Work to Stretch the Imagination and Stimulate Thought
New Releases

Unbecoming
by Lesley Wheeler’
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-167-4)

What if women gained uncanny power at middle age?
In Unbecoming, Cyn’s family is shattering and she is
at war with her own body. Then, when her best friend 
flies off on a mysterious faculty exchange program, a
glamorous stranger takes her place—Fee Ellis, a Welsh 
poet who makes it all look easy. But it may be costly to
welcome this charismatic outsider to their little college
town. Cyn’s best friend, meanwhile, communicates only
in ominous fragments.

“A middle-aged college professor taps into her magical
ability in the midst of personal and professional
chaos in this excellent feminist fantasy from Wheeler
(The Receptionist and Other Tales).... Wheeler’s prose
is gorgeous and her characters are marvelously
detailed.... Readers will be taken with this powerful
and deeply satisfying tale.” (Starred Review)
Publishers Weekly, April 2020

“...Unbecoming is sage, funny, and warm, like a
long conversation with your best friend about all
the strange and wonderful things that have been
happening to her lately. Lesley Wheeler’s writing is so
deep and magical that I’m convinced that she must have
learned it from the fairies. This smart, beguiling debut
fantasy casts a spell that readers won’t want to break.”

Emily Croy Barker, author of
The Thinking Woman's Guide to Real Magic

“...a delightful, beautifully written 21st century gothic
novel set at a Virginia university and also in the
borderlands between the literal and the metaphorical,
between the realistic and the fantastic. Like all
universities, this one is a school for wizards and
conjurers. Professors offer portals to undiscovered
countries and enchanted lands. Portals lead to demons
and horror and death too.”

Andrea Hairston, author of Will do Magic
for Small Change and The Master of Poisons

The WisCon Chronicles, Vol. 12
Boundaries & Bridges
edited by Isabel Schechter & Michi Trota

This collection includes essays from first-time
WisCon attendees and former Guests of Honor; fans 
and Tiptree/Otherwise Award-winning authors and
editors, cis het and LGBTQ+ attendees, affluent and
less well-off, abled and disabled, white and POC, young
and old, parents and child-free, English speakers and
Spanish speakers, and hopefully more than just these
categories can capture.

Their essays cover a wide range of experiences with
and thoughts about WisCon. Structural changes in the
convention that break down barriers to attendance
and participation are important, and some of the
essays recount the process and struggles of creating
space and programming for POC attendees, access for
disabled attendees, and affordability for all attendees.
The words we use matter, as essays that talk about
feminist terms, gendered language, and even the name
of the Tiptree/Otherwise award (which is almost
inextricably identified with WisCon) demonstrate.

At WisCon, I’ve seen how both the thoughtful
implementation of boundaries and necessary breaking
of them, can create space for connections to grow
and become bridges to deeper knowledge, greater
understanding, and stronger communities.

[...]

Running through all of these essays is a common
thread of appreciation for WisCon’s community: for
the challenges to their perceptions and assumptions,
for the dedication and effort of WisCon’s volunteers,
for the openness and empathy of attendees in
conversations that aren’t always easy, but often
necessary....

from Michi Trota’s Introduction

Forthcoming

Raven Nothing by Som Paris (2020)
Damned Pretty Things by Holly Wade Matter (2020)
Goddess Bandit of the Thousand Arms by Hal Y. Zhang (2020)
Disease by Sarah Tolmie (2020)
For the Good of the Realm by Nancy Jane Moore (2021)
Climbing Lightly Through Forests: A Poetry Anthology Honoring Ursula K. Le Guin
edited by R.B. Lemberg and Lisa M. Bradley (2021)
New Conversation Pieces

Finalist for a Lambda SF award

Vol. 69 — The Rampant: A Novella
by Julie C. Day
“Equal parts playful and heartbreaking, this apocalyptic novella offers one-of-a-kind answers about the end of the world. Gillian Halkey and Emelia Bareilles, both 16, have spent most of their lives enduring the nightmare of the never-ending rapture. It’s been a decade since the ancient Sumerian gods descended on Indiana, promising that the chosen people would ascend to Nibiru, but the terrifying entity called the Rampant—the last of the Evil Messengers heralding the destruction of civilization—seems to have missed the memo. Until he shows up, the rapture can’t happen. Meanwhile, bored gods are eating people. It’s up to Emelia and Gillian to descend to the Netherworld, using Gillian’s prophetic dreams as guidance, in hopes of liberating the Rampant so the judging can begin and the suffering can end.... This clever and surprisingly fun take on the rapture is the perfect theological horror story.”

Publishers Weekly, Aug. 2019

Vol. 70 — Mary Shelley Makes a Monster
by Octavia Cade
All our monsters are mirrors. And when Mary Shelley’s monster—built from her life rather than her pen, born out of biography instead of blood—outlives its mother, that monster goes looking for a substitute. But all the monster really knows of women is that women write, and so the search for a replacement takes it first to Katherine Mansfield, and then to other women who know what mutilated things can be made from ink and mirrors....

Vol. 71 — Articulation
by Cesi Davidson
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-175-9)
“In these fanciful, often hilarious plays you will discover a fantastic variety of characters—familiar nursery-rhyme figures who work in a ninety-nine-cent store and bet on horses, bananas and radishes, who discuss their ill-fated destinies, birds who sing songs of unrequited love, time travelers who skip about from Caribbean present-day to slavery-era Virginia, bunnies who meet in support groups.

“Many of the plays will have you laughing out loud. But they also explore serious issues and wrenching troubles. Little Bo Peep finds her marriage destroyed by the gambling habits of Big Man Blue. A bunny mother struggles to accept her gender-fluid son/daughter. A young man dreams of different incarnations of his drug-addicted mother, hoping for maternal love to conquer his pain. A traumatized African-American woman seeks to wash away the bloody stains of a racially motivated violent assault.”

from the Foreword by Zachary Sklar

Vol. 72 — City of a Thousand Feelings
by Anya Johanna DeNiro
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-177-3)
“Surreal and lyrical, if opaque, this profound fantasy from DeNiro (Tyrannia) explores the struggle for acceptance. An unnamed trans woman narrator meets the fellow trans woman to whom the book is addressed, whose name changes over the course of the novel from Melody to Mystery to Mercy, when they both join a ragtag army of exiled women intent on storming the city that excluded them. The army falls and 15 years of loneliness pass before the two women reunite. Together they decide to sneak back into the city to steal the city’s blueprints and use them to build a new, inclusive home of their own....

Publishers Weekly, November 2019

Vol. 73 — Ancient Songs of Us
by Jean LeBlanc
The poems in Ancient Songs of Us suggest that no song is “ancient,” that every story crosses time and transcends place to remind us what it means to be human. Love, hatred, fury, longing, ennui, sadness—these states of heart and mind in all their nuanced hues verval from these poems.

Vol. 74 — The Adventure of the Naked Guide
by Cynthia Ward
The third novella in the Blood Thirsty Agent series. The earth is hollow—a trackless primordial wilderness. It’s also the new front in the Great War. Here, the British spy Lucy Harker—Dracula’s daughter—must locate Britain’s missing vampire slayer—her own mother. Then she’s separated from her lover, the vampire spy Carmilla, and captured by Germany’s most brilliant scientist, the sinister Dr. Krüger. Now, Agent Harker may discover her most dangerous opponents are on her own side.

Vol. 75 — Sacred Summer
by Cassandra Rose Clarke
In the empty halls of a house on the edge of the woods, a dancer faces the aftermath of a career-ending injury and subsequent divorce.

Twenty years earlier, on the land where her house would be built, two boys died violently and mysteriously while recording a music video for their band, leaving one survivor. Something sleeps in the woods beyond the house, and when the dancer finds the last musician, it will start to wake....

From Rhysling Award finalist Cassandra Rose Clarke comes a visceral examination of dance, music, and obsession told entirely in verse.
A young woman working alone in a small special collections library is trapped in the building when invaders overrun her town. She barricades the doors, peeks through a window, and watches in horror as people are murdered outside. The invaders wear uniforms that cover them completely, making it impossible for her to see their faces. However, she realizes at once that they do not intend to subjugate the population. They intend to annihilate it.

"A very promising debut, with both realistic and fantastic elements deployed to build a convincing future world and characters whose fate it’s easy to care about."
Peter Heck, Asimov’s, February 2020

"Boyes’s metafictional SF debut convincingly depicts the tenacity of the human spirit in the face of uncertainty. Kaylee is a special collections librarian who’s trapped in the university’s rare books library when aliens invade Earth.... Kaylee is undeniably charming; Boyes suffuses her diaries with both humor and weight. Boyes’s attention to detail carries the tale forward, drawing the reader into Kaylee’s journey of survival and discovery...."
Publishers Weekly, May 2019

"The novel demonstrates an impressively assured voice, an ingenious, casebook-like structure in which the journal of the title is supplemented by several ‘appendices’ written years later; and an equally creative use of illustrative material, drawn mostly from 19th-century books and the illustrations of Walter Crane....[T]he effect is unarguably moving, as we watch Kaylee transformed from a desperate and lonely figure into a kind of librarian legend, whose story only becomes richer as we piece it together from these later documents.
Locus, Gary K. Wolfe, July, 2019

A Locus Recommended First Novel

The Weave
by Nancy Jane Moore
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-077-6)
The crew of the interstellar ship Mercator is making valuable discoveries in the Doradoan region, but conflict is mounting between them and the inhabitants of the Earthlike-planet Cibola. Xenologist Caty Sanjuro knows Cibolans can stop human settlements on their planet, but her superiors think she’s just gone native. Sundown, a Cibolan astronomer, is working to keep the resistance peaceful, but others see no reason for caution: they have successfully fought off invaders in the past.

“Moore realistically and enjoyably describes the excitement of scientific exploration, corporate greed, conspiracy, telepathic conflict, and the desperation of natives determined to defend their home against invasion.”
Publishers Weekly, July 2015

“In this accomplished first novel, Nancy Jane Moore dramatizes at least three great speculative themes: first contact, telepathic communication, and earthlings and aliens at war.... Like Ursula Le Guin, Moore never settles for pat or clichéd extrapolations. Further, she treats each of her archetypal themes with adult thought-experiment thoroughness and all her characters, human and alien, with insight, respect, and compassion.”
Michael Bishop, author of A Funeral for the Eyes of Fire

“Nancy Jane Moore’s remarkable first novel drew me in and kept me reading and left me, at the end, knowing that Caty Sanjuro and Sundown the Cibolan continue their work and their lives and their friendship. My favorite kind of novel.”
Vonda N. McIntyre, author of Dreamsong, & The Starfarers Quartet

Special Citation, Philip K. Dick Award

Tiptree Award Honor List

Finalist for the Locus Award for Best First Novel

Elysium
by Jennifer Marie Brissett
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-053-0)
A computer program etched into the atmosphere has a story to tell, the story of two people, of a city lost to chaos, of survival and love. The program’s data, however, has been corrupted. As the novel’s characters struggle to survive apocalypse, they are sustained and challenged by the demands of love in a shattered world both haunted and dangerous.

