

KS3

Fiction

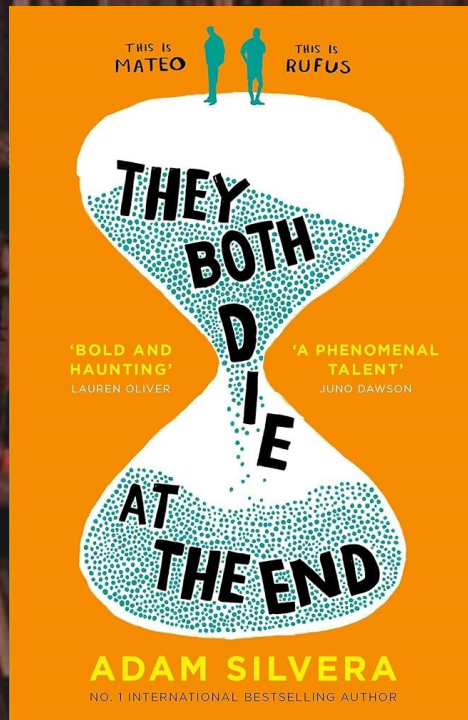
RECOMMENDED

READS



They Both Die at the End

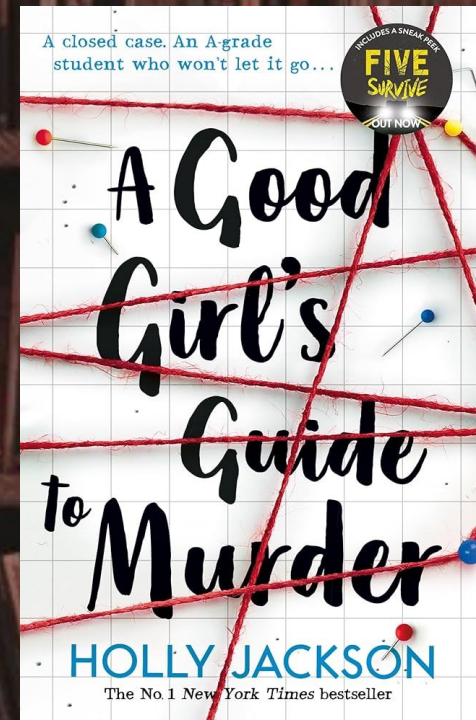
Adam Silvera



On September 5th, a little after midnight, **Death-Cast** calls **Mateo Torrez** and **Rufus Emeterio** to give them some bad news: they're going to die today. Mateo and Rufus are total strangers, but, for different reasons, they're both looking to make a new friend on their **End Day**. The good news: there's an app for that. It's called the **Last Friend**, and through it, Rufus and Mateo are about to meet up for one last great adventure - to live a lifetime in a single day.

A Good Girl's Guide to Murder

Holly Jackson



The case is closed. Five years ago, schoolgirl Andie Bell was murdered by Sal Singh. The police know he did it. Everyone in town knows he did it.

But having grown up in the same small town that was consumed by the crime, Pippa Fitz-Amobi isn't so sure. When she chooses the case as the topic for her final project, she starts to uncover secrets that someone in town desperately wants to stay hidden. And if the real killer is still out there, how far will they go to keep Pip from the truth ... ?

The Hunger Games (series)

Suzanne Collins

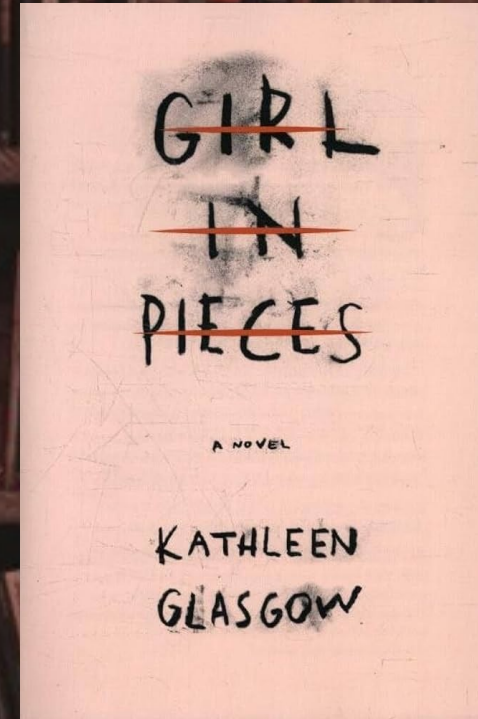


In the ruins of North America lies Panem, its shining Capitol surrounded by 12 outlying districts. The Capitol forces the districts to send one boy and one girl as tribute to participate in the annual Hunger Games, a fight to the death on live TV.

Katniss Everdeen regards it as a death sentence when she steps forward to take her sister's place in the Games. But she has been close to death before and survival, for her, is second nature. If she is to win, she will have to start making choices that weigh survival against humanity and life against love.

Girl in Pieces

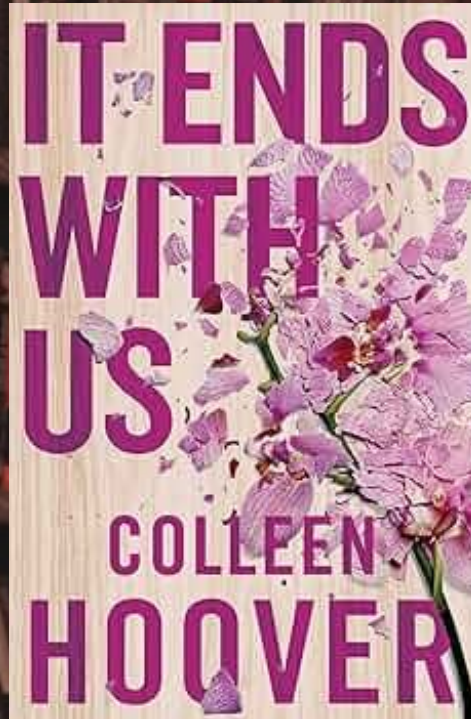
Kathleen Glasgow



Charlie Davis is in pieces. At 17, she's already lost more than most people lose in a lifetime. But she's learned to forget it through cutting; the pain washes out the sorrow, until there is nothing but calm. She doesn't have to think about her father, or what happened under the bridge. Her best friend, Ellis, who is gone forever. Or the mother who has nothing left to give her. Kicked out of a treatment centre when her insurance runs out,

Charlie finds herself in the bright and wild landscape of Tucson, Arizona, where she begins the unthinkable: The long journey of putting herself back together.

It Ends With Us Colleen Hoover



Fresh out of college and in a new city, Lily meets stubborn, assertive neurosurgeon Ryle. He's perfect, except for his total aversion to relationships. Even as love blossoms between them, she wonders what made him that way in the first place. As the questions about her new relationship grow, Lily's first love, Atlas Corrigan, a link to the past she thought she'd left behind, suddenly reappears, threatening everything she has built with Ryle.

Gone (series) Michael Grant



In the blink of an eye all the adults disappear in a small town in southern California and no one knows why.

Cut off from the outside world, those that are left are trapped, and there's no help on the way. Sam Temple and his friends must do all they can to survive. Chaos rules the streets. Gangs begin to form. Sides are chosen – strong or weak. Cruel or humane.

And then there are those who begin to develop powers ...

Ace of Spades

Faridah Àbíké-Íyímídé



Welcome to Niveus Private Academy, where money paves the hallways, and the students are never less than perfect. Until now. Because anonymous texter Aces is revealing the darkest secrets of two students.

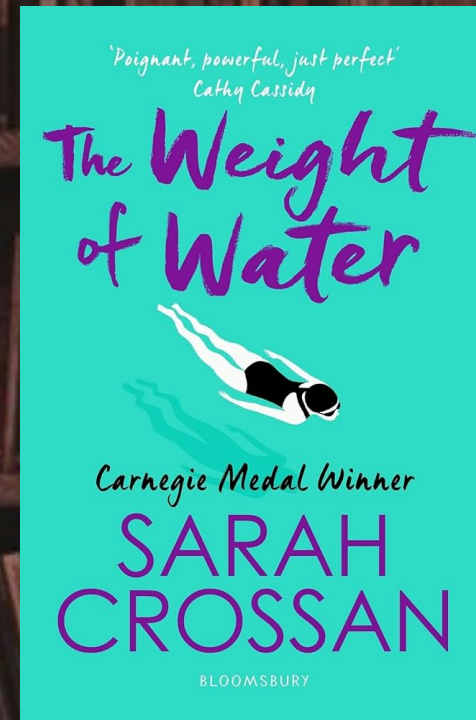
Talented musician Devon buries himself in rehearsals, but can't escape the spotlight when his private photos go public. Head girl Chiamaka isn't afraid to get what she wants, but soon everyone will know the price she has paid for power.

Someone is out to get them both.
Someone who holds all the aces.

And they're planning much more than a high-school game...

The Weight of Water

Saah Crossan

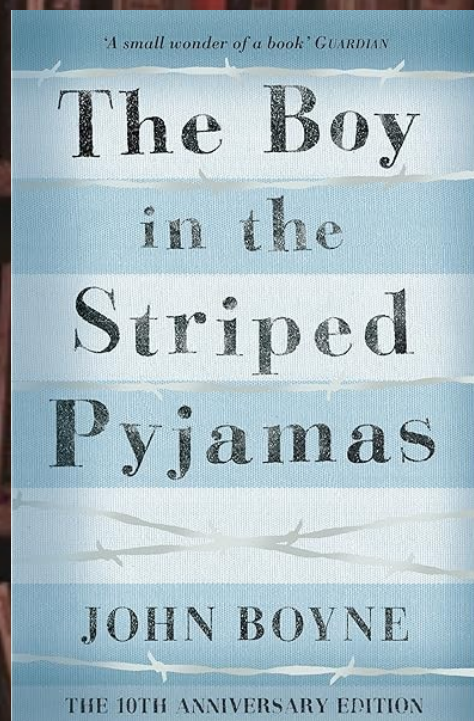


*Sometimes I want to tear off my clothes
And show them I'm the same
Underneath -
Maybe better.*

Life is lonely for Kasienka. She misses Poland, her mother's heart is breaking, and at her new English school friends are scarce. But when someone new swims into her life, Kasienka learns that there is more than one way to stay afloat.

The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas

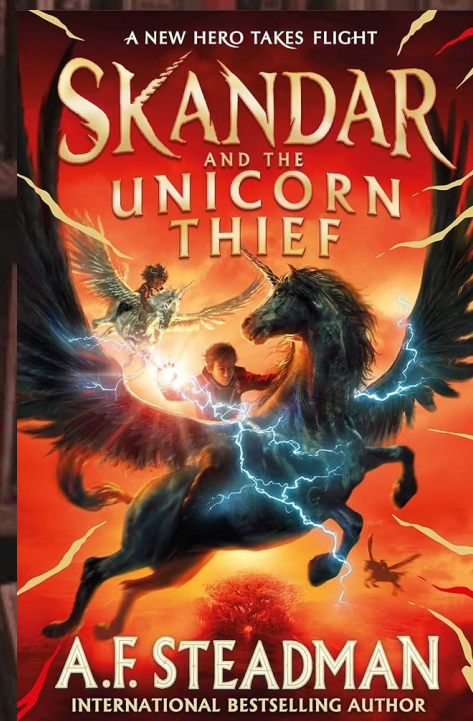
John Boyne



Bruno is 9 and knows nothing of the Final Solution and the Holocaust. He is oblivious to the appalling cruelties being inflicted on Europe by his country. All he knows is he has been moved from a comfortable home in Berlin to a house in a desolate area where there is nothing to do and no one to play with. Until he meets Shmuel, a boy who lives a strange parallel existence on the other side of the wire fence and, like the other people there, wears a uniform of striped pyjamas. Bruno's friendship with Shmuel will take him from innocence to revelation. And in exploring what he is unwittingly a part of, he will inevitably become subsumed by the terrible process.

Skandar (series)

AF Steadman

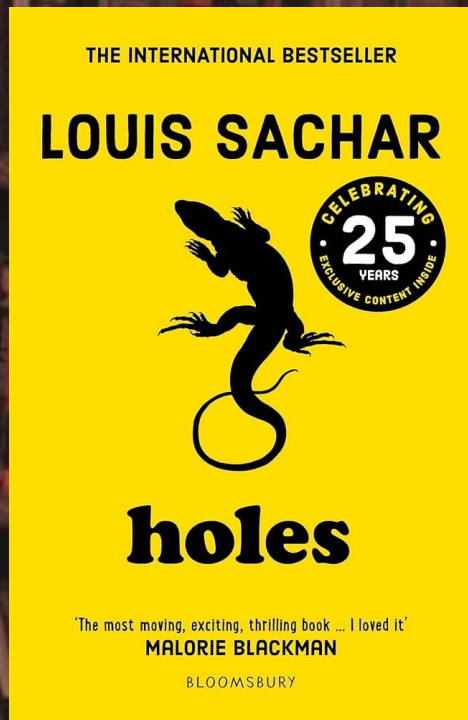


Thirteen-year-old **Skandar Smith** has only ever wanted to be a unicorn rider. To be one of the lucky few selected to hatch a unicorn. To bond with it for life; to train together and race for glory; to be a hero.

But just as Skandar's dream is about to come true, things start to take a more dangerous turn than he could ever have imagined. A dark and twisted enemy has stolen the Island's most powerful unicorn – and as the threat grows ever closer, Skandar discovers a secret that could blow apart his world forever.

Holes

Louis Sachar

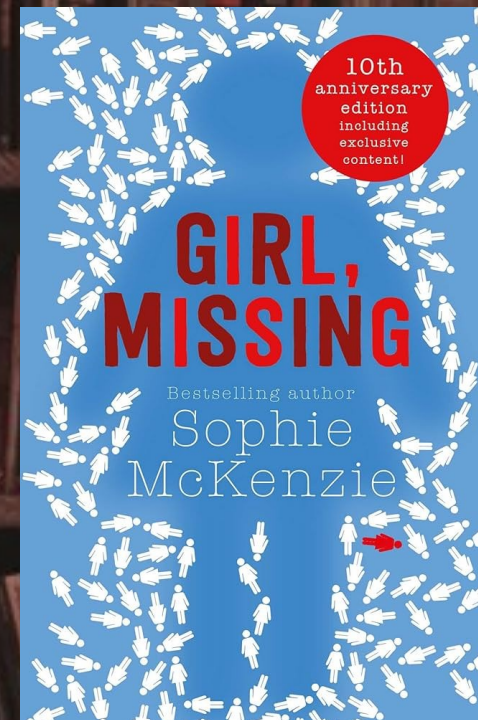


Stanley Yelnats' family has a history of bad luck, so when a miscarriage of justice sends him to Camp Green Lake Juvenile Detention Centre (which isn't green and doesn't have a lake), it's not exactly a surprise.

Every day he and the other inmates are told to dig a hole each, five foot wide by five foot deep, reporting anything they find. Why? The evil warden claims that it builds character, but this is a lie. It's up to Stanley to dig up the truth.

Girl, Missing

Sophie McKenzie



What if everything you thought you knew about your life was a lie?

Lauren is adopted and eager to know more about her 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 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.

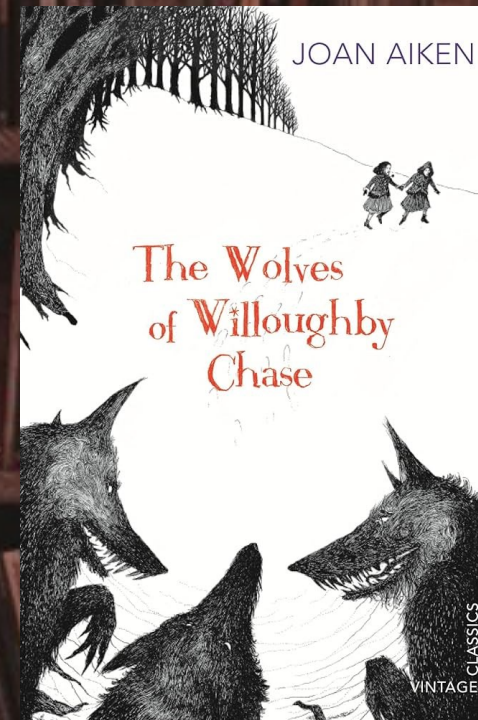
Freedom, 1783 Catherine Johnson



Nathaniel doesn't want to move to England with his master's family, leaving behind his mother and sister on the Jamaican plantation.

But then he remembers what his mother told him: once a slave sets foot on English soil, they're free. Perhaps he can earn his fortune and buy his family's freedom, too

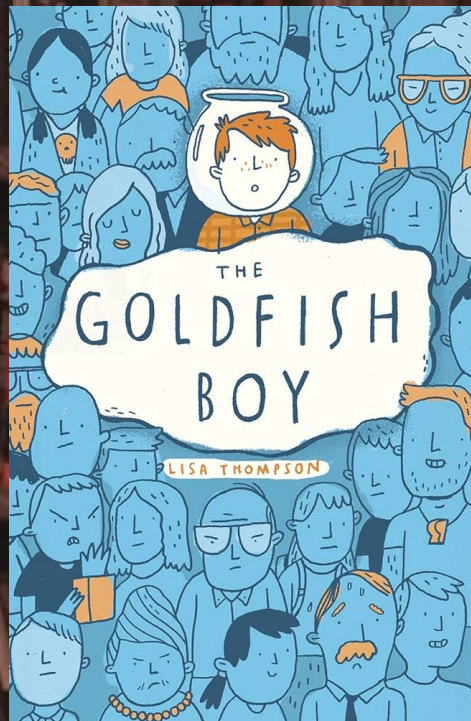
The Wolves of Willoughby Chase Joan Aiken



1832 - a period of English History that never happened. Good King James III is on the throne and the country is ravaged by wolves which have migrated through the newly-opened Channel Tunnel. When Sylvia and Bonnie (both orphans) fall into the hands of evil Miss Slighcarp, they must use all their wits to escape unscathed - for the governess is more cruel and merciless than the wolves that surround the great house of Willoughby Chase.

The Goldfish Boy

Lisa Thompson



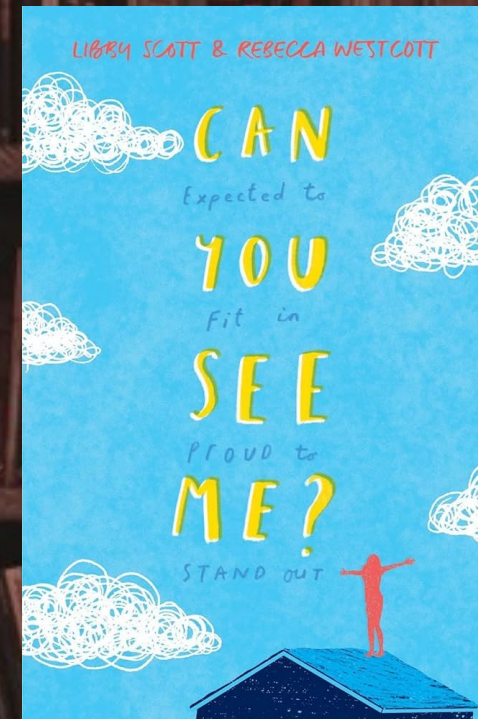
Twelve-year-old Matthew is trapped in his bedroom by crippling OCD, spending most of his time staring out of his window as the inhabitants of Chestnut Close go about their business.

Until the day he is the last person to see his next door neighbour's toddler, Teddy, before he goes missing.

Matthew must turn detective and unravel the mystery of Teddy's disappearance - with the help of a brilliant cast of supporting characters.

Can You See Me?

