



2018

# Landscape with Invisible Hand

Abigail Packard

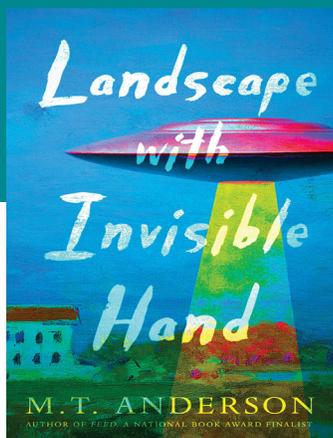
Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr>

---

### BYU ScholarsArchive Citation

Packard, Abigail (2018) "Landscape with Invisible Hand," *Children's Book and Media Review*: Vol. 39 : Iss. 10 , Article 48.  
Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr/vol39/iss10/48>

This Book Review is brought to you for free and open access by the All Journals at BYU ScholarsArchive. It has been accepted for inclusion in Children's Book and Media Review by an authorized editor of BYU ScholarsArchive. For more information, please contact [scholarsarchive@byu.edu](mailto:scholarsarchive@byu.edu), [ellen\\_amatangelo@byu.edu](mailto:ellen_amatangelo@byu.edu).



## Book Review

### Landscape with Invisible Hand

#### Author

M.T. Anderson

#### Illustrator

#### Reviewer

Abigail Packard

#### Rating

Outstanding

#### Level

Young Adult

#### Pages

160

#### Year

2017

#### Publisher

Candlewick Press

#### ISBN

9780763687892

After the vuvv came to Earth, people were excited. The vuvv offered technology, advanced medicines, better lifestyles—but at a cost. Vuvv tech has replaced almost all jobs that were once occupied by humans. When Adam and his new girlfriend Chloe are offered a job as the stars of their own romance, it seems their lives are about to turn around. However, Adam and Chloe can't even stand each other. But they need the money that comes with the job. Challenges come crashing together when Adam's art is exhibited in a vuvv-sponsored exhibit and then soundly rejected. This rejection spurs Adam and his family to leave their pitiful existence and start over fresh and new.

M.T. Anderson has created a stellar look at this future where romance and love are streamed online, art and music aren't good unless they fit a specific bill, and people can't afford anything because everything is too expensive and their jobs have been outsourced by superior technology. Delivered in short, pictorial-like chapters, this book brings up questions of sacrifice, value, art, employment, technology, and more—a feat given that the book is only 150 pages long. Anderson's writing is simultaneously approachable and humorous, yet genuine and thought-provoking. Readers will have to dig in to the satirical writing in order to reach what Anderson is critiquing. Discerning readers will find great pleasure in discovering the parallels between the horrifying future and the issues of the present. Anderson's clever writing and ideas whittle this witty yet terrifying story into a sharp critique of today's society and the issues that plague us now.

\*Contains moderate language and mild sexual content.