**Book Talking Tips**

Book Talks are brief "teasers" given enthusiastically by librarians, teachers, or students in elementary through high school as a way to entice others to read a particular book. Subjects that interest teenagers are: humor and horror, relationships and love, murder and magic, friendship and betrayal, and problems teens deal with in everyday life (school, family breakup, violence, dating, illness, divorce, etc). Romances, mysteries, horror, popular authors, and books with great covers are typically good bets. REMEMBER, you want people to sit up and listen!

* A book talk is NOT a review or a book "report." A book report tells somebody you read the book
* A book talk tries to convince the person to read the book.
* The key to book talking is to "sell, don't tell."
* A book talk is more of an advertisement or a commercial.
* A book talk is a *Performance* - you want to "hook" the listeners, to do everything, use every trick you can think of to make the book talk fun, exciting, and suspenseful. The best scenario is that you succeed to the extent that the teens will want to read at least one of the books to find out how it ends. At worst, you have hopefully made their day a bit brighter and relieved the monotony of the typical school day.
* A book talk doesn't reveal the whole story; rather, it tells just enough to hook perspective readers.
* There are various ways to book talk…

1. **Give the book talk from a character’s perspective. In other words, be a character in the book.**
2. **Choose an exciting part of the book to capture interest of possible readers.**
3. **Use some quotes from the book to share that might catch the attention of readers.**
4. **Personalize in the book talk. Explain why you thought the book was a joy. Relate to a character.**