



NEXUS

JUNE 2004

ISSUE #193

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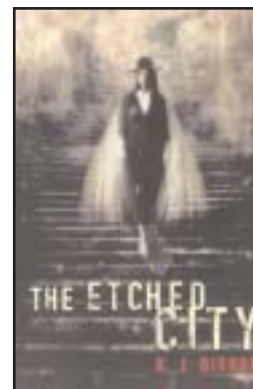
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Sat 19 - Sun 27 June

DITMAR AWARD WINNERS

NOVEL



The Etched City by Kirsten Bishop

COLLECTED WORK (tie)



Agog: Terrific Tales edited by Cat Sparks

Forever Shores

Peter McNamara & Margaret Winch (Eds)

NOVELLA

La Sentinelle by Lucy Sussex

SHORT STORY

Room for Improvement by Trudi Canavan

BEST ARTWORK

Agog! Terrific Tales by Catriona Sparks

FAN WRITER

Bruce Gillespie

FAN ARTIST

Les Petersen

FAN PRODUCTION

Elsewhere Launch, CSFG

FANZINE

Edwina Harvey & Edwin Scribner (Eds)

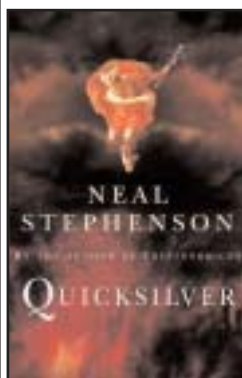
THE WILLIAM ATHELING JR. AWARD

Bruce Gillespie

BEST NEW TALENT

Kirsten Bishop

ARTHUR C CLARKE AWARD WINNER



Quicksilver by Neal Stephenson

Neal Stephenson follows his international bestseller, the WWII thriller *Cryptonomicon*, with a novel set in the 16th and 17th centuries, in a world of war and scientific, religious and political turmoil. With a cast of characters that includes Newton, Leibniz, Christopher Wren, Charles II, Cromwell and the young Benjamin Franklin, Stephenson again shows his extraordinary ability to get inside a place and time; as he did for the futures of his science fiction (*Snowcrash*, *The Diamond Age*) and for WWII (*Cryptonomicon*), here he does for the England of the Civil War and the Europe of the Wars of Religion and the Scientific Revolution.



FOR
STOCKTAKE
TUES 8 JUNE
UNTIL 12 MIDDAY

We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY

MON 14 JUNE

WE ARE OPEN 10AM - 5PM



SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY



POUL ANDERSON

 **AGENT OF THE TERRAN EMPIRE**

Captain Flandry undergoes a series of adventures. He is abducted by the Scothians, an alien race hoping to invade the Terran Empire; rescues the Emperor's kidnapped granddaughter; meets Aycharaych, his nemesis in league with the Merseians; and investigates a previously unencountered alien race that has invaded the distant colonial world of Vixen. Tp \$27.00 198pp

NEAL ASHER

 **COWL**

In the far future, the Heliothane Dominion is triumphant in its bitter war with their Umbrathane progenitors. But some of the enemy have escaped into the past, intent on wreaking havoc across time. The worst of these is Cowl, an artificially forced advance in human evolution. Tp \$30.00 406pp

 **THE LINE OF POLITY**

Outlink station Miranda has been destroyed by a nanomycelium. The very nature of this sabotage suggests that the alien bioconstruct Dragon - a creature as untrustworthy as it is gigantic - is somehow involved. Pb \$19.95 663pp

MARGARET ATWOOD

 **ORYX AND CRAKE**

Pigs might not fly, but they are strangely altered. So, for that matter, are wolves and racoons. A man, once named Jimmy, lives in a tree, wrapped in old bedsheets, now calls himself Snowman. The voice of Oryx, the woman he loved, teasingly haunts him. And the green-eyed Children of Crake are, for some reason, his responsibility. Pb \$22.95 436pp

JAMES AXLER

 **MAD GOD'S WRATH**

Outlanders #27. Betrayal and treachery brings the rebel stronghold under siege by the resurrected demon king of a lost world. With a prize hostage in tow to lure Kane and his fellow warriors, he retreats to the uncharted planet of mystery and impossibility for a final act of madness. From the great pyramids of Mars, earth's destiny will come full circle... Pb \$15.95 346pp

R SCOTT BAKKER

 **THE DARKNESS THAT COMES BEFORE**

The Prince of Nothing #1. A score of centuries has passed since the First Apocalypse. The No-God has been vanquished and the thoughts of men have turned, inevitably, to more worldly concerns... Drusas Achamian, tormented by 2,000 year old nightmares, is a sorcerer and a spy, constantly seeking news of an ancient enemy that few believe still exists. Ikurei Conphas, nephew to the Nansur Emperor, is the Exalt-General of the Imperial Army and a military genius. He plots to conquer the known world for himself. Maithanet, mysterious and charismatic, is spiritual leader of the Thousand Temples. He seeks a Holy War to cleanse the land of the infidel. Cnaiur is a Scylvendi barbarian, rejected by his people and seeking vengeance against the former slave who slew his father. Into this world steps Anasurimbor Kellhus, the product of 2,000 years of breeding and a lifetime of training in the ways of thought, limb and face. Steering souls through the subtleties of word and expression, he slowly binds all to his own mysterious ends. Tp \$29.95 573pp

C J BARRY

  **UNLEASHED**

It's New Year's Eve on Earth and all computer programmer Lacey Garrett wants is to design her software in peace. It's just another day in interstellar space and all fugitive Zain Masters wants is to map the stars in peace. Unfortunately, they are about to become the only thing standing between a ruthless villain and mass pandemonium on a galactic level. Can two outsiders learn to trust each other before the most powerful force in the galaxy is unleashed? Pb \$15.95 340pp

GREGORY BENFORD

 **BEYOND INFINITY**

A billion years into the future, a human female is recreated from data held within the vast archives of the Library of Life. But the Earth to which she is born is far different to that of her long-extinct race. Finding it impossible to adapt to this timeless and rigid society, she flees her creators and her home world. A rogue element in an increasingly unstable universe, she draws the attention of a mysterious alien breed. Already masters of travel between parallel universes they believe this girl is the key to changing all reality. And if they track her down, the effects on the galaxy will be cataclysmic. Pb \$19.95 451pp

JOHN BROSNAN


 **MOTHERSHIP**

As a Court Jester, Jad's a disaster. So when he's sent off with the warlord's son, Prince Kender, on a spying mission, he's hoping that his less desirable traits will actually save his life. Since the Day of Wonder, when all the electric lights stopped working, there have been rumours of unrest in the neighbouring domains... and no one has seen hide nor hair of any of the Elite, the ruthless technocrat class that have ruled Urba for centuries. What most of the inhabitants don't realise is that their world of Urba is actually a giant spacecraft, an ark built more than 1,000 years ago, to save as much of the Earth's population as possible before the sun went nova. The Elite were originally the ship's crew and as a social experiment, the ship's population were forced to live a pseudo-mediaeval life... and as the centuries passed, the Elite became decadent, corrupt and cruel - and the truth about Urba became hidden. Now Jad and his Prince are about to find out what happened to the Elite - and what's happening to the people of Urba... Tp \$32.95 280pp

PAT CADIGAN (ED)

 **THE ULTIMATE CYBERPUNK**

In this anthology, the editor takes readers through the evolution of cyberpunk, from the groundbreaking forefathers of the field such as Alfred Bester and Philip K Dick, to the founding members of the cyberpunk movement, such as William Gibson and Bruce Sterling and forward through such innovators as Lewis Shiner and Rudy Rucker. The growing impact of the Internet on our sense of community, the seduction of a world behind the screen and the inherent dangers of a society in which any information can be hacked, stolen and sold are some of the topics explored by our best cyberpunk writers. Pb \$17.95 399pp

	SCIENCE FICTION
	FANTASY
	ROMANCE
	AWARD WINNER
	AUSTRALIAN
	ACTION
	REPRINT
AC	AUDIO CASSETTE
CD	COMPACT DISC
PB	PAPERBACK
HB	HARDBACK
TP	TRADE PAPERBACK

FAVE RAVES

OUR FAVOURITES - NEW & OLD

NEW TITLE

THE DARKNESS THAT COMES BEFORE

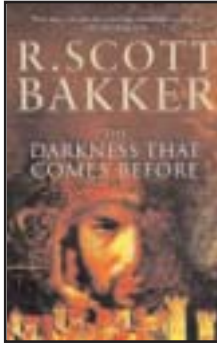
The Prince of Nothing #1

R Scott Bakker

Tp \$29.95 567pp

Okay, so this is another epic fantasy, but the difference with this one is that there is a distinct hint of acid and brains amongst the normal mix of magic, politics, prophecy and intrigue.

