

BCSFA Zine

The Newsletter of the British Columbia Science Fiction Association

#431

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April 2009



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Please send comments, suggestions, and/or submissions to Felicity Walker (the editor), at felicity4711@hotmail.com or #209-3851 Francis Road, Richmond, BC, Canada, V7C 1J6. BCSFAzine solicits electronic submissions and black-and-white line illustrations in JPG, GIF, BMP, or PSD format, and offers printed contributor's copies as long as the club budget allows.

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This Month in BCSFA

- Sunday 5 April: **Vancouver Discordians Meetup Group** (Garth Spencer's new salon night) at the Grind Gallery & Café, 4124 Main Street, Vancouver.
- Thursday 9 April @ 7 p.m.: **April book discussion** will now be held at the Grind Gallery & Café, starting at 7 p.m. Book to be discussed will be *Snow Crash* by Neal Stephenson.
- Friday 10 April: **BCSFAzine deadline**—see Felicity's contact information in the indicia above.
- Saturday 18 April @ 7 p.m.: **BCSFA meeting/party**—at Garth Spencer's place—82 East 40th Avenue, Vancouver, near Main Street & 41st Avenue intersection (two major bus routes). Phone 604-325-7314 for directions.
- Friday 24 April: **BCSFAzine production.**

Art Credits

Sheryl Birkhead.....Masthead
 Brad Foster.....Cover
 Felicity Walker.....Interior Illos

Advertisement

For Sale

**S.F. Pocket books (Fifties–Nineties Inclusive)
 By Famous Authors
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 Saturday, May 2, 2009
 9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.
 Delbrook Community Centre
 North Building
 600 West Queens Road
 North Vancouver
 [Serious Collectors Call 604 985-6672]**

Guest Editorial

As most of you know, *Watchmen* recently appeared on the big screen. Superhero movies have been big recently, with *Batman*, *Spider-Man*, *Iron Man*, and a variety of others providing us with larger-than-life role models on the big screen. Given that *Watchmen* was originally an attempt to deconstruct the superhero mythos, it's interesting to see it so well received.



During the movie, as in the comic book, we have a rape scene, gang violence, a prison riot, and a protest that turns into a riot. Oh, and of course a bit of nastiness in Vietnam. Each of these events were escalated by the heroes. There is one scene where two of the characters save the lives of several innocent people trapped in a burning building. Pretty heroic, right? This tends to be a bit spoiled by the fact that this rescue ends up being foreplay for them.

It has been said that the book uses violence to convey the harsh truth—that the violence is there to shock the reader, to disrupt their comfortable assumptions about the nature of heroes. The movie on the other hand, seems to embrace the violence. To some degree, it's the difference in the medium, but does that not change the message?

Looking back at the recent superhero movies, it seems to me that the *super* part is still present, in that the characters are all beyond human in some way, but the *hero* part seems to have gotten lost somewhere.

Yes, Batman still saves the day, but he does it using a program that turns every cellphone in the city into a listening device, something straight out of the wet dreams of a government spook. Sure, it's just the one time, to stop a dangerous madman, and sure, he gives the power to someone he believes can handle it, someone who doesn't want the power...but he knows it works. You can't put the genie back in the bottle; the technology may not be available at the moment, but it wouldn't be hard to rebuild.

Prior to creating this monstrosity, he violates international law, kidnapping a Chinese citizen and forcefully extracting him from his office. Yes, he's doing this to prevent a criminal from escaping justice, but does the end justify the means? The way it is presented, it seems that it is assumed that it does—especially since the only reason he wants this particular white collar criminal is to use him against the real criminals, in this case, organized crime.

It is said that those who would trade liberty for safety deserve neither, but that implies that we are all responsible for our liberties. While people might agree with this in theory, it is something that falls apart in practice.

It is a sad commentary on our times that our heroes have fallen so far, from the noble souls of the golden age, to the gritty and bitter bastards of the modern era.

• .

[Thee Gravedigger](#)

LOCs

[*Editor's responses in brackets.*]

From: **Taral Wayne** (saara@netscape.ca)

Sunday 1 March 2009

Good start.

There is an option to the question of “hard-copy or no hard-copy.” A subscription has to cover the cost of reproducing the issue, plus an envelope, and postage. But just as good a hard copy can be printed out at your local Kinko’s for just the cost of the xerox. Most copiers can print back to back sheets, so there isn’t any difference between a copy printed out by BCSFA and one printed out by yourself.

[*You’d have to print the PDF, then paste together a galley proof (with the pages seemingly out of sequence until after collation), then photocopy and collate it. For a higher price, the clerk might be able to do all this for you—as the clerk at Staples did for me when she printed and collated a test copy of BCSFAzine #430—though Kinko’s did not offer this level of service the last time I was there.*]

Of course, I don’t usually do this myself. Unless the zine is one of those I really treasure—*Trapdoor*, say, or *Banana Wings*—and I don’t have words or pictures in it, I will usually choose to save the .pdf on the hard drive—that’s good enough. But if the issue is one I have a contribution in, I take it to Kinko’s and pay the two bucks for a copy. If it had to be mailed to me, doubtless it would have cost twice that.

From: **Lloyd Penney** (penneys@allstream.net), Wednesday 11 March 2009
1706-24 Eva Rd.,
Etobicoke, ON
M9C 2B2

Dear Felicity:

Whoops, almost sent it to Garth...old habits die hard. Thank you for being willing to take on the task of producing monthly *BCSFAzines*, and here’s a letter on the contents of *BCSFAzine* 430. Mmmm, bacon snakes...

