

## Approved for use in English IV

### Summary of the Work:

Welcome to a surreal version of Great Britain, circa 1985, where time travel is routine, cloning is a reality (dodos are the resurrected pet of choice), and literature is taken very, very seriously. England is a virtual police state where an aunt can get lost (literally) in a Wordsworth poem, militant Baconians heckle performances of Hamlet, and forging Byronic verse is a punishable offense. All this is business as usual for Thursday Next, renowned Special Operative in literary detection, until someone begins kidnapping characters from works of literature. When Jane Eyre is plucked from the pages of Bronte's novel, Thursday must track down the villain and enter the novel herself to avert a heinous act of literary homicide.

### Rationale:

*The Eyre Affair* is intended to compliment the Contemporary World literature, senior English IV option. This novel provides a unique opportunity for students to read a contemporary author while studying many classic British authors. This book is light and fun to read, and will be used during the first semester of the class.

### Professional Reviews and/or Critical Essays:

Most recent critical essays may be viewed on a number of websites including, Amazon.com.

- \* Print resources are available from the library media center and libraries in the district. Contact any library media specialist to view the scholarly sources.
- \* Scholarly reviews are also available online through Books in Print and Gale. Contact the library media specialist to obtain username and password information to access the subscription database of full-text reviews.

### Noted Distinction:

- Science/fantasy fiction

### Readability:

- Lexile Score: 890
- Readability Level: 5.9

### Learning Resources Guidelines:

- The novel meets the Learning Resources Guidelines.

### Standard Alignment: [\(link\)](#)

### Approval:

Submitted to Committee:

Approved for Adoption: 2008

### Notes on the Text:

*(The best way to evaluate and understand a novel is to personally read the book in its entirety.)*

*The Eyre Affair* provides examples of:

- humor
- irony
- allusion
- surrealism

### Connection to the Curriculum:

World Literature is devoted to the study of classical World and British Literature, exploring the hero and other archetypes through Ancient, Medieval, Renaissance, and Contemporary periods. First semester stories will concentrate on myth and archetypal patterns in stories about Beginnings, Endings, Monsters, and Monster Slayers and Heroes. Students will be able to recognize, appreciate, and express the unity and diversity of the human experience as expressed through world mythology, literature and culture. The focus of writing will be refining and expanding effective writing skills through critical and analytical writing, timed writing and research.

### Additional Connections:

*(AP, Honors, Essential/Applied, Dramas, Films, etc.)*