Two thousand years have passed since the No-God last walked among Men. Two thousand years have passed since the First Apocalypse. Now the Shriah of the Thousand Temples has declared Holy War and untold thousands gather to wrest the Holy City of the Latter Prophet from the hands of their heathen kin.



Into this world comes Anasûrimbor Kellhus, disciple of a monastic order hidden away in a part of the world lost to men. Sent out to find his father, he is armed only with his elite training, a training that makes weapons of insight and revelation. Working from the maxim: 'If it is only after, that we understand what has come before, then we understand nothing,' he has been trained to look beneath the surface of all things and so directs the people he encounters through the subtleties of word and expression, binding both allies and foes to his own ends.

Among them are Drusas Achamian, a Mandate School sorcerer and spy, who searches for an ancient enemy that none believe exist, while battling his own conscience because of the way he must use others to further his School's ends. Ikurei Conphas is another, the heir to the Nansur Empire. He is a military genius who has been moulded by his grandmother, the Dowager Empress, to supplant his weak and vain uncle, the Emperor, and take the throne himself, while Cnaiur, Chieftain of the Utemot, seeks vengeance against the former slave who slew his father and disgraced him in the eyes of his tribe.

Unable to distinguish the 'passion that elevates from the passion that enslaves', they fall even deeper under his thrall, while what begins as a Holy War, a war of Men amongst Men, threatens to become the first battle of the Second Apocalypse...

Bakker has delivered an original and ambitious tale with realistically depicted characters that are engaging, engrossing and as abundant in number and variation as those who made Erikson's *Malazan* books such a hit. This story presents the reader with a believable world painted with familiarities of our own. The melting pot of religions and faith relayed to the reader strike a chord with our own Middle East, but the nature of the Fanim faith is more Western in its entirety. Bakker's languages and cities, castes and schools of mystery, rituals and history give a depth that is all embracing and shares a vision and scope akin to that presented in Jordan's earlier work. A strong theme of philosophy flavours the whole book without distracting from pace or storyline, and leaves intriguing questions to turn over if you are so inclined.

I couldn't put this book down and can't wait for the next one!
- Mark

OLD TITLE

A GAME OF THRONES

A CLASH OF KINGS

A STORM OF SWORDS

(SPLIT INTO TWO VOLUMES, STEEL AND SNOW, AND BLOOD AND GOLD)

A FEAST FOR CROWS (FORTHCOMING)

A DANCE WITH DRAGONS (FORTHCOMING)

THE WINDS OF WINTER (FORTHCOMING)

A Song of Ice and Fire Series

George R R Martin

Pb \$19.95

It's hard to review this series without giving too much away about the plot, but I'll give it a shot.

Politics, murder, conspiracies, prophecies and war, all on such a grand scale, set in a world that's more historical in feel than fantastical and all supported by brilliant writing. Something more specific?

The story begins in the frozen North, where the really big enemy, the one apocalyptic threat, makes an appearance - but the story's attention is focused on the rivalry between the Seven Kingdoms. Lord Stark receives news that his friend John Arryn has died. Then a boy, heir to the Dragon King, claims the throne. This sets off a chain of events that will transform the lives of everyone. Cue the murders, conspiracies, etc, all forming a vast jigsaw that is, by book three, still missing many pieces.

Epic fantasy is a hard thing to do well. Ever since Tolkien put pen to paper, the genre has been inundated with a steady stream of formulaic tales. Dark lords, princes in waiting, lovable rogues, wizards' robes and tired old dragons all await their turn on the carousel of regurgitated stereotypes, where the hero will win the day and get to be king as well.

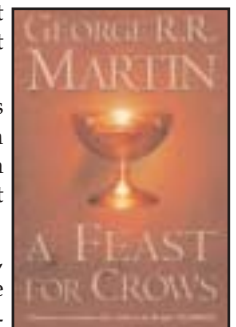
Sadly, a lot of these books are also the victims of sub-standard writing.

George R R Martin knows how to write and do it exceedingly well. He's done his homework on the historical front, presenting his world of the Seven Kingdoms with style and realism, something that epic fantasy needs. Magic and dragons are both present in this series, but unlike so many books, they do not carry the series and are not used as clichéd backdrops.

Sure, he uses some of the methods mentioned above, but he does it so well, you aren't reading about overblown fantasy characters. These are real people, and like real people, they can also die at any time. Yes, it's not a good idea to get too attached to anybody in Martin's world, (not that you can help it) because at any moment he could decide to pull the rug out from under you and kill off one of the major characters.

As clichéd as it sounds, this is one of the best fantasy series I have ever read. Comparable to no-one (no, not even Tolkien!), this is all that epic fantasy can and should be.

Many people have asked us when the next book is due. It could be September, but that is speculation at this stage. A sample chapter of the next book, focusing on Arya, is available at www.georgerrmartin.com. - David



JONATHAN CARROLL

 **WHITE APPLES**

Vincent Etrick discovers that he has died and come back to life - but he has no idea why. He gradually discovers that he was deliberately brought back to life by his one true love, Isabelle, so he could educate their son who, if correctly raised, would save the universe. Pb \$18.95 338pp

LINDSAY CLARKE

 **THE WAR AT TROY**

The first part of a two book series that retells the myths of the Trojan War. It provides an account of the pattern of mythical events that begin with the fateful judgement of Paris and the abduction of Helen. Tp \$29.95 452pp

PAUL CORNELL

 **BRITISH SUMMERTIME**

Alison can read anything - body language, the shape of a city, the odds on a footballer scoring a goal. She hates it, because what she's reading now is the end of the world. Wing Commander Leyton is a pilot from the future, thrown back in time from an interstellar war to the City of Bath in the early years of the 21st century. Douglas is a vicious killer, a master of disguise, who's been operating on his own brain to try and make himself into the perfect post-modern citizen. Frederick Cleves is the Chairman of the Joint Intelligence Committee, the master of British espionage. Jocelyn is Leyton's navigator. She's a head without a body. The paths of these five map out a quest for Alison's best friend, stolen by the Golden Men, who some call Angels. This quest reaches back to the New Testament and forward to the end of time: an end which Alison and her friends will have to make terrible sacrifices to prevent. Pb \$18.95 404pp

KEVIN CROSSLEY-HOLLAND

 **TALES FROM THE OLD WORLD**

Ten tales that sweep ancient Europe, from Iceland to England and from Greece to Denmark, giving a taste of the myths and folk-tales of them all. With fantastic retellings of old favourites such as *The Pied Piper of Hamelin* and *Arthur the King* and unfamiliar stories such as *Godfather Death* and *The Lady of Stavoren*, there's a tale in here to thrill, delight or chill every reader. Pb \$14.95 97pp

