

Science Fiction Summaries

SF36U **A Battle Won by Sean Thomas Russell**

Master and Commander Charles Hayden returns in the sequel to the international bestseller *Under Enemy Colours*. Winter 1793-the Reign of Terror rips through revolutionary France. In Plymouth, England, Master and Commander Charles Hayden is given orders to return to the ill-fated HMS Themis as the British fight the French for control of the strategically located island of Corsica.

But within hours out of port, Hayden's uncanny knack for attracting the attention of the French navy sees Themis thrown back into action. When she lands in Corsica and her men join forces with native insurgents, Hayden finds himself at the vanguard of a brutal clash of empires.

SF37U **Boneland by Alan Garner**

A woman was reading a book to a child on her knee.

"So the little boy went into the wood, and he met a witch. And the witch said, "You come home with me and I'll give you a good dinner." Now you wouldn't go home with a witch, would you?"

Colin stood, "Young man, do not go into the witch's house. Do not, and whatever you do, do not go upstairs, you must not go upstairs. Do not go! You are not to go!"

Colin can't remember; and he remembers too much. Before the age of thirteen is a blank. After that he recalls everything: where he was, what he was doing, in every minute of every hour of every day. Everything he has read and seen.

And then, finally, a new force enters his life, a therapist who might be able to unlock what happened to him when he was twelve, what happened to his sister.

But Colin will have to remember quickly, to find his sister. And the Watcher will have to find the Woman. Otherwise the skies will fall, and there will be only winter, wanderers and moon...

SF38U **The Long Cosmo by Terry Pratchett**

2070-71, nearly six decades after Step Day and in the Long Earth, the new Next post-human society continues to evolve.

For Joshua Valienté, now in his late sixties, it is time to take one last solo journey into the High Meggers: an adventure that turns into a disaster. Alone and facing death, his only hope of salvation lies with a group of trolls. But as Joshua confronts his mortality, the Long Earth receives a signal from the stars. A signal that is picked up by radio astronomers but also in more abstract ways – by the trolls and by the Great Traversers. Its message is simple but its implications are enormous: