

WATCH



**THE
SKIES**



King Sorrow

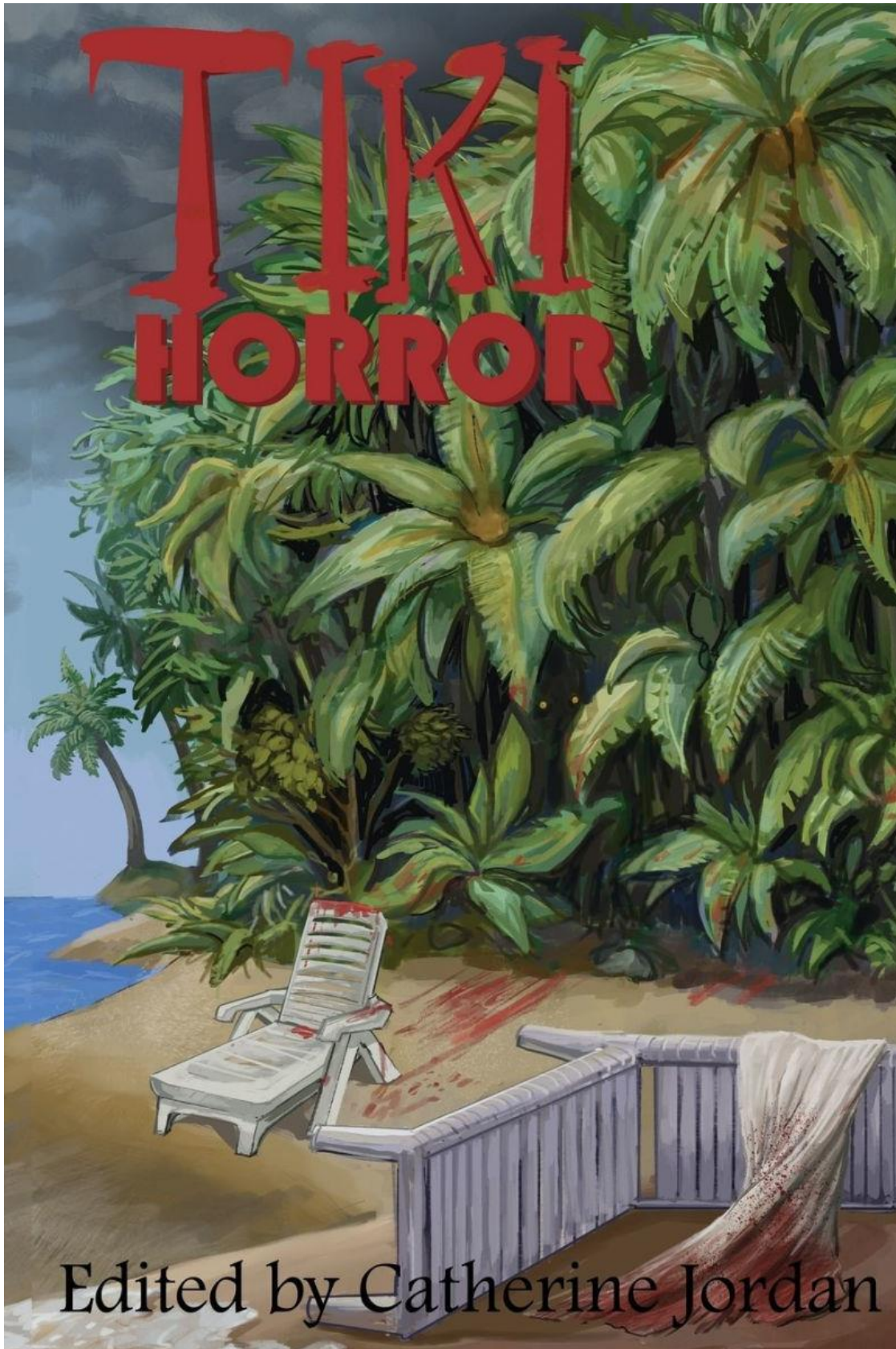
By Joe Hill

26-6

Wishes don't necessarily come true, but debts always come due. Arthur Oakes and his college friends summon a dragon with hopes of freeing themselves and instead find they are bound to sacrifice a life once a year. For thirty years they will choose who dies, looking for a way out of the promise they've made. If they do not select someone else, the dragon will take one of their own. But King Sorrow won't just settle for a single life when he can now touch the real world and manipulate things to escalate out of control. With his friends acting against the threat that they have unleashed, Arthur is overcome with guilt at his part in bargain and begins to lose his grip on reality. Can they conquer the monster they've summoned before another death is due?

