

Pulp Fiction

Science Fiction & Fantasy Bestsellers

August 2023

The Blighted Stars

Devoured Worlds 01

Megan O'Keefe

Stranded on a dead planet with her mortal enemy, a spy must survive and uncover a conspiracy in the first book of an epic space opera trilogy by an award-winning author.

She's a revolutionary. Humanity is running out of options.

Habitable planets are being destroyed as quickly as they're found, and Naira Sharp thinks she knows the reason why. The all-powerful Mercator family has been controlling the exploration of the universe for decades, and exploiting any materials they find along the way under the guise of helping humanity's expansion. But Naira knows the truth, and she plans to bring the whole family down from the inside.

He's the heir to the dynasty. Tarquin Mercator never wanted to run a galaxy-spanning business empire. He just wanted to study rocks and read books. But Tarquin's father has tasked him with monitoring the settlement of a new planet, and he doesn't really have a choice in the matter.

Disguised as Tarquin's new bodyguard, Naira plans to destroy the settlement ship before they make land. But neither of them expects to end up stranded on a dead planet. To survive and keep her secret, Naira will have to join forces with the man she's sworn to hate. And, together, they will uncover a plot that's bigger than both of them...

Lots of good feedback! Recommended!

Space opera | PBK | \$24.99



1

Gryphon in Light

Kelvren's Saga 01

Mercedes Lackey & Larry Dixon

This first book in a new trilogy returns to the tales of the majestic gryphons.

On the border between Valdemar and the deadly Pelagirs Forest, the gryphon hero Kelvren returns from a near-fatal self-sacrifice that won him the approval of Valdemar's ground troops, but caused a diplomatic crisis. Frustrated by his lack of a hero's welcome, Kelvren is talked into helping with an expedition by his old friend, Firesong.

Firesong struggles with his own age and mortality, and he intends to solve a vast mystery at the centre of legendary Lake Evendim as his crowning achievement. Just getting the multicultural fleet underway is a challenge, but what awaits them is a situation none of them could expect.

Traditional Lackey – and much love for it!

Valdemar | HC | \$62.95



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Pulp Fiction Bestsellers

Science Fiction & Fantasy August 2023 (continued)

All Systems Red

Murderbot Diaries 01

Martha Wells

Winner: 2018 Hugo Award for Best Novella.

Winner: 2018 Nebula Award for Best Novella.

Winner: 2018 Alex Award.

Winner: 2018 Locus Award. One of the Verge's Best Books of 2017.

New York Times and USA Today bestseller.

A murderous android discovers itself in *All Systems Red*, a tense (but: ALSO VERY FUNNY!) science fiction adventure by Martha Wells that interrogates the roots of consciousness through Artificial Intelligence.

'As a heartless killing machine, I was a complete failure.'

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.

Yes – we keep recommending this – and it keeps selling – and people keep coming back for more – hence it's back in our bestseller lists. Mwah!

(If you haven't read this yet – WHY NOT?!?)

Science fiction novella | HC | \$29.99



3

Memory's Legion

complete Expanse story collection

James S A Corey

From *Leviathan Wakes* to *Leviathan Falls*, James S A Corey's Hugo Award-winning Expanse series has redefined modern space opera.*

Now, available in print for the first time comes the complete collection of short fiction set in the Expanse universe, including both a brand-new novella set after the events of *Leviathan Falls* and author's notes on each story.

On Mars, a scientist experiments with a new engine that will one day become the drive that fuels humanity's journey into the stars.

On an asteroid station, a group of prisoners are oblivious to the catastrophe that awaits them.

On a future Earth beset by overpopulation, pollution, and poverty, a crime boss desperately seeks to find a way off planet.

On an alien world, a human family struggles to establish a colony and make a new home.

All these stories and more are featured in this unmissable collection of short fiction set in the hardscrabble world of the Expanse.

* according to the publisher's blurb.

But yeah – we're all fans and the books sell and sell – and sell.

Space opera | PBK | \$22.99



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Pulp Fiction Bestsellers

Science Fiction & Fantasy August 2023 (continued)

Beyond the Reach of Earth

Lightspeed trilogy 02

Ken Macleod

The Fermi are awake...

The invention of faster-than-light technology has brought great opportunity, but also great danger.

The Black Horizon conspiracy is broken up, but it still has deadly assets beyond the reach of Earth. As the great powers jostle for advantage, the alien minds known as the Fermi have their own ways of dealing with humans meddling in plans vaster and more ancient than anyone can suspect.

After the Venus catastrophe, John Grant's starship *Fighting Chance* and the Space Station have reached Apis – but not for long. They barely have time to mourn the dead before they're chased out of the system. The Station begins exploring the systems Black Horizon warned them against – with good reason, as they soon discover.

On Apis, Alliance agent Marcus Owen has a new mission: to communicate with the alien intelligences in the rocks, and to stop anyone else from getting to them first. Everyone knows he's a spy, but he's not going to let that cramp his style. But the scientists investigating the rock find that the Fermi may not be the only alien intelligence on Apis...

Science fiction legend Ken MacLeod returns with book two in the Lightspeed trilogy, a gripping tale of first contact and dark conspiracies set among the stars.

The first in the series is *Beyond the Hallowed Sky* (PBK, \$22.99).

[Science fiction](#) | [PBK](#) | [\\$22.99](#)



5

Castle Full of Blackbirds

graphic novel

Angela Slatter & Mike Mignola; et al

Sara May Blackburn has always been an odd girl. Plagued by mysterious powers her whole life, Sara heads to New York to seek Miss Brook at the Linton School for Girls.

But the school is shrouded in strangeness, and the more secrets Sara discovers, the more dangerous and challenging her studies become. Sara must reveal the forces that seek to control her power.

Join Hellboy creator Mike Mignola as he partners with celebrated, Brisbane author Angela Slatter and artist extraordinaire Valeria Burzo for a new adventure full of witchcraft and magic. New from the world of Hellboy!

Omnibus collection of *Castle Full of Blackbirds* graphic novels #1–4. Signed copies are available!

[Hellboy universe](#) | [HC](#) | [\\$44.99](#)



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Pulp Fiction Bestsellers

Science Fiction & Fantasy August 2023 (continued)

Sir Hereward and Mister Fitz: Stories of the Witch Knight

collection

Garth Nix

New York Times bestselling author Garth Nix's exciting adult debut: a new collection including all eight stories – plus a never-before-published story – featuring Sir Hereward and his sorcerous puppet companion Mister Fitz, gathered in one magical volume for the first time ever!

Sir Hereward: the only male child of an ancient society of witches. Knight, artilleryman, swordsman. Mercenary for hire. Ill-starred lover.

Mister Fitz: puppet, sorcerer, loremaster. Practitioner of arcane arts and wielder of sorcerous needles.

Sir Hereward and Mister Fitz: godslayers. Agents of the Council of the Treaty for the Safety of the World, charged with the location and removal of listed extra-dimensional entities, more commonly known as gods.

Together, they are relentless travellers in a treacherous world of magic, gunpowder, and adventure.

Compiled for the first time ever, these eight magical stories – plus an all-new tale, 'The Field of Fallen Foe' – featuring fabulous, quintessential Garth Nix protagonists Sir Hereward and Mister Fitz comprise a must-have adult fantasy collection for fans and those about to discover the witch knight and his puppet sorcerer for the first time.

'I loved making the acquaintance of Sir Hereward and Mister Fitz. If you haven't met them yet, you are in for a treat. They are the best partnership in the world of fantasy since Fafhrd and the Grey Mouser.' – *George R R Martin*, co-editor 'A Cargo of Ivories'.

Fantasy | TP | \$32.99



7

The Frugal Wizard's Handbook for Surviving Medieval England

Secret Projects 02

Brandon Sanderson

A man awakens in a clearing in what appears to be medieval England with no memory of who he is, where he came from, or why he is there.

Chased by a group from his own time, his sole hope for survival lies in regaining his missing memories, making allies among the locals, and perhaps even trusting in their superstitious boasts.

His only help from the 'real world' should have been a guidebook entitled

The Frugal Wizard's Handbook for Surviving Medieval England, except his copy exploded during transit. The few fragments he managed to save provide clues to his situation, but can he figure them out in time to survive?

Note from Brandon:

Sometimes an idea just won't let go of you for years. The initial seed of this novel was the title that eventually turned into *The Frugal Wizard's Handbook for Surviving Medieval England*. At first there was no story go to with that title, but I wrote it down and kept coming back to it, wondering what that book could possibly be about.

Something else I thought about off and on for years was the classic concept of a man waking up in another time and another place, with no idea how he got there. It was when those two ideas came together, and I placed a book with that title into that man's hands, that this novel was born. I hope you'll have as much fun with it as I did!

We hope everyone does too, Brandon! (And, thus far, it's selling well and readers seem very pleased!)

Fantasy | TP | \$32.99



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Pulp Fiction Bestsellers

Science Fiction & Fantasy August 2023 (continued)

Witch King

Martha Wells

After being murdered, his consciousness dormant and unaware of the passing of time while confined in an elaborate water trap, Kai wakes to find a lesser mage attempting to harness Kai's magic to his own advantage. That was never going to go well.

But why was Kai imprisoned in the first place? What has changed in the world since his assassination? And why does the Rising World Coalition appear to be growing in influence?

Kai will need to pull his allies close and draw on all his pain magic if he is to answer even the least of these questions.

He's not going to like the answers.

'*Witch King* is Martha Wells' first new fantasy in over a decade, drawing together her signature ability to create characters we adore and identify with, alongside breathtaking action and adventure, and the wit and charm we've come to expect from one of the leading writers of her generation' – *publisher's blurb*. Recommended!

Fantasy | TP | \$34.99



9

Red Team Blues

Martin Hench 01

Cory Doctorow

'*New York Times* bestseller Cory Doctorow's *Red Team Blues* is a grabby next-Tuesday thriller about cryptocurrency shenanigans that will awaken you to how the world really works.' – *publisher's blurb*.

Martin Hench is 67 years old, single, and successful in a career stretching back to the beginnings of Silicon Valley. He lives and roams California in a very comfortable fully-furnished touring bus that he bought years ago from a fading rock star. He knows his way around good food and fine drink. He likes intelligent women, and they like him back often enough.

Martin is a – contain your excitement – self-employed forensic accountant, a veteran of the long guerilla war between people who want to hide money, and people who want to find it. He knows computer hardware and software alike, including the ins and outs of high-end databases and the kinds of spreadsheets that are designed to conceal rather than reveal.

He's as comfortable with social media as people a quarter his age, and he's a world-level expert on the kind of international money-laundering and shell-company chicanery used by Fortune 500 companies, mid-divorce billionaires, and international drug gangs, alike.

He also knows the Valley like the back of his hand, all the secret histories of charismatic company founders and Sand Hill Road VCs. Because he was there at all the beginnings. He's not famous, except to the people who matter. He's made some pretty powerful people happy in his time, and he's been paid pretty well. It's been a good life.

Now, he's been roped into a job that's more dangerous than anything he's ever agreed to before – and it will take every ounce of his skill to get out, alive.

Crypto sf | TP | \$32.99



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