



## **The Tangled Lands** **by Paolo Bacigalupi and Tobias S Buckell** **Saga Press**

### **Praise**

"Bacigalupi and Buckell have individually explored the effect of mankind's disastrous relationship with the environment in other speculative novels. Together in *The Tangled Lands*, they create a damaged world that is frightening in its implications for human suffering. Readers looking for dystopian fantasy with strong female characters will devour the stories of this world and eagerly wait for more."

—Shelf Awareness

"Paolo Bacigalupi and Tobias S. Buckell team up to bring a gripping fantasy to life in *The Tangled Lands*, where a tyrant tries to build an empire in a land crippled by magic."

—*Kirkus Reviews*

"Better known for their science fiction, Buckell and Bacigalupi are adept in their use of fantasy motifs. Khaim is textured, a vivid setting only begun to be explored. The authors concentrate on the deep losses of the poor, treating the characters with compassion as they reveal their secret strengths and weaknesses...Subtext aside, the novellas succeed as action-packed individual stories. A full-length novel set in Khaim might next be in order. Bacigalupi and Buckell have certainly created a fictional environment seeded with narrative potential."

—*San Francisco Chronicle*

"Conceptual, morally ambiguous, and incredibly timely, *The Tangled Lands* explores well-wrought narratives of feminism and environmental justice in a beautifully-crafted fantasy world that drips with rich lore and details at every turn....I highly recommend *The Tangled Lands* for readers who enjoy high-fantasy whirlwind journeys through strange worlds, all the while maintaining a complex, nuanced, and profound connection to our own."

—*The Oberlin Review*

"All four stories are beautiful, subtle and well worth every moment spent reading them. Their writers understand not just how to give readers what they want but also how to write stories that couldn't have happened any other way."

—*Bookpage*

"A rich and haunting novel that explores a world where magic is forbidden."

—*Washington Post*

"*The Tangled Lands* feels like a well-imagined beginning, like there's more to see and more to be said—not only about the choices made by those in Khaim, but about the choices made by each of us."

—Tor.com

**"You should read this book if you like:** Fantasy, [The Windup Girl](#), crumbling empires, toxic magic, environmental collapse, unlikely heroes ."

—Goodreads Blog

"These four stories, alternating between the two authors, are all excellent. They are interesting, with wonderfully written characters - and each shines a different light upon the problem of magic use causing the brambles. Each story has its own ending, but with all four of them on the same topic, they easily bleed right into the next one. You really won't want to stop reading."

—@biblioholicbeth (Powell's bookseller)

"I loved the world building in this book of four short stories set during the same time period in a world where magic has been banned by a corrupt government because dangerous brambles grow when it is used. Follow four unique perspectives – an alchemist, an Executioness, two formerly rich siblings, and a female blacksmith – as they live, work, and try to survive in the world as it changes before their eyes."

—RJ Julia Bookstore, Lindsey

"These stories were so different yet it all weaved a better picture of a broken world with people just trying their best to survive despite all odds. This is not an easy collection to read by any means, it covers human depravity, but also human hope. It was an interesting concept, and if you are in for a read that will leave you questioning humanity, maybe check this one out!"

— A Science Girl in a Fantasy World

"4/5 stars, a dark and thought provoking read."

—@amandareynoldss

"The world building is top form. You get a real sense of the world the characters are in. You get a real sense of where the characters are. You get a sense of the politics, of the people, of everything going on around them. And that's so unusual in fantasy... The characters are so well done. You end up being taken on such a thrill ride with these characters, even in these very short novellas. It's genuinely brilliant and I can wholeheartedly recommend this book."

—Bald Book Geek (1.4K subscribers)

"THE TANGLED LANDS is a beautiful read with complex magic, complicated characters, and corrupted power."

—All Things Urban Fantasy

"I found the book surprisingly hopeful. Resistance in the face of a corrupt government and broken systems can take many forms. Even though the characters live in constant fear, they all find ways to resist, even if it's just standing up for doing what's right. In today's climate of distrust and fake news, it's both devastating and yet encouraging."

