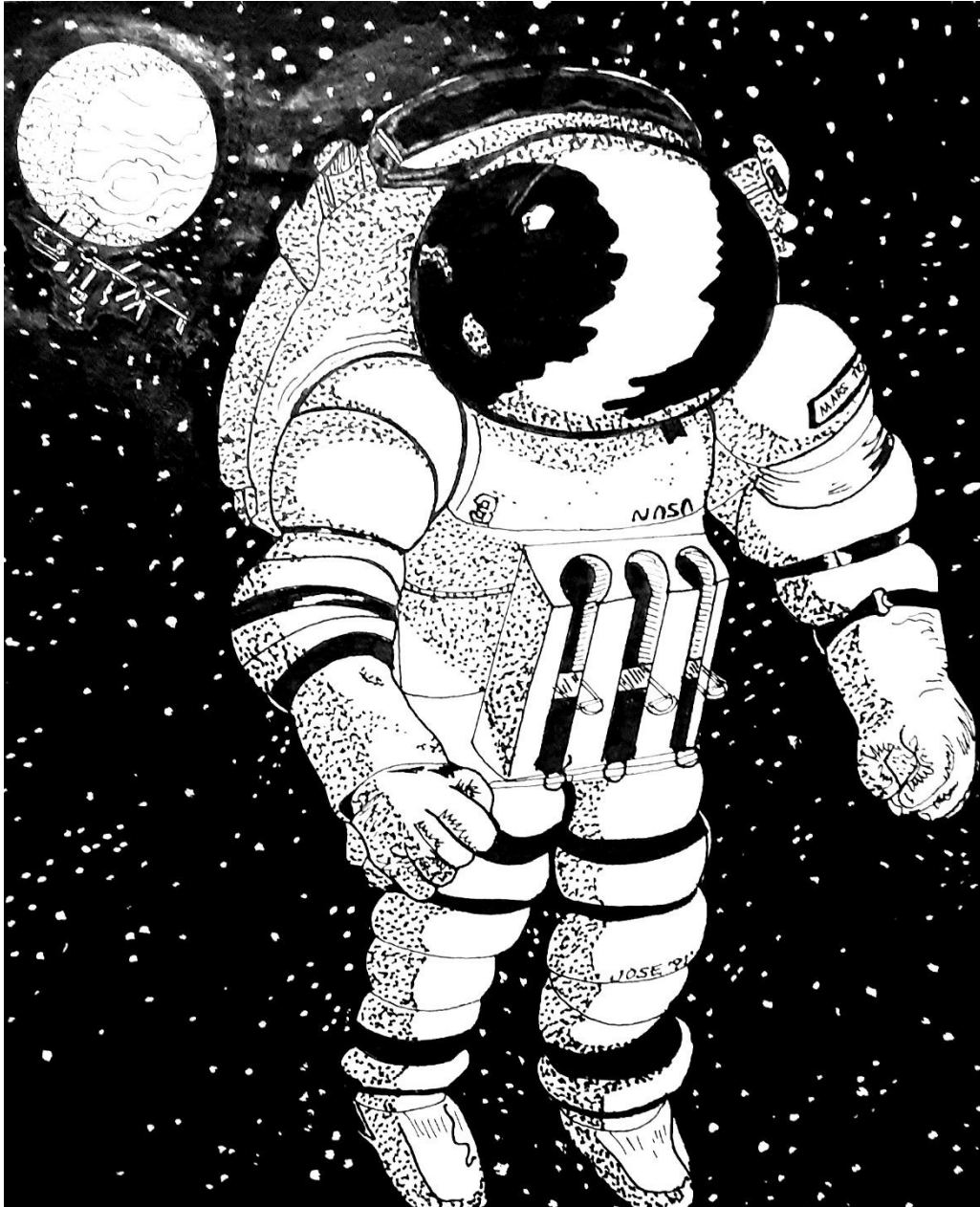


# THE OBDURATE EYE 34

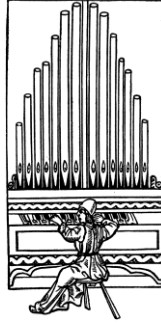
December 2023

A personalzine by Garth Spencer



*"And now I have to pee. Of course."*

THE OBDURATE EYE #34, December 2023, a personalzine from Garth Spencer, 6960 Doman Street, Vancouver, BC CANADA V5S 3H7, Email [garth.van.spencer@gmail.com](mailto:garth.van.spencer@gmail.com) or [hrothgarweems@gmail.com](mailto:hrothgarweems@gmail.com) . Garth acknowledges that he does this on the unceded territory of the x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əyəm, səlilwətał, and sk<sup>w</sup>xwú7mesh peoples.



*The organ of no clique or party*

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## Ruminations

Let's face it: The fandom that led to fan funds, or the fannish fandom I learned about in the 1980s, is just not well known even among contemporary fandoms.

This means I have my work cut out for me. I am both secretary of CSFFA, and administrator of CUFF.

In the unlikely event that you forgot, CSFFA is the **Canadian SF and Fantasy Association**, meaning the group that administers the Aurora Awards (officially, the Canadian SF and Fantasy Awards). This is a fan-voted award, so there are both nomination and voting phases, and before either of them the administrators have to check out what kind of works Canadian writers have published in the year preceding the eventual awards ceremony. (For various and divers reasons, the awards ceremony is now held online, on a fixed date. When the ceremony was held at a different Canadian convention each year, of course it kept jumping from one season to another.)

Now, a question: until I started talking about it, had you even heard of the Aurora Awards? They were supposed to spotlight Canadian SF and fantasy, and its writers; but I began to think this would work better if we had better publicity of the awards.

For a month or two we had a strange glitch where a member of the executive would send me a link to the Zoom recording of a meeting I should transcribe,

and I couldn't receive the email. This has been rectified, but I'm not sure how the glitch happened.

Also in case you forgot, CUFF is the **Canadian Unity Fan Fund**, which was suspended during the COVID-19 pandemic, and resumed only in 2023. It used to alternate, so that candidates would be sought alternately from eastern or western Canada to visit a convention in the other half of the country, and acquaint people with his or her fan community.

One of my upcoming obligations to the Canadian Unity Fan Fund is finding the next Canadian convention for the next CUFF delegate to attend.

Here's another question: how many Canadian fans do you hear about, in the normal course of fannish activities? *Contemporary* activities, that is, as in anime or comics or costuming or filking or gaming or media-franchise-related fandoms?

I began to realize – about as soon as I started researching the Aurora Awards and other Canadiana – that a lot of the nationally-organized fan activities are based on an earlier model of fandom than is actually current. But there was no very strong reason to think contemporary fans are readers of science fiction or fantasy, even online. Today, there is no very strong reason to think contemporary fans are even aware of other fandoms than their own, much less aware of fanzines, or fans who became well know for fanwriting.

So there's an obstacle to overcome, if I want to convey any value to CUFF.

Heath Row has suggested that club/con/fanzine-era fans, such as I, have to embrace online communications as well as possible. My purpose would be to convey any attractions of fannish fandom. Admittedly, mainly because I have a stake in some institutions that grew out of fannish fandom, like CSFFA and CUFF.

## §

There is a **creativity issue** facing science fiction and fantasy, which may or may not be realized by many fans or writers. New scientific and technological breakthroughs are happening all the time, of course, but how much of this is recognized in currently-published SF or fantasy?

A reader like me might have an impression that writers were pioneering breakthrough stories every month, from the Golden Age of the 1930s to the New Wave in the 1960s, establishing new concepts from space travel to time travel to alien cultures and mentalities to the moral problems of cloning and genetic manipulation ... but somehow, the imagination well ran dry. And this might be merely an effect of discovering a wide range of possibilities at an impressionable age, only to grow older and realize the range of story ideas hasn't grown, while you have.

