H'ICtion

Science Fiction & Fantasy Catalogue

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Includes new books by: Ben Aaronovitch Neal Asher Melissa Caruso Ted Chiang Sebastien de Castell Madeline Miller Naomi Novik Tad Williams Chris Wooding ... and many others.

May 2019

All the books in this catalogue are new books due for release in May 2019.

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> Until next time, good reading! Ron and Leanne

Abbreviations used in this catalogue:

PBK = 'A' & 'B' format (standard size) paperback TP = 'B+' & 'C' format (oversize) paperback

HC = Hardcover or cloth binding

PC GRANT 07: LIES SLEEPING

AARONOVITCH, Ben

This fantastic urban fantasy series begins with Rivers of London (PBK, \$19.99). **Urban fantasy**

WESTSIDE AKERS, W M

Urban fantasy HC

SUNFALL

AL-KHALILI, Jim

 $2041\dots$ and the world as we know it grinds to a halt. Our planet seems to be turning against itself - it would appear that the magnetic field, that protects life on Earth from deadly radiation from space, is failing... Desperate to quell the mass hysteria that would surely follow, world governments have concealed this rapidly emerging Armageddon. But a young Iranian hacktivist stumbles across the truth, and it becomes a race against time to reactivate the earth's core, using beams of dark matter. As a small team of brave and brilliant scientists battle to find a way of transforming theory into practice, they face a fanatical group intent on pursuing their own endgame agenda: for they believe mankind to be a plague upon this earth and will do anything, commit any crime, to ensure that the project fails... And, so, bring about humanity's end. From renowned theoretical physicist, broadcaster, and author Jim Al-Khalili, comes this thrilling debut novel drawing on cutting-edge science, and set in a near-future full of dazzling technologies

Science fiction \$32.99

DESTROYERMEN 13: RIVER OF BONES

ANDERSON, Taylor PBK Military SF

KATE DANIELS 10: MAGIC TRIUMPHS

ANDREWS, Ilona

Fantasy

RISE OF THE JAIN 02: THE WARSHIP ASHER, Neal

Orlandine has destroyed the alien Jain super-soldier, by deploying an actual black hole. And now that same weapon hoovers up clouds of lethal Jain technology, swarming within the deadly accretion disc's event horizon. All seems just as she planned. Yet, behind her back, forces incite rebellion on her home world, planning her assassination Earth Central, humanity's ruling intelligence, knows Orlandine was tricked into releasing her weapon, and fears the Jain are behind it. The sequel to The Soldier (PBK, \$18.99).

Science fiction

RED QUEEN: BROKEN THRONE (COLLECTION)

AVEYARD, Victoria YA fantasy

SPIN TRILOGY 03: STONE CLOCK

BANNISTER, Andrew

Follows Creation Machine and Iron Gods (PBK, \$19.99 each) in this fantastic sf trilogy.

Science fiction

THREE-BODY PROBLEM PARAQUEL: THE REDEMPTION OF TIME

BAOSHU

This is Tianming's story. It reveals what happened to him, when he was intercepted by the Trisolarians. It reveals the true nature of the struggle that has created the universal 'dark forest', and the ultimate fate of the Universe... A companion volume to the bestselling Three-Body Problem trilogy.

Science fiction

JACOB'S LADDER 01: PINION

BEAR, Elizabeth

Ariane, Prince of the House of Rule, was known to be fiercely oded. But severing an angel's wings on the battle even after she had surrendered - proved her completely without honour. Captive, the angel Perceval waits for Ariane, not only to finish her off - but to devour her very memories and mind. Surely, her gruesome death will cause war between the houses – exactly as Ariane desires... Originally published in 2007, as Dust. Also available, in May, is the first volume in a new Eternal Sky trilogy, The Stone in the Skull (TP, \$29.99).

PBK

BENEATH THE WORLD, A SEA

BECKETT, Chris

South America, 1990. Ben Ronson, a British police officer, arrives in a mysterious forest to investigate a spate of killings of Duendes. These silent, vaguely-humanoid creatures – with long limbs and black button eyes – have a strange psychic effect on people, unleashing the subconscious and exposing their innermost thoughts and fears...

