

The ENDLIT Codebook

Luca Paolo Bruno, Valeria Stabile, Juan Scassa

What follows is at the same time the codebook for ENDLIT's dataset and ENDLIT as a *mesotext*, that is a system of structured annotations to draw connections across primary sources (Boot 2009). It both outlines how ENDLIT's dataset has been coded as an ensemble of structured data and acts as a system for annotating works outside ENDLIT proper, and in doing so, connecting them with the works already within the database. Annotating works in this fashion is not only an addition to an existing dataset: it instead implies that the work being annotated possesses certain characteristics, and in particular, its storyworld, the fictional universe in which its plot is being depicted, is such that it can be discussed as a work of dystopian and/or post-apocalyptic fiction, *whatever its collocation may be*.

The capability to collocate works as dystopian and/or post-apocalyptic fiction regardless of its existing collocation is the most important aspect of ENDLIT as a *mesotext*. As dystopia has now affirmed itself as more of a critical lens (Cavalcanti 2020) than a genre, and arguably the same can be said of the post-apocalypse, approaches cannot be limited to works self-presenting as dystopian and/or post-apocalyptic fiction – it must extend itself well beyond. At the same time, however, connection cannot be arbitrary. This is why ENDLIT rest on works depicting fictional worlds featuring certain attributes in the form of a single, **Trigger Event** which: 1) is the catalyst for the storyworld's current state of affairs; 2) produces a separation from the work's creator's everyday life and the fictional world. In other words, the event must provide both an exposition of what the dangers of the present are, and at the same time provide the critical distance that allows the exploration of said dangers in the guise of fiction.

The Trigger Event, however, as outlined elsewhere, must be a flexible instrument. It cannot be an ever-expanding list of distinct examples, for the goal of ENDLIT is to connect across works and contexts. To do so, it is imperative that commonalities, and not differences, be emphasized, highlight the aspects of an ever-expanding, globally circulating niche of cultural production. To do so, it is necessary to account for numbers. This is why the trigger event is composed of four different sub-attributes, each describing an aspect of the event: *agency*, *type*, *kernel*, and *scale*. All of these attributes must be present in the description of the trigger event.

Agency seeks to answer questions about who is responsible for the catastrophe – is it humans or human-like agents, or is the responsible entity unknown, or not humanlike? **Type** seeks to provide information about what kind of catastrophe the work depicts: what is the trigger event, in concrete terms? Is it warfare? Is it an environmental catastrophe? Is it an alternation of everyday lifestyles so deep that it separates the storyworld from readers' everyday experiences? Or maybe it concerns something metaphysical, beyond

what may be perceived as verisimilar? **Kernel** provides answers to questions about which ways the catastrophe manifests itself: Is it an event internal to society? Is it external? Is it something that is depicted as happening in automatic, natural fashion? Is it left up to the reader's speculation? Is it simply unknown? Finally, **Scale** seeks to determine the size of the trigger event, from localized to multiversal.

This approach allows both inclusiveness across socio-cultural contexts and a level of granularity capable of accounting for works from multiple areas. With four possible agency attributes, four possible type attributes, five possible kernel attributes, and eight possible scale attributes, ENDLIT's trigger event system has a range of 640 possible results, allowing to draw connections across works, authors, time, and space, and juxtapose these annotations with other approaches such as select case studies. However, even this potential is not sufficient, because dystopian and post-apocalyptic works cannot be reduced to a trigger event. This is where ENDLIT features its secondary system, a long list of tags, each describing other aspects of the dystopian storyworld.

Differently than the trigger event, what the tag describes is more specific and varied. This has been done to allow for increased descriptive granularity. While ENDLIT still maintains a level of generalization in the service of inclusiveness, the list of specific developments provided by the tags allow us to better describe each work without straddling into over specific descriptions. The list is not exhaustive and is open to feedback and further development.

