GREAT SCIENCE FICTION STORIES CATALOG

1998

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Under Siege by George R. R. Martin

Guest of Honor by Robert Reed

Slow Birds by Ian Watson

For I Have Touched the Sky (Tales of Krenyoga #2) by Mike Resnick

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Rammer by Larry Niven

The Shobies' Story by Ursula K. Le Guin

A Walk in the Sun by Geoffrey A. Landis

SCIENCE FICTION STORIES ON AUDIO CASSETTES
When they conscripted me, I was classified as a Human Mutation, third category. Or a hum-three in the vernacular. The hum-ones are the nonviables: stillborn and infant deaths and living veggie. We got millions of ‘em. The hum-twos are viable but useless, all the guys with extra toes and webbed hands and funny eyes. Get thousands of them. But us hum-threes are the elite, so they tell us. That’s when they draft us. Down here, inside the Graham Project bunker, we get new names. Old Charlie Graham himself used to call us his “timeriders” before he croaked, but that’s too romantic for Mayor Salazar. Salazar prefers the official government term: G.C. for Graham Chrononaut. The orderlies and grunts turned G.C. into geek. The killer geeks, we called ourselves. Six little killer geeks riding the time stream, biling the heads off vast chunks of probability.

For I Have Touched the Sky (Tales of Kirinyaga #2) by Mike Resnick
Read by Pat Bottino / 80 minutes / 1 cassette ISBN 1-884612-25-3 $11.99

“Once before, the Kikuyu tried to become something that they were not, and we become not city-dwelling Kikuyu, or bad Kikuyu, but an entirely new tribe called Kenyans. Those of us who came to Kirinyaga came here to preserve the old ways— and if women start reading, some of them will become discontented, and they will leave, and then one day there will be no Kikuyu left,” Koriba said. “But I don’t want to leave Kirinyaga!” Kamari said. “I want to become an urbanite, and bear many children for my husband, and all the fates of his shamba. But I also want to read,” Koriba shook his head. "No."

Kirinyaga & One Perfect Morning, with Jackals (Tales of Kirinyaga #1) by Mike Resnick
Read by Pat Bottino / 83 minutes / 1 cassette ISBN 1-884612-23-7 $10.99

Maintenance watche.Kirinyaga discreetly, making minor orbital adjustments when necessary, assuring that our tropical climate remains constant. From time to time they have subtly suggested that we might wish to draw upon their medical expertise, or perhaps allow our children to make use of their educational facilities, but they have taken our refusal with good grace, and have never shown any desire to interfere in our affairs. Until I strangled the baby. HUGO AWARD WINNING STORY.

Rammer by Larry Niven
Read by Pat Bottino / 80 minutes / 1 cassette ISBN 1-884612-22-9 $10.99

Once there was a dead man. He’d been waiting inside a coffin, suitably labeled, whose outer shell held liquid nitrogen. There were frozen clumps of cancer all through his frozen body. He was waiting for medical science to find him a cure. Later there came a criminal. His name is forgotten and his crime is a secret, but I must have been a terrible one. The State wiped his personality for it. Afterward he was a dead man: still warm, still breathing, even reasonably healthy—but empty. The State had use for an empty man. And the State needed a starship pilot.

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**CURRENT TITLES**

**Hollywood Kremlin**
by Bruce Sterling
Read by Gordon Williams / 82 mins / 1 cassette
*Where is the rest of your ground crew?* said Captain Khoklov. Starlitz grinned up at the pilot. "The ground crew's on strike, comrade," he said. "Politics. The national problem. You know how it is here in Azerbaijan." Khoklov was scandalized. "They can't strike against smugglers! We're not the government! We are a criminal-enterprise operation!" They knew that, man," Starlitz said. "But they wanted to show solidarity. With their fellow Armenian Christians. Against the Moslem Azerbaijanis."

**Cilia-of-Gold**
by Stephen Baxter
Read by Amy Bruce / 71 minutes / 1 cassette
ISBN 1-884612-12-1 $10.99
Recently, anomalies had been recorded in the Sun's behavior; aspects of its interior seemed to be diverging, and widely, from the standard theoretical models. Superet was a loose coalition of interested groups on Earth and Mars, intent on studying problems likely to impact the long-term survival of the human species. Problems in the interior of mankind's only star clearly came into the category of things of interest to Superet. Inria Larionova had had no intention of visiting Mercury herself. The planet was a piece of junk, a desolate ball of iron and rock too close to the Sun to be interesting, or remotely habitable. But, within days of landing two exploratory teams on the planet, both had reported anomalies. This story takes place in the author's "Xeelee" universe.

