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חדשות האגודה – ספטמבר 2019 The Israeli Society for Science Fiction and Fantasy

המועדון בירושלים יעסוק בספר "היה היה 2018" - שנתון האגודה הישראלית למד"ב ולפנטזיה. המועדון יתקיים בבית פרטי בירושלים, ביום שלישי, 17.9, בשעה 20:00. כתובת מדויקת תינתן לנרשמות ולנרשמים למועדון. [אירוע הפייסבוק](#), למעקב אחר הספרים המתוכננים ומועדי מועדונים נוספים ניתן להצטרף לקבוצה [מועדון הקריאה הירושלמי של האגודה](#). ניתן גם ליצור קשר במייל עם מרכזת המועדון בירושלים - [גלי אחישוב](#), ולהצטרף לקבוצת הוואטס'אפ של המועדון.

המועדון בת"א יעסוק בספר "אלנטריס" מאת ברנדון סנדרסון, אורח הכבוד באייקון הקרוב (כוכבי כסף, 2009; אופוס, 2019). המועדון יתקיים ביום חמישי, 26.9, בשעה 19:30, בבית פרטי בתל אביב. כתובת מדויקת תינתן לנרשמות ולנרשמים למועדון, במייל של רכזת המועדון, [דפנה קירש](#). מנחה: גיא סגלוב.

[אירוע הפייסבוק](#)
מועדון חודש אוקטובר יתקיים ב-10.10 ויעסוק בספר "מלך ירושלים" מאת ניר יניב (יניב, 2019). המועדון יתקיים בשעה 19:30, בבית פרטי בתל אביב. עותקים של הספר הוגרלו בין באי מועדון אוגוסט, באדיבות הוצאת יניב.

הגליל מערבי: (כרמיאל-משגב)

המפגשים הקרובים:

23.9 - מפגש בנושא "חולית" מאת פרנק הרברט - [אירוע הפייסבוק](#)

28.10 - מפגש בנושא "אבק כוכבים" מאת ניל גיימן.

25.11 - מפגש בנושא "נער, דרקון" מאת צ'רלס דה לינט.

מנחה: [ד"ר קרן פייט](#). כתובת תמסר לנרשמות ולנרשמים במייל של המנחה.

כל האירועים של האגודה מופיעים בלוח האירועים (שפע אירועים מעניינים, הרצאות, סדנאות, מפגשים ועוד)

לקבלת עדכונים שוטפים על מפגשי מועדון הקריאה ברחבי הארץ ניתן להצטרף לרשימת התפוצה או בדף [האגודה בפייסבוק](#). Society information is available (in Hebrew) at the Society's site: <http://www.sf-f.org.il>

From the editor:

"I'm late, I'm late.. for a very important date..." (from Alice in Wonderland:

https://www.lyricsfreak.com/a/alice+in+wonderland/im+late_20543251.html) ... but I have no rabbit hole to escape to, and needed to put this issue out ASAP, regardless of how late into September it is. Hope to make it up in the October and particularly the November issues...

This month's roundup:

- As usual, interesting tidbits from various websites.

- Your editor, Leybl Botwinik

Some fun from the Websites:

ET's Home? Well, it's not "Dune" – Not dry enough

Could There Be Life? This Newfound 'Super-Earth' May Be Habitable!

By Passant Rabie (July 2019)

GJ 357d could have water on its surface.

Astronomers have found a nearby "super-Earth" exoplanet that may be capable of supporting life as we know it.

An international group of astronomers discovered the planet using NASA's Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS) earlier this year in the constellation Hydra, about 31 light-years from Earth, according to a statement by NASA. (One light-year is the distance light travels in a year, about 6 trillion miles, or 10 trillion kilometers.)

The exoplanet, named GJ 357 d, is believed to be around twice the size of Earth and harbor six times Earth's mass. Located in the outer edge of its host star's "habitable zone," scientists believe that this super-Earth could have water on its surface.

"If the planet has a dense atmosphere, which will take future studies to determine, it could trap enough heat to warm the planet and allow liquid water on its surface," Diana Kossakowski, a researcher at the Max Planck Institute for Astronomy in Heidelberg, Germany, and co-author of the recent study, said in the statement.

Continue reading:

<https://www.space.com/super-earth-exoplanet-gj-357d-may-support-life.html>

The hell, you say ...?

How Venus Turned Into Hell, and How the Earth Is Next

By Paul Sutter August 07, 2019

Earth is pretty nice, but it won't stay that way

Everyone wants to get off the planet Earth and go explore the solar system, without realizing just how good we've got it down here. We've got a lot of air, more liquid water than we know what to do with, a nice strong planetary magnetic field that protects us cosmic radiation, and nice strong gravity that keeps our muscles strong and our bones thick.

All things considered, Earth is pretty nice.

But still, we look to our planetary neighbors for places to visit and maybe even live.

