# Small Beer Press Big Mouth House

Ayize Jama-Everett Maureen F. McHugh Vincent McCaffrey Lydia Millet Geoff Ryman Sofia Samatar Delia Sherman

2011-2012

After the Apocalypse

Maureen F. McHugh

Author of the Story Prize finalist Mothers & Other Monsters

"Ingenious and refreshingly irreverent, Hound is not only a mystery on many levels, but also an intelligent—and often funny—tour-de-force of the perils and follies of human relationships."

-Anne Fortier (Juliet)

A MYSTERY

## HOLIND HOLIND HEALTH



#### A Must-Read Book from the Massachusetts Book Awards

"A hell of a tale. A murder and the trail to catching him leads through the world of book collectors (Bookhounds) and the things they love. Fans of Dunning will enjoy this."—Crimespree Magazine

"McCaffrey, the owner of Boston's legendary Avenue Victor Hugo Bookshop, succeeds in conveying his love of books in his intriguing debut."

—Publishers Weekly

A bookhound, Henry Sullivan buys and sells books he finds at estate auctions and library sales around Boston and often from the relatives of the recently deceased. He's in his late thirties, single, and comfortably set in his ways. But when a woman from his past, Morgan Johnson, asks him to look at her late husband's books, he's slowly drawn into the dark machinations of a family whose mixed loyalties and secret history will have fatal results.

Hound is a paean to books, bookselling, and the transformative power of the printed word. Even as it evolves into a gripping murder mystery, it is also a reminder that there are still quiet corners of the world where the rhythms of life are calmer, where there's still time for reading, time for getting out for a beer with friends, time to investigate the odd details of lives lived on the edges of the book world.

Vincent McCaffrey (vincentmccaffrey.com) has owned and operated the Avenue Victor Hugo Bookshop for more than thirty years, first in Boston, and now online from Abington, Massachusetts. He has been paid by others to do lawn work, shovel snow, paint houses, and to be an office-boy, warehouse grunt, dishwasher, waiter, and hotel night clerk. He has since chosen at various times to be a writer, editor, publisher, and bookseller. He can still remember the first time he sold books for money in 1963—and what most of those books were. *Hound* is his first novel.



"Henry is a character cut from Raymond Chandler: a modern knight on a mission to save those, and what, he loves." —Barbara Peters, *The Poisoned Pen* 

## HOUND to Wake

MINCENT NICHEREY "A longtime bookstore owner himself, McCaffrey places less emphasis on crime solving than on the larger question of the printed word's place in today's world. Evocative prose and characterizations will remind many of Ross Macdonald's Lew Archer novels."—Publishers Weekly

"The plotting and weaving of story lines hide a clever puzzle, but most readers will forget they're reading a mystery until all the pieces fall into place at the very end."—Library Journal

"Not for those who require a fast and furious story line. The strong mystery is woven into a slow-paced, philosophical discussion of the painful demise of those special bookstores whose nooks and crannies once yielded fabulous finds."—*Kirkus Reviews* 

In his second bibliomystery, Boston bookhound Henry Sullivan has a new girlfriend, a new apartment, and a shelfload of troubles.

Chaucer said "It is nought good a slepyng hound to wake." Henry Sullivan, bookhound, is ready to be that sleeping dog: to settle down in his new apartment and enjoy life with his new girlfriend.

But the underside of the literary world won't let him go. A bookscout sells Henry a book—and is soon murdered. A friend wants him to investigate a case of plagiarism. His neighbor seems to have a stalker. And wherever Henry goes, a cop is watching him.

Henry can read the signs: to save those he loves he has to save himself.

Vincent McCaffrey (vincentmccaffrey.com) has owned the Avenue Victor Hugo Bookshop for more than thirty years. He has been paid to do lawn work, shovel snow, paint houses, and to be an office-boy, warehouse grunt, dishwasher, waiter, and hotel night clerk. He has chosen at various times to be a writer, editor, publisher, and bookseller. A Slepyng Hound to Wake is his second novel.



Philip K. Dick and Tiptree Award-winning author of Air and The Kings's Last Song

## GEOFF RYMAN



{PARADISE TALES}

★ "Often contemplative and subtly ironic, the 16 stories in this outstanding collection work imaginative riffs on a variety of fantasy and SF themes. . . . Readers of all stripes will appreciate these thoughtful tales."