Sometimes, all the club needs is someone to keep track of everything the club intends to give to its members, and what the members have on account. The club does need money to keep going, so I guess memberships are still free, but *BCSFAzine* costs \$3 a month. I’ve been happy to get the .pdfed version. Some other editors I know have asked people to accept a .pdf, but they just won’t, and the worst thing is, many of those who want the paper version are not contributors, and won’t contribute, even when pressed.

Fans stacked like cordwood...this makes the assumption that fans are mostly thin, and I think we can blow that assumption out of the water. I am surprised that no one's made any remarks about any fans they'd like to be stacked with...

Warren Buff knows about the costs of Worldcons, as do many of us. They are not cheap, and it would be good to go back to the old ways of a Worldcon at a hotel and banquet hall, but we also know that Worldcon is competing for the fannish dollar against Dragon*Con and Creation conventions and most media SF events. The Worldcon would be cheaper, in terms of cost and quality, IMHO. Eventually, most of these events will price themselves out of their markets, and many of them will die or change form. I shall not speculate on the fate of Worldcon, but the future has shown itself to be not nearly as shiny as we'd hoped.

Fandom is a cultural phenomenon, and is bigger than we expect. There is always something new to learn about it, and something new being created within it. I have seen older fans dump on newer fans for not knowing something esoteric about fandom; if the older fans would teach rather than dump, the newer fans would be more knowledgeable. Also, many of the fannish publications I remember being told I should read are usually unavailable, being long out of print. Any fan that has a copy isn't about to lend it out, either, so we chase away more new fans this way. And fanzine fandom then asks where are our successors? We've disposed of them already. There are no fans that know everything about fandom, no matter how loudly they might brag.

(Just for the record...the e-mail you had listed for me was at sgsintl.com...I wish I was still there, but I don't work for SGS any more. This e-mail will come from my regular home-based Allstream account.)

[Noted!]

As I write, it is just before Corflu Zed. Is anyone from Vancouver going to this convention? Wish I was, but no money coming in means me not going out. A web camera will probably be set up so that activities at the con can be seen online.

[I like that idea.]

I see that another Creation Convention is coming up in April...I hope someone will alert the local taxation office to see if Creation is paying their taxes.

Ah, there's my birthday on the list...that will be my 50th birthday. Not sure what's going to happen on that day, if my hair's going to turn white or finish falling out. I will trust that the Montreal Worldcon will make me feel a little younger.

Fan funds...Yvonne and I are in the unique position of having been asked to stand as nominators for candidates for TAFF, DUFF and CUFF. We are nominators for Steve Green for TAFF, and I will wait for the DUFF and CUFF candidates to make their own announcements. I don't want to steal their thunder.

My only advice to Michael Bertrand is that if he doesn't like what the voices in his head tell him to do, go with a generally neutral source, such as a

bowl of Rice Krispies. Get the t-shirt, and go for it. If you don't like what your Rice Krispies tell you, I can't help you further. (Just in case I don't find work, Michael, how much are you paying to be a voice in your head? Will I have to commute?)

I think I'm done here, Felicity...welcome to the job, you knew it was dangerous when you took it. Thank you for doing it.

[*Thank you for your letters.*]

Yours,

Lloyd Penney.

From: **Garth Spencer** (garthspencer@shaw.ca), Saturday 14 March 2009
82 East 40th Avenue,
Vancouver, BC,
V5W 1L4

You give good zine. You may do even better, as you leave my standard layout behind and try out different experiments.

[*I experimented with an 8½×5½-inch "landscape" layout for this issue, but I couldn't make the cover illustration and table of contents fit that way.*

[*Instead, this month's experiment is setting the headlines in Arial.*]

A calendar might be more useful to people, the further in advance they receive notice of conventions. Two months may not be enough, as I pointed out years ago, when Dan Dubrick did the convention calendar. I wonder how far in advance people plan and budget for congoing? (Comments, everyone?)

[*Good question. The convention calendar is full-length in the PDF, and truncated to two months in the print edition to save postage.*]

Equally, I wonder how many people gazed at the Corflu, Worldcon, fan fund and *Vegas Fandom Weekly* news without comprehension. How much background will you have to explain to readers, I wonder? What do you say, guys?

M.C. Parrott's article was engrossing, because I've been mulling over the question of how and why civilization arose, and whether it was in fact a bad idea. Actually I'm half-inclined to think civilization—meaning, various agrarian societies—arose in different ways in different times and places, for a variety of reasons and by various means. My favourite theory is that settled villages first arose in the Near East so that people could stay in one place long enough to brew beer.

Michael Bertrand's article was a laugh riot. You really have to draw the line with these cranial commentators; they have all the drawbacks of TV sports show hosts without the air of intelligence.

Calendar

April 2009

[2–4 April 2009: *Stargate SG-1* and *Atlantis* Convention in Vancouver—Burnaby, BC, Canada](#) (Creation Entertainment for-profit media convention).

[4–5 April 2009: Emerald City ComiCon—Seattle, Washington](#) (comics).

5 April 2009: Vancouver Discordians Meetup Group (Garth Spencer’s new salon night) at the Grind Gallery & Café, 4124 Main Street, Vancouver.

8 April 2009: Premiere of *Dragonball: Evolution*, a live-action adaptation starring Chow Yun-Fat.

[9–12 April 2009: Norwescon 32—Seatac, Washington](#) (major regional science fiction convention).

