

OASFiS SEVEN HORIZON

Volume 33 Number 6 Issue 394

November 2020

A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

Necronomicon was virtual this year. It was well executed and had some great panels. It was great to see the fans on the west coast of Florida and meet some new fans.

The group Orlando based Phantasmagoria did their Halloween performance online. It was well filmed and had stories from Rudyard Kipling, Robert Louis Stevenson, and Edgar Allan Poe.

New seasons of *Star Trek: Discovery* and *The Mandalorian* have started. Some very engaging stuff in these shows.

As always I am willing to take any submissions.
Next month the Worldcon report.

Awards

Ignyte Awards

(source *File 770*)

FIYAH Literary Magazine's inaugural Ignyte Awards were presented in an online ceremony on October 17 brilliantly hosted by Jesse of *Bowties & Books*.

The Ignyte Awards seek to celebrate the vibrancy and diversity of the current and future landscapes of science fiction, fantasy, and horror by recognizing incredible feats in storytelling and outstanding efforts toward inclusivity of the genre. There were 1,431 valid votes cast to decide the winners.

Best Novel – Adult – for novel-length (40k+ words) works intended for the adult audience:

- *Gods of Jade and Shadow* – Silvia Moreno-Garcia

Best Novel – YA – for novel-length (40k+ words) works intended for the young adult audience:

- *We Hunt the Flame* – Hafsah Faizal

Best in MG – for works intended for the middle-grade audience:

- *Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky* – Kwame Mbalia

Birthdays

Dave Ratti– Nov. 24



Best Novella – for speculative works ranging from 17,500-39,999 words:

- *This is How You Lose the Time War* – Max Gladstone & Amal El-Mohtar

Best Novelette – for speculative works ranging from 7,500-17,499 words:

- *Emergency Skin* – N K Jemisin for the Amazon Forward Collection

Best Short Story – for speculative works ranging from 2,000-7,499 words:

- *A Brief Lesson in Native American Astronomy* – Rebecca Roanhorse for Mythic Dream

Speculative Poetry –

- “A Conversation Between the Embalmed Heads of Lampião and Maria Bonita on Public Display at the Baiano State Forensic Institute, Circa Mid-20th Century” – Woody Dismukes for *Strange Horizons*

Critics Award – for reviews and analysis of the field of speculative literature:

- Alex Brown – Tor.com

Best Fiction Podcast – for excellence in audio performance and production for speculative fiction:

- *LeVar Burton Reads* – LeVar Burton

Best Artist – for contributions in visual speculative storytelling:

- Grace P. Fong

Best Comics Team – for comics, graphic novels, and sequential storytelling:

- *These Savage Shores* – Ram V, Sumit Kumar, Vitorio Astone, Aditya Bidikar, & Tim Daniel

Best Anthology/Collected Works –

- *New Suns* – Nisi Shawl

(Continued on page 2)

