

nexus

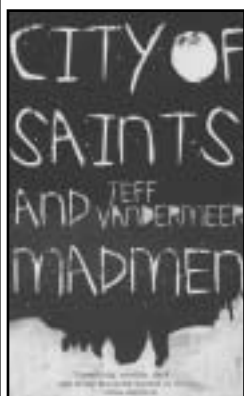
September 2005

Issue #208



Meet the author

JEFF VANDERMEER
award-winning author of



**CITY OF SAINTS
AND MADMEN**

"A masterful novel. Complex and textured, decadent and decaying. A beautiful work of art, both as physical object and text."

- *Locus Online*

**VENISS
UNDERGROUND**

"A striking and unusual blend of wonders. Stark, intricate and gripping, Veniss Underground takes the reader on a moving journey through a world which is endlessly surprising."

- *Ian R MacLeod*



will be in-store
Thurs 6 Oct @ 6pm

LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY
MON 3 OCTOBER
WE ARE OPEN 10AM - 5PM

🏆 HUGO AWARD WINNERS

This award is voted on by members of the annual World Science Fiction Convention

BEST NOVEL

Jonathan Strange & Mr Norrell by Susanna Clarke

Also awarded... **BEST NOVELLA:** *The Concrete Jungle* by Charles Stross, **BEST SHORT STORY:** *Travels with My Cats* by Mike Resnick, **BEST RELATED BOOK:** **The Cambridge Companion to Science Fiction** edited by Edward James & Farah Mendlesohn, **JOHN W CAMPBELL AWARD FOR BEST NEW WRITER:** Elizabeth Bear

🏆 SIDEWISE AWARD FOR ALTERNATE HISTORY

Named for Murray Leinster's short story 'Sidewise in Time,' this is presented annually at the World Science Fiction Convention.

BEST NOVEL

The Plot Against America by Philip Roth

🏆 WORLD FANTASY AWARD NOMINEES

These awards are nominated by members of the World Fantasy Convention and the winners are selected by a panel of judges.

NOVEL

Jonathan Strange & Mr Norrell by Susanna Clarke
The Runes of the Earth by Stephen Donaldson
Iron Council by China Miéville
Perfect Circle by Sean Stewart
The Wizard Knight by Gene Wolfe

ANTHOLOGY

The Faery Reel: Tales from the Twilight Realm edited by Ellen Datlow & Terri Windling
Polyphony 4 edited by Deborah Layne & Jay Lake
Acquainted with the Night edited by Barbara & Christopher Roden
Dark Matter: Reading the Bones edited by Sheree Thomas
The First Heroes: New Tales of the Bronze Age edited by Harry Turtledove & Noreen Doyle

COLLECTION

Songs of Leaving by Peter Crowther
Heat of Fusion and Other Stories by John M Ford
Stable Strategies and Others by Eileen Gunn
Black Juice by Margo Lanagan
Mad Dog Summer and Other Stories by Joe R Lansdale
Breathmoss and Other Exhalations by Ian R MacLeod
Trujillo by Lucius Shepard



Via Communications Link
Sir Arthur C. Clarke
Ray Bradbury
International Guests: **Ellen Datlow**, **Steve Jackson**, **Joan D. Vinge**, **Jim Frenkel**
Australian Guests: **Kate Forsyth**, **Sara Douglass**, **Jackie French**, **Jason Paulos**
Largest Art Show & Film Festival at an Australian SF Convention



SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY



KEVIN ANDERSON, WENDY BROOME & ROBERT TERANISHI

VEILED ALLIANCES

A prequel to the Seven Suns novels. The human race begins its expansion into outer space, only to discover that for centuries a multitude of other planets have already been interacting on a cosmic scale. As Earth attempts to become a player in this new arena, her ambassadors are thrust into a foreign world of alien life forms, backstabbing politics, lustful relationships, bitter feuds, family rivalries and a deadly quest to become the supreme force in the universe. Graphic novel. Tp \$39.95 96pp

TONY BALLANTYNE

RECURSION

Herb returns to the planet on which he has been furtively trying to build a city, only to find it has become a swarming nightmare of self-replicating machinery. Eva has taken desperate steps to escape the tedium of her pointless life, only to end up in the super-intelligent clutches of a yellow mechanical digger. Constantine arrives at the remote part-idyllic, part-nightmare settlement of Stonebreak and begins to confront the truth of his own unreality. Meanwhile, in the farthest reaches of outer space, the Enemy is plotting the final overthrow of the human race which created it. Pb \$19.95 456pp

STEPHEN BAXTER

GULLIVERZONE

The Web. 7 February 2027 is World Peace Day. All over the world, celebrations are in full swing. There is even free access to the Web today - a chance to sample the infinite worlds and endless possibilities of virtual reality. Finally, a chance for Sarah to spin into the Web. Too bad she has to bring her little brother George with her. But Sarah knows she will still have a great time in GulliverZone, the best theme park in the Web. What she doesn't know is that today will turn out to be a day of danger beyond imagination. A mysterious being - known only as the Sorceress - seeks to use the Web for her own purposes, and she won't let anything - or anybody - stand her in way. Pb \$14.95 119pp

LUC BESSON

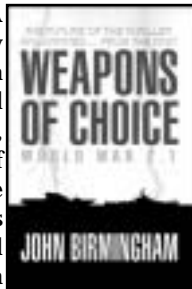
ARTHUR AND THE MINIMOYS

Arthur #1. Arthur's grandfather disappeared four years ago. All he left behind was his notebooks full of stories about little-known African tribes, including the Minimoys, a miniature people who are all less than one inch tall. But the Minimoys can't possibly be real, can they? Arthur is about to find out as he uncovers a hidden message that catapults him on a wild adventure. In just three days, he must find a way to the land of the Minimoys, recover a stolen treasure, battle an invading force of mosquito-riding warriors, defeat an evil wizard, win the heart of a very independent princess, and somehow get back home! Hb \$35.00 219pp

JOHN BIRMINGHAM

WEAPONS OF CHOICE

Axis of Time #1. A near-future military experiment has thrust a US-led multinational armada back to 1942, right into the middle of the naval task force speeding towards Midway Atoll and what was to be a spectacular Allied triumph in the war in the Pacific. In the chaos that ensues, thousands are killed, but the ripples have only just begun, for these veterans of Pearl Harbour have never seen a helicopter or a satellite link or a nuclear weapon. Celebration turns to dread when the possibility arises that others may also have made the trip, and might now be aiding the enemy forces. Pb \$19.95 673pp



PATRICIA BRIGGS

RAVEN'S STRIKE

Raven #2. The Traveller Seraph must use all her cunning and ability as a Raven mage to track down an unimaginable force of destruction known as the Shadowed. Pb \$18.95 381pp

TERRY BROOKS

TANEQUIL

High Druid of Shannara #2. The rightful High Druid of Shannara has been banished to the harsh world called the Forbidding by a treasonous fellow druid. Her only hope for rescue is her nephew Pen, but Pen is under siege too. Both he and his parents are sought by the druids, who want to ensure their magic will never help the real leader to return. And there is worse to come. The dark magic that banished the High Druid allowed the simultaneous transference of a fearsome denizen of the Forbidding back into the druids' world. And now there is a terrible peril in the Four Lands - a creature that can take on any shape, can kill at will and is only the harbinger of a much greater, devastating invasion to come... Pb \$18.95 469pp

ERIC BROWN

THE FALL OF TARTARUS

"I'd heard many a tale about Tartarus Major, how certain continents were technological backwaters 500 years behind the times, how the Church governed half the planet with a fist of iron and yet how, across scattered islands and sequestered lands, a thousand bizarre and heretic cults prospered too. I'd heard how a lone traveller was hardly safe upon the planet's surface, prey to wild animals and cut-throats. Most of all, I'd heard that, in 200 years, Tartarus would be annihilated when its sun exploded in the magnificent stellar suicide of a supernova." These are the stories of the people who are leaving Tartarus, those have decided to stay, and those who are arriving on the planet for the apocalypse. Pb \$18.95 312pp

SIMON BROWN

BORN OF EMPIRE

The Chronicles of Kydan #1. The mighty Hamilayan empire has never been stronger. The Empress Lerena of the formidable Kevleren dynasty is sending an expedition, led by her cousin Maddyn, across the Deepening Sea to expand its borders and the counter-moves by its nearest neighbour and greatest enemy, the kingdom of Rivald. But problems emerge. Lerena's unstable sister, Yunara, has been thwarted in love, making her dangerous. The object of Yunara's obsession, the banished Maddyn, has defied Kevleren law and is having a child with a commoner. Lerena fears the destruction that Yunara's anger may unleash. Then news of an uprising against the ruling Kevleren family in Rivald reaches Hamilay. When the truth behind the revolution is revealed, Lerena finds herself facing the greatest challenge to her power. The conflict between empire and kingdom is ignited and both the old and the new worlds will be threatened by the fire of magic and war. Pb \$19.95 511pp

	SCIENCE FICTION
	FANTASY
	ROMANCE
	AWARD WINNER
	AUSTRALIAN
	ACTION
	REPRINT
AC	AUDIO CASSETTE
Cd	COMPACT DISC
Pb	PAPERBACK
Hb	HARDBACK
Tp	TRADE PAPERBACK

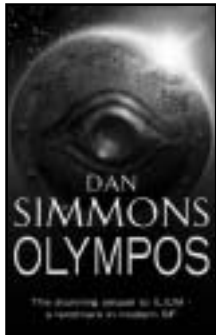
Fave Raves

our favourites - new & classic

NEW TITLE OLYMPUS

Ilium #2

Dan Simmons
Tp \$32.95



Dan Simmons presented an ambitious vision of the future in **Ilium** (PB \$19.95), a tale which loosely followed Homer's epic poem, **The Iliad**, mixed with Shakespeare's **The Tempest**, and blended with a healthy balance of hard science fiction. In **Olympos**, we return to this spectacular world for a stunning conclusion. Reading like the second part of a larger book, rather than a sequel, we are thrown right into the thick of things; where the first book loosely followed the events of **The Iliad**, all bets are

off in the second book, as events have dramatically veered from those recorded by Homer.

