



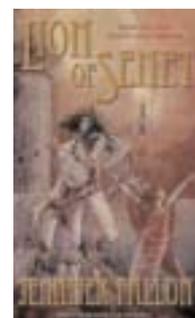
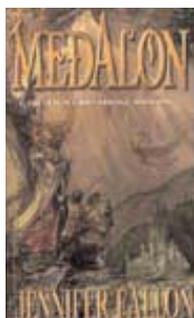
NEXUS

NOVEMBER 2003

ISSUE # 186

JENNIFER FALLON

author of
**The Demon Child trilogy
& The Second Sons trilogy**

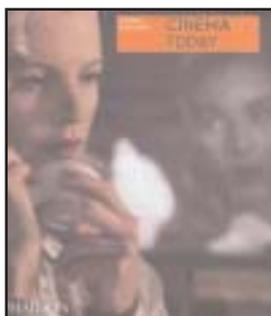


**WILL BE IN-STORE
FRIDAY 21 NOVEMBER
@ Midday**

*"[Lion of Senet has] characters that grow, intrigue that deepens
- a writer to watch in the future." - Janny Wurts*

"Fallon writes fantasy with a fresh and engaging touch." - NW Magazine

Edward Buscombe CINEMA TODAY

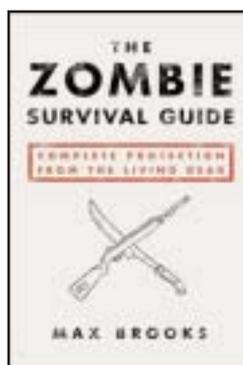


This book is a survey of world cinema and the films that have dominated our screens over the last 30 years. Written by Edward Buscombe, academic and leading authority on Western films, it marks the key turning points in the film industry, identifies important trends and assesses the work of film-makers who have made a significant contribution to the medium since 1970. Fully illustrated, this is informative,

comprehensive and up to date, and provides a unique resource for academics, students and anyone with an interest in the moving image and the film industry. Hb \$119.95 512pp

Max Brooks

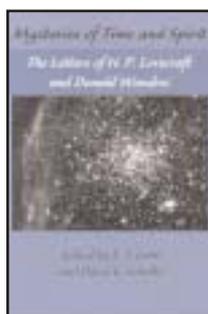
THE ZOMBIE SURVIVAL GUIDE: COMPLETE PROTECTION FROM THE LIVING DEAD



Here is your key to survival against the hordes of undead who may be stalking you right now. Fully illustrated and exhaustively comprehensive, it covers everything you need to know, including how to understand zombie physiology and behaviour, the most effective defence tactics and weaponry, ways to outfit your home for a long siege and how to survive and adapt in any territory or terrain. Don't be carefree and foolish with your most precious asset - your life. Tp \$32.00 256pp

S T Joshi & David Schultz (eds) MYSTERIES OF TIME AND SPIRIT: THE LETTERS OF H P LOVECRAFT & RONALD WANDREI

This is the first in a series of volumes of Lovecraft's letters. For those of you who already have the five-volume set of letters put out by *Arkham House*, these editions will be completely different. Rather than chronological, these will be thematic. Each volume will be dedicated to a specific subject, time or place. And these will be uncut, containing the complete texts of the letters, as well as any additional illustrations. Hb \$85.00 439pp



CHRISTMAS TRADING HOURS

Regular trading hours in December except for:

7 & 14	Sundays	10.00 - 6.00
18 & 19	Thu & Fri	8.00 - 9.00
20	Sat	8.30 - 8.00
21	Sun	9.00 - 6.00
22 & 23	Mon & Tue	8.00 - 9.00
24	Wed	Christmas Eve 8.00 - 7.00
25	Thu	Christmas Day closed
26	Fri	Boxing Day 10.00 - 5.00
Then regular hours except for:		
31	Wed	New Years Eve 8.30 - 5.00
1	Thu	New Years Day closed



SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY



JUDIE AITKEN



DISTANT ECHOES

A handsome Lakota and a prim young beauty are swept through time to the distant 1800s, where the echoes of the past are as real and alive as the beating of their hearts. In this forgotten time, they must face the truth about their heritage... and their desire. Pb \$15.95 325pp

DOUGLAS ANDERSON (ED)

TALES BEFORE TOLKIEN: THE



ROOTS OF MODERN FANTASY

This internationally recognised Tolkien expert has gathered the fiction of authors who sparked Tolkien's imagination in a collection destined to become a classic in its own right. Includes Andrew Lang's romantic swashbuckler, *The Story of Sigurd*, E A Wyke-Smith's *The Marvelous Land of Snergs* plus a never-before-published gem by David Lindsay. Tp \$36.00 436pp

PIERS ANTHONY



UP IN A HEAVAL

Xanth #26. An innocent piece of Mundane Snail Mail has provoked the dreaded Demon Jupiter to hurl his Red Spot at the magical land of Xanth. The ordeal of saving the enchanted realm falls to Umlaut, an unlikely lad with an unknown past and an uncertain future. Pb \$17.95 342pp



SCIENCE FICTION



FANTASY



ROMANCE



AWARD WINNER



AUSTRALIAN



ACTION



REPRINT

AC AUDIO CASSETTE

CD COMPACT DISC

PB PAPERBACK

HB HARDBACK

TP TRADE PAPERBACK



CUBE ROUTE

Xanth #27. When a Plain Jane called Cube whispers a wistful wish to be beautiful, she finds herself leading a company of colourful companions on a search for the mysterious Cube Route - a perilous path that leads to danger, adventure and perhaps her heart's desire. Hb \$62.00 333pp

CATHERINE ASARO



SKYFALL

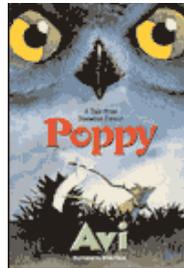
Skolian #9. Kurj, a provincial ruler on a primitive planet, is plagued by inner demons. When he meets Roca, a beautiful and mysterious woman from the stars, he whisks her away to his mountain retreat, inadvertently starting a great interstellar war and birthing the next generation of rulers for the Sklolian Empire. Hb \$50.00 317pp

AVI



POPPY

The Dimwood Forest Chronicles #1. It's not always easy being brave, especially if you are a deer mouse and only six inches long. Nevertheless, Poppy, with her beautiful orange-brown fur, dark round eyes and pink toes, is forced to become braver than any other mouse. She and her family live in an old house on the edge of the sprawling, sinister Dimwood Forest. They are ruled over by Mr Ocax, a great horned owl who dwells in Dimwood. But, the mice are not just his subjects, they are also his dinners. Pb \$14.95 164pp



BRUCE BALFOUR

THE DIGITAL DEAD

The author of *The Forge of Mars* (Pb \$17.95), brings us to a future age in which virtual versions of the dead control the desires of those they've left behind - with terrifying results. Pb \$17.95 375pp

JOHN BARNES



THE SKY SO BIG AND BLACK

At the end of the 21st century, Earth is under the control of a single intelligence, the apparently benign One True. Mars, meanwhile, is slowly terraforming and the human settlers there are still free of One True's control... but they need pressure suits to survive outside, and it will be a century or more before the planet is fit for terrestrial life. Terpsichore is growing up on Mars. She wants to quit school and become, like her father, an ecoprospector. He wants her to stay in school. What happens next will change Terpsichore, will change Mars, and will open the door to a new chapter in the history of intelligent beings in the solar system... all of them. Pb \$17.95 315pp

