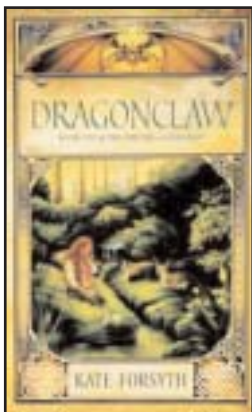




# nexus

June 2005

Issue #205

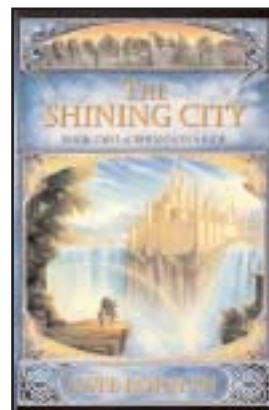


## KATE FORSYTH

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RHIANNON'S RIDE

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THU 23 JUNE @ 6PM



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author of  
the award-winning *Sandman* series and  
World Fantasy Award winner *American Gods*

IN-STORE  
WED 20 JULY @ 12:30PM

## ROBIN HOBB

author of  
the *Farseer Trilogy*, the *Tawny Man Trilogy*,  
the *Liveships Trilogy*  
and the new *Soldier's Son Trilogy*

IN-STORE  
THU 21 JULY @ 6PM

### STOCKTAKE

We will not open until 11am  
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## NEBULA AWARD WINNERS



### BEST NOVEL

**Paladin of Souls** by Lois McMaster Bujold

### BEST NOVELLA

**The Green Leopard Plague** by Walter Jon Williams

### BEST NOVELETTE

*Basement Magic* by Ellen Klages

### BEST SHORT STORY

*Coming to Terms* by Eileen Gunn

### BEST SCRIPT

*The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King*

The Damon Knight Memorial Grand Master Award was presented to  
Anne McCaffrey for lifetime achievement in the field.




# SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY




LYNN ABBEY

## DOWN TIME

 *Orion's Children #3.* Emma Merrigan and her mother take a Caribbean cruise to reconcile their differences, but to help a cursed passenger, Emma must travel into the wasteland. Pb \$16.95 330pp


FORREST AGUIRRE (ED)

## LEVIATHAN 4: CITIES

 This is a Baedeker of the fantastical, exploring the character of cities and the city as character, mapping the streets of the imagination, taking the reader to a variety of cities in all their splendour and decadence. Explore the streets of the imagination, wander the byways and hear the stories of these fantastical foci with such authors as Stepan Chapman, Michael Cisco and K J Bishop. Hb \$58.00 247pp


JOAN AIKEN

## THE STOLEN LAKE

 Aboard the man'o`war, the *Thrush*, on the way back to London from Nantucket, Dido and crew are summoned to the aid of the tyrannical Queen of New Cumbria, who has appealed to England as her oldest ally for help - someone has stolen her lake. Pb \$15.95 317pp



JOAN AIKEN

## THE WITCH OF CLATTERINGSHAW

 Simon Battersea has inherited the throne of England and although accompanied by his friend Dido, he is not happy with his lot. On hearing of other possible claimants to the throne and that Malise, the Witch of Clatteringshaws may be able to help, Dido departs to Scotland to follow the clues. Meanwhile England is invaded by the Saxon Wends and Simon goes northwards with his army. Hb \$32.95 149pp


FLETCHER ANTHONY

## SPIRITS OF THE EARTH

  *The Inheritors #3.* Fern has found the mountain that has haunted her dreams and visions. Is this where her tribe must establish their home? Or must she forever wander till the end of time... Pb \$18.95 543pp


NEAL ASHER

## BRASS MAN

 *A Gridlinked novel.* The knight errant Anderson is hunting a dragon on the primitive Out-Polity world of Cull, little knowing that far away a man - more technology than human flesh - has resurrected a brass killing machine to assist in a similar hunt that encompasses star systems. When agent Cormac learns that his old enemy still lives, he sets out in pursuit... whilst scientist Mika begins discovering the horrifying truth about that ancient technology ostensibly produced by the alien Jain, who died out five million years ago. Meanwhile, the people of Cull must struggle desperately to survive on a planet roamed by ferocious insectile monsters, while they build the industrial base that will enable them to reach their forefathers' starship still orbiting far above them. Hb \$59.95 485pp


ROBIN WAYNE BAILEY

## TALISMAN

 *Dragonkin #2.* Before the Dragon-leader Stormfire was killed in the mounting war between Angmar and Degarm, he created and hid three objects in various corners of the world. Once found and united, they will show the way to a new homeland for the Dragonkin. The quest falls to Stormfire's triplet children. Only two can go, however. While two seek the treasures, one must stay behind to protect Wyvernwood, to rebuild Stronghold and to stand against the forces martialling against them. Gathering a team that includes the last unicorn in the world, a wacky hummingbird, a group of human children, an outcast Griffin and a cat-like Fomorian female, Chan and Luna set out to retrace the route by which Stormfire gathered and led the Dragonkin to Wyvernwood, while still searching for the legendary objects. Pb \$16.95 355pp


CHERITH BALDRY

## THE ROSES OF ROAZON

 The land of Arvorig is ruled by the Duke of Roazon, under the guiding authority of the Church. Peace has lasted here for so many generations that its inhabitants have consigned to legend all memory of Autrys, the dark shadow of Roazon, which was banished from the world when its first duke assumed office. But when the new Duke, Joscelin, is accused of heresy, a gate is subtly opened for Autrys to return. Meanwhile, other princes see their opportunity to seize power and Arvorig itself is in deadly peril. As all those touched by war must make up their minds where their loyalties lie, in the end it is not the noblemen and warriors whose influence will be greatest. Lesser folk and small decisions can produce greater consequences, but most of all the fate of the duchy now rests in the nature of Joscelin himself. Pb \$19.95 534pp


HILARI BELL

## FALL OF A KINGDOM

 *The Farsala Trilogy #1.* Stories are told of a hero who will come to Farsala's aid when the need is greatest. But for thousands of years the prosperous land of Farsala has felt no such need, as it has enjoyed the peace that comes from being both feared and respected. Now a new enemy approaches Farsala's borders, one that neither fears nor respects its name and legend. But the rulers of Farsala still believe that they can beat any opponent. Three young people are less sure of Farsala's invincibility - Jiaan, Soraya and Kavi see Time's Wheel turning, with Farsala headed toward the Flames of Destruction. What they cannot see is how inextricably their lives are linked to Farsala's fate - until it's too late. Pb \$9.95 422pp

GREGORY BENFORD

## THE SUNBORN

 Their historic mission to Mars and discovery of alien life made Julia and Viktor the most famous astronauts of all time. Decades later, this fame is coveted by arrogant, brilliant and young Captain Shanna Axelrod, the leader of a new scientific voyage to the solar system's outermost world. In this strange territory of space, the crew of the starship Proserpina find deadly cosmic storms that threaten the inner planets. Pluto's orbit and axial tilt are constantly changing. And on the frozen ammonia shore of a methane sea, Shanna discovers intelligent creatures thriving in the planet's -300° temperatures. Even more incredibly, these entities are under attack - by something from beyond the known worlds. Hb \$54.00 330pp



SCIENCE FICTION



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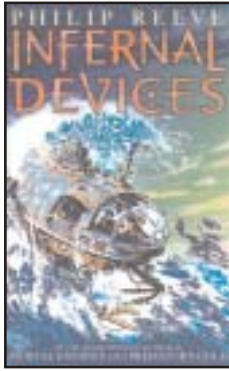
## NEW TITLE

### Infernal Devices

Philip Reeve

Hb \$24.95 352pp

This is the third volume in this wonderful series, set against a post-apocalyptic world of vintage technology and Tractionist cities (that move on vast tracks and wheels). Some years have passed since the events in the last book (**Predator's Gold**, Pb \$16.95). Tom and Hester now live peacefully in Anchorage (the city itself has settled in America) with their daughter Wren, but all that is about to change. When a contingent of Lost Boys visits from the dominating Uncles underwater base, Wren discovers that her home contains the Tin Book, an ancient volume from the old world that may hold the key to a deadly weapon. (I gather this is the launch codes for submarine missiles from our time, although this hasn't yet been made clear).



