

SPECULATIVE LITERATURE FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES FOUNTAIN AWARD WINNER

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The Speculative Literature Foundation (SLF) is pleased to announce the results of the first ever Fountain Award. The winning entry was "The Specialist" by Alison Smith, first published in McSweeney's Quarterly Concern. Ms. Smith wins a prize of \$1000. Sixteen other stories received honorable mentions. Full details are available on the SLF web site:

<http://speculativeliterature.org/Awards/SLFFountainAward/2003.php>.

The Fountain Award is given to short stories (up to 7500 words) of exceptional literary quality. The Award is judged by a select jury, and is chosen from work nominated by magazine and anthology editors for the year in question. The judges for the 2004 award (for works published in 2003) were Heinz Insu Fenkl, John Kessel, Larissa Lai, Kelly Link, and Maureen McHugh.

SLF is particularly pleased to note the participation of many mainstream publications in the Award, in addition to traditional genre venues. Stories receiving honorable mentions included works from McSweeney's Quarterly Concern, Conjunctions #41 and Missouri Review.

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The Speculative Literature Foundation is a volunteer-run, non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the interests of readers, writers, editors and publishers in the speculative literature community.

"Speculative literature" is a catch-all term meant to inclusively span the breadth of fantastic literature, encompassing literature ranging from hard and soft science fiction to epic fantasy to ghost stories to folk and fairy tales to slipstream to magical realism to modern

mythmaking -- any literature containing a fabulist or speculative element.

More information about the Speculative Literature Foundation is available from its web site (<http://www.speculativeliterature.org/>) or by writing to info@speculativeliterature.org.

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