



# Lambda Sci-Fi

## DC Area Gaylaxians

(202) 232-3141 – Issue # 421 – April 2025

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### Celebrating LSF's 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Three LSFers who attended the first LSF meeting were present. Peter took the pictures; Carl brought in the cheesecake; Peter supplied the utensils and carved the cheesecake; and Jim blew out the candles.

PS – Peter shared the pictures (via e-mail) with LSF's first Speaker, Loree. She reportedly got a kick out of 'em.



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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 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; but the next book discussion will be held on April 24, 2025.

Here are the details for the next two discussions:

**April 24** - *Frieren: Beyond Journey's End* (Vol. 1 and 2), by Kanehito Yamada, illustr. Tsukasa Abe (mod.: Greg).

**May 22** - *To Shape a Dragon's Breath*, by Moniquill Blackgoose (moderator: Adrienne).  
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### \*\*\*\*\* April 13, 2025 Meeting \*\*\*\*\*

The next LSF meeting will be held on **Sunday, April 13th**. The meeting will be held at Peter and Rob's home, **1425 "S" Street NW, Washington, DC**. The meeting will begin at 1:30 PM. Hope to see you there!



### What's Inside?

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## My Best Dramatic Presentation Hugo Nominations for 2024

by Peter Knapp

Every year I try to figure out the best dramatic presentations for the previous year. As I'm attending this year's Worldcon in Seattle, I've nominated the following works for the Hugos. I'll write another article when I vote for the finalists and give my detailed thoughts about those nominees. For now simply notate each nominee.

### Category: Best Dramatic Presentation, Long Form

Any non-interactive theatrical feature or other production with a complete running time of more than 90 minutes, in any medium of dramatized science fiction, fantasy, or related subjects that has been publicly presented for the first time in its present dramatic form during 2024.



- **Alien: Romulus** - The seventh film, in what had become a tired horror/sci-fi franchise, pays homage to the first two (and best) *Alien* movies. I was on the edge of my seat during parts of the movie.



- **Deadpool & Wolverine** - Irreverent, \*very\* funny, and a lot of fun. Having watched all the prior MCU and Fox Marvel movies and TV shows goes a long way toward understanding all the cameos and references to earlier MCU and Fox content.

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## Minutes of the March LSF Meeting

taken by Scott

Peter and Rob recently visited the Spy Museum to see a current exhibit on James Bond's vehicles. They also visited the Lillian & Albert Small Capital Jewish History Museum for a temporary exhibit (ending in late March): "The Jewish Experience in Comics: Characters and Creators" – there was also a reading area with info on local comic fandom.



Peter as Superhero

Rob reported that he's enjoying assembling his D&D Lego set; and Peter showed everyone his *Captain America: Civil War* Lego set.

### TV News

Andy has been watching Netflix's *Arcane* – an animated action-adventure series set in a steampunk world with "hextech." The early 2000's CW *Power Puff Girls* series pilot has recently resurfaced. Peter and Rob like Disney+'s series *Your Friendly Neighborhood Spider-Man*, which occurs in an alternate timeline within the multiverse. (Norman Osborn becomes Peter's mentor rather than Tony Stark.) Andy has been watching Disney's animated film *Strange World*. Peter is losing patience with season 2 of Apple+'s *Severance*, saying it's too slow and draggy.

Netflix's 2023 British genre miniseries *Bodies* is about the same murder victim in four different time periods. It is based on the 2014 DC Vertigo graphic novel of the same name.

The final season of Hulu's *Handmaid's Tale* returns in April. Amazon Prime's *Wheel of Time* returns this Thursday. It was noted that Apple+'s *Silo* has been renewed for two seasons.

Jim described a show that discusses the history of *Fireball XL-5* (which predated *Thunderbirds*). There was a discussion of the single-season 2018 series *The Crossing*, about refugees from the future fleeing a war and seeking asylum in an American town.

### Film News

Andy mentioned that the Loonie Tunes film *The Day the Earth Blew Up* will be released later this month.

Andy also described a documentary film titled *The Remarkable Life of Ibelin*. It tells the true story of a Norwegian man with Duchenne muscular dystrophy; he becomes increasingly unable to participate in everyday activities. As a result, he spends most of his time playing *World of Warcraft*. He dies from muscular dystrophy at age 25. After his death, his parents discover his life in the *World of Warcraft* guild "Starlight"—where he played the character named Ibelin, lived a full life denied to him by his physical condition, and made many deep friendships. Five guild members from abroad even attend his funeral in Oslo.

### Upcoming LSF Activities

LSF afternoon gaming party on Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup>.

Upcoming LSF book discussions: March 2025: *Cahokia Jazz* by Francis Spufford (March); *Frieren: Beyond Journey's End* (Volumes 1 & 2) by Kanehito Yamada and Tsukasa Abe (April).

### Happy Birthday, LSF!!!

Then Carl brought out a cheesecake celebrating LSF's thirty-five years. Peter reviewed the origin of the club. And Rob led a nostalgic discussion about the history of the Gaylactic Network and former Gaylaxian organizations.