To make matters worse, the cyborg Stalker Anna Fang and her Green Storm army are on the move and, having recently discovered a secret from Hester's past, are intent on conquering all in their path. And there is one Green Storm member who has her own agenda.

Meanwhile, the resort city of Brighton, presided over by the scoundrel Pennyroyal, travels the earth, recruiting the rich and selling captured slaves.

Little does Pennyroyal know that his city is in grave danger, as the Green Storm heads their way. When Wren finds herself taken to Brighton, it is up to Tom and Hester to come after their daughter, where they will discover that their history has a way of changing everything...

This series as a whole combines elements of the Victorian era, steam punk and old-fashioned adventure stories. Throw in a bit of *Mad Max* and some fringe eco-politics, and you have one of the best young adult series around.

Reeve keeps you hooked with a fast pace throughout, supplying a steady stream of great characters that move through the author's incredibly visual world.

This book doesn't end on an entirely happy note, but the final volume in the series, **A Darkling Plain** should resolve all the loose ends. Comparable to Phillip Pullman, China Mieville and Alan Garner. If this was film Jean Jeunet (*City of Lost Children*) would direct it. **Mortal Engines** (Pb \$16.95), first in the series, won the *Nestlé Smarties Book Prize* (Gold Award) in 2002 and was also short-listed for the *Whitbread Children's Book Award*. 8/10  
- David

## CLASSIC TITLE

### Faerie Tale

Raymond Feist

Pb \$19.95 496pp

I was reminded recently of how creepy this novel is when I gave myself the creeps reading a real horror novel. I admit to having to re-read it (now that's getting good value out of a book!) as it has been so long since I last read it, but it held up to my memories well.

Philip Hastings and his wife Gloria move their children, Gabbie (in her early 20s) and 8-year-old twins Patrick and Sean from California (where Philip has been a successful scriptwriter) to upstate New York. They have bought a large house with extensive land and Phil hopes to go back to his roots of writing novels. All goes well until the boys cross 'Troll Bridge' and sense there is something truly evil beneath (as children and animals sometimes seem to do). Then a few other weird things happen around the home: Sean sees something hiding one night in a dark corner of his shared bedroom (in a scene that anyone who has ever imagined something hiding under the bed will truly empathise with), the family cat dies and Gabbie has a couple of graphic encounters with strangers on their land - one an itinerant blacksmith, the other a beautiful young man who sexually attacks her - yet she has trouble remembering any of the details unless someone reminds her that it even happened.



At the same time, Mark and Gary, experts in folklore and mythology, are researching the history of the mysterious original owner of the house (now deceased), a German by the name of Kessler. Kessler fled Germany (a very rich man) many years previously, after the community in which he'd been living had a mini-inquisition by the mainstream churches (after some residents had been dabbling in pagan rituals and possibly human sacrifice). When a secret room with robes and ancient texts is found under the house, Mark and Gary are thrown deeper into the mystery at a cost not only to themselves, but those aware of what they are investigating.

Just before Halloween, the family is woken in the dead of night with Sean beyond hysterical and Patrick with a temperature through the roof. He is rushed to hospital and, when he comes to, he has changed. His behaviour would at best be described as animalistic and at worst depraved. Sean begins to remember snippets of what happened on the night Patrick fell sick: a "Shiny Man" and the Bad Thing that was under the bridge. He knows it is up to him to rescue his brother and that he has to do it before midnight on Halloween. He battles to rescue Patrick as Mark and Phil race to stay ahead of members of a secret society as a bloody war is about to start between the human and Faerie race.

Feist perfectly captures the horror that is going on around the family and the twins in particular. The way he describes their nightmares (both sleeping and waking) will be understood by all - that horrible inability to do/say anything, being rooted to a spot was just delicious. His descriptions of the Bad Thing, initially vague, just made the story more tense. The creep factor and the tension in this novel are wonderful. - Stephanie

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**CURT BENJAMIN**


 **LORDS OF GRASS AND THUNDER**

A *Seven Brothers* novel. When his father is murdered by magical treachery, Prince Tayyichiut watches his uncle take over as elected Khan of the Qubal clans. But Tayyichiut remains the Khan's heir and when he's ready, his uncle plans to turn the clans over to him. But there are those who see a different future for the Qubal. And when dark magic begins to spread its poison, only the apprentice shaman who seems fated to be Tayy's bride may be able to save him from a deadly destiny. Hb \$54.00 532pp



**K J BISHOP**

   **THE ETCHED CITY**  
Fleeing the ghosts of their violent past, two former revolutionaries escape from the ruined and desert Copper Country to the tropical city of Ashamoil. As they salvage new lives from the rubble of the old, they discover that the ghosts of the past are also the ghosts of the future. Pb \$19.95 467pp



**PAUL BORICK**

 **DAZE OF RECKONING**  
*Water Warp #1*. While en-route to Hawaii on a family vacation trip, a freak accident lands 10-year-old Paul in a strange underwater kingdom called Aqua World - a place inhabited not by humans, but instead by a group of highly intelligent dolphins. Quick to accept him as their newest resident, Paul is asked by Gnik, their king, to accomplish a three-part adventure that will replenish a force field designed to keep the dolphins safe from all their enemies - particularly the sharks - that live in the ocean. Pb \$18.95 120pp


**BEN BOVA**

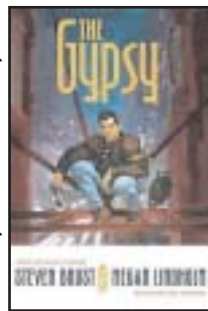
  **TALES OF THE GRAND TOUR**  
This is collection of short stories features events and characters from various novels including Sam Gunn, Martin Humphries, Lars Fuchs, Dan Randolph and the Asteroid Wars. Tp \$35.00 382pp

**DAMIEN BRODERICK**


  **GODPLAYERS**  
August Seebeck is a man of average looks and intellect. Then comes the claim of his great-aunt Tansy that she has been finding corpses each Saturday night in her bath (they vanish by morning). August dismisses this tale as elderly fantasy until he stumbles upon a corpse being shoved into the second-floor bathroom window of his aunt's house. Even that wouldn't faze him, but then someone steps out of the mirror.... August suddenly discovers he is a Player in the multi-universe Contest of Worlds and that his true family is quarrelsome on a mythic scale. His search for understanding follows a classic quest pattern of the Parsifal kind, except that August is nobody's fool. Tp \$32.95 328pp

