

Russ Colson

Writer CV

Contact

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Website Address: <http://russcolson.com>

Blog Address: <https://roadwriter.russcolson.com/>

X (Twitter) handle: @russcolson

SF book Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/The-Arasmith-Certainty-Principle-318370452278908/>

Personal Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/russ.colson>

Goodreads page: https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/4020289.Russ_Colson

Issues in Earth Science, fiction and education magazine: <http://earthscienceissues.net>

Self-Publishing Website: <http://ordinarymanbookspublishing.com/>

Biography

Russ Colson is a scientist, teacher, author, gardener, and grandfather living in northwest Minnesota, far enough from city lights to see the Milky Way and the Aurora Borealis. When not teaching college students and fellow science teachers about planets and geology, he writes contemplative science fiction full of adventure, discovery, and a little romance, and gardens his seventeen-acre rural property.

Longer Version: Russ Colson is a scientist, teacher, author, and gardener living in northwest Minnesota, far enough from city lights to see the Milky Way and the Aurora Borealis. He writes contemplative and optimistic science fiction with adventure, touches of romance, and a helping of real science. He is a professor emeritus at Minnesota State University Moorhead, a former national professor of the year, author of the science fiction novel *The Arasmith Certainty Principle* (Chanticleer International Book Award 1st Place Category Winner, Double Dragon Publishing, 2018), and coauthor of the science education book *Learning to Read the Earth and Sky* (NSTA Press, 2016). He has written several thoughtful short stories published in *Cast of Wonders*, *Neo-Opis*, *Science Fiction Magazine*, *Interzone*, *Stupefying Stories*, *Abyss* and *Apex*, and others. He previously worked at the Johnson Space Center in Texas and at Washington University in St. Louis where, among other things, he studied how a lunar colony might mine oxygen from the local rock. More about his writing can be found at russcolson.com.

Fiction Books

The Arasmith Certainty Principle, Double Dragon Publishing, Oct 17, 2018--Chanticleer International Book Award 1st Place Category Winner

Imprint purchased by Fiction4All, July 2020, http://russcolson.com/books_TACP.html

Non Fiction Books

Learning to Read the Earth and Sky, NSTA Press, Dec 1, 2016, with Mary Colson
https://www.nsta.org/store/product_detail.aspx?id=10.2505/9781941316238

A Little Book of Gardening in Northwest Minnesota, Sept 1, 2017, self-published.
http://russcolson.com/books_ALBOG.html

Rules for Living Well (or How to Lead a Boring Life), Jan 27, 2024, self-published.
https://russcolson.com/books_RFLW.html

Editorial work

Editor and Publisher for *Issues in Earth Science* (2014 to the present), which includes the features Fiction for the Classroom and Topics of Debate.

<http://earthscienceissues.net/home>

Editor and Publisher for *Using Up the Cream* (2020), by Liag Nosloc,

<http://ordinarymanbookspublishing.com/UUTC-OMB.htm>

Served on the English master's thesis committee for the fictional work "Choose Grief", spring 2011, Minnesota State University Moorhead.

Short Fiction (paying markets)

<https://russcolson.com/academics/fictionpubs.html>

A Visit from Old Earth, in *S'More Spooky Stories: A National Park Anthology*, Emma Nelson and Hannah Smith, Eds, Owl Hollow Press Feb. 2025,

It's a Perfect World After All, *Abyss and Apex*, 1st Quarter, issue 85, Jan 1, 2023

Finding True Magic, *Shelter of Daylight* Winter 2022, Vol III, No. 1, 2022, pp 105-107.

The Fossil Beds of Asgard, *Neo-Opis Science Fiction Magazine*, Issue 31, Nov 2, 2020.

