

# BRUM GROUP NEWS

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE

## BIRMINGHAM SCIENCE FICTION GROUP

AUGUST 2019

ISSUE 575

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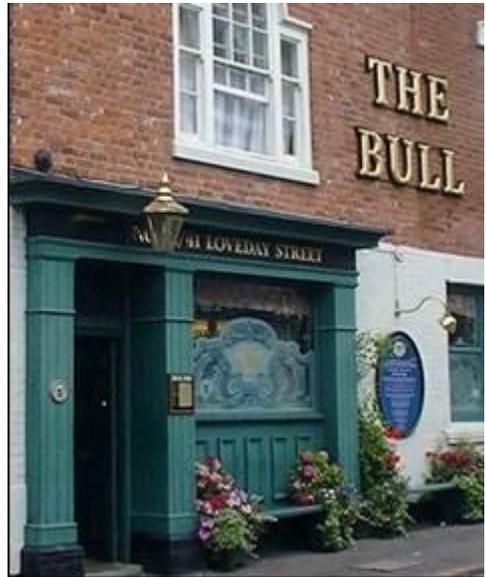
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## SUMMER SOCIAL MEAL *August 9th*

August is the Summer Social meal and there is no meeting at the Briar Rose. This year the venue is The Bull in Price Street, a few minutes' walk from the City centre, a small old traditional pub with good beer as well as good food. The address is 1 Price Street, B4 6JU and the time is 7:30 for 8pm.



September 13th - SFF author, Claire North.

## ***Martin Hoare, RIP.***

It is with sadness that we report that Martin Hoare has passed away suddenly. Many of you will know him, as he ran much of the tech at Novacon for many years and indeed, at many other conventions such as Eastercon etc. The only details known so far are that he went into Royal Berks Hospital for emergency surgery and he passed away on the 26th July. Apparently, he had cancer surgery which was successful but he picked up an infection which led to sepsis.

## ***BRITISH FANTASY AWARDS SHORTLIST***

The shortlists for the British Fantasy awards have been announced. The nominees for Best Fantasy Novel and Best Horror Novel are given below. Also included in the shortlists are some former Brum Group guests; **Aliette de Bodard** (nominated for Best Novella for **THE TEAMASTER AND THE DETECTIVE**) and **Micah Yongo** (nominated for Best Newcomer for **LOST GODS**). Nominees in other categories are available at [www.britishfantasysociety.org](http://www.britishfantasysociety.org):

### **Best Fantasy Novel (the Robert Holdstock Award)**

**THE BITTER TWINS** by Jen Williams (Headline)

**EMPIRE OF SAND** by Tasha Suri (Orbit)

**FOUNDRYSIDE** by Robert Jackson Bennett (Jo Fletcher Books)

**THE GREEN MAN'S HEIR** by Juliet E McKenna (Wizard's Tower Press)

**THE LOOSENING SKIN** by Aliya Whiteley (Unsung Stories)

**PRIEST OF BONES** by Peter McLean (Jo Fletcher Books)

### **Best Horror Novel (the August Derleth Award)**

**THE CABIN AT THE END OF THE WORLD** by Paul Tremblay (Titan Books)

**LITTLE EVE** by Catriona Ward (W & N)

**THE WAY OF THE WORM** by Ramsay Campbell (P S Publishing)

**WOLF'S HILL** by Simon Bestwick (Snowbooks)

## **WORLD FANTASY AWARDS SHORTLIST**

The shortlists for the World Fantasy Awards have been published. The nominees for Best Novel are given below. The winners will be announced at World Fantasy Con on October 31st - November 3rd:

IN THE NIGHT WOOD by Dale Bailey (HarperVoyager)

THE MERE WIFE by Maria Dahvana Headley (Scribe UK)

THE POPPY WAR by R F Kuang (HarperVoyager)

