



# LAMBDA SCI-FI



DC Area Gaylaxians

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### Author Reading Scheduled for December LSF Meeting

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LSF is pleased to announce that we will have a special guest at our December 13th meeting. Jan Whiteley, a new local author, will be reading from her just-released book, *The Shimsara*.

*The Shimsara* actually contains two separate science fiction novels: *Disstaff Rogue* and *Paladan Prime*; and Jan will be reading from the beginning of *Disstaff Rogue*.

The reading will begin at about 3:00 PM, with discussion to follow. Please join us at this premiere reading by a new voice in gay and lesbian speculative fiction!

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### Annual LSF Book Exchange Scheduled for January Meeting



That's right, gang, the Holiday Season is almost upon us again; and it's time for a short reminder about Lambda Sci-Fi's upcoming *ninth* (1999) annual book exchange, which will occur at the January 10th meeting! All LSF members are invited to participate in this "blind book exchange" - and visitors are invited to join in the fun, too!

Briefly, this will be an opportunity for LSFers to exchange copies of their favorite science-fiction, fantasy, or horror books/videos/etc. and, thus, get to know each other a little better. For those of you unfamiliar with the process, you won't be assigned to exchange books with any particular person - it's a "blind"

exchange, where participants will get their pick from a pile of anonymous wrapped packages. There will be full details on the exchange in the next (January) LSF newsletter.

So, now you've had fair warning. Start looking around for a favorite genre book/video/etc. for the exchange - paperback, hardback, a whole series (if you're feeling particularly wealthy), videotape, etc. And don't forget to save some of that wrapping paper you'll be wading through when the Holidays roll around (Hannukah, Christmas, Kwanzaa, Yule, Saturnalia, whatever) so you can use it to wrap your exchange item!

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### Book Discussion Group by Niko

Lambda Sci-Fi's book discussion group no longer exists merely in virtual reality! Our first meeting will be held on Jan. 28<sup>th</sup> (Thurs.) at 7:00 PM, at the home of Niko Maljuzic: 1630 "R" St., NW #426, WDC. (The backup location - just in case - is Peter & Rob's home, on "S" St.)

The first book we will be discussing is Mary Doria Russell's *The Sparrow*. Jennifer & Niko will facilitate the discussion. The second book to be dis-

cussed (at a later meeting) will be Nicola Griffith's *Slow River*.

NOTE: Lammas Bookstore has graciously offered to co-sponsor and promote the discussion group. They have ordered additional copies of the first two books; and everyone is encouraged to purchase their books through Lammas.

If you plan on attending the January discussion, RSVP to Niko at (202) 387-5326. See you there!

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### SPECIAL NOTE:

DECEMBER

LAMBDA SCI-FI MEETING

NOT AT JAMES'S

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The next Lambda Sci-Fi meeting will be held on **Sunday, Dec. 13th**, at Peter-and-Rob's house: 1425 "S" St., NW, (near Dupont Circle) - 1:30 PM for business meeting; 2:00 PM for social meeting. Please bring munchies or soft drinks if you can. Hope to see you there!

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## Vampires – It Sucks!

(But That's Good!)

a movie review by Joseph Parra



A few years ago, David Bowie had a song out over the airwaves entitled "Bela Lugosi's Dead." Yes, he is; but he would be happy to see that a horror subgenre he helped to establish is still thriving with new blood. John Carpenter has helmed this new vessel and has proven once again that, when it comes to horror, he is at the top of the list. *Vampires* breaks some established taboos and confirms others with equal abandon. Normally, to play fast and loose with vampiric tradition is tenuous ground to be on; but here such practices are celebrated with such zest and relish that not only is it accepted, it's *expected*.

Jack Crowe (wonderfully portrayed by James Woods), Alex Montoya (William Baldwin, doing nice work), and company are professional investigators and hunters *and* exterminators. Their quarry: vampires. Their employer: the Roman Catholic Church. A cardinal from the Vatican has funded Crowe's group not only to eradicate all undead but, in particular, "masters." "Masters" are leading vampires that establish colonies. The Church especially wants to locate and destroy one Master who might well be the Master of Masters (portrayed, with much fun, by Thomas Ian Griffin)—a defrocked priest from the 14<sup>th</sup> Century. Why him *more* than all the others? Because, should his master plan (I couldn't resist!) succeed, vampires—*all* vampires—would be able to wander about freely even in daylight. There is another, stronger reason, but...uh... that would be telling.

