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Art © Andrew King



Readercon needs volunteer help this weekend

8 hours earns a free membership for Readercon 29 in 2018!

You can even earn credit for watching programming.

Stop by the Info Desk to find out how.

POLICIES



Cell phones must be set to silent or vibrate mode in panel discussion rooms.



No smoking in programming areas or the Bookshop, by state law and hotel policy.



Only service animals in convention areas.



No weapons in convention areas.



Young children who are always with an adult are admitted free; others need a membership. See *"Children Attending Readercon"* on page 43 for more information.



Any disruptive or inappropriate behavior may lead to being asked to leave the convention.



Readercon reserves the right to revoke membership at any time for any reason.
No refunds will be given.



Readercon reserves the right to refuse membership.



Party Policy: We encourage open parties. However, parties in a room not in the 9th-floor party block will be shut down. *Open parties* (with an open invitation to all attendees and with an open door) may not serve alcohol. *Closed parties* (by invitation only and with a closed door) must make alcohol service arrangements with the hotel.



No eating or drinking by customers in the Bookshop.

Code of Conduct

This code of conduct is in effect as of 6/10/2016. Readercon's convention committee wants Readercon to be a safe, enjoyable convention for everyone. To this end, everyone with a Readercon badge is required to abide by the Readercon code of conduct while attending Readercon, including while in any part of the Readercon hotel. In addition, all Readercon board members, committee members, staff, and volunteers are required to abide by the Readercon code of conduct in Readercon meetings, on Readercon mailing lists and Readercon-branded social media accounts and forums, while conducting Readercon business (which includes all emails sent from readercon.org addresses), and while discussing Readercon-related matters with other board members, committee members, staff, or volunteers.

While attending or volunteering for Readercon in any capacity, you agree to help create spaces that are and feel as safe as possible by respecting other people's physical and social boundaries. You can always find the Code of Conduct at readercon.org/CoC.

Physical Boundaries

Do not physically harm or endanger other people. Do not touch people or their personal effects — including clothing, assistive devices, bags, and on-duty service animals — without an express invitation. If you want to invite physical contact, do so verbally or with a friendly gesture, such as holding out a hand for a handshake. When sharing space with other people, engage in active demonstrations of respect and empathy. For example: leave other people a clear path to the exit. Moderate the volume of your voice and the expansiveness of your gestures. Maintain an appropriate physical distance.

Social Boundaries

In all cases where someone has told you or demonstrated that they do not wish to interact with you, do not contact them in any fashion, including through an intermediary, unless and until they approach you of their own initiative. Readercon thrives on vigorous debate, but it is not acceptable to verbally attack people. Do not use slurs or make derogatory comments about a person, group, or category of people. This includes comments based on characteristics such as (but not limited to) actual or perceived race, national origin, sex, gender, sexual orientation, physical appearance, age, religion, ability, family or marital status or socioeconomic class. When interacting with other people, engage in active demonstrations of respect and empathy. For example: Obtain ongoing consent for your interaction. Respect the variety of ways in which people signal that continued contact is unwelcome. Pay attention to verbal and non-verbal clues that the other party wishes to end the interaction; these clues can range from "Gosh, look at the time!" to the other person walking away from you. If you're not certain the other person is enjoying your company, end the interaction yourself.

In Summary

Just as you do not owe anyone your time, your attention, or physical contact, no one owes you theirs. Interacting with people you don't know well can be somewhat like first contact with an alien ambassador, so demonstrate peaceful intentions and do your best to be a credit to the human race.

Reporting a Problem

Call (617) 315-8739 to reach Readercon's safety team any time during the convention, day or night, from 8 PM Thursday to 4 PM Sunday. You can also send email, either during or after the convention, to safety@readercon.org.

For more on Readercon's safety policies and procedures, please see readercon.org/safety.

Accessibility

Readercon welcomes everyone. Accessibility accommodations are a vital part of ensuring a safe and enjoyable Readercon. If you have suggestions for improvements or if you would like to see additional supports, please contact us at info@readercon.org.

- The hotel's conference rooms, restaurant, and rest rooms are all on the ground floor with wide hallways. Most program takes place on this floor. The Green Room for program participants is also on this floor. Kaffeeklatsches take place in the Concierge Lounge on a separate floor that is easily reached by elevator, as is the Con Suite.
- Each conference room will have a wide aisle and taped-off spaces reserved for scooter and wheelchair parking. There will also be forward seating reserved for those who need it. Please respect the signs.
- We will be providing CART support for some Saturday program items between 12 PM and 6 PM, including the Guest of Honor interviews. These are marked in the program listing with CART after the title.
- We will have a "no parking or standing zone" taped off with white tape in the entrance to the Bookshop to help relieve traffic congestion. Please do not stop to chat in the "White Zone."
- The hotel has installed its only ramp to the stage in Salon 6. There will be no ramp to the stage in any other Salon. The smaller rooms will be set up with plenty of space behind the participants' tables. If you are a program participant, please email program@readercon.org with any requests for specific accommodations.
- The PDF version of our Program Guide and Excel version of Program Grid are available for download on our Program page at readercon.com/program
- A Quiet Room is available. See page 45 for details.
- We've updated our signage design and placement; please let us know how we can make it still better.

We strongly encourage all attendees to treat one another with thoughtfulness and respect, and to follow these guidelines:

- Make way for people with mobility impairments and respect the lines around reserved audience spaces and the handicapped seating signs. If you stop to chat in the hallway, make sure that you leave plenty of space for both people and scooters to pass. Remember that not all mobility impairments are visible.
- If you see someone who you believe needs assistance, offer to help — but PLEASE wait for them to accept before taking action. Do not touch or move another person's belongings or equipment or touch people to guide them unless they explicitly ask you to do so.
- Do not pet or otherwise interact with service animals. If they have a harness on, they are working.

If you have any feedback on these efforts or suggestions for improvements,
please email info@readercon.org.

Children Attending Readercon

There will be no child care provided at Readercon for 2017.

Children up to age 15 who will be staying with a parent *at all times* receive a free membership, a ReaderKids In Tow badge, and no conference materials. The badge must have the Readercon-attending parent's name on the front of the badge and contact info on the back. This free badge must be worn at all times while on hotel grounds.

Children under the age of 12 *may not be left unattended* in any convention area or public hotel space.

If we see a child who is being disruptive, or seems to need a parent and has no parent around, we will try to contact the parent. If we cannot contact the parent within 15 minutes, we will contact hotel security and ask them to assume supervision of the child.

Any disruptive or inappropriate behavior may lead to being asked to leave the convention. Readercon reserves the right to revoke membership at any time for any reason. No refunds will be given.

This policy has been established for the following reasons:

- Liability issues raised by the hotel due to unattended children left to play in hotel common areas and the pool area.
- Liability issues raised by Readercon for the same reasons, as well as for the comfort of all attendees.
- Liability issue of minor children left at Readercon without a parent or appointed guardian on hotel premises. Note that these children may be held by hotel security, the Department of Children and Families may be contacted, and the child may be turned over to DCF's care.
- It's all about safety. We want our children to be safe, and we want yours to be as well.

Call (617) 315-8739 to reach Readercon's safety team

Steve Huff, a former concom member and dear friend of Readercon is providing emergency first response service for Readercon 28. The safety team will quickly relay all requests to Steve directly. Please do not hesitate to call if you feel unwell, or if you encounter another attendee who needs medical attention.

As a first responder, he is prepared to assess and treat a range of medical conditions onsite; in the event of a serious emergency requiring hospital transport, he will coordinate with the hotel and local ambulance services to ensure high-quality care and rapid transport.

If you have any questions about this service, please stop by the Information table.

AT THE CON

Flyers

Flyers may not be posted on hotel walls unless they bear the Readercon stamp of approval. To have your flyers approved, bring all copies to be posted to the Information table for review. If approved, we will stamp them and provide you with hotel-approved adhesive materials and a list of places where flyers may be posted. We will aggressively hunt down and remove any unapproved flyers. Please do not staple flyers to hotel property or use adhesive materials other than the ones we provide.

The Meaning of Badge Colors

Badges may be multiple colors to reflect multiple roles.

Example: Orange and Green for a Bookseller who is also a Program Participant.

Purple	Guest of Honor	Red/Blue.	Staff
Orange	Program Participant	Aqua	Kid In Tow
Red	Committee	Aqua/Blue	Teen
Blue.	Member	Green	Bookseller

Hours



Registration: Friday 10 AM to 9 PM;
Saturday 9 AM to 6 PM;
Sunday 9 AM to 1 PM



Information: Friday 10 AM to 9 PM;
Saturday 9 AM to 6 PM;
Sunday 9 AM to 1 PM



Con Suite: Friday 10 AM to midnight;
Saturday 8:30 AM to midnight;
Sunday 8:30 AM to 3 PM



Bookshop: Friday 3 PM to 7 PM;
Saturday 10 AM to 6 PM;
Sunday 10 AM to 2:00 PM



Blood Drive: Saturday 9 AM to 2:30 PM

Sign up to donate on Friday and Saturday near the Information desk.

VOLUNTEER AND EARN EXCLUSIVE READERCON STUFF!



Readercon is entirely volunteer-run. Our volunteers help with Registration and Information, keep an eye on the programming, staff the Con Suite, and do about a million more things. If interested, go to Information — the person there will know what to do. It's fun, you'll meet new people, and you can earn Readercon incentives that are available to volunteers only. There are cumulative volunteer awards of Readercon-branded items for volunteering for 3 hours and 6 hours, and a free membership to next year's Readercon is earned when you work 8 or more hours.

Tote bag is for illustration only; current volunteer rewards may differ

Kaffeeklatsches – 9th Fl Concierge Lounge

Kaffeeklatsches are small gatherings of attendees with a program participant, chatting informally. Because seating is limited, we ask that those interested *sign up in advance* at the Information table.

Con Suite – Presidential Suite

Our Con Suite (or Hospitality Suite) is a place to sit and chat, meet new friends, and get a few snacks — and enjoy comfy chairs! We are trying to be allergy-friendly, with gluten-free, peanut-free, and apple-free items available. Our Con Suite is in the Presidential Suite (room 863) this year, which is on the 8th floor. We have designated the bathrooms in the Con Suite as gender-neutral.

CON SUITE SPONSORSHIPS

SATURDAY / 9 PM TO 12 AM:

Annual Dessert Party

(cosponsored by Boskone & Philcon)

Open to everyone!

Parking

Parking is free for all Readercon members. Some lots will be open and others will require that you take a ticket. If you park in one of the hotel lots that requires you to take a ticket you must have your ticket stamped. There will be a parking stamper on the table to the right of Registration. Have your ticket stamped and you will be able to use that ticket to exit the parking lot.

Quiet Room

We have a quiet room reserved on the convention floor this year. Follow signs to the Merrymount room and please be respectful of anyone else who is already present when you arrive.

BOOK LAUNCH PARTY

SATURDAY / 9 PM / BLUE HILLS ROOM

Daryl Gregory — *Spoonbenders*

Join us for the launch party of *Spoonbenders*, just out from Knopf. Attendees will be taught how to bend cutlery with the power of their mind, and then deploy said utensils on provided desserts and snacks.

Open to everyone!



READERCON 28 PROGRAM

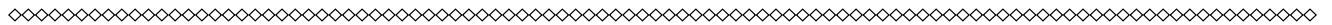
PROGRAM GUIDE

Unless otherwise noted, all items fill a *60-minute program slot*, except for readings, which fill a *30-minute slot*. All items begin 5 minutes after and end 5 minutes before the times given. Participants and attendees are urged to arrive as promptly as possible.

PLEASE NOTE: The final schedule for kaffeeklatsches, readings, and signings was not ready in time for publication in this guide. Please check the program grid or the online listing for these program items. See <http://readercon.org/program>

LOCATION KEY			
A	Salon A	B	Salon B
C	Salon C	BH	Blue Hills
E	Salon E	5	Salon 5
6	Salon 6/7/8	CL	Concierge Lounge

We will be providing **communication access real-time translation (CART)** support for some Saturday afternoon and evening program items, including the Guest of Honor interviews. These are marked in the guide with CART after the title.



Thursday, July 13

8
PM

1. 8:00 PM **5 How to Moderate a Panel.**
Alex Jablow, Victoria Janssen (leader), Kathleen Jennings, Tom Purdom, Kenneth Schneyer.
 The moderator plays a crucial role in making panels run smoothly and enjoyably for participants and attendees. This panel will cover how to get questions rather than comments from audience members, how to deal with a panelist who goes off the rails, and how to make sure everyone gets equal time, among many other topics.
2. 8:00 PM **6 Footsteps in the Dark: The Sensory Range of Horror.**
F. Brett Cox (leader), John Langan, Darcie Little Badger, Elsa Sjunneson-Henry, Paul Tremblay.
 Horror is frequently thought of as a visual medium, and is often adapted for film and television. However, other senses are vitally important to the development of horror stories, and the experience of fear for the reader. Consider Josh Malerman's *Bird Box*, which erased sight for the main characters, or the pounding in Shirley Jackson's *The Haunting of Hill House*. Consider also the recent uptick in films with disabled characters, such as

the Deaf writer in *Hush* and the blind antagonist in *Don't Breathe*. This panel will explore these and other works of multisensory horror, and address how writers can create vivid horror experiences for readers.

3. 8:00 PM **C Secretly About Writing: Books That Are Not Obviously About Writing Books.**

Erik Amundsen, Gillian Daniels (moderator), Chandler Klang Smith, Cecilia Tan, Ann Tonsor Zeddies.

In a 2013 Twitter conversation, James Francis Flynn wrote, "Lots of great movies are secretly about what it's like making movies. Trick is to hide it well." Books about writing books are usually pretty unsubtle—we're looking at you, Stephen King—but presumably some more subtly metaphorical novels are out there, including certain books in our genres. Is *Dune* really about the arid publishing landscape? Did Lovecraft's eldritch horrors begin as rejection letters? Our panelists will discuss works that they know (or guess) to be about writing, or possibly attempt to portray every single book as being secretly about writing.

4. 8:00 PM **A Broad Universe Rapid Fire Reading.**

Randee Dawn Kestenbaum, Susan Matthews, Tracy Townsend.

Broad Universe is an international organization supporting women writers of science fiction, fantasy, and horror. Members of the group will read short excerpts from their work. Each writer has just a few minutes to show you what she's capable of!

9
PM

5. 9:00 PM **5 Our Human Limits.**

L. J. Cohen, Danielle Friedman, Jim Kelly, Susan Matthews (moderator), David Shaw.

Putting characters through the wringer can make for good drama, but the line between high-stakes tension and over-the-top violence can sometimes be hard to pin down. This panel of medical and forensic experts will discuss the physical limits of ordinary and extraordinary humans, answering questions such as: How long does it take to asphyxiate? What does it feel like to lose a lot of blood? How many times can you get shot or stabbed and still get up and fight? Our panelists will also discuss what humans can and can't survive, and what happens to our bodies if we don't.

6. 9:00 PM **6 A Hero by Any Other Name.**

Randee Dawn Kestenbaum, Greer Gilman, Elaine Isaak, Kenneth Schneyer (leader), Tamara Vardomskaaya.

Would Maleficent be less terrifying if her name were Suzy? Would Arthur Dent and Zaphod Beeblebrox have been able to have each other's adventures? In literature, names can serve as shorthand to imply a character's age, ethnicity, time or place of origin, and emotional and psychological makeup. This panel will explore the art and psychology of character names.

7. 9:00 PM **C Highway to the Weirder Zone.**

Samuel R. Delany, Max Gladstone, Maria Dahvana Headley (leader), Chandler Klang Smith, Marissa Lingen.

Surrealism, magical realism, paranormal romance, and other genres of the weird have different methods for getting the reader to suspend disbelief and acclimate as the roses rain down and the protagonist turns into a cockroach. Can authors of less-weird science fiction and fantasy borrow those tricks to ease reader dislocation, or is dislocated exactly what a reader should be? Are there different approaches that work for a phantasmagoria of ideas or a phantasmagoria of sensory impressions? And what problems arise from applying the assumptions and techniques of one genre or subgenre to another?

three decades they faced challenges, forged alliances, and used their intellect to change their own lives and their country's future. Join us to discuss this excellent book, the history it chronicles, and its implications for historical, present-day, and futuristic SF.

12
PM

12. 12:00 PM **5 Writing Futuristic Fiction in 2017.**

Haris Durrani, Matt Kressel, Shariann Lewitt, Paul McAuley, Naomi Novik (leader).

Speculative genre fiction has always had the ability to consider our future and shape it, so now that the present more sharply resembles the settings of some dystopian fictions, where do we as genre writers go next? Do we need to write more dystopian fiction to process our anxieties and warn against things getting worse, or do we need stories of hope, utopia, and resistance to get through a time that will be frightening and dangerous for many? Can editors and readers tell the difference between stories that were written before and after the election, and does it matter?

13. 12:00 PM **6 Back from the Dead.**

Judith Berman, John Crowley, N.S. Dolkart, Nicholas Kaufmann, Sioban Krzywicki (leader).

There are many characters in SF/F who die in what appears to be a permanent fashion, only to be brought back from death. Examples, left intentionally vague to avoid spoilers, appear in Neil Gaiman's *Neverwhere*, Terry Pratchett's Discworld books, George R.R. Martin's Song of Ice and Fire series, Daniel José Older's Bone Street Rumba books, and as far back as J.R.R. Tolkien's Lord of the Rings trilogy and C.S. Lewis's Narnia books. How do the characters interact with resurrection (their own or someone else's) and in some cases even prepare for it? When do readers feel like this works and is believable and satisfying, and when does it feel like a cheap trick or a cop-out? What is it like to read these stories while grieving, or keenly aware of one's own mortality?

14. 12:00 PM **c Habit Reversal Training for Writers.**

Rose Fox.

Habit reversal training is usually used to help people break compulsive physical habits such as biting nails. Editor, critic, and writer Rose Fox will explain how habit reversal training can also help writers break compulsive writing habits such as revising while writing or getting distracted by social media. The method is very simple and can be applied by anyone, regardless of writing style or the habit to be broken.

15. 12:00 PM **BH Sorting in Young Adult Literature.**

Steve Berman, Tom Greene, Lauren Roy, Tui Sutherland, Ann Tonsor Zeddies.

Young people in YA fiction (usually but not always dystopian fiction) are encouraged, born, or forced into identity-establishing groups, from childhood and sometimes from birth: factions in *Divergent*, houses in Hogwarts, and districts in Panem. Teen readers of these books are beginning to figure out who they are while being told that the decisions they make now will last forever. How do different works handle the tensions between choice and societal dictation, and between individual identity and group identity? What are the authors trying to say about these different aspects of finding one's self both within and separate from community? What makes a sorting scheme work for the reader rather than feeling wholly artificial and implausible?

1
PM

16. 1:00 PM **5 Our Dystopia.**

Susan Bigelow (leader), Cameron Roberson, Tui Sutherland, Gordan Van Gelder, Sabrina Vourvoulias.

Since the election, many on the left have been calling attention to George Orwell's *1984* as a missed warning. Guest of Honor Nnedi Okorafor said in a radio interview that she believes Octavia Butler's *The Parable of the Sower* is a more appropriate dystopia for our current climate. Orwell's *Animal Farm*, Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale*, and other books have also warned of surreal authoritarianism. Do they map to our current world or are we projecting? What other books have warnings for us that we might heed?

17. 1:00 PM **6 A Golden Age of Asian Speculative Literature in English.**

John Chu, Neil Clarke, Haris Durrani, Liz Gorinsky, Caroline M. Yoachim.

There's a growing body of English-language speculative works by writers from Asian and South Asian cultures—works in translation from writers working in Asian languages, and works written in English by writers in both Asian countries and the Asian diaspora. This panel will discuss trends in translation and publication, examine different Western expectations of translated and non-translated fiction (for example, the notion that Asian diaspora writers will necessarily write on Asian themes or diasporic experiences), highlight recent works of interest, and explore how Asian and Western speculative fiction influence one another.

18. 1:00 PM **c The Body as Story.**

Michael Blumlein.

Physician and writer Michael Blumlein will celebrate our bodies: their resilience, their complexity, their beauty, and the history that is written in them. Sometimes this is a painful history, as in sickle cell disease, which confers a survival advantage to many at the expense of the suffering of a few, and has been the subject of racist treatment in medicine. Sometimes the history is painful but also triumphant, as in cancer, whose underpinnings are emblematic of the exquisite balancing act that defines our bodies at every level, from the smallest part to the grand, thinking, feeling whole. Our bodies are an ongoing story of balance, imbalance, and rebalance, of motion and emotion, of birth, death, and regeneration. Using sickle cell disease and cancer as templates, Blumlein will share what he's learned of the drama, the suspense, the excitement, and the sad and happy endings that we carry within us.

19. 1:00 PM **BH Body Modification and Post-Humanism: Beyond Body Horror.**

John Benson, F. Brett Cox (leader), Jim Kelly, Sarah Lynn Weintraub, T. X. Watson.

Body horror seems to be falling by the wayside as body modification, cyborgs, and post-humans have become increasingly common in fantasy and SF. Are we getting more comfortable with our bodies, or more interested in treating them like machines to be tinkered with? How are advances in surgery, tattoos, contraception, cosmetics, and other present-day forms of body modification influencing this trend? What cultural anxieties are writers reflecting with these metaphors?

2
PM

20. 2:00 PM **5 Writing Disability in the Future.**

L. J. Cohen, Sarah Lynn Weintraub, Elsa Sjunneson-Henry (leader), Tracy Townsend, Rick Wilber.

How do we write disability in near- and far-future settings without erasing actual disabled people? What are the flaws of universal cure narratives and their assumptions about what constitutes disability and ability? For example, in Becky Chambers's *The Long Way to a Small Angry Planet*, a character notes that his dwarfism could have been fixed by medical science, but his mother decided against it, a choice he appreciates. Panelists will discuss where they see disability representation going in future SF settings and how disabilities can be represented with respect in ways that serve the story.

21. 2:00 PM **6 Problematizing Taxonomizing: Maybe the Most Readercon Panel Ever.**

John Benson, John Clute, Samuel R. Delany, Kathryn Morrow (leader), T. X. Watson.

Countless Readercon panels have been devoted to questions of taxonomy, so let's ask the next questions about taxonomy itself. What is the importance of categories? What is the language of categorization? It is important to define terms, but when do the terms themselves become an obfuscation rather than a clarification? How do taxonomies, and perhaps even the notion of taxonomy, perpetuate problematic power structures? Will we end up coming up with a taxonomy of taxonomies? Will our heads explode?

22. 2:00 PM **c The Works of Nnedi Okorafor.**

Teri Clarke, Emily Wagner, Gary K. Wolfe.

Nnedi Okorafor is a professor of creative writing and literature at the University of Buffalo. She is best known

to her many fans as the author of six novels, a chapbook, a novella, and a collection of short stories. Her work combines traditional science fictional tropes with African story-modes and cultural narratives to splendid effect. Among the awards she has been nominated or won are the Wole Soyinka Prize for African Literature for *Zahrah the Windseeker* (2005), the Carl Brandon Society Parallax Award for *The Shadow Speaker* (2007), the World Fantasy Award and Le Prix Imaginales for *Who Fears Death* (2010), the British Science Fiction Association Best Novel award for *Lagoon* (2014), and the Nebula Award and the Hugo Award for the novella *Binti* (2016). Join us as we welcome her to Readercon and celebrate her work.

23. 2:00 PM **BH In the Heartland.**

Chris Gerwel, Marissa Lingen, Natalie Luhrs, Peter Straub, Catherynne M. Valente.

What about the middle of the U.S. makes heartland stories such as Stephen King's *The Stand* and Emily St. John Mandel's *Station Eleven* so powerful? Recognizing that the U.S. is far from perfect, does the baked-in concept of American exceptionalism negatively affect these stories? What do they teach readers who aren't American about Americans and their values?

3
PM



3:00 PM **Bookshop opens**

24. 3:00 PM **5 Good Influences.**

Scott Edelman, Greer Gilman, Elizabeth Hand (leader), Rosemary Kirstein, E.J. Stevens, Ilana Teitelbaum.
In contrast to the bad influences panel from past Readercons, these panelists will discuss authors who were positive influences on their writing during their formative years. Who showed them what good worldbuilding is, what strong narration looks like, and how to deepen a plot with social commentary? Panelists will share, discuss, and praise their problematic and unmitigatedly awesome mentors.

25. 3:00 PM **6 Horror Fiction Is Where I Put My Fear (and Lust, and...).**

Teri Clarke, Gwynne Garfinkle, J.D. Horn, Darcie Little Badger, Hillary Monahan, Elsa Sjunneson-Henry.

When we peel back the monsters in horror, a wealth of social and psychological complexities lie beneath. Tananarive Due writes in her essay "The H Word: On Writing Horror," "Horror fiction is where I put my fear that harm will come to my son because his skin is brown. Horror fiction is where I put my fear of my own mortality." Kristi DeMeester, in "What Horror Taught Me About Being a Woman," discusses her delight in discovering forbidden, gory sex scenes in Anne Rice's work. Our panelists will discuss how women, people of color, and others whose concerns get little mainstream airtime can use horror as a way to examine and explore cultural and personal anxieties and longings.

26. 3:00 PM **C A Technology Not Traveled.**

Inanna Arthen, John Chu, Chris Gerwel, Jeff Hecht, Sioban Krzywicki (leader).

Alternate history and historical fantasy often engage with technologies that once seemed like the way of the future: airships, clockwork, mechanical computing. There's a certain dreamy wonder around many modern depictions of early industrial inventions. Why are we fascinated with what became technological dead ends? There are many magical fantasies where wizards can't use computers; is this a different expression of the same anxieties about modern gadgets? Is there really a possible timeline where clockwork became ascendant while electronics never took off, or is it all just an excuse for some gorgeous cosplay?

27. 3:00 PM **BH Classic YA Book Club: *The Dark Is Rising* by Susan Cooper.**

Kat Howard, Victoria Janssen (leader), Miriam Newman, Sonya Taaffe, Tamara Vardomskaya.

Will Stanton discovers on his 11th birthday that he is no mere boy. He is the Sign-Seeker, last of the immortal Old Ones, destined to battle the powers of evil that trouble the land. His task is monumental: he must find and guard the six great Signs of the Light, which, when joined, will create a force strong enough to match and perhaps overcome that of the Dark. Embarking on this endeavor is dangerous as well as deeply rewarding, Will must work within a continuum of time and space much broader than he ever imagined. Susan Cooper creates

a world where the conflict between good and evil reaches epic proportions. She ranks with C.S. Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien in her ability to deliver a moral vision in the context of breathtaking adventure. We are especially interested in discussing this book in conjunction with the recent YA book club selection, *The Raven Boys*.

4
PM

28. 4:00 PM **5 The Hidden Philosophies of Horror.**

Michael Cisco, Teri Clarke, Don D'Amassa, Ellen Datlow, Maria Dahvana Headley (moderator), John Langan.

Some works of horror imply that wickedness exists within everyone, and even the greatest heroes are doomed to succumb. Others seem to say that people are mostly good but poor choices with terrible consequences are inevitable. Supernatural horror and psychological horror often posit very different sources and types of evil. This panel will explore these and other philosophical concepts underlying various approaches to the horror genre.

29. 4:00 PM **6 The Souls of Stories.**

Erik Amundsen, Rose Fox, Lorrie Kim, Cecilia Tan, Tracy Townsend.

In a blog post about the film *La La Land*, Film Crit Hulk wrote, "I once made the argument that movies have souls. And it's probably the most ostentatious, yet most true thing I've said about movies. We relate to them a lot in the same way we relate to people. For they have whole personalities and ideas and voices. And like people, we have to work past the layers of artifice a lot of times to understand what they are and accept them." The same could be said of books, or stories of any kind. What does it mean to relate to a story the way one relates to people? How does this intersect with the stereotype of the introverted reader who chooses stories over human interaction? What are the advantages and limitations of this way of looking at the reading experience?

30. 4:00 PM **C Lines of Consent in Fiction.**

Samuel R. Delany, N.S. Dolkart, Lila Garrott, Kiini Iburu Salaam, Josh Jasper.

In science fiction and fantasy, consent is often handled in fuzzy, imprecise ways. Obvious scenarios of non-consent, such as the enslaved house elves in the Harry Potter books, are easily identified as problematic, but less is said about magical destiny that compels an ordinary person to become a hero; inherited magic, rank, or family feuds that empower or endanger a character without their consent; soul mates, who are forced to love and be attracted to each other; werewolves compelled to change shape under the full moon; and other strictures that are so common we've come to take them for granted. This panel will discuss work that either explicitly deals with consent or appears oblivious to its relevance, and will explore the writer's responsibility when placing characters in a scenario (or plot) that hinges on questionable consent or non-consent. Content note: this panel may explicitly discuss violations of consent and their consequences. For the purposes of this panel, trigger warnings and content notes are assumed to be valuable tools that assist the reader.

31. 4:00 PM **BH I Am Become Death... No, I Mean Literally.**

David Bowles, Danielle Friedman, Max Gladstone, Miriam Newman, Sonya Taaffe.

Death is the ultimate unknowable, the universal mystery that we all share. From the Greek god Thanatos to Terry Pratchett's Death, humankind has a long tradition of personifying death to try to make it more relatable and less inscrutable, or even to turn it into a punchline. A number of recent works, including Colin Gigg's *The Ferryman Institute*, Amber Benson's Calliope Reaper-Jones books, and Gina Damico's Croak series, have put their own spins on the anthropomorphic personification of death. Our panelists will discuss why this particular topic is currently resurgent, and look at some interesting examples of the trend.

5
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32. 5:00 PM **5 The Truth of Fiction, the Fiction of Truth.**

John Clute, John Crowley, Heath Miller (leader), Miriam Newman, Catherynne M. Valente.

This panel will explore works of fiction in which the author claims not to be the author. In Laurie R. King's Mary Russell series, the conceit is that King was given the diaries of Mary Russell; more tongue-in-cheek is *The Princess Bride*, which William Goldman claims is "the good parts version" of a much longer and more boring

work by the fictional S. Morgenstern. How do we construct these agreements between audience and author about what is real, and what reality means in the context of a fictional work? How does an author get the reader to buy in to the idea that the story they are about to read is truth?

33. 5:00 PM **6 The Global Roots of Speculative Literature.**

Shannon Chakraborty, Haris Durrani, Robert Killheffer, Darcie Little Badger, Susan Matthews (leader).

Discussions of “genre classics” tend to focus mainly on modern Western works. This panel will discuss proto-genre narratives from antiquity and the pre-modern and early modern era in the world beyond Western Europe, including not only myths and legends but early authored works such as the *Hamzanama (The Adventures of Amir Hamza)*, the *Baital Pachisi (Vikram and the Vampire)*, and *Fengshen Yanyi (The Creation of the Gods)*.

34. 5:00 PM **C Welcome to Readercon.**

Rose Fox, Sioban Krzywicki, Emily Wagner.

New to Readercon? Not new, but curious about what might be different this year? Thinking about volunteering? Our program chair and other Readercon regulars will give you some peeks behind the scenes and suggestions about all the cool not-to-miss stuff. We're nice. Come hang out.

35. 5:00 PM **BH The Deaths of Gods.**

Martin Cahill (leader), Greer Gilman, Max Gladstone, John Langan, James Morrow.

In Philip Pullman's Golden Compass series, two children literally kill God. In Victor Koman's *The Jehovah Contract*, a hard-boiled PI is hired for the same job. Max Gladstone's Craft books and Robert Jackson Bennett's City trilogy explore the deaths of gods in polytheistic worlds. How do these narratives of mortals killing supposed immortals differ from ones where gods destroy one another? It's too simplistic to think of these as atheist narratives; how do they explore the power of belief, and the intrusion of incontrovertible fact into a belief system?

6
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36. 6:00 PM **5 Writing Women, Writing Cultures.**

Teri Clarke, Karen Heuler, Sioban Krzywicki (leader), Sarah Pinsker, Caroline M. Yoachim.

Writers who craft well-rounded male characters and cardboard female characters are sometimes advised to write women like men and just change the pronouns. This exercise can help writers to figure out their biases, but it's far from sufficient for creating fictional women who feel authentic and real, because it omits the ways that women interact with gendered culture. It also leaves out a crucial element for SFF authors: looking at how we create fictional cultures that interact with women. This panel will move beyond simple exercises to dig into the gendered elements of worldbuilding—including questions of whether, when, and how to perpetuate or contradict the biases and stereotypes of the author's culture—and discuss how female characters and created cultures inform one another.

37. 6:00 PM **6 Terrible... but Great.**

Lila Garrott (leader), Bart Leib, Natalie Luhrs, Sonya Taaffe, Vinnie Tesla.

Our panelists muse on books that are really bad but in an amazing way! Genevieve Valentine's term “shitmazing” may be appropriate here. What makes something both terrible and great? Are these works worth analyzing and perhaps even emulating, or do they exist simply to be enjoyed (if that's the word) on their own merits (if that's the word)?

38. 6:00 PM **C The Catastrophe of Success.**

Alex Jablokow, Jim Kelly (leader), Matt Kressel, Paul Levinson, Eric Schaller.

