



Lambda Sci-Fi

DC Area Gaylaxians

(202) 232-3141 - Issue # 326 – May 2017

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The LSF Book Discussion Group



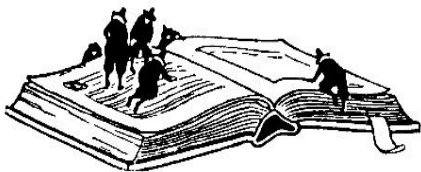
If you're interested in lively discussions of F&SF books (with an emphasis on elements of interest to the LGBT community), we invite you to join the LSF Book Discussion Group. Each month, we conduct fascinating round-table discussions of works by significant F&SF authors.

The LSF Book Discussion Group usually 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 book discussion will be held on May 25, 2017.

Here are the details for the next book discussion:

May 25 – *Lily and the Octopus*, by Steven Rowley (moderator: Bob A.).

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Millionaires in Space!

info passed along by Carl

On Feb. 27th, SpaceX (Elon Musk's space company) announced plans for a ground-breaking mission, flying two private citizens on a trip around the Moon in late 2018. The release stated: "They have already paid a significant deposit to do a moon mission." (If the experience of Richard Garriott is any indicator, it was probably a "significant" amount of money indeed. Garriott paid \$30 million to spend 12 days on the International Space Station in 2008.)

SpaceX's "Dragon 2" spacecraft will apparently launch from the same launch pad at the Kennedy Space Center used by the Apollo program. This flight, however, will not orbit the Moon like Apollo 8 did – instead, it'll fly close to the lunar surface ("for a spectacular photo op") and then use the Moon's gravity to slingshot itself back to Earth in a "free-return trajectory". (This is what Apollo 13 did after being crippled by an explosion.) The whole trip is planned to take about 6 or 7 days.



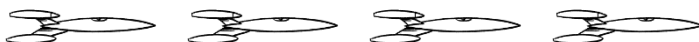
The names of the "space tourists" have not yet been announced, pending confirmation of health and fitness tests to be conducted; and initial training will begin later this year. Said Elon Musk: "There will be training for emergency procedures." (I should hope so, since they'll apparently be riding a "fully autonomous" version of the Dragon 2 spacecraft – no human pilot.) When reporters asked Musk about the mission's risks, he responded: "I think they're going in with their eyes open, knowing that there is some risk here. We're doing everything we can to minimize that risk, but it's not zero."

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<<<<< May 2017 LSF Meeting >>>>>

The next LSF meeting will be held on **Sunday, May 14th**. The meeting will be held at Peter and Rob's home, **1425 "S" Street NW, Washington, DC**. The meeting will begin at 1:30 and the "group watch" will begin at 3:00 PM. Hope to see you there!



What's Inside?

Page 2: Minutes of the April LSF Meeting; 2017 Hugo Finalists.

Page 4: Information About Lambda Sci-Fi: DC Area Gaylaxians and Con Calendar.



Minutes of the April LSF Meeting

taken by Scott

Rob reported that the 2017 Hugo 2017 nominations have been announced. The “dramatic” nominations include an episode of *Black Mirror*, a *Doctor Who* episode, and some *Game of Thrones* episodes. There appear to be a few Sad Puppies titles among the nominees. How much drama will there be at this year’s Hugo announcements in Helsinki?

LSF’s upcoming panel at Awesome Con is called “Beyond Labels: Finding Intersections in Fandom”. It was also reported that Geeks Out! has teamed up with Awesome Con to host a gay track called Pride Alley: a spotlight on queer authors, etc. LSF has paid for its table at this year’s DC Pride Festival in June. There will be an LSF Gaming Party on the day of the Pride Parade; and the LSF post-Pride event will occur two weeks after Pride.

Peter displayed his “bigger, blacker box” of *Cards Against Humanity*. Do you know about the Cryptozoology and Paranormal Society, headquartered in Alexandria VA? (UFO’s and Bigfoot... got it?) Peter passed around the latest issue of *Parsec* (from a Pittsburgh PA sci-fi group).

TV News: Karl likes *The People of Earth*, a comedy series about an alien abductee support group. Dan spoke favorably about *Dimension 404*, an anthology horror series reminiscent of *The Twilight Zone*. Teresa is enjoying *The Magicians*, and Rob loves *The Expanse!* The third and final season of *The Leftovers* is coming out soon. The new *Twin Peaks* series is due out in May.

Film News: *Ghost in the Shell* has had mixed reviews. Rob was unimpressed and claimed that the thematic core of the anime was gutted in the movie. (Don’t look for a sequel.) According to Dan, M. Night Shyamalan’s latest movie *Split* has a genre reference at the end. Mi-

chael Crichton’s novel *Micro* is being made into a movie. Teresa says she wants to see *Colossal*, a new sci-fi comedy movie starring Anne Hathaway. (The giant monster on the other side of the world moves whenever Anne Hathaway’s character moves.)

Upcoming LSF book discussions: *Air* by Geoff Ryman (April); *Lily and the Octopus* by Steven Rowley (May).

Finally, we watched the first episode of *Archer: Dreamland*, followed by two episodes of *Powerless*. (We noticed that the word “taint” was used in a *Powerless* episode.)

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There are things which cannot be taught in ten easy lessons, not popularized for the masses; they take years of skull sweat. This be treason in an age when ignorance has come into its own and one’s man’s opinion is as good as another’s.



Robert A. Heinlein
Glory Road (1963)

quoted in
*Science Fiction Quotations: From the
Inner Mind to the Outer Limits*
edited by Gary Westfahl
(Yale University Press, 2005)

2017 Hugo Finalists info passed along by Carl

Finalists for the 2017 Hugo Awards were announced on-line on April 4th. The Awards will be presented to the winners on the evening of Friday, August 11, 2017 at a ceremony at Worldcon 75, the 75th World Science Fiction Convention (Helsinki, Finland).

Here are the finalists for several categories:

Best Novel

- *All the Birds in the Sky*, by Charlie Jane Anders (Tor Books/Titan Books)
- *A Closed and Common Orbit*, by Becky Chambers (Hodder & Stoughton/Harper Voyager US)
- *Death’s End*, by Cixin Liu, translated by Ken Liu (Tor Books/Head of Zeus)
- *Ninefox Gambit*, by Yoon Ha Lee (Solaris Books)
- *The Obelisk Gate*, by N. K. Jemisin (Orbit Books)
- *Too Like the Lightning*, by Ada Palmer (Tor Books)

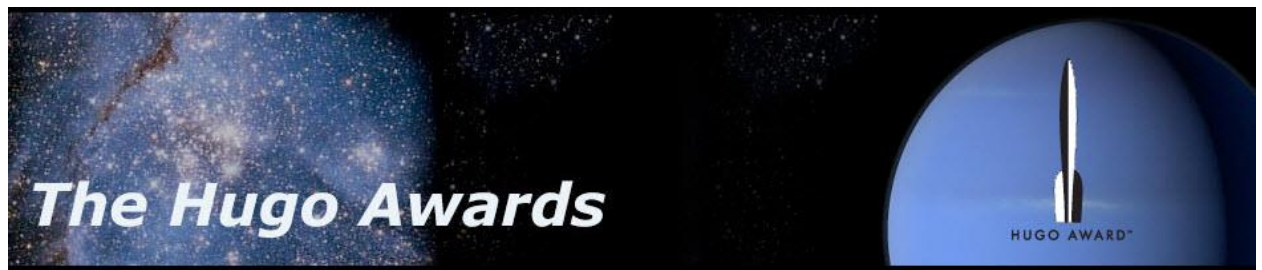
Best Novella

- *The Ballad of Black Tom*, by Victor LaValle (Tor.com publishing)
- *The Dream-Quest of Vellitt Boe*, by Kij Johnson (Tor.com publishing)
- *Every Heart a Doorway*, by Seanan McGuire (Tor.com publishing)
- *Penric and the Shaman*, by Lois McMaster Bujold (Spectrum Literary Agency)
- *A Taste of Honey*, by Kai Ashante Wilson (Tor.com publishing)
- *This Census-Taker*, by China Miéville (Del Rey/Picador) 2017

Best Novelette

- *Alien Stripper Boned From Behind By The T-Rex*, by Stix Hiscock (self-published)
- “The Art of Space Travel”, by Nina Allan (Tor.com, July 2016)
- “The Jewel and Her Lapidary”, by Fran Wilde (Tor.com publishing, May 2016)