STEPHEN BAXTER

PHASE SPACE: STORIES FROM THE MANIFOLD AND ELSEWHERE



Manifold Space universe. These thematically linked stories are drawn from the vast graph of possibilities across which the lives of hero Reid Malenfant have been scattered. It is the year 2025. Reid Malenfant is the commander of a NASA earth-orbiting science platform. The platform is intended to probe the planets of the nearest star system by bouncing laser pulses off them. But no echoes are returned... and Malenfant's reality begins to crumble around him. Huddling with his family, awaiting the end - or an unknown new beginning - Malenfant tells stories of other possibilities, other realities. Pb \$18.95 426pp

GREG BEAR



VITALS

Hal Cousins is one of a handful of scientists nearing the most sought after discovery in human history: the key to short-circuiting the aging process. He experiments with organisms living in the hot thermal plumes in the ocean depths. Elsewhere, scientists are being inexplicably murdered - including Hal's identical twin brother, who was also working to unlock the key to immortality. Suddenly Hal is trapped inside an ever-twisting maze of shocking revelations. For he is not the first person to come close to ending aging forever - and those who came before him will stop at nothing to keep the secret to themselves. Pb \$18.95 340pp

JOHN BETANCOURT (CREATED BY ROGER ZELAZNEY)



CHAOS AND AMBER

Amber Prequel #2. Dworkin and his son Oberon arrive at the Courts of Chaos to discover, and confront, their hidden enemies. But things don't go as planned. Oberon has a terrible physical reaction to being in Chaos, while assassination attempts are made on both his and Dworkin's lives - and the traitor in their family remains a hidden but quite real threat. Hb \$55.00 320pp

ANNE BISHOP



THE HOUSE OF GAIAN

Tir Alainn trilogy #4. The uneasy alliance between Fae and humans may not be enough to defeat the Inquisitors - leaving them no choice but to seek out the witches of the House of Gaian - but can they be trusted? Pb \$17.95 420pp

TERRY BROOKS



THE HERITAGE OF SHANNARA

Shannara omnibus. For the first time in a single collector's edition hardcover, here are *The Scions of Shannara*, *The Druid of Shannara*, *The Elf Queen of Shannara* and *The Talismans of Shannara*. Hb \$75.00 1238pp

FAVE RAVES

OUR FAVOURITES - NEW & OLD

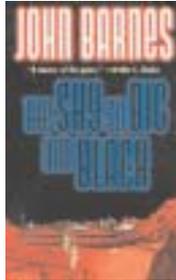
FAVE NEW

THE SKY SO BIG AND BLACK

John Barnes

Pb \$17.95 315pp

John Barnes, it could be said, has made a career of writing novels that pay homage to the authors he presumably grew up reading. They range in style from the humorous fantasy, **One for the Morning Glory** (Pb \$15.95), (*ala Princess Bride*), to his futuristic disaster novel, **A Million Open Doors** (Pb \$15.95). This latest effort, however, has captured the feel of Heinlein's classic coming-of-age juvenile novels.



The story unfolds in the form of two separate, but equally engaging, first-person narratives. One is an un-named police psychologist who has received an urgent message from an old patient (the details of which are hinted at, but not explained until well into the narrative). The other, Teri, is an earth-form human on the verge of legal adulthood, whose story is presented as a series of recorded sessions with the aforementioned psychologist.

This style of narrative works perfectly, taking us slowly through Teri's life as a young woman, hoping to quit school early, get married and follow in the footsteps of her father, a successful ecoprospector.

Her father, however, has other ideas. Ecoprospectors roam the surface of Mars searching for pockets of carbon dioxide, methane and water trapped beneath the surface. Once released, these will help terraform Mars, making it habitable for both earth-form and mars-form humans alike. Her father has realised that, while the rush to terraform will continue for a few years, the work will eventually die out and most ecoprospectors will find themselves in a society that has no use for their skills.

A sense of impending doom begins to unfold as Teri and her father make their way to a huge 'rounditachi' (ecoprospector) gathering, and afterwards begin a journey across the surface to take some of the younger rounditachi to school.

Filled with seriously cool tech and equally cool 'big ideas', deftly woven into a compelling narrative, complete with a twist in the tale that this jaded reader didn't see coming, this is a novel that could easily be among next year's *Hugo* contenders.

This novel is set in the same universe as the author's earlier novels concerning the Meme Wars, **Candle** (Pb \$17.95) and **Orbital Resonance** (Pb \$12.95). It works perfectly as a stand-alone novel. I haven't read either of the previous novels. I plan to rectify that very soon. - Jo

FAVE OLD

CRYPTONOMICON

Neal Stephenson

Pb \$27.95 918pp

I'm always intrigued by big books; the potential it has for big ideas and ambitious story lines attracts me to invest a ridiculous amount of time into reading them. **Cryptonomicon** is one such example. Over its 900-plus pages, it is filled with enough ideas and historical research that the line between fact and fiction is blurred beyond recognition. Part modern day techno-thriller and World War Two memoir, this is anything but your usual book to read at the beach.



It is the 1940's and we follow the rise of Lawrence Pritchard Waterhouse in the US navy and military. A gifted mathematician and organ fanatic, Waterhouse is deployed to Detachment 2702, a unit responsible for the monitoring of German intelligence. At this stage of the war, the Axis' codes have been cracked, but the enemy must not know. So Detachment 2702 must ensure that attacks on the enemy seem random and accidental, even though they are not. Along with marine Bobby Shaftoe (who is as gung-ho as you can get), Waterhouse is sent around North Africa and Eastern Europe to hunt German subs and crack any codes that have yet to be cracked. Flash to modern times and we follow the rise of Randy Waterhouse as his company Epiphyte (2) attempts to create the world's first pure data haven for digital information in the islands of the Philippines. Amongst this, there is sunken treasure to be found (with the help of one Douglas Macarthur Shaftoe), law suits to avoid and high-tech encryption to deal with. True to Stephenson's form, this is short on plot but heavy on ideas. In most other cases, this would be an ingredient for failure but for Stephenson, it is his trump card. It is filled with enough well-researched ideas and precise details that might rival any university text book. However, when it's written in Stephenson's satirical style, it becomes engrossing and essential to the novel. Of equal importance are his quirky characters and situations (some of the war scenes reminded me of the novel **Catch-22**), which places into perspective just how crazy the world can be.

This is a deep and well created novel which rewards the reader with an incredible way of story telling. Having changed the cyberpunk genre with **Snowcrash** (Pb \$18.95), this is an ambitious attempt at creating a historical background to the technological craze of the modern world. - John

TERRY BROOKS

JARKA RUUS

 *High Druid of Shannara* #1. 20 years have passed since the events told in *The Voyage of the Jerle Shannara* trilogy. Grianne Ohmsford, has renounced her former life as the evil Ilse Witch and now serves as the head of a new Druid Council. When Grianne's enemies cause her to disappear, only a few loyal friends can help her. The dwarf Tagwen, Grianne's nephew, Pen Ohmsford and the Elf Prince, Ahren Elesseidil, begin a desperate journey to find Grianne and return her to the Druids' keep at Paranor. Their quest is urgent, their way uncertain and perilous, for the darkest of magics have been used to spirit Grianne away. Tp \$29.95 398pp

MIKE BROTHERTON

STAR DRAGON

 When the SS Cygni probe sends a few minutes of video that shows a creature made of fire, an expedition is sent to observe and perhaps capture it. It is a perilous journey, for SS Cygni is 245 light years from Earth, and the crew will return to an Earth where 500 years have passed. Uncertain 500-year round-trips don't attract the most stable personalities, but somehow they'll have to learn to get along with each other, if they're to catch their dragon and come home again. For at the end of the journey is the star dragon, and the crew of the Karamojo - human and AI alike - will risk everything to capture it. It will take all their technology, all their skill, and more courage than they knew they had to come home alive. Hb \$59.95 349pp

