



2018 HUGO & CAMPBELL WINNERS

Winners for the Hugo Awards and for the John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer were announced by Worldcon 76, the 76th World Science Fiction Convention, on August 19 during a ceremony held at the San Jose McEnery Convention Center in San Jose, CA. Rebecca Roanhorse, NM author and Bubonicon 50 participant, won in two categories:

BEST NOVEL: *The Stone Sky* by N.K. Jemisin, **BEST NOVELLA:** *All Systems Red* by Martha Wells, **BEST NOVELETTE:** “The Secret Life of Bots” by Suzanne Palmer, **BEST SHORT STORY:** “Welcome to your Authentic Indian Experience™” by Rebecca Roanhorse, **BEST RELATED WORK:** *No Time to Spare: Thinking About What Matters* by Ursula K. Le Guin,

BEST GRAPHIC STORY: *Monstress Volume 2: The Blood* by Marjorie Liu with art by Sana Takeda, **BEST DRAMATIC PRESENTATION - LONG:** *Wonder Woman*, **BEST DRAMATIC PRESENTATION - SHORT:** *The Good Place*: “The Trolley Problem,” **BEST EDITOR SHORT FORM:** Lynne M. Thomas & Michael Damian Thomas, **BEST EDITOR LONG FORM:** Sheila E. Gilbert, **BEST SERIES:** *World of the Five Gods* by Lois McMaster Bujold,

BEST PROFESSIONAL ARTIST: Sana Takeda, **BEST SEMIPROZINE:** *Uncanny*, **BEST FANZINE:** *File 770*, **BEST FANCAST:** *Ditch Diggers*, **BEST FAN WRITER:** Sarah Gailey, **BEST FAN ARTIST:** Geneva Benton, **JOHN W. CAMPBELL AWARD FOR BEST NEW WRITER [Not a Hugo Award]:** Rebecca Roanhorse, and **THE WORLD SCIENCE FICTION SOCIETY (WSFS) AWARD FOR BEST YOUNG ADULT BOOK:** *Akata Warrior* by Nnedi Okorafor.

1943 RETRO HUGO WINNERS

Winners for the 1943 Retro Hugo Awards, honoring work from 1942, were announced by Worldcon 76, during an award ceremony held at the San Jose McEnery Convention Center in San Jose, CA:

BEST NOVEL: *Beyond This Horizon* by Anson MacDonald (Robert A. Heinlein), **BEST NOVELLA:** “Waldo” by Anson MacDonald (Robert A. Heinlein), **BEST NOVELETTE:** “Foundation” by Isaac Asimov, **BEST SHORT STORY:** “The Twonky” by C.L. Moore & Henry Kuttner,

BEST DRAMATIC PRESENTATION: *Bambi*, **BEST EDITOR:** John W. Campbell, **BEST PROFESSIONAL ARTIST:** Virgil Finlay, **BEST FANZINE:** *Le Zombie*, and **BEST FAN WRITER:** Forrest J Ackerman (The late Jack Speer of Albuquerque was nominated).

WORLDCON 2020 & NASFiC 2019 SITES SELECTED

During the San Jose Worldcon, The Science Fiction & Fantasy Conventions of New Zealand Incorporated (SFFCONZ, Inc.) non-profit society won the bid to host the 78th World Science Convention at the TSB Bank Arena and Michael Fowler Centre in Wellington, New Zealand July 29-August 2, 2020, receiving 643 of the 726 votes cast. There were no other registered candidates. Santa Fe’s George RR Martin will be the toastmaster.

And the Utah Fandom Organization won the bid to host the 13th North American Science Fiction Convention (NASFiC) at the Davis Conference Center in Layton, UT July 4-7, 2019, receiving 171 of the 192 votes cast. There were no other registered candidates. NASFiC happens whenever a Worldcon is held outside of North America (as in the case of Worldcon 77, which will be held in Dublin, Ireland). NASFiC 2019 will be held in conjunction with Westercon 72. For more information, see the Utah for 2019 website.

Voting for both sites was open to members of Worldcon 76 who paid voting fees.

