



Calgary Board of Education

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES Middle School

FICTION

F PAU

9780439676861

Paulsen, Gary

Brian's hunt

Gary Paulsen

New York : Scholastic, [2004].

Source of preview material: Scholastic Canada Ltd. 175 Hillmount Road, Markham, Ontario L6C 1Z7 Phone:

1-800-268-3860 (toll free) Fax: 1-800-387-4944 (toll free) Email: custserve@scholastic.ca

103 p. ; 22 cm. : \$5.50 (paperback)

Grade Levels: 6, 7, 8, 9

"In an author's note, Paulsen explains why he decided to reopen the story first begun in 'Hatchet' (Bradbury, 1987). In this short installment, Brian, now 16, is back in the wilderness and encounters a savagely wounded dog. He makes his way to the lake island home of the Cree man he met in 'Brian's Return' (Delacorte, 1999), where he discovers the tragedy that led to the dog's liberation. David and his wife have been partially eaten by a bear, which necessitates the hunt mentioned in the title and described in the final chapter. Throughout, the protagonist frequently remembers events from his original stranding, alludes to the problems he had faced trying to return to 'civilization,' and ultimately explains the special arrangement by which he has returned to the 'bush' instead of high school. Although the story does stand alone, these many references will make the audience want to read (or reread) the earlier books. This story is not as well developed as the other episodes but it is a must-read for the hordes of existing 'Hatchet' fans out there, and it may also serve to draw some new readers into the fold. An afterword discusses bear behavior and Paulsen's experiences with these animals." Some schools may already have this title in their collection. School Library Journal December 2003.

F PAU

Canadian

9781425188412

Paulson, Collin

Aarial

by Collin Paulson

Victoria, B.C. : Trafford, c2009.

Source of preview material: United Library Services

293 p. : ill. ; 23 cm. : \$20.95 (paperback)

Grade Levels: 6, 7, 8, 9

Collin Paulson is a Calgary author. In this, his first book, Dylan is an extremely troubled and abused youth who was removed from his mother at the age of three. He has been in foster and group homes ever since and attended several different schools. He has difficulty adjusting to a regular classroom environment. He lashes out at teachers and students alike, physically and verbally. Dylan escapes into a very realistic fantasy world where he has received the power of Aarial from his father. He is given the quest of overcoming King Nero who shares Aarial's power. After conquering Nero, Dylan is to reunite this power with Queen Gaia. There are many underlying themes to be explored and discussed in the book - the ideas of 'self-identity', 'otherness', 'environmentalism', and 'society's influence's on our youth'. A caution - some younger students may find the themes of the novel difficult to understand even with adult assistance or within a read-aloud environment. Folklore; Health; English Language Arts; Read-aloud. **Highly Recommended.** CORE. Previewed by Penbrooke Meadows Elementary.