

# 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>

## Featured Titles

### \***Ragged Dick: or, Street Life in New York with the Boot-Blacks**

by **Horatio Alger**

Introduction by **David K. Shipler**

First serialized in 1867, this quintessential rags-to-riches story of a young New York boot-black who makes good has inspired countless Americans to "strive and to succeed" (as Alger would say). Already widely adopted, *Ragged Dick* is a perfect text for history, economics, and American literature classes studying the 19th century and the concept of the "American Dream". This book can also serve as an effective source of enrichment for classics like Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*.

**Modern Library | Tr Pbk | September 2005**  
**0-8129-7358-5 | 192 pp. | \$8.95/\$12.95 (Canada)**

**Reading Level: 7**

### **The Trouble with Poetry: And Other Poems**

by **Billy Collins**

In this collection of all new poems, Collins will continue to charm and delight students and teachers alike. Like the book's title, these poems are filled with mischief, humor, and irony, but also with quiet observation, intense wonder, and empathy. With simple, direct language, Collins does away with the notion that poetry has to be difficult, and continues in his mission to make poetry accessible to students again.

**Random House | HC | October 2005 |**  
**0-375-50382-X | 128 pp. | \$22.95/\$32.95 (Canada)**

### \***The Complete Stories of Truman Capote**

by **Truman Capote**

Introduction by **Reynolds Price**

A landmark collection that brings together Truman Capote's life's work in the form he called his "great love," *The Complete Stories* confirms Capote's status as a master of the short story. This first-ever compendium features a never-before-published 1950 story, "The Bargain," as well as an introduction by Reynolds Price. Ranging from the gothic South to the chic East Coast, from rural children to aging urban sophisticates, all the unforgettable places and people of Capote's oeuvre are here, in stories as elegant as they are heartfelt, as haunting as they are compassionate.

**Vintage | Tr Pbk | September 2005 |**  
**1-4000-9691-X | 320 pp. | \$14.00/\$21.00 (Canada)**

**Reading Level: 9**

### \***Oliver Twist**

by **Charles Dickens**

Illustrated by **George Cruikshank**

Introduction by **Philip Pullman**

The official movie tie-in edition (in theatres September 30, 2005). Features art from the film, the original illustrations by George Cruikshank, an introduction by Phillip Pullman, and a reader's guide.

**Modern Library | Tr Pbk | September 2005 |**  
**0-375-75784-8 | 480 pp. | \$6.95/\$9.95 (Canada)**

**Reading Level: 8**

### \***Political Leadership: Stories of Power and Politics from Literature and Life**

by **Robert Coles**

Adapted from a course taught at Harvard by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Robert Coles, *Political Leadership* features scenes, stories, and speeches that pierce to the core of how and why some lead and others follow. From ancient times to the present day, *Political Leadership* offers indispensable insights on political power and leadership as expressed in the novels, plays, and poetry of the world's greatest artists and intellectuals.

**Modern Library | Tr Pbk | September 2005 |**  
**0-8129-7170-1 | 352 pp. | \$14.95/\$21.00 (Canada)**

**Reading Level: 11**

### **\*Queen of Dreams**

**by Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni**

From the bestselling author of *Sister of My Heart* comes a spellbinding tale of mothers and daughters, love and cultural identity. Rakhi, a young painter and single mother struggles to come to terms with her relationship with her dream-teller mother, who has rarely spoken about her past or her native India. When a national tragedy turns her world upside down and Rakhi needs her mother's strength and wisdom more than ever, she loses her in a freak car accident. But uncovering her mother's dream journals allows Rakhi to discover her mother's long-kept secrets and sacrifices—and ultimately to confront her fears, forge new relationships.

“Divakaruni's book shines . . . in its examination of the subtle, extrasensory connections between mothers and daughters that continue to develop even after death divides them.”—*Los Angeles Times*

**Anchor | Tr Pbk | October 2005 | 1-4000-3044-7 | 352 pp. | \$13.95/\$21.00 (Canada)**

**Reading Level: 10**

### **Complicity: How the North Promoted, Prolonged, and Profited from Slavery**

**by Anne Farrow, Joel Land and Jenifer Frank**

A groundbreaking look at how the North was every bit as dependent on slavery as the South that's sure to spark debate in history classes.

Rich with long-ignored documents and bolstered by rarely seen photos, period drawings, maps, and publications, *Complicity* debunks the myths surrounding the history of slavery in this country: that the North was good and the South was bad; that the South had slaves and the North freed them. Farrow, Land, and Frank, a group of veteran journalists from the *Hartford Courant*, the country's oldest continuously published newspaper, illustrate the North's deep dependence on slave commerce and its own exploitation of slave labor.

**Ballantine | HC | September 2005 | 0-345-46782-5 | 304 pp. | \$25.95/\$35.95 (Canada)**

**Reading Level: 9**

### **The March: A Novel**

**by E.L. Doctorow**

Award-winning author E.L. Doctorow presents an imaginative work about the Civil War with a rich cast of unforgettable characters—white and black, men, women, and children, unionists and rebels, generals and privates, freed slaves and slave owners.

*The March* stunningly renders the countless lives swept up in the violence of a country at war with itself. An excellent choice for both history classes studying the Civil War, literature classes, and for interdisciplinary lesson plans.

**Random House | HC | September 2005 |**

**0-375-50671-3 | 384 pp. | \$25.95/\$35.95 (Canada)**

**Reading Level: 7**

### **A Briefer History of Time**

**by Stephen Hawking and Leonard Mlodinow**

*A Briefer History of Time* makes the classic *A Brief History of Time*'s content more accessible to students and brings it up-to-date with the latest scientific observations and findings. Purely technical concepts, such as the mathematics of chaotic boundary conditions, are gone.

Conversely, subjects of wide interest that were difficult to follow because they were interspersed throughout the book have now been given entire chapters of their own, including relativity, curved space, and quantum theory.

**Bantam | HC | September 2005 |**

**0-553-80436-7 | 176 pp. | \$25.00/\$35.00 (Canada)**

**Reading Level: 10**

### **Inheriting the Holy Land: An American's Search for Hope in the Middle East**

**by Jennifer Miller**

*Inheriting the Holy Land* presents students with a unique opportunity to put the Israeli-Palestinian conflict into perspective through the eyes of their contemporaries who live with it on a daily basis. An excellent source of enrichment for any global studies curriculum.

Here, the 24-year-old Miller—who grew up in Israel—gives voice to the young men and women who are coming of age in the conflict. She includes, as well, reactions from prominent officials she has interviewed, including Mahmoud Abbas, Mohammed Dahlan, James Baker, Benjamin Netanyahu, Ehud Barak, Yasir Arafat, and Colin Powell, among others.

**Ballantine | HC | September 2005 |**

**0-345-46924-0 | 304 pp. | \$24.95/\$34.95 (Canada)**

**Reading Level: 9**

**\*The Plot Against America**

by Philip Roth

**Booklist Editors' Choice, 2004, ALA Notable Book**

In an astonishing feat of empathy and narrative invention, our most ambitious novelist imagines an alternate version of American history. In 1940 Charles A. Lindbergh, heroic aviator and rabid isolationist, is elected President. Shortly thereafter, he negotiates a cordial "understanding" with Adolf Hitler, while the new government embarks on a program of folksy anti-Semitism. For one boy growing up in Newark, Lindbergh's election is the first in a series of ruptures that threaten to destroy his small, safe corner of America—and with it, his mother, his father, and his older brother.

"Provocative.... At times, deeply affecting.... An intimate glimpse of one family's harrowing encounter with history." —*The New York Times*

**Vintage | Tr Pbk | September 2005 |  
1-4000-7949-7 | 416 pp. | \$14.95/\$21.00 (Canada)  
Reading Level: 10**

**\*The Burn Journals**

by Brent Runyon

In *The Burn Journals*, Runyon describes the devastating suicide attempt he made when at 14 years old he set himself afire and his recovery over the following year. He takes us into the Burn Unit in a children's hospital and through painful burn care and skin-grafting procedures. Then to a rehabilitation hospital, for intensive physical, occupational, and psychological therapy. And then finally back home, to the frightening prospect of entering high school.

But more importantly, Runyon takes us into his own mind. He shares his thoughts and hopes and fears with such unflinching honesty that we understand—with a terrible clarity—what it means to want to kill yourself and how it feels to struggle back toward normality. Intense, exposed, insightful, *The Burn Journals* is a deeply personal story with universal reach. It is impossible to look away. Impossible to remain unmoved.

"Runyon has, perhaps, written the defining book of a new genre, one that gazes . . . unflinchingly at boys on the edge." —*Booklist* (starred review)

"A taut, chilling account of the author's attempt to commit suicide . . . a must-read for teenagers struggling with self-doubt." —*The Denver Post*

**Vintage | Tr Pbk | October 2005 | 1-4000-9642-1 |  
336 pp. | \$12.95/\$17.95 (Canada)  
Reading Level: 7**

**Poems Bewitched and Haunted**

Edited by John Hollander

A delightfully ghoulish array of specters and sorceresses, witches and ghosts, hags and apparitions haunt these pages—a literary parade of phantoms and shades to add to the revelry of All Hallow's Eve.

From Homer to Horace, Pope to Poe, Randall Jarrell to James Merrill, *Poems Bewitched and Haunted* draws on three thousand years of poetic forays into the supernatural that call out to be read aloud, whether around the campfire or the Ouija board. From ballads and odes, to spells and chants, to dialogues and incantations, here is a veritable witches' brew of poems from the spirit world.

**Everyman's Library | HC | September 2005 |  
1-4000-4388-3 | 256 pp. | \$12.50/\$17.50 (Canada)  
Reading Level: 10**

**Professional Reading**

**Last Chance in Texas: The Redemption of  
Criminal Youth**

by John Hubner

A powerful, bracing look at intensely troubled youth, *Last Chance in Texas* gives a stirring account of the way one remarkable prison rehabilitates its inmates. Cutting through the political platitudes surrounding the controversial issue of juvenile justice, Hubner lays bare the complex ties between abuse and violence.

"In this important book, Hubner, an editor for the *San Jose Mercury News*, expertly examines the big picture: the spike in juvenile crime from 1984 to 1994, and the legislative initiatives that led to the creation of the TYC. It's his ability to tie those facts to the reality of daily life at the Giddings State School through the eyes of the students, therapists, teachers and athletic coaches that gives this book its power." —*Publishers Weekly*

**Random House | HC | September 2005 |  
0-375-50809-0 | 304 pp. | \$25.95/\$35.95  
(Canada)**

**The Shame of the Nation: The Restoration of  
Apartheid Schooling in America**

**by Jonathan Kozol**

Over the past several years, Jonathan Kozol has visited nearly 60 public schools. Virtually everywhere, he finds that conditions have grown worse for inner-city children in the 15 years since federal courts began dismantling the landmark ruling in *Brown v. Board of Education*.

Filled with the passionate voices of children and their teachers and some of the most revered and trusted leaders in the black community, *The Shame of the Nation* is a triumph of firsthand reporting that pays tribute to those undefeated educators who persist against the odds, but directly challenges the chilling practices now being forced upon our urban systems by the Bush administration. In their place, Kozol offers a humane, dramatic challenge to our nation to fulfill at last the promise made some 50 years ago to all our youngest citizens.

**Crown | HC | September 2005 | 1-4000-5244-0 |  
416 pp. | \$25.00/\$35.00 (Canada)**

**Newly Updated Bantam Classics**

These updated classics feature new packaging, a wider gutter, and a new, more legible type face.

**\*Fifty Great Short Stories**

**Edited by Milton Crane**

**Bantam Classics | MM | September 2005 |  
0-553-27745-6 | 592 pp. | \$6.99/\$10.99 (Canada)**

**\*The Idiot**

**by Fyodor Dostoevsky**

With a new introduction by Anne Hruska

**Bantam Classics | MM | September 2005 |  
0-553-21352-0 | 720 pp. | \$6.95/\$8.95 (Canada)  
Reading Level: 9**

**\*A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man**

**by James Joyce**

**Bantam Classics | MM | October 2005 |  
0-553-21404-7 | 256 pp. | \$4.95/\$6.95 (Canada)  
Reading Level: 12**

**\*The Story of My Life**

**by Helen Keller**

**Bantam Classics | MM | October 2005 |  
0-553-21387-3 | 240 pp. | \$4.95/\$6.95 (Canada)  
Reading Level: 11**

**\*Complete Short Stories of Mark Twain**

**by Mark Twain**

Edited and with an introduction by Charles Neider.

**Bantam Classics | MM | September 2005 |  
0-553-21195-1 | 848 pp. | \$6.95/\$9.95 (Canada)**

**\*Pudd'nhead Wilson**

**by Mark Twain**

**Bantam Classics | MM | September 2005 |  
0-553-21158-7 | 160 pp. | \$4.95/\$6.95 (Canada)  
Reading Level: 10**