

| <u>Index No.</u> | <u>Title</u> | <u>Tracks</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|-------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| 2 | LGBT Representation in Anime: From Utena to Yuri!!! on Ice | Anime | From old-school (<i>Revolutionary Girl Utena</i>) to new (<i>Yuri on Ice</i>). Yaoi, yuri, bishonen, bara, and why the English dub of <i>Card Captor Sakura</i> is over-edited to ribbons. |
| 1 | The impact of anime from 30 years ago | Anime | The long-lasting impact of anime from 1988 including the very different films <i>My Neighbor Totoro</i> , <i>Grave of the Fireflies</i> , and <i>Akira</i> . |
| 3 | Artists' Quick Draw Challenge | Art | Artists are challenged by attendees to sketch an action in a short amount of time. |
| 202 NEW TOPIC | Help for Beginning Artists: Materials, Techniques and Answers | Art | What does the budding artist need to know to make their work more than just idle dabbling? What materials and techniques should be sought out—and which ones are best avoided by the beginner? |
| 4 | Software Tools for Artists | Art | Panelists discuss what the best, or their favorite, software artist's tools are, and why. |
| 209 NEW TOPIC | The Changing Nature of Making a Living as an Artist | Art | How has the business of art changed with the increasingly digital and interconnected world? |
| 5 | Blanket Forts for adults/kids | Children's General Just For Fun | building a blanket fort |
| 6 | Prop making for kids | Children's | Prop making for kids. (Bring back Propped! For Kids) |
| 7 | 40 Years of Elfquest | Comics | Elfquest, an indie comic first published in 1978 by Wendy and Richard Pini, is still going strong. Have the stories changed over time? What kind of impact has the comic had? |
| 8 | 80 Years of Superman | Comics Media - Fan | Superman first appeared in comics in 1938, and the iconic Christopher Reeve-starring Superman film was 40 years ago in 1978. |
| 9 | Favorite mythological characters in the comics | Comics | What are your favorite mythological characters who have appeared in comics? Why do you like them? How are they different from the "real" mythology? |
| 11 | Sex and Sexuality in Webcomics | Comics Late Night | Webcomics are giving non-traditional genders and sexual arrangements a place to expose themselves. What's out there? What's going on? Is it serious or finny or both? And why does the mere mention of Oglaf cause grownup to giggle? |
| 12 | Superman Through the Decades | Comics Media - Fan | Discuss the beginnings of Superman, to the movies & TV shows, plus where we think the character will go next. |
| 10 | The rest of the World Explored in Webcomics | Comics | Because the Internet is worldwide, webcomics are being drawn by people all over the world, and these people are showcasing their own cultures, history, and folklore. A review of webcomics that feature non-American cultures and histories. |
| 13 | Webcomics -- the new shared fandom | Comics | As Fandom splinters into sub-genres and sub-sub-genres, and the number of published books grows each year, people no longer have a shared experience with books. Webcomics have slipped into that space. Easily shared with anyone who has the internet, and often accompanied by active forums, webcomics have become a meeting place for people all around the world. What are the hottest webcomics, and why do people love them? |
| 14 | Anatomy of a Pattern | Cosplay & Costuming | Introduction to commercial patterns. What do all the markings mean? how do you use a pattern? |
| 15 | Basic Electronics for Costumers and Cosplay | Cosplay & Costuming Science | You are an electronic Ignoramus Rex, and the very idea gives you a headache. What are the basics of electronics? How do you find an electronic wizard to help you? |
| 16 | Cosplay Footwear | Cosplay & Costuming | Do we really need to buy those \$500 boots or learn to be a shoemaker? What else can we do? |

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| 17 | Cosplay Show and Tell | Cosplay & Costuming | Exactly what it sounds like. Bring or wear your cosplay and get some time to show it off and answer questions from other cos-players. (moderated) |
| 18 | Cosplay vs Copyright & Trademark | Cosplay & Costuming Fan Life | What are the legal ramifications of cosplay when it comes to things copyrighted or trademarked by others? |
| 19 | Costuming Basics—the Properties of Leather | Cosplay & Costuming | Until you get used to it, leather is an ornery cuss—take it from a fabric worker. How leather differs from fabric. Why and how various leathers behave the way they do. |
| 20 | Costuming Basics: Properties of Fabrics | Cosplay & Costuming | Until you get used to it, fabric is an ornery cuss—take it from a leather worker. Why and how various fabrics behave the way they do. |
| 21 | Costuming Methods Rarely Mentioned | Cosplay & Costuming | Riveting, soldering, welding, gluing: methods, techniques, and hazards. |
| 22 | Creating your Masquerade Presentation | Cosplay & Costuming | What makes a good Masquerade presentation? Do's and Don'ts, and lots of advice to make your presentation the best. |
| 23 | Designing with croquis | Cosplay & Costuming | Using fashion figures called croquis to design a costume. How to make a personalized croqui from full length photos. |
| 24 | Handsewing Techniques | Cosplay & Costuming | Learn basic hand sewing stitches and embroidery stitches by completing or or getting a start on a small project (possibly a badge holder). |
| 25 | Historical vs Fantasy Weapons and Armor | Cosplay & Costuming | Fantasy and fantastic weapons are easy—what's sometimes hard is making weapons and armor historically accurate without herniating yourself. |
| 26 | How to take measurements | Cosplay & Costuming | Whether you are buying, comissioning or making your own costume, accurate measurements are a must. Here's how to do it. |
| 27 | How to work with Foam Latex | Cosplay & Costuming | The techniques, methods, and safety. |
| 28 | Most Clever Costuming Tricks | Cosplay & Costuming | Tips and Tricks and strange things we have done to make our costumes and props work. |
| 29 | Now Where Do I put My Phone? | Cosplay & Costuming | You're all dressed up and ready to cos-play! But what do you do with your phone and keys? You need ideas to plan ahead and incorporate "storage" into your outfit. This could be a moderated brainstorming session. |
