

Synchronic: 13 Tales of Time Travel

David Gatewood (Editor) , Irving Belateche , Michael Bunker , Ann Christy , Nick Cole , Jason Gurley , Isaac Hooke , Samuel Peralta , more... Susan Kaye Quinn , Edward W. Robertson , Eric Tozzi , Jennifer Ellis , MeiLin Miranda , Christopher G. Nuttall ...less

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13 Tales of Time Travel by 13 Authors

For those who live in the present... but wouldn't mind an escape now and then.

STORY SYNOPSES

The Santa Anna Gold (*Michael Bunker*)

A father tries to help his son—the only family member he has left—pursue his interest in finding the legendary Santa Anna Gold. The only problem is: the boy wants to go back in time in order to locate it. Sometimes the things a father will do for an only child are limitless.

Corrections (*Susan Kaye Quinn*)

Time traveling through murderers' minds to prevent the crimes that landed them on Death Row? This is what psychologist Ian Webb lives for. But his training with the Department of Corrections, along with fifteen successfully resolved cases, is of little help when the original timeline proves to be nothing like the court records show. The past can only be changed so much, and pushing it too far won't just fail to prevent a murder—it might erase his patient from the timeline altogether.

Hereafter (*Samuel Peralta*)

Cpl. Caitlyn McAdams returns home from war, back to her family and the life she knew—but she doesn't return whole. How can she forget the man she left behind—a man she'd met only once before—a casualty of a roadside bomb, dying in front of her? And then, one day, he comes back.

Reentry Window (*Eric Tozzi*)

Space exploration is dead and buried. But a strange atmospheric anomaly on Mars single-handedly resurrects the program, giving birth to the first manned mission to the Red Planet. For astronaut Brett Lockwood it's a dream come true. A chance to make history. But what he discovers is a window through time that will change the entire course of space exploration—decades before he was ever born.

The Swimming Pool of the Universe (*Nick Cole*)

War, remembrance and a grenade play havoc with the time machine we all carry inside ourselves as Private Dexter Keith battles alien spiders on the surface of a spinning asteroid beyond the edge of the solar system.

The River (*Jennifer Ellis*)

Destroyed by guilt and sorrow over a childhood mistake, Sarah Williams lives alone and buries her grief in long-distance running and triathlons. But when Sarah's running partner invents a time travel device, Sarah is determined to change her past, even if it means living twice—and betraying the man she loves.

A Word in Pompey's Ear (*Christopher G. Nuttall*)

To Julia, a young student of the Roman Empire, the past seems a realm of missed opportunities. But when she is sent back in time to meet Pompey the Great, she discovers that changing history may not be as easy as it seems.

Rock or Shell (*Ann Christy*)

Everyone wishes they could change something in their past. Whether it's taking back that embarrassing comment at an office party, or going back to save a life lost too soon, we all wish for the impossible at least once. But when too many people are given that power—and no ability to control their fleeting thoughts of change—what happens is more than chaos. It could be the end.

The Mirror (*Irving Belateche*)

Peter Cooper sells the past for a living. He started out as a poor boy from Indiana and now he's a successful antique dealer in Manhattan. But he's about to find out that there's more to the past than inanimate objects. Sometimes the past refuses to die.

Reset (*MeiLin Miranda*)

Sandy's best friend Catherine changed when she turned sixteen. She withdrew from life, and spent all her time drawing pictures of seven children she said would never exist. Thirty-four years later, Sandy finds out why.

The Laurasians (*Isaac Hooke*)

Horatio Horace, paleontologist extraordinaire, discovers that time travel isn't all it's cracked up to be—when he comes face to face with the living and breathing versions of the fossils he has studied his entire life. And they are hungry.

The First Cut (*Edward W. Robertson*)

In the future, there are many parallel Earths. Only one of them has time travel. Known as Primetime, its criminals break into the pasts of other worlds, far beyond the reach of conventional police. Blake Din is the newest graduate of the agency tasked with stopping them, but he's already on the verge of washing out. And now, one of his fellow recruits has just gone rogue.

