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Lambda Literary Award Nominees

reported by Rob

The finalists for this year's Lambda Literary Awards were announced in early February. As in previous years, the list of finalists in the Science Fiction & Fantasy category is a mixed bag. Of the five finalists, only one is from a major publishing house, two are from well-known gay presses, and two are from other small presses. There are two short story anthologies in the bunch; and the three novels range in size from less than 200 pages to well over 500. Two of the nominees are first novels, and two of the nominated books are from past winners. All in all, the quality is a little higher than in the last few years. However, the inclusion of some of these finalists over genre works from mainstream houses seems to show a continuing lack of knowledge of the science fiction and fantasy field (and an over-emphasis on gay publishing houses) by the committee selecting the finalists.

The nominees in the Science Fiction & Fantasy category are:

Galilee, by Clive Barker (HarperCollins)
Falling to Earth, by Elizabeth Brownrigg (Firebrand)

Desmond, by Ulysses Dietz (Alyson)
Bending the Landscape: Science Fiction, edited by Nicola Griffith & Stephen Pagel (Overlook)

Things Invisible to See, edited by Lawrence Schimel (Circle/Ultra Violet)

In addition to the nominations in the Science Fiction & Fantasy category,

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Latest News on the LSF Book Discussion Group

by Carl Cipra

The 2nd meeting of the LSF Book Discussion Group (held on Feb. 25th) was an unqualified success. Rodney and Deb facilitated a *fascinating* discussion of Nicola Griffith's Lammy Award-winning sf novel, *Slow River*. The discussion ranged across such topics as: the effect of non-linear narrative; the implications of private ownership of genetically-engineered microorganisms; the water/river symbolism and representation of "family" in the book; and the archetype of the "descent to the Underworld." Wow!

If you're interested in joining us in future discussions of works of F&SF, the LSF Book Discussion Group meets on the 4th Thursday of every month at 7:00 PM. The next meeting is set for March 25th,

when Mike P. will facilitate a discussion of Gregory Maquire's *Wicked*. Once again, Peter & Rob will host the meeting at their home: 1425 "S" St., NW - near Dupont Circle. And here's the schedules for April & May:

April 22nd, *The Left Hand of Darkness* by Ursula K. LeGuin

May 20th, *Shadow Man* by Melissa Scott

Remember: Lammass Women's Books and More (located at 1607 17th St., NW) has graciously agreed to sponsor our group. They have *Wicked* and *Left Hand of Darkness* in stock and have ordered copies of *Shadow Man*. If you don't have a copy of these books already, please consider buying them at Lammass.

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"Video Madness Party"
Set for March 13th to Celebrate
LSF's 9th Anniversary
(for details, see page 2)



Gaylactic Network Spectrum Awards

by Rob



For many years, LSF poked and prodded at the Gaylactic Network to do something. After we stopped whining and got more actively involved, it's finally happened. The long discussed Network Awards have been created and will be known as the Gaylactic Network Spectrum Awards. The Awards were created to honor works in science fiction, fantasy,

and horror that deal positively with gay characters, themes, and issues. As the Lammys have shown, with their lack of inclusion of the best the genre has to offer, there's a strong need for a genre-specific award to recognize gay-positive works. Hopefully the Spectrum Awards will do just that, the first award to honor works

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The Love-Struck Minutes of the February LSF Meeting

by Rob



Wuv, Twue Wuv... well, in honor of the fact that it was Valentine's Day we all seemed to be filled with love. Though Carl grimaced at our yearly ritual of voting whether to remain in the Network, his fears were ill-founded, as we displayed our love for the Network by voting unanimously to remain. Everyone also really loved the Treasurer's report provided by me—where I informed everyone that we had over \$600 to our name.

With that short bit of business out of the way, we moved on to the much-beloved social portion of the meeting. The always rambunctious name circle was quickly followed by a report from Michael on the latest offerings from the Psychotronic Film Society and an article on "psycho-billy music." Michael also regaled us with: tidbits from a new book entitled *The Gross*; lessons learned from this past summer's failed blockbusters; and information from this year's Sundance Film Festival, where a gay romance, *Trick*, and a locally produced horror flick, *The Blair Witch Project*, made waves.

