

UNWATCH THE SKIES





Glory Road

By Robert Heinlein

25.10

Cowards need not apply, not the words but the intent of the ad catches the attention of veteran E.C. Gordon. He's had enough of war but remains uncertain of his next steps. An adventure may not have been exactly what he had in mind, but the enigmatic and beautiful Star seems to feel he is the right one to join in her quest for the Egg of the Phoenix. Their journey will take them across universes, set them against magical beasts, and in the path of savage machines. But after long struggles they will reach the end of the Glory Road and the final challenge to receive the Egg. But the treasure is not what it seems, and neither is Star. Can Gordon accept what he's won, or will he never truly be able to be happy?

-Welcome to the 25th year of Watch the Skies, a whole quarter century!
November's meeting is on the 19th, in person, at the Simpson Library, Mechanicsburg (unless otherwise announced) and the book of the month is – Even Though I knew The End by C.L.Polk

-Cover art by Eric V. Hardenbrook

Check out the website at: watchtheskies.org or
contact us at: wtsnewsletter@gmail.com

A FUTURE — A Charity Anthology — FOR FERALS



Edited by:
Danielle Ackley-McPhail


MIKE McPHAIL

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NEW RELEASES

November 2025

KEMI ASHING-GIWA - **The King Must Die**

TRAVIS BALDREE - **Brigands & Breadknives**

ANNE BISHOP - **Turns of Fate**

BEN BOVA & LES JOHNSON - **Pluto**

ORSON SCOTT CARD - **Reawakening**

M.R. CAREY - **Outlaw Planet**

CLAY MCLEOD CHAPMAN - **Shiny Happy People**

KATE ELLIOTT - **The Nameless Land**

THEODORA GOSS - **Letters From an Imaginary Country**

BETHANY JACOBS - **This Brutal Moon**

T. KINGFISHER - **Snake-Eater**

MERCEDES LACKEY, ED. - **Smoke and Mirrors**

GEORGE R.R. MARTIN, ED. - **Wild Cards: Aces Full**

RHIANNA PRATCHETT - **Tiffany Aching's Guide to
Being a Witch**

CHRISTOPHER RUOCCHIO - **Shadows Upon Time**

SALMAN RUSHDIE - **The Eleventh Hour**

JOHN SCALZI - **Constituent Service**

APARNA VERMA - **The Burning Queen**

DAVID WEBER, ED. - **Worlds of Honor #8: Changer
of Worlds**

ADRIENNE YOUNG - **Fallen City**

THE PROGENY OF DEVILS BOOK 2

THE NIGHTMARE IN THEIR BLOOD



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NEWS OF THE REALM

2025 Ditmar Awards

Best Novel - The Underhistory - Kaaron Warren

Best Novella or Novelette - Ghost of the Neon God - T. R. Napper

Best Short Story - "Bellow of the Steamship Cow" - Aaron Dries

Best Collected Work - Calvaria Fell, Cat Sparks & Kaaron Warren

Best Artwork - C.H. Pearce for the cover art of In the Aftermath

Best Fan Writer - Ian Mond

Best Fan Artist - David Russell

Best Fan Publication in Any Medium - *Let the Cat In*

Best New Talent - Sarah K. Balstrup

William Atheling Jr Award for Criticism or Review - Joanne Anderton for "Nice Safe Emotions: How Murderbot copes with the real world through the fictional, and so do we"

2025 SFPA Award Winners

Presented by the Science Fiction & Poetry Association:

Dwarf Form (10 or fewer lines) – "Down in the Valley" – Kate Boyes

Short Form (10-50 lines) – "Feeding Ther Daughters" – Helen Patrice

Long Form (50+ lines) – "Irish Weather" – Quinn Young

2025 IGNYTE Award Winners

Outstanding Novel Adult – *The Sentence* -Gautam Bhatia

Outstanding Novel YA- *Heir* – Sabaa Tahir

Outstanding Novel Middle Grade- *The Last Rhee Witch* – Jenna Lee-Yun

Outstanding Novella – *Lost Ark Dreaming* – Suyi Davies Okungbowa

Outstanding Novelette – "We Who Will Not Die" – Shingai Njeri Kagunda

Outstanding Short Story – "We Will Teach You How to Read | We Will Teach You How to Read" – Caroline M. Yoachim

Outstanding Speculative Poetry – "Relieving: Post Trauma Lekki Tollgate Massacre" – Fasasi Ridwan

And more ...

MORE FUTURES

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TILLYER'S NEWS OF THE HIGH FRONTIER

-It's possible that what we know about the interior of Uranus is only what we think we know. That includes Neptune as well. We've sent missions to Jupiter and Saturn and have used our probes to learn more about those planets. But most of what we know about the other "gas giants" could turn out to be wrong because we've based things on comparisons instead of actual observation. So with that in mind, planetologists went back to the drawing board and began creating models of these two planets. The results were surprising. We really don't know how to explain what their planetary interiors are like. Uranus could be mostly water or almost all rock. With Neptune the ratio of rock to water could vary as much as twice as much rock compared to water or five times as much water as rock. Astronomers often called these two ice giants, but it appears there could be just as much or more rock. Tipping the scales in this manner may mean that there are things that we used to believe about planetary formation that may not be true or even that these two worlds formed closer in toward the Sun and then migrated outward over time.

-An ice core sample from almost 13,000 years ago taken in Greenland is puzzling scientists because of a spike in platinum concentrations. So, is the answer from above or from below? The easy answer is that a meteorite broke up and scattered platinum in the area. But scientists weren't convinced. There was a key piece missing from the evidence. Meteorites of a heavier nature, the kind that would carry platinum also typically also contain iridium. The fact that the iridium was missing from the core samples made researchers consider another source. Just as last ice was waning, another freeze hit the Earth known as the Younger Dryas Event and around the same period there was a large active volcano in Germany called the Laacher See volcanic eruption. Could the volcano have spread a layer of dust containing the platinum? Researchers went after known samples of rock from the area at the correct level to be part of the eruption and reviewed their composition. Interestingly enough, the platinum they were looking for was not present. A review of other possibilities brought their attention to the Icelandic Volcanoes whose fissure eruptions could last long enough to account for the time span of the platinum concentration. Add seawater to the eruption and chemical reactions can occur which can create concentrations of platinum and at the same time release sulphates. Going back to the ice cores, researchers found a massive Sulphur spike. Why is that important? Because the release of Sulphur into the atmosphere can cause cooling which could be the cause of the Younger Dryas Event. In conclusion, what seemed like a meteor impact turned out to have terrestrial causes and could explain why the world got cold again just as the last ice age ended.

THE STUDY OF FIRE



A COMPANION NOVEL TO *FIRE STUDY*

MARIA V. SNYDER

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR

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