



# Lambda Sci-Fi DC Area Gaylaxians



PO Box 656, Washington, DC 20044



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## 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 LGBT 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, at Peter & Rob's home: 1425 "S" St., NW - for directions or more details, call 202-483-6369. The next meeting will be held on July 23rd.

Here are the details on the next several discussion meetings:

**July 23rd** - *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies*, by Jane Austin & Seth Grahame-Smith; moderator: Rob.

**Aug. 27th** - *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*, by Junot Diaz; moderator: TBA.

**Sept. 24th** - *Love and Rockets: Maggie the Mechanic* (graphic novel), by Jaime Hernandez; moderator: Greg (?)

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## Torchwood and Doctor Who Airdates

info passed along by Peter

The following information is according to:

<http://gallifreyone.com/news.php#newsitemEkuFIZypuFrQbBKval>

BBC America has announced that their new BBC America HD channel will launch in July, with the HD broadcast of *Torchwood: Children of Earth* and the latest *Doctor Who* special, *Planet of the Dead*. *Torchwood: Children of Earth* will air on BBC America HD and BBC America on five consecutive nights, beginning on Monday, July 20. *Planet of the Dead* will follow on Sunday, July 26. (As previously announced, the 2008 Christmas Special, *The Next Doctor*, aired on BBC America on Saturday, June 27.)

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## 2009 Lambda Literary Awards for LGBT Sci-Fi/Fantasy/Horror

info passed along by Carl

The 2009 Lambda Literary Awards (aka "Lammys") were announced at an awards ceremony in New York City on May 29th. The Lambda Literary Awards "seek to recognize excellence in the field of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender literature."

This year's Lammy winner in the LGBT Sci-Fi/Fantasy/Horror category is *Turnskin*, by Nicole Kimberling.

The other nominees in this category were:

- *The Archer's Heart*, by Astrid Amara
- *The Magician and the Fool*, by Barth Anderson
- *Wilde Stories 2008*, by Steve Berman
- *Sea, Swallow Me and Other Stories*, by Craig Gidney

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## July LSF Meeting

The next LSF meeting will be held on the **Sunday, July 12th**. The meeting will be held at James Crutchfield's apartment (1414 17th St. NW, #413), near Dupont Circle. The business meeting will begin (as usual) 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!

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**October 9 - 11, 2009**

### Location:

Doubletree Hotel Minneapolis-Park Place (Minneapolis, MN)

<http://www.gaylaxicon2009.org>

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**2009 Constellation Award  
Nominees**

info passed along via e-mail  
from Lady K'tallia

The Constellation Awards are a set of Canadian awards that are given annually for the best science fiction or fantasy television or film works of the previous year. The awards are distinguished from other similar Canadian awards in that nominees and winners are selected by the viewing public. The awards are organized by the TCON Promotional Society, a not-for-profit organization that also organizes the annual Polaris science fiction and fantasy convention held in Toronto. The first Constellation Awards were given at Polaris 21 (July 2007). The year's award-winners will be announced at Polaris 23, on Saturday, July 11, 2009.

The nominees for this year's Constellation Awards are:

**Best Male Performance in a 2008  
SF Television Episode**

- David Hewlett  
(*Stargate: Atlantis*, "The Shrine")
- David Tennant  
(*Doctor Who*, "Midnight")
- Jensen Ackles  
(*Supernatural*, "In the Beginning")
- John Noble  
(*Fringe*, "Pilot")
- Michael Hogan  
(*Battlestar Galactica*, "Revelations")
- Robin Dunne  
(*Sanctuary*, "Requiem")

**Best Female Performance in a 2008  
SF Television Episode**

- Allison Mack  
(*Smallville*, "Bride")
- Amanda Tapping  
(*Sanctuary*, "Requiem")
- Catherine Tate  
(*Doctor Who*, "Turn Left")
- Eve Myles  
(*Torchwood*, "Something Borrowed")
- Summer Glau  
(*Terminator: The Sarah Connor Chronicles*, "Allison from Palmdale")



**Best SF Television Series of 2008**

- Battlestar Galactica*
- Doctor Who*
- Sanctuary*
- Stargate: Atlantis*
- Supernatural*
- Terminator: The Sarah Connor Chronicles*

**Best Male Performance in a 2008  
SF Film, TV Movie, or Mini-Series**

- Heath Ledger  
(*The Dark Knight*)
- Neil Patrick Harris  
(*Dr. Horrible's Sing-Along Blog*)
- Richard Dean Anderson  
(*Stargate: Continuum*)
- Robert Downey Jr.  
(*Iron Man*)
- Ron Perlman  
(*Hellboy 2: The Golden Army*)

