

# Rant & Rave

## Book reviews for you, by you!

We may not have seen any snow yet, but we still have plenty of winter to go! Grab your warmest socks and some hot cocoa, and get ready to dive into some book reviews. Whether about wolves or girls, people on this planet or another, this issue's books all revolve around adventure. Just what you need to spice up the dreary winter months! For some real-life adventure, don't forget to check out our events calendar on p. 3.

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!

### *The Knife of Never Letting Go,* by Patrick Ness

★★★★☆

*What is the book about?*

The setting — Prentisstown, has a disease that makes everyone see/hear everyone else's thoughts. The protagonist, Todd, discovers something better left alone. So it's his adventures to escape the grasp Prentisstown has on him.

*What did you like?*

It was in present tense— you don't see that a lot. There was a very established accent/dialect to the characters. Lots of action involved.

*What didn't you like?*

Perhaps the beginning could've been better. Setting was sort of ambiguous. Time was pretty well kept, but sometimes you lose track.

*Would you recommend this book to your friends?*

Yes.

*Lasting thought you took from the book:*

You'll want to read the series. (*Chaos Walking*)  
— Lavern



### *Rebel Belle,* by Rachel Hawkins

★★★★★

*What is the book about?*

This book was about an ordinary teenage girl taking on the responsibility of her enemy's life. Without a choice.

*What did you like?*

I liked the whole having to get along and make amends with your enemy deal.

*What didn't you like?*

I didn't not like any of the book. I loved the whole thing. It's my favorite.

*Would you recommend this book to your friends?*

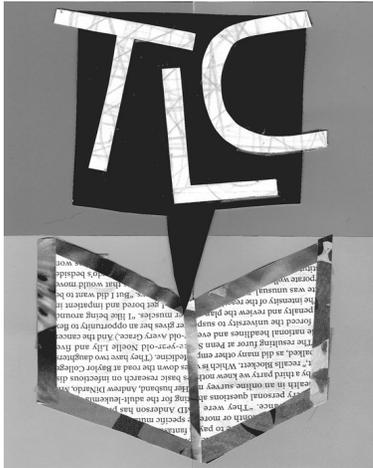
Definitely.

*Lasting thought you took from the book:*

The ex-girlfriend, the girlfriend's new boyfriend, and the ex-boyfriend all on one team, working together, for a person's life that they both (ex-girlfriend and ex-boyfriend) hated. Hmm, wonder how that's gonna turn out.

— Mollie M.  
7th grade  
South Buncombe  
Library





Check out all the ways you can connect with TLC online!



www.facebook.com/  
BuncombeCounty Public  
LibraryTeens

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/Governing/Depts/Library/  
Teens.aspx

**American Born Chinese,  
by Gene Luen Yang**



What is the book about?

Three different stories combine. One is about a monkey island, one is about a new boy at school, and one is about a crazy cousin.

What did you like?

I like the part about the monkey king learning all of the cool stuff.

What didn't you like?

Nothing, really.

Would you recommend this book to your friends?

Yes.

Lasting thought you took from the book:

I wish I could learn the stuff the monkey king did, like the cloud as steed.

— Elliott K.  
East Asheville Branch Library

**FLASH  
REVIEWS**

FROM WEAVERVILLE LIBRARY READERS

*Frozen in Time: Clarence Birdseye's outrageous idea about frozen food,*

by Mark Kurlansky



*Sit-In: How Four Friends Stood Up By Sitting Down,*

by Andrea Davis Pinkney



*Go: A Kidd's Guide to Graphic Design,*

by Chip Kidd



*A Little Book of Sloth,*



*Who's Haunting the White House? The president's mansion and the ghosts who live there,*

by Jeff Belanger



*Scumble,*



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The deadline for the Spring issue is  
Feb. 24, 2016.

# TLC WINTER 2016 EVENTS

## YOUNG NOVEL READERS' CLUB

3:30-4:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 8

Weaverville Library

*At this meeting we will be discussing Michael Vey:*

*The Prisoner of Cell 25, by Richard Paul Evans.*

*Snacks provided! For 5th through 7th grade.*

## TEEN COSPLAY GROUP

4 p.m. second Friday of every month,

January 8

February 12

March 11

Enka-Candler Library

*Get your geek on! Meet up with other cosplay enthusiasts to talk about your costuming dreams and plans; how to find resources for putting an outfit together; hair, makeup, accessories; upcoming conventions and where to wear your creations, and a whole lot of super geeky talk!*

## AFTERNOON ANIME

5p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 13

Pack Library

*This month's film is Metropolis. Popcorn and drinks provided.*

## COLORING & CONVERSATION FOR TEENS & ADULTS

4p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 20

Swannanoa Library

*Join us for teatime as we enjoy the relaxing art of coloring. We'll provide some coloring pages and crayons, you bring your own as well. There will be hot tea & cookies for your enjoyment.*

## TEEN AWESOME GROUP

3:30-4:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 22

Weaverville Library

## WINTER READING CHALLENGE

Ongoing January through March 2016.

