

Best

Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Horror 2007

VOYA presents its twenty-third annual list of premier science fiction, fantasy, and horror titles reviewed in the past year. There is no doubt that the genre is popular with teens who read, and the fifty-one books that appear here have received a highlighted 5Q or 5P rating from our reviewers, first-rate in terms of literary excellence and appeal to the targeted audience. Use these titles to begin or add to your core collection.

Anthony, Piers. **Air Apparent**. Tor, 2007. 320p. \$24.95. 978-0-7653-0410-0. **VOYA** February 2008. **5Q 4P S A/YA**



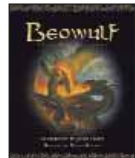
A random act has caused Wira's husband's disappearance, and as she searches Xanth with her collection of lively associates, readers are taken on an entertaining, fascinating, and funny journey.

Barry, Dave, and Ridley Pearson. **Peter and the Secret of Rundoon**. Hyperion/DBG, 2007. 463p. \$18.99. 978-0-7868-3788-5. **VOYA** February 2008. **5Q 5P MJ**



The fate of all existence rests in the hands of Peter Pan and his allies in this gripping final installment of the Starcatcher series.

Beowulf: A Tale of Blood, Heat, and Ashes. Retold by Nicky Raven. Illus. by John Howe. Candlewick, 2007. 96p. \$18.99. 978-0-7636-3647-0. Illus. Maps. Appendix. **VOYA** December 2007. **5Q 4P MJS**



A compelling and contemporary retelling of the Beowulf saga, this gloriously illustrated version entertains and excites as it describes an era where

mankind's fate depends on the deeds of its superheroes.

Berkeley, Jon. **The Tiger's Egg: The Wednesday Tales, No. 2**. Julie Andrews Books/HarperCollins, 2007. 416p. \$16.99. 978-0-06-075510-2. **VOYA** February 2008. **4Q 5P MJ**



When young Miles Wednesday learns that his dead mother once owned a magic talisman called a "Tiger's Egg," he goes on a mission to reclaim the missing item as his own in a tale whose fantastic creatures and witty dialogue will delight fantasy lovers.

Bray, Libba. **The Sweet Far Thing**. Delacorte, 2007. 819p. \$17.99. 978-0-385-73030-3. PLB \$20.99. 978-0-385-902195-3. **VOYA** February 2008. **4Q 5P MJS**



The fate of three girls and Victorian England hang in the balance in this conclusion to Bray's thrilling historical fantasy saga.

Buckley-Archer, Linda. **The Time Thief**. Simon & Schuster, 2007. 512p. \$17.99. 978-1-4169-1527-0. **VOYA** February 2008. **5Q 4P J**



High adventure ensues when a twenty-first-century boy and an eighteenth-century highwayman each finds himself transported to the other's era in this second volume of The Gideon Trilogy.

Cabot, Meg. **Jinx**. HarperCollins, 2007. 272p. \$16.99. 978-0-06-083764-8. PLB \$17.89. 978-0-06-083765-5. **VOYA** October 2007. **4Q 5P MJS**



Jean's never-ending bad luck comes to a head when her cousin Tory reveals that they're both witches, with a family legend, a stalker, and a love triangle rounding out Cabot's newest supernatural offering.

Chima, Cinda Williams. **The Wizard Heir**. Hyperion/DBG, 2007. 464p. \$17.99. 978-1-4231-0487-2. **VOYA** June 2007. **5Q 5P MJS**



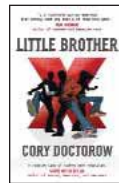
Seph must find a way to control his wizarding powers before they destroy him or put him under the control of Gregory Leicester, the malevolent and ruthless headmaster of the Havens.

De Lint, Charles. **Little (Grrl) Lost**. Viking, 2007. 320p. \$17.99. 978-0-670-06144-0. **VOYA** October 2007. **4Q 5P JS**



T.J., a lonely newcomer to Newford, tries to help six-inch-tall Elizabeth, a "Little" who lives in her walls, to achieve her dreams of flight and independence.

