

Vodcasts – February 10, 2009

Question inside a popcorn tub:

I really like the movie Tale of Despereaux - do you have anything similar to read?

Signed Fan of the Silver Screen

Well Silver Screen , if you like the movie, you'll love Kate di Camillo's book: being the story of a mouse, a princess, some soup and a spool of thread . It won the Newberry award in 2004.

Another story about unlikely heroes that you might like is **Kenny and the Dragon by Tony Di Terlizzi** – he's one of the authors of the Spiderwick Chronicles.

In this book, Kenny is a rabbit who is a bibliophile- he loves books. His only friend is a retired knight and dragonslayer named George who now runs a bookstore in town. Kenny's life changes when his father discovers a dragon living on their farm. Kenny goes out to investigate, but this dragon isn't what he expected at all - he finds out the dragon is very cultured and refined – his name is Graeham, like the cracker, and he loves books, poetry, music and fancy desserts.

Trouble starts when villagers get wind that there's a dragon in the town and the King orders George to come out of retirement and kill the dragon . Kenny is desperate to keep his 2 friends from fighting – read this and find out if he can stop the battle.

If you like Wall-E and are interested in **Robots, try this book by Clive Gifford**

-very nicely designed with all kinds of sidebars and information on different types of robots

-information on robot arms

-robots in space, in medicine

-real introduction to the world of robotics

-gives you a peek into the future advances in artificial intelligence

-half- human, half- robot cyborgs

If your taste for reading leans more towards the spooky , try **Coraline by Neil Gaiman**

-Coraline lives in this huge old house – one day when she’s bored she starts to roam the halls – and counts 21 windows, 14 doors. It is the 14 th door that opens up this alternative universe. On the other side of the door is this strange mirror world – with an “other mother” and “other father” – they look the same as her parents, but they have big black shiny button eyes – tap tap tap. These other parents want to keep Coraline on their side of the door. Excellent book – it is also a graphic novel , a movie and I just heard that it is soon going to become a musical too

**This book, Skeleton Creek by Patrick Carman** – is part novel and part movie

-it’s the story of Ryan and Sarah who live in Skeleton Creek , Oregon – they start investigating the mystery of the town’s name and that’s when strange things start to happen. Ryan ends up in the hospital, the book is his journal trying to make sense of what happened. His friend Sarah is creating videos about what’s going on and posting them on her website. In this book you are given the passwords to watch the videos too –and this is the cool part – clues are hidden in the videos and the author takes part too by doing live web casts with additional information that you might find. The ending is a real cliff hanger