

Rez Reads

Life Less Ordinary

~ books about teens who stand out from the crowd ~

(booklist created by Ms. Martin)

- **An Abundance of Katherines** by John Green

Poor Colin hasn't had much luck with dating. He's been dumped 19 times...all by girls named Katherine! Nothing like a road trip with your best friend to try and heal your broken heart...and figure out why you keep getting dumped! John Green is hands down one of the best Young Adult authors out there! This book earned multiple starred reviews and a Printz Honor award.

- **Airborn** by Kenneth Oppel

This book is a perfect example of "don't judge a book by its cover." This high-flying novel has everything a great adventure should...daring rescues, thrilling escapes, pirates, and a little bit of romance thrown in for good measure. Winner of a Governor General's award. Also look for the follow-up books, *Skybreaker* and *Starclimber*.

- **The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing, Traitor to the Nation,**

 - vol. 1: The Pox Party** by M. T. Anderson

Octavian is a African slave sent to American to receive, as an experiment, a classical education usually reserved for the "elite". As the Revolutionary War unfolds, Octavian runs away to join the army and experiences the horrors of what it means to be a slave in 18th century America. This brilliantly written novel also provides insightful commentary on today's society and our notion of history. Also try volume 2, *Kingdom on the Waves*. Both are multi-award winners.

- **Elsewhere** by Gabrielle Charbonnet

When 15-year old Lizzie is killed, she travels to the afterlife, called Elsewhere, and tries to figure out how to "live" in her new surroundings. A powerful story about life, and life after death. Winner of multiple starred reviews...and one of my all-time favourites!

- **Ender's Game** by Orson Scott Card

Earth is about to be invaded by a hostile alien race. The defense plan? Train an army of children! Ender Wiggin is the unlikely candidate recruited to join the troops. Even if you don't normally like science fiction, I DARE you not to love this book!

Vote for your favourite!
Write reviews to win prizes!

- **Hunger Games** by Suzanne Collins

Kat's little sister is ordered to compete in the Hunger Games...a reality TV series kind of like *Survivor*, but instead of getting voted off, you die! Kat volunteers to take her place and, with TV cameras following her every move, fights to stay alive.

- **I Am the Messenger** by Marcus Zusack

Ed Kennedy's life isn't exactly exciting...he spends all his time hanging out with his dog, driving his taxi and playing cards with his friends. When mysterious, coded messages show up in his mailbox, he is sent on a series of tasks that will change his life. Winner of a Printz Honor award.

- **I'd Tell You I Love You, But Then I'd Have to Kill You** by Ally Carter

Cammie goes to a prestigious all-girls private school...but it's not just any private school. It's a secret school for spies! All of the girls are spies in training, which makes leading a "normal" life a little difficult. It's a fun, light-hearted adventure...if you were to mix James Bond with Harry Potter with the girls from Sisterhood of the Travelling Pants, this is the novel you'd get!

- **Life as We Knew It** by Susan Beth Pfeffer

When the moon is hit by a meteor and bumped out of its normal orbit, life on Earth is horrifyingly altered. Worldwide tsunamis, volcanoes, earthquakes, ice storms... chaos. Miranda describes in her diary how she and her family struggle to survive. Also check out the sequel, "The Dead and the Gone" that tells the same story, but from the perspective of a boy in New York City.

- **Magic or Madness** by Justine Larbaestier

Australian teen, Reason, must go live with her "wicked" grandmother, Esmeralda, in Sydney after her mother has a mental breakdown. While trying to escape from Esmeralda, Reason runs through a door...only to find herself in New York City. This magical adventure is the award-winning first book of a trilogy (followed by *Magic Lessons* and *Magic's Child*).

- **Repossessed** by A.M. Jenkins

A "fallen angel" (demon) named Kiriel is bored with Hell and decides to take over the body and life of a slacker teen who has just been hit by a cement truck. Even though he's breaking all the rules, Kiriel is determined to experience life as a human teen and have a positive impact on the people around him. Winner of a Printz Honor award.

- **Son of the Mob** by Gordon Korman

Imagine high school and dating...when your dad is a mafia leader! Life is certainly "interesting" for Vince Luca. Oh, and did I mention that the girl he's fallen for is the daughter of an FBI agent?! Funny man Gordon Korman at his best! Also check out the sequel, *Hollywood Hustle* for more adventures as Vince heads off to college.

Don't forget to fill out your own reviews of these books!

The review form is available online and in the library.



Check out the Rez Reads blog at <http://rezreads.blogspot.com>