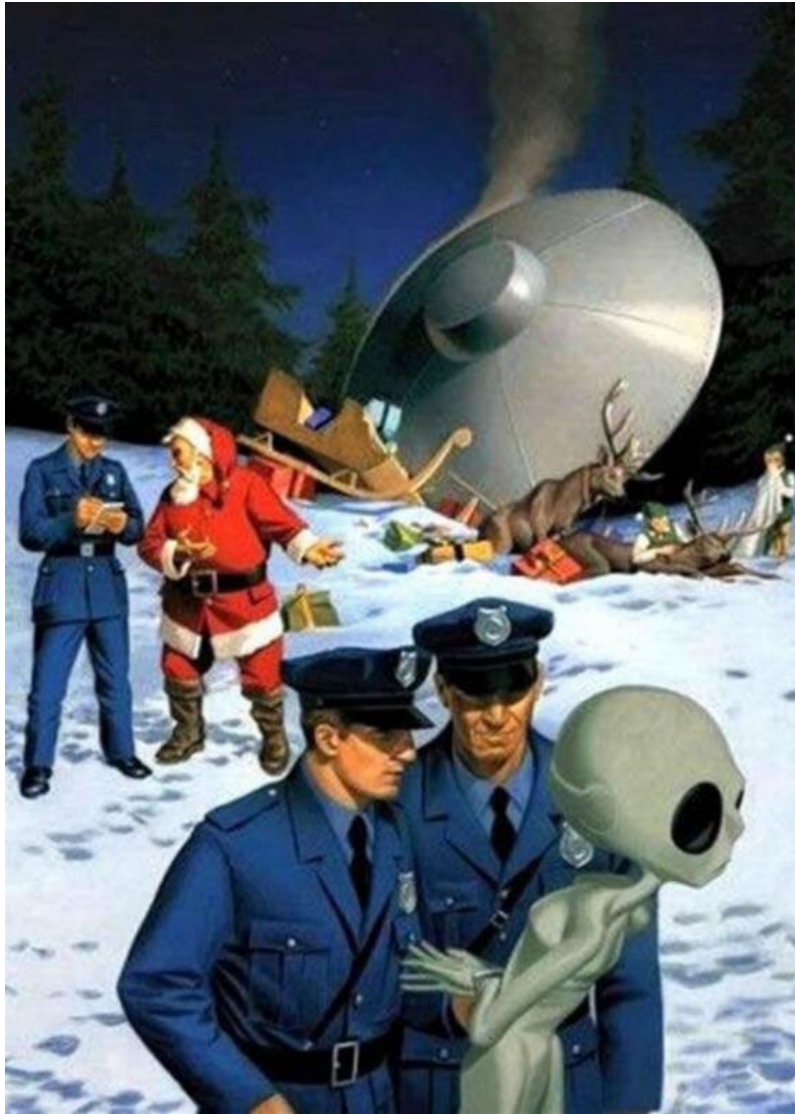


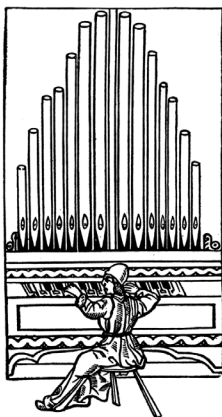
The Obdurate Eye #46

December 2024



When Christmas Was Late

THE OBDURATE EYE #46, December 2024, a personalzine from Garth Spencer, 6960 Doman Street, Vancouver, BC CANADA V5S 3H7, Email garth.van.spencer@gmail.com or hrothgarweems@gmail.com . Garth acknowledges that he does this on the unceded territory of the x^wməθk^wəyəm, səlilwətəł, and skwxwú7mesh peoples.



The organ of no clique or party

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Clipart, "When Christmas Was Late"	cover
Clipart, "Name That Gadget!"	p. 2
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Nailing My Colours to the Mast of a Sinking Ship

Since I have an ordination in the Universal Life Church, and have been acting as Clerk of the Heathen Freehold in British Columbia for a few years, it might be entertaining to consider what kind of spiritual statements I might make, if I were really licensed to do so. (I was raised not to discuss politics, religion, or how I manage my money, but that was another culture back then, wasn't it.)

If we have to believe anything, let us believe that human lives have worth, and value, and meaning. That meaning has something to do with learning, and growth – in personality, in maturity, in wisdom and character. This is an arbitrary proposition, but then we're going to take something on faith, won't we? That's what humans do.

Let us also believe that respect for ourselves means respect for others. If we value our own capacity for learning and growth, we will value the capacity in others, and foster it. Of course this value is honoured more in the breach than in the observance – as witness the behaviour of many parents – but that mainly says something about the half-blindness or emotional baggage that many of us carry around. The judgment and disdain we pass on other people usually has to do with our own faults, which we see in others.

If there are facts of life that most of us had better know, one of them is that people are diverse. For some reason my family seemed to believe that every sensible person grew up pretty much the same way and had much the same personality, or behaved and reacted to events similarly; but this could not be further from the truth. My experience of family, and friends, and teachers, and co-workers, and employers is that there are scores of different personality types, with unpredictable outlooks and confounding emotional baggage.

You cannot decide what is sensible, correct behaviour on the basis of the people around you, only on the basis of the real situations around you, and your personal boundaries. The famous "bell curve" may be a good model to apply here, if we assume that some measure of personal character could be defined, and that it would show the general population is distributed on a classic bell curve, from saints to villains.

Another fact of life is that some people are simply dangerous to others. We call them psychopaths and sociopaths these days, instead of "evil" or "sinful." A distinction without a distinction. It can take time to recognize the dangerous ones, and to extricate yourself from contact with them. It can take too long. Con artists and Internet scams and disinformation mills are mere nuisances by comparison.

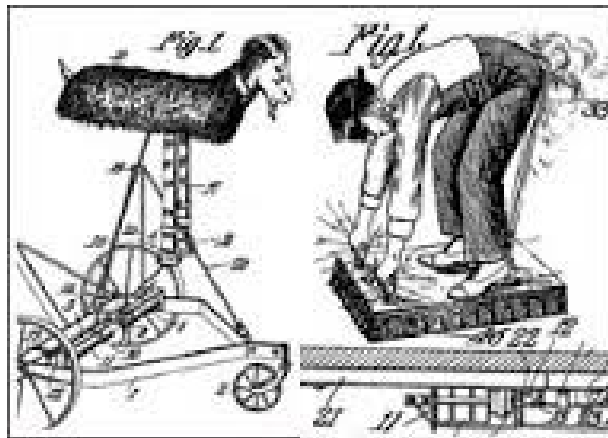
Another fact of life is that some people are simply problems looking to happen to you. They may merely be very stupid, or professionally helpless and dependent and looking for others to use, financially or emotionally or sexually. It can also take too long to recognize these ones.

