



# NEXUS

OCTOBER 2003

ISSUE #185

## 2003 HUGO AWARD WINNERS

**Best Novel:** *Hominids* by Robert J Sawyer

**Best Novella:** *Coraline* by Neil Gaiman

**Best Novelette:** *Slow Life* by Michael Swanwick

**Best Short Story:** *Falling Onto Mars* by Geoffrey A Landis

**Best Related Book:** *Better to Have Loved: The Life of Judith Merril*  
by Judith Merril and Emily Pohl-Weary

**Best Short Form Dramatic Presentation:** *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*,  
"Conversations With Dead People"

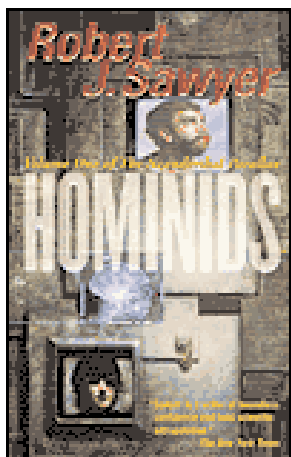
**Best Long Form Dramatic Presentation:** *The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers*

**Best Professional Editor:** Gardner Dozois

**Best Professional Artist:** Bob Eggleton

**Best Semiprozine:** *Locus*

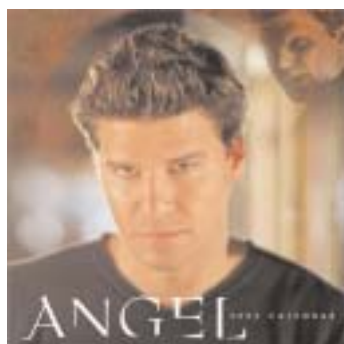
**John W Campbell Award for Best New Writer:** Wen Spencer



## CALENDARS 2004



TOLKIEN 2004 WALL  
CALENDAR \$22.95



ANGEL 2004  
WALL CALENDAR \$23.95



FAERYLAND 2004  
WALL CALENDAR \$22.95



STAR WARS 2004  
CLASSIC ADVENTURES  
WALL CALENDAR \$23.95



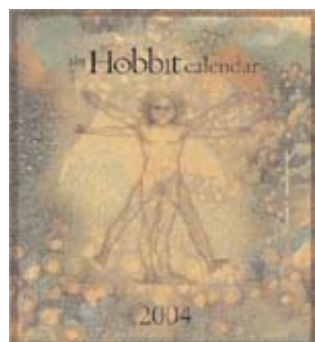
TOLKIEN: RETURN OF THE  
KING 2004 DIARY \$22.95



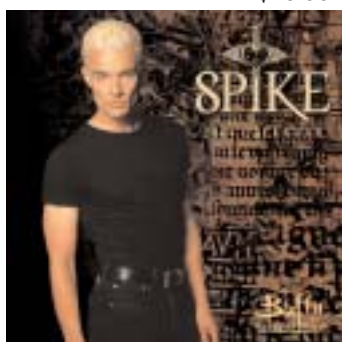
BUFFY 2004  
WALL CALENDAR \$23.95



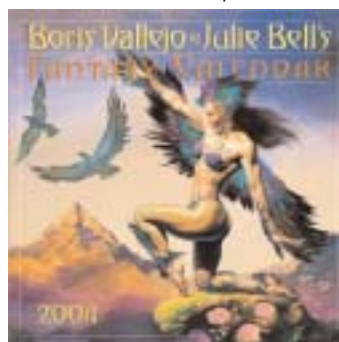
THE GOBLIN 2004  
CALENDAR \$22.95



THE HOBBIT  
CALENDAR \$22.95



SPIKE 2004  
WALL CALENDAR \$23.95



BORIS VALLEJO &  
JULIE BELL'S FANTASY  
CALENDAR 2004 \$29.95

### Also Available...

Harry Potter Wall Calendar  
2004 (Not film related)  
\$25.95

Harry Potter 2004 Mini  
Calendar (Not film related)  
\$11.95

Thunderbirds 2004 Wall  
Calendar \$23.95

The Lord of the Rings:  
The Return of the King  
2004 Calendar (small,  
comes with stickers) \$12.95

The Lord of the Rings:  
Return of the King 2004  
Wall Calendar 2004 (large)  
\$24.95



# SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY



KEVIN J ANDERSON

 **A FOREST OF STARS**

*The Saga of the Seven Suns #2.* Archaeologists Margaret and Louis Colicos, whose discovery of an ancient alien weapon accidentally triggered the Hydrogue conflict, have vanished on the abandoned world of Rheindic Co. Rlinda Kett and Davlin Lotze, sent to investigate the disappearance, soon realise that the Colicos' discoveries may lead to an incredible new way to travel between worlds... or to the awakening of enemies even more fearsome than the Hydrogues. Something of inestimable power must have been required to destroy the Klikiss race. Will humanity be next? Tp \$29.95 727pp

**K A APPLGATE**

 **SURVIVAL**

*Remnants #13.* Tate is fighting for her life. Honey, Duncan and Charlie are mysteriously transforming into slime creatures and they are desperate to "recycle" all of the living cells - into their own bodies. Tate is haunted by a strange reoccurring dream of the renewed Earth. Do the dreams mean Tate can use the powerful ship to undo the devastation caused by the Rock? Pb \$9.95 165pp

JAMES AXLER

 **SEA OF PLAGUE**

*Outlanders: Heart of the World #2.* Once a soldier of the new world, Kane and his band of exiles have waged a tireless war to stop the tides of damnation for mankind. Pb \$17.95 347pp

**KAGE BAKER**

 **ANVIL OF THE WORLD**

Smith, an extremely successful assassin, is now trying to retire and live an honest life in obscurity. His problems begin when he agrees to be the master of a caravan from the inland city of Troon to the seaside city of Salesh. The caravan is dogged by murder, magic and the brooding image of the Master of the Mountain, a powerful demon. In Salesh, Smith becomes an innkeeper, but on the journey he befriended the young Lord Ermenwyr, a decadent demonic half-breed. Each time Ermenwyr turns up, he brings new trouble with him. Hb \$62.00 350pp

**CURT BENJAMIN**

 **THE PRINCE OF DREAMS**

*Seven Brothers #2.* Llesho has succeeded in finding several of his brothers and winning the aid of allies such as the trickster god, the emperor, two gladiators, a young witch and a goddess. But can he discover the truth about his own identity? And can he survive the ultimate masters of evil? Pb \$17.95 512pp

**JULIE BERTAGNA**

 **EXODUS**

For 15-year-old Mara, her family and community, huddled on a fast-disappearing island, the new century brings flight. Packed into tiny boats, they begin a terrifying journey to a city built on the drowned remains of the ancient city of Glasgow. But once there Mara realises they are asylum-seekers in a world torn between high-tech wizardry and the most primitive injustice. To save her people, Mara must not only find a way into the city but also search for a new land and a new home... Pb \$14.95 337pp

K J BISHOP

 **ETCHED CITY**

"Have you seen a split cranium, growing flowers like a window box? I saw that, a mere hour ago..." A healer and a killer flee the ghosts of their past, escaping from the ruined Copper Country to the city of Ashamoil. As they salvage new lives from the debris of the old, they discover that the ghosts of the past are also the ghosts of the future. And as tragic and comic destinies play out in the city, art will infect life, dream and waking fuse, and splendid and frightening miracles will bloom. Tp \$39.95 332pp

**MARTIN BOOTH**

 **DOCTOR ILLUMINATUS**








*The Alchemists Son #1.* When Pip and Tim move into an ancient manor house, they discover a strange boy dressed like a fifties schoolboy. His name is Sebastian, and he is kept in a state of suspended animation, waking up down the centuries to continue the struggle against the evil alchemist, de Loudeac. De Loudeac's continuing aim is to create an homunculus - a kind of manikin android, who will be his puppet in evil. Pb \$14.95 175pp

