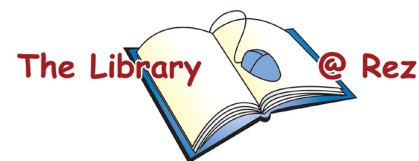


Rez Recommends...

2008-2009



Here are your favourites Rez!

All of these titles received perfect 5 out of 5 rankings on their Rez Recommends forms.

Vampire/Supernatural

- Blue Girl ~ Charles de Lint..... 1
- A Certain Slant of Light ~ Laura Whitcomb..... 1
- City of Ember ~ Jeanne duPrau..... 1
- Elsewhere ~ Gabrielle Zevin..... 1
- Harry Potter series ~ J.K. Rowling..... 2
- House of Night series ~ P.C. Cast & Kristin Cast..... 2
- Mortal Instruments series ~ Cassandra Clare..... 2
- Twilight series ~ Stephanie Meyer..... 3
- Vampire Academy series ~ Richelle Mead..... 3
- Vampire Knight (manga) ~ Matsuri Hino..... 4

Adventure/Survival

- Alex Rider series ~ Anthony Horowitz..... 4
- House of the Scorpion ~ Nancy Farmer..... 5
- The Hunger Games ~ Suzanne Collins..... 5
- Life as We Knew It ~ Susan Beth Pfeffer..... 5

Mystery/Suspense

- The Compound ~ S.A. Bodeen..... 5
- Paper Towns ~ John Green..... 5

Realistic Fiction – Funny

- Abundance of Katharines ~ John Green..... 6
- Good Enough ~ Paula Yoo..... 6
- How to be Bad ~ e. Lockhart..... 6
- iPod ~ Douglas Coupland..... 6
- Notes from the Midnight Driver ~ Jordan Sonnenblick..... 6

Realistic Fiction – Serious

- Born Blue ~ Han Nolan..... 7
- Looking for Alaska ~ John Green..... 7
- My Sister's Keeper ~ Jodi Picoult..... 7
- Secret Life of Bees ~ Sue Monk Kidd..... 7
- Slam ~ Walter Dean Myers..... 7
- Striking Out ~ Will Weaver..... 8
- Suckerpunch ~ David Hernandez..... 8
- Ten Mile River ~ Paul Griffin..... 8
- Theories of Relativity ~ Barbara Haworth-Attard..... 8
- A Thousand Splendid Suns ~ Khaled Hosseini..... 8
- Wake ~ Lisa McMann..... 8

Non-Fiction (True Stories)

- A Home on the Field: how one championship team inspires hope for the revival of small town America ~ Paul Cuadros..... 9
- One Red Paperclip: or how an ordinary man achieved his dreams with the help of a simple office supply ~ Kyle MacDonald..... 9
- Tuesdays with Morrie ~ Mitch Albom..... 9

Vampire/Supernatural

Blue Girl ~ Charles de Lint (FIC DEL)

Seventeen-year old Imogene's tough, rebellious nature has caused more harm than good—so when her family moves to Newford, she decides to reinvent herself. She won't lose her punk/thrift-shop look, but she'll try to avoid the gangs, work a little harder at school (Redding High), and maybe even stay out of trouble for a change. But trouble turns up anyway. Imogene catches the eye of Redding's bullies, as well as the school's resident teenage ghost. Then she gets on the wrong side of a gang of malicious fairies. When her imaginary childhood friend, Pelly, actually manifests, Imogene realizes that the impossible is all too real. And it's dangerous. If she wants to survive high school—not to mention stay alive—she has to fall back on the skills she picked up running with a gang. Even with her new friend Maxine and some unexpected allies by her side, will she make it?