**Best Female Performance in a 2008  
SF Film, TV Movie, or Mini-Series**

- Amanda Tapping  
(*Stargate: Continuum*)
- Claudia Black  
(*Stargate: Continuum*)
- Gillian Anderson  
(*The X-Files: I Want to Believe*)
- Gwyneth Paltrow  
(*Iron Man*)
- Lina Leanderson  
(*Let the Right One In*)
- Rachel Bilson  
(*Jumper*)
- Selma Blair  
(*Hellboy 2: The Golden Army*)

**Best SF Film, TV Movie, or  
Mini-Series of 2008**

- The Dark Knight*
- Dr. Horrible's Sing-Along Blog*
- Iron Man*
- Let the Right One In*
- Stargate: Continuum*
- Wall-E*

**Best Technical Accomplishment in a  
2008 SF Film or  
Television Production**

- Murray Gold  
(the music in *Doctor Who*)
- Anthem Visual Effects  
(special effects in *Sanctuary*)
- Rainmaker Digital Pictures  
(special effects in  
*Stargate: Continuum*)
- Serge Ladouceur  
(cinematography in  
*Supernatural*, "Monster Movie")
- Pixar Animation Studios  
(animation in *Wall-E*)

**Best Overall 2008 SF Film or  
Television Script**

- Doctor Who*, "Silence in the Library"  
- written by Steven Moffat
- Stargate: Continuum*  
- written by Brad Wright
- Supernatural*, "In the Beginning"  
- written by Jeremy Carver
- Terminator: The Sarah Connor Chronicles*, "Queen's Gambit"  
- written by Natalie Chaidez
- Wall-E*  
- written by Andrew Stanton,  
Jim Reardon, and Pete Docter

**Outstanding Canadian Contribution to  
SF film or Television in 2008**

- Amanda Tapping  
(actress and producer)  
*Sanctuary*  
(series produced in Canada)
- Stargate* franchise  
(produced in Canada), including  
*Stargate: Atlantis* (series),  
*Stargate: Continuum* (film),  
and *Stargate: The Ark of Truth* (film)
- Supernatural*  
(series produced in Canada)

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**Minutes of the  
June 13th LSF Meeting**  
taken by Scott

[Ed. Note: This was a *very* short meeting – we were all more interested in getting the Pre-Pride Day Video Party started!]

LSF will host their annual booth at the Capital Pride festival tomorrow (June 14). Upcoming LSF Book Discussion Group meetings will feature the following books: *A Companion to Wolves* by Sarah Monette and Elizabeth Bear (June); *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* by Jane Austen and Seth Grahame-Smith (July); *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* by Junot Diaz (August).

“Children of Earth,” the latest from *Torchwood*, will be shown on BBC America in July. The new season of *Eureka* starts in July. *Vampire Diaries* starts in September. *Dollhouse* has been renewed, which has surprised some watchers. No surprise that the *Sarah Jane Chronicles* has been canceled.

NBC has picked up the post-apocalyptic-themed *Day One*. Here is a brief description: *Day One* is a very interesting-sounding post-apocalyptic story about a group of folks dealing with the end of the world as they know it, all from their California apartment complex. It has been described as a cross between *Cloverfield* and *Lost*.

The BBC TV series *Ashes to Ashes* was mentioned, which is a sequel to *Life on Mars*.

Then it was time to select genre movies to watch!

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**The length of a film  
should be directly  
related to the  
endurance of the  
human bladder.**

**-- Alfred Hitchcock --**

quoted in  
*The Mammoth Book of Zingers,  
Quips and One-Liners,*  
edited by Geoff Tiballs  
(Carroll & Graf Publishers, 2006)



**Dave Arneson**  
**1947 - 2009**

Fare thee well, Mr. Arneson. May flights of solars sing thee to thy rest.

Dave Arneson, co-creator of the original *Dungeons & Dragons* game, passed away on Tuesday evening, April 7th, after waging one final battle against cancer.

In 1969, when Dave Arneson and Gary Gygax first met at GenCon, both were dedicated tabletop wargamers, refighting historical battles with painted miniature armies and fleets. Their first collaboration (along with Mike Carr) was a set of rules for sailing-ship battles called *Don't Give Up the Ship!*

By the early 1970s, Dave's far-ranging interests led him to a unique concept in wargaming – a war-game where each model represented just one hero instead of many soldiers in an army. That idea in itself wasn't new; “skirmish-style” games had been around for years. What was new were the ideas that: the same heroes could be played in a series of games, learning and becoming more powerful with each battle; that their battles could be part of

larger adventures set in the types of fantastic worlds popular in sword-and-sorcery fiction; and, most importantly, that playing just one hero at a time was more exciting than controlling a whole army if that hero had a personality. In other words... roleplaying.