A general outline on how to use the codebook/mesotext

At this point, one might notice that there is still no indication as to how this codebook, this mesotext should be used. What are the rules for documenting works? The answer is that to use this mesotext, the user simply needs to label the work according to the various attribute descriptions. There is only one restriction: the trigger event must be present within the storyworld; if there is no way to describe even one of the trigger event's sub-attributes then the work might not possess the attributes needed for collocation as dystopian and/or post-apocalyptic fiction. It might also be the case that such a failure reveals issues within the descriptive attributes, which might then be criticized and improved upon. However, usage of this codebook/mesotext requires that its definitions be followed, and anything that does not fit into the definition to be rejected. After that, the work requires to be documented with all applicable tags, alternatively labeled as **direct consequences**, i.e. directly related to the trigger events, or as **aftermaths**, i.e. what happens after the trigger event but cannot be deemed a direct consequence. These are the vital pieces of information upon which ENDLIT operates. Everything else besides the work's own title (aftermath tags, media-specific information such as publication, media type etc.) comes after.

A word about creator entities

Within ENDLIT, entities – persons and/or organizations – responsible for the creation of a work are documented with their own data entry. While they are not the primary focus of ENDLIT as a database of dystopian and postapocalyptic works, they nevertheless represent an important source of information for the study of dystopian and postapocalyptic fiction. As such, an outline of creating entities has also been included below.

Outline of data entry fields – narrative works

id: *this field identifies the work within ENDLIT, allowing cross-reference. It is comprised by a two-letter identifier (op), a two-letter identifier for the geosociocultural area in which the work operates—Anglosphere (g-en), Japan (g-jp), and Latin America (g-es) at the time of writing—and a unique identifier, usually consisting of the title without spaces or special characters. Work titles written in non-latin scripts should be transcribed without special characters (macronized letters, symbols, etc.).*

First known title: *this field documents the work's first known title when placed in circulation, written according to established transcription practices (e.g. revised Hepburn for Japanese). Special characters may be used as needed. Enclosure within quotation marks (“”) is required.*

First edition: *this field documents the year in which the work first came into public circulation. Circulation does not have to be commercial in nature.*

Type: *this field documents the media work's typology—novel (prose narrative), video game (interactive ludic media), feature-length (movies longer than 60 minutes in length), serial (serialized TV broadcast narratives), sequential art (comic books, manga, bande dessinée, graphic novels).*

Creators: *This field connects the work to their creator entity's data entry within ENDLIT. It is comprised by a two-letter identifier (au), a two-letter identifier for the geosociocultural area in which the creator entity operates—Anglosphere (en), Japan (jp), and Latin America (es) at the time of writing—and finally a unique identifier comprise of the entity's name without spaces. Names written in non-latin scripts should be transcribed without special characters (macronized letters, symbols, etc.).*

Language: *this field documents the language in which the work is created—English (l-en), Japan (l-jp), and Spanish (l-es) at the time of writing.*

Publisher: *this field documents the work's publishing entity, if present, whose name is written in non-latin scripts are documented according to established transcription practices (e.g. revised Hepburn for Japanese). Special characters may be used. Special characters may be used as needed. Enclosure within quotation marks (“”) is required.*

Area: *this field documents the geosociocultural area in which the work operates—Anglosphere (g-en), Japan (g-jp), and Latin America (g-es) at the time of writing.*

Trigger event: *this field documents the work's trigger event, as outlined in the codebook's tables. It should be compiled as a list of entries separated by commas, listing one entry from each aspect of the trigger event (e.g. agency_anthropogenic, event_environmental, kernel_intra-societal, scale_planetary).*

Aftermaths: *this field document events occurring in the aftermath of the trigger event proper but otherwise not directly connected to its unfolding. It should be compiled as a list of tags separated by commas, as per the codebook's tables. The tags present within this list are mutually exclusive with those listed as 'Direct Consequences'. If one tag is listed under Aftermaths, it cannot be listed under Direct Consequences, and vice versa.*

Direct Consequences: *this field document events occurring as a direct consequence of the trigger event proper but otherwise not directly connected to its unfolding. It should be compiled as a list of tags separated by commas, as per the codebook's tables. The tags present within this list are mutually exclusive with those listed as 'Aftermaths'. If one tag is listed under Direct Consequences, it cannot be listed under Aftermaths, and vice versa.*

Outline of data entry fields – creator entities

id: *this field identifies the creator entity within ENDLIT, allowing cross-reference. It is comprised by a two-letter identifier (au), a two-letter identifier for the geosociocultural area in which the work operates—Anglosphere (en), Japan (jp), and Latin America (es) at the time of writing—and a unique identifier, usually consisting of the title without spaces or special characters. Work titles written in non-latin scripts should be transcribed without special characters (macronized letters, symbols, etc.).*

Type: this field documents whenever the creator entity is a human being (person) or an organization of sorts, commercial or otherwise (entity).

