

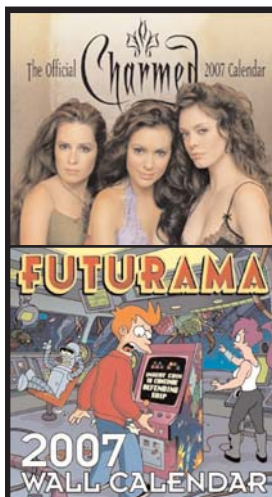


ISSUE #221

OCT 2006

# NEXUS

SCIENCE FICTION ● FANTASY ● HORROR



## 2007 WALL CALENDARS

### CHARMED

\$29.00

### FUTURAMA

\$29.00

### SMALLVILLE

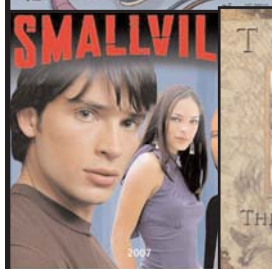
\$29.95

### TOLKIEN: THE LORD OF THE RINGS

\$23.00

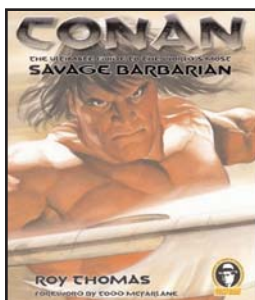
### WORLD OF WARCRAFT

\$29.95



## CONAN:

### THE ULTIMATE GUIDE TO THE WORLD'S MOST SAVAGE BARBARIAN ROY THOMAS



For more than 70 years, fantasy fans have followed the exploits of Conan through novels, comic books and movies. This book, the first-ever illustrated guide to Robert E Howard's most beloved character, is a genuine treasure chest of Conan lore, following Conan through the ages, through his different careers, as he meets friends and foes and travels across the Hyborian continent. Includes a foreword by Todd McFarlane and created in full cooperation

with *Conan Properties International, LLC*. It features character profiles, maps, art from original paperbacks, comic books, video games and more. Conan of Cimmeria remains as vital today as he did when he first emerged from the pages of *Weird Tales* three quarters of a century ago to trample the jewelled crowns of earth under his sandaled feet. Hb \$54.00 159pp

"A treasure for fans of Robert E Howard and a splendid introduction to the Hyborian Age for new readers." – George R R Martin

## CHARLES GRANT

Writer and editor, Charles Grant, has died aged 64 of a heart attack following a long illness. Grant wrote over 100 books, mostly horror and fantasy and won the *Nebula* and *World Fantasy Awards*, a special *British Fantasy Award*, a *Life Achievement Stoker Award*, the *World Horror Grandmaster Award* and the *International Horror Guild Living Legend Award*.

## UPCOMING TITLES

### DUE OCTOBER

**Beguilement** (*The Sharing Knife* #1)

by Lois McMaster Bujold (Hb)

**Fortress of Ice** by C J Cherryh (Hb)**Into a Dark Realm** by Raymond Feist (Hb)

### Fragile Things:

**Short Fictions and Wonders**

by Neil Gaiman (Tp)

**Strange Candy** by Laurell K Hamilton (Hb)**Lisey's Story** by Stephen King (Hb)**Aerie** by Mercedes Lackey (Hb)**Wintersmith** by Terry Pratchett (Hb)**Spellbinder** by Melanie Rawn (Hb)**Hell's Gate** by David Weber (Hb)

### DUE NOVEMBER

**Polity Agent** by Neal Asher (Hb)**Transcendent** (*Destiny's Children* #3)

by Stephen Baxter (Pb)

**Green Trap** by Ben Bova (Hb)**Voice of the Gods** (*Age of Five* #3)

by Trudi Canavan (Pb)

**Empire** by Orson Scott Card (Hb)**Ladies of Grace Adieu**

by Susannah Clarke (Hb)

**Son of the Oak** by David Farland (Hb)**Odyssey** by Jack McDevitt (Hb)**Looking for Jake** by China Mieville (Pb)**Black Man** by Richard Morgan (Hb)**Galactic North** by Alistair Reynolds (Hb)**Android's Dream** by John Scalzi (Hb)**The Sky People** by S M Stirling (Hb)**The Mislaid Magician** by Patricia Wrede & Caroline Stevermer (Hb)**Fugitives of Chaos** by John Wright (Hb)

### DUE DECEMBER

**Cry of the Newborn**(*Ascendants of Estorea* #1)

by James Barclay (Pb)

**Days of Magic, Nights of War** (*Abarat* #2)

by Clive Barker (Hb)

**Resplendent** (*Destiny's Children* #4)

by Stephen Baxter (Hb)

**Carnival** by Elizabeth Bear (Hb)**Cursor's Fury** by Jim Butcher (Hb)**Land of Mist & Snow**

by Debra Doyle &amp; James McDonald (Hb)

**Ilario: The Lion's Eye**

by Mary Gentle (Hb)

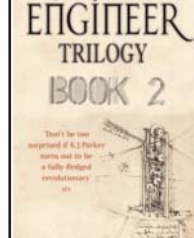
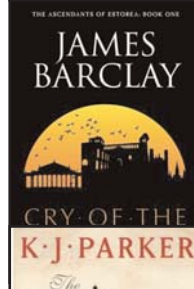
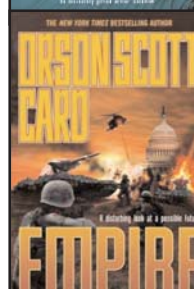
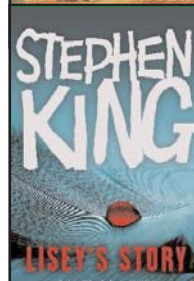
**The Mistral's Kiss**

by Laurell K Hamilton (Hb)

**Evil for Evil** by K J Parker (Hb)**Mathematicians in Love**

by Rudy Rucker (Hb)

Please note: These dates are based on the best information we have and are subject to change.





## SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY



LYNN ABBEY

### RIFKIND'S CHALLENGE

In a desert world ruled by men, Rifkind has always been one apart. A chieftain's daughter, she learned to wield a sword while all other women were bound by tribal custom to children and the cooking fire. But when her clan was massacred, she set forth on a quest for her destiny in savage lands ruled by magic and the sword. For a while, she thought that she had found a home. She practiced the healing arts and raised a son. But now she has once again heard a personal call to arms, a call to leave the safety of her home. She will once again take up the way of the sword, the way of sorcery and this time she is not alone. Hb \$54.00 303pp

ALMA ALEXANDER

### THE EMBERS OF HEAVEN

*Jin Shei* #2. Amais is heir to her poet-ancestress's manuscripts and journals. The journals are all in jin-ashu, the women's tongue, taught sketchily to Amais by her mother. Combined with her deep and instinctive bond to her ancestors and her culture, Amais determines to reinvent the Women's Country and bring the jin-shei back. But as her crusade begins, she and her family are caught up in the whirlwind of the Golden Rising - a people's revolution that is fated to destroy much that was once valuable, gracious and beautiful. Pb \$23.00 467pp

JODI ANDERSON

### EVER AFTER

*May Bird* #1. Most people aren't very comfortable in the woods, but the woods of Briery Swamp fit May Bird like a fuzzy mitten. There, she is safe from school and the taunts and teases of kids who don't understand her. Hidden in the trees, May is a warrior princess, and her cat, Somber Kitty, is her brave guardian. Then May falls into the lake. When she crawls out, May finds herself in a world that most certainly does not feel like a fuzzy mitten. In fact it is a place few living people have ever seen. Here, towns glow blue beneath zipping stars and the people walk through walls. Here the *Book of the Dead* holds the answers to everything in the universe. And here, if May is discovered, the horrifyingly evil Bo Cleevil will turn her into nothing. May Bird must get out. Fast. Pb \$12.95 317pp

ROBERT ASPRIN

### LITTLE MYTH MAKER

*Myth* #6. Skeeve bluffs his way into a high-stakes game of dragon poker - and wins! But now he's left with Markie, a pint-sized IOU left by a player who went broke. She conjures up a house full of trouble every time she tries to cast a spell and now the dragon poker champion has challenged Skeeve to a game, with a pot of half a million. Pb \$16.95 200pp