“[E]very once in a while it’s great to see a book with such unconventional structure, that takes the genre playbook, tears all the pages out and shuffles them back together, and still manages to tell both one and many moving and satisfying stories.”
Locus, Karen Burnham, April, 2015

“Page by page Elysium merely dazzles; and then it absorbs; and then, at the end, as it must, it burns. It tells a story, and a history, that matter.”
Strange Horizons, Niall Harrison, Feb. 27, 2015

“Brissett deftly handles the challenge of a multitude of characters all being the same person in a multitude of places that are the same place, while exploring complicated questions about identity.”
Publishers Weekly, October 2014

“Elysium is a powerfully ambitious book. In a certain sense, it is a love story. But it is also a book about identity politics, about history and collective memory, about technology and culture, and ultimately about extermination and genocide.”
Los Angeles Review of Books, Steven Shaviro, June 3, 2015
Time's Oldest Daughter
by Susan W. Lyons
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-105-6)

As the cosmic Big Bang propels Time, energy, and matter into motion, God and Satan squabble over their respective domains while Sin and her son Death stew in squalor and despair at the Gates of Hell. All she wants is to care for her child, who has an enormous appetite but nothing to eat in their dreary prison, other than herself, of course. But then Sin notices, far above the stink and squalor of Hell, the clean and sparkling garden of Eden, where Death's apple-cheeked cousins Adam and Eve enjoy delightful childhoods and plenty of fresh, wholesome food in a setting where Death himself could thrive.

Now what's a good mother to do?

“This Divine Comedy can be genuinely comic (raucous and vulgar, with a great cast of caricatures) yet manages to slip both wise and touching moments into its sly insights about life, the universe, et cetera.”

Faren Miller, *Locus*, February 2017

Roadsouls
by Betsy James
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-091-2)

“Say yes to the Roadsouls, and you can’t unsay it.”

Even when that yes has sucked you out of your old life and hurled you into a world that will strip you and change you forever:

“If you long for a fantasy world that your senses could live in, and that isn't full of scheming nobility, cynical warriors, mass hatreds, and magic as a weapon, read this book. Its backbone is the wandering life of a sort of gypsy-hippie-circus group traveling a pre-industrial landscape and offering a way out to the misfits and throw-aways…. Vivid and earthy, celebrating a rural world with its sights and smells and wildlife, and the customs and pithy, colorful speech of its people....” Suzy McKee Charnas,

“Roadsouls, and the novel as a whole, are open to wonder; genuine transformations that just happen, without rituals or spells.... Betsy James deliberately avoids the tropes and narratives typical of long fiction (mainstream, heroic fantasy, or romance).”

Faren Miller, *Locus*, April 2016

Flesh & Wires
by Jackie Hatton
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-085-1)

Following a failed alien invasion the world left is sparsely populated with psychologically scarred survivors, some of them technologically-enhanced women. Lo, leader of the small safe haven of Saugatuck, finds her technological enhancements put to the test when a spaceship arrives bearing two men with both wonderful and terrifying news.

Flesh & Wires raises questions about community, colonialism, immigration, and basic human rights, and challenges our assumptions about the ties and obligations of family, community, and society in a crisis situation.

“Jackie Hatton shows us real women in extreme circumstances: survivors of disaster, traumatized and divided among themselves, with superhuman powers and all-too-human hearts. As they confront change, we witness their desperation, their hope, their need to discover the full range of their powers. A provocative and exciting debut.”

Julie Phillips, author of *James Tiptree Jr.: The Double Life of Alice B. Sheldon*
Two Travelers
by Sarah Tolmie
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-103-2)

The two stories that make up Two Travelers are portal fictions in an existential style like Isak Dinesen’s, exploring exile and identity.

“Tolmie…delivers an exquisite duo of short stories in this slim volume.... Rich with detail, both stories are imbued with baroque sensibilities, a refreshing deviation from the typical medieval setting. Rather than relying on pure exposition, Tolmie uses the characters’ interactions and personalities to bring color to the unique magic of each setting. Tolmie’s investigations of identity, place, and personal meaning are a delight to read and a great contribution to the genre.”

— Publishers Weekly, April 2016

The Stone Boatmen
by Sarah Tolmie
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-051-6)

Tolmie tells a tale of three cities, separated by oceans, lost to one another long ago: the first, the city of rituals, of ceremonies; the second, the city of words, of poetry; and the third, the city of the golden birds, of dreams. In their harbors stand the stone boatmen, pointing outward toward the unknown.

“...a powerfully original first novel... At any moment, beauty may strike with random grace, and unpretentious little details evoke the sense of wonder: Reading The Stone Boatmen feels as natural as breathing, but you can’t take anything for granted.”

— Faren Miller, Locus, April 2014

The Little Animals
by Sarah Tolmie
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-161-2)

Antoni Van Leeuwenhoek, a quiet linen draper in Delft, has discovered a new world: the world of the little animals, or animalcules, that he sees through his simple microscopes. These tiny creatures are everywhere, even inside us. But who will believe him? Not his wife, not his neighbors, not his fellow merchants — only his friend Reinier De Graaf, a medical doctor. Then he meets an itinerant goose girl at the market who lives surrounded by tiny, invisible voices. Are these the animalcules also? Leeuwenhoek and the girl form a curious alliance, and gradually the lives of the little animals infiltrate everything around them....

“A vigorous, satisfying historical novel full of interesting and likable characters.... Tolmie’s novel catches this intersection of the everyday with the unearthly and holds it for us like a drop of pond water under the lens, vibrant with life and activity, fascinating in its strangeness and its familiarity.”

— Ursula K. Le Guin

“Tolmie intricately weaves together the best of historical and weird fiction in this delicate tale of science and miracles.... This delightful novel is not to be missed.”

— Publishers Weekly, March, 2019 (Starred Review)

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“Tolmie...delivers an exquisite duo of short stories in this slim volume... Rich with detail, both stories are imbued with baroque sensibilities, a refreshing deviation from the typical medieval setting. Rather than relying on pure exposition, Tolmie uses the characters’ interactions and personalities to bring color to the unique magic of each setting. Tolmie’s investigations of identity, place, and personal meaning are a delight to read and a great contribution to the genre.”

— Locus, Gary K. Wolfe, May 2019

Space is Just A Starry Night
by Tanith Lee

The tales in Space is Just A Starry Night range across genres, as elegant as the field of stars spanning a clear dark sky.

“Lee’s powerful science fiction collection assembles 12 tales published between 1979 and 2011, plus two originals. All of them showcase her strong, entertaining, and often gorgeous writing.”

— Publishers Weekly, May 2013
A Locus Awards Finalist

Strange Matings: Science Fiction, Feminism, African American Voices, and Octavia E. Butler
edited by Rebecca J. Holden and Nisi Shawl
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-037-0)

Strange Matings seeks to continue Butler’s uncomfortable insights about humanity, and also to instigate new conversations about Butler and her work....

“This noteworthy anthology...consists of a wide-ranging selection of sometimes-dense scholarly essays, highly readable reminiscences and personal essays, poems, correspondence, photographs, and interviews.”

Publishers Weekly, May 2013

Missing Links and Secret Histories
A Selection of Wikipedia Entries from Across the Known Multiverse
edited by L. Timmel Duchamp
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-039-4)

Ever wonder who that frequent addressee of Anglophone Nineteenth century narrators, “Dear Reader,” really was? About Nancy Drew’s mother? Or what the true story on which Edgar Allan Poe based his melodramatic “Fall of the House of Usher” was? Perhaps it never occurred to you to wonder if there might be a relationship between H.G. Wells’ Dr. Moreau and Joseph Conrad’s Col. Kurtz, or why the popularity of fairy attendance waned in the eighteenth century. Missing Links and Secret Histories elucidates these and other mysteries (some admittedly rather obscure).

“Like Wikipedia, this book is written by many contributors but forms a unified whole.... a wicked and witty sendup of how history is written today—and how some people and stories are systematically edited out of it. ...We are invited to think about whose stories disappear from the timestream, and why some ideas are so quickly erased by cultural amnesia and editorial ‘consensus.’”

Annalee Newitz, NPR, June 2013

Necessary Ill
Deb Taber
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-022-6)

“In Taber’s fascinating debut, set in an alternate near-future America, humankind fast approaches a Malthusia crisis.... Skillful pacing, unpredictable twists, nail-bitingly tense moments, and an adroit resolution make this an unusual and engrossing addition to the postapolcalyptic genre.”

Publisher’s Weekly, January 2013 (Starred Review)

Squaring the Circle:
A Pseudotreatise of Urbogony
Short fiction by Gheorghe Săsărman,
tr. Ursula K. Le Guin
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-025-7)

“These trippy, cutting 24 stories, chosen by SF/F grande dame Le Guin from a collection of 36 originally published in Romanian in 1975, inevitably draw comparisons to Italo Calvino’s Invisible Cities. Both explore society and human psyche through architectural descriptions of imaginary cities, but Săsărman’s masterfully crafted prose poems feel more immediate, serving as spellbinding descriptions of architectural impossibilities as well as slyly subversive social commentary.”


Strange Matings, cover image.

Missing Links and Secret Histories, cover image.

Necessary Ill, cover image.

Squaring the Circle, cover image.
The Moment of Change
An Anthology of Feminist Speculative Poetry
edited by Rose Lemberg
“In these pages you will find works in a variety of genres — works that can be labeled mythic, fantastic, science fictional, historical, surreal, magic realist, and undeclassifiable; poems by people of color and white folks; by poets based in the US, Canada, Britain, India, Spain, and the Philippines; by first- and second-generation immigrants; by the able-bodied and the disabled; by straight and queer poets who may identify as women, men, trans, and genderqueer.”
from the Introduction by Rose Lemberg
“...there is a great deal of anguish in this book: the anguish of silenced voices, of the belittled and ignored, the anguish of suffering as well as the anguish of circumscribed success. However, there is also a sort of wild, free-wheeling determination bound up in and spurred on by that anguish—a desire for freedom, a desire for recognition, a desire for the moment in which the poem transcends mere text and speaks truths....
“These poems are howling, and they are whispering, and they are calmly—or madly—telling stories about what it means to be a woman, any kind of woman, any person who reaches out for the name ‘woman.’”
Brit Mandelo, Tor.com, June 2012

Unruly Islands
Poetry by Liz Henry
“With all the awe and shiny of Barbarella, the breathless curiosity of Robert Hayden’s American Journal, and the dismal, too-real fluorescent sheen of the corner store, Liz Henry takes the world (and the otherworld) and makes it ours in all of its signal and noise, its glorious classwar and cussmouth.”
Daphne Gottlieb, author of 15 Ways to Stay Alive and Final Girl
“Liz Henry’s protean, phantasmagorical images slingshot us out and boomerang us back simultaneously over multiple plains in all directions. Immediate, futuristic, subliminal. An intimate, wild ride through a surrealistic mind field.”
Maureen Owen, author of Imaginary Income and Zombie Notes

In the House of the Seven Librarians
A novella by Ellen Klages
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-98-0)
When an old Carnegie library is closed, its seven librarians refuse to abandon their home. They lock the doors, and the forest grows around them like a cloak, sheltering them from the rest of the world. But their lives are changed when a book of fairy tales is found in the Book Drop, very, very overdue. The payment? A first-born child.
In the House of the Seven Librarians is a timeless tale for anyone who spent a childhood in the refuge of the public library, or who believes that a world full of books is a truly magical place.

