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Yankee Doodle America: The Spirit of 1776 from A-Z
by Wendell Minor
Putnam, April 2006
0399240039, HRD, \$16.99

[buy now](#)



Stink and the Incredible Super-Galactic Jawbreaker
by Megan McDonald
Candlewick, May 2006
0763621587, HRD, \$12.99

[buy now](#)



Play Soccer
DK, April 2006
0756620325, HRD, \$12.99

[buy now](#)



Ark Angel: An Alex Rider Adventure
by Anthony Horowitz
Philomel, April 2006
0399241523,

CATS Updates

Many libraries are now carrying video games, and Baker & Taylor is supplying them. There are approximately 1,000 video games appropriate for children or teens, 4,000+ for adults. Ratings, annotations, and other important purchasing data are provided. Search TS3's product type: *Software and Games*.

In addition to the *Automatically Yours CATS Series Winter-Spring 2006* publication, Baker & Taylor monitors 100's of children's and teen series. Below are series that are newly being monitored by CATS and can be Automatically Yours:

- Au Pairs** , *Simon Pulse*, fiction, grades 9-12: HRD series id 0000540070, \$15.95; PAP series id 000540062, \$8.99.
- Authors Teens Love** , *Enslow*, nonfiction, grades 6-9: LIB series id 000546580, \$31.93.
- Boyd's will be Boyds** , *Scholastic*, fiction, grades 4-7: PAP series id 0000546663, \$5.99.
- Breyer Stablemates** , *Cartwheel*, fiction, grades PreK-3: HRD series ID 0000546630, \$4.99.
- Chronicles of Ancient Darkness** , *Katherine Tegan*, fiction, grades 4-7: LIB series id 0000546572, \$17.89; HRD series id 0000540138 \$16.99; PAP series id 0000540120 \$6.99.
- Enola Holmes Mystery** , *Philomel*, fiction, grades 4-6: HRD series id 0000540104, \$10.99.
- F.W. Prep** , *Franklin Watts*, nonfiction, grades 8-12: SAL series id 0000540245, \$30.50; PAP series id 0000540252, \$9.95.
- Flight 29 Down** , *Grosset & Dunlap*, fiction, grades 4-7: PAP series id 0000546960, \$5.99.
- Gatekeepers** , *Scholastic*, fiction, grades 4-7: HRD series id 0000540187, \$17.99.
- LazyTown Ready-To-Read** , *Simon & Schuster*, fiction, grades PreK-1: PAP series id 0000546440, \$3.99.
- Spy Gear Adventures** , *Aladdin*, fiction, grades 3-7: PAP series id 0000546408, \$4.99.
- Ulysses Moore** , *Scholastic*, fiction, grades 4-7: HRD series id 0000546648, \$12.99.
- Ziggy and the Black Dinosaurs** , *Aladdin*, fiction, grades 3-5: PAP series id 0000540013, \$4.99.

Previously offered series that have ceased, or are complete, and will no longer be available for automatic shipment:

- American Dreams** , *Simon & Schuster*, fiction, grades 6-9: PAP series id 0005724422.
- American Indian Nations** , *Bridgestone*, nonfiction, grades 3-7: SAL series id 0004173472.
- Countries of the World** , *Bridgestone*, nonfiction, grades 2-4: SAL series id 000 3184694.
- Events that Shaped America** , *Gareth Stevens* , nonfiction, grades 3-7: LIB series id 0005403670.
- Let's See Library** , *Compass Point*, nonfiction, grades 1-3: SAL series id 0005724638.
- Max and Jax** , *Harcourt*, fiction, grades 2-3: HRD series id 0004172516.
- Spy Kids Adventures** , *Hyperion*, fiction, grades 3-7: PAP series id 0004173167.

Publisher News

- April 10–16 is the 8th annual Young People's Poetry Week, sponsored by the Children's Book Council along with the American Academy of Poets and the Center for the Book. CBC's website provides an extensive list of online resources for librarians, including ideas for poetry reading, reproducible puzzles, posters, bookmarks and an article about reading poetry aloud by Sylvia Vardell. A Poetry Week Kit is also available for purchase.