J G BALLARD

### KINGDOM COME

Richard Pearson, unemployed advertising executive and life-long rebel, is driving out to Brooklands, a motorway town on the M25. A few weeks earlier his father was fatally wounded at the Metro-Centre, a vast shopping mall in the centre of this apparently peaceful town, when a deranged mental patient opened fire on a crowd of shoppers. When the main suspect is released without charge thanks to the dubious testimony of self-styled pillars of the community, including Julia Goodwin, the doctor who treated his father on his deathbed, Richard suspects that there is more to his father's death than meets the eye, a more sinister element lurking behind the pristine facades of the labyrinthine mall. Tp \$33.00 280pp

NAOMI BELLS

### STEP INTO DARKNESS

A viscount's daughter... An infamous thief... And the French Revolution. Sarah Leaford is desperate to rescue her father from the dungeons of Paris and it seems that her success depends on one man - Gentleman Jack, the greatest thief in all of London. What she doesn't know is that Jack is already well acquainted with her father and is looking for a chance for revenge. Pb \$16.95 314pp

HOLLY BLACK

### VALIANT

*A Modern Tale of the Faerie* #2. When 17-year-old Valerie Russell runs away to New York City, she's trying to escape a life that has utterly betrayed her. Sporting a new identity, she takes up with a gang of squatters who live in the city's labyrinthine subway system. But there's something eerily beguiling about Val's new friends. When a bewildered Val allows one of her new friends, Lolli to talk her into tracking down the hidden lair of the creature for whom Luis and Dave have been working, 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 affection for him - and fear of what her new friends are becoming because of him. Pb \$16.95 317pp

ANNE -LAURIE BONDOUX

### THE PRINCESS AND THE CAPTAIN

Malva is the princess of Galnicia, destined to marry the Prince of Andemark. Or so her parents think. On the eve of her wedding, she escapes at dead of night from under her parents' noses, little realising that she is letting herself in for a life of peril and adventure, including being shipwrecked in a huge storm and being captured as part of a harem. Tp \$24.95 432pp

RAY BRADBURY

(ILLUSTRATED BY DAVE MCKEAN)

### THE HOMECOMING

This classic short story has been a Halloween treat since its publication in 1946. The tale of an ordinary boy in an enormous family of ghouls attending a special reunion on All Hallow's Eve, it is at once haunting, humorous and heart-felt. Enhanced by the illustrations of world-renowned artist David McKean, this unique collector's edition will thrill readers of all ages. Hb \$32.95 56pp

TERRY BROOKS

### ARMAGEDDON'S CHILDREN

*Shannara prequel* #1. Logan Tom is doomed to remember the past and determined to rescue the future. Far behind him lies a boyhood cut violently short by his family's slaughter, when the forces of madness and hate swept our world after decadent excesses led to civilisation's downfall. Somewhere ahead of him rests the only chance to beat back the minions of evil that are systematically killing and enslaving the last remnants of humanity. Navigating the scarred and poisoned landscape that once was America and guided by a powerful talisman, Logan has sworn an oath to seek out a remarkable being born of magic, possessed of untold abilities and destined to lead the final fight against darkness. Hb \$58.00 Tp \$32.95 371pp



SCIENCE FICTION



FANTASY



ROMANCE



AWARD WINNER



AUSTRALIAN



ACTION



REPRINT

AC AUDIO CASSETTE

CD COMPACT DISC

PB PAPERBACK

HB HARDBACK

TP TRADE PAPERBACK



# ★ FAVE RAVES

our favourites – new and classic

NEW TITLE

## THE BLOOD KNIGHT

KINGDOM OF THORN AND BONE

Daniel Keyes

Tp \$32.95 528pp

As this is the third volume in Keyes' *Kingdom of Thorn and Bone* series, no one will be picking this up before reading *The Briar King* and *The Charnel Prince*, but if you haven't started this series yet and you are a fan of epic fantasy *a la* George R R Martin, these books are for you.

The final surviving member of the ruling family, Anne Dare, finally stops running and starts to gather her forces. Her uncle, the quite dead and completely insane Robert Dare, has failed in his various attempts to have her murdered and now must confront Anne's armies, all the while continuing to orchestrate the most subtle schemes ever devised in a novel of fantasy.

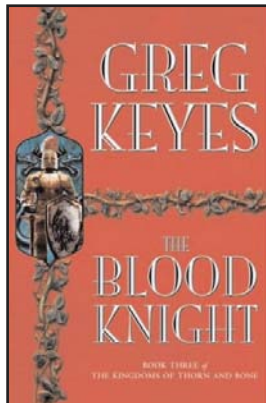
At the same time, Stephen has to follow an ancient myth for the chance to find something that might just stop the Briar King, but as his journey bounces from one danger to another, he will be overcome by the growing suspicion that there is a force out there even more powerful than the Briar King.

For Aspar White, following in Stephen's tracks, many hard decisions will have to be faced, usually with the knowledge that people he loves will die, no matter what he decides.

With one more volume to go in the series, the author does answer several of the big questions and the plot moves along at a fairly frantic pace, especially in the second half, but of course all revelations only lead to bigger mysteries.

There are at least three really big 'never saw that coming' moments that have this reader dying for the final volume. George R R Martin might be the Master, but Daniel Keyes is not that far behind and he's light years ahead of the rest of the pack.

- Phil



CLASSIC TITLE

## THE TOMB

REPAIRMAN JACK #1 (AUTHOR'S DEFINITIVE EDITION)

F Paul Wilson

Pb \$11.95 433pp

'Repairman' Jack has a problem. He's a fixer, right, so he fixes things. Not broken washing machines or blenders that won't blend, but situations. And if that includes people... well, he'll fix them good too. Not that his career choice keeps him lying awake, no that's not the problem. Jack's problem is that Gia, his girlfriend, walked out and took Jack's broken heart with her.

Sounds like a romance novel, right? Well, it's not. Just because *The Tomb* opens by establishing Jack's soft side, doesn't mean it's all nice. Not in the slightest. Just a few pages later, we learn Jack is fierce, deadly and non-existent, as far as the government is concerned. No credit card, maybe even no birth certificate. He pays for everything in cash and never, EVER signs his real name. He just gets the job done. He fixes.

In *The Tomb*, Jack is hired to find a necklace stolen from a sweet old lady who was mugged. The sheer despicability of this act kept me reading. But before Jack can make any progress on this mysterious assignment, he must help locate another sweet old lady, an elderly aunt of Gia's. My heart was feeling rather wrenched at all the powerful situations. Far as I'm concerned, Jack is a hero up until this point.

And then, just as chapter two starts, things turn interesting. Add flashbacks to India in the 1800s, a certain Goddess of Destruction and all of a sudden Jack's different cases are starting to look linked. Who is the strangely beautiful woman who appeared only after the necklace was restored? How is the Westphalen family linked? And what's that smell? All these questions are answered, and Jack's terrible past is explained.

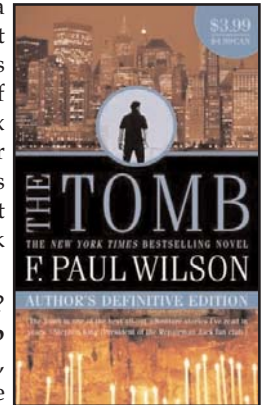
I should also thank the customer who recommended this book to me. I might never have picked this book up if he hadn't said: Him: "Do you like Jim Butcher?"

Me: "Yes"

Him: "Then you'll love this."

He couldn't be more right. Harry Dresden fans will find someone with similar quirkiness, someone equally admirable, and by the end of the book, you will love him too. Simon R Green fans who mourn the end of the *Nightside* series as I do will find equally cool-gross things to admire and at least this series will go on longer. They promise to be meaty, rich reads.

