

Book of the Month Blog 23-24

Hey hey ratty bae!! How's it going? This is my book of the month blog for language arts! We do blogs every month on the book we chose to read that month. Many of us do not like it but if we don't Mrs. Grenawalt will BOMBASTIC side eye us. This will be where my blogs for each awesome book show up! Hope you enjoy!!
Toodles friends!!

May

My Post

[The Black Kids](#)

Other things I read this month:

April

My Post

Written Pitch DRAFT



WARNING: TAXES!!! LANGUAGE!

People We Meet On Vacation by Emily Henry illustrates the theme, people may grow apart but ultimately in the end they find their way back to each other. In ***People We Meet On Vacation***, Poppy, a woman dealing with the weight of her job and her lost friendship, wanted to heal the broken friendship with her long time best friend, Alex, but she hasn't seen him in two years and the feelings between them are mixed. So, she decides to plan a trip and try to fix their friendship. I would rate this book an 8/10 because it was interesting but a slow read and at some points was fairly cringy. Other than that it was a really great plot and a great journey to follow along with as Alex and Poppy try to fix their broken friendship. The people who would enjoy this story would

be people interested in realistic fiction or romance novels. This book would interest people who are okay with longer and slower paced books.

- Love + Rekindling + Acceptance + Realization = ***People We Meet On Vacation***
- One word pitch-revive-This relates to the story because Alex and Poppy got in a huge fight and have to figure out how to revive their friendship.
- Subject line pitch-Two friends lose the spark in their friendship and have to figure out a way to fix it.

Ava
Kavinsky

Kaila
Fielden

Amazing job! From this blog, I learned that Poppy is dealing with other activities while trying to balance saving a broken friendship with Alex. I also noticed that there are mixed emotions between them, which I would predict as possibly getting into other arguments along the journey of fixing their relationship and some other moments showing that they could be getting closer. One thing I'm curious about is what happens to break up the close friendship between Poppy and Alex, such as the friends just started separating away along time or a big event causing it to split up. If it was explained in the book, I would be interested to know. I would read this book because I enjoy romance novels resolving friendships, and the journey to get the relationship back in store, I love that this blog is shorter which makes it easier to read but gives a lot of information without spoiling the whole book, I am very intrigued and am interested in reading this. Because you liked this book, I would recommend 'If He Had Been With Me' by Laura Nowlin. This book traces a similar style with 2 friends, Autumn and Finn who used to be inseparable, drifted apart. The book shows their journey of how they resolve their friendship which is similar to this book I assume.

Other things I read this month:

March



This month I read *Top Story* by Kelly Yang which focuses on the main character, Mia a young 13 year old girl, wanted acceptance at the newspaper she's writing for but, the heads of the paper are biased and racist so she decided to work harder and make her own newspaper that succeeded more than the one she writes for. Kelly Yang's novel, ***Top Story***, describes the theme, people often aren't accepting of others.

The first way people often aren't accepting of others in this book is when Mr. Walters chose someone else's essay over Mia's. Mia is a middle school student writing for a big newspaper and she pitches an article to the heads of the newspaper. They (The heads of the newspaper-Mr. Walters and Mr. Miles) feel that it's not important that people are showing racial hate through drawings on building walls. "Mr. Walters looked at his boss. "What do you think?" "Feels very ... local to me," Mr. Miles said..."(Yang 73). Mr. Walters and Mr. Miles feel that Mia's article isn't interesting enough and no one would want to read it. They also understand that the other kid has more money and pays them more. The teachers were choosing the rich student over Mia because they wanted the money, not the good article. People often aren't accepting of others as explained where the heads of the newspaper decided that an article wasn't good based on the person who wrote it and how much money they have.

Another way that people often aren't accepting of others in this book is when someone painted over little kids writing with Asian hate drawings. Mia and her new friend Emma started a writing class for all of the little kids in Chinatown. The kids wrote papers on many different things including living environments, the support system through every person in Chinatown, and many other interesting topics. Mia and Emma thought they should hang the papers to show off the childrens hard work. However, someone ended up painting over the papers with hurtful words and drawings. "Someone had spray-painted the words *Yo mama!* over and over, in gigantic silver letters, right on top of our students' wonderful stories. They'd added rude smiley faces with straight lines for eyes and buck teeth" (Yang 258). Someone painted over the children's stories with disrespectful drawings and words. They also added a drawing displaying how they see an asian person. This can affect the childrens' confidence going forward and can affect their fear of doing anything from now on making them feel like no one appreciates their work.

