

Title: Russian Roulette: The Prospect of Nuclear War from Sci-fi to Probable Statistics

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In the short story “The Terminal Beach” (1964), the author J.G Ballard unearths the remaining effects of nuclear wars in a repressed, isolated post-war island in a thermonuclear age. Starting with the character Traven’s unstable mental state through his exploration of the ruins of a nuclear war, the detrimental post-war effects are gradually revealed in a deep physical and psychological level and touch the historical and futurity connections in reality. The illustration of the combination of external environment and internal mental world after the catastrophe of war in literature endows the concern of future nuclear wars with realistic significance that can be explored by scientifically examining the trends of peace through statistical models. The considerable probability demonstrated in the statistical analysis of severity and years of wars alerts humans to cautiously reconsider the risk of wars and highlights the importance of continued efforts to ensure the long peace. Although the small-size data sets of nuclear wars affected by different social variables are not technically stationary enough, the impossibility of eliminating nuclear weapons supplements the effectiveness of data analysis as a reference system for human decisions, alerting people to prevent the potential risk of a new nuclear war in the future and safeguard the present peace.

Works Cited

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