

# FEERIECON

## EIGHT

**April 21, 22, 23, 2006**

Presented by The Buffalo Fantasy League

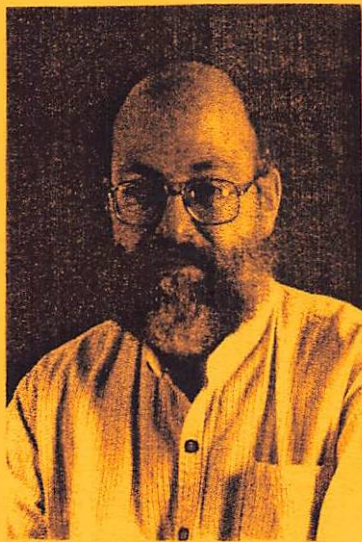


*Esther Friesner*

*Tanya Huff*

*Harry Turtledove*

TANYA HUFF



HARRY TURTLEDOVE

## THE EERIECON CHAPBOOKS

Since the 2003 Eeriecon, we have been publishing chapbooks containing fiction and other work by our guests of honor. These are limited to 150 numbered, signed copies of which 20 or 30 are bound in hard covers. We think they make striking souvenirs of Eeriecon and interesting collectors items for your bookshelves. Paper cover copies range from \$7 to \$9 each, but the prices given below are a dollar off. Hardbound copies are \$50 each.

Chapbook #5 will be on sale in the dealer room on Sunday... but first... take your chances in the CHAPBOOK RAFFLE. Tickets will be on sale during the convention. The more tickets you purchase, the more we'll draw.

Tickets that do NOT win are worth \$2 off the special convention prices on Sunday. Previous year's chapbooks also qualify for this special discount and will also be available in the dealer room.

CHAPBOOK #5 features fiction by Harry Turtledove, Tanya Huff, and Robert J. Sawyer and a long poem by Esther M. Friesner. Con price, \$8.

CHAPBOOK #4 features fiction by Steven Brust, Julie Czerneda, and Allen Steele. Con price, \$6

CHAPBOOK #2 features a long short story by Lynn Flewelling: FOLKS FROM AWAY. Con price, \$6

CHAPBOOK #1 features a long short story written especially for Eeriecon by Jack McDevitt: THE LAW OF GRAVITY ISN'T WORKING ON RAINBOW BRIDGE. Con price, \$6.

Sorry, but CHAPBOOK #3 (Lumley, Niven, Bishop) is OUT OF PRINT in both the paper cover and hard cover editions.

Chapbooks (at regular prices) can be ordered on line from:

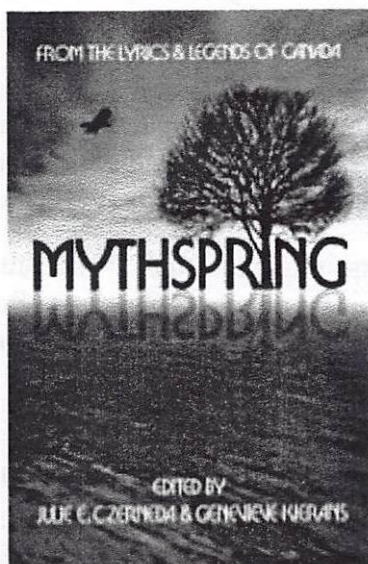
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Charles de Lint



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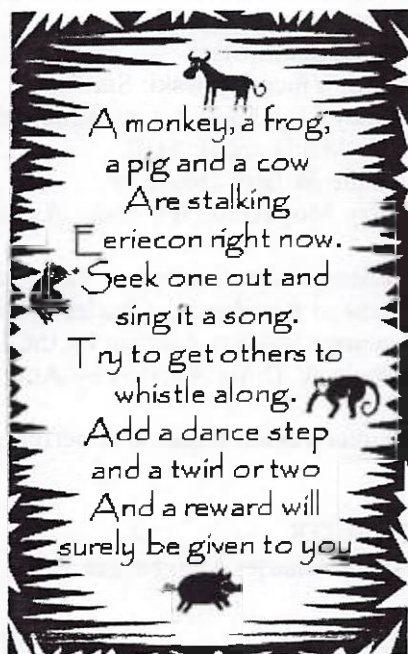
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[www.reddeerpress.com](http://www.reddeerpress.com)

## Introduction

Welcome to the eighth EERIECON, a convention devoted to all aspects of science fiction, fantasy, and horror literature, media, gaming, et al. If you have any questions about the con, or about the area, please don't hesitate to ask us.

### EERIECON EIGHT GUEST LIST

Anne Bishop: p. 13  
 Marilyn "Mattie" Brahen: p. 13  
 Carolyn Clink: p. 14  
 David Clink: p. 14  
 Jennifer Crow: p. 15  
 Merri Lee Debany: p. 14  
 David DeGraff: p. 16  
 Arinn Dembo: p. 15  
 Lynn Flewelling: p. 16  
 Carl Frederick: p. 17  
**Esther M. Friesner: p. 7**  
 James Alan Gardner: p. 13  
 Mark Garland: p. 17  
 Sephera Giron: p. 17  
 Lois Gresh: p. 18  
**Tanya Huff: p. 9**  
 Marvin Kaye: p. 18  
 Nancy Kress: p. 19  
 Derwin Mak: p. 22  
 Will McDermott: p. 24  
 John-Allen Price: p. 20  
 Robert J. Sawyer: p. 21  
 Darrell Schweitzer: p. 22  
 Josepha Sherman: p. 23  
 Caro Soles: p. 23  
 David Stephenson: p. 24  
**Harry Turtledove: p. 11**



Pat York (*In Memoriam*), by Lynn Flewelling: p. 25  
 Remembering Pat, by Anne Bishop: p. 29  
 Octavia Butler (*In Memoriam*) by Josepha Sherman: p. 26

## Who's Who

Marge Bergeron: Art Show Assistant  
 Rod Bergeron: Con Suite Assistant  
 Dennis Blake: Video Room & Advertising  
 David Ennis: Registration  
 Joe Fillinger: Guest Liaison & Programming  
 W. Paul Ganley: Program Book  
 Scott Gawrys: Con Suite  
 Andrea Hedgecock: Art Show Assistant  
 Mary Hewitt: Hotel Liaison and Masquerade  
 D. C. Holmes: Gaming and Masquerade  
 Heather Kalisiak: Dealer Room  
 Amy Kauderer: Con Suite & Ass't Hotel Liaison  
 Karen Klinck: Art Show  
 Jill Lapham: Staff  
 K. M. Vince Lijewski: Staff  
 Debby MacDougall: Con Suite Czarina  
 Lyle MacDougall: Staff  
 Jeanne Miller: Treasurer  
 Terry Mogavero: Art Show Assistant

Eriecon Poets Laureate: Carolyn Clink, David Clink  
 Artist in Residence: Charles Momberger  
 Security and Art Auction by the Dorsai Irregulars, Ltd.  
 People & Thing Auction by Amy Kauderer and John Hall

Reimei Tenkai Daiko will perform during the Masquerade judging.

