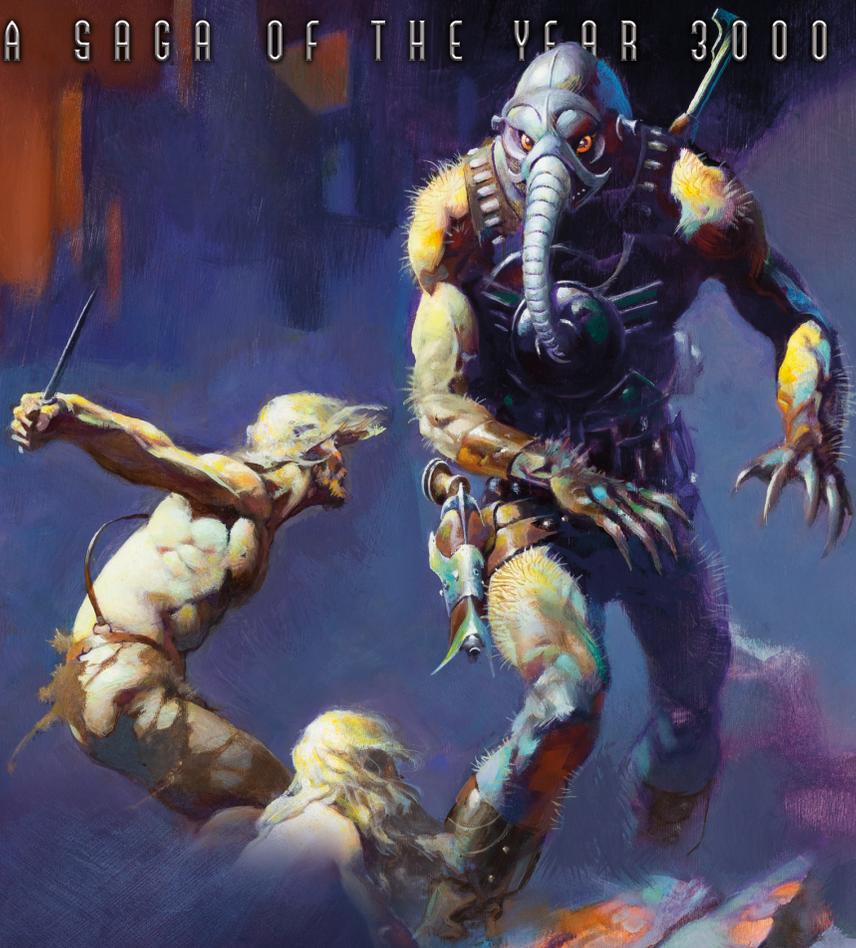


*The New York Times* Bestselling Novel

# BATTLEFIELD EARTH

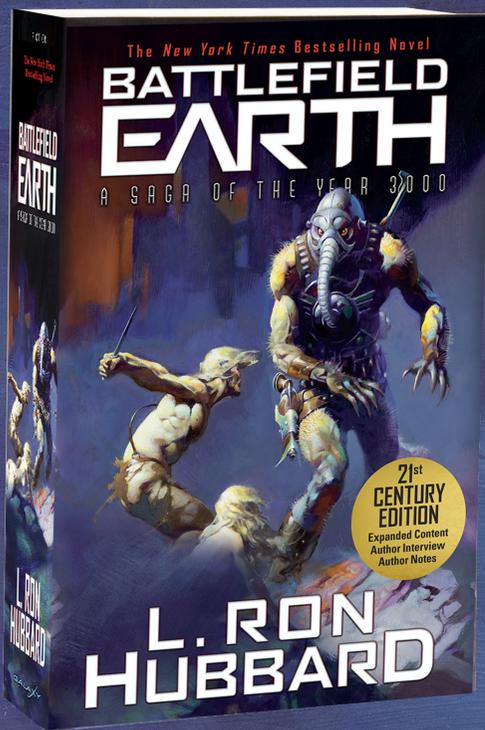
A SAGA OF THE YEAR 32000



# L. RON HUBBARD

EDUCATORS' GUIDE

GALAXY  
PRE/SES



**“Battlefield Earth has more than established its position as one of the most prominent science fiction novels of all time.”**

**—Dr. David Powers**

## ABOUT THE BOOK

*Battlefield Earth* is a swashbuckling science fiction saga of adventure, daring and courage, when man is an endangered species and the future survival of what's left of the human race is at stake.

