



ISSUE #231

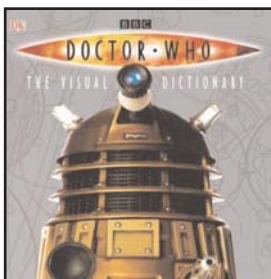
AUGUST 2007

# nexus

SCIENCE FICTION ● FANTASY ● HORROR

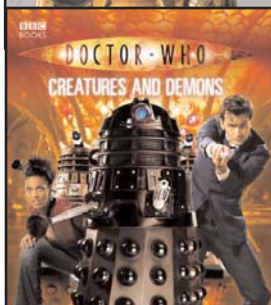
## WHO...???

The new Doctor is in... and we have some great new titles for fans of all ages...



### DOCTOR WHO: THE VISUAL DICTIONARY ANDREW DARLING

This is a lavishly illustrated guide to all the characters, aliens, monsters, locations and technology of the successful new *Doctor Who* series. New photography expands the content of available and online material, revealing more in-depth details, from the fascinating aliens to the demise of the Time Lords. Comprehensive index and glossary provides quick reference to the book's contents and an easy-to-follow guide to the technology and terminology of the *Doctor Who* universe. Using a mix of crystal-clear annotated photography and newly commissioned cross-section artworks, every spread of this book shows you the *Doctor Who* characters, technology and locations in graphic detail. Fantastic gatefolds reveal the amazing features of the TARDIS's exciting new console and interior design. Hb \$39.95 72pp



### DOCTOR WHO: CREATURES AND DEMONS: MONSTERS & VILLAINS FROM THE PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE JUSTIN RICHARDS

With exclusive photographs, concept drawings, diagrams and FX models, this is a lavishly illustrated collection of the scariest monsters from *Doctor Who*. Tp \$24.95 96pp



### DOCTOR WHO: MINI STICKER BOOK

This visual guide to the first two series of *Doctor Who* contains 200 mini stickers of all your favourite characters and aliens. Pb \$9.95 64pp

### DOCTOR WHO: FUNFAX 2

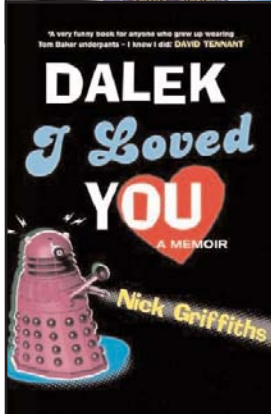
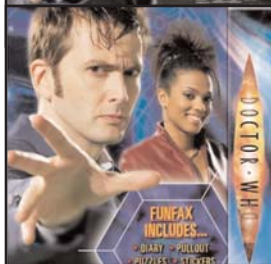
Make a date with the Doctor in this fab *FunFax!* Packed with *Doctor Who* data, profiles of your favourite characters, stickers, a pull-out poster, a personal section, diary and much, much more. Hb \$14.95

### THE SCIENCE OF DOCTOR WHO PAUL PARSONS

With a foreword by Sir Arthur C Clarke. *Doctor Who*'s journeys have shown us alien worlds, strange lifeforms, futuristic technology and mindbending cosmic phenomena. The breadth and imagination of the Doctor's adventures have made the show one of science fiction's truly monumental success stories. This title explains the scientific reality behind the fiction. Discover why time travel isn't ruled out by the laws of physics, the real K-9, how genetic engineering is being used to breed Dalek-like designer lifeforms, why before long we could all be regenerating like a Time Lord, the medical truth about the Doctor's two hearts and much more. Pb \$24.95 342pp

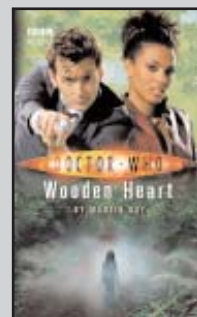
### DALEK I LOVED YOU: A MEMOIR Nick GRIFFITHS

Nick Griffiths watched his first *Doctor Who* aged four and a bit. He would have hidden behind the sofa but it was back against the wall and his parents didn't let him move furniture so he hid behind a cushion instead. He's since been told by his mum and dad that they didn't have a sofa only armchairs. So this book should really be called *Behind the Armchair*, but that didn't sound right. And so began a lifelong obsession. When *Doctor Who* started getting rubbish (after Tom Baker basically) he nearly escaped into the world of music and girls until he discovered someone selling tapes of old episodes in the small ads and that was that again. Only in the last few years has an anti-social obsession become something he can earn a living from as a journalist and happily this coincided with *Doctor Who* getting good again. Plus he has a son now so he can claim he's watching it for him. Oh and his son's called Dylan, not Gallifray or Davros. Hb \$29.95 263pp



## ALSO AVAILABLE

Original novels based on the series



### DOCTOR WHO: WOODEN HEART MARTIN DAY

Martha and the Doctor explore a seemingly deserted starship drifting tomb and discover that they may not be alone after all. Hb \$19.95 247pp

### DOCTOR WHO: THE LAST DODO JACQUELINE RAYNER

The Doctor and Martha arrive at the Museum of the Last Ones. Preservation is the Museum's only job - collecting the last of every endangered species from all over the universe and for millennia the Museum has been trying to trace one elusive specimen: the last of the Time Lords. Hb \$19.95 247pp

### DOCTOR WHO: STING OF THE ZYGONS STEPHEN COLE

The TARDIS lands the Doctor and Martha in the Lake District in 1909, where a small village has been terrorised by a giant, scaly monster. But there is a more sinister presence at work in the Lakes than a mere monster on the rampage and the Doctor is soon embroiled in the plans of an old and terrifying enemy. Hb \$19.95 248pp

## SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY

DANIEL ABRAHAM

### A SHADOW IN SUMMER

*The Long Price Quartet #1.* The powerful city-state of Saraykeht is a bastion of peace and culture, a major centre of commerce and trade. Its economy depends on the power of the captive spirit, Seedless, an *andat* bound to the poet-sorcerer Heshai for life. Enter the Galts, an empire committed to laying waste to all lands with their ferocious army. If they can dispose of Heshai, Seedless will perish and the entire city will fall. As the Galts prepare to enact their plan, Otah, a simple labourer with a complex past, learns of the Galtish plot and finds himself as the sole hope of Saraykeht. Pb \$18.95 384pp *Due Aug*

ALEXANDRA ADORNETTO

### THE SHADOW THIEF

Drabville is a model town, where Milli Klompert lives with her slightly offbeat family and spends her time longing for adventure. Then one day, along with her cautious best friend Ernest Perriclof, Milli discovers 'Hog House'. But the afternoon's entertainment takes a different turn when they are held prisoner by a cohort of evil magicians, led by the sinister Aldor, who is eagerly anticipating the Great Guzzle - a horrifying ceremony during which he plans to swallow the shadows of every citizen in Drabville, absorbing their skills and talents and rendering himself invincible. Hb \$20.00 288pp



SCIENCE FICTION



FANTASY



ROMANCE



AWARD WINNER



AUSTRALIAN



ACTION



REPRINT



AC AUDIO CASSETTE

CD COMPACT DISC

PB PAPERBACK

HB HARDBACK

TP TRADE PAPERBACK

JUSTIN ALLEN

### SLAVES OF THE SHINAR

The land of Shinar can be both brutal and forgiving. For two men making their way under its harsh sun, it is a land of fate, blood and strife. Uruk is a nomadic thief from the jungles of sub-Saharan Africa braving the hard walk across the desert. His destination is nothing less than the fabled city of Ur, its temples swollen with riches. Ander is a slave and has been since youth. But when a chance at freedom presents itself, he strikes, vowing to destroy his captors by whatever means necessary. Hb \$55.00 432pp *Due July*

JODI LYNN ANDERSON

### AMONG THE STARS

*May Bird #2.* When May Bird discovers a mysterious lake hidden among the trees, she stumbles into the land of ghosts, the Ever After. A fearful and fantastic realm located among the stars, the Ever After is full of all manner of things that go bump in the night. And if May is to find her way out again, she must reach the mysterious Lady of North Farm, who lives in a cold, forbidding land that even the spooks find spooky. With her courageous kitty and a ragtag group of spectral friends she's picked up along the way, May is determined to escape the Afterlife. But first she must face her very worst fears and there's no telling who will make it through, or who will be left behind. Pb \$12.95 260pp

CHRISTOPHER ANVIL

### THE TROUBLE WITH HUMANS

*The Complete Christopher Anvil.* Humans - there's no understanding them and no dealing with them either. Pity the poor aliens, whose shape-changing ability should let them take over the planet Earth before the humans even know they're there - if it weren't for all that omnipresent pollution. Or consider another set of invaders, from a planet where the weather is always mild and the changing of the seasons is hardly noticeable. They land in force and their weapons are more powerful than those of the primitive humans, but they've never before had to deal with below-zero temperatures, flash floods or tornados. Humans don't make sense, they don't fight fair and they're making aliens throughout interstellar space think seriously about pulling up stakes and moving to another galaxy! Tp \$29.95 400pp *Due Aug*

