in both local and national newspaper headlines all across America. From lights in the sky and silver disc shaped metallic flying saucers to strange alien forms. America in the 50's was gripped with Sci-Fi fever.

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