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*SFRA Review*  
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Dear Reviewer,

Thank you for offering to review a book for *SFRA Review*. Here are our guidelines for fiction reviews. I hope you find them helpful rather than restrictive. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Shelley Rodrigo Blanchard, Co-editor

Please head your review with the book's title. Under the book's title put your name as you would like it to appear (no titles, please).

Below your name place the bibliographic information, including author, title, city of publication, publisher, year, page length, binding, price, and ISBN number.

**Example:**

Sargent, Pamela. *Climb the Wind*. New York: HarperPrism, 1999. 436 pages, cloth, \$25.00. ISBN 0-06-105029-6.

**Content:**

The *Review's* guidelines for fiction review writers are an extension of the SFRA's mission and a way to address the needs of the *Review's* audience. Reviewers should keep in mind that the Science Fiction Research Association exists to encourage scholarship and further excellence in education, and therefore reviewers should base their evaluations upon those concerns. Thus, while aesthetic questions are important, they are secondary to appraisals of the work's scholarly and academic promise. The review will be returned to the reviewer for revision if the following have not been addressed:

1. *A description of the book*. While the review certainly could include a brief synopsis of the plot, it is more important that it provide a description of what the book is about. This means identifying what subgenre(s) the work touches on. Is it a time travel story? Alternate history? Space opera? Military SF? All of these? Keep in mind that you are trying to help scholars and academics determine whether the book fits within a given class or research program.
2. *Contextualization of the book*. In addition to describing the book, the review should locate the book within the context of the works of the author, within any subgenres from which the work borrows, or the SF tradition. The goal of such contextualization should be to explore the relationships between the texts at hand and other works with which it might be compared or contrasted in a scholarly or academic approach. Does it address gender issues in ways reminiscent of *The Left Hand of Darkness*? Is it an homage to Wells's *War of the Worlds*? Does it explore issues that the author has examined in earlier works?
3. *Assessment of the book's scholarly and academic potential*. The review should provide some ideas about the kinds of scholarly or academic approaches that might offer the most fruitful vantage points from which the work can be viewed. Does the book raise interesting issues? Offer intriguing insight?

**Length:**

Reviews should be between 500 and 1000 words, unless there is a compelling reason for a shorter or longer essay. The editors reserve the right to edit the review for length or content, but no substantial changes will be made without the author's approval.

**Deadline:**

*SFRA Review* publishes six times a year, in February, April, June, August, October, and December. Due dates for copy are thus January 1, March 1, May 1, July 1, September 1, and November 1. Reviewers should aim to have their review published in two issues from receipt of the book. So if you receive a book in February you should submit your review by May 1 for the June issue.

**Submission:**

If possible, reviews should be submitted as word processing files sent as attachments to the editorial e-mail address: <shelley.rb@asu.edu>. The *Review* works in Microsoft Word 97, which is capable of opening most word processing formats. If electronic submission creates a problem, please send two double-spaced hardcopies (or a computer disk—IBM format) to the address above.