



## Athol Public Library - Teen Volunteer Book Reviews

Welcome to the Teen Review Crew! We are excited to read your reviews. You will be serving the community in a great way by sharing your opinions on books you've read! Please read the guidelines below to participate.

### Guidelines for Book Reviews:

1. All books reviewed must be available in from the Athol Public Library's young adult collection. You can check our catalog online at <https://bark.cwmars.org/eg/opac/home>. Ask Emily in the Teen Space for a list of suggested titles if you are not sure where to start.
2. Each book should be rated on a 5-star scale. ½ star is the lowest rating a book can receive, while 5 stars is the highest rating a book can receive.
  - 1/2 star = so bad you couldn't even finish it.
  - 1 star = you really didn't like it & wish you hadn't wasted your time.
  - 2 stars = meh, you've read better.
  - 3 stars = a good book.
  - 4 stars = a great book.
  - 5 stars = utterly AMAZING.
3. Each book review should be at least 2 short paragraphs and no longer than 3 paragraphs in length. Always include the title and author in each book review.
  - No spoilers! Remember, you are helping others choose their next book to read. You can summarize, but do not give away any plot twists or surprises.
  - Try to include positives and negatives in each review. Think about if you would recommend it to other teens.
  - Good book reviews will mention at least 3 of the following:
    - A. Plot and Characters
    - B. Setting or World Creation
    - C. Flow (did you plod through it or was it an edge-of-your-seat page-turner?)
    - D. Other Details (these will depend on the genre and the novel): emotions evoked, imagination, thought-provoking, eye-opening to other cultures, inspiring, educational, etc.
4. Review and edit your book reviews for clear writing, spelling, and grammar.
5. The review must be original and written by the teen submitting them. Use of plagiarism or AI will disqualify the review from earned volunteer hours.
6. When finished, email to or share your book review with Emily Boughton. You can send it as Word Document or Google Doc email attachment to: [eboughton@cwmars.org](mailto:eboughton@cwmars.org)

7. You will be emailed back with any necessary revisions. Please make all revisions within one week of receiving it and send back your final version for publication. \*You will never be asked to change your opinion.\*
8. Once the final version is received, it will be posted to the [athollibrary.org/teens](http://athollibrary.org/teens) page, books suggestions binder, and/or to our social media pages.
9. Each book review = 1 hour of volunteer service. Just email [eboughton@cwmars.org](mailto:eboughton@cwmars.org) to request a letter verifying service hours.
10. Volunteer hours are only available to teens who live in Quabbin region or the immediate surrounding towns.