



# nexus

OCTOBER 2005

Issue #209

## JAPANESE HORROR CINEMA

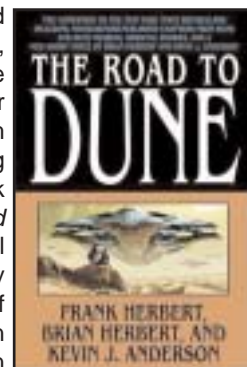
JAY McROY (ED)



A critical introduction to some of the most important Japanese horror films produced over the last 50 years, this book provides an insightful examination of the tradition's most significant trends and themes. It looks at the genre's dominant aesthetic, cultural, political and technological underpinnings, while individual chapters address key topics such as the debt Japanese horror films owe to various Japanese theatrical and literary traditions, the popular 'avenging spirit' motif, the impact of atomic warfare, rapid industrialisation and apocalyptic rhetoric on Japanese visual culture, and the developing relations between Japanese and 'Western' horror film tropes and traditions. Tp \$47.95 220pp

## THE ROAD TO DUNE

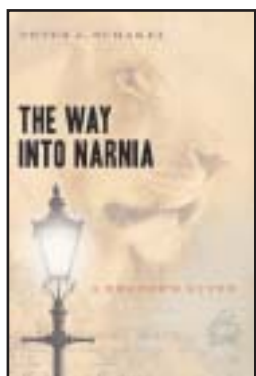
FRANK HERBERT, BRIAN HERBERT & KEVIN J ANDERSON



Herein are unpublished chapters and scenes from **Dune** and **Dune Messiah**, as well as the original correspondence between Frank Herbert and famed editor John W Campbell, Jr, excerpts from Herbert's correspondence during his long struggle to get his innovative work published and the article, *They Stopped the Moving Sands*, Herbert's original inspiration for Dune. It also features newly discovered papers and manuscripts of Frank Herbert, plus **Spice Planet**, an original 60,000-word short novel by Brian Herbert and Kevin J Anderson, based on a detailed outline left by Frank Herbert. This is a treasure trove of essays, articles and fiction that fans of **Dune** will want to add to their shelf. Hb \$56.00 494pp

## THE WAY INTO NARNIA: A READER'S GUIDE

PETER SCHAKEL

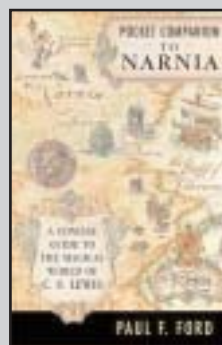


With a new film version of **The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe** due to be released later this year and more films on their way, C S Lewis's *Chronicles of Narnia* are back in the public eye. How did a middle-aged professor with no children write books that have become cherished classics of children's literature? And why have they remained so popular? Taking a chapter for each of the *Chronicles*, the author walks readers through the works, concluding the tour with a unique and practical section of notes on all seven volumes. These annotations clarify unfamiliar words, pick out allusions, highlight significant details and offer interpretive comments on problematic passages. Tp \$29.95 202pp

## POCKET COMPANION TO NARNIA

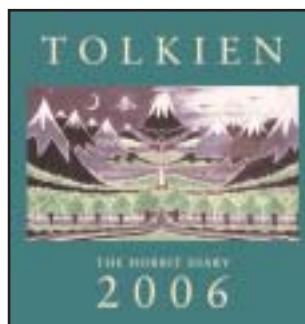
A CONCISE GUIDE TO THE MAGICAL WORLD OF C S LEWIS

PAUL FORD

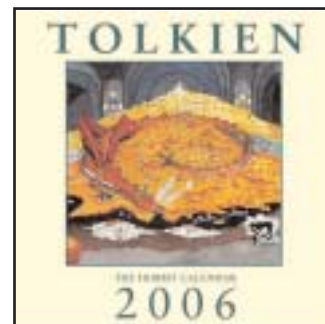


For readers of all ages, this handy pocket-sized edition will guide you seamlessly through the enchanting and timeless world of C S Lewis's *Chronicles of Narnia*. Pb \$22.95 368pp

## CALENDARS



TOLKIEN 2006  
THE HOBBIT DIARY  
\$22.95



TOLKIEN 2006  
THE HOBBIT CALENDAR  
\$22.95

We're delighted to announce the birth of **NATHANIEL SEAN** born 17/9/05 8lb 9oz. **CONGRATULATIONS** Sian and Chad

9-12 June 2006  
**CONFLUX 3**  
A Convention of Fantastic Worlds  
www.conflux.org.au

The 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



**MIKE ASHLEY & ERIC BROWN (EDS)**  
**THE MAMMOTH BOOK OF NEW JULES VERNE ADVENTURES**

A host of top science fiction authors pay homage to Verne's genius with a series of stories using, as a springboard, his iconic ideas and characters. Collected in this anthology are stories of intrigue and adventure set in the four corners of the globe and even within it. Pb \$24.95 498pp

 **KEVIN J ANDERSON**  
**HORIZON STORMS**

*The Saga of the Seven Suns #3.* The titanic war between the elemental alien hydrogues and faeros continues to sweep across the Spiral Arm, extinguishing suns and destroying planets. Chairman Wenceslas and King Peter must now unify the human race with iron-fisted policies in a final bid to stand together - or face total annihilation. But disparate civilisations are forging new alliances that threaten the old order. The Roamer and Theron clans will not yield their independence, and the new Mage-Imperator Jora'h now faces a threat that no other Ildiran leader has ever seen - a civil war that could break apart the entire Empire. Pb \$18.95 659pp

**R SCOTT BAKKER**  
**THE DARKNESS THAT COMES BEFORE**

*The Prince of Nothing #1.* A veteran sorcerer and spy seeks news of an ancient enemy. A military genius plots to conquer the known world for his Emperor, but dreams of the throne for himself. The spiritual leader of the Thousand Temples seeks a Holy War to cleanse the land of the infidel. And into this world steps a man like no other, seeking to bind all - man and woman, emperor and slave - to his own mysterious ends. But, a dark and ancient evil is reawakening. After 2,000 years, the No-God is returning. The Second Apocalypse is nigh. And one cannot raise walls against what has been forgotten. Pb \$19.95 644pp



**CAROL BERG**  
**DAUGHTER OF ANCIENTS**

*Bridge of D'Arnath #4.* In Avonar, Gerick investigates the ancient king D'Arnath's own daughter, held captive by the Lords of Zhev'Na for a thousand years - or so she claims. Entangled in bonds of love, family and secrecy, Gerick unravels the mysteries of ancient kings, ancient evil - and the dreadful truth of his own destiny. Pb \$18.95 530pp

**HOLLY BLACK**  
**VALIANT**

*A Modern Tale of Faerie #2.* When 17-year-old Valerie Russell runs away to New York City, she takes up with a gang of eerie squatters - Lolli, Luis and Dave - who live in the city's labyrinthine subway system. When Val allows Lolli to talk her into tracking down the hidden lair of the creature for whom Luis and Dave have been dealing, Val finds herself bound into service by a troll named Ravus. He is as hideous as he is honourable. And as Val grows to know him, she finds herself torn between her affection for an honourable monster and her fear of what her new friends are becoming. Hb \$24.95 314pp

**VALERY BRUISOV**  
**THE FIERY ANGEL**

In an atmospheric recreation of the occult underworld of 16th century Germany, during an age of Inquisition, three souls meet: an innocent young man choosing between Love and Duty, a woman prone to visions and a Knight, who is either angel or demon. Religious experience and sexual hysteria meet in an apocalyptic vision of the spiritual crisis of modern life. Tp \$29.95 411pp

**JACQUELINE CAREY**  
**GODSLAYER**

*The Sundering #2.* A final prophecy has begun to unfold, and the races are uniting in their quest to rid the world of Satoris. The elder gods and goddesses send dreams to spur all to destroy Satoris and Tanaros, but those loyal to Satoris know a different side of the story and try to defend their citadel of Darkhaven, where their god sits in sorrow, controlling his own dominion, seeking neither victory nor vengeance. Satoris's followers capture the beautiful Lady Cerelinde, without whom the Allies cannot fulfil the prophecy, and clamour for her death. But Satoris recognises in Cerelinde a spark of the love that he once bore for his fellow gods. Hb \$56.00 349pp

