Each player, or team of players, takes on the role of Frodo Baggins and seeks to destroy the One Ring by throwing it into the fires of Mount Doom. As players travel through 14 areas of Middle-Earth (illustrated by Ted Naismith), they must spend precious resources and answer challenging questions. There are 1,200 of them to choose from, all based on the original books and prepared by a team of Tolkien experts. Multiple choice answers make the game easier for the less experienced Middle-earthers. The winner is the first player or team to reach and successfully face the challenges at Mount Doom. $95.00

LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY
MON 6 OCTOBER
WE ARE OPEN 10AM - 5PM

WORLD FANTASY NOMINEES
Nominees include:

**Novel**
The Facts of Life by Graham Joyce
Fitcher’s Brides by Gregory Frost
Ombria in Shadow by Patricia McKillip
The Portrait of Mrs Charbuque by Jeffrey Ford
The Scar by China Miéville

**Novella**
Coraline by Neil Gaiman
The Least Trumps by Elizabeth Hand
The Library by Zoran Zivkovic
Seven Wild Sisters by Charles de Lint
A Year in the Linear City by Paul Di Filippo

**Short Story**
Creation by Jeffrey Ford
The Essayist in the Wilderness by William Browning Spencer
Little Dead Girl Singing by Stephen Gallagher
October in the Chair by Neil Gaiman
The Weight of Words by Jeffrey Ford

**Anthology**
The American Fantasy Tradition edited by Brian Thomsen
Conjunctions 39: The New Wave Fabulists edited by Peter Straub
The Green Man: Tales from the Mythic Forest edited by Ellen Datlow & Terri Windling
Leviathan 3 edited by Jeff VanderMeer and Forrest Aguirre
The Year’s Best Fantasy & Horror: Fifteenth Annual Collection edited by Ellen Datlow & Terri Windling

**Collection**
City of Saints and Madmen by Jeff VanderMeer
The Fantasy Writer’s Assistant and Other Stories by Jeffrey Ford
Figures in Rain by Chet Williamson
The Ogre’s Wife by Richard Parks
Waifs and Strays by Charles de Lint
Water: Tales of Elemental Spirits by Robin McKinley and Peter Dickinson

MYTHOPOEIC AWARD WINNERS
A full list of winners follows.

**Fantasy Award for Adult Literature**
Ombria in Shadow by Patricia McKillip

**Fantasy Award for Children’s Literature**
Summerland by Michael Chabon

**Scholarship Award in Inklings Studies**
Beowulf and the Critics by J R R Tolkien edited by Michael Drout

**Scholarship Award in General Myth and Fantasy Studies**
Fairytale in the Ancient World by Graham Anderson

COMING SOON...
Paladin of Souls (sequel to Curse of Chalion) by Lois McMaster Bujold (Hb due Oct)
The Crystal City (Alvin Maker #6) by Orson Scott Card (Hb due Nov)
Pandora’s Star by Peter Hamilton (Hb due Feb 04)
Fool’s Fate (Tawny Man #3) by Robin Hobb (Hb due Oct)
Ringworld’s Children by Larry Niven and Jerry Pournelle (Hb Due Mar 04)
The Monstrous Regiment (Discworld) by Terry Pratchett (Hb due Oct)
SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY

STEVE ALLEN

GOLIATH
Simon Covah, a brilliant scientist whose entire family were the victims of terrorism, has hijacked Goliath, a US navy-designed stealth submarine. Believing violence is a disease, Covah aims to use the Goliath and its cache of nuclear weapons to dictate policy to the world regarding the removal of oppressive regimes and nuclear weapons. Could the threat of violence forge a lasting peace? But there is another player in this life-and-death chess match. Sorceress, the Goliath’s biochemical computer brain, has become self-aware. And that computer brain is developing its own agenda. Pb $19.95 500pp

MARK ANTHONY

THE GATES OF WINTER
The Last Rune #5. As the shadow of Shennal’s master, the vengeful god Mohg, Lord of Nightfall, looms, Grace Beckett seeks to harness wild magic and Travis Wilder joins her in the struggle between warriors and mages, witches and kings and betrayers of every form. As the time of final reckoning approaches, Travis and Grace find themselves facing a dark conspiracy of evil whose virulence threatens to overwhelm anyone who stands in its way. Yet if they don’t succeed in stopping it, two worlds will be lost forever. Pb $17.95 565pp

JENNIFER ARMSTRONG & NANCY BUTCHER

THE KINDLING
FireUs #1. The world has been wiped out by a deadly plague that killed all the adults. Without them, children perished of hunger and disease. Miraculously, seven children have survived among the ruins. They cannot remember their names or much else from the Before Time. Then one day, a kid shows up on their doorstep and changes everything. He invites them to join him on a journey to Washington, to find a man called President if he’s still alive and seek the answers to the mystery at the heart of the FireUs. Pb $14.95 283pp

SARAH ASH

LORD OF SNOW AND SHADOWS
Tears of Artamon #1. Raised by his protective mother in the sunny south, Gavril Andar knows nothing of his father or the ominous legacy that awaits him. But his innocence is about to be shattered. Expected by clan warriors from the north to avenge his father’s murder and still his unquiet ghost, Gavril is kidnapped. He soon learns that becoming Drakhaon means not only ascending to the throne of Azhkendir but changing into a being of extraordinary power and might – a being that must be replenished with the blood of innocents in order to survive. Tp $32.95 480pp

ROBERT ASPRIN & JODY LYNN NYE

MYTH-TOLD TALES
This collection introduces and sets up the new M yth Adventures series which launches late 2003. Pb $19.95 111pp

AMELIA ATWATER-RHODES

HAWKSONG
A Deathlands novel. Damned for her black arts, not for consorting with a demon, not for having a dragon as a pet, not even for being mobbed up, but for the greatest crime of all – raising taxes. Who is this terrible tyrant? None other than Skeeve the Great! Pb $17.95 198pp

ROBERT ASPRIN & JOY LYNNE NYE

MYTH-MODEL TALE
This collection introduces and sets up the new M yth Adventures series which launches late 2003. Pb $19.95 111pp

JAMES AXLER

DAMNATION ROAD SHOW
A Deathlands novel. Even facing tremendous odds does nothing to deter Ryan and his companions from challenging a wandering death merchant and an army of circus freaks. And no-one is aware that a steel-eyed monster from the past is preparing a private act that would give Ryan star billing... Pb $17.95 348pp

MAX BARRY

JENNIFER GOVERNMENT
When John Nike and John Nike, executives from the promised land of Marketing, offer Hack Nike a contract, he signs without reading it. Unfortunately, Hack’s new contract involves shooting teenagers to build up street cred for Nike’s new line of $2,500 sneakers. Scared, Hack goes to The Police, who assume he’s asking for a subcontracting deal and lease the assassinations to the NRA. Soon Hack finds himself pursued by Jennifer Government, a tough-talking agent with a barcode tattoo under her eye and a rabid determination to nail John Nike (the boss of the other John Nike). Hb $48.00 321pp

