



nexus

October 2004

Issue #197



Terry Pratchett

author of the bestselling *Discworld* series

will be in-store

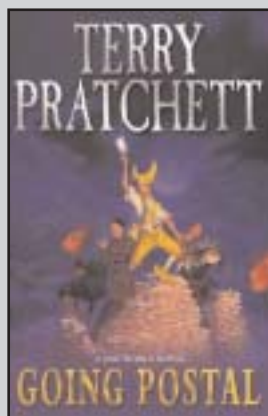
Tues 9 November

@12 midday

to sign copies of his latest

Discworld novel

Going Postal!



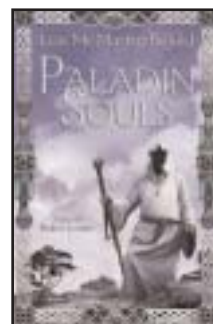
HUGO AWARD WINNERS

The Hugo Awards for best science fiction works in 2003 were presented at the 62nd World Science Fiction Convention, Noreascon 4, in Boston. A selection of winners follows.

BEST NOVEL

Paladin of Souls

by Lois McMaster Bujold



BEST NOVELLA

The Cookie Monster by Vernor Vinge

BEST NOVELETTE

Legions in Time by Michael Swanwick

BEST SHORT STORY

A Study in Emerald by Neil Gaiman

BEST RELATED BOOK

The Chesley Awards for Science Fiction and Fantasy Art: A Retrospective

by John Grant, Elizabeth Humphrey and Pamela Scoville

BEST DRAMATIC PRESENTATION: LONG FORM

The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King

BEST DRAMATIC PRESENTATION: SHORT FORM

Gollum's Acceptance Speech at the 2003 MTV Movie Awards

21 YEARS AGO...

On a world supported on the back of a giant turtle (sex unknown), a gleeful, explosive, wickedly eccentric expedition sets out. There's an avaricious but inept wizard, a naïve tourist whose luggage moves on hundreds of dear little legs, dragons who only exist if you believe in them, and of course the edge of the planet...

THE COLOUR OF MAGIC

Terry Pratchett's first Discworld novel was released

To celebrate *Discworld's* 21st anniversary, *Random House Australia* are holding an Anniversary bash in Sydney at The ArtHouse Hotel, Monday 8 November. The event is strictly invitation only. However *Random House Australia* has generously supplied five tickets for us to give away. The winners will also get a copy each of the anniversary edition of **The Colour of Magic** in hardcover and the new *Discworld* novel, **Going Postal**. For further details, see back page...



sydneybookquarter
the place for great books

sydneybookquarter

the place for great books

Our city block - bounded by York, Druiit, Clarence and Market Streets - has long been home to some of Sydney's most interesting and unusual bookshops. Maintaining their separate ownership and individuality, the seven unique and independent bookshops in this block are coming together to create **sydneybookquarter**.

Celebrate the launch with us on **Thursday 28 October** when we will have special guest speakers, competitions and give-aways.

For more details, check out our website closer to the launch.

Tea in the Library	119 York St
Ashwood's Music & Books	129 York St
Abbey's Bookshop	131 York St
Language Book Centre	131 York St
Napoleon's Military Bookshop	139 York St
Galaxy Bookshop	143 York St
Adyar Bookshop	230 Clarence St

sydneybookquarter

LAUNCH: Thursday October 28

Join us in-store for a Star Wars trivia competition from 6:30pm - 7:00pm.

Great prizes!



SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY



CHRISTOPHER ANVIL

 **INTERSTELLAR PATROL**

When a starship's crew gets stuck on a planet where the well-meaning schemes of social engineers have created a nightmare of battling gangs, they pretend to be the Royal Legions from a distant star kingdom - which was all very well, until the real Royal flagship showed up. They thought they were doomed - but instead they have shown just the type of initiative and intelligence that the new arrivals are looking for and they are inducted into the Interstellar Patrol. That's just the beginning. Pb \$18.95 592pp

**ISAAC ASIMOV'S
ROBOT CITY**

ROB CHILSON

 **REFUGE**

#5. A man without a memory, in a city of robots gone wild. At his side a mysterious woman, whose own identity he has reconstructed and whose memories of him may be true or false. The young man calls himself Derec. In the shattering climax to his quest he discovers the shocking secret of his true identity. Tormented by a nightmarish disease, Derec must face the genius Dr. Avery and compel him to reveal the truth. Pb \$13.95 163pp

WILLIAM F WU

 **PERIHELION**

#6. A man without memory, stranded on an icy asteroid. His only chance for survival is locked within a band of mining robots who are dutifully searching the surface for a mysterious object known as the Key to Perihelion. His name is Derec. His journey will take him to a city different from any he has ever known. A fantastic metropolis beyond his dreams: Robot City. Pb \$13.95 211pp

JAMES AXLER

 **MASK OF THE SPHINX**

Outlanders #29. The nine barons of post-nuclear America are succumbing to the tides of insurrection, a war that threatens to bring about the extinction of the entire hybrid race. Pb \$15.95 346pp

ASHOK K BANKER

 **DEMONS OF CHITRAKUT**

Ramayana #3. Rama has quelled the demon invasion. He has thwarted the demonlord Ravana and he is wedded to the enchanting Sita - but the young prince's problems are far from over. For Rama has been challenged by the fabled axe-wielding brahmin Parshurama - a warrior of such power he has never been defeated. And should he survive the confrontation, a greater crisis awaits him. He must travel deep into the heart of the forest of Dandaka-van, where he will be pitted against the vengeful survivors of Ravana's rakshasa hordes. And in the tiny outlaw settlement of Chitrakut, surrounded by blood-thirsty demons, he must prepare to face 14 years of exile. Pb \$19.95 628pp

STEPHEN BAXTER

 **COALESCENT**

Destiny's Children #1. This new trilogy will chart different evolutionary futures for mankind. It is the story of a divergent strain of humanity - a hive mind that subsumes the individual. It begins with a vivid depiction of the decline of the Roman Empire and, down through the years, shows how one woman's determination to protect her daughter has frightening consequences for mankind's future existence. Pb \$18.95 536pp

GREGORY BENFORD

 **TIDES OF LIGHT**

The Galactic Centre series #4. Onboard an ancient starship, Killeen and the Bishop tribe escape the mech-ruled world of Snowglade. Seeking refuge on a faraway planet, they discover vast wonders - an organic life-form as large as a world, a planet-coring cosmic string, a community of humans ruled by a brutal tyrant and, ultimately, an alien race more awesome than any they have previously encountered. As they battle for survival against these myriad dangers, Killeen and his crew will gain an unforeseen ally - one that may determine humanity's true destiny... Pb \$16.95 516pp

TERRY BROOKS

 **JARKA RUUS**

High Druid of Shannara #1. 20 years have passed since the events of *The Voyage Of The Jerle Shannara* trilogy. Grianne Ohmsford has renounced her former life as the evil Ilse Witch and now serves as the head of a new Druid Council. Her purpose is to defend the Four Lands from anarchy and warfare. But there are those who cannot easily forgive her past actions and are loathe to follow her leadership. When Grianne's enemies cause her to disappear, only a few loyal friends can help her, including Pen Ohmsford and the Elf Prince, Ahren Ellesedil, who begin a desperate journey to find Grianne and return her to the Druids' keep at Paranor. Pb \$18.95 398pp

MICHAEL CHABON (ED)

 **MCSWEENEY'S MAMMOTH
TREASURY OF THRILLING
TALES**

Founded and edited by Dave Eggers, this is the magazine that has made its mark with a line-up of authors including David Foster Wallace, George Saunders, Zadie Smith and Rick Moody - all of whom are represented in this selection of stories from the first ten issues. Pb \$22.95 497pp