In a 1947 essay called “The Catastrophe of Success,” Tennessee Williams wrote, “We are like a man who has bought up a great amount of equipment for a camping trip... but who now, when all the preparations and the provisions are piled expertly together, is suddenly too timid to set out on the journey.... Our great technology is a God-given chance for adventure and for progress which we are afraid to attempt.” This is a very 1940s SFnal way of looking at technology and the world. We are in Williams's future, with 70 years of perspective to add to

his still-relevant observation. What has changed in the human relationship to technology since 1947, and what has stayed the same? How can present-day SF explore this tension between what technology allows us to do and the fear that holds us back?

39. 6:00 PM **BH Higher, Higher: Flight in Fiction.**

Susan Bigelow, Andy Duncan, Barbara Krasnoff (moderator), Nnedi Okorafor, Ann Tonsor Zeddies.

From Greek myths to superheroes, humans have been captivated by the dream of flight. What about the concept is so appealing? Why has it appeared time and time again in science fiction and fantasy genres? Panelists will discuss how recent fiction has revisited the human obsession with flight, and where it might go next.

7
PM



7:00 PM **Bookshop closes**

40. 7:00 PM **5 The Commonalities of Magic and Science.**

Erik Amundsen, David Bowles, Rosemary Kirstein, Naomi Novik (leader), Nnedi Okorafor.

Specialized and secret fields of knowledge create barriers to understanding and can become mechanisms of cultural control. They can also be foundations for resistance. They can support or destroy communities and instill gratitude or resentment. All these things could be said of both magic and science, and the wielders thereof. The tradition of pitting magic and science against each other goes back to Tolkien's anxieties about industrialization, but today's speculative works have moved beyond it to recognize that the two can coexist and are often used similarly as metaphors. We'll examine Guest of Honor Naomi Novik's mix of historical technology and dragons, Guest of Honor Nnedi Okorafor's mix of futuristic technology and sorcery, and other successful amalgamations and integrations.

41. 7:00 PM **6 Race and Historical Accuracy in Cod-Medieval Fantasy Fiction.**

Shannon Chakraborty, Phenderson Clark, N.S. Dolkart, Tom Greene, Catherynne M. Valente.

Too often, we've heard the excuse of "historical accuracy" used to explain the lack of PoC in historical fiction. Yet their presence is profoundly felt throughout European history, including in the medieval era so often used or modified as a fantasy setting: Arabic numbers have been used in Western societies for centuries, philosopher Ibn Rushd preserved and notated the works of Aristotle, the Silk Road brought traders and diplomats from all over Asia, and Moors in Spain were credited with promoting astronomy, medicine, and literacy. This panel will discuss how to populate cod-medieval fantasy novels with characters of color who have dimension, depth, and humanity, while avoiding stereotypes of swarthy villains and uncouth sidekicks.

42. 7:00 PM **c The Works of Tanith Lee.**

Lila Garrott, Sonya Taaffe, Emily Wagner.

Tanith Lee (1947-2015) was a supremely talented writer who worked in numerous genres and forms. She wrote children's novels (*The Dragon Hoard* (1971)), Vancian fantasy (the five-novel *Tales from the Flat Earth* series), historical romance (*The Gods Are Thirsty* (1996)), fantasy/horror (*The Book of the Damned* (1988)), science fiction (the four-novel *Birthgrave* series), thriller/horror (the three-novel *Blood Opera* series), far-future science fiction (the *Drinking Sapphire Wine* duology), and more, including erotica, Gothic romance, and straightforward horror. Lee was clever, manipulating genre tropes and clichés in skillful and unusual ways. Lee was poetic, writing of everything from sex to childhood in lyrical fashion. And she was prolific, writing over one hundred novels and collections. She was twice nominated for the Nebula Award, ten times for the World Fantasy (winning twice), and six times for the British Fantasy Award (winning once), and was given the Grand Master Award from at the World Horror Convention in 2009 and the Life Achievement Award at the World Fantasy Convention in 2013. As critic John Clute wrote, "Lee encompassed every genre of the fantastic... with supple attentiveness and an ongoing exuberance of invention which transcends... genre constraints." Join us to celebrate her work.

43. 7:00 PM **BH** **Recent YA Book Club: *The Raven Boys* by Maggie Stiefvater.**

Kat Howard, Catt Kingsgrave, Miriam Newman, Lauren Roy.

Every year, Blue Sargent stands next to her clairvoyant mother as the soon-to-be dead walk past. Blue never sees them—until this year, when a boy emerges from the dark and speaks to her. His name is Gansey, a rich student at Aglionby, the local private school. Blue has a policy of staying away from Aglionby boys. Known as Raven Boys, they can only mean trouble. But Blue is drawn to Gansey in a way she can't entirely explain. He is on a quest that has encompassed three other Raven Boys: Adam, a scholarship student who resents the privilege around him; Ronan, whose emotions range from anger to despair; and Noah, who notices many things but says very little. For as long as she can remember, Blue has been warned that she will cause her true love to die. She doesn't believe in true love, and never thought this would be a problem. But as her life becomes caught up in the strange and sinister world of the Raven Boys, she's not so sure anymore. We are especially interested in discussing this book in conjunction with the classic YA book club selection, *The Dark Is Rising*. Both deal with English and Welsh mythology and have many things in common, while tackling the myths in very different ways.

8
PM44. 8:00 PM **5** **The Appeal of the Apocalypse.**

Randee Dawn Kestenbaum, Chandler Klang Smith, Sunny Moraine, Naomi Novik (leader), Lauren Roy.

A great number of science fiction authors, including Mark Charan Newton, Jack Vance, N.K. Jemisin, and Delilah S. Dawson, write about disasters on a massive scale caused by natural forces, humans, nonhumans, or some combination thereof. Some characters try to prevent apocalypse, some try to survive it, and some try to make use of it. What role does global crisis play in the stories we tell? How does an apocalyptic setting change a character's appeal to the audience? Is there a benefit to addressing the issues of the world we live in by destroying it?

45. 8:00 PM **6** **What Fiction Gets Wrong About Archeology and How to Dig Up the Truth.**

Judith Berman, Tom Greene, Jeff Hecht, Victoria Janssen (leader), Robert Killheffer.

We've all read fiction by authors who seem to have gotten their understanding of archeology from an episode of *Ancient Aliens*, so how can we do better? We'll discuss current best practices in archeology and art history, resources for curious authors, and, if there's time, what exactly is wrong with ancient astronaut theory. (So, so wrong.)

46. 8:00 PM **C** **Estate Planning for Writers.**

Andy Cowan.

Join Andy Cowan, a Cambridge-based estate lawyer, for a talk on authorial wills and estate planning strategies for writers. Cowan was involved in litigation over the estate of a Harvard University literature professor, dealing with competing claims to the ownership of the professor's library and marginalia. Now he's bringing his expertise to Readercon, with a short introduction to the basics of estate planning, special estate planning considerations around copyrights and other intellectual property, resources for those who cannot afford a lawyer to do their estate plan, and a discussion of why those who can afford a lawyer should hire a specialist.

47. 8:00 PM **BH** **Writing Deaf and Blind Characters.**

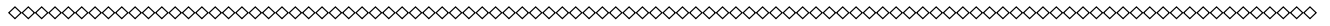
Elsa Sjunneson-Henry.

Elsa Sjunneson-Henry will discuss the tropes of blind and deaf characters in fiction, and share ways to write these characters in order to increase realism, defy clichés, and subvert expectations.

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PM9:00 PM **Registration closes**9:00 PM **Information closes**

10
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48. **10:00 PM 5 Cordwainer Smith Rediscovery Award.**
The Smith Award, honoring a writer worthy of being rediscovered by today's readers, is selected annually by a panel of judges that includes Readercon 4 Guest of Honor Barry Malzberg. Past winners include Olaf Stapledon, R.A. Lafferty, Edgar Pangborn, Henry Kuttner and C.L. Moore, Leigh Brackett, William Hope Hodgson, Daniel F. Galouye, Stanley G. Weinbaum, A. Merritt, and Katherine MacLean.
49. **10:30 PM 5 Meet the Pros(e) Party.**
Each writer at the party has selected a short, pithy quotation from their own work and is armed with a sheet of 30 printed labels, the quote replicated on each. As attendees mingle, the request "May I have a sticker?" provides a convenient icebreaker for tongue-tied fans approaching the pros whose work they love. Atheists, agnostics, and the lazy can leave the labels in the order they acquire them, resulting in one of at least nine billion Random Prose Poems. Those who believe in the reversal of entropy can rearrange them to make a Statement. Wearing labels as apparel is also popular. The total number of possibilities (linguistic and sartorial) is thought to exceed the number of theobromine molecules in a large Trader Joe's dark chocolate bar multiplied by the number of picoseconds cumulatively spent by the Readercon committee on this convention since its inception.
50. **11:30 PM 5 Nineties Dance!**
Come dance the night away to your favorite nineties hits! Coming in nineties costume is encouraged but not required, coming in costume from a nineties SFnal music video would make you our heroes.

**12:00 AM Con Suite closes**

Saturday, July 15

**8:30 AM Con Suite opens (Room 863)****9:00 AM Registration opens****9:00 AM Blood Drive opens****9:00 AM Information opens***Sign up for kaffeeklatsches!*10
AM**10:00 AM Bookshop opens**

51. **10:00 AM 5 Settlement Strategies: Adjust, Adapt, or Mutate.**
Susan Matthews (leader), Paul McAuley, Cameron Roberson, Eric Schaller, Ann Tonsor Zeddies.
Space is a harsh environment for living creatures, and most known planets are little better. Adapting to life off of Earth could well involve much more than improved technology. What new technologies are being considered for space travel and habitation? If we can't terraform a planet to our needs, could we instead engineer humans to suit the planet? And if we start altering ourselves, how would that affect life on Earth?
52. **10:00 AM 6 The Life-Changing Magic of Outlining Your Novel.**
Daryl Gregory, Elaine Isaak (leader), Yoon Lee, Mark Oshiro, Terence Taylor.
Developing a novel outline can be nearly as complex a process as writing the novel itself. Our panel of plotters will discuss the many techniques they've used for developing the skeletons of books, and consider which

outline creation skills and tools lend themselves to particular genres and styles of writing. Hybrid methods of outlining and making decisions on the fly will also be discussed.

53. **10:00 AM C Classic Fiction Book Club: Was by Geoff Ryman.**

John Crowley, Kathleen Jennings (moderator), John Kessel, Elsa Sjunneson-Henry, John Stevens.

The Scarecrow of Oz is dying of AIDS in Santa Monica. Uncle Henry is a child abuser and Aunt Em is a Bible-thumper. Dorothy is wearing out her last days in a Kansas nursing home. It's all here, in this magical revisionist fantasy on themes from *The Wizard of Oz*. This tale of homes lost and sought gets a powerful charge from Readercon 22 GOH Ryman's patient use of homely detail in establishing childhood perspectives, and from the shocking effects of transforming cultural icons into very real people. Join us on the 25th anniversary of the book's publication to discuss its resonance into the present.

54. **10:00 AM BH We Have Always Lived with the Magic.**

Phenderson Clark, Greer Gilman, Victoria Janssen (leader), Kate Nepveu, Naomi Novik.

Guest of Honor Naomi Novik's Temeraire books take a slow and clever approach to a common issue with alt-historical fantasy: if magic has always existed, why have historical events gone essentially the same way that they did in our magicless world? Her focus on the familiar territory of Western Europe during the Napoleonic Wars gradually broadens to include other regions that look very different. This panel will examine this and other techniques for integrating magic into history, including using the appearance or reappearance of magic as a timeline divergence point, limiting magic or paranormal entities to a particular region of the world, portraying paranormal communities or magic-users as hidden and secretive, and entirely reinventing history from the Neanderthals on up.

11
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55. **11:00 AM 5 Engineering in SFF, the Sequel: A Bridge Too Far.**

Scott H. Andrews, John Chu, Jeff Hecht, Marissa Lingen, Fran Wilde (leader).

At Readercon 27, our panel of SFF writers with engineering backgrounds discussed bridges, flight, castle fortifications, and why engineering often gets short shrift compared to other technical sciences. They pointed out that readers never see a school at Hogwarts for magical engineering, or classes for building magical tools. This year a new panel will go deeper with some of these topics, getting into the different types of engineering such as bio, hydro, civil, and mechanical, and how these can inform your worldbuilding.

56. **11:00 AM 6 It's Complicated: Improving Intersectionality and Representation in Speculative Fiction.**

David Bowles, Phenderson Clark, Haris Durrani, Catt Kingsgrave, Miriam Newman.

The "literature of ideas" sometimes gives short shrift to characters, eschewing compelling portraits in favor of cardboard cut-outs that serve to further a plot or enhance a grand worldbuilding vision. In real life, humans (and other species!) are wonderfully messy, complicated, and contradictory. How can authors create rich, realistic characters whose overlapping identities and ways of moving in the world reject stereotypes and clichés? What role do editors and publishers play in guiding authors to do this, and promoting and marketing these narratives successfully? What are some counterexamples to the inevitable complaint that creating complex characters leaves less room for setting and plot in genres where readers expect those to be the focus? How can readers push for more multidimensional characters and intersectional stories in the books they buy and read?

57. **11:00 AM C BARCC Becoming Active Bystanders Workshop.**

A bystander is a person who observes unacceptable behavior. It might be something serious or minor, one-time or repeated, but the bystander knows that the behavior is unacceptable or likely to make a bad situation worse. An active bystander takes steps that can make a positive difference in that situation. This class covers the basics of active bystander action and strategies, with opportunity for discussion and practice. Training provided by the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center.

58. 11:00 AM **BH Fictionmags.**

John Clute, Jim Freund, Gordan Van Gelder.

The listserv Fictionmags has been in existence since 1999. Formed by David Pringle, ex-editor of *Interzone*, its formal remit is the study of all fiction-bearing magazines throughout history. Featuring approximately 175 members at any one time, it boasts such luminaries as Ellen Datlow, Gordon Van Gelder, Barry Malzberg, John Clute, Paul DiFilippo, and Scott Edelman. This panel will discuss Fictionmags and the resources it provides.

12
PM59. 12:00 PM **5 Life, Love, and Robots.**

Jeffrey A. Carver (leader), Glenn Grant, Kate Nepveu, Sonya Taaffe, Sheila Williams.

Robots, golems, and other living machines appear human but can never become human, which makes them perfect vehicles for exploring concepts of sentience, emotion, and human nature. Many robots long to be human; it's much more rare to see one that loves being what it is. Far more fictional robots have gender identities than national or ethnic identities. They are often programmed to feel sexual desire but rarely designed to eat a meal or sniff a flower. How do our depictions of robots reflect our changing understandings of what it means to be alive?

60. 12:00 PM **6 Is There a Law of Conservation of Utopia? (CART)**

John Crowley, Karen Heuler, Matt Kressel, Kathryn Morrow (leader), Wes Rist.

Readercon 27 included panels on utopias, dystopias, and apocalypses, and in all the panels the distribution of utopian experience was noted to be uneven: one person's utopia is another person's dystopia. Authors often create tension by showing the dystopian underpinnings of seemingly utopian cultures (as in *The Hunger Games* and *The Time Machine*). How could an author depict a true universal utopia where life is genuinely better for everyone while still writing a satisfying story? Or is there a law of conservation of utopia in fiction such that the amount of happiness in a fictional culture remains constant, and any utopia for some has to be a dystopia for others in order to drive the plot?

61. 12:00 PM **BH How I Wrote the Bone Universe Trilogy.**

Fran Wilde.

In a city of bone rising high above the clouds, where monsters ride the air and danger lurks at every turn, Kirit Densira finds her voice, Nat Densira learns to lead, and they and their companions struggle to save their world from destruction. Welcome to a world of wind and bone, songs and silence, betrayal and redemption. From *Updraft's* high-flying adventure above the clouds, through *Cloudbound's* plunge into legend, and into *Horizon's* discoveries and dangers, Fran Wilde's debut trilogy creates magic using engineering and environmental science, monsters and mayhem, and three extraordinary heroes. *Updraft* is the first book to be simultaneously nominated for the Andre Norton Award and a Nebula Award for Best Novel. It won the 2015 Andre Norton Award and the Compton Crook Award. Fran Wilde will share secrets of the Bone Universe and sneak peeks from *Horizon*, in which Kirit, Nat, and their companions fight against time to save their world.

1
PM62. 1:00 PM **5 Embracing Artistic Risk.**

Terri Bruce, Susan Matthews, Sarah Smith (leader), Susan Stinson, Sally Wiener Grotta.

Writing and other creative work inherently involve a degree of risk. What motivates creators to leave their comfort zones, and how can they mitigate those risks to encourage adventuresome leaps into the unknown? Participants will discuss the rewards and perils of risk-taking and various strategies to reduce (and enjoy) creative risks.

63. 1:00 PM **6 Round Robin Reading. (CART)**

Michael Blumlein, Gillian Daniels, Daryl Gregory, Cecilia Tan, Ilana Teitelbaum.

We've gathered authors for a group reading, but rather than the traditional reading where each reads their

own work, each will read the work of one of the other participating authors! A fun twist on traditional readings, inspired by Malka Older and Max Gladstone.

64. **1:00 PM C Impostor Syndrome Workshop.**

Crystal Huff.

Impostor syndrome is the feeling that you aren't really qualified for the work you are doing and will be discovered as a fraud. Many women, people of color, queer and trans people, disabled people, and others from marginalized groups experience impostor syndrome, especially when we've been socialized to value others' opinions of work above our own or are developing new skills. Crystal Huff, former Ada Initiative Director, will help attendees overcome impostor syndrome in themselves and support other sufferers in their community.

65. **1:00 PM BH The Long Tail of the Tall Tale.**

David Bowles, Christopher Brown, Michael Dirda, Miriam Newman, Sabrina Vourvoulias.

Tall tales, like their fairy tale cousins, are reinvented in every culture around the world. These tales, handed down through generations, provide context for how humans relate to one another and to storytelling, as well as giving an intriguing look into cultural history. Panelists will discuss the ways tall tales and oral storytelling traditions have influenced the work of present-day speculative authors such as Andy Duncan, Andrea Hairston, Catherynne M. Valente, and Daniel José Older, and explore what helps a tall tale hit the sweet spot of both exaggerated and believable.

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66. **2:00 PM 5 The Life Cycle of Political SF. (CART)**

Dennis Danvers, Alex Jablow, Barbara Krasnoff (moderator), Sabrina Vourvoulias, T. X. Watson.

SF writers have often written deeply political books and stories; some stand the test of time, while others become dated very quickly. John Brunner's *Stand on Zanzibar*, Octavia Butler's *Kindred*, Joanna Russ's *The Female Man*, and Ursula K. Le Guin's "The New Atlantis," to name just a few, directly addressed major issues of their day and are still relevant now—but differently. What affects how political SF ages and is read decades after its publication? What are today's explicitly political books, and how do we expect them to resonate decades in the future?

67. **2:00 PM 6 Deep Time. (CART)**

Glenn Grant, Jeff Hecht, Sioban Krzywicki (leader), Tom Purdom, Vandana Singh, Ian Strock.

With so many planets discovered in "habitable zones" around other stars, why haven't we encountered evidence of other civilizations? Could it just be a matter of scale? Civilization is short, while space and time are vast, so perhaps we simply haven't overlapped with alien civilizations yet. The universe is vastly old and we've only been able to detect some possible forms of transmissions from other civilizations for less than a century. Alistair Reynolds has explored the idea that the slowing of time at relativistic speeds could enable civilizations to meet one another. Panelists will discuss this enticing possibility and what we might find in the far, far future.

68. **2:00 PM BH Sidereal Symphonies: Writing Extraterrestrial Art and Performance.**

John Clute, Max Gladstone, Alex Shvartsman, Catherynne M. Valente, Caroline M. Yoachim.

Descriptions of art, music, and other creative work are a wonderful way to flesh out an invented world, but when worldbuilding encompasses cultures from places other than Earth, things get can get tricky. This panel of writers, performers, and creative artists will discuss how culture and technology give rise to art, with an eye toward developing alien art from alien worldbuilding, and will also explore ways of creating convincing descriptions of alien art forms that don't and maybe even can't exist.

3
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69. **3:00 PM 5 It's Shirley Been 100 Years. (CART)**

Inanna Arthen, Elizabeth Hand (leader), Jack Haringa, Faye Ringel, Paul Tremblay.

December 2016 was the 100th anniversary of Shirley Jackson's birth. She's best known for her story "The Lottery" (1948) and her novels *The Haunting of Hill House* and *We Have Always Lived in the Castle* are almost as

widely known. What is Jackson's legacy in modern horror and fantastical fiction? Which authors, particularly those who share her focus on domesticity, most clearly show her influence?

70. 3:00 PM **6 Back to the Global Future. (CART)**

Christopher Brown, Haris Durrani (leader), Alex Shvartsman, Vandana Singh, Terence Taylor.

At the heart of futuristic science fiction is the desire to glimpse the world to come, and there's an entire world of peoples and cultures busy imagining their own futures. This panel considers non-Western visions of the future from authors such as Guest of Honor Nnedi Okorafor, Hassan Blasim and Wafaa Bilal from Iraq, the Mexican authors in Christopher Brown's anthology *Three Messages and a Warning*, and UAE author Sadia Shirazi.

71. 3:00 PM **C The Season Away from Omelas: The Fifth Season in Conversation with "The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas."**

Martin Cahill (leader), Kiini Ibura Salaam, Alena McNamara, Lauren Roy, Kenneth Schneyer.

In Ursula K. Le Guin's classic short story "The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas," readers are left with the uncomfortable question of how they would handle knowing that a good life came at the expense of one hidden, abused child. Would they stay and accept it, or would they leave? N.K. Jemisin's *The Fifth Season* and its sequels offer a third way: smash the entire structure to pieces. Jemisin explores the decisions characters are forced to make in an Omelas-like world, and subtly brings in parallels to current political situations. Panelists will discuss both works and the conversation the authors seem to be having across the years.

72. 3:00 PM **BH Mainstreaming Fandom.**

Randee Dawn Kestenbaum, The joey Zone, Natalie Luhrs, Sarah Lynn Weintraub, Naomi Novik (leader).

Entertainment Weekly now casually mentions shipping—in the Kirk/Spock sense, not the international transportation sense. Fanfic and fandom concepts and terms are becoming mainstream, and the people on this panel have a lot of feels about it. These longtime fans will discuss their excitement that what used to be a secret, for so many different reasons, is now so easily accepted; their annoyance that their subculture is being commodified; and their favorite unexpected mainstream appearances of terms from fandom.

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73. 4:00 PM **5 Nnedi Okorafor Interviewed by Gary K. Wolfe. (CART)**

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74. 5:00 PM **5 Naomi Novik Interviewed by Kate Nepveu. (CART)**



6:00 PM **Registration closes**



6:00 PM **Information closes**



7:00 PM **Bookshop closes**

75. 8:00 PM **5 A Most Readerconnish Miscellany Presents: Sorry, I Haven't a Clue.**

Chairperson Heath Miller presents an evening of SFnal hilarity featuring contestants Max Gladstone, Mark Oshiro, Sam Schreiber, and Catherynne M. Valente. Come for the funsies, donate your money for the great causes! We promise to leave you laughing. *Promise void where prohibited.*



12:00 AM **Con Suite closes**

graphic novel, *Will Supervillains Be on the Final?* (2011), was praised by *Publishers Weekly*, and her fairy tale novel, *Uprooted*, won the Nebula Award and was a finalist for the Hugo Award. She worked on the computer game *Neverwinter Nights: Shadows of Undrentide* and was one of the founding board members of the Organization for Transformative Works, a nonprofit dedicated to protecting the fair-use rights of fan creators, but she is best known as a novelist and short story writer. Join us as we welcome her to Readercon and celebrate her work.

11
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80. 11:00 AM **5 Shirley Jackson Awards.**

F. Brett Cox, Jack Haringa, John Langan, Naomi Novik, Paul Tremblay.

In recognition of the legacy of Shirley Jackson's writing, and with permission of the author's estate, the Shirley Jackson Awards have been established for outstanding achievement in the literature of psychological suspense, horror, and the dark fantastic. Jackson (1916–1965) wrote classic novels such as *The Haunting of Hill House* and *We Have Always Lived in the Castle*, as well as one of the most famous short stories in the English language, "The Lottery." Her work continues to be a major influence on writers of every kind of fiction, from the most traditional genre offerings to the most innovative literary work. The awards given in her name have been voted upon by a jury of professional writers, editors, critics, and academics, with input from a Board of Advisors, for the best work published in the calendar year of 2016 in the following categories: Novel, Novella, Novelette, Short Story, Single-Author Collection, and Edited Anthology.

12
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81. 12:00 PM **5 Sororal Friendships in Fantasy.**

Greer Gilman, Naomi Novik, Julia Rios (leader), Tui Sutherland, Fran Wilde.

One of the central relationships in Guest of Honor Naomi Novik's novel *Uprooted* is between the heroine and her best friend. Agnieszka and Kasia were raised together and have a deep bond that is explored throughout the novel. This depiction of female friendship is unusual in fantasy fiction and gave rise to much discussion (and no small amount of fanfic from fans who either wanted to see more of the friendship or felt it ought to have been a romance). This panel explores sororal friendships in fantasy and the ways they can alter or comment on familiar tropes such as the maiden in the tower and the questing band of brothers.

82. 12:00 PM **6 Disturbed by Her Song: Gender, Queerness, and Sexuality in the Works of Tanith Lee.**

Steve Berman (moderator), Lila Garrott, Sonya Taaffe.

Memorial Guest of Honor Tanith Lee thoroughly explored gender, queerness, and sexuality in her fiction, creating cultural pansexuality in the Flat Earth series and queering history in the Lambda Award-winning *Disturbed by Her Song*. Lee wrote lush, sensitive, poetic prose about people unrestricted by gender roles or cultural norms, and she did it for forty years. Were there any missteps along that span? Does her "channeled" writing as spectral lesbian author Esther Garber (and Esther's pansexual half-brother, Judas Garbah) stand out from the greater body of her sexually charged work? How did she handle her portrayals of trans people and their sexuality? Our panelists will discuss queer themes, sexual exploration, and sexual fluidity in Lee's work.

83. 12:00 PM **C Narrative Recombination: Splicing Stories, Enlivening Illustrations.**

Kathleen Jennings.

In this fun and practical workshop, Kathleen Jennings will demonstrate how she breaks down and recombines stories to strengthen old narratives and generate new ones, whether in writing or illustration. Participants will use writing and/or art to identify the powerful elements of great myths and play with possibilities as they build up story ideas or illustrations.

84. 12:00 PM **BH The Works of Judith Merril.**

Andy Duncan, Marissa Lingen, John Stevens, Gordan Van Gelder.

Celebrate and discuss the life and works of the 2016 winner of the Cordwainer Smith Rediscovery Award

1
PM**1:00 PM Registration closes****1:00 PM Information closes****85. 1:00 PM 5 Clothes Make the Story.***Shannon Chakraborty, John Chu, Lila Garrott, Kathleen Jennings, Shariann Lewitt.*

Costuming says a great deal about era, wealth, status, and taboo in both the setting of a work and the time and place where that work was created. It's frequently discussed in the context of visual media, but costuming can be just as important in literature, and it's a vital part of worldbuilding for speculative works. This panel will dig into the implications of clothing choices in speculative fiction, how they age as the work ages, how they interact with diverse readers' expectations around concepts such as modesty and gender, and their use as signposts to help the reader understand how to approach the created world.

86. 1:00 PM 6 Kafka-Klatsch: When Old Becomes New.*Michael Cisco, John Clute, John Langan, James Morrow, Eric Schaller.*

Franz Kafka is known primarily for stories that involve overpowering bureaucracies and intense absurdism and surrealism. Plenty of modern novels, such as Seth Dickenson's *The Traitor Baru Cormorant*, deal with the same type of all-powerful bureaucracy that Kafka is known for. What are we seeing now that is in conversation with Kafka's work, and what can we learn from it in the absurd, surreal 21st century?

87. 1:00 PM C Recommending Outside the Box: Countering Unconscious Bias in Book Recommendations for Teens.*Mark Oshiro, Lauren Roy, Tui Sutherland, Emily Wagner (leader).*

Author Kate Elliott tweeted, "I very much feel YA sff is NOT acting as a gateway to adult SFF. Feels as if boys interested in reading fantasy are moving early into epic fantasy (by men) while many girls become women & keep reading YA as friendlier to their psyches than adult sff." In a series of replies, librarian Jenny Gadget suggested that librarians could do more to break the pattern of pointing boys at "boy books" and girls at "girl books." Book recommendations from any source often embody cultural assumptions; making more diverse recommendations across cultural dividing lines such as gender and race can support a wide variety of writers while introducing teens to books they'd otherwise miss. This panel of librarians, booksellers, and critics will provide concrete suggestions for helping young readers explore the entirety of SF/F.

88. 1:00 PM BH Filing Off the Serial Numbers.*Gillian Daniels, Randee Dawn Kestenbaum (leader), Catt Kingsgrave, Naomi Novik, Kenneth Schneyer.*

Many traditionally published works started life as fan fiction. Sometimes tales grow in the telling and veer away from fanfic; sometimes an author is deliberately modifying a completed fic to render it suitable for publication; and sometimes it's more complicated. What are the benefits and pitfalls of filing off the serial numbers, with regard to creativity, logistics, and reader reaction?

2
PM**2:00 PM Bookshop closes****89. 2:00 PM 5 Imagining a New Normativity.***Lila Garrott, Shariann Lewitt, Alena McNamara, Tui Sutherland.*

In the varied settings of fantasy and science fiction, writers have an opportunity to model characters who don't make familiar assumptions related to personal characteristics such as gender, sexuality, politics, race, and religion. Some speculative worlds have new defaults, such as the setting of Rose Lemberg's "Grandmother-nai-Leylit's Cloth of Winds," in which women are expected to form families with other women; in others, the default is to make no assumption at all, as in the world of full gender parity in Tanya Huff's *Quarters* series. This panel will explore some of the new norms of recent works, and discuss techniques for writers interested in creating worlds with new notions of normativity.

90. 2:00 PM **6 Recent Fiction Book Club: *Infomocracy* by Malka Older.**

Carl Engle-Laird, Jim Freund, Chris Gerwel, Robert Killheffer, Sarah Smith (leader).

It's been twenty years and two election cycles since Information, a powerful search engine monopoly, pioneered the switch from warring nation-states to global micro-democracy. The corporate coalition party Heritage has won the last two elections. With another election on the horizon, the Supermajority is in tight contention, and everything's on the line. With power comes corruption. For Ken, this is his chance to do right by the idealistic Policy1st party and get a steady job in the big leagues. For Domaine, the election represents another staging ground in his ongoing struggle against the pax democratica. For Mishima, a dangerous Information operative, the whole situation is a puzzle: How do you keep the wheels running on the biggest political experiment of all time, when so many have so much to gain? Please join us for a discussion of this incredibly timely book.

91. 2:00 PM **c How I Wrote *Ninefox Gambit*.**

Yoon Lee.

Captain Kel Cheris of the hexarchate is disgraced for using unconventional methods in a battle against heretics. Kel Command gives her the opportunity to redeem herself by retaking the Fortress of Scattered Needles, a star fortress that has recently been captured by heretics. Cheris's career isn't the only thing at stake. If the fortress falls, the hexarchate itself might be next. Cheris's best hope is to ally with the undead tactician Shuos Jedao. The good news is that Jedao has never lost a battle, and he may be the only one who can figure out how to successfully besiege the fortress. The bad news is that Jedao went mad in his first life and massacred two armies, one of them his own. As the siege wears on, Cheris must decide how far she can trust Jedao—because she might be his next victim. Author Yoon Ha Lee will talk about how he wrote *Ninefox Gambit*, which has been nominated for the Nebula and Hugo Awards for Best Novel.

92. 2:00 PM **BH Belm-Martin-Wilde Food Science Extravaganza!**

Diane Martin, David Shaw, Fran Wilde.

Deconstructed eggs Benedict, meat glue, turbocharged blowtorches, immersion circulators, an overtaxed waffle iron, and liters of liquid nitrogen: all of these things were used in the Belm Utility Research Kitchen in pursuit of delicious, interesting food. Our panel of experts- Diane Martin, David Shaw, and Fran Wilde, will discuss the latest in edible science.

3
PM3:00 PM **Con Suite closes**3:00 PM **5 Readercon 28 Feedback Session.**

Come tell the Readercon concomm and hotel staff what worked well at this year's convention and what can be improved next year.



READERCON 28 COMMITTEE AND STAFF

Readercon Committee volunteers take on so many different tasks that the following summary of “who did what” is certain to be incomplete. Some jobs rotate from year to year, and usually the outgoing person helps with the transition. If you are interested in joining the Readercon Team, please email volunteers@readercon.org.

Rae Borman is Convention Chair with Sioban Krzywicki serving as an invaluable Assistant Conchair.

Brian Misamore is the Con Treasurer with assistance from Sioban.

The Safety Committee is comprised of Michelle Dupler (chair), Amal El-Mohtar, Kate Nepveu, Veronica Schanoes, Sonya Taafe, Nightwing Whitehead, and Fran Wilde.

