

Librarians Telling Tales Podcast Transcript- Episode 5C

Quick Look Booklist:

- **Section 1: Guests Sierra, Stella, and Wilder**
 - *Keeper of the Lost Cities* series by Shannon Messenger
 - *Harry Potter* series by J.K. Rowling
 - *Endless Quest: Into the Jungle* a Dungeons & Dragons Choose Your Own Adventure by Matt Forbeck
 - *Big Nate* comics series by Lincoln Peirce
 - *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* series by Jeff Kinney
 - *The Selection* series by Kiera Cass
 - *Sara Scribbles* comics series by Sarah Andersen
 - *Beyond the Bright Sea* by Lauren Wolk
 - *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* by Grace Lin
 - *My Hero Academia* manga series by Kohei Horikoshi
 - *Lord of the Rings* by J.R.R. Tolkien
 - *The Trials of Morrigan Crow* Nevermoor series by Jessica Townsend
 - Dungeons & Dragons Nonfiction
 - *Beasts & Behemoths* by Jim Zub
 - *Fizban's Treasury of Dragons*
 - *Guildmasters' Guide to Ravnica*
 - *Monster Manual*
 - *Volothamp Geddarm's Dungeonology: An Epic Adventure Through the Forgotten Realms* by Matt Forbeck
 - *Xanathar's Guide to Everything*
- **Reader's Rave**
 - *Lord of the Rings* series by J.R.R. Tolkien

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 our final group. Did you miss one? Check out our other mini episodes to catch up!

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

(0:57) Section 1- Guest Discussion with Aiden, Kai, & Savannah

Jennifer:

Welcome! We are so excited to have you here today! We have Savannah, Kai, and Aiden. So we just want to start with you first, Savannah, just tell us a little about yourself.

Savanah:

Well, my name is Savannah, I'm eleven years old, and I love to read, and dance. I dance 11 ½ hours a week. And then plus school, it's kind of hard to find reading time, but I always make it work.

Jennifer:

Wonderful.

Kai:

Hi, my name is Kai.

Jennifer:

And how old are you?

Kai:

Twelve. I like to play video games, and I like to read a lot, and like to read Harry Potter and fantasy books.

Aidan:

My name is Aidan and I'm eleven and I like to read (giggles) sometimes. You know I'm a busy man, I have places to go and things to see, so it's hard to fit in reading time, you know.

Amy:

More than ever, right? You are Mr. Walking Around Downtown now.

Aidan:

Yep.

Amy:

Are there any books or series that you have read multiple times already or that you have enjoyed so very much that you are like, I have to read that again!? Okay, Savannah.

Savanah:

Um, there's this series called *Keeper of Lost Cities* (Shannon Messenger), not a lot of people know about it, but I feel like some do, and it is sooo good! I read *Harry Potter* (J.K. Rowling) and I was in love with it, and then I read the *Keeper of Lost Cities* and I was like: "Wow! Bye-bye *Harry Potter*."

Everyone:

(Laughing)

Amy:

Bye-bye *Harry Potter*...

Savanah:

No offence, J. K. Rowling.

Amy:

(Giggles) Alright, Kai.

Kai:

I like Dungeons and Dragons (Choose Your Own Adventure) books because they are fun and because they are not really so much books they're more like a game, so you can interact with it.

Amy:

So are you talking about the non-fiction, or the stories we have been purchasing upon your recommendations?

Kai:

Ah, yeah, the stories and stuff.

Amy:

Ah, cool.

Kai:

They are really fun.

Aidan:

Oh, well, I read *Harry Potter* twice and it is kind of annoying because in our family it's a rule that you have to read the books before we watch the movies.

Savanah:

Me too.

Aidan:

And so my siblings are really slow at reading it, so I can't watch it, well, I've watched it before, but I can't watch it again until they finish. And there is this comic series that I've read like a billion trillion times, it's called *Big Nate* (Lincoln Peirce).

Amy:

Oh yes!

Aidan:

I have all the books.

Amy:

Do you really?

Aidan:

Yeah.

Amy:

Rock on.

Blair:

What do you like best about *Big Nate*?

Aidan:

Oh well, it is really funny, and the first time I read it, I was like, that's what I want to do.

Amy:

Is like write books and do comics and things? Or like **be** like Big Nate.

Aidan:

No. A cartoonist.

Amy:

Awesome!

Kai:

He cartoons a lot in class, like everywhere.

Aidan:

And it annoys the teacher so much, so I keep on doing it.

Kai/Savanah:

(Chuckling)

Amy:

Have you guys read the *Wimpy Kid* Series (Jeff Kinney)?

Savanah:

I have.

Aidan:

Yeah.