STEPHEN COONTS








 **SAUCER: THE CONQUEST**

When Rip Cantrell, a seismic survey worker in the Sahara, spots a glint of reflected light in the distance, he investigates - and finds a piece of metal apparently entombed in the sandstone. Before long, Rip uncovers a flying saucer that has been resting there for 140,000 years. The discovery doesn't remain a secret for long. The US Air Force sends a UFO investigation team, which arrives just minutes before a team sent by an Australian billionaire. Before either side can outwit the other, the Libyan military appears. Meanwhile, Rip has been checking out the saucer. With the help of an ex-Air Force test pilot, Rip flies the saucer away, embarking on a fantastic journey into space and around the world, keeping just ahead of those who want the saucer for themselves. Tp \$32.95 340pp

F BRETT COX & ANDY DUNCAN (EDS)

 **CROSSROADS:
TALES OF THE SOUTHERN
LITERARY FANTASTIC**

The editors have gathered together stories of the unseen and magical American South by some of the most talented Southern writers of our time. These original fictions will delight readers who appreciate the unique wealth and breadth of the Southern literary tradition and its natural affinity for the fantastic. Contributors include Don Webb, Jack McDevitt, Michael Bishop, Andy Duncan, John Kessel, Kelly Link and Gene Wolfe. Hb \$54.00 380pp

	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 & classic

Classic

DRAGON PRINCE

Dragon Prince Book 1

Melanie Rawn

Pb \$17.95 574pp

Where do I start? I picked this book up for the first time about 18 years ago and from the start it firmly established Ms Rawn as one my top ten favourite authors. Who are the others you ask? Well stick around because I'm bound to review them all at some stage.

To be honest, the first thing that drew me to the book was Michael Whelan's exceptional artwork, but it wasn't long before Rawn's magic caught me in its spell.

Opening in the desert kingdom of The Long Sand, Rawn demonstrates that she isn't one to shy away from violence or tragedy, and that she holds the ability to delve deep into the full spectrum of human emotion. While the story is large in scope, it moves with an assured pace that doesn't pull any punches.

Revolving around Rohan, the Dragon Prince of the title, and the sunrunner witch Sioned, an initiate of the Goddess Keep, Rawn builds her world with a precision and flair that is matched by the style and grace of her writing. Rohan is a man of character, breeding and intelligence. Brought up in a world where a man's right to rule is based on his skill as a warrior, his inclination to the finer arts of reading and education is a cause of concern to his family when the mantle of Prince is thrust upon him by his father's untimely death. Having been sheltered from court life by his mother's wishes, he is pushed into the public eye as an unknown player in a dangerous game. To his side comes Sioned, a young woman as feisty and strong-willed as she is beautiful and accomplished in the magical art of sunrunning.

Presented to Rohan on the night of his father's death, there is a marriage arranged by his aunt and her mistress, Andre, the Lady of the Goddess Keep. At first apprehensive, Rohan is struck by Sioned's beauty and sensitivity, finding her a match for him in intelligence and passion, a person he can love and share his secrets with without fear of derision.

This is the tale of their courtship, bound together by the machinations of fate and the intrigues of noble houses; it is an intelligent read that balances romance and magic with cunning and bloody politics.

Well-drawn characters and vivid descriptions accompany Rohan and Sioned in the unfolding of their story. Personal relationships between family and friends lend the book a welcome relief to bloody infighting encouraged by the realm's powerful and manipulative overlord the High Prince Roelstra.

One thing that struck me about this book is the intelligence that is evident in the laying of every plot and the turn of each phrase. Both the prose and the verbal sparring between characters is lively and holds a distinct style that is Rawn's own and has grown with every book she's gone on to write. This is a great book and one that doesn't sit on my shelf long enough to gather dust. I highly recommend it! - Mark



NEW

IRON COUNCIL

A Bas Lag novel

China Mieville

Tp \$30.00 480pp

I first encountered China Mieville's work with **Perdido Street Station** (Pb \$19.95) and quickly knew that this was an important author. He seemed to come out of nowhere with his brilliant, meaty bursts of imagination and the dark, gritty world of Bas Lag imprinted itself as one of the finest examples of world building in a long time. And my God this guy can write!

As the stories unwind in some languid serpentine coils of smoke and noise, Mieville's images come one after the other. Just when you think that he has finished throwing you visions of steam-driven cyborg convicts, mind-stealing slake moths and cities made entirely of ships, he will produce the goods once more and give the reader another surprise straight out of left field.

Iron Council, like his previous novels, takes place in Bas Lag. We return to the city of New Crobuzon, where civil war with the city state of Tesh and urban unrest is tearing everyone's lives apart. Rebels fight the totalitarian regime enforcing itself upon the population and prepare for the ultimate battle.

Meanwhile, a small group, led by a man called Cutter, leaves the city in search of a myth. The Iron Council, last hope for the people, must return to the city...

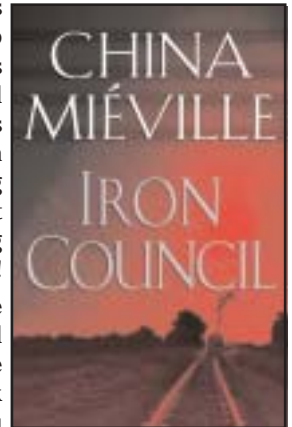
To give away any more of the story would be to lessen the impact of the whole, but one of the things I really enjoyed was the magic system that came into play throughout the book. Thaumaturgy, including the creation of golems from any substance that comes to hand, even darkness itself, plays a big role in **Iron Council**. Mieville makes it a part of the everyday world, rather than a specialised art, infusing it both as a tool for wonder and weapon of terror.

As some may be aware, Mieville is a member of the Socialist Party in England. This political theme is very strong in **Iron Council**; indeed it is the major theme of the book. Government and workers, party meetings and revolution are all here. The Iron Council itself seems to symbolise the hope and struggle of the people against the system.


The ending may not be to everyone's taste. The most obvious route is not taken here, but Mieville ends the book the only way it could have ended, I think. Readers will have to decide for themselves...

Although the *Bas Lag* books do reference each other, the novels do not have to be read in order.

I haven't been this impressed with an author's imagination and style of writing since Clive Barker. In a world sometimes dominated by mediocre fantasy, Mieville has the magic and is leading the trend in his field. Absolutely, positively recommended. 10/10. - David




**JULIE CZERNEDA
& ISAAC SZPINDEL (EDS)**

 **REVISIONS**
This is a collection of 15 original tales of "what if?" written by some of today's top science fiction writers, including Julie Czerneda, Cory Doctorow, Charles Stross, Mike Resnick, Susan Matthews, Geoffrey Landis, Doranna Durgin, Kage Baker and others. Pb \$16.95 312pp

**ELLEN DATLOW, KELLY LINK
& GAVIN GRANT (EDS)**

 **THE YEAR'S BEST FANTASY
AND HORROR:
17TH ANNUAL COLLECTION**
The fiction and poetry here is culled from an exhaustive survey of the field, nearly four dozen stories ranging from fairy tales to gothic horror, from magical realism to dark tales in the Grand Guignol style. Rounding out the volume are the editors' overviews of the year in fantasy and horror, new Year's Best sections on comics by Charles Vess and on anime and manga by Joan Vinge, plus a long list of Honourable Mentions. Contributors include Terry Bisson, Peter Crowther, Karen Joy Fowler, Neil Gaiman, Nina Kiriki Hoffman, Kij Johnson, Ursula K Le Guin, Thomas Ligotti, Maureen McHugh, Lucius Shepard, Steve Rasnic Tem, Michael Marshall Smith, Michael Swanwick and many others. Hb \$59.95 564pp Tp \$43.00 564pp

**ELLEN DATLOW & TERRI WINDLING
(EDS)**


 **THE FAERY REEL:
TALES FROM THE TWILIGHT
REALM**
Faeries, or creatures like them, can be found in almost every culture the world over - benevolent and terrifying, charming and exasperating, shifting shape from country to country, story to story, and moment to moment. For this collection, the editors asked some of today's best fantasists for short stories and poems that draw on the great wealth of world faery lore and classic faery literature and to update the old tales, or shine a bold new light on the old. Hb \$43.00 528pp

