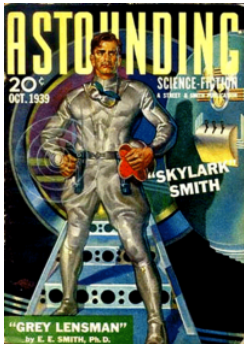


E. E. Smith

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Edward Elmer Smith



Gray Lensman in *Astounding* Oct. 1939

Pseudonym: E. E. "Doc" Smith

Born: May 2, 1890
Sheboygan, Wisconsin

Died: August 31, 1965 (aged 75)
Seaside, Oregon

Occupation: Food Engineer and Writer

Nationality: American

Writing period: Science Fiction 1928 - 1965

Genres: Space Opera

Influenced: Space Travel Fiction,
Scientific Developments

E. E. Smith, also **Edward Elmer Smith, Ph.D.**, **E.E. "Doc" Smith, Doc Smith, "Skylark" Smith**, and (to family) **Ted** (May 2, 1890 - August 31, 1965) was a food engineer (specializing in doughnut and pastry mixes) and science fiction author who wrote the *Lensman* series and the *Skylark* series, among others.

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Biography

Family and education

Edward Elmer Smith was born in Sheboygan, Wisconsin on May 2, 1890 to Fred Jay Smith and Caroline Mills Smith, both staunch Presbyterians of British ancestry.^[1] His mother was a teacher born in Michigan in February 1855; his father was a sailor, born in Maine in January 1855 to an English father.^[2] They moved to Spokane, Washington the winter after Edward Elmer was born,^[3] where Mr. Smith was working as a

contractor in 1900.^[4] In 1902 the family moved to Seneaque^[5], near the Pend d'Oreille River, in Kootenai County, Idaho.^[6] He had four siblings, Rachel M. born September 1882, Daniel M. born January 1884, Mary Elizabeth born February 1886 (all of whom were born in Michigan), and Walter E. born July 1891 in Washington.^[7] In 1910, Fred and Caroline Smith and their son Walter are living in the Markham Precinct of Bonner County, Idaho; Fred is listed as a farmer.^[8]

E. E. Smith worked primarily as a manual laborer until he injured his wrist, at the age of 19, while escaping from a fire. He attended the University of Idaho, where he was installed in the 1984 Class of the University of Idaho Alumni Hall of Fame;^[9] he entered its prep school in 1907, and graduated with two degrees in Chemical Engineering in 1914. He was president of the Chemistry Club, the Chess Club, and the Mandolin and Guitar Club, and captain of the Drill and Rifle Team; he also sang the bass lead in Gilbert and Sullivan operettas.^[10] His undergraduate thesis was *Some Clays of Idaho*, co-written with classmate Chester Fowler Smith, who died in California of tuberculosis the following year, after taking a teaching fellowship at Berkeley.^[11] It is not known whether the two were related.

On October 5, 1915, in Boise, Idaho^[12] he married Jeanne Craig MacDougall, the sister of his college roommate, Allen Scott (Scotty) MacDougall.^[13] (Her sister was named Clarissa MacLean MacDougall; the heroine of the *Lensman* novels would later be named Clarissa MacDougall.) Jeanne MacDougall was born in Glasgow, Scotland; her parents were Donald Scott MacDougall, a violinist, and Jessica Craig MacLean. Her father had moved to Boise, Idaho when the children were young, and later sent for his family; he died while they were en route in 1905. Her mother worked at, and later owned, a boarding house on Ridenbaugh Street.

The Smiths had three children, Roderick N., born June 3, 1918 in the District of Columbia (employed as a design engineer at Lockheed Aircraft); Verna Jean (later Verna Smith Trestrail), born August 25, 1920 in Michigan, his literary executor until her death in 1994 (her son Kim Trestrail is now the executor^[14]); and Clarissa M. (later Clarissa Wilcox), born December 13, 1921 in Michigan.^[15] In 1930 the Smiths were still living in Michigan, at 33 Rippon Avenue in Hillsdale.^[16]

Chemical career

After graduating from college, he worked as a junior civil service chemist for the National Bureau of Standards in Washington, D.C., working on standards for butter and oysters.^[17] He apparently served as a Lieutenant in the U.S. Cavalry in World War I, but in what capacity is not known.^[18]

Smith received a master's degree in Chemistry from George Washington University in 1917, studying under Charles E. Munroe.^[19] He earned a doctorate in Chemical Engineering,^[20] in 1918,^[21] emphasizing food engineering with a thesis entitled *The effect of bleaching with oxides of nitrogen upon the baking quality and commercial value of wheat flour*, which was published in 1919.^[22] Warner and Fleischer instead give the thesis title as *The Effect of the Oxides of Nitrogen upon the Carotin Molecule --- C₄₀H₅₆*, which is difficult to explain. Moskowitz instead gives the date of the degree as 1919,^[23] which may result from confusion with the publication date.

