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News From The **ROBERT J. SAWYER** Web Site

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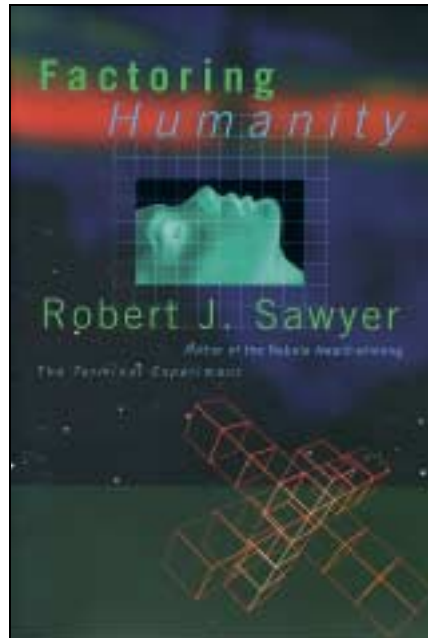
Factoring Humanity

Robert J. Sawyer's tenth novel, *Factoring Humanity*, is now out in hardcover from Tor. As is often the case in Rob's work, this book combines the very human with the grandly cosmic.

Heather Davis, a psychology professor at the University of Toronto, is trying to decipher a series of alien radio messages. Her life is shattered when her nineteen-year-old daughter Rebecca accuses her father of having molested her as a child. An alien technology gleaned from the radio messages holds the key to determining the absolute truth about what happened all those years ago.

Booklist raves, "Sawyer gets high marks for working out extraordinary concepts in ordinary human terms. Heather's machine is a thing of great beauty, and her trip through our collective racial consciousness is an amazing cruise."

Kirkus calls *Factoring Humanity* "intelligent and absorbing," and **Science Fiction Chronicle** says it's "a serious-minded SF novel featuring people caught in a genuine personal crisis." An excerpt from *Factoring Humanity* has already won the **Premio UPC**



de Ciencia Ficción, Spain's top science-fiction award, and the world's largest cash prize for SF writing.

Tor Books, and Tor's Canadian distributor, **H. B. Fenn**, are supporting *Factoring Humanity*'s release with a twelve-city book tour. Rob will travel this summer to Portland, Seattle, Vancouver, Victoria, Calgary, Detroit, Windsor, Toronto, Minneapolis, Buffalo, Rochester, and Boston.

(*Factoring Humanity* by Robert J. Sawyer, Tor Books, June 1998, ISBN 0-312-86458-2, US\$23.95; Cdn\$31.95.) ◆

Rob New President of SFWA

On July 1, 1998, **Robert J. Sawyer** takes office as the new President of the **Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America, Inc.** SFWA is the world's oldest and largest association of SF authors, with 1,400 members in 23 countries.

SFWA was founded in 1965 by **Damon Knight**, who served as its first president. Other past presidents include such SF stars as **Poul Anderson, Greg Bear, Joe Haldeman, Frederik Pohl, Robert Silverberg**, and **Jane Yolen**.

Rob is the first non-American ever to hold the SFWA presidency. There were four candidates this year. Rob defeated his closest competitor, **Norman Spinrad**, by a 50% margin.

In 1996, Rob's *The Terminal Experiment* won SFWA's Nebula Award for Best Novel of the Year. Rob founded SFWA's Canadian Region, and previously served on SFWA's Board of Directors from 1992 to 1995. ◆

SFWRITER.COM is published occasionally to spotlight news about Nebula Award-winning Canadian science-fiction writer **Robert J. Sawyer**. You can send e-mail to Rob at sawyer@sfwriter.com, or write to him at: Robert J. Sawyer • P.O. Box 911 • Promenade P.O. • 1 Promenade Circle • Thornhill, ON, Canada • L4J 8G7

Four Aurora Nominations!

Rob has an unprecedented four nominations for this year's Canadian Science Fiction and Fantasy Awards ("the Auroras"). Two of the five finalists for Best English-Language Novel are by Rob: *Frameshift* (published by Tor) and *Illegal Alien* (published by Ace). Rob's "*The Hand You're Dealt*" (first published in the Tor anthology *Free Space*, edited by Brad Linaweaver and Edward E. Kramer) is one of eight finalists for Best English-Language Short Story. Meanwhile, the anthology *Tesseract 6*, edited by Rob and his wife Carolyn Clink, is a finalist in the Best English "Other" category (and four of the other short-story finalists come from that book).

Frameshift and *Illegal Alien* have already shared one ballot together: they were both finalists for the Ninth Annual HOMer Award for Best Novel of the Year, voted on by the 30,000 members of the SF Forums on CompuServe. In addition, *Frameshift* and "*The Hand You're Dealt*" are both current finalists for the Hugo Award (SF's international readers' choice award). And both *Illegal Alien* and "*The Hand You're Dealt*" — which are SF/mystery crossovers — were finalists for Arthur Ellis Awards from the Crime Writers of Canada.

The Aurora Award winners will be announced October 3, 1998, in Montreal at ConCept, this year's Canadian National Science Fiction Convention. ◆



Collectible Limited Editions

The collectors' market has taken note of Rob's work. In advance of the publication of the Ace hardcover edition of Rob's ninth novel, *Illegal Alien*, The Easton Press of Norwalk, Connecticut, produced a 900-copy signed, numbered, leather-bound, gilt-edged first edition of that book.

And booksellers **Tom McGee** and **Larry Woods** of Nashville have now produced two 226-copy (200 numbered and 26 lettered) signed hardcover, acid-free, limited collectors' editions of Sawyer novels: *The Terminal Experiment* and *Golden Fleece*. Both feature new afterwords by Rob; *Golden Fleece* also has a new introduction by **Orson Scott Card**. See Rob's web site for ordering info. ◆

Rob is July's "Author of the Month" on USA Today Online

Rob will be the "Author of the Month" for July 1998 on **USA Today Online**, one of the most popular web sites in the world. **USA Today Online** is the web version of the popular national daily newspaper **USA Today**.

USA Today Online has a staggering thirty-six million hits per day. During July, the site will contain a lengthy "About the Author," plus links to an order form for Rob's books on **Barnes and Noble Online** and to Rob's own extensive, award-winning web site at www.sfwriter.com.

On July 1, Rob will post the first chapter of a new science-fiction story. Each day after that, one lucky **USA Today Online** reader will get to add a new chapter to the growing tale. On July 31, Rob will tie it all together by writing the final chapter.

Check it out at www.usatoday.com/life/enter/books/leb.htm.

Also in July, Rob will be "**Writer in Electronic Residence**" on the web site for **Maclean's**, Canada's Weekly Newsmagazine. Rob will host **Maclean's** electronic literary salon, posting new essays each week and discussing writing issues at www.macleans.ca/wier/welcome.html. ◆