

A full-page background image showing a city skyline at sunset. The sun is low on the right, creating a bright lens flare and reflecting on the water in the foreground. The skyline consists of various skyscrapers in silhouette against the orange and blue sky. A small bird is visible in flight in the center of the frame.

# **Writings Near the End of the Human Era: Stories and Book Reviews**

**Peter McMillan**

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## Introduction

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There are two collections in this book: one of 15 short stories and one of 11 book reviews. Fiction and nonfiction don't usually get combined this way, but, in my writing at least, I think the two complement one another.

A second reason for the fiction/nonfiction merger is that joining the two gives the book a certain heft though not so much so that the reader hesitates at the upfront commitment of slogging through hundreds of pages. And a third reason is that the one part may be of interest but not the other. Political economy, for instance, is not everyone's bag. I get that.

The stories are recent, dating from the publication of *Flash! Fiction: Around the Block* in 2022. The book reviews are from some of the books I've read since January—books that I can recommend to readers interested.

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