

YEAR 8

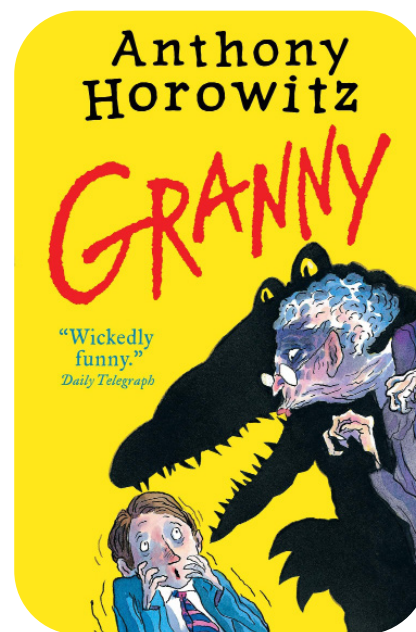
Reading List - 2022/23

COMEDY



Worst Holiday Ever
Charlie Higson:

Stan is going on holiday to Italy with his (fifth) best friend Felix and a load of strangers. Luckily, his mum's given him an emergency list that includes how to survive a shark attack, and what to do if he gets kidnapped. It soon turns out Italy is full of dangers and things that can go wrong.



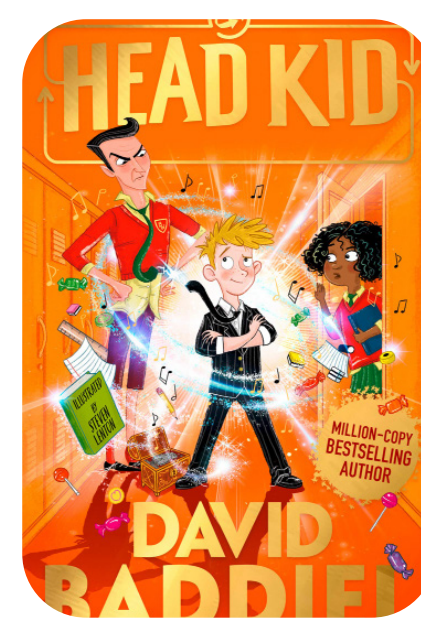
Granny
Anthony Horowitz:

Twelve-year-old Joe has an un-believably evil Granny. Not on-ly is Granny physically repul-sive and horribly mean, but she also has the look in her eye of a predatory crocodile. Soon Joe starts to suspect that she has unpleasant designs on him. But what are they and how can he foil them?



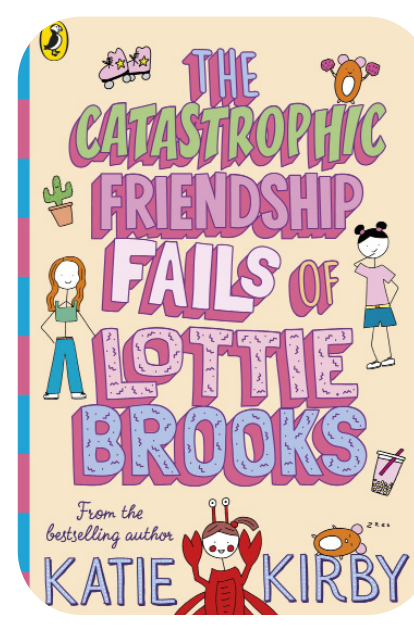
The Summer We Turned Green
William Sutcliff:

It's the summer holidays, and thir-teen-year-old Luke's life has been turned upside down. First his older sister Rose moved 'across the road', where a commu-nity of climate rebels is protesting the planned airport expansion. Dad only went to get Rose back, but now he's out there building totem poles, wearing sandals and drinking mead (whatever that is) with the best of them... Can Luke save his family when all they want to do is save the planet?



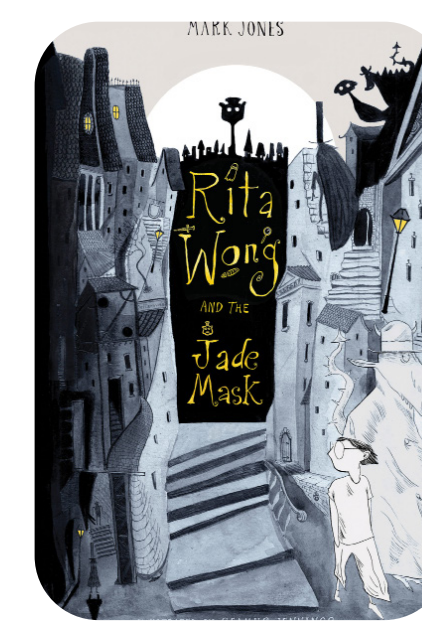
Head kid
David Baddiel:

From the million-copy bestselling author of THE PARENT AGENCY and BIRTHDAY BOY comes a wildly entertaining wish-ful-filment adventure that asks the question: what would happen if the strictest head teacher swapped bodies with the naughtiest kid in school?



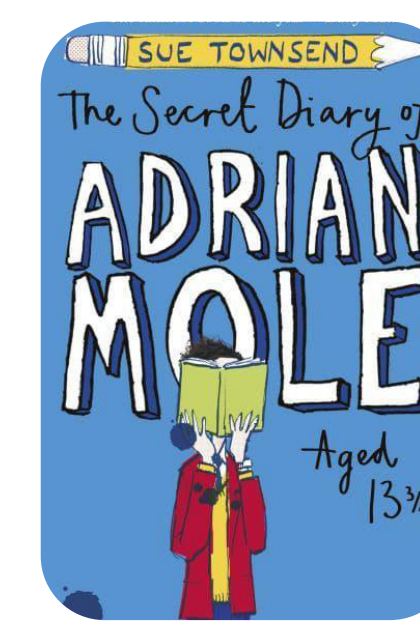
The Catastrophic Friendship Fails of Lottie Brooks
Katie Kirby:

Lottie Brooks is back and ready to face anything. No more trying to impress mean girl Amber. And absolutely no more being nicknamed Cucumber Girl. A lead role in the spring musical gives Lottie a chance to dazzle her mega-crush Daniel with her talent as a singing crab but it's not all singing and dancing at Kingswood High. Lottie's friendship with Molly and Jess seems to be falling apart no matter how hard she tries to keep her BFFs together.



Rita Wong and the Jade Mask
Mark Jones:

Rita Wong lives an ordinary life in Morecambe. That's until she pursues a dragon called Lester Thyme into Neon City where the streets are dark with magic. Lester and Rita become detectives for hire. Their first case seems to be about stolen swords, but they soon discover there are much darker forces at work and that there is no one they can trust in a race against times to stop a master criminal from taking over Neon City.



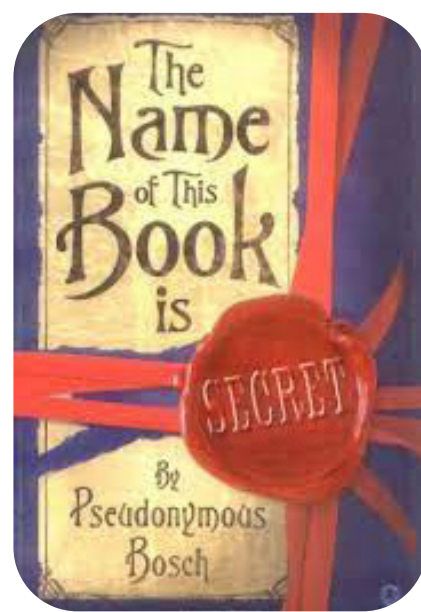
The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole
Sue Townsend:

I felt rotten today. It's my mother's fault for singing 'My Way' at two o'clock in the morning at the top of the stairs. Just my luck to have a mother like her. There is a chance my parents could be alcoholics. Next year I could be in a children's home. Meet Adrian Mole, a hapless teenager providing an unabashed, pimples-and-all glimpse into adolescent life. Writing candidly about his parents' marital troubles, the dog, his life as a tortured poet and 'misunderstood intellectual' LGBTQ-

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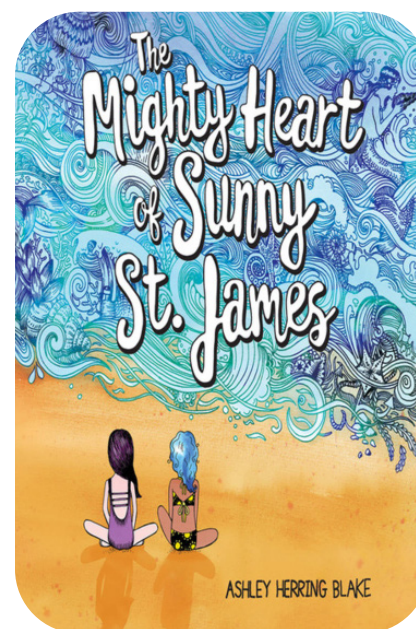
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COMEDY - CONT.



The Secret Series
Pseudonymous Bosch:

WARNING: DO NOT READ THIS BOOK! For amongst its strange and alarming contents you will find: two extraordinary adventures... a missing magician's diary... a symphony of smells... and a deadly secret. But wait, you already know too much! It is too late!



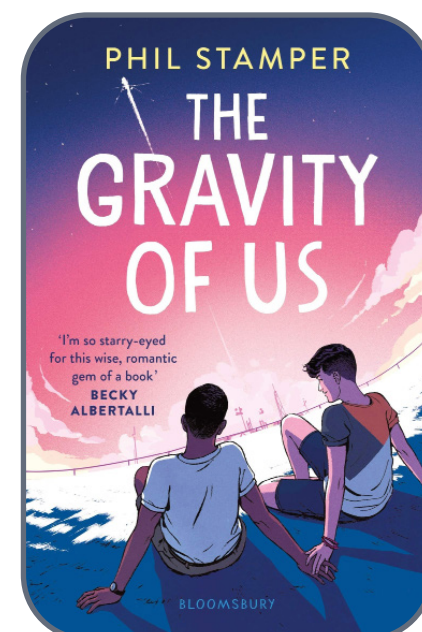
The Mighty Heart of Sunny St James
Ashley Herring:

When Sunny St. James receives a new heart, she decides to set off on a New Life Plan: 1) do awesome amazing things she could never do before; 2) find a new best friend; and 3) kiss a boy for the first time. Her New Life Plan seems to be racing forward, but when she meets her new best friend Quinn, Sunny questions whether she really wants to kiss a boy at all.



Only at the Weekends
Dean Atta:

Mack is a hopeless romantic - he blames the films he's grown up watching. He has liked Karim for as long as he can remember and is ecstatic when Karim becomes his boyfriend. But when Mack's dad gets a job on a film in Scotland, Mack must move. It's horrible being so far away from Karim, but the worst part is that Karim doesn't make the effort to visit. Love shouldn't be only on the weekends.



The Gravity of Us
Phil Stamper:

Cal wants to be a journalist, and he's already well underway with almost half a million followers on his Flash Fame app and an upcoming internship at BuzzFeed. But his plans are derailed when his pilot father is selected for a highly publicized NASA mission to Mars. Within days, Cal and his parents leave Brooklyn for hot and humid Houston. With the entire nation desperate for any new information about the astronauts, Cal finds himself thrust in the middle of a media circus.



Hani and Ishu's Guide to Fake Dating
Adiba Jagirda:

Everyone likes Hani Khan - she's easy going and one of the most popular girls at school. But when she comes out to her friends as bisexual, they don't believe her, claiming she can't be bi if she's only dated guys. Panicked, Hani blurts out that she's in a relationship... with a girl her friends can't stand - Ishu Dey.