This year’s program subcommittee (program chair Emily Wagner, chairs emeriti Rose Fox and David Shaw, committee members Amal, Sonya, Kip Manley, B. Diane Martin, Jess Nevins, and Miriam Newman) collectively created and developed most of the panels and collaborated on writing all of the descriptions. Many thanks to the people who sent us panel ideas and stepped up as leaders on talks, discussions, workshops, performances, and other special-interest items. Thank you for your ideas, enthusiasm, expertise, and write-ups.

Emily also works hard to make our annual Readerconish Miscellany a successful fundraiser, with a crucial assist from Heath Miller.

B. Diane served as liaison to the Cordwainer Smith Rediscovery Award Committee, while Emily worked with the Shirley Jackson Award Committee.

Sound, Recording and Track Management are being handled by Sioban, Bill Sherman and Michael Matthew.

A collaboration between Rachael Ferguson, Andrea Corbin, Emily, Sioban, and Rae resulted in our experimental Program Guide treatment this year, with Andrea providing layout expertise and Emily constructing the program listing and pocket program. Cover art was provided by Andrew King. Richard Duffy and Ellen Brody developed the extensive GoH, MGoH, and Cordwainer Smith Award winner bibliographies. Bio-bibliographies for program participants were managed by Anne Zanoni with editing assistance from Kate Nepveu, Sophie Logan, Andy Duncan, and N. S. Dolkart.

Bill made sure Readercon 28 flyers were visible at other conventions throughout the past year.

Madeline Lee designed the Readercon 28 flyer.

Sean Pickett produced all the signage before and at con, including room signs and name tents. Louise J. Waugh built the information towers.

Merryl Gross is the management mastermind behind our website, our membership database and Google Apps administration. She and Louise manage registration — the one area that every single person attending Readercon interacts with.

Our deep thanks go out to Art and Becky Henderson for ensuring that our Bookshop is the experience Readercon-goers look forward to year after year. Richard, Ellen, and David Walrath are providing at-con support.

B. Diane is our Hotel Liaison with assistance from Lisa Hertel. Sioban and Rae are Guest of Honor Liaisons.

Nightwing is overseeing the Green Room, Lori Meltzer is managing the Con Suite, and Gloria Lucia Albasi is handling the Kaffeeklatsches.


Fred Isaacs is working to make Readercon accessible to everyone.

Suli Isaacs is keeping our staff sane with food and drink in the Staff Den.

Thom Jones-Low is managing the Information Desk.

Dawn Jones-Low is managing Readercon Volunteers.

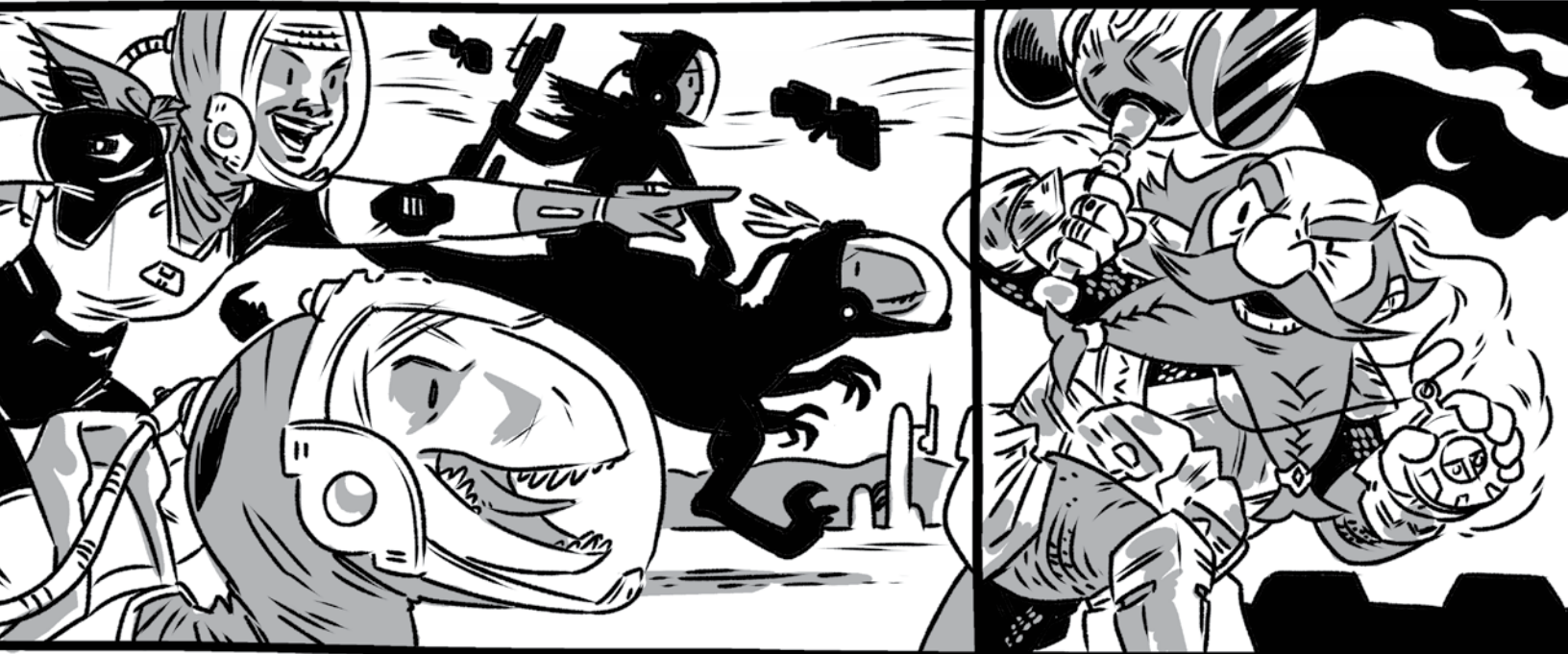
A special thanks to Steve Huff for graciously providing on-site first responder services for Readercon-goers.

As always, thanks to Erwin Strauss (not a committee member, but a fabulous simulacrum) for supplying his patented flyer racks (and much else) even though he is not with us in physical form this year. 

READERCON WOULD LIKE TO SAY

THANK YOU

TO OUR STAFF, VOLUNTEERS,
AND COMMUNITY FOR THEIR SUPPORT.



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Erik Amundsen has been removed from display after it was determined that he was zoologically improbable and/or terrifying to small children. His most recent story, "On EveryBoy's Skin/All the Stars Ever, Also Bones" appeared in the first issue of *Lackingtons*. The story "Jupiter and Gentian," will appear in *Apex* later this year. Also, "Live Arcade," which appeared in *Strange Horizons*, is in *The Year's Best Science Fiction & Fantasy: 2014* (Horton, ed.). Earlier stories are in *Not One of Us*, *Clarkesworld*, *Jabberwocky*, *Everyday Weirdness*, and *Fantasy*, and his 2007 debut story, "Bufo Rex" in *Weird Tales*, was a WSFA Small Press finalist.

His poetry has appeared in *Chanteys for the Fisherangels* (Carr, ed.), the chapbook *Cinderella Jump Rope Rhymes* (Forrest, ed.), *Mythic Delirium*, *Goblin Fruit*, *Jabberwocky*, *Strange Horizons*, *Stone Telling*, and *Apex*; two of his poems have been nominated for this year's Rhyslings.

His illustrations appear in Julia Rios's chapbook *Oracle Gretel* (2012), and in the trailer for CSE Cooney's "Martyr's Gem."

Erik Amundsen haunts swamps and desolate suburban sprawl. His range is mostly confined to central Connecticut, though he did once fly to the moon on a pink flamindigo.



Scott H. Andrews' short fiction has appeared in venues such as *Weird Tales*, *Space and Time*, and *On Spec*. He is Editor-in-Chief and Publisher of the Hugo Award- and World Fantasy Award-nominated fantasy e-zine *Beneath Ceaseless Skies* which *Locus* has called "a

premier venue for fantastic fiction, not just online but for all media." Scott lives in Virginia with his wife, two cats, nine guitars, a dozen overflowing bookcases, and hundreds of beer bottles from all over the world.



Inanna Arthen (aka Vyrdolak) is the author of *The Vampires of New England Series*, which began with *Mortal Touch* (By Light Unseen Media, 2007) and continued with *The Longer the Fall* (By Light Unseen Media, 2010) and *All the Shadows of the Rainbow* (By Light Unseen Media, 2013). The fourth book, *Human Services*, is in

progress. Inanna's most recent published work is the short story "The Fishman and His Wife," which appears in *Twice Upon an Apocalypse* (Crystal Lake Publishing, 2017).

Inanna was a contributing writer for *FireHeart Magazine* (1987-1993), which published many of her nonfiction articles on alternative spirituality and magical paths. Her article, "Think Outside the Coffin: Writing the Vampire Novel" appeared in the *Broad Universe Broadsheet* in March 2008. She is a contributing writer for *Blogcritics.org* and has written many guest blog posts, articles, and essays.

Inanna is the owner and publisher of *By Light Unseen Media*, a small press dedicated to diverse and unusual fiction and nonfiction on the theme of vampires. She has studied and written about vampire folklore, media, and fact for nearly five decades. Her nonfiction article, "Real Vampires" (*FireHeart 2*,

Fall 1987), and her 1998 monograph on Greek *vrykolakas* lore ("May the Ground Not Receive Thee") have both been cited extensively by academic writers in print and online. By *Light Unseen Media* has published work by African-American, Jewish, and LGBTQI authors, and features books with protagonists of color, LGBTQI protagonists and relationships, Orthodox Jewish main characters, and modern Pagans.

Inanna is a member of *Broad Universe*, plus the *New England Horror Writers*, the *Independent Book Publishers Association*, and the *Independent Publishers of New England*, for which she served on the *Board of Directors*. A trained speaker, actor, and artist and a freelance book designer, Inanna also holds an MDiv degree from *Harvard Divinity School* and is ordained clergy of the *Society of Elder Faiths*. She has served as the openly Pagan and genderqueer minister of the *Unitarian Universalist Church of Winchendon* since 2013. She runs a concert band, *Winchendon Winds*, with her sister, *Jill Nicholson Sackett*. She lives on *Lake Monomonac* in *Winchendon, MA*, with five rescued cats, a room full of musical instruments, stacks of redundant computer equipment, and hundreds of books. Her website is inannaarthen.com.



John Benson is editor and publisher of *Not One of Us*, a long-running (1986-present) hardcopy magazine about people (or things) out of place in their surroundings: outsiders, social misfits, aliens in the SF sense — anyone excluded from society for whatever the reason. (See <http://not-one-of-us.pub>.)

More than 120 stories and poems from the pages of *Not One of Us* have been reprinted or honorably mentioned in best-of collections. He also edited *The Best of Not One of Us* (Prime, 2006). From 1984 through 1987, he served as editor of the horror magazine *Doppelgänger*.

John is the author of nearly 100 published poems. "The Waters Where Once We Lay," co-authored with *Sonya Taaffe*, was honorably mentioned in the 21st *The Year's Best Fantasy and Horror*, (Datlow, Link, and Grant, eds.).

John is also a senior research scientist and managing director of the opinion research program at the *Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health*. He has co-authored the reference book *American Public Opinion and Health Care* (CQ Press, 2011) and more than 100 articles in medical, policy, and public opinion journals. He lives in *Massachusetts* with his wife, *Anke Kriske*, son *Derek*, and a cat.



Steve Berman's young adult novel *Vintage: A Ghost Story* was a *Nebula* (Andre Norton Award) and *Gaylactic Spectrum* finalist, and made the *GLBT-Round Table* of the *American Library Association's* *Rainbow List* of recommended queer-positive books for children and teens. He has

recently completed the first of a series of novellas chronicling the secret history behind infamous photographer *Guglielmo Plüschow*. Berman's nearly 100 published essays and stories

include stories in *Teeth: Vampire Tales* (Datlow and Windling, eds.), *Brave New Love* (Guran, ed.), *Paper Cities* (Sedia, ed.), *Phantom* (Tremblay and Wallace, eds.), *Time Well Bent* (Wilkins, ed.), *Japanese Dreams* (Wallace, ed.), *Wilful Impropriety* (Sedia, ed.), *Fungi* (Grey and Moreno-Garcia, eds.) and *All in Fear* (Utz, ed.).

His collection *Trysts: A Triskaidecollection of Queer and Weird Stories* (Lethe, 2001) was a Gaylactic Spectrum Other Works finalist and included the short fiction finalist "The Anthvoke"; his second collection, *Second Thoughts: More Queer and Weird Stories* (Lethe, 2008), includes "Kiss," "Caught by Skin," and "Bittersweet," all Gaylactic Spectrum short fiction finalists for 2003, 2006, and 2007, respectively. His third collection, *Red Caps* (Lethe, 2014), contained queer young adult fiction with illustrations.

He's edited the genre anthologies *So Fey: Queer Fairy Fiction* (Lethe, 2007; Gaylactic Spectrum finalist), *Magic in the Mirrorstone* (Mirrorstone, 2008), *The Touch of the Sea* (Lethe, 2012), *Where Thy Dark Eye Glances* (Lethe 2013; Shirley Jackson finalist), *Bad Seeds* (Prime, 2013), *Zombies: Shambling Through the Ages* (Prime, 2013), *Daughters of Frankenstein* (Lethe, 2015; Golden Crown Literary finalist), the annuals *Wilde Stories: The Year's Best Gay Speculative Fiction* (Lethe 2008-2017; Lambda finalist in 2008 and 2010), and co-edited *Heiresses of Russ: The Year's Best Speculative Fiction* (Lethe, 2011-17).

Outside the genre, he's co-edited (with Toby Johnson) *Charmed Lives* (White Crane, 2006; Lambda finalist), and edited two anthologies aimed at gay teens with *Bold Strokes Books: Speaking Out* (2011), featuring inspirational short fiction; and *Boys of Summer* (2012), featuring romantic tales.

Berman is the founder of the award-winning Lethe Press, which has released quality books of queer and weird fiction for over a decade from such writers as Tanith Lee, Livia Llewellyn, Michael Thomas Ford, Sean Eads, Patrick E. Horrigan, and Will Ludwigsen. Berman has recently relocated from New Jersey to Massachusetts.



Susan Jane Bigelow is a science fiction and fantasy author of books and short stories. Her Extrahumans series, about superheroes fighting fascism in the future, was re-released with an all-new fourth and final book, by Book Smugglers Publishing in 2016. Her Grayline Sisters space opera trilogy will also be published by Book Smugglers Publishing later in 2017.

Susan Jane's short fiction has appeared in many venues, including *Lightspeed Magazine*, *Apex Magazine*, *Strange Horizons*, and multiple anthologies. Her short story "Sarah's Child," originally published in *Strange Horizons*, was on the honor list for the Tiptree Award in 2015. Her short story "Ramona's Demons" appeared in the Lambda Award-winning *The Collection: Short Fiction From the Transgender Vanguard* (Topside Press, 2012). As for nonfiction, her piece "Same Old Me, Different Face" appeared in the Hugo-Nominated collection *Queers Dig Time Lords* (Mad Norwegian, 2013).

Her weekly column on Connecticut politics can be found at CTNewsJunkie.com; she has also written for the *Hartford Courant* and *Connecticut Magazine*.

Susan lives in northern Connecticut — with her wife and a herd of very fuzzy cats—where she spends her days writing and playing video games.



Michael Blumlein is the author of four novels (*The Movement of Mountains*, *The Healer*, *The Roberts*, and *X, Y*), and two story collections, the award-winning *The Brains of Rats*, and more recently, *What the Doctor Ordered*. A third collection, *All I Ever Dreamed* (to include all his published work of the past two-plus decades) is forthcoming from Valancourt Press. Also forthcoming (2018) from PM Press is *Thoreau's Microscope*, a collection of stories, essays, and interviews, as part of their acclaimed Outspoken Authors series.

He has twice been a finalist for the World Fantasy Award and twice for the Bram Stoker. His story "Fidelity: A Primer" was short-listed for the Tiptree. His first story collection, *The Brains of Rats*, was awarded Best Collection by ReaderCon. He has written for both stage and film, including the award-winning independent film *Decodings* (included in the Biennial Exhibition of the Whitney Museum of American Art, and winner of the Special Jury Award of the SF International Film Festival). In addition to writing, he practices and teaches medicine. You can find out more about him at www.michaelblumlein.com.



Ellen Brody completed her master's degree with a thesis concerning media and fiction. She joined the Readercon committee shortly after Readercon 7, was the program chair and co-chair of Readercons 9 and 10, was a member of the program committee for Readercons 8 through 21, and has also worked on many other aspects of the convention. She and Richard Duffy co-edited the Souvenir Book for four years for Readercons 22 through 25, and they continued to assist with editing for Readercon 26, and compiling the bibliographies for Readercons 26 through 28. And she is helping to run the Bookshop again this year as well.

She has also directed, acted, produced, designed, stage managed, and done everything else in theater. Her favorite previous roles include: Viola in *Twelfth Night*, Launcelot Gobbo in *The Merchant of Venice*, Mrs. X in *The Stronger*, Joan in *Saint Joan*, Harriet Stanley in *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, and Ruth in *Blithe Spirit*. At an audition, a director once handed her the first three pages of an Agatha Christie novel and said "Read." She got the part. She has read a selection by the Memorial Guest of Honor at twenty consecutive Readercons, and has appeared on a few panels as well.



Christopher Brown is the author of *Tropic of Kansas*, a novel forthcoming in July 2017 from Harper Voyager. He was nominated for a World Fantasy Award for the anthology *Three Messages and a Warning: Contemporary Mexican Short Stories of the Fantastic* (Small Beer Press,

2012). His short fiction has appeared in a variety of magazines and anthologies, including *MIT Technology Review's Twelve Tomorrows*, *The Baffler*, and *Stories for Chip*. He lives in Austin, Texas, where he also practices technology law.

Website: <http://christopherbrown.com>



Terri Bruce has been making up stories for as long as she can remember. Like Anne Shirley, she prefers to make people cry rather than laugh, but is happy if she can do either. She is the author of the paranormal/contemporary fantasy Afterlife series, which includes *Hereafter* (Afterlife #1), *Thereafter* (Afterlife #2), and *Whereafter* (Afterlife #3) [*Whenafter* (Afterlife #4) is forthcoming in 2018] and several science fiction and fantasy short stories, including "Welcome to OASIS" (*Dear Robot* anthology, November 2015), "The Tower" (*Nonbinary Review* Issue #6), "The 1001 Arabian Nights," Zoetic Press, November 2015) and "The Well" (*It's Come to Our Attention* anthology, Third Flatiron Press, February 2016). Visit her on the web at www.terribruce.net.



Karen Burnham is vocationally an electromagnetics engineer and avocationally a science fiction critic and reviewer. Her first book, *Greg Egan* (University of Illinois Press 2014) was a finalist for the British Science Fiction Award for Non-Fiction, as was her essay "The Complexity of the Humble Space Suit," found in Ian Sale's anthology *Rocket Science* (Mutation Press, 2012). She also contributed a chapter on the webcomic xkcd to *Mathematics in Popular Culture* (MacFarland Press, 2012). She writes for magazines such as *Locus*, *Strange Horizons*, the *New York Review of Science Fiction*, and *Cascadia Subduction Zone*. She previously worked at NASA's Johnson Space Center and was the lead EMC engineer on the Dream Chaser space plane. She lives in Maryland with her husband and two children.



Martin Cahill is a writer, reviewer, and essayist living in Astoria, Queens, and working down at the end of Manhattan, just shy of the Statue of Liberty. He is a graduate of the Clarion Writers' Workshop of the class of 2014, and is currently a member of the NYC-based writing group, Altered Fluid.

Martin has been published in *Nightmare Magazine*, *Fireside Fiction*, and *Beneath Ceaseless Skies*, with work forthcoming from *Shimmer Magazine*, and *Lightspeed Magazine*. He is currently at work on an epic fantasy novel or two. He also writes nonfiction articles, essays, and reviews for Book Riot, Tor.com, *Strange Horizons*, and the Barnes and Noble Sci-Fi and Fantasy Blog.

You can find him on his website, martintcahill.wordpress.com, or on Twitter at @McflyCahill90. And when he's not doing any of the above, he's performing Dungeons & Dragons-inspired comedy improv. No, really. It's a thing.



Rob Cameron (though not his real name, it is written on all of his bylines) writes strange stories, one of which, "Squeeze" (a 3-star review on *Tangent!*) can be found in Mike Allen's anthology *Clockwork Phoenix 5* (Mythic Delirium, 2016).

Cameron...I mean, Rob is managing editor for the Kaleidocast, a lead organizer for the Brooklyn Speculative Fiction Writers, sometimes curator for the *New York Review of Science Fiction's* Reading Series, the *Surreal Symphony of Zak Zyz*, and a pie addict with neither regrets nor inclinations towards rehab.

Rob is a linguist, an ENL teacher in Brooklyn, and a graduate of the Carterhaugh School of Folklore and the Fantastic. When not hunting pies in their natural habitat, engaged in spec-fic related activities, or dragon boat racing (it's a real thing), he's researching folklore and the causes + cures for toxic masculinity. Fun fun!

Find him at: <http://www.rob-cameron.com/>
<https://www.facebook.com/RobCameronstories/>
<https://twitter.com/cprwords>



Jeanne Cavelos is a best-selling writer, award-winning editor, and director of the Odyssey Writing Workshops Charitable Trust. She began her professional life as an astrophysicist and mathematician, working in the Astronaut Training Division at NASA's Johnson Space Center. Her love of science fiction sent her into a career in publishing, and she became a senior editor at Bantam Doubleday Dell, where she ran the science fiction/fantasy program and created the Abyss imprint of psychological horror (World Fantasy Award winner 1993, Special Award: Professional). In her eight years in New York publishing, she edited a wide range of fiction and nonfiction, and worked with such award-winning and best-selling authors as William F. Nolan, Robert Anton Wilson, Dennis Etchison, Joan D. Vinge, Tanith Lee, Kathe Koja, Poppy Z. Brite, Jeanne Kalogridis, Barry Gifford, Patrick McCabe, Syd Field, Phil Farrand, and Peter Dickinson.

Jeanne left New York to pursue her own writing career. She has written four novels set in the Babylon 5 universe: *The Shadow Within* (Dell, 1997; Del Rey, 2003), and the bestselling trilogy *The Passing of the Techno-Mages*, made up of *Casting Shadows* (Del Rey, 2001), *Summoning Light* (Del Rey, 2001), and *Invoking Darkness* (Del Rey, 2001). She has also written two nonfiction books, *The Science of Star Wars* (St. Martin's, 1999; New York Public Library's Recommended Reading List selection) and *The Science of The X-Files* (Berkley, 1998; Bram Stoker finalist). Her short fiction and nonfiction include appearances in *Decalog5: Wonders* (Leonard and Mortimore, eds.), *Writing Horror: A Handbook* (Castle, ed.) and *The Complete Handbook of Novel Writing* (the editors of *Writer's Digest*), *Farscape Forever!*

(Yeffeth, ed.), *Star Wars on Trial* (Brin and Woodring, eds.), and *Jack Bauer for President: Terrorism and Politics in 24* (Miniter, ed.). She has published additional short fiction, articles, and essays in a number of magazines. Jeanne has also edited the anthology *The Many Faces of Van Helsing* (Berkley, 2004; Bram Stoker finalist). She is currently at work on a biological thriller, *Fatal Spiral* (www.jeannecavelos.com).

Jeanne created and serves as director of the Odyssey Writing Workshops Charitable Trust (www.odysseyworkshop.org), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to helping writers of fantasy, science fiction, and horror improve their work. Odyssey holds an intensive, six-week workshop each summer in Manchester, NH. Top authors, agents, and editors serve as guests. George R. R. Martin has just created a scholarship to help a student attend Odyssey each year. Odyssey also offers online classes, critiques, and many free resources. Jeanne was nominated for the World Fantasy Award for her work at Odyssey. She also teaches fiction writing and essay writing at Saint Anselm College.



Matthew Cheney is the author of *Blood: Stories* (Black Lawrence Press, 2016; Hudson Prize). His fiction and nonfiction have appeared in *Where Thy Dark Eye Glances* (Berman, ed.), *Logorrhea* (Klima, ed.), *Interfictions* (Sherman and Goss, eds.), *Best Gay*

Stories 2016 (Berman, ed.), *Conjunctions*, *Strange Horizons*, *Nightmare*, *Weird Tales*, *SF Site*, *The Los Angeles Review of Books*, *Science Fiction Film & Television*, *Lady Churchill's Rosebud Wristlet*, *One Story*, and elsewhere. He wrote the introductions to Wesleyan University Press's editions of Samuel R. Delany's *The Jewel-Hinged Jaw* (2009), *Starboard Wine* (2012), and *The American Shore* (2014). He is the former series editor for *Best American Fantasy* (Prime Books 2007, 2008; Underland Press 2010) and the co-editor with Eric Schaller of the occasional online magazine *The Revelator*. His blog, *The Mumpsimus*, was nominated for a World Fantasy Award in 2005, and he has been a juror for the Speculative Literature Foundation's Fountain Award and the 2011 Shirley Jackson Awards. He lives in New Hampshire, where he is a PhD candidate at the University of New Hampshire.



John Chu is the author of the 2014 Hugo winner for Best Short Story, "The Water That Falls on You from Nowhere," which has been anthologized in *Wilde Stories 2014* (Berman, ed.). "Hold-time Violations" has appeared in *The Best Science Fiction of the Year, Vol. 1* (Clarke, ed.). His other short fiction has appeared in *Bloody Fabulous* (Sedia, ed.),

The Time Traveller's Almanac (VanderMeer and VanderMeer, eds.), *Kaleidoscope* (Krasnostein and Rios, eds.), *Defying Doomsday* (Dolichva and Kench, eds.), *Boston Review*, *Asimov's*, *Clarkesworld*, and *Tor.com*, among other places. His most recently published short story is "Making the Magic Lightning

Strike Me" in the May/June 2017 issue of *Uncanny Magazine*.

He has narrated stories for *EscapePod*, *PseudoPod*, *PodCastle*, and *Lightspeed*—and his translations of stories from Chinese into English can be found in *Clarkesworld* and *The Big Book of SF* (VanderMeer and VanderMeer, eds.). He attended Viable Paradise X (2006) and the 2010 Clarion Writers Workshop, and is currently a member of the BRAWL writers' group. He daylights as a microprocessor architect.



Gwendolyn Clare recently completed a PhD in Mycology at Duke University and is expecting her debut young adult novel to publish in February 2018. A former resident of Greater Boston, she currently resides in North Carolina. Her short fiction has appeared in *Analog*, *Asimov's*, *Clarkesworld*, *Beneath Ceaseless Skies*, *Daily Science Fiction*, and *Bull Spec*, among others. Her poem "The Narrow Hours" was nominated for the Rhysling Award. She can be found online at gwendolynclare.com.



Neil Clarke is the editor and publisher of *Clarkesworld Magazine* (Hugo winner for Best Semiprozine: 2010, 2011, 2013, and finalist 2009; World Fantasy Special Award Non-professional winner in 2014, and finalist 2009, 2010, 2012); Chesley Award for Best Art Director winner (2016) and Hugo finalist for Best Editor Short Form 2012, 2013, 2014, 2016, and 2017. In 2015, he launched *Forever*, a science fiction reprint magazine. He is also the owner of Wyrms Publishing, a freelance ebook designer for several publishers.

At Readercon 23, Neil experienced a near-fatal heart attack, which was followed by the installation of a defibrillator and a new life as a cyborg. His first original anthology, *Upgraded* (Wyrms Publishing, 2014) was inspired by these events. Other anthologies include *The Best Science Fiction of the Year, Volume 1* (Night Shade Books, 2016), *Galactic Empires* (Night Shade Books, 2017), *The Best Science Fiction of the Year, Volume 2* (Night Shade Books, 2017), and *More Human Than Human* (Night Shade Books, November 2017).

Neil currently lives in Stirling, NJ, with his wife and two children. Neil blogs at neil-clark.com and *Clarkesworld* may be found online at clarkesworldmagazine.com.



Phenderson Djéli Clark resides in Washington, DC, where he writes speculative fiction during his spare time—when he is not wrestling an overly ripe dissertation into submission. His stories have appeared in *Daily Science Fiction*, *Every Day Fiction*, *Hogglepot*, *Heroic Fantasy Quarterly* and in the print anthologies *Griots: A Sword and Soul Anthology*, and *Griots II: Sisters of the Spear*, co-edited by Charles Saunders and Milton Davis.



John Clute, Critic Guest of Honor at Readercon 4, was born in Canada in 1940, and has lived in England since 1969 in the same Camden Town flat. Since 1997, he has visited America yearly, spending much of his time with Elizabeth Hand in Maine. He received a Pilgrim Award from the SFRA in 1994, was Distinguished Guest Scholar at the 1999 International Conference for the Fantastic in the Arts, and received an SFWA Kate Wilhelm Solstice Award in 2012.

He was Associate Editor of the Hugo-winning first edition (Doubleday, 1979) of the *Encyclopedia of Science Fiction*, general editor Peter Nicholls, with whom he co-edited the second edition (St. Martin's, 1993), which won the Hugo, Locus, British SF Special, and the Eaton Grand Master Award; and is co-editor of the third edition (Gollancz, online from 2011) with David Langford (Nicholls remaining Editor Emeritus) and Graham Sleight as Managing Editor, which has won the British SF Award for nonfiction, the 2012 Eurocon, and a Hugo Award for 2012.

He also co-edited the *Encyclopedia of Fantasy* (St. Martin's, 1997) with John Grant, which won the Hugo, Locus, Mythopoeic, and Eaton Awards, was a Stoker finalist, and won the editors the World Fantasy Special Award: Professional (Clute having been a finalist previously, for 1993 and 1994). Solo he wrote *Science Fiction: The Illustrated Encyclopedia* (Dorling Kindersley, 1995; Hugo and Locus winner, British SF finalist), which is actually a companion, not an encyclopedia. *The Book of End Times: Grappling with the Millennium* (HarperPrism) appeared in 1999.

Book reviews and other critical pieces have been assembled in *Strokes: Essays and Reviews 1966 - 1986* (Serconia, 1988; Readercon Award winner), *Look at the Evidence: Essays and Reviews* (Serconia, 1996; Locus winner, Hugo finalist), *Scores: Reviews 1993-2003* (Beccon, 2003; Hugo and Locus finalist), *Canary Fever: Reviews* (Beccon, 2009; Hugo and British SF finalist) and *Stay* (Beccon, 2014). *The Darkening Garden: A Short Lexicon of Horror* (Payseur & Schmidt, 2006; Locus and International Horror Guild finalist) argues that horror—which is to say Planetary Recognition—is central to 21st century fantastika. The central pieces assembled in *Pardon This Intrusion: Fantastika in the World Storm* (Beccon, 2011) further this argument. All six collections listed above will be released by Gollancz in 2016 as ebooks.

He has published two novels: *The Disinheriting Party* (Allison and Busby, 1977), which is not sf, and *Appleseed* (Orbit/Little Brown/Tor, 2001; Tiptree finalist and New York Times Notable Book), which is.

Projects include further work on *The Encyclopedia of Science Fiction*, now almost two million words longer than the 2011 launch version; and a projected new collection, *Inherent Gaze*.



LJ Cohen is the author of seven novels across the science fiction and fantasy genres, including the Halcyone Space series—*Derelect* (2014, a Library Journal self-e select title and book of the year), *Ithaka Rising* (2015), *Dreadnought* and

Shuttle (2016), and *Parallax* (2017); the Changeling's Choice novels—*The Between* (2102), and *Time and Tithe* (2015); and *Future Tense* (2014).

Her short story "I Was a Teenage Alien" appears in the anthology *Theme-thology: Invasion* (HDWP Books, 2013; Charles Barouch, ed.). "The Forgetting" appears in the anthology *Theme-thology: Day I Died* (HDWP Books, 2014; Charles Barouch, ed.). "Treason's Course" appears in the 2016 anthology *Star Rebels: Stories of Space Exploration, Alien Races, and Adventure* (C. Gockel, ed.). LJ's poetry has appeared in numerous ezines and journals including *Amaze: The Cinquain Journal*, *Gunpowder River Poetry*, *Loch Raven Review*, *Poems Niederrgasse*, *Stirring: A Literary Collection*, *The Writer's Hood*, *World Haiku Review*, and *New Solutions*. She is co-editor of *Pen-Ultimate: A Speculative Fiction Anthology* (2013) and *Pen-Ultimate II* (2017).

LJ was among the first wave of indie writers to qualify for SFWA membership. Her publishing imprint is Interrobang Books. She is also active in Broad Universe.

Her blog, Once in a Blue Muse, has been active since 2005, when dinosaurs roamed the earth in internet reckoning (<http://licbluemuse.blogspot.com>). Her professional writing includes multiple chapters in *Chronic Pain Management for Physical Therapists* (Butterworth-Heinemann, 1997), "The behavioral role of physical therapy in pain management" (Harriët Wittink, MS, PT, OCS, and Lisa Janice Cohen, MS, PT, OCS, in *Current Review of Pain*, 1998, Volume 2, Issue 1, pp 55-60), and "Chronic Pain" (*Physical Rehabilitation*, 5th edition, FA Davis, 2007). After a twenty-five year career in physical therapy, LJ now uses her clinical skills to injure her characters. She splits her time between the Boston area and central MA and lives with her family, two dogs, and the occasional international student.



