

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

The Cathedral



Publication date: 2009

Pages: 110

Genre: science fiction

Rights available: World

Keynote

A completely unique and delightful parable without a trace of the literal; it draws in the reader and holds him.

Sales points

- An Oscar-nominated film was made based on *Cathedral*.
- Recalls the best cosmic achievements of Stanisław Lem.
- *Cathedral* received the Janusz A. Zajdel Polish Fandom Award for best short story of the year 2000.

Description

The story of Father Lavone, who sets off on a journey to the unique Nanospore Cathedral in Izmiraida — a beautiful, mysterious and dangerously fascinating building...

Cathedral brilliantly demonstrates that writing a masterpiece requires not only technical virtuosity, but above all, real talent.

While the film version of Cathedral is achieving recognition and world fame, it can be easy to forget that in fact the whole process was driven by the same incomprehensible, joyful, childlike fascination that makes you pursue your insane projects well into the evenings, into the nights, your tongue protruding slightly and your cheeks flushed — and it makes no difference if this is at the easel, over a manuscript, at a computer, at an original electronic constructor, at a drafting table or a completely abstract mathematical model — because the beauty is too great, because it's captured your heart and mind, because you can't fend it off.

Tomek Bagiński, Jacek Dukaj

...it doesn't soothe the watcher, but it is beautiful. It engages not just the sense of sight, but also sets some deeper processes in motion.

Jacek Dukaj, *Cathedral*

Without batting an eye, Jacek Dukaj has done what perhaps no western writer would dare — he starts a theme, extrapolates and describes it, guides his story, sprinkling it with hundreds of comments and inventive projections that astonish the reader with their logic, then extracts what he can from the premises he's set, turns them upside-down, showing the most important and crucial conclusions — and ends things there. The presentation of the world is so complete, rich and thoughtful that nobody could go further on the theme, nothing more could be drawn from it than what's been done here first.

Grzegorz Wiśniewski, „Esensja”

The fascinating thing about Dukaj's novels is how they show a reform — as if under the pressure of these cosmic and technologically-altered realities — of our approach to God and to metaphysical riddles.

Marek Oramus, „Dziennik Polski”

Target market

Lovers of Jacek Dukaj's work, fans of top-notch fantasy which steps outside of the genre, people interested in the world, demanding readers in search of a multi-layered work they can return to time and again.