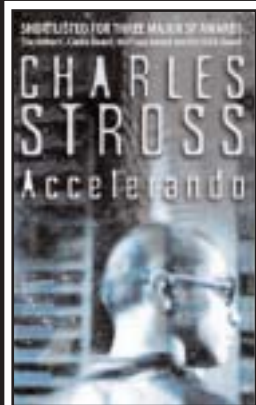


MEET THE AUTHOR



CHARLES STROSS
 Award-winning author of
**Singularity Sky, Accelerando
 & The Clan Corporate**
 in-store
Thu 27 July @ 5pm



BRAM STOKER AWARD WINNERS

These awards are presented annually for superior achievement in the field by the Horror Writers' Association.

NOVEL (tie)



Creepers by David Morrell



Dread in the Beast by Charlee Jacob

FIRST NOVEL

Scarecrow Gods by Weston Ochse

LONG FICTION

Best New Horror by Joe Hill

SHORT FICTION

We Now Pause for Station Identification by Gary Braunbeck

FICTION COLLECTION

Twentieth Century Ghosts by Joe Hill

ANTHOLOGY

Dark Delicacies edited by Del Howison & Jeff Gelb

LOCUS AWARD WINNERS

These awards are voted for by readers of Locus Magazine in the annual Locus Poll.

BEST SF NOVEL

Accelerando by Charles Stross

BEST FANTASY NOVEL

Anansi Boys by Neil Gaiman

BEST FIRST NOVEL

Hammered/Scardown/Worldwired by Elizabeth Bear

BEST YOUNG ADULT NOVEL

Pay the Piper by Jane Yolen & Adam Stemple

BEST MAGAZINE

The Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction

BEST ANTHOLOGY

The Year's Best Fantasy and Horror: 18th Annual Collection

edited by Ellen Datlow, Kelly Link & Gavin Grant

BEST COLLECTION

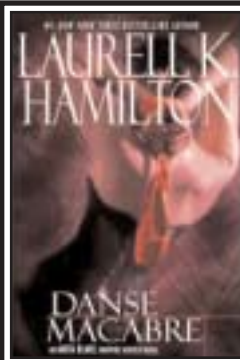
Magic for Beginners by Kelly Link

BEST NON-FICTION

Storyteller: Writing Lessons and More from 27 Years of the Clarion Writers' Workshop by Kate Wilhelm

BEST ART BOOK

Spectrum 12: The Best in Contemporary Fantastic Art edited by Cathy & Arnie Fenner



DANSE MACABRE BY LAURELL K HAMILTON... OUT NOW!

Anita Blake needs to be concentrating on a dangerous situation - the ardeur, the sexual power that flows between Anita and Jean-Claude, Master Vampire of the City and Richard, the volatile werewolf who loves her passionately, is reaching new levels, perhaps evolving into something altogether new. The ardeur seems to be choosing new lovers for Anita, acting with a will of its own. As Jean-Claude says, the ardeur is hunting powerful prey. The unexpected effect of this is that Jean-Claude's own power as a master vampire has grown to new levels - and Richard, never predictable, is changing too. But as the days pass, Anita is less interested in vampire politics than in an ancient, ordinary dread she shares with women down the ages - she may be pregnant. And, if she is, whether the father is a vampire, a werewolf, or someone else entirely, she knows perfectly well that being a Federal Marshall, known for raising the dead and being a vampire executioner, is no way to bring up a baby... Hb \$56 496pp




SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY




STEVE ALTEN

RESURRECTION

 White-haired, azure-eyed Jacob, blessed with inhuman physical prowess, intelligence and insight into the cosmos, knows from birth that he is meant for more. His dark-haired brother, Immanuel, refuses his genetic calling, desiring a normal life. But only the combined powers of these twins can resurrect their saviour father and save the human race from an eternity of repeating its own self-destruction. There is a third great power upon the earth, born the same day as the twins. Exposed to the uglier side of existence, empowered by her post-human genetics, the beautiful, schizophrenic Lilith will travel down a darker path that leads to Xibalba - the Mayan version of hell. An epic battle of good versus evil will begin and the final fate of the human race will be revealed. Pb \$18.95 523pp


KEVIN J ANDERSON

SCATTERED SUNS

 *The Saga of Seven Suns #4.* The war between the hydrogues and the faeros rages, reducing suns to blackened shells, including one of the fabled seven suns of the Ildiran Empire. Instead of protecting themselves, the Ildirans engage in civil war and the many factions of humanity are bitterly divided. Can mankind and Ildirans overcome their own internal fighting to face a deadly new enemy that is ready to annihilate them? Pb \$16.95 710pp


SARAH ASH

CHILDREN OF THE SERPENT GATE

 *The Tears of Artamon #3.* Gavril Nagarian is believed dead - perished in the heat of battle. But the Lord Drakhaon of Azhkendir lives on. Now he is entrusted with a sacred mission - to rescue the aged Magus, who has been kidnapped and in whose possession are the five priceless rubies that compose the fabled Tears of Artamon. Ancient law decrees that whoever possesses the coveted stones has the power to impose his rule over the five princedoms in the Empire of New Rossiya. But the task exacts a cost. The Drakhaoul that destroyed his forebears has penetrated Gavril's psyche and is gaining power over his soul. With the dark forces inside him seeking immortality, Gavril must feed on the blood of innocents or die. Pb \$18.95 609pp


DOMINIC BARKER

BLART

 Blart is not an average boy. He lives on a pig farm with his grandfather and doesn't care about being heroic or famous, but he does know that if you want to catch a pig you have to sneak up behind it and take it by surprise. So when a great wizard visits and explains that humankind depends on Blart joining his quest, Blart says no - until the wizard threatens his pigs. Reluctantly, Blart embarks on an epic quest stuffed with brilliant characters - a feisty princess who likes dragons, a warrior who's a big softie at heart, a disaffected dwarf and evil Zorab, trapped in a mountain, waiting for his minions to dig him out. Pb \$15.95 319pp


HILARI BELL

THE WIZARD TEST

 Dayven has passed the test he wanted to fail - he's been proven to have the powers of a wizard. He always swore he would never become one of the deceitful, disloyal sorcerers who alter people's true destinies, but now it seems he has no choice. The path that was once clear - his friendships, his destiny - is now shadowed with dangerous twists and turns and the world he knows must change forever. Pb \$14.95 166pp


THOMAS L BLAIR

THE SABATINI PROPHECY

 Stray animals are following Davey around (as if being nearsighted, insecure and the worst athlete in 7th grade isn't enough). When he asks his mom about this oddity, she makes a vague reference to his ancestors and then hastily changes the subject. A few weeks later, his parents depart for China, sending him to stay with his aunt until they return. Thus his extraordinary adventure in the North Carolina mountains begins. He comes across a magical necklace - a clue to his birthright - and so starts a journey of discovery... Hb \$49.95 469pp


PATRICIA BRAY

THE FIRST BETRAYAL

 *Chronicles of Josan #1.* Orphan, exile, priest, Josan has been posted to a lighthouse on the farthest edge of the kingdom. As a member of the collegium, he once dreamed of making a real contribution to the Learned Brethren, but those dreams died after a mysterious fever shattered him, body and mind. At least that's the story he's been told to explain a past he can't remember. But that past has returned... When Lady Ysobel Flordelis is shipwrecked on Josan's island, this sets in motion an explosive destiny. The Seddonian trade liaison is travelling to Ikaria on official business, but her secret purpose is to revive the revolution brutally crushed years before. As Ysobel navigates the elaborate court intrigues in Ikaria, Josan will be forced to leave his island exile and embark on a treacherous journey to unlock the secrets that bind his past - an act that could lead him to glory or doom... Pb \$16.95 342pp


LOIS MCMASTER BUJOLD

THE HALLOWED HUNT

 *Chalion #3.* Prince Boleso is dead - slain by a noblewoman he had intended to defile. Lord Ingrey, kin Wolfcliff, has been dispatched to the remote castle of the late, exiled, half-mad royal to transport the body to its burial place and the accused killer, the Lady Ijada, to judgment. Ingrey's mission is an ugly and delicate one, for the imminent death of the old Hallow King has placed the crown in play and the murder of his youngest son threatens to further roll already treacherous political waters. But, Boleso's dark act, though unfinished, inadvertently bestowed an unwanted mystical 'gift' upon proud, brave Ijada that must ultimately mean her doom - a curse similar to one with which Ingrey himself has been burdened since boyhood. Pb \$18.95 436pp

STEVE CASH

TIME DANCERS

 *The Meq #2.* It has been 38 years since Zianno, known as Z, turned 12. In appearance, he has not aged a day. Like all Meq, Z has become accustomed to a near immortal existence, possessing an uncanny ability to recuperate from injury and resist disease. Like only four others of his kind, he holds one of the fabled Stones, the Stone of Dreams. These bearers believe it is their destiny to guide the Meq toward and through the Remembering, where it is said that they will recall their long-forgotten origins and purpose. But the rogue Meq assassin called the Fleur-du-Mal threatens their efforts and their lives. Pursuing rumours of a lost Sixth Stone, he is intent on finding the legendary talisman and eliminating anyone, Meq or human, who stands in the way. Tp \$32.95 394pp



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 and classic

CLASSIC TITLE

THE BLUE GIRL

A Newford novel (Pb \$18.95)

Charles De Lint

Thank you, first off, to Steph for recommending this. I really enjoyed my first visit to Newford, and I plan to go again soon!

