
Reviewed by Gillian Dooley for the *Adelaide Review*, February 2009, p. 29.

In these 2008 ABC Boyer Lectures, Rupert Murdoch looks forward to the 21st century with optimism - as long Australia overcomes its complacency and revives its great pioneer spirit. Fearlessly adopting new technology and revolutionising education are among his prescriptions for a leading place in the coming golden age. Some of his assertions are debatable – did the British rule their Empire ‘with a light touch’? He surely overestimates the reach of technology in the third world, and underestimates the complexity of solving the problems of inequality in Australian education. But however Pollyannaish, it’s an unusual book about the future that doesn’t condemn us to environmental destruction or some equivalent doom.