The last way that people often aren't accepting of others in this book is when Mr. Walters didn't find anything wrong with racial hate drawings. Mia decided to write an article on what had

happened to the stories. She showed the article to Mr. Walters and he found nothing wrong with the drawings and comments when they were clearly hurtful and making the kids feel like their writing wasn't special. "Racism?" Mr. Walters looked shocked. "There's nothing derogatory here. It just says yo mama" (Yang 259). Mr. Walter questions the drawings and finds them non problematic. Mr. Walters, a white man, finds no problem with this terrible showcase of hate towards little kids. He clearly is fine with people acting terrible towards little kids which shows that he is careless and has no sense in how bad this is.

To conclude, in Kelly Yang's novel, *Top Story*, people often aren't accepting of one another and don't show empathy for each other.

Works Cited

Top Story by Kelly Yang pages 73, 258, and 259

Gigi

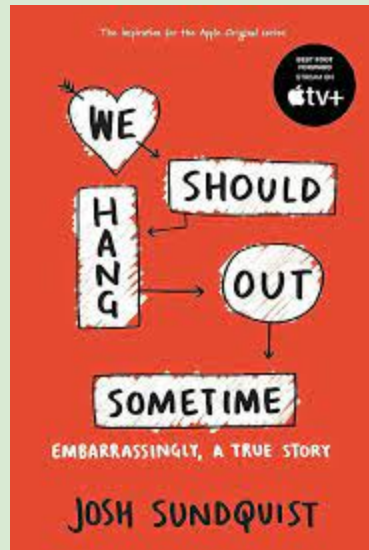
I thought this blog was great! One thing I thought was interesting was how Mr. Walters responded to the hateful drawings. Like hello?????? These things need to be taken more seriously and obviously he doesn't see that. One question I had was how did Mia feel after all of this hate towards her and her friends happened? Was she upset? Sad? Angry? Or all of the above. I can relate to Mia wanting to be a writer because I have always wanted to write books when I get older. And Mia persists to make that happen for her and her friends. If you liked this book and how Mia is a writer, I suggest watching *Gilmore girls* because Rory Gilmore works so hard to be a writer and it's interesting to watch. Also the show includes lots of drama and hotties.

Elsa F
comment

Great blog!! One thing I thought was interesting was that Mr. Walters chose one article over Mias just because of money. I wanted to know if he was ever confronted by someone's parents or like anyone because that type of behavior isn't okay and also if those hateful drawings were ever delt with. I would read this book because I like realistic fiction (if that's what this is catogorized as) and it seems like a really interesting story! If you enjoy graphic novels I would suggest the book "Measuring up" by Lily Lamotte, it deals with similar issues and I found it a really fun read!!

Other things I read this month:

December



This month I read ***We Should Hang Out Sometime*** by Josh Sundquist. I would rate this book a 5/10 because it was slow paced and some parts were boring but the ending was very sweet. I'd recommend this book for people who enjoy realistic romance with a lot of relatable moments. Josh Sundquist wanted to find out why his past relationships never worked out. But, he quickly realized it wasn't anyone's fault but his. He was insecure about his amputated leg. So, he decided to quit trying with any sort of love and he let love come to him. Love indeed did come to him, some relationships failed and he realized he had to deal with it.

One thing I got out of this book is, don't try too hard to find love. Let it come to you. Another thing I got out of this book is, accept who you are even if you feel that you're not accepted, in the end no one is worrying about what you look like. The last thing I got out of this book is, sometimes things don't work out, you can't make everything perfect and you have to get over it, there will be other chances.

I think this is important because Josh is insecure about his amputated leg and is too scared to commit to a relationship. Being insecure can cause sadness and never wanting to commit to something. Learning to not be afraid to put yourself out there can be helpful in the world because it can lead to you never exploring or learning different things.

Emelia D.

Good job Maryn! Something I thought was interesting was how Josh tried to own up to his past mistakes but unfortunately failed and decided that love is not something that should be forced. One thing I would like to know more about is Josh's amputated leg and why he felt insecure about it. I connected to the author because I know how it feels to be insecure and I think this book was a great way to show that good people will love you no matter what. This is not a book I would like to read because I dislike slow paced books and specifically despise non-fiction but this blog made the book seem interesting and fun. Great work!

Zeke
Chase

I thought it was interesting how Josh thought during all his relationships it was his fault that they broke up with him because of his leg, but later on after all of that he realized it wasn't that. I think it's funny how it's about him being insecure about things that aren't negatively affecting him, because I totally relate to that. I don't think I would want to read this book just because according to this blog it gets boring, and my brain hates being bored, and also I don't enjoy romance themed books. All in all, I learned that this is a book with boring parts, a sweet ending, and a guy that's insecure and decided to talk to his exes about why they broke up with him.