Andrew Piltser Cowan is the co-founder and principal attorney at the law firm of PiltserCowan in Cambridge, MA, where his practice focuses on wills, trusts, and estates as well as criminal defense. He happened into the niche field of estate planning for writers when he got involved in litigation over the estate of a deceased English professor, and has since gone on to represent several writers and musicians. Prior to founding PiltserCowan in 2013, Andy worked as a Massachusetts public defender for five years. He lives in Belmont, MA with his spouse, Jade, the co-founder and business architect for PiltserCowan.

Andy received his bachelor's degree in physics and astronomy from the University of Iowa, and his law degree *cum laude* from Cornell Law School, where he was an editor of the *Journal of Law and Public Policy* and received the school's Freeman Award for Civil-Human Rights. While in law school, Andrew also received a commendation from the Louisiana Supreme Court for his volunteer work in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. In 2012, Andy received Cornell Law School's Rising Star Award for Exemplary Public Service, and in the same year shared the Massachusetts National Lawyers Guild's Legal Worker Award with the other members of the Occupy Boston Legal Working Group.

Andy is the author of such thrilling works of non-fiction as: *Glossary of Forensic Chemistry for Lawyers and Scientific Evidence and Protocols* in *Trying Drug Cases* in Massachusetts (MCLE 2015) and *Commonwealth v. Camblin: Brief for the Defendant* (Supreme Judicial Court 2017). Andy wrote his only work of fiction in the fourth grade, and the sole existing copy of *The Adventures of Scoliosis and X-Ray* is housed in the collection of the Meeker Elementary School library in Ames, Iowa.



F. Brett Cox's fiction, poetry, plays, essays, and reviews have appeared in numerous magazines and anthologies, and he co-edited, with Andy Duncan, *Crossroads: Tales of the Southern Literary Fantastic* (Tor, 2004). His short story "Maria Works at Ocean City Nails" (*New Haven Review*, Summer 2013) was included in *Best Indie Lit New England, Vol. 2* (Black Key Press, 2015) and is available on the Great Jones Street fiction app.

"The Amnesia Helmet" (*Eclipse Online*) was included in SF Signal's Favorite Short Fiction and Locus Magazine's Recommended Short Stories lists for 2013. Another short story, "Where We Would End a War" (*War Stories*, 2014), was republished at *The Art of the Future*, a project of the Atlantic Council Scrowcroft Center on International Security: <http://artoffuturewarfare.org/2015/10/where-we-would-end-a-war/>

Other recent publications include stories "They Got Louie" (See the *Elephant* Issue Two, 2016), "Road Dead" (*Shadows and Tall Trees* 2014), and "See That My Grave is Kept Clean" (*Tales in Firelight and Shadow*, 2015); poetry "Bird Island" in *Ithicalit*, "Robert Lowell in Gloucester" in *The Lake*, and "In the Empress of China Restaurant" in *Exit 13*; and a dramatic monologue, "Consider the Services of the Departed," in the anthology *Geek Theater*. A new story, "The Deep End," is forthcoming in the anthology *Submerged* (S.C. Butler and Joshua Palmatier, eds.).

His critical essay "Fragments of a Hologram Rose for Emily: William Gibson, Southern Writer" appeared in *The Cultural Influences of William Gibson* (Edwin Mellen Press, 2007), and he has also published surveys of the work of George Saunders and Kevin Brockmeier for the *American Writers Supplement* reference series. Other fiction, essays, and reviews have appeared in *Century*, *Black Gate*, the *North Carolina Literary Review*, *Lady Churchill's Rosebud Wristlet*, *Black Static*, *Postscripts*, *The New England Quarterly*, the *New York Review of Science Fiction*, *Paradoxa*, and *Science Fiction Studies*. He is at work on a book-length study of Roger Zelazny for the University of Illinois Press "Modern Masters of Science Fiction" series.

Brett has served as a member of the Bram Stoker Awards Additions Jury, was chair of the 2009 SFRA Pilgrim Award jury, was a founding juror for the Shirley Jackson Awards, and is currently a member of the SJA Board of Directors. He is a member of the Cambridge SF Writers Workshop and was a Special Guest Writer at the 2009 Science Fiction Research Association conference. A native of North Carolina, Brett is a professor of English at Norwich University in Northfield, Vermont, and lives in Roxbury, Vermont, with his wife, playwright Jeanne Beckwith.



Jonathan Crowe's fanzine *Ecdysis* is a two-time Aurora finalist. He reviews books for *AE: The Canadian Science Fiction Review* and has published essays in the *New York Review of Science Fiction* and the *Ottawa Citizen*. In January 2016 he brought back his popular blog [The Map Room](http://TheMapRoom.com) after a four-year hiatus. A

former political operative, history graduate student, civil servant, small-town newspaper reporter and snake breeder, Jonathan lives in Shawville, Quebec, with his wife, Jennifer Seely, their three cats, and an uncomfortable number of snakes. You can find him online at jonathancrowe.net.



John Crowley, Guest of Honor at Readercon 3 and 2006 winner of the World Fantasy Lifetime Achievement Award, was born in the appropriately liminal town of Presque Isle, Maine, in 1942. He grew up in Vermont, north-eastern Kentucky, and Indiana, where he went to high school and college.

His first three novels constitute the omnibus *Otherwise: Three Novels* (Harper Perennial, 2002): *The Deep* (Doubleday, 1975), *Beasts* (Doubleday, 1976), and *Engine Summer* (Doubleday, 1979), a Campbell Memorial runner-up and British SF finalist selected by David Pringle for *Science Fiction: The 100 Best Novels*. *Little, Big* (Bantam, 1981) was a World Fantasy and Mythopoeic winner, Hugo, Nebula, Locus, Balrog, and British SF finalist, and was selected by Pringle for *Modern Fantasy: The 100 Best Novels*.

The *Ægypt* cycle comprises World Fantasy and Arthur C. Clarke finalist *The Solitudes* (as *Ægypt*, Bantam, 1987, which was also selected by Pringle for *Modern Fantasy: The 100 Best Novels*), World Fantasy finalist *Love and Sleep* (Bantam, 1994), *Daemonomania* (Bantam, 2000), and Locus finalist *Endless Things* (Small Beer, 2007); all four appear in a uniform edition from Overlook.

Later novels are *The Translator* (William Morrow, 2002), *Lord Byron's Novel: The Evening Land* (William Morrow, 2005), and *Four Freedoms* (William Morrow, 2009). Lifetime Achievement or no, the latter is about workers building a bomber during World War II and is without nameable fantasy content. *The Chemical Wedding* (Small Beer Press, 2016) is an update of a 17th c. alchemical text. His new novel *KA: Dar Oakley in the Ruin of Ymr* will appear in October 2017 from Saga Press and marks his return to fantasy. PM Press is issuing *Totalitopia* (2017), a book of selected stories and essays, edited by and with an interview by Terry Bisson.

Novelties and Souvenirs: Collected Short Fiction (Perennial, 2004) incorporates his earlier collections *Novelty* (Bantam, 1989) and *Antiquities* (Incunabula, 2004) and includes 1983 British SF short story finalist "Novelty;" 1985 Hugo, Nebula, and Locus short story finalist "Snow;" 1996 Locus winner and Hugo and *SF Chronicle* short story and Sturgeon finalist "Gone;" and 1989 World Fantasy winner and Nebula and *SF Chronicle* novella finalist *Great Work of Time* (Bantam, 1991); as well as "In Blue"

from *Nebula Awards 25* (Bishop, ed.), and "Missolonghi 1824," "Exogamy," and *An Earthly Mother Sits and Sings* (Dreamhaven, 2000) from the 4th, 7th, and 14th *The Year's Best Fantasy and Horror* (Datlow and Windling, eds.). *The Girlhood of Shakespeare's Heroines* (2005) and *Conversation Hearts* (2008) are chapbooks from Subterranean. Other uncollected short fiction appears in *Shadows II* (Grant, ed.) and *Naked City* (Datlow, ed.).

In addition to fiction, Crowley has issued a volume of nonfiction mostly about books, *In Other Words* (Subterranean, 2007). He worked as a writer of films, mainly historical documentaries, among them *The World of Tomorrow* (the 1939 New York World's Fair) and *FIT: Episodes in the History of the Body* (produced and directed by his wife Laurie Block). In 1992, he received the Award in Literature from the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters. Since 1993, he has taught creative writing at Yale University. He lives in Massachusetts.



Don D'Ammassa is the author of horror novels *Blood Beast* (Pinnacle, 1988) and *Servants of Chaos* (Leisure, 2002); three science fiction novels from Five Star Press, *Scarab* (2004), *Haven* (2004), and *Narcissus* (2007); two murder mysteries, also from Five Star,

Murder in Silverplate (2004) and *Dead of Winter* (2007); and over 100 short stories for *Analog*, *Asimov's*, and other publications. His first collection, *Translation Station*, was published in 2011 by Merry Blacksmith Press, and a new version of *Blood Beast* is available from Neconebooks as *The Gargoyle* (2011). He recently began to self-publish his work as Managansett Press. This year sees the publication of several works under that imprint, including the novels *The Sinking Island*, *The Kaleidoscope*, *Caverns of Chaos*, *Death on the Mountain*, *Living Things*, *Dark Mistress* (as Paula Sheffield), *Death on Black Island*, *Dark Muse* (as Paula Sheffield), *Perilous Pursuits*, and *Wormdance* as well as the collections *That Way Madness Lies*, *Little Evils*, *Passing Death*, *Date with the Dark*, *Elaborate Lies*, *Sandcastles*, *The Devil Is in the Details*, *Alien & Otherwise*, and *Shadows Over R'leyh*. His *Encyclopedia of Science Fiction* (2005), *Encyclopedia of Fantasy and Horror* (2006), and *Encyclopedia of Adventure Fiction* (2009) were all published by Facts on File. He reviewed for *Science Fiction Chronicle* for almost 30 years, does the sf, fantasy, and horror annotations for Gale's What Do I Read Next series, and has contributed articles on the field to numerous books and magazines. His reviews and other writing now appear on dondammassa.com. He is currently writing full time, when he isn't shelving books, reading, watching movies, or chasing the cats.



Gillian Daniels is the author of twenty-one published and upcoming short stories and poems since attending the Clarion Science Fiction and Fantasy Writing Workshop (UCSD) in 2011. Her latest works include the short story, "Scott and Lara Go to the Woods" (*Not One of Us*, April 2017) and upcoming

work in *Liminality*, *Middle Planet*, and *Dreams and Nightmares*.

Her other works can be found in *Apex Magazine*, *Lady Churchill's Rosebud Wristlet*, *Flash Fiction Online*, *Stone Telling*, *Electric Velocipede*, *Andromeda Spaceways Inflight Magazine*, and the anthologies *Bronies: For the Love of Ponies* (Lawson, ed.) and *Straeon #1: Malady Fare* (Blake, ed.).

A transplant from Cleveland, OH, she now lives in Somerville, MA and is a member of several writing groups. There, she reviews theater for *The New England Theatre Geek Blog*. She also moonlights as a masked competitor in *The Federation of Belligerent Writers*.



Dennis Danvers is the author of novels *Wilderness* (Poseidon, 1991; HarperCollins, 2010; Bram Stoker and *Locus* finalist), *Time and Time Again* (Simon & Schuster, 1994), *Circuit of Heaven* (Eos, 1998; *New York Times* Notable Book), *End of Days* (Eos, 1999; *New York Times* Notable), *The Fourth World* (Eos, 2000), *The Watch* (Eos, 2002; *New York Times* Notable, *Booklist* 10 Best SF novels, *School Library Journal* Best Books of 2002), *The Bright Spot* (Bantam, 2005, under the pseudonym Robert Sydney), and *Bad Angels* (Metaphysical Circus, 2016).

Recent short fiction includes the story sequence, "Adult Children of Alien Beings," "Orphan Pirates of the Spanish Main," and "Once More into the Abyss" on Tor.com. "Penelope Waits" is forthcoming from *Apex Magazine*. "Christmas in Hollywood Cemetery" appeared in *Remapping Hallowed Ground* (Erwin and DuVall, eds.), "Texas Beach" in *Richmond Noir* (De Haven, Blossom, and Castleberry, eds.), "Healing Benjamin" in *Tails of Wonder* (Datlow, ed.), "Swan Song and Then Some" in *Nightmare Carnival* (Datlow, ed.), and "The Art Disease" in *The Best of Electric Velocipede* (Klima, ed.).

His short fiction has also appeared in *Lightspeed*, *The Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction*, *Electric Velocipede*, *Lady Churchill's Rosebud Wristlet*, *Strange Horizons*, *Intergalactic Medicine Show*, *New Delta Review*, *Review La Bouche*, *Sou'wester*, *Realms of Fantasy*, *See the Elephant* and *Space and Time*.

He holds a PhD in literature and an MFA in fiction writing and has taught writing and literature at all levels. He currently teaches science fiction and fantasy literature and fiction writing at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Virginia, and writes full time. He lives in Richmond with his wife, Sarah Weisiger, and his dog, Ethel.



Ellen Datlow, Guest of Honor at Readercon 11, has been editing science fiction, fantasy, and horror short fiction for over thirty-five years. She was editor of *Sci Fiction*, the fiction area of SCIFI.com; editor of *Event Horizon: Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Horror*; and fiction editor of *Omni Magazine* and *Omni Online* for seventeen years. She currently acquires short stories for Tor.com.

She has edited more than 100 anthologies including *Blood Is Not Enough* (William Morrow), *Alien Sex* (Dutton), *A Whisper of Blood* (William Morrow), *Little Deaths* (Millennium/Dell; WFA

winner), *Off Limits: Tales of Alien Sex* (St. Martin's), *Twists of the Tale* (Dell), *Lethal Kisses* (Orion), *Vanishing Acts* (Tor), *The Dark: New Ghost Stories* (Tor; International Horror Guild winner), *Inferno* (Tor; Winner: WFA/IHG/Jackson), *The Del Rey Book of Science Fiction and Fantasy* (Del Rey), *Poe* (Solaris; Shirley Jackson Award winner), *Nebula Awards Showcase 2009* (Roc), *The Best Horror of the Year, Volumes One to Nine* (Night Shade), *Darkness: Two Decades of Modern Horror* (Tachyon), *Supernatural Noir* (Dark Horse), *Naked City* (St. Martin's), *Blood and Other Cravings* (Tor), *Hauntings* (Tachyon), *Lovecraft's Monsters* (Tachyon), *Fearful Symmetries* (ChiZine; Stoker Award winner), *Nightmare Carnival* (Dark Horse), *The Cutting Room* (Tachyon), and *The Doll Collection* (Tor).

With Terri Windling, Datlow has edited *Snow White, Blood Red* (Morrow/Avon), *Black Thorn, White Rose* (Morrow/Avon), *Ruby Slippers, Golden Tears* (AvoNova/Morrow), *BlackSwan, White Raven* (Avon), *Sirens and Other Daemon Lovers* (HarperPrism), *Silver Birch, Blood Moon* (Avon; WFA winner), *Black Heart, Ivory Bones* (Avon), *A Wolf at the Door and Other Retold Fairy Tales* (Simon & Schuster), *The Green Man: Tales from the Mythic Forest* (Viking; WFA winner), *Swan Sister: Fairy Tales Retold* (Simon and Schuster), *The Faery Reel: Tales from the Twilight Realm* (Viking), *Salon Fantastique* (Thunder's Mouth; WFA winner), *The Coyote Road: Trickster Tales* (Viking), *Troll's Eye View: A Book of Villainous Tales* (Viking), *The Beastly Bride: Tales of the Animal People* (Viking), *Teeth: Vampire Tales* (HarperCollins), *After* (Hyperion), *Queen Victoria's Book of Spells* (Tor), *The Monstrous* (Tachyon), *Lovecraft's Monsters* (Dark Horse), and *Black Feathers* (Pegasus). Datlow also edited the first sixteen volumes of *The Year's Best Fantasy and Horror* for St. Martin's, and five with Kelly Link and Gavin J. Grant. With Nick Mamatas, she edited *Haunted Legends* (Tor; Stoker winner). Forthcoming are *Haunted Nights* with Lisa Morton (an HWA anthology/Blumhouse) and *Mad Hatters and March Hares* (Tor).

Datlow has won six Hugos as best professional editor or best editor, short form, and has one for Best Webzine (SCIFICTION). She won a World Fantasy Special Award: Professional for 1994. She has won ten World Fantasy Awards, the most in the award's history. She's won the Locus Award for best editor eleven consecutive years from 2004 to 2015. She was named recipient of the 2007 Karl Edward Wagner Award, at the British Fantasy Convention for "outstanding contribution to the genre." She was given the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Horror Writers Association in 2011, and the Life Achievement Award by the World Fantasy Convention in 2014.

Datlow co-hosts the Fantastic Fiction at KGB monthly reading series. She lives in New York City with two cats. Follow her on Facebook, and on Twitter (@EllenDatlow).



Randee Dawn is an author and journalist; mom to a sweet West Highland Terrier; and coiner of the word "fency," which she hopes you will begin using on a regular basis when you are unsure about a thing. She published her collection of dark speculative fiction short stories, *Home for the Holidays*, in 2014,

and in 2009 spent an inordinate amount of time watching *Law & Order: SVU* in order to co-author the definitive book on the show, *The Law & Order: SVU Unofficial Companion*. Her short fiction has popped up in a number of publications and podcasts, including *3AM Magazine* ("The View of My Brother's Profile in the Rear-View Mirror," "Warm, In Your Coat") and *Well-Told Tales* ("Home for the Holidays," "Can't Keep a Dead Man Down").

More recently, two anthologies have given her work the go-ahead: "The Last Dog" will appear in the anthology published for the Writing Piazza's Beagle Freedom Project, and "Can't Find My Way Home" will be published in the *Children of a Different Sky* anthology. Both are expected to be out in 2017. Her first novel, *The Only Song Worth Singing*, is being sent around to publishers by Bridget Smith of Dunham Literary. When not making stuff up, Randee publishes entertainment profiles, reviews, and think pieces regularly in outlets including *Variety*, the *Los Angeles Times*, *Today.com*, and *Emmy Magazine*. She also blogs regularly at *randeedawn.com*, and after having scribbled down as many words as she can every day, she snuggles up with her aforementioned Westie and her equally adorable husband in Brooklyn. She hopes you are happy, too.



Michael J. DeLuca guest-edited *Lady Churchill's Rosebud Wristlet* No. 33, an eco-themed issue. He's starting a new, annual journal of writing on environmental justice, *Reckoning* (ask him about it). He co-operates Weightless Books with Gavin J. Grant. He attended the Odyssey Workshop in 2005. His short fiction has appeared in *Clockwork Phoenix* (Allen, ed.), *Interfictions* (Sherman and Goss, ed.), *Bibliotheca Fantastica* (Pizarro, ed.), *Beneath Ceaseless Skies*, *Apex*, *Mythic Delirium*, *Escape Pod*, *Pseudopod*, *Ideomancer*, *Phobos*, *Jabberwocky* and *Betwixt*.



Samuel R. Delany was the Guest of Honor at Readercon 2. His stories are available in *Aye and Gomorrah* and other stories, *Atlantis: Three Tales* and *Black Clock*. His novels include *Nova*, *Dhalgren*, *Hogg*, *The Mad Man*, his four-volume fantasy series, *Return to Neveryon*, the Stonewall Award-winning novel *Dark Reflections*, and most recently *Through the Valley of the Nest of Spiders*. His non-fiction collections include *Silent Interviews*, *Longer Views*, *Shorter Views*, and *Times Square Red / Times Square Blue*. His award-winning autobiography is *The Motion of Light in Water*. A judge for the 2010 National Book Awards, he was the subject of a 2007 documentary, *The Polymath*, and is the author of a popular creative writing textbook, *About Writing*. Three of his critical books on science fiction, *The Jewel-Hinged Jaw*, *Starboard Wine*, and *The American Shore* (Wesleyan University Press), have recently returned to print. His interview in the *Paris Review's* "Art of Fiction" series appeared in the spring 2012. He has been inducted into the Science Fiction Hall of Fame, and in 2013 he received the 31st

Damon Knight Memorial Grand Master of Science Fiction Award. He lives in New York City and teaches creative writing at Temple University.



Michael Dirda received the 1993 Pulitzer Prize for his essays and reviews in *The Washington Post Book World*. He is currently a weekly columnist for *The Post* as well as a contributor to *The New York Review of Books*, the online *Barnes & Noble Review*, *The Times Literary Supplement* and other literary periodicals. As a senior editor for *The Washington Post Book World*, he oversaw its monthly coverage of science fiction and fantasy from 1978 until 2003.

Dirda is the author of *Readings: Essays and Literary Entertainments* (Indiana, 2000); *An Open Book: Chapters from a Reader's Life* (Norton, 2003; Recorded Books, 2008; winner of the Ohioana Book Award for nonfiction); *Bound to Please: Essays on Great Writers and Their Books* (Norton, 2004; Los Angeles Times Book Prize finalist in Current Affairs); *Book by Book: Notes on Reading and Life* (Henry Holt, 2006); *Classics for Pleasure* (Harcourt, 2007); *On Conan Doyle* (Princeton, 2011; Edgar Award for biography/criticism); and *Browsings: A Year of Reading, Collecting, and Living with Books* (Pegasus, 2015; Blackstone Audiobook, 2015; finalist for the Ohioana Book Award). "Messing Around with *The Wind in the Willows*" (in *The New York Review of Books*) received the 2012 Boydston Prize for the best essay on textual editing published during the previous two years (awarded by the Association for Documentary Editing). Dirda is now at work on a book about popular fiction in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, tentatively titled *The Great Age of Storytelling*.

Dirda has written introductions to numerous works of "fantastika," most recently to *Lyonesse: Suldrun's Garden, The Green Pearl, Madouc* by Jack Vance (Spatterlight Press, 2016); *Swastika Night* by Murray Constantine (Gollancz, 2016); *The Circus of Dr. Lao* by Charles G. Finney (Gollancz, 2016); *Lolita* by Vladimir Nabokov (The Folio Society, 2015); *Something Wicked This Way Comes* by Ray Bradbury (Gollancz, 2015); *Sherlock Holmes: The Novels* by Arthur Conan Doyle (Penguin Deluxe Classics, 2015); *The Unfortunate Furse* and *The Return of Furse* by Mervyn Wall (Swan River Press, 2015); *Dune* by Frank Herbert (The Folio Society, 2015); *The Broken Sword* by Poul Anderson (Gollancz, 2014); *Lord Darcy* by Randall Garrett (Gollancz, 2014); *The Green Man* by Kingsley Amis (New York Review Books, 2014); and *Tales of Love and Death* by Robert Aickman (Tartarus Press, 2013). He also produced "The Big Read" *Reader's Guide and Teacher's Guide for Ursula K. Le Guin's A Wizard of Earthsea* (National Endowment for the Arts, 2008).

Dirda graduated with highest honors in English from Oberlin College (1970), received a Fulbright grant to teach in Marseille (1970-71), and earned an MA (1975) and PhD (1977) from Cornell University in Comparative Literature (concentrating on medieval studies and European romanticism). In 2008, he was Critic Guest of Honor at Capclave. He has taught at several colleges, most recently the University of Maryland (a two-semester course on the adventure novel, 2011, 2012). He and Marian Peck Dirda — the senior prints and drawings conservator at the

National Gallery of Art — have three grown sons, Christopher, Michael, and Nathaniel.



N.S. Dolkart writes epic fantasy during all those free hours that most people waste on sleep. His Godserfs series from Angry Robot Books currently consists of the novels *Silent Hall* (2016) and *Among the Fallen* (2017), and he's hard at work on the trilogy's final novel, *A Breach in the Heavens*.

In non-writing life, he has taught dementia care and Israeli folk dancing (but not at the same time), sung as Darth Vader in an opera, and sired two children who will one day enslave all the nations of the earth as the prophecy foretold. His website is nsdolkart.wordpress.com, and his Twitter handle is [@N_S_Dolkart](https://twitter.com/N_S_Dolkart).



Andy Duncan has won a Nebula Award (for the novelette "Close Encounters," a 2012 *F&SF* cover story), a Theodore Sturgeon Memorial Award (for "The Chief Designer," a 2001 *Asimov's* novella), and three World Fantasy Awards (for "Wakulla Springs," a 2013 *Tor.com* novella co-written with Ellen Klages; for "The Pottawatomie Giant," a 2000 *Sci Fiction* story; and for

his first collection, *Beluthahatchie and Other Stories*, from Golden Gryphon in 2000).

His second collection is *The Pottawatomie Giant and Other Stories* (PS Publishing, 2012); his third, *An Agent of Utopia: New and Selected Stories*, is upcoming from Small Beer. His other books include the anthology *Crossroads: Tales of the Southern Literary Fantastic*, co-edited with F. Brett Cox (Tor, 2004), and the nonfiction *Alabama Curiosities* (Globe Pequot, 2005; revised and expanded second edition, 2009).

Since his first story was published 21 years ago (in Patrick Nielsen Hayden's World Fantasy Award-winning *Starlight 1* anthology, from Tor, alongside fellow newcomer Susanna Clarke), he has been a Hugo, Nebula, World Fantasy, Bram Stoker, Shirley Jackson or Locus Award finalist 25 times. (He was a Campbell Best New Writer finalist, too, in 1998.)

A 1994 graduate of Clarion West, he has taught Clarion West twice (in 2005 and 2015) and Clarion three times (in 2004, 2013, and 2016). He has attended the Sycamore Hill Writers Workshop nine times, most recently in 2017. He has been a juror for the World Fantasy Award, Philip K. Dick Award, Shirley Jackson Award (two years), Bram Stoker Award (three years), and Theodore Sturgeon Memorial Award (five years and counting). In spring 2017, he was elected to the board of the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America.

He has a BA in journalism (University of South Carolina), an MA in fiction writing [North Carolina State University (where his thesis director, fatefully, was Nebula winner John Kessel)], and an MFA in fiction writing (University of Alabama). Before he

turned to full-time teaching, he spent seven years as a newspaper writer and editor (at the *News & Record* of Greensboro, NC), two years as a student-media adviser (at the University of Alabama), and five years as a business-magazine writer and editor (at *Overdrive*, "The Voice of the American Trucker").

He is a tenured associate professor of English at Frostburg State University in the mountains of western Maryland, where he coordinates the minors in journalism and public relations and is faculty adviser for the student newspaper, *The Bottom Line*.

A native of Batesburg, SC, he lives in Frostburg, MD, with his wife, Sydney; their dog, Josie; and their two cats, Hillary and Bela (named for Edmund and Lugosi, respectively). He also haunts Facebook (andy.duncan.39794) and Twitter (@beluthahatchie). A reasonably up-to-date bibliography is at <https://sites.google.com/site/beluthahatchie/>.



Haris A. Durrani is the author of *Technologies of the Self* (Brain Mill Press, 2016), winner of the Driftless Novella Contest. His short story "Forty-two Reasons Your Girlfriend Works for the FBI, CIA, NSA, ICE, S.H.I.E.L.D., Fringe Division, Men in Black, or Cylon Overlords" (*Buffalo Almanack*, 2015) won the *McSweeney's* Student Short Story Contest and the Inkslinger Award for Creative Excellence; it will be reprinted in the 50th Issue of *McSweeney's Quarterly Concern*. His novelette "Tethered" (*Analog Science Fiction and Fact*, July-August 2013; reprinted in *Lightspeed*, May 2016) was a Writers of the Future Semifinalist. *Buffalo Almanack* editor Maxine Vande Vaarst described his work as "stories about colonialism, neoliberalism, conspiracy bullshit, and a Trumped-out America at the gates of hell."

His other fiction, essays, memoirs, and academic articles have appeared in or are forthcoming from *Catapult*, *The New Inquiry*, *Mithila Review*, the *New York Review of Science Fiction*, *Skin Deep*, *The Fantasist*, *Poet's Country*, *Comparative Islamic Studies*, *Media Diversified*, and *altMuslimah*. He edited *The Best Teen Writing of 2012* and is guest editor of the forthcoming Special Space Opera Theme Issue of *The Fantasist*. He is a 2009 alum of the Alpha Science Fiction/Fantasy/Horror Workshop for Young Writers and was a 2011 Portfolio Gold Medalist in the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards, for which he currently serves on the Alumni Council.

Haris is a JD student at Columbia Law School, where he looks at the intersections of technology and disenfranchised communities, with an eye on space law. He holds an MPhil in history and philosophy of science from the University of Cambridge; he researched the international politics of space-flight and debates in medieval Islamic science and philosophy. He also holds a BS in applied physics from Columbia University School of Engineering and Applied Science, where he minored in Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies and co-founded The Muslim Protagonist Literary Symposium on "literature as an agent of social change" for Muslim communities and allies. When he grows up, he would like to live on Gliese 581 g, if it exists.



Scott Edelman has published more than 85 short stories in magazines such as *Analog*, *Postscripts*, *The Twilight Zone Magazine*, *Absolute Magnitude*, *The Journal of Pulse-Pounding Narratives*, *Science Fiction Review* and *Fantasy Book*, and in anthologies such as *Why New Yorkers Smoke*, *The Solaris Book of New Science Fiction: Volume Three*, *Crossroads:*

Southern Tales of the Fantastic, *Men Writing SF as Women*, *MetaHorror*, *Once Upon a Galaxy*, *Moon Shots*, *Mars Probes*, *Forbidden Planets*, *Summer Chills*, and *The Mammoth Book of Monsters*. His most recent short story was published in the magazine *Space & Time*.

A collection of his horror fiction, *These Words Are Haunted*, came out in hardcover from Wildside Books in 2001, and was re-released in 2015 in paperback by Fantastic Books. A stand-alone novella, *The Hunger of Empty Vessels*, was published in 2009 by Bad Moon Books. He is also the author of the Lambda Award-nominated novel *The Gift* (*Space & Time*, 1990) and the collection *Suicide Art* (*Necronomicon*, 1992). His collection of zombie fiction, *What Will Come After*, came in 2010 from PS Publishing, and was a finalist for both the Stoker Award and the Shirley Jackson Memorial Award. His science fiction short fiction has been collected in *What We Still Talk About* from Fantastic Books. A new collection of zombie novelettes, *Liars, Fakers, and the Dead Who Eat Them*, was published earlier this year by Written Backward Press.

He has been a Stoker Award finalist seven times, both in the category of Short Story and Long Fiction, and currently holds the record for the most Stoker Award nominations without a win. Additionally, Edelman worked for the Syfy Channel for more than thirteen years as editor of *Science Fiction Weekly*, *SCI FI Wire*, and *Blastr*. He was the founding editor of *Science Fiction Age*, which he edited during its entire eight-year run. He also edited *SCI FI* magazine, previously known as *Sci-Fi Entertainment*, for more a decade, as well as two other SF media magazines, *Sci-Fi Universe* and *Sci-Fi Flix*. He has been a four-time Hugo Award finalist for Best Editor.

He worked as an assistant editor for Marvel Comics in the '70s, writing everything from display copy for superhero Slurpee cups to the famous Bullpens Bulletins pages. While there, he edited the Marvel-produced fan magazine *FOOM* (Friend of Ol' Marvel). He also wrote trade paperbacks such as *The Captain Midnight Action Book of Sports, Health and Nutrition* and *The Mighty Marvel Fun Book*.

In 1976, he left staff to go freelance, and worked for both Marvel and DC. His scripts appeared in *Captain Marvel*, *Master of Kung Fu*, *Omega the Unknown*, *Time Warp*, *House of Mystery*, *Weird War Tales*, *Welcome Back, Kotter* and others.

He has at various times served on the juries for both the Theodore Sturgeon Memorial Award and the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America's Nebula Short Fiction Awards. He has been the editor in residence at the Clarion SF Workshop in 1999 and 2003, and the guest editor at the Odyssey Writers Workshop in 1999. He was the toastmaster for the 2000 Nebula Awards ceremony. He was the winner of the 2004 Sam

Moskowitz Award for outstanding contributions to the field of science fiction fandom.



Carl Engle-Laird is an assistant editor for Tor.com Publishing, where he has been acquiring and editing science fiction, fantasy, and horror novels, novellas, and short fiction for four years. He has edited the novels *Infomocracy* by Malka Older and *Winter Tide* by Ruthanna Emrys, and novellas including *A Taste of Honey* by Kai Ashante

Wilson (Hugo finalist, Nebula finalist, 2016), *Runtime* (Nebula finalist, 2016) by SB Divya, and *Hammers on Bone* by Cassandra Khaw. The short fiction he has edited can be found at <http://www.tor.com/members/carlengle-laird/edited/>. Carl lives and works in New York City, and can be found online at twitter.com/englelaird.



Rose Fox is a senior reviews editor for *Publishers Weekly*, covering the SF/fantasy/horror and romance/erotica genres, and co-host of the weekly *Publishers Weekly Radio* book news and talk radio show. Rose has written over 100 anonymous reviews for *PW* and

somewhat fewer bylined reviews, articles, and opinion pieces for *Strange Horizons*, *Some Fantastic*, *ChiZine*, the *Internet Review of Science Fiction*, *Lambda Book Report*, *Clamor*, *Bookmarks*, and various other venues.