Material Reviews

Picture Book



Children's



Poetry Speaks To

Graphic Works

Teen

buy now HRD, \$17.99

Octavia and Her
Purple Ink Cloud

Children



Sardine in Outer
Space



The Book Thief



**Goal: The
Dream Begins**
by Robert
Rigby
Harcourt, April
2006
0152057986,
PAP, \$6.95

buy now

Music

Video

Essential

Spoken Word



Sweet Thang
by Allison
Whittenberg
Delacorte,
March 2006
0385732929,
HRD, \$15.95

buy now



See You on the
Moon



The Science of
Lance Armstrong



High School Musical
(Soundtrack)



Casey at the Bat

Conference Notes

Visit Baker & Taylor at
the following
conferences:

Kansas Tri Conference, 4/5
Oregon Library Association,
4/5
Florida Library Association,
4/18
Washington Library
Association, 4/19
British Columbia Library
Association, 4/20
Alabama Library
Association, 4/25
New Jersey Library
Association, 4/25
Kentucky Public Library
Association, 4/27
IRA, 5/1
Long Island Library
Association, 5/3
Maryland Library
Association, 5/4
Book Expo America 2006,
5/19
Atlantic Provinces Library
Association, 5/25
ALA Annual Conference,
6/24

In the Library

There's a lot to celebrate in April! In addition to April being National Poetry Month, April 12th is National Drop Everything And Read (D.E.A.R.) Day in honor of Beverly Cleary's 90 th Birthday! Libraries and their communities are encouraged to spread the love of reading by coming together and reading for 30 minutes.

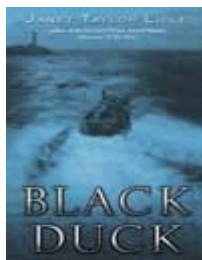
This is a great opportunity to host a program for middle readers and fans of Beverly Cleary. A family reading program or birthday party for Ramona, Ralph S. Mouse, or Cleary herself, are programs just waiting to happen. Official "Drop Everything And Read" posters and reading lists are available through HarperCollins Children's Books, DEAR@harpercollins.com.

Beverly Cleary's Ramona classics are available as CATS selected children's Title Source 3 eLists, or individually on Title Source 3 and B&T Link Online.

Interview

Author Janet Taylor Lisle's book *Black Duck* (0399239634 , HRD, \$15.99) will be available in May. She was recently able to give a preview of this excellent piece of historical fiction and discuss her writing career with the CATS staff:

Q: In the Notes of *Black Duck*, you stated that the story came to you through a memory of your father's and that the story is based on a true event. Tell us more about how this true story was relayed to you to enable you to tell it so vividly—your father's input? through your own



Q: You have some wonderfully drawn characters in this story, even the more minor characters have a lot of presence. I especially liked the relationship between the two boys and the very emotional side of their friendship as they struggled to do the right thing. Can you talk about this struggle as a theme in your books?

A: One of the strange truths I came upon growing up is that the rock-solid, old-fashioned "Truth" I was taught to admire and aspire to as a child doesn't really exist. There is no truth, no law, no absolute understanding of a situation that is always right. Exception is continually tempering the rules.

research?

A: My father was eight in 1929, the year the rumrunning boat *Black Duck* was fired on by a Coast Guard cutter across our bay, near Newport, Rhode Island. He knew little of this particular incident first-hand. Stories of smuggling and rum runners were everywhere in his coastal community, though, and he and his pals had sharp ears. A few hundred yards from Dad's family house, at the end of a rural lane, lay a beach where he often swam and played. The place was visible from his bedroom window, and it was here, he later told me and my brothers that, waking late one night, he saw an eruption of lights and action. Rumrunners! He knew them at once and never forgot the dark thrill of watching that secret, illegal landing.

If I were to point to a single spark that ignited the writing of the book *Black Duck*, this would be it. My father's memory touched my imagination in a most visceral way. As a child, I knew the lane and the beach. (I know them today.) I saw the dark figures my father described, the incoming boat, the flickering headlights. I felt, and never forgot, his excitement.