ORSON SCOTT CARD (ED)
HITTING THE SKIDS IN

 **PIXELTOWN**

The authors whose stories are collected here are all winners of the 2nd Annual Phobos Fiction Contest. Science Fiction scribes from around the country were solicited to submit works of short fiction that demonstrated innovation, insight and far-sight. Of the nearly 300 stories submitted, 12 were selected for publication by a jury of science fiction luminaries including Orson Scott Card, Larry Niven and Catherine Asaro. Tp \$36.00 279pp

ISOBELLE CARMODY
 **THE WINTER DOOR**

 *Gateway Trilogy #2.* Faced with the mysterious hatred of a boy at school, and afraid that her strange, silent uncle will vanish again before he is reunited with her sick mother, Rage Winnoway longs to return to the land of Valley. One night she manages to dream-travel to Valley, only to find it is being destroyed by a cruel, enchanted winter flowing through a gateway from another world. To save Valley, and her own world, Rage must travel to the unknown land beyond the Winter Door. But both the powerful wizard who created Valley and the courageous Lady Elle have already passed through it, and vanished. Pb \$17.95 455pp

WIN A COPY...
The Winter Door
by Isobelle Carmody
See back page for details

JACK CHALKER
 **DANCERS IN THE DARK**

This brand new collection includes the novel *Dancers in the Afterglow*, as well as two short stories. Hb \$74.00 304pp

LINCOLN CHILD
 **UTOPIA**

Utopia is the world's grandest theme park, known for its cutting-edge robots, awe-inspiring holographics and white-knuckle thrills. When serious mishaps start to disrupt the once flawless technology, the computer engineer who designed it is summoned to put things right. But when Andrew Warne arrives, Utopia finds itself in the grip of something far more sinister and every man, woman and child trapped in the dome are at risk. Hb \$73.95 514pp

BERNARD CORNWELL
 **HERETIC**

Grail Quest #3. In 1347 the English capture Calais and the war with France is suspended by a truce. But for Thomas of Hookton, there is no end to the fighting. He is pursuing the grail, the most sacred of Christendom's relics, and is sent to his ancestral homeland, Gascony, to engineer a confrontation with his deadliest enemy, Guy Vexille. Tp \$29.95 326pp

JUSTIN D'ATH
 **SHAADOW MASTER**

Quickwater Lake is as black as night, a dark jewel in the heart of Folavia. But it is deadly, and only one person - baby Ora - has survived the quickwater. Now almost 15, Ora is drawn to the natural world beyond the castle gates... and something in the lake is calling to her. Soon she is caught up in a web of betrayal that threatens the very existence of the kingdom. Ora must confront the King's terrible secret and discover the truth about the Shaedow Master before her world is torn apart. Pb \$15.95 268pp

CHARLES DE LINT
 **TAPPING THE DREAM TREE**

The city of Newford could be any contemporary North American city... except that magic lurks in its music, in its art, in the shadows of its grittiest streets, where mythic beings walk disguised. And its people are like you and me, each looking for a bit of magic to shape their lives and transform their fate. Here are a bluesman hiding from the devil; a Buffalo Man at the edge of death; a murderous ghost looking for revenge; a wolf man on his first blind date; and many more. Tp \$38.00 541pp

PAUL DI FILIPPO
 **BABYLON SISTERS AND OTHER POSTHUMANS**

The 14 stories collected here are glimpses into the most fantastic possibilities of human evolution - biological, social and cultural. From a New York split into warring walled enclaves, to the destiny of our species as a strain of virus, to an Africa made over by nanotech messiahs, to a future Earth protected by half-alien angels, to wars of liberation from what we have always so tragically been: these are only some of the transitions to be found here. Tp \$32.00 321pp

SARA DOUGLASS
 **HADES' DAUGHTER**

The Troy Game #1. After the Trojan wars, Brutus and his people wandered homeless for many years. So when the Goddess Artemis offers him a future, he does not hesitate to take it. Brutus is the last of the Kingmen, one of the few who, with the Mistress of the Labyrinth, can play the Troy Game. His arrival with his fellow Trojans in Llangarlia (southeast Britain) is part of a larger plan he can barely sense. Genvissa, Llangarlian High Priestess, and Asterion the Minotaur - though barely alive - are manipulating events and each has their own agenda. As a new city is founded, The Troy Game comes into its own. Once the Game is joined, the future will be a battleground born of legend and myth, and the dark heart of the labyrinth may be more than anyone, even Brutus, has bargained for. Tp \$29.95 621pp

TERRY DOWLING
 **THE MAN WHO LOST RED & SCARING THE TRAIN**

The Man Who Lost Red - most criminals punished by the seven masked aliens who rule the Earth must accept their fate and get on with their lives. Yet Eric Andlan needs more. What was his crime? Who or what are the iquiri overlords? More importantly, why are they here? Andlan desperately needs to know. Available again at last, this *Ditmar Award*-winning tale is *First Contact* with a difference! *Scaring the Train* - just a harmless holiday prank. What could go wrong? But while they are frightening train drivers, two boys are plunged into the heart of an absolute nightmare which will last long into their adult lives. Pb \$15.95 105pp

DAVID DRAKE
 **GODDESS OF THE ICE REALM**

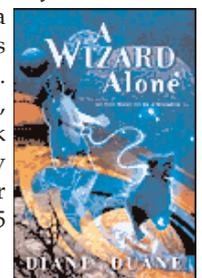
Lord of the Isles #5. Garric and his retinue reach the island city of Carcosa, the wizard Tenoctris perceives a powerful supernatural assault directed against them. Ilna and her beloved, Chalcus, are sent to investigate a magical threat to shipping in the north. All of them face deadly dangers and overcome them before they are again united during the terrifying and dramatic climax. Hb \$65.00 496pp

DAVID DRAKE
 **THE FAR SIDE OF THE STARS**

Lt Leary #3. While the Republic of Cinnabar is at peace with the Alliance, warriors like Lt Daniel Leary and Signals Officer Adele Mundy must find other work - like escorting a pair of wealthy nobles on an expedition to the back of beyond! The *Princess Cecile*, the corvette in which they carved their reputations in letters of fire, has been sold as a private yacht, but she still has her guns, her missiles and her veteran crew. Daniel and Adele will need all of those things as they face winged dragons, an Alliance auxiliary cruiser, jealous lovers, and a mysterious oracle which really does foresee the future. Hb \$59.95 436pp

DIANE DUANE
 **A WIZARD ALONE**

So You Want to be a Wizard #6. While Nita grieves over her mother's death, Kit tackles a challenge as dangerous as it is strange: Rescue a young wizard who has vanished on his first assignment. This new wizard is unlike any other - he's autistic and he's a magical prodigy. His power is enormous. Now Kit and his dog, Ponch, must track down the missing boy before the Lone Power finds him. Pb \$17.95 334pp



DIANE DUANE

 **WIZARD'S HOLIDAY**

So You Want to Be a Wizard #7. Rest and relaxation - that's what Nita thinks she's going to get when her little sister, Dairine, signs her up for a wizardly "cultural exchange" program, sending Nita and her partner-wizard Kit halfway across the galaxy over spring break. But nothing about wizardry - not even vacation - is ever quite that simple. Back home, Dairine and her dad have to cope with their side of the exchange: three young wizards who've just moved in and are eager to start experiencing a strange alien culture... Earth. Hb \$39.95 416pp

