July summer recs podcast

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Katie 00:15
All right. Hi, everybody. Welcome to the CMPL Podcast. Today we are talking about summer books. So we have a few of our children's and teen librarians on with us today. My name is Katie and I am a school outreach librarian here at the Clinton Macomb Public Library. Um, do you guys want to go ahead and introduce yourselves?

Cheyenne 00:39
Sure. I guess I'll start. I'm Cheyenne. I'm the teen school outreach librarian.

Taryn 00:47
I'm Taryn. I'm one of the children's librarians here.

Julie 00:51
I'm Julie and I'm also a school outreach librarian here at the library as well.

Catherine 00:56
And I am Catherine and I am a children's librarian at Main Library.

Katie 01:01
Yeah, so we are excited to talk to you about summer books. I know we all went around the last couple of weeks looking for our favorites to talk about. Does anybody want to kick us off? I guess I can start. The first one that I have on my list is Mexican Kid. Has everybody read this? I feel like everybody. Okay.

Taryn 01:22
It's amazing.

Katie 01:24
It's one of my favorites that I've read in the last year. I'm not normally a graphic novel person. But I absolutely loved this. I read it in one sitting. And it is about the author's true-life story of when he was a kid. Him and his gigantic family. I think he's one of nine siblings.

Catherine 01:44
I think there would have been 11 actually, nine?

Katie 01:46
I think there's like 11 people in the family. Yeah. There's like nine kids, which is just mind boggling to me. To start with. I have four and I feel like that's overwhelming. So nine feels impossible. I don't know how somebody
did that. But, um, him and his whole family, they jump in this old light Winnebago RV and they travel. I think it's like over 2000 miles down from California to Mexico to pick up the grandfather, who lives in Mexico and bring him back to the U.S. And it's a crazy road trip story. Which I mean, I think most of us have been on some sort of road trip where things have gone poorly. So, it's relatable in that sense. It's relatable in the sense that the kids are normal kids doing normal kid things like arguing with each other and getting into trouble and doing ridiculous stuff. I absolutely laughed out loud when I was reading it. There's a scene where they're in Mexico, and there's like a snot nosed kid who walks in and he's eating Pop Rocks and there's like a snot rocket running down his face and the Pop Rocks are getting stuck in the snot and going off. And it's just like, it's so gross and so funny, but like I the kid appeal is there. I thoroughly enjoyed it as an adult. I'm recommending it to everybody. There's also a really good book trailer on it. If you go on YouTube, and you search for Mexican Kid on YouTube, it'll pop up there too. And it's really well done by um, yeah, I just loved it.

Catherine 01:50
There were so many. I think that's a good book too, because it has a wide like, younger kids would like it, but even teens would like it. It's fantastic.

Julie 03:36
Yeah, definite range on some of the words are funny in there too, like Winnebago and like the kids you know, like, what? They understand what it is once you tell them but they don't know the word Winnebago so like, it's kind of funny.

Cheyenne 03:49
I think it's pretty relatable, too, with like, the road trip aspect. That was my main question I would ask when I would look talk. This is like, how many of you have been on a road trip and you've been really annoyed with your siblings, and you know, cranky and everyone always loves to be like me?

Katie 04:04
Absolutely. Or like even just brings me back to like, COVID times when we were all stocked it with our families more than we wanted to be, like, love my family. But that was awful. I don't want to be stuck with them for that long. And this guy is stuck with his 11...you know, 11-member family for weeks on end. Like it sounds just absolutely horrible.

Taryn 04:25
I think one of the things I liked the most about the book was when they did the grandfather's backstory. And it was like in that comic stuff. I mean, the whole books graphic novel, but it was in more comic ish style. And it was really cool to see that juxtaposition between the two.

Katie 04:40
That's true. It made it more dramatic. Like I could hear like sound effects in my head like it was.

Taryn 04:46
That's yeah, that's exactly what it felt like it was a movie.
Katie 04:48
Yeah. That's so good. So highly recommend to anybody who likes graphic novels, or who just likes funny family stories, because honestly, that's what appealed the most to me. So, who wants to go next?

