



PO Box 656, Washington, DC 20044 - (202) 232-3141 - Issue #143 - Feb. 2002

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### LSF Mid-Winter "Video Madness" Party



When: February 16, 2002, 3:00 PM

Where: 1425 S Street NW, Washington, DC

What to Bring: As with all of the LSF "Video Madness" parties, attendees should bring food to share (main dish, side dish, dessert, etc.) and/or drinks (non-alcoholic) to share and (of course) their favorite genre films. Attendees will vote on what to watch on a couple of screens. There will also be a "quiet talk" and/or "gaming" room. (So if you want to play cards or something, make sure to bring that along, too.)

#### Metro Directions:

Closest Metro Stop: Take Metro to the "U" Street-Cardozo stop (Green Line). Exit Metro on the 13th Street side of station. When you come up the escalator, you'll be on "U" Street, facing 13th Street. There will be a Rite Aid drug store in front of you. Cross 13th Street toward the Rite Aid. Follow "U" Street to 14th Street. There will be a McDonald's at 14th Street. Cross 14th Street toward the McDonald's. Turn left in front of the McDonald's. Follow 14th Street for two full blocks. When you cross "T" Street,

you'll pass a church which looks like a warehouse. When you cross Swann Street (which is between "T" and "S" Streets) you'll pass a 24-hour laundry. At S Street hang a right. (If you cross "S" Street and pass a small used car lot, you've gone too far.) You'll pass the Whitman Walker Clinic and then an alley. We're the seventh row house after the alley, 1425 "S" Street, NW. If you get lost, give us a call at 202-483-6369.

Alternative Metro Stop: Take Metro to the Dupont Circle stop (Red Line). Exit the Metro on the "Q" Street side of the station. At the top of the escalator, hang a right on "Q" Street. Follow "Q" Street and pass a liquor store on your right and a Wrap Works sandwich shop on your left. Travel five blocks, passing the Raku Asian restaurant at 19th Street, a couple of large apartment buildings at 18th Street (you'll also cross New Hampshire at a diagonal), a Trios Pizza restaurant at 17th Street, the Jewish Community Center at 16th Street, and row houses at 15th Street. Cross 15th Street and hang a left. Travel two blocks on 15th Street to "S" Street. Cross "S" Street and hang a right. We're two-thirds of the way down the Street at 1425 "S" Street, NW. If you get lost, give us a call at 202-483-6369.

#### For More Information:

Call 202-483-6369, or e-mail to Peter or Rob:

[PeterKnapp@wavelengthsonline.com](mailto:PeterKnapp@wavelengthsonline.com)

[rgates@wavelengthsonline.com](mailto:rgates@wavelengthsonline.com)

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### Feb. 10th LSF Meeting

The next Lambda Sci-Fi meeting will be held at James Crutchfield's apartment (1414 17th St., NW, #413) on Sunday, February 10th. The business meeting will begin at 1:30 PM; and the social meeting will begin at 2:00 PM. Please bring some munchies or soft drinks, if you can.

See you there!

### Upcoming LSF Events

**Feb. 10th** - monthly LSF meeting.

**Feb. 16th** - Mid-Winter "Video Madness" Party at Peter/Rob's (starts 3 PM).

**Feb. 28th** - LSF Book Discussion Group (*Aftermath*, by Charles Sheffield).



With time and patience,  
the leaf of  
the mulberry tree  
becomes silk.

--- Chinese proverb ---

excerpted from *Being Zen*  
by Herve Desbois  
(MV Publishing, 2001)

### WHAT'S INSIDE?

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## Minutes of the January 13th LSF Meeting

from Scott

During the business portion of the meeting, Rob expressed interest in revisiting the issue of electronic newsletter distribution. Questions raised by meeting attendees included: Should the LSF membership dues then be reduced, since much of the dues are earmarked for postage? Should LSF members who elect to receive the newsletter electronically pay a lower membership fee? Barrett suggested segregating club membership dues from the newsletter.

Peter arrived later in the afternoon (after many people had left) and distributed the hot-off-the-presses **13th edition (January 2002) LSF membership directory**. The front cover sports artwork by Chris Browning. [Ed. Note: Any member not present for this distribution will receive his/her copy by mail.]

Carl, Nan, and Kay will be attending the Arisia con later this month. Carl will thank the Arisia board for its generous \$1600 contribution. Also, Rob commented that he was pleased to see some possible GLBT panel content at Arisia.

**The social portion of the meeting** began with a name circle - some new faces today!

Mike P. commented that he is still waiting to receive confirmation from his ConJose registration.

