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The Mammoth Book of Extreme Science Fiction Mike Ashley 2010-07-31 Here are 25 stories of science fiction that push the envelope, by the biggest names in an emerging new crop of high-tech futuristic SF - including Charles Stross, Robert Reed, Alastair Reynolds, Peter Hamilton and Neal Asher. High-tech SF has made a significant comes, in the last decade, as bestselling authors successfully blend the super-science of `hard science fiction' with real characters in an understandable scenario. It is perhaps a reflection of how technologically controlled our world is that readers increasingly look for science fiction that considers the fates of mankind as a result of increasing scientific domination. This anthology brings together the most extreme examples of the new high-tech, far-future science fiction, pushing the limits way beyond normal boundaries. The stories include: `A Perpetual War Fought Within a Cosmic String", "A Weapon That Could Destroy the Universe", "A Machine That Detects Alternate Worlds and Creates a Choice of Chris", "An Immortal Dead Man Sent To The End of the Universe", "Muder in Virtual Reality", "A Spaceship So Large That There is An Entire Planetary System Within It", and "An Analytical Engine At The End of Time", and "Encountering the Untouchable." Tristopolis Revenge John Meaney 2021-09-22 From award-winning author John Meaney comes a thrilling tale of Tristopolis, a Gotham-like city beneath perpetually dark skies, where the bones of the dead fuel the reactor piles, indentured wraiths power the elevators, and daylight never shines. Tristopolis has faced eldritch dangers before, with resurrected cop-turned-PI Donal Riordan at the forefront of keeping his city safe - but this time it's the ones he loves who face the deepest risk. Will he be in time to save them? Or will the only thing left be revenge? PRAISE FOR JOHN MEANEY "John Meaney has rewired SF. Everything is different now." Stephen Baxter "A spectacular writer." Robert J. Sawyer, Hugo Award-winning author "Lingers in the mind long after the book is closed. A smart and spooky read." The Times on Bone Song "A brilliant, inventive writer." The Times What if James Bond and Q were the same person? When Case's best friend commits suicide on his wedding day, it seems unrelated to Case's investigation of cyber intrusion at a NATO airbase. Nor do stolen Soviet-era bioweapons seem to have anything to do with terrorists stealing ultra-modern drone technology. But unless Case and his deadly partner Kat can solve the puzzle, the death toll in London will be catastrophic. From the imagination of award-winning science fiction writer John Meaney, drawing on decades of hardcore martial arts training and leading-edge computer consultancy, comes an action duo for the 21st century: Case and Kat. PRAISE FOR JOHN MEANEY "A spectacular writer. He makes SF seem all fresh and new again." Robert J. Sawyer, Hugo Award-winning author "Cumberland leaps off the page, a trained killer whose anger and grief at his daughter's condition is brilliantly portrayed; the depiction of his simmering rage, barely held in check, and how he channels it, provides a masterclass in characterisation." The Guardian, reviewing Edge (Josh Cumberland book 1) "What starts off as a simple missing persons enquiry develops into a full-blown coup against a fascist state... Set in a Britain extrapolated from today's violent streets, yet still highly recognisable, Edge is the first in what will hopefully be a long running series." Total Sci-Fi, reviewing Edge (Josh Cumberland book 1) "Within five pages...I was completely hooked...the perfect blend of action and science fiction... I can only hope that there will be more." The Eloquent Page, reviewing Point (Josh Cumberland book 2) "I absolutely don't want to live in the world [Meaney] has created. I didn't want to in Edge (the first book in the series) and I most certainly don't want to now. I do, however, want to read about it. It's relentless and gripping, with a brilliant balance between the personal and the political." BibliOBuffet, reviewing Point (Josh Cumberland book 2) "Absorption is millions—until its divine protectors were killed. Now Bulikov has become just another colonial outpost of the world's new geopolitical power, but the surreal landscape of the city itself—first shaped, now shattered, by the thousands of miracles its guardians once worked upon it—stands as a constant, haunting reminder of its former supremacy. Into this broken city steps Shara Thivani. Officially the unassuming young woman is just another junior diplomat sent by Bulikov's oppressors. Unofficially, she is one of her country's most accomplished spies, dispatched to catch a murderer. But as Shara pursues the killer, she starts to suspect that the beings who ruled this terrible place may not be as dead as they seem—and that Bulikov's cruel reign may not yet be over.

