



October 14th, 2008

OYAN [Oregon Young Adult Network] exists to provide a network for communication 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. Visit us online at <http://www.olaweb.org/oyan/>

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ARTICLES

Parenting Teen Storytimes

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***Rub-a-dub-dub,
Who's in the tub?
Little baby Joey---
Scrub, scrub, scrub!***

That version of the traditional rhyme was created by Maryann Mori, an outreach specialist at Des Moines (IA) Public Library. Mori does a lot of programming for teen parents. "You need to be thoughtfully alert in choosing materials to share with teens," she says.

I heard Mori speak at the American Library Association's June conference in Anaheim. I work with parent groups regularly as part of my job in Multnomah County Library's Early Childhood Services department, and I find teen parents challenging. I learned so much from Mori! Here are a few of her tips.

"It takes time to develop a trusting relationship with teens," she says. Don't think you can do it all in one visit. She tries to see each teen group three times, although she thinks that four visits would be ideal. She says that we can best relate to teens by example. She likes to do a twenty-minute storytime for the teens and their babies each time so the teens can see for themselves how babies respond to a song or rhyme or book. After every book or activity, she always looks at the teens and asks, "What did baby learn from this?"

One of her all-time favorite books for sharing with teens and their babies is the pop-up version of *The Wide-Mouthed Frog* by Keith Faulkner and Jonathan Lambert (Dial, 1996). Another sure-fire hit is the three volume *Mother Goose Rocks*, especially The Hokey Pokey with music by Dantana. And a professional resource book she would not be without: *The Big Book of Stories, Songs, and Sing-alongs: Programs for Babies, Toddlers, and Families* (Libraries Unlimited, 2003). She says that teens like "cute," but not corny.

Mori also likes to bring out a copy of *Brown Bear Brown Bear, What Do You See* in Japanese. She asks, "Who wants to read this to their baby?" Most of the time, no one can, so she "reads" it to them by talking about the pictures. I've done something like this with a Spanish book that I can't read except through the pictures, but the Japanese book is especially effective because it doesn't have Roman letters.

Two ideas I will also steal (I mean *borrow!*) from this creative librarian: When she wants to encourage teens to read their child's favorite book again and again (as their child has requested) she asks them, "*How many of you have a favorite movie that you watch over and over?*" And: When she sees each group of teens a second and third and fourth time, she always opens the conversation with "Tell me something your baby has done since I've seen you."

....Wonderful advice, isn't it? Please pass it on.

Comic-Con 2008

Colleen Galvin, Teens Services Librarian
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Library conferences give me a chance to learn best practices, hang out with my peers in a relaxed setting, and keep track of the latest library trends. But every once in a while it is good to get out of my comfort zone and attend a conference that doesn't cater to librarians. That's one of the reasons why I attended Comic-Con 2008 in San Diego. Of course, the main reason I attended the largest comics/sci fi convention in the country is that I'm a big geek.

What did I learn at Comic-Con 2008? I learned large conferences attract large names. Eoin Colfer's presentation connected his family stories with the characters from **Artemis Fowl**. I've never seen children, teens and adults laugh so hard at the same jokes.

Teen authors DJ Machale (**Pendragon Series**) and Frank Beddor (**Looking Glass Wars**) talked about their early influences, and Machale confessed that he hated reading until he discovered Stephen King. I was especially interested in PJ Haarsma (**The Softwire Series**). He wanted his books to inspire a love of reading and science.

Comic book artist and writer Terry Moore (**Strangers in Paradise, Runaways, Echo**) was down to earth and inspiring for all ages, but especially for older teens and young adults. He defined "cartoonist" as "an artist who thinks" and gave practical advice to young artists and writers.

I learned that even Dean Koontz, master of horror, is afraid of library fines. Koontz's presentation brought up a theme that was uncomfortably prevalent during the conference: fear of the library/librarians, or belief that libraries are obsolete. Koontz told an audience of over 2000 people that he hadn't been to a library in a long time because he still had a book overdue and was scared to go back.

Perhaps most importantly, I learned never to insult **Twilight** at Comic-Con. While eating lunch with a friend on the convention steps, I mentioned that the **Twilight** saga was not my favorite. Every teen on the steps stopped what they were doing and started to argue the incredible merits of Bella and Edward. I whimpered out and backed down. There were more of them than there was of me.

Lastly, I learned that library conferences are all well and good, but until you attend a session sitting next to a professor dressed up as a wookiee, you haven't lived. I highly recommend attending conferences out of your comfort zone.

