



The National **82** Fantasy Fan **Years**

Fandom's Second Oldest Print Publication

Cras ad Stellas— Tomorrow to the Stars

Volume 82 Number 3

March 2023

KayMar Award

The KayMar Award, named in honor of K. Martin Carlson, is given for work for the benefit of the N3F. Unlike many other awards, it may only given once to a single person. Any member of the N3F may nominate a candidate for the award. The Award is given by vote of the prior winners. Send nominations to Jon Swartz jon_swartz@hotmail.com.

N3F Laureate Awards

We received an email from a member who concluded from our announcement of the Laureate Awards that nominations were due the first day of March. Noting that this confusion may have spread, we are extending the deadline for nominations by one month, until April 30, 2023. Current nominations are listed on page 10.

Directorate News

Becky Jones has been elected as the new Chair of the N3F Directorate. She writes us:

As I'm new to N3F, I want to introduce myself. My name is Becky Jones. I'm a retired (or former if you prefer) professor of political science turned writer of urban/contemporary fantasy. I've been reading sci-fi/fantasy practically since I learned to read. I worked my way through the children's and young adult sections of my local library until the librarian made my mom sign a form saying it was okay for me to check out the books I wanted to read – they thought I was too young for some of them. Lucky for me, my mom trusted me and wanted me to read.

Since I started writing on my last sabbatical in 2018 (I got bored with the research project I was supposed to do), I have published a three-book series, *Academic Magic*, and short stories in six anthologies – *Fantastic Schools Vol. II, III*, *Fantastic Schools Hols*, *Adventure Stories for Young Readers*, *Can't Go Home Again*, and *But Not Broken*.

The *Academic Magic* series came out of my own adventures as a faculty member at a smaller liberal arts school for the last twenty years. The stories in the *Fantastic Schools* anthologies and in the *Adventure Stories* are all set in a school of magic. I'm slowly working on turning those into a series of their own.

I'm proud of all my stories, but especially proud of being included in those last two anthologies, *Can't Go Home Again* and *But Not Broken*. Both anthologies take on PTSD and its effects on those suffering from it and their families and loved ones. The stories can be difficult to get through, but they all end on a note of hope.

Right now I'm working on the fourth book in the *Academic Magic* series, and the first of a new series of cozy paranormal mysteries. There's also another contemporary fantasy series in the works set (for now at least) in the same world as *Academic Magic*.

Even though I left the academic world behind (and happily so) I still follow political events in the world and at home. It's ingrained in me... I can't help it. To let those ramblings out, I blog at ornerydragon.com. My take on things may not be for everybody, but all are welcome to comment as long as they don't indulge in *ad hominem* attacks and remain focused on the arguments being made. I really do

Your Volunteer Team

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 Judy Carroll BlueShadows2012@gmail.com
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 Continued Next Column, Middle

enjoy political discussions with a broad range of viewpoints.

I'm looking forward to serving on the Directorate for the next year.

Birthday Card Bureau

No cards sent for February. One card sent for March.

Your Volunteer Team

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 Writers Exchange Judy Carroll BlueShadows2012@gmail.com

Join or Renew

We offer four different memberships. Memberships with TNFF via paper mail are \$18; memberships with TNFF via email are \$6. All other zines are email only. Additional memberships at the address of a current member are \$4. Public memberships are free. Send payments to Kevin Trainor, PO Box 143, Tonopah NV 89049. Pay online at N3F.org. Our PayPal contact is treasurer@n3f.org Send phillies@4liberty.net your email address for a public membership.

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Hello! Denise here! I'm the head of the birthday card bureau. For new or longtime dues-paying members, please let me know if you'd like to have your name & address on the birthday card day list. (or removed.) If you're already on this list, please e-mail me with any address updates. Denise Fisk greenrose205@gmail.com

Games Bureau

Wesley Kawato reports that he had no responses to his recent message, and recommends that the games bureau be put into suspended animation until fen are once again interested in games.

