Voting for the 2021 Hugo Award, Lodestar Award for Best Young Adult Book, and Astounding Award for Best New Writer

The Hugo Award is the leading award for excellence in the field of science fiction and fantasy. The Hugo Awards are presented each year by the World Science Fiction Society (“WSFS”), at the World Science Fiction Convention (“Worldcon”).

The Hugo Awards will be presented at a formal ceremony on Saturday, December 18, 2021, at DisCon III, the 79th World Science Fiction Convention, in Washington, DC.

The official website of the Hugo Awards is www.thehugoawards.org, where you can find the full history of the Hugo Awards as well as the names of past finalists and winners, information about the voting process, a gallery of past trophy designs, and more. The DisCon III website contains more information about the Hugo Awards for members who may not be familiar with them.

DisCon III members will be entitled to nominate for the 2022 Hugo Awards, the Lodestar Award for Best Young Adult Book and the Astounding Award for Best New Writer, all of which will be administered by Chicon 8, the 2022 Worldcon. Nominations for the 2022 Awards will open in January 2022.

How to Vote

The Hugo Awards use an instant runoff ballot. To vote, mark your choices in each category in order of preference: “1” for first place, “2” for second place, and so on. You are not required to rank all the finalists in any category, and we recommend that you not vote in any category where you are not familiar with a majority of the finalists. If you decide not to vote in a given category, leave it blank. Note that “No Award” is not an abstention; it means that none of the finalists should be given the award in question.

When the ballots are counted, all the first place votes will be tabulated. If no finalist receives more than half the votes, the finalist with the fewest first-place votes is eliminated and its votes are transferred to the finalists marked “2” on those ballots. This process of elimination continues until one finalist receives more than half the votes, at which point it becomes the winner (unless the votes are outnumbered by “No Award” votes under specific conditions described in Section 3.11 of the WSFS Constitution).

Please note that second and further preferences play no part in the vote unless and until your first choice is eliminated. This is not a point system where the second choices of many voters can overwhelm the first choice of a few voters. We suggest that after marking your first choice, you proceed by imagining that it has disappeared from the ballot, and placing your “2” by the remaining finalist you most prefer, and so on. This mimics the way the ballots are actually counted. Thus, even if your heart is set on one finalist, don't hesitate to give “2” (and other rankings) to other finalists you also consider worthy of the award.

Choose all your preferences carefully! If your top choices are eliminated early, your lower preferences could be the tiebreaker between the remaining finalists. No matter how much you dislike a finalist, if you rank it, the vote will be counted if all of your previous choices are eliminated.
Voting Ballot
2021 Hugo Award, Lodestar Award for Best Young Adult Book, and Astounding Award for Best New Writer

This Ballot must be received by Thursday November 19, 2021, 11:59 PM PST
(Friday August 1 2021, 2:59 AM EST, 7:59 AM GMT and 7:59 PM NZST)

How to Vote
To vote online, visit the members area on the DisCon III website and login. Your ballot will be available under “My Memberships and Ballots”. If you need assistance, contact hugohelp@discon3.org.

To vote by postal mail, fill this form and send it to Hugo Award Ballots, c/o Linda Deneroff, 11300 1st Avenue NE, #313, Seattle, WA 98125-6041, USA. Please mail your ballot in a secure envelope and do not staple it. Ballots must be received before the deadline. The postmark date does not count.

Eligibility to Vote
You may vote for the 2021 Hugo Awards, Lodestar Award for Best Young Adult Book and Astounding Award for Best New Writer if you are an Attending, Young Adult, Supporting or Virtual member of DisCon III. Please complete the section below to confirm your eligibility, and do not forget to sign the ballot. If you are not already a member of DisCon III, please visit discon3.org/join to purchase your membership.