The Blue Girl is modelled on the tried-and-true story of the new kid in town. Imogene moves to Newford, befriends the bookish Maxine and falls afoul of the local bullies. At the same time, she captures the attention of the school ghost, encounters her imaginary friend in physical form and she meets the local fairies. The everyday problems of teenagers at school are peppered with encounters with the magical beings who live in Newford and the increasingly worrying presence of shadows who want to absorb Imogene's energy. How did she attract their notice in the first place? The answer lies with Adrian, the sweet dead boy who loves Imogene and haunts her and the school. Now, Imogene must find a way to fight an evil she doesn't yet understand. An interesting sidekick to the headstrong and tough Imogene is Maxine who, like Hermione to Harry, looks for all the answers in books. But can the solution to Imogene's problems lie there, or is it too bound up in rituals the girls cannot perform? The looming threat of the mischievous and worryingly real fairies is worsened by the abrupt appearance of Imogene's imaginary friend, Pelly, who is suddenly real. It could be no accident that strangeness in Newford builds up as Halloween approaches; a day and a night where the rules seem to be different... or maybe non-existent.

While the plot itself is interesting and layered, it is helped by the technique De Lint employs of writing the chapters through different character's eyes, but these points of view are enriched further by 'Then' and the 'Now'. Readers should have no trouble dealing with these divisions, especially as they allow for Adrian to have a voice in the past and the present. The dialogue is another technique which merits much praise. There is a flow and a wit to the banter between characters that I had not expected for a young-adult targeted book, and I thoroughly enjoyed it. And, by infusing the characters with such personality and individuality, De Lint makes them more believable. The fairies are a particular joy to read about, as you can almost picture their 'Brian-Froud' faces and features as they move about the school, sometimes shadowing the melancholic and occasionally death-sick Adrian. (Death-sick meaning despondently dead, unable to let go of his brief and unhappy life and after-life).

It is not just the blend of the magical interfering with the already troubled teenagers lives that makes this story worth reading, it is all about the expression of the ideas. De Lint himself must be a believer in True Friendship and Human Nature. Note the capitalisation, because these ideals are ever-present throughout the story. Combine this with insightful characterisation, apt description and some smooth, most 'human' dialogue and the result is **The Blue Girl**, my first, fabulous foray into Newford. My verdict? This is a telling of a seemingly customary tale of friendship, with thoroughly magical elements and cherished characters. - Sofia



NEW TITLE

THE ATROCITY ARCHIVES

TP \$29.95 345pp

Charles Stross

This action-packed book will appeal to many readers because it neatly combines several genres by borrowing aspects from both spy-thrillers and H P Lovecraft's *Cthulhu* myths, whilst poking fun at the computer industry and government bureaucracy.

The central conceit of this book is that magic exists but, apart from being inexplicable and 'magical' it is actually a branch of higher mathematics, albeit a complicated and dangerous branch, liable to snap under anyone foolish enough to clamber about on it. This concept leads the author to create a world in which curious computer hackers can accidentally tear holes in reality and summon monstrous horrors from beyond time and space by tinkering around with occult algorithms. These accidents are much more life threatening than a Trojan virus or an email bomb, because multi-tentacled, Lovecraftian horrors from alternate dimensions are always ready to leap through the gaps and wreak havoc. In a scenario such as this, and with hackers being the persistent breed that they are, you would expect apocalyptic mishaps to be around every corner. And you would be right. That's where the Laundry steps in. In the UK, the Laundry is a top secret government organisation created as a defence against occult-related catastrophes (accidental or otherwise).

The story follows a computer technician named Bob Howard who first came to the attention of the Laundry when he unwittingly, almost destroyed an entire city. Instead of locking him up, the Laundry instead offered him an IT job. Fast becoming bored with his position in a government department that doesn't officially exist and that he can't discuss with anyone else, he signs up for active service in the field. That's where the action is. Maybe. Stross finds a lot of humour in presenting spies as un-sexy bureaucrats who are simply doing a series of small jobs within a much larger operation. These spies would never find themselves sporting tuxedos and quaffing martinis. Instead, active service mostly means working at a different desk and occasionally experiencing the dubious thrill of standing in freezing cold rain in the middle of the night waiting for a chance to clumsily burglarise the office of a hacker who's stumbled onto something potentially devastating. Thankfully, Bob Howard's world gets more exciting than that, as he is soon noticed by his superiors as a quick-witted chap who's good in a tight fix. As long as he gets his request for leave in to his head of department before Tuesday, he'll be free to save the world next week.

Stross has also developed several hilarious bureaucratic descriptions for paranormal phenomena a.k.a. 'reality excursions'. These phrases beautifully illustrate just how a government department would attempt to curb, restrict and quantify something as wild and dangerous as magic.

This book also contains the novella *Concrete Jungle* which won the 2005 Hugo Award for Best Novella. *Concrete Jungle* is fast-paced adventure also featuring Bob Howard and the Laundry, in which Stross builds on the history and (mis-)uses of the 'basilisk' technology. - Raph



JAYNE CASTLE

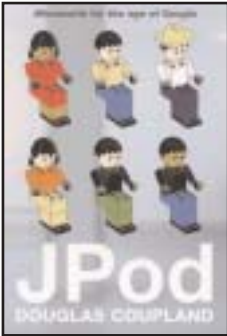
GHOST HUNTER

After leaving her too-secretive fiancé, powerful ghost-hunter Cooper Boone, botanist Elly St Clair starts over in the thriving metropolis of Cadence City. But when one of her new friends disappears in the eerie catacombs beneath the streets, Cooper turns up just in time to help, and this time he's holding nothing back. Pb \$18.95 340pp

DOUGLAS COUPLAND

JPOD

This is the story of Ethan Jarlewski and his five co-workers. Somewhere in the hierarchy it has been decided that anyone whose surnames begin with J will be bureaucratically marooned in JPod, a no-escape architectural limbo on the fringes of a massive Vancouver game design company. The six confined workers confront the daily forces that define our era - global piracy, boneheaded marketing staff, people-smuggling, the rise of China, marijuana grow-ops, Jeff Probst and the ashes of the 1990s financial tech dream. JPod's universe is amoral and shameless. The characters are products of their era, even as they're creating it. Everybody in Ethan's life inhabits a moral grey zone. Nobody is exempt, not even his seemingly straight-laced parents (or Coupland himself). Full of word games, visual jokes and sideways jabs, this book throws a sharp, pointed lawn dart into the heart of contemporary life. Tp \$32.95 448pp



PETER DAVID

FALL OF KNIGHT

King Arthur #3. When former first lady Gwen DeVere Queen is discovered to be hale and hearty after falling victim to a successful assassination, the jig is finally up. Arthur Penn, aka King Arthur, reveals his true identity and the existence of the Holy Grail, to the world. Unable to cope with the sick and dying who desperately entreat him to heal them with the power of the Grail, Arthur accepts an offer from an entrepreneur with a new approach to health care - siphon water through the Grail, bottle it and sell it as a curative. Flooding the market, Grail Water becomes the hottest-selling commodity in the history of humanity. Unfortunately, it's also tainting the very purpose of the holy cup's existence - and Arthur may soon discover exactly how the road to hell is paved with good intentions. Hb \$54.00 347pp

