

Newsletter Editors Mark Richardson, Ian Duncanson and Josie Hanneman welcome all of your comments, articles and suggestions!

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Keeping the OYAN Legacy Alive with the Amelia Bloomer Project / April Witteveen, Deschutes Public Library

Have you met my good friend Amelia Bloomer? Sure, she was big into the temperance movement, but once Elizabeth Cady Stanton got a hold of her, Bloomer turned towards women's suffrage. She felt women shouldn't be confined by corsets and petticoats, and so she popularized the loose-fitting pants known from then on as bloomers. Yay, pants for ladies!

I first learned about the Amelia Bloomer Project in library school; it is a selection list produced under the Feminist Task Force of the Social Rights and Responsibilities Roundtable. The list collects feminist titles for youth from birth to age 18: picture books with girls just saying no to princesses (or are about princesses that kick some serious butt), nonfiction that shares stories of women both famous and formerly unknown, and great teen fiction that expands on the idea of developing a feminist consciousness.

Dana Campbell, CSD and OYAN member served on Amelia Bloomer for 3 years, and now I get to follow in her footsteps and represent Ore-

gon and teen services librarians on the committee. You can check out nominated titles and learn more about the committee on our blog:

<http://ameliabloomer.wordpress.com/>

Nominations from the field (i.e. general public) are accepted!

Some of my favorites from the list of nominations so far are:

Women Heroes of World War II: 26 Stories of Espionage, Sabotage, Resistance, and Rescue by Kathryn J. Atwood

In these pages, young readers will meet courageous women and girls who risked

their lives to help defeat the Nazis. Twenty-six engaging and suspense-filled stories unfold from across Germany, Poland, the Netherlands, France, Belgium, Denmark, Great Britain, and the United States, providing an inspiring reminder of women and girls' refusal to sit on the sidelines around

the world and throughout history. An overview of World War II and summaries of each country's entrance and involvement in the war provide a framework for better understanding each woman's unique circumstances, and resources for further learning follow each profile.

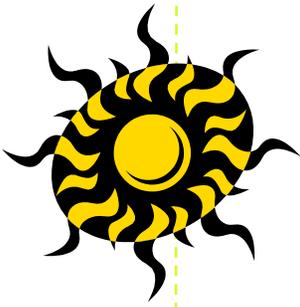
Deadly by Julie Chibbaro

A mysterious outbreak of typhoid fever is sweeping New York. Could the city's future rest with its most unlikely scientist—16-year-old Prudence Galweski? In a time when science is for men, she'll have to prove to the city, and to herself, that she can ...

This Girl Is Different by J.J. Johnson

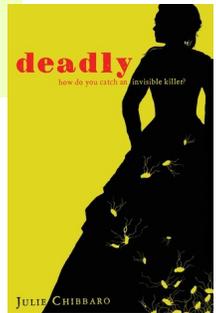
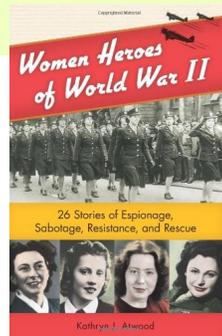
Evensong Morningdew leaves homeschooling for high school and starts a movement advocating for social justice and free speech. When things get out of hand, Evie perseveres to right the wrongs she set in motion while standing firm in her convictions.

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OYAN Acronym Primer / Mark Richardson, Cedar Mill Community Library

When I first started coming to OYAN meetings, I'll admit I was a bit lost with all the acronyms and terminology that was thrown around (heck, I'm still lost sometimes). I thought it might be useful to give a brief explanation of some of the acronyms we come across while working for and with teens across Oregon.

OYAN, our very own Oregon Young Adult Network exists to provide a network for communications and growth among people who provide library services to teens, to increase awareness of teen library services in the state of Oregon, and to promote cooperation between school and public libraries. OYAN is a part of OLA and we meet quarterly in various places around the state. Membership can be obtained when paying for OLA membership dues.

OLA stands for the Oregon Library Association, which is the primary library organization in the state and OYAN is a part of it. It sponsors the annual OLA Convention usually held in April of each year, which OYAN often develops programs for.

PNLA, the Pacific Northwest Library Association includes many of the state library associations in the Northwest. Oregon left the or-

ganization in 2010. Known primarily for its support of the Young Readers Choice Awards and its leadership institute.

YALSA is the Young Adult Library Service Association, a national library organization that provides many great services to libraries including book awards like the Printz Award, book lists, listservs, events and much more. Part of **ALA**, the American Library Association.

OASL stands for the Oregon Association of School Librarians, the library organization for our state's school librarians. There is an effort afoot to bring OASL into OLA which will provide a variety of benefits for the school librarians (I don't know the status of this movement at the time of publication). The OASL conference is usually in October and OYAN often contributes a presentation or session. Formerly known as OEMA (Oregon Educational Media Association). OASL also runs....

OBOB, the Oregon Battle of the Books. This statewide team reading competition seems to get bigger and bigger. Started in 2006 with an LSTA grant, more students and more schools participate every year in the three age divisions. I know the books check out like crazy. I could probably double the number of copies of each and they would still be checked out all the time.

OSLIS, the Oregon School Library Information System is a portal that provides online access to multiple databases to library users across the state. This service has been provided since 2000 thanks to the State Library of Oregon, OASL's predecessor and an LSTA grant.

ORCA, the Oregon Reader's Choice Award. Now in its second year, this award is an effort to allow Oregon students to pick their favorite recently published books. Members from OLA, OYAN and OASL all have a roll in selecting the book lists, then Oregon residents vote on them. Voting took place in March this past year.

YRCA, the Young Reader's Choice Award - When Oregon was a member of PNLA, Oregon students voted on these lists of recently published books to choose their favorite books along with Washington, Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Alberta and British Columbia. Oregon left the organization in 2010.

OYEA! is OYAN's You're Excellent Award. This award recognizes an individual, library, organization, program, or initiative that has made a positive and significant contribution to teens in libraries in the state of Oregon. Started in 2007, all applications must be in by March 31st each year so that the award can be recognized at the

yearly OLA conference. Applications from actual teens are especially important.



CSLP is the Cooperative Summer Library Program. Started in 1987, this origination "combines resources and works with an exclusive contracted vendor to produce materials designed for CSLP members, public libraries in participating states or systems can purchase posters, reading logs, bookmarks, certificates and a variety of reading incentives at significant savings. The participat-

ing systems and states develop a unified and high-quality promotional and programming product. Participants have access to the same artwork, incentives and publicity, in addition to an extensive manual of programming and promotional ideas." - from the CSLP website. OYAN has a CSLP representative currently.

LSTA is the Library Services and Technology Act, which is part of the Museum and Library Services Act and is administered at the federal level by the [Institute of Museum and Library Services](#). Money is provided to each state in an effort to improve access to information and strengthen library services to citizens. LSTA Grants fund many library initiatives across the spectrum.

Amelia Bloomer Project / Continued From Page 1

Wideness & Wonder: The Life and Art of Georgia O'Keeffe by Susan Goldman Rubin

This book chronicles Georgia O'Keeffe's life. At a time when women had not made an impact on the art world, O'Keeffe was the first woman to have a solo exhibition at New York's Museum of Modern Art. Her inno-

vative work exemplifies her determination and vision regarding what art and life might be.

In your reading, if you come across a title that you feel meets the criteria of the Amelia Bloomer Project, please do consider a field nomination, or pass the info along to me so I can see about nominating it. I hope to

spread the word of the ABP near and far—the list is so unique and of such great value as we encourage our young patrons, both male and female, to consider the contributions and value of empowered women.

She wears the bloomers in this family!



