

# FanActivity Gazette

Volume 2 Number 12

May 2023

News of Fen of Interest to All Fen

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Appropriate Contributions welcome.

## Conventions for June Mindy Hunt

Each month we will provide a list of conventions from around the world.

This list is constantly being updated throughout the month. You can find our full events list as well as a calendar at <http://scifi4me.com/conventions-events/>.

During the week, we provide regular updates on our TV channel <http://scifi4me.tv/> with any schedule changes or cancellations. These updates also include any COVID-19 requirements the events are requesting. These requirements are also listed on our calendar for each event.

We are always looking to keep the list and calendar as current as possible. If you know of a local event, big or little, send us and email at [events@scifi4me.com](mailto:events@scifi4me.com) so we can add it and make it the most comprehensive conventions list on the internet.

May 31-June 4

### VIRTUAL

### ON-SITE

Colossalcon – Sandusky, OH May 31-4  
Monsterpalooza – Pasadena, CA Jun 2-4  
A-Kon – Irving, TX Jun 2-4  
Anime Marathon – Konigslutter, Germany Jun 2-4  
Bugeater – Omaha, NE Jun 2-4  
Cogs & Corsets – Bloomington, IL Jun 2-4  
ConCarolinas – Charlotte, NC Jun 2-4  
ConQuest – Kansas City, MO Jun 2-4  
Creation Chicago – Rosemont IL Jun 2-4  
DieCon – Collinsville, IL Jun 2-4

Fan Expo Philadelphia – Philadelphia, PA Jun 2-4  
Phoenix Fan Fusion – Phoenix, AZ Jun 2-4  
SaltCon Summer – Layton, UT Jun 2-4  
3 Rivers Comicon – Pittsburgh, PA Jun 3-4  
EpicCon Russia– St Petersburg, Russia Jun 3-4  
Fantasticon – Copenhagen, Denmark Jun 3-4  
KimoKawaii – Conroe, TX Jun 3-4  
Leeds Anime & Gaming Con – Leeds, United Kingdom Jun 3-4  
Mid Valley Comic Art Expo – Salem, OR Jun 3-4  
Nashville Comicon – Nashville, TN Jun 3-4  
Nococon – Watertown, NY Jun 3-4  
Oz Comic-Con Adelaide – Adelaide, Southern Australia, Australia Jun 3-4  
Portsmouth Comic Con – Portsmouth, United Kingdom Jun 3-4  
Zomerspeil – Merelbeke, Belgium Jun 3-4  
BentonvilleCon – Bentonville, AR Jun 3  
Boston Kids Comic Fest – Chestnut Hill, MA Jun 3  
Clinton Spring Fair Comic Con – Clinton, Ontario, Canada Jun 3  
Exeter Brick Festival – Exeter, United Kingdom Jun 3  
Glasgow Comic Con – Glasgow, United Kingdom Jun 3  
Brentwood Brick Festival – Brentwood, United Kingdom Jun 4  
Capital Trade Show – Ottawa, Ontario, Canada Jun 4  
LA Comic Art Show – Redondo Beach, CA Jun 4  
Midwest Comic Book Con St Louis – Collinsville, IL Jun 4  
Stratford Comicon – Stratford, Ontario, Canada Jun 4  
Wayne NJ Toy Show – Wayne, NJ Jun 4