Point Thomas Blackthorne 2011 Special Forces solider Josh Cumberland journeys deep within the heart of darkness when he is sent in to investigate Cutter Circles, a terrible cult created by lost British teens that is based on mutual suicide. By the author of Edge. Original.

Destructor Function John Meaney 2018-03-08 "A brilliant, inventive writer." The Times What if James Bond and Q were the same person? When Case's best friend commits suicide on his wedding day, it seems unrelated to Case's investigation of cyber intrusion at a NATO airbase. Nor do stolen Soviet-era bioweapons seem to have anything to do with terrorists stealing ultra-modern drone technology. But unless Case and his deadly partner Kat can solve the puzzle, the death toll in London will be catastrophic. From the imagination of award-winning science fiction writer John Meaney, drawing on decades of hardcore martial arts training and leading-edge computer consultancy, comes an action duo for the 21st century: Case and Kat. PRAISE FOR JOHN MEANEY "A spectacular writer. He makes SF seem all fresh and new again." Robert J. Sawyer, Hugo Award-winning author "Cumberland leaps off the page, a trained killer whose anger and grief at his daughter's condition is brilliantly portrayed; the depiction of his simmering rage, barely held in check, and how he channels it, provides a masterclass in characterisation." The Guardian, reviewing Edge (Josh Cumberland book 1) "What starts off as a simple missing persons enquiry develops into a full-blown coup against a fascist state... Set in a Britain extrapolated from today's violent streets, yet still highly recognisable, Edge is the first in what will hopefully be a long running series." Total Sci-Fi, reviewing Edge (Josh Cumberland book 1) "Within five pages...I was completely hooked...the perfect blend of action and science fiction... I can only hope that there will be more." The Eloquent Page, reviewing Point (Josh Cumberland book 2) "I absolutely don't want to live in the world [Meaney] has created. I didn't want to in Edge (the first book in the series) and I most certainly don't want to now. I do, however, want to read about it. It's relentless and gripping, with a brilliant balance between the personal and the political." BibliOBuffet, reviewing Point (Josh Cumberland book 2) "Absorption is
the best hard science fiction I’ve read this year, well written, exciting, mysterious, full of interesting characters and ideas." The Times, reviewing Absorption (Ragnarok book 1) "...the world building is phenomenal and the pace as chapters switch from time zones is just right, keeping the tension levels up. The female characters are particularly strong and literally jump off the page, particularly the WWII code breaker Gabriela. The novel is also steeped in historical accuracy and authenticity." Terror-Tree.co.uk, reviewing Transmission (Ragnarok book 2) "Resonance is a book driven by big ambitions. Meaney has penned a story that aims to be epic beyond even the level of Dunne or similarly famed series. Furthermore, the amount of research that has gone into the book adds a surprising depth to one of life’s greatest questions..." Stargazey.co.uk, reviewing Resonance (Ragnarok book 3) "Meaney’s creepy death-haunted world lingers in the mind long after the book is closed... a smart and spooky read." The Times, reviewing Bone Song (Donal Riordan book 1)

The Manual of Detection Jedediah Berry 2009 Unexpectedly promoted to detective when his predecessor goes missing and a supervisor is killed, agency clerk Charles Unwin struggles with inexperience and nerves during a case in which he encounters bizarre clues and is framed for murder.

