

Olentangy Local School District Literature Selection Review

Teacher:	Weaver / Holibaugh	School:	Hyatts
Book Title:	Eight Plus One	Genre:	Short Story Collection
Author:	Robert Cormier	Pages:	196
Publisher:	Bantam Doubleday	Copyright:	1980

In a brief rationale, please provide the following information relative to the book you would like added to the school's book collection for classroom use. You may attach additional pages as needed.

Book Summary and summary citation: (suggested resources include book flap summaries, review summaries from publisher, book vendors, etc.)

Meet seventeen-year-old Mike, who visits his grandmother's bedside and learns a family secret.

A divorced father who discovers only love, not bribes, can keep his daughter 'his' on Thursdays.

And Jerry, a young boy desperately looking for the missing Grover Cleveland card to complete his set of president cards.

Here are nine stories by Robert Cormier, one of the most gifted writers of young adult fiction today; stories that are warm, touching, and intensely personal--to be savored by readers of all ages.

Provide an instructional rationale for the use of this title, including specific reference to the OLSD curriculum map(s): (Curriculum maps may be referenced by grade/course and indicator number or curriculum maps with indicators highlighted may be attached to this form)

Reading Applications 8 - Identify examples of author's rhetorical devices and valid and invalid inferences.

Reading Process 8 - Read purposefully and automatically using comprehension and self-monitoring strategies.

Include two professional reviews of this title: (a suggested list of resources for identifying professional reviews is shown below. Reviews may be "cut and pasted" (with citation) into the form or printed reviews may be attached to the form)

Review #1

Fans of Cormier's gripping, dimensional ...

... thrillers will be disappointed with this collection of nine tepidly sentimental stories. Most are about father-child or father-teenager relationships. Most deal more-or-less with a poor French ... more » Canadian boy in late 1930s New England, or his middle-class adult self in the late '60s and early '70s, or his teenage children in the same period. (More-or-less because the same names and backgrounds recur, but not consistently. For example, Ellen is the contemporary wife in most, but her husband, the main character, is sometimes Jerry [as was the French Canadian boy], sometimes not.) In one story the son, Mike, visits his grandmother in a nursing home. Because of his mustache (controversial at home) she mistakes him for her husband, also Mike, and thus reveals to the young Mike an old marital misunderstanding. In another story a divorced father fails his little girl by not accompanying her on a scary amusement park fide. In others, the father's sympathy with a son's jilted girlfriend and a daughter's abandoned boyfriend is mixed with his own regrets of time passing.

Cormier prefaces each story with an account of how it came about--in almost every case, from an incident in his own life. But, alas, the stories don't distill and amplify the material. In the case of the amusement park ride, the real experience seems more subtle and affecting than the story that was made of it. « less

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Review #2

One of my favorite books ever

This book is just the best. The descriptions, the themes, the characters, and the plot are unforgettable. The last story really is a masterpiece of literature. It is so poignant and beautiful. You will not put this book down.

Barnes & Noble - User Review - June 30, 2003

What alternate text(s) could also fulfill the instructional requirements?

Title: **Fade** Author: **Robert Cormier**

Title: **Heroes** Author: **Robert Cormier**

Title: **Sixteen: Short Sotories by Outstanding Writers** Author: **Donald R. Gallo**

Title: Author:

Title: Author:

Title: Author:

Document any potentially controversial content:

teen life and relationships

Keeping in mind the age, academic level, and maturity of the intended reader, what is the suggested classroom use: (check all that apply)

Gifted/Accelerated Regular At Risk

GRADE LEVEL(S): 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Reading level of this title (if applicable): ages 12+

Date Submitted to Department Chair: 11/08/07

Suggested Professional Literary Review Sources:

School Library Journal

Horn Book

Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books

VOYA (Voice of Youth Advocates)

Library Journal

Book Links

Publisher's Weekly

Booklist

Kirkus Review

Wilson Library Catalog

English Journal (and other resources of the National Council of Teachers of English)

The Reading Teacher (International Reading Association)

Literature for Today's Young Adults