

Tad Williams Answers Questions

Q: Since you are famous for your epics, a fan asked us to ask you if you have ever written a short story?

TW: Yes, actually I have. What I don't do is write an unsolicited short story, because I've always been doing novel writing. I've gotten involved with other projects as well, some film-making and music and things like that. Almost all the short stories I've written have been for some kind of anthology. I contributed a story to the Peter Beagle anthology. One of my very favorite stories I've ever written is in a David Copperfield Magic anthology. I did one in Michael Moorcock's Elric anthology, and Neil Gaiman asked me to do one for his Sandman anthology. I have about six or seven short stories and for almost all of them, you have to go buy the book.

Q: You seem to make very deliberate choices about the viewpoints you take in your novels or novel-arcs. Do you have a philosophy about this?

TW: I'm very consious about certain kinds of things in my writing. One of the ways that I challenge myself is that once I have made a decision that I want certain kinds of characters in a story, because in my big books, the multi-volume books, the net is spread very wide. Once I have established a viewpoint character, I pretty much have to follow the way that character operates. If I have a character who is out

of the mainstream, someone who is not privy to the the larger events, I don't magically put them in a situation where they suddenly are at the center. They still carry that viewpoint; for me it makes the story bigger and wider to show varied ways of experiencing world-changing events. But it also means that you have a commitment to follow the arc of each one of those significant characters. They each have their own little stories. They each have to follow their own little story line. It forces you to have to keep coming back and reattacking your own narrative in a number of different ways. It starts out as conscious, but then it becomes simply the necessity of staying true to what you've started.

Q: Tell us about the Shadowmarch project that's mentioned in the program book.

TW: Shadowmarch was basically me wanting to do something in a slightly different medium. I was well known, or fairly well known anyway, for writing a big epic fantasy that I started in 1988 and finished in 1992. I hadn't done anything quite that type since. I instinctively don't like repeating myself. One of the things that finally appealed to me about doing epic fantasy again was doing it in another medium and kind of challenging myself. So Shadowmarch in the first season was essentially a novel with chapters published every two weeks, like old fashioned serial fiction. That deadline was kept for a whole year, no matter what. I went to England for a month, seeing my wife's family and stuff like that. We had a feeling, with all that's happened in the last year and a half, that we would not make money off of it. That's not really why we were doing it. Since it was essentially an entire novel, I had to make certain that I was doing something that was bringing in income, so I had to write a whole other novel. So I wrote two novels during the same year, two quite long novels, far more than I've ever done in my life.

The dot.Con Daily Staff

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The dot.Con Daily

The Official Newsletter of ConJosé

Sunday Afternoon
September 1, 2002

Masquerade Awards Workmanship

Junior
Judges' Choice: Enthusiastic Variations on a Theme: Alien Invasion
Outstanding Media Re-creation: Xion
Best Workmanship Junior: The Egyptian Goddess Ma'at
Novice
Honorable Mention for Stained Fingers: Harry Garcia Potter and the Sorcerer is Stoned
Honorable Mention for Headdress: She-Ra, Princess of Power
Judges' Choice for Budget Sculpture: Lady Valkyrie
Judges' Choice for Fabric Treatment Technique: Gelfling
Judges' Choice for Attention to Detail in a Twisted Re-creation: Mirror, Mirror
Best Engineering- Wings: Cyborg Dragon
Best Re-creation - Attention to Detail: The War is Never Over
Best Workmanship for Scope of Techniques: Last of the Fallen Angels
Best Workmanship Novice: An Uncommon Loyalty
Journeyman
Honorable Mention for Pattern Drafting: Girls Just Want to have Fun
Honorable Mention for Twisted Re-creation and Fabric Abuse: Audition
Judges' Choice for Fit and Finish: The Cipher
Judges' Choice-Attention to Detail: Unisex Cavalier
Judges' Choice-The Best Shortcut you Never Saw: The Hourglass

Judges' Choice for Chainmail: A Fairy Tale in the Future
Best Engineering: Snowmane: Lord of the Thundercats
Best Workmanship Journeyman: Sister of Battle
Master
Judges' Choice for Excellence in Fur: Fuc-ums
Judges' Choice for Soft Sculpture: Love Stinks
Best Handwork: Elemental Masquerade
Judges' Choice for Amazing Fabric Treatment: The Black Swan
Elegance in Engineering and Attention to Detail: Conference of Sentient Species
Best Tailoring: The Solar Sailor
Best Workmanship Master-How Can Anything So Wrong be so Right?: Cat Lady's Dress Shop
Best in Show Workmanship
The Mad Martian Cabaret- all 5 acts