The Dark Age (*Jason Gurley*)

On the day she was born, he left for the stars. He watches her grow up on screens. Misses her first words, her first steps. She's never kissed his scratchy cheek, or fallen asleep on his shoulder. He's never wiped away her tears, or sung her to sleep. Now she's a toddler, and the crew of the Arecibo is about to enter hibernation sleep for one hundred and fifty years. And when he wakes, his family will be gone.

Synchronic: 13 Tales of Time Travel Details

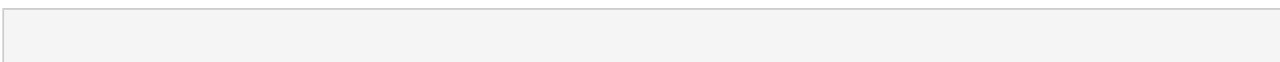
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From Reader Review Synchronic: 13 Tales of Time Travel for online ebook

Trace says

I love science fiction, particularly if it involves time travel. Many people find the idea of time travel intriguing. Virtually everyone has fantasized about doing it before. Who wouldn't want to witness great events of history or try to re-do a mistake from our past? While time travel may not be possible (or is it?) we can still experience it through many authors who have written works with time travel as a theme. So when I had the chance to read **Synchronic: 13 Tales of Time Travel**, an anthology of short stories all about time travel, I jumped at the chance. Now while I like the theme of time travel, I'm not a big fan of short stories. Don't get me wrong, I enjoy a good short story, but I usually find them lacking. Lacking in character development, too many unanswered questions, or a story that just doesn't end right (though to be fair, even a long novel can suffer from these things.) I usually feel that if the author expanded the story, it would have been better. So as I started **Synchronic** I expected to read some undeveloped stories with great potential. Boy was I wrong! I was pretty much blown away. There is some quality work in this book. Some were certainly better than others, but all of them were worth reading. I especially enjoyed *Corrections*, *Hereafter*, *The River*, *Rock or Shell*, and *Reset*. If you aren't into sci-fi don't worry. Anyone who enjoys good writing, fascinating stories, and interesting characters will love this book.

Laura says

FIVE STARS (HIGHLY RECOMMENDED)

I received an ARC copy (for an honest review) of the anthology, *Synchronic: 13 Tales of Time Travel*. This collection consists of 13 short stories from 13 different authors. A veritable buffet of tasty tales for the time traveler connoisseur.

I will never tire of reading science fiction, especially "time travel" stories. Don't we enjoy sliding our feet into the shoes of a compelling character while time transposes and invigorates us through story? Well, this is even better, not only do we step into the shoes of more than 13 irresistible characters, we also travel with them to the distant and remote pasts we know and love, as well as an unexplored and uncertain future. And we do this safely in the confines of our minds. What a trip! And don't we just love the idea of correcting wrongs, of getting a second, third, or fourth chance, of testing theories, and answering the "what-ifs" that plague our consciences?

Well, here ya go: you should get a copy!

This is an amazing collection of short stories that delivers masterfully written, cleverly plotted, wonderfully crafted, and supremely written short stories. I can't honestly say that I have a favorite among them. I loved them all. Each one is as unique as the author who crafted it. I was mesmerized. I was fearful. I was angry. I was elated. I was sad. I sat on the edge of my seat. I was moved. I lost myself in the stories. I cried. This anthology delivers as its apt title suggests!

Thank you, Ann Christy? for providing me with an ARC! Thanks to all of the authors: Michael Bunker, Isaac Hooke, Susan Kaye Quinn, Nick Cole, Jason Gurley, Edward W. Robertson, Irving Belateche,

Christopher G. Nuttall, Jennifer Ellis, Ann Christy, MeiLin Miranda, Samuel Peralta, Eric Tozzi, and David Gatewood (Editor), for this wonderful assortment of stories. I read the book in two sittings. Time truly flew by.

Steve says

Good compilation of time travel stories, most of them very good. My favorite by far was *The Dark Age* by Jason Gurley. Even though I read it several months ago, it still brought tears to my eyes. Probably will be among my favorites for a long time.

