After a long and brutal conflict, the war is over. Otto controls all the portals on the continent and Garenland has made vassals of the other kingdoms. But some people can’t accept defeat. While Otto hunts King Villares in Rolan, Axel chases Prince Uther across Straken. With Markane scheming to help their enemies, the future of the New Garen Empire is far from certain. Even worse, the Wizards Guild is challenging Otto for leadership of the empire’s wizards and they’ll use any means necessary to win. The war may be over, but the battles are far from won.

As the twenty-first century dawns, China stands at a crossroads. The largest and most populous country on earth and currently the world’s second biggest economy, China has recently reclaimed its historic place at the center of global affairs after decades of internal chaos and disastrous foreign relations. But even as China tentatively reengages with the outside world, the contradictions of its development risks pushing it back into an era of insularity and instability—a regression that, as China’s recent history shows, would have serious implications for all other nations. In Restless Empire, award-winning historian Odd Arne Westad traces China’s complex foreign affairs over the past 250 years, identifying the forces that will determine the country’s path in the decades to come. Since the height of the Qing Empire in the eighteenth century, China’s interactions—and confrontations—with foreign powers have caused its worldview to fluctuate wildly between extremes of dominance and subjugation, emulation and defiance. From the invasion of Burma in the 1760s to the Boxer Rebellion in the early 20th century to the 2001 standoff over a downed U.S. spy plane, many of these encounters have left Chinese with a lingering sense of humiliation and resentment, and inflamed their notions of justice, hierarchy, and Chinese centrality in world affairs. Recently, China’s rising influence on the world stage has shown what the country stands to gain from international cooperation and openness. But as Westad shows, the nation’s success will ultimately hinge on its ability to engage with
potential international partners while simultaneously safeguarding its own strength and stability. An in-depth study by one of our most respected authorities on international relations and contemporary East Asian history, Restless Empire is essential reading for anyone wishing to understand the recent past and probable future of this dynamic and complex nation.

Death gathers in the shadow of the floating island. Conryu returns home after an eventful first year at school, eager for a quiet summer vacation with his best friends. It’s not to be. Just days after he arrives home, the Le Fay Society broadcasts its demands and his life is at the top of the list. Conryu soon finds himself on the run from the police and the only way to save himself is to hunt down those threatening the city himself. Can Conryu and his friends defeat the cunning Lady Raven before she unleashes a horde of shadow beasts on the city? Get The Raven’s Shadow now.

From New York Times bestselling author Sam Kean comes incredible stories of science, history, finance, mythology, the arts, medicine, and more, as told by the Periodic Table. Why did Gandhi hate iodine (I, 53)? How did radium (Ra, 88) nearly ruin Marie Curie’s reputation? And why is gallium (Ga, 31) the go-to element for laboratory pranksters? The Periodic Table is a crowning scientific achievement, but it’s also a treasure trove of adventure, betrayal, and obsession. These fascinating tales follow every element on the table as they play out their parts in human history, and in the lives of the (frequently) mad scientists who discovered them. THE DISAPPEARING SPOON masterfully fuses science with the classic lore of invention, investigation, and discovery—from the Big Bang through the end of time.

Our understanding of how the human brain performs mathematical calculations is far from complete. In The Number Sense, Stanislas Dehaene offers readers an enlightening exploration of the mathematical mind. Using research showing that human infants have a rudimentary number sense, Dehaene suggests that this sense is as basic as our perception of color, and that it is wired into the brain. But how then did we leap from this basic number ability to trigonometry, calculus, and beyond? Dehaene shows that it was the invention of symbolic systems of numerals that started us on the climb to higher mathematics. Tracing the history of numbers, we learn that in early times, people indicated numbers by pointing to part of their bodies, and how Roman numerals were replaced by modern numbers. On the way, we also discover many fascinating facts: for example, because Chinese names for numbers are short, Chinese people can remember up to nine or ten digits at a time, while English-speaking people can only remember seven. A fascinating look at the crossroads where numbers and neurons intersect, The Number Sense offers an intriguing tour of how the structure of the brain shapes our mathematical abilities, and how math can open up a window on the human mind."--Provided by publisher.