Libby Scott & Rebecca Westcott



Tally is eleven years old and just like her friends. Well, sometimes. If she tries really hard. Because there's something that makes Tally not the same as her friends. Something she can't cover up, no matter how hard she tries: Tally is autistic.

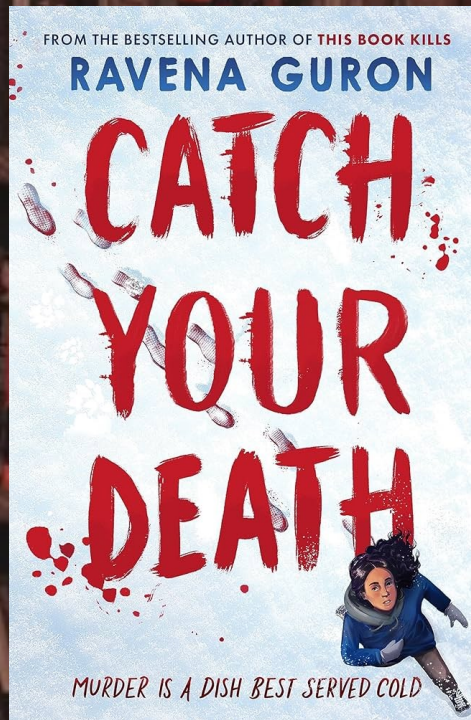
Tally's autism means there are things that bother her even though she wishes they didn't. It means that some people misunderstand her and feel frustrated by her.

People think that because Tally's autistic, she doesn't realise what they're thinking, but Tally sees and hears - and *notices* - all of it.

And, honestly? That's not the easiest thing to live with.

Catch Your Death

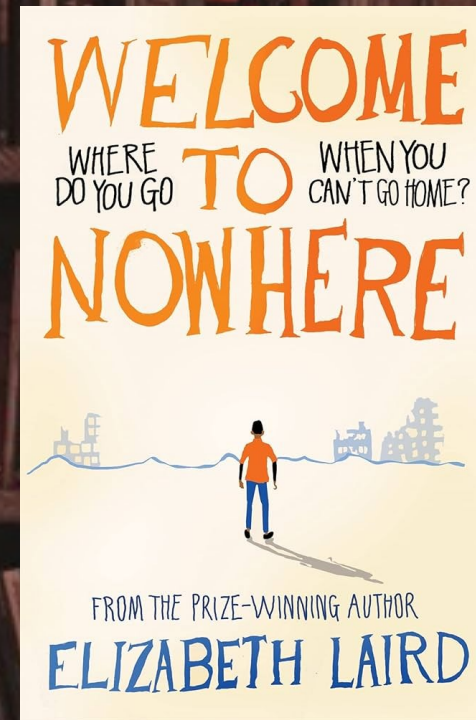
Ravena Guron



When three girls are stranded at the grand Bramble Estate in the middle of a snowstorm, they stumble into a murder plot. Someone has poisoned wealthy Emily Vanforte in the middle of a family dinner - which means Devi, Lizzie and Jayne are trapped in the house with a killer and a mystery to solve. With knives under floorboards, vanishing guns and secret passages in the walls, no one is safe and everyone is a suspect. But in a house of liars and corruption, will the girls save themselves...or learn to fit in?

Welcome to Nowhere

Elizabeth Laird

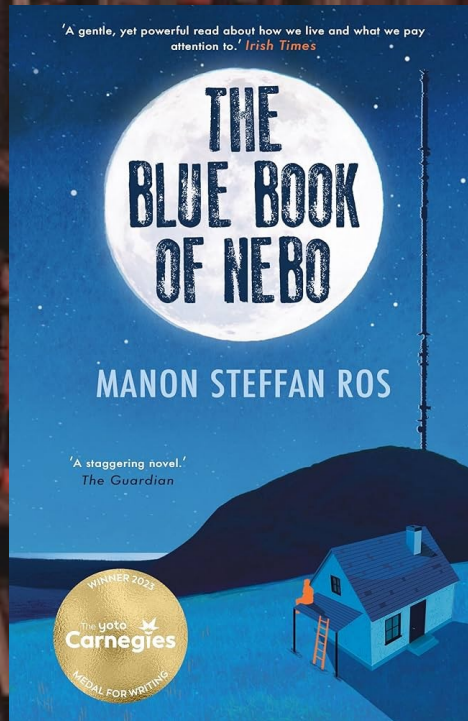


Omar and his siblings were born and raised in the beautiful, busy city of Bosra, Syria. Omar is 12 and doesn't care about politics; he wants to become a successful businessman and take the world by storm. But when his brother, Musa, gets involved with some young political activists, everything changes.

Soon, bombs are falling, people are dying, and Omar's family have no choice but to flee with only what they can carry. Yet no matter how far they run, the shadow of war follows them, until they have no choice but to attempt the dangerous journey to escape their homeland altogether. But where do you go when you can't go home?

The Blue Book of Nebo

Manon Steffan Ros



Dylan was six when The End came, back in 2018: when the electricity went off for good, and the normal 21st-century world he knew disappeared. Now 14, he and his mam have survived in their isolated hilltop house above the village of Nebo in north-west Wales by learning new skills and returning to old ways of living. However, despite their close understanding, the relationship between mother and son changes subtly as Dylan has to take on adult responsibilities. And they each have their own secrets - which emerge as they take it in turns to jot down their thoughts and memories in a found notebook – the Blue Book of Nebo.

Let's Play Murder

Kesia Lupo



Veronica wakes up trapped by a blizzard with four strangers in a sprawling manor house with a dead body. It feels real - but this is VR and this is THE Game; an Easter Egg hidden in other VR games that draws you in for a prize beyond your wildest dreams. And there's no escaping until the Game is won.

But something is not right in the Game. Glitches, NPCs acting strange, and a mysterious figure haunting their footsteps. Then a player dies, and also dies in real life, and all hell breaks loose. Suddenly, the game Veronica thought she was playing is replaced by a darker, much more real, mystery: *who is killing us?*

KS3

Classic
Fiction

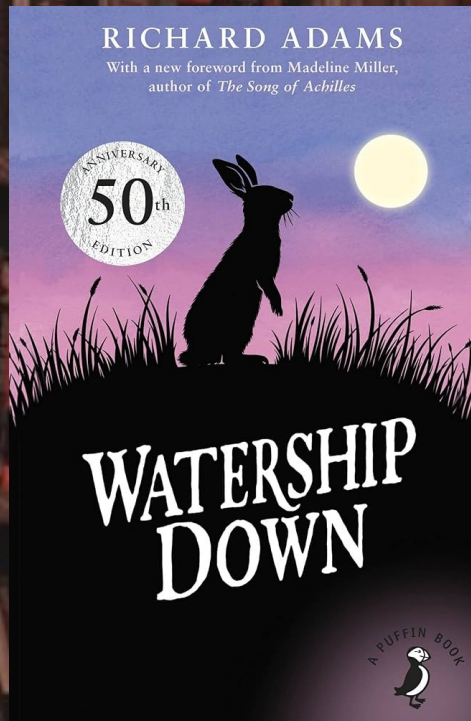
RECOMMENDED

READS



Watership Down

Richard Adams

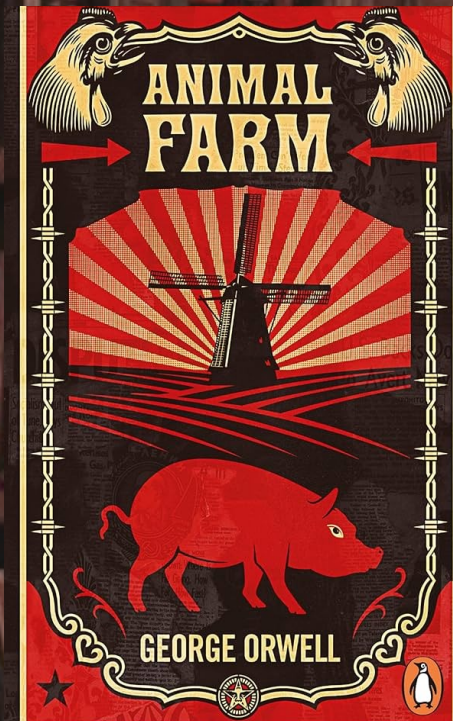


Fiver could sense danger. Something terrible was going to happen to the warren; he felt sure of it. They had to leave immediately. So begins a long and perilous journey of survival for a small band of rabbits.

As the rabbits skirt danger at every turn, we become acquainted with the band, its humorous characters, and its compelling culture, complete with its own folk history and myths. Fiver's vision finally leads them to Watership Down, an upland meadow. But here they face their most difficult challenges of all.

Animal Farm

George Orwell

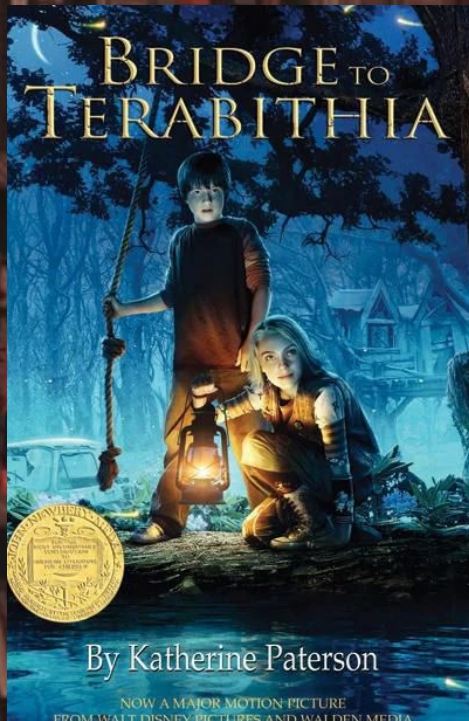


'All animals are equal. But some animals are more equal than others.'

Mr Jones of Manor Farm is so lazy and drunken that one day he forgets to feed his livestock. The ensuing rebellion under the leadership of the pigs Napoleon and Snowball leads to the animals taking over the farm. Vowing to eliminate the terrible inequities of the farmyard, the renamed Animal Farm is organised to benefit all who walk on four legs. But as time passes, the ideals of the rebellion are corrupted, then forgotten. And something new and unexpected emerges.

Bridge to Terabithia

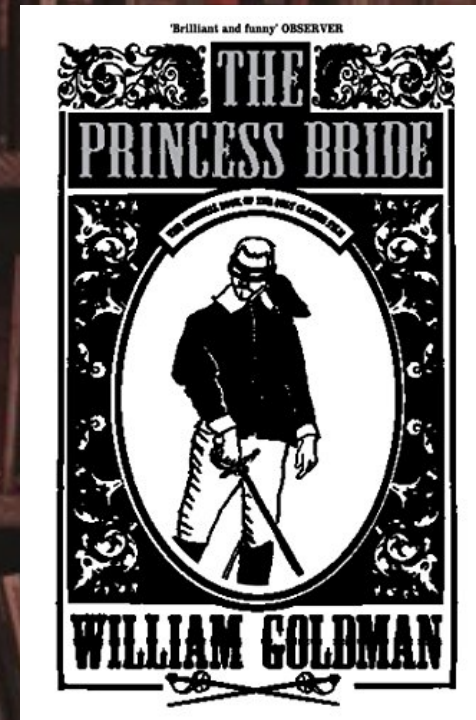
Katherine Paterson



When a girl named Leslie Burke moves into the neighbouring farm Jess Aarons' life changes forever. Even if she runs faster than him, he begins to think she might be okay: she's funny, clever, and not a bit soppy. And Leslie invents Terabithia, the secret country on an island in the creek where he can escape his troublesome family. Terabithia is where they become King and Queen, defeating giants, sharing stories and dreams, and plotting against enemies. They are invincible - until tragedy strikes. It is more dreadful than anything Jess had dreamed of, but as he struggles to cope with his grief and anger, he finds that his family value him more than he'd thought and that, still King, he could even save Terabithia for the future.

The Princess Bride

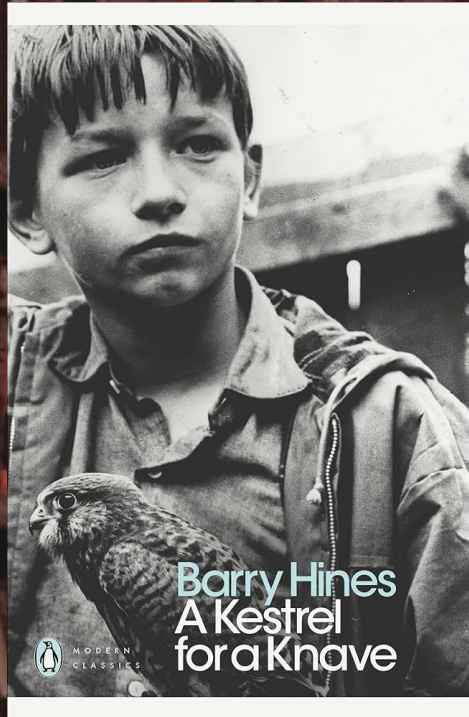
William Goldman



Beautiful, flaxen-haired Buttercup has fallen for Westley, the farm boy, and when he departs to make his fortune, she vows never to love another. So, when she hears that his ship has been captured by the Dread Pirate Roberts (no survivors) her heart is broken. But her charms draw the attention of the relentless Prince Humperdinck who wants a wife and will go to any lengths to have Buttercup. So starts a fairy tale like no other, of fencing, poison, true love, hate, revenge, giants, bad men, good men, snakes, spiders, chases, escapes, lies, truths, passion and miracles, and a damn fine story.

A Kestrel for a Knave

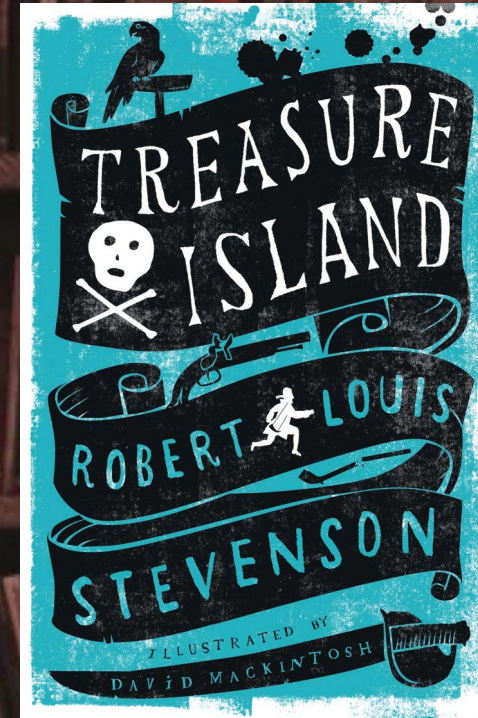
Barry Hines



Life is tough and cheerless for Billy Casper, a troubled teenager growing up in the small Yorkshire mining town of Barnsley. Treated as a failure at school, and unhappy at home, Billy discovers a new passion in life when he finds Kes, a kestrel hawk. Billy identifies with her silent strength and she inspires in him the trust and love that nothing else can, discovering through her the passion missing from his life. Barry Hines's acclaimed novel continues to reach new generations of teenagers and adults with its powerful story of survival in a tough, joyless world.

Treasure Island

Robert Louis Stevenson



When an old sea Captain named Billy Bones leaves behind a mysterious chest at Jim Hawkins' parents inn, Jim discovers a map to the legendary Treasure Island!

Finders keepers, right?

Jim sets sail with Long John Silver and his ragtag crew but can they be trusted?

Are You There, God? It's Me, Margaret?

Judy Blume

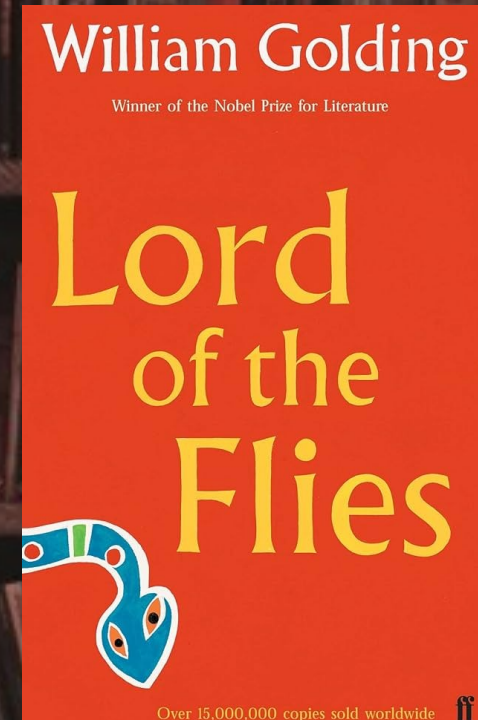


Meet Margaret. She's going through all the same things most teenage girls have to face; fitting in, friendship and first bras. Life isn't easy for Margaret. Moving away from her childhood home, starting a new school, finding new friends – and she's convinced she's not normal.

For a start she has no clue if she wants to be Jewish like her dad or Christian like her mum. Everyone else seems really sure of who they are. And, worst of all, she's a 'late developer'. She just knows that all her friends will need a bra before she does. It's too embarrassing to talk to her parents about these things. So she talks to God instead – and waits for an answer.

Lord of the Flies

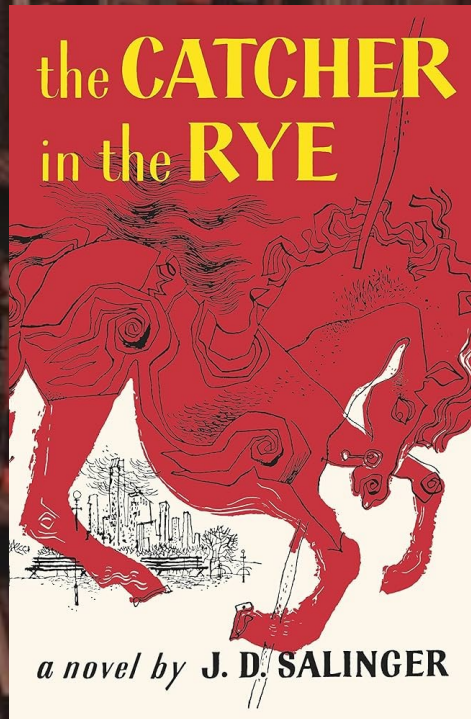
William Golding



A plane crashes on a desert island. The only survivors are a group of schoolboys. By day, they discover fantastic wildlife and dazzling beaches, learning to survive; at night, they are haunted by nightmares of a primitive beast. Orphaned by society, it isn't long before their innocent childhood games devolve into a savage, murderous hunt.

The Catcher in the Rye

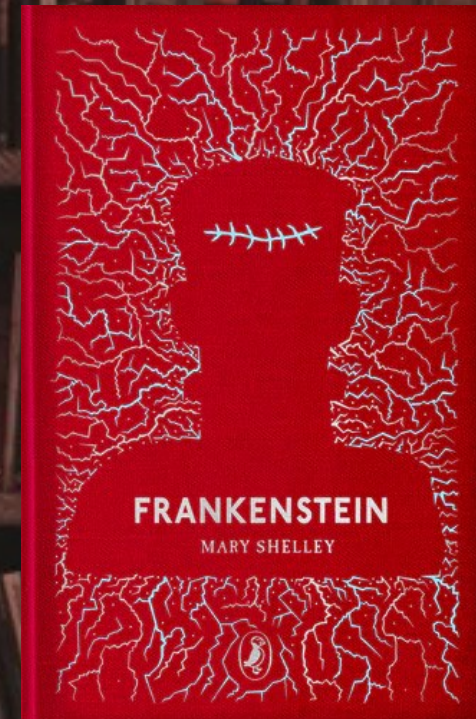
JD Salinger



Holden Caulfield is a seventeen- year-old dropout who has just been kicked out of his fourth school. Navigating his way through the challenges of growing up, Holden dissects the 'phony' aspects of society, and the 'phonies' themselves: the headmaster whose affability depends on the wealth of the parents, his roommate who scores with girls using sickly-sweet affection.

