

January 3, 2011

Dear Mr. Miller,

This week I have been reading the book Al Capone Does My Shirts by Gennifer Choldenko. The main character, Moose, is a thirteen year-old boy who loves baseball. His father has lost his job, and his family has to move to San Francisco. Moose has a sister named Natalie, but I'm not sure how old she is, because it seems like their mother is keeping it a secret. There's also something wrong with her. She's obsessed with counting things, like buttons, and she says strange things. Anyway, they are all living on Alcatraz (!) because his father is now working at the prison. It seems like the book is taking place in the 1920's, although the book didn't say. They mentioned the depression, and Al Capone is a prisoner on the island.

I feel bad for Moose. I remember having to move, and how hard it was to start all over with new friends. It is so scary to move to town where you don't know anybody!

I'm looking forward to learning more about Natalie. I think Al Capone is going to help or hurt the family some how – why else would his name be in the title? And everyone in the book is fascinated with him, although he hasn't appeared yet.

Your student,

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*Your letter should have a brief (short) summary of what you read, including the author and title. Then tell something you are thinking about because of the book, like a prediction, a connection, a favorite part, what you think the author is saying, why you like a character... anything related to the book. Don't forget the friendly letter format!*