Name

Address

City ___________________ State/Province ___________________

Zip Code/Post Code _______________ Country ___________________

Email __________________________

Telephone _______________________

I am a member of DisCon III, and I am eligible to vote. My membership number is ____________

Signature: ____________________________________________

(Ballot is invalid without a signature and will not be counted.)
Hugo Award Ballot 2021

1,249 valid nominating ballots were received; 1,246 were electronic and 3 paper

Best Novel (1093 ballots)
___ Black Sun, Rebecca Roanhorse (Gallery / Saga Press / Solaris)
___ The City We Became, N.K. Jemisin (Orbit)
___ Harrow the Ninth, Tamsyn Muir (Tor.com)
___ Network Effect, Martha Wells (Tor.com)
___ Piranesi, Susanna Clarke (Bloomsbury)
___ The Relentless Moon, Mary Robinette Kowal (Tor Books / Solaris)
___ No Award

Best Novella (778 ballots)
___ Come Tumbling Down, Seanan McGuire (Tor.com)
___ The Empress of Salt and Fortune, Nghi Vo (Tor.com)
___ Finna, Nino Cipri (Tor.com)
___ Ring Shout, P. Djèlí Clark (Tor.com)
___ Riot Baby, Tochi Onyebuchi (Tor.com)
___ Upright Women Wanted, Sarah Gailey (Tor.com)
___ No Award

Best Novelette (465 ballots)
___ “Burn, or the Episodic Life of Sam Wells as a Super”, A.T. Greenblatt (Uncanny Magazine, May/June 2020)
___ “Helicopter Story”, Isabel Fall (Clarkesworld, January 2020)
___ “The Inaccessibility of Heaven”, Aliette de Bodard (Uncanny Magazine, July/August 2020)
___ “Monster”, Naomi Kritzer (Clarkesworld, January 2020)
___ “The Pill”, Meg Elison (from Big Girl (PM Press))
___ Two Truths and a Lie, Sarah Pinsker (Tor.com)
___ No Award

Best Short Story (586 ballots)
___ “Badass Moms in the Zombie Apocalypse”, Rae Carson (Uncanny Magazine, January/February 2020)
___ Little Free Library, Naomi Kritzer (Tor.com)
___ “The Mermaid Astronaut”, Yoon Ha Lee (Beneath Ceaseless Skies, February 2020)
___ “Metal Like Blood in the Dark”, T. Kingfisher (Uncanny Magazine, September/October 2020)
___ “Open House on Haunted Hill”, John Wiswell (Diabolical Plots - 2020, ed. David Steffen)
___ No Award

Best Series (727 ballots)
___ The Daevabad Trilogy, S.A. Chakraborty (Harper Voyager)
___ The Interdependency, John Scalzi (Tor Books)
___ The Lady Astronaut Universe, Mary Robinette Kowal (Tor Books/Audible/Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction/Solaris)
___ The Murderbot Diaries, Martha Wells (Tor.com)
___ October Daye, Seanan McGuire (DAW)
___ The Poppy War, R.F. Kuang (Harper Voyager)
___ No Award

Best Related Work (456 ballots)
___ Beowulf: A New Translation, Maria Dahvana Headley (FSG)
___ CoNZealand Fringe, Claire Rousseau, C, Cassie Hart, Adry Joy, Marguerite Kenner, Cheryl Morgan, Alasdair Stuart
___ FIYAHCON, L.D. Lewis—Director, Brent Lambert—Senior Programming Coordinator, Iori Kusano—FIYAHCON Fringe Co-Director, Vida Cruz—FIYAHCON Fringe Co-Director, and the Incredible FIYAHCON team
___ “George R.R. Martin Can Fuck Off Into the Sun, Or: The 2020 Hugo Awards Ceremony (Rageblog Edition)”, Natalie Luhrs (Pretty Terrible, August 2020)
___ The Last Bronycon: a fandom autopsy, Jenny Nicholson (YouTube)
___ No Award

Best Editor – Long Form (310 ballots)
___ Nivia Evans
___ Sheila E. Gilbert
___ Sarah Guan
___ Brit Hvide
___ Diana M. Pho
___ Navah Wolfe
___ No Award