Fan-Pro Coordinating Bureau

Things are speeding up in the bureau. We've got two people offering interviews and with good ideas for interviewing. Speedier still is doing interviews of N3F members, and the upcoming issue has an interview with a very active member, Jose Sanchez, new head of the art bureau. The interview constitutes inter-bureau activity, and much of the interview concerns improvements being made. It's very much to the point of looking for more activity, and Jose explains things about how the bureau operates. His developing as an artist is of interest too. Some less visible activity of the bureau is implied too.—John Thiel

Art Bureau Report

Aside from a large stock of art that came to us initially back in September of last year, from artists such as Alan White and Cedar Sanderson, another very active artist was Tiffany Gray. Her artwork has appeared on a few issues of Tightbeam and N'APA. Since then, I have not received any more submissions from any other artists to date and really would like to. I did put out an initial call for entries around the same time last year, but the participation has been very, very limited. If interested, please send me your artwork to jose77sanchez yahoo.com and we shall take it from there. Even a direct link to your art site, would also be very much appreciated.

Jose Sanchez Art Bureau Head

History and Research Bureau

Of course Jon Swartz is in this bureau, and he keeps finding more things of the past to express, all-around looks at writers and publications. Our display of covers is meant to be exciting. Martin Lock does a superb rundown of magazines of the past, with much behind-the-scenes included. Judy Carroll writes about how it all is. All of us are looking for more activity. Redmond is keeping up on other N3F activities and in time will be back with us articulating again. We not only do research, we analyze our research. Check us out!—John Thiel

Pro Bureau

Our zine *Prose Bono* continues to be published within the pages of *The N3F Review of Books*. Book reviews continue to be written and published. Jagi Lamplighter is assembling another volume of the Fantastic Schools anthology, this one to carry short stories from the point of view of the Faculty and Staff of the school.

Treasurer's Report

Paypal balance \$264.02
In: \$6 for membership (less fees)

NSB balance: \$2388.34
In: \$18 for membership renewals/upgrades
Out: \$30 for short story contest prize (\$20 prize converted to electronic membership)

2 life members
26 electronic + 17 regular + 3 household members = 48 voting members
7 archive members + 245 public members = 252 non-voting members

Thanks to A.C. Carroll for upgrading!
Welcome to Krystal Rains!

Voting memberships expiring this month: L. Jagi Lamplighter Wright, Jamie Wilson, and Lisbet Rasmussen.

Welcommittee

Being active is the most fulfilling way to enjoy being a member of the National Fantasy Fan Federation. Please read the current TNFF for a list of the many activities and bureaus you can join. If you find a bureau or activity you are interested in, please contact the head of the bureau or activity for more information.

The purpose of the Welcommittee is to welcome new members to the club. A letter is sent, by email or postal mail, to new members informing them of club activities they may be interested in joining. When possible, those members with email addresses are also sent attachments to the current TNFF and other publications the N3F has to offer.:

If you have questions about the N3F or are interested in helping with the Welcommittee please contact:

Judy Carroll at BlueShadows2012@gmail.com or 975 East 120 South, Spanish Fork, Utah 8466

Postal Mail Round Robin

We have one RR rounding - Worldwide Folklore RR

If you have any questions about this RR, or wish to join, please contact me by email, if possible, or by postal mail. My email and postal address are at the bottom of this article.

If anyone is interested in starting a new RR, please contact me. I will put the information in the next TNFF as "seeking more members."

New RR Seeking Members

Xena and Other Strong Women in Science Fiction, Fantasy, Horror and the Apocalypse. If interested, please contact me. Judy Carroll, 971 East 120 South, Spanish Fork, Utah 84660 OR Email : blueshadows2012@gmail.com

Netflix Streaming Round Robins

We now have two members for the Netflix Streaming Round Robins. Counting myself, as the Robin Master, we have three members and can start this experiment and see if it works. The series chosen was Travelers.