In 1919 Dr. Smith took a job as chief chemist for F.W. Stock & Sons of Hillsdale, Michigan, at one time the largest family-owned mill east of the Mississippi,^[24] working on doughnut mixes.^[25]

In January 1936 Dr. Smith took a job, for salary plus profit-sharing, as a food technologist (a cereal chemist) at the Dawn Doughnut Company of Jackson, Michigan.^[26] This initially entailed almost a year's worth of eighteen-hour days and seven-day workweeks. Individuals who knew Dr. Smith confirmed that he had a role in developing mixes for doughnuts and other pastries, but the contention that he developed the first process for making powdered sugar adhere to doughnuts cannot be substantiated.^[27] Dr. Smith was reportedly dislocated from his job at Dawn Doughnuts due to pre-war rationing in early 1940.^[28]

Dr. Smith worked for the US Army between 1941 and 1945. An extended segment in the novel version of *Triplanetary*, set during World War II, suggests intimate familiarity with explosives and munitions manufacturing. Some biographers cite as fact that, just as Smith's protagonist in this segment lost his job over failure to approve sub-standard munitions, Smith did as well. Smith began work for the J. W. Allen Company (a manufacturer of doughnut and frosting mixes) in 1946 and worked for them until his professional retirement in 1957.^[29]

Skylark series

One evening in 1915, while the Smiths were visiting his former classmate from the University of Idaho, Dr. Carl Garby, who had also moved to Washington and lived near the Smiths in the Seaton Place Apartments in Washington D.C. with his wife Lee Hawkins Garby, a long discussion about space travel ensued. Mrs. Garby suggested that Dr. Smith write a story set in outer space. Smith said that he would do so if Mrs. Garby would handle the love interest. The two had completed about a third of *The Skylark of Space* by the end of 1916, when they gradually abandoned work on it. The Smiths were the basis for the Seatons in the novel, and the Cranes were drawn from the Garbys.^[30]

Late in 1919, after moving to Michigan, one evening Smith was baby-sitting (presumably for Roderick) while his wife attended a movie, he resumed work on *The Skylark of Space*, finishing it in the spring of 1920.^[31] He submitted it to many book publishers and magazines, spending more in postage than he would eventually receive for its publication. He received an encouraging rejection letter from Bob Davis, editor of *Argosy*, in 1922,

saying that he liked the novel personally, but that it was too far out for his readers.^[32] (According to Warner, but no other source, Dr. Smith began work on the sequel, *Skylark III*, before the first book was accepted.) Finally, upon seeing the April 1927 issue of *Amazing Stories*, he submitted it to the magazine; it was accepted, initially for \$75, later raised to \$125.^[33] It was published in the August – October 1928 issues. It was such a success that managing editor T. O'Connor Sloane requested a sequel before the second installment had been published.^[34]

Mrs. Garby wasn't interested in collaborating further, so Dr. Smith began work on *Skylark Three* on his own.^[35] It was published in the August through October 1930 issues of *Amazing*. This was as far as he had planned to take the *Skylark* series; it was praised in *Amazing's* letter column,^[36] and he was paid 3/4¢ per word, surpassing *Amazing's* previous record of half a cent.^[37]

The 1930's: Between *Skylark* and *Lensman*

Dr. Smith then began work on what he intended as a new series, starting with *Spacehounds of IPC*,^[38] which he finished in the autumn of 1930.^[39] In this

novel he took pains to avoid the scientific impossibilities which had bothered some readers of the *Skylark* novels.^[40] Even in 1938, after he had written *Galactic Patrol*, Dr. Smith considered it his finest work;^[41] he later said of it, "This was really scientific fiction; not, like the Skylarks, pseudo-science";^[42] and even at the end of his career he considered it his only work of true science fiction.^[43] It was published in the July through September 1931 issues of *Amazing*, but with unauthorized changes by Sloane.^[44] Fan letters in the magazine complained about the novel's containment within the solar system, and Sloane sided with the readers. So when Harry Bates, editor of *Astounding Stories*, offered Smith 2¢/word—payable on publication—for his next story, he agreed; this meant that it could not be a sequel to *Spacehounds*.^[45]

This book would be *Triplanetary*, "in which scientific detail would not be bothered about, and in which his imagination would run riot."^[46] Indeed, characters within the story point out its psychological^[47] and scientific^[48] implausibilities, and sometimes even seem to suggest self-parody.^[49] At other times they are conspicuously silent about obvious implausibilities.^[50] ^[51] The January 1933 issue of *Astounding* announced that

Triplanetary would appear in the March issue, and that issue's cover illustrated a scene from the story, but *Astounding's* financial difficulties prevented the story from appearing.^[52] Dr. Smith then submitted the manuscript to *Wonder Stories*, whose editor, Charles D. Hornig, rejected it, later boasting about the rejection in a fanzine.^[53] He finally submitted it to *Amazing*, which published it beginning in January 1934, but for only half a cent a word. Shortly after it was accepted, F. Orlin Tremaine, the new editor of the revived *Astounding*, offered one cent a word for *Triplanetary*; when he learned that he was too late, he suggested a third *Skylark* novel instead.^[54]