And the Rocks Cried Out, *Neo-Opis Science Fiction Magazine*, Issue 23, July 26, 2013

The Frog King's Daughter, Interzone issue 247, July 25, 2013

All the Beautiful Lights of Heaven, Stupefying Stories 2, July 3 2013
Won 2nd place in National Fantasy Fan Federation (N3F) amateur short story contest, Mar 2011 Finalist in Writers of the Future Contest, July 2011

How I Found My One True Love and Saved the World from Ruin, Kaleidotrope, Winter 2013 issue, Jan 1, 2013

Journey to the Leak Point, Kazka Press 713 Flash Fiction, Vol 2 Issue 2, Oct 1, 2012

The Next Joe Jones, Cast of Wonders--Episode 36, April 27, 2012

Contriving Romance, Aurora in the Mists (Anthology) Oct 2011,

Don't be such a Cynic, Mr. Quimby, New Myths, issue 15, June 1, 2011,

Contriving Romance, Aurora Wolf, Vol 2 issue 4, April 1, 2011,

Chelsea's Sea, Aurora in the Dawn (Anthology) Aug 19, 2010,

Swarm Mentality, New Myths, issue 10 March 1, 2010,
nominated for WSFA small press award

Chelsea's Sea, Aurora Wolf, Vol 1 Issue 3, Nov 28, 2009,

The Antidote, Neo-Opis Science Fiction Magazine, Issue 17, July 27, 2009,

The Mothmaker Machine, Sand: Strange Tales (Anthology) Nov 6, 2008,

But I had no Body, Atomjack, Aug 2, 2008,
Science Fiction Showcase award winner

Just Old Stuff, Flash Me Magazine, July 31, 2008,

Wedding at the End of Time, Mindflights, Issue 4, April 4, 2008,

The Mothmaker Machine, Sand: A Journal of Strange Tales, issue 1, 2008,

The Planet Engineer, The Thinkling, Fall 1987, Volume 2 issue 2,

Articles, Essays, and Crossword Puzzles

<https://russcolson.com/academics/Crosswordpubs.html>

and

<https://russcolson.com/academics/nonfictpubs.html>

In the Field (A Crossword Puzzle), in EOS-Science News by AGU, Vol 106, No 7, Pg 32, July 2025

Frontiers (A Crossword Puzzle), in EOS-Science News by AGU, Vol 105, No 11, Pg 48, Nov-Dec 2024

Kiwi Country (A Crossword Puzzle), in EOS-Science News by AGU, Vol 105, No 10, Pg 32, Oct 2024.

Sky Dance (A Crossword Puzzle), in EOS-Science News by AGU, Vol 105, No 4, Pg 33, Apr 2024.

Follow the Carbon (A Crossword Puzzle), in EOS--Science News by AGU, Vol 105, No 2, Pg 32, Feb 2024 (with serious errors in both the grid and the answer in EOS)

Sounds Like Fun (A Crossword Puzzle), in EOS--Science News by AGU, Vol 105, No 1, Pg 49, January 2024

It's Happenin' on the Ocean Floor (A Crossword Puzzle), in EOS Science News by AGU, Vol 104, No 2, Pg 49, Feb 2023

Science Fiction to the Rescue, Shelter of Daylight, January 2023 Ed. Tyree Campbell Hiraethsff, 110p

Science Fiction Futures (A Crossword Puzzle) in EOS Science News by AGU, Vol 103, No 11, Pg 81, Nov-Dec 2022.

Greenhouse Connection (A Crossword Puzzle) in EOS Science News by AGU, Vol 103 No 4, Pg 48, April 2022.

Treasures of the Sea (A Crossword Puzzle) in EOS Science News by AGU, Vol 103 No. 2, pg 49, February 2022.

Distant Wanderers (A Crossword Puzzle) in EOS Science News by AGU, VOL. 102 No. 8, pg 56, August 2021.

Not Just the Center (A Crossword Puzzle) in EOS: Science News by AGU, Issue 102, No. 7 pg 48, July 2021 (note: error in the printed grid).

Geoprocesses (A Crossword Puzzle) in EOS: Science News by AGU, Issue 102, Nol 4 pg 48, April 2021.

Geology Wordplay (A Crossword Puzzle) in EOS: Science News by AGU, Issue 101, pg 79, Nov-Dec 2020.

Investigative Classroom Science: A Cure for National Skepticism of Science? In the Trenches, v8 no 4 NAGT, Fall 2018, with Mary Colson

Addressing Public Science Skepticism through Classroom Research Experiences, MnSTA Newsletter Spring 2017, with Mary Colson

Earth Science Gets No Respect, Clarkesworld Magazine, Feb 1, 2010

Faith and Science: Common Ground? Minneapolis Star Tribune, Dec 20, 2009

Oxygen from the Lunar Soil, NASA spec publ. 509, V. 3, 1992.