CHARLES DE LINT
 **SPIRITS IN THE WIRES**


At a popular Newford online research and library Web site called the Wordwood, a mysterious crash occurs. Everyone visiting the site at the moment of the crash vanishes from where they were sitting in front of their computers. Christy Ridding's girlfriend Saskia disappears right before his eyes, along with countless others. To rescue their missing friends, Christy and his companions must journey into Newford's otherworld, where the Wordwood, it transpires, has a physical presence of its own... Tp \$32.95 448pp

PHILIP K DICK
 **THE PENULTIMATE TRUTH**

World War III is raging - or so the millions of people crammed in their underground tanks believe. For 15 years, subterranean humanity has been fed on daily broadcasts of a never-ending nuclear destruction, sustained by a belief in the all powerful Protector. But up on Earth's surface, a different kind of reality reigns. East and West are at peace. Across the planet, an elite corps of expert hoaxers live in vast private demesnes - repayment for their services in preserving the great lie. Until, one day, a tanker emerges and discovers the path to the most sinister truth of all... Tp \$27.00 191pp

 **FIVE GREAT NOVELS**
This volume contains **Do Androids Dream Of Electric Sheep?** (filmed as *Bladerunner*), **Martian Time Slip**, **Ubik**, **The Three Stigmata Of Palmer Eldritch** and **A Scanner Darkly**. Taken together they represent the best of this author's unique imagination. In his writing, nothing is what it seems - our sense of the world's order is fatally undermined and mass media tells us nothing but artful lies. Tp \$32.95 841pp

SARA DOUGLASS 

 **GOD'S CONCUBINE**
The Troy Game #2. It has been 2000 years since Cornelia, wife of Brutus, brought the Troy Game to a wrenching halt by murdering Genvissa, the Mistress of the Labyrinth. In those 2000 years, the city of Troia Nova, now known as London, was razed and rebuilt a dozen times, as the Minotaur Asterion unsuccessfully tried to discover where Brutus hid the six golden kingship bands of Troy. But now everyone is back, reborn into 11th-century Europe so they can play out their parts in the Game. Asterion lurks within the court of Edward the Confessor, plotting with malevolence. Cornelia lives, older and wiser, but trapped in another loveless and desperate marriage. Genvissa returns, driven by spite and ambition. And in his stronghold on the coast of Normandy waits Brutus, reborn as one of the mightiest warriors of all time... Tp \$29.95 643pp

ANN DOWNER
 **HATCHING MAGIC**

Poor Gideon! Wycca, his wyvern, has disappeared through a hole in time in search of a place to lay her egg. Kobold, Gideon's rival wizard, wants nothing more than to capture Wycca and turn her against her master. Desperate to rescue Wycca from Kobold's evil clutches, Gideon follows her through the magic hole... and finds himself transported from his castle in 13th-century England, to the terrifyingly modern world of Boston, Massachusetts, in the year 2002. Pb \$9.95 242pp

GARDNER DOZOIS (ED)
 **MORNING CHILD AND OTHER
STORIES**

This *Hugo* and *Nebula Award*-winning author and editor presents a collection of classic science fiction stories, including *Morning Child*, *A Dream at Noonday*, *Chains of the Sea*, *The Hanging Curve*, *The Bride* and *Ancestral Voices*. Tp \$27.00 305pp

RICHARD FAWKES
 **NATURE OF THE BEAST**

Throughout the galaxy, the near-invincible armies of the alien Remor have set their sights on one goal - the complete extermination of the human race. Outnumbered and outgunned, The Interstellar Defense League cannot afford to discard any asset - so Christoph Stone, a disgraced Sector Commander, is being given a chance to redeem himself... by sacrificing his life. His fate - and perhaps the destiny of all humankind - is to be decided on a distant frontier planet nestled deep in enemy-controlled space. Pb \$16.95 337pp

RAYMOND E FEIST & STEVE STIRLING
 **JIMMY THE HAND**

Legends of the Rift War #3. In conjunction with master of alternative history, S M Stirling, Feist returns to tell the full tale of fan favourite, the pickpocket, mountebank and confidence trickster, Jimmy the Hand. Pb \$18.95 369pp

RECOMMENDED READING

NANCY FARMER

THE HOUSE OF THE SCORPION

Matteo Alacrán was not born - he was harvested. His DNA came from El Patrón, lord of a country called Opium - a strip of poppy fields lying between the United States and what was once called Mexico. Matt's first cell split and divided inside a petri dish. Then he was placed in the womb of a cow, where he continued the miraculous journey from embryo to fetus to baby. He is a boy now, but most consider him a monster - except for El Patrón. El Patrón loves Matt as he loves himself, because Matt is himself. As Matt struggles to understand his existence, he is threatened by a sinister cast of characters - including El Patrón's power-hungry family - and he is surrounded by a dangerous army of bodyguards. Escape is the only chance Matt has to survive - but escape from the Alacrán Estate is no guarantee of freedom, because Matt is marked by his difference in ways he doesn't even suspect. Pb \$12.95 380pp *From a two-time Newberry award-winning author comes this disturbing, engrossing tale for young adult readers, with a range of topical themes. Highly recommended - Jo*

JAMIESON FINDLAY

 **THE BLUE ROAN CHILD**

Syeira, an orphaned girl, lives and works in King Hulvere's river stable. She has a way with horses - especially with Arwin, a wild and beautiful mare whose two colts have been stolen by Ran, an evil warlord. Fate pairs girl and animal and together as they set out to find the young horses. Their quest takes them across dangerous waters and through enchanted forests - crossing paths with all sorts of characters who can help or harm them - but in the end, Syeira and Arwin must only trust each other, because it is their extraordinary bond that gives them the courage to fight for Arwin's colts. Pb \$16.95 290pp

JAMES ALAN GARDNER

 **RADIANT**

League of Peoples #7. Explorer Third Class Youn Sue is Expendable - a member of the highly skilled and highly disposable Explorer Corps trained to undertake hazardous missions so that the rest of humanity need not be upset by their deaths. With her partner, Tut, Youn is sent to rescue a planet from the dangerous sentient Balrog. But how do you defeat an alien intelligence so advanced that it literally knows what you will do before you do... especially when it has its own sinister plans? Hb \$49.95 374pp

GARY GIBSON

 **ANGEL STATIONS**

Aeons ago, a super-scientific culture, known as Angels, left relics all over the galaxy. Among these phenomena were the Stations, whereby human spacecraft could jump instantly from one part of the galaxy to another. One of these stations orbits the planet Kaspar, where the only other known sentient species outside Earth has been meticulously allowed to continue evolving in its own world of primitive ignorance. But suddenly Kaspar's mysterious 'Citadel' has become the vital key to repelling a fast-approaching threat. At what cost, though, to its native inhabitants... and to the human residents of the orbiting Angel station? Tp \$33.00 392pp

TOM GODWIN

 **COLD EQUATIONS & OTHER STORIES**

A pilot is on an emergency mission to a planet whose colony is doomed if he doesn't get there fast. He has just enough fuel to reach the planet - then he finds that he has a stowaway - a young girl wanting to be with her brother on the colony. Any unnecessary additional weight, even that of a single person, increases the chance that the spaceship will crash. What will the pilot do about the girl? This story rocked science fiction when it first appeared. Also in this volume is the author's long-unavailable novel **The Survivors**. Pb \$18.95 541pp

SIMON R GREEN

 **DEATHSTALKER LEGACY**

Sequel series #1. It has been 200 years since Owen Deathstalker fell, dying to save the Empire and all Humanity. Now it is a Golden Age for all - for men, for aliens and for the AIs of Shub, but one man has determined to bring it all crashing down and now the Terror has finally arrived, threatening them all with extinction. It's time for the latest Deathstalker, Lewis, to do his bit. Unfortunately, he and his companions - a diva, a conman, a homicidal psychopath and a reptiloid, have been outlawed and declared traitors. Pb \$18.95 504pp