Frankenstein

Mary Shelley



A superb blend of science fiction, mystery and thriller. Victor Frankenstein, driven by the mad dream of creating his own creature, experiments with alchemy and science to build a monster stitched together from dead remains. Once the creature becomes a living, breathing, articulate entity, it turns on its maker and the novel darkens into tragedy.

KS3

Comics

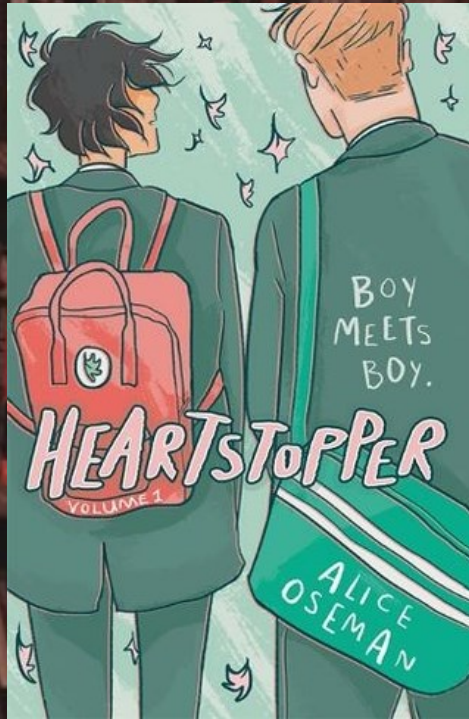
RECOMMENDED

READS



Heartstopper (series)

Alice Oseman



Boy meets boy. Boys become friends. Boys fall in love.

Charlie and Nick are at the same school, but they've never met until one day when they're made to sit together. They quickly become friends, and soon Charlie is falling hard for Nick, even though he doesn't think he has a chance.

But love works in surprising ways, and Nick is more interested in Charlie than either of them realised.

Attack on Titan (series)

Hajime Isayama



Humanity is down to just a few thousand people living in a city surrounded by three concentric walls. The walls protect them from their enemies, the ravenous giants known as the Titans. The Titans appear to have only one purpose: to consume humanity. For one hundred years, what's left of mankind has lived in the city on earth, protected by walls that tower over even the Titans. Humanity has become complacent, but Eren Jaeger has had enough. Jaeger and his friends are determined to survive. But everything about their situation is a mystery that becomes more complicated the more they learn.

Coraline

Neil Gaiman



There is something strange about Coraline's new home.

It's not the mist, or the cat that always seems to be watching her, nor the signs of danger that Miss Spink and Miss Forcible, her new neighbours, read in the tea leaves. It's the other house - the one behind the old door in the drawing room.

Another mother and father with black-button eyes and papery skin are waiting for Coraline to join them there. And they want her to stay with them. For ever. She knows that if she ventures through that door, she may never come back.

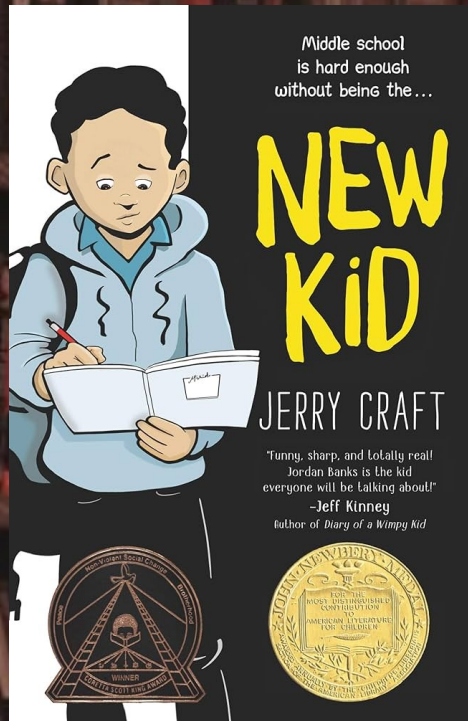
Smile

Raina Telgemeier



Raina just wants to be a normal sixth grader. But one night after Girl Scouts she trips and falls, severely injuring her two front teeth. What follows is a long and frustrating journey with on-again, off-again braces, surgery, embarrassing headgear, and even a retainer with fake teeth attached. And on top of all that, there's still more to deal with: a major earthquake, boy confusion, and friends who turn out to be not so friendly.

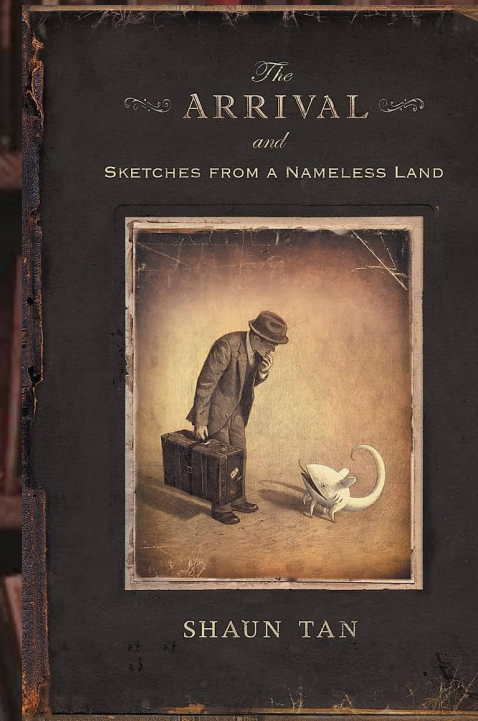
New Kid Jerry Craft



Seventh grader Jordan Banks loves nothing more than drawing cartoons about his life. But instead of sending him to the art school of his dreams, his parents enroll him in a prestigious private school known for its academics, where Jordan is one of the few kids of color in his **entire** grade.

As he makes the daily trip from his Washington Heights apartment to the upscale Riverdale Academy Day School, Jordan soon finds himself torn between two worlds—and not really fitting into either one. Can Jordan learn to navigate his new school culture while keeping his neighborhood friends and staying true to himself?

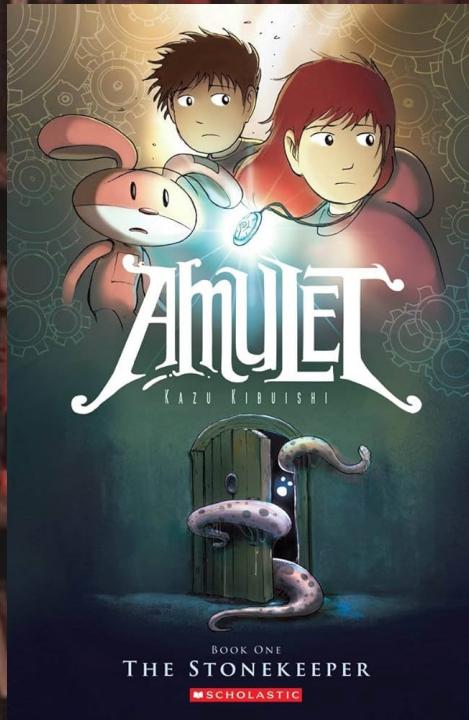
The Arrival Shaun Tan



What drives so many to leave everything behind and journey alone to a mysterious country, a **place** without family or friends, where everything is nameless and the future is unknown. This silent graphic novel is the story of every migrant, every refugee, every displaced person, and a tribute to all those who have made the journey.

Amulet (series)

Kazu Kibuishi



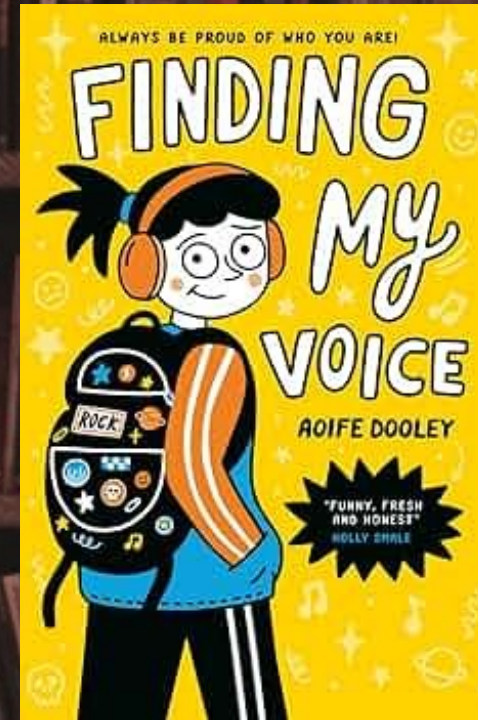
After the tragic death of their father, Emily and Navin move with their mother to the home of her deceased great-grandfather, but the strange house proves to be dangerous.

Before long, a sinister creature lures the kids' mom through a door in the basement. Em and Navin, desperate not to lose her, follow her into an underground world inhabited by demons, robots, and talking animals.

Eventually, they enlist the help of a small mechanical rabbit named Miskit. Together with Miskit, they face the most terrifying monster of all, and Em finally has the chance to save someone she loves.

Finding My Voice

Aoife Dooley

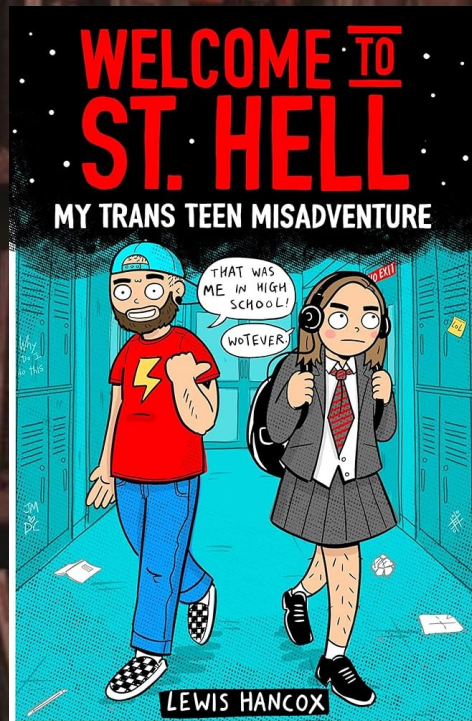


Frankie is different, and so is her best-friend, Sam. So when they both start secondary school, it's tough. Particularly when there are so many rules to follow, like: No talking in class! Be quiet in the hallways! Silence for assembly!

Frankie doesn't know how she'll manage, because constantly talking is how she copes. So when she gets the chance to compete in a Battle of the Bands contest, Frankie couldn't be more excited. Except, to have a band, you need to have band members. And to have band members, you need to be good at making friends...

Welcome to St. Hell

Lewis Hancox



Lewis has a few things to say to his younger teen self.

He knows she's confused about who to snog. He knows she's really a he and will ultimately realize this...

But she's going to go through a whole lot of mess (some of it funny, some of it not funny at all) to get to that point. Lewis is trying to tell her this... but she's refusing to listen.

In *Welcome to St. Hell*, author-illustrator Lewis Hancox takes readers on the hilarious, heartbreaking and healing path he took to make it past trauma, confusion, hurt and dubious fashion choices in order to become the man he was meant to be.

Tokyo Ghoul (series)

Sui Ishida



Ghouls live among us, the same as normal people in every way - except their craving for human flesh.

Shy Ken Kaneki is thrilled to go on a date with the beautiful Rize. But it turns out that she's only interested in his body—eating it, that is. When a morally questionable rescue transforms him into the first half-human half-Ghoul hybrid, Ken is trapped between two worlds, and must survive Ghoul turf wars, learn about Ghoul society and master his new powers.

KS3

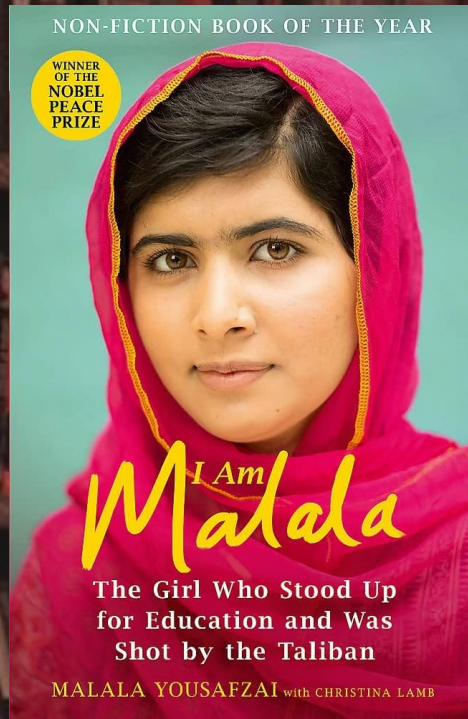
Non-
Fiction

RECOMMENDED

READS



I am Malala Malala Yousafzai

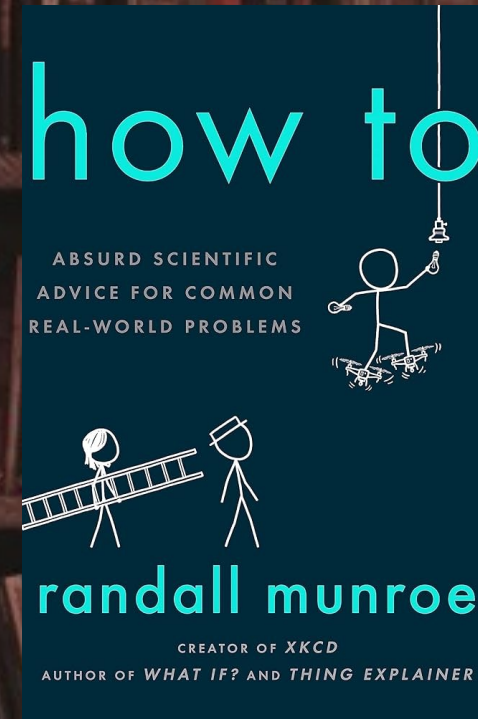


Raised in the Swat Valley in Pakistan, Malala was taught to stand up for her beliefs. When terrorists took control of her region and declared girls were forbidden from going to school, Malala fought for her right to an education. And, on 9 October 2012, she nearly paid the ultimate price for her courage when she was shot on her way home from school.

No one expected her to survive.

Now, she is an international symbol of peaceful protest and the youngest person ever to win a Nobel Peace Prize.

How To... Randall Munroe



For any task you might want to do, there's a right way, a wrong way, and a way so monumentally bad that no one would ever try it. HowTo is a guide to the third kind of approach, full of highly impractical advice for **everything** from landing a plane to digging a hole.

Have you ever wondered how to predict the weather by analysing the pixels of your Facebook photos, take a selfie with a telescope, or cross a river by boiling it? Well now here's the book for you!

Stories for Kids who Dare to be Different

Ben Brooks

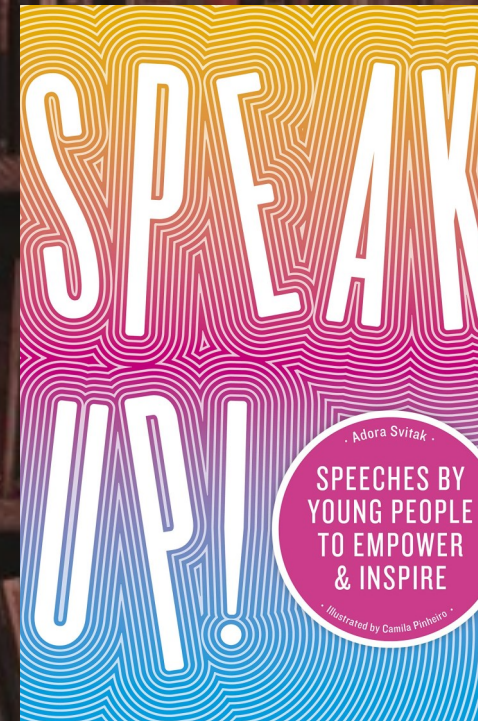


Boys will be boys and girls will be girls - or so the meaningless saying goes. Because what if you're a girl and you like cage fighting? Or you're a boy and you love ballet? And what if you've always dreamed of being a scientist but you can't see anyone who looks or sounds like you, and who has left a legacy - in the form of microscopes and Bunsen burners - for you to follow?

This is the book for children who want to know about the lives of those heroes who have led the way, changing the world for the better as they go.

Speak Up

Adora Svitak

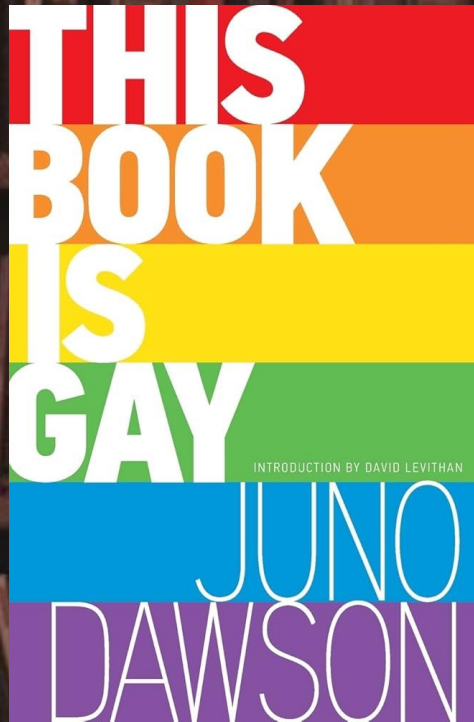


Speak Up! is a joyful celebration of 45 speeches by young people who have stood up for causes they passionately believe in and challenged adults in power to take note. This collection is testament to the hope and spirit of the next generation, and the positive belief that we can, and should, act to protect the things we love.

From ground-breaking scientific inventions to pleas for the environment, anti-war speeches to incredible testimony of lived experiences, the speeches collected here demonstrate the profound wisdom of youth and why it is important to speak up and out on what concerns us.

This Book is Gay

Juno Dawson



A funny and pertinent book about being lesbian, bisexual, gay, queer, transgender or just curious - for everybody, no matter their gender or sexuality.

Former PSHCE teacher and acclaimed author Juno Dawson gives an uncensored look at what it's like to grow up as LGBT. Including testimonials from people across the gender and sexual spectrums, this frank, funny, fully inclusive book explores everything anyone who ever dared to wonder wants to know - from sex to politics, how to pull, stereotypes, how to come-out and more.

The Secret Footballer

Anonymous

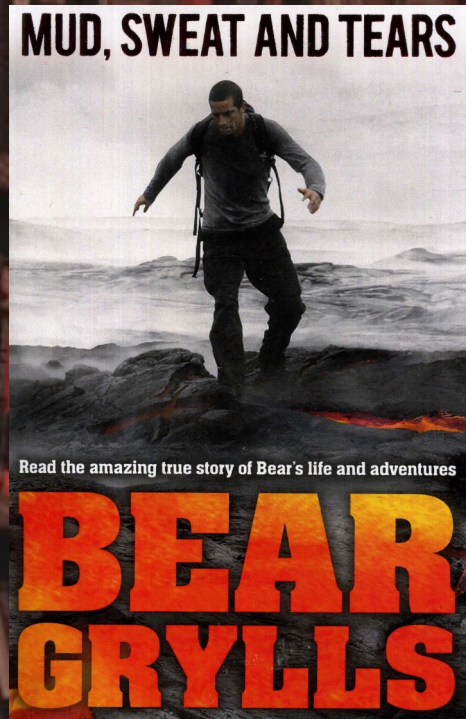


Who is The Secret Footballer? Only a few people know the true identity of the man inside the game. Whoever he is, TSF is always honest, fearless and opinionated. Here he reveals the inner workings of a professional club, the exhilarating highs and crushing lows, and what it's really like to do the job most of us can only dream of doing.

TFS chronicles the exploits of his Premiership colleagues with a gimlet eye and frank humour. No one is spared from his observations - their mindsets, their relationships with those outside the sport, their behaviour good and bad. In his inimitable style, TSF recounts eyebrow-raising stories, naming names and dropping colourful details along the way.

Mud, Sweat & Tears

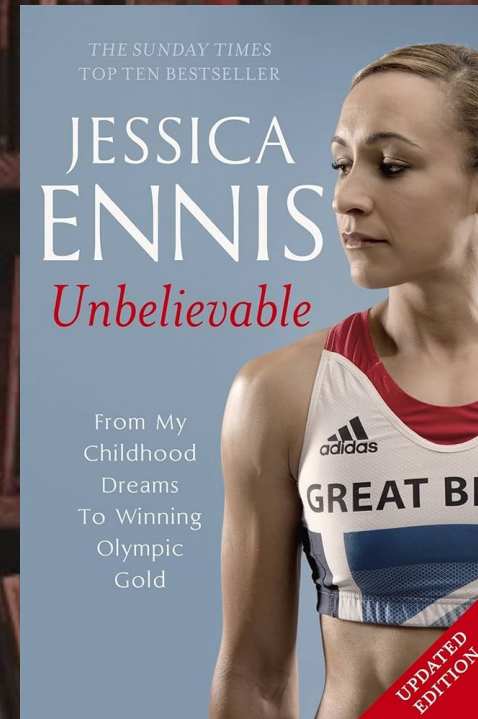
Bear Grylls



Bear Grylls has always sought the ultimate in adventure. As a teenager he found purpose through mountaineering and martial arts, which led the young adventurer to the foothills of the Himalayas and a karate training camp in Japan. On returning home, he embarked upon the notoriously grueling selection course to join the SAS - a journey that was to push him to the limits of physical and mental endurance. Then, in a horrific parachuting accident, Bear broke his back in three places. It was touch and go whether he would ever walk again, but only 18 months later he became one of the youngest ever climbers to scale Everest, aged only 23. But this was just the beginning of his many extraordinary adventures.

Unbelievable

Jessica Ennis

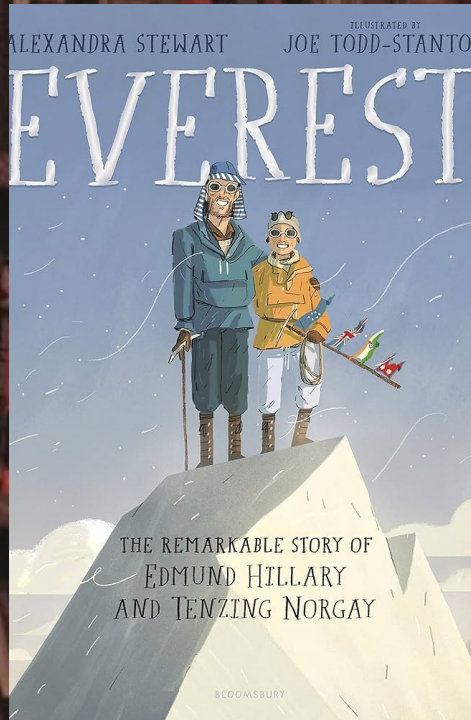


On 4 August 2012 Jessica Ennis kicked off maybe the greatest night in British sports history. For her it was the end of a long, winding, and sometimes harrowing road. Hers is an inspiring tale of chasing your dreams no matter what life throws at you.

Unbelievable is a refreshingly candid account of her rise to fame in a highly charged world in which body image issues and drug abuses lurk. From the unique pressures facing her, to behind-the-scenes glimpses into the greatest show on earth, and a revealing account of her love-hate relationship with her long-term coach, Jessica reveals the truth behind the smiles for the first time.

Everest

Alexandra Stewart & Joe Todd-Stanton

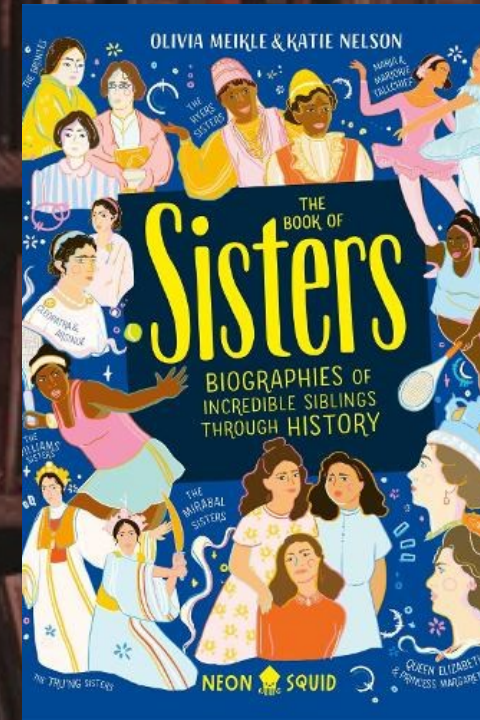


In the morning of May 29th 1953, the sun was shining on the roof of the world, a gentle breeze was blowing, and two men were there to witness it for the first time ever. They were Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay, and the roof of the world was Everest.

This is the breathtaking story of how two different yet equally determined men battled frost-biting temperatures, tumbling ice rocks, powerful winds and death-defying ridges to climb the world's highest mountain. Join these two unlikely heroes on the most amazing of adventures and discover the impact of hundreds of men and women who helped Hillary and Tenzing achieve their goal.

The Book of Sisters

Olivia Meikle & Kate Nelson



Queens. Warriors. Witches. Revolutionaries. History is full of sisters making their mark. Meet incredible women in this non-fiction book for kids, from Queen Elizabeth II and Princess Margaret to tennis superstars Venus and Serena Williams.

Through the stories of the sisters, readers will go on a whirlwind tour of women's history, from the courts of Imperial China to the French Revolution. And you'll discover that stories about sisters aren't anything new – they can be traced back to ancient tales, from Greek goddesses to Maya mythology.

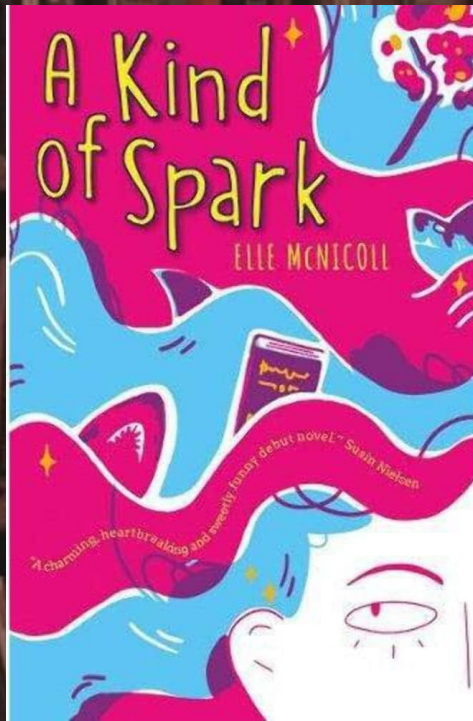
KS3

Neuro-
diversity

**RECOMMENDED
READS**

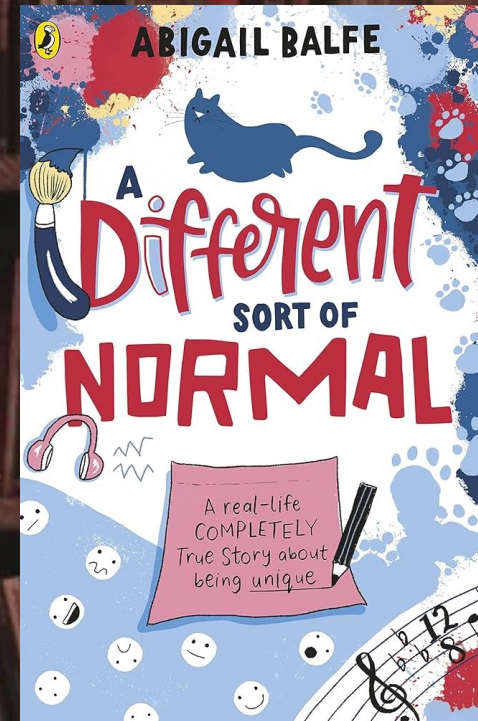
The image features a dark blue background. In the center, a large red book is open, held by two light-skinned hands. Above the book, numerous smaller books in various colors (red, blue, green, yellow) are floating in the air, along with small red and blue dots. The text 'KS3' is on the left, 'Neuro-diversity' is on the right, and 'RECOMMENDED READS' is centered over the book in large, bold, white letters with a green shadow.

A Kind of Spark Elle McNicoll



A Kind of Spark tells the story of 11-year-old Addie as she campaigns for a memorial in memory of the witch trials that took place in her Scottish hometown. Addie knows there's more to the story of these 'witches', just like there is more to hers. Can Addie challenge how the people in her town see her, and her autism, and make her voice heard?

A Different Sort of Normal Abigail Balfe



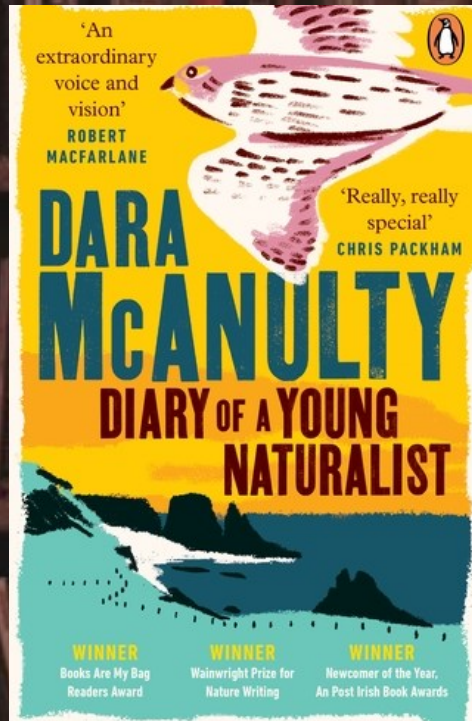
Hi! My name is Abigail, and I'm autistic. But I didn't know I was autistic until I was an adult-sort-of-person*. This is my story of growing up in the confusing 'normal' world, all the while missing some Very Important Information about myself.

There'll be scary moments involving toilets and crowded trains, heart-warming tales of cats and pianos, and funny memories including my dad and a mysterious tub of ice cream. Along the way you'll also find some Very Crucial and Myth-busting Information about autism.

*I've never really felt like an actual-adult-person, as you'll soon discover in this book..

Diary of a Young Naturalist

Dara McAnulty

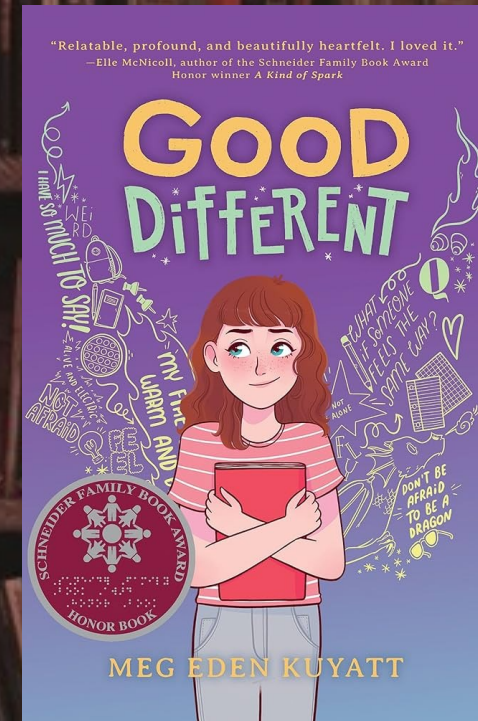


Evocative, raw and lyrical, this startling debut explores the natural world through the eyes of Dara McAnulty, an autistic teenager coping with the uprooting of home, school, and his mental health, while pursuing his life as a conservationist and environmental activist.

Shifting from intense darkness to light, recalling his sensory encounters in the wild - with blackbirds, whooper swans, red kites, hen harriers, frogs, dandelions, Irish hares and more - McAnulty reveals worlds we have neglected to see, in a stunning world of nature writing that is a future classic.

Good Different

Meg Eden Kuyatt



Selah knows her rules for being normal.

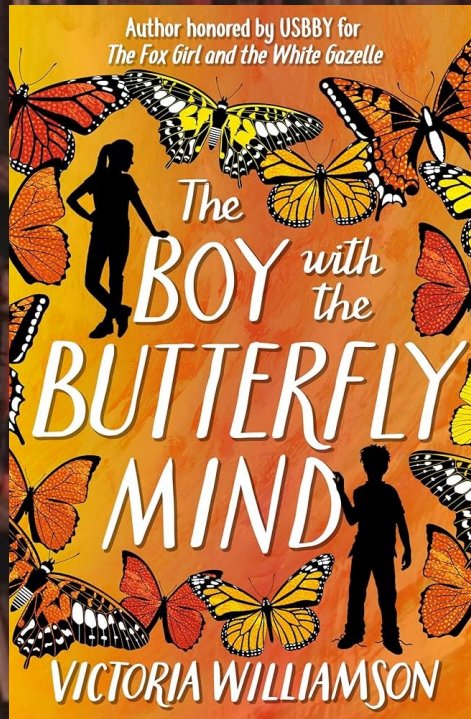
This means keeping her feelings locked tightly inside, despite the way they build up inside her as each school day goes on, so that she has to run to the bathroom and hide in the stall until she can calm down. Selah feels like a dragon stuck in a world of humans, but she knows how to hide it.

Until the day she explodes and hits a fellow student.

As her comfortable, familiar world crumbles around her, Selah starts to figure out more about who she is. She comes to understand that different doesn't mean damaged. Can she get her school to understand that, too, before it's too late?

The Boy with the Butterfly Mind

Victoria Williamson

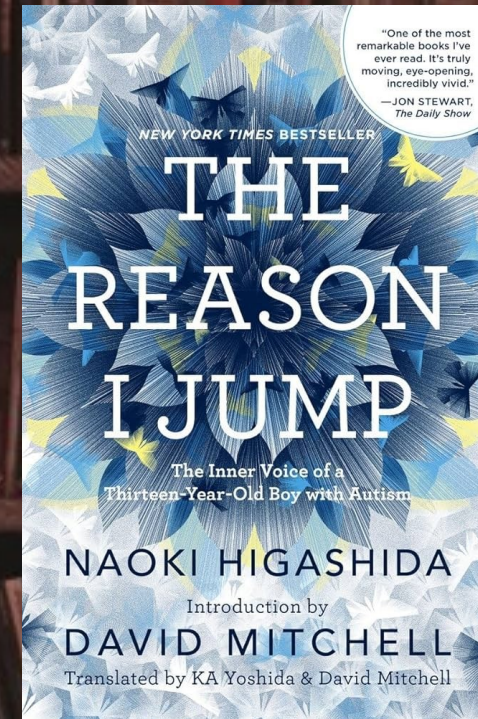


Jamie Lee just wants to be normal, but his ADHD isn't making it easy. If only he could control his butterfly mind he'd be able to keep out of trouble. Elin Watts just wants to be perfect. If she could be the best student and daughter possible, then maybe her dad would leave his new family and come back to live with Elin and her mum.

When Jamie and Elin's families blend, the polar opposites of chaotic Jamie and ordered Elin collide. As their lives spiral out of control, Jamie and Elin discover that they're actually more alike than they'd admit. Maybe there's no such thing as normal, or perfect. And perhaps, just like families, happy-ever-afters come in all shapes and sizes.

The Reason I Jump

Naoki Higashida



Severely autistic and non-verbal, thirteen-year-old Naoki Higashida learnt to communicate by using a 'cardboard keyboard' - and what he has to say gives a rare insight into his mind. He explains behaviour he's aware can be baffling such as why he likes to jump and why some people with autism dislike being touched; he describes how he perceives and navigates the world, sharing his thoughts and feelings about time, life, beauty and nature; and he offers an unforgettable short story.

KS4

Fiction

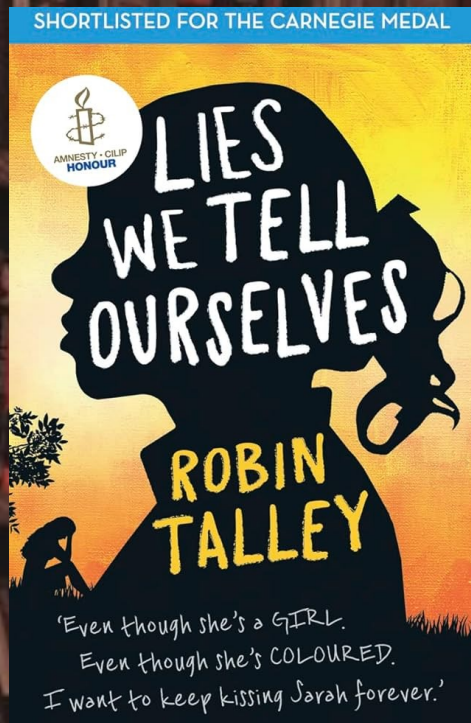
RECOMMENDED

READS



Lies We Tell Ourselves

Robin Talley

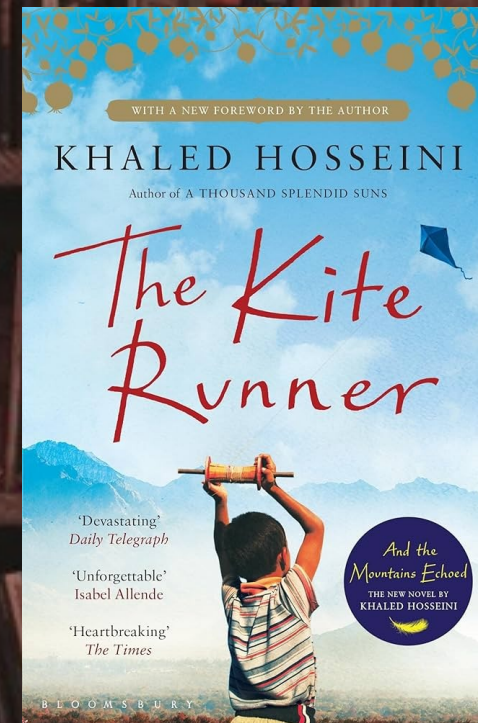


It's 1959. The battle for civil rights is raging. And it's Sarah's first day of school as one of the first black students at previously all-white Jefferson High. No one wants Sarah there. Not the Governor. Not the teachers. And certainly not the students especially Linda, daughter of the town's most ardent segregationist.

Sarah and Linda are supposed to despise each other. But the more time they spend together, the less their differences matter. And both girls start to feel something they've never felt before. Something they're determined to ignore.

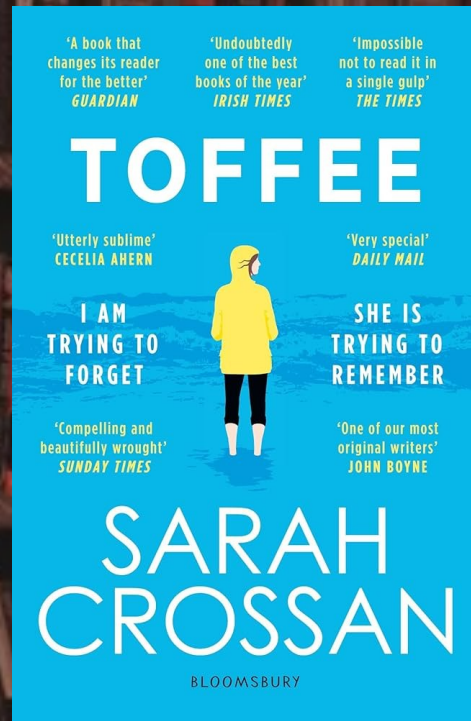
The Kite Runner

Khaled Hosseini



Afghanistan, 1975: Twelve-year-old Amir is desperate to win the local kite-fighting tournament and his loyal friend Hassan promises to help him. But neither of the boys can foresee what will happen to Hassan that afternoon, an event that is to shatter their lives. After the Russians invade and the family is forced to flee to America, Amir realises that one day he must return to Afghanistan under Taliban rule to find the one thing that his new world cannot grant him: redemption.