Science fiction

SIGNAL AIRSHIP 02: BY FIRE ABOVE

BENNIS, Robyr

Between noble scheming, under-trained recruits, and supply shortages, Josette and the crew of the Mistral must figure out a way to return to Durum – only to discover that when the home front turns into the front lines, things are more dangerous than they seem. A sequel to The Guns Above (PBK, \$22.99), which has had some great customer feedback.

Steampunk TP MERCY THOMPSON 11: STORM CURSED

The popular Mercy Thompson series begins with Moon Called (PBK, \$19.99).

Paranormal romance GENESIS FLEET 03: TRIUMPHANT

CAMPBELL, Jack HC Space opera

UNDER THE NORTHERN SKY 02: THE SPIDER CAREW, Leo

Roper, the Black Lord of the northern people, may have vanquished the Suthern army at the Battle of Harstathur. But the greatest threat

to his people lies in the hands of more shadowy forces. In the south, the disgraced Bellamus bides his time. Learning that the young Lord Roper is planning to invade the southern lands, Bellamus conspires with his Queen to unleash a weapon so deadly it could wipe out Roper's people, altogether... The sequel to The Wolf (PBK, \$22.99).

STARLESS

CAREY, Jacqueline

Destined from birth to serve as protector of the princess Zariya, Khai is trained in the arts of killing and stealth by a warrior sect in the deep desert; yet there is one profound truth that has been withheld from him. In the court of the Sun-Blessed, Khai must learn to navigate deadly intrigue and his own conflicted identity. But in the far reaches of the western seas, the dark god Miasmus is rising, intent on nothing less than wholesale destruction. If Khai is to keep his soul's twin Zariya alive, their only hope lies with an unlikely crew of prophecy-seekers on a journey that will take them farther

beneath the starless skies than anyone can imagine.

SWORDS & FIRE 03: THE UNBOUND EMPIRE

CARUSO, Melissa The conclusion of the fantastic fantasy trilogy - following The

Tethered Mage and The Defiant Heir (PBK, \$19.99 each). One of Ron's favourite series - recommended!

VORRH TRILOGY 03: THE CLOVEN

CATLING, Brian

The stunning conclusion to Brian Catling's Vorrh trilogy, following The Vorrh and The Erstwhile (PBK, \$22.99 each). \$22.99 Fantasy

PBK

DRAGON EMPIRE 01: SCALES OF EMPIRE

CHAN, Kylie

Corporal Jian Choumaliis on the mission of a lifetime - security officer on one of Earth's huge generation ships, fleeing Earth's failing ecosystem to colonise a distant planet. The ship encounters a technologically and culturally-advanced alien empire, led by a royal family of dragons. The empire's dragon emissary offers her aid to the people of Earth, bringing greater health, longer life, and fasterthan-light travel to nearby stars... The first in a new series.

Science fiction **PBK**

EXHALATION (COLLECTION)

CHIANG, Ted

This much-anticipated second collection of stories is signature Ted Chiang - full of revelatory ideas and deeply sympathetic characters. Ted Chiang wrestles with the oldest questions on earth – What is the nature of the universe? What does it mean to be human? – and ones that no one else has even imagined. And, each in its own way, the stories prove that complex and thoughtful science fiction can rise to

new heights of beauty, meaning, and compassion. Recommended! Short fiction collection

AGAINST THE FALL OF NIGHT

CLARKE, Arthur C

Golden age masterworks

\$22.99

NOIR FATALE (ANTHOLOGY)

CORREIA, Larry & EZELL, Kacey (editors) From straightforward hardboiled detective story to dark urban fantasy to the dirty secrets of futuristic science fiction - all with a hard, gritty feel. All new stories by: Larry Correia; Kacey Ezell; Laurell K Hamilton; David Weber; Sarah A Hoyt; Robert Buettner; Alistair Kimble; Griffin Barber; Michael Massa; Christopher L Smith and Michael Ferguson; Hinkley Correia; Patrick Tracy; and

