



Startling Sci-Fi

Literature, Genre Fiction, & Beyond

a panel discussion moderated by **Casey Ellis**,
editor of *Startling Sci-Fi: New Tales of the Beyond*

16 MAY 2015, 3 PM

The Willa Cather Room (1st Floor)
NYPL's Jefferson Market Library
425 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY

For generations, the science fiction genre and literary fiction have been perceived as irreconcilable. *Startling Sci-Fi: New Tales of the Beyond*, the latest anthology in New Lit Salon Press's NEW series, attempts to prove otherwise. These thirteen fine short stories are boldly literary while employing unmistakable characteristics of the sci-fi genre. But what defines "literature?" For that matter, what makes something part of the science fiction genre? Several established classics, such as George Orwell's *1984* and Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale*, would seem to be obviously sci-fi but are often not treated that way by critics. Do they have a point, or does this represent an intellectual blind spot? Further more, how does the inclusion of LGBT voices and women writers challenge the perception that science fiction is a heterosexual male dominated establishment? *Startling Sci-Fi* editor Casey Ellis will moderate a discussion with panelists including the book's artist Stefanie Masciandaro and several of the authors. A Q&A session will follow. Together, we'll try to figure out why some stories are more equal than others.

Casey Ellis graduated from Manhattanville College in 2004, where he wrote a senior thesis on ethical issues in Oscar Wilde's *The Picture of Dorian Gray*. He received a Masters in English from the University at Buffalo in 2006, with a thesis on the language of the fool characters in Shakespeare's major tragedies.



**Discover Casey Ellis' picks for must-read sci-fi books
on display in the lobby of the library**

<http://newlitsalonpress.com/events>

Startling Sci-Fi

Line Edited by
Karen Lea Siegel & Rose Yndigoyen
Art by Stefanie Masciandaro
Art Direction and Design by luke kurtis

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NEW TALES of the BEYOND

edited by
Casey Ellis

“...grounded in the
genre and refreshingly
unique.”

—Nathan Burgoine,
author of *Light*

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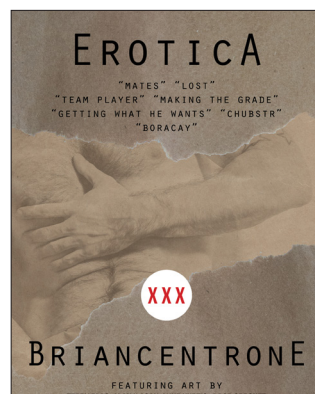
characteristics of the sci-fi genre. Jhon Sanchez’s “The Japanese Rice Cooker” and Daniel Gooding’s “Crow
Magnum Xix” toy with readers’ expectations by defying traditional storytelling techniques while Eve Fisher’s
“Embraced” and David W. Landrum’s “The Priestesses of Light” are intricately constructed character studies. Rob
Hartzell’s “The Dead and Eternal” raises profound concerns about modern technology though Adam Sass’s “98%
Graves” takes an optimistic view of the future. Every story is accompanied by Stefanie Masciandaro’s vibrant,
hypnotic illustrations which simultaneously evoke the days of sci-fi pulp paperbacks yet remain firmly grounded in
21st century digital techniques. This anthology will take you beyond what you thought possible in science fiction.



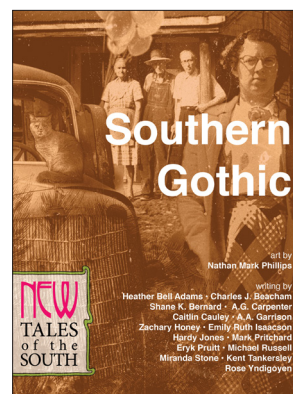
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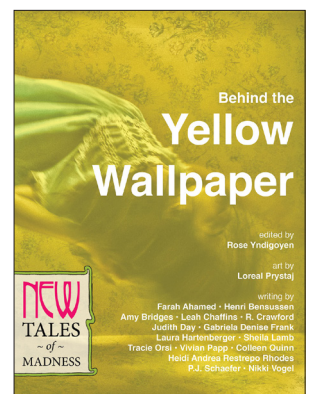
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