



2006

Firebirds Rising

Kate Reynolds

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November, Sharyn (editor). *Firebirds Rising*. Firebird, 2006. ISBN 0142405493. \$19.99. 544 p.

Reviewer: Kate Reynolds

Reading Level: Young adult

Rating: Dependable

Genre: Fantasy fiction; Science fiction; Short stories;

Subject: Short stories--Juvenile fiction; Anthologies--Juvenile fiction; Books--Reviews;

Firebirds Rising is a well-balanced, delightful anthology of science fiction and fantasy short stories. Edited by November, it brings together several well-known authors (de Lint, Jones), and at least one new comer (Klages). Shinn and Goodman both write in worlds they have previously published novels about, while Pierce steps out of her fantasy worlds and into New York City. Some of the stories will leave readers wanting more ("Little (Grrl) Lost" and "Cousins"). Others are satisfying and sweet ("Unwrapping" and "The House on the Planet"). Readers should be aware that there is some profanity in this collection. The quality of the stories varies, and while none are bad, there are a few in particular that stand out as great. "In the House of Seven Librarians" is any book lover's dream story, and "Hives" is a chilling sci-fi story, all the more so because it doesn't seem too far-fetched. There is a story in this anthology for everyone.