05:02
Well, I can go next. So fair warning, I'm kind of losing my voice a little so sorry to everyone listening to this sound. Thank you. So, the first one I'll talk about. It's called Divine Rivals, by Rebecca Ross. So, this is one right now that's more of her like, a teen subset. So, I'd say like probably high schoolers. This is super popular on like BookTok right now. So that's my, my thing is I like to like follow book talk. And I like to read them. And I know the high schoolers really liked to read them. So, this is definitely I would say, probably falling in the romantasy genre. So, you know, that's also super popular right now all the Sarah J Masse, all the you know, Shadow and Bone, things like that. So, this has been reviewed as like pretty similar to like a Shadow and Bone slash like a Lore crossover. So, in the story, there are two rival journalists. And they have a magical connection. They have to go and like face the depths of hell, quote, unquote. There's a war among the gods. There's all the kinds of things that we love in a fantasy. So, they're about 18 years old. They each come from pretty different worlds. And there's just kind of like a fated love story. So divine rivals. I haven't gotten to read it yet. I definitely want to it's on my list for this summer. And like I said, I keep being recommended it by like BookTalk. And other teens have told me they've read it and loved it. So...

Catherine 06:31
who's the author?

Cheyenne 06:33
This is Rebecca Ross.

Catherine 06:34
Okay.

Katie 06:36
Has she read anything else yet?

Cheyenne 06:40
Okay. So, it's got to be on the list.

Julie 06:43
In romance? They do. Yes. That is popular.

Cheyenne 06:46
Oh, yeah.
I was gonna say I've read a lot of the other ones that you mentioned that it's likes. Yeah.

**Cheyenne** 06:52
Right. And it looks like I mean, she's written a lot of other things, too, but they haven't caught as much like popularity yet as this one. So

**Katie** 06:59
That's fair. Well, BookTok will do that to you. Once they get a hold of something like done. Yeah, definitely. So, this is like, older YA, you think like high school?

07:15
This is like older YA, I would say probably like juniors/seniors. They're 18 in the book. So not that, you know, younger readers. couldn't relate to it. But I would say probably like, yeah, junior senior level, or romance?

**Cheyenne** 07:15
Or it's all an adult. Adults like teen books too.

**Julie** 07:25
Yeah.

**Taryn** 07:26
Yeah, that's, that's what, that's one I keep getting recommended to that. I'm like, I get other things I need to read. But it's there.

**Julie** 07:40
It's there. It's on the list. List.

**Taryn** 07:44
We don't talk about how long the list is, but it's on the list, right.

**Julie** 07:49
I can bump around. Oh, go ahead, Catherine. Go ahead.

07:52
Are you sure?

**Julie** 07:53
Yeah.

**Catherine** 07:54
I can jump in with a book that'll bump the age back down. It's actually that rather it's a series that I just started reading the I looked at it, I'd pick it up a few times. And then I saw the...the it's a five book series, and the last
one just came out recently, so I thought, Oh, I think I'll give it a try. It's called the series is called the Sinister Summer Series by Kiersten White. The first book is the Wretched Waterpark. The next one is the Vampiric Vacation, Camp Creepy, Menacing Manner and Haunted Holiday just came out. So, you can tell by the titles, these are all a little bit creepy and a little bit summer vacation. So, it's got that little bit of mystery, a little bit of golf going on, but in a very gentle way. So, if you have an elementary or even middle school, but probably more elementary aged kid who likes a little bit of a thrill, but doesn't want to go too far down the scary. This is perfect. It's been compared to Series of Unfortunate Events, or even like Scooby Doo, because it's got that kind of solve a mystery. And it's three kids 12-year-old twins and their 16-year-old sister, who are dropped off for a summer vacation with an aunt that they don't know anything about. They're from a family called the sinister Winterbottom family. And they don't know where their parents are or why they're with this aunt but they're at this waterpark in the first book. And there's almost no one else there. And everybody who's at the waterpark working is like kind of this golf looking type of person. There's this sense of somebody's gotten missing and they have to figure it all out. So, there's this kind of light scares, lots of summer fun. And if you get through the first book, I think the next one, they go to the Transylvanian mountains for a spa that turns out to be a vampire hotel. They go to a camp in the third one where everybody is super normal and happy Being nice and that in and of itself turns out to be kind of creepy, because it's like everybody's super Placid. That sounds terrifying. And the third one is rather, the fourth one is at a science camp that has a bit of a Frankenstein element going on. And then the last one is at an amusement park. So, each one brings in classic summer vacation places with a bit of mystery and a little bit of humor, but there's always this eye light, touch of kind of little bit of scary a little bit of thrill but not super stay up all night. Kind of scary. So, it's for that, just getting into scary books where you like a mystery with a little bit of a golf element. And then there's also an overarching theme of kind of learning to be yourself learning to be okay with being different, all the good things that you see in a lot of middle grade books. So, I just started the first one, but it's, it's just a light fun read. And I think that that'd be popular with kids that like that sort of thing.