WIDENESS & WONDER

BY SUSAN GOLDMAN RUBIN

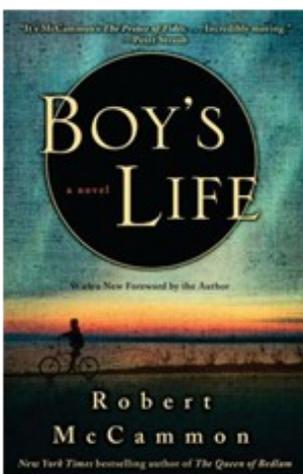


Transition Books for Older Teens / Ian Duncanson, Beaverton City Library

I think about this every summer as I work to order mass quantities of prize books that will appeal to readers from grade 6 all the way up through grade 12. As much as I enjoy reading youth fiction, there are times in every teen librarian's life where he or she has to recommend an adult book with teen appeal. Here are a few lesser-known picks for those tough-to-please older teen readers!

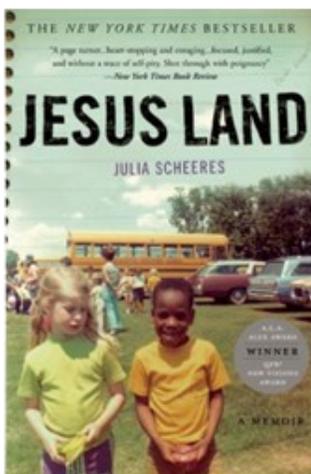
Boy's Life by Robert McCammon

In some ways, McCammon's novel is like a longer, more fleshed-out version of Stephen King's *The Body* (better known by most as the film *Stand By Me*). The plot centers on Cory, a 12-year-old boy in a small Alabama town during 1964 who lives for summer, comic book superheroes, classic horror movies, and friendship. Life takes a sudden, dark turn when he and his dad see a car with a stranger dead in the front seat careening into the town's deep lake. *Boy's Life* was recommended to me by a friend a couple of years ago, but it wasn't until it showed up on last year's upper-level Oregon Battle of the Books list that I finally committed myself to reading it. The combination of coming-of-age with mystery and a bit of horror / suspense



should hold strong appeal for teens who aren't put off by the length.

Jesus Land by Julia Scheeres
My non-fiction pick of the bunch! *Jesus Land* is the story of the author's tumultuous upbringing in a strict religious family living in a tiny Indiana town during the 1970s. Julia and her two adopted African-American brothers endure constant racial taunts in their hometown. As teenagers, she and one of her brothers experience mental and physical abuse at the hands of staff at a fundamentalist Christian "reform" school in the Dominican Re-

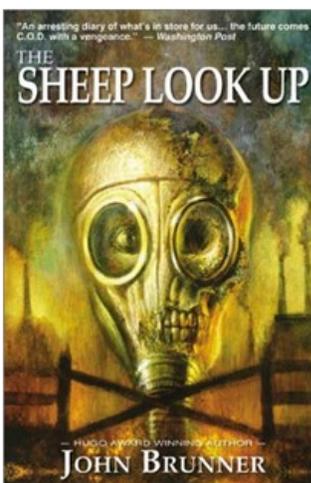


public that their parents send them to. Teens looking for a well-written, true story of defiant triumph and love in the face of tribulation will appreciate Julia's story. The epilogue may bring a tear to your eye.

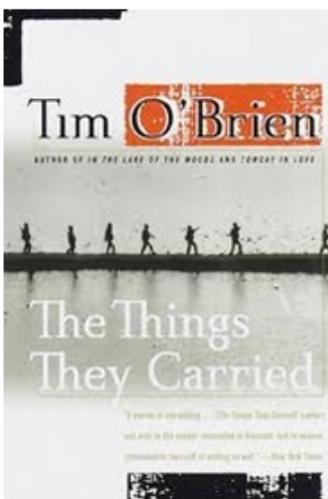
The Sheep Look Up by John Brunner

Here's a sci-fi novel that used to be really hard to find until it was reprinted recently with fashionable new cover art depicting a skull wearing a gasmask that will win over any older fans of bleak dystopian fiction who are looking for the next read after *The Hunger Games* and *Feed*. Brunner de-

picts a future United States where the environment has



eroded to the point that corporations are lining their pockets selling gasmasks and organic food. The only hope for humanity may lie with an environmentalist who is being ruthlessly hunted by authorities as a "terrorist." There's also an insidious corporate media and a "big brother" president. You don't have to mention to teens that this was written in the early 1970s - *The Sheep Look Up* is still strikingly relevant, not laughably dated like so many Cold War dystopian stories.



