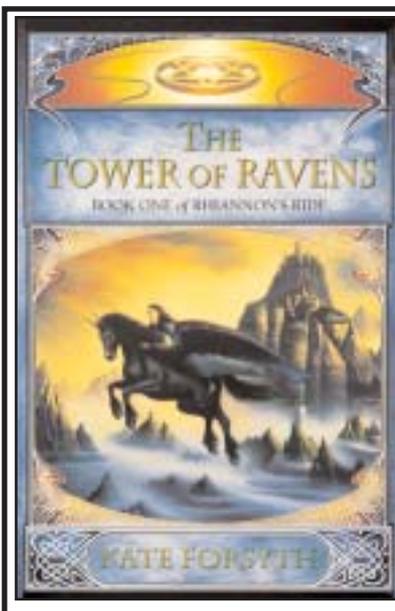




nexus

July 2004

Issue #194



KATE FORSYTH

author of the bestselling
Witches of Eilenaan series

will be in-store

Thursday 8 July @ 6pm

to sign copies of her novel,

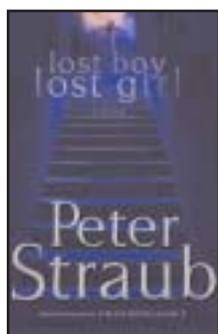
THE TOWER OF RAVENS

book one in her new series

Rhiannon's Ride

STOKER WINNERS ANNOUNCED

The Horror Writers' Association announced winners of its 2003
Bram Stoker Awards for Superior Achievement, including;



NOVEL

lost boy lost girl by Peter Straub

FIRST NOVEL

The Rising by Brian Keene

LONG FICTION

Closing Time by Jack Ketchum

SHORT FICTION

Duty by Gary Braunbeck

FICTION COLLECTION

Peaceable Kingdom by Jack Ketchum

ANTHOLOGY

Borderlands 5 edited by Elizabeth & Thomas Monteleone

NON-FICTION

The Mothers and Fathers Italian Association

by Thomas Monteleone

ILLUSTRATED NARRATIVE

The Sandman: Endless Nights by Neil Gaiman

WORK FOR YOUNG READERS

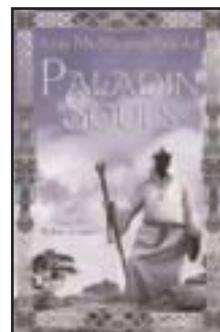
Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix by J K Rowling

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Martin Greenberg & Anne Rice

MYTHOPOEIC AWARDS NOMINEES

Finalists include;



MYTHOPOEIC FANTASY AWARD, ADULT LITERATURE

Paladin of Souls by Lois McMaster Bujold

Fudoki by Kij Johnson

Changing Planes by Ursula K Le Guin

In the Forests of Serre by Patricia McKillip

Sunshine by Robin McKinley

MYTHOPOEIC FANTASY AWARD, CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

The Tale of Despereaux by Kate DiCamillo

The Hollow Kingdom by Clare Dunkle

Inkheart by Cornelia Funke

The Goose Girl by Shannon Hale

The Wee Free Men by Terry Pratchett

MYTHOPOEIC SCHOLARSHIP AWARD FOR INKLINGS STUDIES

Tolkien the Medievalist edited by Jane Chance

Following Gandalf: Epic Battles and Moral Victory

in **The Lord of the Rings** by Matthew Dickerson

Tolkien and the Great War: The Threshold of Middle-earth

by John Garth

C S Lewis, Poet: The Legacy of His Poetic Impulse

by Don King



SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY



SHANA ABE



THE LAST MERMAID

A collection of three linked tales. 531 AD: The tiny island of Kell is said to be inhabited by an extraordinary creature that comforts shipwrecked sailors passing into the next world. Prince Aedan believes in no such nonsense, until he awakens on Kell itself... 1721: Ronan MacMhuirich, Earl of Kell, is the target of an unlikely assassin - Leila, a mysterious woman from an exotic land. But his irresistibly beautiful would-be slayer is in just as much danger as Ronan when she falls for this man with a magic of his own. 2004: What do you do when you inherit a Scottish island you never knew existed and find yourself pursued by a handsome stranger who wants to buy it from you? Pb \$15.95 582pp

KEVIN J ANDERSON

A FOREST OF STARS

The Saga of Seven Suns #2. Five years ago, humans thought they ruled the cosmos. Today they're the galaxy's most endangered species. But the sudden appearance of incredible new races of elemental entities destroys all known balances of power. Now for the humans and the myriad alien factions in the universe, the real war is about to begin... and genocide may be the result. Pb \$15.95 682pp

ROBYN WAYNE BAILEY

TALISMAN

Dragonkin #2. The first victim of the mounting conflict between Angmar and Degarm was the great Dragon-leader, Stormfire. Yet, a series of books he left behind suggest that he knew a time would come when the Dragons, their kindred and friends would have to move on to a possible new Refuge. The books indicate that Stormfire created and hid three objects which, once found and united, will show the way to a new homeland for the Dragonkin. The quest falls to Stormfire's triplet children. 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. Hb \$32.95 298pp

CHERITH BALDRY

THE ROSES OF ROAZON

When icon painter Alissende presents Joscelin, the new Duke of Roazon, with a beautifully depicted image of the divinity as Healer, she is not aware of the impact her painting will have on the history of Avorig. Thus far the Church agrees their deity has only shown himself as Warrior or Judge. Tp \$30.00 485pp

THE RELIQUARY RING

In an ancient maritime city full of beauty and wealth, the people are ruled by an elderly duke - and also by the Church. From the mysterious Empire to the north are imported products of amazing technology, including 'genics' - the genetically engineered people coveted by the wealthy as their servants and playthings. Since the Church refuses to recognize genics as human, they lead an existence of degradation and virtual slavery. Yet, beyond the city itself, sea genics live in freedom on and around the outer islands of the lagoon. Long ignored and unrecognised, they have formed a second republic of the sea. This is the story of four genics in their quest for fulfilment, following the discovery of a ring containing a holy relic of immense significance. Pb \$18.95 471pp

STEVE BARLOW & STEVE SKIDMORE

TROLLOGY!

Tales of the Dark Forest #3. The Dark Forest is a world. Cities, towns and villages exist like islands in a green sea, while in the Forest itself live hermits, wizards and all manner of weird and wonderful creatures - some invented, some strangely familiar. This is the tale of the misadventures of Bertram - a troll who's a complete failure as he can't tell chalk from granite, but who discovers a talent for cooking. Pb \$14.95 269pp

GREG BEAR

DARWIN'S CHILDREN

Darwin #2. 11 years have passed since SHEVA, an ancient retrovirus, was discovered in human DNA - a retrovirus that caused mutations in the human genome and heralded the arrival of a new wave of genetically enhanced humans. Now these changed children have reached adolescence... and face a world that is outraged about their very existence. Scientists Kaye Lang and Mitch Rafelson now live as virtual exiles in the Virginia suburbs with their daughter, Stella - a bright, inquisitive virus child who is eager to seek out others of her kind. But for all their precautions, they have not slipped below the government's radar. The agencies fanatically devoted to segregating and controlling the new-breed children monitor their every move - waiting for the opportunity to strike the next blow in their war to preserve humankind at any cost. Pb \$17.95 493pp

GREGORY BENFORD

& MARTIN GREENBERG (EDS)

ALTERNATE EMPIRES

What Might Have Been #1. What would have happened if history had been different - if the major events that shaped our times had occurred in a different way... or had not occurred at all? In this collection, 12 of science fiction's most imaginative minds have altered the past to reveal a present of astonishing and startling possibilities - a rare glimpse of what might have been. From a Germany that won the war to a modern exodus from Egypt, from the death of ancient Greece to the true secret of the Soviets, these excursions in time depict bizarre new worlds both oddly familiar and disturbingly different. Tp \$27.00 261pp

JOHN BIRMINGHAM

WEAPONS OF CHOICE

Axis of Time Trilogy #1. On the eve of America's greatest victory in the Pacific, a catastrophic event disrupts the course of World War II, forever changing the rules of combat... The impossible has spawned the unthinkable. A military experiment in the year 2021 has thrust an American-led multinational armada back to 1942, right into the middle of the US naval task force speeding toward Midway Atoll - and what was to be the most spectacular US triumph of the entire war. Thousands died in the chaos, but the ripples had only begun. Initial jubilation at news the Allies would win the war is quickly doused by the chilling realisation that the time travellers themselves, by their very presence, have rendered history null and void. Celebration turns to dread when the possibility arises that other elements of the 21st century task force may have also made the trip - and might now be aiding Yamamoto and the Japanese. Tp \$35.00 434pp



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

THE TOWER OF RAVENS

Book One of Rhiannon's Ride

KATE FORSYTH

Tp \$32.95 565pp)

With the first book in her new series, the author reintroduces the magical world of Eileanan, some 25 odd years after the end of the Bright Wars. In that time, peace has reined under the rule of Lachlan the Winged, the witches are slowly rebuilding their towers and schools, and both witches and Faerie are finding acceptance amongst the populace, who had once participated in the witch-hunts that had decimated their kind.

