

FIRE ON THE MOUNTAIN

Terry Bisson

Introduction by Mumia Abu-Jamal

What if John Brown's heroic 1859 raid on Harper's Ferry had been successful? In this dramatic "alternate history" novel, a cult classic since it was first published in 1990, Brown and his men were not captured and hung. Led by Harriet Tubman (who had in fact planned to join Brown) they slipped away into the Appalachian ridges, where their mountaintop beacons attracted escaped slaves, abolitionists, and freedom fighters from around the world.

The result, brilliantly dramatized in *Fire on the Mountain*, is an independent Black nation in the South, Nova Africa, which is about to celebrate the first Mars landing as the story begins—one hundred years later, in 1959. The granddaughter of one of Brown's guerrillas has come back to Virginia from Africa to reunite with her teenage daughter and share with her a secret that will alter all their lives, forever.

This is a reprint of the classic text with a new introduction by Mumia Abu-Jamal, and the first in PM's Spectacular Fiction imprint.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Terry Bisson, who was for many years a Kentuckian living in New York City, is now a New Yorker living in California. In addition to science fiction, he has written bios of Mumia Abu-Jamal and Nat Turner. He is also the host of a popular San Francisco reading series (SFinSF) and the Editor of PM's new Outspoken Authors pocketbook series.

ACCOLADES

"You don't forget Bisson's characters, even well after you've finished his books. His *Fire on the Mountain* does for the Civil War what Philip K. Dick's *The Man in the High Castle* did for World War II."

—George Alec Effinger, winner of the Hugo and Nebula awards for *Shrödinger's Kitten*, and author of the Marid Audran trilogy

"McKinley Cantor and Ward Moore move over! The South has risen again—this time as a brilliantly illuminated black utopia. Terry Bisson's novel touched my heart, brought tears to my eyes, and kept me thinking about it for days after finishing the book. It's an astonishing feat of rewriting history into something truly wonderful."

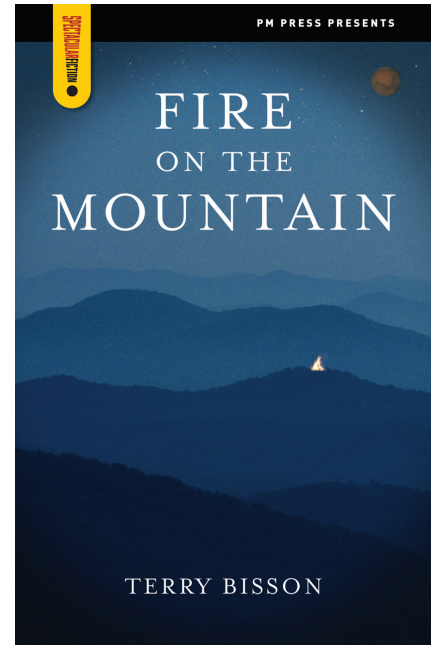
—Edward Bryant, co-author of *Phoenix Without Ashes* and winner of two Nebula awards for short stories *Stone*, and *giANTS*

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