

חדשות האגודה – יולי 2025 The Israeli Society for Science Fiction and Fantasy

תל אביב: מועדון הקריאה יעסוק בספר "תשעה נסיכים לאמבר" ו"תותחי אוולון" מאת רוג'ר זילאזני, ויתקיים ביום ה', 24.7, בשעה 19:30, בדירה בת"א. לקבלת המיקום יש להירשם במייל של דפנה קירש (dafna1485@walla.co.il), ובדף האירוע בפייסבוק. <https://www.facebook.com/events/1041913523811981>. ירושלים: לפרטים על המפגשים של מועדון הקריאה, ניתן להצטרף לקבוצת הפייסבוק או ליצור קשר במייל עם המרכזת, גלי אחיטוב, sal.maple@gmail.com ולהצטרף לוואטסאפ המועדון. לקבלת עדכונים שוטפים על מפגשי מועדון הקריאה ברחבי הארץ ניתן להצטרף לרשימת התפוצה או בדף האגודה בפייסבוק.

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

Society information is available (in Hebrew) at the Society's site: <http://www.sf-f.org.il>

This month's roundup:

- Special Wartime Issue (#22) – A note from the editor
- SHEER SCIENCE – In memory of Aharon Sheer (ז"ל 1936-2015) – Founding editor of CyberCozen
- In memory of Marc Garneau, Canada's first astronaut 🍁
- [Our usual tidbits from the Web + Pics by Sanchez + 2 Movie reviews](#)

Special Wartime Issue #22

50 hostages still being held in Gaza, for 651 days, since October 7th, 2023. Every few days, reports come in that 'the end is in sight...' etc. when in fact, the Hamas is not willing to compromise and therefore the suffering in Gaza – both for the civilian Arab population and for the Israeli hostages, just continues...

As editor-in-chief of CyberCozen, I feel obligated to review this 'Special Wartime Issue' rubrique (column):

CyberCozen – Israel's longest running English language Science Fiction (SF) fanzine (since 1988) – has as its aim to discuss and promote SF, mostly as follows:

- Primarily via contributions of film/TV and book reviews, art, articles, original short stories, etc.
- Fascinating 'edge of' Science articles and links (via "[Sheer Science](#)" and links in "[Fun from the Web](#)") that may one day become the source for SF authors, as sometimes happens.
- We promote the "Israeli Society for Science Fiction and Fantasy" Hebrew book club and some of their major events – even though we have no official affiliation.
- Periodically, we publish updates on Israel's Space research and technology ([Spacell](#)).
- Being a Yiddish SF writer, I sometimes expose our readers to the unique world of Yiddish SF.

Due to the extraordinary circumstances of the events of October 7th, 2023 and the State of Israel's almost 2-year defensive war against terrorism (Hamas, Hezbollah, Iranian Islamic state, and their many supporters), we have attempted to bring at least some SF-related angle to the monthly "[Special Wartime Issue #22](#)" rubrique. Although we have been mostly successful, in the last 5 or so issues, we more or less ran out of ideas for an SF-angle to breaking news or updates on the hostage/war status.

We had, at the very outset, thought (and hoped) that this out-of-the-ordinary column would run only a few times – Israeli wars are a-typically short – but instead, the confrontation is still ongoing, 21 months later, with 50 hostages still being held and tortured by Hamas, with at least 3 out of 6 warfronts still active against Israel and also against Jews around the world...

We hope to be prophetic – that the key issues of this war will soon be resolved – and that by next month all the hostages will have been freed and safely returned, and that everyone involved will be able to pick up the pieces and continue forward with their regular lives (except for the crazies, of course).

I hope/plan to then do a piece on how I thought the ending should have been reached.

Until then, may the good guys stay safe, and may the bad guys fail hard – Your editor, Leybl Botwinik

Sheer Science*

Scientists Are Mapping the Bizarre, Chaotic Spacetime Inside Black Holes

*In memory of Aharon Sheer (ז"ל) – Founding Editor

By understanding the churning region near singularities, physicists hope they might be able to reconcile gravity and quantum mechanics.

