

Episode 199

The Crow is one of BPM's favorite movies, as well as Brandon Lee's final film role. There's talks about rebooting it with a new storyline and BPM, along with the original director, are not very happy about it.

Neuralink has begun human trials, beset with animal testing issues and beaten to market by over a decade. The Nerds discuss the sci-fi future Elon Musk wants, and the impact Neuralink might have on society.

Need a lawyer? Better call Pikachu. Pokemon Law is serious business, and an interview with the former chief lawyer of The Pokemon Company has some tips for making sure your fan project doesn't get shut down.

Topics

The Crow ReDon't

- <https://boundingintocomics.com/2024/03/18/original-the-crow-director-rejects-remake-says-film-should-remain-untouched-of-respect-for-brandon-lee-it-is-his-legacy-thats-how-it-should-remain/>

- [New 'The Crow' Reboot Plot And Story Details Allegedly Leaked - That Park Place](#)

Elon Musk Neuralink actually works....on humans

- [First patient of Elon Musk's Neuralink brain chip implant demonstrates playing online chess with his mind - ABC News](#)


- [📺 Neuralink Live Update - March 2024](#)

Confessions of a Pokemon Lawyer

- [Pokémon's Former Chief Lawyer On Shutting Down Fan Games & Honeymoon Business Deals - Aftermath](#)

Other topics discussed

The Crow (2024) Official Trailer - Bill Skarsgård, FKA twigs, Danny Huston

-  The Crow (2024) Official Trailer - Bill Skarsgård, FKA twigs, Danny Huston

The Crow Sequels

- [The Crow \(1994 film\) - Wikipedia](#)

The Crow (a [supernatural superhero comic book](#) series created by [James O'Barr](#) revolving around the [titular character of the same name](#). The series, which was originally created by O'Barr as a means of dealing with the death of his fiancée at the hands of a drunk driver,^[1] was first published by [Caliber Comics](#) in 1989. It became an underground success and was later adapted into a [film of the same name in 1994](#). Three film sequels, a television series, and numerous books and comic books (published by numerous companies) have also been subsequently produced. *The Crow* has been translated into almost a dozen languages and has sold around 750,000 copies worldwide.)

- [The Crow - Wikipedia](#)

Brandon Lee (was an American actor. Establishing himself as a rising action star in the early 1990s, he landed his breakthrough role as [Eric Draven](#) in the supernatural superhero film [The Crow](#) (1994). However, Lee's career and life were cut short by his accidental death during the film's production.

Lee was the son of martial artist and film star [Bruce Lee](#), who died when Brandon was eight years old. Lee, who followed in his father's footsteps, trained in martial arts, including [Jeet Kun Do](#), [Wing Chun](#), [Eskrima](#), [Silat](#), and [Muay Thai](#), and studied acting at [Emerson College](#) and the [Lee Strasberg Theatre and Film Institute](#). He started his career with leading roles in the [Hong Kong](#) action film [Legacy of Rage](#) (1986) and the straight-to-video [Laser Mission](#) (1989). Lee also appeared in two spin-offs of the 1970s series [Kung Fu](#), the television film [Kung Fu: The Movie](#) (1986) and the [pilot Kung Fu: The Next Generation](#) (1987).

- [Brandon Lee - Wikipedia](#)

Elon Musk's Neuralink faces federal probe, employee backlash over animal tests

- [Elon Musk's Neuralink faces federal probe, employee backlash over animal tests - ABC News](#)

The Gruesome Story of How Neuralink's Monkeys Actually Died

- [The Gruesome Story of How Neuralink's Monkeys Actually Died | WIRED](#)

Apple Vision Pro (a [mixed-reality](#) headset developed by [Apple Inc.](#) It was announced on June 5, 2023, at Apple's [Worldwide Developers Conference](#), and pre-orders began on January 19, 2024. It became available for purchase on February 2, 2024, in the United States. A worldwide launch has yet to be scheduled. Apple Vision Pro is Apple's first new major product category since the release of the [Apple Watch](#) in 2015.)

- [Apple Vision Pro - Wikipedia](#)

Mark Zuckerberg - I tried Vision Pro. Here's my take, shot with Quest's high resolution mixed reality passthrough.