LOUISA DENT

THE FORGOTTEN SPELL

A Spellcaster Gamebook. Enter the strange and dangerous world of the Fey - a vast population of creatures that inhabit a realm just out of reach of mortals. It all lies just beyond the pale - the space between dawn and dusk. Few can find it and fewer still can return. You must decide your fate as you journey through one of the most evil and despised cities, Enruobelm. Your quest is to search for the Forgotten Spell, long ago destroyed by the hand that first devised it - the powerful warlock, Olcrada. Here you must be prepared to test your courage, strength and wit against the myriad of evil foe that await you. Can you survive? Pb \$14.95 272pp

JOHN DICKINSON

THE WIDOW AND THE KING

World #2. Set 12 years after the end of The Cup of the World, this tells the story of Ambrose, son of Phaedra and last in the king's line, who is living exiled with his mother in the dilapidated manor of Tarceny. Ambrose's life is threatened by the hooded priest of the Undercraft, an ancestral spirit of pure evil who must end Ambrose's life in order to survive himself. And even when Ambrose is hidden within the house of the Widow of Develin, a hallowed place of learning and haven of education, the priest and his minions slowly and subtly infiltrate within, subverting the minds of those most educated and powerful and leaving Ambrose in mortal danger. Pb \$18.95 612pp



DAVID DRAKE, ERIC FLINT & JIM BAEN
THE WORLD TURNED UPSIDE-

DOWN

Publisher Jim Baen joins two of his top authors to collect the stories which made them SF readers in their youth and fitted them to make a major impact on the SF field today. The quality of the stories in this huge volume compares favourably with that of any collection in the past 50 years. The selection was by a deliberately subjective process - these are the stories which, when the editors read them, turned their worlds around and provided a strong emotional charge. The story sources range from Analog to Weird Tales, and the first appearances are from the early 30s to the mid-60s. Many were written by the greatest names in the SF field. These are stories that made the editors think and feel. They will do the same for you. Tp \$32.95 743pp

IAN CAMERON ESLEMONT

NIGHT OF KNIVES

Malaz #1. It gave the Empire its name, but the island and city of Malaz is now a sleepy backwater port. This night, its residents are barring doors and shuttering windows - a once-in-a-generation Shadow Moon has arrived and threatens to bring among them demon hounds and other, darker beings. This is also the night that the prophecy calls for the return of Emperor Kellanved, missing these last years. As factions within the Empire battle over the Imperial throne, the Shadow Moon summons a far more ancient and alien presence for an all-out assault upon the island, one that will determine the fate of the Malaz and the entire world beyond. Pb \$55.00 285pp

RECOMMENDED READING


CHARLES DE LINT
WIDDERSHINS

Jilly Coppercorn and Geordie Riddell. Since they were introduced in the first Newford story, *Timeskip*, back in 1989, their friends and readers alike have been waiting for them to realise what everybody else already knows - that they belong together. But they've been clueless. Now Jilly and Geordie's story is finally being told. Before it's over, we'll find ourselves plunged into the rancorous and sometimes violent conflict between the magical North American animal people and the more newly-arrived fairy folk. We'll watch as Jilly is held captive in a sinister world based on her own worst memories and Geordie, attempting to help, is sent some place even worse. And we'll be captivated by the power of love and determination to redeem ancient hatreds and heal old magics gone sour. To walk 'widdershins' is to walk counterclockwise or backwards around something. It's a classic pathway into the fairy realm. It's also the way people often back slowly into the relationships that matter, the real ones that make for a life. Hb \$59.95 560pp *This was bound to be a popular book for De Lint fans (being about Geordie and Jilly) and De Lint hasn't failed to deliver. There is a bit in the middle that is a little bit slow, but otherwise this was just perfect! Steph*




PERCIVAL EVERETT

AMERICAN DESERT

 Theodore Street is driving towards the ocean, where he plans to drown himself. But on the way, he is hit by a van and sails through the windscreen, his head sliced from his body. Days later, at his funeral, he sits up in his coffin, apparently resurrected. Theodore becomes an object of derision and morbid curiosity to the press, a prized specimen for scientists and Satan incarnate to an obscure religious cult deep in the desert. Fascinating, surreal and wildly satirical, this story sends up the press, religion, UFOs and the military, offering a meditation on what it is to be alive. Pb \$22.95 291pp


RAYMOND E FEIST

FLIGHT OF THE NIGHT HAWKS

 *Darkwar Saga #1.* The Conclave of Shadows, the undercover organisation charged with the protection of Midkemia, have problems, but, when the Conclave attempt to warn the Emperor, it becomes clear that many of the truebloods - nobles related by birth to the Emperor - are already Varen's slaves, both willing and unwitting and the Conclave are forced into a race against time to save Great Kesh before evil engulfs the land. Tp \$32.95 420pp


KATE FORSYTH

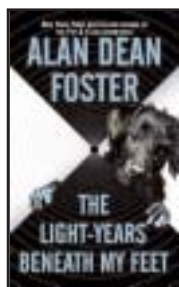
THE HEART OF STARS

 *Rhiannon's Ride #3.* Lord Malvern swore he would have revenge on Lachlan the Winged for the death of his brother and nephew. Now Lachlan is dead and his children have all been stolen away. Lachlan's son Donnacan is the new Righ of Eileanan, but after his abduction on his wedding night, his wife, Bronwen, daughter of the Ensorcclor, must rule in his stead, in a court seething with intrigue, betrayal and suspicion. With the ruling MacCuinn clan rent apart, there is no-one to stop Lord Malvern except Rhiannon and her winged mare Blackthorn. She must try to save the one woman she hates more than anyone - the banprionnsa Olwynne, rival for Rhiannon's true love, Lewen. Tp \$32.95 469pp

ALAN DEAN FOSTER


THE LIGHT-YEARS BENEATH MY FEET

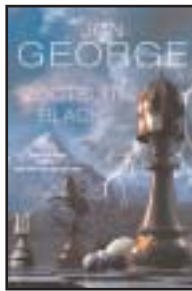
 *Taken #2.* Walker and George are free at last, having managed, with some outside help, to outwit their kidnappers. But now they are a million, billion miles from Earth. Walker glories in the wonders of his rescuers' hi-tech world and the thrill of being humankind's first galactic traveller, until he remembers the only place he wants to be is home. Pb \$16.95 232pp



JON GEORGE


ZOOTSUIT BLACK

 Two men are forced to fight for humanity's future in savage contests that unfold in our real and mythical pasts. The world is panicking because, in seven days time, millions will disappear when our universe changes to reality. Dr Jake Crux has proof that we must reacquaint ourselves with old powers. His experiment demonstrates extrasensory perception is possible, but his superiors intend to pervert the result. Scott Anderson is convinced the Far Right is jeopardising our chances of survival and his participation in a cult reality show exposes him directly to their mortal threats. Meanwhile, both men are periodically thrust into dealing with adversity in temporary dimensions - one battles mythical dragons, the other fights Nazis in World War II. And they call this evolution? Tp \$49.95 324pp




TESS GERRITSON

GRAVITY

 Dr Emma Watson has been training for the adventure of a lifetime - to study living beings in space. But her mission aboard the International Space Station turns into a nightmare beyond imagining, when a culture of single-celled organisms begins to regenerate out of control and infects the space station crew with agonizing and deadly results. Emma struggles to contain the outbreak, while back on Earth her estranged husband, Jack McCallum, works frantically with NASA to bring her home. But there will be no rescue. The contagion now threatens Earth's population and the astronauts are stranded in orbit, quarantined aboard the station, where they are dying one by one. Pb \$18.95 380pp


LAURA ANNE GILMAN

STAYING DEAD

 *A Retriever novel.* It starts as a simple job, but simple jobs, when you're dealing with the magical world, often end up anything but! As a Retriever, Wren Valere specialises in finding things gone missing - and then bringing them back, no questions asked. Normally her job is stimulating, challenging and only a little bit dangerous. But every once in a while... Case in point - a cornerstone containing a spell is stolen and there's a magical complication. Wren's abilities aren't enough to lay this particular case to rest, so she turns to some friends - a demon, a mage who has lost his mind and a few others, including Sergei, her business partner. Sometimes, what a woman has to do to get the job done is enough to give even Wren nightmares... Pb \$16.95 411pp