Feminist Voices: The Best of Femspec’s Creative Work, the First Ten Years
edited by Batya Susan Weinbaum
Fiction by
Marleen S. Barr  *  Finisia Fideli  *  Marilyn Gale  *  K.A. Laity
Rebecca Lesses  *  Debra Jo Schleef  *  Gina Wisker

Poems by
Karen Alkalay-Gut  *  Phoebe Beiser  *  Tara Leonard
Jane Liddell-King  *  Susan McLean  *  Barbara Minchinton
Glenis Redmond  *  Doreen Russell  *  Lorraine Schein
Ancient, Ancient
Short fiction by Kiini Ibura Salaam
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-87-4)
“Salaam treats words like the seductive weapons they are. She wields them to weave fierce, gorgeous stories that stroke your sensibilities, challenge your preconceptions, and leave you breathless with their beauty.”

Nalo Hopkinson, author of The New Moon’s Arms and The Salt Roads

“Kiini Ibura Salaam is a natural-born storyteller and a gorgeous writer who chooses her characters and words with the care and skill of a poet. Her stories are transformative, wise, and vivid with the quality of fantasy and fable.”

Sheree Renée Thomas, author of Shotgun Lullabies and editor of the Dark Matter anthology series

“Salaam’s collection of 10 reprints and 3 original stories introduces readers to alternate worlds built around magic, sensuality, sexuality, and the search for emotional comfort, however tenuous.”

Publishers Weekly, March 2012

Filter House
Short fiction by Nisi Shawl
“This exquisitely rendered debut collection of 11 reprints and three originals ranges into the past and future to explore identity and belief in a dazzling variety of settings. …The threads of folklore, religious magic, family and the search for a cohesive self are woven with power and lucidity throughout this panorama of race, magic and the body.”

Publishers Weekly, June 2008 (Starred Review)

Nominated for the 2009 Philip K. Dick Award
Finalist for the 2010 Lambda Award

Centuries Ago and Very Fast
Short fiction by Rebecca Ore
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-25-5)
“In Centuries Ago and Very Fast, Rebecca Ore pulls off an audacious experiment: using the raw language and deliberate focus on sexual encounters of ‘slash’ fiction to relate a series of linked episodes and moments of reflection from the stupendously long life of a gay male, from his earliest days as a mammoth-hunting caveman to around the present.”

Faren Miller, Locus, June 2009

Time and Robbery
by Rebecca Ore
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-87-4)
“Rebecca is up to her old tricks here: surprising, puzzling, and delighting us at every turn; and in this sleek, lean detective tale, coolly twisting the tail of Time itself.”

Terry Bisson, author of Fire on the Mountain and TVA Baby

“Time and Robbery is a daring new novel by one of the field’s most capable writers. It features a gay immortal named Vel who can travel through time by sheer force of will, an ability he must use to travel back to his younger self to save his future descendents.”

John DeNardo, Kirkus Book Reviews, February 2012

C0-WINNER OF THE 2012 JAMES TIPTREE, JR. AWARD

C0-WINNER OF THE 2008 JAMES TIPTREE, JR. AWARD
Redwood and Wildfire

Comments from the Tiptree Jury

“This vivid and emotionally satisfying novel encompasses the life of Redwood, a hoodoo woman, as she migrates from rural Georgia to Chicago at the turn of the 20th century. While Redwood’s romance with Aidan Wildfire is central to the novel, female friendship is also a major theme…. Hairston incorporates romantic love into a constellation, rather than portraying it as a solo shining star. Her characters invoke a sky where it can shine; they live and love without losing themselves in cultural expectations, prejudices, and stereotypes, all within a lovingly sketched historical frame.

“Intersections of race, class, and gender encompass these characters’ entire lives. They struggle with external and internal forces around questions of gender roles, love, identity, and sexuality…. The characters in Redwood and Wildfire deftly negotiate freedom and integrity in a society where it’s difficult to hold true to these things.”

http://tiptree.org/

ANDREA HAIRSTON

Finalist for the Philip K. Dick Award; Tiptree Award Honor List

MINDSCAPE

“[W]e engage with an ensemble cast of sufficient originality and variety to please a whole range of SFados from hard sf to queer feminist postcolonial…. These folk are enmeshed in a plotline of great complexity and great swathes of originality, presented through a headlong and ferociously vivid mise-en-scene. "New York Review of Science Fiction,

October 2006

“....a dazzling work of science fiction... an intoxicating, almost hallucinogenic journey into a vision of Earth's future...”

The Women's Times, February 2006

Lonely Stardust: Two Plays, a Speech, and Eight Essays

WINNER OF THE 2011 JAMES TIPTREE, JR. AWARD
WINNER OF THE CARL BRANDON SOCIETY KINDRED AWARD

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Comments from the Tiptree Jury

“This vivid and emotionally satisfying novel encompasses the life of Redwood, a hoodoo woman, as she migrates from rural Georgia to Chicago at the turn of the 20th century. While Redwood’s romance with Aidan Wildfire is central to the novel, female friendship is also a major theme.... Hairston incorporates romantic love into a constellation, rather than portraying it as a solo shining star. Her characters invoke a sky where it can shine; they live and love without losing themselves in cultural expectations, prejudices, and stereotypes, all within a lovingly sketched historical frame.

“Intersections of race, class, and gender encompass these characters’ entire lives. They struggle with external and internal forces around questions of gender roles, love, identity, and sexuality.... The characters in Redwood and Wildfire deftly negotiate freedom and integrity in a society where it’s difficult to hold true to these things.”

http://tiptree.org/
Nominated for a Hugo Award; Tiptree Award Honor List
The Secret Feminist Cabal:
A Cultural History of Science Fiction Feminisms
by Helen Merrick (ISBN: 978-1-933500-33-1)

“Merrick boldly goes where no...academician has gone before and brings back an entertaining tale of women writers, editors, publishers and fans. It’s SF convention girl-gossip channeled by a university scholar. The results are bracing, well-informed, and sort of shocking. Literature and feminism entwined in an unusual manner in that primordial soup. What emerged was, not surprisingly, sort of magical... You’ll meet a lot of wonderfully outspoken women in this book, writers, critics and, critically, fans.”

Rick Kleffel, The Agony Column, November 2009

Narrative Power:
Encounters, Celebrations, Struggles,
Essays edited by L. Timmel Duchamp
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-34-8)

“The volume’s subtitle—Encounters, Celebrations, Struggles—explains why its essays linger in the mind. Its writers have skin in the game. Many of their insights have that bittersweet flavor peculiar to autobiographical accounts.

“...Dachau started out as an artist’s colony. Joseph Goebbels, Reich Minister of Propaganda and Hitler’s BFF, started out as a novelist. Narratives do strange things to people and places. There is no final protection against malign narratives and the Pied Pipers of history except the steady pressure of conversation. We owe a debt of gratitude to L. Timmel Duchamp, Aqueduct Press, and the many contributors. Volumes such this keep us alert, awake. May its tribe increase.”

Anil Menon, Strange Horizons, August 2010

Tiptree Award Honor List
Final ballot for 2008 Nebula

Dangerous Space
Short fiction by Kelley Eskridge

“Eskridge is my favorite kind of science speculative fiction writer, the sort who is very interested in using the tropes of the genre to externalize that which we’d prefer not to discuss and force it into the spotlight.”

Rick Kleffel, The Agony Column, March 2007

2018 Hugo Finalist
2018 Locus Award finalist

Sleeping with Monsters:
Readings and Reactions in Science Fiction
and Fantasy by Liz Bourke
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-123-0)

A provocative, immensely readable collection of essays about the science fiction and fantasy field, from the perspective of a feminist and a historian, Sleeping With Monsters is an entertaining addition to any reader’s shelves.

“This strong collection is culled from Bourke’s similarly titled Tor.com blog as well as other online sources, and features eight original selections. Bourke’s critiques of fantasy and science fiction—most running fewer than 1,000 words—demonstrate both her critical acumen and her appreciation of the genre.”

Publishers Weekly, June 2017
The Marq’ssan Cycle by L. Timmel Duchamp
Awarded Special Honor by 2009 Tiptree Jury

What Would it Take to Change the Way Postmodern Societies Work?

Book One: Alanya to Alanya
(ISBN: 978-0-9746559-6-3)
Seattle, February 2076. The Marq’ssan bring business as usual to a screeching halt all over the world, and Professor Kay Zeldin joins Robert Sedgewick, US Chief of Security Services, in his war against the invaders. Soon Kay is making rather than writing history. But as she goes head-to-head against the Marq’ssan, long-buried secrets of her past resurface, and her conflicts with Sedgewick and Security Services multiply. She faces terrifying choices. Her world view, her very grip on reality, is turned inside out.

“The coupling of real thoughtfulness and rip-roaring excitement is as rare in science fiction as in any other genre. But here...they're locked together in the most exciting — and certainly the most intelligent! — tale of alien invasion I've read in decades.”

Samuel R. Delany, author of Dhalgren

Book Two: Renegade
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-04-1)
August 2077. The Pacific Northwest Free Zone, having survived the first year of its existence, faces both internal and external challenges. The US’s Security Services has deployed a paramilitary covert action team to capture Kay Zeldin, Security’s most wanted renegade, and destabilize the Zone’s civil order.

“...pulse-pounding page-turner, based on Duchamp's research into the shenanigans and evil-doings of our own favorite set of spies, the CIA.... this novel is not about current history or anything resembling it. You do, indeed, get hints of the truly alien. They're the seeds of change.”

Rick Kleffel, The Agony Column, April 2006

Book Three: Tsunami
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-09-6)
Spring 2086. In a world recovering from war, the Free Zone's Co-op faces a crisis within when ugly, long-buried secrets are dragged into the painful light of day. In the US, the Executive, now reunited, turns its attention to reconsolidating the power it has lost to regional warlords, even as popular discontent with executive rule spreads.

“Duchamp's powerful use of language and her gift for creating unforgettable and complex characters make this novel a dark and suspenseful read.”


Book Four: Blood in the Fruit
October 2086. The Marq’ssan Fleet returns to determine whether Earth should be quarantined, and a young alien resorts to violent, unilateral action. Young Alexandra Sedgewick takes a lover and dreams of escaping her father's fortress and joining the renegade women. The US Executive resorts to desperate measures. The conflict over human rights spreads like a global wildfire.

