

Pulp Fiction

Science Fiction & Fantasy Bestsellers

September 2020

***Battle Ground* (Dresden Files 17)**

Jim Butcher

FINALLY!!

Harry has faced terrible odds before. He has a long history of fighting enemies above his weight class. The Red Court of vampires. The fallen angels of the Order of the Blackened Denarius. The Outsiders.

But this time it's different. A being more powerful and dangerous on an order of magnitude beyond what the world has seen in a millennium is coming. And she's bringing an army. The Last Titan has declared war on the city of Chicago, and has come to subjugate humanity, obliterating any who stand in her way.

Harry's mission is simple but impossible: Save the city, by killing a Titan. And the attempt will change Harry's life, Chicago, and the mortal world forever.

Battle Ground is the direct sequel to *Peace Talks* (HC, \$39.99). Dresden fans are going ballistic! They hated having to wait so long – but it appears the wait was worth it. First in the series is *Storm Front* \$22.99

Urban fantasy | HC | \$45.00



1

***The Trouble With Peace* (Age of Madness 02)**

Joe Abercrombie

Peace is just another kind of battlefield...

Savine dan Glokta, once Adua's most powerful investor, finds her judgement, fortune and reputation in tatters. But she still has all her ambitions, and no scruple will be permitted to stand in her way.

For heroes like Leo dan Brock and Stour Nightfall, only happy with swords drawn, peace is an ordeal to end as soon as possible. But grievances must be nursed, power seized, and allies gathered first, while Rikke must master the power of the Long Eye... before it kills her.

Unrest worms into every layer of society. The Breakers still lurk in the shadows, plotting to free the common man from his shackles, while noblemen bicker for their own advantage. Orso struggles to find a safe path through the maze of knives that is politics, only for his enemies, and his debts, to multiply.

The old ways are swept aside, and the old leaders with them, but those who would seize the reins of power will find no alliance, no friendship, and no peace lasts forever.

And the Abercrombie fans are also delighted. Great feedback – Joe is on form, with arguably the best grimdark fantasy around!

First in this sequence is *A Little Hatred* (PBK, \$22.99) – or go back to where it all started – *The Blade Itself* (PBK, \$22.99).

Grimdark fantasy | TP | \$32.99



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Science Fiction & Fantasy September 2020 (continued)

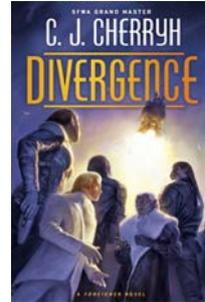
Divergence (Foreigner 20)

C J Cherryh

The twenty-first book in the beloved Foreigner saga continues the adventures of diplomat Bren Cameron, advisor to the *atevi* head of state. Cherryh fans, rejoice! (September really is a big month for next-in-the-series books!)

Series starts with *Foreigner* (PBK, \$24.95)

Science fiction | HC | \$55.00



3

This is How You Lose a Time War (novella)

Amal El-Mohtar & Max Gladstone

Winner of the Hugo, Nebula, and Locus Awards (!) for best novella.

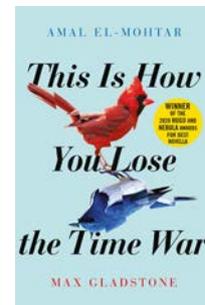
Among the ashes of a dying world, an agent of the Commandment finds a letter. It reads: *Burn before reading.*

Thus begins an unlikely correspondence between two rival agents hellbent on securing the best possible future for their warring factions. Now, what began as a taunt, a battlefield boast, becomes something more. Something epic. Something romantic. Something that could change the past and the future.

Except the discovery of their bond would mean the death of each of them. There's still a war going on, after all. And someone has to win. That's how war works, right?

This Is How You Lose the Time War is an epic love story spanning time and space – recommended!

Time-travel/espionage | PBK | \$19.99



4

The Unkindest Tide (October Daye 13)

Seanan McGuire

Hundreds of years ago, the Selkies made a deal with the sea witch: they would have the sea for as long as she allowed it, and when the time came, she would call in all their debts at once. Many people assumed that day would never come. Those people were wrong.

When the Luidaeg – October 'Toby' Daye's oldest and most dangerous ally – tells her the time has come for the Selkies to fulfill their side of the bargain, and that Toby must be a part of the process, Toby can't refuse. Literally. The Selkies aren't the only ones in debt to the Luidaeg, and Toby has to pay what she owes like anyone else. They will travel to the fabled Duchy of Ships and call a convocation of the Selkies, telling them to come and meet the Luidaeg's price... or face the consequences.

Of course, nothing is that simple. When Dianda Lorden's brother appears to arrest Dianda for treason against the Undersea, when a Selkie woman is stripped of her skin and then murdered, when everything is falling apart, that's when Toby will have to answer the real question of the hour.

Is she going to sink? Or is she going to swim?

Love this ridiculously fast paced urban fantasy series – or indeed – pretty much anything by McGuire!

First is *Rosemary and Rue* (PBK, \$24.95)

Urban fantasy | PBK | \$24.95



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False Value (PC Grant 08)

Ben Aaronovitch

Peter Grant is facing fatherhood, and an uncertain future, with equal amounts of panic and enthusiasm.

Leaving his old police life behind, he takes a job with Silicon Valley tech genius Terrence Skinner's new London start up: the Serious Cybernetics Corporation.

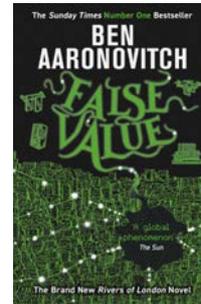
Drawn into the orbit of Old Street's famous 'silicon roundabout', Peter must learn how to blend in with people who are both civilians and geekier than he is. Compared to his last job, Peter thinks it should be a doddle.

But magic is not finished with the Met's first trainee wizard in fifty years...

Because a secret is hiding somewhere in the building. A technology that stretches back to Ada Lovelace and Charles Babbage, and forward to the future of artificial intelligence. A secret that is just as magical as it technological – and twice as dangerous.

Lotsa supernatural London hijinks – first in the series is *Rivers of London* (PBK, \$19.99) – Recommended!

Urban fantasy | PBK | \$22.99



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Exhalation (collection)

Ted Chiang

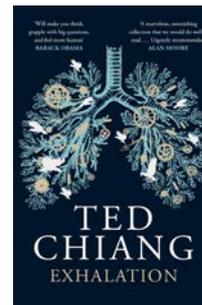
In these nine stunningly original, provocative, and poignant stories, Ted Chiang tackles some of humanity's oldest questions along with new quandaries only he could imagine.

In 'The Merchant and the Alchemist's Gate', a portal through time forces a fabric seller in ancient Baghdad to grapple with past mistakes and second chances. In 'Exhalation', an alien scientist makes a shocking discovery with ramifications that are literally universal. In 'Anxiety Is the Dizziness of Freedom', the ability to glimpse into alternate universes necessitates a radically new examination of the concepts of choice and free will.

Including stories being published for the first time as well as some of his rare and classic uncollected work, *Exhalation* is Ted Chiang at his best: profound, sympathetic – revelatory.

Highly recommended! As is his first collection, *Stories of Your Life and Others* (PBK, \$19.99)

Science fiction | PBK | \$19.99



7

Ink and Sigil (Ink & Sigil 01)

Kevin Hearne

From *New York Times* bestselling author Kevin Hearne comes the start of a hugely entertaining new series set in the world of the Iron Druid Chronicles – about an eccentric master of magic solving an uncanny mystery in Scotland...

Al MacBharras is both blessed and cursed. He is blessed with an extraordinary white moustache, an appreciation for craft cocktails – and a most unique magical talent. He can cast spells with magically enchanted ink; and he uses his gifts to protect our world from rogue minions of various pantheons, especially the Fae. But he is also cursed. Anyone who hears his voice will begin to feel an inexplicable hatred for Al, so he can only communicate through the written word or speech apps. And his apprentices keep dying in peculiar freak accidents. As his personal life crumbles around him, he devotes his life to his work, all the while trying to crack the secret of his curse. But when his latest apprentice, Gordie, turns up dead in his Glasgow flat, Al discovers evidence that Gordie was living a secret life of crime. Now Al is forced to play detective – while avoiding actual detectives who are wondering why death seems to always follow Al. Investigating his apprentice's death will take him through Scotland's magical underworld, and he'll need the help of a mischievous hobgoblin if he's to survive.

Packed to the brim with mystery, magic and mayhem – and great customer feedback! – *Ink and Sigil* is perfect for fans of *Rivers of London* and *Rotherweird*.

Urban fantasy | PBK | \$22.99



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Hollowpox: the Hunt for Morrigan Crow (Nevermoor 03)

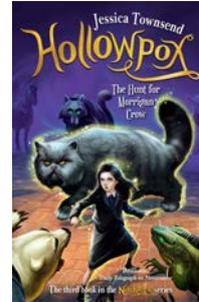
Jessica Townsend

Morrigan Crow and her friends have survived their first year as proud scholars of the elite Wondrous Society, helped bring down the nefarious Ghastly Market, and proven themselves loyal to Unit 919. Now Morrigan faces a new, exciting challenge: to master the mysterious Wretched Arts, and control the power that threatens to consume her.

But a strange and frightening illness has taken hold of Nevermoor, turning infected Wunimals into mindless, vicious Unnimals on the hunt. As victims of the Hollowpox multiply, panic spreads. And with the city she loves in a state of fear, Morrigan quickly realizes it's up to her to find a cure for the Hollowpox, even if it will put her – and everyone in Nevermoor – in more danger than she ever imagined.

Imagine a Roald Dahl mashed up with Diana Wynne Jones – fabulous! The first two are *Nevermoor* and *Wundersmith* (PBK, \$17.99 each). Recommended!

YA fantasy | PBK | \$17.99



9

Resurgence (Foreigner 20)

C J Cherryh

Last year's Foreigner hardcover is now in paperback!

Science fiction | PBK | \$24.95



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