Other facts of life have to do with the natural world, rather than people. There are prevailing beliefs going around now that things happen to us for reasons, and at just the right time, and we only face trials that we can bear. I don't believe any of these

propositions: environmental and economic bad news happens when it happens, for no reasons connected with us, and completely out of proportion to our ability to withstand them. If there is a God, apparently it is not his job to protect us from events we will not survive, and our part is to pray for strength and resources to make what we can, of good fortune and bad.

If there is no God, it is our job to lend meaning to life. We do this by learning to become as great in character as we can be, and assisting others to do so as well. We do this by daily works and by providing for a better future, if we can. Time and chance tend to destroy a lot of human works. We just have to set to work again, knowing that a little of what we create will endure.

Also I think we're living in a virtuality so badly-coded that cats cause gravity by lying on things, but that's another story.



Name that gadget!

LoCs I Received

George Phillies, phillies@4liberty.net, Nov. 3, 2024

Book reviews tend to end up in *The N3F Review of Books*, which is our N3F literary zine. I do not have a fanzine review editor. The last several died. I could do more to even out *Tightbeam* contents.

((Anybody wanna step up and be George's fanzine review editor? You get free books!))

Mark Nelson, School of Mathematics and Applied Statistics, University of Wollongong, Northfields Avenue, Wollongong, NSW 2522, AUSTRALIA, mnelson@uow.edu.au, Nov. 3, 2024

I see that I am getting old. I forgot to email you my loc!

LoC: The Obdurate Eye 44

It's great to learn that I'm not the only person who feels that they are turning Old before their time. Still, I suppose that's progress or even evolution. At least we can glow in the warmth of the recognition that eventually today's young and precocious will turn Old. We won't be there when it happens. But it will happen.

((Why do I think that slightly misses the point?))

The idea of taking over a non-media convention so that you can change it to a media convention sounds a bit strange to me. As Lloyd recounts, any goodwill attached to the name of the convention goes up in smoke if you keep the name but change the content. Why bother? It's a mystery. Or am I getting old?

((It's a faux pas that some convention committees commit. Cliff Samuels, who is now the Grey Eminence of Calgary fandom, told me that the longstanding Conversion convention ended after a new committee thought it a good idea to make it a Star Trek convention ... which drew a lot fewer people and, I gather, did not cover its costs. That's just one example of misunderstanding your congoers' interests; there are doubtless many others.))

Lloyd's suggestion of putting CUFF funds into an account and allowing interest to accumulate until interest in the idea of a fan fund revives ... put me in mind of Magrathea in THHGTTG. The inhabitants of that planet had to sleep for hundreds of millions of years waiting for the galactic economy to return to a state where there would be a demand for their services. Hopefully, not an indicator of how long you'll need to leave the CUFF funds in an interest account. Still, look on the bright side. After hundreds of millions of years the CUFF funds could be used to order a custom designed planet ...

((One respondent, when I last asked for people's opinions on this fan fund, welcomed the idea of a travel fund assisting members of one fandom to represent it to other fandoms. It may not take that long to repurpose the fund. The question now is whether mediafans and costumers and gamers, etc., etc. are going to support a travel fund.))

I see that I mentioned Magrathea in a loc on *Obdurate Eye* #39. Is this repetition a sign that I am getting old?

((I am resigned to the fact that I will sometimes repeat myself. In an attempt to prevent repetition I have been accumulating my fanwriting into a growing folder, so that I can index topics covered and try to avoid flagellating any more expired equines.))

One-word answers to some questions. "Should the Bible be banned in public schools?" No. "Is evolution a religion?" No. "Is atheism a religion?" No.

Is it wrong to sack someone or to refuse to hire them for their sexual orientation? In Australia, both of these courses of action are generally illegal. However, Catholic schools and other religious institutions have some exemptions from anti-discrimination laws. The right-of-centre parties generally don't have a problem with this, because secretly they are not fans of anti-discrimination laws. There's also an argument that if someone's personal opinions, or lifestyle choices, are inconsistent with the religious doctrine of the institution, then the institution *should* be able to discriminate against the individual. The main left-of-centre party doesn't have a problem with such discrimination, because a significant number of voters send their children to Catholic schools.

My impression is that twenty-five years ago it was relatively uncommon for the children of non-Catholic parents to attend a Catholic school. For starters, part of the application process typically required you to provide a reference from your local priest. Today ... I wouldn't say it was common, but more Catholic schools are opening their arms, at least a little bit, to non-Catholic students. The reason for this is that there are insufficient Catholic children to support Catholic schools.

I much prefer to see the contact details for a fanzine printed along with the fanzine review/loc, rather than collected at the end. Or am I getting old?

((Personal preference is personal preference. Editorial policy is somewhat different. I'm going back to supplying contact information, to see if there's a general outcry that I'm violating people's privacy. Whether I decide this is really the contemporary social norm, or just some individuals being prickly, is something I am only now starting to distinguish.))

Lloyd & Yvonne Penney, 1706-24 Eva Rd., Etobicoke, ON M9C 2B2, November 21, 2024

I have issue 45 of *The Obdurate Eye* here, and some time to get a loc written. We are getting ready to head down to Los Angeles next week, so time to do lots of things before heading out.

Many of us learn to adult, but only so far. Still, being a kid has its appeal and advantages. I think if you can find the right balance between the two, you can have a fulfilling and fun life. Also, ignore others who will pass judgement on you, no matter what you do. They will tell you to either lighten up or grow up, and what you do is entirely up to you.

((I have never entirely freed myself of the nagging voice of a harpy in my family background, constantly ranting about 'common sense' which allegedly I lack. So I keep returning to this quixotic search to find out what 'common sense' everyone else is supposed to have, according to the bipolar and irrational harpy. Seems like a will-o-the-wisp to me.))

I must visit the Aurora Awards website to add possible nominees to the lists. I have already tried, without luck, but I will try again.

I also went looking for the new *Blue Moon Directory*, but while I found the additions form, I did not find the final product.

((The URL for the Blue Moon Directory of APAs is <https://tinyurl.com/bluemoonspecial2024>.))

The loccol...I echo Jean-Paul Garnier's remarks. Life is more hectic than ever, and I have just retired. I wouldn't have it any other way. Now, we recently ended our little vendor business of Penney's Steampunk General Store, so we have a little time back. That will be taken up by something else very soon.

My loc...I did say that our closest litcon, Astronomicon in Rochester, will not take place in 2025 because the Astronomicon chair, Wayne Brown, was this year's NASFiC

chair. So, we plan to go to Can*con in Ottawa to once again promote *Amazing Stories*. We will probably need something resembling a con by then.

Done for now, and the preps for going away for a while continue. Thanks for this issue.

Mark Nelson, School of Mathematics and Applied Statistics, University of Wollongong, Northfields Avenue, Wollongong, NSW 2522, AUSTRALIA, mnelson@uow.edu.au, Nov. 27, 2024

LoC: The Obdurate Eye #?