| 30 | Packing and Transporting Costumes | Cosplay & Costuming | A suitcase may not work well for packing and transporting many elaborate costumes and props. What other options are available? Could work as a moderated brainstorming session. |
| 31 | Paper Mache for Dummies | Cosplay & Costuming | Many costume pieces and props can be made from paper mache. Learn (Or re-learn!) the how-to's. Could include a small project |
| 32 | Plus Size Cosplay | Cosplay & Costuming | Cosplay is for everyone but custom outfits like corsets can be a challenge along with altering patterns. |
| 33 | Prop Weapons | Cosplay & Costuming | Making, carrying, and using prop weapons safely. |
| 34 | Stump the Costumer | Cosplay & Costuming | Okay, we hope you won't really be able to stump us, because we'd like to help! Are you having a problem with some aspect of your Cos-play? Come pick the brains of some experienced costumers and see if we can help you out. |
| 35 | Super Heroes Don't Wear Glasses | Cosplay & Costuming | Can't wear contac lenses?. Blind as a bat without your contemporary eyeglasses? Can we think of ways to make our glasses work with our cos-play? Could be moderated brainstorming session. |
| 36 | What's inside? - Structure for costumes and props | Cosplay & Costuming | What kind of structures can be used underneath to support costume pieces, or props. May cover wire armatures, plastic canvas structures... |
| 37 | What's Your Goal? | Cosplay & Costuming | Discussion of what is necessary for different types of costumes based on their purpose - theatrical (stage and video), reenactment, hall costumes, masquerade... |
| 38 | Working with "Difficult" Textiles | Cosplay & Costuming | Somefabrics and textiles can be nasty to work with. Learn some tricks and techniques for making things easier. |
| 39 | Librarian's Roundtable-Fostering SF& Fantasy Readers in Libraries | Education | General idea swapping and best practices for promoting SF and Fantasy in libraries. Discussion of forming and supporting book discussion groups, |

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| 40 | Dressing for Men | Fan Life | Whether you want to put together a decent hall costume, or just tired of always wearing you jeans and t-shirt, men can look sharp. Let's take some time to discuss how to develop a personal style, and how to find clothes that make you look good with a fannish flair. (Yes, I saw the geek chic suggestion, and while this is similar, a lot of costuming panels tend to concentrate on women). |
| 201 | Early Tales of Fandom | Fan Life | What was it like when fandom was young? |
| NEW TOPIC | | | |
| 41 | Fanning While Black | Fan Life Cosplay & Costuming | Despite the widely-held belief that fandom is all-inclusive, most fans of color will readily agree that their experience is tainted by other people's perception of race. This issue is particularly noticeable with cosplayers of color, as they face continual attacks for portraying purportedly "white" characters. Just how widespread is the problem, and what can or should organized fandom do to help mitigate it? |
| 42 | Fantasy Vacations | Fan Life | Where in the world can you find experiences most like those we read about in books? What's at the top of your travel list? Where are these magical places most likely to appear? How do you ensure that your vacation is a magical one? |
| 43 | Forgotten Fandoms | Fan Life | An opportunity to extol or complain about fandoms that have fallen from modern minds. |
| 44 | Geek Chic | Fan Life | How can you let your geek flag fly while still dressing for the job you have or the job you want? |
| 45 | Geek Chic: Dressing Professionally and Geeky | Fan Life | Have a job where you have to dress "professionally" but still want to let your geek flag fly? Well, you can! T-shirts are no longer the only way to show your geeky side. Join us as we talk about the many ways to incorporate geek into your professional wardrobe. |
| 46 | Geek Weddings | Fan Life | How to put together a geek inspired wedding that feels like a wedding and less like a LARP. |
| 47 | Hamilton: An American Obsession | Fan Life Media - FanGeneral | Do you listen to the cast album on a daily basis? Do you religiously follow Lin, Javier, and Miguel on Twitter? Do you dream of winning the ticket lottery? Are you curious about what all of this is about? Come, join us as we discuss this phenomenon and the impact it is having on our lives and our culture. |
| 48 | Look On Our Fan Works, Ye Mighty, and Rejoice | Fan Life | From Dante's Inferno to City of Bones, from Renaissance paintings to DeviantArt, fan fiction and fan art are far more than a modern trend. Why have fan works endured so long, and what impact do they have on our lives? |
| 49 | My Fandom Is Random | Fan Life Media - Fan Literary - Readers | Shows, movies, books, and other properties that aren't necessarily "sci-fi" or "fantasy" but still attract geek fans. |
| 51 | You're A Super Hero! Treat Yourself Like One. | Fan Life Science | Focusing on personal health and fitness. Why should we care for ourselves. Why we're worth it. Healthy food options. Ways to be active. |
| 208 | D&D Podcasts and Livestreams: From Adventure Zone to Critical Role | Gaming Media - Fan | With the advent of Stranger Things and Twitch bring about a renaissance of Dungeons and Dragons, there are a multitude of ways to consume your favorite fantasy roleplaying game outside of playing yourself. From actual play to Gm tips and live streamed video to audio podcasts, we'll take a look at the different styles of shows and what has become popular. Whether the story is drama laden or comedic in focus, we're here to share our favorites and discuss why we love them. |
| NEW TOPIC | | | |
| 52 | Dungeons and Dragons Podcasts and Livestreams | Gaming Media - Fan | I'd love a panel to discuss popular D&D podcasts and livestreams. The Adventure Zone, Maze Arcana, Critical Role, The Dragon Friends, and the official D&D channel are just a few items that could be sampled. |

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| 53 | Game Master Tips | Gaming | If you have always thought about running a role playing game. Or if you currently do what what are some tips on running a better game |