**BEN BOVA**

 **SATURN**

*A Grand Tour novel.* 10,000 men and women, exiled by the restrictive governments of Earth, are riding a man-made habitat to the planet Saturn. Malcolm Eberly, has been placed aboard the Saturn-bound habitat to take over its government. As the spacecraft nears its destination he manoeuvres to take control of the habitat, but his manipulations lead to murder... Meanwhile, frustrated by Dr. Urbain's intransigence, Gaeta prepares to fly solo through the rings, abetted by Wunderly and Cardenas. What he finds there challenges everyone living in the habitat. Pb \$19.95 434pp



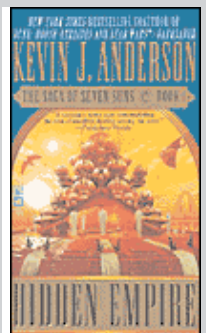
	SCIENCE FICTION
	FANTASY
	ROMANCE
	AWARD WINNER
	AUSTRALIAN
	ACTION
	REPRINT
AC	AUDIO CASSETTE
CD	COMPACT DISC
PB	PAPERBACK
HB	HARDBACK
TP	TRADE PAPERBACK

## RECOMMENDED READING

KEVIN ANDERSON  
HIDDEN EMPIRE

*The Saga of the Seven Suns #1.* As Mankind seizes the future, danger comes from the past, when two human archaeologists glean forbidden knowledge from the ruins of a dead world. Pb \$18.95 704pp *This is the first book in what is bound to be a gigantic space opera series. In the 25th century, humans have spread across space, as planet after planet gets colonised. The Terran Hansa, the ruling political party which successfully mixes business with politics, carefully controls this ever-growing league of humans. Ambitions are further raised with the development of the Klikiss Torch, an alien weapon which promises to turn worthless gas-giant planets into a life-giving star (much like our own Sun). The experiment turns out to be a success, but unprecedented attacks on human territories spark widespread panic across the Terran League.*

*Relations with the Ildirans, a humanoid alien race, begin to strain as the known universe braces for war on a scale never before seen. Anderson presents a well thought-out world with an interesting blend of culture and politics. Although it offers nothing new to the space-opera genre, Anderson's style of writing makes this worth a read. Check this out if you enjoyed Peter F Hamilton's Night's Dawn Trilogy. - John*



# FAVE RAVES

OUR FAVOURITES - NEW & OLD

## HARD FREEZE

JOE KURTZ #2  
PB \$17.95 311PP  
DAN SIMMONS

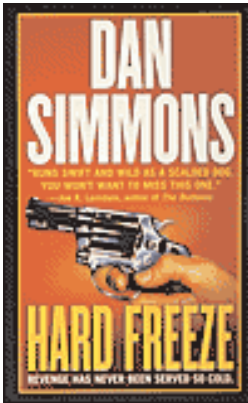
This book follows directly on from *Hardcase* (Pb \$17.95) and is a fast moving account of the exploits of hard-boiled, ex-private investigator Joe Kurtz in the frozen tundra of wintertime Buffalo. Kurtz, a convicted felon, has just been parolled after serving 11 years in gaol for the murder of the two men responsible for killing his partner, Sam.

The action begins with Kurtz thwarting an attempted hit on him by "The Three Stooges" who were hired by the Farino family (Kurtz's ex-employers) and, as Kurtz says, "It was shaping up to be an especially tough winter."

Kurtz meets with his snitch Pruno, a homeless heroin addict who lives in a cardboard box and used to be a Princeton professor. Pruno puts Kurtz on to a former student John Wellington Frears, a famous violinist. Frears attempts to hire Kurtz to investigate the rape and murder of his 13-year-old daughter some 20 years ago.

After finding out that Angelina Farino organised the hit on him, Kurtz sets out to seek vengeance against her. One thing leads to another and Kurtz winds up in an alliance with Angelina in her war against the other powerful Buffalo crime family, the Gonzagas. They also track down the suspected child killer, James B Hansen, where they encounter a web of intrigue surrounding that crime.

Simmons does a great job making the reader connect with his gritty protagonist Joe Kurtz, who is not always on the right side of the law, and he ties the seemingly unrelated plotlines together expertly with a big explosive finish. Violent, fast-paced and with a high body count, I think this thriller should please fans of the crime genre and Simmons' other works. If that's not enough, there's even a preview of the next Joe Kurtz adventure at the back of the book. - Nik



## WARRIORS OF ALAVNA

ALAVNA #1  
PB \$15.95 310PP  
N M BROWNE

This is the first book of a trilogy, the other two being *Hunted* (Pb \$15.95 336pp) and *Warriors of Camlann* (Pb \$15.95 400pp). This is a hard book to put into a category; it is set in a parallel world to ours and involves a lot of what is known about first century Britain. Its heroes are two teenagers, Dan and Ursula, who, while on a school excursion to Stonehenge, encounter a mysterious, all-enveloping, yellow fog. After seeing it swallow up Ursula, Dan decides to go after her. So the adventure begins...

In his search for Ursula, Dan comes upon a village that has been massacred and he finds a sword called Bright Killer. The sword seems to be calling to him to take it up. Not long after this, a dog joins him as the only survivor of the massacre. Together they leave to begin a search for his missing school friend and to work out just where he is.


In the process of this search, Dan comes across some people speaking Latin and ends up beaten by these people, who seem very like Roman legionnaires - but they can't be, can they? While all this is going on, Ursula has been mistaken for a male warrior due to her height and build (over 6 feet tall, solid and with piercing blue eyes and short hair) and has been "rescued" by a warrior called Prince Mascen. He reminds her of her distant ancestors from ancient times - but he can't be, can he?

It is only now that Ursula learns that the fog was created by the priestess Rhonwen to bring a great warrior to them so that they may defeat the Romans in battle. Poor Ursula is unaware Dan has followed her and is understandably worried when she is surrounded by all these "strong hairy men" speaking in a foreign tongue. She goes along with their mistake and they re-name her Boar Skull. This is all just in the first 20 pages!


I won't say any more about the story other than it's very well written and has some neat references to our time, like Dan calling his horse Braveheart. The book has an educational feel, as well as being a great fun read. It is aimed at teenage readers, but can be read by anyone aged 10 upwards, and would appeal to fans of Phillip Pullman, J K Rowling, Tamora Pierce or Jane Yolen. I recommend this title for its wonderfully well-depicted characters and its easy, but interesting, reading style. - Stephen

### GILLIAN BRADSHAW

#### RENDER UNTO CAESAR


 Hermogenes is a young Greek from Alexandria, heir to a noble and vibrant society. When his father is granted a boon, it appears as if his family has found favor from the gods - except then a business deal goes sour and Hermogenes father dies at sea. It is left to Hermogenes to reclaim all monies owed to the family... including a debt from a very well connected Roman consul who has reneged on his obligations and refuses to deal with "Greek trash." Hermogenes will travel to Rome to reclaim what he is owed and finds it is no simple matter. Hb \$65.00 460pp

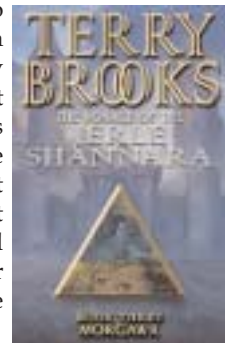
#### THE WRONG REFLECTION

 When Paul Anderson awakens in hospital with amnesia after a horrific car crash, there's just one thing he's sure of - he is not Paul Anderson. His suspicions centre on Stellar Research Centre and he feels instinctively that he is in danger. Pb \$17.95 362pp