**STEVEN BRUST & MEGAN LINDHOLM**


 **THE GYPSY**  
Cigany is the gypsy, stalking the city in a cloud of magic. Stepovich is the seasoned cop, who keeps finding dead bodies in the gypsy's wake. The Fair Lady is Queen of the Underworld, drawing them both into her murderous web... until only the gypsy's broken memories stand between Stepovich's beloved city and the Lady's dark design. Tp \$29.95 272pp



**ROBERT CARTER**

 **THE LANGUAGE OF STONES**  
Set in a mythic 15th century Britain. The Realm is poised for war. Its weak king - Hal, grandson of a usurper - is dominated by his beautiful wife and her lover. Against them stand Duke Richard of Ebor and his allies. The two sides are set on a bloody collision course. Gwydion is watching over the Realm. He has walked the land since before the time of the druids, since before the Slavers came to subdue the people. Gwydion was here when Arthur rode to war - then they called him 'Merlyn'. But for his young apprentice, Willand, a fearsome lesson in the ways of men and power lies ahead. Pb \$18.95 572pp

**KEN CATRAN**


 **ODYSSEUS**  
This story reveals Odysseus as an undoubtedly ruthless character, an engaging villain and a born survivor. Told by Odysseus himself, we discover the real stories of the country of the Lotus Easter, the cyclops, Circe and her magic island and the descent into the Underworld. A classic tale retold with a sense of humour. Pb \$16.95 237pp

**TED CHIANG**

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Here are eight astonishing science fiction stories that explore the boundaries between science and religion, between determinism and our ability to choose, between words and the entities they describe. Here are stories of conceptual breakthrough... of making sense of the universe and our place in it. "What a pleasure it is to read Chiang...Can he be the best SF writer to come down the pike in the past thirty years? I honestly believe that he is." - Harry Harrison. Pb \$19.95 333pp




**EWIN COLFER**

 **THE OPAL DECEPTION**  
*Artemis Fowl #4*. The fairy people have wiped all knowledge of their world from the brain of the only human they're scared of - criminal genius Artemis Fowl. But now they need him - and fast. Evil pixie Opal Koboi is planning world destruction. Stopping her will involve clearing Captain Holly Short's name of murder, springing a kleptomaniac dwarf from jail and convincing a super-intelligent centaur that he doesn't know it all. Pb \$19.95 343pp


**KATE CONSTABLE**

  **THE TENTH POWER**  
*Chanters of Tremaris #3*. A dark secret is tearing Tremaris apart. From the frozen Bay of Sardi to the endless winter of Antaris, sickness is spreading and even the seasons are slipping into chaos. Calwyn has lost her powers of chantment and flees back to Antaris. But instead of sanctuary she finds the community ravaged by a mysterious snow-sickness and torn apart by tyranny. When she learns that Darrow, too, has been infected, Calwyn begins a desperate race through the frozen forests. But will she find the answers in time to heal him? And will she have the courage to embrace the dark magic and save Tremaris? Pb \$16.95 264pp

**JUDE DEVERAUX**

 **ALWAYS**  
Darci has never given up searching for her kidnapped husband, Adam Montgomery. But her quest has taken her deeper into the world of psychic phenomena than she ever dreamed - or dared to go. When the FBI enlists her help in locating the missing father of undercover agent Jack Rose, Darci signs on for the covert operation, not knowing that her attraction to handsome, sexy Jack is about to lead her into deadly territory - and into an era long past. Pb \$16.95 392pp

**CORY DOCTOROW**

 **EASTERN STANDARD TRIBE**  
Art is an up-and-coming interface designer, working on the management of data flow along the Massachusetts Turnpike. He's doing the best work of his career and can guarantee that the system will be, without question, the most counterintuitive, user-hostile piece of software ever pushed forth into the world. Why? Because Art is an industrial saboteur. He may live in London, but Art's real home is the Eastern Standard Tribe. The comm - instant wireless communication - puts everyone in touch with everyone else, 24 hours a day. But one thing hasn't changed: the need for sleep. The world is slowly splintering into Tribes held together by common time zones, less than families and more than nations. And Art is working to humiliate the Greenwich Mean Tribe to the benefit of his own people. Tp \$29.00 223pp

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 **MIDNIGHT TIDES**

*A Tale of the Malazan Book of the Fallen #5.* After decades of warfare, the tribes of the Tiste Edur have at last united under the rule of the Warlock King. To the south, the kingdom of Lether has devoured all of its less-civilised neighbours and now fixes its gaze on the Tiste Edur. A pivotal treaty between the two sides nears - but unknown ancient forces are awakening. For the impending struggle between these two peoples is but a pale reflection of an altogether more profound, primal battle - a confrontation with the still-raw wound of betrayal and the craving for vengeance at its heart. Pb \$22.95 959pp

RAYMOND E FEIST

 **KING OF FOXES**

*Conclave of Shadows #2.* Talon has been transformed by the Conclave of Shadows from a trusting young boy to the dashing young nobleman Talwin Hawkins: educated, confident and now RolDEM's premier swordsman. The title, won at the Masters' Court brought him a step closer to his desire - to avenge the massacre of his family. Two participants in the slaughter are already dead by his hand. But still his lust for vengeance will not be sated until the reason for the massacres has been uncovered and their architect revealed and punished. Pb \$18.95 374pp

 **EXILE'S RETURN**

*Conclave of Shadows #3.* Once absolute ruler of his nation Kaspar, former Duke of Olasko, has been cast into exile. Abandoned in the wilds of a continent on the other side of the world, he must fight merely to survive. He starts his odyssey with a single goal: to return to his home and revenge himself upon the man who cast him down, Talwin Hawkins. But as he struggles against adversity, he encounters dangers greater than any he had imagined. Tp \$29.95 356pp

DAVID GEMMELL

 **THE SWORDS OF NIGHT AND DAY**

*The Damned #2.* Even in death, Skilgannon the Damned's name lives on. Now, as an ancient evil threatens to flood the Drenai heartlands in a tide of blood, he returns... Pb \$22.95 639pp

CHRISTOPHER GOLDEN

 **GHOSTFIRE**

*Outcast #3.* After shunning Timothy since his arrival in Arcanum, Parliament has finally turned to him for help. Raptus, the vicious leader of the Wurm, is determined to break through the magical barrier that separates his world from Sunderland and exact vengeance upon the mages. Parliament needs Timothy's kind of magic - the magic of invention - to prep are for the inevitable battle with the Wurm. Pb \$14.95 229pp

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*Symphony of Ages #5.* The dragon Anwyn - who has lain for three years in deathlike sleep in a grave of rock and black coal - is freed by the cataclysm that concluded **Requiem for the Sun**. Disoriented and confused, she remembers only two things: the person who trapped her in dragon form and locked her in a rocky grave - Rhapsody; and an all-encompassing desire to wreak vengeance. Pb \$18.95 427pp

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Josh Tak is just an average boy. So why is an international corporation so convinced that he is the key to conquering their new market - the past? Drawn into a whirlwind adventure, Josh finds himself in the middle of a nightmare, caught in Umayya, a place between dreams and reality. To find his way back, Josh and his friends must follow a trail that takes them through many adventures, to the core of human nature and to the furthest ends of time itself. Tp \$29.95 638pp