DAVE DUNCAN

 **WEST OF JANUARY**

On the planet Vernier, the sun creeps across the sky, returning to the same point every 200 years. It takes a lifetime for each region of the planet to experience dawn, midday and dusk. The ramifications for the inhabitants are dramatic - entire civilisations have been scorched into oblivion, and every individual is forced to adapt to this harsh environment or face certain catastrophe. Knobil is a young herdsman cast out of his tribe, sentenced to perish in this brutal landscape. Luckily, he is saved by "angels" - people trying to help the tortured planet by preserving past technologies. As Knobil travels across his world, he realises he has been chosen for a special destiny. Tp \$48.00 319pp

CLARE DUNKLE

 **HOLLOW KINGDOM**

Hallow Hill has a strange and tragic history. For thousands of years, young women have been vanishing from the estate, never to be seen again. Now Kate and Emily have come to live at Hallow Hill. Brought up in a civilised age, they have no idea of the land's dreadful heritage - until Marak decides to tell them himself. Intelligent, pleasant and completely pitiless, Marak is a powerful magician who claims to be a king - and he has very specific plans for the two new girls who have trespassed into his kingdom. Hb \$39.95 230pp

ROSEMARY EDGHILL

PAYING THE PIPER AT THE GATES OF DAWN

 This collection of the authors' short fantasy works includes: *The Piper at the Gate* where Mary Frances Baynes longs all her life for Real Magic and finally achieves it... at a price; *The Intersection of Anastasia Yeoman and Light* where a midlist SF-writer-turned-successful-editor gets a glimpse of the way her life could have gone; and the story of Ator, Jannifer, Ancel and the Grail, set in ancient Britain and told by the son that Ator tried to kill as an infant, is told in *Prince of Exiles*. Hb \$85.00 333pp

STEVEN ERIKSON

 **HOUSE OF CHAINS**

Malazan Book of the Fallen #4. Coltaine, revered commander of the Malazan 7th Army is dead and now Tavore, elder sister of Ganoes Paran and Adjunct to the Empress, has arrived in the last remaining Malazan stronghold of the Seven Cities to take charge. Untested and new to command, she must hone a small army of 12,000 soldiers, mostly raw recruits, into a viable fighting force and lead them into battle against the massed hordes of Sha'ik's Whirlwind. Her only hope lies in resurrecting the shattered faith of the few remaining survivors from Coltaine's legendary march, veterans one and all. Pb \$22.95 1035pp

JENNIFER FALLON

 **LORD OF THE SHADOWS** 

Second Sons #3. Marked as a traitor by his own people and distrusted by his new allies, Dirk Provin walks a dangerous tightrope of political intrigue, as he tries to find a way to expose the truth about the second sun. In Dhevyn, hurt and angry over Kirsh's continuing affair with Marqel, Alenor embarks on a course of action that could ruin everything. And in the Baenlands, convinced Dirk has betrayed them, Tia Veran sets out to do something about it... Pb \$18.95 675pp

VIRGINIA FARMER

  **SPENCEWORTH BRIDE**

When Nelwina Honeycutt is taken to the block to be sold - a common enough plight for a "troublesome" wife in 18th century England - she hardly expects to better her situation. The man who buys her pays a full pound and seems blasé about it! Nelwina did fall and hit her head, but her clothes, her hair, her eyes: everything is unfamiliar. 200 years from the date she was born, only one thing is clear: Of the two men before her - Philip, who claims to be her husband; or Adam, the English lord of Spencworth manor - all her heart wants is to be Adam's Spencworth bride. Pb \$15.95 300pp

WILL FERGUSON

 **HAPPINESS**

Why would there be a contract out on Edwin de Valu's life? Why has rage disappeared from the roads and McDonald's gone alfalfa? How come everyone seems so damn happy? And most importantly, who, or what, is Tupak Soiree? When an enormous self-help manuscript lands on Edwin's desk, it's headed for the trash. Edwin's cynicism results in him dismissing Tupak Soiree's self-help book and using it as a doorstop. However, Tupak's manuscript is unique - a self-help book that actually works. Before Edwin knows it, a chain of events begins that affects not only his own life but the world at large. Tp \$32.00 309pp

JUDE FISHER

 **WILD MAGIC**

Fool's Gold #2. Magic has returned to Elda, creating all manner of wonders and terrors. None yet know that the source of this magic is the legendary Rosa Eldi, restored to the world, but not yet restored to herself. Unaware of her true nature, she has married King Ravn Asharson of the North, and now with usurpers and assassins circling she must conceive a child to establish the succession. All over Elda, forces are aligning themselves for good or for evil. There is magic in the world again, but it is wild and unpredictable and few will count its touch a blessing. Tp \$29.95 565pp

ESTHER FRIESNER

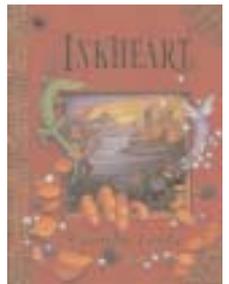
DEATH AND THE LIBRARIAN AND OTHER STORIES

 This award-winning author offers a collection of 12 of her best pieces of short fiction including a brand-new story, *Illion*, as well as two *Nebula Award*-winning stories and several finalists. Hb \$82.00 304pp

CORNELIA FUNKE

 **INKHEART**

Mo, a gentle bookbinder with an extraordinary secret, and his daughter Meggie love books, yet he has not read aloud to her since her mother disappeared years ago. After a mysterious stranger visits them, Mo tells Meggie they must go into hiding. But why? And from whom? Pb \$19.95 544pp



WILLIAM GOLDMAN

  **THE PRINCESS BRIDE**

The 30th anniversary edition of this classic fairy tale romance retells the tale of a drunken swordsman, a gentle giant, a man seeking revenge and a princess in dire need of rescue. Tp \$36.00 429pp

GEORGE GREEN

 **HOUND**

The court of King Conor throngs with Heroes, but it is the boy Cuchullain, an outsider whose birth is shrouded in mystery, who will grow to be Ireland's greatest warrior. As he becomes a man, under the guidance of the long-suffering, somewhat curmudgeonly Leary, his friend, confidant, charioteer and narrator of this tale, Cuchullain's exploits become the stuff of legend. But it is when the armies of the vengeful Queen Maeve stand at the very gates of Emain Macha that Cuchullain - all too aware of his dark destiny - must face his greatest challenge... Tp \$32.95 411pp

PETER F HAMILTON

MISSPENT YOUTH

40 years into the future, following decades of research and trillions of Euros spent on genetics, Europe is finally in a position to rejuvenate a human being. As the first subject for treatment, is chosen Jeff Baker - the father of the datasphere (which replaced the internet) and philanthropist extraordinaire. After 18 months in a German medical facility, the 78-year-old patient returns home looking like a healthy 20-year-old. Pb \$18.95 439pp

PATRICK NIELSEN HAYDEN (ED)

NEW SKIES: AN ANTHOLOGY OF TODAY'S SCIENCE FICTION

Here are writers such as Philip K Dick, Orson Scott Card, Jane Yolen, Greg Bear, Kim Stanley Robinson, Steven Gould, Connie Willis, Spider Robinson and many more. Hb \$48.00 288pp

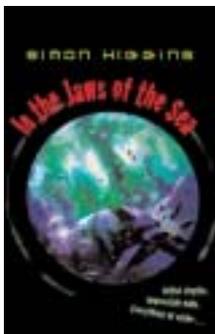
BRIAN HERBERT & KEVIN J ANDERSON THE MACHINE CRUSADE

Legends of Dune #2. Earth is a radioactive ruin. But the initial campaign of the Butlerian Jihad has given new hope to mankind. Serena Butler, whose murdered child has become a symbol for oppressed humanity, inspires a war against the thinking computers led by Xavier Harkonnen and Vorian Atreides. But four of the Titans still remain. Tp \$32.95 664pp

