

# Event Spotlight



## Visions of the Past: 2017 Retro-Hugos at Worldcon 76 **Kevin Roche\***

*Worldcon 76 will will present Retro Hugo awards for works created more than 75 years ago. The Chair of Worldcon 76 tell us more about them.*



The Hugo Awards, presented first at the 11<sup>th</sup> Worldcon in 1953 and annually since 1955, are science fiction's most prestigious award, and one of the World Science Fiction Convention's unique and distinguished institutions.

**HUGO AWARD** Just this summer, the Hugo Awards were recognized by the Guinness Book of World Records as the longest-running science fiction award!

Since 1993, Worldcon committees have also had the option of awarding Retrospective Hugo Awards for past Worldcon years where they had not been presented that are multiples of 25 years prior to the contemporary convention. The first such, the 1946 Retro-Hugos, were awarded at the 1996 World Science Fiction convention. This let fandom “fill in the

blanks” from 1939 onward -- with the notable exception of the hiatus years during World War II (1942-1945) when no Worldcon was convened.

This summer, however, a revision to the rules was ratified which gives both Worldcon 76 in San Jose and Dublin 2019: An Irish Worldcon an opportunity which, if neglected, won't return for another quarter century.

Both conventions have chosen to seize that opportunity, and announced at Smofcon 35 that Worldcon 76 will be presenting the 1943, and in Dublin 2019 the 1944, Retrospective Hugo Awards during their respective conferences.



**Worldcon 76 invites members on the evening of August 16, 2018, to walk the red carpet back through time to a 1943 Worldcon that never was, and celebrate with other fans the works of 1942.**

So, why does that rate an entire article in *The Virtual Costumer*? Because I want readers to be among the first to know that Worldcon 76 will host an extra event to present the Retro-Hugos, and it's one I hope to make especially costumer-friendly!

I have observed a strong desire among many fans for a “red carpet” experience at Worldcon, and we decided to use the occasion of the Retrospective Hugo Awards to deliver one. During those tumultuous years, there was no shortage of speculative fiction, including introductory versions of works destined to become classics. Live and animated films of all lengths provided escape to people world-wide. Come dressed to the nines as we honor those creators!

I encourage you all to consider what you'd like to be wearing when you are photographed by the “fan-parazzi” on the red carpet as you enter the gala. Will you be ready for that snap interview by our resident gossip columnist? (There will be non-red-carpet entrances as well for folk who prefer to simply sidle anonymously into the party.)

Worldcon 76's motto is Make the Future. As we make our future tomorrow, so too we can celebrate these Visions of Future Past. I look forward to seeing you there!