Steve Diamond. Noir speculative fiction

MIRROR VISITOR QUARTET 01: A WINTER'S PROMISE

DABOS, Christelle

Long ago, following a cataclysm called 'The Rupture', the world was shattered into floating celestial islands, known now as Arks. Ophelia lives on Anima, an Ark where objects have souls. Beneath her worn scarf and thick glasses. Ophelia hides two powers: the ability to read the past of objects and their human owners, and the ability to travel through mirrors. When she is promised in marriage to Thorn, the young girl must leave her family and follow her fiancé to Citaceleste, the floating capital of a distant Ark. The second volume of the quartet, The Missing of Clairdelune, is available at the same time. \$22.99 each

SPELLSLINGER 05: QUEENSLAYER

DE CASTELL, Sebastien

YA fantasy

The latest in de Castell's wonderful fantasy series, which begins with Spellsinger (PBK, \$16.99)

YA fantasy TP \$19.99 FIRST CHRONICLES OF THOMAS COVENANT 01: LORD FOUL'S BANE

DONALDSON, Stephen

A reissue of the first in Donaldson's seminal anti-hero fantasy series PBK Classic fantasy (reissue)

FIREMANE SAGA 01: KING OF ASHES

FEIST, Raymond E

The first book in an entirely new series by Feist, now in paperback. **PBK** \$22.99 **Fantasy**

WHAT SHOULD BE WILD

FINE, Julia

Cursed. Maisie Cothay has never known the feel of human flesh: born with the power to kill or resurrect at her slightest touch, she has spent her childhood sequestered in her family's manor at the edge of a mysterious forest. Maisie's father, an anthropologist who sees her as more experiment than daughter, has warned Maisie not to venture into the wood. Locals talk of men disappearing within, emerging with addled minds and strange stories. What he does not tell Maisie is that - for over a millennium - her female ancestors have also vanished into the wood, never to emerge - for she is descended from a long line of cursed women. But one day Maisie's father disappears, and Maisie must venture beyond the walls of her carefully constructed life, to find him. The farther she strays, the

more the wood calls her home... \$33.95

THE DARKEST TIME OF NIGHT

FINLEY, Jeremy

When the seven-year-old grandson of a US Senator vanishes in the woods behind his home, the only witness is his older brother. 'The lights took him,' he says - and never utters another word again As the FBI and National Guard launch a massive search, the boys' grandmother, Lynn, comes to realise that her greatest fear has come back to haunt her and her family. In the late 1960s, before she became the devoted wife of a politician, Lynn worked in the astronomy department at the University of Illinois. As secretary for a prominent professor, Lynn took messages from people desperate to find their missing loved ones who had vanished into

beams of light... \$22.95 Science fiction

A BOY AND HIS DOG AT

THE END OF THE WORLD FLETCHER, CA

My name's Griz. My childhood wasn't like yours. I've never been to school, I've never had friends; in my whole life, I've not met enough people to play a game of football. My parents told me how crowded the world used to be, before all the people went away, but we were never lonely on our remote island. We had each other, and our dogs. Then the thief came. He told stories of the deserted towns and cities beyond our horizons. I liked him - until I woke to find he had stolen my dog. So, I chased him out into the ruins of the world. I just want to get my dog back, but I found more than I ever imagined was possible. More about how the world ended. More about what my

family's real story is. More about what really matters Post-apocalyptic \$32.99

RING OF FIRE 25: 1637: THE VOLGA RULES

FLINT, Eric Alternate history \$21.95

INK MAGE LEGACY 01: WARRIOR PRIME

GISCHLER, Victor

Peyne Erlich's mission from the king is to learn everything he can about the rival kingdom's magical ink mage warriors. What he finds is Zayda Yond. Ever since Zayda was sold into servitude by her financially-destitute father, her masters have taught her a punishing lesson; erase the past. Collared with an unmovable band of exotic metal, she faces a future of slavery. She's also become an ink mage, marked with a tattoo that enables her to experience the world one else can – a powerful honour, yet, one out of her control. Now, Zayda dreams only of escape... The first in a new series, set in the

EXTRAORDINARY ADVENTURES OF THE ATHENA CLUB 02: EUROPEAN TRAVEL

world of Gischler's Fire Beneath the Skin series.

