

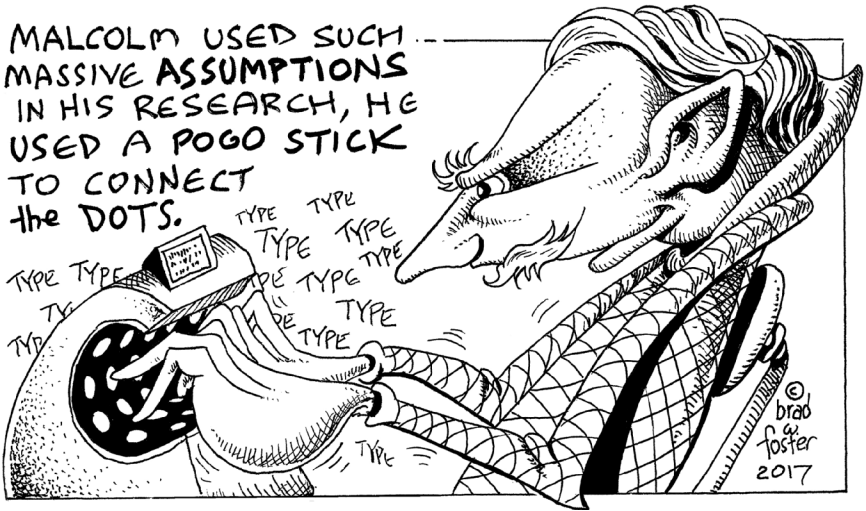
# BCSFAzine

The Newsletter of the British Columbia Science Fiction Association

#523

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December 2016



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

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## **This and Next Month in BCSFA**

Sunday 11 December at 6 PM:	December BCSFA meeting—at ABC Country Restaurant, 3580 Number Three Road, Richmond.
Friday 23 December:	Submission deadline for January <i>BCSFAzine</i> (ideally).
Friday 30 December:	January <i>BCSFAzine</i> production (theoretically).
Sunday 15 January at 7 PM:	January BCSFA meeting—at Ray Seredin’s.
Friday 20 January:	Submission deadline for February <i>BCSFAzine</i> (ideally).
Friday 27 January:	February <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/](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

Thursday 27 July 2017

Hi Felicity,

Starting off with a bunch of linkages:

[http://www.honoraryunsubscribe.com/robert\\_w\\_taylor.html](http://www.honoraryunsubscribe.com/robert_w_taylor.html)<sup>1</sup>

Pioneer.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f9m2yReECak>

Adam Curtis explains the world.

[“*This video is no longer available because the YouTube account associated with this video has been terminated.*”]

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2eB046f998U2>

Here's your world seen through a different lens.



Elderly Cynic | 12 April 2017: “The days of actually fixing (or even locating) non-trivial bugs are long gone, and have been largely replaced by making changes or adding layers so that the bug does not appear in the cases that ‘matter.’ Also note the increasing use of fixing problems by changing specifications and even contracts—yes, some do (effectively) say ‘Thou shalt not cause our software to misbehave.’ Several decades

ago, I said that computing was ceasing to be a mathematical/engineering discipline and rapidly becoming something closer to animal or plant breeding. A rather eminent computer scientist regretfully agreed that I had a point!”<sup>3</sup>

<http://ij.org/press-release/lawsuit-challenges-oregon-law-prohibiting-mathematical-criticism-without-license/><sup>4</sup>

Touchy buggers the traffic engineering boys!!!

[*Insane.*]

- 
- 1 [Honorary Unsubscribe](#): “Computer Networking Visionary Robert W. Taylor.” [“Randy Cassingham’s Honorary Unsubscribe recognizes the unknown, the forgotten and the often obscure people who had an impact on our lives. *These are the people you will wish you had known.*”]
  - 2 [Psywar](#) (2010). [“*Psywar* explores the evolution of propaganda and public relations in the United States, with an emphasis on the elitist theory of democracy; and the relationship between war, propaganda, and class.”]
  - 3 From a [comment on Charlie’s Diary](#): “2117 Revisited.”
  - 4 [Institute for Justice](#): “Lawsuit Challenges Oregon Law Prohibiting Mathematical Criticism Without a License.”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GZqDUhXR3dI5>

Ye Olde Weste, *not!!*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W30ZAKKheaI6>

Poor boy's combat knife.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gg5VSUOIBxA7>

The grandeur of science.

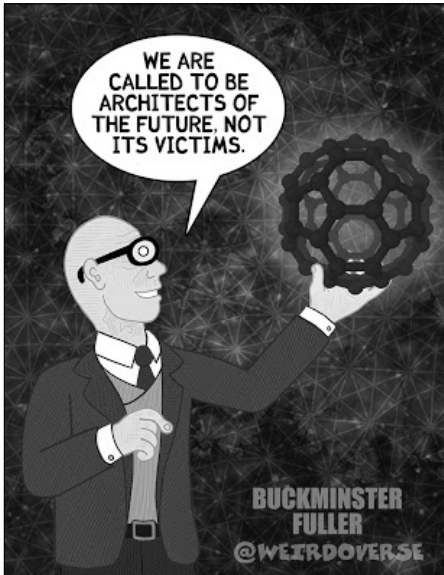
[*Hilariously disturbing.*]

<http://www.chronicle.com/article/50-Years-of-Stupid-Grammar/254978>

Suspicions Confirmed Dept.

[*"This content is available exclusively to Chronicle subscribers."*]

<http://lfs.org/blog/freedom-in-the-future-tense-a-political-history-of-sf/>



There is much here to argue about as far as the details. As an overview of the turbulences it does a good job. David Drake gets the short end of the stick but his own words are a better rebuttal of the theories about him.

[*Depressing. Eric Raymond is mistaken when it comes to left/right and libertarianism. He believes that "[identifying] libertarianism as a right-wing phenomenon [...] is an error characteristic of left-leaning thinkers, who tend to assume that anything not 'left' is 'right' and that approving of free markets somehow implies social conservatism."* This is incorrect. We know that libertarians are not social conservatives. The distinction is between those who want everyone to be OK and those who don't. On this spectrum libertarians are to the right. I also find it unacceptable that the good parts of SF—such as “the affirmation that the universe has a knowable order that is discoverable through reason and science”—are intrinsically bound to libertarianism. Are all scientists right-wing? It sounds like “radical hard SF” has the right idea: keep the “sense of wonder” and remove the libertarianism.

[*On a happier note, I enjoyed learning about the radial category. Also, Eric Raymond is the name of a great villain in the excellent animated series Jem (1985).*]

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5 *Good for Nothing* (2012).

6 Amr MCI: “How to Make a Paper Combat Knife That Cuts—Paper Weapons.”

7 Canada Science and Technology Museum: “Furless Tickle Me Elmo for Tinkering Activity.”

8 The Chronicle of Higher Education: “50 Years of Stupid Grammar Advice.”

9 Prometheus Blog: “Freedom in the Future Tense: A Political History of SF.”

<https://pando.com/2015/02/04/the-geometry-of-censorship-and-satire/><sup>10</sup>

Here's a nice stick of dynamite to use for lighting an uncertain future by the glare of the explosion.

[*It would be nice if satire didn't have to identify itself, but better safe than sorry.*]

[https://boingboing.net/2017/04/17/\\_trashed-10.html](https://boingboing.net/2017/04/17/_trashed-10.html)<sup>11</sup>

Grant Morrison hasn't been turned into a frog yet.