[10–12 April 2009: SakuraCon 2007—Seattle, Washington](#) (Sakura-Con is the premier Pacific Northwest Anime Convention devoted to East Asian Culture, with a particular focus on Japanese animation (anime), Japanese comics (manga), and video gaming).

[25–26 April 2009: Calgary Comics & Entertainment Expo—Calgary, Alberta, Canada](#) (comics).

27 April 2009: Joe Devoy’s birthday.

[30 April–3 May 2009: World Horror Con 2009: Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada](#) (premier horror convention).

May 2009

1 May 2009: premiere of *X-Men Origins: Wolverine*.

[15–16 May 2009: 10th Annual UFO Festival—UFOFest—McMinnville, Oregon](#) (well, as you might guess—a UFO enthusiast event taking place in the Pacific Northwest).

[15–17 May 2009: Zompile—Portland, Oregon](#) (undead film festival).

19 May 2009: Michael “Fruvous” Bertrand’s birthday.

[22–25 May 2009: MisCon 23—Missoula, Montana](#) (general SF).

22 May 2009: premiere of new *Terminator* series, starting with *Terminator: Salvation*.

[22–24 May 2009: CONduit XIX—Salt Lake City](#) (general SF).

[30 May 2009: Spokane Comicon—Spokane, Washington](#) (comics).

June 2009

2 June 2009: Lloyd Penney's birthday.

5 June 2009: premiere of *Land of the Lost*.

5–7 June 2009: **ConComCon 16**—Compass Point Inn in Surrey, British Columbia. (ConComCon is a convention-type gathering of the conunning community.) Memberships \$35. Write the co-chairs Alex von Thorn (Seattle) or Marah Searle-Kovacevic (Toronto) c/o either: ConComCon 16, c/o SWOC, Box 1066, Seattle, WA 98111, USA, or ConComCon 16, 151 Gamma Street, Toronto, Ontario, M8W 4G3, or e-mail concomcon16@worldhouse.com.

[12–14 June 2009: Anime Evolution—Vancouver, BC, Canada](#): Vancouver's Japanese Animation Convention and Asian Popular Culture Festival; at the Vancouver Convention and Exhibition Centre, Vancouver, BC.

28 June 2009: Toren Atkinson's birthday.

July 2009

2–5 July 2009: **FiestaCon/Westercon 62** at the Tempe Mission Palms Hotel in Tempe, Arizona. Guests of Honor: Artist Todd Lockwood; Author Alan Dean Foster; Editor Stanley Schmidt; Fans Jim & Doreen Webbert; TMs Patrick and Teresa Nielsen Hayden. Rooms (1-800-547-8705, booking code 2T80CO) range from \$119/nite S/D to \$139 Queen. Memberships range from \$30 supporting to \$70 full attending. Write: FiestaCon c/o Leprecon, Inc., PO Box 26665, Tempe, AZ 85285, telephone (480) 945-6890 (24-hour home office), e-mail info@fiestacon.org, or see <http://www.fiestacon.org>.

8 July 2009: Aaron Harrison's birthday.

17–19 July 2009: **BC RenFest 2009**, probably at Aldor Acres. Keep watching <http://www.bcrenfest.com>.

17 July 2009: premiere of *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*.

20 July 2009: Julie McGalliard's birthday.

28 July 2009: Adam Charlesworth and Robin Bougie's birthdays.

31 July 2009: Felicity Walker's birthday.

[31 July–2 August 2009: SpoCon—Spokane, Washington](#) (general SF).

August 2009

6–10 August 2009: **Anticipation (67th Worldcon)**, Palais des congrès de Montreal, Montreal, Canada. GOH Neil Gaiman, Elisabeth Vonarburg, Taral Wayne, David Hartwell, Tom Doherty. Contact CP 105, Succursale NDG, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, H4A 3P4. Author Julie Czerneda will be Master of Ceremonies. Artist GOH announced: Ralph Bakshi. Memberships now Can55/\$US55/£30/€35 supp; discounts for site selection voters, presupporters, etc. See <http://www.anticipationsf.ca/>, e-mail: media@anticipationsf.ca or write to: Anticipation—The 67th World Science Fiction Convention, PO Box 105, Station NDG, Montréal, Québec, H4A 3P4.

[7–9 August 2009: Fandemonium—Boise, Idaho](#) (general SF, media and more).

21–23 August 2009: **Con-Version 25** in Calgary, Alberta. Hotel venue: TBA. Guests of Honour are Terry Brooks and Tanya Huff. See <http://www.con-version.org>.

September 2009

Labour Day Weekend: **3-Day Novel Contest** by Anvil Press in Vancouver.

4–7 September 2009: **The North American Discworld Convention** at the Tempe Mission Palms Hotel in Tempe, Arizona; a celebration of Terry Pratchett's series. GOH: Terry Pratchett, with Diane Duane, Peter Morwood, and Esther Friesner; more guests TBA. Rooms 1-800-547-8705, booking code 2TC4Y9) range from \$119/nite S/D to \$139 Queen. Memberships range from \$30 supporting to \$80 full attending; pay online with PayPal. Write North American Discworld Convention 2009, c/o Leprecon, Inc., PO Box 26665, Tempe, AZ 85285, telephone (480) 945-6890 (24-hour home office), or e-mail info@nadwcon.org. For more information see <http://www.nadwcon.org>.

