

Blackout Connie Willis

this new collection of stories from the multi award winning author of doomsday book and to say nothing of the dog contains a letter from the clearys at the rialto death on the nile the soul selects her own society fire watch inside job even the queen the winds of marble arch all seated on the ground last of the winnebagos ten stories which have all won the hugo award the nebula award or both are compulsory reading for the serious science fiction fan

few authors have had careers as successful as that of connie willis inducted into the science fiction hall of fame and recently awarded the title of grand master by the science fiction and fantasy writers of america willis is still going strong her smart heartfelt fiction runs the gamut from screwball comedy to profound tragedy combining dazzling plot twists cutting edge science and unforgettable characters from a near future mourning the extinction of dogs to an alternate history in which invading aliens were defeated by none other than emily dickinson from a madcap convention of bumbling quantum physicists in hollywood to a london whose underground has become a

storehouse of intangible memories both foul and fair here are the greatest stories of one of the greatest writers working in any genre today all ten of the stories gathered here are hugo or nebula award winners some even have the distinction of winning both with a new introduction by the author and personal afterwords to each story plus a special look at three of willis's unique public speeches this is unquestionably the collection of the season a book that every connie willis fan will treasure and to those unfamiliar with her work the perfect introduction to one of the most accomplished and best loved writers of our time praise for the best of connie willis filled with warmth and sadness great drama witty dialogue characters you will care about and moments that you will remember for a long time sff world if anyone can be named best science fiction writer of the age it's connie willis and these stories are the best of her best truly analog ranging from the hilarious to the profound these stories show the full range of connie willis's talent for taut dazzling plots real science memorable characters penetrating dialogue and blistering drama kirkus reviews thank goodness for connie willis who says many things that desperately need saying in more than one delightful way milwaukee journal sentinel the best of connie willis isn't that like sorting through diamonds lytherus

ned henry is a time travelling historian who specialises in the mid 20th century currently engaged in researching the bombed out coventry cathedral he's also made so many drops into the past that he's suffering from a dangerously advanced case of time lag unfortunately for ned an emergency dash to victorian england is required and he's the only available historian but ned's time lag is so bad that he's not sure what the errand is which is bad news since if he fails history could unravel around him

winner of six nebula and two hugo awards for her fiction connie willis is acclaimed for her gifted imagination and bold invention here are eleven of her finest stories surprising tales in which the impossible becomes real the real becomes impossible and strangeness lurks at every turn the end of the world comes not with a bang but a series of whimpers over many years in the last of the winnebagos the terror of pain and dying gives birth to a startling truth about the nature of the stars a principle known as the schwarzschild radius in spice pogrom an outrageous colony in outer space becomes the setting for a screwball comedy of bizarre complications mistaken identities far too friendly aliens and even true love

for jeff johnston a young historical researcher for a civil war novelist reality is redefined on a bitter cold night near the close of a lingering winter he meets annie an intense and lovely young woman suffering from vivid intense nightmares haunted by the dreamer and her unrelenting dreams jeff leads annie on an emotional odyssey through the heartland of the civil war in search of a cure on long silenced battlefields their relationship blossoms two obsessed lovers linked by unbreakable chains of history torn by a duty that could destroy them both suspenseful moving and highly compelling lincoln's dreams is a novel of rare imaginative power that strikes a chord deep

within the hearts of us all

willis effortlessly juggles comedy of manners chaos theory and a wide range of literary allusions with a near flawlessness of plot character and prose publishers weekly starred review from connie willis winner of multiple hugo and nebula awards comes a comedic romp through an unpredictable world of mystery love and time travel ned henry is badly in need of a rest he's been shuttling between the twenty first century and the 1940s in search of a hideous victorian vase called the bishop's bird stump as part of a project to restore the famed coventry cathedral destroyed in a nazi air raid but then verity kindle a fellow time traveler inadvertently brings back something from the past now ned must jump to the victorian era to help verity put things right not only to save the project but also to prevent altering history itself

connie willis deploys the apparatus of science fiction to illuminate character and relationships and her writing is fresh subtle and deeply moving the new york times book review findriddy and carson are two explorers sent to boohte to survey the ridges and scrub covered hills of the planet back home their adventures are followed by countless breathless fans but the reality is far less romantic as they deal with dust nitpicking regulations and uncooperative aliens teamed with a young intern whose specialty is mating customs and a native guide of indeterminate gender the group sets out for a previously unexplored sector of the planet as they survey canyons and cataracts battle dangers and discover alien treasures they will soon find themselves in alien territory of another kind exploring the paths and precipices of sex and love