The Tower of Ravens begins high in the mountain ranges that are home to some of the wilder faerie and to Rhiannon, the half-human daughter of the satyricorn, One-Horn. Born with human features, Rhiannon is an outcast in the herd and living on borrowed time. If she fails to grow the horns that mark her a satyricorn proper, her life is forfeit to the Hunt. As time runs out, Rhiannon becomes desperate to find a way to escape. Taking the clothing of a dead Yeoman, a victim she had tried to help escape the herd's clutches, she attempts what only human Horse lairds have done in the past and tames a Winged Horse. So begins Rhiannon's ride.

In a wild flight, Rhiannon and her winged stead leave the peaks of the Dubslain and crash-land in Kingarth, home of the Tree-shifter Lilanthe, her husband Niall the Bear and their children. Thrown amongst the vastly different culture of humankind, Rhiannon struggles to accept the assistance that is offered to her from strangers who want nothing in return.

With Lewen, Lilanthe's son, Rhiannon joins a travelling group of apprentice-witches, led by Nina the Nightingale and heads for Lucescere, with a letter of introduction to Isabeau, the legendary Keybearer of the Coven and an obligation to explain to the Righ the death of his Yeoman. Needing to reach the capital quickly, Nina and her husband, Iven Yellowbeard, decide to risk cutting cross-country and passing under the shadow of the haunted Tower of Ravens. But it is here that dead walk the land and the band of witches faces grave danger as they come across a circle of necromancers. In a battle of pride and confusion, brought on by the newly experienced emotions of friendship and love, Rhiannon fights to gain the trust of her companions, as the dark forces that stalk them grow in strength and a member of their party goes missing.

Kate has delivered another enthralling instalment of magic and adventure in the world she brought to life with Celtic myth and legend in the *Witches of Eileanan*. With humour and deft hand, she convincingly draws a variety of characters whose similarities and differences suggest a writer of consummate skill who still knows how to have fun. In Rhiannon she has created a strong, believable heroine and an intriguing character to write a story around. I really enjoyed this tale. It's a light, easy read and I fairly flew threw it, such is Kate's ability to catch her audience. I can't wait for more! - Mark

LOOK TO WINDWARD

A Culture novel

IAIN M BANKS

Pb \$19.95 416pp

Recently re-released in paperback, this is the most recent of Banks' far-future Culture novels. Like most of his work, it is dark, gritty, existential and often brutal. The themes of power and control seem to crop up a lot in Banks' work and each of his Culture books seems to chart the progress of his protagonist(s) as they are fed through an emotional wringer by manipulative organisations beyond their perception.

The novel takes place less than a decade after the awkward and messy conclusion of the Chelagrian Caste War.

This civil war was fought between the different castes of the alien Chelagrians, but it came to a halt when the Culture admitted that the war had been started by the meddling of its various covert agents. The resulting embarrassed and profuse apologies from the spokespeople of the Culture are met with shocked outrage from the Chelgrians, who, feeling manipulated and cheated, are forced to reconstruct their tattered society.

Suddenly, after years of frosty silence, the Chelgrians ask permission to send an ambassador to Masaq, one of the Culture's artificial worlds.

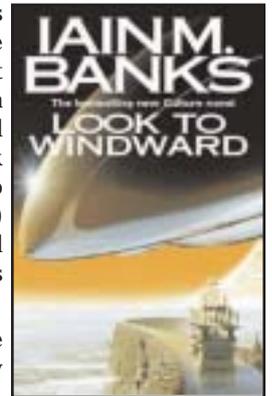
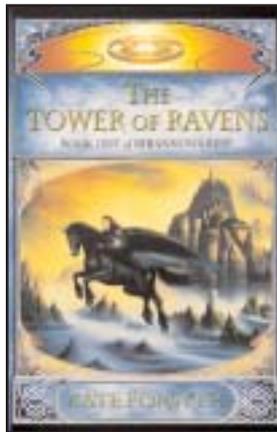
The purpose of this mission is to re-establish contact between Chelgria and Mahrai Ziller, a Chelgrian composer living in exile on Masaq. Ziller is praised by the Culture's citizens for his creative artistry, but is a much-maligned political figurehead amongst many of his own race. All assume that the Ambassador's mission revolves around meeting Ziller and persuading him to return to his home planet. However, the composer is extremely distrustful of Ambassador Quilan and refuses to meet with him, despite the encouragement of various Culture citizens, who see the meeting as a good opportunity to normalise relations with Chelgria.

The other half of this story is told from the perspective of Quilan, a Chelgrian warrior-monk turned ambassador. The Chelgrian Caste War was not kind to Quilan and the mental anguish he suffered after the death of his lover has caused him to volunteer for a mission so secret that its exact nature has been erased from his mind.

Although a great deal of the book is told from his perspective, memories of his past and current mission are only revealed as he gets closer to his goal. Banks uses this plot point to great effect by gradually revealing Quilan's motives as the narrative advances.

Also worth mentioning is that the action of part of this book is set in an airsphere, which is a planet-sized bubble of breathable atmosphere floating in space. The disturbing creatures who have adapted to this environment use a combination of freefall and gliding to travel the vast distances within the airsphere. This creates several exhilarating scenes.

Banks is an intelligent writer who enjoys experimenting with structure; I have always found his work entertaining in the past and this book is no exception. - Raph



ANNE BISHOP

 **THE PILLARS OF THE WORLD**

Tir Alainn Trilogy #1. In Sylvalan, a witch hunt is in full force. As witches and innocents are brutally murdered, magic is disappearing from the land and the roads between the world of humans and that of faeries are vanishing one by one. Ari's family has tended one of the Old Places, places which hold the key to travel between human and faery lands, for generations, keeping the magic alive and the land lush and fertile. And when Ari unknowingly takes a Fae lover, she immediately becomes the target of the unwanted interest of the faery nobility... Against the Inquisitor and the arrogant Fae, Ari and those who believe in the world of magic and human unravel the secrets of the Old Places and discover that they all need each other if any are to survive. Pb \$18.95 430pp

 **SHADOWS AND LIGHT**

Tir Alainn Trilogy #2. Ever since the slaughter of the witches, the Fae – who should be shielding their long-lost cousins from danger – have ignored the needs of the rest of the world. And shadows are again gathering in the eastern villages – dark, potent shadows that threaten the lives of every witch, woman and Fae. Only three Fae can stand against the growing madness and help prevent more bloodshed. Now Aiden the Bard, and his one true love – Lyrra the Muse – must embark on a perilous journey to find the one Fae who can convince the rest to leave their secure perches to save the witches and mortals. Because if the Fae don't act soon, no one will survive... Pb \$18.95 406pp

 **THE HOUSE OF GAIAN**

Tir Alainn Trilogy #3. With the eastern barons under his control and a growing army of black-cloaked torturers, Adolfo is headed toward the Mother's Hills – the wellspring of magic in Sylvalan, as well as home to the reclusive witches of the House of Gaian. As the battle to end all battles looms closer, normal humans and witches are forced to join ranks with the Fae, the beautiful, powerful and arrogant race that inhabits the magical realm of Tir Alainn. But the witches are faced with a crisis: if they are to fight the Black Coats, they'll have to break their sacred creed of 'Do No Harm'. Pb \$18.95 502pp

MARION ZIMMER BRADLEY
& DEBORAH ROSS

 **ZANDRU'S FORGE**

Darkover: The Clingfire Trilogy #2. In the era of *The Hundred Kingdoms*, a time of war and unrest, a legendary friendship is forged between king and keeper which will lead to a new destiny for Darkover. Pb \$17.95 528pp

N M BROWNE

 **BASILISK**

This tale sweeps from the underground cave network of the Combers, who live like spiders amongst endless tunnels and ropes, to the beautiful city inhabited by Abovers. These two worlds should never meet, but when the body of a murdered Abover appears in the combs, their worlds draw closer and the corrupt dictator Arkel sees that his power over both is threatened. Rej must leave the combs and pick up the mysterious trail of the dead man, which will lead him to something far more sinister. Pb \$16.95 320pp

CHRIS BUNCH

 **KNIGHTHOOD OF THE DRAGON**

Dragonmaster #2. Hal finds himself pitted against an enemy that not even a flight of dragons may be able to destroy. Pb \$19.95 408pp

ROBERT CARTER

 **THE LANGUAGE OF STONES**

Gwydion is watching over the Realm. 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. The Realm is an England that is still magical. It is a land crisscrossed by lines of power, upon which standing stones have been set as a secret protection against invasion, but the power of the array was broken by the Slavers who laid straight roads across the land and built walled cities of shattered stone. 1,000 years have passed since then and those roads and walls have fallen into decay. The stones are awakening and their influence is calling men to battle. And unless Gwydion and Will can unearth them, the Realm will be plunged into a disastrous civil war. Tp \$29.95 511pp

MARK CHADBOURNE

 **THE DEVIL IN THE GREEN**

Dark Age #1. Humanity has emerged from the Age of Misrule into a world substantially changed. Society has been thrown into a new Dark Age where superstition holds sway. The Tuatha De Danaan roam the land once more, their terrible powers dwarfing anything mortals have to offer. And in their wake come all the creatures of myth and legend, no longer confined to the shadows. Fighting to find their place in this new world, the last remnants of the Christian Church call for a group of heroes - a new Knights Templar to guard the priesthood as they set out on their quest for souls. But as everything begins to fall apart, the Knights begin to realise their only hope is to call on the pagan gods of Celtic myth for help. Pb \$18.95 453pp

 **THE QUEEN OF THE SINISTER**

Dark Age #2. The plague came without warning. Nothing could stop its progress - not medicines, not prayer. The first sign of the disease is black spots at the base of the fingers and an agonising death quickly follows. But this is no ordinary disease... Caitlin Shepherd, a lowly GP, is allowed to cross the veil into the mystical Celtic Otherworld in search of a cure. Her search takes her on a quest to petition the gods. She is humanity's last hope, but she carries a terrible burden - a consciousness shattered into five distinct personalities... and one of them may not be human. Tp \$29.95 175pp

ARTHUR C CLARKE

 **THE SENTINEL**

This anniversary edition of *The Sentinel*, collects the author's best short fiction and includes *The Sentinel* - the story that inspired **2001: A Space Odyssey** (Pb \$19.95), one of the most famous SF movies of all time; *Guardian Angel* - the rarely-glimpsed work that gave birth to **Childhood's End** (Pb \$19.95) and *The Songs of Distant Earth* - a fantastic tale of first contact with an alien world. Pb \$16.95 302pp

MICHAEL COBLEY

 **SHADOWGOD**

The Shadowkings Trilogy #2. Ikarno Mazaret, now Lord Regent, still grieves over the death of his beloved, the mage Suviel. Ranging forth from the city of Besh-Darok, he takes ever more perilous risks. Tauric has been crowned Emperor, yet feels increasingly powerless to influence events. Despair begins to taint his every decision. Keren Asherol remains haunted by her shattering encounter with one of the Daemonkind, while her twin, the mirror child Nerek, is dogged by sinister omens. And far to the north the Shadowking Byrnak broods on his towpotop. Mistrustful of his fellow Shadowkings and harried by a ghostly fragment of the Lord of Twilight, he knows he must utterly crush the Imperial remnants and their allies. Pb \$18.95 470pp

MOLLY COCHRAN

 **THE THIRD MAGIC**

Forever King #3. Eight years ago, a young red-haired boy discovered that he was the reincarnation of Arthur, once High King of Britain, master of the Round Table, wielder of Excalibur and the Holy Grail, fated to one day reclaim his throne and lead the world into a new golden age. Almost immediately, people started trying to kill him. Now Arthur is 18 and Merlin has come to bring him to his destiny. There's just one small problem - Arthur. What is he going to do as High King? How can he unite and heal such a deeply wounded world? And he's not sure mankind is worthy of the powers of the Sword and the Grail. Pb \$17.95 458pp

JULIE CZERNEDA

 **SURVIVAL**

Species Imperative #1. When her field base is mysteriously attacked, Dr Mackenzie Connor must flee for her life. Joining forces with an alien archaeologist, she escapes to his planet on a quest to find a defence against the unknown aggressor - before they launch a full-scale invasion of Earth. Hb \$49.95 401pp

CHARLES DE LINT

 **THE ONION GIRL**

A Newford novel. Newford - where magic lights dark streets, where myths walk in modern shapes, where humans and older beings must work to keep the whole world turning. At the centre of the entwined lives of all the Newford tales stands a young artist named Jilly Coppercorn, whose paintings capture the hidden beings that dwell in Newford's shadows. With her tangled hair, her paint-splattered jeans, a smile perpetually on her lips, she's darted in and out of the Newford tales. But, behind the painter's fey charm there's a dark secret and a past she's laboured to forget. That past is coming to claim her now, threatening all she loves. Pb \$18.95 508pp

TONY DiTERLIZZI & HOLLY BLACK

 **THE IRONWOOD TREE**

The Spiderwick Chronicles #4. First, a pack of vile, smelly goblins snatch Simon, then a band of elves tries to entrap Jared. Why is the entire faerie world so eager to get their hands on Spiderwick's Guide? And will the Grace kids be left alone, now that the Guide has mysteriously disappeared? Don't count on it. Hb \$14.95 111pp

EMILY DRAKE

 **THE DRAGON GUARD**

The Magickers #3. As the Magickers seek the third and most important Gate into the magic-filled land of Haven, the elder members are being stricken by a strange ailment that drains their power and ages them. And the Dark Hand is more than willing to take advantage of the Magickers' weakness to strike. Pb \$15.95 368pp

DAVID DRAKE

 **GRIMMER THAN HELL**

The Khalians' main concern with humanity is the way humans taste. Behind the Khalians are others - stronger, smarter and more vicious. Captain Miklos Kowacs and the Marine Reaction Company 121, the Headhunters, have faced the Khalians on the front lines - now they're taking the war to the enemy, freeing captured planets from their bestial conquerors and penetrating even the Khalian homeworld. But the worst dangers to Kowacs and his Headhunters come from traitors who wear the same uniform! 14 stories of vivid conflict, including one never before published. Pb \$17.95 435pp

BARBARA ERSKINE

 **SANDS OF TIME**

This collection of stories from the bestselling author of *Lady of Hay* (Pb \$17.95) features two long stories that pick up the fortunes of characters from *Whispers in the Sand* (Pb \$18.95), the author's novel of Egypt. Still haunted by ancient mysteries and the subject of dark intentions, Anna and Louisa must once more do battle with the past in order to survive the present. Here, also, are a host of other tales, all with a touch of the unexpected... A happily married woman has an affair - with a man who died in the First World War... Who is the little girl on the swing in the garden - and why does only Charlotte see her? And how can a traveller find herself transported suddenly from her airplane seat to the snowy Canadian wastes below? Pb \$18.95 416pp

MELAINA FARANDA

 **PRINCESS**

The Circle #3. Ella sees herself as ugly and overweight, because that's what her shallow stepsisters tell her she is. Increasingly unhappy at home, she spends more and more time in front of the sinister mirror her stepmother gave her. Dark mirror magic and distorted reflections, combined with some cruel teasing by a young guy, trigger Ella's episodes of over-eating and bulimia. Ella's friends in the Circle become increasingly concerned and seek magical ways to help Ella, who grows remote and dangerously thin. But in the end, only Ella can distinguish her true self from the distorted image in the mirror. Pb \$14.95 269pp

RAYMOND E FEIST

 **KING OF FOXES**

Conclave of Shadows #2. Talon, orphan of the Orosini tribe and last of his people, 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 Master's Court in front of the King, brought him a step closer to his desire: to avenge the massacre of his family. Two participants in the slaughter are dead by his hand, but still Tal's lust for vengeance will not be sated until the reason for the massacres has been uncovered and their architect revealed and punished. Tp \$29.95 374pp

JEFFREY FORD

 **THE PORTRAIT OF MRS CHARBUQUE**

In New York, 1893, society portrait painter Piero Piambo is feeling jaded, endlessly subordinating his art to capture the likenesses of the nouveaux riches. Then comes a commission he cannot refuse. He is offered a fortune to depict the mysterious Mrs Charbuque, but is not allowed to see her. Pb \$18.95 326pp

KATE FORSYTH

 **THE TOWER OF RAVENS**

Rhiannon's Ride #1. One-Horn's daughter is not like the other satyricorns. Born of a human father, she has failed to grow the horns so prized by her kind. Soon they will kill her - and even if she runs away, they will find her in the end. When she sees a herd of winged horses flying over her home in the high mountains, she sees her chance. If she could only capture one of the legendary flying horses and stay on its back long enough to fly far away, she might escape. So begins a journey that will take her towards danger, death, love and betrayal - and give her a new name - Rhiannon, the rider that none can catch. Travelling with a group of apprentice-witches, Rhiannon can sense what her human companions cannot - there are dark walkers about and those who would wish ill upon Eileanan. But can the humans trust the word of a wild and fierce satyricorn girl? Tp \$32.95 565pp

MARY GENTLE

 **CARTOMANCY**

This collection includes the stories from *Soldiers and Scholars*, as well as a number of tales previously unpublished in book form, all with new afterwords, and topped and tailed with a specially revised version of her split story *Cartomancy*. Pb \$21.95 313pp