Dave could have used any set of rules to wage his early role-playing campaigns, which were set in his world of *Blackmoor*. For a time at least, he settled on *Chainmail*, written by Gary Gygax and Jeff Perren. It was a fortunate choice, because it brought him back into collaboration with Gary. They swapped ideas and articles, notes and charts, until eventually, the manuscript took on the shape that would become *Dungeons & Dragons* as published in 1974. Elements of Dave's earliest campaign – the very first roleplaying campaign – were published a year later in the *Blackmoor* supplement to *D&D*. *Blackmoor* contained yet another innovation – the first published *D&D* adventure, *Temple of the Frog*.

In later years, Dave published other RPGs (Adventures in Fantasy), started his own game-publishing company (Adventure Games) and computer game company (4D Interactive Systems, Inc.), taught classes in game design, and lectured on educational roleplaying. Whether you're a lifelong *D&D* player or a newcomer to RPGs, a traditional paper-and-pencil gamer or an online roleplayer, we all owe a great debt of thanks to Dave Arneson and his groundbreaking *Blackmoor* game.

(from e-mail from Larry Wile, 4/10)

**When the inventor of the drawing board  
messed things up, what did he go back to?**

**-- Bob Monkhouse --**

quoted in *The Mammoth Book of Zingers, Quips and One-Liners,*  
edited by Geoff Tiballs (Carroll & Graf Publishers, 2006)

**\*\*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 \$10, for which you will receive an e-mailed this monthly newsletter and a membership directory. (Hard copies of the newsletter cost an additional \$15 per year.) 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 the **Sunday, July 12th**, at James Crutchfield's apartment (1414 17th St. NW, #413), near Dupont Circle. 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. 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



July 10-12, 2009 **SHORE LEAVE 31**. Marriott's Hunt Valley Inn (Hunt Valley, MD). Guests: TBA. Membership: \$70 for the weekend; daily rates available. (Deadline for pre-registration: 6/15/2009.) Make checks payable to "Shore Leave" and send to: Shore Leave 31, PO Box 6809, Towson, MD 21285-6809.

E-mail: [information@shore-leave.com](mailto:information@shore-leave.com)

Website: <http://www.shore-leave.com>

August 6-10, 2009 **ANTICIPATION: THE 67TH WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION**. Palais des congrès de Montreal (Montreal, Quebec, Canada). GoHs: Neil Gaiman & Elisabeth Vonarburg; Artist GoH: Ralph Bakshi. Membership: \$195 until July 15 (higher after that and at the door).

Website: [www.anticipationsf.ca](http://www.anticipationsf.ca)

October 9-11, 2009 **GAYLAXICON 2009**. Doubletree Hotel Minneapolis - Park Place (Minneapolis, MN). GoHs: Margaret Weis, Andy Mangels, Lawrence Schimel. Membership: \$70 until 10/01/2009; \$80 at the door. Make checks payable to "Gaylaxicon 2009" and send to: Gaylaxicon 2009, P.O. Box 2412, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402

Website: [www.gaylaxicon2009](http://www.gaylaxicon2009)

Register on-line at: <http://www.gaylaxicon2009.org/index.php/registration>

October 16-18, 2009 **CAPCLAVE 2009**. Hilton Washington DC/Rockville (Rockville, MD). GoHs: Harry Turtledove (author), Sheila Williams (*Asimov's* editor). Membership: \$45 until July 1; \$55 from July 1 to Oct. 1; \$60 at the door. Make checks payable to "Capclave 2009" and send to: Capclave 2009 Registration, c/o Barry Newton, PO Box 53, Ashton, MD 20861

Website: [www.capclave.org](http://www.capclave.org)

November 20-22, 2009 **PHILCON 2009**. The Crowne Plaza Hotel (Cherry Hill, NJ). Principal Speaker: Catherine Asaro; Artist GoH: Frank Wu; Special Guest: L.A. Banks. Membership: \$50 until Aug. 31; \$55 from Sept. 1 to Oct. 31; \$60 at the door. "If you are able to, please use online registration, even if you're mailing in a check. Just select 'Other Payment Options,' then click on 'Pay by Check' when you've completed the form."

Website: <http://2009.philcon.org>

November 27-29, 2009 **DARKOVER GRAND COUNCIL MEETING XXXII**. The Crowne Plaza Baltimore (Timonium, MD). GoHs: Emma Bull and Will Shetterly; Special Guest: Katherine Kurtz; Musical GoH: Clam Chowder. Membership: \$45 until Nov. 1; \$50 thereafter and at the door. Make checks payable to "Armida Council" and send to: Armida Council, PO Box 7203, Silver Spring MD 20907

Website: <http://www.darkover.org>

