



ISSUE #249

FEB 2009

NEXUS

SCIENCE FICTION ● FANTASY ● HORROR

SHERRILYN KENYON

BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF THE DARK-HUNTER SERIES

IN-STORE

TUE 24 FEB @ 5.30PM

TRUDI CANAVAN

IN-STORE

THUR 5 MAR @ 5.30PM

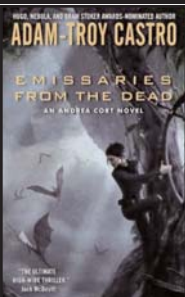
SIGNING COPIES OF HER NEW BOOK MAGICIAN'S APPRENTICE

THE LONG ANTICIPATED PREQUEL TO THE BLACK MAGICIAN TRILOGY

WILLIAM L CRAWFORD AWARD WINNER

Pandemonium by Daryl Gregory (Pb \$29.95)

PHILIP K DICK AWARD NOMINEES



Emissaries from the Dead

by Adam-Troy Castro (Pb \$15.95)

Endgame by Kristine Smith (Pb \$18.95)

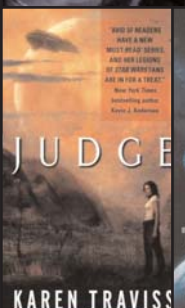
Fast Forward 2

edited by Lou Anders (Pb \$36.00)

Judge by Karen Traviss (Pb \$15.95)

Terminal Mind by David Walton (Pb \$39.95)

Time Machines Repaired While-U-Wait
by K A Bedford (Pb \$39.95)



THE COMPLETE X-FILES:

BEHIND THE SERIES, THE MYTHS AND THE MOVIES

CHRIS KNOWLES & MATT HURWITZ



This is a declassified look at all nine seasons of the American *Peabody and Emmy Award*-winning science fiction television series created by Chris Carter. Delve into the mystery and myth of *X-Files* with in-depth looks at its entire television run, the first *X-Files* film and the upcoming cinematic sequel. Creator and producer Chris Carter takes us into the

never-before-seen archives with explanations of unsolved plots, discussions of the FBI's paranormal investigations, scene by scene breakdowns of popular episodes and insider information on both the previous and upcoming *X-Files* films. Discover the mystery behind Mulder's alien abduction, Scully's secret objectives, the designs of the shadowy 'Cancer Man,' and the full truth about the Mytharc episodes. Includes gatefolds, alien and monster charts, alien and monster cards, movie posters, a secret dossier, Mulder and Scully booklets and more! Pb \$110.00 192pp

SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY 

PETER ACKROYD

THE CASEBOOK OF VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

Victor Frankenstein begins his experiments in a barn in Headington, near Oxford. The coroner's office provides corpses - but they are damaged and putrefying. He moves to a deserted pottery manufactory in Limehouse. And, from Limehouse, makes contact with the Doomsday Men - the resurrectionists. Even so, perfect specimens are hard to come by... until that Thames-side dawn when Victor, waiting, wrapped in his greatcoat, on his wooden jetty, hears the splashing of oars and sees in the half-light that slung into the stern of the approaching boat is the corpse of a handsome young man, one hand trailing in the water. Pb \$32.95 304pp

ALEXANDRA ADORNETTO

 **VON GOBSTOPPER'S ARCADE**

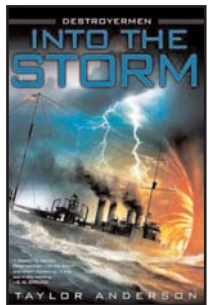
Strangest Adventures #3. Master toymaker Gustav VonGobstopper announces plans to build a special toy arcade - brimming with the world's greatest toys - to commemorate the extraordinary bravery of Drabville's children, who have twice escaped the clutches of the wicked Lord Aldor. The children couldn't be more excited. But when Milli and Ernest encounter Theo, the bandana-wearing teddy, deranged designer Tempest Anomalie and the immoral Butchers at the arcade, it quickly becomes apparent that they have stumbled upon a macabre plot. Pb \$19.95 320pp

	
	SCIENCE FICTION
	FANTASY
	ROMANCE
	EROTICA
	AWARD WINNER
	AUSTRALIAN
	ACTION
	REPRINT
PB	PAPERBACK
TP	TRADE PAPERBACK (SLIGHTLY LARGER)
HB	HARDBACK

TAYLOR ANDERSON
INTO THE STORM

 *Destroyermen*

#1. Pressed into service when World War II breaks out in the Pacific, the USS *Walker*, a Great War-era destroyer, finds itself retreating from pursuing Japanese battleships. Its captain, Lieutenant Commander Matthew Patrick Reddy, desperately leads the *Walker* into a squall, hoping it will give them cover - only to emerge into an alternate world. A world where two species have evolved: the cat-like Lemurians and the reptilian Griks - and they are at war. With its power and weaponry, the *Walker's* very existence could alter the balance of power. Reddy and his crew must determine whose side they're on, because whichever species they choose is the winner. Pb \$18.95 416pp *Due Feb*



TAYLOR ANDERSON

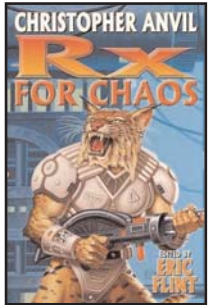
 **MAELSTROM**

Destroyermen #3. Lieutenant Commander Matthew Reddy, along with the men and women of the USS *Walker*, are once again at war. Having sided with the peaceful Lemurians against the savage, reptilian Grik, they now find themselves scrambling to prepare for the attack that is sure to come, searching for resources to support their forces - even as they look for allies to join their struggle. Meanwhile, the Japanese juggernaut *Amagi* is under Grik control - and soon they will have amassed a force that no amount of firepower and technology will be able to stop. Hb \$55.00 400pp *Due Feb*


CHRISTOPHER ANVIL (ERIC FLINT, ED)

 **RX FOR CHAOS**

Science and technology have made our lives easier, but once in a while, the law of unintended consequences breaks loose. Anvil considers the two faces of technological innovation: Sometimes the result is a literal life-saver; but at other times a breakthrough may not break quite the way it was supposed to... A new wonder drug has the unexpected side effect of making people happy. But should people be happy *all* of the time? A prototype for an energy source for every home that will free the country from its dependence on foreign oil - goes into production a bit too fast. The upside and downside of marvellous new gadgets, as told by a master of science fiction adventure. Pb \$27.95 288p *Due Feb*



NEAL ASHER
PRADOR MOON

 *A Polity novel.* The Polity Collective, which benignly rules numerous star systems, has come up against a chilling opponent. The crablike Prador are bloodthirsty aliens bent on crushing the Polity and stealing its runcible technology... and they possess a frightening superiority in space warfare. Two wild-card humans, a vengeance-driven soldier and a runcible technician, must now combine their talents in an attempt to stop a seemingly invincible Prador warship from incinerating yet another Polity world. Pb \$21.99 256pp

ISAAC ASIMOV

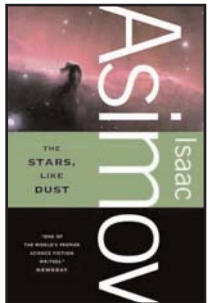
  **PEBBLE IN THE SKY**

One moment Joseph Schwartz is a happily retired tailor in 1949 Chicago. The next he's a helpless stranger on Earth during the heyday of the first Galactic Empire. Earth, he soon learns, is a backwater, despised by all the other 200 million planets of the Empire because its people dare to claim it's the original home of man. And Earth is poor, with great areas of radioactivity ruining much of its soil - so poor that everyone is sentenced to death at the age of 60. Joseph Schwartz is 62. This is Asimov's first novel, full of wonders and ideas, the book that launched the novels of the *Galactic Empire*, culminating in the *Foundation* series. Pb \$34.00 256pp *Due Feb*

ISAAC ASIMOV

  **THE STARS, LIKE DUST**

Biron Farrell was young and naive, but he was growing up fast. A radiation bomb planted in his dorm room changed him from an innocent student at the University of Earth to a marked man, fleeing desperately from an unknown assassin. He soon discovers that many light-years away, his father, the highly respected Rancher of Widemos, has been murdered. Stunned, Biron is determined to uncover the reasons behind his father's death, and becomes entangled in an intricate saga of rebellion, political intrigue and espionage. Hb \$54.00 240pp



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NEW TITLE

HALTING STATE

Charles Stross

PB \$19.99 376PP

Stross's latest sci-fi extravaganza begins with a band of Orcs and a Dragon marching into a heavily fortified bank and making off with millions of dollars worth of magic weapons, armour and jewels.

