

Announcement

Retraction from Middle Eastern SF Special Issue (V4N2):

We deeply regret to inform our readers that we must retract one of the pieces from our most recent issue (V4N2), our special issue on Middle Eastern Science Fiction: “Herzl, Nakba, and Nationalist Escapism in Israeli and Palestinian Science Fiction,” by Timothy Quevillion.

Upon receiving allegations of plagiarism, our editorial team, in conjunction with our Editorial Board of Directors, conducted an investigation. All relevant parties (including the author and scholars) were notified of our investigation, which yielded the following results.

After receiving a response from the author and assessing both the initial submission and the final article against the scholars’ original works, we have determined that while the error appears to be unintentional, the article nevertheless violates our plagiarism policy, which mandates original scholarship and proper attribution.

For the purposes of our publication, plagiarism is defined as “the act of presenting the words, ideas, or images of another as your own” (see APA Ethics Code Standard 8.11, Plagiarism). In accordance with the American Psychological Association’s interpretation, we agree that plagiarism “denies authors or creators of content the credit they are due. Whether deliberate or unintentional, plagiarism violates ethical standards in scholarship” (*Ibid.*).

It is in this spirit that we feel ethically obligated to permanently retract the above article.

A note on culture and literature in translation: In general, we strive to cover a broad array of topics related to the study of science fiction, including various cultural futurisms, which focus on specific cultures’ or regions’ literatures. The Middle Eastern Science Fiction issue was a special project for us—one that took us far outside of our comfort zone with the need to employ Guest Editors and to engage with a variety of scholarship originally published in Arabic or Hebrew. Our team has learned some difficult lessons about publishing on literature in translation, and about our capacity to efficiently vet scholarship that is not represented in our editors’ scholarly interests. In the future, we will strive for more accurate representation of any and all cultures that we choose to highlight.

As an all-volunteer organization, the MOSF *Journal of Science Fiction* runs on donated time and labor. Within our abilities, we do the best that we can to assure the publication of original scholarship through several rounds of editing (including peer review and copyediting). The use of a plagiarism detector has now been integrated into our review process to decrease the odds of such an incident occurring again. With all of that said, there may still be those occasional times when, due to the diverse nature of existing scholarship, errors of attribution occur. In our management of this issue, we would like to ensure our readers, past authors, future authors, and the scholarly community at large that we take issues of plagiarism seriously and when identified, said issues will be rectified as soon as



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possible. We sincerely apologize for any harm caused by the author's error and our part in the publication of this research.

On behalf of the MOSF, I would like to thank you—our readers—for your continued support of the *Journal of Science Fiction*.

Aisha Matthews
- Managing Editor