JOHN CROWLEY

 **NOVELTIES & SOUVENIRS: COLLECTED SHORT FICTION**

This comprehensive collection of short fiction by the author of *Little, Big* (Pb \$19.95) and *Otherwise* (Tp \$47.00), includes the award-winning novella *Great Work of Time*, as well as other works previously available only in limited editions. Tp \$29.95 336pp

JOHN DALMAS

  **THE REGIMENT: A TRILOGY**

The planet Tyss has only one exportable resource - its fighting men. Each year three regiments are sent forth into the galaxy. Hiring their services is very expensive, but well worth it, for the Tyss secret training makes their soldiers into mystic warriors, irresistible in battle. And when they offered to train soldiers from off their planet, the Confederation of Worlds jumped at the chance, using their personnel selection technology to pick the greatest potential warriors out of their planets-wide database of psych profiles. What they didn't know was that the new warriors were soon going to be necessary for the Confederation's very survival - because an invading force from another part of the galaxy is approaching with superior firepower and more advanced technology and only the secret training of Tyss can give even a slight hope of stopping the invaders. **Note:** Previously published as the separate novels *The Regiment*, *The White Regiment* and *The Regiment's War*. Hb \$54.00 751pp



TONY DANIEL

 **SUPERLUMINAL**

Metaplanetary #2. Civilisation has extended itself far into the outer reaches of our solar system - and in so doing has developed into something remarkable, diverse and perhaps transcendent. But the inner system - its worlds connected by a vast network of cables - is supported by the repression and enslavement of humanity's progeny, nanotechnological artificial intelligences. Now the war for human civilisation shifts into high gear. A pogrom against the AI "free converts" moves toward a Final Solution, even as the elite super-beings, called LAPs, are co-opted into Napoleon-like Director Amés's all-encompassing, all-powerful personality. Superluminal flight is being secretly developed and with it a weapon that promises utter victory for Amés. But hope remains alive in the outer system with General Roger Sherman and his Federal Army. Given time, the Federal Army stands a fighting chance to beat Amés. But the nanotech-driven war-machine of the Met is in full production and time is the one commodity the forces of freedom lack. Hb \$56.00 470pp



ELLEN DATLOW

& TERRI WINDLING (EDS)

 **THE GREEN MAN: TALES FROM THE MYTHIC FOREST**

One of our most universal myths is that of the Green Man - the spirit who stands for Nature in its most wild and untamed form. Through the ages and around the world, the Green Man and other nature spirits have appeared in stories, songs, and artwork, as well as many beloved fantasy novels, including Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings*. Now, the acclaimed editors of over 30 anthologies, have gathered some of today's finest writers of magical fiction to interpret the spirits of nature in short stories and poetry. Folklorist and artist Charles Vess brings his stellar eye and brush to the decorations and Terri Windling provides an introduction exploring Green Man symbolism and forest myth. **The Green Man** is required reading - not only for fans of fantasy fiction but for those interested in mythology and the mysteries of the wilderness. Tp \$19.95 384pp

PETER DICKINSON

 **THE TEARS OF THE SALAMANDER**

Mount Etna towers above the remote villa where Alfredo lives with his uncle after a fire wipes out his family. Deep within Etna swim the magical salamanders and Alfredo must use his strange powers to protect them, destroy his uncle and control the explosive rage of the volcano. Pb \$14.95 233pp

GORDON R DICKSON & BEN BOVA

  **HOUR OF THE GREMLINS**

Hour of the Horde by Gordon R Dickson - The Horde roved the galaxies, stripping whole star systems of life. As they advance on our galaxy, the Milky Way, a galaxy-wide force hastily arrayed to stop them. But Miles Vander, the warrior sent by Earth to join the defence, must first convince his alien crewmembers that he is just as good a soldier as they. *Wolfling* by Gordon R Dickson - Earth was a primitive outpost, its people dubbed 'wolflings' by the rulers of the galactic empire. Jim Kell was sent to the High-Born ruler's Throne World, with orders only to observe - until he cast away his orders from Earth and proved himself a wolfling indeed. *Gremlins Go Home* by Gordon R Dickson and Ben Bova - Suppose that elves, gremlins and leprechauns are really tiny aliens marooned on Earth for hundreds of years. They want to go home, and human technology finally can make it possible - if they can get aboard NASA's Mars rocket and hijack it! Pity the poor human who has to help them. Pb \$17.95 536pp

STEVEN ERIKSON

 **MIDNIGHT TIDES**

Malazan Book of the Fallen #5. The epic fifth chapter in the author's mighty series - crammed full of tremendous characters, old favourites and newcomers, wild and wonderful magic, awesome world-building - all bound together by a unique imagination and wonderful storytelling. Tp \$39.95 698pp

BARBARA ERSKINE

 **KINGDOM OF SHADOW**

In a childless and unhappy marriage, Clare Royland is rich and beautiful, but lonely. And fuelling her feelings of isolation is a strange, growing fascination with an ancestress from the distant past. Troubled by haunting inexplicable dreams that terrify - but also powerfully compel - her, Clare is forced to look back through the centuries for answers. In 1306, Scotland is at war. Isobel, Countess of Buchan, faces fear and the prospect of untimely death as the fighting surrounds her. But, passionate and headstrong, her trials escalate when she is persecuted for her part in crowning Robert the Bruce, her lover. Duncairn, Isobel's home and Clare's beloved heritage, becomes a battleground for passions that span the centuries. As husband Paul's recklessness threatens their security, Clare must fight to save Duncairn and to save herself from the powers of Isobel... Pb \$18.95 757pp

MICHAEL FLYNN

 **THE WRECK OF THE RIVER OF STARS**

In the days of the great sailing ships, in the mid-21st century, when magnetic sails drew cargo and passengers alike to every corner of the solar system, sailors had the highest status of all spacemen and the crew of the luxury liner *The River of Stars*, the highest among all sailors. But development of the Farnsworth fusion drive doomed the sailing ships and now *The River of Stars* is the last of its kind, retrofitted with engines, her mast vestigial, her sails unraised for years. An ungainly hybrid, she operates in the late years of the century as a mere tramp freighter among the outer planets, and her crew is a motley group of misfits. Stepan Gorgas is the escapist executive officer who becomes captain. Ramakrishnan Bhattherji is the chief engineer who disdains him. Eugenie Satterwaithe, once a captain herself, is third officer and, for form's sake, sailing master. When an unlikely and catastrophic engine failure strikes *The River*, Bhattherji is confident he can affect repairs with heroic engineering, but Satterwaithe and the other sailors among the crew plot to save her with a glorious last gasp for the old ways, mesmerised by a vision of arriving at Jupiter proudly under sail. Pb \$17.95 534pp

LORNA FREEMAN

 **COVENANTS**

Borderlands. Rabbit is a trooper on the Border Guards, just another body in the King's army. But when his patrol encounters a Faena - one of the magical guardians of an uneasy ally - Rabbit is thrust into a political and magical intrigue that could start a war. Because Rabbit isn't just another trooper. He is the son of nobility - and a mage who doesn't know his own power... Pb \$17.95 548pp

MARTIN GREENBERG

& RUSSELL DAVIS (EDS)

 **FAERIE TALES**

Faerie folk have cast their magical spell over people the world around. Now some of today's most imaginative fantasists explore into the heart of this enchantment with 12 all-original stories that will bespell readers of all ages. Contributors include Charles de Lint, Kristine Kathryn Rusch, Tanya Huff and more. Pb \$15.95 309pp

JIM GRIMSLEY

  **THE ORDINARY**

The Twills Gate links two different realms. On one side of the portal is Senal, an advanced civilisation of thirty million inhabitants. On the other side is Iriion, where the world is flat and mighty wizards once ruled. Hb \$54.00 368pp