—Publishers Weekly (Starred Review)

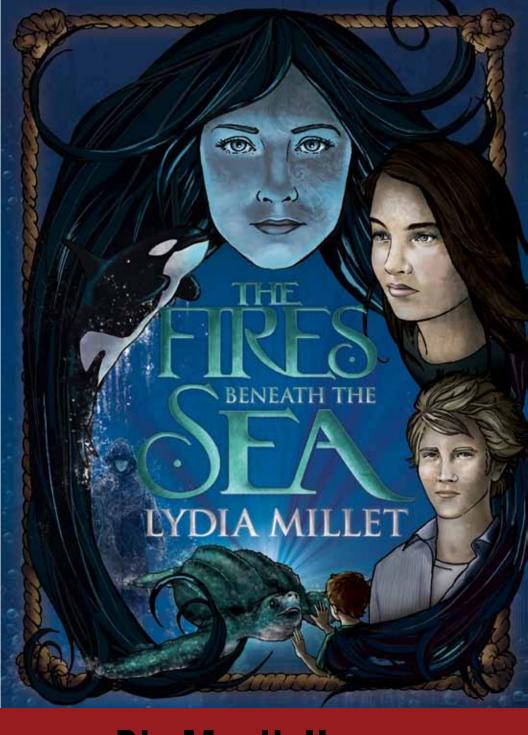
Geoff Ryman's stories take us to recognizable places—London, Kosovo, Cambodia, tomorrow—and feature men and women in recognizable situations (or dealing with almost familiar technologies) but who aren't sure which way to turn. They—we—should obviously choose what's right . . . but what if that's difficult? What if it isn't obvious? What will we do? Will we do as we should, or . . . ?

Paradise Tales builds on the success of Geoff Ryman's most recent novel, The King's Last Song, with three stories set in Cambodia, "The Last Ten Years of the Hero Kai," "Blocked," and "Pol Pot's Beautiful Daughter." Thirteen more stories are selected from throughout Ryman's career including "VAO," "Omnisexual," "The Film-makers of Mars," and an intense new story, "K is for Kosovo (or, Massimo's Career)."

Ryman's stories are transformative, exuberant, superbly crafted intimate moments which dissect our day-to-day life and reveal the world changing right before our very eyes.

Geoff Ryman is the author of the novels *The King's Last Song, Air* (a Clarke and Tiptree Award winner), 253, *Lust*, and *The Unconquered Country* (a World Fantasy Award winner). Canadian by birth, he has lived in Brasil, resides in the UK and is a frequent visitor to Cambodia.





## Big Mouth House

★ "Millet's prose is lyrically evocative ("the rhythmic scoop and splash of their paddles"). A lush and intelligent opener for a topical eco-fantasy series."—Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

"The Cape Cod woods, wildlife, and beaches are depicted with loving detail, and the dark forces arrayed against the young protagonists are at once tantalizingly mystifying and alarmingly timely."

-Patricia McKillip

"Lydia Millet knows the sea like a selkie."

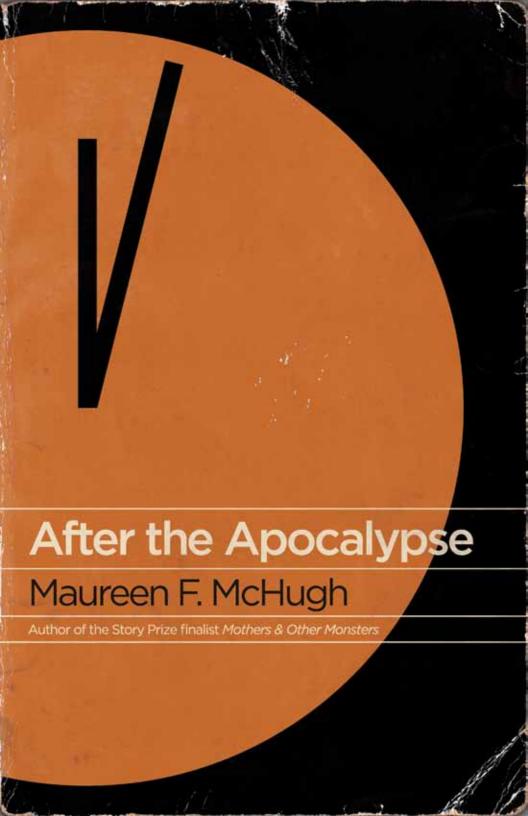
—Kathe Koja, author of *Talk* 

Cara's mother has disappeared and her father isn't talking. Her brother Max hides behind his iPod and their genius little brother Jackson is busy with the creatures he collects from the beach. But when a watery specter begins to haunt the family's Cape Cod home, the three Sykes kids realize their scientist mother wasn't who they thought she was—and that the world has much stranger, much older inhabitants than they had imagined.