I also liked *The Laurasians* by Isaac Hooke, which felt like an episode of *Land of the Lost*. I kept waiting for the sleestaks to show up. :D

The only one that didn't grab me was *Rock or Shell* by Ann Christy. I couldn't figure out what was going on, but I suppose that was the point, since the characters didn't have any idea, either.

I'd recommend this for anyone that enjoys time travel stories, and anyone that enjoys a good, solid anthology of well-written and well-edited stories.

Chris says

Take the Time to Rediscover the Joy of Good Storytelling

Synchronic helped me rediscover the joy of reading short stories. It'd been a while since I'd sat down with a collection like this, and after reading this one, I've remembered what I liked most about short stories: you can sit down and enjoy the telling of a tale as a complete experience in one reading session. No need to bookmark your place and get back into the characters later. And when a tale is told well, reading it means experiencing an emotional response that stays with you; the short story form, like a poem, lends itself to that purpose much more effectively than does longer fiction. The time-travel stories in *Synchronic* are certainly well told.

Some of the writers go into the past to right a wrong via petite morality plays: "what if" it **could've been** this way? Some move into a dystopian future and ask, "what if" it **is** this way? I grew up on classic, twisty episodic television—*The Twilight Zone*, *Night Gallery*—and these stories reminded me of those shows. Even when you think you know where some of the stories are going, they can take you to a different place altogether, literally and emotionally. Reality and our assumptions about it; human nature and how it tempers visceral need with our noble ideals of whom we'd like to be; and our willingness to sacrifice self for others are themes that cross storylines here. In short, you get thirteen different interpretations of what a time-travel tale can do in helping us explore who we are.

Most of these tales tug at the heartstrings, mainly through the tragedy of love lost (either for another or for oneself). A father driven to madness by the loss of his son. A time-tripping lover heartbroken over the object of his affection, who can't follow him. A down-on-his-luck combat veteran-hero who's lost his sense of self. A man who wrestles with the cost of leaving his family behind forever to experience the ultimate human adventure. These are a handful of examples of the poignancy in this collection.

Beyond its heartfelt storylines and trippy tale-telling, though, *Synchronic* is also an opportunity to read an

author or two you're not familiar with. It's like a Whitman's sampler for fans of sci-fi. I hadn't read most of these writers before picking up this collection (which I wanted to read because it included several of my favorite authors). Now I'm glad I had the opportunity to read the others—and I want to read more of their work.

Multiple authors mean multiple styles, and in a collection like this, that's a good thing for the literary tastebuds. Some of the stories are character driven, and others rely on action to advance the plot. A few even read like prose poems. Some move you forward in time; some move you backward. But if your reading experience is like mine, you *will* be moved by this collection—one way or another.

David Bruns says

Time travel. The ability to change the past. It never gets old (sorry, couldn't resist).

Still, as author Nick Cole reminds us in the Foreword to *Synchronic: 13 tales of Time Travel* looking back is part of the human condition, an unquenchable desire to address the unanswerable question: what if I had just...? There is probably no richer—or more clichéd—subject in science fiction. But with the topic in the capable hands of this talented collection of writers and you will not be disappointed.

Take Susan Kaye Quinn's story, *Corrections*. A therapist, working for the Dept of Corrections, guides convicted killers back in time to stop the murders before they happen, a process called the Shift. It's a tricky business, you have to warp the timeline just enough to prevent the murder, but, too much and snap - extinction for the unlucky inmate. If you're successful, you get a tag and a chance to live your life as a free man. If not, you'll never have existed. I have a feeling this one might become a new Debt Collector-style series?

Contrast that with Nick Cole's *The Swimming Pool of the Universe*. Alternately hilarious and heart-breaking, Private Dexter Keith is caught in the temporal soup of his own brain where the past, future and present collide in a wonderful mash-up of flashbacks. The voice of Sergeant Collins, a computer program/drill instructor implanted into his brain during basic training, provides the lifeline Keith needs to take control of his life.