**Blood Sisters**
by Greg Egan
Read by Amy Bruce / 53 minutes / 1 cassette
ISBN 1-884612-14-8 $10.99
A team of biological warfare researchers had decided that designing viruses was just too much hard work. Why waste hundreds of Ph.D.-years — why expend any intellectual effort whatsoever — when the time-honored partnership of blind mutation and natural selection was all that was required? The theory was, they'd set up a few billion copies of their system, like row after row of little biological poker machines, spinning away in their underground lab, and just wait to harvest the jackpots. They theory also included the best containment facilities in the world, and 520 people all sticking scrupulously to official procedure, day after day, month after month, without a moment of carelessness, laziness, or thoughtlessness. Apparently, nobody bothered to compute the probability of that.

**Guest of Honor**
by Robert Reed
Read by Amy Bruce / 83 minutes / 1 cassette
ISBN 1-884612-08-3 $10.99
Centuries ago, during the Blossoming, technologies had raced forward at an unprecedented rate. Starships like the Kyber and a functional immortality had allowed the first missions to the distant worlds. Despite precautions, there were casualties. People who had lived for centuries died, often in stupid accidents. After the first few missions, no new starships were built, and sensible near-immortal would have ridden inside even the safest vessel. Only recently had a solution been invented. The near-immortals devised ways of making highly gifted, highly trained crews from themselves. With computers and genetic engineering, groups of people could pool their qualities and create offspring...copulation humans.

**SUMMER RELEASES**

**Schrödinger's Kitten**
by George Alec Effinger
Read by TBA / 80 minutes / 1 cassette
There were no minarets in the Budayeen, but in the city all around the walled quarters there were many mosques. From the tall, ancient towers, strong voices called to the faithful on mornings of devotion. Leaning against a grimy wall, Johan heard the chanted cries of the muezzins, but she paid them no mind. She stared at the dead body at her feet, the body of a boy a few years older than she remembered. She had seen about the Budayeen but whom she did not know by name. She still held the bloody knife that had killed him. She killed him because he would do her harm in one of a number of probable, but uncertain, futures. HUGO & NEBULA AWARD WINNING STORY.

**Beggars in Spain**
by Nancy Kress
Reader TBA / 180 minutes / 2 cassettes
Sleep once served an important evolutionary function. Once Cen Pre-mammal was done filling his stomach and squiring his sperm around, sleep kept him immobile and away from predators. Sleep was an aid to survival. But now it's a left-over mechanism, like the appendix. It switches on every night, but the body doesn't use it. Biotech Institute can turn off the switch at its source, in the genes. There are side effects. Compared to their age mates, the non-sleep children - who have not had IQ genetic manipulation - are more intelligent, better at problem-solving, and more joyous. And no negative side effects reported, so far. HUGO & NEBULA AWARD WINNING STORY.

**FALL RELEASES**

**Solstice**
by James Patrick Kelly
Reader TBA / 90 minutes / 1 cassette
It was while he was developing Focus that the famous drug artist, Cage, decided he needed someone to help him spend his money. He felt no particular urge to contract a marriage. None of the women he was seeing was at the time told to him. He knew that they had been drawn by that irresistible pheromone: the smell of success. He wanted to share his life with someone who would be bound to him by ties no lawyer could break. Someone who would be uniquely his. Forever. Or so he imagined. Wynne was carried in an artificial womb. All it took was a tissue culture from a few of Cage's intestinal epithelial cells and some gene sculpturing to change the "Y" chromosome to an "X." This and one-point-two-million new dollars. She was not his daughter. Nor was she exactly his clone. HUGO AWARD WINNING AUTHOR.

**Bwana (Tales of Kirinyaga #3)**
by Mike Resnick
Reader TBA / 130 minutes / 2 cassettes
ISBN 1-884612-29-6 $17.99
They brought to the planet Kirinyaga the impala, buffalo, gazelle, hyena, jackal, and the vulture from Earth in order to help create their utopian world. Due to an ecological imbalance, the hyenas do not have enough to eat and are killing the children of this world of farmers. A hunter from Earth is brought in to save them from the hyenas. But who will save them from the hunter.

*Effects. Consult www.flash.net/~atx for more information.*
Mike Resnick's Kirinyaga series is the most honored story cycle in the history of the science fiction field.

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