[*Makes me want to learn a lot more about magic, so I can "cure neuroses, increase creativity and imagination, expand our personal limits"—though I despair when I read that the magician sees "how things fit together and work so that they can make things of their own, or make things work better." That's the kind of intelligence I don't have. (Unless I can magically acquire it?)*]

<https://arstechnica.com/tech-policy/2017/04/inmates-built-computers-hidden-in-ceiling-connected-them-to-prison-network/><sup>12</sup>

The Men Who Japed.

[*I wonder how they used the computers. Did they have to go into the ceiling?*]

<https://wargameterrain.blogspot.com/2017/05/games-workshop-warhammer-40k-dark.html><sup>13</sup>

New boxed Warhammer 40K.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8MG5gFtZ3U8><sup>14</sup>

Don't miss this one.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Eh1bZ8t1zF4><sup>15</sup>

Praise Bob.

<https://boingboing.net/2017/06/14/making-a-better-world-war-ii.html><sup>16</sup>

Those pesky fans are everywhere. In this case a fan who turned pro. In addition you can't get a better history source than the guy who knew all the bigwigs.

<https://archive.org/details/ThroneOfBlood><sup>17</sup>

Kurosawa does *MacBeth*.

<https://boingboing.net/2017/06/20/little-thirds.html><sup>18</sup>

"Chinese Wives, Denied Legal Rights, Hire 'Mistress Dispellers' to Keep Their Marriages Intact"

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10 [Pando](https://pando.com/2015/02/04/the-geometry-of-censorship-and-satire/): "The Geometry of Censorship and Satire."

11 [Boing Boing](https://boingboing.net/2017/04/17/_trashed-10.html): "Grant Morrison Interview: 'Laughter Can Banish Any and All Demons.'"

12 [Ars Technica](https://arstechnica.com/tech-policy/2017/04/inmates-built-computers-hidden-in-ceiling-connected-them-to-prison-network/): "Inmates Built Computers Hidden in Ceiling, Connected Them to Prison Network."

13 [Wargame News and Terrain](https://wargameterrain.blogspot.com/2017/05/games-workshop-warhammer-40k-dark.html): "Games Workshop: Warhammer 40K—Dark Imperium Boxed Set."

14 *Terence McKenna's True Hallucinations* (2016).

15 Robert Anton Wilson—"The Magick of Aleister Crowley" (Lecture).

16 [Boing Boing](https://boingboing.net/2017/06/14/making-a-better-world-war-ii.html): "Making a Better World War II" by [Gregory Benford](https://www.gregorybenford.com/).

17 [The Internet Archive](https://archive.org/details/ThroneOfBlood): *Throne of Blood* (1957).

18 [Boing Boing](https://boingboing.net/2017/06/20/little-thirds.html): "Chinese Wives, Denied Legal Rights, Hire 'Mistress Dispellers' to Keep Their Marriages Intact" by [Cory Doctorow](https://www.corydoctorow.com/).

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YUGEZwYpMHg><sup>19</sup>

Tampering with the Tillinghast field theory.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WN6ST4TUscA><sup>20</sup>

Movie fun!!!

<https://wpgamegeeks.blogspot.com/2017/07/battle-at-farm-8th-edition-style.html><sup>21</sup>

Original Rogue Trader scenario played out with the 8<sup>th</sup> edition 40K ruleset. The models are quite interesting most are from back in the early days.

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

The Voivode.

[“*This video has been removed by the user.*”]

“Aztec Tower of Human Skulls Uncovered in Mexico City”<sup>22</sup>

“Huysmans’s vocabulary is vast, his images, whether remote or familiar, always daring—‘dragged,’ in the words of one critic, ‘by the hair or by the feet, down the worm-eaten staircase of terrified Syntax,’—but a heartfelt pulse of emotion is restrained beneath the sombre and extravagant magnificence of this style, and imparts at the best that modulated surge of life which only the great masters can control.”—Havelock Ellis<sup>23</sup>



<http://www.npr.org/sections/therecord/2017/07/20/537708922/how-three-austrian-unknowns-misunderstood-klf-s-the-manual><sup>24</sup>

The KLF is alive and well.

“...publishing house Faber & Faber announced a forthcoming trilogy of books written by the Justified Ancients of Mu Mu—one of the group’s many alter-egos, you may remember—to be ‘presented as a utopian costume drama, set in the near-future, written in the recent past.’ NPR Music was delighted to receive an advance copy of the first book in the trilogy, *2023*, and only slightly less delighted—truly—to discover that it contained 300 blank pages and a helpful note suggesting that we fill them ourselves.

“The Justified Ancients of Mu Mu also announced—today—a three-day event starting Aug. 23, the day that 23-year ‘moratorium’ ends and that *2023* is released, titled ‘Liverpool: Welcome to the Dark Ages.’ Each day centers around a single event; a ‘hearing’ on why the K Foundation burned a million pounds, a reading of

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19 “New Sci-Fi Movies 2017 in English Sci Fi Mystery English Film Great 2017” [or *Einstein’s God Model* (2016)].

20 “Japanese Movies 2017—Best Action Movies—Full HD Engsub” [or *Duelist* (2005)].

21 [Fawcett Avenue Conscripts](#): “Battle at the Farm—8<sup>th</sup> Edition Style.”

22 [Link](#).

23 *Affirmations* (1898). [Link](#).

24 [NPR Music: The Record](#): “The KLF’s Greatest Protégés Didn’t Really Know What Was Going On.”

the first chapter from 2023, the title of which—‘WHAT THE FUUK IS GOING ON?’—is at least a double entendre, and ‘THE RITES OF MUMUFICATION,’ a ritual.”

[*Well, good for Edelweiss, anyway! “Starship Edelweiss” (1992) is fun.*]

[https://waypoint.vice.com/en\\_us/article/padk7z/how-inmates-play-tabletop-rpgs-in-prisons-where-dice-are-contraband](https://waypoint.vice.com/en_us/article/padk7z/how-inmates-play-tabletop-rpgs-in-prisons-where-dice-are-contraband)<sup>25</sup>

Gamer lore from inside.

End links.



I’m watching a new anime about a giant hole called the Abyss.<sup>26</sup> The tiny girls and boys lower themselves into the hole to mine for artifacts buried in the sides of the hole. As is expected this makes very little sense but is cutesy and has lots of emo values to teach Nihon chillun about ethics and morals.

I’m happy to see Taral with some degree of functionality. Getting your nervous system banged up isn’t fun.

I’m also glad to see a fan step into Harlan Ellison’s shoes as a TV writer since it got Ellison a Rolls Royce to get around in.

Lloyd will be disappointed since I don’t blame the mess in Washington on any one individual. Like the Roman Empire they are drinking lead contaminated water there and the more you drink the nuttier you get.

[*I think Lloyd would agree there’s plenty of blame to go around, starting with the individual currently at the top, but extending to any politician, on either side of the aisle, who sells out and betrays the people.*]

I’m currently reading CD Broad’s *The Mind and Its Place in Nature*.<sup>27</sup> I highly recommend it but there is some convolution involved in the hilarious beginning.

[*I’m not even sure I understand this explanation of it!*]

I also fell off the wagon and am re-reading Jack Vance and Philip Jose Farmer.

I’ve got a bunch of stuff being built and painted so you might get some pictures at a later date.