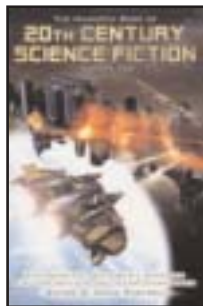
 **DEATHSTALKER RETURN**

Sequel series #2. Lewis Deathstalker is on the run, with an evil Empire snapping at his heels. He and his companions travel from world to world, searching for help and answers to the mysteries of the past. Finally, they come to the Madness Maze, which will lead Lewis to his most important task... The return of Owen Deathstalker. Tp \$29.95 390pp

DAVID HARTWELL (ED)

 **THE MAMMOTH BOOK OF 20TH CENTURY SCIENCE FICTION**

Volume #2. Here the editor showcases 23 stories that prove the sheer range of the genre. From founding fathers of the field like H G Wells and C S Lewis and beloved mainstays of the genre such as Philip Jose Farmer, Roger Zelazny and Jack Vance, to notable female writers including Nancy Kress, and writers who have hit their stride in the last two decades like William Gibson and James Morrow, all manner of SF luminaries are included. Also featured are writers better known beyond the genre such as E M Forster and Michael Shaara and translations of key foreign writers such as Wolfgang Jeschke and Dino Buzzati. Pb \$24.95 615pp



ELIZABETH HAYDON

 **ELEGY FOR A LOST STAR**

Child of Earth #5. This instalment sets the stage for a major turning point in the series. The dragon Anwyn - who has lain for three years in deathlike sleep, in a grave of rock and black coal, is freed by the cataclysm that concluded **Requiem For The Sun**. Disoriented and confused, she remembers only two things - the person who trapped her in dragon form and locked her in the grave - Rhapsody - and an all-encompassing desire to wreak vengeance. Hb \$54.00 317pp

BRIAN HERBERT & KEVIN ANDERSON

 **THE BATTLE OF CORRIN**

Legends of Dune #3. The universal computer mind Omnium has retreated to its last stronghold, where it plots a devastating new strategy that could undo the victories of the Butlerian Jihad. The surviving Titans are creating new lieutenants to do their will, when at last they return to attack the human beings they once ruled. The brilliant military commander Vorian Atreides, son of a Titan, has the gift of long life from his terrifying father and knows the machines' minds better than any man alive. Norma Cenva, the genius inventor of humanity's best defences, dreams of new discoveries that will make man invincible. And on the windswept desert planet Arrakis, the power that can give them victory waits. Tp \$32.95 620pp

ODO HIRSCH

 **WILL BUSTER AND THE GELMET HELMET**

Will Buster is chosen to participate in an experimental, accelerated learning program run by the mysterious Professor Gelmet - the students are all given personalised helmets to wear that transmit their education to their unconscious. But what are Will and his fellow classmates really learning? Will begins to suspect that Professor Gelmet is playing with their minds. Tp \$19.95 318pp

TOM HOLT

 **IN YOUR DREAMS**

H W Wells seems a respectable establishment, but the company now paying Paul Carpenter's salary is in fact a deeply sinister organisation with a mighty peculiar agenda. Since he graduated from office junior to clerk, he has wrestled with goblins, travelled hundreds of miles in the blink of an eye and spent hours doing dangerous office admin. Now, just when he thought he might be getting the hang of it, he is transferred to the pest control department. This is otherwise known as slaying dragons, werewolves and other such monstrous creatures which Paul had, until recently, fondly believed didn't exist. Hb \$39.95 474pp


HANNAH HOWELL & LYNsay SANDS

  **THE ETERNAL HIGHLANDER**

Cathal MacNachton and Connall MacAdie are cousins bound by an ancient curse - they live by night with an unquenchable thirst that neither can tame. The only thing that can save their souls is marriage to Outsiders - mortals whose untainted blood will weaken the curse in their children. Bridget Callan and Eva Caxton are the women who will shape the clan's destiny. Marriage to these mysterious men rescues each of them from desperate circumstances - and draws them into a web of danger, desire and intrigue. Tp \$27.00 297pp

WALTER HUNT


THE DARK ASCENT

 *Dark Wing #3.* The war with the zor is long over and Admiral Marais, the legendary Dark Wing, is long dead. An alien force, the actual puppetmaster of the human-zor war, now wishes to bring both worlds under its madness inducing shadow. But the same ancient philosophy of the zor race that prophesised the Dark Wing, has also foreseen a hero that will meet the new menace - a hero now mystically embodied in a rebellious space commodore by the name of Jackie Lappierre. Hb \$56.00 416pp

IAN IRVINE


SCUTATOR



 *The Well of Echoes #3.* The node has failed, rendering humanity's battle clankers and the Aachim's constructs useless. The battle has been lost. Now hordes of alien lyrinx are swarming out of the tar pits of Snizort, intending to fall upon the survivors and destroy them to the last man. Tiaan, crippled and unable to walk, is held prisoner by a vengeful Vithis, who is determined to extract her geomantic secrets from her at any cost. For his failings, Nish has been cast out and branded a traitor, while Irisis, accused of high treason, has been forced to flee for her life. Pb \$21.95 691pp

THEODORE JUDSON

FITZPATRICK'S WAR

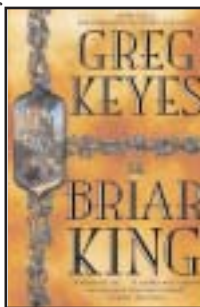
 In the 26th century, the United States and Canada are gone, replaced by the socially rigid, authoritarian Confederacy of the Yukon. Also gone is the electronic age - destroyed in the apocalyptic Storm Times that devastated the globe and decimated the world's population in the late 21st century. This is the intimate memoir of Sir Robert Bruce, a close companion of Fitzpatrick the Younger, the greatest hero of the Yukons. Yukon History paints Fitzpatrick as a latter-day Alexander the Great and calls Bruce a lying traitor. Was Robert Bruce a degenerate scoundrel... or the only man to tell his world the truth? Hb \$43.00 481pp

GREG KEYES

THE BRIAR KING



The Kingdoms of Thorn and Bone #1. In the kingdom of Crotheny, two young girls play in the tangled gardens of the sacred city of the dead where, fleeing an imaginary attacker, they discover the unknown crypt of a



legendary, ancestral queen. In the wilds of the forest, while investigating the mass slaughter of an innocent family, the king's forester comes face-to-face with a monstrous beast found only in folk tales and nightmares. Meanwhile, travelling the same road, a scholarly young priest begins his education in the nature of the evil that festers just beneath the surface of a seemingly peaceful realm. The royal family is facing a betrayal that only sorcery can accomplish and now, for three beautiful sisters, for a young man elevated to knighthood and for countless others, a darkness is emerging to shatter all that once seemed certain, familiar and good. Numerous separate destinies will become entangled as malevolent forces stalk the land - and the Briar King, that primeval harbinger of death, has awakened from his slumber. Pb \$19.95 552pp

GARRY KILWORTH

BOGGART AND FEN



The Knights of Liofwende #3. Mallmoc's towering iron land-ship is cutting a devastating path through Liofwende. Flanked by an army of Ulugga fairies, the evil warlock appears unstoppable. His only foes are a boy from England, a boggart and a talking rat with a food fixation - or so he believes. Word has yet to reach his ears of the faerie armies that march to confront him, or of the gnomes devising a cunning scheme to waylay his terrible machine. All Spiggot and Jack must do is buy these allies some time... but how? Pb \$16.95 307pp

MERCEDES LACKEY & JAMES MALLORY

THE OUTSTRETCHED SHADOW



The Obsidian Trilogy #1. Kellen Tavaddon, son of the Arch-Mage Lycaelon, thought he knew the way the world worked. His father, leading the wise and benevolent Council of Mages, protected and guided the citizens of the Golden City of the Bells. Young Mages in training - all men, for women were unfit to practice magic - memorised the intricate details of High Magic and aspired to seats on the council. Then he found the forbidden Books of Wild Magic - or did they find him? Their Magic felt like a living thing, guided by the hearts and minds of those who practiced it and benefited from it. Questioning everything he has known, Kellen discovers too many of the City's dark secrets. Banished, with the Outlaw Hunt on his heels, Kellen invokes Wild Magic - and finds himself running for his life with a unicorn at his side. Pb \$18.95 727pp