“The novel—the series for that matter—is a distillation of political and ethical philosophy, a commentary on the importance and frailty of human rights, a feminist dystopia, and something of an adventure story...”

Don D’Ammassa, Critical Mass, September 2007

“The latest book in the Marq’ssan Cycle might just be the best yet, part of a series that is the most important political SF published in the last decade.”

Jeff VanderMeer, www.omnivoracious.com

Book Five: Stretto
The final volume of the Marq’ssan Cycle opens in January 2096. In the US, career-line women holding positions of importance in the Executive attempt to enact a reformist, liberal agenda.

“Like its predecessors, this is very much a novel of ideas and personal relations rather than of action or adventure.... If you enjoy books designed to stimulate thought as well as entertain you, Duchamp's speculations about the forms of government and the ways in which people in power interact should prove very rewarding.”

Donald D’Ammassa, Critical Mass, April 2008

“The final volume in the Marq’ssan series encourages its readers to write beyond the ending. There are no gift-wrapped resolutions or easy redemptions on offer, rather there is a clear-sighted focus on the always-unfolding consequences — intended and unintended — of personal and political action taken. This is a series that is deeply invested in social transformation while resisting any temptation to consolation.”

Joan Haran, author of Human Cloning in the Media
**Chercher La Femme**

by L. Timmel Duchamp  

Humans have been struggling to live on Frogmore for almost five centuries, adapting themselves to punishing gravity and the deadly mistflowers that dominate its ecology. Financier Inez Gauthier, patron of the arts and daughter of the general commanding the planet’s occupation forces, dreams of eliminating the mistflowers that make exploitation of the planet’s natural wealth so difficult and impede her father’s efforts to crush the native insurgency. Fascinated by the new art-form of waterdancing created by Solstice Balazlazar celebrating the planet’s indigenous lifeforms, Inez assumes that her patronage will be enough to sustain Solstice’s art even as she ruthlessly pursues windfall profits at the expense of all that has made waterdancing possible.

“...Duchamp...raises some hard questions about society’s responsibility for the well-being of its most marginalized people, suggesting that the powerful create the underclasses and keep them powerless for the sake of economic convenience. Readers will find much to ponder in Duchamp’s provocative ideas about culture and colonization.”

**Publishers Weekly**, October 2016

“...Duchamp’s concentrated and demanding examination of what’s accepted as ‘self’ is cleverly and convincingly presented as a simple piece of science fiction. Diplomat Julia, a member of a socialist human society known as the Pax, is the head of a mission to a far-off world, La Femme. The mission’s primary purpose is recovery of the first ship sent to make contact with La Femme’s inhabitants, though further diplomatic advancement is planned as well.... Duchamp makes abundant challenges to gender norms and raises questions of what constitutes alienness, and the novel’s humanistic approach and unwavering commitment to Julia’s frank introspection go beautifully with a precisely detailed world. This thoughtful tale bears rereading and contemplation.”

**Publishers Weekly**, June 2018
A Locus recommended book; Tiptree Award Honor List

The Universe of Things
Short fiction by Gwyneth Jones
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-44-7)

These stories span Jones’s career, from “The Eastern Succession,” first published in 1988, to the recently published “Collision.” Each story opens a window into a richly depicted culture in which its intelligent, resourceful characters struggle to make sense of the mysteries of their world.

“Jones’s sharp writing forces the reader to reconsider the standard building blocks of SF in light of real human history, sociology, and radical analyses of power structures.”

Publishers Weekly, November 2010

IMAGINATION/SPACE

Essays and Talks on Fiction, Feminism, Technology, and Politics
by Gwyneth Jones

“Not only is Gwyneth Jones a brilliant author, she’s a fabulous essayist… This is a must read if you care about both, either, genre literature in any form, the exploration of self through literature, or a host of other topics…. The essays in this collection are clear and lucid, insightful as all get out, and totally accessible…. Gwyneth Jones’s mastery of her subjects and engaging writing pulls me in time and again, leaving me struck by how much more comprehensible the tangled web of speculative fiction is when seen through her eyes.”

Ernest Lilley, SF Revu, December 2009

Winner of a Locus Award, 2009

Cheek by Jowl
Essays by Ursula K. Le Guin
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-27-0)

“Ursula K. Le Guin may be on the short list of great writers to emerge from our little corner of the map, but she’s also something of a skirmisher… and she continues to ask questions here, mostly in the context of children’s and YA literature, with the unflagging passion and clarity we’ve come to expect from her critical writing… In the war to preserve the imagination, you don’t win with just a couple of skirmishes. You have to keep at it, and Le Guin does.”

Gary K. Wolfe, Locus, April 2009

Nominated for a Locus Award

80! Memories & Reflections on Ursula K. Le Guin
edited by Karen Joy Fowler & Debbie Notkin
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-43-0)

“Written as a birthday tribute to one of speculative fiction’s most beloved forerunners, this slim volume honors Le Guin with accounts that detail how several friends and former students came to love her work. Evidence abounds of Le Guin’s generous, inquiring, and feminist spirit, and her rare ability to show us ‘our own world, made strange and familiar.’ …Fowler and Notkin include poetry, short fiction, and essays that build a cumulative portrait extending beyond the basic facts of a life and, less overtly, examines the relationship between reading and writing, twining the pleasures of absorbing language with the act of learning the craft.”

Publishers Weekly, January 2011
One thing you can say for sure about Big Mamas and Big Poppas: their lives are never dull. The quirky, nearly omnipotent members of the colorful tribe of Big Mamas and Big Poppas rove the Universe, able to leap vast expanses of time and space in a single bound. Little can harm a Mama or Poppa, except large, mythological monsters and world-historical trends. And yet they do have their problems.

"...Arnason's Big Mama mythos is a highly enjoyable and strongly feminist synthesis of science, history, and sheer imagination. Like the best fairy tales and folk tales, her stories sometimes go to dark and unsettling places, but they’re really about how to overcome the darkness—how to take a long view of the universe, where individual lives are at once very small but also very important and precious."

Karin L. Kross, Tor.com, July 2013

Tomb of the Fathers
A Lydia Duluth Adventure
A novel by Eleanor Arnason
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-36-2)
In this witty romp of a planetary romance, Lydia Duluth joins a motley crew of intergalactic travelers to explore the long lost homeworld of the Atch, who have a mysterious history they’d like to keep buried on the planet they left behind. But the expedition goes alarmingly awry when a rogue AI, determined to keep the planet and its system quarantined, destroys the stargate, and the expedition is stranded on the planet.

E-book Editions: The early novels

The Sword Smith
The Sword Smith tells the tale of Limper, a master sword smith running from an oppressive boss-king who forced him to make junk, and Nargri, his young dragon companion. In a new Afterword written for this edition, Arnason describes the characters as “mostly fairly ordinary people, rather than heroes, wizards, and kings. Their problems are ordinary problems, rather than a gigantic struggle between good and evil.”

Daughter of the Bear King
Not your everyday fantasy, Daughter of the Bear King clearly arises from Second Wave Feminism. A middle-aged woman suddenly discovers that she has a role in an epic struggle between shoddiness and integrity. And her battle flows across time and universes.

To the Resurrection Station
A moldering mansion full of secrets, a disturbing master of the house, a young and innocent heroine, and the mansion’s robot servant, who drives the story. A motley crew escapes to Earth (now overrun by intelligent machines, except for a clearly crazy space port) where they land and begin exploring the ruins of New York City.
Aqueduct Press’s series of Heirloom Books aims to bring back into print and preserve work that has helped make feminist science fiction what it is today — work that though clearly of its time is still pleasurable to read, work that is thought-provoking, work that can still speak powerfully to readers. The series takes its name from the seeds of older strains of vegetables, so valuable and in danger of being lost. Our hope is to keep these books from being lost, as works that do not make it into the canon so often are.

**It Walks in Beauty**
Selected prose of Chandler Davis
edited by Josh Lukin

“This is a terrific book. I can’t remember the last time I have seen fiction, especially science fiction, put so richly in context. *It Walks in Beauty* introduces us to a remarkable man, gives us insight into the American science fiction community of the 1940s and ‘50s, and reminds us how much damage the McCarthy era of red hunts did to ordinary human lives and to American civilization.”

Eleanor Arnason, author of *Ring of Swords* and *A Woman of the Iron People*

**Dorothea Dreams**
A novel by Suzy McKee Charnas

“For me, *Dorothea Dreams* is the most purely beautiful of [Suzy McKee Charnas’s] novels. It is certainly the one that speaks most directly to my own fears and obsessions. When I read it, I am proud to be a woman, proud to be an artist, even proud to be asthmatic and mortal and fallible, because they’re all part of being human. And that’s what art and literature are about, aren’t they? The glory and shame of the human condition.”

from the Introduction by Delia Sherman, author of *The Porcelain Dove* and co-editor of *Interfictions: An Anthology of Interstitial Writing*

**New Amazonia**
A Foretaste of the Future
A novella by Elizabeth Burgoyne Corbett
with an Introduction by Alexis Lothian
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-048-6)

“Corrupt, Degraded, Rotten to the core is British Civilisation, and yet we find women who ought to know better, actually pretending that they are perfectly contented with the existing order of things,” declares the narrator of *New Amazonia*. Raging against an antifeminist statement signed by “ladies” opposing the cause of women’s suffrage, a writer falls asleep in 1889 and wakens, in company with a hashish-smoking “masher,” in a future world run by women. *New Amazonia* tells the story of how this future world came to be and reveals its shiny, futuristic marvels as well as its government-administered horrors.

**Locus Recommended**

**The Merril Theory of Lit’ry Criticism**
by Judith Merril
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-093-6)

Although Judith Merril is best known for her short fiction and her novels (in collaboration with C. M. Kornbluth), she wrote a great deal of nonfiction. She wrote about SF fandom. In these collected pieces, Merril works through and develops her definition of “S-F” and what makes S-F good. She chronicles changes within the genre, including the emergence of the New Wave. And she provides a history of the genre: its writers, its publishers, and its magazines.

*Complimentary expanded E-book (nearly double-size) included with print book.*

**Ring of Swords**
by Eleanor Arnason
with a new introduction by Ursula K. Le Guin
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-140-7)

As Ursula K. Le Guin writes in her new introduction: “Having recently brought their own competitive, feud-ridden society into a fragile balance of peace, the Hwarthath have been facing an unexpected problem: the lack of enemies. Given the apparently innate male propensity for finding pretexts to fight, and the fact that their men were all trained as warriors, the women running things at home make sure the men stay out in space protecting the home planet. The drawback is that there seems to be nobody to protect it from. So, when in the vastness of space they finally stumble into another intelligent species, they rejoice. Enemies! At last! And those enemies? Humans, of course. And yet, *Ring of Swords* is a novel “not about fighting a war, but about trying not to.”
The Alien Trilogy

Rebecca Ore

Vol. 1 ☼ Becoming Alien
Finalist for the 1989 Philip K. Dick Award • Nominated for the John W. Campbell Award • Nominated for the 1988 Locus Awards: FIRST NOVEL

“In this the first book, we meet a young Tom Gentry. On his Virginia farm he encounters drug lords, rude locals, and other strange creatures (specifically a young alien by the name of Mica). Shortly after meeting Mica Tom has a run-in with the local constabulary, which leads him to believe that a trip out of town might be beneficial.