Subtype: this field documents sub-categories of entity in entries documenting non-person creators (e.g. video_game_studio).

Name: this field documents the creator entity's given name, written according to established transcription practices (e.g. revised Hepburn for Japanese). Special characters may be used as needed. Special characters may be used as needed. Enclosure within quotation marks (""") is required.

Surname: this field documents the creator entity's surname, written according to established transcription practices (e.g. revised Hepburn for Japanese). Special characters may be used as needed. Special characters may be used as needed. Enclosure within quotation marks (""") is required.

Important: this field is meant for persons and should not be used in entries documenting an organization.

Legal entity name: this field documents the creator entity's legal name, written according to established transcription practices (e.g. revised Hepburn for Japanese). Special characters may be used as needed. Enclosure within quotation marks (""") is required. Should the legal name be unknown or non-existent, the field should repeat the entity's Name as documented in the appropriate field. **Important:** this field is meant for organizations and should not be used in entries documenting a person.

Date of birth: this field documents the creator entity's date of birth, expressed as DD/MM/YYYY. Should the date be unknown or partially unknown (e.g. no known day or month of birth), a zero value is used. Should the date of birth be completely unknown, 00/00/0000 should be used. **Important:** this field is meant for persons and should not be used in entries documenting an organization.

Date established: this field documents the creator entity's date of establishment as a legal or otherwise recognizable entity, expressed as DD/MM/YYYY. Should the date be unknown or partially unknown (e.g. no known day or month of birth), a zero value should be used. Should the date of birth be completely unknown, 00/00/0000 should be used. **Important:** this field is meant for organizations and should not be used in entries documenting a person.

Area: this field documents the geosociocultural area in which the creator entity operates—Anglosphere (g-en), Japan (g-jp), and Latin America (g-es) at the time of writing.

Identifies as: this field documents the sexual identity of the creator entity. Due to the proliferation of gender identities and the potential difficulty in highlighting connections over differences, this field limits itself to denoting whenever the person's perceived sexual identity is aligned with their chromosomal sexual characteristics. This is done via double descriptors separated by a dash, with 'cis' denoting alignment, 'trans' denoting non-alignment, and 'nonb' denoting a refusal of the sex-gender binary. This first part is followed by a dash and 'm' for male chromosomal sexual characteristics, 'f' for female chromosomal sexual characteristics, and 'i' for chromosomal sexual characteristics mismatching sexual phenotypical appearance (e.g. cis-f to describe a person with female chromosomal sexual characteristics with an aligned sexual identity). **Important:** this field is meant for persons and should not be used in entries documenting an organization.

Pronoun: this field documents the pronouns employed by the creator entity to present themselves. **Important:** this field is meant for persons and should not be used in entries documenting an organization. The field should be compiled by listing the two personal pronouns connected by a dash (e.g. he-him, she-her, they-them).

Example of a work's data entry (American War, Omar El Akkad, 2017)

id: op-en-americanwar

First known title: American War

First edition: 2017

Type: novel

Creators: au-en-omar-elakkad

Language: l-en

Publisher: "Alfred A. Knopf"

Area: g-en

Trigger event: agency_anthropogenic, event_environmental, kernel_intra-societal, scale_planetary

Aftermaths: conflict_interpolity, prosocial_into_antisocial, use_of_force_civilians

Direct Consequences: alteration_weather, population_decline, pollution_land, pollution_water_bodies, pollution_water_bodies, alteration_weather, conflict_economic

Example of a creator entity's data entry (Omar El Akkad, b. 1982)

id: au-en-omar-elakkad

Type: person

Name: "Omar"

Surname: "El Akkad"

Date of birth: 00/00/1982

Area: g-en

Identifies as: cis-m

Pronoun: he-him

TRIGGER EVENT: AGENCY		
Descriptor	Name in Data Entries	Description
Anthropogenic	agency_anthropogenic	The trigger event in the described work can be unambiguously attributed to human activities. This descriptor ALSO includes the work of sentient or otherwise anthropomorphic characters that act in human-like fashion, as well as authorial intentions clearly suggesting that human moral conduct is the cause of the event.
Nonanthropogenic	agency_nonanthropogenic	The trigger event in the work being described can be unambiguously attributed to natural causes and can be in no way connected to human activities.
Ambiguous	agency_ambiguous	The trigger event in the described work cannot be unambiguously attributed to natural events or human activities. The work's author, through the work or other paratexts, when present, must provide sufficient clues, diegetically or extra-diegetically, towards either option being an acceptable interpretation.
Unknown	agency_unknown	The trigger event in the described work cannot be unambiguously attributed to human activities or natural causes due to insufficient information.