SIMON HIGGINS

IN THE JAWS OF THE SEA

Kira Beaumont #3. The year is 2013 and the planet's food chain is collapsing after decades of harsh exploitation of the seas. Only one man can save the dying ocean: Myles Rountree, but Myles sits trapped aboard a crippled submarine,



deep below the ocean, teetering on the edge of a hull-crushing abyss. His best hope of rescue lies with another marine outlaw, a woman called Kira, and her silent hunter-killer craft, *Thunderfish*. Kira and her craft are no strangers to daring rescues - but this time they need a miracle. Assuming they can get there in time. Pb \$16.95 227pp

ALICE HOFFMAN

THE PROBABLE FUTURE

As young Stella struggles to cope with her disturbing clairvoyance, her potential to ruin or redeem becomes unbearable when one of her premonitions puts her father in jail, wrongly accused of homicide. Yet this ordeal also leads Stella to the grandmother she was forbidden to meet and to a historic family home full of talismans from her ancestors. Hb \$59.95 322pp

NINA KIRIKI HOFFMAN

A STIR OF BONES

14-year-old Susan Backstrom seems to have a charmed life, but there are secrets inside her expensive house that she would never tell. One day, at the library, she overhears their housekeeper's son talking with some friends about sneaking into a nearby abandoned house - and soon she's part of the best secret of all. The house has a resident ghost and the house itself is a living, supernatural thing, able to serve as a magic conductor. With the help of five new friends, Susan has what she needs to transform her life... Hb \$38.00 211pp

ROBERT HOLDSTOCK

THE IRON GRAIL

The Merlin Codex #2. Merlin is returning to Alba, the future England, with his companions, the crew of the resurrected Argo. Caught up in events beyond their ken are the mythic champion Jason; Urtha and his vengeful children; the northern sorceress Niiv; and Kinos, Jason's son. And at the centre, moving along his never-ending path, is Merlin himself, an enchanter in the prime of his life, reckless, curious, powerful, yet a stranger to his own past - a past that is catching up with him. Pb \$18.95 418pp

EMMA HOLLY

CATCHING MIDNIGHT

In the Scottish wood, a clan of immortal shape-shifting wolves takes in an orphan girl, Gillian, as one of their own. But when she matures into a beautiful woman and falls for a mere mortal, her forest family and new lover are plunged into a fiery, passionate struggle to claim Gillian's heart, body and soul... Pb \$17.95 310pp

TOM HOLT

THE PORTABLE DOOR

Starting a new job is always stressful (particularly when you don't particularly want one), but when Paul Carpenter arrives at the office of J W Wells he has no idea what trouble lies in store. Because he is about to discover that the apparently respectable establishment now paying his salary is in fact a front for a deeply sinister organisation that has a mighty peculiar agenda. It seems that half the time his bosses are away with the fairies. But they're not, of course. They're away with the goblins. Hb \$45.00 404pp

RHYS HUGHES

NOWHERE NEAR MILKWOOD

Milkwood is not a nice place to be. With the passing of generations, it has curdled. Fortunately, all the action in this book occurs elsewhere. It mostly happens in a warped version of the music industry or in an impossible tavern or in a future where everything is illegal. It sometimes even happens outside the narrative. But never in Milkwood. Never. For it is not a nice place to be. Tp \$32.00 264pp

DEAN ING

THE RANSOM OF BLACK STEALTH ONE

Black Stealth One is an ultralight, ultrasleek plane that is not only invisible to radar, but can vanish without a trace through the use of computer-controlled technology. When a renegade engineer steals a plane and takes the niece of a CIA chief hostage, the intelligence community mobilises all its resources in a desperate race to keep the plane out of the hands of foreign agents. Pb \$19.95 485pp

IAN IRVINE

SCRUTATOR

Well of Echoes #3. The Node has failed, rendering humanity's battle clankers and the Aachim's constructs useless. The battle has been lost. Now hordes of alien lynrx are swarming out of the tar pits of Snizort, intending to fall upon the survivors and destroy them to the last man. Tiaan, crippled and unable to walk, is held prisoner by a vengeful Vithis, who is determined to extract her geomantic secrets from her at any cost. The fate of humanity is dependent on the survival of one wily old man, Scrutator Xervish Flydd. But Flydd is condemned to die a brutish death as a slave, hauling ironclad clankers out of the battlefield mire until his heart bursts under the strain. Tp \$29.95 690pp



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Scrutator
by Ian Irvine
See back page for details**

BRIAN JACQUES

LOAMHEDGE

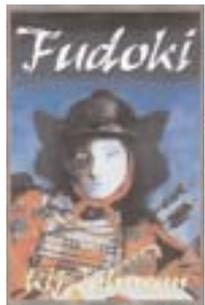
Redwall #16. The name Loamhedge is still spoken of at Redwall Abbey. Most of Loamhedge was destroyed long ago but still its mysteries lay hidden. What secrets of ancient wisdom were buried there? Some answers can only be found at Loamhedge... Tp \$19.95 424pp

**WIN A COPY...
Loamhedge
by Brian Jacques
See back page for details**

KIJ JOHNSON

FUDOKI

Kagaya-hime is a sometime woman warrior, occasional philosopher and reluctant confidante to noblemen and may be the figment of the imagination of an aging empress, who is embarking on the last journey of her life,



setting aside the trappings of court life and reminiscing as she follows the paths that are leading her to the nunnery and death. Hb \$62.00 316pp

GREG KEYES

 **THE BRIAR KING**

The Kingdoms of Thorn and Bone #1. In the wilds of the forest, while investigating the slaughter of an innocent family, king's holer Aspar White weaves his way through a maze of ancient willows - and comes face-to-face with a monstrous beast found only in folk tales and nightmares. Meanwhile, travelling the same road, a scholarly young priest begins an education in the nature of evil, found festering just beneath the surface of the seemingly peaceful land. The royal family itself comes under siege, facing betrayal that only sorcery could accomplish. These destinies and more will be linked when malevolent forces walk the land. The Briar King, harbinger of death, has awakened from his slumber. Tp \$30.00 552pp

GARRY KILWORTH

 **MALLMOC'S CASTLE**

The Knights of Liofwende #2. Jack's fought with giants, escaped the clutches of an evil warlock and rescued a damsel in distress, but he's still no closer to finding his way back home. Instead, Jack's caught up in Spiggot's crazy quest to defeat the dreaded Thrum, underworld faeriefolk who are destroying Liofwende's magical forests. If the quest is successful, the King of Northumberland just might help Jack return to the 21st century. But if they fail, Spiggot and Jack will be at the mercy of the evil wizard Mallmoc - and that's a fate far, far worse than being stranded in a faerie realm forever. Pb \$16.95 325pp

ROSEMARY KIRSTEIN

 **THE LOST STEERSMAN**

Rowan #3. How do you find a person you have never seen, or have never heard described? And what if the consequences of not finding him are too terrible to imagine? The steerswoman Rowan has learned that Slado, a mysterious wizard, has secretly been working spells of incredible power. Both the Inner Lands and the Outskirts are now threatened by his magic and before the destruction becomes too great to reverse, Rowan must find Slado so that he can be stopped. But how does one stop the most powerful man in the world? Tp \$36.00 419pp