As for the techniques, well... the pace is brilliantly maintained. Wilson manages to keep multiple characters thinking, feeling and doing a myriad of different things, but he uses such a deft hand (or should that be voice?) that it never becomes confusing, just completely immersing. For those of you who are train or bus readers, beware! You can be so busy reading your eyes out that this book can easily become a 'stop-misser'. - Sofia



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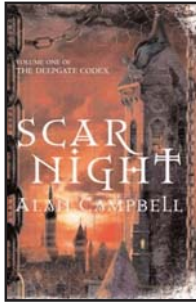
 **FIRESTORM**

*Weather Warden #5.* Putting aside the personal chaos that has plagued her, rogue Weather Warden Joanne Baldwin must rally the remnants of the Weather Warden corps against a double threat - the Djinn who have broken free from Warden control and a cranky Mother Earth who's about to unleash her full fury against the entire world. Pb \$16.95 303pp

ALAN CAMPBELL

 **SCAR NIGHT**

*The Deepgate Codex #1.* For 900 generations, the city of Deepgate has hung suspended by giant chains over a seemingly bottomless abyss. In the unfathomable darkness below is said to reside the dread god



Ulcis, 'hoarder of souls', with his army of ghosts. Outside the city extend the barren wastes of Deadsands, inhabited by the enemy Heshette, so that safe access is guaranteed only by a fleet of airships. At the hub of the city itself rises the Temple, in one of whose many crumbling spires resides a youthful angel, Dill, the last of his line. Descendant of heroic battle-archons, yet barely able to wield the great sword he has inherited from his forebears, he lives a sheltered existence under the watchful eye of Presbyter Sypes, who rules the Temple. Dill has a destiny about to unfold - one that will take him down into terrifying depths of the pit in a desperate quest to save the teeming, but precarious city from total annihilation at the hands of a cunning and resourceful traitor. Tp \$32.95 517pp

MARK CHADBOURN

 **THE HOUNDS OF AVALON**

*Dark Age #3.* The Hounds of Avalon are coming, for these are the twilight days, when eternal winter falls and the gods destroy themselves in civil war... when an invasion force of ghostly power threatens to eradicate all life. Humanity's last chance lies with two friends, as different as night and day, but bound together by an awesome destiny. Hunter, a warrior, a rake, an assassin and Hal, a lowly records clerk in a Government office. They must pierce a mystery surrounding the myths of King Arthur to find the dreaming hero who will ride out of the mists of legend to save the world, but time is running out, for when the Hounds of Avalon appear, all hope is lost... Pb \$19.95 374pp

STEVE COCKAYNE

 **THE GOOD PEOPLE**

Deep in the English countryside, Kenneth Storey and his older brother have discovered the land of Arboria - a kingdom of adventure waiting for them through a gate in the garden wall. As the world outside plunges deeper into global conflict, the Arborians wage their own war against the Barbarians, an ancient foe seemingly as old as the forest itself. But for Kenneth, Arboria is more than a world of make-believe and the Barbarians more than a figment of his imagination. For Kenneth, Arboria is more important than the real world... and perhaps, in some ways, he may be right. Pb \$19.95 343pp

ELLEN DATLOW

 **THE YEAR'S BEST FANTASY AND HORROR 2006**

*19th Annual Collection.* The legendary anthology is back, with witches and warlocks, fairy rings and gothic tales. This presents the best short stories and poetry published in this genre and takes readers into the most fantastic realms imaginable. Culled from thousands of annuals, acclaimed writers and genre specialists the editors offer a broad range of fantastical and horrific fiction, including work from Jeffery Ford, China Miéville, Bruce Sterling, Mark Samuels, Barbara Rhoden and many more. In addition, this critically renowned series offers an extensive overview of the year in fantasy and horror. This is the best source for fans or nascent readers of fantasy and horror. Tp \$43.00 480pp

TOM DE HAVEN

 **IT'S SUPERMAN!**


This is a fun and fast-paced tale of exciting misadventures, ill-fitting costumes and heroic escapades. Beginning in Smallville, a shooting incident at the theatre reveals to Clark Kent that he's bullet-proof and sets him on a path of discovery to his true identity. Meanwhile, in Metropolis, Lois Lane's latest ex, Willi Berg, has stumbled upon a horrific murder scene and the involvement of Lex Luthor, a prominent citizen on the rise to power. Pb \$25.00 425pp

JOSEPH DELANEY

 **THE SPOOK'S CURSE**



*Spook #2.* The Spook and his apprentice, Thomas Ward, have travelled to Prieststown for some unfinished business. For, 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! Pb \$17.95 424pp

THE SPOOKS' SECRET

 *Spook #3.* The nights are drawing in and it's time for Tom and his master to move to Anglezarke, the Spook's winter house. Tom has heard it will be a sinister and menacing place, but nothing could fully prepare him for what he finds there. For this house and indeed the whole of Anglezarke moor is full of secrets about the Spook's youth - secrets that are about to come to the surface and could wreck havoc on the whole County... Hb \$27.95 454pp

PHILIP K DICK

 **THE ZAP GUN**

  *Lars Powderdry and Lilo Topchev* are counterpart weapons fashion designers for a world divided into two factions - Wes-bloc and Peep-East. Since the Plowshare Protocols of 2002, their job has been to invent elaborate weapons that only seem massively lethal, but when alien satellites hostile to both sides appear in the sky, the two are brought together in the dire hope that they can create a weapon to save the world, a task made all the more difficult by Lars falling in love with Lilo even as he knows she's trying to kill him. Pb \$21.95 252pp

ANN DOWNER

 **THE DRAGON OF NEVER-WAS**

When Theodora's biologist-dad is called to the Scottish island of Scornsay to study a scale believed to be from a previously unknown species, Theodora is thrilled to be invited along. A nice vacation is just what she needs to forget all about wyverns, demons and magical tunnels through time. But as soon as Theodora sees the scale, she knows it's not from a fish, a reptile, or anything known to science. It's from a dragon and as Theodora knows all too well, wherever there are dragons, there are wizards and then there's sure to be trouble. Before she can solve the mystery of the dragon's scale, Theodora will have to confront her own magical heritage and make a perilous journey to the wizard's limbo known as Never-Was. Hb \$24.95 305pp


TOBIAS DRUITT

 **CORYDON AND THE FALL OF ATLANTIS**


*Corydon #2.* Life has been pretty peaceful for shepherd-boy Corydon and the other monsters since their epic battle with the heroes. Then the Minotaur is kidnapped and Corydon and his friends are faced with a rescue mission - a mission which will lead them on a dangerous voyage across the sea, all the way to the celebrated city of Atlantis. But Atlantis is a city riven by secrets, with a war between the gods threatening to tear it apart. Can Corydon and his friends rescue the Minotaur, before Atlantis is destroyed forever? Hb \$26.95 385pp





RAYMOND E FEIST

 **FLIGHT OF THE NIGHTHAWKS**  
*The Darkwar #1.* The Conclave of Shadows, the undercover organisation charged with the protection of Midkemia, have problems. The evil magician Leso Varen is still at large and thousands of portals to a parallel dimension inhabited by the cruel and fiendish Dasati, have been discovered in Novindus. Leso Varen, a powerful and malign magician with the power to possess and transport himself from body to body and his Nighthawk assassins are plotting chaos and annihilation in the royal house of Kesh. But when the Conclave attempt to warn the Emperor, it becomes clear that many of the truebloods, nobles related by birth to the Emperor, are already Varen's slaves, both willing and unwitting and the Conclave are forced into a race against time to save Great Kesh before evil engulfs the land. Pb \$21.00 420pp


JUDE FISHER

 **ROSE OF THE WORLD**  
*Fool's Gold #3.* The Goddess of Elda, the Rose of the World, is now free and married to King Ravn of the Northern Isles. But the ships of the Southern Empire are bringing holy war to the North. Meanwhile, Katla Aransen has been abducted by Istrian raiders and finds herself in the harem of Rui Finco, Lord of Forent. And Saro Vingo is imprisoned beneath the Eternal City, listening to the cries of those tortured by his mad brother, Tanto. Can he escape and put an end to his brother's atrocities? North will fight South and all those caught in the vice of their passage will be crushed, unless guardianship of Elda is taken from the bloody hands of the warmongers and returned to those who really care for it. Pb \$19.95 676pp


