

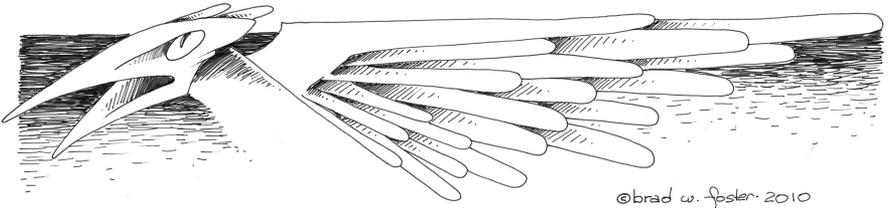
BCSFA Zine

The Newsletter of the British Columbia Science Fiction Association

#456

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May 2011



In This Issue:

This Month in BCSFA.....	0
About BCSFA.....	0
Letters of Comment.....	1
Calendar.....	3
News-Like Matter.....	8
Media File (Ray Seredin).....	12
Zines Received.....	13
E-Zines Received.....	14
Errata.....	17
Art Credits.....	17
Why You Got This.....	18

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Please send comments, suggestions, and/or submissions to Felicity Walker (the editor), at felicity4711@gmail.com or #209-3851 Francis Road, Richmond, BC, Canada, V7C 1J6. *BCSFAzine* solicits electronic submissions and black-and-white line illustrations in JPG, GIF, BMP, PNG, or PSD format, and offers printed contributors' copies as long as the club budget allows.

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This Month in BCSFA

Sunday 15 May @ 7 PM:

BCSFA meeting—at Ray Seredin's, 707 Hamilton Street (Recreation Room), New Westminster. Call 604-521-0254 for directions. (*June meeting* is Sunday 19 June 2011, same hours, same location.)

Thursday 19 May @ 7 PM:

May Book Discussion at the Grind gallery & café, 4124 Main Street (near the corner of Main and King Edward), Vancouver. Book to be discussed will be *Solaris* by Stanislaw Lem. (*June discussion* is Thursday 16 June 2011, same hours, same location.)—**Doug Finnerty**

Friday 27 May:

'BCSFAzine' production (theoretically).

About BCSFA

The incumbent BCSFA Executive members are:

President & Archivist: R. Graeme Cameron, 604-584-7562

Vice President: TBA

Treasurer: Kathleen Moore, 604-771-0845

Secretary: Barb Dryer, 604-267-7973

Editor: Felicity Walker, 604-448-8814

Keeper of FRED Book: Ryan Hawe, 604-448-8714

VCon Ambassador for Life: Steve Forty, 604-936-4754

BCSFA's website is at <http://www.bcsfa.net/>. The BCSFA e-mail lists are BC SciFi Assc (http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bc_scifi_assc/) and BCSFAnet (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bcsfanet/>).

Letters of Comment

[*Editor's responses in brackets.*]

Dave Haren
tyrbolo@comcast.net

Monday 9 May 2011

Just a quick note.

Rumours of my death turned out to be true.

However it isn't that easy to kill a Manx Cat.

At some point I will tell you the tale and get back to doing LOCs that make some sense.

Dave

[*All LOCs are appreciated!*]

Anonymous from 72.52.116.239

Saturday 21 May 2011

Dulcet gear post. I honest stumbled upon your blog and wanted to command that I have exceedingly enjoyed reading your blog posts. Any way I'll be subscribing to your virtual and I hope you record again soon.

[*Thanks?*]

Michael Bertrand
fruvousfox@gmail.com

Monday 23 May 2011

Hoo ha, another marvelous *BCSFazine* to comment on! One with something by yourself truly in it. That always makes them extra special.

Love the Foster cover, especially the Zaphod Beeblebrox quote. I have actually said that to someone online on two separate occasions. It's so cute when young people say "I don't know if we'll get along, I'm a pretty weird person..."

Cue Scar from *The Lion King* saying "You have *no* idea."

I know how Lloyd feels when he wonders if the world is shaking apart. I would really like to see a really solid expert, someone who really knows what they are talking about and can speak to the subject calmly and convincingly, tell us whether or not things are truly getting worse, or whether that's just a product of media hysteria and public neurosis.

Oh, and in "small world" news, interesting to find out that the Hutchings family is from Barrie, Ontario. I have a whole whack of relatives in the Barrie, Ontario area. 80 percent of my father's half of my family is from that region or lives there now or both.

Always does my heart good to see my words in print. It help combat that constant feeling like I am just shouting down a well when I write.

See you next month, BCSFAns!



Lloyd Penney
1706-24 Eva Rd.,
Etobicoke, On.
M9C 2B2
penneys@bell.net

Sunday 17 April 2010

Dear Felicity:

Happy Towel Day, you hoopy frood! I've got here a printout of *BCSFazine 455* to keep my weary eyes from aching too much. (The actual zine arrived in the mail yesterday...thank you.) Now to see what I can read so I can see what I can say. I hope that made sense...

