

# GOTHIC AND GHOSTS

M = Mature Themes/ Language E = Extension (Challenging)

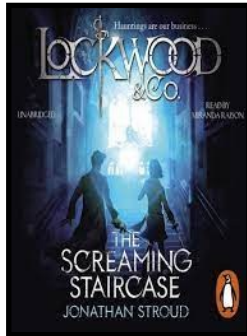


## Thirteen Chairs

M

Dave Shelton

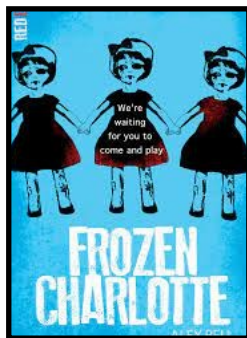
Jack stands in the dark on the landing of the old house, and looks at his feet. He has been here for minutes, his hand on the door handle, debating whether or not to go in. A high-ceilinged room lit only by candles. Thirteen chairs, one empty. Twelve ghostly storytellers, waiting to begin. Jack is a curious boy. Are you curious too?



## Lockwood and Co: The Screaming Staircase

Jonathan Stroud

When the dead come back to haunt the living, Lockwood & Co. step in. For more than fifty years, the country has been affected by a horrifying epidemic of ghosts. A number of Psychic Investigations Agencies have sprung up to destroy the dangerous apparitions. This is the first in a chilling new series full of suspense, humour and truly terrifying ghosts

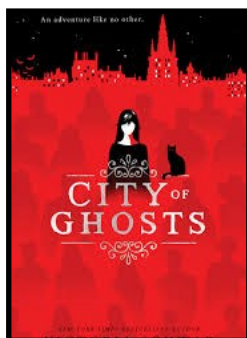


## Frozen Charlotte

M

Alex Bell

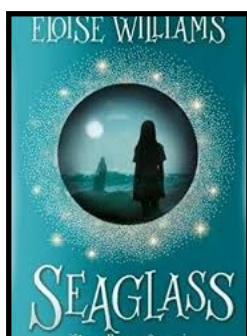
Dunvegan School for Girls has been closed for many years. Converted into a family home, the teachers and students are long gone. But they left something behind...Sophie arrives at the old schoolhouse to spend the summer with her cousins. Brooding Cameron, strange Lillias with a fear of bones and Piper, who seems just a bit too good to be true. A chilling ghost story to keep you awake at night!



## City of Ghosts

Victoria Schwab

Cassidy is looking forward to summer. She will spend time at the beach where the pull of ghostly activity is weak. She will spend time with Jacob, who happens to be a mind-reading ghost who only she can see. When Cass was younger, she almost drowned but Jacob, somehow, had saved her. Unfortunately, Cass's ghost-hunting parents decide to take her to Edinburgh, one of the world's most haunted places.

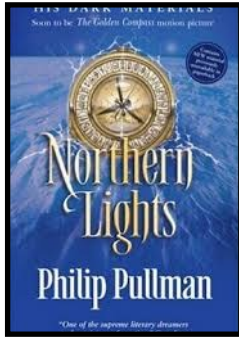


## Seaglass

Eloise Williams

When a local woman tells her the girl comes to take sisters, Lark finds herself the only one who can save her family. Seaglass is a chilling contemporary ghost story with a determined 13-year-old heroine defending her family and learning to handle her emotions.

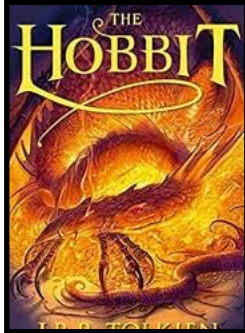
## FANTASY



### Northern Lights

Philip Pullman

Lyra Belacqua lives half-wild and carefree among the scholars of Jordan College, with her daemon, Pantalaimon, always by her side. But the arrival of her fearsome uncle, Lord Asriel, draws her to the heart of a terrible struggle - a struggle born of stolen children, witch clans and armoured bears. As she hurtles towards danger in the cold far North, Lyra never suspects the shocking truth: she alone is destined to win, or to lose, the biggest battle imaginable.

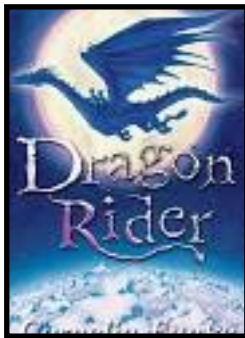


### The Hobbit

E

JRR Tolkien

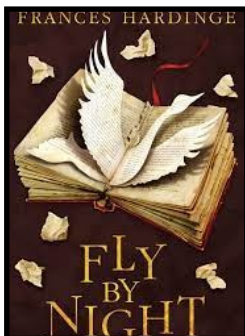
The Hobbit is set within Tolkien's fictional universe and follows the quest of home-loving Bilbo Baggins, the hobbit, to win a share of the treasure guarded by Smaug the dragon. Bilbo's journey takes him from light-hearted, rural surroundings into more sinister territory.