KATE FORSYTH

  **THE GYPSY CROWN**  
*Chain of Charms #1.* Once there was a gypsy queen who wore on her wrist a chain of six lucky charms - a golden crown, a silver horse, a butterfly caught in amber, a cat's-eye shell, a bolt of lightning forged from the heart of a falling star and the flower of the rue plant, herb of grace. The queen gave each of her six children one of the charms as their lucky talisman, but ever since the chain of charms was broken, the gypsies had been dogged with misfortune. It is even worse for the Finch tribe, they have been thrown into gaol with only three weeks to live. The only members of the family to escape are 13-year-old Emilia and her cousin Luka, who have been entrusted to find the six charms and bring them together again. What Emilia and Luka do not realise is that there is a price to be paid for each lucky charm and that the cost may prove too high... Hb \$16.95 202pp


P R FROST

 **HOUNDING THE MOON**  
*Tess Noncoire #1.* Tess Noncoiré was a successful fantasy writer when her life took an unexpected turn. After falling ill with a strange and potentially deadly virus, she found herself being cared for at the hidden retreat of the Sisterhood of the Celestial Blade Warriors. The Sisters saved Tess's life... and then began training her in the martial arts they use to fight off the demons looking to invade this world. With a new sidekick named Scrap, it is now up to Tess to fend off a ferocious hound who's on the loose, attacking Navaho children. But there are two mysterious men also on the hound's trail-one of whom seems convinced Tess is a Celestial Blade Warrior and the other who seems to have romantic designs on her. Now Tess and Scrap must piece together the truth about this hound before the forces of darkness begin closing in on them and destroying the world. Hb \$54.00 369pp


DIANA GABALDON

 **A BREATH OF SNOW AND ASHES**  
*Old World Universe.* Their love has survived the test of time. But can it survive fate? It is America, 1772 - only a few years before the War of Independence and the colony seethes with unrest. As battle lines are drawn up and loyalties tested, no one is safe in this new country. Jamie Fraser receives a message from Governor Josiah Martin. He wants Jamie's help to keep the backcountry safe for King and Crown. But Jamie knows what is to come. His wife, Claire, has travelled back from the 20th century and she knows what will happen to those loyal to the King of England. Exile, or death. Neither prospect appeals to Jamie, but Claire knows something else. From her own time, she's read an article, dated 1776, reporting the destruction by fire of their home on Fraser's Ridge and the death of those who live there. Jamie hopes Claire is wrong, for once, about the future, but only time will tell... Pb \$23.95 1410pp


SALLY GARDNER

 **T, CORIANDER**  
Coriander is the daughter of a silk merchant in 1650s London. Her idyllic childhood ends when her mother dies and her father goes away, leaving Coriander with her stepmother, a widow who is in cahoots with a fundamentalist Puritan preacher. She is shut away in a chest and left to die, but emerges into the fairy world from which her mother came and where time has no meaning. When she returns, charged with a task that will transform her life, she is 17. Pb \$15.95 299pp


LAURA ANNE GILMAN

 **THE CAMELOT SPELL**  
*Grail Quest #1.* On the eve of the Quest for the Holy Grail, every adult in King Arthur's castle falls into an enchanted sleep. The future of Camelot rests on the shoulders of 14-year-old squire Gerard, who has dreamed of becoming a Knight of the Round Table his whole life. With the help of Newt, the stable boy and Ailis, a young maidservant, he must face terrible dangers, including a monstrous bridge troll, a wise and scheming dragon and finally, a dark, powerful force that will stop at nothing to destroy King Arthur, the knights and the entire realm of Camelot. Hb \$20.00 291pp


DAVID GEMMELL

 **SHIELD OF THUNDER**  
*Troy #2.* The war of Troy is looming and all the kings of the Great Green are gathering, friends and enemies, each with their own dark plans of conquest and plunder. Into this maelstrom of treachery and deceit come three travellers - Piria, a runaway priestess nursing a terrible secret, Kalliades, a warrior with a legendary sword and Banokles who will carve his own legend in the battles to come. Tp \$32.95 480pp

DAVID LYNN GOLMAN

 **EVENT**  
In the summer of 1947, an unidentified object crashed in Roswell, New Mexico. Now it's happened again. But this time, two creatures have emerged from the wreckage alive... One is a small being that is kind and benevolent. The other, however, is an animal of remarkable strength and power, with one sole purpose - the total extinction of all life on Earth. It is called the Destroyer of Worlds. Only the Event Group, the most secret agency in the history of the US government, is prepared to wage battle against such a creature. Led by the valiant Major Jack Collins, they use the benevolent creature as an ally and resource and prepare themselves for an epic battle against the most dangerous threat against human existence that history has ever seen. Hb \$54.00 352pp

MARTIN H GREENBERG

 **FANTASY GONE WRONG**  
& BRITTIANY A KOREN (Eds)  
16 hilarious tales of the paths that shouldn't have been taken. Everyone knows that heroes should triumph, dragons should be slain and maidens should be rescued, but what if things don't go according to plan? Here are fun-filled tales of magic gone awry, from an author whose unicorn protagonist takes control of the story, to a person who can hear food talking, to a confusing case of murder in fairy-tale land-with many strange events and surprising consequences in-between. Pb \$18.95 309pp

CANDACE HAVENS

 **CHARMED AND READY**

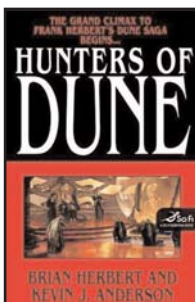
After spending most of her life single, practically an occupational hazard for a witch, Bronwyn's finally found a sexy warlock to love. But it's going to take more than a few love spells to keep him from getting jealous about her latest gig, protecting a rock star named Zane from the creepy Goth guys in cloaks who keep showing up at his concerts and zapping his mojo. Bronwyn would like nothing better than to blow them up in an inferno of Love That Red smoke, but they're proving elusive. And in the meantime, what girl wouldn't want to hang with the hottest man in music? Tp \$29.95 245pp

**BRIAN HERBERT**

**& KEVIN J ANDERSON**

 **HUNTERS OF DUNE**


*Dune* #7. Based directly on Frank Herbert's final outline, which lay hidden in a safe-deposit box for a decade, this title will answer the questions fans have been debating for two decades. At the end of



**Chapterhouse: Dune,**

a ship carrying a crew of refugees escapes into the uncharted galaxy, fleeing from a terrifying, mysterious Enemy. This is the story of the exotic odyssey of the crew, as it is forced to elude the diabolical traps set by the ferocious, unknown Enemy. Hb \$59.95 524pp

**MICHEL HOUELLEBECQ**

 **THE POSSIBILITY OF AN ISLAND**

Who, among you, deserves eternal life? Daniel is a highly successful stand-up comedian who has made a career out of playing on the prejudices of his public. But at the beginning of the 21st century, he has begun to detest laughter in particular and mankind in general. Despite this, he is unable to stop himself believing in the possibility of love. 1,000 years on, war, drought and earthquakes have decimated the earth and Daniel, 24, lives alone in a secure compound, his only companion a cloned dog named Fox. Outside, the remnants of the human race roam in packs, while Daniel attempts to decipher his predecessor's history. In a nightmarish vision of the implosion of the modern world, he, like his predecessor, attempts to fathom the meaning of love, sex, suffering and regret. Pb \$23.95 423pp

HANNAH HOWELL & LYNDAY SANDS

 **THE ETERNAL HIGHLANDER**

Cathal MacNachton and Connall MacAdie are cousins bound by far more than blood ties and the rugged Highland landscape their clan calls home. The ancient curse of their ancestry has fated them to live by night with an unquenchable thirst that neither can tame. The only thing that can save their souls is marriage to Outsiders - mortals whose untainted blood will weaken the curse in their children and break the chains of fear that have made their clan a breed apart. Bridget Callan and Exa Caxton are the women who will shape the clan's destiny. Marriage to these strange and mysterious men will rescue each of them from desperate circumstances - and draw them into a web of danger, desire and intrigue... Pb \$16.95 304pp

