

RANDOM  RECOMMENDS...

New & Forthcoming School-Appropriate Titles

For your convenience, Mass Market (MM) and Trade Paperback (TR) titles are indicated with an asterisk.

Where available, reading and interest level information are provided in **bright red**.To request a review copy of any title listed here, please contact Kaiulani Kaneta at kkaneta@randomhouse.com.**The Prince of Frogtown***by Rick Bragg*

In this final volume of the beloved American saga that began with *All Over but the Shoutin'* and continued with *Ava's Man*, Rick Bragg closes his circle of family stories with an unforgettable tale about fathers and sons inspired by his own relationship with his ten-year-old stepson.

"Bragg continues in the vein of his legendary storytelling, breathing life into a father he barely knew while learning to love a son." —*Library Journal*

Knopf | HC | May 2008 | 978-1-4000-4040-7 | 272 pages | \$24.00

Reading Level: 7***The Rope Walk***by Carrie Brown*

New York Public Library Books for the Teen Age

In *The Rope Walk*, Carrie Brown crafts a luminous story of a young girl's coming of age during a crucial summer in New England.

"Beautifully written.... Captures the dignity and grace of a young woman coming into knowledge of herself and the world." —*Chicago Tribune*

"Gentle, lyrical.... Brown captures Alice's visceral response to the physical world." —*The Washington Post Book World*

Anchor | TR | May 2008 | 978-0-307-27809-8 | 336 pages | \$13.95

Reading Level: 6**Tigerheart***by Peter David*

Paul Dear is not your average boy. During the day he walks and talks with pixies, sprites, and other magical creatures that dwell inconspicuously in London's Kensington Gardens; at night he converses in his room with a boy, much like Paul himself, who beckons him from the mirror to come adventuring.

But everything changes when tragedy strikes, and Paul knows what must be done to set things right. So begins a quest that will lead him down the city's bustling streets to a curio shop where a magical ally awaits to jettison him into the starry skies, bound for a realm where anything is possible.

Del Rey | HC | June 2008 | 978-0-345-50159-2 | 304 pages | \$22.00

Reading Level: 10**Planetwalker: 22 Years of Walking. 17 Years of Silence.***by John Francis*

After witnessing the devastating effects of the 1971 oil spill in San Francisco Bay, John Francis began a remarkable, solitary pilgrimage that would irrevocably change his life.

An amazing human-interest story, with a vital message about saving our environment, *Planetwalker* is also an engaging coming-of-age odyssey—the positive experiences, the challenging times, the characters encountered, and the learning gained along the way.

National Geographic | HC | April 2008 | 978-1-4262-0275-9
288 pages | \$26.00**Reading Level: 8*****O. Henry Prize Stories 2008***Edited by Laura Furman*

An annual collection of the twenty best contemporary short stories, as selected by series editor Laura Furman from hundreds of literary magazines, *The O. Henry Prize Stories 2008* is studded with extraordinary settings and characters: a teenager in survivalist Alaska, the seed keeper of a doomed Chinese village, a young woman trying to save her life in a Ukrainian internet café.

Also included are the winning writers' comments on what inspired them, a short essay from each of the three eminent jurors, and an extensive resource list of literary magazines.

Anchor | TR | May 2008 | 978-0-307-28034-3 | 400 pages | \$14.95

Reading Level: 11***Soon I Will Be Invincible***by Austin Grossman*

"Every comic-book cliché in this witty, stunning debut is lovingly embraced, then turned inside out." —*Wired Magazine*

"*Soon I Will Be Invincible* is a superhero story re-created with the great pleasure of an adult too old to play with action figures but young enough to remember the feeling of that childhood joy and translate it into prose." —*The Washington Post*

"The novel is as funny as it is introspective, as human as it is superhuman." —*National Public Radio*

Vintage | TR | June 2008 | 978-0-307-27986-6 | 336 pages | \$14.95

Reading Level: 6

***The Dark River**

by *John Twelve Hawks*

Two brothers born into a race of Travelers—prophets able to journey to different realms of consciousness—have just discovered that their long lost father may still be alive. Gabriel, who could be humanity's savior, wants to protect him. Michael, however, wants to destroy his father and humanity's hope for freedom. As they race across the globe, their frantic search puts them on a collision course, and the fate of the world hangs in the balance.

