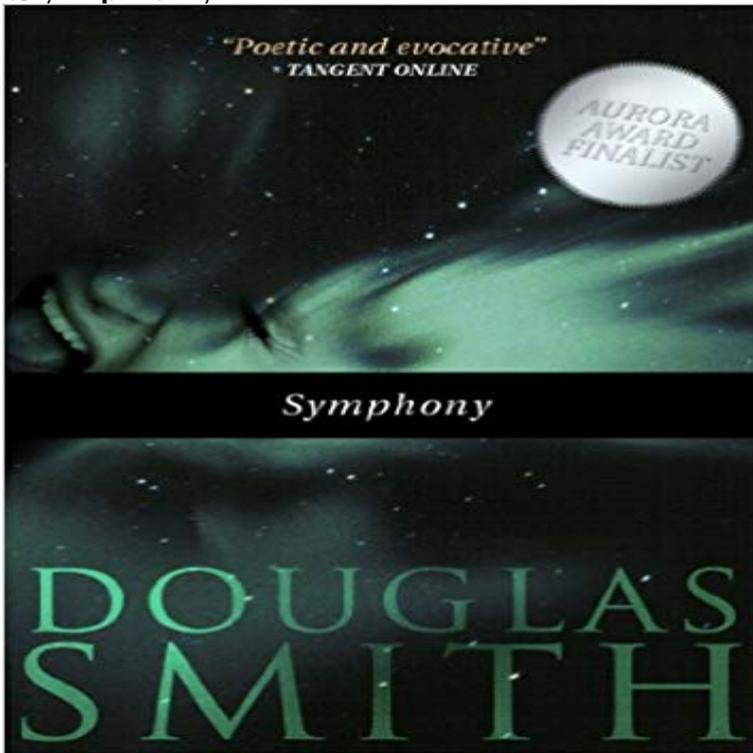


Symphony



Aurora Award Finalist story from a multi-award winning author. Doug Smith is, quite simply, the finest short-story writer Canada has ever produced in the science fiction and fantasy genres, and hes also the most prolific. His stories are a treasure trove of riches that will touch your heart while making you think. Robert J. Sawyer, Hugo Award-winning author of *Hominids* and *FlashForward* A great storyteller with a gifted and individual voice. Charles de Lint One of Canadas most original writers of speculative fiction.

Library Journal DESCRIPTION: The colony ship, *The Last Chance*, has fled a plague-poisoned Earth with the remnants of the human race. Launched before completion of its biosphere, the ship is only partly self-sustaining. Humanity has to find a new home and time is running out. It isnt called *The Last Chance* for nothing. W

When they find the planet, it seems a dream come true. Earth-like, breathable atmosphere, unpopulated. They name it *Aurora*, for the beauty that dances in its skies. At least, it had seemed beautiful at the time. Now they arent so sure. Now people are dying. Gar Franck is the ships communication expert. When signs point to a non-human intelligence on the planet, Gar becomes the key to communicating with it. But how can he communicate with an alien being when he cant even talk to his autistic son, Anton, or his increasingly distant wife, Clara? REVIEWS: There are two stories in *Symphony*...both converge in a spectacular, explosive finale. Smiths prose is poetic and evocative. He creates an intricate fabric of light, color, and sound with effortless flair [via] the storys fluid style and the abundance of complex, wrenching emotions. Tangent Online A strong SF-nal story about a sentient light symphony that objects to humans colonizing its planet. How would you communicate with such and how would it react to a baby who lacks all human

baggage are some of the issues addressed here. (A+) Fantasy Book Critic ...a moving story in which Douglas Smith showcases his talent for mirroring the epic struggles of humanity in the reflecting pool of intimate, personal experience. Rainbow Dragon Recommends ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Doug is an award-winning author of speculative fiction, with over a million words of fiction sold and over a hundred short story sales to professional markets in thirty countries and two dozen languages. He has published three short story collections: Chimerascope (ChiZine Publications, Canada, 2010), Impossibilia, (PS Publishing, UK, 2008), and just recently, La Danse des Esprits (Dreampress, France, 2011). Doug has twice won Canadas Aurora Award for speculative fiction, and have been a finalist for the international John W. Campbell Award, the Canadian Broadcast Corporations Bookies Award, and the juried Sunburst Award.

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