**IAN IRVINE**

  **TORMENTS OF THE TRAITOR**

*Song of the Tears* #1. After 10 years of servitude, Nish is about to be released from the blackest prison of his corrupt father, the maimed God-Emperor, Jal-Nish Hlar. Using the sorcerous Profane Tears, Gatherer and Reaper, Jal-Nish has crushed all opposition and is remaking Santhenar in his depraved image. The Oppressed peoples of the world see Nish as a messianic figure, the Deliverer, who promised long ago to return and cast down his father. Unfortunately, Nish has no choice but to repudiate that solemn oath, for he's a broken man, powerless and alone. Even worse, his father is trying to seduce Nish into becoming his lieutenant and, faced with the unbearable alternative of another ten years in prison, Nish isn't sure he can resist the temptation. The one person who can help him is little Maelys, a shy, bookish dreamer forced by duty to use Nish for an ignoble purpose. But Maelys is the last woman he wants and she carries a secret that is more likely to destroy Nish than save him. Tp \$32.95 602pp

**LIZ JENSEN**

 **MY DIRTY LITTLE BOOK OF STOLEN TIME**


A dark mansion, home to the disagreeable Fru Krak, is in dire need of a scrub and the wealthy widow is hiring. Enter Charlotte, dragging behind her the reluctant and militantly idle Fru Schleswig. Transformed into cleaning ladies, the squabbling duo attack the dark abode, but soon discover that mysteries abound. The basement appears to be haunted and there are rumours of desperate souls entering it, never to emerge. Charlotte decides to turn detective, but finds herself outwitted by the mysterious controller of a demonic machine which wastes no time in catapulting her into 21st century London, a baffling world of glass, tin and labour-saving devices. Hb \$35.00 305pp

GWYNETH JONES

 **BAND OF GYPSIES**

*Ax, Sage and Fiorinda* #4. Ax Preston, former dictator, returns to England, he's agreed 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, to sit out the first hard winter after the A-team destroyed crude oil in ostentatious poverty. He's quite certain he can negotiate a better deal. But while Ax, Sage and Fiorinda are embarrassing the English government over conditions in the new slavery labour camps, bad things are happening for the President of the USA. 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. Pb \$19.95 297pp

**RAINBOW BRIDGE**

 *Ax, Sage and Fiorinda* #5. It's the final curtain call for Fiorinda, the flame-haired rock princess, Guinevere to Ax Preston's King Arthur and Sage Pender's Sir Lancelot. Together they have fought the evil magic of Fiorinda's wizard father, they have explored the depths and heights of ultimate consciousness, the fusion between mind and the world and they have discovered a love that goes back centuries and lives. But is all this enough to save a world that has fallen apart at the seams, a world that has given itself over to the dark side? Tp \$32.95 374pp

**ROBERT JORDAN**

 **KNIFE OF DREAMS**

*The Wheel of Time* #11. As the fabric of reality wears thin, all portents indicate that Tarmon Gai'don, the Last Battle, is imminent and Rand al'Thor must ready himself to confront the Dark One. But, Rand must first negotiate a truce with the Seanchan armies, as their forces increasingly sap his strength and Perrin has made his own desperate truce with the Seanchan. Pb \$23.95 813pp

**GREG KEYES**

 **THE BLOOD KNIGHT**


*Kingdoms of Thorn and Bone* #3. The legendary Briar King has awakened, spreading madness and destruction. Half-remembered, poorly understood prophecies seem to point to the young princess Anne Dare, rightful heir to the throne of Crotheny, as the world's only hope. Yet Anne is hunted by the minions of the usurper Robert, whose return from the grave has opened a doorway through which sinister sorceries have poured into the world. Though Anne herself is the conduit of fearsome powers beyond her understanding and control, it is time for girl to become woman, princess to become queen. Anne must stop running and instead march at the head of an army to take back her kingdom... or die trying. Tp \$32.95 395pp

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**PAUL KEARNEY**

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 *The Sea Beggars* #2. The Hidden City is sacked, its inhabitants put to the sword, its ships burned at the docks. The Revenant and a few other vessels escape the slaughter, laden with refugees. Taking to the high seas, they must contend with storm, shipwreck and pursuing fleets in their search for a new home. Not only that, but Rol, their reluctant leader, has begun to realise that in his soul there exists a power which is inimical not only to his shipmates, but to all of mankind. Among the refugees and slaves Rol rescued are an old man and a half-witted boy. The man is the Creator incarnate, the boy His only son. They have come upon the earth to judge mankind and Rol will finally come to realise that he is one of their tools. He is to become the Angel of Death. Tp \$32.95 340pp

**ANGELA KNIGHT & DIANE WHITESIDE**

**CAPTIVE DREAMS**

 Celeste and Corinne Carson are more than sisters, they're bestselling writers, each with a fantasy-fulfilling alpha-male hero. For Celeste, it's Jarred, a conqueror from the future. For Corinne, it's the barbarian Mykhayl from a world long ago. Devilishly sensual warriors, Jarred and Mykhayl have something in common themselves, they're both more real than their creators could have imagined. Fearing that the sisters are about to write them off, Jarred and Mykhayl decide to exact sweet revenge. The plan? Kidnap Celeste and Corinne, spirit them away to the very worlds of which they wrote, and persuade them to surrender to the sublime punishments of their own uninhibited imaginations. Tp \$29.95 330pp


**JULIANNE LEE**

 **KNIGHT TENEBRAE**

Will a love forged in the past survive the future? When a bizarre plane crash strands reporter Lindsay Pawlowski and Navy pilot Alexander MacNeil in 14th century Scotland, they soon find themselves fighting for love, honour and perhaps the future of the human race. Pb \$18.95 356pp


**KELLY LINK**

**MAGIC FOR BEGINNERS**

 This collection riffs on zombies, marriage, witches, superheroes, haunted convenience stores and weekly apocalyptic poker parties, among other things. *Time Out New York* called her stories 'cross-genre gems' and her admirers in the literary community, from Peter Straub and Karen Joy Fowler to Alice Sebold and Michael Chabon, reflect the amazing range that makes her style so special. Call it kitchen sink magical realism - fantastic and bizarre, but funny and down to earth, there is something for everyone. Pb \$29.95 297pp


**JULIET MARILLIER**

 **THE WELL OF SHADES**

 *Bridei Chronicles* #3. Sent home to Ireland on a secret mission for King Bridei of Fortriu, Faolan must first deliver the news of a brave warrior's death, but he finds himself facing the demons of his family's dark past, with wholly unexpected results. By the time he tracks down the cleric who may be a threat to the stability of Bridei's pagan kingdom, Faolan has become responsible for a child, a dog and Eile, a troubled, volatile young woman. At Bridei's court, disturbing news from the neighbouring kingdom of Circinn prompts the king to call his chieftains to council. But after the disappearance of Bridei's closest adviser and the tragic death of a young maid, the threat posed by the encroaching influence of Christianity appears to be the least of the dangers at hand... Tp \$32.95 557pp

**JULIAN MAY**

 **SORCERER'S MOON**

 *Boreal Moon* #3. As battles rage both on the ground and in the sky, the only hopes for peace can be found deep in the old King's murky past. His former spy, Deveron Austrey, has secret magical powers and no love for the Beaconfolk. And while many of his subjects no longer remember the King's first wife, Maudrayne, she has never forgotten that her son is the true heir to the throne of High Blenholme. Hb \$55.00 645pp

**OISIN MCGANN**

 **SMALL-MINDED GIANTS**

Beyond the domed roof of Ash Harbour, a city built inside a hollowed-out mountain, deadly storms and Arctic temperatures have stripped the Earth bare. Resources are limited and access to power is all important. Sinister bodies reign supreme, undercover operations are rife and every move is monitored by the Clockworkers and Dark-Day Fatalists. When 16-year-old Sol Wheat's father goes missing and is accused of murder, Sol sets out to find out why and in doing so uncovers the harsh reality behind Ash Harbour. Hb \$32.95 353pp