TRIGGER EVENT: TYPE		
Descriptor	Name in Data Entries	Description
Subversion	type_subversion	A radical alteration of the personal, everyday lifestyle established by the work's creator(s) as the reference point for media users to draw imaginative comparisons to. Alterations may include changes in the way human beings relate with each other, the way in which they eat, drink, or sleep, the way in which they might empathize with other living beings (or cease to do so), etc.
Environmental	type_environmental	Ecological alterations depicted as being sufficiently massive and widespread to cause a radical shift to new ways of living and existing on planet Earth or any world that serves a similar narrative role. Contrasts with pre-event states of the world should be a looming constant through the work.
War	type_war	Depiction of armed conflict between a number of actors and on a scale sufficient enough to provoke lasting

		changes to the storyworld in a way that precipitates the alterations that make the work collocable as dystopian/post-apocalyptic fiction.
Metaphysical	type_metaphysical	A significant alteration of the storyworld's underlying laws by which existence may function. Alterations may include the disappearance of death as a meaningful alteration of bodily function, the disappearance of boundaries between the world of the living and the dead etc.

TRIGGER EVENT: KERNEL		
Descriptor	Name in Data Entries	Description
Extra-societal	kernel_extrasocietal	The trigger event is brought into being by actors and/or modes of operation that are depicted as being unambiguously outside the society(ies) being altered into the work's dystopian-postapocalyptic setting. This also includes extra-terrestrial lifeforms.
Intra-societal	kernel_intrasocietal	The trigger event is brought into being by actors and/or modes of operation that are depicted as unambiguously coming from within the society(ies) being altered into the work's dystopian-postapocalyptic setting. This may include events such as coup d'états or elections of authoritarian governments.
Natural	kernel_natural	The trigger event is brought into being by the result of one or more environmental processes such as alterations of the earth's climate following unexpected events, with no responsibility attributed to human actors. This also includes disasters such as collisions between planets and other astronomical objects and bodies. N.B. this descriptor is included to explicitly accommodate differences between eco-dystopian fiction and other examples of dystopian and post-apocalyptic fiction.
Non-specified	kernel_nonspecified	No significant explicit or implicit depiction of the means by which the trigger event is brought into being is present in the cataloged work. N.B. This is different from 'Inconclusive', which instead describes works where the event did happen by some means whose nature is left ambiguous or non-described.
Inconclusive	kernel_inconclusive	The trigger event is brought into being by the result of one or more means whose specific description and nature is left ambiguous or non-described to a point that no conclusive description can be assigned.

TRIGGER EVENT: SCALE		
Descriptor	Name in Data Entries	Description
Local	scale_local	The trigger event has an effect on a single territory whose extension encompasses a single region with clearly stated boundaries, within a larger landmass/planet which may

		have not been subjected to the same effects as those depicted in the work.
Continental	scale_continental	The trigger event is depicted (implicitly or explicitly) as effecting a number of territories that encompass most or the totality of the physical boundaries of a landmass within a larger planet which may have not been subjected to the same effects as those depicted in the work.
Planetary	scale_planetary	The trigger event is depicted (implicitly or explicitly) as effecting the entire planet on which the work is set. If there is a mention of other astronomical objects and bodies of interest, they should not be assumed to have suffered the same consequences.
Multi-planetary	scale_multiplanetary	The trigger event is depicted (implicitly or explicitly) as effecting multiple astronomical objects and bodies, including the one on which the work is set.
Universal	scale_universal	The trigger event is depicted (implicitly or explicitly) as effecting the entire universe, namely the totality of a space-time continuum and their contents, in which the work is set.
Multiversal	scale_multiversal	The trigger event is depicted (implicitly or explicitly) as effecting multiple universes, namely the totality of a space-time continuum and their contents, in which the work is set.
Non-specified	scale_nonspecified	No significant explicit or implicit depiction of the scale by which the trigger event is brought into being is present in the cataloged work. N.B. This is different from 'Unknown', which instead describes works where the event did happen by some means whose nature is left ambiguous or non-described.
Unknown	scale_unknown	The scale and/or the extent of the trigger event is left ambiguous enough that no conclusive description can be assigned.

