

**TAR Reads
2009-2010**

Portland Council

Professional:

Writing Essentials by Regie Routman

...book has spurred in-depth discussions about our own writing ideas, habits, and hopes

Picture Books:

Dream by Suan Bosak

Shape Me A Rhyme by Jane Yolen

Who Is Melvin Bubble by Nick Bruel

Iggy Peck, Architect by Andrea Beaty

Crow Call by Lois Lowry

Wild About Books by Judy Sierra

Fortunately by Remy Charlip

The House in the Night by Susan Marie Swanson

Sunset Council

People of the Book by Geraldine Brooks

...fictional story of a real Jewish family prayerbook...amazing in its detail and the research that Brooks conducted to write it.

The Shack by William P. Young

Liked by most but some people did not get it

Capital Reading Council

The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows

The Bookseller of Kabul by Asne Seierstad

...the story of a Norwegian journalist who dons a burka and lives with a family in Kabul. It's a fascinating story that helps us understand the Afghan culture.

Tortilla Curtain by T.C. Boyle

The novel is about middle-class values, illegal immigration, and poverty.

The Piano Teacher by Janice Y.K. Lee

Driftwood

The Daily Five and *The Café* by Gail Bousher and Jane Moser

Emerald Empire

JJ TAR Group

Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society by Shaffar & Barrows *****

Annie Freeman's Fabulous Traveling Funeral by Kris Radish ***

People of the Book by Geraldine Brooks *****

Hannah's Dream by Diane Hammond **** bland discussion

Girl with the Dragon Tattoo by Steif Larsson

Cecilia TAR Group

Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society by Shaffar & Barrows *****

People of the Book by Geraldine Brooks *****

The Hour I First Believed by Wally Lamb ** :(

Olive Kitteridge By Elizabeth Strout **** Great discussion!

The Help by Kathryn Stockett Will meet in May, great reviews.

Kids' Books TAR Group

1. *Elephant Run* by Roland Smith
2. *The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks* by E. Lockhart
3. *Schooled* (YRCA nominee) by Gordon Korman
4. *Rules of the Road* by Joan Bauer
5. *Lawn Boy* by Gary Paulsen
6. *The Shakespeare Stealer* by Gary Blackwood
7. *Life As We Knew It* by Susan Beth Pfeffer
8. *The Lemonade War* by Jacqueline Davies
9. *Fever 1793* by Laurie Halse Anderson
10. *Eleven* by Patricia Reilly Giff
11. *Found* (The Missing, Book 1) by Margaret Peterson Haddix
12. *Night of the Howling Dogs* by Graham Salisbury
13. *The Wild Girls* by Pat Murphy
14. *The Puzzling World of Winston Breen* by Eric Berlin
15. *That Girl Lucy Moon* by Amy Timberlake
16. *Cuss* by Kristine L. Franklin
17. *Gemini Summer* by Iain Lawrence
18. *Chinese Cinderella: The True Story of an Unwanted Daughter* by Adeline Yen Mah

19. Molly Moon's Incredible Book of Hypnotism by Georgia Byng
20. Alabama Moon by Watt Key
21. The Willoughbys by Lois Lowry
22. Antsy Does Time by Neil Shusterman
23. Hate That Cat by Sharon Creech
24. My One Hundred Adventures by Polly Horvath

Mid-Valley Reading Council

Author Studies:

Richard Peck

Here Lies the Librarian and *On the Wings of Heroes*

...would not really recommend either of these. Lots and lots of background information would be needed due to time period and regional sayings

Sharon Creech

Hate That Cat

Avi

The Seer of Shadows

...not unconditionally recommended due to ghosts and religious references but would have it available for choice

Deborah Hopkinson

Various titles were examined. Most were great.

Mount Hood

Elementary: *The Café* by Moser and Boushey

Intermediate: *When Kids Can't Read, What Teachers Can Do, A Guide for Teachers 6-12* by Kylene Beers

Mid-Columbia

Mosaic of Thought second edition, by Ellin Oliver Keene and Susan Zimmerman
Highly recommended by our group. One group participant commented that she deeply appreciated being part of an intelligent professional discussion that would translate into direct practice in the classroom. For those who had read the first edition, the addition of the vignettes was a big hit and we all enjoyed the practical application they showed.

Books we will be reading by the end of the year:

"Readicide" by Kelly Gallagher

Our last meeting we have participants choose a book honored in the Geisel, Newberry, Caldecott or Printz award categories. When we meet we share the books we chose and ideas of how to use them in the classroom.

Rogue Valley

Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins

The Man Who Loved Books Too Much by Allison Hoover Bartlett

Brain Rules by John Medina

Three Sisters

September

Elegance of the Hedgehog, by Muriel Barbery. . 325 pages: Most members did not like the main female characters in this story. Two of us loved the book and the characters, if not the ending.

October:

The Suspect by L.R. Wright.: We loved this mystery story in which you are trying to find out why he dunnit as you already know the who. Setting is the Sunshine Coast of B.C.

November:

Born on a Blue Day, by Daniel Tamme: Also popular with members. Daniel has learned how to be a high-functioning autistic savant.

January:

The Zookeeper's Wife, a War Story by Diane Ackerman.: Also well loved. This is a heart-breaking but beautiful story about the Jews in Poland during WW 11.

February:

Pomegranate Soup and / or Rosewater and Soda Bread by Marsha Mehran.

Two delightful books with some good recipes to try. Not too deep, but they did have a message.

~ 250 pages

March:

The Life and Times of the Thunderbolt Kid, by Bill Bryson. 270 pages: Haven't discussed this or the other two.

April:

The Red Leather Diary: Reclaiming a Life Through the Pages of a Lost Journal
by Lily Koppel. 336 pages

May: A Short History of Tractors in Ukrainian, by Marina Lewycka. This book is hilarious, but just my personal opinion. No discussion yet. **I**