

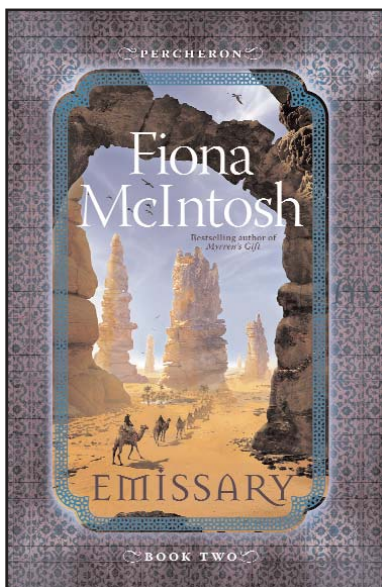


ISSUE #222

NOV 2006

# NEXUS

SCIENCE FICTION ● FANTASY ● HORROR



## FIONA McINTOSH

will be in-store

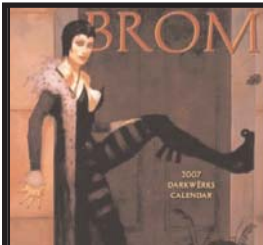
**Thurs 30 Nov @ 5pm**

to celebrate the release of

### Emissary

**the second novel in her bestselling *Percheron* series**

Odalisque Ana is resigned to life in Percheron's famed harem and has little more than a blood-soaked veil to remind her that Spur Lazar, the man she loved, is dead. She is closely watched by the scheming Grand Master Eunuch, Salmeo, and the cunning and cruel Valide Herezah. The Valide, unhappy at Ana's influence over the young Zar, contrives a shrewd plan to bring about the beautiful young woman's demise. But greater forces are at work. The demon Maliz has taken the guise of Percheron's Grand Vizier in order to stalk Iridor, the traditional accomplice of the Goddess. And a war is brewing. A long-time enemy, Galinsea, intends to exact a vicious blood price for the death of its crown prince, Lucien, at the hands of the Percherese. However, the only person in the Stone Palace who can undertake the dangerous journey to Galinsea and negotiate for peace is about to die... Tp \$33.00

**Win a proof copy of Emissary, courtesy of Harper Collins! See back page for details...**

### 2007 WALL CALENDARS

BROM

\$29.95

BUFFY, THE VAMPIRE SLAYER

\$22.95

CULT ATTACK

\$20.95

DC COMICS: COVER GIRLS

\$19.95

DRAGONOLOGY WALL CALENDAR

\$25.95

STAR TREK WALL CALENDAR

\$19.95

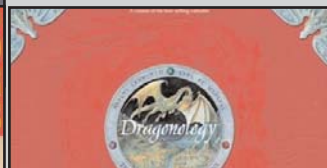
STAR TREK: SHIPS OF THE LINE

\$19.95

STAR TREK: STARDATE

DESK CALENDAR

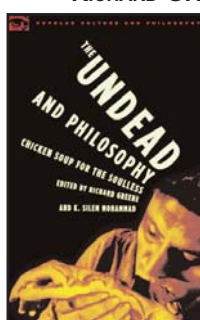
\$21.95



### IS IT COOL TO BE UNDEAD OR DOES IT TOTALLY SUCK?

THE UNDEAD AND PHILOSOPHY:  
CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE SOULLESS

RICHARD GREENE &amp; K SILEM MOHAMMAD (Eds)



Though Bram Stoker coined the term, the 'undead' have stalked the human imagination for eons, appearing in the myths and legends of nearly all cultures. The concept of people, or unpeople, interacting with others while devoid of humanity provides a wealth of material for philosophical speculation. Encompassing George Romero's radiation-spawned *Living Dead*, the "infected" of *28 Days Later*, as well as more traditional zombies and vampires, the essays in this title

ponder questions such as: Is it cool to be undead, or does it totally suck? Is a zombie simply someone with a brain, but without a mind? Are some of the people around us undead, and how could you tell? Can the undead be held responsible for what they do? Is it always morally OK to kill the undead? Served up in a witty, entertaining style, these and other provocative questions present complex philosophical arguments in a way that is accessible to all readers. Tp \$39.95 261pp

### JOHN M FORD

Prolific SF writer/poet and RPG author, John M Ford has died aged 49. He won the *World Fantasy Award* (twice), the *Rhysling Award*, the *Philip K Dick Award* and many others.

### WILSON TUCKER

Wilson Tucker, the award-winning author of over 20 detective and SF novels, including *Campbell Award*-winner *The Year of the Long Sun*, has died aged 91. Tucker is also credited with coining the phrase, 'space opera'.

# SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY

SHANA ABE

## THE SMOKE THIEF

For centuries they've lived in secret among England's green and misted hills. Creatures of extraordinary beauty, power and sensuality, they possess the ability to shape-shift from human to dragon. Now their secret and their survival is threatened. Dubbed the Smoke Thief, a daring jewel thief is confounding the London police. His wealthy victims claim the master burglar can walk through walls and vanish into thin air. But Christoff, the charismatic Marquis of Langford, knows the truth. The thief is no ordinary human, but a 'runner' who's fled Darkfrith without permission. As Alpha leader of the dra'kon, it's Kit's duty to capture the fugitive before the secrets of the tribe are revealed to mortals. But not even Kit suspects that the Smoke Thief could be a woman. Pb \$16.95 324pp

HERESA ALAN, HOLLY CHAMBERLIN & CARLY ALEXANDER

## SEX AND THE SINGLE WITCH

Sure, you can turn Mr Oh-So-Wrong into a toad, but finding Mr Right isn't any easier for a witch. And choosing between conjuring up a new pair of Manolos and working on a love spell can be tough. After all, fabulous heels don't forget to call you back. Make a date with these tales of big-city romance with a twist of magic. Pb \$16.95 352pp

KEVIN J ANDERSON

## OF FIRE AND NIGHT

*Saga of Seven Suns #5.* After many years of hardship and bravery, the human race faces its greatest challenge. The sweeping war between titanic races, a conflict that has obliterated planets, extinguished entire stars, exterminated whole races, is reaching its end game. Allies become betrayers, strangers become fast friends and enemies clash in a struggle that will rock the galaxy. Tp \$32.95 708pp

ALEX ARCHER

## SOLOMONS JAR

*Rogue Angel #2.* Rumours of the discovery of Solomon's Jar, in which the biblical King Solomon bound the world's demons after using them to build his temple in Jerusalem, are followed with interest by Annja Creed. An archaeologist intrigued by the arcane, Annja pursues the truth about the vessel and its ancient origins. Her search leads her to a confrontation with a London cult driven by visions of a new world order and a religious zealot fuelled by the insatiable desire for glory. Pb \$16.95 346pp

CATHERINE ASARO

## THE DAWN STAR

High in the Misted Cliffs lives a mage unlike any other. With no teacher to guide her, Mel Dawnfield pushed her magic to its limits and surpassed them, only to find that her powers aren't enough to halt burgeoning rebellion within her husband's fledgling realm, or a plot devised to strike at the very heart of Mel's family. Mel's mage strength has become greater than any power ever known, but dare she forge her spells into weapons to protect her people and her husband? Pb \$19.95 440pp



 ALPHA

*Sunrise Alley #2.* Charon was the most ruthless and brilliant criminal of the 21st century, a practitioner of illegal robotics and android research. Now, he is dead and General Thomas Wharington believes they've deleted all the electronic copies Charon created of himself. However, one major problem remains - Alpha, the only android survivor of Charon's cybernetic empire. Outwardly indistinguishable from a human woman, Alpha has superhuman strength and speed and perhaps more... Thomas's superiors want her dismantled and studied, but to Thomas it feels like murder. He stalls for time and then Alpha escapes from an escape-proof compound, kidnaps Thomas and takes him to one of Charon's hidden installations, where she continues to carry out her late master's orders. Hb \$54.00 270pp

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. Hb \$59.95 487pp

STEVE AUGARDE

## CELANDINE

*The Various #2.* Having run away from her detested boarding school, Celandine is too afraid to go home in case she is sent back. As she seeks shelter in the Wild Wood near her home, little does she think she will encounter in a world where loyalty and independence is fiercely guarded and where danger lurks in the most unlikely places. Celandine finds both refuge and purpose among the secret tribes of little people that she alone believes in. Pb \$17.95 486pp

KAGE BAKER

## THE MACHINE'S CHILD

*Company #6.* Mendoza was banished long ago, to a prison lost in time where rebellious immortals are 'dealt with'. Now her past lovers, Alec, Nicholas and Bell-Fairfax, are determined to rescue her, but first they must learn how to live together, because all three happen to be sharing Alec's body. What they find when they discover Mendoza is even worse than what they could imagined and enough for them to decide to finally fight back against the Company. Hb \$54.00 351pp

MARGARET BALL

## DISAPPEARING ACT

Maris's boss and gang leader grabs a visitor to the station who is asking too many questions, only to find out that she's a very important diplomat. Then she appears to commit suicide by jumping through an airlock into hard vacuum. Since Maris and the missing diplomat had a strong facial resemblance, he decides to let Maris's corpse be found with the diplomat's IDs to avoid a search in his territory. Instead, Maris uses the IDs to escape to the planet the diplomat was about to investigate and finds herself in a hornet's nest of corrupt officials, surrounded by people who want her eliminated. The only person she can trust is Gabrel, a young officer who set off on a cross-planet trek with her to get evidence that would expose the web of corruption. Of course, he thinks she's a high-ranking government agent. Pb \$18.95 442pp



SCIENCE FICTION



FANTASY



ROMANCE



AWARD WINNER



AUSTRALIAN



ACTION



REPRINT

AC AUDIO CASSETTE

CD COMPACT DISC

PB PAPERBACK

HB HARDBACK

TP TRADE PAPERBACK



# ★ FAVE RAVES

our favourites – new and classic

NEW TITLE

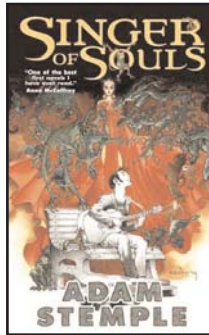
**SINGER OF SOULS**

SINGER #1

**Adam Stemple**

**Pb \$16.95 237pp**

Musician Douglas (“Doc”, as in Seuss to his friends) is a (very recently) recovering heroin addict. He makes a pivotal decision to leave Minneapolis and head for Edinburgh, Scotland where his grandmother, whom he always felt a close affinity with, lives. His grandmother isn’t stupid and can see that Douglas has problems and lays down some rules, one of which is that he must support himself. His arrival has coincided with the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, so he takes his beloved guitar to the markets to busk. Douglas has a talent for rhyme and the ability to think quickly and he soon starts making good money from people paying to have him make up a song about them with just a few facts. One afternoon he is approached for a private session by a woman whom Douglas can only describe as regal, who won’t tell him her name, but insists he guesses. Douglas gets lost in his music and somehow manages to do just that (it’s Aine). When it comes time for payment, he offends her by refusing to take the money, so she gives him a vial of white liquid instead. Sadly, it takes the addict in Douglas a few days to win in the end. Douglas doesn’t get the rush he expected, but instead, when he heads back to the market, he suddenly starts seeing fairies and other weird creatures. He soon realises that the drug allows him to see the Fey. Unluckily, the Fey realise that he can see them and he gets caught up between the age-old battle of the Seelie and Unseelie Courts.



Things get MUCH worse when the local priest Father Crosser realises that Douglas has this ability, which he too possesses, but only in one eye. Douglas soon learns that Father Crosser has, over the years, been capturing the Fey and torturing them (and even doing a bit of home preserving). When the priest realises that Douglas won’t help him, he tries to mete out his justice on him. Douglas escapes, but his path crosses that of the priest again when he has to rescue Aine from him. Here Douglas’s music quite literally becomes his magic. After saving her, Douglas, the priest and the Fey are involved in a final showdown.

It’s hard to convey the things that I loved about this book – and too easy to get stuck in details. Having re-read this, I’d forgotten how grim and bloody some of this book was. The Fey were pragmatically bloody, which wasn’t anything new, but the character of Father Crosser is a sadistic b\*\*\*\*rd. Those around Douglas get caught in the crossfire and even Douglas himself is radically changed at the end. The sympathetic addict is replaced with someone about whom I kept thinking “absolute power corrupts absolutely”. I’d forgotten just how different he was. If you want a happy-ever-after ending, this may not be the book for you. For his first solo effort, Stemple has done a great job. I loved the characters, the locations and the increasing grittiness, and I can’t wait for the sequel. - *Steph*

CLASSIC TITLE

**SHADOW FALL**

GODSLAYER #1

**James Clemens**

**Pb \$21.95 672pp**

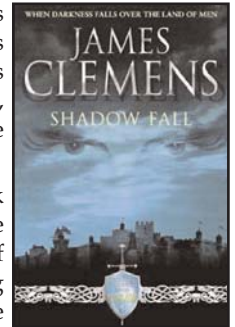
In a genre fit to bursting with divine wars and magic Knights, Clemens walks familiar territory with the first book in his new series *Godslayer*. But, with a deft hand, he weaves a tale that has far more originality than is at first apparent.

In the world of Myrillia, the gods walk amongst men. 4,000 years ago, the Heavens were Sundered during the War of the Gods and they fell to the earth. Binding themselves to the land to offset the madness that was falling upon them, the Gods are confined to the kingdoms they have chosen, or which have sprung up around them and have brought peace and prosperity to mankind. They have taught their Hands - men and women specially trained to serve them - how to harvest the humours of their bodies (Blood, Masculine Seed/Female Menses, Sweat, Tears, Saliva, Phlegm, Yellow Bile and Black Bile) and trained Alchemists make of these humours Blessings that, when applied to either a mortal or inanimate object, instil that human, or object with ‘Grace’.

Among the Graced are the Shadowknights of Tashijan, a military order whose knights are the most sought-after guards, bodyguards and couriers in the world. Tylar de Noche is a disgraced Shadowknight. Betrayed by those he held dearest, he has been stripped of his Grace and had his body broken by a sentence of five years amongst the slave pits and gladiatorial circuses. Trying to hide away and forget his past life in the small realm of the Summering Isles, he is caught up in intrigue and darkness when he comes to the aid of a woman being pursued through the city’s dark alleys. Arriving too late to offer her help, he comforts her in her final moments, only to discover that the woman is Meeryn, the Goddess of the Isles. With her dying breath, Meeryn gifts, or curses, Tylar with untold Grace and charges him to find Rivenscryr.


Apprehended by her late-arriving guards, Tylar is charged with slaying a god. Discovering the terrible Grace that Meeryn has bestowed upon him, Tylar manages to escape a fate worse than the torture of the slaves pits and sets out on a desperate quest to find out who had the power to kill a Goddess and to uncover the mystery of Rivenscryr; a journey that will lead him back to the Citadel of Tashijan and the women whose testimony had him cast out of the Order five years before, the woman he loved, and into corruption hiding in the heart of the First Land itself.

Clemens skilfully weaves various characters and storylines together creating a fast-paced page-turner. Unafraid to explore the darker aspects of human nature some scenes will make you squirm, yet they hold that inexplicable attraction similar to being unable to turn away from viewing an accident scene. **Shadow Fall** is fantastic and I can’t wait for the next in the series, **Hinterland**, due in November. I highly recommend it! - *Mark*




**T A BARRON**

**SHADOWS ON THE STARS**

 *The Great Tree of Avalon* #2. Three companions embark on separate, far-reaching quests to solve the mystery of the vanishing stars - confronting the very powers of darkness along the way. Pb \$18.95 364pp

**STEPHEN BAXTER**

**EMPEROR**

 *Times Tapestry* #1. A woman gives birth to her child in a village in Northern England, the cold northern edge of the Roman Empire. As she struggles through a painful labour she begins to scream out a series of words in Latin. A language she has never heard before, much less spoken. One of the family recognises the words for what they are. Only later does it become clear that the woman has spoken a prophecy - a prophecy that relates to the death of the Emperor Constantine, one that, if acted upon, will change the fate of the Roman Empire and all of the future beyond it. Tp \$32.95 302pp

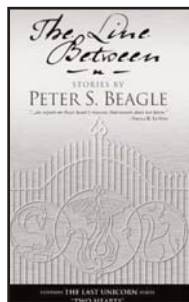
 **RESPLENDENT**

*Destiny's Children* #4. This is a collection of stories that encompasses mankind's epic fight for survival against the Xeelee, a narrative of how man will change and evolve over our epic journey out into the universe. These tales will encompass the rise of sub-molecular empires in the first nanoseconds after the Big Bang to mankind's final transformation. Full of cutting-edge science, descriptions of time and space on a mind-boggling scale and memorable and all-too-human characters, it is both the capstone to one of the most significant series in the history of SF and a remarkable achievement in its own right. Hb \$59.95 549pp