In the winter of 1933-4 Dr. Smith worked on *The Skylark of Valeron*, but he felt that the story was getting out of control; he sent his first draft to Tremaine, with a distraught note asking for suggestions. Tremaine accepted the rough draft for \$850, and announced it in the June 1934 issue, with a full-page editorial and a three-quarter page advertisement. The novel was published in the August 1934 through February 1935 issues. *Astounding's* circulation rose by 10,000 for the first issue, and its two main competitors, *Amazing* and *Wonder Stories* fell into financial difficulties, both skipping issues within a year.^[55]

The *Lensman* series

Dr. Smith had been contemplating writing a "space-police novel" since early 1927;^[56] once he had "the Lensmen's universe fairly well set up," he reviewed his science fiction collection for "cops-and-robbers" stories. He cites Constantinescue's "War of the Universe" as a negative example, and Starzl and Williamson as positive ones.^[57] Tremaine responded extremely positively to a brief description of the idea.^[58]

Once Dawn Doughnuts became profitable in late 1936, Dr. Smith wrote an eighty-five page outline for what became the four core *Lensman* novels; in early 1937 Tremaine committed to buying them.^[59] Segmenting the story into four novels required considerable effort to avoid dangling loose ends; Dr. Smith cites Edgar Rice Burroughs as a negative example.^[60] After the outline was complete, he wrote a more detailed outline of *Galactic Patrol*, plus a detailed graph of its structure, with "peaks of emotional intensity and the valleys of characterization and background material." He notes, however, that he was never able to follow any of his outlines at all closely, as his "characters get away from me and do exactly as

they damn please.”^[61] After completing the rough draft of *Galactic Patrol*, he wrote the concluding chapter of the last book in the series, *Children of the Lens*.^[62] *Galactic Patrol* was published in the September 1937 through February 1938 issues of *Astounding*; unlike the revised book edition, it was not set in the same universe as *Triplanetary*.^[63] *Gray Lensman*, the second book in the series, appeared in *Astounding's* October 1939 through January 1940 issues. (Note that the frequent British spelling “grey” is simply a recurrent mistake, starting with the cover of the first installment; Moskowitz's usage, “*The Grey Lensman*,” is even harder to justify.^[64]) *Gray Lensman* (and its cover illustration, above) was extremely well received. Campbell's editorial in the December issue suggested that the October issue was the best issue of *Astounding* ever, and *Gray Lensman* was first place in the *Analytical Laboratory* statistics “by a lightyear,” with three runners-up in a distant tie for third place.^[65] The cover was also praised by readers in *Brass Tacks*, and Campbell noted, “We got a letter from E.E. Smith saying he and Rogers agreed on how Kinnison looked.”^[66]

Dr. Smith was the guest of honor at Chicon I, the second World Science Fiction Convention, held in Chicago over Labor Day weekend 1940,^[67] giving

a speech on the importance of science fiction fandom entitled “What Does This Convention Mean?”^[68] He attended the convention’s masquerade as C.L. Moore’s Northwest Smith, and met fans living near him in Michigan, who would later form the Galactic Roamers, which previewed and advised him on his future work.^[69]

Retirement and late writing

After Dr. Smith retired, he and his wife lived in Clearwater, Florida in the fall and winter, driving the smaller of their two trailers to Seaside, Oregon each April, often stopping at science fiction conventions on the way. (Dr. Smith did not like to fly.)^[70] Some of his biography is captured in an essay by Robert A. Heinlein, which was reprinted in the collection *Expanded Universe* in 1980. There is a more detailed, although allegedly error-ridden, biography in Sam Moskowitz's *Seekers of Tomorrow*.

Robert A. Heinlein and Dr. Smith were friends. Heinlein reported that E.E. Smith perhaps took his "unrealistic" heroes from life, citing as an example the extreme competence of the hero of *Spacehounds of IPC*. He reported that E.E. Smith

was a large, blond, athletic, very intelligent, very gallant man, married to a remarkably beautiful, intelligent red-haired woman named MacDougal (thus perhaps the prototypes of 'Kimball Kinnison' and 'Clarissa MacDougal'). In Heinlein's essay, he reports that he began to suspect Smith might be a sort of "superman" when he asked Dr. Smith for help in purchasing a car. Smith tested the car by driving it on a back road at illegally high speeds with their heads pressed tightly against the roof columns to listen for chassis squeaks by bone conduction—a process apparently improvised on the spot.

In his non-series novels written after his professional retirement, *Galaxy Primes*, *Subspace Explorers*, and *Subspace Encounter*, E. E. Smith explores themes of telepathy and other mental abilities collectively called "psionics," and of the conflict between libertarian and socialistic/communistic influences in the colonization of other planets.

Critical opinion

His novels are generally considered to be the original space operas, and offer almost non-stop

action. However, they are, to a fair extent, still "true" science fiction, in that they use the extrapolation of known science and, often, the extrapolation of existing and historic social and political patterns of the early to mid-twentieth century. Smith himself expressed a preference for inventing fictional technologies that were not strictly impossible (so far as the science of the day was aware) but highly unlikely: "the more unlikely the better" was his phrase.

