



Forbidden Thoughts

Jason Rennie (Editor) , Tom Kratman , Nick Cole , Larry Correia , Brad R. Torgersen , John C. Wright , Vox Day , L. Jagi Lamplighter , more... Sarah A. Hoyt , Brian Niemeier , A.M. Freeman , Chrome Oxide , E.J. Shumak , Ray Blank , Matthew Ward , Joshua M. Young , David Hallquist , Pierce Oka , Jane Lebak , Cat Leonard (Illustrator) , Milo Yiannopoulos (Foreword) ...less

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You are not supposed to read this book.

You are not supposed to think about reading this book.

In fact, just plain thinking at all is unacceptable.

You have been warned....

From hilarious to horrifying to dangerously insightful, a selection of stories that must not be told, for they slaughter the sacred cows of our age.

Do you dare read them?

Stories by Nick Cole, John C. Wright, Sarah A. Hoyt, Brad R. Torgersen, Vox Day and more...

Non-fiction articles by Tom Kratman and Larry Correia

Forbidden Thoughts Details

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Jason Rennie (Editor) , Tom Kratman , Nick Cole , Larry Correia , Brad R. Torgersen , John C.

Author : Wright , Vox Day , L. Jagi Lamplighter , more... Sarah A. Hoyt , Brian Niemeier , A.M. Freeman , Chrome Oxide , E.J. Shumak , Ray Blank , Matthew Ward , Joshua M. Young , David Hallquist , Pierce Oka , Jane Lebak , Cat Leonard (Illustrator) , Milo Yiannopoulos (Foreword) ...less

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From Reader Review Forbidden Thoughts for online ebook

Eric Tanafon says

Most of the stories try too hard to make their point. A few are good, including the pieces by John C. Wright and Vox Day.

Jim says

Some quick thoughts about *Forbidden Thoughts* overall: This is an all star lineup. I really enjoyed getting a chance to read so many of my favorite authors in one volume. The additional authors were awesome as well and really were additions to the book. The addition of a bit of nonfiction added to the work as well, giving a break when necessary to let the emotions catch up to where I was in the book. It was a good time and a good investment. There is one issue with FT though.

Granted, I know this was the point of *Forbidden Thoughts*, but there is a lot of message fiction here. It's pretty hamfisted in most cases. I didn't mind it because I agreed with it but exposure to this book may cause cranial explosions in Leftists. I approve. I'd actually like to see a few lefties read *Forbidden Thoughts* because there is a chance, however slight, that one might actually have the self awareness to finally realize why we hate all of their message fiction. Really.

Rbette1299 says

LMAO through most of these parodies of Social Justice Warriors group think and social posing. Humor helps a lot in dealing with people who are obsessed with the color of skin, their genitals, their religion affinity, how their ancestors were treated 500 years ago, the use of (pre-designed by them) "trigger words" and all things shallow and superficial to define themselves and everyone else.

To outsiders they appear to be mentally ill but these stories do help those who eschew this hive mind life style for one based more closely on practicalities and reality to somewhat better understand them. It is like reading *One flew over the cuckoo's nest*, funny and tragic at the same time. Highly recommend for anyone looking for a humorous slant on the current fad of identity politics.

Will says

The Evil Legion of Evil Authors over an anthology of unabashedly Politically Incorrect visions, guaranteed to trigger correctthinkers! With an introduction by THAT MAN! (No, he did not write or edit the book, Amazon). I have already been blocked by Twitter three times for posting quotes. (But that isn't censorship when they do it, oh, no. #jesuismilo)

I particularly recommend the non-fiction account of the true story of Sad Puppies, and John C. Wright's convoluted time travel story.

I reserve the highest accolade for lapses into counterfactual assertions. As the prophet Thurber says, you may as well fall flat on your face as lean too far over backward. (Memo to Tom Kratman: Assaulting Sikhs and Egyptian Christians for "looking Muslim", but saying "that isn't racism because Islam isn't a race".... is racist.)

Christopher Gerrib says

I purchased and read *Forbidden Thoughts*. For the most part, I found it neither forbidden nor thoughtful. Rather, it was heavy-handed to the point of immobility, (mostly) poorly-written and consistently poorly edited. A couple of stories saved this book from the shame of a one-star review, but only barely.

There were several non-fiction articles in the book, all but the introduction being recycled blog postings from the Big Three of Sad Puppydom, Tom Kratman, Larry Correia and Brad R. Torgersen. The postings were heavy-handed diatribes when written, and age has done them no favors. Yiannopoulos phoned in a semi-original introduction, but his idea that Science Fiction is under attack by the Evil Left is unoriginal and remains unsupported by such trifles as fact.