**ISOBELLE CARMODY**  
**LITTLE FUR**









*The Legend of Little Fur #1.* Little Fur is an elf troll who dwells in a secret wilderness within an ancient human city, where she lives peacefully as a healer of small creatures. One day, danger threatens the wilderness and all who dwell there and Little Fur must venture into the city in search of protective magic, guided by her friend Crow and two street-wise cats. Little Fur knows she may have to face brutish trolls and the terrifying greeps who roam in the night, but the greatest danger of all will be the legendary and terrifying humans. Hb \$19.95 194pp

**P W CATANESE**  
**THE THIEF AND THE BEANSTALK**

Orphaned and desperate, Nick joins a rugged band of thieves in hopes of a warm meal and a little protection. In exchange Nick must help them break into the lavish white castle rumoured to belong to an old man named Jack. Legend says it's full of riches from Jack's quest up a magical beanstalk decades ago. When Nick's dangerous mission leads him straight to Jack, he sees a chance to climb the famed beanstalk himself. But things are different from when Jack made his climb. There are new foes at the top now. Ones with cruel weapons and foul plans - plans that could destroy the world as Nick knows it. Will Nick come down the beanstalk a hero? Will he come down at all? Pb \$6.95 272pp

**JAMES CLEMENS**  
**SHADOWFALL**

*The Chronicles of the Godslayer #1.* Shadowknight Tylar witnesses the death of a god, whose blood heals his deformities, but brands him a Godslayer and a hunted criminal. Tylar flees with now god-like powers, seeking to avenge the god's death and clear his name. He must ultimately confront the greatest god of all and face the supreme treachery... Tp \$29.95 470pp

	
	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

### MAGIC OR MADNESS

(REASON #1)

JUSTINE LARBALESTIER

PB \$17.95 288PP

15-year-old Reason's life would hardly be described as normal. She has spent it moving around the Australian bush with her mother Serafina, never staying more than a couple of months in any one place. Serafina has drummed into Reason's head that her own mother Esmeralda (Reason's grandmother) performed animal sacrifices and kept her locked in the basement of her dark, scary house in Sydney before she escaped and had Reason, all in the name of magic - which Serafina constantly reminds Reason doesn't exist. Even with her lack of formal education, Reason is obviously a very smart girl and has survival skills that no 15-year-old should have to know. Quite early on it is obvious that Serafina is unbalanced and that Reason is forced to assume the parental role. Serafina's mental health takes a turn for the worse, she is committed to a mental hospital in Sydney and Reason is sent to live with Esmeralda.

Reason arrives at her grandmother's and is forced to question almost everything she believes in (that is - the things her mother has drummed into her). The house isn't dark and scary, her grandmother is beautiful, polite and makes every attempt to care for Reason. But the house is laid out exactly as Serafina described and there *is* something strange about the basement. Reason befriends a young man Tom, an extraordinary fashion designer and a close friend of Esmeralda's.

One day when Esmeralda is out, Reason explores the house, walks out the back door and steps into New York City in the middle of winter. Magic exists... Cold and a bit dazed, she wanders off, not paying attention to which door she has come through. She is 'rescued' by a girl, Jay-Tee, who is obviously a NY local and who claims she is older than Reason when in fact they are the same age. Reason doesn't realise that Jay-Tee was waiting for her, sent to collect her by a man who provides Jay-Tee with all she needs to survive (a roof over her head, money, etc) in exchange for tapping some of Jay-Tee's own magic/energy. This 'benefactor' befriends Reason, trying to get her to feed him her magic as well. Reason wants to get home, but has no idea how to get there and needs Jay-Tee's help.

This was a spectacular book! There was a point early on when I did a bit of a pause and contemplated what Reason's life must have been like - constantly moving, caring for her mother in her periods of mental illness, having no other family, no friends and living with the fear of getting caught - either by the law or by Esmeralda. In some ways, she is too wise for her years, in others she is naïve. There is little black or white in this book. People aren't 'bad' or 'good' and all have their own agendas that Reason has to reason through in her attempt to work out who to trust so that she can get home. She is a wonderful protagonist supported by a fantastic cast of characters. The story has a lot to think about, without being in-your-face moralistic and had me hooked from the first page. This deserves to become a young adult classic. *Steph*



## CLASSIC TITLE

### REPLAY

Fantasy Masterworks #42

Ken Grimwood

Pb \$21.95 272pp

What would you do if you knew you were dying, then wake up back in your youth, aged 18? This is what happens to Jeff Winston. One minute he's 43, at the office on the phone to his (unhappy) wife, then pain, then he's waking up in the dorm he lived in at Uni. After he recovers from the shock, he begins a life taking advantage of the knowledge he possesses of the future (his past). He makes a few bets on horse races/baseball, gets some seed money and starts doing things he wished he'd done. Things are going wonderfully. He is wealthy, happily married (not to his 'first' wife), has a beautiful daughter whom he adores, then at the exact same time he died the first time - he dies again. This time he wakes up and he's 18 again, but this second replay has started a couple of days after the first. Jeff begins to live the next 25 years again, and like the first time, making different choices as to career, spouse, etc.

The author offers no explanation for Jeff's ability to time travel. On a subsequent replay (this time living as a virtual hermit in the American country), he hears all the furore about a movie directed by a young woman - a movie he *knows* has never existed before. He manages to contact the writer/director, Pamela, and soon discovers he isn't alone in his ability to be thrown back in time. Pamela Phillips is herself replaying to her very early teens - living under the roof and rules of her parents. The two become lovers and soul mates.


They work out a system of contacting each other as each new replay starts (an 18-year-old boy contacting a 13-year-old girl doesn't go down too well with her parents) and they soon realise that each replay is getting shorter and shorter. Apart from everything else that goes on, this itself is a cause for alarm - what happens when they replay to their original death?

Some expected topics are tackled. Jeff warns the FBI of the attempt on Kennedy's life by Oswald and Grimwood handles the tinkering with time travel very nicely. Jeff and Pam spend almost one whole replay trying to see if there are other replayers out there, and the dilemma that they find themselves in was a little sad/disturbing. In a later life, in an attempt to help people with what they know will happen in current events, they come under the scrutiny of the CIA, a situation that they are almost glad to escape from by dying.

This was a brilliant book! I just couldn't help thinking about what you would/wouldn't do if you had the chance to relive your life, how frustrating it could be (Pamela keeps switching from an autonomous adult to a teenager with a curfew) and - even with the power of unlimited wealth - how sad and lonely it could be. Jeff is devastated by the loss of his daughter from his first replay (his only child) after waking up after the end of it. The pain is so acute, he decides to never have children again. He meets his wife from his original life and knows how they can both be happy this time around. The sadness of seeing people you loved previously who now have no idea who you are. These are just some of the things that had my empathy and had me engrossed from the first page. Winner of the *World Fantasy Award*, this is something you could give to a non-SF (luddite) fan and they'll love it. Absolutely brilliant. *Steph*

**PAUL COLLINS**

 **DRAGONSIGHT**

 *Jelindel #3.* Three mercenaries, poison coursing through their veins, and only six weeks to find a stolen dragon relic... Pb \$22.95 357pp

**LOUISE COOPER**

 **MERROW**

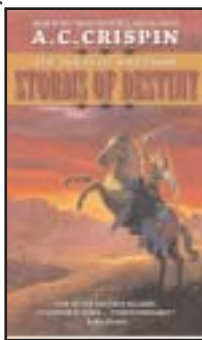
Kiran, Jay and Robyn have been best mates for years, but their lives change for ever when Kiran attempts to save a stranger from drowning and fails. From that moment on he is obsessed with the girl whose body is never found. Imagining that he can see her everywhere, shunning the company of Robyn, his girlfriend, and testing his friendship with Jay. Robyn is blindly determined to help Kiran over his apparent 'breakdown', but soon both she and Jay are having their doubts as to whether the ghost girl, the Merrow, as they call her, exists after all and all three are drawn into a sinister and nightmarish search for the truth... Pb \$17.95 182pp

**A C CRISPIN**

 **STORMS OF DESTINY**

*The Exiles of Boq'urain #1.*

Disgraced outcasts, they hold the fates of empire and gods... A dedicated priestess of Boq'urak, Thia has spent the whole of her young life in devout worship - until she inadvertently discovers the unholy truth about the deity she serves. Cruelly thrust back into a world she does not know, she has become an exile in a land torn asunder by terror and conflict. But Thia will not be making her journey alone. An outcast warrior priest, a mysterious healer, an enslaved prince and an embittered spy must join with her to save a realm ravaged by invasion - and rescue the future from the terrible wrath of a demon god. Pb \$18.95 547pp