Greetings to Sheryl Birkhead...Hugo nominations were made, and now that we know who's there, we've yet to vote. We've downloaded the huge package of .pdfs available to all members...totals about 850 Mb. (I was hoping to make it onto the Hugo ballot again, but I am pleased that I got onto the Aurora ballot. Maybe next year in Chicago? We've just purchased supporting memberships for Chicon 7.)

Hello to Fruvous...fandom has changed a lot in the 80 years it's been around, and if it lasts another 80, it will change a lot more. As long as we communicate in the form of fanzines, e-mails, blogs, etc., and just keep participating, the fannish networks will stay alive. I see so many people who see conventions as a solitary activity, go the convention to get their SF, and then leave. I'd think you'd enjoy it more with the company of friends.



I'm looking forward to seeing TAFF winner John Coxon in Reno, assuming we can still make it down there. When it comes to numbers of votes, he came in third, but the rule is that you must receive from either side of the Atlantic a minimum of 20% of the votes, and John was the only candidate that met the requirements.

I never did have the time to watch the current era *Doctor Who*, and I still don't, so reading about the episodes will have to do. I've been asked what current SF television shows I watch, and I have to say none. I still wait for another SF series that grabs my attention the way *Babylon 5* did.

[I tried to watch the new *Doctor Who* when it debuted, but it made a very bad impression on me for multiple reasons. These days I pretend it doesn't exist and that the last *Doctor Who* episode was produced in 1989. Surprisingly, however, *Fringe*, *The Event*, and the new *V* have all been watchable.]

This coming weekend is the big local anime convention, Anime North. This convention may be installing an attendance cap next year to deal with the increasing attendance it gets every year; they expect about 17 to 18,000 people this year. It should be an absolute circus. We've purchased Saturday only memberships this year,

and once we're done on Saturday, we're off for some dinner, because that day is also our 28th wedding anniversary.

[*Congratulations!*]

All done, can't think of anything else to say here...see you next issue.

Yours,

Lloyd Penney

We Also Heard From: Steve Green, Garth Spencer.

Calendar

Note to print readers: underlined events have an associated URL. Links included in the PDF version at <http://www.efanzines.com/BCSFA/>.—Julian Castle

May 2011

May is Get Caught Reading Month.

1 May 2011: **Ken Wong**'s birthday.

1 May 2011: BC Browncoats: Thrilling Dance Rehearsal 5, 4–5 PM at La Fontana Caffè, 3701 Hastings (at Boundary), Burnaby, BC, V5C 2H6. Rehearsal for Thrill the World 2011 (Saturday 29 October 2011). “We’ve had four rehearsals and are ready to learn the final two lessons of ‘Thriller.’ This time we will spend one hour and learn lessons 7 & 8, which is #29–36 of the instructional videos. If you have not been able to come to our previous rehearsals, check out the video clips online to get caught up and join in now! We’ll meet again on May 29 to learn how to put the whole dance together, so mark your calendars.”—Keith Lim

3 May 2011: BC RenFest Meet/Audition/Etc. #1 of 3, 5:00–9:00 PM at La Fontana Café. There have been some broken communications with our email addresses and a number of possible cast, villagers and volunteers have been “overlooked” or lost in the world of digital so I am creating this opportunity to come on out and volunteer and/or audition and/or ask questions and/or meet me. If you are returning cast/villagers/volunteers and email communication has been “unstable” please also feel free to come out. PLEASE PASS THIS ON. I am working around a crazy schedule and La Fontana is being very kind (allowing me to use the café for this) so please come prepared. Come with your questions, your resume (if need be), a photo of yourself/headshot (If hoping to join cast or villagers) or anything else you feel would give you the most from the experience. I will be at the café, more than likely in the back by the screen, working away on my laptop. I am hoping to be in a position to do a few more of these at another location (or at La Fontana) but with the insane schedule I am now holding, that will be tough so please take advantage of myself and his opportunity. We are looking for: VILLAGERS (all types—lord and lady, crazy lady, mad man, milk maid, wenches, baker, chandler, smith, monk, etc.); SOME STORYLINE CAST (definitely need an old sea dog quartermaster—may

need “stand in” cast that would be villagers until and unless they are needed on cast); GENERAL VOLUNTEERS (games and rides, security, front gate, etc.—actors can do these jobs as well, as the more of a character a volunteer is, the more the experience is complete for our audience); COMMAND TEAM/HEAD OF DEPARTMENTS; STAGE SHOWS [historically inspired stage shows who would like to try the audience at BCRF (if you are non local feel free to connect via FB or email—info@bcrenfest.com—*please* add us to your spam blockers as an acceptable domain; this is how this mess seems to have started); VENDORS [historically inspired vendors who are unsure as to whether or not they fit or need help filling out their forms (if you are non local feel free to connect via FB or email—info@bcrenfest.com—*please* add us to your spam blockers as an acceptable domain). Please pass this around and invite others! Thank you. This is invite one of three.—[Christina Carr](#)

