

FUTURE LOVECRAFT

edited by

Silvia Moreno-Garcia and Paula R. Stiles



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INTRODUCTION: THE FUTURE IS LOVECRAFT

H.P. LOVECRAFT IS not generally considered a writer of science fiction, even though he had a personal interest in the sciences (astronomy, of course) and wrote stories that were rooted in science, even if they frequently had a horror bent (“The Colour Out of Space” is a memorable example). In his stories, Lovecraft explored scientific concepts like evolution, alien invasion and genetic engineering. His aliens were truly alien, not funny-looking people, and had no interest in humans—except, perhaps, to eat us. For that reason, his realistic view of the tiny human position in the cosmos, and his espousal of a very long view of human history, he has had as large an influence on science fiction as on horror. Thus, it seemed to us an excellent idea to develop a whole science fiction/horror anthology, and set all the stories and poems in the future.

The entries included here vary quite a bit. We do have Mythos-inspired fiction—including guest appearances by Nyarlathotep, Azathoth and others. However, our concern is not merely Mythos fiction but Lovecraftian fiction in general. We could go on for pages and pages about what ‘Lovecraftian’ means to us, but in the end, we think the stories can answer that best.

Thus, there are tales questioning reality, undermining protagonists’ sanity, or dwelling on the hopelessness of the characters. There are post-apocalyptic fables and stories in the near future. Space opera and tales set on Earth. Poems

and epics told by aliens. Stories where sinister entities slip into our world.
Stories where humans slip into other worlds. Tales of chaos and destruction.

Welcome to the future: It is Lovecraft.

—Silvia Moreno-Garcia and Paula R. Stiles