"That's not sci-fi!" I hear you fantasy haters screaming. It is sci-fi when the robbery takes place in an MMO (Massive Multiplayer Online Game) called Avalon Four, which is a near future version of a Dungeons and Dragons type internet game.

This technological tale is set in Scotland, about five minutes in the future, with nothing being so advanced that it couldn't be plausible soon enough. The story follows a handful of protagonists in the second person as they stumble along the digital robbery trail. Elaine is a forensic accountant called in by insurers to audit the victimised company. Jack, a game developer, has been hired to help her navigate the tech side of things, and Sue, the local police officer who was called in by the company during the panic which immediately followed the robbery, is duty bound to attempt to deal with a crime without precedent. It's from these three perspectives that we follow the novel.

Starting off with the game-space theft as a hook, the plot accelerates and twists jarringly into murky territory of political and corporate espionage. As these investigators fumble along trying to come to grips with the motivations of an internet-based theft, it becomes unclear who is the victim, as escalating threats and violence make simply surviving the main priority for our guys. Things get heavy as corporate bigwigs, Chinese techno terrorists, secret organisations and EU forces press their own agendas.

Normally I find the use of the second person repellent. Stross flexes his word muscles, creating a narrative which runs smoothly from character to character without grating on the reader, no small feat. It's also packed with geeky humour, references to olden days rpgs, larp, and all kinds of internet foolery. All this delivered in an Irvin Welshesque Scottish dialect (D'ya ken?).

I must also stress that this book is a fun read, not something that you will have to grind your brain against. I liked it, if you're any kind of nerd you will probably like it too. Like William Gibson, but fun. - Geoff



CLASSIC TITLE

IRON KISSED

Mercy Thompson #3

Patricia Briggs

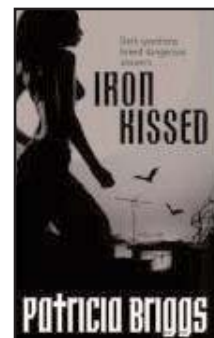
PB \$19.99 307PP

By guest reviewer Marianne de Pierres

When Mercy Thompson's friend Zee is wrongly accused of the murder of a fae, Mercy cannot be convinced to let things lie – no matter how dangerous. The Gray Lords, the secret rulers of the fae, aren't happy with Mercy's intrusion into their secret affairs and put a contract on her life. Adam's werewolf pack have Mercy's back, but she resists following pack law for fear of losing her independence. Her self-reliance leads her to take risks which culminate in some dire consequences. Selkies, strange magical objects, historical debates, psychopathic nerds – **Iron Kissed** has it all.

There's something sneakily hypnotic about Patricia Briggs' writing. She begins her novels with something ordinary – in the case of **Iron Kissed**, a DVD night amongst friends – and before the reader knows it, they are deeply immersed in the sombre world of the Tri-Cities. Though the plot has plenty of action and twists and leaps to keep the narrative strong, the real strength of the novel lies in our glimpses into Mercy's internal world. We get some delightful switches between her coyote psyche and human psyche as we learn more about what it's like to be living closely with a pack. And those who have been waiting for Mercy to choose between Adam and Samuel will be rewarded. It's refreshing to see Briggs advance the relationships instead of trapping the reader in endless romantic indecision as a way of maintaining tension. There's an echo of loneliness in this series that is driven by both Mercy's orphan status and her alienation as a 'native' supernatural being. I found this disturbing when I first read **Moon Called** (Pb \$19.99), but over time it has served to increase the intensity of the relationships, as Mercy finds a place to belong. Patricia Briggs is a *New York Times* bestselling author – and deservedly so. The *Mercy Thompson* books convincingly project the supernatural onto an ordinary landscape and then square up to deal with the 'reality' of what that would mean both in terms of the characters' relationships and the mechanics of everyday life. Briggs' world is cohesive and without the innate prudishness of some other paranormal fantasies, but still allows for plenty of surprises. The series has recently been optioned for film by Mike Newell, director of *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* and *Donny Brasco*. I hope it defies 'development hell' and makes it to production stage, I think it could be a winner.


Marianne de Pierres is the international bestselling Australian author of the Parrish Plessis books (*Nylon Angel*, *Code Noir* and *Crash Deluxe*) (Pb \$19.99 ea) and *Dark Space* (the *Sentients of Orion* #1), which has been shortlisted for an Aurealis Award and a Ditmar. Her latest novel is *Chaos Space* (*Sentients of Orion* #02) (Pb \$19.99). Marianne was born in Western Australia and now lives in Queensland with her husband, three sons and two cockatoos.

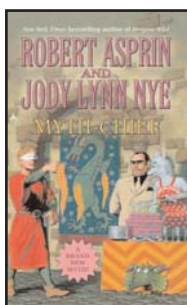


**WIN 1 OF 5 COPIES OF
MARIANNE DE PIERRES'
CHAOS SPACE!**
See back page for competition details

ROBERT ASPRIN & JODY LYNN NYE

MYTH-CHIEF

 *Myth Adventures* #18. Skeeve the Magnificent, magician to kings and King of Magicians, Businessman and Problem-Solver Extraordinaire, has come out of retirement and he's set up shop in the Bazaar, right on the home turf of his old company, MYTH Inc. Too bad his former co-worker, Aahz the Pervert, is not exactly thrilled with the competition. Pb \$18.95 288pp *Due Feb*



JAMES AXLER

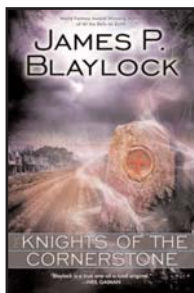
 **SERPENT'S TOOTH**

Outlanders #48. An exotic combination of reptilian and human DNA, the Najah are the revitalised original foot soldiers of the Earth's ancient alien masters, the Annunaki. Having survived the megacull of humanity, these half-cobra warriors vow to avenge their near extinction and usher in a new age on Earth. From an underground war base in northern India, this monstrous force launches its cleansing fire. Kane and his allies have one hope - a renegade female Najah, reptilian and ruthless, whose alliance is both a promise... and a threat. Pb \$16.95 384pp *Due Feb*

JAMES P BLAYLOCK

 **KNIGHTS OF THE CORNERSTONE**

Calvin Bryson has hidden himself away from the world, losing himself in his work and his collection of rare and quirky books. He never meant to let so much time go by without visiting his aunt and uncle in the tiny town of New Cyprus, California. When he gets there, he'll discover the town's strange secrets and a mysterious group dedicated to preserving and protecting holy relics - a modern day incarnation of the legendary Knights Templar... Hb \$54.00 304pp



LOIS MACMASTER BUJOLD

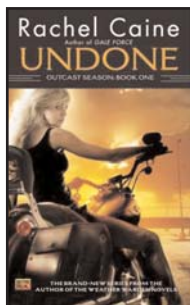
 **HORIZON**

The Sharing Knife #4. Fawn and Dag see that their world is changing, and the traditional Lakewalker practices cannot hold every malice at bay forever. Yet for all the customs that the couple has challenged thus far, they will soon be confronted by a crisis exceeding their worst imaginings, one that threatens their Lakewalker and farmer followers alike. Now the pair must answer in earnest the question they've grappled with since they killed their first malice together: When the old traditions fail disastrously, can their untried new ways stand against their world's deadliest foe? Hb \$59.95 384pp *Due Feb*

RACHEL CAINE

 **UNDONE**

Outcast Season #1. Once she was Cassiel, a Djinn of limitless power. Now, she has been reshaped in human flesh as punishment for defying her master and living among the Weather Wardens, whose power she must tap into regularly or she will die. And as she copes with the emotions and frailties of her human condition, a malevolent entity threatens her new existence... Pb \$18.95 320pp *Due Feb*



BARBARA CAMPBELL

 **FOXFIRE**

Trickster's Game #3. Years after their exile, legendary hero Darak and his wife Griane have founded their own tribe and raised four children. A rebel force, led by Darak's own daughter, seeks to recruit him to their cause, but the greatest danger comes from their youngest son, Rigat - actually sired by the Trickster God... Pb \$18.95 576pp *Due Feb*

MICHAEL CHABON

 **GENTLEMEN OF THE ROAD**

Set in the Kingdom of Arran, in the Caucasus Mountains, AD 950, this is the tale of two wandering adventurers and unlikely soul mates, variously plying their trades as swords for hire, horse thieves and con artists - until fortune entangles them in the myriad schemes and battles that follow a bloody coup in the medieval Jewish empire of the Khazars. Hired as escorts for a fugitive prince, they quickly find themselves half-willing generals in a mad rebellion, struggling to restore the prince's family to the throne. As their increasingly outrageous exploits unfold, they encounter a wondrous elephant, wily Rhadanite tradesmen, whores, thieves, soldiers, an emperor and discover the truth about their young royal charge. Pb \$24.99 224pp