I have Netflix Streaming. I am curious as to whether N3F members, who also have this, would like to try a new version of the Round Robin. We need at least two members plus the Robin Master. I will be the RM for this experiment.

The Netflix Streaming Round Robins would work like this (I hope).

1 - A member chooses the series he/she wishes to watch.

Following are three series to choose from:

Travelers - 3 seasons - series completed
Stranger Things - 4 seasons - on-going
Raising Dion - 2 seasons -on-going

2 - When members have decided which series they wish to watch, they contact me and I will tell them whether there are enough members to begin the RR.

3- When there are 2 members, and the Robin Master, the RR will begin.

4 - The Robin Master (RM) will email the Netflix Streaming Round Robin (NSRR) members with a schedule. Right now, I am thinking, one or two episodes a week. (The members will help decide the weekly frequency.)

5 - Once the required episodes for that week have been viewed, that member will email each member in that RR with their comments. At the top of the email the episodes viewed should be listed.

6 - Repeat steps 4 & 5 each week until the series ends.

Please contact me if you are willing to try this experiment..

Contact: Judy Carroll, 971 East 120 South, Spanish Fork, Utah 84660 OR Email : blueshadows2012@gmail.com

Correspondence Bureau

Want to make new friends?

Want to discuss the latest book by your favorite author?

Want to debate the merits of soft science fiction vs hard science fiction?

Then you have come to the right place.

If You wish to join you need to do the following:

1. Send me your name and either email address OR postal address.
2. If you wish to correspond with a member already listed with the Correspondence Bureau include their name.
3. If you have a postal address and wish to correspond with someone listed "by email" let me know and I will contact them. I will let you know their reply.

Depending on your preference you will receive an email or postal mail with the contact information of the person or persons you wish to contact, and they will receive your contact information.

Following are the names, and interests of members seeking correspondence:

Jeffry Redmond - by Email

I am an old Star Trek of the original television show days. I enjoy both Fantasy and Science Fiction. My favorite author is me with my Chronicles of Erda fantasy fiction books. My hobbies include reading, writing, watching TV, and meeting with friends. I have books and memorabilia collections, and try to keep up with my cat.

John Thiel - by Email

I am interested in things I haven't seen much that have something about them that gives me a feeling of looking for more about them. Magazines which have interested me have been The Readers Digest,

Future Science Fiction, Space Stories, Jack and Jill Magazine, Startling Stories and Thrilling Wonder Stories, Arizona Highways and others; Television shows that have interested me have been Tales of Tomorrow, The Sid Caesar show, Roy Rogers, Sky King, Masterpiece Theater; interesting books have been the mysteries of Mary Roberts Rinehart, Groff Conklin's anthologies, Tales of the Supernatural, the writings of Sigmund Freud, the life of Francoise Villon, The Big Push by Mickey Spillane, Theodore Sturgeon's books, Leo Margules' anthologies, Peyton Place; Movies of interest were the Voyages of Ulysses, The Life of Omar Khayyam, The House of Wax, Kiss Me Deadly; comics of interest were Dick Tracy, Little Orphan Annie, King Aroo; radio shows, Sky King, Boston Blackie, Marty Faye. Interesting places, Venice, California, the Florida Everglades, Valparaiso, Indian

Steve Confrey - By Email - New Member

Favorite genres: science fiction and fantasy, also some true crime and historical fiction. I particularly enjoy military and post-apocalyptic science fiction (but not of the "retired Navy SEAL who just happens to own a ranch in Montana bugs out amid a rampaging zombie horde that's totally not a proxy for societal undesirables" variety of apocalypse).

Favorite authors: Like many others, I cut my teeth on Robert Heinlein, Ray Bradbury, and Isaac Asimov. I also enjoy Robert E. Howard, Octavia Butler, Andre Norton, Anne McCaffrey, and Frederik Pohl. Among writers who are still alive and active today, I like Harry Turtledove, Larry Niven, Robert Sawyer, David Weber, and S. M. Stirling.

Movies and TV shows: Star Trek, Babylon 5, Star Wars, Doctor Who, Aliens, Blade Runner, Conan the Barbarian (1980).

I do like to write, but haven't worked up the nerve to publish something. Maybe getting more involved here will help me get to that point (I hope!)

Outside of fandom, I am active in my local astronomy club. I edit their newsletter and occasionally do outreach activities. I also volunteer at my church. Most of all, my wife, two kids (ages 16 and 12), and a fluctuating menagerie of house pets.

Collections: I had a pretty sizable collection of books, games, and memorabilia that unfortunately was a casualty of the 2019 Missouri River flooding. I am currently rebuilding. My home office is heavily inspired by Forry Ackerman's Ackermansion, but at a much smaller scale (for the time being)

Mick Taylor - By Postal Mail - New Member

I am a somewhat marginal fan in that although I have been reading Science Fiction and Fantasy all my life, I have never been to a convention and it's been quite a while since I did a zine. I love the old weird pulp writers - H.P. Lovecraft, Clark Ashton Smith, Robert E. Howard and that era. Of the more modern authors I enjoy Tim Powers, James Blaylock, Paolo Bacigalupi, William Gibson. I do like discovering new authors too. Apart from reading, I also like to collect paper stuff - stamps, covers, QSL cards, that sort of thing. For work, I manage an IT department at a teaching hospital in Portland, Oregon.

Judy Carroll - By Email and Postal Mail

My favorite genres are Science Fiction and Murder Mysteries. My favorite authors are Shirley Jackson, Ray Bradbury, Dean Koontz, and Julie E. Czerneda. I like to write short stories and poems. I love being around young children. Their laughter, happiness, and excitement are contagious.

Send email requests to : Judy Carroll BlueShadows2012@gmail.com Send postal mail requests to: Judy Carroll 975 E 120 S Spanish Fork, UT 84660

Welcome to the Writers Exchange!

This month I am asking our readers, (if there are any out there somewhere in N3F fandom) to tell us about a dream or a movie, TV series, book, or fireside storytelling that scared them. Tell us what age you were when you had this experience.

I was in my middle teens when I had the following dream:

It was late at night. The moon was out. A full moon that lit up the scene below as much as the darkness

in the background hid all but the outline of the mountains.

A young woman, wearing a white nightgown with a matching robe, was running down a cobblestone street. Her slippers were also white. They were the slip-on kind that had heels - like in the old movies 40s -50s. She had dark brown hair that barely touched her shoulders. Her hair and clothing flew behind her as if the wind were trying to lift her up.

The street had two-story houses that were connected to one another. Each side of the street was set up the same. I was watching this as if I were in one of the houses on the right side of the woman. She was obviously running from something. I felt her surprise as she realized the street didn't continue but ended with a group of houses connected to one another. She was running down a U shaped street.

She was only about a third of the way down the street when she realized she had no escape - no place to hide. As the recognition of her fate entered her mind, what was chasing her, terrifying her, tearing her apart mentally and soon to be physically, her terror came into view. A gorilla so huge it put King Kong to shame.

I tried to wake up! I tried very hard! I couldn't get out of this nightmare! I finally woke up with my sister pushing on my shoulder, "Judy! Judy! Wake up."

Now, it is your turn. Your dreams will appear in the April Writers Exchange.

Previous ideas and/or prompts.

February

I am asking readers what they want to read in the Writers Exchange.

What are you looking for? Do you want interviews with N3F authors? Do you have science fiction, fantasy or horror authors you would like to learn about? Do you have something you would like to contribute or talk about?

Please let me know what would interest you.

Your feedback will appear in the April Writers Exchange.