You're the One that I Want
Simon James Green:

Freddie is unremarkable. He doesn't stand out in any way, and in fact teachers and fellow students keep forgetting who he is. Even his mum thinks he's a disappointment, and spends almost all her time at work, producing a TV show. After a particularly awful night when he embarrasses himself in front of Jasper Perry (the gorgeous teen star of his mum's new show), Freddie decides to follow a new, proactive philosophy designed to transform his social and romantic life: saying 'yes' to every opportunity. *Neurodiverse Characters*



The Lucky List
Rachael Lippincott:

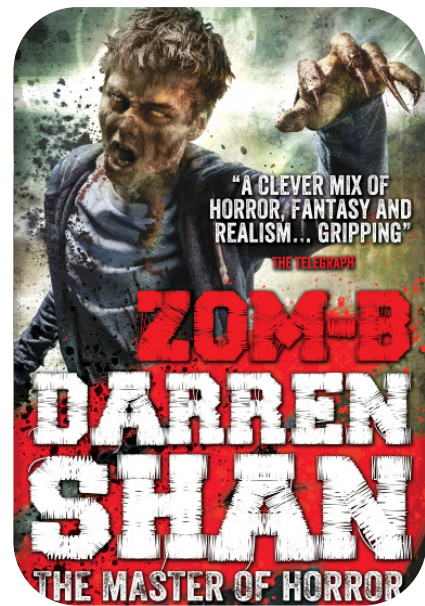
Since her mum died, Emily's started to feel like her luck's run out. So, when Emily finds her mum's senior-year bucket list, she finds twelve ways to feel close to her again. But if she wants to check everything off, she'll need help - help in the form of Blake. As Blake and Emily work through the list, the girls' bond deepens. Emily is faced with the question: can she accept this new part of herself, the part her mum never even knew existed?

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HORROR - SUPERNATURAL



Zom-B Series

Darren Shan:

Zom-B is a radical series about a zombie apocalypse, told in the first person by one of its victims. The series combines classic Shan action with a fiendishly twisting plot and hard-hitting and thought-provoking moral questions dealing with racism, abuse of power and more.

Book#1



Spooks Series

Joseph Delaney:

'Someone has to stand against the dark. And you're the only one who can.' For years, the local Spook has been keeping the County safe from evil. Now his time is coming to an end, but who will take over? Just one boy is left. Thomas Ward. He is the last hope.

Book#1



Coraline

Neil Gaiman:

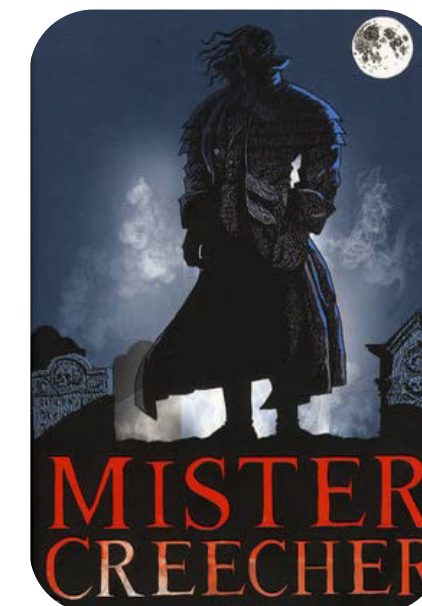
When Coraline steps through a door in her family's new house, she finds another house, strangely like her own (only better). At first, things seem marvellous. But there's another mother and father, and they want her to stay and be their little girl. Coraline will have to fight with all her wits if she is to save herself.



A Skinful of Shadows

Frances Hardinge:

Sometimes, when a person dies, their spirit looks for someone else to hide in. Some people are perfect for hiding. Makepeace has learned to defend herself from the ghosts that try to possess her in the night, desperate for refuge - but one day she drops her guard. Now she has a spirit inside her.



Mister Creecher

Chris Priestley:

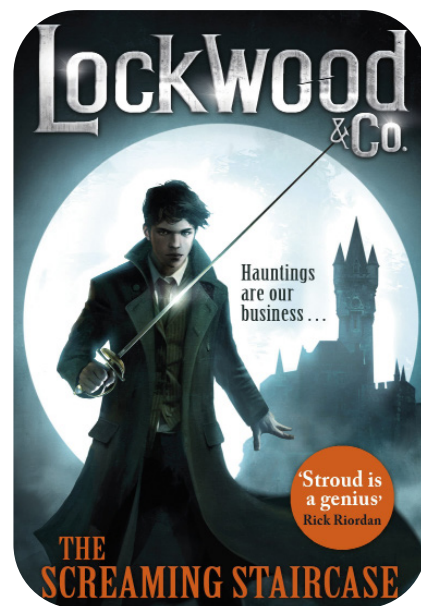
Billy is a street urchin, pick-pocket, and petty thief. Mister Creecher is a monstrous giant of a man who terrifies all he meets. Their relationship becomes a bond between these two misfits as their bloody journey takes them ever northwards on the trail of their target, Victor Frankenstein. A frightening book of friendship, trust and betrayal.

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HORROR - SUPERNATURAL



Lockwood and Co. Series

Jonathan Stroud:

Britain has a horrifying epidemic of ghosts. Lucy joins the smallest, most ramshackle agency in the city, run by Anthony Lockwood. When one of their cases goes horribly wrong, Lockwood & Co. must stay the night in a haunted house and try to escape alive. A scary and funny detective ghost series.

Book#1



Frozen Charlotte

Alex Bell:

Dunvegan School for Girls has been closed and converted into a family home long ago. Sophie arrives at the old schoolhouse to spend the summer with her cousins. Brooding Cameron with his scarred hand, strange Lilius with a fear of bones and Piper, who seems just a bit too good to be true and the girl with a room full of dolls. The girl that died!



Demon Road Trilogy

Derek Landy:

Amber is smart but insecure, spending most of her time online, to avoid her aloof parents. When an encounter reveals a horrifying secret, she is forced to go on the run from killer cars, vampires, undead serial killers, and red-skinned, horned demons. She races across America before her parents catch up with her.

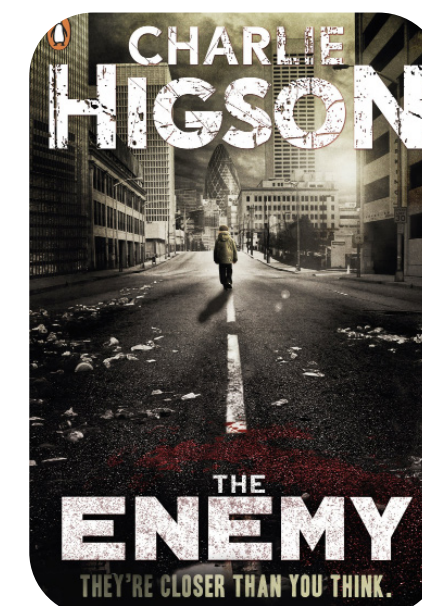
Book#1



We Played with Fire

Catherine Barter:

Maggie has witnessed impossible things. But no one believes her, and now her family has taken her away to spend the winter upstate in a remote, freezing farmhouse. Bored and angry, Maggie and her younger sister Kate start to play tricks: rapping on the floorboards above their parents' bedroom, cracking their toes under the table, and telling tales about noises in the night. Then the house starts to make sounds of its own. Neither Maggie nor Kate can explain it, but it seems as though someone - or something - is trying to speak to them . . .



The Enemy Series

Charlie Higson:

Everyone over the age of fourteen has a deadly zombie virus and now the kids must keep themselves alive. When the virus came, every adult fell ill. Some died. The others are crazed, hungry and confused. The children are fighting to survive. Rumours speak of a safe place to hide, so a gang of children move across London-but can they make it there - alive?

Book#1

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DYSTOPIAN - SCIENCE FICTION

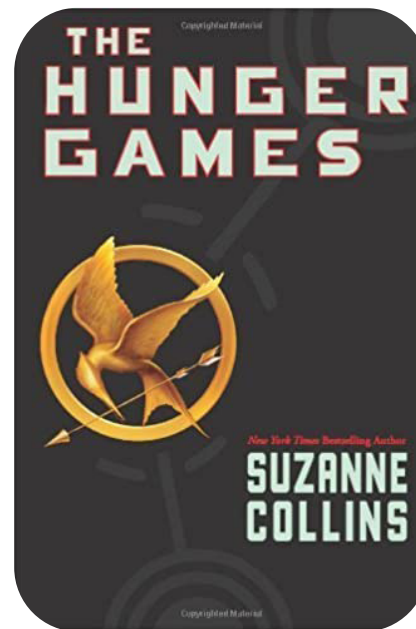


Ink Series

Alice Broadway:

There are no secrets in Saintstone. Everything you do is tattooed on your skin. After her father dies, Leora finds solace in the fact that his skin tells a wonderful story, until she sees a mark on his neck...the symbol of the worst crime a person can commit.

Book#1

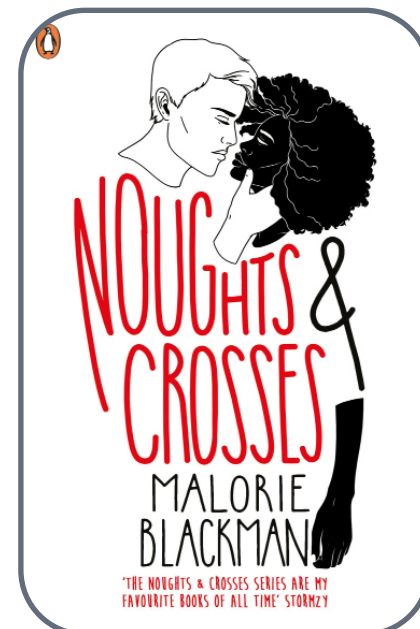


The Hunger Games Series

Suzanne Collins:

In the ruins of North America lies the nation of Panem, a shining Capitol surrounded by twelve outlying districts. The Capitol is harsh and cruel forcing teenagers to participate in the annual Hunger Games, a fight to the death on live TV. Katniss Everdeen fights for survival. Book#1 read the Prequel: Ballad of Songbirds & Snakes!

Book#1



Noughts and Crosses Series

Malorie Blackman:

Two young people are forced to make a stand in this thought-provoking look at racism and prejudice in an alternate society. Sephy is a Cross, Callum is a Nought. Noughts and Crosses simply don't mix. A romance builds between Sephy and Callum – but it leads them into danger.

Book#1



Gone Series

Michael Grady:

One day everyone above age 15 dis-appears! Just as suddenly, there are no phones, no internet, no tele-vision. Hunger threatens. Bullies rule. A sinister creature lurks. On your 15th birthday, you disappear just like everyone else. A science fiction/ dystopian fantasy world of survival against monsters, bullies and each other.

Book#1

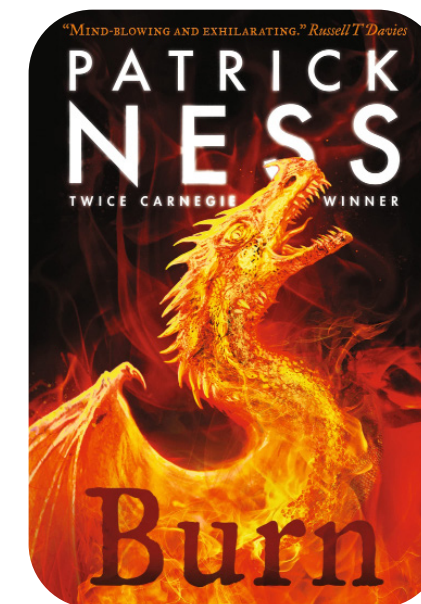


The Maze Runner Series

James Dashner:

When the lift opens, the only thing Thomas remembers is his name. Boys welcome him to the Glade, a camp in a maze. They have no idea what's happened to the world outside. All they know is that every morning when the walls slide back, they will risk all to find out.

Book#1



Burn

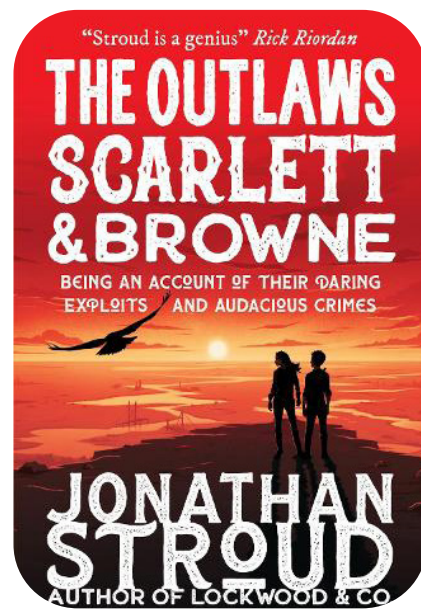
Patrick Ness:

and her father, outcasts in Frome, are forced to hire a dragon to work their farm, which only the poor have to do. Sarah is curious about Kazimir Sarah. He supposedly does not have a soul but seems intent on keeping her safe. Kazimir has a prophecy that involves a deadly assassin, a cult, two FBI agents in hot pursuit—and, Sarah herself.