3 May and 7 June 2011: Greater Vancouver Boardgames Meetup Group Monthly Meetup, 7 PM [location shown only to members of the Meetup group]. The games played depend on what everyone brings. If there is a game that you would like to play let it be known and we’ll see if someone can bring it. Also if you have a great game to share we’re always excited to try it out. \$1.—[Keith Lim](#)

4 May 2011: *Star Wars* Day (“May the fourth be with you”).

4 May 2011: BC Browncoats: Intergalactic Star Wars Day, 6:30 PM at La Fontana Caffé, 3701 Hastings (at Boundary), Burnaby, BC, V5C 2H6. “In honour of May the 4th (be with you), we’re going to gather at La Fontana to watch *Space Balls!*”—[Keith Lim](#)

6 May 2011: Space Day. Premiere of film *Thor* (superhero; Natalie Portman, Anthony Hopkins, Stellan Skarsgård, Colm Feore, Rene Russo, J. Michael Straczynski, Matt Battaglia, Stan Lee, Samuel L. Jackson).

7 May 2011: Astronomy Day/International Space Day.

10 May 2011: BC RenFest Meet/Audition/Etc. #2 of 3, 5:00–9:00 PM at La Fontanna Café. NEED IMMEDIATELY! 1512 Henry VIII & Scottish bad guy. Have lost both actors. First parade in a week (four in total); nine rehearsals left. Also need immediately: villagers and general volunteers ready to dress up and be in the parades. We are also looking for an additional costumer to help our existing costumer out and help make the pirate Renewal of Vows outfits in time for parades (cast costumes—Fort Langley May Day Parade) and Rusty Scupper Renewal. All is volunteer but happily will provide photos/video for demos and portfolios.—[Christina Carr](#)

11 May 2011: Twilight Zone Day.

12 May 2011: BC RenFest Meet/Audition/Etc. #3 of 3, 5:00–9:00 PM at La Fontanna Café.—[Christina Carr](#)



26 May and 9 June 2011: Burnaby Sci-Fi Writers' Group meets alternate Thursdays 7–9 PM at Metrotown Public Library (program room) or Connections lounge. Open to new members, mainly sci-fi/fantasy or what have you. Contact Allan @ (604) 946-2427 or email lowson@dccnet.com for details.—[Allan Lawson](#) (on [Richmond Writers Network Facebook Group](#))

27 May 2011: Premiere of films *Kung Fu Panda II* (computer animation/funny animal; Angelina Jolie, Gary Oldman, Seth Rogen, Jackie Chan, Jean-Claude Van Damme, Jack Black, Dustin Hoffman, David Cross, Lucy Liu, Michelle Yeoh, James Hong) and *The Tree of Life* (SF/drama; Brad Pitt, Sean Penn).

28 May 2011: Computer Swap Meet & Collectible Fair, 11:00 AM–4:00 PM at Scottish Cultural Center, 8886 Hudson Street, South Vancouver. (604) 521-6304, funpromo@shaw.ca, <http://www.funpromo.ca>. “Computer items including new & used monitors, printers, hardware, software, parts, games, cameras, printer refills, and lots more! New & vintage comics, toys & collectibles, records, Cds, VHS, DVDs, movie memorabilia, video games, magazines, *Star Wars*, Hot Wheels, wrestling, Canucks.” Admission: adults \$3; kds under 12 free; families \$9 (four members).

29 May and 26 June 2011: Vancouver Roleplayers' Collective Monthly Social Gathering, 3 PM at the Grind Gallery and Coffee House, 4124 Main Street, Vancouver, BC, V5V 3P6. The purpose of the recurring meetings on the last Saturday of every month is to meet and greet and chill, to share a drink or two with fellow gamers, talk about your common interests and maybe even find yourself a gaming group.—[Keith Lim](#)

29 May 2011: BC Browncoats: Thrilling Dance Rehearsal 5, 4–5 PM at La Fontana Caffe, 3701 Hastings (at Boundary), Burnaby, BC, V5C 2H6. Rehearsal for Thrill the World 2011 (Saturday 29 October 2011). “We’ve had six rehearsals so far and have learned all of the moves to ‘Thriller’! Now we will put those moves all together and dance the dance! We’ll use instructional videos #37–40 for this rehearsal. If we decide to dance at CSTS 2011, we’ll have a full on rehearsal to preview our mad dancing skilz on June 19. Now that we know the dance, we can join in when they perform on August 20th at the annual Vancouver Zombie Walk. We’ll also schedule a brush up rehearsal in the fall, in preparation for the October 29, 2011 TTW main event.”—[Keith Lim](#)

31 May 2011: **Joanne McBride-Wilson**’s birthday.

June 2011

2 June 2011: **Lloyd Penney**’s birthday.

3 June 2011: **Karl Johanson**’s birthday. Premiere of film *X-Men: First Class* (superhero; January Jones, Kevin Bacon, Oliver Platt, Ray Wise).

