

More Teen Reviews...

Review of *Melinda and Melinda* by Magdalena Wegrzyn



Alright, so you need to hear me out on this one. Maybe it's not your idea of fun to watch a Woody Allen matinee in a theater that smells like old people, but there are people out there who would gladly give up a Saturday for just that. I am one of those strange beings. Just to clarify for those of you who are perplexed, Woody Allen is a director. Not just a director, but one of the most quirky and brilliant men in the universe, as some people might say.

Now, ignore the somewhat creepy facts of his personal life and focus on the genius of his films. I highly suggest that you bone up on your Woody Allen pop culture by starting off with classics like *Sleeper* and *Husbands and Wives*. These movies will give you a clue as to the idiosyncratic and eccentric genre of cinematography we are dealing with.

This leads me to Allen's newest project, *Melinda and Melinda*. This is what I was watching on a Saturday

surrounded by snoring, old people at a time when most teenagers are comatose with sleep. Anyway, *Melinda and Melinda* is based on the premise that all of the situations we encounter unfold based on how we perceive life. A basic plot is given and then it diverges in to a tale of dramatic tragedy and hilarious romantic comedy. The kicker is that both subplot stories star Melinda, played by Australian actress Radha Mitchell, in two juxtaposing character portrayals. However, the surrounding cast differs in the two plots and the myriad of talented actors that join Mitchell include Will Ferrell, Amanda Peet and Wallace Shawn.

While both subplots are a bit predictable, Allen's usual attention to detail makes this film enticing to watch. Typical of an Allen film, *Melinda and Melinda* leaves you questioning yourself, as you wonder whether life is really a comedy or a tragedy. As one of the characters so profoundly puts it, "Life is messy." So you be the judge. Go see *Melinda and Melinda*, perhaps in a better environment than I did, and decide whether your life is worthy of tears or laughter.

Review of video game *Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time* by Joe Fernandez



Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time is a rather fun game. If you like to solve puzzles and fight a lot, then this game is perfect. In summary of the game: you are a Prince of Persia and your father's army is assaulting a palace. You decide to run off and try to find the Sultan's treasure room first, so that is where it all begins.

After you reach the treasure room, you find the "Dagger of Time" and grab it. As soon as you touch it, a boulder falls toward you and you see how the powers of the dagger work. The dagger is able to reverse time, slow down time, make you move ultra fast or freeze your enemy by turning them into sand.

As you go through the game, you get upgraded swords.

The first sword you start out with is a standard sword that can only hurt enemies. The second sword is one that breaks through walls, the third sword can hurt enemies more and break through walls, and then there is the last sword that breaks through walls and can kill enemies in one hit. It's a nice weapon.

So now that you know that about the game, I should tell you more about the characters. There are really two main characters: you, being the Prince and Farah the Princess that is captured and enslaved by your father. Then there is the evil guy that is called the Vizier. He is a traitor that helps your father's army get into the Sultan's Palace, but he is after the dagger of time and will do anything to get it. You are just trying to keep the dagger away from him. I hope you're more interested in playing the game, so have fun.

Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time is for use with X-Box, Nintendo GameCube, Playstation 2, PC and Gameboy Advance. It is Rated T for Teen.

Review of *Crispin: The Cross of Lead* by Will Fulton



The story centers on Crispin, who for all of the thirteen years of his life has been referred to as "Asta's Son". At the book's beginning, Asta (his mother) has just died. Their medieval English village has long shunned them, and now, Asta's son doesn't know what to do.

Soon after Asta's funeral, her son witnesses a secret meeting between the cruel local noble and an unfamiliar courtier. Upon his discovery (and attempted murder by the noble), Asta's son is declared an outlaw by the noble. He seeks refuge with the village priest, because of previous kindnesses the priest has shown him.

The priest tells the boy that his name is Crispin, and that he knows the identity of Crispin's father who was believed to be

dead. Before he can tell Crispin this information, he is killed by the local noble.

Crispin, owning nothing but the leaden cross with which his mother used to pray, flees the village, only to be caught and claimed as a servant by a giant of a man, aptly named Bear. Under Bear's strict leadership, Crispin learns to juggle and play a reed flute, so that he may provide Bear with an accompanist for Bear's profession, that of a traveling minstrel. Bear also begins to make Crispin think about things, from the act of asking questions, to Bear's real profession, that of a radical reformer who wants to completely change the world.

