6th Grade Book Reviews

2020
Who am I as a Reader?

I love to read a good book, and if I find one that I really enjoy then I will not be able to put it down, and will read it anywhere. I like books that start off interesting, or that hook you really well. Many of the stories I really love have obstacles that the characters overcome, or there is a lot of action in it. Some of my favorite books have a lot of small events that connect and lead up to a big part in the story line. I read through books at a moderate pace.

Other Books I Loved:

**Book Review**

*Chomp* is about a boy named Wahoo Cray whose dad is an extremely stubborn animal wrangler. His family doesn't have much money, so even after his dad gets in a serious head injury from a falling iguana they take a job to work for an ignorant and foolish movie star named Derek Badger. Derek is the star of a reality show, “Expedition Survivor!” where he has to survive on his own in various places. But when he decides he wants to use only wild animals for the show, Mickey and Wahoo get dragged along. A girl named Tuna joins them, and there is just one crazy mishap after the other. Will they make it out of the show untouched?

This book is suspenseful, funny, and full of adventure. Carl Hiaasen did an amazing job of incorporating many different ideas into the story without making it confusing. The thing I like most about this book is how it was very funny and often kept me on the edge of my seat. If you like funny and adventurous books that keep you entertained, then you would probably love Chomp. This story would most likely appeal to both boys and girls.
Who am I as a Reader?

I like to read fiction, historic fiction or realistic fiction. I like books that are a little scary and have some love. I like books about war and have a lot of action. I love reading because it is like you can go into your own world and you can imagine the characters in your head. I usually read before I go to bed sometimes at the beach or whenever. When I read a book like the Hunger Games, it takes less than a week, and really big books take around two weeks. I read about 27 books this year.

Book Review

Lina is a fifteen year old Lithuanian girl who is taken prisoner by the Soviets and sent to a Siberian work camp. Between Shades of Grey by Ruta Sepetys is Lina’s story of survival.

The book kept me interested the entire time and I was always impressed how Lina never gave up and kept fighting. I learned about how hard it was for people to survive in a Siberian work camp.

favorite books:
. Between Shades of Gray
. Orbiting Jupiter
. Hunger Games
. Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children
. Red Glass
Who am I as a Reader?

To describe myself as a reader: I’m not a very enthusiastic one. For starters, I don't like to read. I would much rather go outside and run than sit in one spot looking for or at a book. I also don't have the greatest attention span which makes it really hard to read. The only genre of books I really enjoy is historic, or historical fiction. I love books with a lot of action, especially books that have to do with wars or other military events. My favorite type of books are generally ones that have to do with D day.

Allies by Alan Gratz, is a historical fiction book. In this book you are seeing D Day from multiple different perspectives, but the character you are reading about most is named Dee. Dee is a soldier for the American forces on D Day; he storms the beaches of Normandy along with many other soldiers. Another main character is Samira, who is a spy working for America as well. James is a paratrooper who is deployed during a midnight raid. And last, but most certainly not least is Henry; Henry is an african american medic on the beaches of Normandy on June 6th. Allies is set in 1944 in France during the ruling of the Nazis. The Nazis are trying to conquer Europe while the American army, and allied forces try to put the Nazis entire killing spree to an end.

What made Allies so incredibly good in my opinion is the historical accuracy of small things like, dates, weather, types of vehicles. As small as those little details are they make the book 100x easier to understand. The most unique thing about this book is the switches in characters. The author makes the perspective switches smooth and easy to read.. The book flowed really well; it was straightforward and not confusing. I highly recommend this book. 10/10. I would read again.

Book Recommendations
1. Projekt 1065
2. Grenade
3. Allies
4. Wonder Struck
Who is Lucy as a Reader?

I am an avid reader, and I love reading! I can read anytime, anywhere. I will read going to school, even on a noisy school bus. I have read about 40 books this year. If I have gotten my hands on an amazing book, I will spend every minute I can reading it, causing myself to be rushed in the mornings, I have also read in class, and then I get my book taken away. Normally, in my locker I have at least 2 or 3 books. I get attached characters in books, so I can fall into their world easily. When I go on trips in the summer, we sometimes listen to audiobooks, but normally, I hate audiobooks. Audiobooks are never the same thing as real books; they do not engage me as much. When I first heard that I could check out as many books as I like in the school library, I checked out 11 books. And whenever I go to the public library(s), I usually get 20 to 80 books, varying in genre, age, and all that jazz. Now, I could go on, and on about my reading’s, yadda, yadda, but Skye said that it had to be one paragraph, so, bye!

