



ISSUE #233

OCT 2007

NEXUS

SCIENCE FICTION ● FANTASY ● HORROR

HUGO AWARD

NOVEL

Rainbow's End by Vernor Vinge

NOVELLA

A Billion Eves by Robert Reed

NOVELETTE

The Djinn's Wife by Ian McDonald

SHORT STORY

Impossible Dreams by Tim Pratt

RELATED BOOK

James Tiptree, Jr:

The Double Life of Alice B Sheldon

edited by Julie Phillips

DRAMATIC PRESENTATION, LONG FORM

Pan's Labyrinth

screenplay by Guillermo del Toro

DRAMATIC PRESENTATION, SHORT FORM

Doctor Who

written by Steven Moffat

EDITOR, SHORT FORM

Gordon Van Gelder

EDITOR, LONG FORM

Patrick Nielsen Hayden

PROFESSIONAL ARTIST

Donato Giancola

SEMIPROZINE

Locus

Charles N Brown, Kirsten Gong-Wong

& Liza Groen Trombi

FANZINE

Science-Fiction Five-Yearly

Lee Hoffman, Geri Sullivan & Randy Byers

FAN WRITER

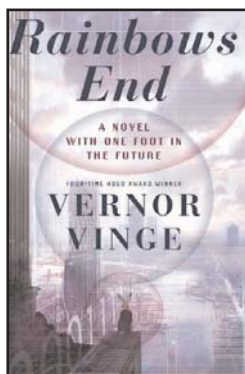
Dave Langford

FAN ARTIST

Frank Wu

John W Campbell Award for Best New Writer

Naomi Novik



BRITISH FANTASY AWARD

BEST NOVEL

The August Derleth Fantasy Award

Dusk by Tim Lebbon

THE SYDNEY J BOUNDS BEST NEWCOMER AWARD

Joe Hill

BEST NON-FICTION

Cinema Macabre by Mark Morris

BEST ARTIST

Vincent Chong

BEST SMALL PRESS

Peter Crowther for *PS Publishing*

BEST COLLECTION

Fragile Things by Neil Gaiman

BEST ANTHOLOGY

Extended Play: The Elastic Book of Music

edited by Gary Couzens

BEST NOVELLA

Kid by Paul Finch

BEST SHORT FICTION

Whisper Lane by Mark Chadbourn

BFS SPECIAL AWARD

THE KARL EDWARD WAGNER AWARD

Ellen Datlow

PROMETHEUS AWARD

BEST NOVEL

Glasshouse by Charles Stross

HALL OF FAME AWARD

(tie)

It Can't Happen Here by Sinclair Lewis

True Names by Vernor Vinge

SPECIAL AWARD

V for Vendetta

MADELEINE L'ENGLE

1918-2007

Fantasy writer Madeleine L'Engle has died aged 88. Her most famous book was *Newbery Medal* winner *A Wrinkle in Time*, a fantasy about two children battling evil while searching for their missing father; it had four sequels, including *American Book Award* winner *A Swiftly Tilting Planet* and *An Acceptable Time*. L'Engle wrote over 60 books in all and received a *National Humanities Medal* in 2004.

ROBERT JORDAN

1948-2007

Robert Jordan, author of the bestselling *Wheel of Time* fantasy series, died September 16th after a courageous battle with the rare blood disease amyloidosis. Jordan's cousin noted that: "He fought a valiant fight against this most horrid disease. In the end, he left peacefully and in no pain." Throughout his illness he continued to work, also posting on his blog to reassure fans that Book 12 was on its way, but progress was slow and the book remained unfinished at the time of his death; though it is reported that he shared all of the significant plot details with his family not long before he died. His *Wheel of Time* series was among the best-selling in the history of fantasy publishing, with thousands of websites devoted in whole or in part to his writing. He will be sorely missed by both fans and a genre he redefined. - Mark

 **SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY** 

SHANA ABE

 **THE DREAM THIEF**

Sequel to The Smoke Thief. In 18th century England, Lia, the daughter of the leader of the drakon tribe, whose members can transform from human to dragon, uses her own talents to locate a powerful diamond, a gem that could allow a human to control the drakon. Pb \$16.95 335pp

SARAH ADDISON ALLEN

 **GARDEN SPELLS**

Bascom, North Carolina, is a town where everyone is known for their family's characteristics, passed down through generations. One family's women are good in bed - they always marry well. One family gives birth to a strong man, always called Josiah, once in a generation. The Waverleys are known for their magic touch - Evanelle, who's lived in Bascom all her life, gives people what they need before they know they need it, Claire, who came to town when she was six and never wants to leave, can turn the plants in her garden into delicious food and drink with spectacular effects on those who consume it, but Sydney, who ran away from her home town at 18, hasn't worked out what hers is. When Sydney returns to Bascom with her little girl, in flight from an abusive marriage, she proves a catalyst for change in the lives of all three women. Tp \$32.95 291pp

KEVIN J ANDERSON

 **METAL SWARM**

The Saga of Seven Suns #6. The alien hydrogues have been defeated, but as the various factions try to pick up the pieces and recover, the deep-seated wounds may be fatal. The Hansa's brutal Chairman Basil Wenceslas struggles to crush any resistance even as King Peter breaks away to form his own new Confederation among the green priests on Theroc, the Roamer clans and an ever-growing number of breakaway colonies who have declared their independence. And the original, voracious Klikiss race has returned intent on conquering their former worlds and willing to annihilate anyone who happens to be in the way. Tp \$32.95 684pp

ALEX ARCHER

 **SECRET OF THE SLAVES**

Rogue Angel #8. When archaeologist Annja Creed is hired to find the lost city of Promise in Brazil, she is more than intrigued. Legends abound of a magical place where slaves were rumoured to have discovered the secret to eternal youth and life. As she navigates through a land where spirituality collides with the material world, Annja must distinguish between what is real and what is imagined for fear of making a wrong move. Because anyone or *anything* could be her enemy. And she's getting too close... Pb \$16.95 352pp

J B ARENSEN

 **CHARLIE WEBB AND THE DRAGONMASTER'S QUEST**

Charlie lives in the Wizarding World, surrounded by magic. He is an Ormell, with no powers of his own, but his life is about to take a very strange turn. He will learn that he has a rare gift and that he must begin a dangerous Dragonmaster's Quest to save a world that never wanted him. Pb \$18.95 300pp

NEAL ASHER

 **POLITY AGENT**

Cormac novel #4. From 800 years in the future, a runcible gate is opened into the Polity and those coming through it have been sent specially to take the alien 'Maker' back to its home civilisation in the Small Magellanic cloud. Once these refugees are safely through, the gate itself is rapidly shut down, because something alien is pursuing them. The gate is then dumped into a nearby sun. From those refugees who get through, agent Cormac learns that the Maker civilisation has been destroyed by pernicious virus known as the Jain technology. Pb \$21.95 562pp

JENNIFER ASHLEY

  **THE GATHERING**

Immortals #4. When she finds a gorgeous half-naked warrior in her lion's pen, taming the temperamental beast, Lela Stowe surrenders her body and soul to this dangerous Hunter as they join the other Immortals in a battle against great evil. Pb \$16.95 355pp

ROBERT ASPRIN & JODY LYNN NYE

 **CLASS DIS-MYTHED**

Myth #16. The 'legendary' magician Skeeve tries to live up to his reputation by training young spellcasters in the tricks of the trade - with less than magical results. Pb \$18.95 296pp