| 54 | How to Play A Role Playing Game | Gaming | Who is the GM? Is it GM (Game Master), DM (Dungeon Master), or ST (Story Teller)? What is their job? - What is my job as a player? - Reading a character sheet - Filling out a character sheet - Why does tgis game's sheet ask for numbers and that one fill in dots? - What does "D20", or "D6" mean? |
| 55 | Is Gaming Masculine Oriented or Dominated? | Gaming | Are masculine characters or traits overabundant in gaming? If so, to what extent in different genres of gaming? What are the reasons or causes, social and economic? What social and economic forces are active in promoting this, or acting against it? |
| 56 | Pokémon: Then & Now | Gaming Anime Media - Fan | The Pokémon franchise has endured for over 20 years, with anime series, trading card game expansions, and over a hundred video games if spin-offs are included. From Red & Blue to Ultra Sun & Moon, from Base Set to GO, what is it about Pokémon that has captured our imaginations for so long? What are we excited to see in the future? |
| 57 | Quest Creation in Games | Gaming | As a game designer, how do you create a quest? How is it structured? What are the limitations? Things to avoid? Things to run from in panic? |
| 58 | Video Games and Mythology | Gaming General | A discussion of how various mythos are portrayed in video games. Is this a good thing, or are we ruining good stories? |
| 74 | A Love Song to SF | General Literary - Readers Media - Fan | If "Among Others" by Jo Walton can be described as a love song to speculative fiction, what other stories follow in these steps? How does SF self-reference itself? How is this beneficial or detrimental? |
| 59 | Are Dystopias Popular Because We Are Living in One? | General Science | What, exactly, defines a dystopia? Are we moving toward, or perhaps already in, a dystopia? What are the indications one way or another? |
| 60 | Columbus and Ready Player One | General Media - Fan Literary - Readers | This spring's blockbuster Spielberg film <i>Ready Player One</i> is set here in Columbus, as is the novel it was based on. What are your thoughts on the movie, the book, and how well either of them portrays the character of the city? |
| 61 | Creating Life: From Frankenstein to Artificial Intelligence | General Literary - Readers Media - Fan Science | Frankenstein was published 200 years ago, and since then speculative fiction continues to return to the topic of humanity creating artificial life. Does this reveal a deep desire to "play god"? Do these stories ever have happy endings, or do they tend to serve as cautionary warnings against our own hubris? Are there common themes to stories of "unnatural" creation? |
| 62 | Crossover Please | General Literary - Readers Media - Fan | The Flash met Supergirl, Aliens faced off with Predator, Godzilla stomped Bambi. And then there's fanfic, where Scully's an Immortal, Kirk has a lightsaber, and the TARDIS lands in Serenity's cargo hold. |
| 67 | From Robby to Jaegers the robot evolution | General Literary - Readers Media - Fan | The evolution of robot tech science fiction. |
| 68 | Future Crime | General Literary - Readers Literary - Writers Media - Fan | Sci-fi private eye or corporate crime in space or policing the planets |
| 70 | Gateway Drugs for SF | General Literary - Readers Media - Fan | What are some of the best stories to invite new reader into SF books and media? What would you recommend for non-traditional audiences such as children, women, minorities, or the elderly? What's the best way to get someone hooked on the genre? |

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| 211 NEW TOPIC | I Need a Hero (or a Heroine) | General Literary - Readers Media - Fan Literary - Writers | |
| 72 | Is it Mythical, Mystical, or Legendary? | General | What are the differences between the three? How are they related and intertwined? |
| 73 | Is Religion a Social Dead End? | General | Stephen Hawking, in speaking of the still unsolved questions of astrophysics, once said, "Do we still need a god?" His meaning was clear, but the question has social ramifications. Many think (actually think, not merely feel) that humans are a spiritual species. Is there a fundamental human need for gods, for religion? If so, is it holding us back from becoming a unified, if diverse, society? |
| 75 | Non-western sources of fantasy stories | General Literary - Readers Media - Fan | What are some of the non-western sources for mythological bases for modern, western fantasy? Where do you find them? How do you use them? What about historical bases for modern, western fantasy? |
| 76 | Perception vs. Reality | General Science | What makes you think what you perceive is real? Panelists discuss the problems of perceptive reality. |
| 77 | Re-engineering Society | General Science | What changes in human attitudes, beliefs, and even fundamental nature are necessary for human survival? Are any of them in process? What changes currently in process are antagonistic to the needed changes? |
| 78 | Real Mythology vs ... | General | Should "real" mythology be portrayed traditionally in video, movie, TV, anime, games, etc., or should it be modified to fit? What are the pros and cons of either approach? |
| 79 | Religion's Influence On Fantasy and Science Fiction | General Literary - Readers Media - Fan | We can't imagine many science fiction or fantasy stories without their religious influences. The Exorcist, The Stand, Constantine, This Present Darkness, Beowulf, even modern comic book stories, and many others. All of their plots has religion as their base. |
| 80 | Running with Scissors ... | General Cosplay & Costuming | ... and other "deadly" pursuits: Stage Fighting, Swordplay, and General Mayhem. |
| 210 NEW TOPIC | Sci-Fi vs Fantasy Smackdown | General Literary - Readers Media - Fan | |
| 81 | Societal change in the age of automation | General Science | If robots can do most of the work, what changes will this necessitate in human society? What professions or jobs will remain that only humans can or should do? |
| 63 | The Dark Tower and Cyclical Storytelling | General Literary - Readers Media - Fan | Stephen King's <i>The Dark Tower</i> series, along with the 2017 feature film based on it, is a great example of cyclical storytelling: a story that has no true beginning or end, just repeated iterations with or without variations. What are some other examples of cyclical stories that we like—if we like them at all? Is this even a generally viable form at all? |