It was very mysterious. I always wanted to find out what would happen to the characters. — Nicole Zuk, gr. 10

A Certain Slant of Light ~ Laura Whitcomb

In the class of the high school English teacher she has been haunting, Helen feels them: For the first time in 130 years, human eyes are looking at her. They belong to a boy, a boy who has not seemed remarkable until now. And Helen—terrified, but intrigued—is drawn to him. The fact that he is in a body and she is not presents this unlikely couple with their first challenge. But as the lovers struggle to find a way to be together, they begin to discover the secrets of their former lives and of the young people they come to possess.

It was so creative and interesting, the twists were actually unexpected, nothing about it was cliché...I have suggested this book to many people...with no bad feedback.

— Sarah Gray, gr. 10

City of Ember ~ Jeanne duPrau (FIC DUP)

Lina Mayfleet desperately wants to be a messenger. Instead she draws the dreaded job of Pipeworks labourer, which means she'll be working in damp tunnels deep underground. Doon Harrow draws messenger—and asks Lina to trade! He wants to be underground. That's where the generator is and he has ideas about how to fix it. For as long as anyone can remember the great lights of Ember have kept the endless darkness away. But now the lights are beginning to flicker...

It was amazing and unique. — Josh Fudger, gr. 9

Elsewhere ~ Gabrielle Zevin

Elsewhere. It's where fifteen-year-old Liz Hall ends up, after she has died. It is a place so like Earth, yet completely different from it. Here Liz will age backward from the day of her death until she becomes a baby again and returns to Earth. But Liz wants to turn sixteen, not fourteen (again). She wants to get her driver's license. She wants to graduate from high school and go to college. She wants to fall in love. And now that she's dead, Liz is being forced to live a life she doesn't want with a grandmother she has only just met. And it is not going well. How can Liz let go of the only life she has ever known and embrace a new one? Is it possible that a life lived in reverse is no different from a life lived forward?

The book is really interesting and addicting. — Brittany Clarke, gr. 10

It is different and interesting because it is unlike many other novels. — Annie Laufer, gr. 10

Harry Potter series ~ J.K. Rowling (FIC ROW)

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows

Harry is waiting in Privet Drive. The Order of the Phoenix is coming to escort him safely away without Voldemort and his supporters knowing—if they can. But what will Harry do then? How can he fulfil the momentous and seemingly impossible task that Professor Dumbledore has left him?

Kept me on my toes and able to hold my attention thoroughly...a definite read again. — Madi Paulozza, gr. 10

Better than the movie. Can't put down the book. — Nicole Pyszka, gr. 10
(re: *The Philosopher's Stone*)

Series order:

1. Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone
2. Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets
3. Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban
4. Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire
5. Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix
6. Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince
7. Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows

House of Night series ~ P.C. Cast & Kristin Cast (FIC CAS)

Marked

Enter the dark, magical world of the House of Night—a world very much like our own, except here vampires have always existed. Sixteen-year old Zoey Redbird has just been Marked as a fledgling vampire and joins the House of Night—a school where she will train to become an adult vampire. That is, if she makes it through the Change—and not all of those who are Marked do. It sucks to being a new life, especially away from her friends, and on top of that, Zoey is no average fledgling. She has been chosen as special by the vampire Goddess Nyx. To add to her stress, she is not the only fledgling at the House of Night with special powers. When she discovers that the leader of the Dark Daughters, the school's most elite group, is misusing her Goddess-given gifts, Zoey must look deep within herself for the courage to embrace her destiny—with a little help from her new vampire friends.

It was so unique—a new way to look at the world of vampires. — Raluca Topliceanu, gr. 9

Series order:

1. Marked
2. Betrayed
3. Chosen
4. Untamed
5. Hunted
6. Tempted (coming October 2009!)

Mortal Instruments series ~ Cassandra Clare (FIC CLA)

City of Bones

When fifteen-year-old Clary Fray heads out to the Pandemonium Club in New York City, she hardly expects to witness a murder—much less a murder committed by three teenagers covered with strange tattoos and brandishing bizarre weapons. Clary knows she should call the police, but it's hard to explain a murder when the body disappears into thin air and the murderers are invisible to everyone but Clary. Equally startled by her ability to see them, the murderers explain themselves as Shadowhunters: a secret tribe of warriors dedicated to ridding the earth of demons. Within twenty-four hours, Clary's mother disappears and Clary

herself is almost killed by a grotesque demon. But why would demons be interested in ordinary mundanes like Clary and her mother? And how did Clary suddenly get the Sight? The Shadowhunters would like to know...

Wow! A must read. – Josh James, gr. 10

I just had to know what happened next. – Megan Hutton, gr. 10

Series order:

1. City of Bones
2. City of Ashes
3. City of Glass

Twilight series ~ Stephanie Meyer (FIC MEY)

Twilight

About three things I was absolutely positive. First, Edward was a vampire. Second, there was a part of him—and I didn't know how dominant that part might be—that thirsted for my blood. And third, I was unconditionally and irrevocably in love with him. Deeply seductive and extraordinarily suspenseful, *Twilight* is a love story with bite.

I'm not a very big reader but this book is so suspenseful at the end that I read over 150 pages that night...I just wouldn't stop reading! – Lauren Zalewski, gr. 9 (re: *Twilight*)

Even better than the first!! – Raluca Topliceanu, gr. 9 (re: *New Moon*)

Series order:

1. Twilight
2. New Moon
3. Eclipse
4. Breaking Dawn

Vampire Academy series ~ Richelle Mead (FIC MEA)

Lissa Dragomir is a Moroi princess: a mortal vampire with an unbreakable bond to the earth's magic. She must be protected at all times from Strigoi; the fiercest and most dangerous vampire—the ones who never die. The powerful blend of human and vampire blood that flows through Rose Hathaway, Lissa's best friend, makes her a Dhampir. Rose is dedicated to a dangerous life of protecting Lissa from the Strigoi, who are hell-bent on making her one of them. After two years of illicit freedom, Rose and Lissa are caught and dragged back to St. Vladimir's Academy, hidden in the deep forest of Montana. Rose will continue her Dhampir education. Lissa will go back to being Queen of the elite Moroi social scene. And *both* girls will resume breaking Academy hearts. Rose and Lissa must navigate through this dangerous world, confront the temptation of forbidden romance, and never once let their guard down, lest the Strigoi make Lissa one of them forever...

I think the best part of this book wasn't the story, which was good, or the fact that it was packed full of hot vampire, but the fact that the characters seemed so real and relatable. – Mary Ferguson, gr. 11

It's great!!...the best book ever!! – Elizabeth Vang, gr. 10

Series order:

1. Vampire Academy
2. Frostbite
3. Shadow Kiss
4. Blood Promise

Vampire Knight (manga) ~ Matsuri Hino (GN FIC HIN)

Cross Academy is attended by two groups of student: the Day Class and the Night Class. At twilight, when the students of the Day Class return to their dorm, they cross paths with the Night Class on their way to school. Yuki Cross and Zero Kiryu are the Guardians of the school, protecting the Day Class from the Academy's dark secret: the Night Class is full of vampires! Yuki has no memory of her past prior to the moment she was saved from a vampire attack ten years ago. She was adopted by the headmaster of Cross Academy, and now works alongside Zero to guard the Academy's secret. Yuki believes that vampires and humans can coexist peacefully, but her partner has different ideas...

Unique, completely a new story on the theme of vampires...a manga that everyone should read. – Raluca Topliceanu, gr. 9

Exciting things in every page!! – Elizabeth Vang, gr. 10

Adventure/Survival

Alex Rider series ~ Anthony Horowitz (FIC HOR)

Stormbreaker

They told him his uncle Ian died in a car accident. But fourteen-year-old Alex Rider knows that's a lie, and the bullet holes in his uncle's windshield confirm his suspicions. But nothing prepares him for the news that the uncle he always thought he knew was really a spy for MI6—Britain's top-secret intelligence agency. Recruited to find his uncle's killers and complete Ian's final mission, Alex suddenly finds himself caught in a deadly game of cat and mouse, with no way out.