### Dragon Rider

Cornelia Funke

The last winged horses are on the brink of extinction. At a sanctuary for threatened creatures, the home of a young dragon rider and his silver dragon, three foals lie curled up in their eggs. The foals are in great danger, and the only cure seems to be the sun-feather of a griffin. But griffins, creatures with the head of an eagle and the body of a lion, are a dragon's fiercest enemy, and they live far across the world in the sweltering jungle. A dangerous and exciting adventure begins....



### Fly By Night

Frances Hardinge

Mosca is on the run, heading for the city of Mandelion. There she finds herself living by her wits among cut-throat highwaymen, spies and smugglers. With peril at every turn, Mosca uncovers a dark plot to terrorise the people of Mandelion, and soon merry mayhem leads to murder....

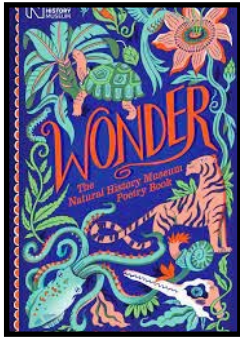


### The School For Good and Evil

Soman Chainani

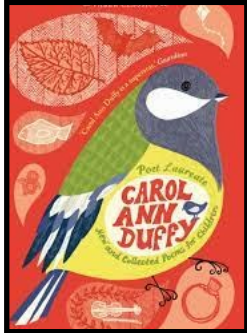
A dark and enchanting fantasy adventure for those who prefer fairytales with a twist... The first in the bestselling series. Every four years, two girls are kidnapped from the village of Gavaldon. Legend has it these lost children are sent to the School for Good and Evil. Agatha and Sophie are taken away but which one will be trained to be good and which one will become a villain?

## POETRY



### Wonder: The Natural History Poetry Book

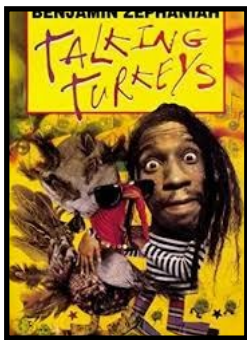
From fossils to flowers, and from birds to bodies of water, this beautifully illustrated poetry collection features a selection of stunning new and classic verse inspired by the Natural History Museum and the wonders of the natural world.



### New and Collected Poems for Children E

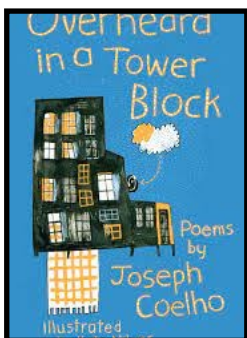
Carol Anne Duffy

Carol Ann Duffy is one of our most read and best-loved poets both in and out of the classroom. This edition of her poems brings together work from her four award-winning collections for children, and sprinkles in a generous helping of new poems to match.



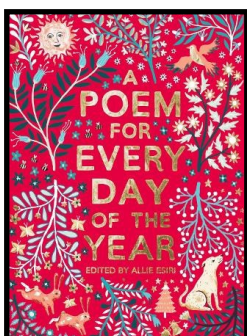
### Talking Turkeys Benjamin Zephaniah E

Benjamin Obadiah Iqbal Zephaniah was a British writer, dub poet and Rastafarian. He was included in The Times list of Britain's top 50 post-war writers in 2008. This particular book is a collection of rapstyle poems about the environment, social issues, and other less serious topics.



### Overheard In A Tower Block Joseph Coelho E/M

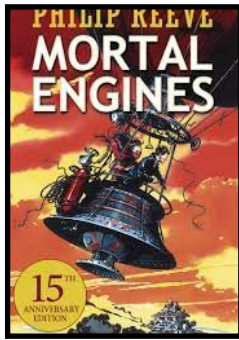
A disappearing father and a Mermaid-Queen mother; statues that sing for flesh and blood; bullies who kick you under the table; perfect red trainers - and the things that lurk in the library. Award-winning poet Joseph Coelho's astonishing collection is a powerful and moving poetic narrative about growing up in the city.



### A Poem For Every Day Of The Year

edited by Allie Esiri

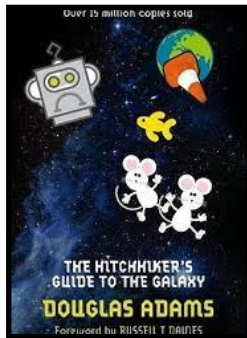
365 verses linked to the turning of the year. Celebrate each day. 'What are days for?' asked poet Philip Larkin. 'Days are where we live.' From A.A. Milne to Shakespeare, from weather poems to whimsical fancies, all these poems are underpinned by a sense of the year's shape, motion and rhythm.



### Mortal Engines

Philip Reeve

Emerging from its hiding place in the hills, the great Traction City is chasing a terrified little town across the wastelands. Soon, London will feed. In the attack, Tom Natsworthy is flung from the speeding city with a murderous scar-faced girl. They must run for their lives through the wreckage - and face a terrifying new weapon that threatens the future of the world.



