

FUNNY SCI-FI AND FANTASY



Like your Sci-Fi on the silly side? Want your Fantasy to be funny? You won't be disappointed with these!

[The Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy](#) by Douglas Adams

Join Douglas Adams's hapless hero Arthur Dent as he travels the galaxy with his alien pal Ford Prefect, getting into horrible messes and generally wreaking hilarious havoc. Dent is grabbed from Earth moments before a cosmic construction team obliterates the planet to build a freeway. Filled with witty satire and unusual characters, including Marvin the paranoid android, this is a must-read for all fans of Monty Python and British humor. This is the first in the increasingly inappropriately named *Hitchhikers Trilogy*.

[A Spell for Chameleon](#) by Piers Anthony

At age 25 Bink was exiled from the magic land of Xanth because he had no magic spell that was observable to his people. But both the good genie and the magic wall chart insisted that he did. How could he prove he had magic? This is the first in the long running *Xanth series*, which continues with [The Source of Magic](#).

[Phule's Company](#) by Robert Asprin

Meet the soldiers of Captain Willard Phule's Company--a handful of military rejects able to do more damage before 9 A.M. than most people do all day. Threatened by an alien enemy, Earth's military sends Phule and his soldiers to a distant planet. But now, the aliens have chosen a new target of war . . . Phule's Company. Also try [Phule Me Twice](#).

[Jennifer Government](#) by Max Barry

In Barry's near future, American corporations literally rule the world. Everyone takes his employer's name as his last name; once-autonomous nations belong to the USA; and the National Rifle Association is not just a worldwide corporation, it's a publicly traded stock. Hack Nike signs a contract and then reads it. He discovers he's agreed to assassinate kids purchasing Nike's new line of athletic shoes, a stealth marketing maneuver designed to increase sales...and dreaded federal agent Jennifer Government is after him.

[Sir Apropos of Nothing](#) by Peter David

An antihero for the 21st century, Apropos springs from his mother's womb with a full set of teeth, ready to bite anyone who gets in the way of his survival in this heroic fantasy satire. Apropos is a rogue, a rascal, a scoundrel, and a cheat. When he travels to the court of King Runcible to find his father, seek retribution, and line his pockets, he meets up with murderous unicorns, homicidal warrior kings, and a psychotic arsonist who is also a princess. Also try [The Woad to Wuin](#).

[Pawn of Prophecy](#) by David Eddings

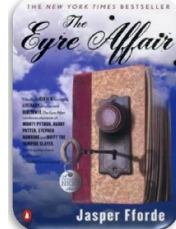
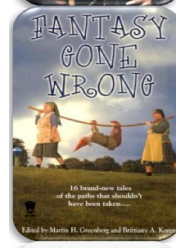
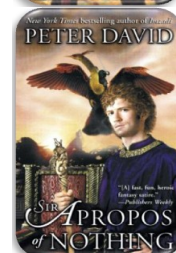
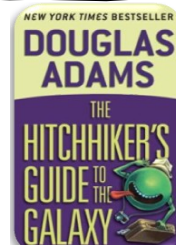
Long ago, the evil god Torak drove men and Gods to war. But Belgarath the Sorcerer led men to reclaim the Orb that protected men of the West. So long as it lay at Riva, the prophecy went, men would be safe. Now the farm boy Garion begins a quest filled with adventure, mystery and humor to recover the magic Orb and prevent the evil Torak from seizing power over the world. [Queen of Sorcery](#) is the next in the series.

[Fantasy Gone Wrong](#) Edited by Martin Greenberg

In this delightful anthology, 16 authors take traditional fantasy premises and color them ironic. The only criteria for inclusion is a whimsical sense of humor and a keen appreciation for the fantasy genre, giving the writers—among them veterans like Alan Dean Foster, as well as virtual unknowns—plenty of room to make their unique voices heard. Almost without fail, the results are entertaining, amusing and original. Look for this story collection to be filed under "Fantasy."

[The Eyre Affair](#) by Jasper Fforde

Welcome to an alternate version of Great Britain, circa 1985, where time travel is routine, cloning is a reality (dodos are the resurrected pet of choice), and literature is taken very, very seriously. England is a virtual police state where one can get lost (literally) in the great works of literature. All this is business as usual for Thursday Next, renowned Special Operative in literary detection, until someone begins kidnapping characters from works of literature. When Jane Eyre is plucked from the pages of Bronte's novel, Thursday must track down world's third most dangerous villain and avert a heinous act of literary homicide. The *Thursday Next* series continues with [Lost in a Good Book](#).



