

# AURORAN LIGHTS

The Official E-zine of the Canadian Science Fiction & Fantasy Association  
Dedicated to Promoting the Prix Aurora Awards and the Canadian SF&F Genre  
(Issue # 12 – October 2014)

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**ACE**  
**25c**  
BOOKS

September 30 to October 2 2011

# V CON 36

LARRY NIVEN AUTHOR GOH  
JEAN-PIERRE NORMAND ARTIST GOH  
LISA LASSEK MEDIA GOH  
STEVE FAHNESTALK TOASTMASTER

The book cover features a vibrant space scene. In the foreground, a blue rocket stands on a rocky, reddish-brown planet surface. A small astronaut figure is visible near the base of the rocket. To the right, a close-up of a cat's face is shown inside a white space helmet. The background is a deep blue space filled with stars, a large yellow planet, and a prominent spiral galaxy.

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#### ART CREDITS:

**Jean-Pierre Normand:** Cover (unused VCON 36 program book cover).

**Taral Wayne:** Pages 46 & 53

## PHOTOGRAPH CREDITS:

**Kirk Lee Photography:** Pages 5, 6, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, & 58.

## EDITORIAL

Our magnificent cover is by *Jean-Pierre Normand*. As you can see it was intended to be the cover of the VCON 36 program book in 2011, but a technical glitch prevented this, and another equally beautiful piece of his art was used instead. Our cover piece is very retro in appearance—shades of *Chesley K. Bonestell* and Ace Doubles—which is why I love it so. The character in the right foreground is Robotter, the official Mascot of VCON. Absolutely splendid how Jean-Pierre worked him into the piece. As far as I know this is the first time this proposed cover has been unveiled for the public. It's wonderful. I know you agree.

However, I am greatly saddened to read the following news item provided to *Mike Glycer* of FILE 770 by **Diane Lacey**:

“Montreal fan *Ann Methe* succumbed to cancer October 5.

Leading Canadian sf writer *Robert J. Sawyer* saluted her on Twitter as “one of Canada’s great science-fiction convention runners.” Methe was past chair of Con\*Cept, formerly run by the MonSFFA. She won an Aurora Award in 1999 for her work on Con\*Cept and was nominated two other times. She also worked on the 2009 Montreal Worldcon, Anticipation, as a hotel liaison.

She is survived by her husband, artist *Jean-Pierre Normand*.”

I am sure I speak for all AL’s readers in offering heart-felt condolences to Jean-Pierre.

I met Ann in the Hospitality suite at VCON 36 when Jean-Pierre was Artist Guest of Honour. She was delightful to speak with. She will live on in the memory of all who knew her I am certain. R.I.P.

As to this issue, it is rather lopsided. I started September searching every day for items and plugging them in. But then the demands of preparing for VCON 39, in particular editing the program book, took up more and more of my time and I stopped work on AL. Now the convention is over and I am extremely tired. Instead of publishing on the 10<sup>th</sup> I’m aiming for Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> which comes on a Monday this month (to steal a line from the old POGO comics). This means a last minute scramble to find material. The results should at least hint at what I’m striving to achieve with this newsletter.

Probably the greatest strength of this issue will be the “Open for Submission” market reports. Some may wonder why I list submission guidelines in full instead of just providing a link. My intent is to provide a single source for writers to browse through and gain a quick impression of which markets to aim at, so that they only have to check further on just the ones they are interested in.

The weakness of this issue is probably the lack of variety in authors and books mentioned. Also not much fannish material. This is an artifact of limited time. I hope to do better next issue.

Cheers! R. Graeme Cameron (The Graeme)

Please send me feedback! You can reach me at: < [rgraeme\(at\)shaw.ca](mailto:rgraeme(at)shaw.ca) >

And also at my Twitter account < @rgraemecameron >

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## OFFICIAL SECTION – BLAME CSFFA!

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### CSFFA NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### CANVENTION 34 AURORA AWARD CEREMONY AT VCON 39

The winners of the [2014 Prix Aurora Awards](#) were announced at Convention 34/VCON 39 on October 4 in Vancouver. A total of 172 ballots were cast and the voting and nomination statistics are available [here](#).

Clifford Samuels, President of CSFFA (Canadian Science Fiction and Fantasy Association – the Aurora Award Admin people) presided as primary host, introducing the individual presenters in turn as they came to the podium to read the list of nominees for a given category and then tore open the envelope to reveal the winner.

Normally the Auroras are listed in publications beginning with “Best English Novel” first, but here the list of awards is printed in the actual order of their presentation:

**Best Fan Related Work** (72 ballots)

Robert Runté, “Why I Read Canadian Speculative Fiction: The Social Dimension of Reading”, Scholar Keynote Address at ACCSFF ’13, Toronto

**Best Fan Music** (104 ballots)

Chris Hadfield for his performance of *Space Oddity*

**Best Artist** (119 ballots)

Erik Mohr, cover art for ChiZine Publications

**Best English Related Work** (130 ballots)

*On Spec* published by the Copper Pig Writers’ Society

**Best English Graphic Novel** (75 ballots)

*Rock, Paper, Cynic* by Peter Chiykowski, webcomic

**Best English Poem/Song** (82 ballots)

“Night Journey: West Coast” by Eileen Kernaghan , *Tesseract Seventeen: Speculating Canada from Coast to Coast to Coast*, EDGE

**Best English Short Fiction** (123 ballots)

“Ghost in the Machine” by Ryan McFadden, *The Puzzle Box*, EDGE

**Best English YA Novel** (118 ballots)

*The Rising* by Kelley Armstrong, Doubleday Canada

**Best English Novel** (155 ballots)

*A Turn of Light* by Julie E. Czerneda, DAW Books

A special recognition Aurora Award also was given to Frank Johnson for producing the Aurora awards for the past 23 years. Frank created the design in 1991. A new design will be unveiled in 2015.



**Front row, left to right: Randy McCharles** (for himself and one on behalf of Ryan McFadden), **Rick LeBlanc** (on behalf of Copper Pig Society), **James Stevenson** (on behalf of Peter Chiykowski), **Dr. Robert Runté**, **Frank Johnson**, **Eileen Kernaghan**, **Spider Robinson**, and **William Gibson**.

**Back Row, presenters, left to right: Karl Johanson, Danielle Stephens, Al Harlow, Jenni Merrifield, Tarol Hunt, Rhea Rose, & Jane Ann McLachlan.**

### **CANVENTION 34 CSFFA HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES**



Hall of Fame Trophy Prototype Design

Former winners of the Aurora Lifetime Achievement Award **A.E. Van Vogt**, **Susan Wood**, **Judith Merrill**, **Phyllis Gotlieb**, **Dennis Mullen** and **Robert J. Sawyer** were automatically “rolled over” into the CSFFA Hall of Fame as Inductees.

**Spider** and **Jeanne Robinson**, and **William Gibson**, were this year’s inductees as decided by a jury chaired by CSFFA Past President **Clint Budd**. Spider and Bill were each presented with a plaque bearing a picture of the trophy design, as was **Robert J. Sawyer**. Their names will be added to the base of the trophy when complete.



**Spider Robinson** (left) and **William Gibson** (right) posing for photographs after receiving their 2014 CSFFA HALL OF FAME plaques.



**Robert J. Sawyer**, Lifetime Achievement Aurora Award winner, upon receiving his “Roll Over” CSFFA Hall of Fame plaque from **Clint Budd**, CSFFA Past President and Chair of the 2014 Hall of Fame Jury.

*(The Graeme – My personal take on events at Convention 34 and VCON 39 can be found in the Fandom section of this issue.)*

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## UNOFFICIAL SECTION – BLAME THE EDITOR!

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### PRODOM NEWS ITEMS

#### PROFESSIONAL MILESTONES & OTHER CATASTROPHES

##### NEW YA GENRE IMPRINT TO BE LAUNCHED (Source: Burnaby Writers Newsletter Sept/Oct 2014)

Toronto-based indie publisher **CHIZINE PUBLICATIONS**, [chizinepub.com/](http://chizinepub.com/) which publishes a variety of dark science fiction, fantasy and horror, is launching a YA imprint, **ChiTeen**. ChiZine co-owner and co-publisher *Sandra Kasturi* told PW that initially the plan is to publish four YA titles each year and gradually build on that, in the same the way that *ChiZine's* list has grown overall since it was established in 2008. In recent years, though, its growth rate has been faster than she and co-publisher (and husband) *Brett Savory* anticipated, she said. ChiZine has doubled its output since 2011 and now publishes about 25 titles each year.

**ChiTeen** books will be geared for a variety of ages. **The Door in the Mountain** by *Caitlin Sweet*, which will be published in May 2015 in Canada, is for older teens and “may veer into the new adult arena,” according to Kasturi. The other spring title **The Floating Boy and the Girl Who Couldn't Fly** by *P.T. Jones*, will likely appeal to younger teens 13 to 15, or even tweens, she added. Both of those titles will publish in October 2015 in the U.S. A third, **Dead Girls Don't** by *Mags Storey*, will be released in October 2015 in Canada but as a spring book for the U.S.

But Kasturi and Savory also have plans for ChiZine to grow in other directions. They have just launched an e-book only line, **CZPeBook**. **ChiGraphic**, a graphic novel imprint with three to four titles per year is also slated to launch in spring 2015, And in 2017, there are plans to launch **ChiDunnit** for mysteries and noir titles.

##### nEVERMORE! CROWDFUNDING CAMPAIGN UNDERWAY

##### **nEvermore! Tales of Murder, Mystery and the Macabre**

**nEvermore!** is an homage to the glorious, Gothic style of the master, Edgar Allan Poe, bringing Poe-inspired fiction into the 21st century.

**nEvermore!** brings together mystery writers (who already include a slash of the supernatural in their writing) and dark fantasy/horror writers (who currently slip across the shadows and touch on the mystery genre).

**nEvermore!** is a book that will revive and refresh all of us who love to read short fiction!

##### **Its Crowd Funded!**

**nEvermore!** is collaboration between EDGE Science Fiction and Fantasy Publishing and the editors. Together they've built one of the most unusual and exciting short fiction crowdfunding campaign ever seen.

For more information about the project and the complete list of the crowdfunding perks go [here!](#) To go directly to the crowd funding page please click [here!](#)

## Reading Pleasure!

Poe is the father of the modern detective story. And his genius at writing dark, supernatural tales and poems is legendary. Poe wrote at a time when genres didn't exist. Readers wanted a good story; how it fit on a bookstore shelf didn't matter. **nEvermore!** recaptures that sense of excitement and discovery of short fiction.

## Guarantee!

Love Poe? You won't be disappointed. This anthology is guaranteed to be the best anthology for your POE-inspired reading pleasure.

## The Editors!

**Nancy Kilpatrick** is an award-winning author and editor known for her dark fantasy/horror and mystery stories. She has published 18 novels, over 200 short stories, 6 collections, 1 non-fiction book, and has edited 14 anthologies. She has worked for major publishing houses and small presses and some of her fiction has been translated in several foreign languages. Poe's works have been a lifelong passion and she is thrilled to have this opportunity to create an anthology that honors this exceptional author of style and genius.

**Caro Soles** is best known for founding the Bloody Words Mystery Conference to highlight Canadian mystery writing. She received the Derrick Murdoch Award from the Crime Writers of Canada, was short-listed for the Lambda Literary Award, and inaugurated the Bloody Words Mystery Award several years ago. She has published 11 novels and many short stories and has edited several mystery anthologies. She writes and reads mysteries, teaches writing at George Brown College and loves a good ghost story.

## How Crowdfunding Works!

You receive 'perks' by donating to the project. More perks for larger donations! Amounts can vary from \$5.00 to \$1,000.00. One of the best perks is a print copy of **nEvermore!**, which will be available in **October 2015** (just in time for Halloween)!

***NEW PERKS ARE LISTED EVERY WEDNESDAY  
DURING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER!!!***

All of the perks are Poe-related. Please visit the **nEvermore!** website for a complete list of perks. Updates and images can be found **here!**

## The Goal!

The funding goal for this project is \$15,000.00. Contributions will **only** be transferred to the project once the goal is reached. If you want to donate anonymously without a perk, please use the first category ***The Pit & The Pendulum***, where you can donate any amount you like. Your donations will bring this anthology to life. Help us make this New-Gothic anthology happen!

## Release Date:

The release date for the print and e-book versions of "Nevermore!: TALES of MURDER, MYSTERY & the MACABRE" is October of 2015. Funders will receive their copies in advance of the public release date.

Media Contact:

## **THIRD PERSON PRESS ANTHOLOGY FUNDING CAMPAIGN UNDERWAY**

Help fund the newest anthology from indie Third Person Press: Vol. 4 of The Speculative Elements.  
[Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, Canada Writing](#)

### **What is Flashpoint?**

*Flashpoint* is an anthology of original speculative fiction, the fourth volume in the popular *Speculative Elements* series. Publication is scheduled for late 2014.



### **Who is Third Person Press?**

We are a small, independent publisher based on Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia. We have a proven track record of producing quality publications while nurturing and promoting the writers we work with. It's important to us to be able to pay our writers decent rates for their work, and to promote great speculative fiction from our region. Your support will help us keep doing that, and you'll get some great perks into the bargain!

### **What We Need & What You Get**

First and foremost, the funds we receive will go to pay our contributors for their stories in *Flashpoint*. Beyond that, we'll be paying to print and ship the actual physical copies, including some to be used for reviews, giveaways, and promotional purposes. We'll pay for the perks for our kind supporters, and other costs involved in the production, launch, and promotion of the book. If we have anything left over (a pretty big if!), we'll put it toward other Third Person Press projects and goals, like future anthologies and collections.

We think you'll like our cool perks for this campaign. In addition to the usual thank-yous and recognition, we have copies of the book and/or ebook, bookmarks, and *Flashpoint*-themed jewelry, as well as some special perks for our writer friends. All this is in addition to other books from our catalogue, printable artwork, a detailed critique of your own writing--even dinner out with the editors!

### **The Impact**

UK author Philip Pullman said, "After nourishment, shelter and companionship, stories are the thing we need most in the world." At Third Person Press, we believe this, and we want to keep bringing great stories and authors to readers. We may be small, but that means we can work one-on-one with our authors to bring you tales we think you'll love, and it allows us to nurture fresh new voices. Our track record of successful previous anthologies makes us confident that *Flashpoint* will be another book we're proud to publish. And our *Grey Area* Indiegogo campaign experience makes us excited for this one! Your support helps us, our authors, and our future projects.

## Risks & Challenges

Our biggest challenge is the same one that faces every small press these days--visibility. Our past experience with Indiegogo proved that doesn't have to be an obstacle. The success of our *Grey Area* campaign and the experience it provided us gives us confidence both in the anthology and in our ability to fulfill our commitments to our supporters.

## A Note About Dates

We intend to begin shipping print copies and other physical perks starting on **December 1st, 2014**; other perks such as custom designs, critiques, etc. will be available by the dates noted.

## Other Ways You Can Help

Want to support the project, but are unable to contribute right now? You can still help us out by spreading the word about our *Flashpoint* campaign with your friends, family, and colleagues, and in your social media circles. Indiegogo's sharing tools make it easy!

Nancy S.M. Waldman & Julie Serroul Nova Scotia

[www.thirdpersonpress.com/](http://www.thirdpersonpress.com/) This site is about to undergo a redesign, so for anything you need to know about us, please visit our blog site at [www.thirdpersonpress.com/](http://www.thirdpersonpress.com/)

## AWARDS, ACCOLADES, & OTHER EXULTATIONS

### SUNBURST AWARD SOCIETY ANNOUNCES THE WINNERS OF ITS THIRD ANNUAL COPPER CYLINDER AWARDS

(Toronto, Ontario (September 19th, 2014))



The Copper Cylinder Award is an annual member's choice award selected by members of the Sunburst Award Society for books published during the previous year.

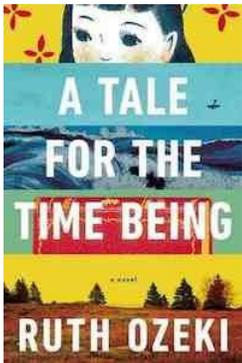
The Copper Cylinder Award derives its name from the first Canadian scientific romance, "A Strange Manuscript Found in a Copper Cylinder," by **James De Mille** (1833-1880). The winners receive a unique, handcrafted, copper cylinder trophy.

The winner of the 2014 Copper Cylinder Adult Award is **River of Stars** by **Guy Gavriel Kay** (Penguin Group Canada – ISBN - 9780670068401).

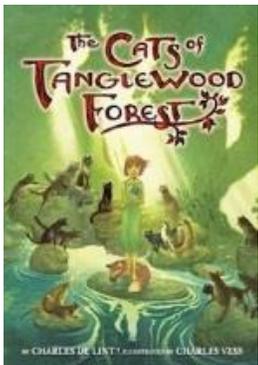
The winner of the 2014 Copper Cylinder Young Adult Award is **Homeland** by **Cory Doctorow** (Tom Doherty Associates – IS

**SUNBURST AWARD SOCIETY ANNOUNCES THE 2014 ANNUAL SUNBURST AWARD WINNERS OF ITS \$1,000.00 LITERARY PRIZE**

Toronto, Ontario (October 1st, 2014) The Sunburst Award Committee is pleased to announce that the winner of its 2014 adult award is **A Tale for the Time Being** by **Ruth Ozeki** (Penguin Group Canada - ISBN - 9780670067046) and the winner of its 2014 young adult award is **The Cats of Tanglewood Forest** by **Charles de Lint** (Little Brown Books - ISBN - 9780316053570).



