

## And There was Light by Rudolf Thiel

A lavishly produced volume, illustrated with 16 full-page plates and 54 line drawings, covering the history of man's attitude towards the stars from the astrologers of Babylon to the astrophysicists of today. 15s 6d, post free.

## Best SF Four edited by Edmund Crispin

Ten top-notch stories. 6s 6d, post free.

## Christmas Eve by C. M. Kornbluth

After the Russians occupy America all seems lost. But is it . . . ? 6s 6d, post free.

## The Death of Grass by John Christopher

England is a green and pleasant land until a terrible blight kills all vegetation. 6s 6d, post free.

## Drunkard's Walk by Frederick Pohl

An exciting account of the struggle to save mankind from an alien influence. 6s 9d, post free.

## A Fall of Moondust by Arthur C. Clarke

A brilliant novel about a group of tourists trapped beneath the dust on the moon's surface. 6s 9d, post free.

## The Foreseeable Future by Sir George Thomson

A book that answers such questions as these: What technological advances will the next decade bring? What will happen when supplies of coal and oil give out? Can the world bridge the gap between the yield of the soil and the growth of population? Can climate really be controlled? Illustrated. 6s 6d, post free.

## Further Outlook by W. Grey Walter

A distinguished first novel of time-space travel. 6s 6d, post free.

## The Great Explosion by Eric Frank Russell

Four hundred years after the great emigration from Earth, the time comes for Earth to re-establish contact with far-flung, star-flung outposts. 6s 9d, post free.

## Guardians of Time by Poul Anderson

The guardians of time must see to it that no one tampers with history—a job involving exciting adventures. 6s 9d, post free.

## Mutant by Henry Kuttner

This classic, long out of print, describes life after the 'Great Blow-up'. 6s 6d, post free.

## Needle by Hal Clement

How one symbiotic alien hunts down another with the co-operation of his human host. 6s 6d, post free.

## New Maps of Hell by Kingsley Amis

The contentious study of sf as literature. 6s 6d, post free.

## One in Three Hundred by J. T. McIntosh

Earth is doomed and only a tiny fraction of the world's population can be saved. 6s 6d, post free.

## The Other Side of the Sky by Arthur C. Clarke

Twenty-four short stories by the great master. 6s 6d, post free.

## Pilgrimage by Zenna Henderson

The story of the People who came from across the galaxy and made Earth their temporary home. 6s 9d, post free.

## Slave Ship by Frederick Pohl

A satiric novel of the not too distant future when animals are enlisted to help men fight the Cold War. 6s 6d, post free.

## Spectrum

An anthology edited by Kingsley Amis and Robert Conquest. 6s 9d, post free.

## The Stars are too High by Agnew Bahnson

A group of idealists build a space craft of unprecedented power and use it to end the Cold War. 6s 6d, post free.

## Tiger! Tiger! by Alfred Bester

The story of a deadly vendetta, born in the depths of space. 6s 6d, post free.

## Time is the Simplest Thing by Clifford Simak

An exciting novel dealing with man's exploration of the stars by telepathy. 6s 9d, post free.

## The Twenty-seventh Day by John Mantley

Five human beings are kidnapped by an alien Intelligence Service, and each one is presented with a weapon 'a thousand times more powerful than the hydrogen bomb'. 6s 6d, post free.

## Twilight World by Poul Anderson

A group of mutants develops abilities so rare that they become like 'supermen', and they take on the task of saving the world from global war. 6s 9d, post free.

## The Unexpected Dimension by Algis Budrys

Three short novels and four short stories on themes ranging from robots to immortality. 6s 9d, post free.

## World of Chance by Philip K. Dick

A man's struggle to create ethical order in a universe given up to chaos and cynicism. 6s 6d, post free.

## ORDER FORM

To: SCIENCE FICTION BOOK CLUB, Dunhams Lane, Letchworth, Herts  
Please send me the following titles:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aliens for Neighbours       | <input type="checkbox"/> New Maps of Hell           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> And There Was Light         | <input type="checkbox"/> One in Three Hundred       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Best SF Four                | <input type="checkbox"/> The Other Side of the Sky  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Christmas Eve               | <input type="checkbox"/> Pilgrimage                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Death of Grass          | <input type="checkbox"/> Slave Ship                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drunkard's Walk             | <input type="checkbox"/> Spectrum                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A Fall of Moondust          | <input type="checkbox"/> The Stars are too High     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Foreseeable Future      | <input type="checkbox"/> Tiger! Tiger!              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Further Outlook             | <input type="checkbox"/> Time is the Simplest Thing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Great Explosion         | <input type="checkbox"/> The Twenty-seventh Day     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Guardians of Time           | <input type="checkbox"/> Twilight World             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mutant                      | <input type="checkbox"/> The Unexpected Dimension   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Needle                      | <input type="checkbox"/> World of Chance            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RIVER |   |

I enclose : : /Please charge my account. (All prices are post free)

Membership No. or source of supply .....

