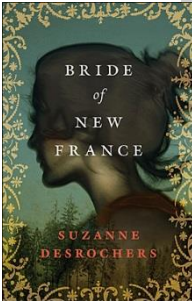




Fr. Michael Goetz Library Learning Commons Teacher's Book Review



***Bride of New France*, Suzanne Desrochers Reviewed by Ms. Cosgrove, March 21st, 2012.**

Canadian Historical fiction is always a treasure and the book came highly recommended by Joseph Boyden, author of another book in our library, *Three Day Road*. Today's book examines the lives of the filles du roi, the young women from France sent to Canada to marry the first settlers of Canada and populate the New World. The book traces the origins of these young women from orphanages and convents and chronicles their hardships during their transatlantic voyages and the strength and courage they needed to survive in an inhospitable climate and unsettled land. The book provides a really interesting glimpse of life in the French court, and touches on the politics of the state's desire to gain riches and the Church's desire to win souls. All of this is seen through the eyes of the novel's protagonist, Laure, whose life was transformed when she was taken from her parents, street beggars in Paris and fostered by a wealthy woman. A life of relative luxury ends when the woman dies and Laure is forced to return to the orphanage where she ultimately chooses a new life in a new world.