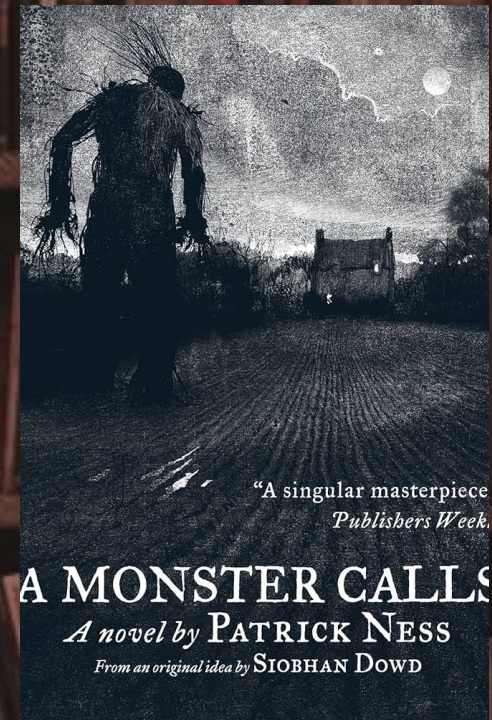
Toffee Sarah Crossan



When Allison runs away from home, she doesn't expect to be taken in by Marla, an elderly woman with dementia, who mistakes her for an old friend called Toffee. Allison is used to hiding who she really is and trying to be what other people want her to be. And so Toffee is who she becomes.

But as her bond with Marla grows, Allison begins to ask herself: Where is home? What is a family? And, most importantly, Who am I, really?

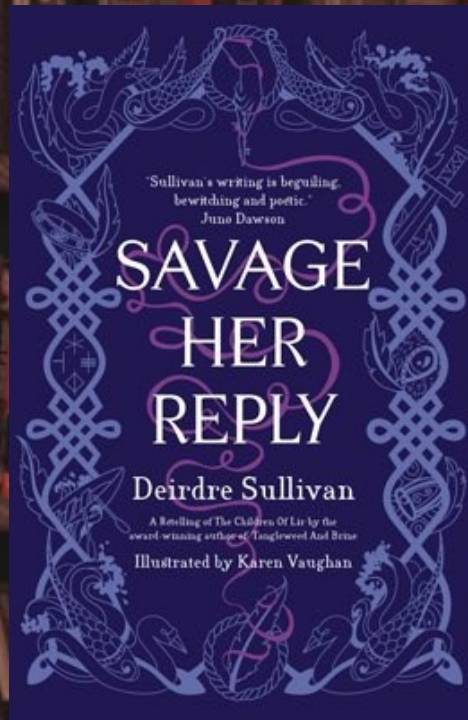
A Monster Calls Patrick Ness



Conor has the same dream every night, ever since his mother first fell ill, ever since she started the treatments that don't quite seem to be working. But tonight is different. Tonight, when he wakes, there's a visitor at his window. It's ancient, elemental, a force of nature. And it wants the most dangerous thing of all from Conor. It wants the truth.

Savage Her Reply

Deirdre Sullivan

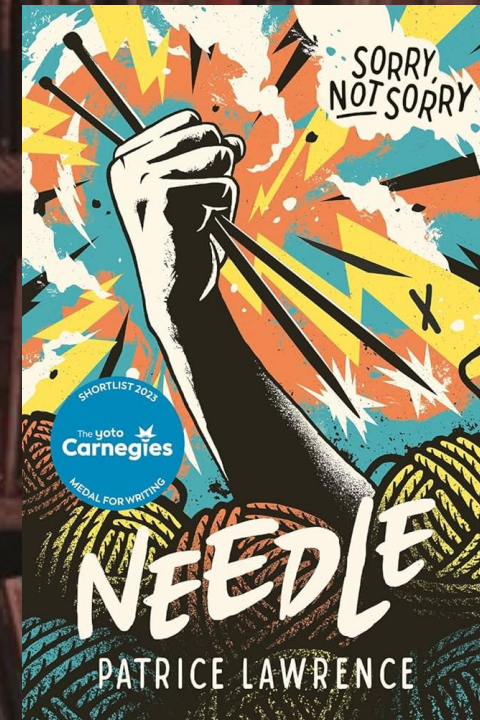


A retelling of the favourite Irish fairytale The Children of Lir. Aífe marries Lir, a chieftain with four children by his previous wife. Jealous of his affection for his children, the witch Aífe turns them into swans for 900 years.

Retold through the voice of Aífe, Savage Her Reply is unsettling and dark, feminist and fierce, yet nuanced in its exploration of the guilt of a complex character.

Needle

Patrice Lawrence



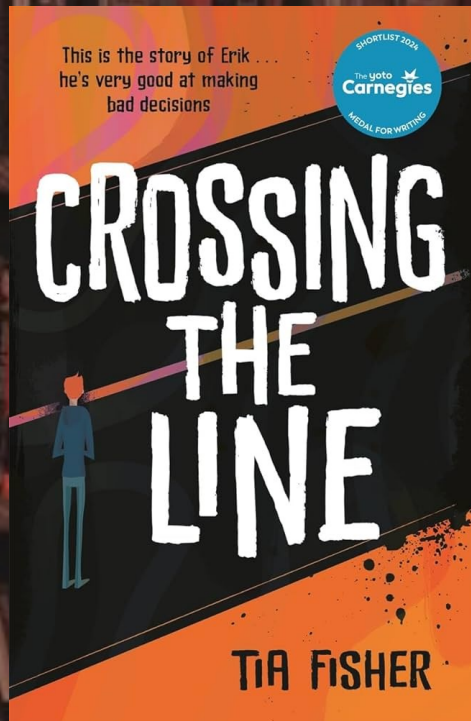
Charlene is a demon knitter. It's the only thing she enjoys and the only thing she believes she's really good at.

So when her foster mum's son destroys her latest creation, Charlene loses it and stabs him in the hand with her knitting needle. It damages a nerve and she gets sucked into the criminal justice system for assault.

Charlene's not sorry and she's never apologised to anyone in her life. But people keep telling her that if she says sorry, they'll go easier on her. Can she bring herself to say it and not mean it when her freedom's at stake?

Crossing the Line

Tia Fisher



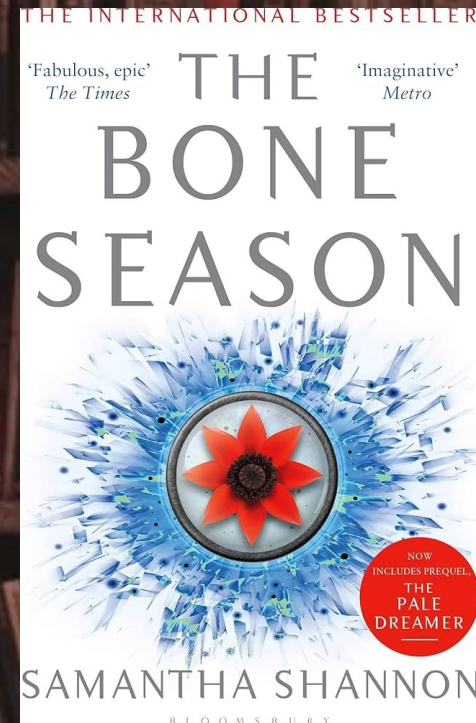
Erik's life has been falling apart ever since his dad died. Homework and being good at school stop feeling important when you're the new man of the house. When Erik's bad behaviour attracts the wrong crowd, he's sucked into a terrifying new world of drug dealing, trap houses and violence.

Making money feels good but Erik soon learns that a small favour can become a huge debt.

And when his sisters' lives are threatened, Erik will have to cross one more line to save them.

The Bone Season

Samantha Shannon

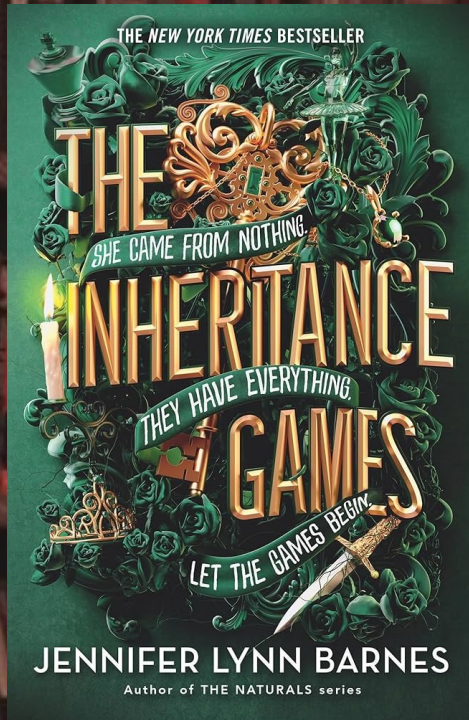


The year is 2059. For two centuries, the Republic of Scion has led an oppressive campaign against unnaturalness in Europe. In London, Paige Mahoney holds a high rank in the criminal underworld. The right hand of the ruthless White Binder, Paige is a dreamwalker, a rare and formidable kind of clairvoyant. Under Scion law, she commits treason simply by breathing.

When Paige is arrested for murder, she meets the mysterious founders of Scion, who have designs on her uncommon abilities. If she is to survive and escape, Paige must use every skill at her disposal – and put her trust in someone who ought to be her enemy.

The Inheritance Games (series)

Jennifer Lynn Barnes



Avery has a plan: keep her head down, work hard for a better future. Then an eccentric billionaire dies, leaving her almost his entire fortune. And no one, least of all Avery, knows why.

Now she must move into the mansion she's inherited, filled with secrets and codes, and the old man's surviving relatives: a family hell-bent on discovering why Avery got 'their' money.

Soon she is caught in a deadly game that everyone in this strange family is playing. But just how far will they go to keep their fortune?

Grow

Luke Palmer



A white supremacist group and its violent leader targets teenage Josh, who is struggling to cope with his father's recent death at the hands of terrorists. Will he find the strength to resist, or will his unlikely relationship with Dana give them both the escape that they so badly need? An unflinching and muscular exploration of grief, and what we plant in the spaces that loss leaves inside us.

KS5

Fiction

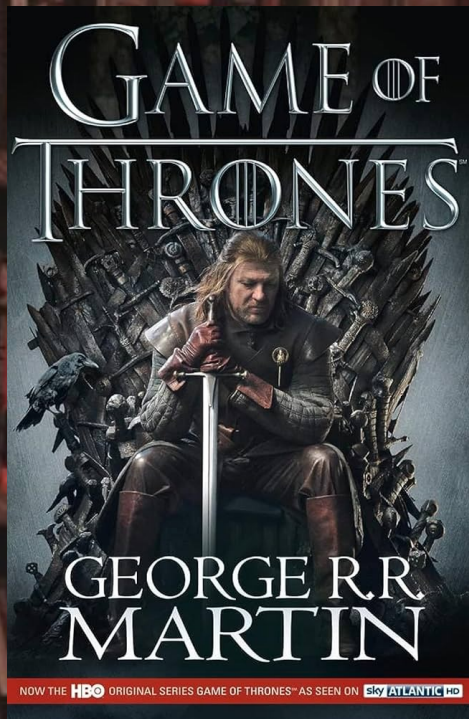
RECOMMENDED

READS



A Game of Thrones

George R R Martin



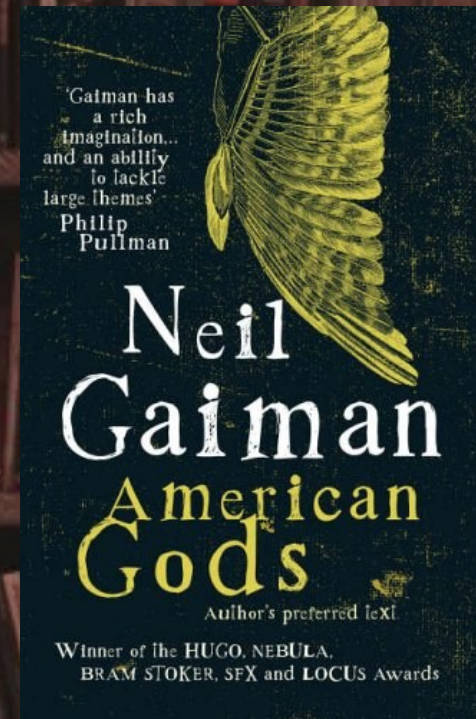
Summers span decades. Winter can last a lifetime. And the struggle for the Iron Throne has begun.

As Warden of the north, Lord Eddard Stark counts it a curse when King Robert bestows on him the office of the Hand. His honour weighs him down at court where a true man does what he will, not what he must ... and a dead enemy is a thing of beauty.

The old gods have no power in the south, Stark's family is split and there is treachery at court. Worse, the vengeance-mad heir of the deposed Dragon King has grown to maturity in exile in the Free Cities. He claims the Iron Throne.

American Gods

Neil Gaiman



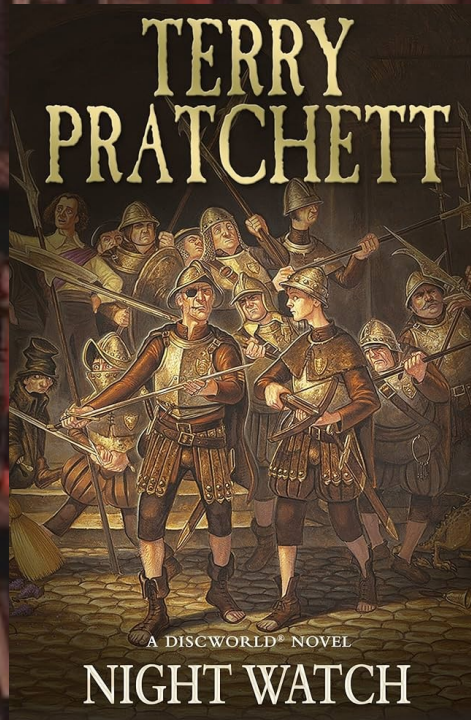
After three years in prison, Shadow Moon is free to go home. But hours before his release, his beloved wife is killed in a freak accident. Numbly, he boards a plane where he meets an enigmatic stranger who seems to know Shadow and claims to be an ancient god - and king of America.

Together they embark on a profoundly strange road trip across the USA, encountering a kaleidoscopic cast of characters along the way. But all around them a storm of unnatural proportions is gathering.

War is coming, an epic struggle for the very soul of America. And Shadow is standing squarely in its path.

Night Watch

Terry Pratchett



Commander Vimes of the Ankh-Morpork City Watch had it all.

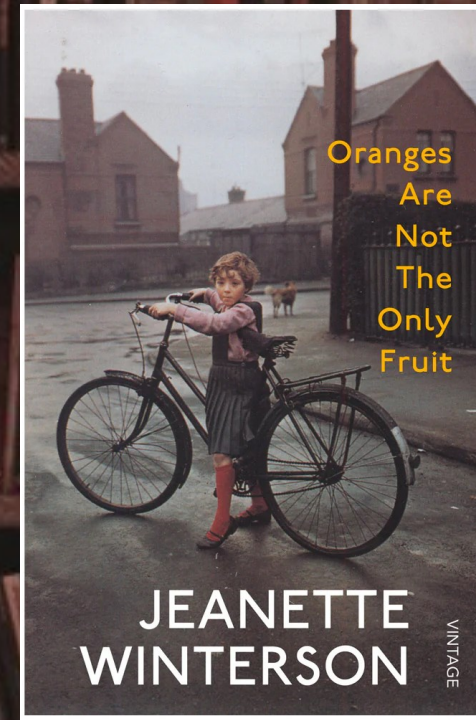
But now he's back in his own rough, tough past without even the clothes he was standing up in when the lightning struck...

Living in the past is hard. Dying in the past is incredibly easy. But he must survive, because he has a job to do. He must track down a murderer, teach his younger self how to be a good copper and change the outcome of a bloody rebellion.

There's a problem: if he wins, he's got no wife, no child... and no future.

Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit

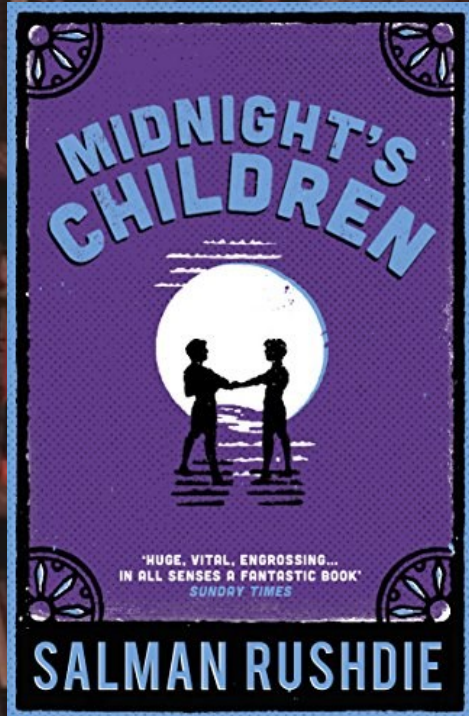
Jeanette Winterson



This is the story of Jeanette, adopted and brought up by her mother as one of God's elect. Zealous and passionate, she seems destined for life as a missionary, but then she falls for one of her converts.

At sixteen, Jeanette decides to leave the church, her home and her family, for the young woman she loves. Innovative, punchy and tender, Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit is a few days ride into the bizarre outposts of religious excess and human obsession

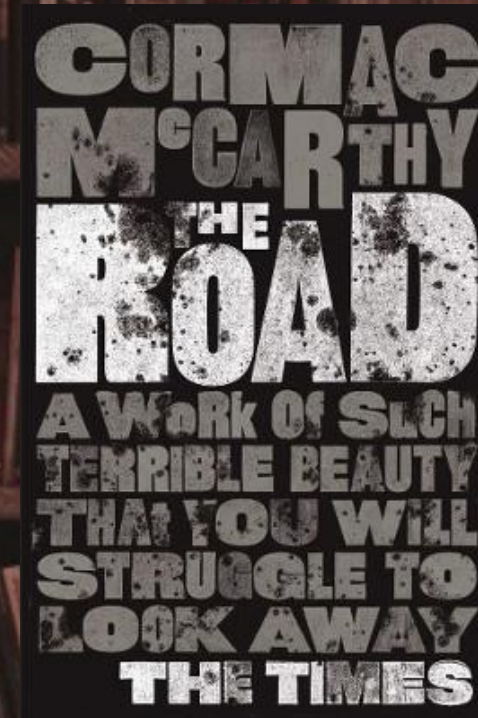
Midnight's Children Salman Rushdie



Born at the stroke of midnight at the exact moment of India's independence, Saleem Sinai is a special child.

However, this coincidence of birth has consequences he is not prepared for: telepathic powers connect him with 1,000 other 'midnight's children' all of whom are endowed with unusual gifts. Inextricably linked to his nation, Saleem's story is a whirlwind of disasters and triumphs that mirrors the course of modern India at its most impossible and glorious.

The Road Cormac McCarthy

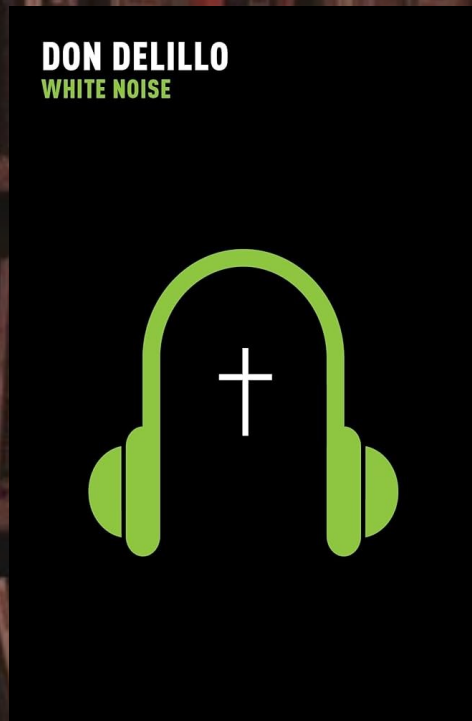


A post-apocalyptic classic set in a burned-out America, a father and his young son walk under a darkened sky, heading slowly for the coast. They have no idea what, if anything, awaits them there.

The landscape is destroyed. Nothing moves save the ash on the wind. Cruel, lawless men stalk the roadside, lying in wait. Attempting to survive in this brave new world, the young boy and his protector have nothing but a pistol to defend themselves. They must keep walking.

White Noise

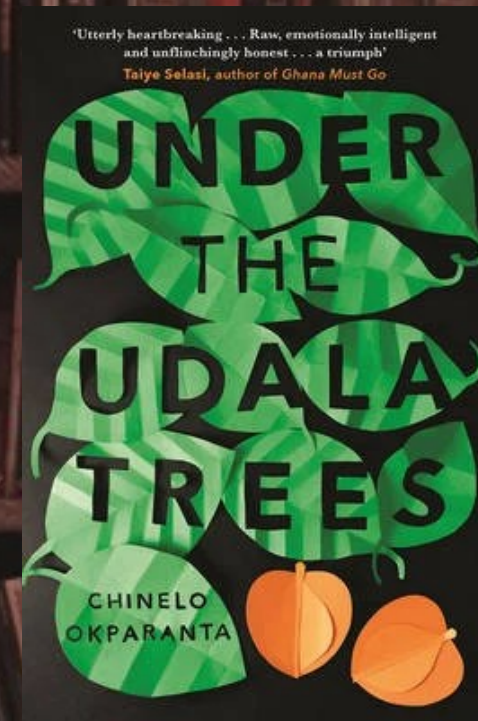
Don DeLillo



Jack Gladney is the creator and chairman of Hitler studies at the College-on-the-Hill. This is the story of his absurd life. A life that is going well enough, until a chemical spill from a train carriage releases an 'Airborne Toxic Event' and Jack is forced to confront his biggest fear – his own mortality.

Under the Udala Trees

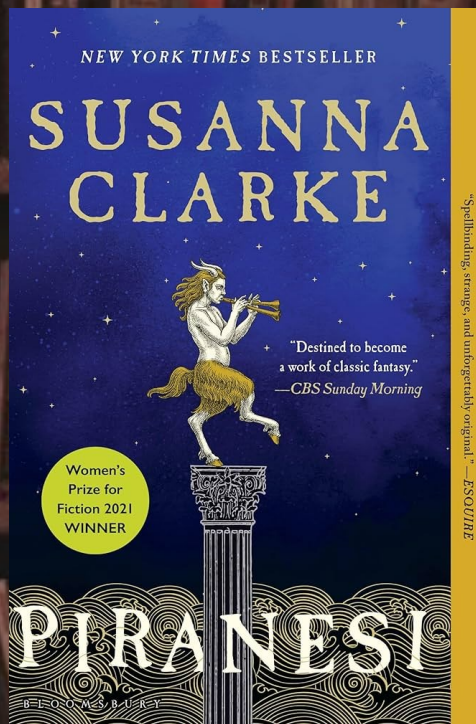
Chinelo Okparanta



One day in 1968, at the height of the Biafran civil war, Ijeoma's father is killed and her world is **trans**formed forever. Separated from her grief-stricken mother, she meets another young lost girl, Amina, and the two become inseparable. Theirs is a relationship that will shake the foundations of Ijeoma's faith, test her resolve and flood her heart

Piranesi

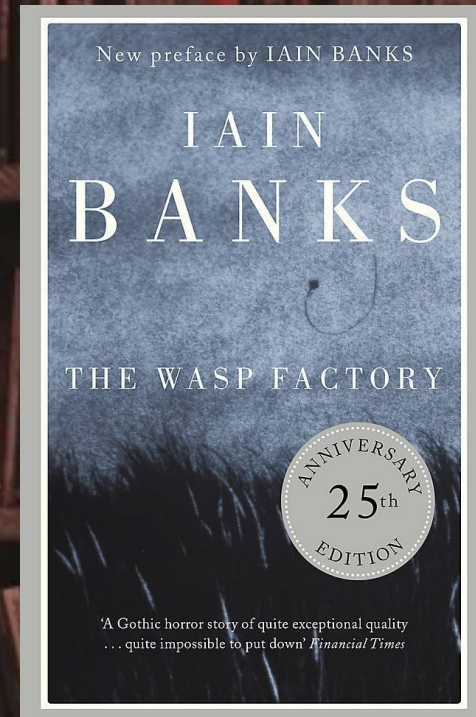
Susanna Clarke



In his notebooks Piranesi makes a clear and careful record of the House's wonders: the labyrinth of halls, the hundreds of thousands of statues, the tides thundering up staircases, the clouds moving slowly through the upper halls. On Tuesdays and Fridays Piranesi sees his friend, the Other. At other times he brings tributes of food to the Dead. But mostly, he is alone. Messages begin to appear, scratched out in chalk on the pavements. There is someone new in the House. But who are they and what do they want? Are they a friend or do they bring destruction and madness as the Other claims? Lost texts must be found; secrets uncovered. The world that Piranesi thought he knew is becoming strange and dangerous.

The Wasp Factory

Iain Banks



The Wasp Factory is a bizarre, imaginative, disturbing, and darkly comic look into the mind of a child psychopath...

'Two years after I killed Blyth I murdered my young brother Paul, for quite different reasons than I'd disposed of Blyth, and then a year after that I did for my young cousin Esmerelda, more or less on a whim. That's my score to date. Three. I haven't killed anybody for years, and don't intend to ever again. It was just a stage I was going through.'

Enter - if you can bear it - the extraordinary private world of Frank, just sixteen, and unconventional, to say the least.

KS4

Classic
Fiction

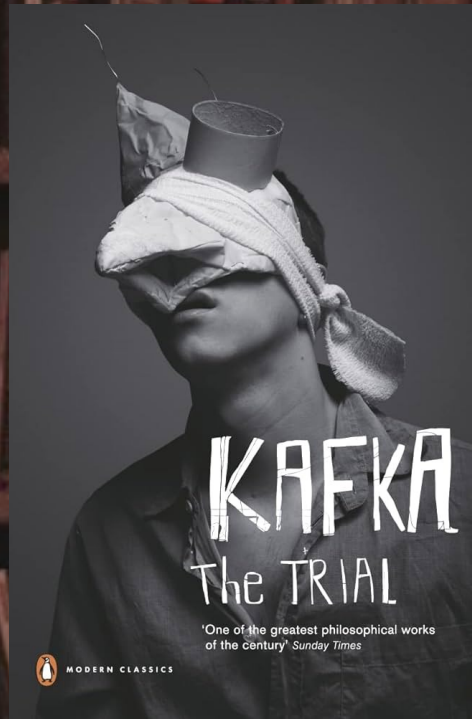
RECOMMENDED

READS



The Trial

Franz Kafka



A terrifying psychological trip into the life of one Joseph K., an ordinary man who wakes up one day to find himself accused of a crime he did not commit, a crime whose nature is never revealed to him. Once arrested, he is released, but must report to court on a regular basis - an event that proves maddening, as nothing is ever resolved. As he grows more uncertain of his fate, his personal life - including work at a bank and his relations with his landlady and a young woman who lives next door - becomes increasingly unpredictable. As K. tries to gain control, he succeeds only in accelerating his own excruciating downward spiral.

Wuthering Heights

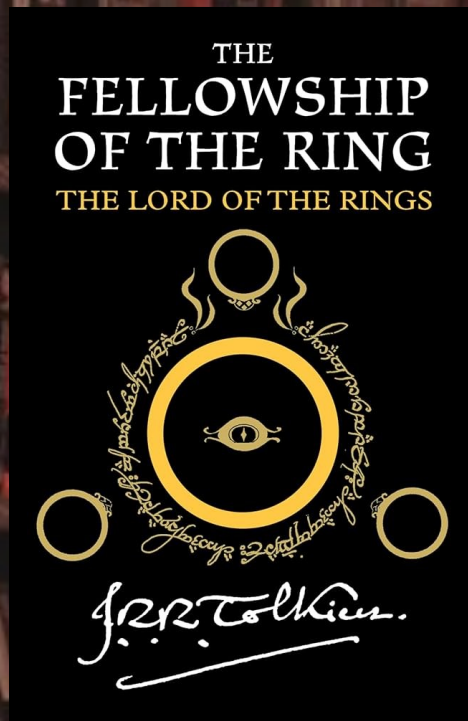
Emily Brontë



It begins in a snowstorm, when Lockwood, the new tenant of Thrushcross Grange on the bleak Yorkshire moors, is forced to seek shelter at Wuthering Heights. There he discovers the history of the tempestuous events that took place years before: the intense passion between the foundling Heathcliff and Catherine Earnshaw, her betrayal of him and the bitter vengeance he now wreaks on the innocent heirs of the past.

Lord of the Rings

JRR Tolkien

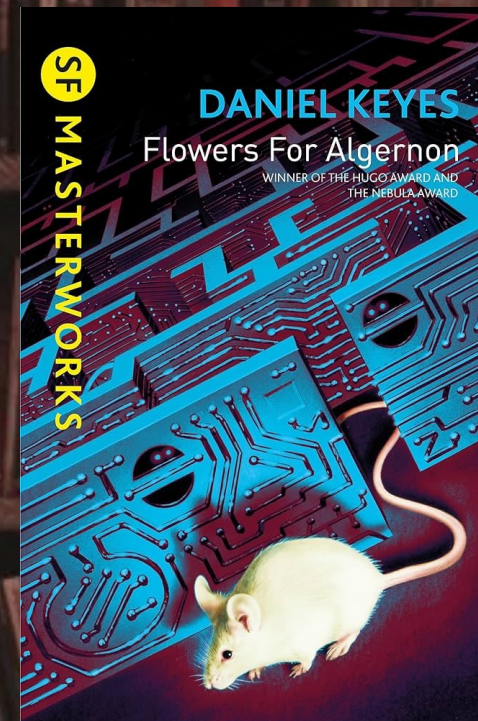


Sauron, the Dark Lord, has gathered to him all the Rings of Power – the means by which he intends to rule Middle-Earth. All he lacks in his plans for dominion is the One Ring – the ring that rules them all – which has fallen into the hands of the hobbit, Bilbo Baggins.

In a sleepy village in the Shire, young Frodo Baggins finds himself faced with an immense task, as the Ring is entrusted to his care. He must leave his home and make a perilous journey across the realms of Middle-Earth to the Crack of Doom, deep inside the territories of the Dark Lord. There he must destroy the Ring forever and foil the Dark Lord in his evil purpose.

Flowers for Algernon

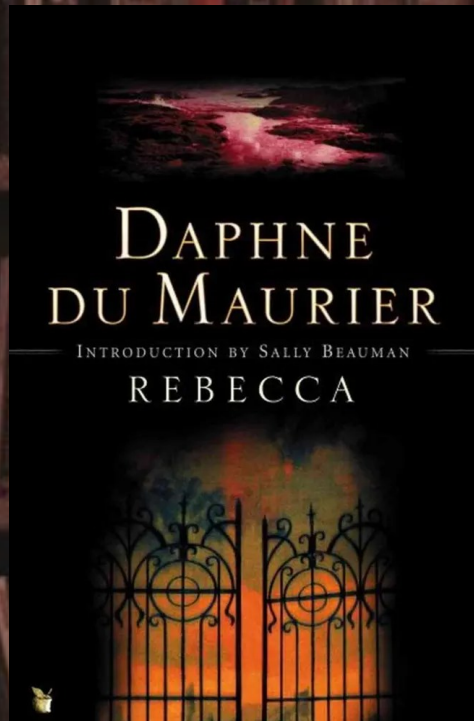
Daniel Keyes



Charlie Gordon, IQ 68, is a floor sweeper and the gentle butt of everyone's jokes - until an experiment in the enhancement of human intelligence turns him into a genius.

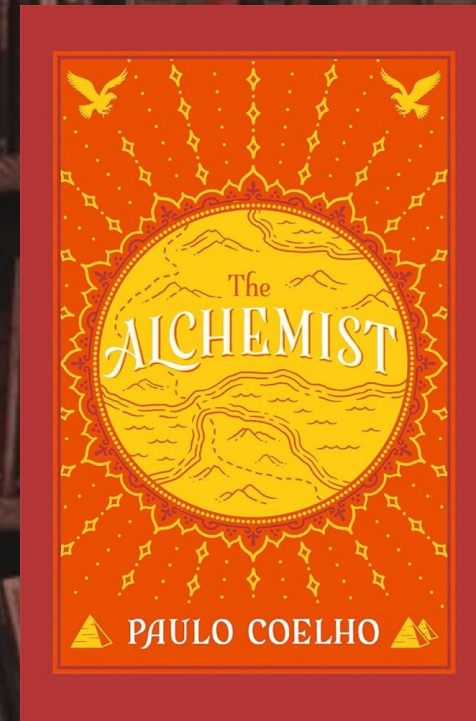
But then Algernon, the mouse whose triumphal experimental transformation preceded his, fades and dies, and Charlie has to face the possibility that his salvation was only temporary.

Rebecca Daphne Du Maurier



On a trip to the South of France, the shy heroine of *Rebecca* falls in love with Maxim de Winter, a handsome widower. Although his proposal comes as a surprise, she happily agrees to marry him. But as they arrive at her husband's home, Manderley, a change comes over Maxim, and the young bride is filled with dread. Friendless in the isolated mansion, she realises that she barely knows him. In every corner of every room is the phantom of his beautiful first wife, Rebecca, and the new Mrs de Winter walks in her shadow.

The Alchemist Paulo Coelho



An Andalusian shepherd boy named Santiago travels from his homeland in Spain to the Egyptian desert in search of treasure buried in the Pyramids. Along the way he meets a Gypsy woman, a man who calls himself king, and an Alchemist, all of whom point Santiago in the direction of his quest. No one knows what the treasure is, or if Santiago will be able to surmount the obstacles along the way. But what starts out as a journey to find worldly goods turns into a meditation on the treasures found within.

KS5

Classic
Fiction

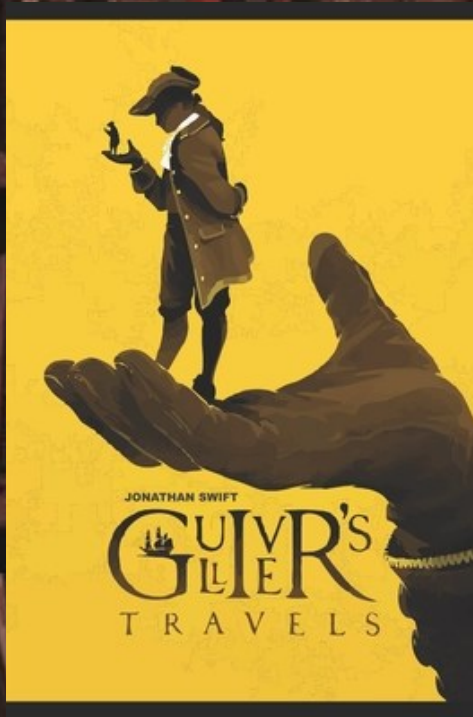
RECOMMENDED

READS



Gulliver's Travels

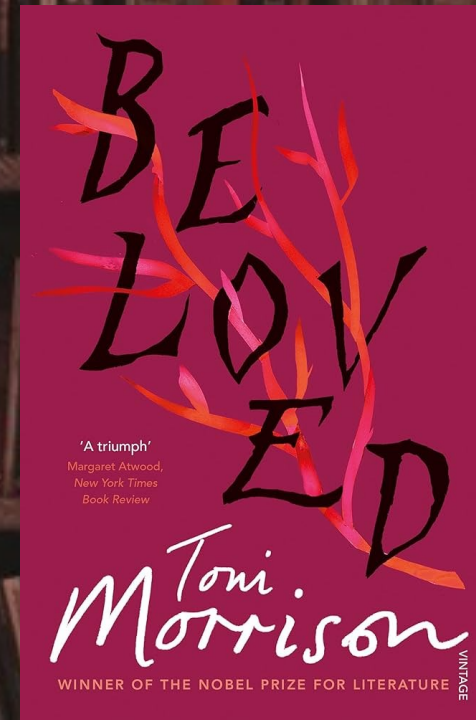
Jonathan Swift



Shipwrecked and cast adrift, Lemuel Gulliver wakes to find himself on Lilliput, an island inhabited by little people, whose height makes their quarrels over fashion and fame seem ridiculous. His subsequent encounters - with the crude giants of Brobdingnag, the philosophical Houyhnhnms and brutish Yahoos - give Gulliver new, bitter insights into human behaviour. Swift's savage satire views mankind in a distorted hall of mirrors as a diminished, magnified and finally bestial species, presenting us with an uncompromising reflection of ourselves.

Beloved

Toni Morrison

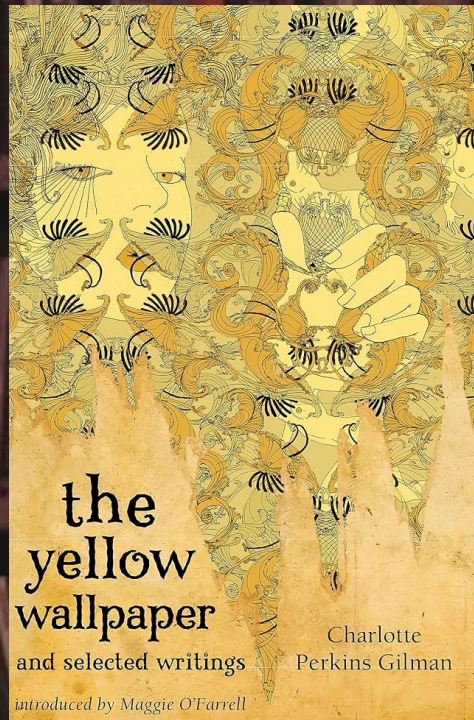


Sethe is now miles away from Sweet Home, the farm where she was kept as a slave.

Unable to forget the unspeakable horrors that took place there, she is haunted by the violent spectre of her dead child, the daughter who died nameless and whose tombstone is etched with a single word, 'Beloved'.