Keeps you going. Filled with action that never stops. Very suspenseful. – Cody Russell, gr. 9 (re: *Stormbreaker*)

Action and suspense on every page. Eye catching and amazing. Realistic but not boring. – Pablo Enrique, gr. 9 (re: *Snakehead*)

Alex Rider series order:

1. Stormbreaker
2. Point Blank
3. Skeleton Key
4. Eagle Strike
5. Scorpia
6. Ark Angel
7. Snakehead

House of the Scorpion ~ Nancy Farmer (FIC FAR)

Matteo Alacrán was not born; he was harvested. His DNA came from El Patrón, lord of a country called Opium—a strip of poppy fields lying between the United States and what was once called Mexico. Matt's first cell split and divided inside a petri dish. Then he was placed in the womb of a cow, where he continued the miraculous journey from embryo to fetus to baby. He is a boy now, but most consider him a monster—except for El Patrón. El Patrón loves Matt as he loves himself, because Matt *is* himself. As Matt struggles to understand his existence, he is threatened by a sinister cast of characters, including El Patrón's power-hungry family, and he is surrounded by a dangerous army of bodyguards. Escape is the only chance Matt has to survive. But escape from the Alacrán Estate is no guarantee of freedom, because Matt is marked by his difference in ways he doesn't even suspect.

It's action-packed, interesting...an excellent book, probably my favourite one ever! – Joshua Cameron, gr. 10

The Hunger Games ~ Suzanne Collins (FIC COL)

In the ruins of a place once known as North America lies the nation of Panem, a shining Capitol surrounded by twelve outlying districts. The Capitol is harsh and cruel and keeps the districts in line by forcing them all to send one boy and one girl between the ages of twelve and eighteen to participate in the annual Hunger Games, a fight to the death on live TV. Sixteen-year-old Katniss Everdeen, who lives alone with her mother and younger sister, regards it as a death sentence when she steps forward to take her sister's place in the Games. But Katniss has been close to dead before—and survival, for her, is second nature. Without really meaning to, she becomes a contender. But if she is to win, she will have to start making choices that weigh survival against humanity and life against love.

You know that feeling you get when watching a really suspenseful TV episode or movie...I had that same feeling with this book. Within a chapter or two I was completely hooked. The characters are great, it's completely action-packed but very smart/thought-provoking at the same time. — Ms. Martin

Also check out the sequel (to be published September 1st, 2009), called *Catching Fire!*

Life as We Knew It ~ Susan Beth Pfeffer (FIC PFE)

When a meteor hits the moon and knocks it closer in orbit to the earth, nothing will ever be the same. Worldwide tidal waves. Earthquakes. Volcanic eruptions. And that's just the beginning.

I really enjoyed how the book was written in the form of diary entries. — Monique Begy, gr. 10

It tells an amazing story of how one girl and her family survives against tremendous odds. At the same time, it forces us to look at how dependent we are on those things we just assume will be there - running water, heat, food. It was so realistic...and scary for that reason! — Ms. Martin

Mystery/Suspense

The Compound ~ S.A. Bodeen (FIC BOD)

Eli and his family have lived in the Compound for six years. The world they knew is gone. Eli's father built the Compound to keep them safe. Now, they can't get out. He won't let them.

Very suspenseful...great book, one of my favs. — Devin Flynn, gr. 10

Paper Towns ~ John Green (FIC GRE)

Quentin Jacobsen has spent a lifetime loving the magnificently adventurous Margo Roth Spiegelman from afar. So when she cracks open a window and climbs back into his life—dressed like a ninja and summoning him for an ingenious campaign of revenge—he follows. After their all-nighter ends and a new day breaks, Q arrives at school to discover that Margo, always an enigma, has now become a mystery. But Q soon learns that there are clues—and they're for him. Urged down a disconnected path, the closer he gets, the less Q sees the girl he thought he knew.