BRIAN CULLEN

 **SEEKERS OF THE CHALICE**

Seekers Trilogy #1. In the time when gods and men walked the earth along with demons, the Chalice of Fire, the symbol of peace for Ulster, is stolen from the Red Branch by Bricriu Poisontongue. A small band of Seekers sets out to recover and return the Chalice to the Red Branch to restore peace to the Ulster kingdom. The Seekers are a group of two elves, Bern and Lorges, Cumac, the son of Cucullen, the greatest Red Branch warrior, Fedelm of the Sidhe, Tarin, the Swordwanderer and the wizard-druid, Seanchan. Together they must make their way through the world as Maliman, the evil wizard, uses his powers to stop them as he seeks the Chalice himself to bend its magic to his will. Pb \$18.95 384pp *Due Feb*

BRIAN CULLEN

 **THE VALLEY OF SHADOWS**

The Seekers Trilogy #2. After months of searching, the Seekers think they may have come to the end of their search for the Chalice of Fire that was stolen by Bricriu Poisontongue. But just as they are about to reach their goal, the wily thief slips away. Grimly, the Seekers once again set off after Bricriu to return the Chalice to the Red Branch. But the way is overrun with creatures of the night controlled by the evil wizard Maliman. The wizard has escaped from his prison and has begun to rebuild his army. Bricriu makes his way to the Valley of the Shadows, a region ruled by the dead who try to draw the living into their evil kingdom. The Seekers have no choice but to follow Bricriu through the valley of the dead. Hb \$59.95 336pp *Due Feb*


MARYJANICE DAVIDSON & ANTHONY ALONGI

 **SERAPH OF SORROW**

Jennifer Scales #4. Half weredragon. Half beaststalker. All heart. Slowly coming into her own, Jennifer Scales just may be the bridge to bring the two warring sides of her family together, provided she can survive learning the most ancient skills of dragonkind. Pb \$18.95 496pp *Due Feb*

PHILIP K DICK

FIVE GREAT NOVELS:

 **DO ANDROIDS DREAM OF ELECTRIC SHEEP, MARTIAN TIME SLIP, UBIK, THREE STIGMATA OF PALMER ELDRITCH, SCANNER DARKLY**
Taken together these novels represent the best of this author's unique imagination. In his writing nothing is what it seems, our sense of the world's order is fatally undermined and mass media tells us nothing but artful lies. Tp \$45.00 848pp

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PHILIP K DICK

THE MAN WHOSE TEETH WERE

 **ALL EXACTLY ALIKE**
This novel, Dick said, is about Leo Runcible, "a brilliant, civic-minded liberal Jew living in a rural WASP town in Marin County, California." Runcible, a real estate agent involved in a local battle with a neighbour, finds what look like Neanderthal bones and dreams of rising real estate prices because of the publicity. Hb \$58.00 304pp

IAN CAMERON ESSELMONT

 **RETURN OF THE CRIMSON GUARD**

Malazan Empire. The return of the mercenary company the Crimson Guard could not have come at a worse time for the Malazan Empire. Driven by constant warfare, weakened by betrayal and rivalries, many see the grip of Empress Laseen beginning to weaken as conquered kingdoms and principalities test their old independence. Into this gathering civil war on Quon Tali, the Empire's homeland comes the Guard. And with their return comes the memory of their 100-year-old vow - undying opposition to the existence of the Empire. Tp \$32.95 720pp

S L FARRELL

 **A MAGIC OF TWILIGHT**

The Nessantico Cycle #1. The epic tale of an empire at its height, yet poised on the brink of what could be a devastating descent into ruin. Told from the viewpoints of numerous characters, it is a sweeping saga of murder and magic (portrayed both as a powerful religion and a forbidden art), of deception and betrayal, of Machiavellian politics, star-crossed lovers and a realm facing war on every front. Pb \$18.95 624pp

ERIC FLINT

 **WORLDS**

Welcome to the many worlds of Eric Flint. Known for his *New York Times* best-selling alternate history novels, Flint is equally a master of shorter forms and this volume gathers the best of his shorter works. This selection includes several stories and short novels set in Flint's celebrated *Ring of Fire* alternate history series, two stories from his *Joe's World* humorous fantasy series, a story with Dave Freer, set in their popular *Rats, Bats and Vats* series, a short novel set in the *Belisarius* series, several shared-universe stories set in David Drake's *Foreign Legions* universe and a story set in David Weber's best-selling *Honor Harrington* universe. In addition to the fiction, there is an introduction for each story, telling how it came to be written. Hb \$55.00 576pp *Due Feb*

ERIC FLINT (ED)

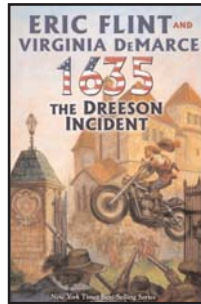
 **RING OF FIRE II**

The time-lost Americans attempt a salvage operation to raise the sunken Swedish flagship, the uprising known as the Ram Rebellion continues, Cardinal Richelieu plots to destroy Grantville and its allies, an American prisoner of war carries on a dangerous romance with the Danish King's daughter and more. Pb \$18.95 656pp

ERIC FLINT & VIRGINIA DeMARCE

 **1635: THE DREESON INCIDENT**

The Thirty Years War continues to ravage 17th century Europe, but a new force is gathering power and influence: the Confederated Principalities of Europe, an alliance between Gustavus Adolphus, King of Sweden and the West Virginians from the 20th century led by Mike Stearns who were hurled centuries into the past by a mysterious cosmic accident. While the old entrenched rulers and manipulators continue to plot against this new upstart nation, everyday life goes on in Grantville, the town lost in time, with librarians, fire-fighters and garbage collectors trying to make do under unusual circumstances. Hb \$58.00 608pp



C S FRIEDMAN

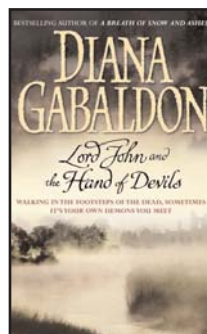
 **WINGS OF WRATH**

The Magister Trilogy #2. Against a backdrop of knife-edged politics and fearsome prophecies, those who are sworn to protect the human lands must discover the truth that lies at the heart of ancient legends and find a way to defeat an enemy that once brought mankind to the very brink of destruction. Hb \$58.00 496pp

DIANA GABALDON

 **LORD JOHN AND THE HAND OF DEVILS**

English soldiers fighting in Prussia are rattled by the nocturnal visitations of a deadly woman who sucks life and soul from a man. Called to investigate the night-hag, Lord John finds a murdered soldier and a treacherous Gypsy and comes to the stark realisation that among the spirits that haunt men, none frighten more than the spectres conjured by the heart... Pb \$23.95 400pp




NEIL GAIMAN

 **THE GRAVEYARD BOOK**

Nobody Owens, known to his friends as Bod, is a normal boy - except that he lives in a sprawling graveyard, raised by ghosts, with a solitary guardian who belongs to neither the world of the living nor of the dead. There are dangers and adventures - an ancient Indigo Man beneath the hill, a gateway leading to a city of ghouls, the strange, terrible menace of the Slerer. But if Bod leaves the graveyard, then he will be attacked by Jack - who has already killed Bod's family... Hb \$39.95 320pp (Adult cover) *Ltd Edition* \$65.00

WILLIAM MICHAEL GEAR & KATHLEEN O'NEAL GEAR

 **PEOPLE OF THE WEEPING EYE**
People #15. People called Old White the 'Seeker,' a man never long with any people or place. For years he had wandered, leaving a trail of war, wonder and broken love in his wake. Now he is headed home, called back by visions of chaos, blood and fire. But there is more to the Seeker than most know. He is a man driven by a secret so terrible it may topple the greatest city in North America. Pb \$18.95 608pp

MARK GESTON

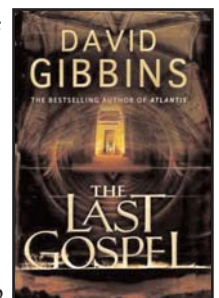
 **THE BOOKS OF THE WARS**

Omnibus edition containing Lords of the Starship, Out of the Mouth of the Dragon and The Siege of Wonder. Three novels making up a saga of the distant future, when the Earth and its inhabitants have transformed almost beyond recognition, science has all but become sorcery and humanity is threatened by creatures out of the past's darkest legends. Pb \$18.95 416pp *Due Feb*