DUE RECEIVES BUTLER/BANKS AWARD

Tananarive Due received the Octavia Butler/L.A. Banks Memorial Award from the United California African-American Bookclubs (UCAAB) during the 12th an-

UPCOMING ASFS MEETINGS

- **TV Ghosts Talk & Club Elections Tonight!** Investigator Benjamin Radford is here to talk about his behind-the-scene experiences on a Ghost Hunter-style TV show with visual aids. And then, 3 Offices need to be filled for January-December 2019, and the “theme/challenge ingredient” for December chosen.
- **November 9:** Walter Jon Williams visit!
- **December 14:** The 14th ASFS Dessert Cook-Off, and short SF-oriented holiday films. Plus, the annual issue of *SITHFACTS* will be distributed (deadline Mon, Dec 10). Clean-up help wanted!
- **January 11, 2019:** Club round-table discussion of what members read in 2018...

Craig Chrissinger, normal editor. Darth Vader, guest editor each December. Please Send All Correspondence to — PO Box 37257, Albuquerque, NM 87176-7257. Phone: (505) 266-8905. E-mail: cwraig@nmia.com. *ASFACTS* published February, April, July & October for the Albuquerque SF Society. *SITHFACTS* out each December. **NEXT DEADLINE: Mon, Dec 10.** **Club Officers:** Craig Chrissinger & Jessica Coyle, co-Zec Secs (505) 266-8905. Kevin Zander, Moderator. Mike McCommas, Alternator. HAL 9000, Advisor. **Bubonicon Chairs:** Caci Cooper (505) 559-0931 & Craig Chrissinger.

nual Fall Into Fiction conference, held September 21-22, 2018 at the Long Beach Marriott in Long Beach, CA. The award includes a trophy in the shape of California and was presented to Due by Steven Barnes.

“UCAAB was created as a way for African-American book clubs in California to network, support, and promote our reading groups, black-owned independent bookstores, and the authors we love to read.” For more information, see the UCAAB site.

SF BOOK GROUP READS ON

The Droids & Dragons SF Book Group meets 7:30 pm Monday, October 15, at Jason’s Deli (northwest corner of Louisiana & America’s Parkway NE) to discuss *Ninefox Gambit* by Yoon Ha Lee. The group then meets November 19 to talk about *The Three Body Problem* by Cixin Liu.

Meetings of D&D are open to all interested readers on the 3rd Monday each month. Books for discussion are chosen two months in advance, and group members receive a 20% discount on them. For more info: Leah at msransom@hotmail.com or Craig at 266-8905.

BARNES WINS FORRY AWARD

The Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society (LASFS) selected Steven Barnes as this year’s recipient of the Forry Award for lifetime achievement in the SF field. Locus Online reported mid-September. The award, named for Forrest J Ackerman, has been presented annually since 1966. Past winners include Ray Bradbury, Andre Norton, Roger Zelazny, and Connie Willis. [Info from *File 770*]

GRR MARTIN CONVERSES WITH JOHN PICACIO FOR SF IN SF

Santa Fe’s George RR Martin appeared on stage in conversation with artist John Picacio on August 14 at the historic Fox Theatre in Redwood City, CA, reports Locus Online. The event was hosted by SF in SF, with proceeds from ticket sales benefitting the Locus Science Fiction Foundation. An audience of nearly 600 (including various genre luminaries in town for Worldcon) gathered for a wide-ranging discussion that stretched over more than two hours (with a Q&A period).

Picacio and Martin covered topics including *Game of Thrones* and other media adaptations of Martin’s work, his love for SF art, his writing process, his early successes and setbacks, his work in the *Wild Cards* shared universe, his views on the importance of Worldcon, and advice for young writers. (When Picacio asked how the forthcoming *Song of Ice and Fire* volume *The Winds of Winter* is going, Martin roared, “I’m working on it!” to applause.) Soma FM recorded the discussion for a future episode of their SF in SF podcast.