Best Editor – Short Form (370 ballots)
___ Neil Clarke
___ Ellen Datlow
___ C.C. Finlay
___ Mur Lafferty and S.B. Divya
___ Jonathan Strahan
___ Sheila Williams
___ No Award
Best Dramatic Presentation – Long Form (574 ballots)

___ Birds of Prey (and the Fantabulous Emancipation of One Harley Quinn), written by Christina Hodson, directed by Cathy Yan (Warner Bros.)
___ Eurovision Song Contest: The Story of Fire Saga, written by Will Ferrell, Andrew Steele, directed by David Dobkin (European Broadcasting Union/Netflix)
___ The Old Guard, written by Greg Rucka, directed by Gina Prince-Bythewood (Netflix / Skydance Media)
___ Palm Springs, written by Andy Siara, directed by Max Barbakow (Limelight / Sun Entertainment Culture / The Lonely Island / Culmination Productions / Neon / Hulu / Amazon Prime)
___ Soul, screenplay by Pete Docter, Mike Jones and Kemp Powers, directed by Pete Docter, co-directed by Kemp Powers, produced by Dana Murray (Pixar Animation Studios / Walt Disney Pictures)
___ Tenet, written and directed by Christopher Nolan (Warner Bros./Syncopy)
___ No Award

Best Dramatic Presentation – Short Form (454 ballots)

___ Doctor Who: Fugitive of the Judoon, written by Vinay Patel and Chris Chibnall, directed by Nida Manzoor (BBC)
___ The Expanse: Gaugamela, written by Dan Nowak, directed by Nick Gomez (Alcon Entertainment / Alcon Television Group / Amazon Studios / Hivemind / Just So)
___ She-Ra and the Princesses of Power: Heart (parts 1 and 2), written by Josie Campbell and Noelle Stevenson, directed by Jen Bennett and Kiki Manrique (DreamWorks Animation Television / Netflix)
___ The Mandalorian: Chapter 13: The Jedi, written and directed by Dave Filoni (Golem Creations / Lucasfilm / Disney+)
___ The Mandalorian: Chapter 16: The Rescue, written by Jon Favreau, directed by Peyton Reed (Golem Creations / Lucasfilm / Disney+)
___ The Good Place: Whenever You’re Ready, written and directed by Michael Schur (Fremulon / 3 Arts Entertainment / Universal Television, a division of Universal Studio Group)
___ No Award

Best Professional Artist (331 ballots)

___ Tommy Arnold
___ Rovina Cai
___ Galen Dara
___ Maurizio Manzieri
___ John Picacio
___ Alyssa Winans
___ No Award

Best Semiprozine (331 ballots)

___ Beneath Ceaseless Skies, ed. Scott H. Andrews
___ Escape Pod, editors Mur Lafferty and S.B. Divya, assistant editor Benjamin C. Kinney, hosts Tina Connolly and Alasdair Stuart, audio producers Summer Brooks and Adam Pracht and the entire Escape Pod team.
___ FIYAH Magazine of Black Speculative Fiction, publisher Troy L. Wiggins, executive editor DaVaan Sanders, managing editor Eboni Dunbar, poetry editor Brandon O’Brien, reviews and social media Brent Lambert, art director L. D. Lewis, and the FIYAH Team.
___ PodCastle, editors, C.L. Clark and Jen R. Albert, assistant editor and host, Setsu Uzumé, producer Peter Adrian Behravesh, and the entire PodCastle team.
___ Uncanny Magazine, editors in chief: Lynne M. Thomas and Michael Damian Thomas, managing editor: Chimedum Ohaegbu, non-fiction editor: Elsa Sjunneson, podcast producers: Erika Ensign and Steven Schapansky
___ No Award
Best Graphic Story or Comic (303 ballots)
- **DIE, Volume 2: Split the Party**, written by Kieron Gillen and Stephanie Hans, letters by Clayton Cowles (Image Comics)
- **Ghost-Spider vol. 1: Dog Days Are Over**, Author: Seanan McGuire, Artist: Takeshi Miyazawa and Rosi Kämpe (Marvel)
- **Invisible Kingdom, vol. 2: Edge of Everything**, Author: G. Willow Wilson, Artist: Christian Ward (Dark Horse Comics)
- **Monstress, vol. 5: Warchild**, Author: Marjorie Liu, Artist: Sana Takeda (Image Comics)
- **Once & Future vol. 1: The King Is Undead**, written by Kieron Gillen, illustrated by Dan Mora, colored by Tamra Bonvillain, lettered by Ed Dukeshire (BOOM! Studios)
- **Parable of the Sower: A Graphic Novel Adaptation**, written by Octavia Butler, adapted by Damian Duffy, illustrated by John Jennings (Harry N. Abrams)
- No Award