The Things They Carried by Tim O'Brien

Tim O'Brien's book still stands as one of my favorite war novels, along with *Catch 22*, *Johnny Got*

His Gun, and *Slaughterhouse Five*. The great thing is that it's not really about war (there's very little action) so much as it is about the emotional tolls and the difficulty of accurately relating events experienced a combat zone. Events follow the activities of a unit of soldiers during and after the war, and are partially based on O'Brien's own experiences as a soldier in Vietnam. The novel is constructed as a series of interconnected short stories and ruminations on the nature of patriotism, courage, loss and camaraderie. I highly recommend this for high school students who are looking for thoughtful, essay-ready war novels.

Other suggestions:

La Perdida by Jessica Abel

Carla Olivares, a young Mexican-American woman, goes to Mexico to "find herself," becoming involved with el Gordo, a drug don. (Graphic novel)

The Film Club: A Memoir by David Gilmour

Seventeen-year-old Jesse was unhappy at school, so his dad, the author, offers him a deal: Jesse can drop out of school if they watch three movies a week together. (Non-fiction)

The Necessary Beggar by Susan Palwick

A young merchant accused of murder is banished from his otherworld home to begin a life of exile in the Nevada desert.

The Dragons of Babel by Michael Swanwick

Steampunk fairytale of half-human Will who fights war-dragons, travels around a mythical post-industrial land, and finally arrives in Babel.

A Complicated Kindness by Miriam Toews

When Nomi's mother is excommunicated from the family's Canadian Mennonite community, she dreams of the day she can escape to New York City.



To the future, James!

When you consider the fact that I didn't start a series book that I had been waiting to arrive for six years (*A Dance With Dragons*) because I was in the middle of an Advance Reader's Copy of *The Future of Us* by Jay Asher and Carolyn Mackler, that tells you something about what Asher and Mackler have accomplished.

I won't go so far as to say this is

***The Future of Us* by Jay Asher and Carolyn Mackler / Book Review by Mark Richardson, Cedar Mill Community Library**

one of the best books I've read, but it's set up and follow through are so compelling that it is incredibly hard to put it down once you start. It's 1996 and Emma installs a new America Online disc from her neighbor and former best friend Josh. Yet, instead of finding AOL in all it's 90s glory, they stumble upon Emma's facebook profile from 2011! As the teens search and dig for information on their future lives, they begin to question the decisions they are making in the present and contemplate who they really are and who they want to be. While Josh is pleasantly surprised by his future self, Emma is disheartened to learn that she is not happy. She sets out to change her future and finds that she is able to alter it by her actions in the present. And yet she doesn't appear to get any happier, if anything, things get worse. Alternately, Josh's knowledge of the future gives him more

confidence in the present and leads him to bolder choices now. And while their future selves alter who they are in the present, their already fragile friendship begins to unravel.

While there are several plot points that don't make a lot of sense (Emma is a better name for a main character in 2011, not 1996) and some that don't come to a satisfying conclusion (or any conclusion at all), Asher and Mackler make the interesting choice of allowing Emma to be a little self-centered and unlikable, especially in comparison to Josh. Her flaws are irritating, but they make the character believable in a way that Josh might not be, even though I like him a lot. Those flaws in 1996 are undoubtedly what lead to her unhappiness in 2011. While the end of the book is satisfying, there is no indication that Emma has realized where her future unhappiness stems from. It would be in-

teresting to explore whether happiness stems from single choices in a person's life or hard earned character traits established over years of mistakes and bad choices. Learning her future allows Emma to make an end run around potentially valuable learning. Does she now need to make new mistakes or can she just be happy? There is certainly room to take these characters further if the authors choose to do so at some point.

