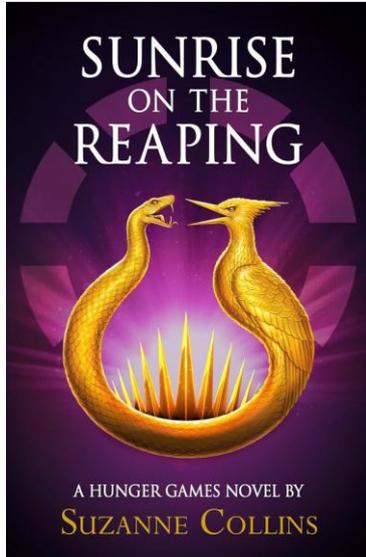
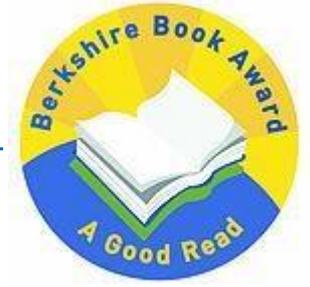


Berkshire Book Award 2026: Longlisted title



***Sunrise on the Reaping* by Suzanne Collins**

As the day dawns on the fiftieth annual Hunger Games, fear grips the districts of Panem. This year, in honour of the Quarter Quell, twice as many tributes will be taken from their homes.

Back in District 12, Haymitch Abernathy is trying not to think too hard about his chances. All he cares about is making it through the day and being with the girl he loves.

When Haymitch's name is called, he can feel all his dreams break. He's torn from his family and his love, shuttled to the Capitol with the three other District 12 tributes: a young friend who's nearly a sister to him, a compulsive oddsmaker, and the most stuck-up girl in town.

As the Games begin, Haymitch understands he's been set up to fail. But there's something in him that wants to fight . . . and have that fight reverberate far beyond the deadly arena.

Discussion Questions

- Haymitch goes through the Hunger Games at a very young age. How do you think the Games change him as a person? What moments stood out to you as turning points for him?
- The Capitol tries to control the story of the Games. Why do you think storytelling and appearances are so important to the Capitol? How does this affect the tributes?
- Friendships and alliances play a big role in the book. Which relationship did you find the most interesting or important, and why?
- Haymitch is clever and strategic, not just physically strong. How does his intelligence help him survive? Can you think of examples where thinking was more important than fighting?
- The book shows unfairness and inequality between the Capitol and the districts. What parts of the story made this unfairness most clear to you?