

RANDOM  RECOMMENDS...

Forthcoming School-Appropriate Titles

For your convenience, Mass Market (MM) and Trade Paperback (Tr Pbk) titles are indicated with an asterisk. Where available, we'll provide reading and interest level information in bright red.

If you'd like further information on any of the titles herein, we encourage you to contact your Random House, Inc. sales rep or visit our high school web site:

<http://www.randomhouse.com/highschool>

The Tent by Margaret Atwood

In this collection of fictional essays, Margaret Atwood, author of *The Handmaid's Tale* and *Oryx and Crake* gives a sly pep talk to the ambitious young, writes about the disconcerting experience of looking at old photos of ourselves, gives us Horatio's real views on Hamlet, and examines the boons and banes of orphanhood.

Chilling and witty, prescient and personal, delectable and tart, *The Tent* is vintage Atwood.

Nan A. Talese | HC | January 2006 | 0-385-51668-1 | 176 pages | \$18.00

Reading Level: 9

***Articles of War**

by Nick Arvin

"A short, furious novel. . . . *Articles of War* presents a tough and visceral vision of war as 'a universe unto itself and a moral crucible.'"

—*The New York Times*

"Short, spare, and beautiful, guided by a precision and a sweeping imaginative intelligence that reminds one intensely of Stephen Crane's *Red Badge of Courage*."

—*O, The Oprah Magazine*

"Extraordinary. . . . *Articles of War* explores the emotional turmoil of war, with the spin of an adolescent forced to reckon with the role he plays in an act of brutality and violence."

—*Rocky Mountain News*

Anchor | Tr Pbk | February 2006 | 1-4000-7734-6 | 192 pp. | \$12.95/\$17.95 (Canada)

Reading Level: 8

***Uncle Tom or New Negro?: African Americans Reflect on Booker T. Washington and Up from Slavery 100 Years Later** Edited by Rebecca Carroll

Includes Washington's classic memoir *Up from Slavery*

On the ninetieth anniversary of Booker T. Washington's death comes a passionate, provocative dialogue on his complicated legacy, including the complete text of his classic autobiography, *Up from Slavery*.

Uncle Tom or New Negro? does much more than provide yet another critical edition of Washington's memoirs. In a dazzling collection bursting with invigorating and varying perspectives, (e.g. What would Booker T. think of Sean Combs or Russell Simmons? Was Washington a "tragic buffoon" or "a giver of hope to those on the margins of the margins"?) this cutting-edge book will allow students to reach their own conclusions about a controversial and perhaps ultimately enigmatic figure.

Harlem Moon | Tr Pbk | January 2006 | 0-7679-1955-6 | 512 pages | \$15.95/\$22.95 (Canada)

Reading Level: 9

***Beowulf: A Dual-Language Edition** Translated and with an Introduction and Commentary by Howell D. Chickering Jr.

Leading *Beowulf* scholar Howell D. Chickering, Jr.'s, fresh and lively translation, featuring the Old English on facing pages, allows the student to encounter *Beowulf* as poetry. This edition incorporates recent scholarship and provides historical and literary context for the modern reader. It includes the following: an introduction; a guide to reading aloud; a chart of royal genealogies; notes on the background of the poem; critical commentary; glosses on the eight most famous passages, for the student who wishes to translate from the original and; an extensive bibliography.

"It is everywhere vigorous. . . . Chickering enjoys the poem immensely, and this attractive attitude shines everywhere. . . . This book is valuable for its extended literary appreciations and its facing text."

—*Library Journal*

Anchor | Tr Pbk | February 2006 | 1-4000-9622-7 | 464 pp. | \$15.95/\$22.95 (Canada)

Reading Level: 10

Pirate's Passage

by William Gilkerson

Off the coast of Nova Scotia in 1952, fierce winds force a small boat into port. The boat's pilot, an eccentric old sea captain, takes residence at a small inn run by young Jim and his mother. The captain's presence soon becomes invaluable—and Jim and his mother will never be the same again. But who is this odd and mysterious man who tells such engrossing and detailed stories about pirates, whom he likes to call "the Brotherhood of the Sea"?

Part adventure story, part coming-of-age tale, and part history of the pirates, this brilliant and delightful book will especially appeal to readers ages ten to fourteen—and to anyone interested in the world of pirates.

Trumpeter | HC | January 2006 | 1-59030-247-8 | 400 pages | \$17.95/\$25.95 (Canada)

Reading Level: 6

***My Jim: A Novel**

by Nancy Rawles

Teacher's Guide Available

"Rawles covers territory Twain did not: Jim's early life in captivity, his seemingly endless struggle for freedom, his love for his wife and children, his impossible anguish upon separation.... Certainly if *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* is presented to school children as their introduction to American slavery, as it sometimes has been in the past, then the deeply felt and moving *My Jim* would be a welcome accompaniment."