5 June 2011: **Alyssa Foote's birthday.**

10 June 2011: Premiere of films *Super 8* (SF/mystery/thriller; written/directed by J.J. Abrams) and *Trollhunter* (supernatural/action).

10–12 June 2011: The Official Star Trek Convention: The Celebration of the 45th Anniversary at Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre, 1088 Burrard Street, Vancouver, BC. “Join celebrity guests and fellow fans in honoring Gene Roddenberry’s enduring legacy of a positive future for mankind[.]” Special guests: Brent Spiner, Nichelle Nichols, J.G. Hertzler, Gwynyth Walsh, Robert O’Reilly, Barbara March, Rene Auberjonois, Alan Scarfe, Connor Trinneer, Dominic Keating. With Richard Arnold, Sunday Morning Klingon Breakfast, trivia challenge, cocktail party & centerpiece contest, costume parade, music video contest. [*Membership rates presumably available on website.*]—Keith Lim

11 June 2011: **Kathleen Moore** and **Ray Seredin**’s birthdays.

17 June 2011: Premiere of film *Green Lantern* (superhero; Ryan Reynolds, Blake Lively, Peter Sarsgaard, Temuera Morrison, Geoffrey Rush, Michael Clarke Duncan, Tim Robbins, Angela Bassett).

21 June 2011: World Wide Party #18, 21h00 your local time. Toast your fellow zinesters in the Papernet.—Dale Speirs

23 June 2011: **Amos Iu**’s birthday.

24 June 2011: Premiere of film *Cars 2* (computer animation; Owen Wilson, Larry the Cable Guy, Michael Caine, Joe Mantegna, Cheech Marin, Franco Nero, John Ratzenberger, Darrell Waltrip, Jeff Gordon, John Turturro, Bruce Campbell, Tony Shalhoub, Eddie Izzard, Brent Musberger).

24–26 June 2011: StarCon, a corporate convention. Tickets are \$250–270 for full admission to the convention. Guests: Michael K. Anderson, Pierre Bernard Jr., Patricia A. Beninati, Bill Butt, Barry Campbell, Frank Cassini, Mike Dopud, Aaron Douglas, Colin Ferguson, Peter Flemming, Barclay Hope, Peter Kelamis, Peter Kent, Niall Matter, Stephen E. Miller, Aleks Paunovic, Dan Payne, Ed Quinn, Jerry Rector, Dan Shea, Christopher Shyer, Cliff Simon, Craig Veroni, and Alex Zahara. It seems to take place somewhere in Richmond in three hotels, two of which are actually named but with no addresses given. Other/more specific information is presumably buried somewhere on the website.

25 June 2011: **Ed Beauregard**’s birthday.

30 June 2011: Meteor Day.

News-Like Matter

Notes from April BCSFA Meeting

In attendance were Kathleen Moore (host/treasurer), Felicity Walker (editor), Michael “Fruvous” Bertrand, Julian Castle, Joe Devoy, Amos Iu, Ray Seredin, and Arlen Moore. Stewart Smyth phoned to say he couldn’t make it.

Kathleen made her special brownie-like dessert that isn’t brownies, but rather a sort of brown cake. (She says it could be called “cockeyed cake” or “wacky cake.”)

Ray relayed hellos from Susan & Michael Walsh. Ray had just come back from the BC NDP¹ leadership convention. Adrian Dix won. Ray was surprised that 85% of the people at the convention were white. We talked about whether this was an accurate cross-section of the party, or just the people who go to political conventions.

Kathleen said something about the government charging HST² on marijuana, unless it’s for medical uses. I couldn’t understand how this would be done, since non-medical marijuana is illegal, and to pay tax on it would be to admit to having it. Ray pointed out that if Canada legalizes marijuana, Americans would come here to buy it, which would bring in money.

This reminded Amos that he likes prohibition-era history and fiction and is reading *Public Enemies: America’s Greatest Crime Wave and the Birth of the FBI, 1933–34* by Bryan Burrough [the book on which the movie *Public Enemies* (2009) was based].

Kathleen showed “Radioactive Communist Chernobyl Chipmunk,” an original 1987 pen and ink drawing by Marc Holmes. She said it referenced things like *Samurai Penguin* (a 1986 independent black-and-white comic series which apparently ran for eight issues, though the only one you will ever find is issue three). (*Samurai Penguin* was also Random Nostalgia in [BCSFazine #443](#).)

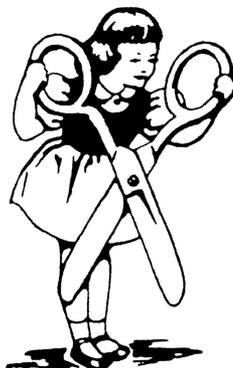
I remembered there being a lot of Amtrak jokes in the 1980s, and that these jokes were hauled out again when Senator Joe Biden—who gladly used Amtrak to commute 250 miles to the Senate every day from his home in Delaware—became Vice President.