### CREDITS

Art by Charles Momberger

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## General Information

**HOTEL CHECK-OUT TIME:** 11 A.M. on Sunday

**I.D.:** Your badge identifies YOU as a member and gets you into all the convention activities. **DON'T LOSE IT.**

**POSTERS:** Please do not post anything in the hotel without the permission of Big Brother (or Big Sister).

**JAIL:** The legal drinking age in New York State is 21 (Earth-years, not Venusian). If you wish to drink at con parties or in the Con Suite, you must be prepared to show proof of age. Illegal drugs are — well — illegal. Don't use them at this convention.

**WEAPONS:** Weapons must be peace-bonded at all times except for the contestants during the masquerade. Please use common sense.

**DEBBY, SCOTT & AMY'S CLASSIC DEVILISHLY DELICIOUS & LUSHLY LIQUIDOUS PLEASURE DOME:** The Con Suite is on the eighth floor. It opens Friday at 3:00 PM and closes Sunday at 2:00 PM. Here you can relax, unwind and party. You will find free munchies and beverages galore. As noted before, the state drinking age is 21. When you show proof of age at registration, your badge will be marked. You must display it while drinking alcoholic beverages. Do NOT borrow someone's badge to obtain drinks or BOTH badges will be confiscated. If your birthday is on or before April 22, 1985, you can drink. If your 21st birthday occurs during the weekend, let us know. Beverages may NOT be taken outside the Con Suite.

**POCKET PROGRAMS:** These are not included in the program book. Be sure to pick up copies at the registration desk. One shows the main schedule of events for the weekend. The other lists the weekend schedule for the video room.

**GAMING: Board Room.** Open gaming all weekend long! Special events include: Circus Davidicus, Brewhaus Bash, and

Blood on the Sands.

Don't forget — Saturday night at 11:00 PM is Clamie's Revenge (clay-o-rama). No additional fees or charges, open to everyone! For more information about gaming schedules, please visit the **Board Room**.

**VIDEO ROOM: Room 724.** Once again, from the genres of SF, Horror and Fantasy, we are proud to present some of the best films ever made! Unfortunately, we'll also present some less stellar ones and one or two absolute turkeys.

We're back to 24 hours-a-day videos and, as usual, the more adult fare begins after 11 PM. On Sunday, starting at midnight, animé takes over the video room.

Look for the pocket video schedule in the video room — or pick up an extra copy at registration.

**READING ROOM: Salon Room.** Our guests continue to have a room of their very own! Except for the Guest of Honor Party on Saturday evening (everyone is invited!), no other events will be scheduled here but authors' readings. But you might find a poker game there, late at night!

**MASQUERADE:** The masquerade will be held on Saturday in **Penthouse Ballroom A**. Registration forms are available at the convention registration desk until 7:30 PM on Saturday. Please register by 7:30 PM. Registered contestants must check in for the Masquerade at 8:00 PM in **Penthouse Ballroom A**. Awards will be presented for Best Fantasy, Science Fiction, Horror, and Cosplay (animé). There will also be a \$50 cash award for Best In Show. Judging begins at 8:00 PM. Weapons must be peace-bonded except while on stage. Reimei Tenkai Daiko will be performing during the judging of the Masquerade.

**ART SHOW:** Located in **Penthouse Ballroom B**. We are featuring fine work by both amateurs and professionals. Sorry, but artists insist that we prohibit cameras. Also unwelcome in the Art Show are food, beverages, smoking, loose children and large packages. Please exercise care if you are wearing long, flowing capes and dresses, or carrying swords, staffs, bows, etc. If you are unable to check something at the front desk in the art show, please leave it in your room or in your car. Artists' setup



times will be posted on the door.

**Art show schedule:** Friday, TBA; Saturday, 10 AM to 6 PM; Sunday, 10 AM to 12 noon (pickup & breakdown).

**ART AUCTION:** The art auction begins on Saturday at about 9:15 PM in **Penthouse Ballroom A**, as soon as the Masquerade is over. We will accept cash (Canadian currency will be charged the current exchange rate) and traveler's or personal checks with appropriate I.D. Sorry, we are not equipped to handle credit cards, Paypal, Euros, or doubloons. Auctioning courtesy of the Dorsai Irregulars.

**HUCKSTERS:** Located in **Penthouse Ballroom B**. The dealer room will be open one half hour early every day for dealers' setup. There will be no food or drink allowed except behind the tables (i.e., dealers can do it, customers cannot).

**Huckster room schedule:** Friday, 5 PM to 8 PM; Saturday, 10 AM to 6 PM; Sunday, 10 AM to 2 PM.

**AUTOGRAPHS:** Authors will be signing books at a table in or near the dealer room. Look for the schedule sheet displayed in the dealer room. Authors may be willing to sign books at other times as well, if they aren't busy at the time.

## **JUNK FOOD WARS**

Moderator/Host/Judge: David Clink

—based on the show, "Junkyard Wars"

—teams of 1 or 2 can compete

—the theme is "HOGWARTS" in honor of the film, Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire.

—teams have 90 minutes to complete a scene.

—the scene must include one or more references to the Harry Potter books and/or films.

—medium: cheese doodles & stir sticks (provided).

—note: one may use other junk foods + other connective materials.

—anyone in the audience can assist the teams during the construction.

—one can also use unlimited props (miniatures, whatever...)

2005 Winner: Paul Salivar

# WEIRDBOOK PRESS

W. Paul Ganley

P O Box 149, Amherst Branch

Buffalo NY 14226-0149

Back issues 11-30 of WEIRDBOOK are still in print and available at \$4.00 per issue plus postage — except for double issue #23/24 which is \$8. In the US, get any seven issues for \$28 postpaid (yes, the double issue counts as two), or get all 19 for \$55 postpaid. Fantastic stories by Stephen King, Brian Lumley, L. Sprague de Camp, H. Warner Munn, Charles R. Saunders, Michael Bishop, Gerald W. Page, Michael Avallone, Dennis Etchison, Charles Grant, Tanith Lee, J. N. Williamson, Richard L. Tierney, Joe R. Lansdale, Ardith Mayhar, Delia Sherman, Adrian Cole, Joseph Payne Brennan, Darrell Schweitzer, Peter Tremayne, Brian McNaughton, David Drake, Avram Davidson, Hugh B. Cave, Jessica Amanda Salmonson, among many others. Issues 1-10 are out of print but xerox-copies are available (numbered & initialed by the editor) at \$4 each or all ten for \$25 + postage.

## **BOOKS from W. Paul Ganley: Publisher**

Still in print but not for long:

**THE COMPLEAT CROW**, by Brian Lumley, beautifully illustrated by Stephen E. Fabian, hard cover first edition: \$21. Features all the shorter stories about Titus Crow in one volume. About 30 copies are left from this 1000-copy edition.