≡CHLOP≡

≡THLUP≡

October 2009

2–4 October 2009: **VCon 34** at the Compass Point Inn, Surrey, BC. GOHs: Author Tanya Huff, ArtGOH Miles Tweet (SF and fantasy film illustrator). Hotel: Compass Point Inn, 9850 King George Highway, Surrey, BC, V3T 4Y3, <http://www.compasspointinn.com>. Reservations: +1-800-663-0660. Box 78069, Grandview RPO, Vancouver, BC V5N 5W1; **phone:** (778) 230-1605; website: <http://www.vcon.ca>.

23–25 October 2009: **Steamcon** at the SeaTac Marriott in Seattle, WA. A convention celebrating “steampunk” (DIY technology-tweaking, but set in the Victorian mechanical age). Writer GOH: Tim Powers (e.g. *The Anubis Gates*, *The Stress of Her Regard*, *On Stranger Tides*). For more information see <http://www.steam-con.com>.

November 2009

19 November 2009: Ashton Green’s birthday.

27–29 November 2009: Orycon 31—Portland, Oregon (general SF and the quintessential SF convention in Oregon).

News-Like Matter

Newsletter of the ‘USS Thermopylae’—Region 5 SFI

Joe Fuller (jofuller2@comcast.net) writes:

“Greetings!

“Here is the link to the latest *Comm Link*. I hope you enjoy.

“I am still looking for a ship captain in Vancouver, BC! We would like to meet with interested parties in April or May so that we can get the chapter launched before summer!

“http://www.ussthermopylae.org/cl_docs/commlink0902.pdf

“Kindest Regards,

“Joe Fuller

“VRC Region 5

“Recruiting Officer Regions 5 & 10”

Forwarded by Garth Spencer
Tuesday 24 February 2009

≡SHORP≡

≡LEP≡

‘Solomon’s Grave,’ Live!

Gwen Gades writes in the [Dragon Moon Press group on Facebook](#):

“*Solomon’s Grave* went live today in preview mode. If you would like to give it a read, our Free-Read™ program is perfect for you... You’ll find the full book here: http://www.facebook.com/l.php?u=http://www.dragoonmoonpress.com2FPromoPDFS%2FSolomonsGrave_DMPWrap_smaller.pdf at no charge.

“There are two things you can do to help us spread the word... blog about it, review it, add it to your newsletter, podcast, your Facebook page, etc. We’d really appreciate the help! The second is to pre-order/order a copy by following the link on the page. We know money is tight so we thank you sincerely for every purchase.

“If you are a blogger etc. and have an affiliate membership at Amazon, and you’d like us to embed *your* affiliate link into a PDF for you to share, please contact mike@dragonmoonpress.com with your product link and we’ll get a file to you.

“Thank you so very much. Your support will keep us publishing.

“The Dragon Moon team.”

Forwarded by Garth Spencer
Tuesday 24 February 2009

Zinester News

Dear Zinester.com user!

Company AGAVA sold Zinester.com. The new owner of the service is “Svoi Lyudi” Ltd. Company AGAVA does not give support to the users of Zinester.com any longer.

You can subscribe to new ezines [here](http://www.zinester.com/main/) (<http://www.zinester.com/main/>).

We present our apologies for any inconvenience.

With kind regards,
Zinester.com team

support@zinester.com

Tuesday 24 February 2009

Late News But Great News

Murray Moore writes:

“During a conversation today with Lance I learned that Lance received approximately \$1,000 from Brian Davis.

“Lance received this money last May. Lance remembers Brian Davis explaining to Lance that he had had medical problems and had to sell some of his property to repay the CUFF money with which he was entrusted.

“The current balance in the CUFF account, including the Brian Davis money, is \$2,162.03.

“As for the current race, recently Lance sent info about the CUFF race to 35 groups west of the Ontario border, organizations and clubs and cons and magazines *Neo-Opis* and *On Spec*. He will follow up soon with a nomination deadline.

“And a race is possible this year. Lance has received two strong expressions of interest; in which case Lance will send a ballot to the same 35 groups, leading to income from the voting fee for the CUFF bank account, plus more publicity.”

Forwarded by Garth Spencer,
Saturday 28 February 2009

FAAn Awards

Lloyd Penney writes:

“Hi, folks...just got told there’s not many votes in yet for this year’s FAAn Awards. You can still vote by e-mail.”

The 2009 Fanzine Activity Achievement (FAAn) Awards Ballot is now on the page for Corflu Zed hosted by efanazines: <http://efanzines.com/Corflu26/index.htm>.

The categories are:

- * Best Fanzine
- * Best Fan Writer
- * Best Fan Artist
- * Best Letterhack
- * Best New Fanzine Fan
- * Best Online Fanac Site

...all for work made public in 2008.

Voting deadlines are:

* By postal mail: Postmarked Thursday 26 February 2009.

* By email: The message must have a timestamp no later than Thursday 5 March 2009, so up to 11:59 PM local time (corflu.zed.faan@gmail.com).

The winners of the 2009 FAAn Awards will be announced during the banquet at Corflu Zed in Seattle, WA, on 15 March 2009 (<http://www.corflu.org>).

Forwarded by Lloyd Penney
Sunday 1 March 2009

‘Cinema Sewer Volume Two’

The ultimate guide to the wildest excesses of grindhouse movies and beyond... Get Ready to Be Flushed!

The celebrated underground smash that is *Cinema Sewer* the magazine has been transformed and mutated into *Cinema Sewer: The Book*—and following the runaway success of the first volume, we’re delighted to be unleashing *Volume Two* onto a now slightly-less-unsuspecting world!

