

Pulp Fiction

Science Fiction & Fantasy Catalogue

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October 2023

Includes new books by:

Travis Baldree
Jack Campbell
C J Cherryh &
Jane S Fancher
Alix E Harrow
Tom Holt
Benedict Jacka
K J Parker
A J Ryan
John Scalzi

... and many others.

All the books in this catalogue are new books due for release in **October 2023**.

Because they are new books, we are at the whim of the publishers and, to some extent, the shipping companies – books can sometimes arrive later (or earlier) than, or occasionally be a different retail price than originally quoted. Because space is a luxury, we bring in limited quantities of books. Prices are subject to change without notice.

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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

Healers

Abellanos, Jonel

Luis, Armand, and Victoria are three immortal children – on the Philippine island of Cebu – with supernatural skills, who are trained in the healing arts. After centuries of practicing healing, they grow weary of life eternal and become envious of what adults can do that children can't. Deciding to shed their immortality and grow into adulthood, the three carve their own identities and paths in life, clinging on to the remnants of the immortal powers they once had to fulfil their dreams, aspirations, and innermost desires. It is only generations later, in the second decade of the 21st century, that misfortune and modern-day societal maladies truly begin to complicate the lives of Luis, Armand, and Victoria, thrusting them into conflicts and existential struggles. And the three, bound together by their shared past, present, and future, will have to choose, once more, if they are willing to do what it takes to live forever again. The first in a series.

Supernatural TP \$32.99

Jackal

Adams, Erin E

Liz Rocher is coming home... reluctantly. As a Black woman, Liz doesn't exactly have fond memories of Johnstown, Pennsylvania, a predominantly white town. But her best friend is getting married, so she braces herself for a weekend of awkward, passive-aggressive reunions. Liz has grown, though; she can handle whatever awaits her. But on the day of the wedding, somewhere between dancing and dessert, the couple's daughter, Caroline, disappears – and the only thing left behind is a piece of white fabric covered in blood. As a frantic search begins, with the police combing the trees for Caroline, Liz is the only one who notices a pattern: A summer night. A missing girl. A party in the woods. She's seen this before. Keisha Woodson, the only other Black girl in Liz's high school, walked into the woods with a mysterious man and was later found with her chest cavity ripped open and her heart removed. Liz shudders at the thought that it could have been her, and now, with Caroline missing, it can't be a coincidence. As Liz starts to dig through the town's history, she uncovers a horrifying secret about the place she once called home. Children have been going missing in these woods for years. All of them Black. All of them girls. With the evil in the forest creeping closer, Liz knows what she must do: find Caroline, or be entirely consumed by the darkness.

Horror TP \$39.95

The Only Purple

House in Town

Aguirre, Ann

Iris Collins is the messy one in her family. The 'chaos bunny'. Her sisters are all wildly successful, while she can't balance her budget for a single month. It's no wonder,

she's in debt to her roommates. When she unexpectedly inherits a house from her great aunt, her plan to turn it into a B&B fails – as most of her plans do. She winds up renting rooms like a Victorian spinster, collecting other lost souls... and not all of them are 'human'. Eli Reese grew up as the nerdy outcast in school, but he got rich designing apps. Now he's successful by any standards. But he's never had the same luck in finding a real community or people who understand him. Over the years, he's never forgotten his first crush, so when he spots her at a café, he takes it as a sign. Except then he gets sucked into the Iris-verse and, somehow, ends up renting one of her B&B rooms. As the days pass, Eli grows enchanted by the misfit boarders staying in the house... and even more so, by Iris. Could Eli have finally found a person and a place to call 'home'?

Paranormal romance TP \$27.99

Devil's Battle

Artillerymen 03

Anderson, Taylor

After being stranded on a very different and more perilous Earth, Colonel Lewis Cayce led his small army of displaced Americans, natives of the Yucatán, and Jaguar Warriors to defeat the biggest host the Dominion general Agon could assemble. Most unexpectedly, General Agon came to recognise the inherent evil of the Dominion and its depraved Blood Priests and turned on his former leaders. Awkwardly, at first, Lewis Cayce and Agon join forces to press their common enemy back toward the dark heart of the Dominion in the Great Valley of Mexico. But more Dominion troops have been drawn from the west to stop the Allied march on the Holy City, and a gruelling race has begun. Worse, the Gran Cruzada – a vast Dom army that was marching on the far Californias to eject yet another heretic foe – might've already been recalled, to face Cayce's soldiers. Time has become more precious than ever, and before Lewis Cayce can even try to implement his plan for total victory, he and his force must brave their greatest challenge yet – a brutal fight against a larger, better-trained army whose commander has a gift for strategy to rival Cayce's own. The struggle to keep all his soldiers alive, new friends and old comrades alike, will test Cayce like never before... and, win or lose, nothing will be the same. The first in Anderson's new series is *Purgatory's Shore* (PBK, \$26.95).

Military sf HC \$62.95

The Forest Brims Over

AYase, Maru

A woman turns herself into a forest, after long being co-opted to serve as the subject of her husband's novels – this surrealist fable challenges traditional gender attitudes and exploitation in the literary world. Nowatari Rui has long been the subject of her husband's novels, depicted as a pure woman who takes

great pleasure in sex. With her privacy and identity continually stripped away, she has come to be seen by society, first and foremost, as the inspiration for her husband's art. When a decade's worth of frustrations reaches its boiling point, Rui consumes a bowl of seeds, and buds and roots begin to sprout all over her body. Instead of taking her to a hospital, her husband keeps her in an aquaterrarium, set to compose a new novel based on this unsettling experience. But Rui breaks away from her husband, by growing into a forest – and in time, she takes over the entire city. As fantasy and reality bleed together, *The Forest Brims Over* challenges unconscious gender biases, and explores the boundaries between art and exploitation – muse abuse – in the literary world.

Fantasy TP \$32.99

Under the Smokestrewn Sky

Up-&-Under 04, novella

Baker, A Deborah

(a.k.a. McGuire, Seanan)

Since stumbling from their world into the Up and Under, Avery and Zib have walked the improbable road across forests, seas, and skies, finding friends in the unlikeliest of places and enemies great in number, as they make their way toward the Impossible City – in the hope of finding their way home. But the final part of their journey is filled with danger and demise. Not everyone will make it through unscathed. Not everyone will make it through alive. This 208pp Tor.com novella is the final part of the enchanting Up-and-Under quartet; it reminds us of the value of friendship, and the price one sometimes pays for straying from the path. No one's safety can be guaranteed, under the smokestrewn sky. *We expect to have this edition of Under the Smokestrewn Sky from its Australian distributors early next year, at a lower price.*

Fantasy HC \$49.95

Legends and Lattes

Legends & Lattes 01

Baldree, Travis

High fantasy, low stakes – with a double shot of coffee. After decades of raising hell, Viv the orc barbarian is finally hanging up her sword for good. Now, she sets her sights on a new dream – one that involves pulling more shots than punches. Armed with hope and a hard-earned secret, she plans to open the first coffee shop in Thune. To build something that will last, Viv needs a new crew. She enlists a gruff hob builder shunned by humans, and a shy baker whose cinnamon rolls are to die for. Then there's Tandri, a charming succubus who's determined not to let anyone assume anything about her. But Thune has a shady underbelly that keeps goading Viv to take up her sword, once more. New enemies threaten her beloved coffee shop, and ragtag team. And Viv's adventuring past isn't so eager to leave her behind – or the fabled piece of loot she took with her. *Legends and Lattes*

Pulp Fiction

Science Fiction & Fantasy October 2023 (continued)

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. We recommend it, too!
Fantasy PBK \$22.99

The Hexologists Bancroft, Josiah

The Hexologists, Iz and Warren Wilby, are quite accustomed to helping desperate clients with the bugbears of city life. Aided by hexes and a bag of charmed relics, the Wilbies have recovered children abducted by chimney-wraiths, removed infestations of barb-nosed incubi, and ventured into the Gray Plains of the Unmade to soothe a troubled ghost. Well acquainted with the weird, they never shy away from a challenging case. But when they are approached by the royal secretary and told the king pleads to be baked into a cake – going so far as to wedge himself inside a lit oven – the Wilbies soon find themselves embroiled in a mystery that could very well see the nation turned on its head. Their effort to expose a royal secret buried under 40 years of lies brings them nose to nose with a violent antiroyalist gang, avaricious ghouls, alchemists who draw their power from a hell-like dimension, and a bookish dragon who – only occasionally – eats people. Armed with a love toughened by adversity and a stick of chalk that can conjure light from the darkness, hope from the hopeless, Iz and Warren Wilby are ready for whatever springs from the alleys, graves, and shadows next. A married couple team up to solve magical mysteries in this wildly-entertaining new fantasy series, from the acclaimed author of *Sentin Ascends* (PBK, \$22.99).
Fantasy PBK \$22.99

An Empyrean Retinue

Books of Babel collection

Bancroft, Josiah

Expanding upon the world of the Books of Babel, this collection of short works builds upon the Tower, in directions both acquainted and strange. Herein, readers will find a heartbreaking account of the Sphinx as she prepares to receive expected but unwelcome guests. Intrepid bibliophiles will be dazzled by Byron's bravery as he charges headlong into a paperwork labyrinth and locks horns with a misanthropic minotaur. Sensitive witnesses will delight in John Tarrou's evolution from romantic naïf into sickly waif languishing upon porcelain shores in the grips of a theatrical cure. Devotees of poetic justice will find satisfaction in Finn Goll's grasp for redemption with hands caked in gun powder and book glue. In addition to these familiar sagas, this volume contains a number of new meditations upon the spire's innumerable facets: a bookseller tries his hand at racing airships; a youthful orphan seeks sanctuary in a ruin; an ambitious vendor of fleece is reacquainted with the value of his own pelt; and two explorers of the cruising Nebos stumble upon an unexpected stowaway. To guide visitors, the author supplies a preamble in which he attempts to account for these tales that seek to enrich tourists, zealots, and hods, alike. A pricey, limited edition from Subterranean Press – which *may* be out of print, on release.
Fantasy HC \$119.95

Trinity's Children

Trinity 02

Bara, Dave

Jared Clement has returned to Trinity, not as a mere ship captain but as a Five Suns Fleet Admiral. With his promotion comes increased responsibility that weighs heavy on his shoulders: 30,000 settlers are leaving the dying planets of the Rim, his home, and resettling next to the natives of the planet Bellus. Clement is responsible for those lives and the lives of the natives, Trinity's children, and for building a better future for them all. But when his migrant fleet arrives in the Trinity system, they are faced with enemies both old and new. Former Fleet Admiral Elara DeVore has escaped her exile on the planet Alphas and vanished into parts unknown. Soon, however, Clement discovers she has a new fleet and a new ally, the Solar League from Earth. The Solar League has arrived with a massive fleet and plans on taking Trinity for itself, forcing the Five Suns to surrender. With just a small military fleet to accompany the migrants, Clement is faced with the almost impossible task of defending both his people and the natives from becoming slaves of the Solar League.
Military sf PBK \$26.95

The Dark Between the Trees Barnett, Fiona

1643: A small group of Parliamentarian soldiers are ambushed in an isolated part of Northern England. Their only hope for survival is to flee into the nearby Moresby Wood... unwise, though that may seem. For Moresby Wood is known to be an unnatural place, the realm of witchcraft and shadows, where the devil is said to go walking by moonlight... Seventeen men enter the wood. Only two are ever seen again, and the stories they tell, of what happened, make no sense. Stories of shifting landscapes, of trees that appear and disappear at will... and of something else. Something dark. Something hungry. Today, five women are headed into Moresby Wood to discover, once and for all, what happened to that unfortunate group of soldiers. Led by Dr Alice Christopher, an historian who has devoted her entire academic career to uncovering the secrets of Moresby Wood. Armed with metal detectors, GPS units, mobile phones, and the most recent map of the area (which is nearly 50 years old), Dr Christopher's group enters the wood ready for anything. Or, so, they think.
Historical fantasy TP \$37.95

The Jinn-Bot of Shantiport Basu, Samit

Shantiport was supposed to be a gateway to the stars. But the city is sinking, and its colonist rulers aren't helping anyone but themselves. Lina, a daughter of failed revolutionaries, has no desire to escape Shantiport. She loves her city and would do anything to save its people. This is, in fact, the plan for her life, made before she was even born. Her brother, Bador, is a small monkey bot with a big attitude and bigger ambitions. He wants a chance to leave this dead-end planet and explore the universe on his own terms. But that would mean abandoning the family he loves – even if they

do take him for granted. When Shantiport's resident tech billionaire coerces Lina into retrieving a powerful artifact rumoured to be able to reshape reality, forces from before their time begin coalescing around the siblings. And when you throw in a piece of sentient, off-world tech with the ability to grant three wishes into the mix... None of the city's powers will know what hit them. An exuberant new sf adventure with heart that reads like a mash-up of *Aladdin* and *Murderbot* – with gloriously chaotic results.
Space opera HC \$64.95

Creation Node Baxter, Stephen

On the far outskirts of the solar system, one small ship is about to discover something amazing. And it wants to talk... In the year 2255, of all the sentient beings in her universe, it was a woman named Salma, 20 years old, who was the first fully to see the object called Planet Nine. See with her own eyes, albeit moderated by her ship's instruments. If not to recognise what it was, not yet. Not that the object turned out to be a planet, or the 'ninth' of anything. Briefly thought to be a black hole, it suddenly changes, expands and sends a message. There is something waiting on its service. Something not quite human. As the ramifications of this event spread across the fracturing elements of humanity, it is clear that the small crew on the spot are at the centre of the most dramatic discovery in history. But theirs is not the only inexplicable event happening – impossibly, at exactly the same moment, a quasar appeared 25,000 light-years away, and now is heating up the solar system. If the enigma of the creation node is not solved quickly, there may be no one left to investigate it...
Science fiction TP \$32.99

The Thousand Earths Baxter, Stephen

The end of the world is inevitable. We do not accept it. In 2145 AD John Hackett's adventure is just beginning. In Year 30, Mela's story is coming to a close. Hackett, in his trusty ship, the *Perseus*, is not just a space traveller – beginning his travels with an expedition to Neptune and back – but, thanks to the time-dilation effect, a time traveller as well. His new mission will take him to Andromeda, to get a close-up look at the constellation – which will eventually crash into the Milky Way and give humanity a head's up about the challenges which are coming. A mission which will take him five million years to complete. Not only is Hackett exploring unknown space, but he will return to a vastly different time. Mela's world is coming to an end. Erosion is eating away at the edges of every landmass – first, at a rate of 10 metres a year, but fast accelerating, displacing people and animals as the rising Tide destroys everything in its path. Putting more and more pressure on the people – and resources – which remain. She and her people have always known that this long-predicted end to their home, one of the Thousand Earths, is coming – but that makes their fight to survive, to protect each other, no less desperate... and no less doomed. A beautiful, page-turning story

which interweaves the tale of these two characters, separated by both space and time, in a hopeful exploration of humanities' future, this is Stephen Baxter at his best. Now in paperback.
Science fiction PBK \$24.99

The Last Unicorn Beagle, Peter S

'If men no longer know what they are looking at, there may well be unicorns in the world yet, unknown and glad of it.' Living in peace in her lilac wood, the Unicorn didn't know the world had changed, or that anything had happened to the rest of her kind. Overhearing a chance conversation, she resolves to venture out and discover the truth. The road is dangerous, and the risks are great. If she fails, then unicorns will be lost. Forever. A modern fairy tale, *The Last Unicorn* is a beloved classic; voted by *Time* as one of the 100 greatest fantasy novels of all time. It is fantastical, poignant, wistful, and wonderous, showing us the humanity of magic, and the magic of humanity. Available in a UK paperback edition for the first time in decades, this edition features an introduction by Patrick Rothfuss.
Classic fantasy PBK \$22.99

Blood and Moonlight

Blood & Moonlight 01

Beaty, Erin

Rising above the city of Collis is the holy Sanctum. And watching over its spires is Catrin, an orphan with unique skills – for she alone can spot the building's flaws in construction before they turn deadly. But when Catrin witnesses a murderer escaping the scene of his crime, she's pulled into the web of a dangerous man who will definitely strike again. Assigned to capture the culprit is the mysterious, brilliant, and enigmatic Simon, whose insights into the mind of a killer are frighteningly accurate. As the grisly crimes continue, Catrin finds herself caught between murderer and detective while hiding her own secret – a supernatural sight granted by the moon, destined to make her an outcast, and the only thing that might save her and those she loves from becoming the next victims. The first in a new series.
YA fantasy PBK \$22.99

Silence and Shadow

Blood & Moonlight 02

Beaty, Erin

After confronting a killer and fleeing to be with each other, Cat and Simon arrive in the sprawling city of Londunium. Cat is looking forward to honing her healing magick at the local Selanæ university, but instead finds a council of ruthless leaders threatening to erase Simon's memories to protect their secrets. Terrified, Cat takes desperate steps to keep him safe. But when a string of mutilated bodies turns up in the woods outside the city, and Simon is recruited to profile the killer, Cat is pulled back into a world of murder, mayhem, and magick – one that threatens to consume her completely. The sequel to *Blood and Moonlight* (PBK, \$22.99).
YA fantasy PBK \$22.99

Pulp Fiction

Science Fiction & Fantasy October 2023 (continued)

Big Little Spells

Witchlore 02

Beck, Hazel

Rebekah Wilde was 18, when she left St Cyprian, officially stripped of her magic and banished from her home. Ten years later, she's forced to return to face the Joywood Coven, who preside over not just her hometown but the whole magical world. Rebekah is happy to reunite with her sister, and with her friends, but the implications of her return are darker and more dangerous than they could have imagined. The Joywoods are determined to prove Rebekah and her friends are a danger to witchkind, facing an impending death sentence if they can't prove otherwise. Rebekah must seek help from the only one who knows how to stop the Joywood – the ruthless immortal Nicholas Frost. Years ago, he was her secret tutor in magic, and her secret impossible crush. But the icy immortal is as remote and arrogant as ever, and if he feels anything for Rebekah – or witchkind – it's impossible to tell.

Paranormal romance TP \$32.99

Stars, Hide Your Fires Best, Jessica

A wanted thief. A murdered emperor. A killer loose on the station.

As an expert thief from a minor moon, Cass knows a good mark when she sees one. The emperor's ball is her chance to steal a fortune for herself, her ailing father, and her scrappy crew of thieves and market vendors. Her plan is simple: One, hitch a ride to the planet of Ouris, the dazzling heart of the empire. Two, sneak onto the imperial palace station to attend the emperor's ball. Three, steal from the rich, the royal, and the insufferable. But on the station, things quickly go awry. When the emperor is found dead, everyone in the palace is a suspect – and someone is setting Cass up to take the fall. To clear her name, Cass must work with an unlikely ally: a gorgeous and mysterious rebel with her own reasons for being on the station. Together, they unravel a secret that could change the fate of the empire.

YA sf mystery HC \$32.99

Dirty Lying Faeries

Dirty Lying 01

Blackburry, Sabrina

When Thea Kanelos' best friend drags her to an art gala (that's definitely not her thing), she doesn't expect a chance encounter with Devin Grayson to change her life forever. The handsome stranger isn't just anyone – he's a powerful fae, charged with bringing Thea into his world. Believing that she's always been human, Thea must come to terms that everything she's known about herself up until now has been a lie. She's not human at all. She is a fae – funny, because she doesn't even believe in faeries. Thea soon discovers that she is powerful in her own right and, as cracks in the fae world begin to surface, she may be the only one who can end the conflict that plagues both sides. The first in a series.

Urban fantasy TP \$32.99

Champion of Fate

Heromaker duology 01

Blake, Kendare

Aristene are an order of mythical female warriors. Though heroes might be immortalised in legends, it's the Aristene

who guide their paths to victory. They are the Heromakers. Raised by the order after being orphaned, Reed grew up surrounded by her future sisters-in-arms and the incredible stories of their quests. She's been counting the days until her initiation; and, now, one final test stands in her way: shepherding her first hero to glory on the battlefield. Succeed, and her place in the order is secured. Fail, and she'll be cast out of the only home she's ever known. But Reed didn't count on Hestion, her assigned hero, being both infuriating and intriguing. When their strategic alliance turns into something more, it forces Reed to question the cost of becoming an Aristene. As battle looms and fate hangs in the balance, Reed must make an impossible choice: her hero, or her order. The first in a duology.

Fantasy PBK \$19.99

Soul Taken

Mercy Thompson 13

Briggs, Patricia

The vampire Wulfe is missing. Since he's deadly, possibly insane, and his current idea of 'fun' is stalking me, some may see it as no great loss. But, warned that his disappearance might bring down the carefully constructed alliances that keep our pack safe, my mate and I must find Wulfe – and hope he's still alive. As alive as a vampire can be, anyway. But Wulfe isn't the only one who has disappeared. And now there are bodies, too. Has the Harvester returned to the Tri-Cities, reaping souls with his cursed sickle? Or is he just a character from a B horror movie and our enemy is someone else? The farther I follow Wulfe's trail, the more twisted – and darker – the path becomes. I need to figure out what's going on before the next body on the ground is mine.

Paranormal romance PBK \$22.99

Helix

Brown, Eric

Helix is the plight of four humans, after they crash land on what they think is a desolate, ice-bound planet. Daylight brings the discovery that the planet is one of thousands arranged in a vast spiral, wound about a central sun. They set off to discover a more habitable, Earth-like world, and come across strange races of aliens, and life-threatening perils, on their way. A new edition.

Space opera (reissue) TP \$37.95

Light Bringer

Iron Gold 03/Red Rising 06

Brown, Pierce

The Reaper is a legend, more myth than man: the saviour of worlds, the leader of the Rising, the breaker of chains. But the Reaper is also Darrow, born of the red soil of Mars: a husband, a father, a friend. Marooned far from home, after a devastating defeat on the battlefields of Mercury, Darrow longs to return to his wife and sovereign, Virginia, to defend Mars from its bloodthirsty would-be conqueror – Lysander. Lysander longs to destroy the Rising and restore the supremacy of Gold, and will raze the worlds to realise his ambitions. The worlds once needed the Reaper. But, now, they need Darrow, and Darrow needs the people he loves – Virginia, Cassius, Sevro – in order to defend the Republic. So begins Darrow's long voyage home, an interplanetary adventure where old friends will reunite, new alliances will be forged, and rivals will clash on the battlefield.

Because Eo's dream is still alive – and after the dark age will come a new age: of light, of victory, of hope.

YA fantasy TP \$24.99

Loki

Burgess, Melvin

Step into the ancient fir-tree forests of Scandinavia and bear witness to legends as epic as those of the Greeks and the Romans. Loki, born within the heart of a fire in the hollow of a tree trunk, arrives in Asgard as an outsider. Over time, he goes on to become one of Odin's closest allies and plays an integral role in the rise of the Golden Era of the Gods – and their eventual destruction. This book – from the perspective of Loki, the trickster god – charts the history of Norse mythology, starting with the creation of heaven and earth and leading to the eventual downfall of the gods. This is a retelling of the cycle of Norse myths for modern times, written with the vividness and earthy, sometimes-shocking humour for which this prize-winning author is famous.

Norse mythology PBK \$22.99

The Little Blue Flames and Other Uncanny Tales

British Library Hardback Classics

Burrage, A M

& Freeman, Nick (editor)

In the midst of this sudden and wild galloping brain-storm I remembered what Ferrers had said about the candlesticks. There was something sinister and uncanny about them. And I knew with a certainty that if I lay and watched I should see something unbearable. The supernatural tales of A M Burrage were recognised by contemporaries such as M R James and the critic E F Bleiler, as some of the most imaginative and cleverly told ghost stories in the English language, and yet today his name haunts the fringes of the genre. Burrage was unafraid to position his ghosts among the trappings of modernity, and his experiments with the genre set him apart from the antiquarian 'Jamesian' tradition. Presenting 13 of the author's best tales from the 1920s and '30s – including accounts of uncanny living wax figures, unsettling timeslips into troubled pasts, and Burrage's horror masterpiece 'One Who Saw' – this collection is another step towards restoring A M Burrage's name to the heights of the best writers of supernatural fiction.

Classic horror HC \$55.00

Dead Man's Hand

Unorthodox Chronicles 01

Butcher, James J

On the streets of Boston, the world is divided into the ordinary Usuals, and the paranormal Unorthodox. And in the Department of Unorthodox Affairs, the Auditors are the magical elite, government-sanctioned witches with spells at their command and all the power and prestige that comes with it. Grimshaw Griswald Grimsby is... not one of those witches. After flunking out of the Auditor training program and being dismissed as 'not Department material', Grimsby tried to resign himself to life as a mediocre witch. But he can't help hoping he'll, somehow, someday, get another chance to prove his skill. That opportunity comes with a price when his former mentor, aka the most dangerous witch alive, is murdered down the street from where he works,

and Grimsby is the Auditors' number one suspect... 'James J Butcher's debut novel is a brilliant urban fantasy about a young man who must throw out the magical rule book to solve the murder of his former mentor' – *publisher's blurb*.

Urban fantasy TP \$37.99

Long Past Dues

Unorthodox Chronicles 02

Butcher, James J

Grimshy, the newest Auditor in the magical Department of Unorthodox Affairs, finds himself in hot water, when he intercepts a friend's case... Against all odds, Grimshaw Griswald Grimsby has become an Auditor, enforcing laws about magic for Boston's Department of Unorthodox Affairs. But Grimsby, soon, realises the daily grind of his job is far removed from the glamour he imagined. Overlooked for every exciting case, Grimsby tires of being told to handle mundane magical troubles, and appropriates a case file intended for a friend. Alongside Leslie Mayflower, the temporarily-unretired Huntsman, Grimsby aims to crack the case and discover the origin of a strange, unfinished ritual – one that seems to imitate the handiwork of a foe Mayflower put down 20 years ago. Together, they'll have to deal with escaped werewolves, a cursed artifact, and a perilous journey to the mysterious subterranean city below Boston, all to uncover the shocking truth. At any cost, Grimsby must stop this ritual from, finally, being completed. Yet, the cost may be paid, not by himself, but by his friends... The follow-up to the first in the Unorthodox Chronicles, *Dead Man's Hand* (TP, \$37.99).

Urban fantasy HC \$59.95

Implacable

Lost Fleet: Outlands 03

Campbell, Jack

As far from explored space as any human has ever been, Geary and the Alliance fleet are on their own, protecting a diplomatic mission in territory belonging to an alien species with still-unknown motives. His already complex and dangerous mission is further imperilled by deadly challenges from other human factions seeking to harm or exploit the aliens. When another alien species whose technology is far more advanced than humanity's arrives, the stakes are raised to the highest possible level. Only the most serious danger comes from an unexpected source. Presented with orders to carry out actions he believes not only are mistaken, but would be contrary to the ideals of the Alliance, Geary has to decide whether he must invoke the power that his long-revered name holds – even though this might endanger his entire fleet, tear apart the Alliance, and destroy everything he has fought for. Campbell's *Lost Fleet: Outlands* begins with *Boundless* (PBK, \$19.99).

Space opera PBK \$22.99

The Hacienda

Cañas, Isabel

Rebecca meets Mexican Gothic in this debut supernatural suspense novel, set in the aftermath of the Mexican War of Independence – about a remote house, a sinister haunting, and the woman pulled into their clutches... During the overthrow of the Mexican government, Beatriz's father

Pulp Fiction

Science Fiction & Fantasy October 2023 (continued)

was executed and her home destroyed. When handsome Don Rodolfo Solórzano proposes, Beatriz ignores the rumours surrounding his first wife's sudden demise, choosing instead to seize the security that his estate in the countryside provides. She will have her own home again, no matter the cost. But Hacienda San Isidro is not the sanctuary she imagined. When Rodolfo returns to work in the capital, visions and voices invade Beatriz's sleep. The weight of invisible eyes follows her every move. Rodolfo's sister, Juana, scoffs at Beatriz's fears – but why does she refuse to enter the house at night? Why does the cook burn copal incense at the edge of the kitchen and mark the doorway with strange symbols? What really happened to the first Doña Solórzano? Beatriz only knows two things for certain: Something is wrong with the hacienda. And no one there will save her. Desperate for help, she clings to the young priest, Padre Andrés, as an ally. No ordinary priest, Andrés will have to rely on his skills as a witch to fight off the malevolent presence haunting the hacienda and protect the woman for whom he feels a powerful, forbidden attraction. But even he might not be enough to battle the darkness. Far from a refuge, San Isidro may be Beatriz's doom.

Gothic horror TP \$37.95

The Archive Undying

Downworld Sequence 01

Gandon, Emma Mieko

When an AI dies, its city dies with it. When a city falls, it leaves a corpse behind. When that corpse runs off, only devotion can bring it back.

When the robotic god of Khuon Mo went mad, it destroyed everything it touched. It killed its priests, its city, and all its wondrous works. But in its final death throes, the god brought one thing back to life: its favourite child, Sunai. For the 17 years since, Sunai has walked the land like a ghost, unable to die, unable to age, and unable to forget the horrors he's seen. He's run as far as he can from the wreckage of his faith, drowning himself in drink, drugs, and men. But, when Sunai wakes up in the bed of the one man he never should have slept with, he finds himself on a path straight back into the world of gods and machines. The first volume of Emma Mieko Gandon's Downworld Sequence, an sf series where AI deities and brutal police states clash, wielding giant robots steered by pilot-priests with corrupted bodies. Come, get in the robot.

Science fiction HC \$49.99

Through the Woods

collection, graphic novel

Carroll, Emily

'It came from the woods. Most strange things do.' Five mysterious, spine-tingling stories follow journeys into (and out of?) the eerie abyss. These chilling tales spring from the macabre imagination of acclaimed and award-winning comic creator Emily Carroll. Come, take a walk in the woods, and see what awaits you there... A fantastically dark and timeless graphic debut, for fans of *Grimm Tales* and the works of Neil Gaiman.

Dark fantasy PBK \$24.99

A Guest in the House

graphic novel

Carroll, Emily

I used to dream of Dragons. Abby is settling into married life: making coffee, cooking for David and her stepdaughter Crystal, spending evenings curled up together in front of the TV. For a quiet woman without many friends, she's proud of the life she has built, and desperately wants to believe they will all be happy. But what really happened to Crystal's mother, the artist who no one speaks of? What secrets does their strange house by the water harbour, and what of Abby's old dreams and fears, of Lady Grey, the Knight and the Dragons? In her chilling return – a story of grief, ghosts, and the struggle to be true to oneself – Emily Carroll casts another unforgettable spell. A contemporary gothic horror and comics classic, perfect for fans of Neil Gaiman, Joe Hill, *Stranger Things*, and *The Haunting of Hill House* (PBK, \$22.99).

Gothic horror HC \$39.99

The River of Silver

Tales from the Daevabad trilogy, collection

Chakraborty, S A

Bestselling author Shannon Chakraborty expands the acclaimed, Hugo-nominated Daevabad trilogy with this magical compilation of stories from before, during, and after the events of the series. Told from the perspective of characters beloved and hated, and even those never heard from until now, these tales of Daevabad enrich a world already teeming with magic and wonder. Explore a kingdom hidden from human eyes. A place where djinn live and thrive, fight, and love. A realm where princes question their rule, and powerful demons can help you... or destroy you. From Manizheh's first steps towards rebellion to adventures that take place after *The Empire of Gold* (PBK, \$19.99), this is a must-have collection for those who can't get enough of Nahri, Ali, and Dara and all that unfolded around them. Now in paperback.

Fantasy PBK \$22.99

Defiance

Foreigner 22

Cherryh, C J & Fancher, Jane S

In the east, outright warfare has tied down the Assassins' Guild, and that region is in confusion. Ready to hand is an age-old feud in the west, where the Master of Ashidama Bay has long hated the Edi people of the north shore and equally hated the Aishidi'tat for bringing the Edi to his shores – and hatred is a resource the Shadow Guild knows how to use to its advantage. Bren Cameron is tasked with getting Ilisidi, the aiji-dowager, back to the capital alive, on an urgent basis. But events are cascading down on the south, the Guild is stretched thin in the east, and the Shadow Guild is within striking distance of critical targets that could bring war to the entire south. Two lives stand in the breach, two lives the aishidi'tat would not willingly risk – Ilisidi and Bren – and the Shadow Guild will spend anything and everything to take them out. The Foreigner series sets the standard for first-contact sf sagas – a smart, probing, engaging, sociopolitical narrative from an acknowledged master of the genre.

Science fiction HC \$62.95

Becoming the Boogeyman

Boogeyman 02

Chizmar, Richard

A tale of obsession and the adulation of evil, exploring modern society's true-crime obsession with unflinching honesty, sparing no one from the glare of the spotlight. Will those involved walk away from the story of a lifetime in order to keep their loved ones safe? Or will they, once again, be drawn into a killer's web? As the story draws to its shattering conclusion, only one person holds all the answers – and he just may be the most terrifying monster of them all. A riveting, haunting sequel to *Chasing the Boogeyman* (PBK, \$22.99).

Horror TP \$34.99

The Art of Destiny

War Arts Saga 02

Chu, Wesley

Once there was a prophecy that a chosen one would rise to defeat the Eternal Khan, an immortal god-king. But the prophecy was wrong. Now, Jian – the former chosen hero – is just an ordinary young man trying to find his own way. But he may yet have an extraordinary destiny, because he joins forces with Taishi, his grumpy grandmaster, who instructs him in the ways of her family's powerful war art. Jian still has a long way to go before he can become her heir, so she recruits a band of elderly grandmasters who come out of retirement to whip him into shape and help with this one last job. And there are others who are also seeking their own destiny, like Qisami, an assassin on a secret mission to protect a powerful noblewoman from her enemies. But as Qisami goes undercover to complete her mission, she takes on a new identity that gives her something she never had before: friendship, found family, and new purpose. Sali also thought her fate was laid before her. She was supposed to be looking for the next Eternal Khan and now finds her clan exiled from everything she's ever known. As she leads the survivors in search of a new home, Sali discovers that she's something she never thought she could be: a leader and a revolutionary. Because sometimes destiny is grander than any prophecy can foresee. And the greatest destiny of all is the one you choose for yourself. The follow-up to *The Art of Prophecy* (TP, \$34.99) which has just flown off the shelves, here. Recommended!

Fantasy TP \$34.99

Sword Catcher

Clare, Cassandra

In the vibrant city-state of Castellane, the richest of nobles and the most debauched of criminals have one thing in common: the constant search for wealth, power, and the next hedonistic thrill. Kel is an orphan, stolen from the life he knew to become the Sword-Catcher – the body-double of a royal heir, Prince Conor Aurelian. He has been raised alongside the prince, trained in every aspect of combat and statecraft. He and Conor are close as brothers, but Kel knows he has one destiny: to die for Conor. No other future is possible. Lin Caster is one of the Ashkar, a small community who still possess magical abilities. By law, they must live behind walls in the city, but Lin, a physician, ventures out

to tend to the sick and dying of Castellane. Despite her skills, she cannot heal her best friend Mariam without access to forbidden knowledge. After a failed assassination attempt brings Lin and Kel together, they are drawn into the web of the mysterious Raggpicker King, the criminal ruler of Castellane's underworld. He offers them each what they want most; but as they descend into his world of intrigue and shadow, they discover a conspiracy of corruption that reaches from the darkest gutters of Castellane to the highest tower of its palaces. As long-kempt secrets begin to unravel, they must ask themselves: is knowledge worth the price of betrayal? Can forbidden love bring down a kingdom? And will Lin and Kel's discoveries plunge their nation into war – and the world into chaos? The first in a new series.

Fantasy TP \$34.99

The Best Science Fiction of the Year

volume 07

Clarke, Neil

Night Shade Books is proud to present the latest volume of *The Best Science Fiction of the Year*, a yearly anthology compiled by Hugo and World Fantasy Award-winning editor Neil Clarke, collecting the finest that the genre has to offer, from the biggest names in the field to the most exciting new writers. Year's Best TP/HC \$34.99/\$62.99

Unholy Terrors

Glipstone, Lyndall

Everline Blackthorn has devoted her life to the wardens – warriors who guard against monsters known as the vespertine. When a series of strange omens occur, Everline disobeys orders to investigate and uncovers a startling truth in the form of Ravell Severin: a rogue vespertine who reveals the monsters have secrets of their own. Ravell promises the help she needs – for a price. Vespertine magic requires blood, but it's a sin for a warden to feed a vespertine – let alone, fall in love with one – and as Everline and Ravell travel farther across the moorland, she realises the question isn't whether she will survive the journey, but if she will return unchanged.

YA romantasy PBK \$19.99

Fever

Monster Hunter Memoirs 04

Correia, Larry & Cordova, Jason

Los Angeles: the 1970s. Disco is king, and the nightclubs are full of young, beautiful people with Saturday night fever. From the Sunset Strip to Hollywood Boulevard, a new era is dawning. But below the glitz and glamour, a darkness lurks. Chloe Mendoza knows darkness. She is a *naguaii*, a half-demon created by the gods of Central and South America, a daughter of the Court of Feathers, a group of demigods who ruled Mesoamerica before the Spanish arrived. Now, she is a member of Monster Hunter International's latest team, based in the LA Basin. Business is good in the City of Angels, but soon Chloe gets a message from the Court of Feathers, warning her of a Dark Master who is building up its power in the region. Whatever it is, it brings death and carnage with it. Time to boogie.

Urban fantasy HC \$62.95

Pulp Fiction

Science Fiction & Fantasy October 2023 (continued)

Christmas and Other Horrors

anthology of Solstice Horror

Datlow, Ellen (editor)

The winter solstice is celebrated as a time of joy around the world – yet, the long nights also conjure a darker tradition of ghouls, hauntings, and visitations. This anthology of all-new stories invites you to huddle around the fire and revel in the unholy, the dangerous, the horrific aspects of a time when families and friends come together – for better and for worse. From the eerie Austrian Schnabelperchten to the skeletal Welsh Mari Lwyd, by way of ravenous golems, uncanny neighbours, and unwelcome visitors, *Christmas and Other Horrors* captures the heart and horror of the festive season. Because the weather outside is frightful, but the fire inside is hungry... Featuring stories from: Nadia Bulkin; Terry Dowling; Tananarive Due; Jeffrey Ford; Christopher Golden; Stephen Graham Jones; Glen Hirshberg; Richard Kadrey; Alma Katsu; Cassandra Khaw; John Langan; Josh Malerman; Nick Mamatas; Garth Nix; Benjamin Percy; M Rickert; Kaaron Warren. Festive horror HC \$62.95

Bloom

Dawson, Delilah S

Rosemary meets Ash at the farmers' market. Ash – precise, pretty, and practically perfect – sells bars of soap in delicate pastel colours, sprinkle-sparkled cupcakes stacked on scalloped stands, beeswax candles, jelly jars of honey, and glossy green plants. Ro has never felt this way about another woman; with Ash, she wants to be her and have her in equal measure. But as her obsession with Ash consumes her, she may find she's not the one doing the devouring... Told in lush, delectable prose, this is a deliciously dark tale of passion taking an unsavoury turn... A sweet sapphic romance takes a deadly dark turn in this sharp-as-a-knife tale. *We expect to have this edition of Bloom from its Australian distributors later in the year, at a lower price.*

Horror HC \$49.95

Wrath Goddess Sing

Deane, Maya

The gods wanted blood. She fought for love. Achilles has fled her home and her vicious Myrmidon clan to live as a woman with the kallai, the transgender priestesses of Great Mother Aphrodite. When Odysseus comes to recruit the 'prince' Achilles for a war against the Hittites, she prepares to die rather than fight as a man. However, her divine mother, Athena, intervenes, transforming her body into the woman's body she always longed for, and promises her everything: glory, power, fame, victory in war, and, most importantly, a child born of her own body. Reunited with her beloved cousin, Patroklos, and his brilliant wife, the sorceress Meryapi, Achilles sets out to war with a vengeance. But the gods – a dysfunctional family of abusive immortals that have glutted on human sacrifices for centuries – have woven ancient schemes more blood-soaked and nightmarish than Achilles can imagine. At the centre of it all is the cruel, immortal Helen, who sees Achilles as a worthy enemy after millennia

of ennu and emptiness. In love with her newfound nemesis, Helen sets out to destroy everything and everyone Achilles cherishes, seeking a battle to the death. An innovative spin on a familiar tale, this is the Trojan War unlike anything ever told, and an Achilles whose vulnerability is revealed by the people she chooses to fight... and chooses to fight. Myth retold TP \$39.99

Playing the Witch Gard

Dell'antonia, K J

When Flair Hardwicke returns to the tiny town of Rattleboro to take over her grandmother's beloved bakery, she believes she's prepared for anything. All she needs is her daughter Lucie, and to get as far away from her cheating ex-husband as physically possible. But sweet treats weren't the only thing her grandmother was known for in Rattleboro, and as determined as Flair is to avoid it, a misbehaving deck of tarot card-shaped cookies draws her back into the web of family magic she's fought so hard to escape. Even worse: her first love is in town. Flair hasn't spoken to Jude Oakes, now a famous chocolatier, since he broke her heart at 17. When Flair finds she's accidentally summoned Lucie's father to Rattleboro under a curse she can't break, the recipe for Halloween chaos seems to be complete. But not everything in Rattleboro is as it seems. As Flair's family is threatened, she is forced to put aside everything she thinks she knows about love, witchcraft, motherhood – and herself. Because Flair might think she's done with magic, but magic certainly isn't done with Flair.

Paranormal romance PBK \$24.99

The Luminaries

Luminaries 01

Dennard, Susan

Hemlock Falls isn't like other towns. It's not on a map, cell phones don't work there, and you might find a ghost-deer grazing at midnight. It's also inhabited by the Luminaries, an ancient order charged with guarding the nearby forest. Each night, when nightmares rise, only the Luminaries stand between humanity and these monsters bent on devastation – one clan for each night of the week. Fourteen orders around the globe. Winnie (of the Wednesday clan) desperately wants to reclaim her family's standing within the Luminaries. In the four years since her dad was caught as a witch, her family has lived as outcasts. Winnie's solution? Pass the hunter trials. Then her family will be welcomed in, again. During the first trial, however, Winnie is severely outmatched by the forest's nightmares. So, when a new, unknown monster slaughters a banshee and everyone assumes Winnie did the slaughtering, she doesn't correct them. Realising she will never survive the final two trials, Winnie seeks help from her gorgeous exfriend, Jay Friday, who is no longer a baby-faced boy but the best hunter in Hemlock Falls. As Winnie's lies start to pile up around her and bodies start to pile up from the new nightmare, she must protect Hemlock Falls, protect her family's new status, and protect her heart from a former friend with brutal secrets of his own. The first in a series.

YA fantasy PBK \$22.99

Once a Monster

Dinsdale, Robert

London, 1861: Ten-year-old Nell belongs to a crew of mudlarks who work a stretch of the Thames along the Ratcliffe Highway. An orphan since her mother died four years past, leaving Nell with only broken dreams and a pair of satin slippers in her possession, she spends her days dredging up coals, copper and pieces of iron spilled by the river barges – searching for treasure in the mud in order to appease her master, Benjamin Murdstone. But, one day, Nell discovers a body on the shore. It's not the first corpse she's encountered, but by far the strangest. Nearly seven feet tall, the creature has matted hair covering his legs, and on his head are the suggestion of horns. Nell's fellow mudlarks urge her to steal his boots and rifle his pockets, but as she ventures closer the figure draws breath, and Nell is forced to make a decision which will change her life forever...

Myth retold TP \$34.99

Nightwatch Over Windscar

Woop 02

Eason, K

Iari is good at killing monsters. As a templar in the Aedis, a multi-species religious organisation committed to protecting the Confederation, eliminating extra-dimensional horrors is her job. But after she helped stop separatists from sabotaging the entire Confederation, she discovered a new sort of monster: the rogue-arithmetician, political kind. Promoted and sent north to the tundra of Windscar, Iari leads a team of templars to investigate ancient, subterranean ruins, which local legend claims are haunted, and which have mysterious connections to the dangerous arithmancy used by the wichu separatists. Iari isn't worried about ghosts. She's worried about surviving separatists and a fresh attempt to upend the Confederation. Included in Iari's team are Char, a decommissioned battle-mecha and newly-joined templar, and Gaer, ostensible ambassador and talented arithmancer. As they delve into the ruins, they find remnants of long-ago battles, bits of broken armour and mechas – which unexpectedly reanimate and attack. It seems there is still dangerous arithmancy in Windscar – but the source isn't who Iari expected, and they're far worse than the separatists... The sequel to *Nightwatch on the Hinterlands* (TP, \$39.95).

Space opera TP \$48.95

A Half-Built Garden

Emrys, Ruthanna

On a warm March night in 2083, Judy Wallach-Stevens wakes to a warning of unknown pollutants in the Chesapeake Bay. She heads out to check what she expects to be a false alarm – and stumbles upon the first alien visitors to Earth. These aliens have crossed the galaxy to save humanity, convinced that the people of Earth must leave their ecologically-ravaged planet behind and join them among the stars. And if humanity doesn't agree, they may need to be saved by force. The watershed networks aren't ready to give up on Earth. Decades ago, they rose up to exile the last corporations to a few artificial islands, escape the dominance of nation-states, and reorganise humanity around the hope of keeping their world liveable. By sharing the burden of decision

making, they've started to heal the wounded planet. But, now, corporations, nation-states, and networks all vie to represent humanity to these powerful new beings, and if any one accepts the aliens' offer, Earth may be lost. With everyone's eyes turned skyward, everything hinges on the success of Judy's effort to create understanding, both within and beyond her own species.

Science fiction TP \$32.99

Let the Dead Bury the Dead

Epstein, Allison

Saint Petersburg, 1812. Russian forces have defeated Napoleon at great cost, and the tsar's empire is once again at peace. Sasha, a captain in the imperial army, returns home to Grand Duke Felix, the disgraced second son of the tsar and his irrepressibly charming lover, but their reunion is quickly interrupted by the arrival of Sofia, a mysteriously persuasive figure whose disruptive presence Sasha suspects to be something more than human. Felix, insisting that Sasha's old-fashioned superstitions are misplaced, takes Sofia into his confidence – a connection that quickly becomes both personal and political. On her incendiary advice, Felix confronts his father about the brutal conditions of the common people in the aftermath of the war, to disastrous results, separating him from Sasha and setting him on a collision course with a vocal group of dissidents: the Koalitsiya. Meanwhile, the Koalitsiya plan to gridlock Saint Petersburg with a citywide strike in hopes of awakening the upper classes to the grim circumstances of the labouring people. Marya, a resourceful sometimes-thief and trusted lieutenant of the Koalitsiya, also falls under Sofia's spell; and, allied with Felix and her fellow revolutionaries, she finds herself in the middle of a battle she could never have predicted. As Sofia's influence grows and rising tensions threaten the tsar's peace, Sasha, Felix, and Marya are forced to choose between the ideals they hold close and the people they love.

Alternate history HC \$62.95

Emily Wilde's

Encyclopaedia of Faeries

Emily Wilde 01

Fawcett, Heather

Emily Wilde is good at many things: she is the foremost expert on the study of faeries; she is a genius scholar and a meticulous researcher who is writing the world's first encyclopaedia of faerie lore. But Emily Wilde is not good at people. So, when she arrives in the hardscrabble village of Hrafnsvik, Emily has no intention of befriending the gruff townsfolk. Nor does she care to spend time with another new arrival: her dashing and insufferably handsome academic rival Wendell Bumbleby. But as Emily gets closer to uncovering the secrets of the Hidden Ones – the most elusive of all faeries – she also finds herself on the trail of another mystery: who is Wendell Bumbleby, and what does he really want? To find the answer, she'll have to unlock the greatest mystery of all – her own heart. 'Forget dark academia: give me instead this kind of winter-sunshined, sharp-tongued, and footnoted academia, full of field trips and grumpy romance' – *Freyja Marske*, author of *A Marvellous Light*. Now in paperback.

Fantasy PBK \$22.99

Pulp Fiction

Science Fiction & Fantasy October 2023 (continued)

Dark Memory

Carpathian 33

Feehan, Christine

Safia Meziane has trained since birth to protect her tribe, the family she holds so dear. All along she told herself the legends she was raised with were simply that. But, now, she must call upon all of her skills to fight what lies ahead. Evil has come to their small town on the cost of Algeria, evil that Safia can feel but cannot see. She is terrified she will not be able to protect the ones she loves. As her family's 'chosen one', she has always believed she would face this task alone – until her family reveals she has been promised to a warrior who will join her. An outsider. A Carpathian... Petru Cioban is one of the oldest Carpathians in existence, and he has spent all that time without the soothing presence of his lifemate. For 2,000 years, he has waited for this woman to be reborn, only to find her in the sights of a monster he has fought before, a vampire risen again to finish a battle started centuries ago. Now, Petru must face his greatest enemy and his greatest shame. He has no hope that Safia will forgive his betrayal once the memories of her past life return to her. But he will not make the same mistake again, even if he has to sacrifice everything for the woman who has claimed his immortal soul.

Paranormal romance TP \$32.99

Red on the River

Sunrise Lake 02

Feehan, Christine

Vienna Mortenson isn't your typical gambler – her poker winnings don't go on flashy cars, they support her community, including the search and rescue team she leads. Out in the wilderness, lives are on the line, and it's down to her to be tough and decisive. Vienna isn't someone who makes a fool of herself, especially over a guy who left without looking back. Zale Vizzini's job constantly puts him in harm's way. A stable relationship seems off the cards when you work undercover. But, despite the challenges, Zale wants something real with Vienna. Now, he's determined to win her back. As their friends' wedding approaches, Zale uses the festivities to make a play for Vienna's heart. But amid the rugged terrain of Nevada, there are more deadly forces waiting to strike. Soon, both their lives are threatened. With the odds stacked against them can they – and their love – survive?

Paranormal romance PBK \$22.99

1637:

Transylvanian Decision

Ring of Fire 35

Flint, Eric & Waters, Robert E

Up-timer Morris Roth and his Grand Army of the Sunrise stand at a crossroads. Military success against the Polish-Lithuanian magnates has all but guaranteed a continued push east into Ruthenian lands. There, Roth hopes to further his Anaconda Project so that tens of thousands of Jews are not slaughtered in what's to become known as the Chmielnicki Pogrom of 1648. An envoy from Transylvania arrives with a promising offer from its prince, who wishes to form an alliance with Bohemia, but the land shrouded in the fog of the Carpathian mountains and known only to most up-timers as the playground of Count Dracula is a vassal state

of the Ottoman Empire. Such an alliance would surely draw the ire of Sultan Murad IV. The United States of Europe agrees to assist the Bohemian forces, and sends in the Silesian Guard, under the command of Brigadier Jeff Higgins. They also send in Gretchen Richter to organise and lead the political struggle. Transylvania is thrown into political, social, and religious turmoil as battle lines are drawn. Whatever happens and whoever wins the fight, one thing is certain: the history of Eastern Europe will change radically. In fact, it already has.

Alternate history PBK \$26.95

The Launch Party

Forry, Lauren

The trip of a lifetime. You'd die to be there.

Ten lucky people have won a place at the most exclusive launch event of the century: the grand opening of the Hotel Artemis, the first hotel on the moon. It's an invitation to die for. As their transport departs for its return to Earth and the doors seal shut behind them, the guests take the next leap for mankind. However, they soon discover that all is not as it seems. The champagne may be flowing, but there is no one to pour it. Room service is available, but there is no one to deliver it. Besides the 10 of them, they are completely alone. When one of the guests is found murdered, fear spreads through the group. But that death is only the beginning. Being three days' journey from home and with no way to contact the outside, can any of the guests survive their stay? Agatha Christie meets Andy Weir in the ultimate locked room mystery set in the first hotel on the moon. 'And Then There Were None' meets *Black Mirror*. Lauren Forry's moon-based murder mystery is heaps of fun. I had a blast! – Tom Hindle, author of *A Fatal Crossing*.

SF mystery PBK \$24.99

The Complete Guide to Middle-Earth

The Definitive Guide to the World of J R R Tolkien, illustrated edition

Foster, Robert & Nasmith, Ted (illustrator)

A peerless A-Z guide to the names, places and events in the world of J R R Tolkien, fully illustrated in colour throughout, by acclaimed Tolkien artist, Ted Nasmith. J R R Tolkien's works of epic adventure and fantasy, *The Hobbit*, *The Lord of the Rings*, and *The Silmarillion* have delighted many millions of fans since they were first published, and are now more popular than ever before. *The Complete Guide to Middle-earth* has been compiled to enhance the reader's enjoyment of Tolkien's books by bringing together, in an A-Z sequence, all the key facts and information about names, places, languages, and events. Accompanied with numerous genealogical tables and a unique Chronology of the First Age, it will provide an indispensable aid to every reader's discovery of Tolkien's world. The first, and definitive, encyclopedia. *The Complete Guide to Middle-earth* is now reissued to complement the illustrated hardbacks of *The Hobbit*, *The Lord of the Rings*, *The Silmarillion*, and *Unfinished Tales*, and is lavishly illustrated with more than 50 full-colour paintings by acclaimed Tolkien artist, Ted Nasmith, with many appearing exclusively in this edition.

Tolkien HC \$75.00

Let Him In Friend, William

Alfie wakes one night to find his twin daughters at the foot of his bed, claiming there's a shadowy figure in their bedroom. When no such thing can be found, he assumes the girls had a nightmare. He isn't surprised that they're troubled. Grief has made its home at Hart House: nine months ago, the twins' mother Pippa died unexpectedly, leaving Alfie to raise them alone. And now, when the girls mention a new imaginary friend, it seems like a harmless coping mechanism. But the situation quickly develops into something more insidious. The girls set an extra place for him at the table. They whisper to him. They say he's going to take them away... Alfie calls upon Julia – Pippa's sister and a psychiatrist – to oust the malignant tenant from their lives. But as Alfie himself is haunted by visions and someone watches him at night, he begins to question the true character of the force that has poisoned his daughters' minds, with dark and violent consequences. Whatever this 'friend' is, he doesn't want to leave. Alfie will have to confront his own shameful secrets, the dark past of Hart House, and even the bounds of reality – or risk taking part in an unspeakable tragedy.

Horror HC \$55.00

The Wolves in the Walls

20th anniversary edition

Gaiman, Neil & McKean, Dave (illustrator)

When Lucy hears noises from behind the wall she tries to warn her parents that there are wolves banging about. But her parents don't listen. When the wolves finally take over the house and Lucy and her family are evicted to live in the garden, her parents realise perhaps they should have listened. But Lucy is no shrinking violet and pretty soon she has the wolves out and the family back in the house. So, what was that noise Lucy heard coming from behind the wall...? A brilliant, witty and inventive picture book with cutting-edge art, which is sure to be a hit with fans of Neil Gaiman, as well as young readers. A new edition to celebrate 20 years in print.

Picture book (reissue) PBK \$19.99

A Market of Dreams and Destiny

Galey, Trip

Below Covent Garden lies the Under Market, where anything and everything has a price: a lover's first blush, a month of honesty, five minutes of strength, a wisp of luck and fortune. As a child, Deri was sold to one of the most powerful merchants of the Under Market as a human apprentice. Now, after 17 years of servitude and stealing his master's secrets, Deri spots a chance to buy not only his freedom but his place amongst the Under Market's elite. A runaway princess escapes to the market, looking to sell her destiny. Deri knows an opportunity when he sees it and makes the bargain of the century. If Deri can sell it on, he'll be made for life, but if he's caught with the goods, it will cost him his freedom forever. Now that Deri has met a charming and distractingly handsome young man, and persuaded him that three dates are

a suitable price for his advice and guidance, Deri realises he has more to lose than ever. News of the princess spreads quickly and with the royal enforcers closing in, Deri finds himself the centre of his master's unwanted attention. He'll have to pull out all the stops to outmanoeuvre the Master Merchant, save the man he loves, make a name for himself, and possibly change the destiny of London, forever.

Urban fantasy TP \$26.99

The Worlds of Tolkien

The Places that Inspired Middle-earth

Garth, John

A lavishly-illustrated exploration of the places that inspired and shaped the work of J R R Tolkien, creator of Middle-earth. This new book from renowned expert John Garth takes us to the places that inspired J R R Tolkien to create his fictional locations in *The Lord of the Rings*, *The Hobbit*, and other classic works. Featuring more than 100 images, it includes Tolkien's own illustrations, contributions from other artists, archive images, maps, and spectacular present-day photographs. Inspirational locations range across Great Britain – particularly, Tolkien's beloved West Midlands and Oxford – but also overseas to all points of the compass. Sources are located for Hobbiton, the elven valley of Rivendell, the Glittering Caves of Helm's Deep, and many other key spots in Middle-earth, as well as for its mountain scenery, forests, rivers, lakes, and shorelands. A rich interplay is revealed between Tolkien's personal travels, his wide reading, and his deep scholarship as an Oxford professor. Garth uses his own profound knowledge of Tolkien's life and work to uncover the extraordinary processes of invention, to debunk popular misconceptions about the inspirations for Middle-earth, and to put forward strong new claims of his own. Organised by theme, *The Worlds of J R R Tolkien* is an illustrated journey into the life and imagination of one of the world's best-loved authors, an exploration of the relationship between worlds real and fantastical, and an inspiration for anyone who wants to follow in Tolkien's footsteps.

Tolkien PBK \$35.00

No Child of Mine

Giraldes, Nichelle

Essie Singh has defined herself by her ambitions, a fiercely-independent woman whose only soft spot is her husband, Sanjay. She never imagined herself as a mother. It was never a part of the plan. But then she finds out she's pregnant. As her difficult pregnancy transforms her body and life into something she barely recognises, her husband spends the nights pacing in the attic, slowly becoming a stranger, and the house begins to whisper. As Essie's pregnancy progresses, both her and Sanjay's lives are warped by a curse that has haunted her family for generations, leaving a string of fatherless daughters in its wake. When she's put on bedrest, Essie trades the last aspects of her carefully-planned life for isolation, in what should be a welcoming home, but she isn't alone. There's something here that means to take everything from her...

Horror TP \$32.99

Pulp Fiction

Science Fiction & Fantasy October 2023 (continued)

The Harry Potter Wizarding Almanac

The official magical companion to J K Rowling's books
Goes, Peter; Lockhart, Louise; Mai, Weitong; Muza, Oliia
The only official companion to the Harry Potter stories – the ultimate compendium of wizarding lists, charts, maps and all things magical! Whisk yourself away to Harry Potter's wizarding world with this Whiz-bang of an illustrated companion. Discover magical places, study wandlore, encounter fantastic beasts and find out about the witches and wizards who lived. From the Sorting Hat to spell-casting, it's all packed inside! This dazzling gift book brings together beloved characters, unforgettable moments and iconic locations from *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*, all the way through to *The Deathly Hallows*. It's the ultimate magical miscellany, filled with facts and fun about the wizarding world, beautifully catalogued and brilliantly explored. Joyfully illustrated throughout, in full colour, by seven stunning artists and tingling with things to spot on every page, this is the ideal introduction to the Harry Potter stories for new readers and the perfect book for families to share.
The Harry Potter Wizarding Almanac also features an astonishing level of detail that is sure to surprise and fascinate lifelong fans. From incredible cross-sections to magical maps and ingenious lists, lose yourself exploring Hogwarts, and beyond...
Harry Potter HC \$55.00

A Dawn of Onyx

Sacred Stones 01
Golden, Kate
Captured by the king of darkness, she was forced to find the light within. Arwen Valondale never expected to be the brave one, offering her life to save her brother's. Now, she's been taken prisoner by the most dangerous kingdom on the continent, and made to use her rare magical abilities to heal the soldiers of the vicious Onyx King. Arwen knows better than to face the ancient, wicked woods that surround the castle on her own, which means working with a fellow prisoner might be her only path to freedom. Unfortunately, he's as infuriating as he is cunning – and seems to take twisted pleasure in playing on Arwen's deepest fears. But here in Onyx Kingdom, trust is a luxury she can't afford. To make it out of enemy territory, she'll have to navigate backstabbing royals, dark magic, and deadly beasts. But untold power lies inside Arwen, dormant and waiting for a spark. If she can harness it, she just might be able to escape with her life – and, hopefully, her heart.
The first in a series.
Romantasy TP \$32.99

Foul Heart Huntsman

Foul Lady Fortune 02
Gong, Chloe
Winter is drawing thick in 1931 Shanghai, as is the ever-nearing threat of invasion. Rosalind Lang has encountered the worst possible fate for a national spy: she's been exposed. With the media storm camped outside her apartment for the infamous Lady Fortune, she's barely left her bedroom in weeks, plotting her next course of action

after Orion was taken and his memories of Rosalind wiped. Though their marriage might have been a sham, his absence hurts her more than any physical wound. She won't rest until she gets him back. *I can help you get him back. Find me in Zhouzhuang.* – JM.
But with her identity in the open, the task is near impossible. The only way to leave the city and rescue her beloved is the guise of a national tour: convincing her superiors that the countryside needs unity more than ever, and who better than an immortal girl to stir pride and strength into the people? When the tour goes wrong, however, everything Rosalind once knew is thrown up in the air. Taking refuge outside Shanghai, old ghosts come into the open and adversaries turn to allies. To save Orion, they must find a cure to his mother's traitorous invention and take this chemical weapon away from impending foreign invasion – but the clock is ticking, and if Rosalind fails, it's not only Orion she loses, but her nation, itself. The captivating sequel to *Foul Lady Fortune* (PBK, \$19.99).
YA historical fantasy TP \$24.99

Bliss and Blunder Gosling, Victoria

Arthur and Gwen married young. Twenty years on, Gwen's got it all: wealth, beauty, a famous husband who's the founder of Britain's most successful tech company, stables full of horses, millions of followers on Instagram, an unstable lover, a wayward son, a hoard of secrets, an aching heart, and a cyberstalking blackmailer who calls himself The Invisible Knight. As the Wiltshire town of Abury prepares to celebrate the 40th birthday of its favourite son, Morgan, Gwen's former best friend, is on her way back to Abury after two decades away, keen to expose Abury's long-buried secrets, and hellbent on revenge. An inventive, magisterial reworking of Britain's greatest myth, *Bliss and Blunder* is a heartrending novel of power, friendship, and betrayal.
Arthurian myth retold HC \$34.99

I Know You Govan, Russell

Eilidh, bright, headstrong, and feisty, gets sparkling exam results that confirm her university place. Her boyfriend reveals he has deceived her. In the ensuing argument she is knocked unconscious. She arrives in 1984, in an Ethiopian refugee camp, where she nurses a dying child, then a wounded aid worker before wakening back home in present-day Scotland. Three days later, at an isolated beauty spot trying to come to terms with her ex-boyfriend's betrayal and her experience in Ethiopia, she encounters Walter, who is in the early stages of dementia. He is there because of a tattoo on his wrist that simply states the date and location of the beauty spot. Eilidh recognises Walter's symptoms, takes him home and contacts his niece to come and collect him. Over the following 48-hour period, Eilidh finds herself transported to various locations in Europe and North America, and time periods from the previous 50 years. Each episode draws her further into an unexpected and unconventional romance. Eventually, she travels to WW2-blitzed Liverpool and meets a fellow time traveller – who explains that Eilidh faces a decision with life-and-death consequences.
Time travel TP \$32.99

Menewood

Light of the World (Hild) Sequence 02
Griffith, Nicola
In the much-anticipated sequel to *Hild*, Nicola Griffith transports readers back to seventh-century Britain, a land of rival kings and religions poised for epochal change. Hild is no longer the bright child who made a place in Edwin Overking's court, with her seemingly-supernatural insight. She is 18, honed and tested, the formidable lady of Elmet, now building her personal stronghold in the valley of Menewood. But old alliances are fraying. Younger rivals are snapping at Edwin's heels. War is brewing – bitter war, winter war. Not knowing whom to trust, Edwin becomes volatile and recalls his young advisor to court. There, Hild begins to understand the true extent of the chaos ahead – and realises she must find a way to navigate the turbulence and fight to protect both the kingdom and her own people. She will face the losses and devastation of total war, and then must summon the determination to forge a radically different path for herself and her people. In the valley, her last redoubt, Hild draws strength from the fierce joy she finds in the natural world, as, slowly, her community takes root. She trains herself and her unexpected allies in new ways of thinking, learning what it means to gather and wield true power. And she prepares for one last wager: risking all on a single throw for a better future. In the last decade, *Hild* (PBK, \$27.99) has become a beloved classic of epic storytelling. *Menewood* exceeds it, in every way.
Historical fantasy HC \$69.95

The Magicians

Magicians 01
Grossman, Lev
Quentin Coldwater is brilliant, but miserable. A high school math genius, he's secretly fascinated with a series of children's fantasy novels set in a magical land called Fillory, and real life is disappointing by comparison. When Quentin is unexpectedly admitted to an elite, secret college of magic, it looks like his wildest dreams have come true. But his newfound powers lead him down a rabbit hole of hedonism and disillusionment, and ultimately to the dark secret behind the story of Fillory. The land of his childhood fantasies turns out to be much darker and more dangerous than he ever could have imagined... One of the most daring and inventive works of literary fantasy in years. No one who has escaped into the worlds of Narnia and Harry Potter should miss this breathtaking return to the landscape of the imagination. 'This gripping novel draws on the conventions of contemporary and classic fantasy novels in order to upend them... an unexpectedly moving coming-of-age story.' – *The New Yorker*. A reissue with lovely new cover art.
Fantasy (reissue) PBK \$22.99

The Magician King

Magicians 02
Grossman, Lev
Quentin and his friends are now the kings and queens of the magical land of Fillory. But he finds himself growing restless. So, when a mystery at the heart of the

kingdom is uncovered, Quentin and his old friend Julia charter a sailing ship and set off to the wild outer reaches. But their voyage will take them much further than they imagined and leave them with a choice that could have devastating consequences – for Fillory, and for magic, itself. A reissue with lovely new cover art.
Fantasy (reissue) PBK \$22.99

The Magician's Land

Magicians 03
Grossman, Lev
Quentin has been cast out of Fillory. Alone and adrift, he returns to Brakebills, the school of magic where it all began. But he can't hide from his past. His new path will take him through a world of grey and uncertain magic, from Antarctica to the enchanted Netherlands. But all roads lead back to Fillory. The magical barriers are failing, and the realm faces destruction. To save them, Quentin must unlock the secrets of magic and risk sacrificing everything. The epic conclusion to the bestselling and beloved fantasy series, the Magicians trilogy. A reissue with lovely new cover art.
Fantasy (reissue) PBK \$22.99

Beautiful Shining People Grothaus, Michael

This world is anything but ordinary, and it's about to change forever... It's our world, but decades into the future... An ordinary world, where cars drive themselves, drones glide across the sky, and robots work in burger shops. There are two superpowers and a digital Cold War, but all conflicts are safely oceans away. People get up, work, and have dinner. Everything is as it should be... Except for 17-year-old John, a tech prodigy from a damaged family, who hides a deeply personal secret. But everything starts to change for him, when he enters a tiny café on a cold Tokyo night. A café run by a disgraced sumo wrestler, where a peculiar dog with a spherical head lives, alongside its owner, enigmatic waitress Neotnia... But Neotnia hides a secret of her own – a secret that will turn John's unhappy life upside down. A secret that will take them from the neon streets of Tokyo to Hiroshima's tragic past to the snowy mountains of Nagano. A secret that reveals that this world is anything ordinary – and it's about to change forever...
Science fiction TP \$37.95

The Humans

Haig, Matt
There's no planet like home...
After an 'incident' one wet Friday night, where he is found walking naked through the streets of Cambridge, professor Andrew Martin is not feeling quite himself. Food sickens him. Clothes confound him. Even his loving wife and teenage son are repulsive to him. He feels lost amongst an alien species and hates everyone on the planet. Everyone, that is, except Newton, and he's a dog. Who is he really? And what could make someone change their mind about the human race...? A reissue with lovely new cover art.
Science fiction (reissue) PBK \$22.99

Pulp Fiction

Science Fiction & Fantasy October 2023 (continued)

Sorcerer's Edge

Tethered Citadel 03

Hair, David

After all they've suffered, rebel sorcerer Raythe Vyre and his fortune-seekers are still empty handed, but they've found real treasure: peace. Deep inside the Ice wastes, Raythe's people stumbled upon Rath Argentium, the legendary Aldar city, and the long-lost Tangato people. After fighting through betrayal, treachery and powerful magic, they forged a hard-won treaty with the Tangato and their extraordinary queen, Shiazar. Now, they've put aside their dreams of wealth and revenge and embraced something better: a life outside the tyrannical Bolgravian Empire. But the Bolgravian Empire *never* gives up. The empire hasn't forgotten Raythe Vyre, and his enemies know where he is. Guided by Toran Zorne, the implacable imperial assassin, they are coming to claim Rath Argentium for themselves. Raythe and Shiazar know all too well that courage and cunning won't be enough this time: they are outnumbered, outgunned, and out of time. Faced with total annihilation, it's up to Raythe to find an edge... The Tethered Citadel begins with *Map's Edge* (PBK, \$24.99).

Fantasy PBK \$22.99

A Haunting on the Hill Hand, Elizabeth

Sixty years later, *Hill House* is occupied again... Playwright Holly Sherwin is close to her big break. Having received a grant to develop her new play, all she needs is time and space to bring her vision to life. Then on a weekend away, she stumbles upon Hill House – an ornate if crumbling gothic mansion, near hidden outside a small town. Soon, Holly's troupe of actors – each with ghosts of their own – arrive at Hill House for a creative retreat. But before long they find themselves at odds not just with one another, but with the house itself. For something has been waiting patiently in Hill House, all these years. Something, no longer content to walk alone. The first-ever authorised sequel to Shirley Jackson's *The Haunting of Hill House* (PBK, \$22.99) from the three-time winner of the Shirley Jackson Award.

Ghost story TP \$32.99

Starling House

Harrow, Alix E

Nobody in Eden remembers when Starling House was built. But the town agrees it's best to let this ill-omened mansion – and its last lonely heir – go to hell. Stories of the house's bad luck, like good china, have been passed down the generations. Opal knows better than to mess with haunted houses, or brooding men. But when an opportunity to work there arises, the money might get her brother out of Eden. Starling House is uncanny and full of secrets – just like Arthur, its heir. It also feels strangely, dangerously, like something she's never had: a home. Yet, Opal isn't the only one interested in the horrors and the wonders that lie buried beneath it. Sinister forces converge on Eden – and Opal realises that if she wants a home, she'll have to fight for it. Even if it involves digging up her family's ugly past to achieve a better future. She'll have to go down, deep down beneath Starling House, to claw her

way back to the light... This is a sweeping gothic fairytale from Hugo, Nebula, and Locus Award-shortlisted Alix E Harrow. Gothic fantasy TP \$34.99

A Witch's Guide to Fake Dating a Demon Hawley, Sarah

Mariel Spark is prophesied to be the most powerful witch seen in centuries of the famed Spark family, but to the displeasure of her mother, she prefers baking to brewing potions and gardening to casting hexes. When a spell to summon flour goes very wrong, Mariel finds herself staring down a demon – one she inadvertently summoned for a soul bargain. Ozroth the Ruthless is a legend among demons. Powerful and merciless, he drives hard bargains to collect mortal souls. But his reputation has suffered ever since a bargain went awry – if he can strike a deal with Mariel, he will earn back his deadly reputation. Ozroth can't leave Mariel's side until they complete a bargain, which she refuses to do (turns out some humans are attached to their souls). But the witch is funny. And curvy. And disgustingly yet endearingly cheerful. Becoming awkward roommates quickly escalates when Mariel, terrified to confess the inadvertent summoning to her mother, blurts out that she's dating Ozroth. As Ozroth and Mariel struggle to maintain a fake relationship, real attraction blooms between them. But Ozroth has a limited amount of time to strike the deal, and if Mariel gives up her soul, she'll lose all her emotions – including love – which will only spell disaster for them both.

Paranormal romance PBK \$22.99

Nordic Visions: The Best of Nordic Speculative Fiction

anthology

Helgadottir, Margret (editor)

A unique speculative fiction collection from the Nordic countries. Storytelling has been a major force in the Nordic countries for thousands of years, renowned for its particular sense of dark humour, featuring pacts with nature and a view of the world you seldom find in other places. Perhaps, it is the freezing cold winter? The closeness to the Atlantic Ocean and the Arctic? Maybe, it's the huge ancient forests... Most have heard about Nordic crime fiction with its dark noir flare or the Icelandic Sagas. This anthology combines all that is unique about Nordic speculative fiction, from the darkest dystopian science fiction to terrifying horror. From the rational to the eccentric, these stories combine a deep sense of place with social criticism, themes of loneliness and the concern for humanity's impact on the wilderness. Featuring 16 stories from the best contemporary speculative authors from Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Iceland, and the Faroe Islands, including John Ajvide Lindqvist, Hannu Rajaniemi, Tor Åge Bringsværd and more; many of which are appearing in English, for the very first time. Speculative fiction TP \$37.95

The Chaperone Hendrix, M

Like every young woman in New America, Stella knows the rules: *Deflect attention. Abstain from sin. Navigate the world with*

care. Give obedience. Embrace purity. Respect your chaperone. Girls in New America must have a chaperone with them, at all times. Because of this, Stella is never alone. She can't go out by herself or learn about the world. She can't even spend time with boys except at formal Visitations. Still, Stella feels lucky that her chaperone, Sister Helen, is like a friend to her. And then the unthinkable happens. Sister Helen dies suddenly, and Stella feels lost. Especially when she's assigned a new chaperone, just days later. Sister Laura is... different. She has radical ideas about what Stella should be doing. She leaves Stella alone in public and even knows how to get into the 'Hush Hush' parties where all kinds of forbidden things happen. As Stella spends more time with Sister Laura, she begins to question everything she's been taught. What if the Constables' rules don't actually protect girls? What if they were never meant to keep them safe? Once Stella glimpses both real freedom and the dark truths behind New America, she has no choice but to fight back against the world she knows, risking everything to set out on a dangerous journey across what used to be the United States.

YA dystopia PBK \$19.99

Princess of Dune

Heroes of Dune

Herbert, Brian

& Anderson, Kevin J

Set two years before *Dune* (PBK, \$22.99), *Princess of Dune* is the never-before-told story of two key women in the life of Paul Muad'Dib – Princess Irulan, his wife in name only, and Paul's true love, the Fremmen Chani. Both women become central to Paul's galaxy-spanning Imperial reign. Raised in the Imperial court and born to be a political bargaining chip, Irulan was sent at an early age to be trained as a Bene Gesserit Sister. As Princess Royal, she also learned important lessons from her father – the Padishah Emperor Shaddam Corrino IV. Now of marriageable age, Princess Irulan sees the machinations of the many factions vying for power – the Bene Gesserit Sisterhood, the Spacing Guild, the Imperial throne, and a ruthless rebellion in the Imperial military. The young woman has a wise and independent streak and is determined to become much more than a pawn to be moved about on anyone's gameboard. Meanwhile, on Arrakis, Chani – the daughter of Liet-Kynes, the Imperial Planetologist who serves under the harsh rule of House Harkonnen – is trained in the Fremmen mystical ways by an ancient Reverend Mother. Brought up to believe in her father's ecological dream of a green Arrakis, she follows Liet around to Imperial testing stations, surviving the many hazards of desert life. Chani soon learns the harsh cost of Fremmen dreams and obligations under the oppressive boot heel of the long Harkonnen occupation.

Dune HC \$64.95

All of Our Demise

All of Us Villains duology 02

Herman, C L & Foody, Amanda

I should warn you: this is going to be absolutely brutal... For the first time in this ancient, bloodstained story, the tournament is breaking. The boundaries between the

city of Ilvernath and the arena have fallen. Reporters swarm the historic battlegrounds. A dead boy now lives again. And a new champion has entered the fray, one who seeks to break the curse for good... no matter how many lives are sacrificed in the process. As the curse teeters closer and closer to collapse, the surviving champions each face a choice: dismantle the tournament piece by piece, or fight to the death as this story always intended. Long-held alliances will be severed. Hearts will break. Lives will end. Because a tale as wicked as this one was never destined for happily ever after. The incredible conclusion to the tournament that started in *All of Us Villains* (PBK, \$19.99).

YA fantasy PBK \$19.99

Deathless Gods

Kencyrath 07

Hodgell, P C

Jamethiel Knorth, Priest's Bane and Dream-Weaver, has returned victorious from Tai-tastigon, but trouble dogs the Kencyrath. There is intrigue among the Highborn. The Randir and his allies want the larger houses to decide for all nine, which would strip the Highlordship from the Knorth. At Omiroth, a senile king struggles against his vena son-in-law – but if neither of these can rule, the next in line is a mother-dominated child. Kindrie Soul-Walker is captured and thrown in a secret dungeon, a political prisoner. And a Kendar administrator, dissatisfied with the use that Jame is making of the gates, schemes against her, and then against her house and her brother, Torisen Black Lord, Highlord of the Kencyrath. While Tori defends Gothregor and Kindrie rots a secret captive, Jame rides south to Bashti. Here, she confronts an unready and presumptuous heir, a withholding and manipulative paymaster, and invisible assassins. Her formal errand, meanwhile, is to compete in martial games with secret stakes – which she fears are a cloak for a massacre, or worse. A new Kencyrath novel, now in paperback!

Fantasy PBK \$26.95

The Others of Edenwell

Holloway, Verity M

Norfolk, 1917. Unable to join the army due to a heart condition, Freddie lives and works with his father in the grounds of the Edenwell Hydropathic, a wellness retreat in the Norfolk broads. Preferring the company of birds – who talk to him as one of their own – over the eccentric characters who live in the spa, bathing in its healing waters, Freddie overhears their premonitions of murder. Eustace Moncrieff is a troublemaker, desperate to go to war and leave behind his wealthy family. Shipped to Edenwell by his mother to keep him safe from the horrors of the trenches, he strikes up a friendship with Freddie at the behest of Doctor Chalice, the American owner of the Hydropathic. As the two friends grow closer and grapple with their demons, they discover a body, and something terrifying stalking the woods. The dark halls of the spa are breached, haunted by the woodland beast, and the boys soon realise that they may be the only things standing between this monster and the whole of Edenwell.

Horror PBK \$22.99

Pulp Fiction

Science Fiction & Fantasy October 2023 (continued)

The Eight Reindeer of the Apocalypse

J W Wells & Co 08

Holt, Tom

Welcome to Dawson, Ahriman & Dawson!* The team of commercial sorcerers at Dawson, Ahriman & Dawson can help with any metaphysical engineering project, large or small. (Though, by definition, they all tend to be pretty large.) They can also create massive great puddles of chaos that might one day swallow up the entire universe. Take, for example, the decision to recruit a certain bearded fellow whose previous work experience mainly involves reindeer and jingle bells. It might have seemed like a good idea at the time, but is he really the best person to save the world from Tiamat the Destroyer? Find out, today, in Tom Holt's brilliantly-funny new novel, set in the world of *The Portable Door* (PBK, \$22.99).

**By reading beyond this point you agree to comply with certain terms and conditions that are mostly reasonable but confidential. Dawson, Ahriman & Dawson management reserves the right to terminate any employees or clients, human or otherwise.*

Comic fantasy PBK \$22.99

The Portable Door

J W Wells & Co 01

Holt, Tom

The course of true love never runs smooth – particularly, when there's a goblin in the way! Starting a new job is always stressful (especially, when you don't particularly want one), but when Paul Carpenter arrives at the office of J W Wells, he has no idea what trouble lies in store. Because he is about to discover that the apparently respectable establishment now paying his salary is in fact a front for a deeply sinister organisation that has a mighty peculiar agenda. It seems that, half the time, his bosses are away with the fairies. But they're not, of course. They're away with the goblins. Mister Tom Holt, Master of the Comic Fantasy Novel, cordially invites you to join him in his world of madness by reading his next hilarious masterpiece. Now a major film, now a delightful movie starring Patrick Gibson, Sophie Wilde, and Christoph Waltz.

Comic fantasy PBK \$22.99

The Revivalists

Hood, Christopher M

A stunning debut novel about a couple's harrowing journey across a ravaged America to save their daughter. Bill and Penelope are the lucky ones. Not only do they survive the Shark Flu emerging from the melting Icelandic permafrost to sweep like a scythe across the world, but they begin to rebuild a life in the wreckage of the old. A garden to feed themselves, planted where the lawn used to be, a mattress pulled down to the living room fireplace for warmth. Even Bill's psychology practice endures the collapse of the social order, the handful of remaining clients bartering cans of food for their sessions. But when their daughter's voice over the radio in the kitchen announces that she's joined a cult – 3,000 miles away in Bishop, California – they leave it all behind to embark on a perilous trek across the hollowed-out remains of America to save her. Their journey is an unforgettable odyssey through communities scattered across the continent, but for all the ways that the world has changed, the hopes and

fears of this little family remain the same as they always have been. Christopher M Hood creates a haunting, moving, darkly funny, and ultimately hopeful portrait of a world and a marriage tested by extraordinary circumstances.

Post-apocalypse TP \$42.95

Across the Sand

Sand Chronicles 02

Howey, Hugh

The old world is buried. A new one has been forged atop the shifting dunes, a land of howling wind and infernal sand. In this barren home, siblings Conner, Rob, Palmer, and Violet daily carve out a future. They live in the shadow of their father and oldest sister, Vic, two of the greatest sand divers ever to comb the desert's depths. But these branches of their family tree are long gone, disappeared into the wastes beyond, leaving the younger siblings scratching in the dust, hopeful for a better life. On the other side of No Man's Land, Anya was born beside the abundant mines knowing her prospects would be to marry, have a family, and work in ore, in service to the Empire of the East. But when an atomic bomb delivered by a stranger destroys most of her town – murdering all her friends and community – she follows her father to a strange land of dunes to bring vengeance to their enemies. Two families collide across the sand, and nothing for a thousand dunes will ever be the same. The first original novel from author Hugh Howey in six years, *Across the Sand* takes us back to the world of *Sand* (PBK, \$29.99) – to a far future, many generations after a disaster has destroyed civilisation as we know it.

Dystopia TP \$43.95

The Worlds of Dune

The Places and Cultures that Inspired Frank Herbert

Huddleston, Tom

Some writers build worlds. Others birth entire universes. In the decades since its publication, Frank Herbert's *Dune* has become arguably the bestselling and certainly the best-known sf novel ever written. So, how did an ex-Navy newspaperman from Washington State come to write such a world-conquering novel? And how was he able to pack it with so many layers of myth and meaning? Herbert's boundless imagination was sparked by a dizzying array of ideas, from classical history to cutting-edge science, from environmentalism to Zen philosophy, and from Arabic texts to Shakespeare's tragedies. Beginning on Arrakis and going planet by planet, *The Worlds of Dune* offers a supremely deep dive into Herbert's universe – detailing along the way the many diverse strands that he wove into his epic creation to offer a visually-rich accompaniment to this sf legend.

Dune companion HC \$49.99

Immortality Thief

Kystrom Chronicles 01

Hunt, Taran

Far off the edge of human existence, beside a dying star lies a nameless ship abandoned and hidden, lost for a millennium. But there are secrets there, terrible secrets that would change the fate of humanity, and

eventually someone will come looking.

Refugee, criminal, and linguist Sean Wren is made an offer he knows he can't refuse: life in prison, 'voluntary' military service – or salvaging data in a long-dead language from an abandoned ship filled with traps and monsters, just days before it's destroyed in a supernova. Data connected to the Philosopher's Stone experiments, into unlocking the secrets of immortality. And he's not the only one looking for the derelict ship. The Ministers, mysterious undying aliens that have ruled over humanity for centuries, want the data – as does The Republic, humanity's last free government. And time is running out. In the bowels of the derelict ship, surrounded by horrors and dead men, Sean slowly uncovers the truth of what happened on the ship, in its final days... and the terrible secret it's hiding.

Science fiction TP \$37.95

Spice Road

Ibrahim, Maiya

Raised to protect her nation from the monsters lurking in the sands, 17-year-old Imani must fight to find her brother whose betrayal is now their greatest threat. *Control the magic. Control the kingdom.* The desert city Qalia has shielded its existence – and the secrets of its magic misra tea – from outsiders for generations. But when her brother disappears into the Forbidden Wastes, soldier Imani joins the mission sent to find him – before he can expose Qalia's magic, and face punishment for his crime. Accompanied by her rival, the devastatingly-handsome Taha, Imani soon discovers that many secrets lie beyond the shifting desert sands, and in her own heart. Caught between her duty to her nation, her love for her brother and her growing feelings for Taha, Imani must decide where her loyalties lie... before it's too late. The first book in an epic fantasy series set in an Arabian-inspired land with secret spice magic.

YA fantasy PBK \$19.99

The Witches at

the End of the World

Iversen, Chelsea

Rage burns brighter than any spell fire... Deep in the birchwoods of Norway, magic courses through the veins of two sisters. For years, they've been alone, but sweet-tempered Kaija is tired of living in shadows and longs for a life filled with community, even if it means stifling her magic. But Minna is a witch, through and through, with wrath always simmering just below the surface. Different as they may be, both will never forget the day they were driven from their village. The day their mother burned. When Kaija leaves to pursue a new life, Minna is left alone in the darkness of the forest. Devastated and outraged at the betrayal, Minna casts a curse to punish those who took everything from her. What she doesn't realise is that this act will incite a deadly chain of events. Soon, it will destroy everything, including the life Kaija has lovingly built. But once a witch's rage boils, regret means nothing – she can't take back what's already done. Someone will have to burn.

Fantasy TP \$27.99

An Inheritance of Magic

Jacka, Benedict

Anyone can use magic – if they can afford the price... In a world where everything magical is bought up and controlled by the super rich – Stephen Oakwood has inherited a natural talent for magic. Plunged by his father's disappearance into a glittering world of scheming dynasties, warring patriarchs and vicious scions, Stephen must navigate magical high society and learn to control his gifts. Dangerous enemies await the Oakwood heir, and even more dangerous allies: if Stephen cannot master his magic quickly and learn to distinguish friend from foe, his name may end up on the missing persons list, just like his father. Book one in a new fantasy series of super-rich magical dynasties and warring heirs – from the author of the great Alex Verus series. Recommended!

Fantasy TP \$32.99

A Children's

Literary Treasury

anthology

James, Anna (editor)

Great stories ignite a child's imagination and can fill a childhood with unforgettable characters, wondrous places, and superb illustrations. They also allow young readers to explore, and to understand, their different feelings and experiences. In her second compilation for the British Library, children's author and commentator Anna James (author of *Pages & Co*) delves deep into the collections to present stories for comfort, inspiration and adventure as well as touching tales to make you laugh or sometimes cry. We will meet mischievous characters from across the globe, sampling classic stories from the likes of E Nesbit, C S Lewis, and Louisa May Alcott, as well as more recent favourites from some best-loved and prize-winning authors such as Michael Bond, Kiran Millwood Hargrave, and Sita Brahmachari. Superbly illustrated throughout, with both beloved illustrations and new archive finds, this spectacular volume belongs on every family bookshelf.

Children's fiction HC \$64.95

The Library of

Broken Worlds

Johnson, Alaya Dawn

A girl matches wits with a war god in this kaleidoscopic, epic tale of oppression and the cost of peace, where stories hide within other stories, and narrative has the power to heal... or to burn everything in its path. In the winding underground tunnels of the Library, the great celestial peacekeeper of the three systems, a terrible secret lies buried. As the daughter of a Library god, Freida has spent her whole life exploring the Library's ever-changing tunnels and communing with the gods. Her unparalleled access makes her unique – and dangerous. When Freida meets Joshua, a mortal boy desperate to save his people, and Nergüi, a Disciple from a persecuted religious minority, Freida is compelled to break ranks with the gods and help them. But in order to do so, she will have to venture deeper into the Library than she has ever known. There, she will discover the atrocities of the past, the truth of her origins, and the impossibility of her future... With the world at the brink of war, Freida embarks on a journey to fulfil her destiny, one that pits

Pulp Fiction

Science Fiction & Fantasy October 2023 (continued)

her against an ancient war god. Her mission is straightforward: Destroy the god before he can rain hellfire upon thousands of innocent lives – if he doesn't destroy her first. A new, sparkling, thought-provoking offering from World Fantasy Award-winning author Alaya Dawn Johnson.

Library fantasy TP \$29.99

Hex Appeal Johnson, Kate

Essie Winterscale lives in a huge and ever-changing house in the village of Good Winter, in deepest, darkest Essex. She lives with various witches of various ages, one of whom is still a bit salty about being hanged in the 1700s, one who keeps accidentally casting fertility spells, and one who knits things that create the future. All Essie ever wanted was to have a normal life, but in the end she found herself drawn back to Beldam House – because she just can't stop her witchiness (although, the ability to instantly chill wine is pretty awesome, even she has to admit). Into this coven of chaos stumbles gorgeous, clueless Josh, their new landlord – and he's just discovered his tenants haven't paid rent since the 1700s! As Josh is drawn further into the lives of the inhabitants of Beldam House, Essie is determined to keep him at broomstick's length. That is, until a family secret, lying hidden for centuries, puts Josh firmly under her spell...

Paranormal romance PBK \$22.99

The City of Marble and Blood Chronicles of Hanuvar 02

Jones, Howard Andrew

Hanuvar had pledged to find the remnants of his people, scattered into slavery across the whole of the peninsula. This time he had no army to help him. His would be a stealthy war of liberation, buying the freedom of some and arranging for the escape of others, aided only by a young playwright, the daughter of a hated political rival, the tattered remnants of his old spy network, and the unlikeliest ally of all, the general who had once defeated him. Arrayed against them were the mighty legions, the sorcerous Revenants, and the wily Metellus of the Praetorian guard, ever alert to seize advantage. To add to their troubles, someone was drawing unwanted attention to the helpless Volani slaves by murdering influential Dervans and leaving the sign of the sacred Eltyr corps beside their bodies. Someone who might well be Hanuvar's lost daughter, who'd fought her way from captivity and was even now being hunted through the countryside. Worst of all, a magical attack had left Hanuvar with a lingering curse that might change him forever... or lead him to an early grave. The sequel to *Lord of a Shattered Land* (HC, \$55.00).

Epic fantasy HC \$55.00

The Quantum Chain

Joseph Bridgeman 04

Jones, Nick

Joseph Bridgeman is now an official member of the Continuum, a group of time travellers that heal the past to protect the future. When a rare focus object is stolen and put up for sale, Joe jumps at the chance to retrieve it, but a simple auction turns into a dangerous new mission that takes him farther back in time than he's ever been before. Alone and

unprepared in ancient China, Joe must not only complete the mission, but also unravel the mystery of a secretive organisation known as Extempo. Who are they? And why do they seem intent on destroying everything the Continuum has achieved so far? When all hope appears lost, an unexpected ally helps Joe unlock a unique form of time-travel loop that sees him flung into the past, yet again. Caught up in a shocking natural disaster, Joe must face a terrible choice, a decision that will have far-reaching consequences for the Continuum and a delicate future that hangs in the balance.

Time travel TP \$39.95

The Pomegranate Gate

Mirror Realm Cycle 01

Kaplan, Ariel

Two worlds bound by a pomegranate gate... Toba Peres can speak but she can't shout; she can walk but she can't run; and she can write in five languages... with both hands at the same time. Naftaly Cresques dreams every night of an orange-eyed stranger; when awake, he sees things that aren't real; and he carries a book he can never lose and never read. When the Queen of Sefarad orders all the nation's Jews to leave or convert, Toba and Naftaly are forced to flee, but an unlucky encounter leaves them both separated from their caravan. Lost in the wilderness, Toba follows an orange-eyed stranger through a mysterious gate in a pomegranate grove, leaving Naftaly behind. With a single step, Toba enters an ancient world that mirrors her own. There, she finds that her fate – and Naftaly's – are bound to an ancient conflict threatening to destroy both realms. The first in a series.

Portal fantasy HC \$64.95

Signs of Cupidity

Heart Hassle 01

Kennedy, Raven

For years, Emelle has been a cupid – the ultimate matchmaker to help others fall in love. But this job means that she has no physical body and can't be seen by anyone. Or be able to fall in love herself. Unfortunately, she becomes responsible for some rather bad matchmaking. So much so, she's punished and exiled from the human world. Fed up, she angrily fires Love Arrows at a fae prince, but he retaliates; and, suddenly, she's pushed out of the Veil. Now, she has a real body. A real life. And she is ready for some matchmaking of her own. This time, she's going to find love, for herself.

Romantasy (reissue) PBK \$22.99

Bonds of Cupidity

Heart Hassle 02

Kennedy, Raven

She spent years in the Veil as an invisible cupid. Unable to talk, touch or love anyone, which made her a little bitter. Now, Emelle has a life... and a bounty on her head. The fae prince wants her dead, and her three gorgeous genfins are arrested. The royal culling trials are about to begin, but Emelle isn't going to let everything be taken from her without a fight. There's rebellion in the air, a princess who's not all she appears to be and a lamassu fae who claims to be Emelle's mate. Love is getting complicated. But to a cupid, it always is.

Romantasy (reissue) PBK \$22.99

Grimes of Cupidity

Heart Hassle 03

Kennedy, Raven

Emelle used to be just a stupid cupid helping others fall in love (or not) and living a loveless life. Everything changed when she went to the fae realm and was no longer invisible. Her sole goal was to find love for herself, and she did. With four fae men. Too bad she found trouble too. She's somehow become an accidental spy for the kingdom's rebels, and there's a war brewing in the realm. All this cupid really wants to do is spread a bit of love... Good thing there's nothing a cupid will fight harder for than love. A reissue.

Romantasy (reissue) PBK \$22.99

For the Love of Cupidity

Heart Hassle 04

Kennedy, Raven

Emelle and her four mates are now parents, and their nest is growing. Aside from the impending delivery she has to prepare for, Emelle also happens to be the cupid boss, which means she needs to train the new recruits just in time for Valentine's Day. With cupids, and babies, and her harem mates, she's got her hands full. Yet, as she knows, if you can't do something with love, then it's not worth doing at all. Luckily, she still has plenty of that to go around. And she's about to get a lot more love back than she expected. A reissue.

Romantasy (reissue) PBK \$22.99

Sheer Cupidity

Heart Hassle 05

Kennedy, Raven

Lex has always tried to be the perfect cupid. But during the battle for the fae realm, a power blast that should have ended her immortal life hit someone else. Belren, a fae male, stepped in front of her, at the last moment – and died. Unable to let go of her guilt, Lex finds herself returning to the island he died. And finds *him* – his handsome but ghostly figure haunting the place. The truth is, he was haunting her long before he became a ghost. They might have a second chance at love, but first, she's going to have to help him let go of his unfinished business. Too bad, she doesn't know that business is *her*. A reissue.

Romantasy (reissue) PBK \$22.99

A Hero for the Holidays

novella collection

Kenyon, Sherrilyn

Upon the Midnight Clear:

Meet Aidan O'Conner, a world-renowned celebrity, who gave freely of himself and his money without wanting anything in return... until those around him took without asking. Now, Aidan wants nothing of the world. When a stranger appears at his doorstep, Aidan knows he's seen her before... in his dreams. But a ruthless enemy has driven her from the world of dreams and into the home of the only man who can help her: Aidan. *A Dark Hunter Christmas:* Gallagher is in New Orleans at Christmas-time without his family. Missing the ones he loves, is a powerful force and threatens to cast a pall over the Big Easy's Christmas cheer. But Simi has a few tricks up her sleeve, intent to show him that even though he is apart from his loved ones, he still has people to lean on... *Santa Wears Spurs:*

Wanted outlaw O'Connell was forced to abandon his spiffire of a woman – his wife, Catherine – so his enemies couldn't hurt her to get to him. Now he's ready to turn himself in to the authorities, but not before he does one last good deed. A deed that sends him head-to-head with Catherine, who wants a bigger piece of his hide than his enemies do. It will take a whole lot of Christmas magic to put his enemies behind him and allow him to win back a heart he should never have abandoned.

Sherrilyn Kenyon brings the joy of Christmasm in these three novellas set in the world of Dark-Hunters.

Paranormal romance PBK \$26.95

The Japanese Yokai Handbook Kinoshita, Masami

An entertaining introduction to Japan's supernatural creatures! *Yokai* come in every imaginable shape and form – ranging from frightening ghosts who haunt our dreams and cruel monsters that are deadly killers to cute fairies and mischievous enchanted animals who prank unwitting humans. They can be evil demons, harmless tricksters, or prophets of impending doom, depending on their appearance and inclination. But all *Yokai* are fascinating, and this book profiles 100 of the most interesting ones. *Yokai* expert Masami Kinoshita has been documenting *Yokai* in folklore, and in real life, for many years. This book presents her most interesting findings. It has over 175 full-colour illustrations that vividly depict the appearances of these weird creatures. No matter their origins, each *Yokai* has a strange and wonderful story that is sure to amaze you!

Yokai reference PBK \$24.99

Haunters at the Hearth

Eerie Tales for Christmas Nights

Tales of the Weird, anthology

Kirk, Tanya (editor)

From the troves of the British Library collections comes a new volume for Christmas nights – when the boundary between the mundane and the unearthly is ever so thin – ushering in a new throng of revenants, demons, spectres, and shades drawn to the glow of the hearth. Included within are 18 classic stories ranging from 1864 to 1974, with vintage Victorian chillers nestled alongside unsettling modern pieces from L P Hartley and Mildred Clingerman; lost tales from rare anthologies and periodicals; weird episodes from unexpected authors such as Winston Graham and D H Lawrence; stories simmering with a twisted humour from Elizabeth Bowen and Celia Fremlin, and many more haunting seasonal treats.

Classic weird TP \$37.95

My Boyfriend is a Vampire Knight, Eva

She's always fallen for the bad boys.

But never a vampire... Hazy Florence is on track to graduate top of her class, but she's determined to have a little fun along the way. As soon as she lays eyes on her mysterious and swoony new neighbour – Godric Hawthorn – Hazy knows he is just what she needs; and they instantly fall for each other. But this is no quintessential college romance.

Pulp Fiction

Science Fiction & Fantasy October 2023 (continued)

Godric has a secret... he's a vampire. Dating a vampire comes with its own messy complications. And then there's Hazy's jealous ex-boyfriend who's dangerously close to the truth. Can Hazy protect her boyfriend's bloodsucking secret? Or could there be more at stake, than Hazy and Godric's hearts?
Paranormal romance PBK \$22.99

The Skulduggery Pleasant Grimoire

updated edition
Landy, Derek
Relive the adventures of Skulduggery Pleasant in this lavishly-illustrated compendium. Featuring a unique rundown of the books so far, it also includes an invaluable reference tool for the dizzying cast of characters, as well as bonuses, surprises and a dark story all of its own. An unmissable paraquel to the bestselling Skulduggery Pleasant series – a thrilling recap of the books so far, a character guide, and a treasure trove of bonus content. This is essential reading for any Skulduggery fan. Now, fully updated by Archivist Mulligrub to include *Until the End*. Children's fantasy companion PBK \$17.99

Sun of Blood and Ruin Lares, Mariely

The empire of Montezuma II has long fallen, a city raised on the bones of Tenochtitlan. None dare whisper the names of their gods – or speak of the magic that once graced the land, of the witches who hunted as jaguars, the warriors who soared as eagles. Until a new name emerges – a curse on the lips of the Spanish, a hero in the hearts of the people. A masked vigilante, a sorceress with a blade. *Pantera*. But that is not her only name. To all who know her, Leonora de Las Casas Tlazohtzin is a glittering jewel of court, promised to the heir of the Spanish throne. The respectable Lady Leonora faints at the sight of blood and would sooner be caught dead than wield a sword... even against a dauntless thief with a cutting smile. No one suspects that Leonora and Pantera are one and the same. Leonora has fooled them all, and, with magic of her ancestors running through her veins, she is nearly invincible – until an ancient prophecy of destruction threatens, and she is forced to decide: surrender the mask or her life. But the legendary Pantera is destined for more than an early grave, and once she discovers the truth of her origins, not even death will stop her. Mexican history and Mesoamerican mythology meet in this thrilling historical fantasy with magic, intrigue, treachery, romance, and adventure.
Historical fantasy TP \$32.99

My Roommate is a Vampire Levine, Jenna

Cassie Greenberg needs a new place to live, and fast. When she finds an affordable apartment in a beautiful neighbourhood, she knows there must be a catch. Of course, her new roommate Frederick J Fitzwilliam is far from normal. He sleeps all day, is out at night on business, and talks like he walked out of a regency romance novel. He also leaves Cassie heart-melting notes around the apartment, cares about her art, and asks about her day. There's no denying there's a spark

between them – but there's also a secret... Cassie's roommate is a vampire. But with true love at stake, will Frederick come clean?
Paranormal romance PBK \$22.99

The Graveyard Shift Lewis, Maria

Tinsel Munroe has busted her guts to get where she is. Yet, her dream of working in radio hasn't turned out to be everything she hoped it would. Sure, she has her own show – aptly titled *The Graveyard Shift* – where she celebrates the sounds of cult cinema, but the wage is barely enough to cover her rent and the midnight hours are putting a strain on her relationship with her boyfriend. Even after three years at Melbourne's coolest station, she's seemingly no closer to a primetime slot. That is, until someone is murdered live on air. Mistaking it for a Halloween prank, a visit from police informs Tinsel that the hysterical call was – in fact – the real deal. She's freaked out, but her true-crime-obsessed sister Pandora is fascinated. While detectives assure them the killer will soon be caught, the bodies continue to drop with the killer striking in increasingly gruesome ways. With a growing, macabre audience to her radio show, that potentially includes the killer, Tinsel begins receiving strange messages over the text-in lines. Her workplace, and even her home, are suddenly not the sanctuaries she once thought. Tinsel and her sister are left with no choice but to team up with Detective James, as they race to find the connection between her and the culprit. The people she thought she could trust are now those she should fear the most. In order to survive, Tinsel is going to have to listen to more than just the airwaves... A fast paced, thrilling murder mystery novel, paying homage to slasher films of the '90s, *The Graveyard Shift* is the perfect Halloween read for fans of Riley Sager and Grady Hendrix.
Horror TP \$29.99

The Vanishing Little, Bentley

In Beverly Hills, a wealthy CEO goes on a bloody rampage and videotapes the slaughter. He leaves behind a chilling cryptic message: *'This is where it begins.'* Miles away, an alarmed mother receives an unsettling letter from her estranged husband, stained with bloody fingerprints. And, all across California, children are becoming affected by a monstrous change – and their parents, by a mounting fear. Social worker Carrie Daniels and reporter Brian Howells are determined to find the link between these baffling crimes. But they shouldn't look too deeply into the lives of the victims. It's quite dark there. And, God help them, they won't like what they find.
Horror TP \$29.95

The Complete Tales of H P Lovecraft Lovecraft, H P

A must-have classic that every Lovecraft fan and collector will love. *The Complete Tales of H P Lovecraft* collects the author's novel, four novellas, and 53 short stories. Written between the years 1917 and 1935, this collection features Lovecraft's trademark

fantastical creatures and supernatural thrills, as well as many horrific and cautionary sf themes that have influenced some of today's writers and filmmakers, including Stephen King, Alan Moore, F Paul Wilson, Guillermo del Toro, and Neil Gaiman. Included in this volume are *The Case of Charles Dexter Ward*, 'The Call of Cthulhu', 'The Dream-Quest of Unknown Kadath', 'At the Mountains of Madness', 'The Shadow Over Innsmouth', 'The Colour Out of Space', 'The Dunwich Horror', and many more hair-raising tales.
Cthulhuiana HC \$45.00

The Lies of Locke Lamora Lynch, Scott

Gentleman Bastards 01, special edition
They say that the Thorn of Camorr can beat anyone in a fight. They say he steals from the rich and gives to the poor. They say he's part man, part myth and mostly street-corner rumour. And they are wrong on every count. Only averagely tall, slender, and god awful with a sword, Locke Lamora is the fabled Thorn and the greatest weapons at his disposal are his wit and cunning. He steals from the rich – they're the only ones, worth stealing from – but the poor can go steal for themselves. What Locke cons, wheedles and tricks into his possession is strictly for him and his band of fellow con-artists and thieves: the Gentleman Bastards. Together their domain is the city of Camorr. Built of Elderglass by a race no one remembers, it's a city of shifting revels, filthy canals, baroque palaces and crowded cemeteries. Home to Dons, merchants, soldiers, beggars, cripples and feral children. And to Capa Barsavi, the criminal mastermind who runs the city. This edition is limited to 750 copies, containing the following features: signed by the author; hand numbered; brand-new artwork featuring two foils, printed on imitation cloth, by Ed Bettison; spectacular illustrated endpapers; black-and-white head-and-tail bands; black marker ribbons; and orange sprayed edges. If you would like a copy of this *limited* edition, please let us know as soon as possible; we expect to receive it on 9 January 2024.
Fantasy HC \$170.00

Athena's Child Lynn, Hannah

First, they loved her. Then, they abused her. Finally, they made her a villain. Gifted and burdened with stunning beauty, young Medusa seeks sanctuary with the Goddess Athena. But when she catches the eye of the lecherous but mighty Poseidon, she is beyond protection. Powerful men rarely answer for their actions, after all. Meanwhile, Perseus embarks on a seemingly impossible quest, equipped with only bravado and determination... Medusa and Perseus soon become pawns of spiteful and selfish gods. Faced with the repercussions of Athena's wrath, blamed for her assault, Medusa has no choice but to flee and hide. But can she do so without becoming the monster they say she is? Medusa's truth has long been lost. History tells of conquering heroes, of men with hearts of gold. Now, it is time to hear the story of how history treats women who don't comply.
Myth retold PBK \$24.99

Long Past Midnight Maberry, Jonathan

Four children explore an abandoned house that's supposed to be haunted – and discover something far more terrifying than any ghost. A rash of fatal accidents in the town of Pine Deep keeps a cemetery worker busier than ever – because the dead won't stay buried. Ex-cop Joe Ledger searches for a missing witness in 'the spookiest town in America' – but finds there is no protection program against the forces of evil... *Some stories can only be told... long past midnight...*
Horror TP \$37.99

Weird Tales: 100 Years of Weird

anthology
Maberry, Jonathan (editor)
Celebrating the 100th anniversary of the first issues of *Weird Tales Magazine*, *100 Years of Weird* is a masterful compendium of new and classic stories, flash fiction, essays, and poems from the giants of speculative fiction, including R L Stine, Laurell K Hamilton, Ray Bradbury, H P Lovecraft, Tennessee Williams, and Isaac Asimov. Marking a century of uniquely peculiar storytelling, each part of this anthology features a different genre from Cosmic Horror, Sword and Sorcery, Space Opera, to the Truly Weird – things too strange to publish elsewhere, and the magazine's *raison d'être*. Landmark stories such as 'The Call of Cthulhu', 'Worms of the Earth', and 'Legal Rites' stand beside original stories and insightful essays from today's masters of speculative fiction. This visually-stunning hardcover edition is a collector's dream, illustrated throughout with classic full colour and black & white art from past issues of *Weird Tales Magazine*.
Classic weird HC \$62.95

Chasm

Glacian trilogy 02
McEwan, Stacey
Dawsyn's miraculous escape from the Ledge was just the beginning. In the queens' dungeon, Dawsyn awaits her execution while reliving the death of her lover, Ryon. There is no chance of mercy. But hope finds her in the form of rescue by her village friends. Now, on the run and struggling to tame her newly-gained and greatly unstable powers, Dawsyn's journey continues. Facing betrayal anew, she must learn patience and trust as she builds strength on all fronts, while she and her comrades recover and ready themselves for what's to come. As they ascend the perilous mountain slopes to the Glacian kingdom once again in a desperate attempt to save those remaining on the Ledge, Dawsyn must battle wills as well as weapons, before discovering an entirely new evil awaiting her... The sequel to *Ledge* (TP, \$32.99).
Fantasy TP \$32.99

The Innocent Sleep

October Daye 18
McGuire, Seanan
For one bright, shining moment, Tybalt, King of Cats, had everything he had ever wanted. He was soon to set his crown aside; he had married the woman he loved; he was going to

Pulp Fiction

Science Fiction & Fantasy October 2023 (continued)

be a father. After centuries of searching for a family of his own, he had finally found a way to construct the life of his dreams; and was looking forward to a period of peace – or, at least, as much peace as is ever in the offing for the husband of a hero. Alas, for Tybalt and his domestic aspirations, fate – and Titania – had other ideas. His perfect world had been complete for only a moment when it was ripped away, to be replaced by hers. Titania, Faerie's Summer Queen, Mother of Illusions and enemy of so many he holds dear, has seized control of the Kingdom, remaking it in her own image. An image which does not include meddlesome shapeshifters getting in her way. Tybalt quickly finds himself banished from her reality, along with the Undersea and the rest of the Court of Cats. To protect his people and his future, Tybalt must find the woman he loves in a world designed to keep her from him, convince her that he's not a stranger trying to ruin her life for no apparent reason, and get her to unmake the illusion she's been firmly enmeshed in. And he'll have to do it all while she doesn't know him, and every unrecognising look is a knife to his heart. For Tybalt, King of Cats, the happily ever after was just the beginning. The second new Toby Daye book, only a month after the last! Yay!

Urban fantasy HC \$62.95

Gunflower: Stories **McKay, Laura Jean**

The brilliant new short story collection from the Arthur C Clarke Award-winning author of *The Animals in That Country* (PBK, \$22.99). A family of cat farmers gets the chance to set the felines free. A group of chickens tells it like it is. A female-crewed ship ploughs through the patriarchy. A support group finds solace in a world without men. With her trademark humour, energy, and flair, McKay offers glimpses of places where dreams subsume reality, where childhood restarts, where humans embrace their animal selves, and animals talk like humans. The stories in *Gunflower* explode and bloom in mesmerising ways, showing the world both as it is, and as it could be.

Science fiction TP \$29.99

Scarlet Veil **Mahurin, Shelby**

Six months have passed, since Cécile took her sacred vows and joined the ranks of the Chasseurs as their first huntswoman. With her fiancé, Jean Luc, as captain, she is determined to find her foothold in her new role and help protect Belterra. But whispers from her past still haunt her, and a new evil is rising – one that Cécile herself must vanquish, unless she falls prey to the darkness. A dark and thrilling vampire romance, set in the world of the bestselling series *Serpent & Dove!*

YA paranormal romance PBK \$19.99

Throne of the Fallen **Maniscalco, Kerri**

A wicked prince. A fallen painter. Let the games begin... The Prince of Envy has never claimed to be a saint. But when a cryptic note arrives at his demon court, signalling the beginning of a deadly game, he knows it will take more than a hint of sin to win. Riddles, hexed objects, anonymous players, nothing will stand in his way. Camilla is an

artist with troubles of her own: a desperate mistake has landed her in debt to a notorious rake. Threatened with ruinous scandal, she is forced to enter a devil's bargain with Envy. A bargain that reveals secrets and ignites passions that neither of them expects. Together, Envy and Camilla must embark on a perilous journey through the underworld – from glittering demon courts to the sultry vampire realm and beyond – while trying to avoid the most dangerous trap of all: falling in love. A seductive new standalone novel set within the Kingdom of the Wicked world.

Romantasy TP \$32.99

Summer's Edge **Mele, Dana**

Emily Joiner was once part of an inseparable group – she was a sister, a best friend, a lover, and a rival. Summers without Emily were unthinkable. Until the fire burned the lake house to ashes with her inside. A year later, it's in Emily's honour that Chelsea and her four friends decide to return. The house awaits them, meticulously rebuilt. Only, Chelsea is haunted by ghostly visions. Loner Ryan stirs up old hurts and forces golden boy Chase to play peacemaker. Which has perfect hostess Kennedy on edge as eerie events culminate in a stunning accusation: Emily's death wasn't an accident. And all the clues needed to find the person responsible are right here. As old betrayals rise to the surface, Chelsea and her friends have one night to unravel a mystery spanning three summers... before a killer, among them, exacts their revenge.

YA supernatural thriller TP \$22.99

The Silent Hand **Mersault, Michael**

They said 10-year-old street urchin, Inga, was perfect for their purpose, taken from the squalor of Port City to the asteroid enclave, Hawksgaard, where she underwent the training and augmentation that transformed her. Maturing to full lethality, even as war erupts among the Myriad Worlds, Inga is assigned to protect Family scion, Captain Saef Sinclair-Maru as he leads the fight against humanity's merciless enemy. The vessel: *IMS Hightower*. The mission: Rescue a trapped Legion force from the surface of Delta Three. The crisis: *Nothing* is as it appears. With Marines plummeting into surface combat, an orbital space battle raging, and assassins swarming within Hightower, the stakes could scarcely be greater; but, in the midst of this tumult, treacherous revelations continue to unfold. A mysterious enemy emplacement, a vanished civilian population, the inexplicable powers suddenly unleashed: Each new facet of discovery creates a deadly path leading from Delta Three to the heart of the Imperium and the emperor himself. To seize any chance for victory – or even survival – Inga must accept the irrevocable course leading from the remnants of her own humanity to the fullness of the Silent Hand.

Military sf TP \$39.95

The Quiet Room **Robbitts O2**

Miles, Terry
After nearly winning the 11th iteration of *Rabbits* – the mysterious alternate reality game, so vast it uses the entire world as its

canvas – Emily Connors suddenly finds herself trapped in a dimensional stream, where the game does not exist. At all. Except... why do sinister figures show up to stop her, every time she goes looking? Does *Rabbits* truly not exist, or is it being hidden? And if it's being hidden, why – and by whom? Meanwhile, architect and theme park designer Rowan Chess is having the weirdest month of his life, full of odd coincidences and people who appear one moment and vanish the next, with no trace they ever even existed. The game that is hiding from Emily seems to have found Rowan – with a vengeance. But only when Rowan and Emily meet do things start to get dangerous, for together they uncover a conspiracy far deeper and deadlier than either of them expected – one that could forever change the nature not only of the game, but of reality itself. A follow-up to *Rabbits* (PBK, \$22.99).

Cyberpunk HC \$64.95

The Song of Achilles 10th anniversary edition

Miller, Madeline
Greece in the age of heroes. Patroclus, an awkward young prince, has been exiled to the court of King Peleus and his perfect son Achilles. Despite their differences, Achilles befriends the shamed prince, and as they grow into young men skilled in the arts of war and medicine, their bond blossoms into something deeper – despite the displeasure of Achilles' mother Thetis, a cruel sea goddess. But when word comes that Helen of Sparta has been kidnapped, Achilles must go to war in distant Troy and fulfill his destiny. Torn between love and fear for his friend, Patroclus goes with him, little knowing that the years that follow will test everything they hold dear. A 10th anniversary special edition, featuring a new foreword by the author.

Myth retold HC \$39.99

Ordinary Monsters Talents 01

Miro, J M
1882. North of Edinburgh, on the edge of an isolated loch, lies an institution of crumbling stone, where a strange doctor collects orphans with unusual abilities. In London, two children with such powers are hunted by a figure of darkness – a man made of smoke. Charlie Ovid discovers a gift for healing himself through a brutal upbringing in Mississippi, while Marlowe, a founding from a railway freight, glows with a strange bluish light. When two grizzled detectives are recruited to escort them north to safety, they are confronted by a sinister, dangerous force that threatens to upend the world as they know it. What follows is a journey, from the gaslit streets of London to the lochs of Scotland, where other gifted children – the Talents – have been gathered at Cairndale Institute, and the realms of the dead and the living collide. As secrets within the Institute unfold, Marlowe, Charlie and the rest of the Talents will discover the truth about their abilities and the nature of the force that is stalking them: that the worst monsters sometimes come bearing the sweetest gifts. The first in a wonderful new series, now in paperback.

Gaslamp fantasy PBK \$24.99

The Citadel of Forgotten Myths

Elric 1.5
Moorcock, Michael
Elric is the estranged emperor of the Melnibonéan empire, struggling with his nature, while desperately striving to move forward with his dying empire alongside the constant thirst of his soul-sucking sword, Stormbringer. Elric is on the hunt for the great Citadel of Forgotten Myths while travelling through the remnants of his empire with his tragic best friend Moonglum, as Elric seeks the answers to the nature of the phroon of the Young Kingdoms. Taking place between the first and second book in the Elric Saga, *The Citadel of Forgotten Myths* is perfect for long-time fans and those new to this epic fantasy series. Now in paperback.

Elric PBK \$22.99

Touched **Mosley, Walter**

Martin Just wakes up one morning after what feels like, and might actually be, a centuries-long sleep with two new innate pieces of knowledge: Humanity is a virus destined to destroy all existence. And that he is the Cure. Martin, his wife, and his two children are the only Black family on their neighbourhood block in the Hollywood hills of Los Angeles. Suddenly, Martin is both father and Antibody, husband and Cure, occasionally slipping into an alternate consciousness – equipped with unprecedented physical strength – to violently defend them. The family is stalked by Tor Waxman – the pale, white-haired embodiment of death who wears a dapper suit, carries a cane, and seeks to destroy all life with his fatal touch. Martin must convince his family of the danger and get them to engage with him in a battle beyond all imagining. Mosley effortlessly marries the sublime and the pedestrian: from monumental battles with truly universal stakes to the banality of standoffs with neighbourhood police patrols, and the quotidian yet joyfully intimate conversations the family shares at home while gathered for dinner. With his boundless talent and skilled range, Walter Mosley brings an ethereal, incisive look at a primal struggle driven by the spirit of the universe, in the vein of masters Octavia Butler, N K Jemisin, and Jeff VanderMeer. Expansive and innovative, sexy and satirical, *Touched* brilliantly imagines the ways in which human life and technological innovation threaten existence, itself.

Science fiction HC \$55.00

The Night House **Nesbo, Jo**

When the voices call, don't answer...
In the wake of his parents' tragic deaths, 14-year-old Richard Elauved has been sent to live with his aunt and uncle in the remote town of Ballantyne. Richard quickly earns a reputation as an outcast, and when a classmate named Tom goes missing, everyone suspects the new, angry boy is responsible. No one believes him when he says the telephone booth out by the edge of the woods sucked Tom into the receiver like something out of a horror movie. No one, that is, except Karen, a beguiling fellow outsider who encourages Richard to pursue clues the police refuse to investigate. He traces the

Pulp Fiction

Science Fiction & Fantasy October 2023 (continued)

number that Tom prank called from the phone booth to an abandoned house in the woods. There he catches a glimpse of a terrifying face in the window. And then the voices start... When another classmate disappears, Richard must find a way to prove his innocence as he grapples with the dark magic that is possessing Ballantyne. Then again, Richard may not be the most reliable narrator of his own story. From the internationally-bestselling author comes a twisted, multilayered spin on the classic horror novel, for fans of *Stranger Things* and *It*.

Horror TP \$32.99

Shadow Speaker

Desert Magician's duology 01

Okorafor, Nnedi

Niger, West Africa, 2074. It is an era of tainted technology and mysterious mysticism. A great change has happened all over the planet, and the laws of physics aren't what they used to be. Within all this, I introduce you to Ejii Ugabe, a child of the worst type of politician. Back when she was nine years old, she was there as her father met his end. Don't waste your tears on him: this girl's father would throw anyone under a bus to gain power. He was a cruel, cruel man, but even so, Ejii did not rejoice at his departure from the world. Children are still learning that some people don't deserve their love. Now 15 years old and manifesting the abilities given to her by the strange Earth, Ejii decides to go after the killer of her father. Is it for revenge or something else? You will have to find out by reading this book. I am the Desert Magician, and this is a novel I have conjured for you, so I'm certainly not going to just tell you here... An expanded edition of an out-of-print, early novel from Afro-futurist luminary Nnedi Okorafor, with a brand-new introduction from the author.

Science fiction (reissue) HC \$55.00

Swanfolk

Omarsdottir, Kristin

In the not-too-distant future, a young spy named Elisabet Eva is about to discover something that will upend her carefully controlled life. Elisabet's work is the lynchpin of her existence in the city; her friends and social life are centred on the Special Unit. But, recently, Elisabet has found herself taking long solitary walks near the lake. One day, she sees two creatures emerging from the water, half human, half swan. She follows them through tangles of thickets into a strange new reality. Elisabet's walks turn into regular visits to these swan women, who reveal to her the enigma of their secret existence, and their deepest desires. Pulled further and further into the monomaniacal, and often violent, quest of the swanfolk she finds her own mind increasingly untrustworthy. Ultimately, Elisabet is forced to reckon with both the consequences of her involvement with these unusual beings and a past life she has been trying to evade.

An astonishing mind-bending novel about a woman's discovery of a community of swan-people from one of Iceland's greatest writers.

Urban fantasy PBK \$22.99

Saevus Corax Deals with the Dead

Corax 01

Parker, K J

There's no formal training for battlefield salvage. You just have to pick things up as you go along. Swords, armour, arrows – and the bodies, of course. Over the years, Saevus Corax has picked up a lot of things. Some of them have made him decent money, others have brought nothing but trouble. But it's a living, and somebody has to deal with the dead. Something else that Saevus has buried is his past. Unfortunately, he didn't quite succeed. The first novel in a new epic fantasy trilogy from World Fantasy Award-winner K J Parker.

Fantasy PBK \$22.99

Dream Weaver

Paulsen, Steven

Anatolia. Autumn, 1405 AD. The Ottoman Sultan and the barbaric Turko-Mongol conqueror Timur Lenk are both dead. The empire is on the verge of collapse, caught up in bloody civil war. And dark powers are rising, employing Uzbek mercenaries and blood magic to wrest control of the country. In a small Mediterranean coastal town, a streetwise 16-year-old orphan named Ali starts to have uncontrollable nightmares he thinks are predicting the future, only to learn they are creating the future. His dreams attract unwanted attention, and in an attempt to rid himself of them, Ali sets off on a quest to find a mythical sage called Luman, pursued by the evil men who killed his mother and will stop at nothing to capture him and corrupt his unwanted powers with gemeye blood magic.

YA historical fantasy TP \$29.99

Malarkoi

Cities of the Weft 02

Pheby, Alex

Nathan Treeves is dead, murdered by the Master of Mordew, his remains used to create the powerful occult weapon known as the Tinderbox. His companions are scattered, making for Malarkoi, the city of the Mistress, the Master's enemy. They are hoping to find welcome there... or, at least, safety. They find neither – and, instead, become embroiled in a life and death struggle against assassins, demi-gods, and the cunning plans of the Mistress. Only Sirius, Nathan's faithful magical dog, has not forgotten the boy. Bent on revenge, he returns to the shattered remains of Mordew – only to find the city morphed into an impossible mountain, swarming with monsters. The stage is set for battle, sacrifice, magic, and treachery in the stunning sequel to *Mordew* (TP, \$45.95). Welcome to Malarkoi.

Fantasy HC \$66.95

A Light Most Hateful

Piper, Hailey

Three years after running away from home, Olivia is stuck with a dead-end job in nowhere town Chapel Hill, Pennsylvania. At least, she has her best friend, Sunflower. Olivia figures she'll die in Chapel Hill, if not from boredom, then the summer night storm which crashes into town with a mind-bending monster in tow. If Olivia's going to escape Chapel Hill and someday reconcile with her parents, she'll need to dodge residents enslaved by the storm's otherworldly powers

and find Sunflower. But as the night strains friendships and reality itself, Olivia suspects the storm, and its monster, may have its eyes on Sunflower and everything she loves. From the Bram Stoker-Award-winning author of *Queen of Teeth*. We expect to have this edition of *A Light Most Hateful* from its Australian distributors early next year, at a lower price.

Horror PBK \$37.95

A Stroke of the Pen: the Lost Stories

collection

Pratchett, Terry

A truly unmissable, beautifully-illustrated collection of unearthed stories from the pen of Sir Terry Pratchett: award-winning and bestselling author, and creator of the phenomenally-successful Discworld series. Twenty early short stories by one of the world's best loved authors, each accompanied by exquisite original woodcut illustrations. These are rediscovered tales that Pratchett wrote under a pseudonym for newspapers, during the 1970s and 1980s. While none are set in the Discworld, they hint towards the world he would go on to create, containing all of his trademark wit, satirical wisdom, and fantastic imagination. Meet Og the inventor, the first caveman to cultivate fire, as he discovers the highs and lows of progress; haunt the Ministry of Nuisances with the defiant, evicted ghosts of Pilgarlic Towers; visit Blackbury, a small market town with weird weather and an otherworldly visitor; and go on a dangerous quest through time and space with hero Kron, which begins in the ancient city of Morpork... *A Stroke of the Pen* is a must-have collection for fans of all ages. A hardcover edition (\$59.99) will also be available.

Pratchett TP \$32.99

The Dabare Snake Launcher

Presby, Joelle

A race to build the first space elevator in Africa... New money, old tribes, and international megacorp race to build the first space elevator. With a little Dabare magic, it just might work! The Sadous, an oil-rich West African family, are handed a plum contract as repayment for a decades-old favour that could make the next generation even richer if the family doesn't tear itself apart first. Two engineer daughters of the Sadou family, Pascaline and Maurie, upon whom the burden of success rests, have troubles of their own. One wants nothing more than to leave and make her own name as an engineering prodigy, while the other is troubled by fever dreams and snakes. Ethan Schmidt-Li is an ambitious megacorp executive with eyes on a big promotion – only to get more than he bargained for when put in charge of the company's make-or-break project. These are some of the people that Tchami 'Chummy' Fabrice has brought together to an ambitious end – constructing the world's first space elevator in Africa and ensuring the space industry that it catapults will enrich the continent and all involved. They have the carbon nanofiber, prime land around Kilimanjaro, and a captured rock in orbit for the tether. The hard part will be getting all these different people working together long enough to see it built.

Science fiction PBK \$26.95

Night of the Witch

Witch & Hunter duology 01

Raasch, Sara & Revis, Beth

Fritzi is a witch. The lone survivor of a brutal attack on her coven, she's determined to find her only remaining family member and bring the *hexenjäger*s – zealot witch hunters – to justice for the lives they ended. To do this, she will need to take down their leader, the merciless and enigmatic Kommandant Dieter Kirch. Otto is a *hexenjäger* – but that's just his cover. Years ago, the *hexenjäger*s burned his innocent mother alive, and he has been plotting his revenge against the people who tore apart his family, ever since. And, now, the time has come for them to pay for what they've done. When Fritzi and Otto are unexpectedly thrown together, neither is sure they can trust the other. The reluctant truce fuelled by their common enemy takes them from the city at the heart of the *hexenjäger*'s power to the wild and mysterious Black Forest. As old truths come to light and new dangers are revealed, Fritzi and Otto uncover a horrifying magical plot at the centre of the *hexenjäger* attacks that leads back to Kommandant Kirch... but their own growing feelings for each other may be the most powerful magic of all. The first in a duology.

YA fantasy HC \$42.95

A Study in Drowning

Reid, Ava

If the monsters are real, so are the women who defeat them. Effy has always believed in fairy tales. She's had no choice. Since childhood, she's been haunted by visions of the Fairy King. She's found solace only in the pages of *Angharad* – a beloved epic about a mortal girl who falls in love with the Fairy King, and then destroys him. Effy's tattered copy is all that's keeping her afloat through her stifling first term her prestigious architecture college. So, when the late author's family announces a contest to design his house, Effy feels certain this is her destiny. But Hiraeth Manor is an impossible task: a musty, decrepit estate on the brink of crumbling into a hungry sea. And when Effy arrives, she finds she isn't the only one who's made a temporary home there. Preston Héloury, a stodgy young literature scholar, is studying Myrddin's papers and is determined to prove her favourite author is a fraud. As the two rival students investigate the reclusive author's legacy, piecing together clues through his letters, books, and diaries, they discover that the house's foundation isn't the only thing that can't be trusted. There are dark forces, both mortal and magical, conspiring against them – and the truth may bring them both to ruin.

Fantasy TP \$32.99

Foe

media tie-in

Reid, Iain

Severe climate change has ravaged the country, leaving behind a charred wasteland. Junior and Henrietta live a comfortable, if solitary, life on one of the last remaining farms. Their private existence is disturbed the day a stranger comes to the door with alarming news. Junior has been randomly selected to travel far away from the farm... but the most unusual part is that arrangements have already been made so that when he leaves, Henrietta won't have a chance to miss him. She won't be left

Pulp Fiction

Science Fiction & Fantasy October 2023 (continued)

alone – not even for a moment. Henrietta will have company. Familiar company. Told in Iain Reid's sparse, biting style, *Foe* will stay with you, long after you turn the final page. Soon to be a major motion picture starring Saoirse Ronan and Paul Mescal.

Cli-fi thriller TP \$37.95

Mr Einstein's Secretary Reilly, Matthew

All Hanna Fischer ever wanted to do was to study physics under the great Albert Einstein. But when – as a teenager, in 1919 – her life is suddenly turned upside down, she is catapulted into a new and extraordinary life – as a secretary, a scientist, a sister, and a spy. From racist gangs in Berlin to gangsters in New York City, Nazis in the 1930s, and Hitler's inner circle during the Second World War, Hanna will encounter some of history's greatest minds and most terrible moments, all while desperately trying to stay alive. She is a most unique secretary, and she will work for many bosses – from shrewd businessmen to vile Nazis, to the greatest boss of them all, Mr Albert Einstein... Spanning 40 years, this is the thrilling tale of a young woman propelled through history's most dangerous times. But read it, carefully, because all may not be as it seems...

Historical suspense HC \$44.99

The Rising

Branded Season duology 02

Riccioni, Jo

Nara and her twin sister, Osha, have escaped the Citadel and the brutality of the Wastelands to arrive in the capital of Reis, home of the wrangler. The Shadow City is rife with political power plays, complicated by rumours of a long-awaited prophecy – the coming of a Pure healer with the ability to cure the Branded. With her healing powers growing ever stronger, all eyes are on Osha. But there are those in Reis who would kill to control her gifts. If she is to protect her sister, Nara must navigate new allies and old enemies in the Shadow City. That's easier said than done when she's caught between her first love and the man who's stolen her heart but broken her trust. Worn down by lies and deception, Nara is forced to question who she truly is and what she can believe. One thing is becoming clear: she and Osha must learn to wield their powers to guard their freedom, but also to fight for what is right. With dark forces taking control across the continent, the Branded must rise to survive. The explosive conclusion to the Branded Season duology, following *The Branded* (TP, \$32.99).

Fantasy TP \$32.99

The Seven Skins of Esther Wilding Ringland, Holly

The last time Esther Wilding's beloved older sister Aura was seen, she was walking along the shore towards the sea. In the wake of Aura's disappearance, Esther's family struggles to live with their loss. To seek the truth about her sister's death, Esther reluctantly travels from Lutruwita, Tasmania to Copenhagen, and then to the Faroe Islands, following the trail of the stories Aura left behind: seven fairy tales about selkies, swans, and women, alongside cryptic verses Aura wrote and had secretly tattooed on her body. A sweeping, deeply beautiful and profoundly moving novel about the far

reaches of sisterly love, the power of wearing your heart on your skin, and the ways life can transform when we find the courage to feel the fullness of both grief and joy.

Mythology PBK \$24.99

Herc

Rogerson, Phoenicia

This should be the story of Hercules: his 12 labours, his endless adventures... everyone's favourite hero, right? Well, it's not. This is the story of everyone else: Alcmena: Herc's mother (she has knives everywhere); Hylas: Herc's first friend (they were more than friends); Megara: Herc's wife (she'll tell you about their marriage); Eurystheus: Oversaw Herc's labours (he never asked for the job); his friends, his enemies, his wives, his children, his lovers, his rivals, his gods, his victims. It's time to hear their stories. Told with humour and heart, *Herc* gives voice to the silenced characters, in this feminist, queer (and sometimes shocking) retelling of classic Hercules myth.

Myth retold TP \$32.99

Could It Be Magic?

Rose, Melanie

Life really can change in a flash...

When Jessica Taylor finds herself in the middle of a thunderstorm while walking her dog, she is struck by two things: the sight of a handsome stranger, and a bolt of lightning. The next thing she knows, she is waking up in a hospital bed – but in someone else's body... Split between her old life, and that of Lauren Richardson – wife and mother of four young children – Jessica must grapple with temper tantrums and marriage mishaps, while desperately trying to get back to Frankie the terrier, and a blossoming relationship. But as she learns more about the woman in whose designer shoes she now stands, she begins to discover new things about herself, too. Will Jessica get back to life as she knows it? And will she even want to?

Paranormal romance PBK \$22.99

The Navigating Fox

novella

Rowe, Christopher

Quintus Shu'al, the world's only navigating fox, is in disgrace after guiding an expedition to its doom, leaving no survivors. One year later, Quintus is offered the chance to redeem himself: he will need to lead a motley, fractious team – both human and animal – all the way to the gates of Hell. 'Half fable, half caper, and a pure joy to read.' – *Holly Black*. A 176pp, Tor.com novella. *We expect to have this edition of The Navigating Fox from its Australian distributors early next year, at a lower price.*

Fantasy TP \$42.95

Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban

Harry Potter 03, Minalima edition

Rowling, J K

& Minalima (paper artists)

Return to Hogwarts in this stunning edition of *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*. J K Rowling's complete and unabridged text is accompanied by full-colour illustrations on nearly every page, and eight paper-engineered interactive elements. Readers are invited to explore the Knight Bus, reveal the Grim in a teacup, spin the Time-Turner,

and more! Designed and illustrated by Minalima – the award-winning studio behind the graphic style of the *Harry Potter* and *Fantastic Beasts* films – this keepsake edition is the perfect gift for Harry Potter fans of all ages, a beautiful addition to any collector's bookshelf and an enchanting way to share this beloved series with a new generation of readers.

Harry Potter HC \$65.00

Joanna Russ:

Novels and Stories

LOA 373

Russ, Joanna

& Rudick, Nicole (editor)

An incandescent stylist with a dark sense of humour and a provocative feminist edge, Joanna Russ opened every genre in which she worked. The essential novels and stories gathered in this definitive Library of America edition make a case for Russ not only as an astonishing writer of speculative fiction, but, in the words of Samuel Delany, 'one of the finest – and most necessary – writers of American fiction' period. Here is her now-classic novel *The Female Man* (1975), in which four remarkable women – Jeannine, Janet, Joanna, and Jael – traverse alternate histories and parallel worlds (including the brilliantly imagined all-female utopia, Whileaway) in a multi-voiced, multidimensional voyage that continues to alter readers' sense of gender and reality. *We Who Are About To...* (1977), recounting the fate of a misfit band of space-tourists stranded on an alien world, challenges 'golden age' expectations about civilisation, in what becomes an allegorical thriller. In *On Strike Against God* (1980), her incisive, darkly-comic, and ultimately-joyous final novel, Russ returns to Earth to explore LGBTQIA+ and feminist themes and the unfamiliar territory of 'coming out' and lesbian romance. Russ' 'Complete Alyx Stories' – which feature her inimitably sly, resilient, and stone-cold heroine Alyx, who is plucked from a life of petty crime in ancient Phoenicia to serve as adventurer-for-hire for the Trans-Temporal Authority, and which reinvent the sword and sorcery genre for a postmodern era – are presented in their entirety here for the first time, and newly restored to print. Also included are her unforgettable tales 'When It Changed' and 'Souls', the former a 1973 Nebula Award winner and the latter the recipient of the 1983 Hugo and Locus Awards.

Classic sf HC \$74.95

A Multitude of Dreams

Rutherford, Mara

The bloody plague is finally past, but what fresh horror lies in its wake? Princess Imogen of Goslind has lived a sheltered life for three years at the boarded-up castle – she and the rest of its inhabitants safe from the bloody *mori roja* plague that's ravaged the kingdom. But Princess Imogen has a secret, and as King Stuart descends further into madness, it's at great risk of being revealed. Rations dwindle each day, and unhappy murmurings threaten to crack the façade of the years-long charade being played within the castle walls. Nico Mott once enjoyed a comfortable life of status, but the plague took everyone and everything from him. If not for the generosity of a nearby lord, Nico may not have survived the *mori roja*'s aftermath.

But does owing Lord Crane his life mean he owes him his silence? When Lord Crane sends Nico to search for more plague survivors in the castle, Nico collides with a princess who wants to break out. They will each have to navigate the web of lies they've woven if they're going to survive the nightmares ahead.

YA fantasy PBK \$19.99

Red River Seven

Ryan, A J

A group of strangers, with no memories of who they are, must undertake a terrifying journey into the unknown... *Seven strangers. One mission. Infinite horror.* A man awakes on a boat at sea with no memory of who or where he is. He's not alone – there are six others, each with a unique set of skills. None of them can remember their names. All of them possess a gun. When a message appears on the onboard computer – *Proceeding to Point A* – the group agrees to work together to survive whatever is coming. But as the boat moves through the mist-shrouded waters, divisions begin to form. Who is directing them and to what purpose? Why can't they remember anything? And what are the screams they can hear beyond the mist? Internationally bestselling fantasy author Anthony Ryan – writing as A J Ryan – delivers a nerve-shredding thriller in which seven strangers must undertake a terrifying journey into the unknown.

Horror PBK \$22.99

The Lost Metal

Mistborn 07

Sanderson, Brandon

For years, frontier lawman turned big-city senator Waxillum 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. Return to the Mistborn world of Scadrial, as its second era – which began with *The Alloy of Law* (PBK, \$22.99), comes to its earth-shattering conclusion.

Now in paperback.

Fantasy PBK \$24.99

Pulp Fiction

Science Fiction & Fantasy October 2023 (continued)

Yumi and the Nightmare Painter

Secret Projects 03

Sanderson, Brandon

Yumi comes from a land of gardens, meditation, and spirits, while Painter lives in a world of darkness, technology, and nightmares. When their lives suddenly become intertwined in strange ways, can they put aside their differences and work together to uncover the mysteries of their situation and save each other's communities from certain disaster?

Fantasy TP \$32.99

Light Perpetual

Hussite 03

Sapkowski, Andrzej

Reynevan is besieged on all sides and faces torture and execution if he makes any mistake in his quest to find his beloved, Jutta of Apolda. Aided by his companions – the ever-pragmatic Scharley and the mysterious being known as Samson Honeypot – his journey takes him all over the Bohemian realm. And Reynevan will need every ounce of his wit, intelligence and cunning if he is to succeed in his search. The political and religious alliances of the Hussite Wars are ever shifting, and the battle for dominance threatens to devour anyone who gets in their way. Faced too with dark magical forces summoned by the malevolent Birkart of Grelenort, aided by his terrifying band of Back Riders, Reynevan knows the odds of finding Jutta decrease with every obstacle he is forced to overcome along the way. But he has never let impossible odds stop him before – and he will be reunited with his love, whatever the cost. The epic conclusion to the Hussite trilogy by the bestselling author of *The Witcher*. It begins with *The Tower of Fools* (PBK, \$22.99).

Historical mystery PBK \$24.99

Starter Villain

Scalzi, John

Inheriting your mysterious uncle's supervillain business is more complicated than you might imagine. Sure, there are the things you'd expect. The undersea volcano lairs. The minions. The plots to take over the world. The international networks of rivals who want you dead. Much harder to get used to... are the sentient, language-using, computer-savvy cats. And the fact that, in the overall organisation, they're management... We say, it's Scalzi, just read it! Recommended.

SF caper TP \$34.99

Queen Hereafter

a novel of Lady Macbeth

Schuler, Isabelle

She will be Queen. Whatever it takes... Daughter of an ousted king, descendant of ancient druids, Gruoch (GREW-ock), has grown up believing that she will be crowned queen of Alba and reclaim the lands of her Pictish kin, a prophecy seemingly fulfilled by her betrothal to Duncan, the heir-elect. Determined never to be powerless again, she leaves behind her home, her family, and her close friend MacBethad, and travels to the royal seat at Scone to embrace her new position. But Duncan's court is rife with sly words and unfriendly faces, women desperate to usurp her position, and others

whose motives are shrouded in mystery. As her coronation approaches, a deadly turn of events forces Gruoch to flee Duncan and the capital. Alone and at the mercy of an old enemy, her hope of becoming Queen all but lost, Gruoch must make a fateful choice: live a long, quiet life in the shadows, or seize vengeance and a path back to the throne. A suspenseful, sweeping historical epic for readers of Natalie Haynes and Madeline Miller, which boldly reimagines the origin story of the woman who inspired one of Shakespeare's most iconic characters, Lady Macbeth.

Historical fantasy TP \$42.95

The Fragile Threads of Power

Threads of Power 01

Schwab, V E

Once, there were four worlds, nestled like pages in a book, each pulsing with fantastical power, and connected by a single city: London, until the magic grew too fast, and forced the worlds to seal the doors between them in a desperate gamble to protect their own. The few magicians who could still open the doors grew more rare as time passed; and, now, only three Antari are known in recent memory – Kell Maresh of Red London, Delilah Bard of Grey London, and Holland Vosijk, of White London. But barely a glimpse of them have been seen, in the last seven years – and a new Antari named Kosika has appeared in White London, taking the throne in Holland's absence. The young queen is willing to feed her city with blood, including her own – but her growing religious fervour has the potential to drown them, instead. And, back in Red London, King Rhy Maresh is threatened by a rising rebellion, one determined to correct the balance of power by razing the throne entirely. Amidst this tapestry of old friends and new enemies, a girl with an unusual magical ability comes into possession of a device that could change the fate of all four worlds... Her name is Tes, and she's the only one who can bring them together – or unravel it, all. Set in the *Shades of Magic* universe, this epic fantasy features familiar characters and setting, introducing a new generation of magic, shadows, and adventure into the much-loved world.

Portal fantasy TP \$39.99

Killer Creatures Down Under

Horror Stories with Bite, anthology

Sheldon, Deborah

Australia: the land where everything wants to kill you. A continent filled with some of the deadliest animals in the world. From creepy crawlies to crocodiles, you'll have plenty to fear in this anthology penned by Australian authors. *Killer Creatures Down Under: Horror Stories with Bite* offers disturbing tales that range from the action packed and visceral, through the historical and futuristic, to the phantasmagorical and supernatural. Prepare to confront your animal phobias... And, perhaps, develop some new ones. Featuring work by: Geraldine Borella; Tim Borella; Renee De Visser; Anthony Ferguson; Jason Fischer; Fox Claret Hill; Robert Mammon; Ben Matthews; J M Merryt; Helena O'Connor; Steven Paulsen; Antoinette Rydyr; Deborah Sheldon;

Charles Spiteri; H K Stubbs; Matt Tighe; Keith Williams; Pauline Yates. Curated by Deborah Sheldon, editor of the multi-award-winning and multi-award-nominated anthology, *Spawn: Weird Horror Tales About Pregnancy, Birth and Babies*.

Horror TP \$29.99

The Big Book of Cyberpunk

anthology

Shurin, Jared (editor)

A genre-defining – and redefining – collection of the boldest, most rebellious, and most prescient speculative fiction, featuring stories from all over the globe. *'The sky above the port was the colour of television, tuned to a dead channel.'*

Almost 40 years ago, William Gibson wrote the line that began *Neuromancer* – and a movement that would change the face of science fiction. Award-winning anthologist Jared Shurin brings together over 100 stories from more than 25 countries that both establish and subvert the classic cyberpunk tropes and aesthetic – from gritty, near-future noir to pulse-pounding action. Urban rebels undermine monolithic corporate overlords. Daring heists are conducted through back alleys and the darkest parts of the online world. There's dangerous new technology, cybernetic enhancements, scheming AI, corporate mercenaries, improbable weapons, and roguish hackers. These tales examine the near now, extrapolating the most provocative trends into fascinating and plausible futures. We live in an increasingly cyberpunk world – packed with complex technologies and globalised social trends. A world so bizarre that even futurists couldn't explain it – though many authors in this book have come closer than most. As both an introduction to the genre and the perfect compendium for the lifelong fan, *The Big Book of Cyberpunk* offers a hundred ways to understand where we are and where we're going.

Cyberpunk TP \$66.95

Family Business

Sims, Jonathan

When Diya Burman's best friend Angie dies, it feels like her own life is falling apart. Wanting a fresh start, she joins Slough & Sons – a family firm that cleans up after the recently deceased. Old love letters. Porcelain dolls. Broken trinkets. Clearing away the remnants of other people's lives, Diya begins to see things. Horrible things. Things that get harder and harder to write off as merely her grieving imagination. All is not as it seems with the Slough family. Why won't they speak about their own recent loss? And who is the strange man that keeps turning up at their jobs? If Diya's not careful, she might just end up getting buried under the family tree... Now in paperback.

Horror PBK \$22.99

The Undetectables Smyth, Courtney

Be gay, solve crime, take naps... A magical serial killer is stalking the Occult town of Wrackton. Hypnotic whistling causes victims to chew their own tongues off, leading to the killer being dubbed the Whistler (original, right?). Enter the Undetectables, a detective agency run by three witches and a ghost in a cat costume (don't ask). They are hired to investigate the murders, but with their only

case so far left unsolved, will they be up to the task? Mallory, the forensic science expert, is struggling with pain and fatigue from her recently-diagnosed fibromyalgia. Cornelia is suddenly stirring all sorts of feelings in Mallory. Diana is hitting up all her ex-girlfriends for information. And, not forgetting ghostly Theodore: deceased, dramatic, and also the agency's first – unsolved – murder case. With bodies stacking up and the case leading them to mysteries at the very heart of magical society, can the Undetectables find the Whistler, before they become the killer's next victims? A witty and quirky fantasy murder mystery in a folkloric world of witches, faeries, vampires, trolls, and ghosts – perfect for fans of Sarah Gailey and T J Klune. *We expect to have this edition of The Undetectables from its Australian distributors early next year, at a lower price.*

Fantasy crime PBK \$37.95

Chlorine Song, Jade

Ren Yu is a swimmer. Her daily life starts and ends with the pool. Her teammates are her only friends. Her coach, her guiding light. If she swims well enough, she will be scouted, get a scholarship, go to a good school. Her parents will love her. Her coach will be kind to her. She will have a good life. But these are human concerns. The concerns of those confined to land. Ren grew up on stories of creatures of the deep, of the oceans and the rivers. Stories that called sailors to their doom. Stories that dragged them down and drowned them. Stories of the creature that she's always longed to become: a mermaid. Ren aches to be in the water. She dreams of the scent of chlorine – the feel of it on her skin. And she will do anything she can to make a life for herself where she can be free. No matter the pain. No matter what anyone else thinks. No matter how much blood she has to spill.

Fantasy HC \$34.99

Last to Leave the Room

Starling, Caitlin

The city of San Siroco is sinking. The basement of Dr Tamsin Rivers, the arrogant, selfish head of the research team assigned to find the source of the subsidence, is sinking faster. As Tamsin becomes obsessed with the distorting dimensions of the room at the bottom of the stairs, she finds a door that didn't exist before – and one night, it opens to reveal an exact physical copy of her. This doppelgänger is sweet and biddable, where Tamsin is calculating and cruel. It appears fully, terribly human, passing every test Tamsin can devise. But the longer the double exists, the more Tamsin begins to forget pieces of her life, to lose track of time, to grow terrified of the outside world. With her employer growing increasingly suspicious, Tamsin must try to hold herself together long enough to figure out what her double wants from her, and just where the mysterious door leads...

Gothic fantasy HC \$64.95

Every Exquisite Thing

Steven, Laura

Penny Paxton is the daughter of an icon. Her supermodel mother has legions of adoring fans around the world, and Penny is ready to begin her journey to international

Pulp Fiction

Science Fiction & Fantasy October 2023 (continued)

adoration, starting with joining the elite Dorian Drama School. When Penny's new mentor offers her an opportunity she cannot refuse, to have a portrait painted by a mysterious artist who can grant immortal beauty to all his subjects, Penny happily follows in the footsteps of Dorian's most glittering alumni, knowing that stardom is sure to soon be hers. But when her trusted mentor is found murdered, Penny realises she's made a terrible mistake – a sinister someone is using the uncanny portraits to kill off the subjects one by one. As more perfectly beautiful students start to fall, Penny knows her time is running out... A feminist retelling of *The Picture of Dorian Gray*.

YA horror PBK \$19.99

The Forbidden Wolf King

Kings of Avalier 04

Stone, Leia

Axil Moon broke my heart when I was 15, and I've dreamed of getting revenge, ever since. So, when he becomes the king of all Woven and summons me to compete for his hand in marriage in the deadly Queen Trials, I gladly accept. I want nothing more than to defeat the competition and leave him cold and alone when I slam the bedroom door in his face every night. Axil Moon will regret the day he thought he could discard me and get away with it. But the Axil I expect isn't the one waiting for me. This grown Axil is different from the teenage boy I loved. This Axil begs me to believe it was never his choice to leave me, and my heart is torn. Now, I have to try and stay alive in order to see what could be between us, but all the while there is an enemy in our midst and war on our border that could overturn the world as I know it, and all I can do is fight to keep that world alive. Book four in the Kings of Avalier series, which begins with *The Last Dragon King* (PBK, \$22.99); each of which is a full-length standalone fantasy romance.

Romantasy PBK \$22.99

If I Have to Be Haunted Sun, Miranda

Cara's just trying to stay on top of all her classes, excel at her extracurriculars, and prepare for college – which means not speaking to the dead; an ability she inherited from her grandmother. Ghosts are trouble, and Cara doesn't need to add their problems to her own. But then she stumbles upon the body of Zach – the super popular, but very newly-dead high school golden boy – in the woods, and guess what? He wants her to resurrect him. *Cue trouble*. Miranda Sun's debut touches on the power and conflicts in a mother-daughter love, first romance – and finding your place in the world while honouring your culture. A haunting, heart-warming debut, perfect for fans of strong female leads and supernatural stakes in *Buffy*, with all the sweetness and romance of *To All the Boys I've Loved Before*.

YA paranormal romance TP \$29.99

Restless Slumber

Fortuna Sworn 02

Sutton, K J

Fortuna's world has been transformed. The faerie court is whispering in her head, her brother has lost touch with reality and an obstinate werewolf won't leave her side.

And then there's Collith: her enigmatic, beautiful, infuriating mate. She hates him, so why is he causing her such turmoil? But as the new Queen of the Unseelie Court she is determined to uproot the corruption around her. The question is not if she has the strength – it's whether she can survive long enough. The sequel to *Fortuna Sworn* (PBK, \$22.99) in a new, dark, and captivating faerie romance series.

Fantasy PBK \$22.99

Deadly Dreams

Fortuna Sworn 03

Sutton, K J

Fortuna has made terrible sacrifices to protect those she loves. Her powers may be getting stronger but she feels broken. Collith is fighting his own demons and is further away than ever, while Laurie remains a tempting, frustrating mystery. But Fortuna knows she must hide it all from the Court. In a world of monsters, it's when you are most vulnerable that your enemies – new and old – start closing in. The third book in a dark and captivating faerie romance series, which begins with *Fortuna Sworn* (PBK, \$22.99).

Fantasy PBK \$22.99

Beautiful Nightmares

Fortuna Sworn 04

Sutton, K J

Everything Fortuna believed has been revealed as illusion and lies. Everything has changed. Now, a prisoner in the Seelie Court, Fortuna discovers the game she has been playing is deadlier than she could have imagined. There's no time for pain or healing. There is only survival. Because a new threat is emerging from the shadows. An opponent who doesn't fight with swords or magic. An adversary she cannot overcome. It turns out Fortuna didn't know the meaning of fear... until now. The fourth book in a dark and captivating faerie romance series, which begins with *Fortuna Sworn* (PBK, \$22.99).

Fantasy PBK \$22.99

Tales of Light and Dark

box set

Tan, Shaun

Tales from Outer Suburbia paints a landscape of complex beauty and disquiet, where the unspoken feelings of ordinary people take physical form as strange animals, machines and the most unlikely of house guests. Winner of the CBCA Book of the Year Award for Older Readers. *Tales from the Inner City* examines our troubled relationship with fellow animals, and the deep sense of love, crisis and longing that tolls beneath the traffic of our urban dreams. Winner of the Kate Greenaway Medal.

'Tan's work overflows with human warmth and childlike wonder. But it also makes a perfect adult bedtime story, a little something to shake loose your imagination from the moors of reality right before your own dreams kick in.' – *The New York Times*.

Featuring stunning new covers, Shaun Tan's exquisite illustrated short story collections, *Tales from Outer Suburbia* and *Tales from the Inner City*, beautifully packaged in a slipcase edition. Perfect for Shaun Tan fans, of all ages. *Who is that exchange student living in our cupboard? Whatever happened to all those bears with lawyers? Why do dogs bark*

in the middle of the night? Collected together for the first time, 40 illustrated tales of urban and suburban wonder, fear, humour and hope by the acclaimed creator of *The Arrival* (PBK, \$19.99), *The Lost Thing* (HC, \$28.99), and *The Singing Bones* (HC, \$35.00).

Fantasy art HC \$49.99

The Scandalous Confessions of Lydia Bennet, Witch Taub, Melinda

Miss Lydia Bennet may be the youngest, but what she lacks in maturity and responsibility, she more than makes up for in energy, fun – and magic. In this exuberant reimagining of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, Lydia Bennet puts pen to paper to relate the real events and aftermath of the classic story from her own perspective. Some facts are well known: Mrs Bennet suffers from her nerves; Mr Bennet suffers from Mrs Bennet, and all five daughters suffer from an estate that is entailed only to male heirs. But Lydia also suffers from entirely different concerns: her best-loved sister Kitty is really a barn cat, and Wickham is every bit as wicked as the world believes him to be, but what else would you expect from a demon? And if you think Mr Darcy was uptight about dancing etiquette, wait 'til you see how he reacts to witchcraft. Most of all, Lydia has yet to learn that when you're a witch, promises have power... Full of enchantment, intrigue, danger, and boundless magic, *The Scandalous Confessions of Miss Lydia Bennet, Witch, Taub, Melinda*, has all the irreverent wit, strength, and romance of *Pride and Prejudice* – while offering a highly-unexpected redemption for the wildest Bennet sister.

Historical fantasy TP \$32.99

The Good, the Bad and the History

Chronicles of St Mary's 14

Taylor, Jodi

St Mary's is under investigation. Their director has been shot and Max is Number One Suspect. Can things get any worse? We all know the answer to that one. Max needs to get away – fast – and a Brilliant Idea soon leads her to a full-scale uprising in 20th-century China. If she can come by a historical treasure or two in the process, even better. That is, if she makes it out alive. Then there's the small matter of Insight – the sinister organisation from the future hell bent on changing History for their own dark ends. Having successfully infiltrated their ranks, Max is perfectly placed to stop them. But she knows her cover will soon be blown – because it's already happened. Can Max take down Insight before they come after her? The circle is closing, and only one can survive... This fun, history-packed series begins with *Just One Damned Thing After Another* (PBK, \$22.99).

Time travel PBK \$24.99

The Interpretation of Cakes Tegg, Alan

It's 1916 and Isaac Brodsky has inherited his family's patisserie in the Jewish quarter of Budapest. Here, in the midst of shelves overcrowded with marvellous, mouth-watering cakes, Isaac discovers that offering his customers the right cake leads to their spiritual growth and his own. And, so, the 20th century science of Cake Analysis is

born. This novel brings Budapest's cafés, streets, and people to life in a charming, joyous, and irresistible romp through the beginnings of psychotherapy and the mysteries of the conscious and unconscious mind. Thinking, and indeed, eating cake, will never be the same again.

Historical sf baking TP \$32.99

The Circumference of the World Tidhar, Lavie

Caught between realities, a mathematician, a book dealer, and a mobster desperately seek a notorious book that disappears upon being read. Only the author, a rakish sf writer, knows whether his popular novel is truthful or a hoax.

Delia Welegtabit discovered two things during her childhood on a South Pacific island: her love for mathematics and a novel that isn't supposed to exist. But the elusive book proves unexpectedly dangerous. Oskar Lens, a science fiction-obsessed mobster in the midst of an existential crisis, will stop at nothing to find the novel. After Delia's husband Levi goes missing, she seeks help from Daniel Chase, a young, face-blind book dealer. The infamous novel *Lode Stars* was written by the infamous Eugene Charles Hartley: legendary pulp science-fiction writer and founder of the Church of the All-Seeing Eyes. In Hartley's novel, a doppelgänger of Delia searches for her missing father in a strange star system. But is any of *Lode Stars* real? Was Hartley a cynical conman on a quest for wealth and immortality, creating a religion he did not believe in? Or was he a visionary who truly discovered the secrets of the universe? In a story that is cosmic, inventive, and sly, multi-award-winning author Lavie Tidhar travels from the emergence of life to the very ends of the universe. We say, always, *always*, read Lavie Tidhar.

Science fiction TP \$29.99

Tolkien Calendar 2024:

the Fall of Númenor

Tolkien, J R R

This year's calendar features 13 full-colour paintings of scenes from across the Second Age of Middle-earth. Famously described by Tolkien as a 'dark age, and not very much of its history is (or need be) told', for many years readers would need to be content with the tantalising glimpses of it found within the pages of the Lord of the Rings and its appendices, including the forging of the Rings of Power, the building of the Barad-dûr, and the rise of Sauron. Now, presented for the first time in calendar form, with two new paintings from the doyen of Tolkien art, Alan Lee, and with an insightful introduction by Brian Sibley, Tolkien fans can discover the Second Age in greater depth than ever before.

Tolkien Calendar \$22.99

The Hobbit

author-illustrated edition

Tolkien, J R R

For the first time ever, a special enhanced edition of the enchanting prelude to the Lord of the Rings, illustrated throughout with 50 sketches, drawings, paintings and maps by J R R Tolkien, himself. Bilbo Baggins is a hobbit who enjoys a comfortable, unambitious life, rarely travelling further

Pulp Fiction

Science Fiction & Fantasy October 2023 (continued)

than the pantry of his hobbit-hole in Bag End. But his contentment is disturbed when the wizard, Gandalf, and a company of 13 dwarves arrive on his doorstep, one day, to whisk him away on an unexpected journey 'there and back again'. They have a plot to raid the treasure hoard of Smaug the Magnificent, a large and very dangerous dragon... Written for J R R Tolkien's own children, *The Hobbit* was published on 21 September 1937. With a beautiful cover design, a handful of black and white drawings and two maps by the author himself, the book became an instant success and was reprinted shortly afterwards with five colour plates. Tolkien's own selection of finished paintings and drawings have become inseparable from his text, adorning editions of *The Hobbit* for more than 85 years. But the published art has afforded only a glimpse of Tolkien's creative process, and many additional sketches, coloured drawings and maps – although exhibited and published elsewhere – have never appeared within the pages of *The Hobbit*. In this unique enhanced edition of Tolkien's enchanting classic tale, the full panoply of his art is reproduced for the first time, presenting a grand total of 50 illustrations to accompany Bilbo Baggins on his adventure 'there and back again'.

Tolkien HC \$89.99

The Silmarillion

author-illustrated edition

Tolkien, J R R

& Tolkien, Christopher (editor)

The Silmarilli were three perfect jewels, fashioned by Fëanor, most gifted of the Elves, and within them was imprisoned the last Light of the Two Trees of Valinor. But the first Dark Lord, Morgoth, stole the jewels and set them within his iron crown, guarded in the impenetrable fortress of Angband in the north of Middle-earth. *The Silmarillion* is the history of the rebellion of Fëanor and his kindred against the gods, their exile from Valinor and return to Middle-earth, and their war, hopeless despite all the heroism, against the great Enemy. It is the ancient drama to which the characters in the Lord of the Rings look back, and in whose events some of them such as Elrond and Galadriel took part. The book also includes several shorter works: the *Ainulindalë*, a myth of the Creation, and the *Valaquenta*, in which the nature and powers of each of the gods is described. *The Akallabêth* recounts the downfall of the great island kingdom of Númenor at the end of the Second Age, and *Of the Rings of Power* tells of the great events at the end of the Third Age, as narrated in *The Lord of the Rings*. Tolkien could not publish *The Silmarillion* in his lifetime, as it grew with him, so he would leave it to his son, Christopher Tolkien, to edit the work from many manuscripts and bring his father's great vision to publishable form, so completing the literary achievement of a lifetime. This special edition presents, anew, this seminal first step towards mapping out the posthumous publishing of Middle-earth, and the beginning of an illustrious 40 years and more than 20 books celebrating his father's legacy. This definitive new edition includes, by way of an introduction, a letter written by Tolkien, in 1951, which provides a brilliant exposition of the earlier Ages, and for the first time in its history is presented with J R R Tolkien's own paintings

and drawings, which reveal the breathtaking grandeur and beauty of his vision of the First Age of Middle-earth.

Tolkien HC \$89.99

The Beast You Are

collection

Tremblay, Paul

Paul Tremblay has won widespread acclaim for illuminating the dark horrors of the mind in novels and stories that push the boundaries of storytelling itself. The 15 pieces in this brilliant collection, *The Beast You Are*, are all monsters of a kind, ready to loudly (and lovingly) smash through your head and into your heart. In 'The Dead Thing', a middle schooler struggles to deal with the aftermath of her parents' substance addictions and split. One day, her little brother claims he found a shoebox with 'the dead thing' inside. He won't show it to her, and he won't let the box out of his sight. In 'The Last Conversation', a person wakes in a sterile, white room and begins to receive instructions via intercom from a woman named Anne. When they are finally allowed to leave the room to complete a task, what they find is as shocking as it is heartbreaking. The title novella, *The Beast You Are*, is a mini epic in which the destinies and secrets of a village, a dog, and a cat are intertwined with a giant monster that returns to wreak havoc every 30 years. A masterpiece of literary horror and psychological suspense, *The Beast You Are* is a fearlessly imagined collection from one of the most electrifying and innovative writers working today.

Horror PBK \$22.99

Trial of the Sun Queen

Artefacts of Ouranos 01

Tuli, Nisha J

Ten women. A deadly contest.

Only one can win the Sun King's heart.

Lor has endured 12 long years of torment under the Aurora King's rule. Her only desire is to get free and pay him back for every moment of misery she's endured. When a surprise release finds her in the hands of the Sun King, Lor is thrust into the spotlight as she competes against nine other Tributes for the role of queen. If she wins his heart, she'll earn her freedom and finally get her revenge. But Lor doesn't belong in the Sun Queen Trials. Not only does she not understand why she was freed, she isn't a citizen of the Sun King's court. The other Tributes resent her presence and will stop at nothing to ensure Lor is wiped off the gameboard, permanently. Now, Lor must win, because if she loses, she dies. Or, worse, she'll be sent back into the hands of the Aurora King. *The Bachelor* meets *Fourth Wing* (TP, \$32.99). The first book in a series, perfect for fans of Sarah J Maas, Rebecca Yarros, and Jennifer Armentrout.

Romantasy PBK \$22.99

Rule of the Aurora King

Artefacts of Ouranos 02

Tuli, Nisha J

Freed from the golden clutches of the Sun King, Lor now finds herself in the hands of Nadir, the Aurora Prince. Convinced she's hiding something, he's willing to do whatever it takes to make her talk. But Lor knows the value of secrets – she's been keeping them,

her entire life – and she's not letting hers go without a fight. When Lor and Nadir team up to search for a lost item that holds the key to her past and her future, she isn't sure if she can trust him. All she knows is she won't fall for his promises and make the same mistakes again. Lor also hasn't forgotten her vow to destroy the Aurora King. As Atlas hunts her across Ouranos, Lor plots to bring down the Imperial Fae who took everything. But she soon realises that the future of the continent is about so much more than just her shattered legacy. The sequel to *Trial of the Sun Queen* (PBK, \$22.99) in a new series perfect for fans of Sarah J Maas, Rebecca Yarros, and Jennifer Armentrout.

Romantasy PBK \$22.99

A Conspiracy of Kings

Queen's Thief 04

Turner, Megan Whalen

Sophos, the unwilling prince of Sounis, has disappeared without a trace. Eugenides has never stopped wondering what happened to his friend. Nor has the queen of Eddis, who once offered Sophos her hand. As time goes by, it becomes less and less certain that they will ever see their friend again. Across the small peninsula battles are fought, bribes are offered, and conspiracies are set in motion. Darkening the horizon, the Mede Empire threatens from across the sea. And Sophos, anonymous and alone, bides his time. Drawing on his memories of Gen, Pol, the Magus, and Eddis, he sets out on an adventure that will change all of their lives forever... A reissue of the fourth in the series; the first is *The Thief* (PBK, \$19.99). 'Trust me. Just read it. Then read it again, because it will not be the same river twice...' – *Lois McMaster Bujold*, acclaimed Hugo Award-winning author (we do trust Lois, a very great deal!).

YA fantasy (reissue) PBK \$22.99

The Memory in the Blood

Fall of the Gods 03

Van Loan, Ryan

When her quest to destroy the Gods began, Buc was a child of the streets. Now, she is a woman of steel, shaped by gaining and losing power, tempered by love and betrayal, and honed to a fine edge by grief and her desire for vengeance. A perilous, clandestine mission to a hidden library uncovers information that is key to destroying both the Dead Gods and their enemy, the Goddess Ciris. Ciris' creation, Sin, who lives inside Buc, gives her superhuman abilities and tempts her with hints of even greater power. With that power, she could achieve almost anything – end the religious war tearing her world apart, remake society at a stroke – but the price would be the betrayal of everything she has fought for... and the man she loved would still be dead. In the middle of this murderous, magical maelstrom, a coded message smuggled out of the heart of the Dead Gods' cathedral reveals that the Dead Gods intend to destroy Ciris – and much of the world with her. This. Will. Not. Stand. If Buc has to destroy all Gods, eat the rich, and break the world's economy to save the people, she will do it. Even if it costs her everything. Fall of the Gods begins with *The Sin in the Steel* (TP, \$32.99).

Fantasy TP \$49.99

The Ruthless Lady's Guide to Wizardry

Waggoner, C M

Dellaria Wells – petty con artist, occasional thief, and partly educated fire witch – is behind on her rent. To make ends meet, Delly talks her way into a guard job in the city of Leiscourt, joining a team of unconventional women to protect an aristocrat from unseen assassins. It looks like easy money and a chance to romance her confident companion Winn – but when did anything in Delly's life go to plan? With the help of a necromancer, a shapeshifting schoolgirl, and a reanimated mouse named Buttons, Delly, and Winn find themselves facing an adversary who wields a twisted magic and has friends in the highest of places. A reissue of an enchanting fantasy novel featuring a down-and-out fire witch and a young gentlewoman who join forces against a deadly conspiracy.

Fantasy PBK \$22.99

Unnatural Magic

Waggoner, C M

Onna can write the parameters of a spell faster than any of the young men in her village. So, when the arcane academy decides it's untoward to teach a woman magic, she sets sail for the city-state of Hexos in search of more enlightened attitudes. Tsira has never felt at home within her troll clan. Striking out alone to find work in a human city, she stumbles on a half-dead soldier in the snow and the two form an unexpected bond. But a string of mysterious murders draws them both into a deadly conspiracy; and, now, Onna and Tsira must uncover who is targeting trolls before their homeland is torn apart... A reissue of a fun and original fantasy debut, where a brilliant young wizard and a misfit troll must race to solve a baffling mystery.

Fantasy (reissue) PBK \$22.99

Tide of Stone

Warren, Kaaron

The Time-Ball Tower of Tempuston houses the worst criminals in history. Given the option of the death penalty or eternal life, they chose eternal life. They have a long time to regret that choice.

Science fiction TP \$34.99

The Janus File

Gordian Division 03

Weber, David & Holo, Jacob

It was supposed to be a routine trip for the members of the Gordian Division, both human and AI: fly out to Saturn, inspect the construction of their latest time machines, then fly back. But when the division's top scientist and chief engineer are killed in the same freak accident, suspicions of foul play run deep. Detective Isaac Cho is sent in to investigate, but he has more on his mind than just a new case. His superiors have saddled him with an exchange officer from the neighbouring Admin – Special Agent Susan Cantrell – whose notion, of proper 'law enforcement', involves blowing up criminals first and skipping questions entirely. Despite his objections, Cho is stuck with an untested partner on a case that increasingly reeks of murder and conspiracy. The unlikely pair must work together to unravel this mystery, and soon they discover

Pulp Fiction

Science Fiction & Fantasy October 2023 (continued)

their unique combination of skills might just provide the edge they need. But nothing is ever simple where the Gordian Division is involved. Not even time itself. The Gordian Division begins with *The Gordian Protocol* (PBK, \$26.95).

Time schism PBK \$26.95

Black River Orchard Wendig, Chuck

It's autumn in Harrow, but something is changing in the town besides the season. Because in that town there is an orchard, and in that orchard grows a new sort of apple: strange and beautiful, with skin so red it's nearly black. Take a bite of one of these apples and you will you will become stronger. More vital. More *yourself*, you will believe. But soon your appetite for the apples and their peculiar gifts will keep growing – and become darker. This is what happens when the townsfolk discover the secret of the orchard. Soon, it seems that everyone is consumed by an obsession with the magic of the apples... and what's the harm, if it is making them all happier, more confident, more powerful? But now the leaves are falling. The days grow darker. And a stranger has come to town, a stranger who knows Harrow's secrets. Because it's harvest time, and the town will soon reap what it has sown.

Dark fantasy TP \$32.99

The Book of Gems

Jewel O3

Wilde, Fran

It's been centuries, since the Jewelled Valley and its magical gems were destroyed. In the republics that rose from its ashes, scientists craft synthetic jewels to heat homes, power gadgetry, and wage war. Dr Devina Brunai is one of these scientists. She also is the only person who believes true gems still exist. The recent unearthing of the Palace of Gems gives her the perfect opportunity to find them and prove her naysayers wrong. Her chance is snatched away at the last moment when her mentor steals her research and wins the trip for himself. Soon, his messages from the field transform into bizarre ramblings about a book, a Prince, and an enemy borne of the dark. Now Dev must enter the Valley, find her mentor, and save her research before they, like gems, become relics of a time long forgotten. The Jewel series begins with *The Jewel and Her Lapidary* (TP, \$26.95).

Fantasy TP \$32.99

Terry Pratchett

A Life with Footnotes
– The Official Biography

Wilkins, Rob

At the time of his death in 2015, award-winning and bestselling author Sir Terry Pratchett was working on his finest story, yet – his own. 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. 'Always readable, illuminating, and honest. It made me miss the real Terry.' – *Neil Gaiman*. Now in paperback.

Biography PBK \$24.99

Into the Narrowdark

Last King of Osten Ard O3

Williams, Tad

The High Throne of Erkyndland is tottering, its royal family divided and diminished. Queen Miriamelle has been caught up in a brutal rebellion in the south and thought to have died in a fiery attack. Her grandson Morgan, heir to the throne, has been captured by one of Utuk'ku's soldiers in the ruins of an abandoned city. Miriamelle's husband, King Simon, is overwhelmed by grief and hopelessness, unaware that many of these terrible things have been caused by Pasevalles, a murderous traitor inside Simon's own court at the Hayholt. Meanwhile, a deadly army of Norns led by the ageless, vengeful Queen Utuk'ku, has swept into Erkyndland and thrown down the fortress of Naglimund, slaughtering the inhabitants and digging up the ancient grave of Ruyan the Navigator. Utuk'ku plans to use the Navigator's fabled armour to call up the spirit of Hakatri, the evil Storm King's brother. Even the Sithi, fairy-kin to the Norns, are helpless to stop Utuk'ku's triumph as her armies simultaneously march on the Hayholt and force their way into the forbidden, ogre-guarded valley of Tanakiru – the Narrowdark – where a secret waits that might bring Simon's people and their Sithi allies salvation – or doom. This series begins with *The Witchwood Crown* (PBK, \$24.99).

Fantasy PBK \$24.99

Girlfriend on Mars

Willis, Deborah

What if the person you loved was on another planet? Kevin is a 30-something homebody, happily committed to his hydroponics-expert girlfriend, Amber, as they grow weed in their basement in Vancouver. Out of the blue, Amber announces that she has been selected for a reality show where she will compete for one of two seats on the first human-led mission to Mars. If selected, she must stay on Mars for good, because the technology to come home doesn't exist yet. Is this a suicide mission or a bold new frontier? *Girlfriend on Mars* is the story of love unravelling in a world where truth is dictated by Facebook ads and 'reality TV' is as scripted as any politician's speech. With rapt viewers voting for Amber to stay on the show and crates

of Mars-mission branded protein shakes arriving at his door, is it any wonder Kevin wants to stay in the basement forever?

Science fiction TP \$34.99

Star Bringer

Wolff, Tracy & Groft, Nina

How much space does one princess need?

The sun is dying... and it's happening way too damn fast. With the clock ticking, the Nine Planets' only hope of survival rests on a fancy space station and the alien artifact it's carrying. Which is why it really sucks when some jackass doesn't want the universe saved and blows that station up – while you're still on it. So, if your only choices are flaming death or stealing a flying hunk of space junk – you pick that busted-ass spaceship. Even if it leaves seven strangers with deadly secrets trapped together: a princess, a prisoner, a con artist, a warrior, a priestess, a mercenary, and an asshole in charge of us all. Now, every faction in the galaxy is hunting this ship – from the Sisterhood to the Corporation, and the rebellion's joining in on the fun, too. We just need to stop drinking, fighting, and screwing long enough to evade them all and save the freaking universe... somehow. Because, apparently, the only thing standing between a dying sun and ultimate salvation is seven unlikely misfits... ahem, heroes. The first in a high-concept, sf romance series, where *Firefly* meets *The Breakfast Club*. (*Pulp Fiction GenXer's note: LOL!*)

SF romance TP \$32.99

After the Forest

Woods, Kell

Ginger. Honey. Cinnamon. Flour.

A drop of blood to bind its power.

1650: The Black Forest, Wurttemberg.

Fifteen years after the witch in the gingerbread house, Greta and Hans are struggling to get by. Their father and stepmother are long dead, Hans is deeply in debt from gambling, and the countryside lies in ruin, its people recovering in the aftermath of a brutal war. Greta has a secret, though: the witch's grimoire, secreted away and whispering in her ear, and the recipe inside that makes the most-sinfully delicious – and addictive – gingerbread. As long as she can bake, Greta can keep her small family afloat. But in a village full of superstition, Greta and her intoxicating gingerbread is a source of ever-growing suspicion and vicious gossip. And, now, dark magic is returning to the woods and Greta's own power – magic, she is still trying to understand – may be the only thing that can save her... If it doesn't kill her, first. The stunning historical fantasy taking the world by storm – perfect for readers of Naomi Novik and Katherine Arden.

Fairy tales retold TP \$32.99

Androne

Worrell, Dwain

In one terrifying event called the Ninety-Nine, all major military installations on earth were eviscerated. But, by whom? Foreign powers, AIs, ETs? Every conceivable adversary was ruled out. Reeling from massive casualties and amid hundreds of conspiracy theories, humanity creates Andrones: bipedal android drones piloted remotely by soldiers who will never again need to be on the field of battle. Newly-minted Androne pilot, Sergeant Paxton Arés

has now been deployed into a fight against an enemy no one understands or has ever seen. Passing mostly uneventful days patrolling an unidentified desert, Paxton spends time communicating with his pregnant girlfriend back home and reflecting on his impending fatherhood. But as he is drawn deeper into military camaraderie and begins quickly rising up the ranks on the strength of his father's military legacy, Paxton starts to question the swirling rumours about the nature of the conflict. What he's encountered in the shifting dunes – something inexplicable, indomitable – fills him with the fear that whatever is out there is destined to win. Whether it's curiosity, ambition, or a newfound paternal instinct, Paxton has a driving need to understand the dangerous truths of this strange, invisible war. And the choices he must make have the power to change everything.

Military sf TP \$29.99

Hunted

Dark In You O9

Wright, Suzanne

Larkin is tired of her friends constantly trying to play Cupid. Just because they are all happily mated doesn't mean she needs to be. And she definitely doesn't need the over-protective men in her life vetting potential partners for her. In a bid to get them off her back, the harpy turns to the one person, she knows they would never approve of... Teague Sullivan. Explicitly sexy and unquestionably alpha male, the mysterious hell horse is the perfect candidate for a fake relationship. More than happy to spend time with the pretty harpy, Teague agrees. But when a wager is made between them, and things start to heat up, Larkin can't seem to ignore their explosive chemistry – and neither can her demon. But when old and new dangers creep up on them, and Teague's shady past starts to ring alarm bells; he must decide whether to trust Larkin completely or risk losing her forever.

Paranormal romance PBK \$22.99

White Horse

Wurth, Erika T

Kari James, Urban Native, is a fan of heavy metal, ripped jeans, Stephen King novels, and dive bars. She spends most of her time at her favourite spot in Denver, a bar called White Horse. There, she tries her best to ignore her past and the questions surrounding her mother who abandoned her when she was just two years old. But soon after her cousin Debby brings her a traditional bracelet that once belonged to Kari's mother, Kari starts seeing disturbing visions of her mother and a mysterious creature. When the visions refuse to go away, Kari must uncover what really happened to her mother all those years ago. Her father, permanently disabled from a car crash, can't help her. Her Auntie Squeaker seems to know something, but isn't eager to give it all up, at once. Debby's anxious to help, but her controlling husband keeps getting in the way. Kari's journey toward a truth long denied by both her family and law enforcement forces her to confront her dysfunctional relationships, thoughts about a friend she lost in childhood, and her desire for the one thing she's always wanted but could never have...

Horror TP \$39.95

Pulp Fiction

Science Fiction & Fantasy October 2023 (continued)

Days at the Morisaki Bookshop **Yagisawa, Satoshi**

Hidden in Jimbocho, Tokyo is a booklover's paradise. On a quiet corner in an old wooden building lies a shop filled with hundreds of second-hand books. Twenty-five-year-old Takako has never liked reading, although the Morisaki bookshop has been in her family for three generations. It is the pride and joy of her uncle Satoru, who has devoted his life to the bookshop, since his wife Momoko left him five years earlier. When Takako's boyfriend reveals he's marrying someone else, she reluctantly accepts her eccentric uncle's offer to live, rent free, in the tiny room above the shop. Hoping to nurse her broken heart in peace, Takako is surprised to encounter new worlds within the stacks

of books lining the Morisaki bookshop. As summer fades to autumn, Satoru and Takako discover they have more in common than they first thought. The Morisaki bookshop has something to teach them both about life, love, and the healing power of books. The moving international sensation about new beginnings, human connection, and the joy of reading.
Literary fiction PBK \$24.99

A Past Unearthed

Return of the Condor Heroes 01

Yong, Jin

China, 1237 AD. Genghis Khan is dead. The Mongolians, led by the conqueror's third son, Ogedai, have vanquished the Jurchen Jin Empire, and now turn their armies on their ally the Great Song Empire. A dozen

years have passed since the second Contest of Mount Hua. A new generation of martial artists are vying for recognition in the jianghu, but as the fall of their country looms closer, the making of a hero depends on more than mere kung fu skills. A chance meeting with his father's sworn brother Guo Jing lifts Penance Yang from a life of vagrancy and initiates him into the martial world to which his parents Yang Kang and Mercy Mu once belonged. Placed under the care of the Quanzhen Sect at their base in the Zhongnan Mountains, Penance stumbles across the mysterious history behind the founding of this most respected martial school and embarks on a journey that forces him to come to terms with his family's past as well as the secrets of his own heart.
Chinese mythic fantasy TP \$32.99

Thrust **Yuknavitch, Lidia**

Laisve is a refugee in a destroyed city-island, hunted in Raids and haunted by the spirits of her drowned mother and brother. She dives into the river and finds herself travelling between times and waterways that will connect her with people from the past and future. Among them are a group of workers constructing a colossal monument to freedom for a young and bustling nation. But exactly what – and whom – will that liberty represent? As Laisve drifts into their histories, she schools seekers in the ways of dreams, love, and the ultimate aim of liberty: to free the next generation from the chains of this one.

Science fiction PBK \$22.99