

CHAPTER 5

Trump Universe

words by Adam Bessie and pictures by Peter Glanting



TRUMP UNIVERSE

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

2¢



WORDS
Adam Bessie

PICTURES
Peter Glanting

*Hyperbole is the native tongue of
Trump Universe...*



*Especially since Trump seems right out of the
pages of a science-fiction comic book.*



*Indeed, The Simpsons even predicted
a President Trump.*

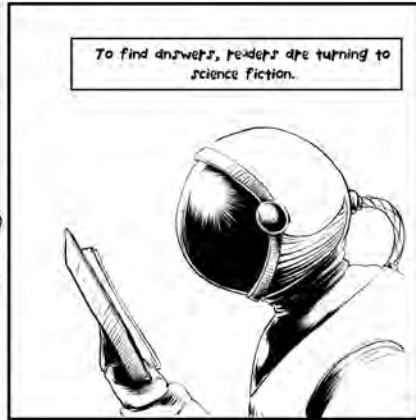


*Science-fiction seems a particularly apt form
of hyperbole...*

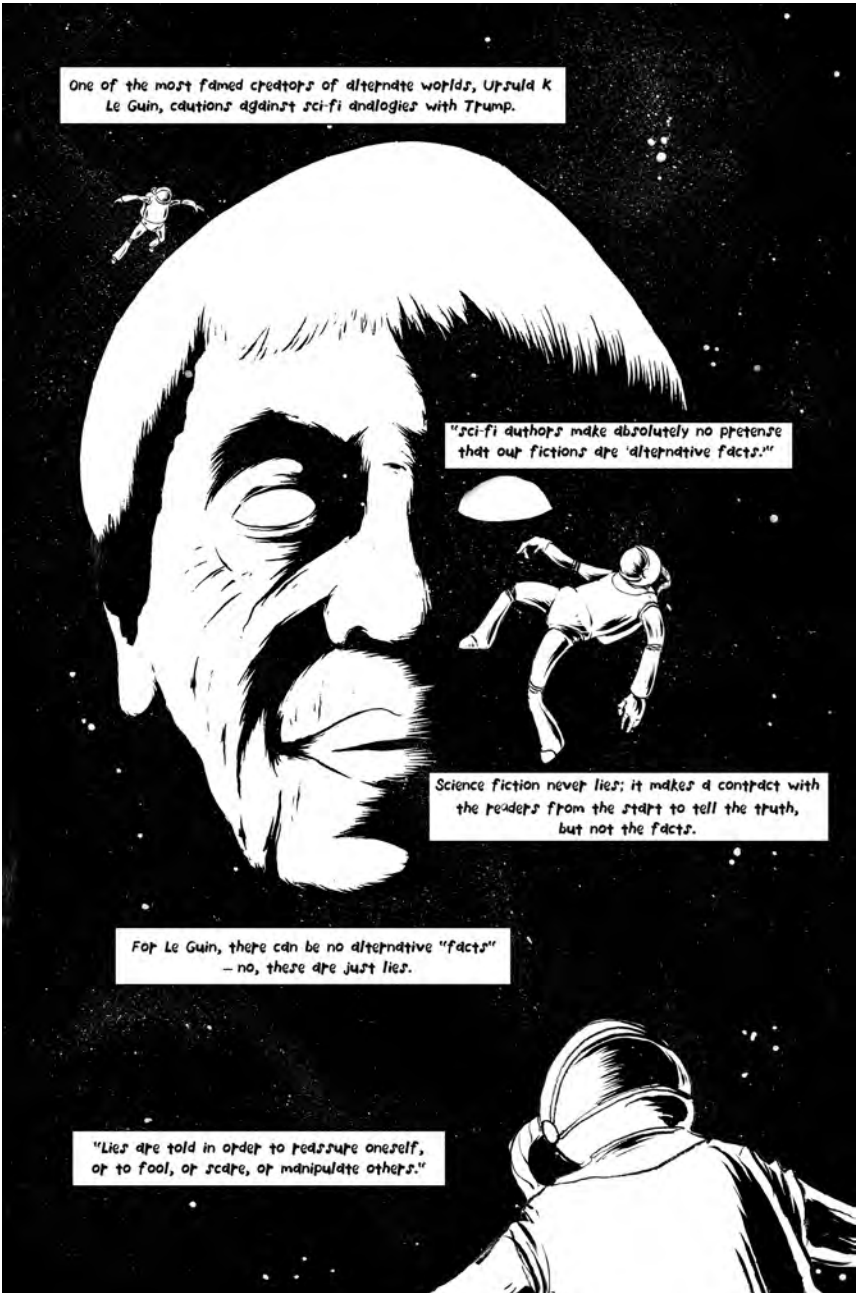


...a language of the fantastic made real.









