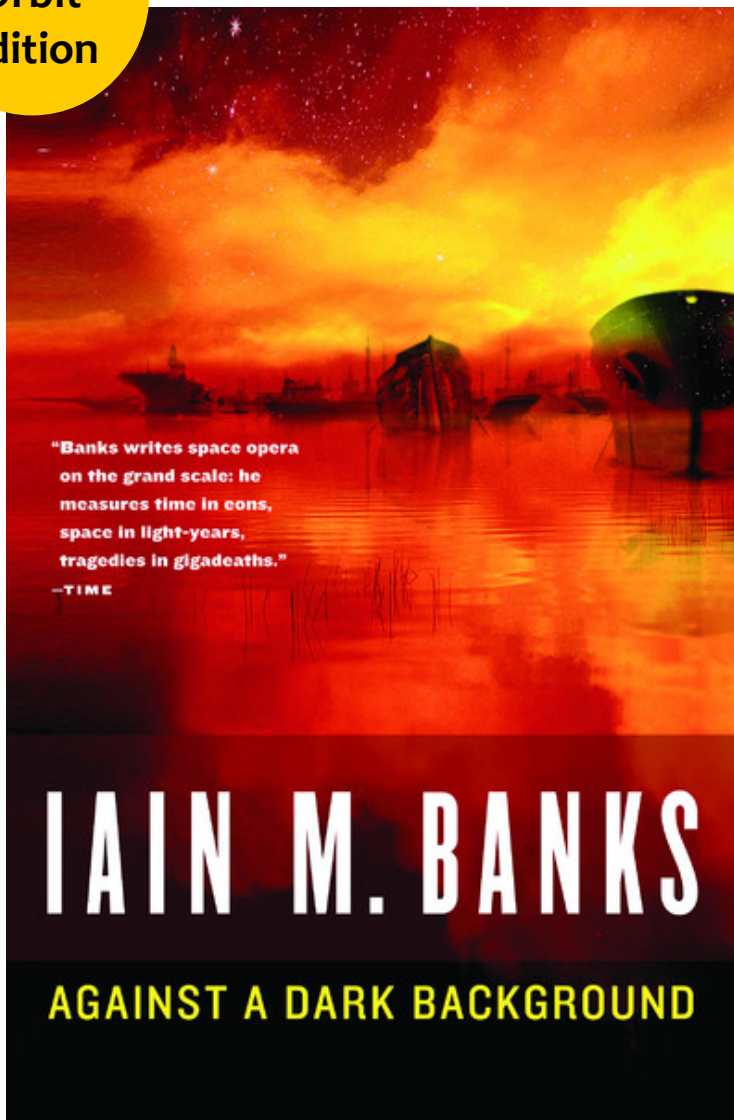


From Internationally Bestselling Science Fiction Master

IAIN M. BANKS

New
Orbit
Edition



AGAINST A DARK BACKGROUND

Iain M. Banks

Praise for his previous book *Matter*:

"Banks writes space opera on the grand scale: he measures time in eons, space in lightyears, tragedies in gigadeaths." —*Time*

"Banks is still at the height of his powers."
—*Publisher's Weekly* (starred review)

Sharrow was once the leader of a personally-attuned combat team in one of the sporadic little commercial wars in the civilization based around the planet Golter. Now she is hunted by the Huhsz, a religious cult which believes that she is the last obstacle before the faith's apotheosis, and her only hope of escape is to find the last of the apocalyptically powerful Lazy Guns before the Huhsz find her.

Her journey through the exotic Golterian system is a destructive and savage odyssey into her past, and that of her family and of the system itself.

Also available in paperback:

Consider Phlebas • 978-0-316-00538-8 • \$12.99 • QTY. _____

The Player of Games • 978-0-316-00540-1 • \$12.99 • QTY. _____

Use of Weapons • 978-0-316-03057-1 • \$12.99 • QTY. _____

Matter • 978-0-316-00537-1 • \$14.99 • QTY. _____

JULY 2009
TRADE PAPERBACK

978-0-316-03637-5

\$12.99

Carton Qty. 20

Sci-Fiction — Orbit

Open Market, Excluding Europe, Exclusive Asia

Order Qty

IAIN M. BANKS came to controversial public notice with the publication of his first novel, *The Wasp Factory*. He is now widely acclaimed as one of the most powerful, innovative and exciting writers of his generation. Iain M. Banks lives in Edinburgh, Scotland. Find out more about Iain M. Banks at <http://www.iain-banks.net>.

Account: _____ Account#: _____ Date: _____

PO: _____ Shipper: _____ SEA/AIR (Please indicate)

hachette
BOOK GROUP

Fax: 1.212.364.0933 Tel: 1.212.364.1285

international@hbgusa.com

Titles are subject to rights availability and may not be available from HBG in certain markets. Prices and on-sale dates subject to change without notice. Please visit www.hbgusa.com for full export catalogs.