

Best Science Fiction, Fa

VOYA's 19th annual list of top science fiction, fantasy, and horror titles features new authors, such as Christopher Paolini and S. D. Tower, who join established writers whose work can always be found here, such as Terry Pratchett, Mercedes Lackey, and Charles de Lint. And what "best" list would be complete without Harry? The prize for How Does She Write So Much That Is Consistently Top-Notch goes to Lackey with four titles appearing this year. The list is limited to narrative works only and is further narrowed to books whose quality and popularity ratings are 5s or 4s.

Allen, Will. **Swords for Hire**. Centerpunch Press, 2003. 168p. \$6.95 Trade pb. 0-9724882-0-0. **VOYA** June 2003. **4Q 5P M J S**

Take an eccentric but talented swordsman, a farm boy, an imprisoned king and his jealous brother, and one feisty young woman, place them in a medieval setting and add a healthy dose of humor, and the result is a rollicking tale.

Armstrong, Jennifer, and Nancy Butcher. **The Kiln**. HarperCollins, 2003. 208p. \$15.99. 0-06-008050-7. PLB \$16.89. 0-06-029413-2. \$5.99 pb. 0-06-447271-X. **VOYA** June 2003. **4Q 4P M J**

In the conclusion of the Fire-us Trilogy, Hunter, Teacher, and their friends discover the cause of the devastating plague that destroyed their world, learn the fate of the President, and avert yet another apocalypse.

Atwater-Rhodes, Amelia. **Hawksong**. Delacorte, 2003. 243p. \$9.95. 0-385-73071-3. **VOYA** June 2003. **4Q 4P M J S**

Although their families have been locked in war for centuries, shapeshifters Danica Sharda and Zane Cobriana are willing to marry for peace despite assassination attempts, prejudice, and strong opposition.

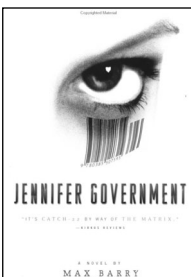
Barrett, Tracy. **Cold in Summer**. Henry Holt, 2003. 208p. \$16.95. 0-8050-7052-4. **VOYA** June 2003. **4Q 4P M J**

The classic new-kid-in-town story gets a ghostly twist as newcomer Ariadne attempts to help an altruistic young girl, who died years ago in a flood, find her final resting place.



Baker, E. D. **Dragon's Breath**. Bloomsbury, 2003. 250p. \$15.95. 1-58234-858-8. **VOYA** April 2004. **4Q 4P M J**

*Talking bats, Dragon Olympics, and a fitful flying carpet are some of the charming ingredients in this fast-moving, inventive, coming-of-(witch)age sequel to **The Frog Princess** (Bloomsbury, 2002/**VOYA** December 2002).*



Barry, Max. **Jennifer Government**. Doubleday, 2003. 321p. \$19.95. 0-385-44835-9. **VOYA** October 2003, *Voyages*. **4Q 4P S A/YA**

Reminiscent of an action movie, witty, and satisfyingly complex, this believable portrait of a capitalistic takeover by powerful individuals with more guts than scruples lets the good guys win in the end but not without a long, bloody fight.

Bear, Greg. **Darwin's Children**. Del Rey, 2003. 383p. \$24.95. 0-345-44835-9. **VOYA** October 2003, *Voyages*. **5Q 4P S A/YA**

A fast-paced story of genetic evolution, with deeply moving but ordinary characters who display extraordinary courage and curiosity, inspires hope for peace among people who are different.

Bell, Hilari. **Book of Sorahb, Volume 1: Flame**. Simon & Schuster, 2003. 352p. \$16.95. 0-689-85413-7. **VOYA** October 2003. **5Q 4P M J S**

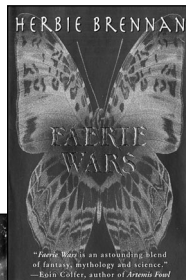
With intrigue and battle, honor and magic, Jiann, Soraya, and Kavi face critical choices that will define and shape their lives far beyond the ensuing battle between the overconfident Farsala and the invading Hrum armies.



Bell, Hilari. **The Goblin Wood**. HarperCollins, 2003. 320p. \$16.99. 0-06-051371-3. PLB \$16.89. 0-06-051372-1. \$6.99 Trade pb. 0-06-051373-X. **VOYA** August 2003. **4Q 4P M J**

Makenna and her loyal troupe of goblins marshal their motley enchantments against Tobin, a determined knight from the Realm of the Bright Gods, but the outcome surprises them all.

Brennan, Herbie. **Faerie Wars**. Bloomsbury, 2003. 371p. \$17.95. 1-58234-810-3. \$5.99 pb. 0-7475-6467-1. **VOYA** June 2003. **4Q 4P M J S**



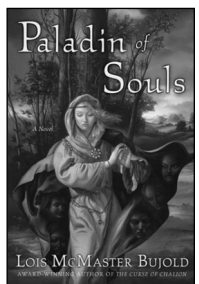
Interesting magic, distinct characters, and respect for readers make this book, featuring a boy in England who crosses paths with an emperor's heir from the Faerie World, an enjoyable, slightly dark fantasy.

