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MUSIC JOURNEYS IN OXFORD, MISSISSIPPI

Dinorah Sapp, instructor at the IEP

What is it like to stand on a theater stage? Are vinyl records a thing of the past? These and more questions were answered during two field trips in Oxford at the end of February. The two sections of the American Popular Music courses had a chance to tour the Ford Center for the Performing Arts and The End of All Music, a record store.



Matt Zerangue, Ford Center's Technical Director, gave one group of students an interesting hour-long tour of the center, including the backstage, dressing rooms, and the studio.

Another group of students travelled to The End of All Music, a record store in town. David Swider answered questions and played some tunes from different parts of the world. The students got to see and hear vinyl records, learn about their history, and the renewed interest in collecting vinyl.





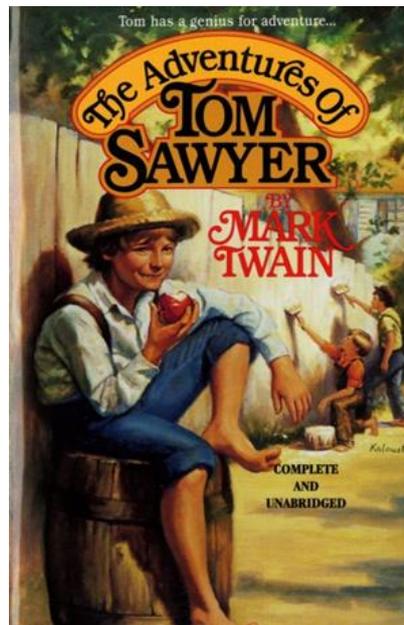
The adventure of Tom Sawyer

Iyad Abuirsheid (Jordan)

The book *"the adventure of Tom Sawyer"* is written by Mark Twain, one of the most famous American writers.

The book tells us about the adventures of Tom Sawyer. Tom does not like work and school, and he likes swimming and fishing. Tom and his friend Finn have an exciting life. One day, they went to the graveyard to look for ghosts, but they didn't see any ghosts. They saw three men stopped at Hass Williams' grave and they began to dig the

grave to steal the parts of his body in order to sale for money. Tom and Huck were afraid of them and they returned to the house. They decided to forget that night. When the summer came, they took a boat down to the Jackson Island in Mississippi to swim and cook some meat with fire. They discovered a cave in the middle of the island. Tom and Huck decided to enter the cave to



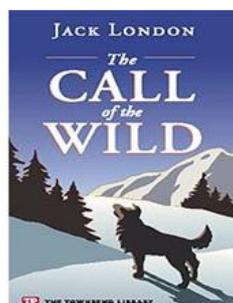
find out if there is anything inside. Then, they found a box of money. There were twelve thousand dollars in that box. They took the box and got back home, and suddenly, Tom and Huck became the richest people in their country.

I like the book very much, because it's very interesting! I will recommend this book to my friends for sure.

The call of the wild

Satsuki Miami (Japan)

I am going to introduce the book *"The call of the Wild."* This book is written by Jack London. The main character Buck changed his life style and his personality in this living environment. First, he lived in California for guiding sheep dogs.



This life style was safe and calm. Then he worked for pulling a sled. There he changed his personality a little bit. Finally he lived together with wolves in the wild. My favorite scene is that when Buck saw snow the first time in his life. My favorite

expression in the book is “The soft, white thing was also falling through the air, and it fell onto him.” It is a little difficult to me, because I am

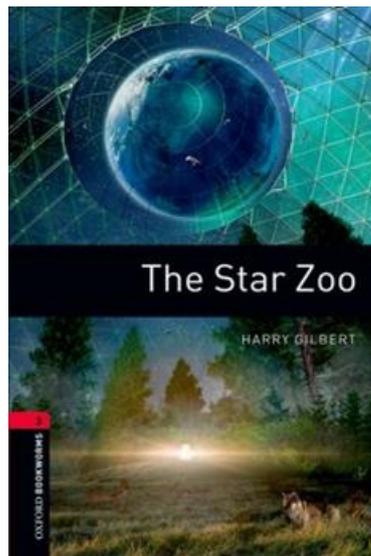


not interested in this story actually. I will not recommend this book to you.