**CHRISTOPHER MOORE**

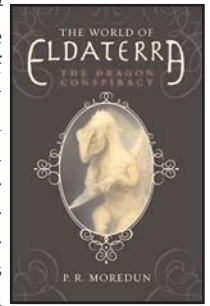
 **COYOTE BLUE**

As a boy growing up in Montana, he was Samson Hunts Alone, until a misunderstanding with the law forced him to flee the reservation at age 15. Today he is Samuel Hunter, a successful Santa Barbara insurance salesman with a Mercedes, a condo and a hollow, invented life. Then one day, shortly after his 35th birthday, destiny offers him a gift of love, Calliope Kincaid and a curse, an ancient Indian god by the name of Coyote, the trickster, who has arrived to transform tranquillity into chaos, to reawaken the mystical storyteller within Sam and to seriously screw up his existence in the process. Pb \$22.95 340pp

**P R MOREDUN**

 **THE DRAGON CONSPIRACY**

 *The World of Eldaterra* #1. They've been kicked out of their world. Now they want ours. In 1895, a policeman follows a trail of murders leading to a shocking discovery. In 1910, 14-year-old James Kinghorn discovers an entrance to Eldaterra, the Old World and learns of a deadly conspiracy that began 15 years before. If the enemy's plans are not stopped, both worlds will plunge into unthinkable chaos. Tp \$18.95 290pp




**MOIRA J MOORE**

 **THE HERO STRIKES BACK**

Opposites attract, they also collide. In a realm beset by natural disasters, bonded Pairs, Source and Shield, make the land habitable and keep the citizenry safe. Now, like it or not, the Shield Lee Mallorough and Source Shintaro Karish have to work together to catch a crazed killer targeting aristocrats, just like Karish. Pb \$18.95 308pp

**NATALIE JANE PRIOR**

 **FIREWORKS AND DARKNESS**

 Simeon Runciman is a firework maker who used to be a dark magician - a difficult man with a dangerous past. His son, Casimir, has always known part of the truth about him, but when Simeon's enemy, the sinister magician, Circastes, reappears in their lives intent on revenge, Casimir is caught in a web of murder, deceit and magic. Forced to fight for his own survival, Casimir must also confront the harsh truth of who his father is and what he has done, as well as the real nature of the magic that he wields. Pb \$16.00 216pp



 **THE STAR LOCKET**

 Identical in appearance, yet raised as strangers on opposite sides of the world, Estee Merton and Sally Taverner share a perilous inheritance - a broken half of a mysterious star-shaped locket, a magical talisman that could control the destiny of millions. Aided by a renegade secret society and a young man who loves one of them too much, Sally and Estee are drawn into a terrifying struggle on the murky streets of 19th-century Starberg. As torn loyalties threaten everyone's safety, the star locket is fated to decide which twin will live and which will be lost. The problem is, there is no way of telling who is real and who is not. Pb \$16.00 270pp

MICHAEL PRYOR

 **BLAZE OF GLORY**

*The Laws of Magic #1.* Aubrey Fitzwilliam is the son of a prominent ex-prime minister. He's also brilliant at magic, but he's stuck at military school. At least he has his best friend, George, there to back him up. George would follow Aubrey anywhere and with Aubrey's talent for thinking up impulsive and daring schemes that will get them both in trouble, that's no easy thing to do. At a weekend shooting party at Prince Albert's country estate, the boys find themselves in a hotbed of intrigue and politics. They discover a golem, a magical creature built to perform one task - to kill Prince Albert. Aubrey and George are hailed as heroes for foiling the attempt on the prince's life - but who sent the golem and why? Aubrey is far too curious to let the authorities handle this one and he and George start investigating. Tp \$27.95 394pp

NORA ROBERTS

 **MORRIGAN'S CROSS**

*Circle #1.* Standing on the cliffs of 12th century Ireland following the disappearance of his twin, Hoyt Mac Cionaoith is visited by the goddess Morrigan and is charged with the ultimate of tasks: saving his and all future worlds. His enemy, the beautiful, but deadly vampire queen Lilith, has had over 2,000 years experience in killing and changing humans into her own kind, including Hoyt's brother, Cian. Now, Hoyt, a sorcerer, must travel across the world and through time to find and train the five others Morrigan has prophesised will join him as a circle and do battle against Lilith's army of vampires on Samhain in the land of Geall. Pb \$19.95 342pp

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. Meanwhile, his cousin Roran must fight a new battle, one that might put Eragon in even graver danger. Will the king's dark hand strangle all resistance? Eragon may not escape with even his life... Pb \$19.95 681pp

LUCIUS SHEPARD

 **LIFE DURING WARTIME**

*SF Masterworks #66.* In the jungles of Guatemala, David Mingolla is struggling to survive amongst the rotting vegetation and his despairing fellow foot soldiers. He knows he is nothing but an expendable pawn in an endless war. On R & R a few miles away from the war zone he meets Debora, an enigmatic young woman who may be working for the enemy and stumbles into a deadly psychic conflict where the mind is the greatest weapon. Pb \$21.95 418pp

TONY SHILLITOE

 **A SOLITARY JOURNEY**

*Dreaming in Amber #2.* She was smothered in darkness and nothing touched her senses, but she had a compulsion to go forward. Someone was waiting beyond the darkness, someone who needed her... Her life torn apart by a sliver of amber, Meg Farmer flees to Summerbrook to marry and raise three children. When an invasion from the north forces Shess into yet another brutal conflict, Meg is wounded and her memory is erased. Now a refugee, she embarks on a journey to discover who she is. Pursued by mysterious Seers and tormented by dreams of a trapped soul offering help, Meg brings an enigma from ancient Andrakis into her world, but at what cost? Pb \$21.00 595pp

PAUL STEWART & CHRIS RIDDELL

 **WINTER KNIGHTS**

*Edge Chronicles #8.* In the great floating city of Sanctaphrax, blizzards howl through the streets as the Edgeworld descends into an endless winter. Quint, the son of a sky pirate, has just begun his training at the Knights Academy, training that involves heading out over the Edge on tethers to develop his flying skills. But when Quint breaks the rules and goes to Open Sky on his own, he runs into the cloud-eaters. He must use all his skill and ingenuity, if catastrophe is not to strike the Edgeworld. Pb \$17.95 416pp

 **CLASH OF THE SKY GALLEONS**

*The Edge Chronicles #9.* Quint is travelling with his father, Wind Jackal, on a mission to track down and bring to justice Turbot Smeal, the man who started the fire that killed their family. Having left behind his studies at the Knights Academy, Quint is now eager to learn what it really means to be a sky pirate and to learn from his father, but Wind Jackal is consumed by his desire to capture Smeal and his judgement is flawed. When Quint and Maris become separated from the rest of the crew, they encounter some terrifying creatures, discover the truth about Smeal and face a new terror... Hb \$39.95 422pp

S M STIRLING

 **THE PROTECTOR'S WAR**

*Protector's War #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. Pb \$18.95 591pp

 **A MEETING AT CORVALLIS**

*Protector's War #3.* In the tenth year of the Change, the survivors in western Oregon have learned how to live in a world without technology, but there are those who would exploit the new world order. On one side stands Michael Havel's Bearkillers and their allies, Clan MacKenzie under the leadership of Juniper MacKenzie. On the other is the Lord Protector, Norman Arming, the Warlord of Portland, whose neo-feudal empire rules over much of the Pacific Northwest. The tensions between factions have been building for some time and the only reason they haven't met on the battlefield is because Arming's daughter has fallen into Clan MacKenzie's hands. But a plan to retrieve her threatens to plunge the entire region into open warfare. Hb \$56.00 497pp