The anti pervert flamethrower ad made me want to cry out *You’ll never take me alive Obi Wan Kenobi*. The other pictures are random stuff.

Warm regards,

Dave

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25 [Vice Waypoint](https://waypoint.vice.com/en_us/article/padk7z/how-inmates-play-tabletop-rpgs-in-prisons-where-dice-are-contraband): “How Inmates Play Tabletop RPGs in Prisons Where Dice Are Contraband.”

26 *Made in Abyss* (2017).

27 (1925).

**Lloyd Penney**  
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Etobicoke, Ontario  
M9C 2B2  
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Thursday 3 August 2017

Dear BCSFen:

Hallo!, and many thanks for *BCSFazine* 522. Snoozing in the sunshine sounds great, but it's very cloudy here, with threats of thunderstorms, and you've got forest fire smoke everywhere...hope everything blows over for both of us soon. The meantime, to LOC...

*[I'd hoped the smoke in the sky would cool the weather by blocking sunlight, but it seems to have trapped the heat instead. At least it wasn't as bright, and it's finally starting to cool off now.]*

Greetings to Sheryl, and welcome back. As I write, John and Valerie Purcell are doing their TAFFish duty, and struggling to catch their trains and planes, in spite of published train and plane schedules being mere suggestions. Taral is recovering well. I keep hearing things about the Clintons and how bad they would have been, but



when you see how Donald Trump has turned out...well, better the devil you know than the devil you don't, and the devil you didn't know has turned out to be a hundred times worse.

Michael Bertrand is quite lucky to be employable so soon after graduation. When I graduated from Ryerson Polytechnical in Toronto in their Journalism programme in 19-mumble-mumble, I was instantly unemployable because that was when the first hints of the 500-channel universe came about, and I had no training or experience in what local media suddenly wanted. I know of only two graduates from my year who got jobs in journalism, and both of them were mature students at the time.

My LOC...well, Trumpcare, or TrumpDon'tCare, is postponed. The US seems to have two levels of federal government, and neither talks to each other. John Purcell and wife Valerie are ploughing their way through Europe on the TAFF vacation, and will get to the Worldcon in Helsinki, in spite of laughable train and plane schedules in France.

I have to admit that any RIP list in a fanzine just makes me depressed. Reminds me of my age, sure, but it also reminds me that at some point, anyone connected with our fandom, and all the creativity behind it, will be gone.

*[While we're here, it'll be up to us to remember them and keep it alive. After we're gone, we probably won't care.]*

Good to see there will be a VCON 41½. These days, if a convention misses a year, the instant assumption is that it is kaput, and your membership will start looking elsewhere. Wish we could make it out there again.

*[I hope someday you can.]*

Great Taral portfolio...I don't think the stroke has slowed him down much. Recovery will be a while, but he will recover. With that, time to go, getting close to dinner time, and I must make something interesting. Let's see what I come up with. In the meantime, thank you for this issue, and see you with the next.

Yours,  
Lloyd Penney

**John Purcell**  
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College Station, TX 77845  
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Sunday 27 August 2017



Well, well. The November 2016 issue of this fanzine was waiting for me in a box of accumulated mail when my wife and I returned from our 38-day jaunt through Europe on my 2017 TAFF Trip. It was busy, extensive, filled with all sorts of things to do and see, plus dealing with the hassles of finding our way around new cities and public transit systems, but overall it was a lot of fun. Not only that, we got home just in time to unpack, sort, and store away all of our goodies before Hurricane Harvey came ashore a couple days ago. College Station, Texas, is roughly 200 miles inland from where Harvey made landfall, and we have received over four inches since late Friday night (approximately the last 36 hours). That's a good amount. We do have standing water in

our backyard—a few inches worth—but it is not threatening our house. The cats can't stand being cooped up inside, but they need to suck it up and deal with it. They are going to be kept dry and safe, and they're gonna enjoy it!

**Sheryl Birkhead:** Thank you so much, and I hope to get my TAFF trip report begun Real Soon Now. Exactly when it will appear in full is anybody's guess, but I kept a running diary of sorts (with pictures) on my Facebook page to give me some background material to work with once I really kick into this project. There are a lot of pictures to sort through as well, so lots of stuff to do. I think I will do a preliminary report—kind of an abstract of the full document—in the next issue of *Askance*, which I think I shall publish by the end of September 2017. That should give me enough time to distill events down to a manageable brew. Man, do I need time to get my head back into the fanzine mode again!

**Lloyd Penney:** I am not worrying about any border walls being built. More than anything, #45 appears to be walling himself inside his own fantasy land as his self-picked rats are jumping ship as it begins to slide under the waves of his ineptitude. The writing's on the wall, and I personally think that orange-faced shitgibbon is looking for a way out while making himself look good, which is impossible at this stage. No matter what happens, #45 cannot look good in any way, shape, or form. The Republican Party is starting to finally smell the coffee and has begun to criticize him openly. I don't want to make predictions, but I see this pathetic little man resigning by the end of this year because he doesn't want to face impeachment. Nixon didn't either, so he resigned. Both of these presidents have been publicly humiliated, and the only way either of them can save face is to resign. Nixon took that option, and I can see this happening to #45 as well, and it's nuts to know that I will have seen two American presidents resign during my lifetime. Unbelievable.

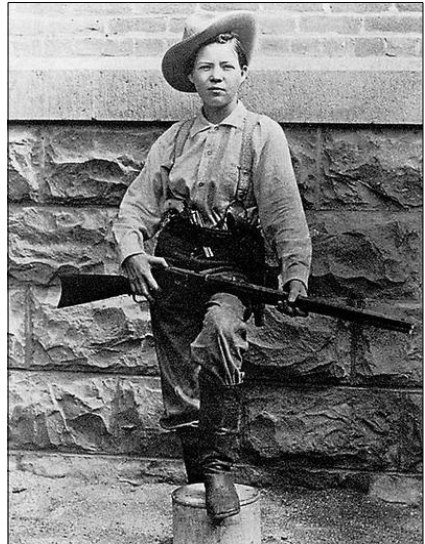
Ah, me. Enough of that twaddle. I have more fanzines to read and LOC. It is good to be home, and here's wishing you and the rest of the Vancouver fans a splendid forthcoming hockey season.

All the best,  
John Purcell

**Sheryl Birkhead**  
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Tuesday 29 August 2017

Hi—wow—have not been in here for months—noticed that the new Gmail account I set up (my backup—Yahoo has the bhad habit of locking me out so I looked elsewhere—opened one with Verizon—then they chose not to continue the service and suggested—so I went over the list and chose Gmail)—but have not used that one either for months. I am going to try to attach a JPEG and a PDF. Problems because this is an old OS (Mac)—but none of the newer systems will handle my software—so I keep a new OS (on an external hard drive) for Internet stuff—and rarely...there is pretty much no security and no upgrades on this old OS—so I only use it to try to handle anything I do on computer—and have had a rough time finding time...ah well—I had never actually opened a JPEG. Did it for this and was surprised. I figured just as in PDF two pages would be two pages—not so!



*Note from Dave Haren: "Pearl Hart was the last Arizona stagecoach robbery. She was an illustrious addition from Canada."*

You can read the note I typed, but I will try to get a hard copy out tomorrow so you can compare what I see and what you end up getting. I will finish the LOC RSN!

