

BCSFAzine

The Newsletter of the British Columbia Science Fiction Association

#527

\$3.00/Issue

April 2017



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BCSFAzine © April 2017, Volume 45, #4, Issue #527 is the monthly club newsletter published by the British Columbia Science Fiction Association, a social organization. ISSN 1490-6406.

Please send comments, suggestions, and/or submissions to Felicity Walker (the editor), at felicity4711@gmail.com or Apartment 601, Manhattan Tower, 6611 Cooney Road, Richmond, BC, Canada, V6Y 4C5 (*new address*).

BCSFAzine is distributed monthly at White Dwarf Books, 3715 West 10th Avenue, Vancouver, BC, V6R 2G5; telephone 604-228-8223; e-mail whitedwarf@deadwrite.com. Single copies C\$3.00/US\$2.00 each. *Cheques should be made payable to “West Coast Science Fiction Association (WCSFA).”*

This and Next Month in BCSFA

Sunday 16 April at 7 PM:	April BCSFA meeting—at Ray Seredin’s, 707 Hamilton Street (recreation room), New Westminster.
Friday 21 April:	Submission deadline for May <i>BCSFAzine</i> (ideally).
Friday 28 April:	May <i>BCSFAzine</i> production (theoretically).
Friday 19 April:	Submission deadline for May <i>BCSFAzine</i> (ideally).
Sunday 21 May at 7 PM:	May BCSFA meeting—at Ray Seredin’s.
Friday 26 May:	June <i>BCSFAzine</i> production (theoretically).

About BCSFA

The incumbent BCSFA Executive members are:

- 🐉 WCSFA Social Committee Chairman/Archivist: R. Graeme Cameron, 604-584-7562
- 🐉 Vice President: TBD
- 🐉 Treasurer/Supporting *BCSFAzine* Production Donor: Kathleen Moore, 604-771-0845
- 🐉 Secretary: Barb Dryer, 604-267-7973
- 🐉 Editor/Supporting *BCSFAzine* Production Donor: Felicity Walker, 604-447-3931 (*new number*)
- 🐉 Keeper of FRED Book: Ryan Hawe, 778-895-2371
- 🐉 FRED Organizer: Michael Bertrand, 604-447-3931
- 🐉 VCON Ambassador for Life: Steve Forty, 604-936-4754

BCSFA’s website is at <http://www.bcsfa.net/> (thank you to webmasters [Garth Spencer](#) and [R. Graeme Cameron](#)). The BCSFA e-mail list is “BC Sci-Fi Assc.” (http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bc_scifi_assc/). See <http://bcsfa.net/events.html> for more events. Low-resolution back issues of *BCSFAzine* are also archived at <http://efanzines.com/BCSFA/index.htm> (thank you to webmaster Bill Burns). Contact Felicity for high-resolution copies.

Letters of Comment

[Editor's responses in brackets.]

Dave Haren
tyrbolo@comcast.net

Friday 23 February 2018



Hi Felicity,

Currently on the workbench is HMS *Error*, mighty gunboat of the steampunk fleet soon to be off after “revolting natives” in the finest tradition of Empire snobbery.

I have half a pound of pseudo-lead sailors to paint before this project is finished.

I'm reading Cory Doctorow's *Pirate Cinema*, an enjoyable experience since the copyright wars over our cultural commons have turned out so badly lately. That outrages me and I hate the ridiculous framings that you see in popular media. Val d'Orazio just showed one of the Disney cartoon cels from *Snow White* that has deteriorated so badly that the paint is falling off. Locking the material up away from the public domain for such a long period means our culture will have crumbled into dust before we are allowed to save it.

I thought Taral's take on NAFTA was quite interesting. The only thing I would amend is the idea that Donny is personally responsible for all of the crappy behaviours in the USA/Canada disputes.

People tend to do this a lot. He was foolish enough to want that job thinking it would be easy to run a country like he runs a hotel empire. It hasn't worked out in practice. The Deep State (euphemism for a bunch of seedy spooks who think they run the world) is not cooperating. Law enforcement has been in a mode of playing dirty politics and missed the chance to put their own loon in; this led to cries of “The Russians are coming,” which in turn led to them failing to do simple things like their real jobs. The international scene has not cooperated by calming down. Syria keeps sucking in more and more combatants all of who have their own weird agendas and none willing to back down. Fencing in USA might seem like a good idea to the untutored masses but until the “Empire” pulls its troops home that's not going to make a difference.

Power is never where you think it is; the very nature of power makes it be concealed from view. Now if the FBI starts to dig into the electoral college then you can believe all of the hype about Rus in the elections. That's because they elect the president and they aren't swayed by a few trolls on the Net.

Like Assange the truth may not set you free. Throwing rocks at the ship figure-head will not change the course of an empire of loons.

“ ‘A monopoly on the means of communication,’ Robert Shea and Robert Anton Wilson wrote in *Leviathan*, their 1975 novel, ‘may define a ruling elite more precisely than the celebrated Marxian formula of “monopoly in the means of produc-

tion.”’ Bear that in mind when you hear this next statistic: In 2017 Google and Facebook have accounted for 84 percent of all digital advertising outside China, including 96 percent of its growth, according to an industry forecast this month, from Zenith, Magna and GroupM.”—Mark Epstein¹

Links:

<https://www.nature.com/news/1-500-scientists-lift-the-lid-on-reproducibility-1.19970>²

Some real science fiction!! Apparently few use the scientific method with its insistence on repeatable experiments any more.

[Reality is inconsistent and uncooperative, apparently just as much for the professionals as for the rest of us.]

<http://bigthink.com/videos/thinking-yourself-to-orgasm>³

Here’s some experiments you can try at home.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XwEILPSt0vY>⁴

Some experiments better left to others.

[There’s a need for safety courses and equipment there. It looked like the people filming encouraged their subjects to shoot without telling them everything they needed to know. If I ever own a gun I’ll want lots of training first.]

<https://www.illuminatiofficial.org/>⁵

Your friends are already members.

[Reassuring if true.]

<http://bookhaven.stanford.edu/2017/12/great-news-rome-revokes-ovids-exile/>⁶

It’s about time!!

<https://boingboing.net/2017/12/29/lcs-are-slow-ais.html>⁷

Charlie Stross talking at 34C3. There’s a great story with the title “Narcissus Mirror” involving the cellphone and its unintended consequences buried in this talk.

[Interesting. Also scary. The idea of corporations as slow AIs is clever.]

<http://www.salisburymuseum.org.uk/whats-on/exhibitions/terry-pratchett-hisworld>⁸

Art for art’s sake.

<https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/847271320/triplanetary-the-classic-game-of-space-combat>⁹

It lives again!!

[Nice!]

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2018/jan/23/poetry-world-split-over-polemic-attacking-amateur-work-by-young-female-poets>¹⁰

Poetry has always had a bad rap since the Bards days.