**THE BURROWERS BENEATH**, by Brian Lumley: \$22.50. The initial novel about Titus Crow. First hard cover edition. About a dozen left in print (with less than perfect dust jackets).

FOR THESE ITEMS AND MANY OTHER LIMITED-EDITION FANTASY/HORROR BOOKS: write for my list, visit my dealer table at Eeriecon, or go to my eBay store:

[www.stores.ebay.com/ganleypub](http://www.stores.ebay.com/ganleypub)

# ESTHER M. FRIESNER

Nebula Award winner Esther Friesner is the author of thirty-one novels and over one hundred short stories, in addition to being the editor of seven popular anthologies. Her works have been published in the United States, the United Kingdom, Japan, Germany, Russia, France, and Italy. She is also a published poet, a playwright, and once wrote an advice column, "Ask Auntie Esther." Her articles on fiction writing have appeared in *Writer's Market* and *Writer's Digest Books*.

Besides winning two Nebula Awards in succession for Best Short Story (1995 and 1996), she was a Nebula finalist three times and a Hugo finalist once. She received the Skylark Award from NESFA and the award for Most Promising New Fantasy Writer of 1986 from *Romantic Times*.

Her latest publications include a short story collection, **Death and the Librarian and Other Stories** from Thorndike Press, **Turn the Other Chick** from Baen Books, fifth in the popular "Chicks in Chainmail" series that she created and edits, and the paperback edition of **E.GODZ**, also from Baen, which she co-wrote with Robert Asprin. She is currently working on three YA novels as well as continuing to write and publish short fiction.

Educated at Vassar College, she went on to receive her M.A. and Ph.D. from Yale University, where she taught Spanish for a number of years. She lives in Connecticut with her husband, two all-grown-up children, two rambunctious cats, and a fluctuating population of hamsters.

## Esther Friesner BIBLIOGRAPHY (novels)

- MUSTAPHA AND HIS WISE DOG (AVON; July 1985)  
 HARLOT'S RUSE (WARNER/QUESTAR; June 1986)  
 SPELLS OF MORTAL WEAVING (AVON; May 1986)  
 THE SILVER MOUNTAIN (WARNER/QUESTAR; June 1986)  
 NEW YORK BY KNIGHT (NAL/SIGNET; September 1986)  
 (British publication HEADLINE; 1987)

- THE WITCHWOOD CRADLE (AVON; MARCH 1987)  
 ELF DEFENSE (NAL/SIGNET; March 1988)  
 (British publication HEADLINE; ????)  
 HERE BE DEMONS (ACE; May 1989)  
 (British publication SPHERE/ORBIT 1990)  
 DRUID'S BLOOD (NAL/SIGNET; July 1988)  
 (British publication HEADLINE; 1989)  
 (German publication as DRUIDENBLUT; Bastei-Lubbe;  
 July 2000)  
 SPHYNXES WILD (NAL/SIGNET; May 1989)  
 DEMON BLUES (ACE; May 1989)  
 (British publication ORBIT; 1991)  
 THE WATER KING'S LAUGHTER (AVON; October 1989)  
 HOORAY FOR HELLYWOOD (ACE; February 1990)  
 GNOME MAN'S LAND (ACE; January 1991)  
 HARPY HIGH (ACE; October 1991)  
 UNICORN U. (ACE; January, 1992)  
 YESTERDAY WE SAW MERMAIDS (Tor; October 1992;  
 hardback)  
 (Tor; November 1993; paperback)  
 (German publication as GESTERN NOCH SAHEN WIR  
 MEERJUNGFRAUEN; Bastei-Lubbe; March 2002)  
 SPLIT HEIRS (with Lawrence Watt-Evans; Tor; July 1993;  
 hardback)  
 (Tor; June 1994; paperback)  
 (German publication as DAS SCHWARZE WIESEL oder Der  
 Erben drei verderben den Brei; Bastei-Lubbe;  
 September 1997)  
 MAJYK BY ACCIDENT (ACE; August 1993) (Reprinted in  
 German as  
 DIE KATZE LASST DIE ZAUBERN NICHT; Bastei-Lubbe;  
 September 1995)  
 WISHING SEASON (ATHENEUM; October 1883) (Reprinted  
 with  
 added new material; Baen Books; January 1996)  
 MAJYK BY HOOK OR CROOK (ACE; May 1994)  
 (Reprinted in German as SCANDAL IM WINGDINGOLAND;  
 Bastei-Lubbe; January 1996)

# TANYA HUFF

Tanya Huff was born in Nova Scotia and, although she moved to Ontario when she was three, she still considers herself a Maritimer. She spent some time in the Naval Reserve as a cook, has a degree in Radio and Television Arts from Ryerson Polytechnical Institute, and one summer made very good money selling sunglasses from a pushcart in downtown Toronto.

In 1976, she went to her first SF convention and raised her hand, along with everyone else in the room, when Spider Robinson asked who wanted to be a writer. Occasionally, she wonders how the other twenty or so people made out.

She worked for eight years at Bakka Books — now Bakka-Phoenix — and was in the unique position of selling her first four novels retail to unsuspecting customers.

Since 1992 she has lived in rural Ontario with her partner Fiona Patton, a variable number of cats, and an unintentional Chihuahua. Yes, there was an incident where she had to scream, “Drop the dog!” at one of the cats. She writes, gardens, knits, and spends far too much time in front of the television instead of practicing the guitar.

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**THE VICTORY NELSON “BLOOD” SERIES** (DAW, 1991-7, REPACKAGED 2004, Forthcoming omnibus editions 2007)

1. BLOOD PRICE
2. BLOOD TRAIL
3. BLOOD LINES
4. BLOOD PACT
5. BLOOD DEBT

(Bibliography continued on page 10)

## TANYA HUFF BIBLIOGRAPHY (continued)

**THE TONY/ "SMOKE" SERIES (DAW HARDCOVERS)**

1. SMOKE AND SHADOWS (2004)
2. SMOKE AND MIRRORS (2005)
3. SMOKE AND ASHES (Forthcoming in Summer 2006)

**THE KEEPER'S CHRONICLES**

1. SUMMON THE KEEPER (DAW, 1998)
2. THE SECOND SUMMONING (DAW, 2001)
3. LONG HOT SUMMONING (DAW, 2003)

**THE WIZARD OF THE GROVE (DAW, 1999)**

- o Omnibus of LAST WIZARD & CHILD OF THE GROVE

**OF DARKNESS, LIGHT, AND FIRE (DAW, 2001)**

- o Omnibus of FIRE'S STONE & GATE OF DARKNESS  
CIRCLE OF LIGHT

**THE TORIN KERR SERIES**

1. VALOR'S CHOICE (DAW, 2000)
2. THE BETTER PART OF VALOR (DAW, 2002)
3. Torin Kerr #3 (Forthcoming)

**THE QUARTERS SERIES (DAW, 1994-1999)**

1. SING THE FOUR QUARTERS
2. FIFTH QUARTER
3. NO QUARTER — AURORA NOMINEE FOR BEST NOVEL!!
4. THE QUARTERED SEA

**SHORT STORY COLLECTIONS**

- o WHAT HO, MAGIC! (Meisha Merlin, 1999)
- o STEALING MAGIC (Tesseract, 1999)
- o RELATIVE MAGIC (Meisha Merlin, Fall 2003)