We return straight to the plains of Ilium, where the ancient Greeks and Trojans, with the help of resurrected scholar Thomas Hockenberry and his moravec friends Mahmut and Orphu of Io, have united to battle the powerful gods of Mount Olympos. Sworn enemies, Achilles and Hector must put their differences aside to respectively seek vengeance for the slain Patroclus, Achilles' best friend, and Scamandrius, Hector's infant child. However, this uneasy alliance is broken as the gods again involve the humans in the cunning plans. But this time the goddess Hera and her allies have the grandest target in sight: the almighty Zeus, god of all gods. Such ambitious plans not only threaten the peace of Ilium and Mount Olympos, but also the very existence of the universe as the gods' continual quantum activity threatens to tear the universe apart. Achilles, the fleet-footed man-killer, is all that stands between the universe being saved or completely destroyed.

Meanwhile, back on the real Earth, the old-style humans are slowly making progress as they adapt to life without their faxing and voynix-servant luxuries. With help from Odysseus, the mysterious time-traveller, (who prefers to be called "Noman" these days), Harman and Ada are able to lead the people of Ardis Hall into becoming an organised and self-sufficient group. Their survival and the survival of all humans is placed under threat as the voynix gather en-masse and attack all human posts with increased intensity. However, a greater threat appears in the rubbles of Paris as the ancient monster Sebetos is freed from his galactic exile on Mars.

All these complex story arcs come to a satisfying conclusion as Simmons skilfully weaves the separate tales together, showing his great talent as a writer. He continues his exploration of destiny (something that even the ancient gods did not have control of) and the characteristics of human nature. It seems, in the end, regardless of how far we have advanced as a species, we can never truly abandon our need to destroy the world, as Harman discovers on the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean.

Whilst the ending may seem a bit rushed, **Olympos** is consistent with the quality of **Ilium**. Like his **Hyperion** series (Tp \$32.95), **Ilium** and **Olympos** will easily become modern classics of science fiction. - *John*

CLASSIC TITLE FEVRE DREAM

George R R Martin
Pb \$19.95 350pp

A Feast for Crows (Tp \$32.95), the fourth book in Martin's fantasy series that began with **A Game of Thrones** (Pb \$9.95), is being released in October, so I thought it was a good time to look back at the author's first big hit, **Fevre Dream**.

This book deserves to be called a classic of modern horror because it is one of the most well-written and original vampire novels since Stoker's **Dracula** (Pb \$8.95).

Set along the Mississippi River in 1857, it tells the gripping story of Captain Abner Marsh, whose dream of captaining the fastest, most luxurious steam boat on the river resulted in his becoming involved with murderers, vampires, duplicitous women, a dream to change the world forever and (most horrifyingly) romance poetry.

Captain Abner Marsh is the owner of the Fevre River Packet Company, which operated several steamboats on the Mississippi until, one harsh winter, all but one was destroyed by ice. His last remaining boat is past her prime and, when she is retired, Marsh won't have enough money to purchase a replacement. Although financial ruin is a terrible prospect, Marsh is more upset that his desire to own the fastest steamer on the river will never come true. However, a mysterious European named Joshua York arranges to meet him one night and offers Marsh a ludicrous amount of money to build the boat of his dreams. The conditions of the deal are that York will live on the boat as co-captain, he is not to be disturbed and his strange orders are never to be questioned or countermanded. Annoyed by these conditions, but eager to see his dream come true, he accepts and quickly orders the construction of the grandest steamboat ever seen - **The Fevre Dream**.

Martin has done a good job of researching 19th century history, steamboats and vampire literature. His description of steamers at their peak of popularity (before the extending railroad network supplanted them as the fastest means of transporting goods) is very convincing. The detail he gives to his characters when they are describing their boats and their various tricks and techniques for negotiating the waterways makes the reader feel as if Martin has actually experienced everyday life on a boat in 19th century America.

This novel is set shortly before the American Civil War, so slavery is still common and accepted throughout southern America, and Martin uses this to good effect. At first, I couldn't see why he chose to set this story on a steamboat in the American south (apart from it being cool), but I think it is largely to draw a parallel between slavery and vampirism. Many white Americans in the pre-Civil War south lived off the misery and hard work of enslaved people, and fictional vampires play a similar role. Both proclaim themselves to be superior by birth, taking what they need from those whom they overpower, yet contributing nothing in return.

Captain Abner Marsh is a likeable protagonist. A grumpy old steamboat captain, he is known as the ugliest man on the river and his gruff, stubborn, cantankerous, blustering exterior protects a man who is honest, intelligent and brave.

Fevre Dream is filled with brilliant scenes, several memorable characters and is definitely the best novel about vampires on a steamboat ever written. - *Raph*

SIMON BROWN

 **RIVAL'S SON**

The Chronicles of Kydan #2. After surviving battle and sorcery, the city of Kydan now faces internal division between native and Hamilayan colonists. Strategos Galys Valera and her allies must forge a new city from the old in time to face the threat of a defeated enemy intent on bloody revenge. Back in the old world, Empress Lerena of Hamilay, flushed with victory over her rivals, finds that she may yet have to go to war to secure her place as the most powerful Wielder of the Sefid, the great source of magic that shapes both city and empire. Tp \$30.00 333pp


FLAVIA BUJOR

 **THE PROPHECY OF THE GEMS**

Three young girls - Jade, Amber and Opal - each from very different backgrounds, discover on the day of their 14th birthday that they are adopted. An ancient prophecy compels them to leave their families to complete their mission in a far-off kingdom. Each girl is given custody of a magic stone that corresponds to her name. Although they dislike each other on sight, they have to overlook their differences in order to escape the dangers that threaten them. Pb \$15.95 440pp


CHRIS BUNCH

THE DOG FROM HELL

 *Star Risk Ltd. #4.* While escorting a group of privileged and wild girls from a finishing school on Earth to one of the luxury worlds, the team crosses paths with Cerebus Systems, a huge, much-feared security firm that destroys its competition without a second thought. Cerebus has just put Star Risk Ltd at the top of their enemies list, but if the Star Risk operatives have anything to say about it, this is one hostile takeover that could put the Cerebus accounts deep in the red. Pb \$18.95 339pp

JIM BUTCHER

FURIES OF CALDERON

 *Codex Alera #1.* For 1,000 years, the people of Alera have united against the aggressive and threatening races that inhabit the world by using their unique bond with the furies - elementals of earth, air, fire, water and metal. But now, Gaius Sextus, First Lord of Alera, grows old and lacks an heir. Ambitious High Lords plot and manoeuvre to place their Houses in positions of power and a war of succession looms on the horizon. Far from city politics in the Calderon Valley, the boy Tavi struggles with his lack of furycrafting. At 15, he has no wind fury to help him fly, no fire fury to light his lamps. Yet as the Alerans' most savage enemy, the Marat, return to the Valley, he will discover that his destiny is much greater than he could ever imagine. Pb \$18.95 504pp

JACQUELINE CAREY

 **BANEWREAKER**

The Sundering #1. Once upon a time, the Seven Shapers dwelled in accord and Shaped the world to their will. But Satoris, the youngest among them, was deemed too generous in his gifts to the race of Men and so began the Shapers' War, which Sundered the world. Now, six of the Shapers lay to one end of a vast ocean and Satoris to the other, reviled by even the race of Men. Satoris sits in his Darkhaven, surrounded by his allies. Chief among them is Tanaros Blacksword, immortal Commander General of his army. Once a mortal man who was betrayed by King and Wife, Tanaros fled to Darkhaven a thousand years ago and in Satoris's service has redeemed his honour, but left his humanity behind. Now there is a new prophecy that tells of Satoris's destruction and the redemption of the world. To thwart it, Satoris sends Tanaros to capture the Lady of the Ellylon, the beautiful Cerelinde, to prevent her alliance with the last High King of Men. But Tanaros discovers that not all of his heart has been lost. His feelings for Cerelinde could doom Satoris, but save the race of Men... Pb \$18.95 502pp