In the year 3000 AD, man has been savagely ruled for a thousand years by a space-plundering race of nine-foot high, gas-breathing conquerors from the planet Psychlo.

One of the Psychlos, the villainous Terl, enslaves a man-creature and forces him to mine Earth gold. Terl's plan: to teleport the gold to Psychlo, where he can then return wealthy beyond the dreams of avarice.

The slave emerges in the form of Jonnie Goodboy Tyler, a member of the dwindling community of only 35,000 human survivors. However, Jonnie has plans other than to make Terl wealthy—namely, to free mankind from alien tyranny—and cause the ultimate destruction of the Psychlo invaders.

But is Jonnie's fight to save humanity from these gigantic and technologically superior monsters a losing battle? Or will humans regain the Earth once more?

Now, discover the fate of our world for yourself in L. Ron Hubbard's pulse-pounding novel *Battlefield Earth: A Saga of the Year 3000!*



## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

With 19 *New York Times* bestsellers and more than 350 million copies of his works in circulation, L. Ron Hubbard is among the most acclaimed and widely read authors of our time. As a leading light of American

Pulp Fiction through the 1930s and '40s, he is further among the most influential authors of the modern age. Indeed, from Ray Bradbury to Stephen King, there is scarcely a master of imaginative tales who has not paid tribute to L. Ron Hubbard.

In celebration of his fiftieth anniversary as an author, he again returned to the forefront of popular literature with his monumental epics *Battlefield Earth* and the ten-volume *Mission Earth* series. Together, these titles dominated international bestseller lists for more than 200 weeks, and still remain among the all-time classic works of modern science fiction.

## INTRODUCTION

The use of science fiction, whether books, audio or film is an innovative approach to teaching social studies and English. While such materials will never replace the teacher, they can be a valuable asset. Some works lend themselves much better for classroom study than others. Teachers have to consider what the most appropriate author or media would be for their particular subject or topic. While there are many outstanding science fiction authors recognized by curriculum specialists, it is not an easy task to find the one special book that will cover a multitude of concepts. It can also be expensive if you try to build a classroom library and at the same time have copies for every student.

The novel *Battlefield Earth: A Saga of the Year 3000* by L. Ron Hubbard is one

book that will meet the requirements for what could be considered a complete learning experience for the student and a complete teaching experience for the teacher. It is one that covers a number of themes and may be used for courses in government, history (American and world), sociology, economics, English and advance placement. It is perhaps the most comprehensive science fiction novel ever written covering such a broad base.

Either the book or the audio program may be used and will work equally well for large or small groups. It also would be of great benefit for independent studies. For each section there is an objective, a brief commentary, suggested questions for discussion or writing and an activity that will require research.

—Fred R. Eichelman, Ed.D.

## LIST OF CHARACTERS

**Bittie MacLeod:** A young adventurer who has deputized himself as Jonnie Goodboy Tylers' squire.

**Brown Limper Staffor:** Raised in the same village as Jonnie. He is clubfooted and has harbored a hatred for Jonnie that has festered over many years. Climbs the ranks from village council member to the Council of Earth, much to the detriment of the human rebellion.

**Chirk:** Secretary to the Psychlo security chief Terl. Acquired for her decorative looks, ability to shuffle off callers, and a mental incapacity which prevents her from being a menace to Terl.

**Chrissie:** Emotionally devoted to Jonnie Goodboy Tyler. She leaves her village in the mountains to find Jonnie after he leaves on a quest to find a great "man village."

**Colonel Ivan Smolensk:** A descendant of the Red Army detachment. Combines forces with the Americans and Scots in a strategic alliance.

**Dries Gloten:** Selachee branch manager of the Galactic Bank for the sixteenth universe, which includes Earth.

**Glencannon:** A daredevil and fierce warrior. One of the expert combat pilots of the human rebellion.

**Dunneldeen MacSwanson:** One of the first members of the human rebellion, and ace fighter pilot.

**Jonnie Goodboy Tyler:** The protagonist, a young man of twenty who was raised in a small dying village in the mountains near Denver. He leads the human rebellion against the alien Psychlo invaders.

