



A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

I wrote short review for short fiction I found from various sources. The *Lady Business* and *Locus* recommended reading lists and Twitter posts were very helpful. *Asimovs'* and *Analog* also put their annual readers' poll finalists on their websites.
Next month the Nebula finalists, and with luck a review.

My-Con

MarCH 26
Wyndham Orlando Avanti Palms Rsortt
6515 International Drive
Orlando, Florida 32819
\$5 for admission, free for military personnel
mystic-con.com.

Events

SW Floridacon

March 6
Crowne Plaza
13051 Bell Tower Dr,
Fort Myers, FL 33907
Guests: Steve Lavigne (comic book artist)
Stephanie Nadolny (voice actor)
And many others
\$20 admission
www.swfloridacomicon.com

Collective Con

March 11-13
Jacksonville Fairgrounds
510 Fairground Pl,
Jacksonville, FL 32202
\$50 for 3 Days
www.collectivecon.com

ICFA 43 (academic conference)

March 16-18
Orlando Airport Marriott,
Orlando, Florida
Guest of Honor: Nishi Shaw
Guest Scholar: Farah Mendlesohn
iafftita.wildapricot.org

Florida PolyCon

March 19
Florida Polytechnic University
\$15 admission
4700 Research Way Lakeland, FL 33805
flpolycon.org

Letters of Comments

Etobicoke, ON
CANADA M9C 2B2
February 20, 2022

Dear OASFiSians:

Thank you for the first two issues of Event Horizon for the year, issues 407 and 408. I will try to cook up some comments, and serve them up fresh and cold in this chilly winter.

407... You've got so many conventions going on, in spite of the pandemic. There are small events happening here, but with our own interests, our first event will be a one-day steampunk event up Lake Ontario, and it will happen in June. So, we have some time to further prepare.

As has become our habit because we don't attend Worldcon any more, we didn't vote on the Hugos. In some ways, we wish we could, but these days, I am not quite sure where to find so many of these books (I am pretty sure our library here can't get them, or couldn't afford to do so), and I have so little time for reading these days. To be honest, I am attempting to become a science fiction editor, having had a lot of experience with it over the past 3½ years.

My letter...I mention the 488-page e-book, and if you are wondering, it is called *Empire's Gambit* by D.J. Holmes, Book 13 of his Empire Rising series, available through Goodreads and Amazon. Next year's Worldcon is Chicon 8, and we fondly remember our first Worldcon in 1983, Chicon IV. It is tempting to go, but our money is being saved for other trips.

408...we have fond memories of Roger Sims. At the Worldcons we did go to, we often met with them to have some fun, and just chat about things. Before retiring to Florida, Roger was a

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March OASFiS Calendar

OASFiS Business Meeting

Sunday, March 13, 1:30 PM, Jean Rhein Central Branch Library 215 N. Oxford Road Casselberry, Florida 32707. Meeting room will be on the first floor. Come join us as we discuss the *Hummingbird Salamander* by Jeff VanderMeer.

To contact for more info:
OASFiS Business Meeting 407-823-8715

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mainstay of Michigan fandom. More conventions, and I do recognize some of the names of the voice actor guests. With the prospect of a Chinese Worldcon meaning that a huge number of people either couldn't or wouldn't go, the NASFiC would be a more appealing idea. Winnipeg lost to Chungdu for the 2023 Worldcon, so I know they are looking at the idea of bidding for NASFiC.

I'm afraid that I am done for the moment, but I am sure that future issues will help me with other comment hooks and reminiscences. Please send them along as soon as you can, and many thanks!
Yours, Lloyd Penney.

Novella

Title: A Blessing of Unicorns
Writer: Elizabeth Bear
Publication: *Asimov's* Date: September-October/2021
Word Count: 17501

Summary:
Police Sub Inspector Ferron and her partner Constable Indrapramit investigate the disappearance of a social media personality. What they find in the person's house is several artificially created mini unicorns. The story takes place Bengaluru in the mid-21st century. Is the person dead? What happened to the body? Is there a serial killer at work? A good mystery for the social media age.

Title: The Silence Before I Sleep
Writer: Adam-Troy Castro
Publication: *Analog*
Date: September-October/2021 Word Count: 17501
Summary:

Rage Lasking, a problem solver, and her aide Justin got to planet where 2 incredibly rich people live with their servants. Arla wants to hire Rage for a job of preventing her former lover's (the planet's other inhabitant) happiness. Rage investigates the situation and makes a decision. This a look at wealth and its limits and a brilliant homage to *Citizen Kane*.

Title: Light Up the Clouds
Writer: Greg Egan
Publication: *Asimov's*
Date: March-April/2021 Word Count: 17501
Summary:

The setting is a floating continent on gas giant orbiting a white dwarf. Tirell, a fruit seller, hangs out with glider enthusiasts who

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Any of these people can give readers information about the club and its functions. To be included in the list call Juan.
Any of these people can give readers information about the club and its functions. To be included in the list call Juan.

have noticed during flights asteroids starting to enter the sky. They believe this could be a sign of the return of a group that migrated to the inner solar system a long time ago. Tirell wants to pilot a glider to contact this group. Can he do it with the resources they have. The story is great, but it feels like there is more to come.