### TERRY BROOKS


#### MORGAWR

 *Voyage of Jerle Shannara* #3. With a fleet of airships and a crew of walking dead men at his command, the Morgawr is in relentless pursuit of the Jerle Shannara and the crew that mans her. For the Morgawr, the goal is two-fold: to find and control the fabled ancient books of magic, and to destroy the dark disciple who betrayed him - the Ilse Witch. But the Ilse Witch is already a prisoner... of herself. Forced to confront the truth of her horrifying deeds, she has fled deep into her own mind. Now at the mercy of those who seek vengeance against her, her only protector is her long-lost brother, Bek Ohmsford, who is determined to redeem his beloved sister and deliver her to the destiny predicted for her by the Druid Walker Boh. Pb \$18.95 401pp




N M BROWNE

**WARRIORS OF CAMLANN**

 *Alavna* #2. When the thick fog of the Veil descends again, Dan and Ursula expect to return to present day Britain. Instead, the treacherous mist transports them to an ancient world very like the one they have just escaped. But the battle they fought in only hours before is distant history to those around them and their deeds on the battlefield are legend. Dan and Ursula have travelled forwards through time, but how far? What has happened to their old allies and enemies? To find a way back, they have to piece the clues together and use all their skills of survival - as it seems they were not the only ones to step through the mist. Pb \$15.95 399pp

STEVEN BRUST

**LORD OF CASTLE BLACK**

 *Viscount of Adrilankha* #2. The Interregnum is over. To everyone's astonishment, Zerika, a very young Phoenix, has coolly emerged from the Paths of the Dead, carrying with her the Orb, which everyone had thought was lost in Adron's Disaster. The Orb is the heart of the Dragaeran Empire, the source of all its magic - and the infallible sign that Zerika is the new Empress. But not everyone is happy to hear the news. Hb \$65.00 397pp

CHRIS BUNCH

**THE SCOUNDREL WORLDS**


 *Star Risk Ltd* #2.

Skyball is popular, challenging and violent - in other words, the greatest sport in the universe. The mercenary team of Star Risk, Ltd. has been hired to watch it... closely. Two opposing worlds are neck and neck, and lately the game's been a real killer. Riots, murder, a real madhouse for loyal fans. It's up to Star Risk to keep it galaxy-friendly. Good luck to them. They don't stand a sporting chance. Pb \$17.95 338pp



ORSON SCOTT CARD


**FIRST MEETINGS IN THE ENDERVERSE**

 This is a collection of three novellas - plus the original "Ender's Game" that journey into the origins and the destiny of Ender Wiggin. Hb \$43.00 208pp




ISOBEL CARMODY

**DARKSONG**

 *Legendsong* #2. After crossing to the troubled world of Keltor, Ember learns that her twin sister also crossed, and is in great danger. She must find Glynn and warn her before it is too late. Pb \$19.95 Pb 760pp


MICHAEL CHABON

**SUMMERLAND**

 Ethan Field is the worst sportsman in history. Recruited by a 100-year-old scout and guided by a friendly werefox, Ethan struggles to defeat giants, bat-winged goblins and one of the toughest baseball teams in the realms of magic, to save the Summerlands, and ultimately the world. Pb \$21.95 500pp


C J CHERRYH

**AT THE EDGE OF SPACE**

 Now, two of the author's long-unavailable early classics are together in one omnibus edition. *Brothers of Earth* and *Hunter of Worlds* chronicle the survival of solitary humans among hostile, predatory aliens on the fringes of human-explored space. Pb \$19.95 540pp


HAL CLEMENT

**NOISE**

 Mike Hoani has come to Kainui to study the language of the colonists, to analyse its evolution in the years since settlement. Kainui is an ocean planet, with an ocean that is 1,700 miles deep, and no solid ground anywhere. Out on the great planetary ocean, self-sufficiency is crucial, and far from any floating city, on a small working-family ship, anything can happen. There are, for instance, pirates. Mike's academic research turns into an exotic nautical adventure unlike anything he could have imagined. Hb \$55.00 252pp


EINO COLFER

**THE ARCTIC INCIDENT**

 *Artemis Fowl* #2. Old enemies, Holly Short and Artemis Fowl, are working together for the first time. A bold and daring plan is necessary to fight the threat to the Lower Elements from the goblin B'wa Kell triad - and to rescue Artemis's father. Pb \$14.95 288pp


JULIE CZERNEDA (ED)

**ORBITER**

 *Tales of the Wonder Zone*. This is one of a series of original SF anthologies for young readers ages 9 and up. It contains an introduction by David Brin and stories from Anne Bishop, Eric Choi, Anne Griessman and Mark Canter. Tp \$43.00 170pp


JULIE CZERNEDA (ED)

**SPACE INC.**

 In this original anthology, some of today's top SF talents tackle tomorrow's jobs - in space and beyond. Each story in this collection begins with a Want Ad and ends up revealing a space-age working world of head-hunters, applicants, bosses and employees. Pb \$17.95 319pp

CECILIA DART-THORNTON


**BATTLE OF EVERNIGHT**

 *Bitterbynde* #3. Tahquil has at last discovered the truth. She is being hunted down by the Raven Prince because she alone can reopen the gate to the Fair Realm, so Morragan plans to use her for his escape from exile. If she opens the Gate, will she thereby save two worlds - or instead destroy everything she holds dear? Hb \$60.00 467pp




PETER DAVID

**TONG LASHING**

 *Sir Apropos* #3. This time out, Apropos finds himself out to sea... literally. Yes, our rogue knight winds up adrift in hostile waters after a friendly game of chance with a wizard turns ludicrously deadly. But once again Death is thwarted as Apropos winds up a stranger in a strange land. A land called Chinpan, populated by people who speak a different language and live by a code of honour, neither of which Apropos can comprehend. Hb \$59.95 375pp


GEORGE ALEX EFFINGER

**BUDAYEEN NIGHTS**

 This collection includes four tales of Marid Audran, the protagonist in the author's highly acclaimed *Budayeen* novels. Also included is Effinger's best-known story, *Schrödinger's Kitten*, in which a young girl's dreams portend myriad possible quantum futures, all focused on her encounter with a would-be rapist. Hb \$59.95 235pp

BARBARA ERSKINE

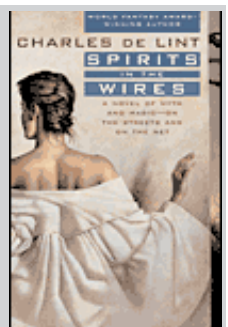
**SANDS OF TIME**

 Two stories following the fortunes of the characters from the author's bestselling novel, *Whispers in the Sand*, head this captivating collection. Here, too, are ghost stories, mysteries and love stories. Tp \$29.95 318pp

**RECOMMENDED READING**

CHARLES DE LINT  
**SPIRITS IN THE WIRES**

At a popular Newford online research and library website called the Wordwood, a mysterious "crash" occurs. Everyone visiting the site at the moment of the crash vanishes from where they were sitting in front of their computers. Now Christy and his companions must journey into Newford's otherworld, where the Wordwood has a physical presence of its own, to rescue their missing friends and loved ones, and to set this viral spirit right before it causes further harm. Hb \$65.00 448pp *I'm almost finished this. Again, a wonderful story from De Lint, but it has only confirmed my belief that computers do have brains and a wicked sense of humour! Steph*



RAYMOND FEIST & JOEL ROSENBERG

 **MURDER IN LAMUT**

*Legends of the Riftwar #2.* Durine, Kethol and Pirojil have spent 20 years fighting other people's battles - against the Tsurani and the Bugs and the goblins, so the prospect of a few months of garrison duty offers a welcome respite. Then they are given an assignment - to protect a lady and her husband and deliver them safely to the city of Lamut. It should have been so simple... Pb \$19.95 324pp

SHEILA FINCH

 **READING THE BONES**

Translator Ries Danyo is a down-on-his-luck lingster, so far gone that he's hooked on zyth. Once a promising talent, he's fallen to interpreting for the deputy commissioner's wife on her shopping sprees in the Freh bazaar, but when a Freh uprising leads to murder, Danyo must lead the commissioner's daughters to safety on a journey that irrevocably changes the Frehti language and the future of Krishna itself. Tp \$36.00 197pp