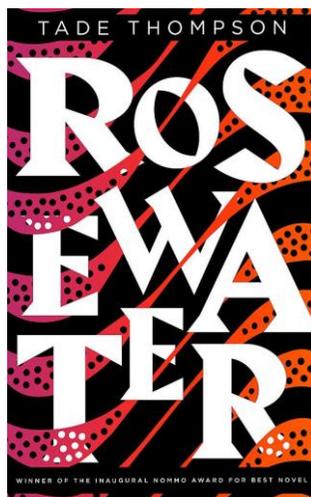
WITCHMARK by C L Polk (Tor.com Publishing)

TRAIL OF LIGHTNING by Rebecca Roanhorse (Saga Press)

## **ARTHUR C CLARKE AWARD**

The winner of the 33rd Arthur C Clarke Award has been announced as **ROSEWATER** by **Tade Thompson** (Orbit). The award was held at Foyles bookshop in London. The winner received a cheque for £2019.

The novel is set in the new town of Rosewater in Nigeria. The town has grown up around an alien landing site or “biodome”. There are no visible aliens but “spores” released from the site have a number of effects. Some people find these enable them to read minds and communicate telepathically. Kaaro is one of these people, who has been conscripted by a secret government agency as an interrogator. When he realises that people like him are dying off he starts to investigate the source of his gift and the disease that is threatening him.



*CG*

## **CINEMA FILM RELEASES**

Listings should not be necessarily taken as recommendations. Release dates are subject to change. View at your own peril!

**CRAWL** - Release date August 23rd. Horror. A woman is trapped in a flooding house and must fight alligators!

**IT: CHAPTER 2** - Release date September 6th. Horror. Part 2 of the Stephen King story of a malevolent clown.

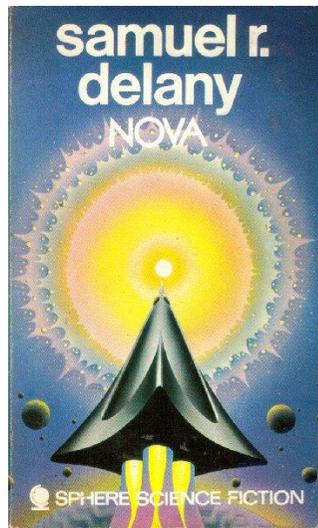
**MARGARET ATWOOD: LIVE IN CINEMA** - September 10th. One day only. Margaret Atwood interviewed by Samira Ahmed to coincide with her new book release, **THE TESTAMENTS**.

***Retro-Review: NOVA by Samuel R. Delany***  
***Reviewed by Ian Morley***

Our guest for the February meeting, Gareth Powell discussed how the novel **NOVA** by Samuel R. Delany was a seminal book for him, and has influenced his writing. Earlier that week I happened to obtain a copy, and after Gareth's comments I put this title on my "to be read" pile. I recently had opportunity to start a new book and chose **NOVA**.

The novel's story hinges on the acquisition of the superheavy element, **Illyrion** which is used as a power source for technologies, in particular space drives. The rarity of **Illyrion** ensures that it also holds political power between the two richest families, the **Von Rays** and the **Reds**. The **Von Rays** are from the **Pleiades Federation** and the **Reds** from the **Earth-based Draco faction**, and have a long and entangled history of competition, and personal interaction. The novel is essentially a quest with one of the central characters **Lorq Von Ray** attempting to obtain a huge amount of **Illyrion** from the heart of a star going nova.

The story is told not only through **Lorq Von Ray**, but also **The Mouse** (the nickname for **Pontichos Provechi**, a young Gypsy from Earth) and **Katin Crawford**, an intellectual from Earth's Moon. The action opens in **Istanbul** with **Mouse's** backstory, and continues with



Lorq gathering his crew for the adventure which includes Mouse and Katin. The personal and commercial feuds between Lorq and two members of the Red family, Prince and Ruby, provides much of the action narrative and character motivation. Whilst the writer takes the characters on their journey, he also explores personal morality and societal themes. The author brings the story to a thrilling conclusion where the reader has to decide who really wins. The writing is both beautiful and economical, and coupled with the large story arc, ensures that the novel feels like a larger work.