KAGE BAKER

 **THE MACHINE'S CHILD**

A Company Novel. Alec Checkerfield's AI, Captain Morgan, has masterminded the rescue of the immortal cyborg, Mendoza the botanist, growing her a new body and reviving her. He has also retrieved the personalities of her dead lovers, Nicholas and Edward and placed them in Alex's body as the first step in a new battle against the Company. Pb \$18.95 368pp *Due Oct*

CHRISTOPHER BARZAK

 **ONE FOR SORROW**

Adam McCormick had just turned 15 when the body was found in the woods. It is the beginning of an autumn that will change his life forever. Jamie Marks was a boy a lot like Adam, a boy no one paid much attention to, a boy almost no-one would truly miss. And for the first time, Adam feels he has a purpose. Now, more than ever, Jamie needs a friend, but the longer Adam holds on to Jamie's ghost, the longer he keeps his friend tethered to a world where he no longer belongs and the weaker Adam's own ties to the living become. Now, to find his way back, Adam must learn for himself what it truly means to be alive. Tp \$26.00 308pp

HILARI BELL










 **THE PROPHECY**

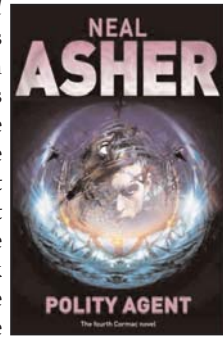
Prince Perryndon loves books and with his kingdom in grave danger, he unearths a prophecy that could save his land. But with time running out, Perrynd learns that a scholar's job is not merely to seek the truth, but to understand its worth and that the power of the prophecy lies in his own hands. Pb \$16.95 194pp

DAVID BILSBOROUGH

 **THE WANDERER'S TALE**

Lindormyn #1. 500 years ago the Peladanes stormed the distant stronghold of Vaagenfjord. There, the dreaded rawgr Drauglir and his supernatural minions had held sway over the mortal world, in a long, terrifying reign. Now, the rawgr have reappeared and threaten to wreak vengeance on the descendants of the Peladanes, who sacked their fortress centuries before. Tp \$32.95 592pp

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



★ FAVE RAVES

our favourites – new and classic

NEW TITLE

1. KING'S PROPERTY
2. CLAN DAUGHTER
3. ROYAL DESTINY

QUEEN OF THE ORCS TRILOGY

MORGAN HOWELL

PB \$16.95 EACH

For anyone who has bitched about series taking too long to come out (or, like me, has a shortage of brain cells to retain a plot between a series' instalments) here I got a treat for you! A trilogy released over just three months (and an unreal trilogy at that!)

Dar is a young woman living in extreme poverty, abused by her father and stepmother. She is conscripted into the army and branded as a slave to the orc regiment that supplements the regular army of King Kregant. Orcs are legendary for their ferocity, single-mindedness in battle and many rumours exist about them. Life as a slave is worse than what she had before. Women have no value. They are beaten, raped, rarely have enough food and are forced to follow on foot behind the army. Many women take a lover as a means of protecting themselves and getting provisions. Because of what Dar has been through, she won't do this and ends up being made a pet project by one of the army leaders Murdant Kol. To say he's a lowlife, sadistic SOB doesn't do it justice. She ends up being chosen to serve the orcs their meals (always having to bathe beforehand and having to repeat a saying as she does) and befriends an orc named Kovok Mah. More out of curiosity for this weedy little slip of a thing, Kovok Mah takes an interest in her welfare and eventually becomes her protector (which actually worsens Dar's position, as now even the women treat her with contempt). Dar begins to learn the orcs' language and their customs. She learns they are incapable of lying (they don't even have a word for it) and while they are capable of killing an entire village if ordered to, they wouldn't unless they're ordered to. Most surprisingly, they are a matriarchal and (if left alone) peaceful society. Dar begins to have visions and, through a series of events, the orcs begin to see her as not just another smelly *washavoki* (human).

The first book climaxes with a battle between Kregant's and his enemy's armies in which the orc regiments are essentially used as cannon fodder. Dar survives, saves what orcs she can and promises (against numerous odds) to get them home to their land.

The second book takes up Dar and the orcs' journey, the politics and dark magic being used to keep Kregant's army on the offensive and Dar's search for anywhere she can fit in, feel at home and, once again, being used as a pawn.

These were well-written and (mostly) cracking-paced stories and, even though there weren't a huge number of surprises, (although when there was one it was good) it was filled with solid, well-written characters that you love to love and love to hate. The inhumanity of the human army couldn't have contrasted more with the orcs, who initially couldn't be more alien, but become more human than the humans!

Howell has put an amazing amount of thought and effort into the orc culture and language, (I started answering 'hai' in my head instead of saying 'yes'). I had such a fantastic time reading these!
- Steph.

CLASSIC TITLE

DOOMSDAY BOOK

CONNIE WILLIS

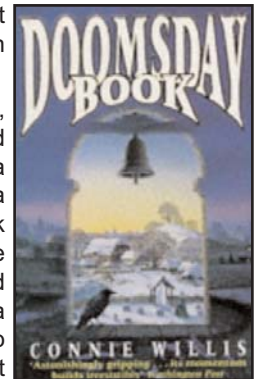
PB \$22.95

This book struck a chord with me the first time I read it and managed to do it again with subsequent re-readings...

Set in 2048, Oxford University student, Kivrin, is studying ancient history and preparing for her first field excursion (via time travel) to 14th century England - a couple of decades before it is struck down by the Black Death (plague). She has been inoculated, has studied customs and dialect and even has a damn good excuse for a young woman to be travelling on her own when, against her mentor's wishes, she starts her foray. Disaster strikes when Kivrin's drop goes terribly wrong and she finds herself in plague-ridden England. She is unwell (delusional with fever, thinking she is being burned at the stake for being a witch), suffering from the same virus that has struck her own version of England. She has been taken into the home of a local nobleman (he is away, but his wife, mother and children remain) and cared for by a village priest, who when she momentarily comes to, is giving her the last rites. Back in her own era, England has gone into quarantine (it is only a few decades since a global pandemic killed millions), with a virus inflicting many and delaying the realisation of the error that has occurred - and therefore plans for Kivrin's rescue.

The story swaps between Kivrin's realisation of the dilemma she finds herself in, her fitting into the life of a young woman of that time (this really made me appreciate being a woman of the 20th century) and what is happening in 2048 England. As the Black Death reaches the village, Kivrin, unable to work out where exactly it was she landed, cannot work out where to go to return home, so resigns herself to living - and dying - with those around her, but in the process, she offers hope to those who had none.