With help from Cara's best friend, Hayley, they embark on a quest that will lead them to a shipwreck and the front lines of an ancient battle between good and evil, with the terrifying "Pouring Man" close on their heels. Packed with memorable characters and thrilling imagery, Lydia Millet weaves a page-turning adventure even as she brings the seaside world of Cape Cod to magical life. The first in a series featuring the Sykes children, *The Fires Beneath the Sea* is a perfect beach read for readers of any age.

Lydia Millet (lydiamillet.net) is the author of six previous novels, including My Happy Life (PEN-USA Award winner), and Oh Pure and Radiant Heart, which was shortlisted for the Arthur C. Clarke Award. Her short story collection Love in Infant Monkeys was a Pulitzer Prize finalist.

## September



#### Publishers Weekly Top 10 Best Books of 2011 · LA Times Holiday Picks

- ★ "Hugo-winner McHugh (Mothers & Other Monsters) puts a human face on global disaster in nine fierce, wry, stark, beautiful stories." —Publishers Weekly (starred review)
- ★ "Like George Saunders, McHugh displays an uncanny ability to hook into our prevailing end-of-the-world paranoia and feed it back to us in refreshingly original and frequently funny stories."—*Booklist* (starred review)

"McHugh brings a subtle grittiness to the end of days. There is no post-apocalyptic glamour in these post-apocalyptic tales."—Cleveland Plain Dealer

#### The apocalypse was five minutes ago. This is now.

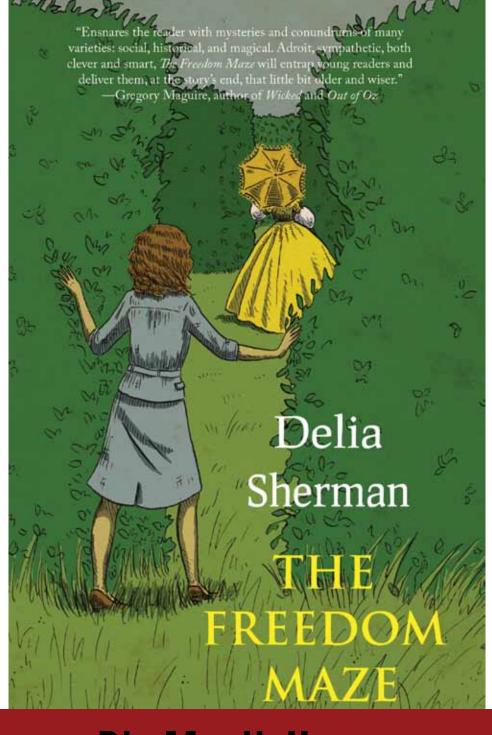
In her second heartbreaking short fiction collection, Maureen F. McHugh delves into the dark heart of contemporary life and shines a light on life five minutes from now . . . and shows how easy it is to mix up one with the other. These stories are post-bird flu, in the middle of medical trials, wondering if our computers are smarter than us, wondering when our jobs are going to be outsourced overseas, wondering if we are who we say we are, wondering why lies are easier to live than the truth, and not sure what we'd do to survive the coming zombie plague. These stories are not pretty. They are beautiful. They are us.

Maureen F. McHugh has lived in New York; Shijiazhuang, China; Ohio; Austin, Texas; and now lives in Los Angeles, California. She is the author of a Story Prize finalist and BookSense Notable Book, *Mothers & Other Monsters*, as well as four novels, including Tiptree Award-winner *China Mountain Zhang* and New York Times editor's choice *Nekropolis*. McHugh has also worked on alternate reality games for Halo 2, The Watchmen, and Nine Inch Nails, among others.