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*Finn's Quest #1.* Finn has found the perfect antidote for boring holidays with no friends - a computer game called Ultimate Adventure. When Finn enters the game, time and reality change. Finn's quest is to find the true queen and restore her to the throne. Only then will evil leave the land and the people recover their happiness and freedom. As if that wasn't enough, he constantly finds himself called back to his own world, never sure when or if he will be able to return. Pb \$16.95 238pp

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 **DANTE'S EQUATION**

In a dusty school room on the outskirts of Jerusalem, an elderly Rabbi unearths an extraordinary and inexplicable pattern within the hidden codes of the Torah. In a tiny laboratory in Seattle, a young physicist begins work on a revolutionary wave-pattern theory that could change the face of science forever. In a lecture hall in Orlando, intelligence operative Calder Farris uncovers a clue to a potentially devastating threat to national security. While off the coast of Florida, freelance reporter Denton Wyle receives information that could blow the lid off every missing persons case in the history of mankind. Soon their investigations will uncover a common link and, as their paths converge, the future of all mankind will hang in the balance... Pb \$19.95 695pp

DIANA WYNNE JONES

 **CONRAD'S FATE**

*A Chrestomanci novel.* Conrad is apparently suffering from the effects of such bad karma that there is nothing in his future but terrible things. Unless he can alter his circumstances - well, quite frankly, he is doomed. Conrad is sent in disguise to Stallery Mansion, to infiltrate the magical fortress that has power over the whole town of Stallchester and to discover the identity of the person who is affecting his Fate so badly. Then he has to kill that person. But can any plan really be that simple and straightforward? Of course it can't! And things start to go very strangely for Conrad from the moment he meets the boy called Christopher... Pb \$19.95 392pp

ELIZABETH KAY

 **BACK TO THE DIVIDE**

*Divide #2.* Snakeweed - the villainous japegrin who followed Felix home - is at large in the real world. He has failed to set up his spell-potions business and is ready to go home. All he needs is the enchanted formula hidden in Felix's notebook. Unfortunately, Snakeweed's visit to Felix ends in disaster with a spell that turns Felix's parents to stone - and then starts spreading. To find the countercharm, Felix must return to the back-to-front world he discovered last summer. But when he gets there, he discovers it horribly changed and his extraordinary friends in a terrible fix. Pb \$16.95 384pp

LYNN KURLAND

  **DREAMS OF STARDUST**

In the 1200s, Amanda of Artane has one summer to choose from her suitors - and find love forever. Pb \$18.95 383pp

TANITH LEE

  **METALLIC LOVE**

*Sequel to Silver Metal Lover.* Loren is a slum child, abandoned by her mother and raised by the religious cult, the Apocalytes. One day, she discovers an illegal copy of Jane's book - the story of Jane and Silver's love that has become a cult classic - and it changes her life. Motivated by her desire to taste the life that Jane and Silver had, she runs away to the City. But Loren is not like the privileged and romantic Jane. Hard-edged and realistic, she sees the world through the eyes of the underclass. Loren's cynicism is shattered when a new company brings back the very robots that were destroyed 12 years before - only better, faster and more superhuman. When Loren meets the new Silver, who is nothing like the original, she realises that everything in Jane's book maybe lies. Pb \$18.95 332pp

MARJORIE M LIU

  **TIGER EYE**

When a young psychic acquires a riddle box in Beijing, China, she learns she can free the shapeshifter imprisoned inside and that he is the beginning of an adventure - and a love - of a lifetime. Pb \$16.95 342pp

KARIN LOWACHEE

  **CAGEBIRD**

*Warchild #3.* At age four, Yuri Kirov watched his home colony destroyed by the alien enemy. By six, he was a wounded soul, fending for himself in a desolate refugee camp and still a child when the pirates found him. Now 24, Yuri is a killer, a spy, a blackmailer and a pirate captain - doing life in prison. That is until Earthhub Black Ops agents decide to make Yuri their secret weapon in a covert interstellar power grab. Released from jail, but on a leash to the government, Yuri is more trapped than ever. Controlled by men even more ruthless than the brigands he's ordered to betray, Yuri is back again in deep space where his survival depends on a dangerous act - trusting a stranger's offer of help. Pb \$16.95 429pp

PAUL MCAULEY

  **LITTLE MACHINES**

Monsters! Alien invasions! Serial killers! Lost worlds! Conspiracies! Mad scientists! Secret histories! In the 17 polished, ingenious and often darkly humorous stories collected here, this multiple award-winning author takes a fresh look at staple genre themes spanning science fiction, horror and alternate history. Hb \$99.95 328pp

DENNIS L MCKIERNAN

 **ONCE UPON A SUMMER DAY**

Once upon a summer day, Prince Borel of the Winterwood falls asleep and a beautiful golden-haired maiden with a shadowy band across her eyes comes to him in his dreams and pleads for aid. She returns time after time and the prince is certain that she is real and in deadly peril. Yet he knows not who she is... nor where she is imprisoned. So Borel begins a desperate quest through the wonders and hazards of Faery, seeking a mysterious masked demoiselle guarded by perilous blades and though time touches not this land of legend, time is running out. Hb \$49.95 368pp

 **RED SLIPPERS:**

 **MORE TALES OF MITHGAR**

In the darkness of Port Arbalin, a group of worldly travellers huddles together around a tavern's dying fire, drinking and telling tales both true and fantastic. Full of adventure, magic, bravery and blood, each story has a different teller - and an ending few mortals could ever imagine... Pb \$16.95 375pp

IAN R MACLEOD

  **THE HOUSE OF STORMS**

*The Light Ages #2.* When Great Grandmistress Alice Meynell, ruthless matriarch of the Great Guild of Telegraphers, brings her son to Invercombe, west of Bristol, she expects him to die there. In desperation she travels to Einfell, to seek favour from one who once trusted her. And Ralph is cured. But he is drawn away from his family responsibilities to a fisherman's daughter Marion Price. Together they plan to defy the rule of the Guilds, even to change the world and how it sees itself. But Alice will not let love stand in the way of her in her insatiable lust for power even if it means plunging England into a long and bloody civil war. Tp \$29.95 457pp

L E MODESITT, JR

 **WELLSPRING OF CHAOS**

*Recluce #12.* Kharl's life has been ordered and dependable until he saves a neighbour's daughter from the violent advances of two upper-class men. Then he rescues an actual rape victim he finds unconscious in an alley, a blackstaffer - a young expatriate mage - from Recluce. The culprit in both cases turns out to have been Egen, the cruel, corrupt son of the local ruler. When the blackstaffer is mysteriously murdered in Kharl's cooerage, Kharl's consort is executed for the murder, which she did not commit. Egen again. Kharl ends up on the run, with just a handful of coins and a few clothes, but he also takes the slain woman's black staff and her book, *The Basis of Order*, which explains the principles of its power. The diligent cooper is about to learn a new, very different skill. Pb \$18.95 448pp

JAMES MOLONEY

  **THE SCORPION'S TAIL**

*The Doomsday Rats*

*#2.* In a futuristic city ruled by an evil scientific genius, the resistance group of children known as the Doomsday Rats might be the only hope of saving mankind. Up until now their greatest advantage has been that no-one knows they live in the underground tunnels - but three of them have just been forced to reveal the secret. Now the rats are fighting for their lives, as they are tracked through the tunnels by the hideous Gades - the city's security force - using a strange creature with the hearing of a bat and the sight of a vulture. Pb \$14.95 160pp