ERIC FLINT & DAVID DRAKE

 **THE TYRANT**

*A Hammer's Slammers Novel.* On the planet Hafardine, civilisation must rediscover progress or collapse. Adrian, guided by disembodied electronic mentors from space, has brought gunpowder and steam power to the Kingdom of the Isles to break the stranglehold of the Empire, but he will have to avoid being killed by the suspicious King he serves, by the barbarians he must recruit and even by his insanely vengeful brother. Pb \$19.95 501pp

ERIC FLINT & K D WENTWORTH

 **THE COURSE OF EMPIRE**

Conquered by the Jao 20 years ago, the Earth is shackled under alien tyranny and threatened by the even more dangerous Ekhat, who are sending a genocidal extermination fleet to the solar system. Humanity's only chance rests with an unusual pair of allies - a young Jao prince, newly arrived to Terra to assume his duties, and a young human woman brought up amongst the Jao occupiers. Hb \$52.00 506pp

ALAN DEAN FOSTER

 **THE MOCKING PROGRAM**

Inspector Angel Cardenas has seen plenty of corpses like the one in Quetzal inurb. However, this particular murder is anything but ordinary. First, the infallible DNA-ID database insists the cadaver is that of two people - local executive George Anderson and a mysterious Texas businessman. Who was the dead man? Why is his daughter being hunted? Cardenas embarks on a search that leads him from the sex parlours and stimstick clubs of the Strip, to an undersea control room where computer crimes are committed by criminal computers. Pb \$17.95 321pp

MAGGIE FUREY

 **EYE OF ETERNITY**

*Shadowleague #3.* The Curtain Walls safeguarding the kingdoms of Myrial tremble on the point of collapse. If they fall, the world will fall with them. Its fate lies in the hands of the Shadowleague, but they have been shaken to the core by the return of the renegade Amaurn. Claiming what he believes to be his rightful place - at the head of the Shadowleague - the man who long ago betrayed the Loremasters, must first persuade them to follow him. He has already deposed the Achimandrite, but now a greater challenge awaits - and his sinister past is far from forgotten. Pb \$19.95 708pp

DAVID GERROLD

 **LEAPING TO THE STARS**

*Starsiders #3.*

Charles has come into possession of a prototype HARLIE unit so revolutionary and state-of-the-art that corporations will stop at nothing - including murder - to control it. No one can be trusted. He has been at war before: only that was a personal civil war waged between him and his parents. In an effort to end the strife once and for all he divorced his parents and won his freedom. He and his brothers are now free to go where they want. But freedom also means exile - from his home, his friends and everything he has ever known. And even his chance for a new life on a remote planet is put in jeopardy when a critical malfunction with the HARLIE unit seemingly threatens the integrity of the voyage. Pb \$17.95 299pp



TERRY GOODKIND

 **NAKED EMPIRE**

*Sword of Truth #8.* The author returns with a broad-canvas adventure of epic intrigue, violent conflict and terrifying peril for the beautiful Kahlan Amnell and her husband, the heroic Richard Rahl, the Sword of Truth. Hb \$45.00 660pp

ANGELICA GORODISCHER

(TRANS BY URSULA K LE GUIN)

 **KALPA IMPERIAL**

Emperors, empresses, storytellers, thieves... and the Natural History of Ferrets. Kalpa Imperial is the first of this author's 19 award-winning books to be translated into English. In 11 chapters, multiple storytellers relate the story of a fabled nameless empire which has risen and fallen innumerable times. Beggars become emperors, democracies become dictatorships and history becomes legends and stories. Tp \$38.00 246pp

IAN GRAHAM

 **MONUMENT**

Ballas is a drunk and a vagrant. In his eyes there is only greed and in his heart, only bitterness. Such a man is not suited to legend. He is fit only for an unmarked grave. And there are people who seek to hasten his journey there. When a young priest saves him from a beating in the street, Ballas does not know how to react to such an act of kindness. But he soon finds a way to pay him back. He steals from him. What Ballas chooses to take can easily be hidden under a cloak, but it is no trinket to be sold in the market for a bowl of soup. It is known as the monument. And the power it contains will bring a god of chaos and destruction into the world. Now Ballas has that power. Pb \$19.95 568pp

SUSAN GRANT

  **THE STAR PRINCESS**

Ilana Hamilton is a brash, fun-loving filmmaker who'd rather work behind the camera than be a 'Star Princess' in front of it. Heiress or not, she's a perfectly normal, single woman... until Prince Ché Vedla crashes into her life. With six months to choose a bride, the royal wants to sow his wild oats. Ilana can't blame him - but fall for the guy herself? Hotshot pilot or no, Ché is too arrogant and too old-fashioned, but when he sweeps her off her feet Ilana sees stars and the higher he takes her, the more she loves to fly. Pb \$17.95 371pp

MARTIN GREENBERG (ED)

 **CRASH DIVE: SUBMARINE WARFARE**

Silent and unseen, they glide beneath the surface of the sea-and change the tides of war. From the earliest submarines and U-boats to the latest nuclear-powered marvels, they are a perfect merging of new technology and timeless war tactics. Now some of today's top masters of military fiction give readers a periscope view of submarines - and the men who dare to man them in times of war... Includes stories by James Cobb, Jim DeFelice, Brendan DuBois, William Keith, Jr. and Jean Rabe. Pb \$17.95 312pp

TRACI HARDING

 **BOOK OF DREAMS** 

Kyle is a young man with no future and no past. Orphaned at a young age, he is bitter and uses his tough upbringing as an excuse for his lack of direction in life. But a mysterious parcel is about to change his view of himself, his parents and the world in which he lives. An old leather-bound book, intricately embossed with creatures and strange beings, is left on Kyle's doorstep with no card or note attached. The book issues Kyle a personal challenge - to finish reading the book and face the innermost truth about himself, or forfeit any chance of finding his true destiny. Pb \$18.95 480pp

LIAN HEARN

 **GRASS FOR HIS PILLOW**

*Tales of the Otori #2.* Takeo is bound by the bargain he made with the Tribe and must put his skills at their service. Kaede, devastated by Takeo's leave-taking, returns to her parents' home and the ruin that her estate has become. Finding her father on the verge of insanity and pregnant with Takeo's child, Kaede is determined to educate herself and her sisters and save her domain. Hb \$29.95 353pp

MARY HOOPER

 **AT THE SIGN OF THE SUGARED PLUM**

It is 1665, and Hannah is full of excitement at the prospect of her first trip to London. She is going to help her sister, Sarah, in her sweetmeats shop, 'The Sugared Plum'. But things are not as expected... the Plague is threatening to take hold of London... Pb \$15.95 169pp

BRIAN JACQUES

 **TRISS**

*Redwall #15.* Triss, a young squirrelmaid, escapes a life of misery as a servant to the tyrannical ruling ferret family in Riftgard and sets off to find her way to the Abbey of Redwall. Parallel runs the tale of two young scamps, the hare Bescarum and the badger Sagaxus, who leave the Fortress of Salamandastron and set off on board ship in search of adventure. The third storyline is about the inhabitants of the Abbey and a threat to their safety. Pb \$14.95 402pp

JANE JENSEN

 **DANTE'S EQUATION**

Rabbi Aharon Handalman's expertise with Torah code - rearranging words and letters in the Bible - has uncovered a man's name. Who is Yosef Kobinski and why did God hide his name in His sacred text? To find the answers, Aharon begins an investigation, and discovers that Kobinski, a Polish rabbi, was not only a mystic but also a brilliant physicist who authored what may be the most important lost work in human history. Tp \$38.00 484pp

SHERRYL JORDAN

 **THE HUNTING OF THE LAST DRAGON**

Everyone thought all the dragons had been wiped out, until a fierce flying beast appears and leaves the village of Doran in flames. There is only one survivor - Jude, an ordinary man who never intended to be a hero. He'd rather avoid any danger, but a strange, strong-willed girl from a distant land has her own plans for hunting the last dragon. Can her courage and cunning help him conquer his fear in time to save their world from devastation? Pb \$15.95 244pp

