

4.2.3 Short Title: Into the West

Moved, to extend the Retro Hugo eligibility for *The Hobbit*, a book released in 1937 in the UK, with a small initial print-run, and first published in the U.S. in 1938, under the following sections of the WSFS Constitution:

3.2.3: The Business Meeting may by a 3/4 vote provide that works originally published outside the United States of America and first published in the United States of America in the current year shall also be eligible for Hugo Awards given in the following year.

Section 3.4: Extended Eligibility. In the event that a potential Hugo Award nominee receives extremely limited distribution in the year of its first publication or presentation, its eligibility may be extended for an additional year by a three fourths (3/4) vote of the intervening Business Meeting of WSFS.

Noted that this motion may be withdrawn, as moot, if a Retro 3.2.3 extension is passed by the Business Meeting.

Proposed by: Diane Lacey and Helen Montgomery

Commentary: The Hobbit was first published in the UK in September 1937, with a print run of 1,500 copies, which sold out by December. Its first U.S. publication was in spring 1938. From the perspective of the attendees of the 1939 Worldcon, we believe this represents a clear case both of “limited distribution” under 3.4 and/or eligibility under the current “out of U.S.” rule 3.2.3, and the work should be allowed to compete for the 1939 Retro Hugos being administered by Loncon 3.