WARREN MURPHY

  **DREAM THING**

*Destroyer #139.* A sleeping giant has arisen - hungry for flesh and world destruction. Pb \$16.95 349pp

**HOWARD L MYERS**

 **THE CREATURES OF MAN**

A future war is being fought across the galaxy and the key to victory can be found on the legendary lost world where humanity originated - Earth. But even if the lost home world can be found, there may be no place for humans on it anymore. The creatures who are now the sole inhabitants, which mankind once dominated, have been raised to a high level of intelligence and the future they plan is not one with any room for the former rulers of the planet. Pb \$18.95 628pp

**LARRY NIVEN**

 **RINGWORLD'S CHILDREN**

*Ringworld #4.* Explorer Louise Wu, an Earth-born human who was part of the first expedition to Ringworld, becomes enmeshed in interplanetary and interspecies intrigue as war and a powerful new weapon threaten to tear the Ringworld apart forever. Now the future of Ringworld lies in its children - Tunesmith, the Ghoul protector, Acolyte, the exiled son of Speaker-to-Animals and Wembleth, a strange Ringworld native with a mysterious past. All must play a dangerous game in order to save Ringworld's population - and the stability of Ringworld itself. Pb \$18.95 284pp

**GARTH NIX**

 **DROWNED WEDNESDAY**

*The Keys to the Kingdom #3.* Arthur Penhaligon has a broken leg and a bad attack of asthma, but there's no time for recovery. Drowned Wednesday has sent a ship to pluck him from the safety of his bed, miles from any ocean and sail him back to the House. From hospital room to the high seas, Arthur must battle pirates, storms, monsters made of Nothing and a vast beast that can't stop eating. Arthur struggles to unravel the mystery of the Architect's disappearance and the plotting of the Trustees. For the sake of all that dwell in the Secondary realms, he must discover the third part of the Will and claim the Third Key. Pb \$14.95 366pp

**WILLIAM F NOLAN**

 **WILD GALAXY**

This collection represents the best of a 50-year writing career. Zany tales are included, such as *Toe to Tip*, *Tip to Toe*, *Pip-Pop as You Go*, in which everyone is kept in perpetual drugged states and the social deviates are those who are straight. More serious stories are also told such as *The Small World of Lewis Stillman*, in which the last surviving resident of Los Angeles must conceal himself in storm sewers in order to avoid a new wave of smaller city dwellers who, although primitive, are dangerous in their numbers. Hb \$56.00 199pp

**ANDRE NORTON**

 **DARK COMPANION**

In a future where humanity has scattered across the stars and Earth itself is a dimly remembered legend, two worlds of near-supernatural strangeness challenge two courageous young heroes. Hb \$56.00 410pp

**ANDRE NORTON**

 **THREE HANDS FOR SCORPIO**

When Drucilla, Sabina and Tamara, identical sisters born to Desmond, Earl of Skorpys, are kidnapped as part of a plot to undermine their father's realm, they are taken to a mysterious region where they experience terrors unlike anything they could imagine. Powerful forces work against them, but together they may yet escape and help right the wrong that brought them to the strange land in the first place. Hb \$49.95 302pp

**TERRY PRATCHETT**

 **A HAT FULL OF SKY**

*A Discworld novel.* 11-year-old Tiffany Aching wants to be a real witch, but a real witch doesn't casually step out of her body, leaving it empty. Tiffany does - and there's something just waiting for a handy body to take over. Something ancient and horrible, which can't die. Now Tiffany's got to learn to be a real witch really quickly, with the help of arch-witch Mistress Weatherwax, the truly amazing Miss Level and the Nac Mac Feegle - the rowdiest, toughest, smelliest bunch of fairies ever to be thrown out of Fairyland for being drunk at two in the afternoon. Pb \$17.95 349pp

**FELICITY PULMAN**

 **ROSEMARY FOR REMEMBRANCE**

*The Janna Mysteries #1.* When Janna is saved from a wild boar by the villain Godric, she's not sure whether to kiss him or slap him. The last thing she needs is a beau. Janna wants the freedom to follow her dreams and a marriage proposal isn't in her plans. But Janna's life is shattered when her mother Eadgyth, a healer, dies suddenly and Janna suspects poison. Tp \$19.95 282pp

**IRENE RADFORD**

 **GUARDIAN OF THE FREEDOM**

*Merlin's Descendants #5.* King George III has recently taken the throne, and he seems only too willing to cut himself off from the counsel and magical protection of the current Pendragon, Drake Kirkwood, the Earl of Kirkenwood, who is suffering from an unnatural ill health. Drake's rebellious sister Georgina has long been absent from England, but suddenly situations both at home and abroad have begun to escalate to crisis proportions and Georgina returns home. She soon realises she can no longer shirk her responsibilities, nor deny her magical heritage. Hb \$54.00 532pp

**JUDITH & GARFIELD REEVES-STEVENS**

 **FREEFALL**

During the Cold War, an ultra-secret agency charged with keeping space safe for America was created within the United States Air Force, the United States Space Force (USSF). But this service hides an even darker secret, the death of a Russian cosmonaut, the CIA's 'insurance' to make sure that America would be the first to the moon. 40 years later, Cory Rey, a mission specialist on the International Space Station stumbles over the proof of what happened on the moon during the heady days of the Apollo moon missions. Suddenly she and her ex-lover, Mitch Webber, are caught up in an international race to the moon, with each nation looking to exploit this cosmonaut's death to their own advantage. Pb \$16.95 559pp

**JOHN RINGO**

 **INTO THE LOOKING GLASS**

When physicist Dr. William Weaver and Navy SEAL Command Master Chief Robert Miller are sent to investigate an explosion that destroyed the University of Central Florida, they find an interdimensional gateway at the centre of the destruction. Furthermore, other gateways are appearing all over the world and through one of them come demonic aliens intent on annihilating all life on Earth. Hb \$49.95 278pp

**JOHN RINGO & DAVID WEBER**

 **WE FEW**

*Empire of Man #4.* Prince Roger MacClintock was an heir to the galaxy's Throne of Man - and a self-obsessed spoiled young brat, until he and the Royal Marines sent to protect him were stranded on Marduk with only their feet to get them half way around the entire planet. So far, they've traversed a continent, crossed a sea full of ship-eating monsters, taken over an enemy spaceport and hijacked a starship. But they're not home-free yet, because home is no longer free. In Roger's absence, a palace coup by enemies of the MacClintock family has seized control of the Empire. Hb \$56.00 392pp

**CHRIS ROBERSON**

 **HERE, THERE & EVERYWHERE**

When Roxanne is 11 years old, a dying woman gives her a gift that changes her life, making her a singular creature, with no analogue or equivalent. With the strange device called the Sofia, she has the ability to travel anywhere in space and time, not only through times that were and will be, but also through the worlds that could have been and might someday be. But such power comes at a price - the life she might have led is forever lost to her, twisting away among the infinite threads of the Myriad. Roxanne finds herself isolated, unable to make lasting, meaningful relationships with friends, family or strangers. Hb \$54.00 283pp Tp \$32.95 283pp