DAVID GIBBINS

 **THE LAST GOSPEL**

Jack Howard is about to discover a secret - perhaps the greatest secret ever kept. What if one of the Ancient World's greatest libraries was buried in volcanic ash and then re-discovered 2,000 years later? What if what was found there was a document that could shatter the very foundations of the Western World? What if you were the one who discovered this secret? And were then forced to confront terrifying enemies determined to destroy you to ensure it goes no further? This is the story of one last Gospel, left behind in the age of the New Testament, in the greatest days of the Roman Empire and of its extraordinary secret, one that has lain concealed for years. Follow Jack Howard as he discovers the secret and must prevent others from doing the same. Pb \$19.99 576pp



**MARTIN GREENBERG
& LOREN L COLEMAN
CRIME SPELLS**

When magic is used for criminal purposes, all sorts of ethical and logistical questions arise beyond the realm of everyday law and order. Now, 16 top tale-tellers offer new stories of those who commit magic crimes, those who investigate them and those who prosecute them. From a young woman who uses out-of-body excursions to research paranormal crimes to a bookie who's been paying for hex protection against magical interference to an artist who does divination through his sketched visions which may lead to a murderer's undoing, here are powerful tales of magical crimes and punishments. Pb \$18.95 320pp *Due Feb*

A J HARTLEY

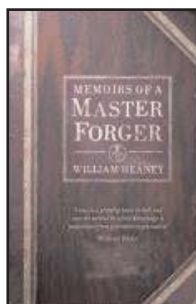
ACT OF WILL

Will Hawthorne, a medieval actor and playwright, flees the authorities only to find himself inextricably bound to a group of high-minded adventurers on a deadly mission. Will travels with them to a distant land where they are charged with the investigation and defeat of a ruthless army of mystical horsemen, who appear out of the mist leaving death and devastation in their wake. In the course of Will's uneasy alliance with his new protectors, he has to get his pragmatic mind to accept selfless heroism (which he thinks is absurd) and magic (which he doesn't believe in). Will must eventually decide where his loyalties really lie and how much he is prepared to do - and believe - to stand up for them. Hb \$55.00 336pp

WILLIAM HEANEY

MEMOIRS OF A MASTER FORGER

William is a book-forger. A talented writer in his own right he would rather scribble poems anonymously for an Asian friend and create forgeries of Jane Austen first editions to sell to gullible collectors. He's not all bad. The money from the forgeries goes straight to homeless hostel and William's crimes don't really hurt anyone. And there are reasons William hasn't amounted to more. He did something he was ashamed of when he was a student, he drinks far too much and he can't commit to any relationships. Oh and he sees demons. Shadowy figures at the shoulder of everyone around him waiting for a moment's weakness. Or is just that William can see the suffering of the world? This is William's story. But who can believe a master forger? Pb \$29.99 320pp



**JIM C HINES
THE STEPSISTER SCHEME**

What would happen if an author went back to the darker themes of the original fairy tales for his plots, and then crossed the Disney princesses with Charlie's Angels? What's delivered is a whole new take on what happened to Cinderella and her prince after the wedding. Pb \$18.95 352pp

**MARJORIE KELLOGG
WITH WILLIAM B ROSSOW**

LEAR'S DAUGHTERS

Set in the future on a distant world, this tackles the issues of global warming, pollution, exploitation of resources and disastrous climate change. Long out of print, it has been completely rewritten by the authors to reflect the cutting-edge knowledge and research on environmentalism of the 21st century. Hb \$55.00 400pp *Due Feb*

GREG KEYES

THE BORN QUEEN

The Briar King is dead, and the world itself follows him to ruin. Aspar White, wounded and tired, must embark on one last quest to save the forest and the people he loves, but he has little hope of success. Anne Dare at last sits on the throne of Crothney, but for how long? The Church, now led by the corrupt and powerful Marché Hespero, has declared a holy war against her, giving the king of Hansa the pretext he needs to unleash his vast might on the young queen and her unready army. But Hansa is the least of Anne's worries. The Hellrune, war seer of Hansa, strikes at her through vision and prophecy. The Kept-last of the elder Skasloi lords-weaves his own dark webs. Anne's teacher and ally in the sedos world might also be her worst enemy, and Anne's own mounting strength compels her toward madness. Pb \$18.95 544pp *Due Feb*

NANCY KRESS

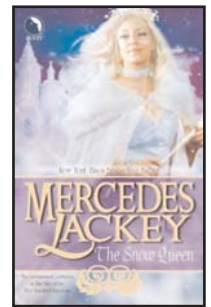
STEAL ACROSS THE SKY

The aliens appeared one day, built a base on the moon and put an ad on the internet: "We are an alien race you may call the Atoners. 10,000 years ago we wronged humanity profoundly. We cannot undo what has been done, but we wish humanity to understand it. Therefore we request 21 volunteers to visit seven planets to Witness for us. We will convey each volunteer there and back in complete safety. Volunteers must speak English. Send requests for electronic applications to witness@Atoners.com." At first, everyone thought it was a joke. But it wasn't. This is the story of three of those volunteers and what they found on Kular A and Kular B. Hb \$58.00 336pp

**MERCEDES LACKEY
THE SNOW QUEEN**

Tales of Five Hundred Kingdoms #4. Aleksia, Queen of the Northern Lights, is mysterious, beautiful and widely known to have a heart of ice.

But when she's falsely accused of unleashing evil on nearby villages, she realises there's an impostor out there far more heartless than she could ever be. And when a young warrior disappears, Aleksia's powers are needed as never before. Now, on a journey through a realm of perpetual winter, it will take all her skills, a mother's faith and a little magic to face down an enemy more formidable than any she has ever known... Pb \$18.95 384pp *Due Feb*



PAUL J MCAULEY

THE QUIET WAR

23rd century Earth, ravaged by climate change, looks backwards to the holy ideal of a pre-industrial Eden. Political power has been grabbed by a few powerful families and their green saints. Millions of people are imprisoned in teeming cities, millions more labour on Pharaonic projects to rebuild ruined ecosystems. On the moons of Jupiter and Saturn, the Outers, descendants of refugees from Earth's repressive regimes, have constructed a wild variety of self-sufficient cities and settlements. The fragile detente between the Outer cities and the dynasties of Earth is threatened by the ambitions of the rising generation of Outers, who want to break free of their cosy, inward-looking pocket paradises. Pb \$32.99 448pp

GREGORY MAGUIRE


SON OF A WITCH

Wicked #2. Back in the land of Oz, the adolescent boy Liir was last seen hiding in the shadows of the castle after Dorothy did in the Witch. Bruised, comatose and left for dead, Liir is tended to at the Cloister of Saint Glinda by a silent novice called Candle, who wills him back to life with her musical gifts. What dark force left Liir in this condition? Is he really Elphaba's son? He has her broom and her cape - but what of her powers? In an Oz that, since the Wizard's departure, is under new and dangerous management, can Liir keep his head down long enough to grow up? Pb \$19.99 464pp




MARGARET MAHY

THE MAGICIAN OF HOAD

 A hero, an ageing magician, a farm boy, a noble daughter and a mad prince meet on the edge of a city of tents. So begins an intricate tale of a boy with a troublesome eye, who is capable of extraordinary things. Forced from home, 12-year-old Heriot's unwilling steps lead to Diamond, first city of the Hoadara, who conquered his people generations before. Forced to serve the King as his magician and strangely bound to Dysart, the mad prince, Heriot is isolated within the walls of Diamond, until he finds Cayley, a wild, ambiguous rat-of-the-city. Two lonely souls forge an unlikely friendship in the shadows of the city both are forced to call home. But when children become adults, childish games become deadly serious and when incipient madness erupts in chillingly violence Heriot is forced to explore the very heart of his magic. Pb \$24.99 447pp


GAIL Z MARTIN

DARK HAVEN

 *The Chronicles of the Necromancer #3.* Matris Drayke, king of Margolan, is faced with the challenge to rebuild his shattered kingdom. With his wedding weeks away, Tris must address the trials and executions of those responsible for the atrocities against Margolan's people. Jonmarc Vahanian, the new Lord of Dark Haven, and one of Tris's allies, faces trouble with the Blood Council, where there is defiance against the prospect of a mortal lord. And beneath Dark Haven, the Flow, the vast river of power damaged when Arontala wrested the Soulcatcher from Dark Haven's foundation, is becoming unstable, threatening the balance of magic itself and the future of the Winter Kingdoms. Pb \$18.95 640pp