The Star Zoo

Gabriela Zaccaria Rossi Brum (Brazil)

The Star Zoo, by Harry Gibert tells a story full of fantasy. It is the story about Hummingbird (Hummy for short), a sixteen years old girl who lives somewhere in a Galaxy in the far distant future on a planet called Just Like Home, a long way from the Earth. She has never seen any trees or animals. She knows about them because she reads them in the Book of Remembering, but she doesn't believe everything that it says.



Hummy, our heroine, is asked to marry Buffalo who is much older than her, but she doesn't want to get married because she is very young and she thinks Buffalo is a horrible person. Therefore, she runs away suddenly and she is going to stop at another planet called Star Zoo. She begins to see things that she believed were only exist in stories but never for real.

The story begins to develop and shows us the other characters such as a robot, a computer, a wolf, a donkey, a bird, a squirrel, the Star Council and the children.

One great thing of the book is the way that the author approaches the theme on the destruction of Planet Earth and the environment. And also the way he manages to develop the story, narrating in a way that the reader can imagine the scene and the characters, is pretty good.

The book shows us that by virtue of certain action of humans, the Earth becomes so hot that life is extinguished except for human beings.

Another great thing of the book is the plot. Every time when Hummingbird is going to solve her problems, other problems arise. And the book has an ending that you did not expect surprises you in a positive way, because it reminds us of the innocence of child who does not see evils in everything and that we adults forget.

Can you imagine living on a planet without animals or trees? Surely it would be horrible and very sad. The story is fascinating and gives us a great lesson.

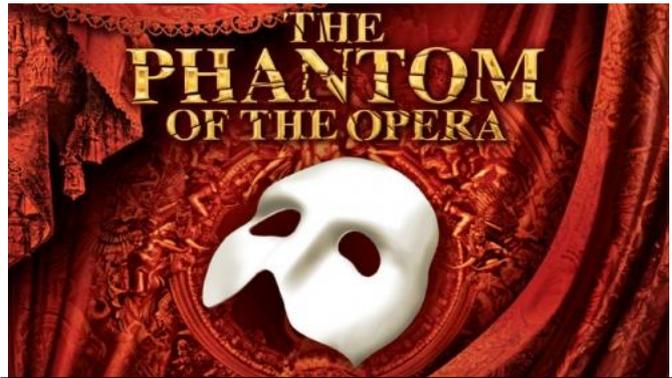
I hope you enjoy it!



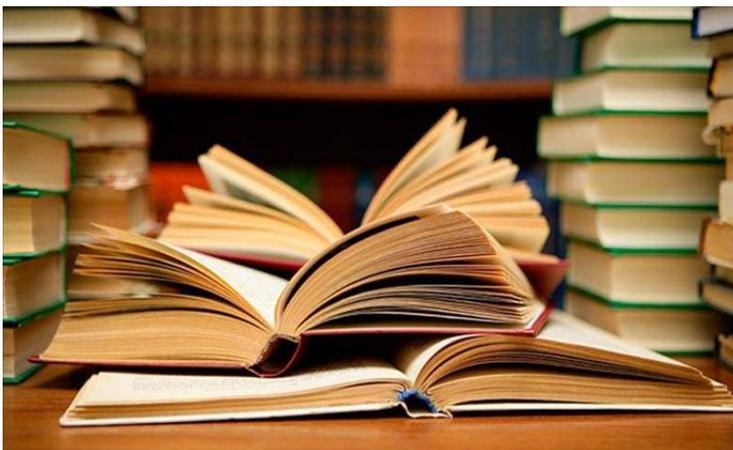
The Phantom of the Opera

Gyuri Min (South Korea)