—*Lightspeed Magazine*

"In short, Bacigalupi and Buckell have created a poetic parable that captures the sort of hard, hard issues encountered in contemporary technology and ecology. It is particularly delicious to contemplate how natural selection has evolved species to exploit an abundant resource (magic). Duh! Of course it would! ... This book is a interesting collaboration of these two authors. Reportedly, these guys worked together over a number of years to create the world with its ecology, society, and the backstory. The collection is two stories each by Bacigalupi and Buckell, set in this lavishly detailed fantasy world they created. The four separate stories are beautifully similar in tone and theme, and, of course, perfectly aligned with the fictional world. This is a very fine book, topnotch fantasy."

— - Robert McGrath

"There is a wonderful exoticism to the tale and it has a real 1001 nights feel about it. Nefarious wizards, plants that kill and family strife all mesh well together to create a very satisfying whole."

— Laura N. Educator

"This is a clever, well-done design. The feathering and blending is expertly done. It combines a lot of commutative elements in a simplistic way. It's honestly genius."

— Author, MS Weech

"READ IT. What a cool fuggin concept. I really love the way the story was written sort of like chronological short stories?? Awesome."

—Will Read for Booze

"I was so impressed by this book. Bacigalupi and Buckell's team synergy is only more apparent as the book continues...*The Tangled Lands* is this perfect melding between social justice, rebellion, and hope that is seamlessly interwoven throughout these four stories."

— Utopia State of Mind

"The Tangled Lands is a strong example of fantasy for readers who enjoy this genre. The authors work together, breaking the landscape they create together into smaller sections, and they create a complex world. Like many books of its kind, The Tangled Lands is a kind of geographic journey in an imagined space."

—DeHart Reading and Literature Resources

"The four personal mini-tales provide an interesting and unique form to tell the story of the last blue city. The street-level view of each perspective provides the necessary intimacy of the normal person's plight, especially in relation to the Mayor and the Archmage. Each individual story is quite enticing, and work well as standalone pieces."

—Read Well Reviews

"I enjoyed everything about this book, except it's length. I wish it could have gone on much longer!! I hope that everyone who reads this review, and loves fantasy will buy this book. Please, give these two authors reason to write another, longer book in this fascinating world. Until then, I'm definitely looking up some of their backlist. I enjoyed their style and look forward to reading more from both of them."

—Lost in A Good Book

Ok ... when I think of [#coverlove](#) I think of covers like this! Can we just take a moment to sit and admire the beauty of the art? 📖 Ok now... let's talk about the contents lol. A huge thank you to [@sagasff](#) for sending me this book. This book is essentially 4 stories set in the same world. When stories are disjointed like this it makes it more difficult for me to read. It's just not my personal style, but others may find it more appealing. I'll leave the synopsis below. Have you read it? What did you think?

—@ladyofthelibrary

"I loved this collection, I thought each story was dark and explored different aspects of the brokenness of this world...safe to say I am a fan."

—A Science Girl in a Fantasy World

"*The Tangled Lands* is a richly imaginative fantasy that also functions as a transparent environmental allegory"

— Maggie Reads Blog

"I had read about it and I didn't get what I thought, which was actually a nice surprise... The first story is excellent, you are on the edge of your seat, you feel the tragedy, this man has a young daughter and he really is only trying to create a world that will be safer for her... The political intrigue is really good, the device is interesting, the bad guys are internally bad and it's really really good. The second story... it is really good, she is a fantastic character (the Executioness) as in who she becomes. Edge of your seatguys. The first two and the last one are absolutely worth the price of the book, *The Tangled Lands*. Thank you for writing your book, I really enjoyed."

— Ink and Paper blog

"*The Executioness* was actually my favorite in this collection."