CATHERINE ASARO

### THE FIRE OPAL

When priestess Ginger Sun, uncertain of her path in life, stumbles upon a royal stranger left for dead, she discovers her true identity as the wife of a prince and the target of many, forcing her to master her dark powers or surrender her soul to the evil that surrounds her. Tp \$29.95 313pp

JAMES AXLER

### SKY RAIDER

*Deathlands #78.* Few among the most tyrannical barons can rival the ruthlessness of Sandra Tregart, whose despotism visions are being realised by resurrected technology - air power. With her restored biplane, she delivers death from the skies to all who defy her supremacy - a virulent ambition that challenges Ryan Cawdor and his band in unfathomable new ways. Pb \$16.95 347pp

BEVERLY BARTON

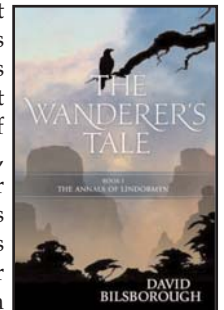
### SANCTUARY

*Raintree #3.* War with their archrival, the evil Ansara clan, is unavoidable. For Mercy Raintree, a war means she must assume her position as guardian of the Sanctuary, the sacred Raintree home, deep in the Smoky Mountains. But doing so threatens to disclose her most prized secret; one Mercy has kept to herself for six years. As the solstice looms and the battle heats up, Dranir Judah Ansara gathers his forces, intending to wipe every Raintree from the face of the land, including Mercy, whom he's claimed as his to kill. Then he comes face-to-face with her and her daughter, Eve. Will Mercy's closely guarded secret change not only the outcome of the battle, but also Judah's own bitter heart? Pb \$14.95 280pp

DAVID BILSBOROUGH

### THE WANDERER'S TALE

*Lindormyn #1.* It has been 500 years since the Peladanese stormed the distant stronghold of Vaagenfjord. There, the dreaded rawgr Drauglir and his supernatural minions had held sway over the mortal world, in a long, terrifying reign. And now, the peace is broken. Rumours abound, ill omens have been seen and a priest of the One God has had a vision. The rawgr - hideous, powerful creatures of which there were but few - have reappeared and, from their far northern outpost, threaten to wreak vengeance on the descendants of the Peladanese, who sacked their fortress centuries before. Hb \$45.00 512pp



JOHN BIRMINGHAM

### FINAL IMPACT

*World War 2.3.* As history reaches a tipping point, the forces unleashed by the Transition threaten to bring the future crashing down in ruins. Will Hitler and Tojo finish their race towards an atom bomb? Is another wave of destruction about to sweep out of a revitalised Soviet Union? What price will Kolhammer and his people pay for disrupting their own past? Pb \$19.95 545pp



# ★ FAVE RAVES

our favourites – new and classic

NEW TITLE

EMPRESS OF MIJAK

GODSPEAKER #1

KAREN MILLER

PB \$21.00 565PP

With the first book in her new trilogy, Karen Miller makes it very clear that she has more than one rabbit in her hat when it comes to weaving a story.

Leaving behind the more traditional fantasy world of her *Kingmaker*, *Kingbreaker* duology, Miller embarks on a savage journey through the land of Mijak; and a civilisation that is ancient, dark and ruled by the iron hand of a bloodthirsty God, its Warlords and its ordained Godspeakers. It is a harsh and brutal world where survival of the fittest and adherence to the laws of the God is the only life the people know. This parched world of searing deserts, rocky climbs and grassy plains is brought to life in the vibrant and often cruel culture that is reminiscent of the world of the Aztecs and Robert E Howard's *Hyborian Age*.



The mould of the Heroic Fantasy is turned on its head in this world that is familiar yet unique, and we are introduced to Hekat, an unwanted 'she-brat'. Born on the edge of the great desert called the Anvil she is sold into slavery by her father to a trader who recognises in her the spark of great potential and the promise of riches she may bring him. But he gets more than he bargained for, as Hekat has made a deal with the God and stands in its Eye – and she will be ruled by no man.

What follows is a confronting and engrossing tale of ruthless ambition and the manipulation of secular power for material gain. It is unapologetically violent and barbaric, being set amongst a war-like culture, yet is also steeped in the grandeur of ancient tradition and the flare of Babylonian-like artistry. Politics and plots abound, vows are made and broken and the lines of good and evil, as based in traditional fantasy, are irrelevant in a society where the only law to be on the right side of is that of a capricious God, whose desires are read in the bloody ritual sacrifices of it's Godspeakers.

Miller has written a breathtaking tale that many fantasy readers may find confronting; she pushes the boundaries of the genre and brazenly hooks the reader page by page, chapter by chapter, as she weaves a magic that just seems to ooze from every sentence. It is a challenging read and it's to Miller's credit that she doesn't flinch from immersing the reader in the more violent aspects of Mijak, nor is any of the world's brutality gratuitous; it is all intrinsic to setting the stage for what is to come.

This is the first book in an exciting new trilogy and a work that highlights the writer as a talent to watch. Make no mistake, Miller has her eye on the world stage, and from reading this book I reckon she's got what it takes to get there! - Mark

CLASSIC TITLE

THE TOUGH GUIDE TO FANTASYLAND

(REVISED AND UPDATED EDITION)

DIANA WYNNE JONES

PB \$22.95 194PP

In the ancient city of Markspire, the King is dead, slain by an unseen hand. The evil wizard Vandor seeks the crown, and in a small hamlet, the farmboy Gelian, a Prince in Waiting, dreams of going on a quest and getting a magic sword and etc, etc,

*The Fantasy Quest Paint by Numbers Set* is available in vast quantities throughout any fantasy section in a bookstore. To make things easier, Diana Wynne Jones has written a guide to finding your way through Fantasyland, complete with handy references on what to expect during the rigours of your adventure (which will of course result in the slaying of the Dark Lord and the restoration of peace to the land). For there are many Rules that must be observed during your time in Fantasyland...

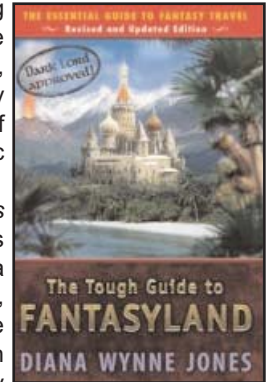
Take for example the entry on BREAD: "...the Rules state that you will make a hurried departure, having time to grab up only a piece of stale loaf and a hunk of cheese." Sound familiar? Let's try another, perhaps MOUNTAINS: "Almost certainly there will be at some stage a ledge along a cliff that is only a few feet wide with an immense drop the other side. This will be covered with ice. Snow will be sweeping across it. The Rule is that you are always in a hurry at this stage."

Lets have one more, the quest COMPANIONS, which may include the following: "the gay mage, the large man, the serious soldier, the talented girl and the unpleasant stranger."

Jones has written a very funny and worryingly true book about how cookie-cutter epic fantasy works and what to expect should you find yourself plunged into a 20-book series full of magic swords, elves and sinister, cloaked figures.

First published over ten years ago, it is not even distressing, but just boring to see the assembly line is still delivering the goods, in terms of Tolkienesque reading. Luckily, Jones has approached the topic with a lighthearted sensibility, whilst providing an exhaustive reference work on the mainstays of epic fantasy. Hey, even Christopher Booker, in his book **The Seven Basic Plots** (Tp \$39.95), only gives literature the seven plot devices to work around, so maybe epic fantasy isn't solely to blame.

Overall, this is a very funny book, perfect for having a laugh at the genre. One more you say? OK then, how about CONCLUSION: "For this you will have to undertake the third (or possibly the fifth) Tour of the Trilogy...you may then have the pleasure of seeing the continent torn asunder in the Final CONFRONTATION. This is a spectacular sight and should not be missed." - David




**HOLLY BLACK**

 **IRONSIDE**

*A Modern Faery's Tale #3.* In the realm of Faerie, the time has come for Roiben's coronation. Uneasy in the midst of the malevolent Unseelie Court, pixie Kaye is sure of only one thing - her love for Roiben. But when Kaye, drunk on faerie wine, declares herself to Roiben, he sends her on a seemingly impossible quest. Now Kaye can't see or speak to Roiben unless she can find the one thing she knows doesn't exist - a faerie who can tell a lie. Hb \$24.95 323pp

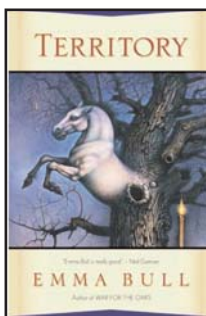
**ANNE-LAURE BONDOUX**

  **THE PRINCESS AND THE CAPTAIN**

Malva is the princess of Galnicia, destined to marry the Prince of Andemark. Or so her parents think. On the eve of her wedding, she escapes at dead of night from under her parents' noses, little realising that she is letting herself in for a life of peril and adventure, including being shipwrecked in a huge storm and captured as part of a harem. Pb \$15.95 432pp