| 64 | The Diverse-Verse of Fantasy | General Literary - Readers Media - Fan | What diverse ways of being are represented in fantasy? In what types of books are these usually found? Who has chosen these inspirations and what issues does this raise? Let's unpack some of the ways in which some of the wonderful variety of our world is reflected in speculative ones! |
| 65 | The Effect of Media on Literature | General Media - Fan Literary - Writers Literary - Readers | It is likely that many of the "literary giants" of the past could not get published today. How have readers' tastes changed, even in the last thirty years or less? How has media affected the writing of stories? Should a modern author write a novel or short story with an eye to media tastes and audiences? If so, how should their writing differ from the past? |

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| 69 | The future of government in the information age | General Science | With our society's current appetite for instant gratification, disinclination to listen to disliked points of view, and the increasing availability of "news" from unverified sources, distrust of journalists in general, can a truly free society survive? |
| 71 | The Hero With a Thousand Faces | General | A discussion of Joseph Campbell's seminal work on the nature of myth. |
| 82 | What is a Myth? | General | What is the actual definition of a myth? Are myths now relegated to history, or are modern, viable myths being created even as we debate the issue? Is that even possible? |
| 83 | What's in a Name? | General Literary - Readers Literary - Writers Media - Fan | A character's name says a lot about them, whether you want it to or not. Savvy writers use this to their advantage by using names that reveal hidden traits, drop foreshadowing clues, or just provide subtle editorial commentary. Sometimes it's blatant (Snow Crash's Hiro Protagonist), and sometimes it's sneaky (Gotham's Fish Mooney, whose name foreshadows her fate, because penguins eat fish). Our panel discusses what they've learned about their favorite stories and characters from all media just from the characters' names. |
| 84 | What's My Myth or Legend? | General Just For Fun | Panelists are challenged by a partial characteristic of a myth or legend and must figure out what myth or legend it is. (several game formats possible) |
| 85 | Where Does Fandom End? | General Literary - Readers Media - Fan Fan Life | Science Fiction and Fantasy have long been considered the bastions of "geeks", yet properties that don't fit those descriptors are picking up fans. Should these properties be welcomed? |
| 86 | 50+ Years of Pern | Literary - Readers | Dragonflight was published 50 years ago in 1968 (comprised of several novellas published in 1967). from wikipedia: "Dragonflight includes the novellas Weyr Search, which won the 1968 Hugo Award for Best Novella (voted by members of the annual World Science Fiction Convention) and Dragonrider which won the Nebula Award for Best Novella (voted annually by the Science Fiction Writers of America) in 1969. McCaffrey was the first woman writer to win either award." Topics could include 50+ years of pern, or 50 years of recognition for women in science fiction |
| 88 | Frankenstein and 200 Years of Science Fiction | Literary - Readers | Frankenstein by Mary Shelley was published 200 years ago in 1818. It is considered by many to be the first science fiction novel. |
| 89 | Just a Spoonful of Magic | Literary - Readers | Books with just enough magic that they aren't realistic fiction but not enough magic to fully cross into speculative fiction: How do these books straddle the barrier? How do the magical elements serve the realistic plot? Who do these books most appeal to and who will find them disappointing? |
| 90 | Neil Gaiman's American Gods | Literary - Readers | A discussion of the book. |
| 91 | Readings and Conversation | Literary - Readers Literary - Writers | Short readings by author and/or fans combined with discussion about the material read. More interactive than a traditional "reading". |
| 204 NEW TOPIC | Rewrites: What Should or Shouldn't be Touched? Comics and Books | Literary - Readers Comics | Comics history is continually being rewritten. Movies and TV shows are recycled over and over. The reboot phenomenon has mostly left books untouched—or has it? Is there good reason to redo a classic novel or produce a "re-edited" edition of one? And is continual retcon good for comics in the first place? |
| 87 | The 50th Anniversary of Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep | Literary - Readers | Phillip K. Dick's "Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep" was published in 1968. How has it contributed to the examination of what it means to be human? |
| 92 | The Turn-Offs | Literary - Readers | What are the turn-offs that make you just put a book down, or maybe even never pick it up? |
| 93 | Ursula K. Le Guin memorial | Literary - Readers | Join us for a discussion of the works of award-winning author Ursula K. Le Guin, who passed away earlier this year. |

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| 94 | What Was the First Story That Moved You? | Literary - Readers | (From F. Paul Wilson) What was the first story you remember reading that moved you. (That's the key word: =moved=.) The one that really got your emotions going, inspired, thrilled, deeply saddened, or brought tears of one sort or another to your eyes, a lump in your throat? |
| 95 | Author's Tools—References | Literary - Writers | Panelists discuss what should be on the aspiring author's bookshelf, and what online sources should be bookmarked—as well as avoided at all cost. |
| 96 | Author's Tools—setting up your work environment | Literary - Writers | One of the most prolific and successful authors of all time said he could write a novel in the middle of the busiest intersection of New York, given a typewriter and paper. Panelists discuss how they have set up their work areas. What is vital, nice to have if you can get it, what to avoid. This should include physical environment, ergonomic considerations, needed distractions, unneeded distractions, eye, ear, and brain health. Keeping inspiration handy. How to obtain privacy in an unprivate environment. How to keep the cats off the keyboard, mouse, and away from the monitor. Whatever else someone can think of. |