The action takes place in the beautiful wilderness of New Mexico. Who would ever imagine that lovely desert land could be such a supernatural hotbed of horror and evil? Carpenter and Largo Entertainment have woven a simple yet amazingly intricate monster movie which is, at first, quite deceptive. Moving along at dog-racing pace (and that's *fast*, my dears!), it causes one to perceive this film as a long comic book or an old Republic

## The "See Page One for Details" Minutes of the Nov. LSF Meeting

by Rob Gates



Carl (Ye Olde Editor) will be here shortly for the trip to Philcon, so the minutes are being hastily word-processed.

The meeting started with Network business, and Jack had a fair bit of it for us to work through. There were four issues for LSF to vote on, as well as three announcement-type items. The first issue for voting was on changing the Network Charter to count "active abstentions" as "votes" to determine if a quorum has been reached on an issue. (An "active abstention" is one where a club actively abstains from voting — "We choose not to vote on this issue." — rather than a plain, old abstention, where no vote is cast.) LSF voted a resounding "yes"! The second issue was the changing of the amount of time allowed for a club to cast a valid vote on an issue — changing it from the current "three months to vote" to "vote within two GNAPA's". (Since the GNAPA is currently on a *bimonthly* schedule, "three months" doesn't fit the pattern at all — and

serial. There is, however, a much, much deeper and darker tale here — where good and evil are not as clear-cut as, say, day and night.

Performances here are at a premium. Aside from the aforementioned actors in their roles, old pro Maximilian Schell, as the cardinal, excels as a sly old fox who knows how to get under Crowe's skin. Make-up effects by Greg Cannon and crew are fantastic, if not just a bit too gory — however, today's sensibilities seem to call for that. Production values are quite high, with Columbia Pictures coming up with lovely special effects via the Sony Image Works group owned by their parent company, Sony.

Vampire movies have been with us since 1913. We must love them; 85 years later we still get a kick out of long-toothed nasties. From directors Murnau to Browning to Fisher to Carpenter; from actors Schreck to Lugosi to Lee to Griffin — long may they un-die!!! Enjoy!!!!

Rating: 3 out of a possible 4.

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the GNAPA may eventually move to monthly schedule. The proposed change would tie the voting schedule into the mechanism for voting — the GNAPA — and would automatically speed up the voting process if/when the GNAPA changes to a monthly schedule.) LSF voted a resounding "yes" on this issue, too! The third voting issue was to change the definition of "not voting", to clearly differentiate it from "active abstention". Once again, LSF voted a resounding "yes"! The last voting issue was to select a representative for the Final Voting Committee for the Gaylactic Network Awards — Rob (that's me) was elected to the post. There were also three announcement-type items. The first was that Jed Shumsky has been elected as the new Correspondent for the Network. The second was that the Network Awards Committee is seeking additional volunteers, as well as seeking suggestions for where to send press releases about the award's creation. Anyone interested in helping (or anyone with ideas on where to send press releases) can contact Rob through LSF or by email (klaatu01@aol.com). Finally, a report was made on Gaylaxicon: additional volunteers are being sought, and everyone is reminded to sign up! If you're interested in helping out, you can contact Rob or Jack through LSF or by email:

klaatu01@aol.com

jackfrost@his.com

With business out of the way, we moved on to the social portion of our meeting, starting with our usual name circle. Because James will be unable to host the December meeting at his place, Rob and Peter graciously offered to let us meet at their spacious new abode in December. (See the special note on the front page for details!)

Peter passed around various things from the LSF PO Box, including an "El Presidente" cigar (in a condom). On the home video front, a large number of old classics (and trash) continue to hit the shelves at great prices. Uncle Joe reports, however, that the bottom of the barrel is

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# The 100 Best Science Fiction Films

by Joseph Parra

Nebula, star-gazers! Strap in, as we gaze upon what I consider to be the 100 best that sci-fi has to offer. I'm told that these lists generate controversy. Good! If you don't like the ones I've listed, then you can... make your own list!!!

As a reminder, I've annotated some films with a date; this is to differentiate them from other films/versions with the same title that I don't feel qualify for the "best of" list. Those films followed by "(n/a)" are not yet available on home video.