**ANDREW CRUMEY**

 **MOBIUS DICK**

Physicist John Ringer, receives a mysterious text message that triggers an investigation into the development of new mobile phone technology in a research facility outside a remote Scottish village. Already the world is becoming a very different place: amnesia, telepathy, false memory and inexplicable coincidences all seem to be occurring more frequently with humorous, brain teasing results. Could quantum experiments have caused the collapse of our universe's space-time continuum? Could the multi layered text we are reading come from another world altogether? Pb \$22.00 312pp

**JOHN DALMAS**

 **THE SECOND COMING**

Chaos sweeps the world, governments are on the verge of collapse, the global economy hits rock bottom - and then a man appears. Nagunda Aran, a charismatic speaker who worked miracles and touched millions of Americans. He made no claim of being a messiah, but he was likely to suffer the traditional fate meted out to messiahs. As the attempts to kill him fail - Aran claims they are of no importance, since he was fated to die soon - as would many thousands more in an impending cosmic disaster that he predicted was descending on the Earth... Pb \$18.95 505pp

**ELLEN DATLOW, KELLY LINK & GAVIN J GRANT (EDS)**

 **THE YEAR'S BEST FANTASY AND HORROR**

*18th annual collection.* This includes stories by Simon Brown, Stepan Chapman, Terry Dowling, John Farris, Jeffrey Ford, Christopher Fowler, Elizabeth Hand, Alice Hoffman, John Kessel, Margo Lanagan, Tanith Lee, Elizabeth Lynn, China Miéville, Joyce Carol Oates, Peter Straub and Lucy Sussex. Rounding out the volume are overviews of the year in fantasy and horror and sections on comics, anime and manga, media and music. Tp \$43.00 480pp

**LY DE ANGELES**

 **THE QUICKENING**

Among us walk a race older than time - the Travellers. Such are Hunter and Brigid, Black Annis, Willie, Raven and many others. Shapeshifters and dreamers, the fey, the hidden and the lost, the Travellers are here now, called to New Rathmore to do battle against Michael Blacker and his fanatical followers, who are intent on igniting a modern day Inquisition. On an unforgettable night of mayhem and murder, Kathryn meets the magical travellers, is awakened to her true fey nature and must choose sides in an all-out-war between the world as she knows it and the world as she had forgotten. Tp \$35.00 276pp

**JOSEPH DELANEY**

 **THE SPOOK'S APPRENTICE**

*Spook #1.* Thomas Ward is the seventh son of a seventh son and has been apprenticed to the local Spook. The job is hard, the Spook is distant and many apprentices have failed before Thomas. Somehow Thomas must learn how to exorcise ghosts, contain witches and bind boggarts. But when he is tricked into freeing Mother Malkin, the most evil witch in the County, the horror begins. Pb \$17.95 322pp

 **THE SPOOK'S CURSE**

*Spook #2.* The Spook and his apprentice, Thomas Ward have travelled to Priesttown for some unfinished business. Deep in the catacombs of the cathedral, lurks the Spook's nemesis - The Bane. A creature he has never been able to defeat. As Thomas and his master prepare for the battle of their lives, it becomes clear that The Bane isn't their only enemy in town. The Quisitor has arrived, searching the county for those who meddle with the dark - witches, warlocks and Spooks! When the Spook is arrested and sentenced to death it's up to Thomas, with a little help from his old friend Alice, to rescue his master. Hb \$27.95 423pp

**GARDNER DOZOIS (ED)**

 **THE YEAR'S BEST SCIENCE FICTION**

*Volume #22.* Widely regarded as the one essential book for every science fiction fan, this annual anthology continues to uphold its standard of excellence with more than two dozen stories representing the previous year's best SF writing. The stories in this collection imaginatively take readers far across the universe, into the very core of their beings, to the realm of the Gods and to the moment just after now. Included are the works of masters of the form and the bright new talents of tomorrow. Tp \$43.00 663pp



**RECOMMENDED READING**

**BILL CONGREVE & MICHELLE MARQUARDT (EDS)**

**THE YEAR'S BEST AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY**

*Volume One.* From urban fantasy to the myths, dreams and warriors of the future, from the death of the nation to its rebirth, this collection plots a course across the works of the leading writers and dynamic newcomers of the genre. Supplementing the fiction is the editors' summation of the field in Australia and a list of recommended reading. Pb \$19.95 249pp *This features a wide variety of speculative fiction from various Australian authors. I can't describe each story, so here are a few of my favourites: Margo Lanagan's 'Singing My Sister Down' tells the heart-wrenching story of ritual and family tragedy that speaks across cultures. 'Flashmen' by Terry Dowling describes the reformation of a posse of old warhorses combating a thoroughly alien and ineffable menace in the Australian outback. 'The Tale of Enis Cash, Smallgoods Smokehand' by Brendan Duffy is an entertaining and bizarre blending of fairy tale, television sitcoms and Arthurian legend. 'Tripping Over the Light Fantastic' by Kim Westwood uses Australia's strange affection for ballroom dancing to introduce the reader to a grimy, urban horror story as seen through the eyes of a pessimistic and slightly paranoid young lady. - Raph*

**ANTHONY EATON**

 **NIGHTPEOPLE**

*The Darklands trilogy #1.* Saria is the last of her kind, the final child to be born in the Darklands, a quarantined expanse of outback desert, contaminated generations earlier by the remote and mysterious Nightpeople. Spirited away at her birth before the Nightpeople could remove her from the genetic pool, Saria, now in her early teens, is called before the Council of Dreamers to be used as a bargaining chip. There she discovers the truth about her own past and that of her people. Tp \$22.95 381pp

**KATE ELLIOTT**

 **IN THE RUINS**

*Crown of Stars #6.* The long-awaited cataclysm has reshaped the very land and seas and disrupted the war for empire. Now all who have survived the return of the spell-exiled Aoi lands must find a way to mend their shattered territories and take a stand against their enemies in a power struggle that may forge new alliances - or doom them all. Hb \$56.00 528pp

**JENNIFER FALLON**

 **WARLORD**

*The Hythrun Chronicles #3.* Marla Wolfblade has been shattered by the deaths of her court'esa and her fourth husband. But as she plans to take her revenge against Alija Eaglespike, a foolish deal she made years ago with the Assassins' Guild comes back to haunt her. Marla suddenly must face a new adversary in the enigmatic assassin, Galon Miar, who may or may not be on her side. Meanwhile, Fardohnya is massing for an invasion of Hythria. Damin Wolfblade, his hands tied by tradition and politics, must find a way to defeat them with the much smaller Hythrun army, commanded by his foolish uncle, the High Prince of Hythria. Pb \$18.95 631pp

**CATHERINE FISHER**

 **THE SCARAB**

*Oracle #3.* The Archon, child god-on-earth, returns from his journey across the desert to the Well of Songs, to find the tyrannical General Argelin has seized control and his reign of madness is oppressing the Two Lands. He has



publicly denounced the gods and established a reign of terror. Mirany is in hiding and the Nine are scattered. Will Argelin's obsession bring the Rain Queen's wrath down on them all? And whose is the sinister new power hidden in the sign of the Scarab? Pb \$17.95 426pp

**JAMES ALAN GARDNER**

 **RADIANT**

*An Expendables novel.* Youn Suu is Expendable - a dedicated member of the highly skilled and highly disposable Explorer Corps. Embarking on a typically suicidal undertaking with her partner, Tut, Youn has been entrusted with the rescue of a defenceless planet from the Balrog - a mosslike alien intelligence that is prescient, powerful and insidious. When the mission goes horribly wrong, only the timely intervention of Admiral Festina Ramos saves Youn and Tut from destruction, as they escape to a seemingly innocuous and deserted world where the true scope of a galactic nightmare will be revealed. Pb \$18.95 404pp

**DAVID GEMMELL**

 **LORD OF THE SILVER BOW**

Three lives will change the destiny of nations. Hellkaon, the young prince of Dardania, haunted by a scarred and traumatic childhood. The priestess Andromache, whose fiery spirit and fierce independence threatens the might of kings - and the legendary warrior Argurios, cloaked in loneliness and driven only by thoughts of revenge. In Troy they find a city torn apart by destructive rivalries - a maelstrom of jealousy, deceit and murderous treachery - and beyond its fabled walls, blood-hungry enemies eye its riches and plot its downfall. Tp \$32.95 474pp

