

Rant & Rave

★★★★★
Book reviews for you, by you!

School is back in session. There's a nip in the air. The sun is setting earlier every day. It's the perfect time of year to pull on a warm sweater and curl up in your favorite chair with a cup of hot cider and your favorite book. Our reviewers might not be able to help you with the sweater or the cider, but they definitely have some good books to recommend. From crime, fantasy, and dystopia fiction to the trials of having your mom run for president, there's something for everyone in this issue.

How does RANT & RAVE work? Four times each year, we collect book reviews from teens across Asheville and Buncombe County and publish them here. Our reviewers rate books on the following scale:

Terrible Okay The Best!
 ☆☆☆☆☆

Read on, everyone! Check for most of these books and more at your local public library.

Theodore Boone: Kid Lawyer,
by John Grisham

★★★★★★

What is the book about?

A boy who loves the law and goes to one of the biggest cases in his town's history. The case seems hopeless, but then he gets some information that could turn it around!

What did you like?

I loved how it was a page turner, and as you go along, you get more and more information which makes you REALLY want to find out the outcome, and I also liked that the hero was a kid.

What did you NOT like?

I loved every bit of it!

Would you recommend this book to your friends?

Yes.

Lasting thought you took from the book. . .

Things aren't always what they seem.

— Anna Herbert,
7th grade
East Asheville
Public Library



The Other Side of the Island,
by Allegra Goodman

★★★★★★

What is the book about?

In the eighteenth glorious year of Enclosure, Honor and her family move to Island 365 in the Tranquil Sea. Earth Mother and the Corporation have capped the poles, and they, too, are enjoying New Weather. Everything on Island 365 is Safe, Secure, and Predictable, but Honor's parents are not. They are Unpredictable, and in this future world, those who don't fit in disappear.

What did you like?

I loved all of the book. My favorite character is Honor's friend, Helix. I like that he is not afraid to be different. I also like that everyone who is the same age have names that start with the same letter. For example, all 10-year-olds' names star with H, the 9-year-olds with I, and so on.

What did you NOT like?

Nothing! It was all great

Would you recommend this book to your friends?

Yes! I have read lots of books, and this is my favorite!

Lasting thought you took from the book. . .

What if things really were like that, and when will the sequel come out?

— Jenny Mullins, 13
South Buncombe/Skyland Public Library

Umbrella Summer, by Lisa Graff



What is the book about?

After Annie has lost her brother, she worries about every thing. She never has fun. Can a neighbor help her close her umbrella?

What did you like?

It was addicting and not hard to understand. Lisa Graff has a wonderful way of telling a story.

What did you NOT like?

Nothing!

Would you recommend this book to your friends?

Of course.

Lasting thought you took from the book. . .

Does she have any more books? Yes, she does.

— **Madison Downing, 6th grade**
East Asheville Public Library



The Tail of Emily Windsnap, by Liz Kessler



What is the book about?

This book is about a girl that lives on a boat, and she has never swum before, and she has a new school, and she takes swimming lessons, and she turns into a . . . ? Read the book to find out!

What did you like?

I liked it because it was mysterious.

What did you NOT like?

Nothing.

Would you recommend this book to your friends?

Yes.

— **Lydia Ruth MacNair, 6th grade**
Fairview Public Library

Stamp out Hunger!

Hunger Games Marathon Week

Free. Join us for a viewing of *The Hunger Games* and a discussion of the movie and book at the following library locations:

5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 13
Swannanoa Public Library

4 p.m. Friday, Nov. 16
Weaverville Public Library

5 p.m. Friday, Nov. 16
Fairview Public Library

2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 19th
East Asheville Public Library

If you would like to help us stamp out hunger, bring cans or non-perishable food items to donate to MANNA FOOD BANK at any of the showings.



Check online for information about additional showings at www.buncombecounty.org/Governing/Depts/Library/Teens.aspx

OR

www.facebook.com/BuncombeCountyPublicLibraryTeens

Upcoming Events for Teens at Buncombe County Libraries

Magnet Mania!

Make your own magnets out of anything and everything.

3:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 15

East Asheville Public Library

Free. Please call (828) 250-6486 for more information.

Teen Awesome Group

Weaverville's Teen Awesome Group will meet monthly through the fall season.

Please call (828) 250-6482 for specific dates and times.

Check in with us online for information about future programs at www.buncombecounty.org/Governing/Depts/Library/Teens.aspx

OR

www.facebook.com/BuncombeCountyPublicLibraryTeens

As if Being 12 3/4 isn't Bad Enough, My Mother is Running for President,

by Donna Gephart



What is the book about?

A 12 3/4 year-old girl named Vanessa Rothrock. Her mom, the governor of Florida, has decided to run for president. The book is about how Vanessa copes with the changes and what she does about them.

What did you like?

It was all very realistic, and I felt I could relate with Vanessa. The scenario seemed as if it could have happened, also. There are many surprises, and things I wasn't sure about were nearly always resolved. It was a compelling story, well written, and realistic.

What did you NOT like?

The action was too fast, and it seemed like as soon as something happened, it was over. Also, it seemed a bit exaggerated in the events—the duller parts stretched out too long.

Would you recommend this book to your friends?

Probably. I'm not sure they would like it, though.

Lasting thought you took from the book...

Sometimes what's right is the hardest thing to do.

— Sara Acz, 8th grade
East Asheville Public Library



Welcome Caller, This is Chloe,

by Shelley Coriell



What is the book about?

A girl named Chloe has it made — popularity, looks, etc.— but when her friends turn against her, and her project isn't up to standard, she goes to the student-led radio station and fixes it up.

What did you like?

How Chloe was so clever about dealing with the problems that the world threw at her.

What did you NOT like?

She (Chloe) was always obsessing about SHOES!

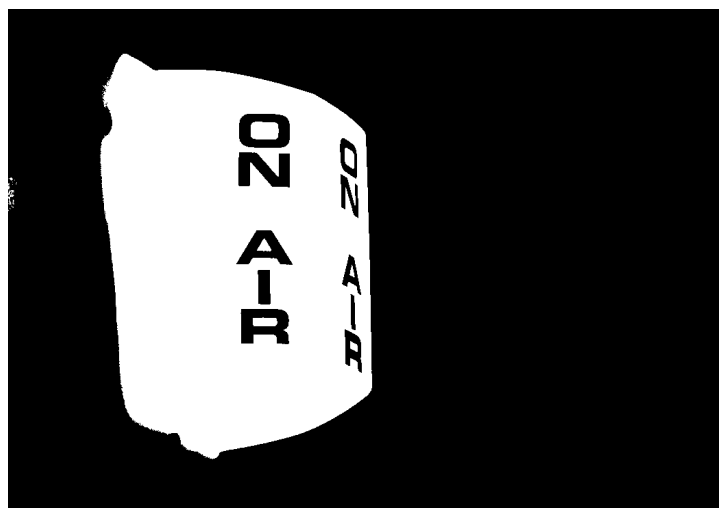
Would you recommend this book to your friends?

Definitely.

Lasting thought you took from the book...

If you take a closer look, you will find something truly special.

— Molly Pruett, 7th grade
East Asheville Public Library



Do you want your review published in *RANT & RAVE*?

Anyone ages 11 to 18 can submit a review. Look for a submission form at your local Buncombe County public library. (Or write a review in your own style – just make sure to tell us your name, the author's name, and the title of the book.)

Turn in your review at any library and look for it in the next issue of *RANT & RAVE*!

Deadline for the Winter 2013 issue: Nov. 21, 2012.