January

A six year old family member and I like to do the following: One of us picks three items, people, or animals.. Let me make it clearer. The six year old said cat, tree, broom. I have to make up a story using those three words. After telling my story, I give her three things, such as a butterfly, a haunted house and an old lady. Then she tells me a story. It's a lot of fun. We have been doing it for about two years now.

Here is your writing exercise for January. Below are three sets of words. Pick one of the sets and write a brief story using these words.

Set 1 - bird, tree, fireplace.

Set 2 - fish, snow, wagon

Set 3 - dog, rain, collar

Your stories will be in the Writers Exchange for April.

The above writing exercise is not as difficult as you may think.

If you have a story you would like read, please contact me, and I will check with our readers to see who is available. I will contact you with the name and email address of your reader.

Please do not contact a reader unless I have assigned that reader to you. Occasionally we get several short stories at the same time and I don't want any of our readers getting "reading overload."

If you are a new writer, a professional writer, or someone who dreams of being a writer - this is the place for you. If you love reading unpublished work and find it exciting to do so, this place is also for you.

The Writers Exchange is for anyone interested in writing. If you have a story you would like read and commented on, or if you just want the excitement of reading unpublished work, then the Writers Exchange is here for you. Published or un-

published - all are welcome. You may join as a writer, a reader or both.

If interested, please contact: Judy Carroll.

BlueShadows2012@gmail.com OR if you prefer postal mail,

Judy Carroll 975 E 120 S Spanish Fork, UT 84660

Letter of Comment

Kevin Trainor writes:

Here's the Early March Update on Son of Silvercon:

Membership count is up to four attending & one supporting. Only 95 1/2 members to add before we become a real convention.

Going to get the necessary paperwork from the county to open Friends of Fission-chan's bank account tomorrow.

Reached out to a bunch of conservative/libertarian/milSF writers, most of whom are looking at their calendars and cash flow to see if they can make it. Jon del Arroz has agreed to show up and do panels, which would make our diversity department head ecstatic if we had such a thing. (We don't.)

I'm in the process of sending flyers to various local military bases and universities to recruit new members.

It was suggested at Confinement that we consider having an upcoming Son of Silvercon in either Elko or Pahrump, so we could brag about having our own convention with blackjack and hookers. First we have to get this one done, but I'd be a liar if I said I wasn't thinking about it.

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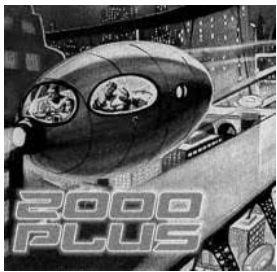
SerCon

Science Fiction on Radio: Two Thousand Plus

by

Jon D. Swartz, Ph.D.
N3F Historian

Two Thousand Plus (aka 2000 Plus and 2000+) was an old-time radio series that ran on the Mutual Broadcasting System from March 15, 1950 to January 2, 1952 in various time slots. A Dryer Weenolsen production, it is credited with being the



first adult science fiction (SF) series on radio, airing one month prior to the better known Dimension X. Two Thousand Plus was an anthology program using original material, and it was sustained by Mutual.

The series was the creation of Sherman H. Dryer (October 11, 1913-December 22, 1989), who produced the series with Robert Weenolsen (April 19, 1900 - August 1979). Emerson Buckley conducted the music composed by Elliott Jacoby. Ken Marvin was the program's announcer, and the sound effects were by Adrian Penner.

Two Thousand Plus produced nearly 100 episodes, but fewer than 20 survive for listening today. Episodes were in standard 30-minute format.

Unlike its contemporary rival Dimension X, which drew much of its material from the major SF pulps of the time, all 2000 Plus stories were original. Production values and acting were excellent, and it's a great pity that the series was so short-lived and that so few episodes survive.



