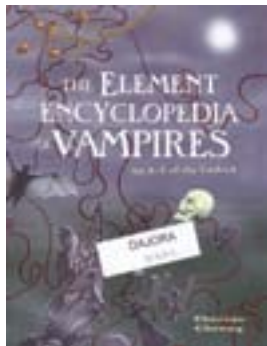


## ADULT NON-FICTION VOLWASSE VAKLEKTUUR



**CHEUNG, Theresa**

**The Element encyclopedia of vampires.**- HarperElement, 2009.

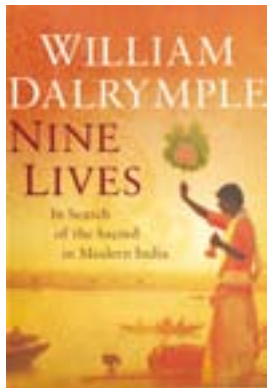
Another winner in the *Element Encyclopedia* series, this time taking a look at vampiric lore. It is well-researched and offers important details on vampires, traditionally believed to be creatures who have returned from the dead to live among the living. They are regarded as threats to living creatures as they feed on the

life force, the blood of humans and animals.

Since the publication in 1897 of the Bram Stoker classic **Dracula**, no other novel has inspired more movies and books. The idea of vampires has become universally popular and the object of continuous fascination. Vampires are endlessly reinvented, as seen in novels such as Anne Rice's **Interview with the vampire** and the more recent Stephenie Meyer *Twilight* saga series, which have become international bestsellers.

When attempting to define exactly what a vampire is, it is important to understand that they can be divided up into three categories - vampires of folklore, vampires of fiction, and modern vampirism. Each category differs from the others with regard to appearance, behaviour and definition.

**The Element encyclopedia of vampires** offers full coverage on the vampire in fact, fiction and myth, taking the reader up to the latest **Twilight** film. The alphabetical arrangement and comprehensive text is a sure delight, it is tastefully presented and very accessible. ....EB



**DALRYMPLE, William**

**Nine lives: in search of the sacred in modern India.**- Bloomsbury, 2009.

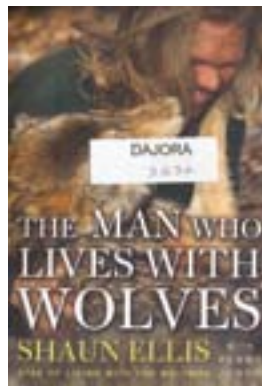
Over the years Dalrymple has explored many parts of the east. In **Xanadu** he conveyed readers from Jerusalem to Mongolia. **From the Holy Mountain** was about the Eastern Orthodox Church, and **City of Zinns** made Delhi the center piece of a fascinating saga. In India Dalrymple seems to have found a

home, and India has reciprocated. In 2007 he won a leading Indian award for non-fiction for his history **The last Mughal**.

**Nine lives** is a travel book, conceived as a collection of linked non-fiction short stories, with each 'life' representing a different form of devotion or a different religious path.

Each 'life' is intended to act as a keyhole into the way that each

specific religious vocation has been caught and transformed in a fast-changing landscape, revealing the extraordinary persistence of faith and ritual. Dalrymple's nine characters live on the margins of a society transforming at a bewildering pace. They are on a spiritual quest, making incredible sacrifices, obliterating identities in search of a salvation which may remain elusive. While the nine lives are not identical, they are exceptional people whose experiences have calmed their lives, and to whom he listens with a rare empathy. Dalrymple the historian knows the forces that make religions and ethnicities fight, but Dalrymple the travel writer lets these people speak. This title offers a wonderful and entertaining read, and is by far a much superior and different to the usual travelogue on India. ....EB



**ELLIS, Shaun**

**The man who lives with wolves / with Penny Junor.**- HarperCollins, 2009.

The author is an English animal researcher who is notable for living among wolves, and for adopting a pack of abandoned North American timber wolf cubs. He is the founder of Wolf Pack Management and is involved in a number of research projects.

As a child Ellis grew up in the English countryside near Norfolk where he began observing wild animals at a young age, learning to use his sense of smell and sound to find his way at night when studying foxes and badgers.

He first trained to be a gamekeeper; but lost his post when it was discovered that he planned to release culled animals into the wild. Later he joined the Royal Marines where he served for some time.