About **A Tale for the Time Being**, the Sunburst jury said: Cast ashore on Vancouver Island by the Pacific Gyre, a Hello Kitty lunchbox opens upon an ocean of story, connecting Ruth and Nao across space and time. Some books flirt with the fantastic, Ozeki's dances with it, such that it weaves through the narrative with sinuous grace, embracing evanescence. As Nao declares to the reader at the outset, "You're my kind of time being, and together we'll make magic." All matters therein are given equal weight, yet the novel has a deft touch, often humorous. It is a seriously playful work. **A Tale for the Time Being** is sui generis, free ranging over fact and fancy, physics and metaphysics, the intimate and the universal; in a true sense it is a Zen koan extended to 422 pages, which is yet another paradox. Like the bumblebee, it shouldn't fly but it does. Beautifully.



About **The Cats of Tanglewood Forest**, the Sunburst Jury said: A deceptively simple wish-fulfillment fantasy, **The Cats of Tanglewood Forest** draws upon the deep tradition of animal fables and fairy tales, upon the folklore of New World and Old, and upon the classic children's literature of the past two centuries, but distilled into pure de Lint, faithful to its sources yet shaped by his own sensibilities. An enhancement rather than expansion of **A Circle of Cats**, the collaboration of writer and artist produces a fusion of word and image into a seamless whole, delighting the eye anew with the turning of each page. There are darker tones, to be sure, as snake-bite carries young Lillian past the jaws of death to the tribe of cat, and the magic of the deep wood that restores her humanity will come at a cost, and a debt owed. But that's what a good fable is, timeless yet always cognisant of time's passage.

The jurors for the 2014 award are **Camille Alexa**, **Paul Glennon**, **Bob Knowlton**, **Nicole Luiken**, and **Derek Newman-Stille**.

**The other shortlisted works for the 2014 adult award were:**

- **Sister Mine** by **Nalo Hopkinson** (Grand Central Publishing – ISBN - 9781455528400)
- **River of Stars** by **Guy Gavriel Kay** (Penguin Group Canada – ISBN - 9780670068401)
- **This Strange Way of Dying** by **Silvia Moreno-Garcia** (Exile Editions - ISBN - 9781550963540)
- **The Demonologist** by **Andrew Pyper** (Simon & Schuster - ISBN - 9781451697520)

**The other shortlisted works for the 2014 young adult award were:**

- **Sorrow's Knot** by **Erin Bow** (Scholastic Inc. - ISBN - 9780545166669)
- **Homeland** by **Cory Doctorow** (Tom Doherty Associates - ISBN - 9780765333698)
- **The Path of Names** by **Ari Goelman** (Scholastic Inc. - ISBN - 9780545474306)
- **Urgle** by **Meaghan McIsaac** (Dancing Cat Books - ISBN - 9781770863088)

**Ruth Ozeki** divides her time between New York City and British Columbia. **Charles de Lint** lives in Ottawa.

The jurors for the 2015 award will be **S.M. Beiko, Gerard Collins, Paula Johanson, Corey Redekop** and **Sherryl Vint**.

The Sunburst Award for Excellence in Canadian Literature of the Fantastic is an annual award celebrating the best in Canadian fantastic literature published during the previous calendar year.

The winners receive a cash prize of \$1,000 as well as a medallion which incorporates the Sunburst logo. The Sunburst Award takes its name from the debut novel of the late **Phyllis Gotlieb**, one of the first published authors of contemporary Canadian speculative fiction.

For additional information about the Sunburst Award, the nominees and jurors, as well as previous awards, eligibility and the selection process, please visit the website at [www.sunburstaward.org](http://www.sunburstaward.org).

Contact: **Rebecca Simkin**, Secretary, The Sunburst Award, 2 Farm Greenway, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M3A 3M2

### **FRIENDS OF THE MERRIL 2014/2015 CONTEST STARTING UP**

“We're gearing up for the 2014/2015 Friends of the Merril Collection Short Story Contest, and the first item of business is to update our contact information!”

“Effective immediately, [Charlotte Ashley](#) will be taking over from Michael Matheson as Contest Administrator. Michael will be staying on board in an advisory capacity, but the switch has meant some new contact information. Our primary contact email is still < [fomsscontest\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:fomsscontest@gmail.com) >but the NEW Twitter account is [@FotMContest](#). We hope you'll follow along for news and updates as the contest draws closer!”

More updates soon! [friendsmerrilcontest](#)

### **JUDGES APPOINTED FOR THE 2015 FRIENDS OF THE MERRIL COLLECTION SHORT STORY CONTEST**

The three Final Panel Judges for the 2014/2015 *Friends of the Merril Short Story Contest* are **Leah Bobet, Julie Czerneda**, and **Caitlin Sweet**.



[Leah Bobet](#)'s first novel, **Above**, was nominated for the 2012 Andre Norton Award and the 2013 Aurora Award, and her short fiction has appeared in several Year's Best anthologies and as part of online serial **Shadow Unit**. She is the publisher and editor of speculative quarterly **Ideomancer Speculative Fiction** and works as a bookseller at Bakka-Phoenix Books, Canada's oldest science fiction bookstore. Her second novel will appear from Clarion Books/Houghton Mifflin Harcourt in 2015.



Since 1997, Canadian author/editor [Julie E. Czerneda](#) has poured her love of biology into SF novels published by DAW Books NY. A Finalist for the John W. Campbell Award (Best New Writer), as well as for the Philip K. Dick Award (Distinguished Science Fiction), and nominated for several Nebulas, she has won the Prix Aurora Award (Canada's Hugo) in three categories: Best Long-form (**In the Company of Others**), Best Short-form (“**Left Foot on a Blind Man**”), and Best Work (Other) for her anthologies (**Space Inc.** and, with Jana Paniccia, **Under Cover of Darkness**.) Photo courtesy of Roger Czerneda Photography.

Her work on the use of science fiction to develop scientific literacy lead to the publication of the **Tales from the Wonder Zone** anthology series, winner of the 2002 Special Award for Science & Technology Education from the Golden Duck Committee, with the most recent, **Polaris: In Celebration of the International Polar Year** becoming the first work of science fiction to win the 2007 Canadian Science Writers Association's Award (Best Science in Society for Youth). Julie has fifteen novels and fifteen anthologies in print, as well as numerous short stories.

Her latest release is the epic fantasy **A Turn of Light**, set in the valley of Marrowdell, itself based in large part on early pioneer settlements. There are house toads as well as dragons, and not all is what it seems. Julie continues to be active in the SF/F community, conducting workshops and appearing at conventions. She served as Toastmaster for the 2009 Worldcon in Montreal and will be GOH at Chattacon 2015, in Tennessee.

Coming fall 2014: **Species Imperative**, the 10th anniversary omnibus edition of her acclaimed SF trilogy, and **A Play of Shadow**, sequel to **Turn** and next in what is now the five book "Night's Edge" series. Julie's back to science fiction again, hard at work on **This Gulf of Time and Stars**, first volume of the concluding trilogy to her **Clan Chronicles** series (Reunification), [www.czerneda.com](http://www.czerneda.com) for more.



**Caitlin Sweet** has been a writer since she was seven and her grade two teacher informed her that her stories were "too long." Since then, she has been a trombone teacher, a bookstore clerk, an ESL instructor in Mexico and Canada, an administrative assistant at the University of Toronto, a stay-at-home mother and a labour doula. Now she works full time for the Ontario government and part time for the University of Toronto's School of Continuing Studies.

Caitlin is the author of **A Telling of Stars** (2003) and its prequel, **The Silences of Home** (2005), both published by Penguin Canada and both nominated for a variety of awards. "**To Play the Game of Men**," her one and only short story, appeared in 2009 in the *Ages of Wonder* anthology. Her third novel, **The Pattern Scars**, was published by ChiZine Publications in November 2011. It too was nominated for some awards, including the 2012 CBC Bookie for Speculative Fiction, which it won. Her re-telling of Beauty and the Beast via Minoan Crete, **The Door in the Mountain**, was released in June 2014, and she's now scrambling to finish its sequel for release in fall 2015.

### **GHOST STORY AWARDS LAUNCHED** (Source: Burnaby Writers Newsletter Sept/Oct 2014)

Announcing new annual awards devoted to the classic ghost story tradition. Three stalwarts of the classic ghost story have combined to launch new awards for the best ghost story and the best ghost story collection each year. The journals **Ghosts & Scholars** and **Supernatural Tales** and the literary society **A Ghostly Company** will jointly sponsor the awards. The winners will be chosen by votes of their readers and embers. The term 'ghost story' is intended to be understood broadly, to mean any supernatural motif. The classic exponents of the field did not always write about ghosts, but also about a wide range of other uncanny entities, and sometimes left room for doubt too. The awards will cover new stories in a similar range. The awards are for short stories and short story collections or anthologies. The first awards will be made in 2015 for stories and books first published in English in print and paper form in 2014.

Enquiries to the Awards Secretary - **Mark Valentine**, [markl.valentine@btinternet.com](mailto:markl.valentine@btinternet.com). Rules available on request.

## MAN BOOKER PRIZE COULD SOME DAY BE YOURS by Spider Robinson.

Dear colleagues, friends, and related professionals,

The shortlist nominees for the prestigious Man Booker Prize have just been announced. Since this is the first year American authors have been eligible, there was some concern that America would swamp the nominations. This turned out to be unjustified: only two Americans made the six-book final ballot.

But one of them is a colleague of ours, **Karen Joy Fowler**—described in wikipedia as “a writer of science fiction, fantasy, and literary fiction.” Her first novel, **Sarah Canary**, was deliberately written to “to read like a science fiction novel to a science fiction reader” and “like a mainstream novel to a mainstream reader.” Her best-selling novel **The Jane Austen Book Club** was made into a movie of the same name.

She has been nominated for the Man Booker for her most recent novel, **We Are All Beside Ourselves**, which won the Pen/Faulkner Award for 2014, and has been nominated for a Nebula Award. It is about a young woman raised with a chimpanzee as her sister.

You realize what this means. From now on, we SF writers are all eligible for a Man Booker. Which comes with 50,000 quid! The only previous fantasy novel to win—if you consider it fantasy—is **Yan Martell**'s 2002 novel **The Life of Pi**.

According to Wikipedia, “The selection process for the winner of the prize commences with the formation of an advisory committee which includes a writer, two publishers, a literary agent, a bookseller, a librarian, and a chairperson appointed by the Booker Prize Foundation. The advisory committee then selects the judging panel, the membership of which changes each year, although on rare occasions a judge may be selected a second time. Judges are selected from amongst leading literary critics, writers, academics and leading public figures.”

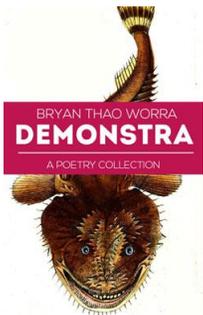
The winner is usually announced at a ceremony in London's Guildhall, usually in early October.”

In 1970, **Bernice Rubens** became the first woman—and the second person—to win the Booker.

Good luck to Karen!

[**The Graeme**: in 2013 the Man Booker Prize was open only to UK writers. In 2014 it was expanded globally to include any novel published in English anywhere in the world! Talk about lust for world domination! The judges must be masochists...]

## ELGIN AWARD 2014 WINNER ANNOUNCED



**Bryan Thao Worra**'s poetry collection **Demonstra**, published 2013, by Innsmouth Free Press, is the winner of the 2014 Elgin Award for Book of the Year. The Elgin is administered by the Science Fiction Poetry Association. **Demonstra** is still available at <http://www.innsmouthfreepress.com/> (currently 30% off).

In the depths, half-hidden under still waters, await strange and vicious creatures .... Cthulhu, Godzilla and nagas mingle in **Demonstra**, a speculative poem collection which assembles 20 years of work by **Bryan Thao Worra**. **Demonstra** is a book of things glimpsed out of the corner of the eye. It is about a reality that can never fully be demonstrated, authenticated, dissected, for certain visions always remain in shadows.

**Bryan Thao Worra** is the first Laotian American to receive a Fellowship in Literature from the United States Government's National Endowment for the Arts. He received the Asian Pacific Leadership Award from the State Council on Asian Pacific Minnesotans for Leadership in the Arts in 2009. His previous books include *On The Other Side Of The Eye* and *Touching Detonations*. He was a Cultural Olympian during the 2012 London Summer Games representing Laos. He's a professional member of the Horror Writer Association and a regular contributor to *Innsmouth Magazine*.

## **UNUSUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR PROFESSIONALS**

### **ASSISTANT PROFESSOR (SPECLIT/SF) POSITION OPEN FOR CALGARY UNIVERSITY**

**Michael J. Lowrey** reports: The Department of English at the University of Calgary invites applications for a tenure-track position at the rank of Assistant Professor, effective **July 1, 2015**.

We are seeking candidates with a PhD in English or a closely related discipline, a demonstrated scholarly record, and expertise in Speculative Fiction and/or Science Fiction.

The successful candidate will be expected to contribute to the teaching needs of the Department at all levels, grow an active research program and engage in meaningful service activities within the department, faculty, university and community. Additionally, the successful applicant will be expected to maintain and grow an active research program and engage in meaningful service activities within the department, faculty, university and community.

The Department of English at the University of Calgary is one of the most dynamic research and teaching departments in Canada, with thriving MA and PhD programs and a strong under-graduate program. The Department has significant expertise and recognized strengths in popular literature and popular literary forms, historical literary periods, creative writing, and new media and digital humanities. The University of Calgary Library's Special Collections is home to substantial and significant holdings in Speculative Fiction materials, including the Bob Gibson Collection of Speculative Fiction and the George Morley Cartoon Collection: <http://specialcollections.ucalgary.ca>. We encourage applications from all qualified women and men, including members of visible minorities, Aboriginal peoples, and persons with disabilities.

For more information about the Department, see our home page: <http://www.english.ucalgary.ca>. Applicants should send a curriculum vitae, a refereed publication, and evidence of teaching effectiveness. They should arrange to have three confidential letters of reference forwarded directly to:

Dr. Jacqueline Jenkins, Head Department of English University of Calgary  
2500 University Drive NW Calgary, Alberta T2N 1N4

or by e-mail to the Department Manager, Barb Howe at [howe@ucalgary.ca](mailto:howe@ucalgary.ca) Deadline: **November 15, 2014**.

### **Additional Information**

#### **About the University of Calgary**

The University of Calgary is a leading Canadian university located in the nation's most enterprising city. The university has a clear strategic direction to become one of Canada's top five research universities by 2016, where innovative teaching and ground-breaking research go hand in hand, and where we fully engage the

communities we both serve and lead. The strategy is called Eyes High, inspired by our Gaelic motto, which translates to 'I will lift up my eyes'.

To succeed as one of Canada's top universities, where new ideas are created, tested and applied through first-class teaching and research, the University of Calgary needs more of the best minds in our classrooms and labs. We're increasing our scholarly capacity by investing in people who want to change the world, bringing the best and brightest to Calgary to form a global intellectual hub and achieve advances that matter to everyone.

To view a listing of all available academic opportunities and to find out more about what the University of Calgary has to offer, please visit our Academic Careers website.

## **About Calgary, Alberta**

Named a cultural capital of Canada and one of the best places to live in the world, Calgary is a city of leaders - in business, community, philanthropy and volunteerism. Calgarians benefit from the strongest economy in the nation and enjoy more days of sunshine per year than any other major Canadian city. Calgary is less than an hour's drive from the majestic Rocky Mountains and boasts the most extensive urban pathway and bikeway network in North America.

All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. The University of Calgary respects, appreciates, and encourages diversity.

## **CANADIAN WOMEN IN THE LITERARY ARTS (CWILA) SEEKING 2015 CRITIC-IN-RESIDENCE**

CWILA's Critic-in-residence 2015

### The Residency

CWILA supports a female/transgender/genderqueer writer (poet, novelist, storyteller, scholar) based in Canada as its resident critic for a calendar year. The aim of the residency is to foster criticism that promotes public awareness of women's literary and critical presence in Canadian and Québécois letters. Specifically, the Critic in Residence works on critical essays and/or book reviews and submits them to one or more Canadian review venues (print and web). This work is also archived by CWILA and becomes available through its website following publication elsewhere, copyright permitting. The Critic in Residence is encouraged to support a climate of critical responsiveness in Canadian letters through a collaborative or community-based project of their choice. In addition, the Critic in Residence will comment on the results of the annual Count in a public forum. The residency is virtual, so the writer is free to work from home. The Critic in Residence will finish the term by submitting a dossier summarizing the work done while in residence. The deadline for submission of the essay or reviews to CWILA is December 31st of the year of the residency. At this time, the writer also provides documentation that the pieces have been submitted to other publications.

### Application Criteria:

Applications should include a short letter of intent (max. 2 pages) describing the project or projects the applicant wishes to undertake, and the venue or venues to which they plan to submit, a two-page CV, and a short sample of critical work (25 pages max.). Applicants should submit to: [cir@cwila.com](mailto:cir@cwila.com)

We particularly encourage applications from LGBTQ writers, Indigenous writers, as well as other women and/or transgender writers of colour.

