

# The SCIENCE FICTION Book Club News

**'The plot develops neatly, always gripping, never predictable, with no annoying 'loose ends' to irritate the reader. I'd rate it excellent and worthy of Award nomination. For me it was top level writing.'**

— ERG QUARTERLY

'There is a raw sense of elemental adventure about this which is deeply satisfying and the portrait of the hero will be long remembered.'

— Tom Hutchinson,  
THE TIMES

THIS  
MONTH'S  
SELECTION

The SCIENCE FICTION BOOK CLUB  
**Garry Kilworth**  
**The Night of Kadar**

A starship nears its journey's end after thousands of years in deep space. Frozen embryos warm to life, their growth accelerated, and intelligence units instruct the occupants in their future role on the new world. Before instruction is complete, however, a malfunction occurs. An alien presence is detected by the ship and is apparently responsible for the failure. A vital piece of information is withheld from the occupants.

The starship lands on an island in a sea of quick-sand. Rebelling against the confinement of a small island and determined to solve the enigma of his people's purpose, the self-appointed leader, Othman, begins work on a bridge to the mainland, at which point resent-

ment to the intruders manifests itself from an unknown source. And when revelation is finally within their grasp, Othman's people are unsure whether the promised glory is quite what they expected...

Garry Kilworth's second novel is an exceptional piece of work. His characters are believable — alive — and their motives and actions are real from beginning to end, which is important. Apart from a chronicle of adventures set against a fascinating background, the novel explores the motives and thoughts of Othman and his people as they search for a common identity and purpose. It is a very fine novel and one can only join with the *ERG* reviewer in hoping that it is nominated for an award. 193pp

**SFBC £1.75**

Faber & Faber £4.95

REF NO 5148

**The time trails led him to mastodons, money, and the most incredible interstellar mystery of all time...**

**CATFACE** by Clifford D Simak

*A clever comedy from the 1977 Nebula Grand Master.* Archaeologist Asa Steele lives a quiet life in the tranquil town of Willow Bend, Wisconsin, until a love of two decades earlier turns up, a curious crater appears in his back yard, and his faithful dog, Bowser, bounds up with fresh dinosaur bones — and that's when Asa's life is really turned upside down. He is soon taking a trip through time, guided through prehistoric eras by a strange cat-faced alien with whom he is unable to communicate except through a local simpleton called Hiram. Mean-

while, Asa's lost love finds the perfect place to build a dream home and live happily ever after — the age of the mastodons! To finance the project, Asa opens a time travel agency, Safari Inc., which offers expeditions back in time, and it is not long before Willow Bend becomes the focus of global attention, government scrutiny and the target for an unprecedented solution to overpopulation. 'Cliff Simak's unique genius is that he can relate the small, warm intimacies of human relationships to the great sweep of time and space. This is one of his best!' — Gordon R Dickson. 256pp

**SFBC £3.40**

REF NO 8890

Sidgwick & Jackson £4.50

**THE WORLD'S FIRST PSYCHIC WAR** It is fiction today.  
It is a conceivable reality of tomorrow.

**STAR FIRE** by Ingo Swann

Dan Merriweather is the world's first mega-psychic — a psychic with highly advanced and refined abilities. He has (literally) tuned into secret research on a deadly psychic weapon being independantly and concurrently developed by the USSR and the USA; a weapon more frightening than any nuclear or bacteriological hardware. Determined to force both nations to abandon the project, Merriweather evolves an astounding plan to transform the world. As a

result governments teeter on the brink of collapse, illegal arms dealers covet Merriweather as the ultimate weapon of terror, and the USA and Russia prepare for nuclear war.

Ingo Swann is America's most researched superpsychic. His powers have been irrefutably demonstrated at the prestigious Stamford Research Institute. In *Star Fire* he has 'foreseen' an all too possible tomorrow, a situation that may truly be just one small step ahead of the headlines. 314pp

**SFBC £2.95**

REF NO 8686

Souvenir Press £3.95