Title: Sleep and the Soul
Writer: Greg Egan
Publication: *Asimov's*
Date: September-October/2021 Word Count: 17501
Summary:

This story takes place in a world where Western society does not sleep and is set before the American Civil War. Jesse was knocked unconscious during an explosion and is buried alive. Jesse escapes his own grave, but his parents cannot accept he is the same. He leaves his hometown to live in New York City. P.T Barnum tries recruit Jesse to his famous side show. Jesse refuses and faces hostility in his new home. A sympathetic doctor has an idea that can help Jesse and the abolitionist cause. A great setup with questions about the nature of the soul given the conditions of this world.

Title: In the Watchful City
Writer: S. Qiouyi Lu
Publication: *Tor.com*
Date: 2/22/2021 Word Count: 17501
Summary:

Amina is a guardian for the city of Ora and works through the Gleaming that lets ær possess any being in Ora. Amina meets Vessel an outsider with a collection of objects each with a story and listens to three of these stories over a span of time. This opens ær perspectives of the world. A great character-based story.

Title: Across the Green Grass Fields
Writer: Seanan McGuire
Publication: *Tor.com*
Date: 1/12/2021 Word Count: 17501
Summary:

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Award News

The 2021 Bram Stoker Awards® Final Ballot

The Bram Stoker Award winners will be announced in May 14 during the Virtual StokerCon 2022 event.

Superior Achievement in a Novel

- Castro, V. – *The Queen of the Cicadas* (Flame Tree Press)
- Hendrix, Grady – *The Final Girl Support Group* (Berkley)
- Jones, Stephen Graham – *My Heart Is a Chainsaw* (Gallery/Saga Press)
- Pelayo, Cynthia – *Children of Chicago* (Agora Books)
- Wendig, Chuck – *The Book of Accidents* (Del Rey)

Superior Achievement in a First Novel

- Martinez, S. Alessandro – *Helminth* (Omnium Gatherum)
- McQueen, LaTanya – *When the Reckoning Comes* (Harper Perennial)
- Miles, Terry – *Rabbits* (Del Rey)
- Piper, Hailey – *Queen of Teeth* (Strangehouse Books)
- Quigley, Lisa – *The Forest* (Perpetual Motion Machine Publishing)
- Willson, Nicole – *Tidepool* (The Parliament House)

*Due to a tie in fifth place, there are six nominees in this category.

Superior Achievement in a Graphic Novel

- Ahmed, Saladin (author) and Kivelä, Sami (artist) – *Abbott 1973* (BOOM! Studios)
- Garcia, Kami (author); Suayan, Mico (artist); Badower, Jason (artist); and Mayhew, Mike (artist) – *Joker/Harley: Criminal Sanity* (DC Comics)
- Manzetti, Alessandro (author) and Cardoselli, Stefano (artist) – *The Inhabitant of the Lake* (Independent Legions Publishing)
- Morrison, Grant (author); Child, Alex (author); and Franquiz, Naomi (artist) – *Proctor Valley Road* (BOOM! Studios)
- Panosian, Dan (author) and Ignazzi, Marianna (artist) – *An Unkindness of Ravens* (BOOM! Studios)

Superior Achievement in a Young Adult Novel

- Blake, Kendare – *All These Bodies* (Quill Tree Books)
- Boyle, R.L. – *The Book of the Baku* (Titan Books)
- Lewis, Jessica – *Bad Witch Burning* (Delacorte Press)
- Sutherland, Krystal – *House of Hollow* (G.P. Putnam's Sons)
- Waters, Erica – *The River Has Teeth* (HarperTeen)

Superior Achievement in Long Fiction

- Castro, V. – *Goddess of Filth* (Creature Publishing, LLC)
- Khaw, Cassandra – *Nothing But Blackened Teeth* (Tor Nightfire)
- LaRocca, Eric – *Things Have Gotten Worse Since We Last Spoke* (Weirdpunk Books)
- Piper, Hailey – “Recitation of the First Feeding” (*Unfortunate Elements of My Anatomy*) (The Seventh Terrace)
- Strand, Jeff – “Twentieth Anniversary Screening” (*Slice and Dice*) (Independently published)

Superior Achievement in Short Fiction

- Gyzander, Carol – “The Yellow Crown” (*Under Twin Suns: Alternate Histories of the Yellow Sign*) (Hippocampus Press)
- Murray, Lee – “Permanent Damage” (*Attack From the '80s*) (Raw Dog Screaming Press)
- O'Quinn, Cindy – “A Gathering at the Mountain” (*The Bad Book*) (Bleeding Edge Books)
- Taborska, Anna – “Two Shakes Of A Dead Lamb's Tail” (*Terror Tales of the Scottish Lowlands*) (Telos Publishing)
- Ward, Kyla Lee – “A Whisper in the Death Pit” (*Weirdbook #44*) (Wildside Press)

Superior Achievement in a Fiction Collection

- Files, Gemma – *In That Endlessness, Our End* (Grimscribe Press)
- Fracassi, Philip – *Beneath a Pale Sky* (Lethe Press)
- Maberry, Jonathan – *Empty Graves: Tales of the Living Dead* (WordFire Press LLC)
- Tuttle, Lisa – *The Dead Hours of Night* (Valancourt Books)
- Wise, A.C. – *The Ghost Sequences* (Undertow Publications)

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Regan discovers something about herself from her parents. She tells a friend in confidence, but her friend freaks out and tells everyone. Regan runs away from school and finds a doorway near a creek. Regan walks in and finds herself in a world of centaurs, fauns, and unicorns. Humans are legends in this world. She bonds with a centaur family. Another great addition to the *Wayward Children* series.