I didn't read to the end of the sentence before I processed it, so I thought that you "have received COVID and influenza." I was trying to get my head around the use of the word 'received' in that phrase, but then I read the remaining words "booster shots." It all makes sense [now].

((I, too, have also had a similar experience, as well.))

Your suggestion of making your [life skills] "manual a satirical handbook" sounds like a basis for an entertaining book. And possibly a very popular book. I am sure that there are many people who feel that they do not fit in with societal norms and want to know how to do so.

((I was thinking in terms of a briefing and orientation manual for people who realize they have no instinct for normal human behaviour, and just want to pass for human. We are among you now. We are everywhere. We are familiar with your movements. Please do not adjust your set. We control the horizontal. We control the vertical. We just can't control our house cats. We are legion. And we need help!))

Is transcribing minutes from Zoom meetings different to transcribing them from regular meetings? My first academic position, as a postdoc, was in the Department of Fuel and Energy at the University of Leeds. (I also had a position in the Department of Applied Mathematics.) Postdocs were NOT invited to the school meetings. However, I knew the person whose job it was to make [sic] the minutes – it was the job of the most recently appointed member of staff. He told me that the procedure was as follows. He wrote the minutes. He emailed them to the Head of School. The Head of School then rewrote them to make them 'correct,' i.e., the minutes had to reflect what the Head of School thought *should* have been said, rather than what *was* said.

((The difference between transcribing minutes from Zoom meetings is only that I can go back and replay things I didn't quite hear the first time, which is a little more clumsy on Zoom transcripts than on dictation transcription machines. The last time, though, I had to make handwritten notes as the meeting went along – no recording would be available. The procedure you describe is de rigueur for transcriptions. Even as an experienced secretary, I am liable to misunderstand or just not understand what people said, if it's at all abstract to me; so I'm just as happy to send my draft to the chair of the meeting.))

I'm already a member of two APAs. Sometimes I think it would be fun to join a third APA, but only if it had a low number of members and it was quarterly so it didn't involve much additional work... A monthly apa sounds like too much work.

((I cheat by copying a fair amount of my opinion pieces from one zine to another.))

Following up on a comment by “RailFan Zine.” In my old age, if 56 be old age, I have come to the realization that I prefer writing literature reviews rather than original research.

((I am still waiting to find out who “RailFan Zine” is. Or, for that matter, the joker fan who got on my mailing list with the nom de plume of “Claude Degler.”

((Once I saw an ad on a faculty billboard for some literary joke titled “Perfect Reviews of Nonexistent Books.” I have no idea which ~~real~~ author got away with this joke.))

Lloyd wrote that as of December he’ll have been a fan for 47 years and posed the rhetorical question “Where’s my gold watch.” The reply that popped into my mind was, “three more years mate. There’s no gold watch for 47 years’ service.”

((Ah. I thought it was something like that.))

We Also Heard From: Perry Middlemiss, Hugh Spencer, John Thiel, William Sinclair (White Dwarf Books), José Sanchez, and a cast of dozens



News, ‘Olds,’ and Stuff Going On Now

Edmonton Bids for Worldcon 2030:

“Edmonton in 2030 is being organized by a group of local fans and volunteers who are excited to bring a World Science Fiction Convention to Edmonton, Alberta.

“This includes (in alphabetical order): Malcolm Azania, Kateryna Barnes, Marshall Boyd, Candas Jane Dorsey, Erika Ensign, Linda Ensley, John Hayes, Mike Johnson, Tim Klassen, Daniel Koyata, Ross Lockwood, Premea Mohammed, Marc-Julien Objois, Winston Pei, Olav Rokne, Steven Schapansky, and Amanda Wakaruk.”

Alongside “Edmonton,” the bid committee has also used the native place name, Amiskwacîwâskahikan, printed in the Cree/Ojibwe syllabary invented by [James Evans](#), a missionary in what is now [Manitoba](#), in the 1830s:

Vowel	a	e	i	o
Cons.				
-	◁	▽	△	▷
p	<	∨	∧	>
t	⊂	∪	∩	⊃
k	ᑲ	ᑭ	ᑭ	ᑭ
ch	ᑭ	ᑭ	ᑭ	ᑭ
m	ᑭ	ᑭ	ᑭ	ᑭ
n	ᑭ	ᑭ	ᑭ	ᑭ
s	ᑭ	ᑭ	ᑭ	ᑭ
y	ᑭ	ᑭ	ᑭ	ᑭ

So there.

(<https://www.edmontonin2030.org/>)

(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cree_syllabics)

‘Across The Fandomension’ Website(s):

For a while now (like, three years) I have maintained that I’m working on a new fannish information site, where Canadian fans or Pacific Northwest fans can look up current SF clubs or upcoming conventions in their area, as well as SF-like websites, podcasts, blogs, even fanzines online, fanzine repositories and archives, or fanhistorical material. Well, since spring of 2024 I have been making provisional “mirror” sites for this purpose at several social media and web servers:

Discord (dating from March 2024) – <https://discord.gg/mDwMbANbb6>

Facebook (dating from Nov. 7, 2024) – <https://www.facebook.com/groups/488299360907895>

MeWe (dating from March 2024) – <https://mewe.com/group/65e93271d86c340a9bf7037c>

Wordpress (dating from November 2024) -

<https://wordpress.com/home/sciencefictionfandom.ca> - in slow progress

Since you will find these materials were posted at different times, they are in different states of update. Obviously I solicit your criticisms and updates about clubs and upcoming conventions, or (more seriously) what kind of SF/fantasy/horror markets are still in existence.

And, obviously, I am still learning how to create a website using some icon-driven program instead of coding HTML manually. A website hosted at <https://www2.vcn.bc.ca> is still going to take a bit more time.

(Garth Spencer, November 2024)

White Dwarf Reading on November 5th, 2024

White Dwarf Books hosted the Meet Nalo Hopkinson Book Launch on Tuesday Nov 5th 7 pm for *Jamaica Ginger and Other Concoctions* (Tachyon Publications, \$21.95 trade paperback).

About the Book

“Caribbean-Canadian author Nalo Hopkinson (*Brown Girl in the Ring*, *The Salt Roads*, *Falling in Love with Hominids*) is an internationally renowned storyteller. This long-awaited new collection of her deeply imaginative short fiction offers striking journeys to far-flung futures and fantastical landscapes. Hopkinson is at the peak of her powers, moving effortlessly between art, folklore, science, and magic. Hailed by the *Los Angeles Times* as having an imagination that most of us would kill for, Nalo Hopkinson and her Afro-Caribbean, Canadian, and American influences shine in truly unique stories that are gorgeously strange, inventively subversive, and vividly beautiful. In her first stories since 2015, a woman and her cyborg pig eke out a living in a future waterworld; two scientists contemplate the cavernous remains of an alien life-form; and an artist creates nanotechnology that asserts Blackness where it is least welcome and most needed.

