



<GeorgeRRMartin> *Hello everybody. This is George R. R. Martin.*

<Moderator> Welcome George. Can you tell the room a little bit about your work, and why you're at the Nebula Awards tonight?

<GeorgeRRMartin> *Hi there.*

<GeorgeRRMartin> *I'm here hoping to win a hunk of Lucite... though I probably won't.*

<Moderator> [Sorry, I accidently sent a message to 17 of you...]

<DOMS1> Mr. Martin... do you wish to work for more television projects in the future or are you concentrating on novels?

<GeorgeRRMartin> *Also, for my sins I'm vice president of SFWA.*

<GeorgeRRMartin> *At the moment I'm writing the second volume of the big fantasy series I'm doing that began with A Game of Thrones.*

<GeorgeRRMartin> *No television in the immediate future... the fantasy should keep me busy for two three more years.*

<Farb> I loved *A Game of Thrones*. When is the sequel due?

<GeorgeRRMartin> *It was due months ago, alas. Don't tell me editors I left my word processor...*

<LeadingZero> GRRM: why are you negative about your chances of winning?

<GeorgeRRMartin> *Because I'm up against Ursula K. Le Guin.*



<GeorgeRRMartin> *I've lost awards to many of the finest writers in the field... but I've won my share too, so it's okay.*

<Moderator> As VP of SFWA, can you explain what the Nebulas are and how they work?

<Moderator> (as well as what SFWA is...)

<GeorgeRRMartin> *The Nebulas are science fiction's version of the Oscars, a peer award given by one's fellow writers. There are four categories – novel, novella, novelette, and short story. SFWA has been giving them since the mid 60s.*

<GeorgeRRMartin> *SFWA is the Science Fiction Writers of America, a professional association of SF and fantasy writers.*

<Swooop> I love the *Wild Cards* series. Are there plans for anymore in the series?

<GeorgeRRMartin> *I love Wild Cards too, but Black Trump was the last book under contract. We will probably take a few years off, but eventually I think we'll do some more... all the writers involved love the world and the characters. I want to do more Turtle and Popinjay stories myself.*

<Eckley> How old were you when you were bit by the writing bug, and how long after that did it take to be published?

<Moderator> BTW: More information on SFWA and the Nebulas can be found at [www.sfw.org](http://www.sfw.org).

<GeorgeRRMartin> *I wrote as far back as I can remember. I used to make up stories about my pet turtles and write them up in school notebooks. Later on I wrote monster stories and sold them for a nickel to other kids in the projects where I grew up.*

<GeorgeRRMartin> *First sale was in 1971 – a story called The Hero I sold to Galaxy.*

<DOMS1> Mr Martin... do you wish to comment on your recent dispute with J. Michael Strazynski over certain SFWA rules?



<GeorgeRRMartin> *What can I say? JMS quit SFWA years ago because he wanted a Nebula for TV & film... but we're an association of prose writers. We disagree on the issue, JMS was invited to rejoin as part of an OutReach campaign we'd launched to win back former members... but he chose to reopen the old Drama Nebula fight instead. From my point of view, the awards are the least important thing SFWA does.*

<Time> Do you have any non-fiction works out or in progress?

<GeorgeRRMartin> *Non-fiction? Not really. The fantasy series is such a huge project that it fills up all my time. Each of the volumes is about three times the size of an ordinary novel.*

<Sir-Sagamore> I'm planning on publishing my own novel soon. Any advice??

<GeorgeRRMartin> *They tell me that it's legit to plug my work – so let me mention that anyone who would like to pick up a signed copy of some of my out of print titles should check <http://www.horror.net/georgerr.htm>.*

<Moderator> Yes, by all means plug away!

<GeorgeRRMartin> *Sir-Sagamore, when you say “publishing your own novel”, I hope you don't mean self-publishing. My advice on that is, don't. If you mean you have a book coming out from a professional publisher, well, you want to do all you can to promote it. Go to lots of cons, arrange signings at local bookshops, etc.*

<BillyH> Mr. Martin, what is the most important thing SFWA does?

<GeorgeRRMartin> *The most important thing SFWA does is help protect its members from abuse by publishers, We have a very strong Grievance Committee, we audit publishers' books, we have a Legal Defense Fund to help members to need to go to court, and so on. Networking is also important... a writer builds a career through contacts as well as talent. And we have a medical fund to assist members without health insurance.*

<RainboWar>: Any chance of seeing your pilot *Doorways*? Heard some great things about it.

<GeorgeRRMartin> *Unfortunately, no – Doorways has been released on video in most of the world, but never in the US. I am thinking about rewriting the stories as novelets, but first I need to finish the fantasy series.*



<CVR> Mr. Martin, is *Blood of the Dragon* an excerpt of *A Game of Thrones*, and if so, is this the first excerpt that's been nominated in a short fiction category?

<GeorgeRRMartin> *Yes, Blood of the Dragon is up in novella. And they tell me we're about out of time. Thanks, all.*

<Moderator> Thanks George for stopping by, and good luck.

<GeorgeRRMartin> *Next up, Maureen McHugh.*