TAGS: CONSEQUENCES AND AFTERMATHS		
Tag Name	Tag Name in Data Entries	Description
Censorship	censorship	The storyworld features events that lead or have led to diffused control over the public flow of information in a way that obscures or hides events and developments that are perceived by institutions as harmful for the wellbeing of the state. This also includes storyworlds where censorship is performed by private entities in a way that impacts the publicly available flow of information.
Familism	familism	The storyworld features events that lead or have led to an emphasis on a specific form of social unit centered on skin and blood relationships as positive and/or desirable.
Prosocial Becomes Antisocial	prosocial_into_antisocial	The storyworld features events that lead or have led to behaviors considered to be prosocial, that is,

		acting for the benefit of other people without personal incentives or external pressure, become antisocial by all intents and purposes. Examples include: the acceptance of interpersonal violence in social relationships.
Non-human Government	government_nonhuman	The storyworld features events that lead or have led to the advent of a system of government where human beings have been replaced in favor of computerized or otherwise algorithmic processes in government decision making.
Military Government	government_military	The storyworld features events that lead or have led to the advent of one or more systems of government where civilian control has been abandoned in favor of military personnel holding executive, legislative, and/or judicial power. Examples include, but are not limited to, military juntas, despotic governments run by generalissimos, imposition of martial law with no recourse by civilian officials, etc.
Oligarchical Government	government_oligarchical	The storyworld features events that lead or have led to the advent of one or more systems of government where government is in the hands of a limited ensemble of actors holding executive, legislative, and/or judicial power devoid of democratic oversight.
Confessional Government	government_confessional	The storyworld features events that lead or have led to the advent of one or more systems of government where government policy is strongly influenced by religious principles, up to and including religious leaders holding public office and/or the barring of persons unaffiliated with specific religious formations or affiliated with religious formations deemed hostile from political power.
Corporate Government	government_corporate	The storyworld features events that lead or have led to the advent of one or more systems of government where government is in the hands of private corporations or state power has partially or fully relinquished power in favor of corporate entities.
Institutional Degradation	government_degradation	The storyworld features events that lead or have led to the degrading or even the collapse of institutions seen as representative of the author's present or otherwise vital for the way of life that is altered by the trigger event.
Antisocial Becomes Prosocial (Temp)	antisocial_into_prosocial	The storyworld features events that lead or have led to behavior considered to be antisocial, that is, behaviors that, absent rewards or external pressure, inflict harm on other people, become prosocial by all intents and purposes. Examples include:

Ableist Authoritarianism	authoritarianism_ableist	The storyworld features events that, under the auspices of a defined political project, lead or have led to people not meeting a set of restrictive criteria regarding the capacity to perceive, infer and retain information to face discrimination in social, political, and cultural life.
Ageist Authoritarianism	authoritarianism_ageism	The storyworld features events that, under the auspices of a defined political project, lead or have led to people belonging to one or more age brackets to face discrimination in social, political, and cultural life.
Atheist Authoritarianism	authoritarianism_atheist	The storyworld features events that, under the auspices of a defined political project, lead or have led to people expressing religious beliefs to face discrimination in social, political, and cultural life.
Market Authoritarianism	authoritarianism_market	The storyworld features events that lead or have led to the privileging of market forces to such a degree that people unable to participate in the economy to prescribed level face discrimination in social, political, and cultural life.
Cultural Authoritarianism	authoritarianism_cultural	The storyworld features events that, under the auspices of a defined political project, lead or have led to the privileging of a set of cultural values and norms at the expense of all others. People expressing different, dissonant, or nonconforming beliefs face discrimination in social, political, and cultural life.
Gynocentric Authoritarianism	authoritarianism_gynocentric	The storyworld features events that, under the auspices of a defined political project, lead or have led to people born with primary and/or secondary male sexual characteristics, or expressing mores and worldviews connected with gender(s) and gender roles connected with male sexual characteristics to face discrimination in social, political, and cultural life.
Health Authoritarianism	authoritarianism_health	The storyworld features events that, under the auspices of a defined political project, lead or have led to the enforcement of a specific sanitary framework, refusal of which leads people to face discrimination in social, political, and cultural life. This may also include the outlawing of specific practices that are instead stated or implied to be beneficial or necessary for public or personal good.
Reproductive Authoritarianism	authoritarianism_reproduction	The storyworld features events that, under the auspices of a defined political project, lead or have led to the enforcement of a specific framework by which human beings are permitted or barred from reproducing. This includes but is not limited to authorization frameworks for becoming pregnant, selective abortion based on fetal sex, mandatory