NIEL HANCOCK

  **GREYFAX GRIMWALD**

Circle of Light #1. Drawn together by an enchanted summons, three loyal friends - Bear, Dwarf and Otter - bid farewell to their fair home in the kingdom of Lorini and embark on a magical journey to the fabled World Beyond Time. A place where glows the ageless Circle of Light. Along the way they meet many marvellous friends, including the mighty wizard Greyfax Grimwald. But little does the trio realize the dangers that await them: the gloomy border of the Notherland... the green fires of the Palace of Darkness... evil spells and dark enchantments... the dread city of Humans and - most fearsome of all - the evil Dark Queen. Pb \$13.95 373pp

JUDITH HAND

 **THE AMAZON AND THE WARRIOR**

For eight years, Troy has withstood the relentless might of the Greek invaders. Now the dread Achilles, mightiest of the Greek warriors, seeks to conquer the fabled realm of the Amazons as well. But one woman stands between him and his ruthless ambition to conquer her homeland. Penthesilea, Warrior Queen of the Amazons, watched her mother die upon Achilles' sword. A fiery, red-haired tigress of tremendous passion and courage, Pentha vows to take revenge on the legendary Greek champion, even if it means leading an army in defence of imperilled Troy. Pb \$17.95 350pp

MICHELE HAUF

 **SERAPHIM**

In a land where the battle between good and evil is always near, the Black Knight's silver sword fells enemies with silent grace. The Knight has sworn that fallen angel Lucifer de Morte and his cruel brotherhood will pay for the reign of terror wrought upon France - and upon the d'Ange family where nearly all had died a terrible death. All but one... Yet the Knight's hard-won battles and dented armour hide a larger secret. For *he* is actually Seraphim d'Ange. *She* is traveling to de Morte's demesnes, executing his demon henchmen along the way. Now, aided by Baldwin, a family retainer and San Juste, a mysterious stranger who knows far too much about the puissance of both heaven and hell, Sera grows closer and closer to her final target. Yet little does she know that there is at least one more aspect of power she herself holds... Tp \$29.95 410pp



AMANDA HEMINGWAY

 **THE GREENSTONE GRAIL**


Bartlemy Goodman is approximately 1500 years old. Long experience has taught him the perils of the power of the witch-kind and so throughout the ages has channelled his considerable talents into cooking, his culinary prowess becoming the stuff of legend. On a warm evening in 1991 a young homeless woman holding a baby turns up on Bartlemy's doorstep and he senses destiny at work. The woman's name is Annie Ward and her son, Nathan, is an exceptional child - Annie cannot account for his conception. Soon Bartlemy comes to believe that the boy was created beyond the Gate of Death by a superior being for a special purpose, one that may threaten all of witch-kind - and that it is his job to protect him. Tp \$29.95 376pp

TRACY & LAURA HICKMAN

 **MYSTIC WARRIOR**

The Bronze Canticles #1. Galen Arvad, a human with magical powers, must avoid the ritual that puts those with such talents to death. In the eyes of the community, magic is a sign of lunacy and in a yearly ritual the local crazies are offered up to the Dragon Priests. Having successfully dodged the elections for many years, Galen is suddenly captured and hauled away with others that are deemed insane. Now, as Galen's wife, Berkita, and his friend, Cephas the dwarf, set off to rescue him, Galen learns of the fate that awaits him... a fate far worse than even his own death. Hb \$54.00 433pp


SANDRA HILL

 **A TALE OF TWO VIKINGS**
Toste and Vagn Ivarsson are identical Viking twins. They came squalling into this world together, rode their first horses at the age of seven, and their first maids during their 13th summer and rode off on longships as untried 14-year-old warriors. Now they are about to face Valhalla, or maybe something even more tragic - being separated. For even the most virile Viking must eventually leave his best buddy behind and do battle with that most fearsome of all opponents - the love of his life. Pb \$15.95 374pp

ALICE HOFFMAN

 **GREEN ANGEL**
When her family is lost in a terrible disaster, 15-year-old Green is haunted by loss and by the past. Struggling to survive physically and emotionally in a place where nothing seems to grow and ashes are everywhere, Green retreats into the ruined realm of her garden. But in destroying her feelings, she also begins to destroy herself, erasing the girl she'd once been as she inks ravens into her skin. It is only through a series of mysterious encounters with a ghostly white dog and a mute boy, that Green relearns the lessons of love and begins to heal as she tells her own story. Pb \$13.95 116pp


TOM HOLT

 **FOR TWO NIGHTS ONLY**
Omnibus edition. **Overtime:** It all started for Guy Goodlet somewhere over Caen. One moment he was heading for the relative safety of the coast, aware that fuel was low and that the Mosquito had more than a few bullet holes in it. The next, his co-pilot was asking to be dropped off. This would have been odd if Peter had still been alive. Since he was dead, it was downright worrying. **Grailblazers:** 1,500 years have passed and the Grail is still missing, the Knights have dumped the Quest and now deliver pizzas, the financial services industry of the lost kingdom of Atlantis threatens the universe with fiscal Armageddon, while in the background lurks the dark, brooding, red-caped presence of Father Christmas. Tp \$26.95 671pp


KATE HUMPHREY

 **FULL FATHOM FIVE** 
Sara is living in a state of perpetual terror, consulting the tarot for comfort which doesn't come. She hasn't left the family home for the past five years. Her father, Gus is a painter of erratic genius with an easy charm for women. Her stepmother got bored and left them all - Gus, Sara, her brother Steve, the twins and her own daughter Teresa. Then one terrible storm-whipped night, Gus doesn't come home. His body is found dangling from a cliff-face. Astonishingly, he is still alive. Pb \$22.95 383pp



DIANA WYNNE JONES

 **THE OGRE DOWNSTAIRS**
Casper, Johnny and Gwinny get a big shock when their mother Sally marries the Ogre. He is large and stern and not at all interested in children. His first wife left him years before - and the children aren't in the least bit surprised, considering what the Ogre and his two sons, Douglas and Malcolm, are like. Now the five children and two adults are squashed under the same roof, it's not surprising tensions are running high. Then the Ogre brings home the Chemistry Sets - one for Malcolm and one for Johnny. That's when the fun begins, as each side of the family discovers that these are no ordinary chemistry sets... Pb \$14.95 234pp


SUSAN KRINARD

 **KINSMAN'S OATH**
In her popular novella in the **Out of this World** anthology, the author created a futuristic world of humans, telepaths and an alien race called the shaauri. Now, she returns to that future galaxy with a tale about two telepaths who have nothing in common - except the love they share for each other. Pb \$15.95 403pp

GLENDALARKE


 **GILFEATHER** 
The Isles of Glory #2. Blaze and Flame have fled Gorthan Spit and are now hunting for Morthred. They know that any confrontation is just as likely to end in their deaths, but Morthred's ancient spell over the Dustel Islanders must be reversed, or all of the Glory Isles are at risk. Gilfeather has been banished by his people and is unwittingly caught up in their dangerous quest. He finds himself hard put just to stay alive as they brave the unknown in search of their quarry. Although Morthred seems to be always one step ahead, Blaze is relentless in her pursuit, even when it becomes clear that something is wrong with Flame. But what? And can she still be trusted? Pb \$18.95 500pp

ROGER LEVY


 **DARK HEAVENS**
London is awash with volcanic ash, the population fatalistically playing out their lives in VR. But ReGenesis, the radical movement who started Earth's death with a series of controlled nuclear explosions in the Marina's trench have not finished with the planet yet. Pb \$18.95 389pp




PAUL MAGRS

 **AISLES**
Iris Murdoch pops into an internet chatroom to discuss sex, literature and life-after-death with the impetuous Funkymonkey... Marion from the delicatessen counter fatally crashes her Fiesta while yelling into her mobile phone... and the evil Dr Fu Manchu chases Virginia Woolf screaming through the streets of Bloomsbury... Disasters, secret identities and heart-to-hearts in the middle of the night... Tp \$29.95 252pp