The script-writing of the surviving episodes is variable—some are fairly childish, some are quite good. The best of the surviving episodes, however, can't match the best of Dimension X, Exploring

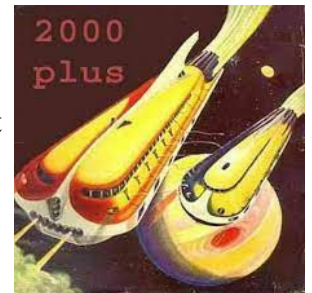
Tomorrow, or X Minus One... although with so many lost episodes, it is hard to judge the quality of the entire series. Even though most of the scripts were not credited, it seems likely that series creator Sherman H. Dryer (himself a writer) penned a few of them.

Based on the quality of the few surviving episodes, it is tempting to think of 2000 Plus as an “experiment” in radio: a desperate, yet half-hearted, attempt to try anything, even SF, in an attempt to forestall the growing influence of television.

First of all, there was nothing half-hearted about this effort. While the writing was, at times, juvenile and amateurish, the cast and crew were all seasoned professionals. The mean age of the cast was 38, backed by 10-15 years of solid acting experience.

Secondly, this was 1950, and there was a collective yearning for science and technology to provide security and to increase the standard of living (from self-driving cars to robot servants, from polio vaccines to pace-makers, from solar power to “super-atomic calculating machines”), while at the same time there was fear and distrust of that same science.

This was, after all, a mere 5 years after Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Communists were expanding their reach throughout the 3rd World. The Korean War had just started. McCarthy was ramping up his Red Scare campaign.



And finally, this wasn't a desperate attempt to hold on to the past . . . it was a bold attempt to grab the future. The 1950s saw a six-fold increase in science fiction films and a 3-fold increase in SF pulp magazines. There was an arms race . . . and a race to the moon. And at the beginning of that decade, at the very cutting edge, was the SF anthology 2000 Plus: “Who can say what is impossible in the world of tomorrow? Let us go into the future . . . into the years beyond 2000 AD!”

Actors/Director

Actors included Ed Latimer, Luis Van Rooten, Lon

Clark, Gilbert Mack, Ralph Bell, Henry Norell, Bill Keene, Amzie Strickland, Bryna Raeburn, Mason Adams, Joseph Julian, Hester Sondergaard, and Nat Polen! Names which should be familiar to any fan of old time radio.

Dryer, the director, had previously directed a couple of series about progress made through science: Exploring the Unknown and The Human Adventure.

Known 1950-51 Episodes

“Hosts Above the Thunder” (aired March 15, 1950).

“Journey Into the Germ World” (3/22/50).

“Men From Mars” (3/29/50). Plot: Teenagers buy an old space ship and blast off for Mars.

“The Diamond Skull” (4/5/50). Plot: A man has his organs replaced with mechanical ones, including a diamond-hard cranium to hold his brain.

“The Man Who Conquered Time” (4/12/50).

“Rocket to the Moon” (4/19/50).

“When the Machines Went Mad” (4/26/50). Plot: A master mechanical brain is in charge of other mechanical brains.

“When the Worlds Met” (5/3/50). Plot: A scientist is on the Moon when a strange signal is received.

“The Silent Noise” (5/10/50).

“The Insect” (5/17/50). Plot: A scientist experiments on insects with a growth-ray.

“The Man Who Tried to Stop June 8” (5/24/50).

“The First Men” (5/31/50).

“The Other Man” (6/7/50). Plot: How can a man be in two places at the same time?

“The Earth Versus Alexander Corday” (6/14/50)

“The Brooklyn Brain” (6/21/50) Plot: Scientists think they have the answer to rapid education.

“Space Wreck” (6/28/50)

“A Veteran Comes Home” (7/05/50) Plot: A veteran from the war on Mars is annoyed by his son’s interest in war.

“The Flower of Evil” (7/23/50)

“Explorers from Space” (7/19/50)

“The Living Dead” (7/25/50)

“The Doom Machine” (8/02/50)

“The Flying Saucers” (8/23/50) Plot: In 2012 a second Zeus rocket is about to be launched.