Swimming Pool has a hopeful ending, but not so for *Reset* by MeiLin Miranda. *Reset* asks the question: What if you lived your life over and over, from teenager to fifty years old? On the face of it, it sounds great. You can fix any mistake you ever made! Sucky prom date? Marriage didn't work out? Problem solved. But what about the parts of your life that you cherish? The relationships, the kids, the love of your life...they just vanish overnight; no mourning, no legacy, just gone. Catherine is haunted by the children of her past lives, drawing them over and over, filling boxes with portraits that exist only in her mind.

But maybe you prefer old school time travel? The kind where para-military time police travel back to stop bad guys who have no regard for the chronological order of our present timeline. Then you want to dip into Edward W Robertson's *The First Cut*. Our fearless, first person hero, fresh from training, arrives in the Cutting Room for assignment as a rookie time cop. Things don't go well for new-guy in the simulations—he's barely making the grade—when one of his classmates goes rogue. Think Time Cop meets Houdini.

When I read *Rock or Shell* by Ann Christy, I had a mental image of the sequence from Neil Gaiman's

American Gods where Shadow gets taken “behind the scenes.” It’s like an MS-DOS version of the world, stripped down, functional, but not pretty in any way. In Christy’s world, an inanimate object—a rock or a shell, for instance—given to a person by a mysterious stranger gives them the ability to change events in their life. The problem is the objects reacts to the thousands of urges, regrets and random thoughts that race through our brains. The end result is an apocalyptic landscape. But wait, all we have to do is wish for it to go back, right? Well, it’s not that simple...

Synchronic, a wonderful collection for you to pass the time (Yeah, I know, but it's my review and I'll pun if I want to!)

Stefano says

I love science fiction, and I can safely say that this is one of the best anthologies you could ever wish. I already knew some of the contributing authors but I enjoyed every single story of this collection that I think I'll read again and again over the years.
Strongly suggested.

Will Swardstrom says

As much as the title suggests its relationship to time, Synchronic also has a hint of something else. My mind wandered to chronic health conditions that persist over time, or perhaps even a hint at an addiction. By the time I finished Synchronic, I had developed my own addiction: a persistent desire to read stories about time travel. One after another, the 13 writers involved in the anthology created new and interesting tales of time travel without repetition or fatigue.

I’ve read works by some of these authors already, but one of the great things about an anthology like this is finding new and different authors I hadn’t yet discovered. After reading some of the stories in Synchronic, I wish I could go back in time and discover these authors in their writing infancy – to read their early works as they were first getting published.

There is a certain appeal to time travel stories. What is it that draws the reader to them? I imagine the pull of regret has a lot to do with it. After I first got a DVR at home, I used it so much to skip commercials and to rewind live TV if I happened to miss something. Eventually I started having urges in real life to skip back or replay something. At first, it was just a few moments at a time, but when I realized major mistakes, oh how I wished I could go back and correct those blunders. To make my life better with just a simple revisit to the past.

Ultimately, that regret has a necessary place in our lives and helps us as we encounter new, but similar circumstances. That doesn’t lessen our desire to alter our past, though. I imagine if we were really able to go back, the tragedy of our actions would resonate throughout our lives. Most of the time travel stories I’ve read or seen on the big screen have that tragic element and over and over we see that in this collection as well. There are so many great stories contained in Synchronic, but I want to highlight a few of my favorites – the stories that stuck with me long after I’d read them.

The Mirror by Irving Belateche

For me, the standout of this collection. I usually like my time travel to be science fiction-based, but wow, I’ll take it with a supernatural twist after reading The Mirror. Peter Cooper is a Manhattan antiques dealer who stumbles upon the titular object that reshapes his life, and has defined who he was before he even knew it. I really loved this story and made me think twice before looking in any antique mirrors.

The First Cut by Edward E. Robertson

When I first started reading Robertson's contribution, I thought of Jean-Claude Van Damme's Timecop, but this story had a mind of its own, putting these time police officers on the case of time violators who go to alternate histories of Earth. Our protagonist, Blake Din, is at the bottom of his class from the Academy, but we find out that Blake thrives once the simulations end and the real life situations emerge, taking us on a who-dun-it set in a time like the mid-90's (where the Internet is in its infancy and cell phones aren't ubiquitous). Wonderful twist at the end pays off for the reader.