Buckner, M. M. **Hyperthought**. Ace, 2003. 177p. \$5.99 pb. 0-441-01023-7. **VOYA** February 2004, *Voyages*. **4Q 4P J S A/YA**

Fast action, clever gadgetry, surprising twists, richly woven texture, and intelligent language make this classically YA science fiction novel an exciting read.

Bujold, Lois McMaster. **Paladin of Souls**. Eos/HarperCollins, 2003. 456p. \$24.95. 0-380-97902-0. **VOYA** February 2004. **5Q 4P S A/YA**

*The Dowager Royina Ista, having found release from her madness, finds herself again touched by the gods as she attempts to save Chalion from a potentially devastating demon curse in this sequel to **The Curse of Chalion** (Eos/Harper Collins, 2001/**VOYA** December 2001).*



Callhoun, Dia. **White Midnight**. Farrar Straus Giroux, 2003. 304p. \$18. 0-374-38389-8. **VOYA** December 2002. **4Q 4P J S**

*In this prequel to **Firegold** (Winslow, 1999/**VOYA** August 1999), Greengarden Orchard bond girl Rose Chandler, haunted by memories and facing forced marriage to the Beast, struggles with intense fears and stands up for what she wants and believes.*

antasy, and Horror 2003

Card, Orson Scott. **The Crystal City.** Tor, 2003. 416p. \$25.95. 0-312-86483-3. **VOYA** February 2004. **4Q 4P J S A/YA**

The culmination of The Tales of Alvin Maker is sure to satisfy faithful readers and thrill new fans as Alvin fulfills his destiny as Maker in this magical adventure in an alternative America.

Card, Orson Scott. **First Meetings in the Enderverse.** Tor Teen, 2003. 208p. \$17.95. 0-765-30873-8. **VOYA** February 2004. *Voyages.* **5Q 5P J S A/YA**

Combining his classic novella Ender's Game with two prequels and a sequel, Card revisits the Wiggins clan and carefully balances cynicism and respect for human decency.



Child, Lincoln. **Utopia.** Doubleday, 2002. 385p. \$24.95. 0-385-50668-6. Fawcett, 2003. \$6.99 pb. 0-345-45520-7. **VOYA** June 2003. **4Q 4P S A/YA**

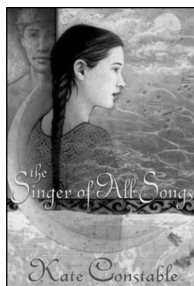
The world's most technologically advanced amusement park is held hostage by high-tech criminals who cause computers to malfunction and rides to fail.

Collins, Suzanne. **Gregor the Overlander.** Scholastic, 2003. 320p. \$16.95. 0-439-43536-6. **VOYA** October 2003. **4Q 4P M J**

Eleven-year-old Gregor and his two-year-old sister, Boots, are launched into a fantastic adventure when they tumble down an air duct into an extraordinary underground world inhabited by giant rats, cockroaches, and bats.

Constable, Kate. **The Singer of All Songs.** Arthur A. Levine/Scholastic, 2004, ©2002. 304p. \$16.95. 0-439-55478-0. **VOYA** April 2004. **4Q 4P J S**

Novice ice priestess Calwyn plunges into adventure as she accompanies Darrow, a man determined not to let a former friend become the Singer of All Songs and rule the planet of Tremaris.



Crusade of Fire: Mystical Tales of the Knights Templar. Katherine Kurtz, Ed. Warner, 2002. 304p. \$5.99 pb. 0-446-61090-9. **VOYA** August 2003. **4Q 4P S A/YA**

In her third collection of stories about the Knights Templar, Kurtz treats readers to the work of historical fantasy writers who build on the legend and explore the mystery of the warrior monks of the Crusades.

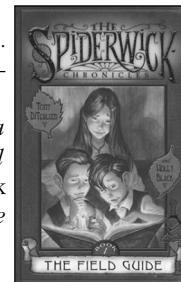
De Lint, Charles. **Spirits in the Wires.** Tor, 2003. 448p. \$27.95. 0-312-87398-0. **VOYA** December 2003. **5Q 4P J S A/YA**

Ancient spirits gleefully discover the cyberworld of computers and the Internet before a computer virus turns technology into a threat for the Otherworld and humanity alike.

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DiTerlizzi, Tony, and Holly Black. **The Field Guide.** Simon & Schuster, 2003. 107p. \$9.95. 0-689-85936-8. **VOYA** August 2003. **4Q 4P M**

The three Grace children find themselves living in a dilapidated mansion populated by supernatural beings in this first adventure of The Spiderwick Chronicles, with marvelous illustrations to breathe life into their escapades.



Douglass, Sara. **Beyond the Hanging Wall.** Tor, 2003, ©1996. 336p. \$24.95. 0-765-30449-X. **VOYA** February 2004. **4Q 5P S A/YA**

Nineteen-year-old apprentice physician Garth Baxtor must learn to trust himself and his instincts when he decides to help reinstate to the throne of Escator the True King Maximilian, who was abducted seventeen years ago.

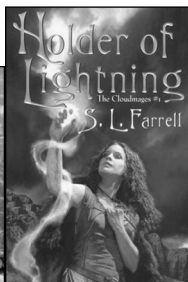
Duane, Diane. **Wizard's Holiday.** Harcourt, 2003. 300p. \$17. 0-15-204771-9. **VOYA** April 2004. **4Q 4P M J S**

When three young wizards get signed up for an exchange program, they will have to work quickly to save two worlds from a dire fate in a story full of magic, adventure, and suspense.

DuPrau, Joanne. **The City of Ember.** Random House, 2003. 288p. \$15.95. 0-375-82273-9. PLB \$17.99. 0-375-92274-1. **VOYA** June 2003. **4Q 4P M J**

DuPrau blends science fiction and adventure in a captivating story featuring two gutsy teens who solve a puzzle, elude villains, and escape a city-sized bomb shelter.

Farrell, S. L. **Holder of Lightning.** DAW, 2003. 494p. \$23.95. 0-7564-0130-5. \$6.99 pb. 0-7564-0152-6. **VOYA** June 2003. **4Q 4P S A/YA**

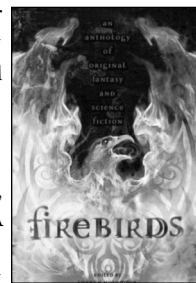


Seventeen-year-old Jenna Aoire must find a way to harness Lamb Shabbala, a magic talisman of enormous power, before it destroys her and unleashes a firestorm upon her world in this first novel in the Cloudmages series.

Firebirds: An Anthology of Original Fantasy and Science Fiction.

Sharyn November, Ed. Firebird/Penguin Putnam, 2003. 440p. \$19.99. 0-14-250142-5. **VOYA** December 2003. **5Q 4P S A/YA**

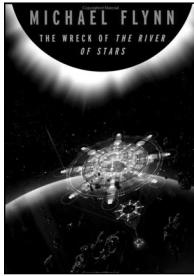
This anthology of sixteen original short stories for teen readers features tales of youth overcoming difficulty and includes work by such noted YA authors as Meredith Ann Pierce, Patricia McKillip, and Nancy Farmer.



Fisk, Pauline. **Midnight Blue.** Bloomsbury, 2003, ©1990. 218p. \$16.95. 1-58234-829-4. **VOYA** December 2003. **5Q 4P M J S**

In this masterfully blended story, free-spirited young Bonnie fights inner demons and escapes the clutches of her oppressive grandmother, Grandbag, in a balloon that takes her to "a land beyond the sky" where evil lurks.

Flynn, Michael. **The Wreck of the River of Stars**. Tor, 2003. 496p. \$27.95. 0-765-30099-0. VOYA August 2004. 5Q 4P S A/YA



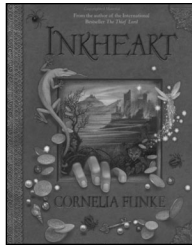
Stripped of its state-of-the-art sails and outfitted with conventional engines, River of Stars is manned by a crew of misfits who find themselves unable to maintain the ship or their cohesiveness when their Captain dies.

Foon, Dennis. **The Dirt Eaters**. Annick Press, 2003. 320p. \$19.95. 1-55037-807-4. \$9.95 Trade pb. 1-55037-806-6. VOYA February 2004. 4Q 4P J S

In a post-apocalyptic world, fifteen-year-old Roan must use his finely boned skills of mind and body to elude capture that would enslave his and his sister's powers in the first book of The Longlight Legacy trilogy.

Funke, Cornelia. **Inkheart**. Scholastic, 2003. 544p. \$19.95. 0-439-53164-0. VOYA December 2003. 5Q 4P M J

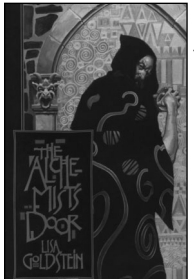
A compassionate bookmender discovers his magical ability to release characters from the books he reads, but he must return the reluctant bad guys to the pages of Inkheart while desperately keeping track of his wife and daughter.



Giambastiani, Kurt. **The Spirit of Thunder**. Roc, 2002. 357p. \$6.99 pb. 0-451-45870-2. VOYA June 2003, Voyages. 4Q 4P S A/YA

In an alternate history, Custer has been elected President of the United States while his son remains with the Cheyenne, gaining their trust and learning the skills to fend off his father's plans to populate their territory with settlers.

Goldstein, Lisa. **The Alchemist's Door**. Tor, 2002. 286p. \$23.95. 0-765-30150-4. \$14.95 Trade pb. 0-765-30151-2. VOYA June 2003. 4Q 4P S A/YA



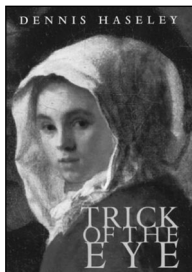
Famous alchemist Dr. John Dee longs to communicate with angels but demons are conjured instead, forcing him to join forces with Rabbi Judah Loew to summon the golem who alone has the power to save the world.

Hale, Shannon. **The Goose Girl**. Bloomsbury, 2003. 388p. \$17.95. 1-58234-843-X. VOYA October 2003. 4Q 4P J S

When her guards try to murder her, Princess Ani becomes a goose girl to save herself and her country in this lush, suspenseful, and magical retelling of Grimm's fairy tale.

Hasely, Dennis. **Trick of the Eye**. Dial, 2004. 199p. \$16.99. 0-8037-2856-5. VOYA April 2004. 4Q 4P J S

Almost thirteen, Richard begins to communicate with figures inside of paintings that hint at his mysterious past, prompting him to examine other famous art hoping to decipher haunting memories suppressed for nine years.



Hoffman, Nina Kiriki. **A Stir of Bones**. Viking, 2003. 224p. \$15.99. 0-670-03551-3. VOYA December 2003. 4Q 4P M J S

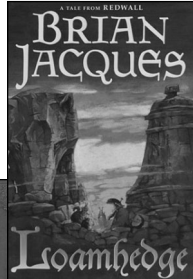
*Fourteen-year-old Susan visits a haunted house where she discovers that she might have found the strength to escape the suffocating hold of her abusive father through the help of the supernatural beings living there in this prequel to **A Red Heart of Memories** (Ace, 1999/VOYA February 2000).*

Huntington, Geoffrey. **Demon Witch**. HarperCollins, 2003. 276p.

\$17.95. 0-06-001427-X. VOYA February 2004. 4Q 4P J S
Young scion of the Nightwing Sorcerers, Devon March battles the evil spirit of another apostate sorcerer from the past and discovers more about his parentage in this fast-paced modern horror-fantasy.



Jacques, Brian. **Loamhedge**. Philomel, 2003. 432p. \$23.99. 0-399-23724-0. VOYA December 2003. 4Q 5P M J



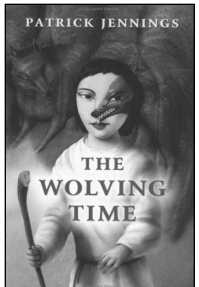
The creatures of Redwall face new perils in the sixteenth installment, as old fighters and impulsive young beasts leave the comforts of the Abbey for the ancient ruins of Loamhedge.

Jarvis, Robin. **The Alchemist's Cat**. Sea Star Books, 2003, ©1989. 320p. \$17.95. 1-58717-257-7. VOYA December 2003. 5Q 4P M J S

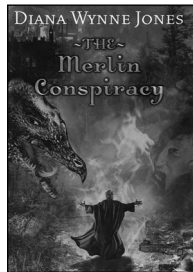
The rich, sensuous, and mysterious world of nocturnal felines is seamlessly intertwined with wizardry in this action-packed plot, creating an exciting new fantasy world that crackles with originality.

Jennings, Patrick. **The Wolving Time**. Scholastic, 2003. 208p. \$15.95. 0-439-39555-0. VOYA December 2003. 4Q 4P M J

In sixteenth-century France, Laszlo herds sheep until a girl spots his parents changing into wolves, sparking a fear that his family might be hunted as werewolves and making Laszlo wonder whether he also can change.



Jones, Diana Wynne. **The Merlin Conspiracy**. Greenwillow, 2003. \$16.99. 0-06-052318-2. VOYA August 2004. 4Q 5P M J S



When the king's Merlin in an alternate England suddenly drops dead, Roddy, Grundo, and Nick suspect foul play and embark on a quest to expose a conspiracy that threatens the magical Kingdom of Blest and a dozen other worlds.

Karr, Kathleen. **The 7th Knot**. Cavendish, 2003. 149p. \$15.95. 0-7614-5135-8. VOYA February 2004. 4Q 4P J S A/YA

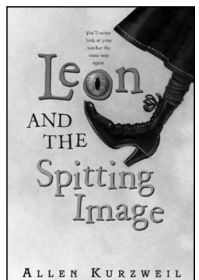
In this adventurous romp through the underground art world of late nineteenth-century Europe, two teenaged boys pursue their missing tutor into Germany where they encounter the artist Dürer and his Dürerbund.

Klasky, Mindy L. **Glasswright's Test**. Roc, 2003. 344p. \$6.99 pb. 0-451-45931-8. VOYA December 2003. 5Q 4P J S

Glasswright Rani Trader negotiates intrigue, deception, honor, power, loyalties, and integrity as she tests for Master glasswright status in this fourth volume of The Glasswrights' Saga.

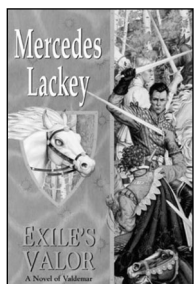
Kurzweil, Allen. **Leon and the Spitting Image**. HarperCollins, 320p. \$15.99. 0-06-053930-5. VOYA February 2004. 4Q 4P M

Desperate not to fail his school sewing project, Leon discovers that his cloth doll has mysterious powers over his teacher, Miss Hagmeyer.





Lackey, Mercedes. **Exile's Valor**. DAW, 2003. 402p. \$24.95. 0-7564-0206-9. **VOYA** February 2004. **4Q 4P S A/YA**



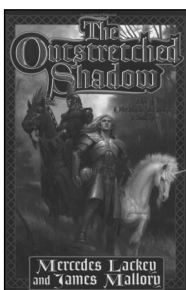
Herald and part-time spy Alberich of Karse adjusts to his new life as the Collegium's Weaponsmaster and Chief Protector of grieving and lonely Queen Selenay of Valdemar.

Lackey, Mercedes. **Joust**. DAW, 2003. 373p. \$24.95. 0-756-40122-4. \$7.99 pb. 0-756-40153-4. **VOYA** August 2003. **4Q 4P S A/YA**

As a serf in occupied Alta, Vetch is forced to labor for a cruel master on his own family's land before he is taken by a dragon-riding Tian Joust to become a dragon-boy, raise a dragon, and escape.

Lackey, Mercedes, and James Mallory. **The Outstretched Shadow**. Tor, 2003. 603p. \$25.95. 0-765-30219-5. **VOYA** December 2003. **5Q 4P J S A/YA**

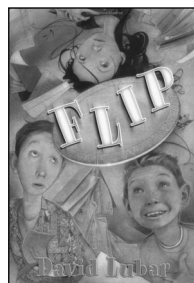
The opening volume of The Obsidian Trilogy features seventeen-year-old Kellen Travadon, son of the Arch-Mage Armethalieb, who rejects his legacy to instead follow a path of Wild Magic beyond the safety of his enchanted city.



Lackey, Mercedes, and Rosemary Edghill. **Mad Maudlin**. Baen, 2003. 439p. \$25. 0-7434-7143-1. **VOYA** December 2003. **5Q 4P S A/YA**

About to graduate from Juilliard and under psychiatric care, Eric Banyon returns to find that his parents have borne a second son meant to replace him but who has also run away in this fourth installment of Bedlam's Bard.

Lubar, David. **Flip**. Tor, 2003. 300p. \$17.95. 0-765-30149-0. **VOYA** August 2003. **4Q 4P M J**



Thirteen-year-old Ryan McKenzie discovers some amazing disks left by aliens that allow him to experience the lives of famous historical persons, but will they save him from his angry parents, frustrated teachers, and a vicious bully?

MacHale, D. J. **Pendragon: The Never War**. Aladdin/S & S, 2003. 352p. \$5.99 pb. 0-7434-3733-0. **VOYA** October 2003. **4Q 4P M J**

Bobby Pendragon and his fellow Travelers are sent back in time to prevent one of America's worst air disasters, a plot engineered by the evil planet destroyer, Saint Dane, in the third Pendragon book.

MacHale, D. J. **Pendragon: The Reality Bug**.

Aladdin/S & S, 2003. 384p. \$5.99 pb. 0-7434-3734-9. **VOYA** December 2003. **4Q 4P M J**
Reality and fantasy duel for the future of the planet Veelox in this ingenious fourth volume of the Pendragon series.

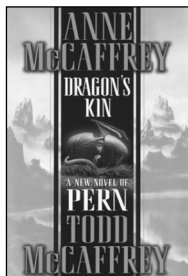


Mahy, Margaret. **Alchemy**. Margaret McElderry Books/S & S, 2003. 224p. \$16.95. 0-689-85053-0. **VOYA** June 2003. **5Q 4P J S**

Mysteries in his past come shrieking into the present when seventeen-year-old Roland gets to know Jess, a girl who practices alchemy, in this rich, layered, and suspenseful tale of the supernatural.

McCaffrey, Anne, and Todd McCaffrey. **Dragon's Kin**. Ballantine/Del Rey, 2003. 304p. \$24.95. 0-345-46198-3. **VOYA** April 2004. **4Q 5P J**

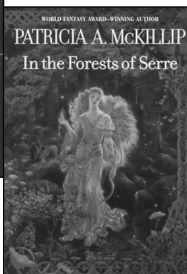
When his father and brothers are killed in the mine, Kindan raises the new watch-wber, but it is Nuella, his blind friend, who learns to use the unique powers of this distant relative to dragons.



McKenzie, Nancy. **Grail Prince: A Novel of Galahad, Son of Lancelot**. Del Rey, 2003. 576p. \$14.95 Trade pb. 0-345-45648-3. **VOYA** June 2003. **4Q 4P S A/YA**

Galahad, the pure of heart, struggles to fulfill King Arthur's dying command, a quest for three relics that hold the key to Britain's survival, while struggling with the destiny prophesied by the Lady of Lake and his own heart's desire.

McKillip, Patricia. **In the Forests of Serre**. Ace, 2003. 295p. \$22.95. 0-441-01011-3. **VOYA** December 2003. **5Q 4P M J S**



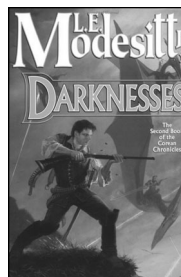
Prince Ronan combs the forest for an elusive firebird while his bride-to-be searches for him, and both fall prey to the witch Brume, whose bargains cost them dearly before eventually reuniting them.

McKinley, Robin. **Sunshine**. Berkley, 2003. 400p. \$23.95. 0-425-19178-8. **VOYA** December 2003. **4Q 4P S A/YA**

Sunshine is a magic-handler who forms a dangerous, passionate bond with the vampire Constantine in this sophisticated and spellbinding alternate world where nothing is as it seems.

Modesitt, L. E. **Darknesses**. Tor, 2003. 528p. \$27.95. 0-765-30704-9. **VOYA** December 2003. **4Q 4P S A/YA**

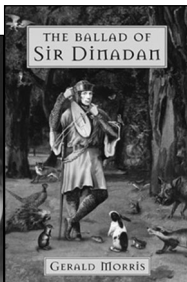
Alucius must defeat a nomad board, sorcerous creatures, two devouring parasitic entities, and a band of assassins before he can return home in this second novel of the Chorean Chronicles.



Moon, Russell. **Blood War**. HarperCollins, 2002. 144p. \$6.99 pb. 0-06-440797-7. **VOYA** June 2003. **4Q 4P M J S**

The thrilling and action-packed conclusion to the Witch Boy trilogy finds Marcus, the witch boy prince, in a battle to save what's left of his family or be destroyed by the evil coven who wants to rule his kingdom.

Morris, Gerald. **The Ballad of Sir Dinadan**. Houghton Mifflin, 2003. 256p. \$15. 0-618-19099-6. **VOYA** June 2003. **4Q 4P J S**



The reluctant Sir Dinadan of the Round Table would much prefer to be singing songs than sword fighting, but he nonetheless finds himself embroiled in saving one person after another, including his lovesick lunatic brother.

Myers, Anna. **Flying Blind**. Walker, 2003. 192p. \$16.95. 0-8027-8879-3. **VOYA** October 2003. **4Q 4P M J S**

A sarcastically compassionate macaw inspires thirteen-year-old Ben Riley and his adoptive father to use their nineteenth-century medicine show to save both wild birds and humans from decorating fashionable ladies' hats.

Nagata, Linda. **Memory**. Tor, 2003. 464p. \$26.95. 0-312-87721-8. **VOYA** October 2003. **4Q 4P S A/YA**
Subtle romance and mystical elements such as fate and reincarnation mask this novel's hard science fiction core, resulting in a work likely to appeal particularly to female readers.



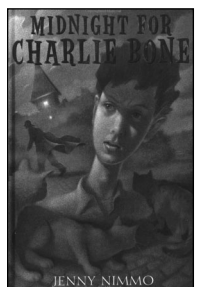
Napoli, Donna Jo. **The Great God Pan**. Wendy Lamb Books/Random House, 2003. 150p. \$15.95. 0-385-32777-3. **VOYA** December 2003. **5Q 4P M J**
Pan, the young half-human, half-goat son of Mercury, is torn between love and lust, independence and community, and acceptance and rejection, his life complicated by the meddling and jealous Olympic gods.

New Skies: An Anthology of Today's Science Fiction. Patrick Nielsen Hayden, Ed. Tor, 2003. 288p. \$19.95. 0-765-30016-8. **VOYA** April 2004. **5Q 4P J S**
This superb collection of science fiction short stories chosen by an award-winning editor features work by Nancy Kress, Greg Bear, Jane Yolen, Orson Scott Card, and a variety of other top writers.



Nimmo, Jenny. **Charlie Bone and the Time Twister**. Orchard, 2003. 416p. \$9.95 Trade pb. 0-439-49687-X. **VOYA** February 2004. **5Q 5P M J S**
In the second book about Charlie Bone, he teams his magical abilities with those of other endowed children and adults to rescue his great uncle Henry from the plots of the evil Bloor family and Charlie's despicable aunts.

Nimmo, Jenny. **Midnight for Charlie Bone**. Orchard, 2003, ©2002. 401p. PLB \$9.95. 0-439-47429-9. **VOYA** August 2003. **4Q 4P M J S**
After discovering that he has magical powers, Charlie Bone attends Bloor's Academy, where he meets others with unique skills as they go up against some evil people with dastardly plans in the first Charlie Bone book.



Nix, Garth. **The Keys to the Kingdom: Mister Monday**. Scholastic, 2003. 361p. \$5.99 Trade pb. 0-439-55123-4. **VOYA** February 2003. **4Q 4P J S**
In this series opener, Arthur Penbaligon finds a curious Key that leads him into an immense House which only he can see, where he searches for the man called Mister Monday and a cure for a mysterious plague.

Paolini, Christopher. **Eragon**. Knopf, 2003. 512p. \$18.95. 0-375-82668-8. **VOYA** August 2003. **4Q 4P S**
A hatching dragon egg also gives birth to a new life for the young man destined to reignite the fires of magic and take up the burden that the legendary Dragon Riders have left behind.



Pierce, Tamora. **Shatterglass**. Scholastic, 2003. 368p. \$16.95. 0-590-39683-8. **VOYA** June 2003. **4Q 4P M J**
In the conclusion to The Circle Opens series, Tris Chandler and her apprentice Keth, on the trail of an unknown murderer, unleash their weather magic to discover the culprit.

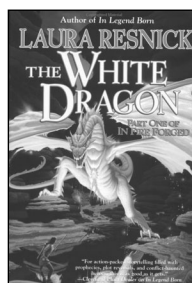
Pierce, Tamora. **Trickster's Choice**. Random House, 2003. 446p. \$17.95. 0-375-81466-3. PLB \$19.99. 0-375-91466-8. **VOYA** October 2003. **4Q 5P M J S**
Sixteen-year-old Aly makes a wager with Kyprioth, the trickster god of the Copper Isles, to keep two girls safe from royal assassins in the first book of

The Daughter of the Lioness series. Pratchett, Terry. **Monstrous Regiment**. HarperCollins, 2003. 353p. \$24.95. 0-06-001315-X. **VOYA** February 2004. **4Q 4P M J S A/YA**
Disguised as a boy, Polly Perks enlists in the army and discovers that she is not the only masquerading woman in the misfit regiment, which is Borogravia's last hope in a long and bloody war.



Pratchett, Terry. **Night Watch**. HarperCollins, 2002. 352p. \$24.95. 0-06-001311-7. \$7.50 pb. 0-06-001312-5. **VOYA** June 2003. **5Q 4P S A/YA**
Unwillingly transported back to the days of his youth, commander of the Ankh-Morpork Watch Sam Vimes faces a series of difficult dilemmas in this chronicle of Discworld, complete with Pratchett's trademark twisted plot.

Rees, Douglas. **Vampire High**. Delacorte, 2003. 226p. \$15.95. 0-385-73117-5. PLB \$17.99. 0-385-90143-7. **VOYA** February 2004. **4Q 4P M J S**
Failing his classes and required to attend another school, Cody chooses Vlad Dracul Magnet School, where he and other jentis (normal humans) are forced to be on the water polo team because vampires cannot swim.



Resnick, Laura. **The White Dragon: In Fire Forged, Part 1**. Tor, 2003. 496p. \$25.95. 0-312-89056-7. \$7.99 pb. 0-812-55548-1. **VOYA** December 2003. **5Q 4P J S A/YA**
After Firebringer Josarian is killed by the White Dragon, the freedom of Sileria depends on the assassin Tansen; the prophecies of Mirabar, the fiery-haired daughter of fire; and a sea-born youth surrounded by mystery.

Rowling, J. K. **Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix**. Scholastic, 2003. 896p. \$29.99. 0-439-35806-X. **VOYA** August 2003. **5Q 5P M J S**
In his fifth adventure, Harry and his friends take on the Ministry of Magic as they attempt to assist Dumbledore's Order of the Phoenix in its struggle against Lord Voldemort.

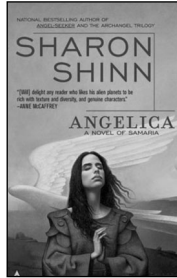
Seidler, Tor. **Brainboy and the Deathmaster**. HarperCollins, 2003. 311p. \$16.99. 0-06-029181-8. PLB \$17.89. 0-06-029182-6. **VOYA** October 2003. **5Q 4P M J**
Thirteen-year-old orphan Darryl Kirby must escape a "think tank" of child geniuses established by a video game billionaire bent on staying young forever.



Shan, Darren. **Cirque du Freak: Trials of Death**. Little, Brown, 2003. 180p. \$15.95. 0-316-60367-8. **VOYA** October 2003. **4Q 5P M J**
Fire, flood, wild boars, and needle-like stalactites are the easy challenges facing Darren Shand during his vampire trials, before a more deadly confrontation comes from an unexpected source—a trusted friend and fellow vampire.

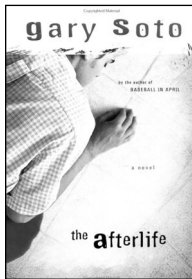
Shinn, Sharon. **Angelica**. Ace, 2003. 485p. \$27.95. 0-441-01013-X. \$7.99 pb. 0-441-01146-2. **VOYA** August 2003. **5Q 4P S A/YA**

This much anticipated addition to the Samaria series features an independent story line, early Samaritan setting, angels, and nomadic Edori that are sure to gain new fans.



Shusterman, Neal. **Full Tilt**. Simon & Schuster, 2003. 208p. \$16.95. 0-689-80374-5. **VOYA** October 2003. **4Q 4P J S**
When Blake's brother disappears inside the alluring Cassandra's roving carnival, he offers his soul up for entry and before dawn must survive seven rides that are specially built on each rider's deepest fears.

Soto, Gary. **The Afterlife**. Harcourt, 2003. 176p. \$16. 0-15-204774-3. **VOYA** February 2004. **4Q 4P J S**

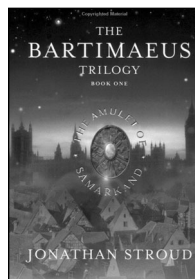


From the afterlife, recently murdered Chuy observes his friends, family, strangers, and even his murderer from his ghostlike state as he falls in love with teen ghost Crystal.

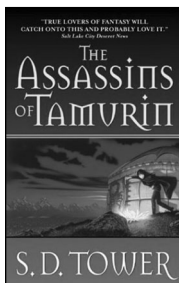
Stars: Original Stories Based on the Songs of Janis Ian. Janis Ian and Mike Resnick, Eds. DAW, 2003. 544p. \$23.95. 0-7564-0177-1. **VOYA** February 2004, *Voyages*. **4Q 4P J S A/YA**

Inspired by Ian's lyrics and music, more than thirty science fiction authors offer tales that differ in subject matter but share a tone of wistfulness for that adolescent passion to be noticed and to love.

Stroud, Jonathan. **The Amulet of Samarkand**. Hyperion, 2003. 544p. \$17.95. 0-7868-1859-X. **VOYA** December 2003. **5Q 5P M J S**
Nathaniel, a magician's apprentice, and the djinni he summons, Bartimaeus, steal the powerful Amulet of Samarkand and suddenly face perils as they try to save London's magical community from an evil magician in this first volume of the Bartimaeus Trilogy.



Taylor, G. P. **Shadowmancer**. G. P. Putnam's Sons, 2004. 304p. \$16.99. 0-399-24256-2. **VOYA** April 2004. **5Q 4P S A/YA**
Readers will be swept up in the story of Kate, Thomas, and the angel Rabnah as they attempt to retrieve a grail-like artifact and restore it to its rightful place, battling boggles and hobs and even the devil himself along the way.

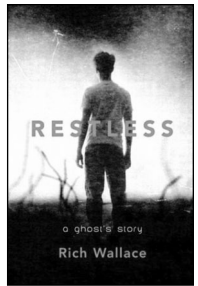


Tower, S. D. **The Assassins of Tamurin**. HarperCollins, 2003. 454p. \$25.95. 0-380-97803-2. \$7.50 pb. 0-380-80621-5. **VOYA** June 2003. **4Q 4P S A/YA**
In a novel that vibrates with magic, treachery, and madness, Lale matures from a bedraggled youth to a stunningly beautiful actress and spy, not suspecting that she is being molded into the woman who will seduce the Sun King.

Turtledove, Harry. **In the Presence of Mine Enemies**. NAL, 2003. 454p. \$24.95. 0-451-52902-2. **VOYA** April 2004. **5Q 4P S A/YA**

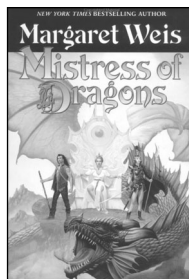
In this masterful alternate history of a world ruled by the Third Reich, a middle-class Berlin family of covert Jews hopes that the new Führer will bring political change.

Wallace, Rich. **Restless: A Ghost's Story**. Viking, 2003. 176p. \$15.99. 0-670-03605-6. **VOYA** October 2003. **5Q 4P J**
While jogging through the cemetery, Herbie feels someone following him and begins to investigate the possibility of ghosts in this novel that interweaves contemporary topics with eerie storytelling.



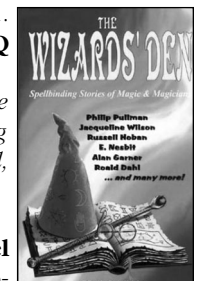
Wein, Elizabeth E. **The Sunbird**. Viking, 2004. 224p. \$16.99. 0-670-03691-9. Glossary. Illus. Map. **VOYA** April 2004. **4Q 4P M J**
In this second book in a trilogy, Telemakos, grandson of the High King Artos, is sent disguised into the Salt Desert on a dangerous mission to discover the traitor bringing plague into the cities of sixth-century Askum.

Weis, Margaret. **Mistress of Dragons**. Tor, 2003. 400p. \$25.95. 0-765-30468-6. **VOYA** August 2003. **4Q 4P S A/YA**
Draconis, a dragon in human form, is sent by the Parliament of Dragons to find the key to bringing down the renegade mistress of Seth in this first volume of the Dragonvald Trilogy.

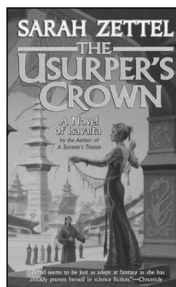


Westerfeld, Scott. **Midnighters: The Secret Hour**. HarperCollins, 2004. 304p. \$15.99. 0-06-051951-2. PLB \$16.89. 0-06-051952-5. **VOYA** April 2004. **4Q 4P J S**
Jessica quickly learns that she and other teens at her new high school possess special powers when time freezes at midnight in this action-filled series debut.

The Wizard's Den: Spellbinding Stories of Magic and Magicians. Peter Haining, Ed. Souvenir Press, 2003, ©2001. 320p. \$22.95. 0-285-63628-6. **VOYA** August 2003. **4Q 4P J**
This collection of sixteen short stories from some of the best-known writers of the twentieth century, including Philip Pullman, Ray Bradbury, and Roald Dahl, provide a solid introduction to the fantasy genre.



Yolen, Jane. **Sword of the Rightful King: A Novel of King Arthur**. Harcourt, 2003. 368p. \$17. 0-15-202527-8. **VOYA** June 2003. **5Q 4P M J**
With subtle foreshadowing, Yolen weaves a tale of magic with a sword buried in stone, a young page who is not what he seems, and the beginning of a tragic love story, all converging on Camelot at the summer solstice.



Zettel, Sarah. **The Usurper's Crown: A Novel of Isavalta**. Tor, 2003. 528p. \$27.95. 0-312-87442-1. \$7.99 pb. 0-812-56518-5. **VOYA** June 2003. **5Q 4P J S A/YA**
Step back in time from Sorcerer's Treason (Tor, 2002/VOYA August 2002) and discover how Ingrid Loffield of Sand Island, Wisconsin, and Avanasay, sorcerer of Isavalta, come to the rescue of the High Princess Medean.