“The Robot Killer” (8/30/50) Plot: A couple win a robot in a contest.

“The Rocket and the Skull” (9/06/50) Plot: A spaceship pilot has to have a brain operation.

“The Green Thing” (9/27/50) Plot: A story of alien invaders.

“That Which Lives in a Steel Head” (10/04/50).

“The Giant Walks” (11/08/50). Plot: A scientist is tricked by his fellow workers into being a guinea pig for a new growth serum.

“Alone” (11/12/50). Plot: A Martian is lost in New York City.

“Worlds Apart” (11/12/50) Plot: A spaceship to Neptune is disabled by a comet.

“The Man From the Second Earth” (8/12/51)

“The Rocket and the Skull” (10/10/51)

“Temple of the Pharaohs” (12/26/51) Plot: A spaceship is thrown 5000 years into the past.

Voice giving a one-line summary of the evening's story. Then, "Two Thousand Plus, science fiction adventures from the years beyond."

Closing:

"Next week a . . . Be sure to listen to Two Thousand Plus, radio's different series. This program came to you from New York. This is the Mutual Broadcasting System."

Concluding Comments

Although it aired at about the same time as Dimension X, it was never as popular, probably because the stories broadcast were not as good. Dimension X used stories by popular SF authors of the time, such as Robert Heinlein and Ray Bradbury, while the Two Thousand Plus stories were by in-house writers.

Sources

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Dunning, John. On the Air, 1998.

Roberts, Garyn. The Prentice Hall Anthology of Science Fiction and Fantasy, 2003.

Swartz, Jon D. & Robert C. Reinehr. Handbook of Old-Time Radio, 1975.

Terrace, Vincent. Radio Program Openings and Closings, 1931- 1972, 2003.

Widner, James F. & Meade Frierson, III. Science Fiction on Radio, 1996.

Note: In addition to the above, several Internet sites were consulted, including Fancyclopedia 3, ISFDB, and Wikipedia.

Laureate Award Nominations To Date

Best Novel:

The Other Side Of Night by Adam Hamdy
 Ordinary Monsters by J. M. Miro
 Fairy Tale by Stephen King
 The Janus File by David Weber and Jacob Holo

Best Shorter Work or Anthology:

Venomous Lumpsucker by Ned Beuman

Return to Glory by Jack McDevitt
 The Moonday Letters by Emmi Itaranta

Best anime/comic book/graphic novel:

Monstress by Marjorie Lie & Sana Takeda
 New Think Volume 1.0 an anthology
 Mindset by Zack Kaplan and John J. Peterson
 Best anime: Chainsaw Man
 Best manga: EVOL by Atsushi Kaneko

Best fan website:

SciFi4Me from Jason Hunt and Mindy Hunt
 Fanac.org and the Fancyclopedia from Joe Siclari,
 Edie Stern, and Mark Olson
 efanzines.com from Bill Barnes

Best Non-N3F Fanzine:

Portable Storage from William Beeding
 Beam from Nic Farey

Best N3F Fanzine:

Eldritch Science
 Tightbeam

Best Fan Artist:

Brad Foster
 Alan White
 Jose Sanchez

Best None Of The Above:

Nomination: The effort by Manuscript Press (Rick Norwood) and aruffo.com (I dunno the company name or the person responsible) for publishing the series of trade paperbacks that are reprinting the entire run of the Alley Oop daily comic strip beginning with the very first V.T. Hamlin strip and running all the way to the end of the 20th century. This is a monumental effort, making available a wonderful comic strip that is clearly science fiction/fantasy and has been recognized as one of the most important comics strips ever published. The original Comic Book Achievement Awards created by comic book fandom in the early 1960s were named the Alley Awards, with a pic/statue of Alley Oop as the symbol. Finally, a chance to read everything, the entire run, all shot from the original syndicate stats, published in affordable format. This deserves much wider recognition, and an award or two on its own.