**RAVENLOFT™ : SCHOLAR OF DECAY (TSR, 1995)**

# HARRY TURTLEDOVE

Harry Norman Turtledove was born in Los Angeles, CA on 14 June 1949. After failing out of his freshman year at Caltech, he attended UCLA, where he received a Ph.D. in Byzantine history in 1977. His dissertation was on **The Immediate Successors of Justinian: A Study of the Persian Problem and of Continuity and Change in Internal Secular Affairs in the Later Roman Empire During the Reigns of Justin II and Tiberius II Constantine (A.D. 565-582)**. In 1979, Turtledove published his first two novels, **Wereblood** and **Werenight**, under the pseudonym "Eric G. Iverson." Turtledove later explained that his editor at Belmont Towers did not think people would believe the author's real name was "Turtledove" and suggested that he come up with something more Nordic. He continued to use the "Iverson" name until 1985 when he published his "Herbig-Haro" and "And So to Bed" under his real name. During the later '70's and early '80's, Turtledove worked as a technical writer for the Los Angeles County Office of Education. In 1991, he left the LACOE and turned to writing full time. From 1986-1987, he served as the Treasurer for the Science Fiction Writers of America. He is married to mystery writer Laura Frankos. They have three daughters: Alison, Rachel, and Rebecca. His brother-in-law is fantasy author Steven Frankos. Turtledove won the HOMer Award for Short Story in 1990 for "Designated," John Esthen Cook Award for Southern Fiction in 1993 for **Guns of the South**, the Hugo Award for Novella in 1994 for "Down in the Bottomlands." "Must and Shall" was nominated for the 1996 Hugo Award for Best Novelette, the 1996 Nebula Award for Best Novelette, and received an honorable mention for the 1995 Sidewise Award for Alternate History. **The Two Georges** also received an honorable mention for the 1995 Sidewise Award for Alternate History. The "Worldwar" series received a Sidewise Award for Alternate History Honorable Mention in 1996. On August 1, 1998, Turtledove was named honorary Kentucky Colonel while Guest of Honor at Rivercon XXIII in Louisville, KY.

(Bio from <http://www.sfsite.com/~silverag/turtledove.html>)

## Harry Turtledove BIBLIOGRAPHY

### \* Colonization

- o 1 Second Contact (1999)
- o 2 Down to Earth (2000)
- o 3 Aftershocks (2001)

### \* The Great War

- o The Great War: American Front (1998)
- o The Great War: Walk in Hell (1999)
- o The Great War: Breakthroughs (2000)

### \* Videssos

- o The Tale of Krispos
  - + 1 Krispos Rising (1991)
  - + 2 Krispos of Videssos (1991)
  - + 3 Krispos the Emperor (1994)
- o The Time of Troubles
  - + 1 The Stolen Throne (1995)
  - + 2 Hammer and Anvil (1996)
  - + 3 The Thousand Cities (1997)
  - + 4 Videssos Besieged (1998)
- o The Videssos Cycle
  - + 1 The Misplaced Legion (1987)
  - + 2 An Emperor for the Legion (1987)
  - + 3 The Legion of Videssos (1987)

### \* CoDominium

- o War World
  - + Blood Feuds (1993) with S. M. Stirling and Judith Tarr and Susan Shwartz

### \* Worldwar

- o 1 Worldwar: In the Balance (1994)
- o 2 Worldwar: Tilting the Balance (1995)
- o 3 Worldwar: Upsetting the Balance (1996)
- o 4 Worldwar: Striking the Balance (1996)

### Novels

- \* Noninterference (1987)
- \* Swords of the Legion (1987)
- \* A World of Difference (1990)
- \* Earthgrip (1991)
- \* The Case of the Toxic Spell Dump (1993)
- \* Blood Vengeance (War World) (1994) with Susan Shwartz and Judith Tarr and Jerry Pournelle and S. M. Stirling
- \* The Two Georges (1995) with Richard Dreyfuss
- \* King of the North (1996)
- \* Agent of Byzantium (1987)
- \* A Different Flesh (1988)
- \* Kaleidoscope (1990)
- \* The Guns of the South (1992)
- \* Prince of the North (1994)
- \* Werenight (1994)

(Bibliography continued on page 28)



## ANNE BISHOP

Anne Bishop is the award-winning, national-best-selling author of the **Black Jewels Trilogy** (**Daughter of the Blood**, **Heir to the Shadows**, and **Queen of the Darkness**), **The Invisible Ring**, the **Tir Alainn Trilogy** (**The Pillars of the World**, **Shadows and Light**, and **The House of Gaian**), **Dreams Made Flesh**, and **Sebastian**. Her novels have been (or will be) published in Australia, Germany, the UK, and Portugal, as well as the US. She is currently working on **Belladonna**, the second book in the **Ephemera** duology. In her free time, she enjoys gardening, reading, and music. You can visit her at:

[www.annebishop.com](http://www.annebishop.com).

## MARILYN "MATTIE" BRAHEN

Marilyn "Mattie" Brahen has had stories and poetry published in magazines, including *Marion Zimmer Bradley's Fantasy Magazine*, *Scheherazade*, and *Fantastic*, and in the anthologies **Crafty Cat Crimes** and **The Ultimate Halloween**. Her first novel, **Claiming Her**, was well reviewed and she is currently working on a follow-up. Mattie also has started reviewing for the *New York Review of Science Fiction*. She lives in Philadelphia, PA, with her husband Darrell Schweitzer and their cats: Lovecraft, Tolkien and Galadriel.

## JAMES ALAN GARDNER

James Alan Gardner lives in Kitchener, Ontario, with his wife, Linda Carson, and two rabbits who hate each other. He has published seven science fiction novels, plus one Lara Croft book (ooh!) and a collection of short stories. Gardner has won the Aurora award twice, and has been a finalist for both the Hugo and Nebula awards.

## CAROLYN CLINK

Carolyn Clink's speculative poetry has appeared in the Canadian anthologies **Northern Frights** (five volumes), **Tesseract** (volumes 4 and 7), **Packing Fraction, land/space**, and **The Stars as Seen from this Particular Angle of Night**. Genre poems have also appeared in *Analog*, *Weird Tales*, *On-Spec*, *TransVersions*, *Star\*Line*, and *Tales of the Unanticipated*. She is a member of the Science Fiction Poetry Association and the Algonquin Square Table poetry workshop.