Praise for Maureen F. McHugh:

"Gorgeously crafted stories."—Nancy Pearl, NPR

## October



## Big Mouth House

—Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

Set against the burgeoning Civil Rights movement of the 1960s, and then just before the outbreak of the Civil War, The Freedom Maze explores both political and personal liberation, and how the two intertwine. In 1960, thirteen-year-old Sophie isn't happy about spending summer at her grandmother's old house in the Bayou. But the house has a maze Sophie can't resist exploring once she finds it has a secretive and playful inhabitant. When Sophie, bored and lonely, makes an impulsive wish inspired by her reading, hoping for a fantasy adventure of her own, she slips one hundred years into the past, to the year 1860. On her arrival she makes her way, bedraggled and tanned, to what will one day be her grandmother's house, where she is at once mistaken for a slave.

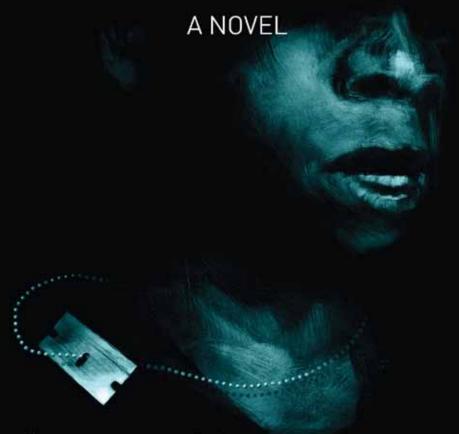
Q: In your nearly twenty years of working on this book, what was the most surprising thing you found?

Delia Sherman: "Finding an advertisement for a runaway slave in the library of Loyola University in New Orleans that read more or less as follows: "Wanted, [name], a woman of [however many] years. Blond and blueeyed, could pass as white." That was the most dramatic example, but once I'd seen it, I began to notice others, for "fair-skinned" or "red-haired" slaves escaping with darker companions as slave and master or mistress. It really made me think about how race was constructed in the ante-bellum South."

Delia Sherman (deliasherman.com) is the author of two middle grade novels, Changeling (selected for the Sunshine State Young Reader's Award Program) and The Magic Mirror of the Mermaid Queen. Her short stories for younger readers have appeared in numerous anthologies including The Faery Reel, Firebirds, Troll's Eye View, and A Wolf at the Door. She is also the author of a number of novels for adults. Delia lives in New York, NY, and is available to give readings, school and library visits, and teach workshops.

## November

## THE LINAL PEOPLE AYIZE JAMA-EVERETT



"A voodoo cauldron of Sci-Fi, Romance, Crime, and Superhero Comic."

—Andrew Vachss (author of That's How I Roll)

"Ayize Jama-Everett has brewed a voodoo cauldron of Sci-Fi, Romance, Crime, and Superhero Comic, to provide us with a true gestalt of understanding, offering us both a new definition of "family" and a world view on the universality of human conduct. *The Liminal People*—as obviously intended—will draw different reactions from different readers. But none of them will stop reading until its cataclysmic ending."

—Andrew Vachss

"Ayize's imagination will mess with yours, and the world won't ever look quite the same again."—Nalo Hopkinson

"The Liminal People has the pleasures of classic sf while being astonishingly contemporary and savvy."—Maureen F. McHugh

Taggert can heal and hurt with just a touch. When an ex calls for help, he risks the wrath of his enigmatic master to try and save her daughter. But when Taggert realizes the daughter has more power than even he can imagine, he has to wrestle with the very nature of his skills, not to mention unmanned and uncreated gods, in order keep the girl safe. In the end, Taggert will have to use more than his power, he has to delve into his heart and soul to survive. *The Liminal People* is a fast-paced science fiction thriller with shades of the Matrix or Richard Morgan's Takeshi Kovacs novels don't worry, you haven't read this before: this is something all new.

Consortium galley box. LibraryThing and Goodreads giveaways. Author tour: San Francisco, Atlanta, New York, Boston, Chicago, Portland. Excerpts online.

Ayize Jama-Everett (theliminalpeople.com) was born in 1974 and raised in Harlem, New York. He has traveled extensively in Northern Africa, New Hampshire, and Northern California. He holds a Master's in Clinical Psychology and a Master's in Divinity. He teaches religion and psychology at Starr King School for the Ministry and is a school therapist at the College Preparatory School. He lives in Oakland, CA.

