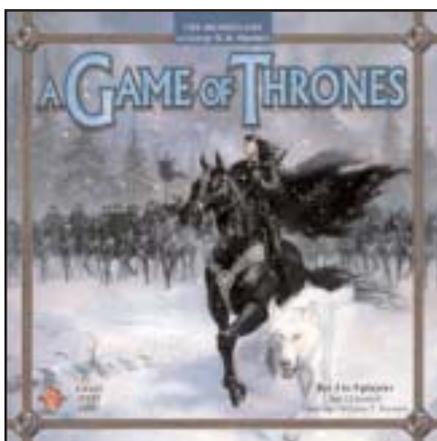




nexus

December 2003

Issue #187



A GAME OF THRONES BOARDGAME

King Robert Baratheon is dead and the seven kingdoms brace for war. House Lannister, whose daughter Cersei was Robert's queen, claims the throne for her young son Joffrey. From the Dragonstone Isle, Stannis Baratheon knows that Robert was not the true father of Joffrey and rightfully demands the throne for himself. On the Iron Isles, House Greyjoy is about to embark on a second rebellion, but this time with a much grander goal. In the north, House Stark gathers its strength to defend what is right, and in the south the wealthy House Tyrell harbors an old ambition to sit on the Iron Throne. As armies gather and ravens fly, a clash of kings is inevitable.

Based on the bestselling novel series *A Song of Ice and Fire* by George R R Martin, this boardgame (\$94.95) lets players take control of one of the great Houses of Westeros and embark on an epic struggle to claim the Iron Throne. The artwork on the board is stunning and the game pieces are wooden. The counters and cards complement the game nicely. Immerse yourself in a game of clever planning, careful allocation of power, diplomacy and the exciting flavour of *A Song of Ice and Fire*. - Adam

HOW DO DINOSAURS SAY GOOD NIGHT?

Jane Yolen & Mark Teague

In a few simple lines of verse on each spread, fathers and mothers are ready to put their youngsters to bed. But in this book, the youngsters are a wide variety of dinosaurs. And how do dinosaurs say good night? In the end, young dinosaurs behave a lot like people do: They give a big kiss, turn out the light, tuck in their tails, and whisper "good night." Here is a new staple for bedtime reading, a book children will ask for again and again. Hb \$32.00 (includes 8" plush dinosaur toy). *My son (3) has to have this read to him every night and it has become one of my favourite bed-time stories ever, beginning with growls, tail-lashings and teddy-bear throwing, but nicely calms down to hugs and kisses goodnight. And the gorgeous dinosaur illustrations (correctly labelled, of course) are an added bonus for the dinosaur obsessed. Even my 'grown-up' 7-year-old loves this!* - Jo



DR WHO

THE THREE DOCTORS

Starring William Hartnell, Patrick Troughton & Jon Pertwee.

DVD Gift Box. \$49.95 This gift pack includes the DVD in an anniversary slipcase and a collectable Corgi Dr Who Bessie car. Standard edition. DVD \$34.95

THE MAPS OF TOLKIEN'S MIDDLE-EARTH

Brian Sibley & John Howe



Written by writer and broadcaster Brian Sibley, this slipcase features Tolkien's maps of **The Hobbit**, Beleriand and Middle-earth. Each map is presented in a box-set illustrated by Tolkien artist John Howe, the conceptual artist employed by Peter Jackson to work on his film trilogy. The maps, presented with individual books and wallets, show Tolkien's mythical lands in detail - they are also bound with fewer folds, making them

suitable for portfolios or framing. Hb \$49.95

More Tolkien items on page 15...

THE ART OF FAERY

David Riche & Brian Froud

This title features the creations of some of the best artists working in the US, Europe and Japan. There are a huge variety of styles to appeal to a wide range of tastes, from the gothic fantasies of Amy Brown to Myrea Pettit's gentle, playful creatures. Some of the newer artists have rebelled against the old traditions or turned them on their heads. Others celebrate the inheritance left them by masters of the craft, such as Arthur Rackham and Cicely Mary Baker. All media are represented: watercolour, pen and ink, oil, pastel. Each artist presents his or her favourite pieces, showing what best represents their work, revealing their inspirations and techniques, their working methods and what drives them to create. Hb \$65.00 112pp



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

To order online from our Christmas catalogue, go to www.abbey.com.au/direct,

then enter a catalogue page number for a list of the books from that page.

Simply click any title to order.



SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY



CHRIS ADRIAN

 **GOB'S GRIEF**

In the summer of 1863, Gob and Tomo Woodhull, 11-year-old twin sons of Victoria Woodhull, agree to together forsake their home and family in Licking County, Ohio, for the glories of the Union Army. But when Gob suffers a change of heart, Tomo is forced to leave his brother behind. Then when Tomo is shot clean through the eye in his very first battle, Gob is left to endure the guilt and grief that will later come to fuel his obsession with building a vast machine that will bring Tomo - indeed, all the Civil War dead - back to life. Tp \$34.00 387pp

POUL ANDERSON

  **BRAINWAVE**

For millions of years, the part of the galaxy containing our solar system has been moving through a vast force field whose effect has been to inhibit certain electromagnetic and electrochemical processes and thus certain neurotic functions. When Earth escapes the inhibiting field, synapse speed immediately increases, causing a rise in intelligence, which results in a transfigured humanity reaching for the stars, leaving behind our earth to the less intelligent humans and animal life-forms. Pb \$16.95 164pp

ROBERT ASPRIN & LINDA EVANS
FOR KING AND COUNTRY

 *Time Scout Universe.* SAS Captain Trevor Stirling thinks his mission is simple: follow a terrorist into the year AD 500 to stop a Northern Irish fanatic bent on murder. If the terrorist succeeds in killing Artorius, the Briton Lord of Battle and the most revered icon of British history, the time-space continuum will fracture, destroying the British nation - and the rest of the world. He must choose between duty to his mission and the growing conviction that he should forsake everything he holds dear to follow a higher duty. Pb \$19.95 533pp

E D BAKER

 **THE FROG PRINCESS**

Princess Esmeralda isn't exactly an ideal princess. Her laugh sounds like a donkey's bray rather than tinkling bells, she trips over her own feet more often than she gracefully curtsies and she hates the young Prince Jorge whom her mother hopes she will marry. But if Esmeralda ever thought to escape from her frustrating life, she never expected it to happen by turning into a frog! Pb \$14.95 214pp

STEPHEN BAXTER

 **COALESCENT**

Destiny's Children #1. With this new trilogy the author tells the story of mankind's role in the Universe from the perspective of our impossibly distant descendants - a race who have established a utopia at the end of time and the universe, but who must now try and tackle the shadow that the suffering of the past throws over their perfection. Hb \$55.00 473pp

EVOLUTION

 From their beginnings foraging at the feet of the dinosaurs, through the apocalypse of an asteroid strike, through countless years of the day-to-day life and death dramas of survival of the fittest, to the rise and fall of mankind and the final destruction of earth by the expanding sun, the primates have survived. This is their story. Pb \$19.95 762pp

DAVID BRIN (SCOTT HAMPTON, ILLUS)

 **LIFE EATERS**

Adolf Hitler devises an unholy plot that pits the ancient Norse gods against the Allied forces. Hb \$65.00 131pp

KRISTEN BRITAIN

 **FIRST RIDER'S CALL**

Green Rider #2. With evil forces at large in the kingdom and the messenger service depleted and weakened, can Karigan reach through the veils of time to get help from the First Rider, a woman who has been dead for 1,000 years? Tp \$29.95 639pp

LOIS McMASTER BUJOLD
PALADIN OF SOULS

 *Chalion universe.* Three years have passed since the widowed Dowager Royina Ista found release from the curse of madness that kept her imprisoned in her family's castle of Valenda. Her newfound freedom is costly and the road - escape - beckons... When she sets off on a simple pilgrimage her retinue is set upon not long into its travels and a mysterious ally appears - a warrior nobleman who fights like a berserker. The safety of her enigmatic champion's castle cannot ease Ista's mounting dread, however, when she finds his dark secrets are entangled with hers in a net of the gods' own weaving. Hb \$59.95 456pp

CANDACE CAMP

  **MESMERIZED**

Olivia Moreland has long denied her clairvoyant abilities, working instead to disprove the mediums that flock to London. But when Stephen, Lord St Leger, requests her help in investigating an alleged psychic, she can't ignore the ominous presence she feels within the walls of his ancient estate. Nor can she ignore the intimate connection she feels with Stephen... Pb \$17.95 410pp

ORSON SCOTT CARD

 **THE CRYSTAL CITY**

Alvin Maker #6. Alvin has been trying to avert the terrible war that his wife Peggy, a torch of extraordinary power, has seen down the life-lines of every American. Now she has sent him down the Mizzippy to the city of New Orleans or Nueva Barcelona as they call it under Spanish occupation. Nueva Barcelona is about to experience a plague and Alvin's efforts to protect his friends by keeping them healthy will create more danger than he could ever have suspected and he will be put to the greatest test of his life - a test that will draw on all his power. Alvin must take the first steps on the road to the Crystal City that was shown to him in a vision so long ago. Hb \$62.00 384pp

JAY CASELBERG

 **WYRMHOLE**

Jack Stein lives and works in the crowded, semi-organic city known as the Locality. He's hired by the Outreach Mining Company to investigate the mysterious disappearance of one of its mining crews on an uncolonised planet. But his psychic dreams are full of strange mystical symbols and red herrings, making Jack wonder if Outreach truly wants the miners found. And the deeper he digs, the more people want to see him dead... Pb \$15.95 309pp

	SCIENCE FICTION
	FANTASY
	ROMANCE
	AWARD WINNER
	AUSTRALIAN
	ACTION
	REPRINT
	AUDIO CASSETTE
AC	COMPACT DISC
Cd	PAPERBACK
Pb	HARDBACK
Hb	TRADE PAPERBACK
Tp	

Fave Raves

our favourites - new & old

FAVE NEW

VENISS UNDERGROUND

Jeff Vandermeer

Tp \$30.00 315pp



Nicholas, Nicola and Shadrach live in a vast city on a far future Earth, where most of the planet is an apocalyptic landscape, peopled by mutants. Behind the mile-deep city walls, decadence and art are the norm. Living Artists create bioengineered monstrosities from legend and their warped imaginations. Nicholas is such an artist, and one day goes to visit the mysterious cyborg Quin to purchase a meerkat, which are genetically altered creatures that function as servants. He never comes back.

