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The Year's Best Science Fiction: Thirty-Fourth Annual Collection



Synopsis

In the new millennium, what secrets lay beyond the far reaches of the universe? What mysteries belie the truths we once held to be self-evident? The world of science fiction has long been a porthole into the realities of tomorrow, blurring the line between life and art. Now, in *The Year's Best Science Fiction: Thirty-Fourth Annual Collection*, the very best SF authors explore ideas of a new world. This venerable collection brings together award-winning authors and masters of the field. With an extensive recommended reading guide and a summation of the year in science fiction, this annual compilation has become the definitive must-read anthology for all science fiction fans and readers interested in breaking into the genre.

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Customer Reviews

...this should be it. I've been following this series since the 1980s and believe this book is the best way to keep up with the current state of science fiction. The stories run the range from soft to ultra-hard, and reasonably short up to novella length. There's usually a couple stories I can't get into, but given the size of the volume that's never a problem; I just skip to the next one. The yearly

wrap-up at the beginning covers the range of science media from books and magazines, film and television, and personalities and publishing. It's well worth your time.

The best of the best SF stories. I buy it every year. Thanks, Gardner.

Always the best in short fiction, and I use his suggestions for novels to try to narrow my options in longer works

A superb collection of shorter science fiction at all lengths. This is the best of the best - not to be missed.

Every year, editor Gardner Dozois publishes a collection of the best short science fiction published in the previous year; in 2017 we are now up to the 34th such volume. This is a very large book indeed, running to some 650+ pages and containing Dozois's choices for the very best of the field. In addition, he provides a summation of changes in the publishing world as it pertains to science fiction, information about the best-reviewed sf books, films and television shows, how anthologies and magazines are doing, and a list of those connected to the sf field who had died in the previous year; he also includes a long list of honorable mentions at the end of the book, stories that did not quite make the cut for inclusion but that he feels should be searched out nonetheless. As with any such volume, my personal favourites (this year, by Carolyn Ives Gilman, Aliette de Bodard, Sam J. Miller, David Gerrold, Alastair Reynolds, Nina Allan, Ken Liu, Carrie Vaughn, Charlie Jane Anders and Ian McDonald) may not be the favourites of other readers, but the quality of the stories is excellent throughout. I don't read as much science fiction as I used to, but this annual volume is indispensable in terms of keeping up with the best science fiction published in English; highly recommended!

Dozois is an anthology god. Great choices as always. My only nitpick is that I truly wish that the year would be included in the title(s) of the anthology (-ies). Like this: "The Year's (2017) Best Science Fiction." I have about twenty of these anthologies and it would be great to have a secondary means of identifying the year covered besides just "The Year's Best". Gawd, I can't tell you how much that frustrates the pickle juice out of me to have to guess which year is being showcased in which anthology. This is also a hint to any other anthology editors out there as well!

Stories are a bit "dry" and not as imaginative as previous collections. 2016 was not a good year.

Gardner has once again picked a solid selection of short fiction to tantalize the senses and titillate the brain. Something for everyone in here!

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