

**365 tomorrows** – Issue October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010

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Editor: Collaborative Editing

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Web Address: <http://www.365tomorrows.com/>

What They Publish: Science Fiction, Speculative Fiction and most subgenres (Cyberpunk, Hard Sci-Fi, etc).

Submission Guidelines: All stories must be 600 words or less, pasted into a submission manager on the website.

Description of Publication: 365 tomorrows publishes one piece of concise, gripping flash science fiction every day. The majority of the stories come from submissions but there is a handful of staff writers that regularly contribute to the site, with an average of one staff publication a week.

Prose per issue/ Amount Published Annually: One story published every day, 365 times a year.

Prose Review:

*Say Hello To My Little Friend* by Patricia Stewart (October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010) is a plainspoken science fiction story in a domestic setting. White trash yokel Cledus is surprised to discover that the appearance of a shiny suited alien on his couch *isn't* an apparition caused by his endless consumption of cheap beer. He agrees to help the small being pull his spaceship from a nearby marsh but fears he is crushed when his wide-hipped wife Thelma sits on the couch and is relieved to find that the alien had cloaked itself and ran outside. She returns to the kitchen after Cledus berates her and sees the family dogs fighting over a torn and ravaged animal wrapped in tin foil that she presumes is the neighbor's dinner, stolen from a grill.

The stereotypical characters and humorous setting give this story a fun and lively feel, a perfect piece of light reading that will make you smile and reflect upon the savagery of human life at the same time. Cledus and Thelma are standard hillbillies that watch Nascar and use words like "git" and "fixin'to". It is a soft science fiction story, light on technicality and heavy on blending the fantastic element of a tiny spaceman with the mundane, dirty world of the American yokel.

*After The Fall* by Glenn Blakeslee is a plainspoken speculative fiction story in a post-apocalyptic setting. Carlos wanders through a barren landscape well after an unnamed event has turned the world into a survival-of-the-fittest wasteland. After siphoning gas from the dead husks of cars on the highway and traveling far north, he discovers a cabin with a small fish pond and settles in, quickly becoming attached to the comfort and safety of his environment. Sometime later he is surprised by a father and son hungrily observing his pet fish, so he kills them both and hides their bodies in the woods, then returns to his routine as if nothing had happened.

The bleak environments and overwhelmingly negative mood is well presented with simple, direct sentences, especially when Carlos is traveling. “There were cars along the way, some with dead people still in their seats and some not, and he took gas where he found it.” The story is spare and well written, dispensing with flowery descriptions and instead portraying the environment and Carlos’ thoughts with the emaciated sensibilities of a life spent foraging for food, chasing fresh water and hiding for safety.

Rating: 8. 365 tomorrows offers a fairly unique view on the literary magazine concept, publishing one story a day. This allows for a constant stream of contributors that run the entire range between experienced and emerging in their careers.