2005 Phoenix Award Winner

*The Catalogue of the Universe*
by Margaret Mahy
(Dent, 1985; Atheneum, 1986)

Tycho, observer of the night skies, has another passion—his passion for Angela May. As he tells Angela, however, there is a “wobble” in the “symmetry” of things. Tycho and Angela experience the “wobble” in their personal universe as their relationship changes over the course of two intense days when they are also caught up in the shifting dynamics of asymmetrical family relationships. Tycho’s sister’s marriage breaks up as his family gathers to celebrate her first wedding anniversary, and Angela challenges her mother and finally confronts the father who has never acknowledged her. The truth that is revealed through each of these events illustrates yet another of Tycho’s revelations: “Actual truth wobbles and hides.” Men of science may have measured and predicted so as to bring order to the cataloguing of the universe, but Mahy’s novel shows her characters living with the mystery, “irrationality,” and “dangerous edges” of life.

2005 Phoenix Honor Book

*Fire and Hemlock*
by Diana Wynne Jones
(Greenwillow, 1985)