| 97 | Authors' Tools—Aeon Timeline | Literary - Writers | Panelist discuss the uses of Scribble Code's timeline software, including tips and tricks for the new and veteran user. |
| 98 | Authors' Tools—Graphic software for the graphic novelist | Literary - Writers | Panelists discuss what software is available, the pros and cons of each. |
| 99 | Authors' Tools—Microsoft Word | Literary - Writers | Panelists give tips and tricks for making MS Word a useful writing tool for various mediums from traditional print to video games. |
| 100 | Authors' Tools—Scrivener | Literary - Writers | Panelists discuss tips and tricks for getting the most out of Literature and Latte's writing program, Scrivener. |
| 101 | Don't Know Much About History | Literary - Writers | History is often used as both settings and plot devices in fantasy and science fiction, but what if you are like Sam Cooke and don't know much about history? |
| 102 | Ensemble for the Win! | Literary - Writers | Some stories are focused on just one or two characters. Some include a wide cast of characters working together on a team. How does speculative fiction incorporate the idea of an ensemble? How are ensembles typically cast and how can storytellers avoid these tropes? For reference, see http://www.writingexcuses.com/2016/12/04/11-49-elemental-ensemble-with-michael-damien-thomas/ |
| 212 | Herding Cats: Dealing with Multiple Points of View | Literary - Writers | |
| | NEW TOPIC | | |
| 103 | How Much Illustration Does Your Story Need? | Literary - Writers Art | Are illustrations a help or hindrance to a story, or to writing a story? Is it helpful for the author to have illustrations or pictures of characters, scenes, or locales when writing, or are such things a hindrance? If the author needs a map for the story, do the readers? One way or the other, how does an author know? What about illustrations? Tolkien used them, but few made it into his books, though his maps did. Should an author illustrate their own work? |
| 104 | Illustration Tools for Authors | Literary - Writers Art | You write, you have artistic talent, perhaps you want to write graphic novels. What illustration tools should you consider using, the pros and cons of each? |
| 105 | Late Night Fan Fiction and Erotica | Literary - Writers Literary - Readers Late Night | An after 10pm panel where people can read either their fan fiction or someone else's. As well as their fan fiction erotica. |
| 106 | Oh for the Love of (insert mythical deity here) | Literary - Writers | How does a creative person, regardless of genre or medium, handle romantic relationships with deities? Besides the obvious "Man/Woman of Steel, Man/Woman of Tissue Paper," what are the problems of having a romance between a mortal and a god/godess/godit in a story? |
| 107 | Scrivener—is it the best thing to happen to writers since sliced electrons? | Literary - Writers | Panelists discuss the use of Literature and Latte's software for writers, features, quirks, support, and comparison to other software packages. |

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| 214 NEW TOPIC | Small publishing | Literary - Writers | |
| 215 NEW TOPIC | Small vs Large Publishing | Literary - Writers | |
| 108 | Software Tools for Writers | Literary - Writers | Panelists discuss what are the best (or their favorite) software and hardware tools for writing? What are the pros and cons of various applications? |
| 109 | Superman Is Boring, Batman Fascinating— Human Protagonists | Literary - Writers | How do you make your hero/heroine/hero<insert PC LABEL here> heroic but human? Why and how this can be hard, what can be done to overcome the difficulties. |
| 206 NEW TOPIC | The Novella Strikes Back | Literary - Writers | In a world of e-readers and Netflix binging, the once lowly novella (30K -40K) words is making a comeback. Let's talk about the pros and cons of this format and why it is returning. |
| 114 | The Writer's Bookshelf | Literary - Writers | What books should every writer have? What specific references are useful for various genre's of science fiction and fantasy? |
| 110 | Tools for Making a Story Timeline | Literary - Writers | Panelists discuss various software that can be used for making a story timeline. Comparisons, ease of use, ease of learning, quirks, problems, limitations, etc. |
| 213 NEW TOPIC | Um, No—Common Misconceptions About Teen Lit | Literary - Writers Literary - Readers | |
| 111 | Using Aeon Timeline | Literary - Writers | Panelists discuss how they use Scribble Code's Aeon Timeline: recommendations, techniques, limitations, problems and quirks. |
| 112 | Voice and Viewpoint | Literary - Writers | Our window into literature |
| 113 | What Writers Like to Read | Literary - Writers Literary - Readers | Authors share recent and classic books by other writers that they've enjoyed. |
| 115 | Writer's Quick Challenge | Literary - Writers | Writers are challenged to come up with a story idea from a picture. |
| 116 | Writing Near Future SF | Literary - Writers | The reality and risk of setting a story only a year or two in the future. |
| 117 | 25 Years of Star Trek: Deep Space Nine | Media - Fan | Star Trek: Deep Space Nine premiered in 1993 |
| 118 | 25 Years of The X-Files | Media - Fan | The X-Files had a long-running fan favorite series, several movies, and is once again a popular TV series. |
| 119 | 80 Years of Disney Feature Animation | Media - Fan | In 1938, Walt Disney's first animated feature film, <i>Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs</i> , was released in the US, marking the beginning of an eight-decade dynasty that shows no signs of ending. What has been good and bad about Disney's 80-year reign at the top of the feature animation food chain? |
| 120 | Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D....iiin SPAAAAACE!!! | Media - Fan | The fifth season of Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D. took the team way out of their comfort zone to confront an alien threat. Was this story twist a good move for the series, or the last gasp of a dying show? |
