<u>Isaac Hole</u> <u>Dec. 9 2011</u>

Epic Disease

The novel, Fever, by Laurie Halse Anderson was a very interesting book. Mattie, has to leave home and family to fend for herself during the 1793 plague outbreak in Philadelphia. She seeks help from her friend Eliza and becomes part of her family. Eventually, her mom returns and Mattie and Eliza help her run a successful coffee shop. Other important characters that help Mattie are her Grandfather, her Mother, the little orphan named Nell who Mattie rescues and her crush Nathaniel Benson. The main theme of the story is survival even when life is very difficult.

There are a number of connections in the story to the central idea and the lines of inquiry on this U.O.I. A connection to the central idea is for the history part of it. The totaled monstrous black plague outbreak in Philadelphia in 1793 was a time of death and turmoil. People had to move out of the city to find safety. Doctors were busy day by day. It was a catastrophe that people had to be evacuated out of their homes just from influenza. Now that is history. There is a connection to line of inquiry #2 because of social responsibilities from Mattie's perspective of the outbreak.

I had one main personal connection to Fever 1793. That connection was when I had this flu when I was micro. Springing, I was coughing, barfing and sneezing for 2 weeks straight. It was the worst time of my life. In those two weeks I onto the brick fireplace (not when it was on) and now I have this existing scar on the side of my face. Life sucked when I was 3, life sucked.