The Yellow Wallpaper

Charlotte Perkins Gilman

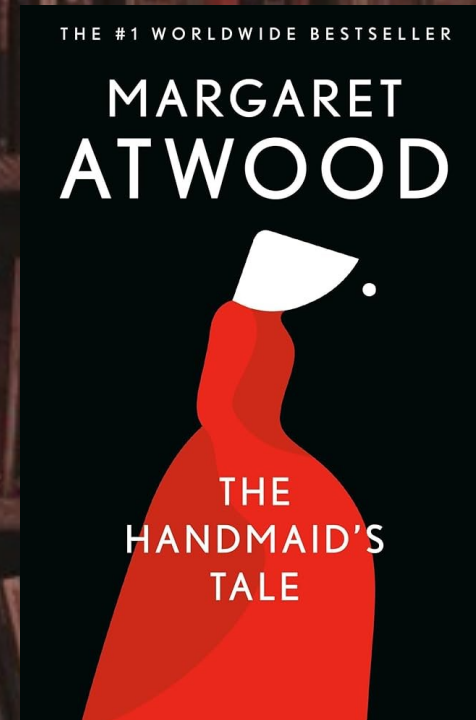


'It is stripped off - the paper - in great patches . . . The colour is repellent . . . In the places where it isn't faded and where the sun is just so - I can see a strange, provoking, formless sort of figure, that seems to skulk about...'

The Yellow Wallpaper is the chilling tale of a woman driven to the brink of insanity by the 'rest cure' prescribed after the birth of her child. Isolated in a crumbling colonial mansion, in a room with bars on the windows, the tortuous pattern of the yellow wallpaper winds its way into the recesses of her mind.

The Handmaid's Tale

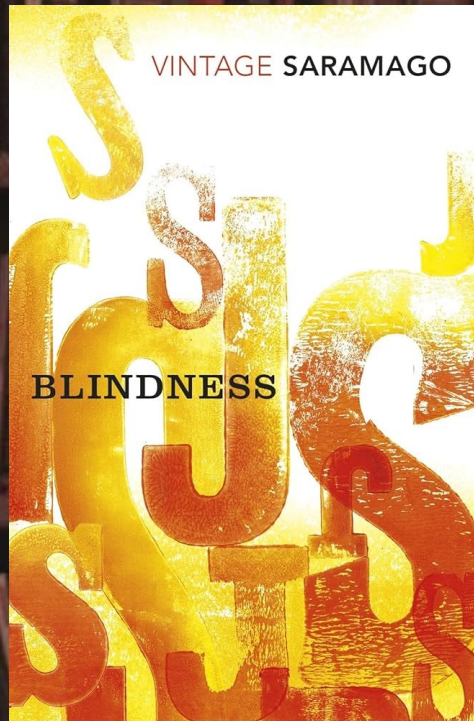
Margaret Atwood



Offred is a Handmaid in The Republic of Gilead, a religious totalitarian state in what was formerly known as the United States. She is placed in the household of The Commander, Fred Waterford - her assigned name, Offred, means 'of Fred'. She has only one function: to breed. If Offred refuses to enter into sexual servitude to repopulate a devastated world, she will be hanged. Yet even a repressive state cannot eradicate hope and desire. As she recalls her pre-revolution life in flashbacks, Offred must navigate through the terrifying landscape of torture and persecution in the present day, and between two men upon which her future hangs.

Blindness

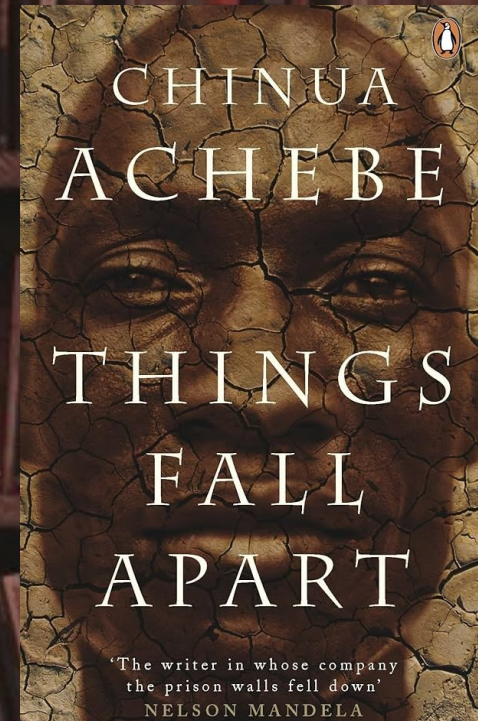
Jose Saramago



A driver waiting at the traffic lights goes blind. An ophthalmologist tries to diagnose his distinctive white blindness, but is affected before he can read the textbooks. It becomes a contagion, spreading throughout the city. Trying to stem the epidemic, the authorities herd the afflicted into a mental asylum where the wards are terrorised by blind thugs. And when fire destroys the asylum, the inmates burst forth and the last links with a supposedly civilised society are snapped.

Things Fall Apart

Chinua Achebe



Okonkwo is the greatest wrestler and warrior alive, and his fame spreads throughout West Africa like a bush-fire in the harmattan. But when he accidentally kills a clansman, things begin to fall apart. Then Okonkwo returns from exile to find missionaries and colonial governors have arrived in the village. With his world thrown radically off-balance he can only hurtle towards tragedy.

KS4

Non-
Fiction

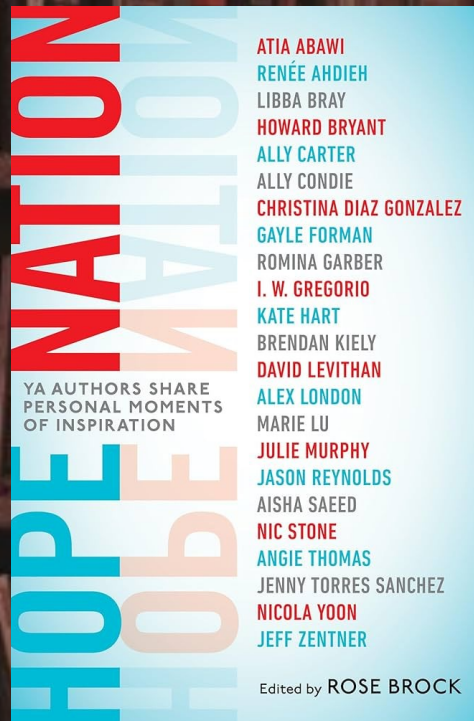
RECOMMENDED

READS



Hope Nation

Rose Brock

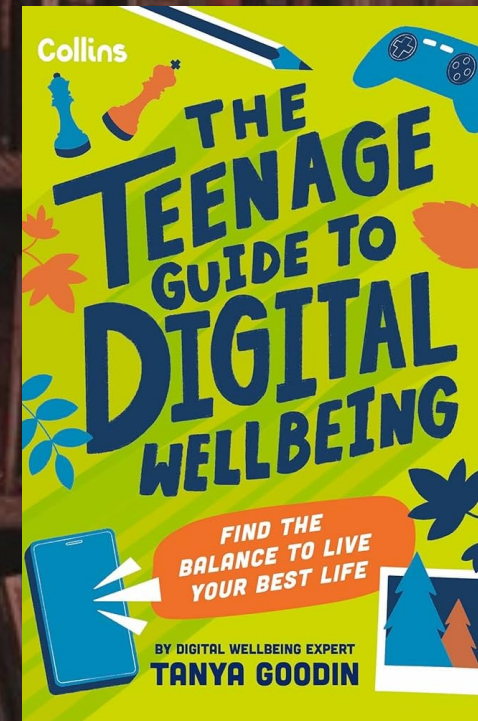


We all experience moments when we struggle to understand the state of the world, when we feel powerless and - in some cases - even hopeless. The teens of today are the caretakers of tomorrow, and yet it's difficult for many to find joy or comfort in such a turbulent society. But in trying times, words are power.

Some of today's most influential young adult authors come together in this highly personal collection of essays and original stories that offer moments of light in the darkness, and show that hope is a decision we all can make.

Teenage Guide to Digital Wellbeing

Tanya Goodin



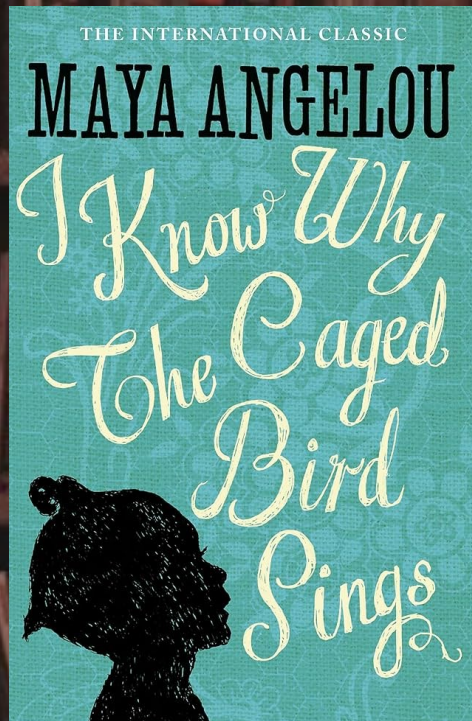
Digital wellbeing is all about finding the balance between the digital world and the real world – and making sure we use smartphones and other digital devices in a healthy way, while living fulfilling lives beyond the screen.

This guide is packed with positive prompts, thought-provoking science, and hands-on activities to encourage healthy habits around screen use – including nostalgic crafts, retro tech scavenger hunts, and phone-free nature excursions, plus practical tips on how to deal with digital challenges like comparison culture, cyberbullying, trolling, and much more.

This book is not about teenagers giving up their devices forever; it's about being more mindful of how they use them, so they can live their best lives – on and off the screen.

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings

Maya Angelou

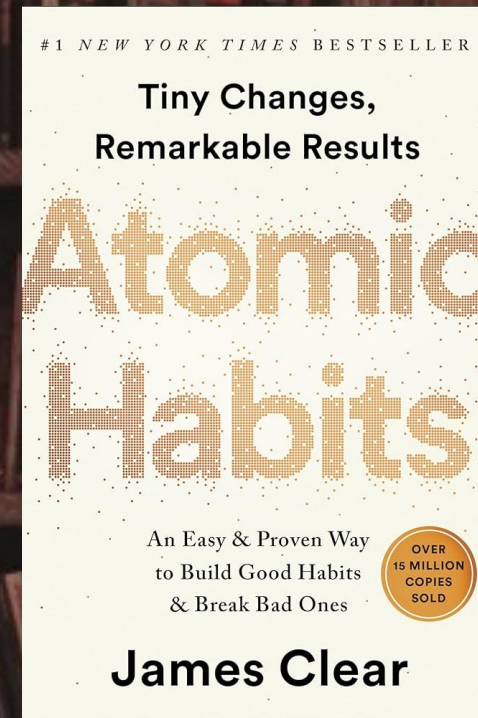


'I write about being a Black American woman, however, I am always talking about what it's like to be a human being. This is how we are, what makes us laugh, and this is how we fall and how we somehow, amazingly, stand up again'

In this first volume of her seven books of autobiography, Maya Angelou beautifully evokes her childhood with her grandmother in the American south of the 1930s. Loving the world, she also knows its cruelty. As a Black woman she has known discrimination, violence and extreme poverty, but also hope, joy, achievement and celebration.

Atomic Habits

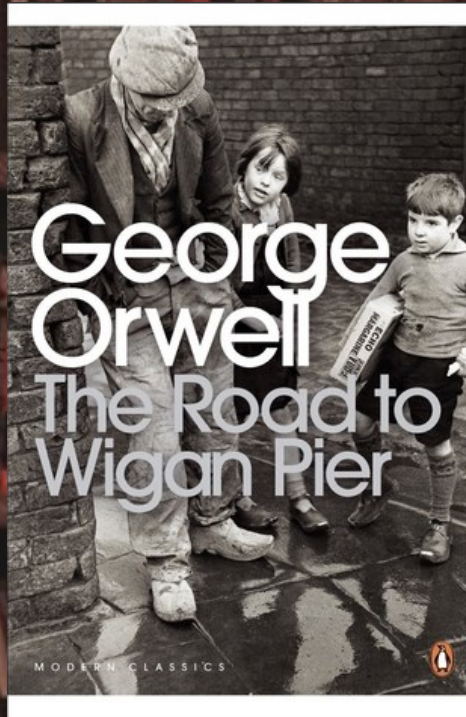
James Clear



In this ground-breaking book, Clear reveals exactly how minuscule changes can grow into life-altering outcomes. He uncovers a handful of simple life hacks (the forgotten art of Habit Stacking, the unexpected power of the Two Minute Rule, or the trick to entering the Goldilocks Zone), and delves into cutting-edge psychology and neuroscience to explain why they matter. Along the way, he tells inspiring stories of Olympic gold medalists, leading CEOs, and distinguished scientists who have used the science of tiny habits to stay productive, motivated, and happy.

The Road to Wigan Pier

George Orwell

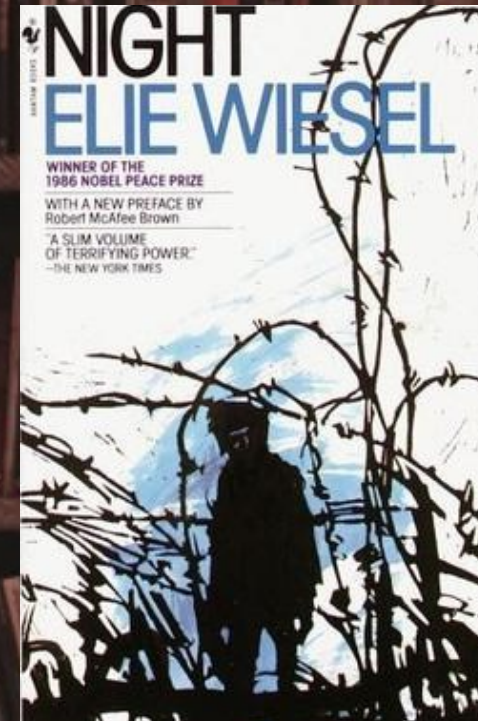


Revolutionary for its time, *The Road to Wigan Pier* documents Orwell's stint in towns like Barnsley, Sheffield and Wigan in 1936, where he met and observed working-class people living in the bleak industrial heartlands of Yorkshire and Lancashire.

Orwell graphically and emphatically describes the hardships of ordinary people living in cramped slum housing, working in dangerous mines and growing hungry through malnutrition and social injustice. It is an honest, gripping and humane study that also looks at socialism as a solution to the problems facing working-class northerners.

Night

Elie Wiesel



Born into a Jewish ghetto in Hungary, as a child, Elie Wiesel was sent to the Nazi concentration camps at Auschwitz and Buchenwald. This is his account of that atrocity: the ever-increasing horrors he endured, the loss of his family and his struggle to survive in a world that stripped him of humanity, dignity and faith. Describing in simple terms the tragic murder of a people from a survivor's perspective, *Night* is among the most personal, intimate and poignant of all accounts of the Holocaust. A compelling consideration of the darkest side of human nature and the enduring power of hope, it remains one of the most important works of the twentieth century.

KS5

Non-
Fiction

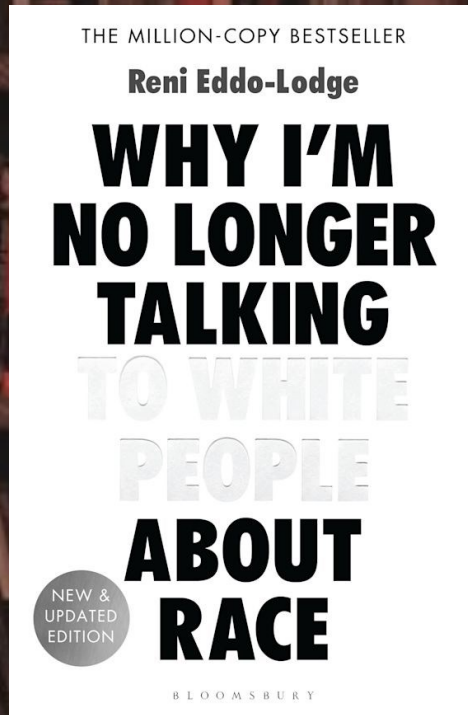
RECOMMENDED

READS



Why I'm No Longer Talking to White People About Race

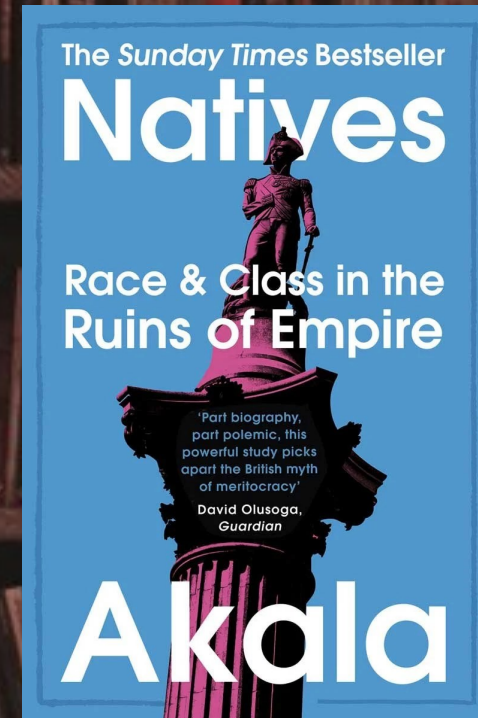
Reni Eddo-Lodge



'Every voice raised against racism chips away at its power. We can't afford to stay silent. This book is an attempt to speak'

The book that sparked a national conversation. Exploring everything from eradicated black history to the inextricable link between class and race, *Why I'm No Longer Talking to White People About Race* is the essential handbook for anyone who wants to understand race relations in Britain today.

Natives Akala

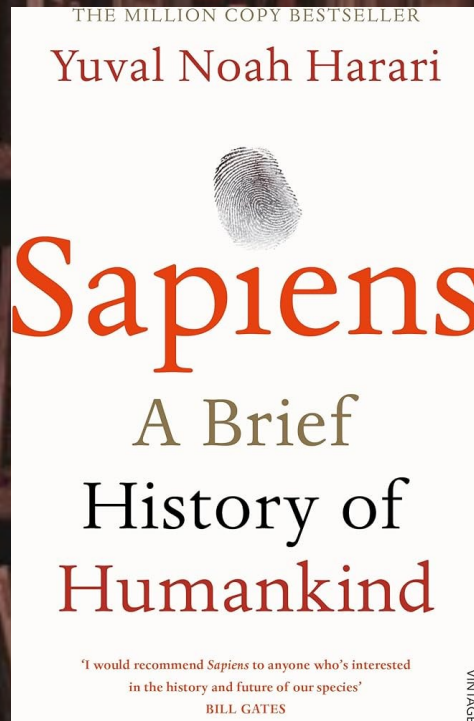


From the first time he was stopped and searched as a child, to the day he realised his mum was white, to his first encounters with racist teachers - race and class have shaped Akala's life and outlook. In this unique book he takes his own experiences and widens them out to look at the social, historical and political factors that have left us where we are today.

Covering everything from the police, education and identity to politics, sexual objectification and the far right, **Natives** speaks directly to British denial and squeamishness when it comes to confronting issues of race and class that are at the heart of the legacy of Britain's racialised empire.

Sapiens

Yuval Noah Harari

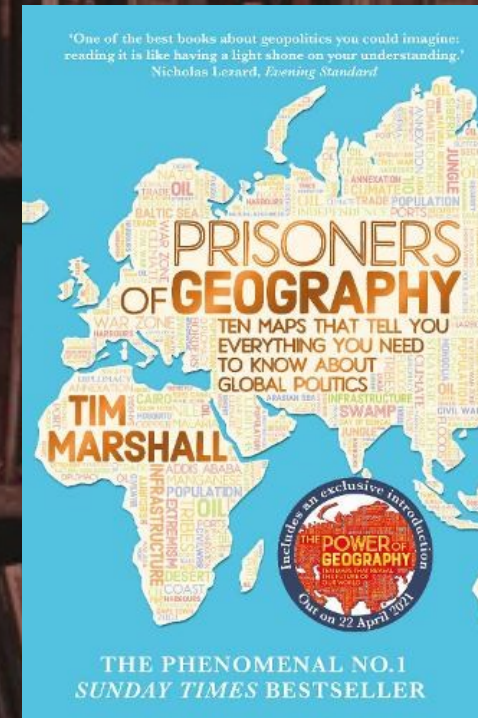


Planet Earth is 4.5 billion years old. In just a fraction of that time, one species among countless others has conquered it. Us. We are the most advanced and most destructive animals ever to have lived. What makes us brilliant? What makes us deadly? What makes us Sapiens? Yuval Noah Harari explores who we are, how we got here and where we're going.

