

Approved for use in English IV: Mystery and Adventure Literature

Summary of the Work:

“The first Joe Pickett novel from #1 New York Times- bestselling author C.J. Box.

Joe Pickett is the new game warden in Twelve Sleep, Wyoming, a town where nearly everyone hunts and the game warden— especially one like Joe who won't take bribes or look the other way—is far from popular. When he finds a local hunting outfitter dead, splayed out on the woodpile behind his state-owned home, he takes it personally.

As Joe digs deeper into the murders, he soon discovers that the outfitter brought more than death to his backdoor: he brought Joe an endangered species, thought to be extinct, which is now living in his woodpile. The closer Joe comes to the truth behind the outfitter murders, the endangered species and InterWest, the closer he comes to losing everything he holds dear.”

Source: <https://www.cjbox.net/open-season/>

Rationale:

This novel is appropriate for the developmental level of a Senior year Mystery-Adventure literature class.

This novel has been a contemporary, top-selling mystery novel. The fast-paced, expert story telling captures student’s attention and engages even the most reluctant reader.

The novel contains descriptions of a crime scene. Some sexual references and language usage is not suitable for younger readers. However, the elements of Mystery are thoroughly fleshed out- demonstrating the compelling nature of the genre emerging students in novels they can read in their future. Simultaneously, this helps students understand real, environmental struggles of places close to their home in Montana. While it is a fictional novel, many non-fictional issues are addressed and examined.

Professional Reviews and/or Critical Essays:

Publishers Weekly 7/2/2001
The New York Times 11/11/2001

- * 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:

Barry Award for Best First Novel (2002), Macavity Award for Best First Mystery Novel (2002), Anthony Award for Best First Novel (2002), Gumshoe Award for Best First Novel (2002), Edgar Award Nominee for Best First Novel (2002)

Readability

- Lexile Score: 1105
- Readability Level: not available

Learning Resources Guidelines

- The novel meets the Learning Resources Guidelines.

Standard Alignment: *(link)*

Approval:

Submitted to Committee:

Approved for Adoption:

Notes on the Text:

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

This novel is a contemporary, mystery laced with elements of adventure. It fully encompasses and addresses the 3 major literary genres of the English IV D course.

Connection to the Curriculum:

The novel connects to the curriculum as students will be working through the following common core standards:

- RL 11-12.1 W 11-12.1
- RL 11-12.2 SL 11-12.1
- RL 11-12.3
- RL 11-12.4
- RL11-12.6

Additional Connections:

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

AP Biology, Science Seminar, FWP Guest Speaker