A chance meeting between Ellis and a Native American biologist at a wolf seminar resulted in Ellis spending seven years living with the Nez Perce Native Americans on their reservation in northern Idaho, United States, as a volunteer in a project studying wolves living at the foot of the Rocky Mountains. There he was taught to observe wolves and to live amongst them. He soon discovered that he could identify individual pack members and found the wolves within the pack's social structure highly intelligent and instinctive animals. In 2005 he spent eighteen months living in captivity at Combe Martin Wildlife Park with three abandoned wolf pups, educating them to be wild wolves and becoming the pack's alpha male. He currently lives directly outside the wolf enclosure at Combe Martin Wildlife Park, so that he is in close proximity to the wolves at all times. He has written three books about wolves: **The wolf talk** (2003), **Spirit of the wolf** (2006) and the most recent **The man who lives with wolves** (2009).

Some readers may find Ellis obsessive and even regard him as crazy, but many will wonder and admire his dedication to wolves and educating humans about wolf behaviour. This awe-inspiring, extremely readable book will appeal to those interested in wolves and all animal lovers who will find the author's experiences highly informative about human and animal relationships. It is one of the best titles on animals recently seen and is a gem of a book. ....EB



**FERREIRA, Ilse**  
**Italian footprints in South Africa.**- Jacana, 2009.

This locally published title with a parallel text in English and Italian reveals the important contribution made by Italians to the historical development of South Africa. Few people realise that Italian religious refugees first arrived at the Cape in 1688, only

thirty-six years after Van Riebeeck's arrival, and then again later in smaller groups up to the year 1700. These refugees were mostly settled in the areas around Paarl, Wellington and Franschhoek.

Their legacy has been mostly forgotten in historical accounts, but their genes form very much part of the stock from which the Afrikaner nation developed. Many well-known Afrikaner names such as Malan, Lombard, Visagie, Viljoen (to name a few), can trace their roots to Italian ancestry. Like the French Huguenots they were quickly assimilated into the established Dutch population and their native language forgotten.

The Italian influence on culture can be seen in food, architecture, wine-making, politics, the arts and sport.

Then of course there are the Italian prisoners-of-war who worked and built important landmarks such as the famous Chapman's Peak Drive in the Western Cape.

This book is well illustrated and is an informative and entertaining read. .... EB



**Halala Afrikaans.**- Protea Boekhuis, 2009.

'Die biografie van Afrikaans. So word hierdie geskiedenis van Afrikaans onder die redakteurskap van Daniel Hugo op die omslag genoem. Heel gepas is die boek op Vrydag 14 Augustus 2009 bekendgestel, op die herdenking van die dag in 1875 toe die Genootskap van Regte Afrikaners gestig is. Natuurlik was dit nie die geboortedag van Afrikaans nie, soos dit ook van die

begin af in hierdie leesbare en boeiende vertelling uitgestippel word. Die ses goed nagevorste hoofstukke, met bronneverwysings aan die einde van elkeen, handel oor die ontstaan van Afrikaans, die ontwikkeling van Afrikaanssprekendes, die Tweede Afrikaanse Taalbeweging, veelsydige Afrikaans, Afrikaans sedert 1976 en die vele gesigte van Afrikaans. In die laaste hoofstuk is deskundiges aan die woord, soos Anton F Prinsloo (Kontrei-Afrikaans), Jaco Jacobs (Tienertaal), Danielle Heyns (SMS-taal), Annette de Wet (Swartafrikaans) en Nicol Stassen (die Afrikaans van die Angola-Boere). 'n Mens mis 'n slothoofstuk, maar dalk is dit omdat hierdie "biografie" gelukkig nie geskryf is ná die oorlye van Afrikaans nie. Die meer as 20 kassies met aanvullende brokkies inligting sal die aandag trek van enige leser

wat die boek eers net wil deurblaai.' (Die Burger, 7/09/09 p.9.) 'n Hoogs interessante, gesaghebbende titel.



**HITCHCOCK, William I**  
**Liberation: the bitter road to freedom, Europe 1944-1945.**- Faber, 2009.

The author, who teaches history at Temple University in Philadelphia, delivers a groundbreaking account that surveys the European continent from D-Day to the final battles of the war and the first few months of peace. It is based on research in five nations and dozens of archives, revealing that the liberation of Europe was both a

military triumph and a human tragedy of epic proportions.