GREEN SLIME AWARDS HANDED OUT

In a ceremony August 25 at Bubonicon 50 at the Albuquerque Marriott Uptown Hotel, Green Slime Mistress Jessica L. Coyle (with assistance from the Slime Time Puppets) presented the following with recognition of their wretchedness in the last 12 months:

REGULAR TELEVISION: *Marvel’s Inhumans* (Pilot was needlessly shown in expensive IMAX. It seems slapped together, and is incoherent and a cheap-looking mess. The worst Marvel adaptation in years. Bad writing, with cheap sets & costumes.)

COMING ATTRACTIONS: *DC Titans* (Too Grimdark, bad costumes and makeup, and DC wants a \$8.00 a month to watch the series on their streaming service.)

ADULT MOVIE: *Winchester* (Tired funhouse horror with no shocks. The script is batty and clichéd. It’s a waste of Helen Mirren.)

KIDS MOVIE: *Show Dogs* (Seems way longer than it really is, and is really bad. It has odd CGI mouths on the animals, and a lot of inappropriate humor in a “kids” movie [bikini waxing?].)

TOYS: *Star Wars Dive Characters* and *Crazy Foam Wonder Woman* (Not sure what the manufacturers were thinking – these both look like “adult” toys or “personal massagers.”)

2018 DRAGON AWARDS WINNERS

Winners of the 2018 Dragon Awards were announced at Dragon Con on September 1 in Atlanta GA:

BEST SCIENCE FICTION NOVEL: *Artemis* by Andy Weir, BEST FANTASY NOVEL: *Oathbringer* by Brandon Sanderson, BEST YOUNG ADULT/MIDDLE GRADE NOVEL: *Children of Blood and Bone* by Tomi Adeyemi, BEST MILITARY SCIENCE FICTION OR FANTASY NOVEL: *A Call to Vengeance* by David Weber, Timothy Zahn & Thomas Pope, BEST ALTERNATE HISTORY NOVEL: *Uncharted* by Kevin J. Anderson & Sarah A. Hoyt, BEST MEDIA TIE-IN NOVEL: *Leia: Princess of Alderaan* by Claudia Gray, BEST HORROR NOVEL: *Sleeping Beauties* by Stephen King & Owen King,

BEST COMIC BOOK: *Mighty Thor* by Jason Aaron & Russell Dauterman, BEST GRAPHIC NOVEL: *Brandon Sanderson’s White Sand: Volume 1* by Brandon Sanderson, Rik Hoskin & Julius M. Gopez, BEST TV SERIES: *Game of Thrones*, and BEST SCIENCE FICTION OR FANTASY MOVIE: *Black Panther*.

Finalists in various gaming-related categories were also announced.

44TH SATURN AWARD WINNERS

Wikipedia – The 44th Saturn Awards, presented by the Academy of Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror Films and honoring the best in science fiction, fantasy,

horror, and other genres belonging to genre fiction in film, television, home media releases, and local theatre productions were held in June 27, 2018, in Burbank, CA.

Nominations were announced on March 15. In film, *Black Panther* led the nominations with 14, the third most nominations in the awards' history as the film scored nominations in every eligible category; it was followed by *Star Wars: The Last Jedi* with 13, and *Blade Runner 2049* and *The Shape of Water* with nine each. On TV, *The Walking Dead* led the nominations for the fourth year in a row with seven, followed by newcomer *Star Trek: Discovery* with five. Seven individuals earned two nominations, including two Best Writing nominations for Michael Green and nominations on both film and TV for actress Danai Gurira.

In film, *Black Panther* won the most awards with five, including Best Comic-to-Motion Picture Release and Best Director, followed by *Star Wars: The Last Jedi* with three and *Coco* with two. On TV, *Better Call Saul* and *Twin Peaks: The Return* won the most awards with three each (ending *The Walking Dead*'s four-years long streak as the top-winning show), followed by *Star Trek: Discovery*, and *The Walking Dead* with two each. Notable wins included Mark Hamill's record-tying third Best Actor win for *Star Wars: The Last Jedi* (34 years after his second win for 1983's *Return of the Jedi*), making him the first person to have won three Saturn Awards for the same role on film, and Tom Holland's second Best Performance by a Younger Actor win for *Spider-Man Homecoming*, making him the first person to win the award twice for the same role, or to win it on two consecutive years.

