

Can I See Your I.D.?

By Chris Barton

This is a series of 10 true stories about fake identities. Some individuals changed their identities to save their lives. For instance, Solomon Perel, a sixteen-year-old Jewish boy, had to pretend to be a Hitler Youth to survive the Holocaust. Ellen Craft, on the other hand was able to pass herself off as a male white slave owner to help both herself and her husband to escape the slavery of the South. Others changed their identities for personal gain. Fake Cherokee author, Forrest Carter wrote his not-so-true story, *Little Tree*, about growing up as a Cherokee. Riley Weston, pretended to be a teenager so that she could get a job writing about teen-issues for the TV series, *Felicity*. Frank W. Abagnale Jr. used multiple identities to steal money from banks. Similarly, some changed their identities for the adventure of it. For example, Keron Thomas posed as a subway motorman while Ferdinand Waldo Demara Jr. passed himself as a navy surgeon. Sarah Wakeman even joined the Union army, pretending to be a boy. However, some used their fake identities to explore the lives of others. For instance, Jon Howard Griffin, used medication to change the color of his skin to see what the lives of African Americans were like during the late 1950s. However, when Mary Baker pretended to be an exotic kidnapped princess, she found it difficult to escape the identity she had created. This was an enjoyable exploration into identity theft. Told in second person, each tale makes it feel as if you are the person changing their identity. Every story includes an introductory illustration and details at the end that let the reader know what happened to each individual after the instance of identity theft. Also extremely useful is the extended bibliography on each individual at the end of the book, linking the reader to the resources the author used to bring each story to life. Both middle school and high school readers should find this book both fun and educational.

Valerie Knight, WSC

Dinkin Dings and the Double from Dimension 9

By Guy Bass

I am unable to review this book. I have read many books that I did not care for. This one was so bad I could not force myself to read it all the way through. Even skimming was beyond what I was willing to do.

Diane Limoges

Emily Stew

By Thomas Rockwell

Emily imagines all kinds of emotions through her stories. This book is recommended for ages 4-8 in any library. Poetry of this style needs to be in every library. Some kids just connect with poetry.

Lara Morrow

Girl, Stolen

By April Henry

Blind sixteen- year- old Cheyenne Wilder is resting in the back seat of the car when it is stolen. Griffin saw the keys in the ignition and just took the car, thinking he had finally done something to please his dad. When he realizes Cheyenne is in the car it is too late. When his father realizes Cheyenne's dad is the president of Nike the problem turns into an opportunity to make some fast, easy money. Griffin is put in charge of watching Cheyenne while his dad makes the arrangements for a ransom. Griffin ends up protecting Cheyenne, even deciding he must help her escape. This book is recommended for 8th grade and up. This book deals with both the handicap of being blind, as well as an abusive family life. Though not a great read it is still a worthy addition to your young adult collection.

Diane Limoges

What Katy Did

By Susan Coolidge

Katy is twelve when her mother dies and Aunt Izzie comes to live with the family to help take care of Katy, her three sisters, and two brothers. Katy wants to be the perfect girl that everyone will love. Though her intentions are good, she has a hard time being a quiet girl who never gets into trouble. When her cousin Helen comes to visit, Katy sees what a sweet person Helen is and strives to be more like her. Yet the day after Helen leaves it's as if everything that can go wrong, will. I recommend this book for grades 2nd-4th. The story starts out about tiny creatures who talk and then veers off into the story about Katy. That in itself is strange and the story never really recovers. Katy, her sisters, and brothers are normal active children who get into trouble. The perfect cousin Helen shows up. Katy has a terrible injury and can't walk for over two years. Then she seems to have learned all the lessons Helen has told her she needs to learn and she can miraculously walk. The story is infantile and seems to teach the old adage that girls should be perfect little angels and then life will be perfect for them as well. Not sure why this is considered a classic. This reader does not know one 7th grader who would voluntarily read and/ or enjoy this book.

Diane Limoges

There was a Wee Woman...

