

# EDITORIAL

Sheila Williams

## THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL READERS' AWARDS' RESULTS

2017 was a major year for *Asimov's*. It was our exciting fortieth anniversary year and it marked our transition to bi-monthly double issues. In addition to parties and book fairs, our thirty-second Annual Readers' Award Poll gave us an opportunity to celebrate and reflect on the year and the magazine. As always, my favorite part of the award was reading through the comments that subscribers submitted with their ballots. Some of these comments are assembled below.

Christopher Douglas Leonard told us, "Considering how many stories *Asimov's* publishes, it's remarkable that so many are so brilliant that I can remember them in detail when voting a year later. What a wonderful forty years, and may there be many more." Piet Nel offered, "Congratulations on forty years (and about thirty as the world's leading science fiction magazine). The new format works for me—the magazine now arrives with a hefty thump and demands my attention!" While Alan K. Lipton bemoaned that "six issues instead of ten didn't make this year's choice any easier."

Jeffrey D. Powell told us that, "The added space per issue was put to good use this year with Kristine Kathryn Rusch's novel, *Runabout*, and the marvelous set of stories by James Gunn being the best examples. I just wish I could still read Mr. Silverberg monthly." Shirley Meech is another fan of Robert Silverberg's, telling us, "I always look forward to his interesting, informative columns and read them first."

Dick Harding wrote, "I'm enjoying the bimonthly format as well as the continuing series by James Gunn and Kristine Kathryn Rusch. Tim McDaniel's story in the spooky issue was great fun. The characters were artfully drawn with a great sense of humor. And William Preston's story in the same issue showed a remarkable imagination while poking fun at rigid bureaucracy with wonderfully described scenes worthy of a Tim Burton movie. Thank you all so much for a great year." His words of praise were echoed by Doug Lee, Guillermo A. Plazas, Phillip Crawford, and others. Ken Papai said, "Life would be so much duller without the magazines. Thank you for everything, *Asimov's*! Sheila! And Emily. More Greg Egan. More Robert Reed."

We had many other comments about favorite authors and stories. Luis Edgard de Abreu Sampaio Refinetti said, "I was thinking about asking you what had become of R. Garcia y Robertson. I missed his stories. And then, you published his new tale." Richard Lohmeyer thought our two best tales were Alan Smale's "Kitty Hawk" and Dale Bailey's "Invasion of the Saucer-Men." Michael Mayotte "particularly enjoyed 'Wind Will Rove' by Sarah Pinsker. A very original take on how the 'folk process' may continue as we move away from the Earth."

Many readers were thrilled to encounter a new Connie Willis story. Comments came in from James Van Pelt, Jeffrey L. Powell, and Kyle Rathbone, among others. Kyle also enjoyed Suzanne Palmer's, "Books of the Risen Sea" and Sandra McDonald's "Riding the Blue Line with Jack Kerouac." Of his favorite short story, Sean Monaghan's "Crimson Birds of Small Miracles," he said, "Monaghan built the wonderful little girl up as a strong character making me respect her, rather than seeing her as simply pathetic. I actually had to turn the magazine facedown on my desk, because every time I glimpsed the cover it gave me a slight pang. So I voted for Maurice Manzieri's art for best cover, too." Further endorsement of our artists came from R. Keith Garner. Who singled out Maurice Manzieri's work and Eldar Zakirov's depiction of the stacks of used books in "A Traveller's Tale."

We appreciated all the comments and look forward to many more next year!

# READERS' AWARD WINNERS

## **BEST NOVELLA or NOVEL**

1. **I MET A TRAVELLER IN AN ANTIQUE LAND;**  
**CONNIE WILLIS**
2. The Runabout; Kristine Kathryn Rusch
3. The Girl Who Stole Herself; R. Garcia y Robertson
4. The Speed of Belief; Robert Reed
5. How Sere Picked Up Her Laundry; Alexander Jablokov

## **BEST NOVELETTE**

1. **BOOKS OF THE RISEN SEA;**  
**SUZANNE PALMER**
2. Wind Will Rove; Sarah Pinsker
3. Soulmates.com; Will McIntosh
4. The Discrete Charm of the Turing Machine; Greg Egan
5. Tagging Bruno; Allen M. Steele

## **BEST SHORT STORY**

1. **CRIMSON BIRDS OF SMALL MIRACLES;**  
**SEAN MONAGHAN**
2. Number Thirty-Nine Skink; Suzanne Palmer
3. On the Ship; Leah Cypess
4. Destination; Jack Skillingstead
5. Confessions of a Con Girl; Nick Wolven

## **BEST POEM**

1. **TITAN'S MAGIC ISLANDS;**  
**GEOFFREY A. LANDIS**
2. How to Die on a Faraway Planet; H. Mellas
3. Hubble's Constant; Marian Moore
4. Invasion; Bruce McAllister
5. Challenger: A Sedoka; Jane Yolen

## **BEST COVER**

1. **NOVEMBER/DECEMBER;**  
**ELDAR ZAKIROV**
2. July/August; Bob Eggleton
3. January/February; Maurizio Manzieri
4. September/October; Cynthia Sheppard
5. March/April; Tomislav Tikulin