### The Hitchhikers Guide To The Galaxy

Douglas Adams

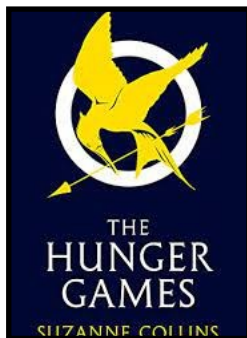
It's an ordinary Thursday lunchtime for Arthur Dent until his house gets demolished. The Earth follows shortly afterwards to make way for a new hyperspace express route, and his best friend has just announced that he's an alien. At this moment, they're hurtling through space with nothing but their towels and an innocuous-looking book inscribed, in large friendly letters, with the words: DON'T PANIC.



### Scythe

Neal Shusterman

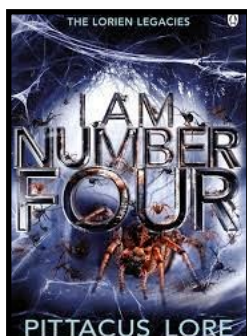
A world with no hunger, no disease, no war, no misery: Humanity has conquered all those things and has even conquered death. Now Scythes are the only ones who can end life - and they are commanded to do so in order to keep the size of the population under control. Citra and Rowan are chosen to apprentice to a scythe - a role that neither wants. These teens must master the "art" of taking life, knowing that the consequence of failure could mean losing their own.



### The Hunger Games

Suzanne Collins

In the ruins of a place once known as North America lies the nation of Panem, a shining Capitol surrounded by 12 outlying districts. The Capitol keeps the districts in line by forcing them all to send one boy and one girl between the ages of 12 and 18 to participate in the annual Hunger Games, a fight to the death on live TV. Katniss Everdeen steps forward to take her sister's place in the Games. Soon she has to start making choices that weigh survival against humanity and life against love.



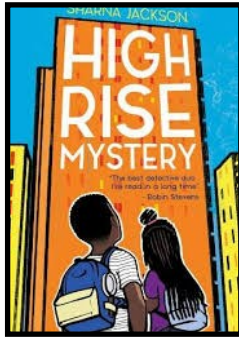
### I Am Number Four

Pittacus Lore

John Smith is not your average teenager. He regularly moves from town to town. He changes his name and identity. He cannot tell anyone who or what he really is. If he stops moving those who hunt him will find and kill him. But you can't run forever. So when he stops in Paradise, Ohio, John decides to try and settle down. But it's just a matter of time before John's secret is revealed...

# CRIME AND MYSTERY

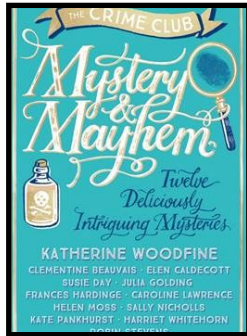
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## High Rise Mystery

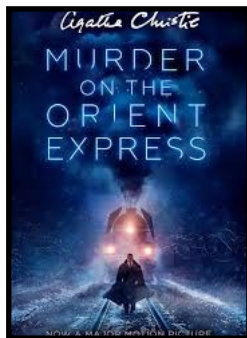
Sharna Jackson

After finding their community art teacher murdered on their tower block estate, sisters Nik and Norva are determined to solve this terrible crime. Swinging into action even before the police have arrived, the whip-smart detective duo develop a list of suspects and a plan to identify motives and methods.



## Mystery and Mayhem: Twelve Deliciously Intriguing Mysteries

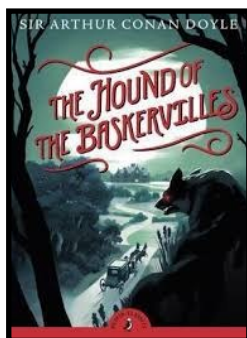
These are twelve brand-new short stories from twelve of the best children's crime writers writing today. These creepy, heart-pounding mysteries feature daring, brilliant young detectives, and this anthology is a must for fans of crime fiction and detection, especially the Murder Most Unladylike Mysteries, The Roman Mysteries and The Mystery of the Clockwork Sparrow.



## Murder on the Orient Express

Agatha Christie

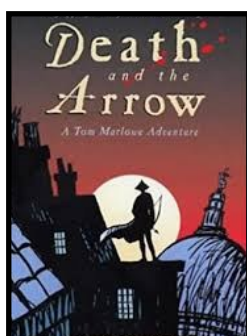
An American tycoon lies dead in his compartment, stabbed a dozen times, his door locked from the inside. Isolated and with a killer in their midst, detective Hercule Poirot must identify the murderer – in case he or she decides to strike again.



## The Hound of the Baskervilles E

Arthur Conan Doyle

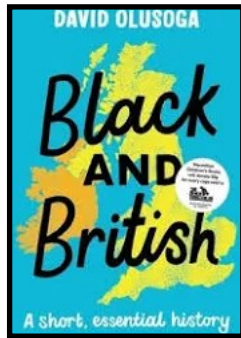
Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson investigate the legend of a supernatural hound, a beast that may be stalking a young heir on the fog-shrouded moorland that makes up his estate. On his uncle's death Sir Henry Baskerville returns from abroad and opens up the ancestral hall on the desolate moors of Devonshire.