Mock Printz Workshop

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OYAN, in partnership with Multnomah County Library, is happy to offer teen literature lovers the opportunity to select their own Oregon winner in honor of the **Michael L. Printz Award**. *Teens are welcome to participate!* A booklist of 11 starred review YA titles will be sent to participants upon registration. Read the titles and come prepared to share your thoughts and vote for the best YA book of the year! The details:

Saturday, January 17, 2009
1-5:00 p.m.
US Bank Room @ Central Library, Multnomah County Library
801 SW 10th Ave.
Portland, OR 97205

To register, send an email to susansm@multcolib.org with name, address, phone, & email of all participants.

Registration Deadline: October 31, 2008

To learn more about the Michael L. Printz Award:
<http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/booklistsawards/printzaward/Printz.cfm>.

YA Material REVIEWS

Book Reviews

Lisa N Elliott, Young Adult Librarian
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Appetite For Detention by Sloane Tanen

This hilarious graphic novel is a little difficult to categorize. Each character embodies a teen stereotype ala *The Breakfast Club*, and although they are fake, fuzzy chicks with googly eyes, they seem so real. They're all here: the Jock, the Brain, the Criminal, the Princess and the Basket Case. Throw in the fledgling (or gosling) fashion designer and the anxious Bar Mitzvah, mix these opposites together and you end up with unexpected pairs that may even mate for life, or at least for ninth grade. However, will teens enjoy a book that may seem to ridicule them and diminish their struggles? I know it took years before I could look back on some of the events of high school with a sense of humor. Try this book in your YA Graphic Novels collection and see if it, like the authors adult books, flies off the shelf.
P.S. Sorry for the gosling comment, but not the other bird puns.

Mark Richardson
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<http://sonofrich.wordpress.com/category/young-adult-lit/>

GONE by Michael Grant

The Stand was and is one of my favorite books of all time. But I'm scared to read it again for fear that it won't live up to my adolescent high school memories of it (just ask George Lucas about going to the well one too many times). Fortunately, there are new books and shows out there that are influenced by Stephen King's greatest book. *Gone* is such a book. This book takes the framework of *The Stand* and rolls it all up with TV shows like *Lost* and *Heroes*, comics like the X-men and sprinkles just a little *Lord of the Flies* into the pages to top it off. With such a mishmash, one worries that it might be too scattered, but Grant is able to maintain a coherent story with strong character driven events that draw the reader in.

SPOILERS AHEAD: The book opens with a typical high school classroom. Typical, that is, until the teacher disappears. The students immediately realize that something is very wrong. All the adults have vanished and they are on their own. Who will make decisions for the remaining children? Will the school bullies control the town? What about the private school, Coates Academy, on the outskirts of town where the troubled kids were sent? Many of the kids look to Sam as their leader, yet Sam desperately plays down their expectations because he knows they would fear him if they knew about his special powers. Yet is Sam alone in these powers or is something changing the creatures and children in the FAYZ?

Gone has a great set up and Grant makes it pay off for the first half of the book. Tension mounts as roles are defined and sides are taken. The book takes a turn once the Coates kids show up. Before long, this is less a struggle about survival and more a battle between good and evil with super powered individuals. All of this works, but some strange plot points threaten to derail the otherwise compelling tale. Talking animals and Astrid's power to tell an individual's potential by touching them strain credibility. Perhaps the biggest disappointment is that the major dilemmas are not brought to a conclusion by the end of the book. Grant is angling for a sequel and I'm sure he'll get it, yet this is a tale that could have been nicely wrapped up in the 550 pages. It's a great read, but it could have been more. And now we have to wait for the sequel to find out what happens to Sam, Astrid and the others.

K'Lyn Hann
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City of Ember (*movie*) based on the novel by Jean DuPrau

The release of this movie about a post-apocalyptic, underground society that's coming to an end because its generator is dying, its supplies of everything are dwindling, and its mayor is corrupt has a contemporary resonance that might just sound familiar. Having read all the books, I think I filled in a lot of the movie – like that significance of the sky-blue pencil & the can of pineapple. But I felt the attempt to reach the depth of the novel nonetheless, not merely the depth of *Ember* alone. An effort was made to ellapse time and events in a way to would hold true to the novel. Yes, Hollywood had a hand in the super-sized bugs and mole, but those new additions added their adventure and their own poetry/poetic justice to the story that again paid tribute to the novel's eloquence. Not as much character or intrigue or intellectual stimulation as the novel, but this film was a fairly faithful attempt to honor an outstanding novel. I've been able to round up new readers because the movie's arrival in the theaters. That, in itself, has been worth it!

Haiku Reviews

K'Lyn Hann
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I heart you, You haunt me by Lisa Schroeder

He's dead but not gone
She's living but not alive
I dared you to jump.