Julie 11:01
They definitely like the scary that's, I mean, on our school visits, that's what they asked for the most so spooky.

Catherine 11:08
Well, they want full on like, stay up at night. This is probably not it. But if they want to just sort of see what it's like,

Julie 11:15
That's good for the kids that think they want something scary, but are quite sure that they can handle that, you know, so setting to recommend.

11:23
It's a five-book series, so it's not endless, but there is kind of a bigger story. So, if you finish one and like it, you can kind of see the bigger mystery that's being unraveled through the five books.

Katie 11:33
So how long are these? Are these like...
Catherine 11:37
Like 200 pages? So yeah, pretty typical. And yeah, this is just to kind of fun light summer read.

Katie 11:46
That sounds perfect with just a little bit of creep factor just a little bit.

Catherine 11:51
Kind of like Scooby-Doo-ish.

Julie 11:54
Well from how about from spooky to history. So, I've got the...the Timekeepers series which are fairly new there on the third book that just came out this past February, which is the Timekeepers the Eiffel Tower Emergency, but the two before that, the Ancient Olympics and the First Flight as well follow like some stories on history themed adventure. So, we kind of meet this little secret organization group that get to be the Timekeepers and they have to keep history on track. So, there's a there's the villain of course in the story and his name is de les and de les likes to make trouble and so as soon as the Timekeepers little watch starts spinning they know that delay is up to no good and that they have to get out in history and try and save. So, in the...the Eiffel Tower emergency specifically, we go back to the...the World's Fair, what year was that again 8889 To be able to stop delay from stealing the blueprints for the building so they can't...can't build the building without the blueprints. So, and then even in the first book, The First Flight we traveled back to when the Wright brothers were building the airplanes and getting our first planes up in the sky and delay tries to, to Fort their, their building of that plane as well. So, a really fun theories adventure based, but still has history to it, and even pulls out some of the nonfiction in the back end of the book. So, it'll give you some of the actual true facts to the story and timelines. As well as maybe like there's even a couple of quizzes if you like to do that after you read a story and even a glossary because some of those books, some of the words and some of the terms in the books are things that maybe some kids haven't learned yet, but really great for early elementary readers, and also bringing in some of that historic adventure into it back into the story. So great series.

Catherine 14:14
Is it about the level of the I Survived or is it a little bit more?

Julie 14:18
Yeah, maybe a little lower?

Catherine 14:21
It seems like it'd have the same audience.

Julie 14:23
Yeah, yeah, that's true, right?

Katie 14:24
Or like magic Treehouse, or...

Cheyenne  14:26
like to say that kind of start like reminds me of the magic Treehouse always popular.

Julie  14:32
And then have some old graphics inside the box made small graphics but they're you know, cute. And the pictures kind of help tell the story as you move along too so

Katie  14:40
what would you say Julie, is it would you say like second or third grade or?

Julie  14:47
Yeah, yeah, I would probably go on like second and under like even if you have like higher first grade level readers, but I would probably say right around second grade. Yeah.

Taryn  14:58
Okay, so I I have a graphic novel, it's middle grade graphic novel.

