



GUNGNIR PUBLISHING INKS GLOBAL DISTRIBUTION DEAL WITH MACMILLAN PUBLISHERS

Macmillan to bring GUNGNIR's genre-defying titles to bookshelves and readers worldwide

Initial titles to be published include *Last Breeds*, *AEON*, *The Dangerous History Saga*, *Existence Equation*, and *Never A Never Boy*

LOS ANGELES, August 15, 2025 – GUNGNIR, the bold and disruptive new publishing venture established by visionary creator and former Heavy Metal CEO Matthew Medney, has announced a major global partnership with Macmillan Publishers. Through this agreement, GUNGNIR joins an elite cadre of independent publishers whose work is supported by Macmillan's powerhouse global sales, marketing, and distribution teams.

With this partnership, GUNGNIR gains access to a world-class network of booksellers, libraries, and retailers, giving it immediate scale. This agreement will help position GUNGNIR's catalog of high-concept graphic novels and speculative prose fiction that amplify the unique collaboration of voices from the science and fiction communities for breakout success across North American and international markets.

Jon Yaged, CEO of Macmillan Publishers, commented: "Matthew and the entire GUNGNIR team have a rare and powerful combination of creativity, innovation, and marketing prowess which will undoubtedly enable them to create new characters and worlds that will captivate, inspire, challenge, and entertain readers. We couldn't be more excited to help them bring their creations to the world."

Michael Friedman, former Publisher of Barnes & Noble and longtime publishing entrepreneur who helped forge the partnership, commented: "There's a rare kind of lightning that strikes when vision, courage, and creativity collide—and GUNGNIR is the storm. With a founder as bold as Matt at the helm, I have no doubt he'll break molds, build new worlds, and bring us stories we've never imagined. I can't wait to see what comes next."

"Macmillan is the ideal partner to help realize our vision and bring bold, original storytelling to the global stage," said Matthew Medney, Founder and Publisher of GUNGNIR. "Our books are forged in myth and fired in rebellion. It's sci-fi and fantasy that dares the gods themselves. They're bold, cinematic, and deeply human – and now, with Macmillan behind us, our authors' voices will echo louder and reach farther than ever before."

Medney continued, “Two titles embody this mandate perfectly: Steve Orlando’s *Dangerous History*, an epic chronicle of the rise, reign, and fall of an empire, told through the eyes of those bold enough to defy fate and Jim Krueger’s *Never A Never Boy*, a reimagining of the Peter Pan mythology and dares to ask what happened next. It is so important at GUNGNIR that our creative team is comprised of creatives and we champion the hell out of that. ”

Anime and adult animation generate over billions of dollars globally, while Comic-Cons continue to draw millions of passionate fans and inject hundreds of millions into local economies—proving that fandom is not just alive, it's thriving. GUNGNIR, named after Odin’s legendary spear that never missed, brings that same precision to genre storytelling, blending myth, science fiction, and fantasy with cultural relevance and emotional depth. With award-winning, Eisner-nominated writers like Steve Orlando and Jim Krueger, and a powerhouse roster of artists including Mohamed Samah, Simone Ragazzoni, Marco Lucchina, Giuseppe D'Elia, Alvaro Sarraseca, and Vincenzo Riccardi, GUNGNIR books are both visually stunning and narratively fearless. Now backed by one of the world’s largest publishers, this partnership gives GUNGNIR the reach, resources, and infrastructure to deliver bold stories to every corner of the globe. We’re not just making books—we’re building franchises, igniting fandoms, and redefining what modern publishing can be.

Expanding the GUNGNIR Universe

In addition to its core label, GUNGNIR brings three dynamic imprints under the Macmillan umbrella:

Storyteller Media – Co-founded by Charles “Professor Xavier” Allen and Istari Medney, this imprint focuses on author-driven stories designed for real-world impact. Titles include *Don’t Fear Your Roar* by Broadway’s Simba Darian Sanders and *Daughter of Africa* by renowned Kenyan storyteller Gina Din—an African voice whose work resonates far beyond the continent. Charles Allen commented: “GUNGNIR’s creative firepower and Macmillan’s industry leadership make them the ideal partners for Storyteller’s mission. We’re redefining publishing by aligning author and publisher interests—and championing bold stories that resonate from the page to screens around the world.”

Asgard Books –A partnership with Animation Avenue, executive producers of *Hello Neighbor: the Animated Series* and the writers of *Ben 10* and *Sonic Prime*, this imprint adapts popular video game IPs into graphic novels and prose. Co-led by Animation Avenues founder Omar Spahi, Eric Rotelli and Medney, its first titles will be announced this summer.

Rogue Matter – A rebel studio run by branded storytellers Roger Mincheff and Trent Olsen that nurtures diverse, boundary-breaking storytellers. Its creator slate will be revealed later this year.

The Macmillan partnership marks a pivotal moment in GUNGNIR’s expansion, as the company continues to build an ambitious slate of titles across graphic novels, prose, and transmedia formats. With a leadership team that includes Editor-in-Chief Jim Krueger and Executive Editor Steve Orlando, GUNGNIR is cementing its place as a home for the next generation of genre-defining creators.

