

Young Adult Book Discussion Kits

Young Adult Book Discussion Kits are available to library patrons for use by home and community discussion groups, as well as teachers in the classroom setting. Each kit contains a set of thirty identical soft-cover books accompanied by a book discussion guide. The guides feature information about the author, reviews of the book, discussion questions, suggested further readings, and other pertinent information. Each kit is packaged in a canvas tote bag and may be borrowed for six weeks.

Young Adult Book Discussion Kits may be reserved and sent to the library branch of your choice for pick up. If you would like to reserve a kit, please stop by your local library branch or call **574-1611**. The kits may also be reserved through our website **www.lfpl.org**. A list of all the kits may be found in the LFPL catalog by typing **Book Discussion Kit Young Adult** at the title prompt.



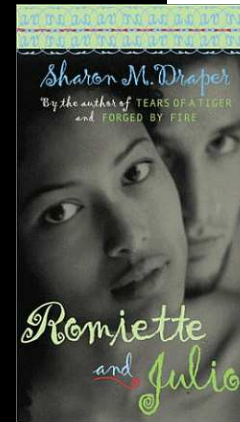
Children's & Young Adult Services
301 York Street
Louisville, KY 40203
502-574-1620

Information for this flyer was partially gathered from the following resources:

[Www.sharondraper.com](http://www.sharondraper.com)

http://eric.ed.gov/ERICDocs/data/ericdocs2/content_storage_01/0000000b/80/27/a6/dc.pdf

Contemporary Authors Online, Thomson Gale, 2007.
Entry updated: 02/22/2007



A Reader's Guide to
Juvenile Book
Discussion Kit

Romiette & Julio
By Sharon M. Draper

Xtreme Reads
Xtreme Reads
Xtreme Reads
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Xtreme Reads

**Young Adult Book
Discussion Kits**



Romiette Cappelle is an African-American girl in Cincinnati, OH. Julio Montague is Mexican-American boy, newly moved from Corpus Christie, TX. Though they've never met in person, "afroqueen" and "spanishlover" have been talking in a teen chat room for a while. When they discover they go to the same high school, they decide to meet. Gang members at school disapprove of their relationship, and Romi's best friend Destiny is determined to find out her true soul mate through psychic means. Romi's nightmares are increasing and though she's beginning to fall in love with Julio, it seems they are destined to be apart. Or is it together? Like Shakespeare's starred cross lovers of similar names, the story of Romiette & Julio is filled with complications.

About the Author

Sharon Draper spent more than thirty years teaching junior high and high school students how to appreciate the beauty of literature and how to communicate their ideas effectively. Each year her students received their own rewards in donning the class-designed "I Survived the Draper Paper" tee shirt commemorating the legendary research project that all her seniors had to complete to graduate.

About the Author (continued)...

She is an active member of the National Council of Teachers of English, the International Reading Association, Top Ladies of Distinction, and Links, Incorporated. Ms. Draper travels extensively and has been a guest on television and radio programs throughout the country, discussing issues of literature, reading, and education. She is an accomplished public speaker who addresses educational and literary groups of all ages, both nationally and internationally, with entertaining readings of her poetry and novels, as well as enlightening instructional presentations. She lives in Cincinnati, Ohio, with her husband and a golden retriever named Honey.

Awards and Recognition

Awards:

2005 Young Hoosier Book Award:
Grades 6-8

Expert Picks:

Young Adults' Choice for 2001:

A Project of the International Reading Association

ALA Best Book (American Library Assoc.)

2000 Notable Book for a Global Society (International Reading Assoc.)

2000 Books for the Teen Age (New York Public Library)

What the Critics Say...

"Draper gives a realistic portrayal of the interactions among high school students as well as their relationships with their parents. The book also examines how gangs can gain power and take control. All of the characters have unique voices and the writing style shifts according to the action. Romiette and Julio would be a wonderful curriculum tie-in book, but it also stands alone as a first-rate novel about contemporary teens."

- *School Library Journal*

Discussion Questions:

1. Why do you think Romiette and Destiny make good best friends? What about Julio and Ben?
2. Do believe in the idea of soul mates...where there is just one perfect person for you on this planet and you are destined to be with them?
3. Have you been attracted to or dated a person of another race? What reactions do you think your family and friends would have?
4. What similarities does *Romiette and Julio* share with Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*? Why do you think the author chose a different ending for her heroes?
5. What do you think about the character of Ben? What makes him a good friend? Is physical appearance important to you in friendship?

6. Does the book portray "real life" in high school? What parts seem really believable? Any parts not so believable?

7. What do you think happens next in the lives of Romiette and Julio?

Suggested Titles for Further Reading

Based on Classical Literature:

Avalon High

Meg Cabot (YT)

Based on King Arthur

The Tower Room

Adele Geras (YP)

Romeo's Ex

Lisa Fiedler (YT)

Based on Romeo and Juliet

Joker

Ranulfo (OT)

Based on Hamlet

The Lightning Thief

Rick Riordan (YP)

Modern retelling of Greek mythology

The Dashwood Sisters' Secrets of Love

Rosie Rushton (YP)

Based on Sense and Sensibility

Enthusiam

Polly Shulman (YT)

Based on Pride and Prejudice

Books by the Author:

Darkness before Dawn (YP)

Forged by Fire (YP)

Tears of a Tiger (YP)