NANCY KRESS

 **NOTHING HUMAN**

Early in the 21st century, aliens contact and genetically modify a group of 14-year-olds, inviting them to visit their spacecraft. Upon their return to Earth, the girls in the group discover that they are pregnant. Generations later, the offspring of these children seek to use their alien knowledge to change their genetic code, to allow them to live and prosper in an environment that is quickly becoming uninhabitable from the dual scourges of global warming and biowarfare. But after all the generations of change, will the genetically modified creatures resemble their ancestors, or will nothing human remain? Hb \$64.00 300pp

MERCEDES LACKEY, ERIC FLINT & DAVID FREER

 **THE SHADOW OF THE LION**

As the bronze statue of the great winged lion stares out across the Piazza San Marco, a failed magician must find courage, an orphaned outcast must find his strength and a reluctant prince must choose between duty and pleasure. All will be consumed by an evil greater than they have ever known. Pb \$19.95 913pp

SHARON LEE & STEVE MILLER

 **I DARE**

*Liaden #7.* In the conclusion to the saga of the Liaden Universe, the war between Clan Korval and the sinister Department of the Interior escalates as the DOI attempts to recruit Val Con's less than scrupulous cousin to their cause... Pb \$19.95 408pp

SHARON LEE & STEVE MILLER (EDS)

 **LOW PORT**

This collection of science fiction and fantasy short stories focuses on characters that are normally treated as background or secondary and brings them to the forefront of the adventure, featuring stories by Mark Tiedemann, L E Modesitt, Jr, Jody Lynn Nye and many others, including a new urban fantasy by Sharon Lee! Tp \$38.00 354pp

JACQUELINE LICHTENBERG & JEAN LORRAH

 **SIME-GEN**

*Omnibus edition of The Unity Trilogy including House of Zeor, Ambrov Keon, Zelerod's Doom.* Humanity has been divided into two mutant forms: the Simes and the Gens. Gens consider themselves to be the true humans, with little outward change, but their bodies produce selyn, an energy that Simes can't live without. The stronger and faster Simes develop the means to extract selyn from the Gens, a method that kills the Gen in the process. This reprint kicks off a six book series, featuring the reprints of all the classic novels as well as new novels and short stories. Tp \$48.00 747pp

JANE LINDSKOLD

 **THE DRAGON OF DESPAIR**

*Firekeepers #3.* Melina Shield, the beautiful, unscrupulous and thoroughly discredited sorceress whose power-hungry intrigues have made so much trouble for Firekeeper, is once again using her power to cloud men's minds. She has induced the ruler of New Kelvin to marry her. This is bad news all round, particularly for Firekeeper. The leaders of the royal beasts who watch over this world have given Firekeeper - and her intelligent wolf companion, Blind Seer - the responsibility of stopping her. Hb \$65.00 670pp

DENISE LITTLE (ED)

 **THE SORCERER'S ACADEMY**

15 all-new stories of sorcery about mastering the craft... From an attack by beings older than humans, to an illicit charm spell gone awry, to a young wizardess whose devotion to a rock star may be her undoing, these tales are sure to enchant. Stories by Josepha Sherman, Laura Resnick, PN Elrod, Michelle West, Rosemary Edghill, Robert Sheckley, Jody Lynn Nye and more... Pb \$17.95 349pp

MACK MALONEY

 **BATTLE AT ZERO POINT**

*Starhawk #4.* The year is 7202 AD, and man of mystery, gifted military strategist, superb pilot and charismatic leader, Hawk Hunter, finds himself alone during a clash with Imperial forces that could destroy the entire galaxy. Pb \$17.95 341pp

GARTH NIX

 **MISTER MONDAY**



*The Keys to the Kingdom #1.* Arthur Penhaligon is not supposed to be a hero. He is, in fact, supposed to die an early death, but he is saved by a key shaped like the minute hand of a clock. Arthur is safe - but his world is not. Along with the key comes a plague brought by bizarre creatures from another realm. A stranger named Mister Monday, his avenging messengers with blood-stained wings and an army of dog-faced Fetchers will stop at nothing to get the key back - even if it means destroying Arthur and everything around him. Desperate, Arthur ventures into a mysterious house - a house that only he can see. It is in this house that Arthur must unravel the secrets of the key and discover his true fate. Pb \$12.95 328pp

**WIN...**  
**a t-shirt featuring**  
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**new series**  
**Keys to the Kingdom**  
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**details**

TAMORA PIERCE

 **TRICKSTER'S CHOICE**

Alianne is the teenage daughter of the famed Alanna, the first lady knight in Tortall. Young Aly follows in the quieter footsteps of her father, however, delighting in the art of spying. When she is captured and sold as a slave to an exiled royal family in the faraway Copper Islands, it is this skill that makes a difference in a world filled with political intrigue, murderous conspiracy and warring gods. Pb \$16.95 514pp

STEVEN PRESSFIELD

 **LAST OF THE AMAZONS**

Bound to each other as lovers as well as fighters and owing allegiance to no man, the Amazons distrusted the Greeks with their boastful talk of cities and civilisation. And when their illustrious war queen Antiope fell in love with Theseus and fled to Athens, denying her people, the Amazon tribes were outraged. Seeking revenge, they raised a vast army and marched on Athens. History tells us they could not win, but for a brief and glorious moment the Amazons held the Attic world in thrall before vanishing into the immortal realms of myth and legend. Pb \$21.95 515pp



CHRISTOPHER PRIEST

 **THE SEPARATION**

War is a time when the choices of men determine the fate of nations. After winning a bronze in the coxless pairs at the Berlin Olympics, twin brothers return to England arguing bitterly over the coming Second World War. Going their separate ways Jack becomes a pilot, Joe a pacifist working for the Red Cross. As their stories play out, possibilities, parallels and confusion surround them, with each brother finding himself an ordinary man party to momentous events. Tp \$27.95 464pp

**QUENTARIS**

MICHAEL PRYOR

 **BENEATH QUENTARIS**

#5. What lies beneath the magical city of Quentaris? Nisha Farsight stumbles into the city beneath the city - Lower Quentaris, a home for the lost, the unwanted and the mysterious. Pb \$14.95 158pp

PAUL COLLINS

 **SLAVES OF QUENTARIS**

#6. Yukin and his sister Yulen flee their campsite when they see the 'false' Dmenians are hunting for them. They are separated and, along with others of their tribe, are caught and transported to another world. Pb \$14.95 158pp

ALASTAIR REYNOLDS

 **REDEMPTION ARK**

*Revelation Space* #2. Many millennia ago, the Inhibitors seeded the universe with machines designed to detect intelligent life and then to suppress it. But after millions of years, the machines started to fail and intelligent cultures started to emerge. Then Dr Dan Sylveste and the crew of Infinity discovered what had happened to the long vanished Amarantin race and awakened the Inhibitors. Pb \$19.95 646pp

ADAM ROBERTS

 **POLYSTOM**

Amongst all his uncle Cleonicles' notions, his explanation for the stars has always seemed just too fanciful to be true to Polystom, 50th steward of Enting. Yes, his uncle invented the Computational Device, the Greatest Work of Man, the Summation of Human Knowledge, but surely everyone accepts that the air between the planets is without end. How could there be nothing beyond something? Where would air end and nothing begin? This is but one certainty in a universe of certainties - Polystom is certain his new wife will love him, certain that his servants respect him, certain that war will bring him the glory he has been looking for. The death of his uncle is only the first shock to his comfortable view of life. Tp \$29.95 295pp