 **EMMA BULL TERRITORY**

Tombstone, Arizona in 1881 is the site of one of the richest mineral strikes in American history, where veins of silver run like ley lines under the earth, a network of power that belongs to anyone who knows how to claim and defend it. Above the ground, power is also about allegiances. A magician can drain his friends' strength to strengthen himself and can place them between him and danger. The one with the most friends stands to win the territory. In Tombstone, Jesse Fox meets the tubercular Doc Holliday, whose inner magic is as suppressed as his own, but whose power is enough to attract the sorcerous attention of Wyatt Earp. When a failed stage hold-up results in two dead, Tombstone explodes with speculation about who attempted the robbery. The truth could destroy Earp's plans for wealth and glory and he'll do anything to bury it. Hb \$49.95 336pp



  **CHRIS BUNCH DRAGON MASTER**

*An omnibus edition containing Storm of Wings, Knighthood of the Dragon and The Last Battle.* When the uneasy peace of the three kingdoms is threatened by war, Hal's dream of riding dragons becomes reality, for this is a conflict like no other. For the first time, wild dragons have become living weapons, ridden by men of cold daring and ruthless ambition. Tp \$29.95 850pp

**CHRIS BUNCH, STEVE & DAL PERRY**

 **THE GANGSTER CONSPIRACY**

*Star Risk #5.* The Star Risk, Ltd. team has a standing objective "We'll do anything for money." And when they're hired by a political top gun to clear his assassinated father's name, wealth beyond their wildest dreams is finally within their grasp, if they can stay alive long enough to forge the check. Pb \$18.95 341pp

**RACHEL CAINE**

 **THIN AIR**

*Weather Warden #6.* After preventing Mother Earth from destroying the planet, Joanne Baldwin lost her memories thanks to Ashan the djinn and they will remain lost forever unless Joanne can recover her identity and destroy the demon who is impersonating her, fabulous shoes and all... Pb \$16.95 400pp *Due Aug*

**C J CHERRYH**

 **A FORTRESS OF ICE**

*Fortress #5.* Aewyn Marhanen is the prince destined to rule. Aewyn's half-brother, Elfwyn Aswydd, the bastard son of the king and the sorceress Tarien Aswydd, has spent years unaware of his parentage, yet now it is his time to emerge and claim the gifted birthright he's been denied for so long. But a dark, sinister magic has crept close to the young man and seized hold of the kingdom. Nothing is as it seems, as the bonds of family strain against the powerful forces that would see them undone—and the battle is joined to unmask and destroy the malevolence that threatens to unhinge the king's peaceful and fragile reign. Pb \$18.95 528pp *Due Aug*

**GLEN COOK**

  **A FORTRESS IN SHADOW**

*Chronicle of the Dread Empire omnibus.* Once a mighty kingdom reigned, but now all is chaos. In the vast reaches of the desert, a young heretic escapes certain death and embarks on a mission of madness and glory. He is El Murid, the Disciple, who vows to bring order, prosperity and righteousness to the desert people of Hammad al Nakir. But all is not as it seems, and the sinister forces pulling the strings of empire come into the light. Who and what lies behind El Murid's vision of a desert empire? Hb \$7.00 369pp

**ELLEN DATLOW, KELLY LINK**

 **& GRANT GAVIN (EDS) THE YEAR'S BEST FANTASY AND HORROR 2007**

*20th Annual collection.* The collection is a cornucopia of fantastic delights, an unparalleled resource and indispensable reference that captures the unique excitement and beauty of the fantastic in all its gloriously diverse forms, from the lightest fantasy to the darkest horror. Tp \$48.00 608pp *Due Aug*

**TERRY DEARY**

 **THE FIRE THIEF FIGHTS BACK**

*Fire Thief #3.* In 1785, Eden City, Sam and his mother's Magical Medicine Show is going down a storm, especially with Prometheus helping them out. Suddenly they are rumbled. Luckily for them Zeus is in Eden City looking for the Avenger, so he saves them. In return Sam has to help Zeus defeat seven terrifying monsters who have descended on the city. Will Sam overcome the monsters and can Prometheus survive all this to find a human hero? Hb \$20.00 223pp

**CHARLES DELINT**

 **WIDDERSHINS**

*A Tale of Newford.* Jilly Coppercorn and Geordie Riddell. Since they were introduced in the first *Newford* story, their friends and readers alike have been waiting for them to realise what everybody else already knows that they belong together. Now their story is finally being told. Tp \$29.95 560pp

**CHRISTINA DODD**

  **SCENT OF DARKNESS**

Ann Smith loves her handsome, dynamic boss, Jasha Wilder, but her daring plan to seduce him goes awry when she encounters a powerful wolf who, before her horrified eyes, changes into the man she adores. She soon discovers she can't escape her destiny, for she is the woman fated to break the curse that binds his soul. Pb \$18.95 400pp

**CHRIS DOLLEY**

  **SHIFT**

Peter Pendennis killed and dissected 11 people before they caught him. Now he's safely locked away in an institution, but one of the multiple personalities he is host to, claims to be the astronaut John Bruce, who is now running for President of the United States. Nick Stubbs is called in to investigate. Nick knows that John Bruce had tested a new faster-than-light ship using higher dimensions and had reported a strange, almost religious experience. Was part of his personality left behind, becoming attached to Peter Pendennis? Soon, he is on the run. But how can they escape a killer who seems to be unbound by any restraints of space and time? Hb \$48.00 322pp

**KEITH DONOHUE**

 **THE STOLEN CHILD**

This is the story of Henry Day, a seven-year-old kidnapped by a strange group living in the dark forest near his home. No ordinary kidnapers, they are the fairy changelings - ageless beings whose secret community is threatened by encroaching modern life. They give Henry a new name, Aniday, and the gift of agelessness - now and forever, he will be seven years old. Pb \$23.95 319pp



DAVID DRAKE

 **THE MIRROR OF WORLDS**

*The Crown of the Isles #2.* The powers of magic in the Isles have flooded to a 1000-year peak and even local magicians can perform powerful spells normally beyond their control. Fantastic forces from all angles threaten, trying to keep Garric and his companions apart to thwart the reunification of the Isles. Now the world itself has suffered a magical upheaval. The ocean has receded and the Isles have become the higher ground of a newly formed continent. But the new continent is a patchwork of geography from the past and future, peopled by creatures from all times and places. Garric and his companions must now struggle for the survival of humanity. Hb \$55.00 384pp

PETE EARLEY

 **THE APOCALYPSE STONE**

From a middle-class background, Evan Spencer graduated law school, married into wealth and now has his eye on a Supreme Court seat. All seems to be going well for Judge Spencer until he receives a package with a cryptic note from an old college friend, whom he soon discovers committed suicide. Evan Spencer now has control of an object whose power is beyond anything he could possibly imagine, an object whose very existence has been kept under wraps by the Vatican for decades. Throughout history, this stone has stricken its holders with visions of their sinful lives and as if the mental anguish isn't enough, it also inflicts them with stigmatic wounds. Enlisting the help of Reverend Angelo Grasso, a 72-year-old expert on the history of stigmatic cases, Spencer must uncover the secrets behind this strange stone, or watch his family, career, and possibly his life be destroyed. Pb \$18.95 374pp

ANTHONY EATON

 **SKYFALL**

*The Darklands Trilogy #2.* Port City is built in a series of interconnected Skydomes, thousands of metres above the ground and linked to one another by a series of Magnetic lifts or 'maglifts'. This city stands above the ruins of an ancient city, possibly Perth on the West Coast of Australia. It is home to the race we know from book one as 'nightpeople,' the descendents of the Skypeople of old, who, a millennium earlier when faced with the deterioration of the natural world, built the city (along with several others around the globe), to protect themselves from increasing levels of solar radiation and a rapidly degenerating environment. The 'Skypeople' are an advanced race, something akin to current Western Civilisation, who see themselves as the descendents of 'pure' humanity. Pb \$23.95 496pp

DAVID & LEIGH EDDINGS

 **THE YOUNGER GODS**

*Dreamers #4.* The attacks of the dreadful insect queen known as the Vlagh have been repelled in three of the Elder Gods' realms. Now, only the land ruled by the Goddess Aracia remains for the Vlagh to send her hordes to attack. But while the Gods, their younger avatars and their human comrades have emerged victorious from all previous encounters, this time the Goddess herself may be their greatest foe, she craves worship and hates the idea of being replaced by a younger God when her time comes to an end - and that time is approaching fast. Pb \$21.00 429pp

BARBARA ERSKINE

 **DAUGHTERS OF FIRE**

Cartimandua's world is, from the start, a maelstrom of love and conflict, revenge and retribution. In the present day, Edinburgh-based historian, Viv Lloyd Rees, has immersed herself in the legends surrounding the Celtic queen. She has written a book and is working on a dramatisation of the young queen's life with the help of actress, Pat Hebden. Cartimandua's life takes one unexpected turn after another as tragedy changes the course of her future. Viv's Head of Department, Hugh Graham, hounds Viv as she struggles to hide her visions of Cartimandua and her conviction that they are real. Her obsession grows ever more persistent and threatening, as she takes possession of an ancient brooch that carries a curse. Both Pat and Hugh are drawn into this dual existence of bitter rivalry and overwhelming love as past envelopes present and the trio find themselves facing the greatest danger of their lives. Pb \$23.00 562pp

