

THE PAPERCLIP

FEBRUARY 2015

THE KELVIN BOOK REVIEW

EDITORS IN-CHIEF
DJ VAQUILAR
MARIA NALLIM

TEACHER SUPERVISORS
MR. GREGORY
MRS. OSBORNE

LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

To me, reading is about learning to analyze the world around me during a time when information is so easily spoon fed. We can't think for ourselves if we don't build any habit to think. It evokes thought that is unique to you. This year I have taken a very different stance on reading. Reading has always been one of my weak points: I never liked to read, I found it hard to read. I find it tricky to analyse and I find it difficult to understand. Quite ironic as I am one of the Editors of the school paper isn't it?

I learned this year how important it is to read. I had to do an IB English oral exam, which really pushed me to the limit. As English always being an extremely difficult subject, I was behind. I had no prior knowledge of the 25 poems to study, my notes were near to useless and I felt extremely panicked. I found myself, for the four nights (I really pushed it to last minute) prior to my exam date, just sitting and reading, annotating, sleeping and crying. It was rough, but for countless and endless hours each night, I learned to greatly appreciate what I was reading. I sat in the same spot for hours analyzing, as stressful as it was, and the poems started to connect and flow, and most importantly, I enjoyed it. Recently having started to write poetry, I understand what kind of deep level of meaning and understanding that was placed into each poem I studied; it really is amazing. If you say you don't like to read, I hope this *Paperclip* issue helps.

Reading starts with momentum, so happy reading Kelvin.

Sincerely,
DJ Vaquilar

Most children knows what it is to read and write before they are capable of doing so themselves. Many two and three year olds understand the concept. They will take a marker and scribble symbols and strange shapes on a piece of paper which only they can interpret and understand. Then, they will read what it is they wrote on the sheet of paper since only they know what it means. I know that my eagerness to read and write began in a similar fashion. I was read lots of stories as a child, and at a very young age I knew that what was written in black ink had a meaning meant for me to discover, and so I challenged myself. Much of my childhood was spent in close proximity to a book. I know that not everyone shares a similar story. Maybe it is something as simple as the fact that they prefer to work with numbers rather than letters and words, or maybe it is something more complex and serious as it is in impoverished countries, where education is limited and books are not easy to come by. That is why The Paperclip is teaming up with the library for its I Love to Read campaign during February. We have to appreciate the hard work that is put into every single novel, and promote those that we like. We have to be grateful that we know how to read, and that we have the freedom and the resources available so that we can read what we please. In this issue, we've included titles and summaries of novels for those of you looking to expand your literary horizons. If you would like more suggestions or want to see other books offered, stop by the library or drop by one of *The Paperclip* meetings on Fridays in room 63.

