

Coe Booth

Relevant Background information:

- Grew up in Bronx, NY (the setting of her two books)
- Worked with Teenagers and families in crisis in Bronx. Encountered homelessness, gangs, drugs, child abuse, neglect. (She credits this job as her inspiration for Tyrell)
- Kendra was inspired by her friends in high school who got pregnant and had to leave their kids with their mother's while going to college.
- Researched grandparents in urban environments.

Genres Represented:

- Realistic Fiction
- "I wanted to give readers a realistic portrayal of what it's like to grow up in hard circumstances, especially when you have only yourself to count on." ~Coe Booth

Style of writing:

- Easy to read, Character Driven stories.
- Does not use outlines, instead tries to get into the mind of the character as she writes.
- Uses street dialect and sentence patterns to capture the setting through her characters.

Themes in writing:

- About her latest novel, *Kendra*, Coe says "I wanted to write about the complicated choices one teenager makes - and the lengths she goes to just to feel wanted." ~Coe Booth

Appeal to Young Adults:

- Age: Grades 9-12; the language and subject matter may be a bit mature for a middle school audience.
 - She is currently working on a book that will target a younger middle school audience.
- Gender: Booth appeals to both genders in her books.
 - Kendra deals with issues that would be more appealing to females.
 - Tyrell would appeal more to boys.
 - In both she talks about real issues faced by teens.
- Reading Interests: Booth's books are great high interest reads that will appeal to reluctant readers. They are also well written and are a great quick read for high level readers.
 - Her characters are authentic and believable.
 - She uses real language (including swear words) that is appealing.
 - The Adults are flawed.
- Reading Development: Students who enjoy this book are still in the discovering themselves stage of reading.

Books Published:

- Tyrell
- Kendra
- Bronxwood (released September 1, 2011)

Works Cited

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