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The Year's Best Science Fiction & Fantasy 2016 Edition



Synopsis

This eighth volume of the year's best science fiction and fantasy features over thirty stories by some of the genre's greatest authors, including John Barnes, Elizabeth Bear, C.C. Finlay, Yoon Ha Lee, Kelly Link, Ian McDonald, Seanan McGuire, Vonda N. McIntyre, Geoff Ryman, Catherynne M. Valente, Genevieve Valentine, and many others. Selecting the best fiction from Analog, Asimov's, Clarkesworld, Lightspeed, Meeting Infinity, and other top venues, The Year's Best Science Fiction & Fantasy is your guide to magical realms and worlds beyond tomorrow.

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Customer Reviews

As the title promises, this annual anthology solidly delivers. A broad swath of fantasy and science fiction sub-genres fill out the collection with my favorite 4 inclusions, each earning 5 stars, representing widely different fields: Off-Planet Sci-Fi, Artificial Intelligence Sci-Fi, Automaton Steampunk, and Rogue-and-Fae Fantasy. As different as they are, they're all profoundly moving in their telling of the human condition through non-human and ultra-human means. Vonda N. McIntyre's "Little Sisters" dashes traditional notions of gender and sexuality in this brutal tale of war,

violence, rape and conquest set among stars and species not exactly human. Martin L. Shoemaker's short story, "Today I Am Paul", depicts an artificially intelligent medical companion bot as it realizes its humanity while helping the family tap into their own as their matriarch struggles with Alzheimer's Disease. "This Evening's Performance", a novella by Genevieve Valentine, mirrors the golden age of silent films in its steampunk-tinged tale of automatons displacing actors on the London stages. C. S. E. Cooney's novella, "The Two Paupers", depicts two starving artists trying to be true to themselves and their friendship despite the machinations of family and life-or-death multidimensional politics. [The Fae do not play nicely.] I've reviewed all of the included tales: Bear, Elizabeth--"The Heart's Filthy Lesson"--4 stars Finlay, C. C.--"Time Bomb Time"--4 stars Jingfang, Hao [w/ Ken Lui, trans.

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