Blade Runner 2049 won Best Science Fiction Film, *Get Out* won for Best Horror Film, *The Shape of Water* took Best Fantasy Film, *The Greatest Showman* won for Best Action or Adventure Film, and *Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri* won for Best Thriller Film. Gal Gadot won for Best Actress for her title role in *Wonder Woman*. *Coco*, Pixar's animated film, won for Best Music and for Best Animated Film.

In TV, *The Flash* won Best Superhero Adaptation, *The Orville* won Best SF Series, *The Walking Dead* won for Best Horror series, *Outlander* won for Best Fantasy series, *Better Call Saul* was named Best Action-Thriller series, and *Twin Peaks: The Return* was named Best Presentation.

ROMERO'S WIFE SAYS HE LEFT BEHIND DOZENS OF SCRIPTS WHEN HE DIED

by Sam Barsanti, io9.com, 10-7-18

Much like with every other famous creator who has ever died, it sounds like George Romero left behind a vast archive of unreleased work that the people who control his estate are now looking to capitalize on. Speaking with ComicBook.com, Romero's wife, Suzanne

Desrocher-Romero, revealed that he had left "nearly 50 scripts" when he died, any of which "could one day be developed into films."

Dan Klaus is currently rewriting *The Living Dead*, a novel that Romero had been writing before his death, and Desrocher-Romero says that a movie he had been working on called *Road Of The Dead* is still happening (though it has "sputtered" recently).

"George was a prolific writer," Desrocher-Romero notes, "He loved to write, and we have 40, 50 scripts that he's written, and a lot of it is very good." She also adds that he "had a lot to say, and he still does," so she's going to make it her "mission" to ensure that Romero has a chance to tell the stories he wanted to tell before he died.

She also has concrete plans to release a little-seen film that Romero made in 1973 that is "scary" but "not a horror movie," and she says it's about ageism.

ACTRESS CELESTE YARNALL DEAD

The Hollywood Reporter – Celeste Yarnall, who appeared opposite Elvis Presley in *Live a Little, Love a Little*, had a memorable turn on *Star Trek*, and donned a loincloth to play "the original flower child" in the jungle-set cult classic *Eve*, died October 7. She was 74.

Yarnall, a "scream queen" who was terrorized by a headless monster in *Beast of Blood* (1971), died at her home in Westlake Village, CA, her husband, British artist Nazim Nazim, told *The Hollywood Reporter*. She was diagnosed with ovarian cancer in November 2014, and turned to a crowdsourcing site to help pay her medical expenses.

"She was magnificent in everything she did," Nazim said. "She was my beloved queen." They were together for nine years.

Yarnall is known to *Star Trek* fans for her portrayal of Yeoman Martha Landon on the October 1967 episode "The Apple," in which Chekov (Walter Koenig) can't help but fall for her. (She appeared as herself – one of 42 *Trek* alums – in the 2018 sci-fi comedy *Unbelievable!!!!* and was a regular on the convention circuit for years.)

While attending the 1967 Cannes Film Festival, Yarnall was spotted by producer Harry Alan Towers, who was in search of a girl to star as the jungle goddess in his 1968 film. According to the actress, he yelled and pointed, "Stop that girl! That's my Eve!"

She took the role as the scantily clad Eve, who is the long-lost granddaughter of Christopher Lee, but later called the film "one of the worst movies of all time."

In *Live a Little, Love a Little*, also released in 1968, Yarnall played Ellen, a girl at a party who reasons she and Presley can't hook up because he's a Sagittarius. Undeterred, he tries to woo her by singing "A Little Less Conversation."

A native of Long Beach, CA, Yarnall was discovered by Rick and Ozzie Nelson while she walked past their studio offices on the way to an audition. She appeared on

an episode of *The Adventures of Ozzie & Harriet* in 1962, and then played college kids in Jerry Lewis' *The Nutty Professor* and Jack Lemmon's *Under the Yum Yum Tree*, both released in 1963.

In 1964, Yarnall became the 25th and last woman elected Miss Rheingold. She moved from Los Angeles to New York and made personal appearances for the brewer while modeling and doing commercials.