—Sam's Nonsense

- [@jenabrownwrites](#) CONFIRMED review to come

## Interviews, Guest Posts, and Excerpts

- **John Scalzi's Big Idea** RAN guest [post](#) "The Big Idea: Tobias Buckell" on 2/27
  - **SF Blustocking** RAN [pickup](#) of Big Idea on 3/4
- [tor.com](#) (2 million UMs) RAN [excerpt](#) "*Tangled Lands*: The Blacksmith's Daughter" on 2/21 (WK/ES)
- [tor.com](#) (2 million UMs) RAN [excerpt](#) "*The Tangled Lands*: The Children of Khaim" on 2/15
- **Powell's** RAN [interview](#) "Powell's Q&A: Paolo Bacigalupi and Tobias S. Buckell, Authors of 'The Tangled Lands'" on 3/2 (SS/JM)

## Features, Mentions & Giveaways

- **Shelf Awareness** RAN [mention](#) “Attainment: New Titles Out Next Week” on 2/22 (SS)
- **Kirkus Reviews** RAN [mention](#) “The Best Science Fiction & Fantasy Books to Read in February” on 1/31/18 (SS)
- **Locus Magazine** RAN [mention](#) in “New Books” on 2/27 (SS)
- **Washington Post** RAN [mention](#) in “Best New Science Fiction and Fantasy this Month” on 2/9
  - **The Seattle Times** RAN [pickup](#) of *Washington Post* review
  - **@ebooknerdsHD** RAN [pickup](#) of *Washington Post* review
- **Goodreads Blog** (50 million UMs) RAN [mention](#) in “7 Buzzy Books Hitting Shelves Today” on 2/27
- **Gizmodo/io9** RAN [mention](#) in “Get Cozy With 18 New Science Fiction and Fantasy Books This February” on 2/1
- **tor.com** (2 million UMs) RAN cover [reveal](#) “Dangerous Magic: Revealing *The Tangled Lands* by Paolo Bacigalupi and Tobias S. Buckell” on 9/7/17 (SS)
- **The Strand Blog** RAN [mention](#) in “Strand Book Unmissable Books” on 4/2
- **Bryan Prince Bookseller** RAN [mention](#) in “New Releases-February 28, 2018” on 2/28
- **Barnes and Noble Science Fiction and Fantasy Blog** RAN [mention](#) in “This Week’s New Sci-Fi & Fantasy Books: Love and Sea Monsters, Choking Magical Vines, and Ravenous Mermaids,” on 2/27
- **Book People** RAN [mention](#) in list “New Releases 2/27” on 2/27
- **Powell’s** RAN [mention](#) in “Staff Pick Recommendation” on 2/27
- **Changing Hands** RAN [mention](#) in list “New Releases February 25, 2018-March 3, 2018” on 2/25
- **Barnes & Noble Science Fiction & Fantasy Blog** RAN [mention](#) in “The Best Science Fiction & Fantasy Books of February 2018” on 2/1
- **Barnes & Noble Science Fiction & Fantasy Blog** RAN [mention](#) in “95 Books Sci-Fi Fantasy Editors Can’t Wait for you to Read in 2018” on 1/8
- **A Science Girl in a Fantasy World** RAN [mention](#) in “March Wrap Up” on 3/31
- **Books, Bones and Buffy** RAN [mention](#) in “Overbooked- A Book Haul post” on 3/10
- **Bibliosanctum** RAN [mention](#) in list “Mogsy’s Bookshelf Roundup” on 3/10
- **Urban Fantasy Investigations** RAN [mention](#) in “New Releases: 2/25-3/3” on 2/27
- **Rabid Reads** RAN [feature](#) in “Fresh Meat February 25 to March 3” on 2/26
- **Nerds of a Feather** RAN [spotlight](#) in “New Books Spotlight” on 2/14
- **A Science Girl in a Fantasy World** RAN [mention](#) in “Most Anticipated SFF releases from the first half of 2018 (January-June)” on 2/8
- **Blackgate Magazine** RAN [spotlight](#) in “Future Treasures: The Tangled Lands by Paolo Bacigalupi and Tobias S. Buckell” on 2/5
- **The Qwillery** RAN [mention](#) in “February 2018 Releases” on 2/1