Roy Sloan (Amazon Review)

Vol. 2 ☼ Being Alien
Finalist for the 1990 Philip K. Dick Award
Nominated for the 1990 Locus Awards: SF NOVEL.

“Tom Red-Clay has grown up in the galaxy. Now, in the stunning sequel to BECOMING ALIEN, Tom must return to Earth on a secret mission for the Federation. His marching orders: “Three goals, two obligatory, one optional: research Japan, go to dinner with two humans, find a wife….”

Anonymous (Amazon Review)

Vol 3. ☼ Human to Human
“The last book of the trilogy doesn’t pull any punches. Red Clay is a conflicted character...on the one hand he hates having come from a world of war and prejudice... on the other hand he slowly and painfully comes to terms of who he is and how far he’s gone.”

Vincent Westerband (Amazon Review)

Alien Bootlegger and Other Stories
In these stories Ore explores the question of what it means to be alien: the unknown equation, the mysterious that can never be taken for granted, never be seen as “ordinary.” She confronts us with visions of what it might mean to be the alien—the alien from outside and the alien within.

Gaia’s Toys
A tale of eco-terrorism set in a dystopian near future of gene-manipulation, medical nanotechnology, and environmental damage; an examination of the risks of overpopulation and uncontrolled technological expansion.

Slow Funeral
Bracken County, nestled in the Blue Ridge region of the American South, is like no other place on earth. Behind its facade of small-town Southern life, magic works and corrupts all it touches. Maude Fuller ran away from Bracken County when her parents were killed. She has been running ever since, trying to deny her innate magical talent. Now Maude’s grandmother is dying, and Maude is drawn home.

The Illegal Rebirth of Billy the Kid
In 2067, human cloning is a part of everyday life. But it is a bizarre form of cloning: not actually the direct copying of a humans, but rather the construction of custom-made reproductions of humans using animal DNA. The CIA uses these so-called “chimeras” for various undercover operations, and one of their technicians, Simon Boyle, has a sideline making illegal copies: chimeras based on famous criminals, for rent. His Billy the Kid, a creation unable to comprehend or sometimes even recognize the sorts of things that didn’t exist before the 1880s and endowed with powerful sex pheromones, is quite popular for a night of historically convincing passion with rich women.
without a map
Mary Anne Mohanraj & Nnedi Okorafor
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-41-6)
Without a Map comprises a long excerpt from Okorafor’s book Stormbringer and a varied medley of works from Mary Ann Mohanraj, including poetry, bits of nonfiction travelogue, and fiction—speculative and otherwise.

The Helix and the Hard Road
Joan Slonczewski & Jo Walton
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-041-7)
Slonczewski’s essay “I Have No Time, and I Must Write” and her short fiction “Tuberculosis Bacteria Joins the UN,” and a previously mostly unpublished collection of Walton’s poetry, “Rivers and Robots.” In addition, the authors talk at length with interviewers knowledgeable about their work.

Impolitic!
Andrea Hairston & Debbie Notkin
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-009-7)
Notkin samples her incisive blog posts on body politics, examining the narratives told about our bodies and how we are told to live in and think about them. Hairston offers us a short fiction, “Griots of the Galaxy,” and her essay “Prophetic Artists,” looks to Octavia Butler and others to illuminate the immanent possibilities of the here and now.

Metamorphosis
Alaya Dawn Johnson & Kim Stanley Robinson
Metamorphosis offers a taste of work from WisCon 39 Guests of Honor Alaya Dawn Johnson and Kim Stanley Robinson, as well as an interview of Johnson by Justine Larbalestier and an interview of Robinson by Jeannie Gomoll.

Systems Fail
Hiromi Goto and N.K. Jemisin
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-061-5)
Goto’s poignant “What Isn’t Remembered” imagines a mother, holding out against technological pressures in a future in which people delete undesirable memories. In Goto’s “The Sleep Clinic for Troubled Souls,” Desdemona, “dying of loneliness,” is driven to seek out an improbable clinic because for her “sleep is like a drink of cool water...but there’s nothing but sand everywhere I look.” In Jemisin’s Hugo finalist “Non-Zero Probabilities,” Adele wakes up to a frighteningly new day in NYC, in which Murphy’s Law suddenly clamps down with a vengeance. Jemisin’s series of essays brings us incisive critical thinking about race and gender politics in the sf/f field at large.

Something More and More
Nisi Shawl
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-75-1)
Stories about hoodoo women and musicians, and essays about reading, crowns, and the work of Octavia E. Butler. And a new interview of Nisi by Eileen Gunn, in which she talks about editing, being edited, and the competing charms of writing and making music.

Plugged In
L. Timmel Duchamp & Maureen McHugh
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-22-5)
In Maureen McHugh’s “Kingdom of the Blind,” Sydney, one of the codemonkeys who maintain DMS, the software system that keeps the physical plants of the Benevola Health Network running, suspects the recent outages in the system may be a sign of the system’s sentence rather than a simple corruption of its code.

In L. Timmel Duchamp’s “The Man Who Plugged In,” Howard Nies becomes the first male to plug into a Siemens Carapace. “Its clean, round lines and soft, silvery matte finish can’t fail to reassure both the parents and the gestational carrier who wears it that the child within is getting better care and protection than any naturally gestated child...”
The WisCon Chronicles Series

The WisCon Chronicles, Vol. 3
Carnival of Feminist SF
edited by Liz Henry
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-129-2)
A cross section of the diverse conversations happening at WisCon and beyond.

The WisCon Chronicles, Vol. 4
Voices of WisCon
edited by Sylvia Kelso
The voices of WisCon sing out once again...widely diverse, not only in what events the writer attended, what he or she saw and felt, but in the writers themselves.

The WisCon Chronicles, Vol. 5
Writing and Racial Identity
edited by Nisi Shawl
“There was never a doubt in my mind as to the theme of this fifth volume of the WisCon Chronicles.... "Writing and racial identity".... It seemed to me a thoroughly WisConsinese topic,...”

WisCon Chronicles, Vol 9
Intersections and Alliances
edited by Mary Anne Mohanraj
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-087-5)
“We’re living through an intense time of social change, and a variety of questions arise as we have these often difficult conversations about feminism, race, gender, sexual orientation, disability, and more.”

WisCon Chronicles, Vol 7
Shattering Ableist Narratives
edited by JoSelle Vanderhooft
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-042-4)
In the spirit of WisCon's continuing mission to boldly go where no con has gone before in breaking down barriers, this version of The WisCon Chronicles seeks to smash ableist narratives that keep disabled people from full participation in the present we inhabit and the speculative futures we hope to create.

The WisCon Chronicles, Vol. 8
Re-Generating WisCon
edited by Rebecca J. Holden
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-061-5)
The poems, stories, blogs, essays, and speeches within these pages explore the generations and feminism(s) of WisCon. Various “waves” of feminism are discussed, alluded to, and chronicled, through vitally important tellings and retellings.

The WisCon Chronicles, Vol. 10:
Social Justice (Redux)
edited by Margaret McBride
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-113-1)
“We need diverse stories, we need a million mirrors of different shapes and sizes. Not just so we can see ourselves. So that they can see us through our own eyes.”

WisCon Chronicles, Vol. 6
Futures of Feminism and Fandom
edited by Alexis Lothian
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-008-0)
Celebrating, challenging, and discussing the varied faces of WisCon 36. As with previous volumes, it does not shy away from controversy.

The WisCon Chronicles, Vol. 1
Social Justice
edited by L. Timmel Duchamp
Supported by a grant from the Society for the Furtherance & Study of Fantasy & Science Fiction [SF3].
Conversation Pieces
Celebrating the Speculations and Visions of the Grand Conversation of Feminist SF

The feminist engaged with sf is passionately interested in challenging the way things are, passionately determined to understand how everything works. It is my constant sense of our feminist-sf present as a grand conversation that enables me to trace its existence into the past and from there see its trajectory extending into our future. A genealogy for feminist sf would not constitute a chart depicting direct lineages but would offer us an ever-shifting, fluid mosaic, the individual tiles of which we will probably only ever partially access. What could be more in the spirit of feminist sf than to conceptualize a genealogy that explicitly manifests our own communities across not only space but also time?

Aqueduct’s small paperback series, Conversation Pieces, aims to both document and facilitate the “grand conversation.” The Conversation Pieces series presents a wide variety of texts, including short fiction (which may not always be sf and may not necessarily even be feminist), essays, speeches, manifestoes, poetry, interviews, correspondence, and group discussions. Many of the texts are reprinted material, but many are new, too. The grand conversation reaches at least as far back as Mary Shelley and extends, in our speculations and visions, into the continually created future. In Jonathan Goldberg’s words, “To look forward to the history that will be, one must look at and retell the history that has been told.” And that is what Conversation Pieces is all about.

L. Timmel Duchamp

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Vol. 1
The Grand Conversation
Essays by L. Timmel Duchamp
(ISBN: 978-0-9746559-3-2)
The Grand Conversation collects four essays by L. Timmel Duchamp that explore her conceptualization of feminist sf as a conversation. These essays, which have been previously published in the scholarly journals Foundation and Extrapolation, lay out the thinking behind the Conversation Pieces series.

Finalist for the Lambda SF award

Vol. 2
With Her Body
Short Fiction by Nicola Griffith
with an Afterword by L. Timmel Duchamp
(ISBN: 978-0-9746559-4-9)
Nicola Griffith writes about being as well as doing — about life and love and the fears that keep us from having what we want. About feeling stuff and making decisions, not sitting at home like a passive lump.

“...haunting, fiercely women-oriented tales of lesbians making their way in one world or another”

Books To Watch Out For by Carol Seajay

Vol. 3
Changeling
A Novella by Nancy Jane Moore
(ISBN: 978-0-9746559-5-6)
The city provides a feast for the eyes. It is a place of art, of music, of beautiful people going about their fascinating lives. The city has its dark corners, of course, but these are not the places a tourist needs to visit, and even a resident can live comfortably while (almost) ignoring them.

“...an eminently satisfying, sweetly unraveling story centering on a wheelchair using woman who rolls through walls into a dimension her parents frequented when young...”

