

Pulp Fiction

Science Fiction & Fantasy Catalogue

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December 2023

Includes new books by:

Carissa Broadbent
M R Carey
Sebastien de Castell
Sunyi Dean
T Kingfisher
Sangu Mandanna
Foz Meadows
K J Parker
R R Virdi

... and many others.

All the books in this catalogue are new books due for release in **December 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

The Ark Sakura

Japanese Classics

Abe, Kobo

A recluse known as 'Mole' retreats to a vast underground bunker, only to find that strange guests, booby traps and a giant toilet may prove even greater obstacles than nuclear disaster. An sf classic from acclaimed Japanese novelist Kobo Abe, *The Ark Sakura's* Kafkaesque embrace of nuclear disaster and ecological catastrophe is, at turns, both hilarious and desperate. New in Penguin Japanese Classics: a surreal work of apocalyptic science fiction, now with new cover art.

Classic sf PBK \$22.99

The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy

Best of SF Masterworks, H2G2 01

Adams, Douglas

The mega-cult-blockbuster-bestseller joins the SF Masterworks list. Arthur Dent thought his day was going badly, when someone tried to demolish his house. Then someone demolished his planet. Rescued by his friend Ford – who is not a human from Guilford, but an alien from somewhere in the vicinity of Betelgeuse – Arthur is flung into an adventure among the stars. He will face aliens, robots, world-builders, and that girl he quite fancied who turned him down at a party one time. All in the name of research for the greatest book in the galaxy. He just has to remember not to panic. Part of the multimedia phenomenon *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* is beloved the world over. Douglas Adams' 'trilogy in five parts' originated as a radio show, developed into a book series, and has since spawned a TV series, a film, additional sequels, and expanded radio series, a famously impossible video game, and a number of stage shows. It was a *Sunday Times* bestseller, and ranked fourth in a 2003 BBC poll to find the Nation's Best-Loved Book. A reissue of the SF Masterworks edition, with new cover art. (*Note: Other editions remain available.*) Our favourite thing about this edition is that the new cover art features the whale and bowl of petunias, in freefall, above Magrathea!

SF Masterworks HC \$34.99

Cocktails and Chloroform

novella

Armstrong, Kelley

For modern-day detective Mallory Atkinson, being trapped in the body of a Victorian housemaid means overcoming endless obstacles. Her current challenge is winning over the suspicious young parlour maid, Alice. Mallory's plan starts with teaching the girl to make Molotov cocktails, which is a perfectly-valid science experiment and not at all a desperate ploy to gain Alice's attention. Before the lesson can begin, though, Alice receives a letter that has her slipping off in the night. Concerned for her

safety – and naturally curious – Mallory follows. Mallory finds Alice at what seems like a simple dance hall, watching young men and women flirting and whirling in pretty dresses and dapper suits. But nothing here is what it seems, and what starts as a simple surveillance exercise turns into a full-scale spy mission with Mallory's boss, Dr Duncan Gray, at her side. Before the evening is done, those Molotov cocktails are probably going to come in handy. A 136pp, pricey, limited novella from Subterranean Press – which *may* be out of print, on release.

Fantasy HC \$89.95

The Judas Blossom

Nightingale & the Falcon 01

Aryan, Stephen

1260, Persia – Due to the efforts of the great Genghis Khan, the Mongol Empire covers a vast portion of the known world. In the shadow of his grandfather, Hulagu Khan, ruler of the Ilkhanate, is determined to create a single empire that covers the entire world. His method? Violence. His youngest son, Temujin Khan, struggles to find his place in his father's bloody rule. After another failure, Temujin is given one last chance to prove himself to Hulagu, who is sure there is a great warrior buried deep inside. But there's something else rippling under the surface... something far more powerful and dangerous than they could ever imagine... Reduced to the position of one of Hulagu's many wives, the famed Blue Princess Kokochin is the last of her tribe. Alone and forgotten in a foreign land, Kokochin is unwilling to spend her days seeking out trivial pursuits. Seeking purpose, she finds herself wandering down a path that grants her more power than a wife of the Khan may be allowed. Kaivon, the Persian rebel who despises the Mongols for the massacre of his people, thirsts for revenge. However, he knows alone he cannot destroy the empire. When given the opportunity to train under the tutelage of Hulagu, Kaivon must put aside his feelings and risk his life for a chance to destroy the empire that aims to conquer the world. Family and war collide in this thrilling and bloody reimagining of the Mongol Empire's invasion of Persia. The first in a series.

Historical fantasy TP \$32.99

Forward the Foundation

Foundation 07

Asimov, Isaac

As Hari Seldon struggles to perfect his revolutionary theory of psychohistory and ensure a place for humanity among the stars, the once-mighty Galactic Empire totters on the brink of apocalyptic collapse. Caught in the maelstrom are Seldon and all he holds dear, pawns in the struggle for dominance. Whoever can control Seldon will control psychohistory – and with it the future of the galaxy. Among those seeking to turn psychohistory into the greatest weapon

known to man are a populist political demagogue, the weak-willed Emperor Cleon I, and a ruthless militaristic general. In his last act of service to humankind, Hari Seldon must somehow save his life's work from their grasp as he searches for his true heirs – a search that begins with his own granddaughter and the dream of a new Foundation. Completed just before his death, *Forward the Foundation* is a crowning achievement and stirring testament to the creative genius of Isaac Asimov. Now in a paperback matching the rest of the series (*finally!*).

Classic sf PBK \$22.99

Foundation Trilogy

omnibus

Asimov, Isaac

Collecting *Foundation*, *Foundation and Empire*, and *Second Foundation* in one volume. Isaac Asimov's Foundation trilogy – a riveting saga of humanity's struggle against darkness played out on the grandest possible scale – is one of the cornerstones of modern science fiction. It is the story of the Galactic Empire, crumbling after 12,000 years of rule. And it is the particular story of psycho-historian Hari Seldon, the only man who can see the horrors the future has in store: a dark age of ignorance, barbarism and violence that will last for 30,000 years. Gathering together a band of courageous men and women, Seldon leads them to a hidden location at the edge of the galaxy, where he hopes they can preserve human knowledge and wisdom against all who would destroy them. Asimov went on to add numerous sequels and prequels to the trilogy, building up what has become known as the Foundation series, but it is the original three books, first published in the 1940s and '50s, which remain the most powerful, imaginative, and breathtaking.

Classic sf HC \$39.99

Til Death Do Us Bard

Black, Rose

Marriage isn't always sunshine and unicorns... sometimes, it's monsters and necromancy. It's been almost a year, since Logan 'The Bear' Theaker hung up his axe and settled down with his sunnyhazy bard husband, Pie. But when Pie disappears, Logan is forced back into a world he thought he'd left behind. Logan quickly discovers that Pie has been blackmailed into stealing a powerful artefact capable of creating an undead army. With the help of an old adversary and a ghost from his past, Logan sets out to rescue his husband. But the further the quest takes him, the more secrets Logan uncovers. He'll need all his strength to rescue his husband – but can he save their marriage? *Til Death Do Us Bard* is a charming queer fantasy, perfect for fans of *Legends and Lattes* (PBK, \$22.99) and *Nettle and Bone* (PBK, \$24.99).

Romantasy TP \$32.99

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Science Fiction & Fantasy December 2023 (continued)

Earth Brin, David

It's 50 years from tomorrow. A microscopic black hole has accidentally fallen into the Earth's core and the entire planet is in danger of being destroyed within two years. A team of scientists frantically searches for a way to prevent the ultimate disaster. But while they look for an answer, others argue that the only way to save the Earth is to let its human inhabitants become extinct: to let the million-year evolutionary clock rewind and start over. From an underground lab in New Zealand to a space station in Low Earth Orbit, from an endangered species conservation ark in Africa to a home in New Orleans, Earth spans exotic settings and challenging new ideas. It's peopled with extraordinary characters: a brilliant, devoted young scientist who discovers his life's work may be responsible for destroying the world; a hard-bitten shuttle pilot who vows to learn the secret of her husband's tragic death; a legendary Novel laureate whose relationship with the planet borders on the mystical; a midwestern youth who leaves behind the boredom of suburban American life for the dangers of the unknown; a Māori billionaire who fears that all his money cannot control his fate – or the fate of the world.

Science fiction (reissue) TP \$49.95

Glory Season Brin, David

Young Maia is fast approaching a turning point in her life. As a half-caste var, she must leave the clan home of her privileged half-sisters and seek her fortune in the world. With her twin sister, Leie, she searches the docks of Port Sanger for an apprenticeship aboard the vessels that sail the trade routes of the Stratoion oceans. On her far-reaching, perilous journey of discovery, Maia will endure hardship and hunger, imprisonment and loneliness, bloody battles with pirates and separation from her twin. And along the way, she will meet a traveller who has come an unimaginable distance – and who threatens the delicate balance of the Stratoions' carefully-maintained, perfect society... Both exciting and insightful, *Glory Season* is a major novel, a transcendent saga of the human spirit.

Science fiction (reissue) TP \$49.95

Spirit of the Wood Green Rider novella

Britain, Kristen

After years of leading the battle against the vicious Darrow Raiders, Lieutenant-Rider Laren Mapstone has built a fortress around herself to conceal her emotions and the deep scars she carries. When she is made mentor to Tavin Bankside, a Green Rider trainee on his first message errand, her cold and brooding exterior quickly earns her the moniker the 'Ice Lady'. Only after Laren is severely wounded in an attack on the North Road by a gang of bandits – including some former Darrow Raiders with vengeance on their minds – do the fortress walls fall. Even as they seek refuge from danger in a Rider waystation, Tavin's natural empathic gift leaves him vulnerable to the assault of the lieutenant's emotions. Tavin must save Lieutenant Mapstone's life and master his empathic gift before it destroys them both.

However, an ancient power lurks deep within the Green Cloak, and its aid or hindrance could mean survival for the Riders or the downfall of Sacordia and all the free lands. Perfect for long-time Green Rider fans eager for more of the world, or new readers discovering the realm of Sacordia for the first time, this action-packed, feminist fantasy novella is a must-read for lovers of the genre.

Fantasy TP \$29.99

The Serpent and the Wings of the Night

Crowns of Nyaxia 01

Broadbent, Carissa

The adopted human daughter of the Nightborn vampire king, Oraya carved her place in a world designed to kill her. Her only chance to become something more than prey is entering the Kejari: a legendary tournament held by the goddess of death herself. But winning won't be easy against the most vicious warriors from all three vampire houses. To survive, Oraya is forced to make an alliance with a mysterious rival. Everything about Raihn is dangerous. He is a ruthless vampire, an efficient killer, an enemy to her father's crown... and her greatest competition. Yet, what terrifies Oraya most of all is that she finds herself oddly drawn to him. But there's no room for compassion in the Kejari – and nothing more deadly than love... The first in a series, *The Serpent and the Wings of Night* is filled with heart-wrenching romance, dark magic, and bloodthirsty intrigue.