FOR MONSTROUS GENTLEWOMAN GOSS, Theodora

When Mary receives a telegram that Lucinda Van Helsing has been kidnapped, the Athena Club must travel to the Austro-Hungarian Empire to rescue yet another young woman who has been subjected to horrific experimentation. Where is Lucinda, and what has Professor Van Helsing been doing to his daughter? Can Mary, Diana, Beatrice, and Justine reach her in time? Racing against the clock to save Lucinda from certain doom, the Athena Club embarks on a madcap journey, across Europe... The sequel to the popular The Strange Case of the Alchemist's Daughter (PBK, \$24.99).

Historical fantasy PBK MYTHIC JOURNEYS: RETOLD MYTHS

AND LEGENDS (ANTHOLOGY)

GURAN, Paula (editor)

Fantasy

Myth & legend \$31.95

OF BLOOD AND BONE 02: A TIME OF BLOOD

GWYNNE, John

The sequel to A Time of Dread (PBK, \$18.99).

\$32.99

Pulp Fiction

Science Fiction & Fantasy May 2019 (continued)

ANITA BLAKE, VAMPIRE HUNTER 26: SERPENTINE

HAMILTON, Laurell K

Paranormal romance

PBK

KENCYRATH 09: BY DEMONS POSSESSED

The first in this fantastic fantasy series is the omnibus, The God Stalker Chronicles (collecting God Stalk and Dark of the Moon)

ISLES OF STORM AND SORROW 01: VIPER HOGAN, Bex

YA fantasy

IMMORTALS' BLOOD 01: SMOKE IN THE GLASS HUMPHREYS, Chris

AURORA CYCLE 01: AURORA RISING

KAUFMAN, Amie & KRISTOFF, Jay

The year is 2380, and the graduating cadets of Aurora Academy are being assigned their first missions. Star pupil Tyler Jones is ready to recruit the squad of his dreams, but his own boneheaded heroism sees him stuck with the dregs - nobody else in the Academy would touch. And Ty's squad isn't even his biggest problem - that'd be Aurora Jie-Lin O'Malley, the girl he's just rescued from interdimensional space. Trapped in cryo-sleep for two centuries, Auri is a girl out of time and out of her depth. But she could be the catalyst that starts a war, millions of years in the making... Nobody panic. The first in a new series.

YA science fiction

A BRIGHTNESS LONG AGO

KAY, Guy Gavriel

In a chamber overlooking the night-time waterways of a maritime city, a man looks back on his youth and the people who shaped his life. Danio Cerra's intelligence won him entry to a renowned school, though he was only the son of a tailor. He took service at the court of a ruling count - and soon learned why that man was known as The Beast. Danio's fate changed... the moment he recognised Adria Ripoli, as she entered the count's chambers one night – intending to kill. Born to power, Adria had chosen a life of danger - and freedom - instead... Set in a world evoking early Renaissance Italy, Guy Gavriel Kay's latest novel is highly anticipated.

THINGS IN JARS

London, 1863, Bridie Devine, the finest female detective of her age, is taking on her toughest case, yet. Reeling from her last job and with her reputation in tatters, a remarkable puzzle has come her way. Christabel Berwick has been kidnapped. But Christabel is no ordinary child. She is not supposed to exist. As Bridie fights to recover the stolen child, she enters a world of fanatical anatomists, crooked surgeons, and mercenary showmen. Anomalies are in fashion, curiosities are the thing, and fortunes are won and lost, in

the name of entertainment... Gaslamp fantasy

LAST TANGO IN CYBERSPACE

KOTLER, Steven

IMPOSSIBLE TIMES 01: ONE WORD KILL

In January 1986, fifteen-year-old boy-genius Nick Hayes discovers he's dying. And it isn't even the strangest thing to happen to him that week. Nick and his Dungeons & Dragons-playing friends are used to living in their imaginations. But when a new girl, Mia, joins the group; and reality becomes weirder, than the fantasy world they visit in their weekly games, none of them are prepared for what comes next. Mia's in grave danger, though she doesn't know it, yet. She needs Nick's help - now. All that stands in Nick's way is a probablyterminal disease, a knife-wielding maniac, and the laws of physics. Challenge accepted. Mark Lawrence has been busy - the second in this new Impossible Times series, Limited Wish (TP, \$29.95), will be available at the beginning of June.

