

purchases for your school's curriculum needs

suspense built into its structure. The abuse suffered by Cameron is not explicitly described, but is still startling in its realism. Reluctant readers and kids who thrive on real-life drama will adore this book, and it is a great choice for literature circles as well. It is the winner of the *Edgar Allan Poe Award* and also an *ALA Quick Pick*.

Sensitive Elements:

Because Cameron's life has been full of bodies in the basement, implied sexual abuse and violence, this book has (naturally) a high controversy level. Still, it is a powerful, well-written, and captivating novel that holds great appeal for kids because it is "real."



Angus, Thongs, and Full-Frontal Snogging

Louise Rennison
2001.

0064472272

Sample Curriculum Links:

Intermediate Language

Arts: Reading

Grade 9 English:

Literature Studies and
Reading

Summary:

This hilarious journal recounts the life of Georgia

Nicolson, a 14-year-old English girl whose greatest aim in life is to capture the heart of Robbie, the "Sex God." Georgia's family, one of her greatest challenges, includes her wild Scottish cat, Angus, her little sister, Libby, and her very embarrassing parents. As she negotiates life in her all-girl's school and plots to win her man, she takes on bullies, the neighbourhood's answer to Mick Jagger, and the challenges of adolescence as only Georgia can.

How to Use This Book:

This is a hilarious coming of age novel, told in the voice of what some critics have called a "young Bridget Jones." It is the first of a series of six (so far), and is a huge hit with both male and female teens and preteens. Georgia's decisions

provoke a great deal of discussion, and the diary form of this first person narrative makes it a great reluctant reader choice. It won the *Michael L. Printz Honor Book* award in 2001, as well as *Books for the Teen Age 2001* (NYPL), *Books for Youth Editor's Choice 2000* (Booklist), *Top 10 Youth First Novels 2000* (Booklist), *Best Books for Young Adults* (ALA), and *2001 Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Readers* (ALA).

Sensitive Elements:

This book is very much an *Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret* for the new millennia. Georgia wrestles with all sorts of puberty issues that preoccupy many fourteen-year-old girls, but some of the topics (and the title) have made it a popular choice for censorship. ■

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