Rob Sawyer Wins Two Aurora Awards!

At this year’s Canadian National Science Fiction Convention, Robert J. Sawyer pulled off a rare double win, taking home the Canadian Science Fiction and Fantasy Awards (“the Auroras”) for both best English novel of the year and best English short story of the year.

The novel win was for Rob’s Flashforward, which had previously won Spain’s top SF award, the Cdn$10,000 Premio UPC de Ciencia Ficción. The Flashforward paperback was released in April 2000, debuting at #5 on the bestsellers list in the science-fiction trade journal Locus.

The short-story win was for “Stream of Consciousness,” first published in the anthology Packing Fraction (Trifolium Books).

This was the 20th year Aurora Awards have been presented. Rob holds the record for most wins by an English-language author, with seven Auroras to date (four for best novel and three for best short story); no other English author has won more than two Auroras.

Calculating God a Canadian Bestseller!

Rob’s twelfth novel, Calculating God, is a national bestseller in Canada, appearing on the fiction bestsellers lists in both Maclean’s: Canada’s Weekly Newsmagazine and The Globe and Mail: Canada’s National Newspaper.

Calculating God was #7 on the Maclean’s list for July 31; #9 for August 7; and #10 for August 14. In addition, it was #8 on The Globe’s list for July 29. The Maclean’s list is also used by the Canadian Press wire service, and appears in many Canadian newspapers, including The Kingston Whig-Standard and The Ottawa Citizen.
**Seven New Short Stories**

There will be five hard-SF stories by Rob published this year. "The Shoulders of Giants" is the lead story in the anthology *Star Colonies*, edited by Martin H. Greenberg & John Helfers (DAW, June). "The Abdication of Pope Mary III" is in the July 6 issue of the British science-journal *Nature*. "Iterations" will be in Canada's *TransVersions* anthology (Sept.). "Star Light, Star Bright" will be in *Far Frontiers*, Greenberg & Larry Segriff, eds. (DAW, Sept.). And "Wiping Out" will be in *Guardsmen of Tomorrow*, also edited by Greenberg & Segriff (DAW, November).

On the horror front, look for "Fallen Angel" in *Strange Attraction*, edited by Ed Kramer (ShadowLands Press, June), and "Last But Not Least" in *Be Afraid!,* edited by Edo van Belkom (Tundra Books, September).

**Rave Reviews for Calculating God**

*Booklist*: "Exciting and emotional. Sawyer smoothly explores ethical questions in a highly absorbing tale."

*Denver Rocky Mountain News*: "For fiction to be called literature, the story should stay with readers and keep them thinking about it long after the book has been put away. It is safe to say that Sawyer has accomplished both with *Calculating God.*"

*Edmonton Journal*: "A fine read, an intellectual thriller with real bite."

*Locus*: "A provocative examination of religion, science, and cosmic disaster."

*Publishers Weekly*: "Spectacular; this is unusually thoughtful SF."

*The Globe and Mail*: "For those who like to ponder the roles of science and religion, it is a delicious summer read."

*Halifax Chronicle-Herald*: "Settle down with this novel and discover that, in the right hands, some science fiction can be literature."

*Library Journal*: "A thought-provoking, sobering, yet wryly compassionate tale of one man's discovery of timelessness even as his own time is running out."

*Victoria Times Colonist*: "Ambitious, captivating, and extremely funny."

*Tom Harpur in The Toronto Star*: "An action-packed yet highly philosophical, theological and ethical story; a wonderful dialogue over the God question and over right, wrong and the purpose of life. Guaranteed to expand the mind."