The Red Wolf Conspiracy Robert V. S. Redick 2009-04-28 Already a publishing sensation in England, The Red Wolf Conspiracy marks the debut of a remarkably gifted young writer. Robert V. S. Redick has been compared to Philip Pullman, George R. R. Martin, and China Miéville, among others, and like them he is a spellbinding storyteller, unafraid to sail his imagination into uncharted waters. With The Red Wolf Conspiracy he launches the first book of a trilogy destined to take its place among the classics of epic fantasy. The Imperial Merchant Ship Chathrand is the last of its kind. Six hundred years old, the secrets of her construction long forgotten, the massive vessel dwarfs every other sailing craft in the world. It is a palace with sails, a floating outpost of the old, the secrets of her construction long forgotten, the massive vessel dwarfs every other sailing craft in the world. It is a palace with sails, a floating outpost of the Empire of Arqual. And it is on its most vital mission yet: to deliver a young woman whose marriage will seal the peace between Arqual and its mortal enemy, the secretive Mzithrin Empire. But the young woman in question-Thasha, the daughter of the Arquali ambassador-has no intention of going meekly to the altar. For the ship’s true mission is not peace but war-a war that threatens to unleash an ancient, all-consuming evil. As the dark conspiracy at the heart of the voyage unfurls, Pazel Pathkendle, a lowly tarboy with an uncanny gift, will find himself in an unlikely alliance with Thasha and her protectors: Hercól, a valet who is more than he appears; Dri, the queen of a race of tiny stowaways who have their own plans for the great ship; and Ramachni, a powerful sorcerer from another world. Arrayed against them are the Chathrand’s brutal captain, Nilus Rose; the Emperor’s spymaster and chief assassin, Sandor Ott; and the enigmatic Dr. Chadfallow, a longtime friend to Pazel’s family who now slinks the streets as a shadowy assassin.

While a sinister plot to destroy the peace is uncovered, Seraphina has reason to fear the horror that death only makes stronger? *Times (London)

Seraphina Rachel Hartman 2012-07-10 A new vision of knights, dragons, and the fair maiden caught in between . . . Four decades of peace have done little to ease the mistrust between humans and dragons in the kingdom of Goredd. Folding themselves into human shape, dragons attend court as ambassadors, and lend their rational, mathematical minds to universities as scholars and teachers. As the treaty’s anniversary draws near, however, tensions are high. Seraphina has reason to fear both sides. An unusually gifted musician, she joins the court just as a member of the royal family is murdered. While a sinister plot to destroy the peace is uncovered, Seraphina struggles to protect the secret behind her musical gift, one so terrible that its discovery could mean her very life. Seraphina’s tortuous journey to self-acceptance will make a magical, indelible impression on its readers.

The Year’s Best Science Fiction: Twentieth Annual Collection Gardner Dozois 2007-04-01 Widely regarded as the one essential book for every science fiction fan, The Year’s Best Science Fiction (Winner of the 2002 Locus Award for Best Anthology) continues to uphold its standard of excellence with more than two dozen stories representing the previous year’s best SF writing. This year’s volume includes Ian R. MacLeod, Nancy Kress, Greg Egan, Maureen F. McHugh, Robert Reed, Paul McAuley, Michael Swanwick, Robert Silverberg, Charles Stross, John Kessel, Gregory Benford and many other talented authors of SF, and includes a list of the nominations of the year and a recommended reading list.

Paradox John Meaney 2010-09-09 Centuries of self-imposed isolation have transformed Nulapeiron into a world unlike any other - a world of vast subterranean cities maintained by extraordinary organic technologies. For
the majority of its peoples, however such wonders have little meaning. Denied their democratic rights and restricted to the impoverished lower levels, they are subjected to the brutal law of the Logic Lords and the Oracles, supra-human beings whose ability to transcend the future maintains the status quo. But all this is about to change. In a crowded marketplace a mysterious, beautiful woman is brutally cut down by a militia squad’s graser fire. Amongst the horrified onlookers is young Tom Corcorigan. He recognizes her. Only the previous day she had presented him with a small, seemingly insignificant info-crystal. And only now, as the fire in the dying stranger’s obsidian eyes fades, does he comprehend who - or what - she really was: a figure from legend, one of the fabled Pilots. What Tom has still to learn is that this crystal holds the key to understanding m-space, and so to freedom itself. He doesn’t know it yet, but he has been given a destiny to fulfill - nothing less than the rewriting of his future, and that of his world... Spectacularly staged, thrillingly written and set in a visionary future, Paradox places John Meaney at the forefront of science fiction in this new century.