The Lensman novels were particularly interesting for their imaginative use of extra-terrestrial, non-human characters as major heroes, another science fiction "first."

Extending the *Lensman* universe

Vortex Blasters (also known as *Masters of the Vortex*) is set in the same universe as the *Lensman* novels. It is an extension to the main storyline which takes place between *Second Stage Lensman* and *Children of the Lens*, and introduces a different type of psionics from that used by the Lensmen. *Spacehounds of IPC* is not a part of the series, despite occasional erroneous statements to

the contrary. (It is listed as a novel in the series in some paperback editions of the 1970s.)

Robert A. Heinlein reported that Doc had planned a seventh *Lensman* novel, set after the events described in *Children of the Lens*, which was unpublishable at that time (the early 1960s). Careful searches by people who knew Doc well (including Frederik Pohl, Doc's editor, and Verna Smith Trestrail, Doc's daughter) have failed to locate any material related to such a story. Doc apparently never wrote any of it down. Doc told Heinlein that the new novel proceeded inexorably from unresolved matters in *Children*, a statement easily supported by a careful reading of *Children*.

On 14 July 1965, barely a month before his death, E. E. Smith gave written permission to William B. Ellern to continue the *Lensman* series, which led to the publishing of "Moon Prospector" in 1965 and *New Lensman* in 1976. Smith's long-time friend, Dave Kyle, wrote three authorized added novels in the *Lensman* series that provided background about the major non-human Lensmen.

Influence on Science and the Military

As well as influencing the course of popular culture, Smith was also a huge influence on modern warfare. His books were widely read by scientists and engineers from the 1930s until the 1970s. Ideas that arguably entered the military-scientific complex from Smith's work included SDI (*Triplanetary*), stealth (*Gray Lensman*) and OODA-loops/C3 based warfare and the AWACS (*Gray Lensman*).

An influence that is inarguable was described in an 11 June 1947 letter^[71] to Doc from John W. Campbell (the editor of *Astounding* magazine, where much of the *Lensman* series was originally published). In it, Campbell relayed Captain Cal Lanning's acknowledgment that he had used Smith's ideas for displaying the battlespace situation (called the "tank" in the stories) in the design of the United States Navy's ships' Combat Information Centers. "The entire set-up was taken specifically, directly, and consciously from the *Directrix*. In your story, you reached the situation the Navy was in — more communication channels than integration techniques to handle it. You proposed such an integrating technique and proved how advantageous it could be. You, sir, were 100% right. As the Japanese Navy— not the

hypothetical Boskonian fleet— learned at an appalling cost."

One underlying theme of the later *Lensman* novels was the difficulty in maintaining military secrecy—as advanced capabilities are revealed, the opposing side can often duplicate them. This point was also discussed extensively by John Campbell in his letter to Doc.^[72] Also in the later *Lensman* novels, and particular after the "Battle of Klovian" broke the Boskonian's power base at the end of *Second Stage Lensman*, the Boskonian forces and particularly Klandron of Onlo reverted to terroristic tactics to attempt to demoralize Civilization, thus providing an early literary glimpse into this modern problem of both law enforcement and military response. The use of "Vee-two" gas by the pirates attacking the *Hyperion* in *Triplanetary* (in both magazine and book appearances) also suggests anticipation of the terrorist uses of poison gases.

The beginning of the story the *Skylark of Space* describes in relative detail the protagonists research into separation of platinum group residues, subsequent experiments involving electrolysis and the discovery of a process evocative of cold fusion (over 50 years before

Stanley Pons and Martin Fleischmann). He describes a nuclear process yielding large amounts of energy and producing only negligible radioactive waste—which then goes on to form the basis of the adventures in the Skylark books. Smith's general description of the process of discovery is highly evocative of Röntgen's descriptions of his discovery of the X-ray.

Another theme of the *Skylark* novels involves precursors of modern information technology. The humanoid aliens encountered in the first novel have developed a primitive technology called the "mechanical educator," which allows direct conversion of brain waves into intelligible thought for transmission to others or for electrical storage. By the third novel in the series, *Skylark of Valeron*, this technology has grown into an "Electronic Brain" which is capable of computation on all "bands" of energy—electromagnetism, gravity, and "tachyonic" energy and radiation bands included. This is itself derived from a discussion of reductionist atomic theory in the second novel, *Skylark Three*, which brings to mind modern quark and sub-quark theories of elementary particle physics.