Kathleen brought out issues three to five of her zine *Why You Got This Zine* and we reread them. She explained some of the more obscure references.

Footnotes for international readers:

1. *British Columbia New Democratic Party*.

2. *Harmonized Sales Tax, introduced in 2010, which combined the GST (Goods and Services Tax, added in 1991 by Prime Minister Brian Mulroney) and PST (Provincial Sales Tax). Items that were previously only taxed with GST now cost more. On Friday 24 June 2011, BC will have a referendum on whether to keep the HST or go back to the separate GST and PST.*



Felicity Walker
Sunday 17 April 2011

BCSFA Book Discussion Group Update (May)

Dear Felicity:

Here's notice of our next meeting for the *BCSFAzine*. Any questions comments or concerns, you know who to blame.

Our next meeting is Thursday May 19 @ 7 PM. Venue is "The Grind" gallery and coffee house, 4124 Main Street, Vancouver. This time, we're reading *Solaris* by Stanislav Lem.

In June, we're reading *Leviathans of Jupiter* by Ben Bova.

July's book is *Burning Chrome* by William Gibson.

Doug F.

Doug Finnerty

Sunday 24 April 2011

'WARP' #77 Available On-Line

WARP 77 is on line: <http://www.monsffa.com/monsffahtml/warp.html>.

Password: WibblyWobbly

NOTE: the password is case sensitive.

[...] The PDF [...] is full of interesting links to other sites of interest. Try clicking on bats and snowflakes! Also, mouse around articles; URLs may pop up. People who take the paper version are likely to collect issues, but stuff on the Internet tends to be ephemeral; I don't want to load the ish with stuff that will be out of date by the time you read it.

Also, for your convenience, the table of contents is hyperlinked to the articles, and clicking on the image at the end of an article will take you back to the TOC.

We welcome LOCs; please send me your comments! cathypl@sympatico.ca

I wish to thank the following contributors:

Josée Bellemare

Marquise Boise

Keith Braithwaite

François Ménard

Fernando (The Fernster) Novo

Lloyd Penney

Barbara Silverman

Sylvain St-Pierre

Thanks also to Bernard Reischl for printing the paper copies! It's amazing the difference high quality printer and paper makes! Not to mention colour, oohhhh, colour...

And now on to *WARP 78*!! This is to be the spring issue, and I really would like to have it out before the official start of summer, June 21st. :-) Please send your contributions by June 4th, that's May 28th for Keith!! ;-)

Cathy

Cathy Palmer-Lister

Friday 13 May 2011

‘Red Dwarf’: New Season for Broadcast in 2012

From <http://www.reddwarf.co.uk/news/2011/04/15/new-series-of-red-dwarf-confirmed/>:

“New Series of Red Dwarf Confirmed

“ ...

“15 April 2011

“...*Red Dwarf X* is on its way.”

“ ...

“Attending Dimension Jump XVI [convention organized by the official *Red Dwarf* fan club] on Sunday, April 10th, Red Dwarf’s co-creator, writer, director, and executive producer Doug Naylor confirmed...there will be more new *Dwarf*.

“ ...

“Shooting will take place this coming November, December and January, with broadcast slated for September 2012.”

Julian Castle

Sunday 15 May 2011

Seth MacFarlane to Reboot ‘The Flintstones’

Kevin Reilly, the President of Entertainment for Fox Broadcasting Company, announced today that 20th Century Fox Television and Warner Bros. Television have joined to produce a new *Flintstones* prime-time animated sitcom. The reboot will be executive-produced by Dan Palladino, Kara Vallow, and Seth MacFarlane, who jokes, “I think America is finally ready for an animated sitcom about a fat stupid guy with a wife who’s too good for him.”

The series will air on Fox in Fall 2013.

MacFarlane says that the characters will look the same as before, but the stone-age-technology comedy will be updated: “What is the animal version of an iPad?” (An iPaw?)



The Flintstones on Family Guy.

Felicity Walker

Credit: Nikki Finke via Kyle Buchanan

Monday 16 May 2011

New Paranormal/Strange Universe Podcast

Hi,

Sorry for sending out a mass email. Just sending a link to my new podcast that deals with all things strange and wonderful.

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

First episode has Michael Menkin, tech writer and creator of the thought screen helmet that prevents alien abductions.

Some of you are in the UFOlogy community. Please feel free to email me at jonhyattpodcast@gmail.com to be a guest.

Best,
Jon Hyatt

Jon Buttz
Thursday 19 May 2011

Taral's New Blog

Taral Wayne has started a blog, "Fan Noir." Its first entry, "Getting Off on the Wrong Foot," can be seen at <http://homefall.blogspot.com/2011/05/getting-off-on-wrong-foot.html>.

Taral writes: "[*Brad Foster*] can be the first to take a look. You can be second, third, fourth, etc. If you leave it too late, though, you might be 100,000th at the door, after which there's no admittance!

"Yeah...right. More likely 50. Or 5.

