



TEEN BOOK REVIEWS

OCTOBER 2023

GUIDE

BOOKS IN THE
YOUNG ADULT
COLLECTION

BOOKS IN THE
ADULT
COLLECTION

BOOKS IN THE
CHILDREN
COLLECTION



BLOODMARKED

BY

TRACY DEONN

CALL #

YA FIC DEONN

COLLECTION:

YOUNG ADULT FICTION

RATING:



GENRE:

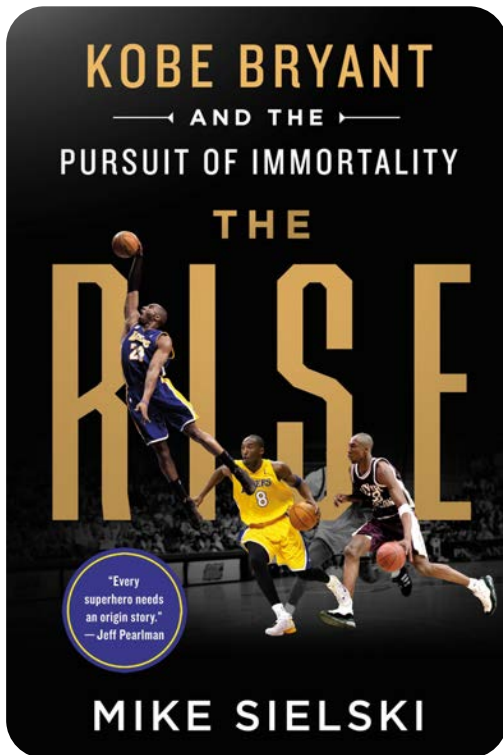
FANTASY

Book Review:

Bloodmarked is the sequel to Legendborn, which follows the story of Briana, or Bree. It picks up from where the previous book left off, but for a brief backstory, Bree has recently lost her mother, keeps seeing glimpses of weird magical creatures, and, in a search for answers, joins a magical society and learns that she is the descendant of King Arthur, instead of the person everyone thought was his descendant, Nick, her love interest who ends up missing towards the end of the story. Bloodmarked tells the story of how Bree struggles to prove herself to her position, as she is a person of color and all those around her aren't. The Regents, the main "rulers" of said society until the descendant of Arthur is crowned, do not want her to become king and do everything they can to prevent the news of her being king from spreading out and making it seem like Nick is still in line to the throne. Bree fights back, escapes with the help of her best friend Alice and people from the society who believe she deserves to be king, and finds people like her who help her learn how to control her magic.

I enjoyed this book because of the struggles all the characters go through. Bree struggles with proving that she deserves to be king and struggles with controlling her powers, which are unique to those around her because of her unusual bloodline. Then there is Nick, kidnapped by his father, who believes he and Nick deserve to rule, and struggles with fighting back against his dad and finding his way back to Bree. Then there are many other characters with unique problems, such as a part Shadowborn (essentially the monsters) struggling against fully transforming, and many characters experiencing loss.

I would recommend this book to lovers of fantasy, magic, and fable. It ties stories of the old with the advances of our generation but still keeps a whimsical and magical feel. The way society functions is amazingly thought out, the predictability of plot twists is low, and, probably my favorite part, the relationships between Bree and her friends are wholesome and endearing. If you enjoy fantasy etched into modern society and the warm feeling of family and friends, this book is for you.



THE RISE: KOBE BRYANT AND THE PURSUIT OF IMMORTALITY

CALL # 796.323 SIELSKI

COLLECTION: NON - FICTION

RATING:



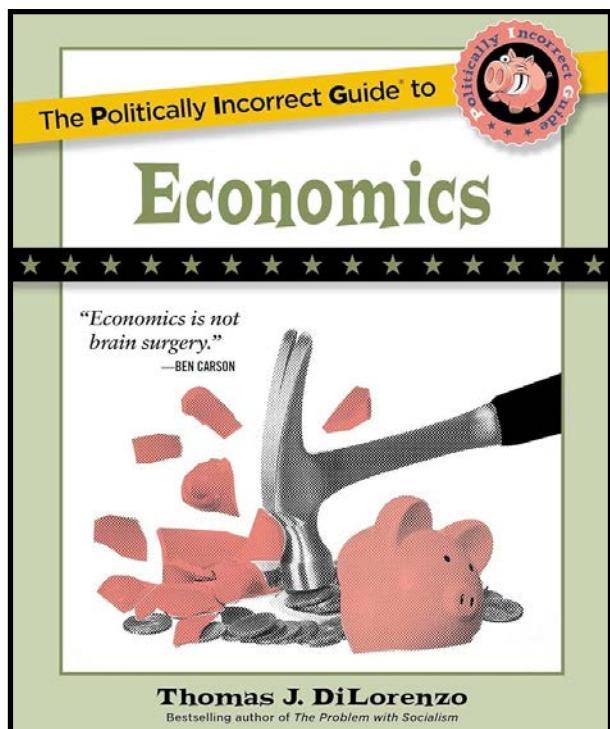
GENRE: LIFE STORIES;
SPORTS AND COMPETITION

Book Review:

The Rise: Kobe Bryant and the Pursuit of Immortality is a biography about the life of Kobe Bryant up until the NBA. In this book, written by Mike Sielski, you will be introduced to a young Kobe Bryant's lifestyle, work ethic, and basketball obsession, from living in Italy to being in Philadelphia to winning a high school championship. During this book, you will also be introduced to Kobe's family, friends, rivals, and how he became who he was in the National Basketball Association (NBA).

The book was very entertaining at times and could get me to read a lot in one day. One example was Kobe Bryant hitting a game-winner for his high school, Lower Merion. The book was very good at representing both Kobe's life and his love for the sport. The book was also great at making sure to narrate every important detail that contributed to Kobe's life. Sometimes, you might lose track of the plot, but you will always find a point that brings you back into the story. Overall, the book was a very interesting and laidback book to read.

Throughout the reading of the book, the writing really kept me in touch. The book was very good at telling the reader about big events happening and small, significant moments. While this may not apply to everyone, if you enjoy basketball, then reading this book should give a lot of inspiration to you. For me, after reading this book, it gave me a lot more confidence and love for the sport. At times, the story might bore you, but there is always a moment that brings you back into reading. The book is thick and has large pages, but that won't stop you from finishing the book. Overall, I would say that the book should be a read for all Kobe Bryant fans or maybe fans of the sport itself.



THE POLITICALLY INCORRECT GUIDE TO ECONOMICS BY THOMAS DILORENZO

CALL # 330 DILORENZO

COLLECTION: NON - FICTION

RATING:



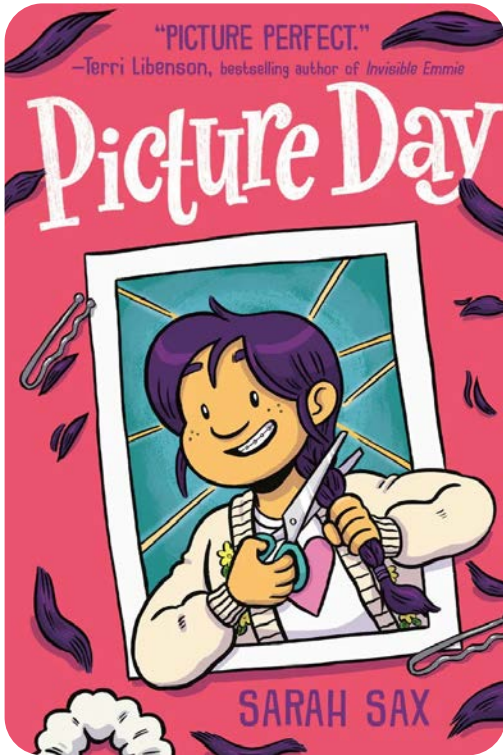
TOPIC: ECONOMICS

Book Review:

The Politically Incorrect Guide to Economics by Thomas J. DiLorenzo is a book that talks about how money and government work together. It demonstrates how not all beliefs about money and employment are accurate. Thomas J. DiLorenzo discusses how excessive government meddling can occasionally make matters worse.

This book piqued my interest since it got me thinking about how the government may influence things like prices and employment opportunities. Although I appreciated how well the author articulated things, there were occasions when I thought some concepts were only presented from one angle. My favorite aspect was discovering how people may make wiser financial decisions. There weren't really any characters, but I appreciated how passionate the author was about his points.

I would recommend the book to people who want to learn more about the relationship between money and government, in my opinion. It might be advantageous for those who enjoy contemplating grand concepts and the nature of reality. This book is not for everyone, especially if you don't enjoy reading about politics in my opinion. It didn't make me think of any other books I've read, but it did make me recall some of the things I learned about how the government supports the economy in social studies class.



PICTURE DAY BY SARAH SAX

CALL # J GN PICTURE

COLLECTION: J GRAPHIC NOVEL

RATING:



GENRE: REALISTIC FICTION

Book Review:

Picture Day is a fun and interesting graphic novel about a 7th-grade girl named Viv. She has always wanted to be different, from her hair color to her clothes to her personality. But her own style can't show through in her bland picture day outfit and hair. So she decides to cut her hair. After that, Viv becomes an influencer at her school overnight. Of course, by becoming popular, Viv begins to lose sight of what really matters in her life...Can Viv navigate her family, friends, and social life? This story is a fun and vibrant tale that teaches the importance of friendship and being bold.

For me, I thought this book was definitely a good read. I loved all of the characters in the story because they had fun and unique personalities that were really well shown. Also, the drawings were super well done, detailed, and exciting to look at! The writing in this book really helped create a strong sense of identity for each character, and it felt as if a middle schooler really was talking. Lastly, I enjoyed how they included social media in this novel because it helped to show how it can affect people and their relationships with others. Reading something like this helped me know that other people struggle with this, and it was comforting to see. Also, to me, they described middle school in a very relatable way, and I felt a sense of connection to this type of middle school. Overall, this book was a powerful and lovely book to read.

I loved this book (for sure, a 5-star book)! After reading, I think kids (and adults) of all ages can read this. In my opinion, I think it was meant for tweens and teens who are learning what it's like to grow up and embrace their identity, and this book helps to relay and teach this message. But in general, this story was cute and fun to look at and to read. I also thought the moral of the story was empowering and important to hear. If you like Be Prepared by Vera Brosgol, then you are sure to like this inspiring and incredible read!