Stipend: \$3,000

Applications: The deadline for applications is **November 10, 2014**

CWILA (Canadian Women in the Literary Arts) is an inclusive national literary organization for people who share feminist values and see the importance of strong and active female perspectives and presences within the Canadian literary landscape.

CWILA was founded in 2012 by poet and essayist Gillian Jerome in response to an online conversation on gender representation in Canadian literary reviews started by poet and critic Sina Queyras on her blog [Lemon Hound](#) and continued by poet Natalie Zina Walschots on her blog [www.nataliezed.ca](http://www.nataliezed.ca). The conversation expanded to women active in various literary communities across the country, calling for a discursive space to address the politics of representation, the critical reception of women's writing and the ways in which we can foster stronger critical communities of women of all ages and ethnicities, including genderqueer writers and Indigenous writers.

CWILA continues the path set by the US organization VIDA, founded in 2009 "to address the need for female writers of literature to engage in conversations regarding the critical reception of women's creative writing in our current culture." VIDA conducts an annual project "to count the rates of publication between women and men in many of our writing world's most respected literary outlets." None of the literary outlets counted by VIDA are Canadian.

In June 2012, CWILA launched findings from its first Count, documenting the rates at which men and women were published and reviewed in 14 Canadian literary publications in 2011. Within 24 hours the website went viral, with over 8,000 unique visitors in the first month. The 2011 Count received media coverage from national and international media outlets, including The Guardian, The Globe and Mail, The Montreal Gazette, The Capilano Review, Room, Jacket2, Lemon Hound and Quill & Quire.

In order to begin to address the gender gap in Canadian review culture as revealed by the Count, CWILA created the position of [Critic-In-Residence](#) (CIR) and funded it by donations raised through social media. Throughout 2013, inaugural CWILA Critic-in-Residence [Sue Sinclair](#) published reviews in the National Post, Arc Poetry Magazine, Winnipeg Review and Canadian Literature. She also led a community-based project in partnership with the Atwater Reading Series in Montreal.

In 2013, the second annual CWILA Count was conducted, expanding from 14 publications to 25 to provide greater regional inclusion. A genderqueer metric was added to account for individuals who identify outside the gender binary, and a new Canadian metric determined the number of Canadian writers represented. The [findings of the 2012 Count](#) were published in July 2013, and again CWILA received media coverage in Quill & Quire, National Post, THIS Magazine, Globe and Mail, Winnipeg Free Press, Arc Poetry Magazine and rabble.ca. To date, CWILA's findings have been discussed in over 40 articles internationally.

In December of 2013, [Shannon Webb-Campbell](#) was selected as CWILA's 2014 Critic-in-Residence. Over the course of her residency, Webb-Campbell has published reviews and interviews in The National Post, Telegraph Journal, The Coast and Plenitude Magazine. She was also the recipient of the 2014 "Out in Print" Literary Award.

In 2014, CWILA conducted its third annual Count of Books reviews and published the results in September. The 2013 Count, which received funding assistance from the Canada Council for the Arts, expanded from 25 publications for 2012 to 31 publications (to include the French literary community and a broader regional representation), resulting in 82% more reviews than the 2012 Count.

CWILA now has over 400 paid members consisting of some of Canada's most prominent writers and academics

If you want to join CWILA, please click here for our [New Members form](#).

CWILA strives to promote and foster equity and equality of representation in the Canadian literary community by:

- 1) tracking statistics on gender representation in reviewing;
- 2) bringing relevant issues of gender, race and sexuality into our national literary conversation;
- 3) and creating a network supportive of the active careers of female writers, critics and their literary communities.

Along with the publication of an annual gender count, CWILA is raising money for an annual Critic-In-Residence. Support CWILA: [click here to read more](#).

## **BOOK SIGNINGS, LECTURES, & OTHER CONFRONTATIONS**

**“CREATING SCIENCE FICTION” WRITING COURSE** offered by *Nina Munteanu*

I am again teaching my workshop-style course on how to write science fiction this fall at the St. James Campus of [George Brown College](#) is located on 200 King Street, Toronto, Canada.

Called "**Creating Science Fiction**" the 12-week course runs Wednesday nights from 6:15 to 9:15 starting September 17 through to December 3. It costs \$278.

I run the course like a workshop with lots of students input and feedback on their WIP.

**Course Description:** Learn about what is involved in writing science fiction and getting it published. Explore the essential tools used in this genre (including world building, research and plot approaches), and work toward a publishable original work by learning to generate and follow through with premise, idea and theme.

Here's what some students have said about the course:

*Nina is:*

“Sharing, open, lively.”

“Always willing to answer questions. Very supportive.”

“Very passionate about teaching, with a great logical presentation that makes it super easy to understand the concepts. Excellent teacher! I never mark all excellent.”

“She is helpful, makes us work on our writing, and cares about us.”

“She is a published author and gave us insight into the business & writing aspect of science fiction so she has a lot of hands-on knowledge & genuinely loves sci-fi.”

*What other courses would you like us to offer?*

“Science Fiction 2 with Nina—I'd pay double. She was (by far) the best instructor I have had in 2 years and several Writing Courses at George Brown.”



**Students can register**

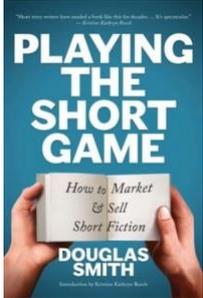
**here:** [http://coned.georgebrown.ca/owa\\_prod/cewskcrss.P\\_CrseGet?subj\\_code=LIBA&crse\\_num=9351](http://coned.georgebrown.ca/owa_prod/cewskcrss.P_CrseGet?subj_code=LIBA&crse_num=9351)

[**The Graeme:** *The course is probably full, but you never know, there may still be an opening or two.*]

### “MARKET AND SELL SHORT STORIES” COURSE offered by *Douglas Smith*

Aurora Award-winning short story author Douglas Smith is teaching a course at the University of Toronto (St. George Campus) on how to market short stories. Entitled, “[Playing the Short Game: How to Market and Sell Short Stories](#)“, Smith’s course follows his popular blog series on Amazing Stories and makes use of his recently published book of the same name.

A wealth of courses and books exist to teach you how to write stories. But what happens when you’ve finished writing? Do you know how to sell what you’ve written?



This course teaches you the business side of short fiction. By the end of the course, you will understand the benefits of short fiction for a writing career, rights and licensing for short fiction, how to find the right professional markets for a story, how to submit and sell to those markets, mistakes to avoid in submitting your work, how editors work and why they choose or reject stories, what to look (and look out) for in short fiction contracts, how to work with an editor, and how to handle rejections and reviews. Most importantly, this course will teach you how to use your short stories to build a career as a writer.

The course runs from 7-9pm on Wednesdays and starts October 1. It runs through to December 3, 2014. The course costs \$625 and may be applied toward the SCS Certificate in Creative Writing.

[Students can register for the course here.](#)

[**The Graeme:** *The course is probably full, but you never know, there may still be an opening or two.*]

### EILEEN KERNAGHAN & RUTH KOZAK READING

**Eileen Kernaghan** reports “**Ruth Kozak** and I will be reading from our new historical novels at Renaissance Books, 43 -6th Street in New Westminster, B.C., on Wednesday, October 15 at 7 p.m. Admission is free and an open mic will follow.”

### ONE DAY SCIENCE FICTION FESTIVAL AT MISSISSAUGA CENTRAL LIBRARY

in the Noel Ryan Auditorium  
301 Burnhamthorpe Rd. West, adjacent to City Hall  
**Mississauga, Ontario**  
Saturday, October 18, 2014, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Free** — but space is limited. **Please register** in advance with the Central Library's "Readers' Den" Department: Phone 905-615-3200, extension 3544.

In honour of Mississauga resident [ROBERT J. SAWYER](#)'s receipt of the [Lifetime Achievement Aurora Award](#) from the Canadian Science Fiction and Fantasy Association, the Mississauga Public Library is pleased to present a **FREE** one-day science-fiction festival.

Rob asked us to get his "dream team" to join him at this event, and we did. Speaking and reading will be:

- [Marie Bilodeau](#), Aurora Award-nominated author of **Destiny's Blood**
- [Tanya Huff](#), Aurora Award-winning author of **The Silvered**
- [Robert J. Sawyer](#), Hugo Award-winning author of **Hominids**
- [Robert Charles Wilson](#), Hugo Award-winning author of **Spin**

10:00 a.m.: Keynote address by **Robert J. Sawyer** on "The Canadian Science-Fiction Experience"

11:00 a.m.: "Differences Between Writing Science Fiction and Writing Fantasy" — **Marie Bilodeau** and **Tanya Huff** in conversation

Noon: lunch break

1:00 p.m.: Author Readings #1: **Marie Bilodeau** and **Robert Charles Wilson**

2:00 p.m.: "Science Fiction and the Science of the Mind" — **Robert J. Sawyer** and **Robert Charles Wilson** in conversation

3:00 p.m.: Author Readings #2: **Tanya Huff** and **Robert J. Sawyer**

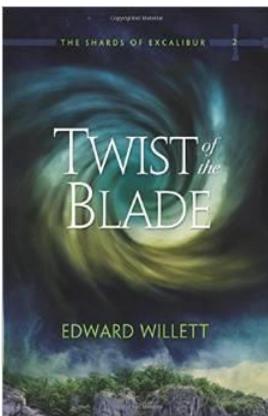
4:00 p.m.: "The Future of Science Fiction Publishing" — **Marie Bilodeau**, **Tanya Huff**, **Robert J. Sawyer**, and **Robert Charles Wilson**

**ROBERT J. SAWYER KEYNOTE SPEAKER  
FOR NIAGARA ON THE LAKE WRITER'S CIRCLE**

During their Rising Spirits Writing Contest Awards Celebration at The Cellar at The Old Winery Restaurant **Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario** Friday, October 31, at 7:00 p.m.

**PUBLICATIONS NEWLY UNLEASHED**

**(From COTEAU BOOKS)**



**Twist of the Blade**, Book 2 of my modern-day YA fantasy series, **The Shards of Excalibur**, is now out! **Edward Willett**

“Having saved the first Shard of the sword Excalibur from internet mogul Rex Major (aka Merlin), Ariane and Wally are on the lookout for the second. Wally's worried that the power of the first Shard is already changing Ariane, giving her the strength to do both good and evil ... and when she seriously hurts his bullying sister Flish, it seems he might be right.”

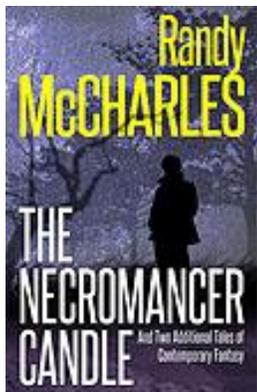
**(Following Books upcoming/current from EDGE Science Fiction and Fantasy Publishing)**

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

**The Necromancer Candle - Randy McCharles**

A collection of three new novellas by Canadian Speculative Fiction author Randy McCharles.

The collection includes:



### **The Necromancer Candle**

Cassidy's family has a secret. An ancient, ugly candle passed down through the generations until it has been all but forgotten. But now someone is looking for it, or so Cassidy thinks. A victim of terminal brain cancer, Cassidy no longer trusts what she sees. But real or imagined, the upheaval of Cassidy's life is moving quickly toward an end where Cassidy's greatest wish is to die on her own terms. But is that long enough to solve the mystery of the necromancer candle?

### **Full House**

When Jonas loses his job on the same day a neighbor is murdered, he finds his days at home more challenging yet rewarding than he ever imagined. Against a backdrop of healing family relationships and expounding upon life with his poker buddies, Jonas finds himself pressured to solve the murder. But the more he learns, the more Jonas sees that this is no simple murder, but a mystery that has spanned centuries.

### **Merlin's Silver**

Joan gets more than she bargained for when she buys an expensive tea service at auction to shake up a lackluster marriage. It seems the tea service is sought by black magicians who will stop at nothing to get it, with only a peculiar little man named Odds Bodkins standing in their way. But who can Joan trust? The mysterious voice on the phone offering to buy the tea service? Her best friend Sally who offers to take it off her hands? Or Odds Bodkins, whose designs grow more unfathomable by the hour?

### **Clockwork Secrets: Heavy Fire – Dru Pagliassotti**

(Book Three of the Clockwork Heart trilogy)



Framed for regicide and trapped on a ship crippled by enemy fire, Taya and Ondinium's diplomatic contingent seem helpless to prevent the well-engineered war their enemies have put into motion. While Alzanan and Demican armies march across Ondinium's borders, Taya and her husband fight airborne battles from the tropical islands of the Cabisi Thassalocracy to the war-ravaged mountains of Alzana. When Taya falls into her enemy's hands, she fears that nobody will be able to save Ondinium from the devastating weapon about to be plunged into its mechanically ticking heart.

### **About the Author:**

**Dru Pagliassotti** is a professor of communication at California Lutheran University, where she teaches media theory and practice. She published and edited *The Harrow*, an online literary magazine for fantasy and horror, from 1998-2009, and she currently runs The Harrow Press, which publishes horror anthologies.

### **Praise:**

"Pagliassotti has brought forth a terrific novel, one that embodies a bold new direction in the fantasy genre. For those who enjoy the work of China Mieville or D.M. Cornish..." — Drew Bittner, SFRevu.

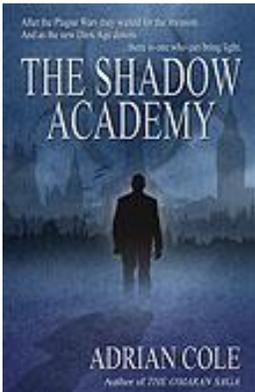
"Escape to the fantastic and captivating three-tiered city Pagliassotti has created. The plot is intricate and has multilayered characters who perplex, entertain, and gratify. This is a wonderfully written book — one for the keeper shelf." — Romantic Times

"I must say, my little steampunk heart is just thrilled with this newest offering. It's an off-world story and the author has done a fantastic job with the worldbuilding." — Elizabeth Headrick, BookFetish.Org

### **Books in the Trilogy:**

- [Clockwork Heart](#)
- [Clockwork Lies: Iron Wind](#)
- Clockwork Secrets: Heavy Fire

### **The Shadow Academy – Adrian Cole**



In a world no more than a whisper away from our own, the Islands of Grand Britannia have been reduced by the ancient Plague Wars to a land of deep forests and a handful of small cities, governed by a powerful totalitarian Authority, based in the central city of Londonborough. Chad Mundy, a young teacher is sent to the remote city of Petra Dumnoniorum, to replace a colleague believed to have committed suicide. It soon becomes evident that there are darker, more sinister secrets locked up in the claustrophobic world of the Academy.

As Mundy unravels the treachery and deceptions behind the Authority, himself threatened and ultimately hunted by the ruthless Enforcer, Deadspike, the world of the dissident pagans and their hopes for freedom are cruelly tested. Events rush towards a fateful confrontation between the totalitarian Authority and the insurgents, culminating at the Midsummer festival and coinciding with a storm that will ultimately lead to tragedy.

### **About Adrian Cole:**

Adrian Cole became interested in fantasy and science fiction at an early age, through Tarzan of the Apes, King Solomon's Mines, movies such as Earth versus the Flying Saucers and comics such as the original Classics Illustrated War of the Worlds, as well as the works of Algernon Blackwood, Lovecraft, and Dennis Wheatley. He has worked as a librarian, an administrator in education, and Director of Resources in a large secondary college in the town of Bideford, North Devon, where he lives with his wife Judy, son Sam, and daughter Katia in an old blacksmith's forge.

His short stories have been published in the Year's Best Fantasy series (DAW Books) and Year's Best Fantasy and Horror, and he was once nominated for the former Balrog Award. His story "Dark Destroyer" was included in the anthology Swords Against the Millennium. His first shared-world novel was The Crimson Talisman, which is set in the realm of Eberron.

### **PRAISE:**

"...Adrian Cole has a magic touch which informs his work with a special power..." — Roger Zelazny, Hugo & Nebula winner

"...(Cole) is deeply knowledgeable about the sources of his craft and the mystic bent of the stories he wishes to tell. He could easily explode into the first rank of fantasy writers." — John Clute, Encyclopedia of Fantasy

“...Adrian Cole is a unique voice in modern fantasy fiction, whose visions of heroic adventure and cosmic horror will stay with you for a long time...he is a wonderfully visual writer who has provided us with some of the most stunning grotesquerie since Clark Ashton Smith. He is one of the most promising fantasists of his generation.” — Darrell Schweitzer, *Weird Tales*

**(Following books/stories randomly absorbed from the Ether)**

**Sophie, in Shadow** – *Eileen Kernaghan*’s new historical fantasy (ThistleDown Press, March 2014) is available in print and as an e-book from all the usual online sites. Earlier titles – *Wild Talent*, *The Alchemist’s Daughter*, *The Snow Queen* and *Winter on the Plain of Ghosts* are also now available as e-books.

**A Gardener by Choice** – *Shawn Gale*, a Kafkaesque tale is published in the 12<sup>th</sup> annual *Goose River Anthology 2014*. “This tale shares the story of Willy Holdsworth, who is serving time in a penitentiary, where he’s been for ... an unspecified amount of time.” Order at [sdgale79@gmail.com](mailto:sdgale79@gmail.com)

**Dark Parallel** – *Hugh Stephens* now released! Available for sale as paperback or ebook. You can buy it on Amazon as below or as an Ebook on Kindle, I-books, Kobo, Barnes & Noble, Baker & Taylor, Copia, & Esentral.