The story is really about Kivrin and the community that she finds herself in. The research, attention to detail, settings and characters of 14th century England are amazing. It sounds morbid, but the Black Death era has always fascinated me - and Willis has painted a picture of vivid clarity of what life must have been like then. I was much more emotionally involved in this era of the story than 2040's England. The story can be a bit slow-paced at times, although maybe my eagerness to get back to Kivrin and her situation just made it seem so. Ms Willis has used an era of almost unimaginable horror, fear and superstition to create an amazing story about the strengths, goodness (and weaknesses) of humanity. It would seem that circumstances have always brought out the best and the worst in people. Part history lesson and part study of (this sounds corny) humanity, this is my sort of SF - it's not about the technology that allows the story, but about the people affected by it. Winner of both the *Hugo* and *Nebula Awards*, this is a truly amazing story that moved me. My poor, old, battered (signed) paperback is one of my favourites. - Steph




THOMAS BLOOR

 **HEART OF THE SERPENT**

Sam's transformation from boy to dragon is complete. A life of miserable solitude awaits him, but old enemies are re-grouping, determined to kill Sam once and for all. And thousands of miles away a catastrophic secret has escaped into the world - Fen, a murderous dragon-girl, imprisoned underground since birth and driven mad with hatred. All paths lead to one place, Streaming Point. Here Sam will face the fight of his life - a battle for the future of humankind. Pb \$15.95 303pp

RAY BRADBURY

 **NOW AND FOREVER, SOMEWHERE A BAND IS PLAYING & LEVIATHAN '99**

Two never-before-published novellas by one of America's finest living writers, Ray Bradbury. A journalist bearing terrible news leaps from a still-moving train into a small town of wonderful, impossible secrets... The doomed crew of a starship follow their blind, mad captain on a quest into deepest space to joust with destiny, eternity and God Himself... Hb \$49.95 209pp

MARION ZIMMER BRADLEY

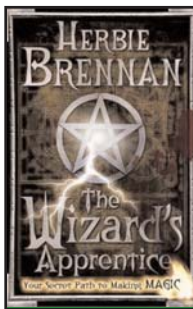
  **THE DOOR THROUGH SPACE**

Out of print for more than 45 years, this novel follows a Terran agent as he searches for the secret of the door through space while navigating a deadly planet known as Wolf. Pb \$16.95 204pp

HERBIE BRENNAN

 **THE WIZARD'S APPRENTICE**

An accessible, fun guide that explains the fundamentals of Wizardry. It includes a heady mix of case studies (often based on the author's personal experience), theory and step-by-step practical techniques. The author explores



The Ancient Roots of Wizardry, Wizard Training and Work, Magic in the Everyday World, An Experiment in Levitation, Remembering Past Lives... and much more. This is an indispensable how-to handbook for budding conjurers, rounded off with an informative reference section and illustrated throughout with black-and-white pictures and diagrams. Pb \$14.95 272pp

KEITH BROOKE & NICK GEVERS (Eds)

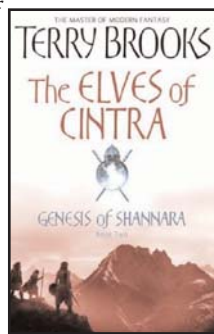
 **INFINITY PLUS**

In 1997 the *Infinity Plus* website was launched to showcase some of the best in SF, fantasy and horror fiction. This anthology features the work of some of the site's major contributors - stories chosen by the writers themselves, dear to their hearts and deserving renewed attention. Tp \$29.95 687pp

TERRY BROOKS

 **THE ELVES OF CINTRA**

Genesis of Shannara #2. Logan Tom has journeyed to desolate Seattle to protect a ragged band of street urchins and the being known as the gypsy morph, who is mortal, magical and destined to save mankind. Likewise,



Angel Perez has her own quest, one that will take her from the wreckage of Los Angeles to a distant, secret place untouched by the horrors of the nationwide blight - a place where the race of Elves has dwelled since before man existed. But close behind these lone Knights of the Word swarm the ravaging forces of the Void. Hb \$59.95 379pp Tp \$32.95 374pp

ORSON SCOTT CARD

& AARON JOHNSTON

 **INVASIVE PROCEDURE**

George Galen is a brilliant scientist, a pioneer in gene therapy. But Galen is dangerously insane, he has created a method to alter human DNA, not just to heal diseases, but to improve people, make them stronger, make them able to heal more quickly and make them compliant to his will. Frank Hartman is also a brilliant virologist, working for the government's ultra-secret bio-hazard agency. He has discovered how to neutralise Galen's DNA-changing virus, making him the one man who stands in the way of Galen's plan to improve the entire human race. Hb \$55.00 351pp

LEWIS CARROLL

(ILLUSTRATED BY ALISON JAY)

  **ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND**

Alison Jay has long wanted to bring her own perspective to this classic story. Now she shows us an exhilarating Wonderland, where Alice, the White Rabbit, the Mad Hatter and all the rest are playfully quirky and adorably fanciful. With the complete, unabridged text and glowing full-colour illustrations on nearly every page, this lavish edition is the perfect introduction to the novel and an elegant gift for those who are already Lewis Carroll fans. Hb \$35.00 203pp

MICHAEL CARROLL

 **ABSOLUTE POWER**

The New Heroes #3. With Colin moving grief-stricken and alone, can Victor Cross bring Colin into the Trutopian fold? And as Danny and Renata become increasingly disenchanted with the orders given at Sakkara, they begin to question who their real friends are! Pb \$15.00 349pp

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 \$16.95 343pp

EOIN COLFER

 **ARTEMIS FOWL AND THE OPAL DECEPTION**


Artemis Fowl #4. Evil pixie, Opal Koboi, is back and she's more dangerous than ever. This time she doesn't just want power over the fairy People, she wants the humans too. Captain Holly Short is the only fairy with a hope of stopping her, but as Holly knows, it takes one genius criminal mastermind to fight another. But the 14-year-old genius that Holly is thinking of doesn't even remember that fairies exist. How is she going to convince Artemis Fowl to help her stop Opal? Gold usually does the trick and this time it should be no different. Or is Artemis changing? Pb \$16.95 343pp

JULIE E CZERNEDA

 **REAP THE WILD WIND**


Stratification #1. The Clan has not yet learned how to manipulate the M'hir to travel between worlds. Instead, they are a people divided into small tribes, scattered over a fraction of their world and prevented from advancing by two other powerful races that control both technology and terrain. Aliens begin exploring the Clan's home planet, upsetting the delicate balance between the three intelligent races. It is a time, too, when one young woman is on the verge of mastering the forbidden power of the M'hir - a power that could prove to be the salvation or ruin of her entire species... Hb \$49.95 454pp

ELLEN DATLOW & TERRI WINDLING


 (Eds) **THE COYOTE ROAD: TRICKSTER TALES**

This features a remarkable range of authors, each with his or her fictional look at a trickster character. These authors include Holly Black, Charles de Lint, Ellen Klages, Kelly Link, Patricia A McKillip and Jane Yolen. Terri Windling provides a comprehensive introduction to the trickster myths of the world and the entire book is highlighted by illustrations by Charles Vess. Hb \$39.95 523pp

MARY JANICE DAVIDSON
& ANTHONY ALONGI


 **THE SILVER MOON ELM**
Jennifer Scales #3. Scaly skin, family fights...it's tough being a teenage dragon. Jennifer was just starting to get comfortable in her own skin, scaly as it is. She's about to go nuts, when her ex, Skip, comes to her rescue and whisks her off to the movies, where she falls asleep... Waking up, Jennifer finds her hometown overrun by weachnids, dangerous half-werewolves, half-spiders. Weredragons are long extinct...except for Jennifer, of course, and the ominous Xavier Longtail and it's up to them to return the universe to normal. Can they trust each other enough to pull it off - or are they the last of a dying breed? Pb \$22.95 355pp

JOSEPH DELANEY


 **THE SPOOK'S SECRET**
Wardstone #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 could wreck havoc on the whole County... Pb \$17.95 453pp

