

Delve Deeper into *Racing Dreams*

A Film by Marshall Curry

This resource list, compiled by Gina Blume of the Monroe Township Public Library, includes books, films and other materials related to the issues presented in the film *Racing Dreams*.

Fondly described as "Talladega Nights meets Catcher in the Rye," *Racing Dreams* chronicles a year in the life of three tweens who dream of becoming NASCAR drivers. The film by Marshall Curry (Oscar®-nominated *Street Fight*, *POV 2005*; Sundance winner *If a Tree Falls*, *POV 2011*) is a humorous and heartbreaking portrait of racing, young love and family struggle.

ADULT NONFICTION

Karting

Bondurant, Bob, and Ross Bentley. *Bob Bondurant on Race Kart Driving*. Minneapolis: Motorbooks, 2002.

Kart-driving school owner Bondurant and school staff provide fundamentals for karters including physics of kart performance on the course, training, testing, racing in various weather conditions, and mental preparation.

Gidley, Memo, and Jeff Grist. *Karting: Everything You Need to Know*. Minneapolis: Motorbooks, 2006.

Former kart racer Gidley provides in-depth instructions for beginner kart racers.

Sanches, Joao Diniz. *The Karting Manual: The Complete Beginner's Guide to Competitive Kart Racing, 2nd Edition*. Somerset (UK): Haynes Publishing, 2011.

This is a guide on racing fundamentals for novice to experienced kart racers.

Women & Racing

Guthrie, Janet. *Janet Guthrie: A Life at Full Throttle*. Miami: Sports Media Publishing, 2005.

Janet Guthrie writes a memoir chronicling two decades of challenges as a pioneer in the male-dominated world of racecar driving.

Patrick, Danica, with Laura Morton. *Crossing the Line*. New York: Touchstone, 2007.

This is a collection of inspirational stories and insights into this author's groundbreaking success from go-karting to becoming an Indy car champion.

Wood, Denise. *NASCAR Women: At the Heart of Racing*. Phoenix: David Bull Publishing, 2003.

Denise Wood, a journalist and public relations representative for several race teams, reveals the integral part women have played both behind the scenes and in the public eye of the NASCAR organization.

Coming of Age

Davis, John A. *Don't Take It Personally: A Parent's Guide to Surviving Adolescence*. Break Inn Books, 2004.

This is a practical handbook for parents understanding adolescence.

Stiffelman, Susan. *Parenting without Power Struggles: Raising Joyful, Resilient Kids While Staying Cool, Calm and Connected*. New York: Morgan James Publishing, 2009.

Family therapist Stiffelman offers parental advice on dealing with daily decision-making encountered while raising children. Topics include techniques for parents to keep their cool when kids talk back and act out, transforming frustration and aggression exhibited by children into cooperation, and helping children deal with behavioral issues such as anxiety and depression.

Youth & Sports

Baltzell, Amy, and Richard D. Ginsburg and Stephen Durant. *Whose Game Is It, Anyway?: A Guide to Helping Your Child Get the Most from Sports, Organized by Age and Stage*. New York: Mariner Books, 2006.

Practicing clinical psychologists and an Olympic athlete present case studies about how sports participation affects childhood development.

Farrey, Tom. *Game On: The All-American Race to Make Champions of Our Children*. New York: ESPN, 2008.

Investigative journalist Tom Farrey examines the lives of child athletes and the consequences associated with extreme competition at an early age, including rising obesity rates, unruly sideline behavior, and reduced activity in children.

Hyman, Mark. *Until It Hurts: America's Obsession with Youth Sports and How It Harms Our Kids*. Boston: Beacon Press, 2010.

Journalist and Professor Mark Hyman investigates the perils of today's youth sports culture and the outcome of coaches and parents pushing children beyond their physical and emotional limits.

Murphy, Shane. *The Cheers and the Tears: A Healthy Alternative to the Dark Side of Youth Sports Today*. Hoboken: Jossey-Bass, 1999.

Advice and approach for both parents and coaches to cope with the stress and competition associated with youth sports.

ADULT FICTION

Levy, BS. *The Last Open Road*. Illinois: Think Fast Ink, 1998.

A cult-classic original, *The Last Open Road* is a coming-of-age story about a 19-year-old New Jersey gas station mechanic learning about life, love and the joys and perils of motor racing in the Eisenhower fifties.

Stein, Garth. *The Art of Racing in the Rain*. New York: HarperCollins Publishers, 2008.