1 [Link](#).

2 [Nature](#): “1,500 Scientists Lift the Lid on Reproducibility.”

3 [Big Think](#): “Thinking Yourself to Orgasm.”

4 [Explosion Bros](#): “Biggest Gun Fail Compilation 2017.”

5 “Official Website of the Illuminati.”

6 [The Book Haven](#): “Great News! Rome Revokes Ovid’s Exile!”

7 [Boing Boing](#): “Charlie Stross’s CCC Talk: The Future of Psychotic AIs Can Be Read in Today’s Sociopathic Corporations.”

8 [The Salisbury Museum](#): “Terry Pratchett: HisWorld.”

9 [Kickstarter](#): “Triplanetary—The Classic Game of Space Combat.”

[It was surprising that Watts used “populist” as a negative term. Maybe she’s conflating populism with the fake populism of Donald Trump.]

<https://superscholar.org/interviews/christopher-michael-langan/>¹¹

We don’t need no school!!

[I wonder if he’s seen Road House (1989)? I fell through the cracks at university too. However, I don’t have enough systematising intelligence to understand the CTMU and SCPSL, not even the “plain English” version.]

<https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/1226387855/tyrana-mountains-orcs-miniatures>¹²

Neat idea. Almost as good as Gygax Porks.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2-p44-9S4O0>¹³

Why Google lacks substance.

[Wait, what?]

http://www.chick.com/reading/tracts/0046/0046_01.asp¹⁴

Evangelism discovers D&D gamers.

<https://kotaku.com/the-notorious-board-game-that-takes-1500-hours-to-compl-1818510912>¹⁵

In case you need a way to keep busy over the winter you can’t beat CNA.

Astounding coincidence: Intel’s CEO liquidated all the stock he was legally permitted to sell after learning of catastrophic processor flaws.



Perfect timing is just synchronicity not insider trading.

Spectre and Meltdown have claimed their first second-order victim.

A YouTube video of white noise got hit with five copyright claims.

Apparently someone failed their physics classes badly.

You can almost hear the paper shredders working overtime as USA plays CYA games.

“In addition to the communications already made public, the Justice Department on Friday provided Johnson’s committee with 384 pages of text messages, according to a letter from the Wisconsin lawmaker that was obtained by the Associated Press.

“But, according to the letter, the FBI told the department that its system for retaining text messages sent and received on bureau phones had failed to preserve communications between Strzok and Page over a five-month period between Dec. 14, 2016, and May 17, 2017. May 17 was the date that Mueller was appointed as special counsel to oversee the Russia investigation.

10 [The Guardian](#): “Poetry World Split Over Polemic Attacking ‘Amateur’ Work by ‘Young Female Poets.’ ”

11 [Super Scholar](#): “Christopher M. Langan Interview.”

12 [Kickstarter](#): “Tyrana Mountains Orcs Miniatures.”

13 [Talks at Google](#): “John Cleese: ‘So, Anyway...’ ”

14 [Chick Publications](#): “Dark Dungeons.”

15 [Kotaku](#): “The Notorious Board Game That Takes 1,500 Hours to Complete.”



“The explanation for the gap was ‘misconfiguration issues related to rollouts, provisioning, and software upgrades that conflicted with the FBI’s collection capabilities.’ ”

Same week that CIA accidentally lost all the records supposed to be saved about surveillance of citizens. Coincidences multiply like rabbits in the land of CYA (Cover Your Ass).

“[O]utside the ordered universe that amorphous blight of nethermost confusion which blasphemes and bubbles at the center of all infinity—the boundless daemon sultan [...], whose name no lips dare speak aloud, and who gnaws hungrily in inconceivable, unlighted chambers beyond time and space amidst the muffled, maddening beating of vile drums and the thin monotonous whine of accursed flutes.”—H.P. Lovecraft

The woman in question was a resident of Los Angeles, arrested in Atlantic City after wrangling physically and by all accounts rather successfully with a beach cop who took issue with (among other things) her bathing attire. Her name was Louise Rosine and she was described as looking “as powerful as Jack Dempsey.” She further expressed her contempt for local attitudes about body nudity by disrobing entirely once she arrived in jail, forcing the jail authorities to defend themselves from her body presence by pinning up sheets in front of her cell.

From the roaring twenties women’s lib movement.

“A hunter in the US has been knocked unconscious by a dead goose that fell out of the sky.” Dead Canadian goose strikes back!! (From BBC.)¹⁶

That’s about it for the usual batch of things of interest.

Now I can offload a few more weird pictures on you and get back to re-reading Ace doubles.

I watched *Aragami* without any subtitles which turned out to be a nice minimal budget movie compared to the current crop of gee whizz. Followed it up with the “*Satan’s Sword*” trilogy I found on YouTube. Ryonosuke was a real piece of work.

Warm regards,

Dave

Michael Bertrand
fruvousfox@gmail.com

Saturday 3 March 2018

Heya BCSFArinos! It’s your faithful-ish correspondent Michael “Fruvous” Bertrand, back this ish without much to report but plenty to say.

Re: Yvonne Penny’s birthday/retirement:

This might be a dumb question, but I am dying to know. What’s the difference between her final working day and her Last Day of Work? Is she using vacation days to stop working before her birthday?

¹⁶ [Link](#).

When my father took early retirement, he had so many sick days banked that they told him to take the last two months of his employment period off, because otherwise, according to the union rules, they would have had to pay him almost \$10,000.

Oh, and of course, congratulations, Yvonne! It's official. You don't have to do anything you don't feel like doing any more.

Re: mystery shoppers:

So glad you've got work, Lloyd! It's a rough world out there these days. That's why I am such an urban hermit.

Mystery shopper has always seemed like a great gig to me. And I am sure I could do it. Despite my elephantine physique, I have a knack for fading into the background, and it would be so much fun to catch people in the act of doing wrong. Especially if that wrong is being rude to customers. It would be great to be part of the enforcement arm of good manners.

Re: Dave Haren and communications as a utility:

The difference between Internet access and utilities like power and water is that most of the key infrastructure of the Internet is in private hands. The phone lines, the water pipes, and the power lines are all *de facto* owned by the people.

Also, in order for the Internet to become a utility, the government would have to take over in some way, and people would not take that well.

Re: Sheryl losing a garage door to an Amazon delivery truck:

And these are the people who want us to trust them with drones?

Well that's enough out of me for this ish. Seeya next ish, folks!



John Purcell
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Monday 12 March 2018

You know, Felicity, even though it has been many a moon since I've written to you, these fanzines from the Canadian Northwest keep arriving. You are too kind. So, it's time for a handful of comments. Hope you're ready for them.