- Welcome to the 26th year of Watch the Skies. April's meeting is on the July 15th, in person, at the Simpson Library, Mechanicsburg (unless otherwise announced). Next month's book is Artifact Space by Miles Cameron.
- Cover art by Eric V. Hardenbrook

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



Edited by Catherine Jordan

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NEW RELEASES

July 2026

KEVIN J. ANDERSON & ALLYSON LONGUEIRA, EDS. –

Into the Deep, Dark Woods

ELLEN DATLOW, ED. - **Lovecraft's Brood**

SARAH BETH DURST - **Sea of Charms**

OGHENECHOVWE DONALD EKPEKI - **Birth of Orisha**

SAMI ELLIS - **Funerals Are for the Living**

CHRISTOPHER GOLDEN - **Carry Me to My Grave**

STEWART HOTSTON - **The Next Enemy Shall Be the Last**

T. KINGFISHER - **The Sworn Soldier**

JULIET MARILLIER - **The Amber Owl**

WIL MCCARTHY - **Thieves' Sky**

LARRY NIVEN & STEVEN BARNES - **Ice Vegas**

H.G. PARRY - **The Witch Below the Dreaming Wood**

LUCINDA ROY - **The Bird Tribe**

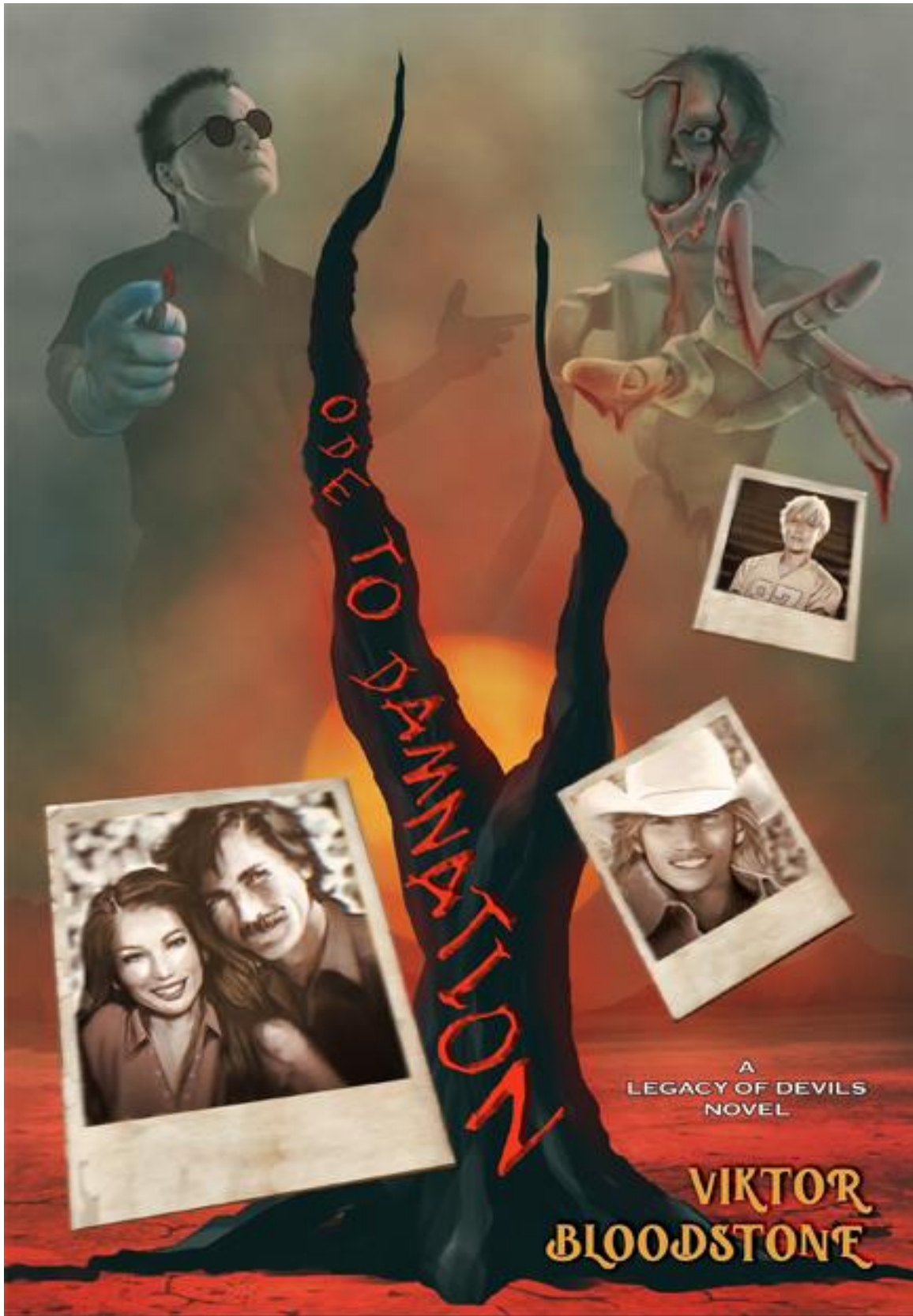
REBECCA THORNE - **Moss'd in Space**

CHUCK TINGLE - **Fabulous Bodies**

DAVID WELLINGTON - **Erebus-13**

IAN WHATES, ED. - **The Iron Code: Stories in Honour of
David Gemmell**

JOHN WISWELL - **The Dragon Has Some Complaints**



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NEWS OF THE REALM

JUNE

Nebula Award Winners

Awards were presented on June 7th at the 2026 Nebula Conference

Novel

The Buffalo Hunter Hunter, Stephen Graham Jones

Novella

The River Has Roots, Amal El-Mohtar

Novelette

“Uncertain Sons”, Thomas Ha

Short Story

“Laser Eyes Ain’t Everything”, Effie Seiberg

Poetry