NEWT GINGRICH & WILLIAM R FORSTCHEN

NEVER CALL RETREAT

 *Lee and Grant #3.* August 1863. Having pursued the remnants of the defeated Army of the Potomac up to the banks of the Susquehanna, General Robert E Lee is caught off balance when news arrives that General Ulysses S Grant, in command of over 70,000 men, has crossed the same river and is advancing down the Cumberland Valley towards Virginia. The two brilliant generals meet in a massive battle that will decide the outcome of the war. Tp \$32.95 496pp


ARLENE GOLDS

FROM DREAM TO DREAM

 Wrenched from her home by some urge she cannot explain, Drew finds herself wandering lost through a nightmare landscape, pursued by two monstrous creatures whose forms waver between men and beasts. These creatures push her past the boundaries of her own world, into a new world in which she soon learns that her dreams have the power to change reality. Yet, despite the power she had gained, she cannot stay because of the danger she poses to the delicate fabric of this world. And from the moment she meets a man named Gryfree, she desperately wants to stay, despite the beasts that continue to hunt her and that will not rest until she is dead. Hb \$54.00 308pp

John GORDON



THE GIANT UNDER THE SNOW

 Three children find an ornate Celtic buckle. To them it's treasure, a fantastic find. They have no idea that it has awakened a giant who has lain at rest for centuries. Little do they know that an evil warlord and his Leathermen have also awaited this moment, this chance to wield their deadly power. Pb \$15.95 200pp



SIMON R GREEN

SWORDS OF HAVEN

  *Hawk and Fisher omnibus.* They're lovers. They're partners. They're cops. They're the battle-scarred, crime-busters of a never-ending urban war. Hawk rules the streets by battle-axe. Fisher cracks down on outlaws with sword and dagger. Their merciless beat is the sinister city misnamed Haven - a dark and violent town overrun with spell-casters, demons and thieves. A place where money buys anything... except justice. Tp \$32.95 540pp

MARTIN H GREENBERG & KERRIE HUGHES (Eds)

 **CHILDREN OF MAGIC**

17 brand-new stories by some of fantasy's most imaginative authors about children born with the gift of magic - whether in our world or in fantastical universes. These young spell casters use their powers - for good or ill - to transform their worlds to their liking. From a fledgling wizard with political ambitions, to a boy whose touch can end suffering, to the 'true' tale of how Da Vinci came by his talents, these are wondrous excursions into both the light and dark sides of magic. Pb \$18.95 308pp

MICHAEL GRUBER

 **THE WITCH'S BOY**

Lump, the ugliest boy in the world, is abandoned in the forest, where he is found and taken in by a witch. With a bear for a nanny, a genie as a servant and only a cat to talk to, the household is a strange one, but Lump grows up knowing nothing but love. Until one day he has to go out and face the world and meets rejection at every turn. This is the story of Lump's difficult journey to adulthood, his craving for the magical powers of his mother and his search for love and acceptance, set against the backdrop of a world full of natural magic in delicate balance, where the slightest disturbance can be catastrophic. Pb \$14.95 298pp

DAVID G HARTWELL & KATHRYN CRAMER (Eds)

 **YEAR'S BEST SF #11**

The best short-form science-fiction of 2005, selected by two of the most respected editors in the field. Here are stories with visions of tomorrow and yesterday, of the strange and the familiar, of the unknown and the unknowable. Pb \$18.95 496pp

ROBIN HOBB

 **SHAMAN'S CROSSING**

Soldier Son #1. Nevare is the second son of a second son. Traditionally in Gernia, the firstborn son is heir to the family fortunes, the second son bears a sword and the third son is consecrated to the priesthood. Nevare will follow his father - newly made a lord by the King - into the cavalry; to the frontier and thence to an advantageous marriage, to carry on the Burvelle name. It is a golden future and Nevare looks forward to it with relish. But Nevare's progress at the Academy is not as simple as he would wish. He will experience prejudice from the old aristocracy and his world view will be challenged by his unconventional girl-cousin Epiny and by the bizarre dreams which visit him at night. And then, on Dark Evening, the circus comes to Old Thares, bringing with it the first Specks Nevare has ever seen... Pb \$14.95 632pp

WALTER H HUNT

 **THE DARK CRUSADE**

Dark Wing #4. While armadas clash and outposts fall, the overly confident alien menace is forced to confront a zor human alliance that has been warned, their covert and insidious plans of infiltration now exposed... but all is not as it seems to be. The vuhl menace may not be the ultimate enemy and the all-powerful puppetmasters that have lurked in the shadows have entered the endgame where the mysteries of alien prophecies may have already determined the outcome. Pb \$18.95 531pp

P D JAMES

 **THE CHILDREN OF MEN**

The human race has become infertile and the last generation to be born is now adult. Civilisation itself is crumbling as suicide and despair become commonplace. Oxford historian Theodore Faron, apathetic toward a future without a future, spends most of his time reminiscing. Then he is approached by Julian, a bright, attractive woman who wants him to help get her an audience with his cousin, the powerful Warden of England. She and her band of unlikely revolutionaries may just awaken his desire to live . . . and they may also hold the key to survival for the human race. Tp \$29.95 241pp

MERCEDES LACKEY, JOHN HELFERS & DENISE LITTLE

 **THE VALDEMAR COMPANION**

Newly updated edition. This is the ultimate reader's guide to Mercedes Lackey's bestselling world of Valdemar and contains an all-original Valdemar novella, as well as an essay by Lackey about Valdemar and an



extensive interview with the author. Also included are detailed summaries of each of the Valdemar novels, an overview of the history of Valdemar along with essays on the various races and kingdoms, a substantial concordance containing entries on every major character, device and setting, an article on the importance of the Heralds and Companions and how magic factors into the novels, a chapter on the diverse Valdemar fan clubs and a section devoted to the songs of Valdemar, as well as maps and a selection of interior art. Pb \$18.95 572pp

SHARON LEE & STEVE MILLER

 **BALANCE OF TRADE**

Liaden: Balance #1. Terran Jethri Gobelyn suddenly faces the opportunity and the risk of his young life when he's apprenticed to a Liaden ship and becomes a pawn in a game that may destroy all he holds dear. Pb \$18.95 413pp

C S LEWIS

 **OUT OF THE SILENT PLANET**

Cosmic Trilogy #1. In the first novel of this classic science fiction trilogy, Dr Ransom, a Cambridge academic, is abducted and taken on a spaceship to the red planet of Malacandra, which he knows as Mars. His captors are plotting to plunder the planet's treasures and plan to offer Ransom as a sacrifice to the creatures who live there. Ransom discovers he has come from the 'silent planet' - Earth - whose tragic story is known throughout the universe. Pb \$19.95 224pp

JANE LINDSKOLD

 **CHILD OF A RAINLESS YEAR**


Art teacher Mira Fenn's life was curiously lacking in colour until the day she learned of a mysterious inheritance from her birthmother - a long-abandoned house in New Mexico. Dim childhood memories begin to brighten in Mira's mind - her colourfully exotic mother, the curiously silent women who were her mother's servants. Returning to New Mexico, she discovers that the house is a faded thing, looked after by the charismatic Domingo Navidad. But when she dreams of her childhood home, it is a riot of colour and she and Domingo soon set to work to bring her dreams to life. Colour brings more than just an old house back to life. The bright paint Mira applies to wood and plaster seems to reach into her soul, to awaken powers trapped in a decades-long slumber. The silent women reappear, carrying with them a great secret. Convinced her mother is still alive, Mira searches for her, journeying through a sea of light and colour to a time and place far from her own. Who and what she finds there will alter her world forever. Pb \$18.95 451pp

M I McALLISTER


 **URCHIN AND THE HEARTSTONE**

Mistmantle #2. A bright summer day dawns on Mistmantle as it prepares for the coronation of Crispin the Squirrel. Robes are stitched, cakes baked and wine brought up from cellars. And the Heartstone is readied, the unique gold and silver flecked stone that only the priest or the rightful ruler of the island can hold. But this newly established peace is soon under threat. A storm-ravaged ship from a distant land appears in the mists surrounding Mistmantle, a dramatic revelation about the revered Heartstone comes to light and the extra-sensory powers of a young islander reveal the evil close at hand. Urchin will find himself journeying to a hostile island, where the maniacal King Silverbirch and his sorcerer Smokewreath await him. Urchin will have to face challenges greater than those he has ever faced before and in doing so will learn something of his own past that will change his life irrevocably and for ever. Pb \$15.95 360pp