TERRY GOODKIND

 **NAKED EMPIRE**

A Sword of Truth novel. Richard Rahl has been poisoned. Saving an empire from annihilation is the price of the antidote. With the shadow of death looming near, the empire crumbling before the invading hordes and time running out, Richard is offered not only his own life, but the salvation of a people, in exchange for delivering his wife into bondage to the enemy. Pb \$17.95 736pp

MARTIN GREENBERG

& ALEXANDER POTTER (Eds)

 **SIRIUS THE DOG STAR**

Here are 16 original tales set in future realms of time and space, where man's best friend saves the day. Includes stories by Tanya Huff, Julie Czerneda, Fiona Patton, Michelle West and more. Pb \$15.95 310pp

DAVID HARTWELL

& KATHRYN CRAMER (Eds)

 **THE YEARS BEST SF**

#9. For this newest collection of the finest short form SF to appear over the preceding year, these acclaimed editors have gathered remarkable works from some of the finest authors in the field. Contains new tales from Kage Baker, Gregory Benford, Terry Bisson, Michael Swanwick, John Varley and many more. Pb \$17.95 497pp

LIAN HEARN

BRILLIANCE OF THE MOON



Tales of the Otori #3. Determined to avenge Shigeru's death and claim Takeo's rightful inheritance, Takeo and Kaede fight their way to the domain of Maruyama. Here, despite their recent marriage, they must separate. Takeo begins to make plans for an attack by the sea and Kaede returns to her home in Shirakawa. When Kaede arrives, she is imprisoned with her sisters in Lord Fujiwara's house. She can see no way to escape the powerful and fearful lord and begins to believe that she and Takeo will be forever separated. Are Takeo's skills of magic and his desire for revenge enough to outwit two armies? And will he and Kaede ever find a peaceful way to live their lives together? Hb \$29.95 400pp



Here, despite their recent marriage, they must separate. Takeo begins to make plans for an attack by the sea and Kaede returns to her home in Shirakawa. When Kaede arrives, she is imprisoned with her sisters in Lord Fujiwara's house. She can see no way to escape the powerful and fearful lord and begins to believe that she and Takeo will be forever separated. Are Takeo's skills of magic and his desire for revenge enough to outwit two armies? And will he and Kaede ever find a peaceful way to live their lives together? Hb \$29.95 400pp

NINA KIRIKI HOFFMAN

A FISTFUL OF SKY

Gypsum LaZelle is the middle child in a gifted family of witches and warlocks. But unlike her siblings, she has no gift to call her own - until she wakes from a fever to discover that she possesses a strange and frightening power. Pb \$15.95 353pp

ALEXANDER IRVINE

HAVE ROBOT WILL TRAVEL

Isaac Asimov's Robot Mysteries. Robot specialist, Derec Avery and Calvin Institute attaché, Ariel Burgess - last seen in Aurora by Mark Tiedemann (Tp \$24.95) - return in an all-new adventure. A human has been murdered and all the clues point toward a robot as the killer. But how can that be, when robots are programmed to never bring harm to humans? Derec and Ariel must find the murderer, before they become the next victims. Hb \$48.00 257pp

V M JONES

BEYOND THE SHROUD

The Karazan Quartet #2. Adam is back at the orphanage and desperate to return to Qusted Court for the holidays, but with the sinister new boy Weevil and Matron conspiring against him, it seems impossible that Adam will ever escape Highgate... Finally he arrives at Qusted Court only to find the household in turmoil. Q's five-year-old daughter, Hannah, has disappeared and it seems that she has gone to Karazan to find her cat, Tiger Lily. Adam and his friends are the only ones who can travel there and bring her home again. To rescue Hannah, the five friends must undertake the most perilous journey of all. They must head beyond the Shroud to the hidden stronghold of the evil King Karazeel, Hannah's captor. Pb \$13.95 248pp

SHERRYL JORDAN

THE HUNTING OF THE LAST DRAGON

High overhead, a dragon flies on coppery wings, raining down fire and destruction on all that lies below. The last of the great beasts, it wreaks havoc everywhere it flies, burning the countryside and its terrified inhabitants to grey ash and cinders with its fiery breath. Desperate and frightened, the people pray for a hero to save them. Jude is no hero. Deeply traumatised after returning to find his village a charred ruin and his family dead, he is picked up by a travelling fair, where he rescues the strange yet beautiful Jing-wei from a life as a caged freak. Eluding their pursuers, Jude and Jing-wei meet Lan, a wise old Chinese woman who straightens Jing-wei's bound and crippled feet and reveals to Jude his destiny. He alone must kill the last dragon... Pb \$19.95 243pp

GUY GAVRIEL KAY

THE LAST LIGHT OF THE SUN

There is nothing soft or silken in the northlands, where, for decades, there has been bitter, bloody war between the Vikings, the Celts and the Anglo-Saxons. But times change, even in the north and for a generation there has been peace... And yet, what has changed once can always change again... Alun ab Owyn, grieving for his brother's death at the hands of the raiders, leaves his lands to become embroiled in the politics of the great. Bern Thorkellson, punished for his father's sins, commits an act of vengeance that brings him face-to-face with a past he's been trying to leave behind. And the shrewd King Aeldred shores up his defences with alliances and diplomacy - and with swords and arrows. The death of a prince, the new life of an exile and the dreams of a king will be the threads from which the tapestry is woven and the world is changed forever. Tp \$29.95 501pp

ANNE KELLEHER

SILVER'S EDGE

There is more danger than usual in the Otherworld of the Sidhe and the mortal world of the Shadowlands. An unlikely group of conspirators, both mortal and Sidhe, plot to overthrow both thrones. They've stolen the silver caul that protected the borders between the realms - and set into motion a most perilous war. Three women stand against the encroaching evil. All they have is a girl's love for her father, a lady's for her queen - and a queen's for her country. Nessa, Delphinea and Cecily are each driven by a personal destiny, yet share a fierce sense of love, justice and determination to protect what is theirs. Will the spirit and strength of these women be enough to turn back the tide of the goblin hordes waiting to overrun the kingdoms? Tp \$29.95 488pp

ELIZABETH KERNER

REDEEMING THE LOST

Tales of Lanen Kaelar #3. He was the great Dragon King, an immensely powerful creature out of time who ultimately chose life over death, a puny mortal form rather than the power of a kingship, to be with a most extraordinary woman. As he is Dragon in Man's form, the being known as Varien has risked much to stay by Lanen's side. Their haven destroyed, the Kantri - true dragons - have chosen to return to the land of their greatest defeat and to the fear of the people who rejected their aid so long ago. Much of what they find distresses them and they look to Varien and Lanen help them redeem what has been lost and make the world right again. But Lanen is captured by the human demon-master Berys, who seeks to corrupt the ancient prophecy. He will try to use Lanen's new-found powers to gain control of the very fabric of the universe and in doing so, secure the demon forces of the otherworld and rule forever. Hb \$56.00 398pp

MINDY KLASKY

THE GLASSWRIGHTS' MASTER

The Glasswright Saga #5. Rani confronts her past - and begins to regret everything she has sacrificed in her quest to become a Glasswright master. Now, she must find the courage to defy those who have manipulated her, in order to embrace her true destiny... Pb \$15.95 Pb 339pp

E E KNIGHT

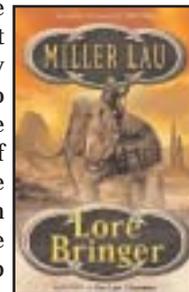
CHOICE OF THE CAT

The Vampire Earth #2. The alien Reapers have ruled Earth for 45 years. David Valentine is a member of the human resistance, who is now being trained as a Cat - an elite stealth warrior. His first mission is to investigate the threat of the Twisted Cross, a mysterious new force under Reaper control. Pb \$15.95 343pp

MILLER LAU

LORE BRINGER

The Last Clansman #3. Much has changed in the Otherworld of Sutra, since the events of **Dark Thane** (Pb \$17.95). The Fine and the Sidhe now share Sutra with a new race - the Shoreth. Although they have always been a semi-nomadic, warlike people, the Shoreth are finally ready to end their travels. To some, however, giving up the warrior's path is unthinkable and in the brilliant, but arrogant General Zarrus, they find a champion who has influence over the emperor himself. If Zarrus has his way, the fragile peace between the three races will be shattered forever. Pb \$18.95 469pp



STEPHEN LAWHEAD

 **PATRICK: SON OF IRELAND**

In the summer of 405 AD, Irish raiders attacked the western coast of Wales. Among the survivors who are rounded up and taken back to Ireland is Succat, the 16-year-old son of a powerful Roman family. Succat is sold as a slave and put to work tending sheep, where he comes to the attention of Cormac, a young novice Druid. The two strike up an unlikely friendship and, as Succat learns the ways of the Irish people, he is given a new name by the Druid - Patrick. With his new name he begins a new life - he marries and with his wife, decides to return to his home to claim his inheritance - only to find his father's estate in ruins. So begins a calamitous journey that will lead him to Tours, see him join the Roman Legion as a soldier; suffer the horrors of plague-filled Rome and return to Ireland, where he will embark on a mission for which his name will be remembered throughout history. Pb \$18.95 454pp