Very often the wartime experiences of European people are overlooked, but now are heard via Hitchcock's timely revelations from those who were on the receiving end of liberation. The author reveals the high civilian casualties amongst the liberated, the indiscriminate bombing and artillery barrages, and the inadequate planning and inconsistent policy agendas between the military and political leadership that define the Allied liberation of Western Europe from the point of view of the many liberated Europeans. He also addresses the Soviet enslavement of Eastern Europe and the brutalities that occurred in these regions. Other themes examined are the controversies surrounding the repatriation of liberated displaced persons, as revealed in the case of the liberated Jews in the West and the conflicts between them and the British government regarding their desire to go to Palestine.

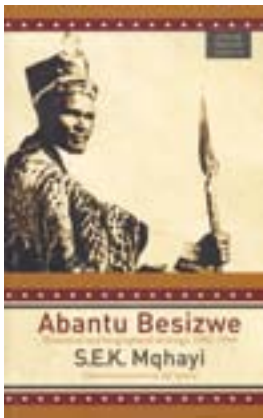
Although Hitchcock's honest appraisal is sympathetic to those caught in the midst of the chaotic and unprecedented scale of liberation, he never compromises the basic rightness of the Allied cause. .... EB



**Klaas, Eric**  
**Gugulethu seven.**- Klaas Instit., 2009.

Eric Klaas, the author, lives in Gugulethu township in Cape Town. He has written two isiXhosa novels. In this title he writes about the group of seven young men that were killed in an ambush by the South African apartheid security forces in Gugulethu on 3 March 1986. These young men were anti-apartheid and members of Umkhonto weSizwe. The

apartheid security forces was led by a Vlakplaas-based unit. Included are interviews with the family members (mothers) of the victims, the TRC hearings, amnesty hearings, the unveiling of the Gugulethu Seven Memorial, and black and white photographs. The book is suitable for any layman and will be appreciated by local readers. .... NNG

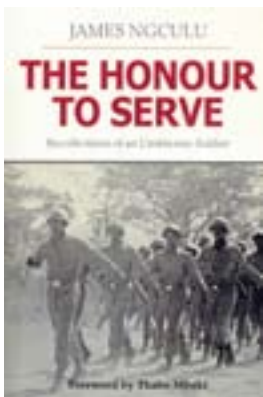


**Mqhayi, SEK**  
**Abantu beSizwe: historical & biographical writings, 1902-1944.**- Wits U.P., 2009.

'Abantu beSizwe presents the works of Samuel Edward Krune Mqhayi (1875-1945), who was one of the greatest figures in the history of South African literature. He was the most inspirational of all isiXhosa praise poets, whose concern with the people of South Africa earned him the title "Imbongi yeSizwe

jikelele", the poet of the whole nation. Mqhayi's achievements, however, have not been fully appreciated, because he wrote only in Xhosa. A few of his published works are among the most popular in the Xhosa language, yet many more are out of print, obscure, unpublished or lost. In **Abantu beSizwe** (The Nations People), Jeff Opland finally makes Mqhayi's wealth of unrecognised work accessible to a wider readership. It is the first new volume of Mqhayi's writing to appear in over sixty years, and contains sixty-five historical and biographical essays contributed to newspapers between 1902 and 1944 as originally published, with facing English translations. The essays, many of them enhanced by Mqhayi's incomparable poetry, present South African personalities and events ranging from the early nineteenth to the mid-twentieth century, recording climactic battles and intimate conversations, the growth of national movements and the lives of lifelong friends. They contain Mqhayi's humane and incisive portraits of men and women, royalty and commoners, the great and the obscure, black and white, Xhosa, Zulu, Sotho and Tswana. This meticulous and comprehensive collection will necessitate a reassessment of the history of the Xhosa-speaking peoples, establish Mqhayi's reputation as a significant South African historian, and confirm his status as a major South African author.' (www.witpress.book.co.za)

SEK Mqhayi's novel, **Ityala Lamawele** is one of the classic novels that were reprinted. This book can be borrowed from SN.