JAMES ROLLINS

 **AMAZONIA**

When the Director of the CIA is handed a report from a Brazilian morgue documenting the confirmed death of Agent Clark, who disappeared four years before on an expedition into the Amazon jungle, it doesn't take long for him to realise why he has been notified. In one hand, he holds a pre-expedition photo of Agent Clark, waving with the one arm he has left after a sniper's bullet cost him the other; in his other hand, the director holds a photo from the morgue - both arms resting by Clark's sides. What happened out there? A specially selected scientific and military team is sent in to find out... Pb \$19.95 510pp

AMY ELIZABETH SAUNDERS

  **ENCHANTED TIME**

Restricting her interests to great works of literature, antiques store owner Ivy Raymond purchases a mysterious book of spells and is transported back in time, where she meets dishonoured knight Julian Ramsden. Pb \$15.95 442pp

ROBERT SAWYER

 **HUMANS**

*Neanderthal Parallax* #2. Neanderthal physicist Ponter Boddit, returns to our world and to his relationship with geneticist Mary Vaughan, as cultural exchanges between the two Earths begin. Pb \$17.95 334pp

 **HYBRIDS**

*Neanderthal Parallax* #3. Ponter Boddit and his homo-sapien lover, geneticist Mary Vaughan, are torn between two worlds, struggling to find a way to make their star-crossed relationship work. Aided by banned Neanderthal technology, they plan to conceive the first hybrid child, a symbol of hope for the joining of their two versions of reality. Hb \$59.95 396pp

MARCUS SEDGWICK

 **THE DARK HORSE**

Set in a distant time, in a distant place, the Storn live quietly, fishing and farming, eking what living they can. But, on the day of the wolf hunt, their lives will change forever. That's the day Sig rescues a small, ragged, howling child, more like the wolves she came from than a human being. They call her Mouse, but who is she really? What is her secret? Years later they find out. The shocking discovery of her true identity brings to life a terrifying legend and plunges them all into treachery and a cruelty from which there is no escape. Pb \$14.95 187pp

RICK SHELLEY

  **JUMP PAY**

*Spaceborne* #3. The soldiers of The Lucky 13th are spearheading the assault of the Accord planets. Heavy casualties are expected. But the fighters of the 13th know the odds - and how to beat them... Pb \$15.95 284pp

**RECOMMENDED READING**

ROBERT SILVERBERG (ED)

**LEGENDS**

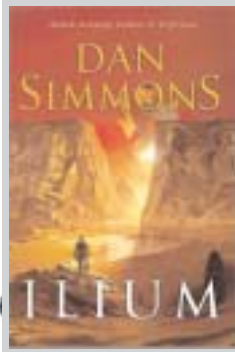
#2. All in one book, 12 new tales from some of the most celebrated writers of modern fantasy fiction. Tp \$29.95 645pp *I always enjoy reading anthologies titles, as it gives me a*



*way of reading stories by authors that I have not tried. Of course, when it includes a number of stories by some of my favourites, it certainly helps! Stand-outs in this book include: Monarch of the Glen by Neil Gaiman, a sequel to American Gods (Pb \$18.95) and a lead-in to the upcoming Anansi Boys. Sworn Sword by George R R Martin, a follow-up to his short story Hedge Knight which appeared in the first Legends (Pb \$20.95) anthology. These two are set in the world of A Song of Ice and Fire. Homecoming by Robin Hobb, a history tale tied to The Liveships Trilogy. The Yazoo Queen by Orson Scott Card, another tale of Alvin Maker. There are 11 stories presented here and all are new works by some of the masters of modern fantasy. Treat yourself to this one! - Adam*

## RECOMMENDED READING


DAN SIMMONS  
ILIUM



*Ilium* #1. On Mars, Thomas Hockenberry, a former 21st century professor and *Iliad* scholar, watches the momentous battle of Troy and reports back to the mighty Zeus and his immortal family of gods, goddesses and demigods. On Earth, the great events on the bloody plains of Ilium serve as mere entertainment, adding excitement to human lives devoid of purpose. But this *eloi*-like existence is not enough for Harman, a man in the last year of his last Twenty, who intends to explore far beyond the boundaries of his world before his allotted time expires. Meanwhile, from Jovian space, four sentient machines race to investigate -and perhaps terminate - the potentially catastrophic emissions of unexplained quantum-flux emanating from a mountaintop miles above the terraformed surface of Mars... Hb \$62.00 576pp *Simmons has done it again. This has as much complexity as his earlier, much-vaunted Hyperion Cantos. To do a synopsis of this story justice would require far more words than I am permitted here. This is a roller coaster ride featuring the cast of the Iliad (including the controlling Greek Gods), robots from Jupiter, a new breed of humans on earth and a 21st century historian who died and now lives on Mars. I look forward to the sequel, Olympos, some time in 2004. - Adam*

TONY SHILLITOE  
FREEDOM



 Ashuak #3. Erin has to face the truth about himself, as the battle continues between those who want their freedom and those defending the absolute rule of the Ashuak. The dragon priests are discovering that the dragons will not wait forever. Is Alwyn, the Jaru slave, the key to it all? They need to confront the elusive Alfwyn, and they need to do it soon. Pb \$18.95 619pp

LAURA STEVENSON

 A CASTLE IN THE WINDOW

Staying for the summer with an unfamiliar aunt and uncle, Erin finds herself drawn into the magical world of a medieval castle, complete with knights, pages, a prince and a pageant, when she discovers an old toy box filled with lead knights on horseback - all terribly damaged. Pb \$14.95 237pp



DAVID LEE STONE

 THE RATASTROPHE  
CATASTROPHE




*Illmoor* #1. The Duke of Dullitch is in distress - several reports are coming in that the city is being over-run by a plague of rats. Naturally the duke has killed off all witnesses, but daily the problem is becoming more obvious. He must send for mercenaries to rid his city of the rampant rodents. Pb \$17.95 258pp

CHARLES STROSS

 SINGULARITY SKY

Set 400 years in the future - and in the wake of perfected time travel, the ultimate advancements in technology and information, and the groundbreaking development of Artificial Intelligence. Is this all a great step for humanity? Or will it be our ultimate downfall? Hb \$55.00 313pp

MARK SULLIVAN  
LABYRINTH

 Whitney Burke is a renowned cave researcher and marine biologist who has abandoned her livelihood after losing an assistant in a tragic caving accident. Though Whitney vows never to enter Labyrinth Cave again, her husband and daughter join a NASA-sponsored caving expedition. When the expedition is overtaken by a group of criminals, Whitney must overcome her paralysing fear to save her husband Tom, her daughter Cricket and ultimately, herself. Pb \$19.95 436pp

S ANDREW SWANN

 MOREAU OMNIBUS

Contains the novels *Forests of the Night*, *Emperors of the Twilight* & *Specters of the Dawn*. Science fiction, mystery, intrigue blend with the chills of genetic engineering in this acclaimed series that takes the creations of Dr. Moreau and Dr. Frankenstein into the future... Pb \$19.95 701pp

ROBERT SWINDELLS

 BLITZED

George is fascinated by WWII. Bombers, Nazis, doodlebugs. But he discovers the reality is very different from how he had imagined it when a school trip to a museum leads to a timeslip - and George is in London at the time of the Blitz! He joins up with a group of other homeless children, struggling to survive and they suspect someone they know of being a German spy... Pb \$14.95 174pp

THERESA TOMLINSON

 THE FOREST-WIFE TRILOGY

Who will champion the poor against injustice and cruelty? When 15-year-old Mary flees into the forest to avoid a fearsome marriage arranged by her uncle, she little knows what challenges lie in store for her as the wise and magical Green Lady of the Woods. Pb \$22.95 472pp

HARRY TURTLEDOVE

 VICTORIOUS OPPOSITION

*American Empire* #3. What if the South had won the Civil War? Now, 70 years have passed since the first War Between the States. The North American continent is locked in a battle of politics, economics and moralities. In a world that has already felt the soul-shattering blow of the Great War, North America is the powder keg that could ignite another global conflict - complete with a new generation of killing machines. Hb \$65.00 496pp