—*The New York Times Book Review*

Crown | Tr Pbk | January 2006 | 1-4000-5401-X | 192 pp. | \$12.95/\$17.95 (Canada)

Reading Level: 9

***The Americas: A Hemispheric History**

by Felipe Fernandez-Armesto

Leading historian Felipe Fernandez-Armesto tells the story of our hemisphere as a whole, showing why it is impossible to understand North, Central, and South America in isolation without turning to the intertwining forces that shape the region. Fernandez-Armesto covers a range of cultural, political, and social subjects, taking us from the dawn of human migration to North America to the Colonial and Independence periods to the "American Century" and beyond.

"An imaginative, intelligent and sprightly volume that, in the space of some two hundred pages, races through the history of the Western hemisphere—from prehistoric times to the present."

—*The Washington Post Book World*

Modern Library | Tr Pbk | January 2006 | 0-8129-7554-5 | 256 pp. | \$11.95/\$16.95 (Canada)

Reading Level: 11

Snow Flower and the Secret Fan: A Novel

by Lisa See

With the period detail and deep resonance of *Memoirs of a Geisha*, this lyrical and emotionally charged novel delves into one of the most profound human relationships: friendship. A moving exploration of the power of memory, the dangers of oppression, and the redemptive powers of language.

"A nuanced exploration of women's friendship and women's writing in a remote corner of Imperial China."

—*Kirkus Reviews*

Random House | Tr Pbk | 0-8129-6806-9 | 288 pp. | \$13.95/\$21.00 (Canada)

Reading Level: 8

***Prep: A Novel**

by Curtis Sittenfeld

Lee Fiora is an intelligent, observant fourteen-year-old when her father drops her off in front of her dorm at the prestigious Ault School in Massachusetts. Ultimately, Lee's experiences there—complicated relationships with teachers; intense friendships with other girls; an all-consuming preoccupation with a classmate who is less than a boyfriend and more than a crush; and conflicts with her parents, from whom Lee feels increasingly distant—coalesce into a singular portrait of the painful and thrilling adolescence that will be of particular interest to high school students.

"Sittenfeld neither indulges nor mocks teen angst, but hits it spot on.... Sittenfeld... proves herself a natural in this poignant, truthful book."

—*Publishers Weekly*

Random House Trade Paperbacks | Tr Pbk | November 2005 | 0-8129-7235-X | 448 pp. | \$13.95/\$21.00 (Canada)

Reading Level: 6

***Letters to a Young Artist: Straight-up Advice on Making a Life in the Arts—For Actors, Performers, Writers, and Artists of Every Kind**

by Anna Deavere Smith

"Anna Deavere Smith's clear, honest responses to a younger artist's questions offer a philosophical stance on what it is to be an artist.... Her advice is as relevant to a youngster just beginning to explore artistic options as it is to adults already accomplished in their art. What she has to say is not limited to any age, gender, language, culture, or choice of artistic endeavor." —Esmeralda Santiago, author of *When I Was Puerto Rican*

Anchor | Tr Pbk | January 2006 | 1-4000-3238-5 | 240 pp. | \$13.00/\$18.00 (Canada)

Reading Level: 8

***Break, Blow, Burn: Camille Paglia Reads Forty-three of the World's Best Poems**

by Camille Paglia

Break, Blow, Burn is destined to become a landmark. In it, America's premier intellectual provocateur explores and celebrates a series of great poems of the Western tradition, including some surprising discoveries of her own. She brings new energy and insight to our understanding of poems we already know, such as masterpieces by Shakespeare, Donne, Shelley, Dickinson, Lowell, and Plath. She leads us to appreciate the artistry of writers with whom students may not be familiar, such as Chuck Wachtel and Wanda Coleman. And she hails the songwriter Joni Mitchell as a major contemporary poet.

Daring, erudite, entertaining, and infused throughout with Paglia's inimitable style and passion, this beautifully written book—and the dazzling mind behind it—will entice readers to begin or renew a passionate engagement with poetry.

"Beautifully lucid. . . . An indisputably terrific primer for all students of literature in English."

—*Kirkus Reviews*

"She flies as high as you can go. . . . Bold and convincing. . . . Exemplary. . . . A rich book."

—*The New York Times Book Review*

"It will have students storming the walls of tomorrow's English departments, mad for poetry again."

—*St. Petersburg Times*

Vintage | Tr Pbk | January 2006 | 0-375-72539-3 | 272 pp. | \$12.95/\$17.95 (Canada)

Reading Level: 11

***The Eloquent President: A Portrait of Lincoln Through His Words**

by Ronald C. White, Jr.

The Eloquent President blends history, biography, and a deep intuitive appreciation for the quality of Lincoln's extraordinary mind. White captures the essence of the four most critical years of Lincoln's life and makes the great words live for our time in all their power and beauty.

"Ronald White shows us how Lincoln's words were both powerful and persuasive, giving voice and urgency to national union and emancipation."

—Tom Schwartz, Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library

Random House Trade Paperbacks | Tr Pbk | January 2006 | 0-8129-7046-2 | 480 pp. | \$15.95/\$22.95 (Canada)

Reading Level: 10