

Aliens & Alibis Books

August

This and That

--- Check out our sale of selected hardcover books – 20% off the cover price. Stock up now for winter reading.

--- We still have a few Harry Potter books for those of you who haven't gotten yours yet.

--- ELDEST, the sequel to ERAGON by Christopher Paolini, is due to be on our shelves August 23. If you reserve a copy before August 19, you will receive 15% off the cover price. Reservations can be made by phone, email or in the store. The book does not need to be paid for at the time of the reservation.

--- We have a web site. Check it out – www.aliensandalibis.com Feedback is appreciated. Many thanks to Kim Malo for putting it together. We have been talking to Kim about adding some things to it such as the ability to order online. Check back often to see what new things we've added.

--- The new issue of MYSTERY SCENE is available at the store. This issue features an interview with Michael Connelly who talks about his new book THE CLOSERS. There are also articles about old radio shows, book reviews, audio book reviews and much more. If you're a die-hard mystery reader, you'll get all the scoop in the bi-monthly issues of MYSTERY SCENE.

--- Speaking of MYSTERY SCENE, this issue has an article on underappreciated authors. Underappreciated authors are also highlighted on the Killer Books site (www.killerbooks.org). That site has reviews of books that various mystery bookstore owners feel are not getting the attention they deserve.

--- We have acquired a large selection of used science fiction and fantasy books. Check them out – 'that' book that you've always been looking for just might be on our shelves now. We also have shelved a good number of used mysteries.

--- Please pass this newsletter along to all your friends who are looking for a good book. If you are reading this prior to July 30, come into the store and add your name to the September 1 drawing for \$25 worth of books – your choice. One entry per customer, please. You don't have to buy anything to enter – but if you do want to buy a book or three, we won't discourage you.

Mystery Books You May Have Missed:

SHADOWS, A NOVEL by Edna Buchanan (**Signed**)
\$24.00 Simon and Schuster

This is the second installment in Ms. Buchanan's new series starring the Cold Case Squad. The 'cold case' here is the 1961 murder of the owner of Shadows, a murder committed in the historic Miami

mansion. When a cache of mummified infants is found, the investigation of the mansion's past intensifies. Although I miss Brett Montero from the previous series, I am beginning to know and like the Cold Case Squad.

BLUETICK REVENGE by Mark Cohen
\$24.95 Mysterious Press

Pepper Keane, Colorado PI and former attorney, is hired to dognap a champion bluetick hound, the property of the wife (soon to be ex-wife) of the leader of the Sons of Satan motorcycle gang. Once he gets the dog he finds that he also has responsibility for the wife until the FBI can get her testimony about the crimes committed by the gang and then get her into the federal witness protection program. This was an unputdownable (is that a word? <grin>) book. Previously, I read **THE FRACTAL MURDERS**, the first in the Pepper Keane series and thoroughly enjoyed it. This one is even better. I hope this series is around for a long, long time.

Science Fiction/Fantasy Books You May Have Missed:

THINNER THAN THOU by Kit Reed
\$24.95 Tor Books

Annie Ambercrombie is kidnapped by The Dedicated Sisters, a religious anti-fat group, and it's up to Annie's sister, brother and boyfriend to track her down and rescue her in this examination of a society obsessed by thinness and food... modern-day America turned up to 11.

RINGWORLD by Larry Niven
\$6.99 Del Rey Books

A classic SF "travelogue" detailing the exploration of the Ringworld, a giant ring-shaped construct orbiting a star, with a surface area equivalent to 3 million times the Earth. Somewhat weak on characterization, as are most of Niven's books, but the scale of the story and the cool destinations more than compensate.

THE FOREVER WAR by Joe Haldeman
\$13.95 Eos Books

First written in 1972, *The Forever War* draws on Haldeman's experiences of Vietnam and translates them into the first war between humans and aliens, the mysterious Taurans. On top of the atrocities of war, Haldeman's method of interstellar travel means that his characters get further and further away from the Earth they left... and have to face profound changes when they return.

THE LANGUAGES OF PAO by Jack Vance
\$11.95 ibooks

An interesting examination of the idea that a culture's language determines its nature. Beran Panasper leaves the world of Pao to avenge the assassination of his father, and returns to change his world's language in hopes of turning his docile culture into one capable of defending itself.

TO SAY NOTHING OF THE DOG by Connie Willis
\$7.99 Bantam

Gary and I love the Connie Willis books and this is one of the best. The format of the book is difficult to pin down. The story involves time travel, science fiction, romance, the search for the bishop's bird stump and a satire on a 1888 hilarious book called *THREE MEN IN A BOAT* by Jerome K. Jerome (the title of this book is the subtitle of Jerome's book). If you are confused -- good. That's the right way to start reading this book. Willis does answer all the questions and solve all the problems and the reader has a lot of fun along the way. In fact, I think I'll go and read it again.