

## Hieroglyph: Stories and Visions for a Better Future

By Ed Finn, Kathryn Cramer




**Hieroglyph: Stories and Visions for a Better Future** By Ed Finn, Kathryn Cramer


Inspired by *New York Times* bestselling author Neal Stephenson, an anthology of stories, set in the near future, from some of today’s leading writers, thinkers, and visionaries that reignites the iconic and optimistic visions of the golden age of science fiction.

In his 2011 article “Innovation Starvation,” Neal Stephenson argued that we—the society whose earlier scientists and engineers witnessed the airplane, the automobile, nuclear energy, the computer, and space exploration—must reignite our ambitions to think boldly and do Big Stuff. He also advanced the Hieroglyph Theory which illuminates the power of science fiction to inspire the inventive imagination: “Good SF supplies a plausible, fully thought-out picture of an alternate reality in which some sort of compelling innovation has taken place.”

In 2012, Arizona State University established the Center for Science and the Imagination to bring together writers, artists, and creative thinkers with scientists, engineers, and technologists to cultivate and expand on “moon shot ideas” that inspire the imagination and catalyze real-world innovations.

Now comes this remarkable anthology uniting twenty of today’s leading thinkers, writers, and visionaries—among them Cory Doctorow, Gregory Benford, Elizabeth Bear, Bruce Sterling, and Neal Stephenson—to contribute works of “techno-optimism” that challenge us to dream and do Big Stuff. Engaging, mind-bending, provocative, and imaginative, *Hieroglyph* offers a forward-thinking approach to the intersection of art and technology that has the power to change our world.

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

“This collection could be the shot in the arm our imaginations need. It’s an important book, and not just for the fiction.” (Wall Street Journal)

“[A]group of visionaries have banded together to offer stories that are more utopian, which they hope will contribute to a more positive future.... ..The stories still offer plenty of drama, death and destruction, but many have a sort of happy ending.” (New York Times)

“...Thought-provoking and fun.” (Pacific Standard magazine)

“This new anthology justly deserves to be ranked alongside the very best collections published within science fiction: Terry Carr’s *Universe*, Damon Knight’s *Orbit*, or Robert Silverberg’s *New Dimensions*.” (LA Review of Books)

#### From the Back Cover

Born of an initiative at the Center for Science and the Imagination at Arizona State University, this remarkable collection unites a diverse group of celebrated authors, prominent scientists, and creative visionaries who contributed works of "techno-optimism" that challenge us to imagine fully, think broadly, and do Big Stuff.

Inside this volume you will find a rich blend of science fiction stories, nonfiction essays, and illustrations. Engaging, mind-bending, provocative, and imaginative, *Hieroglyph: Stories and Visions for a Better Future* is a manifesto and a blueprint that sounds a clarion call to people everywhere to reclaim our future from grieving over what was and celebrate all that can be achieved.

#### Contributors include:

Charlie Jane Anders  
Madeline Ashby  
Elizabeth Bear  
Gregory Benford  
David Brin  
James L. Cambias  
Brenda Cooper  
Paul Davies  
Cory Doctorow  
Kathleen Ann Goonan  
Lee Konstantinou  
Lawrence M. Krauss  
Geoffrey A. Landis  
Annalee Newitz  
Rudy Rucker  
Karl Schroeder

Vandana Singh  
Neal Stephenson  
Bruce Sterling

#### About the Author

Ed Finn is the founding director of the Center for Science and the Imagination at Arizona State University, where he is an assistant professor with a joint appointment in the School of Arts, Media and Engineering and the Department of English. He earned his B.A. at Princeton University and his M.A. and Ph.D. at Stanford University. He has worked as a journalist at *Time*, *Slate*, and *Popular Science*. He lives in Arizona.

Kathryn Cramer is a writer, critic, and anthologist, and was co-editor of the Year's Best Fantasy and Year's Best SF series. She has co-edited approximately 30 anthologies. She was a founding editor of The New York Review of Science Fiction, and has a large number of Hugo nominations in the Semiprozine category to show for it. She won a World Fantasy Award for her anthology *The Architecture of Fear*. Kathryn grew up in Seattle. She holds a B.A. in Mathematics and a masters degree in American Studies, both from Columbia University in New York. Recently, she has been a consultant for Wolfram Research, L. W. Currey, an antiquarian bookseller, and for ASU's Center for Science and the Imagination. She currently lives in Westport, New York in the Adirondack Park.

#### Users Review

##### From reader reviews:

##### Andrew Meadows:

Now a day individuals who Living in the era exactly where everything reachable by interact with the internet and the resources within it can be true or not require people to be aware of each details they get. How many people to be smart in obtaining any information nowadays? Of course the solution is reading a book. Looking at a book can help persons out of this uncertainty Information particularly this Hieroglyph: Stories and Visions for a Better Future book because this book offers you rich data and knowledge. Of course the info in this book hundred pct guarantees there is no doubt in it as you know.

##### Linda Henderson:

Nowadays reading books are more than want or need but also work as a life style. This reading practice give you lot of advantages. Advantages you got of course the knowledge the particular information inside the book that will improve your knowledge and information. The knowledge you get based on what kind of e-book you read, if you want attract knowledge just go with schooling books but if you want really feel happy read one using theme for entertaining such as comic or novel. Typically the Hieroglyph: Stories and Visions for a Better Future is kind of reserve which is giving the reader unstable experience.

##### Nicolas Jones:

Are you kind of occupied person, only have 10 or perhaps 15 minute in your time to upgrading your mind ability or thinking skill possibly analytical thinking? Then you are having problem with the book as

compared to can satisfy your small amount of time to read it because this all time you only find guide that need more time to be study. Hieroglyph: Stories and Visions for a Better Future can be your answer as it can be read by you who have those short spare time problems.

**Tessa Krieger:**

Is it you actually who having spare time and then spend it whole day by means of watching television programs or just lying down on the bed? Do you need something new? This Hieroglyph: Stories and Visions for a Better Future can be the solution, oh how comes? It's a book you know. You are thus out of date, spending your extra time by reading in this brand-new era is common not a nerd activity. So what these ebooks have than the others?

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