[RSN: *the same time as I plan to finish this issue!* ☺]

On with the show. I will try to remember to check this email in case it bounces or there is a reply.

Thanks for the ish!

Sheryl

**We Also Heard From:** Brad Foster, Denny E. Marshall, George Phillies, Spider Robinson, and Taral Wayne.

## 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

1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 December 2016 and 5, 12, 19, and 26 January 2017 (*Thursdays*): Thursday Hobby Build Nights, 6–9 PM at Ages Three and Up Gundam, 226–9855 Austin Road, Burnaby.—A3U Gundam

1 December 2016 and 5 January 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.*]

1 December 2016 and 5 January 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

1, 15, and 29 December 2016 and 12 and 26 January 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 Lawson (on Richmond Writers Network Facebook Group)

2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 December 2016 and 6, 13, 20, and 27 January 2017 (*Fridays*): Magic: The Gathering Friday Night Games, 5:30–9 PM at Imperial Hobbies, Unit #115–6080 Russ Baker Way, Richmond.

2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 December 2016 and 6, 13, 20, and 27 January 2017 (*Fridays*): Board Gamers: Friday Night Magic, 6:30–9:30 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 December and 6, 13, 20, and 27 January 2017 2016 (*Fridays*): Friday Board Game Night—Drexoll Games, 7–11 PM at Drexoll Games, 2880 West 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Vancouver.—Keith Lim

3, 10, 17, 24, and 31 December 2016 and 7, 4, 21, and 28 January 2017 (*Saturdays*): Board Gamers: Saturday Afternoon Gaming, 12–7 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

3, 10, 17, 24, and 31 December 2016 and 7, 4, 21, and 28 January 2017 (*Saturdays*): Saturday Jam at the Brownsville Pub, 5:30–9:30 PM at the Brownsville Pub, 11940 Old Yale Road, Surrey.—Greg Cairns

4, 11, 18, and 25 December 2016 and 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 January 2017 (*Sundays*): Kitsilano Board Games: Lazy Sundays, 2–3 PM at Cuppa Joy, #295–2083 Alma Street, Vancouver.—Keith Lim

5, 12, 19, and 26 December 2016 and 2, 9, 16, and 23 January 2017 (*Mondays*): Board Gamers: Painting Miniatures, 5–9 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

5, 12, 19, and 26 December 2016 and 2, 9, 16, and 23 January 2017 (*Mondays*): Vancouver Hack Space Craft Night, 7:30–10:30 PM at 270 East 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Vancouver.—Julian Castle

6, 13, 20, and 27 December 2016 and 3, 10, 17, and 24 January 2017 (*Tuesdays*): Board Gamers: Tuesday Night Board Gaming, 5–10 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

6, 13, 20, and 27 December 2016 and 3, 10, 17, and 24 January 2017 (*Tuesdays*): Vancouver Hack Space Open House, 7:30–10:30 PM at 270 East 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Vancouver.—Julian Castle

6, 13, 20, and 27 December 2016 and 3, 10, 17, and 24 January 2017 (*Tuesdays*): Hot Improv Tuesdays at Café Deux Soleils!, 8 PM at Café Deux Soleils, 2096 Commercial Drive, Vancouver.—The Fictionals Comedy Co.

7 and 21 December 2016 and 4 and 18 January 2017 (*alternate Wednesdays*): Kitsilano Board Games: Wednesday Is the New Monday!, 7–8 PM at Cuppa Joy, 2083 Alma Street, Vancouver.—Keith Lim

7, 14, 21, and 28 December 2016 and 4, 11, 18, and 25 January 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 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue), Vancouver.—Keith Lim/Julian Castle

8 December 2016 and 12 January 2017 (*second Thursdays*): Vancouver Astronomy Monthly Meetup, 7:30–8:30 PM. [*No location given.*]—Keith Lim

8 December 2016 and 12 January 2017(*second Thursday*): Fraser Valley Model Club Monthly Meeting, 7:30–9:30 PM at Kariton House Gallery, 2387 Ware Street, Abbotsford.—Keith Lim

10 December 2016 and 4 January 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

13 December 2016 and 10 January 2017 (*second Tuesday*): Meeting of Automotive Model Builders Vancouver, 7 PM at Burnaby Lions Club, 7420 Mulberry Place, Burnaby.

13 December 2016 and 10 January 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

15 December 2016 and 18 January 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

16 December 2016 and 20 January 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

17 December 2016 and 21 January 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

18 December 2016 and 15 January 2017 (*third Sunday*): Board Game Swap Meetup, 11 AM–1 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

31 December 2016 and 28 January 2017 (*last Saturday*): Board Gamers: 12 Hours of Gaming, 12 PM–12 AM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

## **December 2016**

2 December 2016: Premiere of film *Incarnate* (horror; Aaron Eckhart, Vera Miao, Mark Henry).

3 December 2016: **Don Simpson**'s birthday.

4 December 2016: National Dice Day.



5 December 2016: Day of the Ninja.

7 December 2016: Letter Writing Day.

8 December 2016: **Phil Rose**'s birthday.  
Pretend to Be a Time Traveller Day.

9 December 2016: International Share-ware Day.

10 December 2016: **Graham Mitchell**'s birthday.

14 December 2016: **Danielle Stephens**'s birthday.

16 December 2016: Premiere of film *Rogue One* (SF/action; Felicity Jones, Alan Tudyk, Forest Whitaker, Jimmy Smits, James Earl Jones, Anthony Daniels, Warwick Davis).

17 December 2016: **Neil O'Brien**'s birthday.

18 December 2016: **Fran Skene**'s birthday.

19 December 2016: **Yvonne Penney** and **Terry Wyatt**'s birthdays.

20 December 2016: **Bogglerat**'s birthday. Games Day.

23 December 2016: Premiere of films *Passengers* (SF; Jennifer Lawrence, Laurence Fishburn, Andy Garcia), *Sing* (computer animation/furry; Matthew McConaughey, Reese Witherspoon, Seth McFarlane, Scarlett Johansson, John C. Reilly, Jennifer Saunders, Peter Serafinowicz, Nick Kroll, Beck Bennett, Jay Pharoah, Leslie Jones, Rhea Perlman, Laraine Newman, Carlos Alazraqui, Wes Anderson, Townsend Coleman, Jim Cummings, Jess Harnell), *A Monster Calls* (fantasy; Sigourney Weaver, Felicity Jones, Liam Neeson), and *Assassin's Creed* (fantasy/SF; Jeremy Irons).

26 December 2016: **Chris Sturges**'s birthday.

31 December 2016: [Lake Superior State Universe Banished Words List](#).

## January 2017

1 January 2017: **Marlon Richmond** and **Jens Haeusser**'s birthdays.

2 January 2017: National Science Fiction Day and Happy Mew Year for Cats Day.

3 January 2017: **Teresa Spanics's** birthday. JRR Tolkien Day.

4 January 2017: Earth at Perihelion.

5 January 2017: **Garth Spencer's** birthday. National Screenwriters Day.

6 January 2017: **Eileen Kernaghan's** birthday. National Technology Day. Premiere of films *Underworld: Blood Wars* (action/fantasy; Kate Beckinsale, Charles Dance) and *A Monster Calls* (fantasy; Sigourney Weaver, Felicity Jones, Liam Neeson).