Spy School Series!!!

The Spy School series by Stuart Gibbs is by far the best book(s) I have ever read! It is a book full of mystery and spy fiction. It is set in Washington DC, USA. In the first book, 13-year-old Benjamin Ripley gets recruited by Alexander Hale to the CIA Academy of Espionage, but the school is known to the public as St. Smitten's Science Academy for Boys and Girls. There, he meets Erica Hale, a legacy at the Academy of Espionage; her ancestor is the great Nathan Hale himself. And then, in the middle of the night, Ben gets attacked by someone! He befriends Murray Hill, and Zoe Zibbell. Then, Ben figures out that he was bait to lure out a mole at his new school! Can Ben find the mole in his school in time?!

Spy School is an amazing book. It is the first book of a series of 7 books. The 7 books are about Ben’s adventures with his friends at the Academy of Espionage. Also, an 8th book is coming out October 6, 2020. The books are amazing, along with the acknowledgments. The books are great for kids 5th grade or over. If you like mystery, action, and spy fiction, this would be the perfect series for you. Stuart Gibbs is probably one of the best authors for middle schoolers.
Who is Pickle as a Reader?

I'm a picky reader. When I find a book I really like I can't put it down. My favorite genre is realistic fiction. I like it because I can relate to the characters' lives, but also get inspired by them. My favorite time to read is before bed and when I wake up. I take about a week or less when I'm reading a book I really like. When I'm reading a book that I'm not so sure about, it takes a bit longer. I have probably read about 15 books this school year, not including graphic novels, which I read a lot.

Other books I love:

Book Review: Out of My Mind
by Sharon Draper

Out of My Mind is about a girl named Melody. She has cerebral palsy and can’t talk, walk or move. Melody has a photographic memory, so she can remember every detail of anything that's ever happened to her. As a reader, you get to be inside of Melody’s mind, so you know how smart she is. In fact, Melody’s the smartest person in her whole school but no one knows. Not being able to communicate really aggravates Melody. For instance, when Melody’s goldfish jumps out of it’s bowl, she can’t move to put it back, and the goldfish dies. Melody does not want to be known as just the girl with cerebral palsy. The book captures her struggles.

I’m a pretty empathetic person, so I could really feel Melody’s struggles and how aggravated she is. The reader is the only lucky person who knows what is going on in her head. The author created a character who is courageous. This book is good for grades 5 and up. A book that I can compare to Out of My Mind would be Wonder, because they’re both about a kid who struggles to be seen for who they are. A theme of this book is misunderstanding. For example, no one knows how smart Melody is, so they just think she’s this girl with cerebral palsy. I knew what cerebral palsy was, because my great uncle had it, but as you read, you are put in someone else’s shoes and you can really understand Melody’s struggles.
I kind of like reading, some books I really like to read and want to read, but most books I don't like. I like books that keep me interested. There's no book type that I like. The teacher says try this one, I read it and I either really like it or not want to read it. How often I read depends on if I have a good book or not. If I have a good book I will read every night. If I don’t have a good book I will read maybe every two days. I read at night like when I am in bed after the day when I lay down. I think like 7 books in 6th grade.

The title of the book I think six graders should read is **Holes**. The author is Louis Sachar. The genre is realistic fiction. Stanley gets in trouble for something he didn’t do and is sent to a camp to dig holes. While he is there he makes a friend and they dig holes together. The choices the characters make affected the plot. In the end, Stanley and his friend make it home alive but you’ll have to read Holes to find out how!

Holes was good because it was full of adventure. There was always some action, little and big. The author wrote the story especially well. Sixth-grade readers who like adventure and action should read this book. One theme in the book is friendship, and it carries them through the story.
Book Review:

Dear Evan Hansen, a realistic fiction title by Val Emmich is a book based on the hit broadway show set in New York. Evan is a senior in highschool and doesn’t have any friends. He was seeing a therapist to help sort out some of his issues. His therapist told him to write letters to himself everyday to help with his mood. “Dear Evan Hansen, today is going to be an amazing day and here’s why…”. When one of Evan’s letters gets in the hands of Connor Murphy, a troubled senior, things go terribly wrong. Evan gets caught in a lie, that becomes a bigger deal than he could have ever imagined.