Barrett passed along the latest Progress Report from Aussiecon (this year's Worldcon in Australia), while Peter passed around recent tidbits from the PO Box. I passed along interesting notes from our e-mail box, including information on a new online Cosmic Encounter game website (www.cosmicencounter.com), a new alternative convention called Exoticon (home.earthlink.net/~rfontenot/noframes.html), a new starship warfare gaming system (www.erie.net/~archon/), and an announcement about recent winners of the Sapphire Awards for sf romances (members.aol.com/sfreditor/).

There were updates on recent and upcoming book releases, including Vernor Vinge's latest (*A Deepness in the Sky*), Octavia Butler's follow-up to *Parable of the Sower* (entitled *Parable of the Talents*), and a new book from our Gaylaxicon Guest of Honor, Diane Duane (*Starrise at Corrivale*). Carl mentioned an upcoming movie, called *October Sky*, about high school rocket science aficionados in a West Virginia mining town in 1957. Robert pointed out that Nan, our

glorious webmistress and artist extraordinaire had a picture on the back cover of *Spoonfed* (a local 'zine).

In media news, it appears that Jean Claude Van Damme's next flick will be released in a strange sequence: DVD, then video, then cable, then theatres. Keith pointed out that a new audio books website is offering some genre materials in their free selections online at www.broadcast.com/books/SciFi/. The original "Gamera" movies have recently been released in widescreen video in the US, along with a slew of anime. The *X-Files* "conspiracy exposed" extravaganza will take place during February sweeps, along with Stephen King's *Storm of the Century*, and a new *Alice in Wonderland*. In other *X-Files* news, the "Flukeman" made a guest appearance in a comic strip called *Liberty Meadows* recently.

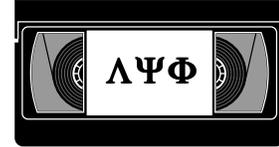
In TV news, a slew of series are set to premiere or begin new seasons in the coming months, many of them on the Sci-Fi Channel. *Earth: Final Conflict* has been renewed for two more seasons already, while *Dilbert* has been picked up for next year. In late breaking, post-meeting news, it appears that *Babylon 5: Crusade* may not appear on either TNT or the Sci-Fi Channel, and it may actually not go anywhere further than the 13 episodes already shot.

Finally, plans were made for a combined Video Party/monthly LSF Meeting on March 13th at Peter & Rob's (see story elsewhere in the newsletter for details). Barrett informed everyone that the *X-Files* has infiltrated his synagogue, as they're putting on a production of "The Kvetch Files" for Purim. We began talking about this year's Pride activities and determined that we need to update LSF's "Recommended Reading List" and start preparing for the event. More discussion will occur in March. Finally, new member Denice let everyone know that there's a great comic book forum on Compuserve that anyone interested in comics should check out!

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LSF Celebration on March 13th *** March LSF Meeting & "Video Madness" Party



That's right, folks! Lambda Sci-Fi turns 9 years old this month! (The first meeting was held on March 14, 1990.) And we're celebrating with a **joint LSF meeting AND "Video Madness" Party!** Come join the fun! Here are the details:

WHEN:

Saturday, March 13th - The monthly LSF meeting will begin at **3:00 PM**. The "Video Madness" Party will begin about an hour later and last until????

WHERE:

Our hosts for this celebratory meeting/party are Peter and Rob. They've graciously agreed to hold the event at their home: **1425 "S" St., NW, Washington, DC** - near Dupont Circle, on "S" between 15th and 14th Sts.

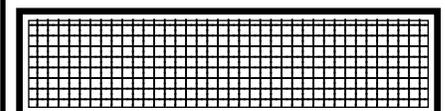
WHAT TO BRING:

The "rules" for the "Video Madness" Party remain the same as before. Bring along your favorite genre videos (science fiction, fantasy, and/or horror); attendees will vote on which videos to watch on the 2 (or 3?) different "tracks" of programming. The party will also include the traditional LSF pot-luck pig-out, so bring along something scrumptious to eat. We're not pre-assigning categories of what food to bring; everyone should just bring something from one (or more) of the following "basic food groups": appetizers (veggies, chips, etc.); a main course (enough to serve at least 4-5 people); dessert (of course!); non-alcoholic drinks (both diet & regular).

WHAT TO DO:

Plan on having a good time, eating far too much, and celebrating LSF's 9th anniversary with a bunch of nice people!

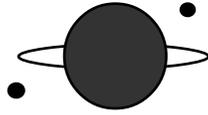
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Starrise at Corrivale

by Diane Duane

a short review by Carl Cipra



As you've probably heard by now, Diane Duane is going to be our Author Guest-of-Honor at Gaylaxicon '99. Because of that, I figured it might be nice to review one of her works for our newsletter. Well, as much as I enjoyed them, it's been *along* time since I've read her "Door into" novels - and I've *never* read any of her "Star Trek" or young adult "Wizard" novels. Fortunately, she's got a new work out - *Starrise at Corrivale* - and I just finished reading it.

Starrise at Corrivale is the first volume of a projected trilogy. Book #2, *Storm at Eldala*, is due out any time now; and the concluding novel, *Nightfall at Algemron*, should be on the stands just before Gaylaxicon '99. The trilogy is set in the universe of TSR's "Star*Drive" role-playing game, which worried me at first. I'm not a big fan of game-related fiction (or of media-related fiction, for that matter). As it turns out, my worries were groundless. I found *Starrise at Corrivale* to be a well-written, enjoyable space opera. (And I do love well-written space operas!)

Interstellar economics and politics, unresolved inter-species relations, and the cold-blooded machinations of mega-corporation VoidCorp are combining to bring increasing unrest to the galactic frontier region known as "The Verge" - particularly to the Thalassa and Corrivale systems. The warring factions of the Thalassa system are wrangling through the tense final stages of peace talks that will hopefully bring an end to a generations-long conflict. Gabriel Connor, a young lieutenant in the Concord

Marines, is attached to the Concord Ambassador who is maneuvering the Thalassan politicians through the intricate, exasperating process of negotiations. When the ambassador and most of her staff are killed in a shuttle accident, Connor is wrongly accused of having engineered their deaths. Although a local Thalassan court does not convict Connor of this crime (with an indeterminate vote of "no resolution"), he is expelled from the Concord Marines and effectively exiled from Concord-controlled space. Now - with the help of Enda, a little *fraal* alien whose motives are unclear to him - Connor must look for some way to find out who set him up, to clear his name, and - ultimately - to preserve civilized society in The Verge. Meanwhile, shadowy forces are maneuvering around Connor and Enda, attempting to eliminate the threat they pose to some far-reaching, nefarious plan. What will happen next? Stay tuned...

Starrise at Corrivale reads well; and the ending satisfied me, even though it obviously leaves certain plot strands unresolved so they can be dealt with in the next two volumes of the trilogy. The various alien races and human societies are well-conceived; I can only assume that Ms. Duane has used her considerable talents to flesh out any background material derived from the "Star*Drive" RPG sources. As I said, I enjoy well-written space opera; and if you do, too, then I think you'll also enjoy *Starrise at Corrivale*. (OK, book #2, where are you?)

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Lammy Nominees

continued from page 1

there were a few other nominations of note for LSF'ers. Nicola Griffith's latest novel, *The Blue Place* (an erotic lesbian noir thriller), received a nomination in the Lesbian Mystery category. Nicola seems to have a touch of gold when it comes to the Lammies. She's garnered two nomina-

tions this year to go with her three previous nominations. If she holds true to form (having won all her previous nominations), she'll take home two more Lammies this year. And Francesca Lia Block, author of the "Weetzie-Bat" novels, garnered a nomination in the Children's category for *I Was A Teenage Fairy*.

Lammy winners will be announced earlier than usual this year -- in (continued on page 4)



Spectrum Awards

continued from page 1

specifically from both a genre perspective and gay perspective. With the new awards, the Gaylactic Network hopes to encourage professional authors and artists to include positive gay characters and themes in their works. In addition to encouraging genre professionals to include gays in their speculative visions, we also hope the awards will help spread the word within the gay community that there are some exceptional works to be found in the speculative fiction genre.

The Spectrum Awards will be juried awards, with winners chosen by a small volunteer panel from a list of nominees gathered through Network events, genre conventions, the internet, and word-of-mouth. Works originally released in a given calendar year are eligible for the following year's awards. Regular awards will be presented annually in two categories: Best Novel, and Best Other Work. A special People's Choice Award will be given to the single work receiving the most nominations in a given year. Finally, to honor works released prior to the creation of the award, a special Hall of Fame Award will be given each year, with any work released prior to 1998 being eligible. The first-ever Gaylactic Network Spectrum Awards will be presented at Gaylaxicon: 1999 in Washington, DC in October, 1999.