Rob mentioned the upcoming January 31st **LSF Book Club discussion** of Keith Hartman's *Gumshoe Gorilla*. The next book to be discussed after that will be Charles Sheffield's hefty *Aftermath*, to be discussed on February 28th.

Rob passed around the current newsletter from Collage, an organization that LSF has contributed to (in the name of a former, dearly-departed LSF member).

Rob advised about the upcoming video party will be at his/Peter's home, beginning at 3:00 PM on Saturday, February 16th.

Mike C., a *Scarlet Street* devotee, remarked about erotic thrillers, including some GLBT thrillers. He also said that he likes the ghost in *The Devil's Backbone*. ("Beautifully realized!")

The release of the *Lord of the*



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*Rings* DVD is scheduled for August 2002. The director's cut for *LOTR* will be the same length as the movie, so there's no extra footage to drool over in the director's cut. Sorry! Even Peter's mother enjoyed *LOTR*.

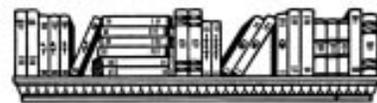
Rob will supply the URL for the ostensibly hilarious "secret diaries" of various *LOTR* characters. No one should be surprised that slash fiction has arisen for both *LOTR* and *Harry Potter*. <sigh>

The trailer for the *Spiderman* movie, without the images of the World Trade Center, has been well received. Wayne mentioned that *Metropolis* (the classic movie, not Superman's adopted home city, silly) is coming to the East Gallery. It was suggested that people dash to see *Imposter* in the theaters, since it is likely to be ending very soon.

It's time for the **annual Lambda Sci Fi book exchange!** Always fun, especially with first-time visitors. Here's who gave what to whom:

- *Enterprise: By The Book*, given to Mike P. by James
- Thomas T. Thomas' *Crygander*, given to Carl by Meisha
- Jane Linsgold's *Changer*, given to Mandy by Helggi
- *Dark Matter*, edited by Sheree Thomas, given to Scott by Barrett
- a volume from Harry Turtledove's "World War" series, given to Meisha by Dan
- Marion Zimmer Bradley's *Mists of Avalon* (plus *Dune*, a Dr. Who video, a *Lost in Space* video & a bunch of other stuff), given to Larry by Scott
- one of Storm Constantine's "Wraethuu" novels, given to James by Mandy
- Philip Pullman's *Golden Compass*, given to Randy by Peter
- Martin Cruz Smith's *Gorky Park* and Len Deighton's *SS-GB* and Brendan DuBois' *Resurrection Day*, given to Rob by Carl
- Orson Scott Card's *Ender's Game*, given to distant Chris B. by Mike P.

## The LSF Book Discussion Group



If you're interested in lively discussions of F&SF books (with an emphasis on elements of interest to the LBGT community), we invite you to join the LSF Book Discussion Group. Each month, we conduct fascinating roundtable discussions of works by significant F&SF authors.

The LSF Book Discussion Group generally meets on the 4th Thursday of every month, starting at 7:00 PM. The next meeting will be Feb. 28 (at Peter & Rob's house, 1425 "S" St., NW -- for directions or more details, call 202-483-6369).

Here's the schedule for the next couple of months:

--- **Feb. 28th** - *Aftermath*, by Charles Sheffield; facilitator: Bob A. **ΛΨΦ**

- Terry Windling's *White As Snow*, given to Barrett by Peter
- Jonathan Carroll's *Land of Glass* and *Bless Me Ultima*, given to Dan by Mike C.
- a boxed set of alllllllllll the *Star Trek* movies, given to Julian by distant Chris B.
- *Night of Dracula* and *Frankenstein: The Legacy*, given to Helggi by Larry
- *Blade Runner* DVD, given to Peter by Randy
- *Fall of Hyperion*, given to John by umm...errr....
- *Predictions By 30 Great Minds*, given to Michael by John
- Mike C. selected the "extra" gift — *Star Trek: The Motion Picture* video

Finally: Did you know that Anne Rice's sister, Alice Borchardt, is an author? Dan raved on about her books. Rob commented that Laurel Hamilton's *Narcissus in Chains* features lots' a S&M sex with some plot thrown in. *Relic Hunter* (the syndicated TV series) has high "eye candy" value. This week offers new episodes of both *Enterprise* and *Smallville*.

See you next month!