| 216 NEW TOPIC | Altered Carbon | Media - Fan | The Netflix series <i>Altered Carbon</i> , adapted from Richard K. Morgan's novel, has garnered much praise and not a small amount of serious discussion of its view of the future. But is it entertaining? And does it do the book justice? |
| 217 NEW TOPIC | Annihilation and Other Serious SF Mind-Benders | Media - Fan | Alex Garland's <i>Annihilation</i> , based on the best-selling novel by Jeff VanderMeer, has gotten a lot of attention both as a sci-fi/horror film and as a high-profile tentpole picture. It joins films like <i>Arrival</i> , <i>Ex Machina</i> , <i>Her</i> , <i>Moon</i> , and <i>Sunshine</i> in presenting serious drama in a mind-bending SF package. |
| 121 | Avengers infinity war | Media - Fan | The good the meh and where does marvel go from here |

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| 122 | Babylon 5: Sleeping In Light - 20 years later | Media - Fan | The mere mention of the name starts a tear and more. |
| 123 | Babylon 5: What Might Have Been | Media - Fan | It was a 5 year roller coaster of good times, bad times, plot twists and deception. It was also 5 years of Straczynski and company having to do triple back flips in order to compensate for unexpected cast alterations and constantly changing requirements from different distributors. This discussion panel is intended to be a look at how the show might have been different if things had gone according to plan. (Travis Clemmons) |
| 124 | Batman, Cyborg, and Wonder Woman, Oh My! | Media - Fan Comics | Wonder Woman and the Justice League exploded onto the big screen this past year. What other DC properties will follow? And what part should their TV properties play? |
| 125 | Beetlejuice, Beetlejuice... | Media - Fan | The wackiness that is and why we love it so much 30 year later. Beetlejuice! |
| 126 | Blade Runner Then and Now | Media - Fan | Discuss the original movie and compare it with the recently released sequel and question if a third movie should ever be considered. |
| 127 | Daddy Issues | Media - Fan | Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2. Kung Fu Panda 3. On the surface, completely unrelated films. And yet both share a core story about fathers and sons, about the difference between biological fathers and the surrogate fathers who raise their children. What do these dramatically different movies, and other stories throughout history, have to say about fatherhood? |
| 128 | Discovering Star Trek Discovery | Media - Fan | The newest Star Trek series has finally come to the small screen. How does it stack up to its predecessors? |
| 129 | Discovery Vs Orville | Media - Fan | Discovery is the new Trek on the block and Orville isn't technically Trek at all. In what ways do these shows cater to long term fans of Star Trek? |
| 130 | Doctor Who | Media - Fan | Discussion on the episodes that have aired since last Marcon. |
| 131 | Doctor Who: What will the future hold with the first female Doctor | Media - Fan | A panel discussion on the epic change in the 54 year old series, as Jodie Whitaker takes the role on as the Doctor. |
| 207 | Game of Thrones | Media - Fan | With an extended gap between the two final seasons, <i>Game of Thrones</i> fans are left scrambling for hints and clues as to what's coming next. How will it all end? |
| NEW TOPIC | | | |
| 135 | Gotham: The Darkest Night | Media - Fan | In four seasons, Gotham has diverged widely from all previous Batman backstories. The familiar names are all there, but their origins, their relationships, and their places in the Batverse have been tweaked in ways not seen before. Where do we think this story will go before Bruce Wayne finally puts on the cowl? |
| 136 | Guillermo del toro's films and genius | Media - Fan | Hopefully oscar winning film maker will be part of this panel by the time marcon comes. From pacific rim to pans labyrinth the beauty and power of these films. |
| 137 | horror comedies of 25 years ago | Media - Fan | 1993 saw the release of Nightmare Before Christmas, Hocus Pocus, and Addams Family Values. Do they have any commonalities? Are they reflective of their time period? |
| 138 | I stream, you stream, we all stream | Media - Fan | Streaming services like Hulu, Netflix and Amazon are producing original, quality programs. Where do we start? |
| 140 | Independent Properties Arise | Media - Fan | (Insert witty description here - magical, fantastical, and sci-fi esque properties like The Gifted, The Magicians, The Expanse, The Worst Witch, and more) |
| 141 | Independent Properties Arise! | Media - Fan | As Geek Culture becomes more and more mainstream, new shows appear with geeky elements. Many are translations from the written page, like The Magicians and American Gods, while others like The Gifted use familiar elements in new ways. What geeky shows are you watching? |
| 142 | Is "The Last Jedi" the last "Star Wars" movie for you? | Media - Fan | "The Last Jedi" has been divisive to say the least. What are your thoughts on the film and the state of the saga. |
| 143 | It's Not Star Trek, Is It? | Media - Fan | The Orville shares a lot of similarities with Star Trek, from overall atmosphere to the people behind the scenes. |

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| 144 | Jaegers, kaiju, and pacific rim oh my | Media - Fan | With pacific rim uprising released an opportunity for fans to discuss both films and their live of all things pr. The apocalypse has been postponed. |
| 145 | Jurassic Park | Media - Fan | How has the first movie stood the test of time over the last 25 years since it was released? |
| 148 | Lucky Thirteen? | Media - Fan | There has been quite the debate over the Thirteenth Doctor. Come and engage with fellow Whovians in this discussion about the Doctor's latest incarnation. (A place where people can air grievances about her outside of the usual series discussion.) |
| 149 | Man in the High Castle as alternate history | Media - Fan | A discussion of the show as an alternate history. Regardless of the writing and acting, is this plausible as an alternate history? If so, why? If not, why? |
| 150 | New Star Trek Series | Media - Fan | "More! More! I'm still not satisfied!" or "Enough and a great plenty, already!" —an open discussion. Moderator will be Klingon, fully armed. |