 **THE SPOOK'S BATTLE**
Wardstone #4. Mam has returned to her own land, Greece, to fight the rising power of the dark there. In a special room in the family farmhouse, she has left behind trunks and boxes only to be opened by her youngest son Tom. Meanwhile, in Pendle, the covens are rising and the three most powerful witch clans are rumoured to be uniting in order to conjure an unimaginable evil. Together, they will be capable of raising the dark made flesh - the Devil himself. Hb \$27.95 483pp


CHARLES DE LINT

 **PROMISES TO KEEP**
Signed Limited edition. After a childhood of abuse and drug addiction, Jilly Coppercorn is well on her way to being normal as an art school student when she runs into an old friend, Donna, who takes Jilly into a realm similar to this world, but where things have a way of working out better. Hb \$70.00 173pp


JENNIFER FALLON

 **THE GODS OF AMYRANTHA**
The Tide Lords #2. Arkady has gone into exile with her husband following the disaster of Cayal's escape. No one is beyond suspicion and Stellan's niece is using her new position as a Princess-to-be to wreak havoc. The Tide is on the rise and so is the magic of the Immortals, who are jockeying for positions of power in the human world. Pb \$21.00 578pp


DAVID FARLAND
WORLDBINDER

 *The Runelords #6.* Fallion and Jaz, the sons of the Earth King Gaborn, are secretly living as fugitives in their own kingdom, hiding from the evil supernatural invaders that control their land and waiting for a time that they can regain their rightful position, until Fallion's actions have unexpected repercussions for all. Hb \$49.95 336pp

JASPER FFORDE


 **FIRST AMONG SEQUELS**
Thursday Next #5. 14 years after Thursday Next pegged out at Superhoop '88, her Jurisdiction job has been downgraded due to a potential conflict of interest, since her previous adventures are now themselves in print. This being fiction, however, jeopardy is never far away. Sherlock Holmes is killed at the Rheinbach falls and his series is stopped in its tracks. Before this can be righted, Miss Marple dies in a narratively inexplicable car accident, bringing her series also to a close. Thursday, receiving a death-threat clearly intended for her written self, realises what is going on - there is a serial killer is loose in the Bookworld. Hb \$39.95 398pp Tp \$32.95 398pp

P R FROST


 **MOON IN THE MIRROR**
Tess Noncoire #2. Theresa Noncoire was a successful fantasy writer, but Tess has another career as well. She's been trained by the Sisterhood of the Celestial Blade Warriors to fight demonic incursions into our world. Teamed with a mischievous imp called Scrap, she's returned home after saving the world, only to discover that demonic trouble has followed her right to her own doorstep. Hb \$49.95 389pp

DIANA GABALDON


**LORD JOHN AND THE
BROTHERHOOD OF THE
BLADE**

 1758: Europe is in turmoil. The Seven Years War is taking hold and London is ripe with deceit. The enigmatic Lord John Grey, a nobleman and high-ranking officer in His Majesty's Army, pursues a clandestine love affair and a deadly family secret. Grey's father, the Duke of Pardloe, shot himself just days before he was to be accused of being a Jacobite traitor. Now, 17 years on, the family name has been redeemed; but an impending marriage revives the scandal. Lord John knows that as Whitehall whispers, rumours all too often lead their victims to the walls of Newgate prison - and to the gallows. Grey faces danger and forbidden passions in his search for the truth. But it is in the stony fells of the Lake District that he finds the man who may hold the key to his quest - the enigmatic Jacobite prisoner Jamie Fraser. Tp \$32.95 494pp


WILLIAM GIBSON
SPOOK COUNTRY

 In New York, what you've got on your iPod can be bad for your health... Tito, a young and athletic Cuban, has been asked to pass iPods to the 'old man' in Washington Square. He doesn't know why and he's not stupid enough to ask, either. But the old man likes to speak Russian and he knows a great deal about Tito's family - reason enough for Tito to make sure the old man gets what he wants. Across the country in LA, journalist Hollis Henry has been asked to investigate Bobby Chombo, a man who knows the ins and outs of military navigation systems and who never sleeps in the same space twice. Unfortunately for Hollis and one or two other interested parties - Bobby has very good reasons for not wanting to be found - reasons that involve iPods and nothing whatsoever to do with music... Tp \$32.95 371pp


STEVEN GOULD

 **JUMPER: GRIFFIN'S STORY**
Griffin has a secret. It's a secret that he's sworn to his parents to keep, and never tell. Griffin is a Jumper: a person who can teleport to any place he has ever been. The first time was when he was five and his parents crossed an ocean to protect the secret. The most important time was when he was nine. That was the day that the men came to his house and murdered his parents. Griffin knows that the men were looking for him and he must never let them find him. Griffin grows up with only two goals: to survive, and to kill the people who want him dead. And a Jumper bent on revenge is not going to let anything stand in his way. Hb \$49.95 286pp

MARTIN H GREENBERG & JIM HINES
(ED)


 **HEROES IN TRAINING**
Ordinary people. Extraordinary heroes... This all-new fantasy anthology features 13 original stories about ordinary or inexperienced people learning to become extraordinary heroes. From the shape shifter Esen-alit-Quar who is forced unexpectedly into her first solo mission to the young man sworn to defeat a pack of lycanthropes, these heroes in training are thrown into exciting adventures that demand nothing short of all that is in them. Pb \$18.95 311pp

ED GREENWOOD

 **DARK LORD**
Falconfar #1. Rod Everlar is a writer who has created a fantasy world called Falconfar, into which he is drawn. There, he discovers that three dark wizards dominate the land. Now he must learn to seize control of Falconfar and find a way of defeating the corruption within. Hb \$49.95 383pp

ED GREENWOOD

DARK WARRIOR RISING


 A Novel of Niflheim. Orivon Firefist was captured as a six-year-old child by the Nilfghar, the dark elves, who attacked his village by night on one of their surface raids. 15 years later, he is a moon-pale, scarred,



muscular giant of a man, who has spent his days at forgework for a dark elf family. He is also forced to use his great strength to shift furniture in the grand rooms of their castle. He has been trained (and flogged and ordered about) by the beautiful Tsarnarra, a lash-wielding matron who is icily cruel, but proud of the slaves that she has trained. Through all of this, Orivon's spirit has never been broken. He longs to return to the surface world, even if that means destroying the entire dark elf empire along the way. Hb \$49.95 464pp


JOANNE HARRIS

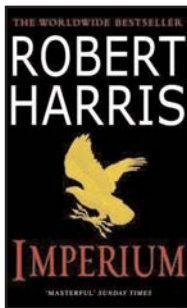
RUNEMARKS

 Seven o'clock on a Monday morning, 500 years after the end of the world, and goblins had been at the cellar again... Maddy Smith was born with a rusty-coloured runemark on her hand, a symbol of the old gods and definitely cause for suspicion. For magic is dangerous. Or so everyone thinks. But Maddy enjoys working magic. Even if it is just to control some pesky goblins. Every time her friend, One-Eye, a good-for-nowt Outlander, comes by, he teaches her more and more about the gods and the runes. Now he wants Maddy to open Red Horse Hill and descend into World Below to retrieve a relic of the old gods. Otherwise it is likely to be the End of Everything. Again...Tp \$29.95 501pp

ROBERT HARRIS


IMPERIUM

 On a cold November morning, Tiro opens the door to find a terrified, bedraggled stranger begging for help. Once a Sicilian aristocrat, the man was robbed by the corrupt Roman governor, Verres, who is now trying to convict him under false pretences and sentence him to a violent death. The man claims that only the great senator Marcus Cicero, one of Rome's most ambitious lawyers and spellbinding orators, can bring him justice in a crooked society manipulated by the villainous governor. But for Cicero, it is a chance to prove himself worthy of absolute power. Tp \$29.00 305pp