FINDING DOROTHY

LETTS, Elizabeth

The story behind The Wonderful Wizard of Oz, the book that inspired the iconic film - through the eyes of author L Frank Baum's intrepid wife, Maud.

Wizard of Oz

CHILDREN OF THE DRAGON 02:

THE RACE FOR THE RED DRAGON

Enemies are everywhere, and Harley and Qing must race evil forces across Hong Kong and Southern China to find the legendary vase. Qing's magic is growing in power, but is it enough to counter the human and otherworldly forces that are determined to stop them, at all costs? The sequel to The Relic of the Blue Dragon (PBK, \$14.99).

PBK

WE ARE BLOOD AND THUNDER

LUPO, Kesia

In a city where magic is feared and the dead are worshipped, life is overshadowed by a powerful and devastating storm cloud. One young woman is running for her life. Another is trying to return home. Both are looking for a place where they belong. But what Lena and Constance don't realise is that the storm cloud binds them. Without it, neither can get what she desires. A debut fantasy, perfect for fans of Leigh Bardugo and Laini Taylor.

ALEX BENEDICT 08: OCTAVIA GONE

MCDEVITT, Jack Science fiction

MIDDLEGAME

MCGUIRE, Seanan

Meet Roger. Skilled with words, languages come easily to him. He instinctively understands how the world works, through the power of story. Meet Dodger, his twin. Numbers are her world, her obsession, her everything. All she understands, she does so through the power of math. Roger and Dodger aren't exactly human, though they don't

realise it. They aren't exactly gods, either. Not entirely. Not yet. Meet Reed, skilled in the alchemical arts, like his progenitor before him. Reed created Dodger and her brother. He's not their father. Not quite. But he has a plan: to raise the twins to the highest power, to ascend with them and claim their authority, as his own. Godhood is attainable. Pray it isn't attained. A standalone novel from the prolific

WAR FOR THE ROSE THRONE 01:

PRIEST OF BONES

MCLEAN, Peter

Tomas Piety takes his duties seriously: as a soldier, as a priest of Our Lady of Eternal Sorrows, and as a leader of men. He has come home from the war to reclaim his family business, to provide for his men, and to ensure the horrors of Abingon can never happen in Ellinburg. But things have changed: his crime empire has been stolen and the people of Ellinburg - his people - have run out of food and hope and places to hide. With his best friend Bloody Anne, his war-damaged brother Jochan and his new gang, the Pious Men, Tomas sets out to reclaim what was his... The first in a series, perfect for fans of Mark Lawrence and Joe Abercrombie. This has had some excellent customer feedback.

Grimdark fantasy

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF TIME TRAVEL

MASCARENHAS, Kate

In 1967, four female scientists worked together, to build the world's first time machine. But just as they are about to debut their creation, one of them suffers a breakdown, putting the whole project – and future of time travel - in jeopardy. To protect their invention, one member is exiled from the team - erasing her contributions from history. Fifty years later, time travel is a big business. Twentysomething Ruby Rebello knows her beloved grandmother, Granny Bee, was one of the pioneers; though, no one will tell her more.

CONTENDER 01: THE CHOSEN

MATHARU, Taran

Cade, a misunderstood juvenile delinquent, and Harriet, a Victorian cat-burglar, live in two different eras – until they're both transported to another world. Abandoned in a realm populated with lost remnants from the past, prehistoric animals and monstrous creatures, they are forced to become contenders in an endless, brutal tournament. It's time to get ready for battle... because hiding is not an option. The first in a new series.

YA fantasy

CIRCE

MILLER, Madeline

In the house of Helios, god of the sun and mightiest of the Titans, a daughter is born. Circe is a strange child - not powerful and terrible, like her father, nor gorgeous and mercenary like her mother. Scorned and rejected, Circe grows up in the shadows, at home in neither the world of gods, or mortals. Circe is banished to the island of Aiaia - where she hones her occult craft, casting spells, gathering strange herbs and taming wild beasts. Yet, a woman who stands alone will never be left in peace for long – and among her island's guests is an unexpected visitor: the mortal Odysseus, for whom

Circe will risk everything... Mythic fantasy

FORGERY OF MAGIC 01: NOCTURNA

Magic is everywhere, and in everything. To Finnian Voy, magic is two things: a knife to hold under the throat of anyone who crosses her, and a disguise she shrugs on as easily as others pull on cloaks. As a talented faceshifter, it's been years since Finn has seen her own face, and that's exactly how she likes it. But when she gets caught by a powerful mobster, she's forced into an impossible mission: steal a legendary treasure from Castallan's royal palace, or be stripped of her magic forever. To Prince Alfehr, magic is an escape, but one that comes with a price. When Finn and Alfie's fates collide, they realise magic can be other things too; and the type they accidentally release into the world is something neither expects, or understands. It's hungry. The first in a series.