Yarnall played a vampire seductress in *The Velvet Vampire* (1971), produced by Roger Corman, and appeared in *Bob & Carol & Ted & Alice*, *The Mechanic*, and *Scorpio* before concentrating on commercial real estate for years. She also earned a Ph.D. in nutrition.

She reappeared in *Fatal Beauty* in 1987, *Driving Me Crazy*, *Midnight Kiss*, and *Born Yesterday* in 1993.

Yarnall's TV résumé also included *Bonanza*, *Hogan's Heroes*, *It Takes a Thief*, *Mannix*, *Bewitched*, *The Man From UNCLE* and the 1971 pilot for *Columbo*.

In addition to her husband, survivors also include daughter Cami, son-in-law Stephen & granddaughter Gaby.

BUBONICON 50 SUMMARIZED AS SUCCESS

With 805 attendees, Bubonicon 50 was larger than the past two years, but still smaller than the historic attendances in 2015 and 2013. Overall, the weekend of "The Golden Age of Science Fiction" was very successful, with some money targeted for various capital improvements and special golden anniversary items.

Bubonicon 50 donated \$2,500 to non-profit organizations. The Williamson Library Collection at Eastern NM University received \$900, the Roadrunner Food Bank received \$900, Albuquerque Public Library Foundation received \$400, and New Mexico PBS received \$300.

Bubonicon 50 saw three new programming participants – Cynthia Felice, Rebecca Roanhorse, and Walton "Bud" Simons; plus the return of Arlan Andrews Sr, John Barnes, Nathan Long, Ian Tregillis, and Carrie Vaughn.

The Art Show had 63 artists displaying their wares with sales of \$14,655 – 44.5 percent of all artwork entered was sold. The Sunday Auction was up from the last couple of years with sales of \$2,070 (*Froomb* went for \$31). Of that, 61.6 percent went to Bubonicon. Friday's Charity Auction also was up, raising \$1,480.

Bubonicon 50 marked the 7th year at the Albuquerque Marriott Uptown, and all went very well, with only very small issues to report (the building was hit at least twice by lightning in storms that happened in the two weeks before the con). It remains true that a large percentage of the hotel staff are closet fans!

COSTUME CONTEST AWARDS: Best of Show was Sergeant Major McKee Returns From the Mumbaicon Rebellion (Don & Barbara McKee), Best of Theme was Girls of the Golden Planet (Allie Wilder & Evelyn Lewis), Best Workmanship was Phoenix (Karen Lopez), and Most Humorous was The Six Strings of Justice (Daren Bost, Charles & Tauni Orndorff).

ART SHOW AWARDS: Professional to Elizabeth Leggett, Amateur to Rebecca Hewett, Student to Roberta Ice-Johnson, and Beast of Show (theme) to Aubrey Elise Snellings.

All in all, the con went very well thanks to every individual who pitched in! So, a tip of the con-com's hats to everyone who contributed their time & efforts!

BUBONICON 51 will be held August 23-25, 2019 – normal weekend – at the Albuquerque Marriott Uptown (Louisiana & I-40), with Guests of Honor Allen Steele & Ursula Vernon, Toastmaster Darynda Jones, and Guest Artist Greg Spalenka. Rooms are \$99 single-quad with free WiFi in sleeping rooms. Con chairs are Craig Chris-singer and Caci Cooper once again.

Good luck to the 2019 team! Next year's con-com has to find a new Master of Ceremonies for the Costume Contest, and the Art Show is looking for new staff. Suggestions/program ideas are being taken at bubonicon@gmail.com.



BOOK REVIEW ROUND-UP

Salvation, Book 1 by Peter F. Hamilton, 2018 Del Rey, hc \$30.00, 576 pages. Review by Gregory Nelson

If you are truly a fan of epic space opera, then Peter Hamilton's latest book won't disappoint. Everything he has written has been exceptionally remarkable, and I would recommend all of his books. But then I'm probably a little biased since I've greedily devoured all his books since I first discovered his work.

Salvation, the first book in a new trilogy, has two plot lines. The first tells the story of four individuals and why they happen to be passengers on a spacecraft on their way to an alien crash site with an impossible cargo. This plot line is told from the point of view of a support member of this assessment team who has to identify which of these four humans is actually an alien.

The secondary plot is set in a (much?) later timeline which follows a group of evolved humans as they train their entire early life for an upcoming battle with an alien race. Oh, and when they pray to the Saints, they recite the names of the four characters from the primary plot line.

The only disappointing element of this trilogy will be waiting a year for the next installment and two years to get to the conclusion.

Implanted by Lauren C. Teffeu, 2018 Angry Robot, tp \$12.99, 400 pages. Review by Jessica Coyle

Implanted is the debut cyberpunk novel from Albuquerque-based author Lauren C. Teffeu. The story follows Emery Driscoll, a young woman living in the domed city of New Worth. New Worth was built to protect humans from the toxic outside environment that their ancestors poisoned generations ago. Residents of New Worth live in very hierarchal social groups, where people from the lower levels of

the dome are looked down upon and exploited by those who live in the upper levels and control all of the power.

The only chance that anyone has to move up in the world is to get an implant, a technological device that people have implanted in their brain and use to connect and interact with everyone in New Worth. Emery is lucky enough to be smart and to have received an implant at a young age; therefore, she is now about to graduate from college and start a career working in data curation in the upper echelons of New Worth.

Emery's dreams quickly crash and burn when she is blackmailed into working for a shady company that uses people with a specific genetic disorder - which Emery possesses - that allows people to carry data in their blood. Emery is separated from everything she knows, and forced to allow everyone to believe she is dead. When a data drop goes horribly wrong, Emery becomes embroiled in a high level government conspiracy where some people want to save her for her information and others want her dead.

Teffeau has created a fast-paced, exciting novel with great world building. New Worth, a domed city built on the site of environmentally poisoned Ft. Worth, TX, is both creative and oddly believable considering the direction that humans are currently taking the Earth with pollutants. The technology aspects of the book seemed well thought out. Her character development is also spot on. Emery is completely engaging as a young woman who is forced to go on the run from everything she knows; I also enjoyed the secondary characters of her courier co-workers, her boyfriend, and her best friend, and I thought these relationships were completely realistic.

I enjoyed this book immensely and look forward to seeing what Teffeau writes in the future.

***Dragon's Code: Dragonriders of Pern 25* by Gigi McCaffrey, 2018 Del Rey, hc \$27.00, 272 pages.**

Review by Brenda Cole

This year is the 50th anniversary of Anne McCaffrey's *Dragonflight*. Even though Anne passed away several years ago, her son Todd and now her daughter Gigi continue to explore the depths of the Pern Universe.

Dragon's Code starts a bit slow as Gigi McCaffrey finds her voice, but it does pick up before the end of the first chapter. The book follows the Harper journeyman Piemur and the Old-timer dragon riders. Piemur has appeared in many previous books as a brilliant boy soprano soloist. Here, Piemur's voice has changed and the Master Harper has assigned him to map, explore and report on the Southern Weyr, more specifically on the old-time dragonriders.

Dragon's Code also explains some of the backstory for pivotal events in *The White Dragon*. The old-time dragon riders are the men and women who came 400 years into the future with their dragons to help save the planet. Eventually their inability to adjust to a strange and almost foreign culture led to a bloody fight, and they left the Northern holds and insulated themselves on the Southern continent. Their frustrations and various plots to regain their standing are the major theme in the book.

The title of the book refers to the mental and emotional battles these dragon riders go through. At issue is whether it will come down to dragon fighting dragon or if they will somehow find their place in this new century. Gigi McCaffrey masterfully interweaves Piemur's angst and discoveries with the despair and frustrations of the old-time dragon riders.

I won't give away any more of the plot. Small scenes that were glossed over in *The White Dragon* are expanded upon. Other major characters from Harper Hall and the holds are woven throughout the tale as well. The author takes the time to explore the emotional depths of the characters and you're not certain until the last couple of pages how or if Piemur will resolve the major plot threads in the book. There is also a subtle and poignant remembrance to the passing of her mother towards the end of the book.

If you devoured *Dragonflight* and the other Pern books the way I did, go get this one!