[*You also receive them in trade for the zines you send me.* ☺]

It really does feel like I'm traveling in a TARDIS by writing a letter of comment in March of 2018 on issues with cover dates of February and March 2017, and the fanzine in question comes out on a monthly schedule. Sometimes I think it gets mailed through the wormhole lying just off Vancouver Island. Then again, maybe the postal service really is that slow. Oh, but other time travelers have written letters to you; I see Dave Haren wrote to you on Halloween last year, then I wrote on Thanksgiving in the Feb. '17 issue, and Lloyd Penney comes through in mid-December '17. Making it even worse, Sheryl Birkhead spent an apparent 8 days to

write and send a letter to you, and Michael Bertrand mucks up the timeline even more by writing in January of this year! What the heck? It appears we each have personalized wormholes. What a concept!

[*Complex problem, simple explanation: I'm way behind schedule.*]

Hey, I see I had a birthday last March. How about that? Come to think of it, another one is coming up in ten days. I suppose I will see a notice about this year's birthday next year.

Okay, I'm gonna stop right there. My head's beginning to hurt.

All the best,

John Purcell

[*Happy birthdays!*]

Lloyd Penny

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M9C 2B2
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Tuesday 13 March 2018

Dear BCSFen:

A letter of comment on a single issue of *BCSFazine!* That's called catching up. I have issue 526 here, and here come comments on the contents.

My letter from the past three issues...nothing on Trump, it just gets too many people upset. Indeed, Douglas Adams should be the VCON 42 Ghost of Honour. We met him once, a very nice person, and exceedingly tall. Yvonne is enjoying her retirement, but is looking for a short-term job to build up some cash. We want to return to England in 2019, and it's not cheap. I am still at the mystery shopper company, but my hours have been cut back drastically, so I will continue my own hunt, too. I hope that my skills won't preclude finding new work, for I still have about seven years before I can comfortably retire myself.



Sheryl's letter...so many Americans would not subscribe to CBS All Access in order to see episodes of *Star Trek: Discovery*. We Canadians have been most fortunate to be able to see all episodes of *Discovery* season 1 on Space, and we have watched them, and PVRed them too, just in case. When the spring comes, and there is little to see on TV, I might just go back and watch all the episodes again.

Thank you for the reminder that April 12 is Yuri's Night. We organized Yuri's Night in Toronto some years ago, but the task is now given to organizations like the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada.

Passages...I think Desmond Carrington was also a musical impresario, and had a music show on BBC Radio 2. Bruce Lansbury was, of course, the son of Angela Lansbury. It's not fair that he is gone, but his mother is still around, and on occasion, still performing. I remember Peter Wyngarde on British shows like *Jason King*.

Can't disagree with Taral on his insight on the Canadian-American relationship. [Trump] fails to remember that the relationship is one that's gone on for decades, and he is more than willing to shift it down the tube, and threaten all of us. Hate Trump, not America...I cannot see how he was elected in the first place, so I cannot see his re-election. Give him time, and he will be shifted soon.

It is getting late, and I have a short shift at work tomorrow, so I will send out the above, and say many thanks. See you with 527.

Yours,
Lloyd Penney
[Thanks for the LOC!]

Steve Green
steve.green@ghostwords.co.uk

Tuesday 21 February 2018

**MONSTERS CAPTURE
GIRLS FROM AUDIENCE!**



**FREE! 2 For 1 Passes
IF YOU SEE IT ALL!**

Extra - On Stage

THE
BEATLES Singing For You
Mystically Transformed!

**WIN! REAL LIVE BABY
WILL BE GIVEN AWAY
WALKING—READY TO TALK!**

Hi Felicity,

Whilst Sheryl [Birkhead] might feel hard done by as a result of CBS's decision to make *Star Trek: Discovery* a subscription-only release within the United States, she might have been even more aggrieved had she watched the first few episodes, as I did via my Netflix UK portal. Once again, as with *Enterprise* and the absurd Abrams movies, those responsible for introducing the *Trek* universe to a new generation have tied themselves in knots writing continuity-twisting backstory rather than address events post-*Voyager*. Needless to say, the technology and overall design is completely wrong for a series set in the so-called "Prime" timeline approximately five years after the original *Star Trek* pilot (in other words, a decade before Kirk and Spock went "Where No Man Has Gone Before"). Despite having been a *Trek* fan since the BBC first ran the show in 1969, I didn't bother with Abrams'

third car crash (a series he only took on because he was waiting for *Star Wars*) and ditched *Discovery* after four episodes. Life is too short to waste on low-grade fan fiction.

Warm regards,
Steve

We Also Heard From: Evelyn Forbes.

RANDOM NOSTALGIA

**BOOMER FROM ASMIK
"BATTLETECH" THE ANIMATED SERIES
CREATIVE TEACHING PRESS SCRATCH 'N' SNIFF STICKERS
CANDY WITH EDIBLE RICE PAPER WRAPPINGS**

Calendar

Note to print readers: underlined events have an associated URL. Links are included in the PDF version at <http://www.efanzines.com/BCSFA/>.—Julian Castle

Recurring

12 and 26 April and 10 and 24 May 2017 (*alternate Wednesdays*): Kitsilano Board Games: Wednesday Is the New Monday!, 7–8 PM at Cuppa Joy, 2083 Alma Street, Vancouver.—Keith Lim

5, 12, 19, and 26 April and 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31 May 2017 (*Wednesdays*): Cloudscape Comics Weekly Meeting, 7:30–11:30 PM at top floor of Memorial South Park's Fieldhouse, located inside the park at 5955 Ross Street (at 41st Avenue), Vancouver.—Keith Lim/Julian Castle

6, 13, 20, and 27 April and 4, 11, 18, and 25 May 2017 (*Thursdays*): Thursday Hobby Build Nights, 6–9 PM at Ages Three and Up Gundam, 226–9855 Austin Road, Burnaby.—A3U Gundam

6 April and 4 May 2017 (*first Thursday*): Drop-In Drawing for Adults: Pick Up a Pencil, 6–9 PM at Richmond Art Gallery, Richmond Cultural Centre, 7700 Minoru Gate, Richmond. [*No Drop-In Drawing in July.*]

6 April and 4 May 2017 (*first Thursday*): Wordplay: A Free Writing Prompt Group with Facilitator Alan Girling, 7–9 PM at the Network Hub, #205–810 Quayside Drive, New Westminster.—Alan Girling

7, 14, 21, and 28 April and 5, 12, 19, and 26 May 2017 (*Fridays*): Magic: The Gathering Friday Night Games, 5:30–9 PM at Imperial Hobbies, Unit #115–6080 Russ Baker Way, Richmond.