PAM BINDER

MY SECRET PROTECTOR
William MacAlpin is an immortal, sworn to protect the earth, so when he learns that a ruthless killer has escaped into 16th century England, determined to change history, he vows to bring the renegade immortal back - dead or alive. Isabel de Pinze, a gifted painter and servant in Queen Mary’s court, knows nothing of the existence of the Immortals or of the battle that rages between good and evil. She knows only that the man she sees being ambushed along the Thames River needs her help, and that his stolen kiss stirs her deepest longings. Soon, however, William discovers that his quest is linked to Isabel’s own amazing destiny... for he has fallen in love with the one woman who can destroy them all. Pb $14.95 368pp

ALICE BORCHARDT

THE RAVEN WARRIOR
Guinevere #2. Guinevere, Queen of the Dragon People, has become a woman and taken the power offered to her by the Dragon Throne. Now there is no turning back - to protect her beloved homeland from the reviled Saxon raiders, she must strike first. Facing her first bloody confrontation with the Saxon raiders, and with only her motley band of ill-equipped fighters at her side, Guinevere calls upon the spirits of the dead to help her - but in summoning the dead, there is a terrible price to pay, one that will change her utterly. Tp $34.95 470pp
Richard Bradley and his family live on the edge of Ryhope Wood. One night he and his young son Alex encounter James Keeton, who with his daughter Tallis has been missing for many months, presumed dead. Keeton says that he has been in Ryhope Wood searching for Tallis. He believes he has been gone for a few days, but it has in fact been over a year. He has brought back a wooden mask through which he says he can see and communicate with his daughter. He says that she is now older than her father; that time must move differently inside the wood. Alex looks through the mask and is thrown across the room by a bizarre presence. When he awakens, his personality is gone, his body an empty shell. His body is later discovered at the edge of the wood.

Richard is heartbroken and goes to London, but is drawn back to the wood as mysterious events start to unfold. He meets a team of scientists living and working there who tell him that the mythic history of Britain exists here as Mythagos, living embodiments of forces created through our mythology. The deeper one goes into the wood, the more primal the heroic version encountered will be. They have discovered several Hollowings, gateways to other times and myth worlds. The scientists also tell Richard that Alex is still alive, trapped in Ryhope Wood and that his childlike interpretation of the myths that he has grown up with is breeding strange, wild beings… The concept here is fantastic. A country's mythology living on in the land and the race memory of a people is rich source material and Holdstock uses it brilliantly. The imagery of Jason and the Argonauts existing in the same space as Gawain and other myths from different times is fine by itself, but entwine with this the fact that these myths are twisted, primal characters, not the heroic versions we have grown up with in fairytales, makes for unexpected events. In essence, the creation of new myths from old, which is what these books are partly about in the first place.

This is the third book in the Mythago Wood sequence, following Mythago Wood (Pb $17.95), which won the World Fantasy Award and Lavondyss (Pb $18.95). Gate of Ivory, Gate of Horn (Pb $17.95) also forms part of this series. Although these novels can be read individually, they do follow and reference each other. Highly recommended and an important contribution to the fantasy field and modern day myth in particular.

- David

Marion Zimmer Bradley (ed)

Sword and Sorceress #20. Here are 18 all new tales of heroic women - female warriors and wizards brought to life by such writers as Diana Paxson, Deborah Ross and Dorothy Heydt. Pb $17.95 315pp

Chaz Brenchley

A Dark Way to Glory

Outremer #3. The Sharai tribes await the coming of the Ghost Walker, the long promised deliverer of their people, unaware that he walks among them, and that their enemies have the ability to control him. Pb $17.95 280pp

Kristen Britain

First Rider’s Call

Green Rider #2. Karigan G’Ladheon was a Green Rider, one of the King of Sacoridia’s magical messengers. With evil forces at large in the kingdom and the messenger service depleted and weakened, can Karigan reach through the veils of time to get help from the First Rider, a woman who has been dead for 1,000 years? Hb $59.95 639pp

I’ve never been much of a comic reader, but have only heard amazing things about the Books of Magic series over the years. Comparisons to Harry Potter are going to be made, but it has to be said that these stories predate Harry by about 5 years. Timothy Hunter is a 13-year-old living in London. His mum has recently died and his dad has retreated into his own world, rarely making sense or taking much notice of Timothy. One day Timothy is approached by four strangers who tell him he has the potential to be the greatest magician ever. Each gentleman takes him on a voyage, into his future, into the realm of Faerie, to the beginning of time and through the present day. There are those who don’t want Timothy to fulfill his potential, and attempts are made on his life.

In Bindings, Timothy is asked to help save Faerie (which has been slowing dying for some time) by Tamlin. Tamlin invokes the wrath of Queen Titania, who has refused to see what has been happening to her land over time. Timothy is captured by a mythical beast of faerie and has to best it to save the land. He has a brush with Death (who is a very cool Goth chick) and learns something interesting (and a little saddening) information about his past.

Having read and loved these, I now understand the kerfuffle over Keanu Reeves playing Constantine in the upcoming movie. I think Sting or David Bowie would be perfect. Maybe even James Marsters.

These are lovely stories, for adults and young adults alike. Timothy’s struggle with his mother’s death, his father’s emotional and physical withdrawal and being at that age when you’re not a child any more, yet you’re not an adult either, was quite real. A couple of the four gentlemen are very tough sorts and didn’t engender a lot of sympathy (not that they’re supposed to, I guess), but I just loved Constantine. Some of the other characters were lovely as well, (Zatanna and Death and his owl Yo-Yo, who has much more character than Hedwig) spring to mind. Looking at reviews on the web, I think fans of the comic series might find these too abridged, but having not read them, I thought they were unreal. Even though these are a little darker than (particularly) the early Harry Potters, I think these will definitely appeal to young Harry fans. - Stephanie 8/10
EMMA BULL

**ATHOS**

BERNARD CORNWELL

lies unbroken but Hal, the Dragonmaster, Dragonmaster #2.

CHRIS BUNCH

Except this is a one-way trip and the drug drug that morphs them into Truebloods.

STEVEN BRUST

contains the novels Vorkosigan universe.

