



# Life, The Universe, & Everything

February 11-13, 2021 Virtual Online Event

## Benjamin K. Hewett

Benjamin K. Hewett is a NASA Management Analyst who lives in Houston and translates English into . . . English. In addition to writing short stories, blog posts, and novels. Ben enjoys spending time with his three kids, playing jazz piano, and juggling fire. He has a Bachelor of Arts in French, a minor in music, and a Master of Public Administration.

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## Guest



### ASSIGNMENTS: 2

#### Saturday - 10 AM

Panelist

Channel: A McCaffrey

#### How to Be an Alpha or Beta Reader and Not Alienate Friends

In this panel, learn how to become a helpful alpha or beta reader and avoid reader pitfalls and no-nos.

*C.H. Hung (moderator), Benjamin K. Hewett, Kenny Baldwin, Laya V. Smith, M.A. Nichols*

##### Seed Questions

What are authors expecting from alpha/beta readers? How to read a story? What feedback to give? How not to help?

#### Saturday - 6 PM

Panelist

Channel: U LeGuin

#### Humor in the Fantastic

Fantasy sometimes has unexpected magic and consequences that can lead to humor. Many books have used this to great advantage. Let's discuss how authors have found humor in the fantastic.

*Michael D. Young (moderator), Allison K. Hymas, Benjamin K. Hewett, G. Scott Huggins, Heidi Voss, Natalie Brianne*

##### Seed Questions

Why can humor be greater when combined with fantasy? What books have done this well? How has humor and fantasy been used to enhance one another?