		birth controls, as well as compulsions towards gestation, restriction over contraceptive access, etc.
Language Authoritarianism	authoritarianism_language	The storyworld features events that, under the auspices of a defined political project, lead or have led to people speaking, writing, and propagating one or more languages and their respective cultures facing discrimination in social, political, and cultural life.
Androcentric Authoritarianism	authoritarianism_androcentrism	The storyworld features events that, under the auspices of a defined political project, lead or have led to people born with primary and/or secondary female sexual characteristics, or expressing mores and worldviews connected with gender(s) and gender roles connected with female sexual characteristics to face discrimination in social, political, and cultural life.
Racist Authoritarianism	authoritarianism_racism	The storyworld features events that, under the auspices of a defined political project, lead or have led to people born within one or more recognizable ethnic groups, or expressing mores and worldviews connected with the groups' culture to face discrimination in social, political, and cultural life.
Religious Authoritarianism	authoritarianism_religion	The storyworld features events that, under the auspices of a defined political project, lead or have led to one specific religious confession to enjoy privileges in social, political, and cultural life, at the expense of other religious groups and persons not professing religious beliefs.
Social Authoritarianism	authoritarianism_social	The storyworld features events that, under the auspices of a defined political project, lead or have led to people belonging to one or more recognizable social groups to face discrimination in social, political, and cultural life.
Technological Authoritarianism	authoritarianism_technological	The storyworld features events that, under the auspices of a defined political project, lead or have led to people lacking specific technological instruments or competences to face discrimination in social, political, and cultural life.
Sexual Segregationism	segregationism_sexual	The storyworld features events that have led to segregation of anthropomorphic, biological extants on the basis of primary and/or secondary sexual attributes observed at birth or at other moments in narrative space-time.
Social Segregationism	segregationism_social	The storyworld features events that have led to segregation of anthropomorphic, biological extants on the basis of assigned or observed social background.
Religious Segregationism	segregationism_religion	The storyworld features events that have led to segregation of anthropomorphic, biological extants on the basis of their religious beliefs.

Nuclear Attack(s)	wmd_use_nuclear	The storyworld features events that have led to the usage of nuclear weapons of mass destruction, resulting in the breaking the world's current nuclear taboos and deterrence equilibrium.
Chemical Attack(s)	wmd_use_chemical	The storyworld features events that have led to the usage of weapons of mass destruction of chemical nature whose effect(s) are significant enough to warrant a substantial change in the storyworld.
Bacteriological/Viral Attack(s)	wmd_use_bacteriological	The storyworld features events that have led to the usage of weapons of mass destruction of bacteriological or viral nature whose effect(s) are significant enough to warrant a substantial change in the storyworld.
Intra-polity conflict	conflict_intrapolity	The storyworld features events that have led to a polity fracturing in multiple factions engaging in internecine conflict of a violent nature. These conflicts may range from episodes of civil unrest to civil wars.
Inter-polity conflict	conflict_interpolity	The storyworld features events that have led to two or more polities engaging in conflict of a violent nature. These may range from localized episodes of inter-polity conflicts to large-scale warfare.
Informational conflict	conflict_information	The storyworld features events that have led to significant use of propaganda, as well as the manipulation of public discourse by one or more polities to achieve political or ideological ends against one or more adversaries in a way that is significant enough to exert substantial changes in the storyworld.
Economic conflict	conflict_economic	The storyworld features events that have led to the employment of economic and/or trade instruments against one or more adversaries by one or more polities in order to achieve political or ideological ends in a way that is significant enough to exert substantial changes in the storyworld.
Use of force against civilians	use_of_force_civilians	The storyworld features events that have led to significant use of violence against civilians for political or ideological ends in a way that is significant enough to exert substantial changes in the storyworld's narrative setup.
Alteration of fauna	alteration_fauna	The storyworld features events that have led to significant alteration of animal life – also including microscoping entities such as bacteria and viruses – ranging from the presence of mutated animals in a variety of roles, domesticated or otherwise, as well as representations of monstrosity, ranging from alterations confined to a single region to global alterations.
Alteration of flora	alteration_flora	The storyworld features events that have led to significant alteration of its plant life – including fungi – ranging from the presence of mutated