On the fiction side, most of the short stories take a favorite right-wing strawman, dial it to 15, then use it to beat the reader vigorously about the head and shoulders. Chief offender was "At the Edge of Detachment" by A. M. Freeman. There, a parent can have their child killed up to the age of 13 – an "allegory" of abortion. Other stories were similarly ham-fisted, and most were unreadable.

Having said that, there were a couple of readable short stories. If that sounds like damning with faint praise, so be it. Notable shorts:

"World Ablaze" by Jane Lebak – for some reason, Catholics are being persecuted and arrested by the State. If you can swallow that, the story works fairly nicely.

"Amazon Gambit" by Vox Day – here, the author sets up an all-female military unit that, For Reasons, must fight a primitive enemy hand-to-hand. They win, although it takes a male officer to show the Poor Girls what is needed.

"Test of the Prophet" by L. Jagi Lamplighter – This story, if given a decent editor, would be commercially viable in any market. A woman born and raised in Pakistan, who moved to America and became a US Marine, needs to go back to Pakistan because her beloved cousin has gotten himself mixed up in the Taliban. We learn (almost too late – a good editor would have frontloaded this) that the woman can see ghosts. We learn (in an entertaining but 10% too long and talky) section that one of the things said ghosts have been up to is inserting errors into every religion's doctrine. Again, not bad at all.

So, no, I really don't recommend *Forbidden Thoughts*, especially if one wants, you know, actually forbidden thoughts.

Caryl says

Best SF anthology I've read in many years. Had given up on SciFi for a while because I'd lost interest. Read about the Hugo debacle and the Sad Puppy group and started checking them out.

I enjoyed Milo's forward. He may be a provocateur, but he's interesting and thought provoking.

The Razor Blade of Approval by Ben Zwycky was short, yet I relate to the inability to please the SJW crowd.

Safe Space Suit by Nick Cole I thoroughly enjoyed. It was about the consequences of following progressive policies to their probable conclusions. Pretty funny if I couldn't see it really happening.

Auto America by EJ Shumak. Smart alec facing consequences of overbearing authority. Very Good.

A Place for Everyone by Ray Blank. When everything is controlled by computers trying to make diversity work-life gets really complicated. Excellent

The Code by Matthew Ward. Dating is already stressful, wait until the Government gets involved in that, too. Thought provoking and very good.

The Secret History of the World Gone By by Joshua Young. Progressive policies don't make a happy world. Very good.

The Social Construct by David Hallquist. Heartbreaking. Very good.

At the Edge of Detachment by AM Freeman. Heartbreaking. Excellent.

A History of Sad Puppies by Larry Correia and Brad Torgerson. Non fiction history of Sad Puppies. Excellent.

If You Were a Hamburger, My Love by Ray Blank. Funny parody of a Nebula winner. Hilarious. Excellent.

Imagine by Pierce Oka. Paradise for atheists and progressives. Hell for everyone else. Excellent.

Graduation Day by Chrome Oxide. State run education taken to the limit. Funny, yet horrifying. Very good.

Hymns of the Mothers by Brad Torgerson.
Maybe maternal societies aren't perfect. Excellent.

By His Cockle Hat and Staff by John C Wright. Alternate universes and why their histories are different.
Love can conquer our basest selves. Loved this one.

The Rules of Racism by Tom Kratman. Non fiction-also could be described as "why Trump won". Excellent.

World Ablaze by Jane Lebak. Christian persecution and Christians perseverance. Giving hope to a hopeless world. Loved this one.

Amazon Gambit by Vox Day. He has a wicked sense of humor. Women in the military. Excellent.

Elegy for the Locust by Brian Niemeier. I'd call it horror. Made me think about it quite a while after I

finished it. Wouldn't mind a longer book about this. Very good.

Test of the Prophet by L Jagi Lamplighter. Absolutely loved this. I am so tired of SF either totally ignoring religion or denigrating it. What if you find out your religion has been perverted and twisted? Excellent.

Flight to Egypt by Sarah A. Hoyt. Segregation and trying to erase a race. Excellent.

I'm so glad I read this book. It will definitely be a repeat read. I also found some new authors I want to check out.