Sincerely,
Maria Nalim



THE BRIDGE TO NEVER LAND

By Jewell Zaballero

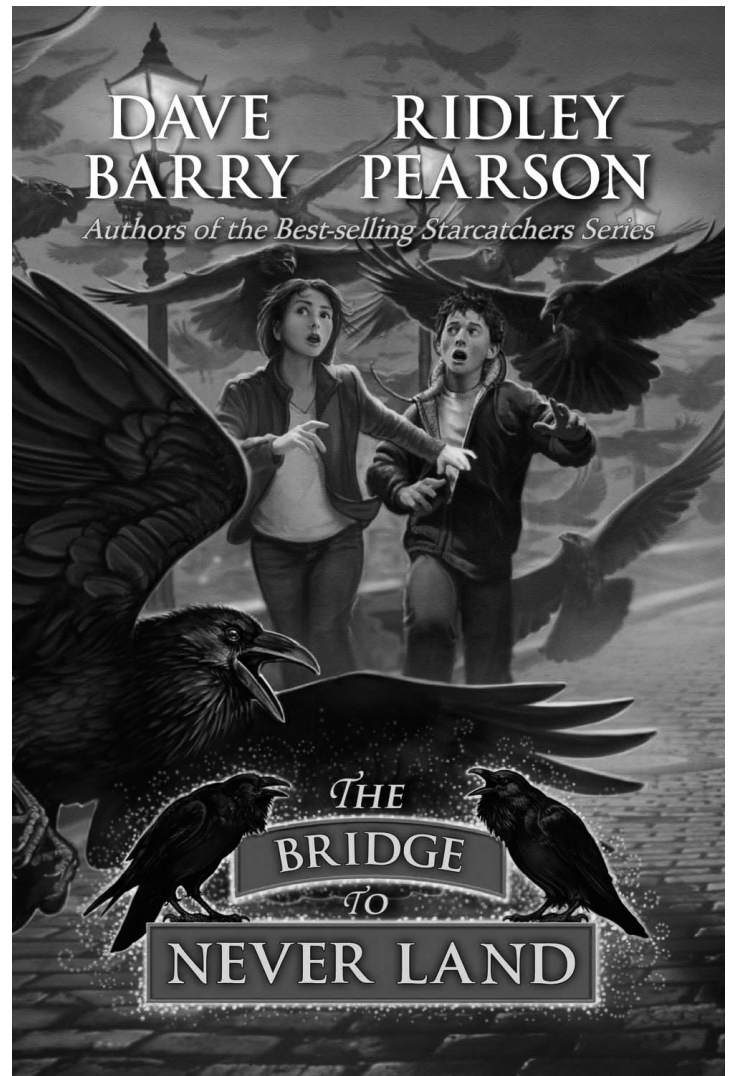
In The Bridge to Never Land by Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson you will find a not light hearted fairy tale following two American, adolescent siblings through a slightly modern, realistic take on magical happenings.

The book starts off with the pair, Sarah and Aidan, stumbling upon a secretly coded letter hidden in an antique desk in their father's office. The name printed on the bottom of the letter is, coincidentally, the name of a "fictional" character from a series of books about the origins of Peter Pan. The novels are set in Victorian England, and England was where they were soon headed for their holiday. Also convenient.

Once they solve the code and get the treasure, they are faced with a villain, Ombra, not in any Disney movies that I've seen. He has his soul scattered through thousands of birds, and can possess any being he desires in his desperate attempt to retrieve the found treasure.

The pair spend the novel running from the authorities as missing children, trying to stop an evil villain, and getting an innocent man and ally arrested for suspected kidnapping.

This book is great for fairy tale lovers who would like a little less of the typical epic heroic tale. It is also great for the people who like to imagine what it would be like to be placed in fairy tale situation, see how it's not all wishes and dreams coming true.



Want to join
The Paperclip team?

Come by to one of
our meetings Fridays
12:30pm at room 63.

We are always looking for
new writers, journalists,
artists and photographers!
Right now our team con-
sists of students from all
grades, we welcome all to
come check it out!

No experience is
required!

THE CLASSIC AND THE BANNED

By Maria N.

“A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies. The man who never reads lives only one.”