A few years ago, I became interested in the *Black Duck* shooting as a part of Rhode Island's colorful Prohibition history. After reading newspaper articles from those times, I knew I wanted to write about them. But history, even if it has taken place just across the bay, is a distant thing. Live memory is quite another. In the end, it wasn't the research I did, but the landing my father witnessed as a child that made this story luminous and real in my mind. Armed with his eyes and memory, I could write the scenes close up, as if I'd been there, because in a way I was.

Q: Since your career began as a journalist it's not surprising that the premise of this story was very appealing: a budding journalist hunting down a story, and the use of articles about the event interspersed. How did you come to use this approach?

A: Actually, *Black Duck* was written unframed in the first couple of drafts. That is, the character of the young would-be journalist David Peterson didn't exist, and neither did the old Ruben Hart. The novel opened with the boys Jeddy and Ruben discovering the murdered body on Coulter's Beach, and the story proceeded as a straight, third-person narrative. Three quarters of the way through the writing though, I ran into a dead zone. Every writer knows these places. They're where the tension collapses, the story's forward motion stops, the characters droop and the writer falls asleep at his/her desk out of sheer boredom.

Dead zones mean something is wrong with the plot. To go forward, you may have to go back and rework things. When I went back, I saw that what my story needed was more perspective. It was too one-dimensional, just a bunch of episodic adventures, like a comic book. I experimented for awhile and finally discovered that if I reframed the narrative, I could move it again and give it deeper meaning. So David Peterson was born, and I was able to use my own experiences as a young reporter to fill out his character. With him also came the old Ruben Hart, a character who immediately fascinated me. His voice became the voice of the novel. From there on, I had clear sailing to the end.

Q: What do you find are the challenges of writing historical fiction as opposed to a story with a contemporary setting?

A: The main difficulty with writing historical fiction is the danger of historical fact pile-up. A lot of historical fiction I read seems to suffer from this. After reading about and researching an era, a writer tends to want to put everything he/she has

If you are a realist, you must pick and choose your moral high ground, and even then be ready to shift as new facts flood in.

Many of my books are woven with threads of these human dilemmas: What is right? What is wrong? What to do when two rights collide? In my novel *Afternoon Of The Elves*, Hillary steals food from a store to help her friend who is in need. Is this right? In *The Art Of Keeping Cool*, Robert reports suspicious spying activities of the German painter Abel Hoffman to the police. But man is innocent and this action leads to his death. How should Robert feel?

Black Duck paints the problem of belief in Truth, the Always-Right kind, in starker colors. Ruben's friend Jeddy commits a betrayal of the most egregious nature because he can't see how to shift his ground, how to weigh truth against truth and come out on the right side. It's Ruben's special agony to have to witness this failure and the havoc it causes, and to try to forgive his friend.

Q: This story is very visual. Do you have thoughts about your books becoming or compared to films?

A: If *Black Duck* were to become a film, I'd go to see it and probably be disappointed. Books often don't translate well to the silver screen, at least in the eyes of their authors. This is understandable. We writers have an array of voices, pacing strategies and literary techniques we use to bring our stories to life, and these are very different from the camera angles and editing techniques a film's director must employ to get his screen effects. These differences affect the content of a work as well. Subtleties of plot and characterization that I might consider essential to my novel might be scrapped or reinterpreted by the film's scriptwriter or director in the interest of making a box-office success. Even if I were the script-writer, there's no guarantee my novel would remain intact, as many authors have discovered. Occasionally a novel is translated well into film. I think the movie "To Kill a Mockingbird" is tremendously evocative, and a fitting extension of Harper Lee's novel.

Q: How did you become an author of juvenile fiction?

A: There really isn't much difference, in my mind at least, between writing 'juvenile' fiction and writing all the other kinds: say 'literary', 'romance', 'science fiction', 'experimental', 'confessional', etc. These are categories that marketers of books have cooked up to identify certain groups of readers and sell to them more efficiently. Readers themselves are notoriously free-wheeling when it comes to what catches their attention.