Presentation

Junior
Most Elegant: Sabrina, Princess of the Fairies
Kasi Cherry
Best Action Presentation: Xion
Brandon Lowentroust
Best Freaking of the Mundanes: Alien Invasion
the children in the Con Children's Programming
Best in Class: The Goddess Ma'at
Melissa Knappenberger
Novice
Honored for Excellence for Wings: Cyborg Dragon
John Milton Award: Last of the Fallen Angels
Jason Partee and Joe Roseland
Best Re-creation: Samwise Gamgee
Leah Jakusovszky
Best Tech: Lady Valkyrie
Raven O'Neill
Best Magical Mystery Tour: Harry Garcia Potter and the Sorcerer is Stoned
Jon Mohnning
Judges' Choice for Courage: Amazon Elder
June C. Gladney

Deadline for the
Sunday evening
issue: 4 PM

Maquerade Awards

... Continued from Cover
Best in Class Novice: An Uncommon Loyalty
Jennifer Gerristen
Journeyman
Best Retro Design: Commercial Uses of Outer Space
The Rocket Boys
Best Undecided: Unisex Cavalier
Anne Davenport
Best Original Design: Sister of Battle
Arabella Davis
Best Schtick: Audition
Lionsmaine the RED
Best in Class Journeyman: Snowmane, Lord of the Thundercats
Ed Carter

Master
Most Malodorous: Love Stinks
Daren Bost
Most Seductive: Delta Quadrant Diva
Cheryl Serr
Most Harmonious Aliens: The Quasar Quartet
Jeannie Sellers, Gina Palmer, Steve Vawter & Jeff Warwick
Best Perverted Historical: The Cat Lady’s Dress Shop
Qeldas Pickett, Margaret Retherford & D. Trueslow
Viva Las Vegas Award: Long Live the King
Don Serr
Most Original: Solar Sailor
Jennifer Tifft and Lori Buschbaum
Best in Class Master: The Black Swan
Annie Gilbert

Audience Choice

Second runner up: The Black Swan
Annie Gilbert
First runner up: Amazon Elder
June C. Gladney
Top Audience Choice
Conference of Sentient Species
Bruce and Dana MacDermott, Jay and Denisen
Hartlove, Laurel and Rozlyn MacDermott

Best in Show

Conference of Sentient Species
Bruce and Dana MacDremott, Jay and Denisen
Hartlove, Laurel and Rozlyn MacDermott

Belly Dance

Belly Dance Jam at 3 PM in the Fan Space.
(Concourse of Convention Center) Drummers welcome.

Hot off the press

Book Signing in the Dealers’ Room: 4 PM at Massaglia’s Table. Marina Stern, signing *To Live with the Fairy Folk*. Released Today!

Trivia Challenge

The best definition of Puzzlebox is
A) A creative storage device for small trinkets.
B) A dimensional doorway to the world of the Cenobites.
C) A musical sensation not to be missed.
D) A decent doorstop, if you don't know where your towel is.
If you didn't know that the answer was C) A musical sensation, you should come by the Gold Room of the Fairmont Hotel and find out what you've been missing. The spectacular filk trio that is Puzzlebox will be starting their set at 6:15 PM. Follow the sounds of music & laughter.

Weapons Policy

We have been informed that local law prohibits the carrying of any weapon or any object that could be perceived as a weapon. We are told that the police view this very seriously, and they may take action if they feel themselves threatened.
Please do not carry any weapon or weapon-like object, even as a part of a hall costume. The only exception is for registered participants in the Masquerade during the Masquerade.

Coming Up In Our
Next Issue

Business Meeting Report

THE 2002 WORLDCON SITE SELECTION RESULTS

Voted on at ConJosé, August 31, 2002 in San José, California, USA

Jim Briggs, site selection administrator for ConJosé, presents the following results. 1034 ballots were cast. The time of the count was 44 minutes. The results were as follows:

	Mail in	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Total
Invalid	4				
Glasgow	152	211	266	288	917
No Preference	7	2	16	28	53
None of the Above	1	4	5	8	18
Minneapolis in ‘73	1	1	3	3	8
I5 in ‘05			2	3	5
Rottnest Island		1		1	2
Winterfell				2	2
Seattle in ‘05		2			2
Spuzzum, BC		1		1	2
New Glasgow, NS			2		2
Monkey’s Eybrow, KY		1	1		2
Honolulu, HI	1				1
Sunnydale, CA		1			1
Both		1			1
M5 in 05		1			1
No Dams		1			1
Amber		1			1
Altair 6		1			1
Little Cayman		1			1
Vorbarr Sultana		1			1
Sacramento			1		1
Antartica			1		1
Area 51			1		1
Komono			1		1
Discworld Ankh-Morpork, Seamstresses Guild				1	1
Lothlorien				1	1
Blank				1	1
Takoma Park, MD				1	1
Total	167	230	298	339	1034
Total with Preference	160	228	282	311	981

Total needed to win: 491. Glasgow wins on the first ballot.