		plants employed in a variety of roles, either together or displacing non-altered plant life forms, ranging from alterations confined to a single region to global alterations.
Alteration of human physiology	alteration_human_bodies	The storyworld features events that have led to significant alterations of human biology, leading to significant differences in the representation of human bodies. This includes the emergences of new human genera, representations of human beings with new organs, the expansion, restriction, or blending of sexual characteristics between male and female, as well as the acquisition or restriction of capabilities connected to the body.
Alteration of weather	alteration_weather	The storyworld features events that have led to the partial or total alteration of weather patterns in a way that is significant enough to exert substantial changes in the storyworld's narrative setup.
Depletion of fossil fuels	depletion_fossil_fuels	The storyworld features events that have led to the partial or total depletion of non-renewable fossil energy sources such as coal, oil, and natural gas, in a way that is significant enough to exert substantial changes in the storyworld's narrative setup.
Depletion of water bodies	depletion_water	The storyworld features events that have led to the partial or total depletion of fresh and saltwater sources and bodies, in a way that is significant enough to exert substantial changes in the storyworld's narrative setup.
Depletion of the biosphere	depletion_biosphere	The storyworld features events that have led to the partial or total depletion of planet Earth's – or other equivalent celestial bodies – biosphere in a way that is significant enough to exert substantial changes in the storyworld's narrative setup.
Pollution of the biosphere	pollution_biosphere	The storyworld features events that have led to the partial or total pollution of planet Earth's – or other equivalent celestial bodies – biosphere in a way that is significant enough to exert substantial changes in the storyworld's narrative setup.
Pollution of water bodies	pollution_water_bodies	The storyworld features events that have led to the partial or total pollution of planet Earth's – or other equivalent celestial bodies – fresh and saltwater bodies in a way that is significant enough to exert substantial changes in the storyworld's narrative setup.
Pollution of orbital routes	pollution_orbital	The storyworld features events that have led to the partial or total pollution of planet Earth's – or other equivalent celestial bodies – orbital space (e.g. uncontrolled space debris) in a way that is significant enough to exert substantial changes in the storyworld's narrative setup.

Pollution of landmasses	pollution_land	The storyworld features events that have led to the partial or total pollution of planet Earth's – or other equivalent celestial bodies – landmasses in a way that is significant enough to exert substantial changes in the storyworld's narrative setup.
Pollution by radiation	pollution_radiation	The storyworld features events that have led to the partial or total contamination of planet Earth's – or other equivalent celestial bodies – by harmful radiation (e.g. aftermaths of nuclear exchanges) in a way that is significant enough to exert substantial changes in the storyworld's narrative setup.
Population decline	population_decline	The storyworld features events that have led to the continued decline of planet Earth's – or other equivalent celestial bodies – population in a way that is significant enough to exert substantial changes in the storyworld's narrative setup.
Population excess	population_excess	The storyworld features events that have led to the continued increase of planet Earth's – or other equivalent celestial bodies – population in a way that is significant enough to exert substantial changes in the storyworld's narrative setup.
Eschatological alteration	eschatological_alteration	The storyworld features events that have led to the planet Earth's – or other equivalent celestial bodies – destruction by an otherworld entity described as possessing supernatural powers in a way that is consistent with historical apocalyptic religious traditions (e.g. The Rapture according to Evangelical Christianity).
Ontological alteration	ontological_alteration	The storyworld features events that have led to alteration of the foundational laws of the universe in which the narrative is set, examples including but not limited to events such as the weakening of chronological constancy or changes in the fundamental properties of thermodynamics.

References

- Boot, Peter. 2009. *Mesotext: digitised emblems, modelled annotations and humanities scholarship*. Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press.
- Cavalcanti, Ildney. 2022. "Critical dystopia". *The Palgrave handbook of utopian and dystopian literatures*. Cham: Springer International Publishing: 65-75.