Shari Taylor says

Thought-provoking, no pun intended

What could happen if society and the state decide that no one can be made uncomfortable or doffernt6? When equality in all ways is enforced? I particularly loved the stories by Brad Torgerson and L Jagi Lamplighter Wright

Dan says

This book got a lot of play in the last year or so as "Milo" rose to (in)fame with his various political antics. And antics they are, watching him speak or reading his rants, it's pretty clear that regardless of whether he believes what says or not, he's not actually interested in anything but self aggrandizement. Mostly his positions are pretty poorly formed and rely on the misdirection of using non-PC language and/or personal attacks, taking everyone's attention off of the lack of substance to anything he's saying. Yet somehow, the editor and publisher of this collection of short stories, decided that his name on the cover would be an attraction. It worked. But then, for those seeking to read more of his work, the disappointment of finding that all he did was write a foreword note at the beginning of the book that has little if anything to do with the content. He asserts that there's never been a collection of such revolutionary non-PC science fiction in all of history. Obviously he's clueless to the Libertarian origins of much of modern Sci-Fi, or even the genre as a whole. But let's set all that aside and get on to the meat of the book itself.

There are some great stories in here that save the book from being worthy of nothing more than the scrap heap. The problem is, there are also a bunch, probably more than half, of the stories, that do little more than attempt to incense the reader by being as non-PC as they possibly can, throwing in words and thoughts and actions that are guaranteed to horrify anyone with leanings to the left. But they go way too far, and I don't mean that because I'm incensed by them, but because they're little more than the same as I accuse Milo of above. They're distractions, they're glaring baubles, designed to do nothing more than distract the reader from the fact that the stories have no substance. They're just ranting and exaggeration designed for effect and show the authors' complete lack of story telling ability.

In the end, there's just not enough to recommend the book. There's far better, shall we say, non-leftist, non-PC science fiction out there than anything in this book.

Randy says

Glad I stuck with it

I didn't really care for the early stories in this book. A problem with "message fiction" is the risk of too much emphasis on the message, not enough on the story. That's what I felt was happening here; the message was so strong in some that it interfered with my ability to suspend disbelief in the setting.

The later stories, though, were ones I enjoyed more. Oh, certainly the message was still there, but I didn't feel like I was being beat about the head and shoulders with a "clue by four" to make sure I understood it.

Jeff Miller says

Like most thematic collections the stories range in how much I like them. There were certainly a good grouping of five star stories.

Since the theme is sort of a reaction to SJWs you get everything from the basic parodying of their ideas, dystopias of their result of their ideas, to intricate stories where this plays a part.

Nick Cole's "Safe Space Suit" (great title) takes a humorous road with serious consequences. I enjoyed it for the refrain and what actually happens when people become valuable as checkmarks and not for their skills. Both outlooks can devalue people. I also enjoyed the inside baseball aspect of the character names.

Not surprising that my favorite story was John C. Wright's "By his Cockle Hat and Staff" with elements of a big idea surprisingly carried out. The concept was big enough for a novel or more - but executed perfectly as a short story.

I enjoyed pretty much everything about L. Jagi Lamplighter's "Test of the Prophet". Super interesting idea handled very well and sensitively.

Brian Niemeier's "Elegy for the Locust" enters his series universe with a subtle storyline. The last line was perfect and the whole thing felt like a good Twilight Zone episode.

Brad R. Torgersen "Hymns of the Mothers" was one of the longer stories and brings us into an universe in the aftermath of major wars where society has been upended. It is easy to pick up how the story is going to go, but this did not diminish the enjoyment of it.

Ray Blank's parody of an infamous "Hugo-Nominated, Nebula-winning "If You Were a Dinosaur, My Love" was fairly funny in it's over-the-topness. It does make the mistake of actually being SF, which the original story was not at all.

There was also some non-fiction. The history of the Sad Puppies was a good overview of the topic and very accurate.

Overall there wasn't a story I did not enjoy in some measure. I did like the more subtle stories reflecting the theme more than the overtly mocking messages.

Stephen Fleming says

I like the idea, and support what the authors are trying to do. But the book needed better editing. Both copy editing ("this is spelled wrong") and thoughtful editing ("this story doesn't work"). Too many of the stories were far to hamfisted in making their point. Overall, it's like a collection of fanfic, not a professional collection.

Barb says

This book is full of thought provoking stories! I expected an over-riding "anti-social justice warrior" theme, but that was not the case. In fact, one of the later stories dealt with the dangers of racism and police profiling. I was particularly interested to read about the Hugo awards and the Sad Puppies controversy. This definitely gave me a different perspective on the whole situation.

As with all anthologies, some stories were better than others but all of these are worth reading in my opinion. Just not for the easily offended.

