

Sci-Fi Universe: A Symphony of Diverse Imagination

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Contemporary science fiction literature resonates with the pulse of our times and the grand themes of humanity's destiny. It delves deeply into critical issues such as nuclear warfare, artificial intelligence, energy crises and societal dilemmas, using the mirror of science fiction to reflect real-world anxieties and possible futures. These narratives combine profound realism with philosophical insights, driving the flourishing diversity and innovation of Chinese sci-fi literature.

Haiya

Born as He Xi in 1990, Haiya is a Hugo Award winner, a member of the Shenzhen Writers Association, and a prominent young sci-fi writer who also works in finance. Writing science fiction in his spare time, he won the Hugo Award for Best Novelette at the 81st World Science Fiction Convention in 2023 for his work *The Space-Time Painter* (《时空画师》). His notable works include the novella *The Space-Time Painter* and the short story collection *Haiya's Strange Tales* (《海涯怪奇故事集》). Haiya has a passion for alternate history—where historical events are reimagined with new variables—and monster-themed narratives. He reconstructs and analyzes stories behind specific historical timelines without altering factual history, thus emphasizing the grandeur of historical events and the insignificance of individual figures, creating a documentary-like sense of realism and wonder.



He began his career in 2016, with works published in *Galaxy's Edge* and *Science Fiction World*. Before winning the Hugo Award, he received a second prize for a novella at the Lenghu Sci-Fi Writing Competition and was nominated for the Galaxy Award for Best Short Story. Readers appreciate his unique sci-fi ideas and profound thematic explorations. His success lies not only in literary merit but also in his ability to blend the rigor of financial analysis with imaginative storytelling, crafting a distinctive literary style.

After winning the award, Haiya maintained a calm and rational mindset, stating that he would not quit his financial job. He wished to balance work with creative writing and expressed a desire to maintain a steady pace in life while further exploring and contributing to the field of science fiction.

Gu Shi

Born in 1985, Gu Shi is a sci-fi writer, senior urban planner, and member of the China Writers Association. Her representative works include the short story collections *Overture 2181* (《2181 序曲》) and *Möbius Continuum* (《莫比乌斯时空》). She has received numerous prestigious awards, including the Galaxy Award, the Chinese Nebula Award, the Sci-Fi Planet Literary Award, and the Million Fishing City Sci-Fi Award. Her novella *Chimera* (《嵌合体》) won the Gold Award for Best Novella at the 7th Chinese Nebula Awards in 2016. *Möbius Continuum* won the Best Short Story Award at the 28th Galaxy Awards in 2017. *Brain Story* (《赌脑》) won the Best Novella Award at the 30th Galaxy Awards in 2019 and the Silver Award



for Best Novella at the 10th Chinese Nebula Awards. The preface to the reprint of *Overture 2181* won the Gold Award for Best Short Story at the 12th Global Chinese Nebula Awards. Many of her works have been translated into English, Italian, German, Spanish, Japanese, Korean and Russian.

In 2024, Gu Shi published a new speculative fiction collection of *Overture 2181*. Through a unique perspective and meticulous narrative style, the collection explores themes such as moral dilemmas in AI disaster rescue, survival challenges during human hibernation, and love that transcends gender between deities and monsters. These stories are bold projections of possible futures and offer profound insights into issues such as urban development, gender differences, climate change and population aging.

Jia Yu published her first sci-fi novel, *Temporal Labyrinth* (《时空迷阵》), in 2018, followed by works such as *Furong Blossoms* (《芙蓉花开》), *Phantom Sea* (《幻海》), *Genius Reformed* (《改造天才》), and *Dragon Gate Banter*, which have received acclaim and awards. Recently, she released a geology-themed sci-fi collection, *The Secrets of the Stellar Core* (《星核密语》).

Jia Yu

Born in 1984, Jia Yu is a member of the China Writers Association, Vice Chairman of the China Geological Writers Association, and a contracted author with Bajin College of Chinese Language and Literature in Sichuan. In March 2023, her short story *Dragon Gate Banter* (《龙门阵》) won the Best Short Story Award at the 33rd Galaxy Awards, China's highest honor in science fiction. In October 2023, she won the Best Newcomer Award and Best Children's Sci-Fi Short Story Award at the 34th Galaxy Awards.