JASPER FFORDE

 **THE FOURTH BEAR**

*Jack Spratt #2.* The Gingerbreadman - psychopath, sadist, convicted murderer and cake/biscuit - is loose on the streets of Reading. It isn't Jack Spratt's case. Enforced non-involvement with the Gingerbreadman hunt looks to be frustrating until a chance encounter at the oddly familiar Deja-Vu Club leads them onto the hunt for missing journalist Henrietta 'Goldy' Hatchett, star reporter for *The Daily Toad*. The last witnesses to see her alive were the Three Bears, comfortably living out a life of rural solitude in Andersen's wood. But all is not what it seems. Are the unexplained explosions around the globe somehow related to missing nuclear scientist Angus McGuffin? Is cucumber-growing really that dangerous? Why are National Security involved? But most important of all: How could the bears' porridge be at such disparate temperatures when they were poured at the same time? Pb \$22.95 383pp

F SCOTT FITZGERALD

 **THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON**

In 1860, Benjamin Button is born an old man and mysteriously begins aging backward. At the beginning of his life he is withered and worn, but as he continues to grow younger he embraces life - he goes to war, runs a business, falls in love, has children, goes to college and prep school and, as his mind begins to devolve, he attends kindergarten and eventually returns to the care of his nurse. Hb \$22.95 368pp *Due Aug*

ALAN DEAN FOSTER

 **THE CANDLE OF DISTANT EARTH**

*The Taken Trilogy #3.* Though Walker and George have managed to escape their captors, they are far from home, without a clue as to whether the direction home is up, down, or sideways. Walker becomes the leader of his own armada, but even a fleet commander is hard pressed to find a piece of space that no one's ever heard of, much less cares to find. Even if Walker does pull off the impossible and pinpoint his needle of a solar system in the universe haystack, there's a good chance that the unrelenting Vilenji will get to him before he ever gets to Wrigley Field. Yep, it's a wide-open universe out there, bursting with possibilities - and Walker's going to get hit with all of them. Pb \$16.95 272pp *Due Aug*

NEIL GAIMAN

 **M IS FOR MAGIC**

In this collection of 11 tales, a teenage boy who has trouble talking to girls finds himself at a rather unusual party, a sinister jack-in-the-box haunts the lives of the children who owned it, a boy raised in a graveyard makes a discovery and confronts the much more troubling world of the living and a stray cat fights a nightly battle to protect his adopted family from a terrible evil. Hb \$36.00 260pp

NEIL GAIMAN & MICHAEL REAVES

 **INTERWORLD**

Joey Harker isn't a hero. In fact, he's the kind of guy who gets lost in his own house. Then one day, Joey gets really lost. He walks straight out of his world and into another dimension. Joey's walk between the worlds makes him prey to two terrible forces, armies of magic and science who will do anything to harness his power to travel between dimensions. When he sees the evil those forces are capable of, Joey makes the only possible choice - to join an army of his own, an army of versions of himself from different dimensions who all share his amazing power and who are all determined to fight to save the worlds. Hb \$36.00 239pp

ALAN GARNER

 **THE OWL SERVICE**

The flowery owl pattern on the old dinner service, which Gwyn finds in a loft, obsesses Alison. Its discovery marks the start of an extraordinary chain of event that affect not only Gwyn and Alison, but also her stepbrother, Roger. There's a power stirring in the remote valley that dates from a distant myth, a tragic Welsh legend that has begun to repeat itself. Gwyn tries to shake off his involvement by running away, but he cannot escape, and, as the tension mounts, he realises that only by facing up to the myth can it be resolved. Pb \$17.95 223pp

JIM GRACE

 **THE PESTHOUSE**

America as we know it has fragmented. Its machines have stopped, its communities have splintered, its history is virtually forgotten and the great migration has started - eastwards, through the mountains and down the perilous Dreaming Highway, to ships rumoured to sail to a land of greater promise. Into this landscape stumbles Franklin, who has left his home only to find new ties in a pesthouse perched above a valley. Margaret, suffering the early stages of plague, has been carried up from Ferrytown to recuperate or die alone. When her village is destroyed, she and Franklin set out together, compelled to leave everything they know behind them. Tp \$32.95 308pp

WARREN HAMMOND

 **KOP**

Growing up on post-boom Lagarto, Juno is but one of the many who live in despair. Once he was a young cop in the police department of the capital city of Koba. That was before he started taking bribes from Koba's powerful, organized crime syndicate. Yet despite his past sins, some small part of him has not given up hope. So he risks his life, his marriage and his job to expose a cabal that would enslave the planet for its own profit. But he's got more pressing problems, when he's confronted with a dead man, a short-list of leads and the obligatory question: who done it? Hb \$49.95 331pp

FRANCES HARDINGE

 **VERDIGRIS DEEP**

When Ryan and his friends are caught stranded and penniless late one night, they steal some coins from a well for their bus fare home. Soon after, strange things begin to happen. Peculiar marks tingle on Ryan's knuckles, light bulbs mysteriously explode and a terrified Chelle starts speaking words that aren't her own. Then the well witch appears, with her fountains for eyes and gargled demands. From now on, the friends must serve her and the wishes that lie rotting at the bottom of her well. Pb \$24.95 327pp

J V HART

(ILLUSTRATED BY BRETT HELQUIST)

**CAPTAIN HOOK: THE ADVENTURES OF A NOTORIOUS YOUTH**

With his long black curls, a shadowy family tree and an affinity for pet spiders, James Matthew bears little resemblance to his starched-collar, blue-blooded peers at Eton. Dubbed King Jas, he stops at nothing to become the most notorious underclassman in the prestigious school's history. For James, sword fighting, falling in love with an Ottoman Sultana and challenging the Queen of England are all in a day's skulduggery. But when he sets sail on a ship with a mysterious mission, King Jas's dream of discovering a magical island quickly turns into an unthinkable nightmare. Pb \$17.00 337pp

ELIZABETH HAYDON

 **THE THIEF QUEEN'S DAUGHTER**

*The Lost Journals of Ven Polypheme #1.* On his first day on the job as Royal Reporter of the land of Serendair, King Vandemere sends young Charles Magnus Ven Polypheme, known as Ven, on a secret mission within the walls of the Gated City. His quest? To discover the origin of a mysterious artefact given to the king's father. The king warns Ven to take care, because once you enter the Gated City, you might never be allowed to leave. Ven and his friends enter the Gated City ready for adventure. But when one friend is kidnapped and it is revealed that they are travelling in the company of the runaway daughter of the Queen of Thieves herself, their adventure turns deadly, for the ruthless Thief Queen will stop at nothing to get her daughter back. Hb \$38.00 319pp

LIAN HEARN

 **THE HARSH CRY OF THE HERON**

*An Otori novel.* Takeo and his consort Kaede rule the Three Countries in peace and prosperity, with the favour of Heaven everywhere evident. Yet the elements that could disrupt this meticulously structured equilibrium are assembling, forming their shifting alliances. Pb \$24.95 718pp

IAN IRVINE

 **TORMENTS OF THE TRAITOR**

*Song of the Tears #1.* After ten years of servitude, Nish is about to be released from the blackest prison of his corrupt father, the maimed God-Emperor, Jal-Nish Hlar. The oppressed peoples of the world see Nish as a messianic figure, the Deliverer, who promised long ago to return and cast down his father. Unfortunately, Nish has no choice but to repudiate that solemn oath, for he's a broken man, powerless and alone. Even worse, his father is trying to seduce Nish into becoming his lieutenant and, faced with the unbearable alternative of another ten years in prison, Nish isn't sure he can resist the temptation. The one person who can help him is little Maelys, a shy, bookish dreamer forced by duty to use Nish for an ignoble purpose. But Maelys is the last woman he wants and she carries a secret that is more likely to destroy Nish than save him. Pb \$23.95 602pp

ELAINE ISAAK

 **THE EUNUCH'S HEIR**

*Wolfram #2.* The courage of Kattanan duRhys saved a kingdom and created a legend perhaps impossible to equal. Now his son, Wolfram duRhys, wild prince of the realm, spends his days wenching, carousing and shunning the legacy of his revered father. But Wolfram's revelries end when his carefree existence is shattered by an assassination attempt and he discovers the lie he's been living and the dark destiny that waits. Now the wayward son must flee to a distant land of magic and mystery, to enflame the love of a cloistered virgin and the ire of a priestess who plans a bloody revenge. Suddenly the fate of an imperilled land rests with a reluctant prince who once lived for pleasure alone... and whose actions will either save his world or leave it smouldering in ruins. Pb \$18.95 432pp

GARRY KILWORTH

 **ATTICA**

Join Jordy, Alex and Chloe as they cross the portal from our world to a strange and wonderful other place, accessible for just a moment in time through the trap-door of the attic in their family home. From hat-stand forests, to towering hills of old musical instruments, deserts of old books and a great water-tank lake, the vast continent they stumble upon is one of limitless surprises and that's before they meet the inhabitants - strange clans of small and lumpen people living in homes constructed from all manner of found things and drive vehicles powered by old sewing-machine parts. The three children embark on an adventure to recover a prized possession, save a life and, somehow, find a way back home. Pb \$16.95 334pp



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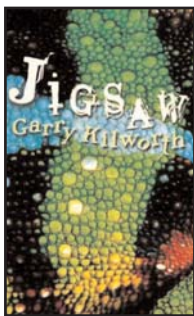
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GARRY KILWORTH

**JIGSAW**

May 2nd: This is just like when I went on digs. Dad is up to his eyeballs in work. June 4th: He put the edges of the scrolls near to each other. What happened next made me jump backwards, my heart pounding. July 5th: I'm not sure what happened.