About the Author

“Internationally renowned Nalo Hopkinson was born in Kingston, Jamaica, and also spent her childhood in Trinidad and Guyana before her family moved to Toronto, Canada, when she was sixteen. In 1997, Hopkinson won the Warner Aspect contest for *Skin Folk*, and received the World Fantasy and Sunburst Awards. *The Salt Roads* received the Gaylactic Spectrum Award for positive exploration of queer issues in speculative fiction. *The New Moon’s Arms* also won the Prix Aurora and Sunburst Awards, making Hopkinson the first author to receive the award twice. In 2020, Hopkinson was named the Damon Knight Grand Master by the Science Fiction Writers of America, and is the youngest and the first woman of African descent to receive this lifetime honor. As a professor of Creative Writing at the University of California Riverside, she was a member of the Speculative Futures Collective. Hopkinson is currently a professor in the School of Creative Writing at the University of British Columbia, and she lives in Vancouver, Canada.”

(William Sinclair, White Dwarf Books)

***The Stf Amateur* Calls for Submissions**

“Do you write or draw? As *The Stf Amateur* continues to evolve from an interconnected assortment of standalone apazines to its current bundlezine format, it’s only natural that it eventually becomes a proper genzine. Effective immediately, *The Stf Amateur* is open to submissions of all kinds.

“*The Stf Amateur* is hereby requesting the following:

- sf, fantasy, and horror news
- fanart, illos, and fillos
- cover art
- poetry
- filk songs and lyrics
- short fiction
- articles and essays
- fanzine, book, movie, television, and other reviews
- con reports
- jokes
- letters of comment
- ... and other material

“If selected for publication, material will initially be included in one of my apazines, as well as a monthly issue of *The Stf Amateur*. Cover art will be considered solely for *The Stf Amateur*. Contributors will receive the issue in which their material appears.

“Send your contributions to Heath Row, 4367 Globe Ave., Culver City, CA 90230; kalel@well.com; or via fax to 323-916-0367.”

(*The Stf Amateur* #14, November 2024)

Canadian Works Published in 2024 Eligible for Aurora Awards in 2025: The List So Far

“These are the CURRENT eligibility lists for 2024 works:

Best Novel

- *Glass Houses*, Madeline Ashby (Tor Books)
- *A Change of Place*, Julie E. Czerneda (DAW Books)
- *The Traitor’s Son*, Dave Duncan (Shadowpaw Press)
- *Corridor to Nightmare*, Dave Duncan (Shadowpaw Press)
- *The Tapestry of Time*, Kate Heartfield (Harper Voyager)
- *Blackheart Man*, Nalo Hopkinson (Saga Press)
- *Pale Grey Dot*, Don Miasek (Turnstone Press)
- *The Siege of Burning Grass*, Premee Mohamed (Solaris)
- *The Book of Elsewhere*, Keanu Reeves (Random House)
- *Cast in Atonement*, Michelle Sagara (MIRA)

Best YA Novel

No Entries Found

Best Novelette/Novella

- *The Mountain Crown*, Karin Lowachee (Solaris)
- *The Butcher of the Forest*, Premee Mohamed (Tordotcom)
- *We Speak Through the Mountain*, Premee Mohamed (ECW Press)
- *The Tusks of Extinction*, Ray Nayler (Tordotcom)
- *Countess*, Suzan Palumbo (ECW Press)
- *What Happened at the Pony Club*, Fiona Moore (Fusion Fragment)

Best Short Fiction

No Entries Found

Best Graphic Novel/Comic

No Entries Found

Best Poem/Song

No Entries Found

Best Related Work

- *Zebra Meridian and Other Stories*, Geoffrey W. Cole (Stelliform Press)
- *The Dance: An Anthology of Speculative Fiction*, Ira Nayman (Dark Dragon Publishing)
- *Jamaica Ginger and Other Concoctions*, Nalo Hopkinson (Tachyon Publications)
- *Fusion Fragment #20-#23*, ed. Cavan Terrill (Fusion Fragment)

Best Cover Art/Interior Illustration

No Entries Found

Best Fan Writing/Publication

No Entries Found

Best Fan Related Work

No Entries Found”

(NOTE: “So Far” and “Current” mean that CSFFA is soliciting YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS to extend this list. NOW READ ON:)

[\(https://www.csffa.ca/awards-information/eligibility-lists/\)](https://www.csffa.ca/awards-information/eligibility-lists/)

How It Works:

“For a work or category to be eligible to be on the final voting ballot they must meet or exceed the following requirements.

- A work is required to have at least five (5) nominations from CSFFA members to be eligible.
- For a category to be eligible to be on the final voting ballot it must have at least three (3) eligible works.
- Each eligible category on the final ballot will contain the top five (5) eligible works.
- It is permitted to have more than five (5) works on the ballot if there is a tie for fifth place.

- It is permitted to have only three (3) or four (4) works on the ballot if they are the only ones that are eligible.”

(<https://www.csffa.ca/awards-information/eligibility-rules/>)

Official Aurora Awards Eligibility, Nominations and Voting Dates:

- **November 1, 2024** – Eligibility lists reopened for 2024 CSFFA members (for works done in 2024)
- **January 4** – Membership payments open, Eligibility Lists open for 2025 members, Development grants (Part 1) opens
- **February 22** – Eligibility Lists close
- **March 1** – Nominations open
- **March 31** – Development grants (Part 1) close
- **April 5** – Nominations close
- **May 17** – CSFFA AGM online voting open
- **May 10** – Voters’ package available to download (expected date)
- **May 30** – CSFFA AGM online voting close
- **May 31** – Development grants (Part 2) opens
- **June 1** – CSFFA AGM online
- **June 7** – Aurora Awards voting opens
- **July 12** – Membership payments close, Voters’ package download closes
- **July 19** – Aurora Awards voting closes
- **August 9** – Aurora Awards ceremony (online) – Note: Return to Saturday
- **August 31** – Development grants (Part 2) close

“**Membership payments:** January 4th (or as close as possible) and will close on July 12^h (one week prior to voting for the awards).

“**Eligibility Period:** Opens when payments open (around January 3rd) and closes at 11:59pm Eastern Time on February 22nd. (This is for works done in 2023 that members feel should be considered for the 2024 Awards). **Note: We are opening our lists early (November 1st, 2024) for existing CSFFA members. New members will have to wait until January to add works.**

“**Professional Development Grants:** There are two periods when we will be accepting grant questions. The first starts on January 4th and ends March 31st. The second begins June 1st and ends August 31st. For full details about these grants go to: <https://www.csffa.ca/csffa-professional-developmental-grant/>

“**Nomination Period:** Opens on March 1st and will close on April 5th.

“Voters’ Package should be available by May 10th (earlier if we get everything on time). Downloads of the voters’ package will close on July 12th (one week prior to the close of voting)

“CSFFA AGM voting period: Online voting for our AGM will be on May 18th and closes on May 30th.