GUNGNIR will bring a wide array of titles to launch its partnership including three brand new powerhouse titles, each tackling profound themes through daring, bold stories. For more information, visit www.gungnirbooks.com.

About GUNGNIR Publishing

GUNGNIR is a pioneering publishing house committed to bold, genre-defying storytelling. Inspired by Odin's legendary spear, GUNGNIR seeks to shatter industry norms and create a sanctuary for the most daring and visionary creators. With a mission to amplify voices that challenge the status quo, GUNGNIR delivers storytelling that cuts deep and resonates across audiences. From graphic novels to prose, every story is a new frontier. Most know Odin from Marvel—but Norse mythology tells a deeper story. He is the god of poetry, of knowledge, of the spoken word. His spear, Gungnir, never missed its mark—in action or in meaning. Neither do we. We're wielding the power of poetry through epic storytelling in science fiction and fantasy—charging straight at the heart of genre to ignite a new era of pop culture. For more information on GUNGNIR and its upcoming releases, visit www.gungnirbooks.com.

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About Matthew Medney



Matt Medney is a visionary storyteller, co-founder of Iconic Arts LTD, and Founder/ Publisher of Gungnir Books. Former CEO of Heavy Metal Magazine and co-founder of Hero Projects, he is a best-selling author of *Beyond Kuiper*, *Above The Ground*, *Dark Wing*, and *The Adventures of Adrienne James*. Medney has led major collaborations with icons like Floyd Mayweather Jr., Shaggy, Steve Aoki, and brands such as Disney, the NFL, Coca-Cola, and Live Nation's Rolling Loud.

He made history by bringing comic books to the NFL with the Bobby Wagner and Seattle Seahawks graphic novel on Monday Night Football. Medney was also Head Writer for the \$300M-raised MMO *Star Atlas* and continues to innovate in online gaming.

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TITLES



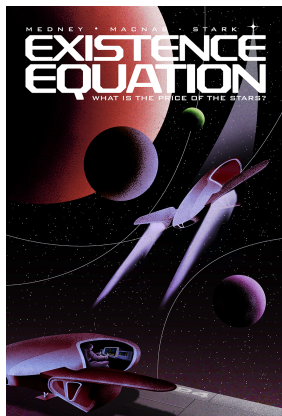
LAST BREEDS: Created by Matthew Medney | Written by Jonathan Ball | Story by Ball, Medney & G.M.B. Chomichuk | Art by Scott Henderson | Design by G.M.B. Chomichuk

A brutal, high-octane journey through a ruined America where beasts and men fight for the soul of what remains.

After biotech conglomerate Gencore poisons humanity's DNA, civilization collapses. The few survivors are stalked by drones, raiders, and madness. Hidden in the wilderness with a pack of genetically enhanced predators, a former soldier reemerges when he finds a girl who might carry the key to saving humanity. Together, they journey across scorched wastelands, decaying cities, and cult-infested zones to reach a lab rumored to hold a cure. Part *The Road*, part *The Revenant*, *Last Breeds* is an intense sci-fi thriller that questions what it means to be human when humanity is on its last breath.

"LAST BREEDS is EPIC! It blends the bombast of an old-school action/adventure with the intelligence of a modern-day drama."

— **Scott Snyder**, Eisner Award Winning Writer (Absolute Batman)



EXISTENCE EQUATION: Written by Matthew Medney & Don Macnab-Stark

Live forever as an android in space—or die human on a perfect Earth. One teenager must choose.

In 2293, Earth has become a sustainable paradise—but at a steep price. At 18, every person must make The Decision: upload your consciousness into an emotionless synthetic body and explore the stars for eternity, or remain fully human and die at 60. For Liam Kerr, what was once a clear choice becomes an agonizing dilemma as he is torn between love, ambition, and the mysteries of the galaxy.

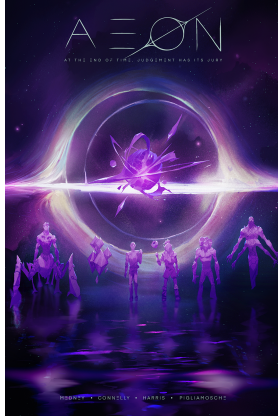
Combining thrilling speculative ideas with a coming-of-age story, *Existence Equation* explores the meaning of identity, mortality, and the cost of freedom in a world where utopia demands sacrifice.

"The Existence Equation embodies everything I adore about science fiction... What is the cost of immortality? What is the price of glory? What does it truly mean to be fully alive?"

— **Jim Krueger**, Eisner Award-winning creator, NYT's Best Selling author *Justice*, *Earth X*

"Matthew Medney and Don Macnab-Stark are SFF writers to look out for. *The Existence Equation* is fast-paced adventurous fun that powers along the cosmic highway."

— **Paul Cornell**, Hugo Award Nominated, *New York Times* Best Selling Author (*Dr. Who*, *Fantastic Four*, *Elementary*)



AEON: Created and Written by Matthew Medney, John Connelly & Joe Harris | Art by Lorenza Pigliamosche | Design by Samah

At the edge of time, the final consciousnesses in the universe must decide: preserve existence—or let it all end.