"Anyway, there isn't much there yet. A few recriminations for people dragging me into yet another online medium, and some ranting about the Harper government. 724 words, though, so you might get through it on a single breath."

Felicity Walker
Saturday 21 May 2011

As Others See Us?

"We are preparing to spend hundreds of billions on jet planes that might some day fight the wicked Russians over the ice-free waters of the Arctic Ocean. Why? To protect Canadians from some undefined and unlikely disaster. Instead of this halfwit science-fiction scenario, we could invest a fraction of those billions into making sure that we who live in Victoria and Vancouver survive a disaster that is demonstrably inevitable, not fiction."—Crawford Kilian, "This Political Earthquake Is Inevitable" (book review of *Cascadia's Fault* by Jerry Thompson), TheTyee.ca

Felicity Walker
Wednesday 25 May 2011

Could You Please Help Me with This?

Michael Martineck's *Cinco de Mayo*, published by EDGE Science Fiction and Fantasy, is a finalist for the Alberta Readers' Choice Award, and the only fiction work vying for this mainstream \$10,000 award. This is the first time that a science fiction novel has made it to the finals.

Although one has to be an Alberta publisher to be eligible for nomination for the Alberta Readers' Choice Award, voters can be from any IP address, anywhere.

We are up against some very good non-fiction titles with huge followings. We are hoping that science fiction and fiction lovers everywhere will rally together...and help vote.

The Alberta Readers' Choice rules state that voters from any IP address in the world can cast their vote once every 24 hours during the month of May—you only have three days left to vote for this great book that tells the story of what happens in

the world after May 5th, when suddenly every man, woman and child ends up with a second set of memories in their mind along side their own...

Could you please help me spread the news, vote for the book, and possibly even encourage people to vote? There are a whole three days left.

Thanks for any and all help...

Janice

PS: The website to vote at is www.albertareaderschoice.ca and all you do is go to the upper right hand side of the page and hit the button beside *Cinco de Mayo*, and push vote. 24 hours later it will reset, so you can do it again. You can vote from anywhere that has an IP address.

Thanks again...just email me if you have any questions...

EDGE/Events

Sunday 29 May 2011

Media File



Ray Seredin

Just a Little Bit of 'Doctor Who'/'Torchwood' News

OK, since I'm getting ready to head down to Norwescon 34—and as soon as that's done I'm going to see my dad after 26 years, then meet my half sister—I'm going to keep it short this month.

Space has picked up *Torchwood: Miracle Day* and it's very likely to air on Friday 8 July 2011 at a time that is yet to be determined. The station is also picking up the latest series of *Primeval*, along with *Bedlam* and *Outcasts* (*Outcasts* is a great series, but the fools at the BBC pulled it after just the first season due to low ratings and budget cuts; however, its story will continue in novel form).

That's all for now, so be seeing you when I return from Norwescon 34, my reunion with my dad, and my meeting with my half sister.

Cosmic Ray Seredin

Ray Seredin

Friday 15 April 2011

RANDOM NOSTALGIA

ROBOT JOX
ENTER THE NINJA
THE FERREY MUHTAR TALK SHOW
SABER RIDER AND THE STAR SHERIFFS
WEBSITES WITH GUESTBOOKS
LUCKY VANOLUS

Zines Received

‘Opuntia’ #70.1G (May 2011). Published by Dale Speirs, Box 6830, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, T2P 2E7. Reviewzine issue.

“Taken at the Flood”: Reviews movie *Tidal Wave* (2009), *Man from UNCLE* episode “The Yo Ho Ho and a Bottle of Rum Affair” (1967), movie *Killer Wave* (2006), and TV movie *Flood* (2009). Dale points out that tsunamis are “often mistakenly called a tidal wave” (they’re caused by earthquakes and not tidal forces). Coincidentally, just before I received this zine, I had been wondering why we never hear the term “tidal wave” anymore. Now I know. Future “Random Nostalgia.”

“One Step Too Far”: Reviews three books about the 2010 BP Deepwater Horizon disaster—*Drowning in Oil* by Loren Steffy, *Fire on the Horizon* by John Konrad and Tom Shroder, and *A Hole at the Bottom of the Sea* by Joel Achenbach—and provides a recommended reading list about oil with capsule reviews of *Twilight in the Desert* by Matthew Simmons, *A Thousand Barrels a Second* by Peter Tertzakian, *Beyond Oil: The View from Hubbert’s Peak* by Kenneth Deffeyes, *Why Your World Is About to Get a Whole Lot Smaller* by Jeff Rubin, and *Oil 101* by Morgan Downey.

I’m starting to wonder if I was born several decades too late. If I’d come of age in the 1950s, every visit to the service station wouldn’t fill me with dark thoughts about Peak Oil. (Of course, the aforementioned Dr. Hubbert saw as early as 1956 that Peak Oil was coming—but I, at least, might have been blissfully unaware.) I may not want to live to see the end of civilized travel.