The book was first published in 1968, when Delany was only 26, and was nominated for a Hugo (following Delany's Nebula award winning novels **BABEL-17** (1966) and **THE EINSTEIN INTERSECTION** (1967)) and reflects the hedonistic happening drugs and art culture of the late 60's. The novel, unusually for the time, deals with racial diversity with many characters being of mixed race but this is done in a casual off-hand manner, and feels modern for it. The racial aspects of the book prevented wider propagation in the SF magazines at the time, and probably hindered the winning of the Hugo award that year. The novel is a space opera, however more recently it has been cited as a precursor to the cyber-punk genre.

The novel has much to commend it; the action sequences, the exploration of the societal values, and some delicious descriptive phrases ensure that the reader is both entertained and intellectually stimulated. Certainly, if you have not already read this classic novel, pick up a copy and stick it on the "to be read" pile.

*IM*

*Copy reviewed 1st Sphere PB edition 1971 from the original 1968 publication (later post-1990 editions have altered text and some additional passages)*

### ***NEWS IN BRIEF ....***

The winners of the **World Fantasy Awards for Lifetime Achievement** will be Hayao Miyazaki and Jack Zipes .... The winner of the **Brave New Words Award** 2019 (sponsored by *Starburst* magazine) was **Tasha Suri** for her debut novel, **EMPIRE OF SAND** .... The Dutch actor, **Rutger Hauer** has died aged 75, after a short illness. He is best remembered by SF fans for his iconic performance as Roy Batty in the 1982 film, **BLADE RUNNER**. Other roles with an SFF connection

were in the fantasy film, **LADYHAWKE**; as a vampire, both in the original **BUFFY** film and later in the *True Blood* series and he also played Van Helsing in Dario Argento's **DRACULA**; he was in **BATMAN BEGINS**, and in the space-opera film **VALERIAN AND THE CITY OF A THOUSAND PLANETS**. He won a Golden Globe and a Golden Lion Award .... Actor **David Hedison** has died aged 92. He starred in the 60's SF TV series, *Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea* and was in the original version of **THE FLY**.... At late notice, **DublinCon**



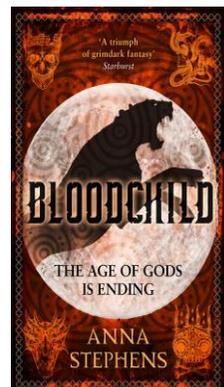
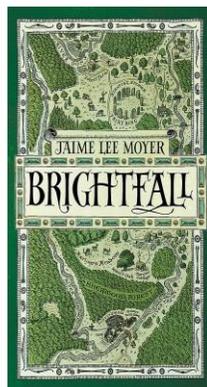
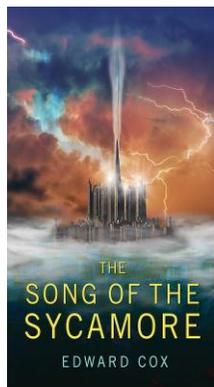
(**Worldcon**) has announced that due to Irish licensing laws, access will be limited for anyone under 18. This has left many parents at short notice trying to arrange chaperones or extra childcare and there is some talk that the convention may have breached its own accessibility commitments .... The **Booker Prize longlist** has been announced. Of the 13 titles, six could be described as SFF. These are **THE TESTAMENTS** (Margaret Atwood), **THE WALL** (John Lanchester), **AN ORCHESTRA OF MINORITIES** (Chigozie Obioma), **LANNY** (Max Porter), **QUICHOTTE** (Salman Rushdie) and **FRANKISSSTEIN** (Jeanette Winterson) .... Two of the winners of the **Shirley Jackson Awards** for horror/dark fantasy fiction were British-based authors; **Catriona Ward** for **LITTLE EVE** (Best Novel) and **Priya Sharma** for **ALL THE FABULOUS BEASTS** (Best Single-Author collection) .... The European Space Agency (ESA) is researching 3D printing techniques that aim to use powdered rock on the Moon's surface to make into construction materials. These could then be used for building dwellings in future Moon bases .... The Irish Postal Service issued a **stamp to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the first Moon Landing**. Unfortunately, due to a typo, the message in Gaelic, which should have read as "The 50th Anniversary of the First Moon Landing" now translates as "The 50th Anniversary of the First Landing on the Irish" .... In Internet silly season, tens of thousands of people in the US were discussing "storming" Area 51 (a US Air Force Base) to "uncover the truth of a UFO conspiracy". Inspired (!) by this, a