A mind-melting compilation of gonzo writing, illustration and comics about the most insane, sexy, awkward, cheesy, hilarious, upsetting and jaw-dropping movies in the history of film, *Cinema Sewer* joyously celebrates the sleaziest aspects of the moviegoing experience, whilst delving deep into bizarre cinematic history.

Author and comic artist Robin Bougie takes a dive to the bottom of the cesspool of sexploitation, doing so in a distinctive manner that has made him famous amongst a loyal following of cult film fans. If anything, *Cinema Sewer* acts as Robin’s handmade journal, preserving the DIY ’zine aesthetic and carrying it kicking and screaming into the future via articles packed with bizarre trivia and personal insights about the movies your mama always warned you about.

Issues 13 to 17 of this celebrated underground smash magazine are exhaustively revised and collated in this second wild volume, together with an additional 80 pages of never-before-seen interviews, rants, comics, hard-to-find classic movie advertising, and graphic illustrations by Bougie and a host of his talented friends from both the comic book and animation industry. Regardless of whether the reader is just discovering the world of classic porn, horror, and exploitation movies, or if they’re a long time fan from the days when the drive-ins and grindhouses reigned, they’ll find plenty to get excited about, gleefully sloshing around in the filth of the *Cinema Sewer*!



“Robin provides the most thorough and heartfelt coverage of adult cinema I’ve ever seen.”—Dale Ashmun, *Psychotronic Magazine*

“Prepare to veer wildly between curiosity, arousal, disgust, laughter, disbelief, embarrassment, confusion and uncontrollable glee. Such is the power of *Cinema Sewer*.”—David Bertrand, *The Nerve Magazine*

“*Cinema Sewer* is about as disreputable a movie book as they come. Bougie implicates himself in his own tastes more fearlessly than just about any film critic out there.”—Rob Gonsalves, hollywoodbitchslap.com

The Author/Editor: In 1997, underground comic artist and zine publisher Robin Bougie began *Cinema Sewer* magazine, an ode to the seamier side of film and the culture which surrounds it. With an obscenely large collection of rare press books, posters, and obscure deranged movies, Bougie used his geek knowledge, his artistic skills as comic book artist, and connections in the world of porn (his day job is a porn industry journalist for magazines such as *Fox* and *Screw*) to give birth to this unseemly but loveable bastard-child of a publication. Printed comic-sized on cruddy newsprint—"a reading experience meant to take place in the bathroom while defecating" as one critic put it—the magazine quickly found an audience amongst film fans looking for something totally different. Bougie contributes liner notes for DVD releases for companies such as Something Weird Video and has self-published over 70 comic books since he was 18.

Publisher: FAB Press Ltd., 7 Farleigh, Ramsden Road, Godalming, Surrey, GU7 1QE, England, UK, info@fabpress.com.

Technical Details: Size: 244mm × 171mm. Binding: Paperback. Extent: 192 pages, heavily illustrated throughout. ISBN: 978-1-903254-56-1. Publication Date: July 2009. Market: Cinema. Weight: 455g. Edition: First Edition. Status: Future Release. Cover Price: £11.99 (UK), \$19.95 (USA).

Robin Bougie
Sunday 1 March 2009

Burnaby Writers' Society 2009 Contest

For immediate release:

8 March 2009

"Things Lost/Things Found" is the theme for the Burnaby Writers' Society's 2009 writing contest, open to all BC residents. Prizes of \$200, \$100 and \$50, as well as honourable mentions, will be awarded for the best one-page submissions of either prose or poetry, interpreting the theme in any way you wish. Work can be in any form or genre, as long as it is complete on one page. The entry fee is \$5.00 per entry, or 3 entries for \$10.00. Deadline for entries is May 31st, 2009. Results will be announced, and winners will be invited to participate in a public reading, in fall 2009.

For complete guidelines go to the website, www.bws.bc.ca (Latest News) or send a stamped self-addressed envelope to Contest Committee, 225 Townsend Place, New Westminster, B.C., V3L 1L4.

Eileen Kernaghan
lonewolf@uniserve.com
www.eileenkernaghan.ca
Monday 9 March 2009

BCSFA.net to Be Salvaged

Garth Spencer was going into his act again recently, offering to create a BCSFA Members' Handbook in the face of zero demand, and offering to post it on BCSFA.net. He quickly found out that no one knew who was ostensibly in charge of our website, let alone how to get some control of it, and Fearless Leader Graeme suggested Garth contact Greg Slade. Greg said he had no time to look after the website, and before Garth knew it he was offering to take it over. Greg has emailed Garth a zip file of the BCSFA.net pages.

Garth is now tasked to produce his own updated version and run it past Graeme for approval. This will very likely absorb 80% of the material for the Handbook, and let people receive a more manageable publication.

There is no word on whether anyone in BCSFA feels a need for a renewed Members' Directory.

Garth Spencer
Saturday 14 March 2009

They Are Among Us Now

A Vancouver Discordians Meetup Group, AKA The League of Dynamic Discord, now meet on the first Sunday evening of each month at the Grind Gallery and Café. Get in touch with Garth Spencer at garthspencer@shaw.ca and find out why God is a crazy woman and Chaos rules the world.

Garth Spencer
Saturday 14 March 2009

Vancouver Fan Meetups

Keith Lim sent a message to the members of [Vancouver Fandom on Facebook](#):

Hi all in the Vancouver Fandom group,

I'm going to try to start posting news about local fan meetups, but I admit I'm not the best person to do that (I don't have the habit of posting things often, e.g. I don't blog or use Twitter). This is the sort of thing that is best done by multiple people—so once again, I'm inviting/asking people to help run this group, if you're so inclined.

