

## Guide to Alternate Histories (AH) © Dana Lombardy – [LombardyStudios.com](http://LombardyStudios.com)

Great alternate history online shop and the annual Sidewise Awards for Alternate History: <http://uchronia.net/>

**Uchronia: The Alternate History List** is a bibliography of over 3,300 novels, stories, essays and other printed material involving the "what ifs" of history. The **Sidewise Awards** were created in 1995 and recognize the Best Short-Form Alternate History (under 60,000 words) and Best Long-Form Alternate History (longer than 60,000 words).

*[What-ifs are] ...counterfactual reasoning—it extrapolates consequences from choices and events that did not happen, in order to see differences from the actual historical events.... counterfactual reasoning, if only in a disguised form, is something that all historians do. To make a claim that a particular decision was wise is necessarily to make a simultaneous claim, either implicit or explicit, that some **other** decision would have produced a worse outcome. To condemn a policy as foolish or short-sided requires a claim that some **other** policy would have produced better results.*

David R. Stone, in his Introduction to **The Russian Army in the Great War** (Univ. Press of Kansas, 2015)

### **Recommendations by Dana and award-winning writer and RPG designer Kenneth Hite:**

**Robert Cowley**, editor of *WHAT IF? & WHAT IF? 2*  
– *The World's Foremost Military Historians Imagine What Might Have Been*

**Peter G. Tsouras**, author or editor of many military histories, including nearly a dozen AH titles

**Harry Turtledove**, author of a dozen+ different series, including blends of history, fantasy and science fiction, including *THE BEST ALTERNATE HISTORY STORIES OF THE 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY* co-edited with **Martin H. Greenberg**

### **Ken Hite's suggested AH book list:**

**Poul Anderson** – *MIDSUMMER TEMPEST, TIME PATROL*

**John Crowley** – *GREAT WORK OF TIME*

**Philip K. Dick** – *MAN IN THE HIGH CASTLE*

**Michael Flynn** – *IN THE COUNTRY OF THE BLIND*, "Introduction to Cliology"—*Cliology* is the science that seeks to understand and predict the course of history—from Clio, the Greek muse of history

**John M. Ford** – *THE DRAGON WAITING*

**Howard Waldrop**, various works, including "Ike at the Mike" and "Custer's Last Jump"  
—Ken describes Waldrop's work as "magnificent"

### **Ken's Alternate History games:**

*GURPS INFINITE WORLDS, DAY AFTER RAGNAROK*

**Some of Dana's recent mini-games** include what-if scenarios, alternate orders-of-battle, etc.:  
*ASSASSINATION IN SARAJEVO!*, *ON TO PARIS!*, and *RUSSIA'S GREAT WAR 1914* (winner 2019 Serious Play award), first published in **World War One Illustrated**

### **Dana also recommends:**

**Harold C. Deutsch and Dennis E. Showalter**, editors of *IF THE ALLIES HAD FALLEN—Sixty Alternate Scenarios of World War II*

**Winston Churchill** – *THE WORLD CRISIS 1911-1918—Volume 1*, Chapter XIII has speculation on alternatives for the attack on the Dardanelles in 1915; also "If Lee Had Not Won the Battle of Gettysburg" in *IF IT HAD HAPPENED OTHERWISE*, edited by **J.C. Squire**



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**Shannon Selin** author of *NAPOLEON IN AMERICA—Imagining the Boundaries of History*  
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