Vintage | MM | June 2008 | 978-0-307-38923-7 | 432 pages | \$7.99

Reading Level: 6

***Mister Pip**

by *Lloyd Jones*

2008 ALEX Award Winner
(Young Adult Library Services Association)

2008 Best Books for Young Adults
(Young Adult Library Services Association)

Commonwealth Writer's Prize Winner

Booker Prize Finalist

Teacher's Guide Available

"*Mister Pip* is a powerful and touching story about one man's role in transforming the lives of young people. Although these children live on an island left behind by the modern world, their plight reminded me of the challenges my very own students faced in the inner-city. This novel demands we take note of the sheer power of education and literature to transform the lives of young people—whatever their circumstances and wherever in the world they may be. Every high school teacher and student should read this book."

—Erin Gruwell, author of *The Freedom Writers Diary*

Dial Press | TR | May 2008 | 978-0-385-34107-3 | 272 pages | \$12.00

Reading Level: 9

***The Sirens of Baghdad**

by *Yasmina Khadra*; Translated by *John Cullen*

The third novel in Yasmina Khadra's bestselling trilogy about Islamic fundamentalism has the most compelling backdrop of any of his novels: Iraq in the wake of the American invasion.

"Khadra's work has been compared to that of his Algerian compatriot Albert Camus, and *The Sirens of Baghdad* has a similar blaze of heat, the same heavy, insoluble questions.... The novel builds to a startling and wrenching finish."

—*San Francisco Chronicle*

Anchor | TR | May 2008 | 978-0-307-38616-8 | 320 pages | \$13.95

Reading Level: 5

***Harriet Tubman: Imagining a Life**

by *Beverly Lowry*

"Beverly Lowry's brilliantly imaginative account of Harriet Tubman's incredible life is a valuable addition to the literature of American heroism—of African American and female American heroism in particular. Binding a novelist's vision of a lost, mostly unrecorded world with the discipline and scholarship of a first-rate historian, Lowry has written more than a mere biography."

—Russell Banks, author of *Cloudsplitter*

Anchor | TR | June 2008 | 978-0-385-72177-6 | 432 pages | \$15.95

Reading Level: 9

***Anne of Green Gables**

by *L.M. Montgomery*; Introduction by *Jack Zipes*

When eleven-year-old Anne Shirley arrives at Green Gables with nothing but a carpetbag and an overactive imagination, she knows that she has found her home. But first she must convince the Cuthberts to let her stay, even though she isn't the boy they'd hoped for.

This Modern Library edition of the first of L. M. Montgomery's beloved Avonlea novels features the restored original text and an introduction by the noted children's literature scholar Jack Zipes.

Modern Library | TR | June 2008 | 978-0-8129-7903-9 | 320 pages | \$8.00

Reading Level: 9

***Nefertiti**

by *Michelle Moran*

"Meticulously researched and richly detailed . . . an engrossing tribute to one of the most powerful and alluring women in history." —*The Boston Globe*

"Beautifully written and completely engrossing, this first novel should enjoy wide readership." —*Library Journal*

Three Rivers Press | TR | May 2008 | 978-0-307-38174-3

496 pages | \$14.95

Reading Level: 6

***The Opposite House**

by *Helen Oyeyemi*

In a dazzling follow-up to *The Icarus Girl*, Helen Oyeyemi explores the thin wall between myth and reality through the alternating tales of two young women and their search for the truth about faith and identity.