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DYSTOPIAN - SCIENCE FICTION



The Outlaws Scarlett and Browne

Series

Jonathan Stroud:

Set in a future England, where gunfights and monsters collide, and where the formidable outlaw Scarlett McCain discovers a wrecked coach with only one survivor, Albert Browne. Scarlett agrees to escort him to safety, but soon, new enemies are on their heels.

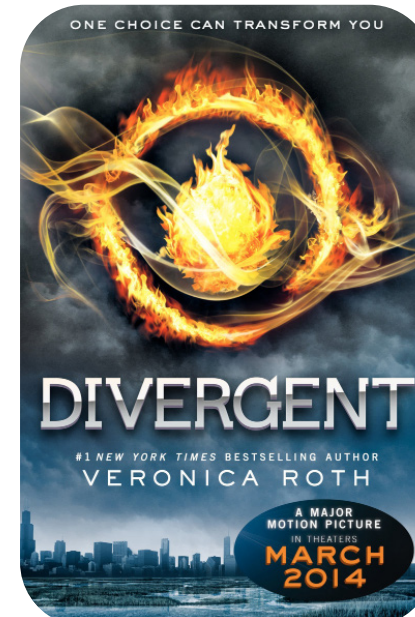


Arc of a Scythe Series

Neal Shusterman:

A world with no hunger, no disease, no war, no misery. Humanity has conquered all those things and even death. Scythes are the only ones who can end life -and must, in order to keep the population under control. Citra and Rowan are chosen to be apprentice to a scythe—a role neither wants.

Book#1

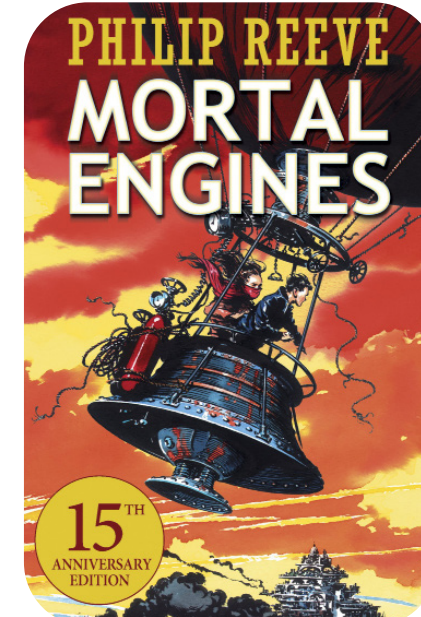


Divergent Series

Veronica Roth:

When the doors of the lift crank open, the only thing Thomas remembers is his first name. But he's surrounded by boys who welcome him to the Glade – a walled encampment at the centre of a terrible stone maze. The Gladers don't know why or how they came to be there – or what's happened to the world outside.

Book #1



The Mortal Engines Series

Philip Reeve:

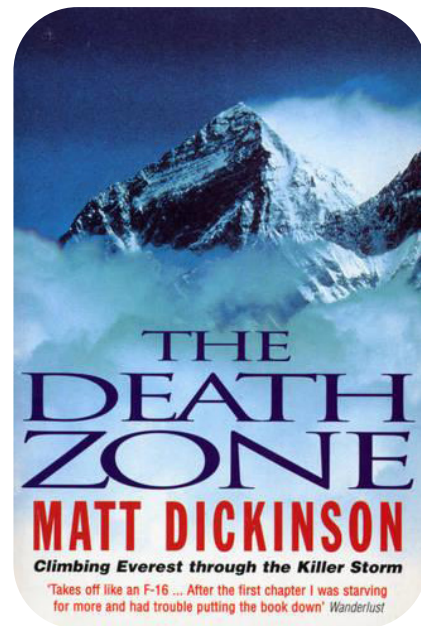
In a dangerous future, huge motor-ised cities hunt, attack and fight each other for survival. As London pursues a small town, young apprentice Tom is flung out into the wastelands, where a terrifying cy-borg begins to hunt him down... The start of a brilliant Steam-punk dystopian fantasy.

Book#1

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ADVENTURE - SURVIVAL



The Death Zone

Matt Dickenson:

It seemed like any other season on Mount Everest. Ten expeditions from around the world were preparing for their summit push, gathered together to try for mountaineering's ultimate prize. Twenty-four hours later, eight of those climbers were dead, victims of the most devastating storm ever to hit Everest. On the North face of the mountain, a British expedition found itself in the thick of the drama.



The Good Thieves

Katherine Rundell:

Desperate to help her beloved grandfather, Vita and her mother go to New York. She has one goal: to break into Hudson Hall and retrieve the jewels that the sinister Victor Sorrotore stole from her family. With her new friends, she plans a scary heist.



The Trail

Meika Hashimoto:

Toby has to finish the final thing on The List. It's a list of brave, daring, totally awesome things that he and his best friend, Lu-cas, planned to do together, and the only item left is to hike the Appalachian Trail. When a storm comes, Toby finds himself tangled up in someone else's mess: Two boys desperately need his help. But does Toby have any help to give?

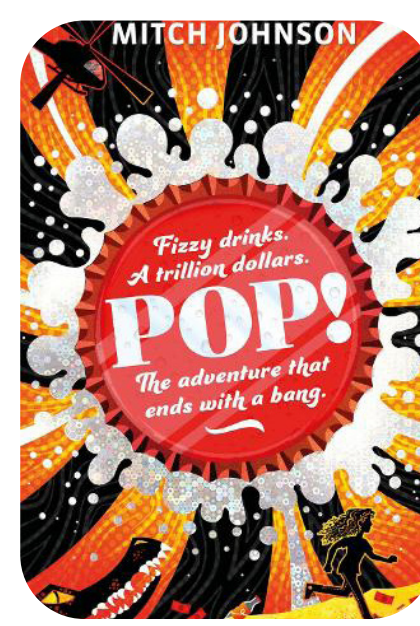


Mission Survival Series

Bear Grylls:

Beck is in Colombia. His uncle and Don Rafael know where the lost city is, but they are both kidnapped. Beck must set off into the wilds of Colombia, build a raft, negotiate wild river rapids, make camp, and defend his friends from wild animals in the jungle.

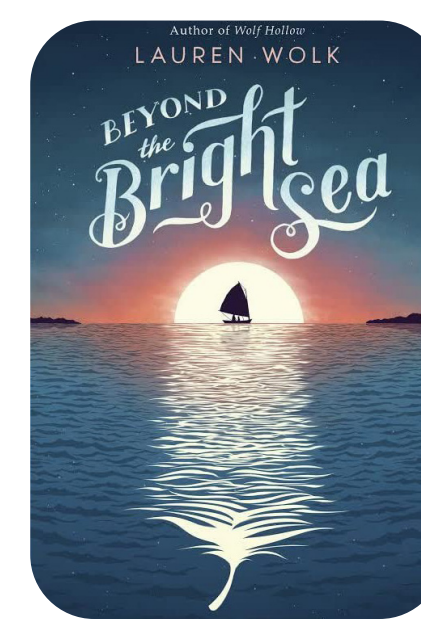
Book#1



Pop

Mitch Johnson:

When the recipe to the world's most popular drink - thought to be lost forever - washes up at her feet, Queenie's life instantly changes. Everyone wants it, and with a \$10 million bounty on her head, Queenie's soon on the run. Can she and her friend Todd do something to fix this crazy, messed up world?



Beyond the Bright Sea

Lauren Wolk:

Crow has always been curious about the world around her, but it isn't until the night a mysterious fire appears across the water that the unspoken question of her own history forms in her heart. Soon, a chain of events is triggered, leading Crow down a path of discovery and danger.

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ADVENTURE - SURVIVAL CONT.



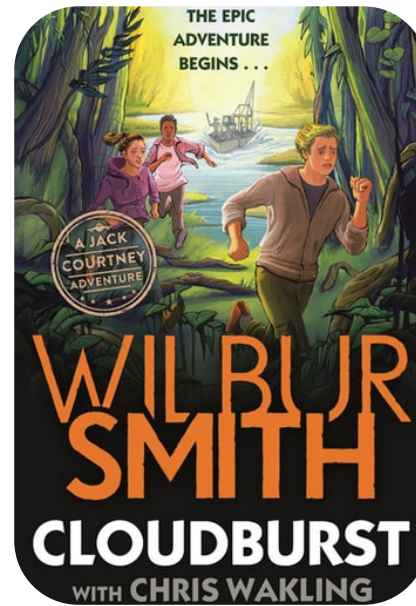
Cogheart Series

Peter Brunzl:

Lily's father is missing, and now silver-eyed men stalk her.

With her friends—Robert, the clockmaker's son, and Malkin, her mechanical fox—Lily is plunged into a murky and menacing world of murder, mayhem and mystery set in this gripping Victorian steam punk adventure.

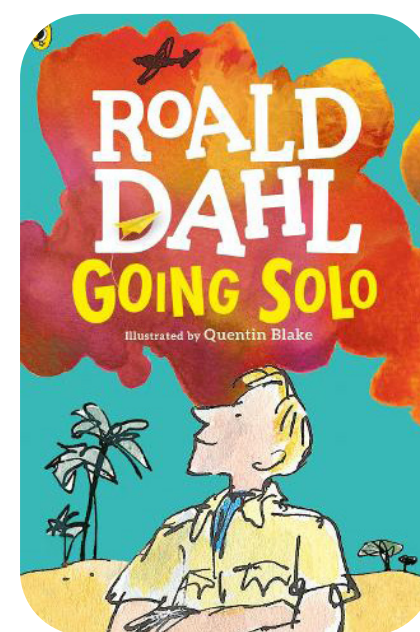
Book#1



Cloudburst

Wilbur Smith:

Wilbur Smith: Cloudburst
Jack Courtney has lived in the UK his whole life. But this summer his parents are travelling to the Demo-cratic Republic of the Congo for a gorilla conference, and they've promised to take Jack and his friends with them. When his parents go missing in the rainforest, abducted by mercenaries, nobody seems to have any answers. Jack is pretty sure that it's got something to do with the nearby tantalum mines, but he needs to prove it.



Going Solo

Roald Dahl:

Roald Dahl: Going Solo
As a young man, Roald Dahl's adventures took him from London to East Africa, until the Second World War began and he became a RAF pilot. You'll read stories of whizzing through the air in a Tiger Moth Plane, encounters with deadly green mambas and hungry lions, and the terrible crash that led him to storytelling.



Treasure Island

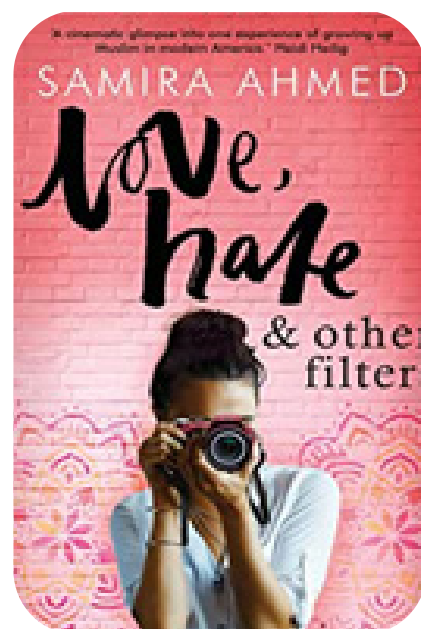
Robert Louis Stevenson:

When a mysterious sailor dies in sinister circumstances at the Admi-ral Benbow inn, young Jim Haw-kins stumbles across a treasure map among the dead man's pos-sessions. But Jim soon becomes only too aware that he is not the only one who knows of the map's existence, and his bravery and cunning are tested to the full.