June 8-11

## VIRTUAL

## ON-SITE

International Horror Hotel Film Festival and Convention – Cleveland, OH Jun 8-11  
Living Dead Weekend – Monroeville, PA Jun 9-11  
Animate! Columbus – Columbus, OH Jun 9-11  
AnimeCon – Rotterdam, Netherlands Jun 9-11  
Bayou Wars – D'Iberville, MS Jun 9-11  
Fairford Festival of Fiction – Fairford, United Kingdom Jun 9-11  
Fan Expo Dallas – Dallas, TX Jun 9-11  
JAFAX – Allendale Charter Township, MI Jun 9-11  
JoeFest Toy and Comic Convention – Augusta, GA Jun 9-11  
Moon City Con – Springfield, MO Jun 9-11  
Niagra Falls Comic Con – Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada Jun 9-11  
Really Pleasant Gaming Weekend – Overland Park, KS Jun 9-11  
Sci-Fi Valley Con – Pittsburg, PA Jun 9-11  
Scintillation – Montreal, Quebec, Canada Jun 9-11  
Stranger Con – Atlanta, GA Jun 10-11  
Em-Con – Nottingham, United Kingdom Jun 10-11  
GeekCraft Expo Indy – Indianapolis, IN Jun 10-11  
Incredible Con – North Charleston, SC Jun 10-11  
Lilac City Comicon – Spokane, WA Jun 10-11  
Wie.MAI.KAI – Florsheim am Main, Germany Jun 10-11

Liverpool Brick Festival – Liverpool, United Kingdom Jun 10  
Oddities & Curiosities – New Orleans, LA Jun 10  
SWFL Space Con – Fort Myers, FL Jun 10  
Quad Con – Springfield, IL Jun 11

June 16-18

VIRTUAL

ON-SITE

Cosplacon – Jefferson City, MO Jun 15-18  
4th Street Fantasy – Minneapolis, MN Jun 16-18  
Anime Festival Orlando – Orlando, FL Jun 16-18  
Anime Onsen – Colorado Springs, CO Jun 16-18  
Awesome Con – Washington D.C. Jun 16-18  
Brass Screw Consortium – Port Townsend, WA Jun 16-18  
Contropolis MA – Marlborough, MA Jun 16-18  
Duke City Comic Con – Albuquerque, NM Jun 16-18  
Heroes Con – Charlotte, NC Jun 16-18  
International Steampunk Symposium – Cincinnati, OH Jun 16-18  
PopCon Louisville – Louisville, KY Jun 16-18  
Pyrkon – Poznan, Poland Jun 16-18  
Ranger Stop Pop Con Atlanta – Atlanta, GA Jun 16-18  
Ultimates Multiverse – Birmingham, United Kingdom Jun 16-18  
GeekCraft Expo PDX – Portland, OR Jun 17-18  
Quad Con – Cedar Rapids, IA Jun 17-18  
Supernova Comic Con & Gaming– Sydney, New South Wales, Australia Jun 17-18  
YetiCon – The Blue Mountains, Ontario, Canada Jun 17-18  
Aurora Comicon – Aurora, Ontario, Canada Jun 17  
Cambridge Brick Festival – Cambridge, United Kingdom Jun 17  
Dover Comic Con – Dover, DE Jun 17  
Hero Hype Con Orlando – Orlando, FL Jun 17  
Oddities & Curiosities – Austin, TX Jun 17  
Leeds Brick Festival – Leeds, United Kingdom Jun 18  
London Film Fair – London, United Kingdom Jun 18

June 21-25

VIRTUAL

ON-SITE

Orgins Game Fair – Columbus, OH Jun 21-25  
VidCon – Anaheim, CA Jun 21-24  
Haunted America Conference – Alton, IL Jun 23-25  
The Vampired Diaries/The Originals Official Reunion Con – Whippany, NJ Jun 23-25  
Anime Festival Wichita – Wichita, KS Jun 23-25  
Anime Ohio – Sharonville, OH Jun 23-25  
Cosplay America – Cary, NC Jun 23-25  
DeepSouthCon – Chattanooga, TN Jun 23-25  
Fairy Blossom Festival – Pe Ell, WA Jun 23-25  
LibertyCon – Chattanooga, TN Jun 23-25

