

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>

*Three Novels by Faulkner

As I Lay Dying; The Sound and the Fury; Light in August

by William Faulkner

Oprah Book Club Summer Selection available in an exclusive three-volume boxed edition that includes a special reader's guide with an introduction by Oprah Winfrey.

As I Lay Dying

This novel is the harrowing account of the Bundren family's odyssey across the Mississippi countryside to bury Addie, their wife and mother. Told in turns by each of the family members—including Addie herself—the novel ranges in mood from dark comedy to the deepest pathos. Originally published in 1930.

The Sound and the Fury

First published in 1929, Faulkner created his "heart's darling," the beautiful and tragic Caddy Compson, whose story Faulkner told through separate monologues by her three brothers—the idiot Benjy, the neurotic suicidal Quentin and the monstrous Jason.

Light in August

Light in August, a novel about hopeful perseverance in the face of mortality, features some of Faulkner's most memorable characters: guileless, dauntless Lena Grove, in search of the father of her unborn child; Reverend Gail Hightower, who is plagued by visions of Confederate horsemen; and Joe Christmas, a desperate, mysterious drifter consumed by his mixed ancestry. Originally published in 1932.

**Vintage | Boxed Set | June 2005 | 0-307-27532-9
1,152 pp | \$29.95/\$42.00 (Canada)**

Reading Level: 12

***Chess for Success: Using an Old Game to Build New Strengths in Children and Teens**

by Maurice Ashley

Chess for Success is a brand-new resource for parents, teachers, counselors, youth workers, and chess lovers.

"As the first (and only) African American International Grand Master, Maurice Ashley is an historical figure. He is also a superb writer and a compelling teacher who makes learning even the most difficult aspects of chess appear possible. He shows us how chess can be used to put our young people on the path to success."

—Henry Louis Gates, Jr.

**Broadway | Tr Pbk | August 2005 | 0-7679-1568-2
288 pp | \$14.00/\$21.00 (Canada)**

***Native Sons**

by James Baldwin and Sol Stein

James Baldwin was beginning to gain recognition as the most brilliant black writer of his generation when his first book of essays, *Notes of a Native Son*, established his reputation in 1955. No one was more pleased by the book's reception than Baldwin's high school friend Sol Stein. A rising New York editor, novelist, and playwright, Stein had suggested that Baldwin do the book and coaxed his old friend through the long and sometimes agonizing process of putting the volume together and seeing it into print. *Native Sons* is an account of how Baldwin's first book came into being as well as a celebration of one of the most fruitful and influential friendships in American letters.

**One World/Ballantine | Tr Pbk | July 2005
0-345-46936-4 | 240 pp | \$13.95/\$21.00 (Canada)**

Reading Level: 11

***Beloved Harlem: A Literary Tribute to Black America's Most Famous Neighborhood, from the Classics to the Contemporary**

Edited by William H. Banks, Jr.

A passionate ode to an American mecca, *Beloved Harlem* is a literary look into this vibrant African-American haven, edited by one of its most celebrated native sons.

William H. Banks, Jr., award-winning writer and Executive Director of the esteemed Harlem Writers Guild, combines the classics with the contemporary as he showcases some of the best essays, short stories, and novel excerpts inspired by the diversity of Harlem life, from the early twentieth century to the new millennium. Includes writers like W.E.B. DuBois, Zora Neale Hurston, Langston Hughes, Dorothy West, Ossie Davis, and Toni Morrison.

**Harlem Moon | Tr Pbk | August 2005
0-7679-1478-3 | 544 pp | \$18.95/\$26.95 (Canada)**

Reading Level: 10

The Lady and the Panda: The True Adventures of the First American Explorer to Bring Back China's Most Exotic Animal

by Vicki Croke

Here is the astonishing true story of Ruth Harkness, the Manhattan bohemian socialite who, against all but impossible odds, trekked to Tibet in 1936 to capture the most mysterious animal of the day: a bear that had for countless centuries lived in secret in the labyrinth of lonely cold mountains. In *The Lady and the Panda*, Vicki Constantine Croke gives us the remarkable account of Ruth Harkness and her extraordinary journey, and, in the process, restores Harkness to her rightful place along with Sacajawea, Nellie Bly, and Amelia Earhart as one of the great woman adventurers of all time.

Random House | HC | July 2005 | 0-375-50783-3
400 pp | \$25.95/\$34.95 (Canada)

Reading Level: 8

***Dr. Futurity**

by Philip K. Dick

Jim Parsons is a talented doctor, skilled at the most advanced medical techniques and dedicated to saving lives. But after a bizarre road accident leaves him hundreds of years in the future, Parsons is horrified to discover an incredibly advanced civilization that zealously embraces death. Now, he is caught between his own instincts and training as a healer and a society where it is illegal to save lives. But Parsons is not the only one left who believes in prolonging life, and those who share his beliefs have desperate plans for Dr. Parsons' skills, and for the future of their society. *Dr. Futurity* is not only a thrilling rendition of a terrifying future but it is also a fantastic examination of the paradoxes of time-travel that could only have come from the mind of Philip K. Dick.

Vintage | Tr Pbk | August 2005 | 1-4000-3009-9
176 pp | \$10.95/\$15.95 (Canada)

Reading Level: 10

Stealing God's Thunder: Benjamin Franklin's Lightning Rod and the Invention of America

by Philip Dray

Stealing God's Thunder is a concise, richly detailed biography of Benjamin Franklin viewed through the lens of his scientific inquiry and its ramifications for American democracy. Today we think of Benjamin Franklin as a founder of American independence who also dabbled in science. But in Franklin's day, long before he was an eminent statesman, he was famous for his revolutionary scientific work, especially his experiments with lightning and electricity.

Set against the backdrop of the Enlightenment and America's pursuit of political equality for all, Pulitzer Prize finalist Philip Dray's *Stealing God's Thunder* recounts how Franklin unlocked one of the greatest natural mysteries of his day, the seemingly unknowable powers of electricity and lightning.

Random House | HC | August 2005 | 1-4000-6032-X
304 pp | \$25.95/\$35.95 (Canada)

Reading Level: 12

***The Sport of the Gods and Other Essential Writings**

Paul Laurence Dunbar

Edited by Shelley Fisher Fishkin and David Bradley

"A star in the literary firmament ... [and] the greatest African American poet before the Harlem Renaissance."

—Henry Louis Gates, Jr.

Paul Laurence Dunbar overcame racism and poverty to become one of the best-loved writers in America. This original compilation includes the most important selections of Dunbar's celebrated poetry, short stories, and nonfiction essays, as well as the complete text of his compelling 1902 novel *The Sport of the Gods*, the story of two emancipated slaves and their son and daughter, whose lives fall apart when the father is falsely accused of theft.

Modern Library | Tr Pbk | August 2005

0-8129-7279-1 | 480 pp | \$14.95/\$21.00 (Canada)

Reading Level: 9

Until I Find You: A Novel

by John Irving

National Book Award Winner John Irving's eleventh novel *Until I Find You* is the story of the actor Jack Burns. The author's tone—indeed, the narrative voice of this novel—is melancholic. But while *Until I Find You* is suffused with overwhelming sadness and deception; it is also a robust and comic novel, certain to be compared to John Irving's most ambitious and moving work.

"Irving's novels are perceptive and precise reflections of the world around us."

—*The Washington Post Book World*

"John Irving is one of the very finest writers alive today."

—*The Associated Press*

Random House | HC | July 2005 | 1-4000-6383-3
848 pp | \$27.95

Reading Level: 9

No Country for Old Men

by Cormac McCarthy

"Shades of Dostoyevsky, Hemingway, and Faulkner resonate in McCarthy's blend of lyrical narrative, staccato dialogue, and action-packed scenes . . . Fans will revel in the author's renderings of the raw landscapes of Mexico and the Southwest and the precarious souls scattered along the border that separates the two."

—Allison Block, *Booklist*

"Mesmerizing . . . A gripping man-on-the-run sequence relayed in terse, masterful prose [and] a profound meditation on the battle between good and evil and the roles choice and chance play in the shaping of a life."