I recommend this book to any teen — Haley Wiltshire, gr. 10

Paper Towns is part comedy, part mystery, a little bit of romance, and all awesome. His writing is smart, and quirky, and he has this way of writing that you can hear the characters' voices and care what happens to them. — Ms. Martin

Realistic Fiction – Funny

Abundance of Katherines ~ John Green

When it comes to relationships, Colin Singleton's type is girls named Katherine. And when it comes to girls named Katherine, Colin is always getting dumped. Nineteen times, to be exact. On a road trip miles from home, this anagram-happy, washed up child prodigy has ten thousand dollars in his pocket, a bloodthirsty feral hog on his trail, and an overweight, Judge Judy-loving best friend riding shotgun—but no Katherines. Colin is on a mission to prove the Theorem of Underlying Katherine Predictability, which he hopes will predict the future of any relationship, avenge Dumpees everywhere, and finally win him the girl.

The oddball ideas it really fun to read. – Sarah Gray, gr. 10

Good Enough ~ Paula Yoo

Patti's parent expect nothing less than the best from their Korean-American daughter. Everything she does affects her chances of getting into an Ivy League school. So winning *assistant* concert master in her All-State violin competition and earning less than 2300 on her SATs is simply *not good enough*. But Patti's discovering that there's more to life than the Ivy League. To start with, there's Cute Trumpet Guy. He's funny, he's talented, and he looks exactly like the lead singer of Patti's favourite band. Then, of course, there's her love of the violin. Not to mention cool rock concerts. And anyway, what if Patti doesn't want to go to HARVARDYALEPRINCETON after all?

Hilarious! This book is humorous while it shows the life of being a Korean daughter... it's explained nicely so Canadians can also understand a Korean daughter's mind.

– Amy Seo, gr. 10

How to be Bad ~ e. Lockhart, Sarah Mlynowski & Lauren Myracle

Three girls who couldn't be more different have one goal in mind: to get the heck out of Dodge. Well, Niceville, Florida actually. But it might as well be called Nowheresville. Each girl has her own reason for hitting the highway for a weekend trip, whether she knows it or not. Hearts will be broken, friendships will be tested, and a ridiculously hot stranger could change the course of everything. And if they don't kill each other first, Vicks, Mel, and Jess will not only have a road trip to remember, they'll have friends for life.

The book has the life of a typical teenager and explains things teenagers go through like drinking, parties, relationships and family troubles...this book was great and I really enjoyed it; I have recommended this book to my friends – Christine Vendette, gr. 10

jPod ~ Douglas Coupland

Ethan Jarlewski and five co-workers whose names start with J are bureaucratically marooned in JPod, and architectural limbo on the fringes of a massive Vancouver game design company. Every day they confront the forces that define our era, including the rise of China and marijuana grow ops, while inhabiting a moral grey zone from which no one is exempt.

This book was absolutely hilarious! It is definitely one of my favourite books of all time...With all of the crazy things going on in the book, you could not help but continue reading just to see what would happen next. – Renée Sambrook, gr. 11

Notes from the Midnight Driver ~ Jordan Sonnenblick

“One car crash. One measly little car crash. And suddenly I'm some kind of convicted felon. My parents are getting divorced, my dad is shacking up with my third-grade teacher, I might be in love with a girl who could kill me with one finger, and now I'm sentenced to baby-sit some insane old guy. What else could possibly go wrong?”

Great humour, interesting plot...great ending! – Pablo Enrique, gr. 9

Realistic Fiction – Serious

Born Blue ~ Han Nolan (FIC NOL)

She has no last name. She has no real home. But she has a dream...Janie...Leshaya... whatever she's called...she's a survivor. Rescued from the brink of death, this child of a heroin addict has seen it all: revolving foster homes, physical abuse, unwanted pregnancy. Now her childhood is coming to an end, and she is determined to make a name for herself by doing the only thing that makes her feel whole...singing. Can this girl, born to a life of hardship, find the strength and courage to break away from her past and become the legend she is meant to be?

