

*L. Ron Hubbard* PRESENTS

# *Writers of the Future*

VOLUME XXIV

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The year's thirteen best tales from  
the *Writers of the Future*  
international writers' program

Illustrated by winners in  
the *Illustrators of the Future*  
international illustrators' program

# *A Man in the Moon*

*written by Dr. Philip Edward Kaldon*

*illustrated by*

WILLIAM RUHLIG

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## ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

*William Ruhlig's lifelong passion for art seems to be blooming. Having completed secondary education at Pretoria Boys High School, in South Africa, he is now studying information design at the University of Pretoria and already knows that "cover artist" is his calling. That's because he has always been interested in art and continually inspired by the great science fiction authors, movies and science fiction artists around the world. The cover art of books has always impacted him, drawing him into a world hidden in the pages beneath the cover.*

*But it's not just the cover art that attracts him. William admits that he loves reading; in fact, he can't stop. It fuels his imagination as does watching and immersing himself in science fiction and learning about the actual sciences. William loves the way science fiction has shaped our world and been shaped by technologies. "Don't judge a book by its cover; perhaps, yes, but also perhaps be inspired by it" is William's philosophy.*



WILLIAM RUHLIG

# *Bitter Dreams*

*written by Ian McHugh*

*illustrated by*

ROBERT J. HALL JR.

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## ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

*Robert Hall has been interested in art ever since he was a child, drawing crude interpretations of dinosaurs, superheroes and Indiana Jones. He read comic books throughout high school, and it wasn't long before he adopted that style of hyperrealistic fantasy art. After high school, he set off to become a comic book artist, beginning his higher education in New York at Cazenovia College's graphic design program. But, like many youths, Robert also suffered from a terrible affliction—a passion for heavy metal made worse by his need to play drums. He enrolled at State University of New York (SUNY) Oneonta as a music industry major, but gave that up after forming what he calls a technically complex, thunderous, jet-fueled spectacle of furious shenanigans named "Severeign" with some school friends. Despite touring actively throughout New England, the glory didn't last, and Robert returned to SUNY Oneonta as a computer art major. He now wants to create video games or visual effects for film. Until then, he will continue getting his hands dirty working for the maintenance department at SUNY Oneonta and spending the rest of his time strapped to a computer, pressing ever forward.*





ROBERT J. HALL JR.

# *Taking a Mile*

*written by J. Kathleen Cheney*

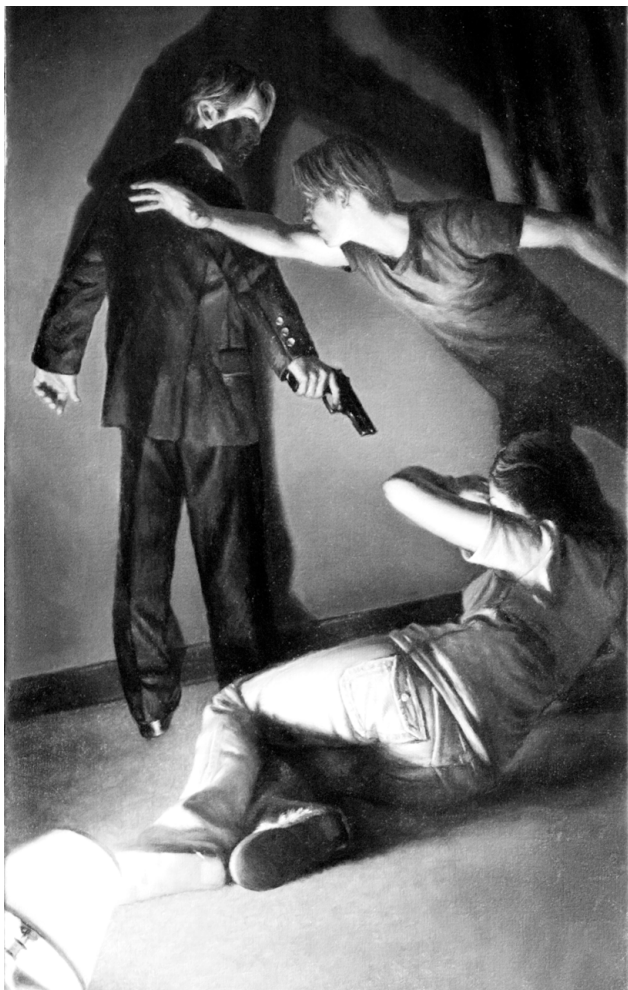
*illustrated by*

JAMES GALINDO

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## ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

