



# BOOK LUST

## READERS' ADVISORY TOOLKIT

Erika Miller - Myndie Petersen - Laura Richardson

### NANCY PEARL

Nancy Pearl is a librarian, educator, best-selling author, literary critic, & radio and television personality but first and foremost, she is a reader. Her approach to readers' advisory originates from this passion and a desire to instill a love of reading in others.

### IMPLEMENTATION

The group partnered with Kitsap Regional Library System & Coeur d'Alene Public Library to implement the toolkit at 3 branches. One system had a well-established RA program, and the other provided no formal and very little on-the-job RA training. In both systems, staff received training, displays were created, and book groups featuring the four doorways were also conducted.

### OUTCOMES

#### Training Survey Responses:

50% of responding library staff are more comfortable giving good readers' advisory

86% of responding library staff would continue to use the Four Doorways method

"The four doorways have inspired me to research more ways to advise readers."

#### Programming Survey responses:

70% of responding library patrons would be more likely to choose books they wouldn't have considered before.

"This gets me excited about new books I would not have otherwise discovered."

### DELIVERABLES

A review of RA literature was conducted, several public libraries were surveyed, and with Pearl's help, this toolkit was developed. It includes materials and recommendations for:

#### Curriculum

- Lesson Plans
- Training Videos
- Training Handouts

#### Book Group Materials

- Handouts
- Talking Points
- Surveys

#### Marketing

- Networking
- Branding
- Social Media

#### Display Materials

- Poster Templates
- Bookmark Templates
- Display Instructions

#### Website

- Platform for:
- Instructional Materials
- Training Videos
- Blog

#### Program Surveys

- Staff
- Patron
- Event
- Book Club

### POSSIBILITIES

Develop a Recommender System with commercial potential based on the Four Doorways

- Phone App
- Library Catalog Ride Along

Continued outreach to additional library systems

Expanded social media presence

- Add additional channels Instagram, Facebook

Expanded trainings and curriculum

- YA & Children's materials
- Additional formats (audio & movies)

Present at professional conferences

### OVERVIEW

The Book Lust Readers' Advisory Toolkit is a comprehensive set of readers' advisory (RA)

training materials based on Nancy Pearl's four doorways RA methodologies, designed to assist libraries with developing or enhancing their existing RA programs and practices.



### WHY READERS' ADVISORY?

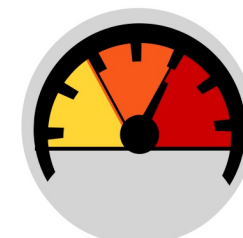
Nancy's RA methodology encourages readers to broaden their reading horizons which will open them to new worlds and foster empathy

for those they may otherwise never encounter.

Readers' Advisory is an essential library service

yet 42% of public librarians have had no RA instruction and 23% report they receive no on the job RA training.

### DOORWAYS



STORY



CHARACTER



SETTING



LANGUAGE

Pearl believes that what readers want when they ask for a "good" book, is to recreate an enjoyable reading experience. With training, library staff can help readers look beyond genre

and better identify what it is about a book that creates an enjoyable experience for them. Pearl's methodology is based on experiential elements she calls "doorways" because they facilitate how readers find their next good book. They include, Story, Character, Setting, and Language.

OUR SINCEREST GRATITUDE TO THE ORGANIZATIONS THAT GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED THIS PROJECT