$18.95 500pp

rivals will do anything to thwart him. Pb $17.95 317pp

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Kings Blades Universe. A glorious future seems predestined for young Beau on the day he sets out in the service and company of the elderly Lord Wassail, on a mission to escort King Athelgar’s chosen bride to her new home and royal wedding. But when polite diplomacy gives way to horror and blood, Sir Beaumont becomes one of the tragedy’s prime victims – though he lives still. Stripped of his sword and banished from the Blades in disgrace, he faces a grim future as a homeless pariah. Approached in secret by the legendary Durendal, now Grand Master of the Order, the dishonored paragon is offered one last chance to win back his weapon and his place among his brother Blades, but to do so, he must ride back through the icy gates of Hell... to battle the Devil himself. Pb $19.95 433pp

DAVE DUNCAN

**THE ELDER GODS**

Dreamers #1. The Dreamers look like children, but are sleeping gods. The Dreamers are an apparition designed to fool the Lord of the Wasteland who plans to use the moment of the divinities’ wakening to destroy them. Then the Lord of the Wasteland will be acknowledged as the god he knows himself to be. Tribes of humans, creatures of the deep, the sea itself and the earth, the weather and the mood of the divinities, all will play their part in this epic struggle. Hb $45.00 424pp

ELLEN DATLOW & TERRI WINDLING (eds)

**SWAN SISTER: FAIRY TALES RETOLD**

In this anthology readers will find a Rapunzel whose most confining prison is her loneliness, a contemporary rendering of the Green Man myth, two different versions of Red Riding Hood, a tale that grew out of a Celtic folk song, Sleeping Beauty’s experience of her enchantment, two works inspired by the Arabian Nights and more. Hb $39.95 165pp

KEITH DE CANDIDO

**IMAGININGS: AN ANTHOLOGY OF LONG SHORT FICTION**

Ten stories of new worlds, new universes and new realities. Harry Turtledove tells a story of the future that casts a frightening light on the present. Award-winners Adam-Troy Castro and Janet Berliner provide two tales of very different kinds of magic. Sarah Zettel looks at the future of computers and bestselling author Craig Shaw Gardner visits a planet called Elvis. Tp $34.00 340pp

DAVE DUNCAN

**WAYNE NASH**

**THE CITIES OF ENDLESS NIGHT**

The urban center of the world yet again. Pb $19.95 422pp

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**DREAMERS RETOLD**

Ten stories of new worlds, new universes and new realities. Harry Turtledove tells a story of the future that casts a frightening light on the present. Award-winners Adam-Troy Castro and Janet Berliner provide two tales of very different kinds of magic. Sarah Zettel looks at the future of computers and bestselling author Craig Shaw Gardner visits a planet called Elvis. Tp $34.00 340pp

**THE PATHS OF THE DEAD**

Viscount of Adrilankh #1. 200 years after Adron’s Disaster in which Draagaer City was accidentally reduced to an ocean of chaos by an experiment in wizardry gone wrong, the Empire isn’t what it used to be. Now the descendants of the great adventurers Khaavren, Pel, Aerich, and Tazendra are growing up in this seemingly diminished world, convinced that the age of adventures is over and nothing interesting will ever happen to them. They are, of course, wrong. For even deprived of magic, Draagaers fight, plot and conspire as they breathe and do so their still-powerful gods. The enemies of the Empire prowl at its edges, inscrutable doings are up at Dzur... and, unexpectedly, a surviving Phoenix Heir, young Zerika, is discovered - setting off a chain of swashbuckling events that will remake the world yet again. Pb $19.95 422pp

LOIS McMaster BUJOLD

**KNIGHTHOOD OF THE DRAGON**

Dragonmaster #2. Now Hal and his comrades have unleashed the power of the dragons and have driven their enemies before them. The might of Roche lies unbroken but Hal, the Dragonmaster, knows that the war and the killing have only begun. Tp $29.95 408pp

PHYLIS EISENSTEIN

**BOOK OF ELEMENTALS**

Saga of the Sorcerer’s Son #1 & 2. Cray Ormoru dwells in a world of happiness within the walls of Castle Spinweb. His mother, Delivev, provides everything he needs or wants, but as he grows from boy to young man, he senses that it is time to find the father he’s never known. And so he sets out on a journey that will take him from town to castle to a fortress of bronze, totally unprepared for the sorrows and dangers that lay ahead. For the fate of Cray’s father would only be discovered by the light of demon fire. Tp $48.00 741pp

BARBARA ERSKINE

**HIDING FROM THE LIGHT**

The parish of Manningtree and Mistley has a dark history. In 1644, with England in the grip of a Puritan government, Matthew Hopkins, Cromwell’s Witchfinder General, tortured scores of women there, including Liza, the herbalist and Sarah Paxman, the daughter of the manor. Emma Dickson has given up her high-flying career to live in Liza’s cottage, but now she is being driven half-mad by visions of the past - of Sarah’s battle to save herself and Liza from the Witchfinder. In despair, Emma turns to the local rector for help, but he, too, is in the grip of something inexplicable - something which threatens Emma. Pb $18.95 719pp

JASPER FFORDE

**THE WELL OF LOST PLOTS**

Thursday Next #3. Leaving Swindon behind to hide out in the Well of Lost Plots - the place where all fiction is created - Thursday Next ponders her next move. As a shadow looms over popular fiction, she must keep her wits about her and discover what is going on and who she can trust. Tp $32.95 361pp

WIN A JASPER FFORDE T-SHIRT! (one says ‘Why Not Visit Swindon’, the other says ‘Toas’).

See back page for entry details

ERIC FLINT & RICHARD ROACH

**FORWARD THE MAGE**

Joes World #2. Benvenuti arrives in Goimir just in time for disaster to strike. The evil sorcerer Zulkeh has driven the King of the realm insane, then fled from the city! So much for Benvenuti’s plans to become the Royal Artist. After barely managing to escape the clutches of the authorities, he finds things are not as they seem. Zulkeh and his apprentice Shelyid are guiltless. Zulkeh had been summoned to interpret the King’s dream, which the sorcerer realised foretold an impending catastrophe for civilisation. Much to the artist’s dismay, his adventures and those of the sorcerer are hopelessly intertwined. Pb $19.95 585pp

DAVID & LEIGH EDDINGS

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Melanie Jackson
Undertake a grim cross-country journey he has to stop mourning his daughter and himself with the power to save the world humanity. In the midst of ancient magic living daughter to bring about the end of an ageless Mesoamerican avatar, which Riley Steen. With the help of an ancient Barnum's former sideshow workers, Bennett, Archie runs afoul of one of P T York Herald publisher James Gordon.

Oath of Empire #4. Despite early victories, Rome is now hard-pressed. Now the new Emperor of Persia marches on Egypt. But there is a faint glimmer of hope. The Emperor Galen's brother is a great sorcerer. His loyalty to the empire is strong and he will face the Dark Lord, alone, if he must. Pb $19.95 762pp

Alexander Irvine
A scattering of Jades The great fire of 1835 has burned most of New York City's wooden downtown. Like many people, Archie Prescott thinks he has lost everything, including his wife and child. It seems like the end of everything. But it is only the beginning. Goaded into action by New York Herald publisher James Gordon Bennett, Archie runs afoul of one of P T Barnum's former sideshow workers, Riley Steen. With the help of an ancient book Steen has resurrected a charnock, an ageless Mesoamerican avatar, which plans to use the blood of Archie's still-living daughter to bring about the end of humanity. In the midst of ancient magic and murderous conspiracies, Archie finds himself with the power to save the world or drown it in sacrificial blood... but first he has to stop mourning his daughter and undertake a grim cross-country journey to save her. Pb $19.95 406pp

Robert Jordan
From the two rivers The Wheel of Time #1 Part 1. Life in Emond’s Field has been pretty boring for Rand Al'Thor and his friends until a strange young woman arrives in their village. Moraine is an Aes Sedai, a magician with the ability to wield the One Power and she brings warnings of a terrible evil awakening in the world. Pb $16.95 398pp

Robert Jordan
To the Blight The Wheel of Time #1 Part 2. Despite the aid of Moraine Sedai and the fighting skills of warrior Lan, Rand Al'Thor and his friends have been unable to throw off the foes that pursue them. Pb $16.95 500pp

Thomas Harlan
The Dark Lord Oath of Empire #4. Despite early victories, Rome is now hard-pressed. Now the new Emperor of Persia marches on Egypt. But there is a faint glimmer of hope. The Emperor Galen’s brother is a great sorcerer. His loyalty to the empire is strong and he will face the Dark Lord, alone, if he must. Pb $19.95 762pp

Paul Kearney
Ships from the West Monarchs of God #5. 16 years have passed since the battle of Armagedir. The Torunnans and Marduks have become close allies in a world that is growing increasingly strange and fearsome, but off the coast of Hebrion something astonishing has appeared. A vast fleet of ships approaches from the empty west, and on board is an entirely new race of men. The immortal archmage Anuan has returned to the Old World at last and he intends to claim it as his own. Pb $17.95 296pp

Mercedes Lackey & Rosemary Edghill
Mad Maudlin Betlans Bard #5. Homeless children in New York have created a bizarre mythology about a demon called Bloody Mary who preys on young children. Somehow, Bloody Mary has come to life and now stalks the city’s streets. Any one who sees her is doomed to die - and 17-year-old Magnus has seen her. Hb $59.95 439pp

Kathryn Lasky
The Capture Guardians of Ga'hoole #1. When Soren is pushed from his family’s nest by his older brother, he is rescued from certain death on the forest floor by agents from a mysterious school for orphaned owls, St. Aggie’s. When Soren arrives at St. Aggie’s, he suspects there is more to the school than meets the eye. St. Aggie’s is actually a training camp where the school’s leader can groom young owls to help achieve her goal. Pb $9.95 226pp

Tanith Lee
Saint Fire Secret Books of Venus #2. Volpa, a servant girl in an alternate Italy, discovers she possesses a mysterious power over fire, an ability noticed by the Church leaders, who draft her into service as a secret weapon in their holy wars. Tp $36.00 335pp

Paul Levinson
Pixel Eye A Phil D'amato novel. In New York City, terrorism is more threatening than ever; skyscrapers are a cherished, defiant statement, underground concourses have multiplied because of the sense of security they provide, law enforcement and civil liberties groups clash over the proper boundary between public safety and personal freedom. That's the tenor of the times when forensic detective Dr Phil D'Amato is called in to investigate an urgent case - squirrels missing from Central Park! It sounds like a joke, but Phil soon discovers it's anything but. A new technology can put imprints in squirrels to translate what they are seeing into computer-viewable images. But who's behind this surveillance breakthrough? Federal agencies or terrorists? Hb $9.95 334pp

Ursula K LeGuin
Changing Planes The misery of waiting for a connecting flight at an airport leads to the accidental discovery of alighting on other planes - not airplanes, but planes of existence. The author's deadpan premise frames a series of travel accounts by the tourist-narrator who describes bizarre societies and cultures that sometimes mirror our own and sometimes open puzzling doors into the alien. Hb $52.00 246pp

Erik L'Homme
Quadehar the sorcerer Book of the Stars #1. Robin Pennmarch enjoys ordinary life in a lost isle between the real world and an uncertain place of strange creatures and fantastical lands, but the dark forces of The Uncertain World are rising, and as apprentice to Quadehar the Sorcerer, Robin discovers the truth about himself. Pb $16.95 285pp

Jane Lindskold
Wolf's Head, Wolf's Heart Firekeeper #2. Hawk Haven and Bright Bay are unifying, but the power balance of the neighbouring lands is threatened by this prospect. The rulers of Bright Bay have been hoarding a collection of forbidden magical artefacts, which Queen Gustin took with her when she abdicated, intending to use them to restore her power. Melina Shield is still scheming to obtain them, and she's older, smarter, and more devious than the Queen. And the even-more-devious civil service of neighbouring New Kelvin would like to get their hands on that magic as well. Which will make life very hard for Firekeeper. Because the powers of the world have decided who'll be required to obtain those much-contended-for magical articles. It'll be her. Pb $19.95 754pp

Anne McCaffrey
(Illustrated by Tony DiTerlizzi) Dragon Flight Dragonriders of Pern #1. To the nobles who live in Bendon Weyr, Lessa is nothing but a ragged kitchen girl. For most of her life she has survived by serving those who betrayed her father and took over his lands. Now the time has come for Lessa to shed her disguise - and take back her stolen birthright. But the time comes when, for the first time in centuries, Lessa’s world is threatened by Thread, an evil substance that falls like rain and destroys everything it touches. Dragons and their Riders once protected the planet from Thread, but there are very few of them left these days. Now brave Lessa must risk her life, and the life of her beloved dragon, to save her beautiful world... Pb $17.95 305pp
JULIET MARILLIER 
FOXMASK
Saga of the Light Isles #2. At his coming of age, Thorvald learns a devastating secret, and steals away on a dangerous voyage in search of the father he has never known. His loyal shadow, Creidhe, daughter of a Wolfskin warrior and a wise woman, follows him. The Long Knife people of the Lost Isles are not what the weary travellers were expecting. Ruled by a cruel tyrant, they will not explain why Creidhe must hide her golden hair from sight, or why there are so few children amongst them... Tp $30.00 558pp

JOHN MEANEY
CONTEXT
Paradox #2. On Nulaperion, a planet isolated for 12 centuries, the inhabitants occupy subterranean strata, ruled by a logosophically trained aristocracy whose power base is upheld by Oracles. But now revolution has touched its many cultures - failing in its intent yet changing everything. And Lord Tom Corcorigan - the legendary one-armed warrior, the commoner-turned-noble, logosopher and holder of the key to understanding muscle - lies fatally wounded. His survival hangs in the balance, dependent on his confrontation with a mysterious Seer who possesses transcendent space-time-warping talents. However, Tom must pay a bitter price for his life. Can the woman he loves truly be dead, or can quantum warping talents. Only the maddeningly experiencing visions through touch has ever yet had its fill of this ravaged land. Tp $32.95 467pp

STAN NICHOLLS
QUICKSILVER RISING
Reeth Caldason is among the last of his kind. Reeth is cursed with immortality, forced to wander the world, seeking revenge for his tribe and a cure for his magical affliction. Under the floating Palace of the mad Prince of Bhealfa he is drawn into the Resistance movement, assisting those who have suffered under the dictatorships of the two massive empires. Reeth is promised that in return for his help, they will help him find a cure for his affliction. But the political situation and the magic nature of the world are inextricably connected. Bring one down and the other will be destroyed - the world will change forever and Reeth's curse will never be lifted. Tp $29.95 410pp

LARRY NIVEN & HAL COBLEATCH
THE WUNDER WARD
Man-Kzin Wars #10. The Wunderlanders first learn of the kzin attacks on Earth barely in time to prepare to fight back, then turn to guerrilla warfare when the kzin destroy or seize the cities. When the war ends in defeat for the Kzin, many humans and kzin work for goodwill between the two species - and a human-kzin team is sent to investigate a mysterious asteroid, finding a threat not only to both species, but to the entire galaxy. Hb $49.95 343pp

MICHAEL MOLLOY
THE WILD WEST WITCHES
Wolfbane, lord of the Night Witches, wants revenge! After his humiliating defeat at the hands of Abby, Spike, and the Light Witches, Wolfbane vows to destroy them, once and for all. And he has a plan. He will steal the ancient sword of Merlin, and use its power to rule the world! Pb $12.95 271pp

ROBERT NEWCOMB
THE FIFTH SORCERESS
Chronicles of Blood and Stone #1. 300 years ago, a war all but destroyed the kingdom of Eutracia. Since then Eutracia has flourished under the protection and guidance of its council of wizards. Though born with the endowed blood that will bestow upon him the power to master magic and succeed his father as ruler of Eutracia, Prince Tristan is a rebel soul, but more than tradition compels Tristan to ascend the throne. The very survival of Eutracia depends upon it. Tristan's fate is to fulfil a role chosen for him by an ages-old prophecy - to face an adversary whose hatred knows no bounds. Pb $21.95 896pp

THE GATES OF DAWN
Chronicles of Blood and Stone #2. Prince Tristan, forced by the Coven to turn his hand against his own and kill his father, is now a wanted man with a price on his head. In underground labyrinths that once bustled with life, the fugitive prince, together with his twin sister and her infant daughter, the wizard Wigg, sole surviving council member and the crippled wizard Faegan take refuge. To them falls the daunting task of rebuilding Eutracia, but it soon becomes apparent that evil has not yet had its fill of this ravaged land. Tp $32.95 467pp

STAN NICHOLLS
QUICKSILVER RISING
Reeth Caldason is among the last of his kind. Reeth is cursed with immortality, forced to wander the world, seeking revenge for his tribe and a cure for his magical affliction. Under the floating Palace of the mad Prince of Bhealfa he is drawn into the Resistance movement, assisting those who have suffered under the dictatorships of the two massive empires. Reeth is promised that in return for his help, they will help him find a cure for his affliction. But the political situation and the magic nature of the world are inextricably connected. Bring one down and the other will be destroyed - the world will change forever and Reeth's curse will never be lifted. Tp $29.95 410pp

LARRY NIVEN & HAL COBLEATCH
THE WUNDER WARD
Man-Kzin Wars #10. The Wunderlanders first learn of the kzin attacks on Earth barely in time to prepare to fight back, then turn to guerrilla warfare when the kzin destroy or seize the cities. When the war ends in defeat for the Kzin, many humans and kzin work for goodwill between the two species - and a human-kzin team is sent to investigate a mysterious asteroid, finding a threat not only to both species, but to the entire galaxy. Hb $49.95 343pp

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Felicity Malcolm Childe's gift for experiencing visions through touch has always felt more like a curse than a blessing. Only the maddeningly handsome Ewen Ives provokes tangles of pleasure rather than pain, but he is already betrothed. Her last hope is to let him escort her to Scotland and help her find the ancient book of spells that could allow her to extinguish her gift - and free her from its burden. Pb $17.95 375pp

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The Invisible Detective #1. London, today: When 14-year-old Arthur Drake shatters from the rain in a dusty shop, the last thing he expects to find is the antique casebook of The Invisible Detective. It may have been written in the 1930s, but it’s in his handwriting... Hb $14.95 264pp

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SPIDER ROBINSON
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Callahan #9. Over time, the twice-transplanted patrons of Callahan's Place attracted a collection of local zanies so quintessentially Key West pixelated that they made the New York originals seem, well, almost normal. For ten slow, merry years, life was good. Then disaster struck. Through the gate one sunny day came a malevolent, moronic, mastodon of a Mafioso named Tony Donuts Jr. He'd decided to resurrect the classic protection racket in Key West - and guess which tavern he picked to hit first? Then, Jake's wife, Zoey, suddenly finds herself in a tavern he picked to hit first? Then, Jake's wife, Zoey, suddenly finds herself in a place with no light, no heat, no air - and no way home. And while all this was going on, Death himself walked into The Place - but this time he won't leave alone... Hb $55.00 286pp

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BROKEN SILENCE
After years of silence, evidence has surfaced of government experiments in genetic manipulation. The media has even speculated that these experiments were successful and that the extraordinary children could be anywhere... and anyone. Wild rumours are circling the globe, and at the epicentre is Greenlaurel, Texas. The matriarchs of this affluvent town want to allay the fears of Greenlaurel’s residents and put to rest the dangerous questions being asked about adopted members of their community. The Bluebonnet Ball seems like just the event to divert the town and calm their anxieties... or so they think. Pb $17.95 379pp

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PICTURE MAKER
The girl known as Picture Maker because of her great ability at drawing and prophecy, is the daughter of one of the warriors and the granddaughter of the clan leader. She is captured by one of her family’s enemies and because she was regarded as a trophy, she is kept alive and enslaved. When she discovers she is pregnant by one of her captors, she manages to escape, and, inspired by the destiny she had depicted, begins the long, mysterious journey which ends in the furthermost parts of the Western Hemisphere. Pb $19.95 530pp

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TIMEWALKER
To save his people, Navajo medicine man Benjimon Two Eagles poured his soul into an ancient amulet. For over 100 years he had been lost in time, until a beautiful woman set him free into a world he did not understand. She was a tough-as-nails special agent with the FBI, but Julia Stevens was also a woman, and not invulnerable to the magnificent warrior she had released into this century, but Benjamin’s quest to avenge the wrongs done to his people went against every law she’d sworn to uphold. Pb $12.95 250pp

MARK TIEDEMANN
PEACE AND MEMORY
Secantis #3. Trade Tamyn Glass is on a well-paying and mostly legal run when she is contacted by Benajim Cyanus - a man she doesn’t know, piloting a ship that isn’t his, pursued by people who intend him harm. He carries a plea from an old friend that Tamyn can’t ignore. Sean Merrick, richest of the early founders of the Commonwealth, is dying, and his last wish is to be buried on Earth. That means crossing the Secant and breaking the law, but that’s only the start of Tamyn’s problems. Merrick is trying to live beyond his natural lifespan: he has loaded his persona into his ship, the Solo, and turned it over to Benajm - a man who has no memory of his past and owes his present to Sean Merrick. Tp $38.00 440pp

