

Nebula Awards Showcase 54

The Nebula Awards, bestowed annually by the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America (SFWA), recognize literary excellence in the realm of science fiction and fantasy. For over half a century, these prestigious awards have celebrated the imaginative storytelling and thought-provoking narratives that have shaped the genre landscape. Nebula Awards Showcase 54 is a compilation of the winning and nominated works from 2021, showcasing the breadth and diversity of speculative fiction today.

Award Winners

In the novel category, **A Master of Djinn** by Djèlí Clark emerged victorious. This gripping Afrofuturist tale blends elements of fantasy, horror, and historical fiction to tell the story of a master djinn and his apprentice in 1912 Cairo.

The novella prize went to **When You Dance, They All Dance** by Margaret Killjoy. This feminist dystopian novella explores the power of resistance and the transformative potential of dance in a society ruled by an oppressive regime.



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★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 887 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 482 pages
Lending	: Enabled



In the short story category, **What the Dead Know** by Nghi Vo won the award. This poignant and thought-provoking story follows a ghost who must confront her past and her own identity in a world where the dead linger.

Nominees and Notable Submissions

Novel

- **Light From Uncommon Stars** by Ryka Aoki
- **A Desolation Called Peace** by Arkady Martine
- **The Galaxy, and the Ground Within** by Becky Chambers
- **Klara and the Sun** by Kazuo Ishiguro
- **Iron Widow** by Xiran Jay Zhao

Novella

- **And This Is How to Stay Alive** by Shingai Njeri Kagunda
- **This Vicious Grace** by Emily Thiede
- **The Vanished Birds** by Simon Jimenez
- **The Butcher's Table** by Nathan Ballingrud
- **The Ballad of Black Tom** by Victor LaValle

Short Story

- **The Astronaut** by Christina Henry
- **Bots of the Lost Ark** by Suzanne Palmer
- **The Substance of My Lives, the Accidents of Our Births, and the Privilege of Our Time** by N.K. Jemisin
- **And Then I Woke Up** by Mark Oshiro
- **Pre-Simulation Consultation XF007867** by Kim Fu

Notable Themes and Trends

Nebula Awards Showcase 54 reflects the evolving nature of science fiction and fantasy writing. Notable themes and trends include:

- **Diversity and Inclusion:** The winning and nominated works showcase a wide range of perspectives, including those of authors from marginalized backgrounds.
- **Social Commentary:** Many of the submissions address pressing real-world issues, such as climate change, racial injustice, and gender inequality.
- **Speculative Exploration:** Authors continue to push the boundaries of genre by blending elements of science fiction, fantasy, and other literary forms.
- **Character-Driven Narratives:** The focus on character development and exploration is evident in many of the winning and nominated works.

Impact and Legacy

The Nebula Awards have a profound impact on the field of science fiction and fantasy. They not only recognize exceptional literary achievement but also inspire and encourage aspiring writers to push the boundaries of the genre. The Nebula Awards Showcase serves as a valuable resource for readers seeking the best and most innovative works in speculative fiction.

Nebula Awards Showcase 54 is a testament to the vitality and enduring appeal of science fiction and fantasy. The winning and nominated works offer thought-provoking insights, imaginative storytelling, and a diverse range of perspectives. As readers immerse themselves in these pages, they will find themselves transported to other worlds, challenged by complex ideas, and ultimately enriched by the power of human imagination.



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