JOHN TWELVE HAWKS


THE DARK RIVER

 Fourth Realm #2. Gabriel's father, who has been missing for nearly 20 years, may still be alive and trapped somewhere in Europe. Gabriel and his Harlequin protector, Maya, immediately mobilise to escape New York and find the long-lost Traveler. Simultaneously, Michael orders the Brethren, the ruthless group that has been hunting Gabriel, into a full-scale search. Tp \$32.95 368pp

LIAN HEARN


HEAVEN'S NET IS WIDE



 Tales of the Otori prequel. This is the first and last Tale that both closes the circle and introduces readers to the strange and beautiful world of the Otori. It is an epic historical fantasy of revenge and betrayal, honour and loyalty, beauty and passion and the overwhelming power of love set in a mythical, medieval Japan. Hb \$39.95 641pp


BRIAN HERBERT & KEVIN J ANDERSON

SANDWORMS OF DUNE

 As the no-ship Ithaca flees through space, they heroes finally meet the Enemy who followed the violent fanatics, the Honored Matres, back to their universe. The thinking machines vanquished by Serena Butler's jihad were not destroyed, only driven into exile - and now, tens of thousands of years later, they are back. Can the resurrected heroes on board the Ithaca save our race from annihilation? Tp \$32.95 494pp


ROBIN HOBB

RENEGADE'S MAGIC

 The Soldier Son #3. Until now Nevare has defied the magic, unable to accept his traitorous fate. But the magic has won, it has extinguished his once golden future, devastated his family and has now turned his own people against him. Faced with endangering the only loved-ones he has left, Nevare has no choice but to surrender to its will and enter the forest. Tp \$33.00 616pp


NANCY HOLDER

THE ROSE BRIDE

 When Rose's mother dies, her only comfort is the exquisite rose garden her mother left behind. The blossoms serve as an assurance of her mother's love. But Rose is dealt a second blow when her father dies and his greedy widow, Ombrine, and her daughter, Desirée, move in and take over the manor. Fate has been cruel to Ombrine and Desirée, too. So despite their harsh ways, Rose has compassion. But these feelings are bitterly tested when, in a rage, Ombrine tears out the garden. Rose nearly gives up all hope, until a chance meeting with the king. Happiness might be within her reach, but first she must prevail over Ombrine and then she must determine if she has the courage to love. Pb \$9.95 245pp

HANNAH HOWELL & LYSAY SANDS

MY IMMORTAL HIGHLANDER

 As identical twins, Bothan and Calum MacNachton share a bond stronger than most brothers, one forged by a terrible secret. Rumours and dark tales have been whispered about their clan for centuries. For they roam the Highlands at night, driven by a savage hunger that can never be sated. Their only hope lies in marriage to Outsiders, mortal women whose pure blood will weaken the hold of their eternal curse. What Bothan and Calum promise is a life unlike any Kenna and Sarra have ever known. Now, they must choose whether to betray their dark lords or stand and fight for a passion that will never die. Pb \$16.95 318pp


ALEX IRVINE

AGAINST ALL ENEMIES

 Marvel Ultimates. The alien shapeshifters called the Chitauri were defeated by the Ultimates in a decisive battle, but suspicious activity leads the Ultimates to believe that not all of the aliens were destroyed in that cataclysmic attack. Stark Industries has developed a means of quickly and easily detecting Chitauri DNA, but the federal government refuses to adopt the technology, claiming that if the tech is widely available, the Chitauri will find a way to fool it. Frustrated, Captain America takes matters into his own hands. His radical actions sow discord among the Ultimates and within the highest levels of government. Pb \$18.95 340pp


EVE KENIN

DRIVEN

 When a sexy guy named Wizard hijacks her copilot's seat, Raina Bowen, while fighting off truckers, pirates and a deadly maniac bent on revenge, is unable to deny her attraction to this dangerous man who is hiding a secret that could get them both killed. Pb \$16.95 321pp

TOM KRATMAN

A DESERT CALLED PEACE

 Patricio Carrera #1. 500 years from now, humankind has found a link to a remarkably Earth-like planet and settled there, dividing, as humans will, into dozens of nation-states. The Federated States of Columbia has consolidated power and risen against the oppression of Earth's corrupt Caliphate. But when Salafi madmen, bent on a new jihad, kill FSC Captain Patrick Hennessey's family in a cowardly attack, they create an enemy that will show even less mercy than they do. A legendary warrior is born - Carrera, the scourge of Salafism. He will forge an army from the decrepit remains of a military in a failing state, find those who killed his family and destroy them utterly. Only when he is finished will there be peace: the peace of an empty wind as it blows across a desert strewn with the bones of Carrera's enemies. Hb \$48.00 709pp

VICTORIA LAURIE

 **CRIME SEEN**

A Psychic Eye Mystery. Abby Cooper, Psychic Eye, is having a hard time getting over a gunshot wound from her last case, especially because she didn't see the shots coming. Out of work and second-guessing her abilities, she tries to get back in the saddle by helping her boyfriend Dutch with some of his FBI cases. And soon enough, her intuition returns with a vengeance. Pb \$16.95 304pp

STEPHEN R LAWHEAD

 **HOOD**

King Raven #1. When Bran ap Brychan's father is murdered by Norman soldiers, he flees to London, seeking justice. The journey is long and hard and the suffering of those he meets along the way fuels his anger. With his demands dismissed, Bran has no choice but to return home, but a worse fate still awaits him there. His lands have been confiscated and his people subjugated by a brutal and corrupt regime. Should Bran flee for his life or protect his people by surrendering to his father's murderers? The answer, perhaps, is known only to the Raven King, a creature of myth and magic born of the darkest shadows in the forest. Pb \$16.95 438pp

TANITH LEE

 **NO FLAME BUT MINE**

Lionwolf trilogy #3. Searching for the beautiful witch Jemhara, the magician Thryfe at last finds her in the reinvented town of Kandexa, where a strange and passionate wooing begins. From this union a son is born - golden-skinned, red-haired, blue-eyed - and thus the Lionwolf returns to the world of men. Unaware of this birth, his original mother the goddess Saftri has begun her own search for her lost love Athluan, while elsewhere the black and shining ones, the Children of Chillel, seek to establish claims on the ice-locked planet. Tp \$32.95 461pp

JULIE ELIZABETH LETO, RHONDA NELSON & MIA ZACHARY

  **WITCHY BUSINESS**

Case File #1: Regina St Lyon's powers have been waning. Maybe she did betray love, but what else could a duped girl do? At the time, banishing hotter-than-thou Brock Aegis to the Middle Realm seemed like a good idea. But now Brock is back... *Case File #2:* Benedict DeWin is practically wizard royalty and as magically gifted as a stale loaf of bread. But then he meets Bryony Flynn, another magical failure. *Case File #3:* Born to a family of seers and shamans, Siobhan Silverhawk has accepted her magic-less lifestyle. But when she meets recent widower J B Pendleton, Siobhan figures she has magic enough to make a love potion, which seems to have worked a little *too well!* Pb \$14.95 320pp