*James Galindo is a native of Palm Springs, California, and began drawing pictures before he could read or write. As he continued to nurture his creative skills throughout childhood, James and a friend began illustrating their own comic book series in the third grade. Around the same time, James won the annual Christmas Seals art competition sponsored by the American Lung Association, placing first in the state of California. During middle school, he developed interests in music, friends and girls, so his artistic production stalled a bit. Prior to graduating high school, James enrolled in figure drawing classes at the College of the Desert to prepare for the intense academic training at Laguna College of Art & Design. James is now on track to obtain his Master of Fine Arts degree by the spring of 2009. After college, he plans to sell paintings out of a gallery, teach at the university level and/or work as a freelance illustrator.*



JAMES GALINDO

# *Crown of Thorns*

*written by Sonia Helbig*

*illustrated by*

WILLIAM RUHLIG

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## ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

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WILLIAM RUHLIG

# Hangar Queen

written by Patrick Lundrigan

illustrated by

ROBERT CASTILLO

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## ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Artist Robert Castillo was born in New York but raised in the Dominican Republic, the oldest of six boys. It was there, at the age of five, that Robert would draw monsters and aliens in his uncle's college books. When he returned to the United States a few years later, he did not speak any English, so he drew to communicate with elementary school classmates. By nine, Robert had won the Scholastic Achievement Award for Art. Much later, Robert attended the Art Institute of Boston, where he won Illustrator of the Year. In 2004, as a student at New York's School of Visual Arts (SVA), he produced "S.P.I.C. The Storyboard of My Life," chronicling his difficult transition years. The film has since won awards at twelve festivals and has screened at the Cannes Film Festival.

Today, Robert works as a storyboard artist for The Sopranos, MTV and various music videos and movies. An adjunct professor in William Patterson University's Animation Program, Robert has lectured at New York University, SVA and teaches storyboarding to high-school students at Automotive High School in Brooklyn.



ROBERT CASTILLO

# *Snakes and Ladders*

*written by Paula R. Stiles*

*illustrated by*

GUSTAVO BOLLINGER

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## ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

*Gustavo Bollinger was born and still resides in Cordoba, Argentina, where he has been drawing ever since he can remember. After finishing high school, Gustavo took a couple of drawing and painting workshops, studied industrial design for one year, and then took classes at the National University of Cordoba in fine arts for another year and a half. Despite the classes, Gustavo says he has tried to be as "self taught" as possible by researching his own means. He is currently in his last year of studying multimedia design. The highlight of all his arts studies so far has been assisting fellow Argentine and famed science fiction illustrator Oscar Chichoni at a workshop. Other artists whom Gustavo says have inspired him in life include Frank Frazetta, Norman Rockwell, Sebastian Kruger, Yanick Dusseault and Travis Charest. Gustavo's dream is to be able to work in any kind of creative arena, including book covers, movies, video games and concept art.*





GUSTAVO BOLLINGER

# Epiphany

written by Laura Bradley Rede

illustrated by

ALEXANDRA D. SZWERYN

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## ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

*Alexandra Szweryn terms herself a traditional artist, based in Brisbane, who grew up on Australia's Gold Coast in a Polish immigrant family. From an early age, Alexandra says she was influenced by classic European children's book illustrations. It wasn't until her high-school years that she discovered the complex stories and intricate illustrations found in Japanese manga comics. Having grown fond of them, Alexandra began her journey of teaching herself the basics of art illustration as well as the application of inks, watercolors and other traditional media.*

*In 2005, Alexandra was accepted into Qantm College to study for a diploma in screen animation under a full scholarship. There, she learned storyboarding, which eventually led her to create original comics and illustrations. Of her art passion, Alexandra says that "fables have a life of their own, just like everyday people . . . they breathe, they feel, and yearn to be heard . . . it is because of this reason that I strive to bring life to my illustrations."*