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|---|--|--|
| <p><i>Alien</i><br/> <i>Aliens</i><br/> <i>The Amazing Colossal Man</i><br/> <i>The Beast from 20,000 Fathoms</i><br/> <i>Beneath the Planet of the Apes</i><br/> <i>Buck Rogers (1939)</i><br/> <i>Close Encounters of the 3rd Kind</i><br/> <i>Cocoon</i><br/> <i>The Conquest of Space</i><br/> <i>Day of the Triffids</i><br/> <i>The Day the Earth Caught Fire</i><br/> <i>The Day the Earth Stood Still</i><br/> <i>The Day the Fish Came Out (n/a)</i><br/> <i>The Day the World Ended</i><br/> <i>The Deadly Mantis</i><br/> <i>Destination Moon</i><br/> <i>Destroy All Monsters</i><br/> <i>Dr. Strangelove</i><br/> <i>Earth vs. the Flying Saucers</i><br/> <i>The Empire Strikes Back</i><br/> <i>Fantastic Voyage</i><br/> <i>Field Without a Face</i><br/> <i>The Fighting Devil Dogs</i><br/> <i>First Men in the Moon</i><br/> <i>Five (n/a)</i><br/> <i>Flash Gordon (1936)</i><br/> <i>Forbidden Planet</i><br/> <i>F.P. #1</i><br/> <i>From the Earth to the Moon (1958)</i><br/> <i>Ghidrah</i><br/> <i>The Giant Behemoth</i><br/> <i>Godzilla</i><br/> <i>Gog (n/a)</i><br/> <i>Gorath</i></p> | <p><i>Gorgo</i><br/> <i>Ikaria xb I</i><br/> <i>The Incredible Shrinking Man</i><br/> <i>Independence Day</i><br/> <i>Invaders from Mars (1953)</i><br/> <i>Invasion of the Body Snatchers (1955 &amp; 1978)</i><br/> <i>The Invisible Ray</i><br/> <i>It Came from Beneath the Sea</i><br/> <i>It Came from Outer Space (1953)</i><br/> <i>It's Great to Be Alive</i><br/> <i>It! The Terror from Beyond Space</i><br/> <i>Journey to the Center of the Earth (1959)</i><br/> <i>Jurassic Park</i><br/> <i>Just Imagine (n/a)</i><br/> <i>Kronos</i><br/> <i>The Magnetic Monster</i><br/> <i>The Man in the White Suit</i><br/> <i>The Man Who Fell to Earth</i><br/> <i>Master of the World</i><br/> <i>Metropolis</i><br/> <i>Mothra</i><br/> <i>The Mysterians</i><br/> <i>Not of This Earth (1957)</i><br/> <i>On the Beach</i><br/> <i>Planeta Burga</i><br/> <i>Planet of the Apes</i><br/> <i>The Puppet Masters</i><br/> <i>Quatermass 2</i><br/> <i>Quatermass and the Pit,</i><br/>             aka <i>Five Million Years to Earth</i><br/> <i>The Quatermass Xperiment</i><br/> <i>Radar Men from the Moon</i><br/> <i>Return of the Jedi</i></p> | <p><i>Riders to the Stars</i><br/> <i>Robinson Crusoe on Mars</i><br/> <i>Rocketship XM</i><br/> <i>Rodan</i><br/> <i>Scanners</i><br/> <i>Secret of the Telegian</i><br/> <i>Solaria</i><br/> <i>Species</i><br/> <i>Stargate</i><br/> <i>Starship Troopers</i><br/> <i>Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home</i><br/> <i>Star Wars</i><br/> <i>Tarantula!</i><br/> <i>Them!</i><br/> <i>The Thing (1951 &amp; 1982)</i><br/> <i>Things to Come (1936)</i><br/> <i>This Island Earth</i><br/> <i>The Time Machine</i><br/> <i>A Trip to the Moon (1903)</i><br/> <i>Tron</i><br/> <i>The Unearthly Stranger</i><br/> <i>Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea</i><br/> <i>Warning from Space</i><br/> <i>War of the Worlds (1953)</i><br/> <i>When Worlds Collide</i><br/> <i>Woman in the Moon (1929, n/a)</i><br/> <i>The World, the Flesh, and the Devil</i><br/> <i>World Without End</i><br/> <i>The 4-Sided Triangle</i><br/> <i>20 Million Miles to Earth</i><br/> <i>The 27th Day</i><br/> <i>2001: A Space Odyssey</i><br/> <i>2010</i><br/> <i>20,000 Leagues Under the Sea</i></p> |
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## Nov. Minutes

continued from page 2

beginning to show through. Joe R. filled us in on his adventures watching the John Glenn shuttle launch down in Florida; and Michael updated us on upcoming events at the Washington Psychotronic Film Society. Carl passed around recent newsletters from the Niagara Falls and San Francisco Gaylaxians; and Rob passed around a copy of a recent review he wrote for *The Blade* on *Bending the Landscape: Science Fiction*.