A LEE MARTINEZ

THE AUTOMATIC DETECTIVE

 Even in Empire City, a town where weird science is the hope for tomorrow, it's hard for a robot to make his way. It's even harder for a robot named Mack Megaton, a hulking machine designed to bring mankind to its knees. But Mack's not interested in world domination. He's just a bot trying to get by, trying to demonstrate that he isn't just an automated smashing machine and to earn his citizenship in the process. When Mack's neighbours are kidnapped, Mack sets off on a journey through the dark alleys and gleaming skyscrapers of Empire City. Along the way, he runs afoul of a talking gorilla, a brainy dame, a mutant lowlife, a little green mob boss and the secret conspiracy at the heart of Empire's founders - not to mention more trouble than he bargained for. Pb \$16.95 320pp *Due Feb*


PAUL MELKO

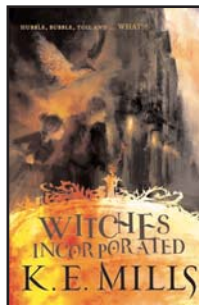
THE WALLS OF THE UNIVERSE

 When John Rayburn's doppelganger appears, tempted him with a device that let him travel across worlds and then stole his life from him. John soon finds himself caroming through universes, unable to return home - the device is broken. John settles in a new universe to unravel its secrets and fix it. Meanwhile, his doppelganger tries to exploit the commercial technology he's stolen from other Earths. John's attempts to lie low in his new universe backfire when he inadvertently introduces pinball. It becomes a huge success. Both actions draw the notice of other, more dangerous travellers, who are exploiting worlds for ominous purposes. Hb \$58.00 384pp *Due Feb*

K E MILLS


WITCHES INCORPORATED

 *Rogue Agent #2.* Gerald has gone into secret training for the Ottosland government. Unbeknownst to him, Princess Melissande is now living in Ottosland as well and has started a witching and wizarding locum agency. Witches Incorporated is hired to solve a case of staff pilfering in a prestigious magical Research and Development firm - that also happens to have ties to the government. Confusion arises when Melissande and Gerald discover that they are both working at the firm undercover... but for separate allegiances. They will have to team up, rise above the chaos which unfolds and an enemy's promise of the ultimate retribution - Gerald's untimely death. Pb \$24.99 480pp *Due Feb*




KATHERINE NEVILLE

THE FIRE

 *Sequel to The Eight (Pb \$18.95).* Alexandra Solarin, a chess-wizard and only daughter of Cat Velis, arrives at her mother's lodge, to discover that her mother has disappeared. Finding string of clues, Alexandra is soon joined by a group of people called there by her mother. In 1822, as the fortress of Sultan Ali Pasha falls to the Turks, the Sultan's daughter Haidee attempts a desperate journey taking her through Albania, Morocco and Rome, while carrying an invaluable object and seeking the one man who can help her - the poet George Gordon, Lord Byron. Both Alexandra and Haidee are players in a dangerous game that began more than a millennium before either of them were born and that has the power to affect the fate of human civilisation. Hb \$45.00 Tp \$32.99 451pp


LARRY NIVEN & JERRY POURNELLE

ESCAPE FROM HELL

 *Inferno #2.* Allan Carpenter escaped from hell once, but remained haunted by what he saw and endured. He has now returned, on a mission to liberate those souls unfairly tortured and confined. Partnering with the legendary poet and suicide, Sylvia Plath, Carpenter is a modern-day Christ who intends to harrow hell and free the damned. But now that he's returned to this Dantesque Inferno, can he ever again leave? Hb \$55.00 336pp


LARRY NIVEN (ED)

MAN KZIN WARS XII

 The kzin, formerly invincible conquerors of all they encountered, had a hard time dealing with their defeat by the humans. Some secretly hatched schemes for a rematch, others concentrated on gathering power within the kzin hierarchy and some cooperated with the humans, though often for hidden motives. In war and in uneasy peace, kzin and humans continue their adventures, as told by Hal Colebatch, Paul Chafe and Michael Joseph Harrington. Hb \$52.00 384pp *Due Feb*


ANDRE NORTON

FROM THE SEA TO THE STARS

 *Omnibus edition containing Sea Siege and Star Gate.* Two complete novels of courageous men and women struggling to survive in worlds of unknown dangers and implacable enemies. The nuclear war had come at last and the research team on an island in the West Indies thought they had been lucky to survive. But survival was going to require more than luck, when they found themselves under attack by sea creatures out of darkest legend, directed by a previously unknown intelligence from the depths of the sea which was determined to eliminate mankind as a competitor and seize what was left of the world for itself. Pb \$18.95 384pp *Due Feb*

ERIC NYLUND

MORTAL COILS

 Nothing interesting has ever happened to 15-year-old orphans Eliot and Fiona while they've lived in the strict, oppressive household of their grandmother. A chance visit, however, reveals that there is much more to the twins. They are the offspring of a goddess and Lucifer, Prince of Darkness. Now, to settle the epic custody battle between these two families, the fallen angels create three diabolical temptations and the gods fashion three heroic trials to test Eliot and Fiona. More than ever they need to stick together to survive and to learn how to use their budding supernatural abilities for family allegiances are ever-shifting in the ancient, secret world they have entered. Pb \$34.00 592pp *Due Feb*

JAMES PATTERSON

 **THE FINAL WARNING**

A Maximum Ride novel. Max returns in a chilling adventure unlike any other. Safe havens for the six highly-sought-after winged kids have become increasingly hard to find, so the flock takes refuge in Antarctica with a team of environmentalists studying the effects of global warming. In this remote wilderness, whether pursued by corrupt governments, bioengineered bad-guys, or the harsh forces of nature, survival of the fittest takes a new twist! Pb \$19.95 320pp

GUILLEME PREVOST

 **GATE OF DAYS**

Book of Time #2. Sam now knows his father is trapped in Vlad Tepes's castle, but he can't save him without the seven coins that will allow him to direct his travel to the right year in Time. So he sets off on a desperate journey through the ages to collect the coins - to the oracle at Delphi, Pompeii before Mt. Vesuvius - even Chicago in 1932, where he meets his seven-year-old grandfather. But things get wilder still when he finally finds his father, who is sick, dying, raving... and who insists they must rescue Sam's dead mother from Time! Pb \$24.99 256pp

KIT REED

 **ENCLAVE**

The world is in chaos: war, plague, global ecological collapse. Parents everywhere seek sanctuary for their precious children, the future of mankind. For those who are rich and powerful enough, safety can be found - for a price - at the Clothos Academy. Run by a mysterious man known only as Sarge, set in a former monastery on a tiny island somewhere in the Mediterranean, Clothos will admit only 100 students before it is sealed off from the terrors outside. And the dangers from which these castaways are being protected? Pre-recorded, ready to be trotted out whenever Sarge needs to terrify his little flock. And yet... Some dangers are real, as two boys discover when they hack the Academy's self-contained computer network and connect, for a brief but disastrous moment, to the outside world. Hb \$58.00 368pp Due Feb

CHRISTOPHER RIDE

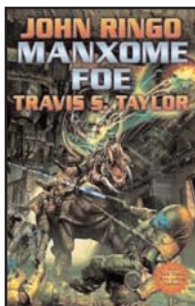
 **THE SCHUMANN FREQUENCY**

An Overseer has crossed generations to save the world. Time itself is moving too quickly, with each day becoming shorter than the last. Society is unravelling. A woman fears she is losing her mind. She's having an unexplainable psychic connection with a man she has never met. To prove her sanity, she must find him, chasing across the globe on a whirlwind adventure to some of the most mysterious and ancient sites on earth - monuments that hold a secret power. Pb \$21.95 518pp

JOHN RINGO & TRAVIS S TAYLOR

 **MANXOME FOE**

Looking Glass #3. In the midst of recovering from their successful if casualty prone first mission, the crew of the Alliance Space Ship *Vorpul Blade* are suddenly scrambled back into action. All other priorities take second place as word arrives on earth of a gate colony which has fallen to an unidentified alien assault. Pb \$18.95 544pp Due Feb



CHRIS ROBERSON

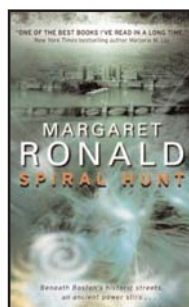
 **THREE UNBROKEN: A NOVEL OF THE CELESTIAL EMPIRE**

Celestial Empire #3. This details the explosive war between the Chinese and Aztec empires as they battle for control of the red planet, Fire Star. Pb \$18.95 416pp Due Feb

MARGARET RONALD

 **SPIRAL HUNT**

Some people have the Sight. Genevieve Scelan has the Scent. They call her 'Hound,' and with her unique supernatural sense Evie can track nearly anything - lost keys, vanished family heirlooms... even missing people. And though she knows to stay out of the magical undercurrent that runs beneath Boston's historic streets, a midnight phone call from a long-vanished lover will destroy the careful boundaries she has drawn. Now, to pay a years-old debt, Evie must venture into the shadowy world that lies between myth and reality, where she will find betrayal, conspiracies and revelations that will shatter all she believes about herself and the city she claims as home. Pb \$18.95 320pp Due Feb



