

BEST Science Fiction, Fantasy, & Horror

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This twenty-second annual list of VOYA's top-rated science fiction, fantasy, and horror titles features several series titles, others based in mythology, and adult-marketed titles sure to attract the attention of avid teen readers. Again limiting our selections to those titles that have earned the prestigious 5Q or 5P rating, this list provides busy collection developers with books that can form the core of their young adult collections.

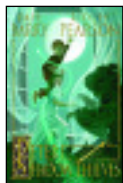
Atwater-Rhodes, Amelia. **Wolfcry**. *The Kiesha'ra*, Volume Four. Delacorte, 2006. 192p. \$14.95. 978-0-385-73195-9. PLB \$16.99. 978-0-385-90354-7. VOYA August 2006. **5Q 4P M J S**



Princess Oliza Sharda Cobriana must chose a mate and begin ruling Wyvern Court, a reign that will mean the union of the Avlan and Serpiente people, but Oliza fears that whatever she chooses, it will start another war.

Barry, Dave, and Ridley Pearson. **Peter and the Shadow Thieves**. Hyperion, 2006. 464p. \$18.99. 978-0-7868-3787-8. VOYA August 2006. **5Q 5P M J**

Peter and Molly must outwit the sinister Lord Ombra, a terrifying creature with the ability to control people by stealing their shadows in this rousing sequel to *Peter and the Star Catchers* (Hyperion, 2004/VOYA December 2004).



Bell, Hilari. **Forging the Sword**. *The Farsala Trilogy*, Book 3. Simon & Schuster, 2006. 512p. \$17.99. 978-0-689-85416-3. VOYA February 2007. **5Q 4P M J S**



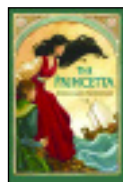
In a desperate bid for Farsalan independence, three young leaders put aside deep animosities to harass, confront, spy on, and befriend elements of the invading Hrum army in this nuanced and riveting series resolution.

Bloor, Edward. **London Calling**. Knopf, 2006. 304p. \$16.95. 978-0-375-83635-0. PLB \$18.99. 978-0-375-93635-7. VOYA December 2006. **5Q 4P M J S**

An old radio transports Martin back in time to wartime London during the Blitz, where he uncovers the key to a family mystery.



Bondoux, Anne-Laure. **The Princetta**. Trans. by Anthea Bell. Bloomsbury, 2006. 500p. \$17.95. 978-1-58234-924-4. VOYA August 2006. **5Q 4P M J S**



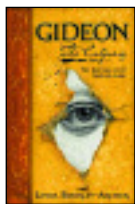
Malva flees Galnicia on her wedding night only to encounter deceit and betrayal from those whom she trusted, while Orpheus, reeling from betrayals of his own, sets out to rescue the Princetta before both discover adventure beyond their wildest dreams.

Brust, Stephen. **Dzur**. Tor, 2006. 288p. \$24.95. 978-0-765-30148-2. VOYA December 2006. **4Q 5P S A/YA**

Vlad Taltos, a feisty assassin, risks his life and soul to save his wife's business venture in Adrilankha, unraveling conspiracies and calling in old favors despite the price on his head.



Buckley-Archer, Linda. **Gideon the Cutpurse**. *Gideon Trilogy*, Book 1. Simon & Schuster, 2006. 400p. \$17.95. 978-1-4169-1525-6. VOYA June 2006. **5Q 4P M J**



Twenty-first-century twelve-year-olds Peter and Kate, flung into 1763 and the protective care of roguish Gideon, find their subsequent adventures interspersed with the desperate search by their families and NASA—to relocate them to modern times.

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Carter, Dean Vincent. **The Hand of the Devil.** Delacorte, 2006. 288p. \$12.99. 978-0-385-90386-8. \$7.95 Trade pb. 978-0-385-73371-7. VOYA December 2006. 4Q 5P J S



Journalist Ashley Reeves visits eccentric Reginald Mahler, thinking that he'll uncover the hoax of a giant mosquito, but instead finds himself knee-deep in body parts in this well-paced thriller.

Cole, Stephen. **Thieves Like Us.** Bloomsbury, 2006. 352p. \$16.95. 978-1-58234-653-3. VOYA June 2006. 4Q 5P J S



A hand-picked group of teen outlaws follow the directions of a mysterious benefactor, not quite understanding that an ancient Egyptian secret to immortality may be the goal.

Colfer, Eoin. **Artemis Fowl: The Lost Colony.** Artemis Fowl, Book Five. Hyperion, 2006. 400p.

\$16.95. 978-0-7868-4956-7. VOYA December 2006. 4Q 5P M J

Now fourteen, Artemis Fowl is reunited with elf Holly Short and must undo a time spell and keep a demon world from unraveling.



Cook, Glen. **Lord of the Silent Kingdom.**

Instrumentalities of the Night, Book Two. Tor, 2007. 496p. \$27.95. 978-0-765-30685-2. VOYA February 2007. 5Q 4P S



A/YA Professional soldier Piper Hecht must unite humanity against the incarnating, evil *Instrumentalities of the Night* in this irony-tinged novel filled with religious conflicts, ravenous aristocrats, and refugees struggling to survive.

Espinosa, Frank. **Rocketo: Journey to the Hidden**

Sea, Volume 1. Image Comics, 2006. 304p. \$19.99 Trade pb. 978-1-58240-585-8. VOYA August 2006. 5Q 4P J S G Verne-ish adventurer Rocketo; scheming, thieving pal Spiro; and endless monsters seek the Hidden Sea in this vibrant, engaging tale of a shattered earth being rediscovered.

Flint, Eric. **1635: The Cannon Law.** Baen, 2006. 420p. \$26. 978-1-4165-0938-7. VOYA February 2007. 5Q 4P S A/YA

Even a Spanish invasion of Rome and the mass murder of cardinals loyal to the papacy cannot stop the wedding of nurse/ambassador Sharon Nichols to soldier-of-fortune Ruy Sanchez de Asador y Ortiz.



Johansen, K. V. **Nightwalker.** Orca, 2006. 144p. \$8.95 Trade pb. 978-1-55143-481-0. VOYA April 2007. 5Q 4P M J

After Maurey discovers that he is a Nightwalker and can move unseen through shadows and see in the dark, he must stop the king's army from invading the Nightwalker realm.

Johnson, Jane. **The Secret Country.** *The Eidolon Chronicles*, Book 1. Simon & Schuster, 2006. 336p. \$14.95. 978-1-4169-0712-1. VOYA August 2006. 5Q 4P M



Guided by a talking cat and mythical beings, twelve-year-old Ben Arnold fights to save an alternate universe from evil creatures that are robbing the kingdom of its magic.

Jones, Diana Wynne. **The Pinhoe Egg.** *Chrestomanci* series. HarperCollins, 2006. 528p. \$17.99. 978-0-06-113124-9. PLB \$18.89. 978-0-06-113125-7. VOYA February 2007. 5Q 4P M J

Two magical young people hone their powers, hatch a mysterious egg, and help to restore the balance of magic in a glorious saga of encounters, horses, griffins, witches, bicycles and flying machines.



Jones, Diana Wynne. **The Tough Guide to Fantasyland.** Puffin, 2006. 256p. \$9.99 Trade pb. 978-0-14-240722-6.

VOYA October 2006. 5Q 4P J S

This hilarious guide to "Fantasyland" brilliantly celebrates the conventions and clichés of the fantasy genre.



Lackey, Mercedes, and James Mallory. **When Darkness Falls.** *The Obsidian Trilogy*, Book 3.

Tor, 2006. 496p. 978-0-7653-0221-2. VOYA August 2006. 5Q 4P



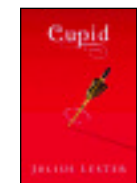
J S

This rich and satisfying conclusion to the *Obsidian Trilogy's* fantasy coming-of-age tale is the result of Lackey and Mallory's careful attention to small details, multifaceted character development, and warning that all power is costly.

Lester, Julius. **Cupid.** Harcourt, 2006.

208p. \$17. 978-0-15-202056-9. VOYA February 2007. 5Q 5P M J S

Lester's fresh take on classical mythology features Cupid as no sweet-faced cherub, but an adult mischief-maker whose well-aimed arrows turn even the most powerful of gods on Olympus into puppy-eyed school boys.



Lowry, Lois. **Gossamer.** Walter Lorraine Books/Houghton Mifflin, 2006. 144p. \$16. 978-0-618-68550-9. VOYA August 2006. 5Q 4P M J



Littlest One is a gentle dream-giver, granting sweet dreams to two lonely souls in her care, but she'll need bravery and a unique ability to overpower the nightmare-bearing *Sinistees* assailing her household.

L. Ron Hubbard Presents **Writers of the Future,**

Volume XXII. Algis Budrys, Ed. Galaxy Press, 2006. 500p. \$7.99 pb. 978-1-59212-345-2. Illus. VOYA February 2007. 5Q 4P S A/YA

These stories by emerging writers of science fiction demonstrate that the genre still attracts skilled, thoughtful writers who promise hope for the future of such speculative fiction.

Marillier, Juliet. **Well of Shades.** *Bridei Chronicles*, Book 3. Tor, 2007. 496p. \$26.95. 978-0-765-30997-6. VOYA April 2007. 5Q 4P S A/YA

Romance, politics, and magic are deftly woven into this compelling story set in the sixth-century kingdom of Fortriu, as a spy journeys to his homeland and confronts his past.

Marillier, Juliet. **Wildwood Dancing.** Knopf, 2007. 416p. \$16.99. 978-0-375-83364-9. PLB \$18.99. 978-0-375-93364-6. VOYA February 2007. 5Q 4P J S



This magical tale of trust, bravery, betrayal, and true love is set in Transylvania, where Jena and her four sisters cross over to the Other Kingdom every month at Full Moon.

McCullough, Kelly. **WebMage.** Ace, 2006. 320p. \$6.99 pb. 978-0-441-01425-5. VOYA August 2006. 5Q 4P S A/YA



Ravirn, a college student, hacker, and Greek demigod, aided by his trusty laptop webgoblin, Melchior, must thwart the plot of his great-aunt Atropos, one of the three Fates, to destroy human free will.

Meyer, Stephenie. **New Moon.** Little, Brown, 2006. 563p. \$17.99. 978-0-316-16019-3. VOYA August 2006. 4Q 5P J S

A near-genius blend of breathtaking romance, action, and vampire/werewolf lore creates an incredibly riveting sequel to *Twilight* (Little, Brown, 2005/VOYA October 2005).



Moers, Walter. **Rumo and His Miraculous Adventures.** Overlook Press, 2006. 687p. \$25.95. 978-1-58567-725-2. **VOYA** December 2006. **5Q 4P J S**
When his fellow Wolpertings are kidnapped and forced to descend into the cavernous Netherworld, intrepid puppy Rumo determines that he must return them to Overworld—even if that means battling evil Dr. Ticktock and his Copper Killers.



Niven, Larry. **The Draco Tavern.** Tor, 2006. 304p. \$24.95. 978-0-765-30863-4. *Voyages*, **VOYA** October 2006. **4Q 5P S A/YA**
Aliens have visited Earth, and Rick Schumann owns the Draco Tavern, their favorite hangout in this sometimes serious, sometimes hilarious collection that features twenty-seven short tales about the interactions between humanity and Rick's multispecies alien patrons.



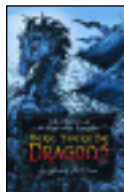
Novik, Naomi. **His Majesty's Dragon.** Temeraire, Book One. Del Rey, 2006. 384p. \$7.50 pb. 978-0-345-48128-3. **VOYA** August 2006. **5Q 4P J S**
Smart, stoic British naval captain Will Laurence dramatically changes his entire life when he bonds with the loving, intelligent dragon Temeraire as they train to do battle in the Napoleonic wars.