Various libraries—check with your local branch.

**TLC EVENTS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO ALL MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL-AGE STUDENTS, 11-18.**

## *Lone Wolf*, by Kathryn Lasky

This book is similar to the *Warriors* series except instead of cats the main characters are wolves. There are also lots of owls that make lots of different kinds of weapons and decorations from iron and steel.

Valen is the lone wolf. He is taken away from his parents and left to die because he has a disorder with his right paw. It impedes his ability to walk and run but there is a spiral on the same paw. This may become important in the series.

A bear finds him and raises him. Valen names the bear Thunder Heart because her heart beats as loud as thunder. The next winter Valen ventures out farther than he was supposed to. Thunder Heart looks for him but dies from the bitter cold. Valen has to survive on his own.

I liked this book because the characters were very interesting and the book was dramatic.

— Noah M.



**If you're interested in seeing more events for teens at your local library, let your librarian know! We always love to hear new ideas.**

# Rant & Rave

## Book reviews for you, by you!

Here at the library, we are gearing up for summer. Did you know teens can take part in the Summer Reading Program? We have tons of fun events planned, and lots of ways to get involved with SRP this summer. Check out "Get in the Game" and our events calendar on page two. While you're waiting, try reading the awesome fantasy adventure *Graceling*, recommended below.

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### *Graceling*, by Kristen Cashore



*What is the book about?*

This book is about a girl named Katsa. She is a fighter (assassin). And she has a blue and green eye. But the book is set about medieval times.

*What did you like?*

It is just a good book. It is definitely for the sneaky, violent side of you.

*What didn't you like?*

There is one scene where her and boy love. But that's it. But you should probably be 10 or older.

*Would you recommend this book to your friends?*

Yes.



— Austin G.  
8th grade



**THE LIBRARY'S SUMMER READING PROGRAM STARTS JUNE 1st. HERE'S HOW YOU CAN TAKE PART!**

#### **WIN A BOOK!**

Make four visits to the library and earn a free book! Ask your librarian for a bookmark to get started.

#### **VOLUNTEER!**

Talk to your local librarian about volunteer opportunities.

#### **WRITE A BOOK REVIEW!**

Write a review of a book you loved (or hated) for the next issue of *Rant & Rave*.

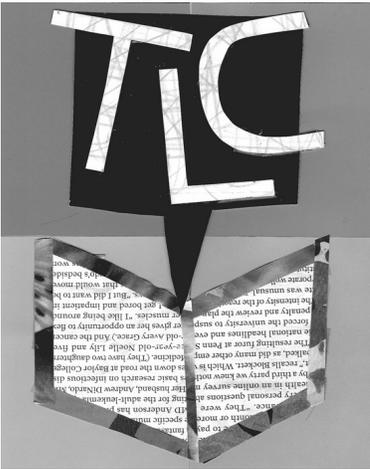
#### **ATTEND SPECIAL EVENTS!**

Check page two of this issue for summer events for teens.

### **RANT & RAVE NEEDS YOU!**

Read a great book? Or a terrible one? Consider sending in your own review to *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.)

**The deadline for the Summer issue is May 28, 2016.**



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www.facebook.com/  
BuncombeCounty Public  
LibraryTeens



https://twitter.com/  
BuncombeTLC



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Teens.aspx

# TLC SUMMER 2016 EVENTS

## TLC EVENTS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO ALL MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL-AGE STUDENTS, 11-18.

### PIZZA & MOVIE NIGHT—*BEND IT LIKE BECKHAM* (PG-13)

5:30—7:30 p.m. Thursday, June 23  
East Asheville Library

Open to ages 11+. Parental permission required for ages 11-12. Please RSVP for this event so we can be sure we have enough pizza for everyone!

Call 250-4738 or visit the East Branch library for more information.