ELIZABETH KNOX

 **THE VINTNER'S LUCK**

One summer night in 1808, Sobran Jodeau sets out to drown his love sorrows in his family's vineyard. Drunk, he stumbles on an angel. Once he gets over his shock, Sobran decides that Xas, the male angel, is his guardian sent to counsel him on everything from marriage to wine production. Sobran and Xas agree to meet on this night every year of Sobran's life, and eventually man and angel fall in passionate love, complicating both their lives. Pb \$22.95 241pp Pb \$22.95 241pp

LYNN KURLAND

  **GARDEN IN THE RAIN**

This is the story of Patrick MacLeod - the first MacLeod to discover the secret of time travel through the Scottish forest next to the family keep... Pb \$19.95 420pp

ELLEN KUSHNER & DELIA SHERMAN

 **THE FALL OF THE KINGS**

Swordspoint #2. Generations ago the last king fell, taking with him the final truths about a race of wizards who ruled at his side. But the blood of the kings runs deep in the land and its people, waiting for the coming together of two unusual men, Theron Champion, a young nobleman of royal lineage, is heir to an ancient house and a modern scandal. Tormented by his twin duties to his family and his own bright spirit, he seeks solace in the University. There he meets Basil St Cloud, a brilliant and charismatic teacher ruled by a passion for knowledge - and a passion for the ancient kings. Pb \$17.95 505pp

MERCEDES LACKEY

 **EXILE'S HONOR**

A Valdemar novel. When Alberich took a stand for what he believed in and defected, he was chosen by one of the magical Companion horses... to serve the queen of Valdemar. Pb \$17.95 431pp

CHRIS LAWSON

 **WRITTEN IN BLOOD** 

A collection of dark, twisting tales that explore the dance between human ideas and the cutting edge of science and technology. Winner of the *Aurealis* and *Ditmar* awards. Pilgrims who write their religion literally into their blood... The secret story of a young girl after her mother suicides... A scientist with Parkinson's disease discovers that some cures are worse than the disease... Also included are a number of the author's essays. Pb \$18.95 153pp

TANITH LEE

 **THE CLAUDI COLLECTION**

Omnibus edition. Contains **Wolf Tower**, **Wolf Star** and **Wolf Queen**. Hb \$45.00 216pp

JONATHAN LETHEM

 **FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE**

Dylan Ebdus and Mingus Rude are friends and neighbours, but because Dylan is white and Mingus is black, their friendship is not simple. This is the story of their Brooklyn neighbourhood, which is almost exclusively black despite the first whispers of something that will become known as "gentrification." This is the story of 1970s America, a time when the most simple human decisions are laden with potential political, social and racial disaster. This is the story of what would happen if two teenaged boys obsessed with comic book heroes actually had superpowers: They would screw up their lives. Hb \$62.00 511pp

KARIN LOWACHEE

 **BURNDIVE**

The son of an infamous starship captain, the grandson of a diplomat admiral, and his home station's "Hot #1 Bachelor," Ryan Azarcon lives in a fishbowl. After witnessing a horrific terrorist bombing of his grandfather's embassy, Ryan's grief-stricken face is plastered all over the net. Now, a year later, he is still plagued by nightmares of bloody destruction that make him desperate to escape his family, the relentless media, and his memories. When his father takes controversial action in the long, depleting interstellar conflict, Ryan is targeted by assassins. Forced to confront the violence, he begins to question everything he thought he knew about the war and his father. He will realise that the enemy is not who he thinks and uncover a secret that may destroy any hope of peace. Pb \$17.95 417pp

ANNE McCAFFREY

  **ON DRAGONWINGS:**

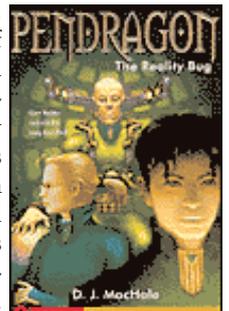
A Pern universe omnibus containing **Dragonsdawn**, **Dragonseye** and **Moreta**. The spectacular planet Pern seems a paradise to its new colonists - until unimaginable terror turns it into hell. Suddenly deadly spores are falling like silver threads from the sky, destroying everyone and everything they touch. The only thing that can stop the Thread is the fire from Pern's flying dragons. Now, the colonists must join forces with the dragons to burn the Thread before the parasite devours any and all organic life - and turns lush Pern into a barren wasteland. Tp \$43.00 889pp

D J MACHALE

 **THE REALITY BUG**

Pendragon #4.

The territory of Veelox has achieved perfect harmony. 15-year-old Bobby Pendragon arrives on this territory in pursuit of the evil Saint Dane, but all is peaceful on Veelox - because it's deserted.



The inhabitants have discovered a way to enter their own personal dream worlds, where they can be whoever they want, wherever they want. Their bodies lie in stasis while their minds escape to this dream realm. Fresh from his battle with Saint Dane in 1937 Earth, Bobby is confident that they can defeat whatever Saint Dane has planned for this world. But once Bobby enters the virtual world, will he be able to resist the lure of the ultimate in escapism? Pb \$15.95 375pp



ROBIN MCKINLEY

 **SUNSHINE**

They took her clothes and sneakers. They dressed her in a long red gown. And they shackled her to the wall of an abandoned mansion - within easy reach of a figure stirring in the moonlight. She knows that it is a vampire. She knows that she's to be his dinner, and that when he is finished with her, she will be dead. Yet, when light breaks, she finds that he has not attempted to harm her. And now it is he who needs her to help him survive the day... Hb \$55.00 389pp

CLIFF McNISH

 **THE WIZARD'S PROMISE**

Doomspell #3. The magic of all children has been released. Throughout the skies of Earth they swoop, crossing continents, changing shape, diving to the ocean depths and playing the deadly new spell-games. Rachel bides her time, watching the skies for what she knows will happen - the invasion of the Witches. But when it comes, it is not in the way anyone expects, and there is also a new enemy - the huge, terrifying Gridda-breed. To confront them will require all of Rachel and her brother Eric's skill and courage, as they embark on a journey that takes them to Ool, home of the Witches. Pb \$14.95 250pp

L E MODESITT, JNR

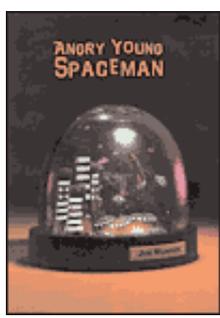
 **DARKNESSES**

Corean Chronicles #2. Alucius has grown from a Talented child on a lonely Nightsheep ranch in the Iron Valleys to a proficient soldier who used his wits and his Talent to become the first to escape military enslavement in the neighbouring country of Madrien. Now captain of the 21st Company, the youngest officer of his rank in the Militia, he must face new challenges, both military and magical. Hb \$65.00 492pp

JIM MUNROE

 **ANGRY YOUNG SPACEMAN**

Sam Breen is pretty much standard issue for a recent college graduate. He's got a bad attitude, a massive student loan and his eye on a snappy jetpack. So he does what any graduate of the class



of 2959 would do: He signs up to teach English as a foreign language. He ends up on the underwater planet of Octavia, populated by eight-armed beings that have a voracious appetite for English... and a few other things, as Sam discovers. But at the spaceport, someone steals his Speak-O-Matic translator, he gets into a barfight, and things go downhill - or underwater - from there. Tp \$34.00 243pp