15:03
I'm shocked. Taryn, I can't believe this.

Taryn  15:07
I know, that's just my thing. I've always have a graphic novel. I know, it's so unusual for me. It's from a new series called Absolute Zeros. And it's called Camp Launchpad, and is about these kids who go to a space camp during the summer. And they have to train to basically train like astronauts and have to work together. And it follows these three kids, one of whom doesn't want to be at this space camp, he's very upset that he asked you to the Space Camp and not the fancy Space Camp. One, the main girl is super excited. She is golden retriever energy, just so happy all the time, ready to go. And then there's the kid who's on scholarship, but doesn't want anybody to know. So, he's like, I can't mess this up. I'm here. And so, the girl kind of gets into an accident at a museum. And then over, here's the person who is runs the camp, basically saying that they're going to have to close at the end of the summer, because they have no money. And so, then they decided to join this competition, which this camp has basically only won once, and that was 20 years ago. And so, they have to compete in this competition. But these three kids cannot get along to save their lives and work together. So, they have to learn. And even though they're not siblings, that's kind of what it's like. It's like trying to get along with your siblings, so you can work toward something and they just can't do it. And so, then they come together, and they do it. And it's great. And I love it. The graphics are absolutely amazing. And who doesn't like to learn about space?

Cheyenne  16:46
Is this for what...what age group would you say? I'd
Taryn 16:49
probably say, just six through six and up.

16:53
Curious, have you read? invisible?

Taryn 16:56
Yes,

Cheyenne 16:57
that kind of reminds me of invisible.

Taryn 16:59
Yeah.

Cheyenne 17:00
I love that. It's like that trope for like, they just don't get along at all. And they're super sassy. But then they like do something great.

Taryn 17:07
The only difference is...

17:11
The real question. So, I have beef with Invisible and just going to put it out there. Oh, I don't like I don't like the ending of Invisible. It was like so perfectly wrapped up in a little bow and like, get out of here. I'm not here for that.

Cheyenne 17:28
I agree. It wrapped up a little too nicely. But like I just liked their snark like the whole time.

Taryn 17:34
I feel like this, this won't usually I'm one of those people where I'm like, if it wraps up too nicely, absolutely hate it. It seems more realistic on how they start little by little getting along and working together. I mean, and then they'll have like, backslides have. I told you. So why did you do that and then work together. And then it does kind of come together easily at the competition. But at the same time, they're still like, this person didn't show up for me, or you still didn't do this. So, like, there's still that realistic aspect of...

Katie 18:07
To be fair, I don't have a problem if there's a nice ending, invisible wishes, like real world problems, and then all of a sudden, like, everything's fine. And I was like, but wait a second. No, it's that.

Taryn 18:22
I mean, the only thing that kind of keeps wrap wraps up nicely or like, so they still save the camp in some way. But the way that they save it doesn't seem unrealistic. Okay, fair enough. Fair and I could be wrong. You could feel differently. That's allowed.

Katie 18:40
That's allowed. That's true. Right. Okay. All right. Well, I also have a summer camp book. Did we all pick summer campy books?

Catherine 18:49
I had one.

Katie 18:53
All right. So, my tech sort of summer camp is pretty summer camp free. So, my next one is Firefly Summer by Morgan Matson. And I think a bunch of us read this as well. It's been a few months since I've read it so it's not super fresh, but I was trying to like, pull out like, what I liked about it, because I really did like it. Um, it is a little bit longer. So, I will say that like it's definitely a middle grade reader, but it's on the longer end. And the main character is 11. So, I think, you know, I don't know what you guys can type or chime in to like what grade level would you say I'd say like fifth