## December





Contemporary Mexican Short Stories of the Fantastic



Edited by Eduardo Jiménez Mayo and Chris N. Brown Introduction by Bruce Sterling

### "These are punchy, ghoulish selections by south-of-the-border writers unafraid of the dark."—Publishers Weekly

This huge anthology—the first of its kind—brings together more than thirty all-original contemporary Mexican science fiction and fantasy stories which run the gamut from ghost stories to supernatural folktales, from alien incursions to apocalyptic narratives. Authors include Lucía Abdó, Maria Isabel Aguirre, Liliana V. Blum, Ana Clavel, Beatriz Escalante, Bruno Estañol, Mónica Lavín, Jesús Ramírez Bermúdez, Carmen Rioja, Alberto Chimal, Pepe Rojo, Bernardo Fernández, Horacio Sentíes Madrid, Karen Chacek, Hernán Lara Zavala, Amparo Dávila, Gabriela Damián Miravete, and José Luis Zárate.

This book exists because two Texan lawyers (unknown to one other) and many volunteer translators wanted it to. The book's designer, India Amos, found a new Mexican typeface for it. We believe it's a landmark that deserves a wide readership.

"When one talks to Mexican science fiction writers, the subject of Mexican national content' commonly comes up. Mexican science fiction writers all know what that is, or they claim to know, anyway. They commonly proclaim that their work needs more national flavor. This book has got that. Plenty. The interesting part is that this Mexican national content' bears so little resemblance to content that most Americans would consider Mexican."

—from the introduction by Bruce Sterling

Eduardo Jiménez Mayo, J.D., has taught literature at the University of Texas, published translations of contemporary Mexican authors Bruno Estañol, Rafael Pérez Gay, and José María Pérez Gay, and has lectured on translation at Cornell, New York University, The New School, and the Juárez Autonomous University of Tabasco.

Chris N. Brown (nofearofthefuture.blogspot.com) writes fiction and criticism in Austin, Texas. His work has been described as "slick, post-Gibsonian, and funny as hell" (Cory Doctorow), "Borges in a pop culture blender" (Invisible Library), and "like a cross between Mark Leyner and William Gibson" (Boing Boing).

## December

#### THE FOUNTAIN OF AGE

#### **STORIES**

NANCY KRESS

NOT FINAL COVER

**APRIL 2012** 

SMALL BEER PRESS

Nine new stories from a long-time star of the science fiction field including the Hugo Award winner "The Erdmann Nexus" and Nebula Award winner "The Fountain of Age."

These stories have been reprinted in *The Year's Best Science Fiction, Best Science Fiction and Fantasy of the Year,* and *Best of the Web.* 

#### Table of Contents

"First Rites"

"Fountain of Age"

"The Erdmann Nexus"

"Images of Anna"

"By Fools Like Me"

"End Game"

"The Kindness of Strangers"

"Laws of Survival"

"Safeguard"

Nancy Kress: Nancy Kress is the author of nineteen novels, four collections, and three books on writing. She has received four Nebula and two Hugo awards. Her fiction has been translated into twenty languages. She often teaches writing—most recently at the University of Leipzig in Germany. She lives in Seattle.

## **April 2012**

#### A STRANGER IN OLONDRIA

#### A NOVEL

SOFIA SAMATAR

NOT FINAL COVER

**JUNE 2012** 

SMALL BEER PRESS

Jevick, the pepper merchant's son, has been raised on stories of Olondria, a distant land where books are as common as they are rare in his home. When his father dies and Jevick takes his place on the yearly selling trip to Olondria, Jevick's life is as close to perfect as he can imagine. But just as he revels in Olondria's Rabelaisian Feast of Birds, he is pulled drastically off course and becomes haunted by the ghost of an illiterate young girl.

In desperation, Jevick seeks the aid of Olondrian priests and quickly becomes a pawn in the struggle between the empire's two most powerful cults. Yet even as the country shimmers on the cusp of war, he must face his ghost and learn her story before he has any chance of becoming free by setting her free: an ordeal that challenges his understanding of art and life, home and exile, and the limits of that seductive necromancy, reading.

