

# Beginnings Five Heroic Fantasy Adventure Novels

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## **Balanced on the Blade's Edge** - Lindsay Buroker 2014-04-01

Colonel Ridge Zirkander isn't the model of military professionalism—he has a tendency to say exactly what's on his mind, and his record has enough demerits to wallpaper the hull of an airship—but as the best fighter pilot in the Iskandian army, he's used to a little leniency from his superiors. Until he punches the wrong diplomat in the nose and finds himself issued new orders: take command of a remote prison mine in the inhospitable Ice Blades Mountains. Ridge has never been in charge of anything larger than a flier squadron—what's he supposed to do with a frozen fortress full of murderers and rapists? Not to mention the strange woman who shows up right before he arrives... Sardelle Terushan wakes from three hundred years in a mage stasis shelter, only to realize that she is the last of the Referatu, the sorcerers who once helped protect Iskandia from conquerors. Their subterranean mountain community was blown up in a treacherous sneak attack by soldiers who feared their power. Everyone Sardelle ever knew is dead, and the sentient soulblade she has been bonded to since her youth is buried in the core of the mountain. Further, what remains of her home has been infested by bloodthirsty miners commanded by the descendants of the very soldiers who destroyed her people. Sardelle needs help to reach her soulblade—her only link to her past and her last friend in the world. Her

only hope is to pretend she's one of the prisoners while trying to gain the commander's trust. But lying isn't her specialty, especially when the world has changed so much in the intervening centuries, and if Colonel Zirkander figures out who she truly is, he'll be duty-bound to sentence her to the only acceptable punishment for sorcerers: death.

## **The History of Science Fiction** - Xavier Dollo 2021-11-09

For the first time in illustrated form, this comprehensive history of sc-fi traces its origins and charts its history from its humble beginnings to its respected status today.

## **Deadcore** - Randy Chandler 2010-09

DEADCORE: 4 HARDCORE ZOMBIE NOVELLAS Join authors Randy Chandler, Ben Cheetham, Edward M. Erdelac, and David James Keaton as they unleash the carnage while breathing new life, and death, into the zombie genre. FANGORIA MAGAZINE REVIEW "As the book's title indicates, DEADCORE achieves all extremes. Violent, perverse, depraved—and, as such, quite recommended." THE STORIES DEAD JUJU BY RANDY CHANDLER He's the mystery man on the news. Where he shows up, the shit goes down. The dead are rising, the immigration issue has reached the boiling point, the living are screwed, and unspeakable acts are being performed upon all involved. In this tale of Zombies Gone Wild, yes the dead walk but just where the hell are they going and why?

Dead Juju gives you the hardcore truth, if you're ghoul enough to handle it. NIGHT OF THE JIKININKI BY EDWARD M. ERDELAC After a comet is observed in the western sky of feudal Japan, a murdered inmate rises from the dead and attacks his fellow prisoners. Three disparate men: a casteless bandit, a mad, child-eating monk, and a renowned but sadistic samurai band together to escape the walled and moat-surrounded prison as it fills with the walking and ravenous dead. ZEE BEE & BEE (A.K.A. PROPELLER HATS FOR THE DEAD) BY DAVID JAMES KEATON At a "Zombie Bed & Breakfast" tourist trap, guests pay for the thrill of a staged zombie assault during an apocalyptic scenario, acted out by sluggish hotel workers who are well-versed in the zombie genre. But soon the script doesn't go as planned, the guests become uncooperative, and the actors are taking their roles very seriously these days. ZOMBIE SAFARI BY BEN CHEETHAM Survivors of a zombie apocalypse have carved out new existences on islands, only visiting the mainland to hunt zombies. But things start to go wrong. Zombies don't die as they should. Hunters go missing. A trip that's supposed to be fun turns into a struggle for survival as four men make a discovery that causes them to question not only what it means to be a zombie, but what it means to be human. *Kingdoms at War* - Lindsay Buroker 2021-04-22

For centuries, wizard kings have ruled the world from their elite sky cities, battling each other to add to their wealth and power, while using normal human beings as pawns. Those without magic struggle to feed their families and live in constant fear of bringing down the wrath of their tyrannical masters. Something must change. But great heroes have tried and failed. Rebellions have been quashed, villages enslaved, and warriors executed. Who is left to fight? In the shadow of an active volcano, a small band of downtrodden soldiers and bookish archaeologists hope to find an ancient portal that allows travel to other worlds. Somewhere out there are the allies they need to win the war against their oppressors. Maybe they can even find the dragons that are believed to have built the ancient portals. With such powerful allies, they could finally end the wizards' corrupt rule and bring freedom and prosperity to all of humanity. But our heroes are not the only ones who

hunt for the portal, and the wizard rulers will do whatever it takes to keep their power?

*The Wolves of God and Other Fey Stories* - Algernon Blackwood  
2018-01-19

Although Blackwood wrote a number of horror stories, his most typical work seeks less to frighten than to induce a sense of awe...Algernon Henry Blackwood was an English short story writer and novelist, one of the most prolific writers of ghost stories in the history of the genre. He was also a journalist and a broadcasting narrator. S. T. Joshi has stated that "his work is more consistently meritorious than any weird writer's except Dunsany's" and that his short story collection *Incredible Adventures* (1914) "may be the premier weird collection of this or any other century".

**The Land of Stories: The Wishing Spell** - Chris Colfer 2012-07-17  
Alex and Conner Bailey's world is about to change. When the twins' grandmother gives them a treasured fairy-tale book, they have no idea they're about to enter a land beyond all imagining: the Land of Stories, where fairy tales are real. But as Alex and Conner soon discover, the stories they know so well haven't ended in this magical land - Goldilocks is now a wanted fugitive, Red Riding Hood has her own kingdom, and Queen Cinderella is about to become a mother! The twins know they must get back home somehow. But with the legendary Evil Queen hot on their trail, will they ever find the way? *The Land of Stories: The Wishing Spell* brings readers on a thrilling quest filled with magic spells, laugh-out-loud humour and page-turning adventure.

**The Routledge History of Literature in English** - Ronald Carter  
2016-10-04

The Routledge History of Literature in English covers the main developments in the history of British and Irish literature, with accompanying language notes which explore the interrelationships between language and literature at each stage. With a span from AD 600 to the present day, it emphasises the growth of literary writing, its traditions, conventions and changing characteristics, and includes literature from the margins, both geographical and cultural. Extensive

quotations from poetry, prose and drama underpin the narrative. The third edition covers recent developments in literary and cultural theory, and features: a new chapter on novels, drama and poetry in the 21st century; examples of analysis of key texts drawn from across the history of British and Irish literature, including material from Chaucer, Shakespeare, John Keats and Virginia Woolf; an extensive companion website including extra language notes and key text analysis; lists of Booker, Costa and Nobel literature prize winners; and an A-Z of authors and topics. The Routledge History of Literature in English is an invaluable reference for any student of English literature and language.

**Back to Venice** - Michael Grant 2011-05-26

Imagine what it would be like to go back in time to the 15th century Venice. And imagine what it would be like to meet your lifelong hero, Michelangelo. And imagine what it would be like if, on first meeting, you spill a tray of pasta and wine on that very same hero. Well, that's what happens to serious young artist Mark Breen. As the result of a drunken bet, Mark knocks out a painting of a toilet bowl. Much to his amazement, he sells it. In short order he's hailed as the new Andy Warhol and becomes an overnight sensation-and a very wealthy man. Soon, images of his toilet bowls are on more t-shirts, mugs, and calendars than Edvard Munch's *The Scream*. His friend and mentor, Hugh Connelly, afraid that Mark is in danger of losing his "artistic soul," advises him to go back to Italy and reacquaint himself with the "old masters." In Venice, Mark falls in love with Alexandra, a beautiful art restorer, but it's a one-sided affair. One night, hoping to win her over, he climbs up on a roof to find out who painted her favorite fresco. He falls off the roof and wakes up in 15th century Venice where he meets an innkeeper named Francesca, who looks exactly like Alexandra. And it gets curiously and curiously from there. During his stay-which is sometimes zany and sometimes frightening-he meets his hero, Michelangelo, who teaches him the true meaning of art.

*Beginnings: five heroic fantasy adventure novels* - Lindsay Buroker  
2017-02-28

When her island home is invaded by enemy soldiers, her family captured,

and the town enslaved, Taylina must find a way to fight back and free her people. But their enemies have powerful warships, sorcerers, and dragons. Her simple people are no match. Her only hope is to venture onto the forbidden half of the island and seek the one individual powerful enough to battle their enemies, a dragon known for eating humans rather than helping them. Find out what happens to Taylina and meet the dragon who thinks he's a god in *Dragon Rider*, a prequel to Lindsay's USA Today bestselling *Dragon Blood* series. In addition to *Dragon Rider*, *Beginnings* features four previously published fantasy adventure novels, all with new introductions from the author: *Encrypted*, *The Emperor's Edge*, *Balanced on the Blade's Edge*, *Warrior Mage*

[The English Novel in History 1700-1780](#) - John Richetti 2003-09-02

*The English Novel in History 1700-1780* provides students with specific contexts for the early novel in response to a new understanding of eighteenth-century Britain. It traces the social and moral representations of the period in extended readings of the major novelists, as well as evaluating the importance of lesser known ones. John Richetti traces the shifting subject matter of the novel, discussing: \* scandalous and amatory fictions \* criminal narratives of the early part of the century \* the more disciplined, realistic, and didactic strain that appears in the 1740's and 1750's \* novels promoting new ideas about the nature of domestic life \* novels by women and how they relate to the shift of subject matter This original and useful book revises traditional literary history by considering novels from those years in the context of the transformation of Britain in the eighteenth century.

**Encrypted** - Lindsay Buroker 2012-05-01

Professor Tikaya Komitopis isn't a great beauty, a fearless warrior, or even someone who can walk and chew chicle at the same time, but her cryptography skills earn her wartime notoriety. When enemy marines show up at her family's plantation, she expects the worst. But they're not there to kill her. They need her to decode mysterious runes, and they ask for help in the manner typical of a conquering empire: they kidnap her, threaten her family, and throw her in the brig of their fastest steamship. Her only ally is a fellow prisoner who charms her with a

passion for academics as great as her own. Together, they must decipher mind-altering alchemical artifacts, deadly poison rockets, and malevolent technological constructs, all while dodging assassination attempts from a rival power determined the expedition should fail. As if the situation weren't treacherous enough, this new "ally" may turn out to be the last person Tikaya should trust. Those runes cloak more than mysteries, however, and he's the only one who can help her unravel them before their secrets destroy the world.

**Don't go there. It's not safe. You'll die. And other more >> rational advice for overlanding Mexico & Central America** - 2012  
Your complete guide for overlanding in Mexico and Central America.

This book provides detailed and up-to-date information by country. It also includes 11 chapters of information for planning and preparing your trip and 9 chapters on what to expect while driving through Mexico and Central America. Completed by the authors of LifeRemotely.com this is the most comprehensive guide for driving the Pan American yet!

**Our Gods Wear Spandex** - Chris Knowles 2007-11-30

Was Superman's arch nemesis Lex Luthor based on Aleister Crowley? Can Captain Marvel be linked to the Sun gods on antiquity? In *Our Gods Wear Spandex*, Christopher Knowles answers these questions and brings to light many other intriguing links between superheroes and the enchanted world of esoterica. Occult students and comic-book fans alike will discover countless fascinating connections, from little known facts such as that DC Comics editor Julius Schwartz started his career as H.P. Lovecraft's agent, to the tantalizingly extensive influence of Madame Blavatsky's Theosophy on the birth of comics, to the mystic roots of Superman. The book also traces the rise of the comic superheroes and how they relate to several cultural trends in the late 19th century, specifically the occult explosion in Western Europe and America. Knowles reveals the four basic superhero archetypes--the Messiah, the Golem, the Amazon, and the Brotherhood--and shows how the occult Bohemian underground of the early 20th century provided the inspiration for the modern comic book hero. With the popularity of occult comics writers like *Invisibles* creator Grant Morrison and *V for Vendetta*

creator Alan Moore, the vast ComiCon audience is poised for someone to seriously introduce them to the esoteric mysteries. Chris Knowles is doing just that in this epic book. Chapters include *Ancient of Days*, *Ascended Masters*, *God and Gangsters*, *Mad Scientists and Modern Sorcerers*, and many more. From the ghettos of Prague to the halls of Valhalla to the Fortress of Solitude and the aisles of BEA and ComiCon, this is the first book to show the inextricable link between superheroes and the enchanted world of esoterica. \* Chris Knowles is associate editor and columnist for the five-time Eisner Award-winning *Comic Book Artist* magazine, as well as a pop culture writer for UK magazine *Classic Rock*. \* Knowles worked with Robert Smigel on *The X Presidents* graphic novel, based on the popular *Saturday Night Live* cartoon, and has created designs and artwork for many of the world's top superheroes and fantasy characters. \* Features the art of Joe Linsner, creator of the legendary *Dawn* series, and more recently a collaborator with comics maestro Stan Lee.

**Science/Fiction Collections** - Lee Ash 2013-08-21

*Science/Fiction Collections* offers different views and attitudes toward Science Fiction and Fantasy Literature and descriptions of a variety of collections. Written during a time when Science Fiction and Fantasy writings had just gained widespread popularity, it offers suggestions and considerations for approaching any special collection dealing with a relatively new field.

*Above the Storm (Book One of the Storm Below)* - J. M. D. Reid  
2021-10-15

*The Unique Legacy of Weird Tales* - Justin Everett 2015-10-01

When the pulp magazine *Weird Tales* appeared on newsstands in 1923, it proved to be a pivotal moment in the evolution of speculative fiction. Living up to its nickname, "The Unique Magazine," *Weird Tales* provided the first real venue for authors writing in the nascent genres of fantasy, horror, and science fiction. *Weird fiction* pioneers such as H. P. Lovecraft, Robert E. Howard, Clark Ashton Smith, Robert Bloch, Catherine L. Moore, and many others honed their craft in the pages of

Weird Tales in the 1920s and 1930s, and their work had a tremendous influence on later generations of genre authors. In *The Unique Legacy of Weird Tales: The Evolution of Modern Fantasy and Horror*, Justin Everett and Jeffrey Shanks have assembled an impressive collection of essays that explore many of the themes critical to understanding the importance of the magazine. This multi-disciplinary collection from a wide array of scholars looks at how *Weird Tales* served as a locus of genre formation and literary discourse community. There are also chapters devoted to individual authors—including Lovecraft, Howard, and Bloch—and their particular contributions to the magazine. As the literary world was undergoing a revolution and mass-produced media began to dwarf high-brow literature in social significance, *Weird Tales* managed to straddle both worlds. This collection of essays explores the important role the magazine played in expanding the literary landscape at a very particular time and place in American culture. *The Unique Legacy of Weird Tales* will appeal to scholars and aficionados of fantasy, horror, and weird fiction and those interested in the early roots of these popular genres.

*Dragon Storm* - Lindsay Buroker

Born with a secret power he must hide... Telryn "Trip" Yert has always been a little odd, with hunches that are too accurate to explain. Magic is feared and forbidden in Iskandia, so he's struggled his whole life to hide his eccentricities. As a boy, he was forced to watch his mother's execution. Her crime? Witchcraft. Understandably, Trip wants nothing to do with the power that lurks within him, always threatening to reveal itself. Instead, he dedicates himself to serving as an officer in the king's army, to battling pirates and imperial conquerors. He longs to become a soldier as respected and renowned as the legendary General Zirkander. But his country is in need of more than a soldier. After disappearing for over a thousand years, dragons have returned to the world. A few of them are willing to be allies to mankind, as they were millennia before, but far more want to destroy or enslave humans and claim the world for themselves. There are few people left with the power to fight dragons. For reasons he doesn't understand, Trip may be one of those people. But if he chooses to learn more about his heritage and the power he can

wield, he risks losing everyone he loves and everything he longs to be.

***A History of British, Irish and American Literature*** - Hans-Peter Wagner 2021-10-04

The third revised and enlarged edition contains discussions of British, Irish and American literary works up to 2020. Focussing on outstanding writings in prose, poetry, drama and non-fiction, the book covers the time from the Anglo-Saxon period to the 21st century. The feature that makes this literary history unique among its rivals is the coverage of television/web series as a particular form of postmodern drama. The chapters on recent drama now contain detailed analyses of the development of TV and web series from Britain, Ireland and America, with extensive discussions of those series now considered classics. In addition, there are several major innovative features. To begin with, each century is introduced by a survey of the socio-political and cultural backgrounds in which the literary works are embedded. Furthermore, extensive visual material (more than 160 engravings, cartoons and paintings) has been integrated. This visual aspect as well as the introductory sections on art for each century give the reader an excellent idea of the symbiosis between visual and literary representations.

Further innovative aspects include - discussions of non-fictional works from literary criticism and theory, travel writing, historiography, and the social sciences - analyses of such popular genres as crime fiction, science fiction, fantasy, the Western, horror fiction, and children's literature - footnotes explaining technical and historical terms and events - a detailed glossary of literary terms - chronological tables for British/Anglo-Irish and American literatures an updated (cut-off date 2020), extensive bibliography containing suggestions for further reading

***Miss Fury Vol. 2 #5 (of 6)*** - Corinna Bechko 2016-08-24

Marla must choose her fate as past and future collide. Is she Marla Drake, friend and co-worker, or Miss Fury, a creature of dark power and fierce retribution? The answer lies far from land as the Minor Key seeks to unlock an apocalypse they can't control, forcing Miss Fury to confront the mysterious force coiled within her. Will she learn to harness it in time, or will all of New York pay the price?

**The Cambridge History of the Novel in French** - Adam Watt  
2021-02-25

This History is the first in a century to trace the development and impact of the novel in French from its beginnings to the present. Leading specialists explore how novelists writing in French have responded to the diverse personal, economic, socio-political, cultural-artistic and environmental factors that shaped their worlds. From the novel's medieval precursors to the impact of the internet, the History provides fresh accounts of canonical and lesser-known authors, offering a global perspective beyond the national borders of 'the Hexagon' to explore France's colonial past and its legacies. Accessible chapters range widely, including the French novel in Sub-Saharan Africa, data analysis of the novel system in the seventeenth century, social critique in women's writing, Sade's banned works and more. Highlighting continuities and divergence between and within different periods, this lively volume offers routes through a diverse literary landscape while encouraging comparison and connection-making between writers, works and historical periods.

**The Handbook of Gender, Sex, and Media** - Karen Ross 2013-12-04  
The Handbook of Gender, Sex and Media offers original insights into the complex set of relations which exist between gender, sex, sexualities and the media, and in doing so, showcases new research at the forefront of media and communication practice and theory. Brings together a collection of new, cutting-edge research exploring a number of different facets of the broad relationship between gender and media Moves beyond associating gender with man/woman and instead considers the relationship between the construction of gender norms, biological sex and the mediation of sex and sexuality Offers genuinely new insights into the complicated and complex set of relations which exist between gender, sex, sexualities and the media Essay topics range from the continuing sexism of TV advertising to ways in which the internet is facilitating the (re)invention of our sexual selves.

Library of Congress Subject Headings - Library of Congress 2013

*Forgotten Ages (The Complete Series)* - Lindsay Buroker 2015-06-12  
The greatest military leader of his time. The most talented code breaker her people have. Sworn enemies. When deadly secrets from the ancient past are unearthed, secrets capable of fracturing the world and destroying all life on the planet, these two enemies will have to work together. They are humanity's only hope. The Forgotten Ages series is recommended for fans of epic fantasy, action-adventure, mystery, and romance. This bundle includes: Encrypted (novel) Enigma (short story) Decrypted (novel) Bonus extras with the author

**X-Men Masterworks Vol. 5** - Arnold Drake  
Uncanny X-Men (1963) #43-53, Avengers (1963) #53, Ka-Zar (1970) #2-3, Marvel Tales #30

*Blood of Requiem (Epic Fantasy, Dragons, Free Fantasy Novel)* - Daniel Arenson 2011-05-01

Free epic fantasy novel! Song of Dragons -- a fantasy trilogy of blood, steel, and dragonfire. For fans of epic fantasy like A Game of Thrones and The Lord of the Rings. BOOK ONE: BLOOD OF REQUIEM Long ago stood the kingdom of Requiem, a land of men who could grow wings and scales, breathe fire, and take flight as dragons. Requiem ruled the sky. But Dies Irae, a tyrant leading an army of griffins, hunted Requiem's people, burned their forests, and shattered their temples. Requiem fell. This ancient land now lies in ruin, its halls crumbled, its cries silenced, its skeletons littering the burned earth. In the wilderness, a scattering of survivors lives in hiding. The griffins still hunt them, and every day promises death. Will Requiem's last children perish in exile... or once more become dragons and fly to war? Blood of Requiem -- a free epic fantasy novel for fans of dragons, A Game of Thrones, and swords and sorcery. \_\_\_\_\_ THE REQUIEM SERIES: Requiem: Dawn of Dragons Book 1: Requiem's Song Book 2: Requiem's Hope Book 3: Requiem's Prayer Requiem: Song of Dragons Book 1: Blood of Requiem Book 2: Tears of Requiem Book 3: Light of Requiem Requiem: Dragonlore Book 1: A Dawn of Dragonfire Book 2: A Day of Dragon Blood Book 3: A Night of Dragon Wings Requiem: The Dragon War Book 1: A Legacy of Light Book 2: A Birthright of Blood Book 3: A Memory of Fire Requiem:

Requiem for Dragons Book 1: Dragons Lost Book 2: Dragons Reborn  
Book 3: Dragons Rising Requiem: Flame of Requiem Book 1: Forged in  
Dragonfire Book 2: Crown of Dragonfire Book 3: Pillars of Dragonfire  
Requiem: Dragonfire Rain Book 1: Blood of Dragons Book 2: Rage of  
Dragons Book 3: Flight of Dragons

**Warrior Mage (Chains of Honor, Book 1)** - Lindsay Buroker

2015-04-25

His mother was one of the most powerful wizards in the Nurian Empire until she abandoned her people to become a notorious pirate. That choice doomed the family she left behind to a life of disgrace. Yanko White Fox doesn't remember his mother, but as the only gifted child in the family, he is expected to erase the mark she left on them all. With an affinity for earth magic and communicating with animals, he's not the most natural candidate to become a warrior mage, but it's the only sure route back into the Great Chief's good graces. He has resigned himself to training for that destiny, whether it matches his passions or not. Long before he's ready for his first battle, insurrection comes to his distant corner of the empire. Rebels take over the salt mine his family manages and slay the only relative who ever supported Yanko. On the heels of the tragedy, a courier brings a message from the Great Chief's son. Whether he is prepared or not, Yanko must undertake a quest, one that could save millions of lives... or fail utterly, leaving him dead, his family forgotten, and his people the victims of starvation and endless war. Warrior Mage is the first novel in the now complete Chains of Honor epic fantasy series.

**The Emperor's Edge** - Lindsay Buroker 2011-09-03

"Imperial law enforcer Amaranthe Lokdon is good at her job: she can deter thieves and pacify thugs, if not with a blade, then by toppling an eight-foot pile of coffee canisters onto their heads. But when ravaged bodies show up on the waterfront, an arson covers up human sacrifices, and a powerful business coalition plots to kill the emperor, she feels a tad overwhelmed. Worse, Sicarius, the empire's most notorious assassin, is in town. He's tied in with the chaos somehow, but Amaranthe would be a fool to cross his path. Unfortunately, her superiors order her to hunt him down. Either they have an unprecedented belief in her skills... or

someone wants her dead"--P. [4] of cover.

Seeing Comics through Art History - Maggie Gray 2022-07-19

This book explores what the methodologies of Art History might offer Comics Studies, in terms of addressing overlooked aspects of aesthetics, form, materiality, perception and visual style. As well as considering what Art History proposes of comic scholarship, including the questioning of some of its deep-rooted categories and procedures, it also appraises what comics and Comics Studies afford and ask of Art History. This book draws together the work of international scholars applying art-historical methodologies to the study of a range of comic strips, books, cartoons, graphic novels and manga, who, as well as being researchers, are also educators, artists, designers, curators, producers, librarians, editors, and writers, with some undertaking practice-based research. Many are trained art historians, but others come from, have migrated into, or straddle other disciplines, such as Comparative Literature, American Literature, Cultural Studies, Visual Studies, and a range of subjects within Art & Design practice.

Forced Conversion - Donald Bingle 2016-06-06

"Visceral, bloody -- and one hell of a page turner! Bingle tackles the philosophical issues surrounding uploaded consciousness in a fresh, exciting way. This is the debut of a major novelist -- don't miss it." Robert J. Sawyer, Hugo and Nebula Award-Winning Author. Everyone can have heaven, any heaven they want, but some people don't want to go. Mankind has largely retreated to the realms of virtual reality, where resources are unlimited and the problems of the real world--violence, conflict, sickness, and pain--can all be avoided. Unfortunately, those who stay behind in the real world pose the only risk to the immortality of those who have converted to virtual existence. Derek, a soldier in the Conversion Forces (ConFoes), seeks to enforce the Mandatory Conversion Act on the remaining mals (malcontent Luddites, gangbangers, and religious fanatics). He just wants to put in his time and join his family on one of the virtual worlds. But until then, he is forced to deal with his psychotic squad-mates, the increasingly brutal tactics of the ConFoes, and a mal ambush. And that's just the beginning of his journey.

While most speculative and science fiction deals with worlds transformed by technological advance, *Forced Conversion* highlights the troubling and chaotic process of that transformation, itself. It combines the adrenaline-soaked action of military fiction with the extrapolation of current scientific trends of the best speculative fiction, while dealing with the moral and religious implications of both war and technology. If large scale transcendence could occur, this novel explains how it would come about and what the real world would be like in the aftermath.

When Moore's Law meets God's Law, the result is forced conversion. Says Ed Greenwood, Creator of *The Forgotten Realms*(TM) and Author of the bestselling *Elminster* novels: "I loved it! Many writers have explored hard-hitting and brutal possible futures for Earth, and told colorful tales of people trying to stay alive in them, but few have brought such imagined futures as vividly to life as Don Bingle -- and no other book I can think of examines how and why such a future might just happen as well as *FORCED CONVERSION* does -- or provides half the breath-catching twists and turns of Bingle's yarn. A 'good read' of the old school, coupled with all-too-plausible reasons for everything. A grim warning and a fast action adventure tale, all in one! Highly recommended!" Says Jean Rabe, Author of *The Dhamon Saga*: "Though this is Donald Bingle's first novel, it reads like the work of a seasoned thriller author. *Forced Conversion* is filled with plenty of suspense and surprises, deep and quirky characters, and engaging dialog. It is not easy to set down, so read it when you have time on your hands. It is a helluva trip ..."

Technology can be a wonderful thing, when it's not ruining the world completely. About the Author: Best known as the world's top-ranked player of classic role-playing games for fifteen years, Donald J. Bingle is an oft-published author in the science fiction, fantasy, horror, thriller, steampunk, romance, and comedy genres, with five books (*Forced Conversion*; *GREENSWORD*; *Net Impact*; *Frame Shop*; *The Love-Haight Case Files*), and more than fifty shorter stories. Many of these stories and others appear in his *Writer on Demand* TM story collections by genre: *Tales of Gamers and Gaming*; *Tales of Humorous Horror*; *Tales Out of Time*; *Grim*, *Fair e-Tales*; *Tales of an Altered Past Powered by Romance*,

*Horror*, and *Steam*; *Not-So-Heroic Fantasy*; and *Shadow Realities*. Donald J. Bingle is a member of the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America, International Thriller Writers, Horror Writers Association, International Association of Media Tie-In Writers, GenCon Writers Symposium, and Origins Game Fair Library.

**The History of Science Fiction** - A. Roberts 2005-11-28

*The History of Science Fiction* traces the origin and development of science fiction from Ancient Greece up to the present day. The author is both an academic literary critic and acclaimed creative writer of the genre. Written in lively, accessible prose it is specifically designed to bridge the worlds of academic criticism and SF fandom.

**American Film History** - Cynthia Lucia 2015-09-08

This authoritative collection of introductory and specialized readings explores the rich and innovative history of this period in American cinema. Spanning an essential range of subjects from the early 1900s Nickelodeon to the decline of the studio system in the 1960s, it combines a broad historical context with careful readings of individual films. Charts the rise of film in early twentieth-century America from its origins to 1960, exploring mainstream trends and developments, along with topics often relegated to the margins of standard film histories Covers diverse issues ranging from silent film and its iconic figures such as Charlie Chaplin, to the coming of sound and the rise of film genres, studio moguls, and, later, the Production Code and Cold War Blacklist Designed with both students and scholars in mind: each section opens with an historical overview and includes chapters that provide close, careful readings of individual films clustered around specific topics Accessibly structured by historical period, offering valuable cultural, social, and political contexts Contains careful, close analysis of key filmmakers and films from the era including D.W. Griffith, Charles Chaplin, Buster Keaton, Erich von Stroheim, Cecil B. DeMille, Don Juan, *The Jazz Singer*, *I Am a Fugitive from a Chain Gang*, *Scarface*, *Red Dust*, *Glorifying the American Girl*, *Meet Me in St. Louis*, *Citizen Kane*, *Bambi*, Frank Capra's *Why We Fight* series, *The Strange Love of Martha Ivers*, *Rebel Without a Cause*, *Force of Evil*, and selected American avant-garde

and underground films, among many others. Additional online resources such as sample syllabi, which include suggested readings and filmographies for both general specialized courses, will be available online. May be used alongside American Film History: Selected Readings, 1960 to the Present, to provide an authoritative study of American cinema through the new millennium

**The Oxford History of the Novel in English** - J. Gerald Kennedy  
2014-06-26

The Oxford History of the Novel in English is a 12-volume series presenting a comprehensive, global, and up-to-date history of English-language prose fiction and written by a large, international team of scholars. The series is concerned with novels as a whole, not just the "literary" novel, and each volume includes chapters on the processes of production, distribution, and reception, and on popular fiction and the fictional sub-genres, as well as outlining the work of major novelists, movements, traditions, and tendencies. In thirty-four essays, this volume reconstructs the emergence and early cultivation of the novel in the United States. Contributors discuss precursors to the U.S. novel that appeared as colonial histories, autobiographies, diaries, and narratives of Indian captivity, religious conversion, and slavery, while paying attention to the entangled literary relations that gave way to a distinctly American cultural identity. The Puritan past, more than two centuries of Indian wars, the American Revolution, and the exploration of the West all inspired fictions of American struggle and self-discovery. A fragmented national publishing landscape comprised of small, local presses often disseminating odd, experimental forms eventually gave rise to major houses in Boston, New York, and Philadelphia and a consequently robust culture of letters. "Dime novels", literary magazines, innovative print technology, and even favorable postal rates contributed to the burgeoning domestic book trade in place by the time of the Missouri Compromise. Contributors weigh novelists of this period alongside their most enduring fictional works to reveal how even the most "American" of novels sometimes confronted the inhuman practices upon which the promise of the new republic had been made to depend. Similarly, the

volume also looks at efforts made to extend American interests into the wider world beyond the nation's borders, and it thoroughly documents the emergence of novels projecting those imperial aspirations.

**An Ode to the Big Toe** - K. K. Ricky

We stub it, dancing partners step on it and kickers use it to blast balls. It is time to consider the plight of that forgotten appendage at the end of your foot that we call the big toe, or the hallux as people that like fancy names have termed it. The big toe is an unheralded champion which leads us through life, unseen by most, an unappreciated, unsung hero. It is time to honor the big toe with an ode to its service. The funny short story collections Five Funny Stories Volume II and Ten Funny Stories both include this humorous short story.

*Antarctica in British Children's Literature* - Sinead Moriarty 2020-11-30  
For over a century British authors have been writing about the Antarctic for child readers, yet this body of literature has never been explored in detail. *Antarctica in British Children's Literature* examines this field for the first time, identifying the dominant genres and recurrent themes and tropes while interrogating how this landscape has been constructed as a wilderness within British literature for children. The text is divided into two sections. Part I focuses on the stories of early-twentieth-century explorers such as Robert F. Scott and Ernest Shackleton. *Antarctica in British Children's Literature* highlights the impact of children's literature on the expedition writings of Robert Scott, including the influence of Scott's close friend, author J.M. Barrie. The text also reveals the important role of children's literature in the contemporary resurgence of interest in Scott's long-term rival Ernest Shackleton. Part II focuses on fictional narratives set in the Antarctic, including early-twentieth-century whaling literature, adventure and fantasy texts, contemporary animal stories and environmental texts for children. Together these two sections provide an insight into how depictions of this unique continent have changed over the past century, reflecting transformations in attitudes towards wilderness and wild landscapes.

Homo Luminous - Mike Frost 2011-01-21

David Werden wants nothing more than to lead a quiet, ordinary life. But

his world is turned upside down when an unknown event changes the face of the planet. Realizing he cannot live alone in the ruins of the old world, and compelled by a strange internal force to reach the sea, he sets out on foot, carrying what he can, struggling against the harsh post-apocalyptic environment to search out others who may still be alive. Thrust into the leadership of a band of survivors, David struggles to scratch out the necessities of life while dealing with the staggering destruction and overwhelming sense of loss - and begins to understand the tragic and marvelous events that have occurred to the planet and to humanity itself. Finding love and betrayal, he must fight those who cling to the old world with all their strength and those who wish to stamp out the growing number of people coming to terms with their new levels of perception and insight into the Universal Mind.

**A Natural History of the Romance Novel** - Pamela Regis 2013-08-31

The romance novel has the strange distinction of being the most popular but least respected of literary genres. While it remains consistently dominant in bookstores and on best-seller lists, it is also widely dismissed by the critical community. Scholars have alleged that romance novels help create subservient readers, who are largely women, by confining heroines to stories that ignore issues other than love and marriage.

Pamela Regis argues that such critical studies fail to take into consideration the personal choice of readers, offer any true definition of the romance novel, or discuss the nature and scope of the genre.

Presenting the counterclaim that the romance novel does not enslave women but, on the contrary, is about celebrating freedom and joy, Regis offers a definition that provides critics with an expanded vocabulary for discussing a genre that is both classic and contemporary, sexy and entertaining. Taking the stance that the popular romance novel is a work of literature with a brilliant pedigree, Regis asserts that it is also a very old, stable form. She traces the literary history of the romance novel from canonical works such as Richardson's *Pamela* through Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, Brontë's *Jane Eyre*, and E. M. Hull's *The Sheik*, and then turns to more contemporary works such as the novels of Georgette Heyer, Mary Stewart, Janet Dailey, Jayne Ann Krentz, and Nora Roberts.

[A History of American Literature](#) - Richard Gray 2011-09-23

Updated throughout and with much new material, *A History of American Literature*, Second Edition, is the most up-to-date and comprehensive survey available of the myriad forms of American Literature from pre-Columbian times to the present. The most comprehensive and up-to-date history of American literature available today Covers fiction, poetry, drama, and non-fiction, as well as other forms of literature including folktale, spirituals, the detective story, the thriller, and science fiction Explores the plural character of American literature, including the contributions made by African American, Native American, Hispanic and Asian American writers Considers how our understanding of American literature has changed over the past thirty years Situates American literature in the contexts of American history, politics and society Offers an invaluable introduction to American literature for students at all levels, academic and general readers

*Rich Johnson's Guide to Trailer Boat Sailing* - Rich Johnson 2009-08  
trailerable sailboat is the ideal way to explore the country wherever there is water. To make the most of this exciting lifestyle, owners of trailerable sailboats need three things: an understanding of the boat and how to use it; knowledge about the tow vehicle and trailer used to transport the boat; and a spirited sense of adventure to live the dream. #13;#13; This book will help you get started. #13;#13; #13;

**On Brokeback Mountain** - Eric Patterson 2008

It relates the story and the film to the literary tradition of the homoerotic pastoral, the literary/movie tradition of the Western, and the tradition of the tragic romantic love story."--BOOK JACKET.

[Heritage of Power \(The Complete Series, Books 1-5\)](#) - Lindsay Buroker  
Dragons have returned to the world, and they're wreaking havoc on human civilizations. Only one man has the power to stop them. Born an outcast who's never fit in, Telryn "Trip" Yert has spent his entire life hiding a secret that could get him killed: In a world where magic is forbidden, the ancient blood of dragons flows through his veins. Joined by a snarky sentient sword, a band of equally snarky allies, and the smart scholarly woman he longs to impress, Trip must master his powers, learn

the secrets of his heritage, and go on a quest to save mankind. If he fails, dragons may take over the world and enslave all of humanity. This is the

complete five-novel Heritage of Power series, full of adventure, romance, and fast-paced page turning fun. It includes: 1. Dragon Storm 2. Revelations 3. Origins 4. Unraveled 5. Gold Dragon