Catherine 19:36
Upper Elementary

Katie 19:37
You think fourth and up, yeah, probably like yeah, sixth graders would probably still if there are. Yeah, 4-6 is probably where I'd go. I'm but she's 11 she's never met her mom because her mom died tragically when she was very young, like two or three. She has spent all of her summers with her dad and like his Your wife, um, she gets a mysterious message from her mom's parents. So, her grandparents that she does not have a relationship with. And her dad does not have a relationship with them. And they invite her to come out to this like summer camp to spend the summer with them. And it's like out in, you know, woodsy, Pennsylvania. Um, so there's a little bit of like, she's not sure if she should go, she doesn't really know these people. And she goes, it's amazing. They don't land there on is used to be a summer camp. But now it's full of like family members. It's like distant cousins and aunts and uncles, and all this family that she's never met. And she's got all this freedom. And she's going from being an only child to be surrounded by all of these family members. There is a little bit of a mystery going on. There is of course, like a bad guy. There's a land developer who's trying to buy out the land and, you know, which would ruin the camp and her grandparents land forever. And so, she's, there's a mystery. There's a treasure map that she's trying to follow clues left by her mother to save the camp. Um, I don't know. I just thought it was so feel goodie. Like, so much of what I read in the last year has been like kind of a downer. To be honest. And like, that's fine. I like a downer. I like a cry book every once in a while, but this was just like, it was just so nice. I just loved it. Well, yeah.

Cheyenne 21:39
It was a happy ending.
Katie 21:43
I mean, no spoilers, but...

Cheyenne 21:47
I mean, like, okay, believable.

Katie 21:49
Wow, maybe not. I don't know. I mean, I, the whole premise is slightly unbelievable. But it's just like, delightful. Delightful and fun. Yeah.

Taryn 22:01
There was only one thing, person I didn't like in this book. But other than that, I love it. Although there was times where I was like, I need to put this book down before I throw it because this character is. We all know somebody like that in real life.

Katie 22:18
But that's true. So that's believable. Yeah. It's realistic. It's realistic fiction.

Catherine 22:25
Yes. Who doesn't like a book with a treasure map? Absolutely. Right. Which, if I recall correctly, wasn't a treasure map that her mom did when she was a kiss.

Taryn 22:34
Yes, it was.

Catherine 22:36
I read it a long time ago, too. So

Taryn 22:38
yeah, for some reason, I remember it.

Katie 22:39
It's a good combo of like, there's a little bit of mystery. I think there's a good bit of humor in it. Like it's, it's humorous. It's like wholesome family kind of vibes. Like I just, I don't know, it's...it's just delightful.

Catherine 22:56
I have another camp book if you want to stay on the camp theme. By you don't know how wholesome...I mean, it's wholesome. It's not, it's not an like newly discovered family. Its newly discovered vampires. But this is a book that isn't out yet. It is coming out in about a month. It's called Summer Vamp. It's a graphic novel by Violet Chen Kareem. So, I haven't read it because it's not actually out yet. But it is a it's a classic graphic novel in many ways. It's a middle school kid who's having a hard time and has trouble like this hasn't found the right friends that
support her as you know who she what she's interested in everything. The only thing she really loves is cooking. And she wants to go to culinary camp, so that she can learn more about cooking, but somewhere along the line a mistake is made. And she has sent instead to a different camp, where she discovers that all of the other inhabitants are vampires. And over the course, so obviously, this is very realistic. Over the course of the summer, you know, he realizes that vampires are people to that needs to find friends who accept her for who she is. So clearly, it is just about a lot of classic Middle School themes about finding friends who like you for who you are not for trying to make you to be somebody who aren't. But also, vampires at summer camp. And that's just so ridiculous and silly, but also would fall in that realm of maybe you want to dip your toe in something that might seem a little scary, but it's really not going to be over the top scary because it's just not. This is this is a fun book, where you put aside realist realistic fiction for a while and read about summer camp with vampires who do drink their blood out of juice boxes and they eat regular food.

**Katie 25:03**
I was gonna say, I feel like I need to know the logistics of this because like they're at summer camp, but they can't go out in the sun.

**Catherine 25:10**
That is a good question. I haven't actually read the book that one I do not know the answer.

**Katie 25:15**
I just need to know the logistics.

**Catherine 25:17**
It comes out on May 14. So, I can tell you that much. All right.

**Taryn 25:21**
Maybe when they're the kind of vampires that don't have sunlight issues,

**Cheyenne 25:27**
I was gonna say there seems to be different rules for different people.

**Katie 25:31**
This is news to me all.

**Cheyenne 25:34**
I do really like that, though, that it's kind of like a very positive take on like the vampires as like social outcast. Yeah.