PLANETFALL 04: ATLAS ALONE

NEWMAN, Emma

Science fiction

THE DEATHLESS

NEWMAN, Peter

Born and reborn into flawless bodies, the Deathless are as immortal as the precious stones from which they take their names. For generations, a fragile balance has held. House Sapphire, one of the ancient Deathless families, is riven by suspicion and madness. Whole villages are disappearing as the hunting expeditions, holding the Wild at bay, begin to fail... The first in a new series from the Gemmell Award-winning author Peter Newman.

SPINNING SILVER

NOVIK, Naomi

Miryem is the daughter and granddaughter of moneylenders, but her father is not a very good one. Free to lend and reluctant to collect, he has left his family on the edge of poverty – until Miryem intercedes. Hardening her heart, she sets out to retrieve what is owed, and soon gains a reputation for being able to turn silver into gold. But when an ill-advised boast brings her to the attention of the cold creatures who haunt the wood, nothing will be the same again. For words have power, and the fate of a kingdom will be forever altered by the challenge she is issued... A new take on the classic fairy-tale Rumpelstiltskin, from Naomi Novik, the author of the awardwinning Uprooted (PBK, \$19.99). Recommended.

Fantasy RAGGED ALICE

POWELL, Gareth L

Orphaned at an early age, DCI Holly Craig grew up in the small Welsh coastal town of Pontyrhudd. As soon as she was old enough, she ran away to London and joined the police. Now, fifteen years later, she's back in her old hometown... to investigate what seems at first to be a simple hit-and-run, but which soon escalates into something far deadlier and unexpectedly personal - something that will take all of her peculiar talents to solve.

THE ILLUSTRATED GOOD OMENS

PRATCHETT, Terry; GAIMAN, Neil; KIDBY, Paul Armageddon

WASTE TIDE OIUFAN, Chen

Mimi is drowning in the world's trash. She's a 'waste girl', a scavenger picking through towering heaps of hazardous electronic detritus. Along with thousands of other migrant workers, she was lured to Silicon Isle, off the southern coast of China, by the promise of steady work and a better life. But Silicon Isle is where the rotten fruits of capitalism and consumer culture come to their toxic end. The land is hopelessly polluted, the workers utterly at the mercy of those in power. And, now, a storm is gathering, as ruthless local gangs skirmish for control, eco-terrorists conspire, investors hunger for profit, and a Chinese-American interpreter searches for his roots. 'Waste Tide is a work of spoiled and toxic beauty... It's more than a timely eco-thriller; it's a dark mirror held up to our selves' - Simon Ings.

ALL MY COLORS

QUANTICK, David

It is March 1979 in DeKalb, Illinois. Todd Milstead is a wannabe writer, a serial adulterer, and a jerk... only tolerated by his friends because he throws the best parties with the best booze. During one particular party, Todd is showing off his perfect recall, quoting poetry and literature, word for word, plucked from his eidetic memory. When he begins quoting from a book no one else seems to know, a novel called All My Colors, Todd is incredulous. He can quote it from cover to cover and, yet, it doesn't seem to exist. With a looming divorce and mounting financial worries, Todd finally tries to write a novel, with the vague idea of making money from his talent. The only problem is he can't write. But the book -AllMy Colors – is there in his head. Todd makes a decision: he will 'write' this book - that nobody, but him, can remember. After all, if nobody's heard of it, how can he get into trouble?