- **SF Bluestocking** RAN [mention](#) in “The SF Bluestocking 2018 Winter Reading List” on 1/9
- **Book Stack Samber** RAN [mention](#) in “Top Ten Tuesday: Books On My Spring TBR” on 3/20
- **Chrikarublog** RAN [spotlight](#) in “Waiting on Wednesday: Why I Can’t Wait to Read This” on 3/20
  - **EchoChamber Uncut** RAN [pickup](#) “Waiting on Wednesday” post on 3/7
- **Fresh Fiction** RAN [mention](#) in “Not To Miss March Titles” on 3/12
- **Uptown Oracle** RAN [mention](#) in “March Book Releases” on 3/1
- **No More Grumpy Bookseller** RAN [mention](#) in “New Releases 2/27/18” on 2/27
- **Under the Covers Book Blog** RAN [mention](#) in “New Releases for February 27, 2018” on 2/27
- **Howlin’ Books** RAN [mention](#) in list “New Releases Tuesday” on 2/27
- **For the Love of Words** RAN [mention](#) in “Something to Look Forward to-Week of February 26th” on 2/26
- **Seriously Books** RAN [spotlight](#) in “The Tangled Lands: The Children of Khaim” on 2/15
- **World Herald 24** RAN [spotlight](#) in “February 2018 Sees Launch of 3 Science Fiction Books” on 2/15
- **DeHart Reading and Literature Resources** RAN [feature](#) in “A Note on The Tangled Lands by Paolo Bacigalupi and Tobias S. Buckell” on 2/9
- **Watt Electrical News** RAN [mention](#) in “18 new Sci-Fi and Fantasy books to keep you company while working FIFO” on 2/6
- **Gadgets 360** RAN [mention](#) in “Three Science Fiction Novels Releasing in February 2018” on 1/30
- **Nana’s Fantastical Reads** RAN [mention](#) “Most Anticipated Releases 2018” on 1/16
- **Madame Writer** RAN [mention](#) in “Books I’m Excited for February, 2018” on 1/13
- **Powder & Page** RAN [feature](#) in “Waiting On Wednesday: The Tangled Lands by Paolo Bacigalupi and Tobias S. Buckell” on 1/10
- **Author, MS Weech** RAN cover [reveal](#) “Book Cover of the Day” on 3/12
- **Mary Robinette Kowal’s Blog** RAN [mention](#) in “My Favorite Bit on 3/6” (WK/BR)

## Instagram, Twitter, Podcast and Videos

- **Bookriot** RAN [podcast](#) “New Releases and More for February 27, 2018” on 2/27
- **@HoZ\_Books Head of Zeus** (UK Based Independent Publisher, 7,800 followers) RAN [tweet](#) on 3/8
- **The Neverending Bookshop** RAN Instagram [post](#) (375 followers, 29 likes on photo) on 2/27
- **BN Portage** (435 followers) RAN on-sale tweet [photo](#) on 2/27
- **@Borderlands\_new** (5,048 followers) RAN [tweet](#) on 2/27
- **Tiny Book Dragon** RAN video [mention](#) in “March Book Haul” on 3/22