7, 14, 21, and 28 April and 5, 12, 19, and 26 May 2017 (*Fridays*): Board Gamers: Friday Night Magic, 6:30–9:30 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

7, 14, 21, and 28 April and 5, 12, 19, and 26 May 2017 (*Fridays*): Friday Board Game Night—Drexoll Games, 7–11 PM at Drexoll Games, 2880 West 4th Avenue, Vancouver.—Keith Lim

1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 April and 6, 13, 20, and 27 May 2017 (*Saturdays*): Board Gamers: Saturday Afternoon Gaming, 12–7 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 April and 6, 13, 20, and 27 May 2017 (*Saturdays*): Saturday Jam at the Brownsville Pub, 5:30–9:30 PM at the Brownsville Pub, 11940 Old Yale Road, Surrey.—Greg Cairns

2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 April and 7, 14, 21, and 28 May 2017 (*Sundays*): Kitsilano Board Games: Lazy Sundays, 2–3 PM at Cuppa Joy, #295–2083 Alma Street, Vancouver.—Keith Lim

3, 10, 17, and 24 April and 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 May 2017 (*Mondays*): Board Gamers: Painting Miniatures, 5–9 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

3, 10, 17, and 24 April and 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 May 2017 (*Mondays*): Vancouver Hack Space Craft Night, 7:30–10:30 PM at 270 East 1st Avenue, Vancouver.—Julian Castle

4, 11, 18, and 25 April and 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 May 2017 (*Tuesdays*): Board Gamers: Tuesday Night Board Gaming, 5–10 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

4, 11, 18, and 25 April and 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 May 2017 (*Tuesdays*): Vancouver Hack Space Open House, 7:30–10:30 PM at 270 East 1st Avenue, Vancouver.—Julian Castle

4, 11, 18, and 25 April and 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 May 2017 (*Tuesdays*): Hot Improv Tuesdays at Café Deux Soleils!, 8 PM at Café Deux Soleils, 2096 Commercial Drive, Vancouver.—The Fictionals Comedy Co.

6 and 20 April and 4 and 18 May 2017 (*alternate Thursdays*): Burnaby Sci-Fi Writers' Group, 7–9 PM at Metrotown Public Library, 6100 Willingdon Avenue, Burnaby, in Program Room or Connections Lounge.—Allan Lowson (on Richmond Writers Network Facebook Group)

13 April and 11 May 2017 (*second Thursday*): Vancouver Astronomy Monthly Meetup, 7:30–8:30 PM. [*No location given.*]—Keith Lim

13 April and 11 May 2017 (*second Thursday*): Fraser Valley Model Club Monthly Meeting, 7:30–9:30 PM at Kariton House Gallery, 2387 Ware Street, Abbotsford.—Keith Lim

8 April and 13 May 2017 (*second Saturday*): Teen Manga and Anime Group (former name: Teen Manga Advisory Group), 3:30–5:30 PM at Harvey Southam Room, Lower Level, Vancouver Public Library Central Branch, 350 West Georgia Street, Vancouver. Free.—Julian Castle

11 April and 9 May 2017 (*second Tuesday*): Meeting of Automotive Model Builders Vancouver, 7 PM at Burnaby Lions Club, 7420 Mulberry Place, Burnaby.

11 April and 9 May 2017 (*second Tuesday*): Monthly Steampunk Coffee Klatch, 7:30–9 PM at Waves Coffee House—large private room, #100–900 Howe Street (@ Smithe), Vancouver.—Keith Lim

19 April and 17 May 2017 (*third Wednesday*): Richmond BC Writers' Club Critique Night, 7–8:30 PM at Richmond Public Library, Ironwood Branch, Unit 8200, 11688 Steveston Highway, Richmond.—Richmond BC Writers' Club

21 April and 19 May 2017 (*third Friday*): IPMS Vancouver Monthly Meeting, 7–9:30 PM at Bonsor Recreation Complex, second floor “Arts Room,” 6550 Bonsor Avenue, Burnaby.—Keith Lim

15 April and 20 May 2017 (*third Saturday*): Vancouver Comic Jam, 8 PM–late (sometimes ends when Wallflower closes at 1 AM) at the Wallflower Modern Diner, 2420 Main Street, Vancouver.—Keith Lim

16 April and 21 May 2017 (*third Sunday*): Board Game Swap Meetup, 11 AM–1 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

29 April and 27 May 2017 (*last Saturday*): Board Gamers: 12 Hours of Gaming, 12 PM–12 AM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

April 2017

April is National Humour Month.

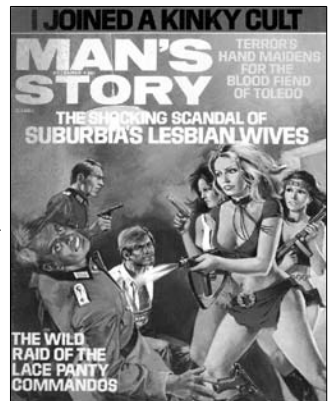
1 April 2017: **Dean McGee**'s birthday. Library Snap-Shot Day.

1 April 2017: YCON Relaxicon 41½ Organizational Meeting, 1–4 PM at 7842 Express Street, Burnaby.—Jenni Merrifield

2 April 2017: **Colin Upton**'s birthday.

4 April 2017: School Librarian Day.

7 April 2017: Premiere of films *Smurfs: The Lost Village* (computer animation; Rainn Wilson, Jack McBrayer, Mandy Patinkin, Dee Bradley Baker, Frank Welker, Julia Roberts, Gabriel Iglesias, Jeff Dunham, Gordon Ramsay, Scott Menville), *Colossal* (fantasy; Anne Hathaway, Jason Sudeikis), *The Void* (horror; Kenneth Welsh, Art Hindle, Stephanie Belding), and *Your Name*¹⁷ (fantasy).



17 AKA *Kimi No Na Wa*.



8 April 2017: **Frobisher Cat**'s birthday.

8 April 2017: Get Out of Your Basement and Build: April Edition, 1 PM at Metropolis Comics and Toys, #200-4735 Kingsway, Burnaby.—Stan Hyde

10 April 2017: **David Langford** and **Dara Korra'ti**'s birthdays.

11 April 2017: **John Herbert** and **Jennifer Hawe**'s birthdays. National Library Day and National Library Workers Day.

12 April 2017: Russian Cosmonaut Day. DEAR¹⁸ Day. International Day of Human Space Flight. Yuri's Night.

13 April 2017: **David Thayer**'s birthday. *Corner Gas* Day.

14 April 2017: Premiere of film *Spark: A Space Tail* (computer animation; Jessica Biel, Hilary Swank, Susan Sarandon, Patrick Stewart).

16 April 2017: **Paul Patton**'s birthday. National Librarian Day.

19 April 2017: **Stephanie Ann Johanson**'s birthday. National Bookmobile Day.

20 April 2017: International Cli-Fi¹⁹ Day.

21 April 2017: Spring Astronomy Day. Premiere of film *Phoenix Forgotten* (SF/horror).

22 April 2017: Global Selfie Earth Day (NASA).

23 April 2017: **Greg Cairns**'s birthday. World Laboratory Day. World Book & Copyright Day. World Book Night.

25 April 2017: DNA Day.

27 April 2017: **Joe Devoy**'s birthday. Morse Code Day.

28 April 2017: International Astronomy Day. Premiere of films *The Circle* (SF; Emma Watson, Bill Paxton, Tom Hanks, Beck, Patton Oswalt), *Baahubali 2: The Conclusion* (fantasy), *Sleight* (SF; Sasheer Zamata, Ursa Gifted Major), and *Buster's Mal Heart* (conspiracy; DJ Qualls, Toby Huss, Nicholas Pryor, Greg Behrendt).