ANDRE NORTON

 **ELVENBORN**

Halfblood #3. When his cousin, Aelmarkin, tries to prove that Kyratian is unfit to run his estate, the plan backfires, and Kyratian, finds himself with more power than he ever wanted. His father's legacy also leads Kyratian to learn ancient military skills long since lost to elvenkind through the carelessness of the elvenlords. Soon Kyratian finds himself appointed the new commander of the army. And as war rages between some sons and fathers, Kyratian searches desperately for his own lost father, hoping to uncover not only the mystery of his disappearance, but also the secret behind the origin of elvenkind. Pb \$19.95 471pp

  **THE GATES TO WITCH WORLD**

Witch World. This is the first of two omnibuses, and contains the first three novels of the Witch World series, **Witch World**, **Web of the Witch World** and **Year of the Unicorn**. Simon Tregarth, a man from our own world, escapes his doom through the gates to the Witch World. There he aids the witch Jaelithe's escape from the hounds of Alizon, only to find himself embroiled in a deeper war against an even deadlier foe: the Kolder. Tp \$43.00 461pp

GENE O'NEILL

 **BURDEN OF INDIGO**

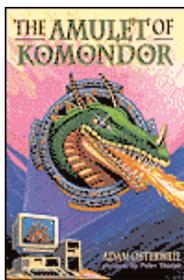
After an economic/ecologic collapse, the Shields along the coast of Cal Wild cast out their criminals and malcontents to wander the dangerous wastelands. The pariahs are permanently dyed, colour-coded - reds branding the violent criminals, greens - the thieves, blues - the sex criminals, etc. The book focuses on the outward/inward journey of an indigo man who believes his colour is beginning to finally fade, 30 years after his Judgment of Colour. Pb \$25.95 181pp

ADAM OSTERWEIL

(ILLUS PETER THORPE)

 **THE AMULET OF KOMONDOR**

Like most kids, Joe and Katie are obsessed with their favourite fantasy card game, *DragonSteel: The Amulet of Komondor*. When they find a computer game version of *DragonSteel* at a shop in the local mall, they jump at the chance to play it. But it turns out to be more than your average video game. Joe and Katie become the actual characters of the game, journeying through the world of Komondor on a quest to find the five pieces of the DragonSteel amulet, which they need to save Komondor and Earth from three evil emperors. Hb \$38.00 181pp



CHRISTOPHER PAOLINI

 **ERAGON**

Inheritance #1. When Eragon finds a polished blue stone in the forest, he hopes it will buy his family meat for the winter. But when the stone brings a dragon hatchling, Eragon realizes he has stumbled upon a legacy nearly as old as the Empire itself. Overnight his simple life is shattered, and he is thrust into a perilous new world of destiny, magic and power. With only an ancient sword and the advice of an old storyteller for guidance, Eragon and the fledgling dragon must navigate the dangerous terrain and dark enemies of an Empire ruled by a king whose evil knows no bounds. Hb \$45.00 505pp

RICHARD PARKES

THE OGRE'S WIFE: FAIRYTALES

 **FOR GROWN UPS**

The introduction to this collection was written by Parke Godwin, who has followed the author's career from first bloom in 1978. Tp \$68.00 270pp

SARA PENNYPACKER & MARTIN

MATJE

 **STUART'S CAPE**

Stuart's got problems. It's raining. He's bored. Worst of all, he's new in town, so he's got a lot to worry about. But what does a kid like Stuart need to have an adventure? A cape, of course! After all, don't all those superheroes have capes? Each day the cape brings a different and unexpected adventure. He entertains a gorilla, a horse and a dinosaur in his bedroom. Pb \$12.95 58pp

TAMORA PIERCE

 **SHATTERGLASS**

The Circle Opens #4. Tris finds Tharios oppressive and disturbing. When a series of brutal murders disturb the fragile peace of the city, she is shocked by the city-fathers' attitude - surely they need to do more than tidy these crimes away? Her only help is Keth, a reluctant mage-student who shares her lightning-magic after being near-paralysed by a lightning strike. His skill at glassblowing has been all but destroyed and he bitterly resents this magic he cannot understand or control. Pb \$14.95 358pp

FREDERIK POHL & C M KORNBLUTH

  **THE SPACE MERCHANTS**

SF Masterworks #54. An overcrowded world is dominated by a few unscrupulous advertising agencies, who have reduced the population to drug - and ad-conditioned consumers. Fowler Schocken Associates have a new mission - the development and exploitation of Venus. Mitchell Courtenay, star-class copysmith, is chosen to sell it to potential colonists. But the Consies, a subversive conservation group, and a rival ad agency also want Venus, and Courtenay finds himself in the midst of a deadly struggle. Pb \$19.95 186pp

GILLIAN POLACK

 ILLUMINATIONS

Rose is an Australian medievalist on sabbatical in modern France. Most of her attention is focused on her research, on buying books, and on the odd behaviour of her boyfriend. She finds an inexplicable manuscript that tells the story of Ailinn and Guenloie, two women who lived in Arthurian Britain. Ailinn is determined to solve the world's problems and Guenloie searches for success, romance and her father. Rose's world parallels theirs. And theirs is about to come to an agonising close. Tp \$34.95 289pp

TERRY PRATCHETT

 NIGHT WATCH

Discworld #27. Commander Sam Vimes of the Ankh-Morpork City Watch had it all. But now he's back in his own rough, tough past without even the clothes he was standing up in when the lightning struck. Living in the past is hard. But he must survive, because he has a job to do. He must track down a murderer, teach his younger self how to be a good copper and change the outcome of a bloody rebellion. There's a problem: if he wins, he's got no wife, no child and no future. Pb \$19.95 474pp

 MONSTROUS REGIMENT

Discworld #28. It began as a sudden strange fancy... Polly Perks had to become a boy in a hurry. Cutting off her hair and wearing trousers was easy. Learning to fart and belch in public and walk like an ape took more time... And now she's enlisted in the army, searching for her lost brother. But there's a war on. And Polly and her fellow recruits are suddenly in the thick of it, without any training, and the enemy is hunting them. All they have on their side is the most artful sergeant in the army and a vampire with a lust for coffee. Well... they have the Secret. And as they take the war to the heart of the enemy, they have to use all the resources of... the Monstrous Regiment. Hb \$49.95 352pp

ROBERT RANKIN

 THE WITCHES OF CHISWICK

Have you ever wondered how Victorians like Jules Verne and H G Wells dreamed up all that fantastic futuristic fiction? Did it ever occur to you that it might just have been based on fact? That **The War of the Worlds** was a true account of real events? That Captain Nemo's Nautilus even now lies rusting at the bottom of the North Sea? Or that Jack the Ripper was a terminator robot sent from the future? A cabal of Victorian Witches from the Chiswick Townswomen's Guild, working with advanced Babbage super computers, rewrote 19th century history, and how a 21st century boy called Billy Starling uncovered the truth about everything. Tp \$29.95 357pp



DIANE REDMOND

 JOSHUA CROSS

It is only when a monstrous centaur appears from nowhere to chase him along the Thames Embankment that Joshua Cross becomes aware of his destiny. Swept back in time to Ancient Greece, Josh begins an epic journey that will lead him to the very depths of the Underworld. But before he can return home, Josh must face the man who destroyed his father and who wants to kill him. Pb \$14.95 200pp

JAY RUSSELL

 BROWN HARVEST

What happens when the Boy Detective grows up, moves away, and comes home for a visit? His hometown has turned from American-as-apple-pie to darkest noir, his once-innocent girlfriend has transformed into something both more and less than she was, and his father has become a bum. Pb \$36.00 340pp

RICHARD RUSSO

 CARLUCCI

This omnibus edition contains **Destroying Angel**, **Carlucci's Edge** and **Carlucci's Heart**, the author's critically-acclaimed SF trilogy featuring police Lt Frank Carlucci investigating high-tech crime and corruption in a near-future San Francisco. Tp \$38.00 611pp