DENNIS MCKIERNAN

 **RED SLIPPERS: MORE TALES OF MITHGAR**
A Mithgar anthology. The author returns to one of his most acclaimed creations, the enchanting realm of Mithgar, in a long-awaited collection of short stories. Hb \$49.95 377pp



ROBIN MCKINLEY

 **BEAUTY**
When the family business collapses, Beauty and her two sisters are forced to leave the city and begin a new life in the countryside. However, when their father accepts hospitality from the elusive and magical Beast, he is forced to make a terrible promise - to send one daughter to the Beast's castle, with no guarantee that she will be seen again. Beauty accepts the challenge and there begins an extraordinary story of magic and love that overcomes all boundaries. Pb \$18.95 271pp

KEN MACLEOD


 **NEWTON'S WAKE**
Centuries ago, space settlers and soldiers fled to the stars from the sentient AI war machines that engulfed Earth. They colonised Eurydice, a planet whose rocks contain traces of its own war machines - some of which still guard a vast, enigmatic artefact on remote tundra. When an expedition raids this strange artefact, the Eurydiceans discover that they weren't the last survivors of humanity after all. Their leisured lifestyle is about to be disrupted by new arrivals for whom Eurydice is a prize worth fighting over. And the long-dormant war machines are awakening... Hb \$45.00 369pp

SEAN MCMULLEN

 **GLASS DRAGONS** 
The Moonworlds Saga #2. Laron, the chivalrous 700-year-old vampire, the appallingly dangerous and beautiful Velerand and the long-suffering Terikel, investigate a secret project of arcane magic, a magic so dangerous it could destroy their world, a project which threatens to fall into the wrong hands. Hb \$59.95 495pp


**WIN A HARDBACK COPY OF
GODS AND ANDROIDS BY ANDRE NORTON**
see back page for entry details

VOYAGE OF THE SHADOWMOON

 *The Moonworlds Saga #1.* The Shadowmoon is a small, unobtrusive wooden schooner whose passengers and crew are much more than they seem: Ferran, the Shadowmoon's lusty captain who dreams of power; Roval, the warrior-sorcerer; Velandar and Terikel, priestesses of a nearly extinct sect and the chivalrous vampyre Laron, who has been trapped in a 14-year-old body for 700 years. When they witness the awful power of Silverdeath, an uncontrollable doomsday weapon, they realise they must act. But every single king, emperor and despot covets Silverdeath's power. It will take all of their wits and more than a little luck if they hope to prevent one of these power hungry fools from destroying the world... Pb \$17.95 565pp


LOUISE MARLEY

THE CHILD GODDESS


 A priest and anthropologist, Isabel Burke has been called to the barren planet of Virimund. The ExtraSolar Corporation, developing Virimund as an energy source, has encountered an incident that has stopped their work... There is human life on Virimund after all - and there are children born here who do not age. One little girl has been captured by ExtraSolar, which hopes to discover the secret to her ageless existence. For ExtraSolar, she's a resource to be used and discarded, but for Isabel, she's an innocent who needs help... Hb \$49.95 324pp

ROSALIND MILES

ISOLDE


 *Isolde #1.* The only daughter of Ireland's ruling queen, Isolde has always known that she will take over the rule of the sacred Island of the West when her time comes. Until then she practises her skills as a healer and struggles to hold back her mother, a passionate woman under the sway of her champion, Sir Marhaus, who is determined to make war. Attacking Cornwall, Sir Marhaus wounds the king's nephew, Sir Tristan of Lyonesse, so badly that he can only be saved by Isolde, the most noted healer of the isles. And when the King of Cornwall decides to marry Isolde, unaware of the young couple's growing love, the stage is set for the mythic tale of star-crossed lovers that the world knows so well. Pb \$18.95 467pp

THE MAIDEN OF WHITE HANDS

 *Isolde #2.* Isolde's time has come at last. The Queen of Ireland lies dying, relinquishing years of misrule to her patient and lovely daughter. But on all sides Isolde faces cruel opposition... And a French princess has heard of Tristan's prowess and pledges to make him her own. Alone and under attack, can Isolde save her kingdom and her love? Tp \$29.95 452pp

L E MODESITT, JNR

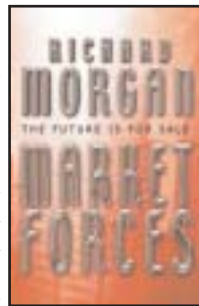
DARKNESSES

 *Corean Chronicles #2.* Alucius has grown from a Talented child on a lonely Nightsheep ranch in the Iron Valleys to a proficient soldier who used his wits and Talent to become the first to escape military enslavement in the neighbouring country of Madrien. Now captain of the 21st Company, he must face new challenges, both military and magical. A would-be conqueror has somehow revived sorcerous creatures of legend to assist in his crusade to reunite the continent under his rule. The Iron Valleys are forced into an alliance with the Lord-Protector of Lanachrona and the 21st is dispatched to stand against the invaders. Neither the officers above him, nor the men under him know it, but Alucius's Talent is their only hope for victory, or even survival. Pb \$17.95 532pp

RICHARD MORGAN



MARKET FORCES

 What do you buy and sell when the global markets reach saturation point? The markets themselves. 30 years from now, the big players in global capitalism have moved on from commodities. The big money is in conflict investment. The corporations keep a careful watch on the wars of liberation and revolution that burn constantly around the world. They gauge who the winners will be and sell them arms, intelligence and power. In return for a slice of the action when the war is won. The reward? A stake in the new nation. The executives in this lethal game bid for contracts, fight for promotion, secure their lives on the roads, fighting lethal duels in souped up, heavily armoured cars on the empty motorways of the future. Chris Faulkener has a lethal reputation and a new job at Shorn Associates. Has he got what it takes to make a real killing? Hb \$39.95 386pp




KATHLEEN NANCE

DAY OF FIRE

  Canada has been quarantined for over a century. Now, in 2176, its people thrive. The country still needs peacekeepers, though and the Mounties are there. Be it all. Do it all. That's their motto. It's Day Daniels's motto too. Someone or something called the Shadow Voice is broadcasting treason and Day's determined to stamp it out. Seeking the source of the threat, she meets Lian Firebird, an enigmatic government operative who insists upon joining her trek to the legendary Citadel. Well, Day decides, Mounties work alone, but she can still do and be it all, even with this hunk at her heels. Pb \$15.95 372pp


ROBERT NYE

BEOWULF

 Vile and deadly, the monster Grendel rises from his dreggy pool in the night to seek out his victims and kill them in dreadful silence. Hrothgar, king of the Danes, sees no end to the bloodbath. Too many of his brave warriors have been slaughtered. Yet there is one man who remains unafraid, one man capable of standing up to the fury of the terrifying monster and his evil mother - Beowulf. Pb \$14.95 86pp

TERRY PRATCHETT

THE WEE FREE MEN

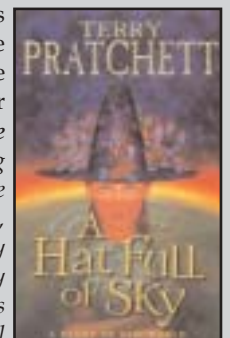
 *A Discworld novel.* Armed only with a frying pan and her common sense, Tiffany Aching, a young witch-to-be, is all that stands between the monsters of Fairyland and the warm, green Chalk country that is her home. Forced into Fairyland to seek her kidnapped brother, Tiffany allies herself with the local Nac Mac Feegle - aka the Wee Free Men - a clan of sheep-stealing, sword-wielding, six-inch-high blue men who are as fierce as they are funny. Together they battle through an eerie and ever-shifting landscape before ultimately confronting the Queen of the Elves, absolute ruler of a world in which reality intertwines with nightmare. Pb \$15.95 320pp