connie willis draws upon her understanding of the universalities of human nature to explore the ageless issues of evil suffering and the indomitable will of the human spirit a tour de force the new york times book review for kivrin preparing to travel back in time to study one of the deadliest eras in humanity's history was as simple as receiving inoculations against the diseases of the fourteenth century and inventing an alibi for a woman traveling alone for her instructors in the twenty first century it meant painstaking calculations and careful monitoring of the rendezvous location where kivrin would be received but a crisis strangely linking past and future strands kivrin in a bygone age as her fellows try desperately to rescue her in a time of superstition and fear kivrin barely of age herself finds she has become an unlikely angel of hope during one of history's darkest hours

a time traveler is stranded in medieval europe during the black death

oxford in 2060 is a chaotic place with scores of time traveling historians being sent into the past michael davies is prepping to go to pearl

harbor merope ward is coping with a bunch of bratty 1940 evacuees and trying to talk her thesis adviser into letting her go to ve day polly churchill s next assignment will be as a shopgirl in the middle of london s blitz but now the time travel lab is suddenly canceling assignments and switching around everyone s schedules and when michael merope and polly finally get to world war ii things just get worse for there they face air raids blackouts and dive bombing stukas to say nothing of a growing feeling that not only their assignments but the war and history itself are spiraling out of control because suddenly the once reliable mechanisms of time travel are showing significant glitches and our heroes are beginning to question their most firmly held belief that no historian can possibly change the past

in spite of connie willis s numerous science fiction awards and her groundbreaking history as a woman in the field there is a surprising dearth of critical publication surrounding her work taking doomsday book as its cue this collection argues that connie willis s most famous novel along with the rest of her oeuvre performs science fiction s task of cognitive estrangement by highlighting our human inability to read the times correctly and yet also affirming the ethical imperative to attempt to truly observe and record our temporal location willis s fiction emphasizes that doomsdays happen every day and they risk being forgotten by some even as their trauma repeats for others however disasters also have the potential to upend accepted knowledge and transform the social order for the better and this collection considers the ways that willis pairs comic and tragic modes to reflect these uncertainties

this new expanded edition of miracle and other christmas stories features twelve brilliantly reimagined holiday tales five of which are collected here for the first time christmas comes but once a year yet the stories in this dazzling collection are fun to read anytime they put a speculative spin on the holiday giving fans of acclaimed author connie willis a welcome gift and a dozen reasons to be of good cheer brimming with willis s trademark insights and imagination these heartwarming tales are full of humor absurdity human foibles tragedy joy and hope they both embrace and send up many of the best christmas traditions including the holiday newsletter secret santas office parties holiday pageants and christmas dinners both elaborate and spare there are rockettes the best and worst christmas movies modern day magi ghosts of christmases past present and yet to come and the triumph of generosity over greed like all the timeless classics we return to year after year these stories affirm our faith in love magic and the wonder of the season praise for a lot like christmas a perfect stocking stuffer for christmas celebrating fans of connie willis s humorous sf publishers weekly a collection of christmas stories with just the right blend of sugar and spice sweet and sharp whimsical and heartfelt funny and warm fans of willis s gently comic speculative fiction will love this collection and it will also appeal to readers looking to get into the holiday spirit kirkus reviews

variety is the soul of pleasure and variety is what this comprehensive new collection of connie willis is all about the stories cover the entire spectrum from sad to sparkling to terrifying from classics to hard to find treasures with everything in between orangutans egypt

earthworms roast goose college professors mothers in law aliens secret codes secret santas tube stations choir practice the post office the green light on daisy s dock weddings divorces death and assorted plagues from scarlet fever to it s a wonderful life and a dog famous for her sure hand plotting unforgettable characters and top notch writing willis has been called the most relentlessly delightful science fiction writer alive and there are numerous examples here among them willis s most famous stories the hugo and nebula award winning fire watch and even the queen and the last of the winnebagos along with undiscovered gems like willis s heartfelt homage to jack williamson nonstop to portales her magical christmas stories are here too from newsletter to just like the ones we used to know which last year was made into the tv movie snow wonder starring mary tyler moore we ve collected stories from throughout willis s career from early ones like cash crop and daisy in the sun right up to her newest stories including the wonderful the winds of marble arch there s literally something for everyone here if you re a diehard willis fan you ll be delighted with hard to find treasures like the until now uncollected the soul selects her own society if you ve never read connie willis this is your chance to discover a letter from the clearys and well chance to say nothing of at the rialto the funniest story ever written about quantum physicists and willis s chilling all my darling daughters and oh there are too many great stories here to list and pleasures galore so enjoy