***Street Freaks* by Terry Brooks, 2018 Grim Oak Press, hc \$28.00, 384 pages.**

Review by Luke DeProst

Street Freaks takes place several hundred years in the future after the United States has fallen, and places like Los Angeles have turned into mega-cities with giant skyscrapers and flying cars. Ash Collins, a teenager who has been living an easy, upper-class lifestyle, is forced to go on the run after his father's urgent message to flee to the Red Zone, a dangerous part of the city where the outcasts of society live.

The plot tends to fall into some of the common genre tropes and is fairly predictable throughout the book. However, it is still mostly enjoyable. The characters aren't particularly deep and some of their character flaws start to get annoyingly repetitive - like immediately speaking whatever they're thinking every time they get angry at another person, and then apologizing in the very next sentence. There also does not appear to be much character growth throughout the story. The book does offer some decent action scenes, and funny dialog between Ash and his new friends. And the pacing is quick enough to keep you reading.

Overall, I didn't find *Street Freaks* to be as well written or enjoyable as some of Terry Brooks other books like the *Sword of Shannara* series, but it can be a decent read if you are looking for a sci-fi novel that doesn't require you to think too hard about what's going on.

***The Girl in the Green Silk Gown* by Seanan McGuire, 2018 DAW, tp \$16.00, 352 pages.**

Review by Jessica Coyle

The Girl in the Green Silk Gown is the second book in Seanan McGuire's *Ghost Roads* series. These books follow Rose Marshall, a young woman who was murdered in the 1950s, and became the hitchhiking ghost known as the Phantom Prom Date. This book picks up where *Sparrow Hill Road*, the first novel left off. Rose is trying to get back to normal after surviving her attack by Bobby Cross, the man who murdered her after selling his soul to the Cross Roads in exchange for immortality. Rose thinks she has achieved a level of protection from Bobby through her relationship with the Route Witches and their goddess Persephone, only to discover that Bobby has destroyed this defense.

In a bid to gain her safety, Rose chooses to become alive again for one night, only to discover that Bobby Cross has trapped her in a mortal body when she is unable to return to her ghost form. In order to regain the only life she has known for over 50 years, Rose must make a perilous journey while trying to remember what it is like to live as a mortal again.

I am both a fan of the series' first book and of McGuire's work in general, so I was very happy to hear that she was writing a sequel to *Sparrow Hill Road*. *The Girl in the Green Silk Gown* does not disappoint; it is fast-paced and engaging. I would recommend this to anyone who is a fan of ghost lore, mythology, and the study of American folk legends relating to ghosts and witchcraft.

ASFS MEETING REPORTS —

MARCH 2018: CLUB AUCTION

Local author Robert Vardeman and club member Patricia Rogers were at the helm of the Annual Club Auction, bartering off items to 34 people in attendance. The Auction raised more than \$450 total for club expenses, including the newsletter, a new microphone, and supplies for the Holiday party. Helping with tab piles and keeping track of bids was Geneva Schult.

Various items and bids that were interesting or unusual included a Victor Milan book pack & t-shirt \$55, a *Battlestar Galactica vs Battlestar Galactica* comic-book poster (signed by artist Mojo) \$26, *Persepolis Rising* signed by James SA Corey \$36, rocket lunchbag & *Rocketeer* DVD \$15, Purple corset \$12, *Gamera* DVD box set \$7, *Rocky Horror* Funko Pop figures \$15, *Dr Who* tote bag & Peter Davidson signed photo \$30, *Doc Savage* books & illustrated magazine \$50, Toys & *Star Wars* bodywash \$2, Box of DVDs (including *Star Trek* and *2001*) \$17, *Futurama* tin sign \$10, *Blues Brothers* tin sign \$5, Victor Milan hardcovers & plastic dinosaur \$70, and Steampunk owls art & NM needlepoint \$5.

APRIL 2018: SCI-FI TRAILER PARK

Devin O'Leary of the *Weekly Alibi* spoke to 37 attendees in his 6th "SF Trailer Park," covering genre films to be released Spring-Fall 2018.