That isn't the creativity issue I want to point out, however.

Since SF and fantasy settings became more popular, in comics and gaming and screen entertainment, these media have *relied* on recycling the concepts previously used in Golden Age to New Wave stories. Even dystopian-future movies and TV series have been recycling tropes and memes established well before William Gibson was credited with cyberpunk. Usually adventure or war stories, with minimal research, detective or extended thinking.

Of course, I personally want to see fiction about a new wave of piracy from Haida Gwaii, featuring dirigible longships powered by cold fusion reactors and crews who scream threats in a strongly Yiddish-accented patois, but that's just me.

Or maybe I just need to seek out more new reading and viewing material?

§

About fiction, online workshops (Maetta Odum's request), and publishing developments: I am sporadically attending a Shut Up and Write workshop that usually meets on Zoom on Wednesdays at noon, and more faithfully, I am attending a critiquing workshop that meets on alternate Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Mostly I have been mining my incomplete, amateur stories, dating back to August 2023 when I last revised them. Maybe it's past time to write some new fiction again.

I have had a problem handling story conflict, and getting to a story resolution. Maybe I need to re-examine some assumptions.

§

You may be aware of some developments affecting **social media**, i.e., strange misjudgments about "community standards" and when to block people's posts on Facebook, and misjudgments by the owner of Twitter, both leading people to look for alternative media. I had some fun inventing Facebook groups like "Steampunk Viking Klingons" or "Abducted Aliens Anonymous" or the "Royal Swiss Navy", but now I am talking about shifting to MeWe. (Incidentally, Facebook reacted to Canadian legislation about online news by blocking any news by, from, or about Canada. What do you call that?)

This can be a problem for a number of fans and pros alike, of course. So far it hasn't affected the fan groups I'm involved with – we correspond via Facebook and Discord, and the personal website I am revamping is on a local Freenet anyway – but I expect more and worse developments to come.

§

Just to be fannish, I decided to start the

### **PORT ALBERNI IN 2030!**

hoax Worldcon bid. Port Alberni, you must know, is a surpassingly obscure lumber port town in British Columbia on Vancouver Island; I am unaware of any fans, and indeed any hotel accommodations in Port Alberni, and the only ways to get there are by air to Victoria International Airport (which is actually near Sidney, BC), or by ferry to Swartz Bay or Nanaimo from the mainland. In either case, you then have to drive north for miles and miles.

Clearly a winner!

In the same spirit I have offered **Spuzzum in 2027** as a hoax Westercon bid! Spuzzum is even smaller and more obscure than Port Alberni, being a sort of wide spot on the Trans-Canada Highway; we in Vancouver consistently refer to it as beyond Hope. (Hope, BC, that is.) One of my brothers made up a crank theory that “Spuzzum” in a Coast Salish dialect indicated a thing or place of no possible use or interest, with the result that if anyone expressed an interest in seeing Spuzzum, they would be unable to find it. Hence, anyone seeking to attend Westercon in Spuzzum would probably disappear from human sight or knowledge, like the infamous D.B. Cooper, or like any hard evidence of the notorious sasquatch.

#### Things you can say in response to literally anything, when you have nothing else to say:

- As the prophecy foretold.
- But at what cost?
- So let it be written; so let it be done.
- So...it has come to this.
- That's just what he/she/they would've said.
- Is this why fate brought us together?
- And thus, I die.
- ...just like in my dream...
- Be that as it may, still may it be as it may be.
- There is no escape from destiny.
- Wise words by wise men write wise deeds in wise pen.
- In *this* economy?
- ...and then the wolves came.

Given the spirit of the times, I wonder if it's time to revive my **Liberal Secular Rational Humanist Cult** movement? I already have a Facebook page set up.

Speaking of Facebook pages, some of you may recall the **Mad Science Forum**, a Facebook group for those of us who think a little mad science is called for in times like these. We are open to suggestions for crank theories and impossible inventions, such as tunneling airplanes or flying submarines or a little tabletop device that can *actually guarantee someone understands* what you're saying.

Until I move everything to a MeWe website, of course.



## Locs

**Greg (not Ian) Bridges [gbridgesian@gmail.com](mailto:gbridgesian@gmail.com), Nov. 7, 2023 (editor of *Memphen*)**

Well, shucks!!

Have to say it's GREG, although I like Ian well enough, but not me.

Yeah, later on I realized the only reason that Memphis SF Association lasted as long as it did was my flogging it, throwing *Memphen* at everyone that had been to a meeting in 20 years, plus every fanzine I found addresses for - 200+ copies.

Also, Midsouthcon would not be around for the same reason. Twice we have had venues screw us over so we missed years. My wife and I went to a lot of regional cons, Worldcons, etc., ran Midsouthcon parties to drum up out of towners to go. If the hotel room's reserved that pays the event for us.

The club collapsed when my wife got cancer so that we cut back to nothing for years. Just now getting back to it.

As far as forgetting my name, I guess I am used to those who used to get it knowing who was inflicting it on them, as usually there were meeting notices in their too.

Might mention there is a Greg Bridges who is a very good SF artist, and having met him at LAcon one time, seemed like an OK guy. We bought some of his art.

**Jean-Paul Garnier, [spacecowboybooks@gmail.com](mailto:spacecowboybooks@gmail.com), Nov. 6, 2023**

Thank you for your kind words and Loc! The relaunch of *Worlds of IF* is terribly exciting, and we have some really neat things in the works. I'm greatly looking forward to revealing the table of contents, as it is truly stellar and multigenerational. I would hope that you do not feel "convicted" by my reading habits. My favorite era of SF is the late '60s through the early '70s, and much of my reading time is spent there. But since the bookstore does everything that it can to support contemporary authors it has driven me to read many current books and hopefully do a good job of spreading the word about what is going on in SF today.

I'm sorry to hear that buying books is a financial constraint, books have become awfully expensive. A few great resources for free ebooks *[continued on next page]*

are <https://gutenberg.org> and <https://archive.org/>. The latter has a great wealth of old SF magazines, both pulp and digest. Many of the contemporary SF magazines are also free to read, I highly recommend the Canadian magazine <https://hexagonmagazine.ca/>. Also, get your free copy of *Simultaneous Times* Vol. 2.5 at <https://spacecowboybooks.com/free-content/>

I'd be happy to mail you a copy of the third volume if you'd be interested in reading it.  
*((I will indeed!))*

**Lyn McConchie (New Zealand), November 8, 2023**

I started being a fan early 1973, a friend had a friend who was and we ended up a group of 10 meeting regularly and talking SF/F. It was autonomous, I don't think we knew about general fandom, and I stayed with them until mid-'76 when it broke up. I came back to Wellington eventually, met someone selling a book surplus about 1980, got told about regular fandom, joined, and there I've been ever since. However I don't belong to any APA nowadays, and haven't gone to a con for several years. But since I write original SF/F books and collections, I'm not exactly out of the field.

**Andrew Murdoch, commander@fandom.ca, November 10, 2023**

The problem with fannish fandom is... it's not a problem. It's an evolution, a change, a reinventing, a reboot, but not a problem. Yes, most new SF fans get into fandoms (plural and splintered) by media, gaming, or comics, because that is most accessible, but that has been the case, in truth, for decades. Fandom originally meant literary SF, but that has not been the sole point of entry for some time. I have been in fandoms (various) for almost forty years and even I first came to it by media fandom (specifically *Star Trek*). It was only later, and by attending cons geared more towards books, that I became a fan of SF books and zines.

The true problem is clinging to the notion of only our style of fandom being the "true" fandom. We can be open, and welcoming, to new fans, and show them their paper roots which have been replaced by websites, but ultimately, we should rejoice in the knowledge they are fans, and they will take us new places.

*((Andrew, I already knew fandom is a continuing process. I am a few decades past thinking otherwise. And I already knew the fandom that we have known is not the ultimate Fandom. I am a little too old to think otherwise. My issue is: does fandom as I knew it \*have\* to be marginalized and finally disappear?))*

*((I would have liked to live in a community of active, unconventional, even creative minds - actually comprised of actual readers with actual educations and actual language skills. Isn't that allowed?))*

*((Apparently not. Instead of original science fiction or fantasy we have, apparently, an increasing flood of sliced processed standard imitation near-SFFH products. Rather than fans interested in learning how the technical stuff works, or following out the consequences of new innovations, we have a lot more visual arts graduates in the film and TV industries fascinated with superficial special effects, presenting just the*



*appearance of technical and producing thinly-disguised fantasies on screen. But this is a twice-told tale.*

*((Clearly I'm depressed and bored and marginalized by contemporary fandom - just as I was depressed and bored and marginalized by mundane society.*

*((Surely some great event is at hand ... ))*

**Mark Nelson, November 16, 2023**

This is a delayed reply to your email, rather than a loc on your most recent issue. I hope to write one of those... maybe next week.

*((This works as a loc, too.))*

I hope you don't feel that I was complaining to you about not receiving two issues. It was my own fault for not reading the email from [efanzines.com](http://efanzines.com).

What did I mean when I wrote "*Apparently not, am I missing something?*" Perhaps I was just being facetious. After all, the critics of the 15-minute city deliberately misinterpret its intent to suggest that councils want to put barriers in place so that's impossible to drive your car for more than 15 minutes.

*((Of course they do.))*

As far as I can see the word "woke" is used by right-of-center political commentators to describe left-of-center ideas that they don't like but aren't able to rationally criticize. Labelling a policy as woke is essentially name-calling: the kind of behaviour you'd expect from infants.

*((What a surprise.))*

According to the *Oxford English Dictionary*, the first use of the expression "silly old sausage", a colloquial expression for a person, is from 1934. It's an adaptation of an earlier use of the word sausage, first recorded in 1900, in certain dialects to indicate either a person that is easily imposed upon or an easy-going inoffensive person.

*((Sounds like me.))*

Some examples of its use:

1934 His mother's stopped Waving, to wipe her eyes, the silly old sausage!

W. Gibson, *Fuel* 72

1955 Dr Grieve.. was a silly old sausage.

'A. Gilbert', *Is she Dead Too?* ii. 38

1972 Very good customer of mine... Very nice old sausage.

K. Bonfiglioli, *Don't point that Thing at Me* v. 54

1977 He's only had five letters, the dear old sausage.

*Harpers & Queen* November 308/4

There was an article in the paper recently. I wouldn't normally have read it, but your email was circulating in my mind and pushed me into reading it. This article stated that the US is the biggest consumer of beef in the world, though it did not state on what basis this claim is made. However, beef consumption is not spread uniformly amongst the population of the USA. On a typical day, 12% of people in the US account for 50% of the beef consumed on that day. Who is eating all the excess beef? In general men and people between the ages of 50 and 65. By ethnicity, white people.

Another recent article revealed that the British population is now eating less meat than at any point since the government started to record meat-eating habits in the 1970s. The amount of meat eaten at home has fallen by 14% compared to 2012, with carcass meat consumption (beef, pork, lamb, and others) decreasing by 26%, whilst chicken and other meat products fell by 11%.

What are the reasons for this decrease? A combination of factors including: the cost of living, environmental, and health considerations.

*((A curious thing, that.))*

***Lloyd & Yvonne Penney, 1706-24 Eva Rd., Etobicoke, ON, M9C 2B2, November 27, 2023***

Thank you for *The Obdurate Eye* 33, and I will see if this issue brings about the big loc. I try to write more than a page for each issue I get, but sometimes, I don't get past a paragraph or two.

Arrgghhh, Baby Yoda is everywhere! I never watched any of the *Star Wars* movies beyond Episode 7, the start of the final trilogy. I would like to think that other conventions might spring up to fill the gaps of conventions past...but I might be being a little too optimistic. However, I do suspect there are machinations afoot...

My earliest letters go back to 1983, which means pre-Internet, so I was storing them on 5.25" and 3.5" inch disks. I don't have anything to read them at this time, but 3.5" inch disk readers are still available. I asked Rob Sawyer about saving my locs online somewhere, and he suggested LiveJournal. And yes, I am still on LiveJournal, and my LJ stories the last 17 years of locs. A few faneds know to go there if they did not get my loc in their e-mail, or it somehow got lost. Mostly, it's for me. I know how long I've been writing, just over 40 years.

*((The Social Medium That Would Not Die ...))*

Mark Nelson's loc...I'd like a 15-minute city, especially for work. Public transit in Toronto is great and getting better, but still, it takes me around two hours to get to work and two hours plus to get back home, often for a six-hour work day. Even though I am at the edge of retirement, the search continues for additional work, and I hope it's a little closer to home.

# COGNITIVE BIASES

## The Ultimate Cheat Sheet

COGNITIVE BIAS	DESCRIPTION	EXAMPLE
<b>Anchoring Bias</b>	You rely heavily on the first piece of information you receive.	First seeing an expensive watch makes others seem cheaper.
<b>Authority Bias</b>	You trust opinions from perceived authorities more.	Believing a product is good because a celebrity endorses it.
<b>Availability Heuristic</b>	You judge things based on info readily available or easily recalled.	Seeing a type of car as unreliable due to a friend's issues with it.
<b>Bandwagon Effect</b>	You tend to follow popular opinions or trends.	Buying a certain phone because you see other people using it.
<b>Confirmation Bias</b>	You favor information that confirms your existing beliefs.	Dismissing data that questions your favorite diet's effectiveness.
<b>Dunning-Kruger Effect</b>	You overestimate your ability when you know little about something.	Thinking you're an expert after reading one article on a subject.
<b>Endowment Effect</b>	You value things more when you own them.	Trying to sell your house above market value because it's yours.
<b>False Consensus Effect</b>	You overestimate how much others agree with you.	Assuming all your friends will like your preferred restaurant.
<b>Halo Effect</b>	You judge a person's character from an overall positive impression.	Thinking a candidate will do a job well because they're attractive.
<b>Illusory Correlation</b>	You mistakenly believe two unrelated things are connected.	Believing black cats cause bad luck.
<b>Negativity Bias</b>	You focus more on negative events than positive ones.	Dwelling on one negative comment in a sea of compliments.
<b>Outcome Bias</b>	You judge a decision by its outcome, not the decision-making process.	Calling a bad investment smart because it unexpectedly paid off.
<b>Recency Effect</b>	You give more weight to the latest information or experiences.	Ordering the last item a server mentioned at a restaurant.
<b>Self-Serving Bias</b>	You credit your successes to yourself and blame your failures on others.	Thinking that winning a game is skill; losing is the referee's fault.
<b>Spotlight Effect</b>	You think others notice your mistakes or appearance more than they do.	Assuming everyone saw you trip over a curb.
<b>Sunk Cost Fallacy</b>	You stick with something not working due to what you've already put into it.	Watching a bad movie to the end because you paid for the ticket.