THE FARM

RAMOS, Joanne

Life is a lucrative business, as long as you play by the rules... Ambitious businesswoman Mae Yu runs Golden Oaks - a luxury retreat transforming the fertility industry. There, women get the very best of everything: organic meals, fitness trainers, daily massages and big money. Provided they dedicate themselves to producing the perfect baby. For someone else. Jane is a young immigrant in search of a better future. Stuck living in a cramped dorm with her baby daughter and her shrewd aunt Ate, she sees an unmissable chance to change her life. But at what cost?

RENSHAI SAGA: THE IMMORTAL RENSHAI REICHERT, Mickey Zucker

Science fiction

LIBERATION SQUARE

RUBIN, Gareth

1952. Soviet troops control British streets. After the disastrous failure of D-Day, Britain is occupied by Nazi Germany, and only rescued by Russian soldiers arriving from the east and Americans from the west. The two superpowers divide the nation between them, a wall running through London - like a scar. When Jane Cawson calls into her husband's medical practice and detects the perfume worn by his former wife, Lorelei, star of propaganda films for the new Marxist regime, she fears what is between them. But when Jane rushes to confront them, she finds herself instead caught up in the glamorous actress' death. Nick is soon arrested for murder. Desperate to clear his name, Jane must risk the attention of the brutal secret police, as she follows a trail of corruption right to the highest levels of the state. And she might find she never really knew her husband, at all.

MILLION MILE ROAD TRIP

RUCKER, Rudy

When a seemingly-innocent trumpet solo, somehow, opens a trans-dimensional connection to Mappyworld, a parallel universe containing a single, endless plain divided by ridges into basin-like worlds, three California teens find themselves taken on a millionmile road trip across a landscape of alien civilisations - in a beat-up, purple 80s wagon... with a dark-energy motor, graphene tires, and quantum shocks, of course. Their goal? To stop carnivorous flying saucers from invading Earth. And, just maybe, to find love along the way. Rudy Rucker's first new novel since 2013. Rucker's The Big Aha (TP, \$29.95) is being reissued this month, also.

ARGENEAU FAMILY 29:

THE TROUBLE WITH VAMPIRES SANDS, Lynsay

Paranormal romance

CODEX 1962

Josef Loewe enters the world as a lump of clay – carried in a hatbox by his Jewish father Leo, a fugitive in WWII Germany. Taking refuge in a small-town guesthouse, Leo discovers a kindred spirit, in the young woman who nurses him back to health; and, together, they shape the clay into a baby. But en route to safety, in Iceland, he is robbed of the ring needed to bring the child to life. It is not until 1962 that Josef can be 'born', only to grow up with a rare disease. Fifty-three years on, it leads him into the hands of a power-hungry Icelandic geneticist, just when science and politics are threatening to lead us all down a dark, dangerous road.

BLACK CHAMBER 02: THEATER OF SPIES STIRLING, S M

After foiling a German plot to devastate America's coastal cities from Boston to Galveston, crack Black Chamber agent Luz O'Malley and budding technical genius Ciara Whelan go to California to recuperate. But their well-deserved rest is cut short, by the discovery of a diabolical new weapon that could give the German Imperial Navy command of the North Sea. Luz and Ciara must go deep undercover and travel across a world at war to Berlin, itself Close on their trail is the dangerous German agent codenamed Imperial Sword, who is determined to get his revenge, and a band

of assault-rifle-equipped stormtroopers, led by the murderouslyefficient killer Ernst Röhm... The second in Stirling's great new alternate world war series, following Black Chamber (TP, \$31.95).

Alternate history CHILDREN OF TIME 02: CHILDREN OF RUIN

TCHAIKOVSKY, Adrian

Thousands of years ago, Earth's terraforming program took to the stars. On the world they called Nod, scientists discovered alien life but it was their mission to overwrite it with the memory of Earth. Then humanity's great empire fell, and the program's decisions were lost to time. Aeons later, humanity and its new spider allies detected fragmentary radio signals between the stars. They dispatched an exploration vessel, hoping to find cousins from old Earth, But those ancient terraformers woke something, on Nod, better left undisturbed. And it's been waiting for them. The follow-up to the Arthur C Clarke Award-winning Children of Time (PBK, \$19.99). Science fiction

STARFELL 01:

Children's fantasy

WILLOW MOSS AND THE LOST DAY

VALENTE, Dominique

Willow Moss, the youngest and least powerful sister in a family of witches, has a magical ability for finding lost things - like keys, or socks, or wooden teeth. Useful, but not exactly exciting... Then, the most powerful witch in the world of Starfell turns up at Willow's door and asks for her help. A whole day - last Tuesday, to be precise has gone missing. Completely. The first in a series.