As a child, I read the books my parents left lying around, with no particularly bad effects. As a mother, I read books my daughter was reading in her 4 th, 5 th, 6 th grade classes, and wasn't disabled either. In both cases, I found interesting books and boring ones, stories that gave me something and others I didn't bother to finish. Because the main characters in *Black Duck* are 14-year-old boys, the book marketers have targeted the book to kids who are around 14, or perhaps boys who aspire to that age. I didn't write the story to fit into that category. I'd hope that all different kinds of people would read the book, for all different kinds of reasons, and that some, from the depths of whatever category they've been shoved into, would come away with a feeling of satisfaction.

Q: What authors did you enjoy as a child? Who do you enjoy reading now?

A: My favorite writers as a kid were: Beatrix Potter, J.R.R.Tolkien, William Pene DuBois (especially, *The Twenty-*

learned into the book. I'm no exception. I want to show off what I know and make sure my readers "get the feel" of whatever olden time I'm into.

That's the trap. Too much historical detail is a killer to a novel. (Too much contemporary detail would have the same effect on a contemporary novel.) Facts weigh down fiction. The characters can't move; they're crashing into the set design and wearing too much period clothing. I've come to believe that readers can get more history from the voice of a story than from larded-into-the-text descriptions of old-fashioned ways.

I do the research and take the notes and revel in the amazing details of history as much as anyone, but when it comes time to write, I try to put all that aside. The story comes first. I let the scenery fade into the background, where it belongs.

One Balloons), Elizabeth Speare, Robert Louis Stevenson's *Kidnapped* and *The Mysterious Island* (Our dad liked these last two and read them to us), Margaret Rawlings' *The Yearling*. It's great that so many of these wonderful authors' books are still around and being read.

Now I read and admire: Cather, Woolf, Italo Calvino, Marquez, Alice Munro, E.B. White, Muriel Spark, Rumer Godden, Eudora Welty, Joan Didion, and many, many others. I also like to read poetry and biographies.

Q: What projects do you have on the horizon?

A: I don't like to tell what I'm working on. As in any good plot, there's nothing like the element of surprise.

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Top Ten Titles

	Title	Author/Artist	Supplier	ISBN	Format	List
--Books						
1	The Hello Goodby Window	Norton Juster	Hyperion	0786809140	SAL	\$15.95
2	The Miraculous Journey	Kate DiCamillo	Candlewick	0763625892	HRD	\$18.99
3	Criss Cross	Lynne Rae Perkins	Greenwillow	0060092726	HRD	\$16.99
4	Rosa	Nikki Giovanni	Henry Holt	0805071067	SAL	\$16.95
5	A Splendid Friend, Indeed	Suzanne Bloom	Boyds Mill	1590782860	SAL	\$15.95
6	Criss Cross	Lynne Rae Perkins	Greenwillow	0060092734	LIB	\$17.89
7	The Princess Academy	Shannon Hale	Bloomsbury	1582349932	HRD	\$16.95
8	Fancy Nancy	Jane O'Connor	HarperCollins	0060542098	HRD	\$15.99
9	Lotus Seed	Sherry Garland	Harcourt	0152494650	SAL	\$16.00
10	Small Steps	Louis Sachar	Delacorte	0385733143	HRD	\$16.95

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--Graphic Novels & Manga

1	Oh My Goddess! volume 22	Kosuke Fujishima	Dark Horse	159307400X	PAP	\$10.95
2	Star Wars Tales, volume 6	Robert Williams	Dark Horse	1593074476	PAP	\$19.95
3	Babymouse: Our Hero	Jennifer L. Holm	Random House	0375932305	LIB	\$12.99
4	Babymouse: Queen of the World!	Jennifer L. Holm	Random House Childrens Books	0375832297	PAP	\$5.95
5	Dragon Ball Z, volume 24	Akira Toriyama	Viz	1421502739	PAP	\$7.95
6	Babymouse: Queen of the World!	Jennifer L. Holm	Random House Childrens Books	0375932291	LIB	\$12.99
7	Star Wars Empire: Allies and Adversaries, volume 5	Jeremy Barlow	Dark Horse	1593074662	PAP	\$14.95
8	Nancy Drew, volume 4: The Girl Who Wasn't There	Stefan Petrucha	Papercutz	1597070122	PAP	\$7.95
9	JLA: Crisis of Conscience	Geoff Johns	DC Comics	1401209637	PAP	\$12.99
10	Fashion Kitty	Charise Mericle Harper	Hyperion	0786851341	PAP	\$8.99

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--Music

1	Kidz Bop 9	Kidz Bop Kids	Razor & Tie	6309988182	CD	\$18.98
2	Here Comes The Big Red Car	Wiggles	Koch	6309865102	CD	\$11.98
3	Scat Like That	Fink, Cathy	Rounder Records	6309623915	CD	\$14.98

4	Wiggles Love You	Various	Bloodshot Records	6309755064	CD	\$15.98
5	Some Assembly Required	Chapin, Tom	Rounder Records	6309601873	CD	\$13.98
6	Dora The Explorer Dance Fiesta	Various	Nick Records	6309673254	CD	\$13.98
7	Radio Disney Jams 8	Various	Disney Records	6309974947	CD	\$18.98
8	Spongebob Squarepants: Yellow Album	Various	Nick Records	6309791494	CD	\$13.98
9	Green Gorilla Monster & Me	Ralph's World	Mini Fresh	6309516698	CD	\$15.98
10	Jojo's Circus: Songs From Under The Big Top	Disney	Disney Records	6309881744	CD	\$12.98

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--DVD

1	Harry Potter And Goblet Of Fire	Radcliffe, Daniel	Warner Home Video	1419801910	DVD	\$28.98
2	Bambi II	Stewart, Patrick	Disney Home Video	0788853880	DVD	\$29.99
3	Lady & The Tramp	Lee, Peggy	Disney Home Video	0788859536	DVD	\$29.99
4	Chicken Little	Braff, Zach	Disney Home Video	0788855921	DVD	\$29.99
5	Corpse Bride	Burton, Tim	Warner Home Video	1419802461	DVD	\$28.98
6	Wallace & Gromit: Curse Of The Were Rabbit	Sallis, Peter	DreamWorks Home Entertainment	1417050012	DVD	\$29.99
7	Howl's Moving Castle	Bale, Christian	Disney Home Video	078886145X	DVD	\$29.99
8	Stuart Little 3: Call Of The Wild	Brady, Wayne	Sony Home Entertainment	1404960295	DVD	\$24.94
9	Yours Mine & Ours	Quaid, Dennis	Paramount Home Entertainment	141571925X	DVD	\$29.95
10	Dreamer: Inspired By A True Story	Russell, Kurt	DreamWorks Home Entertainment	1417030976	DVD	\$29.99

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Feature Titles



Yankee Doodle America: The Spirit of 1776 from A-Z

by Wendell Minor
Putnam, April 2006
0399240039, HRD, \$16.99

If you traveled the roads of Colonial America, colorful hand-painted signs would greet you when you came across an inn or a tavern where folks would share the news of the day. Each striking illustration, based on hand-carved replicas of those colorful signs introduces readers to the people, places and events that gave birth to our nation with images that offer a sense of mystery to spark curiosity about the history of our great nation.

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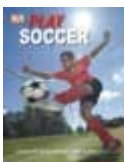


Stink and the Incredible Super-Galactic Jawbreaker

by Megan McDonald
Candlewick, May 2006
0763621587, HRD, \$12.99

When Stink buys a mammoth jawbreaker that doesn't break his jaw, he writes a letter of complaint to the manufacturer – and receives a ten-pound box of 21,280 jawbreakers for his trouble! Spurred by a newfound awareness of false advertising, Stink becomes the proverbial kid in a candy store as his letter-writing campaign yields him heaps of free rewards. As a delightful bonus for both teachers and kids, thirty-six common idioms are sprinkled throughout the story.