**GARY GIBSON**

 **AGAINST GRAVITY**

Kendrick Gallmon, survivor of an infamous research facility called the Maze, is trying to pick up the pieces of his life, even though he knows the Labrat augments are slowly killing him. Then one day his heart stops beating, forever and a ghost urges him to return to the source of all his nightmares, a long-abandoned military complex filled with entirely real voices of the dead. Tp \$32.95 377pp

**LAURA ANNE GILMAN**

 **CURSE THE DARK**

*Retrievers #2.* Once more Wren Valere's game plan has taken an unexpected direction. She'd agreed to a bargain with one supersecret magic-watching outfit to protect her partner and herself on their last job. But now the Silence is trying to wedge them apart. On the one hand, ever since she and Sergei began to talk about their relationship, things have been tricky. On the other, though... Well, no one had better try to stand between Wren and Sergei when danger is near! So now they are off to Italy in search of a possessed parchment (or maybe not possessed - all they know is that whoever reads it disappears). Still, when compared to what's going on at home, maybe disappearing won't be so bad. Tp \$29.95 346pp

**NEWT GINGRICH**

 **& WILLIAM R FORSTCHEN  
GRANT COMES EAST**

*Lee & Grant #2.* It is July 10th, 1863 and Baltimore is in the hands of the Army of Northern Virginia under the command of Robert E Lee. Shattered remnants of the Army of the Potomac have fallen back into Washington, digging in, preparing to make a desperate stand. Six days earlier, General Ulysses S Grant and his army of 60,000 had taken Vicksburg. The last telegram out of Washington before the rebels cut the line changed all that... Grant and his men were to come east and save the Union. Now two of America's greatest generals will face off in a battle that could decide the fate of a nation. Tp \$32.95 404pp

 **NEVER CALL RETREAT**

*Lee & Grant #3.* It is now August 22, 1863. Lincoln and Grant are facing a collapse of political will to continue the fight to preserve the Union. Lee, desperately short of manpower, must conserve his remaining strength while manoeuvring for the killing blow that will take Grant's army out of the fight and, at last, bring a final and complete victory for the South. Pursuing the remnants of the defeated Army of the Potomac up to the banks of the Susquehanna, Lee is caught off balance when news arrives that General Ulysses S Grant, in command of more than 70,000 men, has crossed that same river, 100 miles to the northwest at Harrisburg. Hb \$56.00 496pp

**JUTTA GOETZE**

 **SNOW WINGS**

With the arrival of the black cloud, things begin to go wrong. Avalanches block the valley, animals disappear and black snow falls. Manfred and his friends - Dieter the mountain boy, Georg the baker's son, bossy Anne, spoiled Ziggi and I Don't Know (who can't even remember his name) - are catapulted onto the strange snow-covered landscape beyond the cloud. In a race against time they must unlock the power of the king's crystal and return it to its rightful owner. And every step of the way they are stalked by sinister Shadows, formidable foes who prey on fear itself. Pb \$15.95 294pp

**MARTIN H GREENBERG**

**& JOHN HELFERS (EDS)**

 **IN THE SHADOW OF EVIL**

What if Evil had already won and Good was hopelessly outclassed? That is the premise of these 14 fascinating excursions into fantasy's darkest side - from a master performer forced to bargain for life with a death, to a troll king seeking justice against his barbarian conquerors, to a cook forced to cater to the warlord who slaughtered her people. In this world, every victory has its price. Pb \$18.95 306pp

**KERRY GREENWOOD**

 **THE RAT AND THE RAVEN**

*Stormbringer #1.* Set in the future, this thriller is the story of an unusual group of characters who go on a quest to discover who is controlling all that is left of civilisation. Pb \$18.95 240pp

**MICHAEL GRUBER**

 **THE WITCH'S BOY**

Lump, the ugliest boy in the world, is abandoned in the forest, where he is found and taken in by a witch. With a bear for a nanny, a genie as a servant and only a cat to talk to, the household is a strange one, but Lump grows up knowing nothing but love - until one day he has to go out and face the world - and meets rejection at every turn. Hb \$26.95 298pp

**DEBORAH HALE**

 **THE WIZARD'S WARD**

Years before, the peaceful world of Umbria was torn apart by the ruthless Hanish invaders... Yet that is the only life Maura knows. Until her wizard guardian announces *she* is to be queen - but that first she must find and unite with their country's legendary 'Waiting King' in order to overthrow the enemy occupation. Men have searched for the fabled warrior for ages - what chance has a young witch gifted in life-magic? Especially since she has only till midsummer's moon... and her guardian's wisdom is tragically taken from her... But the greatest complication is the knowledge that if they do not find the king, Maura need not sacrifice all to be queen... Pb \$16.95 458pp



**ROBERT J HARRIS**

 **LEONARDO AND THE DEATH MACHINE**

Set in Renaissance Italy, this thriller stars Leonardo da Vinci as a young apprentice who witnesses a murder and becomes involved in a plot to take over the city. Pb \$14.95 297pp

**SIMON HAYNES**

  **HAL SPACEJOCK**

*Hal Spacejock #1.* A perennial loser, Hal borrowed heavily to fund his intergalactic cargo business. His loyal customers evaporated after several highly publicised mishaps, and mounting bills have confined him to planet Lamira, a mining colony with the vibrant, up-and-coming economy of a rubbish tip. The finance company is desperate to track Hal down and extract money and/or vital organs. And, on a nearby planet, a wealthy businessman needs a freelance cargo pilot for a suicidal cargo mission. Ideally, he wants a desperate, debt-ridden loser... Pb \$19.95 393pp

**AMANDA HEMINGWAY**

 **THE GREENSTONE GRAIL**

*Sangreal #1.* Bartlemy Goodman is approximately 1,500 years old. An albino of Greek parentage he was born in Byzantium amidst the decline of the Roman Empire and now resides in the village of Thornyhill, England with his dog, Hoover. On a warm evening in 1991, a young homeless woman holding a baby turns up on Bartlemy's doorstep and he senses destiny at work. The woman's name is Annie Ward and her son, Nathan, is an exceptional child as Annie cannot account for his conception. Soon Bartlemy comes to believe that the boy was created beyond the Gate of Death by a superior being for a special purpose, one that may threaten all of witch-kind and that it is his job to protect him. Pb \$18.95 376pp

**JUDITH HENEGHAN**

 **STONECIPHER**

Jago Stonecipher lives with his unscrupulous uncle, Archibald Callow, a fairground charlatan. One night, he overhears a whispered conversation about depriving someone of their inheritance, involving a man called Ambruster. Then, when Ambruster assaults Jago and accuses him of stealing, he decides to help defeat him. But the cunning plots and the trials of deceit are much more complicated than anyone could have anticipated and Jago becomes hopelessly embroiled in it all. Pb \$14.95 181pp

**WALTER H HUNT**

 **THE DARK CRUSADE**

*Dark Wing #4.* 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 ... but all is not as it seems to be. The vuhl may not be the ultimate enemy and the all-powerful puppetmasters that have lurked in the shadows have entered the endgame, where the mysteries of alien prophecies may have already determined the outcome. Hb \$56.00 432pp

**GWYNETH JONES**

 **BAND OF GYPSYS**

*Ax, Sage and Fiorinda #4.* Ax returns to England to take up the job of Green President. At close quarters he finds some outrageous details in the contract, so the Triumvirate decamps for Paris. He's quite certain he can negotiate a better deal. Meanwhile, bad things are happening for the President of the USA. Fred Eiffrich's enemies in Washington are about to drop a bombshell, one that will shatter any hope of a return to former realities, former certainties. What happened at Lavoisier is not over. It's coming back, it's never going to end. At least not while Fiorinda lives... or her child. Tp \$29.95 297pp

**GUY GAVRIEL KAY**

 **THE LAST LIGHT OF THE SUN**

*Sun #1.* Alun ab Owyn, grieving for his brother's death at the hands of raiders, leaves his lands to become embroiled in politics. Bern Thorkellson, punished for his father's sins, commits an act of vengeance that brings him face-to-face, across the seas, with a past he's been trying to leave behind. And the shrewd King Aeldred shores up his defences with alliances and diplomacy - and with swords and arrows. The death of a prince, the new life of an exile and the dreams of a king will be the threads from which the tapestry is woven, and the world is changed forever... Pb \$19.95 501pp