- [I tried Vision Pro. Here's my take, shot with Quest's high resolution mixed reality passthrough. | Instagram](#)

Transcendence (a 2014 American [science fiction thriller film](#) directed by [Wally Pfister](#) (in his directorial debut) and written by Jack Paglen. The film stars [Johnny Depp](#), [Morgan Freeman](#), [Rebecca Hall](#), [Paul Bettany](#), [Kate Mara](#), [Cillian Murphy](#) and [Cole Hauser](#), and follows a group of scientists who race to finish an artificial intelligence project while being targeted by a radical anti-technology organization.)

- [Transcendence \(2014 film\) - Wikipedia](#)

Manna (novel) (a 2003 [science fiction](#) novel by [Marshall Brain](#) that explores several issues in modern [information technology](#), [automation](#) and [economics](#), as well as [user interfaces](#) and [transhumanism](#).)

- [Manna \(novel\) - Wikipedia](#)

- [Manna – Two Views of Humanity's Future – Chapter 1 | MarshallBrain.com](#)

GitLab confirms it's removed Suyu, a fork of Nintendo Switch emulator Yuzu

- [GitLab confirms it's removed Suyu, a fork of Nintendo Switch emulator Yuzu - The Verge](#)

Konami Shuts Down P.T. Fan Remake for PC - [YongYea](#)

- [YouTube: Konami Shuts Down P.T. Fan Remake for PC](#)

Fan remake of P.T. on PC gets shut down by Konami

- <https://www.polygon.com/2018/7/13/17570252/pt-on-pc-fan-remake-cease-desist-pulled>

Alien: Romulus | Teaser Trailer

- [YouTube: Alien: Romulus | Teaser Trailer](#)

Godzilla Junior (a [kaiju](#) which first appeared in [Toho's](#) 1993 film [Godzilla vs. Mechagodzilla II](#).)

- [Godzilla Junior - Wikipedia](#)

Godzilla vs. Kong (a 2021 American [monster film](#) directed by [Adam Wingard](#). Produced by [Legendary Pictures](#) and distributed by [Warner Bros. Pictures](#), it is a [sequel](#) to [Kong: Skull Island](#) (2017) and [Godzilla: King of the Monsters](#) (2019), and is the fourth film in the [MonsterVerse](#). It is also the 36th film in the [Godzilla franchise](#), the 12th film in the [King Kong franchise](#), and the fourth *Godzilla* film to be completely produced by an American film studio.)

- [Godzilla vs. Kong - Wikipedia](#)

Godzilla (a fictional monster, or [kaiju](#), that debuted in the [eponymous 1954 film](#), directed and cowritten by [Shirō Honda](#). The character has since become an international [pop culture icon](#), appearing in [various media](#): 33 Japanese films produced by [Toho Co., Ltd.](#), [five American films](#), and numerous [video games](#), novels, [comic books](#), and [television shows](#). Godzilla has been dubbed the **King of the Monsters**, an epithet first used in [Godzilla, King of the Monsters!](#) (1956), the American localization of the 1954 film.)

- [Godzilla - Wikipedia](#)

Shout Outs

Messed Up Moment in Nerdism #8 : Spiralling Obsession – Uzumaki :

<https://whatculture.com/comics/10-most-messed-up-junji-ito-moments?page=10>

First published in Japan between 1998-1999 as part of a weekly magazine serial, Uzumaki is arguably Ito's most bizarre and twisted work to date. Since then, it's been adapted into video games, a live-action film, and is about to get a new anime series.

Taking place in a small Japanese coastal town that's plagued by a curse that manifests itself as a spiral, the collection is an anthology of sorts that details the ensuing events as the curse take hold.

From a girl who's face becomes a spiral, bodies entangling together, people turning into snail monsters, and bloodsucking pregnant women, this entire list could've been based on this series.

There's no better introduction to Uzumaki, though, than its first chapter, which centres around protagonist Kirie's father as he develops an unhealthy obsession with spirals.

His fascination begins innocently enough through collecting items with spiral patterns; but as his obsession grows he begins altering his body to become a spiral himself.

His perseverance pays off as his efforts are revealed in true Ito fashion. Discovered by his family in a wooden tub, he succeeded in mutilating his body into a spiral, stretching and crushing himself into an almost unrecognisable mass of flesh.