J K ROWLING

 **THE TALES OF BEEDLE THE BARD**

There are five tales: The Tale of the Three Brothers, plus The Fountain of Fair Fortune, The Warlock's Hairy Heart, The Wizard and the Hopping Pot and Babbitty Rabbitty and her Cackling Stump. Each has its own magical character and will bring delight, laughter and the thrill of mortal peril. Translated from the original runes by Hermione Granger, the tales are introduced and illustrated by J K Rowling. Also included are notes by Professor Albus Dumbledore, which appear by kind permission of the Hogwarts Headmasters' Archive. Hb \$16.95 128pp

RUDY RUCKER

 **POSTSINGULAR**

It begins the day after next year in California. A maladjusted computer industry billionaire and a somewhat crazy US president initiate a radical transformation of the world through sentient nanotechnology. At first they succeed, but their plans are reversed by Chu, an autistic boy. The next time it isn't so easy. Most of the story takes place in our world after a previously unimaginable transformation. All things look the same and all people feel the same - but they are different. Travel to and from other nearby worlds in the quantum universe is possible. And our world is visited by giant humanoids from another quantum universe, some of whom mean to tidy up the mess we've made. Or maybe just run things. Pb \$36.00 320pp

KRISTINE KATHRYN RUSCH

 **DUPLICATE EFFORT**

Retrieval Artist #7. Retrieval Artist Miles Flint is on a personal mission - to bring down the corrupt law firm of Wagner, Stuart and Xender. Then a journalist working with him is murdered and Miles may be next. But he has a more personal crisis to deal with - his daughter Talia is missing. Talia, one of six clones of Miles' long-dead child, has gone off to find the other five. As Miles pursues her, he begins to fear that her search for her 'sisters' and his for the killer are on a collision course... Pb \$18.95 384pp Due Feb

KEN SCHOLES

 **LAMENTATION**

An ancient weapon has completely destroyed the city of Windwir. From many miles away, Rudolfo, Lord of the Nine Forest Houses, sees the horrifying column of smoke rising. He knows that war is coming to the Named Lands. Nearer to the Devastation, a young apprentice is the only survivor of the city - he sat waiting for his father outside the walls, and was transformed as he watched everyone he knew die in an instant. Hb \$55.00 368pp Due Feb

MANDA SCOTT

 **THE CRYSTAL SKULL**

Ancient wisdom predicts the end of the world with uncanny precision. But it also provided the key to staving off apocalypse - a flawless sapphire carved into the perfect likeness of a human skull. Hidden for four centuries, a crystal skull of exquisite beauty has just been found by Stella Cody, who also inherits its legacy of dark secrets, intrigue and murder. Stella and her lover, Kit, struggle to crack the code that hides the Skull's intended resting place. But time is against them and they have days - hours - left to uncover the secret that may yet save the world. Pb \$21.95 544pp

E E Doc SMITH



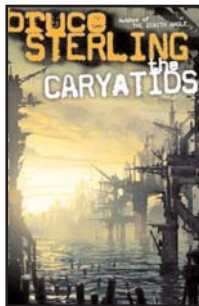
TRIPLANETARY

The Lensman Saga #1. No single phrase can describe the first of these classic stories, the volume providing the background for the remaining novels in the series. It might be termed a Galactic Romance, or a Cosmological Fantasy - but above all else it is a story. From the atomic age in Atlantis or a bloody Roman arena, you are borne to the watery world of Nevia, remote in space and time. You meet two incredible ancient races, the Arisians and the Eddorians and you view the ancient conflict between these worlds. Pb \$16.95 272pp *Due Feb*

BRUCE STERLING

THE CARYATIDS

The world of 2060 is divided into three spheres of influence, each fighting with the others over the resources of fallen nations and an environment degraded almost to the point of no return.



Products of this monstrous world, the daughters of a monstrous mother, and - according to some - monsters themselves, are the Caryatids: the four surviving female clones of a mad Balkan genius and wanted war criminal now ensconced, safely beyond extradition, on an orbiting space station. The four 'sisters' are united only by their hatred for their 'mother' - and for one another. When evidence surfaces of a coming environmental cataclysm, the Dispensation sends its greatest statesman - or salesman - John Montgomery Montalban, husband of Radmila and lover of Vera and Sonja, to gather the Caryatids together in an audacious plan to save the world. Hb \$55.00 304pp *Due Feb*

S M STIRLING

IN THE COURTS OF THE CRIMSON KINGS

Jeremy Wainman, an archaeologist, is on Mars to search for the secrets of the Kings Beneath the Mountain and the fallen empire they ruled. Teyud Zha-Zhalt is the Martian mercenary the Terrans hire as guide. A secret links her to the deadly intrigues of Dvor il-Adazar, the City That Is A Mountain, where the last aging descendant of the Tollamune Emperors clings to the remnants of his power... and secrets that may trace their origin to the enigmatic Ancients, the Lords of Creation who reshaped the Solar System in the time of the dinosaurs. When these three meet, the foundations of reality will be shaken - from the lost city of Rema-Dza to the courts of the Crimson Kings. Pb \$18.95 368pp *Due Feb*

JONATHAN STROUD



HEROES OF THE VALLEY

Halli loves the old stories from when the valley was a wild and dangerous place - when the 12 legendary heroes, led by his ancestor Svein, stood together to defeat the ancient enemy, the bloodthirsty Trows. Halli longs for adventure, but it seems these days the most dangerous thing in the valley is boredom. He tries to liven things up by taunting his siblings and playing practical jokes, but when one of his jokes goes too far and reawakens an old blood feud, Halli finds himself on a hero's quest after all. Along the way he meets a ruthless thief, a murderous rival and a girl who may just be as fearless as he is. Halli may be about to make his own last stand and discover the truth about the legends, about his family and about himself... Hb \$29.95 400pp

CATHERYNNNE M VALENTE

PALIMPSET

Between life and death, dreaming and waking, at the train stop beyond the end of the world is the city of Palimpsest. To get there is a miracle, a mystery, a gift and a curse - a voyage permitted only to those who've always believed there's another world than the one that meets the eye. Those fated to make the passage are marked forever by a map of that wondrous city tattooed on their flesh after a single orgasmic night. To this kingdom of ghost trains, lion-priests, living kanji and cream-filled canals come four travellers: Oleg, a New York locksmith; the beekeeper November; Ludovico, a binder of rare books; and a young Japanese woman named Sei. They've each lost something important - a wife, a lover, a sister, a direction in life - and what they will find in Palimpsest is more than they could ever imagine. Pb \$32.00 384pp *Due Feb*

BETH VAUGHAN

RED GLOVES

Red Gloves is a mercenary, raised to the blade and trained in the ways of war. She and her sword-sister have come to Palins looking for work, but they find torched fields and razed farms. During a storm they stumble across a derelict mansion and beg shelter of the occupant, the resident goatherd. He's not happy and he's not impressed with the stropy mercenary - but Red Gloves is even less impressed when he notices her birthmark and claims it marks her out as Chosen, born to help the people of Palins reclaim their land. So she takes what she wants of the goatherd and she leaves. But circumstances force Red back to the mansion and this time she's more inclined to help. She's poised, reluctantly, to do her thing, when it turns out she's not the only Chosen in the race for freedom and the crown. Hb \$55.00 Tp \$32.00 320pp

JULES WATSON



THE SWAN MAIDEN

She was born with a blessing and a curse: that she would grow into a woman of extraordinary beauty - and bring ruin to the kingdom of Ulster and its ruler, the wily King Conor. Ignoring the pleadings of his druid to expel the infant,



King Conor secrets the girl child with a poor couple in his province, where no man can covet her. There, under the tutelage of a shamaness, Deirdre comes of age in nature and magic... Soon the green-eyed girl finds herself at the side of three rebellious young warriors. Among them is the handsome Naisi. His heart charged with bitterness toward the aging king and growing in love for the defiant girl, Naisi will lead Deirdre far from Ulster - and into a war of wits, swords and spirit that will take a lifetime to wage. Pb \$27.95 544pp *Due Feb*

BRENT WEEKS

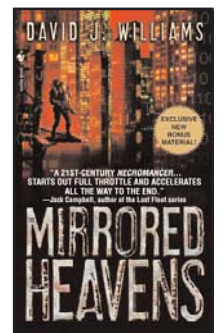
BEYOND THE SHADOWS

Night Angel #3. Logan Gyre is king of Cenaria, a country under siege, with a threadbare army and little hope. He has one chance - a desperate gamble, but one that could destroy his kingdom. In the north, the new Godking has a plan. If it comes to fruition, no one will have the power to stop him. Kylar Stern has no choice. To save his friends - and perhaps his enemies - he must accomplish the impossible: assassinate a goddess. Pb \$19.99 736pp

