

Christopher Hernik, *Promotion*

A carefully considered and original piece that perfectly captures the heart of science fiction as a genre. "Promotion" reveals a point in the future where we have conquered death but with a chilling twist in a capitalist world. The world building is believable and well paced, and the language serves the plot beautifully to underpin the calculating characters and sinister scenario that is revealed. The story leaves readers to wonder what value is placed on people who cannot pay their way in a highly capitalistic society and, perhaps even more unsettling, asks the question: What price would *you* pay to conquer death?