

Rant & Rave

Book reviews for you, by you!

Summer is here! That means it's time for reading at the beach! Reading in your hammock! Reading in the shade of your favorite tree! (Oh, and swimming, hiking, and summer jobs, too.) If you're looking for something to read, check out the reviews below. You might find just the thing you're looking for.

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!



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.)

Fire, by Kristen Cashore



What is the book about?

A girl known as a "monster," meaning she attracts other monsters and people. She can control minds, except for one person. Fire, the girl, ends up trapped inside a monumental plot that involves her . . . with no apparent way to escape.

What did you like?

BRILLIANTLY written! An enthralling, captivating story full of unexpected twists and turns. . . Cashore created a whole new world. And, I must say, did it splendidly. AWESOME BOOK! I highly recommend it to anyone reading this.

What did you NOT like?

Honestly, not much. The story had sad parts, like what happened to Archer. . . But I'll let you read it for yourself. It does have some adult material. . . I'll let you decide how you feel about that.

Would you recommend this book to your friends?

Yes! (Along with Cashore's other books, *Graceling* and *Bitterblue*.)

Lasting thought you took from the book. . .

Beauty is only skin deep. (Or, things aren't always what they seem — monsters aren't always evil.)

— Sara Acz, 13

East Asheville Public Library




**Buncombe County Teens
Online**

Check with us online for information about library programs for teens at

[www.buncombecounty.org/
Governing/Depts/Library/
Teens.aspx](http://www.buncombecounty.org/Governing/Depts/Library/Teens.aspx)

OR

[www.facebook.com/
BuncombeCountyPublicLibraryTeens](http://www.facebook.com/BuncombeCountyPublicLibraryTeens)



Burnout, by Rebecca Donner



What is the book about?

The book is about a girl named Danni and her family. Her mom is dating an alcoholic who is violent and hates Danni. Danni's stepbrother, Haskell, is an environmentalist. When Haskell is accused of eco-terrorism, Danni must make hard choices to survive.

What did you like?

Danni is portrayed very clearly. (The book is a graphic novel, so credits to Inaki Miranda, the illustrator.) The story is complex, yet understandable. The story was also enthrallingly descriptive and powerfully written

What did you NOT like?

Some parts are hard to understand, but other than that — nothing! It was a great book.

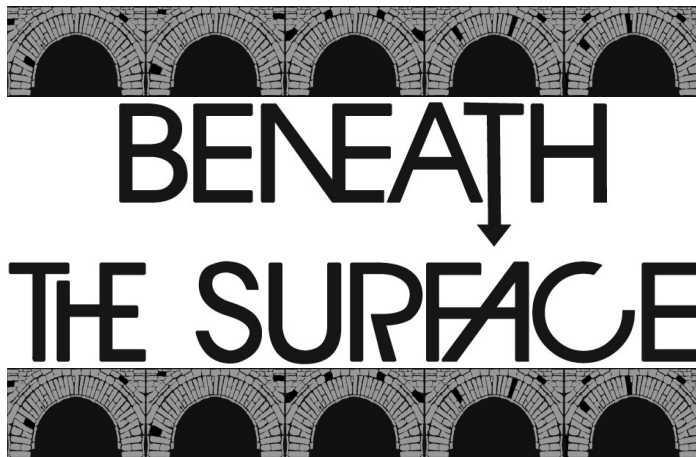
Would you recommend this book to your friends?

No doubt!

Lasting thought you took from the book. . .

No matter what happens, you can find a way to survive.

— Sara Acz, 13
East Asheville Public Library



The Summer Reading Program isn't just for your younger brothers and sisters. Teens can take part, too! Here's how:

- **READ!** Earn a free book (for keeps!) after four visits to the library.
- **WRITE!** Turn in a review for *Rant & Rave*
- **VOLUNTEER!** Contact your local library to learn about volunteer opportunities.
- **HAVE FUN!** Teens are welcome at all SRP special events. Check below for events especially for middle school and high school students.

6:30 p.m. Thursday, June 13
Book Speed Dating
Pack Memorial Library

Calling all teens and tweens! Looking for a good read? Come share your favorite books and fall for some new ones. Pizza and prizes! Space is limited. Please call 250-4720 to register.

3 p.m. Thursday, July 11
Make-Your-Own Clay Tile with Jim the Potter
Weaverville Library Age 7-15

Bring a cookie sheet to take your tile home and bake it. Limited space. Please pick up your free ticket at the library beginning June 27.

4-5:30 p.m. Friday, July 12
Teen Retro Revamp
Weaverville Library Age 12-18

Bring any boring item from your room or closet and revamp into a stylish work of art!

1:30-4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 3
Beauty Beneath the Surface
East Asheville Library Age 13 & up

Watch *America the Beautiful* (PG-13) and make a collage.