Amy:

Okay, so Big Nate versus Greg Heffley, who would win?

Savanah:

It's a tie.

Everyone:

(Laughing)

Amy:

Really? For you too. Aidan?

Aidan:

No, I like *Big Nate* better.

Amy:

Big Nate better.

Jennifer:

I just want to go back to a comment Aidan made that is important. He said he's a busy man about town now.

Amy:

(Laughs)

Jennifer:

And that's true, as we get older, we get busier, and things happen. And if reading is really important to you, which I sense from all of you that reading is a big deal—how are you making time for reading? What do you do? Or what formats do you use?

Kai:

I stay inside when it is the weekend and I read. And if my mom tells me I have to go somewhere I'm like, "Okay!" and then I go somewhere, and then I come home and I keep reading, because that's what I want to do.

Savanah:

Well, I usually read in between dance classes. My friends are like, "Why are you always reading?" and I'm like: "Because I have to finish this book, and I like to read!" But I feel like the most time I probably have is also on the weekends, even though I also dance on the weekends. But...also in the car, if you're like driving somewhere, it is also a good time to read because you're just sitting there.

Jennifer:

I really love your answers because I think it shows even to all that are listening, adults or kids, that reading is important and you make time for it and there's ways to do it. So, busy man, what about you?

Aidan:

Well, I just started basketball and stuff, so it's kind of busy on weekends and the weekdays, but days when there are days when I don't have anything going on I'll read in the day for an hour and then an hour in the evening.

Jennifer:

So what's the last book that you've read, or a book that you are currently reading?

Savanah:

I'm reading a series called *The Selection* (Kiera Cass), it's more for older kids, probably like 11 and older, but I really liked it. I got super upset because I wanted to read the fourth book and we didn't have enough time to stop at the library or the bookstore, so I got really upset, and then my mom got me the whole series for Christmas.

Kai:

I read *Sara Scribbles* (Sarah Andersen), which is a really funny series. It is a little more mature, there's like a little bit of stuff in there, but it has mainly funny, like really funny. And books that I'm currently reading are Dungeons & Dragons.

Aidan:

So my mom tried to get me into the book club like a bunch of months ago, and we didn't get in it, so we just got in it, so I'm reading the book club book, and I forgot what it's called.

Amy:

Beyond the Bright Sea (Lauren Wolk).

Aidan:

Yeah, that's the one I'm reading.

Amy:

Are you enjoying it?

Aidan:

Yeah, it's pretty good.

Blair:

Who is your favorite character from a book or a series of books?

Kai:

I like Volothamp Geddarm from Dungeons and Dragons, he is very nice, he brags a lot about himself, but he can't do anything, and that's kind of like a lot like me. (Laughs) And there's...it's really hard to pronounce, but there is this god, and he is pretty cool.

Blair:

Nice.

Savanah:

In the series I've read like million times, *The Keeper of Lost Cities*, there is this one character named Keefe Sencen, and he is really funny, and I like him a lot, and all my friends make fun of me for liking him so much, but I have a sticker of him, like I have a mini-fridge in my room, and there's like a sticker of him on it, because I ship him and the main character, but she likes this one boy, he is not very nice, I don't like Fitz at all. (Laughs)

Aidan:

I don't know what to say.

Blair:

That's okay!

Amy:

You've read *Harry Potter* a bunch...

Aidan:

Yeah.

Amy:

Is there anyone from that world that you like? Is Harry your favorite?

Aidan:

No. I like Voldemort the best.

Blair:

Oh. (Laughter)

Amy:

Are you being serious?

Aidan:

Yes, because he dies in the end.

Everyone:

(Laugh)

Jennifer:

Aidan, didn't you like the book *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* (Grace Lin)?

Aidan:

Oh yeah, I did like that book.

Jennifer:

I think I remember you liked it so much you came back to the library to get the second book.

Aidan:

Yeah, I did.

Jennifer:

Can you tell us a little about that book and why you liked it?

Aidan:

Well, I don't know, it was like a Chinese book and it had like a bunch of different stories in the middle of it, and it was really cool, and then I came back to get the other book, and they weren't very great.

Jennifer:

But you liked the first one?

Aidan:

Yeah.

Kai:

I like Severus Snape from *Harry Potter*, and I like the series, well it is both a TV and a book series called *My Hero Academia* (Kohei Horikoshi), and I like the villain, his name is Dabi, and he is pretty cool because he can shoot fire out of his hands.

Jennifer:

Do you know we have those books up in the teen zone?

Kai:

Yeah, I've read them all.

Jennifer:

Fantastic.

Kai:

I like manga and anime.