RECOMMENDED READING



TERRY PRATCHETT
A HAT FULL OF SKY

A Discworld novel. Tiffany Aching is trying out her witchy talents again, as she is plunged into yet another adventure when she leaves home and is apprenticed to a real witch. This time, will the skills of the Wee Free Men be of use, or must Tiffany rely on her own abilities? Hb \$39.95 352pp *Set about 2 years after The Wee Free Men (Pb \$15.95), this book sees the return of Tiffany Aching, fledgling Chalk witch, who is about to be apprenticed to Miss Level and learn the ways of witchcraft. The Nac Mac Feegle are not happy to see her go, especially when they discover she is being followed by a hiver, a nasty entity which is basically a mind looking for a body to control and Tiffany has the body it wants. Although aimed at a young adult audience, this novel is great and can be enjoyed by any age. Discworld fans will appreciate the inclusion of Granny Weatherwax, who helps give the book a bit of an edge.* 8/10 - Sian



JERRY POURNELLE, S M STIRLING & DEAN ING

 **THE HOUSES OF THE KZINTI**

Two complete novels of the Man-Kzin Wars in one volume. **The Children's Hour** by Jerry Pournelle and S M Stirling - As the war rages on between the mighty warriors from the planet Kzin and the wimpy monkey-boys from Earth, one Kzin commander has decided to learn from the monkeys and cooperate to conquer. But the humans know how to get the rivals of an enemy to cooperate, too. **Cathouse** by Dean Ing - In another corner of the galaxy, Carroll Locklear is stranded on a planet with a group of prehistoric Kzinti. To survive, he must find common cause, if not with the males, then with the females of that antiques species... Pb \$17.95 579pp

ROBERT J SAWYER

  **FAR-SEER**

Quintaglio Ascension #1. The Face of God is what every young saurian learns to call the immense, glowing object which fills the night sky on the far side of the world. Young Afsan is privileged, called to the distant Capital City to apprentice with Saleed, the court astrologer. But when the time comes for Afsan to make his coming-of-age pilgrimage, to gaze upon the Face of God, his world is changed forever - for what he sees will test his faith... and may save his world from disaster. Tp \$32.95 316pp

CHARLES SHEFFIELD

  **BETWEEN THE STROKES OF NIGHT**

To long-established worlds of starfaring humans come the Immortals - beings with strange ties to ancient Earth, who seem to live forever, who can travel light years in a day - and who use their strange powers to control the existence of ordinary mortals. Pb \$17.95 424pp

JOEL SHEPHERD

 **KILLSWITCH**


Cassandra Kresnov #3. Callay is under siege. A powerful faction of Fleet captains has surrounded Callay, at Earth's behest, and threaten a blockade - or worse. A fearful Earth does not wish to lose direct control of its precious war machine, and there are fears of civil war. All that Callay has to oppose the warships of the Fleet is the CDF, or Callayan Defence Force - a newly formed group of raw recruits led by a politically hamstrung general, but largely trained and organised by Major Vanessa Rice and her best friend, Callay's very own combat-android Commander Cassandra Kresnov. But when Cassandra's lover, Special Agent Ari Ruben, discovers a plot to kill her using a killswitch that her old masters in the League built into her brainstem, Sandy is forced to go underground to stay alive... Pb \$18.95 585pp

ROBERT SILVERBERG

 **DOWNWARD TO THE EARTH**

SF Masterworks #56. One man must make a journey across a once colonised alien planet. Abandoned by man when it was discovered that the species there were actually sentient, the planet is now a place of mystery - a mystery that obsesses the lone traveller, Gundersen, and takes him on a long trek to attempt to share the religious rebirthing of the aliens - a journey that offers redemption from guilt and sin. Pb \$19.95 213pp

ROMA ETERNA

 No power on Earth can resist the might of Imperial Rome, so it has been and so it ever shall be. Through brute force, terror and sheer indomitable will, her armies have enslaved a world. Countless upstarts and enemies arise, only to be ground into the dust beneath the merciless Roman bootheels. But one people who suffer and endure throughout the many centuries of oppressive rule dream of the glorious day that is coming - when the heavens themselves will be opened to them... and the ships they are preparing in secret will carry them on their exodus to the stars. Pb \$17.95 449pp

NANCY SPRINGER

 **LIONCLAW**

Rowan Hood #2. Lionel prefers playing his harp to drawing a sword. Banished by his warrior father, Lord Lionclaw, he finds refuge in Sherwood Forest and joins a misfit band of outlaws led by Rowan Hood, daughter of Robin. When Lionclaw is taken prisoner by Robin Hood one night, he spots his son among the outlaws and vows revenge on him. Suddenly Sherwood Forest is filled with danger and Lionel wants nothing more than to turn and run. Then Lionclaw's bounty hunters capture Rowan and use her as bait and suddenly the lion in Lionel is awakened. Pb \$13.95 122pp

BRUCE STERLING

 **THE ZENITH ANGLE**

For Derek Vandever, computer wizard, a new cyberwarrior career begins on September 11, 2001. Van's special genius is needed to make the country's defence systems hacker-proof and if he makes headway there, he'll find himself troubleshooting ultrasecret spy satellites. America's most powerful and crucial eye-in-the-sky, the KH-13 satellite, capable of detecting terrorist hotbeds worldwide with pinpoint accuracy, is close to becoming a billion-dollar boondoggle, unless Van can debug the glitch that's knocked it out of commission. Little does he suspect that the problem has nothing at all to do with software... and that what's really wrong with the KH-13 will force Van to make the unlikely leap from scientist to spy... Hb \$54.00 306pp

IAN STEWART & JACK COHEN

 **HEAVEN**

On the ocean planet No-Moon, Second-Best Sailor lives the life of a mariner plying his trade with visiting space-dwelling Neanderthals. When his reefwife discovers that a fleet has targeted their homeworld for conversion, his comfortable lifestyle vanishes in an instant. Servant-of-Unity XIV Samuel has cheerfully devoted his life to the grand wonder that is Cosmic Unity, but Samuel's awe turns to horror when he uncovers Cosmic Unity's darkest truth. At its core, Cosmic Unity is a lovely, seductively gentle religion stating that all creatures - whether born of flesh, silicon, superconducting gases, or magnetic plasma - are equal and deserve tolerance. Yet over 22,500 years and spread by a vast hierarchy, the simple concept has mutated into a malignant and violent memplex - heretics will not be tolerated. Bereft of faith and rebelling against the Ecclesiarchs, Samuel is shattered and confused when he stumbles upon Second-Best Sailor, fleeing from his threatened home to a potential new habitat. Flung together by fate, Second-Best Sailor and Samuel plot a kamikaze plan to fight off the invaders. Hb \$54.00 343pp

JONATHAN STROUD

 **THE LAST SIEGE**

A chance encounter on the snowy slopes of a castle moat throws together three lonely teenagers - Emily, Simon and the enigmatic Marcus. Spurred on by Marcus, the three break in to the ruined castle, spending a night there to experience the power of occupation. But their re-enactment spirals out of control and a very real siege ensues, becoming a frenzy of nightmarish action and dark, psychological games. Pb \$18.95 262pp

SHERI S TEPPER

 **THE COMPANIONS**

Humankind has arrived on Moss to discover if any intelligent life exists there and to assess the planet for development and profit. Multi-coloured shapes of dancing light have been spotted; strange sounds are heard in the night; the researchers name them the Mossen and send for a linguist to ascertain if it is evidence of intelligent life. Jewel Delis has accompanied her half-brother Paul to Moss to help decipher the strange language of the Mossen - but she has a secret mission too. A new law on Earth means the imminent massacre of all beasts great and small, so she must discover if Moss holds the promise of sanctuary for the doomed animals. Time is running out for Jewel's creatures, but it might be running out for humanity too - the planet Moss, itself a living entity, is not sure it cares for any of the species currently living on its surface... Tp \$32.95 452pp