| 151 | Nightmare Before Christmas - What Holiday is it for? | Media - Fan | Which one do you think it belongs to? Are you one that says both? Why has it continued to be such a popular and loved movie? |
| 152 | Open the pod bay doors, HAL | Media - Fan | Celebrating 50 years of 2001: A Space Odyssey |
| 153 | "Orville" and your reaction | Media - Fan | Open discussion of the Fox TV show "Orville." |
| 154 | "Ready Player 1" | Media - Fan | A discussion of the recently opened movie and its concept of a future Columbus, OH. |
| 203 | Rewrites: What Should or Shouldn't be Touched? Movies and TV. | Media - Fan | Reboots, remakes, and revivals are all the rage in movies and television. Some are spectacularly well-done. Others...not so much. Which properties are due for rejuvenation, and which ones should be left alone? |
| | NEW TOPIC | | |
| 155 | Saturday Morning Sci-Fi | Media - Fan | Fantasy is a common element in kids cartoons but some programs had (have) more than a small dose of sci-fi in them, too. |
| 156 | Sci-Fi/Fantasy Casting Call | Media - Fan | What properties do we think would make great movies or TV series and who would we want to play our favorite characters? |
| 157 | Star trek: now what... | Media - Fan | While discovery has put star trek back on the entertainment radar, now what? Just focus on the show? Try and keep the new time line? Or what? |
| 158 | Star Wars Episode VIII: The Last Jedi General Discussion | Media - Fan | An open discussion about the new Star Wars film. Panelists and audience members can discuss any part of the film or its relationship to the saga as a whole. A 2 hour time slot is recommended. |
| 159 | Star Wars: The Last Blasphemy | Media - Fan Just For Fun | Star Wars: The Last Jedi has brought out a vocal contingent of fans who call it a travesty and demand it be removed from Star Wars canon. The Marcon Blasphemers turn their lightsabers of scorn and sarcasm on this divisive film and the criticisms circulating about it. |
| 160 | Stranger Things and the Rekindling of Science Fiction | Media - Fan | Has Stranger Things single handedly rekindled our love for all things Science Fiction? Or has it put a spotlight on a world that already existed? |
| 161 | Ten Years of MCU | Media - Fan | The Marvel Cinematic Universe was inaugurated in 2008 with the release of <i>Iron Man</i> . Back then, the only hint of how big this could become was a short post-credits scene teasing Samuel L. Jackson as Nick Fury. Since then, the MCU has grown into the most successful film franchise in Hollywood history. As the third and fourth <i>Avengers</i> films bring Phase Three to an end, is there enough interest and material to keep this train rolling for another ten years? |
| 132 | The Expanding MCU (Big screen ed) | Media - Fan Comics | Spider-man: Homecoming, Thor; Ragnarok, Black Panther, and Infinity War pt1 have now joined the MCU. How do these new movies enhance the overall MCU? |
| 133 | The Expanding MCU (Small screen ed) | Media - Fan Comics | The Defenders, The Punisher, Marvel's Inhumans, Marvel's The Runaways, and Marvel's New Warriors have now joined the MCU. Are these worthy inclusions or should they have been left in the comics? |
| 134 | The Expanse | Media - Fan Literary - Readers | Are you an Earther, a Martian, or a Belter? The books and TV series of The Expanse are creating an intensely realistic future, with the solar system divided into factions. James Holden and the crew of the Rocinante struggle to do the right thing. |

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| 139 | The Impact of 2001, A Space Odyssey on American Film | Media - Fan | On the fifty year anniversary of the film, what is or was its legacy in American film making? |
| 146 | The Last Jedi... | Media - Fan | ... but not the last Star Wars. Where does the story go from here? What will we see in the Han Solo movie? |
| 147 | The Legacy of Black Panther | Media - Fan | Marvel's Black Panther may be the "blackest" film ever released by Disney. While some people say it's a bad thing, most seem to agree that it's well past time Hollywood produced a mainstream blockbuster film that promotes and respects African heritage and culture without being marketed strictly for blacks. How successful is Black Panther at fulfilling that promise? |
| 168 | The use of Christian myth and symbology in the TV show "Supernatural." | Media - Fan | A discussion of the use of Christian symbology and "myth" in the show. |
| 171 | The X-Men screen universe | Media - Fan | This year we have The New Mutants and The Dark Phoenix in film, and x-verse shows Legion and The Gifted on the small screen. We can discuss high points, low points, and everything in between. |
| 162 | These Are The Voyages: Star Trek's Impact On The Star Trek Universe | Media - Fan | The focus of this panel is on discussing the impact (positive or negative) of the newest entry in the Star Trek Universe. Among the topics of discussion are: is ST:Discovery real Star Trek canon, is the show worth paying a monthly fee for CBS All Access and what are the merits and pitfalls of Star Trek Discovery? |
| 163 | "They Live" 30 Years Later | Media - Fan | John Carpenter's "They Live" was released in 1988. The movie remains relevant for many in today's society. |
| 164 | Those Gifted Inhumans | Media - Fan | A discussion and comparison of two new Marvel TV universe shows - The Gifted and Inhumans. |
| 165 | Truly Color-Blind Casting | Media - Fan | While many progressive fans rail again "whitewashing", the practice of taking characters that were originally written as being of particular races or ethnicities and making them white, not much attention is given to the flip side of this: characters that aren't written to be any particular race or ethnicity usually are played by white actors. Thankfully, we're finally seeing an increase in minority actors getting roles that don't have to be any particular race. An examination of the new wave of color-blind characters like Gotham's Fish Mooney, Star Wars's Rose Tico and Finn, and Thor: Ragnarok's Valkyrie. |
| 166 | TV Media and Mythology | Media - Fan | How do TV shows, in particular, deal with mythology? Should they be doing this? Are they destroying cultural heritage or increasing interest in it? |