Fan meetups this week are the Harry Potter Meetup on Monday 16 March, and the *Battlestar Galactica* finale meetup on Friday 20 March. (Check the News section of the group for the details and links.)

Keith Lim,
Monday 16 March 2009



Official Newsletter of the ‘USS Thermopylae,’ Region 5, STARFLEET International

Joe Fuller (jofuller2@comcast.net) wrote:

“Greetings Friends!

“This notice is going out to all of our friends that we have met at the various conventions over the past couple of years, newsletter exchange shipmates and generally interested folks. Since our 3rd Anniversary is coming up, Gunny and I wanted to share this issue with all of you!

“Note, we are still wanting very much to start a chapter in Vancouver, BC! Anyone interested in helping us do so is encouraged to contact me as soon as possible so that we can coordinate taking advantage of the upcoming new film!

“Enjoy the newsletter: http://www.ussthermopylae.org/cl_docs/commlink0903.pdf.

“Kindest Regards,

“CAPT Joe Fuller

“CO *USS Thermopylae*

“VRC Region 5 Starfleet

“Recruiting Officer Regions 5 & 10 (*et al.*)

“jofuller2@comcast.net”

Forwarded by Garth Spencer,
Tuesday 17 March 2009

‘Goth House’ Update

Nominally for Friday the Thirteenth, Epitaph continues with a nightmare:

http://www.gothhouse.org/gh_features/epitaph.php

[Julie McGalliard](#)

Wednesday 18 March 2009

The Aurora Award Nominations Are In

Stephanie Ann Johanson sent a message to the members of [Neo-Opis Science Fiction Magazine on Facebook](#):

“The Aurora Award Nominations are in for the 2009 awards. If you want to see the full list of the nominated finalists and information about voting go to <http://www.facebook.com/l.php?u=http://www.anticipationsf.ca%2FEnglish%2FConvention> and/or <http://www.facebook.com/l.php?u=http://www.prixaurorawards.ca%2F>.

“*Neo-Opis Science Fiction Magazine* is a finalist in the category Best Work in English (Other).

“Best Work in English (Other)

“For SF or Fantasy activity, in English, by a Canadian, in 2008 not encompassed by the other Aurora categories.

“*The Gaslight Grimoire*, Jeff Campbell & Charles Prepolec, Réd. (Edge Science Fiction)

“*Neo-Opsis Magazine*, Karl Johanson, Ed.

“*Tesseract Twelve*, Claude Lalumière, Ed. (Edge Science Fiction)

“*Through the Window: A Journey to the Borderlands of Faerie*, Marcie Lynn Tentchoff (Double Edge Publishing)

“*On Spec* magazine, Diane Walton, Managing Ed.

“Stephanie Ann Johanson is a finalist for her cover art on issue 14.

“Artistic Achievement

“For a work or body of work produced by a Canadian artist during 2008.

“*Looking for Group*, Lar deSouza (online comic)

“*Couverture*, *Neo-Opsis* #14, Stephanie Ann Johanson

“*Imagination*, Michèle Laframboise (*Imagination contre les pigeons spammeurs*, Vermillon)

“*Fear Agent* #22, Ronn Sutton (Dark Horse)

“*Couverture*, JEMMA7729, David Willicome”

Forwarded by Garth Spencer,
Wednesday 18 March 2009

Planet of Love

Denise Hunley wrote:

“Looking for songs composed by fans for fans on the themes *Planet of Love* and/or *Inspiricy*. A compilation album of music will be handmade and passed around fandom for free with no money exchanging hands. Songs in languages other than English are welcome, providing the author can assure me that the words are of beautiful themes and nothing naughty...Need original music only, no cover or parodies.

“Please send a letter of permission to allow me to send your music to filk.com (online radio) and college radio stations.

“Contact: Denise Hunley, 13303 Kit Lane, Dallas, TX 75240, USA, planetoflove46@aol.com.”

Forwarded by Garth Spencer
Thursday 19 March 2009



Hugo Awards 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Anticipation: Press Release #20, March 2009

Hugo Nominees Announced

Anticipation is pleased to announce the Hugo nominees for 2009. For more information about the award and the voting process consult our website <http://anticipationsf.ca/English/Hugos>.

The Hugo Award, first presented in 1953, celebrate the best in the field of science fiction and fantasy. Recipients are chosen by members of the World Science Fiction Society (WSFS). The Hugos are presented each year at the World Science Fiction Convention.

799 Total Ballots Cast

Best Novel (639 Ballots Cast)

Anthem by Neal Stephenson (Morrow; Atlantic UK)

The Graveyard Book by Neil Gaiman (HarperCollins; Bloomsbury UK)

Little Brother by Cory Doctorow (Tor Teen; HarperVoyager UK)

Saturn's Children by Charles Stross (Ace; Orbit UK)

Zoe's Tale by John Scalzi (Tor)

Best Novella (337 Ballots Cast)

"The Erdmann Nexus" by Nancy Kress (*Asimov's* Oct./Nov. 2008)

"The Political Prisoner" by Charles Coleman Finlay (*F&SF* Aug/ 2008)

"The Tear" by Ian McDonald (*Galactic Empires*)

"True Names" by Benjamin Rosenbaum & Cory Doctorow (*Fast Forward 2*)

"Truth" by Robert Reed (*Asimov's* Oct./Nov. 2008)

Best Novelette (373 Ballots Cast)

"Alastair Baffle's Emporium of Wonders" by Mike Resnick (*Asimov's* Jan. 2008)

"The Gambler" by Paolo Bacigalupi (*Fast Forward 2*)

"Pride and Prometheus" by John Kessel (*F&SF* Jan. 2008)

"The Ray-Gun: A Love Story" by James Alan Gardner (*Asimov's* Feb.