Doctorow, Cory. **Little Brother**. Tor, 2008. 384p. \$17.95. 978-0-7653-1985-2. **VOYA** April 2008. **5Q 4P JS A/YA**



Think "Dumbledore's Army," with serious technology, contemporary villains, and a jarringly predictable future, and the result is this exhilarating page-turner and cautionary tale that will motivate readers to contemplate free speech and political activism with new insights.

Dunmore, Helen. **The Tide Knot**.

HarperCollins, 2008. 336p. \$16.99. 978-0-06-081855-5. PLB \$17.89. 978-0-06-081856-2. **VOYA** December 2007. **5Q 4P M**



In this exhilarating fantasy, Sapphire and Connor help the Merman, Faro, and his wise teacher, Saldowr, to harness the power of the tides that threaten to destroy their Cornish town.

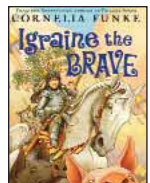
Ephron, Delia. **Frannie in Pieces**. Laura Geringer Books/HarperTeen, 2007. 384p. \$16.99. 978-0-06-074716-9. PLB \$17.89. 978-0-06-074717-6. **VOYA** October 2007. **5Q 4P MJ**

After the sudden death of her beloved father, Frannie works on a puzzle he left for her and is transported to a strange place where she talks with her father and tries to come to terms with her grief.

Friesner, Esther. **Nobody's Princess**. Random House, 2007. 320p. \$16.99. 978-0-375-87528-1. **VOYA** October 2007. **5Q 4P MJS**

Helen of Sparta became famous because of her pretty face, but her adventurous spirit makes her story truly compelling in this excellent fantasy that brings Ancient Greece back to life.

Funke, Cornelia. **Igraine the Brave**. The Chicken House/ Scholastic, 2007. 224p. \$16.99. 978-0-439-90379-0. **VOYA** December 2007. **5Q 5P MJ**



Igraine, who wants nothing more than to become a knight, seems out of place in her family, but when a greedy neighbor threatens to destroy Pimpernel

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Castle and seize the *Singing Books of Magic*, she must use her skill and courage as well as some of her family's magic to save her home and family.

Gaiman, Neil, and Michael Reaves. **InterWorld**. Eos/HarperCollins, 2007. 256p. \$16.99. 978-0-06-123896-3. PLB \$17.89. 978-0-06-123897-0. VOYA October 2007. **5Q 4P MJ**

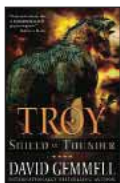


Directionally impaired Joey Harker finds he's one of an army of near-Joeyes who can walk between universes and fights to keep the balance between pure science and pure magic.

Gaiman, Neil. **M Is for Magic**. Illus. by Teddy Kristiansen. HarperCollins, 2007. 272p. \$16.99. 978-0-06-118642-4. PLB \$17.89. 978-0-06-118645-5. VOYA August 2007. **5Q 4P MJ**
Master storyteller Gaiman offers up a variety of hauntingly beautiful, imaginative, and page-turning short stories for younger readers that range from funny to frightening to weird.



Gemmell, David. **Troy: Shield of Thunder**. Ballantine, 2007. 490p. \$25.95. 978-0-345-47701-9. \$14.95 Trade pb. 978-0-345-47702-6. VOYA October 2007. **5Q 4P S A/YA**
*Andromache is the Shield of Thunder in this sequel to **Troy: Lord of the Silver Bow**, the second title in a brilliant retelling of the Trojan legends.*



Gould, Steven. **Jumper: Griffin's Story**. Tor, 2007. 288p. \$24.95. 978-0-7653-1827-5. Voyages, VOYA February 2008. **4Q 5P J S A/YA**



In this companion novel to a forthcoming film, Griffin has spent his life on the run because he can teleport and someone wants him dead for unknown reasons, but Griffin eventually turns and becomes the hunter.

Grant, Michael. **Gone**. HarperTeen, 2008. 576p. \$17.99. 978-0-06-144876-8. PLB \$18.89. 978-0-06-144877-5. VOYA April 2008. **5Q 4P MJ**



When everyone over fourteen disappears in average-town Perdido Beach, California, those left realize some of them have developed unusual powers, but the struggle over leadership could destroy them all.