The book is a quick, easy read that will appeal to most teens 13 and up, particularly girls. The romantic scenes are pretty tame, but the book is almost entirely about relationships, so it will appeal primarily to upper middle and high school readers. It's like a teen version of *The Time Traveller's Wife* in some ways. I expect the book will be very successful once it is released later this year. Movie to follow.

***Wither* by Lauren DeStefano / Book Review by Susan Smallsreed, Multnomah County Library**

A tale of genetic engineering gone seriously awry.

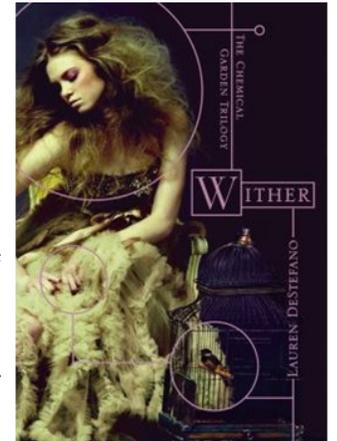
When scientists tried to engineer perfect human beings, a "small" hiccup arose -men don't live past 25 and women die at age 20! Doesn't bode well for the human race, does it? While geneticists seek an antidote to restore the human race, desperate orphans crowd the population, crime and poverty have skyrocketed, and young girls are kidnapped and sold as polygamous brides to bear more children before they die.

When sixteen year old Rhine is taken and sold as a bride, she vows to do all she can to escape. Her husband, Linden, is hopelessly in love with her, and Rhine can't bring herself to hate him as much as she'd like to. He opens her to a magical world of wealth and illusion she never thought existed, and it almost makes it possible to ignore the clock ticking away her short life.

But Rhine quickly learns that not everything in her new world is what

it seems. Her father-in-law, an eccentric doctor bent on finding the antidote, is hoarding corpses in the basement. Her sister wives are to be trusted one day and feared the next, and Rhine is desperate to communicate to her twin brother that she is safe and alive. Will Rhine be able to escape -before her time runs out?

Dabbling in genetic engineering: what do you mean she has two tails?! That's normal, right?



Teen Lit Trends over the Next Year? Gathered by Josie Hanneman, Deschutes Public Library

When asked, "Where do you see teen lit trending in the next year?" the following intrepid experts answered.

Dystopian fiction and "steampunk" will continue to be the hot tickets this year - so sayeth my crystal ball!

—Jan Duncanson, Beaverton City Library

Teen spies and secret societies will inhabit our heads this coming year.

—Sheila Grier, Deschutes Public Library

I think witches are due for a comeback (though that seems like an odd statement when you consider HP). How about SCARY witches.

—Mark Richardson, Cedar Mill Community Library

I have a sneaky suspicion we'll see more "clean" or inspirational titles for teens, as new and existing writers of teen lit react to what they may see as a missing niche after the "Wall Street Journal Article Debacle of 2011."

—April Witteveen, Deschutes Public Library

Bring your umbrella: there be angels fallin'.



OYAN: Finding great reads for Oregon teens!

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Agenda for Summer Membership Meeting (Friday, July 22nd)

Newport Public Library | 35 NW Nye St., Newport | (541) 265-2153

Introductions & New books

Attendees – Tell us your name and recommend one new book
 Additions to Agenda

Old Business

Review/approve minutes
 Budget Report
 OLA Board Report – K'lyn
 OSL Report – Katie Anderson or proxy

Resource Sharing: Programs – Share your great program ideas! If possible, bring instructions, tips, performers' contacts or anything else that will help us copy you!

New & Continuing Business

Posting flyers on the website or blog?
 Oregon ASK conference proposal
 Ygn booklist guidelines
 Raffle & ethics discussion – how to deal with the raffle in the future?
 Fall workshop planning – Homeless Youth, Shoe-String programs or...?
 OLA 2012 workshops – Book Rave
 OYAN blog – what's next?
 Future meeting schedule

Upcoming Meetings

Future locations will be decided at the Summer Membership Meeting, stay tuned!		
Fall 2011	October	
Winter 2011	January	

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Visit us online at <http://www.olaweb.org/oyan/>