Books To Watch Out For, Lesbian Edition

Vol. 4
Counting on Wildflowers
An Entanglement
by Kim Antieau
(ISBN: 978-0-9746559-7-0)
These essays serve as witness to what has and is still happening in Iraq and in this country. They show us how to speak what we know, what we see, feel, hear, experience, even when we see no real changes in the here and now. And they invite us to seek out joy — to live fully with open hearts and passionate souls, in constant communion with the Earth.
Vol. 5

The Traveling Tide
Short Fiction by Rosaleen Love
(ISBN: 978-0-9746559-9-4)

In this collection of primarily environmental or ecological fantasy, Rosaleen Love goes where other nature writers fear to tread; she is a truly feral nature writer. The stories play with the notion of vast aeons of time — time as experienced (or not experienced) differently at the various levels of being, from the glacial to the organic, from the geological and the ecological to the human and post-human levels.

Vol. 6

The Adventures of the Faithful Counselor
A Narrative Poem by Anne Sheldon
(ISBN: 978-0-9746559-8-7)

The Queen of Heaven and Earth has no easy job, not even in 3000 BCE when both heaven and earth were smaller. Even within the gates of her own city Uruk, the far-sighted and beautiful goddess Inanna requires the assistance of her lovers Gilgamesh and Ninshubur.

“Anne Sheldon’s use of vivid imagery, strong narrative voice, and cleverly placed anachronisms gives new life and a new perspective to an ancient tale.”

MultiVerse Speculative Poetry Reviews, June 2005

Vol. 7

Ordinary People
A Collection by Eleanor Arnason
(ISBN: 978-0-9746559-0-1)

Spanning thirty years, this volume collects six stories, one poem, and a WisCon Guest of Honor speech.

“It is quite a retrospective collection, with stories going back to as early as 1974...[and provides] a new look at the range of her fiction, and more good reason than ever to wish for more new stories from Eleanor Arnason.”

Tangent Online, June 2005

Vol. 8

Writing the Other
Bridging Cultural Differences for Successful Fiction by Nisi Shawl and Cynthia Ward
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-00-3)

“Along with personal experience and examples, the book presents exercises to help writers step outside their own ROAARS. The exercises, developed from workshops the authors have conducted, reward writers with learning more about developing characters—including those who are “just like” themselves—and understanding past and present stereotypes.”

Paula Guran, Writers.com Newsletter, Vol 9, no. 3

Vol. 9

Alien Bootlegger
A Novella by Rebecca Ore with a new introduction by Michael Swanwick
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-01-0)

In Franklin County, when times get tough, people often to turn to bootlegging. But that’s a perilous way to make a living, since bootlegging is both illegal and tightly regulated by distributors like Dennis DeSpain. So when the mysterious and scary alien who calls himself “Turk” openly sets up as an independent operator, flouting both the law and the distributors, all hell breaks loose.

Vol. 10

The Red Rose Rages (Bleeding)
A Short Novel by L. Timmel Duchamp
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-02-7)

“Duchamp does a marvelous job of portraying the intensely claustrophobic Facility A7, a closed universe so much to and of itself that the real world, which the author only occasionally and nightmarishly evokes, fades to insignificance...”

Michael Levy, New York Review of Science Fiction, August 2006

Vol. 11

Talking Back: Epistolary Fantasies
Edited by L. Timmel Duchamp

Talking Back showcases the epistolary fantasies of eighteen writers, among whom are Carol Emshwiller, Leslie What, Eileen Gunn, and Rosaleen Love. Invited to “talk back,” the authors penned love letters, fans letters, angry letters, thoughtful letters; letters to dead people, letters to fictional characters, letters to corporations. These are letters that will never be sent, intimate and personal, fantasies the authors have agreed to share with their readers.

“...great fun to read, and thought-provoking too. What more could one ask from a book, or a letter?”

Strange Horizons, January 2007

Vol. 12

Absolute Uncertainty
Short Fiction by Lucy Sussex
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-06-5)

“Strongly feminist, linguistically muscular, and historically erudite, Lucy Sussex is an Australian writer who deserves to be more widely read outside of her home country....”

Strange Horizons, September 2006
Candle in a Bottle
A Novella by Carolyn Ives Gilman
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-07-2)
The savants of Institut Sorel, the world center of information mechanics, compute the governing algorithms that give all things their shape and structure; the voyants receive and sort enormous amounts of information. And now the savants say that the whole world, on the brink of a phase transition, is about to change, such that the long-term equilibrium that has locked the world into an “order crisis” will give way to a period of chaos.

“Interesting intellectual political intrigue, high-minded science, and a climax that moves along at a brisk pace makes...Candle in a Bottle a trip worth taking.”

Tangent Online, July 2006

We, Robots
A Novella by Sue Lange
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-11-9)
“[...]a hilarious critique of hyper-consumerist and protect-the-children-from-all-dangers-real-or-perceived-at-all-costs-always culture and a pointed meditation on the uses of pain, physical and emotional, in the formation of character, personality and ambition.”

Racheline Maltese, Books Correspondent for Gather.com, October 2007

Making Love in Madrid
A Novella by Kimberly Todd Wade
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-12-6)
“A fantasia of amnesia, of lives that need filling, of writers of every tense, of talent and dry lemons and melted cheese; of giggling and tangled sheets and denture adhesive, competition and tenderness, a bloodless bullfight, the power of a giant smile to diminish greatness — a modern mannerist story around a story.”

Anna Tambour, author of The Spotted Lily and Manterra’s Deliciosa and Other Tales

Of Love and Other Monsters
A Novella by Vandana Singh
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-16-4)
“In this perfect gem of a novella, a teenager named Arun survives a fire to find he has amnesia but also the ability to see into other people’s minds. When he comes into contact with Rahul, who has the same power, his friend Janani, who has helped him regain some semblance of his former life, warns him to flee, even though Rahul may have knowledge that can help Arun. [A] wise, luminous tale from an accomplished storyteller...”

Jeff VanderMeer, Realms of Fantasy, April 2008

Knots
Short Fiction by Wendy Walker
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-08-9)
“It’s [Walker’s] eccentric mingling of ideas and imagery, sensory impressions of a world almost disturbingly alive, that distinguish her work from anyone else’s.”

Locus, January 2007

“Read her work for the history, the complex tales, and the vivid language offered — where the true beauty of Walker’s work lies.”

Tangent Online, December 2006

Naomi Mitchison: A Profile of Her Life and Work
A Monograph by Lesley A. Hall
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-10-2)
Naomi Mitchison lived an adventurous, politically engaged, and well-examined life, even as she wrote dozens of novels and works of nonfiction. From campaigning for women’s right to information about and the means of birth control to running for Parliament, from practicing “open marriage” in her own life to exploring a range of sexual arrangements in her fiction, for all of her 101 years, Mitchison embraced change as few people ever manage to do.

Vol. 16

We, Robots
A Novella by Sue Lange
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-11-9)

Vol. 17

Making Love in Madrid
A Novella by Kimberly Todd Wade
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-12-6)

Vol. 18

Of Love and Other Monsters
A Novella by Vandana Singh
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-16-4)

Vol. 19

Aliens of the Heart
Short Fiction by Carolyn Ives Gilman
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-17-1)
In these stories, Betty Lindstrom imagines leaving her husband in the town of Lost Road; Susan Abernathy undertakes to humanize Captain Groton, the alien charged with removing the residents of Okanoggan Falls; Galena Pittman seeks to recover her lover, Thea, from the mountains of Montana; and the Conservator, charged with preserving the many layers of the map of the great river, discovers that the relationship between map and landscape is more complicated than she had thought.
Voices From Fairyland: The Fantastical Poems of Mary Coleridge, Charlotte Mew, and Sylvia Townsend Warner
Edited by Theodora Goss
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-21)

Voices from Fairyland collects fantastical poems by Mary Coleridge, Charlotte Mew, Sylvia Townsend Warner, and Theodora Goss, and offers four new essays by Goss.

Vol. 21
My Death
A Novella by Lisa Tuttle
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-23-2)
“The satisfying mystery Tuttle weaves, and all the juicy little hints she buries throughout the plot, demonstrate the craft for which she is well known.”
Val Grimm, The Fix, January 2009

Vol. 22
De Secretis Mulierum
A Novella by L. Timmel Duchamp
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-24-9)
A Locus recommended novella for 1995, the year of its original publication.
According to the Pentagon-owned-and-operated Past-Scan Device, Leonardo da Vinci and Thomas Aquinas were both women in drag. Jane Pendler’s advisor says that’s impossible, that the technology must be bogus, and pulls the plug on Jane’s dissertation research on Leonardo. What’s a feminist graduate student to do? What else, but do the research behind her advisor’s back, of course...

Winner of the 2008 Carl Brandon Society Parallax Award

Tiptree Award Honor List

Vol. 23
Distances
A Novella by Vandana Singh
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-26-3)
“Intensely and lyrically written, this is the story of a woman named Anasuya who lives near the ocean on a world not unlike Earth.... By the end of this finely layered novella I felt as though I had met a fully formed human being—not to mention a number of fascinating characters—and all with a mathematical conundrum of epic proportions...”
Bob Blough, Tangent Online, July 2009

Vol. 24
Three Observations and a Dialogue: Round and About SF
Essays by Sylvia Kelso
After WisCon 20, Sylvia Kelso engaged Lois McMaster Bujold in a rich, snappy correspondence about Bujold’s Vorkosigan novels, published here: “Letterspace: In the Chinks Between Published Fiction and Published Criticism.” Also included are three critical essays discussing the intricacies of being an Australian feminist scholar writing about science fiction, colonialism in science fiction by women, and Bujold’s Vorkosigan novels.

Vol. 25
The Buonarotti Quartet
Short fiction by Gwyneth Jones
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-29-4)
The Buonarotti Quartet shows us humans traveling via the device to alien worlds. Some are diplomats, some are extreme travelers, some are prisoners. All are in for a rough, wild ride.

Vol. 26
Slightly Behind and to the Left
Short Fiction by Claire Light
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-34-8)
“Claire Light has pulled together a poetic and surreal collection for the second decade of the twenty-first century, which will likely generate much discussion and controversy. I”
Carole Ann Moleti, Tangent Online, February 2010

Vol. 27
Through the Drowsy Dark
Fiction and poetry by Rachel Swirsky
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-38-6)
“Swirsky's range as a writer, from carefully realized fantasy stories to thought-driven short pieces and poems that embrace several political and feminist perspectives, is one of the most impressive things about Through the Drowsy Dark.”
Sara Polsky, Strange Horizons, August 2010

Vol. 28
Shotgun Lullabies
Short fiction by Sheree Renée Thomas
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-59-1)
In this first collection of the stories and poetry of Sheree Thomas, memory is the only force strong enough to counter the terrors of a scarred and forgetful world. Thomas’ characters are people scraping by in slave quarters and institutional margins, people in search of freedom and transformation who come face to face with apocalyptic powers.
Vol. 29

A Brood of Foxes
A Novella by Kristin Livdahl
(an Locus recommended book
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-60-7)
Set in a place where time has its own
logic, human and animal is a shifting
perspective, and the people we love are
always slightly other—and better—
than we imagined, A Brood of Foxes faces us with the
moral dimensions of environmental disasters—in a
troublingly literal way.