FIONA MCINTOSH

 **BLOOD AND MEMORY**

The Quickening #2. Wyl Thirsk has seen his best friend murdered and his sister imprisoned by King Celimus of Morgravia. Now the king has turned his attention to the neighbouring realm of Briavel - and the woman Wyl loves. Wyl is desperate to return to Valentyna and prevent her marriage to Celimus, but fate has other plans. Trapped by a magical enchantment, Wyl must first track down the elusive Manwitch - the only person who can help him break the Quickening. Pb \$18.95 534pp

IAN MACLEOD

 **BREATHMOSS AND OTHER EXHALATIONS**

In *Breathmoss*, a young girl must cope with the relationship with her family, love and a community set in rigid custom, where males are a rarity. In *Verglas*, a man must decide to leave his humanity by going native on an ice world, or abandon his family. The events leading to the formation of the current government, the repression of Jews and homosexuals and the horrors of being a closet homosexual in such a regime are examined in *The Summer Isles*. Other stories encompass a scientist who searches for extraterrestrial intelligence, a rigid, aged man finding magic by a pool, and an 18-year-old girl who gains the reputation of being a death flower during WWII. Hb \$54.00 309pp

 **THE LIGHT AGES**

In a bleak and gritty England, in a fantastical Age of Industry, the wealth that comes from magic is both revered and reviled. Here, an ambitious young man is haunted by his childhood love - a woman determined to be a part of the world he despises. Pb \$18.95 456pp

JOHN MARCO

 **THE DEVIL'S ARMOUR**

A Tyrants and Kings novel. A year after the events of *The Eyes of God* (Pb \$18.95), Lukien, Baron Glass and Gilwyn are all living in Grimhold. Jazana Carr, the Diamond Queen, has secured power in Norvor and is now set to unleash her mercenary army against Liiria. Convinced he can stop the woman he once jilted, the Baron steals the cursed Devil's Armour and rides to stop her. But the armour corrupts him and he falls in love with his former lover. Somehow Lukien must stop a man he once trusted, a man wearing armour that makes him invulnerable. Tp \$32.95 559pp

JULIET MARILLIER

 **FOXMASK**

Saga of the Light Isles #2. At his coming of age, Thorvald learns a shocking secret and sets out on a perilous voyage in search of the father he has never known. His loyal shadow, Creidhe, daughter of a Wolfskin and a wise-woman, was never meant to be part of this desperate journey. But love works in strange ways. Before the summer is over, Thorvald and Creidhe learn truths about themselves and about the world that will change them both forever. Pb \$19.95 693pp

LOUISE MARLEY

 **THE MAQUISARDE**

Near the end of the 21st century, the murder of her husband and daughter by terrorists drives Ebriel Serique to venture beyond her charmed life to confront the truth about the world. And while she never would have suspected it, Ebriel discovers that she has the courage for anything - even violence. Pb \$15.95 385pp

SOPHIE MASSON

 **SNOW, FIRE, SWORD**

Dewi has never ventured beyond her village in the highlands of Jayangan, where she lives a comfortable life with her father, the respected village healer. But one day while working in the rice fields, she stumbles across Adi, an apprentice sword-maker, alone and hiding from the bloodthirsty bandits who kidnapped his beloved master. Adi's sword master is not the first great craftsman to have disappeared... When Dewi's father also goes missing, she seeks the advice of the powerful tiger-people who watch over her village, but even they can see only so far through the cloud of sorcery that hangs over the kingdom. They leave her with a cryptic message - she and Adi must discover the true meaning of Snow, Fire and Sword before they can find her father and the other missing elders and reveal the truth about the danger that threatens Jayangan. Pb \$15.95 289pp

LIZ MAVERICK

 **THE SHADOW RUNNERS**

2176 #2. Newgate, Australia - in the 22nd century, history repeats itself. Part penal colony, part dumping ground for toxic waste, the land is controlled by the Parliament, a gang of dissipated self-styled aristocrats. To survive here, you have to know the tricks. Like Jenny Red. She's been Down and made it out to tell the tale. But D'ekkar Han Valoren, the bastard son of the Emperor that Jenny's family was accused of destroying, knows Jenny escaped and wants her to take him back in. Okay, maybe she'll help Deck's team of rebels, his Shadow Runners, like he asks. Not because he's holding anything over her - but because of what was once between them - because of the revolution of her heart. Pb \$15.95 327pp

SARAH MICKLEM

 **FIRETHORN**

Firethorn flees a life of drudgery to live alone in the forest, relying on her knowledge of herb lore to survive. She returns transformed, indebted to the god who saved her life, and blessed - or cursed - with uncanny abilities and a nagging sense of destiny. After a few nights of dalliance with Sire Galan, a high-caste warrior on his way to join the king's army, Firethorn seizes the chance to go with him, only to find she has exchanged one form of servitude for another. Desire drew Firethorn and Sire Galan together, but love binds them - a love that has no place in the arrangement between a warrior and his sheath. When Galan makes a wager with disastrous consequences, Firethorn uses her gifts to intervene in his fate and learns just how hard it can be to tell honour from dishonour, justice from vengeance. Hb \$54.00 383pp

JAMES MOLONEY

 **THE BOOK OF LIES**

Three children - Marcel, Nicola and Fergus - have been left mysteriously in an orphanage run by the kindly Mrs Timmins, but overseen by the fearsome wizard Lord Alwyn and his creature, Termagant. With the aid of a special book, the Book of Lies, Marcel discovers he is not the person he has been told he is and, as it turns out, nor are Nicola and Fergus. When the stranger Starkey arrives, the children's lives are turned in a new direction and Nicola and Fergus escape with him to find their real parents. Marcel is forced to stay behind, as he is bound to Lord Alwyn's creature by a ring. But with the help of his friend Bea and Gadfly, a horse with aspirations, Marcel manages to escape and join the others. But something's not right. Is Starkey friend or foe? And is Lord Alwyn the evil wizard the children first thought? Pb \$19.95 402pp

LYDA MOREHOUSE

APOCALYPSE ARRAY

 Amariah McMannus isn't your normal, everyday, trouble-making teenager. Her mother's a legend in the cybernetic and law-enforcement communities. Her father is the Archangel Michael. The Antichrist is about to get married to Satan - and Amariah herself just may be the next messiah. Pb \$15.95 337pp

LINDA NAGATA

MEMORY

 In a new world, where the sky is bisected by an arch of light, the mysterious 'silver' rises from the ground each night to completely transform the landscape - and erase from existence anything it touches. Jubilee is devastated when her brother Jolly is taken by the silver. When a forbidding stranger with the power to control the silver comes seeking Jolly, claiming that Jolly knows him - Jubilee flees. For she has learned an impossible secret - Jolly may still be alive! Jubilee's flight will lead her to discoveries she could never have imagined, from the secret history of her civilisation, to the awesome forgotten memories within her. And with these, she will forever alter her world's future... unless the dark stranger, relentless in his pursuit, achieves his goal of destroying it. Tp \$32.95 416pp

ROBERT NEWCOMB

THE GATES OF DAWN

 *The Chronicles of Blood and Stone #2.* For three centuries, Eutracia was a kingdom at peace, ruled by a benevolent monarchy and guided by a council of wizards. But a horror from the past, long believed vanquished, returned with devastating fury. And when the battle against the bloodthirsty Sorceresses of the Coven was finally won, victory was not without its price. Now, the royal palace lies in ruins - the king and queen, the royal guard and the Directorate of Wizards are dead, the land is lawless and Prince Tristan, forced by the Coven to murder his father, the king, is a wanted man. In an underground labyrinth, Tristan has taken refuge with his sister, Shailiha, her infant daughter, the wizard Wigg - the lone surviving member of the Directorate - and the crippled wizard Faegan, returned from self-imposed exile in the forest of Shadowland. Together they face the daunting task of restoring order to Eutracia and winning back the allegiance of her subjects. Pb \$17.95 514pp

JENNY NIMMO

BLUE BOA

 *Children of the Red King #3.* A dark secret is emerging from Bloor's Academy. A boy was once lost in the attics and never seen again. Charlie Bone is intrigued, but he has problems of his own. Uncle Paton has disappeared... Pb \$15.95 372pp

