

Bibliography of Children's Literature for Advanced Narrative Writing

Using Literature to Support Your Writing Program

Writers of all ages are inspired by the work of other writers. An important component of any classroom writing program is the sharing of examples of writing by professional authors. You may wish to read these examples to the students and discuss them within the context of the genre being studied, or you may offer them as independent reading selections. While some students are reading independently, you can conference with others who need help during the editing and proofreading process.

Avi. *Perloo the Bold*. This book contains all the elements of a classic hero tale told from a fresh perspective. An unlikely hero, a timid rabbit named Perloo, responds to a mysterious summons that sends him on an incredible journey. Narrative writers of any level will find plenty of inspiration in this exciting story.

D'Aulaire, Ingri and Edgar. *D'Aulaires' Book of Greek Myths*. This is an excellent, easy-to-read book of myths and other hero quests for the advanced narrative writer.

Mason, Jane B. *King Arthur*. In this exciting hero tale, full of battles and chivalry, King Arthur gradually transforms from boy-king to wise, respected ruler. This easy-to-read book is a great example of the classic hero quest and is sure to interest intermediate and advanced narrative writers.

Oppel, Kenneth. *Silverwing*. This book, based on the classic hero tale, chronicles the adventures of a young bat separated from his colony during a winter migration. The trials and triumphs of the unusual hero will inspire narrative writers of any level.

Spinelli, Jerry. *Loser*. This book puts a modern spin on the classic hero quest as it follows the main character's journey from childhood to adolescence. The protagonist is quirky, unique, and unflaggingly committed to his own enthusiastic view of the world. This story may inspire students to write a hero quest set in the present.