If you found this helpful, follow me for more | Justin Wright | [linkedin.com/in/jwmba](https://www.linkedin.com/in/jwmba)

My loc...I am not sure if a fanzine welcomittee would work. In some ways, as much as I like a fanzine lounge at a Worldcon, it sometimes gives off that Jehovah's Witnesses vibe. Here are our publications, and because you are not one of us, we are silently judging you. Rochester was fun, but we were pressed into service to run its registration tables. Chengdu did some things well, failed at others, and were cringingly awkward at most of it. The Scottish Worldcon in 2025 will be smaller, but better.

I have been in touch with Jean-Paul Garnier (*Time's Arrow*, 2022). He is bringing back the old 70s SF magazine *Worlds of IF* after a 50-year hiatus. I might be doing something with him, many things are yet to be determined.

I think I am done for

the moment, and off the loc goes into the aether. Well, I tried for the full page... See you next issue.

**Heath Row, 4367 Globe Ave., Culver City, CA, 90230, Dec. 3, 2023**

In addition to maintaining the *T&T* Letterhack card program, through which everyone who sends in a letter of comment for *The Stf Amateur* or any one of my many apazines receives a numbered membership card (*à la* Cry Letterhack; I'm not ashamed to crib), I've decided to institute a Send One, Receive One policy. Please consider this my

official notice to fandom. If you send me a letter of comment, I will send you at least one letter in response. That's not misguided benevolence; it's a way to encourage myself to write LsOC, a practice of which I've fallen out of the habit. Case in point, the last time I wrote you care of *The Obdurate Eye* was in response to #29 in July of this year. Here it is December, with #33 well in hand. Hop to, says I. So, I hop.

It pleases me that you've picked up on the art of one Jose Sanchez. His painting of Grogu, aka Baby Yoda, captures sadness and wisdom, and the rich blue of the background ably offsets the more muted palette of green and brown. Sanchez is increasingly prolific, and his back stock of artwork is worth exploring. He deserves exposure beyond the membership of the National Fantasy Fan Federation, and I thank you for showcasing his work.

Your Indigenous Land or Territorial Acknowledgement amused and perplexed me. At first I thought you were poking fun at such acknowledgments, but it's not a series of joking misspellings: You recognize the rights of the Musqueam Indian Band, Tsleil-Waututh Nation, and Squamish peoples. I apologize for my initial misgivings! I write this from the unceded territory of the Chumash and Tongva nations. Not far from me in Point Mugu State Park is the Chumash Trail, which dates back 7,000 years. When my family hiked it during the pandemic, my wife and son were put off by the steep incline away from the coast, but every step took us back into the past. We walk paths well worn by others, every day.

While Keycon in Manitoba didn't occur this year, it's scheduled for 2024, which is good to see. Is it truly the only Canadian con able—qualified—to host a Canadian Unity Fan Fund delegate? I thought there were discussions underway to broaden the scope of available CUFF cons. In terms of fundraising for CUFF, let me see what doubles I might have on hand to offer you for listing. They won't necessarily be Canadian artifacts, but that might not be required given the list offered in *Shooting My CUFFs* #8. In addition to the fanzines and chapbooks you've been offering so far, books by Canadian authors—if available for such fundraising—might also attract donors. So might items related to guests of honor associated with the host con in question.

*((I have contacted four conventions, and heard back from Can\*Con.))*

Your theory that comics, gaming, and media fandoms out-competed earlier forms of fandom continues to intrigue me. They certainly receive more mainstream attention, which broadens their potential reach. This weekend, Los Angeles is hosting the L.A. Comic Con, involving at least one member of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society in the programming—that I know of: Gene Turnbow of <http://scifi.radio>. While I'm not sure whether fanzines will satisfy the fannish yen of more mainstream fans—they find their fix online via social media, perhaps—our clubs might appeal as an inroad to meet other local fen. At a recent LASFS meeting, we welcomed a guest from Texas who didn't know anyone else who liked science fiction. Just imagine! Gives me the shivers, it does.

As far as lettercols go, yours is pretty impressive, offering a good array of correspondents. Unlike Lloyd Penney or Taral Wayne, I don't keep a record of my letters, but I do name the Drive files similarly so I can easily find them if needed. I used to keep a record of fanzines received, whether I'd read them or written an LOC, but that habit didn't really stick, as mentioned above. Like Wayne, I sometimes fail to

notice if a letter has been published. Keeping up with fanzines can be a full-time job in itself, what John Hertz might term ungainful employment.

Personally, I might consider the \$186 or \$187 million of public money spent on searching for missing women in a Manitoba landfill money worth spending. The alternative is not to look for them, while suspecting they're there? As Wayne suggests, that money might also be well spent bettering the current situations of First Nations people, but do we then work toward avoiding future wrongs without righting past wrongs? Public money could be, perhaps should be, devoted to both. Victims or their families shouldn't have to rely on crowdfunding to right such wrongs; that's a misplacement of responsibility. As Lyn McConchie remarked, "If people vanish, we go looking."

Mark Nelson's mention of the "15-minute city" in which "daily necessities and services can easily be reached by a 15-minute walk, bike ride, or public transport ride from any point" intrigues me. It's a laudable goal for urban planning, and one I'll look into. I, too, bristled at the use of the term "woke." Generally, I find people who complain about "woke culture" or "wokeness"—not necessarily what Nelson was doing—to somehow think that being alert to prejudice and discrimination is a bad thing. Being opposed to being woke seems to support ongoing prejudice and discrimination. An odd choice to make and assert.

In Portugal, where I recently spent a month, food prices have increased almost 30 percent since 2022. According to one online source, the average annual income in that country was €33,000 last year. That's €2,750/month, even if some acquaintances there reported that the average income is roughly €1,000/month. If converted to USD, that source's \$2,676.42 is substantially less than the American average of \$7,892/month. Another online source indicates that that's less than the OECD average, as well. A food cost increase of almost 30 percent seems awfully challenging. I don't know what's driving the price increase.

We should come up with a plan to combine our apae directory efforts for 2024. What I'd propose is that we start with your most recent published directory and resend the survey I used for past editions of *Blue Moon Special* (<https://efanzines.com/ActiveAPAs>) in the late 2000s to current OCs and OEs. The resulting somewhat structured information in Google Sheets made for relatively easy compiling and editing.

Your response to Nelson about university sf clubs—and a recent Facebook post by a LASFS member about a teacher introducing her to sf in high school—made me wonder whether part of our fannish outreach might include the development of an sf and fantasy club in a box for educators and librarians. I've asked a fellow member of the LASFS whether we might consider updating our 2002 Recommended Reading List for Children and Young Adults, which could be a useful resource for such efforts. The LASFS also compiled a Recommended Viewing List, and that could be selectively drawn on to foster mainstream media inroads toward the literature. For example, read Suzanne Collins's *The Hunger Games*. Then watch the movie. Compare, contrast, discuss. Discussion guides could be templated for reproduction relatively easily. Include local information about local bookstores that are genre friendly, local clubs, local cons. Focus on the five to 10 biggest cities in a given country, state, or province. Rinse, repeat.

It surprised me that Lloyd Penney remarked that “Fanzine fandom is fairly obscure when it comes to a Worldcon or any other convention.” Is that so? If cons and clubs *aren't* homes for fanzine fans, what the heck *are* we doing? Have we isolated ourselves even from organized fandom? How the heck did that happen? “We seem to keep zines close to us, and push out outsiders, to our detriment,” he continued. How do we do so? Why the heck would we do that? If we're indeed so doing, let's stop it, okeh?

Thank you for including a mention of the United Fanzine Organization. I'm a fan, and a member. Why, just last night I printed, collated, and prepared for mailing the last two issues of *The Stf Amateur* for its membership, which includes Kurt Erichsen, whose fanzine *Endeavor* you should read. They're the only hard copies I produce. Well, there is one more in this batch, but Clark Dissmeyer is a special sort.