Reset by MeiLin Miranda

This story struck me kind of like a Groundhog Day-type of story, except that Catherine lives almost an entire life over and over. This not only reminded me of Groundhog Day, but also the episode of Star Trek: The Next Generation where the Enterprise is stuck in a time loop and Data is the only one aware of the repetition. Again, both those two tales are just a day or a few days – Catherine's story involves years. What would you do if you lived decades over and over again?

Reentry Window by Eric Tozzi

Tozzi wrote one of my favorite books of 2013 – The Scout, and his knowledge of NASA and the space program pays off fantastically here. With hints of Andy Weir's The Martian, Tozzi gives us a "chicken or the egg" story set in outer space that leaves you thinking for a long time.

Rock or Shell by Ann Christy

What is the effect of time travel on the space-time continuum. If you've watched enough Star Trek, you've heard of the continuum and Christy gives us a look behind the curtain so-to-speak with Rock or Shell. When the world as we know it starts to collapse, what do we hold on to? What keeps us centered – keeps us grounded? There was a bit of the Leonardo DiCaprio movie Inception here – you'll know it when you read it – and Christy's story pays it off wonderfully.

Like I said – all the stories are winners. It was tough for me to pick my top 5 and I'll say that Susan Kaye Quinn's Corrections was right there on the outside. Some other fantastic stories from Nick Cole (who also penned the amazing Foreward), Michael Bunker (what a twist!), Jason Gurley, Samuel Peralta, Jennifer Ellis, Christopher Nuttall, and Isaac Hooke round out the collection. I really could go on and on about this collection. And of course, I couldn't forget to mention that editor extraordinaire, David Gatewood, compiled this outstanding anthology, just a few months after publishing his last indie anthology, From The Indie Side. This collection gets and deserves five stars and also deserves a paperback on your bookshelf. The short story is not dead and this collection proves it.

Kaye Campbell says

The diversity of stories by some talented authors was a joy to read. Some were scary, some brought me to tears. All of them made me think. Congrats to all of you.

Adam Collings says

A video version of this review can be found at: <http://youtu.be/46KyqrEJsUc>

I'm a sucker for time travel, so I was eager to read this collection the moment I heard about it. You might expect an anthology of 13 stories all on the same topic might get a bit monotonous. This is not the case. All the stories in this book have a unique tone and a unique take on time travel. Each author brings something

different to the table, You could even argue that some of these are not strictly time-travel stories, with the links being tenuous, but these are still great sci-fi stories in which time is important.

We find stories about characters wanting to change an aspect of the past, others about people trying to prevent changes. We find those using time travel to explore the past, or gain information that has been lost, and a legal system that uses it to undo horrendous crimes. Some stories explore time through a scientific eye, and others through a magical one.

Some of these stories will make you cry. Some will make you think. Others will leave you hoping. All of them will leave you with a respect for this thing that we call time. As the editor says in his forward - time is the great undefeated enemy of humanity.

I don't read a lot of short stories, but I found the format idea for exploring a variety of concepts. As soon as you finish one story, you have another to look forward to.

If you love time travel then you should definitely add this one to your collection.

I received a free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

Janet Furnee says

I like time travel stories. This collection of thirteen short stories exceeded my expectations. I usually read anthologies a little at a time, but I read this book straight through. Each of these authors approached the subject from a completely different angle and their imaginations surprised and delighted.

Some of these stories resonated with me more than others. In any collection, one is likely to have personal favorites. Mine were written by Jason Gurley, Ann Christy, Michael Bunker, MeiLin Miranda, Nick Cole, Eric Tozzi, Samuel Peralta, and Susan Kaye Quinn. That said, there is not a bad story in it.

And last but not least, a shout out to David Gatewood for a beautifully edited book and to Jason Gurley for the exquisite cover art.

A.K. Meek says

The collection is a treat if you are into time travel or just looking for some great speculative fiction short stories. I'm going to limit myself and use only a couple of sentences to sum up my impression after reading each story, because if I don't I can ramble on for days, making my own short story.