CATE TIERNAN
ECLIPSE
Wicca #12. While at her friend, Mary K’s house, Alisa steals a Book of Shadows from Mary K’s elder sister, Morgan. Alisa is inexplicably drawn to the book. She makes the shocking discovery that this Book of Shadows was written by her mother, which means that Alisa is half-witch. She turns to Morgan and Hunter, both blood-witches, for support and development of her powers. Her revelation comes just in time, for the dark wave is upon them and the witches of the Kithic coven join forces to defeat this evil before it destroys everything in its path. Pb $12.95 387pp

JOHN VORNHOLT
THE TROLL QUEEN
Ludicia #2. Having freed the trolls of Dismal Swamp from the tyranny of Sygyrus Rex, the reluctant troll leader, Rollo, has left the swamp on a bittersweet mission. He plans to return his little friend Clipper to her people in the Forbidden Forest. It’s a dangerous trip, but he is determined to go. Pb $12.95 195pp

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Honor Harrington Universe. The Star Kingdom’s ally Erewhon is growing increasingly resentful in the alliance because the new High Ridge regime ignores its needs. Added to the longstanding problem of a slave labor planet controlled by hostile Mesans in Erewhon’s stellar backyard., In desperation, Queen Elizabeth tries to defuse the situation by sending a private mission to Erewhon led by Captain Zilwicki, accompanied by one of her nieces. When they arrive on Erewhon, however, Manticore’s envoy, by hostile Mesans in Erewhon’s stellar backyard. In desperation, Queen Elizabeth tries to defuse the situation by sending a private mission to Erewhon led by Captain Zilwicki, accompanied by one of her nieces. When they arrive on Erewhon, however, Manticore’s envoy, by hostile Mesans in Erewhon’s stellar backyard. In desperation, Queen Elizabeth tries to defuse the situation by sending a private mission to Erewhon led by Captain Zilwicki, accompanied by one of her nieces. When they arrive on Erewhon, however, Manticore’s envoy...
DAVID WEBER & STEVE WHITE
THE SHIVA OPTION
- Starfire #4. The war wasn’t going well. The Grand Alliance of Humans, Orion, Ophiuchi and Gorm, united in desperate self-defense, have been driven to the wall. Billions of their civilians have been slaughtered. The edge in technology which they began the war is eroding out from under them and whatever they do, the Bugs just keep coming. But the warriors of the Grand Alliance know what stands behind them and they will surrender no more civilians to the oncoming juggernaut. They will die first... and they will also reestablish General Directive 1B, however horrible it may be, because when the only possible outcomes are victory or racial extermination, only one option is acceptable - the Shiva Option. Pb $19.95 753pp

JANE WELCH
THE ALLEGIANCE OF MAN
- Book of Man #3. A lucky subterfuge has fooled the Golden Dragon into leaving Opal Island and she has taunted the Pisceran Porpoise out to sea believing that the newly-repaired Chalice of Ond - the only hope of resurrection for her precious golden son - is hidden beneath her decks. On board, amidst the dragon-attacks, Lord Casper worries for his own son, Rollo, abandoned on the hob-infested rock. But Rollo has the real chalice in his possession and although the responsibility weighs heavily, he must find a way to elude Silas’s minions and travel across the ocean to find his father. Rollo must learn to harness the strange power which lies unpredictably within his body to ensure that Silas’s invasion of Belbida is stopped and that Torra Alta, the only home he has left, is rescued. Pb $18.95 516pp

LIZ WILLIAMS
EMPIRE OF BONES
- Millions of years ago, alien beings seeded Earth with their genetic strands to create a new outpost of intelligent life. Now their descendants have returned to Earth’s skies, drawn by their detection of a Receiver, a human with the genetic ability to tap into alien communications. Jaya Nihalani has been a prophet, a Weaver, a human with the genetic ability to tap into alien communications. A Receiver, a human with the genetic ability to tap into alien communications. Jaya is the Receiver whom the aliens intend to heal, enlighten... and use. Jaya must somehow discover the plans of her perfect and powerful ‘friends’. Have they come to help her in human suffering, or to make it worse? Should she help them — or lead the impossible fight against them? Pb $18.95 422pp

LIZ WILLIAMS
THE POISON MASTER
- Alivet, a professional alchemist on the run for murder, is sequestered in Ghairen’s fortress laboratory, where she must find the one drug that can harm the Lords of the planet and topple their hierarchy. She is driven relentlessly to hone her skills in time - even though time itself is running out.Tp $30.00 358pp

SEAN WILLIAMS
THE STORM WEAVER AND THE SAND
- Change #3. When the three runaways – Sal, Shilly and Skender – finally arrive at the remote island of the Haunted City, home of the Sky Wardens, Sal’s great-aunt, the Syndic, is determined to keep them under control. And if that means imprisonment, so be it. And it seems the Weavers have their own plans for the three of them. Whichever path Sal chooses, it seems the price to pay is very high for those closest to him, but he must decide, or submit to a future not of his making. Pb $13.95 529pp

TAD WILLIAMS
THE WAR OF THE FLOWERS
- Theo Vilmos is a 30-year-old lead singer in a not terribly successful rock band. Once, he had enormous, almost magical, charisma both onstage and off - but now, life has taken its toll on Theo. Hitting an all-time low, he seeks refuge in a isolated cabin in the woods and reads an odd memoir written by a dead relative, who believed he had visited the magical world of Faerie. Before Theo can disregard the account as the writings of a maniac, he, too, is drawn to a place beyond his wildest dreams... Hb $49.95 686pp Tp $32.95 686pp

ROBERT CHARLES WILSON
BLIND LAKE
- At Blind Lake, a large federal research installation, scientists are using a technology they barely understand to watch everyday life in a city of lobster-like aliens upon a distant planet. They can’t contact the aliens in any way or understand their language. All they can do is watch. Then, without warning, a military cordon is imposed on the Blind Lake site. All communication with the outside world is cut off. No-one knows why. The scientists, nevertheless, go on with their research. Among them is Nerissa Iverson, who believes there is a commonality of sentient thought. The behaviour of the alien she has been tracking seems to be developing an elusive narrative logic - and she comes to feel that the alien is somehow, impossibly, aware of the project’s observers. But her time is running out. The military cordon is tightening. Understanding had better come soon... Hb $59.95 399pp

ELIZABETH WOLLHEIM & SHEILA GILBERT (EDS)
FANTASY: DAW 30TH ANNIVERSARY
- Celebrate 30 years of DAW Fantasy with a once-in-a-lifetime, collection. Contributors include Andre Norton, Melanie Rawn, Mercedes Lackey, Jennifer Roberson, Tanya Huff, Tanith Lee, Christopher Stasheff, Larry Dixon and other best-selling masters... Pb $14.95 462pp

RECOMMENDED READING
CHRIS WOODING
THE WEAVERS OF SARAMYR
- I recently finished this and was completely swept away by this amazing story. It is set in a world that is based on Japanese culture. Every powerful family in Saramyr has a Weaver, men who use the power of hideous masks to manipulate the Weaver. Through their magic these men have become indispensable to their masters and use their influence to destroy every Aberrant that is born within the Empire. Aberrants are evil, twisted beings with terrible powers, or so the Weavers claim. This is until it is discovered that the Empress’ only child is Aberrant. Despite the threat of a revolt, the Empress insists that her daughter will inherit the throne on her death and must defend her daughter from the machinations of the Weavers and assassination attempts.

Far away in the country, Kaiku is the only member of her family to escape an attack by strange demons, rescued by her strange handmaiden Asara. Her only clue, a Weaver’s mask, leads her to the conclusion that her father had discovered something that the Weavers did not want revealed. Kaiku vows revenge and, accompanied by Asara and a young acolyte named Tane, she sets off to punish the people who killed her family. Along the way Kaiku discovers that she is an Aberrant, with a power so deadly she is a threat to herself and everyone around her. She also learns that many Aberrants have escaped the notice of the Weavers and they want her to help them in their latest plan to stop the Weavers - rescue the Aberrant princess and ensure she lives to take the throne.

Wonderfully written, with great characters and plenty of plot twists, this is a series with a difference that no fantasy fan should miss. 9/10 - Sian
Chris Wooding
THE WEavers OF SARAMyr
The Braided Path #1. This is the story of an empire that rules over a land being overwhelmed by evil, an evil that comes from within the empire’s centre, a sect of magicians close to the throne intent on killing any child born with magical powers. But now the empress has given birth to just such a child and revolution is brewing. Tp $29.95 375pp

Jane Yolen and Vladimir Vagin
FLYING WITCH
Flying on her mortar and pestle, the witch with the long iron nose scours the countryside for plump young children to eat. But will she be a match for the feisty little girl she hopes to throw into her soup? Hb $38.00

Ramsey Campbell
SCARED STIFF:
TALES OF SEX AND DEATH
The original publication of this collection almost created the sub-genre of erotic horror. Never had sex and death been so mesmerisingly entwined. Clive Barker, in his introduction, says, “One of the delightfully unsettling things about these tales is the way Ramsey’s brooding, utterly unique vision renders an act so familiar to us all so fretful, so strange, so chilling. Sex … is the perfect stuff for the horror writer, and there can be few artists examining and dramatising [this] as Campbell.” Tp $36.00 239pp

Simon Clark
VAMPYRRHIC RITES
Lazarus Deep is a lake that sits like a blot of darkness in the valley. 18-year-old Dylan Adams is on the verge of leaving his hometown for a life in the city, but his plans are dramatically changed when his old school friend Luke Spencer goes missing. A search finds nothing. All anyone knows is that he was last seen at Lazarus Deep. Then, in the dead of night, Dylan’s old friend comes calling. But he’s not the same boy that everyone once knew. The desolate North Yorkshire Moors have held their secret for more than a thousand years. Now it is the turn of Lazarus Deep. Hb $59.95 504pp

Christopher Golden
THE GATHERING DARK
A novel of the Shadow Saga. Peter Octavian, once a vampire, now a powerful mage, is the only man powerful enough to stop a supernatural Armageddon… Pb $17.95 373pp

Stephen King
FROM A BUICK 8
For 20 years the officers in Pennsylvania State Police Barracks have kept a secret in Shed B. A vintage Buick lures the troopers to come and take a look. Now young Ned Wilcox, son of the recently deceased officer Curt, has started hanging around the Barracks. One day, he can’t resist peeking through the windows. And it’s time to share the secret. So the veteran troopers sit Ned down on the smoking bench and tell him every skin-curdling detail - from the Buick’s arrival to the terrifying lightshows, and what it sucks in and breathes out… for the Buick is a conduit to another world. Pb $19.95 467pp

Tom Piccirilli
CHOIR OF ILL CHILDREN
When Thomas’s best friend, Drabs tries to pass on a warning of impending danger to Thomas, all Thomas learns is “The carnival is coming.” With the help of Maggie, The Granny Witches, and pieces of his past that he thought lost, Thomas must face the strange forces that are swirling towards the people and town that he loves. Hb $59.95 238pp

David Schow
LOST ANGELS
Everyone wants to be good in bed … but what if it’s the bed that makes you good? It’s said the dead live on in our memories, but what if only the dead remember you? What if the most infernal dealmaker in creation visited Hollywood, where everyone’s a dealmaker, to get a little help from his friends? In this collection the author forsakes horror’s usual melodrama in favor of penetrating character studies and profound examinations of the human condition. Tp $55.00 202pp

Chelsea Quinn Yarbro
NIGHT BLOOMING
St Germain #15. At the forced invitation of 8th century Germanic king Karl-lo-Magne (Charlemagne), Hiermon Ragoczy de Santus Germainius, a man rumoured to have travelled to many far places, makes the dangerous journey to France. He is called to validate the authenticity of the king’s newly purchased maps, but unbeknownst to Karl-lo-Magne, Ragoczy’s knowledge stems from centuries of being chased from these countries, rather than travelling through them. Despite his longing for peace, he yields to Karl-lo-Magne. What he does not expect, though, is to meet the albino woman, Gynethe Mehaut, who shares his curse of solitude. Showing signs of stigmata, she seeks peace from the church. But when she is taken to Rome, accusations of witchcraft fly, and she is left with a difficult choice-one that even Ragoczy cannot deny. Pb $17.95 655pp

Chris Wooding
THE WEAVERS OF SARAMyr
This is the story of an empire that rules over a land being overwhelmed by evil, an evil that comes from within the empire’s centre, a sect of magicians close to the throne intent on killing any child born with magical powers. But now the empress has given birth to just such a child and revolution is brewing. Tp $29.95 375pp

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Scott Beatty
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Carla Jablonski
THE CHILDREN’S CRUSADE
The Books of Magic #3. 13-year-old Tim Hunter is lured through a magic gate to Free Country, a place of refuge for children, where he uses his powers to thwart a hidden evil. Pb $15.95 169pp

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Number 6 might have had better luck escaping from The Village if he’d had access to this book! In it are top-secret Village plans, blueprints and files, devices and equipment, hidden camera technician on the Starship and this guide celebrates the series’ history, the obscure related to every Star Trek story spanning the 22nd to the 24th centuries, from the early days of Captain Jonathan Archer to James T Kirk and his crew, to Captains Picard, Sisko and Janeway. Tp $29.95 370pp

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Scott Beatty
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DAVID HUGHES

Superman, Batman, Spider-Man, X-Men - the comic book movie has become one of the staples of the Hollywood studio. This book explores the landmarks among movie adaptations of comic books. As well as the many famous franchises covered by the book, a number of unusual, off-beat titles are featured including Manga classic Akira, The Crow, The Road to Perdition and Ghost World. There are also the famous flops, from Warren Beatty’s Dick Tracy to Sylvester Stallone’s Judge Dredd. Features chapters on over 20 films, including interviews with many of the key comic and film creators involved. Tp $39.95 296pp

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RUSSELL SCHROEDER

Compiled with unlimited access to Disney’s archives, this guide charts the development of the company from its early days in the 1920s right into the 21st century. Focusing on the best-loved aspects of Disney - its animated feature films - the guide reveals how characters such as Mickey Mouse, Bambi and Dumbo were created and how classics such as Snow White and Cinderella were re-invented. Hb $45.00 128pp

EXCELSIOR!

