

"**SHAMAN**", or rather "Shaman: A novel of the Ice Age", has a synopsis:

An award-winning and bestselling SF writer, Kim Stanley Robinson is widely acknowledged as one of the most exciting and visionary writers in the field. His latest novel, 2312, imagined how we would be living 300 years from now. Now, with his new novel, he turns from our future to our past - to the paleolithic era, and an extraordinary moment in humanity's development. An emotionally powerful and richly detailed portrayal of life 20,000 years ago, it is a novel that will appeal both to his existing fans and a whole new mainstream readership.

From a [short interview](#) in the Sacramento Bee, Stan said:

I'm finishing a novel set in the ice age, about the people who made the paintings in the Chauvet-Pont-d'Arc Cave in southern France, about 32,000 years ago. I do a lot of snow camping in the Sierra, and I put my snow knowledge into it and tried to explain how we became who we are now. It's only science and archaeology that allow us to write historical fiction with any accuracy. So it's kind of science fiction in a way.

Shaman [will be released](#) (in hardcover) on September 3, 2013! (at least in the UK)
2312 [will be released](#) in paperback on June 25, 2013!

Kim Stanley Robinson's latest novel, [2312](#), [has been nominated](#) for the year's **British Science Fiction Award** for Best Novel! We wish it the best.

2312 continues to collect some excellent reviews as time goes by and more people absorb the tons of layers and issues it tackles.

- First is [L. Timmel Duchamp's detailed review](#) at Strange Horizons, somebody who has obviously been a follower of Robinson's work for a long time. Extract:

Robinson confronts the stark divide between those who enjoy the privilege of becoming utterly free and those who don't—caught in the meshes of history that won't allow everyone to go their own way. Swan, during a visit on Earth, rails at the people in a bar in Ottawa, "We're on Earth! You have no idea what a privilege that is. You fucking moles! You're home! You can take all the spacer habitats together and they'd still be nothing compared to this world! This is home" (p. 418). Swan actually uses the word "privilege," which by this point in the novel can only strike readers as painfully ironic. The privileged mostly don't live on Earth, but in space habitats. Earth represents misery and squalor and social and ecological devastation that can't be escaped. Swan doesn't understand this difference except in the most abstract terms.

- [A review](#) by Harry Tortilla that attempts to critically assess why the "utopia" described in 2312 is unrealistic, but in my opinion seems to be missing the point.
- [An article](#) on the legal ramifications of space transport using 2312 as a basis.
- Short reviews by [Sci-Fi Stuff](#) , [Muse's Books](#) , [Hoolooovoo](#)

Stan was interviewed for the **British Interplanetary Society's** e-magazine, [Odyssey \(Issue 24\)](#) . Odyssey is available via subscription to the BIS. Still, here's a short bit to hook you:

*Which character from the [Mars trilogy](#) do you most resemble?
If any, which I doubt, it would surely be one of the more boring secondary characters, like Art. There isn't anyone in that story based on someone like me, which is something I've done in some other books of mine. I'm sure the Mars books are better off because of that.*

Written by Kimon

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