In upcoming TV news, *Invasion Earth* (not the awful animated thing from earlier this year) is coming to the Sci-Fi Channel in December, while the *X-Files* season premiere is set to air on the evening of this meeting (Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>) – competing against the latest *B5* movie, *River of Souls*. The *B5* story is coming to a close later in November, with the last Season Five episode airing on November 18<sup>th</sup> and the series wrap-up (filmed at the end of Season Four) airing on November 25<sup>th</sup>.

We announced the upcoming first meeting of the LSF book discussion group, which Niko, Jen and Rodney have volunteered to coordinate. (See the front page for details!) We also discussed having a local new author come to our December meeting to do a reading: we decided to suggest that a half-hour reading/discussion of her work be scheduled for the end of the December meeting. (See information on the front page!)

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## A Look at a Forgotten Author by Michael Cornett

British science fiction and horror from the 50's and 60's is often marked by a strong element of paranoia. It can be a paranoia of women (in the films *The Unearthly Stranger* and *Burn, Witch, Burn*), of children (as in L. P. Davies' novel *The Paper Dolls* and John Wyndham's *The Midwich Cuckoos*, later filmed as *Village of the Damned*), or perhaps of technology (a classic example is the "Cybernauts" episode of *The Avengers*). Just what causes this paranoia is debatable; perhaps it's the reflection of a nation still reeling from World War II (which was closer to home than any American can comprehend) and now confronted with the growing presence of the Soviet Union and the presence of the Iron Curtain. John Blackburn's fiction reflects this tendency for paranoia, as well as being a very entertaining example of genre fiction of the period.

Blackburn was primarily a mystery writer, and his horror/sf fiction is structured as such, something not done very often in the U.S. His first novel, *A Scent of New-Mown Hay* (1958, pretentiously subtitled *A Novel of Action, Horror, and Emotion*) introduces the reader to aging General Kirk, the head of Britain's Secret Service, who returns in Blackburn's other works. As *Scent* opens, Kirk is concerned by the fact that a large portion of the central Soviet Union has suddenly been cut off from the outside world, and foreign freighters are being politely commanded to leave Baltic sea ports. Finally, the Soviet ambassador makes a surprising admission: Russia is being struck by a bizarre plague and they need the help of NATO.

The source of the plague is a bizarre spore that in males only causes flu-like symptoms, but in females creates hideous mutations, creating spore-bearing beasts with only a shred of humanity (and which smell like new-mown hay). The British determine that the spore is artificially created and most likely the work of Rosa Steinberg, a Nazi war criminal who had created similar things in her

lab and had escaped justice. A search, both for a cure and for Rosa Steinberg, ensues, while the spores start to spread to England and the rest of Western Europe.

Blackburn does a fairly good job in this book. The preposterousness of the story is offset by the characters' matter-of-fact approach to it. The female fungus creatures are never directly described, and the menace builds from page to page. Paranoia of women is a major element: a female mad scientist (a rare breed) creates female fungus creatures; significantly, the mystery is solved by a woman as well.

Next came what is perhaps the most misogynistic of Blackburn's novels: *Broken Boy* (1959). The mangled body of a woman is found in a river, later identified as East German spy Gerda Raine, who blackmailed the British government into giving her safe haven after seducing a British soldier and later betraying her Russian contacts. General Kirk sends his agents Michael Howard and Penny Wise (no kidding) to investigate. The trail leads them to a cult of women, abandoned by their husbands and dominating their weak-willed sons. It's a fast-paced story, reminiscent of *The Avengers* in style, but with a tart edge. No woman in this book is completely sympathetic -- even Penny, the supposed heroine, is cheating on her elderly husband.