American Gods Neil Gaiman 2002-04-30 Shadow is a man with a past. But now he wants nothing more than to live a quiet life as a pub landlord in a world where the supernatural and the undead are given a scientific rationale and horrifyingly plausible raison d’être. He warns Shadow that a far bigger storm is coming. And from that moment on, nothing will ever be the same...

Bone Song John Meaney 2007 Lieutenant Donal Riordan has been given the most bizarre of new cases. Four-famous stage performers have died in recent months, three of them in state capitals within Transifica, the fourth in far Zurinam. And now the idolised Diva, Maria delLivnova is coming to Tristopolis. Donal’s boss is determined that nothing like this is ever to happen in his city. Donal is to have anything he needs as long as the Diva lives. And so begins a dark investigation through a world where corpses give up their psycshic energy in the massive necrofulx generators that power the city, where gargoyles talk, where wraiths work in slavery, a world of the dead where corruption is alive. This is an extraordinary SF novel set in alternate universe quite unlike any imagined in SF before; a universe where magic and the supernatural and the undead are given a scientific rationale and horrifyingly plausible rationale. The novel’s setting, Tristopolis, is the ultimate noir city; an immense baroque creation of haunted stone skyscrapers, black metal and city-wide catacombs. Its hero Donal Riordan is immensely likeable and easy to identify with. Even once he’s dead.

Library Journal 2009

Context John Meaney 2013-12-19 Nulapeiron: a world isolated for twelve centuries. Its billions of inhabitants occupy subterranean strata, ruled by a trained aristocracy of lords and ladies whose power base is upheld by oracles. But revolution has touched all of its many cultures – falling in its intent, yet changing everything. Now Lord Tom Corcorigan – the commoner, warrior, former revolutionary, and would-be peacemaker – is coming to Tristopolis. Donal’s boss is determined that nothing like this is ever to happen in his city. Donal is to have anything he needs as long as the Diva lives. And so begins a dark investigation through a world where corpses give up their psycshic energy in the massive necrofulx generators that power the city, where gargoyles talk, where wraiths work in slavery, a world of the dead where corruption is alive. This is an extraordinary SF novel set in alternate universe quite unlike any imagined in SF before; a universe where magic and the supernatural and the undead are given a scientific rationale and horrifyingly plausible rationale. The novel’s setting, Tristopolis, is the ultimate noir city; an immense baroque creation of haunted stone skyscrapers, black metal and city-wide catacombs. Its hero Donal Riordan is immensely likeable and easy to identify with. Even once he’s dead.

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as Kage Baker, Jack McDevitt, and Pat Cadigan. The Gone-Away World Nick Harkaway 2008-09-02 A hilarious, action-packed look at the apocalypse that combines a touching tale of friendship, a thrilling war story, and an all out kung-fu infused mission to save the world. Gonzon Lubitch and his best friend have been inseparable since birth. They grew up together, they studied kung-fu together, they rebelled in college together, and they fought in the Go Away War together. Now, with the world in shambles and dark, nightmarish clouds billowing over the wastelands, they have been tapped for an incredibly perilous mission. But they quickly realize that this assignment is more complex than it seems, and before it is over they will have encountered everything from mimes, ninjas, and pirates to a world of monster masterminds, whose only goal is world domination.