I loved the book Dear Evan Hansen because it was inspired by a Broadway musical. The book was unique because it was based on the show. Usually, the musical is based on the book. The author did an amazing job developing Evan’s character. You could feel how he changed and you could feel his emotions throughout the book. I would recommend this book for mature 6th graders and up. The book has some serious topics in it that could be sensitive to younger children. If you liked the 5 Feet Apart and/or The Fault in our Stars you will love Dear Evan Hansen. All of the books have very serious, real life topics in them. One of the main themes shown throughout the book is feeling accepted. One thing that I learned and other people should learn from this book, is to always love yourself and to never change yourself for anyone.

Who I am as a reader:

As a reader, I think I get through books quickly when I’m enjoying them and more slowly when I don’t like the story as much. I prefer realistic fiction to any other genre. I like to choose my own titles, rather than be told what I have to read. I enjoy book groups with a few other people that I get along with. It’s fun to discuss books with people I enjoy talking with. Usually I read nightly, right before I go to bed at night. It helps me wind down from the day and it’s relaxing.

Books I recommend:
Who am I as a Reader?

I am a regular reader. I read most every night before I go to bed and read about an average of 1-2 books a month. My favorite type of books are Action packed fictions. I love these sort of books because sometimes life can get a little dull and then you start reading one of these “POW” and everything seems way more interesting.

The Maze Runner

Thomas and Teresa work for Wicked, a company that is trying to stop the outbreak of flare going through the world Thomas is a very ambitious risk-taker that will do anything for his friends. Teresa on the other hand is very split minded and will not let other people get in her way. The main setting in this book is the Glade, the area in the center of the maze. Outside the Glade there are monsters called Grievers which are mostly mechanical, but somewhat animal looking creatures that attack anyone that they see. In this story all Thomas wants to do is get out of the Maze and find out what his true meaning is. When Thomas came out of the elevator he had lost all his memories about anything that had happened before he entered the elevator and the same thing happened to all of the other gladers and later they found out why.

My favorite thing about this book is it has a lot of fun turns of events and you can easily get stuck reading it for hours without even realizing. One thing that I think makes this book very unique to most other books is it is really well told in the sense that the story is based in the future. And if you liked the Hunger Games but are tired of reading it over and over again, then this is the book for you. I recommend this book to anyone above the age of 10.
Who am I as a Reader?

I personally do not like reading. I do not like reading because it hurts my eyes to look at so many words at one time. For me, reading is like watching paint dry. It is very boring in my mind. I’d I’m in the mood to read then I will read action books or something else. I only read when I am told to. If I have a choice then I will probably choose not to read. I read when I’m in school and sometimes at night. I don’t move quickly when reading. I think I’ve read about 5 books in my 6th-grade experience.

A Long Way Down by Jason Reynolds

After the death of his brother, Will wants to kill the person who murdered him. He steps into the elevator at the beginning of this book and steps out at the end, with a whole new perspective.

I really liked this book because it was interesting and made me want to read more every day. It was written in verse, so it was easy to read it quickly.
Who Is Sarah as a Reader?

My favorite type of books are graphic novels. I like to read at school or before I go to bed. I like reading, but I'm not that quick at reading the whole book. I take my time and I like to read in groups with my friends. In book groups, I try harder because I have more responsibility. I loved reading *Among the Hidden*, and I think you should go read it!

These are some books I loved reading too!

*Among The Hidden*

Luke wants to be a regular kid and wants to be part of the world, but he is a third child in a world where families can only have two children. He finds a friend who is also a third child. Will he build up the courage with his new friend to go out into the world and help third children?
Who am I as a Reader?

I love reading. It is the best thing to do in the world. I wish school was just reading. Some people tell me I am CRAZY because I like reading so much. I like any type of book I can get my hands on, but I like fantasy the most. I also like realistic fiction. I read every day for at least 2 hours, and since the Coronavirus has canceled other activities, now I read even more. I read whenever and wherever I can. For example, I read at the beach and on my couch, in the car, on the trampoline, in the hammock, and in my bed. I often stay up super late reading and my parents get mad at me. I am a pretty fast reader. I read multiple books at a time, for example once I was listening to an audiobook of Talon and reading a Percy Jackson book at the same time. I think that I read about 60 books since the beginning of 6th grade, which is about 6.6 books a month.

1 The Next Great Paulie Fink
2 One safe place
3 The war I finally won (book 2 of the series)
4 Kalahari
5 Space case
6 Wonder
7 House of hades (book 4 of a series)
8 Dark prophecy (book 2 of the series)

I think all 6th graders should read *The Next Great Paulie Fink* by Ali Benjamin, which is a realistic fiction book. This book is about the main character Caitlyn Breen who goes to a small school in Vermont where there are only 10 other kids in her 7th grade class. The only thing that these kids talk about is a kid named Paulie Fink who mysteriously left their school. They start a competition to see who will be the next great Paulie Fink and elect Caitlyn as the judge. She collects stories about Paulie’s pranks and antics, and then sets up competitions based on what Paulie used to do. For example, in one competition she has the contestants talk like Shakespeare for a day.

