

Ballard's early science-fiction writing transformed the field and earned him plaudits as one of its most innovative and individual voices. But his development as a writer has taken him far beyond the confines of any single genre. This book traces Ballard's career from his early science-fiction short stories and novels to his most recent work. It argues that Ballard's writing is characterised by a distinctive vision of the post-war world and its possible futures, and suggests that his far-reaching analyses of the present age make him one of the indispensable commentators of our time.

The book concludes with a discussion of Ballard's timely reflections on the role of violence in contemporary social life, and argues that this vitally prescient writer has made an unprecedented contribution to the imaginative literature of the last half-century.