**PETER S BEAGLE**

**THE LINE BETWEEN**


 The long-awaited sequel to the popular classic *The Last Unicorn* is the centrepiece of this collection of new tales from a fantasy master. Traditional themes are typically infused with modern sensibilities - reincarnated lovers and waning kings rub



shoulders with heroic waifs, Schmendrick the Magician returns to adventure, as does the ghost of an off-Broadway actor and a dream-stealing shape shifter and Gordon, the delightfully charming 'self-made cat', appears for the first time in print, taking his place alongside *Stuart Little* as a new favourite of the young at heart. This wide-ranging compilation contains sly humour and a resounding depth that will charm fans of literary fantasy. Tp \$32.95 231pp


**JO BEVERLEY, KAREN HARBAUGH, BARBARA SAMUEL & MARY JO PUTNEY**

**FAERY MAGIC**

 In *The Lord of Elphindale* by Jo Beverley, a lovely lady discovers she is half-faery, created to bind a special man to the faery realm. In *The Faery Braid* by Karen Harbaugh, a beautiful changeling must choose between the lure of magic and the doomed mortal stranger who calls to her still-human heart. In *The Love Talker* by Barbara Samuel, a faery lord is condemned to haunt the misty glens, cursed by his need to seduce mortal women to their deaths. In *Dangerous Gifts* by Mary Jo Putney, a mortal girl rashly accepts a faery lord's offer of beauty and charm. Then he comes to claim a terrible price. Pb \$16.95 379pp


**THOMAS BLOOR**

**BEAST BENEATH THE SKIN**

 Sam wants to be an ordinary 14-year-old boy, but he's not. He is the victim of a terrible curse that has turned him into something to be hated. Homeless, parentless and a danger to his friends, Sam has gone into hiding, but what he doesn't know, is that he is being watched - stalked by The Companions, a murderous cult who need Sam to fulfil an earth-shattering prophecy. And when they kidnap his friend, Adda-Leigh, Sam is drawn into a twisted world of barbaric rituals and ruthless ambition, where the only chance of survival lies in using the powers he hates... Pb \$15.95 310pp


**CAITLIN BRENNAN**

**SHATTERED DANCE**

 *Valeria* #3. Once again the Aurelian Empire is in danger and once again Valeria must risk more than her life to save it. With threats from without, including sorcerous attacks against the soon-to-be empress and pressures from within, the need to continue the dynasty and Kerrec, the father of Valeria's child, the first choice to do so, Valeria must overcome plots and perils as she struggles to find a place in this world she's helped to heal, but her greatest foes have not been vanquished. Tp \$32.95 442pp


**HERBIE BRENNAN**

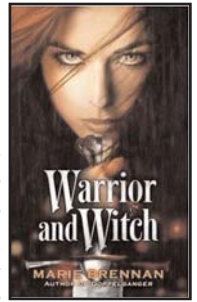
**RULER OF THE REALM**

 *Faerie Wars Chronicles* #3. It is Henry's third visit to the Faerie Realm, but this time in a rather different guise and to a rather different kind of place. Holly Blue is Queen and Lord Hairstreak appears to be proposing a truce between the Faeries of the Night and the Faeries of the Light. Meanwhile Prince Pyrgus has stumbled across some mysterious flowers with an apparently formidable secret weapon and there are rumours of a demon invasion led by Beleth, the Prince of Darkness. When Queen Blue is kidnapped by the most unlikely candidate, the Realm rapidly descends into chaos. Pb \$15.95 429pp

**MARIE BRENNAN**

**WARRIOR AND WITCH**

 Sequel to **Doppelganger** (Pb \$16.95). When a witch is born, a doppelganger is created. For the witch to master her powers, the twin must be killed. Or so it was believed for centuries... Once Mirei discovered that merging with a doppelganger gave a witch more power than killing them, the witches at Starfall have been in an uproar. On a quest to collect the surviving doppelgangers, Mirei is unsurprised to discover that there are still witches at Starfall who side against her and her unorthodox ways. But worse, her fellow hunter and closest friend, Eclipse, has been captured by these same witches and has no choice but to swear a blood oath to kill Mirei. Pb \$16.95 448pp



**STEVEN BRUST**

 **BROKEDOWN PALACE:**

**TALES FROM THE EAST**

Once upon a time there were four brothers and a goddess, a wizard, an enigmatic talking stallion, a very hungry dragon and a crumbling, broken-down palace with hungry jhereg circling overhead. And then... Tp \$32.95 351pp

**LINDA BUCKLEY-ARCHER**

 **GIDEON THE CUTPURSE**

An encounter with an anti-gravity machine catapults Peter Schock and Kate Dyer back to the 18th century and sets in motion a calamitous chain of events. While a massive police hunt gets underway to find the missing children in the 21st century, in 1763 a hardened criminal, the Tar Man, steals the anti-gravity machine and disappears into the London underworld. Stranded in another time, Peter and Kate find a friend and guide in reformed cutpurse, Gideon Seymour. Gideon does everything he can to help them, but will his dark past catch up with him before the machine is recovered? Tp \$19.95 369pp



S C BUTLER

 **REIFFEN'S CHOICE**

*The Stoneways Trilogy #1.* 12-year-old Reiffen is the true heir to the thrones of both Wayland and Banking. He and his friends Avender and Ferris live in a magical world of talking animals, dwarves and shape-shifting bears, but he lives with the shame of knowing that no one will ever let him rule these kingdoms, that their crowns will bring him nothing but betrayal and sorrow and that he is powerless. Reiffen will have only a short life of child's innocence, a brief respite from the trial of impossible adult responsibility, the trial of attempting to finish a task he can never complete. He need only surrender his humanity; kill his loves and he will gain his childhood fantasy. Hb \$56.00 463pp

MICHAEL CADNUM

 **CAN'T CATCH ME AND OTHER TWICE TOLD TALES**

This award-winning author uses unexpected points of view to deftly twist the themes of classic folktales. From the unrepentant Gingerbread Man and his tirades against overprotective parents, meddling neighbours and untrustworthy foxes, to the giant's wife who simply wants Jack out of the picture, so that she and her mate may continue collaborating on poetry, these ironic tales introduce complex, emotional topics within a familiar context. Tp \$32.95 181pp

P C CAST

 **DIVINE BY MISTAKE**

When Shannon Parker buys a vase with the Celtic goddess Epona on it, it switches her into the world of Partholon, where she's treated like a goddess. It seems that Shannon has stepped into another's role as the Goddess Incarnate of Epona. And while it has some very appealing moments - it also comes with a ritual marriage to a centaur and the threat of war against the evil Fomorians. Somehow Shannon needs to figure out how to get back to Oklahoma without being killed, married to a horse or losing her mind. Pb \$16.95 698pp

PATRICK CAVE

 **BLOWN AWAY**

*Sharp North #2.* Dom tells, through his diary, of the huge changes coming to the world and how cloning became a way to ensure power for a select group of people. He becomes one of those whose genetic material is taken to form the clones used by the Great Families and is, therefore, a forebear of Adeline's, who now has his diary. She lives in a settlement in the Pyrenees. Showing symptoms of ill-health, Adeline hides the fact that she is a flawed clone and debates the truth of the 'serpent' prophecy, suggested by her differently coloured eyes. Could she really be the saviour Briton hopes for? Pb \$16.95 339pp

MARK CHADBOURN

 **JACK OF RAVENS**

*Kingdom of the Serpent #1.* Jack Churchill, archaeologist and dreamer, walks out of the mist and into Celtic Britain more than 2,000 years before he was born, with no knowledge of how he got there. All Jack wants is to get home to his own time where the woman he loves waits for him. Finding his way to the timeless mystical Otherworld, the home of the gods, he plans to while away the days, the years, the millennia, until his own era rolls around again, but nothing is ever that simple. A great Evil waits in modern times and will do all in its power to stop Jack's return. Tp \$32.95 374pp

KEVIN CROSSLEY-HOLLAND

 **THE MAGIC LANDS: FOLK TALES OF BRITAIN AND IRELAND**

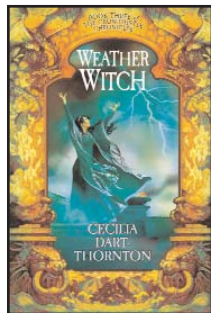
A magnificent book of 55 folk, fairy and ghost stories from all over Britain and Ireland. Taken from original sources and then retold in a fresh and modern way, this is the most comprehensive and authoritative collection written in the last 20 years. Each story has an opening illustration by Emma Chichester Clark, a major illustrator. Pb \$14.95 341pp