ROBERT CARTER

 **THE GIANTS' DANCE**

Four years ago, Will succeeded in cracking the Doomstone in the vault of the Chapter House at Verlamion to bring a bloody battle to its end. It seemed then that the lust for war in men's hearts had been calmed forever. But his old friend and mentor Gwydion - a wizard of deep knowledge and power who was once called 'Merlyn' - suspects his old enemy, the sorcerer Maskull, has escaped from the prison to which he was banished when Will cracked the Doomstone. Now Maskull is once again working to hasten a devastating war between King Hal and Duke Richard of Ebor. When Will last left Nether Norton, he was an unworldly youth. Now he is a husband and father, and has a lot more to lose. But he has a whole Realm to save. Tp \$29.95 544pp

MARK CHADBURN

 **THE QUEEN OF SINISTER**

The Dark Age #2. The plague came without warning. Nothing could stop its progress. Its first symptom is black spots at the base of the fingers and an agonising death quickly follows. But this is no ordinary disease... Caitlin Shepherd, a lowly GP, is allowed to cross the veil into the mystical Celtic Otherworld in search of a cure. Her search takes her on a quest to the end of a land of dreams and nightmares to petition the gods. Caitlin is humanity's last hope, but she carries a terrible burden - a consciousness shattered into five distinct personalities... and one of them may not be human. Pb \$18.95 435pp

 **THE HOUNDS OF AVALON**

The Dark Age #3. The Hounds of Avalon are coming, for these are the twilight days, when eternal winter falls and the gods destroy themselves in civil war, when an invasion force of ghastly power threatens to eradicate all life. Humanity's last chance lies with two friends, as different as night and day, but bound together by an awesome destiny. Hunter: a warrior, a rake, an assassin and Hal: a lowly records clerk in a Government office. They must pierce a mystery surrounding the myths of King Arthur to find the dreaming hero who will ride out of the mists of legend to save the world. But time is running out, for when the Hounds of Avalon appear, all hope is lost... Tp \$32.95 374pp

ARTHUR C CLARKE & STEPHEN BAXTER

 **TIME'S EYE**

A Time Odyssey #1. 1885, the North West Frontier. Rudyard Kipling is witness to a bizarre encounter between the British army and what appears to be an impossibly advanced piece of Russian technology and then to a terrifying intervention by a helicopter from 2037. Before the full impact of this extraordinary event has even begun to sink in, Kipling, his friends and the helicopter crew stumble across Alexander the Great's army. Mankind's time odyssey has begun... Pb \$19.95 345pp

RECOMMENDED READING


**ORSON SCOTT CARD
MAGIC STREET**



From the very start, Mack Street was different. As an infant, Mack was found abandoned in an LA park. Barely surviving, he was raised by a single mother, a sullen, terse woman who never understood her adopted son. Everyone in their prosperous, peaceful African-American neighbourhood regarded Mack as strange, even perhaps a bit crazy. They gossiped about his penchant for staring off into space. What they didn't realise was that he wasn't exactly dreaming. He was dreaming other people's dreams... Hb \$54.00 397pp *This is typical Card, with excellent characterisations, good pacing and an intriguing plot. Although not as strong as some of his earlier work (Ender's Game, etc), it is definitely above average, dark, urban fantasy. I won't be disappointed if it turns out to be the first instalment in an ongoing series. - Jo*


T S CLAYTON

THE HEART OF LICHEN

 *The Sennovia universe #1.* A land far to the north, shadowed in mysticism. A place spoken about only in whispers, a place cursed. Yet it is a place Kellen finds he has to go, despite his fears, as the Black Guard invade his homeland. He is captured by the rebels and unwittingly joins their cause to save the throne and a beloved princess. His path seems simple until he meets Sasheer, a man hauntingly familiar, handsome, but more dangerous than all the dark whispers combined. Plagued by nightmares, he must decide what is real and what is imagined before the past kills them all. Tp \$29.95 602pp

LOREN L COLEMAN

AGE OF CONAN: BLOOD OF WOLVES

 *Legends of Kern #1.* In the northlands, Grimnir, the living god of the plundering Vanir, is leading his hordes across Cimmeria. Tales of Grimnir's fury spread as refugees scatter throughout the land to escape his wrath. In the village of Gaud, the young warrior Kern has been exiled, an outcast from clan and kin. It is he who is fated to confront Grimnir, but as loyal friends and desperate fighters rally to his side, even Kern does not know whether he leads his people to deliverance, or certain death. Pb \$9.95 326pp


MARY JANICE DAVIDSON, ANGELA KNIGHT & CAMILLE ANTHONY

  **IN OTHER WORLDS: ROMANCE AT THE EDGE**

A cyborg captures a mutant thief who has come to steal a priceless Rock; he'll let her have it, if he can have her for three days and three nights. A Dominant soldier demands repayment for rescuing a high society lawyer from certain death at the jaws of a giant saurian. She has dreamed of a man like him, a man who has starred in her wickedest fantasies. Now she has to submit... or else. A loyal, traditionalist male desires a Royal fem determined to live by the old, matriarchal ways. He'll claim her, she'll claim him, they'll claim each other, as soon as they settle the question of who's on top. An Earth yet to come, an Earth that may never be and a planet far, far away... Tp \$29.00 273pp


CHARLES DE LINT

SOMEPLACE TO BE FLYING

 Lily is a photojournalist in search of the animal people who supposedly haunt the city's darkest slums. Hank is a slumdweller who knows the bad streets all too well. One night, in a brutal incident, their two lives collide - uptown Lily and downtown Hank, each with a quest and a role to play in the secret drama of the city's oldest inhabitants. Not only have Hank and Lily stumbled onto a secret, they've stumbled into a war. In this battle for the city's soul, nothing is quite as it appears. Tp \$32.95 380pp


CORY DOCTOROW

SOMEONE COMES TO TOWN, SOMEONE LEAVES TOWN

 Alan is a middle-aged entrepreneur in contemporary Toronto. His father is a mountain, his mother is a washing machine and among his brothers is a set of Russian nesting dolls. Now two of the three nesting dolls, Edward and Frederick, are on his doorstep - well, on their way to starvation because their innermost member, George, has vanished. It appears that yet another brother, Davey, whom Alan and his other siblings killed years ago, may have returned... bent on revenge. Hb \$53.95 315pp


STEPHEN DONALDSON

THE RUNES OF THE EARTH

 *The Last Chronicles of Thomas Covenant #1.* Linden Avery thought she would never see the Land, or Covenant, her beloved, again. But Lord Foul has stolen her adopted son and is unmaking the very laws of nature. And though she believes Covenant dead, he keeps sending Linden messages: 'Find me', and 'You're the only one who can do this' and 'Remember that I'm dead'. The Land is in turmoil, and Lord Foul has plans for them all... Tp \$35.00 593pp

BOB EGGLETON & JOHN GRANT


THE STARDRAGONS

 *Dragonhenge #2.* Following on from the huge success of **Dragonhenge**, this **stunningly illustrated** adventure takes you on a magical journey through the Cosmos and far into the future, many billions of years after humankind and all other forms of life have gone. In this time, the Universe itself is beginning to fall towards its death and only the Stardragons are left to move across the infinite tracts of space on an epic journey. Hb \$49.95 112pp




JASPER FFORDE

THE BIG OVER EASY

 *Jack Spratt #1.* It is Easter in Reading - a bad time for eggs - and no one can remember the last sunny day. Ovoid D-class nursery celebrity, Humpty Stuyvesant Van Dumpty III - minor baronet, ex-convict and former millionaire philanthropist - is found shattered to death beneath a wall in a shabby area of town. All the evidence points to his ex-wife, who has conveniently shot herself. But Detective Inspector Jack Spratt and his assistant Mary Mary remain unconvinced, a sentiment not shared with their superiors at the Reading Police Department, who are still smarting over their failure to convict the Three Pigs of murdering Mr Wolff. Tp \$32.95 398pp

ERIC FLINT & ANDREW DENNIS

1634: THE GALILEO AFFAIR

 The Thirty Years War continues to ravage 17th century Europe, but a new force is gathering power and influence - the Confederated Principalities of Europe, an alliance between Gustavus Adolphus, King of Sweden and the West Virginians from the 20th century, led by Mike Stearns, who were hurled centuries into the past by a mysterious cosmic accident. Pb \$18.95 675pp


KATE FORSYTH

 **DRAGON GOLD**

Ben wants to get a dog, but his mum says they'll have to move to a bigger house first and they can't afford it. So Ben, his brother Tim and their friend James decide to find some dragon's gold. They have to meddle with magic to do it, though, which is always a dangerous thing to do. Next thing they know, a fire-breathing dragon has kidnapped James' sister Sarah and they have to find some way of rescuing her without getting fried! They're in for a marvellous magical misadventure. Pb \$12.95 63pp


NEIL GAIMAN, ANDY KUBERT & RICHARD ISANOVE

MARVEL 1602

 All's not well in the Marvel Universe in the year 1602 as strange storms are brewing and strange new powers are emerging! Spider-Man, the X-Men, Nick Fury, Dr Strange, Daredevil, Dr Doom, Black Widow, Captain America and more, appear in the waning days of the reign of Queen Elizabeth. As the world begins to change and enter into a new age, Gaiman weaves a thrilling mystery. How and why are these Marvel stars appearing nearly 400 years before they're supposed to? Graphic Novel Tp \$43.00 248pp

STEVEN GOULD

REFLEX

 *Jumper #2.* Davy believes that he is the only person in the world who can teleport. But what if he isn't? A mysterious group of people has taken Davy captive. They don't want to hire him and they don't have any hope of appealing to him to help them. What they want is to own him. They want to use his abilities for their own purposes, whether Davy agrees to it or not. And so they set about brainwashing him and conditioning him. They have even found a way to keep a teleport captive. But there's one thing that they don't know. No one knows it, not even Davy. And it might save his life... Pb \$16.95 380pp

WIN...
A CAPTAIN KIRK STANDUP!
see back page for entry details...