The reason I like this book is that it is funny and full of cliffhangers which keep you interested in the story. The story was written as if Caitlyn were a reporter and getting multiple points of view from the characters. The author didn’t make the story too quick or too slow, it was just right to keep my attention throughout the whole book. This book would be appropriate for 4th through 8th graders, but I think 5th and 6th graders would like it the most. The book is very unique and unlike any other books I have read. I think the author wrote this book mostly for entertainment, but also to teach us a lesson that miracles do happen.
Who am I as a Reader?

I like to read adventure books. I like adventure books because I like being outside exploring. I can relate to the books I read because one time I built a teepee in the woods. I like books about animals because they give you the perspective from their view, like what a dog is thinking.

I like reading as long as the book is descriptive and intriguing. I like old fashioned nonfiction books. When I am on the big island in Seneca lake in Ohio I read adventure books. I like audiobooks because I like being read to. Audio books are good when I am fishing because I am holding the rod, not a book. I have read about ten books this year. If I dropped a book in the water Amy and Skye might get mad.

The Sign of the Beaver by Elizabeth George Speare is about Matt and his dad. Matt is a 12 year old kid who goes with his dad up into Maine to clear woods and build a cabin. When his father goes away, he is trusted to guard the cabin. His father trusts him with the family possessions in the house. Along the way he meets an American soldier that ends up taking his dad's favorite gun and only hunting gun. Later he meets an indian boy named Attean. Attean was sent by his father to learn English from Matt, so that when they went to sign treaties they could understand what the treaties were for. They had a good time together learning from each other because Attean would teach him things while they read Robinson Crusoe. After that, Attean has to go away for a long time until he finds his spirit. Do you think he will ever get his father’s most prized gun back?
I love to read, especially the fantasy genre. I usually try to read at least once a day, but sometimes I cannot fit it into my schedule. I prefer to read before I go to bed, it is calming and helps me fall asleep faster. When I find a good book I just can't stop reading, so I finish it very quickly. I probably read about 7 or 8 books per year.

**The Girl Who Drank The Moon** by Kelly Barnhill is an epic fantasy about a young girl raised by a witch, a swamp monster, and a perfectly tiny dragon. Living in a cottage in the middle of the forest, Xan is a kind witch, who once a year goes to the protectorate to take a child that they sacrifice to her in hopes that she will not hurt them. She takes the child to the village on the other side of the forest and gives them to nice families. One year she accidentally feeds the baby moonlight, filling the child with magic. She decides to keep the girl and name her Luna. But when Luna's 13th birthday is right around the corner, her magic starts to emerge. A young boy from the protectorate gets tired of having to live in fear of Xan, so he ventures into the forest to kill her.

I loved this book because it is very interesting and it has a lot of elements, such as having many unique characters. I personally think that the author did the storyline very well. The book is unique, and I have never read anything else like this. I think that this book is very good for 4-7 graders to read. If you read **Wandmaker** by Ed Massesa you would love **The Girl Who Drank The Moon**. I learned a lot of life lessons from this, one of them being not to judge a book by its cover, it was also a big theme in the book.
Who am I as a Reader?

I like reading for entertainment. I like reading science fiction and fantasy because they’re cool. I read everyday for over an hour. I like reading in the morning and at night. I read quickly if I like the book, if not it will take a long time. I have read about 60 books in 6th grade!

Other books Gannon enjoyed:

Book Review

In the dystopian fantasy novel, Ready Player One, Wade is a gunter who is looking for clues to inherit a massive amount of money. Wade found a clue but the Niners made it difficult for Wade to solve the riddle. I suggest you read this book!

The thing that made the story so good was the action. It takes place in a video game but it is realistic almost like virtual reality. The author kept me guessing Everyone in the entire world should read this book! Ready Player One is different from any book I have ever read. One theme of the book was the survival of the fittest.
Who am I as a Reader?

I love reading. I think reading is fun because the things that happen - which are sometimes impossible in this world or just a really unexpected plot twist - are amazing and can only really happen in a good book. As a reader, I love realistic fiction, like *Wonder*, fantasy, like *The Girl Who Drank The Moon*, and mystery, like *Greenglass House* or *The Mysterious Benedict Society*. Sometimes I also like to read quick, short books like *Who Was Ernest Shackleton?* (I am also partial to history.) This school year I have read around 80 books, including a few short ones.