## Death and the Arrow

Chris Priestley

Fifteen-year-old Tom lives in the murky city of London where he helps his father run a print shop. Among the customers is wise old Dr. Harker, a retired physician and seafarer. Both Tom and Harker become intrigued by a murder in the city where the victim is pierced by an arrow and left holding an illustrated card of "Death and the Arrow."



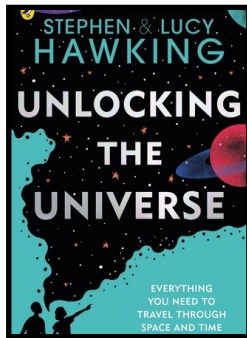
## Black and British

David Oulsoga

A short, essential introduction to Black British history by award-winning historian and broadcaster David Olusoga.

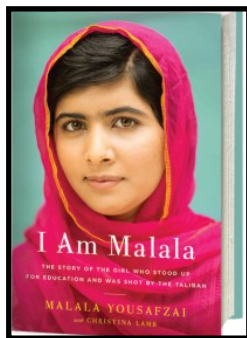
When did Africans first come to Britain?

Who are the well-dressed black children in Georgian paintings? These and many other questions are answered in this essential introduction to 1800 years of the Black British history.



## Unlocking the Universe Stephen and Lucy Hawking

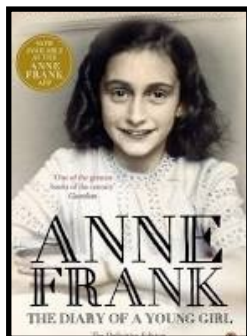
Have you ever wondered how the universe began? What would you do if you could travel through space and time? Embark on the adventure of a lifetime in this beautiful collection of up-to-the-minute essays mind-blowing facts and out-of-this-world colour photographs, by the world's leading scientists including Professor Stephen Hawking himself, curated by the brilliant Lucy Hawking.



## I am Malala M

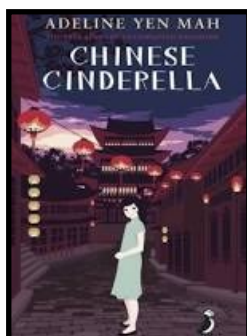
Malala Yousafzai

When the Taliban took control of the Swat Valley in Pakistan, one girl spoke out. Malala Yousafzai refused to be silenced and fought for her right to an education. On Tuesday, October 9, 2012, when she was fifteen, she almost paid the ultimate price.



## The Diary of Anne Frank M

The *Diary of a Young Girl*, also known as The *Diary of Anne Frank*, is a book of the writings from the Dutch language *diary* kept by *Anne Frank* while she was in hiding for two years with her family during the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands.



## Chinese Cinderella

Adeline Yen Mah

Chinese Cinderella is the true memoir of Adeline Yen Mah's childhood, describing her life up until she is fourteen years old. Adeline is born to a wealthy family in Tianjin, China, as their fifth child. Her mother dies due to birth complications and her family thus views Adeline as "bad luck" and a curse upon them .

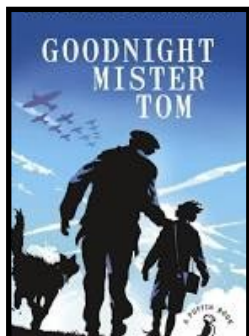
## CLASSIC CHILDREN'S BOOKS

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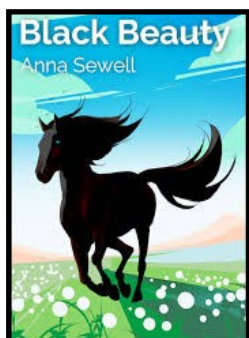
### Treasure Island E Robert Louis Stevenson

The story is about Jim, a young boy who goes in search of treasure after finding a treasure map. Jim faces shipwreck, a pirate mutiny, and sword fights. Jim's tale is a rags-to-riches story of a young boy who overcomes the odds.



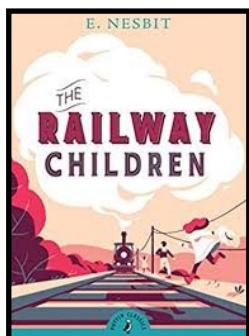
### Goodnight Mr Tom Michelle Magorian

This is a World War II tale in which a curmudgeonly widower living in a small village takes in a nine-year-old evacuee from London. The widower soon realises that his young charge has been damaged both mentally and physically at the hands of his strict mother. He sets about undoing the damage, teaching the youngster to read, write and draw, but as his tenth birthday looms, the child is summoned back to the city.



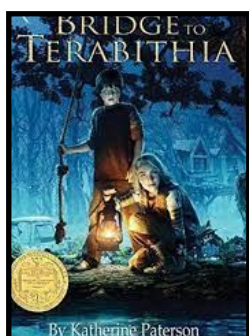
### Black Beauty Anna Sewell

Black Beauty spends his youth in a loving home, surrounded by friends and cared for by his owners. But when circumstances change, he learns that not all humans are so kind. Passed from hand to hand, Black Beauty witnesses love and cruelty, wealth and poverty, friendship and hardship . . . Will the handsome horse ever find a happy and lasting home?



### The Railway Children E. Nesbit

This story centres on the lives of three children whose comfortable, middle-class existence ends when their father has to go away unexpectedly. Roberta, Peter and Phyllis leave their London home and move with their mother to a small cottage in the country where life is very different. The railway becomes a source of fascination and solace to the children.

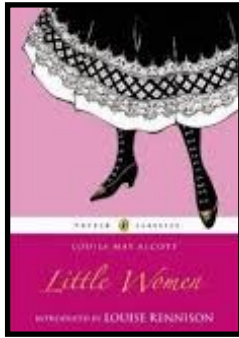


### Bridge to Teribithia M Katherine Paterson

This novel follows Jess Aarons and Leslie Burke, two fifth-graders who become best friends. Jess, overlooked among his four sisters, and Leslie, the new kid in town, bond over their shared creativity and active imaginations until the tragic accident which changes ever

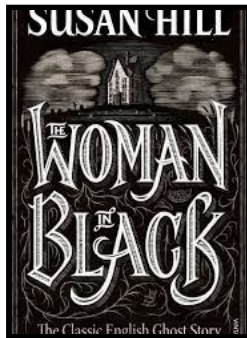
# CLASSIC/CHALLENGING TEXTS

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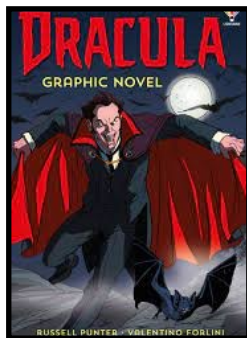
## Little Women E Louisa M Alcott

The story tells of how the four March sisters grow up, find love and find their place in the world. The four sisters and their mother are at home. Their father is fighting in the war. Louisa May Alcott semi-autobiographical *novel* has captured young women and the young at heart for years.



## The Woman In Black E M Susan Hill

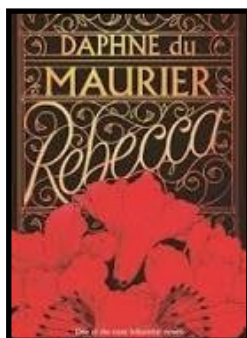
This is a ghost story by Susan Hill, in which Arthur Kipps relates his haunting experiences at Eel Marsh House. The tale begins on Christmas Eve, when Arthur's step-children invite him to tell a ghost story. Arthur is too disturbed by his memories to share his story aloud, so he writes it down.



## Dracula: Graphic Novel

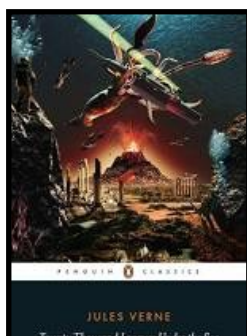
Russell Punter (Author), Valentino Forlini (Illustrator)

High in the mountains of Transylvania lives the sinister Count Dracula. When Jonathan Harker is invited to the Count's castle, he discovers a horrific plot to create an army of the undead. Can vampire hunter Professor Van Helsing help Jonathan and his friends thwart Dracula's evil plan before it's too late?



## Rebecca E Daphne Du Maurier

Rebecca is a 1938 Gothic novel by English author Dame Daphne du Maurier. It concerns an unnamed young woman who impetuously marries a wealthy widower, only to discover that he and his household are haunted by the memory of his late first wife,

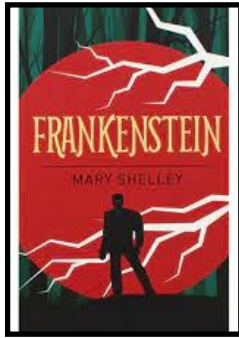


## Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea E Jules Verne

Written by Jules Verne in 1870, Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea is a book that tells us the story of three accidental visitors to an underwater world hosted by the mysterious Captain Nemo.

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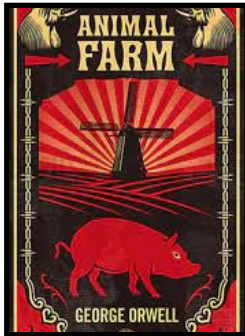


### Frankenstein

E

Mary Shelley

One of the best-known Gothic novels, *Frankenstein* is both a haunting, uncanny novel about the dangers and temptations of scientific progress and an enduring investigation into what it means to be truly human.



### Animal Farm

E

George Orwell

It tells the story of a group of farm animals who rebel against their human farmer, hoping to create a society where the animals can be equal, free, and happy. Ultimately, the rebellion is betrayed, and under the dictatorship of a pig named Napoleon, the farm ends up in a state as bad as it was before.

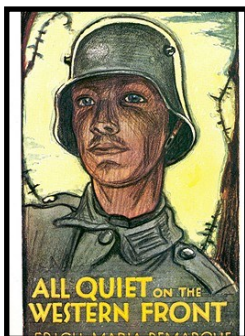


### A Christmas Carol

E

Charles Dickens

*A Christmas Carol* is a novella by Charles Dickens about Ebenezer Scrooge, an old man, who is well-known for his miserly ways. On Christmas Eve, Scrooge is visited by a series of ghosts, starting with his old business partner, Jacob Marley.

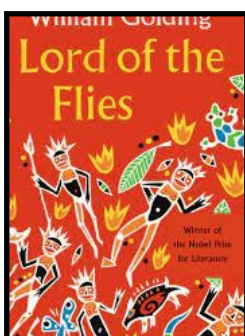


### All Quiet on the Western Front

E

Erich Maria Remarque

*All Quiet on the Western Front* tells the story of a group of young Germans who enlist in World War I after being captivated by slogans of patriotism and honour. It is narrated by the protagonist, Paul Baumer, who is 20 years old



### Lord of The Flies

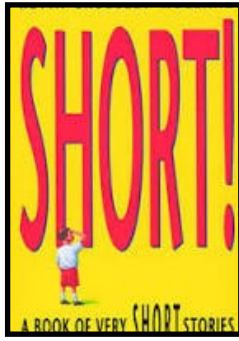
E/M

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 ...

# SHORT STORIES AND POETRY

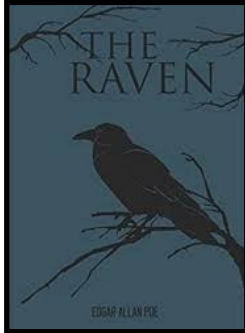
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## Short

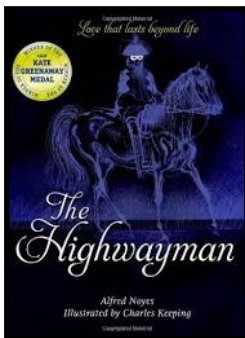
Kevin Crossley-Holland

In this wonderful collection of very short stories from award-winning author, Kevin Crossley-Holland, none of the stories is more than two pages long, and some are much shorter. There are stories about ghosts, supermarkets, animals, adventures, and all kinds of things to inspire every short story writer.



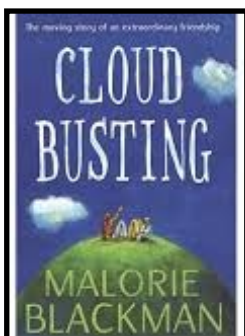
## The Raven (Narrative Poem) E Edgar Allan Poe

The poem is about a man whose sitting alone in his house. His love has died and he is mourning her loss. A raven shows up at the door and the man begins to dialogue with the raven about his lost love, Lenore.



## The Highwayman (Narrative Poem) E Alfred Noyes

The poem, set in 18th-century rural England, tells the story of an unnamed highwayman who is in love with Bess, a landlord's daughter. Betrayed to the authorities by Tim, a jealous ostler, the highwayman escapes ambush when Bess sacrifices her life to warn him.



## Cloud Busting (Narrative Poem) Malorie Blackman

This book is an exploration of an unlikely friendship between two very different boys. Sam is the Class Bully and he makes Davey, who is imaginative, instinctive - a born poet, in fact - the Class Idiot.

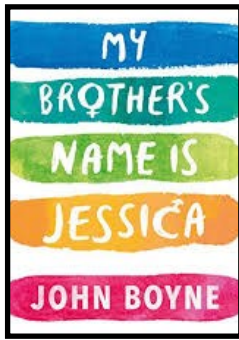


## The Final Year (Narrative Poem) Matt Goodfellow M

This is a very moving, funny and accessible story. Nate, who is the main character in the story, has just started the last year of primary school when he and his best friend get split up into different classes. He is also trying to balance the pressures of SATs as a child in a family that is struggling financially, the book shows his emotional challenges.

## MORE GREAT, CONTEMPORARY BOOKS...

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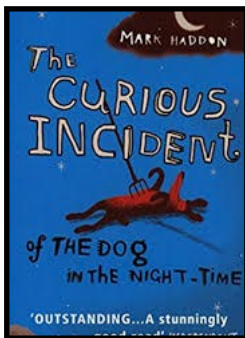
### My Brother's Name Is Jessica M John Boyne

Sam Waver has always been a loner: bullied, struggling at school, with parents who have very little time for him. The one person he has always been able to rely on is his beloved older sibling - but when they announce that they are transitioning, Sam's life is thrown upside down.



### The Lovely Dark Matthew Fox

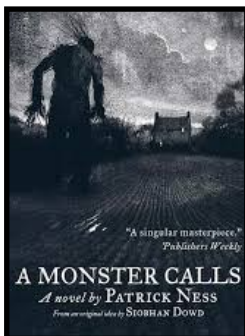
When 12-year-old Eleanor Newton dies in an accident, she finds herself journeying down a mysterious river that takes her to The Underworld. She apprehensively embarks on her "afterlife" at Eventide House, a boarding school of sorts for children who have died. Can Ellie find a way out of the Underworld? And who – or what – will she be if she does?



### The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time

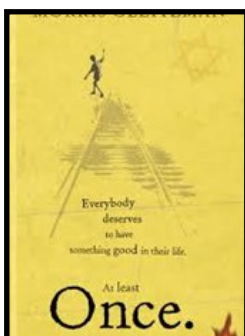
M Mark Haddon

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time follows the story of Christopher Boone, a 15 year old, who is exceptional at Maths but finds people confusing. The play opens with Christopher discovering a dead dog in his neighbour, Mrs Shears', garden.



### A Monster Calls M Patrick Ness

Patrick Ness's YA novel A Monster Calls details the story of Conor O'Malley, a 13-year-old boy who is dealing with his mother's illness. Her impending death hangs over the bulk of the book, and Conor must explore his own emotions through stories to find peace in her passing and how he feels about it.

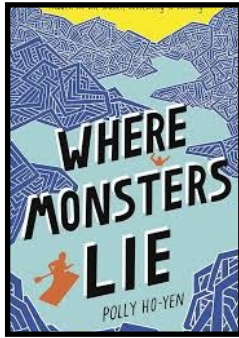


### Once Morris Gleitzmann

Once is about a Jewish boy named Felix, who lived in Poland, and is on a quest to find his book-keeper parents after he sees Nazis burning the books from a Catholic orphanage library in which he stays.

## MORE GREAT, CONTEMPORARY BOOKS...

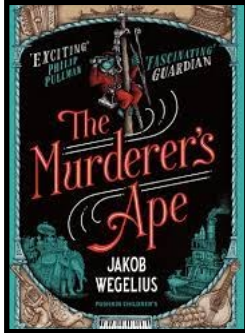
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### Where Monsters Lie

Polly Ho Yen

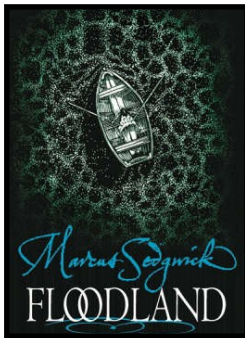
The children of Mivtown have grown up hearing the legend of the monsters of the loch. But it's only a story – a warning to stay away from the water. Then strange things start happening in the village. Effie's rabbit Buster escapes from a locked hutch, her mum disappears without trace and slugs start to infest her home. Along with her best friend Finn, Effie begins to hunt for clues to solve the mysteries of Mivtown. Could this all be connected to the legend?



### The Murderer's Ape

Jakob Wegelius

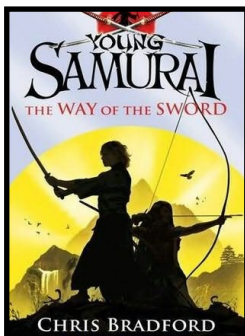
A captivating mystery adventure story, with gorgeously detailed black-and-white illustrations throughout Sally Jones is an extraordinary ape and a loyal friend. In overalls or in a maharaja's turban, this unique gorilla moves among humans without speaking but understanding everything. ...



### Floodland

Martin Sedgwick

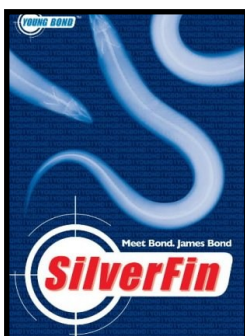
Floodland takes place in the near future, where most of the United Kingdom is submerged underwater. Norwich has become an island, with food and water increasingly scarce. The story follows the journey of Zoe, a young girl who accidentally gets left behind by her parents during a boat evacuation from the island.



### The Way of the Sword

Chris Bradford

After a vicious ninja attack left him orphaned and stranded in Japan, Jack Fletcher managed to complete his first year of samurai school. ... The prejudice of his Japanese classmates has gained him dangerous enemies within his school, and Dragon Eye—the ninja who killed his father—is still after him.



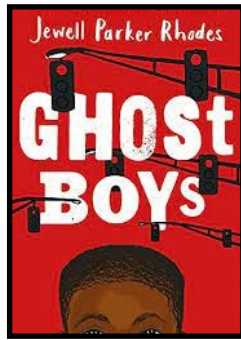
### Silverfin (Young James Bond)

Charlie Higson

Before the name became a legend. Before the boy became a man. Meet Bond. James Bond. There's something in the water at Loch Silverfin. Something deadly...It's James Bond's first day at Eton, and he's already met his first enemy. This is the start of an adventure that will take him from the school playing fields to the remote shores of Loch Silverfin and a terrifying discovery that threatens to unleash a new breed of warfare.

## MORE GREAT, CONTEMPORARY BOOKS...

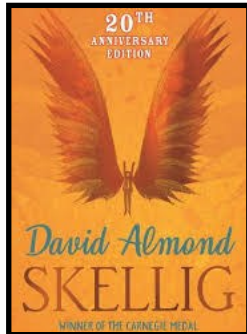
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### Ghost Boys

Jewell Parker Rhodes M

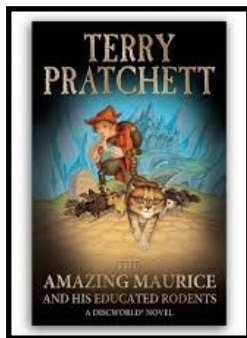
Set in Chicago, the novel follows the story of Jerome, a 12-year-old black boy who is shot and killed by a white police officer before coming back as a ghost. Emmett Till, a black boy who was murdered in 1955, features as another ghost in the text.