MARDI McCONNOCHIE**MELISSA, QUEEN OF EVIL**

 What do you do when one bad hair day could destroy the world? Meet Melissa, a mild-mannered cricket player of average ability and best friend to Soph, queen of emotional traumas. Meet Melissa, Queen of Evil, a dazzling all-rounder with a killer instinct and an agent of destruction. Melissa has acquired a terrible and sinister power. She can cause typhoons and earthquakes, or strike people dead with a single look, but after an unfortunate house burning incident, she knows she needs help. Then she meets Ben. A destroyer with his own car - and her guide. Through him she must learn to control her powers and face the people who want her dead. In the meantime, there's homework, cricket practice and Soph's emotional traumas to work through. And looming on the horizon is the biggest threat of all - the school social. Pb \$14.95 171pp


PATRICIA A MCKILLIP**OD MAGIC**

 Brenden Vetch has a gift that connects him to the agricultural world, nurturing gardens to flourish and instinctively knowing the healing properties each plant and herb has to offer. Receiving a personal invitation from the wizard Od to become a gardener for her school in the great city of Kelior, he finds a home among every potential wizard who must be trained to serve the Kingdom of Numis. But unknown to the reigning monarchy is the power possessed by the school's new gardener - a power that even Brenden isn't fully aware of and which is the true reason Od recruited him. Pb \$29.95 315pp


IAN R MACLEOD**THE HOUSE OF STORMS**

 *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. Though her power and grace are legendary, not even she can halt her son's disease. In desperation she travels to Einfell, to seek favour from one who once trusted her. And Ralph is cured. Far away from the filth of industrial London, he is drawn away from his family responsibilities to the world of nature and to a fisherman's daughter Marion Price. Together they plan to run away, 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 - nor the very land she professes to love - even if it means plunging England into a long and bloody civil war. Pb \$18.95 457pp


JEFF MARIOTTE**AGE OF CONAN:****DAWN OF THE ICE BEAR**

 *Marauders* #3. The young Pictish warrior Kral searches for the stolen holy relic that could save his people, only to find part of it stolen by a duplicitous warrior-thief. Meanwhile, the enraged Picts wage a desperate, doomed war against the great King Conan himself. Pb \$16.95 231pp


SOPHIE MASSON**THE TYRANT'S NEPHEW**

 *The Chronicles of El Jisal* #3. Omar didn't ask to be the nephew of the ruthless dictator of Mesomia - and he certainly doesn't want to inherit a country whose people are in fear for their lives. But he hasn't a choice, until the day he is saved from a deadly ambush by Latifa, a beggar girl. When his uncle places Latifa under a Spell of Darkness, Omar can't stand by and watch his rescuer die. Neither can Ketta, Latifa's white cat and jinn in disguise. Together, the two embark on an extraordinary adventure to find the spell's antidote - through the eerie, hostile marshlands, then flying on an enchanted carpet to the perilous mountain stronghold of a rebel werewolf clan. Pb \$15.95 255pp


SARAH MICKLEM**FIRETHORN**

 A foundling child, Luck, named for the colour of her god-favoured copper hair, is fortunate to be taken in by one of the Blood. She remembers little of her past. Her parents are a vague and teasing memory, but service in the Dame's household is better than that of most mud folk. She is rarely beaten and is fed well and, under the Dame's watchful eye, she is even permitted to learn herb lore. But her comfortable world is turned upside down when the old Dame dies and her nephew arrives to claim his inheritance. Choosing to remain with her friends rather than claim her freedom and strike out alone, her life is calm until her exotic looks attract the attentions of her new master. Pb \$22.95 383pp


SYNE MITCHELL**THE LAST MORTAL MAN**

 *The Deathless* #1. In the 24th century, nano-designed biology has turned the world into humanity's playground. And entrepreneur Lucius Sterling has created a trillion-dollar empire solving the world's problems - poverty, disease, war and even death. But when a new technology attacks the fundamental building blocks of nanobiology, the survival of humanity is at stake and only Sterling's estranged grandson, Jack, can stop the destruction. Pb \$16.95 435pp


L E MODESITT, JR**THE HAMMER OF DARKNESS**

 Martin Martel is an exile in trouble with the gods. After finding out that he has unusual powers, he is banished from planet Karnak. Martin is thrust into the tranquil world of Aurore, vacation paradise for the galaxy. There he finds that the reality of Aurore is much different from its serene veneer. The gods are wantonly cruel and indifferent to the chaos they cause. Are they really gods, or just men and women with larger-than-life powers? Martin Martel must challenge their supremacy to defend his life, love and the fate of all mankind. Tp \$29.95 288pp


JAMES MORROW**THE LAST WITCHFINDER**

 Jennet is the daughter of the Witchfinder of Mercia and East Anglia. Whilst her father roams the countryside with her brother Dunstan in search of heretics, Jennet is left behind to be schooled by her aunt Isobel in the New Philosophy principally expounded by Isaac Newton. But her aunt's style of scientific enquiry soon attracts the attention of the witchfinders. To save her aunt, Jennet travels to Cambridge to seek the help of Newton himself. Isobel is burned at the stake but in her dying moments, begs Jennet to devote her life to overturning the Parliamentary Witchcraft Act. Tp \$32.95 497pp


KIM NEWMAN**THE MAN FROM THE
DIOGENES CLUB**

 In the swinging 70s, Richard Jeperson, secret agent of the Diogenes Club, solves crimes too strange for Britain's police. His fashion sense is gaudy, his enemies deadly, his associates glamorous. Tp \$35.00 389pp

GARTH NIX**THE SEVENTH TOWER
OMNIBUS**

 *Books 4, 5 & 6*. Contains complete text of **Above the Veil, Into Battle** and **The Violet Keystone**. Hb \$24.95 691pp

ANDRE NORTON**FUR MAGIC**

 *Magic Books* #3. When his father is called to active duty in Vietnam, Cory Alder is sent to spend the summer with his adopted Native American uncle, Jasper. Accustomed to life in the city, Cory finds the reality of the ranch scary, and every shadow is full of menace. But when an encounter with a medicine man catapults Cory into a world of Native American legend, conquering his fears becomes a matter of survival. Pb \$9.95 152pp



ANDRE NORTON & LYN McCONCHIE

 **BEAST MASTER'S QUEST**

Laris, a young, orphaned, ex-refugee who has the beast master ability, has bonded with a remarkably intelligent and mysterious cat-like creature named Prauo. Having made a home for herself with the Ouades, a family of Arzor ranchers, Laris also becomes friends with beast masters Tani and Hosteen Storm. When Laris inherits a spaceship, she realises that she might fulfil her dream of finding Prauo's home planet. But it won't be easy and she is relieved when she is able to convince her adopted family to embark with her on a journey into the unknown depths of space. What Laris and her friends find, however, tests their abilities and threatens their very lives. Working together with Hosteen and Tani, Laris can only hope that they will all get back to Arzor alive. Hb \$54.00 302pp

NAOMI NOVIK

 **BLACK POWDER WAR**

Temeraire #3. After their fateful adventure in China, Capt. Will Laurence of His Majesty's Aerial Corps and his extraordinary dragon, Temeraire, are waylaid by a mysterious envoy bearing urgent new orders from Britain. Three valuable dragon eggs have been purchased from the Ottoman Empire and Laurence and Temeraire must detour to Istanbul to escort the precious cargo back to England. Time is of the essence if the eggs are to be borne home before hatching. Yet disaster threatens the mission at every turn, thanks to the diabolical machinations of the Chinese dragon Lien, who blames Temeraire for her master's death and vows to ally herself with Napoleon and take vengeance. Then, faced with shattering betrayal in an unexpected place, Laurence, Temeraire and their squad must launch a daring offensive. But what chance do they have against the massed forces of Bonaparte's implacable army? Pb \$18.95 365pp