Publicity for the awards has already begun; and we've already received some tremendous media coverage. A story announcing the creation of the awards was highlighted on the SF Newswire and SF Weekly (both run through the Sci-Fi Channel's website). In fact, the Gaylactic Network and the awards were mentioned in a headline on the Sci-Fi Channel's home page for about 48 hours! In addition, *Locus* magazine's website has already posted the story. We're hoping additional genre news media hits will occur in the coming months. Information regarding the Spectrum Awards, including an online nomination form, is available on the Spectrum Awards website:

<http://www.lambdasf.org/spectrum/>
or by writing to Spectrum Awards c/o LambdaSci-Fi.

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The 100 Best Horror Films

by Joseph Parra



[Ed. Note: Whew! Wha'hoppen?! It's been ages since we ran the other two installments of this series - Fantasy & Science Fiction! At long last, however, here's the third and final installment! Sorry for the delay!]

Lights out, my lovelies! It's time to list frightening(?) films about things - and people - who should be locked up out of harm's way.... Hey! Put me down! Put me down! Whew! That was close!

As a reminder, I've annotated some films with a date; this is to differentiate them from other films/versions with the same title that I don't feel qualify for the "best of" list.



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|---|--|--|
| <p><i>Abbott & Costello Meet Frankenstein</i></p> <p><i>The Abominable Dr. Phibes</i></p> <p><i>Arsenic and Old Lace</i></p> <p><i>The Beast With 5 Fingers</i></p> <p><i>The Birds</i></p> <p><i>The Black Cat</i> (1934)</p> <p><i>Black Friday</i></p> <p><i>Black Sunday</i> (1960)</p> <p><i>Blithe Spirit</i></p> <p><i>The Blob</i> (1958)</p> <p><i>Bluebeard</i> (1944)</p> <p><i>The Body Snatcher</i> (1945)</p> <p><i>The Bride of Frankenstein</i></p> <p><i>Burn, Witch, Burn</i></p> <p><i>The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari</i></p> <p><i>The Cat and the Canary</i> (1927)</p> <p><i>The Cat People</i> (1942)</p> <p><i>The Creature from the Black Lagoon</i></p> <p><i>The Curse of Frankenstein</i></p> <p><i>Curse of the Demon</i></p> <p><i>Curse of the Werewolf</i></p> <p><i>Dante's Inferno</i> (1935)</p> <p><i>Dark Eyes of London,</i>
aka <i>The Human Monster</i></p> <p><i>Dark Forces</i></p> <p><i>Dead of Night</i></p> <p><i>The Devil Doll</i> (1936)</p> <p><i>The Devil Rides Out</i></p> <p><i>A Double Life</i></p> <p><i>Dracula</i> (1931)</p> <p><i>Dracula's Daughter</i></p> <p><i>Dr. Cyclops</i></p> <p><i>Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde</i> (1920 & 1932)</p> <p><i>Dr. X</i></p> <p><i>The Exorcist</i></p> | <p><i>The Fly</i> (1958)</p> <p><i>Frankenstein</i> (1931)</p> <p><i>Freaks</i></p> <p><i>Gaslight</i></p> <p><i>Ghostbusters</i></p> <p><i>The Ghoul</i> (1933)</p> <p><i>Halloween</i></p> <p><i>Hangover Square</i></p> <p><i>The Haunting</i></p> <p><i>Horror Hotel</i></p> <p><i>The Horror of Dracula</i></p> <p><i>Horror of the Black Museum</i></p> <p><i>The Hound of the Baskervilles</i> (1939)</p> <p><i>The House of Usher</i></p> <p><i>House of Wax</i></p> <p><i>The Howling</i></p> <p><i>The Hunchback of Notre Dame</i>
(1923 & 1939)</p> <p><i>Hush, Hush, Sweet Charlotte</i></p> <p><i>The Innocents</i></p> <p><i>In the Mouth of Madness</i></p> <p><i>The Invisible Man</i> (1933)</p> <p><i>Island of Lost Souls</i></p> <p><i>I Walked With a Zombie</i></p> <p><i>Jaws</i></p> <p><i>King Kong</i></p> <p><i>The Lodger</i></p> <p><i>The Mask of Fu Manchu</i></p> <p><i>The Mummy</i> (1932)</p> <p><i>The Mystery of Edwin Drood</i></p> <p><i>Mystery of the Wax Museum</i></p> <p><i>The Naked Jungle</i></p> <p><i>A Nightmare on Elm Street</i></p> <p><i>Night Must Fall</i></p> | <p><i>Night of the Living Dead</i> (1968)</p> <p><i>The Night Stalker</i></p> <p><i>Nosferatu</i></p> <p><i>The Old Dark House</i></p> <p><i>The Omen</i></p> <p><i>Phantom Lady</i></p> <p><i>Phantom of the Opera</i> (1925)</p> <p><i>The Picture of Dorian Gray</i> (1945)</p> <p><i>The Pit and the Pendulum</i> (1961)</p> <p><i>Poltergeist</i></p> <p><i>Psycho</i></p> <p><i>Return of the Vampire</i></p> <p><i>Rosemary's Baby</i></p> <p><i>Seven Footprints to Satan</i></p> <p><i>The Seventh Victim</i></p> <p><i>Silence of the Lambs</i></p> <p><i>Something Wicked This Way Comes</i></p> <p><i>Son of Frankenstein</i></p> <p><i>Spellbound</i></p> <p><i>Sunset Boulevard</i></p> <p><i>Svengali</i> (1931)</p> <p><i>Tenebrae</i></p> <p><i>Texas Chainsaw Massacre</i></p> <p><i>Theatre of Blood</i></p> <p><i>Topper</i></p> <p><i>Tower of London</i> (1939)</p> <p><i>The Unholy Three</i> (1930)</p> <p><i>The Uninvited</i></p> <p><i>The Walking Dead</i></p> <p><i>Whatever Happened to Baby Jane?</i>
(1962)</p> <p><i>White Zombie</i></p> <p><i>The Wolf Man</i></p> <p><i>Young Frankenstein</i></p> |
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Lammy Nominees

