



## The Year's Best Fantasy and Horror: Fourteenth Annual Collection

*Ellen Datlow (Editor) , Terri Windling (Editor) , Ellen Steiber (Contributor) , Ramsey Campbell (Contributor) , Jack Dann (Contributor) , Nalo Hopkinson (Contributor) , Edward Bryant (Contributor) , Seth Johnson (Contributor) , more... James Frenkel (Contributor) , Harlan Ellison (Contributor) , Claudia Barbosa Nogueira (Contributor) , Louise Erdrich (Contributor) , Eve Sweetser (Contributor) , Charles de Lint (Contributor) , Delia Sherman (Contributor) , Ben Pastor (Contributor) , Tia V. Travis (Contributor) , Laurence Goldstein (Contributor) , Elizabeth Engstrom (Contributor) , Kathe Koja (Contributor) , Terry Dowling (Contributor) , Janet McAdams (Contributor) , Gavin J. Grant (Contributor) , Kelly Link (Contributor) , Glen Hirshberg (Contributor) , Stacey Richter (Contributor) , Carol Ann Duffy (Contributor) , Melanie Tem (Contributor) , Terry Lamsley (Contributor) , Jack Cady (Contributor) , Jane Yolen (Contributor) , Ian Rodwell (Contributor) , Steve Duffy (Contributor) , Bret Lott (Contributor) , Claudia Adriázola (Contributor) , Elizabeth Howkins (Contributor) , Greer Gilman (Contributor) , Justin Tussing (Contributor) , John F. Deane (Contributor) , Donelle R. Ruwe (Contributor) , Andy Duncan (Contributor) , Howard Wandrei (Contributor) , Susanna Clarke (Contributor) , Lia Block (Contributor) , Tanith Lee (Contributor) , Stewart O'Nan (Contributor) , Jonathan Carroll (Contributor) , Jack Ketchum (Contributor) , John Crowley (Contributor) , Neil Gaiman (Contributor) , Steve Rasnic Tem (Contributor) ...less*

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For more than a decade, readers have turned to *The Year's Best Fantasy and Horror* to find the most rewarding fantastic short stories. The critically acclaimed and award-winning tradition continues with another stunning collection, including stories by Jack Cady, Ramsey Campbell, Susanna Clarke, Jack Dann, Terry Dowling, Dennis Etchison, Greer Gilman, Nalo Hopkinson, Kelly Link, Kathe Koja, Paul J. McAuley, Delia Sherman. Rounding out the volume are the editors' invaluable overviews of the year in fantasy and horror, and a long list of Honorable Mentions, making this an indispensable reference as well as the best reading available in fantasy and horror.

## **The Year's Best Fantasy and Horror: Fourteenth Annual Collection Details**

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## **From Reader Review The Year's Best Fantasy and Horror: Fourteenth Annual Collection for online ebook**

### **John says**

#### **Sorry for virtually the same review on whole anthology set**

I own a trade sized paper back.

I started this anthology with the 5th Annual and I loved it so much I started collecting the whole set by signing up for pre-orders with the book store.

What sets this anthology apart from many others is that I always find two or three gems within its pages, many liked stories and very few I have to force myself through. More importantly, from those people I have noted who read these anthologies too, they say the same thing. I rated this whole anthology based on the variety of the stories within, how many people seem to report finding the same ratio of gems & well received stories.

I am happy to own this whole anthology and keep them in excellent shape, no matter how many times I have read them.

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### **bluetyson says**

The Year's Best Fantasy and Horror : Fourteenth Annual Collection by Ellen Datlow (2001)

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### **Michelle Wardhaugh says**

This is not one of my favorite anthologies. There were a few good stories, of course, but most of them were dark and depressing no matter which category (fantasy or horror) they were placed in. The ones that stand out in my memory as pleasant were those by my favorite authors de Lint, Yolen, and Gaiman. Two of those three were poetry pieces.

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### **David Melbie says**

I love fantasy, and horror is fairly new to me, but I find that the two genres do belong together! --From *A Reader's Journal*, by d r melbie.

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### **Terri says**

I never really explored this type of genre in depth before -- not really into all of the gore that I thought this

genre represented. I was very pleasantly surprised -- it was closer to Edgar Allan Poe or Rod Serling. I enjoyed most of the stories very much -- thought provoking; very entertaining.

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### **Juushika says**

The Year's Best Fantasy and Horror: Fourteenth Annual Collection collects the best (as determined by the editors) short fiction of both genres in 2000, using wide definitions of the genres in order to build a diverse, quality collection. Largely useless introductions summarize the year in fantasy, horror, and related media, but the bulk of the book is 43 short stories and 11 poems which span paranormal horror to imaginary world fantasy to mythic poems. The stories are a mixed bag, but on the whole a disappointment: some break the mold, but most of these selections are so exaggerated that they lack magic or tension. This series has a laudable goal, but in this installment the editors don't quite reach it. Not recommended.

I so much enjoyed the fifteenth volume of this series that it boggles my mind that I found this fourteenth installment such a slog. Short story collections are usually composed of selection of varying quality, and an anthology this wide-reaching and long has plenty of opportunities for failure—and, unfortunately, in this volume it often does fail. The selections are a mixed bag: Some are wonderful, and Koja's "At Eventide," Grant and Link's "Ship, Sea, Mountain, Sky," Duffy's *Circe* and *Little Red Cap*, Adriázola's "Buttons," Gaiman's *Instructions*, and best of all Greer Gilman's "Jack Daw's Pack," a mythic and dreamlike story of the trials and tribulations of divine avatars, were my favorites. But too often, regardless of genre, these stories are often so blatant—horror exaggerated to empty violence, retold myth which is too obvious, humorous fantasy pushed over the top—that they lose all the magic and tension that can come with subtlety. Perhaps that's a personal preference, but I doubt it. Obvious, exaggerated stories smack of lazy writing, and certainly don't warrant a "best of" collection.

*The Year's Best Fantasy and Horror: Fourteenth Annual Collection* still serves a purpose: some selections, like those listed above, break the mold and are in turns understated, haunting, intelligent, or otherwise subtlety and skillfully told. And the volume also functions as a means to encounter new stories and new authors. With such a wide range, pulling from paranormal to psychological horror, from magical realism to urban fantasy, *The Year's Best Fantasy and Horror* is a broad cross-section of both genres and may expose a reader to all number of new writers or texts. Unfortunately, like the middling quality of the stories themselves, this volume isn't always a good resource: Windling summary of fantasy novels is concise and useful, but Daltow's summary is unnecessarily long and the summations of media and comics often lose sight of their fantasy/horror purview. All told, this fourteenth installment of *The Year's Best Fantasy and Horror* is well-intended but not wholly successful. Other installments prove that the premise can succeed, and such a wide goal as the year's best pulled from broad definitions of two genres is loftily and laudable. But perhaps the pickings were slim, perhaps they had a bad year—for whatever reason, Windling and Datlow don't reach their goals in this fourteenth installment, and I don't recommend it.

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