PHILIP REEVE

 **A DARKLING PLAIN**

Mortal Engines #4. It is six months after the tumultuous events on Brighton and Wren Natworthy and her father Tom have taken to the skies in their airship, The Jenny Haniver. Wren is enjoying life as an aviatrix, but Tom is troubled by matters of the heart - Hester's disappearance and the old wound caused by Pennyroyal's bullet. Until a fluke encounter with a familiar face sets him thinking about the ruins of London and the possibility of going back... Meanwhile the fragile truce between the Green Storm and the Traction Cities splinters and hostility breaks out again. Events are set on a collision course as things end where they began, with London... Hb 24.95 533pp

JENNA RHODES

 **THE FOUR FORGES**

The Elven Ways #1. Brought to the world of Kerith by an unknown cataclysm, the Vaelinar race is both magical and arrogant, considering themselves far superior to the natives whose own magic has been shorn away by a civil war. As hated as they are revered, the Vaelinars have claimed lordship over the native races and have anchored their magic to the new world by a series of Talent-wrought Ways-passages of power, always hoping that one day they will create the Way back to the world they lost. Two young people, one broken of soul and the other broken of mind, find their fates intertwined as their mixed bloodlines both curse and bless them. Can a river-borne slave and a street-savvy half-breed find their own personal truth in time to avert another civil war? Hb \$49.95 554pp

JUSTIN RICHARDS

 **THE DEATH COLLECTOR**

When Eddie 'Dipper' Hopkins steals George Archer's wallet he has no idea that he is about to enter a dark world of grave-robbing, assassins and zombies. For George Archer is no ordinary citizen. He has just been offered a job in the top secret Department of Unclassified Artefacts at the British Museum - a department that investigates the bizarre and the unexplained. And in George's wallet is a clue to one of the biggest mysteries of all - a secret that has remained hidden for millions of years and a secret that people would kill to discover. On the run for their lives, Eddie and George must join forces to escape the clutches of a depraved genius - a man who needs the secret for a terrifying plan. Helped by the redoubtable Sir William Protheroe and actress Elizabeth Oldfield, they find themselves in a heart-stopping race against time. A race to unravel the secret before London is overrun by creatures from the dead... Hb \$24.95 320pp

JENNIFER ROBERSON

 **KARAVANS**

The land of Sancorra has been conquered by the brutal Hecari, leaving thousands homeless and in fear for their lives. Audrun and her husband Davyd have four children and another due when their farm is burned. Consulting diviners, they learn that their new child must be born in Atalanda province - a peaceful land where Audrun has family. But to get there, they will have to travel close to the sinister woodlands of Alisanos, where darkness awaits to claim those unlucky enough to be chosen. Joining a caravan for safety, the family moves ever closer to the dangerous, mystical forest. And, as they are all about to discover, Alisanos is moving ever closer to them. Hb \$56.00 425pp

ADAM ROBERTS

 **GRADISIL**

Gradisil is a multi-generational story of murder, betrayal and revenge. It is told through the eyes of three characters and against a background where mankind's rush into space has faded away leaving individual pioneers to force their way independently into space after the collapse of the big government space agencies. They ride up into space on the lines of electromagnetic force that flower into space from earth like the mighty Yggradisil - the earth tree of Norse myth. Leaving their weight behind, they still carry a cargo of enmities and hatreds. Tp \$29.95 458pp

MARK ROBSON

 **IMPERIAL SPY**

Femke, a gifted and resourceful young spy, is entrusted with a vital foreign mission by the Emperor. Her adversary, Shalidar, frames Femke with responsibility for two murders while she is visiting their neighbouring court. Femke is isolated in an alien country, being pursued both by her enemies and by the authorities. Only her sidekick, Reynik, a young military trainee, can help. Together, they must outwit the evil assassin Shalidar and prove Femke's innocence so they can complete the imperial mission. Pb \$16.95 373pp

JOHN F ROE

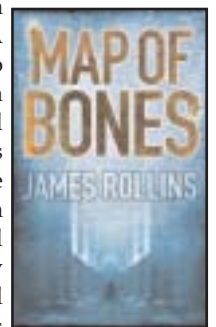
 **ALL THIS IS SO**

Though the world created in this novel is strikingly familiar - children play, couples fall in love - something is slightly different. Orr has lost his memory and an eye. Where he travels, who he meets and what he discovers in his quest for revenge will change this strange world forever. Pb \$14.95 505pp

JAMES ROLLINS

 **MAP OF BONES**

With the Vatican in turmoil, SIGMA Force leaps into action. An elite team of scientific and Special Forces operatives under the command of Grayson Pierce and accompanied by Lieutenant Rachel Verona of Rome's *carabinieri*, they are pursuing a deadly mystery that weaves through sites of the Seven Wonders of the World and ends at the doorstep of an ancient, mystical and terrifying secret order. For there are those with dark plans for the stolen sacred remains that will alter the future of humankind... when science and religion unite to unleash a horror not seen since the beginning of time. Pb \$18.95 540pp



P CRAIG RUSSELL

CONAN AND THE JEWELS OF GWAHLUR

A young woman, having made a string of bad choices, finds herself the pawn of mercenaries - one of which is Conan of Cimmeria. As the former dancing girl poses as the dead oracle of a primitive cult, Conan puts his experience as a thief and a soldier together in pursuit of some of the most prized jewels in the world - the Teeth of Gwahlur! Tp \$24.95 88pp

FRED SABERHAGEN

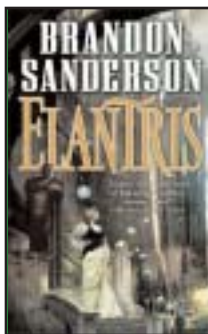
ROGUE BESERKER

A Berserker novel. Harry Silver has already had a lifetime of trouble from ordinary Berserkers, the automated killing machines programmed an age ago to denude the galaxy of life. Now when his own family is kidnapped, he faces a deviant machine ... Ordinary Berserkers armed with weapons powerful enough to kill an entire planet were enough of a nightmare. What worse devilry will a killing machine gone rogue attempt - and even if Silver can stop it, will he ever see his family alive again? Pb \$18.95 370pp

BRANDON SANDERSON

ELANTRIS

Elantris was the capital of Arelon - gigantic, beautiful, literally radiant, filled with benevolent beings who used their powerful magical abilities for the benefit of all. Yet each of these demigods was once



an ordinary person until touched by the mysterious transforming power of the Shaod. Ten years ago, without warning, the magic failed. Elantrians became wizened, leper-like, powerless creatures and Elantris itself dark, filthy and crumbling. Arelon's new capital, Kae, crouches in the shadow of Elantris. Princess Sarene of Teod arrives for a marriage of state with Crown Prince Raoden, hoping - based on their correspondence - to also find love. She finds instead that Raoden has died and she is considered his widow. But, stricken by the same curse that ruined Elantris, Raoden was secretly exiled by his father to the dark city. His struggle to help the wretches trapped there begins a series of events that will bring hope to Arelon and perhaps reveal the secret of Elantris itself. Pb \$18.95 638pp

AL SARRANTONIO

QUEEN OF MARS

Mars #3. Young Princess Clara must defend her crown, as the atmosphere gradually leaks away from the Red Planet. Pb \$16.95 232pp

JAK SHADOW

THE CRIME LORD

A FEAR adventure. Triton, an evil alien genius, is trying to take over the world! He must be stopped! You are an agent of the crime agency FEAR and only you can save the world. You are nearly ready to join the fight, but first you must be plunged into virtual reality. Your training mission is to stop Triton in four time zones. Are you ready? Pb \$12.95 128pp

GENA SHOWALTER

ENSLAVE ME SWEETLY

Eden Black #2. Eden Black walks among humans, protecting them from the murderous evil of other-worlders who abduct and enslave. And though she appears to be human herself, Eden is an alien, a Raka, distinguished by her golden hair and skin and gifted with the ominous ability to kill without remorse and with total accuracy. That is, until the fateful night she has one shot to eliminate her target, a human slaver and misses. Failure is not in Eden's vocabulary. Neither is partner, but that's what she is forcibly assigned after recovering from her disastrous mission. A sexy, steely-nerved human agent, Lucius Adaire enjoys nothing more than sparking the fury and rousing the desire of the fiery female assassin too proud to admit defeat. Tp \$29.00 306pp