This book is truly a wonderful experience. It combines such mundane things as sewage control and disease in medieval England with the excitement of planned rebellion and courtly intrigue. Avi really makes his fiftieth book one of the best books ever.

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Questions?
Contact the
Teen Zone
720-887-2360

The 411

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Teen Zone Newsletter

www.ci.broomfield.co.us/library/teenwebsite

What is
The 411?

It's the Young Adult Newsletter published by the Mamie Doud Eisenhower Public Library & our Teen Advisory Board.

Inside you'll find:

- Calendar of Teen Library Events
- Reviews of books & movies written by teens for teens
- Summer Reading Program

2005 Teen Summer Reading Program



Program runs from June 1 to August 6.
Teens in grades 6-12 may participate. Registration ends July 23.

Teens read for great prizes donated by these local sponsors:



Look inside for info on Teen Workshops & Film Showings

The City and County of Broomfield does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in the provision of service. For anyone needing reasonable accommodation to attend or participate in a city program or activity please call 720-887-2300 (library) or TDDY 720-887-2378 at least 48 hours in advance of the event so that arrangements can be made to locate the requested auxiliary aid.

Teen Summer Reading Program

Warped: Beyond Time and Place

Program runs from June 1 through August 6. Teens in grades 6-12 may participate. Registration ends July 23.

Get Warped this summer! Whether it's time warp, space warp, warp speed, or your own warped sense of humor. Sign up for the Teen Summer Reading Program and get great prizes just for reading. By finishing the program, you can also help the Rocky Mountain Wildlife Conservation Center. Stop by the Teen Zone Desk to register and pick up a reading log.

Each week we're warping to a new dimension with crafts, hands-on workshops, and movie showings. Explore a new theme each week:

June 5 – 11	History's Mysteries
June 12 – 18	Dawn - the Renaissance
June 19 – 25	Parallel Worlds
June 26 – July 2	Wild West
July 3 – 9	Time Travel
July 10 - 16	Twilight
July 17 – 23	Future
July 24 – 30	13 th Hour
July 31 – Aug 6	That's Warped!
August 6	Warped Movie Marathon in the Audi

Teen Workshops

Teen Workshops will be held in the Eisenhower Meeting Room. We'll provide any necessary materials and the programs are free of charge. Registration for Teen Workshops is required.



History's Mysteries

Saturday, June 11, 2-5 p.m.

Travel with us to ancient Egypt and uncover the hidden secrets of the Pyramids through archaeology with the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. Discover the ancient art and practice of Mehndi— henna tattoos.



Make your own Catapult

Thursday, June 16, 1-4 p.m.

Medieval armies invented catapults to penetrate enemy castle walls. Test your engineering and launching skills at this workshop as we make and test tabletop catapults.



Chuck Wagon Supper

Tuesday, June 28, 7-9 p.m.

Journey to the days of the Wild West with us. We'll have authentic food, costumes, music, and festivities. Costume is optional, having fun is a must.



Time Capsules

Thursday, July 7, 2-4 p.m.

Freeze a moment in time to share with others in the future! We'll be creating unique, non-traditional time capsules out of collected bits of everyday items. Stash it away and surprise your future self.



Faeries and Faery Houses

Thursday, July 14, 2-4 p.m.

What does a faery look like? Where would a faery live? Come make flower faeries and build a faery house out of natural materials. Place them in your backyard—you may just attract those elusive creatures!



Harry Potter Quidditch

Monday, July 18, 9-12 a.m.

Celebrate the release of the sixth book by J.K. Rowling, *Harry Potter and the Half-blood Prince!* We'll be playing the muggle version of quidditch and giving away some copies of the new book.



Invent the Future

Friday, July 22, 2-4 p.m.

Great inventors shape the future by seeing the present with a creative eye. Bring your imagination to this workshop and design a gadget for the future out of common and not so common objects.



Dream On!

Thursday, July 28, 2-4 p.m.

Have you ever wondered what your dreams mean? Find out what your subconscious mind is trying to tell you as we interpret what your dreams are saying to you and about you.



Clock works

Friday, July 29, 2-4 p.m.

Ever wish you could have one more hour in the day? Now you can! Design your own clock to suit your perfect day. We'll supply the parts and know-how and you'll get to make your very own working clock.



Warped Acting Workshop

Thursday, August 4, 2-4 p.m.

Do you have a slightly warped sense of humor? Would you like to try some different acting techniques? Join us as we experiment with mime, movement and speaking with a foreign accent.