Title: A Rocket for Dimitrios
 Writer: Ray Nayler
 Publication: *Asimov's*
 Date: January-February/2021 Word Count: 17501
 Summary:

In 1938, the US discovered a flying saucer. Using that technology changed the world and its political landscape. Franklin Roosevelt is in his 7th term, and the Soviets are pushed back to their borders. Rumors of a second flying saucer near Turkey brings Ms. Sylvia Aldstatt to Istanbul. Using alien technology, she can probe the mind of a dead man whose memories could confirm the existence of a second saucer. Aldstatt is caught in the middle of several interests. What will happen when she finds the answer about the saucer. A good SF thriller.

Title: The Past is Red
 Writer: Catherynne M. Valente
 Publication: *Tor.com*
 Date: 7/20/2021 Word Count: 17501
 Summary:

Tetley Abednego lives in Garbagetown, a garbage heap in the Pacific. Due to something she did Tetley is ostracized from her community. She is taken to Pill Town where she is offered peace and acceptance. On her journey she discovers an AI. What she will learn from the AI and journey will change Tetley and the world forever. The story shows despite the hardship and the horrors of an apocalypse there is still hope.

Novelette

Title: The Lay of Lilyfinger
 Writer: G.V.Anderson
 Publication: *Tor.com*
 Date: 5/5/2021 Word Count:10079
 Summary:

Two musicians come to perform "The Lay of Lilyfinger" for a young woman's ceremony. It is a long and complex piece that the lead musician has found a way to play it in an acceptable manner. Can they do it? An interesting look at tradition and art.

Title: The Red Mother
 Writer: Elizabeth Bear
 Publication: *Tor.com*
 Date: 6/23/2021 Word Count:12020
 Summary:

Auga, a witch, goes on journey to find his brother. He goes to a small village. As a result of his search, Auga must face the dragon in a nearby volcano. Can he beat the dragon in a battle of wits? A fun fantasy story.

Title: Rotten Little Town: An Oral History
 Writer: Adam-Troy Castro
 Publication: *Nightmare*
 Date: 1/2021 Word Count: 10654

Summary:

The history of a 90s Horror/Western TV show as told by the creator, writer, and cast. Odd things happened to those on the show. Was there something sinister behind the scenes? The story uses things that happened on other shows. This is a very subtle story that feels authentic.

Title: Mulberry and Owl
 Writer: Aliette De Bodard
 Publication: *Uncanny*
 Date: September-October/2021 Word Count: 7942
 Audio Version Available
 Summary:

A woman comes to an AI killer from the Civil War she was part of. She is looking for justice for her partner. This story deals with grief and the idea of the truth and reconciliation process that should happen after such conflicts.

Title: O2 Arena
 Writer: Oghenechovwe Donald Ekpeki
 Publication: *Galaxy's Edge*
 Date: 11/2021 Word Count:8170
 Summary:

In a post climate change Nigeria, oxygen has become a scarce commodity. Both building and personal breathing systems are needed to live. We see the challenge of a law student who tries to get more oxygen resources for friend. Some interesting world building here.

Title: Questions Asked in the Belly of the World
 Writer: A.T. Greenblatt
 Publication: *Tor.com*
 Date: 9/29/2021 Word Count:9310
 Summary:

On a different world were people have voices in them and they have a relationship with the world, Kenji starts to lose his inner voice. This usually means the end of life or does it? With the help of his partner, Eva they will explore the limits of their world to find how it truly works and if there are other ways to live in it. A very high idea story about questioning the nature of the world.

Title: Across the Dark Water
 Writer: Richard Kadrey
 Publication: *Tor.com*
 Date: 2/3/2021 Word Count:12863
 Summary:

A plague has devastated a city. A thief wants to get out. The thief hires a guide to take him to someone who can get the needed papers to leave the city. Can they survive the journey? A straightforward quest story.

Title: Now You See Me
 Writer: Justin C. Key
 Publication: *Lightspeed*
 Date: 8/2021 Word Count:10424
 Summary:

Three white women go to a Black Lives Matter exhibit in Brooklyn. Something happens to them. We follow one who is Chief Resident in an obstetrician ward and see how her colleagues treat her differently. The story is very powerful and investigates the issues facing us today.

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*(Continued from page 3)***Superior Achievement in a Screenplay**

- Chaisson, C. Henry; Antosca, Nick; and Cooper, Scott – *Antlers* (Searchlight Pictures)
- Dong-hyuk, Hwang – *Squid Game*, Season 1, Episode 1: “Red Light, Green Light” (Siren Pictures)
- Flanagan, Mike; Flanagan, James; and Howard, Jeff – *Midnight Mass*, Season 1, Episode 6: “Book VI: Acts of the Apostles” (Intrepid Pictures)
- Graziadei, Phil and Janiak, Leigh – *Fear Street: Part One – 1994* (Chernin Entertainment)
- Peele, Jordan; Rosenfeld, Win; and DaCosta, Nia – *Candyman* (Universal Pictures)

Superior Achievement in a Poetry Collection

- Lansdale, Joe R. – *Apache Witch and Other Poetic Observations* (Independent Legions Publishing)
- McHugh, Jessica – *Strange Nests* (Apokrupha)
- Simon, Marge and Turzillo, Mary – *Victims* (Weasel Press)
- Sng, Christina; Yuriko Smith, Angela; Murray, Lee; and Flynn, Geneve – *Tortured Willows: Bent. Bowed. Unbroken.* (Yuriko Publishing)
- Snyder, Lucy A. – *Exposed Nerves* (Raw Dog Screaming Press)