PortConMaine – Portland, ME Jun 23-25  
RinCon – Tucson, AZ Jun 23-25  
SunnyCon Anime Expo – Newcastle upon Tyne, United Kingdom Jun 23-25  
Washington State Summer Con – Puyallup, WA Jun 23-25  
Alamo Hero Con – Schertz, TX Jun 24-25  
Anime Sekai – Abilene, TX Jun 24-25  
BrickUniverse – Raleigh, NC Jun 24-25  
Garden State Comic Fest – Morristown, NJ Jun 24-25  
Greater Austin Comiccon – Cedar Park, TX Jun 24-25  
Mississippi Comic Con – Jackson, MS Jun 24-25  
New Haven Comic & Collectible Spectacular – New Haven, CT Jun 24-25  
OKC's Pop Culture Con – Oklahoma City, OK Jun 24-25  
Rail City Fan Fest – Saint Albans, VT Jun 24-25  
Smallville Comic Con – Hutchinson, KS Jun 24-25  
Supernova Comic Con & Gaming – Perth, Western Australia, Australia Jun 24-25  
Forest City Comic Con – London, Ontario, Canada Jun 24  
Huntsvillecon – Huntsville, AL Jun 24  
Peterborough Comicon – Peterborough, Ontario, Canada Jun 24  
Stars of Time Film & Comic Con – Swindon, United Kingdom Jun 24  
Vancouver Retro Gaming Expo – Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada Jun 24  
Ajax Comicon – Ajax, Ontario, Canada Jun 25  
London Comic Mart – London, United Kingdom Jun 25

June 30-July 2

#### VIRTUAL

#### ON-SITE

Avalon Expo – St John's, Newfoundland, Canada Jun 30-Jul 2  
Dokomi – Dusseldorf, Germany Jun 30-Jul 2  
Nickel City Con – Buffalo, NY Jun 30-Jul 2  
RAGECON – Reno, NV Jun 30-Jul 2  
SoonerCon – Norman, OK Jun 30-Jul 2  
Anime Expo – Los Angeles, CA Jul 1-Jul 3  
BayCon – San Mateo, CA Jul 1-Jul 4  
Hershey Comic Con – Hershey, PA Jul 1-2  
Epic Con Russia – Moscow, Russia Jul 1  
Notts Brick Festival – Newark-on-Trent, United Kingdom Jul 1  
San Fernando Valley Comic Book Convention – North Hollywood, CA Jul 1  
Capital Trade Show – Ottawa, Ontario, Canada Jul 2  
Preston Sci-Fi Comic & Toy Fair – Preston, United Kingdom Jul 2  
Wayne NJ Toy Show – Wayne, NJ Jul 2

# Science Fiction Pro and Fan Birthdays

## Science Fiction Pro and Fan Birthdays

This list of fandom-related birthdays was first published by Bruce Pelz in the *Fantasy Amateur Press Association*. Andrew Porter published and updated the list for *Science Fiction Chronicle*. Updates are welcome!

Unless stated otherwise, all birthdays are in the 20th century.

### June

Adrienne Fein, 6/1/47; Mike Meara, 6/1/48; Allen Spencer Willey, 6/1/54; Lester del Rey, 6/2/15; Robert A. Madle, 6/2/20; Leigh Edmonds, 6/2/48; Lloyd Penney, 6/2/59; Warren Lapine, 6/2/64; Marion Zimmer Bradley, 6/3/30; John Norman, 6/3/31; Steve Schultheis, 6/4/30; Wendy Pini, 6/4/51; Noreen Shaw, 6/6/30; Ron Salomon, 6/6/48; Kit Reed, 6/7/42; Jon White, 6/7/46; John W. Campbell, Jr., 6/8/10; Robert F. Young, 6/8/15; Kate Wilhelm, 6/8/29; Roger Sims, 6/8/30; Elizabeth Lynn, 6/8/46; Leo R. Summers, Keith Laumer, 6/9/25; Lin Carter, 6/9/30; Joe Haldeman, 6/9/43; Drew Sanders, 6/9/49; Jim Glass, 6/9/51; Keith Berdak, 6/9/55; Ed Naha, 6/10/50.