SUNNY

 **MONA LISA AWAKENS**

*Monere #1.* From the time she was a child, Mona Lisa knew she was different, but she never knew how different until a man of otherworldly beauty appeared during her night shift in the ER. Gryphon is hurting and hunted and he attracts her as no man ever has before. He is a Monere, one of the children of the moon, and what's more, so is she. Long exiled from the moon, the men of the Monere serve and mate with imperious Queens who can channel the rays of their far-off homeland. Gryphon believes that Mona Lisa is a Queen, perhaps the first of Mixed Blood ever known. But her introduction to the night-time court of the Monere, simmering with intrigue, casual lust and calculated cruelty, is far from smooth. Tp \$29.95 276pp

G P TAYLOR


 **TERSIAS**

*Magnus Malachi, a magician, is guarding his latest money-spinner, Tersias, a blind boy who can see into the future. But as Tersias's powers become known, others who seek to use them are drawn from the shadows - Jonah, a highwayman and his companion in crime, Tara, Solomon, a crazed zealot who has bred a new species of giant flesh-eating locusts and Lord Malpas, a keeper of mysterious powers. They all want Tersias, but is he a force for good or evil? And can he ever rid himself of the dark spirit that torments his soul? Pb \$15.95 320pp*




COLIN THOMPSON

**HOME AND AWAY**

 *Floods* #3. Travel back in time to far-away Transylvania Waters and find out what happened when a lowly drain cleaner called Nerlin Flood fell in love with the royal princess Mordonna. Can the two escape from an explosively angry King Quatorze, the nastiest spies in the land and the prospect of life down the toilet? Why does their eldest child, Valla, drink blood? Was Satanela really turned into a dog because of an accident with a prawn and a faulty wand? Pb \$14.95 223pp

DAVID WEBER AND JOHN RINGO

**WE FEW**

 *Empire of Man* #4. In Roger's absence, a palace coup by enemies of the MacClintock family has seized control of the Empire. His mother, the Empress is a captive in the palace and even in her own body, drugged so that her will is not her own. Roger's bother, the heir to the throne, is dead. And Roger himself has been branded an outlaw and traitor. Pb \$18.95 559pp

SCOTT WESTERFELD

**SPECIALS**


 *Uglies* #3.

Ordinary pretties might live their whole lives without meeting a Special. But Tally's never been ordinary and now she's been turned into one of them. The strength, the speed and the clarity and focus of her thinking feel better than anything Tally can remember. Most of the time. One tiny corner of her heart still remembers something more. Still, it's easy to tune that out, until she's offered a chance to stamp out the rebels of the New Smoke permanently. It all comes down to one last choice - listen to that tiny, faint heartbeat, or carry out the mission she's programmed to complete. Either way, Tally's world will never be the same. Pb \$12.95 372pp




SEAN WILLIAMS

**THE DEVoured EARTH**

 *Books of the Cataclysm* #4. Haunted by a ghost from the future, Shilly and her man'kin allies are drawn into the snowbound mountains on a mission to save the world. Yod, trapped by the Castillo twins in the Void Beneath, may finally be breaking free. Hard on Shilly's heels are Sal and his father and an uneasy alliance of Sky Wardens, Panic and foresters. If the Goddess rises from her Tomb, the fate of the Ice Eaters will be sealed and they will kill anyone who tries to get in their way... Pb \$21.00 592pp

GABRIELLE ZEVIN

**ELSEWHERE**

 Liz is killed in a hit a run accident and her 'life' takes a very unexpected turn. At nearly 16, she knows she will never get married, never have children and perhaps never fall in love. But in Elsewhere all things carry on almost as they did on earth except that the inhabitants get younger, dogs and humans can communicate (at last), new relationships are formed and old ones sadly interrupted on earth are renewed. Pb \$15.95 273pp



DAVID BARBOUR & RICHARD RALEIGH  
**SHADOWS BEND**

On a dark, stormy night, master of the macabre H P Lovecraft and Robert E Howard, creator of the legendary *Conan the Barbarian*, face the ancient god Cthulhu, the most dangerous force in the cosmos. And only they can stop him. Pb \$18.95 360pp

MICHELLE BARDSLEY  
**I'M THE VAMPIRE THAT'S WHY**

There's a new breed of soccer mom in town, with fangs. Does drinking blood make me a bad mother? That's the question single mom Jessica Matthews faces when she wakes from a savage attack sucking on the thigh of Patrick O'Halloran, a super-hot Irish vampire who'd generously offered his femoral artery to save her from death... only to make her one of the undead. Jessica can't rest until the beast that did this to her is caught. Meanwhile, she's having trouble committing to Patrick (in the vampire handbook, physical intimacy costs you several hundred years of being bound together) and keeping her kids in line. Pb \$16.95 338pp

THOMAS BLOOR  
**WORM IN THE BLOOD**

Sam's family are cursed with a dark and terrible secret, a secret that has its origins in a remote island off the coast of China and has haunted every generation of his family for hundreds of years. Now the curse is about to claim Sam as its next victim. It starts with an itchy rash that spreads all over his body, then the feeling of something changing within him, coming alive and why has he become obsessed with the marshes and their cool, muddy waters? Why has he stopped seeing his friends and going to school? As rumours begin to spread about sightings of a sinister creature on the outskirts of town, Sam is forced to face a horrifying truth. One that could destroy him... Pb \$15.95 245pp

SHANE CHRISTOPHER  
**IN DREAMS**

When five strangers are found tortured to death in the cellar of a seedy New York apartment, reporter Mari Kinsella makes a startling connection - the strange dreams that bound the victims in life and in death, dreams that Mari herself is beginning to have. Pb \$16.95 281pp

DOUGLAS CLEGG  
**THE PRIEST OF BLOOD**

*The Vampyricon* #1. The man known as Falconer was born of a whore, served the royal court as a predator trainer and warred against the infidel Saracens as a conscripted soldier in the Holy Land. But it wasn't until he found himself in the arms of a creature called Pythia that he was truly born into his destined role - that of vampire... Pb \$18.95 371pp

**THE LADY OF SERPENTS**

*The Vampyricon* #2. Hailed as the prophesied messiah of the vampyre, Aleric seemed destined for glory, until, like many of his brethren, he was captured by the sorceress Enora. Imprisoned, he is now forced to fight in the arena for her amusement. To end Enora's reign of terror, Aleric must escape and find the alchemist behind her power, though that may mean unleashing Pythia, the Lady of Serpents, Aleric's old enemy, the seductress who ended his mortal life. For she alone may hold the key to the survival not only of the vampyres, but also all of humankind. Hb \$49.95 291pp

P N ELROD  
**THE VAMPIRE FILES #2**

*Omnibus, books #4-#6*. Three adventures featuring Jack Fleming, Vampire PI in prohibition-era Chicago, walking the line between both sides of the law, as well as the line between human and inhuman. Tp \$35.00 482pp

CHRISTINE FEEHAN  
**DARK CELEBRATION:**  
**A CARPATHIAN REUNION**

They are the Carpathians. For years, they have been persecuted by their enemies and have struggled against all odds to preserve their species. Now, a new insidious plot has been devised, one that would slaughter Carpathian females and bring an end to all that the Carpathians have worked for. Even with his own life-mate, Raven, and their daughter Savannah, in danger, Carpathian king Mikhail believes that all is not lost. Gathering all of his people together, he will forge a new bond of strength, joining their powers in a celebration that will bring light even in this dark time. Hb \$49.95 372pp



**ANNE FRASIER**  
**PALE IMMORTAL**

The sleepy town of Tuonela, Wisconsin, is known for one thing: the killer who stalked its streets one hundred years ago, drinking the blood of his victims. And when the drained corpse of a young girl is found, the citizens fear their past has risen from the grave and point their fingers at one man... Evan Stroud can never see the light of day. The prisoner of a strange and terrible disease, he lives in tragic solitude, taunted for being a vampire, until the son he never knew he had shows up in Tuonela and is drawn into its depraved, vampire-obsessed underworld. Then Evan must rely on coroner Rachel Burton, his childhood friend, for help. But the evil that they face is powerful and elusive and about to take them to the very brink of madness. Pb \$18.95 367pp

**SIMON R GREEN**  
**A WALK ON THE NIGHTSIDE**

*Omniibus, books #1-#3.* John Taylor was born in the Nightside, a city within the city of London where it's always 3am and where inhuman creatures and otherworldly gods walk side-by-side. It's the stomping grounds for the lost and missing and John is an expert at finding people and things in the shadows. Tp \$32.95 392pp

