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## **Winner: The Heart of Healing**

### **Judge's Comments:**

A very satisfactory (and fairly disturbing) ending to a strange, original, distinctive and very assured piece of fiction. The voice of a South American Indian narrator was very skilfully achieved here and I was impressed by the writer's excellent awareness of pace, timing, halt and flow. The deployment of chains of short sentences and (in the dialogue) brief utterances in crucial places demonstrates excellent control of language. Here is a writer not afraid to let the silences and white spaces create room for the reader to imagine. There is real confidence here.



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