



**aurealis**  
awards

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## **Media Release**

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### **Lanagan and Marchetta among top authors named in Aurealis Award honours**

Bestselling authors Sean Williams, Melina Marchetta and Margo Lanagan are some of the authors competing for the 2008 Aurealis Awards.

Aurealis Awards Coordinator Ron Serdiuk today announced 56 writers of science fiction, fantasy and horror have been shortlisted for awards in 13 categories, honouring excellence in Australian speculative fiction.

Mr Serdiuk said the shortlist demonstrated the strength of creative talent within the genre in Australia.

“Our Aussie authors are some of the best in the business,” Mr Serdiuk said.

“Many of the names on this list aren’t just prominent within the science fiction and fantasy genre. They include Melina Marchetta and Margo Lanagan, authors who are critically acclaimed and enjoyed throughout Australia and the world.

“This shortlist represents a fantastic reading list of the top authors in Australian speculative fiction.”

Mr Serdiuk said the shortlist was chosen by independent judging panels comprised of writers, librarians, publishers, booksellers, editors and readers from around Australia. The judges collectively reviewed hundreds of books and stories.

In total, more than 600 works were nominated encompassing novels, short stories, young adult and children’s books.

In 2008, new categories were also introduced to recognise anthologies and collections, and illustrated books and graphic novels for adults.

Award winners will be announced at the Aurealis Awards Gala Ceremony on Saturday, 24 January 2009 at the Judith Wright Centre of Contemporary Arts in Brisbane.

“Over the last decade we’ve seen the Aurealis Awards grow from a small community-based ceremony attended by a few writers, into a major event on the literary calendar attended by authors, publishers, editors, industry professionals and members of the public from around Australia,” Mr Serdiuk said.

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For media enquiries please contact **Ron Serdiuk** on 0414 356 235

“Brisbane has been at the heart of speculative fiction professional development over the last several years and the ceremony will be followed by a day of seminars and networking events for shortlisted authors, editors, artists, publishers and others.”

Anyone interested in attending the Awards ceremony next January should visit the website for further information or to book their place at the event: [www.aurealisawards.com](http://www.aurealisawards.com)

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## 2008 Aurealis Awards Finalists