In 2016 Rose launched Story Hospital (storyhospital.com), a weekly advice column for writers that was inspired by a workshop they ran at Readercon 27. Their first anthology, *Long Hidden: Speculative Stories from the Margins of History*, co-edited with Daniel José Older, was published by Crossed Genres in May 2014 and shortlisted for the Locus Award for Best Anthology and the World Fantasy Award. Rose's short fiction and poetry have appeared in *Dark Furies* (Sneed, ed.), *Alleys and Doorways* (Schwartz, ed.), *Milk and Honey: A Celebration of Jewish Lesbian Poetry* (Enszer, ed.), *Farrago's Wainscot*, and *Goblin Fruit*. They formerly served as the dissociative editor for the *Annals of Improbable Research*, and as program chair for Readercons 22, 23, and 24.

In their copious free time, they mentor the teen staff of the SF/F magazine *Tapestry* and slowly, slowly research and write a gay transgender romance novel set in Regency-era London. They live in Brooklyn with two partners, three cats, and an extremely adorable baby.



Jim Freund has been involved in producing radio programs of and about literary sf/f since 1967. He considers himself a specialist in presenting the author's voice as well as working with professional narrators. His weekly radio program, *Hour of the Wolf*, is in its forty-sixth year on WBAI-FM in New York City.

June 2016 saw the release of *Chatting Science Fiction: Selected Interviews from Hour of the Wolf*, available as a CD set or download. Highlights include discussions with Ursula K. Le Guin, Ray Bradbury, Nalo Hopkinson, Ken Liu, and a dozen more great minds of the fantastic genres.

Jim is also the host for *Lightspeed's* podcast, as well as its post-production editor, a stint that has led him astray into the world of editing and producing audiobooks.

He is currently producer and executive curator of the *New York Review of Science Fiction Readings*, now in its twenty-sixth season. The series is now available on Livestream, live and on demand. He occasionally maintains his Web site at <http://hour-wolf.com> and sporadically tweets @JimFreund, but for now you're more likely to encounter him on Facebook.



D.T. Friedman's work has appeared in *Shimmer*, *Flash Fiction Online*, and the *Dark Faith* anthology. She is a member of the Codex writers' group and Altered Fluid. In her other life, she is a doctor of internal medicine with a specialization in urban underserved populations. She occasionally provides medical advice to be used in

fictional contexts; she has consulted with over two dozen authors independently and through the Science and Entertainment Exchange, and assisted with an episode of the TV show *Castle*. Sometimes she juggles fire.



Gwynne Garfinkle's short fiction and poetry has appeared in numerous publications, including anthologies *Angels of the Meanwhile* (Erin, ed.), *Mythic Delirium: Volume Two* (Allen and Allen, eds.), *The Mammoth Book of Dieselpunk* (Wallace, ed.), *Tales of Magic Realism by Women:*

Dreams in a Minor Key (Sturgis, ed.) — also *Strange Horizons*, *Interfictions*, *Apex*, *Mithila Review*, *Not One of Us*, *Lackington's*, *Kaleidotrope*, *Postscripts to Darkness*, *The Cascadia Subduction Zone*, *Through the Gate*, *inkscrawl*, *Shimmer*, and *Goblin Fruit*.

Her poetry was nominated for the Rhysling Award in 2013 and 2015. Her essay on Romana II appears in *Companion Piece: Women Celebrate the Humans, Aliens and Tin Dogs of DOCTOR WHO* (Myles and Barr, eds.). Her reviews and features on music and poetry have appeared in such publications as *News Clips and Ego Trips: The Best of Next... Magazine 1994-98* (Thomas, ed.), the *Los Angeles New Times*, *LA Weekly*, and *BAM*. Gwynne lives in Los Angeles. For more about her work, visit her website: gwynnegarfinkle.com.

Lila Garrott is a Senior Fiction Editor at *Strange Horizons*. They have had their fiction published in *Not One of Us* and *Cabinet des Fées*; their poetry in *Jabberwocky*, *Mythic Delirium*, and *Strange Horizons*; and criticism in *The Internet Review of Science Fiction*, *The Encyclopedia of Women in Science Fiction*, and Tor.com. They once read a book and wrote a review of it every day for a year. The reviews may be found at [rushthatspeaks.livejournal.com/tag/365 books](http://rushthatspeaks.livejournal.com/tag/365%20books). They are a staff book reviewer at *Publisher's*

Weekly and at *Strange Horizons*. They live in Somerville, MA, with one wife, two cats, and more books than there were the last time you read this sentence.



Chris Gerwel is a writer and critic of science fiction and fantasy whose non-fiction writing about the genre has been published in the Hugo-nominated *Speculative Fiction 2012* ("The Circus as Fantastic Device", Landon and Shurin, eds.) and in *Speculative Fiction 2013* ("Tis the Season: What Good are the Hugos?",

Grilo and James, eds.). He has written extensively about the genre at The King of Elfland's 2nd Cousin (www.elflands2ndcousin.com), and his blog post "The Uses and Value of Realism in Speculative Fiction" (<http://elflands2ndcousin.com/2012/07/17/the-uses-and-value-of-realism-in-speculative-fiction/>) was discussed during the Readercon Blog Club at Readercon 24. Chris was a 2011 Viable Paradise graduate (VPXV), and in 2012 and 2013 volunteered as on-island staff for the workshop, and currently sits on the Viable Paradise board.

Chris lives in New Jersey with his wife and dog, where in his day job he works in the media research industry. Previously, he had lived in Europe for ten years after dropping out of college and creating a multinational online media research agency. He can be reached online via his blog (www.elflands2ndcousin.com) or on Twitter (@KgElfland2ndCuz).



Greer Gilman was a Guest of Honor at Readercon 20. Her *Cloud & Ashes: Three Winter's Tales* (Small Beer Press, 2009; reprinted in trade paper, 2015) won a Tiptree Award in 2010, and was a Mythopoeic finalist. "Jack Daw's Pack," the first of the tales, was a 2000 Nebula novelette finalist; the second, "A Crowd of Bone," a 2003 World Fantasy novella

winner. *Unleaving*, a novel-length story, completed the triptych. All three are set in the Northern mythscape of her first novel *Moonwise* (Roc, 1991; reprinted in hardcover Prime, 2005), itself a Tiptree and Mythopoeic finalist and a Crawford winner, and nominated by David G. Hartwell at Readercon 18 as the single novel most emblematic of Readercon.

Cry Murder! In a Small Voice (Small Beer Press, 2013), winner of a Shirley Jackson Award (novelette), is the first of her meta-physical noir mysteries with Ben Jonson investigating. His second case is *Exit, Pursued by a Bear* (Small Beer Press, 2014).

"Down the Wall," a post-apocalyptic Cloudish story, appeared in the *Salon Fantastique* (Thunder's Mouth Press, 2006; Datlow and Windling, eds.) and has been reprinted in *The Mammoth Book of SF Stories by Women* (Running Press, 2014; Alex Daily MacFarlane, ed.). A new Cloudish vignette, "Hieros Gamos," came out in the anthology, *An Alphabet of Embers* (Stone Bird Press, 2016; Rose Lemberg, ed.). Gilman's poem "She Undoes" from *Faces of Fantasy* (Tor Books, 1996) has been thrice reprinted, most recently in *The Moment of Change* (Aqueduct Press, 2012). "The Moon-Hare" came out in *Mythic Delirium 19* (Summer/Fall 2008; Mike Allen, ed.). "The Journeyman; or, Endymion Blunt

Lays By His Pipe" appeared in the *Readercon 20 Program Book*.

Her chapter on "The Languages of the Fantastic" appears in the Hugo-nominated *Cambridge Companion to Fantasy Literature* (Cambridge University Press, 2012; Mendlesohn and James, eds.); her essay, "Girl, Implicated: The Child in the Labyrinth in the Fantastic" in the *Journal of the Fantastic in the Arts* 19.2 (2008). In 2006, she gave a paper on "Shakespearean Voices in the Literature of the Fantastic" to the Shakespeare Association of America. Two conversations with Michael Swanwick have appeared in *Foundation* (Autumn 2001 and Spring 2009).

Ms. Gilman has also been a Guest of Honor at the International Conference on the Fantastic in the Arts (2008) and at the Wichita Literary Festival (2009), and was a guest speaker at the ArtSci'98 Symposium held at the Cooper Union in New York. She was a John W. Campbell finalist for 1992.

Her love of British lore and landscape, of its rituals and ballads, is a constant in her work; her love of language, at its roots. Like the theatre of Shakespeare's time, her books are written for the ear, as much as for the understanding. A longtime librarian at Harvard, she lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts. She likes to quip that she does everything James Joyce ever did, only backward and in high heels.



Max Gladstone was a John W. Campbell Best New Writer Award finalist for his novels *Three Parts Dead* (Tor 2012) and *Two Serpents Rise* (Tor 2013). He was also nominated for the John W. Campbell Best New Writer Award in 2013, his first year of eligibility. Additionally, Max is the author of *Full Fathom Five* and *Last First Snow* (Tor, July 2015), and *Four Roads Cross* (Tor, July 2016), further installments in his Craft Sequence. His short stories, "A Kiss With Teeth" and "The Angelus Guns" appeared on *Tor.com* (2014).

Max has wrecked a bicycle in Angkor Wat, sung at Carnegie Hall, and been thrown from a horse in Mongolia. He lives in Somerville, MA with his wife, Stephanie. There is no truth to the rumor that he sleeps in a coffin.



Liz Gorinsky is an editor at Tor Books. She has over a decade of experience in the field and is a six-time Hugo Award nominee in the Best Editor, Long Form category. At Tor, she edits a list that includes acclaimed speculative fiction authors Fred Chao, Chen Quifan, Felix Gilman, Thomas Olde Heuvelt,

Mary Robinette Kowal, Liu Cixin, George Mann, Annalee Newitz, Cherie Priest, Lev Rosen, Nisi Shawl, Brian Francis Slattery, Catherynne M. Valente, and anthologists Ellen Datlow, Ken Liu, Patrick Nielsen Hayden, and Ann and Jeff VanderMeer. She also acquires and edits short stories for *Tor.com*.

Liz came to Tor after studying English, psychology, and computer science at Columbia College in New York City, but draws just as frequently on the skills she learned during a three-year stint as president of the Columbia University Science Fiction Society. In her free time, she cooks and eats exotic foods, watches a ton of theatre, bicycles everywhere,

and enjoys writing and playing analog games (Eurogames, indie RPGs, and Nordic larp). She lives in Alphabet City in Manhattan.



Theodora Goss was born in Hungary and spent her childhood in various European countries before her family moved to the United States. Although she grew up on the classics of English literature, her writing has been influenced by an Eastern European literary

tradition in which the boundaries between realism and the fantastic are often ambiguous. Her publications include the short story collection *In the Forest of Forgetting* (2006); *Interfictions* (2007), a poetry anthology coedited with Delia Sherman; *Voices from Fairyland* (2008), which includes critical essays and a selection of her own poems; *The Thorn and the Blossom* (2012), a novella in a two-sided accordion format; and the poetry collection *Songs for Ophelia* (2014). She has been a finalist for the Nebula, Locus, Crawford, Seiun, and Mythopoeic Awards, as well as on the Tiptree Award Honor List. Her short story "Singing of Mount Abora" won the World Fantasy Award. *The Strange Case of the Alchemist's Daughter*, her first full-length novel, was just published by Saga Press. A sequel is expected in 2018.



Glenn Grant's short story collection *Burning Days* (Nanopress, 2011) includes his novelette "Burning Day," from *Year's Best SF 10* (Hartwell and Cramer, eds.). Other stories have appeared in *Interzone* and (in French translation) in *Solaris*. With David G. Hartwell, he co-edited

Northern Stars: The Anthology of Canadian Science Fiction (Tor, 1994; Aurora finalist), and *Northern Suns: The New Anthology of Canadian Science Fiction* (Tor, 1999).

Glenn's reviews and nonfiction have appeared in *Science Fiction Eye*, *The Montreal Gazette*, the *New York Review of Science Fiction*, *Science Fiction Studies*, *boING boING*, *Singularity*, *Going Gaga*, and *Virus23*. He edited and published three issues of the 'zine *Edge Detector*, and was a founder and contributor to the underground comic 'zine *Mind Theatre*. His 1990 article "A Memetic Lexicon" has spread virally, appearing in dozens of magazines, journals, and websites, and in five other languages. His illustrations can be seen in the *GURPS: Traveller* line of SF RPG books from Steve Jackson Games; he was a 2000 Aurora artistic achievement finalist. Born in London, Ontario, he has lived in Montréal since 1989. He is the Montreal Regional Contact for the annual Burning Man festival in Nevada. His blog "Collapsing Stars" can be found at glenngrant.ca.



Tom Greene, MFA, PhD, is the author of assorted hard SF stories published in *Strange Horizons*, *Interzone*, *Analog*, and elsewhere. He is a professor of English at Northern Essex Community College with specializations in writing (creative, expository, and technical), Victorian literature, folklore, cultural studies, and

genre fiction. He grew up in south Texas, is biracial Latino/

Anglo, and was supposed to be a biologist — before taking a left turn into language arts. When not teaching or writing, he gives talks on vampire literature and the semiotics of breakfast cereals. He lives in a nineteenth-century house in Salem, Massachusetts, with his wife and at least two cats.



Daryl Gregory is an award-winning writer of genre-mixing novels, stories, and comics. His most recent novel, *Spoonbenders* (Knopf, 2017), about a family of down-on-their-luck psychics, is being launched at Readercon.

His novella *We Are All Completely Fine* (Tachyon, 2015), about horror story survivors and small-group therapy, won the World Fantasy and Shirley Jackson

awards, and was a finalist for the Nebula, Sturgeon, and Locus awards. His Lovecraftian young adult novel, *Harrison Squared* (Tor, 2015), was a Locus award finalist and will be reissued by Tor Teen in 2018, along with two sequels.

The SF novel *Afterparty* (Tor, 2014) was an NPR and *Kirkus* best fiction book of the year, and a finalist for the Campbell and the Lambda Literary awards. His first novel, *Pandemonium* (Del Rey, 2008), won the Crawford award and was a finalist for the World Fantasy, Shirley Jackson, Mythopoeic, and Locus awards. His other novels are the Southern gothic SF novel *The Devil's Alphabet* (Del Rey, 2009, a Philip K. Dick award finalist and one of *Publishers Weekly* best books of the year) and literary zombie novel *Raising Stony Mayhall* (Del Rey, 2011, a *Library Journal* best SF book of the year).

Many of his short stories are collected in *Impossible and Other Stories* (Fairwood Press, 2011), which was named one of the best books of the year by *Publishers Weekly*. Many of those stories appeared in *F&SF* and *Asimov's* and were reprinted in various year's best collections. The story "Second Person, Present Tense" won the 2005 Asimov's Readers' Choice Award for novelette and was a finalist for the SLF Fountain Award and for the Theodore Sturgeon Memorial Award.

In 2016 he wrote the "choose your own adventure" style video game, *Flatline*, for 3 Minute Games. His comics work includes the *Legenderry: Green Hornet*, *The Planet of the Apes*, *Dracula: The Company of Monsters* (co-written with Kurt Busiek), and the graphic novel *The Secret Battles of Genghis Khan*.



Elizabeth Hand ("Liz") was a Guest of Honor at Readercon 20. Her recent books include *Fire* (in the Outspoken Authors series from PM Press, 2017); the Cass Neary thriller *Hard Light* (Minotaur Books, 2016); *Wylding Hall* (PS Publishing, 2015), another winner of the Shirley Jackson award; *Available Dark* (St. Martin's/Minotaur, 2012); *Radiant Days*,

a YA novel about the French poet Arthur Rimbaud (Viking, 2012); a revised edition of her 1997 Arthur C. Clarke finalist *Glimmering* (Underland Press, 2012; originally Harper Prism); and *Generation Loss*, winner of the Shirley Jackson award (Small Beer Press/Harcourt, 2007).

She is also the author of a trilogy from Bantam Spectra, each volume a Philip K. Dick finalist: *Winterlong* (1990; Locus first novel finalist), *Æstival Tide* (1992), and *Icarus Descending* (1993). Others include the Tiptree and Mythopoeic winner *Waking the Moon*, a World Fantasy and Locus finalist (HarperCollins, 1994); *Black Light* (Harper Prism, 1999); IHG and Mythopoeic finalist *Mortal Love* (William Morrow, 2004); and the novella "Illyria"—a World Fantasy winner and Shirley Jackson finalist (PS/Viking 2007).

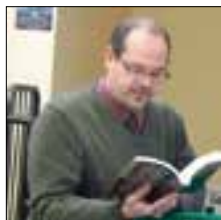
Her first short fiction collection, *Last Summer at Mars Hill* (HarperPrism, 1998), was a World Fantasy finalist and includes the 1993 World Fantasy novella finalist "The Erl-King," as well as "Prince of Flowers," "On the Town Route," "The Bacchae," and the title story, a 1998 Nebula and World Fantasy novella winner.

Her next collection, *Bibliomancy: Four Novellas* (PS Publishing, 2003), was a World Fantasy winner and Stoker and IHG finalist, and contains 2000 World Fantasy novella finalist "Chip Crockett's Christmas Carol" (also from Becon/SciFiction, 2006); 2001 IHG long fiction winner and World Fantasy novella finalist "Cleopatra Brimstone;" 2002 IHG intermediate fiction winner "Pavane for the Prince of the Air;" and World Fantasy novella finalist "The Least Trumps." It was expanded into *Saffron & Brimstone: Strange Stories* (M Press, 2006), which includes 2005 Nebula short story winner "Echo," "Wonderwall," "Kronia," and "The Saffron Gatherers."

Her collection *Errantry: Strange Stories* (Small Beer, 2012) includes 2010 World Fantasy novella winner, Sturgeon runner-up, and Hugo finalist "The Maiden Flight of McCauley's Bellerophon" and Shirley Jackson novella winner "Near Zennor," as well as "Winter's Wife and "The Far Shore." Other short fiction appears in *Tails of Wonder and Imagination* (Datlow, ed.) and *Logorrhea* (Klima, ed.).

Liz has authored numerous film novelizations and tie-ins, most notably *Bride of Frankenstein: Pandora's Bride* (Dark Horse Books, 2007), as well as *12 Monkeys* (Harper Prism, 1995), *Millenium: The Frenchman* (Harper Collins, 1997), *The X Files: Fight the Future* (Harper Prism, 1998), *Catwoman* (Del Rey, 2004), and four volumes of the Star Wars: Boba Fett series of juveniles for Scholastic: *Maze of Deception* (2003), *Hunted* (2003), *A New Threat* (2004), and *Pursuit* (2004).

Since 1988, she has been a regular contributor to the *Washington Post Book World*, *Los Angeles Times*, Salon, the *Village Voice* and *Down East Magazine*, among numerous others, and she has written a review column for F&SF since 1997. With Paul Witcover, she created and wrote the groundbreaking 1990s DC Comics series *Anima*. She divides her time between the Maine coast and North London.



Jack M. Haringa is co-founder and former editor of the review journal *Dead Reckonings*, published by Hippocampus Press. His first short story appeared in *Dead Cat's Traveling Circus of Wonders and Miracle Medicine Show* (Houarner and GAK, eds.), a signed, limited edition hardcover anthology. It was read by literally dozens of people. His next, "A Perfect and Unmappable Grace," was in the 21st *The Year's Best Fantasy and Horror* (Datlow, Grant, and Link,

eds.). *Springfield Repeater* (2013) is his latest short story. He may be best known as the victim in 28 short-short stories collected to raise money for the Shirley Jackson Awards (for which he serves on the Board of Advisors) in the anthology *Jack Haringa Must Die!*

Jack is the chairman of the English department at Worcester Academy, where he has designed and taught courses on dystopian, detective, and Gothic literature. He is currently at work on a book-length study of the fiction of Jack Ketchum for a well-known specialty press.



Maria Dahvana Headley is a New York Times-bestselling author and editor. Her *Beowulf* adaptation, *The Mere Wife*, is upcoming from Farrar, Straus & Giroux in 2018. Recent books are *Aerie* (Harper, 2016), a sequel to her YA sky kingdom fantasy *Magonia* (Harper, 2015; PW Best Books of 2015); *Queen of Kings* (Dutton, 2011); and the internationally bestselling memoir *The Year of Yes* (Hyperion, 2006). With Kat Howard, she wrote *The End of the Sentence* (Subterranean Press, 2014; NPR's Best Books of 2014). She's co-editor with Neil Gaiman on *Unnatural Creatures* (Harper Children's, 2013).

Her short stories have been included in many year's bests, including *Best American Fantasy & Science Fiction, 2016* (Fowler and Adams, eds.), *Year's Best Weird Fiction, Vol 1*, (Barron, ed.) and been finalists for the Nebula and Shirley Jackson Awards, with "Give Her Honey When You Hear Her Scream," (*Lightspeed*, July 2012) and "The Traditional," (*Lightspeed*, May, 2013).

Upcoming: "The Ooh-Ahh Innocents of the Untouched Place" (*Global Dystopias*, Diaz and Chasman, eds.); "The Orange Tree" (*The Weight of Words*, Schafer and McKean eds.); "Adriftica" (*Robots vs Fairies*, Navah Wolfe and Dominick Parisien, eds.)

Recently: "Black Powder" (Solaris Books, 2017; *The Djinn Falls in Love*, Mahvesh Murad and Jared Shurin, eds.) "The Thule Stowaway," (*Uncanny*, Feb. 2017); "See the Unseeable, Know the Unknowable" (*Lightspeed*, Sept. 2016); "Mr. Doornail" in *Children of Lovecraft* (Dark Horse Books, 2016); plus "Little Widow" in *What The #@%& Is That* (Nov. 2016), among others.

Other short work includes "Ledge Bants"—co-written with China Miéville in *Dead Letters* (Titan, 2016); "The Virgin Played Bass" (*Uncanny* 8, Jan./Feb. 2016); "Some Gods of El Paso" (Tor.com, Nov. 2015); "The 13 Mercies" (F&SF, Nov./Dec. 2015); "Solder & Seam" (*Lightspeed*, Oct, 2015). "The Cellar Dweller" (*Nightmare*, June 2015); "The Scavenger's Nursery," (*Shimmer Magazine*, March 2015); "Ivory Darts, Golden Arrows" (*Uncanny Magazine*, Feb. 2015); "And the Winners Will Be Swept Out To Sea" (*Lightspeed*, Feb. 2015); "If You Were A Tiger, I'd Have to Wear White" (*Uncanny*, Nov./Dec. 2014); "Who Is Your Executioner?" (*Nightmare*, Nov. 2014); "Taxidermist in the Underworld" (*Clarkesworld*, Oct. 2014); "The Cull" (*The Toast*, June 2014); "What There Was To See" (*Subterranean Online*, Summer 2014); "Dim Sun" (*Lightspeed*, Women Destroy Science Fiction issue, June 2014); "The Tallest Doll in New York City" (Tor.com, Feb. 2014); and many more.

She grew up in Idaho on a survivalist sled-dog ranch and now lives in Brooklyn. She's a MacDowell Colony fellow. She's @MARIADAHVANA on Twitter, or try her own site, www.mariadahvanaheadley.com.



Jeff Hecht is a freelance science and technology writer, and a correspondent for the global science weekly *New Scientist*, where he covers topics from planetary science and lasers to dinosaurs. When inspiration strikes, he writes the occasional short fiction. His most recent fiction has been on the

"Futures" page in *Nature* and *Nature Physics* and in the anthologies *Extreme Planets*, *Deco Punk*, and *Conspiracy!* Earlier stories appeared in *Analog*, *Asimov's*, *Daily Science Fiction*, *Interzone*, and the *Twilight Zone Magazine*. Earlier anthologies include *Year's Best Horror X* (Wagner, ed.), *Great American Ghost Stories* (McSherry Jr. and Waugh, eds.), *New Dimensions 8 and 9* (Silverberg, ed.), *Vampires* (Yolen and Greenberg, eds.), *Alien Pregnant by Elvis* (Friesner and Greenberg, eds.), *Visions of Tomorrow* (Easton and Klein-Dial, eds.), *Futures from Nature* (Gee, ed.), and *DecoPunk* (Easton and Dial, eds.).

His nonfiction has appeared in many magazines, including *Nature*, *IEEE Spectrum*, *Sky & Telescope*, *Nature*, *Analog*, and *Technology Review*. He has written extensively about lasers and optics for *Optics & Photonics News*, *Laser Focus World*, and *Lasers & Applications*. His published books include *City of Light: The Story of Fiber Optics*, *Beam: The Race to Make The Laser*, *Understanding Fiber Optics*, *Understanding Lasers*, *Optics: Light for a New Age*, *Beam Weapons: The Next Arms Race*, and *Laser: Supertool of the 1980s*. He is now completing the fourth edition of *Understanding Lasers* and working on plans for another book he may be able to talk about at Readercon 28. He holds a BS in electronic engineering from Caltech and an MEd in higher education from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. He lives in Auburndale, Massachusetts, with his wife, Lois. His web site is <http://www.jeffhecht.com>.



Karen Heuler's stories have appeared in over 100 literary and speculative magazines and anthologies, including *Alaska Quarterly Review*, *Clarksworld*, *Daily Science Fiction*, and *Weird Tales*. She has published four novels and three story collections, one of which (*The Inner City*, ChiZine Publications, 2013) was listed on

Publishers Weekly's Best Books of 2013 list. The *New York Times* called an earlier collection, *The Other Door* (University of Missouri Press, 1995), "haunting and quirky," and she mentions that often.

She has received an O. Henry award, been shortlisted for a Pushcart prize, the Iowa short fiction award, the Bellwether award, and this year's Shirley Jackson award for short fiction, plus an Alex Award nomination for her first novel, *The Soft Room* (Livingston Press, 2001).

Conjunctions Magazine has one of her stories in its current issue on architecture. Aqueduct Press published her

short-story collection *Other Places* (2016) last October and is releasing her novella *In Search of Lost Time*, this month, about a woman who can steal time. She lives in NYC with a big friendly dog and two co-dependent cats and teaches writing at NYU's School of Professional Studies. She doesn't believe in reincarnation, but would like to try it anyway.



J. D. Horn (who really does go by J.D., but will also answer to Jack) is the best-selling author of the "Witching Savannah" series, including *The Line* (47North, 2014), *The Source* (47North, 2014), *The Void* (47North, 2014), and *Jilo* (47North, 2016). He is also the author of

the standalone Southern Gothic horror novel, *Shivaree* (47North, 2015). His new series, "The Witches of New Orleans," will debut in 2018 with *The King of Bones and Ashes* (47North, 2018). He's currently writing *The Book of the Unwinding*, the second title in the new series. (He's hoping—against all odds—the first draft of this WIP will be finished by the time you lay eyes on him.) His novels have been translated into over half a dozen languages.

In addition to his novels, J.D. has also published a handful of short stories. "A Peculiar Paradise" (*Unnerving Magazine*, December 2016 issue, Generous, ed.) is his favorite, because it's about a big black dog.

J.D. grew up in Alabama, Georgia, and (mostly) Tennessee. He obtained a BA in Comparative World Literature (focusing on French in original version and Russian in translation) from Lake Forest College. J.D. also earned an MBA in international business management from the Monterey Institute of International Studies, and formerly held a career as a financial analyst, before turning his talent to crafting chilling stories and unforgettable characters.

He and his spouse, Rich, split their time between San Francisco, Palm Springs, and Black Butte Ranch, Oregon. They have two daughters, Becky — who is in a joint MBA/Law program at Northwestern/Kellogg — and Maddy, who is completing her law degree at UC Hastings.

Although taken out by a couple of injuries, he has race bibs from two full marathons and around thirty half marathons. He's hoping to make a comeback in the not-too-distant future.

A longtime animal rights advocate, animal lover, and non-proselytizing vegetarian, J.D. is currently petless, a situation that will be rectified as soon as the right rescue Chihuahua comes along to rescue him.

As with most shy and introverted authors, it's best to approach him slowly, preferably while offering him a caffeinated beverage and perhaps a cookie.



Kat Howard's debut novel, *Roses and Rot*, was named one of the best SFF books of summer 2016 by *Publishers Weekly*. Her second novel will be out in summer of 2017, also from Saga Press.

She co-wrote a novella with Maria Dahvana Headley, *The End of the Sentence* (Subterranean Press, 2014),

which was named a best book of 2014 by NPR. She has a forthcoming short fiction collection, *A Cathedral of Myth and Bone* (Saga Press, 2018), which will include many cool things, but not her short story, "Breaking the Frame," which was a finalist for the 2013 World Fantasy Award. She is a 2008 Clarion graduate.

Kat lives in New Hampshire and you can frequently find her on twitter [@KatWithSword](#).



Elaine Isaak's latest speculative fiction publication is *Elisha Mancer* (DAW, 2017) book 4 in The Dark Apostle series about medieval surgery written as E. C. Ambrose. The series began with *Elisha Barber* (DAW, 2013), and continues in *Elisha Magus* (DAW, 2014) and *Elisha Rex* (DAW, 2015). Related works, "The Burning" (Penguin e-short, 2014) and

novella *Grail Maiden* (Rocinante, 2015) round out the series, and she has submitted the fifth and final volume, *Elisha Daemon*, forthcoming in 2018.

As E. Chris Ambrose, she recently released her first international thriller novel, *Bone Guard One: The Mongol's Coffin* (Shirtsleeve Press, 2017), about the race to follow a musical map to Genghis Khan's tomb, and she is working on a sequel, *The Nazi Skull*. Her agent is currently shopping a silkpunk epic entitled *Drakemaster*, about a Lithuanian bellmaker seized by the Mongol army and pressed into service to make cannons, which may be outdone by a clockwork doomsday machine. Flash horror story "Custom of the Sea" won the 2012 Tenebris Press Flash Fiction Contest. E. C.'s articles "The Romance of Ruins" (April 2012) and "Spoiler Alert!" (January 2013) have appeared in *Clarkesworld Magazine*.

Under her own name, Elaine is the author of the fantasy novel *The Singer's Crown* (Eos, 2005), its sequels *The Eunuch's Heir* (Eos, 2006), and *The Bastard Queen* (Swimming Kangaroo, 2010). "The Princess, the Witch and the Watchmaker's Heart" appeared in *Escape Clause: A Speculative Fiction Annual* (Ink Oink Press, 2009; Clelie Rich, ed.). "The Disenchantment of Kivron Ox-master," was reprinted in *Prime Codex* (Paper Golem, 2008; Schoen, ed.). Her story "Joenna's Ax" in *Clash of Steel Book 3: Demon* (Carnifex Press, 2006; Armand Rosamilia, ed.) is set in the same world as 2002 novella "Winning the Gallows Field" (*Elysian Fiction*) and both are available online as part of the "Tales of Bladesend" novella series.

As Elaine Isaak, and as Leah Brent, she has published in several volumes of the New Hampshire Pulp Fiction series. She also edited *Love Free or Die* (Plaidswede, 2014), volume IV in that series, volume V *Live Free or Ride*, about the venerable Concord Coach stagecoach, and the forthcoming volume VI, *Live Free or Dragons*. She was proud to serve as a judge for the World Fantasy Awards 2015.

Elaine is a graduate of and instructor for the Odyssey Speculative Fiction Writing Workshop, and her short stories have received honorable mentions from the Boskone Short Fiction Contest and the Ray Bradbury Short Story Award. Elaine lives in New Hampshire with two lovely children and a very

supportive spouse. She creates wearable art clothing, when she isn't climbing the walls at the rock gym, and has finally found an instrument she loves to play: taiko.



Alexander Jablokov (pronounced "Ya-") is the author of the novel *Brain Thief* (Tor 2010). His most recent story, "The Instructive Tale of the Archeologist and His Wife", will be in *The Year's Best Science Fiction and Fantasy, 2015 Edition* (Horton, ed.). Previous books are Locus' first novel finalist *Carve The Sky*

(Morrow/Avonova 1991), *A Deeper Sea* (Morrow/Avonova 1992), *Nimbus* (Morrow 1993), *River of Dust* (Avon 1996), and *Deepdrive* (Avon Eos 1998). His story "Bad Day on Boscobel" was in the *The Other Half of the Sky*, and is in the 31st *The Year's Best Science Fiction* (Dozois, ed.). His short fiction collection *The Breath of Suspension* (Arkham House 1994) was a *New York Times* Notable Book, and includes "At the Cross-Time Jaunter's Ball" from the 5th *The Year's Best Science Fiction* (Dozois, ed.), "A Deeper Sea" from the 7th, "The Death Artist" from the 8th, and "Living Will" from the 9th. "Market Report" appears in *Year's Best SF 4* (Hartwell, ed.), "Brain Raid" in the 2008 *Science Fiction: The Best of the Year* (Horton, ed.), and "Blind Cat Dance" in the 28th Dozois. Other short fiction appears in *Future Boston* (Smith, ed.), *Christmas Magic* (Hartwell, ed.), *Intersections* (Kessel, Van Name, and Butner, eds.), and in *Asimov's, F&SF, Amazing, Interzone, Science Fiction Age, and Aboriginal SF*. He lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts.



Victoria Janssen reviews for Publishers Weekly. Her most recent novel is *The Duke and the Pirate Queen*, fantasy erotica from Harlequin (2010). It has pirates, sharks, and the Island of the Lotus Eaters (or maybe that episode of

Star Trek in which Spock puffs flowers with Jill Ireland). It's set in the same universe as her first novel, *The Duchess, Her Maid, The Groom and Their Lover* (2008). *The Duchess...* subverted a number of romance novel tropes and might be the only Harlequin book ever featuring a sex scene with eunuchs. It's been translated into French, German, and Russian. Her second novel, *The Moonlight Mistress* (2009), an erotic historical set during World War One, was a finalist for an *RT Book Reviews* Reviewers' Choice Award. A tie-in story with a cross-dressing heroine, "Under Her Uniform," was recently translated into Japanese.