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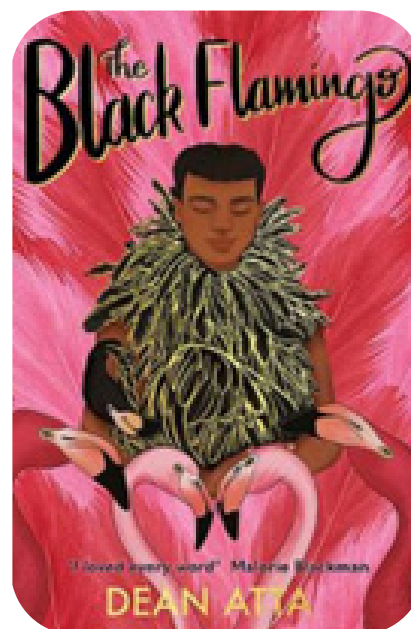
REAL LIFE



Love, Hate and Other Filters

Samira Ahmed:

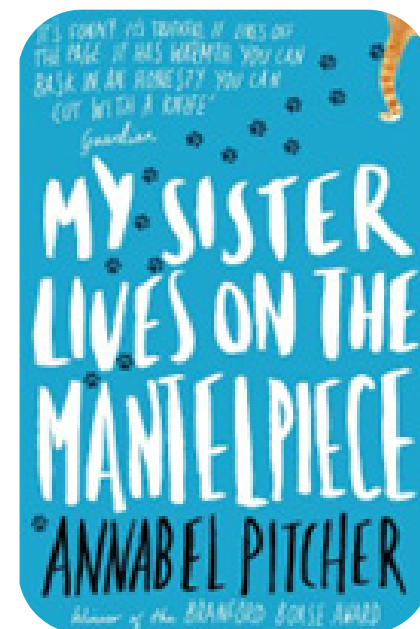
Maya - an Indian American Muslim teen confronts Islamophobia and a reality she can neither explain nor escape. She is torn between two worlds. But in the aftermath of a horrific crime, her life is turned upside down by fear, bigotry, and hatred.



Black Flamingo

Dean Atta:

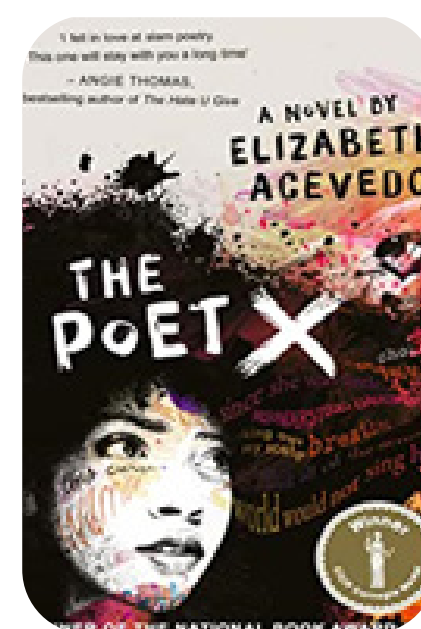
Michael waits in the stage wings, wearing a pink wig, pink fluffy coat and black heels. One more step will see him illuminated by spotlight. He has been on a journey of bravery to get here, and he is almost ready to show himself to the world in bold colours ... Can he emerge as *The Black Flamingo*?



My Sister Lives on the Mantelpiece

Annabel Pitcher:

Five years ago, Jamie's sister, Rose, was blown up by a terrorist bomb. His family is torn apart by their grief. His mum runs away. His dad turns to drink and hate. Rose's surviving twin sister Jas-mine stops eating, gets piercings and dyes her hair pink - anything to look different to her twin. But Jamie hasn't cried in all that time.



The Poet X

Elizabeth Acevedo:

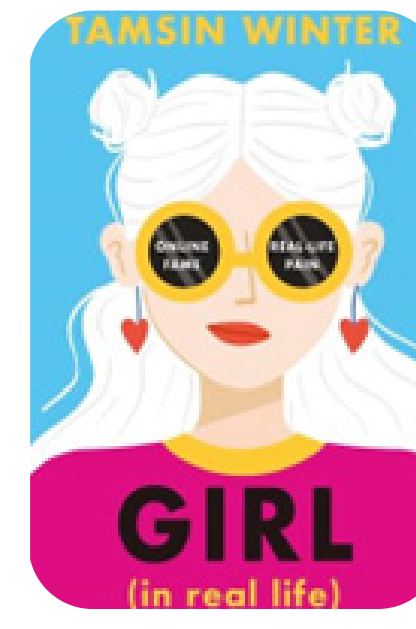
Xiomara feels unheard in her Harlem neighbourhood. She discovers slam poetry to understand her place in the world. She joins a school slam poetry club and can't stop thinking about her poems. Because though the world might not want to hear, Xiomara refuses to be silent.



The Night Bus Hero

Onjali Rauf:

I've been getting into trouble for as long I can remember. Recently no one believes me about anything - even when I'm telling the truth! It's worse since I played a prank on the old man in the park. Everyone thinks I'm just a bully. They don't believe I could be a hero. But I'm going to prove them all wrong. Bullying and homeless-ness themes.



Girl (In Real Life)

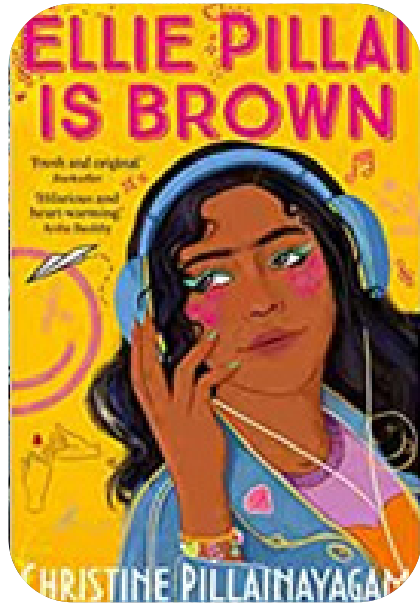
Tamsin Winter:

Eva's parents run a hugely success-ful YouTube channel, and Eva is the star of the show. But Eva is getting sick of being made to pose in stupid mum-and-daughter matching out-fits for sponsored posts. The freebies aren't worth the teasing at school. And when an intensely humiliating "period party" post goes viral, Eva is outraged. She's going to find a way to stop the channel, even if she must sabotage it herself.

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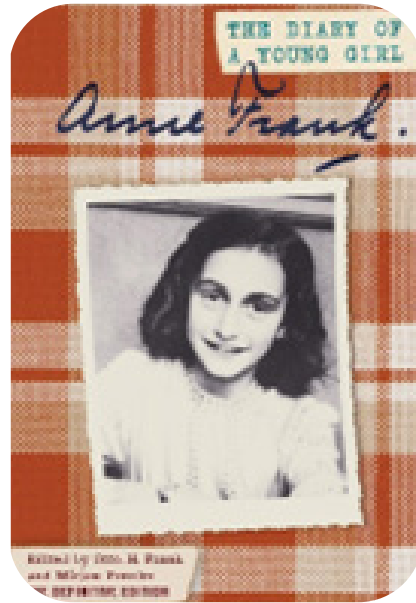
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REAL LIFE - CONT.



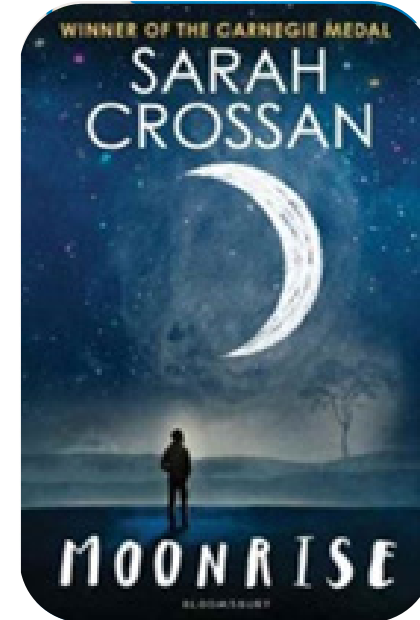
Ellie Pillai is Brown
Christine Pillainayagam:

Most days, Ellie Pillai is some-where between invisible, and not very cool - and usually she's okay with that. But suddenly, Ellie feels different. Maybe it's the new boy at school who makes her brain ex-plode into rain-bows every time she sees him (and also happens to be going out with her best friend. Suddenly, her misfit style, her skin colour, her songwriting and all that getting lost in the music in her head seem to be okay too. Because maybe standing out isn't a bad thing after all.



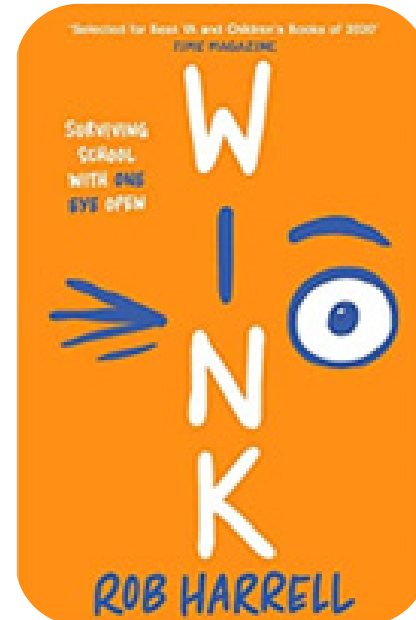
The Diary of a Young Girl
Anne Frank:

Discovered in the attic in which she spent the last years of her life, Anne Frank's remarkable diary has be-come a world classic a powerful reminder of the horrors of war and an eloquent testament to the hu-man spirit.



Moonrise
Sarah Crossan:

Sarah Crossan: Moonrise Joe hasn't seen his brother for ten years, because Ed is on death row. His date for execution has been set, and Joe is determined to spend those last weeks with him, no matter what other people think This poignant, stirring, novel asks big questions. What value do you place on life? What can you for-give? And just how do you say goodbye?



Wink
Rob Harrell:

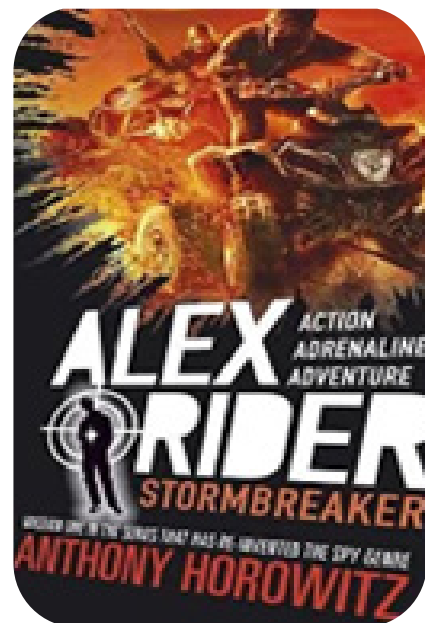
Rob Harrell: Wink Ross Molloy just wants to be nor-mal. He doesn't want to lose his hair, or wear a weird hat, or deal with the disap-pearing friends who don't know what to say to 'the can-cer kid'. But with his re-cent diag-nosis of a rare eye cancer, simply blending in is no longer an option. Ross - and his friends and his family - all need to work out how to deal with this devas-tating challenge that Life has thrown down. Maybe Batpig can come to the rescue?

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CRIME, MYSTERY, THRILLERS AND SPIES

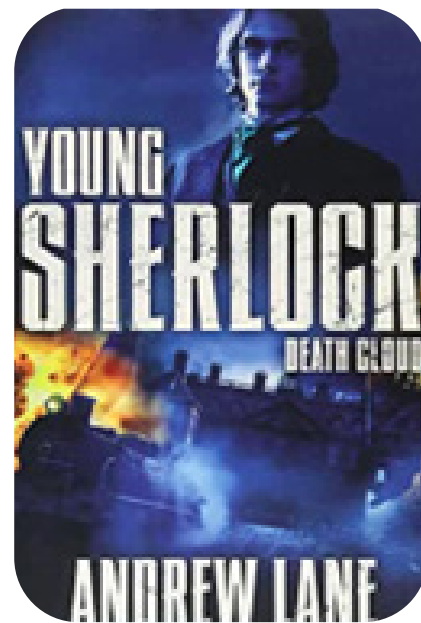


Alex Rider Series

Anthony Horowitz:

Fourteen-year-old Alex is recruited into MI6. Armed with secret gadgets, he is sent to investigate Herod Sayle, a man who is offering Stormbreaker computers to every school. But the teenage spy soon finds himself in mortal danger.