—*Publishers Weekly*

Knopf | HC | July 2005 | 0-375-40677-8 | 320 pp
\$24.95/\$32.95 (Canada)

Reading Level: 6

1491: New Revelations of the Americas Before Columbus

by Charles C. Mann

"In his new book, *1491*, Charles Mann offers a comprehensive overview and an urgently needed update on the main archaeological and historical issues in the Americas before European arrival. From the Bering Strait to the Strait of Magellan, he brings forth the main academic controversies and presents them not merely as scholarly squabbles but as the issues that help shape the way we live in the modern world. In a lively and well written book, Charles Mann helps us to see the Americas in a new historical light."

—Jack Weatherford

"When does American history begin? The old answer used to be 1492, with the European arrival in the Americas. That answer is no longer politically or historically correct. For the last thirty years or so historians, geographers and archaeologists have built up an arsenal of evidence about the residents of North America after the ice receded and before the Europeans arrived. Mann has mastered that scholarship and written the most elegant synthesis of the way we were before the European invasion."

—Joseph J. Ellis

**Knopf | HC | August 2005 | 1-4000-4006-X | 480 pp
\$30.00/\$40.00 (Canada)**

Reading Level: 12

Pomegranate Soup: A Novel

by Marsha Mehran

Beneath the holy mountain Croagh Patrick, in damp and lovely County Mayo, sits the small, sheltered village of Ballinacroagh. To the exotic Aminpour sisters, Ireland looks like a much-needed safe haven. It has been seven years since Marjan Aminpour fled Iran with her younger sisters, Bahar and Layla, and she hopes that in Ballinacroagh, a land of "crazed sheep and dizzying roads," they might finally find a home. Infused with the textures and scents, trials and triumphs of two distinct cultures, *Pomegranate Soup* is a delectable journey into the heart of Persian cooking and Irish living.

"Recalling James Joyce's *Dubliners*, this first novel by Mehran (who was born in Iran but now lives in Ireland) centers on the inhabitants of a small Irish town. Highly recommended."

—*Library Journal*

**Random House | HC | August 2005 | 1-4000-6241-1
240 pp | \$23.95/\$33.95 (Canada)**

Reading Level: 9

***Hard News: Twenty-one Brutal Months at The New York Times and How They Changed the American Media**

by Seth Mnookin

Having gained unprecedented access to the reporters who conducted the *Times's* internal investigation, top newsroom executives, and dozens of *Times* editors, former *Newsweek* senior writer Seth Mnookin lets us read all about the Jayson Blair scandal—offering the story behind the biggest journalistic scam of our era and the profound implications of the scandal for the rapidly changing world of American journalism.

Hard News will shape how we understand and judge the media for years to come.

**Random House Trade Paperbacks | Tr Pbk
August 2005 | 0-8129-7251-1 | 368 pp
\$14.95/\$21.00 (Canada)**

Reading Level: 11

***One Day My Sister Disappeared: A Memoir**

by Christine Orban

One Day My Sister Disappeared begins in Morocco, where Christine and her sister enjoy a profound bond while remaining quite different from each other. While Christine goes off to university in Paris while Maco remains at home, eventually falling in love with a wealthy Muslim, whom she marries. Orban skillfully narrates the consequences of these two divergent choices, ultimately revealing the resilience of the bond of sisterhood.

Set against the evocative landscapes of Morocco and Paris, *One Day My Sister Disappeared* is a poignant reckoning with loss and, ultimately, a celebration of the singular bond between sisters.

**Random House Trade Paperbacks | Tr Pbk
July 2005 | 0-375-75988-3 | 128 pp
\$10.95/\$15.95 (Canada)**

Reading Level: 6

The Rabbi's Cat

by Joann Sfar

From one of France's most talented, celebrated, and prolific comics artists, here is a moving and beautifully illustrated tale set in 1930s Algeria, about a rabbi, his daughter, and their scathingly humorous, surprisingly tender, and wonderfully wise talking cat.