A Stranger in Olondria is a skillful and immersive debut fantasy novel that pulls the reader in deeper and deeper with twists and turns reminiscent of George R. R. Martin and Joe Hill.

20,000 first printing.

WPR To the Best of Our Knowledge interview.

National advertising campaign.

Social media campaign.

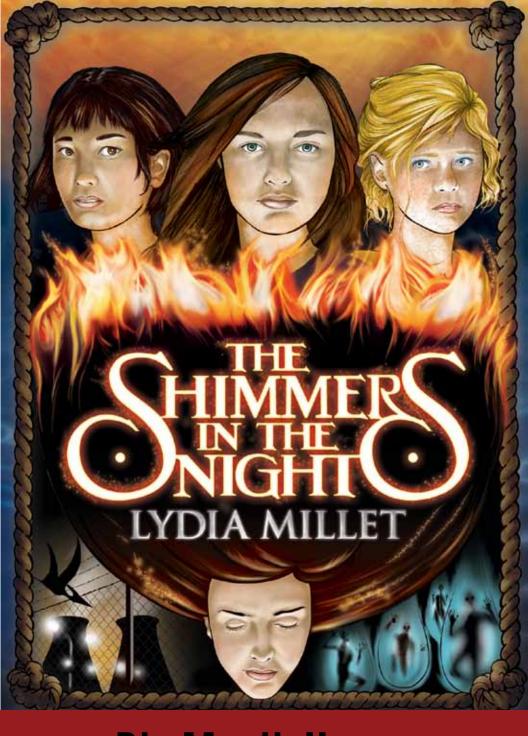
Consortium galley box. Library Thing and Goodreads giveaways.

Author tour: Maplewood, NJ; New York, NY; Madison, WI.

Excerpts online.

Sofia Samatar is an American of Somali and Swiss-German Mennonite background. She wrote A Stranger in Olandria in Yambio, South Sudan, where she worked as an English teacher. She has worked in Egypt and is pursuing a PhD in African Languages and Literature at the University of Madison, WI.

## **June 2012**



Big Mouth House

Cara's mother is still missing. When her brother Jax texts her from "smart kid's boot camp" in Boston, Cara and her two best friends go to the rescue. But the camp is a front for Cara's mother's organization who are fighting against a force who wants to make the planet over in its own image, which will leave no space for anything else, animal, insect, or human.

Lydia Millet (lydiamillet.net) is the author of six previous novels, including My Happy Life (PEN-USA Award winner), Oh Pure and Radiant Heart (shortlisted for the Arthur C. Clarke Award), and Ghost Lights. Her short story collection Love in Infant Monkeys was a Pulitzer Prize finalist. She works at an endangered-species protection group. The Shimmers in the Night is the second book in the Dissenters series.

#### Praise for the first book in The Dissenters Series:

★ "Millet's prose is lyrically evocative ("the rhythmic scoop and splash of their paddles"). A lush and intelligent opener for a topical eco-fantasy series."—*Kirkus Reviews* (starred review)

"The Cape Cod woods, wildlife, and beaches are depicted with loving detail, and the dark forces arrayed against the young protagonists are at once tantalizingly mystifying and alarmingly timely."

—Patricia McKillip

"Lydia Millet knows the sea like a selkie."

—Kathe Koja, author of *Talk* 

## **July 2012**

#### AT THE MOUTH OF THE RIVER OF BEES

**STORIES** 

KIJ JOHNSON

NOT FINAL COVER

AUGUST 2012

SMALL BEER PRESS

A sparkling debut collection from one of the hottest writers in science fiction: her stories have received the Nebula Award the last two years running. These stories feature cats, bees, wolves, dogs, and even that most capricious of animals, humans, and have been reprinted in *The Year's Best Fantasy & Horror, Best Science Fiction and Fantasy of the Year*, and *The Secret History of Fantasy*. Cover by Mike Dringenberg.