SARAH SINGLETON

HERETIC

When Elizabeth finds a green-tinged creature in the woods, she's amazed to discover that it's actually a girl of her own age. Isabella has spent the last 300 years in the faery world, hiding from persecutors who accused her of being the daughter of a witch. Elizabeth has her own persecutors to face. A catholic priest is hiding in her home, an act of treason in 1586 and the net is closing in. As they become friends, Elizabeth and Isabella must find a way to protect the family from being torn apart. Pb \$16.95 265pp

CHARLES STROSS

THE CLAN CORPORATE

The Merchant Princes #3. A young, hip, business journalist, Miriam Beckstein discovered that her family comes from an alternate reality, that she is very well-connected and that her family is a lot too much like the mafia for comfort. She has tried to remain an outsider, be her own woman and start a profitable business, outside the family reach. She fell in love with a distant relative, but he's dead, killed saving her life. Now, she may be overreaching. And if she gets caught, death or a fate worse is around the bend. Hb \$54.00 320pp

TRICIA SULLIVAN

DOUBLE VISION

When shy, psychic bookworm 'Cookie' Orbach watches television, she sees things, but not the things that you or I would see. Cookie sees The Grid - a strange, shifting landscape where human forces battle against an enemy they dare not kill. Her employer, the mysterious Dataplex Corporation, pays her well to watch this war and asks only that she report her observations, but take no direct action, which suits her passive demeanour just fine. But Cookie's quiet life is about to be shattered. Her two very different worlds are threatening to merge in a way that shouldn't really be possible. Everything is about to change. And we do mean everything... Pb \$19.95 377pp

KATE THOMPSON

THE NEW POLICEMAN

Everyone in Kinvara is conscious that time is flying past, faster and faster - to such an extent that when JJ asks his mother what she would like as a birthday present she ask for more time. JJ dismisses this as mere wishful thinking, an impossibility, for who know where the time goes? The Liddys have been musicians for generations and JJ is no exception, but what he discovers is that a shadow from the past hangs over their family. When he sets out to buy his mother time, he discovers the fate of a flute, which will provide the key to both problems - it is the vital clue. He makes the transition to Tir na n'Og, the land of eternal youth, where the fairy people are also having a problem with time and it falls to his lot to locate the leak between the two parallel worlds. Pb \$17.95 407pp

RODERICK TOWNLEY

THE CONSTELLATION OF SYLVIE

The inhabitants of the storybook world of *The Great Good Thing* are a bit bored, since not much has happened since their adventures on the internet (in *Into the Labyrinth*). But more danger than they've ever faced arrives when the book is stowed away on a space shuttle embarking on a 4-year mission to Jupiter. At first the main difficulty is adjusting to life in zero gravity, but when the shuttle misses its re-entry into the Earth's atmosphere, Sylvie and her friends must find a way to help the astronauts survive the additional four years in space. The solution comes in the form of ice collected from one of Jupiter's moons - melting and evaporating the ice provides enough oxygen to sustain the shuttle crew, but it also contains a compound that reverses the ageing process. Soon the astronauts are only children and their own lives and the fate of the characters in the book lie in the hands of Sylvie, who must reach into their dreams to help them make it back to Earth alive. Pb \$14.95 192pp

JOHN VARLEY

 **MAMMOTH**

An intact woolly mammoth is discovered frozen in Canada. Huddled next to the huge creature is the mummified body of a Stone Age man around 12,000 years old... and he's wearing a wristwatch! Pb \$18.95 341pp

VIVIAN VANDE VELDE

 **NOW YOU SEE IT...**

Wendy isn't as blind as a bat - there are bats that can see better than she can. Which is why, when her new glasses break, she's all too happy to wear the dorky pair of sunglasses she finds on the lawn. They seem to match her prescription and that's all that matters if she's going to be able to make it through her school day. But the glasses correct her vision *too much*. She begins to see things that no one else can see: cheerful corpses, frightening crones disguised as teenyboppers and portals to other worlds - places where people are all too aware of the magical properties of her new shades and will do anything to get them. Pb \$16.95 275pp

STEVEN VOAKE

 **THE WEB OF FIRE**

Dreamwalker's Child #2. Skipper and Sam are back, four years after they vanquished Odoursin and saved humankind from his terrifying plans. But the Aurobon they return to is vastly different from the one they left. Vahlzi has been destroyed and all that remains of Firebrand's forces are scattered groups of resistance fighters. For after his defeat, Odoursin went underground, waiting until the time was right to unleash his new army and annihilate Vahlzi for good. Filled with grief and rage, Skipper and Sam are determined to help their surviving friends fight Odoursin and build a squadron of the fiercest insects ever seen. But their mission becomes heart-stoppingly urgent when they discover that Odoursin is once again plotting to destroy humankind - this time by using the President of the United States... Pb \$19.95 318pp

MICHELLE SAGARA WEST

 **CHILDREN OF THE BLOOD**

The Sundered #2. Erin, newly dubbed Sara, is forcefully put to sleep for 300 years while her Lord finishes overtaking his enemies and Sara's kinsmen. After conquering and slaughtering the last of the Bright Heart lines, he awakens an amnesia-ridden Sara and assigns one of his slaves, a fellow 'child of the blood,' to comfort her. As Sara's memory slowly returns and her rage intensifies, the Servants of the Dark Heart and the Dark Heart itself become increasingly dangerous to both her and her caretaker. Tp \$32.95 307pp

JOHN C WRIGHT

 **MISTS OF EVERNESS**

War of the Dreaming #2. Young Galen Waylock is the last watchman of the dream gate beyond which the ancient evils wait, hungry for the human world. For a thousand years, Galen's family stood guard, scorned by a world that dismissed the danger as myth. Now the minions of Darkness have stirred in the deep and the long watch is over. An army of mythic monsters has invaded our world and Galen and his friends have begun to fight them. Pb \$18.95 421pp

RICK YANCEY

THE EXTRAORDINARY

 **ADVENTURES OF ALFRED**

KROPP

Alfred Kropp is just trying to survive high school when his guardian uncle ropes him into a suspicious get-rich-quick scheme that changes his life forever - stealing Excalibur, the legendary sword of King Arthur. But, after Alfred unwittingly delivers the sword into the hands of the enemy, he sets off on an unlikely quest to try to right his wrong and save the world from imminent destruction. Pb \$16.95 339pp

TIMOTHY ZAHN

 **THE JUDAS SOLUTION**

Blackcollar #2. On one of the conquered human colony worlds is a Ryqril tactical centre through which flows an entire sector's worth of military data. If the blackcollars can find a way inside, it could tip the balance in the current Ryqril-Chryseli war. It could even start humanity on the path back to ultimate freedom. But the Ryqril aren't sitting idly by. Under threat of reprisals against his world, Prefect Jamus Galway of Plinry is already on the case. His plan - to turn the blackcollars and their combat skill into unknowing tools of the Ryqril. His hidden ace - a clone duplicate of Lathe's ally Allan Caine, ready to be slipped into Lathe's inner circle. Hb \$54.00 331pp



RAMSEY CAMPBELL

THE OVERNIGHT

The bookstore's shelves are put in order every night. But every morning, books are found lying all over the floor, many damp and damaged beyond repair. Things soon go from bad to worse. A sales clerk abruptly loses his ability to read. One employee accuses another of making sexual advances. The security monitors display half-seen *things* crawling between the stacks. Desperate to pass a company inspection, the manager musters his staff for an overnight inventory. When the last customers reluctantly depart, leaving almost-visible trails of slime shining behind them, the doors are locked, sealing the staff inside for a final orgy of shelving. The damp, grey, silent *things* that have been lurking in the basement and hiding in the fog may move slowly, but they are inexorable. This bookstore is the doorway to a hell unlike any other. Pb \$18.95 406pp

DEAN VINCENT CARTER

THE HAND OF THE DEVIL

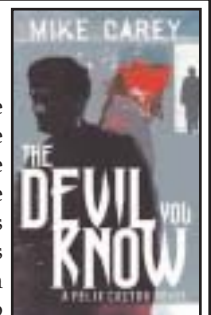
When young magazine journalist Ashley Reeves receives an intriguing letter, he leaves his London office in the hope of reporting on an unusual species of insect - the Ganges Red. That evening he arrives on Aries Island and encounters the writer of the letter - Reginald Mather. At first Mather seems no more than an eccentric collector, happy to live in isolation on the island. But when Reeves unearths the horrific truth, he finds himself thrown headlong into a macabre nightmare that quickly spirals out of control. His life is in danger and Mather is not his only enemy. Hb \$32.95 274pp