The paranoia shifts in *Nothing but the Night* (1968). The wealthy patrons of the Van Traylen Children's Home begin dying in bizarre accidents, and the children themselves begin to act strangely. The estranged mother of one of the children attempts to kill her daughter, claiming she's a "soul that never should have been born"; and the child's doctor is brutally murdered in front of her. Investigating are General Kirk, brilliant doctor Sir Marcus Levin, and Levin's wife Tania, a former Russian agent. They discover that the wealthy directors are having their memories and consciousnesses transferred to the children in an attempt at immortality, and now the home is overrun by homicidal children, desperate to prolong their lives at any cost.

This was the only Blackburn novel to ever be filmed, by Christopher

Lee's short-lived production company, Charlemagne, in 1972. Directed by Peter Sasdy, it starred Lee as General Kirk and Peter Cushing as Levin. It's sometimes seen on video in the US under two titles: *The Resurrection Syndicate* or the awful *The Devil's Undead*.

Next came a non-Kirk novel, *Bury Him Darkly* (1969), in which we have a quintessentially British creation, a 17th century painter, poet, mystic and scientist named Sir Martin Railstone. His 20th-century disciples are obsessed with opening his tomb and getting at the works that were buried with him. But time is running out, as the tomb will soon be at the bottom of a reservoir. The current owner of the property, a bishop, refuses to allow the tomb to be opened, but he is killed as the novel begins.

The novel starts as a mystery: who killed the bishop? But it moves into horror as the characters learn more -- that Railstone's touch meant death and that his writings show a mind far ahead of its time. Then a man breaks into the tomb but flees when he hears booming laughter...and then quickly dies.

The group locates a legitimate heir to Railstone, a simpleminded woman, who joins them as they open the tomb. She and another man touch the body; the man dies, but she becomes a grotesque, bloblike monster. Then the novel veers into science fiction, as it is revealed that Railstone's intellect came from alien spores that he found in a millennia-old space probe. The spores give men a great intellect but turn women into monsters. This knowledge helps the heroes finally win the day.

*Bury* is rather fun, despite a little too much repetition of themes from the previous novel. It reads almost like an episode of *Dr. Who*. Again, paranoia is of women, as they are the only ones who become monsters.

Finally we have one of Blackburn's strangest novels, *For Fear of Little Men* (1972). Blackburn presents the reader with a bizarre assortment of events. A man experiences bizarre visions brought on by the sound of a faulty airplane motor. An outbreak of food poisoning occurs in Ireland. A high court

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## Forgotten Author

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judge is murdered in Wales. A Russian defector is shot climbing the Berlin wall. A wealthy industrialist begins acting strangely, gathering a motley group of hippies and beatniks on his Welsh estate. Kirk and the Levins return, realizing that all these events are linked to some obscure source...

What the source is, is too good to hide. The faulty airplane motors reproduce the sound of an ancient chant used by a lost race of deformed manlike beings. Their souls have been reincarnated over and over and are reawakened by the motor sound; they begin gathering and mobilizing their plans to: (a) eliminate mankind with engineered diseases; and (b) awaken their sorcerer/chieftain, sleeping in a cave in a mountaintop in Wales.

Sounds silly? It is, but fun. Paranoia here seems to focus on the hippies, who serve as receptacles for the souls of the lost race. It's a weird concept that actually works.

Blackburn's works are representative of the very British sci-fi of the period; and despite their paranoia, or because of it, are entertaining and different. Long out of print, they bob up every so often in used book stores, so keep an eye open.

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### "Thank God for paper!"

-- William Raduchel,  
chief strategy officer  
for Sun Microsystems,  
reverting to printed notes after his  
PowerPoint presentation crashed  
during a Sept. speech at the  
Online Learning '98 conference  
in Anaheim, CA.

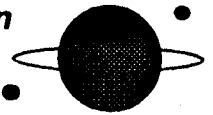
### "What holds back online learning?"

-- title of the PowerPoint slide  
Raduchel was displaying  
when the system crashed.



## Bending the Landscape: Science Fiction

reviewed by Carl Cipra



Are you looking for that special, just-right Holiday treat to give to a friend or loved one who's interested in F&SF? Well, I think I've got the answer right here. Give him or her a copy of the second volume of the *Bending the Landscape* series: *Bending the Landscape: Science Fiction*. Trust me, it's a sure-fire winner of a gift.