“The World To Come”, Jennifer Hudak

Andre Norton Award

Into the Wild Magic, Michelle Knudsen

Comic

Mary Shelley’s School for Monsters: The Killing Stone, Jessica Maison

Ray Bradbury Award

Murderbot Season One

Game Writing

Clair Obscur: Expedition 33

Stoker Award Winners

Presented at StokerCon June 7th by the Horror Writers Association

Superior Achievement in a Novel

The Buffalo Hunter Hunter- Stephen Graham Jones

Superior Achievement in a First Novel

The October Film Haunt- Michael Wehunt

Superior Achievement in a Young Adult Novel

Shiny Happy People- Clay McLeod Chapman

Superior Achievement in a Middle Grade Novel

Ride or Die- Delilah S. Dawson

Superior Achievement in Long Fiction

(TIE): *Cathedral of the Drowned*- Nathan Ballingrud

(TIE): "Wolf Moon, Antler Moon"- A.C. Wise

Superior Achievement in Short Fiction

"Inheritance"- R.J. Joseph

Superior Achievement in a Fiction Collection

Lost in the Dark and Other Excursions- John Langan

Superior Achievement in an Anthology

Silk & Sinew: A Collection of Folk Horror from the Asian Diaspora- Kristy Park Kulski, ed.

Superior Achievement in Long Non-Fiction

Why I Love Horror: Essays on Horror Fiction- Becky Siegel Spratford, ed.

Superior Achievement in Short Non-Fiction

"My Long Road to Horror"- Tananarive Due

Superior Achievement in Poetry

Everything Endless- Linda D. Addison & Jamal Hodge

Superior Achievement in a Graphic Novel

Bowling With Corpses and Other Tales from Lands Unknown- Mike Mignola

Superior Achievement in a Screenplay

Sinners- Ryan Coogler

2026 Seiun Awards Winners

Honored the best translated works published last year in Japan

Best Translated Novel (tie)