Nicola is Nicholas' sister, and has been searching the city for him. One night, a meerkat comes to her apartment, a gift from Quin to serve her. As she continues her search for her brother, the meerkat's behaviour arouses her suspicions, and she eventually follows it into the depths of the city. Shadrach has been Nicolas' lover, a mixed up man who must embark on a quest into the bowels of the earth to save himself and another.

This is a wonderful novel, a tale of the city that is visually rich in the same vein as China Mieville and M John Harrison's *Viriconium* sequence. Think of taking Hieronymus Bosch, *Blade Runner*, Judge Dredd and stirring them up into a swirling phantasmagoria of surrealism and violence. A mystery and a romance; wild scenes below ground akin to Dante's circles of Hell. It's all here but it doesn't get tangled up in itself.

Like Mieville or Mervyn Peake, the metropolis assumes its own personality. The events that occur within are almost like the dreamscape of the city; the story pulls you on and on, deeper into a nightmare.

The story is told in first, second and third person, one for each of the three main characters and this works to the book's advantage.

Nicolas' (second person) isolation and loss is portrayed very well. You experience her actions and inner feelings firsthand, whilst Shadrach's (third person) story is more the typical quest, but he will suffer the events that unfold with more clarity.

This comes highly recommended for lovers of weird fiction. Also worth checking out is another of the author's works, **City of Saints and Madmen** (Tp \$55.00 or complete edition Hb \$125.00). This book collects all of Vandermeer's work revolving around the ancient city of Ambergris and its bizarre history. Quite similar to **Veniss Underground** in feel, but with Michael Moorcock and H P Lovecraft thrown into an already overpowering mix. - David

FAVE OLD

THE DOOR IN THE HEDGE

Robin McKinley

Pb \$17.95 216pp



McKinley is responsible for some of the most beautiful retelling of fairy tales. Long out of print, this is a collection of two original fairytales *The Hunting of the Hind* and *The Stolen Princess*, and two retellings of known and loved fairy tales *The Twelve Dancing Princesses* and *The Princess and the Frog*. My favourite of the original stories would be *The Stolen Princess*. The kingdom is the last mortal one before entering the realm of Faery, and has always been blessed. Even in hard times they have just enough. The flip side is that people from other kingdoms rarely move there - there is something a little too special about this land and its people. Also, every now and again, male babies or teenage girls are spirited away by the Faery. It's not malicious as such. The Fae never take the first-born, or the only boy in a family. On the eve of her 17th birthday, Ellian (one of the twin Royal Princesses) is taken, leaving her sister Alora behind and heartbroken. Alora eventually marries and finds happiness, and has a daughter of her own, only to have her taken under the same circumstances as her sister. This time she takes action. The retellings themselves don't stray too far from what we are familiar with, but where McKinley makes her mark is her use of language. She writes the most beautiful scenery and characters with words - quite fitting considering the subject matter. All of these stories would be enjoyed by younger readers (hence why it has been chosen by Tor to bear its Firebird imprint for younger readers) and those of us who are young at heart will get lost in the imagery. Beautiful! - Stephanie

P C CAST



GODDESS OF THE SEA

After her plane crashes into the sea, an Air Force Sergeant finds herself occupying the body of the mythic mermaid Undine - and falling for a sexy merman. Pb \$15.95 355pp

C J CHERRYH



EXPLORER

Foreigner #6. This final novel of the series follows a human delegate trapped in a distant star system facing a potentially bellicose alien ship. Pb \$17.95 523pp

M CHRISTIAN



THE BACHELOR MACHINE: A COLLECTION OF EROTIC SF STORIES

The cream of the author's previously published works like *Intercore* and *Eulogy* is here, along with several new tales of interstellar erotic adventures. Tp \$36.00 210pp

JOHN DALMAS



THE HELVERTI INVASION

Luis Raoul DenUyl had been only a young recruit in the warrior brotherhood, but still played a pivotal role in what some called The Lizard War. Years later, he has just completed his training - and not a moment too soon. The Helverti, furry but definitely not cute aliens, were members of a cult that revered chaos and tried to spread it throughout the galaxy. To that end, they plan to plunge the different tribes of humanity into war. It is mystic warriors vs. alien technology - and the Earthlings are not as weak as they appear... Pb \$17.95 492pp

CECILA DART-THORNTON



THE BATTLE OF EVERNIGHT

The Bitterbynde #3. Once upon a time the great Faeran high king, Angavar, became trapped in mortal Erith along with his twin brother and nemesis Morrigan, the Raven Prince, when the gate to the Faeran Realm was closed on them... Many centuries later, the fugitive who calls herself Tahquil is being hunted down by the Raven Prince because she alone can reopen the gate to the Fair Realm. Pb \$19.95 625pp

PAMELA DEAN

  **THE SECRET COUNTRY**

The Secret Country #1. For the past nine years, cousins Patrick, Ruth, Ellen, Ted and Laura have played at 'The Secret' - a game full of witches, unicorns, a magic ring and court intrigue, in which they can imagine anything into reality, and shape destiny. Then the unbelievable happens - they find themselves in the Secret Country, their made-up identities now real. Pb \$17.95 371pp

  **THE HIDDEN LAND**

The Secret Country #2. The five cousins are still trapped in the Secret Country and must play their parts. When the King is poisoned, Ted (Prince Edward) must take the throne, even though he has no idea how to rule a country, battle magic or inspire followers. Pb \$17.95 257pp

PETER DICKINSON

  **WEATHERMONGER**

Changes #1. When 16-year-old Geoffrey, a "weathermonger" starts to repair his uncle's motorboat, he and his sister Sally are condemned as witches. Fleeing for their lives, they travel to France, where they discover that everything is normal. Returning to England, they set out to discover why the country is under this mysterious spell. Pb \$15.95 237pp

JUDE DEVERAUX

  **FOREVER AND ALWAYS**

Darci's psychic abilities have always guided her through hardship... and into a once-in-a-lifetime love with her rich, powerful husband, Adam Montgomery. When Adam vanishes in a mysterious accident, a grief-stricken Darci is left alone to raise their young daughter. When the FBI enlists her talents to solve a heinous crime, she agrees on the condition that they help uncover the truth about Adam. Now Darci must discover if those in the highest circles of authority have her best interests at heart - or if someone intends to sever the everlasting bond she shares with her one true love. Pb \$18.95 330pp

WILLIAM DIETZ

 **FOR MORE THAN GLORY**

Legion of the Damned. In the wake of a great universal war, General Bill Booly found himself struggling to balance his military, political and humane obligations. But neither Booly nor his men realise that on the remote world of LaNor, another revolution is brewing. There, a career Legionnaire with a reputation for bucking authority, and an inexperienced, overly-ambitious diplomat will become key to defending the deadly LaNorian web of terrorism that threatens not only the Legionnaires, but the entire Confederacy. Hb \$59.95 487pp

GREG DONEGAN

 **ASSAULT ON ATLANTIS**

The Shadows, humanity's most ancient enemy, have returned. Ten centuries ago, they destroyed Atlantis and now they want the rest of the Earth to follow. Only ex-Green Beret Eric Dane holds the key to ending this dire threat. Pb \$17.95 296pp

DAVE DUNCAN

 **IMPOSSIBLE ODDS**

A novel of the King's Blades. Deposed by a foul usurper, the Grand Duke Rubin is on the run and in desperate need of protection. While the King has decreed that new Blades will be magically bound to the guard, not one of the rough youths at Ironhall is ready for such an assignment. Left with no choice, the Grand Master approaches three with an offer of early bonding and probable death. Joined by a True, a White Sister, the trio of would-be champions begins an astonishing journey filled with trials and horrors, intending to restore a rightful ruler to the throne or die in the process. Hb \$59.95 365pp

DAVID FARLAND

 **LAIR OF BONES**

Runelords #4. Prince Gaborn, the Earth King, has defeated the forces arrayed against him before. Now there must be final confrontations, both on the field of battle, with the supernatural creature that Raj Ahten has become, and underground, in the cavernous homeland of the Reavers, where the sorcerous One True Master who rules them all lies in wait - in the Lair of Bones. The survival of the human race on Earth is at stake. Hb \$65.00 429pp

RAYMOND FEIST

 **TALON OF THE SILVER HAWK**

Conclave of Shadows #1. Returning from his manhood ritual on a remote mountain peak, he stumbles upon devastation. His village is being burned, his people slaughtered. Although it means certain death, Kieli throws himself into the battle... Against all the odds, he survives, alone of all the Orosini, who have been cut down where they stand: every last man, woman and child. He is a boy called Kielianapuna no more. Now he is Talon of the Silver Hawk, a man who must avenge the murder of his people, whatever that may take... Pb \$18.95 390pp

ALAN DEAN FOSTER

 **DROWNING WORLD**

A novel of the Commonwealth. In the early days of the Commonwealth, two indigenes of the lush and dangerously seductive planet Fluva, reluctantly join forces to search for Shadrach Hasselmoga, a human fortune hunter lost in the very alien wilds of the Viisiivisi. Pb \$17.95 315pp

FLINX'S FOLLY

 *A Pip and Flinx novel.* It's a good thing Flinx is no stranger to trouble, because he's swimming in it. Even before the latest murderous attack by a new gang of assailants, there seems no end to people determined to arrest, examine or kill him. To add insult to all that injury, Flinx has been spirited away and enlisted in a battle against a monstrous extra-galactic threat. Hidden behind the Great Emptiness, in a place where it seems matter and energy have never been, there is only evil. Pure evil that is approaching him, accelerating. Against such a quintessence of colossal evil what can one puny human and a formidable mini-drag protector do? Hb \$59.95 268pp

