THE CONTINUUM ENCYCLOPEDIA OF CHILDREN’S LITERATURE
Bernice Cullinan & Diane Person (Eds)
The essential reference source on children’s literature throughout the world. With 1,100 biographical, critical entries and 100 topical articles, written by some 150 contributors, this is the most complete and up-to-date reference source ever produced on the subject. The work covers 150 years of children’s literature in many cultures - the United States, Britain, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, continental Europe, Israel, Africa and the Far East. Entries include authors as well as illustrators and artists. The board of advisers, made up of scholars, editor, librarians and artists, have helped to make this encyclopedia even more user-friendly. From Little Red Riding Hood to Harry Potter, Alice in Wonderland to the latest online offerings, the world of children’s literature is represented and celebrated in this unique survey for scholars, librarians, children’s-book authors and illustrators, teachers, parents and young people. Tp $59.95 863pp

THE BARBARIC TRIUMPH:
A CRITICAL ANTHOLOGY ON THE WRITINGS OF ROBERT E HOWARD
Don Herron (Ed)
While Howard Phillips Lovecraft was closing the final chapter of his writing career, Fritz Reuter Leiber was only beginning to open his own. The year was 1936 and Jonquil Leiber, Fritz's first wife, sent a letter on her own initiative to Lovecraft, knowing that her husband had been an avid admirer of his work, ever since his first reading of The Colour out of Space (Tp $39.95 354pp) and hoping that Lovecraft's presence in Fritz's slow-paced writing career might be the source of inspiration he so dearly needed. Lovecraft replied promptly on 2 Nov that year, the seed of an invigorating correspondence, which lasted till Lovecraft's passing. This title presents Lovecraft's letters to Leiber, an impressive selection of Leiber's essays on Lovecraft and matters Lovecraftian. Pb $79.95 328pp

THE ART OF SUPERMAN RETURNS
Daniel Wallace
This is an in-depth celebration of the concept and developmental art that served as an aesthetic foundation for the highly anticipated film. Nearly 200 pieces of gorgeous art capture all-new sets - a cosmopolitan, art deco Metropolis, a massive, shimmering Fortress of Solitude and a spectacular spaceship - and showcase the film's inventive costumes and breathtaking locations. An informed text that includes interviews with the director, screenwriters, artists and production and costume designers completes this thoughtfully crafted deluxe hardcover. For the many Superman fans anxiously awaiting his revival this is a behind-the-scenes tour not to be missed. Hb $80.00 160pp

JIM BAEN
Editor and publisher Jim Baen, founder of Baen Books, has died at the age of 62. He suffered a stroke on June 12 and never recovered. Jim Baen was a founding partner of Baen Books, one of the largest independent publishers of popular fiction. Since its inception in 1984, Baen evolved to be one of the leading publishers of science fiction and fantasy. He worked with many other authors who shaped the field of modern science fiction and will be sorely missed.

CAMPBELL AWARD

Robert J Sawyer has won the John W Campbell Memorial Award for the best science fiction novel of 2005 for his novel Mindscan. The Award was created to honour the overall body of work of SF author, Robert A Heinlein Award for their inspired human exploration of space.

HEINLEIN AWARD

Jack Williamson and Greg Bear, two legendary authors of speculative fiction and longtime members of the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America, have won the 2006 Robert A Heinlein Award for their overall body of work. The award, named for the legendary SF author, is presented annually for outstanding published work in hard science fiction or for technical writings inspiring the human exploration of space.

CONGRATULATIONS!

David and Nathalie on the birth of your daughter, Madeleine Rhory Steinmetz-Lynton.
CATHERINE ASARO  
THE DAWN STAR
With no teacher to guide her, no mentor to discourage her from the impossible, Mel Dawnfield pushed her magic to its limits and surpassed them, only to find that her powers aren’t enough to halt burgeoning rebellion within her husband’s fledgling realm, or a plot devised to strike at the very heart of Mel’s family. Mel’s magic strength has become greater than any power ever known, but dare she forge her spells into weapons to protect her people, her husband? For her magic might transform the brutality of war into the birth pang of a peaceful empire, unless it proves the death blow to her world. Tp $32.95 440pp

JOHN BIRMINGHAM  
DESIGNATED TARGETS
World War 2.2. Battle lines of World War II are being redrawn in dangerous and unpredictable ways, leaving the Allied forces scrambling for control and the Axis forces with undreamt of power, but the military crisis is only the beginning. An awareness of how their future unfolds is sweeping the world and the people of 1942 are split between clambering for change and the freedoms their descendants enjoy and resisting it to protect the values of their society. Then Japan invades Australia, foreign agents begin a campaign of terror in the USA and Germany prepares for an all-out attack on Britain. The 21st-century forces must resort to the most extreme measures yet... Pb $19.95 592pp

BEN BOVA  
TITAN
Grand Tour of the Solar System. Titan Alpha has landed, the most complex man-made object to reach Saturn’s largest moon. The 10,000 men and women of Habitat Goddard are once more at the frontier of science. From their huge, artificial paradise hanging in orbit above Saturn, some of them dream of landing on Titan’s surface. Others will do anything to prevent such a landing. And yet others have dark, secret plans. But almost immediately, Titan Alpha goes silent. And minor, inexplicable faults start to affect Goddard. Is there a basic design flaw that could threaten the lives of everyone on board? Or has one of the many malcontents exiled to space decided to sabotage the probe or even the whole expedition? Pb $21.00 502pp

SIMON BROWN  
DAUGHTER OF INDEPENDENCE
Chronicles of Kydan #3. In the new land, original inhabitants and their colonisers work together to turn Kydan from city state into trading empire and bring it the wealth and strength it needs to survive the inevitable confrontation with the old world. Strategos Galys Valera knows Kydan must find a counter to the might of the Hamilayan Empire and believes the answer is in the papers left behind by her dead lover, Kitayra Albyn... But can it be found in time? Across the Deepening Sea, Empress Lerena Kevleren is forging a new power base made from human sacrifice, fear and her overwhelming control of the Sefid, the source of all magic. But soon her gaze will fall on Kydan. Tp $32.95 424pp

MICHAEL BUCKLEY  
THE FAIRYTALE DETECTIVES
Sisters Grimm #1. Two orphaned sisters, Sabrina and Daphne, are sent to live with their mysterious grandmother, Relda Grimm. Grandmother Grimm lives in a strange town in New York State, known for its extraordinary number of unexplained and unusual crimes. As soon as the sisters arrive, they begin to unravel a mystery that leads to their ancestors’ magical Beginnings. Sabrina and Daphne learn they are descendants of the Brothers Grimm, who were actually detectives of the magical phenomenon perpetrated by the Everafters, a parallel race of magical beings. They soon discover it is the Grimms’ family legacy to keep the Everafters in line and the two sisters are the sole heirs to this challenge! Hb $19.95 284pp

ALAN CAMPBELL  
SCAR NIGHT
The Deepgate Codex #1. For 900 generations, the city of Deepgate has hung suspended by giant chains over a seemingly bottomless abyss. In the unfathomable darkness below is said to reside the dread god Ulcis, ‘hoarder of souls’, with his army of ghosts. Outside the city extend the barren wastes of Deadsands, inhabited by the enemy Heshette, so that safe access is guaranteed only by a fleet of airships. At the hub of the city rises the Temple, in one of whose crumbling spires resides a youthful angel, Dill, the last of his line. Descendant of heroic battle-archons, yet barely able to wield the great sword he has inherited from his forebears, he lives a sheltered existence under the watchful eye of Presbyter Sypes, who rules the Temple. For despite his sense of purposelessness, Dill has a destiny about to unfold - one that will take him down into terrifying depths of the pit in a desperate quest to save city from total annihilation at the hands of a cunning and resourceful traitor. Hb $59.95 517pp

