

October and November Teen Top 20

For the teens by the teens

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2007

BOOKS:

Alive: The Story of the Andes Survivors—by Piers Paul Read -This is a young adult book about the Uruguayan Rugby team that was involved in an airplane crash in the Andes. This nonfiction novel taught me that a person's will to survive can save their lives.

The Hobbit—J.R.R. Tolkien-This is a classic book which precludes the Lord of the Rings trilogy. About the hobbit Bilbo who goes on a quest with Gandalf the wizard and a group a dwarves. It is middle school to high school level, and I recommend it to anyone, especially people who enjoy fantasy and adventure books.

Peter Pan-J.M. Barrie-All children have to grow up- except for one. This book is not only one of the most influential and greatly praised books of all time, but it also has a story-line and characters that will captivate you till the bitter end.

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland- Lewis Carol- Another timeless classic. Nothing more to say.

The Mediator 1: Shadowland—Meg Cabot- Suze is someone who sees dead people, literally. And as a mediator, it is her job to help the dead resolve their unfinished business. It's the first book in a series I would recommend.

Angus, Thongs and Full-Frontal Snogging- Louise Rennison- This hilarious book follows the life of Britain-er Georgia Nicolson through her diary. A fun and quick read.

This Lullaby- Sarah Dessen- Sarah Dessen is one of my favorite authors and this was the book that introduced me to her. It's the story of Remy, a tomboy girl, and the boy that falls for her.

Megan Meade's Guide to the McGowan Boys- Kate Brian- Your parents are moving to South Korea. You can either go with them or live with your parent's friends, who have 7 boys. Megan chooses the boys. A story about trying to fit in and falling for one of them in the process...

MUSIC:

Fall Out Boy: Evening Out With Your Girlfriend -Before they were "going down swinging", and before they were singing "thanks for the memories", FOB was rocking it out in this original, raw, first album. Its 60% rock, 20%punk, 20% pop, and 100% pure, raw, unfiltered angst you can really rock along with.

Counting Crows: August and Everything After-This great instrumental and vocal band has been writing great music for 15 years, and it all started with this great album. Often considered one of the most

influential albums of the 90's, August and Everything After combines melodic guitar parts and thick background music with the smooth and unique voice and lyrical genius of Adam Duritz.

Kanye West - Graduation -If you like hip-hop and rap, you will enjoy this newly released album. It is one of the biggest albums of the year, and a big step for Kanye. He shows his creativity by using other instruments not so commonly used in the rap genre, and lyrically in this album as well.

Maroon 5- It Won't Be Soon Before Long- With their newest CD release Maroon 5 hit jackpot. A mix of rock, alternative, and some pop it's a great CD with some amazing songs. It's a bit different than their older CD, *Songs About Jane*, but it keeps the uniquely Maroon 5 aspect that drew you in in the first place.

MOVIES: (Some of these movies are RATED R- suggested for teens 17 and up.)

Little Miss Sunshine (R) -A hilarious, witty comedy about families and their crazy lives.

Blood Diamond (R)- Blood Diamond takes place in Sierra Leone, Africa during a civil war. Solomon Vandy, an African fisherman is taken from his family and forced to work for the rebels in river searching for diamonds. When he discovers a rare pink diamond, he hides it in the forest. Danny Archer is a mercenary smuggler who wants to find the diamond, but he'll only get it if he helps Solomon find his family. Maddy Bowen, an American journalist, gets involved as well. Everyone has different goals, but they all must work together to get what they want. Blood Diamond stars Leonardo DiCaprio and was nominated for 5 Oscars in 2007.

The Bourne Ultimatum (PG-13) -Matt Damon stars this final movie of the Bourne trilogy as Jason Bourne, ex-assassin. Bourne continues to search for his identity, and what happened to his life. His agency has tried to kill him, and he is a fugitive trying to get back at them for what they have done to him and his girlfriend. I recommend that you see the first two Bourne movies before you see the third, if you haven't already.

Forrest Gump (PG-13) -This classic comedy is one of my favorite movies. Not only is funny, but it is well made too. Tom Hanks stars as a man with problems, but a great and crazy life. He is amazing in many ways, lucky, and involved in some of the greatest events from the 1950s to the 1970s. He exceeds in everything people think he can't do, but the whole time he only thinks of Jenny, his best friend and one love. If you haven't seen this classic, I highly recommend it. And even if you have, watch it again!

Minority Report (PG13)- In the year 2054 a cop works for an elite force using the invention of "precrime," the ability to detect crime before it happens. But when John Anderson is accused of a future crime he must find out how it was brought about and prevent it from happening.

Babel (R) The everyday lives of 4 groups of people are tied together by a single event which proves to show that we truly aren't all that different from each other.

Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines (R) -This thrilling movie is the best of the series! John Connor must now fight a new terminator, the T-X, while the T-800 comes to protect him.

Keeping the Faith (PG13)- Brian, a priest, and Jake, a rabbi, both fall in love with their fun childhood buddy, Anna; a fun, romantic comedy directed by Edward Norton that's sure to make you laugh.