Your fanzine reviews by way of letters of comment is a fine idea, which I think I've expressed appreciation for previously. You get to reuse writing already done, for a different audience (We can't always read All the Fanzines), which also serves to promote the fanzines you read and enjoy. Your LOC to Claude Degler inspired me to procure an ebook of *Vampires Overhead*. It sounds delightful. While I'm sorry to hear you might not make it to Corflu early next year, I enjoyed rereading your LOC to *The Stf Amateur*, which ran in the recently distributed #3, my first numbered issue. This time, I didn't respond to correspondents, a fact that struck me after distribution. A sorrowful gaffe and breach of etiquette. It shall not be repeated.

In fact, your commentary on *Dark Toys* #76 and Marc Schirmeister's piece on *Mad* magazine shall turn my attention to that fanzine later today. I am glad you volunteered as the secretary for the Canadian SF and Fantasy Association. You stated, “There were different themes at different times, such as emulating pulp magazines, or sercon list-making and statistics, or fannish fandom, displaying literacy, camaraderie, KTF reviews, and many forms of humour.” What's a KTF review? asked the neo. I like the idea of shared themes... how might we implement that amongst our current faneds? In the apa Alarums & Excursions, Lee Gold offers The Ignorable Theme for the next three mailings: questions that apans can address or answer in their respective apazines. That could be done across fanzines, not just in apae.

((*There was a time when it was “fannish” to Kill The Fucker/Faned in fanzine reviews.*))

Ha! I once asked Nic Farey the same thing: “What does DoBFO mean...?” If I recall, it's the Department of the Bloody Fucking Obvious. It seems to be staffed by one man. I might have to add Rick Bowers's *Superman Versus the Ku Klux Klan* to my reading list because of your comment to Lisa and Joseph Major. Your parsing of “woke” and “political correctness” seems reasonable, though both can be used as scare language. It's heartening to hear that Alexis Gilliland is still around. I inherited some fanart by him and William Rotsler that I've been hesitant to publish because I didn't know how to seek permission. Perhaps you can help broker that connection? I'll send an email with additional detail. If something happens, it happens.

The new release list from White Dwarf & Dead Write Books offers a valuable fan service. Please continue to help that make the rounds! I might not remember to seek it out otherwise.

**We Also Heard From:** Perry Middlemiss, Jerry Kaufman (“*Thanks for TOE. DoBFO stands for Department of Blind Fucking Obvious ... only used by Nic*”)

## News-Like Objects

### **CSFFA STEPS BACK FROM TWITTER X! SHOCK HORROR!**

Murray Moore writes,

"I have informed our Twitter/X followers, "CSFFA will no longer be posting its news here. Instead go to <https://www.facebook.com/PrixAurora/>, and our website's News section, <https://www.csffa.ca/category/news/>."

Murray Moore, email, Nov. 30, 2023

### **N3F RE-REVISES AWARD BALLOT**

After a couple of corrections, the president of the National Fantasy Fan Federation announced the candidates for N3F elections:

"To reach the N3F Election Teller by December 20, mail your votes to Jon Swartz, 12115 Missel Thrush Court, Austin, TX 78750 or email your votes to [judgeswartz@gmail.com](mailto:judgeswartz@gmail.com) To vote on paper, circle the names of the persons for whom you are voting. As per bylaws, sign and date your ballot. Only the Teller will ever know your individual votes

For President (vote for one):

George Phillies

Write-in\_\_\_\_\_

For the Directorate (vote for up to five)

Judy Carroll

Jean-Paul Garnier

Becky Jones

Jefferson Swycaffer

Kevin Trainor

Write-in Names (up to five)\_\_\_\_\_”

George Phillies, email, Nov. 22-23, 2023

*Is this the way of the future?*



## One Way to Look at It

### **THE GREAT SIDE HUSTLE SCAM**

*Den Valdron, on Facebook, November 21, 2023*

Well, there's a spate of news articles coming down to us about how great "side hustles" are, how there are so many wonderful ways to "side hustle" and make tons of money.

For the record: A "side hustle" is a second job, often part time, or casual, sometimes free lance or self employed, with uncertain and erratic payment/reward, substantial risks and no benefits or certainty beyond whatever you make. Or a third or fourth job.

Our "side hustle" we are told is a great way to make tons of extra money,

allowing us to sock away for retirement (ha ha), or more immediately buy a lot of extra shit that advertisers are incredibly desperate to sell us.

And incredibly desperate is the word. We are currently being exposed to 40,000 pieces of advertising a year, up from 5000 a generation ago. So much money is actually being spent on advertising that, to justify it, we would literally need at least four or five other economies the size of your own, to buy all the shit they're selling.

So clearly, we aren't out there earning nearly enough money, and we're definitely not spending nearly enough to meet the incessant demands of all the people bent on selling us stuff.

Hence, we all need to take second and third jobs to earn the money to buy the shit, or I don't know, the economy goes kablooeey? We're bad people? Some billionaire somewhere can't buy his third Ocean liner sized yacht?

Ha ha, joke's on them. Real wages have been falling behind since 1973, the middle class is collapsing, personal savings have disappeared, and the desperate effort to stay afloat has led to massive levels of personal debt and a series of economic bubbles.

In this sense, the celebration of the "side hustle" isn't so much a celebration but an avoidance tactic.

The uncomfortable truth is that it's now becoming almost impossible to live on a single income, and it's only going to get worse.



A 'side hustle' is now a requirement.

We have built a toxic predatory environment where we work our asses off, and all the gains in productivity are captured by the 0.01%. Instead of a better life, we get greater expectations on us.

We are supposed to be super-motivated at work, give 110%, be team players, put in weekends, come early, stay late, take one for the team, all in unpaid overtime, of course. We're supposed to work hard, not for filthy money, but because we love our shitty jobs, and our micromanaging incompetent bosses, and our great team.

We're supposed to want to come into the office and spend an extra two and a half hours of our day, on top of voluntary weekends, early and late hours and all that unpaid overtime, for the job. Because we're so motivated.

And then, we are supposed to take the little bit of our lives that haven't been sucked dry by predatory employers and their endless schemes and micromanagement.... doing a second job, working our butt off for a 'side hustle' because....

a) we'll starve otherwise because your main job isn't enough; or

b) we love money, money is the only reason to exist, if you're not hustling 24/7 to make money, you're a wastoid.

Because nowadays, any hobby, any pleasure, any human activity that can't be monetized, that can't be bought or sold, a source of revenue for someone in some way... that's almost obscene.

How did we build a society this toxic?

Sometimes, I want to visit Chicago, just to piss on Milton Friedman's grave. Because we didn't get this toxic by accident. This is the product of visionary assholes.

## ANTI-CAPITALIST AFFIRMATIONS

- i am allowed to spend my time creating things, even if they are not beautiful.
- there is no such thing as a "real job". all forms of work are real and valid.
- there is nothing that i need to accomplish to be worthy. i am already worthy.
- doing nothing is good for my soul.
- i am not defined by what i produce.
- my worth cannot be measured by my paycheck, my job title, or a list of professional or academic achievements.
- i do not need to monetize my hobbies, it is enough to spend time doing something i love.
- i will not let society decide what success looks like. i can define what successful life looks like for me.

## Locs to Zines

***The Stf Amateur – November 2023***, “a bundlezine published by Heath Row, 4367 Globe Ave., Culver City, CA; kalel@well.com ... prepared for members of the United Fanzine Organization and select others, available via eFanzines (<https://efanzines.com>)”.

You’ve got a fantastic cover by Alan White! I wish my zine merited cover art like that, but I don’t think it does.