**Catherine 25:41**
Well, you know, we've read that a couple of us read that book this year. What was the title?

**Taryn 25:47**
Don't Wanna Be Your monster.

25:48
Don't Want to be your Monster, which was a different thing, but also kind of had vampires as a little more sympathetic. And, you know, I'm actually genuinely scared pretty easily by any kind of horror books. So maybe that's why I'm attracted to these very light touches. Gentle thrills because one scary is not my it's not my thing.

Julie 26:11
Like the vampires are definitely you know, in and try to, like, like Cheyenne said, in a better light you know, as the vampires I mean, even starting off young with like, Isidora Moon and like, you know, the...

Taryn 26:28
Yes, absolutely. Love that. Love Garlic and the Vampire.

Julie 26:32
And they're not all just, you know, yeah, like sucking blood, I guess.

Taryn 26:36
Unless it's out of juice boxes.

Julie 26:39
Juice boxes. There we go.

Cheyenne 26:40
That's, well, I can bring it back up to kind of like middle school age again. It's not vampire related, but Greek mythology. So, I'm a lot more familiar with and divine rivals because I did this for March reading month bug talks. So, Percy Jackson is on the rise yet again. I'm not talking about Percy Jackson. But this book is actually called the Widely Unknown Myth of Apple and Dorothy by Cory Ann Haydue.

27:08
I picked that book up. It looks so good.

27:10
Yeah, it's, again, I haven't actually gotten to read the whole thing. But it's on the list. It looks really good. And I do know a lot about it just via like, book talking and looking at other reviews. So, it's Greek mythology-esque. So basically, everyone in this story are demigods. So, they're like half god half human. And in this universe, you have to go to Mount Olympus once a year to kind of like pay tribute to the gods so that you can stay being a demigod essentially. So, one of our main characters, their names are Apple and Dorothy. One of their mothers just decides one year that she's kind of like sick of it. She doesn't want to go anymore. So, she just like doesn't, but like the gods are jerks. If you know anything about Greek mythology, so they get really mad. The mom dies like a pretty sad death like shortly after this is very early in the book. So, not really a spoiler. And the...the they decide that that no longer can there be any like demigods, you either have to make a choice to stay on Earth and
become a human. Or you can go and live in the heavens and become a god. So, this is always a really fun discussion with the middle schoolers too, because I'm like, Well, which one would you guys pick? And then most of them always feel like it's so obvious. Like, we're like, we will be a god. But the story kind of begs the question that like, it's, it's obviously a lot more complicated than that.

Julie 28:34
That's it's interesting. Well, I know Percy Jackson scene, my, my sixth grader and her class are all in the Percy Jackson series right now. So, it definitely has had a resurgence. Yeah,

Katie 28:46
yeah. Well, and then the show came out.

Taryn 28:48
Yeah, I think the show had a lot to do with it.

Katie 28:51
And the show is good. If you haven't seen it,

Cheyenne 28:53
I can't remember which district it is, but there's at least one district where they actually have to read it for school.

Catherine 28:59
Yeah, yes. It's coming in for that. Yeah.

Taryn 29:03
I can't keep it on the shelf.

Cheyenne 29:05
Right. So yeah, we'll see maybe this one will get...get up there in popularity like Percy Jackson you never know.