Here are a few more books that I really liked:

*The Mysterious Benedict Society*
By Trenton Lee Stewart

The Mysterious Benedict Society is a mystery-science fiction book. The book’s main character is Reynie Muldoon, who is an orphan and really smart. Seeing an advertisement in the paper, he takes multiple tests, and passes all of them, along with Sticky, Kate, and Constance. They meet the person behind the tests, Mr. Benedict, and he sends them on an adventure filled with excitement and suspense.

I really liked this book because the puzzles are fun, there were shocking plot twists, and it was a nice, long book. It is also the first in a series! Personally, though, I think that this one is the best. I think that this book is fine for ages 9 and up, since it is a little long, and it doesn’t really have any scary parts.

Readers who really liked *The Secret Keepers*, which is also written by Trenton Lee Stewart, will probably love *The Mysterious Benedict Society*. Both books are about kids who don’t really have any friends, and how the things they find - be it a newspaper ad or a watch - pushes them into adventure in which they discover friends. I think that this connects to some of the themes, which I am pretty sure are that friendship and kindness are extremely important in life.
Who am I as a Reader?

Three of my top favorite books are Wonder, Doppelganger, and Out Of Place. I enjoy reading sometimes. Reading is a good thing to do before bed, or if you get bored. The type of books I like are realistic fiction and nonfiction. I usually read about 20 mins a day while I am at home. I like to read before bed, oftenly it helps me get my eyes tired. I can usually get through a book I like in a week. If I am not so interested in a book then I will take longer. This year in 6th grade, I think I read around 13 books.

Wonder

I think everyone should read the book Wonder. The book Wonder by R.J Palacio.

This book is full of happiness and sadness which makes for a great read. I liked learning about Auggie's experience at school because it shows you how other people can feel going into a new setting.
I really really like reading. I read a lot of books this year, and one of my favorites was probably Percy Jackson - the last Olympian. I like to read everywhere, even some places that I could get in trouble for...like in the car or in class...hehe. I go through books pretty quickly, and I read about 47 books this year. I didn’t set a goal this year, but I was happy that I passed 25 books around midyear. I read a lot in school and even more at home, especially during umm...this. I don’t really know what to call it...the COVID-19 pandemic? Quarantine? I don’t know, but I read a lot during it, 'cause I’m always at home.

I really liked the Funjungle series by Stuart Gibbs. The first book in the series is Belly Up. The main character Teddy, lived in Africa until he was ten. Now, he and his family live at the biggest zoo in the state, Funjungle. Soon after the zoo opened, the mascot, a hippo named Henry, died. The PR tells everyone he died of natural causes, and he was lucky he had a happy end blah blah blah. But Teddy overhears the vet, Doc saying that Henry was murdered. Even after Teddy is told to stay out of it, he sneaks into the surgery that Doc does on every zoo animal after it dies and watches. Then, Teddy meets the owner of the zoo's daughter, Summer...so they investigate the crime together because no one else will. In the rest of the books, Summer and Teddy work together to find bad guys and stop them, and they always seem to find themselves right where the danger is. It's a really great series and every 6th grader should read it.

I liked the Funjungle series because they were action packed. The main characters were always right where the bad things were happening. They also always seemed to figure out the mysteries before any of the adults could...including the FBI. The two friends cough - more than friends - cough get off to an umm….awkward start, but their friendship builds over time, and I really liked that. It's a good series for middle schoolers and anyone who liked the PJO series. I like the page at the end of the book that tells you more about whatever type of animal was featured in the book. So for Big Game (the 3rd book in the series) the last page was all about rhinos and what types of human related danger they face in the wild.
Who am I as a reader?

I am a pretty strong reader. I read a lot and I can read long books. For example, I read the Harry Potter series up to The Halfblood Prince in fourth grade. My favorite genre of book is mystery. Here are a couple of my favorite books I have read this year: The Artemis Fowl series, The Strangers, The Mysterious Benedict Society books 1&3, and the Artemis Fowl series. I enjoy reading as long as the book meets my standards. I like books with lots of suspense, mystery, action, and if possible, a little comedy. My favorite genre of book is mystery. I enjoy trying to figure out the mystery, and I like to see if I got it correct in the end. I have finished 3 Agatha Christie novels this year and I have enjoyed all of them. The ones I have read are not too advanced of a reading level so lots of other people can read them too. I read around 2 times per day. I read at night before I turn out my light, and I read one other time during the day when I have time. I move through books at a fast pace if I am enjoying them. Mysteries are really easy to read fast because they are suspenseful and one wants to know what happens and who did the crime. I have read an Agatha Christie novel in five days so I would say I am a pretty fast reader. I think I have read around fifteen novels this year.