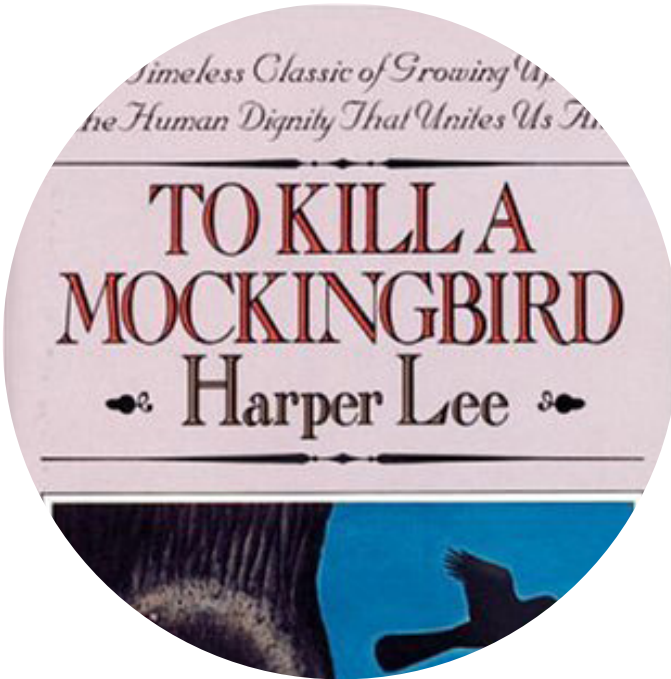
-George R.R. Martin

Over the years, older novels have acquired a reputation for being difficult to read or for being too long. These are false accusations. Although the words and sentence structure within the novels might be different from that of modern day novels, they are by no means impossible ‘nor tremendously difficult to read. The interesting part is that there are many older novels that for one reason or another were banned at some point for providing the reader with controversial or emotionally difficult material. Many do, but they also provide different perspectives. I have compiled a short list of novels that are sure to leave you with much to think about...

1. To Kill a Mockingbird

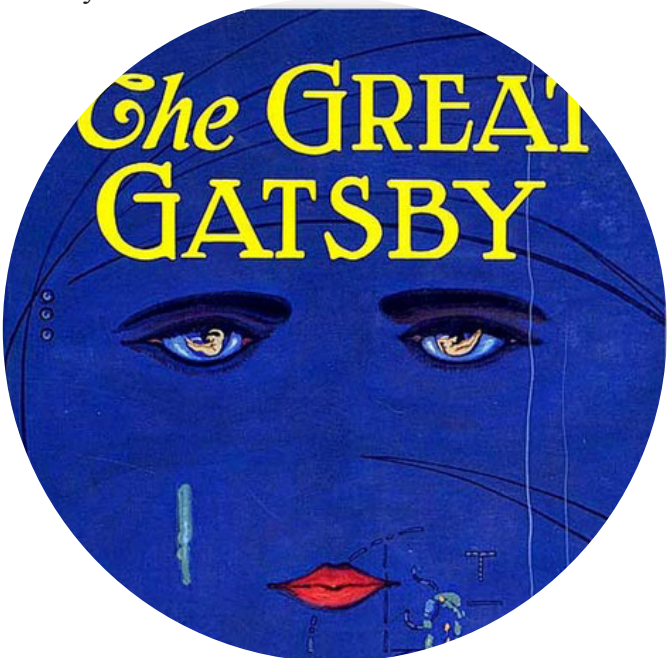
Told from the point of view of a child, it is a story that confronts the racism that was present in the southern part of the United States. A deep and meaningful novel, it must be read at least once in a lifetime (if not many more).

*It is confirmed that nearly 50 years after its original publication, Harper Lee will publish a sequel, which is due to be out sometime this summer.



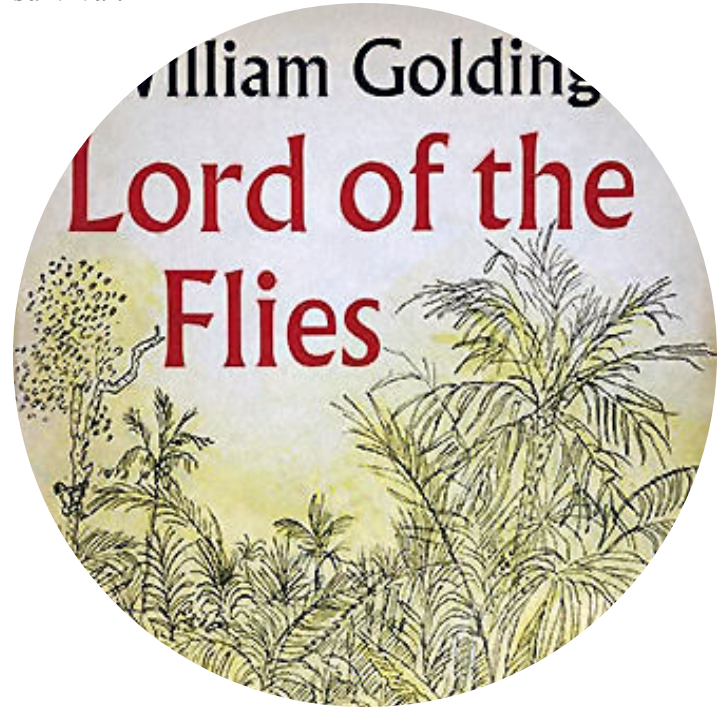
2. The Great Gatsby

The story of the wealthy Gatsby, and his desire to relive a love he experienced so many years before. Though the novel is only 172 pages long, it will leave you with a thousand questions.



