"Summer Sons is a southern summer in book form: hot and hungry and haunting. I couldn't put it down." — Alix E. Harrow

"Truly intense: you can smell the blood, the sweat, and the petrol. It absolutely rips." — Tamsyn Muir

"At once a raw, beautifully written Gothic and an adrenaline-fueled debut, Summer Sons heralds a rich new voice in speculative fiction. Lee Mandelo is for real." — Andy Davidson

"Intense, sweaty, and literally haunting, Summer Sons is the Southern gothic tale of race cars and graduate school I didn't know I needed. Come for the slow-burn relationships, and stay for the scalding hot twists." — Annalee Newitz

LEE MANDELO is a writer, critic, and occasional editor whose fields of interest include speculative and queer fiction, especially when the two coincide. They have been a past nominee for various awards including the Nebula, Lambda, and Hugo; their work can be found in magazines such as Tor.com, Uncanny Magazine, Clarkesworld, and Nightmare. Aside from a brief stint overseas learning to speak Scouse, Mandelo has spent their life ranging across Kentucky, currently living in Lexington and pursuing...
A Spindle Splintered
Alix E. Harrow

USA Today bestselling author Alix E. Harrow brings her patented charm to a new version of a classic story, splicing the threads of the Sleeping Beauty stories

"Sleeping Beauty is the worst fairy tale, pretty much any way you slice it. It’s aimless and amoral and chauvinist as shit. Even among the other nerds who majored in folklore, Sleeping Beauty is nobody’s favorite. The romantic girls like Beauty and the Beast; vanilla girls like Cinderella; goth girls like Snow White. Only the dying girls like Sleeping Beauty."

It's Zinnia Gray's twenty-first birthday, which is an extra-special occasion, because it's the last she'll ever have. When she was young, an industrial accident left Zinnia with a rare condition. Not much is known about her illness, but the main fact for Zinnia is that no one who has it has lived to twenty-two.

Her best friend is intent on making Zin's last birthday special with a full sleeping beauty experience, complete with a tower and a spinning wheel. But when Zinnia pricks her finger, she founds herself cast into another world, with another sleeping beauty, just as desperate to escape her fate.

PRAISE

"A vivid, subversive and feminist reimagining of Sleeping Beauty, where implacable destiny is no match for courage, sisterhood, stubbornness and a good working knowledge of fairy tales." —Katherine Arden

"A wonderfully imaginative, and Queer as hell, tale for those who who wish to be the authors of their own stories." —Kalynn Bayron

"Like Into the Spider-Verse for Disney princesses, A Spindle Splintered is a delightful mash-up featuring Alix E. Harrow’s trademark beautiful prose and whip-smart characters." —Mike Chen
A Marvellous Light

Freya Marske


Robin Blyth has more than enough bother in his life. He’s struggling to be a good older brother, a responsible employer, and the harried baronet of a seat gutted by his late parents’ excesses. When an administrative mistake sees him named the civil service liaison to a hidden magical society, he discovers what’s been operating beneath the unextraordinary reality he’s always known.

Now Robin must contend with the beauty and danger of magic, an excruciating deadly curse, and the alarming visions of the future that come with it—not to mention Edwin Courcey, his cold and prickly counterpart in the magical bureaucracy, who clearly wishes Robin were anyone and anywhere else.

Robin’s predecessor has disappeared, and the mystery of what happened to him reveals unsettling truths about the very oldest stories they’ve been told about the land they live on and what binds it. Thrown together and facing unexpected dangers, Robin and Edwin discover a plot that threatens every magician in the British Isles—and a secret that more than one person has already died to keep.

PRAISE

"Mystery! Magic! Murder! Long looks full of yearning! This book is a confection, both marvelous and light."—Alix E. Harrow, author of The Once and Future Witches

“Perfect.”—Jenn Lyons, author of The Ruin of Kings

"If you ever wished Downton Abbey was sharper-edged and full of magic, this is the book for you."—Kat Howard, author of An Unkindness of Magicians

"This romantic fantasy is full of fascinating world-building, layers upon layers of delicious magic, and characters I adored. I want to spend much more time in this alternate England’s enchanted libraries and sinister hedge mazes!"
—Stephanie Burgis, author of Snowspelled

"Magic, romance, an...

Freya Marske is one of the co-hosts of Be the Serpent, a Hugo Award-nominated podcast about SFF, fandom, and literary tropes, and her work has sold to Analog and been shortlisted for Best Fantasy Short Story in the Aurealis Awards. She lives in Australia.
Along the Saltwise Sea

A. Deborah Baker

For readers of Kelly Barnhill and Cat Valente’s Fairyland books, adventure and danger lurk Along the Saltwise Sea in this new book by Seanan McGuire’s latest open pseudonym, A. Deborah Baker.

How many children can fit in a bucket?

Be sure to explore the myriad wonders that can be found Along the Saltwise Sea.

After climbing Over the Woodward Wall and making their way across the forest, Avery and Zib found themselves acquiring some extraordinary friends in their journey through the Up-and-Under. After staying the night, uninvited, at a pirate queen’s cottage in the woods, the companions find themselves accountable to its owner, and reluctantly agree to work off their debt as her ship sets sail, bound for lands unknown. But the queen and her crew are not the only ones on board, and the monsters at sea aren’t all underwater. The friends will need to navigate the stormy seas of obligation and honor on their continuing journey along the improbable road.

Writing as A. Deborah Baker, New York Times bestselling and award-winning author Seanan McGuire takes our heroes Avery and Zib (and their friends Niamh and the Crow Girl) on a high seas adventure, with pirates and queens and all the dangers of the deep as they continue their journey through the Up-and-Under on their quest for the road that will lead them home....

PRAISE

"With nods to The Wizard of Oz and Through the Looking Glass, readers of portal fantasy and McGuire’s Wayward Children series will love this unsettling and imaginative adventure."—Buzzfeed on Over the Woodward Wall

"An experimental companion to McGuire’s intricate novel Middlegame, Over the Woodward Wall first came to life as a middle grade story that serves as a pop culture touchstone for the characters in that adult novel. It’s also a story by a master in its own right."—Den of Geek

"Has an uncanny knack for taking the worst things that lurk in the shadows and weaving them into an absolute delight."—Becky Chambers on Middlegame

"A mini-masterp..."
Comfort Me With Apples

Catherynne M. Valente

A terrifying new thriller from bestseller Catherynne M. Valente, for fans of *Gone Girl* and *Spinning Silver*

Sophia was made for him. Her perfect husband. She can feel it in her bones. He is perfect. Their home together in Arcadia Gardens is perfect. Everything is perfect.

It's just that he's away so much. So often. He works so hard. She misses him. And he misses her. He says he does, so it must be true. He is the perfect husband and everything is perfect.

But sometimes Sophia wonders about things. Strange things. Dark things. The look on her husband's face when he comes back from a long business trip. The questions he will not answer. The locked basement she is never allowed to enter. And whenever she asks the neighbors, they can't quite meet her gaze....

But everything is perfect. Isn't it?

PRAISE

“Valente’s writing DNA is full of fable, fairy tale and myth drawn from deep wells worldwide.” — *New York Times* on *The Bread We Eat in Dreams*

“Valente [has a] gorgeous way with words and impressive genre flexibility as she moves from science fiction to fairy tale to comedic horror with her singular linguistic flair.” — *Booklist* on *The Future is Blue*

“A gorgeous, funny, melancholy, splendid romp through a post-apocalyptic wonderland in which hope and despair are indistinguishable, and the human spirit burns with the joy and rage of a thousand suns. The *Candide* of our #@*$%?! age.” — award-winning author Ken Liu on *The Past Is Red*

Catherynne M. Valente is the *New York Times* bestselling author of over two dozen works of fiction and poetry, including *Palimpsest*, the Orphan’s Tales series, *Deathless*, *Radiance*, and the crowdfunded phenomenon *The Girl Who Circumnavigated Fairyland in a Ship of Her Own Making* (and the four books that followed it). She is the winner of the Andre Norton, Tiptree, Sturgeon, Eugie Foster Memorial, Mythopoeic, Rhysling, Lambda, Locus, and Hugo awards, as well as the Prix Imaginales. Valente has also...
Harrow the Ninth

Tamsyn Muir

Lesbian necromancers return to space in the hotly-anticipated sequel to Gideon the Ninth, the USA Today, Publishers Weekly, and Indie Bestselling novel.

“Unlike anything I’ve ever read. Muir’s writing is as sharp as a broken tooth, and just as unsettling.” —V. E. Schwab on Gideon the Ninth

“Def, tense and atmospheric, compellingly immersive and wildly original.” —The New York Times on Gideon the Ninth

She answered the Emperor’s call.

She arrived with her arts, her wits, and her only friend.

In victory, her world has turned to ash.

After rocking the cosmos with her deathly debut, Tamsyn Muir continues the story of the penumbral Ninth House in Harrow the Ninth, a mind-twisting puzzle box of mystery, murder, magic, and mayhem. Nothing is as it seems in the halls of the Emperor, and the fate of the galaxy rests on one woman's shoulders. Harrowhark's health is failing, her magic refuses to cooperate, her sword makes her throw up, and even her mind threatens to betray her. What's worse, someone is trying to kill her. And she has to wonder: if they succeeded, would the universe be better off?

PRAISE

“Holy shit, [Harrow the Ninth] is just as good. Better maybe? Is it better???” —Alix E. Harrow

For Gideon the Ninth

“Brilliantly original, messy and weird straight through. With a snorting laugh and two middle fingers, the whole thing burns end-to-end.” —NPR

“This crackling, inventive and riotous book from an original voice is a genuine pleasure. Also the author is clearly insane.” —Warren Ellis

“Lesbian necromancers explore a haunted gothic palace in space! Decadent nobles vie to serve the deathless emperor! Skeletons!” —Charles Stross

TAMSYN MUIR is the bestselling author of the Locked Tomb Trilogy, which begins with Gideon the Ninth, continues with Harrow the Ninth, and concludes with Alecto the Ninth. Her short fiction has been nominated for the Nebula Award, the Shirley Jackson Award, the World Fantasy Award, and the Eugie Foster Memorial Award. A Kiwi, she has spent most of her life in Howick, New Zealand, with time living in Waiuku and central Wellington. She currently lives and works in Oxford, in the United Kingdom.
**Master of Poisons**

Andrea Hairston

Award-winning author Andrea Hairston weaves together African folktales and postcolonial literature into unforgettable fantasy

NEW MATERIAL FOR A NEW EDITION!
*This trade paperback includes an extensive conversation between the author and Daniel José Older!*

The world is changing. Poison desert eats good farmland. Once-sweet water turns foul. The wind blows sand and sadness across the Empire. To get caught in a storm is death. To live and do nothing is death. There is magic in the world, but good conjure is hard to find.

Djola, righthand man and spymaster of the lord of the Arkhysian Empire, is desperately trying to save his adopted homeland, even in exile.

Awa, a young woman training to be a powerful griot, tests the limits of her knowledge and comes into her own in a world of sorcery, floating cities, kindly beasts, and uncertain men.

Awash in the rhythms of folklore and storytelling and rich with Hairston's characteristic lush prose, *Master of Poisons* is epic fantasy that will bleed your mind with its turns of phrase and leave you aching for the world it burns into being.

**PRAISE**

**Praise for Master of Poisons:**

"*Master of Poisons* makes me laugh, gasp, and dream of the world we are so desperately holding onto and of a better world yet to come . . . I am so grateful Andrea hasn't given up on us! May she keep gifting our world with her expansive imagination throughout the years!" —Sheree Renée Thomas

"Nobody does it better than Andrea Hairston, and if you doubt it, just open *Master of Poisons* and follow her into the light." —Pearl Cleage

**Praise for Andrea Hairston:**

"[A] beautifully multifaceted story...with deep, layered, powerful characters. Highly recommended."—*The New York Times* on *Will Do Magic for Small Change*

"The entire ..."

Andrea Hairston is a novelist, essayist, playwright, and the Artistic Director of Chrysalis Theatre. She is the author of *Redwood and Wildfire*. winner of the 2011 Tintree Award and the Carl Brandon...
The Tensorate Series
(The Black Tides of Heaven, The Red Threads of Fortune, The Descent of Monsters, The Ascent to Godhood)

Neon Yang

The Tensorate Series brings together four genre-defining silkpunk novellas by acclaimed author Neon Yang.

The Tensorate Series, which has been nominated for the Hugo, Nebula, World Fantasy, Locus, and Lambda Literary Awards, is an incomparable treasure of modern epic fantasy. Across four novellas, Neon Yang established themselves as a fantasist in bold defiance of the limitations of their genre. Available now in a single volume, these four novellas trace the generational decline of an empire and unfurl a world that is rich and strange beyond anything you've dreamed.

In the Tensorate Series you will find: rebellious nonbinary scions of empire, sky-spanning nagas with experimental souls, revolutionary engineers bent on bringing power to the people, pugilist monks, packs of loyal raptors, and much, much more.

The Tensorate Series omnibus contains The Black Tides of Heaven, The Red Threads of Fortune, The Descent of Monsters, and To Ascend to Godhood

PRAISE

PRAISE FOR THE TENSORATE SERIES

“Full of love and loss, confrontation and discovery. Each moment is a glistening pearl, all strung together in a wonder of world-creation.” — Ken Liu

"I love Neon Yang’s effortlessly fascinating world-building." — Kate Elliott

"A fascinating world of battles, politics, magic and romance." — Zen Cho

"Filled with memorable characters and set in a wonderfully imaginative and original universe." — Aliette de Bodard

"Like a Miyazaki movie decided to jump off the screen and sear itself into prose, and in doing so became something entirely new." — Indrapramit Das

Neon Yang (they/them) is a queer non-binary author based in Singapore. They have been nominated for the Hugo, Nebula, World Fantasy, Lambda Literary, Igynte, and Locus Awards, and their work has been an Otherwise Award Honoree. In previous incarnations, Neon was a molecular biologist, a science communicator, a writer for animation, games and comic studios, and a journalist for one of Singapore's major papers.
Flowers for the Sea

Zin E. Rocklyn

A dark, dazzling debut novella that reads like *Rosemary’s Baby* by way of Octavia E. Butler

Zin E. Rocklyn’s extraordinary debut novella is a lush, gothic fantasy about the prices we pay and the vengeance we seek.

Survivors from a flooded kingdom struggle alone on an ark. Resources are scant, and ravenous beasts circle. Their fangs are sharp.

Among the refugees is Iraxi: ostracized, despised, and a commoner who refused a prince, she’s pregnant with a child that might be more than human. Her fate may be darker and more powerful than she can imagine.

Zin E. Rocklyn is a contributor to Bram Stoker-nominated *Nox Pareidolia, Kaiju Rising II: Reign of Monsters, Brigands: A Blackguards Anthology,* and *Forever Vacancy* anthologies and *Weird Luck* Tales No. 7 zine. Their story “Summer Skin” in the Bram Stoker-nominated anthology *Sycorax’s Daughters* received an honorable mention for Ellen Datlow’s *Best Horror of the Year, Volume Ten.* Zin contributed the nonfiction essay “My Genre Makes a Monster of Me” to *Uncanny Magazine’s* Hugo Award-winning *Disabled ...*
Elder Race

Adrian Tchaikovsky

A junior anthropologist on a distant planet must help the locals he has sworn to study to save a planet from an unbeatable foe.

Lynesse is the lowly Fourth Daughter of the queen, and always getting in the way.

But a demon is terrorizing the land, and now she’s an adult (albeit barely) and although she still gets in the way, she understands that the only way to save her people is to invoke the pact between her family and the Elder sorcerer who has inhabited the local tower for as long as her people have lived here (though none in living memory has approached it).

But Elder Nyr isn’t a sorcerer, and he is forbidden to help, for his knowledge of science tells him the threat cannot possibly be a demon…

PRAISE

Praise for Adrian Tchaikovsky:

“A great coming-of-age story that careens through a world so vividly realized that you can feel each insect bite and taste every acrid berry. The Expert System’s Brother gives you that visceral eek of satisfaction as its pieces come into view then fit together with exacting precision. It’s a smart story, smartly told.” - Hugo Award winner, John Chu

“I loved it. A bold, vivid story about humanity and the broader universe. Should we mold the universe to suit us? Or should we mold ourselves to suit the universe? Adrian Tchaikovsky keeps these choices in tension, and kept me riveted to the page.” - Ramez Naam, author...

Adrian Tchaikovsky (he/him) is the author of the acclaimed Shadows of the Apt fantasy series and the epic science fiction blockbuster, Children of Time. He has won the Arthur C. Clarke Award, a British Fantasy Society Award, and has been nominated for the David Gemmell Legend Award. In civilian life he is a lawyer, gamer, and amateur entomologist.
Second Spear

Kerstin Hall

The thrilling follow-up to Nommo Award finalist, The Border Keeper

After surviving the schemes of the goddess Fanieq and learning some shattering truths about her former life, the warrior Tyn feels estranged from her role guarding her ruler. Grappling with knowledge of her identity, she unleashes her frustrations on all the wrong people.

When an old enemy returns wielding an unstoppable, realm-crushing weapon, Tyn is swept up in the path of destruction.

PRAISE

Praise for The Border Keeper

"A phantasmagorical picaresque through a lushly realised underworld, populated by a grotesque bestiary of fantastical creatures. . . . This twisty example of the new weird genre examines love, loss and loyalty, packing skilful world-building and a powerful emotional punch into a little over 200 pages."—The Guardian

"Beautifully and vividly imagined. Eerie, lovely, and surreal."—Ann Leckie

“A labyrinth of demons, dead gods, cranky psychopomps, and broken all-too-human lives. Hall is by turns wry and lush, genuine and venomous.”—Max Gladstone

"A fantasy forged in the belly of dreams. . . . A singular debut with no easy . . ."

Kerstin Hall's short fiction has appeared in Strange Horizons and Fireside, and she is the author of the novella The Border Keeper. She lives in Cape Town, South Africa. You can find her at kerstinhall.com and on Twitter at @Kerstin__Hall.
# Index

*Along the Saltwise Sea*; A. Deborah Baker .................. 5  
Baker, A. Deborah; *Along the Saltwise Sea* .................. 5  
*Comfort Me With Apples*; Catherynne M. Valente .......... 6  
Elder Race; Adrian Tchaikovsky ............................. 11  
*Flowers for the Sea*; Zin E. Rocklyn ....................... 10  
Hairston, Andrea; *Master of Poisons* ....................... 8  
Hall, Kerstin; *Second Spear* ............................... 12  
*Harrow the Ninth*; Tamsyn Muir ............................. 7  
Harrow, Alix E.; *A Spindle Splintered* ...................... 3  
Mandelo, Lee; *Summer Sons* ................................. 2  
Marske, Freya; *A Marvellous Light* ......................... 4  
*Marvellous Light, A*; Freya Marske ......................... 4  
*Master of Poisons*; Andrea Hairston ......................... 8  
Muir, Tamsyn; *Harrow the Ninth* ............................ 7  
Rocklyn, Zin E.; *Flowers for the Sea* ....................... 10  
*Second Spear*; Kerstin Hall ................................. 12  
*Spindle Splintered, A*; Alix E. Harrow ..................... 3  
*Summer Sons*; Lee Mandelo ................................. 2  
Tchaikovsky, Adrian; *Elder Race* ........................... 11  
Valente, Catherynne M.; *Comfort Me With Apples* ........... 6  
Yang, Neon; *The Tensorate Series*: (*The Black Tides of Heaven*, *The Red Threads of Fortune*, *The Descent of Monsters*, *The Ascent to Godhood*) ......................... 9