Novik, Naomi. **Throne of Jade.** Temeraire, Book Two. Del Rey, 2006. 432p. \$7.50 pb. 978-0-345-48129-0. **VOYA** February 2007. **5Q 4P S A/YA**
Napoleonic war historical fiction with fantastical twists (dragons!) keeps readers riveted with breathtaking action and characters you care about so profoundly that your guts hurt.



Owen, James A. **Here, There Be Dragons.** *The Chronicles of the Imaginarium Geographica.* Simon & Schuster, 2006. 336p. \$17.95. 978-1-4169-1227-4. **VOYA** December 2006. **5Q 4P M J S**
Charles, Jack, and John sail to the Archipelago of Dreams with the magical atlas Imaginarium Geographica to restore peace, in an illustrated, action-packed, must-read for fantasy fans.



Park, Paul. **The White Tiger.** Tor, 2007. 304p. \$25.95. 978-0-765-31529-8. **VOYA** February 2007. **5Q 4P S A/YA**
The story of Miranda Popescu concludes with her struggles in the spirit world and an alternative Roumania to extricate herself and her friends from the clutches of the insane Baroness Ceausescu.



Pierce, Tamora. **Terrier.** Random House, 2006. 581p. \$18.95. 978-0-375-81468-6. PLB \$20.99. 978-0-375-91468-3. **VOYA** February 2007. **4Q 5P M J S**
Beka Cooper is an ideal candidate for Corus City's law enforcement element, the Provost's Dogs, but before she can become a Dog, she must survive her training.



Pratchett, Terry. **Johnny and the Bomb.** HarperCollins, 2007. 256p. \$16.99. 978-0-06-054191-0. PLB \$17.89. 978-0-06-054192-7. **VOYA** April 2007. **4Q 5P M J S**
Johnny travels through time to save innocent Blackbury residents from an air raid in 1941 at the risk of changing the future forever for himself and his friends.



Thompson, Kate. **The New Policeman.** Greenwillow, 2007. 448p. \$16.99. 978-0-06-117427-8. PLB \$17.89. 978-0-06-117428-5. Glossary. Biblio. **VOYA** February 2007. **5Q 4P M J**



In modern-day Ireland, fifteen-year-old J. J. Liddy ventures into the fairy world of eternal youth to find more time for his mother, and he unearths the truth about this family's past.

Westerfeld, Scott. **Blue Noon.** *Midnighters*, Book 3. HarperCollins, 2006. 384p. \$15.99. 978-0-06-051957-5. PLB \$16.89. 978-0-06-051958-2. **VOYA** June 2006. **4Q 5P J S**



Jessica Day, the "fire-bringer," leading the four other Midnighters, each with special powers, must defeat the primeval darklings and slithers that will emerge at midnight on Halloween to feed on the inhabitants of Bixby, Oklahoma.

Westerfeld, Scott. **Specials.** *Uglies Trilogy*, Book Three. Simon Pulse/S & S, 2006. 384p. \$15.95. 978-0-7868-5686-2. **VOYA** June 2006. **4Q 5P J S**
Telly, with a surgically enhanced mind and body, must decide whether to use her abilities to perpetuate the status quo or aid in the rebellion against mind-altered compliance to a power-hungry leader.



Wilce, Ysabeau S. **Flora Segunda: Being the Magickal Mishaps of a Girl of Spirit, Her Glass-Gazing Sidekick, Two Ominous Butlers (One Blue), a House with Eleven Thousand Rooms, and a Red Dog.** Harcourt, 2007. 448p. \$17. 978-0-15-205433-5. **VOYA** February 2007. **5Q 4P J S**
Embroiled in a life-or-death struggle when she recklessly attempts a magickal feat beyond her abilities, Flora will require friends, enemies, and strength that she didn't know she had to save herself and her family.



Zurbo, Matt. **Hot Nights, Cool Dragons.** Allen & Unwin, 2006. 232p. \$14.95 Trade pb. 978-1-74114-178-8. **VOYA** August 2006. **5Q 4P M J S**
Zurbo's book goes beyond the typical young adult fare to offer a captivating musical ode that possesses a depth beyond its pages. ■



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