Santa Anna's Gold - Michael introduces us to a man who is out of his time and out of his mind. The story has a rugged feel to it, as rugged as the Texas land where it takes place.

Corrections - Susan writes an intense thriller of a person who relives moments in convicted murderers' lives. I faced this story like when I watched Poltergeist as a child; with my hands in front of my eyes, peeking around the edges. It creeped me out.

Hereafter - Samuel writes a beautiful story of love between a traveler and an unsuspecting lady. Fine literary fiction within a speculative backdrop.

The Swimming Pool of the Universe - Forget his comparison to Hemingway. Nick is a modern day PKD. Enough said.

Reentry Window - Eric's ability to spin a yarn about space flight makes me think I'm reading an astronaut's memoir, that's how sure and precise his writing is.

The River - Jennifer weaves a complicated story of regret and redo.

A Word in Pompey's Ear - Christopher gives us a lesson, not only of history, but of pride.

Rock or Shell - Ann takes us for a metaphysical ride on a mattress. Her story has an ethereal quality to it, as fleeting as the fog.

The Mirror - A haunting story of a man, a woman, a mirror, and a superstition. Irving writes the story predominantly in narrative, like it was pulled from a diary. It is compelling.

Reset - MeiLin gives us a story told not through the time traveler, but through her friend; a witness to the repercussions of reliving life. It's a unique and interesting take on the typical time travel story.

The Laurasians - Isaac gives us a roller coaster, Jurassic Park-esque tale. The dinosaurs also win in this story.

The First Cut - Edward's story is a glimpse of a future world, a disturbing occupation, and a good old whodunit.

The Dark Age - Jason weaves a tale of a family split by duty. It resonates with the pain of loss that transcends the story.

There are curse words spattered here and there, including one or two F-bombs. But the stories aren't saturated in profanity. There's also a couple of passing mentions of sex. Some violence, with one story (Corrections) having some particularly grotesque descriptions.

If you are shopping for entertaining, short, time-travel stories, then you definitely have to purchase this. Click that "BUY NOW" button now.

Heather Duff says

I had seen rumours and whispers about this book on the Twittersphere and Facebook, so when Ann asked if I would look at the book, I couldn't type back my positive reply quick enough. This book is a collection of 13 stories by 13 amazing authors, some of them I knew through my love of all things silo related and others I was unfamiliar with, but the one thing they have in common is the subject - Time Travel.

Yes time travel, an extremely difficult subject (well in my eyes), we have all heard of The Butterfly Effect, Just one wrong step in the past and you could wipe out yourself or your entire family or

See it's tricky, but these guys have done an awesome job of writing 13 tales, and each of them different, some are spacey, some are futuristic, some are set in the present, some in the past but they are all well written and amazingly thought provoking, I spent minutes trying to get my head round some of the logistics of travelling through time.

Some of them are also sad, when children are involved, loved ones separate by the fabric of time, never knowing when they will see their beloved again.

I won't single out my favourite one but I will give you a brief idea about each of the stories!

The Santa Anna Gold by Michael Bunker

A father and son search for the legendary Santa Anna Gold, but the son wants to go back in time to find it.

Corrections by Susan Kaye Quinn

Psychologists enter the minds of criminals on Death Row to try and prevent them committing their crimes.

Hereafter by Samuel Peralta

Cpl Caitlyn McAdams meets a man who keeps reappearing in her life, a man she saw die in front of her.

Reentry Window by Eric Tozzi

The first manned mission to Mars and the discovery of a strange anomaly on the red planet.

The Swimming Pool of the Universe by Nick Cole

Alien spiders (this made me go eek!) and an asteroid, Private Dexter Keith has his hands full.

The River by Jennifer Ellis

Sarah Williams betrays her running partner stealing his invention to go back in time and make things right.

A Word in Pompey's Ear by Christopher G Nuttall

Julia, a student of the Roman Empire gets a chance to meet Pompey the Great and try and change history.