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At the 34th Galaxy Awards, the jury praised Jia Yu's works for "perfectly blending scientific spirit with artistic creativity while incorporating Chinese culture into futuristic fantasies, and her stories focus on societal warmth, reality, and humanity, crafting sci-fi narratives with both depth and emotional resonance".

Tan Gang won the Lenghu Sci-Fi Literature Award in 2019 by *Rainbow Rain* (《虹雨》). His novella *Reflection in the Desert* (《黄沙倒影》) won the Best Novella Award at the inaugural Dunhuang Sci-Fi Writing Competition in 2021. In 2024, he was awarded the Best Newcomer Award at the 35th Galaxy Awards.

Tan Gang

Born in 1995, Tan Gang won the Lenghu Sci-Fi Literature Award in 2019 by *Rainbow Rain* (《虹雨》). His novella *Reflection in the Desert* (《黄沙倒影》) won the Best Novella Award at the inaugural Dunhuang Sci-Fi Writing Competition in 2021. In 2024, he was awarded the Best Newcomer Award at the 35th Galaxy Awards.



The jury at the 35th Galaxy Awards commented: "Since debuting in 2016 with the novel *Three-Day Moon* (《三日月》), Tan Gang quickly stood out in the sci-fi literary scene for his rich imagination and unique creative style. His characters often embody admirable idealism and devotion, with their moving sacrifices and steadfast watchfulness striking a deep emotional chord with readers. His works often focus on meticulous details, building realistic fantasy worlds vividly that read like chronicles of future landscapes".

Three-Day Moon, which won the Best Long-Form Sci-Fi Novel Award at the 2nd Morning Star Cup Chinese Sci-Fi Competition, explores topics such as nuclear warfare, energy depletion and artificial intelligence, depicting humanity's brutal struggle against a spiritual network known as "Rafael Garofalo".

Xia Sang

Born in 1991, Xia Sang is a young sci-fi writer and experienced sci-fi editor. His works include sci-fi novel *Orpheus' Marathon* (《跑去她的世界》) (ranked No. 10 on Douban's 2024 Sci-Fi and Fantasy Books list) and the short story collection *Lunar Mare Radio* (《月海电台》). His other works have appeared in platforms such as *New Sci-Fi* (《新科幻》), *The Novoland Fantasy* (《九州志》), *Literary News* (《文艺报》), and *Kedo Website* (《蝌蚪五线谱》). He has received awards such as the Light Year Award and the Fishing City Sci-Fi Award. Xia Sang's sci-fi narratives are filled with everyday warmth while seemingly granted wings to reach beyond the limits of realism. *Orpheus' Marathon* portrays a protagonist's journey of self-destruction and self-redemption, confronting the mental exhaustion imposed by a performance-driven society and offering a philosophical reflection on life. *Lunar Mare Radio* selectively collects 12 sci-fi and fantasy stories written by Xia Sang over the past decade. His works are characterized by intricate emotions, immersive atmospheres, and thoughtful explorations, blending the psychological struggles of modern individuals with technological fantasies. His works convey the author's reflections on the pursuit of emotions, aesthetics, and self-awareness.

As a professional sci-fi editor with a decade of experience, Xia Sang focuses on discovering and publishing outstanding sci-fi works. Several novels edited by him are now being adapted for film and television, including *Secrets of Lost Town* (《小镇奇谈》), which is being adapted into a live-action film by renowned director Chen Sicheng. The animated series *Seven States of Galaxy Saga* (《七国银河》) is set to launch soon, while the live-action series adapted from *The Wanderers* (《火星孤儿》) has been completed and awaits release. Additionally, *The Unshakable Mountain* (《不动天坠山》) is being developed into an animated series by a top domestic 2D animation team, and *Closed Loop* (《闭环》), produced by Liu Cixin, is being adapted into a theatrical film.