Once upon a time 'The Scientific Revolution of the 17th century' was an innovative concept that inspired a stimulating narrative of how modern science came into the world. Half a century later, what we now know as 'the master narrative' serves rather as a strait-jacket - so often events and
contexts just fail to fit in. No attempt has been made so far to replace the master narrative. H. Floris Cohen now comes up with precisely such a replacement. Key to his path-breaking analysis-cum-narrative is a vision of the Scientific Revolution as made up of six distinct yet narrowly interconnected, revolutionary transformations, each of some twenty-five to thirty years' duration. This vision enables him to explain how modern science could come about in Europe rather than in Greece, China, or the Islamic world. It also enables him to explain how halfway into the 17th century a vast crisis of legitimacy could arise and, in the end, be overcome. Whoever said homework was the worst part of going to school has never been to the Academy. Conryu returns to the academy after surviving his first semester by the narrowest of margins. Little does he know the monstrous threats waiting for him in the second half of the year. Back in Sentinel City things aren't progressing any better as the devious Lady Raven plots the city's destruction from her hidden lair. The exciting third book in The Aegis of Merlin Series finds Conryu facing an ever growing list of dangers. Can he conqueror his foes before time runs out? Get The Chimera Jar now. This 75th anniversary edition of a classic bestseller is stunningly illustrated and designed to enchant fans of Greek, Roman, and Norse mythology at all ages. Since its original publication by Little, Brown and Company in 1942, Edith Hamilton's Mythology has sold millions of copies throughout the world and established itself as a perennial bestseller. For more than seven decades readers have chosen this book above all others to discover the enchanting world of mythology -- from Odysseus's adventure-filled journey to the Norse god Odin's effort to postpone the final day of doom. This deluxe, hardcover edition is fully-illustrated throughout with all-new, specially commissioned art, making it a true collector's item. A Companion to Greek Mythology presents a series of essays that explore the phenomenon of Greek myth from its origins in shared Indo-European story patterns and the Greeks' contacts with their Eastern Mediterranean neighbours through its development as a shared language and thought-system for the Greco-Roman world. Features essays from a prestigious international team of literary experts. Includes coverage of Greek myth's intersection with history, philosophy and religion. Introduces readers to topics in mythology that are often inaccessible to non-specialists. Addresses the Hellenistic and Roman periods as well as Archaic and Classical Greece. Having accomplished his personal vendetta against the slayers of his clan, Aldric undertakes a secret mission for his king that takes him into the troubled Drusalan Empire and to an encounter with a mysterious hunter and the lovely heiress to a demon-haunted fortress. The road to immortality is a long one. With the empire secure, Otto turns his focus west. The first piece of The Immortality Engine lies across the ocean in Lord Colt's Workshop. Complicating Otto's mission, Eddred of Markane already in Colt's Land trying to persuade them to help him defeat the empire. Can Otto navigate a web of politics and intrigue unlike anything he's ever encountered? Or will his mission fail before he even reaches Colt's Workshop? All peace is fleeting. Six months has passed since the warlock Connor Blackman's defeat. Now a new threat has emerged to threaten the kingdom. While Damien St. Cloud is off exploring a mysterious underground city, his sister Jennifer is tasked with
investigating a horrific murder. What she discovers goes against everything she knows to be true. A human and an ogre have worked together to kill people before turning on each other. Can Jen solve the mystery and root out the threat approaching the kingdom? And what will Damien find in the abandoned city? Beyond their awareness a new threat is growing. Read Chains of the Fallen now.

A mysterious library book opens the door to a world of magic and danger in the first book in the beloved Young Wizards series. Bullied by her classmates, Nita Callahan is miserable at school. So when she finds a mysterious book in the library that promises her the chance to become a wizard, she jumps at the opportunity to escape her unhappy reality. But taking the Wizard's Oath is no easy thing, and Nita soon finds herself paired with fellow wizard-in-training Kit Rodriguez on a dangerous mission. The only way to become a full wizard is to face the Lone Power, the being that created death and is the mortal enemy of all wizards. As Nita and Kit battle their way through a deadly alternate version of New York controlled by the Lone Power, they must rely on each other and their newfound wizarding skills to survive--and save the world from the Lone One's grasp.