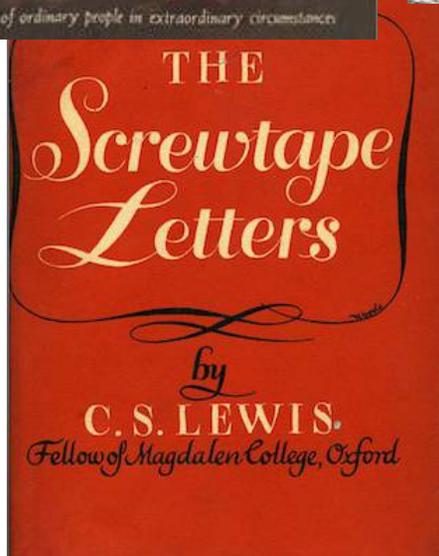
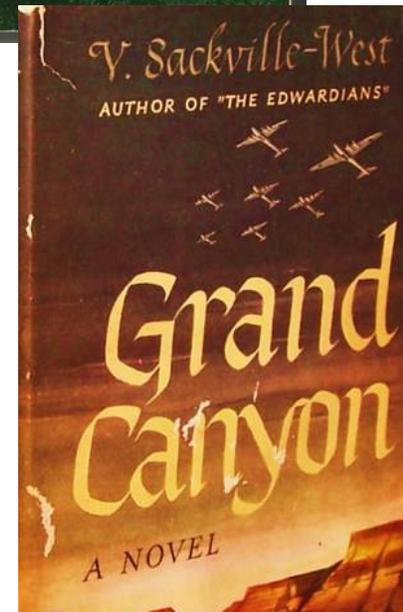
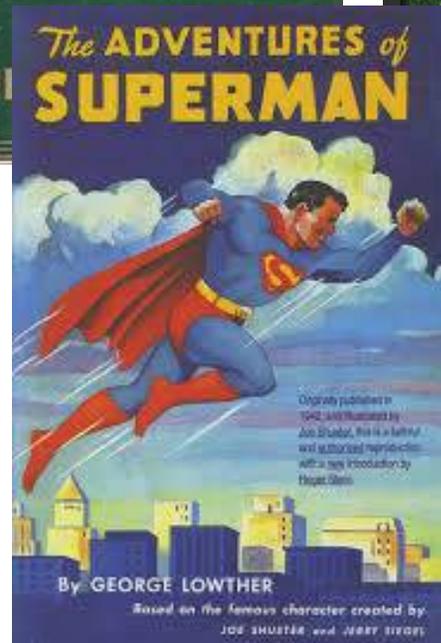
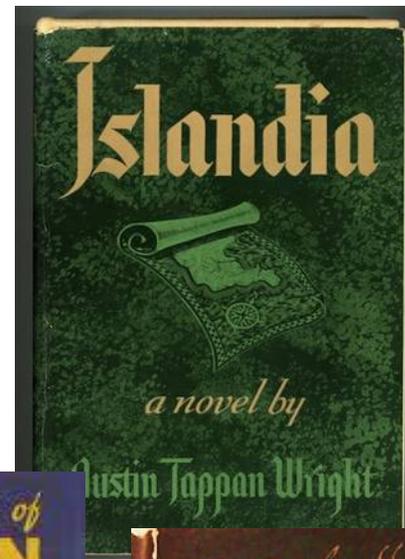
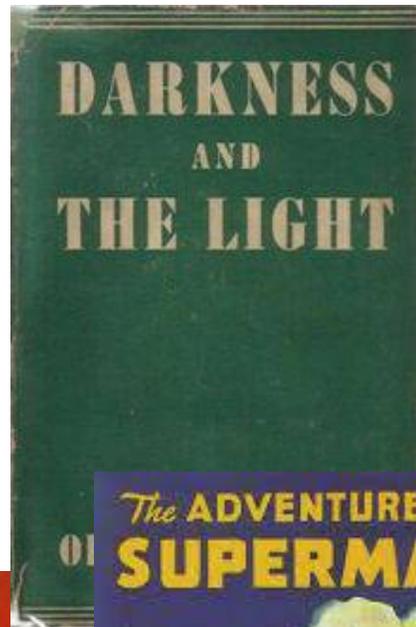
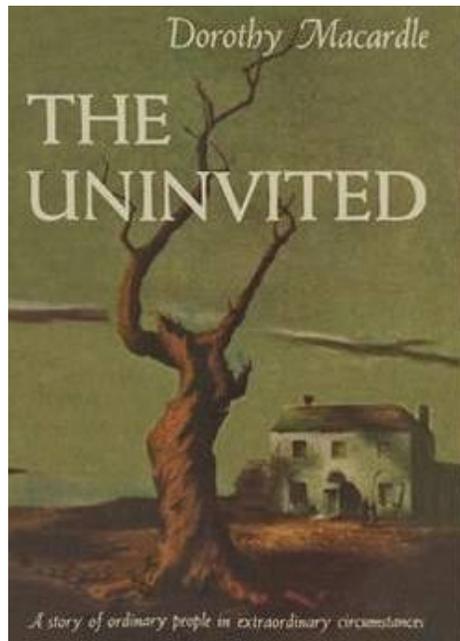
*Note: The next several pages are a brief visual tour of works from 1942. You can also view this visual tour as a video on [YouTube](#).*



# Magazines from 1942



# Books from 1942



# Movies from 1942

