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Fantasy July 2009

"Not only Robin himself but all the band were outlaws and dwelled apart from other men, yet they were beloved by the country people round about, for no one ever came to jolly Robin for help in time of need and went away again with an empty fist."

~ Howard Pyle (1853-1911), American writer and illustrator, *The Merry Adventures of Robin Hood*

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New and Recently Released!

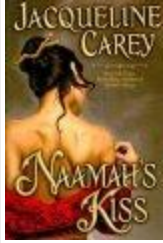
***Naamah's Kiss* - by Jacqueline Carey**

Publisher: Grand Central

[Check Library Catalog](#) **Pub Date:** 06/24/2009

ISBN-13: 9780446198035

ISBN-10: 044619803X



Historical Fantasy. Set in the same Renaissance-flavored world as her Kushiel's Legacy series, Jacqueline Carey's latest novel is a complex story with a strong-willed protagonist. However, instead of Terre D'Ange, the setting is Alba, where young Moirin--a daughter of one of the island's oldest tribes and the descendant of magicians--discovers her powers and learns to shape her destiny. Readers who enjoy political intrigue and strong eroticism will enjoy this book. While *Naamah's Kiss* is a standalone novel, readers may want to start with one of the interrelated Kushiel trilogies: the Phèdre trilogy, which begins with *Kushiel's Dart*, or the Imriel or Treason's Heir trilogy, which begins with *Kushiel's Scion*.

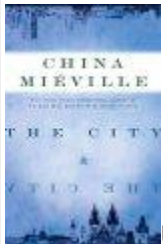
***The City & the City* - by China Miéville**

Publisher: Del Rey/Ballantine Books

[Check Library Catalog](#) **Pub Date:** 05/26/2009

ISBN-13: 9780345497512

ISBN-10: 0345497511



Urban/Noir Fantasy. Twin European cities Beszel and Ul Qoma are, in fact, *conjoined* twin cities--they occupy the exact same physical location, but the inhabitants of each metropolis deliberately ignore, or "unsee," the other. All that changes when Inspector Tyador Borlú of the Extreme Crime Squad takes on a murder case. As Borlú wanders the two cities in search of answers, his investigation yields a troubling question: could there be a third city? If you like a hint of noir in your dystopian fantasy worlds, don't miss this "spectacularly, intricately paranoid yarn" (*Kirkus Reviews*).

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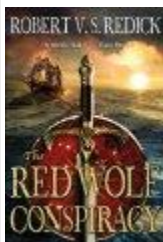
***The Red Wolf Conspiracy* - by V.S. Redick**

Publisher: Del Rey/Ballantine Books

[Check Library Catalog](#) **Pub Date:** 04/28/2009

ISBN-13: 9780345508836

ISBN-10: 0345508831



Epic Fantasy. When the Arquali invade his homeland of Ormael, 15-year-old Pazel Pathkendle becomes a "tarboy" on the *I.M.S. Chathrand*, an enormous sailing vessel. Among the ship's other passengers are Arquali ambassador Isiq and his 16-year-old daughter Thasha, destined for marriage to a Mzithrin prince. The wedding is supposed to bring peace to the two rival empires; however,

a group of conspirators intend to use it to start an international war. This complex debut contains nautical adventure reminiscent of C.S. Forester's Hornblower books and political intrigue similar to that in George R.R. Martin's military fantasy saga A Song of Fire and Ice.

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***Bad to the Bone* - by Jeri Smith-Ready**

Publisher: Pocket Books

[Check Library Catalog](#) **Pub Date:** 05/16/2009

ISBN-13: 9781416551782

ISBN-10: 1416551786



Urban Fantasy. Formerly a con artist, Ciara Griffin is now a DJ at 94.3 WMVP ("The Lifeblood of Rock 'n' Roll")--a Maryland radio station both staffed by and catering to vampires. When a Halloween broadcast is interrupted by the Family Action Network (FAN), an anti-vampire religious group dedicated to fighting what they perceive to be a sinful lifestyle, Ciara prepares to fight back. But the FAN isn't the only group interested in WMVP and its crew; there's also a shady government agency snooping around. Don't miss this "charming, fang-in-cheek urban fantasy" (*Publishers Weekly*), which is the sequel to *Wicked Game*.

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Focus on: Outlaws

***The House of the Stag* - by Kage Baker**

Publisher: Tor

[Check Library Catalog](#) **Pub Date:** 09/16/2008

ISBN-13: 9780765317452

ISBN-10: 0765317451



Fantasy. Half-demon foundling Gard, raised by the peaceful Yendri tribe, fights back against the Riders who terrorize his adopted clan--and ends up a slave. But Gard's journey back to freedom follows a long and winding road and includes stints as a gladiator, a sex slave, a mage, a professional actor, and a feared outlaw and warlord. Running parallel to Gard's story is the tale of the Child, a young girl born into the Yendri and revered as a saint. However, when Gard and the Child cross paths, their lives will change forever. Set in the same universe as the author's *The Anvil of the World*, *The House of the Stag* is stylistically different but still contains Baker's intricate plotting and detailed secondary worlds.

