

ANOTHER DAY AT THE FAIR

September 2014 gifted us with another beautiful day for the annual Brooklyn Book Festival. The festival is a joyful event that brings together all manner of purveyors of the written word. Our presence at the festival couldn't happen without the diligent and creative work of Jackie Sherbow, senior assistant editor for *Ellery Queen* and *Alfred Hitchcock's Mystery Magazines*, and our own assistant editor, the vivacious and industrious Emily Hockaday.

The event began for Jackie, Emily, and me the evening before at a Gala Mingle and Awards Ceremony held in honor of James McBride that took place at Brooklyn's St. Ann's Warehouse on September 20. There I got to reconnect with an old friend of the magazine, Jonathan Lethem, and to meet his sister, Barcelona-based author and literary translator, Mara Faye Lethem. Jonathan's first professional sale was to *Asimov's*, and I told him that if he ever tires of sending stories to the *New Yorker* he should always feel welcome to submit them to us. We also got to meet South African author Lauren Beukes. Lauren's novel, *Zoo City*, was the winner of the 2011 Arthur C. Clarke Award. Another high point of the evening was meeting children's book illustrator Sean Qualls after I ran into him. Fortunately, neither of us was the worst for the collision! It turned out that in addition to being an award-winning illustrator of books by people like Spike Lee and Toni Morrison, Sean has also done artwork for *Alfred Hitchcock's Mystery Magazine*.

Emily and Jackie spent all day Sunday, September 21, working at our booth. They



Photo by Trevor Quachri

Sheila Williams, Tom Purdom, and Emily Hockaday

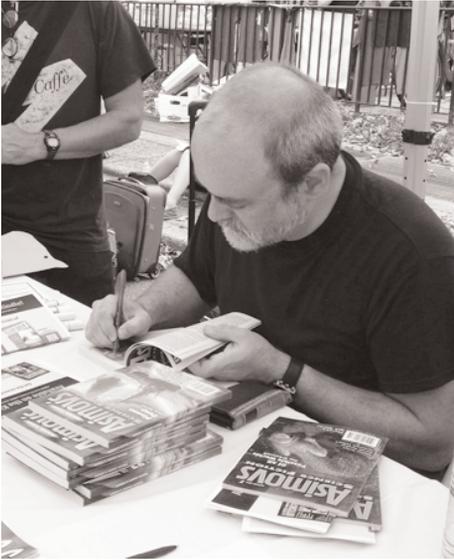


Photo by *Mary Jane O'Connell*

Jay O'Connell autographs *Asimov's*

thrilled to take home autographed copies of the magazines. Perhaps they'll become part of the next generation of *Asimov's* subscribers. We look forward to visiting with more readers next year, so mark your calendar. It will be a fun day of author panels, books signings, and the opportunity to peruse the wares of hundreds of publishers. We hope to see you there!

distributed over a thousand free magazines to fair goers. Six science fiction and mystery authors were on hand at various times to sign autographs. We had a Jay and Jay tag team with Jay Werkheiser signing copies of *Analog* for an hour followed by an hour of Jay O'Connell signing his thought experiment, "Is Resistance Futile? Or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love Google Glass," which appeared in the October/November 2014 issue of *Asimov's*. Later in the afternoon, we were joined by Tom Purdom. Tom signed the September 2014 issue, which contained his novella, "Bogdavi's Dream."

Numerous fair goers stopped by our table. Several were long-time readers; at least one of those renewed his subscription on the spot. Others had picked us up more recently, and some were learning about the fiction magazines for the first time. Among the newcomers was a group of middle-school girls who were