JOE HALDEMAN

CAMOUFLAGE

Two aliens have wandered Earth for centuries. The Changeling has survived by adapting the forms of many different organisms. The Chameleon destroys anything or anyone that threatens it. Now a sunken relic that holds the key to their origins calls to them to take them home, but the Chameleon has decided there is only room for one. Pb \$18.95 289pp

OLD TWENTIETH

The passengers aboard the starship *Ad Astra* spend most of their time on the thousand-year journey to Beta Hydrii, within the virtual reality of 20th-century Earth, where they can experience nostalgia for the hardship of a life they have since evolved beyond. But when people inside the virtual reality chamber start to die, engineer Jacob Brewer finds himself face-to-face with a sentient machine that is obsessed with humanity and has put itself in charge of the ship. The machine wants to talk to Jacob... Hb \$54.00 257pp

BARBARA HAMBLY

SISTERS OF THE RAVEN

Raeshildis #1. The Yellow City is in crisis, the wells are running dry and the Sun Mages have been unable to call the rains. Frustrated and impotent, Mages across the land can no longer work the magic that once ran their empire. Now the magic lies solely in the hands of a few women - the first ever to have developed magical powers. The men's anger knows no bounds and that hatred spills over in a series of violent attacks. Now, Raeshildis, Summer Concubine and Pomegranate Woman - three uneducated and unskilled women - must band together and use their new powers to save both their country and themselves. Pb \$16.95 498pp

ROBERT E HOWARD

BRAN MAK MORN:

THE LAST KING

In ages past, the Picts ruled all of Europe, but their descendants have sunk into barbarism... all save one, Bran Mak Morn, whose bloodline remains unbroken. Threatened by the Celts and the Romans, the Pictish tribes rally under his banner to fight for their survival, while Bran fights to restore the glory of his race. Tp 35.00 367pp

ERIN HUNTER

INTO THE WILD

Warriors #1. For generations, four Clans of wild cats have shared the forest according to the laws laid down by their ancestors. But the ThunderClan cats are in grave danger and the sinister ShadowClan grows stronger every day. Noble warriors are dying - and some deaths are more mysterious than others. In the midst of this turmoil appears an ordinary house cat named Rusty, who may turn out to be the bravest warrior of them all. Pb \$12.95 272pp

ERIN HUNTER

FIRE AND ICE

Warriors #2. Fireheart is a ThunderClan warrior cat now, but danger still lurks in the forest - and possibly closer than he thinks. With the chill of winter setting in, the cats of rival RiverClan are growing restless, while WindClan is weak and facing threats from all sides. As tensions build to an explosive climax, Fireheart faces not only imminent battle, but betrayal from within his own Clan. Pb \$12.95 317pp

WALTER H HUNT

THE DARK ASCENT

Dark Wing #3. The same ancient philosophy of the zor race that prophesied the Dark Wing has also foreseen a hero who will meet the new menace - a hero now mystically embodied in a rebellious space commodore by the name of Jackie Lappierre. As 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, although victory is hardly certain for either side. Pb \$18.95 464pp

EVA IBBOTSON

THE STAR OF KAZAN

In 1896, in a pilgrim church in the Alps, an abandoned baby girl is found by a cook and a housemaid. Annika grows up in the servants' quarters of the house of some eccentric Viennese professors. She dreams of the day when her real mother comes to find her and she will discover who she really is. Her dream comes true, but not in a way she could ever have imagined. Pb \$14.95 388pp

V M JONES

QUEST FOR THE SUN

The Karazan Quartet #4. Adam Equinox has discovered his true identity, his heritage and his destiny. And at last, in answer to his prayers of many years before, he has found somewhere he belongs. But then he

turns the final page of Zaronel's diary and discovers a secret, unsuspected by anyone except Queen Zaronel and her most trusted retainers. There was not one baby prince, but two. Zephyr, Prince of the Wind... and Zenith, Prince of the Sun. Adam's search for Zenith, a twin four times his own age, takes him over the Plains of the Dead to the outer reaches of Karazan and beyond. The quest for his lost brother is a trial by fire for Adam, testing his mettle as a prince and a man on the soil of his new kingdom. Pb \$13.95 272pp



THEODORE JUDSON

FITZPATRICK'S WAR

In the 26th century, the world is a very different place. The United States and Canada are gone, replaced by the socially rigid, authoritarian Confederacy of the Yukon. Also gone is the electronic age, destroyed in the apocalyptic Storm Times that devastated the globe and decimated the world's population in the late 21st century. It is now, once again, an age of steam, an age of lighter-than-air craft, an age of feudalism and knighthood and for some, an age of conquest. Pb \$18.95 548pp

TOM KRATMAN

A STATE OF DISOBEDIENCE

In the wake of its long battle against terrorism, the US government refuses to relinquish the extraordinary powers that it has taken on, leaving the country on the verge of civil war, until the female governor of Texas sets out to right the nation's wrongs. Pb \$18.95 435pp

MERCEDES LACKEY

& ROSEMARY EDGHILL (EDS)

BEDLAM'S EDGE

This anthology of all new urban fantasy has a stellar lineup of the best new fantasy writers, including Roberta Gellis, Dave Freer and Eric Flint, Diana Paxton and more - including two new stories and an afterword by Mercedes Lackey herself, as well as a story by Rosemary Edghill. Hb \$56.00 292pp

KEITH LAUMER

A PLAGUE OF DEMONS & OTHER STORIES

A complete novel of science fiction adventure and a host of short novels in one large volume. Pb \$18.95 564pp

SHARON LEE & STEVE MILLER

CRYSTAL SOLDIER

Lliaden: Great Migration #1. Jela is a soldier who was born to be a soldier. His genes were selected before birth and his life was chosen for him as one of service and dedication. Cantra is an ace pilot and rogue, who trades along the war-torn Rim, running solo, with an eye firmly on her own profit. When chance deals her an ex-soldier, she's inclined to leave him where she found him. That was before mutual trouble arose and Jela proved himself a good man in a tight spot. Still, she thought to ditch him next planet down the line. Only he wasn't being easy to ditch. Worse, he had a puzzle going that just naturally drew a pilot's close attention. So the two of them form an unlikely - and uncomfortable - alliance. And neither one, in the face of alien technology, outlaws and the enemy's renewed assaults, can quite forget a life lesson shared by people who live on the edge of chance: sometimes, no matter what, you're just going to lose... Hb \$56.00 321pp

KINLEY MACGREGOR

 **RETURN OF THE WARRIOR**

Brotherhood of the Sword #4. Queen Adara refuses to let a power-mad usurper steal her crown, but the only way to protect what is hers is to seek out the man she married in childhood. A proud, tormented warrior, Christian of Acre owes allegiance only to the mysterious Brotherhood - and has no wish to be king over anyone but himself. A bold and beautiful stranger has appeared in his rooms, demanding he accompany her back to their kingdoms, or at least provide her with an heir to her throne. Though he cannot abandon the brave regal lady to her enemies, Christian dares not give in to his traitorous body's desires. Yet how can he deny the passion that is rightfully his and the ecstasy that awaits him in Adara's kiss? Pb \$16.95 372pp

MARGARET MAHY

 **MADDIGAN'S FANTASIA**

In a time not too far from our own, a colourful and bizarre band of brave travellers dare to travel through a post-apocalyptic landscape - the acrobats, clowns, trapeze artists, jugglers and musicians who make up Maddigan's Fantasia. At the centre of the troupe is 12-year-old Garland, daughter of the late Ferdy Maddigan, the ringmaster of the Fantasia. Garland has made this trip many times before and at each stop there are always new friends to make, enemies to defeat, obstacles to be overcome and puzzles to solve. But this time, the journey offers more challenges than expected for Garland and Maddigan's Fantasia. Three mysterious children join the performers and with no explanation for who they are or where they have come from, they prove a dangerous enigma for Garland, who slowly unlocks their secret. Pb \$19.95 493pp