Enzo knows he is different from other dogs: a philosopher with a nearly human soul (and an obsession with opposable thumbs), he has educated himself by watching television extensively, and by listening very closely to the words of his master, Denny Swift, an up-and-coming race car driver. Through Denny, Enzo has gained tremendous insight into the human condition, and he sees that life, like racing, isn't simply about going fast.



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NON-FICTION FOR YOUNG READERS

Courtney, Vicki. *BeTween: A Preteen Girl's Guide to Life*. Nashville: B&H Books, 2006. (Age level: 9 and up) An insightful book for preteen girls that looks and reads like an irresistibly fun magazine, *BeTween* offers a wealth of wisdom to a booming and most impressionable audience.

David, Jack. *Go-Kart Racing*. Danbury: Children's Press, 2008.

This is a survey for elementary students about the history and technology behind kart racing.

Dobson, Dr. James. *Preparing for Adolescence: How to Survive the Coming Years of Change*. Portland: Gospel Light, 2005.

Dobson, popular family psychologist and founder of Focus on the Family, provides advice for adolescents, including how to deal with peer pressure, sexual development, decision-making, and handling independence.

Etnier, Jennifer L. *Bring Your "A" Game: A Young Athlete's Guide to Mental Toughness*. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 2009.

This book provides strategies for young athletes, including confidence building, goal setting, and how to create pre-performance routines to optimize performance during competition.

Savage, Jeff. *Danica Patrick*. Minneapolis: Lerner Publishing Group, 2010.

Suitable for elementary school students, this is a biography about the most successful and dynamic female Indy car driver.

FICTION FOR YOUNG READERS

King, Stephen. *The Body*. White Plains: Pearson ELT, 1999.

A thriller set in 1960's America about four adolescent boys transitioning from childhood to adulthood during a trek in search of the body of a boy killed by a train.

Knowles, John. *A Separate Peace*. New York: Scribner, 2003 (reprint).

Best-selling American coming-of-age classic set in a New England boarding school in the early 1940's. The many facets of boyhood adolescence are illustrated through two roommates during one summer with World War II looming in the background.

Reilly, Matthew. *Hover Car Racer*. Pan Childrens, 2005.

In the world of the near future, people travel everywhere in cars that hover four feet above the ground. This brilliant new technology has brought with it the invention of a new super-fast, super-dangerous, competitive sport ...hover car racing. Part race-car driver, part fighter pilot, all superstar: Jason Chaser is a champion hover car racer. But now he's pitted against the best young racers on the planet - with the ultimate prize at stake!

Salinger, J.D. *The Catcher in the Rye*. New York: Back Bay Books (re-issue), 1951.

Classic coming-of-age story about two days in the life of 16-year-old Holden Caulfield searching for truth in the adult world after being expelled from prep school.

FILMS/DOCUMENTARIES

"3: The Dale Earnhardt Story." A film by Russell Mulcahy. ESPN Original Entertainment, 2004. TRT: 92 minutes.

This television drama starring Barry Pepper as Dale Earnhardt chronicles one of the most legendary drivers in NASCAR history from his humble beginning as a mill worker to one of the most aggressive drivers on the track.

"Days of Thunder." A film by Tony Scott. Paramount Pictures, 1990. TRT: 107 minutes.

This action film stars Tom Cruise as Cole Trickle, a hot-tempered driver new on the scene to the world of NASCAR stock car racing.

"Kart Racer." A film by Stuart Gillard. MGM, 2005. TRT: 94 minutes.

A coming-of-age story, this film stars Randy Quaid as the father of an ambitious kart racer.

"Senna." A film by Asif Kapadia. Universal Pictures, 2010. TRT: 106 minutes.

This documentary feature spans the racing legend's years as an F1 driver. Far more than a film for F1 fans, Senna unfolds a remarkable story in a remarkable manner, eschewing many standard documentary techniques in favor of a more cinematic approach that makes full use of astounding footage, much of which is drawn from F1 archives and previously unseen.

"Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby." A film by Adam McKay. Columbia Pictures, 2006. TRT: 108 minutes.

In *Talladega Nights* champion NASCAR driver Ricky Bobby (Will Ferrell) uses his best friend Cal Naughton Jr. (John C. Reilly) to keep his # 1 status. Things go awry when Bobby is abandoned by Naughton and challenged on the track by French Formula One driver Jean Gerard (Sacha Baron Cohen).