MAXINE MCARTHUR & DONNA MAREE HANSON (ED)

 **ENCOUNTERS: AN ANTHOLOGY OF AUSTRALIAN SPECULATIVE FICTION**

This anthology showcases the work of 22 new, emerging and established Australian speculative fiction writers including Chris Barnes, Stuart Barrow, Michael Barry, Lee Battersby, Conor Bendle, Shane Brown, Monica Carroll, Bruce Clark, Cory Daniells, Kate Eltham, Dirk Flinthart, Richard Harland, Trent Jamieson, Ben Payne, Gillian Polack, Nigel Read, Scott Robinson, Carol Ryles, Frankie Seymour, Cat Sparks, Kaaron Warren and Kim Westwood. Pb \$18.95 213pp

MACK MALONEY

STORM OVER SATURN



Starhawk #4. 7205 AD. Hawk Hunter's most perilous mission ever is to find the one man who can stop the Solar Guards from seizing the source of all power in the Milky Way - and plunging the galaxy into a catastrophic Dark Age. Pb \$16.95 296pp

DIANA MARCELLAS

TWILIGHT RISING, SERPENT'S DREAM



Shari'a #3. The young shari'a witch Brierley once thought that she was the last of her kind, but when she flees the only home she's ever known, she discovers that she is not the last of her kind - and that not all of the survivors share Brierley's good heart. The time of reckoning is at hand. Will Brierley have to sacrifice her life, to save an entire world and make things right for her people? Hb \$55.00 493pp



RECOMMENDED READING


GREG KEYES

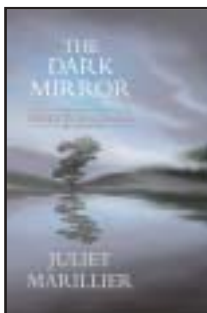
THE CHARNEL PRINCE

The Kingdoms of Thorn and Bone #2. The Briar King has woken and, with the aid of monsters formerly found only in folk-tales, is destroying the forest and the people living on its bounty. Aspar White, the king's forester, has been given the impossible task of killing the feared newcomer, but in the process he will discover that nothing about the Briar King is as straightforward as he had thought. Meanwhile Leoff, composer and self-professed coward, becomes embroiled in the horror of a town's destruction - which is part of an intrigue that leads him to the aid of Murielle, widowed Queen of Crotheny. As she fights to save her remaining family, Murielle dispatches Neil, a trusted knight, to save her youngest daughter, in whose hands may rest the kingdom's future. But as prophecies, saviours and assassins close in, Murielle's plan may leave the girl - and the kingdom - as vulnerable as ever. Tp \$30.00 518pp *The sequel to the excellent Briar King, leaves me in no doubt that this series will rank up there with Hobbs' Farseer trilogy and Martin's Game of Thrones series, as one of the best fantasy series to come out in the last decade or so... The characterisation is spot on, the pace never slows and the conclusion left me hanging out for more... Jo*

JULIET MARILLIER

THE DARK MIRROR


 *The Bridei Chronicles #1.* When the child Bridei is sent by his parents to live with the druid Broichan, he knows only that he has left his home and family to learn to be a warrior and scholar, strategist and sage.



He is not aware that in the divided and wartorn kingdom of Fortriu, a secret council of elders, including Broichan, has long been making plans for the future of their homeland - with Bridei himself central to their strategy. Tp \$30.00 560pp


JOHN MARSDEN

A ROOMFUL OF MAGIC

 Naomi and Nick are staying the night with their friends, Sam and Lucy, when they hear the sound of someone crying coming from far away. They all begin to investigate and soon find a light coming from beneath the floor under Sam's bed and a ladder leading down into a very curious mist... As they descend the ladder, the children find themselves amongst many tall dark trees and Sam and Naomi know they have returned to the magic rainforest. This time there are new problems to solve and some old friends to help find solutions. But there are some old enemies too, who will do anything to cause mischief! Pb \$14.95 63pp


DAVID MITCHELL

CLOUD ATLAS

 A reluctant voyager crossing the Pacific in 1850, a disinherited composer, a high-minded journalist, a vanity publisher fleeing, a genetically modified dinery server and a young Pacific Islander - the narrators of **Cloud Atlas** hear each others echoes down the corridor of history and their destinies are changed in ways great and small. Tp \$32.95 509pp


JAMES MOLONEY

THE TUNNELS OF FERDINAND

 *Doomsday Rats #1.* Berrin lives in a futuristic world ruled by the evil Malig Tumora, who is known as 'The Great Father'. Like all the children in this city, Berrin has been raised without parents in a large dormitory that is constantly watched over by a gruesome collection of not-quite-humans called the Dfx. In the storm-water drainage system beneath the city lives a group of children who have formed a resistance group to fight Malig Tumora; they call themselves the Rats. They must defeat the security force of half-man, half-wolf creatures called Gadges, led by the very nasty Gadger Red. Pb \$14.95 165pp


JOHN MOORE

HEROICS FOR BEGINNERS

 Prince Kevin Timberline must retrieve Ancient Artefact Model Seven from the clutches of the evil Lord Voltmeter - He Who Must Be Named - before said evil Lord unleashes his Diabolical Plan. Luckily, Kevin wields a secret weapon that will cause the forces of Darkness to tremble - *The Handbook of Practical Heroics*. Pb \$16.95 246pp


ROBERT NEWCOMB

THE SCROLLS OF THE ANCIENTS

 *The Chronicles of Blood and Stone #3.* For three centuries Eutracia was a land of peace and plenty, until the return of the Coven of Sorceresses and the subsequent rise and fall of the Gates of Dawn. And now a new menace stalks the land - a race of fiendish slavers are plundering its people, taking them away across the seemingly impassable Sea of Whispers. It falls to the king in hiding, Tristan, his sister Shailiha and the wizards Wigg and Faegan to unravel the mystery, but to do so the Scrolls of the Ancients must be found and their secret language deciphered. As they unravel secrets, confront creatures beyond their imagining and discover the fate of the vanished people of Eutracia, the true identity of the enemy is revealed - a master of the Craft of Magic, whose powers, ambitions and capacity for cruelty threatens everything the fellowship holds dear... Tp \$35.00 531pp


DAVID OHLE

AGE OF SINATRA

 This is the long-awaited sequel to the 1972 cult classic **Motorman**. Part political allegory, part science-fiction dystopia, the novel catches up with the luckless protagonist Moldenke, after the most recent Forgetting. Moldenke finds himself in possession only of his name and the bare facts of his former life, while he cruises on the Titanic through an alternate reality where elective deformation is a fashion trend and grasshoppers are the main course. His travel mates are Ophelia Balls, an artist; Gerald Hilter, a journalist; Agnes Moldenke, his mother and the inventor of edible money; Dr. Burnheart, his old mentor; and a talkative neutrodyne named Hugo Vink. Tp \$27.00 169pp


MARIANNE DE PIERRES

CODE NOIR

 *Parrish Plessis #2.* Jamon Mondo may be dead, but don't think that makes Parrish Plessis' life any less complicated. Sure, she's got a shape-changing psycho off her back, but at what cost? The media have a price on her head so high that every scumbag from the Tert to Viva City Central is out to get a piece of her. One thing's for sure... Parrish is gonna need some bigger guns... Pb \$19.95 311pp

