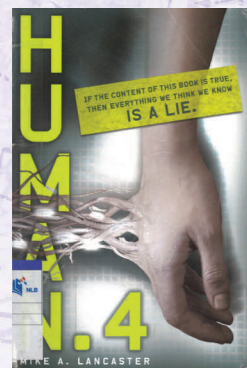


## RECOMMENDED READS

## VIRIDIAN



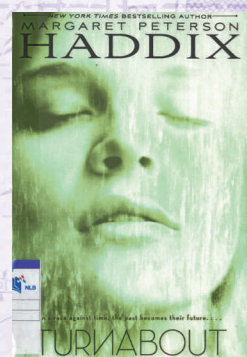
**Title:** Human.4  
**Author:** Mike A. Lancaster  
**Call No.:** Y LAN  
All Rights Reserved, Egmont, 2012.

When a group of volunteers at a hypnotist's show awaken from their trance, they discover that the rest of humanity no longer acknowledges their existence. Transcribed from a series of cassette tapes, their story will make you question everything you believe about mankind and technology.



**Title:** Mila 2.0  
**Author:** Debra Driza  
**Call No.:** Y DRI  
All Rights Reserved, Katherine Tegen Books, 2013.

Mila thinks she is an ordinary schoolgirl until she accidentally discovers that she is an experiment in artificial intelligence. This knowledge puts her life in danger as CIA agents set out to silence her, while a mysterious group also comes after her to capture her and unlock her advanced technology.



**Title:** Turnabout  
**Author:** Margaret Peterson Haddix  
**Call No.:** Y HAD  
All Rights Reserved, Simon & Schuster BFYR, 2012.

At the age of 100, Melly and Anny Beth receive injections that are meant to reverse the ageing process. However, the top-secret team of scientists behind this "miracle cure" soon find out that they are unable to stop the un-ageing process. The two girls grow younger until they are forced to try to find a guardian to take care of them as they return to infancy.

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'It's just a little sting,' said Lily Mae, showing her green teeth in a grin. 'Everyone's doing it. All my Facebook friends are Verdans. Aren't yours?'

Jay said, 'We're not on the Net where I live now.'

The world had moved on but he'd been left behind. He thought, incredulously: *I'm the odd one out and they're normal.*

But then his best friend, Mac, came racing up. With a huge surge of relief Jay saw he wasn't a Verdant. He was still the same old crazy Mac.

'Hey, Mac!' shouted Jay. 'Am I glad to see you. I thought I was the only human left!'

Mac turned round. His face was flushed with excitement.

'They can't stop me now,' he said. 'Stupid Polluters, living in the past.'

'Who can't stop you?' asked Jay.

'My parents,' said Mac. 'They can't tell me what to do. I'm getting a virus shot whether they like it or not.'

'My dad won't let me,' said Jay. 'He hates Verdans.'

'So does mine,' said Mac. He gave that shrill giggle that Jay had heard so often in class. 'What are they going to do about it? Wipe us all out? Come on!'

Mac grabbed his arm, and Jay found himself caught up in the crowd of eager, smiling humans heading for the school hall.

It was like a party, but the weirdest, craziest party Jay had ever seen. People were jostling to get their jabs from Verdant nurses, rolling up their sleeves as if they could hardly wait. It was obviously much quicker and more effective than catching the virus from live plant sap. Within minutes, a green tinge began to show around the injection spot. In hours the same thing would happen all over your body. But as soon as they saw that hint of green, people whooped with joy. Verdants crowded around them: 'Welcome! You're one of us now.'

And Jay, slumped against the wall, felt left out, a sad lonely Polluter. Self-pity flooded through him. And sneaky thoughts were forming in his head. 'Why should Dad tell you what to do? It's your future.'

That made him remember Viridian's words. 'We are the Future. Becoming a Cultivar – it's the biggest adventure ever.'

*The biggest adventure. The biggest adventure.* The words danced in his head to the rhythm of the steel drums.

### Think about these questions:

1. If all your friends were Verdants, would you join them? Why?
2. Would you join the Verdants if you were Jay? Why?
3. Could all the environmental problems on Earth be solved if everyone were to become Verdants? Why?



**Extract from Viridian, Pages 39-41**

**Title:** Viridian  
**Author:** Susan Gates  
**Call No.:** Y GAT  
All Rights Reserved, A. & C. Black, 2012



## TALKING POINTS: VIRIDIAN

WRITE DOWN YOUR RESPONSES TO THE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS BELOW.

### ACTIVITY 1: SUPERPOWER GREEN MUTANT

Imagine that there is one Verdian who wants to save the remaining humans. To do this, he acquires special abilities from certain plants, and becomes a green mutant. Read the three extracts about plants, then create your own green mutant that has powers related to the properties of certain plants. Include at least one of the plants in the extracts. After that, draft a plan of how your mutant can save the humans from the evil Cultivars.

NAME:

SUPERPOWER:

PLANTS THAT THE POWERS ARE DERIVED FROM:

PERSONALITY TRAITS:

PLAN TO SAVE THE HUMANS FROM THE EVIL CULTIVARS:

### ACTIVITY 2: OUR AVENGERS - SAVE THE WORLD FROM THE CULTIVARS

1. Fill in the Avengers sheet below with each of your group mates' names. Every member of the group must be included in the sheet.

#### Our Avengers Team

The Team Leader

The Muscle

The Weapons Expert

The Brains

The Medic

The Superhero

The Mascot

The Unlikely Hero who  
ends up saving the day

2. Write a short advertisement about your assigned role. You can write about how good you will be for the Avengers Team.