### SECRET AGENT 23 SKIDOO AND BRASS ENSEMBLE SONGWRITING WORKSHOP AND PERFORMANCE

July 25 at South Buncombe/Skyland  
July 26 at Black Mountain  
July 31 at downtown LEAF

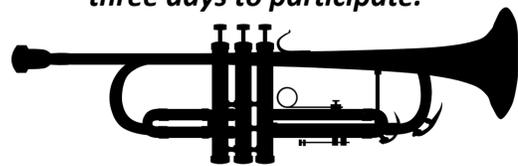
Thirteen MCs/rappers and 13 experienced brass musicians, ages 12-18, will write lyrics and music with the help of Skidoo, his crew, and Je Widenhouse of Fire Cracker Jazz Band PLUS.

On 7/25, groups will concentrate on their work at different sites (brass in South Buncombe/Skyland, lyrics in Black Mountain) and on 7/26 they will come together to refine and finish song. They will perform their original creation at LEAF Downtown with a

rehearsal prior performance that Sunday. Attendance and transportation are required for all three days to participate. Sign up in person at the South Buncombe/Skyland branch for brass and vocals at the Black Mountain branch beginning 6/20. Specific details about rehearsal location and times will be available at sign-up.

Open to ages 12-18.

Attendance and transportation are required for all three days to participate.



### HULA HOOP CRAFTING WORKSHOP

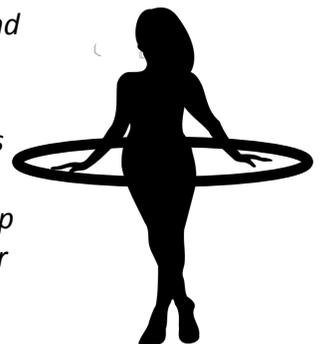
4—5:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 4  
Oakley/South Asheville Library

Make and decorate a hula hoop, and learn some awesome new hooping skills with Full Circle Flow Arts.

Everyone will leave with a brand new hula hoop to keep!

Open to 6th grade and up.

Registration is REQUIRED for this event. There are only 10 spots available, and spaces will fill up fast. Call the library to register starting June 1<sup>st</sup>.



# Rant & Rave

## Book reviews for you, by you!

Summer is here! Time for swimming, ice cream, and reading in the shade. If you're looking for something good to read, check out *Libby on Wednesday*, recommended below.

Do you want to earn a free book this summer? Join our Summer Reading Program! We have tons of fun events planned, and lots of ways to get involved. One way to take part is to write a review for RANT & RAVE. 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:

  
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### *Libby on Wednesday,* by Zilpha Keatley Snyder



*What is the book about?*

The main character, Libby, is shy and smart, but the whole school thinks she's weird. When she joins a writing club, she is terrified. But the writers must learn to accept each other's faults and instead focus on what they have in common.

*What did you like?*

I liked that each character is different in their own way, but doesn't care what everyone else thinks. And by the end of the book, you aren't "judging books by their cover."

*What didn't you like?*

All of the public school kids thought that home-schooled Libby was way too smart for her age. When wisdom isn't a weakness and they shouldn't laugh at her for it.

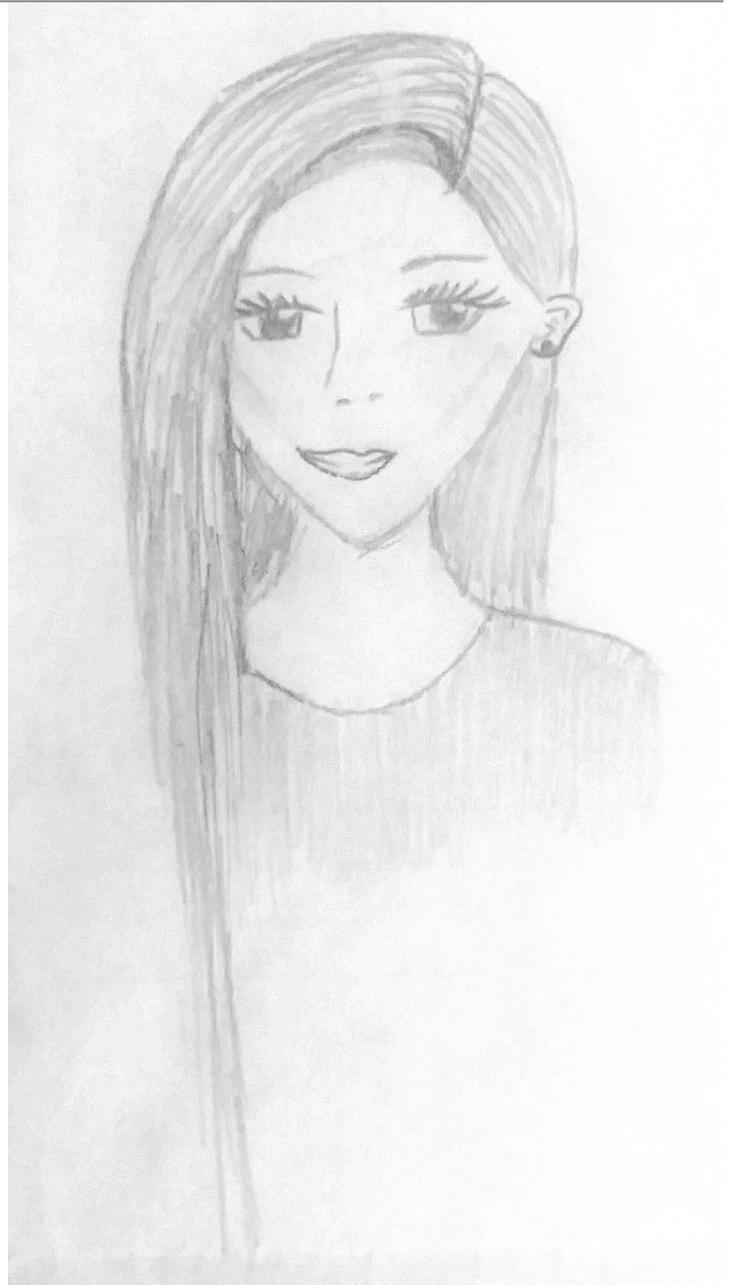
*Would you recommend this book to your friends?*