8 January 2017: Earth's Rotation Day.

9 January 2017: **Steve Fahnstalk's** birthday.

13 January 2017: Premiere of films *Monster Trucks* (fantasy/comedy; Rob Lowe, Danny Glover, Frank Whaley, Peter New) and *The Bye Bye Man* (horror; Faye Dunaway, Carrie-Anne Moss, Jonathan Penner).

16 January 2017: Appreciate a Dragon Day.

19 January 2017: **Stewart Smythe's** birthday.

20 January 2017: **Nancy Kress's** birthday. International Fetish Day. Premiere of films *The Red Turtle* (animation) and *Kedi* (documentary/cats).

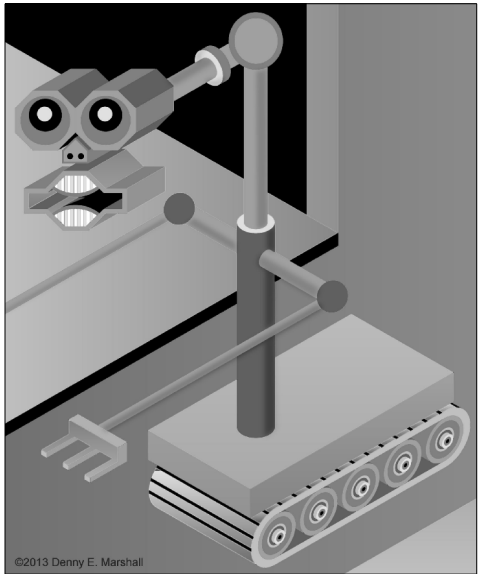
21 January 2017: **Emily Stremel's** birthday.

22 January 2017: Answer Your Cat's Questions Day.

25 January 2017: **Ryan Hawe** and **Isaac Terpstra's** birthdays. Macintosh Computer Day.

26 January 2017: **Paul Carpentier's** birthday.

27 January 2017: **Stephanie Gray's** birthday. National Big Wig Day and National Geographic Day. Premiere of films *Resident Evil: The Final Chapter* (action/horror/SF; Milla Jovovich, Ali Larter, Linden Ashby, Oded Fehr), *A Dog's Purpose*



(fantasy; Josh Gad, Dennis Quaid, Peggy Lipton), and *Kung Fu Yoga* (fantasy/adventure; Jackie Chan).

## News-Like Matter

### Notes from November 2016 BCSFA Meeting

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

Ray bought tickets to Stand-Up for Mental Health’s Monday 5 December 2016 show, in which I will be performing/graduating.

Topic: lobotomies. Someone wondered which came first: the invention of lobotomies,<sup>28</sup> or Doc Savage giving criminals lobotomies?<sup>29</sup> Also, how long ago was that metal rod that launched into a guy’s head?<sup>30</sup> Graeme said the inventor of lobotomies<sup>31</sup> did a lot of crusading for lobotomies to the point where it became a medical fad, which is disturbing.<sup>32</sup> Someone (Joe?) mentioned the hidden Kennedy sister.<sup>33</sup>

Topic: bullies. Graeme had a bully in elementary school. Standing up to the bully didn’t work. I told the story of the time I was walking down the hall in junior high school and someone came out of nowhere and punched me in the solar plexus, and I couldn’t breathe for about 30 seconds.

Topic: Hitler documentaries. Graeme said “I don’t need to see any more Hitler documentaries. I’ve seen and read enough to understand the bastard. What worries me are all the people who view him as a role model. *That* I don’t understand.”



Topic: Trump’s cabinet: scary. Pence would be worse than Trump. “Canada and Germany are the only two countries left to carry on Western civilization,” said some German minister who Trump thought was kidding.

Stew said that Trump is Elaine from *Seinfeld* when she was president of J. Peterman (while Peterman was off in the jungle): giving lavish gifts to all her friends. “You mean the president doesn’t get to do whatever he wants?”

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28 Egas Moniz (1935).—Future Felicity

29 (1930s).—Future Felicity

30 Phineas Gage (13 September 1848).—Future Felicity

31 Walter Freeman.—Future Felicity

32 Wikipedia: “Following his development of the icepick lobotomy, Freeman began traveling across the country visiting mental institutions in his personal van, which he called the ‘lobotomobile.’” —Future Felicity

33 Rosemary Kennedy.—Future Felicity

Fruvous saw a documentary by CGP Grey about power: you have to pay off the people under you, and in a dictatorship it's a smaller number than in a democracy.

Ray said that under Trump, PBS is toast. They'll lose 60% of their funding.

Graeme said that whereas Trump said he would believe the election results if he won, by contrast Nixon conceded because he didn't want to tear the country apart even though he was sure Kennedy stole the election with the "cemetery vote." Graeme added that Haig said "I'm in charge" to reassure the country that they knew what they were doing, and that Kissinger was stuck in the 19<sup>th</sup> century Metternich mode of global politics as chess.

Topic: China. Is it becoming more democratic as it becomes capitalist? We disagreed on the answer. Graeme said "I firmly believe the Communists are still in charge and have learned to exploit capitalism for their own ends. Don't mistake permitted consumerism for democracy." Joe said "State capitalism." How do democracies form? Rome vs. Greece vs. America vs. Britain. Graeme does not see any positive future in his lifetime: Russia/Putin too powerful; Europe (especially Baltics) freaking out; Canada, they look to as more stable; Trump in US; various European countries stepping backwards to far-right-wing politics.

Ray announced that the December 2016 BCSFA meeting/Christmas dinner will be combined with FRED on Sunday 11 December 2016 at 6 PM at ABC Country Restaurant, 3580 Number Three Road, Richmond. Fruvous will make the reservations. The next FRED in November will be Sunday 27 November 2016, and we'll skip Sunday 4 December 2016.

Felicity Walker

Additional writing by R. Graeme Cameron

Sunday 20 November 2016

## Passages: November 2016

🐼 **Dave Broadfoot** (5 December 1925–1 November 2016). Comedian and actor. Genre work includes *The Unforeseen* (1958), *George and the Christmas Star* (1985), *Bluetoes*, *the Christmas Elf* (1988), and *Puppets Who Kill* (2002).

🐼 **Massimo Mongai** (3 November 1950–1 November 2016). SF author. Urania Award winner for *Memorie di un Cuoco d'Astronave*<sup>34</sup> (1997). Other genre work includes *Il Gioco degli Immortali*,<sup>35</sup> *Tette e Pistole*,<sup>36</sup> *Memorie di un Cuoco di un Bor-*

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34 *Memories of a Spaceship Cook*.

35 *The Game of Immortals*.

36 *Tits and Guns*.



dello Spaziale,<sup>37</sup> *Il Fascio sulle Stelle di Benito Mussolini*,<sup>38</sup> and *Alienati*,<sup>39</sup> “a novel about an inter-planetary convention of psychoanalysts.”

🎭 **Max Alexander** (20 August 1953–2 November 2016). Comedian and actor. Genre work includes *Treasure of the Haunted House* (1983), *Out of This World* (1987), *Don't Quit Your Day Job* (1996), and *Beyond Belief: Fact or Fiction* (1997).