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Play Soccer

DK, April 2006
0756620325, HRD, \$12.99

Both fun and educational, this new book teaches children everything they need to know to get ready for soccer season – from learning basic rules to finding and joining a local team. The book includes dynamic step by step photos, basic and advanced techniques, skills and tactics, and profiles of famous players to inspire future stars.

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Ark Angel: An Alex Rider Adventure

by Anthony Horowitz
Philomel, April 2006
0399241523, HRD, \$17.99

After recovering from a near fatal gunshot wound, teenage spy Alex Rider embarks on a new mission to stop a group of eco-terrorists from sabotaging the launch of the first outer space hotel.

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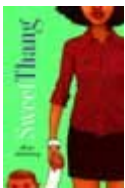


Goal: The Dream Begins

by Robert Rigby
Harcourt, April 2006
0152057986, PAP, \$6.95

Santiago , a young Mexican American, fulfills his dream of playing soccer when a chance encounter in inner-city Los Angeles results in a trip to England to try out for the Newcastle United soccer team.

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Sweet Thang

by Allison Whittenberg
Delacorte, March 2006
0385732929, HRD, \$15.95

In 1975, life is not fair for fourteen-year-old Charmaine Upshaw, who shares a room with her brother, tries to impress a handsome classmate, and acts as caretaker for a rambunctious six-year-old cousin who has taken over the family. Unhappy with the darkness of her skin, jealous of her friend Dinah's ability to get all the attention from the boys, and tired of the injustice at home, Charmaine begins to rebel against her family and friends, but when she realizes the war is coming from within herself, Charmaine starts to see things in a new light and love herself for who she is.

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Material Reviews



Material Review – Picture Book

Octavia and Her Purple Ink Cloud

by Donna and Doreen Rathmell, illustrated by Connie McLennan
Sylvan Dell Publishing, May 2006
0976494353, Hardcover, \$15.95, 32 pages

Octavia the octopus lives among many beautiful creatures in the sea, each with a unique ability to hide and protect themselves. Sandy Seahorse, Freddy Flounder and others demonstrate their camouflage tactics and Octavia illustrates that she can squirt ink for protection. Purple ink is what is supposed to protect her, but she has to try many times before she gets the color right. This highly informative story is supplemented with a fun facts in the back of the book and a "color your own ink cloud" color-sheet meant for reproducing. Highly recommended for all picture book collections. Reda Reil, Collection Development Librarian.

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Material Review – Children's

Poetry Speaks To Children

edited by Elise Paschen, illustrated by Judy Love
Sourcebooks Mediafusion , October 2005
1402203292 , Hardcover +CD, \$19.95, 104 pages

This compilation of 95 poems is provided in print with charming, fun side-bar illustrations, and 52 of the poems are also provided on spokenword CD located in a jacket-pocket. I can't decide which I like better, the book or CD, and it's an added bonus that they work well together. The CD includes readings by many of the poets themselves: Roald Dahl, Ogden Nash, J.R.R. Tolkien, and Langston Hughes. The printed poems are accessible by the table of contents, with matching track numbers as needed for the CD. The collection of poems works as an introduction to poetry on many levels, as there are plenty classics to choose from. This book is highly recommended for every poetry program during April, and for every library serving children and middle-schoolers throughout the year. JC Peacock, Collection Development Librarian.

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Material Review – Graphic Works
Sardine in Outer Space
by Emmanuel Guibert, illustrated by Joann Sfar
:01, May 2006
1596431261, Paperback, \$12.95

Supermuscleman has been training children throughout the universe to obey, but he's met his match with Sardine, Uncle Yellow Shoulder and Little Louie. Redheaded and sword fighting, in her big blue hat and traveling around in her spaceship Huckleberry, Sardine and friends comically battle their way through 12 hilarious tales. Their encounters with zodiac animals, Doc Krok, Space Leech, Honkfishes, and Empress Laser Diskette will have you cheering for Sardine and friends and leave you giggling. This is highly recommended for all graphic novel collections and is appropriate for children's collections, ages 8+. *Reda Reil, Collection Development Librarian.*