Of course; I think any young (or old) reader would enjoy it.

*Lasting thought you took from the book. . .*

The characters. There is such a variety that you can't help but like at least one. You have a funny one, a mean one, a popular one, a shy one, and a punk one. But by the end, they all learn to accept one another and are getting along great!

— Sarahbelle S., 9th grade  
Old Fort



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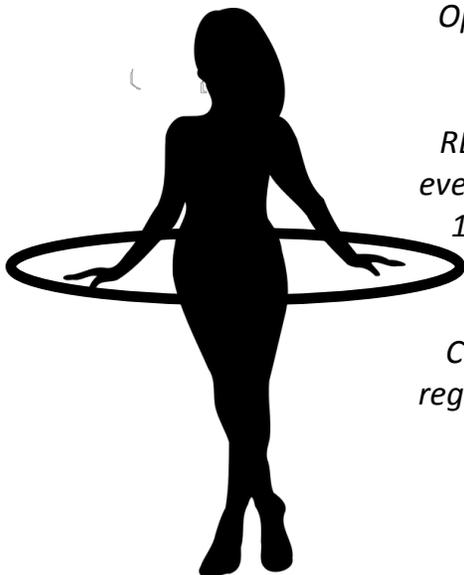


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Parental permission  
required for ages 11-12.  
Please RSVP for this event  
so we can be sure we  
have enough pizza for  
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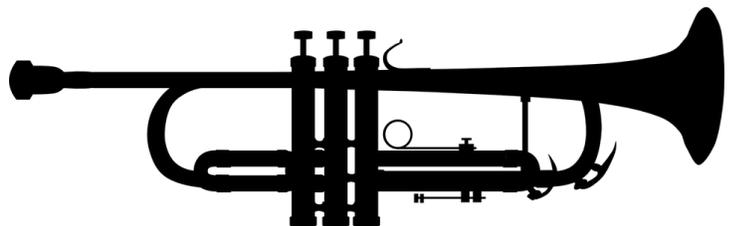
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# GET IN THE GAME READ



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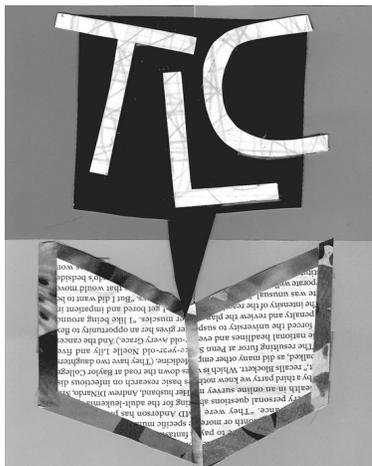
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The deadline for the Fall issue is Aug. 27, 2016.



Check out all the ways you can connect with TLC online!



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



<https://twitter.com/BuncombeTLC>



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

# Rant & Rave

Book reviews for you, by you!