Janssen has sold over thirty short stories, many of them genre, including stories in *Sex in the System* (Tan, ed.), *So Fey* (Berman, ed.), and *Periphery* (Jamneck, ed.). Her most recent story, "Cinema Fantastique," will appear in *Best Lesbian Erotica of the Year*. For a full list of her publications, please visit her website at [victoriajanssen.com](#). Other interests include fanfiction, fan studies, comics, and fighting the patriarchy. You can follow her on Twitter [@victoriajanssen](#).



Josh Jasper is a speaker-to-customers and speaker-to-protocustomers at a technology startup in NYC. He's also a longtime fan, a conrunner, a feeder of fen, and a wrangler of green rooms. He wrote for the Publisher's Weekly *Genreville* blog for a time as well.

He lives in Brooklyn with two partners and the best baby ever.



Kathleen Jennings (Kathleen, aka @tanauadel on most platforms) is an illustrator and writer. She has been a finalist in the artist category of the World Fantasy Awards three times (2012, 2013, and 2016), and has received a number of Ditmar Awards for her art and fan art, and a 2016 Ditmar Award for Best Short Story.

She has provided cover art and internal illustrations for publishers such as Small Beer Press and Tor.com. These books include Kij Johnson's *The River Bank* (Big Mouth House, 2017), the Hebrew translation of Ursula Moray Williams' *Gobolino the Witch's Cat* (Utz Books, 2016), *Tremontaine* seasons 1 and 2 (Serial Box, 2015 and 2016), Angela Slatter's 2015 World Fantasy Award winning *Bitterwood Bible* (Tartarus, 2014), Catherynne M. Valente's *The Bread We Eat in Dreams* (Subterranean, 2013) and Kelly Link's *Stranger Things Happen* (Subterranean, 2012), with short comics "A Small Wild Magic" and "Finishing School" included in the YA anthologies *Monstrous Affections* and *Steampunk!* (Link and Grant, eds.; Candlewick, 2011 and 2014, respectively). Her first picture book, *Flight*, written by Angela Slatter, is scheduled to be published in September 2017 by Tiny Owl Workshop.

She has also been attached to the Brisbane Writers Festival as an events illustrator for several years running, and in 2016 attended Light Grey Art Lab's illustration residence in Iceland. She is attending the Illustration Master Class in Amherst a few weeks before this year's Readercon. On patreon.com/tanauadel, her patrons can support new projects and see sneak-peeks of Secret Things.

Her short story "A Hedge of Yellow Roses" (*Hear Me Roar*, Pillar, ed.; Ticonderoga, 2015) won a 2016 Ditmar award and has been included in *Year's Best Australian Fantasy and Horror 2015* (Grzyb and Helene, eds., Ticonderoga). "Skull and Hyssop" (first published by *Lady Churchill's Rosebud Wristlet*, 2014) was included in Prime Books' *Year's Best Science Fiction & Fantasy 2015* (Horton, ed.), while "Kindling" (*Light Touch Paper, Stand Clear*, Harvey and Petrie, eds., 2012) was included in *Year's Best Australian Fantasy and Horror 2012* (Grzyb and Helene, eds., Ticonderoga). She is also currently editing an Australian Gothic novella and two novel manuscripts (one fantasy, one Regency).

She was a member of the board of the Queensland Writers Centre from 2012 to 2017. She is currently undertaking an MPhil in Creative Writing at the University of Queensland, supervised by Dr. Kim Wilkins, and tutoring in grammar and genre fiction.

Kathleen was raised in Western Queensland, and now lives in Brisbane, Australia, where she can often be found sketching other people working.



Sandra Kasturi is a writer, poet, book reviewer, Bram Stoker Award-winning editor, and the co-publisher of ChiZine Publications, winner of the World Fantasy, HWA Speciality Press, and British Fantasy Awards. She is also co-creator of the children's animated series *Sinister Horde* and recently

worked on the upcoming Nickelodeon show *Mysticons*. Sandra's work has won several prizes for writing, including first prize in *ARC Poetry Magazine's* tenth Annual Poem of the Year Contest for "Old Men Smoking." She has also been shortlisted for the Troubadour International Poetry Prize, *THIS Magazine's* Great Canadian Literary Hunt, *ARC Poetry Magazine's* twelfth Annual International Poem of the Year Contest, *Glimmer Train's* Very Short Fiction Contest, the Rhysling Award, the Aurora Award, the Elgin Award, and CV2's Two-Day Poem Contest.

Her poetry, fiction, and nonfiction have appeared in various magazines and anthologies, including *Taddle Creek; ON SPEC; Prairie Fire; Contemporary Verse 2; Shadows & Tall Trees*; several of the *Tesseract* anthologies; *Evolve; Evolve 2*; both *Chilling Tales* volumes; *A Verdant Green; Star*Line; The Rhinoceros and His Thoughts; Annex Echo; 80! Memories & Reflections on Ursula K. Le Guin; Other Tongues: Mixed-Race Women Speak Out; Girls Who Bite Back: Witches, Slayers Mutants and Freaks; Stamps, Vamps & Tramps; Gods, Memes & Monsters; Black Feathers*; and *The Sum of Us*. Sandra is the author of two poetry collections: *The Animal Bridegroom* (with an introduction from Neil Gaiman) and *Come Late to the Love of Birds*, both from Tighrope Books. She is currently working on her third poetry book, *Snake Handling for Beginners*, as well as a story collection, *Mrs. Kong & Other Monsters*.



Nicholas Kaufmann is the author of the Stoker finalist novella *General Slocum's Gold* (Burning Effigy, 2007) and the Shirley Jackson and ITW Thriller finalist novella *Chasing the Dragon* (ChiZine, 2010). He also wrote the third book in the Gabriel Hunt series, *Hunt at World's End* (Dorchester, 2009; Titan Books re-release, 2014). His other books include *Dying Is My Business* (St. Martin's

Griffin, 2013), *Die and Stay Dead* (St. Martin's Griffin, 2014), and *In the Shadow of the Axe* (Crossroad Press, 2016). He is the editor of *Jack Haringa Must Die! Twenty-Eight Tales of Madness, Terror and Strictly Grammatical Murder* (Merricat, 2008), a fundraising anthology on behalf of the Shirley Jackson Awards — in which Jackson Advisory Board member Jack M. Haringa meets ever more colorful demises at the hands of numerous notable authors, including Laird Barron, Paul G. Tremblay, John Langan, and Craig Shaw Gardner.

Kaufmann's short story collections are *Walk In Shadows: Collected Stories* (Prime, 2003) and *Still Life: Nine Stories* (Necon E-Books, 2012). Other short fiction has appeared in *The Mammoth Book of Best New Erotica Vol. 3* (Jakubowski, ed.), *The Best American Erotica 2007* (Bright, ed.), *Shivers V* (Chizmar, ed.), and *All-American Horror of the 21st Century: The First Decade, 2000-2010* (Castle, ed.), and also *Cemetery Dance, City Slab, Dark Fusions* (Gresh, ed.), *Nightmare Magazine*, and *Dark Discoveries*.

He wrote popular monthly columns on the horror and dark fantasy genres for two websites, *Fear Zone* and *The Internet Review of Science Fiction*. In addition, his nonfiction has appeared in *On Writing Horror* (Castle, ed.), *Dark Scribe, Fantastic Metropolis, Hellnotes, Nightmare Magazine, All Things Urban Fantasy, SF Signal, Fantasy Magazine*, and *Rue Morgue*. He has served on the Board of Trustees for the Horror Writers Association and is a member of the International Thriller Writers.

Outside of writing, he has been professionally immersed in books for most of his adult life, as the publicity manager for a small literary press, a pitchman for a widely respected PR firm specializing in TV and radio author appearances, a bookstore clerk, an independent bookstore owner (the late, lamented Tell-Tale Books in Carroll Gardens, Brooklyn), a manager for Barnes & Noble, and a development associate for a top literary and film agent. He currently lives in Brooklyn, NY, with his wife and two ridiculous cats.



James Patrick Kelly ("Jim") was a Guest of Honor at Readercon 19. His most recent novel, *Mother Go*, was published as an audiobook original by Audible.com in July 2017. In 2016, a massive retrospective collection of twenty stories titled *James Patrick Kelly* was published in Centipede Press's

Masters of Science Fiction series. Prime Books will publish a new collection titled *The Promise of Space* in October 2017. Among the previously uncollected stories appearing in this book are "Don't Stop" (a 2009 Nebula finalist), "Someday," "One Sister, Two, Three," "Soulcatcher," and the title story, all of which appeared in various Year's Best anthologies.

Jim's first short fiction collection, *Locus* finalist *Think like a Dinosaur and Other Stories*, launched the Golden Gryphon imprint in 1997. It includes the 1986 Hugo, Nebula, *Locus*, and *SF Chronicle* short story finalist "Rat," 1990 Nebula finalist and *Asimov* Reader's Poll-winning novella "Mr. Boy," 1991 Nebula novelette finalist "Standing in Line with Mister Jimmy," 1998 *Locus* winner and Hugo, Nebula, and Sturgeon short story finalist "Itsy Bitsy Spider," and the title short story, a 1995 Hugo, *SF Chronicle*, and *Asimov's* Reader Poll winner and Nebula and *Locus* finalist, as well as "Pogrom" from the ninth *The Year's Best Science Fiction* (Dozois, ed.), and "Breakaway, Backdown" from *The Year's Best SF 2* (Hartwell, ed.).

His second collection, *Strange But Not a Stranger* (Golden Gryphon, 2002), includes 1993 Tiptree finalist "Chemistry," 1998 Sturgeon, Tiptree, and *Locus* finalist novelette "Lovestory," 1999 Hugo-winning novelette "1016 to 1," and 2001 Hugo, Nebula, and Sturgeon finalist novelette "Undone," as well as

Asimov's Reader Poll winner "The Prisoner of Chillon" from the fourth Dozois *Year's Best*, and "The Pyramid of Amirah" from *Year's Best Fantasy 3* (Hartwell and Cramer, eds.). *The Wreck Of The Godspeed and Other Stories* (Golden Gryphon, 2008) includes 2003 Hugo novelette finalist and Sturgeon runner-up "Bernardo's House," 2004 Hugo short story finalist "The Best Christmas Ever," 2004 Nebula and *Locus* novelette finalist "Men are Trouble," 2005 Nebula winner and Hugo and *Locus* finalist novella *Burn* (Tachyon, 2005), and 2007 Gaylactic Spectrum short fiction finalist "Dividing the Sustain," as well as "Luck" from *Fantasy: The Best of 2002* (Silverberg and Haber, eds.), and "The Dark Side of Town" and "The Edge of Nowhere" from *Year's Best SF 10 and 11* (Hartwell and Cramer, eds.).

Jim's other novels are *Planet of Whispers* (Bluejay, 1984) and quasi-sequel *Look Into the Sun* (Tor, 1989); *Freedom Beach* with John Kessel (Bluejay, 1985); and *Wildlife* (Tor, 1994), a fix-up incorporating versions of "Solstice," "The Prisoner of Chillon," and "Mr. Boy." With Kessel, he is co-editor of a series of anthologies from Tachyon: *Feeling Very Strange: The Slipstream Anthology* (2006), *Rewired: The Post Cyberpunk Anthology* (2007), *The Secret History of Science Fiction* (2009), *Kafkaesque* (2011), and *Digital Rapture: The Singularity Anthology*, as well as *Nebula Awards Showcase 2012* (Pyr).

He has written a column on the internet for *Asimov's* since 1998; his own website is www.jimkelly.net.



Mikki Kendall, a writer and occasional feminist, divides her time between two careers, grad school, family, and brunch. She has had a love affair with words since she first understood language. The native Chicagoan's non-fiction work can be found at *XO Jane, Salon, NPR's Code Switch, Guardian, RH Reality Check, Publisher's Weekly*, and a

host of other sites. Her latest short story, "If God Is Watching" can be found in the Special Bookworm Issue of *Revelator Magazine*. And she can often be found on Twitter (@karnythia) engaging in the highest quality shenanigans. She answers to Mikki and Karnythia, doesn't hug strangers, and will happily imbibe all manner of creations if there are tasty noms involved



Catt Kingsgrave has been writing fiction since the early 1980s, and despite everything, has not yet seen fit to desist. In the late 90s, she contributed stories to *Time of the Vampires* (DAW, 1996; P.N. Elrod and Martin Greenberg, eds.) and *Dracula in London* (Ace Books, 2001; P.N. Elrod, ed.) Her novella, *One Saved to the Sea*, (Circler Press, 2012) was a winner of that year's Rainbow Award, as well as a

finalist for both the Lambda and the Golden Crown awards of that year. Her poem, *Tit Tot* (Goblin Fruit, summer 2012) was nominated for a Rhysling award. In addition to some 200 works of derivative fiction of which she refuses to be ashamed, in her anthology *A Thing of Rags and Patches*, (Amazon Marketplace

Books, 2013) she continues her tradition of smashing together elements of fantasy, horror, poetry, suspense, and upside-down fairy tales until they are all as difficult to classify as possible.

She lives with three cats and her partner of 31 years in an upstate New York home — one that was built a century or so before the state (in which she was born) became part of the Union. When not writing, she has been known to indulge in random bouts of theatre, songwriting, dance, painting, home repair, construction, tarology — plus volunteer rape crisis counseling and singing the blues. Her interests are zombie outbreak preparedness, criminal profiling, gardening, and full-contact applied mythology.

She does not make jam.



Rosemary Kirstein's novel *The Steerswoman* (Del Rey, 1989, Compton Crook Award finalist), first volume of the series of the same name, was selected by Damien Broderick and Paul Di Filippo for *Science Fiction: The 101 Best Novels 1985–2010*. It and its sequel, *The*

Outskirter's Secret (Del Rey, 1992), were later reissued together as the omnibus *The Steerswoman's Road* (Del Rey, 2003), and were followed by *The Lost Steersman* (Del Rey, 2003) and *The Language of Power* (Del Rey, 2004). She is working on the untitled Volume 5 after having done much work on Volume 6, *The City in the Crag*s.

Ms. Kirstein has released ebook versions of all four volumes, and they can be purchased through Amazon, Smashwords, Barnes & Noble, iBooks, Kobo, and other reputable ebook sellers. Plans are in the works for re-issuing trade paperback versions.

Her short story "Act Naturally" was published in *Asimov's* July 1982 issue, and the story "Salvage", written in collaboration with her sister Sabine Kirstein, was published in *Aboriginal Science Fiction* in the March-April 1989 issue.

You can follow her blog at www.rosemarykirstein.com, or on Facebook (as "Rosemary Kirstein – writer") and Twitter (@rkirstein) — however, the semi-secret extra messages sometimes imbedded in the hovertext/tooltips of photos in her blog don't always work on an iPad. It's best to use a mouse.



Chandler Klang Smith is the author of *Goldenland Past Dark* (ChiZine Publications, 2013) and *The Sky Is Yours* (forthcoming from Hogarth/Crown, 2018). She teaches for the Sackett Street Writers Workshop, tutors in the writing center at Columbia University, and coordinates literary events for the KGB Bar. She is a graduate of Bennington College

and the MFA creative writing program at Columbia University. She served as a juror for this year's Shirley Jackson Awards.



Barbara Krasnoff's short fiction has appeared a wide variety of anthologies and publications. Most recently, her story "The Ladder-Back Chair" has appeared in *Mythic Delirium*, while her 2017 Nebula finalist short story "Sabbath Wine" was published in *Clockwork Phoenix 5* (Allen, ed.) and is due out soon

as an podcast on *Kaleidocast*.

Other anthologies include *Memories and Visions* (Sturgis, ed.), *Such A Pretty Face* (Martindale, ed.), *Escape Velocity: The Anthology* (Nelder and Blevins, eds.), *Descended From Darkness* (Sizemore and Ainsworth, eds.), *Clockwork Phoenix 2* (Allen, ed.), *Crossed Genres: Year Two* (Holt, Jennings, and Leib, eds.), *Broken Time Blues* (Holt and Gates, eds.), *Subversion* (Leib, ed.), *Fat Girl in a Strange Land* (Holt and Leib, eds.), *Menial* (Jennings and Darrach, eds.) and *Clockwork Phoenix 4* (Allen, ed.). Her stories have also appeared in *Amazing Stories*, *Lady Churchill's Rosebud Wristlet*, *Descant*, *Weird Tales*, *Sybil's Garage*, *Escape Velocity*, *Behind the Wainscot*, *Doorways*, *Apex*, *Electric Velocipede*, *Space and Time*, *Crossed Genres*, *Atomic Avarice*, *Cosmos*, *Triptych Tales*, *Voluted Dreams*, *Perihelion*, and *Abyss & Apex*. Her poem "Memorials" appeared in *Poetica*.

Barbara is currently working on a mosaic novel entitled *Lost Connections*; she is also the author of a YA non-fiction book, *Robots: Reel to Real* (Arco, 1982), and is Sr. Reviews Editor for *Computerworld*. She attended the 2015 Starry Coast Writers Workshop and is a member of the NYC writers group Tabula Rasa. She lives in Brooklyn, NY, with her partner Jim Freund, and can be found every month greeting audience members (and collecting their contributions) at the NYRSF Readings.

Sioban Krzywicki was introduced to SF/F conventions by her mother and grandmother when she was quite small. She's found that helping with the convention is a nice break from moving and arranging data for various companies. She's a trans woman and this is her first Readercon as a woman, though she's been working on Readercon for 3 years.



Matthew Kressel is a two-time Nebula Award finalist and World Fantasy Award finalist. His 2015 novel *King of Shards*, was hailed as "Majestic, resonant, reality-twisting madness" from NPR Books. His short fiction has appeared in many publications including Tor.com, *Clarkesworld*, *Lightspeed*, io9.com, *Nightmare*, *Beneath Ceaseless Skies*, *Apex*

Magazine, *Interzone*, plus the anthologies *Cyber World*, *Naked City*, *After*, and other markets; and his work has been translated into six languages. He co-hosts the Fantastic Fiction at KGB reading series in Manhattan with Ellen Datlow, is a long-time member of Altered Fluid, a Manhattan-based critique group, and is an amateur student of Yiddish. He created the Moksha submissions system, in use by some of the largest genre fiction publishers, and makes a living as freelance software developer. He blogs about culture, the environment, and optimism at <http://www.matthewkressel.net> and @mattkressel.



John Langan is the author of two novels, *The Fisherman* (Word Horde, 2016) and *House of Windows* (Night Shade, 2009; Diversion, 2017), and two collections of stories, *The Wide, Carnivorous Sky and Other Monstrous Geographies* (Hippocampus, 2013) and *Mr. Gaunt and Other Uneasy Encounters* (Prime, 2008). With Paul Tremblay, he co-edited

Creatures: Thirty Years of Monsters (Prime, 2011). He is one of the founders of the Shirley Jackson Awards, for which he was a judge during its first three years. Currently, he reviews horror and dark fantasy for *Locus Magazine*. Forthcoming is a new collection, *Sefira and Other Betrayals* (Hippocampus, 2017). He has received the Bram Stoker Award and the This Is Horror Award for *The Fisherman*. He lives in New York's Hudson Valley with his wife, younger son, and a houseful of animals. And swords.



Yoon Ha Lee's debut novel, *Ninefox Gambit*, was published in 2016 by Solaris Books and has been shortlisted for the Nebula, Hugo, and Clarke awards. Its sequel, *Raven Stratagem*, is forthcoming in June 2017.

His short story collection *Conservation of Shadows* came out in 2013 from Prime Books. It includes "The Black Abacus" (appeared in *Science Fiction: The Best of 2002*, Robert Silverberg & Karen Haber, eds.), "The Unstrung Zither" (appeared in *Year's Best SF 15*, David G. Hartwell & Kathryn Cramer, eds.), "Flower, Mercy, Needle, Chain" (Theodore Sturgeon Award finalist; appeared in *The Year's Best Science Fiction: Twenty-Eighth Annual Collection*, Gardner Dozois, ed., and *The Year's Best Science Fiction & Fantasy 2011*, Rich Horton, ed.), "Ghostweight" (Theodore Sturgeon Award finalist; appeared in *The Year's Best Science Fiction: Twenty-Ninth Annual Collection*, Gardner Dozois, ed., and *The Year's Best Science Fiction & Fantasy 2012*, Rich Horton, ed.), "Conservation of Shadows" (appeared in *The Year's Best Dark Fantasy & Horror 2012*, Paula Guran, ed.), "A Vector Alphabet of Interstellar Travel" (appeared in *Year's Best SF 17*, David G. Hartwell & Kathryn Cramer, eds.). Lee lives in Louisiana and has not yet been eaten by gators.



Bart R. Leib is co-publisher of Crossed Genres Publications. He edited the anthologies *Subversion: Science Fiction & Fantasy tales of challenging the norm* (Dec 2011) and *Fierce Family* (Jan 2014), co-edited *Fat Girl in a Strange Land* (Feb 2012) and *Oomph: A Little Super Goes a Long Way* (Oct 2013), and

edited the novel *Ink* by Sabrina Vourvoulias (Oct 2012). He was also co-editor of *Crossed Genres Magazine* (2008-2015).

Bart's fiction has been published in *M-Brane SF Magazine* and the anthology *Beauty Has Her Way* (Dark Quest Books, 2011). He's a former contributor to GeekDad.com; his nonfiction has been published by *Fantasy Magazine* and *Science in My Fiction*.

Bart lives in Massachusetts with his wife Kay, their son Bastian, and three cats. At any given moment, he has more active projects than he has fingers. His website is <http://subvertthespace.com/bartleib>, and he can be found on Twitter as [@metafrantic](https://twitter.com/metafrantic).



Shariann Lewitt ("Shariann" — and the first syllable rhymes with "far" and not "hat") is the author of *First and Final Rites* (Ace, 1984); *USSA Book #2* (Avon, 1987); *USSA Book #4* (Avon, 1987); *Angel at Apogee* (Ace, 1987); *Cyberstealth* (Ace, 1989) and its sequel *Dancing Vac* (Ace, 1990); *Blind Justice* (Ace, 1991); *Cybernetic Jungle* (Ace, 1992); and *Songs of Chaos* (Ace, 1993). *Memento Mori* was published by Tor in 1995, *Interface Masque* by Tor in 1997, and *Rebel Sutra* by Tor in 2000. *Succubus and the City* and its sequel *Succubus Takes Manhattan*, written under the name Nina Harper, were published by Del Rey in 2008.

With Susan Shwartz, she wrote *Whitewing* (published as Gordon Kendall, Tor, 1985). Her short fiction has appeared in *Perpetual Light* (Alan Ryan, ed.); *Habitats* (Susan Shwartz, ed.); *Magic in Ithkar #2* (Robert Adams and Andre Norton, eds.); *Friends of the Horseclan* (Robert Adams and Pamela Crippen-Adams, eds.); *Tales of the Witchworld #2* (Andre Norton, ed.); *Counter-Attack: The Fleet, Book 2* (David Drake and Bill Fawcett, eds.); *Breakthrough: The Fleet, Book 3* (Drake and Fawcett, eds.); *Carmen Miranda's Ghost is Haunting Space Station 3* (Don Sakers, ed.); *Newer York* (Lawrence Watt-Evans); and *Battlestar Book One* (Drake and Fawcett, eds.).

The French translation of the story "A Real Girl," may be found in its original English in *Bending the Landscape, Vol. 2* (Nicola Griffith and Stephen Pagel, eds.). More recent short fiction includes "Haircut" (*Fantastic Stories of the Imagination*, Warren Lapine, ed.); "Common Ground" (*Impossible Futures*, Judith K. Dial and Thomas A. Easton, eds.); "Wedding Embroidery" (*Stars of Darkover*, Deborah Ross and Elizabeth Waters, eds.); "Memory," (*Gifts of Darkover*, Deborah Ross, ed.); "Symmetry," (*Deco Punk*, Dial and Easton, eds.); "Geronimo's Skull" (*Conspiracies!* Dial and Easton eds.); and "Tainted Meat" (*Realms of Darkover*, Deborah Ross, ed.). Her story "Fieldwork" (*To Shape the Dark*, Athena Andreadis, ed.) has been selected by Gardner Dozois to appear in *The Year's Best Science Fiction: Thirty-Fourth Annual Collection*.

She lives in the Boston area and teaches at MIT.



Marissa Lingen is the author of more than a hundred science fiction and fantasy short stories. This makes writing bio-bibliographies that are not boring laundry lists really, really hard. Her fiction has appeared in six Year's Best anthologies unless it's more, and she has been published in Tor.com, *Beneath Ceaseless Skies*, *Analog*, *F&SF*, *Nature*, *Asimov's*, *Strange Horizons*, *Apex*, and many others.

Marissa lives in the Minneapolis area with two large men and one small dog. She is working on probably too many things right now, which is just typical. She is represented by Kurestin Armada of P.S. Literary.



Darcie Little Badger is a Lipan Apache scientist and writer. After studying gene expression in toxin-producing phytoplankton, she received a PhD from Texas A&M University. Her ghost story "Nkásht íí" was included in *Heiresses of Russ 2015: The Year's Best Lesbian Speculative Fiction* (Roberta and Berman,

eds.). "Black, Their Regalia," her tale about Native metalheads and the apocalypse, was featured in *POC Destroy Fantasy* (Older, ed.). "Black, Their Regalia" has been reprinted in *Cicada Magazine*. Darcie's other short fiction has appeared in *No Sh!t, There I Was* (Acks, ed.), *Love Beyond Body, Space, and Time* (Nicholson, ed.), *Vignettes from the End of the World* (Haddon, ed.); also in *Strange Horizons*, *Mythic Delirium*, *Fantastic Stories of the Imagination*, and *Spirit's Tincture*. She has also written non-fiction for *Strange Horizons* and *Fantastic Stories of the Imagination*.

This summer, Darcie's debut comic, "Worst Bargain in Town," was published in *Moonshot: The Indigenous Comics Collection, Volume 2* (Nicholson, ed.). In "Worst Bargain in Town," two Lipan teens save their home from a sinister southern belle. Darcie's second comic will appear in the forthcoming anthology *Relational Constellation* (LaPensée, ed.).

Darcie was the 2012 STIDA Princess during the Twenty-third Annual South Texas (Way South) Pow Wow. She is also the geologist and environmental consultant for the Lipan Apache Tribe of Texas. In her free time, Darcie tweets as @ShiningComic.



Ken Liu is the author of *The Wall of Storms* (2016), *The Grace of Kings* (Nebula finalist, novel, and Locus finalist, first novel, 2016), "The Paper Menagerie" (Hugo, Nebula, World Fantasy Award winner, short story, 2011), "The Man Who Ended History: A Documentary" (Hugo, Nebula and Sturgeon finalist, novella, 2011), "Mono no aware" (Hugo winner, short story, 2012), "The

Bookmaking Habits of Select Species" (Nebula and Sturgeon finalist, short story, 2012), "The Waves" (Nebula finalist, novelette, 2012), "All the Flavors" (Nebula finalist, novella, 2012), "The Litigation Master and the Monkey King" (Nebula finalist, novelette, 2013), "A Brief History of the Trans-Pacific Tunnel" (Sidewise and Locus finalist, novelette, 2014), "The Regular" (Nebula, Locus, and Sturgeon finalist, novella, 2015), "The Long Haul" (Sidewise winner, novelette, 2015). His short fiction has appeared in *Analog*, *Asimov's*, *Clarkesworld*, *F&SF*, *Lightspeed*, *Nature*, and *Tor.com*, among other places.

His debut novel, *The Grace of Kings*, the first in an epic fantasy series, was published in 2015. Saga also published a

collection of his short fiction, *The Paper Menagerie and Other Stories*, in 2016.

He is also a translator of speculative and literary fiction from Chinese into English. His translation of *The Three-Body Problem* (2015), the first volume in Liu Cixin's hard sci-fi trilogy, was the first translated novel to win the Hugo Award.

He lives in Massachusetts with his wife Lisa and their daughters.



Natalie Luhrs reviewed SF/F for RT Book Reviews for eight years before striking out on her own. Now, she can be found mostly on her blog, *Pretty Terrible* (<http://www.pretty-terrible.com>) and on Twitter (@eilatan), with the occasional essay in *Uncanny Magazine*. She is a finalist for the 2017 Hugo Award for Best Fan Writer.

B. Diane Martin has served on the Readercon Committee for over twenty conferences and has served as ConChair seven times.

Diane is an attorney and a founder of several technology startups. She continues to encourage all the authors, editors, and artists that she's had the opportunity to work with over the years at Readercon to name a literary executor in their will. Diane lives with her husband, David G. Shaw, and their son Miles (He Who Will Not Be Ignored) in a Somerville, MA, Victorian home filled with books, music, games, art, and cookware.



Susan R. Matthews (Susan) has spent most of her writing life chronicling The Life and Hard Times of "Uncle" Andrej Koscuisko, who is Not a Nice Man. Her Under Jurisdiction series started with her debut novel, *An Exchange of Hostages* (AvoNova, 1997; Philip K. Dick Award finalist); the seventh novel in that series, *Blood Enemies*

(Baen, 2017), has recently been published on the twenty-year anniversary of her debut.

Baen has collected the series to date in two omnibus editions: *Fleet Inquisitor* (Baen, 2016), containing *An Exchange of Hostages*, *Prisoner of Conscience* (Avon, 1998), and *Angel of Destruction* (Roc, 2001); and *Fleet Renegade* (Baen, 2017), containing *Hour of Judgment* (Avon Eos, 1999), *The Devil and Deep Space* (Roc, 2002), and *Warring States* (Meisha Merlin, 2006). The seven series titles are available as audiobooks narrated by Stefan Rudnicki and in e-book format from Baen.

An upcoming collection, *Fleet Insurgent* (Baen, 2017), will collect out-of-print and new Under Jurisdiction material, including four novellas ("Proving Cruise," "Jurisdiction," "Quid Pro Quo," and "Stalking Horse") as well as the short stories "Insubordination" (*New Voices in Science Fiction*, Tekno Books, 2003), "Thumping the Weaver" (*Women Writing Science Fiction as Men*, Tekno Books, 2003), and "Society's Stepchild" (*Stars: Stories Based on Janis Ian's Songs*, DAW, 2003) along with previously

unpublished material. She has two novels independent of her series, *Avalanche Soldier* (Harper Collins, 1999) and *Colony Fleet* (Harper Voyager, 2000).

She was a finalist for the John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer in 1998 and 1999. Retired now, she shamelessly calls herself a full-time writer, since she no longer holds a day job. Susan lives with Maggie Nowakowska — her wife of thirty-seven years — and their two Pomeranians in Seattle, where her household responsibilities include (a) putting valerian plants everywhere she thinks Maggie won't notice them until it's too late and (b) making an herbal elixir (or "sleep-stink") out of the roots.

She is an enthusiastic ham radio operator, and will have her first HF antenna up in the back yard Any Year Now so that she can fulfill a longtime ambition to bounce a signal off the ionosphere (and maybe talk to the International Space Station). Because land lines fail, cell phone towers go out, the Internet goes down, and public service radio loses power, but ham radio gets the signal through. Semper Gumby!



Paul McAuley is the author of more than twenty novels, more than a hundred short stories, a Doctor Who novella, and a BFI Film Classic monograph on Terry Gilliam's film *Brazil*. He became a full-time writer after working as a research biologist in various universities, including Oxford and University

of California, Los Angeles, and as a lecturer in botany at St. Andrews University. His first novel, *Four Hundred Billion Stars*, won the Philip K. Dick Memorial Award; his fifth, *Fairyland*, won the Arthur C. Clarke and John W. Campbell Awards. Other works have won the Sidewise Award, the British Fantasy Award, and the Theodore Sturgeon Memorial Award — and the *Palgrave History of Science Fiction* described his novel *Confluence* as one of "the two most significant SF novels of the 1990s."

Paul McAuley's other novels include *Secret Harmonies*; *Red Dust*; *Pasquale's Angel*; *The Secret of Life*; *Whole Wide World*; *White Devils*; *Mind's Eye*; *Players*; the Quiet War series, including *The Quiet War*, *Gardens of the Sun*, *In The Mouth of the Whale* and *Evening's Empires*; two Jackaroo novels, *Something Coming Through* and *Into Everywhere*; and *Austral*. He has also written for a variety of magazines and national newspapers, including *Crime Time*, *The Guardian*, *The Independent*, *Nature*, *New Scientist*, *Crime Time*, *Interzone*, and *Wired UK*, and has appeared on BBC Breakfast TV and numerous radio programmes. He lives in North London. His website and blog are both at <http://www.unlikelyworlds.co.uk/>, and you can follow him on Twitter (@UnlikelyWorlds).



Alena McNamara is a writer of short stories and (unpublished) novels.

Her short fiction publications include a story in the 2014 Tiptree Honor List-recognized *Kaleidoscope* (Rios and Krasnostein, eds.) and a story, "As Large as Alone", reprinted in the 2013 *Year's Best YA Speculative Fiction*

(Rios and Krasnostein, eds.). Other stories have appeared in *Lady Churchill's Rosebud Wristlet*, *Crossed Genres Magazine*, and *Lightning Cake*.