3. Lord of the Flies

Both shocking and disturbing, this novel raises the question of whether humans are born inherently good or evil. The ideas of morals, rules, human behaviour and ethics are explored in this novel, which revolves around a stranded group of young school boys and their plans for survival.



4. Wuthering heights

The dynamic relationship between Heathcliff and Catherine is one that has been discussed for many years. Was it love or was it infatuation that Heathcliff and Catherine experienced? A truly haunting story that must be read.





Yes this is a selfie.

I wondered what reading used to be like. How do teens treat books now? I mean, considering all the TV shows, movies and music that are so easily accessible. Not being so much of a book lover myself, I turned to the librarians for the answer, asking a simple question.

HOW HAS READING CHANGED FOR YOU?

By DJ Vaquilar

“I went to Laura Secord and Gordon Bell High School for elementary and high school. At that time, reading wasn’t encouraged at either school.

My parents often read and encouraged us to read many books including the Encyclopedias we had at home. I don’t remember ever being read to at home, like a bed time story. The books that we did have, including the collection of Encyclopedias were never given away and the collection from 1975 was recently donated when my mother sold her home in 2014.

The changes that I see now are, of course, com-

puters. I feel more kids are reading today than they did when I was in school. In fact, I don’t remember seeing anyone reading in school when I went. I also feel the subject matter is very diverse now whereas back 100 years ago (when I was in school) there was only a small number of different subjects.”

-Ms. Striefler

“IN FACT, I DON’T REMEMBER SEEING ANYONE READING IN SCHOOL WHEN I WENT.”

“BUT THE MOST THRILLING LIBRARY EVENT WAS THE ARRIVAL OF THE BOOKMOBILE. IT WAS MORE EXCITING THAN AN ICE CREAM TRUCK – WELL, MAYBE NOT, BUT CLOSE.”

“I grew up on a farm in rural North Dakota, some distance from a public library. Still, reading was valued in our family. We were read to as children, and we always had books in the home. Books were a favourite gift. My parents were very proud of our set of the World Book Encyclopedia and a series of literary classics. The encyclopedias remained in my mother’s home until she went into care, and my brother, my daughter, and I selected our favourites of the classics series.

My small rural elementary school had only classroom libraries, not a centralized library. I loved being able to choose a book during free time, but I was always disappointed when I could no longer access favourite books in another classroom. We did use the public library in town on occasion, but the most thrilling library event was the arrival of the bookmobile. It was more exciting than an ice cream truck – well, maybe not, but close.

The uncertainty of starting high school at the public school in town was mitigated by the fact that there was a whole room full of books waiting for me to sign out – our school library. Every spare moment was spent in its welcoming corners. School libraries were different in those days. Much quieter, certainly, but much more isolating, too. Libraries now are more dynamic, more community oriented. Just look at all that happens in Kelvin’s Library!

Books still form an important part of my life. I read constantly, often on my iPad (my eyes aren’t what they used to be, and digital books can be enlarged), although I love the feel and smell of “real” books. My husband and I instilled the love of reading in our daughter, too.

Print material is still important, but all of us read more and more online, as do many of the students here. There is so much available now, and it’s so much easier to access. We can request a book online and have it delivered to our local branch library. We can borrow or buy an eBook. Not only can we read blogs, magazines, and forums online, we can respond. Reading has never been so interactive. Fan fiction? Why not? Who could object to a community of readers and writers who are passionate about their topics? Who would discourage reading and writing of any type? That’s why libraries have so many different genres and reading levels.

“I GREW UP ON A FARM IN RURAL NORTH DAKOTA, SOME DISTANCE FROM A PUBLIC LIBRARY. STILL, READING WAS VALUED IN OUR FAMILY”

One of the best things about working in a school library is hearing students discuss books they’ve read. True, some of them may be a bit more animated than the decibel meter can tolerate, but it’s heartwarming to see the excitement. It’s why I’m still here.”

