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Solarpunk Writing Resources

Writing aspirational fiction is hard. If you're trying to write a better world, you need to build actual, workable, solutions into your setting and that requires so much knowledge to do well. Descriptions in a single solarpunk scene on a pedestrianized city street could involve a mix of civil engineering, history, cultural knowledge, plant knowledge, city planning, accessibility outreach, mass transit vehicle design/infrastructure, and more. A whole story might add in permaculture practices, modern airship design and operation, phytoremediation, or all kinds of other stuff! Compare that to cyberpunk where there's both a sort of cultural familiarity to lean on, and a pass on bad ideas because you're writing in a dystopian setting, and the differences are pretty clear.

It's a lot for any one writer to try and take on. Luckily we don't have to work alone. Any future worth building is going to be pretty collaborative and consensus-driven, so it makes sense to build our depictions of it the same way.

Writing Research

Writers often need a level of detail that's hard to find in publications - news articles and pop science stuff tends to be too broad and lacking in specific detail (or incorrect) while industry publications tend to go in-depth on a narrow slice of a topic, assuming the reader has the baseline knowledge to put it into context. Our goal here is to start a culture of packaging up and sharing writer-level research to make writing solarpunk easier. If you've recently researched something for your own projects, or you're just someone who's passionate about a solarpunk subject and wants to see it represented correctly in fiction, this wiki is intended to provide a centralized place where you can share it!

If you have something you'd like to add, message the mods or post in the /c/writing community!

Library Economics

Salvage

Using Every Part of the Car

Deconstruction - salvaging entire buildings

Changing Transportation

Nautical Solarpunk - A Resource for Solarpunk Writers and Artists

Ropeways

Solarpunk Cities

Things to include in Solarpunk Cities

Reducing light pollution

Rural Areas in the Solarpunk Transition

Winter Solarpunk

Road Salt

Environmental Restoration

Beaver Dam Analogs

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