## **Contents**

1

Fragmented Allusions — 1

2 Tex	cts and Concepts — 6	
2.1	Utopia, dystopia, science fiction —— 6	
2.2	Utopian thought, utopian and science fiction theory —— 11	
2.3	Social sciences and philosophy —— 15	
2.4	Bible —— 18	
2.5	Bible as utopia —— 19	
3 Uto	opia as an Ideal Type —— 23	
3.1	The problem with defining utopia, dystopia, and science fiction —— 23	
3.2	Ideals and ideal type —— 25	
3.3	Max Weber and beyond —— 30	
3.4	Family resemblances and anachronisms —— 35	
3.5	Using an ideal type to read utopia in the Bible —— 36	
3.6	The concept of utopia for use with the Bible —— 38	
3.7	Creation and disruption of links between fiction and reality —— 43	
3.8	The impact of dating a utopia —— 45	
3.9	Features of literary utopias: fiction, history, place —— 46	
3.9.1	Realistic proposal or fiction —— 46	
3.9.2	Religion versus utopia —— 50	
3.9.3	The utopian pun —— 54	
4 Uto	opia and Reality —— 57	
4.1	"Zero Worlds" — 57	
4.2	Relationship between the fiction and the author's reality — 60	
4.2	Perceiving different utopias — 63	
4.3	Can utopias be understood without the reality behind them? — 68	
4.4	Reverse-engineering utopia —— 70	
4.4.1	Game rules — 70	
4.4.2	The abstraction's independent meaning —— 71	
4.4.3	Retrograde analysis of utopia —— 72	
5 Numbers 13 and Its Reception Read as Utopia and Dystopia —— 75		
5.1	Reality and utopia in William Bradford's reading of Numbers 13 —— 76	
5.1.1	Reading Numbers 13 as utopian blueprint —— 83	

5.1.2	Utopia into history: Cotton Mather reads Bradford and Numbers 13 —— 89
5.1.3	Estranged biblical utopia —— 91
5.2	Reality or utopia in maps: Numbers, Ezekiel, and scholarly reception —— 93
5.2.1	Functions of fictional maps — 94
5.2.2	Some biblical utopian maps — 97
5.2.3	The map of Numbers 13:17 – 26: A utopian map? —— 101
а	All of the land or part of the land? — 104
b	Returning elsewhere? (vv.25.26) — 105
c	Difficult representation —— 106
d	Paran or Kadesh —— 107
e	Şin and Rěḥōb, Lĕbō'-Ḥămāt —— 109
f	Negeb and Hebrôn —— 110
g	'Eškōl —— 111
h	The telescope effect —— 113
I	Elevated narrators —— 114
j	Moving narrators —— 115
k	Interviewing omniscient locals —— 117
t	Moving protagonists, encounter with locals, and consequences of ex
	ploration in Numbers 13 —— 118
5.3	Ezekiel's utopian boundaries and Numbers' boundaries —— 121
5.4	Implications —— 123
6 Ut	opia and Dystopia —— 126
6.1	Utopia, dystopia, anti-utopia —— 126
6.1.1	Utopia 126
6.1.2	Dystopia —— <b>126</b>
6.1.3	Anti-utopia —— 128
6.1.4	Form criticism? — 129
6.2	Ambiguous utopian and dystopian images in Numbers 13 —— 131
6.2.1	Fortified cities: asset and threat —— 132
6.2.2	Eating and being eaten —— 133
6.2.3	Giants' grapes —— 135
6.2.4	Escaping coercion —— 135
6.2.5	YHWH as utopian/dystopian leader —— 138
6.3	Simultaneous utopia and dystopia —— 141
6.3.1	Cyclical relationship of utopias and dystopias —— 142
6.3.2	Simultaneous "Ustopia" —— 144
6.3.3	Neutral spaces — 146

6.3.4	Utopian readers —— 148	
6.4	Excursus: Fantasy —— 152	
6.4.1	Elements of the fantastic —— 152	
6.4.2	World-building the Promised Land —— 157	
7 Sci	ence Fiction and the Bible —— 160	
7.1	The strange text —— 160	
7.2	Science fiction theory and the Bible — 161	
7.2.1	Darko Suvin: the "novum" —— 162	
7.2.2	Raymond Williams: types of transformations —— 166	
7.2.3	Margaret Atwood: mythological questions —— 168	
7.2.4	Eric Rabkin: the narrative world — 169	
7.2.5	Roland Boer: alternate world —— 170	
7.2.6	Discontinuities — 171	
7.3	Science fiction in Numbers 13: disposable characters, cyborgs, and	
	first contact — 173	
7.3.1	Red Shirts — 174	
7.3.2	Nephilim as cyborgs —— 176	
7.3.3	First contact —— 180	
7.4	A known yet unknown stranger —— 183	
8 Afte	erthoughts —— 192	
8.1	Reading with and as utopia —— 192	
8.2	Reading with and as science fiction —— 194	
Bibliography —— 197		
Index —— 206		