## DAVID CLINK

David Clink was born in Medicine Hat, Alberta and now lives in Thornhill, Ontario. He recently completed a 3-year term as Artistic Director of the Art Bar Poetry Series ([artbar.org](http://artbar.org)) and is the webmaster of [poetrymachine.com](http://poetrymachine.com), a resource for poets. He is co-publisher, along with Myna Wallin, of believe your own press. His poetry has appeared recently in *Analog*, *Asimov's*, *The Dalhousie Review*, *Descant*, *Grain Magazine*, *The Literary Review of Canada*, and *On Spec*.

## MERRI LEE DEBANY

Merri Lee weaves her stories around Folk Tales, Fairy Tales, and Fables from around the world as well as creating her own original tales. With warmth and ease, and using many dialects, she engages her listeners in animated, high energy performances. Her audiences range from preschoolers to senior citizens.

A former teacher, Merri Lee was born and raised in Western New York. She feels lucky to have the strong influence of many different cultures around her.

"Although I have performed publicly as a storyteller since 1987, my mother says I've been making up wild stories of one kind or another my whole life. (She says it comes from my father's side of the family.)"

## JENNIFER CROW

Jennifer Crow's work has been published in a number of genre venues, including *Strange Horizons*, *Talebones*, *Dreams & Nightmares*, *Mythic Delirium*, and the *Magazine of Speculative Poetry*. Lately she's been focusing on developing her skills as a poet; a few of her poems have received honorable mentions in the "Year's Best" Fantasy and Horror anthologies.

## ARINN DEMBO

Arinn Dembo has been kicking around as a professional writer and critic for over 15 years. Her fiction and poetry have appeared in *F & SF*, *H.P. Lovecraft's Magazine of Horror*, and various genre anthologies. She has created background fiction and world-building detail for five computer games to date: *Homeworld*, *Homeworld: Cataclysm*, *Arcanum*, *Ground Control*, and *Sword of the Stars*. She has also written reviews of just about every art form that exists at one time or another: an archive of her old reviews of films, books, music and comics can be found archived on her personal website:

[www.arinndembo.com](http://www.arinndembo.com).

Currently she writes two ongoing columns: "Personal Demons" is a broad-ranging series of genre essays for *Pretty-Scary.net*, the *Website For Women in Horror by Women in Horror*; "Profiles in Weird Fiction" is an occasional feature which sketches in the backgrounds of major authors in the genre, and is written for *H.P. Lovecraft's Magazine*. She has recently completed her first horror novel and continues to write science fiction, fantasy and horror for genre publications.

In her free time, Dembo is a mother of two, a blues singer, a voice actress and an erotic photographer; her work as an artist has most recently appeared in the *Seattle Erotic Art Festival of 2006*. She spends most of the year shuttling between Vancouver, British Columbia and her home in the Tennessee Valley, where she is the youngest inmate of a *Home for Incurable Women*.

## LYNN FLEWELLING

Lynn Flewelling grew up in Maine and lived on both coasts before coming to rest rather unexpectedly inland in the Buffalo area in 1999.

Her first novel, **Luck in the Shadows**, was published in 1996 and was a finalist for the Compton Crook Best First Novel award, as well as being chosen as both a *Locus* Editor's Pick and Reader's Pick for that year. **Stalking Darkness** (1997) and **Traitor's Moon** (1999) followed in what has become the popular "Nightrunner" series, currently in print in nine countries, including Russia and Spain.

Her "Tamir" Trilogy debuted in 2001 with the highly acclaimed book, **The Bone Doll's Twin**, and continued with **Hidden Warrior** in 2003. The third and final book, **The Oracle's Queen** will be released in July 2006.

In addition to novel writing, Flewelling works as a freelance writer/editor, and teaches writing and Tarot reading (separately, usually).

EerieCon is one of her favorite conventions.

## DAVID DEGRAFF

Dr. David DeGraff teaches Physics and Astronomy at Alfred University, where he uses science fiction short stories in most of his classes as a means of making the abstractions more concrete and to bring the distant locations closer to home. In addition to the usual physics and astronomy classes, he also teaches classes on science in science fiction, living in space, visions of the future, and the theory and practice of time travel.

## MARK A. GARLAND

Mark Garland has spent the last dozen years reading, going back to school, attending conventions, and writing. His works include **Sword Of The Prophets** and two more Baen fantasy novels, two "Star Trek" novels including **Trial By Error**, a "Dinotopia novel," **Rescue Party**, and more than fifty published short stories, poems & articles including UFO Files from DAW. Mark is also the Managing Editor of a regional specialty newspaper, cir. 50,000, and Executive Editor of an associated book publisher, Beerly Legal Press. He lives in Upstate New York with his wife, their three children, and (of course) a cat.

## SEPHERA GIRON

Sephera Giron's latest horror novel is **The Birds and the Bees** from Leisure Books. She also wrote **House of Pain** and **Eternal Sunset**. Her next book from Leisure is called **Curse**. Sephera is also the author of **House Magic: The Good Witch's Guide to Bringing Grace to Your Space** (Conari Press), under her pen name Ariana. You can find her work in several anthologies such as **Queer Fear 2**, **Hot Blood 11**, **Tooth and Claw 2**, **R. A. W.**, **Asylum 1** and **Asylum 2**, among others. Sephera lives just outside of Toronto with her sons where she works as a professional tarot counsellor and energy healer. She also teaches online courses on horror writing and House Magic at Coursebridge.com. She will serve as Mistress of Ceremonies at the 2007 World Horror Convention in Toronto.

## CARL FREDERICK

"I'm a theoretical physicist (relativity & quantum measurement theory, and astrophysics), formerly at Cornell and NASA, and now 'Chief Scientist' of a small AI software house located in the college community of Ithaca, NY. I'm an epee fencer, a bagpiper, a nut on animals, and learn languages as a hobby. I attended the year 2000 Odyssey SF Writers Workshop."

## LOIS H. GRESH

Lois H. Gresh has written 17 books. Upcoming and recent titles include **The Supernatural Science of Stephen King** (Wiley, 2006), **Exploring His Dark Materials** (St. Martin's Press, 2006), **The Science of James Bond** (Wiley, 2006), and **The Science of Animé** (Avon, December 2005). Lois has written four novels, including **The Termination Node** (Del Rey), which was on the Nebula Ballot for Best Novel of 1999. She's the author of dozens of short stories and has been nominated for the Nebula, Theodore Sturgeon Award, and Bram Stoker Award six times. Her work has been published in Japanese, Spanish, German, Italian, Portuguese, French, and Thai, among others. In her spare time, Lois reviews science fiction and fantasy books for [www.scifiweekly.com](http://www.scifiweekly.com), the official Science Fiction Cable Channel website.

## MARVIN KAYE

Author of 15 novels, 6 nonfiction books, several plays & play adaptations, and editor of 29 (and counting) fantasy, mystery and theatre anthologies, Marvin Kaye currently is editor of *H. P. Lovecraft's Magazine of Horror*, *Sherlock Holmes Mystery Magazine*, and contributes his column, "Marvin Kaye's Nth Dimension," to the SF-fantasy trade magazine, *Chronicle*. He has published books through his imprint, Marvin Kaye's Nth Dimension Books, a division of Wildside Press. A native of Philadelphia, he lives in New York, where he heads the tutoring staff of the Manhattan campus of Mercy College. He is also Adjunct Professor of Creative Writing at NYU, and serves as Artistic Director for The Open Book, New York's oldest readers' theatre company.

