

Jacek Dukaj

THE MOST OUTSTANDING WRITER OF FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION IN POLAND
WORTHY SUCCESSOR TO STANISŁAW LEM



Jacek Dukaj (born 1974) is one of Poland's most interesting contemporary prose writers, whose books are always eagerly anticipated events. He is the author of *Black Oceans*, *Extensa*, *Other Songs*, *Perfect Imperfection*, *Xavras Wyzryn and Other National Fictions* and *Ice*, and the brains behind the *PL + 50. Future Histories* anthology. After the huge success of his novel *Ice*, which won the European Literary Award, the prestigious Kościelscy Award and was nominated for the Nike (the most prestigious literary award in Poland), Jacek Dukaj published widely acclaimed grim fairy tale *The Crowe*.

MOST IMPORTANT PRIZES AND DISTINCTIONS

Jerzy Żuławski Literary Award for *The Crowe* (2010)
Mackiewicz Literary Award for *The Crowe* (2010)
PPNW Prize: Autumn Book 2009 for *The Crowe* (2010)
European Literary Award for *Ice* (2009)
Kościelscy Award for *Ice* (2008)
„Polityka” Prize: Book of the Last Two Decades for *Ice* (2008)
Kościelscy Award for *Ice* (2008)
Prize in the Wirtualna Polska (website) public vote: Polish Novel of the Year 2007 for *Ice* (2008)
Śląkfa Prize: Author of the Year 2007 for *Ice* (2008)
Sfinks Prize: Polish novel of the Year 2007 for *Ice* (2008)
PPNW Prize: Autumn Book 2007 for *Ice* (2008)
Zajdel Prize: Novel of the Year 2004 for *Perfect Imperfection* (2005)
PPNW Prize: Autumn Book 2003 for *Other Songs* (2004)
Sfinks Prize: Polish Novel of the Year 2003 for *Other Songs* (2004)
Zajdel Prize: Novel of the Year 2003 for *Other Songs* (2004)
Sfinks Prize: Polish Novel of the Year 2001 for *Black Oceans* (2002)
Zajdel Prize: Novel of the Year 2001 for *Black Oceans* (2002)
Fantom Prize for *In the Land of the Faithless* (2001)
Sfinks Prize: Book of the Year 2000 for *In the Land of the Faithless* (2001)
Śląkfa Prize: Author of the Year 2000 (2001)
Zajdel Prize: Story of the Year 2000 for *Cathedral* (2001)
Srebrny Glob (Silver Globe) Prize: Story of the Year 1998 for *Heart of Darkness* (1999)
Sfinks Prize: Polish Story of the Year 1998 for *Heart of Darkness* (1999)

BOOKS BY THE AUTHOR OFFERED BY WL

Novels

Extensa (2002)
Other Songs (2003)
Perfect Imperfection (2004)
Ice (2007)
The Plunderer's Daughter (2002, reprint 2009)
Black Oceans (2001, reprint 2008)
The Crowe (2009)

Short story collections

Xavras Wyzryn and Other National Fictions (2004, reprint 2009)

In the Land of Unbelievers (2000, reprint 2008)

King of Pain (2010)

Jacek Dukaj

Black Oceans



Publication date: 2010

Pages: 496

Genre: novel (science fiction)

Rights available: World

Keynote

A thinking-man's science-fiction writer who enjoys massive cross-over success in Poland

Sales points

- Jacek Dukaj's much-acclaimed first novel
- A science fiction novel that crosses over to other interest groups
- A dystopic novel in the great tradition of Orwell or Huxley

Description

If the blockbuster success of *Matrix* some years ago proved one thing, it was that audiences are hungry for a dose of intelligent content with their mass entertainment, even in a genre as “fluffy” as science fiction tends to be. In Poland, Jacek Dukaj has been proving just this for many years now, publishing books of philosophical, yet wildly entertaining science fiction to mass excitement and critical acclaim, in the grand tradition of Stanislaw Lem (*Solaris*). *Black Oceans* was Dukaj's first novel, published after he had already built a firm reputation for his short stories. A sprawling, epic dystopia that defies summary, this book shows the bankrupt lives of the financial elite in the United States of 2060, where political correctness has become a strangling oppression, courses are given in ruthlessness, and the economic army protects the market from hostile forces. The characters in the novel are awaiting the Change, which will alter their lives in ways they cannot dream. As such, everything in this book is darkly fantastic and yet disturbingly recognizable, a recipe that made *1984* and *Brave New World* such runaway successes.

In many parts of this novel the hands simply rise and clap by themselves.

Marek Oramus, “Nowa Fantastyka”

Hard to believe that this novel was written by a 27-year-old. At the same age, Lem had yet to write his debut, The Astronauts. One shudders to think what Dukaj will be writing when he's at the age Lem was when he wrote Solaris or Cyberiada.

Wojciech Orłowski, “Gazeta Wyborcza”

Jacek Dukaj successfully shows a non-linear world, where it's not change that's important, but the mathematical derivative of change – the hastening of change. A believable world, packed and saturated with details. A world in which the frequency of appearances of murderous millennial cults and technological changes in telecommunications affect one another.

Janusz A. Urbanowicz, "Esensja"

Target market

Fans of top-shelf science-fiction, and lovers of intricately constructed literature who normally stay far away from the science-fiction shelves.