18th March 2024 - James M Ward passed away - [James M. Ward - Wikipedia](#)

James Michael Ward was an American [game designer](#) and [fantasy](#) author who worked for [TSR, Inc.](#) for more than 20 years, most notably on the [role-playing game Dungeons & Dragons](#). He wrote various books relating to Dungeons & Dragons, including guidebooks such as [Deities & Demigods](#), and novels including [Pool of Radiance](#), based on the [computer game of the same name](#).

Ward was one of the players in [Gary Gygax](#)'s early [Greyhawk](#) games as Gygax developed the [Dungeons & Dragons](#) game. The Dungeons & Dragons character [Drawmij](#) was named after him; "Drawmij" is simply "Jim Ward" spelled backwards. [Rob Kuntz](#) and Ward's [Gods, Demi-Gods & Heroes](#) (1976) expanded the [original D&D game](#) by introducing gods.

His notable works include

[Gods, Demi-Gods & Heroes](#), with [Robert J. Kuntz](#) (TSR, 1976), one of the four rules supplements to the original edition of [Dungeons & Dragons](#).

[Deities & Demigods](#), with [Robert J. Kuntz](#) (TSR, 1980), a core rulebook for the 1st Edition of Advanced Dungeons & Dragons presenting similar material to that of Gods, Demi-Gods & Heroes. This work introduced a number of now iconic Dungeons & Dragons deities, such as [Corellon Larethian](#), Garl Glittergold, [Gruumsh](#), [Moradin](#), and [Yondalla](#).

[Dragon Ball Z Collectible Card Game](#).

In 2010, Ward was diagnosed with a serious neurological disorder that required treatment at the [Mayo Clinic](#). His friend [Tim Kask](#) helped to establish a fund to help Ward offset some of the medical bills. Ward died on March 18, 2024, at the age of 72.

19th March 2024 - M. Emmet Walsh passed away

- [M. Emmet Walsh - Wikipedia](#)

Michael Emmet Walsh was an American character actor who appeared in over 200 films and television series, including small but important supporting roles such as Earl Frank in [Straight Time](#) (1978), the Madman in [The Jerk](#) (1979), Captain Bryant in [Blade Runner](#) (1982), Harv in [Critters](#) (1986), and Walt Scheel in [Christmas with the Kranks](#) (2004). He starred as private detective Loren Visser in [Blood Simple](#) (1984), the [Coen brothers'](#) first film, for which he won the [Independent Spirit Award for Best Male Lead](#).

One of his best-known roles was Captain Harry Bryant in [Ridley Scott's](#) cult film [Blade Runner](#). He characterized *Blade Runner* as being especially difficult and tiresome to make, given director [Ridley Scott's](#) insistence on perfection. As a hard-bitten police commander, Walsh's character brings Decker (Harrison Ford) out of retirement to "retire" cyborgs. He tells Decker that "I need your magic." Walsh allowed that he was completely confused as *Blade Runner* was filmed, and did not have any idea where it was going.

Walsh died from cardiac arrest at [Northwestern Medical Center](#) in [St. Albans, Vermont](#), on March 19, 2024, three days before his 89th birthday.

20th March 2024 - Vernor Vinge passed away

- [Vernor Vinge - Wikipedia](#)

Vernor Steffen Vinge was an American [science fiction author](#) and professor. He taught mathematics and [computer science](#) at [San Diego State University](#). He was the first wide-scale popularizer of the [technological singularity](#) concept and among the first authors to present a fictional "[cyberspace](#)". He won the [Hugo Award](#) for his novels [A Fire Upon the Deep](#) (1992), [A Deepness in the Sky](#) (1999), and [Rainbows End](#) (2006), and novellas [Fast Times at Fairmont High](#) (2002) and [The Cookie Monster](#) (2004).

Vinge published his first short story, "Aparthness", in the June 1965 issue of the British magazine [New Worlds](#). His second, "[Bookworm, Run!](#)", was in the March 1966 issue of [Analog Science Fiction](#), then edited by [John W. Campbell](#). The story explores the theme of artificially augmented intelligence by connecting the brain directly to computerised data sources. He became a moderately prolific contributor to SF magazines in the 1960s and early 1970s. In 1969, he expanded the story "Grimm's Story" ([Orbit 4](#), 1968) into his first novel, [Grimm's World](#). In 1971, Vinge received his [Ph.D.](#) in mathematics from the [University of California, San Diego](#), under the supervision of [Stefan E. Warschawski](#). His second novel, [The Witling](#), was published in 1976.