continued from page 3

late April, 1999. Congratulations to all of the nominees, especially to longtime friends of the Gaylactic Network Stephen Pagel, Cecilia Tan, and Lawrence Schimel!

[Ed. Note: There's one more Lammy nominee I'd also like to mention. Another nominee in the Lesbian



Mystery category is Sarah Dreher's latest "Stoner McTavish" novel, *Shaman's Moon*. Although it's been nominated as a mystery, this novel contains a very heavy dose of spiritualism, fantasy, and (as the title implies) shamanism.]

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Never say
there is nothing beautiful
in the world anymore.
There is always something
to make you wonder,
in the shape of a leaf,
the trembling of a tree.

-- Albert Schweitzer --



“Chimera” -- a *ST:DS9* episode
by Carl Cipra



Think back... Remember that *ST:TNG* episode entitled “The Outcast”? It was the episode where Ryker fell in love with Soren, a member of the genderless J’naii. Remember the big hoopla as to whether “The Outcast” was Paramount/*Star Trek*’s way of addressing “gay issues” or whether it was just a “cop-out”? At best, I think “The Outcast” could be considered an allegory on the topic of “sexual tolerance” - although, as a gay man, I certainly felt that a lot of the plot and dialogue “rang true” as far as specifically gay issues are concerned.

So, you ask, where am I going with this little jaunt down Memory Lane? Well, I think the folks at Paramount/*Star Trek* have done it again - this time via their *Deep Space 9* series. I submit for your consideration the *ST:DS9* episode “Chimera” (aired 2/18/99, on DC’s Channel 20).

While returning to DS9 from an away mission, Odo and Miles O’Brien come across Laas, a non-Dominion Changeling, and take him back to DS9 with them. Laas is one of “the Hundred,” a group of young changelings (like Odo) sent out over the centuries to grow up among and learn about other species (eventually reporting back to the Dominion with what they’ve learned).

The bulk of the episode revolves around the relationship between Odo and Laas. Odo is presented with the opportunity to interact with another Changeling who’s not trying to suborn him into working for the Dominion; and there certainly seems to be a lot that Laas can teach him about what a metamorph can do. Laas, on the other hand, has never met another Changeling before; he’s enthralled by the experience of Linking with Odo and wants to find the rest of “the Hundred” so they can form a separate Changeling society somewhere.

I found “Chimera” to be a fascinating, powerful episode - a much better exploration of the “alternate sexuality” experience than *ST:TNG*’s “The Outcast.” I also think that “Chimera” addresses aspects of the gay life experience more directly than “The Outcast” does. I found “Chimera” to be a clear allegory for the

opposing positions of “outwardly conforming to Straight society” versus “living the openly gay lifestyle.” OK, I grant you that “Chimera” *could* simply be an exploration of “the difficult position of the minority/Other within a dominant background culture” and that my own personal gay perspective has colored my interpretation of that theme - but I just don’t think so. I think the fact that Laas’ chosen humanoid form is always outwardly male, even when he Links with Odo, certainly lends more credence to a “gay” interpretation for this episode. Unless I’m mistaken, all Odo’s *other* on-screen Link-partners have been “female” in form; and “Linking” has been described as the Changeling version of interpersonal communion, affection, “recreational sex,” etc. all rolled into one. (By the way, I consider Odo’s on-screen Links with Laas to be some of the most overtly “sexual” scenes in all of the *Star Trek* franchises. Possibly the only rival, to my mind, would be Deanna Troi’s demonstration, during a *ST:TNG* episode, of how to eat a chocolate sundae. And, now that I think about it, what does that say about *me*?)

And then there’s the dialogue in “Chimera.” Consider some of the following exchanges:

Odo: “You don’t much care for humanoids.”

Laas: “I know from experience *they* don’t much care for Changelings.”

* *

Odo: “We’re Changelings. We can be like them [humanoids] when we choose.”

Laas: “I choose to be like them as little as possible. That’s where we differ.”

* *

Laas (after Linking with Odo): “For the first time in my life I understand how I was meant to exist. You’ve given up a great deal to remain here.”

Odo: “Yes.”

And then there’s the following longer exchange, as Odo and Laas are walking through the Promenade. I think it’s really significant.

Laas: “Enough talk. Link with me.”

Odo: “Here?”

Laas: “Why not?”

Odo: “I don’t think that’s a good idea.”

Laas: “Are you embarrassed?”

Odo: “No.”

Laas: “You don’t want to do *anything* to remind them that you’re not truly a humanoid.”

Odo: “I don’t go out of my way to point it out - no.”

Laas: “Why not? Are you afraid they will reject you?”

Odo: “I don’t like to confront people with something that might make them uncomfortable.”

Laas: “So you deny your true nature in order to fit in.”

Odo: “You’re reading too much into it.”

Does any of that sound familiar? Have you ever disagreed over the appropriateness of PDA’s? I almost expected Laas to say: “We’re Changelings; we’re here; get used to it!” I was also inescapably reminded of a similar story in an episode of *Ellen*. (Ellen won’t hold hands in a theater lobby with her new girlfriend but *will* hold hands with her after the lights go down and the movie begins. The girlfriend’s young daughter is offended and later confronts Ellen about whether she’s “embarrassed to be a lesbian” or “ashamed of my mother.”)

If you haven’t yet seen “Chimera,” then by all means try to catch it in reruns (or borrow somebody’s videotape). No, I agree that it’s not “the gay episode” that many would like to see; and the ending [SPOILER ALERT!] naturally has Odo reject Laas’ offers and remain on DS9 with Kira -- but, to my mind, this episode sure as heck does a nice job of exploring issues of interest to our gay culture.

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All life is an experiment.
The more experiments
you make the better.

-- Ralph Waldo Emerson --

*** * INFORMATION ABOUT LAMBDA SCI-FI: DC AREA GAYLAXIANS * ***

Lambda Sci-Fi is a Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Horror fan club for Gay people and their friends. Annual membership fees are \$15, for which you will receive this monthly newsletter and a membership directory. Newsletter submissions are always welcome.

Meetings are usually held on the second Sunday of each month at a private residence. **But the March meeting will be held on Saturday, March 13th**, at Rob-and-Peter's house: 1425 "S" St., NW (near Dupont Circle) - **3:00 PM** (followed by a video party and potluck dinner). See the article on page 2 for more information on this event. Hope to see you there!