🎭 **John Carson** (28 February 1927–5 November 2016). Actor. Genre work includes *HG Wells' Invisible Man*<sup>40</sup> (1958), *Out of This World* (1962), *Doctor Who*<sup>41</sup> (1963), *Story Parade*<sup>42</sup> (1964), *Blood Beast from Outer Space* (1965), *Out of the Unknown* (1965), *The Plague of the Zombies*

(1966), *Adam Adamant Lives!* (1966), *Thunderbird 6* (1968), *Department S* (1969), *Taste the Blood of Dracula* (1970), *Captain Kronos—Vampire Hunter* (1974), *1990* (1977), *Tales of the Unexpected* (1979), *Hammer House of Horror* (1980), *City of Blood* (1987), *Survivor* (1987), *The Adventures of Sinbad* (1996), *Doomsday* (2008), and *Amicus Vault of Horrors* (2015).

🎭 **Marc Sleen** (30 December 1922–6 November 2016). Cartoonist.

🎭 **Genjirō Arato** (10 October 1946–7 November 2016). Director, actor, producer. Genre work includes *Hollywood*<sup>43</sup> (2010).

🎭 **Leonard Cohen** (21 September 1934–7 November 2016). Singer/songwriter, composer, musician, novelist, and painter. Genre composing work includes *Night Magic* (1985) and *Kindred: The Embraced* (1996).

🎭 **Julie Gregg** (24 January 1937–7 November 2016). Actress. Genre work includes *Bewitched* (1964), *I Dream of Jeannie* (1965), *Batman* (1966), *Batman: The Movie* (1966), *The Flying Nun* (1967), *Kolchak: The Night Stalker* (1974), and *The Incredible Hulk* (1978).

🎭 **André Ruellan**<sup>44</sup> (7 August 1922–10 November 2016). SF and horror author and screenwriter. Genre work includes *Threshold of the Void* (1972) and *Hu-Man* (1976).

🎭 **Lily (Saeko Kamata)** (17 February 1952–11 November 2016). Singer/songwriter and actress. Genre work includes *Scarecrow*<sup>45</sup> (2001), *Shinobi: Heart Under Blade* (2005), and *Mushi-Shi: The Movie* (2007).

🎭 **Robert Vaughn** (22 November 1932–11 November 2016). Actor. Genre work includes *Teenage Cave Man* (1958), *Men Into Space* (1959), *The Mind of Mr. Soames* (1970), *Demon Seed* (1977), *Starship Invasions* (1977), *The Lucifer*

37 *Memories of a Space Brothel Cook*.

38 *The Beam of the Stars by Benito Mussolini*.

39 *Alienated*.

40 AKA *The Invisible Man*.

41 Episode “Snakedance” (18–26 January 1983), as Ambril.

42 Episode “The Caves of Steel,” as R. Daneel Olivav.

43 AKA *Heriuddo*.

44 AKA Kurt Steiner.

45 AKA *Kakashi*.

*Complex* (1978), *Doctor Franken* (1980), *Day of Resurrection*<sup>46</sup> (1980), *Hangar 18* (1980), *Battle Beyond the Stars* (1980), *Superman III* (1983), *The Hitchhiker*<sup>47</sup> (1983), *The Ray Bradbury Theatre* (1985), *Black Moon Rising* (1986), *Killing Birds*<sup>48</sup> (1987), *CHUD II: Bud the CHUD* (1989), *Transylvania Twist* (1989), *Dark Avenger* (1990), *Escape to Witch Mountain* (1995), *Witch Academy* (1995), *Joe's Apartment* (1996), *The Sentinel* (1996), *Menno's Mind* (1997), *Anak Ng Bulkan*<sup>49</sup> (1997), *The Sender* (1998), *Visions* (1998), and *Host*<sup>50</sup> (1998). Three-time *Murder, She Wrote* (1984) guest star, plus General Hunt Stockwell on season five of *The A-Team* (1983).

🐼 **Katawere (Ebenezer Donkor)** (1938–12 November 2016). Actor. Genre work includes *2016* (2010), *2016 2* (2010), *12:00 Part I* (2011), and *B14? I* (2012).

🐼 **Jerry Dumas** (6 June 1930–12 November 2016). Cartoonist. Adamson Award winner (1985).

🐼 **Lupita Tovar** (27 July 1910–12 November 2016). Actress. Genre work includes *Dracula* (1931).

🐼 **Janet Wright** (8 March 1945–14 November 2016). Actress and director. Genre work includes *The Wiz* (1978), *My*



*Mother's Ghost* (1996), *Lexx* (1997), *Eerie*, *Indiana: The Other Dimension* (1998), *Redwall* (1999), *Redwall: The Movie* (2000), *Dark Angel* (2000), *Rollerball* (2002), *Taken* (2002), *Phenomenon II* (2003), *Kingdom Hospital* (2004), and *The Tall Man* (2012).

🐼 **Ken Grieve** (31 March 1942–15 November 2016). Director. Genre work includes *Doctor Who*<sup>51</sup> (1963), *The Omega Factor* (1979), and *Bugs* (1995).

🐼 **Lisa Lynn Masters** (20 March 1964–15 November 2016). Actress. Genre work includes *The Stepford Wives* (2004) and *Iron Fist* (2017).

🐼 **Saki Kaskas (Theodosius Kaskamanidis)** (24 September 1971–17 November 2016). Video game music composer. Genre work includes *The Need for Speed* series (1994–2004), *Missile Command* (1990s), *SimCity 4* (2003), and *Mass Effect 2* (2010).

🐼 **Ed Francis** (11 June 1926–18 November 2016). Professional wrestler and promoter.

🐼 **Yevgeni Lazarev** (31 March 1937–18 November 2016). Actor. Genre work includes *Carnivàle* (2003) and *Iron Man 2* (2010).

🐼 **Gino Gavioli** (9 May 1923–19 November 2016). Comics artist/writer and animator.

🐼 **Peter Sumner** (29 January 1942–22 November 2016). Actor. Genre work includes *The Evil Touch* (1973), *Star Wars* (1977), *The Survivor* (1981), *Spellbinder*

46 AKA *Fukkatsu no Hi*.

47 AKA *Deadly Nightmares*.

48 AKA *Killing Birds: Raptors*.

49 AKA *Vulcan*.

50 AKA *Virtual Obsession*.

51 Episode “Destiny of the Daleks” (1–22 September 1979).

(1995), *The Dark Redemption* (1999), *Ektopos* (2011), and *The Quarantine Hauntings* (2015).



🐾 **Andrew Sachs** (7 April 1930–23 November 2016). Actor. Genre work includes *Legend of Death* (1965), *Randall and Hopkirk (Deceased)* (1969), *The Galactic Garden* (1985), *The Tempest* (1980), *Asterix and the Big Fight* (1989), *Woof!* (1989), *The Gingerbread Man* (1992), *Taxandria* (1994), *The Forgotten Toys* (1995), *Starhill Ponies* (1998), *Doctor Who: Shada* (2003), and *Alice Through the Looking Glass* (2016).

🐾 **Al Brodax** (14 February 1926–24 November 2016). Animation writer/producer. Genre work includes *Popeye the Sailor* (1960), *Beetle Bailey* (1962), *Cool McCool* (1963), *Krazy Kat* (1963), *Snuffy Smith and Barney Google* (1963), *The Beatles* (1965), *Yellow Submarine* (1968), *Blondie* (1968), and *Sunshine Porcupine* (1980).

🐾 **Florence Henderson** (14 February 1934–24 November 2016). Actress and singer. Genre work includes *Fantasy Island* (1977), *Out of This World* (1987), *Hercules* (1998), *Loonatics Unleashed* (2005), *Handy Manny* (2006), *For Heaven's Sake* (2008), *The Cleveland Show* (2009), *Scooby Doo! Mystery Incorporated* (2010), and *Sofia the First* (2013). Two-time *Murder, She Wrote* (1984) guest star.

🐾 **Ron Glass** (10 July 1945–25 November 2016). Actor. Genre work includes *The Twilight Zone* (1985), *Deep Space* (1988), *Rugrats* (1990), *Aladdin* (1994), *Star Trek: Voyager*<sup>52</sup> (1995), *Superman* (1996), *Teen Angel* (1997), *Twice in a Lifetime* (1999), *Deal of a Lifetime* (1999), *Firefly* (2002), *Serenity* (2005), *Fable II* (2008), *Agents of SHIELD* (2013), and *Ancient Space* (2014). One-time *Murder, She Wrote* (1984) guest-star. [Also reported by Steve Green in [BCSFAzine #519](#).]

🐾 **Fritz Weaver** (19 January 1926–26 November 2016). Actor. Genre work includes *Way Out* (1961), *The Twilight Zone* (1959), *NBC Experiment in Television* (1967), *The Invaders* (1967), *The Maltese Bippy* (1969), *Night Gallery* (1969), *The Day of the Dolphin* (1973), *Wonder Woman* (1975), *Demon Seed* (1977), *The Martian Chronicles* (1980), *Jaws of Satan* (1981), *Creepshow* (1982), *Tales from the Darkside* (1983), *The Twilight Zone* (1985), *Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>: The Series* (1987), *Monsters* (1988), *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*<sup>53</sup> (1993), and *The X-Files* (1993). Three-time *Murder, She Wrote* (1984) guest-star.

🐾 **Bernard Gallagher** (26 September 1929–27 November 2016). Actor. Genre work includes *Woof!* (1989) and *Photographing Fairies* (1997).

🐾 **Valerie Gaunt** (26 June 1932–27 November 2016). Actress. Genre work includes *The Curse of Frankenstein* (1957), *Horror of Dracula* (1958), *The World of Hammer* (1990), and *Cinemassacre's Monster Madness* (1997).

🐾 **Haruka Eigen** (11 January 1946–28 November 2016). Professional wrestler and sumo wrestler.

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52 Episode “Nightingale” (6 December 2000), as Loken.

53 Episode “Tribunal” (5 June 1994), as Kovat.

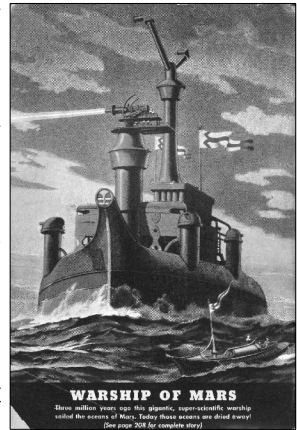
🐼 **Van Williams** (27 February 1934–28 November 2016). Actor. Genre work includes *Batman* (1966), *Batman: The Movie* (1966), *The Green Hornet* (1966), and *Nanny and the Professor* (1970).

🐼 **Keo Woolford** (14 May 1967–28 November 2016). Actor/director/producer. Genre work includes *Sword vs. Shield* (2010), *Dead Island* (2011), and *Godzilla* (2014).

🐼 **Alice Drummond** (21 May 1928–30 November 2016). Actress. Genre work includes *Dark Shadows* (1966), *Ghostbusters* (1984), *Tales from the Darkside: The Movie* (1990), *After.Life* (2009), and *Furry Vengeance* (2010).

Felicity Walker

Thursday 1 December 2016



## We Are Everywhere?

Premiere of British Columbia John Horgan (NDP) “Unwinds reading science fiction. ‘I like to be completely detached from the world I live in. That’s how I relax.’”

“Proud co-chair with MLA Michelle Mungall NDP geek caucus. ‘I was a *Star Trek* fan growing up. The Pollyanna view that we can all work together to a better outcome—all faiths, all ethnicities—that appealed to me.’”

“Tried unsuccessfully for role as extra in *Star Trek* movie shot in Vancouver. Wore *Trek* socks, pin at legislature to mark passing of Leonard Nimoy: ‘Needs of the many outweigh needs of the few.’ Has referred to Liberals<sup>54</sup> as ‘Klingons,’ question period as ‘engaging the Borg.’”

Coincidentally (since this item is a *la Ansible*): “The Horgans have lived in the Victoria suburb of Langford ‘in the same little house’ for 25 years.”

[From “John Horgan Beamed Up to Boss by Toppling Liberal ‘Klingons.’” Vaughn Palmer, The Vancouver Sun]

Felicity Walker

Friday 30 June 2017

## Heathcote Williams (1941–2017)

Heathcote Williams (1941–2017): British writer and actor, died 1 July, aged 75. Genre appearances include *Slipstream* (1989), *Orlando* (1992), *Alice in Wonderland* (1999), *The Sandman* (2000), *Dinotopia* (two episodes, 2002–3), [*and*] *City of Ember* (2008).

On a personal note, Ann and I caught him on a promotional reading tour for his verse-novel *Whale Nation* (1986). He was spectacular.

[*I enjoyed him as Prospero in The Tempest* (1979).—Felicity]

Steve Green

Sunday 2 July 2017

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54 Note for international readers: despite the name, the British Columbia Liberal Party is centre-right.

### **Stevie Ryan (1984–2017)**

Stevie Ryan (1984–2017): American comedian, actress and writer; found dead by apparent suicide on 3 July, aged 33. She appeared as a version of herself in the experimental thriller *John Doe: Diary of a Serial Killer* (2015, but apparently never released).

Steve Green  
Monday 3 July 2017

### **Nelsan Ellis (1978–2017)**

Nelsan Ellis (1978–2017): American actor and playwright, died 8 July, aged 39 (heart failure). Genre appearances in *True Blood* (81 episodes as “Lafayette Reynolds,” 2008–14) [and] *Gods Behaving Badly* (2013).

Steve Green  
Saturday 8 July 2017

### **George A. Romero (1940–2017)**

George A. Romero (1940–2017): American horror film director, died today (16 July), aged 77.

Steve Green  
Sunday 16 July 2017

### **Martin Landau (1928–2017)**

Martin Landau (1928–2017): American newspaper cartoonist who turned to acting, died 16 July, aged 89.

Steve Green  
Sunday 16 July 2017



### **Deborah Watling (1948–2017)**

Deborah (Debbie) Watling (1948–2017): British actress, died 21 July, aged 69. Best-known for playing Patrick Troughton’s companion “Victoria” in *Doctor Who* (40 episodes, 1967–68), her other genre appearances included H.G. Wells’ *The Invisible Man* (11 episodes, 1958–59), *Out of the Unknown* (1966 adaptation of John Rankine’s “The

World in Silence”), [and] *Where Time Began* (a 1977 animated adaption of Verne’s *Journey to the Centre of the Earth*). She reprised her *Doctor Who* role in the 1993 Comic Relief minisode *Dimensions in Time* and the non-BBC *Downtime* (1995),

then appeared as herself in the 2013 spoof *The Five(ish) Doctors Reboot*, directed by former timelord Peter Davison.

Steve Green  
Friday 21 July 2017

### **Jeanne Moreau (1928–2017)**

Jeanne Moreau (1928–2017): French actress, screenwriter and director, found dead 31 July, aged 89. Genre appearances include *The Trial* (1962), *Hu-Man* (1975), and *Until the End of the World* (1991).

Steve Green  
Monday 31 July 2017

### **Sam Shepard (1943–2017)**

Sam Shepard (1943–2017): American actor, director and playwright, died on 27 July, aged 73. Appeared in the horror movie *The Return* (2006), was among the contributors to the 1972 film of *Oh! Calcutta!* and both wrote and directed the supernatural western *Silent Tongue* (1993), but is probably best known to SF fans for playing real-life test pilot Chuck Yeager in *The Right Stuff* (1983).

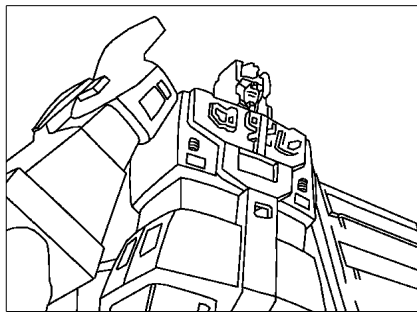
Steve Green  
Monday 31 July 2017

### **Robert Hardy (1925–2017)**

Robert Hardy (1925–2017): British actor, died 3 August, aged 91. Genre appearances include *The Adventures of Sir Lancelot* (one episode, 1957), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (1959), *Mystery and Imagination* (one episode, 1966), *Demons of the Mind* (1972), *Dark Places*, *Gawain and the Green Knight* (both 1973), *Supernatural* (one episode, 1977), *Buck Rogers in the 25<sup>th</sup> Century* (one episode, 1979), *The Pied Piper of Hamelin* (1981, narrator), *Shades of Darkness* (one episode, 1986), *Mary Shelley's Frankenstein* (1994), *Testament: The Bible in Animation* (one episode, 1996, voice), *Gulliver's Travels* (both episodes of miniseries, 1996), *The 10<sup>th</sup> Kingdom* (seven episodes, 2000), *The Lost World* (2001), *Thunderpants* (2002), *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* (2002), *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* (2004), *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* (2005), *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix* (2007), and *Joseph's Reel* (2015).



Steve Green  
Thursday 3 August 2017



### Hywel Bennett (1944–2017)

Hywel Bennett (1944–2017): British actor, died 25 July, aged 73. Made his screen debut in a 1965 episode of *Doctor Who*. Other genre appearances include *Twisted Nerve* (1968), *Percy* (1971), *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* (1972), *Pennies from Heaven* (one episode, 1978), *Artemis 81* (1981), *The Twilight Zone* (one episode, 1986), *A Mind to Kill* (1991), *Virtual Murder* (one episode, 1992), *Cold Lazarus* (one episode, 1996), *Nowhere* (all six episodes, 1996), *Mary, Mother of Jesus* (1999), and *Randall and Hopkirk (Deceased)* (one episode, 2001). He retired from acting in 2007.

Steve Green

Thursday 3 August 2017

## Excess Resolutions for 2016, #4.8

### Kathleen Moore

Hi, all.

Yes, I know this is late. Blame the rain, blurring the borders between the months.<sup>55</sup>

### **October: Recessional**

Between the rains  
Over the western marshes  
The last slice of rainbow  
Salutes the opposing dawn

Between the rains  
A clamour of hundreds and thousands  
Sounds from the marsh to the north  
Beyond the next two hills

Between the rains  
Walking a trail at midnight—while overhead  
Acacia spreads black lace  
Against the pale night sky

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<sup>55</sup> Also, apologies to Kathleen for these appearing in months other than the month of the poem or the zine's cover date month.—Felicity

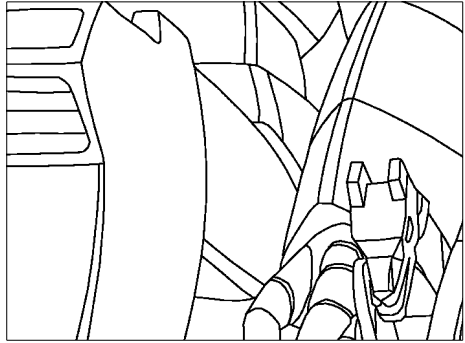
Between the rains  
Well-washed chickweed flourishes  
Crisp, new-green, and neat

Between the rains  
The cordite breath of reckless fireworks  
Drifts across a leaf-strewn street

Beneath the rains  
A small, pain-wearied cat  
Gently is sent home  
To the welcoming arms of Baast

Beneath the rains  
Fingers lace, abiding here  
Against the gnawing night

Between the rains  
Beneath the rains  
Beyond the rains



Kathleen Moore  
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## **Review: ‘The Secret Number,’ by Igor Teper**

Michael Bertrand

“The Secret Number” is a short sci-fi story by Igor Trepak I came across on the Strange Horizons website.

The basic idea is that a crazed mathematician has been confined to a mental hospital because he insists that there is a missing integer, a number between three and four named “bleem.”

I like the silly ideas and very non-serious writing style. It reminds me of some of Theodore Sturgeon’s sillier stories, and that’s high praise from me. The goofy, manic energy of the story is well suited to its short length and makes for a fun ride.

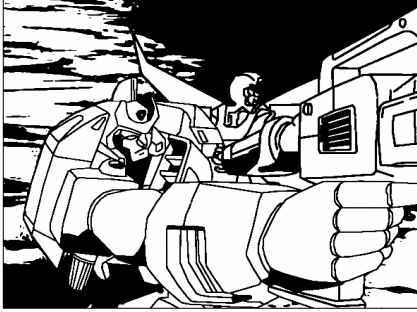
But the thing is, when you have a very short story with such a high level of energy, you really have to slam that ending and hit it out of the park, and this story barely bunts.

A story like this is more or less a joke in terms of structure. It has a premise, a buildup, and a punchline. The more energy there is in that buildup, the bigger a surprise and a laugh that punchline has to be. But the punchline, as it were, to this story was weak and extremely predictable. It’s pretty much the exact same punchline to a whole raft of sci-fi stories about a crazy-sounding person who turns out to be right.

And if the punchline doesn’t work in a story this short, there’s not much else to give it merit or weight. That’s why the short story is such a difficult form, and the

shorter the story, the harder it is. Everything has to be seamless and perfect, with exactly the right amount of payoff, or the reader is left going “That’s it?”

And I know one shouldn’t nitpick the logic of a silly, jokey story like this one, but I can’t help it. The premise doesn’t make sense. Call the number after three



whatever you like, but it’s still four, mathematically speaking. The illustration with the jelly beans shows that. There’s absurd and then there’s absurd, and I realize drawing the line between “enjoyably goofy” and “stupid” is a fairly subjective judgment call, but still, to me, the premise fails the basic logic test.

So on a scale of one to ten, I’m afraid I can only give this story a bleem.5 at most.

Michael Bertrand  
The Million Word Year  
Tuesday 25 May 2010

## Art Credits

<u>Felicity Walker</u> (font: <u>Yann Le Coroller</u> ).....	Masthead
<u>Brad Foster</u> .....	Cover
<u>Dave Haren</u> (photos).....	Pages 1, 5, 16
<u>Dave Haren</u> (clip art).....	Pages 2–4, 7–8, 12, 14–15, 17–19
<u>Denny E. Marshall</u> .....	Page 13
Clip art [ <i>The Transformers</i> (1984) screenshots (traced)]....	Pages 20–24