

Science Fiction

October 7. Pohl and Kornbluth (I).

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last time

SF and Literature in the 1940s
Sturgeon's prose technologies

embedding

direct reported discourse

reporting verb + quoted text in original tense

He said, “I wish I could help.” (24)

indirect reported discourse

reporting verb + complement clause in matching tense

I asked what was going on. (21)

[I asked, “What is going on?”]

embedding

free indirect discourse

no reporting verb

main clause is reported discourse in matching tense

context implies (without certainty) that it *is* a report

He had been eleven years old when the subject of his adult life and work first came up... It was no minor tribute to them that the subject never came up again.

(25)

So the human pilot was out, obviously. (25)

last time

SF and Literature in the 1940s

Sturgeon's prose technologies

Bradbury, pathos, poetry, gender

Campbell: "power"

Astounding readers: "our magazine"

New York Times readers: distance, judgment, pleasure

high/low: Adorno & Horkheimer; brows; Bourdieu

Together with fellow Futurians Isaac Asimov, Donald A. Wollheim, David Kyle and others, Mr. Pohl was among the members of what came to be known among science-fiction fans as First Fandom...

Noting that Mr. Pohl was a founding member of the Fantasy Amateur Press Association, its current official editor, Curt Phillips, commented, "I'll remember that for all his many accomplishments, Fred Pohl never forgot his roots in SF fandom. He was always 'one of us,' which has always helped make me proud to be a part of the SF subculture myself."

Obituary on Pohl's blog

<http://www.thewaythefutureblogs.com/2013/09/frederik-pohl-nov-26-1919sept-2-2013/>