**Ngculu, James**  
**The honour to serve: recollections of an Umkhonto soldier.**- D. Philip, 2009.

'The ANC appears to be focused on a rewriting of history. This appears from a new book by James Ngculu, the former chairman of the ANC in the Western Cape, as well as from recent statements by ex-President Thabo Mbeki and Gwede Mantashe, secretary-general of the ANC and chairman of the South

African Communist Party. In **The honour to serve: recollections of**

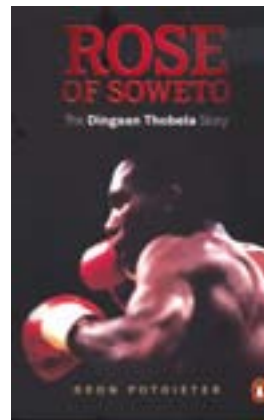
**an Umkhonto soldier**, ... an autobiographical history of the June 16 Detachment of MK in Angola, James Ngculu confirms this, though in a manner that is strangely contradictory. In exile he was deputy to the former Minister of Intelligence Services, Ronnie Kasrils, then head of Military Intelligence in MK and later headed MK's "Cape machinery" operating out of Botswana ... His book is equally rewarding and frustrating, since while it presents a valuable account of training, hardship and comradeship among the 1976 generation in MK ... the author collapses before one complex issue after another in his chapter on the mutiny ... What Ngculu, Mbeki and Mantashe confirm is that the ANC has a long way to travel before it will properly confront its history.' (*Cape Argus*, 18/01/2010 p.7.)



**Nkabinde, Nkunzi Zandile**  
**Black Bull, ancestors and me: my life as a lesbian sangoma.**- Fanele, 2008.

Nkunzi Zandile Nkabinde is a practicing sangoma in Soweto, a lesbian and a tour guide. In her memoir she tells of her journey from childhood to her initiation as a sangoma. She explains the relationship between her sexuality and her ancestors. She states that life for township lesbians is not

easy. Many have been the victims of hate crimes. She tries to fight homophobia through her book. An interesting look on traditional culture and homosexuality. .... NNG



**Potgieter, Deon**  
**Rose of Soweto: the Dingaan Thobela story.**- Penguin, 2009.

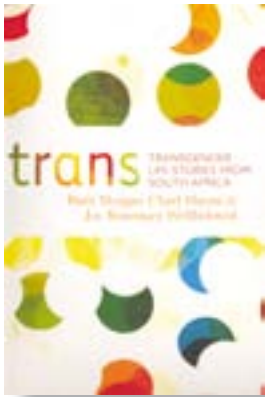
'...The story of Dingaan Thobela is similar to that of many fighters who rose against the odds and went on to achieve success. None, however, has had such an inspirational influence on people who followed his career as that of Dingaan Thobela. The tale of Thobela's humble beginnings in Chiawelo, one of the poorest parts of Soweto, and his successes, including winning

three world titles, is told ...' ([www.fightnews.com](http://www.fightnews.com))

**Trans: transgender life stories from South Africa.**- Fanele, 2009.

The life stories recounted in this collection from transgender South Africans are both inspiring and compelling and reveal the courage and strength of each of the story-tellers involved. The narratives detail the constant challenges of living in a country, that,





despite its progressive Constitution, is still host to a myriad prejudices and misunderstandings when it comes to trans people. With more than twenty original voices from the trans community in South Africa, the book is a journal of shared experiences for trans people and a fascinating point of departure for interested members of the general public. Illustrated with black and white photographs by Robert Hamblin as well as a

few colour photo-plates, it is said to be the first book of its kind in Africa and is edited by Ruth Morgan, Charl Marais and Joy Rosemary Wellbeloved. ....SSJ



**WALKER, Michael**  
**Muizenberg - a forgotten story.**  
M.Walker, 2009.

Author/historian Mike Walker has become a well-known authority on False Bay coastal towns and has written a number of books on the history of the area covering towns such as Muizenberg, Kalk Bay and St James. Titles such as **Coastal memories, Muizenberg - St James - Kalk Bay 1870-1920;** and

**St James, a century by the sea 1850 - 1950** are all fascinating and well-researched books.

This is the latest title from the author who once again delivers an impressive volume covering historical details about this well-known and popular seaside coastal town and its environment. It was described in the early 1900s as the Brighton of South Africa and attracted the cream of society to its shores. The arrival of the railway at Muizenberg in December 1882 can be regarded as the starting point of the history of a more modern Muizenberg. Over the next forty years (between 1900 and 1950), Muizenberg would become the premier holiday resort in South Africa.