Name .....  
(clearly, please)

Address .....

Issued by the Science Fiction Book Club from 10-13 Bedford St, London, W.C.2  
from whom details of membership can be obtained,  
and printed by the Aldine Press, Dunhams Lane, Letchworth, Hertfordshire

# science fiction news

No. 78

October 1963

Selectors: Kingsley Amis, John Carnell, Dr J. G. Porter

## THE PROGRAMME

November 1963–April 1964

### November

#### HOTHOUSE by Brian Aldiss

THE name of Brian Aldiss is well known to all sf enthusiasts. In a field where originality and imaginative power are often at their highest mark, his own inventiveness is still outstanding, and in *Hothouse* he has found a theme which shows all his talent at its most brilliant.

We travel to a future world where the tree has become once more the real Lord of Creation, and tiny, green-skinned arboreal humans struggle to stay alive on the shadowy levels of the great forests. There is no safety even there for them, but the dangers are familiar ones.

The sun is going nova; the moon and the earth are anchored together by traverser cables, and gigantic vegetable spiders pass from one globe to another, basking in hard radiation. One huge and fantastic banyan covers the brilliant surface of the earth, and the seashores have become a battleground where land and water species fight for room to live. Sentient vegetation has developed an endless variety of offensive and defensive weapons.

In this inferno of danger and death, Gren, the born rebel, embarks on man's last journey, hag-ridden by a parasitic, fungoid brain. His only hope of freedom and survival is to disobey its commands, to turn away from the foul safety its power shows him and go back to the known dangers and terrors on the floor of the vast forest.

This novel is gripping, moving, endlessly exciting and endlessly surprising; it creates a universe of nightmare from which there is no waking; it is the work of one of the most brilliant writers of sf in the world today.

'Both deeply moving and gripping in its frightening intensity. This is a memorable work of sf.' *Fantasy and Sf*.

Faber 16s; SFBC 6s

### December

#### DARK UNIVERSE by Daniel Galouye

Some time in the future scattered groups of people are living in a vast system of underground caverns. They are the descendants of survivors of an atomic war. They do not remember their past; living so long in utter darkness, they have even forgotten the existence of light. For them it has become a myth, a deity they call Great Light Almighty, opposed by the Twin Devils, Cobalt and Strontium. They live in a world of darkness and fear and internal strife; their only compensation is a highly developed sense of hearing, for this helps them to discern shapes and objects around them and so to hunt and kill the huge bats and other monsters that live in the underworld with them. *Dark Universe* is the story of one of these peoples: Jared is a heretic among them; he does not accept the superstitions of his tribe; he struggles through many dangers and macabre adventures to rediscover light and to come out on the surface of the world. Mr Galouye's novel will stand comparison with Wells's famous story, *The Country of the Blind*: it goes a step further, for Jared, the blind man, describes the 'dark universe' and his struggle for light and freedom from his own point of view. This writer is a newcomer to sf: this first novel, in its power and excitement, makes one look forward to many more.

'The feeling of claustrophobia is brilliantly caught and . . . the theological concepts of the great god Hydrogen himself who expresses his power through the Light Almighty are cunningly made believable: *Dark Universe* is an intellectual thriller where even the most baffling and melodramatic happenings eventually have a rational and convincing explanation.' *Spectator*.

Gollancz 15s; SFBC 6s

### January

#### NO FUTURE IN IT by John Brunner

A writer described by a famous American sf magazine as 'a brilliant young Englishman who appears destined to take his place beside such British sf greats as Arthur C. Clarke, Eric Frank Russell and John Wyndham'. The stories in this collection certainly bear out that enthusiastic praise: they show John Brunner's versatility at its amazing best, and yet, although they cover a wide range of thought and imagination, all of them are basically the result of looking at the world of today or tomorrow and saying simply 'Now just suppose . . .' Medieval wizards