similar suggestion for a **mass search of Loch Ness** for the “monster” had over 18,000 people indicating their intention to join in on 21st September. The RNLi have warned of the dangers of the loch’s deep waters. They also said that their Loch Ness station volunteer crew “could not match the resources being used by the US military to deal with Storm Area 51”!

CG

## **FORTHCOMING BOOKS**

*(NB Prices given are Recommended Retail Price and may be available at cheaper prices)*

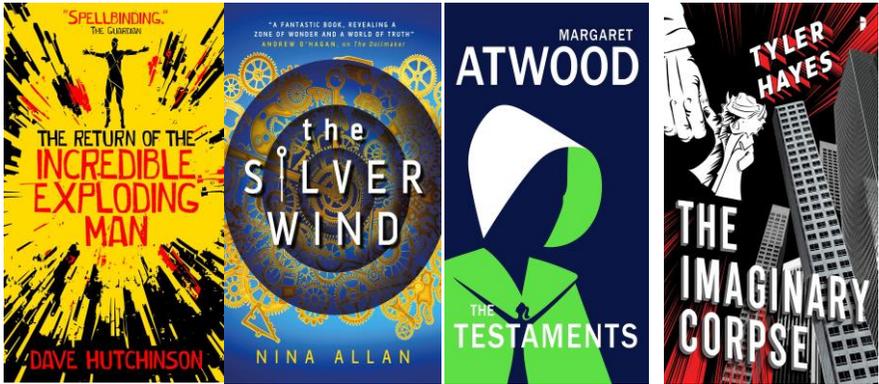


***TALES OF PIRX THE PILOT*** by Stanislaw Lem / Penguin Classics / 224 pgs / £9.99 paperback / ISBN 978-0241400227 / August 1st. SF. The adventures in space of Pír x, a hapless everyman.

***THE SONG OF THE SYCAMORE*** by Edward Cox / Gollancz / 496 pgs / £18.99 paperback / ISBN 978-1473226821 / August 22nd. A dead soldier is revived and possessed by a vengeful spirit, Sycamore.

***BRIGHTFALL*** by Jaime Lee Moyer / Jo Fletcher Books / 320 pgs / £18.99 hardback / ISBN 978-1787479203 / September 5th. A grieving Maid Marian must stop a spell-caster who is killing off the Merry Men.

***BLOODCHILD (Godblind 3)*** by Anna Stephens / HarperVoyager / 512 pgs / £14.99 hardback / ISBN 978-0008215996 / September 5th. The Mireces and their dark religion have conquered Rilporin. The survivors re-group for a final battle involving humans and gods.



***THE RETURN OF THE INCREDIBLE EXPLODING MAN*** by Dave Hutchinson / Hodder & Stoughton / 336 pgs / £7.99 paperback / ISBN 978-1781085844 / September 5th. SF. When something goes badly wrong at a supercollider, a journalist is changed, and becomes the only one who can stop further disaster.

***THE SILVER WIND*** by Nina Allan / Titan Books / 368 pgs / £7.99 paperback / ISBN 978-1789091694 / September 10th. SF. Four linked stories of people's lives disrupted by time travel.

***THE TESTAMENTS (The Handmaid's Tale 2)*** by Margaret Atwood / Chatto & Windus / 432 pgs / £20 hardback / ISBN 978-1784742324 / September 10th. SF. Fifteen years after events in the first book, the story of Gilead is continued by three female narrators.

