

WATCH THE SKIES





Clockwork Boys

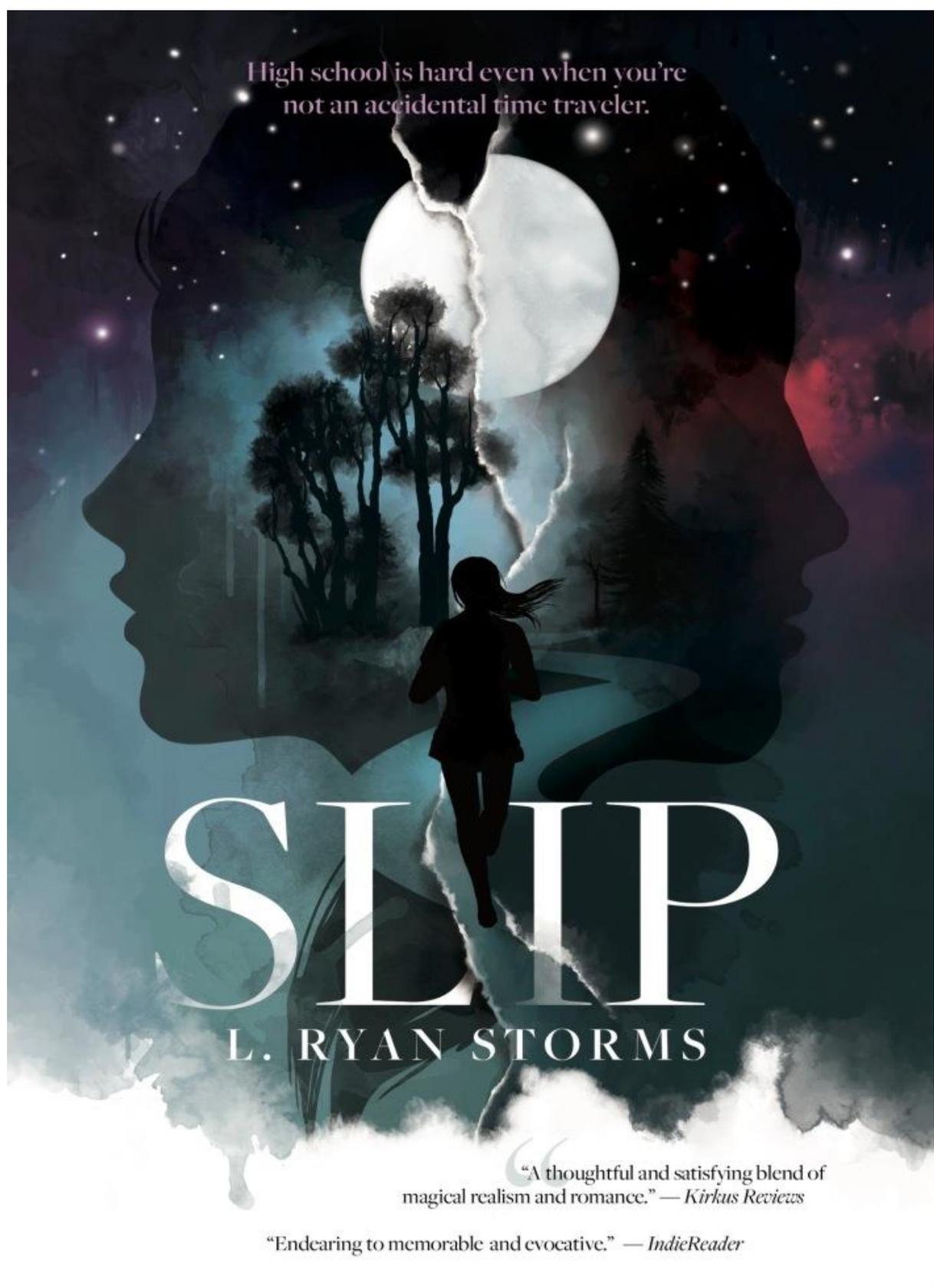
By T. Kingfisher

25.9

If they were already doomed, what was a suicide mission? Did it matter that they were going marching through contested territory filled with nearly indestructible Clockwork Boys, strange creations of the enemy? After all what could an artful forger, an itinerant assassin, a gangly scholar, and a disgraced paladin do where others failed? But it wasn't as though they really had a choice, the tattoos on their arms were there to keep them on track or else they'd be eaten alive by the vicious ink mouths. Slate, Brenner, Caliban, and Learned Edmund set out each with a different goal and one destination. It's a long road to Anuket City though and each turn provides a new opportunity to wind up dead. That is of course if they don't end up killing each other first...

