



Frederik Pohl

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This article is about the writer and editor. For the historian, see Frederick J. Pohl.

Frederik George Pohl, Jr. (born **November 26, 1919**) is a **American science fiction writer**, editor and **fan**, with a career spanning over sixty years. From about 1959 until 1969, Pohl edited *Galaxy* magazine and its sister magazine *if*, winning the **Hugo** for *if* three years in a row. His writing also won him three Hugos and multiple **Nebula Awards**. He became a **Nebula Grand Master** in 1993.

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Biography and writing career

Pohl's family moved a number of times in his early years. His father held a number of jobs, and the Pohls lived in such wide-flung locations as **Texas**, **California**, **New Mexico**, and the **Panama Canal Zone**. Around age seven, they settled in **Brooklyn**. He attended the prestigious **Brooklyn Tech** high school, but due to the **Great Depression**, Pohl dropped out of school at the age of fourteen to work. While still a teenager he began a lifelong friendship with fellow writer **Isaac Asimov**, also a member of the New York-based **Futurians fan group**.

In 1936, Pohl joined the **Young Communist League**, an organization in favor of trade unions and against racial prejudice and Hitler and Mussolini. He became President of the local Flatbush III Branch of the YCL in Brooklyn. Some say that party elders expelled him, in the belief that the escapist nature of science fiction risked corrupting the minds of youth; he says that after Stalin-Hitler pact in 1939 the party line changed and he could no longer support it, so he left.

From 1939 to 1943, he was the editor of two **pulp magazines** - *Astonishing Stories* and *Super Science Stories*.^[1] In his own autobiography, Pohl says that he stopped editing the two magazines at roughly the time of German invasion of the Soviet Union in 1941.

Pohl has been married several times. His first wife, **Leslie Perri**, was another Futurian; they were married in August of 1940 but divorced during World War II. He then married **Dorothy LesTina** in Paris in August, 1945 while both were serving in Europe. In 1948 he married **Judith Merrill**, an important figure in the world of science fiction, with whom he has one daughter,

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Frederik Pohl at the 2008 UCR J. Lloyd Eaton Science Fiction Conference

Born November 26, 1919 (age 88)

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Nationality United States

Genres Science fiction

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