[Good Omens: The Nice & Accurate Prophecies of Agnes Nutter, Witch](#) by Neil Gaiman and Terry Pratchett

According to the Nice and Accurate Prophecies of Agnes Nutter—the world's only totally reliable guide to the future—the world will end on a Saturday. Next Saturday, in fact. Just after tea ... This zany tale of the bungling of Armageddon features an angel, a demon, an 11-year-old Antichrist, a doom-saying witch, and the music of Queen; unmistakably British humor is in abundance. Also try Gaiman's [Anansi Boys](#).

[Soon I Will Be Invincible](#) by Austin Grossman

When Doctor Impossible, an evil genius and ambitious wannabe world dominator, launches a new plot to seize control of the world, Fatale, a woman built by the NSA to be the next generation of weaponry, joins a group of misfit superheroes in their quest to destroy Doctor Impossible.

[Job: A Comedy of Justice](#) by Robert A. Heinlein

After he firewalked in Polynesia, the world wasn't the same for Alexander Hergensheimer, now called Alec Graham. As natural accidents occurred without cease, Alex knew Armageddon and the Day of Judgement were near. Somehow he had to bring his beloved heathen, Margrethe, to a state of grace, and, while he was at it, save the rest of the world Also try [For Us, the Living: a Comedy of Customs](#).

[The Baum Plan for Financial Independence](#) by John Kessel

A long-awaited collection of fourteen stories that intersect imaginatively with *Pride and Prejudice*, *Frankenstein*, *The Wizard of Oz*, and *Flannery O'Connor*. Kessel, whose story "A Clean Escape" was filmed as part of ABC's *Masters of Science Fiction*, ranges through genres with a lean, graceful style that incorporates everything from future autobiography, alternate history, phone sex, perpetual motion, and his modern classic sequence of four stories about life on the moon. Also try NCSU professor [Kessel's other works](#).

[You Suck: a Love Story](#) by Christopher Moore

Being dead sucks. Make that being undead sucks. Literally. Just ask Thomas C. Flood. Waking up after a fantastic night unlike anything he's ever experienced, he discovers that his girlfriend, Jody—the woman of his dreams—is a vampire. And surprise! Now he's one, too. Also try just about any other of Moore's other work, including the sequel [Bite Me: a Love Story](#) as well as [A Dirty Job](#).

[The Colour of Magic](#) by Terry Pratchett

When Rincewind, Ankh-Morpork's most inept "wizzard," meets Twoflower, the Discworld's first tourist, and his homicidal luggage, the stage is set for a hilarious, world-spanning adventure. The two visit fabulous places (the temple of Bel-Shamharoth, the edge of the Disc) and meet amazing people and things (assassins, barbarians, giant trolls), not the least of which is Death. You know him: tall, extremely thin, wears a black robe, carries a scythe, TALKS LIKE THIS, and rides a white stallion...named Binky? First in the [Discworld series](#).

[The Hollow Chocolate Bunnies of the Apocalypse](#) by Robert Rankin

Once upon a time Jack set out to find his fortune in the big city. But the big city is Toy City, and there is a serial killer loose on the streets who is slaughtering old, rich nursery rhyme characters one by one. Meanwhile, Private Eye Bill Winkie has gone missing, leaving behind his sidekick Eddie Bear to take care of things. Eddie & Jack team up to take down the killer, and along the way participate in heavy doses of bad behavior, car chases, and plenty of gratuitous sex and violence. Also try [The Witches of Chiswick](#).

[Callahan's Key](#) by Spider Robinson

Nobody blends good science with bad puns as brilliantly as Spider Robinson, as his legion of devoted fans will attest. Now from the creator of the Callahan series comes an improbable tale of impending doom, a road trip, space, drugs, and rock 'n' roll. This is the story of a group of humans—more or less—who band together in a cosmic adventure—more or less—to make the universe safe for...well, probably more of the same. Also try Robinson's [other Callahan novels](#).

[Cat's Cradle](#) by Kurt Vonnegut

Vonnegut's satirical commentary on modern man and his madness. An apocalyptic tale of this planet's ultimate fate, it features a midget as the protagonist; a complete, original theology created by a calypso singer; and a vision of the future that is at once blackly fatalistic and hilariously funny. Also try [Galapagos](#).

[To Say Nothing of the Dog, or, How We Found the Bishop's Bird Stump at Last](#) by Connie Willis

Ned Henry is badly in need of a rest. He's been shuttling between the 21st century and the 1940s searching for a Victorian atrocity called the bishop's bird stump. It's part of a project to restore the famed Coventry Cathedral, destroyed in a Nazi air raid over a hundred years earlier. But then Verity Kindle, a fellow time traveler, inadvertently brings back something from the past. Now Ned must jump back to the Victorian era to help Verity put things right—not only to save the project but to prevent altering history itself. Also try [Bellwether](#).