TOM LLOYD

 **THE STORMCALLER**

The Twilight Reign #1. Trapped in a life of poverty, hated and abused by his father, Isak dreams of escape, but when his chance comes, it isn't to a place in the army as he'd expected. Instead, the Gods have marked him out as heir-elect to the brooding Lord Bahl, the Lord of the Fahlan. With mounting envy and malice, the men who would themselves be kings watch Isak, chosen by Gods as flawed as the humans who serve them, as he is shaped and moulded to fulfil the prophecies that are encircling him like scavenger birds. The various factions jostle for the upper hand and that means violence, but the Gods have been silent too long and that violence is about to spill over and paint the world the colour of spilled blood and guts and pain and anguish ... Pb \$22.95 502pp

ANNE McCAFFREY & ELIZABETH ANN SCARBOROUGH

 **THIRD WATCH**

Acorna's Children #3. Khorii, the rebellious daughter of the near-mythic Acorna and her lifemate, Aari, has followed in Acorna's footsteps leading their people from danger, but the pressure to succeed and fulfil a legacy is tremendous. For the deadly foe that has ravaged the known worlds and weakened even her famous parents has launched its final assault and only Khorii and her newly discovered sister, Ariin, are able to stop the brutal attack. Hb \$49.95 271pp

ERIN MCCARTHY

  **MY IMMORTAL**

In the late 18th century, plantation owner Damien du Bourg struck an unholy bargain with a fallen angel - an eternity of inspiring lust in others for the gift of immortality. But when Marley Turner stumbles upon Damien's plantation searching for her missing sister, for the first time in 200 years, it's Damien who can't resist the lure of a woman, but his past sins aren't so easily forgotten, or forgiven. Pb \$18.95 311pp

CHEYENNE MCCRAY

  **WICKED MAGIC**

Magic #3. Rhiannon Castle is a D'Anu witch whose Coven sisters know nothing of the Shadows that lurk within her. Rhiannon can't reveal the truth to anyone, least of all Keir, a rugged warrior soldier who walks into Rhiannon's life and awakens her to a wanton reckless desire... When a demon goddess unleashes her evil upon our world, Rhiannon's secret could prove the ultimate weapon in this epic battle, or forge a pathway to destruction for the only man she's ever loved... Pb \$16.95 371pp

SOPHIA McDOUGALL

 **ROME BURNING**


Romanitas #2. The Roman Empire stretches across the Atlantic and far into Asia, yet it is an unstable time. Strange fires burn out of control, the Emperor falls suddenly ill and a massacre in the shadow of the Great Wall of Terranova brings the world to the brink of a global war. At this critical time, the young heir to the throne Marcus Novius must take command of the greatest power on Earth. But his ambitious cousin Drusus, spurred on by a riddling Sybilline prophecy, threatens this last chance to avoid a world conflict and Una, a former slave whose love for Marcus seems out of place at the Roman court, is drawn into the political intrigue and a dangerous enmity. Tp \$32.95 471pp

OISIN MCGANN

 **SMALL-MINDED GIANTS**

Wildenstern #1. 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, accused of murder, Sol sets out to find out why, and in doing so, uncovers the harsh reality behind Ash Harbour. Pb \$17.95 353pp

ANCIENT APPETITES

 *Wildenstern #2.* After nearly two years, 18-year-old Nate returns home to the family empire ruled by his father, the ruthless Wildenstern Patriarch. But Nate's life is soon shattered by his brother's death and the Rules of Ascension, allowing the assassination of one male family member by another, means he's being blamed. He knows that he is not the murderer, but who is? Tp \$29.95 439pp

EOIN McNAMEE

 **THE NAVIGATOR**

Owen's ordinary life is turned upside-down the day he gets involved with the Resisters and their centuries-long feud with an ancient, evil race. The Harsh, with their icy blasts and relentless onslaught, have a single aim - to turn back time and eliminate all life. Unless they are stopped, everything Owen knows will vanish as if it has never been! But all is not as it seems in the rebel ranks. While Owen is accepted by new friends Cati and Wesley and the eccentric Dr Diamond, others are suspicious of his motives. Could there be a Harsh spy in their midst? Where and what is the mysterious Mortmain, vital to their cause? And what was Owen's father's role in all this many years before? Pb \$15.00 347pp

THOM MADLEY

 **MARCO AND THE BLADE OF NIGHT**

Glastonbury is a town steeped in mysticism, magic and religious cults, so when Marco's friend Rosa pulls a strange rusted object out of the riverbank, the rumours start spreading. The power of legends is back in full flow and the hunt for Excalibur is on. Pb \$17.00 429pp

GEORGE R R MARTIN, GARDNER DOZOIS & DANIEL ABRAHAM

 **HUNTER'S RUN**

In a fight outside a bar Ramon Espejo kills a man. The dead man was a big shot, a diplomat on a mission to the out-world of Sao Paulo. He goes on the run, heading north toward unexplored territory, land so far only glimpsed from orbit during the first colony surveys. Then he finds something... something terrifying. Or rather, it finds him, and uses him, as humans are used by species more intelligent than themselves. But Ramon Espejo is about to prove what a man is capable of. And he is about to discover his function in the broad flow of the universe. And why it was he killed the diplomat in the first place... Hb \$60.00 Tp \$30.00 394pp

L E MODESSIT, JR.

 **NATURAL ORDERMAGE**

The Saga of Recluse. When Rahl, a young apprentice scrivener on Recluse begins using order magic for his own benefit, his abilities attract the attention of the Council magisters and he finds himself banished to Hamor, where his magical training continues under perilous circumstances and his talent for getting into trouble escalates. Hb \$56.00 496pp

CHRISTOPHER MOORE

 **A DIRTY JOB**

Charlie Asher is a pretty normal guy. He owns a building in the heart of San Francisco, runs a second-hand store and is married to a bright, pretty woman who actually loves him for his normality. And she, Rachel, is about to have their first child. As Charlie prepares to go home after the birth, he sees a strange man dressed in mint-green at Rachel's hospital bedside - a man who claims that no one should be able to see him. But see him Charlie does, and from here on out, things get really weird... People start dropping dead around him, giant ravens perch on his building and it seems that everywhere he goes, a dark presence whispers to him from under the streets. Strange names start appearing on his nightstand notepad, and before he knows it, those people end up dead, too. Yep, it seems that Charlie Asher has been recruited for a new job, an unpleasant but utterly necessary one: Death. It's a dirty job. But hey, somebody's gotta do it. Pb \$22.95 437pp

SIMON MORDEN

 **THE LOST ART**

A millennium after the formidable war machines of the User cultures devoured entire civilisations and rewrote planetary geography, Earth is in the grip of a perpetual Dark Age. Scientific endeavour is strongly discouraged, while remnant technology is locked away - hidden by a Church determined to prevent a new Armageddon. This is the world to which Benzamir Michael Mahmood must return. A descendant of the tribes who fled the planet during those ages-old wars, he comes in pursuit of enemies from the far reaches of space. The technology he brings is wondrous beyond the imaginings of those he will meet, but can its potency match that of the Church's most closely guarded treasure? Hb \$29.95 521pp

JAN MORRIS

 **HAV**

The city is a magical place, yet behind its arcane splendours are darker implications. The traditional Roof Race is peculiarly exciting, the waterfront is picturesque, the wistful call of a trumpeter from a distant rampart is wonderfully evocative and every street corner is haunted by memories of illustrious visitors - Freud, Diaghilev, Marco Polo, Lawrence of Arabia and countless others. But Morris' visit ends in flight when an unidentified enemy arrives to seize control. When she returns to Hav, 20 years later, she finds that her account of her earlier visit is banned and discovers a place that has rebuilt itself, transformed by a new energy and now dominated by a totemic tower 2000 feet tall. Pb \$22.95 301pp

