

Librarians Telling Tales Podcast Transcript- Episode 5B

Quick Look Booklist:

- **Section 1: Guests Sierra, Stella, and Wilder**
 - *Gregor the Overlander* series by Suzanne Collins
 - *Percy Jackson & The Olympians* series by Rick Riordan
 - *Circe* by Madeline Miller
 - *The Song of Achilles* by Madeline Miller
 - *Heroes of Olympus* series by Rick Riordan
 - *Daughter of the Deep* Rick Riordan
 - *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea* by Jules Verne
 - *Harry Potter* series by J.K. Rowling
 - *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton
 - *Scary Stories for Young Foxes* by Christian McKay Heidicker
 - *Invisible Emmie* by Terri Libenson
 - *The Wizards of Once* series by Cressida Cowell
 - *Ready Player One* by Ernest Cline
- **Reader's Rave**
 - *The Inheritance Games* series by Jennifer Lynn Barnes

Transcript:

Musical Intro: "Uplifting 2463" by Twisterium from pixabay.com
(Description) Upbeat, piano and percussion. Music fades and plays under.

Amy:

Hey, bookworms! Welcome to Librarians Telling Tales where we introduce you to all the things we love about libraries: books, people, and making connections. I'm Amy!

Blair:

I'm Blair!

Jennifer:

I'm Jennifer!

(0:23) Music fades out

Blair

Today's episode is going to be a little different because we had some super special guests. We sat down with three groups of young book lovers and chatted with them about the books they're reading, some of their favorite series and characters, and how they fit reading into their everyday lives.

Jennifer:

It really was such a treat for us, and so much fun. Because they had so many great comments and insights about books, we've decided to create three mini episodes! Today we will be talking with the second group, and join us next Friday, for group three.

Amy:

You won't want to miss out on these charming and candid discussions.

Musical Transition: "Ascending-marimba-notification" by Alexander from Orangefreesounds.com

(Description) Bright marimba scale.

(0:59) Section 1- Guest Discussion with Sierra, Stella, and Wilder

Jennifer:

So we are so excited to have you all here today. It's a real treat for us to get to know you a little bit better, and to find out what you love about books and reading. So we have Wilder, and Sierra, and Stella. Wilder, why don't you start us off and tell us a little bit about yourself.

Wilder:

Okay, I'm 13. My friend just moved into a house really close down our street. And so we like building, whatever, you know? We have built treehouses, and we just built a candy machine out of cardboard.

Amy:

What kind of candy?

Wilder:

Whatever's small, M&M's, Reese's Pieces...

Jennifer:

Thanks Wilder. Sierra?

Sierra:

I'm 12, and I mountain bike, and I do archery, and I'm on a robotics team. And I have a little brother and an older sister.

Jennifer:

Wonderful, thank you. How about you, Stella?

Stella:

I'm 12, I like dance and theatre, and I don't have any siblings.

Amy:

So I will start off with a question that Miss Blair led off the last group with, and that is: Are there any books or series that you have read multiple times, or that you plan to re-read because they are just so good?

Stella:

Yeah! The *Gregor the Overlander* series by Suzanne Collins, I've reread like hundreds of times.

Amy:

Wow, really?

Stella:

Yeah.

Sierra:

She's actually the one who got me into that series.

Amy:

Falling down the laundry chute and entering a new world?

Sierra:

Yeah.

Wilder:

I've never read it. I really like *Percy Jackson* (Rick Riordan). I've read that a lot of times. There's a couple books by Madeline Miller, *Circe* and *Song of Achilles*. I really enjoyed those too.

Amy:

Circe was pretty heavy...

Wilder:

Yeah.

Amy:

...and super long.

Wilder:

They're really good books.

Amy:

Wow Wilder, okay!

Sierra:

Percy Jackson and *Heroes of Olympus* (both series by Rick Riordan), those two were ones that I've reread a lot.

Amy:

Have you read, Stella, *Percy Jackson*?

Stella:

She tried to get me into them, and it didn't work.

Amy:

So why do you guys reread that series? What attracts you to those stories so much?

Wilder:

I find it interesting with the mythological part of it.

Blair:

So who was your favorite character in that world?

Wilder:

In the series? Yeah, probably Chiron. He's a big character, again, from *Song of Achilles* and he's just got a lot of story behind him.

Blair:

Nice. I saw you nodding Sierra...

Sierra:

That's hard, there's so many different characters in books it's hard to pick a favorite. But I think in *Heroes of Olympus* it'd be Reyna, because she's just brave and she's smart and she actually uses her head unlike some other characters in those books.