CECILIA DART-THORNTON

 **WEATHER WITCH**

*The Crowhistle Chronicles #3.*

Asrathiel, once Astariel, grand daughter of the Stormlord of Ellenhall, has come-of-age and received her title of weathermage. As she sets out into the world, her happiness is marred only by her inability to wake her mother from the enchanted sleep that holds her captive and by curious visits from a perverse yet intriguing faerie-creature. Then the people begin, seemingly unprovoked, to turn against the weathermasters, whom they have always held in such high esteem... Tp \$32.95 375pp



ELLEN DATLOW

& TERRI WINDLING (Eds)

 **SALON FANTASTIQUE:**

**15 ORIGINAL TALES OF FANTASY**

Here are original stories that straddle the borderline between fantasy and mainstream fiction, stories both bright and dark in tone (without straying into the realm of horror fiction). Sometimes set in the contemporary or historical world, sometimes pure fantasy or an imagined history, these are striking, fresh, finely crafted works that demonstrate the best the short story form has to offer. Among the authors included are Delia Sherman, Peter Beagle, Greer Gilman, Paul Di Filippo, Jeffrey Ford, Gregory Maguire and Lucius Shepard. Tp \$37.00 396pp

PHILIP K DICK

  **A SCANNER DARKLY**


*Film Tie-In Edition.* Bob Arctor, undercover narcotics agent, is trying to find a lead to the source of supply of Substance D, but to pass as an addict he must become a user, and soon, without knowing what is happening to him, he is as dependent as any of the addicts he is monitoring. Pb \$19.95 217pp

WILLIAM C DIETZ

 **RUNNER**

*Jak Rebo #1.* Interstellar courier Jak Rebo becomes involved with a woman who has the key to instantaneous space travel, a secret some would kill for. Now, Jak is running for his life. Pb \$18.95 424pp

LOGOS RUN

 *Jak Rebo #2.* Making good on a promise to a dead man, Rebo must deliver an AI known as Logos to a mysterious backwater planet. Once there, Logos will be capable of restoring the system of star gates that once knitted the settled worlds together. But as the Techno Society wars with murderous antitechnics, Rebo gets caught in the middle and all he can do is run. Hb \$54.00 357pp

DAVID DRAKE

 **SOME GOLDEN HARBOR**

*Lt Leary #5.* The tyrannical Alliance continues its war against the Republic of Cinnabar and Daniel Leary, newly promoted to Commander and his crew have a new mission - stop Dunbar's World from falling to an invasion by the planet Pellegrino. Leary must somehow overcome a large entrenched force on an island defended by powerful plasma cannon and ship-killing missiles and backed up by a heavily armed warship in orbit, all while commanding only a small and virtually unarmed spacecraft. Hb \$54.00 373pp

HAL DUNCAN

 **VELLUM**

*The Book of All Hours #1.* It's 2017 and the End Days are coming, beings that were once human gathering to fight in one last great war for control of the Vellum - the vast realm of eternity on which our world is just a scratch. But to a draft-dodging Irish angel and a trailer-trash tomboy called Phreedom, it's about to become brutally clear that there's no great divine or diabolic plan at play here, just a vicious battle between the hawks of Heaven and Hell, with humanity stuck in the middle and where the easy rhetoric of Good and Evil, Order versus Chaos just doesn't apply. Here there are no heroes, no darlings of destiny struggling to save the day and there are no villains, no dark lords of evil out to destroy the world. Or at least if there are, it's not quite clear which is which. Pb \$22.95 499pp

RAYMOND E FEIST

 INTO A DARK REALM

*Darkwar Saga #2.* Chaos threatens to overwhelm two worlds as the most dangerous force ever encountered threatens to invade Midkemia, while the most treacherous magician in history, the madman Leso Varen, begins to wreak havoc on the world of Kelewan. Pug and the Conclave of Shadows are determined to find Varen, only to discover that he has usurped the body of one of the most powerful men in the Empire of Tsuranuani - a Black Robe and member of the Assembly of Magicians. Pug has the almost impossible task of uncovering the true identity of the magician in an entire city full of Black Robes. Hb \$50.00 386pp

JOHN FLANAGAN

 RANGERS APPRENTICE  
OMNIBUS

*Books #1 & #2.* Will is small for his age, but fast and quick-witted. He has always wanted to become a great knight, so he is devastated when he is instead apprenticed to Halt, the mysterious Ranger whose uncanny ability to move unseen is thought to be the result of black magic. But Will is about to find more excitement and adventure than he could have dreamed of when he is sent on missions whose success or failure could affect the fate of the Kingdom. Hb \$29.95 263pp

ERIC FLINT & ANDREW DENNIS

 1635: THE CANNON LAW

Rome, 1635: Grantville's diplomatic team, headed by Sharon Nichols, are making scant headway now it has become politically inexpedient for Pope Urban VIII to talk to them any more. Sharon doesn't mind, she has a wedding to plan. Frank Stone has moved to Rome and is attempting to bring about the revolution one pizza at a time. Cardinal Borja is gathering votes to bring the Church's reformers to a halt in their tracks, on the orders of the King of Spain. Meanwhile, trouble is brewing in the streets, shadowy agitators are stirring up trouble and Spain's armies are massed across the border in the Kingdom of Naples, Cardinal Barberini wants the pamphleteers to stop slandering him and it looks like it's going to be a long, hot summer. Hb \$56.00 420pp

M A FOSTER

 THE BOOK OF THE LER

*Omnibus edition containing The Gameplayers of Zan, The Warriors of Dawn, The Day of the Klesh.* Out of print since 1985, these three classic novels form a trilogy that chronicles the history of an alternate human race, the Ler, from their origins as a bioengineered superhuman race on Earth to their complex civilisations in space. Together, the books form an examination of what it means to be human. Tp \$32.95 923pp

NEIL GAIMAN

 FRAGILE THINGS:  
SHORT FICTIONS AND WONDERS

These stories will dazzle your senses, haunt your imagination and move you to the very depths of your soul. This extraordinary book reveals one of the world's most gifted storytellers at the height of his powers. Hb \$55.00 366pp

 ANANSI BOYS

When Fat Charlie's dad named something, it stuck. Like calling Charlie Nancy, 'Fat Charlie'. 20 years later, he still can't shake that name, one of the many embarrassing gifts his father bestowed, before he dropped dead on a karaoke stage and ruined Fat Charlie's life. All of a sudden, life starts getting very interesting for Fat Charlie. Because, you see, Charlie's dad wasn't just any dad. He was Anansi, a trickster god, the spider-god. Anansi is the spirit of rebellion, able to overturn the social order, create wealth out of thin air and baffle the devil. Some said he could cheat even Death himself. Pb \$18.95 400pp

MAURICE GEE

 UNDER THE MOUNTAIN

Beneath the extinct volcanoes that surround the city, giant creatures are waking from a spellbound sleep that has lasted thousands of years. Their goal is the destruction of the world. Rachael and Theo Matheson are twins. Apart from having red hair, there is nothing remarkable about them, or so they think. They are horrified to discover that they have a strange and awesome destiny. Only the Matheson twins can save the world from the terror of what is under the mountain. Pb \$17.95 158pp

DAVID GERROLD & LARRY NIVEN

 THE FLYING SORCERERS

Shoogar is the greatest wizard ever known in his village. But the enemy he faces now is like none he has ever seen before. The stranger is ignorant of even the most basic principles of magic, but he has an incredibly powerful magic of his own. There is no room in Shoogar's world for an intruder whose powers match his own, let alone one whose powers might exceed his. So before the blue sun can cross the face of the red sun once more, Shoogar will show this stranger just who is boss. Tp \$32.95 303pp

DAVID GIBBINS

 ATLANTIS

Marine archaeologist Jack Howard has stumbled upon the keys to an ancient puzzle and is heading for what could be the greatest archaeological find of all time, the site of fabled Atlantis, while a ruthless adversary watches his every move and prepares to strike. But neither of them could have imagined what awaits them in the murky depths. Not only a shocking truth about a lost world, but an explosive secret that could have devastating consequences. Pb \$16.95 465pp