Vinge came to prominence in 1981 with his novella [True Names](#), perhaps the first story to present a fully fleshed-out concept of [cyberspace](#), which would later be central to [cyberpunk](#) stories by [William Gibson](#), [Neal Stephenson](#) and others. His next two novels, [The Peace War](#) (1984) and [Marooned in Realtime](#) (1986), explore the spread of a future [libertarian](#) society, and deal with the impact of a technology which can create impenetrable [force fields](#) called '[bobbles](#)'. These books built Vinge's reputation as an author who would explore ideas to their logical conclusions in particularly inventive ways. Both books were nominated for the [Hugo Award](#), but lost to novels by [William Gibson](#) and [Orson Scott Card](#).

Vinge won the Hugo Award (tying for Best Novel with [Doomsday Book](#) by [Connie Willis](#)) with his 1992 novel, [A Fire Upon the Deep](#). [A Deepness in the Sky](#) (1999) was a [prequel](#) to Fire, following competing groups of humans in The Slow Zone as they struggle over who has the rights to exploit a technologically emerging alien culture. Deepness won the Hugo Award for Best Novel in 2000.

Vinge retired in 2000 from teaching at [San Diego State University](#), in order to write full-time. Most years, since its inception in 1999, Vinge has been on the [Free Software Foundation](#)'s selection committee for their [Award for the Advancement of Free Software](#). Vernor Vinge was Writer Guest of Honor at [ConJosé](#), the 60th [World Science Fiction Convention](#) in 2002.

Vernor Vinge died on March 20, 2024, at the age of 79, in [La Jolla, California](#). He had been suffering from [Parkinson's disease](#).

22nd March 2024 - 40th anniversary of 1984 the movie

- [Nineteen Eighty-Four \(1984 film\) - Wikipedia](#)

Nineteen Eighty-Four, also known as *1984*, is a 1984 [dystopian drama film](#) written and directed by [Michael Radford](#), based upon [George Orwell](#)'s 1949 [novel of the same name](#). Starring [John Hurt](#), [Richard Burton](#), [Suzanna Hamilton](#), and [Cyril Cusack](#), the film follows the life of [Winston Smith](#) (Hurt), a low-ranking civil servant in a war-torn [London](#) ruled by [Oceania](#), a [totalitarian](#) superstate, Smith struggles to maintain his sanity and his grip on reality as the regime's overwhelming power and influence persecutes [individualism](#) and individual thinking on both a political and personal level.

In winter 1983, the director [Michael Radford](#) asked his producer to try to obtain the rights to Orwell's novel, with low expectations that they were available. It turned out that the rights were held by Marvin Rosenblum, a Chicago lawyer who had been trying on his own to get such a film produced. Rosenblum agreed to become an executive producer, and while producer Simon Perry raised the production money from [Richard Branson](#), Radford wrote the script, inspired by his idea to make a "science fiction film made in 1948". The script was finished in three weeks.

The disused [Battersea Power Station](#) in [Wandsworth](#) served as the façade for the Victory Mansions, and the [Beckton Gas Works](#) in the [Docklands](#) of [Newham](#) was used as the setting for the proletarian zones. The pawnshop exterior, a pub scene and a scene with a prostitute were filmed in [Cheshire Street](#), in London's East End, an area Orwell had visited and commented on in his first book, [Down and Out in Paris and London](#). The canteen interiors were filmed in a disused grain mill at Silvertown. In contrast, the idyllic, dreamlike "Golden Country", where Winston and Julia repair for their first tryst and which recurs in Winston's fantasies, was filmed in the southwest county of [Wiltshire](#) at a natural circle of hills called "Roundway", near the town of [Devizes](#). The scenes on the train were shot on the [Kent and East Sussex Railway](#). The film shared a number of locations with [Terry Gilliam](#)'s [Brazil](#), which was filmed the same year.

In poor health during most of the filming, [Richard Burton](#) had great difficulty remembering his lines and sometimes had to film a scene dozens of times before he could get it right. The scene in O'Brien's apartment where he is talking to Winston about Goldstein's book took a record of forty-one takes for Burton to say his speech without fumbling his lines.