ORSON SCOTT CARD  
MAGIC STREET
Discovered abandoned in an overgrown park, raised by a blustery-speaking single woman, Mack comes and goes from family to family - a boy who is at once surrounded by boisterous characters and deeply alone. But Mack senses that he is different and knows that he has strange powers. One day he sees, in a thin slice of space, a narrow house. Beyond it is an entryway into an extraordinary world stretching off into an exotic distance of geography, history and magic. Mack is soon plunged into a realm where time and reality are skewed, a place where what Mack does and sees seem to have strange affects in the real world of concrete, cars, commerce and conflict. Tp $32.95 397pp
On the back cover of this book is a quote from the main narrator/character of the tale:

“When Love cast me out,

it was Cruelty who took pity on me.”

and, regardless of what that might say about me, I was intrigued enough to pick up the book. I wasn’t disappointed.

The story is set in an alternate, early Renaissance Europe, primarily in a pseudo-France called Terre d’Ange.

In Terre d’Ange, a land of unsurpassing beauty and grace, considered a paradise on earth by its inhabitants, the art of the courtesan is an honoured profession held sacred by the Court of Night-Blooming Flowers and its thirteen Houses. Into this world is born Phedre, a child who is rejected from the house she’s born into because she has a “flaw”, a tiny red mote in one eye. Trained in the arts of graceful service she is discovered by nobleman Anafiel Delaunay, who recognizes her flaw for what it is; Kushiel’s Dart, which marks her as an anguissette, one who is able to experience pain as pleasure.

She is taken into the Delauney’s House where she is trained in politics and court intrigue, as well as the arts of courtesan, which gives her unfettered access to the nobles and powerbrokers of the realm when they are at their most vulnerable. While working as a spy for her Lord she stumbles across a plot that threatens the very foundation of her homeland. Betrayal and treachery sees her exiled into slavery and her loved ones killed, setting her feet on a path of vengeance and retribution that is a little graphic (certainly more than I’ve read before). Felix’s rape and nightmares, making it difficult for Mildmay to keep them safe. Through a series of events their paths cross. Felix has visions of his parents killed and possesses him in every way, using horrible methods to control him mentally and physically. Malkar has been waiting (he knew Felix would return) for a chance to break the Virtu – the artefact that the city’s magic is channelled through (and this also holds the spells that protect it and its citizens). He rapes Felix to harness his (stronger) magic and puts a compulsion on Felix that he can’t tell anyone it was Malkar that was responsible (or even deny that it wasn’t him). Malkar then flees to a neighbouring land with Felix in tow. They are caught on the way by Stephen and his men and Malkar explains that breaking the Virtu was Felix’s work. By this time he’s gone insane. Malkar is released and Felix has his magic ‘removed’ and is put in jail and later an asylum.

The other POV is that of Mildmay Fox, the son of a prostitute whom was sold to a Keeper as a four year old and trained as a thief and later an assassin. He is hired by a young woman named Ginevra to retrieve some jewels that belong to her and, doing so, he crosses paths with what is essentially the voodoo queen of the city, falls for Ginevra and then ends up on the run from the law.

Set in the city of Miradore (it feels very European – vaguely Venetian) the story is told from two points of view. The first is Felix Harrowgate, a wizard. He is gay (they use the term ‘Molly’ and my placenta-addled brain took a while to work that one out) and his lover, Shannon, is a cousin of the head of the Royal family, Steven. He is powerful, sharp of wit and handsome. However, in a very public place, an enemy confronts him with the knowledge that Felix is not of noble birth and was once a prostitute. Within 24 hours, Felix’s whole world is unravelled in the most incredible way. He and Shannon fight and Felix returns to Malkar – the wizard that trained him from his very early teens and possessed him in every way, using horrible methods to control him mentally and physically. Malkar has been waiting (he knew Felix would return) for a chance to break the Virtu – the artefact that the city’s magic is channelled through (and this also holds the spells that protect it and its citizens). He rapes Felix to harness his (stronger) magic and puts a compulsion on Felix that he can’t tell anyone it was Malkar that was responsible (or even deny that it wasn’t him). Malkar then flees to a neighbouring land with Felix in tow. They are caught on the way by Stephen and his men and Malkar explains that breaking the Virtu was Felix’s work. By this time he’s gone insane. Malkar is released and Felix has his magic ‘removed’ and is put in jail and later an asylum.

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Felix has visions that lead them to believe there is a place where his mind can be healed, if they can just get across alien lands where his magic is seen as hersy. The two characters initially seem to have little in common, but we soon learn that isn’t the case. Felix has periods of lucidity, but spends vast amounts of time ‘down the well,’ unable to communicate, haunted by horrible nightmares, making it difficult for Mildmay to keep them safe. I don’t know that I’m doing the best job selling this story. The first few chapters of this are uncomfortable to read. Felix’s rape is a little graphic (certainly more than I’ve read before). However, Monette’s has the most amazing ‘voice’. The city, land and its people were crystal clear in my mind; even if sometimes I felt I had to work some things out for myself (could be the brain thing again though). Felix and Mildmay are fantastic main protagonists. The more time you spend with them, the more committed you are to them. I thought there were a couple of sections of the story that felt a little long, but damn me if I could say it should have been shortened and I never once contemplated putting it aside. This could be read as a stand-alone, but I have to read the sequel, Virtu (Hb $54 448pp). I have to know what happens to Felix and Malkar and am hoping that cold revenge is served. Recommended for fans of rich historical fantasies where the story isn’t reliant on magic. Well worth the time. - Steph

KUSHIEL’S DART

Kushiel’s Legacy #1 (Pb $19.95)

Jacqueline Carey

On the back cover of this book is a quote from the main narrator/character of the tale:

“When Love cast me out,

it was Cruelty who took pity on me.”

and, regardless of what that might say about me, I was intrigued enough to pick up the book. I wasn’t disappointed.

The story is set in an alternate, early Renaissance Europe, primarily in a pseudo-France called Terre d’Ange.

In Terre d’Ange, a land of unsurpassing beauty and grace, considered a paradise on earth by its inhabitants, the art of the courtesan is an honoured profession held sacred by the Court of Night-Blooming Flowers and its thirteen Houses. Into this world is born Phedre, a child who is rejected from the house she’s born into because she has a “flaw”, a tiny red mote in one eye. Trained in the arts of graceful service she is discovered by nobleman Anafiel Delaunay, who recognizes her flaw for what it is; Kushiel’s Dart, which marks her as an anguissette, one who is able to experience pain as pleasure.

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Mysterious and deeply enigmatic alien Rama is a technological marvel, a perfect cylinder some 50km long, a spacecraft that enters the Solar System. A SF Masterworks #65.