“Thomas Flood leads a small group as they travel back to World War II era Nazi Germany to collect a rare substance. While there one of the group, secretly a neo-nazi, slips away and makes contact with the Nazi regime. Upon return to the 21st century Flood and his team see a world that has been taken over by the Nazis and must risk their lives to return the present to the original timeline. Along the way they meet the adult daughter of their now elderly traitor, Darla Brown having grown up with an abusive father became the leader of the new resistance. The last standing force in the way of the Nazi regime completing total conquest of earth. With the help of the resistance Flood and his team must recover their time machine from the Nazis and return to the past to make things right.”

**(Following submitted by Victor Schwartzman)**

**King of the Planet** – *Victor Schwartzman*

“...woke to see strange people wearing strange clothes looking at me as if expecting a miracle. Being alive was pretty good for a miracle, given the last thing I remembered was dying.”

That is the opening paragraph of my new novel, *King Of The Planet*, now available at The Kindle Store and Amazon. Finally I am working harder at getting my writing out there. *King Of The Planet* is *Gulliver’s Travels* meets *Star Wars* by way of *Game Of Thrones*, with a hefty Kafka overlay.

I started this novel a little over two months ago, committed to produce a new chapter each week. The original chapters are on my Facebook homepage, along with the new chapters I write each week. I’ve had a lot of fun working each week on a new chapter filled with jokes, plot twists and relevant references. Hopefully it is as much fun to read as it is to write. I could write more describing *King Of The Planet*, but as you can see from the opening paragraph, the novel speaks for itself and opens its mouth pretty fast.

What you get for \$4.99 plus tax are the first nine chapters, edited & all polished up real nice. That is a cheap deal for 20,000+ words of word play, political jokes, relevant allusions and the creation of a complete fantasy world. Also, there be dragons!

In the Canadian store, the link is [http://www.amazon.ca/s/ref=nb\\_sb\\_noss?url=search-alias%3Ddigital-text&field-keywords=victor+schwartzman&rh=n%3A2972705011%2Ck%3Avictor+schwartzman](http://www.amazon.ca/s/ref=nb_sb_noss?url=search-alias%3Ddigital-text&field-keywords=victor+schwartzman&rh=n%3A2972705011%2Ck%3Avictor+schwartzman).

In the American Amazon store, the link is: [http://www.amazon.com/King-Planet-Victor-Schwartzman-ebook/dp/B00NE0CCRC/ref=sr\\_1\\_fkmr0\\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1410277594&sr=8-1-fkmr0&keywords=kindle+store+victor+schwartzman](http://www.amazon.com/King-Planet-Victor-Schwartzman-ebook/dp/B00NE0CCRC/ref=sr_1_fkmr0_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1410277594&sr=8-1-fkmr0&keywords=kindle+store+victor+schwartzman).

Or you can go to the Kindle Store and type in Victor Schwartzman.

While I'm at it, and you have to admit I do not do this often, please check out my funny graphic novel, *The Winnipeg Weekly Herald*, currently serialized monthly at [www.redfez.net](http://www.redfez.net), the great Canadian lit site. And look at my weekly satirical columns on disability issues on Accessibility News.

Thanks! Victor Schwartzman

(Following submitted by Ron Friedman)

### **By The Way That He Came – Ron Friedman**



“As part of my VCON perpetration and its ‘**Military Might**’ theme, I’m republishing an e-version reprint of my GOD short story: *By The Way That He Came*. This is my first attempt to self-publish a story. Now I can officially be called a Hybrid author. The story was originally published in *Age Of Certainty* Anthology, May 2013. It contains 10 wonderful stories written by 10 authors.

I would like to thanks to the Israeli Air-Force website for the permission to use this picture as the cover artwork”

**Ron S. Friedman** has seen his short stories appear in Daily Science Fiction, and received an Honorable Mention in the Writers of the Future contest. He is on the Canadian Science Fiction and Fantasy Association board of directors, a When Worlds Collide festival member-at-large and a member of the Imaginative Fiction Writers Association. He has appeared as a panelist at a number of genre conventions. Ron is currently working on his second novel. His *Age of Certainty* story was partially inspired by Ron’s experiences during his service in the Israeli Air Force in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

**By The Way That He Came** is available from:

Kobo (\$0.99):

<http://store.kobobooks.com/search?Query=By+the+way+that+he+came>

Kindle US (\$0.99):

[http://www.amazon.com/Way-That-He-Came-ebook/dp/B00NS2472E/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1412019328&sr=8-1&keywords=By+the+way+that+he+came](http://www.amazon.com/Way-That-He-Came-ebook/dp/B00NS2472E/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1412019328&sr=8-1&keywords=By+the+way+that+he+came)

Kindle Canada (\$1.09):

[http://www.amazon.ca/Way-That-He-Came-ebook/dp/B00NS2472E/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1412014669&sr=8-1&keywords=By+the+way+that+he+came](http://www.amazon.ca/Way-That-He-Came-ebook/dp/B00NS2472E/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1412014669&sr=8-1&keywords=By+the+way+that+he+came)

**Age Of Certainty**, by Rebel ePublishers is available for \$3.99:

<http://rebelepublishers.com/our-books/sci-fi-spec-fic-horror/age-of-certainty/>

(Following submitted by Graham J. Darling)



**By Jon Carver of Barzoon, You Misunderstood** – *Graham J. Darling*

The strange culmination of a planetary romance (250 words). In [\*Sword & Mythos\*](#), edited by Silvia Moreno-Garcia and Paula R. Stiles, Innsmouth Free Press, May 2014.

“[Among] the stories that stayed with me... a powerful prose poem that brilliantly brings to life a faraway world with vivid, alien imagery” ([\*Benito Corral Reviews\*](#)).

“Cleverly deconstructing the Mars of Edgar Rice Burroughs” ([\*Martian Migraine Press\*](#)).

You can order *Sword & Mythos* at <http://www.innsmouthfreepress.com/>

### LOOKING TO THE FUTURE (DON'T WE ALL?)

**The Philosopher's Zombie** (working title) – *Robert J. Sawyer's* current novel project, will be out in November of next year (2015).

**Tyche Press:** “We are excited to announce the acquisition of **Much Ado about Macbeth**, a comedic fantasy by Calgary [Randy McCharles](#) tentatively scheduled for an August 2015 release at [When Words Collide](#) in Calgary, Alberta.”

**Much Ado about Macbeth** fills our 2015 line-up to overflowing. In addition, we will release: **Flashback** by [Simon Rose](#); **From the Ground Up** by [Amy Laurens](#); **Unguided** by Jane Glatt; **The Grotesques** by Tia Reed; **The Dark Beneath the Moon** by [Sherry D. Ramsey](#); and **Secrets & Scandals** by [Christopher Hoare](#).

A brief taste of **Much Ado about Macbeth**:

“When drama teacher Paul Samson decides to put on a High School production of *Macbeth*, he forgets that it isn't just *The Scottish Play*, it is *The Cursed Play*. And Paul soon learns just how cursed. After grappling with his principal, the PTA, his family, and his students, he must contend with witches, ghosts, and skeletons from his past. The show is destined from the outset to end badly, but no matter how desperate or dangerous circumstances become, Paul cannot cancel the play. Theater has but one rule and one rule only: the show must go on.”

**Randy McCharles** is active in Calgary, Alberta's writing community with a focus on speculative fiction, usually of the wickedly humorous variety, with short stories and novellas available from Edge Science Fiction & Fantasy Publishing, House of Anansi, and Reality Skimming Press. He is the recipient of several Aurora Awards (Canada's most prestigious award for speculative fiction) and is short-listed in three categories for the upcoming 2014 Awards. In 2013, his short story **Ghost-B-Gone Incorporated** won the House of Anansi 7-day ghost story contest.

In addition to writing, Randy chairs the award-winning **When Words Collide Festival for Readers and Writers** as well as organizing various reading and craft events for writers.

**Alyx J Shaw** – TWO new releases coming in 2015 from Prizm Press and available through Amazon.

The first novel, **Gryphons**, takes place on the planet Sferkkaa, a place that has been torn by war for over eight hundred years. Now that the battle is over, Sferkkaa is dusting itself off and reaching out to its friend and neighbour, Earth, for help. But while wars end, the feelings they leave behind can have dark repercussions on the survivors. And it is not always clear who to trust. Draephus CZimcocious came out of the war with a viral ailment that is eating his bones and a desire to spend his remaining days in peace, but it seems he is not going to get it. He managed to accidentally made friends with a teenaged girl named Dahli, who can't seem to help herself when it comes to getting into trouble in the name of Justice. And if she wasn't enough of a handful, someone is murdering his friends...

The second release is part four of the popular Strange Place in Time series – **Stranger Places**. It is twenty years now since the Court of Hercandoloff did battle with Takeshta, and the wounds of that battle are still healing, in some cases literally. When the Court Seer John Arrowsmith begins to feel the lethal effects of a bite from the God of Insanity and Nightmares he received decades ago, the Court know they have to help him. Otherwise he could face a slow death and his spirit could face eternity in the Halls of Madness, forever tortured and in pain. Infamous Keeper, the Court thief, sets out to find an herb located in the Palaklais Mountains that will help, but forgets to take into account the strange magicks that make up parts of the mountains. Before he knows it, his journey has become longer and more pressing than ever before, and time is no longer on his side. If he wants to find the herb as well as make it home in time to save the life of his dearest companion, Infamous will have no alternative but to face the Dead Lands, alone.

### **Grey Area: 13 Ghosts Anthology Launches October 24th!**

Our newest anthology, **Grey Area: 13 Ghost Stories** launches on October 24th, and we're getting excited! The launch takes place at the McConnell Memorial Library, 50 Falmouth Street in Sydney, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. There'll be readings, refreshments, and of course the opportunity to buy the book! If you're a supporter of the Indiegogo campaign, you'll be able to pick up your perks at the launch.

*Grey Area* includes stories from thirteen Cape Breton writers: **Hugh R. MacDonald, Meggan Howatson, Leah Noble, D.C. Troicuk, Nancy S.M. Waldman, Charlotte Musial, Voula Kappas-Dunn, Julie A. Serroul, Nancy MacLean, Diane J. Sober, Katrina Nicholson, Theresa Dugas, and Sherry D. Ramsey.**

The book will be for sale through this site and at online retailers in both print and ebook formats following the launch.

[www.thirdpersonpress.com/](http://www.thirdpersonpress.com/) This site is about to undergo a redesign, so for anything you need to know about us, please visit our blog site at [www.thirdpersonpress.com/](http://www.thirdpersonpress.com/)

### **Professor Challenger: New Worlds, Lost Places** – Editors **J.R. Campbell & Charles Prepolec**

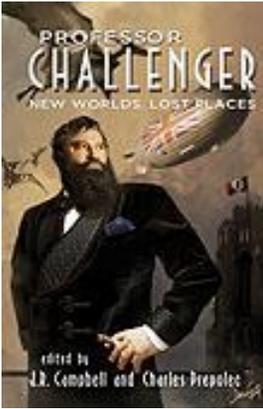
Release Dates:

E-book: April 15, 2015

CANADA: May 15, 2015

USA: June 15, 2015

**"Science seeks knowledge! Let the knowledge lead us where it will, we still must seek it! To know once for all what we are, why we are, where we are, is that not in itself the greatest of all human aspirations?"**  
– Professor G. E. Challenger, *When the World Screamed*



Brilliant, belligerent and bearded in equal measure, incapable of suffering fools, or journalists, gladly, the greatest scientific mind of his generation - Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's Professor George Edward Challenger - returns in ten all-new tales of scientific adventure and wonder. He is the discoverer of *The Lost World*, the prophet of *The Poison Belt*, the destroyer of *The Disintegration Machine*, and the man who made the *World Scream!* Who can deliver mankind from the shackles of ignorance? Who else but that great self-proclaimed champion of science? We give you, ladies and gentlemen, children of all ages, the one, the only, Professor George Edward Challenger!

This original anthology, from the authors and editors who brought you the Gaslight Sherlock Holmes series, sees Challenger and his stalwart company including the reporter Malone, big game hunter Lord John Roxton and the skeptical colleague Professor

Summerlee, travel across space and witness the ravages of time, narrowly eluding a dinosaur's bite only to battle against the invasive red bloom of alien foliage, then plunge deep into the mysteries hidden within the Earth and reach out to the moon and into the heart of the unknown. Strap yourself in for chills, thrills and challenges to the unknown in exciting new worlds and lost places with literature's foremost scientific adventurer.

**"The whole matter is very fully and lucidly discussed in my forthcoming volume upon the earth, which I may describe with all due modesty as one of the epoch-making books of the world's history."** – Professor G. E. Challenger, *When the World Screamed*

#### About the Editors:

**J. R. Campbell's** fiction has appeared in a wide variety of publications including Spinningler Magazine, Wax Romantic and Challenging Destiny. From time to time his writing can also be heard on radio's Imagination Theater and The Further Adventures of Sherlock Holmes.

**Charles Preolec** has contributed articles and reviews to All Hallows, Sherlock Magazine, Scarlet Street, and Canadian Holmes. An active Sherlockian for more than 20 years with The Singular Society of the Baker Street Dozen, Charles lives in Calgary with his wife Kristen and their cat Karma.

### WHAT THE USUAL SUSPECTS ARE UP TO

**Margaret Atwood** – Margaret is the first to be honoured by inclusion in a 100 year forestry project which none of us will live long enough to witness the successful conclusion. It's weird, bizarre, somehow poignant and very science-fictional.

The nitty-gritty of it is a forest of exactly 1,000 trees has just been planted in Nordmarka, just outside Oslo, Norway. Called 'The Future Library Project,' it is the brainstorm of a young Scottish artist [Katie Paterson](#). Every year, beginning this year with Margaret Atwood, a single writer will be asked to contribute a new manuscript to the growing collection, and not till 2114 will the trees be cut down, converted into paper, and published in book form for the contributions to be read for the first time.

The Future Library trust, made up of literary experts – and Paterson, while she's alive – will decide who is chosen to contribute. The trust also maintains the forest, and keeps charge of a printing press so that the appropriate technology will be on hand. The title of Margaret's contribution will be published, but no-one currently alive, with the exception of a few long-lived infants, will ever get to read it. (**The Graeme** – *I like the concept. It appeals to me. And yet there's something very sad about it. Not quite sure why.*)

## MAGAZINES (WHERE THEY KEEP THE HIGH EXPLOSIVES)

**APEX MAGAZINE** – (#65) October 2014 <http://www.apex-magazine.com/>

*Apex Magazine* is a monthly science fiction, fantasy, and horror magazine featuring original, mind-bending short fiction from many of the top pros of the field. New issues are released the first Tuesday of every month.

This issue features:

### Editorial

“[Resolute: Notes from the Editor-in-Chief](#)” by **Sigrid Ellis**

### Fiction

“[Primrose or Return to Il’Maril](#)” by **Mary McMyne**

“[Coins for Their Eyes](#)” by **Kris Millering**

“[The House in the Winter](#)” by **Jessica Sirkin**

“[What I Am](#)” by **Tom Piccirilli**

“King’s War: The Knights of Breton Court 3 — Excerpt” by **Maurice Broaddus** (eBook/subscriber exclusive)

### Poetry

“[Half Wives](#)” by **Chris Lynch**

“[The Excavation of Troy](#)” by **Sonya Taaffe**

“[On the Excarnations of the Gods](#)” by **Neile Graham**

### Nonfiction

“[Fandom Activism for Change in Visual Entertainment Media: We Have the Power](#)” by **Loraine Sammy**

“[Apex Author Interview with Kris Millering](#)” by **Andrea Johnson**

“[Apex Cover Artist Interview with Catherine Denvir](#)” by **Loraine Sammy**

“[Clavis Aurea: A Review of Short Fiction](#)” by **Charlotte Ashley**

(**The Graeme** – *An interesting zine, free online but available as an ebook for a subscription price. This is a paying market. See BIZARRE BAZAAR following.*)

**LIMINALITY MAGAZINE** of Speculative Poetry – (#1) Autumn 2014

(art by [M.C.A. Hogarth](#))

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

**Editorial** – **Mat Joiner** and **Shira Lipkin**

“[A Summoning of Monsters](#)” – **Jack Hollis Marr**

“[Love Letters for the Itinerant](#)” – **Lisa M. Bradley**

“[The Furtive Pantheon](#)” – **Erik Amundsen**

“[The devil riding your back](#)” – **Gabby Reed**

“[A Broken Heart](#)” – **Lev Mirov**

“[Arson Poetica](#)” – **Dana Koster**

“[For Sale](#)” – **Susan Carlson**

“[Sacred](#)” – **Gemma Files**

“[Made Out of the Terror](#)” – **Jazz Sexton**

“[Collyer](#)” – **Rachel Verkade**

“[Self-Portrait as Bilbo Baggins](#)” – **Ada Hoffmann**

“[Topological Grief](#)” – **Mary Alexandra Agner**



[“Ghosting”](#) – **Lynette Mejia**

[“Love in Graduate School”](#) – **Cassandra Phillips-Sears**

[“Scion”](#) – **G.K. Hansen**

[“The Knowing”](#) – **Alicia Cole**

[“moss covered”](#) – **Amber Bird**

[“Sea Widow”](#) – **J.C. Runolfson**

[“The Word for Love”](#) – **Adrienne J. Odasso**

[“Orpheus Rides West/Letter to Eurydice from Deep Inside the Teenage Wasteland”](#) – **Nate Maxson**

[“Make the Night Go Faster”](#) – **Sofia Samatar**

(**The Graeme** – An interesting zine, free online but available as an ebook for a subscription price. This is a paying market. See *BISARRE BAZAAR* following.)