Superior Achievement in an Anthology

- Chambers, James – *Under Twin Suns: Alternate Histories of the Yellow Sign* (Hippocampus Press)
- Datlow, Ellen – *When Things Get Dark: Stories Inspired by Shirley Jackson* (Titan Books)
- French, Aaron J. and Landry, Jess – *There is No Death, There are No Dead* (Crystal Lake Publishing)
- Guignard, Eric J. – *Professor Charlatan Bardot’s Travel Anthology to the Most (Fictional) Haunted Buildings in the Weird, Wild World* (Dark Moon Books)
- Johnson, Eugene – *Attack From the ’80s* (Raw Dog Screaming Press)

Superior Achievement in Non-Fiction

- Knost, Michael – *Writers Workshop of Horror 2* (Hydra Publications)
- Olson, Danel – *9/11 Gothic: Decrypting Ghosts and Trauma in New York City’s Terrorism Novels* (Lexington Books)
- Weinstock, Jeffrey Andrew and Hansen, Regina M. – *Giving the Devil His Due: Satan and Cinema* (Fordham University Press)

- Wetmore Jr., Kevin J. – *Eaters of the Dead: Myths and Realities of Cannibal Monsters* (Reaktion Books)
- Woofter, Kristopher – *Shirley Jackson: A Companion* (Peter Lang Publishing)

Superior Achievement in Short Non-Fiction

- Ognjanovi?, Dejan – “The Three Paradigms of Horror” (*Vastarien* Vol. 4, Issue 2) (Grimscribe Press)
- O’Quinn, Cindy – “One and Done” (*Were Tales: A Shapeshifter Anthology*) (Brigids Gate Press)
- Verona, Emily Ruth – “A Horror Fan’s Guide to Surviving Womanhood” (thefinalgirls.co.uk)
- Wetmore Jr., Kevin J. – “Devil’s Advocates: The Conjuring” (Auteur Publishing/Liverpool University Press)
- Yuriko Smith, Angela – “Horror Writers: Architects of Hope” (*The Sirens Call*, Halloween 2021, Issue 55) (Sirens Call Publications)

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Title: Pathfinding

Writer: Nicole Kornher-Stace

Publication: *Uncanny*

Date: January-February/2021 Word Count: 9253

Summary:

Teenagers are going through a simulator, training for combat like situations under the watchful eye of a woman known as the Director. Some of them die under mysterious circumstances. Can the student known as 06 find the secret behind the simulation? The story reminds one of *Ender’s Game*. There is an interesting tension between 06 and the Director.

Title: Frost’s Boy

Writer: P.H. Lee

Publication: *Lightspeed*

Date: 1/21 Word Count: 7961

Summary:

A storyteller tells the fate of a beautiful baby abandoned in a tree during the winter. He is taken in by Frost and we see how the boy turns out. The story is dark fairy tale.

Title: The Metric

Writer: David Moles

Publication: *Asimov’s*

Date: May-June 2021 Word Count: 17501

Summary:

In the far future, the universe is ending but something is wrong. The Metric was created to keep the dark matter at bay but is it necessary and does it endanger what must come? Torah and Petal go to do what must be done. It is a big idea story where following it is a challenge, but worth the read.

Title: Sarcophagus

Writer: Ray Nayler

Publication: *Clarkesworld*

Date: 4/2021 Word Count: 7680

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Audio Version Available

Summary:

An explorer is the sole survivor of an expedition to a planet. He is in an arctic environment with a suit whose power is dying. Can he get to the depot where the supplies are in time? Is there something on the planet following him? This is a well told survival story.

Title: The Equations of the Dead

Writer: An Owomoyela

Publication: *Lightspeed*

Date: 4/2021 Word Count:9904

Audio Version Available

Summary:

On a moon, a man named Harmless spots a young man named Latchko communicating with a local AI cloud. This gets the attention of the local boss, the Old Man. What will happen to the Latchko? What will Harmless challenge the Old Man over Latchko's fate?

Title: Table Etiquette for Diplomatic Personnel, in Seventeen Scenes

Writer: Suzanne Palmer

Publication: *Asimov's*

Date: January-February/2021 Word Count:17501

Summary:

The former commander of a space station is found dead. The present commander of that station investigates the crime which seems to deal with food. A well thought out mystery with some humor.

Title: Bots of the Lost Ark

Writer: Suzanne Palmer

Publication: *Clarkesworld*

Date: 6/2021 Word Count:11080

Summary:

A sequel to 2018 "The Secret Life of Bots". Sixty-Eight Years later Ship has reactivated Bot 9 to deal with a new problem that could endanger the ship. Some of the bots have formed around intelligences based on the human crew. This may cause problems in a passage through alien space and risk the real crew. A good sequel to a great story.

Title: Stronger

Writer: K.J. Parker

Publication: *Beneath Ceaseless Skies*

Date: 10/7/2021 Word Count:11287

Summary:

A young man's love has been taken to live on the islands of the bulls. He comes up with a scheme to liberate her. There is great world building here. This is an excellent reinterpretation of the minotaur myth.