A talking Dalek bottle opener... Pa $19.95 252pp

**GODSLAYER**
*The Sundering #2.* Once human, but now immortal, Supreme Commander Lord Tanaros fled the realm of Men and chose darkness when he killed his adulterous wife and his liege king who cuckolded him. 1,000 years have passed in service to his master, the dark god Satoris. The world views Satoris as Evil Prime and the name of Tanaros is the byword for treachery. The races have united in their quest to rid the world of the Dark God and his minions. The key to the prophecy is the beautiful Elvish princess Cerelinde and Satoris has captured her. Yet not all tales told are true and evil may have another face. Satoris refuses to act like the monster that he is made out to be for he recognises in Cerelinde a spark of the love that he once bore for his fellow gods. But this spark of light might prove to be a danger to Satoris... and a greater danger for Tanaros and all that he holds dear. For Cerelinde reminds him that the heart that he willed and all that he holds dear. For Cerelinde a spark of the love that he once knew the exact date that life on earth would come to an end. She had witnessed the bizarre time dislocations brought by the ‘eyes’. She knows who is responsible. Pb $19.95 332pp

**SHADOWFALL**
*Godslayer #1.* 4,000 years ago, a great war took place among the gods, which shattered their heavenly realm. This Sundering created the land of Myrllia, where near-invincible gods live amongst men. Yet the weapon that fashioned the Sundering may also strike down the immortals, as failed ShadowKnight Tylar discovers. He witnesses the death of a god, whose blood heals his deformities, but brands him a Godslayer and a hunted criminal. Tylar flees with now god-like powers, seeking to avenge the god’s death and clear his name. He must ultimately confront the greatest god of all and face the supreme treachery... Pb $21.95 675pp

**BONDS OF VENGEANCE**
*Winds of the Forelands #3.* After 900 years of peace, unrest among the magical Qirsi people has blossomed into a conspiracy against their Eandi rulers. Led by a mysterious Qirsi Weaver who can reach into the minds of others, even in their sleep, the rebellion is now turning Qirsi against Qirsi, as it weakens alliances among the Eandi. Some Qirsi ministers are torn by their loyalty to their lords. Others are ready to join the increasingly violent rebellion. Even some Qirsi, who oppose the rebellion, take sides against their lords, as one Eandi lord prepares for war against his peers. Pb $18.95 496pp

**THE EXILE KISS**
*Marid #3.* An enforcer for the powerful Friedlander Bey, Marid is just beginning to enjoy his newfound wealth and privilege, when he and Bey are betrayed by a rival and accused of murder. Sentenced to exile and abandoned to die in the vast Arabian desert, Marîd and Bey must somehow survive the searing sands and make their way back to the now-hostile Budayeen and, then, take their vengeance. Tp $32.95 315pp

**GARDNER DOZOIS (Ed)**
**THE YEAR’S BEST SCIENCE FICTION**
#23. The future, the past and life today are boldly imagined and reinvented in the 25 stories collected in this showcase anthology. Many of the field’s finest practitioners are represented here, along with stories from promising newcomers. A useful list of honourable mentions and an insightful summation of the year in SF round out this anthology, making it indispensable for anyone interested in SF today. Tp $43.00 660pp

**INGO**
While searching for her lost father, Sapphire goes to the cove to find him, but instead meets Faro, an enigmatic and intriguing Merman. He takes her to Ingo and introduces her to a world she never knew existed. She must let go of all her Air thoughts and embrace the sea and all things Mer. After her first visit she is entranced. Merely the sound of running water makes her yearn to be in Ingo once more. Ingo blood runs strongly in Sapphy and Connor fears she will leave the Air world for good. He pleads with her to ignore her craving for the sea and stay safely in their cottage up on the cliff. But not only is Sapphy intoxicated by the Mer world, she longs to see her father once more. And she’s sure she can hear him singing across the water! Pb $16.00 319pp

**GEORGE ALEC EFFINGER**
**SUNDERING #2.**
A useful list of honourable mentions and an insightful summation of the year in SF round out this anthology, making it indispensable for anyone interested in SF today. Tp $32.95 315pp

**BARBARA ERSKINE**
**DAUGHTERS OF FIRE**
Historian and university lecturer, Viv Lloyd Rees, resigns from her university post when the BBC express interest in making a programme based on her book on Cartimandua, Celtic queen of the Brigantes. Together with biographer Kate Kennedy and actress Pat Taylor, she forms Daughters of Fire, a company dedicated to making dramas about women who have made history on their own terms. But the three women soon discover tension between them as they travel to the Pennines, where Cartimandua lived. Slowly and inexorably, Cartimandua begins to take them over. As Cartimandua’s presence becomes more and more real, Pat’s hold on reality begins to waver and ancient rivalries are rekindled. Tp $32.95 562pp
LYNN FLEWELLING

**THE CANDID OF DISTANT EARTH**

*Taken* #3. Though Walker and George managed to escape, man and dog are far from overjoyed, being even farther from Earth, billions of miles in fact - and without a clue as to whether the direction home is up, down, or sideways. Possessing universe-level social skills, Walker becomes the leader of his own armada. Yet even a fleet commander is hard pressed to find a piece of space that no one's ever heard of, much less cares to find. Hb $49.95 262pp

**Kathleen O'Neal Gear**

**IT SLEEPS IN ME**

Remarried and fully devoted to her duties as the High Chieftess, Sora tries to bury her memories of ex-husband Flint. Then, on the eve of war with a neighbouring nation, she is visited by Flint. Then, on the mean streets of the Thames Valley's most dangerous precinct, DI Jack Spratt has seen it all and something tells him this is going to be a tough case to crack... Pb $22.00 398pp

**JASPER FFORDE**

**THE BIG OVER EASY**

Jack Spratt #1. Dead bodies never look like this. It's Easter in Reading, a bad time for eggs, and the shatted, tuxedo-clad corpse of local businessman Humphy Stuyvesant Van Dumpty III has been found lying beneath a wall in a shabby part of town. Humphy was one of life's good guys, so who would want him knocked off? And is it a coincidence that his ex-wife has just met with a sticky end down at the local biscuit factory? A hardened cop on the mean streets of the precinct, DI Jack Spratt has seen it all and something tells him this is going to be a tough case to crack... Pb $22.00 398pp

**W Michael Gear**

**THE ATHENA FACTOR**

Bizarre celebrity thefts are occurring all over the world: A piece of hair from John Lennon, Julia Roberts' bed linens and Sheela Marks, Hollywood's hottest actress, is constantly being approached in odd ways by obsessed fans literally out for a piece of her. Paranoid and desperate for her own safety, she turns to her security expert, ex-Marine Lynmon Bridges, who must match wits with his most formidable opponent yet. Bridges hopes to use her investigative expertise to unveil the perpetrator behind these attacks. But what she finds is far stranger than anything coming out of Hollywood. A major genetics firm has been all over the world, kidnapping the best genetic scientists to use their expertise in a bizarre black market trade of celebrity DNA and its megalomaniacal mastermind will stop at nothing until the world is as beautiful as Hollywood's A-list. Pb $18.95 533pp

**Laura Anne Gilman**

**BRING IT ON**

Retrievers #3. Wren Valere used to have a simple life. Her partner Sergei would negotiate the terms of the Retrieval - all right, the *retrieval* - and she would use her magical talent to carry it out. Now? Her relationship with Sergei is even more complicated. Her fellow lonejacks are trying to organise against the Mage’s Council. The nonhuman population of Manhattan is getting fed up with being ignored and abused. And the Council? Well, they have an agenda of their own and it’s not one the lonejacks are going to like. And Sergei is far too involved with the Silence, his former employers, for Wren’s liking. When it comes down to choosing sides, the first rule of the lonejack credo is “Don’t get involved.” But when friends are in danger and the city you love is at risk, sometimes getting into the thick of things is all you can do. Tp $32.95 377pp