MARC GILLER

 PRODIGAL

*Hammerjack #2.* Once an elusive hammerjack plunged into a virtual world of code, Lea Prism has been reborn as a corporate spook, hell-bent on ridding the universe of the anti-tech *Inru* terrorists. Their attempt to accelerate evolution robbed her of her once chance for happiness. Now the man she loved is nothing but a disembodied consciousness and part of the computer matrix she has sworn to defend. But from the depths of a Martian volcano to the radioactive wasteland of Chernobyl, the *Inru* have launched one last offensive, giving rise to a final scenario more terrifying than anyone could imagine. Tp \$27.00 404pp

KATE GILMORE

 THE EXCHANGE STUDENT

Daria is one of Earth's youngest licensed breeders of endangered species and she has enough to do caring for her menagerie without having to cope with an exchange student from another planet. Besides Fen's colour-shifting and endless questions, there is something about the way the lanky alien looks at her animals and his stubborn refusal to talk about the creatures of his own world that makes Daria nervous. Fen, on the other hand, couldn't be happier with his Earth family. Hoping for one pet, he finds himself in a zoo. Pb \$16.95 217pp

DEBI GLIORI

 DEEP WATER

*Strega Borgia #5.* The Strega-Borgia children are still reeling from the shock of their nanny's disappearance. Without Flora to tend to them, the kids are growing up fast. Indeed, Titus is in the throes of a deeply embarrassing and magically accelerated puberty, while all around the usual chaos reigns. Baby Damp is learning to fly under the tutelage of a bat called Vesper, Ffup, the dragon is struggling with the Atkins diet and Tarantella, the tarantula, is trying to teach her daughters the rudiments of mascara. So far, so StregaSchloss, but add in an arrest for murder, a demon intent on revenge and a suicidal deep-frozen ancestor and you have a recipe that could only be cooked up in a Gliori-cauldron. Pb \$17.95 334pp

DEBI GLIORI

 DEEP FEAR

*Strega Borgia #6.* The forces of evil are converging on StregaSchloss - demons, the Mafia, a changeling with a nasty bite and the wild and weird Strega-Borgias must gather together their allies to fight back. But there are just a few too many distractions, with Damp, the toddler-witch missing in action and a house full of wolves and bickering teenagers getting in the way. Can the family keep it together, even when they're scattered over time and place? Hb \$32.95 331pp



**JON COURTENAY GRIMWOOD**

 **NINETAIL FOX**

A noir melding of ancient Chinese folklore, organised crime and cutting edge medical technology. A policeman is murdered in San Francisco and spends the rest of the novel hunting down the man who did it, trying to get the answer to some terrifying questions. Why is he in another man's body? Why is someone trying to kill him... again. And why is he being haunted by a nine tailed Albino fox? Pb \$21.95 326pp

**LIAN HEARN**

 **THE HARSH CRY OF THE HERON**

*Tales of the Otori.* Lord Otori Takeo and his consort Kaede have ruled for over 16 years. The Three Countries are rich, peaceful and prosperous. The sacred birds, the Honou, nest at Terayama and a fabled creature, the Kirin, has appeared on their shores. Heaven seems to smile on them. Yet their very success has attracted the attention of the distant Emperor and his general, the warlord Saga Hideki, who covet all the wealth of the Three Countries, especially Takeo's heir, his eldest daughter, Shigeko, now of marriageable age. Hb \$39.95 718pp

**ROBERT HEINLEIN  
& SPIDER ROBINSON**

 **VARIABLE STAR**

When Joel Johnston learns that his fiancée is actually a wealthy heiress and that he would be groomed for a place in the vast Conrad empire and sire a dynasty to carry on the family business, he turns her down, then set off on the mother of all benders. He wakes up on a colony ship heading out into space, torn between regret over his rash decision and his determination to forget Jinny and make a life for himself among the stars. He was on his way to succeeding when his plans were shattered by a cosmic cataclysm so devastating it would take all of humanity's strength and ingenuity just to survive. Hb \$54.00 318pp

**BRIAN HERBERT  
& KEVIN J ANDERSON**

 **HUNTERS OF DUNE**

*Dune #7.* Fleeing from the monstrous Honoured Matres, dark counterparts of the Bene Gesserit Sisterhood, Duncan Idaho, the military genius Bashar Miles Teg, a woman named Sheena who can talk to sandworms and a group of desperate refugees explore the boundaries of the universe. Aboard their sophisticated no-ship, they have used long-stored cells to resurrect heroes and villains from the past, including Paul Muad'dib and his love Chani, Duke Leto Atreides and his Lady Jessica, even the traitor Doctor Yueh, all in preparation for a final confrontation with a mysterious outside Enemy so great it can destroy even the terrible Honoured Matres. Tp \$32.95 524pp

**NINA KIRIKI HOFFMAN**

 **CATALYST:  
A NOVEL OF ALIEN CONTACT**

A boy, fleeing a bullying classmate, inadvertently makes first contact with a race of aliens who live beneath the surface of his planet. Tp \$32.95 171pp

**JAMES P HOGAN**

 **MISSION TO MINERVA**

Earth is adapting to a future of amicable coexistence with the advanced aliens from Thurien, descended from ancestors who once inhabited Minerva, a vanished planet of the Solar System. Victor Hunt and a group of his colleagues travel to Thurien to conduct a joint investigation with the alien scientists into the strange physics of interconnectedness between the countless alternate universes that constitute ultimate reality. When their discoveries lead first to bizarre communication with bewildered counterparts in other universes, they send a mission back to the former world of Minerva to try to create new realities in which its destruction is avoided. But Imares Broghuilio, the deposed Jevlenese leader, along with five heavily armed starships, are already there. And they have a score to settle. Pb \$18.95 569pp

**ROBERT E HOWARD**

 **PEOPLE OF THE DARK**

Gathered here are stories with such enduring and popular characters as Solomon Kane, Turlogh Dubh and Comac of Connacht. Other highlights include *The Black Stone*, considered by many to be Howard's finest excursion into Lovecraftian horror; *The Horror from the Mound*, a vampire story set in Texas and *People of the Dark*, a precursor to the Conan stories which ultimately made Howard famous! Pb \$22.95 190pp

**JESSICA INCLÁN**

 **REASON TO BELIEVE**

Rufus Valasay, a member of Les Croymants des Trois, a powerful clan of telepaths and healers, is sworn to protect the ordinary world of the Moyenne. He wakes in the cold streets of Edinburgh, with no name, no memory, nothing but the strong, hard fear that he has made a terrible mistake and left someone in danger. He shouldn't trust anyone. So why does the stranger with the blue eyes and blonde hair who offers him a warm place to stay seem so trustworthy, so warm, and so incredibly right? Even more alarming, he is able to read her deepest thoughts and those thoughts are very interesting. With each caress and soulful kiss, his memory returns, making him wish he could forget again. For someone is coming for him, someone who will harm anyone to get to him and his kind. Tp \$29.00 281pp

**ELAINE ISAAK**

 **THE SINGERS CROWN**

Prince Kattanan duRhys was in direct line to the throne, until his royal family was cruelly slaughtered by a usurping uncle who spared the life of his 'favourite nephew', but left the boy mutilated and incapable of claiming his birthright. Nearly a decade on, Kattanan is a harmless wanderer - a coveted prize-serving many different masters. But now the singer's simple life is threatened by chaos and dark wizardry, by his impossible secret love for the betrothed Princess Melisande... and by an obligation of the blood that forces Kattanan to pursue vengeance and a crown he's not certain he wants. Pb \$18.95 498pp

**MICK JACKSON**

 **TEN SORRY TALES**

Featuring undertakers, dark forests, resurrected butterflies and a singularly mean-spirited horse, the stories are nevertheless rooted in the realistic and all too recognisable world of retirement, loneliness and childhood boredom. By turns funny, scary and heartbreaking, they are always illuminating and further evidence of one of the most original and brilliant imaginations in contemporary fiction. Pb \$19.95 173pp

**P D JAMES**

 **THE CHILDREN OF MEN**

The year is 2021. No child has been born for 25 years. The human race faces extinction. Under the despotic rule of Xan Lyppiatt, the Warden of England, the old are despairing and the young cruel. Theo Faren, a cousin of the Warden, lives a solitary life in this ominous atmosphere. That is, until a chance encounter with a young woman leads him into contact with a group of dissenters. Suddenly, his life is changed irrevocably as he faces agonising choices which could affect the future of mankind. Pb \$19.95 278pp

