



readers on the block

Interviewed by Children's Librarian, Ms. Jo.

MS JO: What was your favorite children's book when you were a child?

SGT. HACKER: I have two favorites—*Indian in the Cupboard* and *Jumanji*.

MS JO: Describe a favorite memory of reading and/or visiting the library.

SGT. HACKER: When I was growing up, my mom always made it a point to take me to the library every Tuesday to pick out as many books as I could carry. I always got so excited when she said it was time to go to the library.

MS JO: Why do you believe libraries are important?

SGT. HACKER: I have two reasons why I believe libraries are important. The freedom to read whatever you want is something many countries don't even have, and the public library in the U.S. provides the ability to read what you want for free. Also, reading is one of the most important things that a person can do. Libraries can help you imagine new worlds.

MS JO: What did you want to be when you were growing up?

SGT. HACKER: I actually wanted to be a soldier. I grew up playing in the woods near my house with friends doing army things. Now I get to do army things as an adult. No matter what you want to do as a kid, there is always a way to do it.

Sergeant Charlie Hacker grew up in Middletown, Ohio. He has a bachelor's degree in education from Miami University. He is currently working on a Master in Library and Information Science at Kent State. He has two jobs! One is a Teen Librarian here at the library. You may have seen him at the desk or helping with programming for the teens. The other job is with the Army National Guard. He is currently serving in Kosovo as the Chief Legal Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) for Kosovo Force (KFOR) 22. He is a paralegal, which means he maintains a lot of records and helps make sure that everything is done in a legal manner.

Fun Facts:

- He loves college basketball, especially the Kentucky Wildcats!
- He collects old Transformers toys.
- He used to coach 8th grade basketball and won 2 GWOC championships.
- He builds custom cars and trucks and travels the country for car shows.