### Best Science Fiction Novel

**K A Bedford**, *Time Machines Repaired While-U-Wait*, Edge Science Fiction and Fantasy Publishing

**Marianne de Pierres**, *Chaos Space*, Book Two of the Sentients of Orion, Orbit

**Simon Haynes**, *Hal Spacejock: No Free Lunch*, Fremantle Press

**Kim Westwood**, *The Daughters of Moab*, HarperVoyager

**Sean Williams**, *Earth Ascendant*, Astropolis Book Two, Orbit

### Best Science Fiction Short Story

**Simon Brown**, 'The Empire', *Dreaming Again*, HarperVoyager

**Nathan Burrage**, 'Black and Bitter, Thanks', *The Workers' Paradise*, Ticonderoga Publications

**Trent Jamieson**, 'Delivery', *Cosmos*, #21

**Margo Lanagan**, 'The Fifth Star in the Southern Cross', *Dreaming Again*, HarperVoyager

**Tansy Rayner Roberts**, 'Fleshy', *2012*, Twelfth Planet Press

### Best Fantasy Novel

**Alison Goodman**, *The Two Pearls of Wisdom*, HarperCollins

**Sylvia Kelso**, *Amberlight*, Juno Books

**Margo Lanagan**, *Tender Morsels*, Allen & Unwin

**Juliet Marillier**, *Heir to Sevenwaters*, Macmillan Australia

**Karen Miller**, *The Riven Kingdom*, Godspeaker Book Two, HarperVoyager

### Best Fantasy Short Story

**Thoraiya Dyer**, 'Night Heron's Curse', *Andromeda Spaceways Inflight Magazine*, #37

**Karen Maric**, 'The Last Deflowerer', *Andromeda Spaceways Inflight Magazine*, #32

**Angela Slatter**, 'Dresses, Three', *Shimmer*, Vol 2 #4

**Cat Sparks**, 'Sammarynda Deep', *Paper Cities*, Senses 5 Press

**Kim Westwood**, 'Nightship', *Dreaming Again*, HarperVoyager

### Best Horror Novel

**Jack Dann**, *The Economy of Light*, PS Publishing

**Nick Gadd**, *Ghostlines*, Scribe Publications

**John Harwood**, *The Séance*, Jonathan Cape

### Best Horror Short Story

**Lee Battersby**, 'In From the Snow', *Dreaming Again*, HarperVoyager

**Deborah Biancotti**, 'Pale Dark Soldier', *Midnight Echo*, #1

**Trent Jamieson**, 'Day Boy', *Murky Depths*, #4

**Kirstyn McDermott**, 'Painlessness', *Greatest Uncommon Denominator (GUD)*, #2

**Ian McHugh**, 'Bitter Dreams', *L Ron Hubbard Presents Writers of the Future*, Vol XXIV

### Best Anthology

**Bill Congreve & Michelle Marquardt** (editors), *The Year's Best Australian Fantasy and Science Fiction*, Fourth Annual Volume, MirrorDanse Books

**Jack Dann** (editor), *Dreaming Again*, HarperVoyager

**Jonathan Strahan** (editor), *The Starry Rift*, Viking Children's Books

### Best Collection

**Robert Hood**, *Creeping in Reptile Flesh*, Altair Australia Books

**Sean Williams & Russell B Farr** (editor), *Magic Dirt: The Best of Sean Williams*, Ticonderoga Publications

### Best Illustrated Book / Graphic Novel

**Steve Hunt & David Richardson**, *The Cloudchasers*, ABC Books

**Shaun Tan**, *Tales from Outer Suburbia*, Allen & Unwin

**Colin Thompson**, *The Floods Family Files*, Random House Australia

**Julie Watts**, *The Art of Graeme Base*, Penguin/Viking

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### **Best Young Adult Novel**

**Isabelle Carmody**, *The Stone Key*, Obernewtyn Chronicles, Volume Five, Penguin/Viking

**David Cornish**, *Lamplighter*, Monster Blood Tattoo Book Two, Omnibus Books

**Alison Goodman**, *The Two Pearls of Wisdom*, HarperCollins

**Melina Marchetta**, *Finnikin of the Rock*, Penguin/Viking

**Sean Williams**, *The Changeling*, The Changeling series book one, Angus & Robertson

### **Best Young Adult Short Story**

**Deborah Biancotti**, 'The Tailor of Time', *Clockwork Phoenix*, Norilana Books

**Dirk Flinthart**, 'This Is Not My Story', *Andromeda Spaceways Inflight Magazine*, #37

**Trent Jamieson**, 'Cracks', *Shiny*, #2

**Kevin MacLean**, 'Eye of the Beholder', *Misspelled*, DAW Books

### **Best Children's (8-12 years) Long Fiction**

**Simon Higgins**, *Moonshadow*, *Eye of the Beast*, Random House Australia

**Sophie Masson**, *Thomas Trew and the Island of Ghosts*, Hodder Children's

**Emily Rodda**, *The Wizard of Rondo*, Omnibus Books

**Carole Wilkinson**, *Dragon Dawn*, Black Dog Books

**Sean Williams**, *The Changeling* and *The Dust Devils*, The Changeling series books one and two, Angus & Robertson

### **Best Children's (8-12 years) Short Fiction**

**Anna Fienberg, Barbara Fienberg & Kim Gamble**, *Tashi and the Phoenix*, Allen & Unwin

**Richard Harland & Laura Peterson** (illustrator), *Escape!*, *Under Siege*, *Race to the Ruins*, *The Heavy Crown*, The Wolf Kingdom series, Omnibus Books

**Ian Irvine & David Cornish** (illustrator), *Thorn Castle*, *Giant's Lair*, *Black Crypt*, *Wizardry Crag*, The Sorcerer's Tower series, Omnibus Books

**Sally Morgan with Ezekiel, Ambelin and Blaze Kwaymullina & Adam Hill** (illustrator), *Curly and the Fent*, Random House Australia

**Richard Tulloch & Terry Denton** (illustrator), *Twisted Tales*, Random House Australia

The 2008 Aurealis Awards are sponsored by:



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