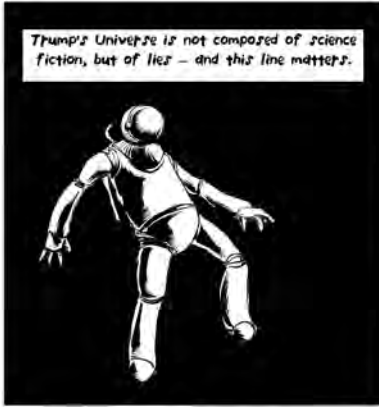
One of the most famed creators of alternate worlds, Ursula K. Le Guin, editions against sci-fi analogies with Trump.

"sci-fi authors make absolutely no pretense that our fictions are 'alternative facts.'"

Science fiction never lies; it makes a contract with the readers from the start to tell the truth, but not the facts.

For Le Guin, there can be no alternative "facts" — no, these are just lies.

"Lies are told in order to reassure oneself, or to fool, or scare, or manipulate others."



Trump's Universe is not composed of science fiction, but of lies - and this line matters.



Trump's lies are designed to maximize his administration's power, its gravity, its ability to shape us to its very real will.



Trump wants us to conflate fact and fake...



...to make them indistinguishable so that nobody knows what's real or not...

...and at a certain point, we get too tired to even care, or try.

A fiction fatigue.






*We are authors.
This is our story.
And it's time for a radical revision.*



INSPIRATIONS!



SELF-DEFENSE

The Twilight Zone
Black Mirror
They Live

COMIC COLLECTOR

Scott McCloud.
Understanding Comics

Nick Sousanis.
Unflattening



X-RAY GLASSES ONLY \$1.50

Jack Kirby.
"Galactus and Dr. Doom"

Matt Groening.
Homer Simpson

Al Feldstein.
"Judgment Day!" Weir
Fantasy #18

R. Sikoryak.
"The Unquotable Trump"

Comic Book Legal
Defense Fund

MUSCLES? In 7 days

Ursula K. Le Guin.
Introduction to the
novel *The Left Hand of
Darkness*



Ursula K. Le Guin.
The Oregonian Letter to
the editor, Feb 1, 2017

Jean Baudrillard.
"The Precession of
Simulacra"

George Lakoff and Mark
Johnson.
Metaphors We Live By

Neil Postman.
Amusing Ourselves to Death

Timothy Snyder.
On Tyranny

EVERY ITEM

Only
88¢
EACH

George Orwell.
1984

Aldous Huxley.
Brave New World

Philip K. Dick.
*The Man in the High
Castle*

M. T. Anderson.
Feed

Margaret Atwood.
The Handmaid's Tale

Sinclair Lewis.
It Can't Happen Here

Octavia Butler.
Parable of the Sower

ADAM BESSIE

Adam Bessie writes
cartoons and non-fiction
graphic essays which
have been featured in
many national outlets,
including The Atlantic,
The Boston Globe, The
Los Angeles Times, and
Truthout. Adam is a
Professor of English at a
San Francisco Bay Area
Community College.

PETER GLANTING

Peter Glanting is a car-
toonist and illustrator.
Pete holds a B.A. in En-
glish from the University
of California at Davis,
and an M.F.A. in
Comics from the Cali-
fornia College of the
Arts. He lives and works
in Portland, Oregon.

WRITE RIGHT NOW!

Reality Management Representatives, Inc.
17 Simulacra Street
Desert of the Real, CA 101001

CENSORED 2018

PRESS FREEDOMS IN A “POST-TRUTH” WORLD

The Top Censored Stories and Media Analysis of 2016–17

Andy Lee Roth and **Mickey Huff**
with **Project Censored**

Foreword by

Deepa Kumar

Cartoons by

Khalil Bendib



Seven Stories Press

New York • Oakland • London

Copyright © 2017 by Mickey Huff and Andy Lee Roth

Foreword © 2017 by Deepa Kumar

A Seven Stories Press First Edition

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form, by any means, including mechanical, electronic, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior written permission of the publisher.

Seven Stories Press
140 Watts Street
New York, NY 10013
www.sevenstories.com

ISBN 978-1-60980-781-8 (paperback)

ISBN 978-1-60980-782-5 (electronic)

ISSN 1074-5998

9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Book design by Jon Gilbert

Printed in the USA