Sylvia Stevens, 6/11/52; Galen Tripp, 6/11/59; Henry Slesar, 6/12/27; Alan Hershey, 6/13/17; Doreen Webbert, 6/13/34; Rebecca Henderson, 6/13/44; Stephen Tall (Compton Crook), 6/14/08; J.F. Bone, 6/15/16; Chandra Sargent, 6/15/53; Murray Leinster (Will F. Jenkins), 6/16/1896; Ted Dikty, 6/16/20; Ted Johnstone, 6/16/39; David Stever, 6/16; Wally Wood, 6/17/27; Sandy Cohen, 6/17/48; Phyllis Weinberg, 6/17/53; Richard Spelman, 6/18/31; Melissa Dougherty, 6/18/67; Robert Moore Williams, 6/19/07; Julius Schwartz, 6/19/15; Bruce Dane, 6/20/50.

William Tuning, 6/21/35; Sally Syrjala, 6/21/48; Mike Morman, 6/21/50; H. Rider Haggard, 6/22/1856; Octavia E. Butler, 6/22/47; John-Henri Holmberg, Lillian Stewart Carl, 6/22/49; Fred Hoyle, 6/24/15; Charles N. Brown, 6/24/37; Stephen Silverberg, 6/24/41; Earl Evers, 6/24/42; Susan Ellison, 6/24; John Maddox Roberts, 6/25/47; Hal Shapiro, 6/26/30; Charles Lee Jackson II, 6/26/50; James P. Hogan, 6/27/41; Tim Gatewood, 6/27/59; Joe Schaumburger, 6/28/30; Peggy Rae Pavlat, 6/28/44; Jon M. Gustafson, 6/28/45; Richard Harter, 6/29/35; David Mattingly, 6/29/56; Michael Whelan, 6/29/50; Sam Moskowitz, 6/30/20; Anie Linard, 6/30/29.

To update this list, contact Heath Row at [kalel@well.com](mailto:kalel@well.com) via email with the subject "Science Fiction Pro and Fan Birthdays" or something similar.

## Writer's Exchange Bureau Judy Carroll

The Writers' Exchange Bureau report usually appears in its entirety in *The National Fantasy Fan*. However, this month BuHead Judy Carroll asked for reader contributions. The request was: Last month I asked our readers to send in some of their not so happy work. It can be a poem, or a paragraph or two, or a character or place. She received something rather long, longer than was workable within the strict page limits of *The National Fantasy Fan*. We are therefore publishing that contribution below. It's a Chapter from my next Eclipse book.

As we appear in the middle of the book, two paragraphs of explanation. We are in someplace that sort of resembles modern America, more than is entirely reasonable since readers have not yet seen the clockwork behind the curtains, at least if you ignore the superheroes, the magicians, the ongoing American wars with Manjukuo and the IncoAztec Empire (fortunately, we have Nippon and the Celestial Republic of the Han as allies), an alien invasion, and an imminent incursion of ancient Lovecraftian deities.

Morgana Lafayette appears to be a mid-20s junior biochemistry faculty member, which is true, at least if you ignore that she is also the superhero Sunssword. She does not emphasize that she is also the immortal sorceress Morgan Le Fey, the Living Crone, Bringer of the Apocalypse. Speaker of the House of the People Ming is also the First Personage of the American Republic. The Wizard of Mars is a cosmic force; he answers questions correctly, if you pay his bitter prices. The American Republic does also have a President. The last President to express an opinion on impending legislation was impeached for his impertinence and removed from office.

Professor Morgana Lafayette marched briskly down the corridor toward her new laboratories. Her office was down the corridor bend; it could wait.

"Professor Lafayette!" The voice was directly behind her.

"Yes, Penelope?" Morgana answered, turning around as she spoke. Penelope Fairweather was her new senior post-doc, and already doing a fine job.

"Your office! There's a messenger!" she said. "In uniform."