The way the author writes is so realistic it makes you feel like you are the character.
– Laina VanWinckle, gr. 10

Looking for Alaska ~ John Green (FIC GRE)

Miles Halter is fascinated by famous last words—and tired of his safe life at home. He leaves for boarding school to seek what the dying poet François Rabelais called the “Great Perhaps.” Much awaits Miles at Culver Creek, including Alaska Young. Clever, funny, screwed-up and dead sexy, Alaska will pull Miles into her labyrinth and catapult him into the Great Perhaps.

It kept me reading and made me think and reflect about my own life. What should we all be looking for? – Julia Roth, gr. 10

This book made me experience so many emotions and not at a small scale. I laughed really loud and cried real tears. My favourite book ever...READ IT – Sarah Gray, gr. 10

My Sister's Keeper ~ Jodi Picoult (FIC PIC)

Anna is not sick, but she might as well be. By age thirteen, she has undergone countless surgeries, transfusions, and shots so that her older sister, Kate, can somehow fight the leukemia that has plagued her since childhood. The product of preimplantation genetic diagnosis, Anna was conceived as a bone marrow match for Kate—a life and a role that she has never challenged...until now. Anna makes a decision that for most would be unthinkable, a decision that will tear her family apart and have perhaps fatal consequences for the sister she loves.

This is one of those books that you won't be able to put down...Read it! You will not be disappointed. – Simona Margine, gr. 12

Secret Life of Bees ~ Sue Monk Kidd (FIC KID)

Set in South Carolina in 1964, *The Secret Life of Bees* tells the story of Lily Owens, whose life has been shaped around the blurred memory of the afternoon her mother was killed. When Lily's fierce-hearted black “stand-in-mother”, Rosaleen, insults three of the deepest racists in town, Lily decides to spring them both free.

The incredible strength of the black women discriminated against kept the book interesting. Their phenomenal character and personality jumped off the page.
– Laruen Sproule, gr. 10

Slam ~ Walter Dean Myers (FIC MYE)

Seventeen-year-old Greg “Slam” Harris can do it all on the basketball court. He's seen ballplayers come and go, and he knows he could be one of the lucky ones. Maybe he'll make it to the top. Or maybe, like his man Ice, he'll stumble along the way. Slam's grades aren't so hot. And when his teachers jam his troubles in his face, he blows up. Slam never doubted himself on the court until he found himself going one-on-one with his own future and he didn't have the ball.

This book is very interesting and takes you for a rollercoaster ride...probably one of the best books I've read...read it! – Ladule Kondu, gr. 10

Striking Out ~ Will Weaver (FIC WEA)

Up until now, Billy Baggs's life has been loaded with nevers. Never been to a movie. Never played baseball with a real team. Never got over feeling guilty for the loss of his brother. But change is in the air. Billy discovers he has a natural talent for baseball, especially as a pitcher. Maybe, just maybe, there's more in store for him than life on the farm. But can Billy convince his father of that? Or is he destined to spend the rest of his life pitching nothing but hay?

It shows the passion and heart of a farm boy who loved to play baseball...it's a great book for anyone who loves baseball. — Konrad Bania, gr. 10

Suckerpunch ~ David Hernandez (FIC HER)

It's the summer before senior year and Marcus *should* be hanging out, filling his sketchbook, maybe asking a girl out for once. So why is he in a car with his brother, his brother's girl, and the pistol, headed straight toward his dad?

It has everything! Comedy, action, family drama, thrills. — Alessandro Iglesias, gr. 10

Ten Mile River ~ Paul Griffin (FIC GRI)

Ray is bigger but José is boss. They've survived juvenile detention and foster care together... and there's no way they are going back into the system. Hiding out in New York City's Ten Mile River Park in an abandoned stationhouse, they've ditched school for good. And nothing, not even their love for the beautiful Trini, can rock the boys' friendship. But what happens when an unexpected turn of events leads them into the freezing waters off Ten Mile River? Exactly how far can they coast on friendship?