“CSFFA Online AGM will take place on June 1st (Sunday)

“Voting Period for the Aurora Awards: Opens June 7th and closes on July 19th

“Awards Ceremony (Online): Sunday, August 11th, 5pm EDT (starting time is earlier than last year)”

(from <https://www.csffa.ca/about/calendar-of-activities/>)

Here Be Dragons:

On November 23, 2024, the Western Canada Science Fiction Association held a one-day event, “Here Be Dragons,” at the British Columbia Institute of Technology campus in Burnaby, BC. This one-day event featured a diverse vendors’ room, gaming rooms, and some workshops and panels. The vendors’ room featured several independent booksellers, self-published authors and comic artists, and a variety of clubs ranging from the Monster Attack Team Canada to the Royal Manticoran Navy. Your intrepid reporter estimates attendance was somewhere between 100 and 200.

The next WCSFA event is Fandom Bazaar, to be held May 31, 2025 (12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m.) at the Sapperton Community Hall, 318 Keary St, New Westminster, BC V3L 3L3, Canada. This is mainly a vendors’ event; Vendor applications will open January 15th (at 6pm). Attendance is only \$5.00 per person (children under 7 get in free) OR Free for WCSFA members. For more information please visit our website: www.fandombazaar.ca.

(Garth Spencer)

THE 83rd WORLDCON, as you probably know already, will be held in the Seattle Convention Center on August 13-17, 2025. Guests of Honour include Martha Wells, Donato Giancola, Bridget Landry, and Alexander James Adams. Attractions in Seattle include locally unique foodlike substances and the Museum of Pop Culture. Features of the convention include a series of pre-convention, virtual business meetings, coverage of the British science fiction television that led up to *Dr. Who*, and, of course, the Hugo Awards.

Memberships for the Seattle Worldcon can be purchased by credit card (go to <https://reg.seattlein2025.org/>) or by check - please contact registration at registration@seattlein2025.org.

Current membership rates are as follows:

Membership Type	WSFS Membership component	Attending/ Virtual Membership component	Total Membership Cost
Friend of Worldcon Membership	\$50	\$450	\$500
Adult Membership (age 25+)	\$50	\$180	\$230
Young Adult Membership (18-24)	\$50	\$50	\$100
Teen Membership (13-17)	\$50	\$25	\$75
Child Membership (0-12)	None	\$0	Free
Virtual Membership	\$50	\$35	\$85
WSFS-Only Membership	\$50	\$0	\$50
Adult Membership — Reduced Rate*	\$50	\$125	\$175

* The reduced rate does not cover the costs based on projected attendance levels and is appropriate for first Worldcon members, staff, and individuals who would otherwise feel cost-constrained to attend the convention. The Worldcon relies on sales of Friend of Worldcon memberships. Spread the word to make this reduced rate experiment possible.

One Way to Look at It

On non-issues that become public controversies:

JUST *ONCE*, JUST *ONE TIME* I would like a politician to answer a question on trans kids in school athletics with the following:

“Excuse me? What the hell is wrong with you? Why would you even ask a question like that. Trans people are 0.6% of the population, trans girls in high school athletic programs are a tiny fraction of that. You’re treating something that affects maybe one person in hundreds or thousands as if it’s a giant controversy that requires a national policy or laws that we all have to have a debate over. Again, what’s wrong with you? You need to get a grip.

“Here’s what I think. I think we should leave the kid alone. It’s cruel and offensive to single out some child who just wants to play softball with their friends, and try and stake some ginned-up culture war battle on their body. I’m not going to do it. I’m not going to play this sick game.

“If this is all you can ask about, then there’s something wrong with you.”

“I’m going to do you a favour. I’m going to pretend you didn’t ask such an insulting, dehumanizing, demeaning question and that you didn’t try to turn a child who only wants to be themselves into a political football, and allow you to ask a real question.

“I’ll give you to a count of ten, and if you can’t come up with something, I’m walking out of here...”

(Den Valdron, Facebook, November 12, 2024)



My LoCs for Other Fanzines

Pablo Lennis #444, November 2024, edited by John Thiel. Absolutely no contact information included in this issue.

What can I say?

The Kerosene Papers, Nic Farey, Locs & that to: 2657 Rungsted Street, Las Vegas NV 89142, or Email fareynic@gmail.com

This seems to be a complicated joke, like the *Key to the Gemstone File* or “The Call of Cthulhu,” except when you follow the index references to fandom, popular culture, and criminal history, you end up with no idea what the actual subject is. Very Jorge Luis Borges, much Discordia.

The Stf Amateur #14, November 2024, Heath Row, 4367 Globe Ave., Culver City, CA; kalel@well.com

Provocative cover art, at least by newsstand standards. Let’s hear it for monster-positive cross-species romance!

I am forced to agree with Bill Breiding about Lovecraft’s purple prose – you really have to change mental gears to get into his writing style, and not everyone can be expected

to do so. The direct comparisons in horror fiction style might be the contemporary styles of Dean Koontz, Stephen King, Tanith Lee, or Clive Barker. (You can easily think of other writers; my own horror reading has been limited.) None of them are particularly purple prose. Also, none of their characters will be driven mad by the sight of truly alien organisms.

Beam #18, this issue edited by Nic Farey and Ulrika O'Brien. 2657 Rungsted St, Las Vegas, NV 89142, USA, email : fareynic@gmail.com 418 Hazel Avenue N., Kent, WA 98030, USA, email : ulrika.obrien@gmail.com

So the Balkanization of fandom is still a current topic? I thought I had beaten it to death, Nic. It's good that people like Bob Jennings and Heath Row would prefer civil discourse and a united *agora* between different fandoms; but there are several factors militating against them.

Now, I'm not talking about the closed-mindedness Bob Jennings reports, or the imagined feuds or slights that people hold against fanzine fans, or other fandoms. I'm thinking about demographics and small-group dynamics and sociological issues – just the kinds of issues I struggle to deal with in person, but keep trying to master. (I call it “practicing sociology without a license.”)

The major factor is that any single-interest fandom, whether it's some kind of anime or comics or gaming or media franchise, is now large enough to satisfy any fan's hobby interests, and social needs. Perhaps as important is the fact, as Ulrika O'Brien pointed out, that nothing serves the role of a focal point fanzine these days. Perhaps nothing can.

You and I date from decades when fandom was “We few, we happy, happy few, we band of brothers” (and sisters) – and, let's be honest, SF fandom in those decades was a much smaller interest group, so despite being globally distributed, fans tended to interact in correspondence somewhat like a small community. It was also very much a refuge for social marginals.

And then, in the early 1970s, Star Trek fandom happened. Suddenly the fan population blew up by at least an order of magnitude. Little wonder if fans since then are first exposed to post-1970s definitions of clubs, conventions, fanzines, and for that matter social media.