LARRY NIVEN

RINGWORLD'S CHILDREN

 *A Ringworld novel.* The Ringworld is a landmark engineering achievement, a flat band three million times the surface area of Earth, encircling a distant star. Home to trillions of inhabitants, not all of which are human and host to amazing technological wonders, the Ringworld is unique in the entire universe. Explorer Louis 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 the actions of its children - Tunesmith, the Ghold protector, Acolyte, the exiled son of Speaker-to-Animals and Wembleth, a strange Ringworld native with a mysterious past. Hb \$54.95 284pp

ANDRE NORTON

DARKNESS AND DAWN

 Centuries after the civilised world destroyed itself in a dimly-remembered final war, a few rebels courageously searched through the shattered cities, trying to regain old knowledge. One was Pars - driven from his clan for the crime of being a mutant. Though the land to the north was forbidden, having nothing to lose, Pars and his feline companion set out to the north, little realising what a staggering discovery they would make. *Previously published in parts as Star Man's Son and No Night Without Stars.* Pb \$17.95 482pp

ROBIN OWENS

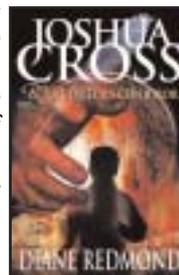
HEART DUEL

  *Heart #3.* Healer Lark Collinson hates the street duelling that is a way of life among the noble families on Celta - it was just such a skirmish that killed her Healer husband and left her a grieving widow. The last thing she wants is to love a man to whom fighting is a way of life - a man like the brashly confident Holm Holly. Pb \$15.95 336pp

DIANA REDMOND

JOSHUA CROSS AND THE QUEEN'S CONJUROR

 Swept back to 1590s London and placed in the care of Dr Dee, the Queen's Conjuror, mathematician, astrologer and occasional dabbler in the occult, Joshua soon discovers that he is in mortal danger. With his so-called protector intent on finding the philosopher's stone - no matter what the cost - and his friend Dido bound up in the court of Queen Elizabeth, Joshua's future looks increasingly perilous. Hb \$27.95 207pp



JOHN RINGO & MICHAEL

WILLIAMSON THE HERO

 *The Legacy of Aldenata #1.* It's a matter of trust. For thousands of years the Darhel, a warrior species conditioned to be incapable of killing, manipulated and controlled the human race. Then the humans threw off their yoke and attempted to exterminate them. Now, for the first time, a Darhel has been assigned to the elite Deep Reconnaissance Team commandos. Trust, in a small unit, is vital. And there was no trust to be had on either side. But when the mission encountered an alien device worth more than a king's ransom, it was the humans who betrayed the trust. Now the despised Darhel must race against the team's sniper to prevent the artefact falling into the wrong hands. Hb \$49.95 312pp

SPIDER ROBINSON

CALLAHAN'S CON

 *Callahan #9.* The discreet little bar that Jake Stonebender established a few blocks below Duval Street was named simply The Place. Over time, the twice-transplanted patrons of Callahan's Place attracted a collection of local zanies that made the New York originals seem, well, almost normal. Then disaster struck. Through the gate one sunny day came a malevolent, moronic, mastodon of a Mafioso named Tony Donuts Jr., or Little Nuts (don't ask). He'd decided to resurrect the classic protection racket in Key West - and guess which tavern he picked to hit first? Pb \$15.95 286pp

JUSTINA ROBSON

NATURAL HISTORY

 When a new solar system is found, containing an Earth-like world, full of abandoned alien cities and devoid of intelligent life, the Augmented see it as their Forge-right to claim this place as a homeland. Pb \$18.95 393pp

DAN SIMMONS

ILIUM

 The mighty Zeus and his immortal family look down upon a momentous battle, observing and influencing the clashing armies of Greece and Troy. Thomas Hockenberry, former 21st century professor and *Iliad* scholar, watches as well. It is his duty to observe and report on the Trojan War's progress to the deities who saw fit to return him from the dead. On Earth, the great events on the bloody plains of Ilium serve as entertainment - adding excitement to lives devoid of courage, strife, labour and purpose. Meanwhile, four sentient machines race to investigate, and perhaps terminate, the potentially catastrophic emissions of unexplained quantum-flux emanating from a mountaintop miles above the terraformed surface of Mars... Pb \$19.95 642pp

SHERWOOD SMITH

WREN TO THE RESCUE

 *Wren #1.* All her life Wren has hoped for an adventure. Now she has one - with a kidnapped princess, a handsome prince and a magician. What does it matter if the princess is only Tess, her best friend from the orphanage, if the prince is a youngest son with no chance of becoming king and the magician is an apprentice? Wren leads the other three over mountains, past killing spells, fighting battles along the way. But then she finds herself up against some shape-changing magic that may end her life as a human forever! Pb \$15.95 216pp

WREN'S QUEST

 *Wren #2.* Wren just wanted to find her long-lost family, to get to know the people she could not have dreamed of as a child growing up in an orphanage. But her quest turns into a far more dangerous adventure than she ever imagined, what with robbers, guardsmen and an angry sorcerer after her. And when her travelling companion, young prince Connor Shaltar, begins to meddle with magic as well, things get entirely out of hand! Pb \$15.95 199pp

WREN'S WAR

 *Wren #3.* When the evil Andreus's hunger for power leads to war, Wren and her friends are thrust into the middle of the struggle. Teressa is heir to the throne, Tyron her chief magician and Prince Connor, a reluctant warrior. As allies die and others disappear, they must put aside their feelings for one another if they are to defeat the sorcerous Andreus. They know they need magic to save them. Can they turn the bloody tide? Pb \$15.95 210pp

CHRISTOPHER STASHEFF

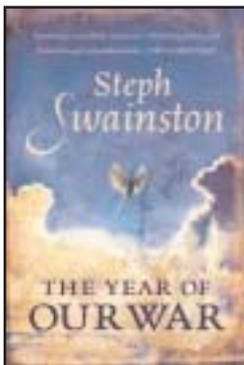
 **THE WARLOCK'S LAST RIDE**

A Warlock novel. When Gwendolyn, the witch-wife of Rod Gallowglass, the Lord High Warlock of Gramarye, suddenly dies, she leaves behind a husband dangerously unhinged by grief and a land without a Protector. Pb \$13.95 314pp

STEPHANIE SWAINSTON

 **THE YEAR OF OUR WAR**

 Jant is the Messenger, one of The Circle, a cadre of 50 immortals who serve the Emperor and the only one who can fly. The Emperor seeks to protect mankind from the hordes of giant insects who have plagued the land for centuries, but he must also contend with the rivalries of his chosen immortals. Hb \$39.95 290pp



HARRY TURTLEDOVE

 & NOREEN DOYLE (EDS) **THE FIRST HEROES**

14 new tales of the Bronze Age from some of the best writers in SF. Here is Gene Wolfe's mock-journal of a man from the future, who travels with figures out of history and mythology, Judith Tarr's tale of a town that sends its resident goddess to try to learn the secrets of the morose God of Chariots, Harry Turtledove's story about mythological beings witnessing the devastating effect of the first humans on the Earth's natural order and a story from the late Poul Anderson in which a modern scholar is sent to the late Bronze Age to witness the end of an era, emerging with memories from the past as vibrant and intact as those from his accustomed life. Hb \$56.00 368pp

JEFF VANDERMEER

 **SECRET LIFE**

Balzac's War is a far-future novella that pits brother against brother in a landscape ravaged by war with Earth's newly sentient human-made species. In 13th century Cambodia, a lone artist is torn between his love of his craft and his love for a woman in *The Bone Carver's Tale*. In *The Emperor's Reply* and *The Compass of His Bones*, set in 17th century Peru, the last Incan Emperor, having fallen at the hands of the Conquistadores, seeks his revenge. Hb \$54.00 305pp

JOAN VINGE

 **DREAMFALL**

Cat #3. Cat joins a research team on Refuge, homeworld of his mother's people, the Hydrans. Immediately, he finds trouble when he helps a Hydran woman escape human pursuers. The decimated Hydran population of Refuge is confined to a bleak homeland, by a huge corporate state, Tau Biotech. Tau also controls Refuge's one unique natural resource - dreamfall. The tangible residue of cast-off thoughts from beautiful, enigmatic cloud whales, dreamfall forms vast reefs, sacred to the Hydrans, but mere exploitable data to Tau. Caught between Tau and desperate Hydrans who fight to reclaim their world, Cat must somehow forge the ruins of the past into a means to defeat Tau's brutality to save his people - and himself. Tp 35.00 431pp

Jo WALTON

 **THE PRIZE IN THE GAME**

A Tir Tanagiri novel. When a friendly competition leads to the death of a beloved horse and incurs the wrath of the Horse Goddess, the stage is set for a deadly game of politics, love and betrayal. As the goddess's curse chases them down the years, Conal, Emer, Darag and Ferdia will find that ties of friendship and even love, may not be enough to prevent their respective countries from attacking each other in a war that will devastate the island. Pb \$15.95 341pp

