

# Everything Is Nice

Beating the nice nice nice thing to death (with fluffy pillows)

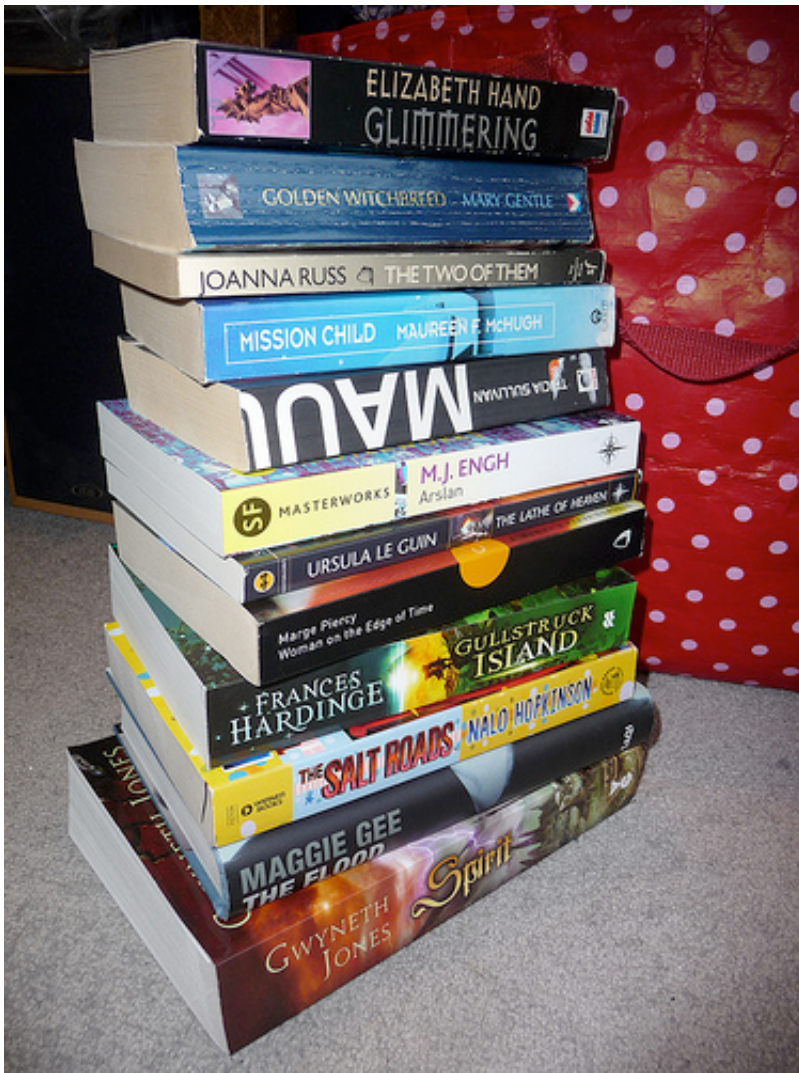
## **A Year Of Reading Women**

[with 5 comments](#)

Remember these [fine words](#)? Well, I never really followed up on them. Niall Harrison's focus week on [women in SF](#) came and went and, though I voted in his [future classics poll](#), I didn't take part in any wider sense.

Over Christmas I decided to do something about this: I would read and review one SF novel by a women every month in 2011. I appreciate this sounds pathetically modest but in the context of my current reading I'm afraid it isn't. There were several SF novels by women already languishing on my shelves, bought but unread and in this state for some time. I rescued these and then topped them up from Amazon. This in itself was an eye-opener; almost all the books I searched for – even those which had only recently been published – were out of print.

These are the twelve books (minus *Kindred* by Octavia Butler which hasn't arrived yet but plus a couple of fantasy novels I couldn't resist):



A few other people had the same idea. First of the blocks was [Ian Sales](#) and now Shana Worthen, the new editor of Vector, will be running a [monthly discussion group](#) for each of the eleven novels on the future classics poll. So I'd like to treat my year of reading women as a parallel exercise. It won't be a formal discussion group (although it does overlap with Shana's list in two instances) but if any want wants to read the novels at the same time as me, here is the schedule I will be working to:

- January: *Moxyland* by Lauren Buekes
- February: *Glimmering* by Elizabeth Hand
- March: *Arslan* by MJ Engh
- April: *Mission Child* by Maureen F McHugh
- May: *The Flood* by Maggie Gee
- June: *Maul* by Tricia Sullivan (discussion at Torque Control)
- July: *Woman On The Verge Of Time* by Marge Piercy
- August: *Golden Witchbreed* by Mary Gentle
- September: *The Two Of Us* by Joanna Russ
- October: *Kindred* by Octavia Butler
- November: *The Lathe Of Heaven* by Ursula LeGuin
- December: *Spirit* by Gwyneth Jones (discussion at Torque Control)

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Written by Martin

22 January, 2011 at 1:12 pm

Posted in [criticism](#), [sf](#)

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## 5 Responses

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1. I'll aim to join you on Mission Child, Woman on the Verge of Time, and The Two of Us. I read Maul in December, so it should still be relatively fresh in my mind for a TC discussion (and I should have reviewed it on EA by then).

ps. The review I owe you for Vector is totally coming this weekend honest. Sorry!



[Nic](#)

22 January, 2011 at [4:11 pm](#)

2. Pfft – I had this idea way before anyone else. (Though my posting has been really slack lately.)



## [chance](#)

22 January, 2011 at [5:12 pm](#)

3. It is true, Chance was on top of this way back. I recommend you check out [365 Days Of Women](#).

Also, eagle-eyed viewers may have noticed that *Moxyland* isn't in that photo. The reason is that I am reading it and got al distracted by its goodness.



## [Martin](#)

22 January, 2011 at [7:18 pm](#)

4. [...] called Martin (Lewis in his case) found out he read shockingly little science fiction by women and decided to do something about it: Over Christmas I decided to do something about this: I would read and review one SF novel by a [...]

## [Other people's new year's resolutions | Wis\[s\]e Words](#)

23 January, 2011 at [11:32 pm](#)

5. The Dreams & Speculation blog is sponsoring a similar 2011 book club for [“The Women of Science Fiction”](#).



## [Opally](#)

29 January, 2011 at [3:10 pm](#)

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