Date: November 10, 2013

Title: The Sea of Monsters

Author: Rick Riordan

Last night I finished the second book in the Percy Jackson series, The Sea of Monsters. I think that I liked this book better than the first one and I’m not entirely sure why. I think part of this preference may be in the development of the relationships between characters. I liked that Percy’s relationships with Annabeth and Grover grew during this book. I also loved the twist of Percy having a half brother.

I made many connections to this book as I read. One connection I made was a text to self (T-S) connection. When Percy first returns to Camp Half-Blood and Tyson is with him he feels very conflicted. He cares for his brother, but at the same time he is very embarrassed to have a “monster” as a sibling. Now, don’t get me wrong, I don’t have any monster-siblings, but I do understand the feeling of being embarrassed by a loved one. I would be surprised if there is anyone in the world who has not, at one time or another, cringed as their mother/father/sister/brother/aunt… whoever, did something ridiculous in front of someone they wanted to impress. I think this feeling is especially true for teenagers. At least, that is when I can remember feeling this kind of conflict the most. You are torn between loving your relative and wanting them to disappear. Then, you feel guilty for ever feeling that way. I thought Riordan did a very good job showing the mixed emotions that any character would naturally have if they were in Percy’s situation.

Another connection I had while reading The Sea of Monsters had to do with the ship that Clarisse was captaining. This was a text to text (T-T) connection. When her boat was manned by the deceased soldiers, it reminded me of one of the “Pirates of the Caribbean” movies.

These are just two of the many connections I made throughout the novel. Here’s hoping the third book will offer as much entertainment for me!