"Sfar has succeeded in the task of amusing us on every page, all the while lightly challenging us with complex questions about religion. The chattering of the rabbi's cat should not be missed for any reason."

—*Le Figaro*

**Pantheon | HC | August 2005 | 0-375-42281-1
152 pp | \$21.95/\$29.95 (Canada)**

Reading Level: 8

***Persepolis 2: The Story of a Return**
by Marjane Satrapi

YALSA Best Books for Young Adults

Booklist Editors' Choice for Young Adults

School Library Journal Adult Books for Young Adults

Just as funny and heartbreaking as its predecessor—with perhaps an even greater sense of the ridiculous inspired by life in a fundamentalist state—*Persepolis 2* is also as clear-eyed and searing in its condemnation of fundamentalism and its cost to the human spirit. In its depiction of the universal trials of adolescent life and growing into adulthood—here compounded by being an outsider both abroad and at home, and by living in a state where you have no right to show your hair, wear make-up, run in public, date, or question authority—it is raw, honest, and incredibly illuminating.

Pantheon | Tr Pbk | August 2005 | 0-375-71466-9
192 pp | \$11.95/\$16.95 (Canada)

Reading Level: 8

***The Sunday Philosophy Club**

by Alexander McCall Smith

With *The Sunday Philosophy Club*, Alexander McCall Smith, the author of the best-selling and beloved *No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency* novels, begins a wonderful new series starring the irrepressibly curious Isabel Dalhousie. Filled with thorny characters and a Scottish atmosphere as thick as a highland mist, *The Sunday Philosophy Club* is irresistible, and Isabel Dalhousie is the most delightful literary sleuth since Precious Ramotswe.

"[McCall Smith writes] the best, most charming, honest, hilarious, and life-affirming books to appear in years."

—*The Plain Dealer*

Anchor | Tr Pbk | July 2005 | 1-4000-7709-5
256 pp | \$12.95

Reading Level: 10

***The Wisdom of Crowds**

by James Surowiecki

In this fascinating book, James Surowiecki explores a deceptively simple idea: Large groups of people are smarter than an elite few, no matter how brilliant—better at solving problems, fostering innovation, coming to wise decisions, even predicting the future. With boundless erudition and in delightfully clear prose, Surowiecki ranges across fields as diverse as popular culture, psychology, ant biology, behavioral economics, artificial intelligence, military history, and politics to show how this simple idea offers important lessons for how we live our lives, select our leaders, run our companies, and think about our world.

Anchor | Tr Pbk | August 2005 | 0-385-72170-6
336 pp | \$14.00/\$21.00 (Canada)

Reading Level: 12

Sky Burial: An Epic Love Story of Tibet
by Xinran

Based on a true story, Xinran's extraordinary second book will take students right to the hidden heart of one of the world's most mysterious and inaccessible countries: Tibet.

In March 1958, Shu Wen learns that her husband, an idealistic army doctor, has died while serving in Tibet. Determined to find out what happened to him, she courageously sets off to join his regiment. But before she can know his fate, she is taken hostage and embarks on a life-changing journey through the Tibetan countryside—a journey that will last twenty years and lead her to a deep appreciation of Tibet in all its beauty and brutality.

"Genuinely moving and fast-paced, this smooth translation will give readers a taste of Tibetan culture. Highly recommended."

—*Library Journal*

Nan A. Talese | HC | July 2005 | 0-385-51548-0
224 pp | \$18.95

Reading Level: 8

New Classroom References from Random House

Random House Webster's College Dictionary with CD-ROM

This completely revised and updated edition of America's dictionary of choice brings you newer words faster. Acquire the very latest vocabulary, like motor voter, ecotourism, fusion cuisine, false memory syndrome, and more.

Random House Reference | HC | July 2005
0-375-42600-0 | 1632 pp | \$26.95/\$37.95 (Canada)

Random House Webster's College Thesaurus

Comprehensive, easy to use, and authoritative, this new thesaurus is perfect for classroom use.

Random House Reference | HC | July 2005
0-375-42596-9 | 832 pp | \$22.95/\$32.95 (Canada)