Rock or Shell by Ann Christy

The opportunity to go back and change something embarrassing or bad, but what if we could all do it?

The Mirror by Irving Belateche

Peter Cooper turns his fortunes around but discovers an old mirror that is hiding a secret.

Reset by MeiLin Miranda

Catherine has withdrawn from life and her best friend Sandy wants to know why, what is she hiding?

The Laurasians by Isaac Hooke

A paleontologists travels back in time and comes face to face with the fossils he has been uncovering.

The First Cut by Edward W Robertson

A future where parallel Earths exist, Blake Din needs to stop criminals jumping between Earth's.

The Dark Age by Jason Gurley

An astronaut heading for the stars leaving his family behind, about to enter hibernation sleep for 150 years.

So as you can see they are each very different! I hope you enjoy this book as much as I did, my only complaint, some stories were too short and a couple too long.

Synchronic is awarded 4 out 5

MeiLin Miranda says

I never give my own books stars. This is an exception. Mine isn't the only story in this collection, and I'm giving it five stars on the strength of the other twelve writers.

Normally in an anthology there will be at least one clunker, the story hidden in the middle of the book in hopes you'll just glide on to the next one. There is no such story in *Synchronic*.

From Michael Bunker's "The Santa Anna Gold" to Jason Gurley's "The Dark Age," this is one of the best anthologies I've read--certainly the best I've ever been in. You should pick it up.

Sandra Stiles says

If you are like me a love time travel stories then this is a must read book for you. There are thirteen stories within its covers. There is something for everyone. Three of my favorites were "Reset" by MeiLin Miranda, "Correction"s by Susan Kaye Quinn, and "Hereafter by Samuel Peralta. I loved the story Reset. The main character Sandy is telling her friend Janelle about her best friend Catherine. Catherine claimed to "reset" every so many years. She kept going back into her teen years. I remember my teen years and would never want to go back to them. This was still a fascinating story to read. I would have liked to know more about how she reset herself, whether it was something that just happened or if it was something she could control. Who knows, maybe this story will become a full book.

In "Corrections" we meet Ian who travels back in time to try to stop crimes committed by those on death row. The conflict within the story continues to grow until the very end. I'd love to read more stories like this from this author. I'd like to know if Ian gets his wish, and if so what happened.

I loved and hated the "Hereafter". A chance meeting between a couple has both satisfying and heart wrenching consequences. I loved the growing love story yet hated where I knew it was taking me. I loved the ending yet wanted so much more. These stories are enough to wet the appetite. I can only hope that each of these authors will find a way to turn them into at least a novella. Once you start this book you can't put it down.

I received a copy from one of the authors for review. I am so glad I did.

Eamon Ambrose says

As the revival of the short story goes from strength to strength, the short story anthology is fast becoming an exciting outlet for both new and established authors. In the past six months I've been sent several anthologies and the quality has been outstanding.

Synchronic, a new anthology from editor David Gatewood, who also brought us the excellent *From The Indie Side* anthology recently is no exception. Its time travel theme provides an interesting platform for the interesting and diverse collection of authors to strut their literary stuff.

While there are some well-known names from the indie scene included, it's always great to discover new authors also and there are some great stories here from authors I will definitely be checking out in the future. From the opener, Michael Bunker's brilliant tale of *The Santa Anna Gold*, it's apparent that Gatewood has carefully compiled this anthology with an emphasis on quality control. The standard throughout is excellent and each author has taken up the challenge with great enthusiasm. The stories themselves are as diverse as the authors, some opting for a more natural approach to time travel by utilising the mind, others going for the more traditional time machine story but each is as entertaining as the last.

The standout story for me has got to be the closer, Jason Gurley's *The Dark Age*. It's a short and sweet heartbreaker almost perfect in its execution and worth the price of the book alone and would take pride of place in any science fiction anthology.

Whether you're a short story fan, or would like to discover quality work from new authors you'll find plenty to interest you in *Synchronic*. It's a splendid collection and excellent value and a welcome addition to any science fiction bookshelf, virtual or otherwise.

Now, where are the keys to my Delorean?