Title: (emet)

Writer: Lauren Ring

Publication: *F&SF*

Date: July-August/2021 Word Count:17500

Summary:

A programmer is working on an surveillance app. She starts to questions its use. She uses the power taught by her family to make golems to try fix the situation. A great mix of traditional Fantasy elements with a technical problem.

Title: Shards

Writer: Ian Rogers

Publication: *Tor.com*

Date: 1/27/2021 Word Count:9324

Summary:

Five friends go to a cabin in the woods to celebrate their upcoming graduation. One of the finds an old record player (hand cranked) in a room accessible via trap door. She plays it and nothing is ever the same. Can they escape what happened that night? This a good horror story. It creates a mood.

Title: The Last Civilian

Writer: R.P. Sand

Publication: *Clarkesworld*

Date: 1/2021 Word Count: 7590

Audio Version Available

Summary:

A modified clone, Zeta-73 is soldier in war on an alien planet. They begin a relationship with another clone from the next batch. Zeta will discover that something is off with the war they have been fighting. The other clone whose name changes in the story finds out first. What will Zeta do if something happens to their partner. There is an interesting twist on the conflict and great world building.

Title: The Future Library

Writer: Peng Shepherd

Publication: *Tor.com*

Date: 8/18/2021 Word Count: 11195

Summary:

In the post climate future, there is only one forest left. It was left as a preserve run by a writer, Claire Nakamura. She embarked on a project where 100 trees would be planted, and they would be turned into books by a group of authors. As time went on some of the authors including Nakamura died. The ashes of the writers were mixed in with the ground of the trees. When the trees are made into books something unexpected happens. Ingrid, Claire's wife, tries to figure out what happens. A touching story about love and sticking to principle.

Title: Judge Dee and the Poisoner of Montmartre

Writer: Lavie Tidhar

Publication: *Tor.com*

Date: 9/15/2021 Word Count:10480

Summary:

Part of series of mysteries of the vampire Judge Dee and his human servant. They go to a dinner party and a vampire is killed by drinking blood of a tainted human. Dee investigates the crime. A good mystery with good, fantastic elements.

Title: Dreamports

Writer: Tlotlo Tsamaase

Publication: *Apex*

Date: 12/20/2021 Word Count: 7673

Summary:

Dreamports is a new way of interacting with others through the mind via dreamscape. The main character works in this world. The technology is thoroughly explored in the story including the positives and negatives of the system.

Title: L'Esprit de L'Escalier

Writer: Catherynne M Valente

Publication: *Tor.com*

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Date: 8/25/2021 Word Count:9349

Summary:

A new version of the story of Orpheus, but what if he was partially successful. Eurydice is back but in an undead state. Did he make the right choice? There are some interesting takes of setting this in modern era.

Title: Billie the Kid

Writer: Rick Wilber

Publication: *Asimov's*

Date: September-October/2021 Word Count: 7501

Summary:

This story is an alternate history and time travel mix up. Billie Davis is a player/manager for the Hollywood Stars pro baseball team. She has worked with ball player and American intelligence agent Mo Berg. Billie is also a pilot. She will help Berg and his team to prevent an attack on American West Coast in 1945. It has good feel for the era and a good techno thriller.

Title: Unseelie Brother's, Ltd.

Writer: Fran Wilde

Publication: *Uncanny*

Date: May-June/2021 Word Count: 8628

Audio Version Available

Summary:

A mysterious dress shop appears in different places in New York. Sarah, a fashion school student, encounters the store and gets a job during the ball season. She discovers her mother had a tie to the store. What was it? Should she continue to work after the season? A fun look into fashion with a mix of fairy lore.

Title: That Story Isn't the Story

Writer: John Wiswell

Publication: *Uncanny*

Date: November-October/2021 Word Count: 9033

Summary:

Anton gets away from his vampire master Mr. Bird with the help of his friend Grigorii. Anton moves in with Grigorii and Luis and tries to start a new life for himself. He fears Mr. Bird or his other servants will come after him. Can he have a life free of Bird? This feels similar to getting out of a cult or toxic relationship. It shows the strength needed to break away from something bad.

Title: Colors of the Immortal Palette

Writer: Caroline M. Yoachim

Publication: *Uncanny*

Date: May-June/2021 Word Count: 12910

Summary:

Mariko, a French model/artist of Japanese descent, works for an immortal artist in 19th Century France. She strives to become an artist in her own right and encounters challenges. She eventually becomes immortal herself and continues to fight for her art. Each section is named of a color in a palette. This looks at the concepts of immortality through art and looks at the pressures the culture can bring to art and the artist. Incredibly engaging.

Title: Small Monsters

Writer: E. Lily Yu

Publication: *Tor.com*

Date: 10/21/2021 Word Count: 7639

Summary:

A small monster can regenerate their limbs. The monster's parent

eats a limb when the hunt does not go well. The Monster runs away. A good take on bad relationships.

Short Story

Title: The White Road or How a Crow Carried Death Over a River

Writer: Marika Bailey

Publication: *FIYAH*

Date: Spring 2021 Word Count:6343

Summary:

A young crow named Broadfeather seeks her other name. She leaves seeking adventure to find that name. She encounters lost souls and finds justice for them. This has a mythic feel.

Title: The Answer Was Snails *

Writer: Bo Balder

Publication: *Clarkesworld*

Date: 10/2021 Word Count: 5140

Audio Version Available

Summary:

Someone is trapped in an alien terrarium. They want to join their lover Annie in another terrarium. The giant snails in their terrarium may be the way get to Annie's terrarium. Can they make it? It is gripping story of escape.