## NANCY KRESS

Nancy Kress is the author of twenty-three books: eleven SF novels, three fantasy novels, two thrillers, three collections of short stories, one YA novel, and three books on writing fiction. She is perhaps best known for the "Sleepless" trilogy that began with **Beggars in Spain**. The novel was based on a Nebula- and Hugo-winning novella of the same name; the series then continued with **Beggars and Choosers** and **Beggars Ride**. The trilogy explores questions of genetic engineering, social structure, and what society's "haves" owe its "have-nots." In 1996 Kress temporarily switched genres to write **Oaths and Miracles** (Forge, 1996), a thriller about Mafia penetration of the biotech industry. This was followed in 1998 by **Stinger** (Forge/Tor), about the introduction of a genetically-engineered and very nasty form of malaria into Maryland. Her most recent books are **Nothing Human** (Golden Gryphon Press, 2003), which concerns the long-term consequences of global warming, and the "duology" **Crossfire** and **Crucible** (Tor, 2003, 2004).

Kress's short fiction, much of which concerns the consequences of genetic engineering, has appeared in all the usual places. She has won three Nebulas: in 1985 for "Out Of All Them Bright Stars," in 1991 for the novella version of "Beggars In Spain" (which also won a Hugo), and in 1998 for "The Flowers of Aulit Prison." Her novel **Probability Space** won the 2003 John W. Campbell Memorial Award. Her work has been translated into Swedish, French, Italian, Greek, German, Spanish, Hebrew, Portuguese, Polish, Croatian, Lithuanian, Romanian, Japanese, and Russian. Also, in a development more startling to the author than anything else, into Klingon.

In addition to writing fiction, Kress regularly teaches at various places, including Clarions East (University of Michigan) and West (Seattle). In a former life she was a copywriter for Xerox, Bausch & Lomb, and various other corporations in Rochester, New York, where she lives now.

Her short story, "My Mother, Dancing," is on the final ballot for a 2005 Nebula Award.

## JOHN-ALLEN PRICE

John-Allen Price was born on August 19th, 1954 in Washington, D.C. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences from Bradley University in Peoria, Illinois, where he won the Pendell journalism award for his work on the school newspaper in 1977. His books include **Doomsday Ship**, **Operation Night Hawk**, **Extinction Cruise**, **A Mission For Eagles**, **The Pursuit Of The Phoenix**, **The Siege Of Ocean Valkyrie**, and **Phoenix Caged**. His first SF novel, **Mutant Chronicles II: Frenzy**, was published in 1994. He has since completed work on a hard SF military adventure, **Sail a Distant Sea**, and is currently working on outlines/proposals for a cruise ship techno-thriller, a W.W. I alternative history, and another alternative history set in the 1930s.

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*Marylouise Hewitt*

Freelance Editor/Indexer

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NOTE: Congratulations and best wishes to Eeriecon 5 Guest of Honor Jack McDevitt — his novel *Polaris* is on the 2005 Nebula Awards final ballot.



## ROBERT J. SAWYER

Robert J. Sawyer—called “the dean of Canadian science fiction” by the Ottawa *Citizen* and “just about the best science-fiction writer out there” by the Denver *Rocky Mountain News*—is one of only sixteen authors in history to win the science-fiction field’s two highest honors: the Nebula Award for Best Novel of the Year (which he won in 1996 for **The Terminal Experiment**) and the Hugo Award for Best Novel of the Year (which he won in 2003 for **Hominids**); he has eight other Hugo nominations to his credit.

Rob has won Japan’s *Seiun* Award for best foreign novel three times (for **End of an Era**, **Frameshift**, and **Illegal Alien**), and he’s also won the world’s largest cash-prize for SF writing—the Polytechnic University of Catalonia’s 6,000-euro *Premio UPC de Ciencia Ficción*—an unprecedented three times, as well. In addition, he’s won nine Canadian Science Fiction and Fantasy Awards (“Auroras”), an Arthur Ellis Award from the Crime Writers of Canada, *Analog* magazine’s Analytical Laboratory Award for Best Short Story of the Year, and the *Science Fiction Chronicle* Reader Award for Best Short Story of the Year.

Rob’s novels are top-ten national mainstream bestsellers in Canada, appearing on the *Globe and Mail* and *Maclean’s* bestsellers’ lists. His books have also hit number one on the bestsellers’ list published by *Locus*, the U.S. trade journal of the SF field. His sixteenth novel, **Mindscan**, was recently published by Tor, and twenty-two of his forty published short stories were recently collected as **Iterations**.

His novella “Identity Theft” is on the final ballot for a 2005 Nebula Award.

Rob has over 400 radio and TV appearances to his credit, including *Rivera Live* with Geraldo Rivera and NPR’s *Talk of the Nation*. He has taught SF writing at the University of Toronto, Ryerson University, and the Banff Centre for the Arts; edits the Robert J. Sawyer Books imprint for Calgary’s Red Deer Press; and was the first SF writer to have a web site:

<http://www.sfwriter.com>.

## DARRELL SCHWEITZER

Darrell Schweitzer is author of about 250 published stories, which have appeared in *Realms of Fantasy*, *Interzone*, *Amazing Stories*, *Twilight Zone*, and many other magazines. His collections include **Tom O'Bedlam's Night Out**, **Transients**, **Refugees From an Imaginary Country**, **Nightscares**, **The Great World and the Small**, **Necromancies and Netherworlds** (with Jason Van Hollander) and most recently **Sekenre: the Book of the Sorcerer**, which is a companion volume to his third novel, **The Mask of the Sorcerer**. Most recently he has edited **The Neil Gaiman Reader** for Wildside Press and **The Secret History of Vampires** (with Martin Greenberg) for DAW. He is also a reviewer and critic and frequent contributor to *The New York Review of Science Fiction*, and a poet, who will probably always be best remembered for rhyming Cthulhu twice in a limerick, but whose serious (no kidding), real poetry can be found (some of it) in **Groping Toward the Light**. He has been co-editor of *Weird Tales* since 1987.

## DERWIN MAK

Derwin Mak's most recent stories are: "Transubstantiation," about Jesus appearing near Mars as a Jewish teenaged girl in a Catholic schoolgirl uniform (**Northwest Passages: a Cascadian Anthology**, Windstorm Creative, 2005); and "Seventy-two Virgins," about an incompetent suicide bomber, his ex-girlfriend, and the two gay guys across the street (**Thou Shalt Not...**, Dark Cloud Press, Spring 2006). So far, nobody has disputed his claim to be the leading expert on the archetype of the schoolgirl in science fiction, fantasy, and horror. He was also animé correspondent for the magazines *Parsec* and *RicePaper*.