**NORA ROBERTS**

**A LITTLE FATE**

In *The Witching Hour*, a kingdom is plagued by tragedy until a wizard-god's spell brings forth a courageous and beautiful young woman who must follow her heart in love - and follow her destiny in battle. On a remote island cursed with eternal winter, a young queen heals a wounded soldier - and warms her heart with the joys of true love in *Winter Rose*. In *A World Apart*, a ravishing medieval Demon Slayer arrives in 20th-century New York to brave a strange new world - and a man who is her destiny. Tp \$29.95 325pp

**RUDY RUCKER**

**MASTER OF SPACE AND TIME**

The real world is unbearable to madcap inventor Harry Gerber, so he uses his genius to twist the laws of science and create his own tailor-made universe. But once the gluons at the core of Harry's creation run out... disaster looms for Harry and his friends. Tp \$32.95 229pp

**KRISTINE KATHRYN RUSCH**

**BURIED DEEP**

*Retrieval Artist #4*. The skeletal remains of a human woman missing for 20 years are discovered on Mars. To determine what happened to her, Retrieval Artist Miles Flint must locate the woman's children who disappeared with her and have remained in hiding ever since. Pb \$16.95 372pp

**MARY DORIA RUSSELL**

**A THREAD OF GRACE**

It is 8 September 1943 and 14-year-old Claudette Blum is learning Italian with a battered suitcase in her hand. She and her father are among the thousands of Jewish refugees scrambling over the Alps towards Italy, where they hope to find safety, now that the Italians have broken with Germany and made a separate peace. Tp \$32.95 430pp

**FRED SABERHAGEN**

**BERSERKER PRIME**

*Berserker #14*. In the Twin World planets, Prairie and Timber, Plenipotentiary Gregor is determined to serve his government, even if it means executing innocent Huvean hostages and even though Gregor's granddaughter, Luon, is in love with Reggie, a Huvean. But now the Berserkers are threatening the Twin Worlds, crashing a scoutship, capturing the planets' president, and reprogramming his brain to suit their violent agenda and only the Huveans can save the Twin Worlds' populace from annihilation. Pb \$16.95 396pp



**ANGIE SAGE**

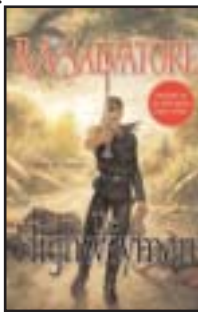
**MAGYK**

*Septimus Heap #1*. A baby girl is rescued from a snowy path in the woods, a baby boy is stillborn, a young Queen is taken ill, an ExtraOrdinary Wizard mysteriously resigns from his post and it all happens on the same night. A string of events, seemingly unconnected, begins to converge 10 years later, when the Heap family receive a knock at the door. The evil Necromancer DomDaniel is plotting his comeback and a major obstacle resides with the Heap family. Life as they know is about to change, and the most fantastically fast-paced adventure of confused identities, magyk and mayhem, begin. Hb \$24.95 564pp

**R A SALVATORE**

**THE HIGHWAYMAN**

*The Chronicles of Corona #1*. It is God's Year 54, many years before the Demon Wars in the land of Corona. Bran Dynard, a monk of the fledgling religion of Abelle, returns from his mission in a far off land with two prizes:



A book of mystical knowledge and a new wife, the beautiful and mysterious Sen Wi. But the world he left behind has changed and his dream of spreading the powerful wisdom he learned to his fellow monks is soon crushed. Forced to hide Sen Wi and his precious book, Bran must decide whom he can trust and where he should now place his faith. Pb \$18.95 405pp

**MANDA SCOTT**

**DREAMING THE BULL**

*Boudica #3*. This continues the story of Breaca - now hailed Boudica, the Bringer of Victory, and her half-brother, Ban, now an officer in the Roman auxiliary cavalry. Each stands on the opposing side in a brutal war of attrition between the occupying army and the defeated tribes, each is determined to see the other dead. Caught between them are two children, son and daughter to two of the greatest warriors their world has ever seen, while in distant Rome, the Emperor Claudius holds the balance of lives in their hands. Pb \$23.95 623pp

**DREAMING THE HOUND**

*Boudica #4*. On the sacred isle of Mona, Breaca now knows for certain that her lover, Caradoc - kept hostage in Rome - will never return to her. She decides to leave Mona and take the fight to the Ezeni heartland where it is needed most. Tp \$34.95 478pp

**LINNEA SINCLAIR**

**FINDERS KEEPERS**

Independent trader Trilby Elliot is making some not-quite-legal modifications to her starfreighter, when an unexpected visitor falls out of space. Literally. He's crashed onto the uninhabited planet of Avanar in a crippled 'Sko fighter - the last place you'd expect to find a Zafharin military officer because the 'Sko and the Zafharin have been at war as long as Trilby can remember. Rhis Vanur is your typically arrogant Zafharin. But to Trilby's surprise, he doesn't look down on her or her slapdash ship. Still, Trilby's learned the hard way that even though she found Rhis, she can't keep him. She's just a low-budget jump jockey as far as men like him are concerned. She's not falling for his offer to help... until Port Rumor reports her best friend missing and that the 'Sko are hunting both her and Rhis. Now they're in it together for better, for worse - or till death blasts them to oblivion... Pb \$16.95 453pp



**CHRISTOPHER STASHEFF**

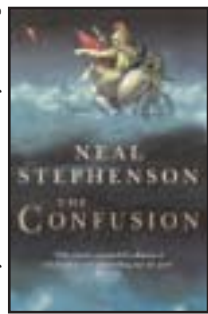
**SAINT VIDICON TO THE RESCUE**

Tech troubleshooter Tony Ricci has been recruited by Saint Vidicon - the patron saint of computer geeks - to combat the forces of evil that wreak havoc within all things technological. Pb \$16.95 308pp

**NEAL STEPHENSON**

**THE CONFUSION**

*The Baroque Cycle #2*. In the late 1600s on the high seas, a group of Barbary galley slaves plot as they ply the oars of a pirate ship, hatching a daring scheme to find an enormous cache of Spanish gold.



Amazingly, they succeed - leaving some very unhappy men behind who vow to hunt down the vagabonds and bring them to justice, no matter the cost. Meanwhile, back in France, the beautiful Eliza attempts to return to London with her baby, a child whose paternity is shrouded in mystery. Making her way home, her ship is stopped by a French privateer and she is returned to the Sun King's court. Thrown back into a web of international intrigue, Eliza must contend with all manner of characters, including buccaneers, poisoners, Jesuits, financial manipulators, and even a stray cryptographer or two... Pb \$27.95 815pp



**CHARLES STROSS**

 **THE FAMILY TRADE**

*The Merchant Princes #1.* Miriam Beckstein is happy in her life. She's a successful reporter for a hi-tech magazine in Boston, making good money doing what she loves. But when she takes a new story to her editor, she's fired on the spot and gets a death threat from the criminals she has uncovered. Before the day is over, she's received a locket left by the mother she never knew - the mother who was murdered when she was an infant. Within is a knotwork pattern, which has a hypnotic effect on her. Before she knows it, she's transported herself to a parallel Earth, a world where knights on horseback chase their prey with automatic weapons and where world-skipping assassins lurk just on the other side of reality - a world where her true family runs things. Pb \$16.95 312pp