"Uniform?" a surprised Morgana asked.

"Service of the Republic. With all the gold braid. He said he's from Speaker Ming, himself." Penelope spoke so rapidly she had to stop to breathe.

"I'd better see him first, then," Morgana said. Now what? she thought. She'd been hoping to get real work done today. Days before the term started were precious things, easily wasted, falling away forever in a shower of scarlet sparks like rubies from the hand of the Nizam. "He's at my office door?"

Penelope nodded.

"I will try to be available soon," Morgana said. "However, the return is my research funding." Not so long ago, people only thought of her as Morgana Lafayette, brilliant and very junior research scientist. Now, a few people, more than she would have preferred, realized that she was also Morgan Le Fay, the Living Crone, Bringer of the Apocalypse. It was not much of a secret that the Speaker's personal slush fund gave her very substantial resources. She hoped those were in recognition of her research, not terror of her persona identity. Ming was very happily married to his new, much younger wife. Morgana ignored rumors that she had seduced Ming. Of course, she considered, most of the people circulating those rumors had no ideas as to her public persona identity. She had planted many paintings that happened to show someone else as the notorious Morgan Le Fay.

She turned the bend in the corridor. Standing in front of her office door, posture a stiff parade rest, was a young man in bright teal uniform.

"Hello?" she said.

He looked to his side, pivoted, and executed a formal boot-slammng salute. Morgana tapped her chest in response.

"I gather there is a message for me," Morgana said.

"Ma'am! Yes, ma'am!"

"Follow me into my office," she ordered. Her new office was considerably larger than her cubbyhole

at Rogers had been; it was large enough for her entire research group to assemble in one place. He deposited an envelope on her desk. She looked, signed the outer jacket, handed him back a now-open outer envelope, and looked at the inner envelope. "Was a reply expected?" she asked.

"No, Eternal Lady!" The messenger answered.

"In that case, you can be on your way, and I need to see what Speaker Ming has to say for himself."

"Yes, Eternal Lady!" He exited.

The message was quite short. "Morgana, a technical moral issue has arisen on which I would appreciate your personal guidance. I believe the matter would better be handled if we were in the same room. My schedule today is free, if you ignore the line of Congressional supplicants."

Different, she thought. She tapped a long number into her old but very secure telephone. In a few moments, one of Ming's flak catchers appeared on the screen.

"Good aft,..." he swallowed. "Good afternoon, Eternal Lady," he stammered. "Speaker Ming's office."

"Hello. Today I'm Professor Morgana Lafayette," she announced. "The Speaker asked me to drop by to talk. He didn't say it had to be today, but the hint was clear. Is he free? Is there a best time?"

"Yes, ma'am. Just a moment." He pressed a button. He was replaced by a beautiful picture of the Grand Canyon and sweet music. In a few moments, his image returned in a split screen, the other half being the Speaker's lead secretary, Ophelia Parrotwood.

"Morgana," Ophelia gushed, "what a delight that you got back to us so quickly. The Speaker is in the process of escorting someone out of the office. If you can get here quickly, no, wait, the Capital teleport screen is up, so..."

"That's a non-issue," Morgana answered. "I seem to recall your office has a west floor to ceiling window with nothing in front of it."

"Yes, but..."

"I'll be there in a few moments," she announced.

The occupants of Ophelia Parrotwood's office affected not to be surprised when a woman stepped out of thin air in front of them. Teleportation, after all, was a commonplace. The more astute observers realized that they were inside the Federal District teleportation screens, so the appearance should have been impossible.

Ophelia's enthusiastic greeting made clear the young lady was an invited guest. "Morgana, it's always such a delight to see you. I hope you're well?"

"I am indeed. And you?" Morgana asked.

"Also well, though not as young as I used to be," Ophelia answered. "As a girl, I would dance all night. Now I prefer to sit for conversation as midnight strikes."

"That's practical experience, not age," Morgana answered. "But, hark, the Speaker approaches."