“Miscellaneous Book Reviews”: *Script and Scribble* by Kitty Burns Florey: A history of handwriting. Dale: “What is important is the content, not the font.” No, both are important.

Dubai Sabbatical by Peter John Cooper: Convinced by successive *Opuntias* that physical bullion is worth owning, I tried a few months ago to buy a silver Maple Leaf coin. But the price—closer to \$40 than the \$20 I expected—sticker-shocked me out of the store. The dealer said he was already hearing talk it would reach \$50. Now what to do?

‘The Voyageur’ #178 (March–April 2011). Published by the Infinite Diversity International Corp., % Lynda Ciaschini, 7050 Weston Road, Suite 301, Woodbridge, Ontario, L4L 8G7. Edited by Georgina/Roy Miles, 26 Doddington Drive, Toronto, Ontario, M8Y 1S4, ga.miles@rogers.com. “Official Newsletter of the *USS Hudson Bay*.”

“Editorial”; “Birthday Wishes”; “*Endgame*” (TV series description); “Canada and Space” (science news); “*Doctor Who* Returns to Air on April 23, 2011 on Space”; “*Dr. Who* Coming Season 6”; “Conventions and Events”; “Club Meetings”; “Hailing Frequencies” (contact information).



E-Zines Received



‘The Zine Dump’ #27 (March–April 2011). Published by Guy H. Lillian III, 5915 River Road, Shreveport LA 71105 (COA), eFanzines. “A zine (i.e., a fanzine about fanzines). This issue is dedicated to Ruth Kyle and Mike Glicksohn.”

Cover: The always-frightening Mr. Sardonicus.

Also: Editorial about whether podcasts should count as zines (for awards purposes); enjoyable summaries of zines received by Guy.

‘Dark Matter’ #3 (April 2011). Published by Nalini Haynes, PO Box 144, Lynbrook, Victoria, Australia 3975, darkmatterfanzine@gmail.com, eFanzines, [Australian National Library](http://AustralianNationalLibrary), [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/darkmatterfanzine). “An independent fanzine exploring science fiction, fantasy, art, life, the universe and everything.” That explains the length! ☺

“News”: Lots of news and reviews, with heavy media coverage but also other things. Most interesting: a *Sandman* (as in the Vertigo comic) TV show, two more *Matrix* sequels, *Iron Sky*, Ben “Yahtzee” Croshaw in book form, Dr. Demento at Worldcon, and “Pug Vader” (a dog dressed as Darth Vader).

“Articles”: Includes interviews with authors, more news, awards, and convention reports. Most interesting: “The 501st Legion at Shave for a Cure” (Stormtroopers look sexy with mohawks), “Brickvention” (Lego convention), “Daleks Done to Death”/“Dog vs. Dalek,” “Rant” (triggered by an “As Others See Us”-like incident), “Supanova” (convention report).

“Movie Mayhem”: “2010 Movie Round Up”: A good premise for an article, but needed more proofreading. Also interesting: “*Tron: Legacy*,” “*The Expendables*,” “The 70 Minute *Phantom Menace* Review,” and “*Battle Los Angeles*.”

“Dark Matter Staff”: I enjoyed the short bios/photos of the contributors. So these are the people I’ve been corresponding with for the last two years!

Also: “Dark Matter Stuff”; “Art Competitions”; “Anime/Animation”; “Book Reviews”; “Game Gambit”; “Graphic Novels”; “TV Series”; “Club Information.”

‘Ethel the Aardvark’ #153 (April–May 2011). Published by the Melbourne Science Fiction Club, PO Box 23047, Docklands, Melbourne 8012, Australia, ethel_aardvark@yahoo.com.au.

“Feature Film Review”: *Metropolis*: I found the history of the film’s edits more interesting than the film’s plot. I could empathize with abridger Channing Pollock’s statement that “When I began my job of structural editing, *Metropolis* had no restraint or logic. It was symbolism run such riot that people who saw it couldn’t tell what the picture was all about” (though apparently he only succeeded in making it more confusing). If I were going to watch an edit, I’d want to watch one that’s true to the original, but without any padding.

“Scenes from Supanova—Cosplayers”: Good-looking group, especially the female Imperial Officer in the kickline.

Also: “Absolute Power” (a “Presidential”); “Editorial Musings”; “2011 Ditmar Award Nominations”; “Shaun Tan in His Own Words”; “An Interview with Robin Hobb”; “My Experience at Supanova” (con report); “Book Reviews” (*The Inheritance*; *The Undivided*; *The Sentients of Orion 3: Mirror Space*; *The Sentients of Orion 4: Transformation Space*; *Preincarnate*; *Conan’s Brethren*; *Kraken*); LOC (from Lloyd Penney, of course ☺); “MSFC General Elections”; “Scenes from Supanova—Celebrities”; “MSFC Meeting Details”; “Other Clubs—News.”

Font criticism: I like the use of Times New Roman, em-dashes, and directed apostrophes and quote marks.