Eversion, Alastair Reynolds

Babel, R.F. Kuang

Best Translated Short Story

“After Zero”, Greg Egan

Locus Award Winners

Presented on May 30th at the bay Area Book Festival

SCIENCE FICTION NOVEL

Death of the Author- Nnedi Okorafor

FANTASY NOVEL

The Everlasting- Alix E. Harrow

HORROR NOVEL

The Buffalo Hunter Hunter- Stephen Graham Jones

YOUNG ADULT NOVEL

Starstrike- Yoon Ha Lee

FIRST NOVEL

Sour Cherry- Natalia Theodoridou

TRANSLATED NOVEL

On the Calculation of Volume III- Solvej Balle

NOVELLA

The River Has Roots- Amal El-Mohtar (Tordotcom)

NOVELETTE

“We Begin Where Infinity Ends“- Somto Ihezue

SHORT STORY

“In My Country“- Thomas Ha

ANTHOLOGY

We Will Rise Again- Karen Lord, Annalee Newitz & Malka Older, eds.

COLLECTION

Uncertain Sons and Other Stories- Thomas Ha

MAGAZINE

Clarkesworld

PUBLISHER

Orbit

EDITOR

Neil Clarke

ARTIST

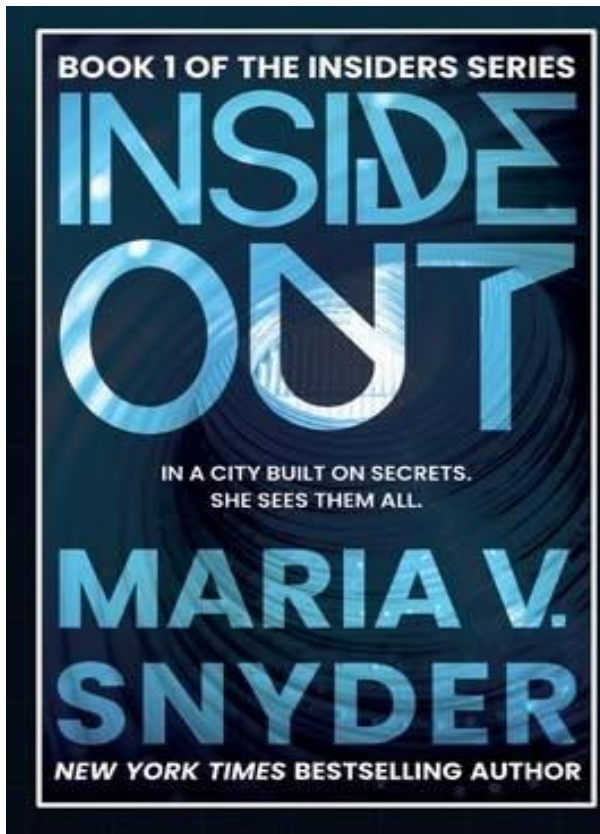
John Picacio

ILLUSTRATED AND ART BOOK

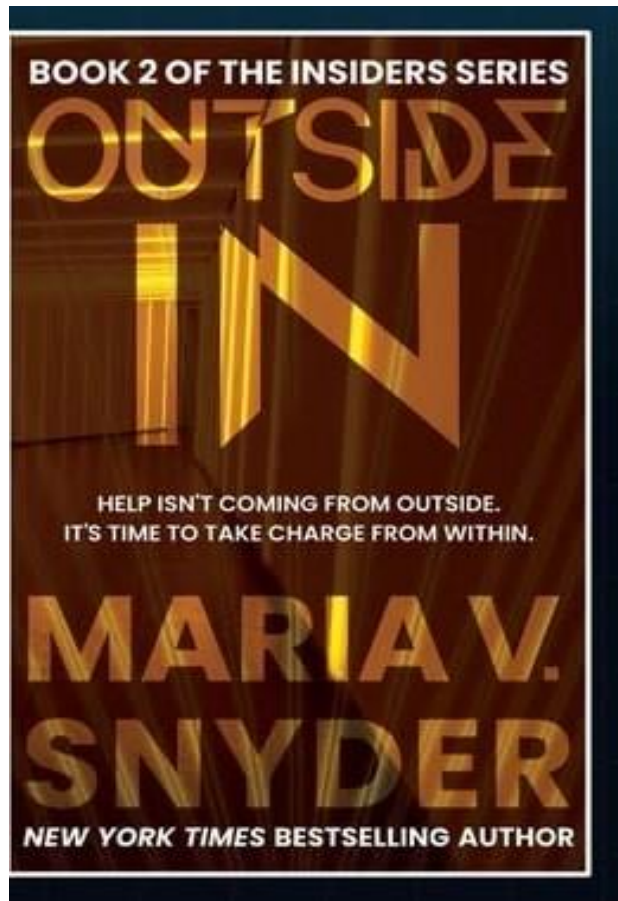
The Space Cat- Nnedi Okorafor, art by Tana Ford