No sooner had she made those remarks than Speaker Ming, in his informal robes of state, entered the room. "Ah," he said. "Morgana! So good you could be here. Let's step into my inner office."

Morgana found herself squirmed into an overpadded armchair, its complicated print being chrysanthemums in full bloom. Her blooms were gold and yellow. His were pale pinks that accented his scarlet robes. After offering a few pleasantries, the Speaker got to the point.

"I have a legal issue, but do not know what to do about it," he announced. "It relates to Eclipse, may she rest in peace. I gather that she grew up with her mother, and, one fine day when she was probably eleven years old, she was thrown out of the house. I can't propose endangerment, except of the surrounding continent, but abandonment is illegal. Is there a way to find and arrest her mother? Do I actually have evidence for charges? Eclipse was apparently entirely closemouthed about her parents' names. What should I do here?"

"Yes," Morgana said, "I have the answer to this riddle. I know it, but only because the Wizard of Mars invited me for tea. You need to know it, to quiet your worries, though it is a terrible tale. The actual answer is that the Wizard of Mars is an extremely cruel man. Alternatively, he is bound by rules beyond our comprehension, rules that demand that for every answer there must be a proportionate price. For every good he does, an evil must match. For his answer to 'How may I avert this doom, so far away yet so swift approaching?', that doom being the Sword People and then the Invincible Star Demons, the price was indeed high. I didn't ask this question. The Silver General did."

"Are we to be like the High Technarchs," Ming wondered, "crushed like grains of wheat between two

millstones, when Solara and the Silver General clash? That seems to be what happens whenever the Silver General manifests herself.”

“For better or worse, no,” Morgana answered. “The final Doom was Invincible Star Demons, actually the last three of them. Except that this Doom has been averted, Eclipse sacrificing her life to do so, they would be here, sometime this year, and the world of the League of Nations would be one with Gaia Atlanticea.”

“Oh, dear.” Speaker Ming had turned pale.

“For Astrid, the Silver General, the answer to that question, and the price for the answer, were the same.” Morgana shook my head. “The answer? The Silver General was to bear a child. A daughter. The child was to have all the gifts, and all the ability to call on her gifts, that can be imagined. Then the Wizard of Mars arranged for the daughter to have an Avatar, a creature who did not live in linear time, so that it could anticipate what was needful and ensure that it happened. Time and again, the Avatar arranged for the daughter to face great challenges, challenges she almost but not quite failed to overcome, to prepare the daughter for her final, fatal challenge. The Avatar put into the daughter’s hands a copy of my little book. Yes, *The Presentia, On the Nature of the Presence*, a book the daughter understood adequately if not perfectly. In the end, the daughter was far more powerful than her mother, if less experienced.”

“Some of my advisors, informed that the Silver General had an even-more-powerful daughter, would have fatal coronaries,” Ming said. “Others would begin researching painless and reliable methods for ending their lives. The thought is terrifying. But how does it correspond to the Star Demons?”

“The daughter was Eclipse. In the end, it appears that she went to her death to kill the demons, summoning a wave of destruction so total that the very bounds of space and time were ruptured. She killed the demons, but her attack would appear to have killed her. I say ‘appear’, because there was no body. It was reduced to its component subatomic particles.”

“Wasn’t there a sacrifice needed?” Speaker Ming asked. “To propitiate the Wizard?”

“Eclipse was the sacrifice,” Morgana answered. “the Silver General bore her daughter, knowing in advance that the child would go to certain death in combat, well before she reached her fourteenth birthday, and the best the Silver General could do was to prepare Eclipse so she had the best possible chance of taking the Star Demons with her. Abandoning her was part of that preparation.”

“Oh, dear.” Speaker Ming took a deep breath. “What a horrible price. No, I see that I have no interest in pursuing Eclipse’s parents – Wait! She must have had a father!”