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***Hood* - by Stephen R. Lawhead**

Publisher: Thomas Nelson

[Check Library Catalog](#) **Pub Date:** 06/02/2007

ISBN-13: 9781595540881

ISBN-10: 1595540881



Medieval Fantasy. In Stephen Lawhead's reimagining of the Robin Hood legend, Bran ap Brychan, son of a Welsh king, flees the kingdom of Elfael after his father's death at the hands of the invading Normans. During his exile, he recruits a band of followers to win back his homeland and liberate his people. Fans of Canadian fantasy author Guy Gavriel Kay will enjoy the detailed historical settings and use of Anglo-Celtic mythology in *Hood*, the first volume in Lawhead's Raven King series. Readers who enjoy this series (which continues with *Scarlet*) and who are also interested in Arthurian legend may also want to read the author's Pendragon Cycle, which begins with *Taliesin*.

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***The Lies of Locke Lamora* - by Scott Lynch**

Publisher: Bantam Books

[Check Library Catalog](#) **Pub Date:** 06/27/2006

ISBN-13: 9780553804676

ISBN-10: 0553804677



Historical Fantasy. As a young boy alone in the city of Camorr, the orphan Locke Lamora is sold to a fake priest and grows up to become a famous thief. As an adult, he becomes the "garrista" (leader) of the Gentlemen Bastards, a gang of crooks and con artists. Operating as the Thorn of Camorr, Locke effortlessly robs the city's corrupt nobles blind--until a mysterious man called the Gray King becomes the new head of Camorr's criminal underworld and sets out to put an end to Locke through magic. Be sure to check out this picaresque fantasy romp set in a city inspired by Renaissance Venice.

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***The Highwayman: Saga of the First King* - by R.A. Salvatore**

Publisher: Tor Books

[Check Library Catalog](#) **Pub Date:** 10/02/2007

ISBN-13: 9780765358707

ISBN-10: 0765358700



High Fantasy. In the land of Corona, during a period of religious conflict, an Abellican missionary and his wife, a Jhesta Tu adept, are condemned as heretics and meet a tragic end. Their disabled newborn son, Bransen Garibond, is raised by a group of monks who barely tolerate him, while his peers call him a cripple and taunt him for being different. That changes once Garibond teaches himself how to temporarily overcome his physical limitations using the magic of his mother's people and becomes a superhero outlaw bent on revenge. *The Highwayman* is the opening volume in the Saga of the First King series, which continues with *The Ancient* and *The Dame*.

Focus on: Apprentices

***Mainspring* - by Jay Lake**

Publisher: Tor

[Check Library Catalog](#) **Pub Date:** 06/30/2007

ISBN-13: 9780765317087

ISBN-10: 0765317087



Steampunk Fantasy. In a clockwork universe created by God, a Mainspring located at the center of the Earth keeps all of existence running. Yet the mechanism is winding down. Charged by the Archangel Gabriel to seek the Key Perilous, which is the only means of winding up the Mainspring, gifted young clockmaker's apprentice Hethor Jacques embarks on a dangerous quest to find the fabled object. If you enjoy the adventure plots of Gene Wolfe's novels, the fantastic alternate worlds in China Miéville's books, or the theological subtext of Philip Pullman's His Dark Materials trilogy, then you may want to check out *Mainspring*.

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***A Wizard of Earthsea* - by Ursula K. Le Guin**

Publisher: Bantam Books

[Check Library Catalog](#) **Pub Date:** 09/28/2004

ISBN-13: 9780553383041

ISBN-10: 0553383043



Classic Fantasy. Born to a family of poor farmers on the island of Gont, a precocious young boy called Sparrowhawk demonstrates magical powers at an early age and becomes the apprentice of the great Mage Ogion, who eventually sends him to the isle of Roke to complete his training. As arrogant as he is brilliant, Sparrowhawk inadvertently unleashes a great evil upon the world. With the fate of Earthsea hanging in the balance, Sparrowhawk must use his tremendous power to undo the damage he has wrought...but will it be enough? *A Wizard of Earthsea* is the first volume of Ursula K. LeGuin's beloved and critically acclaimed Earthsea Cycle.

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***Natural Ordermage* - by L.E. Modesitt, Jr.**

Publisher: Tor

[Check Library Catalog](#) **Pub Date:** 09/18/2007

ISBN-13: 9780765318138

ISBN-10: 076531813X



Epic Fantasy. On the island of Recluce, apprentice scrivener Rahl has a short fuse and a natural talent for magic. This, along with his tendency to use his powers for his personal gain (such as impressing girls and winning fights), means that it's only a matter of time before Rahl comes to the attention of the Council magisters. Banished to the nearby island of Hamor, where he is ordered to either learn to control his powers or die trying, Rahl finds that as his magical abilities increase, so does his knack for getting into trouble. While it's set in the same world as L.E. Modesitt Jr.'s Saga of Recluce series, *Natural Ordermage* is a separate story that focuses on the land of Hamor and is followed by *Mage-Guard of Hamor*.

***The Destruction of the Books* - by Mel Odom**

Publisher: Tor

[Check Library Catalog](#) **Pub Date:** 06/01/2005

ISBN-13: 9780765346490

ISBN-10: 0765346494



Fantasy. Feeling his age after more than 100 years of service, Edgewick "Wick" Lamplighter, the three-foot-tall master librarian in the Vault of All Known Knowledge, sends his much younger but equally diminutive apprentice Juhg to find an enchanted book. Because Wick rescued him from goblin slavers and made him a first-level librarian, Juhg is eager to repay his master's kindness and retrieve the legendary tome. But this particular tome may be powerful enough to destroy the world. This sequel to the Alex Award-winning novel *The Rover* features some of the same characters in supporting roles, but is slightly darker in tone than its predecessor.

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