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## Hugo Nominations for 2024

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- ***The Substance*** - A WTF body horror movie with a lot of social commentary. At times extremely gross, but worth cringing through the imagery.



- ***The Wild Robot*** - My favorite movie of the year about a robot lost in the wilderness who befriends and protects the animals it lives with.



- ***Wicked*** - I loved the original book, was bored by the Broadway play, and surprised myself by really liking this take on the Wicked Witch of the West from the land of Oz.

### Category: Best Dramatic Presentation, Short Form

Any non-interactive television program or other production with a complete running time of 90 minutes or less, in any medium of dramatized science fiction, fantasy, or related subjects that has been publicly presented for the first time in its present dramatic form during 2024.



- **“Death’s Hand in Mine”, *Agatha All Along*** (Disney+) - *Agatha All Along* is a quirky, imaginative show. Patti LuPone plays a 450-year-old witch and member of Agatha’s coven who experiences time in a non-linear fashion. This episode focuses on her character, and LuPone is brilliant in this episode.



- **“Joy to the World”, *Doctor Who*** (Disney+) - The second Christmas special of the current Doctor, Ncuti Gatwa, is a lot of fun and very frenetic. The episode slows down to tell the tale of The Doctor trapped in the past, taking a job working at the Sandringham Hotel, befriending the manager Anita. Their friendship is the best part of the episode.



- **“Judgment Day”, *3 Body Problem*** (Netflix) - Seemingly omnipotent aliens are threatening the Earth. In this episode, humanity fights back with mixed results.



- **“Perestroika”, *For All Mankind*** (Apple TV+) - The season four finale of my favorite show currently on TV (sorry *Doctor Who*) pays off the various plotlines that have been developing all season, including the rebels triumphing over NASA, Roscosmos, and Helios Aerospace, the private space company founded by a billionaire oligarch.



- **“Remember It”, *X-Men '97*** (Disney+) - Really bad things happen in this episode that made me want to cry. In some ways, Marvel does a better job with its animated superhero shows than their live action shows.

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

**Lambda Sci-Fi: DC Area Gaylaxians** (LSF) is an organization for lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, and trans-gendered (LGBT) 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 LGBT people and their friends;
- provide forums for LGBT people and their friends to share their interest in SF/F/H;
- promote the presence of LGBT elements within SF/F/H and within fandom; and
- promote SF/F/H within the LGBT community.

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, **April 13th, at Peter and Rob's home, 1425 "S" Street NW, Washington, DC.** We 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 23-26, 2025 **BALTICON 59**. Renaissance Baltimore Harborplace Hotel (Baltimore MD). Author Guests of Honor: Silvia Moreno-Garcia & Sebastien de Castell; Artist GoH: Stephanie Law; Science GoH: Marc Abrahams. Membership: \$80 - March 1 thru April 15; \$85 - April 16 thru May 15; \$89 at the door (daily rates available). For more information and on-line registration: [Balticon 59 | Baltimore's Science Fiction Convention](#)

June 7, 2025 **HANACON**. "Anime, Art, & Asian Pop culture Convention." Silver Spring Civic Building at Veterans Plaza (Silver Spring MD). Membership limited to 1,000. Membership: \$45. For more information: [www.HanaConAnime.com](http://www.HanaConAnime.com)

August 7-10, 2025 **PULPFEST 2025**. "Celebrating pulp magazines and related materials, vintage paperbacks, digests, men's adventure and true crime magazines, contemporary genre fiction, first-edition hardcovers, series books, dime novels, original art, Big Little Books, Gold/Silver/Bronze age comic books, old time radio shows, gaming materials, film serials, B-movies, and related collectibles." DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Pittsburgh-Cranberry (Mars PA). Weekend membership = \$40 for members staying at the DoubleTree (otherwise = \$50). Webpage: <https://pulpfest.com>

August 13-17, 2025 **SEATTLE WORLDCON 2025**. Seattle Convention Center (Seattle WA). Guests of Honor: Martha Wells, Donato Giancola, Bridget Landry, K. Tempest Bradford, Nisi Shawl. Full attending membership: currently \$250 (will go up). For more information & on-line registration: <https://seattlein2025.org>

October 3-5, 2025. **GAYLAXICON 2025**. Crowne Plaza Suites AiRE MSP Airport - Mall of America (Bloomington MN). *More details as they become available.* [Home - Gaylaxicon 2025](#)

August 27-31, 2026 **LACON V** (2026 World Science Fiction Convention). Anaheim Convention Center, Hilton Anaheim & Anaheim Marriott Hotels (Anaheim CA). Guests of Honor: Barbara Hambly, Ronald D. Moore, Colleen Duran, Dr. Anita Sengupta, Tim Kirk, Geri Sullivan (Fan GoH), Stan Sakai, Ursula Vernon (aka T. Kingfisher). Full attending membership: currently \$200 (will go up). For more information & on-line registration: <https://www.lacon.org/>



**Old Adage:**

April showers bring  
May flowers.

**Old Joke:**

But what do  
May flowers bring?  
Pilgrims!