E W says

Fun if uneven anthology. If it matches your worldview, you'll probably find this up your alley, and if not, you'll be unhappy with a sometimes heavy handed take on the Left. The nonfiction pieces were meh, but there were good short stories to be found. My favorites were *Hymns of the Mothers* by Brad Torgersen and *World Ablaze* by Jane Lebak, and honorable mentions to the contributions of John C. Wright, L. Jagi Lamplighter, and Vox Day. Alas, there were also some hamfisted duds (I now know to not bother with Sarah Hoyt's work as it doesn't speak to me at all) where the story took a back seat to the author's politics. Overall though, it was an enjoyable diversion for me and a good opportunity to try some new to me authors.

Douglas Coote says

★★★½?

Although this anthology starts with a very anti-SJW bias, not all stories shared that bias. True, some were too much on the nose—too polemic—too partisan—especially in the front of the anthology. Those authors littered their stories with SJW conceits, and told what I considered to be morality tales. Message fic is dreadful to me, no matter the ideology. However, many stories stood out as exemplary science fiction and fantasy. They envisioned a future or society where SJW dreams came true, and turned that dream into a nightmare. These stories worked because they took one concept and created a society encumbered with that concept gone amok. Stories like alpha male fantasy "The Secret History of the World Gone By" by Joshua M. Young, "The Social Construct" by David Hallquist, the thought provoking "Hymns of the Mothers" by

Brad Torgersen, the intriguing parallel universe tale, "By His Cockle Hat and Staff" by John C. Wright, the memorable Catholic SF tale of "World Ablaze" by Jane Lebak, and the incredibly daring Christian conversion Muslim fantasy, "Test of the Prophet" by L. Jagi Lamplighter. These tales alone are worth the cost of the anthology. They eschew heavy-handedness for a lighter, more artful touch while still contemplating unorthodox or politically incorrect concepts. Brian Neimeier's horror story, "Elegy for the Locust", lacked an overt political angle while still entertaining, and Sara A. Hoyt's "Flight to Egypt" tackled racism and eugenics from an uncomfortable blend of right wing profiling and left wing authoritarianism. All of these stories were excellent. Only Vox Day's story offended me, likely due to its wink to misogyny, but I am a dad of daughters and felt extremely uncomfortable with the fate Day had in store for his female Marines. Not everyone will process that story as I did, however, and as forbidden as these narrative thoughts were, I enjoyed the predominantly intelligent manner in which the contributing authors dealt with their subjects.

James says

This is, at best, a mixed bag of "edgy" and "politically incorrect" science fiction stories. The good stories (more on those shortly) are very good or excellent. The rest are either amateurish, hastily written or so blatantly trying to shock that they are unappealing.

I happened on this book while looking for something by Milo Yiannopoulos, someone who, up until three weeks ago, I'd never heard of. Suddenly his name was all over the news feed on my phone, children at a Berkeley set fire to their school rather than let him speak, and Bill Maher had him on his show, prompting another guest to cancel his appearance rather than be in his presence. I was curious about this horrible person who was so dangerous, so repulsive that he couldn't be allowed to speak. I looked up his oeuvre on Amazon, and discovered this book which appears to be the only one credited to Yiannopoulos. It turns out he wrote the introduction. (To finish my brief Milo Yiannopoulos story, I saw him on Bill Maher - he's a lightweight provocateur a la Ann Coulter. Really, how anyone could take him seriously, much less be intimidated or frightened by what he has to say is beyond me.)

Anyway, back to the book. There are some very good to excellent stories here, and I'm looking forward to reading more by some of the authors I discovered. In order of appearance in the book, they are:

"Ray Blank" [pen name], who wrote "A Place for Everyone," a funny twist on the "be careful what you ask for" theme (with a healthy dose of extrapolation into a world under extreme control);

A.M. Freeman, "The Edge of Detachment," a heartbreakingly honest look at selfish parenting;

Pierce Oka, "Imagine," in which he imagines (ha!) a society that takes literally the lyrics and intention of John Lennon's classic paean to Marx's pipe dream;

Brad R. Torgersen, "Hymns of the Mothers," an optimistic take on what might happen in a matriarchy that would've given Octavia Butler pause;

John C. Wright, "By His Cockle Hat and Staff," a very poorly edited yet engrossing exploration of multiple universes; and

Jane Lebak, whose "World Ablaze" was my favorite story in the collection. I've added Ms. Lebak to my

queue of writers I'll read (as soon as I work my way through my current stack). This story is a beautifully written piece set in a world where Christianity, and presumably all religion, has been outlawed yet a few brave souls persevere.

There is nothing dangerous about this book, nor should there be anything forbidden. The writers' sentiments clearly do not mesh with the prevailing political correctness, but no one has anything to fear from listening or reading ideas different from their own. Indeed, we should fear a world where anyone's ideas are deemed too "dangerous" to be expressed. Sticks and stones and all that, remember?