JULES WATSON

 **THE WHITE MARE**

In AD 79, Agricola, the ruthless governor of Roman Britain, turns his attentions to the last unconquered territory in Britain - Alba, Scotland. Rhiann, a courageous Scottish princess and priestess, scarred by her violent past, faces what for her is the ultimate sacrifice - a forced marriage - to protect the freedom of her people. Eremon is an enigmatic Irish prince in exile, who must seek an alliance elsewhere to regain his throne. Will he prove himself to be the man who can unite the squabbling Celtic tribes against the more ominous threat of Rome? With war and chaos looming for her people, Rhiann finds herself drawn into an unexpected journey of the spirit and heart, which will reveal the true purpose of her life. Tp \$29.95 469pp



T K F WEISSKOPF (ED)

 **COSMIC TALES: ADVENTURES IN SOL SYSTEM**

This is a collection of stories about the conquest of the solar system by a selection of authors including Charles Sheffield, Gregory Benford and John Ringo. Pb \$15.95 449pp

MARTHA WELLS

 **THE WIZARD HUNTERS**

The Fall of Ile-Rien #1. Ile-Rien faces the grim spectre of its own imminent demise. Once a fertile and prosperous land, it is now under attack by the Gardier, a mysterious army whose storm-black airships appear from nowhere to strike without warning. Every weapon in the arsenal of Ile-Rien's revered wizards has proven useless. The last hope of a magical realm under siege rests within a child's plaything. The tiny sphere was created for Tremaine Valiarde's amusement when she was 12-years-old, presented to her by her late uncle Arisilde, the greatest of all sorcerers. Now, years later, it falls to a young woman lacking any magical knowledge and ability to release it. Pb \$17.95 454pp

JOHN WRIGHT

 **THE GOLDEN TRANSCENDENCE**

The Golden Age #3. The mighty ship Phoenix Exultant is at last in the hands of her master. Phaethon the Exile is at her helm and his dream of starflight is alive once more. He is being hunted by alien agents, the eerie and deadly Lords of the Silent Oecumene, who would steal the Phoenix Exultant and turn it into a weapon. The all-encompassing Mind of the Golden Transcendence is waking. Will it endorse Phaeton's dream or face the first interstellar war? Pb \$17.95 414pp

TIMOTHY ZAHN

DRAGON AND SOLDIER

 *Dragonback #2.* Draycos was on a scout fleet ship when it was attacked, with him the lone survivor. Forced to find a new symbiotic humanoid host, he found Jack Morgan. Draycos has vowed to uncover those behind a conspiracy to wipe out his people, while Jack is determined to find out who framed him for a crime he didn't commit. Knowing that mercenaries were involved in the ambush that killed Draycos' fleet, Jack enlists in a mercenary outfit that practically enslaves adolescent recruits. But the soldier's life isn't exactly what Jack had bargained for, especially when a mysterious girl is recruited into his group. Hb \$39.95 299pp

ROGER ZELAZNY

 **THE DOORS OF HIS FACE, THE LAMPS OF HIS MOUTH**

Here is a collection of stories covering the full spectrum of this author's talents. He had a rare ability to mix the dream-like, disturbing imagery of fantasy with the real-life hardware of science fiction. His vivid imagination and fine prose made him one of the most highly acclaimed writers in his field. Pb \$16.95 510pp



L A BANKS

THE HUNTED

Vampire Huntress #3. Damali Richard has been to hell and back - literally - and she is not eager to repeat the trip. A vampire civil war has been averted, but there were casualties and she believes that Carlos Rivera, former lover turned master vampire, is one of them. His death has not only shaken her emotions, but also weakened her powers. But then she gets word that horrific killings are taking place in Brazil. The vampire civil war has left a small door to hell open and new, dangerous foes have risen from the Dark Realms. Tp \$32.95 502pp

**SIMON CLARK
IN THIS SKIN**

The Luxor Dance Hall has seen a lot over the past 100 years. From Vaudeville, through the big bands and up to the hottest rock acts, the Luxor had them all. Now it's a boarded-up relic, standing alone in a run-down part of town. But it isn't empty. A hideous presence lives there, a monstrous evil that can invade people's fantasies and nightmares and bring them to life. Three strangers will soon learn the extent of the dance hall's power... Pb \$15.95 372pp

**MATTHEW COSTELLO
MISSING MONDAY**

When Janna Wade wakes up on a Tuesday, she doesn't remember a thing from the day before. It's as if she wasn't there at all. Only one person knows what became of Janna's lost day - and from now on, her every waking hour will be a nightmare. Pb \$15.95 345pp

**STEPHEN KING
SONG OF SUSANNAH**

The Dark Tower #6. To give birth to her chap, demon-mother Mia has usurped the body of Susannah Dean and used the power of Black Thirteen to transport to New York City in the summer of 1999. The city is strange to Susannah... and terrifying to the "daughter of none" who shares her body and mind. Enlisting the aid of Manni senders, the remaining katet climbs to the Doorway Cave...and discovers that magic has its own mind. It falls to the boy, the billy bumbler and the fallen priest to find Susannah-Mia. Eddie and Roland, meanwhile, tumble into western Maine in the summer of 1977, a world that should be idyllic but isn't. Hb \$65.00 430pp

WIN...
a copy of
The Gunslinger,
the first novel in
Stephen King's
The Dark Tower series
See back page for entry details

**MICHAEL MARSHALL
THE LONELY DEAD**

A guilty man walks alone into the cold mountain forests of Washington State, aiming never to return. What he finds there starts a chain of events that quickly spiral out of control. Meanwhile in Los Angeles, a woman's body is discovered in a motel bedroom. She is dead and her killer has left his mark. Ward Hopkins, an ex-CIA agent recovering from the recent shocking deaths of his parents, is tracking down the men who destroyed everything he once held dear and the murderer whose face he sees every time he looks in the mirror. Tp \$29.95 375pp

**JAMES MOORE
POSSESSIONS**

Chris Corin thinks he's being followed - and he's right. But he doesn't know what's after him. He doesn't know that what his late mother left him in her will is a source of inconceivable power - power that something wants very badly indeed. By the time Chris realises what's happening, it may already be too late. Who would believe him? Chris will have to confront the darkness that has crept into his life, threatening his very sanity. And unless he can convince someone that he's not crazy, he'll have to confront it alone. Pb \$15.95 339pp

**TOM PICCIRILLI
A CHOIR OF ILL CHILDREN**

Since his mother's disappearance and his father's suicide, Thomas has cared for his three brothers - conjoined triplets with separate bodies, but one shared brain - and the town's only industry, the Mill. Because of his family's prominence, Thomas is feared and respected by the superstitious swamp folk. Granny witches cast hexes, while Thomas's childhood sweetheart drifts through his life like a vengeful ghost and his best friend, a reverend suffering from the power of tongues, is overcome with this curse as he tries to warn of impending menace. All Thomas learns is that 'the carnival is coming'. Torn by responsibility and rage, Thomas must face his tormented past as well as the mysterious forces surging toward the town he loves and despises. Pb \$13.95 225pp

**DARREN SHAN
VAMPIRE RITES TRILOGY**

Omnibus #2. Contains **Vampire Mountain, Trials of Death** and **The Vampire Prince**. Join Darren Shan's descent into the darkness. Can Darren reverse the odds and outwit a Vampire Prince, or is this the end of thousands of years of vampire rule...? Pb \$19.95 489pp

**SUSAN SIZEMORE
I THIRST FOR YOU**

He appears out of the dark desert night - a huge, dangerous stranger who sparks desire and fear in her like she's never known. Josephine Elliot knows only that her captor's name is Marcus Cage, and that he's on the run. But who is chasing him and why? Is Marcus protecting her by taking her hostage... or is he planning to use her to buy his own freedom? And why, above all, is she so inexorably drawn to him? Marcus is overwhelmed by his thirst for Josephine and instantly recognizes her as his soul mate. Desperate to evade enemies intent on destroying him and his kind, Marcus has no choice but to take Jo on the run. But when she unwittingly betrays him to his enemies, both are thrust into mortal danger. Can their newfound love survive her deceit and spare them a dark fate? Or will their insatiable desire burn for eternity? Pb \$15.95 325pp

**THOMAS SULLIVAN
DUST OF EDEN**

Before the world was born, there was the Dust of Eden - blood-red earth from which all else was created. The last deposit of the mysterious dust became a viciously guarded secret... until the site was disturbed. A bit of Eden found its way into the hands of Ariel Leppa - an embittered elderly woman unaware of its ferocious power... for a time. Pb \$15.95 355pp

MEDIA



ANDROMEDA: WAYSTATION STEVEN McDONALD

The *Andromeda Ascendant* is the last surviving ship of the long-dead Systems Commonwealth interstellar empire. Its captain, Dylan Hunt, with the crew of the *Eureka Maru*, has been trying to contact outlying planets who might rejoin the revived Commonwealth. But one such planet responds to the *Andromeda's* friendly advances with an all-out attack that cripples the *Andromeda*. Hb \$54.00 271pp

ANGEL: MONOLITH JOHN PASSARELLA

Like any parent, Angel really wants to understand his son Connor, but it's hard when life keeps getting in the way. Angel's overworked, Connor's embarrassed by his dad's taste for blood and there are Hyconian demons running rampant through the streets of L.A. That doesn't leave a lot of time for bonding, especially when a gigantic monolith suddenly appears on Hollywood Boulevard. Pb \$13.95 323pp

BOOKS OF MAGIC: LOST PLACES CARLA JABLONSKI

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CATWOMAN ELIZABETH HAND

There's a new Catwoman in town - a feline adventuress unlike any you've seen before. Discover all her sizzling secrets as she cracks her whip and sinks her claws into her most petrifying, death-defying adventure yet. Pb \$15.95 275pp

DR WHO: THE TOMORROW WINDOWS JONATHAN MORRIS

BBC #137. There is a gala opening for a new exhibition at the Tate Modern - 'The Tomorrow Windows'. The concept behind the exhibition is simple - anyone can look through a Tomorrow Window and see into the future. You can see the outcome of every potential decision and then decide on the optimum course of action. According to the press pack, the Tomorrow Windows will bring about world peace and save humanity from every possible disaster. So, of course, someone decides to blow it up. As the Doctor investigates and unravels the conspiracy, he begins a Gulliver's Travels-esque quest, visiting bizarre worlds and encountering many peculiar and surreal life forms... Pb \$14.95 280pp

DRAGONLANCE: THE SEARCH FOR POWER MARGARET WEIS (ED)

This newest anthology focuses on the lives and ways of dragons in the era following the end of *The War of Souls* trilogy. Filled with a dozen stories from both well-known *Dragonlance* authors and a few newcomers, this is the first anthology to feature stories that take place in the current *Dragonlance* time period. Pb \$16.95 335pp

HARRY POTTER AND THE PRISONER OF AZKABAN: MOVIE POSTER BOOK

30 full-size portraits of the actors from the latest movie. Tp \$10.95 32pp

IT DON'T WORRY ME: NASHVILLE, J A W S, S T A R W A R S A N D B E Y O N D RYAN GILBEY

The 1970s were a Golden Age for American film-making, with the emergence of such talents as Scorsese, Coppola, Spielberg, Lucas, De Palma and Altman. The author now looks afresh at the remarkable movies of this era and their gifted makers and also considers directors who established a body of work in the 1970s (Woody Allen), who blossomed as the decade progressed (David Lynch, Jonathan Demme), or who were prominent figures without being prolific (Stanley Kubrick, Terrence Malick). He takes each film and assesses its place in history while also scrutinising it as if for the very first time - as if it were coming to a cinema near you this week... Pb \$24.95 244pp

THE MATRIX WARRIOR: BEING THE ONE

JAKE HORSLEY

The unofficial companion to the hit movie. Pb \$17.95 263pp

THE SCIENCE OF SUPERMAN MARK WOLVERTON

He is known as the Man of Steel - the Last Son of Krypton. For more than half a century, Superman has been an American icon and the world's first and most recognisable super hero. But what if he were real? What if the Kryptonian named Kal-El, a humanoid being whose world orbited a far-off red dwarf star, was actually raised here on Earth? Would, in fact, such a being be capable of achieving the amazing feats of power commonly associated with Superman? And if so, how could his powers be scientifically explained? In this title the author takes up the challenge and answers these very questions. Examining Superman's powers through the lens of modern science, he explains the fundamental biological and genetic differences between Earthlings and Kryptonians that allow Superman to exercise extraordinary abilities on our planet. Tp \$29.95 256pp

SHREK 2: THE ESSENTIAL GUIDE STEPHEN COLE

Shrek 2 involves Shrek and Princess Fiona getting invited to her parents' home for a post-wedding celebration. However, her mother and father have no idea that they are both ogres - and her parents have a surprise in store for Shrek and Fiona. Hb \$19.95 48pp

SPIDER-MAN: THE SINISTER SIX COMBO ADAM-TROY CASTRO

The Gentleman is one of the wealthiest men in the world - and the most dangerous! He's organised a new Sinister Six composed of himself and some of Spider-Man's greatest enemies - Doctor Octopus, Electro, the Vulture and Mysterio. Also in the Six's ranks is Pity - a young woman who he claims is Peter Parker's long-lost sister! The Gentleman has sworn to destroy Spider-Man and with the Sinister Six as his weapon, he's got all the power he needs to do it! Pb \$17.95 442pp

SPIDER-MAN 2: THE DAILY BUGLE STORIES JASMINE JONES

Spider-Man... hero or menace? This collection of stories from the Daily Bugle lets you decide. While the editorial staff blasts headlines about a wall-crawling glory hound, other articles and letters to the editor give Spider-Man credit for some amazing rescues. You'll also get the low-down on rampaging lunatic, Doc Ock. Is he in league with Spider-Man? Pb \$10.95 139pp

novelisation (written version of film, TV, radio drama production, comic or game)	
Based on (concept)	
Fil m	
TV show	
Computer game	
Ro l e-pl aying game	
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reference	

**J R R TOLKIEN AND C S LEWIS:
THE STORY OF THEIR FRIENDSHIP
COLIN DURIEZ**

The friendship between J R R Tolkien and C S Lewis lasted over 40 years and was for each the most important creative collaboration in their lives. They met at Oxford in 1926. They were both survivors of World War I, both academics and, as children, their lives were both dominated by imagination. However, they had different religious upbringings. This work explores the origins of the mythological worlds, which both writers placed at the centre of their fiction. Tolkien did not have a high opinion of some of Lewis' Christian writings and Lewis famously found Tolkien's elves too much of a good thing, but this work argues that, so close was this collaboration that without Tolkien there would have been no Lewis, and without Lewis, no Tolkien. Hb \$49.95 244pp



WHAT WE'VE BEEN READING

The Secrets of Jin-Shei by Alma Alexander. (Tp \$29.95) Wow! Can this woman write?! This is a story that the publisher's blurb has as being set in "medieval China" but actually it's set in an alternate world that happens to be very oriental. The story is woven around the friendship of eight women, a friendship that crosses class boundaries and blood ties. And while the back may have no mention of magic on it anywhere, the tale is full of it, but with a much more Eastern flavour. Astrologers, alchemists and temple Sages pepper the tale as it traces the years of the Jin-shei sisters' lives. This is the sort of tale you open when you're looking for something to immerse yourself in over a wet weekend. - Mark

The Portrait of Mrs Charbuque by Jeffrey Ford (Pb \$18.95). Piero Piambo is commissioned by the enigmatic Mrs Charbuque to paint her portrait, but he is not allowed to see her. He must gather clues as to what she looks like from the stories she tells him about her life, but as he delves deeper into her past, Piambo discovers that his life may be the price of finishing his masterpiece.

Jeffrey Ford has written a fine period piece (set in 1893 America) that is evocative, mysterious and a little strange. He has done his research into the art world of the time as well. A recommended read for fans of Jonathan Carroll and the like. - David

Liquor by Poppy Z Brite (Tp \$29.95). Brite takes a break from the horror genre with this novel, set in the culinary world of the New Orleans restaurant scene. Ricky and Gary (seen before in *Value of X*) are trying to set up their own restaurant in this fast paced, highly enjoyable novel about food and relationships, with some murder thrown in.

This is pretty much Anthony Bourdains' *Kitchen Confidential* as fiction, complete with drugs, general craziness and some recipes that sound very tasty! - David

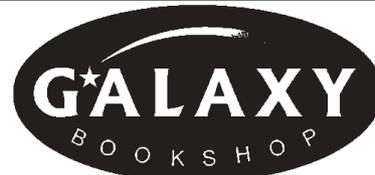
The Game of Thrones by George R R Martin (Pb \$19.95). This fantasy series has to be the only series that has been read and loved by all the staff at Galaxy. It says a lot about the quality of the novel when a non-fantasy reader like me can dive straight in and lap up the fantasy/medieval world that Martin has created. You really have to feel sorry for the main character Ned Stark, an honest man living in dishonest times as he struggles to solve a murder mystery, bring peace to a crumbling kingdom and be a good father to his family. What a man! - John

COMPETITION

To win one of three copies of *The Gunslinger*, the first novel in Stephen King's *The Dark Tower* series, name the clown in the author's previous novel, *It*. Mail, fax or email (competition@galaxybooks.com.au) your answer along with your name and address. Competition closes 19 July 2004. Entry open to Galaxy Cardholders only.

COMPETITION WINNERS

Scott Tasker has won a hardback copy of **Gods and Androids** by Andre Norton. Congratulations!



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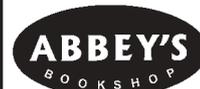
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