2008)

"Shoggoths in Bloom" by Elizabeth Bear (*Asimov's* Mar. 2008)

Best Short Story (448 Ballots Cast)

"26 Monkeys, Also the Abyss" by Kij Johnson (*Asimov's* Jul. 2008)

"Article of Faith" by Mike Resnick (*Baen's Universe* Oct. 2008)

"Evil Robot Monkey" by Mary Robinette Kowal (*The Solaris Book of New Science Fiction, Volume Two*)

"Exhalation" by Ted Chiang (*Eclipse Two*)

"From Babel's Fall'n Glory We Fleed" by Michael Swanwick (*Asimov's* Feb. 2008)

Best Related Book (263 Ballots Cast)

Rhetorics of Fantasy by Farah Mendlesohn (Wesleyan University Press)

Spectrum 15: The Best in Contemporary Fantastic Art by Cathy Fenner & Arnie Fenner, eds. (Underwood Books)

The Vorkosigan Companion: The Universe of Lois McMaster Bujold by Lillian Stewart Carl & John Helfers, eds. (Baen)

What It Is We Do When We Read Science Fiction by Paul Kincaid (Beacon Publications)

Your Hate Mail Will Be Graded: A Decade of Whatever, 1998-2008 by John Scalzi (Subterranean Press)

Best Graphic Story (212 Ballots Cast)

The Dresden Files: Welcome to the Jungle Written by Jim Butcher, art by Ardian Syaf (Del Rey/Dabel Brothers Publishing)

Girl Genius, Volume 8: Agatha Heterodyne and the Chapel of Bones Written by Kaja & Phil Foglio, art by Phil Foglio, colors by Cheyenne Wright (Airship Entertainment)

Fables: War and Pieces Written by Bill Willingham, pencilled by Mark Buckingham, art by Steve Leialoha and Andrew Pepoy, color by Lee Loughridge, letters by Todd Klein (DC/Vertigo Comics)

Schlock Mercenary: The Body Politic Story and art by Howard Tayler (The Tayler Corporation)

Serenity: Better Days Written by Joss Whedon & Brett Matthews, art by Will Conrad, color by Michelle Madsen, cover by Jo Chen (Dark Horse Comics)

Y: The Last Man, Volume 10: Whys and Wherefores Written/created by Brian K. Vaughan, pencilled/created by Pia Guerra, inked by Jose Marzan, Jr. (DC/Vertigo Comics)

Best Dramatic Presentation, Long Form (436 Ballots Cast)

The Dark Knight Christopher Nolan & David S. Goyer, story; Jonathan Nolan and Christopher Nolan, screenplay; based on characters created by Bob Kane; Christopher Nolan, director (Warner Brothers)

Hellboy II: The Golden Army Guillermo del Toro & Mike Mignola, story; Guillermo del Toro, screenplay; based on the comic by Mike Mignola; Guillermo del Toro, director (Dark Horse, Universal)

Iron Man Mark Fergus & Hawk Ostby and Art Marcum & Matt Holloway, screenplay; based on characters created by Stan Lee & Don Heck & Larry Lieber & Jack Kirby; Jon Favreau, director (Paramount, Marvel Studios)

METAtropolis edited by John Scalzi; Elizabeth Bear, Jay Lake, Tobias Buckell, John Scalzi, and Karl Schroeder, writers (Audible Inc.)

WALL-E Andrew Stanton & Pete Docter, story; Andrew Stanton & Jim Reardon, screenplay; Andrew Stanton, director (Pixar/Walt Disney)

Best Dramatic Presentation, Short Form (336 Ballots Cast)

Lost: “The Constant,” Carlton Cuse & Damon Lindelof, writers; Jack Bender, director (Bad Robot, ABC studios)

Doctor Horrible’s Sing-Along Blog Joss Whedon, & Zack Whedon, & Jed Whedon, & Maurissa Tancharoen, writers; Joss Whedon, director (Mutant Enemy)

Battlestar Galactica: “Revelations,” Bradley Thompson & David Weddle, writers; Michael Rymer, director (NBC Universal)

Doctor Who: “Silence in the Library”/“Forest of the Dead,” Steven Moffat, writer; Euros Lyn, director (BBC Wales)

Doctor Who: “Turn Left,” Russell T. Davies, writer; Graeme Harper, director (BBC Wales)

Best Editor, Short Form (377 Ballots Cast)

Ellen Datlow

Stanley Schmidt

Jonathan Strahan

Gordon Van Gelder

Sheila Williams

Best Editor, Long Form (273 Ballots Cast)

Lou Anders

Ginjer Buchanan

David G. Hartwell

Beth Meacham

Patrick Nielsen Hayden

Best Professional Artist (334 Ballots Cast)

Daniel Dos Santos

Bob Eggleton

Donato Giancola

John Picacio

Shaun Tan

Best Semiprozine (283 Ballots Cast)

Clarkesworld Magazine edited by Neil Clarke, Nick Mamatas, & Sean Wallace

Interzone edited by Andy Cox

Locus edited by Charles N. Brown, Kirsten Gong-Wong, & Liza Groen Trombi

The New York Review of Science Fiction edited by Kathryn Cramer, Kris Dikeman, David G. Hartwell, & Kevin J. Maroney