If you go over to your friendly local bookstore to pick up a copy, you might be confused by the fact that the dust jacket advertises *BtL:SF* as the first book in the series. Well, sort of. You see, back in 1997, White Wolf published *Bending the Landscape: Fantasy*, edited by Nicola Griffith and Steve Pagel. (It's still available in bookstores.) Now, however, Overlook Press has taken up the series and is advertising *BtL:SF* (again, edited by Griffith and Pagel) as the "first" volume -- and plans to follow it up with *BtL:Horror* and then to re-issue *BtL:Fantasy*. Confused? Don't be -- just read 'em and enjoy 'em.

The theme to *BtL:Science Fiction* (an anthology of 21 stories) is similar to that used by Griffith and Pagel in the previous volume. The editors tasked the contributing authors with writing short fiction dealing with one of SF's major preoccupations -- the theme of "the Other" -- but, for this volume, "the Other" had to be a lesbian or gay man. Beyond that, the authors could handle it any way they liked; and there were some pretty liberal interpretations of that stricture. There's a wide range of authors included in this volume -- gay and straight, mainstream writers and "old hands" at writing F&SF. There are some pretty heavy-duty SF writers in here, too -- including Charles Sheffield, Shariann Lewitt, Rebecca Ore, Allen Steele, Stephen Baxter, and Nancy Kress -- and some *incredibly* good stories!

Here are some of my favorites:

"Sex, Guns, and Baptists" by Keith Hartman: A gay PI investigates the sexual activities of a woman's husband-to-be in a near-future U.S. run by Christian fundamentalists. (In Hartman's story, gays, oddly enough, tend to gravitate to

the Catholic Church!)

"Time Gypsy" by Ellen Klages: This is an excellent time travel story depicting the culture shock of a lesbian from 1995 who finds out just *how* different "gay life" was in 1956 -- even in San Francisco.

"Silent Passion" by Kathleen O'Malley: A gay man learns from a same-sex alien couple how to deal with the heart-breaking dichotomy of familial loyalty and familial homophobia. (The society and characteristics of the avian-like Grus are beautifully developed and depicted.)

"Sun-Drenched" by Stephen Baxter: The story of a gay astronaut and a straight astronaut and how they face certain death together during a failed lunar mission in an alternate 1960s U.S. space program.

"The Flying Triangle" by Allen Steele: A new "Diamondback Jack's" story about three gay men running an independent space salvage business and the Pentagon "black ops" operation they stumble across in near-Earth orbit. (Now I want to go out and buy a copy of his novel *The Tranquility Alternative*, which apparently features a lesbian astronaut.)

"Love's Last Farewell" by Richard A. Bamberg: The poignant tale of a young reporter's interview with the last living homosexual on Earth. (It's based on some of the same horrifying genetic "solutions" that Greg Egan used so effectively in his short story, "Cocoon".)

"A Real Girl" by Shariann Lewitt: This story *really* stretches the premise of the anthology by positing the life and loves of a "lesbian" computer (*i.e.* a bio-mechanical computer based on living tissue with XX-chromosomes).

"Who Plays With Sin" by Don Bassingthwaite: Another story about a gay private investigator. This one is a computer hacker who gets involved in the *very* nasty world of corporate politics in a very Conservative near-future U.S.

And those are just a few of the treats you -- or whoever you buy this book for -- will have in store when you buy this book. It's good stuff, effectively using of the science fiction genre to illuminate the gay & lesbian experience.

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**\* \* INFORMATION ABOUT LAMBDA SCI-FI: DC AREA GAYLAXIANS \* \***

Lambda Sci-Fi is a Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Horror fan club for Gay people and their friends. Annual membership fees are \$15, for which you will receive this monthly newsletter and a membership directory. Newsletter submissions are always welcome.

Meetings are generally held on the second Sunday of each month at a private residence. The next Lambda Sci-Fi meeting will be held on Sunday, December 13th, at Rob-and-Peter's house: 1425 "S" St., NW (near Dupont Circle) - 1:30 PM for business meeting; 2:00 PM for social meeting. Please bring some munchies or soft drinks if you can. Hope to see you there!

Lambda Sci-Fi: DC Area Gaylaxians is an affiliate of the Gaylactic Network, an international organization for gay people and their friends who are interested in science-fiction and fantasy.