**Martin Greenberg & Mark Tier (eds)**

**FREEDOM!**

“Liberty is a recurring theme in science fiction. Here’s a volume of explorations of this theme, combining stories from some of today’s top writers, including Jack Williamson, Michael Resnick, Michael Stackpole, Jane Lindskold, James Hogan, Robert Sawyer and more. Stories consider how a government-free society could operate, how a low-tech society might throw off the influence of more advanced intruders, how the right to own weapons is fundamental to freedom and much more. In the future, liberty may be even more threatened than in our present and this volume suggests unusual ways of defending and advancing it. Tp $29.95 516pp

**Peter F Hamilton**

**COMMONWEALTH #2. JUDAS UNCHAINED**

Commonwealth #2. After hundreds of years secretly manipulating the human race, the Starflyer alien has succeeded in engineering a war which should result in the destruction of the Intersolar Commonwealth. Now, thanks to Chief Investigator Paula Myo, the Commonwealth’s political elite finally acknowledges the Starflyer’s existence and puts together an unlikely partnership to track down this enigmatic and terrifying alien. The invasion from Dyson Alpha continues with dozens of Commonwealth worlds falling to the enemy. The navy fights back with what it believes to be war-winning superweapons, only to find that the alien fleet has equally powerful weapons. How the aliens got them is the question which haunts Admiral Kime. Could it be that the Commonwealth’s top-secret defence project has been compromised by the Starflyer’s agents, or is the truth even worse? Pb $21.95 1234pp

**Robert J Harris**

**WILL SHAKESPEARE AND THE PIRATE’S FIRE**

When Will gets mixed up in poaching, his father sends him away from Stratford in a band of travelling actors. On the outskirts of London, a fierce storm forces them to take refuge at the house of Doctor Dee - Queen Elizabeth I’s astrologer. While there, they get caught up in a plot involving piracy, magic and the secret of the Devil’s Fire. Pb $15.00 287pp

**David G Hartwell & Kathryn Cramer (eds)**

**THE SPACE OPERA RENAISSANCE**

Space opera, once a derisive term for cheap pulp adventure, has come to mean something more in modern SF - compelling adventure stories told against a broad canvas and written to the highest level of skill. Indeed, it can be argued that the ‘new space opera’ is one of the defining streams of modern SF. Here is a definitive overview of this subgenre, both as it was in the days of the pulp magazines and as it has become. Included are major works from genre progenitors like Jack Williamson and Leigh Brackett, stylish mid-century voices like Cordwainer Smith and Samuel R Delany, popular favourites like David Drake, Lois McMaster Bujold and Ursula K Le Guin and modern-day pioneers such as Iain M Banks, Steven Baxter, Scott Westerfeld and Charles Stross. Hb $80.00 941pp
Bobby Henderson
THE GOSPEL OF THE FLYING SPAGHETTI MONSTER
Behold the Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster (FSM), today’s fastest growing carbohydrate-based religion. According to church founder Bobby Henderson, the universe and all life within it were created by a mystical and divine being - the Flying Spaghetti Monster. Intelligent Design has finally met its match and it has nothing to do with apes or the Olive Garden of Eden.
Within these pages, the author outlines the true facts - dispelling such malicious myths as evolution (“only a theory”), science (“only a lot of theories”) and whether we’re really descended from apes (fact: Humans share 95% of their DNA with chimpanzees, but they share 99.9% with pirates!). Tp $29.95 166pp

Erin Hunter
MIDNIGHT
Warriors: The New Prophecy #1. Darkness, air, water and sky will come together and shake the forest to its roots. The wild cat Clans have lived in peace and harmony for many moons, but now, strange messages from their warrior ancestors speak of terrifying new prophecies and a mysterious danger. All the signs point to young warrior Brambleclaw as the cat with the fate of the forest in his paws. But who are the other cats mentioned in the prophecy? All he knows for sure is that the strength and courage of the greatest warriors will be needed now, as the quest to save the Clans begins. Pb $14.00 303pp

Liz Jensen
MY DIRTY LITTLE BOOK OF STOLEN TIME
Charlotte Schleswig supports herself and the lumpen Fru Schleswig (who may or may not be her mother) as a prostitute in 1890s Copenhagen. When she gets a new job for herself and Fru Schleswig, as cleaning ladies for the wealthy widow Krak, she discovers that Fru Krak’s dark cleaning ladies for the wealthy widow Krak, she discovers that Fru Krak’s dark

Greg Keyes
BLOOD KNIGHT
The Kingdoms of Thorn and Bone #3. The legendary Briar King has awakened, spreading madness and destruction. Hall- remembered, poorly understood prophecies seem to point to the young princess Anne Dare, rightful heir to the throne of Crotheny, as the world’s only hope. Yet Anne is hunted by the minions of the usurper Robert, whose return from the grave has opened a doorway through which sinister sorceries have poured into the world. Though Anne herself is the conduit of fearsome powers beyond her understanding and control, it is time for girl to become woman, princess to become queen. Anne must stop running and instead march at the head of an army to take back her kingdom, or die trying. Hb $56.00 495pp

David Langford
THE WYRDEST LINK: TERRY PRATCHETT’S DISCWORLD QUIZBOOK
This title takes trivia to strange new heights, with hundreds more Discworld posers, questions in the merciless tradition of the Star Chamber, the Spanish Inquisition and Anne Robinson... So is it a good thing or a bad thing to be The Wyrdest Link? Hb $22.95 289pp

Denise Little (ed)
HAGS, SIRENS & OTHER BAD GIRLS OF FANTASY
From hags and harpies, to sorceresses and sirens, this volume features 20 all-new tales that prove women are far from the weaker sex - in all their alluring, magical, and monstrous roles. Pb $18.95 307pp

Scott Lynch
THE LIES OF LOCKE LAMORA
Born with a quick wit and a gift for thieving, Locke Lamora has dodged both death and slavery, only to fall into the hands of an eyeless priest known as Chains, a man who is neither blind nor a priest. A con-artist of extraordinary talent, Chains passes his skills on to his carefully selected ‘family’ of orphans, a group known as the Gentlemen Bastards. Under his tutelage, Locke grows to lead the Bastards, delightedly pulling off one outrageous confidence game after another. Passing themselves off as petty thieves, the brilliant Locke and his tightly knit band of light-fingered brothers have fooled even the criminal underworld’s most feared ruler, Capa Barsavi. But there is someone in the shadows more powerful and more ambitious than Locke has yet imagined. Known as the Gray King, he is slowly killing Capa Barsavi’s most trusted men and using Locke as a pawn in his plot to take control of Camorr’s underworld. Hb $49.95 499pp