Jennifer:

I am just now starting Rick Riordan's new book, *Daughter of the Deep*. Has anyone heard about that?

Wilder:

No I haven't.

Jennifer:

Does it make a difference to you if the main character is a girl or a boy? Do you ever think about that?

Wilder, Stella, Sierra:

No... not really...

Jennifer:

Okay, because in this book the character's a girl, and it's based on Jules Verne's *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea*. So, it's under the water like the City of Atlantis. So, if you haven't read it and you like *Percy Jackson* I was just going to tell you about that book. So far, I've really enjoyed it, it feels very *Percy Jackson*-esque.

Blair:

Nice. You know, we have some other questions about not only books, but also reading in general. So, where is your favorite place that you like to hang out, or curl up and read?

Wilder:

In my room, or on the couch or something.

Blair:

You can read on the couch? Nobody's TV or anything makes you...

Wilder:

I can block everything out.

Blair:

Sign of a good book.

Stella:

It's pretty weird, but my favorite place to read is on the kitchen table while I'm eating dinner. And multiple family members do not like that. But, yeah, that's my favorite place to read.

Sierra:

There's a rule in our house against reading at the table while you're eating. I think my favorite place to read would probably be my room just because there's nothing going on.

Blair:

You can focus, be in the zone, in the world of the book. Which is another question we have- maybe Miss Amy would like to lead off with.

Amy:

Absolutely, yes. Okay, so... anywhere, anytime, any character, any situation, is there a fictional setting or world you would like to visit; maybe for a day or a week, or maybe for like, ever.

Wilder:

I mean, *Harry Potter* (J.K. Rowling) seems cool.

Amy:

Mhm. For just a week or like the rest of your life?

Wilder:

You know, whenever.

Amy:

Alright! (Laughs)

Wilder:

Yeah, I don't know. It just seems cool.

Sierra:

Harry Potter would be cool. I'd stay there for like a month, and then I'd leave. And probably wherever *The Outsiders* (S.E. Hinton) takes place, which is like, Oklahoma, I think. That would be cool to be there for, not ever, but just a little bit.

Amy:

A visit...uh huh.

Jennifer:

During the time period?

Sierra:

Yeah.

Stella:

I recently read a book called *Scary Stories for Young Foxes* (Christian McKay Heidicker) and the story mainly takes place in this forest called like the Wildly Wood or something like that. But, yeah, it'd be cool to stay there because of all the creatures there.

Amy:

As a human or as a fox?

Stella:

As a fox.

Amy:

Okay, so Wilder and Sierra, if you didn't get placed in the house that you think you should've been placed in, would you still want to be at Hogwarts?

Wilder:

Uhh, yes, I think so.

Amy:

Yeah?

Wilder:

Yeah.

Sierra:

Probably.

Jennifer:

Which spell is your favorite from *Harry Potter*? Which spell comes right off the top of your mind- you just remember it?

Sierra:

Avada Kedavra.

Wilder:

Accio. It seems so helpful.

Jennifer:

(Laughing) Oh, I love it, I love it!

Stella:

Luminos.

Amy:

So you're a *Harry Potter* fan too?

Stella:

Yeah!

Amy:

Would you want to live there for a day or a week?

Stella:

No!

Amy:

No? Okay, that was a hard no- so why not?

Stella:

Well, I wouldn't want to be running for my life every single day. And I wouldn't want a noseless wizard dude chasing after me my entire life. So, I just, would avoid it.

Amy:

What if you were like Ginny Weasley though, and so all that danger wasn't happening to you daily, and you just got to experience it?

Stella:

Erm, nah.

Amy:

No? (Laughing)

Stella:

The teachers are... Well, I mean, they have kind of a bad track record with all the teachers. Well, there's a couple good teachers. But a lot of them aren't really good teachers.

Amy:

Or good with children.

Stella:

Yeah!

Amy:

Yeah. (Laughing)

Sierra:

Are you saying Umbridge is not a good teacher?

ALL:

Laughing

Stella:

Yes.

Jennifer:

Alright, I have another question. I read a lot of books, and I find it sometimes really hard to decide which book I should read. So how do you decide whether a book is worth your time? What is your criteria or standards for a book?

Wilder:

If I can like, still be enjoying reading it, or start enjoying reading it by 50 pages in then I'll continue. But if by that far in it's just not doing it for me, then I'll choose a different book, because there's better things to read.

Jennifer:

I agree. There's so many books.

Sierra:

If I start a book, I try really really hard to finish it, even if I don't necessary like it because I feel like I started it, so I have to finish it. And then, I'm going to have an opinion afterwards and if I didn't like the book it's going to be a bad opinion. So, I don't really stop reading books.