Julie 29:12
Perfect. Well, I'll take us to a I'll take us to a shorter read for my friends out there who maybe want to do some summer reading but don't want the 300-page Firefly Summer, but and also back to some of the history in our in a nonfiction selection. And this is a second book by this author, Dave Eggers and I just really have found myself to really enjoy both of the books her right foot as well as this bridge will not be gray. And how interesting the facts about both of the buildings and the monuments themselves and how they became to be but specifically in the bridge will not be great. We talked about this the San Francisco of the Golden Gate Bridge, and the facts on how the bridge came to be. And it's really interesting to hear that you would think that architecture of how a bridge would look where it would lie What the semantics would be the biggest debate. However, the biggest debate of the bridge life was what color it needed to be when they were done. Because they the architecture, the designers, and they felt that the bridge was like one of a kind, new design with art as well as just being a
piece of road. So, they really wanted to be able to showcase that and so we...we learned about how the Navy and the Army both had opinions on what color they felt the bridge should be because they really felt like their boats were going through the area or the planes are flying above and but how they come to...to make the bridge oranges is a really interesting concept. So, for my friends who are looking for a quick, quicker read, and nonfiction so this is true. It's real life story about the San Francisco, the Golden Gate Bridge. So really fun. And then if you like that one, then if you haven't read it yet, head over to the you know her right foot and find out about our Statue of Liberty and the history of her arrival and the structure of her feet and why they look the way they do is it's...it's they're...they're really great history breeds, but it's entertaining for our younger readers. So good ways to kind of keep that history alive.

**Katie** 31:38  
I love Dave Eggers nonfiction for kids. Like he's one of my favorite. What is the other one that he wrote? It's like the... Oh, yeah,

**Taryn** 31:49  
I can picture it, but I can't picture this

**Catherine** 31:52  
picture brother. Yeah.

**Katie** 31:55  
Oh, Moving the Millers Many More Mind Mansion.

**Taryn** 32:00  
Say that five times fast.

**Katie** 32:02  
I love it though, because they're all picture books. So, they're super accessible, right? Like anybody, a small child could read them with an adult, or all the way up until even a fifth grader fifth or sixth grader could read it and still find it interesting, even though it's a picture book.

**Julie** 32:18  
And being able to understand the history of some of the things around us and, and why I mean, even reading her right foot, I...I did not know, the reason why her foot looked like it was in the air. So, I mean, even as a grown adult, finding out some new information, but really just keeping the history alive for readers.

**Katie** 32:39  
And I think they're pretty funny too. Like he uses a lot of humor. So, it definitely doesn't feel like reading a textbook to learn about history. That's all fun. Yep.

**Julie** 32:49  
Yep. Quick, easy, fun reads. Good wants to check out the summer.
Katie 32:54
Agreed.

Taryn 32:56
Okay, I guess I will finish it up. Now. This book, I am sorry, has to be a late summer read because it does involve school in fall. But I Oh, I'm sorry. But I finished it like two days ago. And I read it in like a day. And it's absolutely amazing. And it's brand new. So, I figured if you can handle hearing about school, it's fine.

Katie 33:19
Maybe somebody is missing school...

Taryn 33:21
Maybe somebody's missing school. And it's it has a lot of fantasy elements, which is not usually my thing. So, I was like I have if it got me got to tell people about it. It's called Sleeping Spells and Dragon Scales, by Wendy S. Swore. It is absolutely amazing. So, these two kids when they're young, they live in a town in the northwest and Oregon. Yeah, Oregon. And they find this trail that has Fairy Doors on it. And the girl is very much into like the mythology behind fairies and the fairy tales and fables. And like don't mess with the fairy stuff. And they'll they'll mess with you back which I also kind of believe but don't mess with those fairies. And so, her dog who's a boxer who is just a big goof, gets lost and runs away and they have to chase him. And then they end up breaking a mirror in a fairy...fairy door. But they never go back to replace it. They never go back to replace it. And so, then they kind of grow apart as they grow up. And now they're in middle school. They're in sixth grade. And the girl is now dealing with type one diabetes. And the boy who is no longer their friends they're their names by cannot Liam and Elena sorry. My brain was so excited about telling you I completely forgot their names. So, Liam, who's a straight A student soccer star, just you know, all around. Great Human doing the doing the thing. Everything starts to have falls that you can't control. His foot starts to go out on him. He starts falling asleep. basically wherever. And so, loneliness, like we made the fairies mad, that's why we're both sick. If we fix it, maybe the illnesses will go away. But everybody just thinks Liam is just being lazy. And so, they don't actually check them out. And so, it just goes through these two trying to fix their mistake. And Liam trying to figure out what's wrong with him. And then I'm not gonna spoil What's wrong with him, because that's the whole point of the book. But I really related to that, because when I was their age, I was going through basically the same thing Liam was, and I was dealing with an invisible illness that I couldn't point my finger at. I couldn't tell doctors, this is what's wrong with me. Thankfully, my parents were not like Leah's parents in the book. And they, they started from didn't figure it out. But I was reading it. And there's some phrases in there that I highlighted and wrote down and I'm like, this is exactly what I was feeling. So, for those kids out there that maybe have an invisible illness that kind of makes life a little bit hard. This is definitely the one for you. Or even if you're not, it's definitely one to show kids, what people who are sick, but you can't see it go through. And it's got all this fairy tale elements of trying to figure out the fairies and how that works. And their teacher makes them all write their own fairy tale. And you get to read those fairy tales that the kids write. So that's pretty cool.

