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Why Should I Read?

An adventure story draws people into situations they may or may not experience. The purpose of an adventure is to take the reader out of their reality and into the reality of the character. Nowadays so many adventure books are being turned into movies that books are being cast aside. There is no reason to read a book since a film saves future readers the time and effort to do so. These future readers don’t realize the best parts they missed out on when they chose to skip the book and go to the movies. I, for one, never read Harry Potter and have only watched the films. I believed that the books at the time were too long to read. Why should I read them? They already been turned into films, there is no reason to. That is where I am wrong. As I got older, I became an avid reader. At the time, many of the books I have read were turned into movies. Most of them I walked in excited, but some I left disappointed. The novels are better at telling the story than a film. The writers, producers, directors and etc. have to condense the story into two hours or less for movie goers and may not stay faithful to the book. An author, however; has control of what they put into a novel, details and all.

Adventures stories captures the Exeter qualities of: characters who reflect experience of teen readers and/or characters who go beyond typical experiences so that readers can use the fictional experience to learn and develop in their own lives. According to Matt Walker from psychologytoday.com an adventure has five elements,

“1. Adventure is high endeavor. It is the ability to think big and think bigger about who you are, how you live, and what you can do in the world. 2. Adventure is total commitment. It is the spirit of willingness to embrace challenge and move toward success 3. Adventure has an uncertain outcome. A predetermined outcome is not an adventure but a packaged experience or amusement ride. 4. Adventure is tolerance for adversity. It is our ability to be resilient in the face of challenge. Our willingness to laugh, use humor, and graceful during difficult situations. 5. Adventure is great companionship. While our lives can sometimes feel solitary, we can't do it alone. It takes a team to support living in commitment, joy, generosity, and gratitude.”

The young adult adventure novels focus on taking that reader into their own adventure by becoming the main character. They are able to imagine themselves in the protagonist role and become fully immersed with new ideas and imagination. A person can learn through the experience of the characters in an adventure novel: what is right and wrong, their own identity, knowing they’re not alone, the views of the world, question their own world, etc.

Annotated Bibliography

Aveyard, Victoria. *Red Queen*. New York, NY: HarperTeen, an Imprint of HarperCollins, 2015. Print.

Mare Barrow’s world is divided by blood—those with common, Red blood serve the Silver-blooded elite, who are gifted with superhuman abilities. Mare is a Red, scraping by as a thief in a poor, rural village, until a twist of fate throws her in front of the Silver court. There, before the king, princes, and all the nobles, she discovers she has an ability of her own.

To cover up this impossibility, the king forces her to play the role of a lost Silver princess, and betroths her to one of his own sons. As Mare is drawn further into the Silver world, she risks everything and uses her new position to help the Scarlet Guard—a growing Red rebellion—even as her heart tugs her in an impossible direction. One wrong move can lead to her death, but in the dangerous game she plays the only certainty is betrayal. (Source: Barnes and Nobel).

Readers are able to relate to this novel since it reflects today’s issues such as wealth and poverty, pollution, ethnic inequality, corruption and the power of the media. Such as Mare questions everything around her, readers might also have the same questions about their world. The central idea that is taken from the book is “Anyone can betray anyone” which is the truth. It’s hard to trust anyone if the trust is broken multiple times by multiple people. The novel is meant for young adults between the ages of 12 to 18.

Collins, Suzanne. *The Hunger Games*. New York: Scholastic, 2009. Print.

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 is forced to represent her district in the Games. But Katniss has been close to dead before-and survival. (Source: Barnes and Noble).

Reality TV is part of our pop culture with many of us growing up with it. Like Katniss, when we see people fight on TV it is entertaining to watch. Not only is it entertaining, but networks use the fights between cast members to boost the ratings. Often times, they prompt the fights. In relation to Katniss, how much different are we than the people of Panem. They, however, fight to the death while people watch for enjoyment.

Dashner, James. *The Maze Runner.* New York: Delacorte, 2009. Print.

When Thomas wakes up in the lift, the only thing he can remember is his name. He’s surrounded by strangers—boys whose memories are also gone. Outside the towering stone walls that surround them is a limitless, ever-changing maze. It’s the only way out—and no one’s ever made it through alive. Then a girl arrives. The first girl ever. And the message she delivers is terrifying: Remember. Survive. Run. (Source: Barnes and Noble).

Thomas is a likable protagonist who questions why no one has tried to escape. The only person in the entire village to try, again, to escape. This novel presents the question of what happens if people don’t question anything. Will they solely rely on the people that send them food or will they have their own adventure out of their maze.

Edwardson, Debby Dahl., Alex Ferrari, and Melanie Kroupa. *My Name Is Not Easy*. New York: Marshall Cavendish, 2011. Print.

Luke knows his Ínupiaq name is full of sounds white people can’t say. He knows he’ll have to leave it behind when he and his brothers are sent to boarding school hundreds of miles from their Arctic village. At Sacred Heart School things are different. Instead of family, there are students — Eskimo, Indian, White — who line up on different sides of the cafeteria like there’s some kind of war going on. And instead of comforting words like tutu and maktak, there’s English. Speaking Ínupiaq — or any native language — is forbidden. And Father Mullen, whose fury is like a force of nature, is ready to slap down those who disobey. Luke struggles to survive at Sacred Heart. But he’s not the only one. There’s smart-aleck Amiq, a daring leader — if he doesn’t self destruct; Chickie, blond and freckled, a different kind of outsider; and small quiet Junior, noticing everything and writing it all down. Each has their own story to tell. But once their separate stories come together, things at Sacred Heart School — and in the wider world — will never be the same. (Source: Barnes and Noble).