Vol. 30

The Bone Spindle
Poetry and Short Fiction
by Anne Sheldon
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-72-0)
Anne Sheldon’s heroines have lowered
eyes and seditious smiles. They are people of folklore
and fairy tales. These fourteen story-poems and stories
focus on the work that women do with spinning wheel,
spindle, and knitting needles. They are accompanied
by evocative images of these instruments and the cloth
they yield.

A Locus recommended book

Vol. 31

The Last Letter
A Novella by Fiona Lehn
(ISBN: 978-1-933500-86-7)
“This story of a biologist’s attempt
to stop the advance of a strange and
voracious parasite in a protected
forest perfectly balances the personal
and the scientific, working as both a character study
and a fascinatingly odd encounter with a foreign
ecosystem.”
—Jeff VanderMeer, Omnivoracious, December 2011

Vol. 32

We Wuz Pushed: On Joanna
Russ and Radical Truth-Telling
Essay by Brit Mandelo
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-005-9)
“To speak radical truths—
unapologetically, ferociously, rudely
when necessary — is the central
purpose of Joanna Russ’s influential body of work,”
declares Brit Mandelo in her essay on Russ’s radical,
groundbreaking literary and critical work ... Russ
emerges in Mandelo’s essay as a heroic though all-
too-human intellectual and artist, one whose angry,
bright work we cannot afford to ignore or forget.

Vol. 33

The Receptionist and Other Tales
Poetry by Lesley Wheeler
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-012-7)
Edna, the heroine of The Receptionist,
is a mother and the receptionist for an
academic department. The morning
after hearing a Voice telling her, “The
first revolution: simply to refuse,” going
through her email in-box, Edna thought
to check her spam. The message she found there from
“nomic Utterance” changed everything.

“Wheeler’s brief novel of misbehavior in academia,
subtle and funny, rashly inventive and perfectly
realistic, uses all the forgotten powers of metaphor and
poetry to make the mundane luminous.”
—Ursula K. Le Guin

A Locus recommended book

Vol. 34

Birds and Birthdays
Short Fiction by Christopher Barzak
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-014-1)
Remedios Varo, Leonora Carrington,
Dorothea Tanning: three of the most
interesting painters to flourish in
male-dominated Surrealism. This is
Christopher Barzak’s tribute to them:
three stories and an essay that enter
into a humane surrealism that turns
away from the unconscious and toward magic.
Barzak’s stories are huge with the spacious
strangeness of worlds where there is always more
room for a woman to escape her tormenters, or
outgrow an older self.

Vol. 35

The Queen, the Cambion,
and Seven Others
Short fiction by Richard Bowes
Richard Bowes’ book of modern
Fairy Tales, their Fantasy offspring
and Legendary ancestors presents eight of his stories
including “The Lady of Wands,” in which a Fey cop
tells her story, that appears here for the first time. Also
original to this book is Bowes’ afterword, “A Secret
History of Small Books,” which traces the path of Fairy
Tales as a refuge for women, gay/lesbian writers, and
LGBT readers from the 17th century on.
Vol. 36

Spring in Geneva
A novella by Sylvia Kelso

Mary Shelley, a young banker’s son, and William, an excessively tall man with a “lividly hued visage, watery eyes, and blackened lips within a straggling beard,” pit their wits and derring-do against Lord Byron, master of steampunk technology, and his thuggish minions.

“The voice and character of Anton render it delightful; haven’t seen that much earnest gallantry since Reepicheep.” —Lois McMaster Bujold

Vol. 37

The XY Conspiracy
A novella by Lori Selke
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-046-2)

Jyn, an Asian-American lesbian, makes her living stripping in clubs in San Francisco. But stripping is only her day job. Her true vocation is UFO hunting. One night, working at her day job, she sights a Man in Black and realizes he is stalking her.

Vol. 38

Numa: An Epic Poem with Photo Collages
by Katrinka Moore

The poems in Numa tell the story of a shape-shifting numen. Numa, whose home body is that of a wild feline, learns by trial and error to take the form of other animals, plants, and the elements. As she grows up, she uses her skill to experience and share the divine in ordinary aspects of the world.

Vol. 39

Myths, Metaphors, and Science Fiction
Essays by Sheila Finch
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-055-4)

“This welcome discussion of the connections between future fiction and stories about human inception emphasizes how mythic roots contribute to the emotional power of narrative. Finch investigates the inexplicable awe and wonder that emanates from close encounters between myth and science fiction.” —Marleen S. Barr

Vol. 40

NoFood
Short fiction by Sarah Tolmie
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-065-3)

For top chef Hardy Arar, his whole life is food. What is he to do when technology eliminates the need for it? TGB (total gastric bypass) is a giant leap forward for humans longing to transcend their flesh. It has fulfilled the desire of the rich to escape illness, boring sustenance routines, and disgusting bodily processes. But like all technological change, TGB unleashes a cascade of effects, social, political, and economic, effects drastically lives.

“Structurally speaking, this book is brilliant. The stories are interlinked, yet they build on each other in unusual ways..... Each story disrupts the expectations that the previous one has set. The relationships between characters change in surprising and poignant ways.” —Molly Katz, Strange Horizons, August 2015

Vol. 41

The Haunted Girl
Short fiction and poetry by Lisa M. Bradley
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-063-9)

The supernatural, the animal, and the deadly often find each other in Lisa M. Bradley’s landscapes, tame or wild. Vampires, either restless or filled with ennui; shape-shifters and skin-walkers; demigoddesses of evil and lust; haunted girls and dying fairies—the characters in this collection inhabit worlds of danger, decay, and, sometimes, rebirth. Often rooted in issues of family, ritual, and belonging, the poems and short stories display Bradley’s loving mastery of language, which grants us myriad moments of impish wit and startling beauty.

“... the innumerable facets of female identity glitter at the heart of these darkly beautiful treks through otherworldly landscapes of desire and pain, belonging and loneliness, creation and destruction.” —David Bowles, The Monitor, December 2014

Vol. 42

Three Songs for Roxy
A novella by Caren Gussoff

Three Songs for Roxy explores issues of identity, gender, sexuality, and what it means to be an outsider through three inter-related tales: of Kizzy, a foundling raised by a Romany Gypsy family in present-day Seattle, as she is about to be claimed by the aliens who left her to be raised as human; of Scott Lynn Miller, an unstable survivor of Katrina and security guard who is deeply affected by what he witnesses when the aliens contact Kizzy; and of “Natalie,” an alien assigned to retrieve Kizzy.

“Gussoff examines issues of gender, sexuality, race and mental illness with a sensitivity that is all-inclusive....” —Nina Allan, Strange Horizons, February 2016
Vol 43

Ghost Signs
Poetry and a story by Sonya Taaffe
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-071-4)

Poet Sonya Taaffe traces the complex paths between the dead, memory, and living. The two-part cycle “Ghost Signs” leads the reader through the underworld of myth to the hauntings of the present, where the shades of Sappho, Alan Turing, and Ludwig Wittgenstein exist alongside Charon, Dido, and The War of the Worlds. “The Boatman’s Cure” follows a haunted woman and a dead man as they embark on a road trip.

“The poetry here has the brilliance of a knife’s edge, sharp and cuttlingly clean, saturated with meaning and freighted with significance.”

Liz Bourke, Strange Horizons, January 2016

Vol 44

The Prince of the Aquamarines
Tales by Louise Cavelier Levesque
Translated and with an Afterword by Ruth Berman
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-071-4)

An eighteenth-century writer creating new versions of fairy tales, Levesque published “The Prince of Aquamarines” and “The Invisible Prince” in 1722. Jacques Barchilon, in his study of the French fairy tales (Le Conte Merveilleux Français de 1690 à 1790), praised Levesque for her style, imagination, and penetrating psychology. He was struck by her use of horrific elements, reminding him of Mary Shelley’s Frankenstein, a century later.

Vol 45

Back, Belly, & Side: True Lies and False Tales
Short fiction by Celeste Rita Baker
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-081-3)

Did you ever wonder what the earth thinks? What’s its favorite song? How she ended up in your heart? Think you can’t fly? Think you have a job you don’t like? How much would you pay for answers? No, you can’t touch my hair. And yes, I’ve seen your two-toned shoes. Have you seen my father?

Did you ever wonder what clouds are really for? Or how I ended up like this? How old is too old for butter and beef? What’s that one last thing you have to do? And who will help you through?

“Celeste Rita Baker’s stories balance heartache and hilarity with poetic, uncompromising prose. This collection sings ancient songs with a modern beat. It is fully alive.”

Daniel José Older, author of Salsa Nocturna

Vol 46

A Day in Deep Freeze
A novella by Lisa Shapter
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-083-7)

1963: Emran Greene is a successful corporate accountant, a hopeful soon-to-be-father, and an unremarkable husband—except for the lingering effects of an experimental wartime truth serum, his ex-boyfriend, the impossibility of his conceiving a child, and all of the other secrets he keeps from his wife and his employer. One of these, the secret of the lonely grave he visits regularly in Riverport’s Castleview Cemetery, holds a tragedy that just won’t stay gone...

“There’s a touch of Philip K. Dick in Shapter’s book. The same concerns with paranoia and psychosis are present. The one key difference being that Shapter reveals in the long drawn out moments, the slow build towards a climax that remains off-screen, looming and yet to materialize.”

Justin Howe, My Bookish Ways, July 2015

Vol 47

A Field Guide to the Spirits
Poetry by Jean LeBlanc
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-097-4)

In A Field Guide to the Spirits, poetry becomes a means of time travel in which voices from the past offer insights, reveal secrets, transform our concept of now. These poems explore the interwoven pathways of ghost, memory, imagination, and desire. The spirits visited range from Caroline Herschel and Mary Shelley to Zane Grey and Dashiell Hammet, William Blake to Anne Hutchinson, John Keats to Isaac Newton’s niece.

Shortlisted for the 2017 Crawford Award

Vol 48

Marginalia to Stone Bird
Poetry by Rose Lemberg

In this powerful debut collection, poet Rose Lemberg explores the deep-rooted fluidity of gender, tradition, language, and desire in landscapes as familiar as high fantasy and as foreign as San Francisco. Written in the voices of immigrants, shape-changers, sentient ships in a distant future, and heroes of a mythic past, her poems inhabit a fragile, vital space of complex identity and story as a conscious act, stubbornly urging the reader’s attention toward the marginal, the liminal, and the unheard.

“... a testament to how speculative poetry can succeed in capturing voice and plot and movement and feeling while still tackling big ideas and personal truths.”

Charles Payseur, Nerds of a Feather, January 2016
Life unfolds in strange ways. You may encounter people from your past living in your former apartments, or realize you have a penis as you engage in war-dreams, or find a planet filled with ghosts that look exactly like the ghosts back home. Wherever you travel, you'll have to make tough decisions about the aliens you may have harmed and the aliens who may harm you.