Literary influences on Smith's Writing

In his essay "The Epic of Space," Dr. Smith listed (by last name only) authors he enjoyed reading: John W. Campbell, L. Sprague de Camp, Robert A. Heinlein, Murray Leinster, H.P. Lovecraft, A. Merritt (specifically *The Ship of Ishtar*, *The Moon Pool*, *The Snake Mother*, and *Dwellers in the Mirage*, as well as the character John Kenton), C.L. Moore (specifically Jirel of Joiry), Roman Frederick Starzl, John Taine, A.E. van Vogt, Stanley G. Weinbaum (specifically Trweel^[73]), and Jack Williamson. In a passage on his preparation for writing the Lensman novels, he notes that Constantinescu's "War of the Universe" was not a masterpiece,^[74] but says that Starzl and Williamson were masters; this suggests that Starzl's Interplanetary Flying Patrol may have been an influence on Dr. Smith's Triplanetary Patrol, later the Galactic Patrol. The feeding of the Overlords of Delgon upon the life-force of their victims at the end of chapter five of *Galactic Patrol* seems a clear allusion to chapter twenty-nine of *The Moon Pool*; Merritt's account of the Taithu and the power of love in chapters twenty-

nine and thirty-four also bear some resemblance to the end of *Children of the Lens*. Dr. Smith also mentions Edgar Rice Burroughs, complaining about loose ends at the end of one of his novels.

Dr. Smith acknowledges the help of the Galactic Roamers writers' workshop, plus E. Everett Evans, Ed Counts, an unnamed aeronautical engineer, Dr. James Enright, and Dr. Richard W. Dodson. Dr. Smith's daughter, Verna, lists the following authors as visitors to the Smith household in her youth: Lloyd Eshbach, Robert A. Heinlein, Dave Kyle, Bob Tucker, Jack Williamson, Fred Pohl, A. Merritt, and the Galactic Roamers. Dr. Smith cites Bigelow's *Theoretical Chemistry—Fundamentals* as a justification for the possibility of the inertialess drive. There is also an extended reference to Rudyard Kipling's "Ballad of Boh Da Thon" in *Gray Lensman*.

Sam Moskowitz's biographical essay on Dr. Smith in *Seekers of Tomorrow* states that he regularly read Argosy magazine, and everything by H.G. Wells, Jules Verne, H. Rider Haggard, Edgar Allan Poe, and Edgar Rice Burroughs. Moskowitz also notes that Dr. Smith's "reading enthusiasms included poetry, philosophy, ancient and medieval history, and all of English literature."^[75] (Dr.

Smith's grandson notes that he spoke, and sang, German.^[76]) The influence of these is not readily apparent, except in the Roman section of *Triplanetary*, and in the impeccable but convoluted grammar of Dr. Smith's narration. Some influence of nineteenth century philosophy of language may be detectable in the account in *Galactic Patrol* of the Lens of Arisia as a universal translator, which is reminiscent of Frege's strong realism about *Sinn*, that is, thought or sense.

Both Moskowitz and Smith's daughter Verna Smith Trestrail report that Dr. Smith had a troubled relationship with John Campbell, the editor of *Astounding*. It is noteworthy that Dr. Smith's most successful works were published under Campbell, but the degree of influence is uncertain. The original outline for the *Lensman* series had been accepted by F. Orlin Tremaine,^[77] and Dr. Smith angered Campbell by showing loyalty to Tremaine at his new magazine, *Comet*, when he sold him "The Vortex Blaster" in 1941.^[78] Campbell's announcement of *Children of the Lens*, in 1947, was less than enthusiastic.^[79] Campbell later said that he published it only reluctantly,^[80] though he praised it privately,^[81] and bought little from Smith thereafter.

Derivative Works and Influence on Popular Culture

- Randall Garrett wrote a parody entitled *Backstage Lensman* which Dr. Smith reportedly enjoyed. Harry Harrison also parodied Smith's work in the novel, *Star Smashers of the Galaxy Rangers*.
- Steve 'Slug' Russell wrote one of the first computer games, *Spacewar!*, with inspiration from the space battles from the *Lensman* series.
- The GURPS role-playing game includes a worldbook based on the *Lensman* series.
- There is a Japanese *Lensman* anime, but it is more an imitation of *Star Wars* than a translation of the *Lensman* novels. Efforts to print translations of the associated manga in the United States in the early 1990s without payment of royalties to the Smith family were successfully blocked in court by Verna Smith Trestrail with the help of several California science fiction authors and fans.

- In his biography, George Lucas reveals that the Lensman novels were a major influence on his youth. J. Michael Straczynski, creator of the science fiction television series *Babylon 5*, also has acknowledged the influence of the Lensman books.^{[82][83]}
- Superman-creator Jerry Siegel was impressed, at an early age, with the optimistic vision of the future presented in *Skylark of Space*.^[84]

Fictional appearances

Doc himself appears as a character in the 2006 novel *The Chinatown Death Cloud Peril* by Paul Malmont. The novel describes friendship and rivalry among pulp writers of the 1930s. He also appears as "Lensman Ted Smith" in the 1980 novel "The Number Of The Beast" by Robert A. Heinlein.