"The original version of this story appeared in Quanta Magazine.

*At the beginning of time and the center of every black hole lies a point of infinite density called a **singularity**. To explore these enigmas, we take what we know about space, time, gravity, and quantum mechanics and apply it to a place where all of those things simply break down. There is, perhaps, nothing in the universe that challenges the imagination more. **Physicists still believe that if they can come up with a coherent explanation for what actually happens in and around singularities, something revelatory will emerge, perhaps a new understanding of what space and time are made of.***

In the late 1960s, some physicists speculated that singularities might be surrounded by a region of churning chaos, where space and time haphazardly grow and shrink. Charles Misner of the University of Maryland called it a "Mixmaster universe," after what was then a [popular line of kitchen appliances](#). If an astronaut were to fall into a black hole, "one can imagine it mixing up the astronaut's body parts in the way that a mixmaster or eggbeater mixes up the yolk and white of an egg," [Kip Thorne](#), a Nobel Prize-winning physicist, later wrote..."

Read it all here, on Wired.com:

<https://www.wired.com/story/new-maps-of-the-bizarre-chaotic-space-time-inside-black-holes>

In Memoriam:

**Marc Garneau,
1st Canadian astronaut
to fly into space,
dies at 76**



Garneau flew on three NASA space shuttle missions, led the Canadian Space Agency and served in Parliament for 15 years



Official NASA portrait of the first Canadian in space, Mark Garneau, in 1984. (Image credit: NASA)

<https://www.space.com/space-exploration/human-spaceflight/marc-garneau-1st-canadian-astronaut-to-fly-into-space-dies-at-76>

Fun from the Web

- **Turning the Red Planet green? It's time to take terraforming Mars seriously**
<https://www.space.com/astronomy/mars/turning-the-red-planet-green-its-time-to-take-terraforming-mars-seriously-scientists-say>
 - **17 dazzling images from 2025 Milky Way Photographer of the Year awards**
<https://www.popsoci.com/science/milky-way-photographer-of-the-year-2025/?ref=thefuturist>
 - **Live video from space! See 24/7 views of Earth from the ISS via Sen cameras**
<https://www.space.com/astronomy/earth/live-4k-video-from-space-see-earth-from-the-iss-with-sharp-eyed-sen-cameras>
 - **Anyone Can Now Access the Largest Space Map Ever Created. Here's How**
<https://www.cnet.com/science/space/anyone-can-now-access-the-largest-space-map-ever-created-heres-how/?ref=thefuturist>
 - **X-ray reveals ancient Greek author of charred first-century BC Vesuvius scroll**
<https://www.theguardian.com/science/2025/may/06/x-ray-reveals-ancient-greek-author-of-charred-first-century-bc-vesuvius-scroll?ref=thefuturist>
 - **There is something odd going on inside the Moon**
<https://www.iflscience.com/there-is-something-odd-going-on-inside-the-moon-79196?ref=thefuturist>
- **AI Is Deciphering Animal Speech. Should We Try to Talk Back?**
<https://gizmodo.com/ai-is-deciphering-animal-speech-should-we-try-to-talk-back-2000598783?ref=thefuturist>
 - **Could deciphering dolphin language help us communicate with ET?**
<https://www.space.com/space-exploration/search-for-life/could-deciphering-dolphin-language-help-us-communicate-with-et>
- **Doomsday Preppers Say Cybertruck Is a Horrible Choice for End of the World**
<https://futurism.com/doomsday-preppers-cybertruck-apocalypse?ref=thefuturist>
 - **In a world without people, how fast would NYC fall apart? Here's the timeline**
<https://www.popsoci.com/environment/abandoned-nyc-what-would-happen/?ref=thefuturist>
- **Having an affair? Don't let Claude 4 find out**
<https://www.morningbrew.com/stories/2025/05/24/having-an-affair-dont-let-claude-4-find-out?ref=thefuturist>
 - **Weather makers: How microbes living in the clouds affect our lives**
<https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20250610-the-microbes-that-thrive-in-the-clouds?ref=thefuturist>
 - **'Star Trek' actor William Shatner and astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson team up in new space bromance show 'The Universe Is Absurd'**
<https://www.space.com/entertainment/star-trek-actor-william-shatner-and-astronaut-neil-degrasse-team-up-in-new-space-bromance-show-the-universe-is-absurd>