DIANA PHAROAH FRANCIS

 **PATH OF FATE**

In the land of Kodu Riik, it is an honour to be selected by the Lady to become an ahalad-kaaslane - to have your soul bonded with one of Her blessed animals, and roam the land serving Her will. But Riesil refuses to bow to fate - a decision that may have repercussions across the realm... Pb \$17.95 369pp

KATHERINE GREYLE

  **ALMOST AN ANGEL**

Carolly Hanson is training to be an angel, or so she believes. It is the only explanation for why she keeps dying and reappearing in different places and times. Clearly she is intended to help people and clearly, the best way to help people is to find them true love. This time she awakes in the arms of James Oscar Henry Northram, Earl of Traynern. The handsome noble is charmed by her odd sense of humour, strange forthright manner and complete lack of interest in trapping him in marriage. But he also thinks her a Bedlamite and isn't the least bit cooperative with the women she pushes in his direction. Pb \$15.95 309pp

KAREN HANCOCK

 **THE LIGHT OF EIDON**

Legends of the Guardian King #1. Abramm has dedicated the last eight years of his life to becoming worthy to touch and tend the Sacred Flames of Eidon, and he expects to be blessed for his devotion and sacrifice. But on the eve of taking the vows that will irrevocably separate him from the life he was born to - as Abramm Kalladorne, 5th son of the king of Kiriath - he is betrayed by his mentor and sold into slavery by his family. Swept along by the winds of a new destiny, Abramm is forced to compete as a gladiator. When the oppressed masses rally around his success, he discovers his suffering has moulded him into something greater than he ever thought possible. Tp \$27.95 432pp

STEVEN HARPER

TRICKSTER

 *Silent Empire #3.* The telepathic communications net, known as 'The Dream,' has been shattered and the majority of the Silent who used it, are unable to re-enter. But Kendi Weaver has more pressing concerns - finding the family that slavers tore from him more than a decade before... Pb \$17.95 355pp

DAVID HARTWELL & KATHRYN CRAMER (EDS)

THE HARD SF RENAISSANCE

 These award-winning editors present an anthology that maps the development and modern-day resurgence of hard SF, argues for its special virtues and present pre-eminence, and entertains us with some storytelling along the way. Included are stories by Poul Anderson, Stephen Baxter, Gregory Benford, Ben Bova, David Brin, Arthur C Clarke, Greg Egan, Joe Haldeman, Nancy Kress, Paul McAuley, Frederik Pohl, Alastair Reynolds, Kim Stanley Robinson, Robert J Sawyer, Karl Schroeder, Charles Sheffield, Brian Stableford, Allen Steele, Bruce Sterling, Michael Swanwick and Vernor Vinge. Tp \$52.00 960pp

MARY HOFFMAN

CITY OF STARS

 *Stravaganza #2.* Georgia loves horses and hates her step-brother Russell. So when Georgia saves up enough money to buy a little winged horse, she knows she has to keep it out of his way. But what Georgia doesn't know is that the horse offers her escape to another world and another time. Pb \$15.95 459pp

EMMA HOLLY

HUNTING MIDNIGHT

  After he's betrayed by his long-time lover, Ulric, the leader of a pack of shape-shifting immortals, takes to the streets of Bridesmere. It is there that he introduces an innocent young maiden to the sensuous delights of searing passion. But will he grant her immortality, or will he cast her from his life and send her back to the treacherous world beyond the caves? Pb \$15.95 293pp

MELANIE JACKSON

OUTSIDERS

  As a child, Cyra's parents made her hide her gifts, but the modern world's seedy underbelly doesn't simply go away. And when that darkness comes to call, Cyra seeks sanctuary in the Nevada desert, where she finds Thomas Marrowbone. Beneath his tormented shell lurks something powerful and inhuman, but also something primal and erotic. Cyra recognises it, and she follows the enigmatic loner into the depths of Hell. Success promises salvation and a happiness Cyra has never known. Pb \$15.95 342pp

DIANA WYNNE JONES

THE DARK LORD OF DERKHOLM

  *Derkholm #1.* Everyone is fed up with Mr Chesney's Pilgrim Parties - groups of tourists from the next door world who descend en-masse annually to take the Grand Tour. What they expect are all the trappings of a grand fantasy adventure, including the Evil Enchantress, Wizard Guides, the Dark Lord etc. Every year different people play these parts, but now they've had enough. And it's up to the Wizard Derk, his son Blade, and Blade's griffin brothers and sisters, to save the world from Mr Chesney. Pb \$17.95 328pp

ROBERT JORDAN

CROSSROADS OF TWILIGHT

 *Wheel of Time #10.* Rand al'Thor, the Dragon Reborn, must fight on against the Dark One in a struggle that has drawn an entire world into its vortex, claiming the souls of friends and enemies alike. He has cleansed the taint of madness from the male half of the True Source and may now draw on its power as a weapon of awesome potential. Pb \$21.95 817pp

ROBERT KING

LE MORTE D'AVALON

 Part female Hamlet, part mystical Lady Macbeth, this daughter of a slain king must become an Arthurian Joan of Arc for all women, when her position in society and royal lineage place her in direct opposition to all that Arthur must accomplish... Hb \$55.00 463pp

KATHERINE KURTZ

IN THE KING'S SERVICE

 *A Deryni novel.* In this new trilogy, the author takes readers back in time, before King Kelson's bride, before King Kelson's birth, when the magical Deryni blood was sought by the most powerful men and women in the kingdom of Gwynedd. Back when a man named Donal ruled over all. Hb \$55.00 359pp

MERCEDES LACKEY

EXILE'S VALOR

 *A Valdemar novel.* Once a Captain in the army of Karse, a kingdom at war with Valdemar, Alberich becomes one of Valdemar's Heralds. Despite prejudice against him, he becomes the personal protector of young Queen Selenay, but can he protect her from the dangers of her own heart? Hb \$59.95 402pp

MERCEDES LACKEY & JAMES MALLORY

THE OUTSTRETCHED SHADOW

 *The Obsidian trilogy #1.* When Kellen Tavaddon, son of the Arch-Mage Lycaelon, finds the forbidden Books of Wild Magic, he comes to question everything he has known. Discovering too many of the City's dark secrets, he is banished, with the Outlaw Hunt on his heels. He invokes Wild Magic and finds himself running for his life with a unicorn at his side. Hb \$65.00 605pp

RHIANNON LASSITER

WAKING DREAM

 On a table lie three books, each with a name on the front - Bethany, Poppy and Rivalaun. Bethany's father has just died and she feels abandoned by her mother, who has sent her to spend the summer with her spoiled cousin Poppy, who thinks she's a witch. Rivalaun says he has travelled from another world to be there and that only he knows what the three books mean. The three have little in common... until they sleep when, in their dreams, they suddenly seem connected. But their dreams tell them something else as well - that everything they have known about themselves is a lie. Which should they believe - their lives or their waking dreams...? Pb \$12.95 312pp

TANITH LEE

MORTAL SUNS

 Horrible screams pierce the night air as the Daystar, Queen Hesta of Akhemony, wrestles with the delivery of the King's child, beautifully formed except for one heartbreaking deformity - she is born without feet. Consigned immediately to the world of death, the lame infant is dispatched to Thon, the underworld temple, and baptised Cemira, snake, the name she will bear throughout a lifetime of darkness. It is only at the behest of Urdombris, the Sun Consort, that the child is restored to her rightful place as heir to the throne on Oceaxis. Hb \$64.00 335pp

URSULA K LE GUIN

TALES FROM EARTHSEA

 Five tales of Earthsea set both before and after the time of the original novels, as well as an essay on its people, languages, history and magic. Pb \$19.95 280pp

JOHN MARSDEN

WHILE I LIVE

 *Tomorrow universe.* The town of Wirrawee is emerging from war, slowly. School's back in, Juicy's is open for coffee, farmers are bidding at the cattle sales. Ellie Linton at last gets what she fought for, to be back on the farm with her parents. But it's not the same. A new nation is on the other side of a new border. Suddenly the war is about to explode into Ellie's life again. Hb \$29.95 300pp

ANNE McCAFFREY &

ELIZABETH ANN SCARBOROUGH

ACORNA'S REBELS

 *Acorna #6.* Acorna's people, the Linyaari, have started to reclaim their home world from the ravages of the brutal alien Khleevi. But the expedition has unlocked a larger mystery about the origins of the Linyaari people - one that has led Aari, Acorna's lifemate, into a dangerous journey through time and space. Pb \$19.95 381pp

JUDI MCCOY



HEAVEN SENT

A widowed cop, Nathan Baxter has his hands full raising his five-year-old daughter and keeping his meddling mother from constantly searching for the next Mrs Nathan Baxter. If there's anything he doesn't need, it's opening himself and his daughter up to heartbreak again. But Phoebe's new kindergarten teacher seems to have other ideas, asking the child all sorts of questions. Nathan intends to set things straight, but meeting with the attractive, free-spirited Miss Starr leaves him anything but settled. Pb \$17.95 319pp

JACK MCDEVITT



CHINDI

Hutch #3. The universe has been explored and humanity has all but given up on finding other intelligent life. Then an alien satellite orbiting a distant star sends out an unreadable signal. Is it the final programmed gasp of an ancient, long-dead race? Or the first greeting of an undiscovered life form? Pb \$19.95 511pp

CLIFF MCNISH



THE SILVER CHILD

Six children are drawn to Coldharbour - an eerie wasteland, rats, seagulls and rubbish tips. Emily and Freda, the twins, scuttle in search of the others. They find Thomas on a food tip. The gentle giant boy Walter joins them and so does Helen, who can read minds. And at the centre of it all is luminous Milo, his skin hot and bright with silver. Each of them has a unique gift, but they must learn to use their skills fast. Drawing ever closer in a maelstrom of fury is the roar, something vast and dreadful that wants to destroy them all. Hb \$24.95 167pp

L E MODESITT, JNR



THE ETHOS EFFECT

Commander Van C Albert of the Republic Space Force of Taran, is a brave and resourceful officer indirectly responsible for the loss of a civilian liner. Wounded foiling an assassination, he is decorated, promoted and summarily retired while still in a coma. Then the Integrated Information Systems foundation of the Eco-Tech Coalition recruits him to fly a starship, and Van finds he has a powerful new vantage point not just for observation, but for action. Hb \$65.00 509pp