S T VIEHL

 BLADE DANCER

Professional shockball player Jory Rask is the fastest running back in the game, beloved by fans across Terra. But Jory has a secret - in a xenophobic world that despises aliens, she is not quite human. When her mother dies and her secret is revealed, Jory must honour her parent's last wishes and set out on a journey to find others like herself, those known as the Children of Honour. But in order to take the vengeance denied their mothers, they must undergo training at the Tana, the school for Blade Dancers - the most lethal killers in the galaxy. And in the heart of that school lies a deadly secret... Hb \$55.00 314pp

JO WALTON

 THE KING'S NAME

*Tir Tanagiri* #2. After years of fighting against rival kingdoms and Jarnish invaders, the warrior Sulien ap Gwien and her lord, King Urdo, have finally united the nation, through great strength of arms - and even greater strength of vision. Sulien is inspired by Urdo's dream of a kingdom ruled by justice, whose subjects are all equal under a single code of law. But where many see a hopeful future for the land, others believe they sense the seeds of a new tyranny. Soon Tir Tanagiri faces the terrible blight of civil war and Sulien must take up arms again. Pb \$19.95 332pp

MICHELLE WEST


 THE RIVEN SHIELD

*The Sun Sword* #5. Jewel of House Terafin and her domicis, Avander along with Kallandas, the assassin, are working with the Voyani to escape the the Sea of Sorrows and find Valedan and his armies. Valedan has made an alliance with the Northern armies of the Essalieyan Empire, his people's ancestral enemies. Now, he's trying to convince Tyr'agnate Mareo di'Lamberto to join his side. Maybe with these allies, he can succeed. Together they hope to defeat to Kialli demons and their human allies who are preparing to attack the Northern armies. Pb \$17.95 828pp



WALTER JON WILLIAMS

**THE PRAXIS**

 *Dread Empire's Fall #1.* The Shaa, rulers of the universe, began to commit ritual suicide when it became clear that their minds, profoundly intelligent but limited, would accept no further information.



And so began the war between the Naxids, oldest client race of the Shaa, who believed themselves inheritors of the empire, and a frail alliance of other races, including humanity. Humanity had both suffered and thrived during the millennia in which the Shaa tried to compel the universe to conform to their notions of propriety. As the empire expanded, through wormholes which crossed both space and time, the Shaa formulated The Praxis, a harsh ethic which they imposed on those they conquered. But it could also serve as a cloak for insurrection... Pb \$18.95 418pp

TIMOTHY ZAHN

 **MANTA'S GIFT**

Centuries from now, Jakob Faraday is exploring the Jovian atmosphere when large unknown animals attack his probe ship. Separated from the main ship, he's almost captured by the animals, the Qanska. Two decades later, Faraday's mission is to forge a relationship with the Qanska. He recruits Matt Raimey, a college student recently left a quadriplegic in a skiing accident. Faraday has arranged with the Qanska to insert Raimey into the womb of a female. He'll be reborn with a Qanskan body, yet retain human consciousness, to become the liaison between the two species. Unfortunately, Earth's Five Hundred, the money behind the operation, have an ulterior motive, but so do the Qanska. Only Matt, hostage to fortune, can forestall disaster. Yet if he succeeds, he may also doom his own future. Pb \$17.95 408pp

DAVID ZINDELL

 **LORD OF LIES**

*Ea #2.* Valashu Elahad only regained the Lightstone in Argattha when he realized that his purpose was to guard the treasure of his ancestors so that he could pass it to the enlightened one, the Maitreya, who would lead them back to the stars. At the time he understood that the mysterious powers of the Lightstone were not his to use. But perhaps it would have been wise to seek the enlightened one before undertaking his quest for the Lightstone. Now he has it, Morjin knows where it is, and he will use all his talents to get it back. Tp \$29.95 548pp



DAVID BERGANTINO

**A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S SCREAM**

*Bard's Blood #2.* When a group of mismatched couples are paired off for a summer school "parenting" assignment, trouble is clearly on the horizon - even before a spooky, old-fashioned carnival rolls into town. Soon, dark occult forces mess with their minds, turning true love into murderous hate and before this warm summer night is over, not a guy or gal may be left alive... Pb \$17.95 247pp

JIM BUTCHER

**DEATH MASKS**

*Dresden files #5.* Harry Dresden, Chicago's only practicing professional wizard is hired by a mysterious priest to find the stolen shroud of Turin. Pb \$17.95 378pp

JOSEPH BRUCHAC

**SKELETON MAN**

Molly wakes up one morning and discovers that her parents have vanished. Social Services turns her over to the care of a great-uncle, a mysterious man Molly has never met or even heard of before. Now she's started having dreams about the Skeleton Man from a spooky old Mohawk tale her father used to tell her... dreams that are trying to tell her something... dreams that might save her, if only she can understand them. Pb \$12.95 114pp

CHRISTINE FEEHAN

**SHADOW GAME**

A man and woman possessed of telekinetic powers. She is the doctor. He is the experiment. What comes between them is a terrifying secret history that could save them or destroy them. Pb \$17.95 343pp

SARA GRAN

**COME CLOSER**

Instead of a book she had ordered, Amanda receives a copy of *Demon Possession Past and Present*. Soon after, something seems to take her over, but, as everyone knows, there are no such things as demons. Still, as she watches in horror, Amanda is becoming less and less herself and more and more someone - or something - else. Hb \$48.00 168pp

SPARKLE HAYTER

**NAKED BRUNCH**

A secretary by day, Annie Engel has been morphing into a werewolf at night. In the morning, she's not quite sure what she's been up to, but she knows she'd like to do it again. But her predatory activities have not gone unnoticed and soon she is being pursued by a hapless reporter, a psychiatrist who wants to save her from her beastly impulses and another (guy) werewolf who captures her heart. Tp \$32.00 322pp

STEPHEN JONES & DAVID SUTTON (EDS)

**THE BEST HORROR FROM FANTASY TALES**

This anthology delivers chills from Charles Grant, Kim Newman, Fritz Leiber, Dennis Etchison and many more. These selections are illustrated by a wide range of artists specialising in the macabre. Tp \$29.95 268pp

JACK KETCHUM

**PEACABLE KINGDOM**

This landmark collection gathers more than 30 of the author's most thrilling stories. *Gone* and *The Box* both won the *Bram Stoker Award*. Pb \$17.95 416pp

E E KNIGHT

**WAY OF THE WOLF**

*The Vampire Earth #1.* Louisiana, 2065. A lot has changed in the 43rd year of the Kurian Order. The bloodthirsty Reapers have come to Earth to establish a New Order built on the harvesting of human souls. They rule the planet and, if it is night, as sure as darkness, they will come, but the indomitable spirit of man still breathes in Lieutenant David Valentine and his mission is to win back Earth. Pb \$17.95 391pp

BENTLEY LITTLE

**THE POLICY**

Unemployed, divorced and living in a new state, Hunt Jackson would be considered a risk by most insurance companies. Lucky for him, he's found one that will give him a policy. All he has to do is sign on the dotted line and note a minor provision - they require a pound of flesh for their investment. No joke. No running away. Pb \$17.95 389pp

ROBERT MCCAMMON

**SPEAKS THE NIGHTBIRD**

*Judgement of the Witch #1.* Convinced that Rachel Howarth, the widow of the recently slain minister, is a witch, the citizens of Fount Royal throw her in gaol. Presiding over the trial is traveling magistrate Issac Woodward, aided by his astute young clerk, Matthew - who, despite the evidence against Rachel, believes in her innocence. But soon he realizes that there truly is Evil at work in Fount Royal: a malevolent force more powerful than any witch could ever hope to conjure.... Pb \$19.95 483pp

JAMES MOORE

**FIREWORKS**

It began on a happy day. The small town of Collier gathered on the Fourth of July to watch the fireworks. But in the middle of the celebration, the shocked spectators witness something almost beyond comprehension, something too horrifying to believe. The lucky ones are killed immediately. They escape the true terror that is yet to come, terror that will come from an even more surprising source.... Pb \$17.95 376pp