BRANDON MULL

 **FABLEHAVEN**

For centuries mystical creatures of all description were gathered into a hidden refuge called Fablehaven to prevent their extinction. The sanctuary survives today as one of the last strongholds of true magic. Enchanting? Absolutely. Exciting? You bet. Safe? Well, actually, quite the opposite. Kendra and her brother, Seth, have no idea that their grandfather is the current caretaker of Fablehaven. Inside the gated woods, ancient laws keep relative order among greedy trolls, mischievous satyrs, plotting witches, spiteful imps and jealous fairies. However, when the rules get broken - Seth is a bit too curious and reckless for his own good - powerful forces of evil are unleashed and Kendra and her brother face the greatest challenge of their lives. To save their family, Fablehaven, and perhaps even the world, Kendra and Seth must find the courage to do what they fear most. Pb \$12.95 351pp

LARRY NIVEN & EDWARD LERNER

 **FLEET OF WORLDS**

Ringworld prequel. Kirsten Quinn-Kovacs is among the best and brightest of her people. She gratefully serves the gentle race that rescued her ancestors from a dying starship, gave them a world and nurtures them still. If only the Citizens knew where Kirsten's people came from. A chain reaction of supernovae at the galaxy's core has unleashed a wave of lethal radiation that will sterilise the galaxy. The Citizens flee, taking their planets, the Fleet of Worlds, with them. Someone must scout ahead and Kirsten and her crew eagerly volunteer. Under the guiding eye of Nessus, their Citizen mentor, they explore for any possible dangers in the Fleet's path and uncover long-hidden truths that will shake the foundations of worlds. Hb \$49.95 400pp *Due Oct*

ANDRE NORTON & JEAN RABE

  **A TASTE OF MAGIC**

Wisteria is magically attuned to the world around her. Her senses relish the tastes of magic that the wonders of nature offer. But the peacefulness of her backwoods existence is shattered when her village is attacked by the raiding force of the bellicose Lord Purvis, who leaves only this 20-something magic wielder and an adolescent lass as the inadvertent survivors. Wisteria has pledged herself to a mission. Now she and her young ward must brave the wilds beyond their home in pursuit of the ravager who destroyed everyone near and dear to their hearts. Pb \$16.95 303pp

BEN OKRI

 **STARBOOK**

"We are listeners at the oracle. Those who truly hear are touched and changed." At one level, the author tells the delicate story of a prince and a maiden who are both tested by trials in a mythical land where art, initiation and dynamic stillness are supremely important. At another level, this novel opens up the nature of reality, where the essence of life is revealed and the source of enchantment can be ours, where beauty, regeneration and fulfilment are perhaps possible. Tp \$32.95 422pp

OLIVIER PAUVERT

 **NOIR**

France, 2027. The National Party are in power. One man wanders the streets of Paris haunted by the recollection of a young woman's bloodied corpse and tormented by the possibility that he was her murderer and is shaken by the discovery that he has not been away from the city for days, but for 12 years. Frightened of even his own reflection, he flees the secret state police in an attempt to unravel the terrible secrets of his own past and his country's history. Pb \$24.95 256pp

J T PETTY

 **THE SCRIVENER BEES**

Clemency Pogue #3. As Inky Mess gains power and amasses goblin followers, he sets his sights on the Forgetting Book. With the book, Inky will become master of every goblin, hobgoblin and fairy in Make-Believe. Clemency's hobgoblin friends desperately need her help to defeat the power-hungry changeling, but Clem has problems of her own. Her dad has unknowingly angered the Scrivener Bees and they want to exact painful revenge. Will Clem be able to save her father and Make-Believe? Hb \$14.95 164pp

SUSAN PRICE

 **ODIN'S QUEEN**

Mars #2. Bonder Affie has escaped to Mars with Odinstoy and her young son, Apollo. Odinstoy has been employed by the Martian Temple of Odin as their God-speaker and Affie goes undercover as her 'wife'. Affie hopes their new life will enable her to claw back the status and respect she had before she became a bonder and is frustrated by Odinstoy's disdain for the fame her new role brings. Affie's craving for attention leads her to fall under the spell of a follower of the rival temple of Zeus and before she knows it she is revealing more of her past to him than she ever intended. And in doing so, she finds herself betrays Odinstoy, putting all their lives at risk... Pb \$16.95 248pp

NATALIE JANE PRIOR

LILY QUENCH'S COMPANION AND GUIDE TO DRAGONS AND THE

 **ART OF QUENCHING**

"No matter who you are, there are always bad times and evil people. When they come, you have to put your armour on and get ready to fight." This book contains everything a budding dragon-slayer needs to know about dragons and the art of Quenching. With articles by Queen Dragon, Matilda, Drakescourage, King Lionel and, of course, Lily Quench herself, Lily Quench's Companion will show you how to distinguish good dragons from bad, even when they are wrapped in human skin. Pb \$14.95 119pp

MICHAEL PRYOR

 **BLAZE OF GLORY**

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. At a royal hunting party, the boys 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 murder attempt, but who sent the golem and why? Pb \$17.95 407pp

MICHAEL PRYOR

 **HEART OF GOLD**

Laws of Magic #2. At a loss after finishing their end-of-year exams, Aubrey and George travel to the Gallian capital, Lutetia, where it so happens that the lovely Caroline is studying natural history. Aubrey wants to pursue a cure for his condition, though his family have other ideas and he's soon burdened with a royal mystery to solve, old letters to procure, a missing ornithologist to locate and a spot of diplomatic espionage. Also, someone is stealing people's souls and turning them into mindless monsters and the country's magical lifeline, the Heart of Gold, has been stolen, leaving the city in chaos. Aubrey, George and a somewhat reluctant Caroline are on the case. Pb \$17.95 488pp

ROBERT RANKIN

 **THE DA-DA-DE-DA-DA CODE**

Focuses on the biggest conspiracy theory in the world, ever. Here, in the Da-Da-De-Da-Da Code, you will find the music of the angels and the music of the devil. Aliens, flying saucers from hell, the Multiverse, the Illuminati - every wacky, way-out conspiracy theory you've ever heard, they're all here, wrapped into a plot that will leave Dan Brown fans breathless, Michael Shea readers stupefied, Raymond Khoury lovers incredulous...Tp \$32.95 322pp

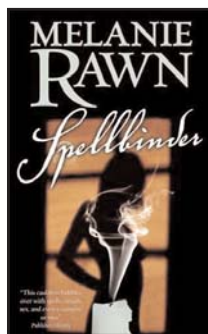
 **THE TOYMINATOR**

Somewhere over the rainbow and just off the Yellow Brick Road stands Toy City, formerly known as Toy Town. And things are not going well for the city's inhabitants. There have been outbreaks of STC, Spontaneous Toy Combustion, and there are strange signs and portents in the Heavens. With the body count rising and the forces of law and order baffled, it is the time for a hero to step forward and attempt to save the day. Well, two heroes actually, Eddie Bear, Toy City Private Eye and his loyal sidekick, Jack: our courageous twosome are about to face their biggest challenge yet, to save not only toykind, but the world of mankind too. Pb \$19.95 361pp