“Heuler’s prose illuminates the strangeness of both her characters and her settings. Establishing elaborate themes and morals is no easy feat in such short narrative arcs, but Heuler does it admirably, quickly laying the groundwork for her myriad of worlds, cultures, and travelers.”

Publisher's Weekly, September 2016

Monteverde: Memoirs of an Interstellar Linguist
A novella by Lola Robles
tr. by Lawrence Schimel

Terran scholar Rachel Monteverde journeys to Aanuk, a paradisiacal planet famous for both its beaches and the generosity of its nomadic inhabitants. The aanukiens are not the only people on the planet, however: Rachel is eager to meet the Fildia, a cave-dwelling people who share a congenital condition that makes them blind. Rachel's relentless determination to communicate with them despite the Aanukien's dismissal and the Fildia's secretiveness will yield more than she ever hoped for.

A Locus recommended book
Shortlist for the 2018 Gaylactic Spectrum Awards.

The Adventure of the Incognita Countess
A novella by Cynthia Ward

It’s the easiest assignment a British intelligence agent could hope for. Lucy Harker needs only see the secret plans of the Nautilus safely across the Atlantic. As German spies are largely a fantasy of newspapers, she anticipates no activities more strenuous than hiding her heritage as Dracula’s dhampir daughter. Then among her fellow Titanic passengers she discovers the incognita Countess Karnstein—and it seems the seductive vampire is in Germany’s service. Can Agent Harker stake Carmilla before her own heart—and her loyalty to the British Empire—are subverted by questions as treacherous as a night-cloaked iceberg?

Boundaries, Border Crossings, and Reinventing the Future
Essays by Beth Plutchak
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-121-6)

The personal is political, and the political is personal. This collection of essays and an sf tale explores the intersections of representation, science fiction, feminism, social justice, and fandom, specifically in relationship to the feminist sf convention WisCon. Plutchak argues that to build a new future we need new stories, stories that tell us where we have been as well as show us where we are going, and she uses feminist theory to analyze feminist sf fandom’s history, present, and future.
Winner of the 2018 Elgin Award

Vol 55

*Liberating the Astronauts*
Poetry by Christina M. Rau
From the Pointer Sisters doing the Neutron Dance to David Bowman’s exclamation while traveling through the star gate near Jupiter; from stealing Joan Didion’s sadness to erasing F. Scott Fitzgerald’s Gatsby; this collection weaves its way through the awkward paradox of wanting freedom while fearing it. A little science, a bit of sci-fi, a little feminism, a bit of lit, in Liberating The Astronauts, we see that not fitting in gives us the freedom to stand out.

“Since the dawn of time, man has dreamed of visiting the stars... Christina M. Rau’s new book...is one of the most intriguing collections of poetry that investigates this instinctual call of discovery. She examines outer and inner space, with poems that tap into science as depicted through fact, fiction, and fantasy....”

Peter V. Dugan

A Locus recommended book

Vol. 56

*In Search of Lost Time*
by Karen Heuler
After beginning chemo for a rare cancer, Hildy discovers an extraordinary talent—the ability to see and take other people’s time. She also discovers there’s an underground market for quality time. After all, who has enough time? The dying, especially, want to get more of it, but giving it to them means taking it from someone else. How moral is she? How will she juggle the black marketers’ strong-arm tactics and her own quandaries about stealing something so precious and vital that it can never be replaced?

“Cosmovore Searches the Animal Shelter”
ominated for the Rhysling Award

Vol. 57

*Cosmovore*
by Kristi Carter
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-131-5)

Nothing escapes me, not even light.
Mother, monstrosity, woman, Cosmovore.

In this narrative collection of poems, the voice of the void reaps and reaps over meditations on consumption, the body, and the world. From the edges of the Milky Way to the confines of an eggshell, nowhere is safe from her hunger. In the tinny echoes of a much-hated musical triangle, explore the questions she faces about womanhood, motherhood, society, and a goat as she tries to reconcile those around her with her own identity.

Vol. 58

*Helen’s Story*
by Rosanne Rabinowitz
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-134-6)
Contrary to rumors of her death, Helen Vaughan is alive and well, and living in Shoreditch, East London, stirring up the art world with a series of eroticly-charged landscapes depicting the strange events of her youth. Brought up by a man who regarded her as loathsome, shuffled between boarding schools and foster homes, young Helen only found pleasure in visits from a secret companion. She made one other close friend, a girl called Rachel who disappeared in full daylight. After that, Helen was left with her companion.

As she remembers her friend, Helen lays on each stroke of paint as if it can bring Rachel back or take her to where Rachel went. She paints to summon her companion once again, and show everyone what really lurks beyond the vanishing point.

Nominated for the 2013 Shirley Jackson Award for outstanding achievement in literature of the “dark fantastic,” Helen’s Story gives a voice to one of the genre’s most enigmatic antagonists.

Vol. 59

*Liminal Spaces*
by Beth Plutchak
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-136-0)

“Yes, these stories are science fiction and fantasy, but they are deeply rooted in reality, especially in the lives of women. We learn about being in college in the 1960s, going back to nature in Alaska, working in a bank and trying to make a good life for a child with a disability. If there is a single theme, it’s the struggle of women to control their lives—to be free.”

Eleanor Arnason, author of the Hwarthath Stories

Vol. 60

*Feed Me the Bones of Our Saints*
by Alex Dally MacFarlane
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-142-1)

A civilization of only women and foxes fights against its extermination. A series of maps point to the place of our sun in alien skies. A story of vengeance is told and then lost, held only in the wind’s teeth and rain-ruined tapestries. A god creates a narrative map of a nation.

Vol. 59

*If Not Skin*
by Toby MacNutt

The pieces in If Not Skin are united by themes of embodiment—all that a body can be, all that can be a body, by magic, science, and experience. Not all bodies grant ease, but neither are all arduous bodies necessarily shaded with horror. Move through pain, pleasure, gender, freedom, age, and memory with every shapeshift, taking them in through richly textured, senseheavy poetry and prose.
In this intriguing tale of the clash of two worlds and cultures, Miquita, one of the forty-two daughters of Commander Hritrar, is sent to the Ruburui after their defeat at her father’s hands. Hampered by diplomatic etiquette and a thoroughly alien culture, Miquita struggles to understand the destruction her father has leveled against the cities and orchards that depend on a failing artificial intelligence. Can she help repair the terrible damage her father’s forces have inflicted? Perhaps more importantly: should she?

Vol. 62
The Adventure of the Dux Bellorum
A Novella by Cynthia Ward
“This tale of two monsters, at once romantic and action-packed, is fun and thought-provoking, giving readers everything they want. The novella follows British spy and vampire hunter Lucy Harker—child of Dracula and Mina Harker, stepdaughter to the infamous Mycroft Holmes—as she serves on a mission to keep Winston Churchill safe from wolfmen…. Ward’s work is excellent, at once a simple adventure story and a feminist text, and it invites readers to reexamine what they think they know about history.”
Publishers Weekly, November, 2018

Vol. 63
People Change
Short Fiction and Poems by Gwynne Garfinkle
The stories and poems in People Change illuminate the personal and feminist concerns evoked by classic horror movies and other aspects of popular culture. Mining the implications of figures like the Bride of Frankenstein, Samantha Stephens, and the Stepford Wives, the book explores such themes as family and misogyny. At times horror merges with autobiography, as in “It’s a Universal Picture.” The women and girls in Gwynne Garfinkle’s stories variously seek the gift of flight and the gift of friendship, real and imaginary.

Vol. 64
Invocabulary
Poems by Gemma Files
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-151-3)
Myths and fairytales, monsters and magic, dead gods and forgotten goddesses—these are the subjects that most often inspire Gemma Files’s third collection of speculative poetry. By running folk horror symbolism through the filter of contemporary language, she maps the shadow-side of fiction out with spells, curses, confessions and prayers in an effort to show how the stories we tell ourselves pull us headlong forward through history, illuminating all the most unsolvable central mysteries of human existence in words of both faith and fear.

Vol. 65
The Green and Growing
A Novella by Erin K. Wagner
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-155-1)
In this intriguing tale of the clash of two worlds and cultures, Miquita, one of the forty-two daughters of Commander Hritrar, is sent to the Ruburui after their defeat at her father’s hands. Hampered by diplomatic etiquette and a thoroughly alien culture, Miquita struggles to understand the destruction her father has leveled against the cities and orchards that depend on a failing artificial intelligence. Can she help repair the terrible damage her father’s forces have inflicted? Perhaps more importantly: should she?

Vol. 66
Everything Is Made of Letters
Short Fiction by Sofia Rhei
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-149-0)
A man risks his life by carefully forging bibliographic references in a parallel Barcelona; at the Cyclotech, a woman strives to keep the storytelling different engine safe from ignorant hands that could get words lost; off-planet, an interpreter gives an account of her language learning process involving a realistic alien doll that claims to be a sentient being…. Words boast a heavy, at times disturbing, weight of their own across these alternative realities in which language rules supreme, fleshed out by the mind of one of the most prolific writers in contemporary Spanish genre fiction.

Vol. 67
Midnight at the Organporium
Short Fiction by Tara Campbell
What do a homicidal houseplant, an enchanted office picnic, sentient fog, and the perfect piece of toast have in common? They’re all part of the world of Midnight at the Organporium. At turns droll, wicked, and surreal, these tales cover topics from white flight, to the Princess and the Pea, to marriage in the afterlife.
“Equal parts surreal and wickedly droll, Campbell’s collection of 12 stories traverses reality in a way that highlights the extraordinary within everyday life. The menagerie of tales taps into an array of offbeat topics…. Each tale is dryly funny, poetic, poignant, dark, and trippy.”
Publishers Weekly, April 2019

Vol. 68
Algorithmic Shapeshifting
Poems by Bogi Takács
(ISBN: 978-1-61976-165-0)
Algorithmic Shapeshifting is the first poetry collection of Bogi Takács, winner of the Lambda award for editing Transcendent 2: The Year’s Best Transgender Speculative Fiction, and finalist for the Hugo and Locus awards. The collection includes poems from the past decade and previously unpublished work. The scope of pieces extends from the present and past of Jewish life in Hungary and the United States to the far-future, outer-space reaches of the speculative—always with a sense of curiosity and wonder.
“Bogi Takács is a poet of visceral exuberance and Talmudic invention. Moving as dazzlingly between genres as languages, e makes the reader eir kaleidoscope where ancient traditions, unvisioned technologies, and children’s toys tumble with ordinary, transcendent precision, imagining new ways of being and observing others signally extant. These poems draw blood and spark synapses, make dauntingly familiar and tenderly strange.”
Sonya Taaffe, author of Forget the Sleepless Shores
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**The Marq’ssan Cycle** by L. Timmel Duchamp

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