**BARBARA HAMBLY**  
**RENFIELD: SLAVE OF DRACULA**

The servant Renfield was the most enigmatic character to stalk in the shadows of Dracula. Now he takes centre stage in an ingenious re-imagining of Bram Stoker's classic novel that explores the chilling circumstances of his insane devotion to the Vampire Prince. An inmate of Rushbrook Aylum, the obsessive Renfield's personal mission is to hunt and kill Van Helsing and his companions, setting the stage for a battle between the living and the dead that takes him from Dracula's castle to the darkness of his own madness and the truth of where it all began. Hb \$49.95 306pp

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*Anita Blake #13.* She should be concentrating on a dangerous situation: the ardeur, the sexual power that flows between Anita and Jean-Claude, Master Vampire of the City and Richard, the volatile werewolf who loves her passionately, is reaching new levels, perhaps evolving into something entirely new. However as the days pass Anita finds herself less interested in vampire politics than in an ancient, more ordinary dread she shares with women down the ages - she may be pregnant. Tp \$29.95 483pp

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*Meredith Gentry #4.* "I am Meredith Gentry, PI, solving cases in Los Angeles, far from the peril and deception of my real home, because I am also Princess Meredith, heir to the darkest throne fairie has to offer. Enemies watch my every move. My cousin Cel strives to have me killed even now, from his prison cell. My uncle Taranis, the King of Light and Illusion, has invited me and my guards, the Queen's own Ravens, to the realm of Seelie for a ball. Never before have the bright ones allowed so many of the Unseelie nobility inside their shining sanctuary. Before I risk the treachery of the Seelie Court, I want my allies firmly at my back. I will embrace Sholto, The Lord of that Which Lies Between, in all his alien beauty and as my enemies gather, the future of both courts of fairie begins to unravel." Pb \$21.95 523pp

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Liz and Susan Marley are two sisters who are poles apart. Susan, beautiful and disturbed - abused by her father and, even after he died, rejected by a mother unable to confront her own guilt, she lives in squalor in the wrong part of town. She is the town witch, the town's guilty secret. Liz is years younger than Susan, in her last year of high school and worried about her looks, her weight, how popular she is, whether she will ever get out of Bedford and above all why her sister hates her so much. When Susan commits suicide, her death unleashes a hail of destruction on the town of Bedford that is more terrifying than any dream. Pb \$16.95 337pp

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has already rescued Bella from the clutches of an evil vampire, but now, as their daring relationship threatens all that is near and dear to them, they realise their troubles may just be beginning... Hb \$39.95 563pp

**JOHN PELAN (EDITOR)**  
**ALONE ON THE DARKSIDE**

16 original tales of terror from Lucy Taylor, Brian Hodge, Michael Kelly, Gerard Houarner, Mark Samuels and ten other talented storytellers in the latest collection of the continuing horror series. Pb \$18.95 353pp

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The Three Thieves are a group of Grays assigned to duty in a small Kentucky town. For decades, they have abducted its residents and manipulated bloodlines trying to create an ultra-intelligent human being. Nine-year-old Conner Callahan will face the ultimate terror as he struggles to understand who he has been bred to be and what he must do to save humanity. Hb \$54.00 335pp



**TAWNY TAYLOR**  
**SEX AND THE SINGLE GHOST**

Nine years ago, Claire Weiss died, which put a serious crimp in her plans. Now, she's caught in Purgatory, waiting for that Big Day when she can animate and return to earth and have sex at last! Nine whole days of chocolate! Cute shoes! A real beer! And, most important of all, a chance to reconnect with hunky Jake Faron. The rules are that Claire has nine days to investigate her mysterious death, solve the crime and do good deeds for others before returning to Purgatory. But she also has nine hot, steamy nights to do absolutely everything she's ever dreamed about doing with Jake. And that's a good thing, because not only does Jake have a secret that could change her whole after-life, but he's perfectly capable of showing a love-struck ghost plenty of heaven on earth... Tp \$29.00 229pp

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*Black Dagger Brotherhood #3.* Even within the vampire brotherhood, Zsadist is feared. Still bearing the scars from a tortured past, he is renowned for his unquenchable fury. Anger is his only companion and terror is his only passion, until he rescues a beautiful female from the evil Lessening Society. Pb \$16.95 448pp



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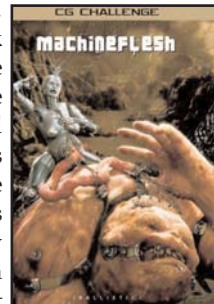
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This is the first book in the CG Challenge series featuring the artwork and techniques of artists participating in the online challenges organised by CGNetworks.com and CGTalk.com. It comprises tutorials and artwork from the contestants of the Machineflesh Challenge. Tp \$44.00 96pp



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*C G Challenge #2.* The book features the artwork and techniques of winning artists and finalists in the online challenge organised by CGNetworks.com and CGTalk.com. It also features an epic gallery of over 50 notable entries. Tp \$44.00 112pp

#### MACHINE PHASE: BOOBY TRAP

This is a graphic novel and behind-the-scenes look at Dean Fowler's Machine Phase universe. In addition to the graphic novel, the book features the *The Making of Machine Phase: Booby Trap* which shows how Dean and a team of artists brought Machine Phase into existence, along with the 3D tools and techniques they used. Machine Phase is a rich, stylish universe from the fertile imagination of Dean Fowler. It has expanded to encompass a movie screenplay, video game concept, toys and a graphic novel. Tp \$44.00 128pp

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# What We've Been Reading



**Agents of Light and Darkness (John Taylor #2)** by Simon R Green. I don't know what it says about me in the type of male protagonists that I love (normally a little short, a knack for getting into trouble and a smart mouth). I can see the John Taylor series joining the ranks - these are light, fantastic reads. Fans of Jim Butcher's *Harry Dresden Files* should check these out.

**Uglies** by Scott Westerfeld. My first foray into this author. I loved it. Well fleshed out, believable characters, interesting setting. Now, I just have to read the sequels.

**Magic Lessons** by Justine Larbalestier. This was even better than the first book, with Reason beginning her training in magic with her grandmother before being sucked back into New York City once again.

**Proven Guilty (Harry Dresden #8)** by Jim Butcher. I love this series. Some have been punchier stories than others, but I can honestly say there hasn't been one that I haven't enjoyed. This one is really good, with the return of a supporting character from previous novels, as well as Butcher going into more depth with a few characters. I can't wait until the TV movie of **Storm Front (#1)** screens. - *Steph*

**Dante Valentine: Why she ROCKS...** Danny Valentine has a problem. She has been summoned by a Demon to the depths of Hell, where the Dark Prince himself orders her to catch a rouge demon. So what does the girl do? Give him lip-service, but grudgingly agree. After all, she is a necromancer. **Working for the Devil** by Lilith Saintcrow (Pb \$19.95) is set slightly in the future, with reference made to a certain event where suddenly all paranormal activity is recognised. Think of it as **The Hollows** from the Kim Harrison books, but with cooler technology thrown in. There's action aplenty, a pinch of romance and a whole lotta attitude. Also, Lilith Saintcrow has just released the sequel to this, **Dead Man Rising**. I'm looking forward to picking it up! - *Sofia*

**Cast in Shadow** by Michelle Sagara (Pb \$16.95). Michelle Sagara also writes as Michelle West and, as a huge fan of her *Sun Sword* series, I was curious to see how this book would stand up. She's chosen to use her maiden name of Sagara instead of the more recognised West because this story is very different to her *Sun Sword* books. While the world is completely new and the style is perhaps less dense, there is no mistaking that this is a Michelle West book. It's a fantastic story that reads like a crime novel set in a fantasy world. She has strong characters, builds an entire world with a weighty history very quickly and immerses the reader in a roller-coaster ride of mystery, magic and mayhem. If you like the *Sun Sword* books, you'll like this. - *Mark*

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