“Eclipse was mindlocked,” Morgana explained, “well before she was born, not to be aware of the possibility. Certainly, her memories of growing up – I saw only a few of them – implied that she lived only with her mother. It’s quite plausible that the fellow has no idea that he had a daughter. Astrid was never heavily into long-term, long-term even by mortal standards, relationships.”

“You have solved my problem,” Speaker Ming said, “for which I can only be grateful. What a solution, though. Or are there remaining parts of the Eclipse story?”

“One more.” Morgana sipped at my tea. “There is on our world another great evil, an evil far more horrible than the Star Demons, who were summoned from another plane, and whose actual interests are far more eldritch than anything mortal humanity can contemplate without going mad, for all that we can kill them. They pass through, somewhat by accident wreck a civilization, and leave, unless the Eternal Ones kill one first. The greater evil would lock us in chains forever. The Avatar sacrificed its existence to destroy that evil. The greater evil will apparently – the Wizard tells me, though he neglected to mention how -- soon meet the same fate, and then for the first time in longer than mankind can now imagine mankind will be truly free.”

“We are not free now?” Ming asked.

“There’s an illusion.” She smiled. “Don’t worry about it. If you look for it, you will not find it. And if politics becomes more interesting, more lively, you will say it has changed in a good way.”

“Sometimes I think that all we do is a meaningless, stultified ritual, that we are carrying out our duties and debates, not like puppets on strings, but like characters in an improv play, where all answers are somehow determined in advance.”

“You are a truly perceptive man,” Morgana said, her tone completely sincere, “but if you worry about this you will make matters worse, and somehow, somehow soon, the curtains will lift on a bright new day. But you have other duties, as do I.”



June 2023

In June, 1937 the first issue of Tales of Wonder appeared in Great Britain. Altho the British isles had a long history of producing science fiction and fantasy literature, no magazine specifically devoted to science fiction aimed at the adult reader had ever been introduced. The success of Amazing Stories in the United States convinced publishers there might be a market for science fiction, but they were reluctant to enter a field they knew nothing about.

In 1934 Pearson published Scoops in tabloid format, a weekly paper aimed at the juvenile reader with juvenile style SF adventure stories and a 2 penny cover price. Distribution was not good and sales were weak. British science fiction fans alerted the editors that many of the readers were adults, and in view of the weak sales the editor tried to change course and produce stronger stories aimed at an older audience, with better covers and a sharper print package. Despite all this, sales continued to fall and the magazine folded after 20 weekly issues.

Science fiction fan Walter Gillens managed to convince the editors at The World's Work, a British subsidiary of the American Doubleday publishing house who were about to print a series of pulp magazines as part of their new Master Thriller series, to add a science fiction title to the mix. Gillins was asked to produce an 80,000 word sample package to test the market. World's Work's aim was to reprint lots of American fiction for their new string of magazines, and they only paid low reprint rates, which was also all they were willing to spend on the new SF title featuring original material. Despite this Gillins knew many British science fiction writers would be very happy to have their work published in a home-grown SF magazine.