connie willis has won more hugo and nebula awards than any other science fiction author now with her trademark wit and inventiveness she explores the intimate relationship between science pop culture and the arcane secrets of the heart sandra foster studies fads from barbie dolls to the grunge look how they start and what they mean bennett o reilly is a chaos theorist studying monkey group behavior they both work for the hitek corporation strangers until a misdelivered package brings them together it s a moment of synchronicity if not serendipity which leads them into a chaotic system of their own complete with a million dollar research grant caffé latte tattoos and a series of unlucky coincidences that leaves bennett monkeyless fundless and nearly jobless sandra intercedes with a flock of sheep and an idea for a joint project after all what better animal to study both chaos theory and the herd mentality that so often characterizes human behavior but scientific discovery is rarely straightforward and never simple and sandra and bennett have to endure a series of setbacks heartbreaks dead ends and disasters before they find their ultimate answer praise for bellwether one of science fiction s best writers the denver post connie willis deploys the apparatus of science fiction to illuminate character and relationships and her writing is fresh subtle and deeply moving the new york times book review keen social satire touched with genuine humanity connie willis s fiction is one of the most intelligent delights of our genre locus a sheer pleasure to read sprightly intelligent fun publishers weekly

briddey is about to get exactly what she thinks she wants briddey is a high powered exec in the mobile phone industry overseeing new products from concept anything to beat the new apple phone to delivery and she works with her wonderful partner trent they ve been together for six magical weeks in a whirlwind of flowers dinners laughter and now comes the icing on the cake not a weekend away or a

proposal but something even better an edd a procedure which will let them sense each other s feelings trent doesn t just want to tell her how much he loves her he wants her to feel it everything is perfect the trouble is briddey can t breathe a word of it to anyone difficult when the whole office is guessing until she s had two minutes to call her family and they re hounding her about the latest family drama but when they find out about the edd which they will they ll drop everything to interrogate her and it might just be easier to have the procedure now and explain later the race is on not just for new cutting edge technology but also for a shred of privacy in a public world and for briddey a chance for love at the heart of it all this is a brilliant heart warming romantic comedy from one of the wittiest and wisest of our authors written with a light touch and a smile we re swept up in briddey s romance and into the difficulties of a world just one technological step away from our own as technology and social media blur or indeed remove the line between personal and public

winner of more hugo and nebula awards than any other science fiction author connie willis is one of the most powerfully imaginative writers of our time in remake she explores the timeless themes of emotion and technology reality and illusion and the bittersweet place where they intersect to make art it s the hollywood of the future where moviemaking s been computerized and live action films are a thing of the past it s a hollywood where humphrey bogart and marilyn monroe are starring together in a star is born and if you don t like the ending you can change it with the stroke of a key a hollywood of warmbodies and sim sex of drugs and special effects where anything is possible except for what one starry eyed young woman wants to do dance in the movies it s an impossible dream but alis is not willing to give up with a little magic and a lot of luck she just might get her happy ending after all

for students scholars readers advisors and curious sf readers and fans this guide provides an easy to use launch pad for researching and learning more about science fiction writers and their work emphasizing the best popular and contemporary authors this book covers 100 sf writers providing for each a brief biographical sketch including a quote from theauthor awards etc a list of the author s major works including editions and other writings research sources biographies criticism research guides and web sites in addition you ll find read alike lists for selected authors for anyone wanting to find information on popular sf authors this should be the first stop

winner of seven nebula and eleven hugo awards connie willis is one of the most acclaimed and imaginative authors of our time her startling and powerful works have redefined the boundaries of contemporary science fiction here in one volume are twelve of her greatest stories including double award winner fire watch set in the universe of doomsday book and to say nothing of the dog in which a time travelling student learns one of history s hardest lessons in a letter from the clearys a routine message from distant friends shatters the fragile world of a beleaguered family in the sidon in the mirror a mutant with the unconscious urge to become other people finds himself becoming both killer and victim disturbing revealing and provocative this remarkable collection of short fiction brings together some of

the best work of an incomparable writer whose ability to amaze confound and enlighten never fails

award winning author connie willis returns with a stunning enormously entertaining novel of time travel war and the deeds great and small of ordinary people who shape history

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