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***The Wayfarer Redemption*  
by Sara Douglass**

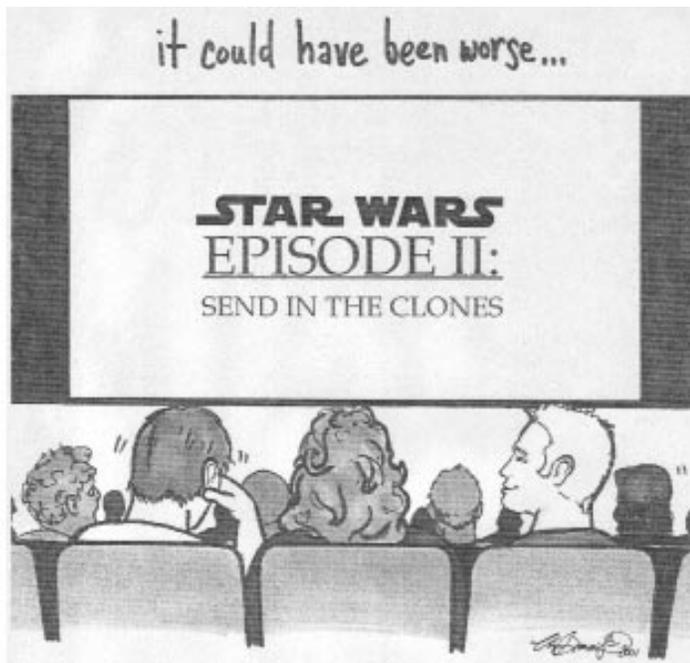
(NY: TOR, 2001)  
a review by Colleen R. Cahill

Epic fantasies have been a mainstay of literature for centuries. From Gilgamesh to Robert Jordan's tomes, the story of good versus evil never grows old, although sometimes it can be overworked. Not so with *The Wayfarer Redemption*, by Australian author Sara Douglass. Book One of this series of the same name has heroes with destinies, terrible demons, ancient prophecies, betrayal, love and all the underpinnings of a great saga. But more important is that the plot, the landscapes, and the characters are not predictable; and this makes the book captivating.



The ancient Prophecy of the Destroyer foresees that an evil will come from the North to wipe out all life. And this comes true in the form of Gorgreal, a monster so filled with hate that he ate way out of his mother's womb. His icy demons seem matchless, as they spread across the land. Facing them are three races: the Avar and the Icratii are forbidden people to the Acharites, who exiled the former to the mountains and forests centuries ago. From the Achar a hero arises: Axis, who is smart, brave and handsome. He is also not so perfect as to be uninteresting: although the son of a princess, his illegitimate birth denies him many of the advantages of nobility and he is frustrated in his ambitions. This makes him a wonderful star-crossed lover to his half-brother's beautiful

**A Cartoon by Chris Browning**



fiancee. Lady Faraday, the fiancee in question, seems a damsel-in-distress, but she slowly discovers she is the prophesied Tree Friend and has gained strange powers. To win the war, Axis must find his father and bring the races together or all will be destroyed.

The evolution of the characters is a great strength of this work. Douglass delightfully turns the table on us, such as when she turns the friendly and sunny guardsman Timozel into a dark and driven man. Some of the characters raise questions: Azhure, a sympathetic young woman who is abused by her father, seems a village girl with some spunk and a great deal of heart. But her disdain of her own village and longing to join one of the forbidden peoples makes her an interesting puzzle: is she good or bad? Combine the vivid personalities with the dramatic battle scenes, glorious landscapes, and hints of dark secrets, and the brilliance of this work shines through. Just as with Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings*, this is a series to drop into, explore, and absorb the atmosphere.

This work was originally published in Australia in 1995, and the second volume won the Aurealis Award in 1996 for Best Fantasy Novel. I must

**Ye Olde Editor's Corner**

No, you're not imagining things: for the first time in over a decade, this newsletter is only 4 pages long. There are a couple of reasons for this. (1) Once again, I haven't exactly received a ton of submissions -- a disturbing trend of late. (Many thanks for the wonderful new cartoons from Chris Browning and the fascinating book review from Colleen Cahill -- this issue would have been even *shorter* without them!) (2) I'm headed off on assignment to California (your tax dollars at work) and haven't had time to fill out the issue with a book review of my own. As the saying goes, a word to the wise should be sufficient: *newsletter submissions are cheerfully accepted.*

And Ye Old Editor's kudos to Rob for the cute & wacked-out alphabetic poem he wrote for the latest issue of the LSF Directory. It's a gas! Unfortunately, if you're not a member of LSF, you'll never get to read it. **ΛΨΦ**

admit that I have read the entire series and can say it is magical, intriguing, and has some wonderful plot twists. If you enjoy epic fantasy, try *The Wayfarer Redemption* and see if you do not agree.