The main protagonist loses his identity and is immediately segregated by the school. It is a situation that is happening now more than ever. Each character faces with the struggle of trying to fit in with their own respective groups and themselves while trying to stay within their racial boundaries.

Green, John. *An Abundance of Katherines*. NY, NY: Speak, 2008. Print.

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. (Source: Barnes and Noble)

The novel is a comical adventure of the main protagonist, Colin. The story tells the deep friendship about boys, romance, and what matters in life.

Jaramillo, Ann. *La Linea*. Stuttgart: Klett Sprachen, 2008. Print.

Miguel has dreamed of joining his parents in California since the day they left him behind in Mexico six years, eleven months, and twelve days ago. On the morning of his fifteenth birthday, Miguel's wait is over. Or so he thinks. The trip north to the border—la línea—is fraught with dangers. Thieves. Border guards. And a grueling, two-day trek across the desert. It would be hard enough to survive alone. But it's almost impossible with his tagalong sister in tow. Their money gone and their hopes nearly dashed, Miguel and his sister have no choice but to hop the infamous mata gente as it races toward the border. As they cling to the roof of the speeding train, they hold onto each other, and to their dreams. But they quickly learn that you can't always count on dreams—even the ones that come true.

I chose this book for the simple reason that it is a book that relates to people who either know someone or they are the ones who crossed the border. The reality is that people cross the United States border to find their families or to live the American Dream. There stories are remained untold unless someone is willing to listen.

Martel, Yann. Life of Pi: A Novel. New York: Harcourt, 2001. Print.

The son of a zookeeper, Pi Patel has an encyclopedic knowledge of animal behavior and a fervent love of stories. When Pi is sixteen, his family emigrates from India to North America aboard a Japanese cargo ship, along with their zoo animals bound for new homes.

The ship sinks. Pi finds himself alone in a lifeboat, his only companions a hyena, an orangutan, a wounded zebra, and Richard Parker, a 450-pound Bengal tiger. Soon the tiger has dispatched all but Pi, whose fear, knowledge, and cunning allow him to coexist with Richard Parker for 227 days while lost at sea. When they finally reach the coast of Mexico, Richard Parker flees to the jungle, never to be seen again. The Japanese authorities who interrogate Pi refuse to believe his story and press him to tell them "the truth." After hours of coercion, Pi tells a second story, a story much less fantastical, much more conventional—but is it more true? (Source: Barnes and Noble).

The story itself is unbelievable, yet at the same time fascinating. The story of a young boy at the grips of maturity matures faster than anticipated. It is a story that tells of the world through the eyes of Pi.

Nijkamp, Marieke. *This Is Where It Ends*. Naperville, IL: Source Fire, 2016. Print.

10:00 a.m.

The principal of Opportunity, Alabama's high school finishes her speech, welcoming the entire student body to a new semester and encouraging them to excel and achieve.

10:02 a.m. The students get up to leave the auditorium for their next class.

10:03 The auditorium doors won't open.

10:05 Someone starts shooting.

The gripping tale of four diverse characters who witness the horrific events of a school shooting. This adventure contains the themes abuse, death, and assault. An unpredictable tale which tells the backstories of the four-people leading up to the shooting of the teen behind it.

Raasch, *Sara. Snow like Ashes.* New York, NY: Balzer Bray, an Imprint of HarperCollinsPublishers, 2014. Print.

Sixteen years ago the Kingdom of Winter was conquered and its citizens enslaved, leaving them without magic or a monarch. Now the Winterians' only hope for freedom is the eight survivors who managed to escape, and who have been waiting for the opportunity to steal back Winter's magic and rebuild the kingdom ever since.

Orphaned as an infant during Winter's defeat, Meira has lived her whole life as a refugee. Training to be a warrior—and desperately in love with her best friend, Winter's future king—she would do anything to help Winter rise to power again.

So when scouts discover the location of the ancient locket that can restore Winter's magic, Meira decides to go after it herself—only to find herself thrust into a world of evil magic and dangerous politics—and ultimately comes to realize that her destiny is not, never has been, her own. (Source: Barnes and Noble).

The book is a fantasy novel that is also an adventure novel. The story is perfect for young adults as it is about discovering who you are and the struggles of acceptance and friendship.

Rowling, J. K., and Jakob J. Kenda. *Harry Potter*. Ljubljana: Epta, 1999. Print.

A series of fantasy novels written by British author J. K. Rowling. The novels chronicle the life of a young wizard, Harry Potter, and his friends Hermione Granger and Ron Weasley, all of whom are students at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. The main story arc concerns Harry's struggle against Lord Voldemort, a dark wizard who intends to become immortal, overthrow the wizard governing body known as the Ministry of Magic, and subjugate all wizards and Muggles. (Source: Wikipedia).

The story is also an adventure of coming of age. Throughout the novels, readers grow up with Harry and his friends. We can relate to the family, growing up, friendship and school. Through him we can enter the magical world.