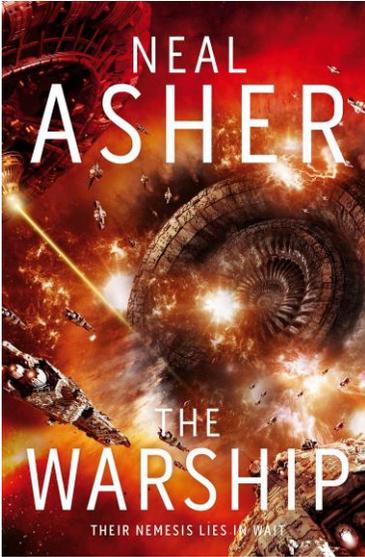
***THE IMAGINARY CORPSE*** by Tyler Hayes / Angry Robot / 400 pgs / £9.99 paperback / ISBN 978-0857668318 / September 10th. A dinosaur detective hunts the first serial killer of imaginary friends. CG

## 📖📖📖📖 **BOOK REVIEWS** 📖📖📖📖

**(REVIEWERS** please note: - all reviews should be emailed direct to me at [goodwincd@yahoo.com](mailto:goodwincd@yahoo.com) **Deadline for each issue is 14 days prior to the date of the monthly meeting)**

***THE WARSHIP*** by Neal Asher  
Pan Macmillan / 460 pgs / £18.99 hardback / ISBN 978-1509862504  
Reviewed by Jim Pearce

This book, the second in a trilogy is set, as most of his novels are, in the Polity/Prador universe. As many BRUM Group members will be well aware the Polity is an AI-led human superpower and the Prador are an aggressive kingdom of massive crab-like beings. These co-exist in an armed cold-war situation inhabiting an area of the galaxy that was several million years ago occupied by at least three supposedly extinct star empires. One of these, the Jain, created a technology which is designed



to destroy any intelligent life that it encounters; including the Jain themselves. Unfortunately for the Polity and the Prador, active nodes of this technology still exist creating the only situation where an uneasy alliance between these groups exists.

As with his earlier 'Polity' books, Neal has created a number of excellently detailed characters. Some of these feature in previous series, let alone the previous volume of this trilogy, **THE SOLDIER**. As I have recognised in an earlier review of one of his books, he amply demonstrates the excellence of his storytelling by skilfully entwining the story line of each of his characters

into a very strong narrative that is set within a detailed and believable universe. One of these, the hairman Orlandine (a blend of AI and human) is charged by both the Prador and Polity AI rulers with maintaining a blockade around a 'proto-star' accretion disc. This is seeded with Jain technology nodes. In **THE SOLDIER** a 'new' alien, the last surviving member of its species and not featured in previous Polity series, has manoeuvred Orlandine to teleport, via a wormhole, a black hole into the accretion disc presumably to destroy these nodes. This action creates a crisis in Polity/Prador relationships which **THE WARSHIP** explores in exquisite detail through the experiences of each of the many protagonists. Are there too many of these? No, as each adds quality to the tale and it would be sorely diminished if any part of their story was cut out.

As with Neal Asher's previous books *THE WARSHIP* is storytelling of the highest quality. I am very pleased to have had the opportunity to review it and look forward avidly to reading the third episode of this trilogy. However, to get the best out of reading this book I would strongly suggest that *THE SOLDIER* is read first. *JTP*  
(Review copy kindly donated by Pan Macmillan)

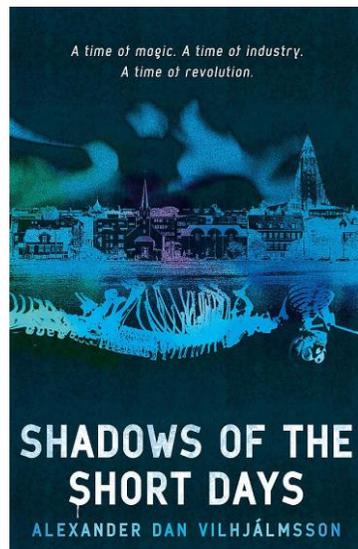
***SHADOWS OF THE SHORT DAYS* by Alexander Dan Vilhjálmsson**