-Welcome to the 25th year of Watch the Skies, a whole quarter century!
October's meeting is on the 15th, in person, at the Simpson Library,
Mechanicsburg (unless otherwise announced) and the book of the month
is – Glory Road by Robert Heinlein
-Cover art by Eric V. Hardenbrook

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



High school is hard even when you're
not an accidental time traveler.

SLEEP

L. RYAN STORMS

“A thoughtful and satisfying blend of
magical realism and romance.” — *Kirkus Reviews*

“Endearing to memorable and evocative.” — *IndieReader*

AVAILABLE NOW

NEW RELEASES

October 2025

CATHERINE ASARO - **Gold Dust**

NATHAN BALLINGRUD - **Cathedral of the Drowned**

OLIVIE BLAKE - **Girl Dinner**

PATRICIA BRIGGS - **Blind Date with a Werewolf**

KRISTEN BRITAIN - **Falling in a Sea of Stars**

D.J. BUTLER & AARON MICHAEL RITCHEY - **The Familiar**

GRACE BYRON - **Herculine**

ISABEL CAÑAS - **The Possession of Alba Díaz**

ELLEN DATLOW, ED. - **The Best Horror of the Year**

CORY DOCTOROW - **Enshittification: Why Everything Suddenly Got Worse and What to Do About It**

STEVEN ERIKSON - **No Life forsaken**

MAX GLADSTONE - **Dead Hand Rule**

ALIX E. HARROW - **The Everlasting**

JOE HILL - **King Sorrow**

JIM C. HINES - **Slayers of Old**

T.L. HUCHU - **Secrets of the First School**

JOE R. LANSDALE - **The Essential Horror of Joe R. Lansdale**

CIXIN LIU - **The Collected Short Stories**

KEN LIU - **All That We See or Seem**

JONATHAN MABERRY - **Cold War**

PATRICIA A. MCKILLIP - **The Essential Patricia A. McKillip**

SAM J. MILLER & MARY ROBINETTE KOWAL - **Red Star Hustle/Apprehension**

L.E. MODESITT, JR. - **Legalist**

MICHAEL MOORCOCK & MARK HODDER - **The Albino's Secret**

SIMON MORDEN - **The History of the World**

RICHARD MORGAN - **No Man's Land**

KIM NEWMAN - **Model Actress Whatever**

THOMAS OLDE HEUVELT - **Darker Days**

PHILIP PULLMAN - **The Book of Dust** • Volume Three: The Rose Field

THOMAS PYNCHON - **Shadow Ticket**

ALASTAIR REYNOLDS - **The Dagger in Vichy**

EDEN ROYCE - **Psychopomp and Circumstance**

A.G. SLATTER - **The Cold House**

CAITLIN STARLING - **The Graceview Patient**

JONATHAN STRAHAN, ED. - **Revolution in the Heart**

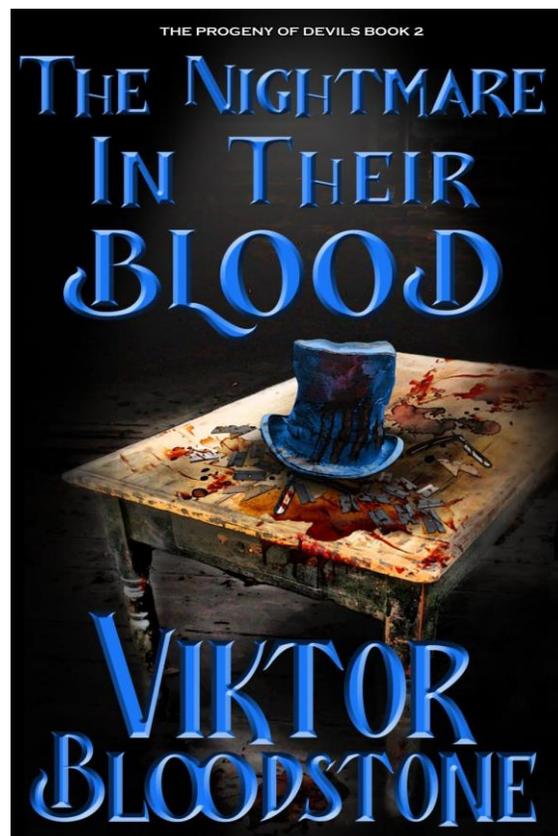
TASHA SURI - **The Isle in the Silver Sea**