Teen Film Showings



All Film showings will be in the Eisenhower Meeting Room except the Teen Movie Marathon. We'll provide free popcorn and you may want to bring a water bottle. Summaries of these films are in the Teen Summer Reading Program Calendar. Registration is required and parental permission may be necessary for films rated PG-13.

National Treasure	Rated PG
Wednesday, June 8, 6-8:10 p.m.	
King Arthur (2004)	Rated PG-13
Tuesday, June 14, 6-8:05 p.m.	
The One	Rated PG-13
Tuesday, June 21, 6-7:30 p.m.	
Groundhog Day	Rated PG
Wednesday, June 22, 6-7:40 p.m.	
Shanghai Noon	Rated PG-13
Wednesday, June 29, 6-8 p.m.	
Back to the Future	Rated PG
Wednesday, July 6, 6-8 p.m.	
Hook	Rated PG
Tuesday, July 12, 6-8:30 p.m.	

Minority Report	Rated PG-13
Wednesday, July 20, 6-8:30 p.m.	
The Incredibles	Rated PG
Tuesday, July 26, 6-8 p.m.	
Shark Tale	Rated PG
Wednesday, August 3, 6-7:35 p.m.	
Teen Movie Marathon (in the Audi)	
Saturday, August 6, 10-5:30 p.m.	
Shrek 2	10-11:30 a.m. Rated PG-13
Miss Congeniality	11:45-1:35 p.m. Rated PG-13
Spaceballs	1:45- 3:15 p.m. Rated PG
Lemony Snicket's Series	3:30- 5:30 p.m. Rated PG
Of Unfortunate Events	

Teen Review and a story

Review of *Don Quixote* by Will Fulton



Almost every child today loves the world of knights and castles. So why shouldn't adults? *Don Quixote* is a fascinating story about the exploits of a knight and his squire in late sixteenth-century Spain. Don Quixote is a man who believes that real knights do exist, and that the world of chivalry is vibrant, alive, and well. He travels Spain, having outrageous adventures that are sure to keep the reader guessing.

In one of his adventures, he encounters two flocks of sheep converging together, which he fancies to be a great battle. He then kills several sheep from both flocks, before being driven off by the shepherds. In another adventure, he comes upon a chain of prisoners, sentenced to be galley slaves. He determines that they are being taken someplace without

their consent, and against their will. This appears to Don Quixote to be an excellent opportunity to "aid those who are oppressed by the powerful." He sets them loose without regard for their crimes, and becomes a wanted man in the eyes of the regional police.

This book is, without a doubt, one of the best books that I have ever read. It has culture, a dash of mystery, a good portion of tasteful romance, and combines the serious and the humorous so masterfully that it deserves every bit of praise it has garnered over the years.

Don Quixote's bravery, Sancho's loyalty, and the dedication to chivalry made by them both provide a steadfast testament to the author's abilities. However, it is not any one characteristic of the book alone, but rather the unique combination of all the elements of literature that have made this into a most marvelous and spectacular book.

Mage Craft- Issue Three by Molly Enright



It had been a month since Tela had been forced out of her hometown and the forest was finally starting to thin out. She and her faithful friend, Cervus, climbed a large hill as the trees started to disappear. Below them there was a magnificent kingdom that shone in the sun. Tela gasped with delight and started to lead Cervus down the hill.

When they reached the gates, a man wearing chain mail stopped them. He had a tunic over the mail that was marked with a moon and sun forged together to make one half of the circle a moon and the other a sun. He asked, "What do you want?"

Tela gulped and answered, "Just some shelter for a weary spirit." He eyed them suspiciously, then yelled to the men

above him on the wall, "Open the gates!"

When she entered, she felt overwhelmed. It was a gigantic marketplace. Many were selling their talents among the folk that were just out to buy an apple. Tela noticed a food stand and then heard her starving belly grumble. She smiled and picked up an orange, examining it.

She dropped it clumsily as the shopkeeper growled, "What are you doing?! No one will buy that now!" He grabbed her wrist, "Will you pay for it!?"

Tela found that her money was gone. She was terrified. A crowd had gathered. The shopkeeper was about to slap her across the cheek when another man stopped it.

Tela looked up to find a man slightly older than her with short, black hair and tan skin. He was wearing a brown cloak. "I'll pay for her mistake," he said as he deposited the coins in the hands of the shopkeeper.

He then lead her and Cervus away, back to his house.