MOVIES/TV

- **Star Trek TNG: 'The Best of Both Worlds' at 35 – Why we're still assimilated by 'Star Trek's greatest ever cliffhanger**
<https://www.space.com/entertainment/space-movies-shows/the-best-of-both-worlds-at-35-why-were-still-assimilated-by-star-treks-greatest-ever-cliffhanger>
- **Star Trek Strange New Worlds Season 3 trailer promises new worlds, new adventures, and new romances (video)**
<https://www.space.com/entertainment/space-movies-shows/star-trek-strange-new-worlds-season-3-trailer-promises-new-worlds-new-adventures-and-new-romances-video>
- **Best friendly aliens from sci-fi movies and TV: From Superman to Stitch**
<https://www.space.com/entertainment/best-friendly-aliens-from-sci-fi?ref=thefuturist>

- **Forget Darth Vader: The Empire has never been scarier than in 'Andor' season 2**
<https://www.space.com/entertainment/space-movies-shows/forget-darth-vader-and-the-emperor-the-empire-has-never-been-scarier-than-in-andor-season-2>
- **Every upcoming 'Star Wars' movie officially announced**
<https://www.space.com/entertainment/space-movies-shows/every-new-star-wars-movie-officially-announced>

- **'Love, Death + Robots' creators talk us through season 4's sci-fi episodes**
<https://www.space.com/entertainment/why-not-a-dolphin-jesus-love-death-robots-creators-talk-us-through-this-seasons-sci-fi-episodes-exclusive>
- **Every episode of Netflix's 'Love, Death + Robots' Volume 4, ranked**
<https://www.space.com/entertainment/every-episode-of-netflixs-love-death-robots-volume-4-ranked>

- **'Supergirl: Woman of Tomorrow': Release date, plot, cast, etc. (DCU movie)**
<https://www.space.com/entertainment/space-movies-shows/supergirl-woman-of-tomorrow-release-date-plot-cast-and-everything-we-know>

- **The 1st official 'Alien: Earth' trailer is finally here, and the Xenomorphs aren't the only invaders we need to worry about (video)**
<https://www.space.com/entertainment/space-movies-shows/the-1st-official-alien-earth-trailer-is-finally-here-and-the-xenomorphs-arent-the-only-invaders-we-need-to-worry-about-video>
- **The Only Recap You Need Before Alien: Earth (26 minutes)**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SEB-hX3ywEw>
- **Alien: Earth | Official Trailer | FX**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZbsiKjVAV28>

- **Titan A.E. came out 25 years ago, and history has been kind to the infamous flop that killed Fox Animation Studios**
<https://www.space.com/entertainment/space-movies-shows/titan-a-e-came-out-25-years-ago-and-history-has-been-kind-to-the-infamous-flop-that-killed-fox-animation-studios>

BOOKS

- **Star Trek to Star Wars, The Fantastic Four to Predator — here are 10 sci-fi comic books coming your way in 2025**
<https://www.space.com/entertainment/upcoming-sci-fi-comic-books>

GAMES

- **The surprising benefits of video games**
<https://www.popsoci.com/health/video-game-benefits/?ref=thefuturist>
- **Guided tour of the solar system in Elite Dangerous (interview)**
<https://www.space.com/entertainment/space-games-toys/we-took-a-guided-tour-of-the-solar-system-in-elite-dangerous-and-now-you-can-too>
- **Summer Game Fest 2025: The biggest space & sci-fi game reveals**
<https://www.space.com/entertainment/space-games/summer-game-fest-2025-the-biggest-space-and-sci-fi-game-reveals-and-announcements>
- **The 10 best space exploration games that let you travel the cosmos and explore strange new worlds**
<https://www.space.com/best-space-exploration-games>

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