**CLARKESWORLD MAGAZINE** – (#97) October 2014

<http://clarkesworldmagazine.com/>

### **Fiction:**

[Taxidermist in the Underworld](#) by **Maria Dahvana Headley**

[Lovecraft](#) by **Helena Bell**

[Seeking boarder for rm w/ attached bathroom, must be willing to live with ghosts \(\\$500 / Berkeley\)](#)

by **Rahul Kanakia**

[Pithing Needle](#) by **E. Catherine Tobler**

[A Rich, Full Week](#) by **K.J. Parker**

[Wizard’s Six](#) by **Alex Irvine**

### **Non-fiction:**

[I Sing the Lady Electric](#) by **Brian Francis Slattery**

[Science Fiction Writers Wear Disguises: A Conversation with Robert Reed](#) by **Alvaro Zinos-Amaro**

[Another Word: What You Know](#) by **Daniel Abraham**

[Editor's Desk: Eight is a Good Number](#) by **Neil Clarke**



### **Podcasts:**

[Taxidermist in the Underworld](#) by **Maria Dahvana Headley** read by **Kate Baker**

[Lovecraft](#) by **Helena Bell** read by **Kate Baker**

### **Art**

[The Haunting](#) by **Sandeep Karunakaran**

(**The Graeme** – An interesting zine, free online but available as an ebook for a subscription price. This is a paying market. See *BISARRE BAZAAR* following.)

## **BIZARRE BAZAAR: THE DREAMQUEST OF ASPIRING AUTHORS**

### **PULP LITERATURE MAGAZINE MAY BE OPEN TO SUBMISSIONS SOON**

(Source: Burnaby Writers Newsletter Sept-Oct 2014)

**PULP Literature**, a new literary magazine, reached their crowd-funding goals in November of last year. Issue 1 featured historical fiction author *CC Humphreys*. Genre-fiction (think sci-fi, speculative fiction, fantasy, and horror) is often denigrated as low-brow literature. But the trio of writer-editors behind the crowd-funded magazine *PULP Literature*, believe genre can also be literary. The idea of a genre-busting magazine took off very quickly as the trio—*Jen Landels*, *Mel Anastasiou* and *Susan Pieters*—reached out to their networks and established writers they knew to gauge interest. And now, with less than three issues under their belt, they have launched the [first of several literary contests](#)—and with award-winning poet *George McWhirter* as the first guest judge, no less. Snagging McWhirter for a start-up literary contest was pure luck, but as Vancouver's inaugural poet laureate (2007-2009) he is more than comfortable with new initiatives. The magazine was closed to submissions as of June, but watch for announcements of submissions re-opening.

### **REALITY SKIMMING PRESS SEEKING AN AUTHOR FOR A CHILDREN'S SF&F SERIES**

Reality Skimming Press is looking for one children's sf/fantasy author of a series for age group 6-9. You can also talk to Lynda about contributing to building out the Okal Rel Universe in art and fiction. Two new works are currently in progress. Sign up to become part of the Reality Skimming Press apron community. Or discuss opportunities to feature your writing with illustrations by Richard Bartrop on the Reality Skimming Blog's campfire feature. Reality Skimming Press will entertain early discussions about other Optimistic SF series for possible development, but will not acquire a second series for adults/YA immediately. Lynda is also editor for Collidor, a fiction App created by Ray Taylor of ezines, and can provide an update on what Collidor is looking for and when it might be open to submissions again.

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Lynda Williams, author <http://okalrel.org/>

FB page <http://facebook.com/relskim>

Goodreads [http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/644584.Lynda\\_Williams](http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/644584.Lynda_Williams)

Reality Skimming Blog with Richard Bartrop, Christel Bodenbender and David Lott

### **BUNDORAN PRESS OPEN FOR "SECOND CONTACTS" ANTHOLOGY SUBMISSIONS**

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

Science Fiction is our conversation with the future. But what if we're talking with alien voices? Bundoran Press Publishing House will open for submissions from **September 15th, 2014 to January 15th, 2015** for a new anthology of science fiction stories to be edited by Mike Rimar and Hayden Trenholm.

Second Contacts seeks stories which explore what happens fifty years after first contact, for us, for them, for our shared future. The possibilities are endless — conquest, collaboration, assimilation, or, even abandonment. On Earth, in space, or on alien planets, what will happen to individuals and societies after two generations or more of staring into alien eyes?

Payment for first world English rights (print and digital) will be \$0.02 a word to a maximum payment of \$130.00 (all figures Canadian dollars). Our preferred length is 3500 to 6500 words. We will accept stories of any length to 10,000 words but the maximum payment will remain \$130.00. A limited number of reprints (please query before submitting) may be purchased at a flat rate of \$50. Payment on publication.

Please submit in .rtf, .doc or .docx format. Email your attached rtf document to [hayden\(at\)bundoranpress.com](mailto:hayden@bundoranpress.com)

**Note:** We are currently CLOSED to novel submissions.

## **MORE INFO ON SUBMITTING FOR TESSERACTS 19** by *Mark Shainblum*

Not a hoax! Not an imaginary story! Multi-award winning author and editor *Claude Lalumière* and I will be co-editing the 19th edition of the Tesseract science fiction anthology series from EDGE Science Fiction & Fantasy Publishing .

Superhero Universe: Tesseracts Nineteen will be just what the title implies, the best in prose superhero fiction from the best authors in Canada! I'm thrilled to be working on this project with Claude and EDGE. It's going to be something special!

Subs open **30 October**. Details below and in this link:  
<http://claudepages.info/superhero-universe-tesseracts-nineteen/>

### **Superhero Universe: Tesseracts Nineteen**

Edited by *Claude Lalumière* & *Mark Shainblum*

### **Opening to submissions on 30 October 2014**

Superheroes! Supervillains! Superpowered antiheroes. Super scientists. Adventurers into the unknown. Costumed crimefighters. Mutant superterrorists. Far-future supergroups. Crusading aliens in a strange land. Secret histories of covert superspies ... and more! We want to see any and all permutations of the superhero genre. Any genre-mashing goes: alternate history, crime, horror, romance, SF, fantasy, surrealism; we want a variety of tones, approaches, subgenres, cultural perspectives, etc. We're interested in submissions where Canadian setting (a specific city, region, or province) plays a role, but we're open to other types of stories, too, set anywhere in the world, the universe, or the multiverse!

- \* Open only to Canadian writers (citizens, residents, expats, etc.)
- \* Length: 500-6000 words
- \* Stories must be previously unpublished in English
- \* English-language translations of stories that were previously published in another language are welcome
- \* French-language stories may be submitted in French or in English
- \* Although prose fiction is preferred, we will also look at poetry and other types of creative writing (no nonfiction, comics, or artwork)
- \* Submission window: **30 October 2014 to 2 February 2015, 12 Midnight, Pacific Time.**
- \* Multiple submissions welcome; up to two stories maximum per author, sent under separate cover
- \* We prefer no simultaneous submissions, please (we promise to respond promptly)
- \* Initial responses (rejections, holds, and rewrite requests) within 15 days of submission; final responses no later than 30 days after the deadline
- \* Payment for poetry is \$20.00 for poems up to a maximum of 2 pages in length. Payment for short stories is prorated as follow: \$50 for stories up to 1,500 words, rising to a maximum of \$150 for stories up to 5,000 words, and \$160.00 for stories up to 6,000 words.
- \* Electronic submissions only, via Submittable at [link to come]
- \* File formats accepted: .docx, .doc, or .rtf

\* Formatting: indented paragraphs; italics in italics (not underlined); Canadian spelling; use # (or other unambiguous symbol) to indicate scene breaks; no headers, footers, or pagination; no outlandish formatting, please; full contact info (name, street address, email, phone number) and word count on the first page. That said, don't fret too much about formatting; good fiction is what's most important

\* Please include a cover letter with a brief author bio, title of story, and full contact info, including street address; if your address is outside Canada, please explain your Canadian status in the cover letter; as we're trying to be as inclusive as possible in regards to getting stories from everywhere in Canada, if you have substantial ties to more than one province or territory (place of birth, residence, etc.), please also indicate that in your cover letter

\* Please do not summarize or describe the story in the cover letter

\* To be published by Edge Science Fiction and Fantasy Publishing in spring 2016

\* Rights: for original fiction, first World English publication, with a two-month exclusive from publication date; for all, non-exclusive anthology rights; all other rights remain with the author

\* queries: [tesseract19\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:tesseract19(at)gmail.com)

\* NOTE ON PSEUDONYMS: we will only publish one story per author, even if you write under several names; please use your real name on all correspondence and indicate your pseudonym in the cover letter and on the byline of the story itself

## **ON SPEC STILL OPEN FOR SUBMISSIONS**

**Till October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014.** See last issue for details concerning next issue's Punk Theme, or go to <http://onspecmag.wordpress.com/>

## **APEX MAGAZINE OPEN FOR SUBMISSIONS**    <http://www.apex-magazine.com/>

Our magazine is an SFWA-certified professional market. Editor-in-Chief: Jason Sizemore

### **Apex Magazine Guidelines**

#### **Original Short Fiction:**

- 1) Submit your work in [Standard Manuscript Format](#) at [apex.submission@gmail.com](mailto:apex.submission@gmail.com) with Fiction Submission: Your Story Title in the subject line. Attach your story in a DOC, DOCX, or RTF format file. Any other format will be auto-rejected.
- 2) Include a brief cover letter in the body of your email stating your name, story title with word count, byline, address, and any professional publication credits you think might interest us.
- 2) Maximum word length is a firm 7,500 words. Anything more will be auto-rejected.
- 3) Payment for original fiction is \$.06 per word up to 7,500 words.
- 4) If we podcast your story, payment is \$.01 per word up to 7,500 words.

#### **Reprints:**

We do not accept unsolicited reprints. Our editor-in-chief solicits one reprint per issue. Payment is \$.01 per word up to 5,000 words.

#### **Poetry Guidelines:**

- 1) Submit your work at [apex.submission@gmail.com](mailto:apex.submission@gmail.com) with Poetry Submission: Your Poem Title in the subject line. Attach your poem in a DOC, DOCX, or RTF format file. Any other format will be auto-rejected.

- 2) Include a brief cover letter in the body of your email stating your name, poem title with *line count*, byline, address, and any professional publication credits you think might interest us.
- 3) Your poem must be 200 lines or less.
- 4) Your poem must be original and unpublished.
- 5) Poets can submit up to 5 poems at a time. However, please submit each poem in a separate email. Payment is 25 cents per line.

### **Nonfiction Guidelines:**

We do not accept unsolicited nonfiction submissions. Our editor-in-chief commissions original essays and work. Payment is a one-time lump sum of \$50.

### **Rights and Rules:**

1) No simultaneous submissions. No multi-submissions. We try to respond to all submissions within 30 days. Please direct all queries to [apex.submission@gmail.com](mailto:apex.submission@gmail.com), but do not query until we've had your *story or poem for 60 days*. Queries sent before the 60 day waiting period will go unanswered.

2) For original fiction and poetry, Apex Publications receives permission to include the Work in *Apex Magazine*, for publication in the English language in all countries throughout the world, and the right to podcast your story (payment of an additional 1 cent per word provided should this occur). Apex Publications receives permission to non-exclusively archive the Work online as long as the *Apex Magazine* website is maintained.

### **Art Submission Guidelines**

We offer \$60 for digital reprint rights for cover art. If you'd like for your art to be considered for *Apex Magazine* please send an email to [apex.submission@gmail.com](mailto:apex.submission@gmail.com) that includes a link to your online gallery. We do not commission original work for the magazine, only pre-existing art.

### **What are we looking for here at *Apex Magazine*?**

The easiest and best way to discover this is to buy a subscription to the magazine and READ several issues. After you do that, we offer the following details from former Editor Catherynne M. Valente:

We do not want hackneyed, cliched plots or neat, tidy stories that take no risks. We do not want Idea Stories without character development or prose style, nor do we want derivative fantasy with Tolkien's serial numbers filed off.

What we want is sheer, unvarnished awesomeness. We want the stories it scared you to write. We want stories full of marrow and passion, stories that are twisted, strange, and beautiful. We want science fiction, fantasy, horror, and mash-ups of all three—the dark, weird stuff down at the bottom of your little literary heart. This magazine is not a publication credit, it is a place to put your secret places and dreams on display. Just so long as they have a dark speculative fiction element—we aren't here for the quotidian.

Keep in mind that the search for awesome stories is as difficult as writing them. If you are rejected, don't get angry—instead, become more awesome. Write something better, and better, until we have to accept you, because we have been laid low by your tale. It really is that simple.

### **Announcement by Apex Magazine Editor Jason Sizemore:**

Dear Apex Magazine Readers,

Within a few months, I will be making an occupational transition that will allow me to focus more on Apex Books and *Apex Magazine*. This is a huge opportunity, one I've been working toward for quite awhile. As part of this transition, I will be stepping in as *Apex Magazine*'s editor-in-chief. Sigrid Ellis, by any measure, has done a fantastic job during her tenure as editor-in-chief. She's a joy to work with, and I have no doubt she will have many great opportunities ahead of her.

Apex will publish the issues as planned and purchased through December 2014. Beginning now, I will be selecting our 2015 magazine content. I will be looking for the same kind of diverse, groundbreaking content that *Apex Magazine* has become known for publishing.

Apex will honor its commitment to publish the short stories that Sigrid has placed in our inventory for 2015, where and when to be announced soon.

Additionally, Bianca Spriggs will be taking over as our poetry editor. Elise Matthesen has done a wonderful job, and I thank her for giving us her time and talents over the past year.

I hope to keep Sigrid and Elise in the Apex family. In fact, Sigrid and I are discussing various project ideas, and hopefully we'll have something to announce on that front soon.

If you have any questions or comments, feel free to email me at [jason\(at\)apexbookcompany.com](mailto:jason(at)apexbookcompany.com).

Thank you for supporting *Apex Magazine* in the past, the present, and the future!

Sincerely,  
Jason Sizemore

## **COTEAU BOOKS OPEN TO SUBMISSIONS**     <http://www.coteaubooks.com/>

Coteau Books is a literary press: we publish novels; short fiction collections; poetry; drama and non-fiction.

Coteau Books is also a "children's publisher": Coteau Books publishes novels, or "chapter books" for young readers aged 9 – 12, and novels for both ages 13 – 15, and for ages 15 and up. Sorry, we do not publish kids' picture books.

The best way to determine if your work will catch the eye of our editors is to check out the kinds of books we have already published – on this web site or at your bookstore or library. We will also send you a copy of our current catalogue upon request.

*[The Graeme: Most of the Coteau fiction is historical fiction, but some of it, especially their YA novels, are historical/fantasy or contemporary fantasy in nature.]*

## **NO UNSOLICITED MANUSCRIPTS**

Effective immediately, Coteau Books has gone to a submission system that is favoured by most of the publishers in our field:

We WILL receive hard-copy query letters with brief (no more than 20 page) samples of your work. The letter should clearly spell out the genre and nature of the manuscript, and something of your past history as a writer –

publications, awards, writing training taken, etc. If we like what we see, we'll ask for your complete manuscript so we can consider it for publication. So your submission should also clearly indicate how to get in touch with you – email if you have it, along with address and phone number.

We WILL NOT accept unsolicited submissions, manuscripts we haven't specifically asked for. Unsolicited manuscripts which are accompanied by a self-addressed envelope of sufficient size, carrying adequate return postage, will be immediately returned. Unasked-for submissions containing inadequate envelopes/postage or no envelope at all will simply be recycled.

The BASIC UNIVERSAL RULES to remember are these:

- Coteau only publishes authors who are Canadian citizens or permanent residents of this country.
- Coteau does not accept multiple, or simultaneous, submissions. We expect to have exclusive access to manuscripts that are submitted to us.
- Coteau only accepts submissions on paper, "hard copy." PLEASE don't bother sending us a web address where we can go and check out your work. We won't do it.
- The manuscript itself must be typed, in at least 12-point type, double-spaced, on one side only of 8½" x 11" white paper. If your manuscript is accepted, be prepared to submit the edited version in Microsoft Word format, on flash/USB drive or CD-ROM.

If you feel your work fits our publishing program, please forward your query to Coteau Books at this address:

Coteau Books  
2517 Victoria Ave.  
Regina, SK S4P 0T2

Please be advised that Coteau evaluates all submissions we receive, and this evaluation process typically takes three to four months from the date of submission.

## **HYDRA HOUSE OPEN TO SUBMISSIONS**

<http://hydrighthousebooks.com/>

### **Hydra House submission guidelines**

Hydra House is a Seattle-based micropress looking to publish its first novel or novels. To date, we have published just over a half dozen books in softcover, hardcover, and ebook format, generating a Nebula nomination and working with award-winning editor Ellen Datlow.

We currently accepting novel-length proposals for manuscripts 60,000-120,000 words in length.

We're looking for original speculative fiction novels that lean toward fantasy with a modern, edgy sensibility. Think Ted Chiang, N.K. Jemisin, Andy Duncan, Kij Johnson, or Graham Joyce. Something not too science fiction but not steampunk or epic fantasy. Definitely not zombies or vampires. Urban fantasy will be considered, but with a different take. We're looking for good, solid writing and storytelling.