Katie 36:31
Oh, my gosh.
Taryn 36:34
It's called Sleeping Spells and Dragon Scales. Like I said, I know it's not completely summer. That's okay. It was it was way too good to not talk about

Katie 36:45
It doesn't have to be super summery.

Taryn 36:48
Read it when you're getting back so you can get back into school, but at the end of the summer.

Katie 36:53
Yeah, for those kids that are out there missing school all summer. I don't know who you are. But there's at least one of them.

Julie 37:04
Are you related to that? See, sometimes it's really nice when you read a book and you find so much relatability to yourself. That that book really resonated with...with a lot of things that you've gone through. So yeah, that's, that's, that's why we read, right?

Taryn 37:20
Yes.

Julie 37:21
What we have out there.

Taryn 37:22
And it's, it's not preachy about it, which sometimes those books can Yeah, it's very realistic. And that's because the author went through something similar to Liam, and are nice. Elena has type one diabetes, so she has firsthand experience writing it, which is amazing.

Katie 37:43
Cool, very cool. Yeah. All right. Did we hit everybody's books today?

Julie 37:49
I think so. I mean, we probably could find more and more I'm sure.

Katie 37:54
We could talk forever. I guess it would be ridiculous to not mention that summer reading this year will start on June 10. And go through what is it August 13. Yes, yeah, we'll

Julie 38:10
Sign up.

**Katie 38:12**
So yeah, registration will probably I don't know official dates yet, but it'll probably be like very end of May, early June. Um, and then of course, there will be prizes as always so not that you should have to get a prize to read but we do reward you so

**Taryn 38:30**
it's always nice to

**Cheyenne 38:32**
read anything the middle schoolers were super happy to hear that there were like subtitles or cereal boxes.

**Katie 38:41**
I know I always tell him like I think you'll be super bored if you sit there and read your cereal box for 15 minutes but like if that's your jam

**Cheyenne 38:56**
a pretty long time but maybe you're like early in the morning you're going real slow

39:02
BANTER

**Julie 39:10**
Yeah, sign up for summer reading and look at all those great books to be able to choose from or you can always come to the library for us to give you some more in person recommendations too. So, if you find something

**Catherine 39:23**
Katie, do you like, do you have the dates in front of you of we are going to be having two different kickoffs for this summer reading fun. And we are going to be having what I do I do remind everybody that our library at Maine will be open for getting books and coming to hang out but all of the programs that are extra fun in the summer will be either at north or south. Correct?

**Katie 39:48**
Yes, As we start the...the epic. What are we calling it? Refresh. I mean my brand I have the main library will begin and so yeah, all programming good call will be at North or South or out in the community because we'll be doing you know story times in the park and we'll have a story walk like we usually do and sometimes at the mall and different. I know Cheyenne's got middle school book club coming up this summer in the park, like all kinds of fun. Yeah. So, we're trying out some new stuff. We're excited about it, but lots of free stuff happening at the library all summer long. And of course, free book recommendations anytime you want. Um, absolutely. Our favorite, guys. Alright guys, well, thanks for joining us. We'll see you guys next time.