**SUSAN KEARNEY**

  **THE DARE**

Dora wants to make love with the handsome Rystani warrior-pilot Zical, but Dora is a computer. She builds herself a body specifically crafted to appeal to Zical and downloads her computer brain into it, but Dora's sassy attitude makes her too different from the women of Zical's culture. He's attracted to Dora, but won't make love to her. And while it would be easy for Dora to adapt to his desires, she likes being smart and funny and as Dora learns more about human emotions, she realises that she doesn't just want to make love with Zical - she wants to love him and be loved in return. Pb \$16.95 373pp

**ANNE KELLEHER**

 **SILVER'S EDGE**

*Silver #1.* An unlikely group of conspirators, both mortal and Sidhe, plot to overthrow both thrones. They steal the silver caul that protects the borders between the realms - and set in motion a war. A blacksmith's daughter, a Sidhe lady, a mortal queen - three women stand against the encroaching evil. All they have is a girl's love for her father, a lady's for her queen - and a queen's for her country. Will the spirit and strength of these women be enough to turn back the tide of the goblin hordes waiting to overrun the kingdoms? Perhaps. But the battle must still be fought... Pb \$16.95 536pp


**ANGELA KNIGHT**

  **MERCENARIES**


Beautiful Trinity Yeager's mission: join Nathan August's star-hopping team of mercenary soldiers. With one condition: Trinity must prove her resilience as a lover for him and his first officer, Sebastian Cole. Trinity not only sees Nathan's bet. She raises it... Now, from galactic dens of depravity to far-reaching planets of dominant females and strapping male slaves, Trinity, Sebastian and Nathan join forces, risk flesh and blood and push the boundaries of erotic adventure in order to protect, honour and service. Tp \$29.95 307pp

**KATHERINE LANGRISH**

**TROLL FELL**

 *Troll #1.* When Peer Ulfsson's father dies, Peer is forced to move away from the world he knows in Hammerhaven and live with his two half-uncles at their mill near Troll Fell. He lives a life of servitude, with only the company of his faithful dog, Loki, until he meets spirited Hilde, whose family farms on Troll Fell, and Nis, his uncles' house spirit. Between them, they must foil a plot by the Grimsson brothers to sell one boy and one girl to the trolls who live on Troll Fell. Pb \$15.95 317pp

**TROLL MILL**

 *Troll #2.* Returning from a day's fishing with his friend Bjorn and with a violent storm brewing, Peer is shocked when Bjorn's wife Kersten rushes past, thrusts her young baby into Peer's arms and throws herself into the sea. What kind of creature would do this and will Kersten ever return? On his way back up the hill, carrying Kersten's baby to safety through the storm, Peer notices the old mill wheel turning. But it's been derelict for years. The next day, he goes down to investigate, but who or what is lurking in the shadows of Troll Mill and are his greedy scheming uncles really gone for good? Tp \$19.95 327pp


**REBECCA LISLE**

**THE TOAD PRINCE**

 In this retelling of the tale about the Princess who kisses a frog, the frog doesn't turn into a Prince immediately. Oh no. He just falls in love with her generous spirit and then has to get a wizard to perform the transformation. Very luckily he is friendly with the Court Magician's shaggy dog and between them they manage to manipulate the wizard's magic for their own ends. The toad makes an incredibly ugly Prince (all protruding eyes, and prehensile tongue, not to mention an abiding delight in eating files). How amazing that the Princess is just like him! They could have been made for each other ! Pb \$14.95 64pp


**PATRICK MCCORMACK**

**THE LAST COMPANION**

 Takes readers into the dark period ten years after Arthur's death, where Britain is falling into chaos and a band of Irish raiders has shown up searching for the legendary chalice the King took from the Western Isles. Tp \$24.95 401pp


**CLIFF MCNISH**

**SILVER CITY**

 *The Silver Sequence #2.* Milo, transformed into a luminous silver child, keeps watch over the teeming city of Coldharbour, now filled with children from all over the world. We meet Tanni and Parminder, who lead the frightening Uneathers, children who are virtually human drills. The destinies of these children unfold as battlelines are drawn around them for the biggest fight ever between good and evil. Pb \$14.95 213pp


**JOHN MARCO**

**THE SWORD OF ANGELS**

 Lukien, the Bronze Knight of Liiria, was once the kingdom's greatest champion and then he betrayed his king. Consumed by guilt, he now lives in self-imposed exile, devoting himself to the protection of the mountain fortress of Grimhold. But Grimhold is threatened by a murderous magical secret, the Devil's Armour, which has at last found a wearer. Only the hidden Sword of Angels can defeat the Devil's Armor - if Lukien can find it before it is too late. Hb \$56.00 914pp


**SARAH MICKLEM**

**FIRETHORN**

 In the chaos of the UpsideDown Days, when the highborn and the low trade places, Firethorn couples with Sire Galan, a highborn warrior. Emboldened by desire and her own restlessness, she follows fate and Galan to camp with the king's army. But their unspoken love has no place in a brutal world ruled by caste and violence and a dark future threatens from the shadows. Tp \$29.95 383pp

**SARAH MONETTE**


**MELUSINE**

 Mélusine - a city of secrets and lies, pleasure and pain, magic and corruption and destinies lost and found... Felix Harrowgate is a dashing, highly respected wizard, but the horrors of his past as a slave have returned, and threaten to destroy all he has since become. As a cat burglar, Mildmay the Fox is used to being hunted. But now he has been caught by a wizard and yet the wizard was looking not for Mildmay, but for Felix Harrowgate... Thrown together by fate, these unlikely allies will uncover a shocking secret that will link them inexorably together. Hb \$54.00 421pp

**P P MOREDUN**


**THE WORLD OF ELDATERRA:**

**THE DRAGON CONSPIRACY**

 The fates of a police inspector in 1895 and a 15-year-old boy in 1910 are entwined as they both strive to stop an evil plot that has originated in a world of magic and threatens that world and their own. Hb \$37.00 290pp


**PETER MORWOOD**

**THE HORSE LORD, THE DEMON LORD**

 *The Book of Years #1.* The malevolent sorcery of Kalarr cu Ruruc has been unleashed against the unsuspecting Horse Lords. Aldric, the last survivor of his clan, must embark on a quest to obtain the one weapon that can defeat the dark magic before it spreads throughout the realm. Pb \$18.95 552pp


**ROBERT NEWCOMB**

**THE SCROLLS OF THE ANCIENTS**

 *Chronicles of Blood and Stone #3.* Tristan and Shailiha are the Chosen Ones, prophesied to unite the opposing magics of the dark Vagaries and the benevolent Vigors. With the destruction of the Gates of Dawn, it seems that the wounded kingdom of Eutracia will at last have the chance to heal - and the Chosen Ones, under the tutelage of wizards Wigg and Faegan, can fulfil their rightful destiny. Alas, such is not to be. For there is another who unknowingly possesses magic in his blood - great magic that, in the wrong hands, could unleash unspeakable evil. Pb \$18.95 557pp

**GARTH NIX**

**ACROSS THE WALL: A TALE OF ABHORSEN & OTHER STORIES**

 With *Nicholas Sayre and the Creature in the Case*, the author continues to explore the magical world of *The Abhorsen Trilogy*. Additional short stories range from classic fantasy - two widely different takes on the Merlin myth - to a gritty urban version of Hansel and Gretel, to an unusual take on the role of nature in matters of love and to a heartbreaking story of children and war. Hb \$37.00 305pp

**RECOMMENDED READING**

**TANITH LEE**

**HERE IN COLD HELL**

*The Lionwolf Trilogy #2.* Killed by the power of the god Zezeth, his true father, Lionwolf has been cast into a bleak and icy hell lit just by a cold blue sun. Here he and others of the living dead must wage endless combat and war, to appease the whim of a deathly King whose face is made of stone. But when Lionwolf encounters the King's wife, she is none other than the beautiful, god-fashioned Chilled, his own former lover - and nemesis. Tp \$32.95 417pp *Such a refreshing read! Lee's writing is hard-hitting, unapologetic and original. Her prose is straight-forward and unexpectedly poetic as she weaves a tale that is, for the characters in the story, a myth coming to life. Following straight on from **Cast a Bright Shadow**, she resumes the story of her hero, the demi-god Lionwolf, as he awakens to a living death in the Cold Hell of the title. As he struggles to find the meaning in his half-life and the purgatory he inhabits, events move apace in the world of the living, as his mother, now a goddess in her own right, faces the wrath of her son's father, the Sun God Zezeth. Set amidst an Ice Age, Lee breathes new life into the genre of 'medieval' fantasy. - Mark*