- **MissKyle Reads** (1.8K subscribers) RAN video [mention](#) in “Winter 2018 Book Haul” on 3/12
- **MissKyle Reads** (1.8K subscribers) RAN [video](#) “January and February 2018 Wrap-up” on 3/9
- **Bald Book Geek** (1.4K subscribers, 52 views on video) RAN [video](#) on 3/6
- **Tiny Book Dragon** (1,023 subscribers) RAN video [mention](#) in “February Book Haul + Unboxing” on 2/24
- **@sfsignal** (22.4K followers) RAN shoutout [tweet](#) in 2/10
- **Toast Dragon Fantasy** (414 subscribers, 155 views) RAN [video](#) “Wonderful Winter Fantasy Releases 2018” on 1/5
- **Ink and Paper Blog** (4.8K subscribers) RAN video [review](#) in “March Wrap Up 2018” on 4/3
- **Sam’s Nonsense** (14K subscribers) RAN video [review](#) in “March Reading Wrap-Up! | 2018” on 4/2 (WK)
- **Sam’s Nonsense** (14K subscribers) RAN video [mention](#) in “My Big February Haul” on 2/27
- **Eclectic Reads** (399 subscribers) RAN video [mention](#) in “My Week in Books | February 18, 2018” on 2/18
- **Sam’s Nonsense** (14K subscribers) RAN [video](#) “My 2018 Anticipated Releases | Fantasy” on 1/15
- **@jenabrownwrites** (1,578 followers, 118 likes on photo) RAN Instagram [post](#) on 4/2
- **@stabbetha** (160 followers, 22 likes on photo) RAN Instagram [post](#) on 3/31
- **@ladyofthelibrary** (12.7K followers, 487 likes on photo) RAN Instagram [post](#) on 3/25
- **@milliebot\_reads** (1123 followers, 68 likes on photo) RAN Instagram [post](#) on 3/20
- **@eviebookish** (73.7K followers, 1912 likes on photo) RAN Instagram [post](#) giveaway on 3/28
- **@inkandpaperblog** (683 followers, 66 likes on photo) RAN Instagram [post](#) on 3/17
- **@bibliotrix.lestrange** (7,671 followers, 474 likes on photo) RAN Instagram [post](#) giveaway on 3/16
- **@myfriendsarefiction** (42.3K followers, 528 likes on photo) RAN Instagram [post](#) giveaway on 3/15 (WK)
- **@theshybooks** (10.4K followers, 253 likes on photo) RAN Instagram post [giveaway](#) on 3/14 (WK)
- **@Deertales** (11.4K followers, 296 likes on photo) RAN Instagram [post](#) on 3/14 (WK)
- **Sam’s Nonsense** (4,459 followers, 169 likes on photo) RAN Instagram [post](#) on 3/14 (WK)
- **@berrybookpages** (10.5K followers, 511 likes on photo) RAN Instagram [giveaway](#) on 3/13 (WK)
- **@spinatale** (9,030 followers, 350 likes on photo) RAN Instagram [giveaway](#) on 3/13 (WK)
- **@pagewithaview** (30.6K followers, 1,700 likes on photo) RAN Instagram [giveaway](#) on 3/11 (WK)



- **@Sassenachthebookwizard** (661 followers, 30 likes on photo) RAN Instagram [post](#) on 3/11
- **@Readandfindout** (347 followers, 55 likes on photo) RAN Instagram [post](#) on 3/9
- **@Sassenachthebookwizard** (661 followers, 39 likes on photo) RAN Instagram [post](#) on 3/9
- **@Baldbookgeek** (2,578 followers, 10 likes on photo) RAN Instagram [post](#) on 3/6 (WK)
- **@book.happy** (8291 followers, 426 likes on photo) RAN Instagram [post](#) on 2/28
- **@Readandfindout** (347 followers, 35 likes) RAN Instagram [post](#) on 2/27
- **@WunderbooksPR** (1,555 followers, 121 likes on photo) RAN Instagram [post](#) on 2/27 (WK)
- **@baldbookgeek** (2,568 followers, 11 likes on photo) RAN Instagram [post](#) on 2/26
- **@booksabound** (519 followers, 17 likes on photo) RAN Instagram [post](#) on 2/19
- **@WunderbooksPR** (1,555 followers, 130 likes on photo) RAN Instagram [photo](#) on 1/19 (WK)
- **@AlexSteffen** (28.2K twitter followers) RAN [tweet](#) on 1/3
- **@utopia.state.of.mind** (1,021 followers, 89 likes on photo) RAN Instagram [post](#) on 12/1/17

## Event Listings

- **East End Books** RAN book signing [news](#) on 3/8