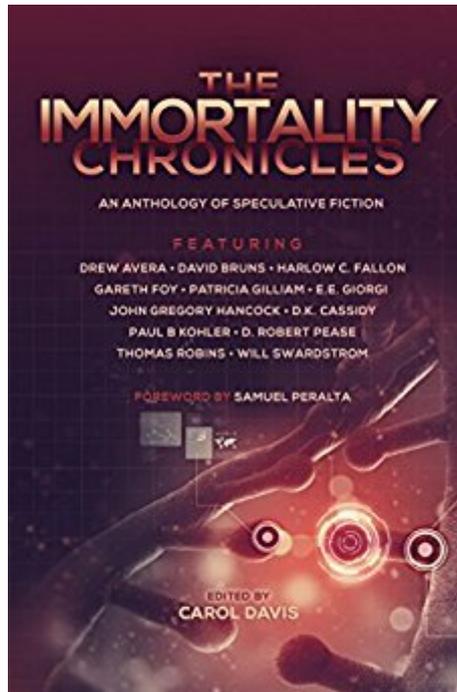


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The Immortality Chronicles (The Future Chronicles)



Synopsis

What if you could live forever? Defy death itself? Even now, scientific advances in regenerative medicine, life extension, cryonics, cybernetics, and in other areas have brought humans to the brink of solving life's final conundrum. In this volume of the acclaimed *Future Chronicles*™ anthology series, twelve authors imagine that uninterrupted journey, confronting not just how, but what it means when human life can continue indefinitely, invulnerable, immortal. *The Immortality Chronicles* features stories by award-winning scientist and author E.E. Giorgi (Chimeras), bestselling author Will Swardstrom (Contact Window) and ten more of today's most visionary authors in science and speculative fiction.

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Customer Reviews

(Disclaimer: I was given a copy of this anthology in exchange for beta reading/giving an honest review) I've never dreamed of living forever. I always imagined that living a life on Earth by myself as those I loved passed by me as quickly as a thought to be a lonely and horrible existence. Good thing I have the Immortality Chronicles to imagine what life could be like so I don't have to! They

truly captured many possibilities of life with immortality. Most of the stories do have a sad vein to them, because as I've said, who really wants to live forever? We choose to try and stay alive as long as we can, trying to make a legacy that others will recognize after we're gone. But we truly don't want to live forever. Samuel Peralta has done it again! He gathered some great authors to teach us why being immortal isn't something to be wished upon anyone. I loved these stories. Each one was more unique than the last! I don't think I could truly choose a favorite, but my top five would have to be: *The Antares Cigar Shoppe* by John Gregory Hancock: John creates a beautiful beginning to the anthology with his story. It makes me wonder who would be there for me if I was able to live forever, even though they couldn't stay with me for all time. *Rememorations* by Paul B. Kohler: In a few of the stories in this anthology, the issue of not having enough space for all of the memories an immortal person would collect over their many years. I never thought of that before reading this anthology! This story follows a man going in for his check-up because he is forgetting things. Great story! *The Control* by Will Swardstrom: *The Control* follows a man in ancient Egypt following a god's whims. Very unique take on the immortal life.

Many of these stories focus on an individual who's rendered non-dying, but some apply the concept more broadly: D.K. Cassidy's "Room 42," and Thomas Robbins' "Eternity Today" are riffs on the entire human race's sudden conversion to undying status. E.E. Giorgi's heart-wrenching story "The House on the Cliff" tells of a man made immortal by means of his own cancer cells. "Legacy," by David Bruns, describes a driven CEO's effort to live forever by replacing himself with bionic parts over the course of centuries. "Rememorations," by Paul B. Kohler limits his protagonist's immortal status to his ability to pay for it--and his willingness to forget pieces of his past. And John Gregory Hancock's "The Antares Cigar Shoppe" stood out for the old school A.E. Van Vogt vibe that it brought to the table. But the award for Most Unintentionally Horrifying Story About Immortality has to go to Gareth Foy, who penned "The Essence of Jaime's Father." This piece manages to be the most abstract yet gut-wrenching bit of work in this volume, and I'm not entirely sure how Foy pulled it off. I'm not even sure he intended to do this. All I know is that this story opened up a pit of despair in my soul that I generally only feel when engaged in Facebook discussions about religion and foreign policy. In a nutshell, Jaime is a young man experiencing the beginning of Earth's death throes, as the sun expands to swallow the inner solar system. Science has bought the Earth a few extra thousand years, but red giants are inevitable and physics is a harsh mistress. His father, however, has an answer: convert humanity to beings of pure energy and let them wander the universe until time itself grinds to a halt.

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