(continued on page 3)



2017 Hugo Finalists

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Best Novelette (continued)

- “The Tomato Thief”, by Ursula Vernon (*Apex Magazine*, January 2016)
- “Touring with the Alien”, by Carolyn Ives Gilman (*Clarkesworld Magazine*, April 2016)
- “You’ll Surely Drown Here If You Stay”, by Alyssa Wong (*Uncanny Magazine*, May 2016)

Best Short Story

- “The City Born Great”, by N. K. Jemisin (Tor.com, Sept. 2016)
- “A Fist of Permutations in Lightning and Wildflowers”, by Alyssa Wong (Tor.com, March 2016)
- “Our Talons Can Crush Galaxies”, by Brooke Bolander (*Uncanny Magazine*, November 2016)
- “Seasons of Glass and Iron”, by Amal El-Mohtar (*The Starlit Wood: New Fairy Tales*, Saga Press)
- “That Game We Played During the War”, by Carrie Vaughn (Tor.com, March 2016)
- “An Unimaginable Light”, by John C. Wright (God, Robot, Castalia House)

Best Related Work

- *The Geek Feminist Revolution*, by Kameron Hurley (Tor Books)
- *The Princess Diarist*, by Carrie Fisher (Blue Rider Press)
- *Traveler of Worlds: Conversations with Robert Silverberg*, by Robert Silverberg and Alvaro Zinos-Amaro (Fairwood)
- *The View From the Cheap Seats*, by Neil Gaiman (William Morrow/Harper Collins)
- *The Women of Harry Potter posts*, by Sarah Gailey (Tor.com)

Best Related Work (continued)

- *Words Are My Matter: Writings About Life and Books, 2000-2016*, by Ursula K. Le Guin (Small Beer)

Best Graphic Story

- *Black Panther, Volume 1: A Nation Under Our Feet*, written by Ta-Nehisi Coates, illustrated by Brian Stelfreeze (Marvel)
- *Monstress, Volume 1: Awakening*, written by Marjorie Liu, illustrated by Sana Takeda (Image)
- *Ms. Marvel, Volume 5: Super Famous*, written by G. Willow Wilson, illustrated by Takeshi Miyazawa (Marvel)
- *Paper Girls, Volume 1*, written by Brian K. Vaughan, illustrated by Cliff Chiang, colored by Matthew Wilson, lettered by Jared Fletcher (Image)
- *Saga, Volume 6*, illustrated by Fiona Staples, written by Brian K. Vaughan, lettered by Fonografiks (Image)
- *The Vision, Volume 1: Little Worse Than A Man*, written by Tom King, illustrated by Gabriel Hernandez Walta (Marvel)

Best Dramatic Presentation, Long

- *Arrival*, screenplay by Eric Heisserer based on a short story by Ted Chiang, directed by Denis Villeneuve (21 Laps Entertainment/FilmNation Entert./Lava Bear Films)
- *Deadpool*, screenplay by Rhett Reese & Paul Wernick, directed by Tim Miller (Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation/Marvel Entertainment/ Kinberg Genre/The Donners’ Company/TSG Entertainment)
- *Ghostbusters*, screenplay by Katie Dippold & Paul Feig, directed by Paul Feig (Columbia Pictures/ L-Star Capital/Village Roadshow Pictures/Pascal Pictures/Feigco Entertainment/Ghostcorps/The Monntecito Picture Company)

Best Dramatic Presentation, Long (continued)

- *Hidden Figures*, screenplay by Allison Schroeder and Theodore Melfi, directed by Theodore Melfi (Fox 2000 Pictures/Chernin Entertainment/Levantine Films/TSG Entertainment)
- *Rogue One*, screenplay by Chris Weitz and Tony Gilroy, directed by Gareth Edwards (Lucasfilm/ Allison Shearmur Productions/ Black Hangar Studios/Stereo D/ Walt Disney Pictures)
- *Stranger Things*, Season One, created by the Duffer Brothers (21 Laps Entertainment/Monkey Mascare)