RECOMMENDED READING
Robin Hobb
FOREST MAGE
Soldier Son #2. The King’s Cavalla Academy has been ravaged by the Speck plague. The disease has decimated the ranks of both cadets and instructors and even the survivors remain sickly. Many have been forced to relinquish their military ambitions and return to their families to face lives of dependency and disappointment. As the Academy infirmary empties, Cadet Nevare Burvelle also prepares to journey home, to attend his brother Rosse’s wedding. Far from being a broken man, Nevare is hale and hearty after his convalescence. But his life is about to take a shocking turn, as the magic in his blood roars to life and forces him to recognise that his most dangerous enemy, an enemy that seeks to destroy all he loves, might dwell within him. Tp $32.95 660pp Hb $55.00 660pp Okay, let’s face what will, unfortunately, always be a problem that will haunt Hobb’s books - Nevare is NOT FitzChivalry. Although this seems obvious it’s always niggling at the back of my mind that I don’t like Nevare anywhere near as much as Fitz or the Fool. In this instalment, Hobb manages to give Nevare the personality he lacked in the first book. He has become an anti-hero in the most literal sense of the word and that is a breath of fresh air, despite the frustration it sometimes evokes. For that reason and the hope that we’ll dive into the depths of Speck world, I will be one of the first to read Renegade Magic when it eventually gets released. 7/10 - Adam

GALAXY BOOKSHOP
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WWW.GALAXYBOOKS.COM.AU
ANNE McCAFFREY & TODD McCAFFREY
DRAGON’S FIRE
A Pern novel. Pellar is an orphan taken in by Masterharper Zist. Though born mute, Pellar is a gifted tracker and when Zist sets off to take over as harper for Natalon’s coal-mining camp, Pellar, along with his fire-lizard, Chitter, joins him on a secret mission of his own - to find out if reported thefts of coal are the work of the Shunned, criminals condemned to a life of wandering and hardship. Hb $54.00 366pp

ANNE McCAFFREY & ELIZABETH ANN SCARBOROUGH
FIRST WARNING
Acorna’s Children #1. A simple journey home to visit her parents turns into a race against time when Khorii, daughter Acorna and her lifemate, Aari, happens upon a derelict spacecraft drifting in space, its crew dead in their seats. But this gruesome discovery is only a dread harbinger. A deadly plague is spreading across the universe and not even the healing powers of the Linyaari can slow its horrific advance. Khorii, one of the few unaffected by the outbreak, must find the nefarious perpetrators and a cure before the disease consumes all in its path, including her beloved parents. Pb $18.95 371pp

TODD McCAFFREY
DRAGONS BLOOD
A Pern novel. Never in the dramatic history of Pern has there been a more dire emergency than that which faces the young dragonrider Lorana. A mysterious fatal illness is striking dragons. The epidemic is spreading like wildfire and the next deadly cycle of Threadfall is only five years. When Jena’s father falls ill and must leave their forest home, Jena, along with her five sisters and constant companion, the frog she calls Gogu, lives in a crumbling castle on the fringe of a wildwood in Transylvania. Theirs has always been a privileged, if somewhat restricted life, however, the girls share a fantastic secret, which they have kept hidden even from their family for 12 long years. When Jena’s father falls ill and must leave their forest home, Jena and her older sister Tati are left in charge. Everything runs like clockwork until a tragic accident allows their greedy cousin Cezar to take control. When it becomes clear that their secret is in danger of discovery, Jena knows there is only one place, no matter how dangerous, she can go to for help… Pb $16.95 452pp

MARIANNE MANCUSI
WHAT, NO ROSES?
Lonely and lovelorn, reporter Dora Duncan finds herself transported back in time to the Roaring Twenties where she must stop the St. Valentine’s Day Massacre in Chicago with the help of a notorious and dangerously sexy gangster, who makes her forget the future. Pb $16.95 323pp

JOHN MARCO
THE SWORD OF ANGELS
Eyes of God #3. Armed with a magic amulet which bestows eternal life on the wearer, a powerful knight protects the fortress of Grimhold, where the magical people of his world reside. But when his closest friend is pulled into the evil sway of the Devil’s Armour, only the Sword of Angels can defeat it. Pb $19.95 980pp

JULIET MARILLIER
BLADE OF FORTRIU
The Bridei Chronicles #2. The kingdom of Fortriu has enjoyed five years of peace since Bridei came to the throne. But now Bridei is preparing for the long-awaited war that he hopes will see the Gaelic invaders driven from the west forever and he must forge alliances where he can. The princess Ana, a hostage of Fortriu since childhood, is sent north to make a strategic marriage with a chieftain she has never met and with it gain an ally on whom Bridei’s victory relies. Her escort is led by a man she despises, the enigmatic Faolan, Bridei’s assassin and spy. The expedition is ill-fated and when Ana arrives at the chieftain Alpin’s stronghold in the mysterious Briar Wood, she is uneasy. When Ana discovers a prisoner kept within the bleakest of confinement, she is met with a conspiracy of silence. Faolan, torn between duty and an impossible love for the woman he has pledged to see safely wed, walks a delicate path between loyalty and betrayal. Pb $19.95 712pp

RECOMMENDED READING
JULIET MARILLIER
WILDWOOD DANCING
Jena, along with her five sisters and constant companion, the frog she calls Gogu, lives in a crumbling castle on the fringe of a wildwood in Transylvania. Theirs has always been a privileged, if somewhat restricted life, however, the girls share a fantastic secret, which they have kept hidden even from their family for 12 long years. When Jena’s father falls ill and must leave their forest home over the winter, Jena and her older sister Tati are left in charge. Everything runs like clockwork until a tragic accident allows their greedy cousin Cezar to take control. When it becomes clear that their secret is in danger of discovery, Jena knows there is only one place, no matter how dangerous, she can go to for help… Pb $16.95 370pp A perfect fairy tale! This was just beautiful and it was a hard choice between this, Pay the Piper (Yolen and Stemple) and Melusine for fave new. I’ve reviewed so many fairy tales in the past, I thought I should do something a little different. A must read for fairy tale fans.
- Steph

JOHN MARSDEL
INCURABLE
The Ellie Chronicles #2. Ellie has struggled to put the war behind her and lead a normal life. Although what’s normal about your parents having been murdered, trying to run a farm and go to school and bringing up a young boy who’s hiding terrible secrets about his past? Pb $14.95 246pp

KIRSTEN MILLER
INSIDE THE SHADOW CITY
Kiki Strike #1. Life will never be the same for book-loving 12-year-old Ananka Fishbein after she ventures into a hole near her New York apartment. Not only does she discover the mysterious Second City beneath the streets of New York, she is introduced to Kiki Strike, a black-clad, Vespa-riding, cafe-au-lait-drinking girl superspy. Ananka joins Kiki as she recruits the delinquent Girl Scouts of Manhattan into an elite squad, the Irregulars, to fight crime and map the Second City. When it seems Kiki can’t be trusted, Ananka must take matters into her own hands, risking lives, secrets and the safety of New York City itself. Pb $16.95 387pp

ELIZABETH MOON
ENGAGING THE ENEMY
Vatta’s War #3. The brilliantly unorthodox Kyala Vatta, black-sheep scion of Vatta Transport Ltd., one of the galaxy’s wealthiest merchant houses, is a heroine like no other, blessed with a killer instinct for business and for battle. Now, in the aftermath of cold-blooded assassinations that have left her parents dead and the Vatta shipping empire shattered, Kyala faces her greatest challenge yet. She embarks aboard the captured pirate ship Fair Kaleen on a twofold mission - to salvage the family business and to punish those responsible for the killings before they strike again. Pb $19.95 455pp

CHRIS MORIARTY
SPIN CONTROL
Spin #2. Call Arkady a clone with a conscience, or call him a traitor. A member of the space-faring Syndicates, Arkady has defected to Israel with a hot commodity - a genetic weapon powerful enough to wipe out humanity. But Israel’s not buying it. They’re selling it and Arkady to the highest bidder. As the auction heats up, the Artificial Life Emancipation Front sends in Major Catherine Li. Drummed out of the Peacekeepers for executing Syndicate prisoners, Li has now literally hooked up with an AI who has lived many lifetimes and shunted through many bodies. But while they have their own conflicting loyalties to contend with, together they’re just one player in a mysterious high-stakes game… Tp $27.00 456pp
**Christine Morton-Shaw**

**The Riddles of Epsilon**
Inside an abandoned cottage on the remote island of Lume, Jess encounters an eerie ghost-like presence. She also finds three locked boxes and, as she earns the right to unlock each, the contents send her mind spinning. Gradually, Jess unravels the mysteries, guided by the mysterious Epsilon. But is he a guide from the bright side or the dark? Pb $15.00 397pp

**Haruki Murakami**

**Blind Willow, Sleeping Woman**
A young man accompanies his cousin to the hospital to check an unusual hearing complaint and recalls a story of a woman put to sleep by tiny flies crawling inside her ear. A mirror appears out of nowhere and a night-watchman is unnerved as his reflection tries to take control of him. A couple's relationship is unbalanced after dining exclusively on exquisite crab while on holiday. In each one of these stories Murakami sidesteps the real and sprint for the surreal. Tp $32.95 334pp

**Belinda Murrell**

**The Quest for the Sun Gem**
Sun Sword #1. After their village is attacked, a young brother and sister set off on a dangerous quest to save their captured family and friends and free their land from the Sedah invaders. Where are Ethan and Lily's parents being held? And where have the Sun Sword and its magical gems been hidden? Joining their friend Saxon and the determined Princess Roana, Ethan and Lily must solve puzzles and riddles, escape legendary sea monsters and outwit bandits along the way. But the greatest threat to the children is the sinister Sedah tracker, Sniffer, who is close on their trail. Can they find the Sun Gem before the Sedah can find them? Pb $14.95 322pp

**Larry Niven & Paul Chafe**

**Destiny's Forge**
Man Kzin Wars #12. Weed-eaters, monkey-spawn, honourous herbivores - individually weak, humans have proved most difficult to conquer and enslave. Now, the young heir to the Kzinti patriarchy is forced into a desperate wilderness exile as his empire cracks and the contentious Great Prides attempt to rip one another apart while facing total war with humanity. Annihilation looms unless the young patriarch can ally with two human warriors to battle his way back to his rightful place as Leader of the Prides, keeper of pride Strakh and upholder of sacred Kzinti honour. Hb $54.00 663pp

**Naomi Novik**

**Temeraire**
Temeraire #1. Captain Laurence has a respectable commission aboard the ship Reliant, a pretty but ambitious fiancée and his life all planned out. On patrol in the Atlantic, the Reliant captures a small French frigate, storm-damaged and possessing a fierce crew unwilling to surrender as easily as they should. On board Laurence finds a dragon egg. Having spent months on a slow journey from Asia, the egg hatches. Hatching dragons must be put in a harness immediately otherwise the dragon-youth become hard to control - fit only for the breeding colonies. The person chosen to first harness the beast must be an aviator, for the dragon will accept no other. Ignoring the young midshipman Laurence had assigned to the task, the dragon picks Laurence himself and now his life will be changed forever. Pb $21.00 442pp

**Paul Park**

**A Princess of Roumania**
White Tyger #1. Many girls daydream that they are really a princess adopted by commoners. In the case of teenager Miranda Popescu, this is literally true. Because she is at the fulcrum of a deadly political battle between conjurers in an alternate world where Roumania is a leading European power, Miranda was hidden by her aunt in our world, where she was adopted and raised in a quiet college town. This is the story of how Miranda, with her two best friends, Peter and Andromeda, is brought back to her home reality. Each of them is changed in the process and all will have much to learn about their true identities and the strange world they find themselves in. Pb $18.95 469pp

**Rodman Philbrick**

**The Last Book in the Universe**
This book tells a tale of ancient myths and legends, ghostly phenomena, black and white magic and the blurring of god and evil. But this is not fantasy. There is plenty of magic in the real world if you know where to look. In a land dominated by vicious gangs and mind probe entertainment, Spaz is alone. His foster sister is the only good thing in his life and she is dying. Determined to save her, Spaz bravely sets out into dangerous and forbidden territory, accompanied only by an old man, with his philosophies and memories of what the world once was. Pb $15.00 228pp

**Tim Pratt**

**Little Gods**
This debut collection brings together four poems and 15 stories, including the Nebula-nominated Little Gods and a previously unpublished novelette, Pale Dog. Tp $79.95 213pp

**M J Putney**

**Stolen Magic**
Heir to an ancient title, Simon Malmain, the Earl of Falconer, is well known among the Guardians, humans with magical powers derived from nature. A routine mission to confront a rogue Guardian who has misused his powers turns disastrous when Simon’s quarry, Lord Drayton, captures his pursuer in a transformation spell that can only be released by Drayton or death. Aid arrives in the form of Meg, a fey young woman who first traps Simon, then frees him. As they flee together, Simon recognises that Meg is also a victim of Drayton’s evil enchantments and he restores her nature and innate magic. She agrees to help Simon bring down Drayton. The need for each other’s magic binds them together and releases the more ancient magic of passion. But desire cannot be satisfied until the rogue mage is stopped. Pb $16.95 410pp

**Kit Reed**

**- The Baby Merchant**
When medicine fails you and you can’t adopt, Tom Starbird’s your man. Soft-spoken, as charming as he is efficient, the baby merchant will steal a child for you. For a price. This is Starbird’s mission in life. He rescues unwanted babies and delivers them to loving homes. But even do-gooders get tired. Tom is shutting up shop when hard-driving Jake Zorn, the Television Conscience of Boston, blackmails him into doing one last job. His barren wife Maury wants a baby, but there are reasons why they can’t adopt. Zorn will do whatever it takes to bring one home. A conscientious provider, Tom locates a supplier. Translation - a mother with a child she doesn’t want. This brings him up against lovely, rebellious Sasha Egan, an artist planning to have her baby and give it up. Stalked by her unborn child’s father, Sasha is on the run. She has no way of knowing that Starbird has targeted her. Or that the baby she never wanted is the one thing in life she will do anything to keep. Hb $54.00 334pp

**John Ringo**

**- Choosers of the Slain**
Mike Harmon #3. A US senator has a problem. A major financial contributor’s daughter has been kidnapped into the labyrinthine depths of the Balkans sex-slave trade. The US government has been unable to find her and the Senator is very interested in changing that condition. $5,000,000 interested. As Ghost and his Keldara warriors blast a gaping hole through the middle of the trade, it quickly becomes apparent that there is more to the mission than a poor missing waif. There’s a rot underneath, and the stench is coming from the very floor of the Capitol. Hb $54.00 427pp
Norsemen are heading for disaster at Duke William has duped his allies and the sails up the Ouse, confident of success, but liegeman Thorgils is despatched on a ascends the throne of Norway, his Mediterranean. When Harald eventually the murderous ways of the imperial glories of the richest city on earth, but also Thorgils has become a member of the TIM SEVERIN
$18.95 378pp
fragile ecologies and human diversity. Pb
superhuman who would destroy its human civilisations. Brilliant, but
ringworld with a huge multiplicity of
KARL SCHROEDER
LADY OF MAZES
This is the story of Teven Coronal, a troubled, Livia Kodaly is Teven’s only
rule with a huge multiplicity of
human civilisations. Brilliant, but
t rules, including the never
published novella, Red World of Polaris. Hb $58.00 115pp CAT SPARKS (Ed)
AGOG! RIPPING READS
This is the sixth anthology of speculative fiction to be published by Agog! Press. Tp $24.95 282pp PAUL STEWART & CHRIS RIDELL
CORBY FLOOD
Corby Flood and his family are about to set sail on the rather ramshackle cruise ship, the S S Euphonia. Her
boisterous brothers might not have noticed that anything is wrong, but Corby is highly observant and has a lot of time for note-taking and eavesdropping. Onboard, amongst all the odd passengers and eccentric crew, there is a strange group of men in bowler-hats who call themselves The Brotherhood of Clowns.
Hugo Pepper
Set in the same world as Fergus Crane and Corby Flood’s stories, this is the tale of a small boy, Hugo Pepper and his amazing exploits. Raised in the Frozen North by reindeer herders, his parents eaten by polar bears when he was just a baby, Hugo discovers that the sled they arrived in has a very special contents of the crate and the dark secrets of the menacing Clowns. Pb $14.95 232pp
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**JEANETTE WINTERSON**

TANGLEWRECK

Nobody knows what to do when the Time Tornadoes start. Some days are long, some are short. Time stops then, and jerks forward. People are getting caught in Time Traps - locked in the past, then pushed into the future. Far from the city, in the strange old house Tanglewreck, Silver lives with her bony, bad-tempered aunt, Mrs Rockabye and hears strange stories about the Timekeeper - an alchemist's watch that could steady Time again, if anyone could find it. When the sinister Abel Darkwater arrives at Tanglewreck in search of the watch, Silver realises she must begin a journey into a forsaken land and possesses everything that would bring a Neteru to his or her knees. This time the fight is not so clear-cut and it is not only Damali's soul in the balance, but her body and heart as well. Tp $32.95 432pp

**L A BANKS**

THE FORBIDDEN

Vampire Huntress #5. The devil is a dead-beat dad and his consort Lilith couldn’t care less. A stolen embryo stirs in Lilith’s womb and a plan pulses through her veins: To unleash her child from the gates of hell, as soon as she destroys the only two vampire hunters who can possibly stop her... Damali Richards and her lover, Carlos Rivera. Pb $18.95 497pp

**NEAL ASHER**

AFRICA ZERO

Contains the novellas Africa Zero and Africa Plus One. The Collector rampaged across a far future. Africa populated with gene-spliced vampires, resurrected mammoth and nutters with APWs, but he can handle it. Tp $60.00 151pp

**NINA BANGS**

A TASTE OF DARKNESS

The Mackenzie council, in its infinite stupidity, has ordered Reinn to protect the purity of the clan’s bloodstream. What purity? They’re all just a bunch of bloodsuckers! Besides, how can he destroy a clan member for mating with someone not on the council’s approved list when the very sight of a certain little werewolf revs his engine? Kisa Evans makes it impossible for him to think about anything but the dangerous fantasy of freeing his own inner beast. Kisa may be the enemy, but he longs to show her the sweet ecstasy to be found in - a taste of darkness. Pb $16.95 337pp

**RECOMMENDED READING**

JANE YOLEN & ADAM STEMPLE

PAY THE PIPER: A ROCK ‘N’ ROLL FAIRY TALE

When 17-year-old Callie McCallan scores a backstage pass to interview the lead singer of the famous band Brass Rat, she’s thrilled. Peter Gringras is so cool. When he plays his flute, it’s as if he has some kind of hypnotic power. But there is something strange about him, something Callie can’t quite put her finger on. Then, on Halloween night, Callie’s little brother Nicky disappears, along with all the other children in town. It’s crazy, but Callie thinks she knows where the children have gone and who took them. To prove it and to rescue Nicky and the other children, Callie must journey to a mythical world filled with fantastical creatures. A world from which there may be no return. Pb $14.95 192pp This is just fantastic and I can’t wait for the next in the series. This recently won the Locus poll Young Adult book of the Year. - Steph
Tanya Huff
THE BLOOD BOOKS #1
Omnibus containing Blood Price & Blood Trail. Vicki Nelson is an ex-homicide cop turned private detective. Mike Celluci, Vicki’s former partner, is still on the force.
Henry Fitzroy is an author of bodice-rippers and a vampire. Together, the trio find themselves caught up in mysteries with a supernatural slant, from demons to werewolves and every otherworldly creature in between. Pb $18.95 554pp

Brian Keene
THE CONQUEROR WORMS
One day the rain just didn’t stop. As the flood waters slowly rose and coastal cities and towns disappeared, some people believed it was the end of the world.
Maybe they were right, but the water wasn’t the worst part. Even more terrifying was what the soaking rains drove up from beneath the earth, animate and inanimate - creatures, writhing, burrowing and devouring all in their path. Pb $16.95 326pp

Sherrilyn Kenyon
BAD ATTITUDE
An agent for BAD, the Bureau of American Defence, Sydney Westbrook is forced into close contact with maverick officer J D Steele when they join forces to stop a terrorist planning a devastating attack at an American peace conference. Pb $16.95 359pp

L H Maynard & M P N Sims
SHELTER
The house is a shambles, abandoned by its previous owner and left to rot. For decades it has stood, ignored and forgotten, but not empty. Beneath the decades it has stood, ignored and forgotten, but not empty. Beneath the house, something waits. Imprisoned in a maze of underground rooms, sealed away from the light, it is hungry. But finally its time has come. To new owner Laura Craig the house is an opportunity. She doesn’t know about the boarded up well, or what’s inside it, but she’ll find out soon enough. And then it will be too late. Then the terror will be unleashed. Pb $16.95 321pp

Alexis Morgan
DARK PROTECTOR
Devlin Bane is a member of an ancient band of warriors locked in a centuries-old war against evil. His destiny is to die over and over again to protect mankind from the Others, only to be revived each time by his mortal Handler, currently Dr Laurel Young. But, each time she revives him, he claims a little more of her soul and incites in her desires that grow wilder and wilder. As the war against the Others grows more desperate, Laurel and Devlin can’t help but give in to the fierce hunger that’s sizzled between them for so long. Now they’ll face the ultimate battle together as they join forces to fight an enemy who is closer than they ever imagined... Pb $16.95 322pp

W D Gagliani
WOLF’S TRAP
A murdered friend. A descent into the darkness of the porn world. A cop whose tragic past includes a terrible secret and a horrible burden. A serial killer with depraved obsessions and a blood grudge. They will meet in Wisconsin’s dark and chilly North Woods. But who will be the hunter and who will be the hunted? Pb $16.95 373pp

Laurel K Hamilton
ANITA BLAKE, VAMPIRE HUNTER
Omnibus, Books #1 - #3. My name is Anita Blake but Vampires call me the Executioner. Ever since the Supreme Court granted the undead equal rights, most people think vampires are just ordinary folks with fangs. I know better. But now a serial killer is murdering vampires and the most powerful bloodsucker in town wants me to find the killer. Tp $32.95 640pp

Danse Macabre
Anita Blake #13. As days pass, Anita’s less interested in vampire politics than in an ancient, ordinary dread she shares with women down the ages - she may be pregnant. And, if she is, whether the father is a vampire, a werewolf, or someone else entirely, she knows perfectly well that being a Federal Marshal, known for raising the dead and being a vampire executioner, is no way to bring up a baby... Hb $56.00 483pp