Treasure Hunt, Education St. Louis, Jan 1990

Technical Works:

List is available at <https://russcolson.com/academics/technicalpubs/pdf>

Awards

Chanticleer International Book Award 1st Place Category Winner, Hard Science Fiction, (2020) for *The Arasmith Certainty Principle*.

Finalist (2011) and Silver Honorable Mention Recipient (2016, 2018, 2021) of the Writers of the Future Contest.

Winner of the Science Fiction Showcase Award (2010) for "But I Had No Body"

2nd place in the National Fantasy Fan Federation (N3F) amateur short story contest (2011), for "All the Beautiful Lights of Heaven"

Shortlisted for the Aeon Award Contest (2009)

WSFA Small Press Award Nominee (2011) for "Swarm Mentality"

Related Experience:

2010 Carnegie Foundation and Council for the Advancement and Support of Education
US national professor of the year winner.

PhD. in geological sciences (1986), minoring in metallurgical engineering

Thirty years teaching college Planetary Science, Meteorology, Astronomy, and Geology

More than thirty-eight years' experience with technical science writing and teaching.

More than thirty-eight years' research in planetary science and experimental petrology.

More than thirty years professional engagement with science education.

Blogs etc:

Beginning 2024, current blogs are posted at <https://roadwriter.russcolson.com/>

Blogs prior to 2024 were posted at http://earthscienceissues.net/topics_for_debate, <http://earthscienceissues.net/earthwriteblog/> , and <http://earthscienceissues.net/earthteachblog/> , and are no longer available online. These included the following articles.

Effect of writing science fiction on understanding of geological concepts—preliminary results of a study in progress, Jan 7, 2020, The Teachers Corner, Issues in Earth Science.

Quixotic Quest: Science Fiction as Discovery Fiction Sept 3, 2019, The Writer's Corner, Issues in Earth Science.

Why do I write? Part 2. Feb 2, 2019, The Writer's Corner, Issues in Earth Science.

Why Do I Write? Oct 20, 2018, The Writer's Corner, Issues in Earth Science.

Practicing Science: What does it mean and how can we do it in the classroom?, Jan 2, 2018, The Teacher's Corner, Issues in Earth Science.

Assigning Blame for Public Science Skepticism, Apr 4, 2017, The Writer's Corner, Issues in Earth Science.

Invitation for Teachers and Others who have Ideas to Share about Teaching Science, Dec 7, 2017, The Teacher's Corner, Issues in Earth Science

Putting Science back in Science Fiction, Nov 1, 2016 The Writer's Corner, Issues in Earth Science.

Conversations on Science Education with a Colleague, Nov 1, 2016, The Teacher's Corner, Issues in Earth Science.

Teaching Science and the Lost Adventure Story, Oct 4, 2016, The Teacher's Corner, Issues in Earth Science.

The Mars One Initiative—Is it Real? Mar 13, 2014, The Writer's Corner, Issues in Earth Science.

Is it Science Fiction? Or Fantasy? Jan 19, 2014, The Writer's Corner, Issues in Earth Science.

Blogs for which I acted as editor:

Science teacher: conveyer of information or practitioner and mentor?" May-June 2018

At What Point Does Science Fiction Turn Into Fantasy, July 2017

Grade Inflation and Quality of Learning, May 2016

Theory in the Classroom, July 2015

Misconception and Science in Comic Books, Mar 2015

Earth Science in Public Education, Nov 2014

Climate Change, Jan 2014

Guest Blog Articles:

The Best of What We Might be Rather Than the Worst of What We Are, World of My Imagination, January 24, 2019-- <https://theworldofmyimagination.blogspot.com/2019/01/the-best-of-what-we-might-be-rather.html>

Excerpt from *The Arasmith Certainty Principle*, Lauren's Bookshelf, Feb 1, 2019-- <https://tympestbooks.wordpress.com/2019/02/01/the-arasmith-certainty-principle-excerpt/>