Lambda Sci-Fi: DC Area Gaylaxians is an affiliate of the Gaylactic Network, an international organization for gay people and their friends who are interested in science-fiction and fantasy.



Con Calendar

by Carl, Peter, and James



March 5-7, 1999 **VULKON-BALTIMORE**. Sheraton Baltimore North (Baltimore, MD). Guests: Marina Sirtis ("Deanna Troi"), Dirk Benedict ("Lt. Starbuck" of *Battlestar Galactica*), Joshua Cox ("David Corwin" of *Babylon 5*). Membership: \$20 per day. E-mail: joemotes@aol.com Website: www.scifinetwork.com/startrek/

April 2-4, 1999 **BALTICON 33**. Baltimore Omni Inner Harbor Hotel (Baltimore, MD). GoH: David Weber; Artist GoH: Jennifer Weyland. Hotel rates: \$109 (sgl - quad); call hotel for res. (410-752-1100). Membership: \$40 until 3/13/99, \$45 at the door. Make checks payable to "Balticon 33" and send to: Balticon 33, P.O. Box 686, Baltimore, MD 21203 E-mail: bsfs@balticon.org Website: http://www.balticon.org

July 2-4, 1999 **OTAKON 1999**. Baltimore Convention Center, Hyatt Regency Baltimore, Sheraton Inner Harbor (Baltimore, MD). "The premier anime convention experience!" Hotel rates (if made before 6/1/99): Hyatt Regency Balt. (\$101/nite, up to quad), Sheraton Inner Harbor (\$99/nite, up to quad) - *hotel rates much higher if res. made after 6/1/99*. Membership rates: before 4/2/99, \$35; \$40 from 4/3 to 5/28/99; \$45 from 5/29 and at the door (daily membership rates available at the door). Make checks payable to "OTAKON" and send to: OTAKON Registration, 661A Waupelani Dr., State College, PA 16801. E-mail: info@otakon.com Website: www.otakon.com

August 6-8, 1999 **MONSTER RALLY '99: First Annual World Horror Film Convention**. Crystal City Hyatt (Arlington, VA). Guests: Christopher Lee, Forrest J Ackerman, Zacherley, Elena Verdugo, and more. Hotel rates: \$105/night (sgl or dbl). Membership: \$40. Make checks payable to "FANEX" and send to: FANEX, c/o John Stell, 12118 Little Patuxant Pkwy, Apt. J, Columbia, MD 21044. For more info, call (410) 665-1198, or checks out the websites at: FANEX.com or, Chillerttheatre.com

August 26-29, 1999 **CONUCOPIA: NASFiC 1999** (since WorldCon is in Australia). Anaheim Marriott (Anaheim, CA). GoH: Jerry Pournelle; Editor GoH: Ellen Datlow. Membership: \$100 after 12/31/98. Make checks payable to "SCIFI" or "Conucopia" and send to: Conucopia, c/o SCIFI, PO Box 8442, Van Nuys, CA 91409. For more info: 99.nasfic.org or, website: www.99.nasfic.org

October 8-11, 1999 **GAYLAXICON 1999: THE 10TH GAYLAXICON**. Washington, DC. Guest of Honor: Diane Duane; Artist GoH: Nancy Janda. Membership: \$50 through Aug. 1, 1999; \$60 at the door. (No mail-in registrations after Sept. 1, 1999.) Make checks payable to "Gaylaxicon 1999" and send to: Gaylaxicon 1999, c/o Lambda Sci-Fi, PO Box 656, Washington, DC 20044. For more information, call 202/232-3141.

Send e-mail to: info@lambdasf.org Also check out: http://www.lambdasf.org/gaylaxicon1999/

May 26-29, 2000 **COSTUMECON 18**. The Sheraton Hartford (Hartford, Conn.). "All the usual events of a CostumeCon - masquerades, a fashion folio and show, doll contest, dealers' room, costume exhibits, and strong programming oriented toward hands-on workshops." Membership: \$60 thru 8/31/99; \$70 from 9/1/99 thru 4/23/00; \$80 at the door. Make checks payable to "CostumeCon 18" and send to: CostumeCon 18, 11 Winter Street, Amesbury, MA 01913-1515. E-mail at: info@cc2000.org Website: www.cc2000.org