November OASFIS Calendar		OASFIS People
OASFIS Business Meeting Library closed on Sunday due COVID-19.		Steve Cole (407) 379-1530 stevepcole@hotmail.com
Sci Fi Light TBD (check website). .	To contact for more info: OASFIS Business Meeting 407-376-7359	Susan Cole 407-275-5211 sacole@mindspring.com
<i>(Continued from page 1)</i> Best in Creative Nonfiction – for works related to the field of speculative fiction:		Arthur Dykeman 407-328-9565 adykeman@bellsouth.net
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black Horror Rising – Tananarive Due <p>The Ember Award – for unsung contributions to the genre:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LeVar Burton 		Steve Grant 352 241 0670 stevegrant@embarqmail.com
Community Award – for Outstanding Efforts in Service of Inclusion and Equitable Practice in Genre:		Mike Pilletere mike-sf@webbedfeet.com David Ratti 407-282-2468 dratti@eudoramail.com
<i>Strange Horizons</i> – Gautam Bhatia, Vajra Chandrasekera, Joyce Chng, Kate Cowan, Tahlia Day, William Ellwood, Rebecca Evans, Ciro Faienza, Lila Garrott, Dan Hartland, Amanda Jean, Lulu Kadhim, Maureen Kincaid Speller, Catherine Krahe, Anaea Lay, Dante Luiz, Heather McDougal, AJ Odasso, Vanessa Rose Phin, Clark Seanor, Romie Stott, Aishwarya Subramanian, Fred G. Yost, and the SH copyediting team and first readers		Juan Sanmiguel 407-823-8715 sanmiguel@earthlink.net
World Fantasy Awards (source File 770)		Patricia Wheeler pwheeler222@netzero.net
The World Fantasy Awards 2020 were announced in a virtual ceremony by World Fantasy Con 2020 on November 1. The winners are —		Any of these people can give readers information about the club and its functions. To be included in the list call Juan.
NOVEL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Queen of the Conquered, by Kacen Callender (Orbit) 		COLLECTION
NOVELLA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Silver in the Wood, by Emily Tesh (Tor.com) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Song For the Unraveling of the World: Stories, by Brian Evenson (Coffee House Press)
SHORT FICTION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Read After Burning,” by Maria Dahvana Headley, (<i>A People’s Future of the United States</i>) 		ARTIST
ANTHOLOGY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Suns: Original Speculative Fiction by People of Color, edited by Nisi Shawl (Solaris) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kathleen Jennings
		SPECIAL AWARD – PROFESSIONAL
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ebony Elizabeth Thomas, for <i>The Dark Fantastic: Race and the Imagination from Harry Potter to the Hunger Games</i> (New York University Press)
		SPECIAL AWARD – NON-PROFESSIONAL
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bodhisattva Chattopadhyay, Laura E. Goodin and Esko Suoranta, for <i>Fafnir – Nordic Journal of Science Fiction and Fantasy Research</i>
		LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rowena Morrill • Karen Joy Fowler
		

The Ministry for the Future

by

Kim Stanley Robinson

The world is changing. Some of those changes will not be good. ***The Ministry for the Future*** shows that we can take action to make the world better. Not all the problems are solved by the end, but the world is significantly different.

In the mid-2020s, the signatories of the Paris Climate Accords create an organization to look out for the interests of future generations of people and for things that have no one to speak for them, like animals and the environment. This organization is named the Ministry for the Future, based out of Zurich, Switzerland. Former Irish foreign minister and union lawyer Mary Murphy heads the ministry. She has assembled experts in climate science, ecology, economics, refugees, and law to work on the problems facing the world. Shortly after the Ministry is established, a heat wave kills millions in India. Complicating matters are governments taking uncoordinated action, like India using fighter jets to change the local temperature by injecting sulfur dioxide to create an ash cloud. A group called the Children of Kali are attacking fossil fuel ships and airplanes to reduce the threat they pose to the biosphere. Mary and her team must face these challenges and form new policies to stabilize the world situation.

The action takes place all over the globe. The efforts of Mary and her team over 30 years provide the main plotline in the novel. We also hear from others, like an American sailor explaining her role in one of the ministries efforts, a woman in a refugee camp, a kayaker in California, a geoengineer in Antarctica, a Hong Kong resident, and a Montana resident relocating to a new nature reserve.

Mary Murphy understands the challenges she and her team face. She hopes to make good policy. The alternative is the brute-force methods of groups like the Children of Kali. Murphy

and her team face personal threats. For instance, Frank May, a survivor of the Indian heat wave, holds Murphy at gunpoint. May is frustrated with the state of the world and Murphy's and the Ministry's role in it. She listens to him and explains the nature of her work and its goal to make the changes without the violent means used by the Children of Kali. He and Mary eventually form a friendship.