## Con Calendar

by Carl, Peter, and James



February 12-14, 1999 **KATSUCON 5: The Anime and Manga Convention**. Hyatt Regency Crystal City (Arlington, VA). "Anime, manga, guests, art, music, wares, cosplay, gaming, dancing, karaoke, panels, workshops, and more." Hotel rates: \$92/night (up to 4 per room). Membership: \$30 until 1/15/99; \$40 at the door. Make checks payable to "Katsucon" and mail to: Katsucon, P.O. Box 8151, Reston, VA 20195-2051. For info, call (703) 904-7256, or check out: [katsucon@io.com](mailto:katsucon@io.com) Website: [www.io.com/~katsucon](http://www.io.com/~katsucon)

April 2-4, 1999 **BALTICON 33**. Baltimore Omni Inner Harbor Hotel (Baltimore, MD). GoH: David Weber; Artist GoH: Jennifer Weyland. Hotel rates: \$109 (sgl - quad); call hotel for res. (410-752-1100). Membership: \$35 until 12/31/98, \$40 until 3/13/99, \$45 at the door. Make checks payable to "Balticon 33" and send to: Balticon 33, P.O. Box 686, Baltimore, MD 21203 E-mail: [bsfs@balticon.org](mailto:bsfs@balticon.org) Website: <http://www.balticon.org>

August 6-8, 1999 **MONSTER RALLY '99: First Annual World Horror Film Convention**. Crystal City Hyatt (Arlington, VA). Guests: Christopher Lee, Forrest J Ackerman, Zacherley, Elena Verdugo, and more. Hotel rates: \$105/night (sgl or dbl). Membership: \$40. Make checks payable to "FANEX" and send to: FANEX, c/o John Stell, 12118 Little Patuxant Pkwy, Apt. J, Columbia, MD 21044. For more info, call (410) 665-1198, or check out the websites at: [FANEX.com](http://FANEX.com) or, [Chillertheatre.com](http://Chillertheatre.com)

August 26-29, 1999 **CONUCOPIA: NASFiC 1999** (since WorldCon is in Australia). Anaheim Marriott (Anaheim, CA). GoH: Jerry Pournelle; Editor GoH: Ellen Datlow. Membership: \$85 until 12/31/98; \$100 after 12/31/98. Make checks payable to "SCIFI" or "Conucopia" and send to: Conucopia, c/o SCIFI, PO Box 8442, Van Nuys, CA 91409. For more info: [99.nasfic.org](http://99.nasfic.org) or, website: [www.99.nasfic.org](http://www.99.nasfic.org)

October 8-11, 1999 **GAYLAXICON 1999: THE 10TH GAYLAXICON**. Washington, DC. Guest of Honor: Diane Duane; Artist GoH: Nancy Janda. Membership: \$50 through Aug. 1, 1999; \$60 at the door. (No mail-in registrations after Sept. 1, 1999.) Make checks payable to "Gaylaxicon 1999" and send to: Gaylaxicon 1999, c/o Lambda Sci-Fi, PO Box 656, Washington, DC 20044. For more information, call 202/232-3141. Send e-mail to: [lambdasf@aol.com](mailto:lambdasf@aol.com) Also check out: <http://members.aol.com/lambdasf/home.html>

May 26-29, 2000 **COSTUMECON 18**. The Sheraton Hartford (Hartford, Conn.). "All the usual events of a CostumeCon - masquerades, a fashion folio and show, doll contest, dealers' room, costume exhibits, and strong programming oriented toward hands-on workshops." Membership: \$60 thru 8/31/99; \$70 from 9/1/99 thru 4/23/00; \$80 at the door. Make checks payable to "CostumeCon 18" and send to: CostumeCon 18, 11 Winter Street, Amesbury, MA 01913-1515. E-mail at: [info@cc2000.org](mailto:info@cc2000.org) Website: [www.cc2000.org](http://www.cc2000.org)

Aug. 31 - Sept. 4, 2000 **CHICON 2000: The 58th World Science Fiction Convention**. Hyatt Regency (Chicago, IL). Author GoH: Ben Bova; Artist GoH: Bob Eggleton; Editor GoH: Jim Baen. Membership: \$140 (so far). Make checks payable to "Chicon 2000" and send to: Chicon 2000, P.O. Box 642057, Chicago, IL 60664. Chicon e-mail Infobot address: [info@chicon.org](mailto:info@chicon.org) E-mail: [chi2000@chicon.org](mailto:chi2000@chicon.org) Website: <http://www.chicon.org/>