Best Fanzine (271 ballots)
- **The Full Lid**, written by Alasdair Stuart, edited by Marguerite Kenner
- **Lady Business**
- **Quick Sip Reviews**, editor, Charles Payseur
- **Unofficial Hugo Book Club Blog**, ed. Amanda Wakaruk and Olav Rokne
- No Award

Best Fancast (376 ballots)
- **Be The Serpent**, presented by Alexandra Rowland, Freya Marske and Jennifer Mace
- **Claire Rousseau’s YouTube channel**, produced by Claire Rousseau
- **The Coode Street Podcast**, presented by Jonathan Strahan and Gary K. Wolfe, Jonathan Strahan, producer
- **Kalanadi**, produced and presented by Rachel
- **The Skiffy and Fanty show**, produced by Shaun Duke and Jen Zink, presented by Shaun Duke, Jen Zink, Alex Acks, Paul Weimer, and David Annandale.
- **Worldbuilding for Masochists**, presented by Rowenna Miller, Marshall Ryan Maresca and Cass Morris
- No Award

Best Fan Writer (365 ballots)
- Cora Buhlert
- Charles Payseur
- Jason Sanford
- Elsa Sjunneson
- Alasdair Stuart
- Paul Weimer
- No Award

Best Fan Artist (221 ballots)
- Iain J. Clark
- Cyan Daly
- Sara Felix
- Grace P. Fong
- Maya Hahto
- Laya Rose
- No Award

Best Video Game (341 ballots)
- **Animal Crossing: New Horizons** (Publisher and Developer: Nintendo)
- **Blaseball** (Publisher and Developer: The Game Band)
- **Final Fantasy VII Remake** (Publisher: Square Enix)
- **Hades** (Publisher and Developer: Supergiant Games)
- **The Last of Us: Part II** (Publisher: Sony Interactive Entertainment / Developer: Naughty Dog)
- **Spiritfarer** (Publisher and Developer: Thunder Lotus)
- No Award

Lodestar Award for Best Young Adult Book 507 ballots)
- **Cemetery Boys**, Aiden Thomas (Swoon Reads)
- **A Deadly Education**, Naomi Novik (Del Rey)
- **Elatsoe**, Darcie Little Badger (Levine Querido)
- **Legendborn**, Tracy Deonn (Margaret K. McElderry/ Simon & Schuster Children’s Publishing)
- **Raybearer**, Jordan Ifueko (Amulet / Hot Key)
- **A Wizard’s Guide to Defensive Baking**, T. Kingfisher (Argyll Productions)
- No Award

Astounding Award for Best New Writer (422 ballots)
Award for the best new professional science fiction or fantasy writer of 2019 or 2020, sponsored by Dell Magazines (not a Hugo Award)
- Lindsay Ellis (1st year of eligibility)
- Simon Jimenez (1st year of eligibility)
- Micaiah Johnson (1st year of eligibility)
- A.K. Larkwood (1st year of eligibility)
- Jenn Lyons (2nd year of eligibility)
- Emily Tesh (2nd year of eligibility)
- No Award