**Ker:** Small Psychlo that befriends Jonnie and teaches him how to use Psychlo machinery. Termed a "geysermouth" for his incessant chattering, he has no Psychlo friends.

**Lord Schlein:** Emissary from the Tolnep race. A formidable enemy against the human race.

**Lord Voraz:** Central Director, Chief Executive Officer and Overlord of the Galactic Bank located in the Gredides System. His power spans sixteen universes—including Earth.

**Mr. Tsung:** Chinese advisor to Jonnie. Educates him in the art of politics and diplomacy.

**Numph:** Psychlo Planetary Director of Earth. A seemingly bumbling and incompetent leader that Terl manipulates to accomplish his ends.

**Pattie:** Younger sister to Chrissie. Captured and used as leverage against Jonnie to get him to mine gold for Terl.

**Sir Robert the Fox:** A veteran of many war raids and scouts, he plays a major role in advancing the human rebellion.

**Terl:** Psychlo security chief on a planet without insecurities—Earth. Terl captures Jonnie, and uses him to perpetrate an underhanded scheme to mine gold for his own personal wealth and power.

## VOCABULARY

*Here is a listing of terms that will be found in the story to aid your students as some words may be new to them.*

**Blast Gun:** A common Psychlo weapon used for self-defense and hunting. Comes in a hand-gun and rifle-like size.

**Flying Mine Platform:** With rudimentary controls, the flying platform serves miners in difficult positions, such as near cliff tops or in ravines and valleys.

**Gas Drone:** A juggernaut of a ship, the gas drone is used by Psychlos during heavy offensive attacks. Requiring no pilots and equipped with fifteen giant canisters of lethal gas, it has the capacity to wipe out entire cities within minutes.

**Kerbango:** Popular with Psychlo workers and executives, Kerbango is the favored drink of their race. Similar in effect to the alcohol consumed by humans.

**Kill-Club:** A wooden cudgel, effective in hunting wild animals for food, stunning predators and in ground combat. Used by Jonnie.

**Learning Machine:** A machine that uses a system of cross-association drills,

composed of symbols, sounds and words to create an incredibly fast method of straight picture learning.

**Mark II Ground Car:** With minimal armor and firepower, the Mark II serves as a low-cost solution to short-range personnel transport needs of Psychlos.

**Picto-Recorder:** Picto-recorders are small camera-like tools that are used to record motion pictures onto discs for easy playback.

**Psychlo:** Home planet of the strongest alien force across the universes. The Psychlo inhabitants are physically large, about nine feet tall, weigh somewhere near a ton and have sharp talons and fur on their bodies.

**Transshipment Rig:** The single most valuable tool in the Psychlo empire. Using a secretly guarded system of teleportation, the transshipment rig is able to move materials, equipment and personnel across vast distances virtually instantaneously.

## PERCEPTIONS

### PART I

**A.** The objective of this unit is to create an appreciation for both the similarities and differences that exist among cultures.

**B.** The beginning of *Battlefield Earth* is a view of our planet in 3000 AD through the eyes of two different observers. The story's major protagonist, Jonnie Goodboy Tyler, is one of the last surviving humans on Earth. On the other side is Terl, one of the Psychlos who controls Earth, the leading mining colony in an empire that spans sixteen universes. Jonnie is the "animal," Terl is the demon monster. Jonnie is Terl's personal slave, an experiment to see if this "animal" is trainable for certain tasks. Terl is eventually used by Jonnie to learn more

about his world and how it was conquered. By the end of the book he will be faced with not one, but many cultures from throughout the universes.

**C. 1.** Contrast and compare the attitudes Jonnie and Terl have about each other and their respective cultures.

**2.** Which attitudes seem to be based more on prejudice than honest observation? Explain.

**D.** Think of yourself as an alien from outer space who has no concept of what humans are like. Write a report about a day at your home as it would be seen by such an alien.

## PREPARATION

### Part II

**A.** The objective is to illustrate how lessons from the past may prepare us for the future.

**B.** For Jonnie Goodboy Tyler to regain freedom for Earth he was in need of information. He went through the most intense period of education ever described in a novel, both under Terl and most importantly on his own. Later as he was granted more responsibility he recruited other humans to his cause and these too were required to study both history and modern technology. Learning did not end

with the revolution as all through the book Jonnie and his followers found themselves forced to assimilate and use new ideas.