Because we're a small, broke press, payment will come in the form of a 50/50 royalty split, paid twice per year. And, of course, copies of the book. What we don't pay up front we prefer to spend on copyediting and a nice cover, as well as basic marketing. We take first North American rights for print books and worldwide rights for ebooks, for a term of three years.

Submit your manuscript [using our online form](#). You should submit at least three chapters, but we prefer to see the whole manuscript.

Please keep your Letter of Inquiry brief. Summaries are not necessary. We will do our best to respond to you within 90 days.

## **RESURRECTION HOUSE OPEN TO SUBMISSIONS** <http://www.resurrectionhouse.com/>

Resurrection House is looking for novel-length works of science fiction, fantasy, dark fantasy, and noir mystery with a tinge of otherworldliness—and the occasional bit of horror. We tend to not be terribly rigorous in our definitions of these genres. We prefer character-driven pieces but don't mind being kept up late due to a tightly wound, plot-driven book. Our interest is piqued by material that is not strictly beholden to the history of and/or culture of Western European civilization. We are currently not looking for YA material in any genre.

We have an open submission policy at this time, welcoming submissions from both agented and unagented authors; however, we would like authors to restrict themselves to one submission at a time. All submissions must be electronic and should be sent as a text-based attachment (we have a strong preference for either .DOC or .RTF; other file formats risk being rejected without being read). Please provide the title of your work, a brief synopsis, and a little bit of information about yourself in your email.

Submissions should be directed to: [SUBMISSIONS\(at\)RESURRECTIONHOUSE.COM](mailto:SUBMISSIONS@RESURRECTIONHOUSE.COM).

Submissions sent to any other address may get waylaid, misfiled, or otherwise delayed. It may take us some time to read your submission, but please feel free to query about its place in our queue after 8 weeks.

Please do not concern yourself with whether a book will be placed with Underland Press or Arche Press; we will make that distinction later, should we be inclined to make an offer.

## **INNESMOUTH FREE PRESS ANTHOLOGY OPEN FOR SUBMISSIONS**

Open Call Guidelines for “She Walks in Shadows” <http://www.innsmouthfreepress.com/>

**She Walks in Shadows**, the first all-woman Lovecraft anthology, will hold an open submissions period from **November 15, 2014 to December 15, 2014. DO NOT SEND STUFF BEFORE THAT DATE.** Keep the following in mind:

Submit short stories inspired by the work of Lovecraft that focus on a woman or female deity. It may be a character from Lovecraft's work or someone of your own creation. You are not restricted to the 1920s as a setting. Steampunk, dieselpunk, noir, and any other sub-genre you can imagine are fine with us. Give us your best and most polished work. And yes, you must be a woman to submit. Women only.

To avoid the Asenath effect (that means every character in the anthology would be Asenath Waite), we asked the authors who are contributing stories to pick a different character from a Lovecraft story. While you are not bound to these restrictions, we suggest that if you use a character from Lovecraft's fiction, you avoid the usual suspects (Asenath and Lavinia).

Consider interesting and novel settings for your stories. Surely, strange Lovecraftian entities haunt contemporary Nunavut or the Inca fought strange webbed monstrosities centuries ago. Anne Boleyn, evil sorceress or woman fighting the good fight against the Mi-Go? We may never know. Or maybe we will.

POCs are highly encouraged to send stories. Transgender writers: same thing.

Stories may be sent in French, English, or Spanish. We can read all three languages.

Story length is up to 4,000 words with a pay rate of 6 cents a word (Canadian \$, eh). No reprints, please.

Submit your final story as a Word or RTF attachment by the deadline to [innsmouthfp\(at\)gmail\(dot\)com](mailto:innsmouthfp@gmail.com). Use the subject line: Slush Shadows. Include a cover letter with a biography (Yes, we want to know a bit about you), word count, and your name and contact information. Please use italics as italics, bold as bold, number your pages and the like.

We'll get back to you early in 2015 with an answer.

We'll be purchasing exclusive English language rights for 12 months. Exceptions: You may submit the story to award showcases, best of reprints, etc. We print in POD and release e-books. Due to this, we will ask for the right to maintain your story in print for a predetermined amount of time (5 years).

We'll send you a contributor's copy in each format released (paperback, hardcover, MOBI, ePub).

Questions can be directed to [publisher\(at\)innsmouthfreepress.com](mailto:publisher@innsmouthfreepress.com)

## **DAILY SCIENCE FICTION ONLINE MAGAZINE OPEN TO SUBMISSIONS**

<http://dailysciencefiction.com/>

**Original Science Fiction and Fantasy every weekday.** Welcome to *Daily Science Fiction*, an online magazine of science fiction short stories. We publish "science fiction" in the broad sense of the word: This includes sci-fi, fantasy, slipstream-- whatever you'd likely find in the science fiction section of your local bookstore. Our stories are mostly short short fiction (flash fiction) each Monday through Thursday, hopefully the right length to read on a coffee break, over lunch, or as a bedtime tale.

Please read our current short story below. Browse the topics in the sidebar; everything from aliens to time travel, fairy tales to wizard tales; and read what intrigues you. Don't forget to subscribe via email to receive each story in your inbox every weekday for free.

### **Story Submission Guidelines**

**ALERT: Please don't submit stories longer than 1,500 words.** Daily Science Fiction (DSF) is a market accepting speculative fiction stories from 100 to 1,500 words in length. By this we mean science fiction, fantasy, slipstream, etc. We are eager to see flash series--three or more flash tales built around a common theme. If you are submitting a flash series, please note that it is a series in your cover letter and at the top of the submitted text in the submission box.

We do not accept reprints. Unfortunately, if you have placed a story on your website, where it is open and available to the multiple billion people who have access to the internet, that constitutes publication. We're sorry.

Please don't submit the same story to us and any other venue at the same time. Please don't send us more than one story. Don't send us another until we send you a response.

We pay 8 cents per word for first **worldwide** rights and for nonexclusive reprint rights. Additionally, we reserve the right to pay you more money for additional reprinting in themed Daily Science Fiction anthologies.

First publication sounds simple, but in today's fractured fiction market it is anything but. Here's what we mean by first worldwide rights: Your story will be distributed by email to our (free) subscription list, it will then be available on the website, via RSS, eventually through kindle and iphone/ipad (the "issue" consisting of all stories published during its calendar month), and as archived on the DailyScienceFiction.com website. The nonexclusive reprint rights are anticipated to apply to the omnibus volume of DSF's stories for one year. Themed anthologies are anticipated to consist of 50-100% material originally published on DailyScienceFiction.com, plus additional materials as contracted. For these anthologies, payment will be 5 cents per word.

### **Not So Helpful Hints**

- We need short short fiction, especially flash fiction. Among our featured stories, a shorter tale will get an extra nudge on the scale when weighed against a longer one. This is both for financial reasons and because it matches the preferences of a plurality of our readership. Not fair? Perhaps. Consider yourself forewarned.
- Of course, we want your stories to ooze originality, but a well-written story is a must. We are fond of character-driven fiction, though readers point out that not every story we publish fits that rubric. Our goal is to publish the best stories we can that will be interesting, worthwhile reads. Some stories, especially in the short fiction, will succeed despite lack of plot, character, punctuation, what-have-you.
- We may purchase dark fantasy, but try not to publish pure horror. We don't mind feeling the flush of arousal, but will not publish erotica. Guns a-blazing might make our day, but we don't suspect most military SF will win us over. Humor? We take it, it often works especially for short short fiction, but do keep in mind that one alien's funny bone is located near another species' sac of indifference. We're likely not your best market for longer funny tales.
- We don't accept multiple or simultaneous submissions, but we promise to be as prompt as possible with our responses. Query if you haven't heard back in four weeks. Or better yet, check your story's status on this website. There is now a "check status" option on the sidebar.
- PS We'd like to emphasize that guidelines aren't worth the paper they're printed on (which in this case is no paper at all). Splurge for a free email subscription, or if you can't afford free, browse the archives here on the website. Read, and get a feel for what Daily Science Fiction publishes. We always want new and different work, of course, but you can get a real tactile sense of this or any other publication only by reading it.

### **Story Formatting Guidelines**

- First and foremost, you must have an author account, and be logged in, before you submit a story to us. Go [here](#) to create your account if you don't yet have one. Note: Just because you are subscribed to the magazine and receive email stories from us, does not mean you have an author account. The two databases are completely separate.
- Stories must be submitted as plain text\* via our web form. Please don't put your address, word count, title, name or other information in the form. Please don't retype your entire story--copy and paste it into the form (once you've saved your document as plain text). If a story is accepted for publication, we'll contact you to incorporate any formatting and layout needed.
- \*Plain text means no smart quotes, no curvy apostrophes, no magic ellipses, no clever Microsoft formatting that sometimes makes your story harder to read.
- Stories must be 100 to 1,500 words long. Stories under 1,000 words will have a much better chance of being published.
- Please write "End" at the end of your story, so we can be certain the entire story came through.

- Please don't put anything other than your story in the "story" box. Your name and address, cover letter, title, and added notes can all go into the "cover letter" box. There is no need to include a cover letter, but please put your name, as it appears for your account, in the "cover letter" box. This helps us to reunite the story and the author on the off chance they get separated.
- If your account has an incorrect email address, our response will not reach you and we will not know that it has not. Please note that our system responds to the email address you used to login, not to anything you type into the cover letter box.

### **Artwork Submission Guidelines**

Daily Science Fiction (DSF) is an online magazine of speculative fiction: science fiction, fantasy, slipstream, etc. To make DSF complete, we need art. Art adds a dimension to the website that words alone cannot provide.

Thus, we hope you'll submit your art. Each piece that we use will adorn the website home page and/or individual stories for approximately one month. It will serve as the cover image for that month's worth of stories if they appear as such via kindle, ipad, print or other medium. It will be linked to those stories when they are found in collections on our website, it will appear in the omnibus volume of DSF's stories from one year and it will be available in our art collection, properly attributed to you. For this nonexclusive use, DSF will pay \$75.

Additionally, our favorite artwork from the year will be eligible to be selected as the cover for the DSF omnibus collection and an additional reward for such use.

Please send us your likeliest work. However, if your piece appeals but is not quite right for us, we will contact you to see if you have other works you'd like us to peruse without the inconvenience of you having to upload them one by one.

### **Artwork Formatting Guidelines**

- Artwork must be original digital images, submitted via our web form.
- Images should be 498 pixels wide, and anywhere from 50 to 350 pixels tall (preferably 100 to 300 pixels tall).
- Images should be submitted as 72dpi RGB JPEG files.

## **LIMINALITY MAGAZINE OF SPECULATIVE POETRY** **SOON TO BE OPEN TO SUBMISSIONS**

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

Submission Guidelines:

In anthropological terms, liminality is the midpoint of a ritual: the threshold where a person is no longer quite who they were, not yet who they might become. In between masks, what face might you have? What might you be in transit? Where will you go? Everything is possible in that moment; change is its own goal. Liminality is the space between.

Liminality is an online quarterly magazine of speculative poetry edited by [Shira Lipkin](#) and Mat Joiner. We are very pleased to meet you. We're looking for speculative literary poems that touch the heart as much as the head; poems of the liminal, the fluid, and the fantastic. We'd love to see work that shifts shape, refuses to be to be easily pinned down or categorized. We actively welcome diversity; we want to hear new as well as established voices. Tell us tales we thought we knew, the way only you can tell them. Give us new myths.

Liminality pays \$10 per poem, for first worldwide publication rights and non-exclusive anthology rights.

We are currently closed to submissions.

**We will be open to submissions for our Winter issue November 1 through November 30, 2014!**

To submit, send up to three poems to < [liminalitypoetry\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:liminalitypoetry(at)gmail.com) > with the subject line "SUBMISSION – [your name]". Please include your poems in the body of the e-mail; if you have formatting that makes that untenable, you may attach the poem as an .rtf. You may send up to five poems per reading period. We do not accept reprints or simultaneous submissions.

## **BIKES IN SPACE ANTHOLOGY (3) ZOMBIES OPEN TO SUBMISSIONS**



It's that time again! The third annual volume of [Bikes in Space](#) is in the works, this time with a monster twist.

This year's theme is zombies and bicycling. You may take that as literally (pedal powered undead? cycling zombie hunters?) or figuratively (what has automotive technology done to our brains?) as you like. Stories on non-zombie related themes will also be considered.

Stories that are accepted will all have a feminist perspective ([more about that](#)) and incorporate bicycling in some way, whether or not they are actually about bicycles. We eagerly read all submissions but are particularly excited to receive stories that feature more diverse perspectives than have been classically found in sci fi.

The deadline for volume 3 is **December 1, 2014**. Story submissions should be approximately 1,200 words. If your story needs to be longer or shorter, then by all means write it to be the length it needs to be and submit it anyway. There are no formatting, document type, or style requirements, and no strict definition of what exactly counts as science fiction.

Payment will be upon publication; publication is contingent on successful Kickstarter funding, and payment amount will be determined by funding amount.

Send submissions and questions to elly at < [takingthelane dot com](mailto:takingthelane dot com). >

## **BOOK SMUGGLERS PUBLISHING OPEN FOR SUBMISSIONS**

### **[Book Smugglers Publishing](#)**

**Book Smugglers Publishing** is currently open for submissions for short stories to be published **between April and June of 2015**.

### **General information and theme:**

We're looking for original short stories from **all around the world** as long as they are written in English. Our goal is to publish at least three short stories, unified by a central theme. Each short story will be accompanied by one original piece of artwork from an artist commissioned by us separately.

For the publication period between April and June of 2015, the theme is:

## **FIRST CONTACT**

We know that the first things that come to mind with the phrase “First Contact” are “Science Fiction” and “Aliens.” While we are huge fans of aliens and would very much like to receive submissions featuring first contact with aliens, we would *love* to receive a broader pool of stories and traditions. We welcome authors to subvert this theme, to expand horizons and adapt the prompt to other possible connotations and genres within the Speculative Fiction umbrella.

### **What We’re Looking For:**

- **DIVERSITY.** We want to read and publish short stories that reflect the diverse world we live in, about and from traditionally underrepresented perspectives. It should go without saying that we’d hope for a respectful and responsible approach to creating diverse worlds and characters.
- **Middle Grade, Young Adult, and Adult audience submissions are welcome.** Good speculative fiction is ageless!
- **Creativity & Subversion.** We love *subversive* stories. We want you to challenge the status quo with your characters, story telling technique, and themes.

### **Guidelines for Submission:**

- We are looking for original speculative fiction, between 1,500 and 17,500 words long.
- These SFF offerings must be previously unpublished; we do not accept simultaneous submissions.
- Profanity, sex, and other explicit situations are fine as long as they fit within the context of the story.
- Submissions are open now, and will be open through December 31 2014 11:59PM PST. **Any submissions received after that date will not be considered.**

### **Payment and Terms:**

We are funding this ourselves because we are passionate about finding new and diverse voices in SFF. We will be paying \$0.06 per word up to \$500 (although we welcome stories from a minimum of 1,500 words and up to a maximum of 17,500 words long).

We plan on publishing these short stories for free in their entirety on < thebooksmugglers.com > We also plan on selling these stories in ebook (and possibly limited print editions) at a 50% net royalty, with potential inclusion in future anthologies (royalty to be negotiated). We ask for exclusive rights for one year, and non-exclusive rights following that.

### **How to Submit:**

Submissions should be emailed to [submissions\(at\)thebooksmugglers.com](mailto:submissions@thebooksmugglers.com)

Please attach your full story as a document (.doc, .docx, .rtf). Do not send your story as text in the body of an email; we will ignore any manuscripts that are not attachments.

A cover letter is not strictly necessary but recommended, and we would love to learn a little bit about you and the inspiration behind your work (or anything else you think is relevant to your story submission).

**We will reply to all authors who have submitted work with our decision by February 10 2015.**

We are happy to answer any of your questions – leave a comment or email us (contact@thebooksmugglers.com), and we'll get back to you as soon as possible.

And...that's it! We hope to be reading your excellent short stories very soon.

## **NEO-OPSIS MAGAZINE STILL CLOSED TO SUBMISSIONS** <http://www.neo-opsis.ca/>

Given that Neo-opsis comes out but three times a year, I'm assuming the latest issue (#24) is the last for this year and that issue (#25) is planned to come out sometime before the 2015 summer begins. Therefore I suspect they will open up to submissions early spring maybe, though apparently they have a backlog of accepted manuscripts which may mean not opening till one or more future issues have gone by.

I'll keep haunting their website so I can report when they're open again.

### **GUEST ARTICLES, MINI-ESSAYS, & OTHER FROTH**

**Note:** Articles, essays, & reviews eagerly sought. 500 words maximum. Unpaid work, but lots of egoboo.

### **THOUGHTS ON WRITING**

*By Robert J. Sawyer*

(Excerpted with permission from an "Ask Me Anything" Q&A session on Reddit in support of the Pixel Project to end violence against women.)

My writing mentor early on, Terence M. Green, used to speak of creating "thoughtful entertainment" -- something that left you pondering for days or weeks after you finished it. I've always strived to do work that does the same thing (and, of course, was hugely influenced by the original STAR TREK and the original PLANET OF THE APES, which likewise did that).