LAURIE J MARKS

 **EARTH LOGIC**

Elemental Logic #2. Shaftal has a ruler again, a woman with enough power to heal the war-torn land and expel the invading Sainnites. Or it would have a ruler if the earth witch Karis G'deon consented to rule. Instead, she lives in obscurity with the fractious family of elemental talents gathered around her. She is waiting for some sign, but no one, least of all Karis herself, knows what it is. Then the Sainnite garrison at Watford is attacked by a troop of zealots claiming to speak for the Lost G'deon and a mysterious and deadly plague attacks the land, killing both Sainnites and Shaftali. Karis must act or watch her beloved country fall into famine and chaos. And when Karis acts, the very stones of the earth sit up and take notice. Pb \$18.95 436pp

GABRIEL MESTA

 **THE MARTIAN WAR**

What if the Martian invasion was not entirely the product of H G Wells's vivid imagination? What if Wells witnessed something that spurred him to write **The War of the Worlds** not as a form of entertainment, but as a warning to the complacent people of Earth? This takes the reader on a journey with Wells and his companions from drafty London flats to the steamy Sahara, to the surface of the moon and beyond. Discover the truth about Martian invasion, not only from Wells, but also from the enigmatic Dr Moreau, who documents the very first alien autopsy. Hb \$49.95 256pp

KAI MEYER

 **THE FLOWING QUEEN**

Winged stone lions fly through the skies of an imagined Venice, which is besieged by the armies of a revived Egyptian Pharaoh. Merle is apprenticed to Arcimboldo, the maker of mysterious mirrors. Merle overhears corrupt Venetian councillors making a deal with the Egyptians, over a flask containing the essence of the Flowing Queen who protects the Venice lagoon. She flees with the flask and is convinced by the Queen to drink its contents. From then she carries the Flowing Queen inside her. Then Vermithrax, one of the last talking stone lions, whisks Merle up from the burning piazza, and away over the mountains to find help... Pb \$14.95 294pp

CAISEAL MOR

 **THE WELL OF THE GODDESS**

Wellspring #2. Guy d'Alville has already faced the terrible Nathairai, and tasted humiliating defeat. But all is not lost. He has taken possession of the sacred books of the holy community of Killibegs. D'Alville resolves to take the manuscripts to Rome in the hope of restoring his reputation, title and lands. But in making his escape from the Killibegs, Guy commits a serious blunder. In his haste to leave the heretics, he passes through a doorway to the Otherworld, finding himself trudging through the strange landscape of myth, spirits and mischief beyond the magical barrier separating the two worlds. Pb \$18.95 443pp

ANDRE NORTON & SASHA MILLER

 **DRAGON BLADE**

Oak, Ash, Yew and Rowan #4. Over a year has passed since the defeat of the Great Foulness and the ravaged earth has begun to heal. Lost for generations, the signet rings of the Four Great Houses - Oak, Yew, Ash and Rowan - have been restored to their rightful heirs. And Ashen Nordorn, Queen, mistress of the Land of Ever Snow, looks forward to a life of peace and happiness with her beloved husband and their newborn son, only to learn that an ancient evil still threatens all that she holds dear. Hb \$54.00 336pp

PAUL PARK

 **A PRINCESS OF ROUMANIA**

Many girls daydream that they are really a princess adopted by commoners. In the case of teenager Miranda Popescu, this is literally true. Because she is at the fulcrum of a deadly political battle between conjurers in an alternate world where Romania is a leading European power, Miranda was hidden by her aunt in our world, where she was adopted and raised in a quiet Massachusetts college town. This is the story of how Miranda - with her two best friends, Peter and Andromeda - is brought back to her home reality. Each of them is changed in the process and all will have much to learn about their true identities and the world they find themselves in. Hb \$54.00 368pp

MIKE RESNICK

 **SOOTHSAYER**

A Santiago novel: Mouse #1. A young girl with an interesting form of precognition is pursued from one planet to another as governments and gangsters try to turn her powers into the ultimate war weapon. Tp \$32.95 279pp

JOHN RINGO & TOM KRATMAN

 **WATCH ON THE RHINE**

A Posleen novel. In the dark days after the events in the book *Gust Front*, but before the primary invasion, the Chancellor of Germany faces a critical decision. Over the years, with military cutbacks, the store of experienced military personnel had simply dwindled. After the destruction of Northern Virginia, he realised that it was necessary to tap the one group he had sworn never, ever, to recall - the few remaining survivors of the Waffen SS. Hb \$54.00 343pp


C J RYAN

 **DEXTA**

VanDeen #1. Inside the Department of Extraterrestrial Affairs, Gloria VanDeen is a low-level bureaucrat. But she is no faceless cog. The stunning, cunning beauty happens to be the current Emperor's ex-wife and sometime playmate - a distinct advantage when disorder erupts on one of the small planets she oversees. For Gloria's personal life has catapulted her into the limelight and an off-Earth assignment is just what she needs to get back to work. But the situation may be trickier than she imagines... For decades, the docile creatures of Mynjhino have been dominated by the humans of the corporate giant GalaxCo. Now a rebellious few have gotten hold of antique semiautomatic rifles - and are mowing down their Imperial overlords. Gloria has given her body and soul to Dexta, to great effect. But when trying to broker peace with the Myn, even that may not be enough. Pb \$16.95 451pp


MARCUS SEDGWICK

THE DARK FLIGHT DOWN

 *Dead Days #2.* The days between Christmas and New Year's Eve are dead days, when spirits roam and magic shifts restlessly just beneath the surface of our lives. A magician called Valerian must save his own life within those few days or pay the price for the pact he made with evil so many years ago. But alchemy and sorcery are no match against the demonic power pursuing him. Helping him is his servant, Boy, a child with no name and no past. The quick-witted orphan girl, Willow, is with them as they dig in death fields at midnight and as they are swept into the sprawling blackness of a subterranean city on a journey from which there is no escape. Pb \$14.95 234pp


TIM SEVERIN

SWORN BROTHER

 *Viking #2.* London, 1020. A few weeks have passed since Thorgils escaped the clutches of the Irish Church, only to find himself at the centre of a capricious love affair with Aelfgifu, wife of Knut the Great, ruler of England and one of the most powerful meant of the Viking empire. Tp \$30.00 353pp


DAVID SHERMAN & DAN CRAGG

BACKSHOT

 *Starfist: Force Recon #1.* Jorge Lavager, charismatic leader of the mysterious Union of Margelan, ferociously guards an agricultural research facility on the planet Atlas. What that facility conceals will prove whether Lavager is an idealist seeking to unify Atlas under a banner of freedom and prosperity, or a tyrant aiming to control all of Human Space. The Marines of Fourth Force Recon's second platoon are dispatched to Atlas to uncover the truth. But what they find on Atlas sets off a chain of events that will force some hard decisions on the Marines... and end in a deadly surprise. Pb \$16.95 356pp


SARAH SINGLETON

CENTURY

 Mercy and her sister Charity have never questioned their daily routine, each day unfolding exactly as the next. They live at night, sleep during the day and see their widowed father only rarely, their house shrouded in perpetual winter. Then one day, Mercy is woken to find a snowdrop on her pillow. A sign of spring, a subtle hint at a possible different future. A chance meeting with the mysterious Claudius sets her to questioning everything she has ever known, not least the truth behind her mother's death. Bit by bit, she traces her parents' story through the past, travelling back to see herself as a young child, a silent witness to the dramatic events that Claudius himself plays an enormous part in. Only when she has pieced together the truth can her world begin to move on. Pb \$16.95 220pp


MIDORI SNYDER

NEW MOON

 *Oran Trilogy #1.* 200 years ago, the Fire Queen destroyed her rival queens of Earth, Air and Water in the fateful Burning and took power over Oran. No child with a trace of the elemental magic was allowed to live. Years later, the country still trembles under her oppression, but now there are rumours of hope. Four young women - who have the powers of Earth, Fire, Water and Air - escaped and are even now finding each other. At the same time, a ragtag army of artists and singers, orphans and vagrants, thieves and knife-wielders is stealing into the city. Their sign is the blood-red, blade-thin New Moon... Pb \$18.95 280pp
Also re-released: **Sadar's Keep**, *Oran Trilogy #2* (Pb \$18.95 341pp) and **Beldan's Fire**, *Oran Trilogy #3* (Pb \$18.95 376pp).