From 2009 to 2015, she was an Associate Editor at *Ideomancer*.

Alena is a graduate of the 2008 Odyssey Workshop and Viable Paradise XV. She lives near Boston and works in an academic library. Her website is alenamcnamara.com.



James Morrow ("Jim"), a Guest of Honor at Readercon 17, has been writing fiction ever since shortly after his seventh birthday, when he dictated "The Story of the Dog Family" to his mother, who dutifully typed it up and bound the pages with yarn. Upon reaching adulthood, Morrow channeled his storytelling drive toward speculative literature. His oeuvre's adequacy is reflected in a handful of awards, including the 2005 Prix Utopia, given by the French SF community for lifetime achievement. Over the years his fiction has been translated into thirteen languages.

Within his circumscribed but devoted readership, Morrow is best known for the Godhead Trilogy: *Towing Jehovah* (Harcourt Brace, 1994; World Fantasy Award winner, Grand Prix de l'Imaginaire winner, Hugo Award nominee, Locus Award finalist), *Blameless in Abaddon* (Harcourt Brace, 1996; *New York Times* Notable Book), and *The Eternal Footman* (Harcourt 1998; Grand Prix de l'Imaginaire finalist).

Jim's earlier efforts include *The Wine of Violence* (Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1981), *The Continent of Lies* (Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1984), *This Is the Way the World Ends* (Henry Holt, 1986; Nebula Award finalist, Campbell Award finalist), and *Only Begotten Daughter* (William Morrow, 1990; World Fantasy winner, Nebula nominee, Mythopoeic finalist, Campbell finalist).

In recent years Jim has composed three novels dramatizing the scientific worldview: *The Last Witchfinder* (William Morrow, 2006; Campbell, Tiptree, and BSFA finalist), *The Philosopher's Apprentice* (William Morrow, 2008; Campbell finalist), and *Galápagos Regained* (St. Martin's Press, 2015), in which Charles Darwin's zookeeper attempts to win the Great God Contest.

Within the realm of short fiction, Jim has written three stand-alone novellas: *City of Truth* (Legend/St. Martin's, 1991; Nebula winner), *Shambling Towards Hiroshima* (Tachyon 2009; Sturgeon Award winner, Hugo nominee, Nebula nominee, Locus finalist), *The Madonna and the Starship* (Tachyon, 2014), and *The Asylum of Dr. Caligari* (Tachyon, 2017).

His first collection, *Bible Stories for Adults* (Harcourt 1996; World Fantasy finalist, Locus finalist) includes 1988 Nebula winner "Bible Stories for Adults, No. 17: The Deluge." His second collection, *The Cat's Pajamas and Other Stories* (Tachyon, 2004), includes the Nebula finalist "Auspicious Eggs." His most recent collection is *Reality by Other Means: The Best Short Fiction of James Morrow* (Wesleyan University Press).

Uncollected James Morrow stories appear in *The Science Fiction Century* (Hartwell, ed.); *Science Fiction: The Very Best of 2005* (Strahan, ed.); *Conjunctions: 61: A Menagerie* (B. Morrow and

Hale, eds.); *Conjunctions: 65: Sleights of Hand* (B. Morrow, ed.); *Conjunctions: 67: Other Aliens* (B. Morrow and Hand, eds.); *The Palencar Project* (Hartwell, ed.); *Age of Certainty* (William Freedman, ed.); *Impossible Futures* (Dial and Easton, eds.); *Drowned Worlds* (Strahan, ed.); *Chasing Shadows* (Brin and Potts, eds.); and *Seat 14C* (Kramer, ed.).

As an anthologist, Jim has compiled three *Nebula Awards* volumes (Harcourt Brace, 1992, 1993, 1994) and, with Kathryn Morrow, *The SFWA European Hall of Fame* (Tor, 2007), sixteen Continental SF stories in English translation. An earlier Jim and Kathy project, *Tolkien Lesson Plans* (2004), appears on the Houghton Mifflin website. An issue of *Paradoxa: Studies in World Literary Genres* (Volume 5, Number 12; 1999) was devoted to essays on Jim's writing, titled *The Divinely Human Comedy of James Morrow* (Winchell, ed.).

A full-time fiction writer, the author makes his home in State College, PA, with his wife, an enigmatic sheepdog, and a loopy beagle mix.



Kathryn Smith Morrow is a charter member of the Penn State Science Fiction Society, founded in 1969—the year she attended her first convention, a Philcon. Despite having earned a writing degree from Penn State, where Phil Klass/William Tenn was her academic advisor, and doing occasional freelance journalism and editing, she has not quite

managed to publish any sf thus far. However, she peddled a great deal of the stuff during her twenty-five year career as a bookseller, during which she served on the Paracon committee (1980–1984) and on the 1983 and 1986 Worldcon committees. She was also Professor Klass's T.A. for his literature of Science Fiction course in 1981 and again in 1987.

Having involuntarily retired from independent bookselling for the usual reasons (store closed), she is currently multitasking (details upon request) from her home with her husband (James Morrow) and two adopted dogs. An irregular contributor to the *New York Review of Science Fiction*, Kathy collaborated with Jim Morrow in creating online lesson plans for *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings* for the Houghton Mifflin website in 2004, and co-edited with Jim Morrow *The SFWA European Hall of Fame* (Tor, 2007).



Ilana C. Myer has written about books for *The Globe and Mail*, the *Los Angeles Review of Books*, the *Huffington Post*, and *Salon*. Previously she was a journalist in Jerusalem. Her first novel, *Last Song Before Night*, was published by Tor in 2015. Her second, *Fire Dance*, will be released in April 2018.

Kate Nepveu (pronounced “NEHV-you”, the “p” is silent) is a reader, fan, and reviewer. She was born in South Korea, grew up in Massachusetts, and now lives in upstate New York. There, she is practicing law, raising a family, running Con or Bust

(which helps fans of color/non-white fans attend SFF cons), and, in her theoretical free time, writing on her blog (kate-nepveu.dreamwidth.org) and booklog (steelypips.org/weblog/). For *Tor.com*, she has reread *The Lord of the Rings*, *The Hobbit*, *Jonathan Strange & Mr Norrell*, and the *Temeraire* series. She's got an overdeveloped sense of responsibility. It's going to get her into trouble someday.



Mark Oshiro asks: What if you could re-live the experience of reading a book (or watching a show) for the first time? He provides just such a thing on a daily basis on *Mark Reads* and *Mark Watches*, where he chronicles his unspoiled journey through various television and book series. Since 2009, Mark has been subjecting himself to the emotional journey

that one takes when entering a fictional world for the first time. He mixes textual analysis, confessional blogging, and humor to analyze the fiction that usually makes him cry and yell on camera. All of this earned Mark a Hugo nomination in the Fan Writer category in 2013 and 2014, and he has no plans on stopping.

He was the nonfiction editor of *Queers Destroy Science Fiction!* and the co-editor of *Speculative Fiction 2015*. He is the president of Con or Bust, a nonprofit that helps fans of color attend SFF conventions. He has a forthcoming YA contemporary novel that will be out in 2018, and his life goal: to pet every dog in the world.



Sarah Pinsker is the author of the 2015 Nebula Award winning novelette, “Our Lady of the Open Road.” Her novelette “In Joy, Knowing the Abyss Behind,” was the 2014 Sturgeon Award winner and a 2013 Nebula finalist. Her story “A Stretch of Highway Two Lanes Wide” was a 2014 Nebula finalist, and another story, “No Lonely Seafarer,” made the

2014 Tiptree Award longlist. Her fiction has been published in magazines including *Asimov's*, *Strange Horizons*, *Lightspeed*, *Fantasy & Science Fiction*, *Apex*, *Uncanny*, *Daily Science Fiction*, the *Journal of Unlikely Cartography*, and *Fireside* and in anthologies including *Accessing the Future: A Disability Themed Anthology of Speculative Fiction* (Kathryn Allan & Djibril al-Ayad, eds.), *How to Live On Other Planets: A Handbook for Aspiring Aliens* (Joanne Merriam, ed.), *Long Hidden* (Rose Fox & Daniel Jose Older, eds.), *Fierce Family* (Bart R. Leib, ed.), and *The Future Embodied* (Jason Andrew & Mae Empson, eds.). She has had stories in the *Year's Best Weird Fiction Volume 2* & two volumes of *Year's Best Young Adult Speculative Fiction*.

She co-hosts the Baltimore Science Fiction Society's Dangerous Voices Variety Hour, a reading series/quiz show. She took part in the Sycamore Hill writing workshop in 2015 and 2016. She is also a singer/songwriter with three albums on various independent labels: *Charmed*, disappear records; *Wingspan*, Reinventing Records; *This is Your Signal*, The

Beechfields, with the Stalking Horses) and a fourth forthcoming. She lives in Baltimore, Maryland and can be found online at sarahpinsker.com and twitter.com/sarahpinsker.



Tom Purdom's major recent publication is a novelette, "Fatherbond" (*Asimov's* January-February 2017), the first in an interstellar series. The second story in the series, "Afloat Above a Floor of Stars," is scheduled for the November-December 2017 *Asimov's*. *Romance on Four Worlds, A Casanova Quartet* (Fantastic Press, February 2015)

collects four *Asimov's* novelettes about a future character based on the 18th century adventurer Giacomo Casanova. Twelve of Tom's other *Asimov's* stories have been collected in *Lovers and Fighters, Starships and Dragons* (Fantastic Press, February 2014).

His other recent works are "Day Job" (*Asimov's* April-May 2015) and "Bogdavi's Dream" (*Asimov's* September 2014). "Bogdavi's Dream" is the fourth novelette in a series of sequels to his sword and planet fantasy *The Tree Lord of Imeten*, a 1966 Ace Double. His *Asimov's* story "A Stranger from a Foreign Ship" has been reprinted in *The Year's Best Science Fiction and Fantasy: 2014 Edition*, (Rich Horton, ed.). His 2011 *Asimov's* novelette "A Response from EST17" appeared in the 29th *The Year's Best Science Fiction* (Dozois, ed.). His 1999 Hugo novelette finalist "Fossil Games" is in *Year's Best SF 5* (Hartwell, ed.).

Other reprints: "Greenplace" is in *World's Best Science Fiction 1965* (Wollheim and Carr, eds.); "Canary Land" in *Year's Best SF 3* (Hartwell, ed.); "Bank Run" in the 2006 *Science Fiction: The Best of the Year* (Horton, ed.); and "The Mists of Time" in the 25th Dozois *The Year's Best*.

Tom's first published story appeared in the August 1957 *Fantastic Universe*, and his '60s and '70s fiction appeared in *Galaxy*, *Analog*, *Amazing*, *Satellite*, *Infinity*, and *SF Quarterly* — and in the anthologies *Star Science Fiction 6* (Pohl, ed.), *International Affairs Through Science Fiction* (Greenberg and Olander, eds.), *This Side of Infinity* (Carr, ed.), *The Future is Now* (Nolan, ed.), *Thor's Hammer* (Bretnor, ed.), and *Future Quest* (Elwood, ed.). For the last 24 years, he has been writing mostly novelettes, almost exclusively for *Asimov's*, with stories also in *Invaders* and *Space Soldiers* (Dann and Dozois, eds.), *Isaac Asimov's Valentines* (Dozois and Williams, ed.), *War and Space* (Horton and Wallace, eds.), and *Baen's Universe*. Electronic reprints of many of his stories can be purchased from the Kindle and Nook e-publishing programs.

He has published five novels: *I Want the Stars* (Ace Double, 1964), *The Tree Lord of Imeten* (Ace Double, 1966), *Five Against Arlane* (Ace Double, 1967), *Reduction in Arms* (Berkley, 1970), and *The Barons of Behavior* (Ace, 1972). He has edited one anthology, *Adventures in Discovery* (Doubleday, 1969), a collection of specially commissioned articles about science, by sf writers such as Isaac Asimov, Robert Silverberg, and Poul Anderson.

Outside of science fiction, his output includes magazine articles, essays, and science writing, plus brochures on home decorating, an educational comic book on vocational safety, and 28 years of classical music reviews for various Philadelphia publications, currently the *Broad Street Review*.

He is writing a literary memoir, *When I Was Writing*, discussing his work on individual stories and novels, which he has been publishing on his website; the first ten chapters have been reprinted in the *New York Review of Science Fiction*. The memoir is also available on the Nook and the Kindle. Tom lives in downtown Philadelphia.



Faye Ringel retired in 2009 from her position as Professor of Humanities, U.S. Coast Guard Academy; she was named Professor Emerita in 2010. She is the author of *New England's Gothic Literature* (E. Mellen Press, 1995) and the chapters on Lovecraft and New England Gothic in *A Companion to American Gothic* (Crow, ed.); essays in

Critical Essays on Lord Dunsany (Joshi, ed.), *The Year's Work in Medievalism 1991 and 1995*, *Into Darkness Peering: Race and Color in the Fantastic* (Leonard, ed.), *Ballads Into Books: The Legacies of Francis James Child* (Cheesman and Rieuwerfs, eds.), *Views of Middle Earth* (Clark and Timmons, eds.; 2000-2002 Mythopoeic finalist for Inklings Studies), *After History* (Prochazka, ed.), *Scholarly Stooges* (Seeley, ed.). Reference book entries appear in *Handbook of Gothic Literature*; *The Encyclopedia of New England*; *Supernatural Literature of the World: An Encyclopedia*; *The Encyclopedia of the Gothic*; and *Encyclopedia of the Vampire: The Living Dead in Myth, Legend, and Popular Culture*. She has also published articles and presented conference papers on (among other subjects) New England vampires, urban fantasy, demonic cooks, neo-pagans, Lovecraft, King, Tolkien, McKillip, Yiddish folklore and music, and on the fiction of Greer Gilman. Faye has reviewed books for *Journal of the Fantastic in the Arts*, *Necrofile*, *Gothic Studies*, the *NEPCA Newsletter*, *The Journal of American Culture*, and *The Nautilus: A Maritime Journal of Literature, History, and Culture*.

Her CD of traditional music with fiddler Bob Thurston is *Hot Chestnuts: Old Songs, Endearing Charms*. She sings and plays piano with the Klezmer band Klezmenschen, and performs cabaret with Anne Flammang and with the Chelsea Players.



Julia Rios is a multiple award-winning editor and a Hugo finalist as both editor and podcaster. She is the poetry and reprint editor for *Uncanny Magazine*, and is a current Hugo finalist for her work there this year. She was a senior fiction editor from 2012–2015 for the Hugo finalist, *Strange Horizons* — and is part of the 2014 Hugo finalist podcasting team

for *The Skiffy and Fanty Show*, where she conducts interviews, participates in panel discussions, and critiques terrible movies. She is also a writer and narrator.

In addition to her work with *Strange Horizons* (for which she won the WSFA Small Press Award in 2013), Julia is co-editor of four anthologies. *Kaleidoscope: Diverse YA Science Fiction and Fantasy Stories* (Twelfth Planet Press, 2014; Alisa Krasnostein and Julia Rios, eds.) won the Ditmar and Aurealis Awards (Australia's national sff popular vote and juried awards); plus it

was on the Tiptree Award Honor List. She also edited three volumes of a Year's Best series, *The Year's Best YA Speculative Fiction 2013* (Twelfth Planet Press, 2015; Alisa Krasnostein and Julia Rios, eds.), *The Year's Best YA Speculative Fiction 2014* (Twelfth Planet Press, 2015; Alisa Krasnostein and Julia Rios, eds.), and *The Year's Best YA Speculative Fiction 2015*, which also won the Aurealis Award (Twelfth Planet Press, 2016; Alisa Krasnostein and Julia Rios, eds.).

"Stone Heart" (*The Lorelei Signal*, 2012; Carol Hightshoe, ed.) was recently reprinted in *Fantastic Stories of the Imagination People of Color Flash Anthology* (Positronic Publishing, 2017), "Oracle Gretel" (2012) sold out of its initial extremely limited print run as a handbound chapbook, but was reprinted in *Heiresses of Russ 2013: The Year's Best Lesbian Speculative Fiction* (Lethe Press, 2013; Steve Berman and Tenea D. Johnson, eds.), and in audio format on PodCastle. "Love and the Giant Squid" is part of *Pen-Ultimate: A Speculative Fiction Anthology* (2013, Lisa J. Cohen and Talib Hussain, eds.). Other short fiction and poetry has appeared in *Daily Science Fiction*, *Jabberwocky*, *Niteblade*, *New Myths*, *Goblin Fruit*, and *Fantastique Unfettered*.

Julia has done several roundtable interviews for *Stone Telling: The Magazine of Boundary-crossing Poetry*, and her other nonfiction has appeared in *Apex Magazine*, *Uncanny*, and *Queers Dig Time Lords* (Mad Norwegian Press, 2013; Sigrid Ellis and Michael D. Thomas, eds.), which was a Hugo finalist in the Best Related Work category in 2014.

Her work discussing QUILTBAG content in speculative fiction as the host of the *Outer Alliance Podcast* has twice landed her on the Galactic Suburbia Award Honor List (for activism and/or communication that advances the feminist conversation in the field of speculative fiction). She has narrated poetry for the *Strange Horizons* podcast, and stories for *PodCastle*, *Pseudopod*, and *Cast of Wonders*.

Julia is half Mexican, but her (fairly dreadful) French is better than her Spanish.



D. Wes Rist is an international lawyer with a focus on international human rights, including genocide and atrocity prevention, and an interest and research focus in space law. He serves as the deputy executive director of the American Society of International Law, where he educates the general public, policy makers,

and the legal community on a wide variety of international law topics. Wes previously worked as a law professor, teaching international human rights law and terrorism and the law. He has written extensively on international law topics, including *Careers in International Law: A Guide to Career Paths in International Law*, ASIL, 2017 (forthcoming) and 2014; "Cooperation and Reform through Legal Education: How Academic and Non-Governmental Organizations Can Effect Sustainable Change," 74 (3) *University of Pittsburgh Law Review* 658, 2013; *The Export of Legal Education: Its Promise and Impact in Transition Countries*, (editor) Ashgate Publishing, 2009; and numerous online articles. He has a book chapter on "Sovereignty and Self-Determination Beyond Atmo" forthcoming and will be presenting a paper on "International Collaboration in Interstellar

Relations" at the upcoming International Astronautical Congress in September 2017 in Adelaide, Australia.

Wes has been a lifelong fan of speculative fiction and is an assistant organizer of a large speculative fiction book club in the Washington DC metro area.



Lauren M. Roy is the author of the urban fantasy *Night Owls* (Ace, 2014) and its sequel *Grave Matters* (Ace, 2015) as well as the YA fantasy *The Fire Children* (Ravenstone Press, 2015). Her current work-in-progress is *Cantankerous*, which she likes to describe as *Firefly* meets *Leverage* for teens.

Her short stories include "Pomegranate," (*flashquake*, Spring 2010); "Apex," (*Podcastle*, December 2010); "Along the Portal Road," (2012 anthology *Explorers: Beyond the Horizon*; Justin R. Macumber, Terry Mixon, and Eliyana Kaiser, eds.); "Ex Astris," (*Fireside Magazine*, January 2014); "The Eleventh Hour," (*Fireside Magazine*, July 2015); "Trinkets," (*The Primordial Feast*, Onyx Path Publishing, 2016; Matthew McFarland, ed.); and "In Memoriam: Lady Fantastic" (*Fireside Magazine*, August 2016).

She also writes for tabletop roleplaying games. Her work appears in *Dragon Age Roleplaying* and the forthcoming *A Song of Ice and Fire Roleplaying: The Dragon's Hoard* (Green Ronin); *Mythos Expeditions* and the forthcoming *Out of the Woods* anthologies for *Trail of Cthulhu* (Pelgrane Press); and several Onyx Path Publishing games, including *Mage: The Awakening 2nd Edition*; *Changeling: The Lost 2nd Edition*; *Vampire: Dark Ages 20th Anniversary Edition*; and the forthcoming *Trinity, Scion 2nd Edition*, and supplements for *Exalted 3rd Edition*. Her world "The Hollow" is available as part of *Storium*, the online storytelling game.

Lauren is a 2012 graduate of Viable Paradise (VP XVI). She lives in East Bridgewater with her husband, their cats, and the ghosts of the houseplants she forgets to water. You can find her on twitter as [@falconesse](#).



Eric Schaller's debut collection of dark fiction, *Meet Me in the Middle of the Air* (Undertow Publications, 2016) contains "The Assistant to Doctor Jacob" (included in the 16th *Year's Best Fantasy and Horror*, Windling and Datlow, eds.) as well as three new stories. "Three Urban Folk Tales" is in the 2006 *Fantasy:*

Best of the Year (Horton, ed.) and *Best of the Rest 4* (Youmans, ed.), and "How the Future Got Better" is in *The Time Traveler's Almanac* (VanderMeer and VanderMeer, eds.). Other short fiction has appeared in *The Thackery T. Lambshead Guide to Eccentric and Discredited Diseases* (VanderMeer and Roberts, eds.), *Text:UR The New Book of Masks* (Aguirre, ed.), *A Field Guide to Surreal Botany* (Chui and Lundberg, eds.), *Last Drink Bird Head* (VanderMeer and VanderMeer, eds.), *Bestiary: The Best of A cappella Zoo* (Ochsner, ed.), *The Bestiary* (VanderMeer, ed.), *SciFiction*, *Lady Churchill's Rosebud Wristlet*, *Sybil's Garage*, *A cappella Zoo*, *Lore*, *Kaleidotrope*, *Black Static*, and, most recently, in *Nightmare* with his story, "Red Hood" (<http://www.nightmare-magazine.com/fiction/red-hood/>).

Schaller is a professor of biological sciences at Dartmouth College in New Hampshire, and has published many research articles on plant molecular biology, and also contributed science essays and reviews to the Clarion Foundation blog (clarionfoundation.wordpress.com) and the *New York Review of Science Fiction*. His illustrations have appeared in *City of Saints and Madmen* by Jeff VanderMeer and *An A to Z of the Fantastic City* by Hal Duncan, plus *Lady Churchill's Rosebud Wristlet*, *The White Buffalo Gazette*, *Not My Small Diary*, *Secret Life Remix*, *The Third Bear Carnival*, *The Thackery T. Lambshead Cabinet of Curiosities*, and WeirdFictionReview.com. He is an editor, with Matthew Cheney, of the online magazine *The Revelator* (<http://revelatormagazine.com/>). He is an active member of the Horror Writers Association and of Storyville. Schaller lives in a peach-colored house with his wife Paulette and a cairn terrier named Z.



Kenneth Schneyer ("Ken") wrote the Nebula and Sturgeon finalist "Selected Program Notes from the Retrospective Exhibition of Theresa Rosenberg Latimer" which originally appeared in *Clockwork Phoenix 4* (Allen, ed.). Stillpoint Digital Press released his first collection, *The Law & the Heart* (Stillpoint Digital Press), 2014.

Ken's short fiction appears in *Lightspeed*, *Strange Horizons*, *Analog Science Fiction & Fact*, *Beneath Ceaseless Skies*, *Uncanny Magazine*, the *Clockwork Phoenix* series (Allen, ed.), *Daily Science Fiction*, *Mythic Delirium*, *Bull Spec*, *Nature Physics*, *Ideomancer*, *The Pedestal*, *Abyss & Apex*, *A is for Apocalypse* (Parrish, ed.), *Cosmos Online*, *First Contact: Digital Science Fiction Anthology 1* (Hoffman, ed.), *GUD*, *Triptych Tales*, *Perihelion Science Fiction*, *the Newport Review*, *Odyssey: Adventures in Science*, *Mad Scientist Journal*, *Comets & Criminals*, and *SQ Mag*. Audio versions of his stories appear on *Escape Pod*, *Podcastle*, *Pseudopod*, *The Drabblecast*, and *Toasted Cake*. His two most recent sales will appear in *Humanity 2.0* (Shvartzman, ed.) and the *Procyon Science Fiction Anthology for 2016* (Thornton, ed.).

He has published nonfiction on the constitutive rhetoric of legal texts in the *University of Michigan Journal of Law Reform*, the *Rutgers Law Review*, and the *American Business Law Journal*. He is a graduate of Wesleyan University, the University of Michigan Law School, and the 2009 Clarion Writers Workshop. He consorts with the Cambridge Science Fiction Workshop and Codex Writers.

During his strange career, Ken has worked as an actor, a dishwasher, a corporate lawyer, an IT project manager, a clerk-typist, and the assistant dean of a technology school. Right now he is Professor of Humanities and Legal Studies at Johnson & Wales University, where he teaches both Cyberlaw and the Science Fiction literature course, as well as running the speaker series for the John Hazen White College of Arts & Sciences. He enjoys history, astronomy, chemistry, logic, feminist theory, and practically everything else, and he cooks better than you do. Born in Detroit, he now lives in Rhode Island with one singer, one dancer, one actor, and something with fangs. He blogs, sort of, at ken-schneyer.livejournal.com, and can also be found loitering around Facebook and Twitter.



David G. Shaw has been a member of the program committee for twenty consecutive Readercons — a level of activity that made him a World Fantasy Award finalist (Special Award–Non-Professional) in 2009. In his non-Readercon life, he has managed to change careers from research biochemist to web designer. Somehow he found the time to marry She Who Must Be Obeyed (B. Diane Martin) and have a son, He Who Will Not Be Ignored (Miles). His scientific research has been published in various academic journals, while his articles about interactive gaming have appeared in *The Whole Earth Review* and the proceedings of the Computer Game Developer's Conference. In his spare time he cooks and blogs (blog.belm.com) about cooking. He lives and works in Somerville, MA.



Alex Shvartzman is the author of over 80 short stories and the winner of the 2014 WSFA Small Press Award for Short Fiction for "Explaining Cthulhu to Grandma," which is also the title story of his anthology, *Explaining Cthulhu to Grandma and Other Stories* released in early 2015. His fiction has been published in *Nature*, *InterGalactic Medicine Show*, *Galaxy's Edge*, *Daily Science Fiction* and a variety of other anthologies and magazines. His steampunk humor novella, *H. G. Wells, Secret Agent* was published in July 2015.

Alex is the editor of the *Unidentified Funny Objects* annual anthology series of humorous science fiction and fantasy. Three volumes are out and the forth is scheduled for release in November 2015. He also edited *Dark Expanse: Surviving the Collapse* and *Coffee: 14 Caffeinated Tales of the Fantastic*.

Alex also enjoys translating short stories from Russian. He has translated works by Sergei Lukyanenko (Russia), Tatiana Ivanova (Russia), and Siarhey Bulyha (Belarus). Alex resides in Brooklyn, NY with his family.



Elsa Sjunneson-Henry is a partially deaf-blind speculative fiction writer and disability activist. Her short fiction is included in *Upside Down*, *Inverted Tropes in Storytelling* (Apex Books, 2016), *Fireside Magazine*, and *Ghost in the Cogs* (Broken Eye Books, 2015). Her nonfiction has been included in *The Boston Globe*, *Uncanny Magazine*, *Terrible Minds*, *The Analog Games Journal* and many other venues. She teaches disability representation at Writing the Other, and recently spoke at the New York Public Library on this topic. She is the assistant editor at *Fireside Magazine*. She lives in New Jersey with two cats, a hound dog, her science-fiction loving husband, and a grandfather clock with a spooky personality. You can find her tweets @snarkbat, and the rest of her bibliography at feministsonar.com/elsa.



Sarah Smith is one of the writers of the newest SerialBox.com serial Whitehall, with co-conspirators Liz Duffy Adams, Delia Sherman, Madeleine Robins, Barbara Samuel, and Mary Robinette Kowal.

Sarah's YA paranormal thriller, *The Other Side of Dark* (Atheneum, 2010), won the Agatha for best YA mystery and the Massachusetts Book Award for best YA book of the year.

The fourth volume of her trilogy of historical thrillers, set aboard the *Titanic* and in 1912 New York and known fondly as *The F***** Titanic Book*, still needs a really kick-eyeball title. The person who submits the best one gets a copy and infinite brownie points (and finite brownies); send your suggestions via www.sarahsmith.com.

Previous volumes of the trilogy are now out in eBooks with yummy additional material <www.sarahsmith.com/read-ebooks.html>: *The Vanished Child* (New York Times Notable Book, *London Times* Book of the Year; eBook, 2016; Ballantine/Fawcett, 1992), *The Knowledge of Water* (New York Times Notable Book; eBook, 2016; Ballantine, 1996), and *A Citizen of the Country* (*Entertainment Weekly* and *Village Voice* Editor's Choice; eBook new edition 2016; Ballantine, 2000). *The Vanished Child* is currently being made into a musical in Canada ("best child murder musical ever"—Christopher Schelling). Sarah's standalone novel about the Shakespeare authorship controversy, *Chasing Shakespeares* (Atria, 2003), has been made into a play.

Her "novels for the computer" include the interactive dark fantasy *King of Space* (Eastgate Systems, 1991) and two web serials, the fantasy *Doll Street* (1996) and the near-future *Riders* (1996-'97). She has also published an e-edition of *The Paine of Pleasure*, the real possibly-Shakespearean poem from *Chasing Shakespeares* (*A New Shakespearean Poem?* Small Beer, 2011) and other academic books and translations.

Her stories appear in *Conspiracy!* (Easton and Klein-Dial, eds., 2016); *Decopunk* (Easton and Klein-Dial, eds.); *Impossible Futures* (with Justus Perry; Easton and Klein-Dial, eds.), *Death's Excellent Vacation* (Harris and Kelner, eds.), *Best New Horror 5* (Jones and Campbell, eds.), *Christmas Forever* (Hartwell, ed.), *Future Boston* (D.A. Smith, ed.), *Tekka*, and *F&SF*.

Sarah is a member of the Cambridge Speculative Fiction Workshop and the Northeast All-Stars, as well as the Interstitial Arts Working Group. She lives in Brookline, Massachusetts, with her family.



E.J. Stevens is the author of fifteen speculative fiction books, which have been translated into seven languages. E.J. Stevens' tenth novel *Birthright* (Sacred Oaks, 2015) won the BTS Red Carpet Award for Best Novel and the PRG Reviewer's Choice Award for Best Urban Fantasy Novel. The Ivy Granger series was a PRG Reviewer's Choice Award finalist for Best Urban Fantasy Series, is a SYAE Award finalist for Best Paranormal Series, and

is available in multiple languages. In addition to *Birthright*, the series includes *Hound's Bite* (2016), *Burning Bright* (2015), *Ghost Light* (2014), and *Shadow Sight* (2012) — winner of the PRG Reviewer's Choice Award for Best Paranormal Fantasy Novel. The Hunters' Guild series, which includes *Hunting in Bruges* (2014), is set in the same fantasy world as the Ivy Granger series. In addition to her adult fiction, Stevens wrote the humorous young adult Spirit Guide series. The five-novel series (2010-2013) won the PRG Reviewer's Choice Award for Best Young Adult Paranormal Series, and includes *Brush with Death* (2012) — winner of the PRG Reviewer's Choice Award for Best Young Adult Paranormal Novel.

Her short fiction includes two Ivy Granger novellas, *Club Nexus* (2013) and *Blood and Mistletoe* (2012) — a SYAE Award finalist for Best Novella and Best Horror. She has also written two collections of poetry, *Shadows of Myth and Legend* (2010) and *From the Shadows* (2009).

In addition to fiction, Stevens has written two books in the *Super Simple* (2017) series of step-by-step guides. The series covers the basics of publishing and marketing.

When Stevens isn't at her writing desk, she enjoys dancing along seaside cliffs, singing in graveyards, and sleeping in faerie circles. Stevens currently resides in a magical forest on the coast of Maine where she finds daily inspiration for her writing.



Susan Stinson is the author of *Spider in a Tree* (Small Beer, 2013) and winner of Lambda Literary's Outstanding Mid-Career Novelist Prize. Her other novels are the Lambda Literary finalist *Venus of Chalk* (Firebrand, 2004); *Martha Moody* (Spinsters, 1995); and *Fat Girl Dances with Rocks* (Spinsters, 1994). Her chap-

book of poetry and short essays is *Belly Songs: In Celebration of Fat Women* (Orogeny, 1993). A new German edition of *Martha Moody* has been reissued in both paperback and as an ebook (*Martha flog auf der Engelskuh*, Fischer, 2017).

Spider in a Tree is set in eighteenth-century Northampton, MA, during the time of the preacher, theologian, and slave owner Jonathan Edwards, best known for his sermon "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God," in which a sinner is compared to a spider. In this novel, sometimes spiders and insects preach back. Stinson is currently at work on *Lamentation Hill*, set in sixteenth-century Hartford, CT, and inspired by the life of Elizabeth Tuttle, who was the wild grandmother of Jonathan Edwards.

She has received grants, residencies, and fellowships from the American Antiquarian Society, Hawthornden Castle, the Barbara Deming Memorial Fund, the Norcroft Writing Retreat, the Blue Mountain Center, the Helene Wurlitzer Foundation, the Vogelstein Foundation, the Millay Colony for the Arts, and the Banff School of Fine Arts. She has published fiction, essays, interviews, reviews, and poetry in many journals, including *Strange Horizons* and the website for the Interstitial Arts Foundation. She reviews most frequently for *Lambda Literary Review*. Stinson has given more than a hundred readings and talks at bookstores, colleges, bars, and conferences, including keynotes at Write/Angles (South Hadley, MA), NAAFA (Boston),

and Women Living Large (Seattle).