2023 N3F Amateur Short Story Contest

Story Contest Rules and Entry Blank

Now and then, it has been suggested to open the N3F Amateur Short Story Contest to professional writers, writers who have had one or two sales. I've never favored this. It is my opinion that we want new blood. We want to reward the new kids on the block. To be blunt, we want writing that is not that good. We want stories from people who don't know their object from their subject, who don't know where commas go, and who use apostrophes to denote plurals -- but who have a story to tell. I want stories from guys nobody's ever heard of...but in the years ahead, we will. Those who are already successful don't need the encouragement of our little contest. If they were to enter the contest, the danger is that they'd win, every time, and crowd out the promising newcomer.

1. This contest is open to all amateur writers in the field, regardless of whether they're members of the National Fantasy Fan Federation. For the purposes of this contest, we define an amateur as someone who has sold no more than two (2) stories to professional science fiction or fantasy publications.
2. Stories entered in the contest must be original, unpublished, not longer than 8,500 words in length—and must be related to the science fiction, fantasy, or similar genres in the opinion of the judge.
3. Email attachments of Word documents are acceptable for submission. Manuscripts on paper should be typed, single sided on 8 1/2"-by- 11" white paper, double spaced, with pages numbered. The name of the author should not appear anywhere on the manuscript to ensure impartial judging. Photocopies are acceptable, if they are of good quality. Computer printouts must be legible.
4. Contestants can enter up to three stories. Enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope (SASE) if you would like your story returned at the end of the contest. Stories will not be returned without an SASE. Do not send your only copy in case of accidental loss. We are not responsible for lost manuscripts.
5. Email entries will be accepted. Send to Jefferson P. Swycaffer at abontides@gmail.com. No guarantee can be made of email receipt. Privacy and property rights will be absolutely respected. No one other than the Short Story Judge will ever see the submission.
6. **There are no entry fees.**
7. Cash prizes totaling \$100 will be awarded as follows: First prize is \$50, second \$30, and third \$20. Honorable mentions and semi-finalists will receive a certificate of award.
8. Send all manuscripts to the contest manager: Jefferson Swycaffer, P. O. Box 15373, San Diego, CA 92175-5373; abontides@gmail.com. Emails with the story attached in word format are preferred. Paper manuscripts are acceptable. All entries must be received or postmarked no later than Dec. 31, 2023.
9. The Short Story Judge is a published science fiction professional, and also a loving fan of the sf and fantasy genres. All comments and critiques are solely the Short Story Judge's opinion, but he promises to be constructive and polite.
10. Stories will also be reviewed by the Editor of the N3F Fiction zine Eldritch Science; authors of suitable tales will be invited to submit their tales for publication in our zine. This review and invitation will only occur after contest winners have been announced, so it can have no effect on the contest outcome.
11. The NSF may want to publish an electronic book including top entries from one or more years of publication. You will not be contacted about this until after the contest is over and prizes have been awarded. If we want to publish your story, you will have to sign over to us first world serial rights. Your willingness to sign over rights cannot affect whether or not you win the contest. Winners will be notified as soon as the judging is completed. Announcements and notifications of winning entries will be made by March 2024. Please take your time and submit your best work. You can resubmit stories previously entered if they did not win previously. All entries will be kept confidential and will be judged fairly and anonymously. The deadline for all entries is Dec. 31, 2023. Good luck!

Please supply on a separate page the following information as your entry form.

Title of story (for identification):

Author's name and address:

Author's email address:

I have read the above rules for the 2023 N3F Amateur Short Story Contest, and I agree to them.

Signature/Date: _____

Mail to: Jefferson Swycaffer, P. O. Box 15373, San Diego, CA 92175-5373 ; or email abontides@gmail.com



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SerCon

Science Fiction on Radio: Two Thousand Plus

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N3F TNFF
c/o George Phillips
48 Hancock Hill Drive
Worcester MA 01609