ANDRE NORTON

**MASKS OF THE OUTCASTS**

Troy Horan was deported from his own planet after it lost an interstellar war. When he had a chance to work in an unusual pet shop, he though his luck had changed. But the owner is playing a dangerous game of intrigue and when he is murdered Troy barely escapes with his life. Aided only by telepathic animals from old Terra, he has no choice but to hide in ruins left behind by the now-vanished original inhabitants of Korwar - ruins which explorers had entered without returning. This title has previously appeared separately as **Catseye** and **Night of Masks**. Hb \$49.95 343pp

MEL ODOM

**LORD OF THE LIBRARIES**

*Rover #3.* "The Rover" is now a master librarian at Great Library and has taken on an apprentice, namely Juhg, a halfling as green as Wick was back when his first adventure as "the Rover" began. Dark



forces are out to destroy those who might defend the world and it is up to these lowly librarians to secure the volumes that, if they fall into the wrong hands, will lead to a new era of darkness where knowledge - will only unlock the forces of evil. Hb \$56.00 384pp

ROBIN D OWENS

**HEART CHOICE**

*Heart #4.* Due to a genetic disorder, Straif Blackthorne is the last of his line. Determined to rebuild his heritage and protect future generations of Blackthornes from the disease, he works tirelessly to find a cure. Nothing else matters to him... until he meets Mitchella Clover... But Mitchella is not a woman Straif can build a family with, for she is unable to bear children. Unwilling to let his bloodline fail, Straif refuses to pursue his feelings. Only when tragedy threatens to overshadow them do they realise what truly matters - and what they truly mean to each other... Pb \$16.95 339pp

CHRISTOPHER PAOLINI

**ELDEST**

*Inheritance #2.* Eragon and his dragon, Saphira, have just saved the rebel state from destruction by the mighty forces of King Galbatorix, cruel ruler of the Empire. Now Eragon must travel to Ellesmera, land of the elves, for further training in the skills of the Dragon Rider - magic and swordsmanship. Soon he is on the journey of a lifetime, his eyes open to awe-inspiring new places and people, his days filled with fresh adventure. But chaos and betrayal plague him at every turn and nothing is what it seems. Before long, Eragon doesn't know whom he can trust. Tp \$32.95 681pp

TIM POWERS

**STRANGE ITINERARIES: THE COMPLETE SHORT STORIES OF TIM POWERS**

Ghosts, accidental time travel, a secret clan of immortals and Maxwell's Demon are all subjects in this complete collection of short stories. A pioneer of the popular Steampunk genre of speculative fiction, his complex and tightly researched 'secret histories' blend with fantastical elements to create some of today's most memorable modern science fiction. Tp \$35.00 206pp

LILY PRIOR

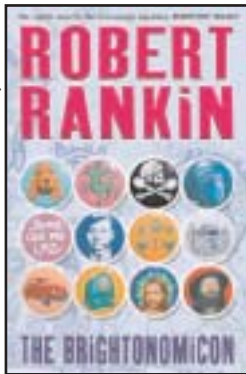
**ARDOR**

When a lonely olive grower, Arcadio Carnabuci, sows his love seeds, he cannot imagine the chaos his magic fruit will bring. While Fernanda Ponderosa, the voluptuous woman of his dreams, evades his spell, Gezabel, a hardworking middle-aged mule, falls head over hooves in love with him. And, as Gezabel discovers, she is not the only one whose stars cross as the olive grower's ardour casts its magic over the region. Suddenly, the butcher and the baker are thinking murder, the village doctor and his nurse are driven to distraction and a newborn is transformed into an angel. As the villagers alternate between love and war, remarkable phenomena add to the fevered atmosphere, making passions surge higher than the soaring temperatures of summer. Tp \$29.00 205pp

ROBERT RANKIN

**THE BRIGHTONOMICON**

Were you aware that there are, hidden in the streets of Brighton, 12 ancient constellations, like the Hangleton Hound and the Bevendean Bat... well, there are - and on each one hangs a tale, a tale so strange that only the lad himself, that inveterate spinner of tales and talker of the toot, Hugo Rune, can get to the bottom of them. And he'd better do it quickly, because if he doesn't solve the dozen mysteries before the year is out, that'll be the end of the world as we know it. Hb \$45.00 359pp



JUDITH & GARFIELD REEVES-STEVENS

**BLUEBOUND**

*A Galen Sword short story.* For everyone who has read Dark Hunter and wondered exactly what kind of trouble Sword encountered at the first private convalescent hospital he considered for Kendall Marsh, here's the answer... Pb \$22.95 37pp

KARL SCHROEDER

**THE ENGINE OF RECALL: TEN HIGH-TECH TOMORROWS**

These are tales of ordinary people in extraordinary circumstances. Whether stranded alone on the frigid oceans of Saturn's moon Titan, or searching for stolen nuclear bombs under the rusting oil derricks of Azerbaijan, Schroeder's characters assert their humanity in inhuman circumstances. Hb \$43.00 271pp

LEANNE SHAWLER

**TOUCHED BY TIME**

Ramsay Chadwick has grown accustomed to the blurred ghosts that occasionally inhabit his bed. They're a minor inconvenience compared to the fact that his beautiful fiancée is flirting with another man. But the latest ghost to visit his room, Miss Jane Leighton, is nothing like the others. For one thing, a single touch turns her into a flesh and blood woman - revealing substantially more flesh than would be deemed proper by the ladies of Bath. For another, this lovely, spirited creature stays in his world from dusk till dawn... and suddenly, Ramsay finds himself waiting eagerly for evening... Pb \$11.95 220pp

SHARON SHINN

**THE TRUTH-TELLERS TALE**

*Safe-Keeper's Secrets #2.* Innkeeper's daughters Adele and Eleda are mirror twins - identical twins whose looks reflect each other's - and their special talents are like mirrors, too. Adele is a Safe-Keeper, entrusted with hearing and never revealing others' secrets. Eleda is a Truth-Teller, who cannot tell a lie when asked a direct question. When the twins are 17, a handsome dancing-master and his apprentice come to stay at the inn and thus begins a chain of romances and mistaken identity... Hb \$37.00 276pp

ALLEN STEELE

**COYOTE RISING**

*Coyote #2.* The crew of the hijacked starship Alabama fled their colony on Coyote after more colonists arrived - along with a new, repressive government and all of Earth's social ills. Now, the colonial governor is




building a bridge to exploit the territory where the Alabama's crew are believed to have resettled. But a movement is underway to reclaim Coyote for those who truly love freedom - a full-scale rebellion in which the men and women on both sides of the fight will learn the true price of liberty. Pb \$19.95 515pp




**S M STIRLING**

**DIES THE FIRE**


 *Dies the Fire #1.* It all started when an electrical storm over the island of Nantucket produced a blinding white flash, causing all electronic devices to cease to function - computers, telephones, engines, radio, television, even firearms - and plunged the world into a darkness humanity was unprepared to face. But even as some people band together to help one another, others are building armies... Pb \$18.95 573pp

**THE PROTECTOR'S WAR**

 *Dies the Fire #2.* Ten years after The Change rendered technology inoperable throughout the world, two brave leaders built two thriving communities in Oregon's Willamette Valley. But now the armies of the totalitarian Protectorate are preparing to wage war over the priceless farmland. Hb \$54.00 486pp


**TRISHA SULLIVAN**

**DOUBLE VISION**

 When shy, psychic bookworm 'Cookie' Orbach watches television, she sees things, but not the things that you or I would see. Cookie sees The Grid - a strange, shifting landscape where human forces battle against an enemy they dare not kill. Her employer, the mysterious Dataplex Corporation, pays her well to watch this war and asks only that she report her observations, but take no direct action, which suits her passive demeanour just fine. But Cookie's quiet life is about to be shattered. Her two very different worlds are threatening to merge in a way that shouldn't really be possible and everything is about to change... Tp \$29.95 377pp


**MICHAEL SWANWICK**

**THE PERIODIC TABLE OF SCIENCE FICTION**

 *Signed & numbered edition.* Swanwick is at his exuberant and ingenious best in these tales, each inspired by a single chemical element. Originally appearing online at www.scifi.com, this collection gathers together 118 stories in print for the first time. revelations flow like heady wine: the real reason the Hindenburg exploded; how to measure the apocalyptic mood swings of God; why you never want pond scum to preside over your office; which is the most boring element in existence; how the Plains Indians adopted not the horse but the motorcycle; the best way to avert a spaceship hijacking; how to make a fortune in interplanetary metals prospecting; robot ideology; and much, much more. Hb \$80.00 274pp