ECOLITAN PRIME

Omnibus edition containing Ecolitan #3 & #4, The Ecologic Envoy & The Ecolitan Enigma. 400 years after winning secession from the Terran Empire, the star system Accord wants to sign a simple trade treaty with the Empire, but if the agreement is so minor, why is Nathaniel Whaler, chief economist and his world's top commando killer, chosen as Accord's Envoy? Tp \$43.00 492pp

ELIZABETH MOON



DEED OF PAKSENARRION

Paksenarrion, a simple sheepfarmer's daughter, yearns for a life of adventure and glory, such as was known to heroes in songs and story. At age 17, she runs away from home to join a mercenary company and begins her epic life. Trained as a mercenary she distinguishes herself, but leaves the Duke's service to follow the path of Gird, the soldier's god. That path leads her on a holy quest for a lost elven prince that brings the gods' wrath down on her and tests her very limits. Hb \$62.00 1123pp

WENDY MORGAN



OBSESSION

Meg is the most popular girl in school. She's unaware that her real father was a powerful voodoo priest, and that she, too, has a 'power'. Unpopular Candra would do anything to be Meg and when she meets Shea, Meg's sexy boyfriend, all the pieces fall into place. Now, her most thrilling fantasies are about to come true, because Candra also possesses a very special gift and she's about to unleash it on an unsuspecting rival. Pb \$15.95 350pp

CHRIS MORIARTY



SPIN STATE

UN Peacekeeper Major Catherine Li has made 37 faster-than-light jumps in her lifetime and has probably forgotten more than most people remember. But nothing prepare Li for what she finds on Compson's World, a mining colony she once called home, and where she is sent after a botched raid puts her on the bad side of the powers-that-be. A dead physicist who just happens to be her cloned twin, a missing dataset that could change the interstellar balance of power and a mining accident that is starting to look more and more like murder. Suddenly Li is chasing a killer in an alien world miles underground where everyone has a secret. Tp \$29.95 477pp

BAHIYYIH NAKHJAVANI



THE SADDLEBAG

A tantalising tale of what befalls nine travellers on the route between Mecca and Medina, in the middle of the 19th century, as they encounter a mysterious saddlebag that changes each of their lives. It seems a perfectly ordinary saddlebag but what are its contents? Pb \$21.95 258pp

DONNA JO NAPOLI



BREATH

Salz is afflicted with a strange disease - he coughs and coughs, and cannot catch his breath. He lives in Hameln. This summer his father and brothers are affected by horrifying fits. The rest of the townspeople are gripped by a plague of madness and the entire town is visited by a pestilence of rats. Only Salz remains unaffected. Is that because he is innocent, or is he the devil himself? Hb \$39.95 260pp

DOUGLAS NILES & MICHAEL DOBSON



FOX AT THE FRONT

Fox #2. July 20, 1944. A group of disillusioned officers of Hitler's high command plant a bomb that successfully kills the Führer. For a moment, there is an opportunity for surrender, peace and survival for all of Germany, but Himmler has other plans... An armistice is signed with Stalin's Soviet Union. New battle lines result in a very different Battle of the Bulge, where the legendary Desert Fox, Erwin Rommel, meets Blood 'n' Guts George Patton. These two masters of modern cavalry tactics must join forces and push to the East, where the hungry bear of Stalin's army is readying a land grab of all of Eastern Europe, claiming war spoils they ill deserve. Hb \$65.00 558pp

SHARON NOVEMBER



FIREBIRDS: AN ANTHOLOGY OF ORIGINAL FANTASY & SCIENCE FICTION

These 16 original stories showcase some of the genre's most admired authors, including multiple award-winners Diana Wynne Jones, Garth Nix, Lloyd Alexander, Nancy Farmer, Meredith Ann Pierce and Patricia McKillip. Here readers will find a range of writing, from dark humour, to high sword and sorcery, to traditional ballads. Finally, to make this anthology even more of a standout, it appears first as a deluxe, jacketed hardcover. Hb \$48.00 420pp

ROBERT RANKIN



THE HOLLOW CHOCOLATE

BUNNIES OF THE APOCALYPSE
This novel is set in Toy City. The Old Rich, who have made their millions from the royalties on their world famous nursery rhymes, are being slaughtered. One by One. Horribly. A psychopath is on the loose. He must be stopped at all costs. It's a job for Toytown's only detective. Eddie Bear. Pb \$17.95 342pp

MIKE RESNICK (ED)



MEN WRITING SCIENCE FICTION AS WOMEN

First came **Women Writing Science Fiction as Men**, which was a homage to the early days of the science-fiction genre, when it was a given that the writers and their readers were men and any woman writing science fiction had to hide her true identity. Now, in this all-new collection of 19 stories by top male writers, the men are getting a chance to see if they can meet the challenge of successfully writing as women. Stories by Barry Malzberg, Robert J Sawyer, Robert Sheckley, Jack Dann, David Gerrold, Frank Robinson, Dean Wesley Smith and others. Pb \$17.95 319pp

JOHN RINGO

 **THERE WILL BE DRAGONS**

Edmund Talbot #1. In the future the world is a paradise - and then, in a moment, it ends. The council that controls the Net falls out and goes to war. Everywhere people who have never known a moment of want or pain are left wondering how to survive. In the village of Raven's Mill, Edmund Talbot, master smith and unassuming historian, finds that all the problems of the world are falling in his lap. Refugees are flooding in, bandits are roaming the woods, and his only daughter struggle through the Fallen landscape. And hidden in the past is a mystery that has waited until this time to be revealed. You cross Edmund Talbot at your peril, for a smith is not all he once was... Hb \$59.95 537pp

NORA ROBERTS

  **KEY OF LIGHT**

The Key trilogy #1. Three women. Three keys. Each has 28 days to find her way through a dangerous quest. Each novel is written in real-time and the novels will be published in consecutive months. Pb \$19.95 342pp

KRISTINE KATHRYN RUSCH

 **FANTASY LIFE**

Strange things have always happened in Seavy County, where unearthly beings are sometimes glimpsed in the twilight. For Seavy County is home to not just animal life, but to fantasy life as well - mythical creatures long vanished from the rest of the planet. The Buckingham family has protected the hidden wonders of Seavy County for generations. 40 years ago, Lyssa Buckingham's father lost his life doing just that. Lyssa fled from Seavy County, searching for a more normal life. With her 10-year-old daughter, Emily, in tow, she has come home at last, just as the malignant forces that killed her father are gathering strength once more. Now Lyssa must make some hard choices. About the county, about Emily - and about the fragile fantasy life that surrounds them all. Pb \$19.95 436pp

FRED SABERHAGEN

 **EMPIRE OF THE EAST**

In the distant future, dark forces keep all humans under their oppressive thumbs. In the darkness of the shadows and whispered on the winds, there is talk of a rebellion. In the swamps, a small band has formed. Determined to regain their freedom, they plan to overthrow an army of thousands... with the help of one incredible weapon - the mystical Elephant. Whoever masters it holds the key to freedom, or defeat. One young man, sets out to join the rebellion and find Elephant. What he discovers will change everything. Tp \$43.00 512pp

ROBERT SILVERBERG

 **ROMA ETERNA**

The Roman Empire never fell. Driven by political ambition and internal dissent, thrown into turmoil by rebellion and civil war, it changed and adapted, but it never fell. The balance of power between Byzantium in the east and Rome in the west ebbed and flowed, but the Empire never fell. And it continued to expand, taking in the New World, while still dominating the old. Tp \$29.95 385pp

DAN SIMMONS

HARD AS NAILS

Joe Kurtz #3. Unknown assailants gun down Kurtz and his female parole officer, giving Kurtz the headache of a lifetime but putting pretty Peg O'Toole on life support. Working his own case through a haze of concussion migraine, Kurtz has to deal with Toma Gonzaga, the gay don who owes Kurtz a blood debt, and Angelina Farino Ferrara, the female don who is after Kurtz's body - or maybe just his head. Hb \$59.95 308pp

KRISTINE SMITH

 **CONTACT IMMINENT**

Jani #4. Former captain Jani Kilian is a genetically altered, human-idomeni hybrid who acts as a bridge of communication between two fiercely incompatible races. With intergalactic civil war looming large, with renegades in the Service secretly plotting extermination, Jani Kilian is being pulled once more into perilous space. Because a horrific act of terror is about to ignite a long-feared conflict between human and alien... and the key to the survival or destruction of human civilisation is waiting for her somewhere on the edge of the universe. Pb \$19.95 437pp

LEMONY SNICKETT

 **THE SLIPPERY SLOPE**

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MICHAEL STACKPOLE

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Dragon Crown War Cycle #2. As Chytrine's merciless armies sweep from the north, her agents, both living and dead, search for fragments of the shattered Dragon Crown, which will make her unstoppable. Opposing her is Alexia, Princess of Okannel. As she struggles to save Kedy's Crow, a mysterious human warrior accused of treachery, she gathers around her an alliance of unlikely heroes, including Resolute, an exiled Vorquelf out for vengeance, Kerrigan Reese, a mage with uncertain potential, and last, but not least, young Will, an orphan thief from the slums of Yslin, who may be the fulfilment of an ancient prophecy, or its innocent victim. Pb \$17.95 658pp

NEAL STEPHENSON

 **QUICKSILVER**

Baroque Cycle #1. In 17th century Europe, three unlikely confederates are thrown together: Daniel Waterhouse possesses a brilliant scientific mind, dwarfed only by those of his friends Isaac Newton and Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz... 'Half-Cocked Jack's wild exploits in search of a great fortune are becoming the stuff of legend... Cast out from the Turkish harem she has been imprisoned since childhood, Eliza is simply trying to stay alive... Together they journey through a world of scientists, alchemists, Barbary pirates and courtiers in this historical epic. Tp \$45.00 927pp