Many of the scenes were shot on the days noted in Winston Smith's diary. The scene where Smith enters his apartment and writes in his diary, dating the entry April 4, 1984, was filmed on April 4, 1984.

This was [Richard Burton](#)'s final movie before his death on August 5, 1984, at the age of fifty-eight.

[Marvin J. Rosenblum](#) once said that this movie had "The greatest marketing hook that there ever was for a movie: a film of 1984 made in 1984."

In [V for Vendetta \(2005\)](#), Sir [John Hurt](#) played the High Chancellor Adam Sutler, who appeared Big Brother-like on a massive television screen in several scenes.

Uncredited cameo : [Annie Lennox](#): the [Eurythmics](#) lead singer as a woman at a rally.

Wacky movie

21th March 1974 – Godzilla vs Mechagodzilla

- [Godzilla vs. Mechagodzilla - Wikipedia](#)
- [Godzilla vs. Mechagodzilla \(1974\) - IMDb](#)

A star is born ... or -- in the case of sequels -- is that born again?! On this day in 1974 (in Japan), Godzilla roared onto the silver screen once more with the theatrical release of Godzilla Vs Mechagodzilla. Written (in part) and directed by Jun Fukuda, this massive Monster Movie starred Masaaki Daimon, Kazuya Aoyama, and Reiko Tajima. Here's the plot summary:

"An Okinawan prophecy appears to foretell Earth's destruction at the hands of Godzilla, only for the true Godzilla to reveal his doppelganger as a mechanical alien weapon."

As with all previous entries in the Godzilla film series, the kaiju characters featured in Godzilla vs. Mechagodzilla were depicted through suitmation. The body of the Mechagodzilla suit, worn by suit actor Kazunari Mori, was made from a polyethylene material, while the suit's head and hands were made using fibre-reinforced plastic.

This was the first Godzilla film, in its original Japanese version, to finally give onscreen credit to the suitmen actors with the names of the respective monsters they played. (Up to that point, suitmen actors did receive onscreen credit, but just as regular cast members.) All Toho-produced Godzilla films have since maintained this practice.

The film was widely criticized for its supposed lack of substance. However, some critics pointed out the actual historical context behind the plot. There had long been tension between Japan and the island Okinawa, and Okinawa was the home of American military bases at the time that brought the threat of the Cold War to the island. With the aliens controlling Mechagodzilla representing the outside invading force, Godzilla representing Japan, and the mythical King Shîsâ standing in for Okinawa, the film proposes cooperation between the two nations, standing together against a common adversary.

This was produced as Godzilla's 20th Anniversary film (also stated in the original Japanese theatrical trailers). According to special effects director Teruyoshi Nakano, the effects crew had been demoralized by the juvenile approach Toho had imposed on the prior films. As such, it was cathartic for the crew to depict a more menacing Godzilla at the beginning of the film, even if eventually revealing it to be Mechagodzilla, for the character's anniversary. Nakano also mentioned that of the Godzilla films he directed the effects for, this was his personal favorite.

The main objective of Teruyoshi Nakano, director of special effects, was to show that Godzilla movies could be as exciting and boisterous as the popular and more expensive American effects-films of the time, hence, all the focus on big and colorful explosions in the movie.

The only Japanese Godzilla movie that saw a release in Hungary. It had a short run in cinemas in 1989, but was met with unfavorable reception, with critics calling it an "utterly worthless film" and "one of the worst science fiction movies in history". It was so badly received that no other Japanese Godzilla film was released thereafter, neither theatrically, nor on home video or television. As a result, most people believed Roland Emmerich's American Godzilla (1998) to be the first and only "true" Godzilla film.

The Hungarian language dub drastically rewrites the film's plot by pretending that Godzilla does not merely retreat after his first clash with Mechagodzilla, but that he actually dies. Then at the end of the film when Godzilla reappears for the rematch, he is said to be a different Godzilla that showed up out of nowhere.

Intro

Artist – Goblins from Mars

Song Title – Super Mario - Overworld Theme (GFM Trap Remix)

Song Link - [📺 Super Mario - Overworld Theme \(GFM Trap Remix\)](#)

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