-Mrs. Osborne

No longer are the days of the bookmobile or classroom libraries. We live in country where all is available to read and write. We are set up to indulge, this is what I can appreciate. Thank you Ms. Striefler and Mrs Osborne, not only for sharing your stories, but for keeping the library a safe place to be.



THE IMMORTAL RULES, THE ETERNITY CURE AND THE FOREVER SONG.

The Immortal Rules, The Eternity Cure and The Forever Song. The three books from the *Blood of Eden* series by Julie Kagawa, a series about our future, are ran by vampires, and most of humanity has gone extinct. The book is written in the first person perspective of Allison Sekemoto, who grew up in one of the many vampire cities' (New Covington/ The Fringe). She grew up with her mother, before the vampires sucked her mother dry because she missed too many bloodlettings (in which you give the vampires a specific amount of blood). Allison then decided to grow up... as an unregistered, off the records, an unknown among a town, not slaved to the vampires, a starving street rat, walking the streets, begging for food. She and many others would rather not be a blood cattle.

THE SUMMARY

The Immortal Rules, the first book of *The Blood of Eden* series by Julie Kagawa.

Allison Sekemoto tells her story of how she's living with her crew in an old abandoned school. One night she and her crew dare to venture out at night, past the Outer Wall, which keeps the Rabids (victims of the Red Lung virus which killed most of humanity and turned them into thirsty, flesh eating cannibals) out of the city, keeping the citizens safe. On their way back, her crew is attacked, two members are killed, one escaped, and she? She had a choice: die, or become the one thing she despised the most... a vampire. She learns tricks from her creator, Kanin. Soon after, she and Kanin had to split up, which led her on the path to find the city of Eden, the last city in the world not ran by vampires. She joined a group of humans looking for the same thing, trying to convince them she's human as well. After a long journey, the only question is, will she find it?

“My vampire creator told me this: ‘Sometimes in your life, Allison Sekemoto, you will kill a human being. The question is not if it will happen, but when. Do you understand?’ I didn’t then, not really. I do now.” – *The Immortal Rules*

The Eternity Cure, the second book of *The Blood of Eden* series by Julie Kagawa.

As Allison Sekemoto tries to find her way to her creator who was kidnapped by one psychotic vampire. She follows a pull, which only people with the same vampire blood can feel. Though, she doesn't find Kanin, she finds her blood brother, Jackal. She must agree to help him find the cure for the Red Lung virus, leading to another decision she never thought she'd ever have to make.

“In Allison Sekemoto’s world, there’s only one rule left: blood calls to blood.” – *The Eternity Cure*

The Forever Song, the third book of *The Blood of Eden* series by Julie Kagawa.

I have not read this book yet, so I currently have no information on this book besides what it does say on the back. It talks about how someone Allison Sekemoto cares about is murdered, how she wants revenge, how she, Kanin and Jackal must team up and protect the one most important place at all costs.

“Allison Sekemoto once struggled with the question: human or monster? With the death of her love, Zeke, she has her answer. Monster.” – *The Forever Song*

THE REVIEW

REAL BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REAL PEOPLE.

By Grace Ma

1. You want to read a John Green novel, but you think he's too mainstream.

Here's the deal, any book resembling the John Green style is probably just as mainstream, so you might as well just read John Green. But if you're really sold on the fact that reading John Green will automatically make you "basic," try *Fangirl* by Rainbow Rowell, or *How to Save a Life* by Sara Zarr.

2. You're looking for a short, meaningful historical fiction to read in your Snuggie.

If so, then try *The Midwife's Apprentice* by Karen Cushman. This book weaves a delightful little tale of a young girl and her journey to find a place in this world, with a cat, twin cows, onions, babies, boys, a dung heap, and a midwife caught in between. It's a sweet and warm story, just like the hot chocolate you'll have in hand.