Layout criticism: PDF zines should be single-column or landscape format, so the reader doesn’t have to scroll up and down.



‘**Auroran Lights**’ #4 (May 2011). Published by R. Graeme Cameron, Apt. 72G–13315 104th Ave., Surrey, B.C., V3T 1V5 rgraeme@shaw.ca, eFanzines. “The Fannish E-Zine of the Canadian Science Fiction & Fantasy Association—Dedicated to Promoting the Prix Aurora Awards and the History of Canadian Fandom.”

Cover: A beautiful Normal Rockwell *Saturday Evening Post* homage by Derek Carter containing a portrait of the late Mike Glicksohn.

“Fallacious Fannish History Articles”:

- “I’m Finally Starting to Sort My Zines” by Michael Glicksohn (reprint of a 1984 article): Mike’s thoughts as he is finally forced to begin to sort 18 years’ worth of collected zines. Graeme agrees that every fanzine collector reaches this point. As a natural hoarder archivist, I’m glad I haven’t reached it yet—I don’t have anywhere to sort them! Maybe when I’m more successful and have my own apartment.

- “Retro Canadian Fanzine: *Xenium* #10 (2.7): Mike Glicksohn Fanzine from 1978”: What’s Bowers Syndrome? Google thought it was something that happened to puppies, or a misspelling of “irritable bowel syndrome.” I liked the drawing by Vincent Di Fate.

“Fanactic Fanniche Fanactivity”:

- “British Columbia”:

- “Alan R. Betz”: I never knew that he recorded audio and video of VCONs starting in the 1970s! Good for him! I hope we still have those recordings. I would love to watch them at a future VCON or club meeting.

- “Debbie Miyashita”: Please forward the time and place for the Al Betz–Ed Hutchings wake for June’s “Calendar.”



- “Ontario”:

- “Murray Moore”:

Let me know if help is needed rescuing 1980s zines from Mike Glicksohn’s collection. I can’t promise them an organized home, but I will keep them safe.

- “Frenetic Fanzine Reviews”:

- “One Swell Foop #3”

(Garth Spencer): Graeme is surprised that the Conservatives won the election with a majority. So am I.

However, unlike Graeme, I’m not surprised the Liberals were in last place. The Liberals are centrists, not liberals, and liberals have realized this and are voting NDP.

- “*Swill @ 30 #7?*” (Neil Jamieson-Williams): Why is it good that *Swill* was “rude, offensive,” “crass, nasty, obnoxious,” and “written for the sole purpose of generating anger”? Also, I agree with Graeme that Garth and he have been asking the questions in Neil’s anthropological study of fandom (“What are the demographics of science fiction fandom? Who is the average fan? Is SF fandom a single diverse subculture or is it an umbrella for a constellation of SF subcultures?” etc.) for years.

- “*BCSFAzine #454*” (Felicity Walker): Thanks again to Graeme for the high praise.

Also: “Editorial”; “CSFFA News & Announcements” (Aurora Awards); “Fallacious Fannish History Articles” (“Conventions Eleven to Twenty: Lists of Aurora Award Winners & Finalists”); “Fabled Fandom/Prodom News & Notes” (CUFF and TAFF); “Stuttering Stratospheric Static” (Letters of Comment); “Terribly Important Stuff.”

‘**Statement**’ #385 (May 2011). Published by the Ottawa Science Fiction Society, 26076–72 Robertson Road, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K2H 9R6, osfs@ncf.ca, <http://osfs.ncf.ca/>. Edited by Grant Duff.

Cover: “The Last Launch of Space Shuttle *Endeavour*”: Beautiful, wistful photo of penultimate shuttle launch.

“Science News”/“Astronomy News”: Interesting reading as always.

Also: “Coming Events”; “Literary News”; “Orbits.”



Errata

Lloyd Penney notified me of a change in his e-mail address last month but I forgot to change it in the letter column. The address should have read penneys@bell.net.

When running “On the Face of It” by Taral Wayne I should have mentioned that it originally appeared in *The Drink Tank #236* (January 2010), edited by Chris Garcia.

In the last few issues, I forgot to update the hyperlinks for some of the zines in the “E-Zines Received” column. For example, clicking on the “[eFanzines](#)” link for *Auroran Lights #2* might take you to [eFanzines.com](#)’s PDF of *Auroran Lights #1*. I’ve been trying to check that sort of thing more carefully.



Art Credits

Sheryl Birkhead.....	Masthead
<u>Brad Foster</u>	Cover
Clip art (from <i>Crap Hound</i> book lent by Julian Castle)....	Pages 1, 8, 14
Clip art.....	Page 2, 10, 13
Clip art (Chris Warner).....	Page 4
Clip art (Alan Moore/Dave Gibbons).....	Pages 5, 17 (top)
Felicity Walker (photos).....	Pages 12, 15, 16 (top), 18
Iconian Fonts.....	Pages 16 (bottom), 17 (bottom)



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