PAUL STEWART & CHRIS RIDDELL

 **THE LAST OF THE SKY PIRATES**

Edge #5. Rook Barkwater dreams of becoming a librarian knight - one of those sent out to explore the mysteries of their world. Breaking all the rules, he sets out on a journey to the Free Glades and beyond. His luck and determination lead him from one peril to another until he encounters the last sky pirate - and is thrust into a bold adventure that dares to challenge the might of the dreaded Guardians of the Night. Pb \$16.95 379pp

 **VOX**

Edge #6. Young librarian knight Rook and his co-rebels combine forces to challenge the dark might of the Guardians of the Night who are taking more and more of the power in the Edgeworld. Hb \$35.00 395pp

JONATHAN STROUD

 **THE LEAP**

Charlie is devastated by the tragic accident at a disused mill pool involving her best friend, Max. Refusing to believe he is dead, Charlie embarks on an emotional journey in her dreams, where she believes she can see Max just ahead of her on the road. Soon her dreamworld becomes more important to her than anything else until fantasy and reality merge and give rise to strange events. With the help of her brother, James, Charlie learns to face the truth. Pb \$16.95 188pp

THEODORE STURGEON

 **AND NOW THE NEWS...**

The Complete Stories of Theodore Sturgeon #10. Written between 1955 and 1957, these 15 stories include five previously uncollected stories, along with five well-known works, two co-written with genre legend Robert Heinlein. Spanning his most creative period, these tales show why Sturgeon won every science fiction award given. Hb \$75.00 377pp



BRIAN THOMSEN (ED)

YULETIDE UNIVERSE

The editor has collected memorable takes on the holiday season by some of fantasy and science fiction's brighter lights, past and present, including such Clive Barker, Anne McCaffrey, Connie Willis, William Gibson, Harlan Ellison and Neil Gaiman. Tp \$32.00 257pp

CATE TIERNAN

RECKONING

Wicca #13. Alisa is desperate to find out more about her witch ancestry, so she runs away to find her late mother's witch family. From the moment she arrives, terrifying events envelop the entire family and Alisa herself appears to become the target of her ancestor's ghost. Pb \$12.95 188pp

FULL CIRCLE

Wicca #14. 17-year-old blood witch Morgan is being tormented by nightmares which become reality when she starts sleep-walking into life-threatening situations. In these visions, her dead ex-boyfriend, Cal is trying to kill her and in desperation she turns to her boyfriend Hunter and to other blood witches for help. Pb \$12.95 190pp

HARRY TURTLEDOVE

IN THE PRESENCE OF MINE ENEMIES

In the 21st century, Germany's Third Reich continues to thrive after its victory in World War II, keeping most of Europe and North America under its heel. But within the heart of the Nazi regime, a secret lives. Under a perfect Aryan facade, Jews survive, living their lives, raising their families and trying to avoid discovery. Hb \$59.95 454pp

JAMES VALENTINE

RULE TWO: DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT IT



Jump Man #2. Theodore Pine Four is the biggest celebrity on the Two Planets. Theo knows there's only one rule when you TimeJump - don't touch anything. That rule applies whether you're Jumping to the Big Bang or to the day pizza was invented. But Theo's been spending a lot of time with Quincy Carter One, the CEO of TimeMaster Corporation. Quincy's starting to think that Rule 1 doesn't apply to him. Why not fiddle about with history? Pb \$14.95 281pp

MERRY CHRISTMAS



from the
Galaxy
Bookshop
staff...

DAVID WEBER

WAR OF HONOR

Honor Harrington #10. No one wants another war. Thomas Theisman doesn't. After risking his life and civil war to overthrow the Committee of Public Safety's reign of terror, interstellar war is the last thing he wants. His Imperial Majesty Gustav doesn't. Now that the fighting between the Star Kingdom and the Havenites has ended, he has his own plans. Protector Benjamin doesn't. His people have made a commitment to the Manticoran Alliance. Unfortunately, what they want doesn't matter. Pb \$19.95 966pp

SCOTT WESTERFIELD

THE KILLING OF WORLDS

Succession #2. Captain Zai of the Imperial frigate Lynx has been sent to fight an unwinnable battle - a suicide mission that will almost certainly end in oblivion for him and his crew. Below, on the planet Legis, a Rix compound mind, a massive emergent AI formed from every computer on the planet, has been isolated by their Imperial blockade. But the mind has guided a lone Rix commando, Herd, to the planet's north, and will soon order a desperate attempt to seize a polar communications array and break the blockade. Hb \$50.00 336pp

JANNY WURTS

TO RIDE HELL'S CHASM

When Princess Anja fails to appear at her betrothal banquet, two warriors are charged with recovering her. Taskin, Commander of the Royal Guard, and Mykkael, the Captain of the Garrison. Mykkael's investigations lead him to a radical explanation for the mystery, but he finds himself under suspicion from the court factions. Will Commander Taskin's famous fair-mindedness be enough to unravel the truth behind the garrison captain's dramatic theory: that the princess was not taken by force, but fled the palace to escape a demonic evil? Pb \$19.95 692pp

JOHN WRIGHT

THE PHOENIX EXULTANT

The Golden Age #2. Phaethon of Radamanthus House is has been exiled from his life of power and privilege. Now he embarks upon a quest across the transformed solar system to recover his memory, to regain his place in society and to move that society away from stagnation. Most of all, Phaethon's quest is to regain ownership of the magnificent starship, the *Phoenix Exultant*, the most wonderful ship ever built. Pb \$17.95 305pp

GOLDEN TRANSCENDENCE

Golden Age #3. The *Phoenix Exultant* is at last in the hands of her master, Phaethon. But he is being hunted by the agents from a long-lost dead star, whose super-technology plumbs depths even the all-knowing Earthmind cannot fathom. Hb \$62.00 350pp

ART & PICTURE BOOKS



ISOBELLE CARMODY (MARC MCBRIDE, ILLUS)

JOURNEY FROM THE CENTRE OF THE EARTH

What ever happened to the duck that was left swimming around on that dark, cold lake, deep under the ground, in Jules Verne's Journey to the Centre of the Earth? Be swallowed up by this 'what if' tale. Hb \$26.95 32pp

CATHY FENNER & ARTIE FENNER (EDS) SPECTRUM 10: THE BEST IN CONTEMPORARY FANTASTIC ART

Fantasy and science fiction themes are visualised and celebrated in this sumptuous series, which is designed for readers who want to satisfy their sense of wonder, and serves as an valuable resource for art directors and illustrators. This edition includes 300 colour illustrations and features artists from Germany, England, the Netherlands, Spain, Japan, Canada, France and the United States. The art comes from books, magazines, comics, video games, films, TV, advertising and unpublished works from the artists' personal portfolios and gallery shows. Included are works by artists such as Peter DeSeve, Anita Kunz and Dave McKean. Tp \$64.00 176pp

BRIAN FROUD & ARI BERK THE RUNES OF ELFLAND

In 24 never-before-seen paintings, this best-selling fantasy artist interprets the ancient and mystical runes of Celtic and European origin through Elfland, a world of faeries and myth. Each painting is inspired by a specific rune, richly symbolic and potent icons open to infinite interpretations. Folklorist and poet Ari Berk, reveals the secret meanings of these runes. In the pages of this book a single symbol provides the visual key to a host of mythic stories, lands and adventures. Hb \$59.95 112pp

NEIL GAIMAN (DAVE MCKEAN, ILLUS) THE WOLVES IN THE WALLS

Lucy tells her parents that wolves are living in the wall of their house. When the wolves decide to come out, Lucy and her family find themselves homeless. But not for too long because Lucy is determined to get them back home. Hb \$29.95 64pp

ADELE GERAS (CHRISTIAN BIRMINGHAM, ILLUS) SLEEPING BEAUTY

One of the most beloved of fairy tales, Sleeping Beauty has endured for centuries. This magical retelling has been written especially for a new generation to enjoy by one of today's most acclaimed children's authors. Hb \$29.95 64pp

JOHN GRANT & ELIZABETH HUMPHREY
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SCIENCE-FICTION AND FANTASY
ART: A RETROSPECTIVE

Presenting the best of science fiction and fantasy art from the past 17 years, beautifully produced on high-quality paper. The annual Chesley Awards are bestowed by the practitioners themselves, and so carry a high level of prestige. Among the remarkable artist's highlighted are Bob Eggleton, Jean Pierre Targette, Rick Berry, Kinuko Craft and dozens of others. Hb \$95.00 192pp

C S LEWIS

(CHRISTIAN BIRMINGHAM, ILLUS)
THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE
WARDROBE

This is the best-loved of all the *Chronicles of Narnia*, the one that everyone remembers reading. It introduced readers to the wonders and enchantment of Narnia when it was first published almost 50 years ago. Birmingham's beautiful illustrations, accompanied by a sensitively abridged text, introduce this wonderful story to a younger audience. Tp \$15.95 48pp

BEATRICE PHILPOTTS

(ROBERT INGPEN, ILLUS)
THE WIZARD'S BOOK OF SPELLS

This book journeys through the history and traditions of wizardry. It explores the secrets of ancient sorcerers, the practices of medieval alchemists and the rituals of modern magicians. It reveals how lucky talismans work, suggests tools for successful spell-casting and resolves the riddles that surround sacred sites and ceremonial magic. It also introduces the most remarkable wizards in history, from the evil sorceress Circe to the legendary Merlin. Hb \$39.95 95pp

HELEN WARD & WAYNE ANDERSON
THE TIN FOREST

Near to nowhere and close to forgotten was a wide, windswept place. It is here that a lonely old man attempts to build the forest of his dreams. It is made entirely from rubbish and inhabited by myriad mechanical creatures. But the old man realises that something is still missing... Pb \$14.95 34pp

F PAUL WILSON (ALAN CLARK, ILLUS)
THE CHRISTMAS THINGY

8-year-old Jessica Atkins wants a monster for Christmas. Not a big, mean monster - more of a friendly little one to play with when she comes home from school and maybe scare away the mice who live in her old London house. But the old housekeeper, Mrs. Murgatroyd, warns her against wishing for a monster in this house. Exactly 100 years ago the Christmas Thingy visited this very house and stole away with a load of Christmas presents. Be careful what you wish for, Jessica... Hb \$48.00 32pp



