

Examples from Ms. Durham's WN

RfP Times for Week 23

Sun 1/23 ~~15m~~ **120m** Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire by JK Rowling, pg 1-154.

Mon 1/24 ~~15m~~ **300m** to pg 356

Tue 1/25 ~~15m~~ **45m** to pg 450

Wed 1/26 **15m** to pg 459

Thur 1/27 ~~15m~~ **90 m** to pg 573

Fri 1/28 ~~15m~~ **120m** to pg 690 + Sat **30m** – finished pg 734 and CSM, Int Articles

RfP Entry for Week 24: Condoleezza Rice: a memoir of my extraordinary, ordinary family and me, pg 18-33.

Summary (1-2 sen) I finished Chapter 4 and continued through the end of Chapter 6 in the memoir, Condoleezza Rice, pages 18-33. Ms. Rice continues to give background information about her family, moving her focus from her grandparents (especially Granddaddy Rice) to the courtship and marriage of her parents. At this point, she is telling the histories she has learned from family lore and interviews more so than her own memories.

Response (4-5 sen) Still, I find her history compelling because she writes of people who faced and overcame the challenges of their time – and who reached out to make a difference in other people's lives. Living in the south in the 50s and 60s meant living in deep racism and oppressive circumstances. Yet her parents taught Condoleezza that she was worthy of respect and dignity and that she could grow up to be even the President of the United States. Reading and education were important not only to her parents and grandparents, but also to her maternal great-grandmother who had been a slave. Her learning to read was against the law, thus how she learned remains a mystery. But literacy and intellectual endeavors became foundational to the attitudes and philosophies of her family – that empowered Condoleezza Rice to pursue her own dreams and life ambitions.

RfP Entry for the end of Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire by J.K. Rowling (734pages)

[When you write about a book you have finished reading, the goal is to discover the connections between the characters, events, and life themes of the book and those in your own life. Write honestly about your thinking as you read and finished the book. Let your thinking lead your writing. It's okay to reflect on yourself as a reader as part of your thinking.]

I have just finished the fourth book in J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter series: Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire. This is by far the most intense, yet, of all the books I've read. I also just watched the fourth movie and it is by far the most disappointing of all the Harry Potter movies I've seen (since beginning my quest to read the books).

In the book, Rowling continues to develop, not only our main characters, but the complexities between them and the complexities of the Wizarding culture and the

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impact of the Dark Lord in their government, policies, and even in their ability to be n the truth.

I learned more about the Weasley family and Percy who is ambitious and a rule follower. Harry becomes more and more a part of the Weasley family and one of my favorite moments happened when the Weasleys made formal arrangements to pick up Harry from the Dursley's home. Mr. Weasley, Ron, Fred, and George arrive – not by car nor by broom (which Mr. Dursley was thinking “surely not”), but by fireplace. However, the Dursleys had stopped up their flume and hearth with an electric fireplace instead. So the Weasley men ended up somewhat jammed inside and atop one another. After blasting their way out and totally annihilating the pristine and orderly Dursley living room, Mr. Weasley tries to make friends with the horrified Dursleys. It's an hysterical scene.

The movie fails to capture that scene and many scenes surrounding the Quidditch World Cup, Sirius Black, Hogsmeade, other employees from the Ministry of Magic like Bagnshanks and the witch who was murdered by Voldemort, the real story of Bartimus Crouch and his son, revelations about giants and Hagrid being a half-giant and the prejudices of the Wizarding community against not only Mudbloods, but house elves and giants as well, and how truly horrific Rita Skeeter is and how she spies on the students of Hogwarts and writing stories that ruin reputations and shame Hagrid.

However, I can't really complain about the movies. It would be unreasonable to expect a two hour film to capture all 734 pages of snapshots, thoughtshots, and dialog. And I'm grateful to the movies for aiding my ability to visualize and imagine the details I read.

But... definitely, the books provide more fodder for my imagination and my thinking. At the end of Book 4, our heroic characters resolve themselves to the inevitable. At the end of the movie, Hermione Granger says, “Everything is changed from now on” with a tone and look about her like she's talking about growing up – moving deeper into adolescence... But the tone at the end of the book is a little more somber.

Hagrid explains that he knew Voldemort would be back, that it was bound to happen, but... ““ No good sittin' worryin' about' it,' he said. 'What's comin' will come, an' we'll meet it when it does.”” Harry recalls those words on the last page of the book. I think this has meaning I can apply to my own life – really, all of us can. When we see that we too travel a Hero's Journey, then we know and can accept that life will bring challenges and struggle and moments of frustration and even grief – great grief and loss. But it is in facing those challenges that we find our “moral fiber” that we develop into who we are – that we grow and become more compassionate, kinder, more loving and understanding – and even more courageous and willing to stand up and fight for what we believe and for what is RIGHT.

What will come, will come. And like Harry Potter and his friends, we'll have to meet it when it does.