

Write a review for a popular audience of a media that tells a coming-of age story

Write a review of one media (i.e., a book, CD, movie, television series, or web site) that describes how it feels to be an adolescent or an emerging adulthood, in transition from child to adult. Do this in 500 words or fewer. Push yourself to go beyond description in your writing. Include analysis--why does or how does the book capture the coming-of-age experience? If multiple characters are portrayed, with whom do you most identify? Do different characters capture distinct pathways to adulthood? Consider the historical, cultural, and social climate in which the story was written. How does context matter in the transition to adulthood story you review?

Examples of appropriate media:

1. The book, *A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius* (Dave Eggers, Vintage, 2001) is a good example of a coming-of-age story in contemporary American society
2. The CD, *Room for Squares* (John Mayer; Sony, 2001)
3. The television series, *My So-Called Life*, 1994-1995
4. The movie, *St. Elmo's Fire*, 1985

Resources:

Here are a few web sites that provide a good overview of how to write a book review. These articles also appropriately inform the style and structure required for reviews of other media. Also, read some *Rolling Stone* reviews to get a sense of a good review written for a popular (vs. academic) audience.

<http://teacher.scholastic.com/writewit/bookrev/>
<http://leo.stcloudstate.edu/acadwrite/bookrevpre.html>
<http://library.queensu.ca/inforef/bookreview/wri.htm>

To earn your 100 points:

- (1) Follow all guidelines above
- (2) Your assignment must be emailed to Professor Tanner by October 21st at 5 pm (yes, you are getting a few extra days! Don't be late).
- (3) In the subject line of your email type: adol psych_ your last name_XXXX review (replace XXXX with the type of media you are reviewing, i.e., CD, Book, web site, etc.)

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