## EDO VAN BELKOM

sends his regrets: he is unable to attend this year. He wanted to — but his publisher had other plans for him. We hope he will be able to join us next year!

## JOSEPHA SHERMAN

Joseph Sherman is a fantasy novelist, folklorist, and editor, who has written everything from Star Trek novels to biographies of Bill Gates and Jeff Bezos (founder of Amazon.com) to titles such as **Mythology for Storytellers** (from M.E. Sharpe) and **Trickster Tales** (August House). She is the winner of the prestigious Compton Crook Award for best fantasy novel, and has had many titles on the New York Public Library Books for the Teen Reader list. Most current titles include **Star Trek: Vulcan's Soul: Exodus** with Susan Schwartz, the reprint of the "Unicorn Queen" books from Del Rey, and **Mythology for Storytellers**, from M.E. Sharpe. She is also editing **The Encyclopedia of Storytelling** for M.E. Sharpe. Sherman also owns Sherman Editorial Services, which handles everything from writing and editing to PR and design. Visit it at [www.ShermanEditorialServices.com](http://www.ShermanEditorialServices.com). When she isn't busy writing, editing, or gathering folklore, Sherman loves to travel, knows how to do Horse Whispering, and has had a newborn foal fall asleep on her foot. You can visit her at:

[www.Josepha.Sherman.com](http://www.Josepha.Sherman.com).

## CARO SOLES

Caro Soles' second SF novel, **The Danger Dance**, will be published in 2007 by Haworth Press. Advance praise calls it "a sparkling futurist romp...imbued with a tingling subversity of gender, sexuality, and goose-bumping excitement." It is a 'prequel' to **The Abulon Dance**. She is now working on the third book in the series. Caro is the founder of Bloody Words, Canada's annual mystery conference. She teaches writing at George Brown College in Toronto.

## DAVID STEPHENSON

David Stephenson is a space physicist who came to Canada in 1970 and studied the aurora and winds in the high atmosphere at the University of Saskatchewan. In 1979 he moved to Germany to build systems for a deep space probe. When the project was cancelled he spent a year as a consultant to Lloyd's space insurance in London before returning to join the Geological Survey of Canada. He was downsized to genteel poverty and moved to the village of Merrickville, south of Ottawa in 1996. He now writes unaccepted novels, grows rhubarb and talks to the world with a Morse key.

His publications include twenty reviewed papers, editorials in the *Interdisciplinary Science Reviews*, various articles and reports and the 'Ulysses Speaks' satirical column in *Canadian Research*. He has been a panelist at science fiction conventions for over 20 years, and copies of his presentations are archived at his web page:

<http://www.ncf.ca/~ah728/>

## WILL McDERMOTT

Will McDermott is a fantasy and science fiction writer specializing in game-related fiction. His first two novels, **Judgment** and **The Moons of Mirrodin** were set in the "Magic: The Gathering" multiverse. His third and fourth novels, **Blood Royal** and **Cardinal Crimson** (due out in May), were set in Games Workshop's "Necromunda" game world, which is part of the "Warhammer 40,000" universe. Will is currently working on a top secret novel for Mongoose Publishing. He can say more once the ink is dry on the contract.

Will lives in Hamburg, New York, where he cooks and cleans for his working wife, chases after three energetic kids, and trips over his big, orange dog. Check out his website at:

[www.willmcdermott.com](http://www.willmcdermott.com)

## PAT YORK: In Memoriam

On May 21, 2005, one of the best conversations I've ever had ended with a phone call from a stranger. A kind, sorrowful voice on the other end— "I'm so sorry to have to tell you this . . ."

My family and I moved from Maine to Western New York in the summer of 1999. As we were getting ready to move, I contacted Anne Bishop, asking about the area and mentioning that we planned to buy a house in East Aurora. Anne immediately emailed back that I must get in touch with her friend, Pat York, a science fiction writer who lived there. "You'll just love her. Here's her email address." Or words to that effect, anyway.

I emailed Pat, and within hours had a reply— not just a polite response, but a warm, welcoming and very informative letter, and an invitation to have coffee as soon as we got here. I mark that as the beginning of our five and a half year conversation.

I took Pat up on the coffee invite— the first of hundreds, as it turned out. Pat and I had a lot of common ground: our work, our families, political and social interests. We started talking and we never really stopped, just took breaks to sleep and tend to our families and work. But then one phone or the other would ring: "Hey, got time for a quick cup of coffee/lunch/movie/I need help with this plot" and the conversation would pick right back up as if we'd never been apart. You could talk to Pat about anything and she always had something insightful to say.

Pat was one of the most interesting, open minded and generous people I've ever met. I'm a bit on the shy side, but Pat went out of her way to introduce me to other interesting people, included my family in holiday meals, even paid my kids exorbitant rates for yard work and pet sitting.

We went to conventions together, too, where Pat seemed to know everyone. There I watched her encourage new writers, often people she'd just met, with that same open heartedness. She was tremendously modest about her own accomplishments—Clarion, Nebula finalist, special ed teaching career, publications in major magazines, organizer of writer's retreats, just to name a few— but passed on her considerable experience with both hands. We did the same for each other, reading each other's work critiquing, and cheerleading each other through dry spells. Pat was a great, soulful writer and a wonderful sounding board. At this writing, I'm finishing up a novel she helped midwife out of the doldrums; it hurts to think she won't get to see the finished book, or the

dedication.

She talked me into going to my first Eeriecon, and last year's con was one of the last times we were together. We had our usual good time with everyone, and afterwards my husband and I took her to the casino and coached her through her first blackjack game. She had a terrific streak of beginner's luck and, in typical Pat fashion, felt bad that we'd lost a bit and tried to split her winnings with us. We laughingly fended her off, finally convincing her to keep her winnings as her stake, so she could come out gambling with us again.

We had coffee a time or two after that, and then she was gone.

Her family decided to have a two-night wake instead of a funeral, and it was astonishing to see how many lives she'd touched in so many different ways. The house was crowded both nights with family and friends, and in good Irish wake fashion, it was a warm, happy, if bittersweet, time for all. Pat, the great introducer and social director, must have been pleased to have so many people she'd loved and talked about finally meet. I can't think of a better tribute for her.

It still doesn't seem possible that she's gone. All these months later I find myself reaching for the phone or pulling up an email, wanting to share my latest chapters with her or see if she's free for lunch.

So I prefer to think that our conversation is just on hold for now, to be picked up later at some celestial coffee shop or in a future lifetime.

Pat, I look forward to catching up on all the news.

— Lynn Flewelling

## Octavia Butler: in memoriam

Octavia Butler was a tall, strongly-built African American woman — with the sweetest heart ever. Gentle and kind, even shy, she also had a wry sense of humor and was a pleasure to know. She was also one terrific writer, and deserved winning the MacArthur Prize. Hearing of her sudden death was a horrible shock, both on the personal level and on the professional one. I consider her a friend, and I'm convinced that she's elsewhere, keeping an eye on us all even now.