Since the Internet and the World Wide Web happened, the overwhelming size of contemporary fandom naturally leads people to focus on much narrowly-defined fandoms. People can only handle so many social connections. As the social distance (lack of communication) increases, it's natural for different fandoms to make their own little worlds, and imagine anything at all about the other fandoms.

Of course that means that different fandoms simply *don't* share the same points of reference. It has come to the point where I have to explain what “fannish” fandom means.

And all the foregoing is a twice-told tale. It somewhat parallels the phenomena of red shift and galaxies apparently accelerating as their distance in the universe increases, and something about the heat death of the cosmos, too, but I've never quite worked it out into a functional comedy routine.

No one, to my knowledge, has asked what comes next? A stage where manga (and hentai) fans are considered Old Farts by a new generation of AI-enabled independent animation artists? College courses based on pulp adventure writing, requiring term papers tracing the market expectations shaping Golden Age science fiction?

Onward.

Ulrika O'Brien does a service by naming journalists who haven't gone along with pandering to a demographic segment's biases; I am still trying to find such sources in order to make informed judgments, in my odd neck of the woods. Maybe she has offered a clue. (And a warning about being too obviously skeptical and contrarian.)

Something related to demographics occurs to me, while reading Ulrika's article. Do we form biases and prejudices and stereotypes because it just seems like too much *work* to actually meet all kinds of people, in all kinds of occupations or from all kinds of backgrounds, and actually find out what they're actually like?

Onward.

Rich Coad's article on his movie posters sparked some other tangential thoughts. (Credit where credit is due.) Rather than B-movie posters, maybe I can print out fan posters and inspirational quotes from Discordian, fannish and heathen websites.

Onward.

Ian Sales' profile of Scandinavian fandom is very welcome, after receiving a long string of Ahrvid Engholm's apazines but, somehow, not acquiring a lot of context.

It was amusing to spot Ian Sales' mention of *Garth*, a British comic strip I have only seen in tangential references. One day I must find out what my name really means to Britons, if anything in particular. (Yes, I know the etymology already.)

It is interesting that Ian Sales' lactose intolerance disappeared some time after he moved to Sweden. I have heard a rumour that North Americans who suffer from gluten intolerance have no problem with wheat products from Europe. Reasoning by analogy, I have to wonder whether Swedish dairy products are processed differently than British dairy products.

Onward.

Lee Wood's article started out sounding so much like Lyn McConchie's farm stories, I wondered at first if Ms. Wood was the same person under a pseudonym. I was soon disabused of that idea. The story of her tattoo engaged me, as there are several disconnected ideas about family and personal history and tattoos floating around in my mind, waiting to connect into something. Probably I should look up online the Maori terms she mentioned.

The letter column, Heath Row's letter in particular, move me to look up the previous issue of *Beam* and find Justin Busch's article on fanhistory. When the celebrated and much-missed Harry Warner Jr. was alive, he wrote (somewhere) about redefining fanhistory, not in terms of numbered fandoms, but in terms of different phases, as in sercon fandom, and later fannish fandom, and later the emergency of media fandom. (~~And then the deluge.~~) It sounds as though Justin Busch was alive to the same thing.

Man, I've gone on waaaaay too long. I'm sorry, Avedon! I should start my loc with your article next time!

The N3F Review of Books Incorporating Prose Bono, October & November 2024, published by the National Fantasy Fan Federation, PO Box 143, Tonopah NV 89049, distributed for free to N3F Members and archival sites. Editor: George Phillies, 48 Hancock Hill Drive, Worcester MA 01609, phillies@4liberty.net.

That's a lot of book reviews. Lots and lots. And some advice for writers.

Tightbeam #362, November 2024, "the N3F literary zine," George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net 48 Hancock Hill Drive, Worcester, MA 01609 and Jon Swartz, judgeswartz@gmail.com

An interesting collection of art, reviews, articles, biography ... even a recipe.

Space Cowboy's Accretion #14, October 2024, editor Jean-Paul L. Garnier, 61871 29 Palms Hwy. Joshua Tree, CA 92252 spacecowboybooks@gmail.com, <https://spacecowboybooks.com>

You cloned yourself, didn't you, Jean? Admit it, Jean. Just to run a bookstore, hold author's readings, issue podcasts, write and publish, and find time to read, you must have advanced cloning research and practice in a secret laboratory.

Fan Activity Gazette #4:6, November 2024, e-mail to mindyhunt@scifi4me.com or jphunt@scifi4me.com

Just so you have a longer timeline of upcoming conventions, I am going to send you my current convention list.

The National Fantasy Fan #83:11, November 2024, Editor George Phillies, 48 Hancock Hill Drive, Worcester MA 01609, phillies@4liberty.net

The N3F has so many officers, I wonder who else is in the organization?

Perryscope #48, November 2024, a personalzine published mostly monthly by Perry Middlemiss, 32 Elphin Grove, Hawthorn, Victoria, AUSTRALIA 3122. E: perry@middlemiss.org

SMOF News, volume 4, issue 13 – Petréa Mitchell, 548 Market Street PMB 72296, San Francisco, CA 94104 - smofnews@substack.com

In this issue: lesser-known fannish competitions, at conventions and otherwise. I had no idea.

This Here... #81, Nic Farey, Locs & that to: 2657 Rungsted Street, Las Vegas NV 89142, or Email fareynic@gmail.com

I see that I must start covering fan fund news. And think seriously about tattoos. (Never have settled on what, if any, tattoo I could wear; mostly I have thought about having a Thor's-hammer design planted somewhere, but maybe a Maori-style biographical and/or family-history design would be The Thing.



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A play on the nonexistent Heinlein novel "The Stone Pillow"

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Abbreviations: hc = hardcover, tp = trade (oversized) paperback, [UK ed] = British publication, [CDN ed] = Canadian publication. Default is US publication.

Other Titles: Please note that this listing is not exhaustive; we have many more (several hundred more) titles coming during this period.

New Mystery and Crime Fiction Releases

Adler-Olsen, Jussi. LOCKED IN. [DEPARTMENT Q #10]. Dutton, 39.99 hc.

Archer, Jeffrey. TRAITORS GATE. [WILLIAM WARWICK #6]. HarperCollins UK, 12.99 pb.

Armstrong, Jess. THE CURSE OF PENRYTH HALL. Minotaur, 25.00 tp.

Armstrong, Jess. THE SECRET OF THE THREE FATES. Minotaur, 37.00 hc.

Authors, Various. IRISH MILKSHAKE MURDER. Kensington Cozies, 11.99 pb.

Branch, Pamela. MURDER EVERY MONDAY. [CLIFFORD FLUSH]. Classic Mayhem, 25.95 tp.

Brookmyre, Chris. THE CRACKED MIRROR. Abacus, 36.99 hc.

