

## Nebula3.1, April 2006

I cannot cease to be amazed at the diversity of intellectual systems of thought which cross paths through this Nebula. Important questions are being asked here, in this indefinite space and time.

This issue of Nebula is dedicated to the obviously gifted contributors below, who have found compelling voices to speak to others with. In this issue, I asked that the first "article" be a creative piece, and from that particular creative piece a certain tone was set for the rest of the issue. From Broe's awkward and corporeal academic, to Sharkey's cynical classroom social relations. The question of organic verses synthetic surfaces, and this is then followed by Cooke's exploration of the cyborg: the sometimes harmonious union between human and machine (me and my car, them and their headphones). (For more cyborgs see Tata's contribution). This contribution is followed by two short stories that are somehow both worlds apart and also voices born of the same culture. In Suddath's "Petals in the Sand" the fragility connoted in the title reflects the memories, thoughts, stream of consciousness and feelings of a U.S. Naval Officer. Teresa Jones' story inhabits a similar political tension to that conveyed in Suddath's contemporary US culture, but Jones' is ultimately a love story, and a comic caricature of certain lesbian lifestyles, literatures and rituals. I will not guide you through all of the exhibits this evening, for you will find each speaks clearly for itself. And although I remain silent about the other contributions, it is only to add to the intrigue they bring with them.

Samar Habib

**Chief Editor**