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Series

Lensman^[85]

1. *Triplanetary* (Amazing Stories Jan–Apr 1934, Fantasy Press 1948)^[86]
2. *First Lensman* (Fantasy Press 1950)
3. *Galactic Patrol* (Astounding Stories Sep 1937–Feb 1938, Fantasy Press 1950)
4. *Gray Lensman* (Astounding Stories Oct 1939–Jan 1940, Fantasy Press 1951)
5. *Second Stage Lensman* (Astounding Stories Nov 1941–Feb 1942, Fantasy Press 1953)
6. *Children of the Lens* (Astounding Stories Nov 1947–Feb 1948, Fantasy Press 1954)
7. *The Vortex Blaster*, also known as *Masters of the Vortex* (Comet July 1941, Astonishing Stories Jun & Oct 1942, Gnome Press 1960)

Skylark

1. *The Skylark of Space* (written 1915–1920 with Mrs. Lee Hawkins Garby, Amazing Stories Aug–Oct 1928, Buffalo Book Co. 1946. Paperback edition, heavily revised and without the co-author credit, Pyramid Books 1958)
2. *Skylark Three* (Amazing Stories Aug–Oct 1930, Fantasy Press 1948)
3. *Skylark of Valeron* (Astounding Stories Aug 1934–Feb 1935, Fantasy Press 1949)
4. *Skylark DuQuesne* (Worlds of If Jun–Oct 1965, Pyramid Books 1966)

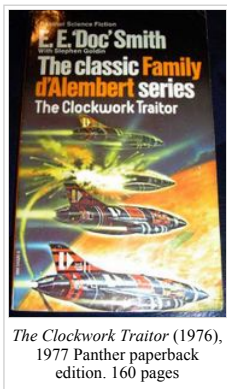
Subspace

1. *Subspace Explorers* (Canaveral Press 1965, Ace 1968; the first 30 pages of the book appeared in Astounding Jul 1960)
2. *Subspace Encounter* (1983)

Family d'Alembert

(with Stephen Goldin - in fact only parts of the first book are by Smith, the rest is by Goldin based on Smith's novella)

1. *Imperial Stars* (1976)
2. *Strangers' Moon* (1976)
3. *The Clockwork Traitor* (1976)



4. *Getaway World* (1977)
5. *Appointment at Bloodstar*, also known as *The Bloodstar Conspiracy* (1978)
6. *The Purity Plot* (1978)
7. *Planet of Treachery* (1981)
8. *Eclipsing Binaries* (1983)
9. *The Omicron Invasion* (1984)
10. *Revolt of the Galaxy* (1985)

Lord Tedric (with Gordon Eklund)

1. *Lord Tedric* (1978)
2. *The Space Pirates* (1979)
3. *Black Knight of the Iron Sphere* (1979)
4. *Alien Realms* (1980)

Non-Series Novels and Collections

- *Spacehounds of IPC* (Amazing Stories Jul–Sep 1931, Fantasy Press 1947, Ace 1966)
- *The Galaxy Primes* (Amazing Stories Mar–May 1959, Ace 1965. Dr. Smith expressed extreme dissatisfaction with the editing of this novel.)
- *Masters of Space* (1976) (with E. Everett Evans)
- Edward E. Smith (2001). *Have Trenchcoat — Will Travel, and Others*. Advent. ISBN 0-911682-33-3.

Non-fiction

- *Some Clays of Idaho*, (with Chester Fowler Smith) undergraduate thesis, University of Idaho, 1914. ^[87]
- *The effect of bleaching with oxides of nitrogen upon the baking quality and commercial value of wheat flour*, Ph.D. thesis, George Washington University, 1919, approximately 100 pp. ^[88]
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- "Viscosity and Baking Quality," *Cereal Chemistry* 2, 178-89, 1925. ^[90]
- "Report of the Subcommittee on Hydrogen-Ion Concentration with Special Reference to the Effect of Flour Bleach," *Cereal Chemistry* 9, 424-8, 1932. ^[91]
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- Worldcon Guest of Honor Speech, originally presented at Chicon I on September 1, 1940. To be published in *Worldcon Guest of Honor Speeches*, edited by Mike Resnick

and Joe Siclari, ISFiC Press, August 23, 2006.

- "The Epic of Space" in *Of Worlds Beyond: The Science of Science Fiction Writing*, edited by Lloyd Arthur Eshbach (Fantasy Press 1947; includes a biographical sketch).
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References

1. ^ Moskowitz p. 11. For this and all following dates, see also the timelines in Lucchetti pp. 31–5 and 113–147 and, to a lesser extent, Sanders pp. 1–2.
2. ^ 1900 Census, House 1515, Residence 438, Family 371, 3rd Ward of Spokane County, Washington, recorded June 13, 1900, accessed via online census images at heritagequest.com
3. ^ Sanders p. 1 & 7. Trestrail p. 2 instead says that the family moved that year to Idaho, but Moskowitz p. 11–12 and Eshbach p. 85 both seem to agree with Sanders.
4. ^ 1900 Census, *ibid*.
5. ^ Sanders p. 1.
6. ^ Moskowitz p. 11–12.
7. ^ 1900 Census, *ibid*.
8. ^ 1910 Census, Residence 37, Family 37, Markham Precinct, Bonner County, Idaho, recorded 25 April 1910, accessed via heritagequest.com.
9. ^ Letter from Flip Kleffner, Director of Alumni Relations, University of Idaho Alumni Association, to Verna Smith Trestrail, dated 27 February 1984.
10. ^ Sanders p. 8