**Gollancz / 528 pgs / £18.99 hardback / ISBN 978-1473224100**

**Reviewed by Carol Goodwin**

This debut novel by an Icelandic author is set in an alternative Reykjavik where recent industrial developments are starting to allow magical energy to be harvested and siphoned off, though the promised benefits are mainly diverted to support a colonising military rather than to benefit the populace. The population of the city consists mainly of humans and “huldufolk” (various magical humanoid people) who are refugees from a different dimension. Combined resentment of the overseas regime which controls the colonial city, and simmering tensions and antipathies between the various factions in the city, means that there looked to me to be plenty of scope for an interesting plot. Into that set-up, the reader is then introduced to the two main protagonists; magic users, Garun and Saemundur, who have been lovers in the past and who both dislike the restrictions of their society but for differing reasons.

Garun, as a mixed-race person has faced constant prejudice and this is her main driver in fomenting revolution. Her magic uses symbols and artwork (which have been enhanced using a liquid drug with thaumaturgical properties) to manipulate people's emotions and behaviour. Saemundur is a gifted student at the local college, who is expelled for experimenting with unorthodox and reckless magical



techniques. He then goes down a dark path to develop his own magic, regardless of the cost to others (and himself). His actions also have a major impact on the rebellion, even though he has little interest or commitment to the cause.

Yet despite all the unique worldbuilding in this book, I found myself disappointed and struggling to complete the book. One of the major problems was that quite frankly I just didn't care about any of the characters. Partly this is that, even recognising that the mood of the story is meant to be grimdark, I found both Garun and Saemundur to be very self-absorbed and callous of others, with violence and murder seeming to have little effect on them. Elements of their backstories which might have humanised them came far too late in the narrative to affect my dislike of them. Also, secondary characters were very thinly established and often seemed to me to drop into the story only to move the plot along. I also found the pace erratic and at times felt that the story had jumped forwards whilst missing out necessary connecting events.

Whilst the copy that I read was an uncorrected bound proof and hopefully these issues will have been addressed in the final copy, there were also some issues with missing words, word order and incorrect homophones.

In summary, whilst there is some good imagination in this novel, it felt to me that it still needed more work on characterisation and structure to achieve its full potential.

*CG*

*(Review copy kindly donated by Orion Gollancz)*

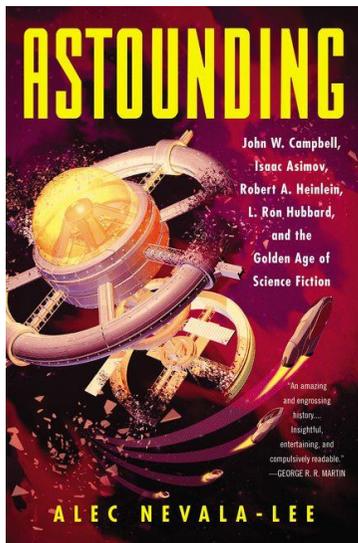
***ASTOUNDING* by Alec Nevala-Lee.**

**Dey Street Books / 544 pgs / £23.10 (NB paperback due August 22nd)  
/ ISBN 978-0062571946**

**Reviewed by Peter Coleborn**

John W Campbell is perhaps best known for the story "Who Goes There" which was filmed as **THE THING FROM ANOTHER WORLD** (1951) - remade as **THE THING** (1982) - and as the mainstay/chief editor of *Astounding* magazine. It was this magazine that was instrumental in forming modern science fiction. Campbell attracted a host of Golden Age SF writers who would come to be the grandees of the genre: Isaac Asimov, Robert A Heinlein and L Ron Hubbard among them. This book examines the magazine's genesis and its

development to become (arguably) the leading SF magazine. It also takes a critical eye to the relationships between Campbell and the aforementioned writers (other writers pop in and out of the narrative too).