S ANDREW SWANN

 **BROKEN CRESCENT**

College student Nate Black is a top-notch computer hacker, but he's stopped the kind of hacking that could put him behind bars. Under the guise of his user id, Azrael, he has never been discovered. That is, until Nate gets an anonymous email, after which nothing will ever be the same. He's abducted to an alien world, where magic is the rule, the gods are all too real and a twist of fate makes him the most valuable pawn in a terrifying game of power. Pb \$15.95 377pp

JEFF VANDERMEER

 **CITY OF SAINTS AND MADMEN**

Set in the strange and ancient metropolis of Ambergris, this novel draws the reader away from any intended lampoon or satire, straight into the depths and richness of the Earth's womb. Tp \$30.00 217pp

VIVIAN VANDE VELDE

 **HEIR APPARENT**

In the virtual reality game Heir Apparent, there are way too many ways to get killed - and Giannine seems to be finding them all. Which is a darn shame, because unless she can get the magic ring, locate the stolen treasure, answer the dwarf's dumb riddles, impress the head-chopping statue, charm the army of ghosts, fend off the barbarians and defeat the man-eating dragon, she'll never win - and she has to, because losing means she'll die - for real this time. Pb \$15.95 315pp

ERIC VAN LUSTBADER

 **THE CAGE OF NINE BANESTONES**

Pearl #3. Riane, the newly incarnated Dar Sala-at, has been led to believe by prophecy that the Pearl lies behind the Storehouse door. Having already failed to gain access through the Ring of Five Dragons and beset by enemies on all sides, Riane finally manages to enter the Storehouse - but in a way she would never have thought possible, and with entirely unpredicted results. Pb \$19.95 629pp

DAVID WEBER

 **WIND RIDER'S OATH**

Oath #3. Bahzell has journeyed to the Sothoi Wind Plain to oversee the parole he granted to Tellian and his men, to represent the Order of Tomanak, the War God and to be an ambassador for the hradani. The flying coursers of the Sothoi have accepted Bahzell as a windrider - the first hradani windrider in history. And since the windriders are the elite of the elite among the Sothoi, Bahzell's ascension is as likely to stir resentment as respect. Additional complications are bubbling under the surface. The supporters of the deposed Sothoi noble who started the war are plotting to murder their new leige lord and frame Bahzell for the deed... Hb \$56.00 498pp

MARGARET WEIS & TRACY HICKMAN

 **JOURNEY INTO THE VOID**

Sovereign Stone #3. Over 200 years have passed since the mystical Sovereign Stone was shattered and the world of Leorem faced its most dangerous test ever - the rise of the dark lord Dagnarus. Now Dagnarus has stirred from the Void and seeks the utter conquest of all Leorem. Drawn by a mysterious call, the Dominion Lords, protectors of Leorem, head for the Portal of the Gods, the mystical haunted site of Dagnarus' terrible treachery 200 years before. If all the parts of the sundered Sovereign Stone can be reunited, Dagnarus' plans for domination can be stopped - but one piece is still missing... Pb \$18.95 563pp

JAN WELLINGTON

  **DREAMQUEST**

Dreams and his shaman grandfather urged Coyote to seek his fate. The woman is a beauty, with hair the colour of corn silk and skin as pale as the desert lily. Naked and feverish, she floats in the cavern pool, seeming to await him. One thing seems clear - this woman is his destiny. Since Suzanne Lucas was five years old, she's returned here to Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. She's seen herself in the desert - and a boy. In her dreams, she's watched that boy grow. He's become a man - a warrior. But he always vanished when she awoke. This time, she will find a way to make him stay. Pb \$13.95 291pp

SCOTT WESTERFIELD

 **THE SECRET HOUR**

Midnighters #1. Nobody is safe in the secret hour. Strange things happen at midnight in the town of Bixby, Oklahoma. Time freezes. Nobody moves. For one secret hour each night, the town belongs to the dark creatures that haunt the shadows. Only a small group of people know about the secret hour - only they are free to move about the midnight time. These people call themselves Midnighters. Each one has a different power that is strongest at midnight - Seer, Mindcaster, Acrobat, Polymath. For years the Midnighters and the dark creatures have shared the secret hour, uneasily avoiding one another. All that changes when the new girl with an unmistakable midnight aura appears at Bixby High School. Jessica Day is not an outsider like the other Midnighters. She acts perfectly normal in every way. But it soon becomes clear that the dark creatures sense a hidden power in Jessica... and they're determined to stop her before she can use it. Hb \$35.00 297pp



CHERRY WILDER & KATYA REIMANN

 **THE WANDERER**

Gael Maddoc, the child of struggling peasants, leaps at the chance when she is offered training as a kedran, a mounted soldier. She wins glory by bringing her charges home safe across a huge desert, seeking aid from the Shee. But the Shee, the dwindling Fair Folk, recruit her for their own purposes. Her nascent magical talents and her resourcefulness show her to be the Wanderer, a legendary figure for whom they've been waiting. Hb \$59.95 398pp

KIM WILKINS

 **GIANTS OF THE FROST** 

Lindsay has chosen career over love, but starts to question this decision when she finds herself working at a remote weather research station on a tiny island off the coast of Norway. In this world of midnight sunshine, the Old Gods still watch the affairs of humanity... and one of them has become fixated on Lindsay, certain that she is the reincarnation of a woman he fell in love with over 1,000 years before - a love affair which threatened the very existence of Asgard. Dangerous love and desire are soon running out of control, as the spectacularly supernatural obliterates Lindsay's refuge in scientific rationalism. Tp \$29.95 435pp

TAD WILLIAMS

 **THE WAR OF THE FLOWERS**

Theo Vilmos' life is about to take a turn for the worse. He is drawn from his home in Northern California into the parallel world of Faerie, for, unknown to him, he is a pivotal figure in a war between certain of Faerie's powerful lords and the rest of the strange creatures who live in this exotic realm. Pb \$17.95 828pp

PHILIP WYLIE

 **GLADIATOR**

Hugo Danner is the strongest man on earth, the result of a monstrous experiment by his scientist father. Nearly invulnerable, he can run faster than a train, leap higher than trees, lift a wrecked vehicle to rescue its pinned driver and hurl boulders like baseballs. His remarkable abilities, however, cannot gain him what he desires most - acceptance - for Hugo Danner is desperately lonely, shunned and feared for his enormous strength. Tp \$35.00 332pp





**L A BANKS
MINION**

Vampire Huntress #1. All Damali Richards ever wanted to do was create music and bring it to the people. Now she is a Spoken Word artist and the top act for Warriors of Light Records. But come nightfall, she hunts vampires and demons. When strange attacks erupt within the club drug-trafficking network and draw the attention of the police, Damali realizes these killings are a bit out of the ordinary, even for vampires. Instead of neat puncture marks in the neck showing where the blood has been drained from the body, these corpses are mutilated beyond recognition, indicating a blood lust and thirst for destruction that surpasses any Damali has encountered before. Soon she discovers that behind these brutal murders is the most powerful vampire Damali has ever met - a seductive beast who is coming for her next... Pb \$15.95 304pp



**CHARLES BUTLER
THE FETCH OF MARDY WATT**

Something is haunting Mardy Watt. It's been in her room, it's fooling her friends and it's upsetting her home life. And the trouble is nobody realises what is happening, except Mardy herself. Exactly what it is and why it is picking on her, Mardy doesn't know - but she does know that she has to find out, before it takes over and replaces her completely. Pb \$14.95 223pp