And Mars has all the attention nowadays: it's so hot right now, with everyone practically climbing over each other's rockets to get there in to build a nice little red home.

But what about Venus? It's about the same size as the Earth and the same mass. It's actually a little bit closer than Mars. It's definitely warmer than Mars. So why don't we try going for our sister planet instead of the red one?

Oh, that's right: Venus is basically hell.

Continue reading:

<https://www.space.com/venus-runaway-greenhouse-effect-earth-next.html>

From the Editor:

This next article is actually from 2017 – but very fascinating, and exactly up our alley: about SF literature, so 'old' or not, it's worth the read.

Note, that I normally remove links and also just present a few of the opening paragraphs as a 'teaser' so you get the gist of the direction the 'story' is headed – then I tell you to continue. This time, I thought you should get a fairer portion of the articles body, before I send you on to the rest of the article.

Enjoy.

Now you're talking... an article about SF literature
OK, but 2017?

Well, not that old, and the content is as good as it gets...

In fact, worth a lengthier discussion...

What say you, dear readers – any comments?

NOTE: The article on the web contains some video clips worth seeing too

Extinction or Survival: How Storytellers Explore the Ethics of Colonizing Other Planets

March 22, 2017 Spaceflight

This article was originally published at [The Conversation](#). The publication contributed the article to Space.com's [Expert Voices: Op-Ed & Insights](#).

NASA's [recent discovery](#) of seven new Earth-sized planets, 40 light years away, has generated more excitement in the hunt for life off our own. Many influential thinkers have turned their attention to the colonization of other planets (usually Mars), including Tesla founder [Elon Musk](#), and the groups behind [Mars One](#). But while the search for extraterrestrial life is fascinating, our interplanetary exploration raises some interesting ethical questions.

Physicist Stephen Hawking [has said](#) that we should colonize other planets to protect the human race:

Although the chance of a disaster to planet Earth in a given year may be quite low, it adds up over time, and becomes a near certainty in the next thousand or ten thousand years. By that time we should have spread out into space, and to other stars, so a disaster on Earth would not mean the end of the human race.

The notion of a mass exodus and transplanting a planet is, on the surface, an attractive concept. But we rarely, if ever, critically ask why we ought to do such a thing in the first place. Have we truly earned the right to colonize other planets, especially after the way we've behaved on this one? Many films and books have turned their attention to these ethical questions.

Can we survive?

Interplanetary colonization was once the stuff only of science fiction. Kim Stanley Robinson's [Mars Trilogy](#), for instance, showed the act of colonizing and terraforming Mars (literally turning it into Earth).

Red Mars (1993), Green Mars (1994), and Blue Mars (1996) showed the gradual changes to the structure of the red planet as it became more habitable for humanity. The books also looked at the psychological effects of humanity's ultra-longevity, including existential boredom. Even Robinson questions whether we should colonize Mars, indeed [he has said](#) of the Mars One project, which aims to establish a permanent human settlement on the planet:

This is an example of the kind of fantasy that can emerge in the age of the internet, with the gullible scientism that comes from a culture that lacks scientific literacy.

He also reasons: "I like the Earth too much."

More recently, in Andy Weir's [The Martian](#) (2011), astronaut Mark Watney (Matt Damon) colonizes Mars after being left for dead.

And in the 2012 film [Interstellar](#), a group of astronauts go through a wormhole to examine three new planets for a "new earth," after crop blights and a second Dust Bowl ravage much of the original earth. The remainder of humanity is left for dead while new colonies are set up on a new planet.

Both these films raise tough questions, suggesting that there's no single utopian vision regarding the colonization of planets. While both look at extending the lifetime of humanity beyond the Earth, we must ask, at what cost is humanity's survival ensured?

To continue, see here:

<https://www.space.com/36150-storytellers-explore-planet-colonization-ethics.html>

Siobhan Lyons, Scholar in Media and Cultural Studies, *Macquarie University*

This article was originally published on [The Conversation](#). Read the [original article](#). *Follow all of the Expert Voices issues and debates — and become part of the discussion — on Facebook, Twitter and Google +. The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the publisher. This version of the article was originally published on Space.com.*

Stand by for more on Space & Time conundrums next month.

Sorry we don't have time for this month's review

Feel free to send comments / reviews of related books & movies.

OR JUST START UP YOUR TIME MACHINE & MEET US THERE... See ya in '30!

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Sorry we don't have time for this month's ZION'S FICTION Quick review(s)

MORE ZION'S FICTION QUICK STORY REVIEWS – NEXT TIME !

For more on the book, see the official website at: <http://www.zionsfiction.com/>

Also: https://www.amazon.com/Zions-Fiction-Treasury-Speculative-Literature/dp/1942134525/ref=sr_1_1

We'd love to hear your thoughts on the above topics and with your OK, we may publish them!

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