Carr, Jack. RED SKY MOURNING. [TERMINAL LIST #7]. Pocket, 12.99 pb.

Chase, Nolan (= Sam Wiebe). A LONESOME PLACE FOR DYING. Crooked Lane, 25.99 tp.

Clark, Mary Higgins & Alafair Burke. IT HAD TO BE YOU. [UNDER SUSPICION]. Simon & Schuster, 12.99 pb.

Cleeves, Ann. MURDER IN MY BACKYARD. [INSPECTOR RAMSAY #2]. Pan, 21.99 tp (reissue).

Collins, Sarah-Jane. RADIANT HEAT. Berkley, 25.99 tp.

Donovan, Kemper. THE BUSY BODY. A John Scognamiglio Book, 24.95 tp.

Ellis, Kate. COFFIN ISLAND. [WESLEY PETERSON]. Piatkus, 36.99 hc.

Erickson, Alex. DEATH BY CAMEL MACCHIATO. [BOOKSTORE CAFE #13]. Cozies, 11.99 pb.

Ferraro, Nicolas. MY FAVORITE SCAR. Soho Crime, 23.95 tp.

Fitzek, Sebastian. PLAYLIST. Aries, 26.99 tp.

French, Tana. THE HUNTER. Penguin, 25.99 tp.

Greaney, Mark. THE CHAOS AGENT. [THE GRAY MAN #13]. Berkley, 14.99 pb.

Hannah, Darci. MURDER AT THE LEMONBERRY TEA. [BEACON BAKESHOP #6]. Cozies, 11.99 pb.

Henry, James. THE WINTER VISITOR. Quercus, 36.99 hc.

Higashino, Keigo. INVISIBLE HELIX. [DETECTIVE GALILEO #5]. Minotaur, 39.00 hc.

Higashino, Keigo. THE FINAL CURTAIN. [KYOICHIRO KAGA #4]. Minotaur, 25.00 tp.

Hunter, Stephen. FRONT SIGHT: THREE SWAGGER NOVELLAS. Emily Bestler, 26.99 tp.

Kellerman, Jonathan. THE GHOST ORCHID. [ALEX DELAWARE]. Ballantine, 13.50 pb.

Kernick, Simon. THE FIRST 48 HOURS. Headline, 19.99 tp.

Koble, Seraina. DEEP DARK BLUE. Pushkin Vertigo, 22.95 tp.

Lovesey, Peter. AGAINST THE GRAIN. [DETECTIVE PETER DIAMOND #22]. Soho Crime, 38.95 hc.

Margolin, Phillip. BETRAYAL. [ROBIN LOCKWOOD #7]. Minotaur, 12.99 pb.

McGilloway, Brian. THE INFORMANT. Constable, 36.99 hc.

Meyrick, Denzil. MURDER AT HOLLY HOUSE. [FRANK GRASBY]. Transworld, 19.99 tp.

Mosse, Greg. MURDER AT THE FAIR. [MAISIE COOPER #4]. Hodder, 19.99 tp.

de la Motte, Anders. THE MOUNTAIN KING. [ASKER #1]. Emily Bestler, 26.99 tp.

Muller, Marcia. CIRCLE IN THE WATER. [SHARON MCCONE #36]. Grand Central, 24.99 tp.

Patterson, James & Brendan DuBois. COUNTDOWN. Grand Central, 13.99 pb.

Patterson, James & Maxine Paetro. THE 23RD MIDNIGHT. [WOMEN'S MURDER CLUB #23]. Grand Central, 13.99 pb.

Pavesi, Alex. INK RIBBON RED. Michael Joseph, 25.99 tp .

Pek, Jane. THE RIVALS. [CLAUDIA LIN #2]. Vintage, 24.95 tp.

Penney, Elizabeth. MADRIGALS AND MAYHEM. [CAMBRIDGE BOOKSHOP #4]. Minotaur, 12.99 pb.

Petrie, Nick. THE PRICE YOU PAY. [PETER ASH #8]. Putnam, 25.99 tp.

Quirk, Matthew. INSIDE THREAT. Morrow, 12.99 pb.

Robb, J. D. RANDOM IN DEATH. [EVE DALLAS #58]. St. Martin, 12.99 pb.

Ryan, Annelise. DEATH IN THE DARK WOODS. [MONSTER HUNTER #2]. Berkley, 25.99 tp.

Sanders, Angela. THE WITCH IS BACK. [WITCH WAY LIBRARIAN]. Cozies, 11.99 pb.

Scottoline, Lisa. THE TRUTH ABOUT THE DEVLINS. Putnam, 14.99 pb.

Shelton, Paige. THE POISON PEN. [SCOTTISH BOOKSHOP #9]. Minotaur, 12.99 pb.

Slaughter, Karin. AFTER THAT NIGHT. [TRENT AND LINTON #11]. Morrow, 12.99 pb.

Spotswood, Stephen. MURDER CROSSED HER MIND. [PENTECOST AND PARKER #4]. Vintage, 24.95 tp.

White, S. R. WHITE ASH RIDGE. Headline, 17.99 tp.

Wilton, Traci. MRS. MORRIS AND THE VENOMOUS VALENTINE. [SALEM B&B]. Kensington, 11.99 pb.

New Fantasy and Science Fiction Releases

Alderson, Ben. A KINGDOM OF LIES. [REALM OF FEY #2]. Angry Robot, 24.99 tp.

Alderson, Ben. A DECEPTION OF COURTS. [REALM OF FEY #3]. Angry Robot, 24.99.

Bardugo, Leigh. HELL BENT. [ALEX STERN #2]. Flatiron, 14.99 pb.

Barron, Natania. QUEEN OF FURY. [THE QUEENS OF FATE #2]. Solaris, 22.99 tp.

Basu, Samit. THE JINN-BOT OF SHANTIPOINT. Tor.com, 26.99 tp.

Beaulieu, Bradley P. THE DRAGONS OF DEEPWOOD FEN. [THE BOOK OF THE HOLT #1]. DAW, 27.99 tp.

Broadbent, Carissa. THE ASHES & THE STAR-CURSED KING. [CROWNS OF NYAXIA #2]. Bramble, 26.99 tp.

Darwin, Alexander. BLACKLIGHT BORN. [THE COMBAT CODES #3]. Orbit, 25.99 tp.

Davis, Hank & Jamie Ibson (eds). DEPTH CHARGE. Baen, 25.00 tp.

Evans, Davinia. REBEL BLADE. [THE BURNISHED CITY #3]. Orbit, 25.99 tp.

Guanzon, Thea. A MONSOON RISING. [THE HURRICANE WARS #2]. Voyager, 39.50 hc.

Iversen, Chelsea. THE PECULIAR GARDEN OF HARRIET HUNT. Sourcebooks Landmark, 25.99 tp.

Jensen, Danielle L. THE INADEQUATE HEIR. [THE BRIDGE KINGDOM #3]. Del Rey, 25.99 tp.