This book was AMAZING! It touches so close to home dealing with actual problems.
— Bartek Kubat, gr. 10

Theories of Relativity ~ Barbara Haworth-Attard (FIC HAW)

Sixteen-year-old Dylan is living on the streets, kicked out of an unstable home. He can't get a job. He worries about the two younger half-brothers he left behind. He panhandles barely enough money to eat. And it's getting colder every day. What he can't figure out is: what did he do to deserve this life?

A Thousand Splendid Suns ~ Khaled Hosseini (FIC HOS)

A breathtaking story set against the volatile events of Afghanistan's last thirty years—from the Soviet invasion to the reign of the Taliban to post-Taliban rebuilding—that puts the violence, fear, hope, and faith of this country in intimate, human terms. It is a tale of two generations of characters brought jarringly together by the tragic sweep of war, where personal lives—the struggle to survive, raise a family, find happiness—are inextricable from the history playing out around them.

This book was amazing. It really was inspiring and it made me feel so many different emotions. — Rachel Declair, gr. 10

Wake ~ Lisa McMann (FIC MCM)

Not all dreams are sweet. For seventeen-year-old Janie, getting sucked into other people's dreams is getting old. Especially the falling dreams, the naked-but-nobody-notices dreams, and the sex-crazed dreams. Janie's seen enough fantasy booty to last her a lifetime. She can't tell anybody about what she does -- they'd never believe her, or worse, they'd think she's a freak. So Janie lives on the fringe, cursed with an ability she doesn't want and can't control. Then she falls into a gruesome nightmare, one that chills her to the bone. For the first time, Janie is more than a witness to someone else's twisted psyche. She is a participant....

This book was really good. I never wanted to put it down...I read this book 5 times.
— Deanna Dubé, gr. 10

Non-Fiction (True Stories)

A Home on the Field: how one championship team inspires hope for the revival of small town America ~ Paul Cuadros (796.33409 CUA)

It became Paul Cuadros' goal to show the growing numbers of Latino youth [in Siler City, NC] that their lives could be more than the cutting line at the poultry plants, that finishing high school and heading to college could be a reality. He needed to find something that the boys could commit to passionately, knowing that devotion to something bigger than them would be the key to helping the boys find where they fit in the world. The answer was soccer.

It's the best description of a real soccer player's roots and life...all soccer lovers and Spanish people or Spanish culture liking people should read this. – Edgard Alfaró, gr. 10

One Red Paperclip: or how an ordinary man achieved his dreams with the help of a simple office supply ~ Kyle MacDonald (381.142 MAC)

Kyle MacDonald had a paperclip. One red paperclip, a dream, and a resumé to write. And bills to pay. Oh, and a very patient girlfriend who was paying the rent while he was once again “between jobs.” Kyle wanted to be able to provide for himself and his girlfriend, Dominique. He wanted his own home. He wanted something bigger than a paperclip. So he put an ad on Craigslist, the popular classifieds website, with the intention of trading that paperclip for something better...In *One Red Paperclip*, Kyle takes you on a journey around the globe as he moves from paperclip holder to homeowner in just fourteen trades.

Not only is this a fascinating idea, but the book is a GREAT read. Kyle is very funny and sarcastic, the people he meets and trades with (from all across North America) are odd and quirky (and sometimes famous!!), and it's inspiring to see what one person can do with a dream and the right attitude. – Ms. Martin

Tuesdays with Morrie ~ Mitch Albom (378.12092 ALB)

Mitch Albom rediscovered Morrie (his college professor) in the last months of the older man's life. Knowing he was dying, Morrie visited with Mitch in his study every Tuesday, just as they used to back in college. Their rekindled relationship turned into one final “class”: lessons in how to live.

Everyone should read this inspiring novel. – Rebecca Wareham, gr. 10