*Josepha Sherman*

- WARCHILD** (Pocket Books; STAR TREK/DEEP SPACE NINE novel;  
 September 1994)  
 (Reprinted in German as **KRIEGSKIND**; Wilhem Heyne Verlag;  
 1996)  
 (Reprinted in French [Canada] as **L'ENFANT DE LA GUERRE**;  
 Editions AdA Inc.; 2002)  
**THE SHERWOOD GAME** (Baen Books; February 1995)  
**MAJYK BY DESIGN** (ACE; November 1995)  
 (Reprinted in German as **DIE KASEBURG CONNECTION**;  
 Bastei-Lubbe; July 1996)  
**THE PSALMS OF HEROD** (White Wolf; October 1996)  
**CHILD OF THE EAGLE** (Baen Books; June 1996)  
**THE SWORD OF MARY** (White Wolf; October 1996)  
**PLAYING WITH FIRE** (Printed as part of omnibus **THE ESSENTIAL WORLD OF DARKNESS**; eds. Stewart Wieck and Anna Branscome; White Wolf; August 1997)  
**TO STORM HEAVEN** (Pocket Books; STAR TREK:TNG novel;  
 December 1997)  
**MEN IN BLACK 2** (Novelization of screenplay; Summer 2002)  
 Japanese version; Village Books; 2002  
 German version; Goldmann; 2002  
 French version; ???; 2002  
**E.GODZ** (with Robert Asprin; Baen Books; ??? 2003)

### **EDITOR (WITH MARTIN H. GREENBERG)**

- ALIEN PREGNANT BY ELVIS** (with Martin H. Greenberg): An  
 anthology of Tabloid SF (DAW; June 1994)  
**CHICKS IN CHAINMAIL** (with Martin H. Greenberg); An anthology  
 of Amazon comedy (Baen Books; September 1995)  
 Science Fiction Book Club edition (????)  
**BLOOD MUSE** (with Martin H. Greenberg): An anthology of  
 vampires and the vampiric in the arts (Donald I. Fine;  
 December 1995)  
**DID YOU SAY "CHICKS"?!** (with Martin H. Greenberg; Baen  
 Books; February 1998)  
**CHICKS 'N' CHAINED MALES** (with Martin H. Greenberg; Baen  
 Books; May 1999)  
**THE CHICK IS IN THE MAIL** (with Martin H. Greenberg; Baen  
 Books; October 2000)  
**TURN THE OTHER CHICK** (with Martin H. Greenberg; Baen  
 Books; November 2004)

(Harry Turtledove bibliography continued from page 12)

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- \* In the Balance (Worldwar Series, Volume 1) (1997)
- \* Tilting the Balance (Worldwar Series, Volume 2) (1997)
- \* Upsetting the Balance (Worldwar Series, Volume 3) (1997)
- \* Fox and Empire (1998) \* Between the Rivers (1998)
- \* Into the Darkness (1999) \* Household Gods (1999) with Judith Tarr
- \* Down in the Bottomlands and Other Places (1999) with L. S. de Camp
- \* Wisdom of the Fox (1999) \* Darkness Descending (2000)
- \* Colonization #2 (2000) \* Sentry Peak (2000)
- \* Household Gods (2000) with Judith Tarr
- \* Into the Darkness (The World at War, Book 1) (2000)
- \* Tale of the Fox (2000) \* American Empire: Blood & Iron (2001)
- \* Through the Darkness (2001) \* Marching Through Peachtree (2001)
- \* Over the Wine-Dark Sea (2001) \* Rulers of the Darkness (2002)
- \* The Center Cannot Hold (2002) \* Ruled Britannia (2002)
- \* Advance and Retreat (2002) \* The Victorious Opposition (2003)
- \* Jaws of Darkness (2003) \* Conan of Venarium (2003)
- \* Worlds That Weren't (2003) with S. M. Stirling and Mary Gentle and  
Walter Jon Williams \* Gunpowder Empire (2003)
- \* Out of the Darkness (World at War, Book 6) (2004)
- \* The Victorious Opposition: The Victorious Opposition (2004)
- \* Advance and Retreat (Alternate Civil War) (2004)
- \* The First Heroes: New Tales of the Bronze Age (2004) with Noreen Mary  
Doyle \* 3 X T (2004)
- \* Return Engagement: Book One of the Settling Accounts Trilogy (2004)
- \* Curious Notions (2004) \* Days Of Infamy (2004)
- \* Homeward Bound (2004) \* Counting Up, Counting Down (2005)
- \* Out of the Darkness : Book 6 of the Darkness Series (Darkness) (2005)
- \* The Enchanter Completed (2005) \* The Time of Troubles I (2005)
- \* Settling Accounts: Return Engagement (Settling Accounts Trilogy) (2005)
- \* Worlds That Weren't (2005) with S.M. Stirling and Mary Gentle and  
Walter Jon Williams
- \* The First Heroes (2005) with Noreen Doyle
- \* Settling Accounts: Drive to the East (Settling Accounts Trilogy) (2005)
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- \* End of the Beginning (2005)
- \* Curious Notions: Crosstime Traffic—Book Two (Crosstime Traffic)  
(2005)
- \* Bridge of the Separator (The Videssos) (2005) \* Homeward Bound (2005)
- \* In High Places: Crosstime Traffic—Book Three (Crosstime Traffic) (2005)

### Collections

- \* Departures (1993) \* Counting Up, Counting Down (2002)

For more information check out the great "Turtledove" websites, such as:  
<http://www.sfsite.com/~silverag/turtledove.html>



## Remembering Pat

I met Pat York at Contradiction in 1994. Nancy Kress introduced us. This was my first timid venture into the Land of Conventions, and the only person I knew was Nancy, with whom I had taken a workshop the year before.

I remember Pat's smile. That bright, welcoming smile.

Shortly after that, we met for dinner and played Pat's game of "Get to know you in 20 questions or less." Having discovered someone else who lived in the area and spoke the Language of Genre, we continued to meet, continued to talk (boy, did we continue to talk), and we became friends.

In some ways, we had a "you say po-tay-to and I say po-tah-to" kind of friendship. Pat absorbed the world through news and science. I walked the landscapes of archetypes and myth. She was Lady Bountiful; I was Mother Nag (or, as Pat more kindly phrased it, water on stone — gentle but relentless). She saw the glass as being half empty; I saw the glass as being half full. We celebrated each other's writing successes and commiserated over the rejections (and turned the 5-Minute Whine into an art form).

We laughed a lot, and sometimes we quarreled. And we worked through bruised feelings to better understand the workings of another mind and heart.

We were friends. And now she's gone.

We had both done a lot of living since 1994, and a lot of things had changed for both of us. But there was one thing that never changed during those years: that smile.

That bright, welcoming smile.

*Anne Bishop  
March 14, 2006*

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