Johansen, Erika. THE KINGDOM OF SWEETS. Dutton, 24.95 tp.

Johnson, Micaiah. THOSE BEYOND THE WALL. Del Rey, 25.99 tp.

Klune, TJ. HEARTSONG. [GREEN CREEK #3]. Tor, 26.99 tp.

Kratman, Tom. 1919: THE ROMANOV RISING. Baen, 37.00 hc.

Lackey, Mercedes. MISS AMELIA'S LIST. [ELEMENTAL MASTERS #17]. DAW, 37.99 hc.

Lackey, Mercedes (ed). FEUDS. [VALDEMAR ANTHOLOGY #18]. DAW, 24.95 tp.

Lau, Roanne. THE SERPENT CALLED MERCY. DAW, 37.99 hc.

Leckie, Ann. LAKE OF SOULS: THE COLLECTED SHORT FICTION. Orbit, 25.99 tp.

Moorcock, Michael. VON BEK: THE WARHOUND AND THE WORLD'S PAIN AND THE CITY IN THE AUTUMN STARS. [THE ETERNAL CHAMPION OMNIBUS]. Saga, 39.99 hc.

Mulford, A. K. A SKY OF EMERALD STARS. [THE GOLDEN COURT #2]. Voyager, 35.99 hc.

Murakami, Haruki. THE CITY AND ITS UNCERTAIN WALLS. Bond Street, 42.00 hc.

Murakami, Haruki. END OF THE WORLD AND HARD-BOILED WONDERLAND: A NEW TRANSLATION. Everyman's Library, 39.99 hc.

Napper, T. R. ALIENS: BISHOP. Titan, 23.99 tp.

Noon, Jeff & Steve Beard. LUDLUDA: THE SECOND CHRONICLE OF LUDWICH. Angry Robot, 24.99 tp.

Pike, Signe. THE SHADOWED LAND. [THE LOST QUEEN #3]. Atria, 39.99 hc.

Pokwatka, Aimee. THE PARLIAMENT. Tor.com, 24.99 tp.

Revis, Beth. HOW TO STEAL A GALAXY. [CHAOTIC ORBITS #2]. DAW, 31.00 hc.

Ringo, John & Lydia Sherrer. THROUGH THE STORM. [TRANSDIMENSIONAL HUNTER #2] Baen, 12.99 pb.

Rothman, M. A. & D. J. Butler. ICE TRIALS. [TIME TRIALS #2]. Baen, 37.00 hc.

Ruocchio, Christopher. DISQUIET GODS. [THE SUN EATER #6]. DAW, 36.00 tp.

Sanderson, Brandon. WIND AND TRUTH. [THE STORMLIGHT ARCHIVE #5]. Tor, 52.99 hc.

Tolkien, J. R. R. THE COLLECTED POEMS OF J. R. R. TOLKIEN. HarperCollins, 150.00 box.


Tsamaase, Tlotlo. WOMB CITY. Erewhon, 24.95 tp.

Wagner, Erin K. MECHANIZE MY HANDS TO WAR. DAW, 37.99 hc.

White, Alex. ARDENT VIOLET AND THE INFINITE EYE. [THE STARMETAL SYMPHONY #2]. Orbit, 25.99 tp.

Wildenstein, Olivia. HOUSE OF POUNDING HEARTS. [THE KINGDOM OF CROWS #2]. Sourcebooks Casablanca, 28.99 tp.



Zahn, Timothy. THE ICARUS NEEDLE. [ICARUS SAGA #5]. Baen, 37.00 hc.



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2024 N3F Amateur Short Story Contest

Story Contest Rules and Entry Blank

(Jefferson Swycaffer)

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

1. This contest is open to all amateur writers in the field, regardless of whether they're members of the National Fantasy Fan Federation. For the purposes of this contest, we define an amateur as someone who has sold no more than two (2) stories to professional science fiction or fantasy publications.
2. Stories entered in the contest must be original, unpublished, not longer than 8,500 words in length – and related to the science fiction, fantasy, or similar genres in the opinion of the judge.
3. Email attachments of Word documents are acceptable for submission. Manuscripts on paper should be typed, single-sided, on 8½” by 11” white paper, double spaced, with pages numbered. The name of the author should not appear anywhere on the manuscript to ensure impartial judging. Photocopies are acceptable, if they are of good quality. Computer printouts must be legible.
4. Contestants can enter up to three stories. Enclose a Self-Addressed, Stamped Envelope (SASE)¹ if you would like your story returned at the end of the contest. Stories will not be returned without a SASE. Do not send your only copy in case of accidental loss. We are not responsible for lost manuscripts.
5. Email entries will be accepted. Send to Jefferson P. Swycaffer at abontides@gmail.com. No guarantee can be made of email receipt. Privacy and property rights will be absolutely respected. No one other than the Short Story Judge will ever see the submission.
6. There are no entry fees.

¹ Check out your country's postal service website for current postal rates according to your manuscript's weight, preferably in a 9"x12" envelope. NOTE THIS! Canada and the U.S. have separate postal services. They really are separate countries. NOTE ALSO that since November 3, 2024, Canada Post (Postes Canada) services have been suspended due to union strike action, so you are better served by using email. - GS

7. Cash prizes totaling \$100 will be awarded as follows: First prize is \$50, second \$30, and third \$20. Honorable mentions and semi-finalists will receive a certificate of award.

8. Send all manuscripts to the contest manager: Jefferson Swycaffer, P. O. Box 15373, San Diego, CA 92175-5373; abontides@gmail.com. Emails with the story attached in Word format are preferred. Paper manuscripts are acceptable. All entries must be received or postmarked no later than **Dec. 31, 2024**.

9. The Short Story Judge is a published science fiction professional, and also a loving fan of the sf and fantasy genres. All comments and critiques are solely the Short Story Judge's opinion, but he promises to be constructive and polite.

10. Stories will also be reviewed by the Editor of the N3F Fiction zine *Eldritch Science*; authors of suitable tales will be invited to submit their tales for publication in our zine. This review and invitation will only occur after contest winners have been announced, so it can have no effect on the contest outcome.

11. The N3F may want to publish an electronic book including top entries from one or more years of publication. You will not be contacted about this until after the contest is over and prizes have been awarded. If we want to publish your story, you will have to sign over to us First World serial rights. Your willingness to sign over rights cannot affect whether or not you win the contest. Winners will be notified as soon as the judging is completed. Announcements and notifications of winning entries will be made by March 2025. Please take your time and submit your best work. You can resubmit stories previously entered if they did not win previously. All entries will be kept confidential and will be judged fairly and anonymously. The deadline for all entries is **Dec. 31, 2024**. Good luck!

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

Title of story (for identification): _____

Author's name and address: _____

Author's email address: _____

I have read the above rules for the 2024 N3F Amateur Short Story Contest, and I agree to them.

Signature/Date: _____

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