. . . a novel in verse that plunges the reader into an adolescent world of passion & love, fun & choices, pain & consequences, life & living, death & healing.

Audio Book Reviews

Mark Richardson
Cedar Mill Community Library
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<http://sonofrich.wordpress.com/category/young-adult-lit/>

Th1rteen R3asons Why by Jay Asher

Here is a book that was made to be an audiobook. The setup is this: a teenage girl, Hannah, has committed suicide, but before she did, she made tapes of 13 stories connecting all the people that led her to lose hope. Now they must listen to the tapes and pass them on to the next person on the list. The audio chores are shared between a woman narrating Hannah and a man voicing the thoughts of Clay, the boy who had a crush on Hannah and one of the recipients of the tapes. This setup adds drama and intensity to this YA staple and the voice acting is top notch. I find that I prefer audiobooks done by casts or in this case, two people who can breathe life into these characters. The one drawback of the book (and it is pretty big), is that I don't buy Hannah's selfish descent into self-pity and nihilism. She is not portrayed as that vulnerable throughout the book. Just the fact that she makes the tapes would lead you to believe she has more fight left in her. Yet, perhaps that's how a real suicide might occur. I appreciate the fact that the suicide is seen from the eyes of a boy who cared about her. It makes it painful, but you can feel the weight of her actions on others rather than getting wrapped up in her self-pity and loathing like other books about this topic. In the end, she gives up and that is not celebrated here.

K'Lyn Hann
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The Opposite of Invisible by Liz Gallagher (debut) ; read by Lara Hirner
Alice and Jewel (Julien) have been best friends since childhood. Alice falls for Mr. Football ; Jewel falls for Alice. Who does Alice choose? Why? For how long? Step into soggy Seattle and this frankly fun love triangle of popularity, sincerity, and visibility.

The Red Necklace by Sally Gardner

Intricately lacing the mystical, and often unknown, history of the Gypsies into this anchored moment of historical upheaval and reality, Gardner offers a tale of treachery and terror trimmed in the finest of French society that's worth reading/listening to. With eloquent accents and a setting in Revolutionary France, this novel comes alive in audio form including the elaborately alliterative & spine-chilling chants of the automata, the *Seven Sisters Macabre*, which entwines the beauty and the horror of time:

*“Velvet and violence.
Brocade and blood.
Damask and death.
Fur and fury.
Calico and corpses.
Taffeta and terror.
Satin and suffering.”*

OYAN QUARTERLY MEETING (October 24th, 2008)

OYAN is a membership organization that exists to provide a network of communication 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 school and public libraries. If you are interested in learning more about OYAN or becoming a member please visit our website at <http://www.olaweb.org/oayan/>.

***Driving Directions to* Tualatin Public Library**

18878 SW Martinazzi Ave

Tualatin, OR 97062

(503) 691-3074

<http://www.ci.tualatin.or.us/departments/communityservices/library/>

CONTACT PERSON: Aimee Meuchel

From I-5 North (toward Portland):

Take EXIT 289 toward CITY CENTER/SHERWOOD.

Turn LEFT onto SW NYBERG RD.

Turn RIGHT onto SW MARTINAZZI AVE.

End at 18878 SW Martinazzi Ave Tualatin, OR 97062-7092

From I-5 South (toward Salem):

Take EXIT 289 toward CITY CENTER/SHERWOOD.

Turn RIGHT onto SW NYBERG RD.

Turn RIGHT onto SW MARTINAZZI AVE.

End at 18878 SW Martinazzi Ave Tualatin, OR 97062-7092

Agenda (tentative)

**OYAN Quarterly Business Meeting
Tualatin Public Library
Friday, October 24th, 2008
11 am-3 pm**

1. Introductions
 - a. Attendees
 - b. Additions to Agenda

2. Old Business
 - a. Review/approve July 25th meeting minutes
 - b. Review Financial report

3. Resource Sharing (programs, ideas, book reviews, new websites, bibliographies, etc.)

4. Continuing Business
 - a. OLA Board Report of August 29th and October 3rd, 2008
 - b. OLA Annual Conference Update
 - c. OASL/WLMA Conference Report
 - d. Oregon Reads 2009
 - e. Letters about Literature
 - f. Focus Institute Report

LUNCH 1:00pm – 1:30pm

5. New Business
 - a. OYAN Raffle 2009
 - b. Book Rave
 - c. Mock Printz
 - d. Scholarships
 - e. OYAN On-the-Road

Lunch (deadline: none)

We'll head out from the Library and grab lunches to bring back.