

Reviewer: Anonymous
School: Yorba Linda High
Grade: Sophomore
Book title: The Hunger Games
Book author: Suzanne Collins
Rating: 5

This book is the first of the famous trilogy and is packed with so much action. It takes place in a dystopian world called Panem where life is grim and the government is corrupted. As a reminder that District 13 failed and suffered to overcome the capitol, an annual hunger games serves as entertainment to the capitol people and a lesson to the districts. On the day of the reaping, Peeta Mellark and Katniss Everdeen's younger sister Primrose Everdeen are randomly selected, so Katniss volunteers in her place. Peeta and Katniss have a few days to train in the capitol and feast before they fight to the death against other tributes from other districts in an arena for one victor to survive. Katniss is skilled with a bow and arrow and Peeta is known for being well-spoken. When the games begin, Katniss does not trust Peeta, but when he saves her, she finds him and they develop a romance strategy to promote sponsors to keep them alive in the games. In the games, unexpected conflicts arise and allies form as well as deaths.

I thought the book was very captivating and heartfelt. I liked how it was written in first person, it helped me picture Katniss's mind and experience each intense obstacle she faced. Peeta added an essential contrast to Katniss's pragmatic personality with his caring nature. I liked the character Haymitch because he added some humor to the story. At times this book made me want to cry when I felt Katniss's hopelessness or fear.

I would definitely recommend this book to anyone especially if you are interested in dystopian fiction. It is a very interesting book considering a hypothetical society. It reminds me of the short story Harrison Bergeron because in both stories the protagonists rebel against the system the government has used to suppress its citizens. It is also similar to the book Divergent because both include a female protagonist that rebel against a divided society.