

WATCH

THE



SKIES



Rabbits

By Terry Miles

26-8

When the background is more important than what is right in front of you. When the connection is what does not fit. When you're playing the game or is it playing you? Rabbits. K is on the outside, watching but every day he comes closer to slipping inside of the event horizon of the game. When the beginning of the eleventh iteration of the game is signaled, K finds himself no longer the able to resist. His friends are in danger, his mentor is losing his way, and even worse K is starting to lose time as well as his grip on reality. But something is wrong and top game designers are becoming worried that Rabbits might be co-opted into something more sinister. The already deadly game is broken and K just might be the only one who can fix it.

-Welcome to the 26th year of Watch the Skies. August's meeting is on the 19th, in person, at the Simpson Library Annex, Mechanicsburg, 45 W Allen St, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055 (NEW LOCATION). Next month's book is *Of Monsters and Mainframes* by Barbara Truelove. Cover art by Eric V. Hardenbrook

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

A HEART — A Charity Anthology — FOR HOUNDS



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NEW RELEASES

September 2026

K. ANCRUM - **Adam**

KALYNN BAYRON - **Tell the Ghosts I'm Gone**

KAMILAH COLE - **Wicked Endeavors**

ELLEN DATLOW, ED. - **All Hallows Eve**

TANANARIVE DUE - **Mazywood**

ZOÉ DUHAIME - **The Lost Spectacular**

JESSICA DAY GEORGE - **Holidays at the Castle**

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

FRANCES HARDINGE - **Traitors' Nest**

KATE HEARTFIELD- **The Swordmaster**

JAMES ISLINGTON - **Scion**

AI JIANG - **An Empire in the Clouds**

ALMA KATSU - **Incarnate**

T. KINGFISHER - **Baldur's Gate3: Astarion**

KEN LIU - **The Passing of the Dragon and Other Stories**

JOSH MALERMAN - **Pictures of You**

FREYA MARSKE - **Bodies of Magic**

A. LEE MARTINEZ - **Unbearable**

SEANAN MCGUIRE - **A Divided Duty**

CHINA MIÉVILLE - **The Rouse**

PREMEE MOHAMED - **Wickhills**

LOUISA MORGAN - **The Faerie Handmaid**

GARTH NIX - **Massif**

AVA REID - **Winterveil**

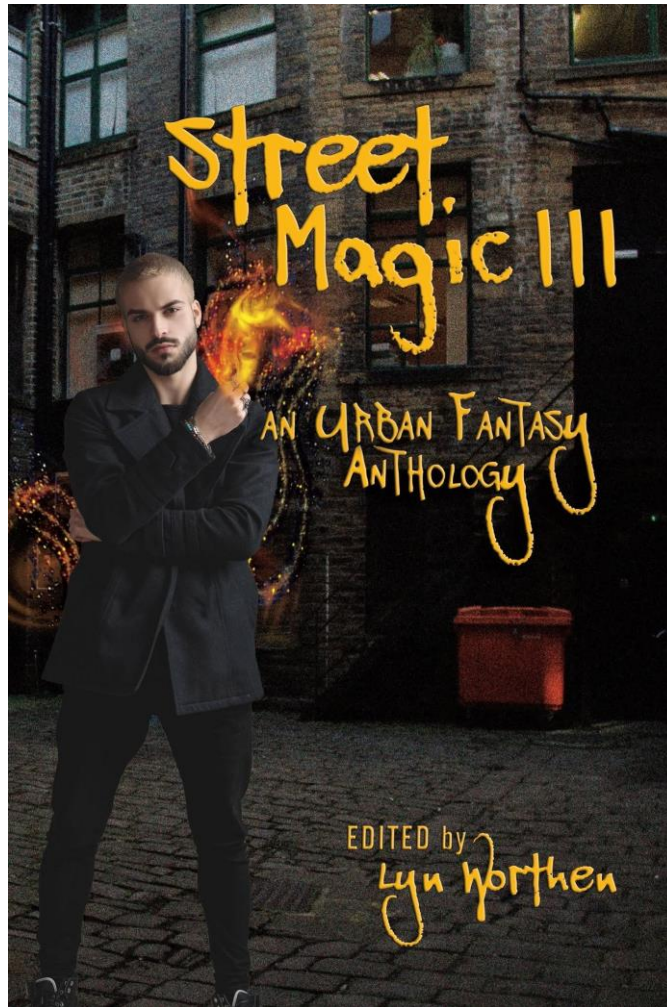
JONATHAN STRAHAN, ED. - **Revolution in the Heart**