Amy:

Alright so...if you could travel to any character's world and stay there for a day or maybe a month or for the rest of your life. You don't have to be like the main character in that story, just to visit their world and live there. Would you go somewhere? Where would you go?

Savanah:

I actually have two places that I would like if I could be there, I would not want to be the main characters, though. There is this one place, it's called Illéa it is in the series I just read called *The Selection*, and it's this really beautiful place and there is like a giant castle—the story kind of takes place in the castle--so I think that would be a really cool. And then the Lost Cities from *Keeper of Lost Cities*, that would be really cool, but there are also a lot of villains though, so I wouldn't want to die. (laughs)

Amy:

What about you, Kai?

Kai:

I like the *Harry Potter* books, I would love to be in there. I also like the *My Hero* books because there you can have superpowers. Oh yeah, *Dungeons & Dragons* books, definitely, because there are so many possibilities.

Amy:

There're so many, but there are like so many ways to die!

Kai:

Yeah, there are, there are many chances to die. (laughs) And then I'd be in *Lord of the Rings* (J.R.R. Tolkien) because I love *Lord of the Rings*.

Jennifer:

Who would you be?

Kai:

O, that's hard. I like Legolas, but...

Jennifer:

Would you be an elf or a dwarf or a human?

Kai:

Oh, yeah, I'd be an elf.

Savanah:

Me too.

Aidan:

Harry Potter is probably really cool to visit, because I could just like "Abrakadabra!" and then something will happen and then, I don't know, but I always feel it would be kind of cool to be in one of those ninja books when you hop on top of roofs and have huge swords.

Kai/Savanah:

(Laugh)

Aidan:

Like "Whatcha!" That would be cool.

Amy:

Have you guys read *The Trials of Morgan Crow* series (Jessica Townsend)?

Savanah:

I read a little bit but I just didn't like it...

Amy:

You didn't like it...

Savanah:

...so much.

Amy:

I like the idea of a boarding school, and like at that school, some of the classes are on higher level, but the more scarier magics they go down. I just love the idea.

Jennifer:

Something I wanted to say too about *Harry Potter*, is, I don't know if you guys are too young to know this, but *Harry Potter*—the book series—created a revolution in reading, and I'm just so grateful for that book, so it's really wonderful that all the kids we've talk to today have really endorsed *Harry Potter*.

Blair:

Enquiring minds really desperately want to know: Have you ever been caught reading when you were were supposed to be doing something else? Go Kai.

Kai:

I was supposed to be asleep and I was a little younger than I am now, but it was like nine thirty and I was reading a book, I think it was a *Harry Potter* book, but I don't know, and then I just hide my books under my blanket and then act like I'm asleep, and then they come in and are like: "Alright, Kai, it is time to go to bed!" and I'm like: "Okay." And then I keep reading.

Everyone:

(Laugh)

Savanah:

Well, kind of the same thing happened to me, but it was a couple of weeks ago and I come into the library because I was looking for this one book but you guys didn't have it so I got it on Audible because Miss Amy helped me, and I literally stayed up until 1 am to finish it, and my mom got really mad.

Aidan:

I mostly read in the evenings and stuff.

Blair:

So no illicit reading when you are supposed to be doing something else, like in class?

Aidan:

Oh yeah, that's happened before, yeah. Sometimes I just go under the table and I'll do that.

Blair:

Yeah, hiding it behind folders, or anything like that, yeah, I used to do that, I was the master at that.

Aidan:

Then I have to like slip it under my shirt when she come by or something.

Kai/Savanah:

(Laugh)

Blair:

So do you guys have a favorite place to curl up and read, so like your cozy, comfy place that you like to read the best?

Savanah:

My bed. Nothing's better than just laying in your bed and reading, I feel like.

Blair:

Nice!

Kai:

Eh, same, my bed, I like it, it's comfy.

Aidan:

I just do the couch.

Blair:

And you are not disrupted by the other people watching sports or news or movies?

Aidan:

No. I just cover myself with a blanket and then it gets dark and so I have to get a flashlight.

(Laughter)

Blair:

Nice!

Jennifer:

One thing I want to ask you: We see you guys a lot at the library, and that makes us so happy. Why do you come to the library and what do you think about libraries?

Kai:

Erhm, I like libraries because a lot of the books I like are like 50 dollars and above, and I don't want to spend 50 bucks on a book that I don't know about, for what if the book sucks? Well, then that's a waste of fifty bucks, but the library has like a lot of books that I like, so then instead of having to spend the fifty bucks I can get it for free at the library!

Jennifer:

Fantastic to let people know that. Do you know that people in the community thinks that the library costs money? So you can go out and tell people all about it, It's free!

