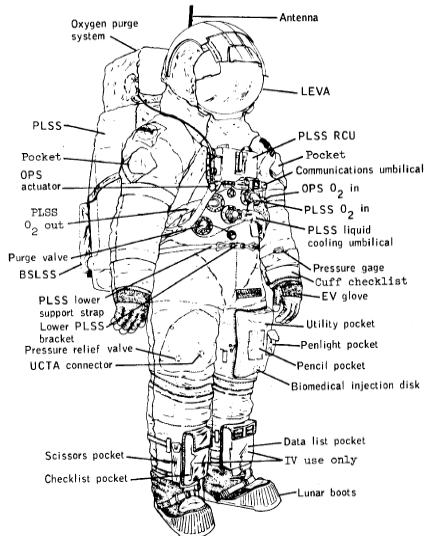


ROCKET SCIENCE

Science fiction does take place in a vacuum. Travel more than 100 kilometres vertically from where you're standing, and you'll be in space. Where there's no life-sustaining air; where the cold, and direct sunlight, can kill. There's no gravity, and background radiation will cause cancer in one in ten people. Yet the future of our species quite possibly lies up there, or somewhere that will require us to cross space to reach.

ROCKET SCIENCE is looking for stories which realistically depict space travel and its hazards. The reader needs to know what it would be like to be there. This doesn't mean stories must be set in interplanetary or interstellar space; but the technology and science involved must be present somewhere. It could be a story set in a spacecraft, on an asteroid or space station; or about a mission soon to leave Earth's surface. It could be a first contact, a rescue against the odds, or a study of some unusual space phenomenon. Whatever suits. Don't be afraid to be literary.



But no space opera, definitely no space opera.

ROCKET SCIENCE will also feature relevant non-fiction - history, science, technology, perhaps a study of notable books / films / tv. Feel free to submit.

Touchstone works: The RGB Mars trilogy, Kim Stanley Robinson; Ascent, Jed Mercurio; Voyage and Titan, Stephen Baxter; The Quiet War, Paul J McAuley; the autobiographies of astronauts Michael Collins and Thomas Stafford.

Reading period 1 Aug 2011 to 31 Oct 2011. Do not send before. Word limit 6k. Payment GBP10.00 per 1k words. Please stick to the theme.

ROCKET SCIENCE, edited by Ian Sales. To be published by Mutation Press in 2012. For more information visit <http://mutationpress.com/rocketscience.html> or email rocketscience.editor@gmail.com