



Branches



September/October
2003

Book Review Newsletter of the City of Mesa Library
Dobson Ranch Branch Young Adult Advisory Council

Letter from the Editor!



Hello! I'd like to take this moment to introduce myself as your new editor for 2003-2004. My name is Nehal Thakkar, and I'm a junior at Dobson High School. As we all know, and must be dreading, summer is coming to an end and a new school year is right around the corner. Thinking back on the summer, how many good books have you read? ...Not all that many, right? Well I'd recommend starting the school year off with your mind running from all that thinking and new knowledge that we definitely don't get during the summer. So take a moment to look at this month's issue of Branches and read a book!

--Nehal Thakkar
Branches Editor

Send comments and suggestions to
filmimonkey@yahoo.com

Rating System

start a fire ★
punishment for bad children ★★
decent ★★★
masterpiece ★★★★★

Through Wolf's Eyes

By Jane Lindskold

★★★★

Firekeeper, a young woman raised by wolves, has no memory of her past.

When a strange group of humans comes to where she lives, through her ability to talk with animals, the lead wolf tells her she must go with them. The group, thinking her the long-lost granddaughter of the king, takes her to the world of humans. There she learns that a life in court can be as dangerous as a life in the wild, especially when a throne is up for grabs. **Through Wolf's Eyes** is recommended for young adults and anyone older.



Sarah Pate

You can't get much lower than that. Unless you're poor Kelly Ray. Nineteen and fighting to stay sober and clean.

It's her second time clean and she's trying.

But that's not the worst of it.

Two years ago, when she was seventeen...

When she was clean for six months and trying...

Two years ago, Kelly Ray nearly burned up her mother's new baby. Sweet baby Louisa.

But this isn't going to be a replay of the nightmares.

This, is not quite a fairy tale,
This is a love story.

Ally Schmidt

One Night

By Marsha Qualey

★★★

What's the worst thing you've ever done?

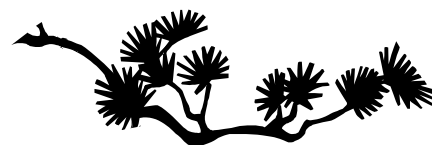
Think hard. Be honest.

Ever kick a dog?

Lie about something?

Cheat on a test?

Have you hated someone for no reason at all?



*Of all the diversions of life,
there is none so proper to fill
up its empty spaces as the
reading of useful and enter-
taining authors.*

Joseph Addison

Cassandra Compact

By Robert Ludlum

★ ★ ★

Yuri Danko, a deep-cover Russian asset for Covert-one, is on the run. His last communication is a vital and critical demand for extraction. Covert-one operative Jon Smith is sent with specific instructions to bring Danko out, not knowing that the information that Danko uncovers could bring him in harm's way. Danko arrives fatigued and disheveled ten days later in Venice at Smith's table at an outdoor café. But the two only exchange a few words before Danko's body is ripped apart by a scatter of bullets. Smith, dodging the swarm of bullets, chases after the assassins only to find that the assassins themselves were killed by an atrocious execution. With the intent to find out who Danko's killer is, Smith and Covert-one quickly conclude that someone has attempted to steal Russia's Smallpox Virus. Smith and his Covert-one colleagues try to prevent the virus from being stolen, but their unseen rivals still manage to get their hands on the virus and head toward the United States. Now, they must think of a plan, conquer their prevailing opponents, and take away or demolish the deadly virus before it becomes the experiment of a total madman.



Andrew Wang

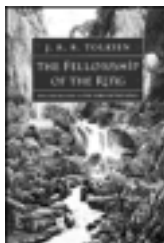
Book/Movie Review

Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring

By J.R.R. Tolkien

★ ★ ★ ★

The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring is the best fantasy genre



story that I have ever read. It is exciting, and it keeps you flipping the pages as quickly as possible. The magical aspects of the story just make it all the more interesting.

*One Ring to rule them all,
One Ring to find them,
One Ring to bring them all
And in the darkness bind them*

So the story begins. Frodo Baggins is a young hobbit that has been given an incredible task. He must take the Ring and toss it into the fiery Cracks of Doom, in the land of Mordor, to destroy its power. All the while, the Master of the Ring, Sauron, is looking for it, and trying to get it back. This book is absolutely delightful, with bits of humor, and great action description. This is another must read.

The movie is just as good as the book. Even though it's three hours long, the time spent in the movie theatre is well worth it. The plot of the movie is almost exactly like that of the book, with small differences here and there. The scenery is beautiful, and the actors are very talented, especially Ian McKellan as Gandalf the Grey. The best part of the movie is the special effects. The magic of the story is duly expressed in this movie, and the movie is worth four stars as well as the book. If you have not seen it, go see the movie. If you've already seen it, go see it again. That's how great the movie is!

Michael Fan



Books are the quietest and most constant of friends: they are the most accessible and wisest of counsellors, and the most patient of teachers.

Charles W. Eliot

What is YAAC?



The Young Adult Advisory Council (YAAC) is a group of teens from many of Mesa's junior and senior high schools. They hold meetings twice monthly to review books for this newsletter and to plan special activities. They also help the librarians at the City of Mesa Dobson Ranch Branch Library as volunteers and assist with programs.

If you are interested in becoming a member of YAAC, call (480) 644-3441 or stop by the Reference desk and ask for an application.

Check out our

Teens

page at

mesalibrary.org/teens

- **Homework help** with biographies, math, science, social issues, and more!
- **College & Career Information** to help you plan your future.
- **Library Events** - Find out what is going on at the library and around town.
- **Real Life** - Help with issues you deal with every day.
- **Teen Takes** - Reviews written by teens for music, movies, cool hangouts, and more.

Dobson Ranch Branch Library

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Great People. Quality Service!