

Sacramento Book Review



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The Blood Debt

By Sean Williams

Pyr, \$15.00, 463 pages

The Blood Debt is a trade reprint of the 2006 hardcover from Sean Williams. The story takes place in the future, where the Earth has been broken into zones where magic is used for power instead of electricity and ghosts and golems (animated statues) exist. There are both some very unique aspects to Williams' world, and some familiar ones. This particular story takes place a thousand years after the first book (*The Crooked Letter*) and follows two friends, Sal and Skender as they each separately try and find their missing parents and find themselves trying to track down and stop a Homunculus that Sal's father had mistakenly summoned from another realm, the Void Beneath.



There are elements of fantasy and science fiction, and Williams creates a convincing landscape and characters. The story is fairly stand alone if you can't find the previous volume, and not a lot connects the two stories due to the major time differences.