**JAMES PATRICK KELLY  
& JOHN KESSEL (Eds)**


 **FEELING VERY STRANGE:  
THE SLIPSTREAM**

**ANTHOLOGY**

Intending to establish a canon for the controversial slipstream science-fiction subgenre, the editors of this anthology have brought together a group of convention-defying tales set in vivid and disorienting dreamscapes that offer no distinction between reality and hallucination. A cross between the literary surrealism of Franz Kafka and escapist-popular-fiction, this ambitious new species, sometimes also called interstitial fiction, is exemplified here in stories by Carol Emshwiller, Karen Joy Fowler, Jonathan Lethem and George Saunders. Tp \$32.95 288pp


STEVEN L KENT

**ROGUE CLONE**

 *Clone #2.* Earth, 2512 AD: Lt Wayson Harris is one of thousands of clones born and bred to be the ultimate soldiers. But unlike the others, Harris is an outlawed model, one with independent thoughts and an addiction to violence. Presumed dead after his troops were massacred, Harris, who blames the United Authority for the slaughter, has gone AWOL as a bounty hunter. Still, it's hard for a clone to overcome his conditioning and Harris finds himself drawn back into the UA's service by his mentor and creator, Fleet Admiral Bryce Klyber. Now, with separatists rebelling throughout the galaxy, the fate of the UA depends on Admiral Klyber's plans for the *Doctrinaire*, the largest, most powerful battleship ever constructed. But there are those who would do anything to stop Klyber and Harris must decide whether he should fight against them, or work for them. Pb \$18.95 383pp


MINDY KLASKY

**GIRLS GUIDE TO WITCHCRAFT**


 Which is more unlikely? Meeting a single, straight, reasonably attractive, willing-to-commit man? Or discovering a secret cache of magic books? For good girl Jane Madison, neither has a shot in hell of coming true, until the day she finds a hidden room. Now she's done a bit of experimenting and found a spell that makes her irresistible to men, even those who have previously ignored her. And another that turns a cat into her witch's familiar. Though her impulsive acts of magic have brought a warder down on her, Jane's not willing to let go of this fantastic new life. Though she wonders about having things that aren't real, she's having too much fun to stop. After all, no one ever said being a witch was easy. Tp \$29.95 426pp

MERCEDES LACKEY

**AERIE**


 *Dragon Jousters #4.* Kiron has secretly gathered an army of dragon riders to seek refuge in the abandoned desert city they have named Sanctuary, where they join with other dragon riders to rid their world of both war and magical domination. But now it is time to build a new society in Aerie, an ancient city that seems to have been designed for dragon riders and their dragons. Hb \$56.00 291pp

**THE WIZARD OF LONDON**

 *Elemental Masters #4.* Isabelle Benson has learned that an Elemental Master is behind the attempts on her students' lives and the would-be murderer is someone very close to her former flame, the Wizard of London. Pb \$18.95 377pp


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, is known only to the Raven King, a creature of myth and magic born of the darkest shadows in the forest. Pb \$19.95 438pp


TANITH LEE

**HERE IN COLD HELL**

 *The Lionwolf Trilogy #2.* Killed by the power of the god Zezeth, his true father, Lionwolf has been cast into a bleak and icy hell lit just by a cold blue sun. Here he and others of the living dead must wage endless combat and war, to appease the whim of a deathly King whose face is made of stone. But when Lionwolf encounters the King's wife, she is none other than the beautiful, god-fashioned Chillel, his own former lover and nemesis. Pb \$19.95 496pp


ROGER LEVY

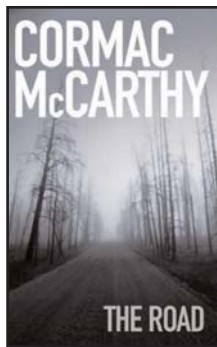
**ICARUS**

 Mankind has reached deep space. Separated from earth and each other by unimaginable reaches of space, forced to adapt to various diverse planetary environments the colonies have become isolated and inward looking, forgetting their pasts, losing touch with their humanity, until a mysterious ship, found locked in the deep rock by a mining team on a planet whose surface is drenched in lethal radiation, sparks off a deadly conspiracy that threatens man wherever he is. Tp \$32.95 423pp

CORMAC MCCARTHY

**THE ROAD**


 A father and his son walk alone through burned America. Nothing moves in the ravaged, nuclear landscape save the ash on the wind. It is cold enough to crack stones and when the snow falls, it is grey. The sky is dark.



Their destination is the coast, although they don't know what, if anything, awaits them there. They have nothing; just a pistol to defend themselves against the lawless bands that stalk the road, the clothes they are wearing, a cart of scavenged food and each other. Tp \$32.95 241pp


MAUREEN F MCHUGH

**MOTHERS AND OTHER MONSTERS**

 In her luminous collection of short stories, the author wryly and delicately examines the impacts of social and technological shifts on families. Tp \$35.00 271pp


DENNIS L MCKIERNAN

**ONCE UPON A SPRING MORN**


 *Faery #4.* The gallant knight Roél rides into the Springwood and finds his true heart's desire in Céleste, princess of that domain. But before their love can blossom, Roél must rescue his sister from a dreadful lord, who steals the souls of those he bears away. Céleste joins her champion on a desperate odyssey, across shadow-lit borders, to save Roél's soul-reft sister before the dark of the moon. Hb \$49.95 379pp

CLIFF MCNISH

**BREATHE: A GHOST STORY**


 Jack has always had an affinity with the supernatural, people who lived long ago and whose spirits remain in this world. Following his father's death, he and his mother move to an isolated house. Instantly, Jack senses the presence of the previous owner. But he is soon aware of other spirits reaching out to claim him. At the heart of the house is the Ghost Mother, long dead, but still mourning her daughter, who has imprisoned four children and draws her strength by leeching their souls. Is it her intention that Jack meets the same fate? Hb \$24.95 232pp

**SILVER WORLD**

 The Roar is getting closer and closer to the earth, ready to attack, her hungry newborn in the waiting. Alongside the silver child Milo, who is hovering protectively over them, Helen, Thomas, Walter, the twins and little Jenny lead the children of Coldharbour in the battle against the Roar. Meanwhile, Carnac threatens from below, but the Unearthers, with drills for hands, stand ready for him. Pb \$14.95 198pp

PAUL MAGRS


**NEVER THE BRIDE**

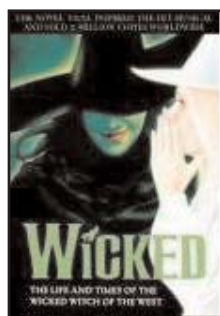
 Brenda and her best friend Effie like nothing better than going out for tea or dinner and keeping their eyes open for any of the mysterious goings on in town. And, what with satanic beauty salons, more than illegal aliens, roving psychic investigators and the frankly terrifying owner of the Christmas Hotel, there are no shortage of nefarious shenanigans to keep them interested. But the oddest thing in Whitby may well be Brenda herself. With her terrible scars, her strange lack of a surname or the fact that she takes two different shoe sizes, Brenda should have known that people as, well, unique as she is, just aren't destined for a quiet life. Tp \$29.95 245pp



GREGORY MAGUIRE

**WICKED**


 When Dorothy triumphed over the Wicked Witch of the West in L Frank Baum's classic tale, we heard only her side of the story. But what about her arch-nemesis, the mysterious witch? Where did she come from? How did she become so wicked?