ADAM STEMPLE

SINGER OF SOULS

 Leaving his life of petty crime and drug abuse behind, young Douglas flees from Minneapolis to Edinburgh, Scotland, to his Grandma McLaren, who will take him in if he can support himself. Soon Douglas is making a decent living as the busker who can write a song about you on the spot. But Edinburgh has its dangers for the unwary. The annual arts festival, biggest in Europe, draws all manner of footloose sorts and tempted by the drugs offered by a mysterious young girl, Douglas stumbles. Suddenly, Douglas can see the fey folk who invisibly share Edinburgh's ancient streets - in all their beauty and terrifying cruelty. Worse, they can see him and they're determined to draw him into their own internecine wars - wars that are fought to the death. Hb \$49.95 237pp



HARRY TURTLEDOVE

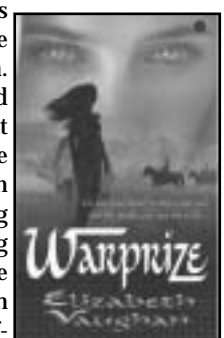
THE TIME OF TROUBLES I

 *Omnibus edition containing The Stolen Throne & Hammer and Anvil.* The uneasy peace between the Empire of Videssos and the nation of Makuran was crumbling. War came and the King of Makuran lay dead on the field of battle. Worse, a power-mad minister had seized the throne and the rightful heir had disappeared. Abivard, son of a Makuran lord who also had fallen in the same battle, realised that his only hope of saving his family and his land was to find the missing heir, though that would mean he would be branded traitor... Hb \$56.00 757pp

ELIZABETH VAUGHAN

WARPRIZE

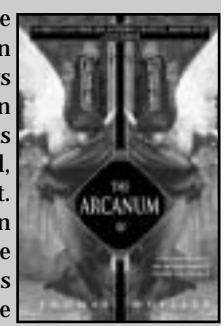
  Xylara is the daughter of the Warrior King, Xyron. With her father dead and her incompetent half-brother on the throne, the kingdom is in danger of falling to the warring Firelanders. Before she was old enough for a marriage-of-alliance, Xylara was trained as a healer. She cannot usurp her brother or negotiate a peace, but she can heal the brave ones injured in battle. But her conscience won't let Firelander warriors die when she can do something to save them. She learns their language and customs and tries to make them as comfortable as possible, despite their prisoner-of-war status. She never expects that these deeds, done in good faith, would lead to the handsome and mysterious Firelander Warlord demanding her in exchange for a cease-fire. Pb \$16.95 327pp



RECOMMENDED READING


**THOMAS WHEELER
THE ARCANUM**

It is 1919 and the Great War has come to a close. But in the shadows of the world's major cities, the killing has just begun. In this perilous time, as the division between order and chaos grows increasingly slim, a select group of visionaries have taken it upon themselves to ensure the safety of humanity. They are known as the Arcanum. In London's stormy Hyde Park, Konstantin Duvall, the Arcanum's founder, has been killed in a suspicious accident. Dismayed, the group's longest-lived member, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, determines to avenge Duvall's death and uncover the secret left in his wake. For the dead man possessed the world's most powerful (and now missing) artefact - the Book of Enoch, the chronicle of God's mistakes. Within whose pages lie the seeds for the end of everything. From the scene of the crime, Conan Doyle embarks on a path that leads him to the sleazy underworld of New York City's Bowery and a series of deceptively disparate, but decidedly connected, murders. And as he calls upon the scattered members of the Arcanum for aid, he also finds himself embroiled in a story of war as old as time itself. Not of a struggle between countries, but between darkness and light. Tp \$29.95 325pp *This was fantastic. Take four well-known people (Doyle, Lovecraft, Houdini and Laveau) and put them into a fictional situation. A nice mix of genres - detective, horror, occult and thriller. This one had me ignoring other things I should have been doing... - Steph*




DAVID WEBER

WINDRIDER'S OATH

 *Oath #3.* Bahzell managed to stop a war by convincing Baron Tellian, leader of the Sothoii, to 'surrender' to him, the War God's champion. Now he has journeyed to the Sothoii Wind Plain to oversee the parole he granted to Tellian and his men, to represent the Order of Tomanak, the War God and to be an ambassador for the hradanl. Those duties would have been enough to keep anyone busy, but additional complications are bubbling under the surface. The supporters of the deposed Sothoii noble, who started the war, are plotting to murder their new lord and frame Bahzell for the deed. Pb \$18.95 578pp


GENE WOLFE

THE KNIGHT


 *Wizard Knight #1.* A young man in his teens is transported from our world to a magical realm that contains seven levels of reality. Very quickly transformed by magic into a grown man of heroic proportions, he takes the name Abel and sets out on a quest to find the sword that has been promised to him, a sword he will get from a dragon, the one very special blade that will help him fulfil his life ambition to become a knight and a true hero. Inside, however, Abel remains a boy and must grow in every sense to survive the dangers and delights that lie ahead in encounters with giants, elves, wizards and dragons. Pb \$18.95 527pp

CHRIS WOODING

THE ASCENDANCY VEIL

 *The Braided Path #3.* The war that is tearing apart the ancient Empire of Saramyr is reaching its apocalyptic conclusion. The Weavers have stepped from the shadows and have taken control, the Emperor not even their puppet anymore. The capital is a demon-haunted nightmare, the land ridden by pestilence. As the madness of the weavers takes grip, their tactics become even more crazed and bloody, and thousands are dying on both sides. Someone must stop the weavers, someone must discover the secrets of what lies at the bottom of the massive pits they have dug across Saramyr. Tp \$29.95 374pp

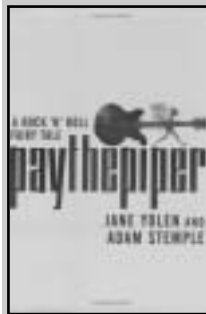
THE SKEIN OF LAMENT

 *Braided Path #2.* The grip of the Weavers on Saramyr's rulers has grown ever tighter. And all the while the blight that they have brought to the land grips ever more harshly. This cannot last and, sure enough, the land is slipping into civil war. In the growing chaos Kaiku and the orphaned heir-Empress must fight for their destiny and their survival as Saramyr succumbs to the twisting of the Weave and the unknowable ambitions of the secretive Weavers. Pb \$19.95 536pp

RECOMMENDED READING

JANE YOLEN & ADAM STEMPLE

PAY THE PIPER




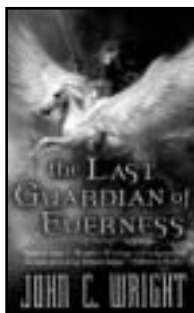
Not much happens in 14-year-old Callie McCallan's sleepy Massachusetts town. So when the famous rock 'n' roll band, Brass Rat, schedules a concert in the Valley, it's big news. Callie isn't sure what the fuss is all about, until she meets the band. Lead singer Peter Gringras and his band mates are so cool. Especially Peter. When he plays his flute, it's as if he has some kind of hypnotic power. But there is something weird about the band, something Callie can't quite put her finger on. Then on Halloween night, Callie's little brother Nicky disappears - along with all the other children of Northampton - and Callie begins to wonder if her suspicions are so weird after all. It's crazy, but Callie thinks she

knows why the children have disappeared, and who took them. To prove it - and to rescue Nicky and the other children - Callie is forced down a road that leads her to a mythical world filled with fantastical creatures, a world from which there may be no return.... Hb \$36.95 176pp *I don't say this very often at all, but this was PERFECT!!!! One of those rare books that has you hooked from the first page, and when I read the last, I cursed that it was over, yet was grateful that the story hadn't been padded out. An absolute must have for fairy tale fans! The two authors are apparently writing another book together, while Stemple has released his own music-based fairy tale, **Singer of Souls** (Hb \$49.95). Both are on my 'must read SOON' pile. - Steph*

JOHN C WRIGHT

THE LAST GUARDIAN OF EVERNESS


 *Everness #1.* Young Galen Waylock is the last watchman of the dream-gate beyond which ancient evils wait, hungry for the human world. For a thousand years, Galen's family stood guard, scorned by a world which



dismissed the danger as myth. Now, the minions of Darkness stir in the deep and the long, long watch is over. Galen's patient loyalty seems vindicated. That loyalty is misplaced. The so-called Power of Light is hostile to modern ideas of human dignity and liberty. No matter who wins the final war between darkness and light, mankind is doomed either to a benevolent dictatorship or a malevolent one. And so Galen makes a third choice: the sleeping Champions of Light are left to sleep. Galen and his companions take the forbidden fairy-weapons themselves. Treason, murder and disaster follow. The mortals must face the rising Darkness alone. Pb \$16.95 324pp


JANE YOLEN

SWORD OF THE RIGHTFUL KING

 The newly crowned King Arthur has yet to win the support of the people. Merlin must do something before the king is betrayed or murdered or, worst of all, gets married. So Merlin magically places a sword in a slab of rock that only Arthur can withdraw. Then he lets it be known that whosoever removes the blade will rule England and invites any man who would dare to try to pull out the sword. But then someone else pulls the sword out first... Pb \$16.95 361pp


SARAH ZETTEL

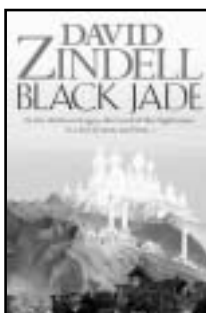
CAMELOT'S SHADOW

 *Camelot #1.* Fleeing from the knowledge that her father had promised her to an evil sorcerer, Risa refused to be a sacrifice. Armed with her bow and her confidence, she swore to evade the wicked Euberacon's claim. And when she stumbled upon Sir Gawain, returning to Camelot to warn of a plot against the kingdom, she thought she had discovered the perfect place to hide. Surely the sorcerer Euberacon would not approach her at court? Now ensnared with court and political intrigue, Risa is out of her element. And Euberacon has forced a strong transformation spell upon her. There might be one chance left to save kingdom and soul - but it will take all the strength and power she has. Pb \$16.95 507pp