I definitely start with a theme -- something I want to say -- and then work out the plot and characters that will let me say it. Science fiction is often termed "the literature of ideas," and I think the core of really good SF is a fresh thematic statement, a new idea about something fundamental. For my current novel, THE PHILOSOPHER'S ZOMBIE, I have a non-printing comment at the very top of the manuscript file spelling out precisely what the theme is, so that I can remind myself to test each scene to see if it's in service of that theme.

I try to do 2,000 words a day when I'm writing my first draft -- which is the only part I consider work; I enjoy research and I enjoy revisions. I don't tend to vary much from the 2,000 -- if I do less, I don't feel happy with myself, and if I do more, I find that the next day the well tends to be a bit dry.

[On the advantages of being a Canadian writer] I get all the traditional benefits of being a genre-fiction writer in the US plus the sorts of things that rarely happen to my American SF-writing colleagues in the states. I get invited to mainstream literary festivals; my books get taught at just about every Canadian university; I've been interviewed over 300 times on Canadian radio and over 300 times on Canadian TV. Canada treats its writers like movie stars (because so few movie stars live here!); I can't think of a single downside to being Canadian in terms of my writing careers, and oodles of upsides – the biggest of which, of course, was being able to go full-time as a self-employed writer when I was just 23, because I had government-supplied health insurance.

## LETTERS OF EXCORIATION

**Alan Pollard** (Sept 2, 2014) – re: Blame CSFFA - ummm you know you're on the board right, so you're like blaming yourself? I'm just sayin'

Thanks for getting interest and content from authors and other members of the community, in summer no less! It bodes really well for the future of AL. Make sure you don't burn out. This is the kind of publication that can help us reach more members and peripheral-interested-parties and grow CSFFA to the next level.

Well done!

**Ron Friedman** (Sept 2, 2014) – This version looks awesome. It has a professional-looking feel. The only advice I would give is to add a Table of Contents.

**Eileen Kernaghan** (Sept 2, 2014) – Well done, Graeme! It's great to find all this publishing news, both pro and fan, gathered up in one spot.

**Lynda Williams** (Sept 2, 2014) – You can't please everyone, ever. Wise to make the newsletter something people - fan and pro - see value in reading and contributing to.

**Gregg Chamberlain** (Sept 3, 2014) – Looks good... very much like the simple layout, no fancy digital "bells and whistles" that make for a slow download or upload or whichever the heck it is.

*(The Graeme – I'd like to take credit for cleverly designing AL to download as quickly and smoothly as possible, but that's only partly true. In fact my principle intention is to keep AL simple so that it's easy for me to plug stuff in and not waste time trying to impress readers with my non-existent layout skills. Promote. Inform. Celebrate. That's my mandate. Nobody said anything about laying text over photos or throwing in dancing banners or such-like crap. If there's any crap to be found, it's in the nature of the contents (probably mine) and nothing to do with the presentation. I want everything to be clear, readable, and accessible. I guess, as an editor, I'm old-fashioned.)*

Now, my own two-bits worth on the whole "Whose Head Should It Be?" debate for the World Fantasy Award... myself, I was always under the impression that the award was called the Gandalf, and featured a statuette of Tolkien's wizard leaning on his staff (if someone can offer an explanation for how I got this idea, I would much appreciate it).

*(The Graeme – Now that you mention it, something in the back of my head about this. Couldn't retrieve it from memory, so I checked the web. Assuming the info I found is true, apparently Lin Carter founded the Gandalf award to be presented alongside the Hugos at World conventions. For whatever reason, possibly time constraints, it was eventually voted out of existence. According to several sources the awards were as follows:*

1974 – Grand Master of Fantasy – **J.R.R. Tolkein**

1975 – Grand Master of Fantasy – **Fritz Leiber**

1976 – Grand Master of Fantasy – **L. Sprague de Camp**

1977 – Grand Master of Fantasy – **Andre Norton**

1978 – Grand Master of Fantasy – **Poul Anderson**

Book-length Fantasy – **The Silmarillion** – **J.R.R. Tolkein**

1979 – Grand Master of Fantasy – **Ursula K. LeGuin**

Book-length Fantasy – **The White Dragon** – **Ann McCaffrey**

1980 – Grand Master of Fantasy – **Ray Bradbury**

*All deserving of the award, in my opinion. I did see a picture of a Gandalf figure holding a staff, but am unsure if that was the actual trophy.)*

As for Lovecraft's head, yep, I can dig the concerns re his racist views, but cannot agree with Ms. Butler as the replacement proposal given that my own impression of Ms. Butler is she is an SF writer... which just may indicate that my past reading history of SF, fantasy and horror is not as broad as I had thought.

*(The Graeme – As a racist, Lovecraft was dead average for his era. Except that he changed. He became a supporter of Franklin Roosevelt and his liberal views. Lovecraft evolved away from being a racist. Besides, the interpretation of his assorted degenerate New England fishermen and the like as representing his alleged intense dislike for ‘mixed races’ or ‘inferior races’ is probably much exaggerated. I tend to think it was more the case of his adopting literary clichés to suit the purpose of his genre. About which, by the way, I’m pretty certain he regarded himself as the bearer of a literary style that dated back to 18<sup>th</sup> Gothic Horror Fiction. I recommend his **Supernatural Horror in Literature** monograph for an understanding of his understanding of what he was up to, what his roots were, and so forth.)*

I LIKE the idea Silvia suggests of a statuette in the form of a chimera, or maybe a dragon or unicorn (yeah, I know, cliché), or some other type of fantastical creature rather than someone's head. And I would support that as the obvious neutral alternative.

*(The Graeme – Yes, any individual represents but one aspect of the Fantasy genre, so best to come up with a generic fantasy icon methinks. What I’d like to see happen is have the Lovecraft Head retained as an annual Award for ‘The Best Lovecraft Pastiche.’ A worthy, if narrow, literary niche that. I like my idea!)*

And that is my two cents worth, even with inflation.

**Cathy Palmer-Lister** (Aug 29, 2014) – I think this is a wonderful undertaking.

**Steve Fahnstalk** (Sep 4, 2014) – I hope [#11] is as funny as the last one; I laughed out loud several times. Well written!

**Lynne Fahnstalk** (Sep 4, 2014) – Good luck to you on the Aurora nom., plus Steve (little biased there...), plus Robert.

*(The Graeme -- As fate would have it Steve & I BOTH lost. Congratulations to Robert Runté!)*

I'd love to get this newsletter. Is there a fee? Also, what type of filler art are you looking for? I'm sure I have pieces you could use.

*(The Graeme – Nope, no fee. Free of charge. AL is a promotional device after all. Want as many fen and pros to read it as possible. Distributed by email to them as wants it, hosted at Bill Burns’ <http://efansines.com> and my <http://cdnsfzinearchive.org> sites, as well as, hopefully by the time this goes to print, at the CSFFA site itself <http://priaurorawards.ca>, and a link posted on the Canadian Science Fiction Writer facebook page maintained by Donna Farley. Aha! Just occurred to me, I should post it on the Friends Of Merrill page too... no, wait a mo, I think Lorna Toolis said she would do that. Hmm, anybody else my age having trouble with their memory? But wait, I’ve always been like this. Perhaps my mental status is stable after all. Pity. The opposite would make for much more interesting reading...*

*And as I explained via email to you, I am in search of both cover and filler art, previously utilized art would be fine, give it a second airing so to speak, and I hope this issue showcases one or more of your pieces (which you haven't sent yet as I write this, but it's only Sep 5 at the moment...). It's long been my view that genre publicity tends to underplay the work of genre artists (as compared to authors or publishers). I aim to correct this. I hope genre artists will avail themselves of the opportunity. I mean, exploit the heck out of me and this zine! You know you want to!*

Loved this issue #10.

**Jean-Pierre Normand** (Sep 6, 2014) – Lot of works you do for the 'cause'. Thank you!

I will now print this issue, staple it, fold it in an envelope and put it in my mail box for two or three days.

**(The Graeme** (Sep 6, 2014) – *Be sure to leave your mailbox slightly open so the newsletter gets rained on. That way it will seem like an even more authentic piece of actual mail.*

*May I put your unused VCON 36 program book cover (the wonderful one with the 1950s style art and the Robotter in a spacesuit staring at the viewer) on the cover of the next Auroran Lights.*

*Keeping in mind AL is now aimed at promoting pros to their peers, becoming a sort of industry tradazine like LOCUS or the old SF CHRONICLE? I want to feature art by as many Canadian artists as possible.*

*For example, Auroran Lights #13 will feature artwork by Lynne Fahnestalk, art previously used by On Spec Magazine.*

*I would like you to become a regular contributor, not only of the occasional cover, but of smaller pieces within the newsletter. It doesn't pay anything, but think of AL as a promotional device reminding publishers of your skill and talent. Worthwhile, I do believe.)*

**John-Pierre Normand** (Sep 6, 2014) – Yes! Please use it for Auroran Lights. I will send you some illustrations for you to use wherever you see fit. I am a bit nostalgic these days and re-reading old Bradbury and comix from the 50's (it was ok in that time to smoke in a rocketship). I'll send you the files tomorrow.

PS: I open my mailbox.

**(The Graeme** (Sep 6, 2014) – *Thank you Jean-Pierre!*

*And can I quote from your letters? I want other artists to see how people such as yourself and Lynne are getting involved willingly and of their own free will, in the hope it will encourage them to join in too!*

*I have a confession to make. For some years most of the SF I've been reading are pocketbooks dating from the early 1960s in my personal collection, pocket books which contain mostly 1950s era SF. It may have been a terrible decade politically, but the sense of wonder in that old vision of the future was (and still is) absolutely exciting (if one can remember what it was like to be a little kid back then).*

*As a result, I don't know as much about contemporary Canadian SF&F as I should. So my gathering material for Auroran Lights is opening up a whole new world of interest for me. Quite exciting, actually.*

*Really looking forward to seeing your illustrations! Cheers! Graeme)*

**Graham J. Darling** (Oct 6, 2014)

Dear Graeme Cameron,

Thank you for your kind words following my reading at the VCON 39 Book Launch of **Jon Carver of Barzoon, You Misunderstood**, from the new anthology **Sword & Mythos** co-edited by **Silvia Moreno-Garcia** — my first published story.

That, and my later solo Reading, along with the Live Action Slush Panel, the Pitch Sessions of my novel-in-progress to several interested editors, and not least your own Writing Workshop, made of VCON 39 a most exciting and encouraging experience for a new author.

I've been collecting reviews of "Sword & Mythos" at <http://fiction.grahamjdarling.com/sword-mythos/>, and would be grateful to learn of any others, in your Auroran Lights (<http://www.prixaurorawards.ca/newsletter/>) or elsewhere, via email to < gjd AT GrahamJDarling.com > I'm sure Silvia (innsmouthfp AT gmail.com; <http://www.innsmouthfreepress.com/>) would be equally interested in such feedback on any of the other new titles from Innsmouth Free Press that were displayed in the Dealers Room that memorable weekend.

Regards, GrayJay

*(The Graeme – The mandate of AL is to promote ALL professionals in the genre, including, perhaps especially including, new authors. This so that beginning writers can feel encouraged and not be overwhelmed by the experienced talent already published numerous times. Besides, I'm always fascinated with beginnings.*

*As for response to titles from Innsmouth Free Press, at the VCON 39 Vendor Room, more specifically the table occupied by Amy Carpenter of BOOK UNIVERSE (Oregon), I excitedly purchased the following anthologies: **Sword & Mythos**, **The Strange Way of Dying**, **Dead North**, **Fractured**, **Fungi**, and **Future Lovecraft**. You can tell I am capable of pocketbook-diminishing enthusiasm once I discover an author or a publisher I really like! A typical literary fan methinks.)*

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### FANDOM SECTION – BLAME EVERYBODY!

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## FANDOM NEWS ITEMS

### AURORA NOMINEE PIN CEREMONY

*By The Graeme*



Ah, yes, the Aurora nominee pin ceremony. Bit of a conundrum as you can see from the expression on my face as I contemplate how on Earth I'm supposed to attach the pin to **Eileen Kernaghan**.

I came to the Aurora Nominee pin ceremony (everyone nominated gets one) just to watch. Hadn't expected to be up front because I already had my pin from a previous year, the idea being that once you have won one you simply wear the same pin every time you are up for an Aurora. I've been nominated a dozen or more times, and won twice, but strictly for fanac (fannish activities). Someday I'd like to win one for my phenomenally best-selling world-renowned SF novel but I suppose I have to write the darn thing first. Been a tad hung up with writers block for over thirty years... However it costs nothing to dream...

Anyway, to my surprise, CSFFA President **Clifford Samuels** called me to the front of the room to pin one on **Eileen Kernaghan**. The photo shows me staring down at the pin. It's in two parts. The 'dagger' part which penetrates clothing from the outside, and the 'anchor' part which receives the 'dagger' from the inside of the clothing. What if I accidentally stab her? How will my reaching behind her blouse be interpreted? I chicken out and hand her the pin. Safer and less rude, the proper thing to do.

I then turn to the assembled authors, publishers, and other genre professionals to tell them about my CSFFA Newsletter AURORAN LIGHTS with its new mandate to promote THEM. "I want you to think of me as the biggest tool you know."

Quite a bit of laughter. Oops. Forgot to say "promotional" before "tool." Well, at least I got their attention

## PRE-AURORA AWARD CEREMONY HIGH TEA

*By The Graeme*

And a jolly event it was too. Costumes were welcome, so I came dressed in black shoes, grey trousers, black belt, and grey shirt. Obviously **Perry Como** dressed for a formal occasion. (Forgot to bring grey sweater.) What does Perry Como have to do with SF&F? Very much the alien infiltrator he was as we all know.

I was lucky enough to sit with **Steve & Lyne Fahnestalk** (Steve and I traded jokes as to why the other couldn't possibly win the "Best Fan Related Work" Aurora for our **Amazing Stories** online columns), **David Mattingly** and wife **Cathleen** (David the Artist GoH), **Rose** and **Dave Wilson** (Rose in charge of the VCON art show and nominated for her work at VCON 38), and **Stan G. Hyde**, one of the founders of Monster Attack Team Canada and a world-renowned Godzilla expert. A nice mix making for lively conversation.

Noting but one tray of finger sandwiches, a single tray of tarts and just one platter of scones, I began to work out the logistics of making sure everyone present got at least one of each item. Silly me. As soon as a tray neared empty it was promptly replaced with a fully laden one in a feat of quasi-military supply logistics David Weber would approve (and no doubt did). Is it possible to gain weight on watercress, cucumber and salmon finger sandwiches? I fear I may have.



For entertainment Journalist and Movie Critic **Michael Walsh** presented two Elron Awards (the Elrons the oldest ongoing spoof awards in fandom, originating at VCON 1 in 1971) very much in the same style as his presentations back when he was the Secret Master of the Elrons in the mid-1980s. (I took over in 1989, and my presentation this year is described below)

Michael has a droll manner of speaking which is entertaining in itself. There were two categories being offered: "Dead Trees" and "Live on Tape Sci-Fi," both very retro in their listing.

"Dead Trees" runner-ups included **Gordon R. Dickson**, **Richard Rohmer**, **William Shatner** and **A.E. Van Vogt** (the latter for how his novel **Slan** allegedly influenced Stan Lee), but the winner was **Margaret Atwood** for her dystopian novel **THE HANDMAID'S TALE** which had nothing to do with "Talking Squids in Space."

“Live on Tape Sci-Fi” runner-ups included the 1988 **David Cronenberg** film **Dead Ringers**, the 2013 **Orphan Black** TV series, the guys who put out TV movies like **Polar Storm**, **Arctic Blast**, and **Beyond Loch Ness** “for a body of work in which the science is the fiction,” **James Cameron** for the 1984 film **Terminator** which “ultimately led to seven years of the California Governor,” and yet the winner turned out to be Margaret Atwood for **The Handmaid’s Tale**, albeit this time for the 1990 movie version.

It should be noted that **The Handmaid’s Tale** won the Governor’s Award and in 1986 the first **Arthur C. Clarke** Award, going on to garner wide recognition as one of the best and most influential genre novels ever written by a Canadian. It is in the nature of the Elron mandate to “honour” the best (as well as the least) in a satirical manner designed to elicit a few chuckles. Michael’s presentation made for an exercise in wry humour as those assembled gobbled up the last of the tarts and pastries.

Then the doors to the Ballroom were thrown open and the hordes of fen waiting outside swarmed in to attend the following:

### **AURORA AWARD CEREMONY**

I cleverly brought a complete list of nominees with me to mark the winners one by one, but completely forgot to note down the identities of the presenters. Those familiar with me will note this is typical of my attention to detail. Thus my coverage of these events is somewhat lacking.



This is my favourite picture of the presenters and winners of the 2014 Auroras. Well, some of the presenters and winners. About half of them I should think. It shows them solemnly celebrating the awards in typically restrained and reserved Canadian fashion. Front Row L to R: **Randy McCharles**, **Rick LeBlanc**, **James Stevenson**, **Dr. Robert Runté**. Back Row L to R: **Karl Johanson**, **Danielle Stephens**, **Al Harlow**, **Jenni Merrifield**, and **Tarol Hunt**.

And now follows a few of my personal highlights of VCON 39, from an article I wrote and posted in Amazing Stories Magazine online:

All about the shenanigans at VCON 39 which took place October 3-5/2014, at the Vancouver Sheraton Guildford Hotel, Surrey, British Columbia, Canada.