**TRAVIS S TAYLOR**

 **THE QUANTUM CONNECTION**

When Steven Montana is given a tiny piece of hardware to examine as a test, he passes so well that he and his boss are called to Washington for a top secret meeting, where he learns that the meteor onslaught that wiped out his family and friends had actually been a brief and still secret war between the US and its enemies using a new warp drive technology that was more secret than top secret. Most secret of all was that unfriendly aliens were observing the Earth. Of course, he learns all this after he is abducted by those very same aliens. Hb \$49.95 289pp

**DAVID WEBER & ERIC FLINT**

 **CROWN OF SLAVES**

When Queen Elizabeth sends a private mission to Erewhon led by Captain Zilwicky and accompanied by one of her nieces, they find themselves in a mess. Not only do they encounter one of the Republic of Haven's most capable agents - Victor Cachat - but they also discover that the Solarian League's military delegation seems up to its neck in skulduggery. Pb \$18.95 710pp

**SCOTT WESTERFIELD**

 **THE RISEN EMPIRE**

*Omnibus edition.* The undead Emperor has ruled the Eighty Worlds for 1600 years. His is the power to grant immortality to those he deems worthy, creating an elite class known as the Risen. Along with his sister, the eternally young Child Empress, his power within the empire has been absolute - until now. The empire's great enemies, the Rix, hold the Child Empress hostage. Charged with her rescue is Captain Laurent Zai. But when Imperial politics are involved the stakes are unimaginably high and Zai may yet find the Rix the least of his problems. Tp \$32.95 626pp

**LIZ WILLIAMS**

 **BANNER OF SOULS**

In the far-distant future a flooded and shattered Earth is governed by the iron hand of the Martian Matriarchy. Martian warrior Dreams-of-War is not pleased to be dispatched to Earth to guard a young girl called Lunae from an unknown threat. Tp \$32.95 426pp

 **NINE LAYERS OF SKY**

Fighting their own inner demons, as well as those from across the breach, Ilya and Elena embark on a harrowing trip between nations and worlds and for the first time the man of myth and the woman of science discover that they have a dream to defend - and even die for. Pb \$19.95 427pp

**SEAN WILLIAMS & SHANE DIX**

  **ASCENT**

*Geodesica #1.* When confronted by an alien artifact of unknown origins, humanity's uncertain beginnings as an interstellar power are threatened, not so much by the artifact itself, but more by people's reactions to it. Set in 2388, this series explores the possibilities of space colonisation and the ways in which humanity may travel the vast gulfs between the stars. Nanotechnology, exotic states of being and the unusual relationships created by scientific developments of the human state of being all combine in grand adventure, love and loss, and the grab for power engendered by discovery. Pb \$18.95 436pp

**TAD WILLIAMS**

 **SHADOWMARCH**

*Shadowmarch #1.* At the uppermost edge of the northern kingdoms, towers shrouded in mist, lies Southmarch Castle. For hundreds of years it has remained hidden from the affairs of empire. Now its isolation can protect it no more. Southmarch is under siege; from both its neighbours, without, and the more insidious enemies who would destroy it from within. Hb \$49.95 656pp

**ROBERT CHARLES WILSON**

 **SPIN**

The stars disappear replaced by a flat, empty black barrier and the sun is now a featureless disk - a heat source, rather than an astronomical object. A space probe reveals that the barrier is artificial, generated by huge alien artefacts. Time is passing faster outside the barrier than inside. Jason, a promising young scientist, devotes his life to working against this slow-moving apocalypse. Earth sends terraforming machines to Mars turning the planet green. Next they send humans... and immediately get back an emissary with thousands of years of stories to tell about the settling of Mars. Then Earth's probes reveal that an identical barrier has appeared around Mars. Hb \$56.00 364pp

**GENE WOLFE**

 **INNOCENTS ABOARD**

This volume gathers fantasy stories from the last decade that have never before been collected. Highlights from the 22 stories include *The Tree is My Hat*, adventure and horror in the South Seas, *The Night Chough*, a Long Sun story, *The Walking Sticks*, a humorous tale of a supernatural inheritance and the very personal *Houston, 1943*, lurid adventures in a dream that has no end. Tp \$32.95 304pp



**NINA BANGS**  
**NIGHT BITES**

Cindy Harper has an ice-cream flavour for every emotion. But no sweet treat from her freezer is tempting enough to cool down her dark fantasies about Thrain Davis. Thrain is a man to be enjoyed on a strictly primitive level. Too late Cindy realises the danger of inviting an ancient vampire into her inn. He does have an upside, though. Who needs ice cream when you have a hot and yummy immortal in your bed? Pb \$16.95 339pp

**JOHN GREGORY BETANCOURT (ED)**

**HORRORSCAPE:**

**NEW MASTERPIECES OF HORROR**

New masterpieces of horror from Harlan Ellison, Ray Bradbury, Joe Lansdale and many more. Pb \$16.95 196pp

**RAMSEY CAMPBELL**

**THE OVERNIGHT**

Woody, an American recently transferred to England to run a branch of Texts, wants a clean, orderly store and lots of sales to show his bosses when they arrive from the States for a pre-Christmas inspection, but things keep going wrong. No matter how often the shelves are put in order before the doors are locked at night, when the staff returns in the morning, books are lying all over the floor, many damp and damaged beyond repair. Desperate, Woody musters his staff for an overnight inventory. When the last customers reluctantly depart, the doors are locked and the things that have been lurking in the basement and hiding in the fog are inexorable. This bookstore is no haven. It is the doorway to a hell unlike any other. Hb \$54.00 396pp

**JOHN CONNOLLY**

**NOCTURNES**

In his first collection of short fiction, this bestselling author offers a selection of dark, daring and haunting tales. Here are lost lovers and missing children, predatory demons and vengeful ghosts. Tp \$29.00 406pp

**SHANNON DRAKE**  
**DEAD BY DUSK**

For American Stephanie Cahill, Bella Vista is a new beginning - a chance to put her painful past behind her. Yet from the moment the first body is discovered at the site of an archaeological dig, Stephanie feels as if she's being watched and followed. Archaeologist Grant Peterson senses something odd about this dig, something that has him locking his door at night. And now, the echoes of a burial site's ancient legend can be found in the chilling signature of a killer on the loose, as one by one, young women start disappearing, only to be found horribly mutilated. And the powerful attraction between Stephanie and Grant is a complication neither can afford as they are pulled into a desperate race against time to keep Stephanie from joining the ranks of the missing. Pb \$16.95 379pp

**SHANNON DRAKE**  
**WICKED**

When Camille Montgomery begs him to spare her stepfather's life, the fearsome Earl of Carlyle, who hides his scarred face behind a mask, decides to use her as a pawn in a dangerous game of deception and revenge until love and passion enter the picture. Pb \$18.95 376pp

**ROBERT FLEMING**  
**HAVOC AFTER DARK:**  
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From Spanish Harlem to a Caribbean isle shadowed by a haunted voodoo moon, this collection of short stories partners traditional horror with political and sociological terror, vividly depicting a dark realm of serial killers, satanic traditions, black magic rituals, Nazi torture and slavery. Pb \$16.95 319pp