DAVAUN SANDERS, ED. - **Forged in FIYAH**

SHAUN TAN - **Hometown**

ADRIAN TCHAIKOVSKY - **Engines of Reason**

PETER WATTS - **Fold Catastrophes**



AVAILABLE AS PART OF THE FANTASY BUNDLE:

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News of the Realm

40th Arthur C. Clarke Award

Goes to E.J. Swift for their book *When There Are Wolves Again*, presented on August 12 in London.

2026 Aurora Awards

Best Novel

The Downloaded 2: Ghosts in the Machine - Robert J. Sawyer

Best YA Novel

Breath of the Dragon - Fonda Lee & Shannon Lee

Best Novelette/Novella

The River Has Roots - Amal El-Mohtar

Best Short Story

"The Stone Played at Tengen" - R.H. Wesley

Best Graphic Novel/Comic

Shark Girl - Kate Beaton

Best Related Work

Year's Best Canadian Fantasy and Science Fiction: Volume Three - Stephen Kotowych, ed.

Best Poem/Song

"From Dust" - J.Y. Zhang

Best Cover Art/Interior Illustration

"Listen to Me and I'll tell You a Story" - Ejiwa "Edge" Ebenebe

2026 World Fantasy Lifetime Achievement Awards

Clive Barker and Joyce Carol Oates will be presented with awards at the World Fantasy Convention 10-22-25,26



AVAILABLE 8-1-26

TILLYER'S NEWS OF THE HIGH FRONTIER

Do you know where your trash is – Falcon 9 Rocket upper stage smashes into Moon. The landscape is a little different up there and one has to wonder has the property value changed at all with the addition of a new crater? August 5th the rocket body managed to strike our satellite, and nobody got a picture of the impact. Chilean astronomers believe they caught a plume of debris afterwards. Danuri, a Korean Lunar Orbiter, managed to take pictures before and after the impact so that scientists can look over the results. The Korean Aerospace Research Institute actually redirected the orbiter due to concerns about the trajectory of the rocket body. The Falcon 9 was part of the project to land two robotic explorers created by private industries, ispace – Resilience and Firefly Aerospace- Blue Ghost and launched in 2025. Both were deployed above the Moon and only Blue Ghost successfully stuck the landing. The rocket's first stage returned to Earth, but the upper stage used most of its fuel to reach the Moon and was intended to remain in orbit. The Sun's activity and gravitational influences created a different outcome. The speed of the impact was estimated at 5.4k mph. The incident itself isn't unique. The Chinese Long March 3C rocket managed to make a double crater on the moon and there are other explorer craft such as the Ranger 4 that have ended up on the surface. Scientists have stated that impacts of mass similar to the Falcon 9 can occur as often as ever six days. Since the Moon has no atmosphere, there's nothing slowing down any infalling objects and pretty much everything gets through, unlike the Earth. All of this does bring up two interesting points. One, we should be more responsible without materials. NASA made commentary about the fact that its intended Lunar Base would be using both reusable spacecraft and craft that are designed to be integrated into the base itself. It makes sense that given the cost of moving materials to the Moon, creating trash is counterproductive. Second, since we are discussing the presence of humanity on the Moon and we mentioned earlier the regularity that objects strike it, impacts are a real hazard. We will need to find ways to deal with these, perhaps by moving portions of the base underground. In addition to that, once we establish a base, we'll need to consider a landing area that is separate from the habitat since loss of control of incoming flights could be just as hazardous. Finally, we'll need a spot if we plan on deorbiting any trash that is distant as well. Sometimes an unexpected incident can yield opportunities to consider necessary precautions.