Book Recommendation

**Alex Rider: Scorpa** is the 5th book in the Alex Rider series. The author, Anthony Horowitz, has written other series including The Diamond Brothers series and The Power of Five series. The genre of the Alex Rider series is mystery and suspense, Anthony Horowitz’ specialty. Alex Rider, the main character, is an orphan who lived with his uncle Ian in England until his uncle was killed in a car crash under mysterious circumstances. Later, Alex is recruited by M16 to do missions for them. Alex Rider: Scorpa is about Alex’s 5th mission, to help take down global terrorist group Scorpa. M16 had been trying to take down Scorpa for years. In this book, Scorpa attempts to destroy the relationship between the United States and the United Kingdom by mass genocide. Alex attempts to stop them by infiltrating the organization. While infiltrating, he discovers a dark secret about his father and his parents death.

I love Alex Rider: Scorpa because it is suspenseful, with mystery and lots of action. I also love when the villain in the story has a realistic plan that would work or come close to in real life. I feel like that adds to the excitement because it is realistic instead of a plan that would work only under very precise circumstances. Another thing that I liked was at the start of the book, a guy who works for MI6 makes Alex these cool gadgets, and Alex always finds a creative way to use them to get himself out of a sticky situation. The combination of action and mystery, with a good plot and suspense was one of the unique qualities about Alex Rider: Scorpa. Some other books with these characteristics are the Artemis Fowl series, which I also loved. So if you liked either the Artemis Fowl series, or the Alex Rider series, I recommend reading the other one. And if you have not read either, then you should read both. Believe me, you won’t be disappointed.
Who am I as a reader!?

Although I do see a lot of reports and know a lot of people who hate to read, being truly honest... I LOVE IT!!!

I'm into insanely long chapter books because it's nice to have a book that is long instead of a short one because then I'm sad when it is over!! And that's a great thing about a series too! If you finish the first book and you liked it you will have a whole stack of them that are just like it! But the bad thing about long amazing books for me is that I'll end up staying up super late, sometimes even until one in the morning to try and just read a little more! If I was forced to make a five book long list of books I love, well... it's a challenge, because there are so many of them!!!

**Other books I recommend!**

The Hunger Games!!

This is a well know series of books and I will not be surprised if you have read or watched the movies, because most people have! Most people just see it as another book, but the author is so descriptive and precise that even though the book is about murder it makes me so happy to sit down and read it! It also interests me because it is about the future of the US. I'm not saying that it is going to happen but the book takes place many years from now.

The main characters in the book are Katniss Everdeen, Peta Mellark, Effie Trinket, Haymitch, Gale and Katniss’ mom and sister, as you can see there are lots of people! But the most important one is Katniss, she is the main, main character because the book is mostly all around her, she is a girl form a small poor district called district 12. Every year the capital (D.C kind of) holds the annual hunger games, two people are chosen from each of the 12 districts and then they are sent to an arena to fight to the death, this is president Snow’s way of bringing down the population so that there is enough food!

By: Grazina B.
Who am I as a Reader?

I sometimes like reading but I sometimes do not. It depends on how I am feeling that day. I like dramatic books about destruction and death. I don’t have any set genre of books. I read a little bit every day. I read at night. It takes me about three weeks to read a whole book. I have read about 8 books this year.

Other books I enjoyed:

A Long Walk to Water, A Night Divided, The Giver

Book Review

Unbroken is the best historical non-fiction book I have ever read and here’s why. It starts off with Louis and his buddy as pilots in WWII, but he crashes and gets stranded in the Pacific ocean for months. Then Louis gets locked up by the cruel Japanese, especially the bird who took joy out of starving and beating Americans. Then once the war is over he gets married and gets depressed and he and his wife face challenges that make their marriage almost impossible. But then he finds a purpose in life and becomes a good person again. As you can see it is one of the best stories out there.

The story was true with so many twists and turns. It was a real story so the uniqueness was the magnitude of Louis’s story and what he went through. The author captured the emotions of the characters really well. Mature readers should read this book because of violence and profanity. Never give up is on of the many themes in the book.