TAMORA PIERCE

TRICKSTER'S QUEEN

 *Sequel to Trickster's Choice.* Aly's adventure continues... No longer a slave, Alanna's daughter is now spying as part of an underground rebellion against the colonial rulers of the Copper Isles. The people in the rebellion believe that a prophecy in which a new queen will rise up to take the throne is about to be realised. Aly is busy keeping the potential teenage queen and her younger siblings safe, while also keeping her in the dark about her future. But Aly, who is usually adept at anticipating danger and changes, is in for a few nasty surprises. Pb \$18.95 592pp

KEVIN RANDLE

FTL

 *The Exploration Chronicles #3.* First there were signs of alien life in **Signals**. Then **Starship** launched the tale of humanity's next step toward the stars. Now, the quest for faster-than-light travel begins. Pb \$16.95 266pp

LAURA RESNICK

THE DESTROYER GODDESS


 *In Fire Forged #2.* The island nation of Sileria lies in the shadow of Darshon, the Destroyer Goddess, the great volcano that dominates the landscape and people of Sileria. When she awakens, their world trembles. She has lain



quiet for decades, throughout the occupation of foreign invaders. Sileria has finally been freed from foreign rule, only to fall under the power of the ruthless waterlords, powerful mages who terrorise those who depend on their mercy for the water that all life must have. Tansen, the rebel warrior, joins forces with Mirabar, a Guardian who is feared and admired for her fire magic and Zarien, a mysterious sea-born boy, in a stand against the waterlords rule. As the power struggle among Sileria's warring factions intensifies to a fevered pitch, the tremors of Darshon increase, threatening to engulf them all in molten death. Pb \$18.95 589pp

KATHERINE ROBERTS

THE OLYMPIC CONSPIRACY

 *The Seven Fabulous Wonders #5.* The Statue of Zeus at Olympia provides the backdrop for another thrilling adventure. Sosi's brother Theoron is in training for the Olympic Games. When he is injured, only Sosi can help him - but gets more than he bargained for when he takes Theoron's place. Who is trying to sabotage the Games and why? And what's so important about the sacred fire and the Statue of Zeus...? Pb \$14.95 293pp

PENNI RUSSON

UNDINE

Being 16 is confusing and unpredictable enough for anyone, but if you're Undine, you also begin hearing voices calling you home in the middle of the night... and then you suddenly produce a storm out of thin air. Your best friend Trout insists on falling messily in love with you, while you end up with a crush on his older brother. Meanwhile, the ocean begins appearing in your inland bedroom and your dead father turns out to be not so dead after all... Pb \$16.95 245pp

NICK SAGAN

EDENBORN

18 years after *Idlewild*, the survivors are now adults. Though Halloween - bitter and disillusioned - has chosen to exile himself, his peers seek to repopulate the Earth and rebuild civilisation. They are mankind's last, best and perhaps only hope. But an ideological split has divided them into two very different societies. One looks to resurrect the human race, while the other is committed to improving humanity via genetic manipulation. And so a new generation of children is born, but as they mature it becomes clear that all is not well. Someone - or something - is moving against them, even as Black Ep, the plague that claimed billions of lives, returns in search of new victims. The survivors must work together, but to save the future Halloween must first let go of the past... Hb \$41.95 311pp

MARTIN SCOTT

DEATH AND THRAXAS

Omnibus edition containing Thraxas at the Races & Thraxas & The Elvish Isles. The city is Turai...where the rulers are corrupt, the politicians are worse and the civic guards might try to solve a crime, except that they've really got better things to do. Overweight and somewhat uncouth, Thraxas may not look like a man of action, but if you're in trouble, this portly private eye is probably your only hope. Not that Thraxas himself has much hope in the first of the two complete novels in this volume. A judge has fined him almost every guran he has, two old enemies have threatened his life and his old commander in the army has just turned up dead. Naturally, Thraxas is the prime suspect... Pb \$18.95 472pp

DAN SIMMONS

HARD AS NAILS

Joe Kurtz #3. Somewhere in western New York there's a remote mountaintop in the moonlight, its dark forests and moon-dappled meadows populated only by corpses and if ex-PI Joe Kurtz doesn't unravel the secret of that place in five days, he'll be one of them.. Pb \$16.95 357pp

CATHERINE WEBB

TIMEKEEPERS

Waywalkers #2. Sam Linnifer returns to rid the world of the deadly plots and schemes of the elder gods, but with Seth, Jehovah and Thor now in control of the dread Pandora Spirits, Sam knows Earth's only hope may rest in his unleashing the Light. But the power bestowed upon him at birth by his father Time could have deadly consequences for Sam himself. For in unleashing the Light, Sam must touch the minds of every human on Earth. To save the world, Sam may have to destroy himself... Pb \$16.95 309pp

N LEE WOOD

MASTER OF NONE

Nathan Crewe planned to make his academic reputation by stealing rare plant samples from Vanar - a powerful, secretive planet that forbids all foreigners and controls all space transport. Instead, he is betrayed by a jealous lover and left marooned, impoverished and friendless in a strict matriarchal world where men have no legal rights. Arrested and imprisoned, Nathan is rescued by the head of an influential family who takes an interest in him and teaches him the complex rules of her society. As he adapts to their culture, Nathan learns of an ancient malice buried deep in the history of this world - one that will threaten him and everyone he has come to care for. And he discovers that his arrival on Vanar was anything but accidental... Tp \$32.95 390pp



PATRICIA WREDE

& CAROLINE STEVERMER

THE GRAND TOUR

Kate and Cecy and their new husbands, Thomas and James, are off on a Grand Tour. Their plans? To leisurely travel about the Continent, take in a few antiquities, and - of course - purchase fabulous Parisian wardrobes. But once they arrive in France, mysterious things start to happen. Cecy receives a package containing a lost coronation treasure, Thomas' valet is assaulted and Kate loses a glove. Soon it becomes clear that they have stumbled upon a dastardly magical plot to take over Europe. Now the four newlyweds must embark on a daring chase to thwart the evil conspiracy. And there's no telling the trouble they'll get into along the way. For when you mix Kate, Cecy and magic, you never know what's going to happen next! Hb \$37.00 469pp



CHRISTINE FEEHAN, MAGGIE SHAYNE, EMMA HOLLY & ANGELA KNIGHT
HOT BLOODED

A bound man with a voracious appetite... A werewolf with human desires... A shape-shifter with one basic need... An immortal lover with a passion for mortal women... These are the stories of **Hot Blooded**. Pb \$18.95 392pp

HANNAH HOWELL, LYN SAYS SANDS, SARA BLAYNE, KATE HUNTINGTON
HIS IMMORTAL EMBRACE

The Yearning by Hannah Howell: Tormented by an ancient curse, the men of Clan MacCordy reach manhood only to walk forever in darkness, thirsting for blood... *Bitten* by Lynsay Sands: After Keeran MacKay saves Emily Wentworth Collins from a storm-tossed ship, he offers her shelter in his secluded castle. But a savage kiss reveals Keeran's true nature... *Stranger in the Night* by Sara Blayne: While exploring the ruins of her ancestral home, Georgiana encounters Julius Lathrop. Does this attractive stranger hold the key to a family legend? Or something far more sinister? *The Awakening* by Kate Huntington: Orphaned Thalia Layton is stricken to hear that her beloved, eccentric Aunt Cordelia has taken ill. But upon her arrival at Cordelia's remote estate, Thalia discovers that her aunt has harboured dangerous secrets... Pb \$14.95 380pp

KATIE MACALISTER
YOU SLAY ME

Aisling Grey is a courier enjoying a free, work-related trip to Paris when she learns she's a Guardian. That's a keeper of the Gates of Hell, for those who don't know. She finds this out from Drake Vireo, who's scrumptiously sexy - at least in his human form. Drake has stolen the package Aisling was sent to deliver. Now she must track him down, get the package and try to resist the passion boiling inside her. Pb \$16.95 342pp