¹⁸ Drop Everything and Read.

¹⁹ Climate Fiction.

29 April 2017: **Robert J. Sawyer** and **Trevor Hoffert**'s birthdays.

May 2017

2 May 2017: **Martin Hunger**'s birthday.

4 May 2017: *Star Wars* Day.

5 May 2017: Space Day. Premiere of film *Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2* (superhero/SF; Zoe Saldana, Dave Bautista, Vin Diesel, Bradley Cooper, Michael Rooker, Sylvester Stallone, Kurt Russell, Jimmy Urine, Rob Zombie, Seth Green, Michael Rosenbaum, Stan Lee, David Hasselhoff, Gregg Henry, Ving Rhames, Michelle Yeoh, Miley Cyrus, Jeff Goldblum, Don Johnson).



6 May 2017: Free Comic Book Day.

9 May 2017: **Ty Templeton**'s birthday.

11 May 2017: Twilight Zone Day.

12 May 2017: Premiere of film *King Arthur: Legend of the Sword* (fantasy; Jude Law, Djimon Honsou, Eric Bana).

13 May 2017: Leprechaun Day.

14 May 2017: Vancouver Comicon, 11 AM–5 PM at Heritage Hall, 3102 Main Street, Vancouver. Admission: \$4; kids under 14: free. Special guests: James Stokoe (*Aliens: Dead Orbit*, *Godzilla: Half Century War*, *Orc Stain*), Marley Zarcone (*Shade the Changing Girl*, *Effigy*), Dawson Ross.

18 May 2017: **William Honeywill**'s birthday.

19 May 2017: **Michael Bertrand**'s birthday. Premiere of film *Alien: Covenant* (SF/horror; Michael Fassbender, Billy Crudup, Danny McBride, James Franco, Guy Pearce).

20 May 2017: **Julian Castle**'s birthday.



20–21 May 2017: VanCAF (Vancouver Comic Arts Festival), 10 AM–5 PM at the Roundhouse, 181 Roundhouse Mews, Vancouver. “A two-day celebration of comics & graphic novels and their creators, including [a] vendor fair featuring hundreds of creators from around the world. Other festival events include readings, panels and workshops.” Featured guests: Katherine Collins (*Neil the Horse*) in Vancouver, Brandon Graham (co-editor

of *Island* anthology published by Image Comics) in Vancouver, Faith Erin Hicks (*Zombies Calling*) in Vancouver, Mike Lawrence (*Star Scouts*) in Portland, Sandrine Revel (*Glenn Gould: A Life Off Tempo*) in France, C. Spike Trotman (alt-history webcomic *Templar, Arizona*) in Chicago, Marcelino Truong in Paris, and Chip Zdarsky (*Sex Criminals*) in Toronto. “In May 2016, [VanCAF had] 10,300 attendees, and 260+ exhibitors.” Free admission.—Julian Castle

21 May 2017: **Gina Lynn Post**’s birthday.

22 May 2017: World Goth Day.

23 May 2017: **Sorelle Culshaw**’s birthday.

24 May 2017: Incite: Jillian Tamaki & Guy Delisle, 7:30–9 PM in Alice MacKay Room, lower level of VPL Central Branch, 350 West Georgia Street, Vancouver. Two comic book creators close out Incite 2017 (an exploration of books and ideas).—Julian Castle

25 May 2017: National Towel Day.

26 May 2017: Premiere of film *Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales* (fantasy; Johnny Depp, Javier Bardem, Geoffrey Rush, Orlando Bloom, Keira Knightley, Paul McCartney).

News-Like Matter

Notes from March 2017 BCSFA Meeting

In attendance were Barb Dryer (secretary), Kathleen Moore (treasurer), Ray Seredin (host), Felicity Walker (editor), Michael “Fruvous” Bertrand, Julian Castle, Joe Devoy, William Graham, Stewart Smyth, and Teresa “T-Cat” Spanics.

Ray said that John Barrowman is leaving the United States and moving here (Queen’s Park, New Westminster) with his husband. He doesn’t feel safe in the current US political climate.

Stewart said that Marty McFly's guitar was three years too early. On a related note: *Happy Days* when they finally gave up trying to be period-accurate—Chachi, supposedly in 1964, with bell-bottoms and shaggy hair. I said that conversely, 1990s movies set in the 1970s weren't as 1970s as you would expect—for example, *Carlito's Way* (1993) or *Donnie Brasco* (1997).

Water came out of the ceiling.

Ray likes it when scientists discover animals are smarter than we think. So do I. So does Fruvous. According to my notes, I'd recently read a *National Graphic* article to that effect. Also, crows are smart.

Ray wanted to announce that 17–18 June 2017 is the Nothing But Gaming portion of VCON at the Sheraton in Surrey.

T-Cat said that two good places to visit cats are VOKRA (the Vancouver Orphaned Kitten Rescue Association) and Catfé, a “cat café.” David Granirer, who teaches the comedy course that Ray and I took, got his cat from VOKRA.



Felicity Walker

Sunday 19 March 2017

Passages: March 2017

🐞 **Richard Karron** (11 April 1934–1 March 2017). Actor. Genre work includes *The Jackie Bison Show* (1990), *Darkwing Duck* (1991), *Weird Science* (1994), *Pinky and the Brain* (1995), and *3rd Rock from the Sun* (1996).

🐞 **Michael M. Ryan** (19 March 1929–1 March 2017). Actor. Genre work includes *Remo Williams: The Adventure Begins* (1985).

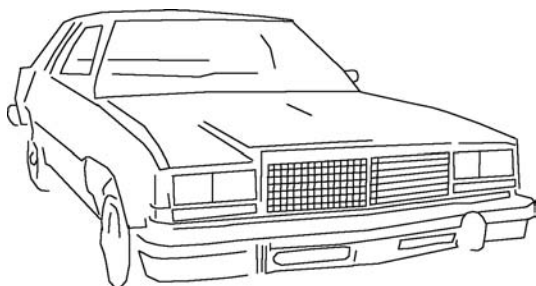
🐞 **Miriam Colón** (20 August 1936–3 March 2017). Actress. Genre work includes *One Step Beyond* (1959), *Highway to Heaven* (1984), and *Lightning Field* (1991). One-time *Murder, She Wrote* (1984) guest-star.

🐞 **Frances Hargreaves** (6 January 1955–3 March 2017). Actress. Genre work includes *Metal Mickey* (1980).