**ROBIN FURTH**  
**STEPHEN KING'S THE DARK**  
**TOWER: A CONCORDANCE**

#2. From hundreds of characters to Mid-World geography to the High Speech lexicon, this is a comprehensive handbook to the series. As Stephen King himself explains in the introduction, he commissioned the concordance for his own private use while writing the final three books. When he found Robin Furth's work to be "entertaining and invaluable" he immediately recommended the manuscript for publication. Tp \$39.95 456pp

**JEFF GELB & MICHAEL GARRETT (EDS)**  
**DEADLY AFTER DARK**

*Hot Blooded* #4. Here is terror beyond the last taboo in an all-new collection of original erotic horror from today's fright masters - Jack Ketchum, Graham Masterton, Lucy Taylor and more. Pb \$14.95 275pp

**LAURELL K HAMILTON**  
**THE LUNATIC CAFÉ**

Anita Blake has fallen for the leader of a local pack of werewolves. She's survived a lot, but this love affair may kill her yet. Hb \$49.95 344pp

**LAURELL K HAMILTON, CHARLAINE HARRIS, ET AL**  
**BITE**

Follow a vampire who can be as deadly as her prey. Meet a down home southern girl who's found out, much to her chagrin, that vampires are her type. Feel the euphoria of fear in the shadow of a reluctant Queen of the Undead. Step closer to the hot-blooded edge of passion as a strange new mythology of the night is unveiled. The brightest and hottest authors - including Laurell K Hamilton and Charlaiane Harris - tell all-new tales featuring their best known and loved characters. Pb \$18.95 297pp

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17 stories of the diabolical and the bizarre from Stephen Jones, Ray Bradbury, David J Schow, John Glasby, Lisa Tuttle & Steven Utley, Garry Kilworth, Charles L Grant, Mark Samuels, Peter Atkins, Roberta Lannes, Richard Christian Matheson, John Burke, Paul McAuley, Basil Copper, Jay Russell, Hugh B Cave, Terry Lamsley and Richard Matheson. Hb \$99.95 279pp

**ANGELA KNIGHT**  
**MASTER OF THE MOON**

Unknown to the citizens of her small town, policewoman Diana London is a shape-shifting werewolf on the track of a killer vampiress. Through erotic dreams, she is drawn to Llyr, king of the faeries - but despite sparks, Llyr is a complication in her life. But until the vampiress at large finds an ally, Diana and Llyr have no one to turn to but each other. Pb \$18.95 330pp

**TIM LEBBON**  
**DESOLATION**

A young man moves into a new apartment, but finds the other tenants in the building are all frighteningly strange. Pb \$16.95 309pp

**RICHARD MATHESON**  
**EARTHBOUND**

David and Ellen came to the lonely beachside cottage in hopes of rekindling their troubled marriage. Yet they are not alone on their second honeymoon. Marianna, a beautiful and enigmatic stranger, comes to visit David whenever Ellen is away. But who is Marianna and where has she come from? Even as he succumbs to her seductive charms, David realises that Marianna is far more than a threat to his marriage for her secrets lie deep in the past and beyond the grave. And her unholy desires endanger the lives and souls of everyone she touches. Tp \$29.95 223pp

**KATIE MAXWELL**  
**GOT FANGS? CONFESSIONS OF A VAMPIRE'S GIRLFRIEND**

"I used to think all I wanted was to have a normal life. You know, where I could be one of the crowd and blend in, so no one would know just how different I am. But now I'm stuck in the middle of Hungary with my mom, working for a traveling fair with psychics, magicians and other really weird people, and somehow, blending in with this crowd doesn't look so good. Fortunately, there's Benedikt. Yeah, he may be a vampire, but he has a motorcycle, he likes the mysterious horse I suddenly acquired, and best of all, he doesn't think I'm the least bit freaky. So I'm supposed to redeem his soul - if his kisses are anything to go by, my new life may not be quite as bad as I imagined." Pb \$14.95 193pp

**JAMES A MOORE**  
**RABID GROWTH**

Physical mutations are beginning to appear in one man's circle of friends. Can he be the cause? Pb \$16.95 323pp

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The terrifyingly surreal universe of horror master H P Lovecraft bleeds into the logical world of Sherlock Holmes, in these brand-new stories by 20 of today's top horror, mystery, fantasy and science fiction writers, including Steven Elliot Altman, Elizabeth Bear, Poppy Z Brite, Simon Clark, Paul Finch, Neil Gaiman, Barbara Hambly, Caitlin R Kiernan, Tim Lebbon, James Lowder, Richard A Lupoff, John Pelan, Steve Perry, Michael Reaves, Brian Stableford and David Niall Wilson. Tp \$32.95 445pp

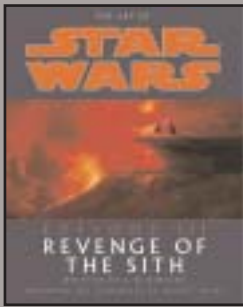
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## WHAT WE'VE BEEN READING

**The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy** by Douglas Adams (Film Tie-in edition, Pb \$19.95). After watching the new movie adaptation of this famous and well-loved creation, I had to re-read the book.

This is the classic story of Arthur Dent, an average English man who finds out that his friend is an alien, and there is only 10 minutes before planet Earth is due to be destroyed to make room for a hyperspace freeway. After hitching a lift off-planet, Arthur is pitched into a hilarious series of improbable adventures across space with a memorable cast of characters. The only reliable source of information on his new environment is *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, a quirkily written electronic encyclopaedia with the soothing words, "Don't Panic", printed on the cover.

This paperback edition of the original book, re-released in time for the film, also contains production photos, interviews with cast and crew, and other behind-the-scenes information. - *Raphael*

**Century Rain** by Alastair Reynolds (Tp \$32.95). Reynolds takes a break from the epic-spanning space opera that was the *Revelation Space* series to write a very different novel that contains a mix of hard science with a World War Two spy thriller.

Verity Auger is an archaeologist who specialises in the frozen remains of Paris on an Earth that is perfectly preserved due to the Nano-war that occurred hundreds of years ago. During a routine expedition, one of her interns is killed in a freak accident, and Auger is brought to trial for it. However, on the eve of her trial, she is offered an escape by her supervisor - to retrieve the possessions of a dead field agent on a foreign planet. However, the devil lies in the details - from all accounts, the planet resembles a complete living replica of Earth in the 1930s and the only way to get to it is to travel down an unstable and previously unknown wormhole that threatens to collapse at any moment. As intergalactic war breaks out between the humans and meta-humans, Auger is thrown into 1930s Paris with a determined private eye (who moonlights as a jazz musician) on her trail, freaky looking children and the dead agent's remains, which suggests a more sinister plan is afoot...

Half the fun of this story is reading about Paris of the 1930s, albeit historically altered. Reynolds beautifully captures the atmosphere and pace of the city, which slowly becomes an influential living presence on the story. Reynolds handles the jumps from the spy aspects to the hard science with ease, showing his considerable storytelling talents. Although I thought this fizzled out a bit towards the end, it is probably one of the more interesting science fiction novels you will read this year. - *John*

**Witchsong (Gina Champion #4)** by Kim Wilkins (Pb \$17.95). I just love the Gina Champion books (and Kim Wilkins in general, truth be told). It's (my beloved) Trixie Beldan, but Australian and without the outdated language. Fantastic for teenage girls and those of us who are still young at heart. The only downfall with these stories is they don't last me long enough... - *Steph*

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