

Pulp Fiction

Science Fiction & Fantasy Bestsellers

November 2022

Babel, Or the Necessity of Violence:

An Arcane History of the Oxford Translators' Revolution

R F Kuang

And speaking of Global Sensations... now, this:

'Absolutely phenomenal. One of the most brilliant, razor-sharp books I've had the pleasure of reading that isn't just an alternative fantastical history, but an interrogative one; one that grabs colonial history and the Industrial Revolution, turns it over, and shakes it out.'
– Shannon Chakraborty, bestselling author of *The City of Brass*.

From award-winning author R F Kuang comes *Babel*, a thematic response to *The Secret History* and a tonal retort to *Jonathan Strange and Mr Norrell* that grapples with student revolutions, colonial resistance, and the use of language and translation as the dominating tool of the British empire.

Traduttore, traditore: *An act of translation is always an act of betrayal.*

1828. Robin Swift, orphaned by cholera in Canton, is brought to London, by the mysterious Professor Lovell. There, he trains for years in Latin, Ancient Greek, and Chinese, all in preparation for the day he'll enrol in Oxford University's prestigious Royal Institute of Translation – also known as Babel.

Babel is the world's centre for translation and, more importantly, magic. Silver working – the art of manifesting the meaning, lost in translation using enchanted silver bars – has made the British unparalleled in power, as its knowledge serves the Empire's quest for colonisation.

For Robin, Oxford is a utopia dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge. But knowledge obeys power, and as a Chinese boy raised in Britain, Robin realises serving Babel means betraying his motherland. As his studies progress, Robin finds himself caught between Babel and the shadowy Hermes Society, an organisation dedicated to stopping imperial expansion.

When Britain pursues an unjust war with China over silver and opium, Robin must decide...

Can powerful institutions be changed from within, or does revolution always require violence?

And the reviews have been amazing! Recommended!

Alternate history | TP | \$32.99



1

The Spare Man

Mary Robinette Kowal

Tesla Crane, a brilliant inventor and an heiress, is on her honeymoon via an interplanetary space liner. Cruising between the Moon and Mars, she's traveling incognito and revelling in her anonymity.

Then someone is murdered and the festering chowderheads, who run security, have the audacity to arrest her spouse. Armed with banter, martinis and her small service dog, Tesla is determined to solve the crime, so that the newlyweds can get back to canoodling – And keep the real killer from striking, again.

Hugo and Nebula Award-winner Mary Robinette Kowal blends her no-nonsense, hard-SF approach to life in space, with her talent for creating glittering high society in this stylish SF mystery. *The Spare Man* is nothing short of *The Thin Man* in space, but is a piece that Kowal has made her own.

We've already had fantastic customer feedback on this, highly recommended!

SF mystery | TP | \$32.99



2

Pulp Fiction Bestsellers

Science Fiction & Fantasy November 2022 (continued)

The Goblin Emperor

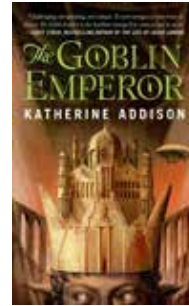
Katherine Addison

The youngest, half-goblin son of the Emperor has lived his entire life in exile, distant from the Imperial Court and the deadly intrigue that suffuses it. But when his father and three sons in line for the throne are killed in an 'accident', he has no choice but to take his place as the only surviving rightful heir. Surrounded by sycophants eager to curry favour with the naive new emperor, and overwhelmed by the burdens of his new life, he can trust nobody. Amid the swirl of plots to depose him, offers of arranged marriages, and the spectre of the unknown conspirators who lurk in the shadows, he must quickly adjust to life as the Goblin Emperor.

Yes, we know it came out several years ago – but Ron finally got around to reading it (a few years ago, now) and is obsessed and forcing copies upon anyone who will listen to him... (It's very, very good!) Ignore the drab cover art! Ignore the lacklustre blurb!

Just read it!

Fantasy | PBK | \$24.99



3

The Lost Metal

Mistborn 07

Brandon Sanderson

For years, frontier lawman turned big-city senator Waxillium Ladrian has hunted the shadowy organisation the Set – with his late uncle and his sister among their leaders – since they started kidnapping people with the power of Allomancy in their bloodlines. When Detective Marasi Colms and her partner, Wayne, find stockpiled weapons bound for the Outer City of Bilming, this opens a new lead. Conflict between the capital, Elendel, and the Outer Cities only favours the Set, and their tendrils now reach to the Elendel Senate – whose corruption Wax and his wife, Steris, have sought to expose – and Bilming is even more entangled.

After Wax discovers a new type of explosive that can unleash unprecedented destruction and realises that the Set must already have it, an immortal kandra serving Scadrial's god, Harmony, reveals that Bilming has fallen under the influence of another god: Trell, worshipped by the Set. And Trell isn't the only factor at play, from the larger Cosmere – Marasi is recruited by offworlders with strange abilities who claim their goal is to protect Scadrial... at any cost.

Wax must choose whether to set aside his rocky relationship with God and once again become the Sword that Harmony has groomed him to be. If no one steps forward to be the hero Scadrial needs, the planet and its millions of people will come to a sudden and calamitous ruin.

Fantasy | TP | \$32.99



4

Legends and Lattes

Travis Baldree

High fantasy, low stakes – with a double-shot of coffee.

After decades of adventuring, Viv the orc barbarian is finally hanging up her sword for good. Now, she sets her sights on a new dream – for she plans to open the first coffee shop in the city of Thune. Even though no one there knows what coffee actually is.

If Viv wants to put the past behind her, she can't go it alone. And help might arrive from unexpected quarters. Yet, old rivals and new stand in the way of success.

And Thune's shady underbelly could make it all too easy for Viv to take up the blade, once more. But the true reward of the uncharted path is the travellers you meet along the way. Whether bound by ancient magic, delicious pastries or a freshly-brewed cup, they may become something deeper than Viv ever could have imagined.

Legends and Lattes by Travis Baldree is a cosy, heart-warming slice-of-life fantasy about found families and fresh starts – perfect for fans of T J Klune, Katherine Addison, and T Kingfisher.

Fantasy | TP | \$34.99



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Pulp Fiction Bestsellers

Science Fiction & Fantasy November 2022 (continued)

Resolute

Lost Fleet: Outlands 02

Jack Campbell

A Nominee for the 2022 Dragon Award for Best Military Science Fiction or Fantasy.

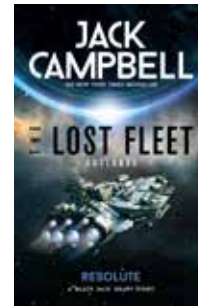
Admiral John 'Black Jack' Geary must battle dangers both within and without the Alliance, in this exciting continuation of the New York Times bestselling series.

Geary knows that some political factions in the Alliance were just trying to get rid of him when he was assigned to escort a diplomatic and scientific mission to the far reaches of humanity's expansion into the galaxy... and beyond. But he views his mission as both a duty and an opportunity to make things better wherever he can. And when a crippled Rift Federation ship tumbles out of jump space, Geary leaps into action. But the survivors' story isn't completely adding up.

As Geary investigates, he soon finds himself fending off spies and assassins while leading the fleet as it fights its way across space controlled by the mysterious and hostile aliens whom humans call enigmas. Challenges arrive at every turn, including an unknown alien species that invites the fleet to visit one of their star systems. With little information to go on, Geary must weigh the benefits of potential new allies against the possibility of a trap. The fate of the fleet – and perhaps even the future of humanity – will depend on him making the right decision. If he can stay alive long enough to do that.

(Wait, there's an award just for military science fiction and fantasy? We must research further!)

Space opera | PBK | \$19.99



6

Doctor Who: The Stones of Blood

Doctor Who Target editions

David Fisher

'We won't find Dracula hanging around the Manor. But we may find something equally disturbing...'

The Doctor is delighted when his quest for the Key to Time leads him to his favourite planet, Earth. But his friends are less enchanted: Romana is nearly lured to her death by a sinister apparition, and K9 is all but destroyed by a belligerent boulder with the power to move – and a thirst for blood. An ancient stone circle becomes a battleground as the Doctor must outwit the deadliest alien criminal this side of hyperspace – and her bloodthirsty silicon servants...

Doctor Who | PBK | \$19.99



7

A Memory Called Empire

Teixcalaan 01

Arkady Martine

Winner of the 2020 Hugo Award for Best Novel; a Locus, and Nebula Award nominee for 2019; a Best Book of 2019: *Library Journal*, *Polygon*, *Den of Geek*; an NPR Favourite Book of 2019; a *Guardian* Best Science Fiction and Fantasy Book of 2019; a 'Not the Booker Prize' Nominee; a Goodreads Biggest SFF Book of 2019; and Goodreads Choice Awards Nominee.

'A Memory Called Empire perfectly balances action and intrigue with matters of empire and identity. All around brilliant space opera, I absolutely love it.' – Ann Leckie, author of *Ancillary Justice*.

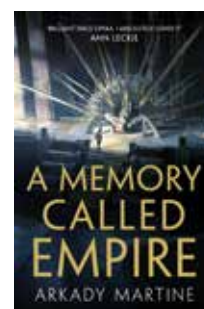
Ambassador Mahit Dzmare arrives in the centre of the multi-system Teixcalaanli Empire, only to discover that her predecessor, the previous ambassador from their small but fiercely independent mining Station, has died.

But no one will admit that his death wasn't an accident – or that Mahit might be next to die, during a time of political instability in the highest echelons of the imperial court.

Now, Mahit must discover who is behind the murder, rescue herself, and save her Station from Teixcalaan's unceasing expansion – all while navigating an alien culture that is all too seductive, engaging in intrigues of her own, and hiding a deadly technological secret – one that might spell the end of her Station and her way of life – or rescue it from annihilation.

A fascinating space opera debut novel, Arkady Martine's *A Memory Called Empire* is an interstellar mystery adventure. The sequel, *A Desolation Called Peace* (PBK, \$22.99) – now also a Hugo Award winner – is available, too:

Space opera | PBK | \$22.99



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Pulp Fiction Bestsellers

Science Fiction & Fantasy November 2022 (continued)

Blitz

Checquy Files 03

Daniel O'Malley

September, 1940. Three women of the Checquy, the secret organisation tasked with protecting Britain from supernatural threats, stand in the sky above London and see German aircraft approach. Forbidden by law to interfere, all they can do is watch as their city is bombed. Until Pamela, the most sensible of them, breaks all the rules and brings down a Nazi bomber with her bare hands.

The three resolve to tell no one about it, but they soon learn that a crew member is missing from the downed bomber. Charred corpses are discovered in nearby houses, and it becomes apparent that the women have unwittingly unleashed a monster. Through a city torn by the Blitz, the friends must hunt the enemy before he kills again. Their task will take them from the tunnels of the Underground to the halls of power, where they will discover the secrets that a secret organisation must keep even from itself.

Today. Lynette Binns, a librarian with a husband and child, is a late recruit to the Checquy, having discovered only as an adult her ability to electrify everyday objects with her touch. After completing her training, she is assigned to examine a string of brutal murders and quickly realises that all bear the unmistakable hallmark of her own unique power. Unable to provide an alibi and determined to prove her innocence, she flees, venturing into the London underworld to find answers.

But now she is prey, being tracked by her own frighteningly capable comrades. As Lyn fights off powered thugs and her own vengeful colleagues, she will find that the solution to the murders and to the mystery of her own past lies in the events of World War II, and the covert actions of three young women during the Blitz.

Signed copies of *Blitz* are available. Series is recommended! Start with *The Rook* (PBK, \$22.99)

Urban fantasy | TP | \$32.99



9

Terry Pratchett: A Life With Footnotes – the Official Biography

Rob Wilkins

The creator of the phenomenally bestselling Discworld series, Terry Pratchett was known and loved around the world for his hugely popular books, his smart satirical humour, and the humanity of his campaign work. But that's only part of the picture.

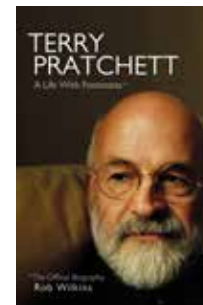
Before his untimely death, Terry was writing a memoir – the story of a boy who, aged six, was told by his teacher that he would never amount to anything and spent the rest of his life proving him wrong. For Terry lived a life full of astonishing achievements – becoming one of the UK's bestselling and most beloved writers, winning the prestigious Carnegie Medal and being awarded a knighthood.

Now, the book Terry sadly couldn't finish has been written by Rob Wilkins, his former assistant, friend, and now head of the Pratchett literary estate. Drawing on his own extensive memories, along with those of the author's family, friends and colleagues, Rob unveils the full picture of Terry's life – from childhood to his astonishing writing career, and how he met and coped with what he called the 'Embuggerance' of Alzheimer's disease.

A deeply moving and personal portrait of the extraordinary life of Sir Terry Pratchett, written with unparalleled insight and filled with funny anecdotes, this is the only official biography of one of our finest authors.

'Of all the dead authors in the world, Terry Pratchett is the most alive.' – *John Lloyd.*

Biography | TP | \$35.00



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