To be honest I expected a rather dry history but the book is in fact a fascinating insight into both early science fiction and American culture in particular, at the various “isms” of that era (yet look around – nothing changes, sadly). The story begins in the 1930s and follows the characters through WW2, at their attempts to be patriotic, to help the US war effort, and at the conceit they held for themselves.

If you have any interest in the history of science fiction you should read this book. It is an astounding story. *PC*

### ***LUNA: MOON RISING* by Ian McDonald**

**Gollancz / 448 pgs / £16.99 paperback / ISBN 978-1473216754**

**Reviewed by Carol Goodwin**

Ian McDonald’s *Luna* trilogy is one of those rare works that reminds me why I love reading science fiction so much. I adored the first two books, *LUNA: NEW MOON* and *LUNA: WOLF MOON* (reviewed in Newsletters # 552 & 553) and have been eagerly waiting for this final part in the trilogy. Thankfully, it didn’t disappoint me.

To quickly recap, hostilities between the controlling industrial dynasties of the Moon colonies erupted into open warfare. Clan Mackenzie appeared triumphant until Lucas Corta (head of Clan Corta) returned from hiding on Earth. By political manipulation and the promise of lucrative access to the Moon’s resources and industries, he amassed sufficient forces to exact a bloody revenge and seize control of the high office of Eagle of the Moon. However, ruling the Moon is not as easy as conquering it and Lucas is weakened by his deteriorating health and the potential Corta hostages hiding on the Moon, including his own badly injured son, Lucasinho. In the continuing power vacuum created by the

war, amidst the divided loyalties of the children of dynastic marriages, and with resentment of the wealth and autonomy of the Moon growing amongst Earth's power blocs and corporations, the remaining Five Dragons' family members and the rest of the Moon's population face a precarious and perilous future.

A large part of my enjoyment of these books has been the detailed and complex lunar society that feels utterly believable. I love the way the different cultural influences from the Portuguese, Russian, Ghanaian and Chinese emigrants etc amalgamate together and form something unique and enchanting even though at the same time you are fully aware of how harsh and violent it can be. The hints of a lunar society evolving and moving away from Earth both in cultural and biological terms are explored further, and indeed some of the struggles in this book are about the "soul" and direction the lunar society will take.

Another triumph with this book is in the characters. I have written before about how well the author handles a large cast of characters each with distinct viewpoints. In this final volume, we again see the differing perspectives of both elder and younger family members. The characters also for the most part have depth to them so that as a reader you care about what is happening to them and worry whether your favourites will survive. About the only exception is Bryce Mackenzie, who feels a little too much of a stereotypical villain and reminds me a little of Baron Harkonnen from *DUNE*. There are many individual triumphs and tragedies in this book and the author puts some of his characters (and the reader) through a wide range of emotions. Remarkably he manages all this without it slowing the plot and with everybody having a satisfactory end from a narrative standpoint, although not always a happy one, and with many emotional and physical scars for those left standing.



As if this wasn't enough **LUNA: MOON RISING** is also a tightly plotted thriller, combining intrigue, politics and some exhilarating and high-stakes action scenes. As with the other two novels in this series, this is outstanding, adult SF that should be getting way more attention than it seems to be. Why this didn't make the Clarke Award shortlist is an absolute mystery to me. In short, I would recommend it to anyone who loves diverse, intelligent and superior SF. CG  
*(Review copy kindly donated by Orion Gollancz)*

### ***FORTHCOMING EVENTS***

*All details are correct to the best of our knowledge, we advise contacting organizers before travelling. Any information about forthcoming SF/Fantasy/Horror events is always welcome - please send to Carol at [goodwincd@yahoo.com](mailto:goodwincd@yahoo.com)*

**ON THE MOON FILM FESTIVAL, 5th - 21st August, Lichfield.** Outdoor screenings at Lichfield Cathedral. 7pm. Includes **FIRST MAN** (5th), **BACK TO THE FUTURE** (6th), **APOLLO 13** (12th), **JURASSIC PARK** (13th), **ET** (19th). Advance tickets £5 at [www.lichfield-cathedral.org](http://www.lichfield-cathedral.org) or 01543 306150