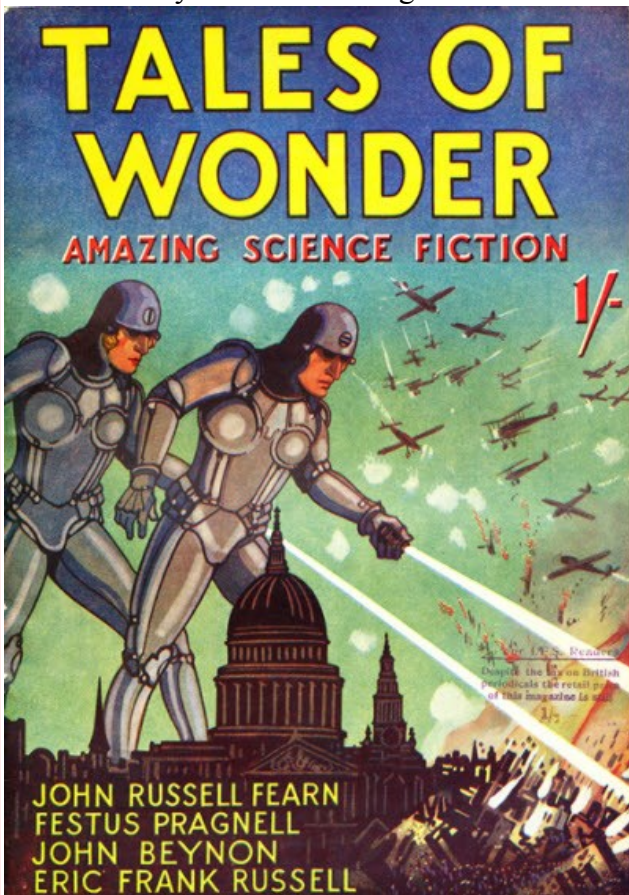
Tales of Wonder was not officially a part of the Master Thriller series when its first issue appeared in 1937. Sales were strong enuf for the publisher to schedule the title as a quarterly, as long as Gillins could fill the magazine with material at their low rates, and as long as sales held up.

World War II started in late 1939. Within a year paper was being rationed in Britain, while printing and the ability to distribute magazines was directly impacted. The magazine started with a full 128 page count, but that was cut to 96 with the Winter 1939 issue, then down to 80 pages with the Autumn 1940 number, and finally the page count fell to 72 pages for the final issues.

Walter Gillens was called up for military service, and initially was able to keep up his editorial duties from his army camp, but the quarterly schedule slipped. This combined with the other problems the magazine faced eventually caused it to be cancelled in 1941 after 16 issues.

As an editor Gillins was able to publish good original fiction. He tried to interact with British fans encouraging them to send in essays and short articles. Unfortunately British writers sent their stories to the far better paying American markets first, so more reprints began to creep into the magazine in order to fill the issues. A few American authors did contribute original fiction to the title. Arthur C. Clark made his first professional sales to Tales of Wonder with two science articles in the Winter 1938 and Summer 1939 issues, while William F. Temple made his first SF sale to the magazine in issue #2.

Tales of Wonder is well remembered today not just as a pioneer in the field, but as a magazine that managed to produce consistently strong issues with good fiction content. During its run Tales of Wonder proved that there was a viable market for adult science fiction in Britain, and after WWII ended, other publishers were more interested in in-



# June 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				Dare Day <sup>1</sup>	National Rocky Road Day <sup>2</sup>	World Bicycle Day <sup>3</sup>
Hug Your Cat Day <sup>4</sup>	World Environemt Day <sup>5</sup>	D-Day, WWII <sup>6</sup>	National Chocolate Ice Cream Day <sup>7</sup>	World Ocean Day <sup>8</sup>	National Flip flop Day <sup>9</sup>	Ball Point Pen Day <sup>10</sup>
National Corn On the Cob Day <sup>11</sup>	Red Rose Day <sup>12</sup>	Sewing Machine Day <sup>13</sup>	Monkey Around Day <sup>14</sup>	Smile Power Day <sup>15</sup>	International Waterfall Day <sup>16</sup>	World Jugglers' Day <sup>17</sup>
Father's Day <sup>18</sup>	National Kissing Day <sup>19</sup>	National Bald Eagle Day <sup>20</sup>	Summer Solstice (Finally!!) <sup>21</sup>	National Onion Ring Day <sup>22</sup>	Take Your Dog To Work Day <sup>23</sup>	Swim A Lap Day <sup>24</sup>
Log Cabin Day <sup>25</sup>	National Canoe Day <sup>26</sup>	Sun Glasses Day <sup>27</sup>	Insurance Awareness Day <sup>28</sup> (Oops! THUD!)	Camera Day <sup>29</sup>	Meteor Day <sup>30</sup>	