11. ^ Latah County, Idaho Star-Mirror, March 25 1915.
12. ^ Western States Marriage Index Entry 84846,
<http://abish.byui.edu/specialCollections/westernStatesMarriageIndex/recordID=84846> accessed 2007 April 5
13. ^ Trestrail pp. 3 & 4, Sanders p. 8, Moskowitz p. 13. Trestrail spells the name "Allen."
14. ^ Z9M9Z: "Noreascon 4".
15. ^ Lucchetti p. 32, Warner, Moskowitz p. 22.
16. ^ 1930 Census of Ward 3, Household 288, Family 314, Hillsdale, Michigan, recorded by Mark C. Hanselman on 11 April 1930. Copy courtesy www.ancestry.com.
17. ^ Moskowitz p. 13.
18. ^ See the photo at Lens FAQ p. 0. According to Warner, he applied unsuccessfully to serve as an aviator. The other biographies on silent on his wartime service.
19. ^ Sanders p. 1
20. ^ Moskowitz p. 13.
21. ^ Sanders p. 1, Lucchetti p. 32, Barrett p. 4 following Sanders.
22. ^ See bibliography, below.
23. ^ Moskowitz p. 13.
24. ^
<http://www.hillsdalecounty.info/history0118>.

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25. ^ Sanders p. 1
26. ^ Moskowitz p. 19, Warner.
27. ^ The earliest web source for this claim seems to be Computer games: 40 years of fun, ZDNet UK, November 23, 2001 by Graeme Wearden; the article does not provide a source, and the claim may have been added by a colleague. (Private correspondence, July 4, 2006.) Searches at Google patent (www.google.com/patent) on various combinations of Dr. Smith's name have not uncovered any patents which relate to his professional biography and supposed accomplishments in the pastry field.
28. ^ The Dictionary of Literary Biography (citation needed), quoted at http://www.bookrags.com/Edward_Elgar accessed 8 May 2007.
29. ^ The Dictionary of Literary Biography, *ibid*.
30. ^ Sanders pp. 8-9, Moskowitz p. 14.
31. ^ Sanders p.1, Moskowitz p. 14. Warner says 1921.
32. ^ Sanders p. 9, Moskowitz p. 15.
33. ^ Sanders pp. 1 & 9, Moskowitz p. 15. Both Moskowitz and Sanders (p. 1 but not p. 9) say that T. O'Connor Sloane was the editor who accepted it, but according to the

Wikipedia article on T. O'Connor Sloane, he was managing editor until 1929, when he became editor, replacing Hugo Gernsback.

- 34. ^ Moskowitz p. 15.
- 35. ^ Moskowitz p. 15. As noted above, Warner instead says that Dr. Smith had already begun work.
- 36. ^ E.g., a letter from John W. Campbell on pages 567–8 of the September issue, which ends by stating that *Skylark of Space* had been "the best story of scientifiction ever printed," but which consists mainly of devastating criticism of the stories' science.
- 37. ^ Moskowitz p. 16
- 38. ^ Moskowitz p. 16, Sanders p. 65.
- 39. ^ Warner.
- 40. ^ Sanders p. 65. The book does however have significant scientific implausibilities, for example the breathable atmosphere on Saturn and some of its and Jupiter's satellites.
- 41. ^ Warner.
- 42. ^ Sheridan p. 3
- 43. ^ Rogers p. 26.
- 44. ^ Moskowitz p. 16, Rogers p. 14.
- 45. ^ Moskowitz p. 16.
- 46. ^ Warner.
- 47. ^ Lyman Cleveland's comment on the easy availability of "solid asteroids of iron,"

Amazing March 1934, p. 16, first edition p.196, as proving the pointlessness of the Nevians' attack.

48. ^ Cleveland's expectation, correct according to Special Relativity, that inertialess travel would not be faster than light in the home reference frame, p. 223.
49. ^ Nerado's comment, "Destruction, always destruction... they are a useless race," February p. 81, p. 160.
50. ^ Costigan & Bradley's lack of comment when they discover that the ship they are on has passed the speed of light, February p. 84, p. 168. This is the first mention in the story of faster-than-light travel.
51. ^ Costigan & Bradley's failure to object, when told of the Nevians' impending second raid on Tellus, that they could easily obtain iron without further destruction, February p. 88, p. 175.
52. ^ Moskowitz p. 17, Rogers p. 14.
53. ^ Moskowitz p. 17, citing "Stories We Reject" in *Fantasy Magazine* December 1934.
54. ^ Moskowitz p. 17
55. ^ Moskowitz p. 17–8, Rogers pp. 24–30. Rogers agrees with Moskowitz that *Astounding* became the leading science fiction magazine during this period, but does

not attribute this solely to Dr. Smith.

