

**DOROT – PURIM SF FEST IN HAIFA, MARCH 21 09:00-21:00**



**חדשות האגודה – מרץ 2019 The Israeli Society for Science Fiction and Fantasy**

- המועדון **בירושלים** יעסוק בספר "סוכנות חנות הספרים של המכשף הרשע" מאת דיליה שרמון (עורן, 2018). המועדון יתקיים ביום שלישי, 26-03-2019, ב-19:00. מיקום מדויק ימסר למתפקדים ב"פתיל האוכל" בדף האירוע, ב-facebook. מנחה: **גלי אחישוב**. למעקב אחר הספרים המתוכננים ומועדי מועדונים נוספים ניתן להצטרף לקבוצה **מועדון הקריאה הירושלמי של האגודה**. ניתן גם ליצור קשר במייל עם מרכזת המועדון בירושלים - ולהצטרף לקבוצת הוואטס'אפ של המועדון.

- המועדון **בת"א** יעסוק בספר "ידיהו תבניות" מאת ויליאם גיבסון (כנרת-זמורה-ביתן, 2007), ביום חמישי 28-03-2019 בשעה 19:30, בבית פרטי במרכז ת"א. כתובת מדויקת תינתן לנרשמות ולנרשמים למועדון. מנחה: **דפנה קירש**.

- **הדרן ולנטיינס די** האגודה מארגנת הדרן כנס נוסף, שלישי לחורף זה, וכולכם מוזמנים! מספר הרצאות מכניס עבר, שיועברו מחדש, באווירה ביתית גיקית וכיפית, ביום חמישי, 14-03-2019, בשעות הערב. האירוע יתקיים בבית פרטי בת"א. הכתובת המדויקת תישלח מספר ימים לפני האירוע, למי שיתפקד בפתיל האוכל/או ישלח הודעה פרטית למארגנת - **דפנה קירש**. לתשומת ליבכם: לצערנו האירוע בקומה שלישית, ללא מעלית.

- המועדון **בחיפה**. יעסוק בספר "מזיגת על ועצם" מאת לי ברדוגו (אריה ניר, 2014). המועדון יתקיים ביום חמישי, 28-03-2019, ב-19:00. מנחה: **טניה חניקין**. כתובת מדויקת תינתן לנרשמות ולנרשמים למועדון, במייל של המנחה.

- המועדון **בגליל מערבי בכרמיאל-משגב** יעסוק בספר "The Fifth Season" מאת N. K. Jemisin (Little, Brown Book Group, 2015). יתקיים ביום רביעי, 27-03-2019 ב-20:30, בבית פרטי במשגב. כתובת מדויקת תינתן לנרשמות ולנרשמים. מנחה: **ד"ר קרן פייט**.

**כל האירועים של האגודה מופיעים בלוח האירועים (שפע אירועים מעניינים, הרצאות, סדנאות, מפגשים ועוד)**  
לקבלת עדכונים שוטפים על מפגשי מועדון הקריאה ברחבי הארץ ניתן להצטרף לרשימת התפוצה או בדף האגודה בפייסבוק. Society information is available (in Hebrew) at the Society's site: <http://www.sf-f.org.il>

**This month's roundup:**

- Again – A concise version of "Sheer Science" this month, with two UN-RELATED articles
  - I'm continuing the multi-part review of Zion's Fiction with stories #3&4
- As usual, interesting tidbits from various websites.

**Beginning next month (with a taste of what's to come, this month):**

- a new series about Alternate History/Parallel Universes/What-ifs/etc.

- Your editor, Leybl Botwinik

**Random Pop News Items**

**The Never-ending Stories and Tributes to Stan Lee**

- Here's more on Stan Lee's "Soapbox" (I truly enjoyed reading them):

- <https://comicbook.com/marvel/2019/02/06/marvel-releases-new-stan-lee-tribute-bullen-bulletin-sopabox/>
- <https://www.bleedingcool.com/2019/02/05/stan-lee-forever-stans-soapbox-marvel-comics/>

**Yiddish Policemen's Union – anyone?**

Contrary to well spread hearsay, Yiddish is alive and kicking, and in some cases – KILLING. Well, maybe not so much in our Universe, but at least in a parallel one conceived by Michael Chabon in his best-selling 2007 Alternate History novel "Yiddish Policemen's Union".

Since next month, we'll be starting a new series of articles related to books and TV/Film concepts of parallel worlds, What-if's, etc., I thought it opportune to inform our readers (who haven't already heard of this) that Chabon's now notorious book is being prepared for a TV series.

Look forward to an upcoming book review by me – all the pros and cons I need to get off my chest (A copy of the book has been sitting on my desk, just begging me to review it since reading it almost 2 years ago... – and I keep putting it off. I guess, I need to reread parts to refresh my memory).

I'll get back to you on this in a month or two.

**Here's Wikipedia's take on the book itself:**

#### [The Yiddish Policemen's Union - Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Yiddish_Policemen%27s_Union)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Yiddish\\_Policemen%27s\\_Union](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Yiddish_Policemen%27s_Union)

The **Yiddish Policemen's Union** is a 2007 novel by American author Michael Chabon. ... It imagines a temporary independent **Jewish** settlement **being** created on the .... **adaptation** of **The Yiddish Policemen's Union** was in pre-production, **to be** ... On 9 January 2019, CBS TV Studios, PatMa Productions and Keshet Studios ...

**And here are some write-ups about the upcoming series – for your reading pleasure:**

#### [Stuart Jeffries talks to Michael Chabon | Books | The Guardian](https://www.theguardian.com/books/2007/jun/07/culture.fiction)

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2007/jun/07/culture.fiction>

#### [The Yiddish Policemen's Union \(Literature\) - TV Tropes](https://tvtropes.org/pmwiki/pmwiki.php/Literature/TheYiddishPolicemensUnion)

<https://tvtropes.org/pmwiki/pmwiki.php/Literature/TheYiddishPolicemensUnion>

#### ['Yiddish Policemen's Union' In Works As Comedic Drama Series ...](https://deadline.com/.../yiddish-policemens-union-drama-based-on-book-michael-cha...)

<https://deadline.com/.../yiddish-policemens-union-drama-based-on-book-michael-cha...>

#### ['Yiddish Policeman's Union' to Become TV Series — Jewish Journal](https://jewishjournal.com/culture/.../yiddish-policemans-union-to-become-tv-series/)

<https://jewishjournal.com/culture/.../yiddish-policemans-union-to-become-tv-series/>

#### [Michael Chabon adapting his alternative history setting the Jewish ...](https://www.haaretz.com › U.S. News)

<https://www.haaretz.com › U.S. News>

#### [Chabon's hit novel 'Yiddish Policemen's Union' coming to TV – J.](https://www.jweekly.com/.../chabons-hit-novel-yiddish-policemens-union-coming-to-t...)

<https://www.jweekly.com/.../chabons-hit-novel-yiddish-policemens-union-coming-to-t...>

#### [Coen Brothers to Direct Michael Chabon's The Yiddish Policemen's ...](https://www.slashfilm.com/coen-brothers-to-direct-michael-chabons-the-yiddish-polic...)

<https://www.slashfilm.com/coen-brothers-to-direct-michael-chabons-the-yiddish-polic...>

#### [Chabon, Waldman To Bring 'Yiddish Policemen' To TV – The Forward](https://forward.com/.../michael-chabon-ayelet-waldman-to-bring-yiddish-policemens-...)

<https://forward.com/.../michael-chabon-ayelet-waldman-to-bring-yiddish-policemens-...>

#### [Coen brothers take on tale of alternate-reality Alaska | Film | The ...](https://www.theguardian.com/film/2008/feb/12/books.news1)

<https://www.theguardian.com/film/2008/feb/12/books.news1>

Read more in the Yiddish press :

<http://yiddish.forward.com/articles/213457/yiddish-policemans-union-being-adapted-for-tv>

## And now, back to our regular programming:

### Some fun from the Websites:

If they are worried – shouldn't we be too? ...

#### Microsoft: Unregulated Facial Recognition Risks 1984-Like Future

By Michael Kan December 7, 2018

Microsoft is ratcheting up its call for government regulation of facial recognition technologies ....

*"Unless we act, we risk waking up five years from now to find that facial recognition services have spread in ways that exacerbate societal issues,"* Microsoft President and Chief Legal Officer Brad Smith wrote in a Thursday blog post. *"We must ensure that the year 2024 doesn't look like a page from the novel '1984.'"*

In the 3,500-word blog post, Smith urges the world's lawmakers to act before facial recognition systems can be widely abused. Imagine security cameras installed across cities that can identify you and then track your whereabouts — all without your permission.

Government agencies could exploit these systems to unleash mass surveillance on an unprecedented scale, ....