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

**Lambda Sci-Fi: DC Area Gaylaxians** (LSF) is an organization for gay men, lesbians, bisexuals, and transgendered (GLBT) people, and their friends who are interested in science fiction, fantasy, horror and related genres in all forms (SF/F/H). LSF's primary goals are to have fun, to provide a community, and to:

- promote SF/F/H, with particular attention to materials of interest to GLBT people and their friends;
- provide forums for GLBT people and their friends to share their interest in SF/F/H;
- promote the presence of GLBT elements within SF/F/H and within fandom; and
- promote SF/F/H within the GLBT community.

Annual membership fees are \$20, 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. The next Lambda Sci-Fi meeting will be held on **Sunday, February 10th**, at James Crutchfield's home: 1414 17th St., NW, #413 (near DuPont Circle) - 1:30 PM for business meeting; 2:00 PM for social meeting. Please bring some munchies or soft drinks, if you can. 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 Rob



Feb. 15-17, 2002 **KATSUCON 8: THE CLASSICS**. Marriott Waterfront Hotel (Baltimore, MD). Guests include: Mark Rogers. Membership: \$50 at the door (sgl-day rates available). Make checks payable to "Katsucon Entertainment, Inc." and send to: Katsucon Entertainment, Inc., Attn: Pre-registration Dept., PO Box 222691, Chantilly, VA 20153-2691. Anime, cosplay, gaming convention. website: [www.katsucon.org](http://www.katsucon.org)

April 5-7, 2002 **JERSEYDEVILCON 2**. Sheraton Edison Hotel, Raritan Center (Edison, NJ). Fantasy GoH: Terry Pratchett. Membership: \$35 (until 3/7/02); \$40 thereafter & at door. Make checks payable to "JerseyDevilCon" and send to: JerseyDevilCon, PO Box 403, Metuchen, NJ 08840. website: <http://JerseyDevilCon.hypermart.net/Homepage.html>

May 24-27, 2002 **BALTICON 36**. Wyndham Inner Harbor Hotel (Baltimore, MD). Author GoH: Mark Rogers; Artist GoHs: Phil & Kaja Foglio; Filk GoH: The Boogie Knights. Hotel rooms: \$119/night + tax (sgl/dbl/tpl/quad). Membership: \$35 until 2/14/02; \$40 from 2/15 to 3/12; \$45 from 3/13 to 4/30; \$50 at the door. Make checks payable to "Balticon 36" and send to: Balticon 36, PO Box 686, Baltimore, MD 21203-0686. website: <http://www.balticon.org>

July 12-14, 2002 **ANTHROCON 2002**. Adams Mark Hotel (Philadelphia). Guests of Honor: Lianne Norman, Heather Bruton. Hotel rooms: \$99/night + tax (sgl/dbl/tpl/quad). Membership: \$35 until 2/28/02; \$40 until 6/15/02; \$45 at the door. Make checks payable to "Anthrocon" and send to: Anthrocon, Inc., PO Box 270, Devault, PA 19432-0270. website: <http://www.anthrocon.org>

July 12-14, 2002 **SHORE LEAVE 24**. Marriott's Hunt Valley Inn (Hunt Valley, MD). Guests: TBA. Membership: \$50 until 5/31/02 (\$60 at the door; daily rates available). Make checks payable to "Shore Leave" and send to: Shore Leave 24, PO Box 6809, Towson, MD 21285-6809 website: <http://www.shore-leave.com>

August 2-4, 2002 **DIVERSICON 10**. Hotel TBA (Minneapolis, MN). Guests of Honor: Steven Barnes & Tananarive Due. Membership: \$30, until 7/4/02; \$45 at the door. Make checks payable to: "Diversicon" and send to: Diversicon, PO Box 8036, Lake Street Stn., Minneapolis, MN 55408. "A gathering of fans, writers, and artists who recognize and appreciate diversity in speculative fiction and media, in the fan community, and in the world around us." For more information on Diversicon: [www.sfminnesota.com](http://www.sfminnesota.com)

Aug. 29 - Sept. 2, 2002 **CONJOSE (The 60th World Science Fiction Convention)**. McEnery Convention Center & surrounding hotels (San Jose, CA). Author GoH: Vernor Vinge; Artist GoH: David Cherry; Fan GoH: John & Bjo Trimble. Attending membership: \$180 until 7/31 (will go UP!). Make checks payable to "ConJose" and send to: ConJose, PO Box 61363, Sunnyvale, CA 94088-1363 (or: [reg@conjose.org](mailto:reg@conjose.org)). website: [www.conjose.org](http://www.conjose.org)