Book#1

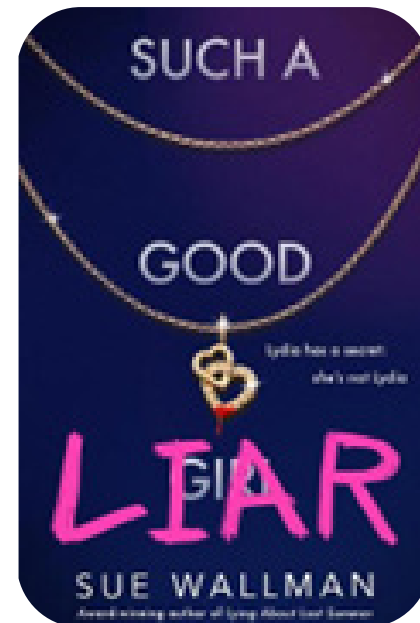


Young Sherlock Holmes

Andrew Lane:

When Sherlock Holmes is fourteen - on a break from boarding school, he stays with his uncle and aunt. When two local people die from a plague, Holmes begins to investigate what really killed them, helped by his new tutor, an American named Amyus Crowe.

Book#1



Such a Good Liar

Sue Wallman:

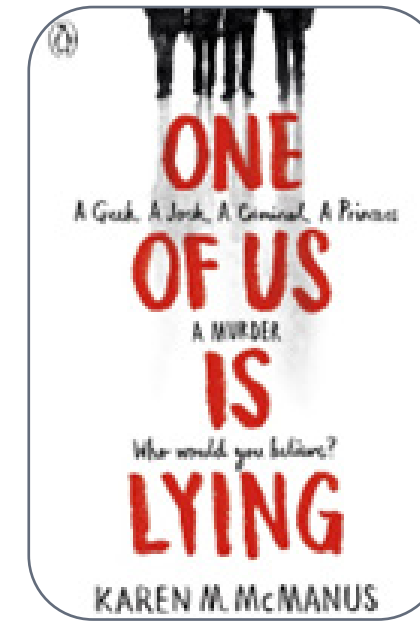
Lydia has arrived on a remote is-land populated only by wealthy families and their staff. She quickly finds acceptance, even adoration, from the close-knit families that rule the island. But a storm is coming, and all routes to the mainland are cut off. Thank goodness the Harrington sisters made it in time, because Lydia simply can't wait to meet them. That's because Lydia's not really Lydia Cornwallis. And the Harringtons have hell to pay for what they've done.



Agent 21 Series

Chris Ryan:

Agent 21-first in an action-packed adventure series by a real-life SAS hero. When Zak Darke's parents die in a mass murder he's alone in the world, until he's sought out by a mysterious man from a government agency. Zak becomes Agent 21. What happened to the 20 agents before him he'll never know. What he does know is that his life is about to change.



One of Us is Lying

Karen MCManus:

Five students go to detention. Only four leave alive. Yale hopeful Bronwyn has never publicly broken a rule. Sports star Cooper only knows what he's doing in the base-ball diamond. Bad body Nate is one misstep away from a life of crime. Prom queen Addy is holding together the cracks in her perfect life. And outsider Simon, creator of the notorious gossip app at Bayview High, won't ever talk about any of them again. He dies 24 hours before he could post their deepest secrets online.



Robin Hood

Robert Muchamore:

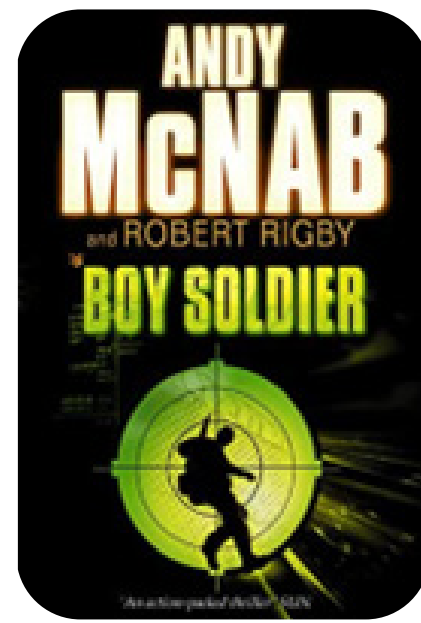
After its vast car plants shut down, the prosperous town of Locksley has become a wasteland of empty homes, toxic land and families on the brink. And it doesn't help that the authorities are in the clutches of profit-obsessed Sheriff of Nottingham, in cahoots with underworld boss Guy Gisborne. When his dad is framed for a robbery, Robin and his brother Little John are hounded out of Locksley and must learn to survive in the Sherwood forest. But Robin is determined to do more than survive. Small, fast and deadly with a bow, he hatches a plan.

YEAR 8

Reading List - 2022/23



CRIME, MYSTERY, THRILLERS AND SPIES - CONT.



Boy Soldier Series

Andy McNab:

Danny sets out to track down and expose his grandfather – a traitor. Now people want them both dead. This is a thrilling, fast-paced series full of breath-taking action, SAS procedures and surveillance and survival techniques. A fast-moving, action-packed thriller.

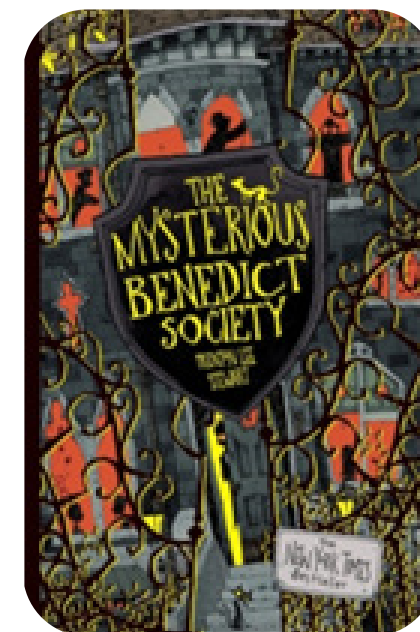
Book#1



Young Bond Series

Charlie Higson:

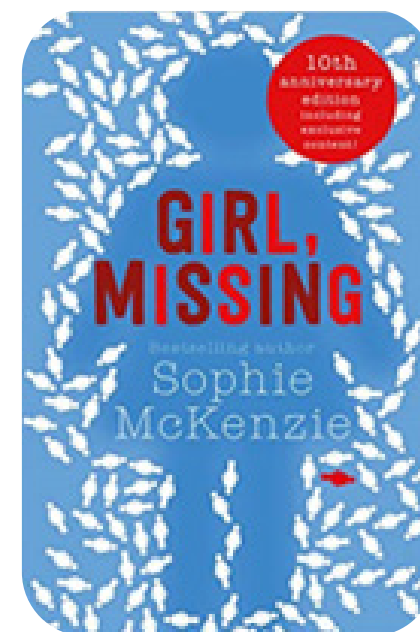
James Bond will one day become the world's most famous spy, but for now his challenge is to fit in at his new school - making friends and facing up to bullies. But there is an even tougher challenge awaiting him- something mysterious and deadly lurking in the water. It's called SilverFin.



The Mysterious Benedict Society Series

Trenton Lee Stewart:

When an advertisement appears to take part in a secret mission, many children sit a series of tests. Just four succeed. They are all honest, talented and all orphans. They must go undercover at the Learning Institute where there are no rules. There they must work as a team to save themselves, but also the world outside the walls.



Girl Missing

Sophie McKenzie:

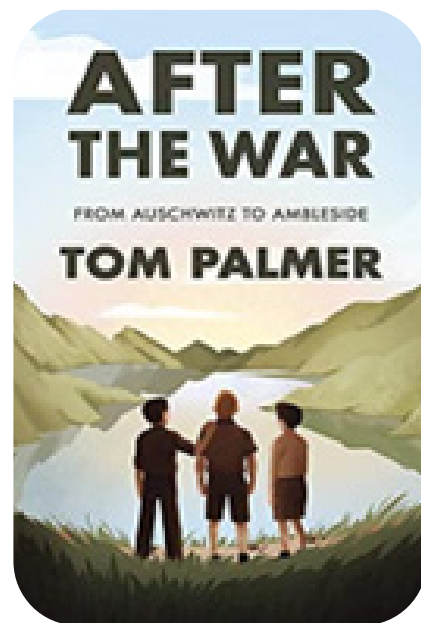
Lauren is adopted and eager to know more about her mysterious past. But when she discovers she may have been snatched from her family as a baby, her whole life suddenly feels like a sham. Could her adoptive parents really have been responsible for kidnapping her? Running away from her family to seek out the truth, Lauren's journey takes her deeper and deeper into danger as she realises that someone wants to stop her uncovering what really happened when she was a baby.

YEAR 8

Reading List - 2022/23



HISTORICAL - WAR



**After the War
from Auschwitz to
Ambleside**

Tom Palmer:

1945: Three Polish teenagers are brought from the horrors of a concentration camp to the safety of the Lake District for recuperation. The story follows Yossi and his friends Mordecai and Leo as they attempt to rebuild their shattered lives.

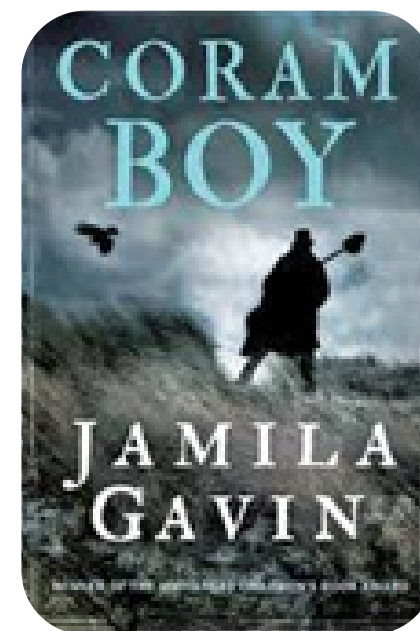
Dyslexia-friendly



The Swallows' Flight

Hilary McKay:

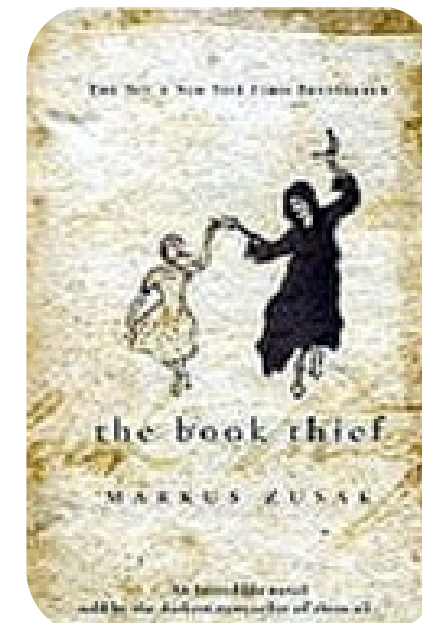
Companion novel to The Skylarks' War. Erik and Hans are Germans, Ruby and Kate are English. One day there are choices to be made. How is courage lost and found? Who is really the enemy? And what does friendship truly mean in the middle of a war? Rupert and Clarry work secretly for peace - and a future for them all.



Coram Boy

Jamila Gavin:

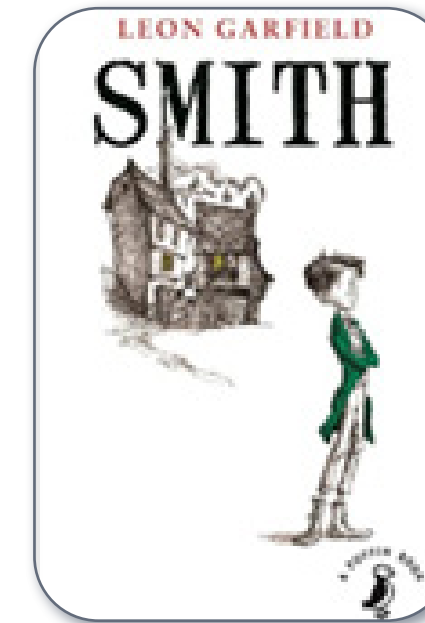
The Coram man takes babies and money from desperate mothers, promising to deliver them safely to a Foundling Hospital in London. Instead, he murders them and buries them by the roadside, to the helpless horror of his mentally ill son, Mish. Mish saves one, Aaron, who grows up happily unaware of his history, proving himself a promising musician. As Aaron's new life takes him closer to his real family, the watchful Mish makes a terrible mistake, delivering Aaron and his best friend Toby back into the hands of the Coram man.