| 167 | Two competing Treks: Star Trek Discovery & The Orville | Media - Fan | A look at these two concurrent shows and audience reactions. What do people think of as Trek? What do people want in a Trek show? Which is Trekkier? (Panel could also address the Black Mirror episode "USS Callister") |
| 169 | We all love Star Wars, Star Trek, and Dr Who, but what Else Is Out There? | Media - Fan | A panel where people talk about their fandom and why they think others would like it. As well as people looking for new things to get into. All in a positive light without tearing down someone else's. |
| 170 | Wonder Woman, Batman, and Cyborg, Oh My! | Media - Fan | Wonder Woman and the Justice League exploded onto the big screen this past year. What other DC properties will follow? |
| 172 | Year of the Women | Media - Fan | The past year has brought a new wave of powerful female lead characters and strong female ensembles to the movie theaters. It's not just the literally powerful characters like Wonder Woman—Star Wars: The Last Jedi is overflowing with women who are each powerful in different ways. The biggest blockbusters of 2017 were driven by double-X chromosomes. Is this a sign of a turnaround in Hollywood's treatment of women, or just another blip before Y chromosomes reassert themselves? |

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| 197 NEW TOPIC | Advanced Propulsion Technologies, 2018: Alcubierre, EM, the Mach Effect, and more | Science | This panel will look at advances in "unconventional" drive technologies that may open up the stars to humanity. |
| 173 | Apollo 8: Fifty years after | Science | A discussion of the flight of Apollo 8 and the moon missions |
| 174 | Are humans an evolutionary force? | Science | Are we driving the evolution of other species? What species? How? What are the possible consequences? Should we meddle directly (genetic engineering)? Is our behavior driving our own evolution? How? |
| 175 | Augmented Reality | Science | What is it? How can it be useful? How much is too much? What are the dangers of its use? |
| 176 | Destination: Mars | Science | What technological advances have occurred recently to make traveling to and staying on Mars closer to reality? What are the biggest challenges remaining? How close are we to solving them? |
| 177 | Female Sexuality—Myths and Misconceptions | Science Late Night | What misconceptions are there about female sexuality? Among females? Among males? How can these be overcome? |
| 196 NEW TOPIC | Fire or Ice? Plague or Famine? The many ways the World could end | Science | A discussion of "real" disaster scenarios, from meteoric impact, supervolcanoes, runaway climate change, and pathogens. |
| 178 | Human Sexuality—Myths, Misconceptions, and Reality (Late Night) | Science Late Night | Human sexuality is probably the most complex social, psychological, medical, and even political concept. What is real, what are the misconceptions, and what myths are there? |
| 179 | Is Our Reality Virtual? | Science | Never mind the blue pill or the red pill. Is our perceptive reality actually virtual, at least on an individual basis? |
| 198 NEW TOPIC | Knowing Yourself | Science | how 23andMe, Ancestry.com, and other "genealogical" testing services are facilitating precision medicine today. |
| 180 | Male Sexuality—Myths and Misconceptions | Science Late Night | What misconceptions are there about male sexuality? Among males? Among females? How can these be overcome? |
| 181 | Science and Integrity | Science | Panelists discuss the state of integrity in science. What threats does it face? How can these threats be dealt with? What is the role of the citizen in maintaining scientific integrity? What is the role of the scientist? |
| 183 | Self-driving cars | Science | What are the pros and cons of self-driving vehicles? What challenges remain to be addressed? Is there a privacy issue? |
| 185 | Tech Life | Science | Technology is taking over our life as predicted in many books and other Sci Fi media. What are some of the Sci Fi predictions that came true? What are we still missing? Where do you think the Science Fiction of today should be leading us for the future? |
| 186 | That Was The Year In Science | Science | A panel made up of select panelists with a background in the sciences who each select one important scientific discovery or breakthrough that occurred during the previous year. Each panelist will present a fifteen to twenty minute talk about that subject followed by questions from the audience. A two hour time slot is recommended. |
| 195 NEW TOPIC | The Internet and Science | Science | It's become easier and easier for bad science memes to spread thanks to the internet. Non-scientists often feel that their two hours of "research" on Google trump the years of scientist's work in the lab. This panel will address examples of this and discuss ways that science can take back it's own by using the internet as an educational tool. |
| 200 NEW TOPIC | The Science in Modern Sci-Fi television | Science Media - Fan | Looking at how physics and technology are portrayed in shows such as "The Expanse", "Stranger Things", "Altered Carbon", and more. |
| 182 | The Science of Virtual Reality | Science | How does one create a virtual reality? What science and technology is in hand, what more needs to be done? |

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| 184 | The Singularity Cometh—or Not. | Science | Vernor Vinge predicted a technological singularity in the near future (in 1993). How close are we? How "near" is this future, or is it still far enough out to prove his prediction inaccurate? |
| 187 | Victorian technology | Science | The Victorian Era saw a lot of technological innovations in a variety of fields. Come and explore the advances in communications, criminology, manufacturing and warfare that happened in this period and how a discovery in one area created changes in other areas as well. |
| 199 | Weird Science, 2018 | Science | A continuation of the "Weird Science" panels Marcon has hosted in the past, detailing some of the more bizarre scientific findings of the past year. |
| NEW TOPIC | | | |
| 188 | Will robots dream of electronic sheep, or will they dream of us? | Science | Will artificial intelligences have a need for creativity? Will we be their muses? Or are we already electronic sheep? |