ALEXANDRA D. SZWERYN

# Cruciger

*written by Erin Cashier*

*illustrated by*

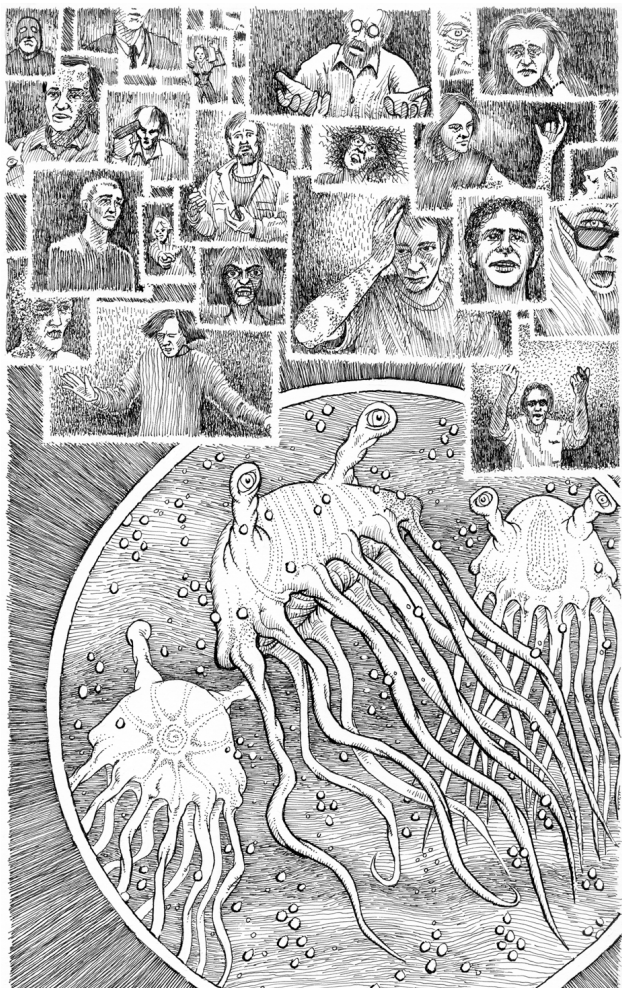
STEPHEN R. STANLEY

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## ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

*Stephen Stanley lives on five forested Oregon acres with a mermaid and other wild critters—some are welcome, others are not. As a teenager in the late 1960s, Stephen contributed stories and drawings to comics fandom, but after earning a BFA from the Kansas City Art Institute in 1973 he left his hometown to become a graphic designer. He has designed annual reports for major San Francisco-based corporations, consumer and trade magazines, and marketing material for a west coast distributor of eco-friendly products.*

*After an extended professional break, Stephen resumed writing and illustrating when he moved to Eugene, Oregon in 1993. Since 1994, Stephen has been a member of the writer's group The Wordos. He first entered the Illustrators of the Future Contest in 1994, but then took a hiatus to hone his writing craft. In 2001, he started entering both contests (almost) every quarter. With his winning illustrations, Stephen has become the first entrant to win both Writers of the Future ("Mars Hath No Fury like a Pixel Double-Crossed" in XXI) and Illustrators of the Future Contests. He is contemplating his next move.*



STEPHEN R. STANLEY

# Circuit

written by J. D. EveryHope

illustrated by

BRITTANY J. JACKSON

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## ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

*Brittany was born and raised in the "Motor City," a k a Detroit, Michigan. Her father first inspired her drawing and, before long, she was drawing for hours on end. Brittany says her second year in high school was the turning point in her life. That's when her art teacher, Mr. Mealy, enrolled her in a Saturday art class where she met others who shared the same passion. Her English teacher, Mrs. Galica, also played a big role by introducing her to the Detroit Free Press, where she applied and was hired as a graphic artist. She spent a year at Detroit's College for Creative Studies, majoring in illustration, and loves the challenges that creativity brings, the thrill that comes with learning something new and the satisfaction of using her gifts to help others visualize their dreams.*



BRITTANY J. JACKSON

# *A War Bird in the Belly of the Mouse*

*written by David Parish-Whittaker*

*illustrated by*

SEAN KIBBE

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## ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

*Sean Kibbe is an award-winning artist and designer who has been involved in creative pursuits his entire life. His work has been featured in various exhibitions, galleries and shows, and even in a prominent design magazine. Daily pursuits in drawing and painting as a child eventually evolved into the exploration of art within the commercial realm. In the fall of 2007, he cofounded Kibbedesign, a multifaceted design consultancy that focuses on smart solutions for everyday problems. He has created design concepts from stylish mobile workstations and whimsical musical tea kettles to elegant transitional office desk units and architectural martini glasses. Sean is set to graduate from the industrial design program at Purdue University in 2008, and plans to continue his own adventures within design, illustration and fine art.*