**C. 1.** Jonnie's thirst for knowledge seems to be never ending. This is largely because he had a set goal for his life. How important can goal setting be to success as a student? You may use yourself as an example.

**2.** At the end of the book what type of education did Jonnie's son have and what did he want his son to learn? Explain.

**D.** The rate of advancement from primitive conditions to high tech in a few short years may seem at first glance incredible. We do have cultures becoming economic

powers in less than half a century. Select one and describe how it compares to the rebirth of Earth as described in the book.

## REVOLUTION

### PART III

**A.** The objective is to trace the development of revolutionary movements.

**B.** In their preparation to overthrow the Psychlos and Intergalactic Mining, Jonnie and his friends make use of the arsenal of atomic weapons they find leftover from old Earth. They also take advantage of alien technology such as the transshipment platform and Psychlo vehicles. It is only later that they find out how far reaching their destruction has been and the effect it has on the rest of the interstellar civilizations.

**C. 1.** After every war there is an examination after the fact over whether

certain weapons and tactics should have been used. Today the debate continues over the morality of atomic weapons and the use of atomic power. What justification would you make for the use of atomic power on this new Earth?

**2.** It has been said that a “successful revolution does not end when the fighting stops.” Explain.

**D.** Describe the type of people it takes to make a successful revolution. You may draw upon the American, French or other revolutions. Then see how these people compare with the leading revolutionaries in *Battlefield Earth*.

## FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNMENT

### PART IV

**A.** The objective is to investigate the dynamics involved in the creation of a new government.

**B.** The absence of government is anarchy and once the rule of the Psychlos on Earth was replaced by human rule, organization

was needed. A federation was formed and systems developed for currency exchange and other activities we associate with self-rule. By the end of the book new responsibilities and challenges caused the government to expand its operations.

**C. 1.** Considering the many types of government that exist ranging from democracies to dictatorships, how would you describe the federation? Explain.

**2.** What generalizations can you make about the type of government the Psychlos had? Explain.

**D.** Put yourself in the shoes of Jonnie Goodboy Tyler and his supporters. Imagine that you are faced with running a planet from the position of having no government structure at all. Design a new form of government you consider would best fit the situation.

## RECOGNITION

### PART V

**A.** The objective is to understand the influence foreign policy can have on national policy making.

**B.** A nation does not become a nation just by existing. Jonnie's original concern was a counterattack, a renewed invasion by the Psychlos. In place of this, his world is faced with the greed of many competing galactic powers who would gladly take over the riches of Earth. Without any real allies, Jonnie must play an intergalactic power game to prove the legitimacy of his world to exist under self-rule.

**C.1.** How important is it for a new nation to gain recognition from major powers? Take into consideration the role of France in the

American Revolution, the role of England in regard to the Monroe Doctrine and the role of the US in the independence of Israel.

**2.** Which of the three examples above would most resemble the future Earth in the book? Explain.

**D.** One of the basic goals of American foreign policy is world peace. However, we have other goals such as the right of every nation to govern itself, free trade, human rights and our own national security and survival. At times it is possible for these goals to be in conflict. How has this happened in our own past? Do you feel that Jonnie's policies were able to get around such conflicts? Explain.

## ECONOMICS AND POLITICS

### PART VI

**A.** The objective is to analyze the effect economic policy-making can have on the relations between nations.

**B.** Jonnie Goodboy Tyler and his friends make an interesting discovery. The real power of the Psychlos rested with the

Selechee, little gray men from a planetary system that controls Intergalactic Banking. This is a force more challenging than armadas of space craft thirsting to take over the Earth for their home worlds. Jonnie finds that if the Earth is to get anywhere in surviving intergalactic politics, then there will have to be a major involvement in the operation of economies on worlds covering several galaxies.

**C. 1.** Many American banks loan money to third world nations. What are the risks involved for the nation and for investors in the bank doing the lending?

**2.** Why is it difficult for a nation to change from a wartime economy to a peace time economy?

**D.** The European Common Market had from its beginning a goal to establish a completely unified monetary system. What are the difficulties in establishing a unified monetary system for the world? As a project, design a system that might work, allowing for differences in economic systems, cultures and societies.

## Battlefield Earth: A Saga of the Year 3000

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it's pure gold."**

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