MELANIE RAWN

 **SPELLBINDER**

Members of the secret world of witches and wizards who make New York City their home, including successful writer Holly McClure, must use their magic to protect the city when a black coven, run by a murderous psychopath threatens to unleash its terror and nothing can stop the rampage, except for magic. Pb \$18.95 500pp



PHILIP REEVE

 **LARKLIGHT**

Larklight #1. Arthur (Art) Mumby and his irritating sister Myrtle live with their father in the huge and rambling house, Larklight, travelling through space on a remote orbit far beyond the Moon. One ordinary sort of morning they receive a correspondence informing them that a gentleman is on his way to visit. Visitors to Larklight are rare if not unique and a frenzy of preparation ensues. But it is entirely the wrong sort of preparation, as they discover when their guest arrives, and a Dreadful and Terrifying adventure begins. It takes them to the furthest reaches of Known Space, where they must battle the evil First Ones in a desperate attempt to save each other - and the Universe. Pb \$16.95 399pp

JOHN RINGO

 **VORPAL BLADE**

The former SSBN *Nebraska* has been converted, using mostly garage mechanics and baling wire, into a warp ship ready to go 'out there'. But as everyone knows, the people who really are going to bear the brunt are the poor Security guys, Force Recon Marines who are kept in the dark and fed manure all day. That is until they land on an alien planet, get partially wiped out and then load back up again. The monkeys are out in the space lanes and ready to rock. As soon as they get another roll of duct tape. Hb \$49.95 416pp

CHRIS ROBERSON

 **SET THE SEAS ON FIRE**

1808. HMS Fortitude patrols the sea lanes of the South Pacific, harrying enemies of the British Crown. In the midst of a battle, the ships are driven apart by storms and into unknown seas and the Fortitude's crew find themselves aground on an island in uncharted waters, their ship badly damaged. Whilst they struggle to rebuild their vessel an encounter with the island's natives leads to a discovery of a dark and terrible secret that lurks behind the island's veneer of beauty... Tp \$29.95 380pp

ADAM ROBERTS

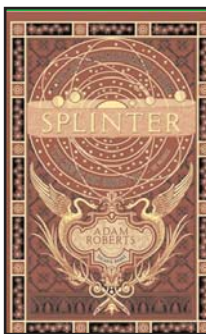
 **LAND OF THE HEADLESS**

On a planet where society is shaped by a strict adherence to the word of God as laid out in the Old Testament, Quran, a poet, is accused of the rape of a woman. Found guilty he must face the punishment laid down in the Good Book - beheading. Beheaded, he is fitted with a neck valve, ordinator and basic sensory equipment and sent out into the world. The only way he can make a living is to join the army and serve in the war against the neighbouring planet and plan his revenge against the man he believes is really guilty. Hb \$55.00 Tp \$32.95 275pp

ADAM ROBERTS

 **SPLINTER**

Hector travels across America to visit his father on a ranch. He discovers that he has constructed a cult who await the impact of an asteroid. However, Hector is amazed when the section of Earth that the ranch is on suddenly breaks free from the rest of the planet during the collision. He struggles with his scepticism and acceptance of the fact that he is part of the remnants of the human race, on a splinter from the Earth. Tp \$26.00 252pp



KRISTINE KATHRYN RUSCH

 **RECOVERY MAN**

Retrieval Artist #6. Retrieval Artist Miles Flint has uncovered a long-held secret to his past linked to the Aleyd Corporation and a kidnapping by the mysterious Recovery Man, in a case that threatens the entire Earth Alliance legal system... Pb \$16.95 374pp

C J RYAN

 **BURDENS OF EMPIRE**

Gloria VanDeen, ex-wife of the Emperor, media darling and humanity's favourite heroine, has been sent to Denastri, on a secret mission to extract a hostage and avoid a PR nightmare. But the situation is a lot worse than reported Earthside. With violence escalating daily and with an indigenous population whose customs and religion are a mystery, Gloria finds herself on the toughest assignment of her career. Now she's faced with an enemy that may be even more dangerous than the assassins and fanatics of the alien insurgency: an army of freelance killers run by an Earth-based corporation motivated by pure greed. Pb \$16.95 356pp

KARL SCHROEDER

 **QUEEN OF CANDESCENCE**

Virga #2. Venera Fanning was last seen falling into nothingness. Now, Venera finds herself plunging through the air among the artificial worlds of Virga, far from home and her husband, who may or may not be alive. Landing in the ancient nation of Spyre, Venera encounters new enemies and new friends (or at least convenient allies). She must quickly learn whom she can trust and whom she can manipulate. Survival isn't her only goal, with the powerful Key of Candescence in her hands, she can control the fate of the entire world of Virga, yet something even more pressing is driving her - the all-consuming need for revenge. Hb \$50.00 332pp

OWEN SHEERS

 **RESISTANCE**

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What We've Been Reading...



Spook Country by William Gibson (Tp, \$32.95). It's been a long time between drinks for Gibson since 2003's **Pattern Recognition** (Pb \$22.95) which is one of my favourite books ever. Gibson returns with a spy thriller that isn't a spy thriller, as he mixes a million and one different influences and ideas. Hollis Henry, freelance journalist and lead singer of a defunct cult-band, is assigned to write about the emerging locative art (virtual artwork that is broadcast onto physical locations and only viewable through special helmets). Whilst looking into the art form's use of GPS, she comes across a group of Cuban spies who are using a locative art expert to track down a mysterious object that another group of ex-CIA operatives are also after. Set in the same universe as **Pattern Recognition** (which technically is our world), the multilayered storytelling creates a dream-like atmosphere to our present world, leaving you feeling that our present is Gibson's past. - *John*

Forever Peace by Joe Haldeman (Pb \$18.95). The not-too-distant future sees the affluent nations of the world conducting a guerrilla war against the Third World via remote-controlled killbots, which are plugged directly in to the brains of soldiers far away. This isn't necessarily good for the Mechanics, as they're called. The story follows one Mechanic through his struggle to deal with the guilt of killing innocent people. It's set between **The Forever War** (Pb \$22.95) and **Forever Free**, and is certainly better than the latter. - *Geoff*

Hound of Rowan (Tapestry #1) by Henry Neff (Pb \$17.95). In many ways this is very Potter-like and people are going to love it or hate it because of that. I think it has the elements of the Potters that made the world fall in love with them (especially that sense of wonder that so many Potter wannabe's completely lack), but with a compressed story, so that by the end of this book I felt like I'd read the first few Potters. I loved it and am looking forward to the next instalment. - *Steph*

Mars Needs Moms by Berkeley Breathed (Hb \$36.00). Milo thinks his mum is a carrot-cuddling, broccoli-bullying, humourless tyrant (she goes off the deep end when he tints his sister purple). He doesn't think mums are special at all until his is kidnapped by Martians. Then he understands why mums are special and what they will sacrifice for their child. Beautiful artwork with a story that reduced me to tears. A perfect gift for any mum you know. - *Steph*



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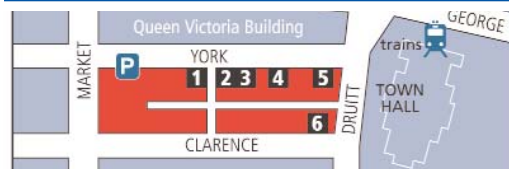
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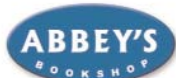
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