Other things I read this month:

November

My Post

Book: *We'll Always Have Summer*

Character I am focusing on is: Belly

!WARNING! THERE ARE REFERENCES OF TAXES AND INAPPROPRIATE USE OF LANGUAGE!



This month I read *We'll Always Have Summer* by Jenny Han. Belly, an average drama obsessed teenager, wanted two boys-brothers, but could only have one, so she chose Conrad. *We'll Always Have Summer* by Jenny Han illustrates the theme, being decisive often leads to finding true love.

When Belly chose Jeremiah it shows being decisive often leads to finding true love. Belly and Jeremiah are about to get married when Jeremiah, with concern, questions Belly's love for him and knows that she still loves Conrad. She claims she wants to get married to Jeremiah though. "I think-I think I'll always love him [Conrad] a little bit. I'll always have him in my heart. But he's not the one I choose. I choose you, Jeremiah." (Han 284) Belly is having a conversation with Jeremiah just a little while before their wedding. Jeremiah knows that Belly is still in love with Conrad and she is explaining that she wants Jeremiah. Conrad was her first love and Belly never stopped loving him. Their conversation relates to my theme, being decisive often leads to finding true love because Belly is indecisive with who she loves and she can't decide on who she wants.

When Belly decided to get back together with Conrad it shows being decisive often leads to finding true love. A few years later now, Belly and Conrad are just married and are at their favorite spot, the ocean. They are enjoying the moment and Belly thinks to herself about the things and different loves they've overcome and still end up with each other. "This is our start. This is the moment it becomes real. We are married. We are infinite. Me and Conrad. The first boy I ever slow danced with, ever cried over. Ever loved." (Han 291) Belly thinks back on her relationship with Conrad over the years and realizes he's always been the one for

her. Belly ended up with Conrad after being careless over love. Belly's actions relate to my theme, being decisive often leads to finding true love because she never let go of her love for Conrad and ended up with him, her true love.

I rate this book a 6 out of 10 because of the stupidity of the characters' minds. The characters were so dumb with their choices and it was just too swoony and weird on the romantic side of things. Although it was weird it was also somewhat enjoyable to read and keep along with.

Alex
Hirsch

This is a great blog post with a lot of detail, and really made me understand the characters. I learned that this girl named Belly loved 2 people, but had to choose one over the other, however she couldn't stop loving the one she didn't choose. I wanted to know more about how old the characters were, like if they were in high school or college. I also wanted to know how many years went by before she realized that she liked Conrad more than Jeremiah. I don't think i'd like to read this because I don't like romance books, and since you rated it a 6 out of 10 because of how stupid they were, I wouldn't like that either. Great blog!

Elsa
Fuglei

Amazing blog! I think you did a great job especially with the new weird essay format that was used to write our blogs. I wanted to know more about how in the world Belly went from marrying Jeremiah to marrying Conrad in the span of like 7 pages. I super relate to what you said in your conclusion about hating the characters' decisions because somehow every book I read the main character ends up being really stupid or making the worst decisions ever. I would probably read this book because I like romance but I don't know if I would enjoy it very much because of how swoony you described it. I think you would enjoy the book *If He Had Been With Me* by Laura Nolwin because she uses similar writing techniques as what is shown in your quotes.

Other things I read this month:

October

My Post



"It's Not Summer Without You" by Jenny Han

Unappreciative language is included in this book and minor spoilers are provided in this blog.

This month I read the book ***"It's Not Summer Without You" by Jenny Han***. This book follows Belly, a selfish teenager who wanted her mom's best friend, Susannah back and she wanted family friends, Conrad and Jeremiah, to forgive her. But, Susannah was dead and the brothers, Conrad and Jeremiah,

were still mad at Belly over her stupid actions. So, Belly journeys through her battle of grief and fighting caused by her unforgiving actions and selfishness. I believe the theme in this book is, fighting against things from the past won't do any good for the future.

Question Pitch: Will Belly, Conrad, and Jeremiah set aside their differences and come together in support of each other?

Math Pitch: Romance + Grieving + Drama + Heartbreak + Selfishness= *It's Not Summer Without You* by Jenny Han

Rhyming Pitch: Belly is jelley of Conrad and Nicole while she selfishly forgot the summer house is being sold.

I would give this book a 9/10. This rating was chosen because some parts were boring while others were very intriguing. This book had a mix of humor, sadness, and love which are the kind of books I enjoy. I would for sure read it again and recommend it to anyone seeking a romance-drama novel but it was also not the best book I have ever read. I love this author so much and can't wait to read even more of her books!

