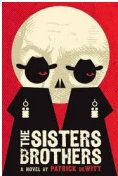


Siblings

The Sisters Brothers: A Most (Un)usual Western?



I've worked in libraries for years including a few in Texas, so it is a wonder that I've never read a western. Part of the problem then with reading your first book in a genre is that you lack the language to properly describe it or make comparisons. Now I wonder if I shall ever read another for the fear that the next one won't hold up to *The Sisters Brothers* by Patrick deWitt. It is the gold rush years and the infamous Charlie and Eli Sisters are riding from Oregon City to San Francisco on orders from the Commodore to kill Hermann Kermit Warm. There is trouble with horses, whores, a red bear pelt, excessive brandy drinking, a man named Mayfield, a witch and a mysterious magical formula. Large sums of money come and go. The characters are unique, but without a lot of overall development. Is this usual for a western? Is the level of violence similar to other westerns? Is this a parody of the genre, a homage or both?

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Posted by sbowman on August 28, 2012

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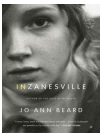
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What's an Alex Award?



Warning! Don't look for these books in the Young Adult section! These are "Adult Books," written for adults. Teens beware!

Ok, now that I've got your attention, let me also say that these books are just great for teens. So great, in fact, that the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) made an award just for them, and named them after a famous Baltimore librarian - sort of. Her name was Margaret A. Edwards, but her friends called her Alex, and that's where we get the Alex Awards. The [2012 Alex Awards](#) feature ten books written for adults, but with special appeal to teens. [Read more](#)

Posted by Chris H. on August 7, 2012

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Michael Koryta's The Prophet and Book Signing



Local author [Michael Koryta](#)'s new book isn't coming out until August 7 but you can

already place a hold in our catalog. *The Prophet* is a straight up thriller that stars two brothers, one as an upstanding high school football coach and the other as a fringe bail bondsman. The brothers are estranged after the devastating fallout resulting from the kidnapping and brutal murder of their sister many years earlier. When a similar murder happens, the brothers must learn to work together before the murderer strikes again.

Master thriller author Dennis Lehane says, "*The Prophet* is a relentless, heart-in-your-throat thriller about ordinary people caught in the middle of an extraordinary nightmare." And Kirkus reviews praises Koryta's newest as "a brilliantly paced thriller that keeps its villains at a tantalizing distance, a compelling family portrait, a study in morality that goes beyond the usual black-and-white judgments, and an entertaining spin on classic football fiction. A flawless performance." [Read more](#)

Posted by [sbowman](#) on July 23, 2012

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Bruiser by Neal Shusterman



When I picked up Shusterman's *Bruiser*, I expected to read a book about an angry kid

who taunts and punches away his insecurities. While this book does deal with bullies, Brewster, the character of the title, is almost the opposite of a bully and a bit magical to boot. A hulking and shabbily dressed 16-year-old, Brewster is an outsider who people vote to be the Most Likely to Go to Jail, and generally treat as if he's not there. Which suits him fine, even if he's never stepped on an ant, because he takes on the physical and emotional pain of anyone he gets close to. [Read more](#)

Posted by Chris H. on March 31, 2012

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