

## Examples of Book Reviews 3-5

# Hunger Games

Written by Suzanne Collins

Reviewed by Kenny P. (age 14)



Can you think how you would feel if your little sister was chosen and forced to participate in a game that losing meant death? Well, you would probably feel the same way as Katniss Everdeen did when her little sister was chosen for the annual Hunger Games. Then Katniss, as any other sibling in that situation would do, stepped up and took her sister's place as the girl "tribute" in the Hunger Games. The tributes from each district were pitted against each other in games where the task was to kill the other tribute. What will become of Katniss?

I love this book because I love science fiction books. This book is part of a series and is being made into a movie, scheduled for release sometime in spring 2012. This is like no other book I've read because the author is daring enough to make one of the main themes about government control in people's lives. I don't have a favorite part of the book because I liked it all.

I would definitely recommend this book because it is an awesome Sci-Fi book. I would suggest that readers be at least in the middle school range. I think the plot, the characters, and the setting would interest readers and lovers of Science Fiction!

[Kenny P.](#) is a student in [Ms. James' 8th Grade Class 2010-2011](#)

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# Bridge to Terabithia

Written by Katherine Paterson

Illustrated by Donna Diamond

Reviewed by McKenzie G. (age 14)



It's hard enough being the only boy out of five kids, and on top of that, mom favors the girls and dad is always on the job. So when Jesse loses a race to his new neighbor, Leslie Burke, things change for him. He and Leslie become best friends. With his passion for drawing and her enormous imagination, they create Terabithia. When Jesse is with his music teacher, Miss Edmunds, something goes terribly wrong in Terabithia. Will Leslie get crowned queen, or will someone else?

Jesse changed his whole attitude after he met Leslie. He was miserable and ungrateful of his family but, as he came to know Leslie, he began to appreciate things. My favorite part was when Leslie beat Jesse in a race at school. I liked this part because it was when they first met and it was kind of amusing that Jesse lost to a girl. To me, Leslie was the most interesting character in the book because she wasn't your usual girly-girl. She was a tomboy who had the best imagination. The illustrations helped me form pictures in my head. I loved this book and I think it's one of the best books I've ever read.

I have learned a lot from this book. I've learned that you should make the best out of situations because things could change a great deal. I also learned that by losing someone you can learn something about yourself. When Jesse lost Leslie he realized not to take his sisters for granted.

I would recommend this book to everyone. It's fit for all ages and genders. It's motivating and inspiring. You're crazy not to like this book. Who doesn't want to feel the emotions the characters are feeling? You can learn from this story so I suggest you read it.

[McKenzie G.](#) is a student in [Ms. James' 8th Grade Class 2010-2011](#)

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# The Journal of Biddy Owens, the Negro Leagues

Written by Walter Dean Myers

Reviewed by Mike N. (age 14)



Biddy Owens keeps a diary about his first real job, working as the bat boy for Piper Davis' Black Barons, a Negro major league baseball team. As his diary unfolds, it describes the talents of many of the league's stars. But, he also documents more than baseball heroics. He also shows how the players experience the irony of being part of a heroic team who cannot celebrate their victories in many Southern towns. For instance, the team has to stay on their bus to sleep and eat. Hotels won't rent rooms to "coloreds" and restaurants won't seat nor serve them. Despite all of that, Biddy follows the rising baseball career of Jackie Robinson, the first Negro player in mainstream American baseball. Will the Negro Baseball Leagues survive Jackie's success?

My favorite part of the story was when Biddy came home from his long trip on the road and his sister's friend was sleeping in his room. He was mad but when his sister told him it wasn't his room anymore he knew that she was right. Biddy changed from the beginning of the story to the end. In the beginning he was only a bat boy, and basically did the team's bidding. In the end, he was actually playing with the team. Parts of the book that made me think were when the team couldn't get off the bus after some of the games in the South.

I think this was a good book because it was about a young Negro boy pursuing his dream despite all of the bad things that happened to him and his team. I would recommend this book to readers who are interested in the history of baseball, both good and bad parts.

[Mike N.](#) is a student in [Ms. James' 8th Grade Class](#)  
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