**HARRY TURTLEDOVE**

**DRIVE TO THE EAST**

 *Settling Accounts #2.* In 1914, the First World War ignited a brutal conflict in North America, with the United States finally defeating the Confederate States. In 1917, The Great War ended and an era of simmering hatred began, fuelled by the despotism of a few and the sacrifice of many. Now it's 1942. The USA and CSA are locked in a tangle of jagged, blood-soaked battle lines, modern weaponry, desperate strategies and the kind of violence that only the damned could conjure up - for their enemies and themselves. Hb \$58.00 594pp

**A M VEILLON**

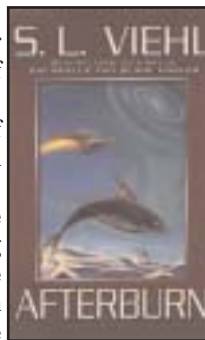
**SHELBY AND THE SHIFTING RINGS**

 As a new student at Ms. Peabonnet's Academy for Girls, Shelby gets caught up in a mystery that involves a dark-cloaked stranger and a missing academy professor. Shelby, who has stumbled upon the professor's journal, makes a dramatic discovery -there is a time machine located in the tunnels beneath the school. With the help of her brainy friend, Molly MacPac and a special sword that is unearthed in the professor's secret lab, Shelby soon finds herself lost in a twisting labyrinth of questions. Using her heart as a guide, Shelby searches in the shadows of uncertainty that surround her. What she doesn't realise is the answers she so fervently seeks will change her life forever. Pb \$22.95 167pp


**S L VIEHL**

**AFTERBURN**

 *A Stardoc novel.* After driving their mutual enemy out of the Pmoc quadrant, the Allied League of Worlds gather for a peace summit on K-2, the homeworld of the underwater-dwelling Zangians. With the Bio Rescue team assigned to protect the delegates, Sub-Lieutenant Burn mu Znora's attention is placed on the daughter of one of the ambassadors, who is hiding a deadly secret-a secret that may alter the fate of four worlds. Hb \$49.95 312pp




**BIO RESCUE**


 *A Stardoc novel.* Lieutenant Dair mu T'resa heads a squadron of SEAL (surgically enhanced/altered lifeform) pilots responsible for the security of the quadrant containing her home world of Kevarzangia Two. She finds a new calling in life as an interstellar paramedic leading the first Bio Rescue team. But the entire project faces opposition from a lupine species with a hatred for native Zangians like Dair... Pb \$18.95 400pp

**JOHN WARD**

**THE SECRET OF THE ALCHEMIST**


 *The Fate of the Stone #1.* Teenagers Jake and Helen meet at a Dante festival in Florence and are drawn into the murky underworld intrigues of Helen's estranged father, a dodgy art-dealer, when his unwise attempt to double-cross the occultist Aurelian Pounce goes wrong. Jake and Helen are pursued by Pounce and his demonic crew through a strangely empty, fog-bound Venice that seems to have slipped out of time. Though thwarted by the intervention of Dante Alighieri himself, Pounce hounds the children across Europe, from Milan to London and the South of France, as they race against time to save Helen's father and discover the age-old secret of the alchemist. Pb \$15.95 254pp

**THE STONE OF SORROW**

 *The Fate of the Stone #2.* Jake and Helen are further along the way to understanding the true power of the Philosopher's Stone - life eternal. Yet others seek it too - the face-shifting Zoe and the counterfeit teacher, Macintosh Raeburn, the blood-chilling Doctor Negulescu and the horrifying, centuries-old Draganu. Pb \$15.95 256pp

**SCOTT WESTERFELD**

**UGLIES**

 Tally is about to turn 16 and she can't wait. Not for her licence - for turning pretty. In Tally's world, your 16th birthday brings an operation that turns you from a repellent ugly into a stunningly attractive pretty and catapults you into a high-tech paradise where your only job is to have a really great time. In just a few weeks, Tally will be there. But Tally's new friend Shay isn't sure she wants to be pretty. She'd rather risk life on the outside. When Shay runs away, the authorities offer Tally the worst choice she can imagine: find her friend and turn her in, or never turn pretty at all. The choice Tally makes changes her world forever. Pb \$9.95 425pp

**KIM WILKINS**

**ROSA AND THE VEIL OF GOLD**

 *The Europa Suite.* When an ancient bear made of gold is found walled up in a dilapidated St Petersburg bathhouse, three people are drawn into a journey along the frozen pathways of Russia's primitive and terrible mythology. Researcher Daniel St Clare and his colleague Em Hayward set out to verify the age of the artefact, but in the deep of night they somehow part ways with reality, finding themselves set adrift in a landscape stalked by revenants, water spirits and the sorceress Baba Yaga. Lost and exhausted, they turn north in hopes that the Snow Witch, queen of this land, will help them. Tp \$29.95 472pp

**JACK WILLIAMSON**

 **THE STONEHENGE GATE**

In a basement in New Mexico, four poker buddies find reason to believe that a startling secret is out there... A sudden burst of curiosity propels mild-mannered English professor Will and his three friends to the Sahara to excavate a site where radar has evidently detected trilithic stones hidden beneath the sand. There they stumble upon an ancient artefact that will change their lives and the world, forever... a gateway between planets, linking Earth to distant worlds where they will discover wonders and terrors beyond imagining. Hb \$54.00 316pp

**GENE WOLFE**

 **STARWATER STRAINS:  
NEW SCIENCE FICTION  
STORIES**

A collection of 25 primarily science fiction stories. Hb \$56.00 352pp

**CLIVE WOODALL**

 **SEVEN FOR A SECRET**

Man and nature are at war with each other. Evil flaps its black wings once more and casts dark shadows. But which is darker? Evil from without or from within? Beseiged on all sides, the ancient tawny owl, Tomar, battles to keep Birddom pure and whole. He still has friends to help him, though far fewer than before. Allies in an unequal fight between good and evil. But, sometimes, good cannot prevail, and, when all hope is gone, there is no other recourse, but to turn to seven for a secret - a secret that could yet save them all. Pb \$24.95 286pp

**MARC SCOTT ZICREE  
& ROBERT CHARLES WILSON**

 **GHOSTLANDS**

*Magic Time #3.* Former lawyer turned visionary leader Cal Griffin continues his quest across the changed face of America, where machines no longer run and magic holds sway. Accompanied by his loyal band of followers - fierce warrior Colleen Brooks, expatriate Russian physician Doc Lysenko and bipolar street wizard Herman "Goldie" Goldman - Cal follows a trail of clues he hopes will lead him to the Source of the Change that overthrew the world... and to his abducted sister, Christina, who was transformed into one of the powerful, enigmatic beings known as flares. Pb \$18.95 476pp



**SIMON CLARK  
THE TOWER**

A haunted mansion not only contains the ghosts of the past, but can reach into the future to predict how its current occupants will die, infecting the entire town with its madness. Pb \$16.95 353pp

**H R HOWLAND  
ASHES**

An unimaginable evil has burned its way across the globe in search of a kindred spirit, leaving in its wake the ashes of its victims. Now, in a small Pennsylvania town with a dark history of its own, it's found what it has been looking for. Pb \$16.95 306pp

**JACK KETCHUM  
THE GIRL NEXT DOOR**

Somebody's knockin... Suburbia in the 1950s. A nice, quiet, simpler time to grow up, unless you count the McCarthy trials and red-scares and the shadow of the Bomb and the Cold War, unless you could see the dark side emerging. And on a quiet, tree-lined, dead-end street, in the dark, damp basement of the Chandler house, it's emerging big-time for teenage Meg and her crippled sister Susan - whose parents are dead now - who are left captive to the savage whims and rages of a distant Aunt who is rapidly descending into madness. It is a madness that infects all three of her sons - and finally an entire neighbourhood. Only one troubled boy stands hesitantly between Meg and Susan and their cruel, tortuous deaths - a boy with a very adult decision to make - between love and compassion, and lust and evil. Pb \$16.95 370pp

**STEPHEN KING  
THE DARK TOWER**

*The Dark Tower #7.* This final volume sees gunslinger Roland on a roller-coaster mix of exhilarating triumph and aching loss in his unrelenting quest to reach the dark tower - a journey which means he must leave his



faithful friends Eddie, Susannah, Jake and even Oy, as he closes on the Tower. His steps are followed only by Mordred, half-human, half-terrifying creature heir to the Crimson King. In the end, it is an unlikely ally who will hold the key to the Tower itself, centre of all time and all place. Pb \$39.95 686pp