THE GORDIAN PROTOCOL

WEBER, David & HOLO, David

Doctor Benjamin Schröder was a history teacher, until a psychotic episode turned his world upside down. Benjamin, now, had memories, not just of his own life, but of an entire ghastly world - where millions of civilians had been systematically slaughtered in 'extermination camps', there is still a Soviet Union, the Korean Peninsula is divided, thousands of nuclear warheads spread their threat across Earth and the Middle East was a festering sore of bloodshed, fanaticism, and terrorism. Then, a lunatic, named Raibert Kaminski, knocks on his door one afternoon with an impossible story of alternate realities, time travel, temporal knots, and dozens of doomed universes that will die - if the temporal storm front rushing towards the distant future isn't stopped. Of course, he has to be lying - or completely insane. But what if he's not a madman, after all? What if he's actually telling the truth?

\$49.95 Science fiction

EMILY ETERNAL

WHEATON, M G

Meet Emily – she can solve advanced mathematical problems, unlock the mind's deepest secrets and even fix your truck's air con... but, unfortunately, she can't restart the Sun. Emily is an artificial consciousness, designed in a lab to help humans process trauma, which is particularly helpful when the sun begins to die, five billion years before scientists agreed it was supposed to. So, her beloved human race is screwed, and so is Emily. That is, until she finds a potential answer, buried deep in the human genome. But before her solution can be tested, her lab is brutally attacked; and Emily is forced to go on the run, with two human companions - college

student Jason and small-town Sheriff, Mayra.. Science fiction

LAST KING OF OSTEN ARD 02: EMPIRE OF GRASS WILLIAMS, Tad

As the kingdoms of Osten Ard are torn apart by fear and greed, a few individuals will fight for their own lives and destinies - not yet aware that the survival of everything depends on them. The sequel to The Witchwood Crown (PBK, \$22.99).

DAUGHTER OF BAD TIMES

WILSON, Rohan

Rin Braden is almost ready to give up on life, after the heartbreaking death of her lover Yamaan and the everyday dread of working for her mother's corrupt private prison company. But through a miracle Yamaan has survived. Yamaan turns up in an immigration detention facility in Australia, trading his labour for a supposedlysafe place to live. This is no ordinary facility, it's Eaglehawk MTC - a manufactory built by her mother's company, to exploit the flood of environmental refugees. Now, Rin must find a way to free Yamaan, before the ghosts of her past and a string of bad choices

catch up with them, both. Dystopia

THE TIME COLLECTOR

WOMACK, Gwendolyn

Roan West can perceive the past of any object he touches. A highlyskilled psychometrist, he uses his talents to find and sell valuable antiques, but his quiet life in New Orleans is about to change. Stuart, a fellow psychometrist and Roan's close friend, has used his own abilities to unearth several 'ooparts' – out-of-place artefacts that challenge recorded history. Soon after the discovery, Stuart disappears, making him one of several pyschometrists, who have recently died or vanished. When Roan comes across a viral video of a young woman who has discovered a priceless pocket watch just by 'sensing' it, he knows he has to warn her – but will Melicent Tilpin listen? And can Roan find Stuart, before it's too late? The quest for answers will lead Roan and Melicent around the world, bringing them closer to each other and a startling truth.

DARKWATER LEGACY 01: THE EMBER BLADE

WOODING, Chris The Ossian way of life is fading and the Dachen way is taking its place. Aren is comfortable with that. Even when his parents are accused of treason, he supports the establishment, and maintains there's been some mistake... which is all it takes to get himself and his best friend arrested... Thrown into a prison mine, they plan their escape - only to be overtaken by events when they're rescued, and promptly find themselves in the middle of an ambush. By the time they've escaped, they're unavoidably linked to Garric - their unwelcome saviour - and his quest to overturn to Dachen way of life... This first in a new fantasy series, from the author of the wellbeloved Tales of the Ketty Jay, has had raves from customers.

PBK