The Book Thief

Markus Zusak:

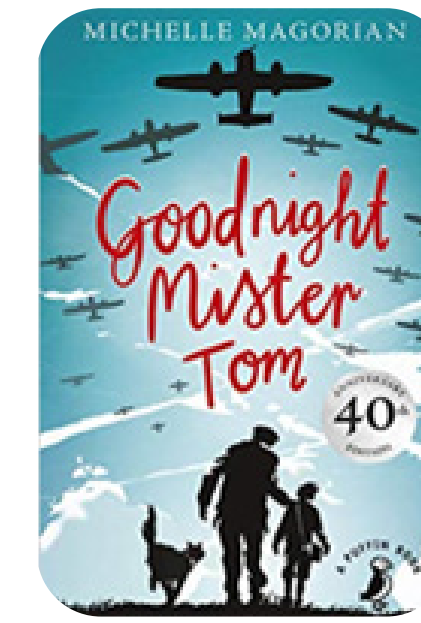
By her brother's graveside, Liesel's life is changed when she finds a book: The Grave-digger's Hand-book. It is her first act of book thievery. So begins a love affair with books and words, as Liesel, with the help of her foster father, learns to read. But these are dangerous times because it is 1939 in Germany.



Smith

Leon Garfield:

London street urchin Smith is 12 years old, and an experienced pick-pocket. One day on Ludgate Hill, he robbed an old gentleman, and one minute later watched him silently murdered by two men, who chased him for the document he had stolen but could not understand. Smith artfully dodges the two men and winds up in the odd company of a wealthy blind man, who takes Smith into his home and provides him with an education. But this new comfort is lost when Smith himself is suspected of the very murder he witnessed.



Goodnight

Michelle Magorian:

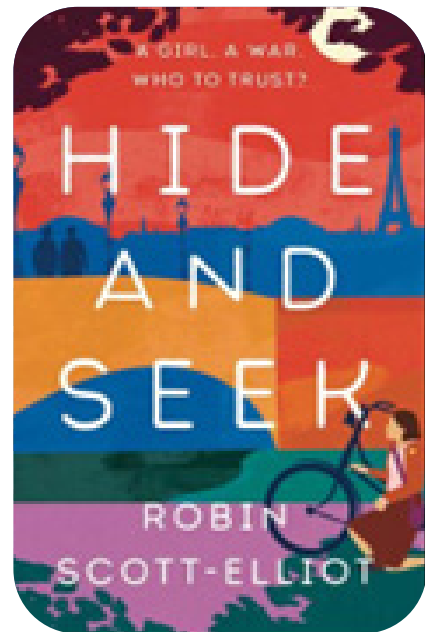
Young Willie is evacuated to the country as Britain stands on the brink of the Second World War. A sad child, he slowly begins to flourish under the care of old Tom Oak-ley - but his new happiness is shattered by a summons from his mother back in London. Tom soon grows worried.

YEAR 8

Reading List - 2022/23



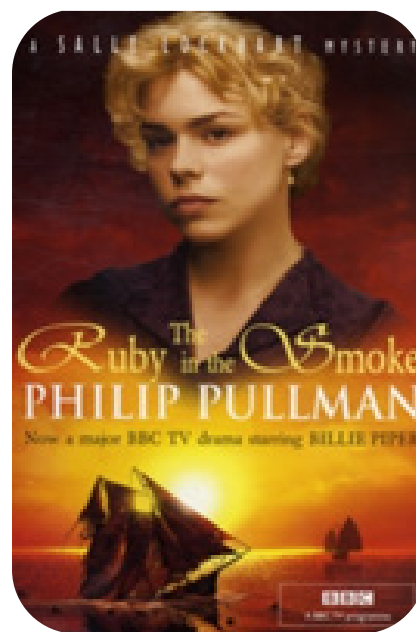
HISTORICAL - WAR CONT.



Hide and Seek

Philip Pullman:

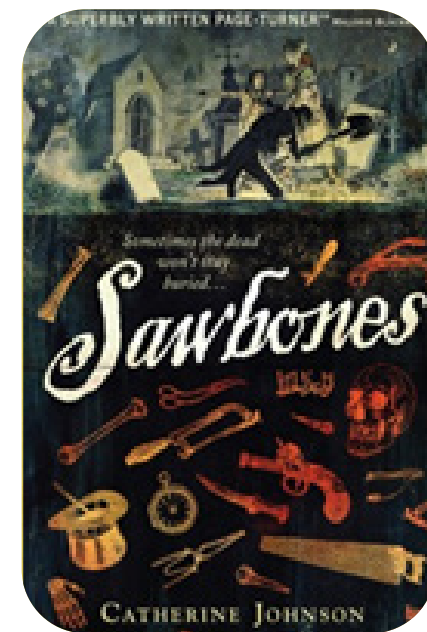
A Girl. A War. Who to Trust? Even your friends may betray you. In war everyone becomes a new person and some seem to shed their old skin entirely. Paris 1942, when Amelie Dreyfus hides in her mother's cupboard, it's a game; when she comes out it's a matter of life and death.



Sally Lockhart

Philip Pullman:

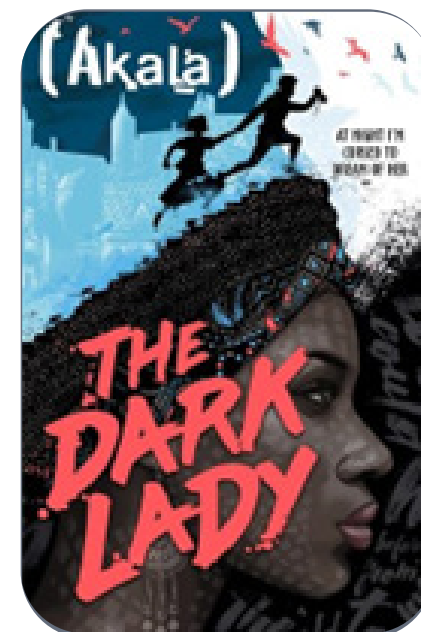
Soon after Sally Lockhart's father drowns at sea, she receives a strange letter containing a dire warning leading, to a man dying of fear. Wanting to discover the truth about her father's death, Sally is plunged into a terrifying mystery in the dark heart of Victorian London, at the centre of which lie a deadly blood-soaked jewel.



Sawbones

Catherine Johnson:

Ezra has been trained by a top surgeon, which will secure him a trade for life. But his world is turned on its head when a failed break-in at his master's house sets off a disturbing series of events that involves grave robbing, body switching and murder. Loveday Finch, daughter of the late magician, asks Ezra to investigate.



The Dark Lady

Akala:

A pickpocket with an exceptional gift. A prisoner of extraordinary value. An orphan haunted by dreams of the mysterious Dark Lady. Henry is an orphan, an outsider, a thief. He is also a fifteen-year-old invested with magical powers ...



You Dont Know What War Is

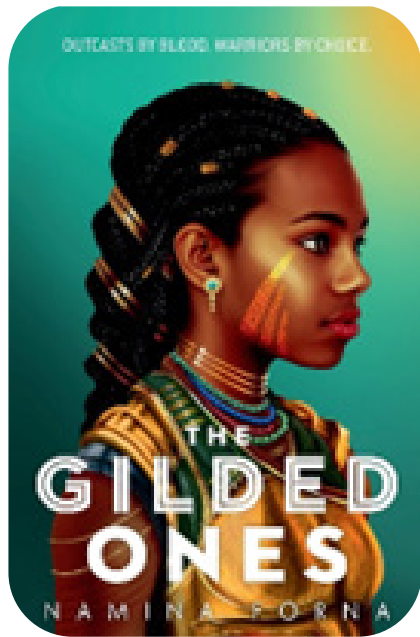
Yeva Skalietska:

This is a diary by a young girl from Ukraine, fleeing the war and making her way to Ireland.

YEAR 8

Reading List - 2022/23

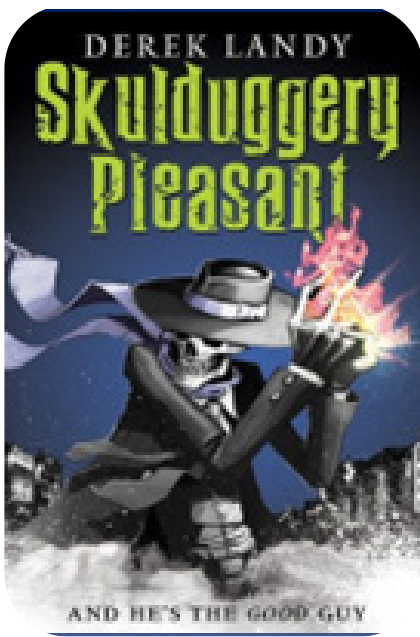
FANTASY



The Gilded Ones

Namina Forna:

Sixteen-year-old Deka lives in Otera, a deeply patriarchal ancient kingdom, where a woman's worth is tied to her purity, and she must bleed to prove it. But when Deka bleeds gold - the colour of impurity, of a demon - she faces a consequence worse than death. She is saved by a mysterious woman who tells Deka of her true nature: she is an Alaki, a near-immortal with exceptional gifts. The stranger offers her a choice: fight for the Emperor, with others just like her, or be destroyed...

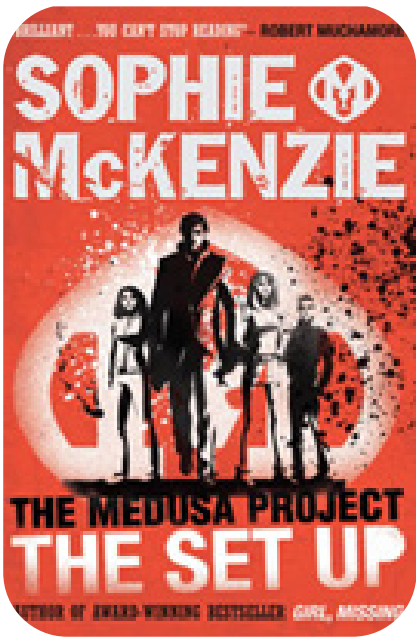


Skulduggery Pleasant Series

Derek Landy:

Meet Skulduggery Pleasant: Ace Detective, Razor-tongued Wit, Crackerjack Sorcerer and fire-throwing Skeleton! as well as ally, protector, and mentor of Stephanie, a very unusual and darkly talented twelve-year-old. These two must defeat an all-consuming ancient evil. Will they stop the end of the world?

Book#1

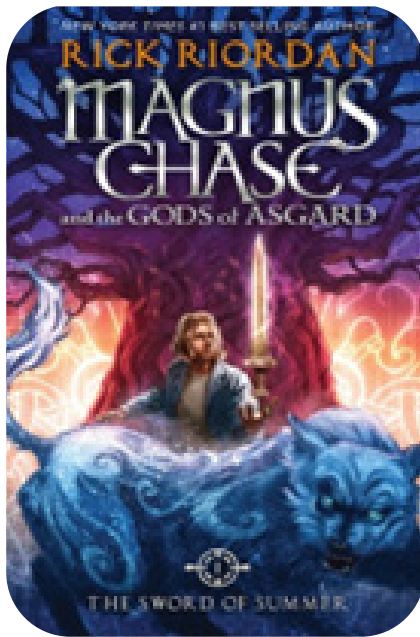


The Medusa Project Series

Sophie McKenzie:

Prof. Fox places a gene inside 4 teenagers, but is then killed by his partner, Jack. Jack has plans for the kids - if he can track them down. Fox's brother, Fergus, is determined to stop him and keep the kids safe: Nico - telekinetic; Ketty - clairvoyant; Dylan - a mind-reader and Alicia - able to withstand pain.

Book#1

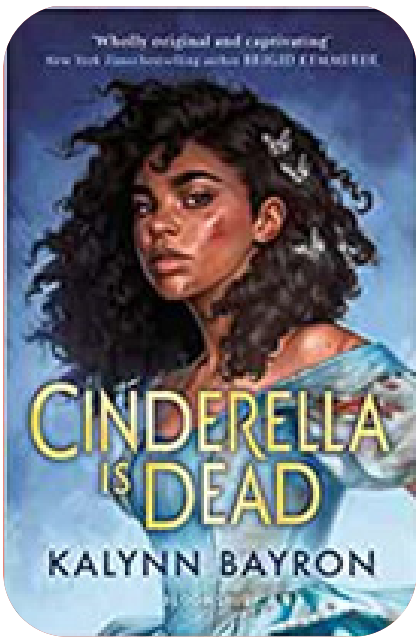


The Magnus chase Series

Rick Riordan:

Magnus' uncle Randolph rambles about Norse history and Magnus's birth right: a weapon that has been lost for thousands of years. Puzzle pieces fall into place, but he doesn't have time to consider it all before a fire giant attacks the city, forcing him to choose between his own safety and the lives of hundreds of innocents.

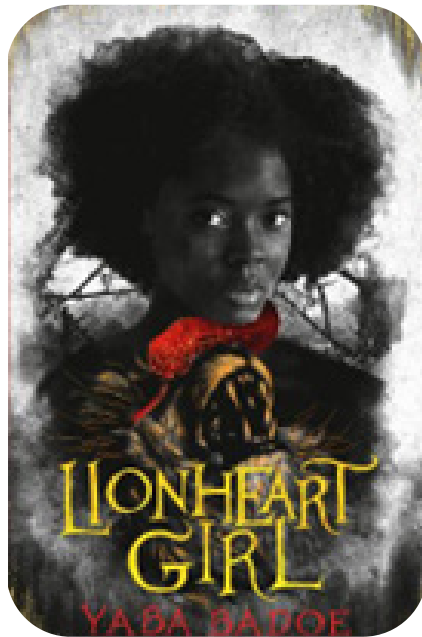
Book#1



Cinderella is Dead

Kalyann Bayron:

It's 200 years since Cinderella found her prince, but the fairy-tale is over. Sophia knows the story though, off by heart. Because every girl must recite it daily, from when she's tiny until the night she's sent to the royal ball for choosing. And every girl knows that she has only one chance. For the lives of those not chosen by a man at the ball ... are forfeit. But Sophia doesn't want to be chosen - she's in love with her best friend, Erin, and hates the idea of being traded like cattle. And when Sophia's night at the ball goes horribly wrong, she must run for her life.



Lionheart Girl

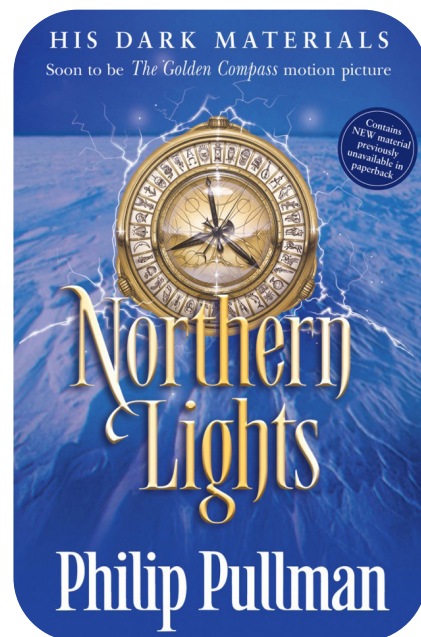
Yaba Badoe:

Yaba Badoe: Lionheart Girl Born into a family of West African witches, Sheba's terrified of her mother who can turn into a crow. But like mother, like daughter - magic runs through her blood and Sheba discovers powers of her own. Her touch can unravel people's innermost thoughts; their hopes, their fears - their secrets. Sheba too can shape-shift. Through the communion of ancient magic, blood and friendship, she slowly uncovers the murderous truth about her stolen childhood and steels herself for the future. She must protect the hunted from the hunter her mother.

YEAR 8

Reading List - 2022/23

FANTASY - CONT.



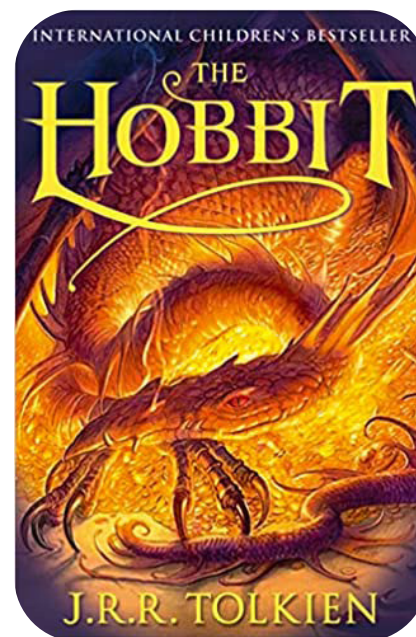
The Northern Lights

Trilogy

Philip Pullman:

When Lyra's friend Roger disappears, she and her dæmon, Pantalaimon, determine to find him. The quest leads them to the North, where armoured bears rule the ice and witch-queens fly through the frozen skies - and where a team of scientists is conducting horrible experiments.

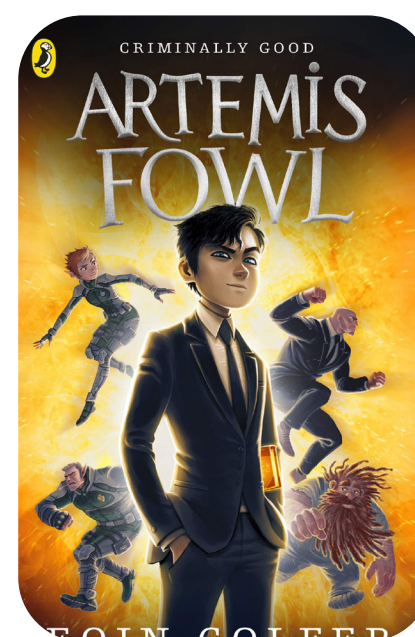
Book #1



The Hobbit

J.R.R. Tolkien:

Bilbo Baggins enjoys a quiet and contented life, with no desire to travel far from the comforts of home; then one day the wizard Gandalf and a band of dwarves arrive unexpectedly and enlist his services - as a burglar - on a dangerous expedition to raid the treasure-hoard of Smaug the dragon. Bilbo's life is never to be the same again.



Artemis Fowl

Series

Eoin Colfer:

Twelve-year-old Artemis is a millionaire, a genius, and a criminal mastermind. But when he kidnaps a dangerous fairy, Captain Holly Short of the LEP-recon Unit, he is in for a riveting, magical adventure. Read the book: see the film.

Book #1



Shadow and Bone

Leigh Bardugo:

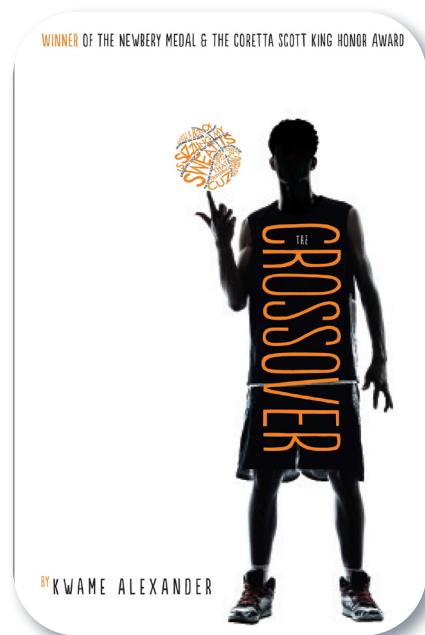
Orphaned and expendable, Alina Starkov is a soldier who knows she may not survive her first trek across the Shadow Fold - a swath of unnatural darkness crawling with monsters. But when her regiment is attacked, Alina unleashes dormant magic not even she knew she possessed. Now Alina will enter a lavish world of royalty and intrigue as she trains with the Grisha, her country's magical military elite - and falls under the spell of their notorious leader, the Darkling.

YEAR 8

Reading List - 2022/23



SPORTS



Crossover Series

Kwame Alexander:

A verse novel about basketball. Josh and Jordan must come to grips with growing up on and off the court. They realise breaking the rules comes at a terrible price, as their story's heart-stopping climax proves a game-changer for the entire family.

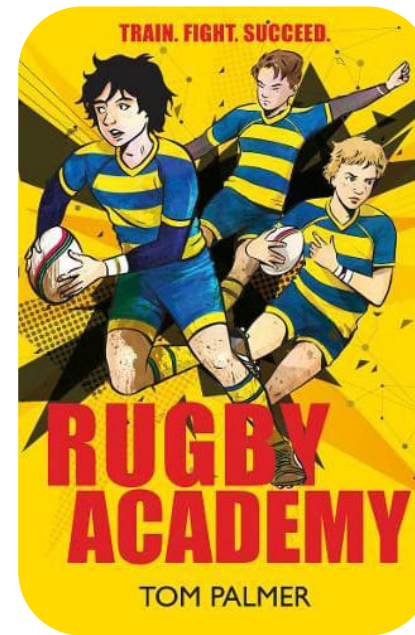
Book#1



Unstoppable

Dan Freedman:

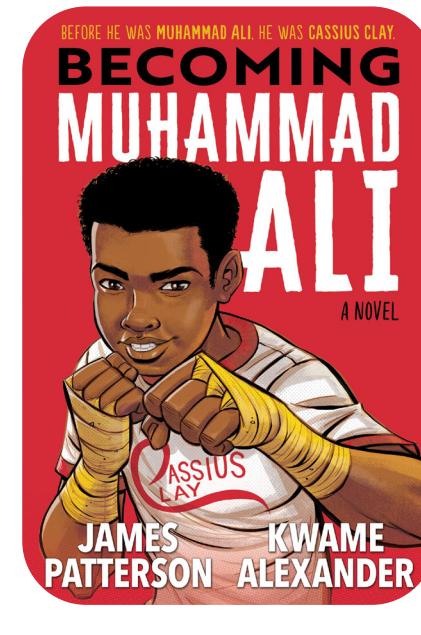
Fourteen-year-old twins, Kaine and Roxy, used to be close, but not anymore. Roxy hates the way her brother behaves - Kaine might be brilliant at football, but he's always in trouble and seems determined to tear the family apart. Kaine despises the way his supposedly perfect sister dominates their parents in her ambition to reach Wimbledon.



Rugby Academy

Tom Palmer:

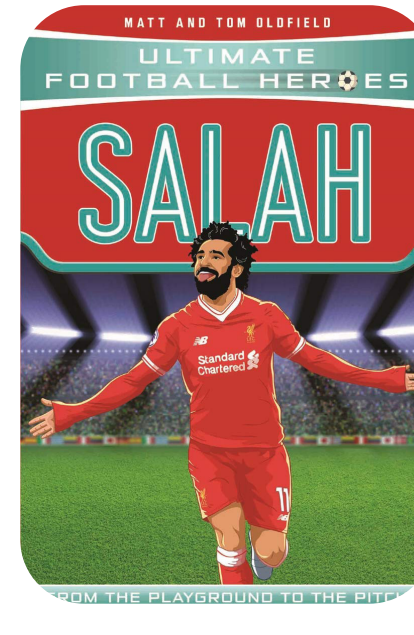
Woody is a footballer and must decide if he's prepared to give rugby his all. Rory feels like he's losing his focus, as his parents may be in danger. Owen finds himself at the centre when conflict breaks out within the team. What are the chances of them making it to the end of the rigorous schools' tournament?



Becoming Muhammad Ali

James Patterson and Kwame Alexander:

Before he was a household name, Cassius Clay was a kid with struggles like any other. Kwame Alexander and James Patterson join forces to vividly depict his life up to age seventeen in both prose and verse, including his childhood friends, struggles in school, the racism he faced, and his discovery of boxing. Readers will learn about Cassius' family and neighbors in Louisville, Kentucky, and how, after a thief stole his bike, Cassius began training as an amateur boxer at age twelve.



Ultimate Football Heroes Series

Matt Oldfield:

Salah, Messi, Aguerro – these are just a few of the names in this series about football heroes. Mohamed Salah is Liverpool's superstar forward. Follow his adventures from the heat of Egypt to the magic of Rome, the roar of Anfield stadium and - finally - his big chance in a Champions League Final.