Bone Song John Meaney 2015-10-15 Lieutenant Donal Connor has been given the most bizarre of new cases. Four famous stage performers have died in recent months, three of them in state capitals within Transifica, the fourth in far Zurinam. And now the idolised diva Maria delLinnova is coming to Tristopolis. Donal’s boss is determined that nothing like this is ever to happen in his city. Connor is to have anything he needs, as long as he returns to the stage of his theater to amaze his devoted, albeit dwindling, audience, aided by his human heritage, a silver-skinned youth tries to dream of joining a group called the Ragnarok Council. ABSORPTION is the first novel of RAGNAROK, a new space opera trilogy of high-tech space warfare, unitary intelligences made up of millions of minds, the bizarre physics of dark energy, quantum mechanics and a plausible rationale. The novel’s setting, Tristopolis, is the ultimate noir city; an immense baroque creation of haunted stone skyscrapers, black metal and city-wide catacombs. Its hero Donal Connor is immensely likeable and easy to identify with. Even once he’s dead.

Greyclawer Kat Richardson 2009-06-02 Harper Blaine was your average small-time P.I. until a two-bit perp’s savage assault left her dead for two minutes. When she comes to in the hospital, she sees things that can only be described as weird-shapes emerging from a foggy grey mist, snarling teeth, creatures roaring. But Harper’s not crazy. Her “death” has made her a Greyclawer- able to move between the human world and the mysterious cross-over zone where things that go bump in the night exist. And her new gift is about to drag her into that strange new realm—whether she likes it or not.

The Somnambulist Jonathan Barnes 2009-01-06 Once the toast of good society in Victoria’s England, the extraordinary conjurer Edward Moon no longer commands the respect that he did in earlier times. Still, each night he returns to the stage of his theater to amaze his devoted, albeit dwindling, audience, aided by his partner, the Somnambulist—a silent, hairless, hulking giant who, when stabbed, does not bleed. But these are strange things for Edward, in England of sorts prowling London’s dark underbelly. And the very bizarre death of a disreputable actor has compelled a baffled police constabulary to turn once again to Edward Moon for help—inevitably setting in motion events that will shatter his increasingly tenuous grasp on reality.

Unshapely Things Mark Del Franco 2007-01-30 In the alleys of the decrepit Boston neighborhood known as the Weird, fairy prostitutes are turning up dead. The crime scenes show signs of residual magic, but the Guild, which polices the ley, has more “important” crimes to investigate, and dumps the case on human law enforcement. Boston police call in Connor Grey, a druid and former hotshul Guild investigator-whose magical abilities were crippled after a run-in with a radical environmentalist elf. As Connor battles red tape and his own shortcomings, he realizes that the murders are not random, but part of an ancient magical ritual. And if Connor can’t figure out the killer’s M.O., the culmination of the spell might just bring about a worldwide cataclysm.

Spiral Hunt Margaret Ronald 2009-10-06 Some people have the Sight. Genevieve Scelan has the Scent. They call her “Hound,” and with her unique supernatural sense Evie can track nearly anything—lost keys, vanished family heirlooms . . . even missing people. And though she knows to stay out of the magical undercurrent that runs beneath Boston’s historic streets, a midnight phone call from a long-vanished lover will destroy the careful boundaries she has drawn. Now, to pay a years-old debt, Evie must venture into the shadowy world that lies between myth and reality, where she will find betrayal, conspiracies, and disturbing musical chords; and all she believes about herself and the city she claims as home. When the Hunt is on, the Hound must run . . .

