

## Jacek Dukaj

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THE MOST OUTSTANDING WRITER OF FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION IN POLAND  
WORTHY SUCCESSOR TO STANISŁAW LEM

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Jacek Dukaj (born 1974) is one of Poland's most interesting contemporary prose writers, whose books are always eagerly anticipated events. He is the author of *Black Oceans*, *Extensa*, *Other Songs*, *Perfect Imperfection*, *Xavras Wyzryn* and *Other National Fictions* and *Ice*, and the brains behind the *PL + 50. Future Histories* anthology. After the huge success of his novel *Ice*, which won the European Literary Award, the prestigious Kościelscy Award and was nominated for the Nike (the most prestigious literary award in Poland), Jacek Dukaj published widely acclaimed grim fairy tale *The Crowe*.

### MOST IMPORTANT PRIZES AND DISTINCTIONS

Jerzy Żuławski Literary Award for *The Crowe* (2010)  
Mackiewicz Literary Award for *The Crowe* (2010)  
PPNW Prize: Autumn Book 2009 for *The Crowe* (2010)  
European Literary Award for *Ice* (2009)  
Kościelscy Award for *Ice* (2008)  
„Polityka” Prize: Book of the Last Two Decades for *Ice* (2008)  
Kościelscy Award for *Ice* (2008)  
Prize in the Wirtualna Polska (website) public vote: Polish Novel of the Year 2007 for *Ice* (2008)  
Śląkfa Prize: Author of the Year 2007 for *Ice* (2008)  
Sfinks Prize: Polish novel of the Year 2007 for *Ice* (2008)  
PPNW Prize: Autumn Book 2007 for *Ice* (2008)  
Zajdel Prize: Novel of the Year 2004 for *Perfect Imperfection* (2005)  
PPNW Prize: Autumn Book 2003 for *Other Songs* (2004)  
Sfinks Prize: Polish Novel of the Year 2003 for *Other Songs* (2004)  
Zajdel Prize: Novel of the Year 2003 for *Other Songs* (2004)  
Sfinks Prize: Polish Novel of the Year 2001 for *Black Oceans* (2002)  
Zajdel Prize: Novel of the Year 2001 for *Black Oceans* (2002)  
Fantom Prize for *In the Land of the Faithless* (2001)  
Sfinks Prize: Book of the Year 2000 for *In the Land of the Faithless* (2001)  
Śląkfa Prize: Author of the Year 2000 (2001)  
Zajdel Prize: Story of the Year 2000 for *Cathedral* (2001)  
Srebrny Glob (Silver Globe) Prize: Story of the Year 1998 for *Heart of Darkness* (1999)  
Sfinks Prize: Polish Story of the Year 1998 for *Heart of Darkness* (1999)

### BOOKS BY THE AUTHOR OFFERED BY WL

#### Novels

*Extensa* (2002)  
*Other Songs* (2003)  
*Perfect Imperfection* (2004)  
*Ice* (2007)  
*The Plunderer's Daughter* (2002, reprint 2009)  
*Black Oceans* (2001, reprint 2008)  
*The Crowe* (2009)

**Short story collections**

*Xavras Wyzryn and Other National Fictions* (2004, reprint 2009)

*In the Land of Unbelievers* (2000, reprint 2008)

*King of Pain* (2010)

## Jacek Dukaj

# In the Land of Unbelievers



Publication date: 2008

Pages: 532

Genre: Science fiction

Rights available: World

### Keynote

A kaleidoscope of Jacek Dukaj's fantastical visions in one volume, including the legendary, Oscar nominated, *Cathedral*...

### Sales points

- One of the most interesting and skilled Polish prose writers, whose imagination has no equal, not only in Poland but over the whole world.
- Multi-prize winner
- Includes *Cathedral* — the story that inspired Polish artist Tomasz Bagiński to make a short animated film that received an Oscar nomination

### Description

This generous volume of short stories demonstrates the author's extraordinary talent, flair for vision and technique, and includes *Cathedral* — the story that inspired Polish artist Tomasz Bagiński to make a short animated film that received an Oscar nomination. But this is not the only pearl in the collection: fantasy lovers will also find *Irreehaare*, a precursor to the *Matrix* phenomenon, and the controversial *Land of Christ*. Jacek Dukaj's prose is a true intellectual and artistic feast, inspiring the imagination and reinvigorating our fossilised ways of looking at reality.

*The most fascinating thing in Dukaj's works is the way he shows how our approach to God or metaphysical riddles changes under the pressure of cosmic, technologically-altered circumstances. In Dukaj we see how a new, man-made reality deforms and transforms its creator, causing him problems, pain and quandaries unknown to us today. Dukaj treats his worlds as visions of the future that might come true someday, somewhere. I find the opposite title more suitable in this case: "In the Land of the Faithful". Both for the subject of religion as Dukaj understands it, and in his approach to science fiction.*

Marek Oramus, "Dziennik Polski"

*Dukaj is a writer gifted with an incredible talent for inventing fantastic worlds (...) he can come up with an extraordinarily rich image of the world for just a short story ("The General's Move", "Land of Christ"), after which he carelessly shucks this world off and sets out to create another, as if the goal of his writing were to empirically disprove the thesis that everything has already been done in fantasy writing, and that nothing new can be invented.*

Wojciech Orliński, "Gazeta Wyborcza"

### Target market

Admirers of fantasy looking for world class writers whose visions of our and parallel worlds take the breath away. Those devoted to prose that forces them to redefine their own outlook on reality.