A purely personal review driven by fatigue toxins, conflicting memories, and dying brain cells. Was a very good con, in other words.

I may appear to namedrop, but you see I have a bit of an advantage over regular attendees in that I was in communication with the guests of Honour before the convention (because of the program book & the writers workshops), and have been active in fandom for decades, long enough for numerous authors to recognize and despise me on sight. Hence very easy for me to get into conversations with them... Nah, I'm namedropping, cause it's fun.

So, about those shenanigans...

As fate would have it neither **Steve Fahnstalk** nor I won the "Best Fan Related Work" Award., the award going to the third nominee **Dr. Robert Runté**. Actually, I'd kinda suspected Robert would get it. He established solid fannish credentials with numerous publications in the 1970s while at university, became a widely respected academic on CanLit including SpecFic, and is currently an editor for Five Rivers Publishing. Triple threat! Triple talents. Worthy, deserving, and quite pleased to win. I hate him.

Oddly enough, before the High Tea I and **Stan Hyde**, an old friend since University days, were in Hospitality excitedly discussing Godzilla lore with a fellow enthusiast, only to discover as we all got up to go to the 'High Tea' we'd been talking to David Mattingly.

Gaming GoH **Bruce Heard** telling me at the GoH reception Thursday night **Dungeons and Dragons** initially came out in France without translation, leading to an enormous spike in French High School students doing extremely well in English classes. Motivated, you see.

He also mentioned that the guy who does his maps (quite beautifully as witness the ones in **Calidar The Stranger Skies** I purchased at the Charity Auction) makes a living teaching English to young students in Japan. Which is wonderful, except that he speaks with a thick Glaswegian accent. I predict an entire generation of Japanese diplomats who sound like they were born and raised in Glasgow!

Speaking of the auction, walking by the silent auction table and spotting a hardcover book titled **The Aurora Awards – Thirty Years of Canadian Science Fiction** which brought me to a dead halt. I'm the CSFFA/AURORA Awards Archivist and I've never heard of this book! Turned out to be an anthology of



CSFFA President **Clifford Samuels**

Aurora-winning Short Stories, with an intro by **Jean-Louis Trudel**, published by **Rene Walling**'s Nanopress back in 2010. Needless to say I put a bid on it. Glad to say I won. Straight into the CSFFA archive it goes!

My wife, author **Alyx J. Shaw**, and I having dinner in the hotel lounge when **Robert J. Sawyer** and a friend who'd just driven up from a conference in Seattle ask if they could join us, in their case just for a pop and a coffee to help them unwind. Of course! Much conversation all around, except when Alyx and I were chomping down hard. If, in a future novel of Robert's, you read a scene depicting gluttonous aliens rending and masticating their prey, you'll know where he got his inspiration from.

At the same dinner Robert convincing me and my wife we should utilize twitter for self-promotion. I have a twentieth century mind, Robert has a twenty-second century mind, so in theory it all evens out. Nevertheless, if horrifying consequences ensue, he's to blame! You can tweet me at @rgraemecameron if you dare.

Standing by the door tapping my pen in time to the Beatle's sing-along thrown by **Spider Robinson**, **Tam Gordy** and **Steve Fahnstalk**. Spider may be thinner than thin but he still has an amazingly powerful voice. "It's been a Hard Day's Night" and "Nowhere Man" among the many classics beautifully performed.

Hearing second-hand about the somewhat inebriated woman who grabbed the life-size cardboard cut-out of Mr. Spock on display and ran off with it to nobody-knew-which-hotel-room for nobody-knew-what-purpose. It was quietly returned the next day.

Drinking beer with **Frank Johnson**, the gifted artisan who'd crafted the Aurora Awards for 23 years, retiring this year and winning one of his own creations in recognition of his service, much to his genuine surprise. I know his surprise was genuine. I asked him. Anyway, we had a great old time talking about Giles and his political cartoons. If you know who Giles was, you ain't young.



**Frank Johnson** with his Aurora Award

Watching a giant Tasmanian Devil cosplaying as Thor stomping down the corridor to the accompaniment of a wide variety of appropriate noises.

My wife Alyx being exceedingly pleased when her friend **Shelley Reeder** won "Best in Novice Class" in the costume contest wearing their jointly-crafted costume portraying "Prince Monshikka," a character in Alyx's STRANGE PLACE IN TIME Fantasy novel trilogy.

Running up to **William Gibson** (who remembered me as the guy who gave him a video of TEENAGERS FROM OUTER SPACE – long story) and babbling about my new mandate as editor of the AURORAN LIGHTS to promote SF professionals, etc., wonderful opportunity for him, and so on... only to realize as I turned away that, what with his being one of the most iconic literary figures on the planet, that he was hardly in need of more promotion. As I cringed away I knew he was studying me with his trademark quizzical, bemused and relaxed yet penetrating observational persona, a combination of Mr. Spock and Perry Como now that I think about it.

**Garth Spencer** (first Canadian fan to win an Aurora Award, or Casper as it was called back in 1986) telling me that twice, having mistaken him for me, attendees approached him congratulating him for his work on the program book. We stare at each other in horror, each thinking “I don’t look THAT old and degenerate!”

Long time BCSFAn **Ed Beauregard** telling me about a panel on military matters he attended in which **David Weber**, mentioning famed idiot First Sea Lord Admiral **Dudley Pound**, absent mindedly referred to Pound as “First Space Lord.” Cool!

While waiting for the closing ceremonies to begin observing Author GoH **David Weber** coming down from the dais to quietly converse with a blind fan, letting her touch the assorted medals and gizmos hanging on his chest, quite obviously thrilling her to judge by the radiant smile beaming from her face. He initiated this on his own. Damned decent of him. Thoughtful thing to do.



L to R: **Steve Fahnstalk**, **Spider Robinson**, **Clifford Samuels**, **Sandra Wickham**. Steve is presenting the CSFFA Hall of Fame plaque to Spider.

Learning that the theme of VCON 40 (October 2-4, 2015) will be Time Travel, that the Author GoH will be **Joe Haldeman** (FOREVER WAR, THE HEMINGWAY HOAX), and that the Fan GoH (the first we’ve had for quite a while) will be **Steve Forty**, long of Pacific Northwest convention fame and a well-known booster of local fandom. Steve once received an Elron award because he introduced **John Norman**, of GOR series fame, to **Lionel Fanthorpe**, the self-acknowledged worst SF&F genre writer of all time. A clash of Titans! Steve has a lot to answer for, and will do so at VCON 40.

### **TWO SMOFCON SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED**

Posted on September 21, 2014 by **Mike Glycer** in FILE 770.

CanSMOF Inc. is taking applications for two scholarships of up to 500 CAD each to help conrunners defray the cost of attending SMOFCon 32, being held in Manhattan Beach, CA December 5-7.

One scholarship is open to Canadian citizens or residents; the other is open to all. Eligible applicants will be automatically considered for both scholarships. Preference will be given to fans who have not previously attended a SMOFCon. Click the link for the [application form](#).

## FANZINES & OTHER LOST CAUSES

No time to review any. (Curse you, VCON!)

## PERSONALITIES ON PARADE

**John Herbert** – Aurora award-winning former co-editor (along with Karl Johanson) of **Under the Ozone Hole**. “The long lost cell phone that went missing 15 months ago turned up when I came home this evening in the middle of the living room floor. Cue the twilight zone theme music.”

**Garth Spencer** – “Back when we remembered other fans who loded everyone - **Dutch Ellis** from Canada, ‘The Duchess of Canadian Fandom’, or **Harry Warner Jr.**, the Hermit of Hagerstown - we used to speculate that **Lloyd Penney** was their secret love child.”

## FAN AWARDS (YES, THEY EXIST!)

### 2014 FANED AWARD WINNERS

This year the focus is on Canadian zines and **everybody** who contributes to them. Since the majority of readers of Canadian zines live outside Canada (my theory) I figure, by opening up the vote to said readers world-wide, there will be a huge jump in the number of voters (or at least a greater number than the 19 who voted last year). Encouraging sign, within two hours of the first ballots being sent out, 8 people voted, half of them Canadian, half of them American. My goal is 40 voters.



## LIST OF NOMINEES:

### **BEST FANZINE** (Space Cadet not eligible because won last year):

Auroran Lights –  
BCSFazine –  
Broken Toys –  
Ecdysis –  
Fanactical Fanactivist –  
Impulse –  
One Swell Foop –  
Opuntia –  
OSFS Statement –  
Swill –  
Warp –

### **BEST WRITER** (R. Graeme Cameron not eligible cause won last year):

Michael Bertrand –  
Keith Braithwaite –  
Jonathan Crowe –  
Lester Rainsford –  
Dale Speirs –  
Garth Spencer –  
Sylvain St-Pierre –  
Tamara Vardomskaya –  
Taral Wayne –  
Neil Williams –

### **BEST LOC WRITER** (Lloyd Penney not eligible cause won last year)

Michael Bertrand –  
Jason Burnett –  
Sheryl Birkhead –  
Ned Brooks –  
Brad Foster –  
Brent Francis –  
Dave Haren –  
Eric Mayer –  
Bill Patterson –  
Steve Stiles –

### **BEST ARTIST** (Taral Wayne not eligible cause won last year):

Brad Foster (BCSFazine, One Swell Foop, Space Cadet) –  
Teddy Harvia (Space Cadet) –  
Marquise (Warp) –  
Bernard Reischl (Warp) –  
Jennifer Seely (Ecdysis) –  
Steve Stiles (Space Cadet) –



The Faned Award

Note: the above list was distributed as an email. Recipients were supposed to hit “reply” and place their choice numbers (1 = 6 points, 2 = 5 points, etc.) beside the names then hit “send.” Simplest and easiest method of balloting I could think of.

The Faneds. Didn't get the 40 voters I wanted. But I did get 25 voters (12 Canadian, 13 American) which = 250 voters in American FAAN Award terms when taking population differential into account. At any rate, compared to the 19 voters last year, an improvement, a palpable improvement!

The Results are as follows:

### **FANED AWARD RESULTS**

#### **BEST WRITER** (in a Canadian zine 2013)

**Winner – Taral Wayne (97 points)**

1<sup>st</sup> Runner-up – Dale Speirs (51 points)

2<sup>nd</sup> Runner-up – Garth Spencer (48 points)

#### **BEST LOC WRITER** (in a Canadian zine 2013)

**Winner – Brad Foster (55 points)**

1<sup>st</sup> Runner-up – Eric Mayer (51 points)

2<sup>nd</sup> Runner-up - Sheryl Birkhead (47 points)

#### **BEST ARTIST** (in a Canadian zine 2013)

**Winner – Brad Foster (95 points)**

Steve Stiles (70 points)

Teddy Harvia (51 points)

#### **BEST CANADIAN FANZINE** (2013)

**Winner – BROKEN TOYS, editor Taral Wayne (87 points)**

1<sup>st</sup> Runner-up – BCSFAzine (62 points)

2<sup>nd</sup> Runner-up – OPUNTIA, editor Dale Speirs (58 points)

#### **FANED HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE**

**Fred Hurter Jr.**, editor of CENSORED June 1941 to 1951. Surpassed Leslie A. Crutch's LIGHT and inspired creation of the zine CANADIAN FANDOM.

Winners will receive a certificate designed By Taral Wayne, and, just possibly, an honest to Ghu reproduction of the Faned Award (I've finally found an artist who may be able to reproduce the master model).

#### **ELRON AWARD WINNERS**

Run out of time. Will list next issue.

### **GUEST ARTICLES, MINI-ESSAYS, & OTHER ARGUMENTS**

**Note:** Articles, essays, & reviews eagerly sought. 500 words maximum. Unpaid work, but lots of egoboo.

None this issue, alas. Didn't have time to encourage anyone to submit. (Curse you, VCON!)

## UPCOMING CONVENTIONS

Only one. Thought of this at the last minute. Next issue should be more comprehensive.

**ORYCON 36** – Nov 7-6, 2014 < [www.orycon.org](http://www.orycon.org) >

Lloyd Center, Double Tree Hotel, Portland, Oregon

William F. Nolan – Author GoH

Mark Roland – Artist GoH

Jason Andrew – Editor GoH

Jesse Lagers – Cosplay GoH

Vixy & Tony – Filk GoHs

## OOK! OOK! SLOBBER DROOL! (FANNISH LETTERS OF COMMENT)

*Lloyd Penney* (Sep 20/2014)

Dear Graeme:

It is catch-up time...always seems to be that these days. I have issues 10 and 11 of Auroran Lights, and I will see what comments I can make on them.

10...Yes, it was time to vote on the Auroras, and I did not. I knew only one or two names on the ballot, and had not read anything on it. I felt I was an unqualified nominator and voter this year. I hope this will change next year.

Looks like this fanzine will become a magazine for Canadian SF pros. Hmm... where are the fans in this? Anything for the Fan Auroras?

*(The Graeme – Absolutely, even though I did a poor job of it this issue. Next one, issue #13, will feature greater coverage of Canadian fandom.)*

Spider Robinson is attending VCon this year? Now I really wish I could go. Travel of any kind has become too dear to afford, so these days, I am a local fan, whether I like it or not.

*(The Graeme – Me too. I doubt I can afford to go to the 2015 Worldcon in Spokane, for instance. Oh well.)*

11...Ah, there IS a fandom section. You had me worried there for a moment. The high tea sounds great. Go for that fetching modern gown, Graeme... We haven't seen **Rob Sawyer** at the fannish pubnights in Toronto for some months...I know he's been doing some travelling, but now, we do know that he is writing like crazy. Good to know, good to see.

I have seen comment on the World Fantasy Award, with the bust of Lovecraft on a base. I know a lot of people don't like the actual award design, but calling it racist, sexist...sigh. Could we say that we just don't like it, and be more constructive by asking for alternate designs?

*(The Graeme – I came up with the ultimate solution to the problem and unveiled it at the Elron awards. To be revealed next issue of AL.)*

I can update my entry on page 24...while we are no longer running conventions, having done so for 30 years, and still waiting for our gold watches, we are still helping out here and there. The Bouchercon for 2017 will be in Toronto, and we are on the committee with minor roles. After the many years in which I ran the dealers' room for Ad Astra, we are now dealers ourselves. Penney's Steampunk General Store is an occasional dealer at local conventions and craft shows, and in October, we will be vendors at Genrecon, the annual convention in Guelph.

The FAAn Awards...this year, for the **Harry Warner Jr.** Memorial Award for Best Letterhack, I came in third, so I am at least still doing well. For the Fan Hugos...well, I don't know any of the winners, and can only assume that they write and draw for blogs. Traditional fandom is indeed on the wane, and that is why we've gotten into other things like steampunk, Murdoch Mysteries, etc. I think it was Chris Garcia that nailed it...the fan awards are no longer for those in Fandom.

Time to go. I often write these during my lunch, e-send them home, and then process and get them ready to e-mail out from there. See you with the next issue.

Yours, Lloyd Penney.

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## COLOPHON

**Auroran Lights** Issue # 12, Oct 2014, Volume 3 #4, Whole number 12, is the official E-zine of the Canadian Science Fiction and Fantasy Association, a federally registered non-profit society with the general mandate of promoting Canadian Science Fiction & Fantasy and the specific focus of sponsoring the annual Convention and Prix Aurora Awards.

### CURRENT EXECUTIVE OF CSFFA

#### The Board of Directors (Officers)

President: **Clifford Samuels** (Alberta) Aurora awards administrator  
Vice-President: **Jean-Louis Trudel** (Québec) Boréal Liaison.  
Secretary: **Cathy Palmer-Lister** (Québec)  
Treasurer: **Wes Almas** (British Columbia)

#### The Board of Directors (Directors)

**Clint Budd** (British Columbia) CSFFA Past president, Chair Convention 34 & Hall of Fame Jury.  
**Graeme Cameron** (British Columbia) Chair Archive Committee & Editor of Auroran Lights Newsletter.  
**Ron Friedman** (Alberta) Chair Voter's package.  
**Alan Pollard** (Manitoba) Chair Website Committee.  
**Lynda Williams** (British Columbia) Chair Publicity Committee & Eligibility Lists Committee.

#### Archive Committee

R. Graeme Cameron (Chair), Murray Moore, Lloyd Penney, Garth Spencer, & Taral Wayne.

## INFORMATION:

For most complete and latest info go to: < <http://prixaurorawards.ca> >

### What is CSFFA?

CSFFA is a federally incorporated non-profit society which exists to promote quality Canadian speculative fiction and the fan activity that surrounds it.

### Who can join CSFFA?

Membership in CSFFA costs \$10 per calendar year and entitles members to both nominate and vote. Membership is open to all Canadians, whether citizens or Permanent Residents, and whether living in Canada or abroad.

**Note:** Easiest way to join is to attend Convention and/or register at: < <http://prixaurorawards.ca> >

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**Don't forget to explore your fannish heritage!** Check out < <http://cdnsfzinearchive.org> > to browse numerous Canadian fanzines from 1937 to the present (including a complete run of Auroran Lights), peruse the Canadian Fancyclopedia for fannish legends & lore, and find out the history of Canada's SF clubs and organizations.

Also many thanks to Bill Burns at < <http://www.efanzines.com> > for hosting AL as well.

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**Note:** Anyone (even non-members) may submit information, short articles and mini-essays of 500 words or less, letters of comment, art fillos and/or cover art to the Editor at < [rgraeme@shaw.ca](mailto:rgraeme@shaw.ca) >



**William Gibson & Robert Runté**