Title: Space Pirate Queen of the Ten Billion Utopias

Writer: Elly Bangs

Publication: *Lightspeed*

Date: 11/21 Word Count:4352

Summary:

We are told the story of Ursa Major. She escaped our universe on inter-universal train and eventually took over the train. She finds love and a new calling. A great fun story we need right now.

Title: The Mathematics of Fairyland *

Writer: Phobe Barton

Publication: *Lightspeed*

Date: 2/2021:Word Count: 2945

Audio Version Available

Summary:

Bereniece's spaceship disappeared with her on it. Marigold uses fairy myth to explain what happens and to find Bereniece. The story is about dealing with grief and how we can use stories to deal or not deal with it.

Title: Baby Brother

Writer: Kalynn Bayron

Publication: *FIYAH*

Date: Winter 2021 Word Count:3211

Summary:

On a summer night something happens to Morgan's brother. Morgan starts to resent his younger brother. Can things ever be the same again. This is a very subtle horror

Title: My Heart is At Capacity *

Writer: TJ Berry

Publication: *Asimov's*

Date: May-June/2021 Word Count:7000

Audio Version Available

(Continued on page 8)

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Summary:

Paul is an android companion to Rebecca who is going to be upgraded. One sees the algorithms and information mining he uses to figure out relationships. Are they enough to satisfy a human being? Will the upgrade improve his relationship? A look into the mechanics of relationships and its limits.

Title: My Sister is a Scorpion *

Writer: Isabel Canas

Publication: *Lightspeed*

Date: 8/2021 Word Count:1503

Audio Version Available

Summary:

A girl believes her sister has turned into a scorpion. Has she? Or is this a way of dealing with grief? This well told and leaves the reader wondering what the ending means. It gets scary at the end.

Title: The Cataloguer of Deceit *

Writer: Ian Rosales Casocot

Publication: *Strange Horizons*

Date: 7/19/2021 Word Count: 5929

Audio Version Available

Summary:

Manuela Corazon Monquillo is close to 150 years old. The secret to her long life is cataloging deceits of herself or others. She still feels the effects of gravity and she loses her memories. Is long life worth the price? Great use of language in this story.

Title: The Last Science Fiction Story

Writer: Adam-Troy Castro

Publication: *Analog*

Date: January-February/2021 Word Count:244

Summary:

A story which defines what a Science Fiction story is. Very inspirational.

Title: If the Martians Had Magic

Writer: P. Djèli Clark

Publication: *Uncanny*

Date: September-October/2021 Word Count: 7099

Audio Version Available

Summary:

In this world there have been three Martian invasions. The last fought off with magic. A researcher working with captured Martians, tries to see if they have magical abilities. She meets resistance from the military and others with this research. Can she protect the Martians she has worked with? An interesting look at world presented in *War of the Worlds*. A great combo of SF and Fantasy.

Title: Delete Your First Memory for Free

Writer: Kel Coleman

Publication: *FIYAH*

Date: Winter 2021 Word Count:3625

Summary:

Devin goes with some friends to checkout a memory spa. There one can delete memories. Is this a good idea? There is a great depiction of social anxiety and interesting take on the power of memories.

Title: Frost Bloom *

Writer: Gillian Daniels

Publication: *Nightmare*

Date: 9/2021 Word Count:4521

Audio Version Available

Summary:

Tara tells the story of her relationship with a creature of the night (a vampire variant). Tara wants to elevate the relationship. What lengths will she go to? There is a twist where you are asking questions. As always, relationships are complicated.

Title: The Wishing Pool *

Writer: Tananarive Due

Publication: *Uncanny*

Date: July-August/2021 Word Count:4102

Audio Version Available

Summary:

Joy comes to visit her father in his North Florida cabin to see how he is doing. He is sick and losing his memory. Joy remembers that there was a wishing pool near the cabin. Can it make her father better? The story has a great setup. Joy is smart and caring person. It is great take on the wishes come true trope.

Title: The Stop After the Last Station *

Writer: A.T. Greenblatt

Publication: *Uncanny*

Date: November-October/2021 Word Count:3093

Audio Version Available

Summary:

Tito is going on a trip on subway train. The story is told backwards. What is the purpose of the purpose of this trip? An intriguing journey told in an interesting way.

Title: RE: Bubble 476

Writer: A.T. Greenblatt

Publication: *Asimov's*

Date: March-April/2021 Word Count:7000

Summary:

Two people doing research in separate universes email each other about their work. There are universes which have abandoned facilities where research can be performed. Something seems to be going wrong and the emails get more distraught. An interesting and yet tense filled conversation.

Title: Data Migration *

Writer: Melanie Harding-Shaw

Publication: *Strange Horizons*

Date:7/12/2021 Word Count:1198

Audio Version Available

Summary:

We hear the assignments of online teacher to one her students in a post climate change world. This is set a New Zealand and through the lessons given we get an idea of the state of the world. An interesting use of format for storytelling.

Title: Mr. Death *

Writer: Alix E. Harrow

Publication: *Apex*

Date: 2/2021 Word Count:5112

Audio Version Available

Summary:

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We follow a reaper doing his job. The job is described in detail. The reaper is faced with taking a 2-year-old boy. What will the reaper do with this assignment? A great combination of fantastic and the mundane. There is great use of language in the story.