Seeing the late William Rotsler’s line drawings makes me wonder which Rotslers I have used already, or whether it’s past time to take up drawing again myself.

Your reviews of recent reading and viewing remind me that I could stand to read *new* e-books, and see some screen entertainment online. I can do it. I have the technology. Now I just have to get off my duff and execute ...

At some point we might compare notes to update and extend, not only our lists of current APAs, but our lists of current repositories for fanzine archives.

***Horizons Science Fiction and Fantasy spring 2020 to spring 2023***, an annual fiction zine from the members of the University of British Columbia Science Fiction Society; 2023 editors Allison Dumel & Cyena Wong, [sfszine50@gmail.com](mailto:sfszine50@gmail.com).

Thank you for connecting me with the website for the latest editions of the *Horizons* fiction zine. From at least the mid-1980s to the beginning of the 90s, hardcopy editions of *Horizons SF* were listed as a semiannual small press market. The BC SF Association traded fanzines with the UBCSFS, and several writers appeared in *Horizons SF* who went on to professional publication. The CUFF catalog in this fanzine lists some issues from that period. I expect to enjoy reading the fiction in these issues!

***FanActivity Gazette 3:6, November 2023***, “News of Fen of Interest to All Fen,” a publication of the National Fantasy Fan Federation, Mindy Hunt ed., e-mail to [mindyhunt@scifi4me.com](mailto:mindyhunt@scifi4me.com) or [jphunt@scifi4me.com](mailto:jphunt@scifi4me.com).

You mentioned the mystery of where the time goes, when November had just begun and suddenly it was Thanksgiving time (American style). Ursula LeGuin once wrote an article for *Omni* titled “Where Does the Time Go?”, suggesting that time in the universe was leaking out of a drain and that it was time to insert the plug. This is the same writer who chronicled (in *Isaac Asimov’s SF Magazine*, I think) an expedition to the East Pole, assisted by a team of native bearers called Sherbets.

Seeing Heath Row’s list of upcoming videos and films, many of them online, adds an idea for my already-elaborate website renewal plan. Maybe I should work out how to put up a renewed website each month? I really must write to Heath about this.

Your short article on the rise of Silvercon reminds me there are ongoing issues facing fans who want to start, or continue SF conventions. Is there any dialogue about this in N3F publications? Or online? I don’t suppose the issues will be the same, from one time and place to another, or that solutions can be the same either. Lloyd Penney,

among others, has corresponded with me about the topic; I begin to realize not only that the hotel industry and the congoer expectations/demands have changed, but that the experiences of conrunners are pretty different in different countries, as in different decades. How many people might be interested in an ongoing dialogue about obstacles and possible solutions? Or how many dialogues, Discord channels, websites and conrunner publications are circulating already?

**Origin #69, November 2023**, Journal of the National Fantasy Fan Federation History and Research Bureau, Edited by Bureau Head John Thiel, residing at 30 N. 19th Street, Lafayette, IN 47904, [kinethiel@mymetronet.net](mailto:kinethiel@mymetronet.net).

Great expositions on past writers, such as Shirley Jackson. I appreciate reading that.

It may also be entertaining to readers to review great fannish hoaxes and pranks, such as the Carl Brandon hoax fan, or the various joke bids for Worldcon over the years.

One of my ongoing concerns has been changes or difficulties in carrying on fannish activities, such as clubs, fanzines, fan funds, conventions, or hoaxes and pranks that people will enjoy. I have been slowly working on a volume of Canadian fanhistory – to join some works that have already been published, such as Taral Wayne’s *The Great White Zine* – with a view to examining how these things worked before and how they can work in the future, as if I were actually a qualified sociologist applying structural-functional analysis to the subject. You may now laugh.

**Spartacus #69, November 2023**, “A zine of opinion for science fiction fandom by Guy H. Lillian III, 1390 Holly Avenue, Merritt Island, FL 32952 [GHLIII@yahoo.com](mailto:GHLIII@yahoo.com).”

Thank you for your remembrances of Frank Borman, David McCallum, Michael Bishop, and Forrest Proctor. I particularly appreciated David McCallum’s performances and the editions of *Anvil* that Charlotte Proctor (Forrest’s matriarch) edited.

Your trip to move your effects from storage read like an epic! I am glad you had help. I really had no idea about your illness. Condolences!

**Perryscope #38, November 2023**, “A personalzine published mostly monthly by Perry Middlemiss, 32 Elphin Grove, Hawthorn, Victoria, AUSTRALIA 3122. E: [perry@middlemiss.org](mailto:perry@middlemiss.org).”

When I get off my duff and post my revised website, your podcast URL is definitely going to be listed among the recommended sites for fans.

Thank you for your article on traveling to India – read with interest.

Julian Warner’s article on pen-knives struck an unexpected bell with me. For a while I have been collecting pen knives, by-God Swiss army knives, and multitools in various sizes. In fact for a while I was carrying on a prank under the name of the Royal Swiss Navy, which insisted they came up with the so-called Swiss “army” knife, and I was going to work up a hoax about a Secret War that occurred between the Gerber and Victorinox manufacturers.

Your reviews of recent reading and viewing remind me again that I could stand to read *new* e-books. But I've said this before. The title *The True Story of Spit McPhee* reminds me of a novel by our regional author, Jack Hodgins: *Spit Delany's Island*.

Rose Mitchell's loc particularly caught my eye; there are ongoing issues facing fans who want to start, or continue SF conventions. Is there any dialogue about this in N3F publications? Or online?

**Simultaneous Times #3, November 2023**, "A small zine covering the monthly activity of the Space Cowboy Bookstore and other things that have occurred in the geek life of author / editor Jean-Paul L. Garnier 61871 29 Palms Hwy. Joshua Tree, CA 92252 [spacecowboybooks@gmail.com](mailto:spacecowboybooks@gmail.com)," also at <https://spacecowboybooks.com>

Read and enjoyed, but I haven't many comments. Condolences on the passing of Weston Ochse, and thank you for the name of a writer new to me; now I can look up his works. Can't comment on your bookstore events or your personal writing, except to offer condolences on experiencing COVID-19. Survive and succeed!

When I get off my duff and post my revised website, your podcast URL is also definitely going to be listed among the recommended sites for fans.

**Instant Message #1003, November 2023**, "the newsletter of the New England Science Fiction Association. It is published every month with a meeting, usually 11 issues per year. The NESFA clubhouse is located at 504 Medford St, Somerville MA 02145. Our telephone number is 617-625-2311. Our website is <https://www.nesfa.org>. We can be reached via email at [roster@nesfa.org](mailto:roster@nesfa.org) for address changes and other updates to the roster, [sales@nesfa.org](mailto:sales@nesfa.org) for questions about NESFA Press, and [info@nesfa.org](mailto:info@nesfa.org) ..."

What an organized club NESFA is! And what an organized concom Boskone has! And what an organized small publisher NESFA press is! I am aquamarine with envy. (Seriously, I have witnessed a lot of entropy in some local fan groups.)

At some point, if the Canadian fanhistory volume I am working on is fit for publication, I should figure out whether to find a fan publishing house, or see how to publish it myself. At the moment I plan to expose a draft version online, for people to comment on, correct, and otherwise kvetch about.

**This Here ... 70, November 2023**, "Locs & that to: 2657 Rungsted Street, Las Vegas NV 89142, or Email [fareynic@gmail.com](mailto:fareynic@gmail.com)."

Condolences on your dog Lulu acting for a while as if she lost her marbles. Good that she got back to normal, although I wonder what was affecting her.