Stella:

Okay, I know a lot of people really hate it when people do this, but I'll read the last page.

Wilder:

Oh no...

Stella:

And almost 9 out of 10 times it makes no sense at all. And I'll read the back cover.

Jennifer:

So Stella, what are you looking for when you look at the last page?

Stella:

I don't know, a conclusion of some kind. But just the end of the conclusion, not even the beginning. I find it interesting to just somewhat see.

Amy:

If you read the book though, and you get to the end do you remember the whole time, that you knew the ending now? Does it bother you at all? Or do you forget by the time you actually get into the story?

Stella:

I usually forget.

Sierra:

I wish I could do that. The only times I've ever done that I'm like, "Oh, I know the ending, the character's going to die. Why am I still reading this?"

Blair:

Miss Amy had a super visceral reaction, she jumped in horror when you said that you read the last page.

Amy:

Laughter

Blair:

So I'm a little curious as to why Miss Amy jumped in horror.

Amy:

All the suspense to like what's going to happen is what keeps me reading, so if I know the end it makes me think that I may not continue reading.

Blair:

My wondering is, are you actually looking to see if there's a cliffhanger, and if there's a cliffhanger will you just ditch the whole thing because it's a series that hasn't been written yet, or because you're not interested in it?

Stella:

Yeah. I mean if it's some random person's half-quote or something, and then it's like, "THE END" that always bothers me. If there's a quote at the end or something, not even like an actual quote, just someone speaking. Yeah, I don't really like cliffhangers, they bother me. Especially when the author decides to discontinue the series after one book.

Blair:

Sometimes it's the publisher...but yes, that is annoying when that happens.

Amy:

And you're waiting two years for the next book to come out it's painful.

Sierra:

That's where fanfiction comes in to play.

Jennifer:

Oh, tell us more about fanfiction, Sierra.

Sierra:

Like, if it's a cliffhanger and then you don't know what's gonna happen, then people on the internet will be like, "Oh, this, this, this, and this are gonna happen." And then they write stories for it. And you're like, oh, that's kind of cool. And the next book comes out and you're like, "Ya'll were wrong!"

Others:

Laughing

Jennifer:

Which fanfiction do you follow? Do you all follow fanfiction?

Wilder:

No

Jennifer:

No?

Stella:

No.

Sierra:

It depends. Like, *Percy Jackson*, occasionally *Harry Potter*, but mostly *Percy Jackson*.

Blair:

Nice.

Jennifer:

We're going to do a speed round. We're just going to ask some questions and you can just pop out your answer, okay?

Blair:

Alright, all-time favorite book?

Wilder:

Circe.

Sierra:

The Outsiders.

Stella:

Scary Stories for Young Foxes.

Blair:

Okay! And favorite character of all-time?

Wilder:

Um, Percy Jackson.

Sierra:

Pony Boy.

Stella:

Luna Lovegood.

Blair:

I also like Luna very much.

Amy:

Books that you can't stop yourself from recommending to friends, like, "You have to read this!"

Wilder:

That would be, again, probably *Percy Jackson*. I tell everyone who I meet to read that book.

Sierra:

Yeah, *Percy Jackson*.

Stella:

Invisible Emmie (Terri Libenson)

Amy:

That's a cute one!

Jennifer:

Most annoying character, who got on your nerves- any book or series?

Wilder:

Umbridge. You just want to punch her in the face.

Sierra:

Yeah!

Others:

Laughter.

Sierra:

Occasionally Percy Jackson, and Umbridge.

Stella:

Harry Potter!

Sierra:

Yes!

Others:

Laughter.

Blair:

Yes!

Amy:

Oh, come on...come on...

Stella:

Most annoying character ever.

Amy:

He's got a lot to deal with that kid!(Laughing.)

Sierra:

Kick him out.

Others:

Laughter.

Blair:

I feel like that's maybe split along gender lines right there. So, the last question that we have pre-

planned to ask is: Have you ever been caught reading when you were supposed to be doing something else?

Sierra:

Oh, all the time. 100%!

Stella:

Yeah.

Wilder:

Yeah.

Blair:

What's an example of a memorable moment of that happening?

Wilder:

Nothing memorable, but... and I've never been like in trouble or anything... But I'll be told to do a chore and instead I'll pick something up and just start reading it.

Sierra:

I think I was like 7. I was supposed to be in bed, I wasn't. It was like 12 o'clock at night. My light was on, and I was reading a book. My mom comes upstairs and she's like, "Go to bed," takes away the book, and turns off the light. And I stay awake for the rest of the night because I didn't finish my book.