There's so much to do at the library this fall! Reading raffles, cosplay clubs, and D&D meetups are just a few of the things going on across the county for teens. That's you, dear readers! So, as the nights get colder and the leaves turn, head down to the library for some good books and good times with friends!

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Look for a submission form at your local Buncombe County public library. (Or write a review in your own style.) The deadline for the upcoming Winter issue is Dec. 16, 2016.

## *The Hidden Oracle*, by Rick Riordan



*What is the book about?*

The book follows *The Blood of Olympus* and Apollo's punishment, as Zeus mentioned at the end. Apollo must learn the importance of friends and family and not to be so selfish. And that there is more to demigods than meets the eye.

*What did you like?*

I liked how funny the book was. Riordan mixed moral with humor well and presented readers with a breathtaking adventure that keeps one reading until the end.

*What didn't you like?*

Some elements were a bit too repetitive or expressed too much.

*Would you recommend this book to your friends?*

Always, and already doing so!  
*Lasting thought you took from the book...*

You always have something to learn and a battle to face. You just need to take time and stand firm.

— Samantha M., a.k.a. ZumbaWolf Cosplay  
10th grade, Swannanoa Library

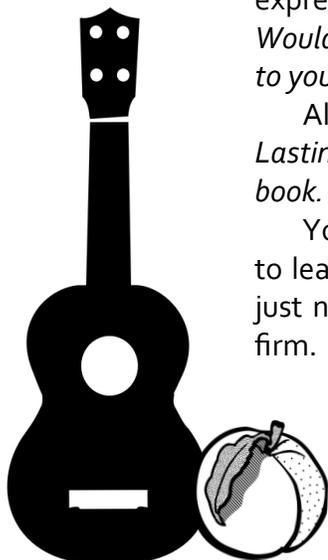


## READING RAFFLE AUG. 15 — OCT. 15, 2016

**Win a \$20 gift certificate to Spellbound Children's Bookshop!**

### HOW TO ENTER

- 1) Ask your librarian for a list of this year's YALSA Teens' Top Ten-nominated books. Pick one (or more!) and read it.
- 2) Ask your librarian for an entry form. Write a review of the book for *Rant & Rave*, and turn it in at your local library, along with the detachable portion of the form.
- 3) Your name will be entered into the raffle once for every review you turn in. Write as many reviews as you want!
- 4) The winner will be announced Oct. 22, 2016 on the TLC Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/BuncombeCountyPublicLibraryTeens](http://www.facebook.com/BuncombeCountyPublicLibraryTeens), and on Twitter at @BuncombeTLC.



# TLC FALL 2016 EVENTS

**TLC EVENTS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO ALL MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL-AGE STUDENTS, 11-18.**

## YOUNG NOVEL READERS CLUB

3:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 2  
Weaverville Library

*September's book is The Hidden Oracle, by Rick Riordan. Call 828-250-6482 for more info.*

## POKEMON GO SHOWDOWN

3:30—4:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 3  
East Asheville Library

*Hang out with other PokémonGo players and make candy sushi!*

## DUNGEONS & DRAGONS FOR TEENS

4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 10  
4 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 28  
4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 8  
4 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 26  
4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 12  
4 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 30  
4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10  
Pack Library

*Meets the second Saturday and last Wednesday of each month. Call 828-250-4720 for more info.*

## TEEN COSPLAY CLUB

4 p.m. Friday, Sept. 16  
4 p.m. Friday, Oct. 8  
4 p.m. Friday, Nov. 12  
4 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10  
Enka-Candler Library

*Meets the second Friday of each month. Call 828-250-4758 for more info.*

## TEEN AWESOME GROUP

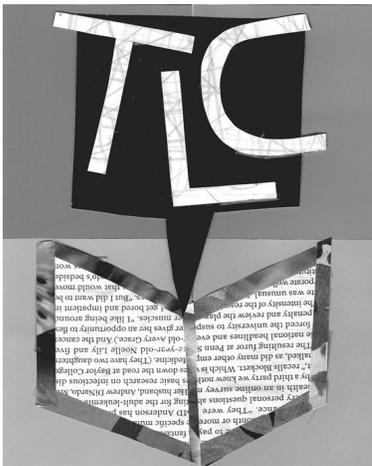
4 p.m. Friday, Sept. 23  
Weaverville Library

*Meets monthly. Call 828-250-6482 for dates.*

## TEENS TOP TEN VOTING & PIZZA PARTY

3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 4  
South Buncombe Library

*Hang out with your friends and vote for your favorite books for YALSA's Teens Top Ten.*



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



<https://twitter.com/BuncombeTLC>



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