DAVID ZINDELL

BLACK JADE

 *Ea #3.* Valashu Elahad rescued the Lightstone from the dark hell of the enemy's own city, only to have his triumph overturned. Once more the Lord of Lies has the sacred gem in his possession and its power is invincible. Val burns with shame. Treachery surrounds him. His only hope is the Black Jade that lies buried in the heart of a cursed and blighted forest, forgotten since the War of the Stone. Through this, the greatest black gelstei ever created, Val will seek to understand the darkness inside himself so that he can use evil to fight evil. If he does not, the world will fall into final corruption as the Dark Universe of the Lord of Lies. Hb \$59.95 728pp





C T ADAMS & CATHY CLAMP
MOON'S WEB

Sazi #2. After suddenly developing psychic powers, Tony Giodone, a werewolf assassin-for-hire, matches wits with a terrifying adversary who is stalking and killing female shapeshifters and stealing their powers, when the girlfriend of Tony's former boss, a Mafia don, is kidnapped by the killer. Pb \$16.95 337pp

L A BANKS
THE HUNTED

Vampire Huntress #3. Each millennium brings a new Neteru, a vampire huntress whose mission is to vanquish evil from the world. This millennium's saviour has come in the form of Damali Richards, a hip-hop diva with the heart of a warrior and an attitude to match. But a war in Hell has cost Damali both her powers and her past love, Carlos Rivera. Still, Damali can't let her grief stand in her way. Several deaths, starting with an American research team, have come to Damali's attention in Brazil. The nature of the deaths leads Damali to believe that the killer is anything but human... Pb \$18.95 576pp

JIM BUTCHER
DEAD BEAT

The Dresden Files #7. Karrin Murphy is the head of SI and a good friend of Harry's. So when a deadly vampire threatens to destroy Murphy's reputation unless Harry helps her, he has no choice. The vampire wants the Word of Kemmler and all the power that comes with it, but first Harry has to determine what the Word of Kemmler is. Now Harry is in a race against time - and six necromancers - to find the Word before Chicago experiences a Halloween night to wake the dead. Hb \$49.95 396pp

DOUGLAS CLEGG
THE ABANDONED

Harrow is a dark and isolated mansion on a hill just beyond the town of Watch Point in New York's Hudson Valley. It has been abandoned and fallen into disrepair. But a new caretaker has come to Harrow. He is fixing up the rooms and preparing the house for visitors... What's been trapped inside the house has begun leaking like a poison into the village itself. A teenage girl sleeps too much, but when she awakens her nightmares will break loose. A little boy encounters the ultimate fear when the house calls to him. A young woman must face unspeakable terror to keep Harrow from destroying everything she loves. And somewhere within the house a demented child waits with teeth like knives. Pb \$16.95 370pp

CHARLAINE HARRIS
DEAD AS A DOORMAIL

Susie Stackhouse #5. When the eyes of Sookie's brother, Jason, start to change, she knows he is about to turn into a werewolf 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 he may be the shooter. Hb \$49.95 295pp

DEAD TO THE WORLD

Susie Stackhouse #4. When Sookie sees a naked man on the side of the road, she doesn't just drive on by. Turns out the poor thing hasn't a clue who he is, but Sookie does. It's Eric the vampire, but he's a kinder, gentler Eric - and a scared Eric, because whoever took his memory now wants his life. Pb \$19.95 310pp

JAMES KIDMAN
BLACK FIRE

It's been seven years since the life-shattering event that Eddie Farris thinks of as The Showdown, the night he killed his father in self-defence. Seven years of trying to put his life back together and trying to put the past behind him. But sometimes the past doesn't want to stay dead. And sometimes the dead come back to haunt you... In Eddie's case, the dead are coming back with a vengeance. Nothing in his world is quite what it seems to be and he will soon discover that you never really escape your destiny. It burns within the fire of your soul. Pb \$16.95 339pp

BRIAN KNIGHT
BROKEN ANGEL

Signed, limited edition. Michele had always been a good girl. Then Angel came, and the very night the strange girl appeared, Michele killed a man. It wasn't murder, but it didn't matter. When her old friends shun her, Michele finds friendship again in Clearwater's other outsiders: Grim and Angel. As Angel's health improves and her memory returns, the hot Clearwater summer becomes increasingly strange. Insanity creeps through the small town like a plague, spawning violence, and no one is immune. And death has arrived in the form of a shadowy figure lurking in the woods at night. Hb \$95.00 317pp

MICHAEL LAIMO
THE DEMONOLOGIST

A man fights to keep his humanity while possessed by a demon. Pb \$16.95 369pp

JOE R LANSDALE
BUMPER CROP

The author has compiled 26 of his favourite and most violent dark horror tales. All of the stories are individually introduced by Lansdale, who explains the humorous, weird and sometimes sad genesis for each. Tp \$35.00 199pp

RICHARD LAYMON
THE GLORY BUS

Norman wouldn't say boo to a goose, so he's never going to throw bad-boy Duke out of his car or say no to Boots, the hitchhiker who tags along for the ride. Together the pair take him on a journey that looks like it's heading straight for the electric chair. But when the glory bus comes along there's hope of salvation for all. Pamela and Norman are just two who climb on board. They don't know their destination is the Mojave Desert, where a special welcome awaits. It can't be worse than what's gone before... Hb \$59.95 342pp

KATIE MACALISTER
FIRE ME UP

Aisling Grey #2. Aisling Grey is back - and in more trouble than ever. She thought being a courier would be easy. It's not. She thought being a Guardian would come naturally. It doesn't. She thought she could get out of being a wyvern's mate. She can't. And she never thought she'd be irresistible to men. But she is. Pb \$16.95 360pp

A LEE MARTINEZ
GIL'S ALL FRIGHT DINER

Duke and Earl are just passing through Rockwood County when they stop at the Diner for a quick bite to eat. They aren't planning to stick around - until Loretta, the eatery's owner, offers them \$100 to take care of her zombie problem. Given that Duke is a werewolf and Earl's a vampire, this looks right up their alley. But the shambling dead are just the tip of a particularly spiky iceberg. Seems someone's out to drive Loretta from the Diner and more than willing to raise a little Hell on Earth if that's what it takes. Hb \$54.00 268pp

RECOMMENDED READING

JAMES A MOORE
THE PACK



Serenity Falls #2. Welcome to Serenity Falls... A young girl is horribly tortured, a boy becomes a conduit to hell, the dogs of the town turn feral. One man has been enlisted to stop the encroaching evil. He'll soon discover that the true horror lies not with those who walk the earth, but with those who lie beneath it. Pb \$16.95 411pp *What I thought would be a bit of a light read (while deciding what I really wanted to read) turned out to be a gem. I managed to read the first novel in 24 hours, which for me these days is extraordinary. It's a story that's been told before, but Moore has a nice way with his characters, be they good or evil. He is also pretty deft at keeping you guessing. I'm thoroughly enjoying these! - Steph*

JAMES A MOORE
DARK CARNIVAL

Serenity Falls #3. The circus is in town. The bad news is: it's raising more than a ruckus. It's raising the dead! Pb \$16.95 343pp

SCOTT NICHOLSON
THE HOME

For 12-year-old Freeman Mills, Wendover Home is just another temporary sanctuary that fosters the troubled and unwanted. He will not befriend any of Wendover's other lost causes, nor will he reveal the unique gift bestowed upon him by a father more interested in a scientific guinea pig than a son. But Freeman soon learns that there are no secrets at Wendover. Every resident is subjected to group therapy, as well as individual sessions in Room 13. It is in this room that Freeman will endure experiments devised to test the abilities of the human mind. And it is these experiments that unleash something meant to stay buried far in Wendover's past. Something long forgotten, but not forgiving... Pb \$16.95 349pp

DOUGLAS PRESTON & LINCOLN CHILD
BRIMSTONE


Art critic Jeremy Grove is found dead in a room barricaded from the inside, his face frozen in a mask of terror. His body temperature is grotesquely high and the smell of brimstone is everywhere. The unmistakable imprint of a claw is burned into the wall. As more bodies are discovered - their only connection the bizarre, but identical, manner of death - the world begins to wonder if the Devil has come to collect his due. Teaming with Police Officer Vincent D'Agosta, Agent Pendergast is determined to solve this case that appears to defy everything except supernatural logic. Their investigation takes them from the luxury estates of Long Island to the crumbling, legend-shrouded castles of the Italian countryside, where Pendergast faces the most treacherous and dangerous adversary of his career. Pb \$18.95 740pp

THE ILLUSTRATED STEPHEN KING TRIVIA BOOK

BRIAN FREEMAN & BEV VINCENT (EDS)
This trivia book features over 1,000 questions to test your knowledge of the King of Horror, along with dozens of special, illustration-based questions from *Cemetery Dance* favourite artist Glenn Chadbourne! Freeman is the founder of StephenKingNews.com and Vincent is the author of *The Road to the Dark Tower* and the *News from the Dead Zone* column in *Cemetery Dance* magazine. This title also features a special afterword by Michelle Revelle, Founder/Co-President of SKEMERS, the largest Stephen King fan group on the web. Tp \$43.00 404pp