Blair:

Awww.

Stella:

When I was 10, I was sleeping, and then I woke up because I couldn't fall asleep. I just couldn't, I was not tired. And so I was trying to find a book to read. And it was like the week after Christmas, and so I had a bunch of new books, cause... Christmas. And one of the books was *The Wizards of Once* (Cressida Cowell), and I hadn't read it yet. And I had read a couple of the other ones, but I hadn't read that one. And so I picked it up and I was like, "Well, maybe just like 2 pages." And I read the whole book! And then my mom came in because she noticed that my light was on, and she was like, "It's 1 am! Why are you awake?" And I was like, "I'm reading the book you got me!"

Amy:

Laughing.

Blair:

So it's your fault, right mom? You got me the book so it's your fault!

Stella:

Yeah.

Others:

Laughing.

Jennifer:

What would you say to someone your age that says they don't really like reading? How would you share with them why reading is important to you, and why it's important to read?

Wilder:

I have a few friends that just don't read, you know? And I've said to them, reading is super awesome it's pretty important, you know, to know what to think of reading. But, I mean, if someone for some reason just can't get hooked on reading, I don't see why they should be made to read or anything. If they don't enjoy it then there's nothing really you can do about it, you know?

Jennifer:

You send them to us. I really believe there is a book for every kid, and it's exciting for us to try and find that right book.

Wilder:

Yeah, definitely.

Jennifer:

And It's so great that you're promoting reading. You're setting such a great example in reading around your friends.

Wilder:

Yeah, one of my friends didn't like reading but he really enjoyed *Ready Player One* (Ernest Cline), which I also really loved, so yeah, there is, I guess a book for everyone.

Sierra:

Um, it's hard to get people who don't like reading into reading, because most of them are very stubborn about it. I have friends who read and I have friends who don't read. And the friends that don't read are different from the friends who read. Because the friends who read, they use different words because they've read books and they have expanded vocabularies. The others, they don't really. So, there's always that.

Stella:

I have definitely way more friends who don't read than friends that read. Which is really sad, kind of, because I think reading is a good way, like she said, to learn new words, and you can pick up a lot of knowledge from reading. But I've tried to get a lot of people into reading, and it doesn't really work too well if someone is trying to get them to read, I don't think. I think it's just a matter of them trying to find something they're interested in, and honestly just doing it by themselves. Because I know definitely, from other things besides reading, if someone else is trying to get me to into it, a lot of the time I'll be like, "Um, maybe not." But if I get myself into it sticks more, I guess.

Music Transition: "Ascending-marimba-notification" by Alexander from OrangeFreesounds.com
(Description) *Bright marimba scale.*

Amy:

We hope this episode inspires you fit reading into your everyday life and to try some of these great kid-recommended titles.

(13:56) Readers Rave

Blair:

Now we're going to hear from you, our readers and listeners. This is a fun segment where you get to tell us some of your favorite books- this is Readers Rave.

Isabella:

Hi, my name's Isabella. I'm 15 years old. And the book I love the most is *The Inheritance Games* (Jennifer Lynn Barnes). I love the story because it's about this girl, and she's financially struggling with her sister right now. And BAM, all of a sudden, she's taken and overnight given millions to billions of dollars, a huge mansion, everything pretty much anyone wants. And all the family is just like shaken up. They're like, "How do you even know him, and why did he give you all the money?" And then after that, it's just a game of puzzles where she's trying to figure out how this man knows her and why she got all this wealth and fame. I think it's a great book because it has so much detail, it has drama in it, it has mystery in it. I think it's a great book in general, and it's one of my favorites right now. Thank you guys so much for listening.

Jennifer:

Do you want to be part of Reader's Rave? Call us at **928-777-1490** and leave a message with your first name, your age, a book you love, and what you love about it. We can't wait to hear from you!

Amy:

Thank you for joining us today on Librarians Telling Tales. For a full list of the books shared in this episode, check the link in our podcast bio. Don't forget to subscribe to catch our last mini episode where we'll be chatting with our third group of book lovers, Aiden, Kai, and Savannah.

(15:33) Musical Outro: "Uplifting 2463" by Twisterium from pixabay.com

(Description) Upbeat, piano and percussion. Music fades in and plays under.

Blair:

This Podcast is supported by the Arizona State Library, Archives & Public Records, a division of the Secretary of State, with federal funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. We would also like to thank the City of Prescott, Friends of the Prescott Public Library, and all our fabulous coworkers at Prescott Public Library.

Jennifer:

Be sure to like and subscribe to Librarians Telling Tales- and until next time, we'll see you in the library.

Total Run Time: (16:06)