🐞 **Dave Hunt** (2 August 1942–5 March 2017). Comics writer, penciller, inker, letterer, colourist, and editor, and fine art painter. Genre work includes *The Transformers*, *Scooby Doo*, *Video Jack*, *The Amazing Spider-Man*, *The Avengers*, *Captain America*, *Daredevil*, *Fantastic Four*, *The Incredible Hulk*, *Thor*, *Uncanny X-Men*, *Aquaman*, *Batman*, *Green Lantern*, *Superboy*, *Supergirl*, *Superman*, *Wonder Woman*, *Darkwing Duck*, and *Mr. Hero the Newmatic Man*. One of my favourite inkers. An excellent inker whose work was especially beautiful with the pencils of Curt Swan and Jose Delbo. [Lambiek entry](#).

🐞 **Jay Lynch** (7 January 1945–5 March 2017). Underground comix cartoonist, editor, and author. [Lambiek entry](#).

🐞 **Fred Weintraub** (27 April 1928–5 March 2017). Film and TV writer, producer, and executive, and nightclub owner. Genre work includes *Invasion of the Bee Girls* (1973), *The Ultimate Warrior* (1975), *The Devil's Arithmetic* (1999), *Endangered Species* (2002), and *Dream Warrior* (2003).



🐞 **Ron Bass (Ronald Heard)**

(21 December 1948–7 March 2017). Professional wrestler and salesman. AKA “The Outlaw” Ron Bass, “Cowboy” Ron Bass, and Sam Oliver Bass. Genre work includes *Silent Times* (2018).

🐞 **Ann Beach** (7 June 1938–9 March 2017). Actress. Genre

work includes *The City of the Dead* (1960), *Jackanory* (1965), *Fred Bassett* (1976), *Tales of the Unexpected* (1979), and *Pandora’s Tower* (2011).

🐞 **Jane Freeman** (12 June 1935–9 March 2017). Actress. Genre work includes *Ghost in the Water* (1982).

🐞 **John Forgeham** (14 May 1941–10 March 2017). Actor. Genre work includes *The Stone Tape* (1972), *Tales of the Unexpected* (1979), *Sheena* (1984), *T. Bag and the Rings of Olympus* (1991), and *Cold Lazarus* (1996).

🐞 **Tony Haygarth** (4 February 1945–10 March 2017). Actor. Genre work includes *The Ghosts of Motley Hall* (1976), *The Omega Factor* (1979), *Dracula* (1979), *Britannia Hospital* (1982), *The Bride* (1985), *Arena* (1985), *T. Bag Bounces Back* (1987), *Space Precinct* (1994), and *Chiller* (1995).

🐞 **Bill Leak** (9 January 1956–10 March 2017). Editorial cartoonist, caricaturist, portraitist, and author.

🐞 **Murray Ball** (26 January 1936–12 March 2017). Cartoonist. Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit (ONZM) (2002). [Lambiek entry](#).

🐞 **Stavro Jabra** (18 February 1947–12 March 2017). Cartoonist. [Lambiek entry](#).

🐞 **Dennis Stamp** (6 December 1946–13 March 2017). Professional wrestler. AKA “The Tulsa Tornado.” Wrestled in Vancouver’s All Star Wrestling in 1975.

🐞 **Jack H. Harris** (28 November 1918–14 March 2017). Film producer, distributor, writer, and actor, and vaudeville performer. Genre work includes *The Blob* (1958), *4D Man* (1959), *The Twilight Zone* (1959), *Dinosaurus!* (1960), *Masters of Horror* (1965), *It’s About Time* (1966), *Equinox* (1970), *Beware! The Blob* (1972), *Schlock* (1973), *Dark Star* (1974), *A*P*E* (1976), *The Eyes of Laura Mars* (1978), *Prison Ship* (1986),²⁰ *The Blob* (1988), and *Blobermouth* (1991).

🐞 **Tsunehiko Watase** (渡瀬恒彦) (28 July 1944–14 March 2017). Actor. Genre work includes *Legend of Dinosaurs and Monster Birds* (1977),²¹ *GI Samurai* (1979), *Virus* (1980),²² *The Little Girl Who Conquered Time* (1997),²³ and *Andromedia* (1998).

🐞 **Bill Walsh** (20 December 1961–15 March 2017). Copy editor.

🐞 **Skip Williamson** (19 August 1944–16 March 2017). Underground comix cartoonist. [Lambiek entry](#).

20 AKA *Star Slammer*.

21 AKA *Kyōryū Kaichō no Densetsu*.

22 AKA *Fukkatso no Hi* (*Day of Resurrection*).

23 AKA *Toki O Kakeru Shōjo*.

☞ **Robert Day** (11 September 1922–17 March 2017). Film and TV director, cinematographer, and actor. Genre work includes *First Man Into Space* (1959), *She* (1965), *The Invaders* (1967), *Ghost Story* (1972),²⁴ *The Sixth Sense* (1972), *Logan's Run* (1977), *The Initiation of Sarah* (1978), and *Beyond Witch Mountain* (1982).



☞ **Lawrence Montaigne** (26 February 1931–17 March 2017). Actor, writer, dancer, stuntman, and soldier.

Genre work includes *The Beast from 20,000 Fathoms* (1953), *The Outer Limits* (1963), *Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea* (1964), *The Satan Bug* (1965), *The Time Tunnel* (1966), *Batman* (1966), *Star Trek* (1966),²⁵ *The Invaders* (1967), *The Flying Nun* (1967), *The Power* (1968), *City Beneath the Sea* (1969), *Escape to Witch Mountain* (1975), *Deadly Blessing* (1981), and *Star Trek: Of Gods and Men* (2007).

☞ **Tony Russel** (23 November 1925–18 March 2017). Actor. Genre work includes *The Wild, Wild Planet* (1966),²⁶ *The War of the Planets* (1966),²⁷ *Night Gallery* (1969), *The Invasion of Carol Enders* (1974), and *The Mystic Warrior* (1984).

☞ **Bernie Wrightson** (27 October 1948–18 March 2017). Comics artist/creator and illustrator. Genre comics work includes *House of Mystery*, *House of Secrets*, *Weird Mystery Tales*, *Swamp Thing*, *Batman*, *Aquaman*, *The Shadow*, *Spider-Man*, and *Treehouse of Horror*. Genre film work includes *Heavy Metal* (1981), *Creepshow* (1982), and *Ghostbusters* (1984). Genre book work includes *Frankenstein*, *The Stand*, and *Dark Tower*. Winner of Shazam Award, Comic Fan Art Award, Bob Clampett Humanitarian Award, HP Lovecraft Award, National Cartoonists Society Award, and Inkwell Award. [Lambiek entry](#).

☞ **John Rogan** (1938–19 March 2017). Actor. Genre work includes *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* (2003).

