READER’S ADVISORY: FANTASY

Covering the best of fantasy fiction and readers’ advisory resources for adults and young adults
SIGNIFICANT FANTASY AUTHORS: ADULT

- Robert Jordan
- Brandon Sanderson
- George R.R. Martin
- Patrick Rothfuss
- J.R.R. Tolkien
- China Miéville
- Ursula K. LeGuin
- Saladin Ahmed
- Téa Obreht
ROBERT JORDAN

- Pen name of James Oliver Rigney
- Famous author of Wheel of Time series
- 1948-2007; died prior to completion of series
- Series to be completed by Brandon Sanderson in January 2013
BRANDON SANDERSON

- Most well known for completing Wheel of Time
- Seven adult and four juvenile books published besides Wheel
- Notable works: Mistborn Trilogy, Way of Kings, Alcatraz
- Currently teaches Creative Writing at Brigham Young University
GEORGE R.R. MARTIN

- Author of award-winning Song of Ice and Fire series
- Wrote for television: Twilight Zone, Beauty and the Beast
- Game of Thrones (Ice and Fire 1) now TV series on HBO
PATRICK ROTHFUSS

- Wisconsin author currently residing in “central Wisconsin”
- Winner of the Quill Award for *The Name of the Wind*
- Currently writing third Kingkiller Chronicle book
J.R.R. TOLKIEN

- Influential to all of modern fantasy and heavily debated
- 1892-1973; posthumous scholarship by Christopher Tolkien (son)
- Included in this list of “current” authors due to upcoming movies
- Consider a community read of *The Hobbit* before movie?
CHINA MIÉVILLE

- British fantasy author – “weird fiction” in tradition of Lovecraft
- Writes in a variety of genres, but all with a fantasy “twist”
- Influenced by leftist politics and highly deconstructionist
URSULA K. LEGUIN

- Crossover science-fiction and fantasy author
- Multiple-award winning author with large body of work
- Best known for Earthsea cycle (fantasy) and Hainish cycle (sci-fi)
- Explores anthropology, sociology, feminism, psychology
SALADIN AHMED

- Important new author to watch
- Short fiction finalist for Nebula, Harper’s Pen
- Writes fantasy drawing from Arabic/Middle Eastern mythology
- First novel: *Throne of the Crescent Moon*
TÉA OBREHT

- Another new author
- Winner of the Orange Prize for *The Tiger’s Wife*
- Draws heavily from Slavic and Balkan folklore
- Possibly a crossover author with “traditional” genres
SIGNIFICANT FANTASY AUTHORS: YOUNG ADULT

- Terry Pratchett
- Neil Gaiman
- Suzanne Collins
- Melina Marchetta
- Christopher Paolini
- Garth Nix
- Catherine Fisher
- Rick Riordan
- Jeff Smith
TERRY PRATCHETT

- Crossover Adult/YA author
- Known for his Discworld series
- Locus and Nebula award winner/nominee for many works
- YA books feature Tiffany Aching and the Wee Free Men
NEIL GAIMAN

- Another famous crossover author
- Many well-known works including *Sandman* comics and *Coraline*
- Multiple award winner/nominee for work in both prose and graphic novels
SUZANNE COLLINS

- Have you read the Hunger Games yet?
- Easily most popular YA author of 2011
- Film adaptation coming in March... it’s not too late to plan programming!
MELINA MARCHETTA

- Printz Award winner for *Jellicoe Road*
- Branched into epic fantasy with *Finnikin of the Rock*
- Writes strong female characters that girls will enjoy
- Sequel to *Finnikin* entitled *Froi of the Exiles* due in March
CHRISTOPHER PAOLINI

- First published at 15 as a self-taught author
- Famous for Inheritance Cycle, inc. *Eragon*
- Fiction is derivative, but widely enjoyed by teens
GARTH NIX

- One of the earliest authors of contemporary YA fantasy
- Best known for Old Kingdom series (Sabriel) and Keys to the Kingdom series (Mr. Monday)
- New Old Kingdom book, Clariel, due in 2013
CATHERINE FISHER

- Welsh author and “young people’s laureate”
- Known for Relic Master series and Incarceron duology
- New fiction *The Cat With Iron Claws* due in Wales March 2012
- Incarceron movie in works starring Taylor Lautner (Jacob)
RICK RIORDAN

- Former middle-school teacher of English, history, mythology
- Wrote Percy Jackson series to help teach students
- New series Heroes of Olympus and Kane Chronicles being written simultaneously
JEFF SMITH

- Fantasy graphic novel author/artist
- Best known for graphic novel series Bone
- Currently writing comic book series for adults, RASL
FANTASY FILM ADAPTATIONS

• The Hobbit – December 2012
• Game of Thrones – ongoing TV series, season two premieres April 1 2012
• Hunger Games – March 23 2012
• Is your library doing programming to build on these adaptations?
  • One community reads
  • “Premiere party”
  • Collaboration with local theater?
WEB RESOURCES

• Tor Books website: www.tor.com – book reviews, publisher announcements, read-along blogs, great links and resources… Tor has everything

• Worlds Without End: https://www.worldswithoutend.com/index.asp - summarizes major awards and award winners in sci-fi, fantasy, horror

• World Fantasy Convention Home: http://www.worldfantasy.org/index.html - home of the World Fantasy Award

• Locus Online: http://www.locusmag.com/ - website for Locus Magazine, a major sci-fi and fantasy review publication. Home of the Locus Award.


• io9: http://io9.com/ a little science, a little sci-fi, a little pop-culture buzz