Best Dramatic Presentation, Short

- *Black Mirror: “San Junipero”*, written by Charlie Brooker, directed by Owen Harris (House of Tomorrow)
- *Doctor Who: “The Return of Doctor Mysterio”*, written by Steven Moffat, directed by Ed Bazalgette (BBC Cymru Wales)
- *The Expanse: “Leviathan Wakes”*, written by Mark Fergus and Hawk Ostby, directed by Terry McDonough (SyFy)
- *Game of Thrones: “Battle of the Bastards”*, written by David Benioff and D. B. Weiss, directed by Miguel Sapochnik (HBO)
- *Game of Thrones: “The Door”*, written by David Benioff and D. B. Weiss, directed by Jack Bender (HBO)
- *Splendor & Misery* [album], by Clipping (Daveed Diggs, William Hutson, Jonathan Snipes)

For more details and list of finalists for all categories, go to:

<http://www.thehugoawards.org/hugo-history/2017-hugo-awards/>

* * 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 copy of 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 Sunday, **May 14th, at Peter and Rob's home, 1425 "S" Street NW, Washington, DC.** 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



May 12-14, 2017 **OUTLANTACON** ("The Best in LGTBIQ Sci Fi, Fantasy, Horror, Anime, and Gaming"). Atlanta Marriott Century Center (Atlanta, GA). Membership: \$50. Registration on-line at registration@outlantacon.org
Website: www.outlantacon.org Information: info@outlantacon.org

May 26-29, 2017 **BALTICON 51** (including The 1632 Minicon). Renaissance Baltimore Harborplace (Baltimore MD). Membership: *[more information as it becomes available]* GoH: Eric Flint; Artist GoH: Donato Giancola; 2017 Robert Heinlein Award Winner: Robert J. Sawyer. Membership: \$75 after 4/15 & at the door. Checks payable to "Baltimore Science Fiction Society" and send to PO Box 686, Baltimore, MD 21203-0686
Website: www.balticon.org E-mail: balticoninfo@balticon.org

June 16-18, 2017 **AWESOME CON 2017**. Walter E. Worthington Convention Center (Washington, DC) "Awesome Con welcomes some of the biggest and nerdiest names across comics, movies, TV, and more." Membership: \$75 for the basic 3-day weekend pass (daily rates & "add-ons" available). Registration on-line. Website: <http://awesomecon.com>

July 6-9, 2017 **NORTHAMERICON '17** (NASFiC 2017). Sheraton Puerto Rico (San Juan, Puerto Rico). Guests of Honor: Daina Chaviano, Tobias Buckell, George Perez, Brother Guy Consolmagno, Javier Grillo-Marxuach, Paula Smith. Attending Membership: \$100 (will go up)
Website: www.northamericon17.com

July 7-9, 2017 **SHORE LEAVE 39** ("a fan-run media SF convention"). Hunt Valley Inn (Hunt Valley, MD). Guests: "to be announced as soon as confirmed". Membership: \$95 for the weekend (daily rates available). Checks payable to "Shore Leave" and send to: Shore Leave 39, PO Box 6809, Towson, MD 21285-6809
Website: www.shore-leave.com

Aug. 11-13, 2017 **OTAKON 2017** ("an annual convention to celebrate Asian pop culture and its fandom"). Walter E. Washington Convention Center (Washington, DC). New memberships: \$95; \$100 at the door. On-line registration.
Website: www.otakon.com

Oct. 6-8, 2017 **CAPCLAVE 2017**. Hilton Washington DC North (Gaithersburg, MD). Author GoH: Ken Liu; Editor GoH: Neil Clarke. Membership: \$55 to May 31; \$60 from June 1 to July 31; \$65 from Aug. 1 to Sept. 30; \$70 at the door.
Website: www.capclave.org Info: info@capclave.org

Nov. 24-26, 2017 **CHESSIECON 2017**. Radisson North Baltimore (Timonium, MD). Author GoH: Ada Palmer; Music GoH: T.J. Burnside Clapp; Artist GoH: Megan Willis. Membership: \$55 through Nov. 15; \$60 at the door. Make checks payable to "Thanksgiving Science Fiction Society" and send to: TSFS, Inc., PO Box 83032, Gaithersburg, MD 20883-3032 (Also registration on-line via PayPal.)
Website: www.chessiecon.org Info: info@chessiecon.org