The author teams up with the Muizenberg Historical Conservation Society to produce a book that delivers the most comprehensive account of Muizenberg to date, and will be of interest to both the serious historian and browser alike. ....EB

## ADULT FICTION VOLWASSE VERHALENDE LEKTUUR

**Emdon, Erica**

**Jelly dog days.**- Penguin Bks., 2009.

This debut novel by a South African author is set in Johannes-

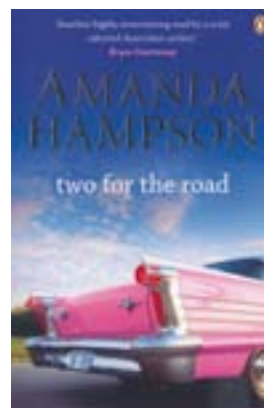
burg in the 1960s and 1970s in the impoverished, racist, working-class suburbs of Malvern and Claremont. 'Growing up with her narcissistic and neglectful mother and her stepfather, Piet, a construction worker who spends much of his time away from home, Terry learns early on that childhood, at least for her, is a matter of survival. Those who are meant to protect and care for her increasingly exploit her, and as she watches her mother drag herself to and from her job at Harry's Dry Cleaners each day, then sink into alcoholism and eventually relinquish all parental responsibility, it is left to Terry to become the caregiver and protector of her four younger siblings. The only real affection she is shown comes from the family's nanny Sophie, with whom she forms a strong bond, and from Piet who, while proving to be the more attentive parent, nevertheless exacts a high price for his favours. At twelve years old, Terry is unwittingly drawn into the student unrest of June 1976 when Sophie's son Rex disappears in the political tumult of the time and she tries to help her find out what has happened to him. At the same time she finds herself on a treacherous and terrifying journey of her own that she is powerless to control, and as she watches her family disintegrate around her, she has to dig deep to find the strength to cope. Terry's intelligence, resilience and fortitude make her the irresistible, heartbreaking heroine of this novel, which is essentially a redemptive story of a child navigating a brutal, dysfunctional family.' The novel is based on real interview material that Emdon has gathered in 2003 from a number of women that she spoke to as part of a non-fiction study. ....SSJ



**Hampson, Amanda**

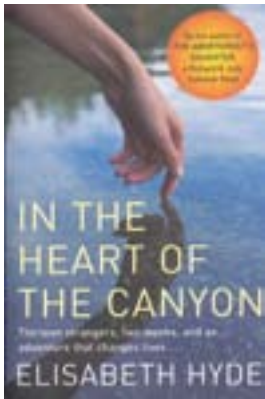
**Two for the road.**- Penguin, 2009.

This unusual and enjoyable Australian novel 'explores the consequences of running away from yourself and your problems and the almost inevitable, eventual journey home again. Cassie Munro is the daughter of Bilkara's local tow truck business owner. When her father is brutally attacked, she leaves London and her husband behind to attend to affairs in Bilkara.



Having never expected to return, Bilkara is a well of bad memories for Cassie. Now, faced with the necessity of having to revive the business and build a new life for herself, Cassie must face her demons to finally heal her past and those she has wronged along the way. Things become even more complex when Cassie reconnects with her childhood sweetheart, Mack, and his tenacious daughter, Rose. Hampson has centred the novel around the towing industry

and demonstrates a researched knowledge of what the business entails. The journey of discovery for Cassie and the other characters evolves amidst the intricate workings of this industry which is crass, violent, dangerous and most often male-driven. This element creates an interesting contrast to the emotional shenanigans occurring behind the scene. The novel flows easily making it a pleasure to read. The climax and ending is heartening and tragic simultaneously..' (asaysbooks.com)

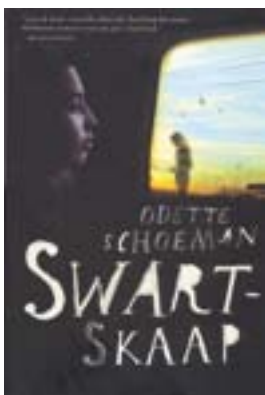


**Hyde, Elizabeth**

**In the heart of the canyon.**- Pan, 2009.

A river-rafting trip through the Grand Canyon is the subject of this new novel from the author of **Crazy as chocolate** and **The abortionist's daughter**. 'Twelve travellers and three guides set off on a rafting trip down the Colorado River in this adventure. Each comes to the trip expecting a life-altering experience, but none is prepared for the events as they unfold, least of all JT Maroney, their veteran

guide. It is JT's 125th trip down the river, and he thinks he's seen it all; but a dog, a couple in their seventies, two dysfunctional marriages, and an overweight teenager provide him with challenges that have nothing to do with white-water rafting. Each traveller leaves the trip with much more than he or she expected. Verdict: The reader is swept along with the characters through the strikingly beautiful canyon and the potentially deadly river. Great scenic description and fully believable characters make this adventure story well worth the ride. A good pick as a summer read.' (Library Journal, 1/7/09.) Another reviewer describes it as 'an astute, engrossing character-driven affair. ...The novel succeeds as both a study of strangers striving toward a common goal and as a suspenseful drama filled with angst and humanity. Hyde outshines herself with this wild ride.' (Publishers Weekly, 2014/09.)