**DOUGLAS CLEGG
NIGHTMARE HOUSE**

There are places that hold in the traces of evil, houses that become legendary for the mysteries and secrets within their walls. Harrow is one such house. Psychic manifestations, poltergeist activity, hallucinations and other residue of terror have all been documented in Harrow. It has been called Nightmare House. It is a nest for the restless spirits of the dead. When Ethan Gravesend arrives to inherit Nightmare House, he does not suspect the horror that awaits him, the nightmare of the woman trapped within the walls of the house, or the endless crying of an unseen child. Also includes the bonus novella Purity. Pb \$15.95 340pp

**JAMES DAVID
BEFORE THE CRADLE FALLS**

Paralysed by drink and despair since the accidental death of his young daughter, Shelby, Detective Kyle Sommers nonetheless must lead a task force to catch a brutal serial killer. Nicknamed the Cradle Robber, this murderer has methodically snuffed out the lives of children all along the California coast. Now he's come to Portland. While investigating, Sommers learns that a strange man has been saving local children from various dangers - then disappearing. Sommers learns that the man is a time-traveller who, grieving for his own murdered child, has vowed to create a way for a future generation of children to live. Laughed off the task force as word spreads of his theory, Sommers investigates on his own. But the Cradle Robber has hatched a diabolical scheme. Intent on continuing his carnage, the baby-killer has laid a trap for both Sommers and the time traveller... one sure to destroy every adult and child in the city. Pb \$15.95 375pp

**MATTHEW DELANEY
JINN**

In 1943, on a remote island in the South Pacific, a squad of US Marines beats its way through dense jungle to oust the Japanese invaders. In short order, however, they realise that this battleground contains an ancient secret far more terrifying than any ordinary foe. In 2008, amid the slums and skyscrapers of Boston, a depraved new kind of serial killer is stalking its human prey relentlessly. Meanwhile, throughout the terrified city, the police find bodies bizarrely posed and mutilated in ways they have never previously witnessed. For Detectives Jefferson and Brogan, the investigation will lead them around the world, through history and time - from a mysterious salvaged submarine, to a pitch-black prison punishment pit, but inevitably returning to that sinister island where something unspeakably inhuman so long awaited its chance to re-emerge... Pb \$19.95 625pp

**P N ELROD
RED DEATH**

Jonathan Barrett #1. Revised, expanded edition. Jonathan Barrett arrives in London in 1773 to pursue his college education. His fate among the undead is sealed by the unnaturally beautiful Nora Jones, who seduces him and consumes his blood. Unbeknownst to Jonathan, he is no longer the same man, something he soon discovers upon his return to America to join the armed forces and defend his country. Rather than an appetite for traditional fare, he has developed a strange craving for human blood. Tp \$32.95 284pp

**KIM HARRISON
DEAD WITCH WALKING**

All the creatures of the night gather in "the Hollows" of Cincinnati, to hide, to prowl, to party... and to feed. Vampires rule the darkness in a predator-eat-predator world, rife with dangers beyond imagining - and it's Rachel Morgan's job to keep that world civilised. Bounty hunter and witch with attitude, she'll bring 'em back alive, dead... or undead. Pb \$15.95 416pp

**ALLEN KUPFER
THE JOURNAL OF PROFESSOR
ABRAHAM VAN HELSING**

Professor Abraham Van Helsing was the fictional creation of Bram Stoker for his dark work of fantasy *Dracula* - or was he? Fragments of a recently discovered journal suggest otherwise. For the first time, in his own words, the legendary vampire hunter tells his own story - his background and early years - his research in Rumania and the Mideast - his medical work - and most importantly his discovery of perhaps the greatest threat to man's dominion on earth, vampires. Working with the textual fragments he inherited from his grandfather, Professor Allen Conrad Kupfer, has managed to piece together the story behind the story that did not begin and end with Bram Stoker's *Dracula*. Hb \$43.00 204pp



**WILLIAM MAYNE (ED)
SUPERNATURAL STORIES**

Expect the unexpected in these weird stories by an impressive selection of writers, including Ray Bradbury, Truman Capote and Thomas Hardy. From folktales about phantoms to macabre modern-day stories, this anthology is sure to send shivers down your spine! Pb \$15.95 223pp

**CHELSEA QUINN YARBRO
IN THE FACE OF DEATH**

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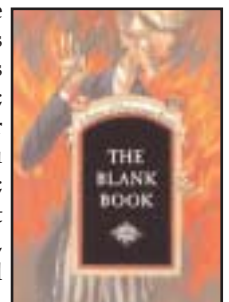
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NOVELISATION
(written version of film, TV, radio drama production, comic or game)


BASED ON (CONCEPT)


FILM 

TV SHOW 

COMPUTER GAME 

ROLE-PLAYING GAME 

COMIC 

REFERENCE 

What We've Been Reading...

Combine Charles Dickens with China Mieville and you get Ian R Macleod's **The Light Ages** (Tp \$29.95). In an alternate Victorian England, the world is run by a magical element called aether. Robert Burrows is a young, working class boy who lives in an aether mining town and his life is forever changed when he meets the mysterious Annalise, a creature who quite clearly does not belong to Robert's world.

This has been getting rave reviews and it's not surprising. MacLeod combines the industrial gothic fantasy style of Mieville with the social class themes of Dickens. It proves to be an interesting mix, producing an equally mysterious and magical world that seems familiar, but at the same time, very different. - John

Midnight Tides (*Tale of the Malazan Book of the Fallen #5*) by Steven Erikson (Tp \$39.95). I am still loving these books and finally there may be an inkling into what the pivot of the series is.

Those who are already Erikson fans will find this to be another treat. He delivers his story in typical epic scale, as the author flits from tangled plot line to convoluted twist. The introductory chapter, for example, is nothing short of magnificent and leaves you eager to turn the pages and begin the main arc.

As is typical in his novels, Erikson introduces you to yet another group of characters and races. The Tiste Edur, led by their Warlock King, are lured into a war with their more powerful neighbours, the Letherrii, who lust after the Edur lands and resources. The Crippled God is involved behind the scenes, once again, though this book appears to be set before any of the previous novels. The worst part about this series is having to wait 16 months until the next book! - Adam

Secret Hour (*Midnighters #1*) by Scott Westerfeld (Hb \$35.00) is the first of a new series aimed at young adults that can be enjoyed by anyone. An entrancing book that creates a grand sense of wonder at the midnight world. A newcomer to the town of Bixby, 15-year-old Jessica Day soon discovers she is a *Midnighter*; one of a small group of teenagers who are awake in the hidden midnight hour while all others are frozen in time. Each of the kids has a special gift: *Seer*, *Mindcaster*, *Polymath* and *Acrobat* are just some of these gifts. But the teenagers are not the only ones roaming the secret hour. The nightlings, ancient shadow creatures and inimical to all things human, hunt the teenagers. Now the nightlings seem to be increasing in numbers. Why do they have a special interest in Jessica Day? - Adam

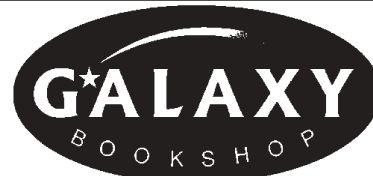
Agents of Light and Darkness by Simon R Green (Pb \$15.95). This is the second *Nightside* book featuring John Taylor, the tough, cool PI with a penchant for finding lost things. John has been hired by the Vatican to find a dangerous relic, the *Unholy Grail*, the cup from which Judas Iscariot drank at the Last Supper. Unfortunately for John, nearly everyone in the *Nightside* is looking for it and it doesn't take them long to work out that the best way to find it is through John himself. Even worse is the fact that *Agents* from Above and Below are coming for the Grail and they will literally tear the *Nightside* apart to get to it first. This really is a fun series and I thought this book was even better than the first, **Something from the Nightside** (Pb \$15.95). John is fleshed out a little more and I found the action and resolution more satisfying. If you want a little light reading, full of action and witty dialogue, pick up this series, you won't regret it. - Sian

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