Savanah:

Well, I kind of also like that because you have to buy books from bookstores but at the library you can just check them out and then you have three weeks to read them so that's more than enough time. And

then I always love the librarians whenever I come in, because they're always so nice. And I went to church once and I kind of think of them as the priests of the library because they protect the books.

Jennifer:

(Laughs) I love that.

Aidan:

Well, at my house we don't really have lots of books that belong to us, we mostly have a huge stack of library books there, and so that's kind of our collection of books and then we return them and get a new collection.

Jennifer:

We love to seeing you come to the library! We have seen a lot of you grow up and it has been such a joy for us to see you here, and to see you reading and to have those relationships and interactions with you.

Amy:

But how do you recommend books to your friends? Like I have seen Kai here in the library turn a ton of kid on to Dungeons & Dragons, both the books that we have (nonfiction titles in list), the Choose Your Own Adventures that we have and then like playing the actual game at a table in the back. How do you convince your friends, like: "Hey, books are awesome, read this one! Read this book, this one right here!"

Kai:

I gather a group of nerds, and then I say...

Amy:

(Laughs) That's so not true!

Kai:

I say: "Hey, do you guys like Dungeons & Dragons?" and if they say no, I say: "Hey, do you guys like Pokemon?" and if they say no, I say: "Hey do you guys like any card game, any role playing or anything like that?" and if they say yes, then I'm like, "Then why don't you guys try reading Dungeons & Dragons? It's like a role-playing game." And what's good about Dungeons & Dragons is that you work together. In War Hammer you go against your friends, but in Dungeons & Dragons you actually team up and go on this huge adventure, it's pretty fun.

Savanah:

They way that I recommend my books to my friends is I get it to them for their birthday. So my best friend Grier actually got me the first two books in *The Keeper of Lost Cities* series, and I was like: "I don't think I'm going to like this, but I read the first chapter, then I finished it in a day. So giving books as gifts is kind of a good way because I feel like, then they're like: "Well, maybe I just read the first chapter." And then they usually like it.

Amy:

That's an awesome, awesome, and sort of sneaky way to do it too!

Aidan:

What I do, is that I bring the book that I like to school and then I show it off, and if I feel like someone would like it then I extra show it off to them, and yeah!

Amy:

Okay, yeah, that reminds me, all the books that you bring home—I have the three siblings in book club and they are always talking about the book that you are reading and what you've brought home that time, and Eric will quote things to me from your book, and I'm like: "Have you read it yet?" and he like: "No, but Aidan says it's awesome!" So you are doing a really awesome job of that, because they want to read now what you are reading. That's pretty special. Go big brother!

Aidan:

I'm the awesomest big brother.

Amy:

(Laughs)

Jennifer:

He is!

Amy:

Kai, is like: "I'm an awesome big brother too." No, you're not? (laughs)

Jennifer:

I just have one last question for you all: What would you say to our audience out there about books? Are there any last words of advice or last books you'd like to plug?

Aidan:

You should read books!

Kai:

Yeah same with Aidan, sometimes people think: "Oh, books are such a waste of time, it's just reading and stuff," but it's like, I'm kind of going back to *Harry Potter* here, we went to Universal Studios recently, and there I was like "Wow, this is awesome, this is actually like an experience!" And I was really sad leaving, because I was like I had read the entire book series, and it feels, there are so many, like in *Lord of the Rings*, in almost all the books that I've read besides funny books, it is so powerful and you really like the characters and get to know them, and so it is like a real experience.

Savanah:

I also kind of agree with Kai, I feel like books are an experience and I feel like reading is a big part of my life and I feel like, if we didn't have books, we wouldn't have Wi-Fi, we wouldn't have electricity, books teach us everything that we know. Imagine no books in school, that would be like very sad. (laughs). So, make sure you read, because it is not as boring as it sounds.

Amy and Savanah:

(Laugh)

(15:53) 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.

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.

Matt:

Hi, my name is Matt and I am 46 years old. And the most recent book that I've read was *The Lord of the Rings Series* by J.R.R. Tolkien. What I really enjoyed about it is the subtle differences between the movies, I'm just fascinated by them, and all the lore. And just reading about it for the first time last year was really quite amazing. And again, the subtle differences like, for example, Faramir the character, is much more human in the books than he is in the movies. He has a heart and he's very gentle and he's a

very caring character and it's very interesting that he wasn't portrayed that way in the movies. Anyways, I hope you have a great day, thank you.

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 next episode in mid-February where we'll be joined by Arizona State Librarian and Director of Library Services Holly Henley and Library Development Administrator Jaime Ball from the Arizona State Library. We'll chat about libraries and why we love them. We will also share some of our favorite books about books and libraries.

(17:46) 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: (18:10)