Galaxy

SCIENCE FICTION

OCTOBER 1950
25¢

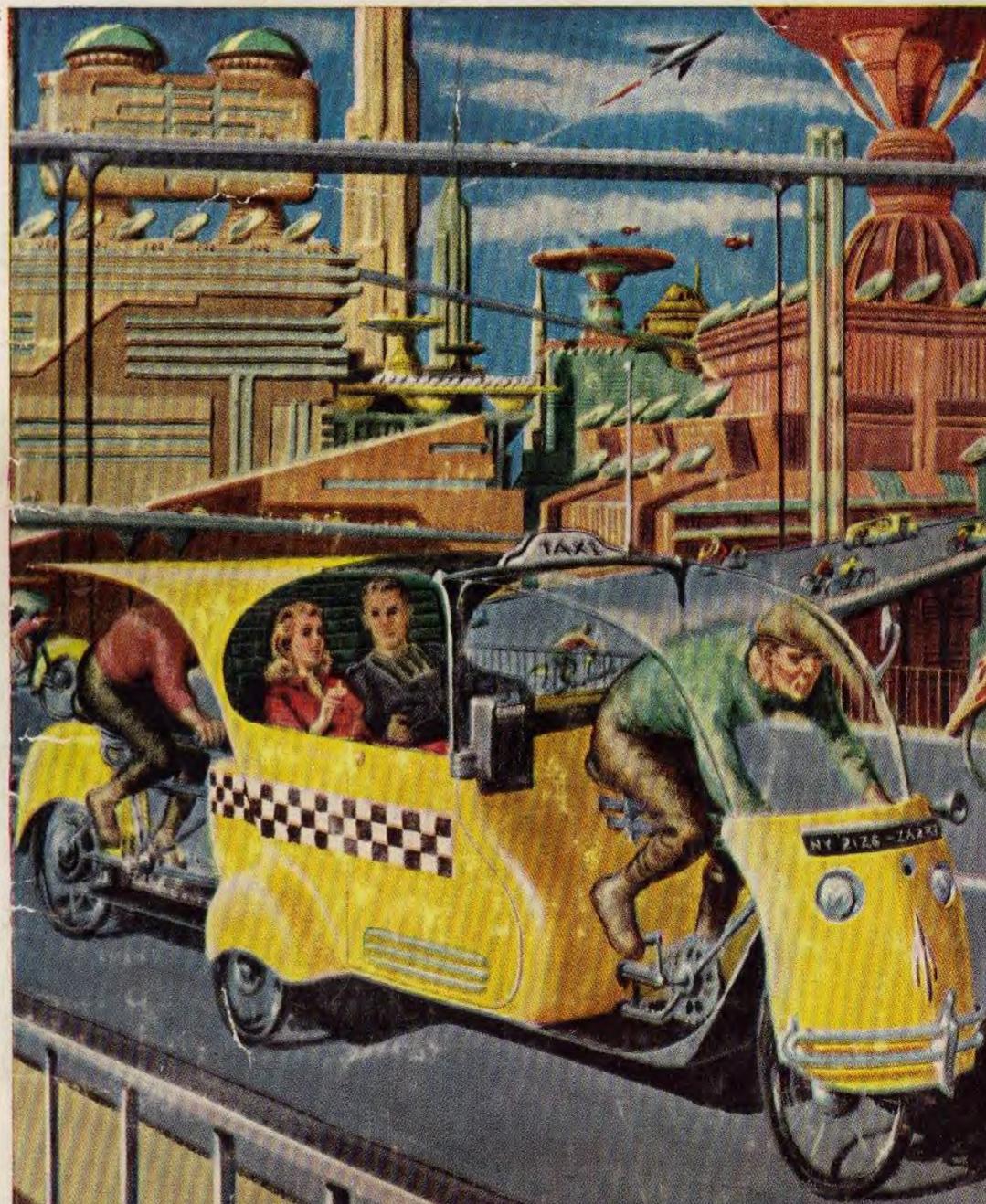


TIME QUARRY—A Suspense Novel By Clifford D. Simak
CONTEST—STARTLING PRIZES—Introduced By WILLIE LEY

Galaxy

SCIENCE FICTION

JUNE 1952
35¢



A "HUCKSTERS" UPTOPIA OF THE FUTURE—READ GRAVY PLANE

SCIENCE fiction, everybody agrees, or seems to, has finally come of age. Hollywood, radio, book publishers, and the slick magazines are all, with the usual degraded exceptions, buying and treating science fiction intelligently.

GALAXY Science Fiction proposes to carry the maturity of this type of literature into the science fiction magazine field, where it is now, unfortunately, somewhat hard to find. It establishes a compound break with both the lurid and the stodgy traditions of s-f magazine publishing. From cover design to advertising selections, *GALAXY Science Fiction* intends to be a mature magazine for mature readers . . . mature in reading; age alone is no assurance of maturity.

Editor [H.L. Gold], "For Adults Only," *Galaxy* 1, no. 1 (October 1950): 2. Internet Archive.

BESTER: Now Fred's novel which he wrote with Cyril Kornbluth, *The Space Merchants*, is, I think, the finest novel ever written in the history of science fiction. It is a brilliant piece of work. Many brilliant things have followed it, but this came along when everybody was obsessed with Doc Smith space opera, which has its own charm — it's great fun — and suddenly comes this realistic extrapolation of what American life, American advertising, American ecology and American psychosis will lead to eventually.

“Alfred Bester and Frederik Pohl—The Conversation” [1978]

<http://www.thewaythefutureblogs.com/2011/03/me-and-alfie/>

I looked down at him across the table and looked away through the window. Off to the south, the gigantic pylon of the Hearst Memorial blinked its marker signal; behind it lay the tiny, dulled dome of the old Capitol. I, an ad man, was embarrassed, and O'Shea was enjoying it.

“Gravy Planet,” pt. 1, *Galaxy* 4, no. 3 (June 1952): 18. Cf. *Space Merchants*, 22.

Literature

“Do you read poetry?” (52)

What is it that is going on here?

next time

Pohl and Kornbluth: focus on the first twelve chapters