Conryu Koda wants nothing more than to be left alone to live a quiet life. But the universe seems to have other plans for him. While back at the Arcane Academy to watch his friend's graduation, Conryu is summoned to hell by The Reaper himself. What new threat has appeared that warrants the attention of the lord of hell? Whatever it is, it can't be good for Conryu and those he cares about.

Steel City. The slaver capital of Carttoom. Yaz learns from his rescued friend that the villagers were sold at the Steel City slave market. And if he wants to learn to whom, he'll need to infiltrate the headquarters of the notorious Slavers Guild and copy their records. If that wasn't hard enough, there are still bounty hunters on the group's trail. Staying free themselves might prove an even greater challenge than saving the villagers. While Yaz and his friends struggle to rescue the captured people of Dragonspire Village, the sinister Dark Sages are still hard at work bring their evil plans to fruition. The adventure continues in The Dragonspire Chronicles Book 3, The Dragon's Graveyard.

Which would you choose: Life on the run or life as a slave? All Anya Kazakov wanted for her eighteenth birthday was her favorite dessert and a quiet day with her mother. What she got was a murdered witch and a ruined life. Now fleeing with her life and freedom on the line, Anya must escape the overwhelming might of the Dragon Empire and reach safety in the Kingdom of the Isles. Hunted by a weary but determined imperial agent, brutal dragon-blood warriors, and merciless White Witches, can Anya escape and find freedom or will the Empire grind her hopes to dust? Buy now to find out.

Full of action, romance, betrayal, passion, violence, and tragedy, the timeless ancient Greek and Roman myths make great reading. With a cast of unique characters and unbelievable story lines, classical mythology explains phenomena such as creation, weather, nature, and the universe with unparalleled drama. The Everything Classical Mythology Book is an entertaining and educational guide that explains all the great myths and explores how they have influenced language, art, music, psychology, and even today's popular culture. The book tells the fascinating stories of the gods' rise to power on Mount Olympus and of their
frequent clashes with larger-than-life heroes. Rounded out with a helpful glossary, an index of characters, and many reading resources, this action-packed new addition to the Everything series brings classical mythology to life!

On May 19, 2010, the Royal Thai Army deployed tanks, snipers, and war weapons to disperse the thousands of Red Shirts protesters who had taken over the commercial center of Bangkok to demand democratic elections and an end to inequality. Key to this mobilization were motorcycle taxi drivers, who slowed down, filtered, and severed mobility in the area, claiming a prominent role in national politics and ownership over the city and challenging state hegemony. Four years later, on May 20, 2014, the same army general who directed the dispersal staged a military coup, unopposed by protesters. How could state power have been so fragile and open to challenge in 2010 and yet so seemingly sturdy only four years later? How could protesters who had once fearlessly resisted military attacks now remain silent?

Owners of the Map provides answers to these questions—central to contemporary political mobilizations around the globe—through an ethnographic study of motorcycle taxi drivers in Bangkok. Claudio Sopranzetti explores the unresolved tensions in the drivers’ everyday lives, their migration trajectories, consumer desires, and political demands amidst the restructuring of Thai capitalism after the 1997 economic crisis. Reconstructing the entanglements between their everyday mobility and political mobilization, Sopranzetti reveals mobility not just as a strength of contemporary capitalism but also as one of its fragile spots, always prone to disruption by the people who sustain its channels but remain excluded from their benefits. In so doing, Owners of the Map advances an analysis of power that focuses not on the sturdiness of hegemony or the ubiquity of everyday resistance but on its potential fragility as well as the work needed for its maintenance.

Yaz finally knows where to find his mother. After losing his father, he’s determined to get to her in time. Meanwhile, the Dark Sages have gained the full power of the dragonspires. Dragons rule the sky above Carttoom and Rend. Fire and death await anyone who dares resist. Only a desperate group of wizards and rangers stand between the kingdoms and slavery. Yaz’s power is the ultimate trump card. If only he can gain control of it. The final battle is here. "Forward offers a fresh and imaginative view of magic and mayhem in this first book of a projected trilogy."—Library Journal

Young Alex is a slave. But recognized for his potential as an Animist, he is bought by his college and begins rigorous training. Now, Alex must begin his quest for his Anim—the animal with whom he will bond. Alex hopes it will be an extraordinary creature that will help him earn the money he needs to buy his freedom. Unfortunately, his Anim turns out to be . . . well, not nearly what he had hoped. But as Alex finds himself caught in one misadventure after another, he will learn—and learn to appreciate—that there is more to his Anim than meets the eye.

At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

This is the first full-length English translation of Benjamin Constant's massive study of humanity's religious forms and development, published in five volumes between 1824 and 1831. Constant (1767-1830) regarded On Religion, worked on over the course of many years, as perhaps his most important philosophical work. He called it "the only interest, the
only consolation of my life," and "the book that I was destined by nature to write."

While the recent revival of interest in Constant's thought has been welcome and
fruitful, it has been incomplete, tending to leave out of account his writings on
religion. In this connection, On Religion is essential reading and of interest for
many reasons. As an analysis of humanity's religious experience, the work is
notable for its methodology. Unlike previous writers with dogmatic commitments,
whether theological or philosophical, Constant aimed to work with well-established
facts and to relate religious forms to their historical contexts and civilizational
developments. In this way, he was a precursor of the scientific study of religion.

This objectivity, however, was not tantamount to moral-political neutrality. In the
aftermath of the French Revolution, he wanted partisans of the new order to
recognize that the religious impulse was natural to the human heart: to extirpate
religion was therefore a fool's errand and worse. Likewise, he instructed religious
reactionaries that history had left them behind: now the natural state of the
religious sentiment was an unfettered "spirituality" left free to find new forms of
expression. His counsel to contemporaries has proven prescient concerning
subsequent religious developments in democratic and totalitarian societies. In his
day, Constant was a consistent liberal, a life-long advocate of representative
government, as well as of the central liberal arrangement concerning religion:
separation of church and state. But On Religion demonstrates that principled
liberalism can turn a sympathetic as well as analytic eye toward religion and, in an
unbegrudging way, find an important place for it in free society. There are signs
that this is a lesson that contemporary liberalism would do well to relearn. Peter
Paul Seaton J r. teaches philosophy at St. Mary's Seminary and University in
Baltimore. His scholarly interests focus on the intersection of religion, politics, and
philosophy. He has translated a number of works in French thought, especially
political philosophy. These include works by Pierre Manent, Democracy without
Nations? and Modern Liberty and Its Discontents (with Daniel J . Mahoney),
Chantal Delsol, Unjust Justice, and Ré mi Brague, On the God of the Christians
and The Legitimacy of the Human.Four Nations. One Champion. After a long
Autumn, Conryu Koda is ready for a rest. His hopes are dashed when Chief Kane
asks for another favor. Ratings are down for the Four Nations Tournament and
having the world's only male wizard participate is just the thing to give them a
boost. An exhausted Conryu has no interest in playing in an event broadcast world
wide. Unfortunately for him, everyone else thinks it's a great idea. Before he
knows it he's off to London for the games. But Conryu isn't the only one visiting
the city. The sinister Lady Tiger is in town and she's got her eye on the other half
of the broken elf artifact. Throw the stunning Heather James, scheming Malice
Kincade, and an army of fanatics into the mix and ratings will be the least of
Conryu's worries. Get The Four Nations Tournament now.The End is Here. For
centuries the governments of the world have kept the half-elf Morgana locked in a
prison where she couldn't use her magic. Now her fanatical followers are on the
verge of setting her free. Meanwhile, the best hope of defeating her is trapped in
an inter-dimensional library unaware of the chaos engulfing the Alliance. Can
Conryu escape the enchanted library in time to save the world and the people he
cares about? Win or lose, nothing will be the same. Get Death Incarnate now. Men can’t be wizards. Everyone knows that. But everyone is wrong. Conryu has his life all planned out. Then the wizard exam arrives. He passes. The first man ever. His carefully laid plans die in an instant. His hopes for a simple life gone forever. Some consider him a monster. Others a threat. Can Conryu survive long enough to make it to wizard school? It’s going to be a long summer. Get The Impossible Wizard now. The volume analyses some of the travelling and bridge-building activities that went on in Renaissance Europe, mainly but not exclusively across the Channel, true to Montaigne’s epoch-making program of describing ‘the passage’. Its emphasis on Anglo-Continental relations ensures a firm basis in English literature, but its particular appeal lies in its European point of view, and in the perspectives it opens up into other areas of early modern culture, such as pictorial art, philosophy, and economics. The multiple implications of the go-between concept make for structured diversity. The chapters of this book are arranged in three stages. Part 1 (‘Mediators’) focuses on influential go-betweens, both as groups, like the translators, and as individual mediators. The second part of this book (‘Mediations’) is concerned with individual acts of mediation, and with the ‘mental topographies’ they presuppose, reflect and redraw in their turn. Part 3 (‘Representations’) looks at the role of exemplary intermediaries and the workings of mediation represented on the early modern English stage. Key features: High quality anthology on phenomena of cultural exchange in the Renaissance era With contributions by outstanding international experts The first complete monograph on an artist whose work investigates surveillance and government secrecy in the digital age Trevor Paglen’s art gives visual geography to hidden forces, relentlessly pursuing what he calls the ‘unseeable and undocumentable’ in contemporary society. Blending photography, installation, investigative journalism, and science, Paglen explores the clandestine activity of government and intelligence agencies, using high-grade equipment to document their movements and reveal their hidden inner workings. This book presents over three decades of Paglen’s groundbreaking work, making visible the structures and technologies that impact our lives. With the Heart of Alchemy in place, The Immortality Engine is complete. Now all Otto needs is to learn how to use it. The secret to immortality can be found in only one place, The Sanguine Scroll. Written by the first and greatest Arcane Lord, Amet Sur, the Scroll services as a manual for the Engine among other things. But Otto isn’t the only one seeking the Scroll. The race is on to see who will claim its secrets first. Francis BACON, in his Novum Organum, Robert BOYLE, in his Skeptical Chemist and René DESCARTES, in his Discourse on Method; all of these men were witnesses to the scientific revolution, which, in the 17 century, began to awaken the western world from a long sleep. In each of these works, the author emphasizes the role of the experimental method in exploring the laws of Nature, that is to say, the way in which an experiment is designed, implemented according to tried and tested techniques, and used as a basis for drawing conclusions that are based only on results, with their margins of error, taking into account contemporary traditions and prejudices. Two centuries later, Claude BERNARD, in his Introduction to the Study of Experimental
Medicine, made a passionate plea for the application of the experimental method when studying the functions of living beings. Twenty-first century Biology, which has been fertilized by highly sophisticated techniques inherited from Physics and Chemistry, blessed with a constantly increasing expertise in the manipulation of the genome, initiated into the mysteries of information technology, and enriched with the ever-growing fund of basic knowledge, at times appears to have forgotten its roots. Labeled a traitor and abandoned by his own people in the land of his enemies, Aldric Talvalin, an Alban high clan-lord, in order to restore his honor, embarks on a perilous journey with the help of some powerful allies to the dark city Drakksborg, where he will confront the dreaded Warlord. Original. Do you know what "quatrefoil" and "impolitic" mean? What about "halcyon" or "narcolepsy"? This book is a handy, easy-to-read reference guide to the proper parlance for any situation. In this book you will find: Words You Absolutely Should Know (covert, exonerate, perimeter); Words You Should Know But Probably Don't (dour, incendiary, scintilla); Words Most People Don't Know (schlimazel, thaumaturgy, epergne); Words You Should Know to Sound Overeducated (ad infinitum, nugatory, garrulity); Words You Probably Shouldn't Know (priapic, damnatory, labia majora); and more. Whether writing an essay, studying for a test, or trying to impress friends, family, and fellow cocktail party guests with their prolixity, you will achieve magniloquence, ebullience, and flights of rhetorical brilliance. Conryu has his life all figured out. At least until the final day of school arrives and with it the annual wizard's test. When Conryu passes the test, no one can believe it since everyone knows boys can't do magic. Suddenly thrust into a world of magic and danger, Conryu must figure out how to use his new powers and quickly. He soon finds himself on the run from a mad religious cult and hunted by a group of wizards that view a man wielding magic as the worst abomination imaginable. When his home city is taken hostage by the sinister Lady Raven, Conryu is the only one that can save the day. Can Conryu master his magic before it's too late? This Volume contains the first four novels of the Aegis of Merlin Urban Fantasy Series: The Impossible Wizard, The Awakening, The Chimera Jar, and The Raven's Shadow. The American Civil War is one of the most popular periods to wargame, and rightly so - it is a fascinating period of history. Painting Miniatures for the American Civil War offers the opportunity to learn how to pain war games miniatures from someone who has been an experienced sculptor and painter. All of the main styles that are used for painting war games miniatures are covered in great detail. For anyone wanting to start painting for the first time, these pages contain a wealth of information that will help you get started. The book covers: Miniature preparation Layer painting Painting with washes Basing Horses and artillery Buildings and scenery. Each chapter is full of detailed step-by-step tutorials on how to paint war games miniatures for the American Civil War. Nothing has gone right for Conryu Koda since learning he's a wizard. On his first day at The North American Alliance's Arcane Academy he's greeted by protestors and pelted with tomatoes. It's all downhill from there. With enemies around every corner, not to mention a crazy professor, will Conryu even make it to winter break? Conryu's journey down the wizard's path continues in the thrilling second book of
the Aegis of Merlin Urban Fantasy Series. Get The Awakening now. The spiritualist and author of Dictionary of Aphrodisiacs presents an in-depth study of love potions and charms through the centuries. Love and sexuality are perhaps some of the most essential, eternal, and universal concerns of humankind. Since before recorded history, societies have sought ways to improve their physiological potency, attract mates amorously, and—in some instances—prevent such attraction or divert it elsewhere. Over time, these means have taken many forms: love elixirs, spells, and rites have been part of virtually every civilization through the ages. This survey explores the evolution of love potion practices over the centuries and across the world. Separate chapters focus on ancient Greece, Rome, India, and the Orient, as well as the Middle Ages and modern times. Author Harry E. Wedeck relays the spiritual aspects of these concoctions as well as historical anecdotes about them. Recipes are also included, though Wedeck cautions that they are exclusively for academic purposes and not intended for personal use. An innocent girl escapes an evil empire. But the danger is only beginning. What seems like a simple bodyguard job will see Conryu dragged halfway across the world and into a war between monsters. If that isn't bad enough, the La Fey Society is mixed up with the mad emperor. After surviving the war it's time for some fun and games. At least until a group of terrorists show up intent on killing all the contestants. Despite Conryu's best efforts, The Le Fay Society is on the verge of freeing their leader. If they succeed, all Hell is going to break loose. The Aegis of Merlin Omnibus Vol. 2 contains four complete novels: Escape the Dragon Czar, Wrath of the Dragon Czar, The Four Nations Tournament & Death Incarnate. With the Chamber of Eternity secure, Otto must now recover the second piece of the Immortality Engine. But that task will be far from easy. For the second piece, The Heart of Alchemy, lies far to the east in the fabled Celestial Empire. Assassins, undead, monstrous beast, and demon worshippers all stand between Otto and his prize. And even more daunting, Valtan, the last living arcane lord, is determined to stop him. The cost be damned. Can Otto overcome the forces arrayed against him and take the next step down the road to immortality? Find out in The Heart of Alchemy, the sixth book in the Portal Wars Saga. A bodyguard... really? Sentinel city is quickly recovering from near destruction. Conryu Koda, the world’s only male wizard, and, many would say, savior of the city, is enjoying the last few days of his summer vacation. His enjoyment comes to a screeching halt when he gets a call from Orin Kane, the chief of the city's Department of Magic. Conryu arrives at the Department and is introduced to the stunning Anya Kazakov. She has information the Department wants and he's the price. Conryu agrees to protect her, not realizing what he's getting into. Wrath of the Dragon Czar is a world spanning adventure that'll take Conryu from the relative safety of the academy to the middle of a war between monsters on the other side of the planet. Get it now.