

Mary Wepking wrote:

- > Hi Kristin,
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- > I don't think there's a definitive date that marks the start of YA literature and YA library collections. I recall a small teen section in my local public library when I was in junior high, and that would have been the very early 70's.
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- > The first chapter of Tomlinson and Lynch-Brown's 2007 textbook Essentials of Young Adult Literature provides some useful timelines in a section titled "History of Young Adult Literature." If you can't get your hands on a copy, I could fax you a few pages. In their overview, they confirm that the late 60's and early 70's marked the publication of "some of the early important works of young adult literature." Many scholars recognize that there was diminished quality in YA literature in the subsequent decade in which "problems overpowered character development and plot." Then, in the 1990's, due in part to an increase in the number of teens, "the field matured, blossomed, and came into its own with better written, more serious, and more varied young adult books published during the last two decades." (quoted material from Tomlinson, 2007)
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- > That's an oversimplification, and WAY too speedy a summary, but it may be what you need for your slides. Let me know if you'd like me to fax the relevant pages of that text.
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- > Good luck!
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- > Mary
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- > PS - I'm teaching the GLBTQ for YA special topics course again this summer, with an online and an onsite section. We'll be following the situation in West Bend as we move through our readings & discussion.
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- > ----- Original Message -----
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- > To: "Deborah Caldwell-Stone" [REDACTED] "Mary Wepking" [REDACTED] "Megan Schliesman" [REDACTED]
- > Cc: kpekoll@west-bendlibrary.org
- > Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2009 9:44:42 AM GMT -06:00 US/Canada Central
- > Subject: quick statistical information
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- >
- > Good Morning,
- > I'm sending out a quick request for information to the experts in hope one of you might know this little tidbit. The library board and I are putting together a informational/promotional powerpoint about the library.
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- > Does anyone know what year/date YA fiction became a separate collection or category from Children's? Basically when YA Literature started?
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- > Thanks for any help you can give me!
- >
- > ~Kristin
- >
- > _____
- > Kristin Pekoll
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