RECOMMENDED READING

MIKE CAREY

THE DEVIL YOU KNOW

Felix Castor #1. Felix Castor is a freelance exorcist at a time when the supernatural world is spilling over into the mundane reality of the living, so his skills have never been more in demand. But when he accepts a seemingly simple exorcism case, he finds that the more he discovers about the ghost haunting the archive, the more things don't add up. What should have been a straightforward exorcism is rapidly turning into the 'Who Can Kill Castor First Show', with demons, were-beings and ghosts all keen to claim the big prize. Pb \$19.95 470pp *When professional exorcist (and part-time party magician) Felix Castor gets called to exorcise a ghost that has been haunting a London archive, he is quietly confident that he can quickly bring home the bacon. But when an East End crime lord, a rival exorcist and a deadly succubus gets involved, Castor knows that there's more to the unhappy spirit's story than meets the eye. Author Mike Carey uses his experience in writing for the Hellblazer and Lucifer comics to create a world where the relationship between the living and the (un)dead is clearly well thought out. Add in Carey's dry British humour and it makes the world of Felix Castor stand out from the crowded supernatural-thriller genre. Fans of Jim Butcher's Harry Dresden series and Simon R Green's John Taylor series will enjoy this new series. - John*



**KAREN CHANCE
TOUCH THE DARK**

Like any sensible girl, Cassie tries to avoid vampires. But when the bloodsucking Mafioso she escaped three years ago finds Cassie again with revenge in mind, she's forced to turn to the vampire Senate for protection. The undead senators won't help her for nothing and Cassie finds herself working with one of their most powerful members, a dangerously seductive master vampire, and the price he demands may be more than Cassie is willing to pay. Pb \$16.95 307pp

**MARY JANICE DAVIDSON
UNDEAD AND UNRETURNABLE**

Undead #4. Queen of the Vampires, Betsy Taylor, is in the middle of planning the perfect wedding to drop-dead gorgeous vamp, Eric Sinclair. But all is not bouquets and bridal showers. Betsy is plagued by ghosts who demand her help in rectifying their past mistakes. A serial killer is on the loose, and all his victims are tall, blond women. Betsy fits the profile exactly. Pb \$16.95 264pp

**CHRISTOPHER FOWLER
BREATHE**

All is not well at SymaxCorp. The work is piled high, people are toiling overnight to meet deadlines and the supervisors are keeping their beady eyes on everyone. But staff are complaining of feeling sick and the last health and safety officer disappeared one evening, never to be seen again. It's down to new boy Ben, together with temp Miranda, kick-boxing Meera and overweight June to try and get to the bottom of the problem. As colleagues are progressively transformed into mindless, blood crazed zombies, Ben and his friends discover that there really is something in the air. Tp \$29.95 103pp

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HOT BLOOD X**

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**TATE HALLAWAY
TALL, DARK & DEAD**

Recovering witch, Garnet Lacey, manages Wisconsin's premier occult bookstore. And a fringe benefit of the job is getting customers like Sebastian Von Traum-piercing brown eyes, a sexy accent and a killer body. The only thing missing is an aura. Which means he's dead. And that means trouble. So what's a girl to do if she's hot for a dead man walking? Run like hell and take full advantage of the nights. Tp \$29.95 295pp

**CHARLAINE HARRIS
DEAD AS A DOORNAIL**

Stackhouse #5. When Sookie's brother Jason's eyes start to change, she knows he's about to turn into a were-panther for the first time, but her concern becomes cold fear when a sniper sets his deadly sights on the local changeling population and Jason's new panther brethren suspect that he may be the shooter. Now Sookie has until the next full moon to find out who's behind the attacks, unless the killer decides to find her first. Pb \$18.95 310pp

**JULIE KENNER
CALIFORNIA DEMON : THE SECRET
LIFE OF A DEMON HUNTING
SOCCER MOM**

Kate Connor #2. Kate Connor was a retired demon hunter. Now, after 14 years as a suburban housewife, raising two kids and supporting her husband's political ambitions, she's rejoined the workforce - and except for a few minions of evil, no one has a clue. She tries hard to keep her home and work lives separate - a good idea when your job involves random slaughter. Between fending off demon attacks, trying to figure out why the mysterious new teacher at the high school seems so strangely familiar and keeping a watchful eye on her daughter's growing infatuation with a surfer dude, Kate is the busiest and most dangerous soccer mom on the block... Tp \$29.95 342pp

**STEPHEN LAWS
SPECTRE**

They were the inseparable Byker Chapter - six boys, one girl, growing up together in the back streets of Newcastle. Now memories are all that Richard Eden has left and one treasured photograph. But suddenly, inexplicably, the images of his friends start to fade and as they vanish, so his friends are found dead and mutilated. Something is stalking the Chapter, picking them off one by one, something connected with their past and with the girl they used to know. Tp \$39.95 272pp

**RICHARD LAYMON
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Omnibus edition containing *The Cellar*, *The Beast House* and *Midnight Tour*. Visitors flock to see the Beast House with its blood-soaked corridors, but the worst part of the house is actually the cellar... Pb \$18.95 885pp

**JAMES MCCANN
RANCOUR**

As a high school senior, Alix is worried sick about finding a date for the prom. It's a big deal, but soon Alix will find herself caught up in something that makes the prom pale in comparison - a 1,000-year rivalry between a werewolf and a vampire. For the past millennium, Rancour has dedicated himself to ridding the world of vampires, while Shay has kept busy thwarting Rancour's efforts. Despite fighting for years, these combatants are on the verge of becoming comrades. Both have an enemy stalking them and he's doing so backwards through time. Pb \$17.95 237pp

**JONATHAN MABERRY
GHOST ROAD BLUES**

The cosy little town of Pine Deep buried the horrors of its past a long time ago. 30 years have gone by since the darkness descended and the Black Harvest began, a time when a serial killer sheared a bloody swath through the quiet Pennsylvania village. The evil that once coursed through Pine Deep has been replaced by cheerful tourists getting ready to enjoy the country's largest Halloween celebration in what is now called The Spookiest Town in America. But then, a month before Halloween, it begins. Unspeakably desecrated bodies, inexplicable insanity and an ancient evil walking the streets, drawing in those who would fall to their own demons and seeking to shred the very soul of this rapidly fracturing community. Yes, the residents of Pine Deep have drawn together and faced a killer before. But this time, evil has many faces and the lust and will to rule the earth. Pb \$16.95 478pp

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VAMPS AND THE CITY

Who says a vamp can't have it all? Darcy Newhart thought it was a stroke of genius - the first-ever reality TV show where mortals vie with vampires for the title of The Sexiest Man on Earth. As the show's director, Darcy's career would be on track again - and she can finally have a life apart from the vampire harem. OK, so she's still technically dead, but two out of three's not bad. Now she just has to make sure that a mortal doesn't win. If only she wasn't so distracted by a super-sexy and *live* contestant named Austin... But Darcy doesn't know the worst of it. Austin Erickson is actually a *vampire* slayer! Pb \$14.95 387pp



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It is 1821. All who know Ann Van Helsing believe she is insane. Yet Ann's curse is the deep psychic ability that allows her to know everything about another human being - their history, thoughts and desires - simply by touching them. Overwhelmed by a power she can barely control, Ann roams the woods and caves near her estate, searching for peace. Here she encounters the man who will change everything... Stephen Sincal, a vigilante who must hunt and kill those whom other vampires have made. Pb \$16.95 376pp

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ASYLUM

Dracula #1. Dr. Seward's Sanatorium was supposed to be a place of healing, a refuge for the mentally ill. That was before Count Dracula descended upon them, spreading pestilence and death wherever he walked. The monster was eventually destroyed and the tormented souls of the madhouse were once again safe. Or were they? Years later, Dracula is restored to life. Trapped beneath the grounds of the madhouse, his evil reaches out into the minds of the weak and insane. As death claims victim after victim, will anyone be able to stop him? Pb \$16.95 318pp

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