- 56. ^ "The Epic of Space" p. 83.
- 57. ^ "The Epic of Space" p. 84.
'Canstantinescu's "War of the Universes"' is apparently an error for "The War of the Universe" by Clinton Constantinescu, *Amazing Stories Quarterly*, Fall 1931.
- 58. ^ "The Epic of Space" p. 85.
- 59. ^ Gharlane LensFaq section 1, Moskowitz p. 19, "The Epic of Space" p. 85. Note that Dr. Smith's account in "The Epic of Space" does not mention Tremaine's commitment. Moskowitz says that the outline was eighty pages; Dr. Smith only mentions that the section on *Galactic Patrol* was "only a few pages long."
- 60. ^ "The Epic of Space" p. 85.
- 61. ^ "The Epic of Space" p. 86.
- 62. ^ Moskowitz p. 19
- 63. ^ The Commandant's account of the Patrol's early history at the beginning of the magazine version of *Galactic Patrol* does not describe what happened in the magazine version of *Triplanetary*; the reference to Virgil Samms and the Triplanetary Patrol is a later interpolation. (*Astounding* September 1937 pp. 12–13; cp. Fantasy Press edition pp. 8–9.) The reference to "the days of the semi-inert drive" and the Third Galactic

Survey on page 34 of the same issue is not consistent with the history of partial inertialessness in either version of *Triplanetary*, and is omitted from page 42 of the Fantasy Press edition. (*Amazing March* 1934 pp. 28 & 33; cp. Fantasy Press edition pp. 223 & 231.) See also Gharlane's Lens FAQ Question 1. The Arisians' near-omniscience about the future is also interpolated, e.g., *Astounding* January 1938 p. 127 vs. first edition p. 205.

64. ^ Gharlane Lens FAQ Question 1 and footnote to rec.arts.sf.written posting; Moskowitz p. 20.
65. ^ *Astounding* December 1939 pp. 6, 91.
66. ^ *Astounding* December 1939 pp. 104.
67. ^ Sanders p. 10, Moskowitz p. 12.
68. ^ Resnick & Siclari.
69. ^ Sanders p. 10, afterword to *Second Stage Lensman*.
70. ^ Pohl in Lucchetti p. 15, Al Trestrail in Lucchetti p. 19. Al Trestrail (p. 20) and Pohl (p. 14) also mention church attendance (Pohl in a fictional context), which none of the other sources seem to.
71. ^ Letter from John W. Campbell to E. E. Smith, page 1-2, Dated 11 June 1947.
72. ^ Letter from John W. Campbell to E. E. Smith, page 2-3, Dated 11 June 1947.

73. ^ "The Epic of Space" p. 80. The conventional spelling is "Tweel", though the most accurate spelling is "Trrrweerrlll." ("A Martian Odyssey", *The Best of Stanley G. Weinbaum* p. 5.)
74. ^ Both Constantinescu's name and title are misspelled in the essay: 'Canstantinescu's "War of the Universes"', p. 84.
75. ^ Moskowitz p. 14.
76. ^ Al Trestrail, in Lucchetti p. 20.
77. ^ Moskowitz p. 19
78. ^ Moskowitz p. 21
79. ^ Moskowitz p. 23.
80. ^ Sanders p. 15.
81. ^ Letter to Clifford Simak June 18, 1953, *The John W. Campbell Letters* Volume 1, p. 177.
82. ^
<http://movies.ign.com/articles/035/035904p1>.
83. ^
<http://www.fsl.cs.sunysb.edu/pipermail/b5jm:-April/001838.html>
84. ^ Gerard Jones, *Men of Tomorrow*, 2004, p. 29-31
85. ^ In "The Epic of Space," Dr. Smith reveals that the core books of the Lensman series, *Galactic Patrol*, *Gray Lensman*, *Second Stage Lensman*, and *Children of the Lens*, were conceived as a unified whole. Some

recommend reading the books in this order, followed by the revised *Triplanetary*, *First Lensman*, and *The Vortex Blaster*. The original versions of the core books are not consistent with the original version of *Triplanetary*; the connections between them are later interpolations.

- 86. ^ The magazine version of *Triplanetary* was not part of the original *Lensman* series. For the book versions, passages were interpolated into the original *Triplanetary*, and earlier, pre-space-flight sections were added, forming the first third of the book. Some passages were added to or removed from the core books, to make them consistent with the new version of *Triplanetary*.
- 87. ^ University of Idaho Libraries University of Idaho Libraries
- 88. ^ Lucchetti, p. 113, worldcatlibraries.org
- 89. ^ Lucchetti p. 113, Library of Congress
- 90. ^ Lucchetti p. 113
- 91. ^ Lucchetti p. 114
- 92. ^ According to Gharlane, this is error-ridden: LensFAQ section 7. Gharlane provides no details, but Moskowitz does get as basic a fact as the editorship of *Amazing* wrong, on page 15.

External links

- Works by E. E. Smith at Project Gutenberg
- *Skylark Three* (original magazine version)
- *Spacehounds of IPC* (original magazine version)

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