Title: Proof by Induction

Writer: Jose Pablo Iriarte

Publication: *Uncanny* Date: May-June/2021
Word Count: 6296

Summary:

Paulie's father dies. A device calls a Coda saves his father at the moment of death. Paulie can talk to his father in a virtual world. He uses the Coda to work with his father on a complicated mathematical problem. Publishing this paper can give Paulie tenure. Can Paulie find a solution? Can he find closure? A deep emotional story.

Title: I Was a Teenage Space Jockey

Writer: Stephen Graham Jones

Publication: *Lightspeed*
Date: 11/21 Word Count: 4560

Summary:

In the 80s, two young Native American boys get locked in an arcade after being bullied by stoners. One finds a quarter with his older brother's birth year. He uses it to play Defender. While playing the game the boy seems to be defending his older brother. A great look at the days of the video game arcade.

Title: Six Fictions About Unicorns

Writer: Rachel K. Jones

Publication: *Uncanny*
Date: September-October/2021 Word Count: 2709

Summary:

A girl tries to run away from home and is found by a unicorn. We follow her life with the unicorn. Not all the myths of unicorns are true. A nice story of friendship.

Title: Blood in the Thread

Writer: Cheri Kamei

Publication: *Tor.com*
Date: 5/12/2021 Word Count: 2867

Summary:

A makeup artist and an actress become very close and follow each other from high school years to their professional careers. The artist works exclusively for the actress. The pressures of the actress career form a strain on their relationship. The story is retelling of the "The Crane Wife". This told in the second person from the view of the makeup artist and is a gripping love story.

Title: Grandma +5°C *

Writer: James Patrick Kelly

Publication: *Asimov's*
Date: March-April/2021 Word Count: 7500

Audio Version Available

Summary:

In a post climate change world (after 2065), Baby Boomers are incarcerated for ruining the planet. Boomers are still alive due to a life extension process available. In New Hampshire, a young woman hides her grandmother from the Rangers hunting her. Should she? What responsibility do we owe the world?

Title: To Rest, and To Create

Writer: LA Knight

Publication: *FIYAH*
Date: Summer 2021 Word Count: 4952

Summary:

Imagine a world where going to portal world has become an institution. We follow someone finding difficulty getting a job due to their autism. They get an opportunity to help build doors to other worlds. Is this the chance one is looking for? The story has a good use of point of view which reveals the nature of this world.

Title: The Loneliness of Former Constellations *

Writer: P.H. Low

Publication: *Strange Horizons*
Date: 8/9/2021 Word Count: 6033

Audio Version Available

Summary:

Hedi once had the power of starship and fought in a war. After the war she was retired and stripped of power. She takes in a border named Alanna. Alanna is fighting her own war with monsters. Alanna faces a moment of doubt. Can Hedi help Alanna? Can Hedi break the bounds enforced on her in her retirement? This is a good story of mentorship.

Title: #Spring Love, #Pichal Pairi

Writer: Usman Malik

Publication: *Tor.com*
Date: 3/3/2021
Word Count: 7386

Summary:

Raza interviews Farah, a pichal pairi and a relationship develops. Then plague hits and changes everything. A fun relationship with a little fantasy mixed in.

Title: Tangles

Writer: Seanan McGuire

Publication: *Magic.Wizards.com*
Date: 9/3/2021 Word Count: 5150

Summary:

A dryad and a mage meet in a forest. They each have a problem. Can they work together and solve it? A great story of cooperation with some good magical action.

Title: Tyrannosaurus Hex *

Writer: Sam J. Miller

Publication: *Uncanny*
Date: January-February/2021 Word Count: 2301

Audio Version Available

Summary:

Virtual Reality has become common in the world. Children get the VR tech in elementary school. We follow a 12 year old girl and her younger friend encounter something powerful in the VR space. This shows the power and perils of a VR world.

Title: Let All the Children Boogie

Writer: Sam J. Miller

Publication: *Tor.com*
Date: 6/6/2021 Word Count: 6996

(Continued on page 10)

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Summary:

Fell and Laurie are two teens in 1991 who bond over an alternative music show. They hear strange messages in some of the songs. What do the messages mean? Is it aliens? This is about the power of music and friendship.

Title: *The Right Dragon* *

Writer: Coral Alejandra Moore

Publication: *Lightspeed*

Date: 10/2021 Word Count:1480

Audio Version Available

Summary:

Marisol is hunting dragons, searching for the one that killed her sister. She is assisted by a blacksmith. Where will this quest lead?

Title: "The Shadow of His Wings

Writer: Ray Nayler

Publication: *Analog*

Date: March- Word Count:7000

Summary:

In Turkmenistan, a young man Bashim works for some sheikhs. One night, Bashim sleeping away from the main camp avoids an ambush by bandits. Someone has hacked into Bashim's learning program and is helping stay alive. He finds an awful truth in the aftermath. A good SF adventure story.

Title: *The North Pole Workshops* *

Writer: Mari Ness

Publication: *Uncanny*

Date: November-December/2021 Word Count:807

Audio Version Available

Summary:

We listen to call options for the North Pole call center and what to do if you get a malfunctioning toy that can eat you. Funny take on call centers and the holidays.

