



The NOODLE

Open up and say AHHHH!!!



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Welcome to the January 2022 edition of *The Noodle*, written and published by the FYC. For this issue of *The Noodle*, members of the FYC were asked to write about their favorite book to read on a cold winters day. This topic allowed members to share their thoughts on what books they like. We hope you will take a few minutes out of your busy schedule to learn about our experiences and enjoy our thoughts and opinions in this edition of *The Noodle*!

Believe in yourself!!

Current Members:

John Baldino
Shevie Barnes
Derek Carraway
Alexander Gonzalez
Leah Gorman
Morgan Griffin
JJ Humphrey
Michelle Sandiford
Josh Tapia
Lilibeth Vega
Christina Waldron
Serena Wetmore
Brandon White
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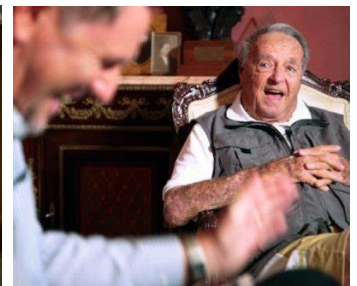


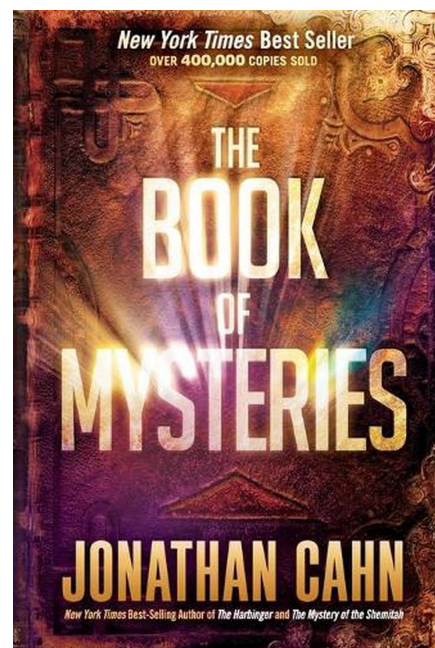
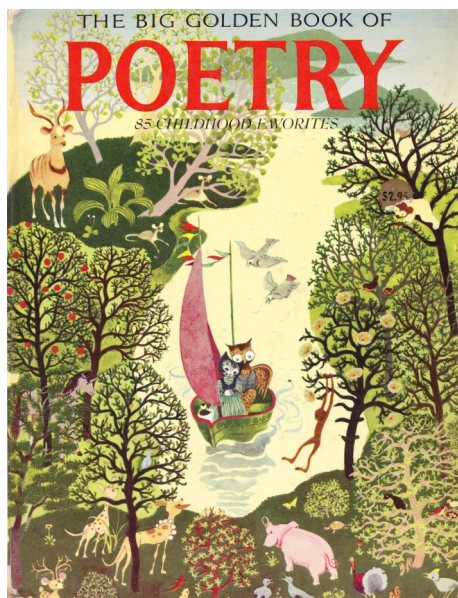


Favorite Book to Read on a Cold Winter Day

What's my favorite? Hmm. To be honest, reading a book isn't my go-to activity any day, let alone on a cold day. Occasionally one will come along that catches my eye but not too often. One that did catch my eye recently though that I got a copy of is a companion book of the same name to a documentary biopic that came out a couple years ago called *The Bowden Dynasty*. It's about the former legendary football coach at Florida State University. I saw the film when it was first released, and the book is supposed to have a bunch of extra stories and tidbits that they couldn't fit into the film that I would love to hear about. I haven't had time to read it yet so it just might become my favorite after I finally get a chance to sit down on one of these cold winter days this season!

by Derek Carraway





A Good Old Book

I like to read when it is cold outside, and I am warm inside. A lot of my favorite books are of poems. I also enjoy reading mysteries and murder novels. I like to write my thoughts not my theories to see what I look at every year, I have had 4 strokes in my life. The story I'm trying to create is about my life and how it's been. The book I would write would be a biography, I hope to show people with disabilities how feel, and how I help to advocate. The poems I like feature love, fear, and mystery. But really, when it is cold out, I like to read Christmas books, I also read biblical books and poems. Most of the books I read are about animals. Then the books are going throughout the year, every year. Other books I like are about decorating and cleaning. Also, when I am warm inside my house, I like to read books about vampires and zombies. A lot of my books are intended for calming and being responsible and not mean. Those are to keep my heart and mind at peace, not broken. To keep your heart and mind peaceful is better in life as anything can happen at any time.

By Leah Gorman



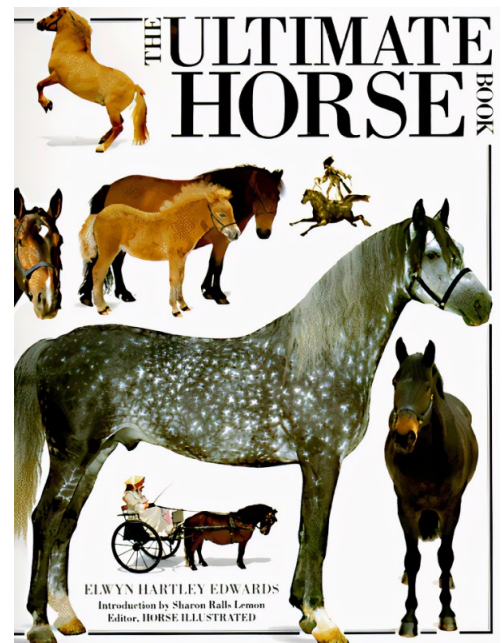
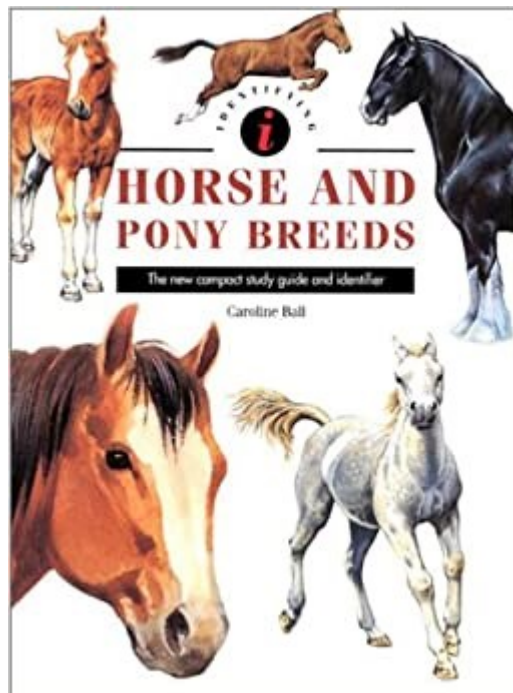
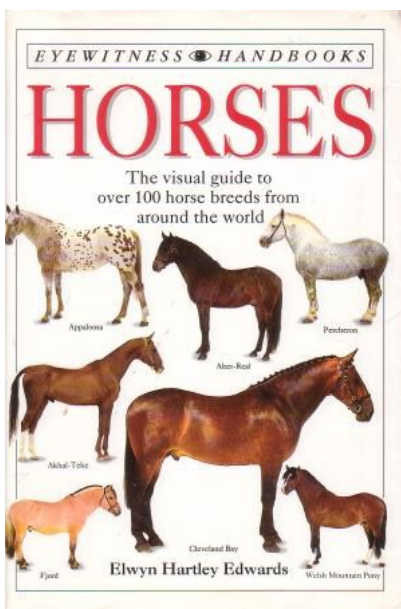
Cold Winter Day in the Books

My favorite book to read on a cold winter day or any day is one of the books about horses that is on my shelf. I have horse care manuals, horse stories, horse photography books, and horse catalogues. I especially enjoy reading and studying the catalogues. Of all of them, I prefer *The Compete Horse Care Manual* and *Horses: The Definitive Catalogue of Horse and Pony Breeds*.

The catalogue holds my attention because I work with a variety of horses. It is valuable for me to learn about the different characteristics and types. Large horses, such as the Clydesdale are my favorite. The breed was born in the Clyde Valley of Scotland and is one of the tallest types of horses, ranging from 16 to 18 hands tall. They weigh 1600 pound—about the same as a Volkswagen Beetle! Clydesdales are draft horses and pull farm machinery such as log and milk wagons.

If the truth is told; however, I am not a big winter day reader. Rather, I like being outdoors. This year, I will be spending several weeks in Canada. For me, Canada is the best place to be outdoors in the winter. When it is cold and snowy, I am skiing or snow shoeing or tubing or simply playing in the frozen white stuff. After a day on the mountain, if I am still awake, I'll reach for one of my horse books!

By John Howard Baldino





“Reading” For Fun

This may surprise you, but I don’t read all that many books. At least not for fun. First, my physical limitations make book reading difficult, and keeping the book open and turning pages is pretty much impossible. I used to use a Kindle, but for some reason I just got out of the habit. Maybe because I do enough reading for school, so for fun I usually do other things. Sometimes for fun I will read “Choose Your Own Adventure” novels from Choice of Games which is an app that lets you read books and lets you make decisions for what direction the story will go. Some of my favorites are Psy High, Congresswolf, and Grand Academy for Future Villains. I know, not very sophisticated, but sometimes you just got to have fun! I like creating characters and putting them into scenarios and guess what they would do.

As for what I like reading on a cold day, it doesn’t make much difference to me what the weather is, because I am usually inside anyway. I spend most of me free time either playing on my iPad or watching movies or television. Sometimes I just enjoy calling my friends or if it works out, I like to get my friends together and play a tabletop game such as Dungeons and Dragons. Even that is difficult to arrange because all my friends are so busy with school and work, so usually this happens on my birthday and if I am lucky maybe one other time a year. Maybe 2022 will be the year when I revisit this whole concept of “reading for fun!”

By Serena Wetmore





How Do I Become Part of The Florida Youth Council?

The Florida Youth Council is a group of youth (between the ages of 15 and 17) and emerging leaders (between the ages of 18 and 30) with disabilities or special health care needs that live in Florida.

The Florida Youth Council is all about getting youth and emerging leaders involved in self-advocacy, peer mentoring and other activities that will improve the quality of life for youth and emerging leaders with disabilities in Florida. The program empowers youth and emerging leaders to decide what issues are important to their generation, to discuss those issues in their state and local communities, and to develop strategies to address them.

We are seeking a group of enthusiastic, motivated youth and emerging leaders to participate. If you would like to take a leadership role in advocating for youth and emerging leaders in Florida, please visit The Florida Youth Council website at www.floridayouthcouncil.com. The program is open to application year round. We hope to hear from you soon!



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