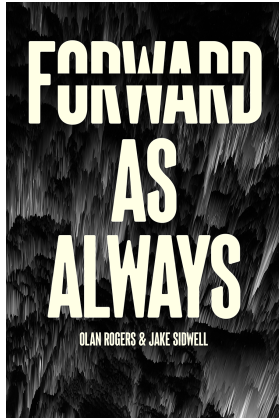
As the cosmos collapses into a final black hole, seven sentient beings—the last descendants of stardust—gather to recount the failures, glories, and mysteries of their ancestors. In this lyrical, deeply philosophical narrative, science fiction becomes spiritual reflection as the characters debate whether to seed a new universe or embrace extinction.

Combining the heady metaphysics of *classic cosmic sci-fi*, the surrealism of Terry Gilliam, and the vision of Arthur C. Clarke, *Aeon* is a mesmerizing meditation on identity, legacy, and the infinite.

“A sprawling sci-fi epic! *Aeon* asks the fundamental question, Who are we? Medney, Connelly & Harris with the art of Pigliamosche created the modern day Sandman, esoteric ideas wrapped inside an out-of-this-world (and outside of space time) setting.”
— **Eric Bromberg**, Founder of Bizaar Animation Studios

“*Aeon* is part Terry Gilliam and part Isaac Asimov, a race to the finish at the end of all reality, and a battle to decide what comes next. It's the perfect modern update of the high-concept, provocative storytelling that first sparked a love of science fiction in so many of us.”

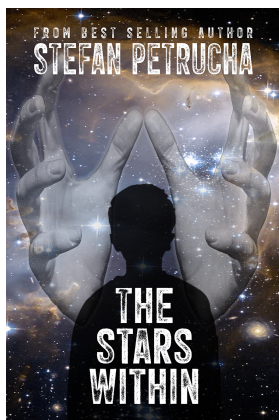
— **Steve Orlando**, Harvey Award Winner & Eisner Nominated Writer (*Wonder Woman*, *Spider-man 2099*, *Scarlet Witch*)



FORWARD AS ALWAYS: By Olan Rogers & Jake Sidwell | Prose

Mysterious fires. Relentless storms. And a vow to endure.

A dwindling population on the verge of collapse. A messenger haunted by fire. In a world ruled by fear, a young survivor defies the warnings of the powerful and follows the smoke – searching for others who still believe in the maxim that made them Galileians. A bold, emotionally charged narrative from beloved creators Olan Rogers and Jake Sidwell, *Forward As Always* is a gripping story of survival, faith, and resistance in the face of chaos



THE STARS WITHIN: By Stefan Petrucha | Prose

A sprawling sci-fi epic exploring faith, tyranny, and survival.

Wyrn may be the World Soul destined to bring peace—or a child caught in a galactic war he can't control. As he seeks his father, the man behind a mysterious and dangerous weapon, empires clash, religions collide, and uneasy alliances are forged. Featuring a richly imagined universe, unforgettable

characters, and six intertwining narratives, *The Stars Within* is speculative fiction at its most ambitious and emotionally resonant.

“Stefan writes *very* addictive prose. As soon as one chapter finished, I needed the next. The level of world-building in just 300-odd pages is incredible. The characters are very alien but very real – especially in the depiction of the zher/zhim Os – one of many truly original creations in *The Stars Within*.
It’s a great read!”

– **Charlie Adlard** (The Walking Dead)

DON'T FEAR



YOUR ROAR
DARIAN SANDERS

DON'T FEAR YOUR ROAR: By Darian Sanders | Prose Memoir | From GUNGNIR's imprint
Storyteller Media

From humble beginnings to Broadway—faith, fire, and finding your roar.

In this inspiring memoir, Darian Sanders shares his journey from a small-town church in Kentucky to playing Simba in the North American tour of *The Lion King*. A powerful story of faith, perseverance, and identity, *Don't Fear Your Roar* is a testament to what happens when spiritual devotion meets artistic ambition—and what it takes to truly believe in your path.

Titles planned for 2027 and beyond include:

- ***The Dangerous History Saga*** — Harvey Award winner and Eisner-nominated writer—and GUNGNIR's own Executive Editor—Steve Orlando brings his *Dangerous History* saga to life: an epic chronicle of the rise, reign, and fall of an empire, told through the eyes of those bold enough to defy fate. Set across three sweeping eras, this science fantasy tale explores a world shattered by conquest and rebuilt through rebellion, revealing how myth, memory, and the

written word shape the course of civilization. From invasion to insurrection, no weapon proves more dangerous than the truth. Coming 2027.

- ***Never a Neverboy*** - The New York Times best-selling author, Eisner award-winning author of the definitive DC Justice League book *Justice* with Alex Ross, Jim Krueger, who sits as GUNGNIR's Editor-in-Chief, is set to deliver one of the greatest tales of our generation. *Never A Neverboy: 1905* is the first in a sweeping trilogy that reimagines the Peter Pan mythology and dares to ask what happened next. Peter is still the hero, so is Tink. And so are all the lost boys and girls. Welcome, if you dare, to the great adventure to come. Coming 2027.