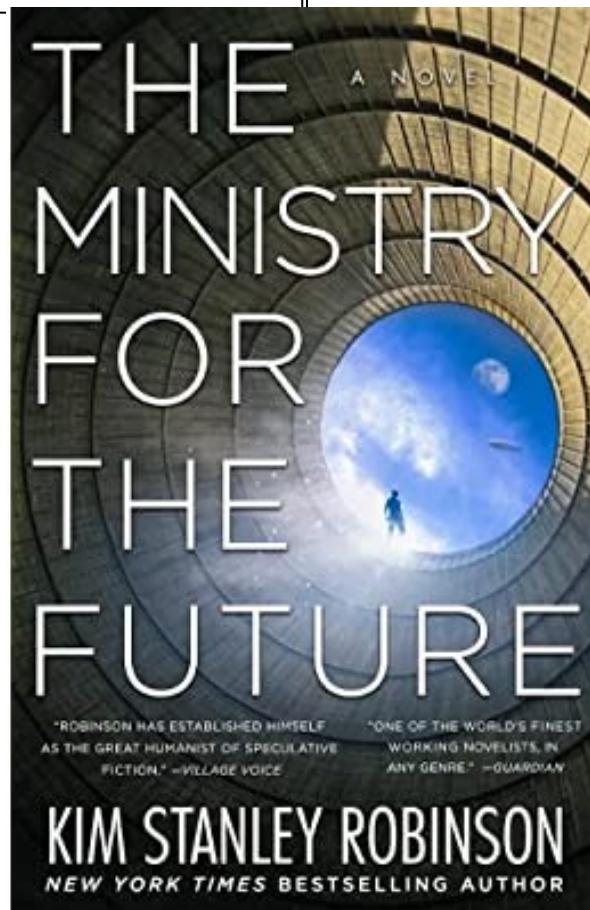
Robinson presents ideas on how to work out the current problems. For reducing sea level change, geoengineers drill under glaciers, then pump the water underneath to the surface. The water refreezes and prevents glaciers from sliding into the oceans. That would solve one big climate change problem.

The economics of the old world will need to change of course. Robinson shows the Mondragón co-ops in Spain. These are companies owned by the workers, which are productive, they split the profits three ways: to the workers, to capital investment, and to charities supported by the workers. Robinson also pushes for Modern Monetary Theory, where the economy serves humanity and not the other way around.

Computer experts of the Ministry develop open-source code to allow people to build their own social media. These new platforms will allow people to choose whether they want their analytical data sold, and the profits to go to them or not. This would solve some of the bad practices of current social media.

Robinson believes in telling rather than showing. The book has a lot of information dumps. There are chapters of information interlaced with chapters focusing on Murphy and her efforts. Some chapters are narrated by the people directly affected by the Ministry's policies or those aiding the Ministry aims. Other chapters are riddles for the phenomena or science principles at play in the world crisis.

This is not a gloom and doom book. Given the current circumstances, it is the best future possible.



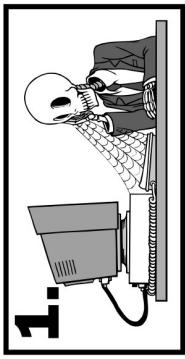
There are two ways to be a science fiction and fantasy fan in Florida.

Read about the exciting fan activities other people are doing.



2.

Start doing exciting things yourself, and meet new friends "in the flesh" with OASFIS!

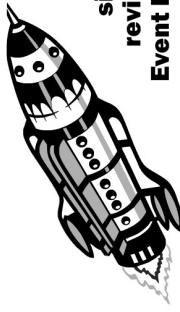


1.



We're **OASFIS** - the Orlando Area Science Fiction Society. We enjoy and promote science fiction, fantasy, horror, books, movies, TV series, costuming, gaming - every part of the most imaginative hobby in existence. Of all the conventions in Central Florida, only our **OASIS conventions** are operated *by fans, for fans*, and not for profit...bringing affordable fun that speaks to *your* interests. Bring your unique fan interests to life and share them with Florida's fan community. We work with other fan organizations to bring our mutual passions to life. Visit our monthly meetings...and help shape fandom's future by joining OASFIS. Individual and family memberships are available. If you're tired of just sitting, you're welcome at OASFIS...no bones about it!

Besides monthly meetings and our OASFIS conventions, read about our special events and activities on our web site! Members can contribute articles, reviews and original fiction to our magazine Event Horizon. We want to hear from you!



OASFIS: The Orlando Area Science Fiction Society
www.oasfis.org

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