DAVID J WILLIAMS

MIRRORED HEAVENS

In the 22nd century, the first wonder of a brave new world is the Phoenix Space Elevator, designed to give mankind greater access to the frontier beyond Earth. Built by the United States and the Eurasian Coalition, the Elevator is a symbol of superpower alliance following a second cold war. And it's just been destroyed. Enter Claire Haskell and Jason Marlowe, US counterintelligence agents and former lovers - though their memories may only be constructs implanted by their spymaster. As the crisis mounts, the lives of all involved will converge in one explosive finale - and a startling aftermath that will rewrite everything they've ever known - about their mission, their world and themselves. Pb \$16.95 432pp



PARANORMAL ROMANCE

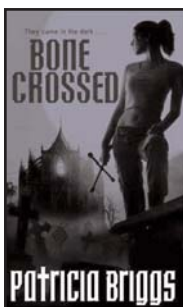


KELLEY ARMSTRONG LIVING WITH THE DEAD

Women of the Otherworld #9. When Robyn Peltier's boss is murdered and she is named prime suspect, she is way out of her depth. As the bodies pile up only her friend Hope and Hope's somewhat spooky boyfriend Karl, are on her side. Hope, meanwhile, has a few secrets of her own. Namely that she is half-demon and her 'spooky' boyfriend is actually a werewolf. Hope also knows that Robyn has accidentally stumbled into a bloody supernatural turf war. And the only way she can keep her friend alive is by letting her enter a world she's safer knowing nothing about... Hb \$49.95 384pp

PATRICIA BRIGGS BONE CROSSED

Mercy Thompson #4. By day, Mercy Thompson is a car mechanic in Eastern Washington. By night, she explores her preternatural side. As a shape-shifter with some unusual talents, Mercy's found herself maintaining a tenuous harmony between the human and the not-so-human on more than one occasion. This time she may get more than she bargained for. Hb \$55.00 320pp *Due Feb*



KRESLEY COLE

KISS OF A DEMON KING

Immortals After Dark #6. His obsession... Sabine, Sorceress of Illusions: the evil beauty who surrenders her body, but not her heart. Her downfall... Rydstrom Woede: the ruthless warrior who vows to keep her at all costs. If they can defeat the sinister enemy that stands between them, will Sabine make the ultimate sacrifice for her demon? Or will the proud king lay down his crown and arms to save his sorceress? Pb \$18.95 352pp

DEBORAH COOKE

KISS OF FATE

Dragonfire #3. For millennia, the shape-shifting dragon warriors known as the Pyr have commanded the four elements and guarded the earth's treasures. But now the final reckoning between the Pyr, who count humans among the earth's treasures and the Slayers, who would eradicate both humans and the Pyr who protect them, is about to begin. Haunted by dreams of a lover who takes the form of a dragon, Eileen Grosvenor searches for the truth. She never expects to find a real dragon shape shifter, let alone one who awakens her passion and ignites memories of a forgotten past. Pb \$18.95 416pp *Due Feb*

MARY JANICE DAVIDSON FISH OUT OF WATER

Fred the Mermaid #3. Fred the mermaid has taken the bait and chosen Artur, Prince of the Black Sea, over human marine biologist Thomas. And just in time. The existence of the Undersea Folk is no longer a secret and someone needs to keep them from floundering in the media spotlight. Fred has all the right skills for the job, but not for when her real father surfaces and tries to overthrow Artur's regime. However, as civil war threatens to sink the merfolk, Fred can't stop thinking about the landlubber she left behind. Pb \$17.99 256pp

JAMIE LEIGH HANSEN CURSED

For 12 years the dream has always been the same, then, one night, everything changes. A mysterious entity shows Alex Foster a vision of his dream woman in danger from demonic forces. Elizabeth Raines has returned home to Spokane to care for her dying mother and abandoned nieces and nephews. With their family home ready to crash down around them, she carries the weight of the world on her shoulders. Until the day Alex shows up, unwilling to love her only in their shared dreams. But an ancient enemy has awakened and only Alex and Elizabeth's combined supernatural gifts can save them. Pb \$16.95 384pp

SHERRILYN KENYON DREAM WARRIOR

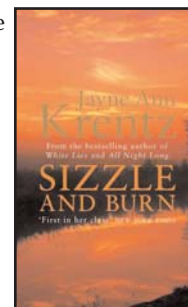
Dream-Hunter #4. The son of Warcraft and Hate, Cratus spent eternity battling for the ancient gods who birthed him. Until the day he laid down his arms and walked into self-imposed exile. Now an ancient enemy has been unleashed and our dreams are his chosen battlefield. As a Dream-Hunter, Delphine knows the Dream-Hunters need a new leader and Cratus is her only hope. If she can't win him to her cause, mankind will be slaughtered and the world we know will cease to exist. Pb \$19.99 320pp *Due Feb*

SHERRILYN KENYON, ET AL DEAD AFTER DARK

Shadow of the Moon by Sherrilyn Kenyon: With her patria under fire, Angelia has to protect her people from Fury and his werewolf clan. *The Story of Son* by J R Ward: A routine meeting with a client turns dangerous for lawyer Claire Stroughton, when she is held captive by a gorgeous man with an unworldly hunger... *Seize the Night* by Susan Squires: When Drew Carlowe returns home to win back a lost love, he dismisses rumours that his estate is haunted... until a passionate encounter leaves him aching for more. *Midnight Kiss Goodbye* by Dianna Love: Trey McCree possesses an insatiable desire for Sasha Armand - and supernatural powers that could endanger her life. Pb \$18.95 384pp

JAYNE ANN KRENTZ SIZZLE AND BURN

Arcane Society #3. Raine Tallentyre, recently dumped, knows her gifted Aunt Vella was right - she should always keep her paranormal abilities a secret. And now that Vella, her last relative, has died, Raine's resigned herself to a lonely life. Then, while clearing out Vella's house, Raine's sensitivity leads her to a horrifying discovery: a young woman, bound and terrified, in the basement. The victim is on the loose. Suddenly, a new man enters Raine's life: psychic investigator Zack Jones. She's wary of his motives, but as a killer makes her his target and a group of psychic criminals operating in the shadows surrounds them, Raine and Zack must rely not only on their powerful abilities, but on each other... Pb \$23.95 480pp *Due Feb*

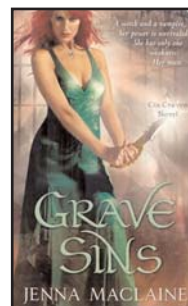


KAREN MACINERNEY ON THE PROWL

Tales of an Urban Werewolf #2. With a big promotion at work and a supersexy boyfriend, Heath, Sophie Garou is one happy girl. But when Heath starts spending long nights at the office with his new associate - Sophie smells trouble. And when her professional relationship with her big new client begins to sizzle, she wonders if her animal instincts are leading her in the wrong direction. Just when it seems that things can't get more complicated, they do. The Houston werewolf pack has sniffed Sophie out and their message is chillingly clear: you're either with us or against us. Pb \$12.95 384pp

JENNA MACLAINE GRAVE SINS

A Cin Craven novel. In the arms of her lover Michael, Cin Craven has found satisfaction for her most primal longings. She has also found a purpose for her unearthly powers. She is a member of a band of slayers that hunts down vampires who inflict evil upon the world. With Michael by her side, Cin's latest mission brings her face-to-face with Marrakesh, a half-mad vampire queen charged with slaughtering humans. It's a mission that will pit Michael and Cin against each other for the first time, awakening their darkest instincts and testing their love like never before... Pb \$16.95 352pp *Due Feb*



ALEXIS MORGAN
DARKNESS UNKNOWN

Paladin of Darkness #5. Gwen Mosely's life changes forever when she stumbles across a stranger, bleeding and left for dead in the woods behind her farm. But the real shock is how his wounds heal overnight - a trait he shares with Gwen's teenaged half-brother Chase. Jarvis Donahue can't keep his eyes - or his hands - off the sexy redhead who rescued him. Gwen's warm smile and lust-filled eyes are impossible to resist... but Jarvis immediately recognises Chase as a fellow Paladin, a warrior born to defend mankind in the relentless battle against the Others. Pb \$16.95 384pp *Due Feb*