ADRIAN TCHAIKOVSKY - **Lives of Bitter Rain**

CARRIE VAUGHN - **The Glass Slide World**

NGHI VO - **A Mouthful of Dust**

MARTHA WELLS - **Queen Demon**



AVAILABLE NOW

NEWS OF THE REALM

2025 Sunburst Award

Nalo Hopkins has been awarded the 2025 Sunburst Award for Canadian Fantasy writing. The award consists of a medallion with the Sunburst logo and a prize of \$3000 CAD.

2025 Baen Fantasy Adventure Award Winners

This year's winner is "Traitor to the Wolfguard's Creed" by Gideon P. Smith. The award is presented to the story portraying the spirit of adventure, imagination, and great storytelling.

2025 Dragon Awards

Best Science Fiction Novel

This Inevitable Ruin, Matt Dinniman (Ace)

Best Fantasy Novel (Including Paranormal)

The Devils, Joe Abercrombie (Tor)

Best Young Adult / Middle Grade Novel

Sunrise on the Reaping, Suzanne Collins (Scholastic)

Best Alternate History Novel

The Martian Contingency, Mary Robinette Kowal (Tor)

Best Horror Novel

Bury Your Gays, Chuck Tingle (Tor Nightfire)

Best Illustrative Cover

Cover art for Wind and Truth by Michael Whelan

Best Comic Book or Graphic Novel

Daredevil: Cold Day In Hell

Best Science Fiction or Fantasy TV Series, TV or Internet

Andor

Best Science Fiction or Fantasy Movie

Deadpool & Wolverine

2025 Mike Resnick Memorial Award

Anais Godard was presented the 2025 award for the story "Elsewhere". Given to the best science fiction short story by a new author, the prize is sponsored by Galaxy's Edge, Arc Manor, and Dragon Con.

THE STUDY OF FIRE



A COMPANION NOVEL TO *FIRE STUDY*

MARIA V. SNYDER

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR

AVAILABLE NOW

Tillyer's News of the High Frontier

Water goes down the drain in the opposite direction South of the equator but what that has to do with the first ever imaged black hole has a lot of scientists wondering if they can really work out the math to explain why. Six years ago, the Event Horizon Telescope allowed us to see the first image of a Black Hole. It made the news even though it looked a lot like a fuzzy orange blob. A blob that lies at the center of the galaxy M87 only about 55 million light years or so from Earth. Obviously, scientists were able to use other data from their observations instead of the fuzzy spot to learn more about the black hole in question. One of these pieces of information concerned the direction of spin of the hole's accretion disc. Black holes that rotate as a result of their formation, the collapse generating momentum much as an ice skater does when they pull their arms and legs close to their body, suck into their orbits dust and debris from the space around them. This halo of detritus is called the accretion disc. The speed of the disc, the collapse into greater and greater degrees of density all create heat. This heat is the telltale fingerprint of the black hole. Variations in the output allow astronomers to gauge the rate of revolution of the accretion disc around the hole itself. The glow of the disc is evidence of the black hole that we can actually capture with a telescope. You might try to remind us that we brought up water going down a drain beyond the equator. So, here's where it gets interesting. It's been 6 years since the original images, which means that our ability to capture and analyze light has gotten better. What astronomers can see now indicates that flow of matter in the accretion disc has actually reversed directions. Looking back at data collected before the famous image, astronomers were able to prove that the direction of the disc changed from 2017 through till 2021, with the speed of the rotation slowing down and then speeding back up again after the reversal. What's interesting, besides how exactly does that happen, is the fact the size of the accretion disc remains relatively unchanged, which is unusual since the evidence discovered indicates that structures of the black hole system are much more dynamic and complex than previously believed. How are we able to observe the changes when we our previous images were quite blurry? Well, because it's not just the EHT telescope any more, now it's the EHT array consisting also of the Kitt Peak scope and NOEMA. New images are a step up from the fuzzy blob. Swirling in the orange disc is now apparent. Astronomers are also planning to add additional telescopes to the network which will of course only continue to improve the quality of the images we can create. It should be noted that this is only part of the visual evidence of the effects of the black hole because by its very nature no light can actually escape the event horizon of the hole due to the intensity of its gravity.



d