3. You constantly wonder why people are willing to read books like *Anna* and *The French Kiss*.

Okay, so you're not really into romantic stuff. That eliminates 99% of your options in the Young-Adult category. Thankfully, in our society, the 1% is pretty substantial. And if you're part of the 1%, you should really read *Holes* by Louis Sachar. It's about a guy who's forced to dig holes. If that doesn't compel you to read it, I don't know what will. Or maybe this: it doesn't have romance as the driving force of the plot.

4. You want to learn more about the Aboriginal culture because you go to Kelvin, and you live in Winnipeg.

The Absolutely True Journal of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie is a good place to start. This novel is about a boy named Junior who grew up on the Spokane Indian Reservation, who decides to leave his school on the reservation to attend an all-white farm town high school. This book is hilarious, weird, sad, heart-warming, eye-opening, and most importantly, brutally honest.

"OKAY, SO YOU'RE NOT REALLY INTO ROMANTIC STUFF. THAT ELIMINATES 99% OF YOUR OPTIONS IN THE YOUNG-ADULT CATEGORY. THANKFULLY, IN OUR SOCIETY, THE 1% IS PRETTY SUBSTANTIAL."

5. You've read *The Hunger Games* and you've read *Divergent*... Now what?

Daughter of Smoke and Bone series by Laini Taylor, that's what. It's part dystopian, part fantasy, part romance and complete AWESOMENESS. I mean, the protagonist has blue hair! Endeavoring, edgy, and nothing short of brilliant. *Daughter of Smoke and Bone* will transport you into a daring world where anything, and everything, seems possible.

6. You want to read a classic because they make you feel decently intellectual, but you also want to actually understand and enjoy it.

In a perfect world, we'd all be breezing through War and Peace, but let's face it, who has the time to read a book as large as those math textbooks we haul around, and the stamina to memorize one hundred and one Russian names that all sound the same? Well, if you can relate to that, try *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde! It's about this guy whose only signs of aging can be perceived on a painted portrait. It's a lusciously haunting story that is written with incredible wit. Oh, and did I mention it's less than 300 pages?

7. Admittedly, the first thing you look for in a book is a STUNNING cover.

We've all heard everybody jabber on that you shouldn't "judge a book by its cover." But honestly, if we're saying this in its pure, literal meaning, we'd be lying to ourselves. So embrace your superficiality, and get yourself a copy of *Speechless*, by Hannah Harrington. The cover will please the most aesthetic of aesthetes: a gleaming, matte pale-silver coating embossed with the perfectly spaced letters of the title. But actually, you don't have to feel guilty about your superficiality, because the written content is as admirable as the cover!

8. You long for the days when you were in elementary and just discovered the joys of reading.

We can all agree that sometimes (a lot of times), being a teenager is frustrating and tiring and obnoxious. Picking up an awesome children's book, such as Fortune's *Magic Farm* by Suzanne Selfors, is a great way to escape the land of homework, filters, and expectations, and spend a little time in the garden of quirkiness, magic, and childish endeavours.

9. You love short stories as much as you love patriotism.

Then you'll love *Dear Life* by the Nobel-prize-winning Canadian author Alice Munro. Set in towns and the countryside around Lake Huron, Munro's collection of short stories in *Dear Life* is a contemplation of the simplest elements of living, the ones that will mark one's existence forever. Munro writes contemporary prose that has classic poise. *Dear Life* is a humble cup of tea that you'll drink with avid purpose.

10. After reading these recommendations, you still don't know what to read.

Here's the simplest solution: go to the Kelvin library (or any library), and randomly choose a book out of the shelf. There's a high probability you won't want to read that book. Now ask yourself, WHY don't you want to read that book? Well it's obviously because you have another genre in mind. Repeat this sequence as many times as you need, until you are only left with one genre in mind.

Fine print: I've never put this suggestion to use, therefore I don't know if it'll actually work. But think about it, you can either choose to be the courageous guinea pig, or remain your boring, mundane self and eat soggy Frosted Flakes because the only thing you read are the Nutritional Facts of the cereal box.



**HAPPY READING. HAPPY "I LOVE TO READ" MONTH.
HAPPY FEBRUARY. SEE YOU SOON KELVIN.**