FRED SABERHAGEN

 GODS OF FIRE AND THUNDER

The Norse Gods #1. Haraldur the Northman once joined Jason on his fabled quest for the Golden Fleece, but now he wants nothing more to do with gods and adventure. Returning to his homeland for the first time in many years, he comes across an impenetrable wall of eldritch fire and a lovesick youth determined to breach the wall at any cost. Behind the towering flames, lies a beautiful Valkyrie trapped in an enchanted sleep, as well as, perhaps, a golden treasure beyond mortal reckoning. It is the gold that tempts Hal to agree, against his better judgment, to assist the youth in his quest. Pb \$17.95 319pp

NICK SAGAN

 IDLEWILD

In the late 21st century, teams of scientists, geneticists and programmers race to find a cure for a deadly virus, but our only hope lies in one last, desperate gamble. 18 years later, 10 children are about to come of age. One of them, a young man, is suddenly startled awake. He has no memory. His surroundings mean nothing to him. All he knows for absolute certain is that someone is trying to kill him. As he tries to uncover the identity of his would-be killer, it becomes clear that the ramifications of his investigation are far greater than he could ever have imagined - that it's more, much more, than just his life that is at stake... Tp \$29.95 278pp

ELIZABETH SCARBOROUGH

 SCARBOROUGH FAIR AND

OTHER STORIES

This *Nebula Award*-winning author brings together nine of her best short stories. Hb \$76.00 276pp

MARTIN SCOTT

 THRAXAS AT WAR

Thraxas #7. Winter is coming to Turai and Thraxas is in a bad mood. But it's going to get a whole heap worse because the orcs are coming too. Thraxas was a hero of the last Orc War (according to Thraxas). That was some years ago, however, and this time he would much prefer to keep his head down - preferably buried in a big steak pie. Unfortunately, when a senior member of the War Council is murdered by a cake, there's only one private investigator in line for the job. For some reason, it is a very short line. Pb \$19.95 268pp

MARCUS SEDGWICK

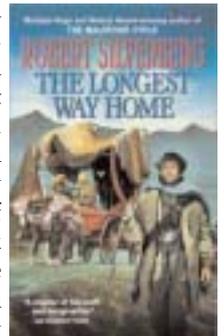
 BOOK OF DEAD DAYS

The five days between 27 December and New Year's Eve are dead days - days when spirits roam and magic shifts restlessly just beneath the surface of our everyday lives. There is a man, Valerian, whose time is running out, who must pay the price for the pact he made with evil so many years ago. His servant is Boy, a child with no name and no past; a child he treats with contempt, but who serves his master well and finds solace in the company of his only friend, Willow Smallbone. Unknown to any of them it is Boy who holds the key to their destiny. Hb \$24.95 264pp

ROBERT SILVERBERG

 THE LONGEST WAY HOME

For more than 1,000 years, Homeworld has been unchanged: the Great Houses rule and peace between them is enforced by unbreakable webs of kinship. The Folk accept what the system offers them stability, prosperity and peace and the Indigenes are placid. Then, on one night of rebellion everything changes, as the Folk overthrow the Great Houses. Joseph, the young son of one Great House is visiting another and survives the violence, but his home is 10,000 miles away and communications and transport have been destroyed. For all he knows his family may have been wiped out but his only hope lies in making that 10,000 mile trek across a world turned strange and hostile. Pb \$17.95 262pp



LEMONY SNICKET

 **THE BAD BEGINNING**

A Series of Unfortunate Events #1. Rare, slip-cased edition. After the sudden death of their parents, the three Baudelaire children must depend on each other and their wits when it turns out that the distant relative who is appointed their guardian is determined to use any means necessary to get their fortune. As well as the first novel of the series, this edition comes with a chapter of previously unpublished author's notes and a portrait of the characters, ready to display in a souvenir frame. Hb \$29.95

CHRISTOPHER STASHEFF

 **MIND OUT OF TIME**

Here is the best of the author's short fiction, including a brand new novella featuring Angus McArar. Stories include *The Warlock's Grandfather*, *Coronach of the Bell*, *Pride and Puppetry* and many more. Hb \$76.00 336pp

JONATHAN STROUD

 **THE AMULET OF SAMARKAND**

The Bartimaeus Trilogy #1. When the 5000-year-old djinni, Bartimaeus is summoned by Nathaniel, a young magician's apprentice, he expects to have nothing more taxing to do than a little levitation or a few simple illusions. But Nathaniel is a precocious talent and has something rather more dangerous in mind - revenge. Before long, both djinni and apprentice are caught up in a terrifying flood of magical intrigue, murder and rebellion. Tp \$27.95 480pp

G P TAYLOR

 **SHADOWMANCER**

Obadiah Demurral is a sorcerer who is seeking to control the highest power in the universe. He will stop at nothing. The only people in his way are Raphael, Kate, Thomas - and the mysterious Jacob Crane. Their tortured struggles lead them to a dramatic climax in the gothic church of St Mary's. Pb \$16.95 300pp

CHRIS TEBBETTS

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Matt Stone doesn't believe in ghosts. But there are those who are convinced his home, a historic Virginia estate that dates back to the Revolutionary War, is haunted. Pressured to get at the truth about some strange happenings at Melody House, he agrees to let Harrison Investigations explore the house. But he isn't ready for beautiful, intriguing Darcy Tremayne, who is about to discover that Melody House holds much more than a simple mystery from the distant past. Pb \$17.95 379pp

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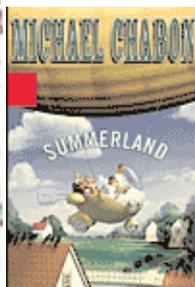
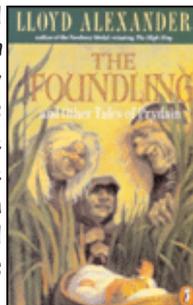
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WHAT WE'VE BEEN READING...

I read **Grass for his Pillow** (Hb \$29.95), the second in the *Tales of the Otori* series by Lian Hearn, this month. Set in an alternate Japan, this book continues the story of Takeo and Kaede. Hearn manages to sweep you along in this beautifully written story. Full of great characters and action, I absolutely loved this book and couldn't put it down. If you liked *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*, this is just the series for you. - Sian

The Foundling and Other Tales of Prydain by Lloyd Alexander (Pb \$12.95). I loved reading the *Prydain* series when I was at school. These dark, gritty stories are a world away from the tidy *Narnia* books and the short stories collected here expand on the authors own created Celtic myths. Set before the time of Taran, some of these stories concern characters from the original books. Dallben, Coll and Doli have their own histories, and one of the best has the bard Fflewddur Fflam gain his harp.



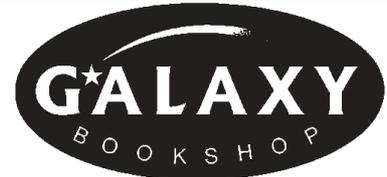
I also read **Summerland** by Michael Chabon (Pb \$21.95). This very American story revolves around Ethan Field, who must save the world from the evil Coyote by playing a lot of baseball, defeating giants and flying goblins, and discovering the magic within himself. A charming book with a lot of baseball in it. -David

COMPETITION

To win a copy of **Loamhedge** by Brian Jacques, **The Winter Door** (*Gateway* #2) by Isobelle Carmody, or **Scrutator** (*Well of Echoes* #03) by Ian Irvine, send in your name and address, specifying which book you would like to win. Competition closes 23 November 2003. Entry open to Galaxy Cardholders only.

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