China’s Top SF Award

Robert J. Sawyer flew to China in August to accept the Galaxy Award, China’s top honor in science fiction, in the category “Most Popular Foreign SF Author.”

The award, voted on by Chinese readers, was presented at the Chengdu International Science Fiction and Fantasy Conference, the largest SF convention ever held in China. “I was mobbed like a rock star,” says Rob. “It was the most incredible experience of my life.”

The Galaxy Award honors Rob’s entire oeuvre, rather than a specific book. The award was presented at a gala ceremony at the Chengdu Museum of Science and Technology.

Chinese translations of Rob’s novels are published by Science Fiction World, headquartered in Chengdu, and his short stories have appeared in Science Fiction World magazine, the world’s largest-circulation SF publication; Rob is also a past columnist for that magazine.

In his acceptance speech Rob said, “I come from Toronto, which was bidding against Beijing to hold the 2008 Olympics. And so I have to confess that I was sad when it was announced that China was getting the 2008 Games. But I forgive you now! I don’t know how many of my countrymen and countrywomen will bring home medals next year — but I feel like I’ve just won a Gold for Canada.”

In addition to Chinese, Rob’s work is published in Bulgarian, Czech, Dutch, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, and Spanish. He has previously won the top SF awards in Spain (a record-setting three times), Japan (three times), and France.

Honorary Doctorate

On Saturday, June 2, 2007, Robert J. Sawyer received an honorary doctorate (Doctor of Letters, honoris causa) from Laurentian University in Sudbury, Ontario; Rob also gave the convocation address to graduating arts students that day. The doctorate was given in recognition of his international success as a science-fiction writer.

Laurentian, a bilingual English-and-French institution, is the leading university in northern Ontario. In 1970, it bestowed its first honorary doctorate of letters on Canadian literary legend Farley Mowat.
Rave Reviews for ROLLBACK

Reviews for Robert J. Sawyer’s Rollback have been wonderfully positive:

“Sawyer may well win another major SF award with this superior effort.” — Publishers Weekly (starred review)

“An elegantly told story for all libraries; highly recommended.” — Library Journal (starred review)


“A shoo-in to be short-listed for next year’s major awards.” — SciFi Dimensions

“Rollback is an investigation of our very humanity, and how relationships are key to defining who we are. The characters feel real, and their emotions and responses genuine. Beyond the SF trappings, Rollback is a story about love and commitment, about humanity at its most basic — a novel to be savored by science-fiction and mainstream readers alike.” — The Globe and Mail: Canada’s National Newspaper

Tenth Aurora Award Win!

Rob’s “Biding Time” just won the 2007 Aurora Award — Canada’s top honor in SF — for best English-language short story of the year. This is Rob’s tenth Aurora Award, and his fifth for short fiction.

“Biding Time” was first published in the DAW anthology Slipstreams and is reprinted in The Penguin Book of Crime Stories, edited by Peter Robinson.

It will appear again in Rob’s collection Identity Theft and Other Stories, coming early in 2008 from Calgary’s Red Deer Press.

Bookstore Alert

Do you have all these books by Robert J. Sawyer in stock?

HARDCOVERS:

❑ Rollback (Tor, April 2007, 978-0-765-31108-5). Rob’s latest novel!

MASS-MARKET PAPERBACKS:

❑ Calculating God (Tor, July 2001, 978-0-812-58035-8). Hugo finalist!
❑ Flashforward (Tor, April 2000, 978-0-812-58034-1). Locus bestseller!
❑ Hominids (Tor, February 2003, 978-0-765-34500-4). Neanderthal Parallax trilogy #1. Hugo winner!
❑ Humans (Tor, September 2003, 978-0-765-34675-9). Neanderthal Parallax trilogy #2. Hugo finalist!
❑ Mindscan (Tor, Jan. 2006, 978-0-765-34975-0). Campbell Award winner!

TRADE PAPERBACKS:

❑ End of an Era (Tor, Sept. 2001, 978-0-312-87693-7). Seiun Award winner!
❑ Factoring Humanity (Tor, Jan. 2004, 978-0-765-30903-7). Hugo finalist!
❑ Foreigner (Tor, Aug 2005, 978-0-765-30972-3). Quintaglio Ascension #3.
❑ Frameshift (Tor, Nov. 2005, 978-0-765-31316-4). Seiun Award winner!
❑ Golden Fleece (Tor, Nov. 1999, 978-0-312-88685-9). Aurora winner!