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Material Review – Teen
The Book Thief
by Markus Zusak
Alfred A. Knopf, March 14, 2006
0375931007, Library, \$18.99, 560 pages
0375831002, Hardcover, \$16.95

This story begins in 1939 with young Liesel Meminger riding a train with her mother and brother to a new home with foster parents in the suburbs of Munich. Liesel's brother doesn't survive the train ride, and she is left to face her new life alone. The narrator, Death, tells the tale of Liesel's life during the next several years; readers experience her life of poverty and the results of living day to day with the seemingly unstoppable injustices going on in her world. Her only comforts seem to be her loving foster father, who has taught her to read, her friend Max, a young Jewish man that her family is hiding, and reading the books that she has stolen. Readers may be left with a sense of pondering and thoughtful retrospection for days, thus proving the power of words, a theme which *The Book Thief* successfully drives home. *Erica Sommer, Children's Buyer.*

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Material Review – Music
See You on the Moon
Various
CD UMSC PAPER018
ISBN: 6310093339
\$13.98 SRP

See You on the Moon is an offering to kids of all ages. This is a record that kids could listen to with their parents and in turn make all future, long car journeys a pleasure. Featuring a virtual who's who in the indie rock world (including the Red House Painter's Mark Kozelek, Kid Koala, and Sufjan Stevens), the songs are designed to bring out the kid in adults. But knowing that most of the time, kids are far more intelligent than the adults surrounding them. So this record throws condescension out the window and understands the concept of fun without it being mindless or moronic.

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Material Review – Video
The Science of Lance Armstrong
Discovery Education, March 2006
DVD DSCE 890160
ISBN: 1595278192
\$69.95 SRP, 0:56

This educational DVD takes an in-depth look at the Physiology, Psychology, Equipment, Training and Strategy of seven-time Tour de France winner Lance Armstrong. What is it that makes Lance different from you and me? Take a look at his unique physiology and learn about how Lance's heart and lungs are more effective than the average persons. What roles do science and technology play in creating a champion? Take a tour of Lance's high tech equipment and find out how aerodynamic testing helps Lance shave minutes off his race times. This behind the scenes access shows Lance's extraordinary focus and dedication to the sport of cycling and his passion for technology. This DVD includes a video index, curriculum units, standards link, and teacher resources. Discovery School recommends this for Grades 9-12. Grades 7-9 may also enjoy. *Marin Foster, POD, Information Specialist.*

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Material Review – Essential
High School Musical (Soundtrack)



Walt Disney Records , January 2006
6309908626, CD, \$12.98

Currently one of the hottest selling CD's, the *High School Musical* soundtrack will give your AV collection a jolt of YA energy! Reminiscent in style and energy of *Grease*, but with more Disney flare and obvious teen appeal. There are also 3 karaoke tracks at the end of the musical inspiring fans to sing along. This is essential for all teen AV collections! *JC Peacock, Collection Development Librarian.*

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Material Review – Spoken Word

Casey at the Bat

by Ernest Lawrence Thayer, narrated by Yadu,
Music conducted and composed by Stephen Simon
Allegro, June 2005

1932684034, 1 CD, \$16.98, CD total :34, story :07 unabridged

Baseball season is upon us and so is the opportunity to circulate those all-American favorite titles, including *Casey at the Bat*. This edition is a terrific addition to your spokenword or music collection as listeners will hear the crowd cheering, feel the excitement and be able to envision "the air shattered by the force of Casey's blow."

The narration by Yadu simulates a hand held AM radio voice giving critical play-by-play details of the players and crowd. The music provided by the London Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Stephen Simon, enhances the poem by adding acoustic drama using specific instruments and cadence. As part of the *Stories in Music* series listeners are introduced to complex audio patterns, develop listening skills and appreciate classical music and books. The story of *Casey at the Bat* is provided twice, lasting approximately 7 minutes each, and there is an introduction and explanation of the composed music provided in between. This is a different kind of audiobook since it emphasizes music, but the narration and music are complimentary to this classic ballad. It is highly recommended for all children, music lovers and baseball fans. *Jill Walker, Director of CATS.*

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