And what is the true nature of evil? This is about a land where animals talk and strive to be treated like first-class citizens, Munchkinlanders seek the comfort of middle-class stability and the Tin Man becomes a victim of domestic violence. And then there is the little green-skinned girl named Elphaba, who will grow up to be the infamous Wicked Witch of the West, a smart, prickly and misunderstood creature who challenges all our preconceived notions about the nature of good and evil. Pb \$23.00 495pp


MILLAR

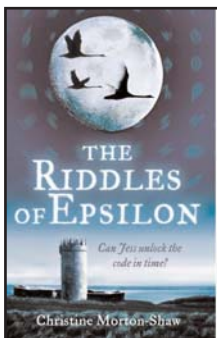
**THE GOOD FAIRIES OF NEW YORK**

 This is the fish-out-of-water story of two Scottish thistle fairies who find themselves in Manhattan. The fairies hook up with two humans, Kerry (complete with colostomy bag) and Dinnie (antisocial in the extreme), finding time to help both get their acts together. A book that brings together race riots and Scottish folklore, this is anything but a typical fairy fantasy. Tp \$29.95 242pp

CHRISTINE MORTON-SHAW


**THE RIDDLES OF EPSILON**

 Something dark has awoken on the remote island of Lume. Jess is not pleased when her parents drag her off to live on the weird little island of Lume, but then she encounters an eerie presence in an abandoned cottage and her anger turns to fear when it begins to lead her through a series of creepy riddles. As she slowly unravels the mysteries of Lume, she finds the writings of Sebastian, a boy who lived 100 years ago, and whose life contains unsettling reflections of her own. To her horror, the dangers he unearthed in 1894 now begin to threaten Jess and her family and if Jess does not unlock the riddles in time, she may lose her mother forever. Pb \$18.95 375pp




LARRY NIVEN & JERRY POURNELLE

**BURNING TOWER**


 *Burning* #2. The fire god has retreated into myth, leaving the residents of Tep's Town unprotected for the first time in their history. From out of the desert come monsters, great birds with blades instead of wings, driven by some unknown force. Although they can be killed, the threat these terror birds pose is worse than death. Danger on the roads means no trade. No trade means that Tep's Town will be no more. Sent by the Lords of Lordshills to discover the source of the terror birds, Lord Sandry and his beloved, Burning Tower, must travel into a world where magic is still strong and where someone or *something* waits to destroy them! Pb \$18.95 655pp

TERRY PRATCHETT


**DARWIN'S WATCH**

 *Science of Discworld* #3. Roundworld is in trouble again and this time it looks fatal. Having created it in the first place, the wizards of Unseen University feel vaguely responsible for its safety. But now it's all gone wrong. Why did history come adrift? Was it Sir Arthur Nightingale's dismal book about natural selection? Or was it the devastating response by an obscure country vicar called Charles Darwin whose bestselling *Theology of Species* made it impossible to refute the divine design of living creatures? Can the God of Evolution come to humanity's aid and ensure Darwin writes a very different book? And who stopped him writing it in the first place? Pb \$22.95 334pp

THUD


 *Discworld* #30. Vroom Valley? That was where the trolls ambushed the dwarfs, or the dwarfs ambushed the trolls. It was very far away. It was a long time ago. But if he doesn't solve the murder of just one dwarf, Command Sam Vimes of Ankh-Morpork City Watch is going to see it fought again, right outside his office. With his beloved Watch crumbling around him and his war-drums sounding, he must unravel every clue, outwit every assassin and brave any darkness to find the solution. And darkness is following him. Pb \$21.95 454pp

WINTERSMITH

 *Discworld: Tiffany Aching Tales* #3. Tiffany is a trainee witch, now working for the scary Miss Treason. But when Tiffany witnesses the Dark Dance, the crossover from summer to winter, she leaps into the dance, into the oldest story there ever is and draws the attention of the wintersmith himself. As Tiffany-shaped snowflakes hammer down on the land, can Tiffany deal with the consequences of her actions? Hb \$45.00 398pp

TERRY PRATCHETT, ALAN BATLEY & BERNARD PEARSON

**THE UNSEEN UNIVERSITY CUT-OUT BOOK**

 The Unseen University sits in the centre of Discworld's greatest city, Ankh-Morpork. Some would say it is the very heart of the city. Ancient and magical, it is the home to the greatest library in the multiverse and the oldest building on the Discworld, the soaring Tower of Art. Enjoy the challenge of making all seven buildings and seeing the complete Unseen University literally unfold before your eyes. With comprehensive and easy-to-follow instructions throughout, this title is suitable for all from 10 up, including the serious model maker. Tp \$45.00 165pp


SUSAN PRICE

**ODIN'S VOICE**

 *Odin Trilogy* #1. This first adventure follows the story of a bonder, Kylie and a pampered teen, Affroditey, both thrown together as their prescribed roles in society change. Kylie becomes the mouthpiece of the god, Odin, and gains political advantage and freedom as a result. Affroditey finds herself reduced to penury after her father's suicide and sold off as a bonder by her uncaring stepmother. Brought together by Kylie's young son, who has been 'adopted' by Affroditey's employers, the two girls decide to escape as pioneers to Mars, where they will help to set up a new society. Pb \$16.95 313pp


FELICITY PULMAN

**LILIES FOR LOVE**

 *Janna Mysteries* #3. On the run again from the lord Robert, the man who killed her mother and is quite prepared to kill Janna to keep his secret, Janna takes refuge at Wiltune Abbey. There she desperately seeks to learn to read, so she can uncover the truth about her unknown father. But first there are mysteries to be solved. Who is the newcomer asking questions about Janna? Who stabbed the lord Hugh at St Edith's fair? Was the knife meant for Janna, or will Hugh's childhood friendship with the beautiful Emma have disastrous consequences for them all? Pb \$17.95 348pp

JEAN RABE

**THE FINEST CHOICE**

 *Finest* #2. Gallant Stallion has found his charge, a young girl by the name of Kalantha, whose brother is soon to be king and the pawn of a deceitful and murderous bishop who covets the royal power and has allied himself with creatures of the dark arts. Gallant Stallion has successfully removed her from his influence, but now must contend with the other temptations of the world. Pb \$16.95 304pp

JEAN RABE

 **THE FINEST CHALLENGE**

*Finest #3.* Kalantha has successfully rescued her brother from the shadow of the evil bishop's bellicose influence, but now finds herself cut off from both him and her Finest protector, Gallant Stallion. All three must race against the clock to curtail the unnecessary war that the Bishop's minions have engineered. Hb \$54.00 317pp

JEAN RABE & BRIAN M THOMSEN (ED)

 **FURRY FANTASTIC**

Magical creatures, great and small. This original anthology gathers together 18 fantastical stories about cats, dogs, mice and other furry creatures from realms beyond our world. Pb \$18.95 312pp

ROBERT RANKIN

 **THE BRIGHTONOMICON**

Were you aware that there are, hidden in the streets of Brighton, 12 ancient constellations, like the Hangleton Hound and the Bevendean Bat... well, there are and on each one hangs a tale, a tale so strange that only The Lad Himself, that inveterate spinner of tales and talker of the toot, Hugo Rune, can get to the bottom of them. And he'd better do it quickly, because if he doesn't solve the dozen mysteries before the year is out, that'll be the end of the world as we know it. Pb \$19.95 404pp

MICHAEL REAVES & MAYA KAATHRYN

BOHNHOFF

 **MR TWILIGHT**

Colin has been an unrelenting warrior against the dark, the demonic and the damned. A man who has angels at his side and hell staring him in the face, he has devoted his life to solving magical crimes, tracking down and neutralising the perpetrators of those crimes, human and nonhuman alike. Now Colin is about to team up with a Native American and a tough NYPD detective. Together, they are chasing a killer and untangling a tale that leads from the infamous Vlad the Impaler to a dead 20th-century occult author and his gorgeous daughter, who is as seductive as the devil himself. Pb \$18.95 342pp

MIKE RESNICK (ED)

**THIS IS MY FUNNIEST: LEADING**

 **SCIENCE FICTION WRITERS PRESENT**

 **THEIR FUNNIEST STORIES EVER**

This collection of 29 short stories from masters of science fiction, each tale chosen by the authors as the funniest they have ever written, presents wildly hilarious stories accompanied by prefaces written by the authors, providing valuable insight into their selection and themselves. Contributors include David Brin, Esther Friesner, Harry Turtledove, Connie Willis and many more. Tp \$32.95 427pp

NORA ROBERTS

 **DANCE OF THE GODS**

*Circle #2.* Raised in a family of demon hunters, Blair Murphy has her own personal demons to fight, the father who trained, then abandoned her and the fiancé who walked out on her after learning what she is. Now she finds herself training a sorcerer from 12th century Ireland, a witch from modern day New York, a scholar and a shape-shifter from the mythical land of Gaell, while trying to keep herself from staking the sixth of their circle - a vampire sired by Lilith, the vampire queen they've been charged with defeating on Samhain. Pb \$19.95 341pp