MARY ANN MITCHELL
THE VAMPIRE DE SADE

The debauchery and perversions of the Marquis de Sade were notorious in his own lifetime. But even death could not stop his search for pain and pleasure. He lives to this day, a master vampire, preying on humans. For centuries Sade has thrived in the darkest netherworlds of New York and Paris, but now he has come to New Orleans, legendary city of excess and abandon. But he will soon discover that he is not the only creature of the night in this town. For New Orleans is also the home of voodoo - and of the Voodoo Queen, Marie Laveau. Pb \$16.95 337pp

ELIZABETH & THOMAS MONTELONE
(EDS)

FROM THE BORDERLANDS

This eerie, unsettling collection of stories by some of the horror genre's best and brightest is sure to deliver goosebumps to every fearless reader who dares to crack its spine. Just some of the participating authors of note include Stephen King, Bentley Little and Tom Piccirilli. Pb \$18.95 428pp

JOHN PELAN (ED)

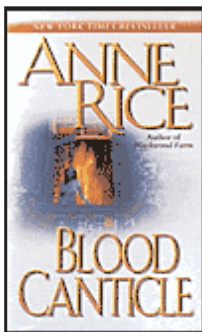
**A WALK ON THE DARK SIDE:
VISIONS OF HORROR**

Take a walk on the dark side... 21 all-new horror stories from Caitlin Kiernan, Brian Hodge, Tim Lebbon and more. Pb \$16.95 391pp

ANNE RICE

BLOOD CANTICLE

The Vampire Chronicles. The Vampire Lestat, once the epitome of evil, struggles with his vampirism and yearns for goodness, purity and love, as he saves Patsy's ghost from the dark realm of the Earthbound, uncovers the mystery



of the Taltos and unselfishly decides the fate of his beloved Rowan Mayfair. Pb \$18.95 401pp

DARREN SHAN

KILLERS OF THE DAWN

The Saga of Darren Shan #9. Darren and Mr Crepsley will get more than they bargained for when they come face to face with the Vampaneze Lord. Outnumbered, outsmarted and desperate, the hunters are on the run. Pursued by the Vampaneze, vigilante mobs and the police, Darren Shan, the Vampire Prince, is public enemy Number One! With their enemies baying for blood, the vampires prepare for deadly confrontation. Is this the end for Darren and his allies? Pb \$12.95 185pp

JAMES THOMPSON

TAINTED BLOOD

At long last, Elijah Pike has procured a vaccine powerful enough to purify his vampire blood and bring an end to his insatiable appetite. He shares his findings with those of his kind, who also wish to heal their eternal torment. Theo Thantos doesn't want to be cured. He doesn't care if vampires spill innocent blood to ensure their own survival. With a cadre of fanatics devoted to his cause, Thantos plans to transform America's most powerful people into vampires under his control. The battle lines have been drawn... Pb \$13.95 304pp

F PAUL WILSON
SIMS

This novel takes place in the very near future, when the science of genetics is fulfilling its vaunted potential. It's a world where genetically transmitted diseases are being eliminated, a world where boring manual labour is gradually being transferred to sims, genetically altered chimps who occupy a grey zone between simian and human. The chief innovator is SimGen, which owns the patent on the sim genome and has begun leasing the creatures worldwide. But SimGen is not quite what it seems. It has secrets... secrets beyond patents and proprietary processes... secrets it will go to any lengths to protect. Pb \$18.95 499pp



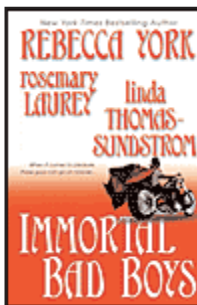
STEPHEN WOODWORTH

THROUGH VIOLET EYES

To every generation are born a select few souls with violet-coloured eyes and the ability to channel the dead. Both rare and precious, these Violets perform a number of different duties. The most fortunate channel the still-creative spirits of famous dead artists and musicians. The least fortunate aid the police and the law courts, catching criminals by interviewing the deceased victims of violent crime. But now the Violets themselves have become the target of a brutal serial murderer - a murderer who had learned how to mask his or her identity even from the victims. Pb \$16.95 333pp

REBECCA YORK, ROSEMARY LAUREY &
LINDA THOMAS-SUNDSTROM
IMMORTAL BAD BOYS

Night Ecstasy by Rebecca York: New Orleans is the perfect place for a 300-year-old vampire. Yet each encounter is a pale imitation of the grand passion Jules craves - and then he meets artist Taylor Lawson.



Velvet Night by Rosemary Laurey: Vickie Anderson has to the mountains of Virginia looking for a little peace and solitude. What she gets instead is sexy Pete Falcon. For Pete, Vickie stirs a hunger that is beyond anything she can possibly understand. *Midnight Court* by Linda Thomas Sundstrom: Creature of the night, Christopher Dante has no defenses against the enchanting, innocent, unearthly beauty of Lord Rothchilde's future bride, but his jealous former lover, Elizabeth Rothchilde, will do anything to keep Dante safe from a fate he cannot foresee. Tp \$29.95 311pp

MEDIA

**BUFFY, THE VAMPIRE
SLAYER:**

THE WATCHERS GUIDE
PAUL RUDITIS

#3. This companion looks at the episodes of seasons five, six and seven, from the villains and the victims, to quotables and love bytes, as well as taking a look back at the entire run of the show. Additional features include a line-by-line deconstruction of the portents in the season four finale, *Restless*, lost lines of dialogue, stage directions and descriptions cut from the original teleplays, critical (and not-so) essays from a variety of contributors on topics from Buffy's romantic optimism to Dawn's unfulfilled potential. Tp \$29.95 359pp

**CHARMED:
THE BREWING STORM**
PAUL RUDITIS

Despite wacky weather threatening the San Francisco area, life for the Charmed Ones is as normal as ever. Normal, that is, until 11-year-old Tyler Michaels shows up at their door. Tyler, a Firestarter, is on the run from demons. Though the Halliwell sisters have dealt with Tyler before, a glance at the Book of Shadows turns up new, unexpected information about the boy...and the forces for which his magic can be harnessed. Pb \$12.95 234pp

**DOCTOR WHO:
THE ALGEBRA OF ICE**
LLOYD ROSE

BBC #140. Can the Doctor discover what is causing a time anomaly? Will he be able to prevent the universe itself from unravelling when everyone seems to have turned against him - even the TARDIS? Pb \$14.95 279pp

	NOVELISATION (written version of film, TV, radio drama production, comic or game)	
	Based On (concept)	
Film		
TV Show		
Computer Game		
Role-playing Game		
Comic		
Reference		

EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING
STEVEN PIZIKS

In the aftermath of World War II, Lankester Merrin finds himself in the remote Turkana region of Kenya. He has come to lead the archaeological excavation of a mysterious Byzantine church, buried in pristine condition as if on the day it was completed. Directly underneath the church, Merrin discovers a much more ancient crypt - and finds himself face-to-face with unspeakable Evil. Pb \$16.95 244pp

HELLBOY:
THE BONES OF GIANTS
CHRISTOPHER GOLDEN

When an unnatural lightning storm in Sweden uncovers a massive skeleton with an iron hammer gripped in its fist, the Bureau for Paranormal Research and Defense sends its top operatives to investigate - the amphibian humanoid Abe Sapien and the equally anomalous crimson demon called Hellboy. Only Hellboy can lift the great hammer from the lifeless giant. And when a lightning bolt fuses the iron weapon to his stone right hand, he becomes joined to the mightiest weapon in Norse mythology - the hammer of Thor. Pb \$14.95 296pp

HELLBOY:
LOST ARMY
CHRISTOPHER GOLDEN

When a team of archeologists go missing, the Bureau for Paranormal Research and Defense sends Hellboy to investigate. Pb \$14.95 288pp

LARA CROFT, TOMB RAIDER:
THE LOST CULT
E E KNIGHT

After destroying years of his research on the ancient Méne cult, archaeologist Professor Frys is murdered by an unknown assassin. Lara Croft knows her colleague must have stumbled upon a dangerous secret - and someone took his life to ensure it would remain in the shadows, so she jets to the mysterious cloud forests of eastern Peru, home of the Méne ruins, and makes a shocking discovery - a group is attempting to revive the sinister cult and its mind-controlling ways. Pb \$15.95 310pp