**To read more, see:**

<https://www.pcmag.com/news/365379/microsoft-unregulated-facial-recognition-risks-1984-like-fu>

Old News (From Feb 19) – but still not FULL news I'm proud to say, that Israel's private moon lander has been launched, and expected to land on April 11

#### SpaceX Rocket Launches 1st Private Moon Lander for Israel – By Hanneke Weitering – February 2019

A used SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket successfully launched an Israeli moon lander along with an Indonesian communications satellite from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida tonight (Feb. 21). After deploying its two payloads into orbit, the Falcon 9's first stage returned to Earth and aced a landing (the third for this booster) on SpaceX's drone ship "Of Course I Still Love You," which was stationed in the Atlantic Ocean.

Liftoff occurred at 8:45 p.m. EST (0145 Feb. 22 GMT) just as the moon rose above the horizon here.

Although the primary payload for this mission was Indonesia's satellite, named Nusantara Satu, the tiny moon lander that hitched a ride with the satellite as a secondary payload stole the show today. It became not only the first Israeli spacecraft to venture beyond Earth's orbit, but also the first-ever privately funded moon mission.

**Read more here:** <https://www.space.com/spacex-israeli-moon-lander-satellites-launch-success.html>

**MORE ON THE MISSION FROM SPACEIL:**  
<http://www.spaceil.com/mission/>

FRONTAL

## SPACE – The ~~Final~~ Frontier



### Trump Signs Directive to Create a Military Space Force

The Space Force just took a big step from sci-fi-sounding dream toward reality.

President Donald Trump signed Space Policy Directive-4 (SPD-4) today (Feb. 19), ordering the Pentagon to establish the Space Force as the sixth branch of the United States military, to go along with the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard.

But the Space Force still has a big hoop to jump through: Congress must approve the creation of any new military branch. [What Is the U.S. Space Force?]

The main goal of the Space Force is to secure and extend American dominance of the space domain, Trump and other White House officials have said. Such reasoning has drawn opposition from various quarters.

**See more here:** <https://www.space.com/president-trump-space-force-directive.html>

## Star Trek: How 'Short Treks' Sets Up 'Discovery' Season 2

['Star Trek': How 'Short Treks' Sets Up 'Discovery' Season 2](#)

<https://www.hollywoodreporter.com/live-feed/star-trek-discovery-how-short-treks-ties-season-two-1175162>

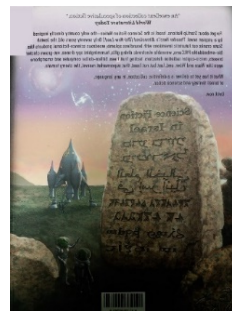
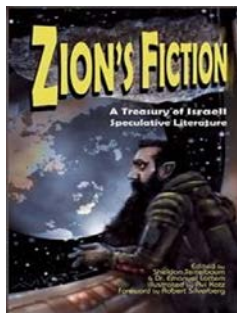
### Just for fun:

If you were wondering how Hollywood transforms a human into a Klingon (for the show), this link will tell you all about it:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6JQhrwqyyXg>

## Review: “Zion’s Fiction” ed. Teitelbaum & Lottem (Pt. 2) – Now Coming to You, From the Prime SF Nation of the World

Reviewed by Leybl Botwinik



### Here are some more short reviews

#### Story #3 – Burn Alexandria by Keren Landsman

I particularly liked this one, since I’m an avid reader and libraries are my favorite stomping grounds. Oh, and I’ve also followed several seasons worth of “The Librarians” TV series...

And, if that wasn’t enough hinting about the title, then you really ought to go to a library to find out more about the Great Library of Alexandria. Now, about the story.

Earth is continually invaded by extra-terrestrials – several times, and by various species. Whenever a space-sphere opens up on Earth and lets loose the various Aliens, Earth’s protectors are called in. These are soldiers specifically trained to enter the spheres and stop the invasion. The spheres are transportation modules opening up gates (or access-tunnels) between hostile invading planets and Earth.

Of course, since this is Israeli SF, then the protecting soldiers are Israeli – one female and one male. You can feel the military speech and other signature behavior patterns in the way the two Israeli protagonists in the story act and react. In this story’s latest invasion, they are surprised to discover the nature of the latest “invasion”: A self-contained library. But is it ‘friend’ or ‘foe’?

#### Story #4 – The Perfect Girl by Guy Hasson

There is nothing Israeli about this story, nor is it about the future, or space, or hi-tech or the likes. So it may actually be taking place somewhere nearby. In fact it takes place at the Indianapolis academy. However, if you are a telepath (or someone you know is) – particular a newbie in need of some training – then this story is just right for you.