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Ward Hopkins' past come backs to haunt him when an ex-CIA colleague tracks him down, desperate for help in solving a bizarre series of events. Meanwhile Ward's brother, the serial killer known as the Upright Man, has escaped from prison and Hopkins' ally, former homicide cop John Zandt, is still on the trail of the organisation which killed his daughter and Ward's parents. Across America sinister forces are stirring. Only Ward, John and FBI agent Nina Baynam stand against this tide and against the Upright Man. It's only a question of where the next killings will start and whether they will ever stop. Tp \$29.95 422pp

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*Darkwing Chronicles #1.* The government knows that Daphne Urban is a vampire and they have an ultimatum - spy for them, or be killed. Her first mission is to get close to Bonaventure, a shady arms dealer with an unexpected gift for seduction. But when Darius, a darkly sexy vampire slayer, begins chasing her, Darius is torn between desire and duty. For his lithe, young prey is also his ultimate temptation. Pb \$16.95 295pp

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Roman Draganesti is charming, handsome, rich... and he's also a vampire. But this vampire just lost one of his fangs sinking his teeth into something he shouldn't have. Now he has one night to find a dentist before his natural healing abilities close the wound, leaving him a lop-sided eater for all eternity. After witnessing a gruesome murder, Shanna Whelan is next on the mob's hit list. And her career as a dentist appears to be on a downward spiral because she's afraid of blood. When Roman rescues her from an assassination attempt, she wonders if she's found the one man who can keep her alive. Though the attraction between them is immediate, can Shanna conquer her fear of blood to fix Roman's fang? And if she does, what will prevent Roman from using his fangs on her? Pb \$14.95 371pp

**R L STINE**  
**MOONLIGHT SECRETS**

*Fear Street Nights #1.* It all started with Lewis and Jamie. They were sneaking out late at night to be together. Then their friends started joining in. First at the old burned-down Fear Mansion. Later at the local bar Nights. They called themselves the Night People. And they carefully protected their secret world. No parents, no work, no stress. Just chilling with friends in their own private after-hours club. But then the nights turned dark. Unexplainable accidents, evil pranks... and then, later, the killings. The Night People know they have to stop the horror all by themselves, or else they risk exposure - not to mention their lives. Pb \$9.95 174pp

**DAVID & AIMEE THURLO**  
**BLOOD RETRIBUTION**

*Navajo Vampire #2.* Lee Nez is a nightwalker - a Navajo vampire. He's also a New Mexico state police officer. Paired with FBI agent Diane Lopez, Lee is tracking down violent smugglers who have killed two cops while bringing silver and turquoise across the border from Mexico. Shocked to discover that the smugglers are Navajo shapeshifters/skinwalkers, Lee and Diane realise they must wipe out the whole pack, fast, before the skinwalkers realise there's a nightwalker on their tails. Werewolves and vampires are deadly enemies... Complicating matters, Lee is being stalked by a pair of vampire assassins. He killed the leader of their clan and the survivors are bent on revenge. Pb \$16.95 271pp

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**DARK LOVER**


There exists a secret band of brothers like no other - six vampire warriors, defenders of their race. Yet none of them relishes killing more than Wrath, the leader of The Black Dagger Brotherhood. The only purebred vampire left on earth, Wrath has a score to settle with the slayers who murdered his parents centuries ago. But when one of his most trusted fighters is killed - leaving his half-breed daughter unaware of his existence or her fate - Wrath must usher her into the world of the undead, a world of sensuality beyond her wildest dreams. Pb \$16.95 400pp

**MIRANDA WEBBER**  
**THE REMARKABLE MISS**  
**FRANKENSTEIN**

When Dr Frankenstein's niece enters a castle in search of a vampire, she finds more than she bargained for - a paranormal romp and more love bites than she knows what to do with! Pb \$14.95 306pp

# MEDIA

**SERENITY**  
**KEITH R A DECANDIDO**









 500 years in the future, Captain Mal Reynolds, a hardened war veteran (on the losing side), ekes out a living pulling off small crimes and transport-for-hire aboard his ship, Serenity. He leads a small, eclectic crew who are the closest thing he has left to family — squabbling, insubordinate, and undyingly loyal. When Mal takes on two new passengers — a young doctor named Simon and his unstable, telepathic sister, River - he gets much more than he bargained for. The pair are fugitives from a coalition that dominates the universe with unlimited wealth and power - and that will stop at nothing to control River and her abilities. Pb \$16.95 260pp

 **SERENITY:**  
**THE OFFICIAL VISUAL**  
**COMPANION**

**JOSS WHEDON**  
500 years in the future, Captain Mal Reynolds and the crew of the transport-for-hire ship Serenity take on two new passengers and soon find themselves in a crossfire between an invincible military force and cannibalistic savages... Writer/director Joss Whedon - creator of Buffy the Vampire Slayer and Angel - makes his long-awaited feature film directorial debut with Serenity, based on his cult television series Firefly. This large format, full colour companion to the movie features a special introduction by Joss Whedon, an in-depth interview with him about the making of the film, the full shooting script, including scenes cut from the final edit, production and background memos by Whedon, including 'A Brief History of the Universe, circa 2507 A. D.' and scores of stunning movie stills, storyboards and pieces of production art. Tp \$43.00 156pp

 **THE COMPLETE BOOK OF**  
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**CHRIS BENTLEY**

Everything *Thunderbirds* fans need to know about the cult series, from character profiles and a comprehensive episode guide to fascinating behind-the-scenes information about the making of the models. Hb \$35.00 127pp

	
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Comic	
Reference	

**WIN...**  
**A DR WHO**  
**OVEN MITT AND BADGE**  
see back page for entry details

# What We've Been Reading

**The Rising** by Brian Keene (Pb \$16.95). I love a good zombie tale and this is a good one. Fast-paced, gory and imaginative, it tells of a world overrun by the undead after an accident during a groundbreaking science experiment, allowing demonic entities from another dimension to inhabit the dead and reanimate them.



Keene doesn't just stick to humans; everything that dies comes back to life, including animals and insects. The lives of several major characters intersect, with lots of quite visceral flesh-eating along the way. It will be interesting to see where the sequel (**City of the Dead** Pb \$16.95) will go. Highly recommended for fans of the genre. 7/10 - David

**The Time Traveler's Wife** by Audrey Niffenegger (Pb \$22.95). This is the beautifully told tale of Henry and Clare, an intimate story of two lives spent in love, the ups and downs, not least of which is the fact that Henry suffers from Chrono Displacement Disorder. At random, he disappears, only to travel backward or forward in time to periods of his own life. Thus we are given the relationship between two characters at different ages and times, as Henry learns to make the most of his life, or lives. A wonderfully written book, this is an emotional journey with a twist, and an ending that will resonate. 8/10 - David

**Ventus** by Karl Schroeder (Pb \$18.95). Having recently read **Lady of Mazes** (Hb \$54.00), also by the same author, which references this work, I thought I had better read **Ventus**. This is science fiction in a familiar-feeling fantasy setting. Ventus is a planet colonised long ago. Protecting the fragile ecology are god-like Winds. These Winds are supposed to be the servants to humans. The question is: why aren't they servile and what is their purpose now? 8/10 - Adam

**No Present Like Time** by Steph Swainston (Tp \$29.95, Hb \$39.95). I thoroughly enjoyed the first book in this trilogy (**Year of Our War** Pb \$18.95) although it had rough edges in a few places. This more polished book finds Jant the Messenger, one of the Immortal Circle under the benevolent (maybe?) Emperor, travelling to a new-found island country where there are no Insects, in an attempt to sway the country to join the Empire. Of course, nothing is ever easy and Jant again finds himself drawn to the use of the drug, scolopendium, and shifting into the other-dimensional world of Epsilon. 9/10 - Adam



**The Green Mile** by Stephen King (Pb \$18.95) *"This happened in 1932, when the State Penitentiary was still at Cold Mountain. And the electric chair was there too, of course."*

Originally written in serial-novel form, (a-la Charles Dickens) the one-volume edition tells a thought-provoking and unique story about a man being punished for a heinous crime he did not commit. Rather than taking lives, this man can almost seem to prolong them...

This number one bestseller from the brilliant story-spinner King is a must-read, and not just for fans! 9/10 - Sofia



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The winner of a William Shatner stand-up is Jon Stevenson. Congratulations!