



LAWRENCE, KS – 15 March, 2019  
for immediate release

This year's finalists for the [Theodore A. Sturgeon Memorial Award](#) for the best short science fiction story have been selected, announced Chris McKitterick, Director of the [Gunn Center for the Study of Science Fiction](#). The awards will be presented during the [Campbell Conference Award Banquet](#) on Friday, June 28.

### 2019 Finalists for the Theodore A. Sturgeon Memorial Award

"Freezing Rain, A Chance of Falling," L.X. Beckett. *Fantasy and Science Fiction*, July 2018.

"The Only Harmless Great Thing," Brooke Bolander. Tor.com Books.

"The Secret Life of the Nine Negro Teeth of George Washington," P. Djèlí Clark. *Fireside Fiction*, Feb 2018.

"Umberright," Carolyn Ives Gilman. *Clarkesworld*, Feb 2018.

"Nine Last Days on Planet Earth," Daryl Gregory. *Tor.com*, Sept 2018.

"When We Were Starless," Simone Heller. *Clarkesworld*, Oct 2018.

"The Starship and the Temple Cat," Yoon Ha Lee. *Beneath Ceaseless Skies*, Feb 2018.

"When Robot and Crow Saved East St. Louis," Annalee Newitz. *Slate.com*, Dec 2018.

"Gods, Monsters, and the Lucky Peach," Kelly Robson. Tor.com Books.

"On the Day You Spend Forever with Your Dog," Adam Shannon. *Apex*, Dec 2018.

"Yard Dog," Tade Thompson. *Fiyah*, July 2018.

The Sturgeon Award recognizes the best science fiction short story of the year. It was established in 1987 by James Gunn, founder of the [Center for the Study of Science Fiction](#), and the heirs of Theodore Sturgeon, including his partner Jayne Engelhart Tannehill and Sturgeon's children, as an appropriate memorial to one of the great short-story writers in a field distinguished by its short fiction. This year's jury consists of [Elizabeth Bear](#), [Andy Duncan](#), [James Gunn](#), [Kij Johnson](#), and [Nöel Sturgeon](#).

The [Center](#) has hosted the [Campbell Conference](#) each year since 1978, usually at the University of Kansas. It includes a Friday banquet where the annual [Campbell](#) and [Theodore A. Sturgeon](#) awards are presented; discussions and presentations with scholars, scientists, and writers of science fiction; and other events.

The Gunn Center for the Study of Science Fiction is an educational, scholarly, and outreach organization housed at the University of Kansas.  
Wescoe Hall | 1445 Jayhawk Blvd., Room 3040 | Lawrence, KS 66045 | (785) 864-2509 | Fax (785) 864-1159

[sfcenter.ku.edu](http://sfcenter.ku.edu)