Anniversary screenings **WIZARD OF OZ** (80th), **THE LITTLE MERMAID** (30th) & **HOWL'S MOVING CASTLE** (15th), 17th - 29th August. £11.20. The Electric Cinema ([www.theelectric.co.uk](http://www.theelectric.co.uk) or 0121 643 7879)

**An Evening of Sci-Fi and Fantasy with ANNA STPEHENS, STEPHEN ARYAN & G X TODD, 5th September.** Double book launch and sneak preview by three local SFF authors. Waterstones, High Street. 6:30 pm. £3. Book at [www.waterstones.com/events/](http://www.waterstones.com/events/)

**CROSSFIRE: MALORIE BLACKMAN, 7th September.** The author discusses her latest book. Hosted by Waterstones at Birmingham Town Hall. 3pm. £16.50 - 22.50. Tickets: Box Office (0121 780 3333) or [www.thsh.co.uk](http://www.thsh.co.uk)

**MYTHOS: A TRILOGY with Stephen Fry, 9th - 12th September.** Three plays about Greek gods and heroes on three successive nights.

£48 - 68.50. Symphony Hall. 8:30pm. Box Office (0121 780 3333) or [www.thsh.co.uk](http://www.thsh.co.uk)

**An Evening with JOE ABERCROMBIE, 16th September.** Celebrating launch of *A LITTLE HATRED*. Waterstones, High Street. 6:30 pm. £3. Book at [www.waterstones.com/events](http://www.waterstones.com/events)

**IN CONVERSATION WITH MARGARET ATWOOD, 28th October.** Symphony Hall. £20.50 - £38. Box Office (0121 780 3333 or [www.thsh.co.uk](http://www.thsh.co.uk) CG

### ***CONVENTIONS and EXHIBITIONS***

**NEW APOLLO 50th ANNIVERSARY exhibition, 23rd March - 3rd November, Stoke on Trent.** A special exhibition featuring 50 models, memorabilia etc. Free entry. The Potteries Museum, Stoke on Trent.

**TOLKIEN 2019, 7th - 11th August, Birmingham.** 50th Year Anniversary of Tolkien Society, MacDonald Burlington Hotel (New Street). £95 [www.tolkiensociety.org](http://www.tolkiensociety.org)

**WORLDCON 2019, 15th - 19th August, Dublin.** Guests of Honour Ian McDonald, Jocelyn Bell Burnell, Steve Jackson, Diane Duane, Ginjer Buchanan and Bill & Mary Burns. Convention Centre. 235 Euros. <https://dublin2019.com/>

**FANTASYCON, 18th -20th October, Glasgow.** Guests of Honour Jen Williams & Paul Tremblay. Golden Jubilee Conference Hotel, Glasgow. £65. [www.fantasycon.org](http://www.fantasycon.org)

**BRISTOLCON, 26th October, Bristol.** Guests of Honour Diane Duane, Gareth Powell & Andy Bigwood. Doubletree Hotel. £20. Details at [www.bristolcon.org](http://www.bristolcon.org)

**NOVACON 49, 8th - 10th November, Nottingham.** Guest of Honour is Mike Carey. Nottingham Sherwood Hotel (same venue - name has changed), Nottingham. Tickets £49 till 1st September. Details at [www.novacon.org.uk](http://www.novacon.org.uk)

## ***FUTURE MEETINGS OF THE BSFG***

**September 13th** - Science Fiction and Fantasy author, **Claire North**

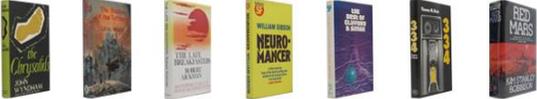
**October 11th** - Space scientist, **Dr Amaury Triaud**

**November 1st** - tbc (NB early in month due to Novacon)

**December 6th** - Christmas Social

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