The bright beam of the torch was shining directly into a huge pair of eyes. Whatever had been caught in my torch beam had crashed through the flimsy wall of the shed and stampeded into the rainforest beyond it. At first, Max's diary seems like any other entry on a teenager's blog, but closer reading reveals an incredible adventure story. As events unfold, Max and those around him are drawn deeper and deeper into danger. Surrounded by spies and pirates, Max makes a terrible discovery - a secret that could change the world for ever. Pb \$19.95 276pp

RUSSELL KIRKPATRICK

**PATH OF REVENGE**

Husk #1. 70 years after the conclusion of the Falthan War, three great continents and their gods are again at war for truth and immortality. Husk is the remnant of a once-powerful magician, defeated decades ago by the Undying Man, Lord of Bhrudwo. He lies, eviscerated, in the dungeon of Andraton, planning his revenge. The three people he has manipulated from afar to bring him what he needs are on their way, with no means of knowing what they are about. But even Husk cannot know everything... Pb \$21.00 623pp

E E KNIGHT

**VALENTINE'S RESOLVE**

The Vampire Earth #6. After three years of exile from humanity's war against the Kurians, David Valentine returns to battle. The Lifeweavers, Earth's allies in the conflict, have all but vanished and without them



mankind cannot possibly stand against their alien enemies. Many of the Lightweavers are held captive by a Kurian overlord. To free them, Valentine must convince the Marshal, a legendary resistance fighter with a grudge against the Kurians, to join his cause. But the Marshal is something of a dictator himself, ruling over his men with an iron fist and giving Valentine a new enemy to fight. Hb \$48.00 323pp

A J LAKE

**THE BOOK OF THE SWORD**

The Darkest Age #2. Snatched by a dragon at the end of book one, Edmund and Elspeth awake to find themselves soaring over the frozen wastes of the Snowlands, hundreds of miles from home. Escaping the dragon's clutches, they are discovered in the soft snow by Fritha, a charcoal burner's daughter. Edmund wants her help to arrange a passage home, but Elspeth has other ideas. The sword is speaking to her, filling her thoughts more and more. Its destiny is nearby, the purpose for which is was hewn and where the sword goes, Elspeth must follow, increasingly under its spell. Pb \$15.95 233pp

GLENDALARKE

**SONG OF THE SHIVER BARRENS**

The Mirage Makers #3. Ligea's son, Arrant, leaves Tyrans for Kardiastan to take his place as Mirager-heir, while Ligea prepares to halt an insurrection. But Arrant's skills as a Magoroth are dangerously inconsistent and his father, Temellin, finds it difficult to communicate with this secretive young man he barely knows. Arrant's singular ability to communicate with his half-brother, Tarran, a part of the collective mind known as the Mirage Makers, leads them both towards the possibility of a tragic clash with the encroaching Ravage. Pb \$21.00 581pp

MARJORIE LIU

**SOUL SONG**

From the ocean's depths rises a creature whose voice is seduction incarnate, whose song can manipulate lives the way that Kitara herself manipulates the strings of her violin, even to the point of breaking. He is a prince of the sea, an enigma, a captive stretched to the limit of his endurance by a woman intent on using him for the purest evil and when survival requires he and Kitara form a closer partnership than either has ever known, the price of their bond will threaten not just their lives, but the essence of their very souls. Pb \$16.95 331pp

KEN MACLEOD

**THE EXECUTION CHANNEL**

It's after 9/11. After the bombing. After the Iraq war. After 7/7. After the Iran war. After the nukes. After the flu. After the Straits. After Rosyth. James Travis is a British patriot and a French spy. On the day the Big One hits, Travis and his daughter must strive to make sense of the nuclear bombing of Scotland and the political repercussions of a series of terrorist attacks. With the information war in full swing, the only truth they have is what they're able to see with their own eyes. They know that everything else is, or may be, a lie. Hb \$49.95 285pp

SEAN MCMULLEN

**BEFORE THE STORM**

Four Australian teenagers from 1901 help two deadly cadets from the future to stop the bombing of parliament and prevent a century of total war. Pb \$19.95 262pp

MARGO MAGUIRE

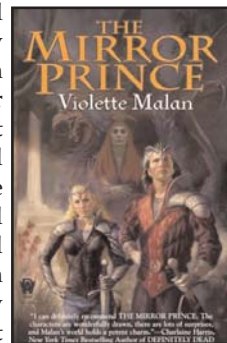
**A WARRIOR'S TAKING**

Sarah Granger is wary, yet intrigued by the near-naked stranger she discovers washed upon the beach. His tale is one the beautiful governess can scarcely fathom, yet never have her passions been so stirred by any man. Sarah knows in her heart and soul her destiny lies with this seductive barbarian. But an unrelenting evil has followed Brogan from ancient times and he must battle it to the death to save the breathtaking beauty, who is becoming more precious to him than the magic he crossed centuries to claim. Pb \$14.95 370pp

VIOLETTE MALAN

**THE MIRROR PRINCE**

Max Ravenhill was perfectly happy with his life as a history professor until he met Cassandra. Told that he was more than a thousand years old and had known Cassandra and her fellow Wardens all that time, that his life as Max was pure fiction implanted in his mind, that he was being pursued by the Hunt and his only chance for survival was to flee to the realm of Faerie, Max can only assume that Cassandra is crazy, or he is. But soon it becomes all too clear that at least part of what she says is true. And unless he goes with her, he won't live long enough to separate the truth from the lies. Pb \$18.95 384pp Due Aug




THE SLEEPING GOD

Dhulyn and Parno #2. Masters of weapons and martial arts, Mercenaries Dhulyn Wolfshead and Parno Lionsmane have just saved one of the Marked, those gifted with special powers, from a mob that appears to be under the influence of a priest of the Sleeping God. Learning that this is not an isolated incident and realising that Dhulyn's own unique gift will make them a target, the two take ship for safer climes. Once ashore the partners take on a seemingly simple mission of escorting a young woman to distant relatives, but not even Dhulyn's talent can warn them of the threat that waits at the far end of their journey. Tp \$32.95 400pp Due Aug


**LIZ MAVERICK**

**WIRED**

 Seconds aren't like pennies. They can't be saved in a jar and spent later. Fate seeps through cracks and shifts like fog. Pluck a second out of time or slip an extra one in, the consequences will change your life forever. Is the man you love really the man you think you know, or is there a version of your life in which he's your enemy? If you didn't know who or what you were before, would you take a chance on becoming that person again? L Roxanne Zaborovsky is about to discover fate is comprised of an infinite number of wires, filaments that can be manipulated and that she's not the one at the controls. From the roguishly charming Mason Merrick, a shadow from her increasingly tenebrous past, to the dangerously seductive Leonardo Kaysar, she's barely holding on. This isn't a game and the pennies are rolling all over the floor. Roxy just has to figure out which are the ones worth picking up. Pb \$16.95 336pp


**JAMES MOLONEY**

**MASTER OF THE BOOKS**

 Marcel and Nicola are coming to terms with their new life as Prince and Princess of Elster. Marcel learns what spells and charms he can by reading the books left by Lord Alwyn, but soon realises his limitations in magic-making when he puts the entire kingdom under a spell. Pb \$20.00 414pp


**SARAH MONETTE**

**THE VIRTU**

 *Melusine* #2. To reclaim his powers, wizard Felix Harrowgate must restore the magical talisman known as the Virtu, by confronting the dark sorcerer who destroyed it. Pb \$18.95 512pp *Due Aug*


**ALEXIS MORGAN**

**IN DARKNESS REBORN**

 Once a warrior for the Others, Barak q'Young is caught between two worlds, exiled from his homeland and a pariah among his enemies, the Paladins. While hunting a betrayer who's selling the precious blue gems that light the Others' world, Barak must aid geologist Lacey Sebastian in her research for the Paladins. Barak is instantly drawn to the fiery, beautiful woman, but Lacey initially despises the enemy intruder. Soon she sees beyond his violent past, though, finding the dark warrior intriguing and extremely sexy. Though neither can resist the passion that blazes between them, Barak is torn between loyalties, hiding a secret gift that could prove useful to Lacey's research, at the sacrifice of his own people. But when Lacey is kidnapped and held hostage, Barak realises he will do anything to save her, even risk his own life. Pb \$16.95 356pp


**RICHARD MORGAN**

**BLACK MAN**

 100 years from now and against all the odds, Earth has found a new stability, the political order has reached some sort of balance and the new colony on Mars is growing. But the fraught years of the 21st century have left an uneasy legacy. Genetically engineered alpha males, designed to fight the century's wars have no wars to fight and are surplus to requirements. And a man bred and designed to fight is a dangerous man to have around in peacetime. Many of them have left for Mars, but now one has come back and killed everyone else on the shuttle he returned in. Only one man, a genengineered ex-soldier himself, can hunt him down and so begins a frenetic man-hunt and a battle survival. And a search for the truth about what was really done with the world's last soldiers. Hb \$45.00 546pp Tp \$32.95 546pp


**HARUKI MURAKAMI**

**BLIND WILLOW, SLEEPING WOMAN**

 A young man accompanies his cousin to the hospital to check an unusual hearing complaint and recalls a story of a woman put to sleep by tiny flies crawling inside her ear, a night-watchman is unnerved as his reflection tries to take control of him, a couple's relationship is unbalanced after dining exclusively on exquisite crab, a man follows instructions on the back of a postcard to apply for a job, but an unknown password stands between him and his mysterious employer. In each story, the author sidesteps the real and sprints for the surreal. An introduction explains the diversity of the author's choice. Pb \$24.95 436pp


**MIKAEL NIEMI**

**ASTRO TRUCKERS**

 In the illuminating company of an astrotrucker, we meet the ponorists - those who venture into outer space beyond the point of no return - discover the most popular and most pungent Earth mementos taken into space and learn the essential difference between humans and androids. He clarifies the murky areas of human knowledge, the meaning of the oldest writing in the universe, who set off the big bang, the scientific explanation for Murphy's Law, the catalyst for the death of literature and, not to be forgotten, how the world will end. What do you say to an intellectually superior fistular maggot who wants to observe you watching football? How many doors get slammed in your face when you try to find out who is in charge of the universe? And what happens when you switch your android's personality setting to 'humour'? Hb \$29.95 297pp


**K S NIKAKIS**

**THE WHISPER OF LEAVES**

 *Kira Chronicles* #1. Rejecting his brother's warrior ways, Kasheron established a healing community deep in the southern forests. Forgotten by the outside world and protected by the trackless trees of Allogrenia, Kasheron's Tremen community has flourished. But now the forest has been breached by hostile intruders. Terrible bloodshed follows, testing even the healing skills of Kira, the greatest of all Tremen Healers. As the attacks upon the Tremen escalate, Kira is faced with a terrible dilemma, for it appears the attackers are hunting her. Should she stay and risk the annihilation of her people, or set out on a perilous journey north to seek aid from their long-lost warrior kin? Tp \$29.95 403pp


**JAMES A OWEN**

**HERE, THERE BE DRAGONS**

 Following the sudden death of his Professor, a young man and his two companions are approached by a strange man who gives them a book to safeguard. This book, the Imaginarium Geographica, is the reason the Professor was killed and now, they too are in mortal danger. Chased by the ferocious Wendigo, half-man half-werewolf creatures, the three companions seek refuge on a ship - a ship that leads them to the extraordinary lands of myth and legend mapped in the precious book they carry. Pb \$16.95 326pp



**SUSAN PALWICK**

**SHELTER**

 In the late 21st century, compassion is a crime. You can get your memories wiped just for trying to help. Papa Preston Walford's world doesn't allow for coincidences, accidents, secrets in the backs of closets or the needs of his own daughter. Meredith Preston needs protection from the monsters in her mind, in her history, in her family. And the great storms of a changing climate have made literal shelter imperative. When a cutting-edge, high-tech house, designed by a genius with a connection to Meredith, overcomes its programming to give shelter to a homeless man in a storm, from its closets emerge the revelations of a past too painful to remember. Tp \$34.00 576pp

**MATTHEW REILLY**

**HELL ISLAND**

  It is an island that doesn't appear on any maps, a secret place, where classified experiments have been carried out, experiments that have gone terribly wrong. Four crack Special Forces units are dropped in. One of them is a team of Marines, led by Captain Shane Schofield. Nothing can prepare Schofield's team for what they find there. You could say they've just entered hell, but that would be wrong. This is much, much worse. Pb \$4.95 108pp



**KAT RICHARDSON**

 **POLTERGEIST**

*Greywalker #2.* Harper Blaine was your average small-time PI until she died for two minutes. Now she's a Greywalker - walking the thin line between the living world and the paranormal realm. And she's discovering that her new abilities are landing her all sorts of strange cases. In the days leading up to Halloween, Harper's been hired by a university research group that is attempting to create an artificial poltergeist. The head researcher suspects someone is faking the phenomena, but Harper's investigation reveals something else entirely - they've succeeded. And when one of the group's members is killed in a brutal and inexplicable fashion, Harper must determine whether the killer is the ghost itself, or someone all too human. Tp \$29.95 352pp *Due Aug*

**JOHN RINGO**

 **A DEEPER BLUE**

*Mike Harmon #5.* Heart-sick over the deaths of so many of his Keldara followers, former SEAL Mike Harmon, decides to sit this one out. But when his best friend and intel specialist both are seriously wounded in an ambush aimed at him, the Kildar gets his gameface back on. Mike has always said that he's not a nice guy and he's about to prove it to a boatload of terrorists and Colombian drug dealers. Hb \$55.00 354pp

**RICK RIORDAN**

 **PERCY JACKSON AND THE SEA OF MONSTERS**

*Percy Jackson #2.* Percy Jackson has had a quiet year. Not a single monster has set foot in his New York school. But when a game of dodgeball turns into a death match against a gang of ugly cannibal giants, things get well, ugly. And then Percy's friend Annabeth brings more bad news: the magical borders that protect Camp Half-Blood have been poisoned and the only safe haven for young demigods is under threat. To save their camp, Percy and his friends must embark on a quest that will take them into the treacherous Sea of Monsters and a desperate fight for their lives... Pb \$16.95 264pp

**JAMES ROLLINS**

 **BLACK ORDER**

In Copenhagen, a suspicious bookstore fire propels Commander Gray Pierce on a relentless hunt across four continents and into a terrifying mystery surrounding horrific experiments once performed in a now-abandoned laboratory buried in a hollowed-out mountain in Poland. Only Gray and Sigma Force can save a world suddenly in terrible jeopardy. Because a new order is on the rise, an annihilating nightmare growing at the heart of the greatest mystery of all: the origin of life. Pb \$18.95 509pp

**BRANDON SANDERSON**

 **MISTBORN**

*The Final Empire.* For 1000 years, the ash fell and no flowers bloomed, the Skaa slaved in misery and lived in fear and the Lord Ruler, the Sliver of Infinity, reigned with absolute power and ultimate terror, divinely invincible. Then, when hope was so long lost that not even its memory remained, a terribly scarred, heart-broken half-Skaa rediscovered it in the depths of the Lord Rulers most hellish prison. Kelsier snapped and found in himself the powers of a Mistborn. A brilliant thief and natural leader, he turned his talents to the ultimate caper, with the Lord Ruler himself as the mark. Kel's plan looks like the ultimate long shot, until luck brings a ragged girl named Vin into his life. Like him, she's a half-Skaa orphan, but she's lived a much harsher life. She will have to learn to trust, if Kel is to help her master powers of which she never dreamed. Pb \$18.95 672pp *Due Aug*

**JOEL SHEPHERD**

 **SASHA**

*Trial of Blood and Steel #1.* Sasha is a princess, the like of which the highland country of Lenayin has never seen before. Spurning her royal heritage to be raised by the great warrior, Kessligh, her exquisite swordplay astonishes all who witness it. In the complex world of Lenayin loyalties, her defiant wilfulness is attracting the wrong kind of attention. Lenayin is a land almost divided by its two faiths - the Verenthane of the ruling classes and the pagan Goeren-yai, amongst whom Sasha now lives. The Goeren-yai worship swordplay and honour and begin to see Sasha as the great spirit, the Synnich, who will unite them. When the Udalyn people, the symbol of Goeren-yai pride and courage are attacked, Sasha will face her moment of testing. How will she act? Is she ready to lead? Can she be the saviour they need her to be? Tp \$32.95 443pp

**DAVID SHERMAN & DAN CRAGG**

 **FIRESTORM**

*Starfist #12.* Desperate to thwart unrelenting aliens and their quest to obliterate humankind, the Confederation has beefed up its defences. But unaware that a deadly enemy even exists, the government's move seems oppressive and ten planets have responded with a war of secession. In touch-and-go battles with the seceding planets, the 34th FIST has emerged battered but unbowed, refusing to give up, even while under the command of a fanatical general. There's no other choice, because if life was easy, there'd be no need to send in the Marines. Hb \$47.00 297pp

**WILL SHETTERLY**

 **THE GOSPEL OF THE KNIFE**

Christopher Nix is 14 years old and it's 1969. His life is a turbulent echo of the times as he discovers sex, drugs and rock 'n roll in the heart of Florida, then comes a strange offer that will completely change his life. The Nix family is contacted by a mysterious benefactor who wants to send Chris to an exclusive private school, no expense spared. Mr. Jay Dumont claims that Chris's grandfather saved his life during WWI and though Grandpa Uvdall is dead, the debt remains to be paid. But as Chris will discover, there is a great deal more to it than that. He will have to accept and understand the Powers that have surrounded his family all his life and learn to use his own magical gifts, if he is to survive Dumont's plan. Hb \$55.00 320pp

**ROBERT SILVERBERG**

 **THE SEVENTH SHRINE**

*A Majipoor graphic novel.* A grisly murder has taken place in the ruins of an ancient city on the peaceful world of Majipoor and the Pontifex Valentine has arrived to investigate the crime. But as Valentine and his companions delve deeper into the mystery, they discover that these ruins contain secrets much deeper than anyone ever knew and that the indigenous Metamorphs are holding back information related to their own dark history. Can Valentine and his friends locate the murderer, or did the violent act have something to do with a ritual sacrifice related to the fabled Seventh Shrine? Tp \$26.00 109pp

**BRIAN FRANCIS SLATTERY**

 **SPACEMAN BLUES: A LOVE SONG**

When Manuel Rodrigo de Guzmán González disappears, Wendell Apogee decides to find out where he has gone and why. But in order to figure out what happened to Manuel, Wendell must contend with parties, cockfights, chases, an underground city whose people live in houses suspended from cavern ceilings, urban weirdoes, alien assassins, the black market, flight, riots and religious cults. Tp \$29.00 224pp *Due Aug*

**SHERWOOD SMITH**

 **INDA**

*Crown Duel #2.* Indevan-Dal is the second son of the Prince and Princess of Choraed Elgaer, destined to become his elder brother Tanrid's Shield Arm, his military champion. Like all second sons, he is to be privately trained at home by Tanrid, the brother whose lands he will one day protect. When the King's Voice comes to summon Inda to the Military Academy, Inda is excited. But there are things that Tanrid hadn't prepared him for and Inda will soon learn that the greatest threats to his safety will not come from foreign enemies, but from supposed allies within his own country. Pb \$18.95 624pp *Due Aug*

GREGORY SPENCER

GUARDIAN OF THE VEIL

Sequel to The Welkenings been a month since the Misfits, four friends who like to commiserate, were catapulted out of their adventures in the land of Welken and back into an ordinary summer in the small town of Skinner, Oregon. Mysterious reminders of those exciting days begin popping up everywhere. Could Lizbeth, Bennu, Len, and Angie be needed, once again, in Welken? If so, for what purpose? Do the multiplying wonders mean that two worlds are about to collide? Or has Welken been within the Misfits reach all along, but they just hadn't seen it? Tp \$28.00 368pp Due Aug

HARRY TURTLEDOVE

THE DISUNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Crosstime Traffic #4. Justin's family are Time Traders. The summer before he's due to start college, he goes with them to a different Virginia, in a timeline where the American states never became a single country and American history has consisted of a series of small wars. Despite his unease, he accompanies Randolph Brooks, another Time Trader, on a visit to the tiny upland town of Elizabeth, Virginia. He'll only be away from his parents for a few days. Then war between Virginia and Ohio breaks out anew. Ohio sets a tailored virus loose on Virginia. Virginia swiftly imposes quarantine, trapping Becky and Justin and Randolph Brooks in Elizabeth. Even Crosstime Traffic can't help. All the three of them can do is watch as plague and violence take over the town. Pb \$16.95 288pp

JULES WATSON

THE BOAR STONE

Dalraida #3. Roman England, 366 AD: Minna, a Roman serving girl, is flung out into the brutal world to fend for herself and falls in with acrobat Cian, a tribeless youth with no loyalty to anyone but himself. A terrible mistake sees them thrust into the wilds of barbarian Scotland, a land in chaos. The Romans have sent scouts north from their frontier, seeking to subdue Scotland by any means possible. The dark Picts retaliate, raiding and pillaging Roman farms. And caught in the middle is Cahir, King of the Dalriadans in Scotland. At Dunadd, Cahir's fort, Cian and Minna must struggle to survive. Compelled by an ancient prophecy, Minna's visions reveal a destiny that she shares with the wounded king Cahir, as seer and lover. Yet her journey to heal them both has far-reaching consequences even she cannot foresee. Tp \$32.95 403pp

STEVE WHITE

BLOOD OF THE HEROES

Jason Thanou of the Temporal Regulatory Authority had about had it with nurse-maiding parties of ivory-tower academics through Earth's blood-drenched history, keeping them alive as they sought evidence for their pet theories. But once Jason and his companions were in the Aegean Bronze Age, unable to return to their own 24th-century time until a predetermined instant, they would find that there was more to those old legends of gods and heroes than anyone had imagined. For the gods were very real - horribly so. And dealing with them took very real heroes. Pb \$18.95 384pp

LIZ WILLIAMS

PRECIOUS DRAGON

Inspector Chen #3. Chen and Zhu are given a major assignment to escort an emissary from heaven on a diplomatic mission to hell. Zhu tries to dodge his demonic family's overtures, but ends up embroiled in hell's political intrigues. At the same time, a young boy born to ghostly parents in Hell is sent to live with his grandmother in Singapore Three. The boy, Precious Dragon, is being chased by Hell's most dangerous creatures and ends up being the key to unlock the mystery that is quickly spiralling out of control. Chen and Zhu find themselves in the middle of a struggle much bigger than they can fully comprehend and when the dust finally settles, neither heaven nor hell will be the same. Hb \$49.95 242pp

SHEILA WILLIAMS (E D)

ASIMOV'S SCIENCE FICTION

MAGAZINE: 30TH ANNIVERSARY ANTHOLOGY

This wide-ranging collection represents the breadth of science fiction writing published in the most significant and enduring magazine in the field during the past three decades. Authors such as Jonathan Lethem, James Patrick Kelly and Kelly Link mingle with classic authors like Isaac Asimov, Ursula K LeGuin and Connie Willis along with the young turks of the field - Charles Stross, Michael Swanwick, and Stephen Baxter. Featuring a well-balanced overview of both the classic and the contemporary, the book contains memorable stories from highly respected contributors to the science fiction genre Tp \$29.95 349pp



KERI ARTHUR

★ ★ DANGEROUS GAMES

Riley Jensen Guardian #5. In Melbourne's urban underworld, there's a place for every fetish and fantasy. But for Riley Jensen, one such nightclub has become an obsession. Riley, a rare hybrid of werewolf and vampire and new agent for the Directorate of Other Races, hasn't come in pursuit of pleasure, but of an unknown killer who's been using the club as his hunting ground. Leave it to Riley to find the only ticket into the heavily guarded venue: Jin, a deliciously hot-bodied bartender who might just provide the key to unmasking a killer unlike any other in the Directorate's experience. Pb \$19.95 356pp

AMANDA ASHLEY

NIGHT'S TOUCH

A year ago, Vincent Cordova believed that vampires existed only in bad movies and bogeyman stories. That was before a chance encounter left him with unimaginable powers, a hellish thirst and an aching loneliness he's sure will never end until the night he meets Cara DeLongpre. Cara's beauty and bewitching innocence call to his mind, his heart's blood. For Vincent senses the Dark Gift shared by Cara's parents, and the lurking threat from an ancient and powerful foe. And he knows that the only thing more dangerous than the enemy waiting to seek its vengeance is the secret carried by those Cara trusts the most. Pb \$16.95 380pp

L A BANKS

THE FORSAKEN

Vampire Huntress #7. There is only one entity who can best Damali, send Carlos packing and put the Guardian team at mortal risk. This powerful being was once banished into a forsaken land and possesses everything that would bring a Neteru to his or her knees. Now it's not only Damali's soul that she risks losing, but her heart's blood. Pb \$18.95 518pp

MICHELLE BARDSLEY

DON'T TALK BACK TO YOUR VAMPIRE

Eva Leroy #2. Eva LeRoy, Broken Heart, Oklahoma's librarian, got 'vampirified' when everyone else did - during a rogue vampire's feeding frenzy. But books still make her undead heart beat and, strangely enough, so does Lorcan the Loner, the vampire who killed her... Pb \$16.95 340pp

**WIN ...**  
**A PROOF COPY OF**  
**JAMES HERBERT'S**  
**NEW NOVEL**  
**THE SECRET OF**  
**CRICKLEY HALL**  
See back page for entry details



**GERRY BARTLETT**  
**REAL VAMPIRES LIVE LARGE**

It's not easy to keep a boyfriend, run a business and survive for centuries as one of the immortal undead. Glory St. Clair knows - ever since a sexy Scottish vampire bit her while she was a tad... bloated. But when a frustrated vampire hunter firebombs her vintage clothing boutique, she's ready to pitch a fit. Then her long-time, part-time lover takes off in a rage to hunt the hunter and prove himself worthy of her. And that's only the beginning of her troubles. The Energy Vampires want her - and not in a good way. They're paranormal drug dealers, selling thrills to those who've lived for ages, been everywhere and done everything... and they want to suck Glory dry. But it'll take more than a few super-suckers to get the goods out of her. Tp \$29.00 297pp

**KATE DOUGLAS**  
**WOLF TALES IV**

When Tinker McClintock is assigned to track down a young woman who has no idea of her Chanku heritage, he intends it to be a job like any other. But wolf rescue specialist Lisa Quinn arouses in him an intense and immediate attraction that cannot be denied. Her innocent beauty belies a passionate soul and white-hot desire that demands to be satisfied again and again. And she will soon undergo a change that will awaken sensations beyond anything she's ever imagined... Tp \$28.00 259pp

**CHRISTINE FEEHAN**  
**SAFE HARBOUR**

*Drake Sisters #6.* One of seven daughters in a line of extraordinary women, Hannah Drake has been the elusive object of affection for Jonas Harrington for as long as the young man can remember. If only the stunning super-model was driven by a passion other than her career. But Jonas isn't the only one with desires for Hannah. From the shadows has emerged a vengeful figure who stalks the beauty with one terrifying purpose - to strip her of all she is and destroy her. Only one man was destined as her protection. Now, out of a storm of danger, Jonas must guide the woman he loves from a sinister darkness that threatens not only Hannah, but the entire Drake family. Pb \$18.95 369pp

**DAVE FREEDMAN**  
**NATURAL SELECTION**

A shocking biological discovery, a previously unknown predatory species evolving just like the dinosaurs. Now. Today. Being forced out of its world and into man's for a violent first encounter is a phenomenally dangerous new species that is rapidly adapting in a way never before seen. When people start dying, the stakes are upped even further. Then the real hunt begins. Pb \$18.95 414pp

**R PATRICK GATES**  
**VADERS**

Billions of pellet-sized spores have arrived. Swarming our cities, they find ways inside our bodies as they transform humans into monsters, living only to feed on those closest to them. Joe Burton leads a clutch of survivors against the Invaders. But he discovers that it's not only the once-human creatures that have turned on their own kind, as the world descends into chaos, a winner-take-all struggle for survival begins. As the living turn viciously against one other, the Invaders prepare for the next stage of their conquest - and it soon becomes clear to Burton that the horror he survived was just the beginning. Pb \$16.95 494pp

**WILLIAM GAY**  
**TWILIGHT**

Suspecting that something is amiss with their father's burial, teenager Kenneth Tyler and his sister Corrie venture to his gravesite and make a horrific discovery: their father, a whiskey bootlegger, was not actually buried in the casket they bought for him. Worse, they learn that the undertaker, Fenton Breece, has been grotesquely manipulating the dead. Armed with incriminating photographs, Tyler becomes obsessed with bringing the perverse undertaker to justice. But first he must outrun Granville Sutter, a local strongman and convicted murderer hired by Fenton to destroy the evidence. Tp \$29.95 224pp

**HEATHER GRAHAM**  
**BLOOD RED**

When a fortune-teller shows Lauren Crow an omen of her death, she and her friends laugh it off as cheesy theatrics, until women begin disappearing in the night. Even as the streets become more dangerous, Lauren finds herself lusting after a man who is himself dangerous and quite possibly crazy. Mark Davidson prowls the city by night armed with crosses and holy water, in search of vampires, whose existence, he insists, is real. As Lauren wrestles with desire and disbelief, sinister shadows lengthen over New Orleans, threatening her friends and foretelling a battle that may spell the end of the city's uneasy truce between the living and the undead. Pb \$18.95 347pp

**SARA GRAN**  
**COME CLOSER**

Amanda is happily married to Ed, works as an architect and likes her life. But disturbances begin to upset her. The image of a beautiful woman out of her past begins to inhabit Amanda's dreams - identifying herself as Naamah. Instead of the book she had ordered by mail, she receives *Demon Possession, Past and Present*. Soon after, Amanda accidentally burns her husband with her cigarette. Can she be going mad? Or has she been possessed by a female demon. Pb \$16.95 214pp

**TATE HALLAWAY**  
**TALL, DARK AND DEAD**

*'The line between magic and sanity is very thin. That's part of why I, Garnet Lacey, quit cold turkey. Never touch the stuff. No Exceptions.'* Trouble is magic is so addictive, especially when you've got inner goddesses like Lilith to contend with. And it doesn't stop there for Garnet; if you are going to run an occult bookstore then you've got to expect customers like Sebastian Von Traum, with his piercing brown eyes, sexy accent, killer body and total lack of an aura - which means he's dead! Trouble can be so hard to resist and what with Vatican witch hunters, long lost vampire exes and a boyfriend with an ex-wife who is literally stirring in her grave, Garnet Lacey has trouble enough for anyone. Tp \$22.95 280pp

**JAMES HERBERT**  
**THE SECRET OF CRICKLEY HALL**

Gabe has brought his wife, Eve, and daughters, Loren and Cally, down to Devon, to the peaceful seaside village of Hollow Bay. He can work and Eve and the kids can have some peace and quiet and perhaps they can try, as a family, to come to terms with what's happened to them... Crickley Hall is an unusually large house on the outskirts of the village at the bottom of Devil's Cleave - the stuff of local legend. It's perfect for them... if it a bit gloomy. And old houses do make sounds. And it's constantly cold. And even though they shut the cellar door every night, it's always open again in morning...Pb \$22.95 632pp

**JOEY W HILL**  
**THE VAMPIRE QUEEN'S SERVANT**

Lady Elyssa Yamato Amaterasu Wentworth is a centuries-old vampire who's been given a new servant - Jacob, an alpha male unaccustomed to submitting to any woman's wishes. What really binds Jacob to her are not her sensual midnight hungers, but something far more provocative. It stirs her blood, renews her life, and awakens her soul like only true love can. The passion between Elyssa and Jacob yields something else unexpected - a shared history that reaches back through the centuries and is fated to challenge their destiny like nothing ever will again. Tp \$29.00 373pp

**STEPHEN JONES (ED)**  
**THE MAMMOTH BOOK OF MONSTERS**

Vampires, werewolves, zombies, ghouls... these and many other creatures of the night are featured in this bumper collection of stories by such authors as Clive Barker, Harlan Ellison, Ramsey Campbell, Brian Lumley, Tanith Lee, Michael Marshall Smith, Kim Newman, Joe R Lansdale, Lisa Tuttle, R Chetwynd-Hayes, Basil Copper and many others. Tp \$24.95 608pp *Due Aug*

# What We've Been Reading...

**Alchemyst (Nicholas Flamel #1)** by Michael Scott (Pb \$27.95). This was UNREAL! It didn't matter what I was supposed to be doing - I kept finding 5 minutes here and 10 minutes there to read. This reminded me of the first time I read Harry Potter - how I was just completely involved in the story and the utter joy of a fantastic book. Brilliant!!! 9/10 - *Steph*

**Soon I Will be Invincible** by Austin Grossman (Hb \$48.00). A superhero tale told from 2 different first-person perspectives. One, the "evil mastermind" giving us a humanised look at the trials and tribulations they have whilst enacting their plans for world domination, while the other is a freshman look at joining the ranks of the world's premiere super hero team, a team with plenty of cracks behind its shiny facade. - *Adam*

**Come Closer** by Sara Gran (Pb \$16.95). I haven't read so many reviews saying how scary a book was in a long time. I was expecting horror scary - this was worse. The impossible (well I thought it was until I read this) situation of a woman being possessed and her life falling to pieces. It's written so matter of factly with no romanticism or drama for that matter. It just happens to this poor woman and I was dragged along for the ride. Another book that had me reading when I should have been grabbing any opportunity to get some sleep. I love books like this... - *Steph*

**The Company of the Dead** by David Kowalski (Tp \$35.00). A time-travel/alternate world story involving the Titanic that I thoroughly enjoyed. Nice extrapolation of "almost now" real people, though I always get a headache trying to work out how you can alter the past without stuffing up the present... *Adam*

**Before Midnight: A Retelling of Cinderella** by Cameron Dokey (Pb \$9.95). This was a fantastic retelling of one of the most well known fairy tales. Both male and female characters were equally likable, but I really appreciated the spin Dokey that put on the evil character of the story. Wonderful. - *Steph*

**Reaper's Gale (Malazan Book of the Fallen)** Steven Erikson (Tp \$39.95). He still writes them, so I will keep buying them, although some of the shine is starting to come off this wonderful series. My problem stems from too many seemingly unnecessary-to-the-plot characters and storylines. - *Adam*

## COMPETITION

To win a proof copy of James Herbert's novel, **The Secret of Crickley Hall**, name one of the author's previous books. Mail, fax or email (competition@galaxybooks.com.au) your answer along with your name and address. Entry closes 18 Aug 2007. Entry open to Galaxy Cardholders only.

## COMPETITION WINNERS

The winner of a signed copy of **Skulduggery Pleasant** is Alison Haggart. Congratulations!



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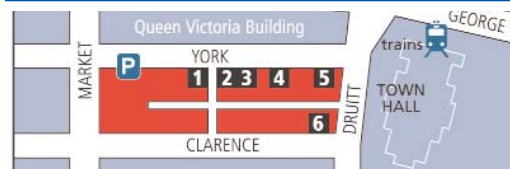
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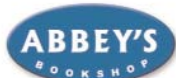
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