Kim Harrison
A FISTFUL OF CHARMS
Rachel Morgan #4. The evil night things that prowled Cincinnati despise witch and bounty hunter, Rachel Morgan. Her new reputation for the dark arts is turning human and undead heads alike with the intent to possess, bed and kill her, not necessarily in that order. Now a mortal lover who abandoned Rachel has returned, haunted by her secret past. Forced to keep a low profile or suffer the wrath of a vengeful demon, Rachel must nevertheless act quickly. For the pack is gathering for the first time in millennia to ravage and to rule. Pb $18.95 528pp

Scott Nicholson
THE FARM
With a new marriage and a rural lifestyle to embrace, Katy is determined to make the most of this second chance, for her sake and her daughter Jett. Yet things in Solom aren’t as simple as they seem, starting with her husband, Gordon, and his strange, secretive family. Jett understands her mother’s reasons for dragging them out to the sticks, although it’s harder to tolerate her new stepfather, with his weird stories of a blood-drinking scarecrow and a long-gone family member who may have been murdered. But Katy and Jett are about to learn that there’s more to this place than even the legends tell. As Katy nurses a growing obsession with Gordon’s first wife, Jett senses something very wrong permeating the farm. Something wicked has been growing there, awaiting its master. And with his arrival, a bloody harvest will begin... Pb $16.95 394pp

Koji Suzuki
DARK WATER
A collection of seven short stories, all of them with a connection to the sea or water, from the celebrated author of the epoch-making Ring (which spawned the hit Japanese and Hollywood films) and Spiral. Pb $23.00 294pp

Carrie Vaughn
KITTEN GOES TO WASHINGTON
Kitty Norville #2. The Centre for the Study of Paranatural Biology has gone public with scientific verification of vampires, werewolves and the like. As the country’s only outed werewolf celebrity, Kitty Norville is called to Washington to testify before a Senate special committee. Once there, she meets a colourful series of local personalities, all of whom seem to have secret agendas including Dr Paul Fleming, the scientist in charge of the Centre for the Study of Paranatural Biology, who seems strangely reluctant to discuss where his research has taken him. But when so many people see her as a means to their own ends, Kitty can’t run fast enough to stay out of trouble. Pb $16.95 342pp

Taichi Yamada
IN SEARCH OF A DISTANT VOICE
Kazama Tsuneo is an immigration officer in Tokyo, struggling to live a ‘normal’ life after an event that happened eight years previously, on the other side of the world, in Portland, Oregon. When he is seized one day by a strange emotional fit, his life threatens to spiral out of control. With his arranged marriage looming, his problems worsen following the emergence of a strange voice - a woman who is trying to contact him, but without ever quite revealing herself. Tp $29.95 183pp
What We’ve Been Reading

Spin State by Chris Moriarty (Pb $16.95). Depending on how you see it, having a bibliographical list containing texts about quantum physics is either manna from heaven or a complete turn-off. Whichever way it is, the author has skilfully woven her substantial knowledge and research of quantum physics into a fast paced neo-noir thriller. After a botched raid on a Syndicate (a rebellious group made up of illegal clones) weapons factory, UN peacekeeper Major Catherine Li is sent to investigate the death of a renowned scientist on the mining colony of Compton’s World. Buried beneath the surface is the only source of crystals in the universe, which allows for faster than light travel possible. Li must uncover just what groundbreaking experiment the dead scientist was working on, before the balance of power in the universe is shifted through bloody warfare. This is Moriarty’s debut novel and there are parts of the novel which reflect this. However, there are enough solid ideas to attract fans of Richard Morgan to this tough and bleak world, which is continued in the recently released sequel, Spin Control (Pb $27.00). - John

Glasshouse by Charles Stross (Hb $54.00). The premise of the novel is that in a far-future society recovering from a war, several of the combatants have elected to wipe their memories and have enlisted in an experimental recreation of the Dark Ages (circa. 1950-2040). Not surprisingly for Stross, the cause of the war was the future equivalent of a computer virus or more accurately a worm. Despite the technological underpinnings, Glasshouse works better than Stross’s previous novels in not overwhelming the reader with jargon. This isn’t to say that Glasshouse skims on extrapolative technologies like Stross’s other SF work. These elements are ever present, but there is less reliance on info dumps and when they are used they are enmeshed in the storyline. 9/10 - Adam

Night of Knives (Malazan World) by Ian Cameron Esslemont (Tp $55.00). Fans of Steven Erikson’s Malazan series should take heed. This author is most definitely the co-creator of the world that, until now, was only available with Erikson’s name on the cover. READ THIS BOOK!! Esslemont has a style that is very similar to Erikson and the tale he tells is skilfully done. It is set in Malaz City all during the night that Kellanved and Dancer become Ascended. Lots of quirky characters and ‘real’ dialogue. 9/10 - Adam

Dream Makers Magic (Safe Keepers Secret #3). by Sharon Shinn (Hb $37.00). I’m assuming this is the last in the series – although I’d love to be proven wrong. These lovely stories. They’re only marginally explained they’re all around age seven – and so long as they aren’t with a human family they stay this age. As a mum of a little lad there were bits of this that were a little... I guess unsettling is the best word - to read. It was just a little too close to home. It didn’t have the ending I expected and I still don’t know if this is a good or bad thing. - Steph

Stolen Child by Keith Donohue (Tp $32.95). This is quite a different version of the well known changeling baby story. The story switches between the child that was taken away and raised with a ‘family’ of changelings and the changeling that takes his place. For reasons explained they’re all around age seven - and so long as they aren’t with a human family they stay this age. As a mum of a little lad there were bits of this that were a little... I guess unsettling is the best word - to read. It was just a little too close to home. It didn’t have the ending I expected and I still don’t know if this is a good or bad thing. - Steph

COMPETITION
To win a Talking Dalek Bottle Opener, name the character portrayed by Billie Piper. Mail, fax or email (competition@galaxybooks.com.au) your answer along with your name and address. Entry closes 18 Aug 2006. Entry open to Galaxy Cardholders only.

COMPETITION WINNERS
The winners of a Dr Who Dalek Survival Guide are Nicola James, Kate Tomlinson and John Bridges. Congratulations!
Congratulations ft. Quavo (Official Video) Taken from the album Stoney Song available here: https://PostMalone.lnk.to/StoneyStandardYD Best of Post Malone performed on Congratulations ft. Quavo. ℗© 2017 Republic Records, a division of UMG Recordings, Inc. 1 Congratulations Message for Great Achievement. 2 Congratulation Wishes for Achievement. 3 Congratulations Greetings on Success. 4 Congratulations Messages for Achievement. 5 Congratulations on Your Success. 6 Congratulations Quotes on Achievement. 7 Congratulations Speech. 8 Congratulations to You Words on Your Accomplishment. 9 Congratulations Achievement Meme. On “Congratulations,” Post Malone and Quavo celebrate success, crediting it to their patience and hard work. Malone debuted the track while performing in Austin, Texas in September of 2016, two months before the song’s official release. Translations: Dutch Translation. What is the highest level certification this song has received? On March 13, 2019, “Congratulations” was certified 9x Multi-Platinum by the RIAA. On May 23, 2019, the song became eligible for Diamond, or 10x Multi-Platinum, certification.