There are books, movies and a musical about *The Phantom of the Opera* that many people know. If you already know this book has one of happy or sad ending, it would turn to another ending that you don't know. If you don't know this book you can expect the end you want. There is a rumor that there is a ghost in the opera house. Some people say that is a ghost and others say that is a real person. One day, a dancer named Christine becomes the main character of the opera performance. Christine's music teacher is a Phantom, and the Phantom loves Christine. One day, the original protagonist, La Carlotta, comes again to perform the opera. When La Carlotta is singing, the Phantom wants Christine to sing the song, so he drops



the chandelier. Christine loves Raoul, but the Phantom wants Christine to be his wife. The Phantom kidnaps Christine to his home under the stage. Most people usually think that villains are bullying the main characters. So naturally, people start to think that Christine is the main character and the Phantom is a bad villain. I also thought that way at first, but after reading the book I changed my mind. Remember this before you read a book. I think he is just trying to get some love. As a result, the Phantom's hope is fulfilled. And it is a Phantom's happy ending.



The Secret Garden

Jiwon Park (South Korea)

The Secret Garden is a novel written by Frances Hodgson Burnett.

The main character of this book is Mary. Mary is born in India. She is a very disagreeable and bad-tempered child. When her parents die in India, she is sent back to England to live with her uncle

Mr. Craven in a big, lonely, and old house. There is nothing to do there. This book is about what happens in this house. The title of this book '*The Secret Garden*' indicates the garden which has been discarded for ten years. Mary makes the abandoned garden beautiful again with her

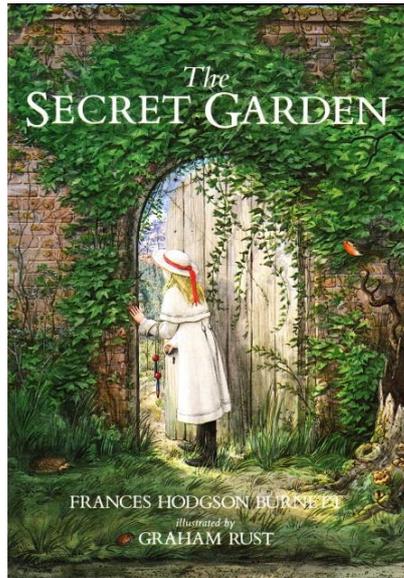
friend Dickon and the gardener Ben. The house has been gloomy for a long while because of uncle Mr. Craven's sick son Colin and his dead wife, but now Mary and the new garden make everybody happy again.

In this book my favorite part is that Mary and Colin meet each other and become friends.

Colin is weak and even more disagreeable than Mary, but he becomes healthy and polite after he met Mary. I like that Colin changes himself after he met Mary.

Also I love the portrait of the beautiful nature and simple people in Yorkshire, which is remarkable in this book. Description of Mary's friend Dickon, who loves to play with animals, is one of the most attractive parts.

Therefore, if you like pure nature and children who grow up in the adversity, you'll love this book. The book is also adapted into animations and movies.



After you read the book, you can find them and try them!

Henry VIII and his six wives Tritip Limsunti (Thailand)

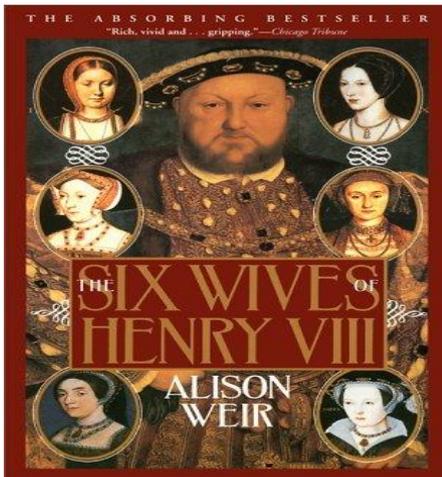
The book: Henry VIII and his six wives

Written by: Lan Thorne

The story is: a history story

Characters of the story:

King Henry in his youth was tall, strong, and handsome. People say that he never got tired. He could speak five languages. Will people remember him for those reasons, or will they only remember him because he had six wives?



Catherine of Aragon was his first wife. She was Henry's wife and queen for twenty-four years. Their marriage was annulled, she died while detained under guard at Kimbolton Castle. She was mother of Mary I.

Anne Boleyn, the second wife of King Henry. People said that she was very clever. Their marriage was annulled. She was beheaded at the end. She is mother of Elizabeth I.

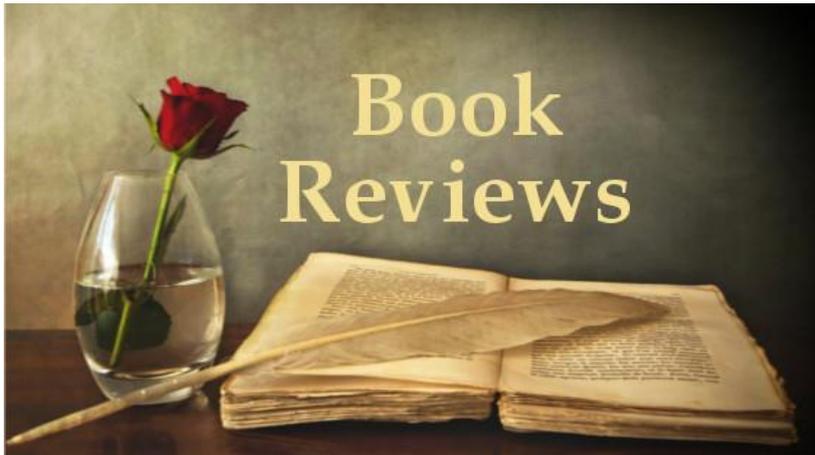
Jane Seymour, the third wife of Henry. People said that she was very clever, quiet, and careful. She died twelve days after giving birth to Edward VI; it is believed that her death was caused by birth complications.

Anne of Cleves had a sad face and long nose, and she wasn't very interested in this strange man. Their marriage was annulled, and she outlived the rest of the wives.

Katherine Howard. She was young, beautiful, and exciting. Before she married Henry, she had lovers. Henry didn't know this. He thought that he was Katherine's first lover. She was beheaded eventually.

Catherine Parr. Henry wanted to marry her, but she loved a man named Thomas Seymour. Her family imposed the marriage because they wanted her to be the Queen of England. She was widowed at the death of Henry VIII, and finally remarried Thomas Seymour.





Story plot: Henry's first marriage lasted nearly 24 years, while the remaining five totaled less than 10 years combined. One died, two were divorced, and two were beheaded. It was a dangerous, uncertain life. After the King's death in 1547, his sixth wife finds a box of old letters: one from each of the first five wives. They are sad,

angry, and frightened letters. They tell the story of what it was like to be the wife of Henry VIII of England.

Things I liked about the story are: I liked this story because of its many characters. Each character experienced many events. The story was dramatic. Sometimes I feel pity about some characters. The story also made me want to read more, because I wanted to know what would happen next.

Things I didn't like about the story are: When I read this story, I pity every wife of Henry. In my opinion, he wasn't good husband to care for his wives. He was a hero and intelligent in country. I pity them because he's not caring for his wives and children. And I didn't like that he had many wives. He just wanted to have his son's succession to the throne from him. But he ignored the feelings of his wives and children how they would feel.

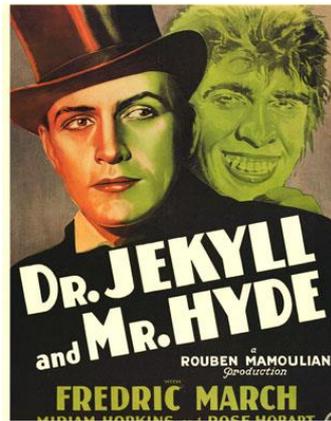
If I had written the story, I would have changed it: I wish Henry had taken care of his wives and children. He should have taken care of wives and children equally. They should not have died. Because some of the events in this story, I pity his wives. His wives were not all good but, still they were wives, so he should have taken care of them and their children.