#### Table of Contents

"At the Mouth of the River of Bees"

"26 Monkeys, Also the Abyss"

"The Horse Raiders"

"Spar"

"Fox Magic"

"Names for Water"

"Schrodinger's Cathouse"

"Wife reincarnated as a solitaire—Exposition on the flaws in my spouse's character—The nature of the bird—The possible causes—Her final disposition"

"Chenting, In the Land of the Dead"

"The Bitey Cat"

"The Empress Jingu Fishes"

"Story Kit"

"Wolf Trapping"

"The Man Who Bridged the Mist"

"Ponies"

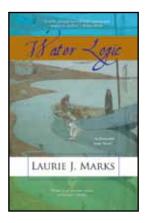
"The Cat Who Walked a Thousand Miles"

"The Evolution of Trickster Stories Among the Dogs Of North Park After the Change"

Kij Johnson's stories have won the Sturgeon, World Fantasy, and Nebula awards. She has taught writing and has worked at Tor, Dark Horse, Microsoft, and Real Networks. She has run bookstores, worked as a radio announcer and engineer, edited cryptic crosswords, and waitressed in a strip bar.

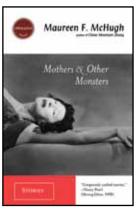
## August 2012

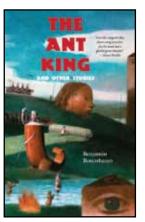
## **Backlist**

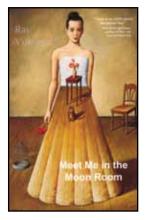


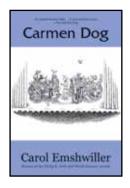


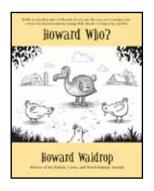








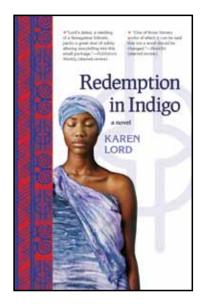


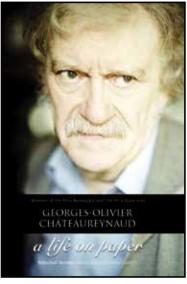




## **Award Winners**

- Karen Lord, Redemption in Indigo · Crawford Award · Mythopoeic Award. World Fantasy Award finalist. (Sold: Audio; UK. Rights: Cooke Agency International: www.cookeinternational.com)
- Kathe Koja, Under the Poppy · Gaylactic Spectrum Award
- Georges-Olivier Châteaureynaud, A Life on Paper: Stories (translated by Edward Gauvin) · Science Fiction & Fantasy Translation Award
- Greer Gilman, Cloud & Ashes: Three Winter's Tales · Tiptree Award
- Lydia Millet's The Firest Beneath the Sea is a Junior Library Guild Pick.







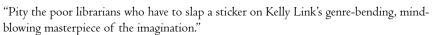


#### **Stranger Things Happen**

Stories

Kelly Link's debut collection of funny, spooky, and smart stories all have happy endings. They were all especially written for you. Best of the Year: *Salon, Locus, Village Voice, San Francisco Chronicle.* Includes Nebula, World Fantasy, and Tiptree Award-winning stories.

"An alchemical mix of Borges, Raymond Chandler and 'Buffy the Vampire Slayer." — Salon, Best Books of the Year



- -Karen Russel, author of Swamplandia, for NPR's You Must Read This
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#### Magic for Beginners

**Stories** 

Best of the Decade: Salon, The Onion, The Village Voice, HTML Giant. Best of the Year: Time Magazine, Book Sense, Salon. Engaging and funny, this collection riffs on haunted convenience stores, husbands and wives, rabbits, zombies, weekly apocalyptic poker parties, witches, superheroes, marriage, and cannons—and includes several new stories. Each story is illustrated by Shelley Jackson.



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Also available: *Pretty Monsters* (Viking Penguin, 2008). Young adult collection of ten stories Sold: audio, UK, Australia, Italy, Brazil, Japan, Spain, Russia, Sweden.







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Meet Me in the Moon Room

Howard Who? (Russia)

Storyteller (book club)

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### Small Beer Press

Since publishing our first books in 2001, Small Beer Press books have been selected as Best of the Year by *Time, Salon, San Francisco Chronicle, Village Voice, Book Magazine,* &c., have received the Philip K. Dick, Hugo, Shirley Jackson, Crawford, Science Fiction & Fantasy Translation Award, Tiptree, and Locus Awards, and been finalists for the Story Prize and Believer Book Awards among others.

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Please check our events calendar online for author readings and more.

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For updates and so on, see: smallbeerpress.com/not-a-journal.

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