LEONARD MALTIN'S MOVIE
AND VIDEO GUIDE 2005
LEONARD MALTIN

This guide contains more than 6,000 DVD titles, more than 300 new videos, nearly 19,000 capsule reviews, completely updated index of leading stars, ratings, running times, widescreen info and much more. Pb \$19.95 1637pp

RESIDENT EVIL: APOCALYPSE
KEITH DeCANDIDO

The streets of Raccoon City swarm with the living dead, compelling Umbrella to deploy another of its bioweapons, a hulking prototype soldier code-named NEMESIS that kills anything in its path. Jill Valentine of the RCPD and several others are determined to get out of Raccoon alive, but only if they can escape the city's hordes of undead, Umbrella's unleashed creatures and the relentless pursuit of Nemesis itself. Their one chance is with one of the only survivors of the Hive - a young woman named Alice, who learns a terrifying secret behind her connection to Umbrella. Pb \$16.95 277pp

SHARK TALE: THE ESSENTIAL
GUIDE
SIMON JOWETT

Fast-talking hustler fish Oscar finds himself in hot water with the mob when he is mistaken for a hero. Find out all about his underworld adventure with this fantastic essential guide. Hb \$19.95 48pp

STAR TREK

ENIGMA
MICHAEL JAN FRIEDMAN

Stargazer #5. Without warning, a Starfleet ship is overwhelmed by a mysterious, alien aggressor - one who appears to possess an intimate knowledge of the vessel's tactical technology. Then a second Starfleet ship is attacked and a third. 28-year-old Jean-Luc Picard, captain of the *USS Stargazer* - a *Constellation*-class starship - is ordered to help form a desperate line of defence against the aggressor. But it seems nothing can stop the aliens' headlong plunge into the heart of the Federation. Pb \$15.95 258pp

MAKER
MICHAEL JAN FRIEDMAN

Stargazer #6. Ensign Andreas Nikolas, heartsick over the loss of his Mirror Universe lover, has resigned his post on Jean-Luc Picard's starship to seek a home on the freighter *Iktoj'ni*. All he wants of his new life is a chance to forget his troubles. And that's what he gets - until the *Iktoj'ni* is taken over by a monstrous alien with unbelievable powers and a disdain for all forms of life. Pb \$16.95 273pp

SHOCKWAVE
PAUL RUDITIS

Star Trek Enterprise. The *Starship Enterprise* NX-01 has gone further into the reaches of space than humans have ever before travelled. They have made first contact with races previously unknown to even the Vulcans, but time is a river and the crew are now caught in it. Pb \$14.95 305pp

A TIME TO KILL
DAVID MACK

Star Trek: The Next Generation: Time #7. At the height of the Dominion War, the Federation secretly armed the neutral planet Tezwa with devastating weapons - part of a contingency plan against the Dominion if the front lines collapsed, but Tezwa also lies near the border of the Klingon Empire, making the Federation's covert strategy in direct violation of their fragile peace treaties and creating the potential threat of scandal and all-out war. Pb \$14.95 344pp

A TIME TO HEAL
DAVID MACK

Star Trek: The Next Generation: Time #8. A cataclysmic war between the Federation and the Klingon Empire has been miraculously averted and a new government is finally in place on the planet Tezwa, but deadly secrets still threaten the fragile peace accord. Rebels loyal to the old Tezwa regime have captured Commander Riker and are willing to kill to achieve their goals... Pb \$16.95 346pp

STAR WARS

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WHAT WE'VE BEEN READING

Alien Woman: The Making of Lt Ellen Ripley by Ximena Gallardo and Jason Smith (Tp \$43.00). The *Alien* films have always been a breeding ground (facehugger breeding ground!) for discussions on sex and gender in science fiction. This book discusses all four movies and the issues they raise, going beyond the SF genre and into topics such as Alien Resurrection and the Posthuman Subject, Weapons and War on the Female and Opening the Body. This was overall a fascinating read and a fine example of the subtexts within science fiction, although the authors did tend to read a bit too much into some areas. 8/10 - David

The Subtle Knife by Philip Pullman (Pb \$18.95). The second book in *His Dark Materials* series is as riveting as the first. After having crossed over into the world of Cittagazze, Lyra meets up with a boy from our world, Will Parry. Spectres prowl the city however, and while Mrs Coulter still hunts Lyra, the object in the Torre deglie Angeli waits for the one who will wield it...

Wonderful writing, great characters and story make this one of the best series out there. Go back to Hogwarts, Harry Potter. - David

Transformers: The Ultimate Guide by Simon Furman. (Hb \$39.95 144pp) *Transformers, more than meets the eye...* Being a child of the eighties, my upbringing would have been incomplete without the sterling examples of good conduct set by the Transformers, powerful alien robots stranded on Earth, each with the ability to disguise themselves by *transforming* themselves into an alternate mode, usually some style of vehicle. The fine Decepticon role models such as Devastator, Megatron, Soundwave, Shockwave, Starscream, Shrapnel, Thundercracker, Ravage & Rumble all had a lasting impact on my personal world view. Admittedly, some of the Autobots were alright too - notably Jazz, Optimus Prime and the wild cards who shifted allegiance like Grimlock and Jetfire. Anyway, this historical textbook (which would fit comfortably alongside the works of Tacitus and Heroditus) is a good attempt to cover the multifaceted subject of Generation One Transformers and their various spin-offs.

For me, the highlight of this guide is that it is filled with a generous quantity of the excellent illustrations created by the talented crew at Dreamwave Comics. Their highly detailed, manga-influenced, re-imaginings of the original Generation One Transformers, complete with battle scarred dents, exhaust vents, exposed wires and struts, certainly fire the imagination and re-ignite interest in this eighties franchise.

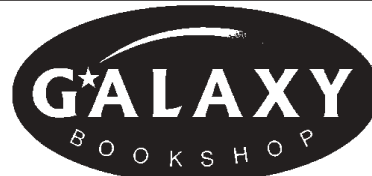
As Furman is attempting to provide an 'ultimate guide', a more comprehensive listing and description of all the Generation One Transformers is culled to make space for later Transformers incarnations such as Beast Wars, Maximals, Robots in Disguise and Transformers: Armada. (I personally would have preferred a curt mention of the Beast Wars and Maximals series as opposed to the generous 30 pages they receive within this book, but I'm biased.) Only a handful of pages are spent on images of the Generation One toy line which is a shame because some of the pages in my old Transformers catalogues are stuck together now. The guide also covers the various UK and US Transformers comics including the several Transformers/GI Joe crossovers. On a related note, the first two seasons of the cartoon plus *Transformers: The Movie* are all now available on DVD. - Raphael

COMPETITION

To win a ticket to Terry Pratchett's Anniversary bash and a copy each of **The Colour of Magic** and **Going Postal**, answer the following three questions. *How many years has it been since the first Discworld novel came out? What was the first novel called? What is the name of the character Terry Pratchett created that is based on another well known character created by Robert E Howard?* Mail, fax or email (competition@galaxybooks.com.au) your answer along with your name and address. Competition closes 22 October 2004. Entry open to Galaxy Cardholders only.

COMPETITION WINNERS

Claire Nips has won the signed photo of Amanda Tapping (*Stargate*). Congratulations!



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GNU Terry Pratchett. "You know they'll never really die while the Trunk is alive[...] It lives while the code is shifted, and they live with it, always Going Home." - Moist von Lipwig, Going Postal, Chapter 13. In Terry Pratchett's Discworld series, the clacks are a series of semaphore towers loosely based on the concept of the telegraph. Invented by an artificer named Robert Dearheart, the towers could send messages "at the speed of light" using standardized codes. Three of these codes are of particular import Born Terence David John Pratchett, Sir Terry Pratchett sold his first story when he was thirteen, which earned him enough money to buy a second-hand type...
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