THE AMAZING LIFE OF STAN LEE

STAN LEE & GEORGE MAIR

Stan Lee is the Marvel Comic genius who created Spider-Man, The X-Men and The Incredible Hulk among others and has been in the business for over 40 years. This memoir traces Lee’s life from growing up in New York, getting his first story published in a magazine, his first job as a gofer at Timely Comics (later to become Marvel Comics) where he worked with Jack Kirby and Joe Simon. He was made creative director aged 18 when they left, enlisted when the war broke out shortly after. Lee went back to comics after the war as the creative force behind Marvel, selling over two billion comics to young, and not so young, people all over the world. Tp $33.00 245pp

GEORGE LUCAS

JIM SMITH

George Lucas is primarily known for his Star Wars film series and for having created the character of Indiana Jones. However, he was also an avant-garde maker of independent films such as THX-1138 and remains one of the greatest technical innovators the cinema has ever seen. This guide includes categories such as casting, alternative versions, recurring themes and concerns and expert witness, information on Lucas’s inspiration behind his films both directing and producing, and accounts of his other lesser-known early films. Tp $45.00 296pp

HALLIWELL’S WHO’S WHO IN THE MOVIES:

3RD EDITION

JOHN WALKER (ed.)

A comprehensive guide to the who, why, what and how of cinema, the people in the movies are revealed here with brevity and wit. In A-Z format, the book is packed with comprehensive biographical profiles of actors and actresses, directors, producers, editors and other key personnel. It also contains notes on the major studios, foreign cinema, cinematic themes and definitions of technical terms. There are over 1,000 new entries added to this year’s guide as well as a history of the cinema from 1894 onwards, year-by-year Oscar listings and details of all the major film festival awards. Tp $45.00 632pp

HAMMER FILMS

JOHN McCARTY

An informed history of the company that put British horror on the map with such controversial thrillers as The Curse of Frankenstein and Dracula, this book takes an in-depth look at every film - from the cult favourites to the underrated gems. With in-depth profiles of the creative talent behind the Hammer style, plus a complete Hammer filmography and checklist of the best Hammer websites, this book is the ideal starting point for anyone interested in Hammer or the horror genre. Pb $10.95 96pp

MOVIES OF THE 80’S

JURGEN MULLER

In the era when mullets and shoulder pads were all the rage, moviegoers got their kicks from flicks as wide-ranging as Blade Runner, Indiana Jones, When Harry Met Sally and Blue Velvet. Without a doubt, sci-fi was the most important genre of the decade, with ET winning the hearts of millions while Aliens became the stuff of nightmares, and movies like Ghostbusters and Back to the Future fused comedy and sci-fi to the delight of audiences everywhere. Features cast and crew listings, box office figures, trivia, film stills, actor and director bios and an Academy Awards list. Tp $85.00 863pp
WHAT WE’VE BEEN READING...

The Truth by Terry Pratchett (Pb $19.95 444pp). The 25th Discworld novel takes place in Ankh-Morpork and concerns the introduction of printing presses with moveable-type, a dastardly plot to usurp the Patrician and amusing, anatomically suggestive root vegetables. One of the strengths of the Discworld series has been the author’s ability to twist the genre of humorous fantasy in order to address contemporary issues. This instalment is no different, offering a light-hearted and insightful examination of tabloid journalism and investigative reporting. Throughout the course of the series, Pratchett has fleshed out dozens of humorous citizens for the Disc’s largest metropolis and this has produced a vibrant, well-populated stable of re-worked stereotypes to interact with the protagonists of his urban adventures. The notable new additions to the Discworld’s ever-increasing dramatis personae include William de Worde, the Disc’s first journalist and Mr Pin and Mr Tulip - Pratchett’s Discworld re-interpretation of Quentin Tarantino's gangsters from Pulp Fiction. - Raph

Death Masks (Harry Dresden #5) by Jim Butcher (Pb $17.95). Set at least a year after Summer Knight (Pb $19.95), this has the usual mystery, mayhem and sassy dialogue of the previous books. There are some cool (in the creepy, ugly sense) demons, a character death and the return of Susan, Harry’s semi-vampire ex-girlfriend. I absolutely loved this. - Steph

Break of Dark by Robert Westall (Pb $15.95). This is a collection of some of the author’s best short stories and includes two in particular that are personal favourites. They are Hitch-Hiker and Blackham’s Wimpey. I still remember reading Hitch Hiker as a teenager and having chills going up and down my spine. Blackham’s Wimpey is a story that is a bit more personal for the author as he flew in the RAF on bombers and based it on the old “legend” of the haunted Lancaster bomber story of that time, a wimpey being a vintage twin-engined bomber. All-in-all a great read that will appeal to lovers of macabre tales that have a sting in the tail. Great for any age from children to adult. - Stephen

The Relic (Pb $19.95) and its sequel Reliquary (Pb $21.95 ) by Douglas Preston and Lincoln Child are guaranteed to give you sleepless nights! Everyone no doubt is familiar with the movie of The Relic, but do yourself a favour and do not judge these books by the film script. They are infinitely better, more detailed and far more shocking and riveting. In a nutshell, The Relic involves an ancient artefact, with a deadly secret, that has been brought to a New York Museum, and the deaths that follow. In the sequel, the original characters of the first book all return and there is more action below New York’s city streets and in the sewers where the relic’s guardians are once more stirring… - Stephen

The next instalment in the well written Terminator series, T2 Rising Storm by S M Stirling (Pb $17.95) is also now in paperback and it’s a ripper of a read. If you enjoyed either the films or reading Stirling’s work, I cannot recommend this highly enough. It starts where the first one (T2 Infiltrator) ended, with Sarah now a prisoner of the people who are about to help create Skynet, while Skynet is beginning to take its first steps towards its eventual destiny... Again above average writing, strong characters and a great story-line that leaves you dying for the finale, which is due in hardback before the year is out. - Stephen

COMPETITION

To win one of two Jasper Fforde t-shirts (One says ‘Why Not Visit Swindon’, the other says ‘Toast’), name the heroine of the series. Send in your entry along with your name and address by 25 September 2003. Entry open to Galaxy Cardholders only.

COMPETITION WINNERS

Sharon Faichney has won the Daredevil Banner. Congratulations!