KELLEY ARMSTRONG
STOLEN

Women of the Other #2. Ten years ago Elena's lover turned her into a werewolf - the only female werewolf in the world, in fact. And now, just as she's finally coming to terms with this rather startling situation, a group of scientists learn of her existence. They're hunting her down and Elena is about to run straight into their trap. But they haven't reckoned on Elena's adoptive family, her Pack, who will stop at nothing to get her back. Pb \$19.95 535pp

SHANNON DRAKE
THE AWAKENING

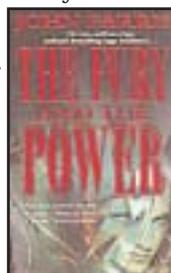
Musician Megan O'Casey has returned to the home of her ancestors to perform, with her husband Finn, in a weeklong series of concerts, culminating on All Hallow's Eve... and to renew her connection with the past. But from the moment they arrive in Salem, Finn seems different - sensual beyond belief one moment; cold and ruthless the next. The locals regard him with a distrust bordering on hatred. Megan must soon face the fact that something powerful is rising, a malevolence that may have already claimed Finn for its own and that she, too, is in great danger. Pb \$17.95 495pp

P N ELROD

 **THE VAMPIRE FILES**
Omnibus #1. Contains Bloodlist, Lifeblood & Bloodcircle. **Bloodlist** introduces Jack Fleming, an investigative journalist in Prohibition-era Chicago who is bitten by a vampire. In **Lifeblood** and **Bloodcircle** Jack hunts for the men who killed him and for his long-lost love, Maureen. Tp \$34.00 452pp

JOHN FARRIS
THE FURY AND THE POWER

Eden Waring is a talented young psychic with the ability to produce at will her doppelganger - her mirror image, who calls herself Gwen and possesses remarkable powers beyond even Eden's gifts. As gifted as Eden and Gwen are, there is a stronger entity that stalks them, coveting Gwen's unique talents. He is known as Mordant, the Dark Side of God, a being both ageless and deadly. In order to regain his full potential for destruction and reach his goal of world domination, he must seduce Eden through any means necessary and take away her control of Gwen. Pb \$17.95 375pp



CHRISTINE FEEHAN
DARK MELODY

 *Carpathian #10.* Lead guitarist of the Dark Troubadors, Dayan is renowned for his mesmerising performances. His melodies still crowds, beckon, seduce and tempt. And always, he calls to her. His lifemate. He calls to her to complete him. Corrinne Wentworth stands at the vortex of a gathering storm. Pursued by the same fanatics who murdered her husband, she risks her life by keeping more than one secret. Fragile, delicate and vulnerable, she has an indomitable faith that makes her surrender to Dayan all the more powerful. Pb \$17.95 374pp

CHRISTINE FEEHAN
THE TWILIGHT BEFORE
CHRISTMAS

Kate Drake is one of seven sisters gifted with amazing powers of witchcraft. Returning home in time for her home town's annual Christmas pageant, Kate decides to open a bookstore in a charming but run-down historic mill. When an earthquake cracks the mill's foundation and reveals a burial crypt, Kate senses that a centuries-old evil has been unleashed, that it's coming after her and that she will have to summon all of her and her sisters' powers to battle the darkness threatening to destroy both Christmas and the gift of soul-searing passion her hometown hero wants her to keep forever... Pb \$17.95 293pp

HENRY GARFIELD
TARTABULL'S THROW

In the summer of 1967, Cyrus Nygerski, unsuspectingly meets his first werewolf. Six hours later, she is sitting next him in Comiskey Park, watching the Red Sox play the White Sox. Among her abilities is time travel. Nygerski learns of this later (or is it earlier?) on the seacoast of Maine where she introduces him to her family and the tantalising legend of Howley's Deep Hole, a portal into an alternate timeline that sweeps him to the heights of rookie season stardom. It's then, at terrifying cost, that he earns the nickname Moondog. Even Cassandra can't foresee the prophecy in that. Pb \$15.95 284pp

HEATHER GRAHAM
HAUNTED

Matt Stone doesn't believe in ghosts. But pressured to get at the truth about some strange happenings at his home, Melody House, he agrees to let Harrison Investigations explore the house. As a paranormal investigator, Darcy Tremayne has learned to believe in the unbelievable. And she's given Matt fair warning - sometimes people don't like the skeletons she finds and she's about to discover that Melody House holds much more than a mystery from the past. It holds a lethal danger, that will cast her into a struggle against the worlds of both the living and the dead. Pb \$17.95 379pp

BARB HENDEE

BLOOD MEMORIES

Vampires have lived among Mankind for countless millennia, hiding in the darkness, hunting, feeding and killing Mortals. They live lives of utter secrecy, scattered far apart, always aware that the surging tide of Humanity could crush them if they became truly aware of their presence. For Eleisha, a young vampire who has remained hidden since the 19th century, things are about to change. Tp \$25.00 169pp

JAMES HERBERT

NOBODY TRUE

What happens when you lose your body? Jim True knows. He has returned from an out-of-body experience to find he has been brutally murdered and his body mutilated. No one can see him, no one can hear him, no one, except his killer, knows he still exists. True embarks on a quest to find his killer and discover why and how he has managed to survive. As he closes in on his murderer, True discovers that even the very people he loved and trusted have betrayed him and he meets his killer - a man now intent on even more murders, including True's wife and child... Hb \$45.00 394pp

SHAUN HUTSON

HELL TO PAY

A boy's body is discovered on the shores of Kingsfield reservoir and Det. Insp. Alan Fielding is frantic to find the killer before another child is taken... In a run down house on a nearby estate, Nikki Reed knows only too well what the ominous knock on the front door means - the loan sharks want their money back, and if they don't get it, they're going to get nasty. Roma Todd's relationship with record company boss David is rife with deceit and deception, but the one thing that holds them together is their daughter Kirsten. All desperate people running out of time. When their worlds collide, there'll be hell to pay... Hb \$39.95 369pp

STEPHEN JONES (ED)

THE MAMMOTH BOOK OF BEST NEW HORROR

#14. With contributions from such favourites as Ramsey Campbell and Kim Newman, along with the talented likes of Neil Gaiman, China Mieville, Graham Joyce, Paul McCauley, Stephen Gallagher, Caitlin Kiernan, Jay Russell and many more, the hair-raising tales in this edition hold nightmares for travellers in alien lands, unveil the mystery and menace lurking in our everyday reality, explore the terrors of the supernatural and honour horror's classic tradition. Also includes an overview of the past year in horror fiction, as well as a necrology and a guide to publishers, organisations, booksellers and magazines in the eerier fields of fiction. Tp \$29.95 590pp

CAITLIN KIERNAN

LOW RED MOON

Chance and Deacon have married. They're looking ahead to the future, trying to put the past behind them, but new nightmares await them, as a woman with a need for violence enters their lives. And something even worse has followed her... Tp \$34.00 337pp

GEOFFREY HUNTINGTON

SORCERER'S OF THE NIGHTWING

The Ravenscliff series #1. At Ravenscliff, Devon must contend not only with the demons but with a strange, precocious eight-year-old boy who may prove to be the link to the most fearful demon of all - the Madman, who wants to unleash the creatures of the Hellhole for his own malevolent gain. Ravenscliff is built over one of the largest Hellholes in the world, and the uninitiated Devon must fight off the demons with the help of his new friends from Misery Point High. Pb \$19.95 422pp

MARVIN KAYE (ED)

THE ULTIMATE HALLOWEEN

Halloween. The word itself instantly conjures up images of costumed trick-or-treaters, and ghosts and ghouls rising from their graves. In the grand tradition of the works of Edgar Allan Poe, H P Lovecraft and Anne Rice, the editor has gathered a collection of new and old, unique and terrifying fantasy and horror stories centring around All Hallows' Eve. Pb \$17.95 326pp

DEAN KOONTZ

BY THE LIGHT OF THE MOON

When Dylan O'Connor pulls into a motel off the Arizona interstate highway, all he wants is to relax with his autistic brother Shepherd. But within the hour he is bound, gagged and injected with mysterious fluid by a lunatic doctor who claims Dylan will be the carrier for his life's work. Pb \$19.95 472pp

STEPHEN KING

THE GUNSLINGER

The Dark Tower #1. Revised and expanded edition. Roland of Gilead, the last gunslinger, is a haunting figure, a loner on a spellbinding journey into good and evil. In his desolate world, which frighteningly mirrors our own, Roland pursues the man in black, encounters an alluring woman named Alice and begins a friendship with the boy from New York called Jake. Pb \$19.95 238pp

WOLVES OF THE CALLA

The Dark Tower #5. Torn between protecting the innocent community and his urgent quest, Roland of Gilead faces the deadliest of perils, as he journeys through the Mid-World towards the Dark Tower. Hb \$65.00 616pp

ROBERT McCAMMON

EVIL UNVEILED

Speaks the Nightbird #2. The Carolinas, 1699. After hearing damning testimony from the townspeople of Fount Royal, magistrate Isaac Woodward sentences the accused witch, Rachel Howarth, to death by burning. Now, Woodward's young clerk, Matthew, begins his own investigation. Piecing together the truth, he sees he has no choice but to vanquish a force more evil than witchcraft in order to exonerate a virtuous woman and free Fount Royal from the menace claiming the lives of its citizens. Pb \$19.95 418pp

A L McCANN

WHITE BODY OF EVENING



As the marriage of Albert and Anna Walters degenerates into brutal farce, their children, Paul and Ondine, are exposed to the city's lurid possibilities. In the new century Ondine takes after her mother and wrestles with repressive social convention, while Paul's artistic aspirations plunge him into an underworld of poets, prostitutes and false prophets. Slowly his father's strange legacy unfolds, and in spectacular fashion Paul's thwarted ambition drives him from the emerging Antipodes to the decadence of Vienna, and to a final, precarious homecoming, where creative inspiration slides closer to madness and murder... Pb \$21.95 407pp

KATIE MACALISTER

A GIRL'S GUIDE TO VAMPIRES

Joy Randall's Top Five Tips for Vampire Hunters: 1. Location, location, location. Remember, if you wouldn't be there, neither would a bloodsucker. 2. Trust your eyes. You know the handsome, annoyingly arrogant, self-assured man in the shadows with long hair and a cleft in his chin? He's your vampire. 3. No matter how tempting it might be, do not 'accidentally' acquire a paper cut and suggest your vampire kiss your finger to make it better. 4. From here on out, play it cool. Don't offer to accompany your prince of the night on the talk show circuit and whatever you do, don't offer him your heart. 5. And most of all, remembering a vampire is nothing to laugh about. Pb \$17.95 374pp

BRANDON MASSEY

THUNDERLAND

Over the years, Jason's parents have drifted apart. When a disturbing incident forces them to realize how distant they have grown from each other, they determine to revive their relationship, for the sake of their marriage and for Jason. Then a mysterious stranger invades their lives. Suddenly, the happiness that Jason and his parents hope to achieve is threatened. There is no escape... and no guarantee that anyone will survive. Pb \$17.95 352pp

JON MERZ

THE SYNDICATE

Lawson #4. Lawson is a Fixer – a vampire cop. His cousin Marilyn is missing. She's a dancer in New York City and may have been doing the two-step with a bunch of lowlife vampire gangsters called the Syndicate. Its appears that they've nabbed Marilyn to persuade Lawson to join their cause. All they've done is inspired him to call in some old favours of the deadly kind. Pb \$15.95 348pp

JILL MORROW

ANGEL CAFÉ

The star and main attraction of the Angel Café, Tia, a clairvoyant, claims to channel an otherworldly guide, Valentine, and somehow knows all there is to know about her expanding list of patrons. Kat Valenti, an attorney, is still coming to grips with the death of her fiancé, Peter. Although drawn to the Angel Café, she is sceptical of Tia's readings, until Peter 'contacts' her to shed new light on how he died. As more clues turn up - and all of them lead back to the Angel Café - its appears that Tia is no simple fortune-teller, and Valentine is no benevolent spirit - he doesn't want to tell the future anymore. He wants Kat. Pb \$17.95 375pp

JOSEPH NASSISE

RIVERWATCH

When Jake Caruso and his construction team find a hidden tunnel in the cellar of the old Blake mansion in the hamlet of Harrington Falls, he can't wait to explore its depths. There, he finds a stone chamber that's been covered up for hundred of years. When the ancient seal is broken, a reign of terror and death consumes the town's residents and Jake comes to realize the nightmarish truth of what he has set free. Pb \$17.95 355pp

STEWART O'NAN

PRAYER FOR THE DYING

In Friendship, Wisconsin, an epidemic has gripped the town in a vise of fear and death. Jacob Hansen, Friendship's sheriff, undertaker and pastor, is soon overwhelmed, though he continues to do what he can. But Jacob cannot control the plague's rapid spread, the panic that takes over Friendship, or his own feelings of despair. Tp \$32.00 195pp

CHUCK PALAHNIUK

DIARY

Misty's husband, Peter, lies senseless in hospital after a suicide attempt. Peter, it turns out, has been hiding rooms in houses he's refurbished and scrawling vile messages all over the walls. Angry homeowners are suing left and right, and Misty's dreams of artistic greatness are in ashes. But then, as if possessed, Misty begins painting again, compulsively. The canvases are taken away by her mother-in-law and her doctor, who seem to have a plan for Misty - and for all those annoying tourists... Tp \$32.95 261pp

ANNE RICE

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The Vampire Chronicles. Lestat is back, saviour and demon, presiding over a gothic story of family greed and hatred through generations, a terrifying drama of blood lust and betrayal, possession and matricide. Pb \$19.95 774pp

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The Vampire Chronicles. Moving through the worlds of Blackwood Farm and the Mayfair family, Lestat finds himself ensnared by love and loyalty. Hb \$49.95 306pp

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William Hope Hodgson's Night Lands #1. The sun has died. The Days of Light are less than a legend, their stories mouldered to dust amid the chaos of the ancient Libraries. Yet, within their vast arcology, the last Millions of humanity live and thrive. Outside, the entities of the Night Land watch and wait. Other Creatures, vaster than hills and more ponderous than glaciers, wait eternally. Forces stir in the darkness. Messages pass across the Land. From the tower above the Redoubt, the Monstruacans keep record. To this Land go the explorers of the Redoubt. Rarely, rarely, they return. Hb \$125.00 381pp

GORD ROLLO

& MONICA O'ROUKE (EDS)

DREAMING OF ANGELS

Do you dream of Angels? Or are your nights filled with darker, more terrifying things? When you close your eyes, do you imagine celestial creatures flying majestically through a brightly-lit Heaven? Or do they slither and crawl through the eternal darkness of some imagined Hell? This is an eclectic collection of 23 tales bringing together some of dark fiction's finest writers, who are donating their talents to benefit the Down Syndrome Society. Contributors include Jack Ketchum, Peter Crowther, Steve Beai, Robert Swartwood, Everette Bell, Robert Devereaux and Dominick Cancilla. Hb \$36.95 205pp

ROBERT ROSS

DON'T CLOSE YOUR EYES

Victoria Kennelly knows all about what lurks in the coastal town of Falls Church. She's never forgotten the night a fire killed her family and something beyond description claimed her childhood friend. The horror of that night drove her all the way to Boston and a new life. But now things are happening in Falls Church again. Bad things. And the only way Victoria can understand the ghosts of her own past is to go back where it all began, to face the evil that lives in Falls Church. Pb \$17.95 478pp

FRED SABERHAGEN

A COLDNESS IN THE BLOOD

Matthew Maule, is one of the most powerful vampires in the world, but even his formidable talents cannot predict the unthinkable acts about to occur when the vampire Dickon and his human partner appear in the middle of the night frightened for their lives. Matthew offers them protection, but by morning, Dickon's human friend is dead and Dickon is missing. Matthew has also made a dangerous new enemy, one who possesses strength even he may be no match for. Pb \$17.95 383pp

LYNSAY SANDS

SINGLE WHITE VAMPIRE

Successful biographer of family, books recently categorised as paranormal romances. Doesn't like sunbathing, garlicky dinners. Likes old-fashioned values, Mexican dishes, nice-smelling necks and plump red lips. Currently unaware he's seeking a woman to share eternity. SWF. Newest editor of romance at Roundhouse Publishing. Has recently discovered a legacy author dying to be broken out. Dislikes difficult, rude, obnoxious pig-headed writers. Currently unaware she's met the man of her wildest dreams. Pb \$17.95 369pp

AL SARRANTINO

TOYBOX

Little Selene is bored and then comes the mysterious Toyman, carrying a very special toybox, filled with wonders and terrors beyond imagination. As Selene peers into the toybox, the stories tumble out - a quiet little girl whose horrible secret bursts forth at a Halloween party... a doll made of corn that hides a very nasty surprise... a depraved celebration for the last vampire... Pb \$17.95 255pp

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THE LOVELY BONES

Susie Salmon, murdered at the age of 14, watches from heaven as her friends and siblings grow up and do all the things she never had the chance to do herself. But then she finds that life is not quite finished with her yet. Pb \$22.00 329pp

DAVID SEARCY

LAST THINGS

A strangely warm, depleted autumn brings to the little East Texas town of Gilmer a sleepless sense of dread. As toddlers, poultry and peace of mind begin to vanish, and gruesome scarecrows appear in the countryside, the townsfolk heed the garish neon summons of the apocalyptic Last Days Covenant Church. All the while, in an empty field beyond town, in a small ramshackle trailer, Luther Hazlitt begins to construct a series of traps to capture the Holy Spirit itself... Tp \$34.00 322pp

DARREN SHAN

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The nightmare begins... The Cirque Du Freak trilogy comprising **Cirque Du Freak**, **The Vampire's Assistant** and **Tunnels of Blood**. Join Darren Shan's descent into the darkness. Pb \$19.95 511pp

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It begins when the quiet of a warm autumn night in a sleepy California town is shattered by a streak of light across the sky, the thunder of impact and the unleashing of something insidious. Spreading, multiplying, and transforming everything in its path, this diabolical intelligence will not be denied until the townsfolk and eventually, all living things, are conquered. Until they are all crawling... Tp \$36.00 383pp

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Laws of the Blood #5. When a rebellion starts to brew among the vampires of Las Vegas, four Nighthawks discover that the city's night-time, neon-bright streets are as dangerous for them as they would be in the noon-light... Pb \$17.95 280pp

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The world holds great danger for Alec Reynard and his kind. As the dark hollows of his soul threaten to overwhelm him, he undergoes secret medical treatments that allow him to bear daylight. Living a double life as a bodyguard, he must also battle the powerful chemistry that explodes between him and Domini Lancer, a mere mortal, and, unbelievably, his soulmate. Pb \$17.95 345pp

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DIGITAL KNIGHT**

When freelance information specialist Jason Wood found that a suspected drug kingpin didn't appear on photographs, he decided to investigate, suspecting that the kingpin was actually a vampire. But things wouldn't turn out to be that simple. Trying to survive in a bizarre night world, Jason learns not only that vampires and werewolves really exist, but that they are part of a universe stranger than he ever imagined. Pb \$19.95 378pp

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A young man awakes from a recurring nightmare to find that, once again, his apartment has been destroyed: the TV is on fire, the mirrors shattered, and once again a voice is saying, "Come home..." And so he does. Home is the small Maine town where his parents were both killed in a grotesque car wreck years before. A small town caught in a centuries-old war between supernatural forces. Tp \$29.95 340pp

**WHITLEY STRIEBER
LILITH'S DREAM**

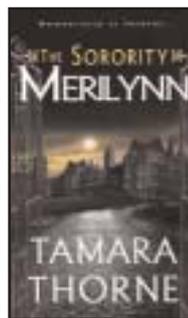
Hunger #3. Lilith, the ages-old mother of the dying race of vampires, has been forced to come out of her cave deep in the Egyptian desert in search of food - human blood. But she knows nothing about the modern world. She struggles to New York, penniless, vulnerable, and starving, protected only by her beauty and her power to capture men with desire... The instant she sees young Ian Ward, she knows that he is part vampire himself. She knows that Ian, if he ever tastes human blood, will belong to her forever - but Ian's father, Paul Ward, is part vampire and obsessive vampire hunter. Pb \$19.95 385pp

**BRIAN THOMSEN
& MARTIN H GREENBERG (EDS)
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In this original anthology, some of today's top talents tackle good and evil and the many shades in between. In the tradition of *Buffy* and *Angel*, these 13 stories feature some very unlikely protectors of humankind. Pb \$17.95 313pp

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MERILYNN**

The Sorority #2. Since childhood, Merilynn's had a sixth sense she can't explain, an ability to see things before they happen. Her gifts tell her there's a tremendous darkness at work inside the shadowy walls of her sorority house, a feeling that intensifies when Malory Thomas invites her to become one with the Fata Morgana. Now, drawn into the ever-tightening, unnatural circle of its sisterhood, Merilynn's dreams grow more alarming, showing maddening glimpses of an evil, timeless bond stretching back through centuries. Are they visions of the past or warnings of bad things to come... Pb \$15.95 222pp



**F PAUL WILSON
GATEWAYS**

Repairman Jack #7. Jack's father is in a coma after a car accident in Florida. In the hospital he meets Anya, one of his father's neighbours. Jack's arrival does not go unnoticed. A young woman named Semelee, feels his presence. She senses that he's "special," like her. Who is Anya? Who is Semelee, and what is her connection to the recent strange deaths of residents during the past year? And what are the "lights" Jack keeps hearing about? If he is to protect his father from becoming the next fatality there are questions Jack must answer and secrets he must uncover. Hb \$62.00 367pp

**T M WRIGHT
THE HOUSE ON ORCHID STREET**

A country charmer, the ad calls it. But this bungalow is no ordinary house. It may look perfectly nice, but within it lurks a horror few could imagine. Behind its neatly painted white walls, the house conceals secrets far better left unrevealed. Katherine Nichols thinks the house will be perfect for her. She's looking forward to a little seclusion, to being able to work, to living alone. It isn't long, though, before she realises she isn't alone after all... Pb \$17.95 322pp

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St Germain #16. Fleeing Spain at the beginning of their Civil War, the vampire Saint-Germain arrives in California to reunite with the older and wiser Rowena Saxon, who is considering following the Dark Prince into an eternal life. Meanwhile, Saint-Germain is unaware that a ruthless assassin is pursuing him. Hb \$59.95 434pp

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Marshall #2. A Georgia swamp is the perfect place for forest ranger Adam Marshall to hide his werewolf nature. But when he finds himself irresistibly drawn to biologist Sara Weston, their future is threatened by a coven of witches with a score to settle with the locals. Pb \$15.95 345pp

MEDIA

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Captain Dylan Hunt of the *Andromeda Ascendant* - a mighty vessel of the Systems Commonwealth that encompassed three galaxies - finds himself a man out of time. 300 years have passed, the Commonwealth has fallen and chaos reigns in the Known Worlds. Now, with a crew of salvagers, mercenaries and misfits, Captain Hunt has set out to restore the Commonwealth and bring unity to the galaxies once again. Pb \$17.95 271pp

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**WILL BROOKER
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 For millennia, Sin Tzu has revelled in the joy of death as he enslaved kingdoms and reduced nations to wastelands. A master of mystic powers who can control thousands of minds, Sin Tzu is virtually all-knowing and all-powerful. Now after many years of hunting, he has finally found a worthy opponent - Batman. Pb \$15.95 286pp

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 Have the Galacticans truly found their paradise among the stars? Apollo thinks so, as they journey to a mysterious planet called Gemon. Will the fleet stay and make this inviting, verdant planet their final home? It looks that way, until the traitor Baltar begins having nightmares about a new race of Cylons. Hb \$55.00 243pp

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ALAN STEVENS & FIONA MOORE

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From its first appearance in 1978 to its final episode in 1981, Blake's 7 pushed the boundaries of TV science fiction. Despite attempts made by critics over the years to deride it for its low-budget special effects, costume design and casting, *Blake's 7* remains popular and is still gaining new audiences, due to its intelligent treatment of the themes of human evil, rebellion, love and death. In this book, the authors look at the background to and the writing of the stories. Including technical details, overviews of the production of the series and in-depth analyses of every episode, together with a number of previously-unpublished photographs, this is an ideal companion for anyone interested in the development of TV science fiction during the late seventies. Tp \$48.00 228pp



novelisation
(written version of film, TV, radio drama production, comic or game)

Based on (concept)

Fil m	
TV show	
Computer game	
Role-playing game	
comic	
reference	

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SCOTT & DENISE CIENCIN

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NIKKI STAFFORD

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GLENN YEFFETH (ED)

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WIN...

a photo of the Troika
(Andrew, Warren & Jonathan)
from *Buffy* Season 6,
signed by
Tom Lenk (Andrew)
& Danny Strong (Jonathan)
see back page... for details

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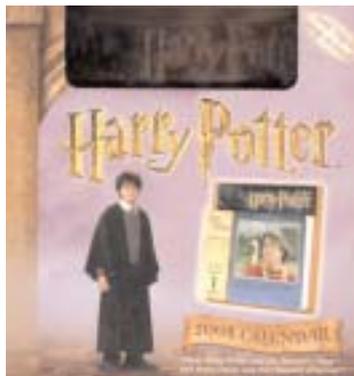
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A sticker book featuring the Amazon princess, as well as her allies and enemies as featured in DC comics. Tp \$11.95 8pp

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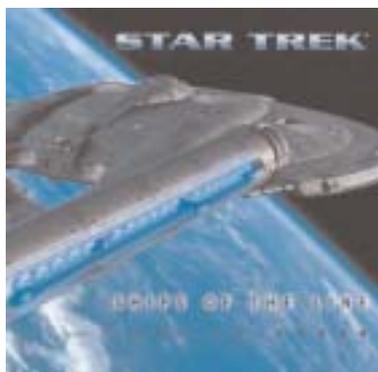
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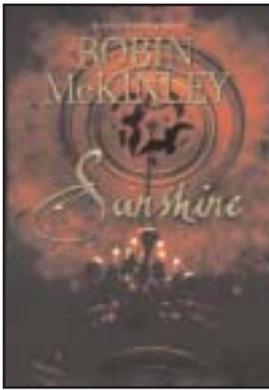
IAN BRODIE

THE LORD OF THE RINGS FILM LOCATION GUIDEBOOK

Revised edition. This edition has additional location information, new interviews with key cast and crew, including an exclusive interview with Peter Jackson and a new foreword by Viggo Mortenson. The author has added new photographs and additional movie images from the third movie, along with the touring information, GPS references and local directions, which helped make the first edition such a success. Pb 22.95 128pp

What We've Been Reading...

Sunshine by Robin McKinley (Hb \$55.00) is set in a future Earth where the Voodoo Wars have destroyed most populated areas, and according to rumour, have left vampires in control of a significant amount of the world's wealth and technology, Sunshine is a baker who leads a quite, uncomplicated life until one night she is caught by a gang of vampires and chained to a wall to be the entrée for Con, a shackled vampire. They escape and the story that follows, of a young woman coming into her powers and the conflict caused by her siding (and empathising) with the enemy for a higher purpose, is not your usual fare. Not McKinley's usual type of story, but when she decides to branch out, she does it well. Wonderful. - Steph



The Tomb by F Paul Wilson (Pb \$19.95) follows a relatively simple plot. Murders and the defilement of a temple in mid-19th century India by British soldiers unleashes a curse which is to follow the descendants of the leader of the attack. Coupled with that curse is an entourage of creatures of unimaginable horror that have once again risen to right past wrongs. Enter Repairman Jack, a man who 'fixes' situations for people in ways that aren't exactly legal. When he agrees to help an Indian gentleman retrieve a necklace that is a priceless family heirloom, Jack is thrust into the middle of a series of almost inexplicable events... mysterious disappearances, rank odours, unusual substances of Indian origin and a necklace that holds the key to an ancient horror. He then encounters some hellish creatures which he must destroy, or risk losing those whom he loves. Highly original and inventive, this well-written book introduces Repairman Jack, who now has a number of books based around him. - Nik

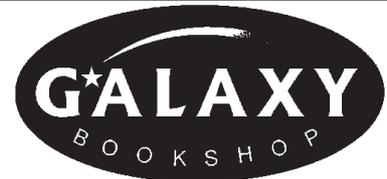
The second book in the *Stravaganza* series, **City of Stars** by Mary Hoffman (Pb \$15.95), has been released this month and I got my hands on a copy as soon as I could. In the first book, **City of Masks** (Pb \$15.95), we learn about Talia, a country in a parallel universe equivalent to 16th century Italy, and the Stravaganti, people who are able to travel between Talia and our world.

Georgia O'Grady is 15, living in modern day London and hates her stepbrother Russell. One night, after she has bought a model of a flying horse, she awakens to find herself in a stable. Georgia learns she is in the city of Remora in Talia, that she is a Stravagante and luckily, she has arrived in the stable of a fellow Stravagante. Soon she is swept up in the intrigue and politics of the city and her new friends. Georgia is warned of the dangerous and power-hungry di Chimici family, who already own most of Talia and want the secrets of the Stravaganti, but she befriends Gaetano and Falco, sons of Duke Niccolo, head of the di Chimici family. Falco was injured in a horse-riding accident at a young age and can only walk with the aid of sticks. When he begs her to use her powers as a Stravagante to make him whole, Georgia is torn between helping her new friend and endangering the lives of the Stravaganti.

This series is aimed at young adults and I found it a little too simple at times, but overall it is a very interesting series. Talia is amazingly brought to life and the characters are complex and three dimensional. - 8/10. Sian

COMPETITION

To win a photo of the Troika (Andrew, Warren & Jonathan) from *Buffy* Season 6, signed by Tom Lenk (Andrew) & Danny Strong (Jonathan), name the character who shot Buffy... Send in your answer along with your name and address. Competition closes 23 December 2003. Entry open to Galaxy Cardholders only.



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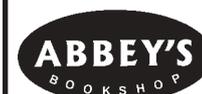
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