Weird Tales edited by Ann VanderMeer & Stephen H. Segal

Best Fan Writer (291 Ballots Cast)

Chris Garcia

John Hertz

Dave Langford

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Cheryl Morgan

Steven H. Silver

Best Fanzine (257 Ballots Cast)

Argentus edited by Steven H. Silver

Banana Wings edited by Claire Brialey and Mark Plummer

Challenger edited by Guy H. Lillian III

The Drink Tank edited by Chris Garcia

Electric Velocipede edited by John Klima

File 770 edited by Mike Glyer

Best Fan Artist (187 Ballots Cast)

Alan F. Beck

Brad W. Foster

Sue Mason

Taral Wayne

Frank Wu

The John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer (288 Ballots Cast)

Aliette de Bodard*

David Anthony Durham*

Felix Gilman

Tony Pi*

Gord Sellar*

*(Second year of eligibility)

The 67th World Science Fiction Convention, known as Anticipation, will take place in Montréal, Québec, Canada from Thursday, August 6th through Monday, August 10th, 2009.

More information about Anticipation, including current membership rates, is available on our web site (<http://www.anticipationsf.ca>); you can also write to us for more information.

Contacts:

Anticipation, the 67th World Science Fiction Convention: P.O. Box 105, Station NDG Montréal, QC H4A 3P4 <http://www.anticipationsf.ca/>, email: media@anticipationsf.ca

“WSFS,” “Worldcon,” “World Science Fiction Convention,” “Hugo Award” and “NASFiC” and the distinctive design of the Hugo Award Rocketare registered service marks of the World Science Fiction Society, an unincorporated literary society.

Forwarded by Garth Spencer
Thursday 19 March 2009

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HURRR..

ennk.

How the Royal Swiss Navy Did Not Solve the Assassinations of George H. Bush, George W. Bush, Elijah Harper, Stephen Harper, Billy Graham, Joshua Graham, and a Cast of Thousands of Uniformed Americans in the Middle East (and Hundreds of Canadians As Well)

I.M. Tasteless

Two people showed up at the Boston Pizza on Broadway, Garth Spencer and Julian Castle. I could multiply the number by giving their various aliases, but the RSN doesn't want me to. After three or four drinks (alcoholic, in Garth's case) they came to certain conclusions. One, people going to FRED should learn sign language, especially on game nights like the crowded night we found at Boston's Pizza. Garth waited nearly an hour for a table and then only Julian showed up. Two, the Royal Swiss Navy should search for the successor to Emperor Norton. Three, if BCSFA needs women, as Garth famously wrote in one *BCSFAzine* editorial, then we should advertise enticing themes for BCSFA meetings the way MonSFFA does for its meetings, as by organizing "Hunks of SF/Fantasy" film showings. Also, Garth has to get off his ass and actually tell the *BCSFAzine* trades that the address has changed. (Some people are still mailing to Garth's defunct PO Box, and haven't caught on that we have a whole new editor, hint hint MonSFFA.) Garth said something inarticulate about three-dimensional intergalactic hockey with multispecies participation, but Julian didn't quite get it. A wooden leg named Psmith. We retired about 10 p.m.

The end.

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'Watchmen' Movie Review

Kathleen Moore

RONCH RONCH RONCH

Here's a brief review of the *Watchmen* movie. At last a really suitable music video for Simon & Garfunkel's "Sound of Silence." But Rorschach is the wrong blot.

HURM.

Zines Received

[Ethel the Aardvark](#) #140 (February–March 2009), MSFC, PO Box 212, World Trade Centre, Melbourne, VIC 8005, Australia, ethelaardvark@yahoo.com.au: Club calendar; convention calendar; editorials; film reviews—*The Dark Knight*, *Millennium Actress*, and *The Day the Earth Stood Still*; *Doctor Who* news; club news; theatre review—*The Arrival*; book reviews—*The Time Traveler's Wife*,

The Magician's Apprentice, Graceling, The Chaos Crystal, and Crater; 2008 Aurealis Awards report; comics reviews: *Judge Dredd—The Complete Case Files* and *Judge Dredd—Judgment Day*; letters of comment.

[Burnaby Writers' Society](#), March–April 2009, 6584 Deer Lake Avenue, Burnaby, BC, V5G 3T7, info@bws.bc.ca: “Writers’ Society Christens James Street [Café] Its New ‘Home’ Coffeehouse”; “ReVisions ReNaming Contest”; “Who Sold What to Whom”; “Events”; “Courses, Sources & Resources”; “Markets”; “Contests & Awards”; “In Other News”; “Members’ Websites.”

About BCSFA

The incumbent BCSFA Executive members are:

President & Archivist: R. Graeme Cameron, 604-584-7562

Vice President: TBA

Treasurer: Kathleen Moore, 604-771-0845

Secretary: Barb Dryer, 604-267-7973

Editor: Felicity Walker, 604-448-8814

Keeper of FRED Book: Ryan Hawe, 604-448-8714

VCon Ambassador for Life: Steve Forty, 604-936-4754

BCSFA’s website is at www.bcsfa.net.

The BCSFA e-mail list is bc_scifi_assc@yahoo.com,

archived at groups.yahoo.com/group/bc_scifi_assc/

Why You Got This

___ You are a member.

___ I thought you were a member.

___ You trade with us.

___ You carry sample copies of *BCSFAzine* to advertise us.

___ You bought a copy in person.

___ You contributed.

___ The stars were right.

___ A wizard did it.

___ No amount of torture will result in us revealing that information.

___ We know nothing!

___ It was your Moment of Zen.