

Snow Willow Nominees 2010

After

by Hazel Hutchins

Smith, Bonappétit & Son, © 2008

ISBN 9781897118429 (pbk)

When their families are plunged into intense grief by a fatal shooting, two young teens from very different backgrounds struggle to rebuild their lives. Their realities are separate, but the link between them is real, and moving on requires a unique act of personal courage.

Review: <http://www.umanitoba.ca/cm/vol15/no13/afteranovel.html>

The Bite of the Mango

by Mariatu Kamara with Susan McClelland

Annick Press, © 2008

ISBN 9781554511587 (pbk)

In war-torn Sierra Leone, twelve-year-old Mariatu finds herself the victim of extreme brutality in a civil war. This is the true story of her attack by child soldiers, and her heart wrenching struggle – not only to survive but to escape to Freetown, and eventually to Canada.

Review: <http://www.umanitoba.ca/cm/vol15/no5/thebiteofthemango.html>

The Hunchback Assignments

by Arthur Slade

HarperCollins, © 2009

ISBN 9781554683543 (hc)

Mr. Socrates is a member of the shadowy Permanent Association in Victorian London. When he hears of a hunchback infant with the ability to transform his appearance, he decides to take him in. Naming him Modo, he raises the boy in isolation, and trains him to become a secret agent.

Review: http://www.quillandquire.com/books_young/review.cfm?review_id=6616

Laughing Wolf

by Nicholas Maes

Dundurn Press, © 2009

ISBN 9781554883851 (pbk)

In the year 2213, when technology has defeated war, crime, poverty and famine, humanity is poised on the brink of eradication due to a mysterious plague. Fifteen-year-old Felix time-travels back to Roman times and must navigate through challenges and dangers to find the cure.

Review: http://www.quillandquire.com/books_young/review.cfm?review_id=6544

Libertad

by Alma Fullerton

Fitzhenry & Whiteside, © 2008

ISBN 9781554551064 (pbk)

When Libertad's mother is killed while working in the Guatemala City dump, Libertad decides to take his seven-year-old brother Julio on a journey to America to find their father. An account based on the travels of many migrant children of Central America. Written in free verse.

Review: <http://www.umanitoba.ca/cm/vol15/no2/libertad.html>

Lunch with Lenin and Other Stories

by Deborah Ellis

Fitzhenry & Whiteside, © 2008

ISBN 9781554551057 (pbk)

This collection of short stories is a powerful glimpse into the lives of children who have been affected directly, or indirectly, by drugs. Set against many diverse backdrops, including Moscow, Afghanistan and the remote north, these stories illustrate the toll drugs take on the lives of teenagers and their families.

Review: http://www.quillandquire.com/books_young/review.cfm?review_id=6286

Not Suitable for Family Viewing

by Vicki Grant

HarperTrophyCanada, © 2009

ISBN 9781554681808 (pbk)

Robin's mother is an internationally acclaimed talk show host, and Robin is obsessed with watching endless reruns of her show. When she finds an old high-school ring she travels to Nova Scotia, where she discovers love, the truth of her own background – and a shocking secret.

Review: <http://umanitoba.ca/cm/vol16/no4/notsuitableforfamilyviewing.html>

The Prince of Neither Here Nor There

by Seán Cullen

Puffin Canada, © 2009

ISBN 9780143171201 (pbk)

Brendan is caught in a struggle between two worlds. He faces strange and unknown dangers, discovers amazing powers, and meets friends and family he never knew existed. Will Brendan be forced to turn his back on his human parents and embrace his Faerie roots? Can he live in two worlds at once?

Review: http://www.quillandquire.com/books_young/review.cfm?review_id=6678

They Called Me Red

by Christina Kilbourne

Lobster Press, © 2008

ISBN 9781897073889 (pbk)

Devon's life changes when Dad's new girlfriend, Lily, walks into their life. When his father falls mysteriously ill, Lily convinces them to travel to her native Vietnam in search of a cure. Devon awakes one morning locked in a basement, and discovers that Lily has sold him into slavery in Cambodia.

Review: <http://www.umanitoba.ca/cm/vol14/no22/theycalledmered.html>

Word Nerd

by Susin Nielsen

Tundra Books, © 2008

ISBN 9780887769900 (pbk)

Ambrose is the target of every mean kid in school. He doesn't fit in, no matter where he moves. After a near fatal incident, his mother decides to home school. Lonely and bored, Ambrose befriends Cosmo, the son of his Greek landlords, who has a dark and mysterious past.

Review: http://www.quillandquire.com/reviews/review.cfm?review_id=6278