NON-FICTION

Enshittification- Cory Doctorow



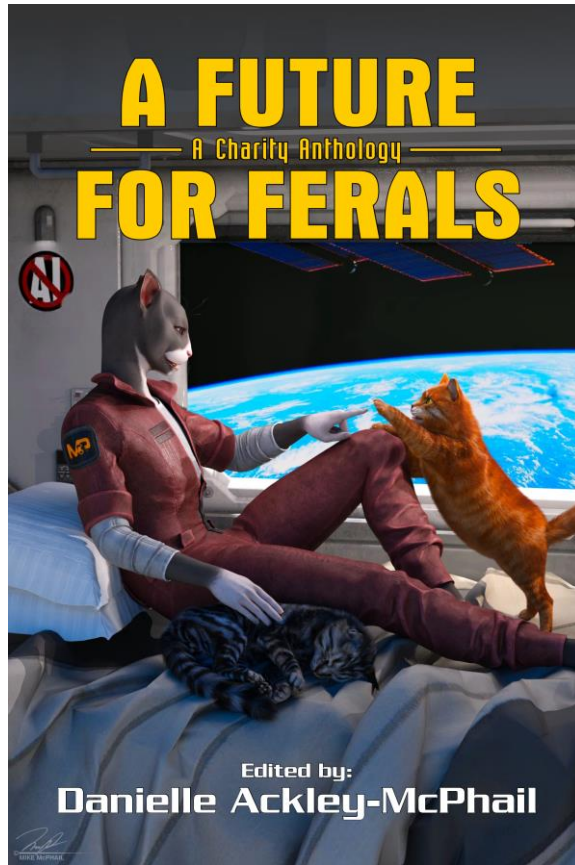
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TILLYER'S NEWS OF THE HIGH FRONTIER

-What was sad for the dinosaurs turned out to be a bonus for microscopic lifeforms. Scientists who are examining the geologic record left by the impact of the asteroid which created the Chicxulub crater now believe that the heat created a welcoming environment for life that may have lasted as long as 8 million years. On the flipside, the impact of the asteroid also wiped out 75% of life on Earth. So, for microbes it became a win/win scenario as their competition struggled to survive. Blowing out a crater 125 miles in diameter, the event also injected a large amount of heat into the crust below, as well as cracking rock that was already porous and providing a place where water could seep into the resulting fissures. The heat, the water, and the spaces all created an area where smaller life could thrive, much like life around hydrothermal vents in the ocean can exist at depths which have less than optimal temperatures. One of the interesting results of the study also points to the possibility that we should possibly be looking for life underground on Mars. A history of many meteoric impacts and ancient oceans could mean that a similar environment could still exist below the surface, especially since we know that this one existed for millions of years here on Earth.

-One pound of meteorite found in the Sahara could be the key to understanding a primordial world. NWA 12774 is not your ordinary find. It belongs to a class of meteorites known as an angrite. These are some of the oldest pieces of material in the Solar System and this one has a make up that is different from rocks on both Earth and Mars. The age of the meteorite puts it in the same time frame as the newly formed Sun about 4.5 billion years ago. Crystals in the make up of the rock indicate that it was formed under immense pressure, even greater than that at the bottom of the deepest point on Earth we can currently reach. Additional experiments indicate that the meteorite was a part of world that was somewhere in size between Mars and the Moon. A number of scientists believe that as our Solar System formed there were primordial worlds that were destroyed due to impacts before things became more organized and orderly over time. The Asteroid belt is often given as evidence of these formative moments. Scientists will continue to investigate this unique discovery and hope to use the information to understand more about the early moments of the formation of the planets.



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