At 46 pages, it is the longest short story in the collection. Guy Hasson takes us into the head and the emotions of a telepathic student, Justine, who begins her training by touching the body of a recently deceased young woman. The premise is that the thoughts in the mind of a dead person are still accessible to a good telepath for up to 7 days after death. Reading this story, you will learn how a telepath thinks, what he/she should be careful about, etc. In short, highly recommended for budding telepaths... Oh, and the story of the dead girl and how it affects Justine is very well written too.

### **MORE ZION’S FICTION QUICK STORY REVIEWS – NEXT TIME !**

For more on the book, see the official website at: <http://www.zionsfiction.com/>

Also:

[https://www.amazon.com/Zions-Fiction-Treasury-Speculative-Literature/dp/1942134525/ref=sr\\_1\\_1](https://www.amazon.com/Zions-Fiction-Treasury-Speculative-Literature/dp/1942134525/ref=sr_1_1)

## Sheer\* Science: “Short Stuff\*\*”

(\* In memory of Aharon Sheer (7"י) – Founding Editor)

Sent by Gary R.: Check this out - bionic eye

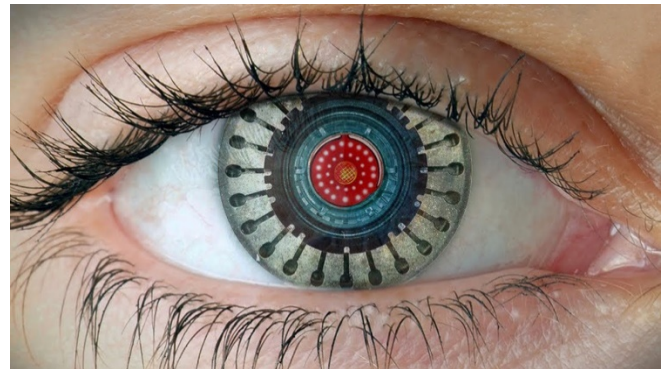
LB: Thanks Gary. Now, if only they'd give us Bionic brains, to pick good leadership in the upcoming elections

### Bionic Contacts: Goodbye Glasses. Hello Vision That's 3x Better Than 20/20 (February 07, 2019)

Most of us take our vision for granted. As a result, we take the ability to read, write, drive, and complete a multitude of other tasks for granted. However, unfortunately, sight is not so easy for everyone.

For many people, simply seeing is a struggle. In fact, more than 285 million people worldwide have vision problems, [according to the World Health Organization\(WHO\)](#).

Cataracts account for about a third of these. [The National Eye Institute reports](#) that more than half of all Americans will have cataracts or will have had cataract surgery by the time they are 80, and in low- and middle-income countries, they're the leading cause of blindness.



But now, people with vision problems may have new hope.

...

Read more: <http://www.scienceinsanity.com/2019/01/bionic-contacts-goodbye-glasses-hello.html>

## How Fast Can You Travel Before It Kills You?



Daniel Kolitz – February 2019

The human body can withstand a lot before giving up and dying: falls from second-story windows, years of fevered substance abuse, wolf attacks, etc. We have a pretty good idea of what it *can't* tolerate, but some ways of dying instantly have received less attention than others, and speed is one of these. We've all seen pictures of people moving at top-speed—but is there a velocity beyond which those blown-back cheeks actually fly off your face?

For this week's Giz Asks we reached out to experts in space travel and physiology to figure out how fast you can travel before it actually kills you. Technically, it turns out, there's no real limit to that number; it all depends on the conditions. Speed can kill you—but it can't do the job alone.

Three experts weigh in:

...

Read more: <https://gizmodo.com/have-fast-can-you-travel-before-it-kills-you-1832524400>

***We'd love to hear your thoughts on the above topics and with your OK, we may publish them!***

For Comments: E-mail: [levbl\\_botwinik@yahoo.com](mailto:levbl_botwinik@yahoo.com). Tel: Leybl Botwinik +972-54-537-7729

Editor: Leybl Botwinik. Founding Editor: Aharon Sheer (ז"ל). Logo by: Miriam Ben-Loulu (ז"ל)

For free email delivery (PDF format) write to [levbl\\_botwinik@yahoo.com](mailto:levbl_botwinik@yahoo.com)

Copyright © 2018 — Archives at: <http://www.kulichki.com/antimiry/cybercozen>

Also (archived issues from 2014+) at: <http://fanac.org/fanzines/CyberCozen/>

And <http://efanzines.com/CyberCozen/index.htm>

All rights reserved to specified authors and artists © כל הזכויות שמורות למחברים וליוצרים