Sapiens is a thrilling account of humankind's extraordinary history - from the Stone Age to the Silicon Age - and our journey into the future.

Prisoners of Geography

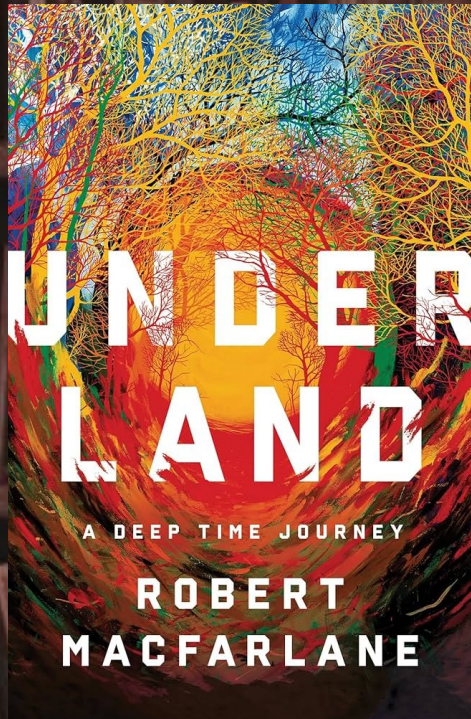
Tim Marshall



All leaders are constrained by geography. Their choices are limited by mountains, rivers, seas and concrete. Yes, to follow world events you need to understand people, ideas and movements - but if you don't know geography, you'll never have the full picture.

If you've ever wondered why Putin is obsessed with Crimea, why the USA was destined to become a global superpower, or why China's power base continues to expand ever outwards, the answers are all here.

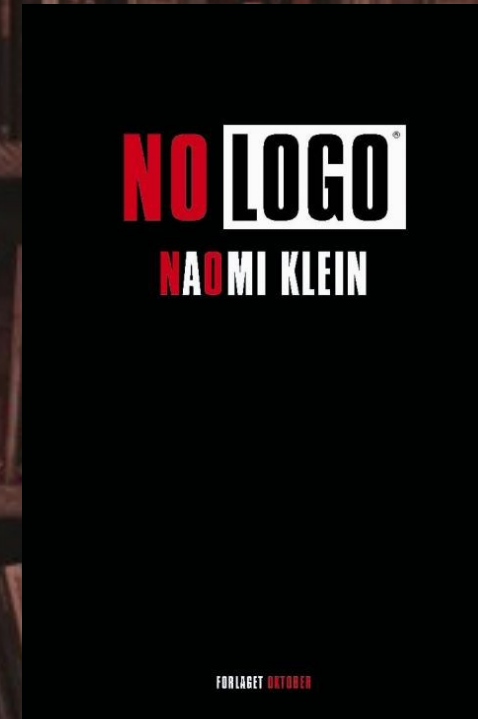
Underland Robert Macfarlane



Are you ready for a journey into the worlds beneath your feet?

From the ice-blue depths of Greenland's glaciers, to the underground networks by which trees communicate, from Bronze Age burial chambers to the rock art of remote Arctic sea-caves, this is a deep-time voyage into the planet's past and future. Global in its geography, gripping in its voice and haunting in its implications, Underland is a work of huge range and power, and an exploration of landscape and the human heart.

No Logo Naomi Klein



By the time you're twenty-one, you'll have seen or heard a million advertisements. But you won't be happier for it.

This book is about the much-maligned, much-misunderstood generation coming up behind the slackers, who are being intelligent and active about the world in which they find themselves. It is a world in which all that is 'alternative' is sold, where any innovation or subversion is immediately adopted by un-radical, faceless corporations. But, gradually, tentatively, a new generation is beginning to fight consumerism with its own best weapons; and it is the first skirmishes in this war that this abrasively intelligent book documents brilliantly.

KS4

Comics

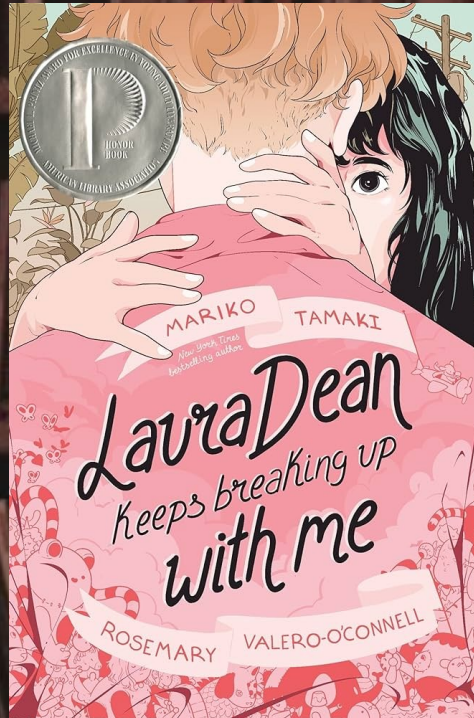
RECOMMENDED

READS



Laura Dean Keeps Breaking Up With Me

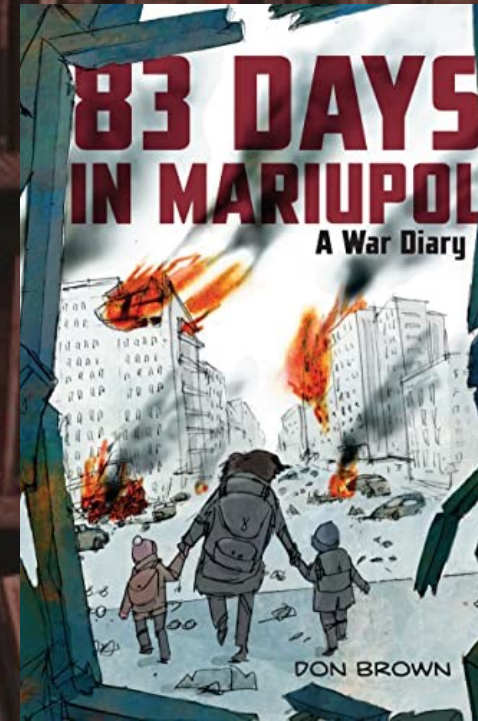
Mariko Tamaki & Rosemary Valero-O'Connell



Laura Dean, the most popular girl in school, is Frederica Riley's dream girl: charming, confident, and SO cute... just maybe not the greatest girlfriend. Freddy's best friend, Doodle, introduces her to a medium who leaves Freddy some cryptic parting words: Break up with her. But Laura Dean keeps coming back, and as their relationship spirals out of control, Freddy wonders if it's really Laura that's the problem. Maybe it's her, now rapidly losing friends, including Doodle, who needs her now more than ever. Fortunately for Freddy, there are new friends and the insight of advice columnists like Anna Vice to help her through being a teenager in love.

83 Days in Mariupol

Don Brown

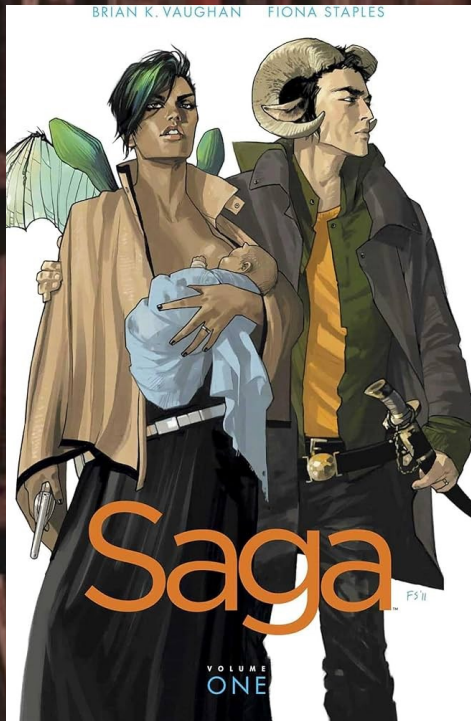


A city ruined. In once quiet residential streets, two armies battle, driving people into cellars and basements with little food or water. No lights or heat. Dwindling medical supplies. Shells and bullets deliver cruel, random death to the young and old, men, women, and children.

This is Mariupol, a Ukrainian city and early target of Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Bordering Russian-occupied territory, the coastal city seemed doomed to a defeat that would come within days, if not hours. Could Mariupol, and Ukraine, survive? As Russian rockets threatened the city, Ukrainians resisted, and with a heroic combination of sacrifice and bravery, the besieged city endured for months. But it all came at a steep cost.

Saga

Brian K Vaughan



Winner of the 2013 Hugo Award for Best Graphic Story.

When two soldiers from opposite sides of a never-ending galactic war fall in love, they risk everything to bring a fragile new life into a dangerous old universe. This is the sweeping tale of one young family fighting to find their place in the worlds.

Persepolis

Marjane Satrapi

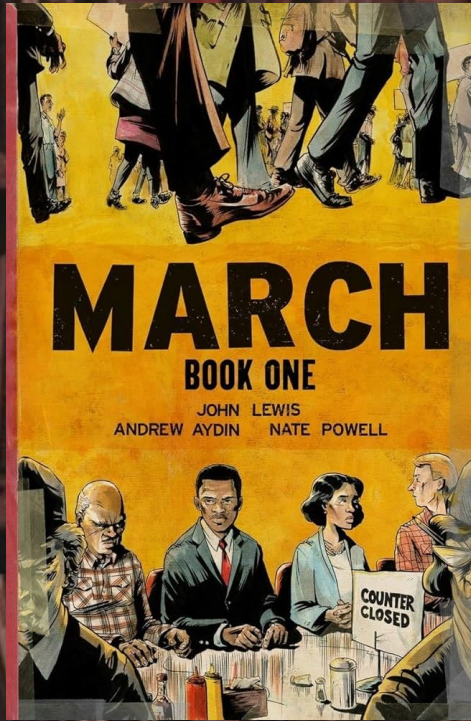


The intelligent and outspoken child of radical Marxists, and the great-granddaughter of Iran's last emperor, Satrapi bears witness to a childhood uniquely entwined with the history of her country. *Persepolis* paints an unforgettable portrait of daily life in Iran and of the bewildering contradictions between home life and public life.

Amidst the tragedy, Marjane's child's eye view adds immediacy and humour, and her story of a childhood at once outrageous and ordinary, beset by the unthinkable and yet buffered by an extraordinary and loving family, is immensely moving.

March (series)

John Lewis

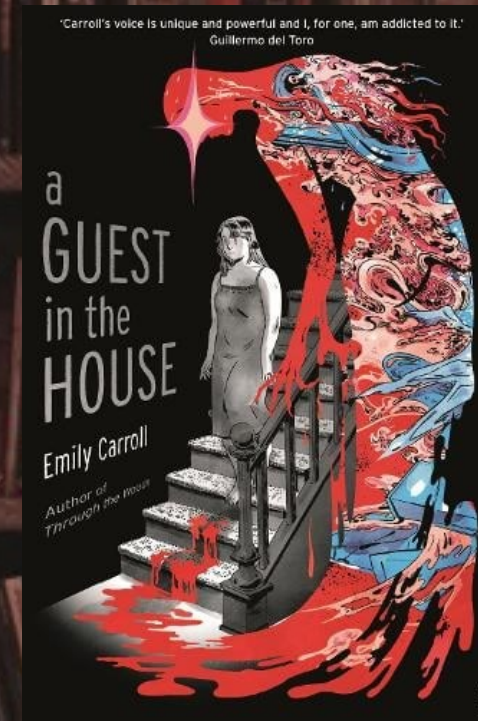


Congressman John Lewis is an American icon, one of the key figures of the civil rights movement. His belief in justice and nonviolence has taken him from a sharecropper's farm to the halls of Congress, from a segregated schoolroom to the 1963 March on Washington, and from receiving police beatings to receiving the Medal of Freedom from the first Black president.

March is a vivid first-hand account of his lifelong struggle for civil and human rights, meditating on the distance traveled since the days of Jim Crow and segregation. Rooted in Lewis' personal story, it also reflects on the highs and lows of the broader civil rights movement.

A Guest in the House

Emily Carroll



Abby is settling into married life: making coffee, cooking for David and her stepdaughter Crystal, spending evenings curled up together in front of the TV. For a quiet woman without many friends, she's proud of the life she has built, and desperately wants to believe they will all be happy.

But what really happened to Crystal's mother, the artist who no-one speaks of? What secrets does their strange house by the water harbour, and what of Abby's old dreams and fears, of Lady Grey, the Knight and the Dragons?



KS5

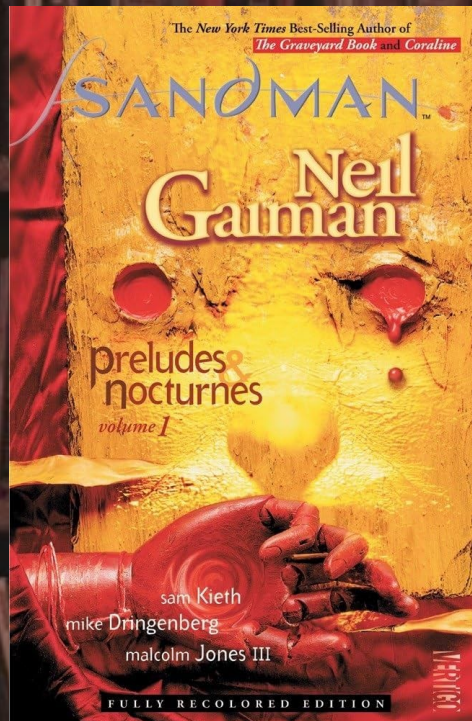
Comics

RECOMMENDED

READS

Sandman (series)

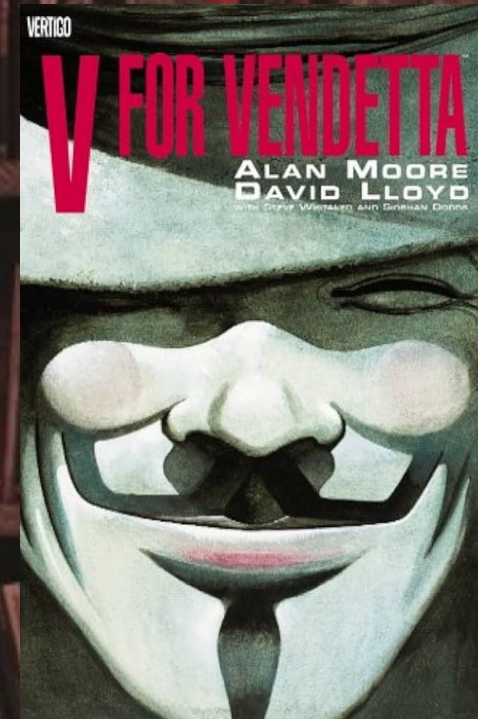
Neil Gaiman



An occultist attempting to capture the physical embodiment of Death to bargain for eternal life traps her younger brother Dream instead. After his seventy-year imprisonment and eventual escape, Dream, also known as Morpheus, goes on a quest for his lost objects of power to reclaim his reign. From there, one of the greatest series in the history of the graphic novel genre begins...

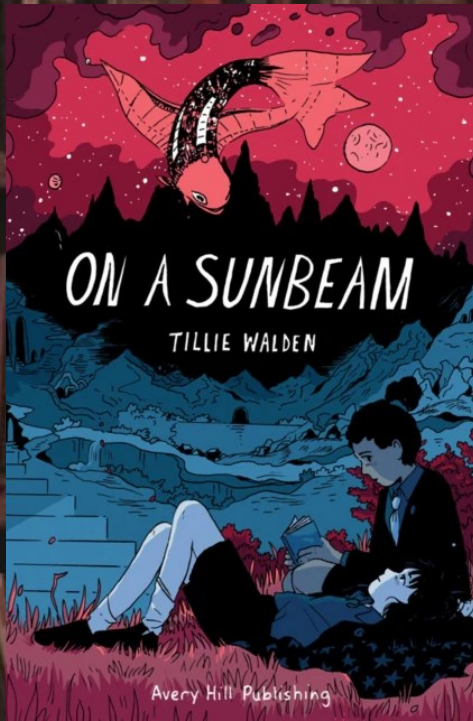
V For Vendetta

Alan Moore



A powerful story about loss of freedom and individuality, V For Vendetta takes place in a totalitarian England following a devastating war that changed the face of the planet. In a world without political freedom, personal freedom and precious little faith in anything comes a mysterious man in a white porcelain mask who fights political oppressors through terrorism and seemingly absurd acts.

On a Sunbeam Tillie Walden



There are so many things that Mia hates about boarding school. So, so many.

So she gets kicked out. But not **before** she falls in love...

Now she's a crew-member on a spacecraft that travels to distant planets to restore beautiful, broken-down structures. But even as she grows closer with the crew, she can't help but remember and dream of the girl she met in boarding school — and hope to meet her again someday

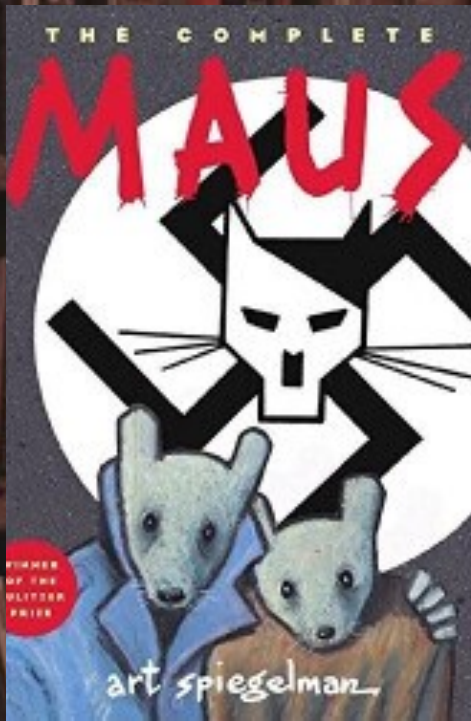
Monstress (series) Marjorie Liu & Sana Takeda



Set in an alternate matriarchal 1900's Asia, in a richly imagined world of art deco-inflected steam punk, *Monstress* tells the story of a teenage girl who is struggling to survive the trauma of war, and who shares a mysterious psychic link with a monster of tremendous power, a connection that will transform them both and make them the target of both human and otherworldly powers.

Maus

Art Spiegelman



Maus tells the story of Vladek Spiegelman, a Jewish survivor of Hitler's Europe, and his son, a cartoonist coming to terms with his father's story. Approaching the unspeakable through the diminutive (the Nazis are cats, the Jews mice), Vladek's harrowing story of survival is woven into the author's account of his tortured relationship with his aging father.

Against the backdrop of guilt brought by survival, they stage a normal life of small arguments and unhappy visits, studying the bloody pawprints of history and tracking its meaning for those who come next.

The Many Deaths of Laila Starr

Ram V



With humanity on the verge of discovering immortality, the avatar of Death is fired and relegated to the world below to live out her now-finite days in the body of twenty-something Laila Starr in Mumbai.

Struggling with her new-found mortality, Laila has found a way to be placed in the time and place where the creator of immortality will be born. But will Laila take her chance to permanently reverse the course of (future) history...or does a more shocking fate await her?