YEAR 8

Reading List - 2022/23



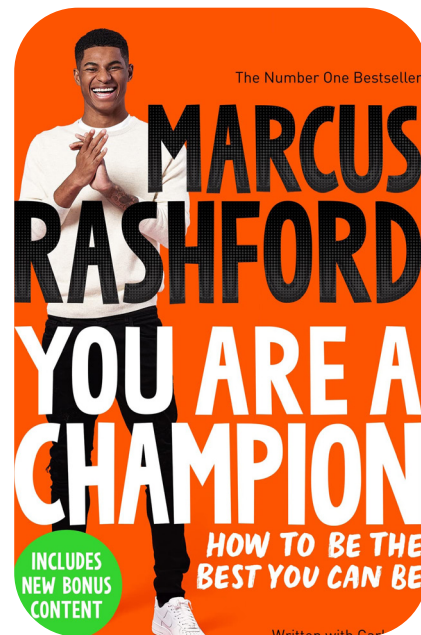
SPORTS - CONT.



Ghosts

Jason Renalds:

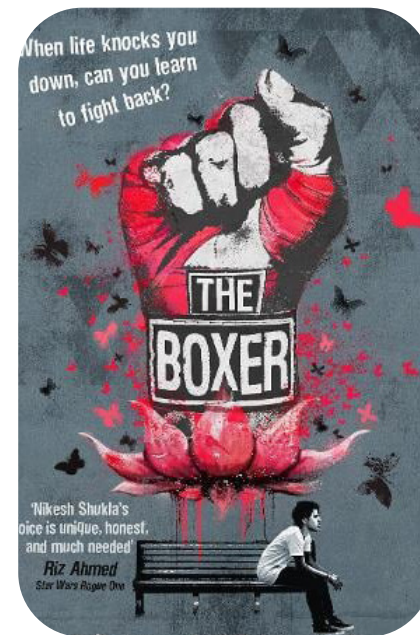
Running. That's all that Ghost has ever known. But never for a track team. But when he challenges an elite sprinter to a race - and wins - the Olympic medallist track coach spots his crazy natural talent. But Ghost has a lot of anger, and a past. Can Ghost harness his raw talent for speed and meld with the team, or will his past finally catch up to him?



You are a Champion

Marcus Rashford:

It's hard to know what is possible until you start. You have to be able to dream big and be prepared to work towards your dreams. I've achieved a lot so far, but it didn't come in one go; big things rarely happen overnight, and good things rarely happen as if by magic.



The Boxer

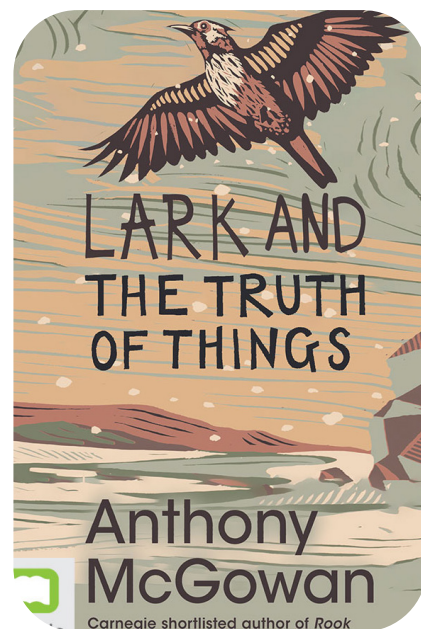
Nikesh Shukla:

Sunny feels isolated in the city he's just moved to, so he joins a boxing club to protect himself after a racist attack. He finds the community he's been seeking at the club, and a mentor in trainer Shona, who helps him find his place in the world. But racial tensions are rising in the city, and when a march turns violent, he is faced with losing his new best friend Keir to radicalisation.

YEAR 8

Reading List - 2022/23

ANIMAL STORIES

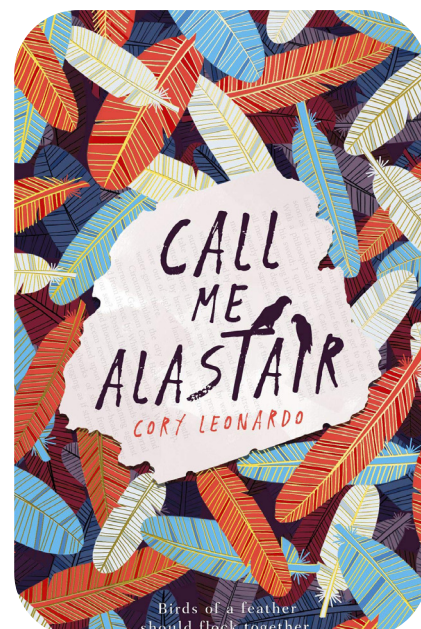


Lark

Anthony McGowan:

Things are tense at home for Nicky and Kenny. Their mum's coming to visit and it will be the first time they've seen her in years. A lot has changed since they were little and Nicky's not so sure he's ready to see her again. When they head for a trek across the moors to take their minds off everything, a series of unforeseen circumstances leaves the brothers in a vulnerable and very dangerous position. There might even be a chance that this time not everyone will make it home alive.

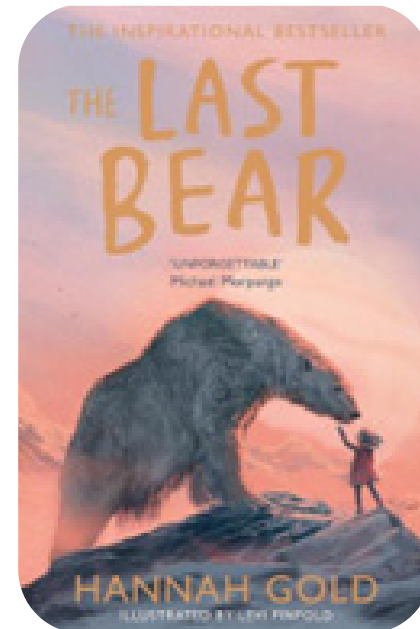
Dyslexia Friendly



Call Me Alastair

Cory Leonardo:

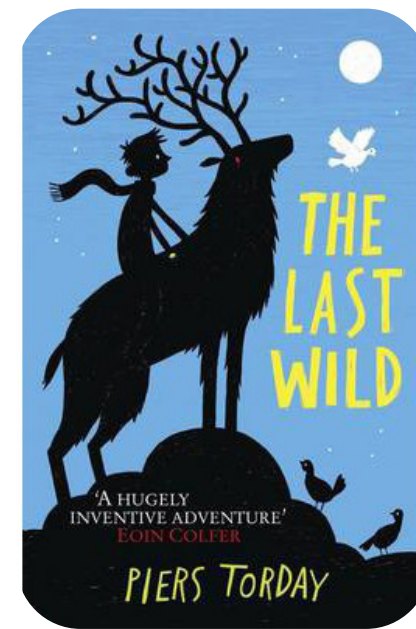
A funny, heart-shattering novel about a fierce parrot, a big-hearted boy and a spirited elderly widow, all learning to live fully-fledged lives. Born in the back of a pet store, Alastair the African grey parrot dreams of escape, and flying off with his beloved sister, Aggie.



The Last Bear

Hannah Gold:

There are no polar bears left on Bear Island. At least, that's what April's father tells her when his scientific research takes them to this remote Arctic outpost for six months. But one endless summer night, April meets one. He is starving, lonely and a long way from home. Determined to save him, April begins the most important journey of her

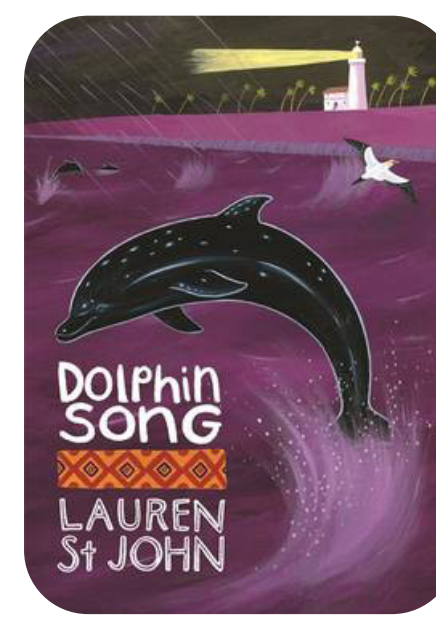


The Last Wild Series:

Piers Torday:

In a world where animals no longer exist, Kester is locked away in a home for troubled children. So, when he meets a flock of talking pigeons and a bossy cockroach, Kester thinks he's crazy. But the animals need him. He is drawn into an adventure to save them.

Book#1



Animal Healer

Lauren St John:

Martine must leave her white giraffe, Jemmy, for 2 weeks as she is on a school trip to South Africa. When a storm blows up and Martine and her friends are thrown overboard into shark-infested waters. They are saved by dolphins but end up on an island. A gripping tale of courage and survival.



The Fox and the Ghost King

Michael Morpurgo:

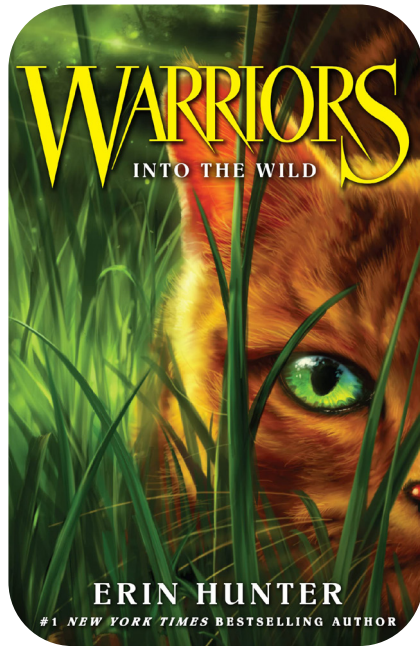
"Every fox in the whole town, in the whole country just about, is a football fan... And we all have an impossible dream." In a cosy den under a garden shed lives a family of foxes. They love to watch football, but their favourite team keeps losing until a ghost king turns up...

YEAR 8

Reading List - 2022/23



ANIMAL STORIES



Warriors

Series:

Erin Hunter:

Four Clans of wild cats have shared the forest and the laws laid down by their ancestors. But the Thunder Clan cats are in danger from the Shadow Clan, warriors are dying - and some deaths are stranger than others. During this turmoil, a cat named Rusty appears, who may turn out to be the bravest warrior of them all.



A Horse Called Hero

Sam Angus:

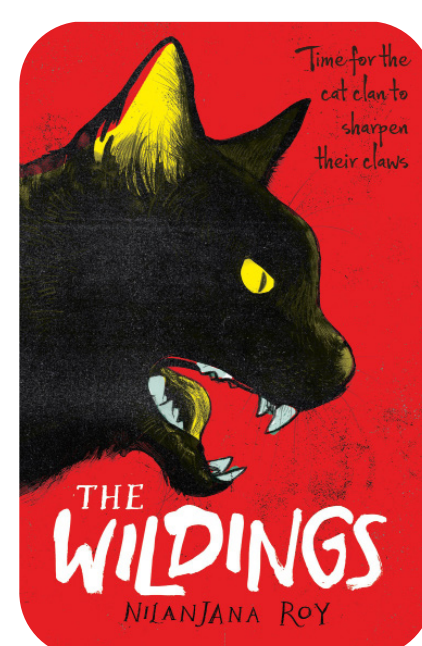
In the Second World War London is a target for German bombs. Dodo and Wolfie are evacuated to the country, where they find an orphaned foal. They raise Hero and learn to ride. But the shadow of war looms over their peaceful existence, and soon Hero must live up to his name



The Great Escape

Megan Rix:

The Great Escape follows three pets as they set off on the adventure of their lives across a country preparing for war. Robert and Lucy love them, but the threat of the War forces them to flee to Devon and the animals are sent to be put down. Buster, Tiger and Rose make a daring escape and try to find their owners.



The Wildings

Series

Nilanjana Roy:

A thrillingly original story of the adventures of a small band of feral cats in Delhi who communicate by whisker mind-link. When a terrifying new enemy emerges from the shadows, the Wildings must fight for their territory and their tribe's survival. For readers of Life of Pi and Philip Pullman.

Book#1