☞ **Daisuke Satō** (佐藤大輔) (3 April 1964–22 March 2017). SF novelist, manga writer, and game designer. Genre work includes *Seito*, *Red Sun Black Cross*, *High-school of the Dead*, and *One-Piece: Luffy vs. Sanji*.

☞ **Lola Albright** (20 July 1924–23 March 2017). Actress. Genre work includes *Tales of Tomorrow* (1951), *The Monolith Monsters* (1957), *The Incredible Hulk* (1978), and *Airwolf* (1984).

☞ **Lee Farr** (10 April 1927–23 March 2017). Actor. Genre work includes *The Veil* (1958) and *The Invaders* (1967).

☞ **Denis McGrath** (21 September 1968–23 March 2017). Screenwriter, producer, and actor. First producer of *Space: The Imagination Station*. Genre work includes *The Conspiracy Guy* (1997), *Spacebar* (1998), *Starhunter* (2000), *Conspiracy Guy*:

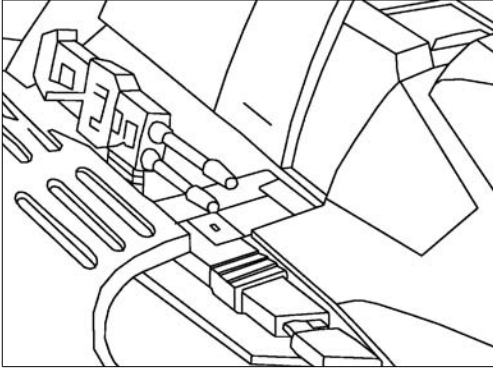
24 AKA *Circle of Fear*.

25 Episodes “Balance of Terror” (15 December 1966) as Decius and “Amok Time” (15 September 1967) as Stonn.

26 AKA *I Criminali Della Galassia*.

27 AKA *I Diafanoidi Vengono da Marte*.

Behind the Coat (2001), *Charlie Jade* (2004), *Skyland* (2005), *Carl²* (2005), *Blood Ties* (2007), *Stargate Universe* (2010),²⁸ *Continuum* (2012), *Bitten* (2014), *Aftermath* (2016), and *Creeped Out* (2017). Winner of Canadian Screenwriting Award and Margaret Collier Award.



🎭 **Darlene Cates** (13 December 1947–26 March 2017). Actress. Genre work includes *Touched by an Angel* (1994) and *Wolf Girl* (2001).

🎨 **Joe Harris** (5 January 1928–26 March 2017). Illustrator and storyboard artist. Creator of the Trix Rabbit. Genre work includes *Underdog* (1964).

🎭 **Richard Beale** (13 May 1920–27 March 2017). Actor. Genre work includes *Doctor Who*

(1963),²⁹ *Blake's 7* (1978), *The Tripods* (1984), *Worlds Beyond* (1986), *Woof!* (1989), and *Afterlife* (2005).

🎭 **Chelsea Brown** (6 December 1942–27 March 2017). Actress, comedian, dancer, and singer. Genre work includes *The Flying Nun* (1967), *Head* (1968), *The Thing with Two Heads* (1972), *The Return of Captain Invincible* (1983), and *Welcome to Woop Woop* (1997).

🎨 **Leone Cimpellin** (6 June 1926–27 March 2017). Cartoonist. AKA Ghilbert. [Lambiek entry](#).

🎭 **Ronald Hines** (20 June 1929–28 March 2017). Actor. Genre work includes *Jackanory* (1965), *Late Night Horror* (1968), *Doomwatch* (1970), *Dead of Night* (1972), *Shadows* (1975), and *Star Maidens* (1976).

🎭 **Phillip Ko** (18 June 1949–30 March 2017). Screenwriter, director, actor, producer, and stuntman. Genre work includes *Sea God and Ghosts* (1977),³⁰ *Sex Beyond the Grave* (1984),³¹ *Magic Crystal* (1986),³² *Battle in Hell* (1992),³³ *Ultracop 2000* (1992),³⁴ and *Shadow Mask* (2001).

Felicity Walker

Saturday 1 April 2017

28 AKA *SGU Stargate Universe*.

29 Episodes “The Ark” (5–26 March 1966) as Refusian, “The Gunfighters” (30 April–21 May 1966) as Bat Masterson, “The Macra Terror” (11 March–1 April 1967) as Broadcaster/Propaganda Seller, and “The Green Death” (19 May–23 June 1973) as Minister of Ecology.

30 AKA *Long Wang San Tai Zi*.

31 AKA *Fung Lau Yuen Gwai*.

32 AKA *Mo Fei Cui*.

33 AKA *Gui Huo De Gu Shi*.

34 AKA *Magkasangga 2000*.

Nanette Fabray (1920–2018)

Nanette Fabray (1920–2018): US actress, died 22 February, aged 97. Genre appearances included *Alice Through the Looking Glass* (1966), *The Girl from UNCLE* (one episode, 1967), *The Man in the Santa Claus Suit* (1979), [and] *The Munsters Today* (one episode, 1989).

Steve Green

Wednesday 28 February 2018

Ursula K. Le Guin (1929–2018)

Ursula K. Le Guin (October 21, 1929–January 22, 2018). Writer working mainly in fantasy & sci-fi. Genre work includes *Earthsea* fantasy series (1968–2001), Hainish Cycle (1964–2002) which contains *The Left Hand of Darkness* (1969), and *Lavinia* (2008).

Julian Castle

Thursday 1 March 2018

For Your Consideration

Attention all horror & SF fans! Hurry! Hurry! Hurry! Yes it's once again time for:

The 16th annual *Rondo Awards!*

<https://www.rondoaward.com/>

The Classic Horror Film Boards annual competition for the best in horror/SF & fantasy films, TV, books & media. Anyone can vote—simply follow the links. Voting continues till the start of next month, and you can enter your own candidates.

While you're at it, why not check out the Classic Horror Film Board:

<https://www.tapatalk.com/groups/monsterkidclassichorrorforum/>

A great & friendly site for all us monster kids.

Vote for change! Vote for freedom! Vote for whatever scared the ^&*@ outa you last year! (Rah!)

Brent Francis

Saturday 3 March 2018

Michael Fleisher (1942–2018)

Michael Fleisher (1942–2018): US comics writer and novelist; died 2 February, aged 75. Titles he worked on include *The Spectre*, *Jonah Hex*, [and] *Shade the Changing Man* (created and drawn by Steve Ditko). Famously sued *The Comics*



Journal, publisher Gary Groth and Harlan Ellison over a 1979 interview in which the latter described Fleisher (tongue in cheek, Ellison later claimed) as a “certifiable (...) bugfuck (...) lunatic”; the court found for the defendants.

Steve Green

Wednesday 14 March 2018

Fiction: Long Night's Dreaming

Michael Bertrand

“So Doc, what did I do?”

This greeting perturbed Dr. Drake. “I beg your pardon?”