Title: *#Selfcare*

Writer: Annalee Newitz

Publication: *Tor.com*

Date: 6/19/2021

Word Count: 7457

Summary:

Edwina works at a salon which promotes a skin care line. Odd things start to happen at the salon. It turns out Edwina's boss offended a fae marketer. Can Edwina figure out what is happening before she and co-workers lose their jobs. There is a great solution to the problem which empowers everyone.

Title: *The Cold Calculations*

Writer: Aimee Ogden

Publication: *Clarkesworld*

Date: 12/2021 Word Count:5540

Summary:

A different take on "The Cold Equations". How can the fate of others be dependent on the cold calculations of those in offices far away from potential crisis? A great modern look at the story.

Title: *The Dame With the Earth at Her Back* *

Writer: Sarah Pauling

Publication: *Escape Pod*

Date: 3/25/2021 Word Count: 7501

Audio Version Available

Summary:

Maryellen is a comedienne in club on a backwater planet. She gets mixed up with revolutionaries and government spies. Should she get involved? What purpose does art serve in times of political danger?

Title: *A Better Way of Saying*

Writer: Sarah Pinsker

Publication: *Tor.com*

Date: 11/10/2021 Word Count:6073

Summary:

In 1915, a teen gets a job to read the title cards at the film (to help those who cannot read). After a while he can change the lines in the films to improve the story. It is a little magic that hardly anyone notices. This is how about the little things can make life a little better.

Title: *Where Oaken Hearts Do Gather*

Writer: Sarah Pinsker

Publication: *Uncanny*

Date: March-April/2021 Word Count:6727

Summary:

This is a story of an online discussion group analyzing a ballad called "Where Oaken Hearts Do Gather" about lovers meeting in the wood and their fates. They analyze each part of the song and discuss a researcher that disappeared while investigating the song. Is the song responsible for the researcher's disappearance? A great epistolary story.

Title: *All of Us Ghosts* *

Writer: B. Pladek

Publication: *Strange Horizons*

Date: 9/6/2021 Word Count:6835

Audio Version Available

Summary:

Jude is a paid virtual friend to Cameron. Jude is several people in Jude's virtual life at Yale. It is a weird and questionable business parents pay for their children. Jude is working to expose the business from the inside. Can Jude do this without hurting Cameron?

Title: *The Shape of Wings and Feathers* *

Writer: Jenny Rae Rappaport

Publication: *Beneath Ceaseless Skies*

Date: 9/9/2021 Word Count: 5216

Audio Version Available

Summary:

Bryce is undergoing a test for magic school. This is a very dangerous test. Bryce remembers the time she spent with a giant grandmother studying giant magic. Can what Bryce learned from the giant help her during the test? An interesting look at some of the tropes of magic school stories.

Title: *Filaments* *

Writer: Mercurio D. Rivera

Publication: *Asimov's*

Date: September-October/2021 Word Count: 7501

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 10)

Audio Version Available

Summary:

A couple on a colony planet must deal with a great loss. The planet is being evacuated due to the filaments, a local life form which is infested the area. Can the couple come to grips with what happened?

Title: Huginn and Muninn—and What Came After

Writer: Michael Swanwick

Publication: *Asimov's*

Date: July-August/2021 Word Count: 7001

Summary:

Alyssa goes to parallel world which seems ideal compared to her own world. Is it really? There are a lot of twists and turns. The story does go to a dark place, but it is an intriguing journey.

Title: Thirteen of the Secrets in My Purse

Writer: Rachel Swirsky

Publication: *Uncanny*

Date: May-June/2021 Word Count: 1159

Summary:

Someone describes the fantastical items in their purse. Are these items trying to say something? Fun and a good payoff.

Title: An Arc of Electric Skin

Writer: Wole Talabi

Publication: *Asimov's*

Date: September-October/2021 Word Count: 4000

Summary:

In Nigeria, a man is an experimental subject in a situation that looks like a superhero origin. The story deviates from the

traditional superhero story. A great take on a classic tale.

Title: Surat Dari Hantu *

Writer: Lisabelle Tay

Publication: *Strange Horizons*

Date: 10/11/2021 Word Count: 3351

Audio Version Available

Summary:

A woman overcomes death to seek vengeance against the man who killed her son. It takes her 500 years to find him in his current incarnation. Is there an expiration date on revenge? This story uses language effectively to convey the horrific elements.

Title: The Sin of America *

Writer: Catherynne M. Valente

Publication: *Uncanny*

Date: 3/1/2021 Word Count: 5585

Audio Version Available

Summary:

A woman in a diner eats a meal. This story is inspired by the sin-eater belief. The story looks at the critical issues we as a country are dealing with in a symbolic way. This is a powerful story.

Title: We Are Not Phoenixes

Writer: John Wiswell

Publication: *Fireside*

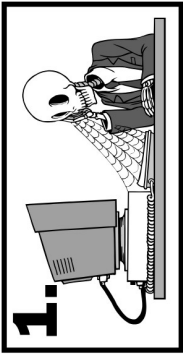
Date: 3/2021 Word Count: 817

Summary:

A pyromancer (a magician that specializes with fire) explains his work of performing at hospices. It is about treating people with respect and dignity while reminding one about the challenges when dealing with the end of life.



There are two ways to be a science fiction and fantasy fan in Florida.



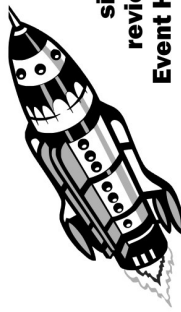
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