Stinson lives in Northampton, MA, where she was writer-in-residence at Forbes Library, the local public library, for five years. She currently facilitates a drop-in writing room open to all at Forbes on Saturday mornings from September to May. In fall 2017, she will teach fiction writing at Amherst College.



Peter Straub is the author of seventeen novels, which have been translated into more than twenty languages. These include: *Julia* (Coward, McCann & Geoghegan, 1975); *If You Could See Me Now* (Coward, McCann & Geoghegan, 1977); *Ghost Story* (Coward, McCann & Geoghegan, 1979); *Shadowland* (Coward, McCann & Geoghegan, 1980; World Fantasy nominee); *Floating Dragon* (Putnam, 1982; August Derleth Award winner); *Koko* (Dutton, 1988; World Fantasy Award winner); *Mystery* (Dutton, 1990; Bram Stoker Award winner and World Fantasy Award nominee); and *The Throat* (Dutton, 1993; Bram Stoker Award winner, World Fantasy Award nominee); the last three novels are collectively known as The Blue Rose Trilogy.

His other novels include *The Hellfire Club* (Random House, 1996; Bram Stoker Award winner and August Derleth Award nominee); *Mr. X* (Random House, 1999; Bram Stoker Award winner and August Derleth Award nominee); *Lost Boy, Lost Girl* (Random House, 2003; Bram Stoker Award winner and August Derleth Award nominee); *In the Night Room* (Random House, 2004; Bram Stoker Award winner); *A Dark Matter* (Doubleday, 2010; Bram Stoker Award winner). His two collaborations with Stephen King are *The Talisman* (Viking, 1984; winner of the World Fantasy Award and *Locus* Award) and *Black House* (Random House, 2001; Stoker Award nominee).

He has written two volumes of poetry, *Open Air* (Irish University Press, 1972), and *Leeson Park and Belsize Square* (Underwood-Miller, 1983), and four collections of short fiction, including *Houses Without Doors* (Signet, 1991), *Magic Terror* (Random House, 2000), *5 Stories* (Borderlands Press, 2008; Bram Stoker Award winner), and *The Juniper Tree and Other Blue Rose Stories* (Subterranean, 2010).

Some of his novellas include *Mrs. God* (Pegasus, 2013), *Pork Pie Hat* (Cemetery Dance, 2010), *A Special Place: The Heart of A Dark Matter* (Pegasus, 2010), *The Ballad of Ballard and Sandrine* (Subterranean, 2012; Bram Stoker Award winner), *The Buffalo Hunter* (Cemetery Dance, 2012), and *The Process (Is a Process All Its Own)* (Subterranean, 2017).

For the Library of America, he has edited H.P. Lovecraft's *Tales* (2005) and the two-volume anthology *American Fantastic Tales* (2009/10). He has won the British Fantasy Award, ten Bram Stoker Awards, two International Horror Guild Awards, and four World Fantasy Awards. In 1998, he was named Grand Master at the World Horror Convention. In 2006, he was given the Life Achievement Award by the Horror Writers Association. In 2008, he was given the Barnes & Noble Writers for Writers Award by Poets & Writers. At the 2010 World Fantasy Convention, he was given the Life Achievement Award. In 2011, Columbia University's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences presented him the Dean's Award for Distinguished Achievement.



Ian Randal Strock (www.ianrandalstrock.com) is the owner and publisher of Gray Rabbit Publications, LLC, and its speculative fiction imprint, Fantastic Books (www.FantasticBooks.biz). Fantastic Books is the publisher of Tanith Lee's last collection, *Dancing Through the Fire*, and is debuting two new books at Readercon 2017: *Up the Rainbow: The Complete Fiction of Susan Casper*, edited by Gardner Dozois, and *Science Fiction for the Throne: One-Sitting Reads*, edited by Tom Easton and Judith K. Dial.

He was the founder and editor of the online trade journal *SFScope*. Previously, he was the news editor of *Science Fiction Chronicle*, the editor and founder of *Artemis Magazine*, the associate editor of *Analog* and *Asimov's* SF magazines, and the deputy editorial page editor of *Boston's Daily Free Press*. He also had editorial stints at *KISS Magazine*, *Absolute Magnitude*, Baen Books, and *Mphasis*.

When he worked at *Analog* and *Asimov's*, he co-edited *Writing Science Fiction and Fantasy* (St. Martin's, 1991, 1997) with the magazines' editors. (The volume also included his essay "Market Listings.") His first book, *The Presidential Book of Lists: From Most to Least, Elected to Rejected, Worst to Cursed—Fascinating Facts About Our Chief Executives*, was published by Random House's Villard imprint in 2008. It was followed in 2016 by *Ranking the First Ladies* and *Ranking the Vice Presidents* (both from Carrel Books). Ian won the AnLab (Readers') Award from *Analog* for Best Short Story of 1996 ("Living It Is the Best Revenge") and for Best Fact Article of 1996 ("The Coming of the Money Card: Boon or Bane?").

His most recent *Analog* appearance was the guest editorial "Yay! The Future... Oh, Damn," which appeared in the April 2015 issue. He's had a dozen stories in *Analog* and two in *Nature* ("Mars is the wrong colour," 2008; "1-9-4-blue-3-7-2-6-gamma-tetrahedron," 2012); and recently, several in anthologies, including "Shall Not Perish from the Earth" in *Altered States of the Union* (Crazy 8 Press, 2016), "The Necessary Enemy" in *If We Had Known* (eSpec Books, 2017), and "Godding About and Sleeping Around: Zeus' Conversation With Tantalus" in *TV Gods 2: Summer Programming* (Fortress, 2017).

His other writing has appeared in *Absolute Magnitude*, *Games*, *The Sterling Web*, and a series of op-ed pieces have appeared in the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Chicago Tribune*, the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, and the *New York Daily News*. Books he has worked on as a freelance editor have been published by Alyson, Doubleday, Padwolf, and St. Martin's.

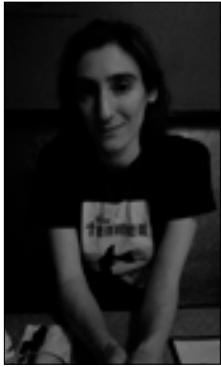
Ian's name is unique on the internet: any page referring to Ian Strock is talking about him.



Janaka Stucky is a poet, performer, and publisher. He is the founding editor of an award-winning press, Black Ocean, as well as its annual poetry journal, *Handsome*. In 2015 Jack White's Third Man Records launched a new publishing imprint, Third Man Books, and chose Janaka's full-length poetry collection,

The Truth Is We Are Perfect, as their inaugural title. Janaka's poems are at once incantatory, mystic, and epigrammatic. His esoteric and occult influences, combined with a mesmeric approach to performance, create an almost ecstatic presence on stage.

Janaka's other books include *Your Name Is The Only Freedom* (Brave Men Press, 2009), and *The World Will Deny It For You* (Ahsahta Press, 2012; winner of the Sawtooth Prize). His poems have appeared in such journals as *Denver Quarterly*, *Fence* and *North American Review*, and his articles have been published by the *Huffington Post* and The Poetry Foundation. He is a two-time National Haiku Champion and in 2010 he was voted "Boston's Best Poet" in the *Boston Phoenix*.



Sonya Taaffe cares deeply about myth, folklore, and dead languages. A respectable amount of her early poetry can be found in *Postcards from the Province of Hyphens* (Prime, 2005), including her 2003 Rhysling long-form winner "Matlacihuatl's Gift," in *A Mayse-Bikhl* (Papaveria, 2011). Although *Singing Innocence and Experience* (Prime, 2005) reprints "Gift" and contains another half-dozen poems, it is mostly stories, including 2003 SLF Fountain finalist

"Retrospective." Her poem "Muse," collected in *Dwarf Stars 2008* (Kolodji and Wilson, eds.), was the 2007 Dwarf Star runner-up, and her poem "Follow Me Home" was reprinted in *The Year's Best Fantasy and Horror: 21st Annual Collection* (Datlow, Link and Grant, eds.). Her novella *The Dybbuk in Love* (Prime, 2005) was reprinted in *Best New Fantasy* (Wallace, ed.), "On the Blindside" in *Fantasy: The Best of the Year 2006* (Horton, ed.), and "The Depth Oracle" in *Best New Romantic Fantasy 2* (Guran, ed.). Her most recent poetry and fiction can be found in *Ghost Signs* (Aqueduct Press, 2015).

Others of her stories can be found in *King David and the Spiders from Mars* (Lieder, ed.), *Aliens: Recent Encounters* (MacFarlane, ed.), *Beyond Binary: Genderqueer and Sexually Fluid Speculative Fiction* (Mandelo, ed.), *People of the Book: A Decade of Jewish Science Fiction & Fantasy* (Wallace and Swirsky, eds.), *Last Drink Bird Head* (VanderMeer and VanderMeer, eds.), *Sky Whales and Other Wonders* (Nazarian, ed.), *Jabberwocky* (Wallace, ed.), *TEL: Stories* (Lake, ed.), *Mythic* (Allen, ed.), *You Have Time for This* (Budman and Hazuka, eds.), and *The Best of Not One of Us* (Benson, ed.), and poems in *Drawn to Marvel: Poems from the Comic Books* (Dietrich and Ferguson, eds.), *The Moment of Change: An Anthology of Feminist Speculative Poetry* (Lemberg, ed.), *Here, We Cross: A Collection of Queer and Genderfluid Poetry from Stone Telling* (Lemberg and Narayan, eds.), *The Alchemy of Stars: Rhysling Award Winners Showcase* (Allan, ed.), and the annual *Rhysling Anthology* from 2005 to 2013. Other poems and stories have appeared in such markets as *Not One of Us*, *Sirenia Digest*, *Strange Horizons*, *Mythic Delirium*, *Ideomancer*, *Stone Telling*, *Goblin Fruit*, *Moral Relativism Magazine*, *Through the Gate*, *inkscrawl*, *Archaeopteryx: The Newman Journal of Ideas*, *The Cascadia Subduction Zone*, *Apex*, *Interfictions Online*, *Lackington's*,

The Pedestal, *Sybil's Garage*, *ChiZine*, *Cabinet des Fées*, *Zahir*, *Flytrap*, *Tales of the Talisman*, *Electric Velocipede*, and *Fantasy*.

She holds master's degrees in Classics from Brandeis and Yale and edits for the Hugo-nominated *Strange Horizons*. She lives in Somerville with her husband and two cats. She once named a Kuiper belt object.



Cecilia Tan ("ctan") is a trailblazer in erotic science fiction and fantasy. This year RT Magazine recognized that fact, awarding her both the 2014 Career Achievement Award and their Pioneer Award.

Tan is the author of the Struck by Lightning Trilogy (*Slow Surrender*, *Slow Seduction*, *Slow Satisfaction*, Hachette 2012-2013); *Slow Surrender* won the 2013 RT Reviewer's Choice Award and the Maggie Award for Excellence from the Georgia RWA. Her other novels include The Magic University Series: *The Siren and the Sword*, *The Tower and the Tears*, *The Incubus and the Angel*, *The Poet and the Prophecy* (Ravenous Romance, 2009-2011, reprinted by Riverdale Avenue Books, 2015), *The Velderet* (Circllet, 2001), *Mind Games* (Ravenous, 2009), *Royal Treatment* (Torquere, 2010), *The Hot Streak* (Ravenous, 2010), *The Prince's Boy* (Circllet, 2010-2011), and the erotic sf/f short fiction collections *Telepaths Don't Need Safewords* (Circllet, 1992), *Black Feathers: Erotic Dreams* (HarperCollins, 1998), *White Flames: Erotic Dreams* (Running Press, 2008), and *Edge Plays* (Circllet, 2010). Other short stories have appeared in dozens of magazines and anthologies, including *Best American Erotica* (1996, 2006), *To Be Continued...* (Firebrand, 1998), *Herotica 5* (1998), *Best Lesbian Erotica*, Nerve.com, *Best Women's Erotica* (2003, 2011), *Fang Bangers* (Ravenous, 2010), *Best S/M Erotica Vol. 3* (Logical Lust, 2010), *Gotta Have It* (Cleis, 2011), *The Ladies of Trade Town* (Harphaven, 2011), *Riding the Rocket* (Sizzler, 2011), *Best Gay Short Stories 2012*, *The Big Book of Orgasms* (Cleis, 2013), *Summer Rain* (Pink Kayak, 2014) and *Dark Discoveries*. As publisher and editor of Circllet Press, she has edited or co-edited over 100 anthologies of erotic sf/f, including *Blood Surrender* (2005), *The MILF Anthology* (2006), and *Cowboy Lover* (2009) for Blue Moon Books/Running Press, as well as *SM Visions: The Best of Circllet Press* (Masquerade Books, 1994) and *Sex In The System* (Thunder's Mouth Press, 2006). She also wrote the introduction to the 1996 edition of John Norman's *Tarnsman of Gor*.

Tan's essays on bisexuality in science fiction and other topics have been included in *Sojourner*, *A Woman Like That* (Perennial/ HarperCollins, 2000), *Lambda Literary Report*, *50 Writers on 50 Shades* (2012), *Queers Destroy Science Fiction* (2015), and many other publications. Tan was inducted into the GLBT Writers Hall of Fame at Saints & Sinners Literary Festival in 2010. She is a past winner of the NLA Writing Award, the NLA: International Lifetime Achievement Award, the Pantheon of Leather President's Award, and honorable mention in the Rainbow Awards.

Tan received her master's degree in professional writing and publishing from Emerson College in 1994. Her "day job" is Publications Director for SABR (Society for American Baseball

Research) for whom she edits the semi-annual Baseball Research Journal and heads their book publishing program. Current projects include a paranormal/urban fantasy trilogy for Tor Books (The Vanished Chronicles) and a new Hachette series, *Secrets of a Rock Star*. More biographical info, political essays, and updates can be found at ceciliatan.com.



Terence Taylor (terencetaylor.com) is an award-winning children's television writer whose work has appeared on PBS, Nickelodeon, and Disney, among many others. After a career of comforting kids, he turned to scaring their parents. His first published short story, "Plaything", appeared in *Dark Dreams*, the first horror/suspense anthology of African-American authors. He was

included in the next two volumes, and his short stories and nonfiction have appeared in *Lightspeed* and *Fantastic Stories of the Imagination*. Terence is also author of the first two novels of his Vampire Testaments trilogy, *Bite Marks* and *Blood Pressure*. He is currently writing the conclusion, *Past Life*. Follow him on Twitter [@vamptestaments](https://twitter.com/vamptestaments) and quarterly in *READ THIS!* — his quarterly review column in *Nightmare*.



Vinnie Tesla's novelette "Ota Discovers Fire" received the Circllet Press Fantastic Erotica Award in 2012; it's in the associated print anthology, *Fantastic Erotica* (Circllet Press, 2013; Tan & Zaiatz, eds.), and available as a stand-alone e-book. Other smutty writing includes the comic steampunk fix-up *The Erotofluidic Age* (Circllet, 2011), and "Disarmed" in *Silent Shadows Come*

(Circllet, 2014; Levine, ed).

His current project is scripting the graphic novel *The Eidolon Initiative* (art by Lon Ryden; Dr. Faustus, ed.) and serialized at eroticmadscience.com.

His long-delayed editorial debut, the mad scientist-themed erotica anthology *For Science!* is now slated to appear in early 2018. He once had a pretty good blog at journal.vinnietesla.com; any clanking and cursing you may hear from wazoo.vinnietesla.com arise his current attempts to assemble a new one. He lives in Medford, Massachusetts with his spousalbeast and a terrier to be named later.



Michael Damian Thomas is the Hugo and Parsec Award-winning co-publisher and co-editor-in-chief of *Uncanny Magazine* with his wife, Lynne M. Thomas. In this role, he has also been a finalist for the World Fantasy Award and is currently a finalist for two additional Hugo Awards and Locus Awards. Michael was a two-time Hugo

Award finalist as the former managing editor of *Apex Magazine* (2012-2013), co-edited the Hugo Award finalist essay anthology *Queers Dig Time Lords* (Mad Norwegian Press, 2013) with Sigrid Ellis, and co-edited the anthology *Glitter & Mayhem* (Apex Publications, 2013) with John Klima and Lynne M. Thomas. Michael was additionally a contributor to the *SF Squeecast* podcast (with Elizabeth Bear, Paul Cornell, Seanan McGuire, Lynne M. Thomas, and Catherynne M. Valente) and is currently a contributor to the *Down and Safe: A Blake's 7* podcast (with Amal El-Mohtar, Scott Lynch, and L.M. Myles).



Tracy Townsend is the author of *The Nine*, book one of the Thieves of Fate series (Pyr, forthcoming November 2017), her fantasy debut set in a world where theology is a science, three sentient species live in an uneasy truce, and the fate of humanity rests on the shoulders of nine unsuspecting individuals. Her domestic fantasy short story "Late Arrivals" appeared in *Luna Station*

Quarterly in March 2016.

By day, Tracy teaches creative writing and speculative fiction at the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy, a boarding school for gifted STEM students. By night, she wrangles her ten-year-old son and five-year-old daughter, two bumptious hounds, and one snarky husband. While her students have gone on to the Iowa Writer's Workshop, Alpha Workshop, and assistant editor positions at Gizmodo, BuzzFeed, and *Uncanny*, her children seem intent on sticking around for awhile. She can be found online at www.tracytownsend.net and on Twitter ([@TheStorymatic](https://twitter.com/TheStorymatic)).



Paul Tremblay is the author of six novels including the award-winning *A Head Full of Ghosts* (William Morrow, 2015); *Disappearance at Devil's Rock* (HarperCollins, 2016); *Swallowing a Donkey's Eye* (ChiZine Publications, 2012); *The Little Sleep* (Henry Holt, 2009); and the YA novel, *Floating Boy and the Girl Who Couldn't Fly* (ChiZine Publications/ChiZine Teen 2014), co-written with Stephen Graham Jones.

His novel *The Four* is forthcoming in 2018 from William Morrow.

His short fiction collections are *Compositions for the Young and Old* (Prime, 2004) and *In the Mean Time* (ChiZine, 2010). Paul has been a fiction editor for *ChiZine* and *Fantasy Magazine*, and is the co-editor with Sean Wallace of three anthologies from Prime, *Fantasy* (2007), *Bandersnatch* (2007), and *Phantom* (2009). With John Langan, he edited *Creatures: Thirty Years of Monster Stories* (Prime, 2011). For the past ten years, Paul has also been a juror or governing board member for the Shirley Jackson Awards.

Other fascinating tidbits: Paul once gained three inches of height within a twelve-hour period, he does not have a uvula,

he has a master's degree in mathematics, and once made twenty-seven three pointers in a row.



Liza Groen Trombi is editor-in-chief of *Locus Magazine*. Born in Oakland, California, she has a degree in literature and a minor in history from San Francisco State University — and studied editing with *Editcetera* in Berkeley — before joining the magazine in 2003. She runs the Locus Awards Weekend in Seattle, serves on various awards juries, and has published several titles for the Locus Press imprint. Trombi also serves as Board President of the Locus Science Fiction Foundation. She has won four Hugo Awards for Best Semiprozine (2005-7, 2012) for her work at *Locus* and has been a finalist the four interceding years.

She still lives in Oakland, with her two daughters and her partner Daryl Gregory.



Gordon Van Gelder was the editor of *The Magazine of Fantasy & Science Fiction* from the beginning of 1997 through the end of 2014. He is currently its publisher. Through the 1990s, he worked as an editor for St. Martin's Press, where he worked on a variety of titles, including mysteries, sf, fantasy, nonfiction, and unclassifiable books. He was a Hugo finalist every year from 1997 to 2010, winning short form editor for 2006 and 2007; was a World Fantasy Special Award-Professional winner for 1999 and 2002, and finalist for 1995, 1997, and 2007; and has been a *Locus* Award finalist every year since 1997. He was an editor (and occasional reviewer) for the *New York Review of Science Fiction* from 1989 to 1994, and hence a six-time Hugo semiprozine finalist (as well as 1990 Readercon winner and 1992 *SF Chronicle* finalist).

His books as editor are *The Best from F&SF: The Fiftieth Anniversary Anthology* (Tor, 1999, with Edward L. Ferman), *One Lamp: Alternate History Stories from F&SF* (Four Walls Eight Windows, 2003), *In Lands That Never Were: Tales of Swords and Sorcery from F&SF* (Four Walls Eight Windows, 2004), *Fourth Planet from the Sun: Tales of Mars from F&SF* (Thunder's Mouth, 2005), *The Very Best of F&SF: 60th Anniversary Edition* (Tachyon, 2009), *Welcome to the Greenhouse* (OR Books, 2011), *Lonely Souls* (Spilogale, 2013), and *The Very Best of F&SF Volume 2* (Tachyon, 2014). His most recent books include *The F&SF Book of Unicorn Stories*, volumes 1 and 2 (Tachyon Publications), and *Go Forth and Multiply* (Surinam Turtle). His next anthology, *Welcome to Dystopia*, is due out soon from OR Books.

He has published a handful of short stories in *Christmas Ghosts* (Hartwell, ed.), *Swashbuckling Editor Stories* (Betancourt, ed.), *Young Blood* (Baker, ed.), *Bruce Coville's Book of Spine*

Tinglers, and *NYRSF*. He lives in Hoboken, New Jersey. *F&SF* has a web site at fandsf.com.



Tamara Vardomskaya is a short fiction writer who has been published at *Tor.com*, *Beneath Ceaseless Skies*, and *GigaNotoSaurus*. She is an alumna of the 2014 Clarion Writers' Workshop in San Diego. She has also written essays, poetry, and miscellaneous fun tidbits for the fanzine *Ecdysis*, a finalist for the Prix Aurora Award for Best Fan Publication in 2015 and 2016. A

Canadian, she is currently a PhD candidate in linguistics at the University of Chicago, with a dissertation on subjective expressions, having left a background in nuclear electricity trading. In her spare time, she also translates Russian poetry. Links to her work can be found at vardomskaya.com.



Sabrina Vourvoulis is the author of *Ink* (Crossed Genres, 2012), a novel that draws on her memories of Guatemala's armed internal conflict, and of the Latin@ experience in the United States. It was named to Latinidad's Best Books of 2012.

Her short story "Sin Embargo" appeared this year in *Latin@ Rising* (Goodwin, ed.). Other short fiction has

appeared in *Uncanny Magazine*, *Tor.com*, *Strange Horizons*, *Crossed Genres*, and in a number of anthologies, including *The Year's Best Young Adult Speculative Fiction 2015* (Krasnostein and Rios, eds.) and *Long Hidden: Speculative Fiction from the Margins of History* (Fox and Older, eds.).

She is the managing editor of integrated media at NBC10/Telemundo62 in Philadelphia. Her columns and commentary have appeared in *Philadelphia Magazine*, *City and State PA*, and *The Guardian US*.

She is a member of PEN America, SFWA, the National Association of Hispanic Journalists, and the Pen & Pencil Press Club. She lives in Pennsylvania with her husband, daughter, and a dog who rules the household.

T.X. Watson is an editor of *Solarpunk Press*, a monthly semi-pro web, print, and podcast solarpunk short fiction magazine, along with co-editor Faith Gregory. In zir free time, Watson attends Hampshire College, where ze is majoring in Science Fiction and Fantasy as a form of activism.

Ze can be found on Tumblr as txwatson, and as a contributor on the Interstitial Arts Foundation Tumblr and watsons-solarpunk, their first solarpunk project. Zir home blog is txwatson.com.

Watson is nongender, and is fine with most pronouns.



Sarah Weintraub (or Sarah Lynn) is the books manager at science fiction and fantasy bookstore Pandemonium Books and Games, located in Cambridge's Central Square (on the red line). She is currently in the process of getting her master's (in library and information science) at Simmons, when she's not on medical leave for her Lyme disease. She spends a lot of time in both her personal and work life focusing on representation across all types of media and is committed to lifting up diverse

voices both within the store and in her daily life.

She likes her heroines not stuffed into refrigerators and spends too much time thinking about the DC television universe, Captain Cold, and cold puns.

Sarah can be found on Twitter: [@ruarealmonster](https://twitter.com/ruarealmonster).

Henry Wessells is the bibliographer and editor of the Avram Davidson website, an antiquarian bookseller, and author of several books: *Another Green World* (Temporary Culture, 2003); a collection of stories with Ernest Hilbert called *Against the Art of War* (Temporary Culture, 2013) with etchings by Judith Clute; a collection of poems, *The Private Life of Books* (Temporary Culture, 2014), with photographs by Paul Schütze; and *Extended Range* (Temporary Culture, 2015). In November 2016, he published *Donald Trump The Magazine of Poetry* (Temporary Culture). A second issue is in preparation. *A Conversation Larger than the Universe* is the title of his forthcoming book, to accompany an exhibition on science fiction and the literature of the fantastic at the Grolier Club — in New York City (January 2018).



Rick Wilber's novel *Alien Morning* (Tor, 2016) was a *Locus* Recommended Read for 2016. The *Tampa Bay Times* said it offered "An engaging blend of humor, skepticism and wonder, and the futuristic elements of the story sound in many cases all too probable." *Alien Day*, the second novel in the trilogy, will be out in

February 2018.

Rick is the editor of the anthology *Field of Fantasies: Baseball Stories of the Strange and Supernatural* (Night Shade/Skyhorse, 2014), which reprints classic stories from a wide range of writers, from Karen Joy Fowler to Jack Kerouac. He also edited the anthology *Future Media* (Tachyon, 2011), which featured reprints of essays and short stories about the mass media.

His novelette "Dublin, Fair City," which will be in the November/December issue of *Asimov's*, is the third in a series of alternate-history stories about Moe Berg, famous World War II baseball player and spy. "Something Real," the first of those stories, won the Sidewise Award for Best Alternate History – Short Form in 2012.

Rick has had some fifty short stories, novelettes, or novellas published in a variety of magazines and anthologies,

though *Asimov's Science Fiction* is where his shorter work is most often found. He is also the author of the novels *Rum Point* (McFarland, 2009) and *The Cold Road* (Tor, 2003), as well as a memoir, *My Father's Game: Life, Death, Baseball* (McFarland, 2007), which talks about the caregiving role and about his father's career in baseball. He has published two collections, *Where Garagiola Waits* (University of Tampa Press, 1999) and *To Leuchars* (Wildside, 2000), and a half-dozen college textbooks on mass media, writing, and editing, including 2017's *Media Matters* (Kendall Hunt).

After a forty-year career as a college professor, Rick is now a full-time writer and editor. He is co-founder and co-judge, with *Asimov's* editor Sheila Williams, of the Dell Magazines Award for Undergraduate Excellence in Science Fiction and Fantasy Writing. He lives in Florida.



Fran Wilde is the author of the high-flying fantasy, *Updraft* (Tor, 2015), as well as *Cloudbound* (Tor, 2016), and *Horizon* (Tor, 2017).

Her short stories and poems include "You Are Two Point Three Meters from Your Destination," (*Uncanny*, April 2015); "The Ghost Tide Chantey," (*Tor.com*, April 2015); "How to Walk in Historic Graveyards in the Post-Digital Age," (*Asimov's*, April/May 2015); "The Topaz Marquise," (*Beneath Ceaseless Skies* #154); "A Moment of Gravity, Circumscribed," (*Impossible Futures Anthology* 2013; [reprint] *Thirteen* Resurrection House 2015); "Bent the Wing, Dark the Cloud," (*Beneath Ceaseless Skies*, forthcoming); and "The Jewel and Her Lapidary," (*Tor.com*, 2016). Other short fiction has appeared in *Asimov's*, *Nature*, *Abyss & Apex*, and *Daily Science Fiction*. She co-edited *Ad Astra*, *The 50th Anniversary SFWA Cookbook* (SFWA 2015) with Cat Rambo, and produces the monthly podcast and interview series *Cooking the Books*. She is a frequent interviewer at SFSignal, and a core contributor to GeekMom.com.

Fran lives in Philadelphia, PA with her family.

Sheila Williams is the editor of *Asimov's*, which publishes science fiction and fantasy and publishes 10 times a year. Sheila was hired by the magazine in 1982 while she was studying, worked with Isaac Asimov there for 10 years, and has been editor since 2004. She has been nominated for nine Hugo awards and won the Hugo Award for Best Short Form Editor in 2011 and 2012. In 1993, she and Rick Wilber co-founded the Dell Magazines Award for Undergraduate Excellence in Science Fiction and Fantasy Writing, an award given annually to the best sf or fantasy short by a full-time undergraduate college student. Sheila has co-authored 26 SF/F anthologies; most recently *Enter a Future: Fantastic Tales from Asimov's Science Fiction*. She has studied at Elmira College and the London School of Economics and received her master's in philosophy from Washington University. She is married to David Bruce and has two daughters.



Gregory A. Wilson is a professor of English at St. John's University in New York City, where he teaches creative writing, fantasy fiction and science fiction, along with various other courses in literature. He is the author of the epic fantasy *The Third Sign* (Gale-Cengage, 2009), and his second novel, *Icarus*, was

published as a graphic novel by Silence in the Library Publishing last year; his third novel, *Grayshade*, the first book of The Gray Assassin Trilogy, was published last year by the Ed Greenwood Group, with book two (entitled *Renegade*) in that series due out later this year. He also has short stories in a number of places, most recently the anthologies *Heroes* (Silence in the Library Publishing, 2015) and *Monsters* (Silence in the Library Publishing, 2016).

With two-time Hugo finalist John Helfers, he is in the planning stages for a political speculative fiction anthology, with a number of well-known authors already on board. He co-hosts (with Mike Underwood) the critically acclaimed *Speculate! The Podcast for Writers, Readers, and Fans* (speculatesf.com), which is in its seventh year of production and backed through Patreon. He has written three articles for the *SFWA Bulletin* and is a member of the Gen Con Writer's Symposium, the Origins Library, and several other author groups on and offline. He is regularly invited to speak on panels, conduct workshops, and read from his work at conventions and conferences nationally and internationally.

Wilson is the author of *The Problem in the Middle: Liminal Space and the Court Masque* (Clemson University, 2007) and numerous articles and book chapters on a variety of academic subjects. He is also the lead singer and trumpet player for the progressive rock band The Road (thebandtheroad.com), soon to release its third album and follow up to its critically acclaimed second album *Monomyth*, a finalist for Best Foreign Record in Progawards 2010. Finally, under the moniker Arvan Eleron, he is the host of a successful Twitch channel focused on story and narrative in gaming.

He lives with his wife Clea, daughter Senavene, and son Calen—both children named at his wife's urging for characters in *The Third Sign*, for which he believes they have forgiven him—in Riverdale, NY. His virtual home is gregoryawilson.com.



Navah Wolfe is an editor at Saga Press, Simon & Schuster's science fiction and fantasy imprint, where she has edited critically-acclaimed novels such as *Borderline* by Mishell Baker, *A Green and Ancient Light* by Frederic S. Durbin, and *Our Lady of the Ice* by Cassandra Rose Clarke. She is also the co-editor, along with Dominik Parisien, of *The*

Starlit Wood: New Fairy Tales, an anthology of cross-genre fairy tale retellings coming soon from Saga Press. She was previously an editor at Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, where she worked on many bestselling books, including some that have won awards such as the Printz Honor, the Pura

Belpré Award, the Pen/Faulkner Award, the Stonewall Award, the Lambda Literary Award, and the Schneider Family Award. She has previously worked as a bookseller, a rock climbing wall manager, and a veterinary intern at a zoo. She lives in Connecticut with her husband, two young children, and an editorial cat. She can be found online at sagapress.com and twitter.com/navahw.

Ann Tonsor Zeddies recently made a foray into mainstream fiction with "Waiting to Show Her" in *Speaking Out: LGBTQ Youth Stand Up* and "Portrait of the Artist As A Young Swamp Thing" in *Boys of Summer* (both Berman, ed.). Her first five novels are all from Del Rey: *Deathgift* (1989) and sequel *Sky Road* (1993); as Tony Anzetti, Philip K. Dick finalist *Typhon's Children* (1999) and sequel *Riders of Leviathan* (2001); and (back to her own name) their prequel, Philip K. Dick finalist *Steel Helix* (2003). Historical sf noir *Blood and Roses: A Jayne Taylor Novel* (Phobos, 2005) may be the first of a series. Her earlier stories are in *The Ultimate Silver Surfer* (Lee, ed.) and *Magic in the Mirrorstone* (Berman, ed.). Ann recently moved back to her native Michigan, where she rejoices that the trees are the right height.



The Joey Zone is located more than an hour west of Providence. Zone has done illustration and design for the small presses off and on for the past two and a half decades. This work includes delineating early work by Don Webb, John Shirley, Brian Stableford and others, while also contributing to pre-internet publications such as *Factsheet Five* and *Science Fiction Eye*. In

1987, he created the logo "The Reader" for the ongoing literary conference Readercon, as well several subsequent program guide covers. The third World Horror Convention used promotional designs by him in 1993, while two years later Zone began his continuing association with the once and future NecronomiCon Providence, assisting The Lovecraft Arts & Sciences Council by serving as a co-curator of the Ars Necronomica gallery exhibits.



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