Paranormal TP \$34.99

The Witch in the Well Bruce, Camilla

Over 100 years ago, the citizens of F— did something rather bad. And local schoolteacher Catherine Evans has made writing the definitive account of what happened when Ilsbeth Clark drowned in the well her life's work. The town's people may not want their past raked up, but Catherine is determined to shine a light upon that shameful event. For Ilsbeth was an innocent, after all. She was shunned and ostracised by rumourmongers and ill-wishers and someone has to speak up for her. And who better than Catherine, who has herself felt the sting and hurt of such whisperings? But then a childhood friend returns to F—, Elena is a successful author whose book, *The Whispers Inside: A Reawakening of the Soul*, has earned her a certain celebrity. In search of a new subject, she takes an interest in the story of Ilsbeth Clark and announces her intention to write a book about the long-dead woman, focusing on the natural magic she believes she possessed. And Elena has everything Catherine has not, like a platform and connections and no one seems to care that Elena's book will be pure speculation, tainting Ilsbeth's memory rather than preserving it. Catherine is determined that something must be done and plots to blunt her rival's pen. However, she had not allowed for the fact that the past might not be so dead, after all – that something is reaching out from the well, disturbing her reality. Before summer's over, one woman will be dead, the other accused of murder... but is she really guilty, or are there other

forces at work? And who was Ilsbeth Clark, really? An innocent? A witch? Or something else, entirely?

Gothic fantasy PBK \$22.99

Synners

Best of SF Masterworks

Cadigan, Pat

Winner of the Arthur C Clarke Award, and shortlisted for the Nebula, *Synners* is a classic of cyberpunk fiction. What does it mean to be human when you're part of the machine? *Synners* are synthesisers – not machines, but people. They take images from the brains of performers, and turn them into a form which can be packaged, sold and consumed. They don't use the net, they are the net. Everything is automated. Everything is synthetic. But when the technology starts to fail, the terrifying question remains: what is a human? Winner of the 1992 Arthur C Clarke Award, *Synners* was one of Pat Cadigan's early stories, and cemented her place in the core of the cyberpunk movement, and has even inspired academic works. Lauded for her complex characters and plots, and seen as a stalwart of feminist SF, Cadigan has gone on to win another Clarke and a Hugo for subsequent works. A reissue of the SF Masterworks edition, with new cover art.

SF Masterworks PBK \$22.99

Infinity Gate

Pandominion 01

Garey, M R

Infinity is only the beginning.

The Pandominion: a political and trading alliance of a million worlds – except that they're really just the one world, Earth, in many different realities. And when an AI threat arises that could destroy everything the Pandominion has built, they'll eradicate it by whatever means necessary, no matter the cost to human life. Scientist Hadiz Tambuwal is looking for a solution to her own Earth's environmental collapse when she stumbles across the secret of inter-dimensional travel. It could save everyone on her dying planet, but now she's walked into the middle of a war on a scale she never dreamed of. And she needs to choose a side before it kills her. Discover the start of the thrillingly original, mind-bending SF duology the Pandominion, now in paperback.

Science fiction PBK \$24.99

Labyrinth's Heart

Rook & Rose 03

Garrick, M A

May you see the face and not the mask.

Ren came to Nadežra with a plan. She would pose as the long-lost daughter of the noble house Traementis. She would secure a fortune for herself and her sister. And she would vanish without a backward glance. She ought to have known that in the city of dreams, nothing is ever so simple. Now, she is Ren, con-artist and thief. But she is also Renata, the celebrated Traementis heir. She is Arenza, the mysterious pattern-reader and political rebel. And she is the Black Rose, a vigilante who fights alongside the legendary Rook. Even with the help of Grey Serrado and Derossi Vargo, it is too many masks for one person to wear. And as the dark magic the three of them helped unleash builds to storm that could tear the very fabric of the

city apart, it's only a matter of time before one of the masks slips-and everything comes crashing down around them. The thrilling conclusion to the trilogy, which begins with *The Mask of Mirrors*. M A Carrick's series has had a lot of love at Pulp.

Fantasy PBK \$24.99

Violet Made of Thorns

Violet Made of Thorns 01

Chen, Gina

Violet is a seer and a liar, influencing the court with her cleverly phrased – and not always true – divinations. Honesty is for suckers, like the oh-so-not-charming Prince Cyrus, who plans to banish her once he's crowned. But when the king orders her to predict Cyrus' love story for an upcoming ball, Violet accidentally awakens a dreaded curse that could ruin them all. Her wits may protect her in the cutthroat court, but they can't change her fate – nor the doomed attraction growing between her and the prince... The first in a darkly-enchanting fantasy duology about a morally-grey witch, a cursed prince, and a prophecy that ignites their fate-twisted destinies.

YA fantasy PBK \$19.99

Spirits Abroad

collection

Cho, Zen

Drawing inspiration from Asian myth, folklore, and her own queer experience, the award-winning *Spirits Abroad* by Zen Cho will guide you from the mundane to the magical, to enchanted realms inhabited by dragons, vampires, and incorrigible grandmothers. We'll meet an elderly ex-member of parliament, who recalls her youthful romance with an *orang bunian*. This was forbidden. Not because her lover was an invisible jungle spirit, but because she was Muslim and he was not. Then a teenage vampire struggles to balance homework, bossy aunts, first love... and eating people. A mischievous matriarch returns from the dead to disrupt her own funeral rites, pitting granddaughter against granddaughter. An earth spirit becomes entangled in protracted negotiations with an annoying landlord. And Chang E, the Chinese moon goddess, spins off into outer space – the ultimate metaphor for diaspora. Across 19 sparkling stories, this is a journey into magical new worlds of the imagination.

Myth retold TP \$34.99

Desert Creatures

Chronister, Kay

A young girl and her father take a desperate pilgrimage through a blasted post-apocalyptic Mojave Desert to the Holy City of Las Vegas in this vivid and uncanny tale of outsiders in a dangerous world. An unknown devastation has swept across the United States, a sickness causes the dead to flower and sprout fruit, and the promise of miracles draws pilgrims from all over to the Holy City of Las Vegas. Magdala and her father flee their home in the Sonora Desert, setting out across the wasteland in search of a cure for her disability. As they pass through blasted cities and ruined towns, they are forced to join with a group of survivors making their own pilgrimage. Perfect for fans of Lucy A Snyder and Jeff VanderMeer.

Eco-surrealism PBK \$19.99

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Science Fiction & Fantasy December 2023 (continued)

Silver Under Nightfall

Reaper 01

Chupeco, Rin

Remy Pendergast is a masterful hunter, but rumours that he's half-vampire are tarnishing his name among fellow Reapers. Desperate to clear his name and investigate newly-mutated bloodsuckers, Remy sets out alone... until fate intervenes. Enter Xiaodan Song, a kind-hearted heiress, and her arrogant lord fiancé, Zidan Malekh. While joining forces with the vampire couple may not help Remy's reputation, they hold the key to defeating the deadly creatures. As they navigate the dangerous terrain and face new threats, Remy develops complicated feelings for the couple. With each passing day, he begins to question everything he thought he knew about vampires, including the story behind his own family legacy. As the vampire mutation spreads throughout the kingdom, Remy must choose between loyalty to his beloved kingdom and his newfound connections with the creatures he was sworn to destroy. Will he risk it all to save those he's grown to care for? The first in a series.

Fantasy PBK \$22.99

Fate of the Argosi

Argosi 03

de Castell, Sebastien

While liberating a notorious thief from prison, Ferius Parfax encounters an inmate named Chedran, one of the last living members of her people, the Mahdek. Chedran is leading a group of young Mahdek who are determined to make a future for their people and Ferius agrees to help them find a place where they can live free from persecution. Meanwhile, having repaid her debt to the thief, Ferius finds her feelings towards Arissa becoming more complicated as she decides what debt she owes the society into which she was born. The third utterly-compelling fantasy adventure in the Argosi trilogy, exploring the origins of the Spellslinger series to enrapture devotees, as well as newcomers, alike.

YA fantasy TP \$24.99

The Crucible of Chaos

Court of Shadows: Prelude

de Castell, Sebastien

A mortally-wounded magistrate faces his deadliest trial, inside an ancient abbey – where the monks are going mad and the gods themselves may be to blame! Estevar Borros, one of the legendary sword-fighting magistrates known as the Greatcoats and the king's personal investigator of the supernatural, is no stranger to tales of ghosts and demons. When the fractious monks of the abbey rumoured to be the birthplace of the gods begin warring over claims of a new pantheon arising, the frantic abbot summons him to settle the dispute. But Estevar has his own problems: a near-fatal sword wound from his last judicial duel, a sworn knight who claims he has proof, the monks are consorting with demons, a diabolical inquisitor with no love for the Greatcoats, and a mysterious young woman claiming to be Estevar's ally but who may well be his deadliest enemy. Armed only with his famed investigative talents, his faltering skill with a blade and Imperious, his ornery mule, Estevar must root out the source of the madness lurking

inside the once-sacred walls of Isola Sombra before its chaos spreads to the country he's sworn to protect. Dumas meets *Deadpool* in this standalone fantasy.

Swashbuckling fantasy TP \$34.99

The Book Eaters

Dean, Sunyi

Hidden across England and Scotland live six, old Book Eater families. The last of their lines, they exist on the fringes of society and subsist on a diet of stories and legends. Children are rare and their numbers have dwindled, so when Devon Fairweather's second child is born a dreaded Mind Eater – a perversion of her own kind, who consumes not stories but the minds and souls of humans – she flees, before he can be turned into a weapon for the family... or worse. Living among humans and finding prey for her son, Devon seeks a cure for his hunger. But time is running out – for her family want her back, and with every soul her son consumes, he loses a little more of himself... This is a story of escape, a mother's savage devotion, and a queer love that will electrify readers looking for something beguiling, thrilling, strange, and new. Perfect for fans of Neil Gaiman and Susanna Clarke. Now in paperback. We loved this – recommended!

Dark fantasy PBK \$22.99

The Collected Stories of

Philip K Dick Volume 1

collection

Dick, Philip K

The definitive editions of Philip K Dick's short stories, containing some of the most defining works in the science fiction genre. This stunning new edition of Philip K Dick's work includes the influential 'Beyond Lies the Wub' and 'Second Variety', as well as a litany of mind-expanding other works. Work your way through some of the most influential stories from the 20th century, which have had a massive impact on popular culture. 'No other writer of his generation had such a powerful intellectual presence' – *Brian Aldiss*.

Classic sf PBK \$24.99

The Collected Stories of

Philip K Dick Volume 2

collection

Dick, Philip K

The definitive editions of Philip K Dick's short stories, containing some of the most defining works in the science fiction genre. This stunning new edition of Philip K Dick's work includes the influential 'Adjustment Team' and 'The Father Thing', as well as a litany of mind-expanding other works. Work your way through some of the most influential stories from the 20th century, which have had a massive impact on popular culture.

Classic sf PBK \$24.99

Knight's Wyrd

Tor Essentials

Doyle, Debra

& Macdonald, James D

On the eve of his knighting, Will Odosson learns his *wyrd*, or destiny: He shall meet death, before a year has passed. Will rushes north to release his betrothed from their

engagement, but on the way he is beset by all manner of horrors – a man-eating troll, carnivorous mermaids, a magic-working dragon... and something far worse: an evil unlike anything Will ever imagined. Ahead of its time on its original publication, Debra Doyle and James D Macdonald's Mythopoeic Fantasy Award-winning dark medieval fantasy *Knight's Wyrd* is perfect for contemporary tastes. With an introduction written for this edition by Sherwood Smith; it was originally published by a pair of YA imprints, but it works equally well as an adult read.

Fantasy (reissue) TP \$32.99

Our Share of Night

Enriquez, Mariana

His father could find what was lost. His father knew when someone was going to die. His father had talked to him about the dead who rode in on the wind. The dead travel fast. Gaspar is six years old, when the Order first come for him. For years, they have exploited his father's ability to commune with the dead and the demonic, presiding over macabre rituals where the unwanted and the disappeared are tortured and executed, sacrificed to the Darkness. Now, they want a successor. Nothing will stop the Order, nothing is beyond them. Surrounded by horrors, can Gaspar break free? Spanning the brutal decades of Argentina's military dictatorship and its aftermath, *Our Share of Night* is a haunting, thrilling novel of broken families, cursed inheritances, and the sacrifices a father will make to help his son escape his destiny.

Supernatural PBK \$24.99

Shadow Baron

Burnished City 02

Evans, Davinia

Siyon Velo might be acknowledged as the Alchemist. He may have even stabilised the planes and stopped Bezim from ever shaking into the sea again. But that doesn't mean he has any idea what's he doing-and it won't be long before everyone knows it. Then, mythical creatures once confined to operas and myths are spotted around Bezim. A djinn invades one of Zagiri's garden parties, and whispers of a naga slithering through the Flower District are all Anahid hears at the card table. Magic is waking up in the Mundane. It's up to Siyon to figure out a way to stop it, or everything he's worked hard to save will come crashing down. The thrilling sequel to Davinia Evans' wickedly-entertaining debut fantasy, *Notorious Sorcerer* (PBK, \$24.99).

Fantasy PBK \$24.99

The Body Snatchers

Best of SF Masterworks

Finney, Jack

Mill Valley, Marin County, California.

Dr Miles Bennell has lived there all his life. But one day Miles sees a patient who claims her Uncle isn't himself. He's a different person, despite being identical in every way except one: he is only pretending to have emotions. Miles dismisses this as delusions and refers her to a psychiatrist. Then, he finds the pods. Giant seed pods, filled with a strange, grey substance. A strange grey substance that can slowly, slowly, become

a perfect replica of a person. But what has happened to the people being replicated? Adapted for screen multiple times, *The Body Snatchers* is the origin of the phrase 'pod people', and a staple of pulp science fiction. Read by many as an allegory for the Cold War, or McCarthyism, it perfectly encapsulates the paranoia that comes with not knowing who around you can be trusted. A reissue of the SF Masterworks edition of the classic novel of paranoia – immortalised on film as *The Invasion of the Body Snatchers* – with new cover art.

SF Masterworks PBK \$22.99

Salt and Broom

Fisher, Sharon Lynn

Salt and broom, make this room, Safe and tight, against the night. Trunks packed with potions and cures, Jane Aire sets out on a crisp, clear morning in October to face the greatest challenge of her sheltered girls'-school existence. A shadow lies over Thornfield Hall and its reclusive master, Edward Rochester. And he's hired her, only, as a last resort. Jane stumbles, again and again, as she tries to establish a rapport with her prickly new employer, but he becomes the least of her worries as a mysterious force seems to work against her. The threats mount around both Jane and Rochester – who's becoming more intriguing and appealing to her, by the day. Jane begins to fear her herb healing and protective charms may not be enough to save the man she's growing to love, from a threat darker and more dangerous than either of them imagined. A witchy retelling of *Jane Eyre*.

Fantasy TP \$37.95

Threading the Needle

Foster, Monalisa

Talia Merritt, a former military sniper, once known as Death's Handmaiden, is a woman haunted by her past. Her cybernetic arm and her phantom – the implant that allows her to control it – serve as a constant reminder of what she's lost. But Talia is hoping to leave her past and her reputation behind and start anew – on the colony world of Goruden, a hardscrabble planet of frontier-minded people seeking a better life. And she's finally earned enough to start to make that dream come true. In the bucolic town of Tsuru, she interviews for a job as a marksmanship instructor for local bigwig Signore Ferran Contesti. But Contesti is not what he seems. A recent arrival on Goruden, he hopes to mould the colony world in his own image – an image at odds with the unencumbered life free of government and corporate meddling that Talia has come to find. Soon, Talia finds herself thrust into the start of another conflict. Talia desperately wants to stay out of it, but she may not have that luxury. With the fate of a planet and her own peace of mind hanging in the balance, Talia must decide whether or not to, once again, take up the mantle of Death's Handmaiden.

Military sf TP \$39.95

Light of the Veil

Shattered Star Legacy 01

Fox, Richard

Jayce Artan is a dock rat on a poor fringe world where he takes every job he can and prize-fights to earn enough money to get

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off world. When he's hired to guide a boat crewed by an interstellar mafia, he comes face to face with an ancient power – the Veil – that was pivotal to a civil war that ended decades ago. Jayce is 'Attuned' to this power and was almost killed by agents of the dead and defeated Tyrant who nearly enslaved the galaxy. He's rescued by an Adept of the Paragon order, warrior scholars that study the power and seek to keep any from upsetting the balance that keeps all life in order. Jayce is given the chance to journey beyond the Veil and into another dimension where he can claim a stone of immense power and return it to base reality and wield it as a weapon against the Tyrant. The world beyond the Veil is nothing like what Jayce knows, and he'll be opposed by insidious evil, self-doubt, and sabotage from the very people who are supposed to help him. While beyond the Veil, Jayce learns that a Conjunction is nigh, an event that could sunder the galaxy if evil forces succeed. Jayce must claim a Veil stone deep in the other dimension before the Tyrant's agents can beat him to the prize. The first in a series.

Space opera HC \$55.00

Protected Species

Caine Riordan 07

Gannon, Charles E

Caine Riordan and his self-styled 'Crew' have survived their first months on the planet they call Baetradgaria. They've overcome floods, dust storms, tornadoes, searing heat, bitter cold, desperate battles, and attacks by various strange species. However, their most desperate struggles have been against the wildly ferocious x'qao, for whom the pursuit and genocide of other beings is as much a sport as it is a strategy. Accordingly, Caine and his friends realise that if they are to endure, they must not merely survive but thrive. So far, they've done just that and made friends along the way. But a few scattered tribes and towns can't defeat the x'qao and their vassals. To do that, humans must claw higher up the food chain... before they tumble off into extinction.

Military sf HC \$57.95

The Ice Orphan

Rewilding Report 03

Gear, Kathleen O'Neal

It's been 925 summers since the Jemen introduced zyme – a bioluminescent algae – into the world's ocean and unwittingly triggered an ice age that has consumed most of the planet. All but a handful of Jemen flew to the stars, but before they left, they recreated several extinct species that had thrived in the last ice age. After almost 1,000 summers, the archaic hominins that struggle along the edges of massive glaciers are dwindling. All they have to save them is a dying quantum computer called Quancee and her student, a Denisovan man named Lynx. When the last Jemen, Vice Admiral Jorgenson, tells Lynx he's going to dismantle Quancee and use her parts to create a new computer, Lynx is stunned. But while Lynx battles to save Quancee, the quantum computer has other priorities. Before she dies, she has to save a special boy who cannot save himself. Meanwhile, in the lodges of the Sealion People, a sick boy on the verge of manhood hears voices, including an old woman who sings to him. When Jawbone

goes on his first quest to find a spirit helper, that same old woman finds him, and his life will never be the same. The third book in a cli-fi series from a nationally-recognised anthropologist explores a frozen future where archaic species struggle to survive an apocalyptic ice age. The Rewilding Report begins with *The Ice Lion* (TP, \$39.95).

Cli-fi TP \$42.99

Uncanny Vows

Huntsmen 02

Gilman, Laura Anne

Rosemary and Aaron Harker have been effectively, unofficially sidelined. There is no way to be certain, but they suspect their superiors know that their report on Brunson was less than complete, that they omitted certain truths. Are they being punished or tested? Neither Aaron nor Rosemary know for certain. It may be simply that they are being given a breather or that no significant hunts have been called in their region. But neither of them believes that. So, when they are sent to a town, just outside of Boston, with orders to investigate suspicious activity carefully; the Harkers suspect that it is a test. Particularly, since the hunt involves a member of the benefactors, wealthy individuals who donate money to the Huntsmen in exchange for certain special privileges and protections. If they screw this up... at best, they'll be out of favour, reduced to a life of minor hunts and 'clean up' for other Huntsmen. At worst, they will be removed from the ranks, their stipend gone – and Bothereation, their Hound, taken from them. They can't afford to screw this up. But what seems like a simple enough hunt – find the uncanny that attacked a man in his office and sent him into a sleep-like state – soon becomes far more complicated as more seemingly unrelated attacks occur. The Harkers must race to find what is shadowing them, before the uncanny strikes again, and sleep turns into murder – and the Huntsmen decide that they have been compromised beyond repair. But their quarry may not be the only uncanny in town. Bothereation and Aaron both sense something else, something shadowing them. Something old, dangerous... and fey.

Supernatural mystery TP \$42.95

The Gilded Crown

Raven's Trade 01

Gordon, Marianne

The first time Hellevir visited Death, she was 10 years old... Since she was a little girl, Hellevir has been able to raise the dead. Every creature can be saved for a price, a price demanded by the shrouded figure who rules the afterlife, who takes a little more from Hellevir with each soul she resurrects. Such a gift can rarely remain a secret. When Princess Sullivan, sole heir to the kingdom's throne, is assassinated, the Queen summons Hellevir to demand she bring her granddaughter back to life. But once is not enough; the killers might strike again. The Princess' death would cause a civil war, so the Queen commands that Hellevir remain by her side. But Sullivan is no easy woman to be bound to, even as Hellevir begins to fall in love with her. With the threat of war looming, Hellevir must trade more and more of herself to keep the princess alive. But Death will always take what he is owed. The first in a series.

Fantasy TP \$32.99

What Song the Sirens Sang

Gideon Sable 03

Green, Simon R

You can find everything you've ever dreamed of in the strange, old magical shop known as Old Harry's Place. The problem is, not all dreams are kind. Gideon Sable – legendary master thief, conman and well-dressed rogue – and his partner in crime, Annie Anybody, don't want to be shopkeepers. But when the enigmatic Harry decides to retire, he blackmails the pair into taking the store on. Before the grand reopening can happen, however, a menacing stranger arrives – with a rare and deadly item for them to appraise. A small piece of rock, with an unnerving aura, which 'Smith' claims contains the last echoes of the legendary sirens' song. Before they can find out more, however, Smith vanishes... leaving only the stone. Some valuables are more trouble than they're worth. But before Gideon and Annie can work out if they've been set up, the stone is stolen from its impregnable hiding place. How? And why? Gideon only knows one thing for certain: no one steals from him and gets away with it...

Urban fantasy TP \$42.95

Haunted by the Past

Ishmael Jones 02

Green, Simon R

Ishmael Jones knows all there is to know about solving mysteries. Together with his love and partner in crimes, Penny Belcourt, he specialises in cases of the weird and uncanny. Lucas Carr went to Glenbury Hall, an old country manor house turned hotel. He signed in at reception, took his key, and went upstairs to his room. But he never got there. Somehow, he vanished along the way, with not a single clue to suggest what might have happened to him. Lucas belonged to the same mysterious organisation that employs Ishmael and Penny, so they are sent in to solve the mystery. But when they arrive at grim and isolated Glenbury Hall, they discover it has a reputation as one of the most haunted old houses in England. None of the usual headless monks, or walled-up nuns – just stories of lost souls that dance with the statues in the grounds; doors that won't stay shut, and rooms that aren't always there; and something that prowls the house in the early hours, endlessly searching. They say... it crawls. Does Lucas' disappearance have something to do with the organisation or the Hall's haunted past? Ishmael and Penny have to work their way through a series of mysterious clues and misleading suspects, uncovering secret after secret, before they finally arrive at a truth that no-one suspected. The problem with history is that it's not always content to stay in the past. A mass market paperback reissue.

Paranormal mystery (reissue) PBK \$26.95

Twenty-First Century Tolkien

What Middle-Earth Means to Us Today

Groom, Nick

An engaging, original and radical reassessment of J R R Tolkien, revealing how his visionary creation of Middle-Earth is more relevant now, than ever before. What is it about Middle-Earth and its inhabitants that has captured the imagination of millions of people around the world? And why

does Tolkien's visionary creation continue to fascinate and inspire us 85 years on from its first appearance? Beginning with Tolkien's earliest influences and drawing on key moments from his life, *Twenty-First Century Tolkien* is an engaging and radical reinterpretation of the beloved author's work. Not only does it trace the genesis of the original books, it also explores the later adaptations and reworkings that cemented his reputation as a cultural phenomenon, including Peter Jackson's blockbuster films of *The Lord of the Rings* and *The Hobbit* and the highly-anticipated TV series *The Rings of Power*. Delving deep into topics such as friendship, failure, the environment, diversity, and Tolkien's place in a post-COVID age, Nick Groom takes us on an unexpected journey through Tolkien's world, revealing how it is more relevant now, than ever before. Now in paperback.

Tolkien TP \$32.99

Will Do Magic for Small Change

Hairston, Andrea

Cinnamon Jones dreams of stepping on stage and acting her heart out like her famous grandparents, Redwood and Wildfire. But she's always been theatrically challenged. That won't necessarily stop her! But her family life is a tangle of mysteries and secrets, and nobody is telling her the whole truth. Before her brother died, he gave Cinnamon *The Chronicles of the Great Wanderer* – a tale of a Dahomean warrior woman and an alien from another dimension who perform at the 1893 Chicago World's Fair. They are a story of magic or alien science, but the connection to Cinnamon's past is unmistakable. When an act of violence wounds her family, Cinnamon and her theatre squad determine to solve the mysteries and bring her worlds crashing together.

Fantasy TP \$32.99

Unraveller

Hardinge, Frances

In a world where anyone can create a life-destroying curse, only one person has the power to unravel them. Kellen does not fully understand his talent, but helps those transformed maliciously – including Nettle. Recovered from entrapment in bird form, she is, now, his constant companion, and closest ally. But Kellen has also been cursed, and unless he and Nettle can remove his curse, Kellen is in danger of unravelling everything – and everyone – around him...

YA fantasy TP \$24.99

Bad Dolls: Four Dark Tales collection

Harrison, Rachel

A new collection of four horror short stories – exploring female friendship, body image, heartbreak, and hauntings. In 'Reply Hazy, Try Again', an indecisive young woman finds a mysterious Magic 8 Ball that might just have the answers she's been looking for... or might lead her down a path of self-destruction. In 'Bachelorette', a bridesmaid attends her childhood best friend's bachelorette weekend only to discover the itinerary may demand more than she's willing to sacrifice. In 'Goblin', an unusually brutal dieting app wreaks havoc on the life of a timid, insecure woman preparing to attend

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her ex's wedding. In 'Bad Dolls', after the death of her younger sister, a wayward young woman comes into possession of a strange porcelain doll that could offer a connection to her lost sister, but could also just be pure evil. These dark tales navigate the complications of modern life with humour, insight, and the odd blood sacrifice...

Horror HC \$27.99

Never

Hastings, Jessa

Second star to the right and straight on to mourning... A fairy tale retelling like no other.

Fairy tales retold TP \$32.99

A Demon's Guide to Wooing a Witch

Hawley, Sarah

Welcome back to Glimmer Falls! Calladia Cunnington knows she's rough around the edges and her hot temper can get the best of her. So, when she stops a demon attack one night, she's horrified to realise the man she saved is none other than the cold-hearted Astaroth. Astaroth is a legendary member of the demon high council – or at least he was. Suffering from amnesia after being stripped of his immortality and banished to the mortal plane, Astaroth doesn't know why a demon named Moloch is after him, nor why the angry, hot-in-a-terrifying-way witch hates him so much. Calladia grudgingly agrees to help Astaroth find the witch who might be able to restore his memory, vowing that once Astaroth is cured, she'll kick his ass. But the more time she spends with the snarky yet utterly charming demon, the more she realises she likes this new, improved Astaroth... and, maybe, she doesn't want him to recover his memories, after all.

Paranormal romance PBK \$22.99

Divine Might

Goddesses in Greek Myth

Haynes, Natalie

Few writers, today, have reshaped our view of the ancient Greek myths more than revered bestselling author Natalie Haynes. *Divine Might* is a female-centred look at Olympus and the Furies, focusing on the goddesses whose prowess, passions, jealousies, and desires rival those of their male kin, including: Athene, who sprang fully formed from her father's brow (giving Zeus a killer headache in the process), the goddess of war and provider of wise counsel. Aphrodite, born of the foam (and sperm released from a Titan's castrated testicles), the most beautiful of all the Olympian goddesses, the epitome of love who dispenses desire and inspires longing – yet harbors a fearsome vengeful side, doling out brutal punishments to those who displease her. Hera, Zeus' long-suffering wife, whose jealousy born of his repeated dalliances with mortals, nymphs, and other goddesses, leads her to wreak elaborate and often painful revenge on those she believes have wronged her. (Well, wouldn't you?) Demeter, goddess of the harvest and mother of Persephone; Artemis, the hunter and goddess of wild spaces; the Muses, the nine daughters of Zeus and Mnemosyne, the

goddess of memory; and Hestia, goddess of domesticity and sacrificial fire. Infused with Haynes' engaging charm and irrepressible wit, *Divine Might* is a refreshing take on the legends and stories we thought we knew.

Mythology TP \$36.99

Japanese Ghost Stories

Japanese Classics

Hearn, Lafcadio

In this collection of classic ghost stories from Japan, beautiful princesses turn out to be frogs, paintings come alive, deadly spectral brides haunt the living and a samurai delivers the baby of a Shinto goddess with mystical help. Lafcadio Hearn, a master storyteller, drew on traditional Japanese folklore, infused with memories of his own haunted childhood in Ireland, to create these chilling tales. They are today regarded in Japan as classics, in their own right. New in Penguin Japanese Classics: ghost stories from a master raconteur of the macabre – with new cover art.

Classic ghost stories PBK \$22.99

House of Hunger

Henderson, Alexis

Wanted: A bloodmaid of exceptional taste. Must have a keen proclivity for life's finer pleasures. Girls of weak will need not apply. Marion Shaw has been raised in the slums, where want and deprivation are all she knows. Despite longing to leave the city and its miseries, she has no real hope of escape until the day she spots a strange advertisement in the newspaper, seeking a 'bloodmaid'. Though she knows little about the far north – where wealthy nobles live in luxury and drink the blood of those in their service – Marion applies to the position.

In a matter of days, she finds herself at the notorious House of Hunger. There, Marion is swept into a world of dark debauchery – and there, at the centre of it all is her. Her name is Countess Lisavet. Loved and feared in equal measure, she presides over this hedonistic court. And she takes a special interest in Marion. Lisavet is magnetic, charismatic, seductive – and Marion is eager to please her new mistress. But when her fellow bloodmaids begin to go missing in the night, Marion is thrust into a vicious game of cat and mouse. She'll need to learn the rules of her new home – and fast – or its halls will soon become her grave.

Dark fantasy PBK \$22.99

The Kingdom of Sweets

Johansen, Erika

A darkly-magical take on the celebrated Christmas story of the *Nutcracker*... Light and dark – this is the destiny placed upon Natasha and Clara, the birthright bestowed on them by their godfather, the mysterious sorcerer Drosselmeyer. Clara, the favourite, grows into beauty and ease, while Natasha is cursed to live in her sister's shadow. But one fateful Christmas Eve, Natasha gets her chance at revenge. For Drosselmeyer has returned and brought with him the Nutcracker, an enchanted present which offers entry to a deceptively beautiful world – the Kingdom of Sweets.

In this land of snow and sugar, Natasha is presented with a power far greater than Drosselmeyer – the Sugar Plum Fairy, who is also a giver of gifts... and a maker of dread-filled bargains. As Natasha uncovers the dark destiny laid before her birth, she must reckon with powers both earthly and magical... and decide to which world she truly belongs.

Fantasy TP \$32.99

The Eye of the World

Wheel of Time 01, special edition

Jordan, Robert

When their village is attacked by terrifying creatures, Rand al'Thor and his friends are forced to flee for their lives. An ancient evil is stirring, and its servants are scouring the land for the Dragon Reborn – the prophesied hero who can deliver the world from darkness. In this Age of myth and legend, the Wheel of Time turns. What was, what may be, and what is, may yet fall under the Shadow. A stunning special edition hardback of the first novel in the Wheel of Time series – one of the most influential and popular fantasy epics ever published. This special hardcover edition includes: new front cover artwork with gold foil; beautiful, full-colour endpapers with the classic Wheel of Time map – from Thomas Canty and Ellisa Mitchell; head and tail bands.

Fantasy HC \$65.00

Aurora Rising

Aurora Cycle 01

Kaufman, Amie & Kristoff, Jay

Tyler Jones is ready to recruit the squad of his dreams, but his own boneheaded heroism sees him stuck with the dregs nobody else in the Academy would touch: a cocky diplomat with a black belt in sarcasm; a sociopath scientist with a fondness for shooting her bunkmates; a smart-ass tech-whiz with the galaxy's biggest chip on his shoulder; an alien warrior with anger management issues; and a tomboy pilot who's totally not into him, in case you were wondering. And Ty's squad isn't even his biggest problem – that'd be Aurora Jie-Lin O'Malley, the girl he's just rescued from interdimensional space. Auri is a girl out of time and out of her depth and she could be the catalyst that starts a war millions of years in the making. Tyler's squad of losers, discipline-cases and misfits might just be the last hope for the entire galaxy. *Nobody Panic*. 'Us outsiders gotta stick together.' The first book in the award-winning Aurora Cycle, now in paperback.

YA space opera PBK \$22.99

Aurora Burning

Aurora Cycle 02

Kaufman, Amie & Kristoff, Jay

Our heroes are back. Kind of. First, the bad news: an ancient evil – you know, your standard consume-all-life-in-the-galaxy deal – is about to be unleashed. The good news? Squad 312 is standing by to save the day. They've just got to take care of a few small distractions first. Like the clan of gremps who'd like to rearrange their favourite faces. And the cadre of illegit GIA agents with creepy flowers where their eyes

used to be, who'll stop at nothing to get their hands on Auri. Then, there's Kal's long-lost sister, who's not exactly happy to see her baby brother, and has a Syldrathi army at her back. With half the known galaxy on their tails, Squad 312 has never felt so wanted. When they learn the Hadfield has been found, it's time to come out of hiding. Two centuries ago, the colony ship vanished, leaving Auri as its sole survivor. Now, its black box might be what saves them – but time is short, and if Auri can't learn to master her powers as a Trigger, the squad and all their admirers are going to be deader than the Great Ultrasaur of Abraaxis IV. Shocking revelations, bank heists, mysterious gifts, inappropriately tight bodysuits and an epic firefight will determine the fate of the Aurora Legion's most unforgettable heroes – and, maybe, the rest of the galaxy as well. The Aurora Cycle begins with *Aurora Rising* (PBK, \$22.99). Now in paperback.

YA space opera PBK \$22.99

Aurora's End

Aurora Cycle 03

Kaufman, Amie & Kristoff, Jay

Is this the end? What happens when you ask a bunch of losers, discipline cases and misfits to save the galaxy from an ancient evil? The ancient evil wins, of course. Wait... Not. So. Fast. When we last saw Squad 312, they were working together seamlessly (aka freaking out), as an intergalactic battle raged, and an ancient superweapon threatened to obliterate Earth. Everything went horribly wrong, naturally. But as it turns out, not all endings are endings, and the team has one last chance to rewrite theirs. Maybe, two. It's complicated. Cue Zila, Fin, and Scarlett (*and Magellan!*) making friends, making enemies and making history? Sure, no problem. Cue Tyler, Kal and Auri joining forces with two of the galaxy's most hated villains? Um, okay, yeah. That, too. Actually saving the galaxy, though? Now, that will take a miracle. The squad you love may be out of time, but are they out of luck? Find out in the epic conclusion to the bestselling and award-winning Aurora Cycle series; it begins with *Aurora Rising* (PBK, \$22.99). Now in paperback.

YA space opera PBK \$22.99

The Burnings

Kelsey, Naomi

Nothing scares men like witchcraft... 1589. Scottish housemaid Geillis and Danish courtier Margareta lead opposite lives, but they both know one thing: when a man cries 'witch', no woman is safe. Yet, when the marriage of King James VI and Princess Anna of Denmark brings Geillis and Margareta together, everything they supposed about good, evil, men, and women, is cast in a strange and brilliant new light. For the first time in history, could black magic – or rumours of it – be a very real tool for women's political gain? As the North Berwick witch trials whip Scotland – and her king – into a frenzy of paranoia, the clock is ticking. Can Margareta and Geillis keep each other safe? And, once the burnings are over, in whose hands will power truly lie?

Witch hunts TP \$32.99

Pulp Fiction

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Thornhedge

novella

Kingfisher, T

On the day of Toadling's birth, she was stolen from her human family by the fairies, but she grew up safe and loved in the warm waters of faerieland. Once an adult, the fae ask a favour of Toadling: return to the human world and offer a blessing of protection to a newborn child. Centuries later, a knight approaches a towering wall of brambles, where the thorns are as sharp as swords. He's heard there's a curse here that needs breaking, but it's a curse Toadling will do anything to uphold... 'Immensely charming, unexpected, full of heart, I was utterly delighted by this incredibly original retelling of *Sleeping Beauty*.' – *Katherine Arden*, bestselling author of *The Bear and the Nightingale*.

Fairy tales retold HC \$24.99

The Best American Science Fiction and Fantasy 2023

anthology

Kuang, R F (editor)

'Short stories have to accomplish a nearly impossible magic trick: to introduce a world often much stranger than our own and make you care about it in a matter of pages,' writes R F Kuang in her introduction. 'The most important part of this magic trick is just a willingness to get weird.' The stories in *The Best American Science Fiction and Fantasy 2023* are brimming with bizarre and otherworldly premises. Women can't lie, or fall in love. Fathers feed their children ghost preserves. Souls chase one another through animal incarnations. Yet, these stories are grounded deeply in our reality. Out of these stories' weirdness emerges the cruelty of border enforcement, the horror of legislation restricting reproductive freedom, the frightening pace of AI. The result is a stunning, immersive, intensely felt experience, showing us less of what the world is, and more of what it could be.

Includes stories by: Nathan Ballingrud, K T Bryski, Isabel Cañas, Maria Dong, Kim Fu, Theodora Goss, Alix E Harrow, S L Huang, Stephen Graham Jones, Shingai Njeri Kagunda, Isabel J Kim, Samantha Mills, MKRNYILGLD, Malka Older, Susan Palwick, Linda Raquel Nieves Pérez, Sofia Samatar, Kristina Ten, Catherynne M Valente, Chris Willrich.

Year's Best TP \$36.99

Celestial

Lachlan, M D

1977. The Space Race is far from over. Ziggy Da Luca is a linguist recruited by NASA for reasons she can't quite fathom. After seeing the video they've intercepted, it becomes clear her work is far more central to their plans than she realised. Sent to the moon to investigate a hatch discovered by the Russians, Ziggy faces challenges she's never trained for. Seen by some as a liability, she must contend with her own crew as well as the Russian cosmonauts, as everyone races to uncover the hatch's mystery. What she finds there is beyond anything she could imagine. The future of humankind could be changed for ever. The only question is whether she'll make it home to tell her story.

Alternate history PBK \$24.99

Anything with Nothing

Valdemar anthologies

Lackey, Mercedes (editor)

This 17th anthology of short stories set in the beloved Valdemar high fantasy universe features tales by debut and established authors, and a brand-new story from Mercedes Lackey.

Valdemar TP \$39.95

Chaos Terminal

Midsolar Murders 02

Lafferty, Mur

Mallory Viridian would rather *not* be an amateur detective and fled to outer space to avoid it... but when one of the new human arrivals on a space shuttle is murdered, she's back in the game. Mallory Viridian would rather not be an amateur detective, thank you very much. But no matter what she does, people persist in dying around her – and only she seems to be able to solve the crime. After fleeing to an alien space station in hopes that the lack of humans would stop the murders, a serial killer had the nerve to follow her to Station *Eternity*. (Mallory deduced who the true culprit was that time, too.) Now, the law enforcement agent who hounded Mallory on Earth has come to Station *Eternity*, along with her teenage crush and his sister, Mallory's best friend from high school. Mallory doesn't believe in coincidences; and, so, she's not at all surprised when someone in the latest shuttle from Earth is murdered. It's the story of her life, after all. Only, this time, she has more than a killer to deal with. Between her fugitive friends, a new threat arising from the Sundry hivemind, and the alarmingly peculiar behaviour of the sentient space station they all call home, even Mallory's deductive abilities are strained. If she can't find out what's going on (and fast), a disaster of intergalactic proportions may occur... The follow-up to *Station Eternity* (TP, \$27.99).

SF crime TP \$35.00

The Words of Kings and Prophets

Gael Song 02

Lawless, Shauna

Ireland, 1000 AD. Gormflaith is unhappily married to Brian Boru, High King of Ireland, and although a queen she struggles with her limited position. As an immortal Fomorion with the secret gift of magic, Gormflaith has a burning desire: to find and destroy the hidden fortress of her sworn enemies, the Descendants, who seek to kill her kind at all costs. She begins to use her magical powers, and discovers she is more skilled than she ever realised... but can she control what she will become? Meanwhile, Fódla, the Descendants' healer, mourns her banished sister but clings to life as the guardian of her young nephew. She seeks a place of safety for them both, but he has secrets of his own that could threaten everything – and Fódla must do all in her power to keep him hidden away from those who would use him for evil. When a mysterious man comes to King Brian's court, his presence could spell disaster or deliverance for both Gormflaith and Fódla – and for Ireland herself. For he is Tomas, an ambitious immortal with few scruples – and he will do anything to see his plans become reality. Soon, mortals

and immortals alike are drawn towards a bitter conflict that could decide the future of Ireland and all her people. The sequel to *The Children of Gods and Fighting Men* (PBK, \$22.99).

Historical fantasy TP \$32.99

Schrader's Chord

Leeds, Scott

I told you they were real. After his estranged father's mysterious death, Charlie Remick returns to Seattle to help with the funeral. There, he discovers his father left him two parting gifts: the keys to the family record store and a strange black case containing four ancient records that, according to legend, can open a gate to the land of the dead. When Charlie, his sister, and their two friends play the records, they unwittingly open a floodgate of unspeakable horror. *Heart-Shaped Box* meets *The Haunting of Hill House* in this chilling debut about cursed vinyl records that open a gateway to the land of the dead.

Horror PBK \$22.99

The Blue, Beautiful World

Lord, Karen

The world is changing, and humanity must change with it. Rising seas and soaring temperatures have radically transformed the face of Earth. Meanwhile, Earth is being observed from afar by other civilisations... and now they are ready to make contact. Vying to prepare humanity for first contact are a group of dreamers and changemakers, including Peter Hendrix, the genius inventor behind the most advanced VR tech; Charyssa, a beloved celebrity icon with a passion for humanitarian work; and Kanoa, a member of a global council of young people drafted to reimagine the relationship between humankind and alien societies. And they may have an unexpected secret weapon: Owen, a pop megastar whose ability to connect with his adoring fans is more than charisma. His hidden talent could be the key to uniting Earth as it looks toward the stars. But Owen's abilities are so unique that no one can control him and so seductive that he cannot help but use them. Can he transcend his human limitations and find the freedom he has always dreamed of? Or is he doomed to become the dictator of his nightmares?

First contact TP \$34.99

Prophet Song

Lynch, Paul

On a dark, wet evening in Dublin, scientist and mother-of-four Eilish Stack answers her front door to find two officers from Ireland's newly-formed secret police on her step. They have arrived to interrogate her husband, a trade unionist. Ireland is falling apart, caught in the grip of a government turning towards tyranny. As the life she knows and the ones she loves disappear before her eyes, Eilish must contend with the dystopian logic of her new, unravelling country. How far will she go, to save her family? And what – or, who – is she willing to leave behind? The winner of the Booker Prize 2023, *Prophet Song* presents a terrifying and shocking vision of a country sliding into authoritarianism, and a deeply human portrait of a mother's fight to hold her family together.

Dystopia TP \$32.99

The Very Secret Society of Irregular Witches

She found magic in the most unlikely of places. Mika Moon follows three rules: hide your magic, keep your head down, and stay away from other witches. Mika is good at being alone, and she doesn't mind it... mostly. But when an unexpected invitation arrives to teach three young witches, at the mysterious Nowhere House, Mika jumps at the chance for a different life. As she comes to care for its quirky inhabitants – and Jamie, the handsome but prickly librarian – finally belonging somewhere feels like a real possibility. But magic isn't the only danger in the world – is it worth risking everything to protect the found family Mika didn't know she was looking for? A warm and uplifting novel about an isolated witch whose opportunity to embrace a new family – and a new love – changes the course of her life. This was very popular, here, in a previous edition – recommended!

Paranormal romance PBK \$22.99

The Sleepless

Manibo, Victor

Journalist Jamie Vega is Sleepless: he can't sleep, nor does he need to. When his boss dies, on the eve of a controversial corporate takeover, Jamie doesn't buy the too-convenient explanation of suicide, and launches an investigation of his own. But everything goes awry, when Jamie discovers that he was the last person who saw Simon alive. Not only do the police suspect him; Jamie, himself, has no memory of that night. Alarming, his memory loss may have to do with how he became Sleepless: not naturally, like other Sleepless people, but through a risky and illegal biohacking process. As Jamie delves deeper into Simon's final days, he tangles with extremist organisations and powerful corporate interests, all while confronting past traumas and unforeseen consequences of his medical experimentation. But Jamie soon faces the most dangerous decision of all as he uncovers a terrifying truth about Sleeplessness that imperils him – and all of humanity.

SF thriller TP \$37.95

Lilith

Marmery, Nikki

In the Garden of Eden, at the beginning of time, an outrageous lie is born: that women are inferior. Lilith and Adam are equal and happy in the Garden of Eden. But when Adam decides Lilith should submit to his will and lie beneath him, she refuses – and is banished forever from Paradise. Demonised and sidelined, Lilith watches in fury as God creates Eve, the woman who accepts her submission. But Lilith has a secret: she has already tasted the fruit of the Tree of Knowledge. Endowed with Wisdom, she knows why Asherah – God's wife and equal, the Queen of Heaven – is missing. Lilith has a plan: she will rescue Eve, find Asherah, restore balance to the world and regain her rightful place in Paradise. Lilith is the heroine women have waited 6,000 years for.

Myth retold HC \$39.99

Pulp Fiction

Science Fiction & Fantasy December 2023 (continued)

The Marriage Act **Marrs, John**

Britain, the near future. A right-wing government believes it has the answer to society's ills – the Sanctity of Marriage Act, which actively encourages marriage as the norm, punishing those who choose to remain single. But four couples are about to discover just how impossible relationships can be when the government is monitoring every aspect of our personal lives, monitoring every word, every minor disagreement... and will use every tool in its arsenal to ensure everyone will love, honour, and obey.

SF thriller PBK \$22.99

All the Hidden Paths

Tithenai Chronicles 02

Meadows, Foz

With the plot against them foiled and the city of Qi-Katai in safe hands, newlywed and tentative lovers Velasin and Caethari have just begun to test the waters of their relationship. But the wider political ramifications of their marriage are still playing out across two nations, and all too soon, they're summoned north to Tithena's capital city, Qi-Xihan, to present themselves to its monarch. With Caethari newly invested as his grandmother's heir and Velasin's old ghosts gnawing at his heels, what little peace they've managed to find is swiftly put to the test. Cae's recent losses have left him racked with grief and guilt, while Vel struggles with the disconnect, between instincts that have kept him safe in secrecy and what an open life requires of him now. Pursued by unknown assailants and with Qi-Xihan's court factions jockeying for power, Vel and Cae must use all the skills at their disposal to not only survive, but thrive. Because there's more than one way to end an alliance, and more than one person who wants to see them fail... and they will resort to murder if needed. The sequel to *A Strange and Stubborn Endurance* (TP, \$34.99) by a Brisbane-born writer.

Fantasy TP \$34.99

Bride of the Shadow King

Shadow King 01

Mercedes, Sylvia

A shunned princess. A reluctant king. A marriage that could save both their kingdoms... but destroy their hearts. Though she is the oldest daughter, Princess Faraine lives in the background, shunned from court and kept out of sight. Her chronic illness makes her a liability to the crown, and she has learned to give place to her beautiful, favoured younger sister in all things. When the handsome and enigmatic Shadow King comes seeking a bride, Faraine is not surprised that her sister is his choice. The first in a series.

Romantasy PBK \$22.99

The 14th Storm

Mooney, Daniel J

2043. The planet is ravaged by violent storms and failing crops, and much of the world is now uninhabitable. Amidst a world of hungry and desperate people, the Department of Environmental Justice have been tasked with finding and executing those who have denied climate change. On the eve of the 14th storm, Broderick and Malley are asked to hunt the leader of a stirring rebellion... but, something feels wrong. Broderick is shut off and

interested only in exacting revenge. Malley is sceptical, and thinks their latest target is more politically-motivated than their employer is letting on. Their journey is upended by Fionnuala – a young and idealistic runaway, who is hopeful for the future and desperate to save the target.

Cli-fi PBK \$22.99

River of Golden Bones

Golden Court 01

Mulford, A K

A sleeping curse. A fallen court. A secret twin. Twins Calla and Briar have spent their entire lives hiding from the powerful sorceress who destroyed their kingdom... and from the humans who don't know they are Wolves. Each twin has their own purpose in life: Briar's is to marry the prince of an ally pack and save the Golden Court. Calla's purpose is to remain a secret, her twin's shadow... the backup plan. No one knows who Calla truly is, except for her childhood friend – and sister's betrothed – the distractingly handsome Prince Grae. But when Calla and Briar journey out of hiding for Briar's wedding, all of their well-made plans go awry. The evil sorceress is back with another sleeping curse for the last heir to the Golden Court. Calla must step out of the shadows to save their sister, their kingdom, and their own legacy. Continuing to hide as a human and denying who she truly is, Calla embarks on a quest across the realm, discovering a whole world she never knew existed. Outside the confines of rigid Wolf society, Calla begins to wonder: who could she be if she dared to try? The first in a new romantic fantasy series, from the author of the popular Five Crowns of Okrih series.

Fantasy TP \$32.99

Julia

Newman, Sandra

London, chief city of Airstrip One, the third-most populous province of Oceania.

It's 1984, and Julia Worthing works as a mechanic fixing the novel-writing machines in the Fiction Department at the Ministry of Truth. Under the ideology of IngSoc and the rule of the Party and its leader Big Brother, Julia is a model citizen – cheerfully cynical, believing in nothing and caring not at all about politics. She routinely breaks the rules but also collaborates with the regime whenever necessary. Everyone likes Julia. A diligent member of the Junior Anti-Sex League (though, she is secretly promiscuous) she knows how to survive in a world of constant surveillance, Thought Police, Newspeak, Doublethink, child spies, and the black markets of the prole neighbourhoods. She's very good at staying alive. But Julia becomes intrigued by a colleague from the Records Department – a mid-level worker of the Outer Party called Winston Smith – when she sees him locking eyes with a superior from the Inner Party at the Two Minutes Hate. And when, one day, finding herself walking toward Winston, she impulsively hands him a note – a potentially suicidal gesture – she comes to realise that she's losing her grip, and can no longer safely navigate her world. Julia is a bold, feminist retelling of *Nineteen Eighty-Four* that goes beyond Winston Smith's story to, finally, reveal what life in Oceania was like for women.

Dystopia TP \$32.99

Vurt

30th anniversary edition

Noon, Jeff

Scribble and his gang, the Stash Riders, haunt the streets of an alternate Manchester, chasing the immersive highs that come from Vurt Feathers. Place a feather in your mouth and it takes you to the Vurt – another place, a trip, a shared reality of all our dreams and mythologies. Different coloured feathers provide different experiences, but Scribble is searching for his lost love and only one feather offers the hope of finding her. It's the ultimate feather, it may not even exist, at all – Curious Yellow. But as the Game Cat says, *'Be careful, be very careful. This ride is not for the weak'*. The 30th anniversary edition of the award-winning cult classic, hailed as the novel that reinvented cyberpunk. First published in 1993, Jeff Noon's extraordinary, influential, award-winning novel transcended sf boundaries and resisted categorisation. Alluding to noir and surrealism, alike, it was defiantly its own thing and remains so, 30 years later.

Cyberpunk TP \$34.99

Sunny

TV tie-in

O'Sullivan, Colin

In near-future Japan, Susie Sakamoto is mourning the loss of her husband and son to a plane crash. Alone in her big modern house, which feels like more of a prison, Susie spends her days drinking heavily and taking her anger out at the only 'sentient' thing left in her life: Sunny, the annoying home robot her husband designed. Susie despises Sunny, and, sometimes, even gets a sinking feeling that Sunny is out to hurt her. To escape her paranoia and depression, Susie frequents the seedy, drug-fuelled bars of the city, where she hears rumours of *The Dark Manual*, a set of guidelines that allow you to reprogram your robot for nefarious purposes. In the hopes of finding a way to turn off Sunny, for good, Susie begins to search for the manual; only to learn it's too late: the machines are becoming more sentient and dangerous. Thrust into the centre of a dark, corporate war, Susie realises there's someone behind the code, pulling the strings. And they want her dead.

Cyberpunk PBK \$22.99

Like Thunder

Desert Magician's Duology 02

Okorafor, Nnedi

Niger, West Africa, 2077. Welcome back. This second volume is a breathtaking story that sweeps across the sands of the Sahara, flies up to the peaks of the Air Mountains, cartwheels into a wild megacity – you get the idea. I am the Desert Magician; I bring water where there is none. This book begins with Dikéogu Obidimkpa slowly losing his mind. Yes, that boy who can bring rain just by thinking about it is having some... issues. Years ago, Dikéogu went on an epic journey to save Earth with the shadow speaker girl, Ejii Ubaid, who became his best friend. When it was all over, they went their separate ways, but now he's learned their quest never really ended at all. So, Dikéogu, more powerful than ever, reunites with Ejii. He records this story as an audiofile, hoping it will help him keep his sanity or, at least, give him something to leave behind. Smart kid, but it won't work – or will it? I can tell you

this: it won't be like before. Our rainmaker and shadow speaker have changed. And, after this, nothing will ever be the same again. As they say, *'Onye amaro ebe nmili si bido mabaya ama ama onye nyelu ya akwa oji welu ficha aru'*. Or, *'If you do not remember where the rain started to beat you, you will not remember who gave you the towel with which to dry your body'*. This brand-new sequel to Nnedi Okorafor's recently-reissued *Shadow Speaker* (HC, \$55.00).

Science fiction HC \$57.95

Forged By Blood

Tainted Blood duology 01

Okosun, Ehibgor

In the midst of a tyrannical regime and political invasion, Dèmi just wants to survive: to avoid the suspicion of the non-magical Ajes who occupy her ancestral homeland of Ifè; to escape the King's brutal genocide of her people – the darker skinned, magic wielding Oluso; and to live peacefully with her secretive mother, while learning to control the terrifying blood magic that is her birthright. But when Dèmi's misplaced trust costs her mother's life, survival gives way to vengeance. She bides her time until the devious Lord Ekwensi grants her the perfect opportunity – kidnap the Aje prince, Jonas, and bargain with his life to save the remaining Oluso. With the help of her reckless childhood friend Colin, Dèmi succeeds, but discovers that she and Jonas share more than deadly secrets; every moment tangles them further into a forbidden, unmistakable attraction, much to Colin's – and Dèmi's – distress. The kidnapping is now a joint mission: to return to the King, help get Lord Ekwensi on the council, and bolster the voice of the Oluso in a system designed to silence them. But the way is dangerous, Dèmi's magic is growing yet uncertain, and it's not clear if she can trust the two men at her side. A tale of rebellion and redemption, race and class, love and trust and betrayal, here is epic fantasy at its finest – from an enthusiastic, emerging voice. The first in a duology.

Fantasy TP \$29.99

Saevus Corax Captures the Castle

Corax 02

Parker, K J

It's important to look after your crew, when you're in the battlefield salvage business. It's stressful work at the best of times, and although your employees are unlikely to be happy it makes sense to keep them alive. So, when Saevus Corax finds himself having to capture a castle to stop his men from being killed, he has no choice but to give it a try. Needless to say, the conventional rules of siege craft are unlikely to be followed. The sequel to *Saevus Corax Deals with the Dead* (PBK, \$22.99).

Fantasy PBK \$22.99

Saevus Corax Gets Away with Murder

Corax 03

Parker, K J

If you're going to get ahead in the battlefield salvage business, you have to regard death as a means to an end. In other words, when the blood flows, so will the cash. Unfortunately, even though war is on the way,

Pulp Fiction

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Saevus Corax has had enough. There are two things he has to do, before he can enjoy his retirement: get away with one last score, and get away with murder. For someone who, ironically, tends to make a mess, wherever he goes... leaving his affairs in order is going to be Saevus Corax's biggest challenge, yet. The finale in the trilogy that begins with *Saevus Corax Deals with the Dead* (PBK, \$22.99).

Fantasy PBK \$22.99

Self-Portrait with Nothing Pokwatka, Aimee

If a picture paints 1,000 worlds...

Abandoned as an infant, on the local veterinarian's front porch, Pepper Rafferty was raised by two loving mothers; and now, at 36 is married to the stable, supportive Ike. She's never told anyone that, at 15, she discovered the identity of her biological mother. That's because her birth mother is Ula Frost, a reclusive painter, famous for the outrageous claims that her portraits summon their subjects' doppelgängers from parallel universes. Researching the rumours, Pepper couldn't help but wonder: Is there a parallel universe, in which she is more confident, more accomplished, better able to accept love? A universe, in which Ula decided she was worth keeping? A universe, in which Ula's rejection didn't still hurt too much, to share?

Science fiction TP \$29.99

Wrath Becomes Her Polydoros, Aden

Lithuania, 1943. The Nazis have killed Ezra's daughter. He can't bring Chaya back from the dead, but he can craft something in her image – a golem, infused with pointed rage, to avenge Chaya's death. A Nazi killer made with *kishuf*, an ancient and profane magic. When Vera awakens, she can feel her violent purpose – her reason for existing – thrumming within her. But she can feel other things, too: glimpses of a human life lived, of stolen kisses amidst the tragedy, and of a grisly death. And when she meets Akiva, she recognises the boy with soft lips that gave warm kisses. But these memories aren't hers, and Vera doesn't know if she gets to have a life, beyond what she was made for. If she deserves one. Vera's strength feels limitless – until she learns that there are others who would use *kishuf* for means far less noble than avenging a daughter's death. As she confronts the very basest of humanity, Vera will need more than what her creator gave her: not just a reason to fight, but a reason to live.

YA historical fantasy PBK \$22.99

The Thick and the Lean Porter, Ghana

In the quaint religious town of Seagate, abstaining from food brings one closer to God. But Beatrice Bolano is hungry. She craves the forbidden: butter, flambé, marzipan. As Seagate takes increasingly extreme measures to regulate every calorie its citizens consume, Beatrice must make a choice: give up her secret passion for cooking, or leave the only community she has known. Elsewhere, Reiko Rimando has left her modest roots for a college tech scholarship in the big city. A flawless student, she is set up for success... until her school

pulls her funding, leaving her to face either a mountain of debt, or a humiliating return home. But Reiko is done being at the mercy of the system. She forges a third path – outside of the law. With the guidance of a mysterious cookbook – written by a kitchen maid, centuries ago – Beatrice and Reiko each grasp for a life of freedom – something more easily imagined than achieved in a world dominated by catastrophic corporate greed. A provocative and astonishing new novel, where three women from a strange new world seek to break free of a society that wants to constrain their attitudes to food, sex, and their own bodies.

Dystopia PBK \$19.99

Poster Girl Roth, Veronica

A fallen regime. A missing child. A chance at freedom. Ten years ago, Sonya was the face of an oppressive regime. Then it was toppled by rebels, and she was thrown into prison – where she has been locked up, ever since. When an old enemy comes to her with a deal, it seems too good to be true: find a missing girl, who was stolen from her parents, and earn her freedom. But as Sonya hunts for the child, she is forced to dig deeper into the past – and her family's dark secrets – than she ever bargained for...

Dystopian mystery PBK \$22.99

Worlds Long Lost

anthology

Ruocchio, Christopher & Korsgaard, Sean C W (editors)

The universe is older, and more alien, than we can ever understand. We were not alone. The farther we push into the universe, the more obvious it becomes. The signs are everywhere: canals and pyramids on Mars, old roads on the moons of Jupiter, ruined cities on worlds about the nearer stars. The galaxy once teemed with life, or so it seems. Which begs the question: What happened to it all? These stories explore the ruins of lost civilisations, solve ancient mysteries... and awaken horrors from beyond the dawn of time. Featuring stories by Orson Scott Card, Griffin Barber, Adam Oyebanji, Jessica Maguire, Patrick Chiles, and an all-new entry in the Sun Eater universe from editor Christopher Ruocchio. Join us for your next adventure to Worlds Long Lost!

First contact PBK \$26.95

Shards of Glass

Sagara, Michelle

The Academia, once an elite proving ground for the rulers of the world, has been frozen for centuries. Now, its strange slumber has ended, and a new Chancellor, an orange-eyed dragon, has reopened its lecture halls and readied its dorms. In order to thrive, once more, however, the Academia needs fresh blood – new students with a passion and talent for learning. One such student, Robin, has the perfect recruit in mind: his friend Raven, an orphan who lives in the dangerous Warrens. Robin grew up in the Warrens, and he wouldn't have made it if not for Raven. He knows she'll be safe at the Academia, where her unusual gifts can be appreciated. But when students start turning up dead, the campus threatens to collapse completely.

Raven and Robin will not let that happen to their new home... if they can survive long enough to figure out who – or what – is trying to kill them.

Fantasy TP \$42.95

Loth's Warrior

Way of the Drow 03

Salvatore, R A

The drow city of Menzoberranzan has fallen into discontent, sowed by the growing legend of the one who escaped: Drizzt Do'Urden. Now many of the drow – including the city's most powerful house, led by the Matron Mother – are questioning the influence of the Spider Queen and the very history of the city's founding. What secrets lie ahead? The drow are determined to find out, and they'll stop at nothing to dismantle the very structure they've called home. As social tensions rise and the demands for answers boom, a fight erupts between the adherents of Lolth's chaotic evil and those drow who demand more, demand better. In the Underdark there are only absolutes, and no compromise will be found. With winner taking all, Drizzt Do'Urden cannot and will not remain on the sidelines anymore. This will be an uprising Menzoberranzan will never forget, and the rest of the Forgotten Realms won't be able to look away. The epic conclusion to Salvatore's electrifying trilogy; it begins with *Starlight Enclave* (TP, \$29.99).

Drizzt HC \$59.99

Mountains Made of Glass

Fairy Tale Retelling 01

St Clair, Scarlett

All Gesela's life, her home village of Elk has been cursed. And it isn't a single curse – it is one after another, each to be broken by a villager, each with devastating consequences. When Elk's well goes dry, it is Gesela's turn to save her town by killing the toad that lives at the bottom. Except... the toad is not a toad, at all. He is an Elven prince, under a curse of his own; and, upon his death, his brothers come for Gesela, seeking retribution. As punishment, the princes banish Gesela to live with their seventh brother, the one they call the beast. Gesela expects to be the prisoner of a hideous monster, but the beast turns out to be exquisitely beautiful, and rather than lock her in a cell, he offers Gesela a deal. If she can guess his true name in seven days, she can go free. Gesela agrees, but there is a hidden catch – she must speak his name with love, in order to free him, too. But can either of them learn to love in time? New from Scarlett St Clair – a deliciously-hot and wicked retelling of classic Grimm, Hans Christian Anderson, and Irish fairy tales, first in a series of seven entwined fairy tales.

Romantasy PBK \$24.99

Blood of the Serpent

All-New Conan the Barbarian 01

Stirling, S M

Conan the Barbarian, the world's most famous fantasy hero, returns in an all-new novel tied directly to the famous works by his legendary creator, Robert E Howard. Set early in his life, Conan has left his northern homeland to cut a bloody swath across the legendary Hyborian Age. A mercenary, a soldier, a thief, and a pirate, he faces conquering armies, malicious

sorcerers, and monstrous creatures – against which he wields only the sword held in his powerful grasp. Now in paperback.

Conan the Barbarian PBK \$22.99

The Tyranny of Faith

Empire of the Wolf 02

Swan, Richard

A Justice's work is never done. The Battle of Galen's Vale is over, but the war for the Empire's future has just begun. Concerned by rumours that the Magistratum's authority is waning, Sir Konrad Vonvalt returns to Sovo to find the capital city gripped by intrigue and whispers of rebellion. In the Senate, patricians speak openly against the Emperor, while fanatics preach holy vengeance on the streets. Yet, facing down these threats to the throne will have to wait, for the Emperor's grandson has been kidnapped – and Vonvalt is charged with rescuing the missing prince. His quest will lead Vonvalt – and his allies Helena, Bressinger, and Sir Radomir – to the Empire's southern frontier, where they will once again face the puritanical fury of Bartholomew Claver and his templar knights... and a dark power far more terrifying than they could have imagined. The sequel to *The Justice of Kings* (PBK, \$24.99).

Fantasy PBK \$22.99

The Siren's Lament

Essential Stories

Tanizaki, Jun'ichiro

A new selection and translation of short stories by a hugely-prominent classic Japanese writer, filled with eroticism and fantasy. The rich and mysterious short stories of Jun'ichiro Tanizaki pulse with a restless eroticism. Visiting a kingdom ruled by a weak-willed duke, the sage Confucius finds himself drawn into a battle of wills. A naïve servant boy is compelled down a path of vice and sin by his master's daughter. A young prince finds himself enraptured by his newest possession: a beguiling, enchanting mermaid. These three stories, two of which are here translated for the first time by Bryan Karetnyk, capture the essence of Tanizaki's shorter writings. Drawing on tales from both Japanese and Chinese mythology, combined with poignant psychological realism, Tanizaki reveals and revels in the paper-thin line between the sublime and the depraved.

Classic fantasy PBK \$24.99

House of Open Wounds

Palleseen 02

Tchaikovsky, Adrian

City-by-city, kingdom-by-kingdom, the Palleseen have sworn to bring Perfection and Correctness to an imperfect world. As their legions scour the world of superstition with the bright flame of reason, so they deliver a mountain of ragged, holed and scorched flesh to the field hospital tents just behind the frontline. Which is where Yasnic, one-time priest, healer and rebel, finds himself. Reprieved from the gallows and sent to war clutching a box of orphan Gods, he has been sequestered to a particularity unorthodox medical unit. Led by 'the Butcher', an ogre of a man who's a dab hand with a bone-saw and an alchemical tincture, the unit's motley crew of conscripts, healers and orderlies are no strangers to the

Pulp Fiction

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horrors of war. There is an unspeakable trade: elbow-deep in gore they have a first-hand view of the suffering caused by flesh-rending monsters, arcane magical weaponry, and embittered enemy soldiers. Entrusted – for now – with saving lives deemed otherwise un-saveable, the field hospital's crew face a precarious existence. Their work with unapproved magic, necromancy, demonology and Yansic's thoroughly illicit Gods could lead to the unit being disbanded, arrested or worse. Beseated by enemies within and without, the last thing anyone needs is a miracle... The follow-up to *City of Last Chances* (PBK, \$22.99).

Fantasy TP \$32.99

After World Urbanski, Debbie

Sen Anon is assigned to be a witness for the Department of Transition, recording the changes in the environment as the world begins to rewind. Abandoned by her mother in a cabin somewhere in Upstate New York, Sen will observe the monumental ecological shift known as the Great Transition, the final step in Project Afterworld.

Around her, drones buzz, cameras watch, microphones listen, digitising her every move. Privately, she keeps a journal of her observations, which are then uploaded and saved, joining the rest of humanity on Maia, a new virtual home. Sen was 17 years old when the Digital Human Archive Project (DHAP) was initiated. 12,000,203,891 humans have been archived, so far. Only Sen remains. As Sen struggles to persist in the face of impending death, [storyworker] ad39-393a-7fbc works to unfurl the tale of Sen's whole life, offering up an increasingly intimate narrative, until they are confronted with a very human problem of their own.

Post-apocalypse HC \$62.95

Summer's End Van Stray, John

Fresh out of college with his Ship Engineer Third-Class certificate, Dave Walker's only thought is to try to find a berth on a corporate ship plying the trade routes between the many habs, orbitals, and moons in the Solar System. The problem for Dave, however, isn't his straight C average; it's that his stepfather – a powerful Earth Senator, he's never met – now, wants him dead. Forced to take the first berth he can find, Dave ends up on the *Iowa Hill*, an old tramp freighter running with a minimal crew and nearing the end of its useful life, plying the routes that the corporations ignore and visiting the kinds of places that the folks on Earth pretend don't exist. Between the assassins, the criminals, and the pirates he needs to deal with, Dave is discovering that there are a lot of things out there that he still needs to learn. But there's one hard lesson he learned, long ago, that he's being forced to remember: how to be ruthless.

Space opera PBK \$26.95

The First Binding

Tales of Tremaine 01

Virdi, R R

All legends are born of truths. And, just as much, lies. These are mine. Judge me for what you will. But you will hear my story first. I buried the village of Ampur under a mountain of ice and snow. Then I killed their

god. I've stolen old magics and been cursed for it. I started a war with those that walked before mankind and lost the princess I loved, and wanted to save. I've called lightning and bound fire. I am legend. And I am a monster. My name is Ari. And this is the story of how I let loose the first evil. Thus begins the tale of a storyteller and a singer on the run and hoping to find obscurity in a tavern bar. But the sins of their past aren't forgotten, and neither are their enemies. Their old lives are catching up swiftly and it could cost them the entire world. No one can escape their pasts, and all stories must have an ending. Introducing the Tales of Tremaine – epic in scope, filled with magic, legends, and lies, this is a fantasy filled with the myths of South Asia. Perfect for fans of Patrick Rothfuss (*who, let's face, need something to read while they're waiting!*).

Fantasy PBK \$24.99

The Sirens of Titan

Best of SF Masterworks

Vonnegut, Kurt

Classic science fiction from one of the world's most famous authors, soon to be a TV show from Dan Harmon. When Winston Niles Rumfoord flies his spaceship into a chrono-synclastic infundibulum, he is converted into pure energy and only materialises when his waveforms intercept Earth or some other planet. As a result, he only gets home to Newport, Rhode Island, once every 59 days and then only for an hour. But, at least, as a consolation, he now knows everything that has ever happened and everything that ever will be. He knows, for instance, that his wife is going to Mars to mate with Malachi Constant, the richest man in the world. He also knows that on Titan – one of Saturn's moons – is an alien from the planet Traftamadore, who has been waiting 200,000 years for a spare part for his grounded spacecraft... A finalist for the 1960 Hugo Award, *The Sirens of Titan* was Vonnegut's second novel. It received wide acclaim, and played with ideas of free will and predestination, themes he continued to explore in his later works. In 2015, he was inducted into the Science Fiction Hall of Fame. A reissue of the SF Masterworks edition, with new cover art.

SF Masterworks PBK \$22.99

The Black Prism

Lightbringer 01

Weeks, Brent

In a world where magic is tightly controlled, the most powerful man in history must choose between his kingdom and his son... *Every light casts a shadow.* Guile is the Prism, the most powerful man in the world. He is high priest and emperor, a man whose power, wit, and charm are all that preserves a tenuous peace. Yet, Prisms never last, and Guile knows exactly how long he has left to live. When Guile discovers he has a son, born in a far kingdom after the war that put him in power, he must decide how much he's willing to pay to protect a secret that could tear his world apart. Perfect for fans of Brandon Sanderson, Robin Hobb, and Joe Abercrombie. A reissue of the first in the series, with new cover art.

Fantasy (reissue) PBK \$24.99

The Blinding Knife

Lightbringer 02

Weeks, Brent

Gavin Guile is dying. He'd thought he had five years left – now he's got less than one. With 50,000 refugees, a bastard son and an ex-fiancée who may have learned his darkest secret, Gavin's got problems on every side. As he loses control, the world's magic runs wild, threatening to destroy the Seven Satrapies. The old gods are being reborn and their army of colour wights is unstoppable. The only salvation may be the brother whose freedom and life Gavin stole 16 years ago. A reissue, with new cover art.

Fantasy (reissue) PBK \$24.99

The Broken Eye

Lightbringer 03

Weeks, Brent

As the old gods awaken and satrapies splinter, the Chromeria races to find the only man who might still end a civil war before it engulfs the known world. But Gavin Guile has been captured by an old enemy and enslaved on a pirate galley. Worse still, Gavin has lost more than his powers as Prism – he can't use magic at all. Without the protection of his father, Kip Guile will face a master of shadows as his grandfather moves to choose a new Prism and put himself in power. With Teia and Karris, Kip will have to use all his wits to survive a secret war between noble houses, religious factions, rebels and an ascendant order of hidden assassins called the Broken Eye. A reissue, with new cover art.

Fantasy (reissue) PBK \$24.99

The Blood Mirror

Lightbringer 04

Weeks, Brent

The Seven Satrapies have collapsed into four – and those are falling before the White King's armies. Gavin Guile, ex-emperor, ex-Prism, ex-galley slave, formerly the one man who might have averted war, is now lost, broken and trapped in a prison crafted by his own magical genius. But Gavin has no magic at all. Worse, in this prison, he may not be alone. Who will fight to prevent a tainted empire from becoming something even worse? A reissue, with new cover art.

Fantasy (reissue) PBK \$24.99

The Burning White

Lightbringer 05

Weeks, Brent

In the darkest hour, will the Lightbringer come? Gavin Guile, once the most powerful man the world had ever seen, has been laid low. He's lost his magic, and now he is on a suicide mission. Failure will condemn the woman he loves. Success will condemn his entire empire. As the White King springs his great traps and the Chromeria itself is threatened by treason and siege, Kip guile must gather his forces, rally his allies, and scramble to return for one impossible final stand. A reissue of the conclusion of the series, with new cover art.

Fantasy (reissue) PBK \$24.99

The Island of Doctor Moreau

Best of SF Masterworks

Wells, H G

H G Wells' terrifying tale of science run amok, with an introduction by Adam Roberts. When Edward Prendick is shipwrecked on a tropical island, he is surprised to find he has company in the form of Dr Moreau. Driven out of Britain in disgrace, Dr Moreau has decided to explore his science in peace and isolation. It isn't long before Prendick discovers the horrors it involves... Considered widely to be one of the fathers of science fiction, H G Wells' story of a mad scientist pushing the boundaries of humanity sits alongside *Frankenstein* and *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* in the annals of British classics. The novel has been adapted multiple times, and is referenced in many different media. A reissue of the SF Masterworks edition, with new cover art.

SF Masterworks PBK \$22.99

Jaguar Prophecies

Dresden Codex 02

Wheeler, Jeff

If the end-of-the-world prophecy is true, a vengeful descendant will reign with blood and fury. The planets are already aligning. For Jonathon Roth and his family, a vacation in Cozumel became a nightmare. Pawns in a deadly ritual, Roth and his children barely escaped with their lives, and with the secrets of mastermind Jacob Calakmul. Calakmul's endgame: to fulfil the Jaguar Prophecies – the foretelling of an inevitable Armageddon, one that will destroy entire nations. The key to stopping it is to retrieve an ancient codex – if Roth can decipher it. From a museum in Dresden, where the mysterious codex is on display, to the Roths' Montana home in the dead of winter... no place is safe from Calakmul's reach. Obsessed with the legends of the magic of the Maya, Roth knows Calakmul's powers are real. Roth's own daughter possesses them too. As Calakmul and his henchmen close in, Roth and his children are running for their lives. In a prepper's lair in the Montana mountains, Roth must piece together a terrifying puzzle to stop an apocalyptic vision from coming true. If it's not already too late. Because the countdown to the end time has already begun. The second in the Dresden Codex, following *Doomsday Match* (TP, \$29.99). Supernatural thriller TP \$37.95

Where the Dead Wait

Wilkes, Ally

William Day should be an acclaimed Arctic explorer. But after a failed expedition, in which his remaining men only survived by eating their dead comrades, he returned in disgrace. Thirteen years later, his second-in-command, Jesse Stevens, has gone missing in the same frozen waters. Perhaps, this is Day's chance to restore his tarnished reputation by bringing Stevens – the man who's haunted his whole life – back home. But when the rescue mission becomes an uncanny journey into his past, Day must face

Pulp Fiction

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up to the things he's done. *Abandonment. Betrayal. Cannibalism.* Aboard ship, Day must also contend with unwanted passengers: a reporter obsessively digging up the truth about the first expedition, as well as Stevens' wife, a spirit-medium whose séances both fascinate and frighten. Following a trail of cryptic messages, gaunt bodies, and old bones, their search becomes more and more unnerving, as it becomes clear that the restless dead are never far behind. *Something is coming through.*
Horror HC \$64.95

To Say Nothing of the Dog

Best of SF Masterworks

Willis, Connie

Ned Henry is a time-travelling historian who specialises in the mid-20th century – currently engaged in researching the bombed-out Coventry Cathedral. He's also made so many drops into the past that he's suffering from a dangerously-advanced case of 'time-lag'. Unfortunately, for Ned, an emergency dash to Victorian England is required and he's the only available historian. But Ned's time-lag is so bad that he's not sure what the errand is – which is bad news since, if he fails, history could unravel around him... A reissue of the Hugo

Award-winning time travel novel from the SFWA Grand Master, with new cover art. This is one of our *favourite* books ever! Highly recommended.
SF Masterworks PBK \$22.99

The Faint of Heart

graphic novel

Wilson, Kerilynn

Not that long ago, the Scientist discovered that all sadness, anxiety, and anger disappeared when you removed your heart. And that's all it took. Soon enough, the hospital had lines out the door – even though the procedure numbed the good feelings, too. Everyone did it. Everyone except high school student, June. But, now, the pressure, loneliness, and heartache are mounting, and it's becoming harder and harder to be the only one with a heart. One day, June comes across an abandoned heart in a jar. The heart in the jar intrigues her, it baffles her, and it brings her hope. But the heart also brings her Max, a classmate with a secret of his own. And it may rip June's own heart in two. Part speculative fiction and part cautionary tale, *The Faint of Heart* is a moving and ethereal debut that questions morality and the feelings that seem too big to contain.
YA science fiction PBK \$24.99

The Last Dreamwalker

Woods, Rita

In the wake of her mother's passing, Layla Hurley unexpectedly reconnects with her mother's sisters, women she hasn't been allowed to speak to, or of, in years. Her aunts reveal to Layla that a Gullah-Geechee island – off the shore of South Carolina – now, belongs to her. As Layla digs deeper into her mother's past and the mysterious island's history, she discovers that the terrifying nightmares that have plagued her throughout her life and tainted her relationship with her mother and all of her family, is actually a power passed down through generations of her Gullah ancestors. She is a Dreamwalker, able to inhabit the dreams of others – and to manipulate them. As Layla uncovers increasingly dark secrets about her family's past, she finds herself thrust into the centre of a potentially deadly, decades-old feud fought in the dark corridor of dreams.

Fantasy TP \$29.99

The Icarus Twin

Icarus Saga 02

Zahn, Timothy

For years, Gregory Roarke and his Kadolian partner Selene worked as crockets, combing through the atmospheres of uninhabited

worlds for places that might be colonised or hold valuable resources. Now, they quietly work for the Icarus Group, a top-secret government organisation hunting for portals created by a long-vanished alien race, portals that can teleport a person, hundreds or thousands of light-years in the blink of an eye. Roarke and Selene are searching one such possibility when they find that someone appears to be stalking them. They evade their pursuers and return, to find that a man named Easton Dent has been searching the Spiral's databases for the names Gregory Roarke and Icarus. Roarke reluctantly agrees to meet with him. But that first contact is cut short; and, hours later, Roarke is arrested and accused of Dent's murder. More importantly, to Roarke's Icarus Group overseers, that brief meeting also confirms that Dent was in recent contact with a portal. But the alien Patth are also searching for such portals, and they are also on the trail. It's, now, a race... and the Patth have resources and ruthlessness far beyond anything Roarke and Selene can match. The follow-up to *The Icarus Plot* (PBK, \$26.95).

Space opera HC \$62.95