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smart science fiction and fantasy

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for immediate release

ONE LEVEL DOWN

MARY G. THOMPSON

“It is impossible to look away from Mary G. Thompson’s provocative story of simulations, power imbalance, and whether kindness can overcome cruelty in the end.”

—Carolyn Ives Gilman, author of *Dark Orbit*



Trapped in a child’s body, a resourceful woman risks death by deletion from a simulated world. With her debut novella for adults, Mary G. Thompson (Wuftoom) has crafted a taut, ultimately hopeful story that deftly explores identity and autonomy.

Ella is the oldest five-year-old in the universe. For fifty-eight years, the founder of a simulated colony-planet has forced her to pretend to be his daughter. Her “Daddy” has absolute power over all elements of reality, which keeps the colonists in line even when their needs are not met. But his failing experiments and despotic need for absolute control are increasingly dangerous.

Ella’s very life depends on her performance as a child. She has watched Daddy delete her stepmother and the loved ones of anyone who helps her.

But every sixty years, a Technician comes from the world above. Ella has been watching and working and biding her time. Because if she cannot make the technician help her, the only solution is a desperate measure that could lead to consequences for the entire universe.



Mary G. Thompson is the author of *Wuftoom*, which *Booklist* called “impressively unappetizing and absolutely unique.” Her contemporary thriller *Amy Chelsea Stacie Dee* was a winner of the Westchester Fiction Award and a finalist for the Missouri Gateway Award. Thompson’s short fiction has appeared in *Dark Matter Magazine*, *Apex Magazine*, and others. She attended the University of Oregon School of Law, practiced law for seven years, and now works as a law librarian. She also holds an MFA in writing from The New School. Thompson currently lives in Washington, DC. Find her on the web at <http://marygthompson.com>.

Marketing and Publicity

- Promotion targeting reviews and interviews in leading media venues
- Author tour to include New York and national appearances and radio features
- Print and digital ARC distribution via Goodreads, NetGalley, and Edelweiss+
- Planned book giveaways to include Goodreads, Storygraph, and children’s book outlets
- Online promotion to include Instagram/book blog tour, cover reveal, and social media

ONE LEVEL DOWN

MARY G. THOMPSON

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