Walter Prescott
As a Reader:

I love to read. I love to be held in suspense, clinging on to every page, always waiting to see what happens next. My favorite genre of books is historical fiction. It is so cool to learn more about different things that have already happened. You learn about what it could have been like for someone alive during that time and what their experience was. I really enjoy books that have a sequel. Once I find a good novel I will usually read it cover to cover right away.

Other books I loved:

One good book that I read this year was *A Night Divided* by Jennifer A. Nielsen. This is a historical fiction book. Gerta is a 12 year old girl who lives in East Berlin with her family. One night separates them all. The Berlin wall was put up overnight and her dad and brother Dominic were stuck on one side. Gerta and her mom and older brother Fritz were stuck on the other. All they want is to see each other again, but if anyone dared to try to cross there would be dangerous consequences. One day on the way to school Gerta was looking at the wall when she saw her father doing a very weird dance on the other side. It had seemed like he was trying to tell her something. Did he want her and her brother to tunnel under the wall? Or was he tunneling under to be together with them? Read this book to find out! I really liked *A Night Divided* because it kept you intrigued the whole time! This novel was one of a kind because it took place during the Berlin Wall and showed lots of bravery. It was filled with so many ups and downs that kept you wanting more. Gerta never gave up on trying to reunite her family even when it seemed impossible. She demonstrated courage, bravery, and endurance. From *A Night Divided*, I learned so much more about the Berlin Wall and how scary it must have been during that time! If you like historical fiction novels you should highly consider this book. It is an incredible story that you should not miss out on! If you liked *The War That Saved My Life*, *The War I Finally Won*, and *The Green Glass Sea* you will definitely enjoy this book as much as I did.
Who am I as a Reader

I like to read a little bit. It depends, because I like to read when my mood is good and I am in a good stage of the book. I like the fantasy genre, it just is kinda cool to know that it is not real and is made up from scratch. I read about 4-6 days a week. I like to read in the middle of the day because I can focus and take my mind off stuff. Also, I don't read books very quickly. I think I might have read 5 books this year.

In the book “Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone,” there are many interesting characters, including Ron, Hermione, Harry, Snape and Malfoy. The main character, Harry Potter comes from a pretty rich family, but they give him almost nothing. Over multiple days letters come to Harry, and he learns that he is going to become a wizard. He goes to the train station, and when on the train he meets Ron and Hermione. Malfoy tries to become friends with Harry, but Harry denies him friendship. In this first book in the Harry Potter Series, Harry, Ron, and Hermione try to go and stop Voldemort from getting the Sorcerer's Stone.

I liked the book Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone because I knew that there were more after it because it was the first in the series. I liked how even though Harry, Ron, and Hermione fight, they are still friends. One of the big themes of this book is that friendship is very important. In the book the author did a good job at explaining the situation that Harry was in (his family not being nice), but also not just talking about the situation. I think that middle schoolers and even somewhat slow readers can read this book.

Other Books I like

In the book “The War that Saved My Life,” there are many interesting characters, including Ron, Hermione, Harry, Snape and Malfoy. The main character, Harry Potter comes from a pretty rich family, but they give him almost nothing. Over multiple days letters come to Harry, and he learns that he is going to become a wizard. He goes to the train station, and when on the train he meets Ron and Hermione. Malfoy tries to become friends with Harry, but Harry denies him friendship. In this first book in the Harry Potter Series, Harry, Ron, and Hermione try to go and stop Voldemort from getting the Sorcerer's Stone.

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Other Books I like
Who am I as a Reader?

I love to read if I have a good book. I like a book with a strong beginning, that has a good plot twist at the end. I'm not the fastest reader, but if I'm reading a good book I can get through it pretty quickly. I like a book where I can never put it down, and the more I read the more I like the book. If I don't like the book, I will put it down right away. Most of the books I read are young adult fiction. I finish books at an average pace, and read about 6 books this year.

Other books I liked

The Black Pearl by Scott O’Dell is about a 16 year old boy named Ramon who lives in a small town called La Paz. Ramon wants to find the great pearl which is very valuable. However, the Monster Diablo will hunt him down and curse him if he takes the pearl. Will he get the pearl and stay safe or will the Diablo get him?

I think the author did a great job keeping me entertained throughout the whole book, and was always making me wonder what is going to happen next. There was a lot of suspense between Ramon and the Manta Diablo. I think that the theme of the book was don't take what's not yours. To be honest I didn't love The Black Pearl, but if you like young adult fiction books with suspense and action I think this book is for you.
Who am I as a Reader?