Hale, Shannon. **Book of a Thousand Days**. Illus. by James Noel Smith. Bloomsbury, 2007. 320p. \$17.95. 978-1-59990-051-3. VOYA October 2007. **5Q 4P MJ**



Dashti, a peasant girl from the Central Asian steppes, documents her time in service to a helpless noble girl while they are locked in a tower before managing to escape by means of her hard work and independence.

Horowitz, Anthony. **Snakehead**. Philomel, 2007. 400p. \$17.99. 978-0-399-24161-1. VOYA December 2007. **4Q 5P MJ**



In this seventh installment of the Alex Rider Adventures, Alex goes undercover to recover a stolen bomb confronts his old nemesis SCORPIA, traverses the Indonesian jungle, endures the depths of a cargo ship, and braves the dangers of a drilling platform in the middle of the ocean.

Jones, Diana Wynne. **The Game**. Firebird/Penguin, 2007. 192p. \$11.99 Trade pb. 978-0-14-240718-9. VOYA February 2008. **5Q 4P J S**

Haley rockets through the mythosphere seeking answers about her past while trying to keep bullying Uncle Jovyon from destroying the future for herself and her family.

Lackey, Mercedes, and James Mallory. **The Phoenix Unchained**. Tor, 2007. 400p. 27.95. 978-0-7653-1593-9. VOYA December 2007. **4Q 5P J S A/YA**
Tiercel rediscovers the High Magic that once ruled Armethalieh, but his awakened powers are dangerous, so with the help of his best friend, Harrier, he seeks help, unaware that dark powers now move against them.



Landy, Derek. **Skulduggery Pleasant**. HarperCollins, 2007. 400p. \$17.99. 978-0-06-123115-5. PLB \$18.89. 978-0-06-123116-2. VOYA August 2007. **4Q 5P M J S**



Twelve-year-old Stephanie Edgley joins forces with Skulduggery Pleasant, a witty skeleton-turned-detective, in order to investigate her uncle's death and prevent an evil mage from taking over the world.

Lee, Tanith. **Indigara**. Firebird/Penguin, 2007. 192p. \$11.99 Trade pb. 978-0-14-240922-0. VOYA December 2007. **5Q 4P MJ**



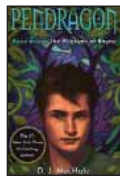
In this clever take on the celluloid set, Jet's older sister aspires to the life of a movie star while Jet is precipitated into Indigara, a world where failed bit players star in an ongoing B movie.

Le Guin, Ursula K. **Powers**. Harcourt, 2007. 512p. \$17. 978-0-15-205770-1. Voyages, VOYA February 2008. **5Q 4P S**



In the third volume of the Annals of the Western Shore series, Gavir, a young slave with precognitive powers, flees captivity and goes in search of a destiny he has only dimly glimpsed.

MacHale, D. J. **Pendragon: The Pilgrims of Rayne**. Simon & Schuster, 2007. 560p. \$16.99. 978-1-4169-1416-7. VOYA August 2007. **5Q 5P M J S**



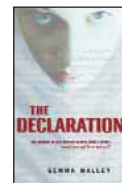
Book eight of the extremely popular Pendragon series finds Bobby and Courtney thwarted at every turn by the evil Saint Dane, who eventually traps Bobby on the mysterious island of Ibara.

MacLeod, Ken. **The Execution Channel**. Tor, 2007. 288p. \$24.95. 978-0-7653-1332-4. Voyages, VOYA October 2007. **5Q 4P S A/YA**



In a near future where nuclear war seems imminent, escalating terrorism has turned most democracies into police states and a rogue television network broadcasts government atrocities under seemingly impossible circumstances.

Malley, Gemma. **The Declaration**. Bloomsbury, 2007. 320p. \$16.95. 978-1-59990-119-0. VOYA December 2007. **5Q 4P J S**



This exceptionally well-written dystopian novel about a world in which everyone is immortal except for a manufactured underclass will have the reader ruminating its ideas long after the novel ends.

Marillier, Juliet. **The Well of Shades**. Tor, 2007. 496p. \$27.95. 978-0-7653-0997-6. VOYA October 2007. **5Q 4P S A/YA**



While on a mission in Ireland for King Bridei of Scotia, master assassin Faolen O'Neill encounters and rescues the daughter and granddaughter of a dead comrade before finding himself in love when he returns to court.

McCullough, Kelly. **Cybermancy**. Ace Books, 2007. 288p. \$6.99 pb. 978-0-441-01538-2. VOYA October 2007. **5Q 4P S A/YA**



The hacker-mage Ravirn must brave the Underworld to rescue his girlfriend's werbgolin/laptop and save the Internet of the Gods from destruction in this cyberfantasy that recalls earlier fiction by both Roger Zelazny and Thorne Smith.

Michaels, Rune. **Genesis Alpha**. Atheneum/S & S, 2007. 208p. \$15.99. 978-1-4169-1886-8. **VOYA** June 2007. **4Q 5P MJ**
Skillfully interweaving science fiction and cyberspace into a murder mystery, this story not only is riveting but also poses lingering questions about morality among other challenging themes.

Meyer, Stephanie. **Eclipse**. Little, Brown/Hachette, 2007. 640p. \$18.99. 978-0-316-16020-9. **VOYA** December 2007. **4Q 5P MJS**
Meyer again transfixes readers with the engrossing saga of a werewolf, a vampire, and the girl whom they both love.

Modesitt, L. E. **Natural Ordermage**. Tor, 2007. 496p. \$27.95. 978-0-765-31813-8. **VOYA** August 2007. **5Q 4P S A/YA**
A self-centered teenaged mage must master his powers in order to survive.

Modesitt, L. E. **Soarer's Choice**. Tor, 2006. 544p. \$27.95. 978-0-7653-1647-9. **VOYA** June 2007. **5Q 4P S A/YA**
Two talented psychic colonial officers must choose between their duty to their invading species and their moral responsibility to the planet on which they and their families now live.

Nix, Garth. **Lady Friday**. Scholastic, 2007. 320p. \$17.99. 978-0-439-70088-7. **VOYA** June 2007. **5Q 4P MJ**
Young Arthur Penhaligon must overcome Lady Friday's treachery in his quest for the fifth part of the Architect's Will in this latest installment in the brilliant and complex Keys to the Kingdom series.

Odom, Mel. **The Quest for the Trilogy**. Tor, 2007. 464p. \$25.95. 978-0-7653-1517-5. **VOYA** October 2007. **5Q 4P JS A/YA**
Juhg, the new head librarian of the Vault of All Knowledge, is coerced into going on a quest that could alter the future of elves, dwarves, and men alike.

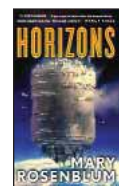
Pullman, Philip. **Once Upon a Time in the North**. Knopf, 2008. 112p. \$12.99. 978-0-375-84510-9. **VOYA** April 2008. **5Q 5P MJ**
When Lee Scoresby lands his balloon on the island of Novy Odense, he is outraged by the actions of a corrupt politician and joins forces with the armored bear Iorek Byrnison to defeat the villain.

Reeve, Philip. **A Darkling Plain**. Eos/HarperCollins, 2007. 576p. \$18.99. 978-0-06-089055-1. PLB \$19.89. 978-0-06-089056-8. **Voyages**, **VOYA** October 2007. **5Q 5P JS**
In this final volume of the Hungry City Chronicles, heroic, young Wren Natsworthy must stop Stalker Fang, the monstrous creation of radical environmentalists, from setting loose an ancient weapon that will destroy humanity.

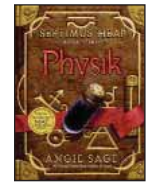
Rosenblum, Mary. **Horizons**. Tor, 2006. 316p. \$24.95. 978-0-7653-1604-2. \$6.99 pb. 978-0-7653-5515-7. **Voyages**, **VOYA** October 2007. **5Q 4P S A/YA**
Cyborged empathic Ahni Huang, sent to the New York Up orbital to investigate her brother's murder, uncovers a complex web of political intrigue set in a world of biological marvels and startling social innovations.

Rowling, J. K. **Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows**. Arthur L. Levine Books/Scholastic, 2007. 759p. \$34.99. 978-0-545-01022-1. **illus.** **VOYA** October 2007. **4Q 5P MJS**
In a magnificent conclusion to the Harry Potter saga, Voldemort takes over the Ministry of Magic and Harry searches for both horcruxes and the truth about Albus Dumbledore.

Ruby, Laura. **The Chaos King**. Eos/HarperCollins, 2007. 336p. \$16.99. 978-0-06-075258-3. PLB \$17.89. 978-0-06-075259-0. **VOYA** June 2007. **5Q 4P MJ**
Bug and Gurl (now Georgie) return to their alternate New York to recover the magical Pen, currently being used to reanimate the dead, and track down its missing rightful owner.



Sage, Angie. **Physik**. HarperCollins, 2007. 560p. \$17.99. 978-0-06-057737-7. PLB \$18.89. 978-0-06-057738-4. \$7.99 Trade pb. 978-0-06-57739-1. **VOYA** June 2007. **4Q 5P MJ**



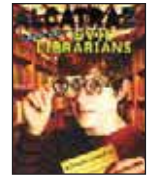
Septimus Heap and Jenna are back, but an ancient queen with a fiendish agenda, an alchemist who needs help, and a mirror that swallows people into other times add twists and turns to their continuing adventures.

Sandell, Lisa Ann. **Song of the Sparrow**. Scholastic, 2007. 416p. \$16.99. 978-0-439-91848-0. **VOYA** August 2007. **5Q 4P JS**



This poetic Arthurian retelling is narrated by young Elaine, Lady of Shallot, who loses her lifelong friend Lancelot to a very haughty Gwynivere until both girls take an active role in the campaign against the Saxon.

Sanderson, Brandon. **Alcatraz Versus the Evil Librarians**. Scholastic, 2007. 320p. \$16.99. 978-0-439-92550-1. **VOYA** October 2007. **5Q 5P MJ**

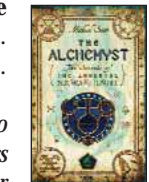


When Alcatraz finds out that he is actually living under the rule of evil librarians feeding the world misinformation, he learns that the only way to save the day is to use his talent—for breaking things.

Sargent, Pamela. **Farseed**. Tor Teen, 2007. 288p. \$17.95. 978-0-7653-1427-7. **VOYA** August 2007. **5Q 4P JS**

When two long-separated human settlements on the planet Home finally reestablish contact, violence erupts, and young Nuy, born on Home and possessed of strange talents, must try to bring peace before it is too late.

Scott, Michael. **The Alchemist: The Secrets of the Immortal Nicholas Flamel**. Delacorte, 2007. 384p. \$16.99. 978-0-385-73357-1. PLB \$19.99. 978-0-385-90372-1. **VOYA** June 2007. **5Q 4P MJ**



The legendary alchemist Nicholas Flamel recruits two teens who possess vast and untapped magical powers in his desperate quest to stop the Dark Elders and their supernatural minions from enslaving the human race.

Shusterman, Neal. **Darkness Creeping: Twenty Twisted Tales**. Puffin, 2007. 304p. \$7.99 Trade pb. 978-0-14-240721-9. **VOYA** June 2007. **4Q 5P MJ**



The author takes a walk on the dark side in this collection of spooky stories—some old, others new, but all delightfully creepy—covering soccer to security blankets and the sinister ice cream truck.

Wasserman, Robin. **Chasing Yesterday, #1: Awakening**. Scholastic, 2007. 224p. \$5.99 Trade pb. 978-0-439-93338-4. **VOYA** June 2007. **4Q 5P MJ**

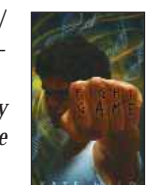


After surviving an industrial accident that should have killed her and suffering from amnesia and horrible nightmares, a teenager tries to discover the truth about both her supposed past and her unknown future.

Weber, David, and Eric. **1634: The Baltic War**. Baen, 2007. 728p. \$26. 978-1-4165-2102-0. **VOYA** October 2007. **5Q 4P S A/YA**

During spring 1634, the residents of the new United States of Europe battle the combined forces of Denmark, England, France, and Spain for their lives and freedom.

Wild, Kate. **Fight Game**. The Chicken House/Scholastic, 2007. 280p. \$16.99. 978-0-439-87175-4. **VOYA** August 2007. **5Q 4P MJS**



Intriguing supporting characters bolster an already strong protagonist in a tale that seems to blend science fiction espionage with Grimm fairy tale. ■