**Schoeman, Odette**

**Swartskoop.**- Kwela Boeke, 2009.

Debuutverhaal waaroor die bekroonde skrywer Jeanne Goosen erken dat 'dit die eerste Afrikaanse roman is wat my aan't huil had'. 'Wanneer jy **Swartskoop** lees, besef jy baie gou hier is 'n aangrypende verhaal van leef en oorleef deur iemand wat weet hoe om nie net 'n storie te vertel nie, maar dit as't ware aan die leser te wys. Dit vertel die lewensverhaal van Claudie Thompson. Dit is 'n ver-

wikkelde verhaal van armoede, ouers met 'n misplaaste begrip van liefde en sorg, van onvoorwaardelike kinderliefde, seksuele misbruik, huise sonder kos en meubels, lewe in die koshuis, die goed en sleg wat in elkeen van ons bestaan, en uiteindelik die vervolmaking van 'n lewe sonder berou. Claudie se ouers is nie die toonbeeld van 'n normale, alledaagse

ouerpaar nie. Hulle is altwee in die 1950's gebore in brandarm huise aan die verkeerde kant van die treinspoor, en al twee se pa's was alkoholiste. Haar ma was een van dertien kinders. Haar pa moes as jong seun voortdurend die mishandeling van sy alkoholis-pa verduur en dit het blywende letsels gelaat. Hulle tekortkominge as ouers, wat deurgaans in die verhaal duidelik word, kan byna verstaan word, en selfs al is dit teësinning, voel ons 'n mate van empatie met hulle. Claudie het ses boeties en een sussie, maar haar ouers se stormagtige huwelik het tot gevolg gehad dat net Theuns regtig haar boetie is. Haar vroegste herinnering neem haar terug na die ouderdom van drie, toe sy en Theuns by 'n vreemde man en vrou moes bly en die man haar molesteer. Dit is die begin van baie eindes vir Claudie. Haar pa is kort hierna tronk toe en haar ma en pa besluit om te skei. Dit is net die begin van moeilike grootwordjare wat sal volg, en van hierdie oomblik af lei Claudie-hulle 'n nomadiese bestaan en vestig hulle nooit lank op een plek nie. Claudie en haar boeties vind hul toevlug in die koshuis en die meeste vakansies kan hulle nie wag om terug te gaan na die veiligheid daarvan nie. Hulle is tog almal "swartskape" daar. Die verhaal beklemtoon deurgaans dat niemand net sleg of donker is nie. Schoeman slaag daarin om voortdurend 'n humoristiese ondertoon te handhaaf en elke karakter word ten volle ontwikkel. Odette Schoeman verteenwoordig opwindende, nuwe talent.' (www.litnet.co.za - Liezl Prinsloo.)



**Wooding, Chris**

**Retribution Falls.**- Gollancz, 2009.

'In a ramshackle far future, when ships fuelled by "atrium" [sic - actually it's aerium] ply the skyways and pirates are opposed by the Coalition Navy, Darien Frey commands the *Ketty Jay* and its misfit crew. When a raid on a freighter goes horribly wrong the hunt is on for Frey - and what a hunt. Wooding uses every trick to keep the reader on tenterhooks: thrilling action scenes terminate in cliff-hangers and

clever reversals of fortune. If masterful plotting were the book's only attribute, then **Retribution Falls** would still be a first-rate read. What makes it exceptional is the psychological insight rare in fast-paced, adventure SF. Frey is a fully-rounded character whose selfishness and duplicity undergo a gradual transformation as events cause him to reassess his motivations, as well as to appreciate the qualities of his crew, themselves fascinating individuals. On every level, **Retribution Falls** is a triumph.' (The Guardian, 6/6/09.)

Note: At the time of going to press some of these titles were still on order.

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EB.....Erich Buchhaus  
SSJ.....Stanley Jonck  
NNG.....Nomonde Ngqoba

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