The book was an interesting book because it made me understand the characters more.

Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde

Yuchen Zhang (China)

The book "*Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*" is a science fiction, which is written by Robert Stevenson. However, it's more like a suspense fiction to me. The story happened in London, England, and it was told in the view of Mr. Utterson, a friend of the protagonist Dr. Jekyll.



At first, something terrible happened. One cruel man hurt a little girl in an awful way. He walked over the little girl's body when she fell down. People who walked by the

street seeing this scene felt shocked and angry, they caught that unfeeling man and made him to pay the compensation. Things became a little bit weird after that: the man took out a check, with the name of Dr. Jekyll, who was well-known by his kindness and generous acts.

This is just a beginning. After that, the cruel man had been seen came out from Dr. Jekyll's lab several times.

All those things worried Mr. Utterson. He asked Dr. Jekyll for a meeting and he got refused. When Mr. Utterson finally got a chance to meet Dr. Jekyll, but Dr. Jekyll made a will which bothered Mr. Utterson a lot: Dr. Jekyll decided to give all his money to the merciless man! Mr. Utterson felt something wrong and he decided to find out.

This part is quite interesting. There are more and more doubtful points. Those points make me fell in to the story, and I can't wait to see how things going on next: why does the kind doctor leave his money to that cruel man? Is he under threaten? Anyway, Mr. Utterson is going to find out the truth.

of the doctor, and then he hides himself again. What the story attracts me by far is its suspense elements, and I haven't seen any science elements. At the end I know that the whole story has a science foundation, but that is just a background. I prefer to consider this book as a suspense fiction more than science fiction.

All in all, I'd like to recommend "*Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*" to those people who like suspense fiction, although the category of this book is science fiction. If you don't have special

The story went on. Mr. Utterson found out some information about that mad man, like what he called and where he lived. In the meantime, that man, was called Mr. Hyde, had done something more terrible. He killed an innocent man, and disappeared. Even if such a horrible thing happened, there was still good news: Dr. Jekyll came out from his house, and started to meet other people again. Goodtime didn't last long. Only few days later, Dr. Jekyll locked himself on his study again. This time it seemed worse than before...

Only within a short chapter, all good things and bad things happen. The story goes up and down all in sudden. I just relieve for the return



preference, I still want to recommend it, because this book is a nice choice.



My feedback after living in Ole Miss

Victor Weinling (France)

My name is Victor Weinling, I come from France. I'm studying in Orleans, at Polytech Orleans, which is in partnership with Ole miss. I'm studying civil engineering and I came to Ole miss for a year to complete my senior year.

At first, I wanted to come to America to improve my English and to discover new construction techniques that could be an asset for my future career. Then, I am a big basketball fan and the United States is the country of basketball. I began to play basketball at 3 years old and I never stopped. Thus coming to America enables me to play basketball every day, and to watch NBA games in live without the time difference. Moreover, in the American scholar system, there are a lot of vacations which allow me to travel across the country and to visit new places. In addition, I wanted to see if the American style college life meets my imagination in France.



All my experiences here have exceeded what I expected. I'll always remember my first day, when I arrived in August 2016, I directly went to the gym to play basketball. I'll also remember the international friends that I met, with whom we went out.



We went to the frat parties and the football games. I'll never forget the NBA games that I watched or the concert I have been, like Mac Miller concert and Tory Lanez concert. This trip is a once in a lifetime and I did all

that I dreamt of since I was little.

Even if my days are not crazy as they could be in America, they are still like what I imagined. I go to my classes in the morning and all the afternoon I go to the gym to work out and play basketball. I eat every day with my friends and at night I watch NBA games and College basketball games on TV. My days look boring to people who don't like basketball but I am just realizing one of my biggest dreams in living in America and being able to play and watch my favorite sport every day.