You mentioned about 95 items on your Things To Do list. Recently I entered a phase of trying to list All The Things, and came up with a system of at least 15 major tasks or projects or obligations on my plate, constituting My Life In General. Which is not a bad thing, I have needed some such concrete practical tool for a long time, although I admit a lot of the major items are less like Finances, Medical, Legal and

Housekeeping, and more like fannish self-imposed projects. At least I have specific tasks to put in order of priority.

David Hodson's blunt article about the future of Corflu is very welcome. Since 2022 I have been convinced that fanzine fans have somehow missed the boat on outreach to new fans, and have been out-competed by other fandoms.

It was a bit surprising, though, to read Hodson's assertion that no East Coast fans are offering to run conventions. I just got done reading the Boskone concomm minutes in *Instant Message*, and have been uneasily aware of DragonCon for some years; is Hodson talking about no one attempting any *new* conventions, or no new East Coast bids for Corflu?

It's time to consider seriously how to attract neofans to fanzine fandom.

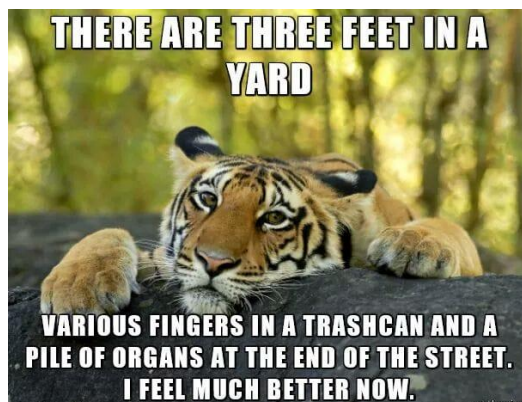
A conversation *with non-faneditors* about where they share their writing and drawing – whether it be held online or in fanzines or in person – may or may not already be going on, but it would be good if faneditors like you and me and Corfluvians are included. But I take Perry Middlemiss' point about a Zoom meeting, at least on Corflu, turning into a nightmare.

I can't say much about the FAAn Awards, except to observe that unawareness, apathy, cliquism and misconception have also tended to influence the national Canadian award I'm involved with.

On English accents: You may remember my telling you that my father had a Cockney accent. Understandably your short piece on the survey covering changing English accents caught my interest. Probably my feeble grasp of regional accents is way out of date. I thought my own accent had disappeared, but recently I had to explain to a new Canadian that I came from the city of Victoria, which used to harbour a lot of Prisoners of Mother England, as well as actual British expats.

**Also Received (I wish I hadn't run out of time to respond!):**

*MT Void* 2293 – 2300, Co-Editors: Mark Leeper, [mleeper@optonline.net](mailto:mleeper@optonline.net) and Evelyn Leeper, [eleeper@optonline.net](mailto:eleeper@optonline.net) ; *The National Fantasy Fan* #82:11, November 2023; *Christian Age Quarterly*; *Pablo Lennis*; *Alexiad* 131; *N3F Review of Books*, October 2023; and *Tightbeam* 350



## New Book Releases in December 2023

Information from: White Dwarf Books & Dead Write Books

3715 W. 10th Ave., Vancouver, B.C., CANADA V6R 2G5  
604-228-8223

Email: [whitedwarf@deadwrite.com](mailto:whitedwarf@deadwrite.com)

Webpage: [www.deadwrite.com](http://www.deadwrite.com)

STORE HOURS: 10-6 Mon-Sat, 12-5 Sun

Prices are in Canadian Dollars

Ordering Information is available on our website for: Ordering and payment, Postage, Other catalogues, Abbreviations

hc = hardcover, tp = trade (oversized) paperback, [UK ed] = British publication, [CDN ed] = Canadian publication. Default is US publication.

Please note that this listing is not exhaustive; we have many more (several hundred more) titles coming during this period.

### **December 2023 New Fantasy and Science Fiction Releases**

**Anderson, Justin Lee. BITTER CROWN. [EIDYN SAGA #2]. Orbit, 25.99 tp.**

**Arend, Nicole. VAMPS: FRESH BLOOD. Atria, 24.99 tp.**

**Beaulieu, Bradley P. THE DRAGONS OF DEEPWOOD FEN. DAW, 39.00 hc.**

**Broadbent, Carissa. THE SERPENT & THE WINGS OF NIGHT. [THE CROWNS OF NYAXIA #1]. Bramble, 39.99 hc.**

**Burton, Jessie. MEDUSA. Bloomsbury, 23.99 tp.**

**Darwin, Alexander. GRIEVAR'S BLOOD. [THE COMBAT CODES #2]. Orbit, 25.99 tp.**

**Day, David. ILLUSTRATED WORLD OF TOLKIEN: THE SECOND AGE. Thunder Bay, 33.99 hc.**

**Ekpeki, Oghenechovwe Donald (ed). THE YEAR'S BEST AFRICAN SPECULATIVE FICTION (2022). CAEZIK, 25.99 tp.**

**Foster, Monalisa. THREADING THE NEEDLE. Baen, 23.00 tp.**

**Fox, Richard. LIGHT OF THE VEIL. Baen, 34.00 hc.**

**Gaither, S. M. A CROWN OF THE GODS. [SHADOWS & CROWNS #4]. Cornerstone, 22.99 tp.**

**Gaither, S. M. THE QUEEN OF THE DAWN. [SHADOWS & CROWNS #5]. Del Rey UK, 29.99 tp.**

**Gannon, Charles E. PROTECTED SPECIES. [CAINE RIORDAN #7]. Baen, 34.00 hc.**

**Gilman, Laura Anne. UNCANNY VOWS. [HUNTSMEN #2]. Saga, 24.99 tp.**

**Green, Simon R. HAUNTED BY THE PAST. [ISHMAEL JONES #11]. Baen, 12.99 pb.**

**Greer, John Michael. INNSMOUTH. [THE WEIRD OF HALI #1]. Sphinx, 29.95 tp.**

**Johansen, Erika. THE KINGDOM OF SWEETS. Dutton, 37.99 hc.**

**Kuzniar, M. A. UPON A FROSTED STAR. HQ, 24.99 tp.**

**Lackey, Mercedes (ed). ANYTHING WITH NOTHING. [VALDEMAR ANTHOLOGIES #17]. DAW, 24.99 tp.**

**Lackey, Mercedes. VALDEMAR. [THE FOUNDING OF VALDEMAR #3]. DAW, 37.99 hc.**

**Laurenston, Shelly. BORN TO BE BADGER. [THE HONEY BADGER CHRONICLES #5]. Kensington, 22.99 tp.**

**Lerner, Edward M. LIFE AND DEATH ON MARS. CAEZIK, 32.99 tp.**

**Maggs, Sam. BATTLE SCARS. [STAR WARS]. Worlds, 24.95 tp.**

**McCannon, Robert. THE LISTENER. Lividian, 32.99 tp.**

**McDonnell, C. K. LOVE WILL TEAR US APART. [STRANGER TIMES #3]. Transworld, 21.99 tp.**

**Mckinney, Chris. SUNSET, WATER CITY. [WATER CITY TRILOGY #3]. Soho Crime, 36.95 hc.**

**Meadows, Foz. ALL THE HIDDEN PATHS. [TITHENAI CHRONICLES #2]. Tor, 39.99 hc.**

**Moorcock, Michael & Mark Hodder. SEXTON BLAKE: CARIBBEAN CRISIS & VODOO ISLAND!. [THE SEXTON BLAKE LIBRARY]. Rebellion, 22.99 tp.**

**Morris, Jonathan. DOCTOR WHO: WHOTOPIA. BBC, 74.95 hc.**

**Mulford, A. K. A RIVER OF GOLDEN BONES. [THE GOLDEN COURT #1]. Voyager, 35.99 hc.**

**O'Sullivan, Colin. SUNNY. Mariner, 23.99 tp.**

**Oden, Scott. THE DOOM OF ODIN. [GRIMNIR #3]. St. Martin's, 49.00 hc.**

**Okorafor, Nnedi. LIKE THUNDER. [THE DESERT MAGICIAN'S DUOLOGY #2]. DAW, 37.00 hc.**

**Parker, K. J. SAEVUS CORAX GETS AWAY WITH MURDER. [THE CORAX TRILOGY #3]. Orbit, 23.99 tp.**

**Pratchett, Terry. A STROKE OF THE PEN: THE LOST STORIES. Doubleday UK, 31.99 tp.**

**Roberts, Nora. BECOMING. [THE DRAGON HEART LEGACY #2]. St. Martin's, 12.99 pb.**

**Ruocchio, Christopher & C. W. Korsgaard (eds). WORLDS LONG LOST. Baen, 12.99 pb.**

Ruocchio, Christopher. **ASHES OF MAN**. [SUN EATER #5]. DAW, 27.99 tp.

