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Press Release #93

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**S. Qiouyi Lu wins Speculative Literature Foundation's 2021 Diverse Writers Grant and Elena Pavlova wins the 2021 Diverse Worlds Grants.**

**Dec 2021**—S. Qiouyi Lu wins Speculative Literature Foundation's 2021 Diverse Writers Grant and Elena Pavlova wins the 2021 Diverse Worlds Grants.

The winner of the 2021 Diverse Writers Grant is S. Qiouyi Lu for her submission "Razing Babel." S. Qiouyi Lu writes, translates, and edits between two coasts of the Pacific. Her debut biocyberpunk novella *In the Watchful City* is out now from TorDotCom Publishing, and her other work has appeared in several award-winning venues. You can find out more about S. at her website [s.qiouyi.lu](http://s.qiouyi.lu) or on Twitter [@sqiouyilu](https://twitter.com/sqiouyilu). Judges said "The second person point of view is really effective in putting you in the narrator's mindframe... this is a really cool concept and great writing."

The winner of the 2021 Diverse Worlds Grant is Elena Pavlova for "The Life and Adventures of Hillmeria Cat." Elena Pavlova (she/her) lives in Montana, Bulgaria. She has Asperger's syndrome and is agender. Her short stories in Bulgarian have appeared in various Bulgarian anthologies and magazines, winning awards from national competitions. In 2019, her middle-grade SF novel *Kamen and the Pirates from 5-B* won the Bulgarian national award Konstantin Konstantinov. In 2021 her middle-grade SF&F novel *An Adventure in the Lower Earth: Christmas Carolers vs Hallus Beasts* took the ESFS Best work for children award. In Bulgarian, she has had six other novels and two collections of shorter fiction published, and has translated into Bulgarian authors as diverse as Robert Howard, Robert R. McCammon, Peter Watts and V.E. Schwab. Her short stories *Love in the Time of Con Crud* and *Two Moons* appeared in *\_Future Science Fiction\_ #3* in 2019 and *\_Compelling Science Fiction\_ #15* in 2020, respectively. Judges said the submission was "strange and beautiful."

Previous winners of the Diverse Writers and Diverse Worlds Grants include Carmen Maria Machado, Madhvi Ramani, and Gabriel Thibodeau; last year's winners were Nibedita Sen LaTanya Lane and Del Sandeen.

Additional information about all of the SLF's grants, including specific application guidelines, can be found at [speculativeliterature.org/grants](http://speculativeliterature.org/grants). Grant applications are open to all: you do not need to be a member of SLF to apply for or receive a grant.

Founded in January 2004 to promote literary quality in speculative fiction, the all-volunteer Speculative Literature Foundation is led by Mary Anne Mohanraj and 30 other committed volunteers. The Foundation maintains a comprehensive website offering information for readers, writers, editors and publishers of speculative fiction, develops book lists and outreach materials for schools and libraries, and raises funds for redistribution to other organizations in the field, as well as five awards made annually to writers. For more information, visit [speculativeliterature.org](http://speculativeliterature.org).

The SLF is a 501(c)3 non-profit, entirely supported by community donations. If you'd like to be involved with our efforts, please consider joining us as a member for \$2/month, at [speculativeliterature.org/membership](http://speculativeliterature.org/membership).

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