"Beautiful, meandering. . . . [A novel] about the difficulties of knowing who you are, especially if you are born of several incompatible cultures." —*The Times* (London)

Anchor | TR | June 2008 | 978-1-4000-7876-9 | 272 pages | \$13.95

Reading Level: 8

The Steel Wave

by Jeff Shaara

Jeff Shaara, America's premier author of military historical fiction, brings us the centerpiece of his epic trilogy of the Second World War.

From G.I. to general, this story carries the reader through the war's most crucial juncture, the invasion that altered the flow of the war, and, ultimately, changed history.

Ballantine Books | HC | May 2008 | 978-0-345-46142-1
528 pages | \$28.00

Reading Level: 6

*The Olympics For Beginners

by Brandon Toropov; Illustrated by Joe Lee

An accessible, illustrated introduction to the history of the Olympic Games.

The Olympics For Beginners provides an overview of the original Greek Games, leads us on a tour of the modern Olympic movement, and analyzes significant historical moments, such as Jesse Owens' triumph in the 1936 Berlin Games, and the tragic 1972 massacre of Israeli athletes in Munich.

For Beginners | TR | June 2008 | 978-1-934389-33-1 | 176 pages | \$14.95

Reading Level: 8

*Shakespeare For Beginners

by Brandon Toropov; Illustrated by Joe Lee

This book offers clear, concise descriptions and plot summaries of all of Shakespeare's plays; it lists key phrases and important themes, explains the main ideas behind each work, and features excerpts of important passages with explanatory notes on challenging words.

For Beginners | TR | June 2008 | 978-1-934389-29-4 | 224 pages | \$14.95

Reading Level: 8

Microcosm: *E. coli* and the New Science of Life

by Carl Zimmer

In the tradition of classics like Lewis Thomas's *Lives of a Cell*, Carl Zimmer has written a fascinating and utterly accessible investigation of what it means to be alive. Zimmer traces *E. coli*'s remarkable history, showing how scientists used it to discover how genes work and then to launch the entire biotechnology industry. While some strains of *E. coli* grab headlines by causing deadly diseases, scientists are retooling the bacteria to produce everything from human insulin to jet fuel.

Pantheon | HC | May 2008 | 978-0-375-42430-4 | 256 pages | \$25.95

Reading Level: 9

NEW DICTIONARIES

*Random House Webster's Compact American Sign Language Dictionary

by Elaine Costello, Ph.D.

Random House Reference | TR | June 2008 | 978-0-375-72277-6 | \$21.95

*Random House Webster's Pocket American Sign Language Dictionary

by Elaine Costello, Ph.D.

Random House Reference | TR | April 2008 | 978-0-375-72278-3 | \$7.95

Random House Webster's Unabridged American Sign Language Dictionary

by Elaine Costello, Ph.D.

Random House Reference | HC | June 2008 | 978-0-375-42616-2 | \$55.00

NEW IN TEST PREP

*Cracking the GED, 2009 Edition

by Princeton Review

Princeton Review | TR | June 2008 | 978-0-375-42865-4 | \$23.00

*Cracking the PSAT/NMSQT, 2009 Edition

by Princeton Review

Princeton Review | TR | June 2008 | 978-0-375-42866-1 | \$13.95

*Cracking the SAT, 2009 Edition

by Princeton Review

Princeton Review | TR | June 2008 | 978-0-375-42856-2 | \$19.95

*Cracking the TOEFL IBT with Audio CD, 2009 Edition

by Princeton Review

Princeton Review | TR | May 2008 | 978-0-375-42855-5 | \$32.95

NEW IN CRACKING THE.... SERIES

*Cracking the First Grade

by Princeton Review

Princeton Review | TR | May 2008 | 978-0-375-76602-2 | \$14.95

*Cracking the Second Grade

by Princeton Review

Princeton Review | TR | May 2008 | 978-0-375-76603-9 | \$14.95

*Cracking the Third Grade

by Princeton Review

Princeton Review | TR | May 2008 | 978-0-375-76604-6 | \$14.95

*Cracking the Fourth Grade

by Princeton Review

Princeton Review | TR | May 2008 | 978-0-375-76605-3 | \$14.95