SMK

SEAN KIBBE

# *Simulacrum's Children*

*written by Sarah L. Edwards*

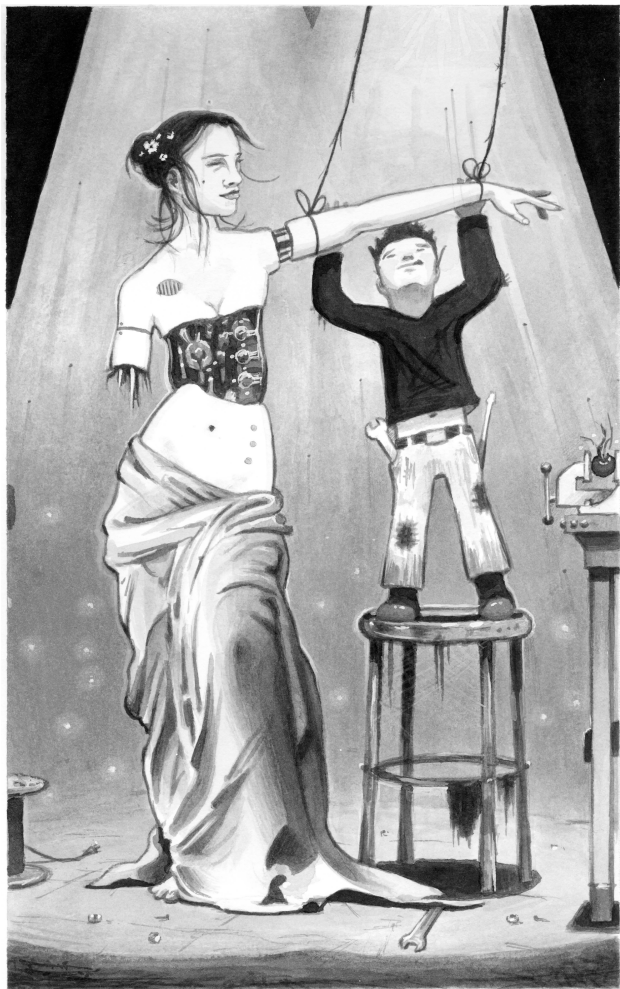
*illustrated by*

KYLE PHILLIPS

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## ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

*Kyle Phillips is currently attending the Hartford Art School (HAS) in his home state of Connecticut, and has his sights set on graduating in 2008 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in painting. While he is currently focusing on still life and portraiture, Kyle always has had a distinct passion for illustration. He draws inspiration from artists of the Victorian and Impressionist eras and has an immense fascination for trompe l'oeil painting. When it comes to admiring the boundless world of science fiction illustration, he looks to artists such as Paul Bonner, John Berkey and Donato Giancola, who are among his favorites. Kyle is very grateful to be a part of the Illustrators of the Future Contest because it has brought him a step closer to reaching his ultimate goal to work as a full-time illustrator. Kyle would like to thank his friends, family and every single one of his teachers at HAS for always being there and guiding him.*



KYLE PHILLIPS

# *The Bird Reader's Granddaughter*

written by Kim A. Gillett

illustrated by

ILYA SHKIPIN

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## ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

*Ilya Shkipin was born in Saint Petersburg, Russia, and currently resides in Fremont, California. He comes from a long line of artists: his father is an artist, and his grandfather is a noted artist in northern Russia who paints landscapes of his native Karelia, north of Saint Petersburg. Naturally, all of Ilya's very early art training came from them. While still a boy in Russia, Ilya also took many art classes to further develop his skills.*

*After coming to the United States in 2002, Ilya continued his education and has won several art contests. He has studied computer graphic art and attended the Saturday Art Experience at the San Francisco Academy of Art. There, he received the Certificate of Participation as Most Outstanding Student. Currently, Ilya is taking private lessons from artist Pavel Tayber. In his spare time, Ilya is learning to play rock guitar.*



ILYA SHKIPIN

# *The Girl Who Whispered Beauty*

written by Al Bogdan

illustrated by

STEPHEN KNOX

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## ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

*"If you could illustrate your dreams" is a phrase which some have used to describe artist Stephen-Paul Knox. Born in and still a resident of the Germantown section of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Stephen began his art interests at an early age after he entered and won an art contest as a student at Cedar Grove Christian Academy. Lacking the financial support to attend his desired art school, Stephen began to draw cartoons and copy family photos, determined to teach himself techniques by any means necessary. As his skills developed, he soon began to gravitate toward science fiction and fantasy art. He patterned himself after some of his favorite comic book masters, eventually developing his own unique art form which can be seen in his present-day work. Books such as The Lord of the Rings, The Chronicles of Narnia and The Neverending Story further drove Stephen's artistic imagination.*

*Stephen currently is working on plans to develop his own multimedia company. He also hopes to publish a successful series of digital graphic novels, and one day see his vivid imagination transferred from paper onto the big screen.*



STEPHEN KNOX

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