Gigi
Slaybaugh

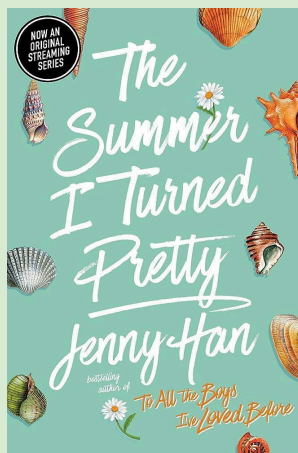
I thought this post was really good! One thing I wanted to know more about is in your rhyming pitch you mentioned that the summer house is being sold, why is it being sold? And I just feel like that might have been something you could have added into your SWBST. I can relate to your theme because sometimes you keep thinking about things that happened in your past and you can't move on to the future. Things like that have happened to me and probably lots of other people. Something that would help me understand better is if you gave an example on how Belly was being selfish. Or an example of her stupid actions. That would help me understand her character more. Something I learned while reading your blog was that this book relates to a lot of teenagers' lives, with the drama, and the romance. I enjoyed your blog a lot and you made me/ anyone who reads this, want to read this book.

Sydney
Moore

Good Job! I thought your post was very thorough and informative. You had an excellent way of explaining how you felt about Belly's actions in your SWBS and I learned your opinion on this book. I thought that your riming pitch line was very interesting and summarized the story well and in a playful way. I have watched the show of this book and I can agree that this book deserves a 9/10 and has a great story and has a good overall theme, fighting against things from the past, won't do any good for the future. This is the type of book I would like to read because it seems to be a realistic fiction about emotions, and that is the exact type of book that I would like to read. If you enjoyed this book, I would recommend *Second Chance Summer*, a realistic fiction about losing a loved one and finding friendship and love when times are tough.

Other things I read this month:

September



"The Summer I Turned Pretty" by Jenny Han

WARNING! This book contains words that many people will not appreciate! And contains minor spoilers!

The Summer I Turned Pretty portrays the theme, letting go of something you love is commonly for the better. Isabel "Belly" Conklin, wanted her first love to be Conrad-who she thinks of as practically her brother. But Conrad only loved her in a brotherly way. There is also Jeremiah, Conrad's brother, who is secretly in love with Isabel. So when an old friend named Cam shows up in town, she starts to lose her love for Conrad. I would rate *The Summer I Turned Pretty* a 10/10 because it has a very intriguing storyline and it is a great romance option. I would recommend this book to anyone looking for a romantic realistic fiction novel. The author wrote this in a beautiful way and it is a very clear book to understand. This book has heart wrenching and funny scenes. The main character is a teenager which is relatable for my age group.

- **Pixar Pitch**- Once upon a time a teenage girl named Belly Conklin started to experience the hardships of being a teenager. Every day, she woke up hoping today would be the day Conrad would fall in love with her. One day she caught him with another girl and was disappointed. Because of that, Belly wanted to make Conrad jealous. Because of that, Belly got a boyfriend to prove her worthiness to Conrad. Until finally she started to appreciate her own fate.
- **Math Pitch**- Romance + Heartbreak + Jealousy + Death = The Summer I Turned Pretty
- **One-Word Pitch**- Teenage

In conclusion, this was a great read and I would definitely choose to read it again. This is a very enjoyable book and I would recommend it to many people.

Comment
Gigi

I thought this post was really good, one thing I wanted to know more about is how it goes with Cam, Jeremiah, and Conrad, like what happens with Belly and all of them? Do they get mad? Angry? I can relate to your rating when you claim it has an intriguing storyline since I have seen the show. I hated how there was only one episode a week. From your post I learned "Letting go of something you love is commonly for the better" (The theme.) I thought your theme made perfect sense and it made me think about times in my life when I had to let go of something I loved. I would definitely read this book since it contains romance and the show was really good so the book must be better.

Comment
Kaila

I really enjoy the way the SWBS was written, and the pixar pitch was very interesting and well explained, and I really enjoyed the words expressed for the book math. I think this would help a

reader understand the book better by the mix chosen of words that fit with the story. Reading this, I learned that Belly is facing problems, and is tired of waiting in the friendzone so she finally decides to take the next step, as explained. However, I would like to know more about the plot and how all of the characters mentioned make a special connection in this book. Are there specific events that happen to really make the story go together? And something that could help me understand better is when Belly was experiencing the hardships of a teenager, could there be some examples of that to help a reader know what Belly is going through? And if there are any more perspectives during the story, maybe considering different points of views like the perspective of Cam or Conrad, it can always be inferred, based on their character traits shown. I would personally enjoy this book because I'm interested in realistic fiction and romance, with slight suffering, as I have read books by this author too. Because you enjoyed this book, I would recommend moving on to the second one which is *It's Not Summer Without You* by Jenny Han, again, amazing job.

Other things I read this month:

Blank Table

My Post

Partner 1

Partner 2

Other things I read this month: