

Pulp Fiction

Science Fiction & Fantasy Bestsellers

August 2021

All Systems Red

Murderbot Diaries 01

Martha Wells

In a corporate-dominated, spacefaring future, planetary missions must be approved and supplied by the Company. Exploratory teams are accompanied by Company-supplied security androids, for their own safety. But in a society where contracts are awarded to the lowest bidder, safety isn't a primary concern. On a distant planet, a team of scientists are conducting surface tests, shadowed by their Company-supplied `droid – a self-aware SecUnit that has hacked its own

governor module, and refers to itself (though, never out loud) as 'Murderbot'. Scornful of humans, all it really wants is to be left alone, long enough to figure out who it is. But when a neighbouring mission goes dark, it's up to the scientists and their Murderbot to get to the truth. This first in the series won both the Hugo and Nebula Awards for Best Novella – and rightly so! So, love this – and its three sequels making up the first quartet. Can't recommend them highly enough! (Best to reserve your copies, though – they tend to sell out as soon as stock arrives!)

Science fiction novella | HC | \$29.99



1

Network Effect

Murderbot Diaries 05

Martha Wells

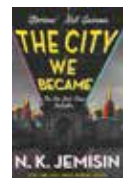
Finally! The first full-length novel in Martha Wells' bestselling Murderbot Diaries series. 'I caught myself rereading my favourite parts... and I can't recommend it enough.' – *New York Times*. You know that feeling when you're at work, and you've had enough of people, and then the boss walks in with yet another job that needs to be done right this second or the world will end, but all you want to do is go home and binge your favourite shows? And you're a sentient murder machine programmed for destruction...

Come for the *pew-pew* space battles, stay for the most relatable AI you'll read, this century. *I'm usually alone in my head, and that's where 90-plus percent of my problems are.* When Murderbot's human associates (not friends, never friends) are captured and another not-friend from its past requires urgent assistance, Murderbot must choose between inertia and drastic action. Drastic action, it is, then. Love, love, love it! Cannot recommend highly enough! (If you want one, but we don't have any in the shop – please, do order one, to stake your claim on the stock we will receive!) If you haven't read Wells' preceding novellas – then start with *All Systems Red* (HC, \$29.99) (see #1).

Science fiction | TP | \$32.99



2



Pulp Fiction Bestsellers

Science Fiction & Fantasy August 2021 (continued)

Paper and Blood

Ink & Sigil 02

Kevin Hearne

From the *New York Times*-bestselling author of the Iron Druid Chronicles comes book two of an 'action-packed, enchantingly fun' (*Booklist*) spin-off series, as an eccentric master of rare magic solves a supernatural mystery Down Under! There's only one Al MacBharra: Though other Scotsmen may have dramatic moustaches and a taste for fancy cocktails, Al also has a unique talent. He's a master of ink and sigil magic. In his gifted hands, paper and pen can work wondrous spells. But Al isn't quite alone: He is part of a global network of Sigil Agents who use their powers to protect the world from mischievous gods and strange monsters. So when a fellow agent disappears under sinister circumstances in Australia, Al leaves behind the cosy pubs and cafes of Glasgow and travels to the Dandenong Ranges in Victoria to solve the mystery. The trail to his colleague begins to pile up with bodies at alarming speed, so Al is grateful his friends have come to help – especially Nadia, his accountant who moonlights as a pit fighter. Together with a whisky-loving hobgoblin known as Buck Foi and the ancient Druid Atticus O'Sullivan, along with his dogs, Oberon and Starbuck, Al and Nadia will face down the wildest wonders Australia – and the supernatural world – can throw at them, and confront a legendary monster not seen in centuries. Urban fantasy with an Oz connection – we're there! The first in the series is *Ink and Sigil* (PBK, \$22.99).

Urban fantasy | PBK | \$22.99



3

All the Murmuring Bones

A G Slatter

For fans of Naomi Novik and Katherine Arden, a dark gothic fairy tale from multi-award-winning Brisbane author, Angela Slatter. 'Harrowing and beautiful, this is the grim, fairy-tale gothic you've been waiting for' – *Christopher Golden*, author of *Ararat*. Long ago Miren O'Malley's family prospered due to a deal struck with the mer: safety for their ships in return for a child of each generation. But for many years the family have been unable to keep their side of the bargain and have fallen into decline. Miren's grandmother is determined to restore their glory, even at the price of Miren's freedom. A spellbinding tale of dark family secrets, magic and witches, and creatures of myth and the sea; of strong women and the men who seek to control them. This really is fantastic – highly recommended!

Fantasy | PBK | \$22.99



4

Another Time, Another Place

Chronicles of St Mary's 12

Jodi Taylor

'It's time, Max.' And so, a whole new chapter opens up... It's long been known that if a thing can go wrong, it will. With knobs on, usually. Disasters start to pile up. A new colleague with no respect for the past and a great deal to prove. Historians lost in time. And – worst of all – Rosie Lee on her very first jump. Then there's the small matter of Max's dishonourable discharge. From Tudor England to the Tower of Babel – it's all going horribly wrong. Jobless and homeless, Max receives an offer she can't refuse. Another time, another place. A refuge, perhaps. She's got that wrong, too... These are a lot of fun – great faves among the regulars!

Time travel | PBK | \$22.99



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Pulp Fiction Bestsellers

Science Fiction & Fantasy August 2021 (continued)

Fugitive Telemetry

Murderbot Diaries 06

Martha Wells

No, I didn't kill the dead human. If I had, I wouldn't dump the body in the station mall. When Murderbot discovers a dead body on Preservation Station, it knows it is going to have to assist station security to determine who the body is (was), how they were killed (that should be relatively straightforward, at least), and why (because apparently that matters to a lot of people – who knew?) Yes, the unthinkable is about to happen: Murderbot must voluntarily speak to humans! *Again!* This sixth entry into the series is a standalone novella, set before *Artificial Condition*. Love, love, love it! Cannot recommend highly enough! (If you want one, but we don't have any in the shop – please, do order one, to stake your claim on the stock we will receive!) If you haven't read the preceding books in Wells' fab series – then start with *All Systems Red* (HC, \$29.99) (see #1).

Science fiction novella | HC | \$43.95



6

The Witness of the Dead

Goblin Emperor 02

Katherine Addison

'At once intimate and literally operatic, it's everything I love about Katherine Addison's writing, in ways I didn't know to expect. I loved it.' – *John Scalzi*.

Katherine Addison returns to the glittering world she created for her beloved novel, *The Goblin Emperor*, in this standalone sequel. When the young half-goblin emperor Maia sought to learn who had set the bombs that killed his father and half-brothers, he turned to an obscure resident of his father's Court, a Prelate of Ullis and a Witness for the Dead. Thara Celehar found the truth, though it did him no good to discover it. He lost his place as a retainer of his cousin the former Empress, and made far too many enemies among the many factions vying for power in the new Court. The favour of the Emperor is a dangerous coin. Now, Celehar lives in the city of Amalo, far from the Court though not exactly in exile. He has not escaped from politics, but his position gives him the ability to serve the common people of the city, which is his preference. He lives modestly, but his decency and fundamental honesty will not permit him to live quietly. As a Witness for the Dead, he can, sometimes, speak to the recently dead: see the last thing they saw, know the last thought they had, experience the last thing they felt. It is his duty use that ability to resolve disputes, to ascertain the intent of the dead, to find the killers of the murdered. Celehar's skills now lead him out of the quiet and into a morass of treachery, murder, and injustice. No matter his own background with the imperial house, Celehar will stand with the commoners, and possibly find a light in the darkness. Freaking fantastic, and if you haven't already read *The Goblin Emperor* (US PBK, \$24.95; UK TP, \$29.99) – you really ought to. Ron reread it, like, five times in 2020. Best protag evah! Highly recommended.

Fantasy | HC | \$55.00



7

Pulp Fiction Bestsellers

Science Fiction & Fantasy August 2021 (continued)

Artifact Space

Miles Cameron

'Now I've read *Artifact Space* I know what it's really going to be like serving aboard an armed interstellar merchant ship, with a smart lead character as my companion. Can't wait for part two.' – *Peter F Hamilton*. Out in the darkness of space, something is targeting the Greatships. With their vast cargo holds and a crew that could fill a city, the Greatships are the lifeblood of human occupied space, transporting an unimaginable volume – and value – of goods from City, the greatest human orbital, all the way to Tradepoint at the other, to trade for xenoglas with an unknowable alien species. It has always been Marca Nbaro's dream to achieve the near impossible:

escape her upbringing and venture into space. All it took, to make her way onto the crew of the Greatship *Athens* was thousands of hours in simulators, dedication, and pawning or selling every scrap of her old life in order to forge a new one. But though she's made her way onboard with faked papers, leaving her old life – and scandals – behind isn't so easy. She may have just combined all the dangers of her former life, with all the perils of the new... 'I loved Nbaro. I loved her crew. I loved their ship, the *Athens*, and I loved every page of this book. Miles has done something extraordinary here, fusing space adventure and war-time camaraderie with gritty, day-to-day detail in a way that makes the future feel like history in the best way possible.' – *Nicholas Eames*.

Space opera | TP | \$32.99



8

A Terrible Fall of Angels

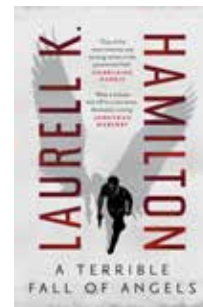
Zaniel Havelock 01

Laurell K Hamilton

Meet Detective Zaniel Havelock, a man with the special ability to communicate directly with angels. A former trained Angel speaker, he devoted his life to serving both the celestial beings and his fellow humans with his gift, but a terrible betrayal compelled him to leave that life behind. Now he's a cop who is still working on the side of angels. But where there are angels, there are also demons. There's no question that there's evil at work when he's called in to examine the murder scene of a college student – but is it just the evil that one human being can do to another,

or is it something more? When demonic possession is a possibility, even angelic protection can only go so far. The race is on to stop a killer before he finds his next victim, as Zaniel is forced to confront his own very personal demons, and the past he never truly left behind. The first in a new series from the author of the Anita Blake and Merry Gentry series.

Paranormal romance | TP | \$32.99



9

The City We Became

Great Cities 01

N K Jemisin

Five New Yorkers must band together to defend their city... Every city has a soul. Some are as ancient as myths, and others are as new and destructive as children. New York City? She's got five. But every city also has a dark side. A roiling, ancient evil stirs beneath the earth, threatening to destroy the city and her five protectors, unless they can come together and stop it, once and for all. An astonishing new fantasy tale is the first book of a new series, now in paperback – from the record-breaking, triple Hugo Award-winning author. 'The most celebrated science fiction and fantasy writer of her generation... Jemisin seems able to do just about everything' – *New York Times*.

Leanne loved this, gobbling it down in one sitting; and can't wait for more! Highly recommended.

Urban fantasy | PBK | \$22.99



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