**ANDREW NEIDERMAN**  
**THE BABY SQUAD**

The search for the human ideal is over. A medical breakthrough maintains the integrity of the world's gene pool. It's also made the birth of Abnormals - children born of natural pregnancy - a capital offence. To ensure the faultless future of the human race, The Baby Squad tracks down women who defy the law - women like Natalie Ross. Natalie and her unborn child pose a mortal threat to those in power who desire a pure world of their own design - a world they will do anything to protect.... Pb \$17.95 374pp

**SCOTT NICHOLSON**  
**THE HARVEST**

A new presence has taken up residence in Windshake. It feeds off everything in its path, consuming life to fuel its malevolent purpose. Its evil can be seen in the eyes of its converts as they spread its influence from neighbour to neighbour. And its hunger will not be sated until it has remade Windshake in its own image... Pb \$15.95 383pp

**TONYA PINES**  
**THIRTEEN**

Assembled on the pages of this anthology are 13 original short stories by some of the best known writers of the genre, Christopher Pike, R L Stine, Lael Little and Pat Windsor - just to name a few. You'll be cast into an endless night of wax museum horrors, vampire love, deadly dolls, and... who knows what else may await you? Pb \$12.95 343pp

**DEBBIE RALEIGH**  
**MY LORD VAMPIRE**

While the town dances and gossips, another kind of society altogether claims the London night as its own. By the light of the moon, three noble vampires entrusted with the protection of their kind will discover that human desire is far from lost to them and that love may be the only thing they long for more than life everlasting... Pb \$12.95 222pp

**DAVID SEARCY**  
**ORDINARY HORROR**

When his beloved roses are menaced by some sort of mysterious burrowing pest, Mr. Delabano sends away for an organic remedy he sees advertised in the local paper: gopherbane, an exotic South American plant guaranteed to get rid of garden varmints but "harmless to pets and everything else." The strange plants do the trick, but the claim about their being harmless to everything else proves to be false advertising - to put it mildly. Tp \$32.00 230pp

**MARK SULLIVAN**  
**SERPENT'S KISS**

A divorced, second generation homicide detective out of San Diego, Seamus Moynihan figures he's witnessed the worst kind of violence humans can visit upon one another. Then he's summoned to a crime scene where the victim, a naked man, has been bitten to death by a snake in a bizarre ritual orchestrated by a cunning and vicious murderer. To catch the killer, Moynihan must embark on a journey into a world of twisted eroticism, black-market herpetology and fanatical spiritual cults. Hb \$59.95 373pp

**TAMARA THORNE**  
**SAMANTHA**


*The Sorority* #2. Tough, tenacious Samantha Penrose knows there's something going on inside the secluded, creepy Gamma Eta Pi mansion - something that may be connected to Eve Camlan's "suicide" and Marilyn Morris's unexplained disappearance. And the ambitious journalism major is going to get the story, even if she has to make herself over as the ultimate sorority girl to do it. But the secrets she uncovers are more than scandalous...they're downright sinister. Pb \$15.95 286pp

**VIVIAN VANDE VELDE**  
**BEING DEAD**


They may be dead, but they're certainly not gone... They may not even be dead. They have unfinished business with the living - last dances to dance, old promises to keep, urgent messages for loved ones... or for not-so-loved ones. Pb \$17.95 203pp

# MEDIA


**ALIAS: THE PURSUIT**  
**LIZZIE SKURNICK**

 Michael Vaughn's father left him a legacy - a calling to a world filled with necessary lies, dangerous exploits and the chance to make a difference. Michael is ready to be an agent for the CIA, to do whatever it takes to honour his father's memory, but serving his country will exact a toll higher than he can imagine. Pb \$15.95 199pp


**AKA: JENNIFER GARNER**  
**MAGGIE MARRON**

 Jennifer Garner has won over millions of fans as double-agent Sydney Bristow as the star of *Alias*. Since then, she's been wowing viewers with glamorous costumes and wigs, a body that won't quit and acting chops that earned her a Golden Globe in 2002. But where did she come from? This book provides information about the show and the character, but also about the actor herself - a self-professed homebody with a penchant for TV and home-cooked meals. Tp \$25.00 127pp


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## WHAT WE'VE BEEN READING...

Lately I've been flicking through **Reading the Vampire Slayer: An Unofficial Critical Companion to Buffy and Angel** edited by Roz Kaveney (Tp \$33.00). This is one of several collections of essays that treats *Buffy* and its spin-off as rich cultural texts worthy of deep analysis. I've always enjoyed deconstructing the plot-threads and characterisations of my favourite TV programs (in order to justify the amount of time I spend viewing them, I suspect), so it's reassuring to read the opinions of people who have spent hours pouring over a juicy topic like *Buffy* - and before you make any smart comments, I'm still talking about the TV program, not Sarah Michelle Gellar. (At least, I think I am) Anyway, the essays cover a variety of topics, such as the various influences Joss Whedon and the program's other writers have drawn on and recombined to create a uniquely balanced blend of horror, romance, drama, comedy and action. Other chapters focus on the sub-textual parallels between the two programs' continual use of fictional, supernatural concepts as metaphors for a variety of real-life issues. These metaphors provide the subject matter for every episode and examples include; the subterranean Hellmouth (Southern California's constant fear of earthquakes), predatory gangs of vampires (urban crime and racially motivated gang warfare) and Angel's ongoing redemption (recovering from alcoholism). A chapter I particularly enjoyed, regarded the wit and humour of *Buffy*, which is the main reason I watch the show. - *Raph*

**How the Other Half Lives** by James Lovegrove and **Leningrad Nights** by Graham Joyce (*Binary* novella Pb \$14.95). This book is two novellas in one. **Leningrad Nights** takes place in Russia during World War 2. Young Leo Shapoval hides out in the besieged city as the Nazi bombardment continues. One day he discovers a pregnant young girl and decides to take care of her. The horrors of war on a civilian population are well constructed here, as is the magic of the human spirit.

The second story concerns millionaire William North, who by day has the business world at his beck and call. At night he goes home and beats up a man who is kept prisoner in his house. One day, a mouse appears and both men's worlds are turned upside down...This is a fine tale from Lovegrove, with a neat little twist at the end. - *David*

**Smoking Poppy** by Graham Joyce (Pb \$17.95). When Danny Innes discovers his daughter Charlie is being held in Thailand on drug smuggling charges, he leaves England with his friend Mick and estranged evangelical son Phil to find her. Once there, he realises Charlie is not in prison at all, but still in the jungles of Thailand...

The fantastical elements of this novel are really a backdrop to the story of a father's love for his children and what happens when they grow apart. The journey that the characters take is a very spiritual one in the end. Recommended for fans of Jonathan Carroll and Neil Gaiman. - *David*

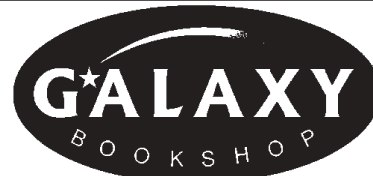
For a bit of fun, I read **Lord Darcy** (Tp \$43.00) this month, which is an omnibus of the adventures of Lord Darcy by Randall Garrett. These stories are set on an alternate Earth where the Plantagenets still rule both France and England, and magic rules over science. Lord Darcy is a British aristocrat and Chief Investigator for the Duke of Normandy (the King's younger brother) and at his side is Master Sorcerer Sean O'Lochlainn. Together they solve crimes and get involved in some espionage for the King. The stories are great mixtures of detective fiction, fantasy and alternate history. Darcy is the ultimate hero - attractive, intelligent, enigmatic and controlled - and Sean, the ever-loyal sidekick, serious with a flash of Irish temper. If you like crime fiction with a difference, this is a bit of light reading that is very well done. - *Sian*

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