By Erica Silverman

The shoe was too small so the Wee Woman takes her family to find a new home. This book is recommended for lower to middle grades, in both a school and public library. It seems to be a spinoff of Mother Goose. The entwined storyline leaves one trying to figure out all the references to other stories. The storyline is very cute and I would recommend this book for purchase.

Sharon Kinnan

Tutus Aren't My Style

By Linda Skeers

Emma, a tomboy, just can't figure out how to be a ballerina when her uncle sends her a tutu! This book would be good for lower to middle grades in both a school and public library. The illustrations are very cute and add to the story. Emma is an active little girl that children would relate to. I would suggest purchasing this book.

Sharon Kinnan

Cat the Cat, Who is That?

By Mo Willems

Cat meets a mouse, a duck, a fish, and a new friend. This book is recommended for very young children in both public and school library. I believe this book is too basic, children may not be interested in the book, I would not recommend purchasing this book.
Sharon Kinnan

The Daring Miss. Quimby

By Suzanne Whitaker

Harriet Quimby left her home in California for the excitement of New York City. She was a writer who rode in a race car and learned to fly in one of the earlier planes. This book is recommended for middle and upper elementary, in both school and public libraries. This is the true story of an adventurous woman. This is a simple biography that would be great for older students who struggle with reading. I would recommend this book for purchase.
Sharon Kinnan

Goodnight Goon

By Michael Rex

This is a cute take on Goodnight Moon. A little werewolf is trying to get to sleep This story covers all the different things he has to do as a monster to get to sleep. This cute book is recommended for grades K- 1 in any library, children will find this book funny, and they will love the little werewolf and his trouble falling asleep. I loved this book; it would be a great book to read during the fall, right before Halloween.
Lara Morrow

Red Wagon

By Renata Liwska

Lucy takes her new little red wagon on an errand for her mom to get some vegetables. Her trip soon turns into an exciting adventure- circus fun, outer space blastoff, and the choo choo express. This book is recommended for kindergarten and up, in any library. The illustrations are fun and imaginative- letting the reader take control. This is a great picture book with illustrations to match. The vocabulary is simple for the most part. A great read aloud book, if the reader doesn't already have a red wagon they will want one reading Red Wagon.
Ashley Abegglen

The Wide- Awake Princess

By E.D. Baker

Classic fairy tale with a twist- Princess Annie may not be the fairest in the land but she doesn't let that stop her from saving her royal family and court; when a wicked fairy tricks her irresistibly beautiful sister Princess Gwen into pricking her finger dooming her to sleep for 100 years. Annie sets off with her own kind of prince charming, Liam, to find Princess Gwen's true love to break the curse. They run into all sorts of princes- never giving up. This book is recommended for middle school and up in any library. It contains a map of the Kingdom of Treecrest and the surrounding kingdoms. The Wide-Awake Princess is a great fairytale story- it compares to our classic fairy tales but gives hope to not only the gifted, but the ordinary. It is a fast read and very enjoyable.
Ashley Abegglen

Rules of Attraction

By Simone Elkeles

Carlos- a risk taking Latino, gets shipped from Mexico to Colorado to escape the dangers of gang life. He lives with his brother Alex until trouble comes knocking and Carlos ends up living with one of Alex's professors- who has a daughter named Kiara- a tomboy, car addict, wanting nothing more than to be loved. These two gradually gravitate to one another, overcoming obstacles on the way and making sure love rules over all. This book is recommended for high school students, in a public library, or a specific type of school library. The book is told in two perspectives- each chapter designates a different character- either Carlos or Kiara. This is a good book on different ethnic cultures and the hardships teenagers face. The book contains moderate swearing, sexual references and action- drama filled book with love overpowering all other evils.

Ashley Abegglen

Who's There?

By Carole Lexa Schaefer

BunBun and his teddy bear Boo get ready for bed, but soon realize they're not alone. Scary creaks, cringes, thwacks, and... quacks keep them scared and awake, but the spooky noises turn out to be something or someone BunBun would never expect. This book is recommended for Kindergarten and up in any library. This is a great suspenseful picture book with a surprise ending. The vocabulary may be a little difficult for some younger readers- a good reading aloud bed time story.

Ashley Abegglen