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The *Illinois Reading Council Journal (IRCJ)* is published quarterly and is distributed as a service to all members of the Illinois Reading Council. Membership in the Illinois Reading Council can be obtained through local and special interest reading councils in Illinois. For information, contact the Illinois Reading Council at 203 Landmark Drive, Suite B, Normal, IL 61761. IRC staff may also be reached by telephone at (309) 454-1341. Libraries and educational institutions can subscribe to *IRCJ* at an annual rate of \$40.00; address inquiries to the Executive Director at the IRC office. Because the *IRCJ* serves as an open forum, its contents do not necessarily reflect or imply endorsement or advocacy by the Illinois Reading Council, its officers, or its members.

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About the Cover Artist

Juliann Caveny

Juliann (Juli) Caveny is a 5th-grade teacher in rural Illinois and an avid reader, an author, and a hobbyist extraordinaire! As a child, she was surrounded by inspiration in all forms! Both of her parents are former art teachers who motivated her to explore her interests and find joy in “the process.” As a teacher, she strives to bring that same energy and love of learning to her classroom.

When explaining her approach to her artwork and other creative endeavors, Juli stresses “practice, practice, practice” and not letting failure stop her: “Most of all, have fun in all you do!”

The past year provided the time and opportunity she needed to learn to play the ukulele, study watercolors, and restore vintage classics like her “Barbie Camper” for doll dioramas she posts on her Instagram account *@ohfauxfashionable*.

Notes on the Cover Art

The artwork on the front and back covers were completed in watercolor: first, on multiple pages, and then combined using a digital format. Some “sketch lines” and color bleeds have been left on purpose: “When I first learned to quilt, I was often reminded that these little ‘errors’ are often things only I see.”

The theme: “I love when I walk into the library and see a group of kids reading a book together. There’s nothing more perfect than sharing the love of learning.”

Front Cover: “Shared Interests”

Back Cover: “Select Trio”

You can find more artwork from Juli on pages 32, 42, 78, and 84.



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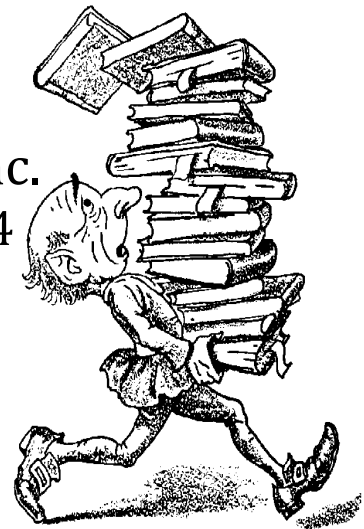
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