I read at a good pace with books that I have chosen but slow with books that I dislike. I like to mostly read during the summer. I usually read every other week. I personally like fun and mystical books and adventure books. I feel like it’s fun to read, but I will instantly hate it if someone just forced me to read I read.

Other books I like:

In the first book, The Dragonet Prophecy, a war has been raging across the dragon continent of Pyrrhia for twenty years between three sisters who all want to be the queen of the SandWing dragon tribe. Five dragonets were prophesied to end the war by choosing a queen, and the Talons of Peace, an underground organization dedicated to ending the war, are in the process of training the five dragonets to go out into the world. The dragonets have lived under a mountain their whole lives waiting for this day.

The story has this thing where you would do anything to read another page. Everybody who can read should read this book it is amazing. For me personally it’s unique, but others might not have that good of a connection. It’s like taking your one year old to play piano. They have to grow with what they like...you can’t get good overnight.
Who am I as a Reader?

Reading can be boring, I would rather watch a movie because I get more information from looking at the picture. I like stories about action and racing. I read a little bit every day. I like to listen to audiobooks at school when there is no other option. I have read about ten books this year.

Book Review

In the realistic fiction book, Devil’s Bridge written by Cynthia DeFelice, Ben wants to beat his father’s island record for catching the largest striper in the derby. When Ben discovers that someone might be using mercury to make the fish weigh more, he jumps into action. Read this book if you want to figure out what happens to Ben!

This book is about fishing and there are barely any books about fishing. People who like fishing should read this book.

Other books I liked:

Where the Red Fern Grows: if you like books about dogs, hunting and life
A Long Walk to Water: If you like stories about escaping
Hatchet: If you like stories about the wilderness and survival
Wild Man Island If you like stories about surviving
Who am I as a Reader?

I am picky about finding the right book. If I find the perfect book, I can’t stop reading it. I mostly read on weekdays, but not weekends. I love to read graphic novels and books that have a lot of action! I do enjoy reading if it is the right book. This year I read at least 16 books. I have not read as many books as I would like, probably because I am very picky.

These are some books I think you should read!

Book Review

In the fiction novel, *If I Stay*, Gayle Forman writes about this young girl who went from just a normal day to a terrifying experience she will never forget. She made choices no girl would want to face but she did it. Through this life-changing experience, she could only wonder if she wanted to stay or if it was her time to go. What would you do if you were in her shoes?

One thing that I love about this book is the character’s point of view. The author is Gayle Forman and the way that she sets up the point of view makes you want to read more and more. This story really makes you see life in a different angle. Even learn a thing or two. The theme is mainly afterlife and friendship. After reading this book it really makes you think what would you do if you were in the situation. You must READ!
Who am I as a Reader?

I love reading! It lets me get lost in my own little world. I mostly like to read fiction, but sometimes I read non-fiction. I read every day! Every night before going to bed. I will sometimes stay up really late reading! If I love a book and can’t put it down, I finish it pretty quickly. But if it’s a book I was told to read and don’t particularly like it, then I will get it done slower. I have probably read around 20 books this year.

Book Review

The book *Fish in a Tree* by Linda Mullay Hunt is a novel about a girl named Ally who hides her reading troubles by making a scene. But she doesn’t tell her teachers. Ally lives in a small town. She is always either at her public middle school, her house or the diner where her mom works at. Ally Nickerson can’t read and is bad at writing, and her teacher notices this. So will her teacher help her to read and write well, or will she never be able to read?

I liked the book *Fish in a Tree* because it shows that people go through struggles and difficulties sometimes even for part of their life. But that in the end it will be okay, you will find a person, animal, book, or anything that will help you get through it and make everything feel alright again. For example, Ally couldn’t read. But she met a person that helped her with this and was there every step of the way, teaching her how to read. What I liked about the author’s writing was how she would tell a person’s personality without telling you straight up. You probably won’t get hooked to this book if you’re younger than ten. I think all ages can read this book. That’s what is really nice about this book, it makes sense to a ten year old as well as a 45 year old. If you read *Fish in a Tree* and liked it, I think you would really like the book *Counting by 7’s*. It’s not about a girl who can’t read but it’s about a girl who was very different from other people. One day both her parents die in a car crash. She has never felt so much pain before. Then a family comes and takes her in. Read the book and you will find out what happens to Willow Chance. Themes developed in the novel *Fish in a Tree* include teaching, trust, identity, self-Esteem, bullying, friendship, and social status. From this book, I learned that you can do anything, even if it seems really hard.