

Warhammer 40,000 – the Definitive Fiction Collection

Part 1: £1.99 (about \$3)

Review by Jonathan Aird

When I started wargaming, there was a friendly local game store ó well, it wasn't so very local, but it was friendly enough -- that specialised in fantasy and science fiction ó but had lots of other games as well. I think they still had some of their



wooden breadboards made into solitaire sets with marbles as playing pieces. Who'd have ever thought that Games Workshop would become a behemoth bestriding the world of miniatures games?

I thought I'd seen just about every GW spin-off there was, but here's something new: a collectible partwork published on a fortnightly basis, reprinting the most important Warhammer 40K novels and short story collections. Apparently, there are hundreds to pick from! In a nice, imposing, hardback format, they come complete with new introductions and some colour pages in the middle with illustrations relating to the story. There's also a large poster with a typically dramatic scene of Space Marines in combat.

As is usual with partworks, the first issue is a bargain at £1.99, next issue will be £6.99 and then it's £9.99 for í well, that's the thing they never quite make clear, how long it will run for!



There's a picture of a row of volumes with the spines making up a huge Warhammer 40K scene ó and there's maybe 80 books in that illustration. So, a couple of years and nearly £1,000 should see the collection complete. There are a number of free gifts offered to subscribers ó including game-themed coasters, a themed notebook, and a Warhammer 40k drinking tankard. The book looks nice. I haven't read it yet but it's to do with the early part of the Imperium and the rise of the Horus Heresy. That's all I can say right now, but I like SF in general, it certainly looked attractive and I thought it was worth trying for £1.99! Warhammer 40K players might be interested in the series, as it offers a wealth of background story for the games over and above the background material in the various rule books and army lists.