

Get ready to booktalk! Start a page in your writer's notebook titled **SPRING BOOKTALK** and jot down some ideas based on the suggestions below. How much time you spend on each will vary depending on both your chosen book and your own observations as a reader. You also may or may not have some of this information—it isn't a checklist; share info that seems relevant. Keep in mind that your booktalk should **NOT** spoil the twists or ending of the story—you want readers to go find out for themselves.

BASIC INTRO – title of the book, author name, any interesting author info or book specific background

PREMISE (SET-UP) - Perhaps provide info about the setting (time & place) or basic background of the story or characters. Be sure to give your reader just enough to make them interested, but not enough to give away the whole plot. NOTE: A summary should not include your opinions or beliefs regarding the premise.

NARRATOR - Introduce the narrator(s) and perhaps the perspective(s) from which the story is told. What kind of attitude does the narrator have? How does this affect the telling of the story? Don't give away big secrets – just background kind of information.

STRUCTURE - Are there parts, sections, chapters? Is there anything unusual about the way the author put the book together?

OPINIONS - thoughtful and articulate opinions on the book

- What made you choose to read this book? How were you drawn to it?
- How does this book rate for readability? Is it an easy read (candy) kind of book or a challenging literary work? (Readers actually need some of both)
- Who else would like this book? What genre / sub-genre would it fit in?

READ-ALOUD (required)

Find a section (at least a page, **no more than two to three pages**) that show the author's writing style and/or the narrator's voice that might get others interested in the book. Record the page numbers here. Think about the *power of where you start and end* this excerpt. In order to find a spot that doesn't give away too much, look near the beginning (most of the best read-alouds come from the start). NOTE: Read aloud "can" be read word for word, but don't abuse it by choosing anything particularly or repeatedly offensive. It should **NOT** sound like the first time you read the excerpt aloud (unless you read really well), so practice if you need to.

PRESENT (required)

Sign up for a day and share your book talk. We are a friendly audience and just want to check out what you've been reading this semester. Think of us all as your biggest fans. 😊