MEDIA


ALIEN/PREDATOR

 **BEAUTIFUL MONSTERS: THE UNOFFICIAL AND UNAUTHORISED GUIDE TO THE ALIEN AND PREDATOR FILMS**

DAVID MCINTEE

This is the story of the *Alien* and *Predator* film franchises. Each film is chronicled through analysis and extensive background information. Themes and influences are examined through articles. Also details all the spin-off books, comics and computer games. Tp \$36.95 266pp

ANGEL

 **HOLLYWOOD VAMPIRE: THE APOCALYPSE: AN UNOFFICIAL AND UNAUTHORISED GUIDE TO THE FINAL SEASON OF ANGEL**

KEITH TOPPING

Following on from the three previous editions, this is the comprehensive guide to *Angel's* world in Season 5, the final season of this popular show. It covers discussion of each of the episodes in categories, considers the links and cross-references between *Angel* and *Buffy*, and discusses recurrent themes and coverage of *Angel* on the internet. Pb \$19.95 228pp

BATMAN

 **THE ULTIMATE BATMAN GLOW-IN-THE-DARK STICKER BOOK**

JULIA MARCH & NICK AVERY

This interactive sticker book contains over 60 full-colour, glow-in-the-dark stickers of Batman, his friends and a host of rogues including the Joker, Catwoman and the Penguin. Batman backdrops let you create your own comic book action scenes using the stickers, as well as logos, 'sound-effects' and vehicles. The stickers can be used more than once. Pb \$9.95

DR WHO

 **DOCTOR WHO: FUNFAX**

Find out everything you need to know about the mysterious world of *Doctor Who* with this fantastic funfax. Packed with amazing photos and great facts from the show, you'll soon be totally clued up on the TV series with this compact companion. Get the low-down on the cast, the monsters and special effects with exclusive data and profiles of all your favourite characters. Enjoy all the cool activities, including poster, diary, stickers, games and heaps more. \$14.95




DOCTOR WHO: INTERGALACTIC ACTIVITY BOOK

There's lots of activities to complete in this activity book - word games, spot the difference and much more. Then pull out the board game and join the Doctor and Rose as they travel through time and space in a race to save the world. Tp \$9.95 24pp


DOCTOR WHO: STICKER GUIDE

This sticker guide contains lots of fun facts about the Doctor, Rose and the other characters, monsters and even the technology in the new series. Use the stickers to complete the pages, or to decorate your stuff! Pb \$7.95 16pp









 **WHO'S NEXT: AN UNOFFICIAL AND UNAUTHORISED GUIDE TO DOCTOR WHO**
MARK CLAPHAM, EDDIE ROBSON & JIM SMITH

This guide covers all the broadcast *Doctor Who* to date: the 700-plus episodes of the TV series (1963 to 1989); the radio serials of 1985, 1993 and 1996; the TV movie of 1996; the TV specials of 1993 and 1999; and the internet-broadcast animated serials of 2001, 2002 and 2003. Pb \$24.95 404pp

FIREFLY

 **FINDING SERENITY: ANTI-HEROES, LOST SHEPHERDS AND SPACE HOOKERS IN JOSS WHEDON'S FIREFLY**
JANE ESPENSON (ED)

In this eclectic anthology of essays, former cast member Jewel Staite (Kaylee), philosopher Lyle Zynda, sex therapist Joy Davidson and noted science fiction and fantasy authors Mercedes Lackey, David Gerrold and Lawrence Watt-Evans contribute to a clever and insightful analysis of the short-lived cult hit *Firefly*. Tp \$39.95 238pp

	NOVELISATION (written version of film, TV, radio drama production, comic or game)	
	Based On (concept)	
	Fil m	
	TV Show	
	Computer Game	
	Role-playing Game	
	Comic	
	Reference	

CALENDARS

BORIS VALLEJO & JULIE BELL'S 2006 FANTASY CALENDAR

Wall Calendar \$26.95

FUTURAMA 2006 WALL CALENDAR

Wall Calendar \$29.00

H R GIGER 2006

Wall Calendar \$32.95

LADY COTTINGTON'S PRESSED FAIRY CALENDAR 2006

Wall Calendar \$28.95 (Illustrated by Brian Froud. Also contains 50 stickers)

SMALLVILLE 2006

Wall Calendar \$29.95



What We've Been Reading

The Physiognomy by Jeffrey Ford (Pb \$18.95). Cley has been sent by the Master from the Well Built City to the village of Anamasobia to solve a murder. He determines the truth by calliper and precise measurement. But when he arrives, the mysteries of life itself will be revealed, and Cley's reality shattered by the secrets that dwell within the earth...

Winner of the 1998 *World Fantasy Award*, Ford is a master storyteller, bringing to mind George Orwell, China Mieville and Tim Burton with this dark tale. 9/10 - *David*

Perfect Circle by Sean Stewart (Pb \$32.95). William Kennedy can see the dead girl in the garage. In fact, he's beginning to see the dead everywhere. But the living can cause more problems, particularly when they might want to kill you. William's daughter is starting to think her dad should get his life sorted out, but William just doesn't know where to begin...

This urban ghost story is a wonderfully told, smooth piece of work. The characters are likeable and Stewart seamlessly mixes the paranormal and normal worlds. Think Jonathan Carroll, Nick Hornby and REM for comparisons. 7/10 - *David*

The Historian by Elizabeth Kostova (Tp \$32.95). This is a nice mix of history and horror. I was this close to giving up on it, as the first third is a bit slow, but the tension just started creeping up slowly and I wasn't quite prepared to put it down. The story still isn't a fast one, but it nicely matches the methodical research that the characters are doing. When the pace picks up for them, it also picks up for the reader. - *Steph*

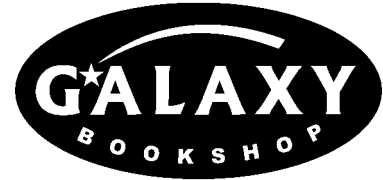
Dark Hills Divide (*Land of Elyon* #1) Patrick Carman (Hb \$19.95). This YA novel was just charming and will appeal to both boys and girls (and adults). Set in a world where towns are linked by great walls (I kept picturing the Great Wall of China), with stories of who and what lives in the dark forests outside. Alexa is an intelligent and inquisitive young woman who has a knack for being where she is not meant to be and, in the process, finds the answers to some big questions. The author has a fantastic storytelling style and nails the imagery. I'm hooked! - *Steph*

COMPETITION

To win a standup of William Shatner, name his latest CD. Mail, fax or email (competition@galaxybooks.com.au) your answer along with your name and address. Entry closes 23 September 2005. Entry open to Galaxy Cardholders only.

COMPETITION WINNERS

The winners of a poster signed by Kate Forsyth are Ian D Williams, Julie Call, Jenna Thomson and Andrew Chong. Congratulations!



A division of Abbey's Bookshops Pty Ltd
ABN 86 000 650 975

TRADING HOURS

Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri	8.30am - 7.00pm
Thursday	8.30am - 9.00pm
Saturday	8.30am - 6.00pm
Sunday	10.00am - 5.00pm

ORDERS

Phone	(02) 9267 7222
Fax	(02) 9261 3691
email	sf@galaxybooks.com.au
Online	www.galaxybooks.com.au
Post	Reply Paid 78681 SYDNEY NSW 2000

DELIVERY

One item	\$5.00
Each additional item	.50
Orders of 10 or more items	Free

Per order Australia-wide

REWARD DOLLARS

If you are a regular book buyer, ask for a Galaxy Card so your purchases go towards earning you Reward Dollars, which can be used to purchase any items from us and are issued every 6 months as follows:

Purchases Over*	Reward \$
\$300	20
\$400	25
\$500	35
\$600	45
\$700	55
\$800	65
\$900	75
\$1000	\$10 for every \$100 spent

* during every 6 month period ended 30 June & 31 Dec

GIFT VOUCHERS

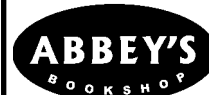
Galaxy's attractive Gift Vouchers are available in any denomination and have no expiry date. Redeemable at Abbey's Bookshop, Language Book Centre or Galaxy Bookshop.



PARKING

Spend \$50 or more at Abbey's Bookshop, Language Book Centre or Galaxy Bookshop, present your QVB parking ticket and receive a \$5 Parking Voucher.

SPECIALIST STORES



Visit the ground floor at 131 York Street for a great range of crime and general fiction, history, science, the classics, children's books & much more.

Phone	(02) 9264 3111
Fax	(02) 9264 8993
email	books@abbey.com.au
Online	www.abbey.com.au



Up the stairs in Abbey's for language learning materials and foreign fiction, children's books, videos and DVDs.

Phone	(02) 9267 1397 1800 802 432 (outside Sydney)
Fax	(02) 9264 8993
email	language@abbey.com.au
Online	www.languagebooks.com.au

Prices are correct at time of publication but unfortunately are subject to change.