CATHERINE MULVANY
WICKED IS THE NIGHT

Nevada White is on the run from a strange psychic gift that enables her to see evil... from two deadly predators who are tracking her every move... and from a past she can't recall. The only clue to her identity is a gold amulet, torn from her neck in a struggle with her pursuers. With no safe haven, she crashes into the life of gorgeous race car driver Trick Grainger near a small California town. And though it's clear Nevada spells trouble, she arouses all Trick's protective instincts... and a whole lot more. Pb \$16.95 368pp

NORA ROBERTS
PAGAN STONE

Sign of Seven #3. The Pagan Stone had stood for hundreds of years, long before three boys gathered around it to spill their blood in a bond of brotherhood, unwittingly releasing a force bent on destruction... Gage Turner has been running from his past for a long time. Now Gage has returned home to help his friends save Hawkins Hollow, but a lifetime as a loner has made him wary of emotional ties. And who can make plans for the future when their present is so uncertain? For unless they find a way to use the Pagan Stone against the demonic force, everything they know and love will be destroyed... Pb \$19.99 336pp

LYNSAY SANDS
THE ROGUE HUNTER

Argeneaus #10. Samantha Willan would rather work than take a vacation, but her sisters won't take no for an answer. Whisked away to the family cottage, things go from bad to worse when the power goes out. Then three very sexy men show up next door, claiming to be in a rock band and Samantha starts to think this may not have been such a bad idea after all. The last thing Garrett Mortimer needs is to worry about three mortals. He's on the trail of a rogue vampire and keeping up his cover around these three women is an added headache. Now is not the time to find a lifemate - but Fate has other plans. Pb \$18.95 384pp

CARRIE VAUGHN
KITTY AND THE DEAD MAN'S HAND

Kitty Norville #5. Already the alpha pair of Denver's werewolf pack, Kitty and Ben now plan to tie the knot human-style by eloping to Vegas. Kitty is looking forward to sipping fru-fru drinks by the pool and doing her popular radio show on live TV, but her hotel is stocked with werewolf-hating bounty hunters. Sin City has never been so wild and this werewolf has never had to fight harder to save not only her wedding, but her very life. Pb \$16.95 336pp *Due Feb*



L A BANKS
THE THIRTEENTH

Vampire Huntress #12 The entire Neteru Guardian team is on the run, having now been labelled as America's most-wanted terrorists following the gruesome demon battle that felled the Washington Monument and crashed the front doors of the White House. If things weren't bad enough, the Dark Realm breaks the sixth Biblical seal, which plunges the world into perpetual darkness... and irrevocably into the Armageddon. Pb \$34.00 304pp *Due Feb*

CHRISTOPHER GOLDEN
SOULLESS

Times Square, New York City. Three mediums have gathered for a live broadcast on network television. They believe they can jointly create a massive communication network, thinning the barrier between this world and the next, and every spirit within a 300 mile radius will be able to cross over, briefly, to speak to grieving loved ones. What sounds like a miracle quickly becomes a nightmare - for 300 miles around fragments of corpses dig themselves out of the ground and seek out those they left behind with sinister intentions. Pb \$19.95 272pp

CHRIS MARIE GREEN
NIGHT RISING

Vampire Babylon #1. Stuntwoman Dawn Madison hasn't been on the best of terms with her father since her movie star mother died. Still, he is her dad, and when he vanishes while investigating the bizarre sighting - caught on film - of a supposedly long-dead child star, she comes home to Tinseltown to join the search for him. Working with his odd colleagues, she discovers an erotic and bloody underground society made up of creatures she thought existed only on the screen. Pb \$18.95 400pp

CHARLAINE HARRIS
& **TONI L P KELNER (EDS)**
MANY BLOODY RETURNS:

TALES OF BIRTHDAYS WITH BITE
From cakes to stakes, a celebration of everyone's favourite bloodsucking subculture by a baker's dozen of favourite authors. Each of these 13 original stories offers a fresh and unique take on what birthdays mean to the undead. From Charlaune Harris's Sookie Stackhouse attending a birthday party for Dracula to Jim Butcher's Harry Dresden battling bloodsucking party crashers, these suspenseful, surprising, sometimes dark, sometimes humorous stories will ensure paranormal fans will never think of vampires or birthdays quite the same again. Pb \$34.00 400pp *Due Feb*

JOHN SKIPP & CODY GOODFELLOW
JAKE'S WAKE

Pastor Jake promised his followers everlasting life, he just didn't say what kind. So when the small-town televangelist and con-man climbs out of his coffin at his own wake, it becomes Judgment Day for everyone gathered to mourn- or celebrate - his death. Jake is back, in the rotting flesh, filled with anger and vengeance and accompanied by demons even more frightening than himself. What follows is a long night of endless terror, a blood-drenched rampage by the man not even death could stop. Pb \$18.95 336pp

RICHARD TAYLOR
THE HAUNTING OF CAMBRIA

"Lily died the day we signed the escrow papers," Theo Parker writes of his bride and the bed-and-breakfast they'd just bought in the picturesque coastal town of Cambria. He was driving the day they crashed into an oncoming car, killing Lily instantly. Theo soon learns he can no more bring his beautiful new wife back than he can kill the guilt that's eating his soul - or the thing that's haunting his new home. Making the best of his recuperation from the car accident, Theo and his property manager, Eleanor Gacy, begin to investigate strange occurrences in Monroe House, the bed-and-breakfast. As they do, both Theo and Eleanor start to hope for a chance at redemption and maybe even a new beginning. Pb \$16.95 320pp

WRATH JAMES WHITE
SUCCULENT PREY

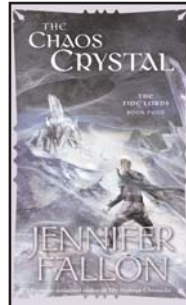
Could serial killers be victims of a communicable disease? 15 years ago, Joseph Miles was attacked by a serial child murderer. He was the only one of the madman's victims to survive. Now he himself is slowly turning into a killer. He can feel the urges, the burning needs, getting harder and harder to resist. Can anything stop him - or cure him - before he kills the only woman he's ever loved? Or before he infects someone else? Pb \$18.95 307pp

What We've Been Reading...

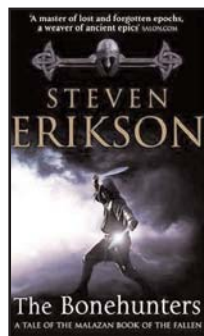


Beyond the Shadows (Night Angel #3) by Brent Weeks (Pb \$19.99). A wonderful finish to the brilliant trilogy, though I must admit I would have liked a different ending. The war to decide the fate of Midcyru rests on Kylar's shoulders as he has to choose between his friends and what is right, finally discovering the horrifying price of each death he has endured. A lot of fun with several unexpected twists at the end and definitely worth reading. - *Chrissi*

The Chaos Crystal (Tide Lords #4) by Jennifer Fallon (Pb \$20.99). Picking up from the cliffhanger ending of book three, this story races across the face of Amyrantha as the King Tide comes and immortal megalomaniacs face off against each other and the humans they had once ruled. Fallon does a masterful job of weaving the various storylines into a compelling yarn that kept me up until the wee hours - and finished off with one of the best endings I've read in a long time. If you haven't read her work before, pick up this series, it's great! - *Mark*



The Bonehunters by Steven Erikson (Pb \$24.95) *The Malazan Book of the Fallen* continues to astound me with its epic scale. In book six of the series, the seemingly unstoppable might of the Malazan Empire's forces closes inexorably on the last bastion of resistance on the embattled continent of Seven Cities, who are as yet unaware of the growing extent of the Crippled God's manipulations. Erikson has crafted a fantastically intricate universe that begs continued reading. Each book has me more excited for the next! - *Matt*



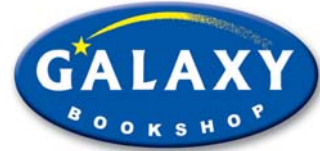
Dark Lover & Lover Eternal (Black Dagger Brotherhood #1 & #2) J R Ward (Pb \$19.99 ea). I thought I'd try a different paranormal romance author. It's true of most genres that there are certain elements needed for certain stories and paranormal romance is no exception. There are a lot of similarities between these and Kenyon's *Dark-Hunter* books. While I enjoyed Kenyon's more, these were still worth reading. But the names - Wrath, Phury, Rhage, Zsadist, aw come on.... (mind you, this won't stop me from reading the rest. I think I need a 28-day program). - *Steph*

COMPETITION

To win one of five copies of Marianne de Pierres' **Chaos Space**, name the first book in her *Sentinels of Orion* series. Mail, fax or email (competition@galaxybooks.com.au) your answer along with your name and address. Entry closes 16 Feb 2009. Entry open to Galaxy Cardholders only.

COMPETITION WINNERS

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