Tristan smiled a crooked smile. “I figured we’d skip the formalities and cut to the chase. If you’ve read that dossier on your lap, you know that this isn’t my first encounter with the world of mental health.”



Dr. Drake cleared his throat. “What makes you think you’re in a mental institution?”

Tristan’s smile gained an extra jag of crookedness. “Oh, come on, Doc. The soft lighting, the rounded corners on all the furnishing and fixtures, the carefully casual decor of this little rumpus room...I know the signs. Not that I’m complaining. This is a lot nicer than some places I’ve woken up. Real cozy and comfortable.”

“Thank you. Er...” Dr. Drake seemed to be having trouble regaining his equilibrium. He glanced at the dossier in his lap and shuffled a few papers around while he composed himself. With all his years of clinical practice, to be discombobulated by this scruffy little...then again, these were highly unusual circumstances. He cleared his throat once more. “What was the question again?”

Tristan laughed and shook his head. “What did I do, Doc? Must be something big, if I landed in a fancy joint like this and not the washout ward at the local lock-down.” He turned on that crooked smile again, giving his distinctly unlovely face a bizarre charm. “Did I break something expensive?”

“Um no. That is, yes. In a manner of speaking. Um...” He flipped through the dossier to re-familiarize himself with the fact. Facts, yes. Facts always soothed him. You could do anything if you had a proper command of all the relevant facts.

Name: Tristan Isolde Wagner. Horrible. Why did Belt parents always give their children such terrible names? Occupation: Independent Grapple-Tug Operator. Same as every other rockhead, although it was somewhat impressive that he’d gone independent before the age of 40. As Dr. Drake understood it, that was rare. Reason for Admittance: Found in a state of catatonic amnesia, barely able to speak. Admitted for observation and analysis as to case and meaning of this state. And that was

true, for as far as it went. But it didn't begin to describe the true fact of the case, or the reason a 67-year-old seasoned clinical psychiatrist who had dealt calmly with murderers and raving lunatic demagogues was so nervous around an odd dumpy little man.



Suddenly aware that said dumpy little man was staring at him, expecting a reply, Dr. Drake gathered himself and, in his best professionally brisk tone, said “We’ll get to your reason for being here shortly, Mr. Wagner.”

“Hey now, call me Tris, everyone does. Last names are for the government where I come from.”

“Ah yes, I see.” said Dr. Drake. “Well then, Tris, I’d like to start by asking you to describe your last memory before waking up here in the Home.”

Tristan sat back in his recliner and stroked his scraggly beard thoughtfully. “Let’s see. I was working Inside...uh, that’s the side of the Belt closest to the Sun for you clodhoppers...and I wasn’t getting anything but a little tag work, and I remember seeing something big and red and wondering if it was worth checking out... and then...hmp. Then nothing. Nothing but a big wet blur until...well, until a couple of minutes before you walked in, Doc.”

Dr. Drake looked up from the detailed notes he was taking and *hmped* as well. “Interesting. So you have absolutely no memory of the events that transpired during the three days in between?”

Tristan’s eyes went wide and he rocked back in his chair as though reeling. “Three days, Doc? Three *days*? I mean, I’ve skipped an hour or two but...three *days*? That’s...that’s something else.” He swallowed audibly, then asked in a hushed tone, “Jeezus Doc...what *did* I do?”

Dr. Drake nodded. “Something else indeed.” He wasn’t proud of it, but he felt better now that Tristan’s bubble of confident ease and bonhomie had been punctured. The patient was, after all, merely a human being like any other. He simply had to keep that in mind.

“We’re getting to that...Tris. Now I want you to tell me, how would you describe your emotional state on the last day you remember?”

Tristan shrugged expressively and said “I don’t know, let me think...the usual, I guess. I had gotten bored playing tag and pat-a-cake with the other tugs around Station Pink, so I went out to do some panning Inside to maybe find a payrock then call it a day after I’d brought it to Scale. I remember I was just starting to get a little bored and frustrated with that when...when whatever happened, happened. But for the most part, I was in a good mood...I think.”

“I see. So you don’t remember any feelings of fear, anxiety, or a-anger?” Dr. Drake cursed himself silently for stammering on that last word. *Hardly scientific, is it, Doctor?* he said to himself.

Tristan’s face was ashen. All his flip-pant good cheer was gone and he stared at Dr. Drake with dawning horror. “Peter on the Rock, Doc, if this is all some trick to get me good and panicked, consider it a success. You have to tell me, Doc. What the hell did I do?”



Dr. Drake smiled. This part he’d rehearsed. “What you did, Mister Wagner... Tris...was singlehandedly slaughter thousands of invading Teskre’et ships singlehandedly using only your tiny egg of a vessel. Apparently, you were screaming incoherent nonsense into your communicator the whole time. The best military minds in all of Human Space cannot figure out how you did it. The Teskre’et Imperium is quite anxious to know as well, and due to the nature of their warrior religion, are in the process of naming you as some sort of mad god. Apparently, they’ve quite a few of those. Earth, on the other hand, wants to give you a medal. In fact, I think they want to give you all of them. But others are, understandably, somewhat afraid of what you are capable of if let loose upon the Spaceway again. You are either the greatest hero the galaxy has ever known, or the most dangerous lunatic in the history of mental illness, and the purpose of your stay here at the Home is to allow me to make that determination.”

Tristan looked as though his eyes were attempting to pop out of his head. He laughed weakly. “Gee Doc, can’t it be both?”

Dr. Drake smiled thinly. “For your sake, Tris, we’d better hope it is not.”
(To be continued!)

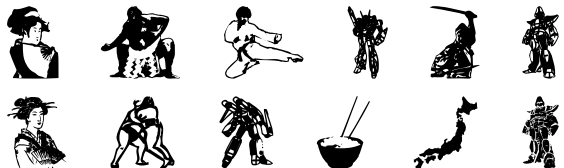
Michael Bertrand
Wednesday 14 July 2010
The Million Word Year

Zeitgemässe Tanka



In a creek ravine
Mildewed salmonberries hang
Mixed with alder cones
While on sun-struck rocky ground
The first blackberries ripen

Kathleen Moore
Monday 17 July 2017



Art Credits

<u>Felicity Walker</u> (font: <u>Yann Le Coroller</u>).....	Masthead
<u>Brad Foster</u>	Cover
<u>Dave Haren</u> (clip art).....	Pages 1, 5–7, 10–13
<u>Dave Haren</u> (photos).....	Pages 3–4
<u>Denny E. Marshall</u>	Pages 14, 22
<u>Felicity Walker</u> (traced screenshots).....	Pages 15–17, 19–21 (top)
<u>Letters from the Klaw</u> (font).....	Page 18
Clip art (<u>Clker.com</u>).....	Page 21 (bottom left)
<u>Push</u> (font).....	Page 21 (bottom right)