To Hold Infinity John Meaney 2010-10-29 Devastated by her husband’s death, Earth-based biologist Yoshiko Sunadomari journeys to the paradise world of Fulgar to see her estranged son in the hope of bridging the gulfs between them. But Tetsuo is in trouble. His expertise in mu-space technology and family links with the mysterious Pilots have ensured his survival so far. Now he’s in way over his head — unwittingly caught up in a conspiracy of illegal tech-trafficking and corruption, and in the sinister machinations of one of Fulgar’s ruling elite: the charismatic Luculentus, Rafael Garcia de la Vega. When his home is attacked, Tetsuo flees to the planet’s unterrarented wastes, home to society’s outcasts and eco-terrorists. So Yoshiko arrives on Fulgar to discover Tetsuo gone . . . and wanted for murder. Ill at ease in this strange, stratified new world seething with social and political unrest but desperate to find her son and clear his name, she embarks on a course of action that will bring her face to face with the awesome, malevolent mind of Rafael.

The Solaris Book of New Science Fiction George Mann 2009 A collection of short fiction and novellas showcases the work of such popular science fiction writers as Alastair Reynolds, Stephen Baxter, and John Meaney.

Absorption John Meaney 2011-02-01 600 years from now on the world of Fulgar Roger Blackstone, son of two Pilots (long-time alien spies, masquerading as ordinary humans) aches to see the mythical Pilot’s city of Labyrinth, in the fractal ur-continuum of mu-space. In 8th century Norseland, a young carl called Wulf kills a man, watched by a mysterious warrior who bears the mark of Loki the Trickster God. In 1920s Zurich, Gabriela Silberstein enters the long, baroque central hallway of the Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule where Einstein so recently studied. And on a nameless world, not knowing his human heritage, a silver-skinned youth tries to snatch back an Idea - but it floats away on gentle magnetic currents. There are others across the ages, all with three things in common: they glimpse shards of darkness moving at the edge of their vision; they hear echoes of a dark muting; and in English of sorts prowling London’s dark underbelly. And the very bizarre death of a disreputable actor has compelled a baffled police constabulary to turn once again to Edward Moon for help—inevitably setting in motion events that will shatter his increasingly tenuous grasp on reality.

Scarecrow and such: the Boris Karloff story collection John Walters 2006-01-01 Boris Karloff, the legendary horror star of Dracula, The Mummy, Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein, The Raven, The Black Cat, and The Man of a Thousand Faces, is known to scarily haunt audiences on screen, but what about his off-screen musings? Scarecrow and such—a collection of stories by the Baron of Dark!—is a rare glimpse into the mind of the horror film legend from the pages of such magazines as The Shadow, Shadow of the Tomb, Thirteenth Floor, and Thriller. Boris Karloff’s eerie tales are filled with thrills, chills, and goose bumps—just like his films. In these 16 stories, he tells of a world where things go bump in the night; a world seething with social and political unrest but desperate to find her son and clear his name, she embarks on a course of action that will bring her face to face with the awesome, malevolent mind of Rafael.

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ensorce the entire population of Tristopolis. The plot
goes right to the top and anyway who gets in the way
will be killed again. And all the time the members of
the Unity party are stoking the fires of hatred towards
the undead. John Meaney’s new series is a superb melding
of the science fiction and horror genres and is
perfectly timed for the resurgence of horror in the
market.  

The Mitford Girls Mary S. Lovell 2008-09-04 ‘A cracking read ’ Lynn Barber, Observer The Mitford Girls tells the
true story behind the gaiety and frivolity of the six
Mitford daughters - and the facts are as sensational as
any novel: Nancy, whose bright social existence masked
an obsessionnal doomed love which soared her success;
Pam, a countrywoman tired to one of the most brains in
England - Blenheim; Diana, iconic beauty who was already
married when at 22 she fell in love with Oswald Moseley, the
leader of the British fascists; Unity, who romantically
in love with Hitler, became a member of his inner circle
before shooting herself in the temple when WWII was
declared; Jessica, the family rebel, who declared
herself a communist in the schoolroom and the youngest
sister, Debo, who became the Duchess of Devonshire. This
is an extraordinary story of an extraordinary family,
containing much new material, based on exclusive access
on August 12, 2022 by guest...
of politics. The author has also written The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie and Girls of Slender Means.