

- **How did you chose works for The Year's Best African Speculative Fiction? Could you tell us more about working on it? Which story was your personal favourite one? As an editor, what do you look for in a story?**

Without further ado, I'll just dive into the questions. The first one is how did I choose my stories for *The Year's Best African Speculative Fiction* anthology.

Well I usually look in all the familiar places. Recommended reading list by all the bodies. You know, LOCUS, nerds of a feather, all the usual players. Then from there I, we also get submissions. Cuz I put out a call for submissions. Then next I check reviewers. There's Charles Payseur, LOCUS, all their reviewers, AC Wise, Maria Haskins, I check in all the usual places. Then I check all the unusual places. I have to do my own reading, from the usual magazines, scroll through and check all the Black, African writers they have. Then I also check all the extra places, the unusual magazines and journals and anthologies on the continent. Brittle Paper, Jalada, some of the more obscure anthologies that don't get seen by members of the larger speculative fiction community. So that I don't miss some of the works that we'd like to see.

My second question is my personal favourite. For me that's Marian Denise Moore's *A Mastery of German*. I liked it, I so selected it for the *Dominion* anthology, so yeah. It made several Year's Best anthologies, asides from my own, because it's an amazing story, and it's an amazingly easy read. It's a novelette, but I sort of ended up always thinking of it as a short story. It's an important story with lofty ideas. It talks about important issues, but it does it in this incredibly easy way that jacks you in. So yeah, that's my favourite.

Third question - what I look for.... For me, it's not any one thing, it's about emotions. How does the story make me feel? When I read it, I want to feel something.

- **How was DisCon III? What were the highlights for you? What were the lowlights?**

And the final question is... <oh, about > editing influencing my writing. Well definitely, it does. Means I have to split my attention into two. It cuts down, but it also enhances because it means I have a lot of experience with stories, what gets published, how stories develop from slush to final stage. It has both a positive and negative side of it.

Then the WorldCon. Any best part was definitely the African stream. It created a space where we could come together and fellowship as African creators, on a larger stage and address some of these issues before some of the larger speculative fiction community cuz these issues are pertinent to them as well. So that's it, I think my time is up. I hope I did as much as I could.

Thank you for coming.