Ryman, Geoff. **HIM**. Angry Robot, 21.99 tp.

Sagara, Michelle. **SHARDS OF GLASS**. MIRA, 23.99 tp.

Smith, L. Neil. **ARES**. CAEZIK, 23.99 tp.

Turtledove, Harry. **WAGES OF SIN**. CAEZIK, 36.99 hc.

Urbanski, Debbie. **AFTER WORLD**. Simon & Schuster, 36.99 hc.

Van Stry, John. **SUMMER'S END**. Baen, 12.99 pb.

Wright, Suzanne. **THE WICKED IN ME**. Piatkus, 19.99 tp.

Zahn, Timothy. **THE ICARUS TWIN**. Baen, 36.50 hc.

**December 2023 New Mystery and Crime Fiction Releases**

Benjamin, Kallie E. **SNIFFING OUT MURDER**. [BAILEY THE BLOODHOUND #1]. Berkley, 23.00 tp.

Box, C. J. **TREASURE STATE**. [CASSIE DEWELL #6]. Minotaur, 12.99 pb.

Caine, Michael. **DEADLY GAME**. Mobius, 35.00 hc.

Carlsson, Christoffer. **BLAZE ME A SUN**. Hogarth, 24.95 tp.

Carr, Jack. **ONLY THE DEAD**. [TERMINAL LIST #6]. Pocket, 12.99 pb.

Collins, Max Allan. **THE BIG BUNDLE**. [NATHAN HELLER]. Hard Case Crime, 21.95 tp.

Cornwell, Patricia. **LIVID: A SCARPETTA NOVEL**. Grand Central, 13.99 tp.

Cornwell, Patricia. **UNNATURAL DEATH: A SCARPETTA NOVEL**. Grand Central, 24.99 tp.

Cotterill, Colin. **THE MOTION PICTURE TELLER**. Soho Crime, 22.95 tp.

Crispin, Edmund. **'WE KNOW YOU'RE BUSY WRITING...': THE COLLECTED SHORT STORIES OF EDMUND CRISPIN**. Collins Crime Club, 40.00.

Deaver, Jeffery. **HUNTING TIME**. [COLTER SHAW #4]. Putnam, 13.50 pb.

Deaver, Jeffery. **THE WATCHMAKER'S HAND**. [LINCOLN RHYME #16]. Putnam, 39.00 hc.

Dennison, Hannah. **A KILLER CHRISTMAS AT HONEYCHURCH HALL**. Constable, 19.99 tp.

Dunford, Caroline. **DEATH OF A DEAD MAN**. [EUPHEMIA MARTINS #17]. Accent, 19.99 tp.

Ehrhart, Peggy. **KNITMARE ON BEECH STREET**. [KNIT & NIBBLE #10]. Cozies, 11.99 pb.

Ellis, Kate. **THE KILLING PLACE**. [DI WESLEY PETERSON #27]. Piatkus, 36.99 hc.

Fesperman, Dan. **WINTER WORK**. Knopf, 23.00 tp.



Fletcher, Jessica. **DEATH ON THE EMERALD ISLE**. [MURDER, SHE WROTE #56]. Berkley, 13.50 pb.

Follett, Ken. **NEVER**. Penguin, 14.99 pb.

Frear, Caz. **FIVE BAD DEEDS**. Harper, 23.99 tp.

Gomez-Jurado, Juan. **RED QUEEN**. Minotaur, 25.00 tp.

Greaney, Mark. **BURNER**. [GRAY MAN #12]. Berkley, 13.50 pb.

Hawkswood, Sarah. **TOO GOOD TO HANG**. [BRADECOTE AND CATCHPOLL #11]. Allison & Busby, 16.95 tp.

Henderson, Craig. **WELCOME TO THE GAME**. Atlantic Monthly, 26.95 tp.

Higashino, Keigo. **A DEATH IN TOKYO**. [KYOICHIRO KAGA #3]. Minotaur, 25.00 tp.

Higashino, Keigo. **THE FINAL CURTAIN**. [KYOICHIRO KAGA #4]. Minotaur, 39.00 hc.

Hill, Reginald. **DALZIEL AND PASCOE HUNT THE CHRISTMAS KILLER & OTHER STORIES**. HarperCollins UK, 22.99 tp.

Hunter, Cara. **NO WAY OUT**. [DI FAWLEY #3]. Morrow, 23.99 tp.

Indridason, Arnaldur. **THE GIRL BY THE BRIDGE**. Vintage UK, 21.99 tp.

Jones, Darynda. **A HARD DAY FOR A HANGOVER**. [SUNSHINE VICRAM #3]. Griffin, 25.00 tp.

Kellerman, Jonathan. **UNNATURAL HISTORY**. [ALEX DELAWARE #38]. Ballantine, 13.50 pb.

Laurie, Victoria. **COACHED RED-HANDED**. [CAT & GILLEY LIFE COACH #4]. Cozies, 11.99 pb.

Lloyd, Chris. **PARIS REQUIEM**. [EDDIE GIRAL]. Orion, 19.99 tp.

Lupica, Mike. **ROBERT B. PARKER'S BROKEN TRUST**. [SPENSER #51]. Putnam, 39.00 hc.

MacBird, Bonnie. **WHAT CHILD IS THIS? A SHERLOCK HOLMES CHRISTMAS ADVENTURE**. Collins Crime Club, 22.99 tp.

Maxwell, Alyssa. **MURDER AT BEACON ROCK**. [GILDED NEWPORT MYSTERY #10]. Kensington, 22.99 tp.

McCulloch, Amy. **BREATHLESS**. Penguin Canada, 12.99 pb.

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About fan funds generally — [https://fancylopedia.org/Fan\\_Funds](https://fancylopedia.org/Fan_Funds).

About CUFF — <https://www.facebook.com/groups/6119342503/>.

More of the chronology (and the several delegates' trip reports) can be found at <https://www.cdnsfzinearchive.org/cuff-canadian-unity-fan-fund/cuff-trip-reports/>.

**The 2023 CUFF trip report** is now posted at [\(1\) Canadian Unity Fan Fund \(CUFF\) | Facebook](#)

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The fanzines listed below range from ditto to letterpress publications, from one page to 20 or more pages, from personalzines to APAzines to genzines. Even the most amateurish or transient publications are a glimpse into another time and place, and the genzines provide thoughtful articles of lasting value. All prices (in Canadian dollars) are my estimations, and can be negotiated. (Add \$2 Cdn. per order for postage and handling.) I wish I had space to show illustrations of the covers!

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