O'Leary noted that *Rampage* is Dwayne Johnson's second videogame after *Doom*. "Videogames don't have much story. Here an evil scientist creates a genetic radioactive something in space that crashes to Earth. It creates giant monsters that attack and destroy buildings. Could be fun."

Looking at *Avengers: Infinity War*, he said, "They fight Thanos, who is one of the biggest villains they've had. Marvel has been building up this storyline. Can they juggle all these characters and franchises? Odds are they will try to close out some storylines. They seem to be having fun."

He said he's looking forward to *Deadpool 2*. "The original director is not involved, but it looks to be a lot of fun."

On Marvel's other superhero movie of summer - *Ant-Man and the Wasp* - O'Leary said, "They're having fun with it. They found a nice tone on the first film. This time they've

added the Wasp and Goliath. Looks exciting and fun."

Solo: A Star Wars Story is a spin-off that Disney wanted, he said. "Here we get young Han Solo, played by a relative unknown actor, and Donald Glover is the young Lando. Ron Howard took over directing after lots of behind-the-scenes drama. Disney didn't like its original tone. It remains to be seen how well these side projects work."

Mission: Impossible- Fallout has Tom Cruise as the lead once again. "It's written and directed by Christopher McQuarrie, who did *Rogue*. Great stunts and action, and good actors, but they've never had a good script."

Of *Christopher Robin*, he commented, "It looks very cute. It's not a bio-pic. Here a guy named Christopher Robin has a midlife crisis, and is revisited by his childhood friends. A lot of big British actors are doing the voices."

O'Leary said that *The House With a Clock In Its Walls* is "directed by Eli Roth, who is mostly known for gory '70s-style horror. It's a weird turn of events for him. The film is based on an older YA book. It looks great with a retro-feel."

Looking ahead to *Won't You Be My Neighbor?*, he said, "Fred Rogers is a hero of mine, so I'm looking forward to it. His PBS show just had its 50th anniversary."

Other film trailers covered included *Super Troopers 2* ("No accident it's coming out on 4-20"), *Ghost Stories*, *Bad Samaritan* ("Has David Tennant as the bad guy, and has a creepy feel"), *Show Dogs*, *Hereditary*, *Ocean's 8*, *The Incredibles 2* ("All the original voice cast is back, and I'm looking forward to it"), *SuperFly*, *Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom* ("They're aiming for fun"), *Hotel Transylvania 3*, *Skyscraper* ("Die Hard and Towering Inferno put together"), *The First Purge*, *Teen Titans Go! To The Movies*, *Replicas*, and *Slender Man*.

EDITOR NOTES TO FILL THIS SPACE

NOT A LOT OF SPACE LEFT, FOLKS. Wanted to keep this issue to six pages and still have some club reports. Well, success, in that way. I wanted to write book reviews of Rebecca Roanhorse's *Trail of Lightning* and Mary Robinette Kowal's *The Fated Sky* (both recommended & very well done), and talk about my visit to Austin, TX, as Fan Guest at ArmadilloCon 40 at the beginning of August (Jessica and I met some great people - both pros and fans - chatted with Joe & Karen Lansdale, enjoyed several of the program panels and game shows, had a nice lunch with Lauren C. Teffeau, had fun feeding the turtles at a small pond by the County Line BBQ, and visited the Museum of the Weird and a cool toy/collectibles store). But longer bits on those ain't happening this time.

TEMPS ARE COOLING DOWN, we've had rain, the Balloon Fiesta is almost done, and Milehicon 50 & Halloween are on the way. We managed to see *Bad Reputation* and *Love, Gilda* (the Joan Jett and Gilda Radner docs), *BlackkkKlansman*, *The House with a Clock in Its Walls*, *A Star is Born*, & *First Man*. They were good. But *The Predator* is an early Green Slime nominee. TV-wise: Lots of sit-coms (love *The Good Place*, *Goldbergs* & *Big Bang*) and Marvel drama *The Gifted*. We have *Manifest* episodes to watch, and are waiting for *Supergirl*.

THANK YOU to Gregory Nelson, Brenda Cole, Luke DeProst and Jessica Coyle for contributions. Hopefully more next time. See everyone in December for *SithFacts!* - Craig C