KRISTINE KATHRYN RUSCH

 **PALOMA**

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In the bitter cold of an unrelenting winter, Tomas and his son, Peter, arrive in Chust and, despite the inhospitality of the villagers, settle there as woodcutters. Tomas is churlish, taciturn at the best of times. When a band of gypsies comes to the village, Peter's drab existence is turned upside down. He is infatuated by the beautiful gypsy princess, Sofia, intoxicated by their love of life and drawn into their deadly quest. These travellers are Vampire Slayers and Chust is a dying community, where the dead come back to wreak revenge on the living. Amidst the terrifying events that follow, Peter is stunned to see his father change from a disillusioned man, old before his time, to the warrior hero he once was. Hb \$24.95 198pp

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*Ilium #2.* Helen of Troy is in mourning for her dead husband, Paris. The gods still strike out from the besieged Olympus, their single-molecule bomb casings quantum phase-shifting through the moravecs' force shield and laying waste to Ilium. Or so Hockenberry and the amusing little metal creature, Mahnmut, have tried to explain to her. Helen of Troy does not give a fig about machines. She must dress for the funeral. And man and the gods and the unknown players in this tragedy must prepare for the final act and a battle that will decide the future of the universe itself. Pb \$19.95 824pp

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 This title brings together 23 of Smith's classic stories, all of which were originally published in *Weird Tales*. Rather than centre his works on heroes, Smith created fantastical worlds around which he built cycles of stories. Included here are tales from the realms of Averroigne, Zothique, Hyperborea and others. Tp \$37.00 419pp

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 An artist, poet and prolific contributor to *Weird Tales*, Smith (1893-1967) was an influential figure in the history of pulp fiction. This title showcases the many facets of Smith's unique prose that made him one of the greatest American writers of macabre and fantastic tales. Tp \$37.00 370pp


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 *A Series of Unfortunate Events* #13. This book is the last in *A Series of Unfortunate Events* and even if you braved the previous 12 volumes, you probably can't stand such unpleasanties as a fearsome storm, a suspicious beverage, a herd of wild sheep, an enormous bird cage and a truly haunting secret about the Baudelaire parents. It has been my solemn occupation to complete the history of the Baudelaire orphans and at last I am finished. You likely have some other occupation, so if I were you I would drop this book at once, so the end does not finish you. Hb \$20.00 324pp


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 *Bartimeus* #3. The magicians' rule in London is teetering on a knife-edge, with strikes, riots and general unrest. The Prime Minister is largely controlled by two advisors, one of whom is 17-year-old Nathaniel. Meanwhile, living under a false identity, Kitty has been researching djinn. She believes that the only way to destroy the magicians is for an alliance of some kind between djinn and ordinary people. Kitty seeks out Bartimaeus and embarks on a terrifying journey into the djinn's chaotic domain, which no human being has ever survived. Even as she does so, Makepeace engineers a dramatic coup d'etat, which shatters the magicians' control. Can Bartimaeus, Nathaniel and Kitty settle old scores if they are to survive and prevent the earth's destruction? Pb \$19.95 514pp



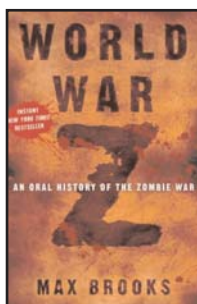
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*The Morganville Vampires* #1. College freshman Claire Danvers has had enough of her nightmarish dorm situation, where the popular girls never let her forget just where she ranks in the school's social scene, somewhere less than zero. When Claire heads off-campus, the imposing old house where she finds a room may not be much better. Her new roommates don't show many signs of life. But they'll have Claire's back when the town's deepest secrets come crawling out, hungry for fresh blood. Pb \$14.95 247pp

P N ELROD  
**SONG IN THE DARK**

*The Vampire Files* #11. Nearly tortured to death by a New York gangster, Vampire PI, Jack Fleming, gave the punk his just desserts. But now the mob bosses want revenge. Pb \$18.95 377pp

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**MY BIG FAT SUPERNATURAL WEDDING**

Ordinary weddings can get crazy enough, so can you imagine what happens when otherworldly creatures are involved? Nine of the hottest authors of paranormal fiction answer that question in this collection of supernatural wedding stories. Contributors include L A Banks, Jim Butcher, P N Elrod, Esther M Friesner, Sherrilyn Kenyon and Susan Krinard. Tp \$29.95 310pp

YASMINE GALENORN  
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Meet the D'Artigo sisters: half-human, half-faerie, they're operatives for the Otherworld Intelligence Agency. But their mixed-blood heritage short-circuits their talents at all the wrong times. Delilah shapeshifts into a tabby cat whenever she's stressed. Menolly's a vampire who's still trying to get the hang of being undead. And Camille is a wicked-good witch, except her magic's as unpredictable as the weather, as her enemies are about to find out - the hard way. Pb \$16.95 293pp

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*The Menagerie* #3. A powerful, demonic force seeks Danny Ferrick, a changeling and the youngest member of the Menagerie. Now Doyle's team must race to save their friend from falling into the darkness and taking humanity with him. Pb \$18.95 343pp

HEATHER GRAHAM  
**KISS OF DARKNESS**

Several visiting students travel into the forest and disappear. Their professor, Bryan McAllister, believes that a dark cult is at work and that their next gathering will be in America. When psychologist Jessica Fraser is approached by Bryan for her assistance, she is hesitant. As reluctant allies, they unite to seek the truth. The search takes them from the forested mountains to dimly lit clubs in New Orleans' French Quarter, where perversion goes beyond sexual to life-threatening. Pb \$18.95 395pp

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From a woman who marries into a family of wizards to a couple fleeing a gang of cupids, from a girl who seeks sanctuary in the form of a goose to the disgruntled superhero Captain Housework, readers will revel in the many twists and turns of fortune in these unique, sometimes surreal visions. Vampire hunter and zombie animator, Anita Blake, gets blindsided by the disturbing motives of her clients in the never-before-published *Those Who Seek Forgiveness* and in *The Girl Who Was Infatuated with Death*. Hb \$49.95 257pp

# What We've Been Reading



**New Moon** (*Bella #2*) by Stephenie Meyer (Hb \$39.95). My love of the first book is well known and the sequel didn't let me down (I ploughed through it in two days). It (mostly) doesn't have the yearning romanticism of the first part, but that fits with what's happening in the story. Again, a great story with fantastic characters suitable for 12-112-year-olds! (And I still love Edward). I can't wait to see how she resolves a couple of things in the third part. - *Steph*

**Keeper** by Sarah Langan (Pb \$16.95) This is an unusual horror book. Set in a middle-American town in economic decline, the story is an old one, yet reached a point where many other of its kind would be wrapping up and this was still going strong. Characters who aren't all good or all evil, even the main "bad girl". - *Steph*

**The Mysterious Geographic Explorations of Jasper Morello** (DVD \$25.95 Rated M). This 26-minute film by Australian director Anthony Lucas was an *Academy Award* nominee in 2005. Using silhouette animation, it tells the story of disgraced navigator Jasper Morello and his journey aboard an iron airship on a routine mission that makes a discovery that may save his home city at a terrible price...This dark and beautiful-looking film brings to mind the steampunk inspired novels of China Mieville, Jules Verne and Phillip Reeve. Included on the DVD are several of Lucas's other short films and an interview with the director. Highly recommended. - *David*

**Engineer Reconditioned** (Tp \$32.95) by Neal Asher. I'm a huge fan of the *Polity* series by this writer and when this collection of short stories, many of them long-unavailable, was released I immediately purchased a copy. Asher has a definite style and, while it's good to see some new stories set in the Polity universe here, it's also a treat to read what else he can do. Suffice to say, the 'else' is also excellent and my esteem for this author is undiminished. 9/10 - *Adam*

**Farthing** (Hb \$56.00) by Jo Walton. An alternate history tale by the *World Fantasy Award*-winning author of **Tooth and Claw** (Pb \$16.95), is set in a world where England has signed a treaty with Hitler's Germany to end its part in World War 2. As a consequence of this, the Jews in England are persecuted; just not at quite the same level as on the European mainland. The Farthing Set are a group of well-connected, upper-class English, who were instrumental in the creation of the aforementioned treaty. When one of their number is murdered, the Jewish husband of a rebellious Farthing daughter is implicated. Touches of the dystopian **1984** (Orwell, Pb \$19.95) world will bring me back for the follow-up. 8/10 - *Adam*

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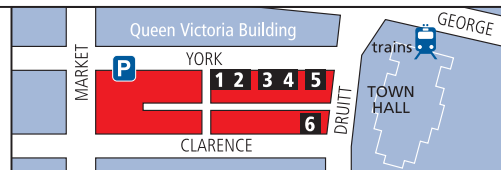
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