### Skellig

David Almond

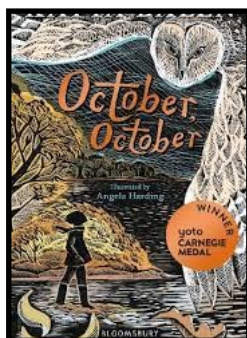
10-year-old Michael discovers a strange, ailing creature that is part owl and part angel, living in his new home's garage, and with the help of his friend Mina, tries to nurse it back to health while his own baby sister is critically ill in the hospital. The creature, Skellig, helps the family through his mysterious connection to life and a belief that he can aid Michael's sister's recovery.



### The Amazing Maurice and His Educated Rodents

Terry Pratchett

The Amazing Maurice is a talking cat, who leads his Educated Rodents, a group of talking rats, as they go from town to town being a plague so that their accomplice, a boy piper, can "lure them all away" from the town, after which they share the money the piper makes.



### October, October

Katya Balen

October and her dad live in the woods. They know the trees and the rocks and the lake and stars like best friends. They live in the woods and they are wild. And that's the way it is. Until the year October turns eleven. That's the year October rescues a baby owl. It's the year Dad falls out of the biggest tree in their woods. The year the woman who calls herself October's mother comes back. The year everything changes.



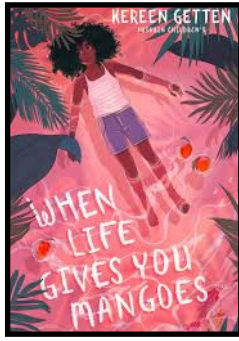
### When The Sky Falls

Phil Earle

1941. War is raging. And one angry boy has been sent to the city, where bombers rule the skies. There, Joseph will live with Mrs F, a gruff woman with no fondness for children. Her only loves are the rundown zoo she owns and its mighty silverback gorilla, Adonis.. But if the bombers set Adonis rampaging free, will either of them be able to end the life of the one thing they truly love?

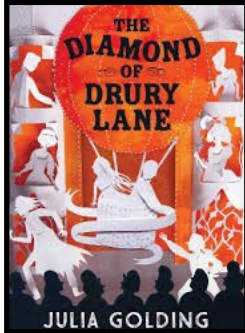
## MORE GREAT, CONTEMPORARY BOOKS...

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### When Life Gives You Mangoes Kereen Getten

Twelve-year-old Clara lives on an island that visitors call exotic. But there's nothing exotic about it to Clara. The only thing out of the ordinary for Clara is that something happened to her memory that made her forget everything that happened last summer. But this summer is going to be different for Clara because a new girl has arrived on the island and is about to make big waves to give Clara a summer she won't forget.



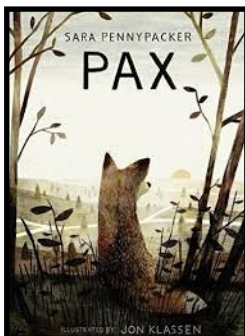
### The Diamond of Drury Lane Julia Golding

Set in 1790's Covent Garden this book whisks you back to a bygone era. It is the tale of Cat Royal, an orphan, four foot four with long red hair and not a penny to call her own. She lives in the Theatre Royal on Drury Lane, a place filled with dramatic characters, theatrical spectacles, and now, a secret treasure-- which Cat has been asked to protect.



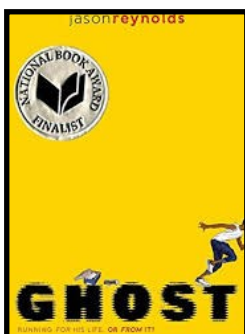
### The Good Hawk Joseph Elliot

In a mythic Scotland, two unlikely heroes must make a dangerous journey to save their people. Agatha is a Hawk, brave and fierce, who protects her people by patrolling the high walls of their island home. She is proud of her job, though some in her clan whisper that it is meant to keep her out of the way.



### Pax Sara Pennypacker

Left To Fend For Himself, 'Pax' The Fox Must Find His Human Friend. At the outset of Pax, a young fox that has never lived in the wild is left alone in the woods. A new novel takes young readers inside the mind of a 5-year-old fox. Abandoned as a kit, Pax is taken in by Peter, a boy whose mother has died.

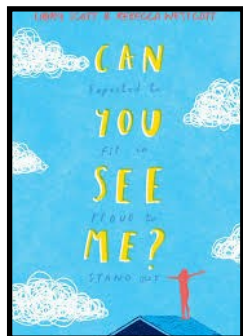


### Ghost M Jason Reynolds

Ghost is a young adult novel by Jason Reynolds which follows seventh-grader Castle "Ghost" Cranshaw as he joins a track team and struggles to deal with his past and his present. As a child, Ghost had to flee his apartment with his mother when his father, in a drunken rage, tried to kill them.

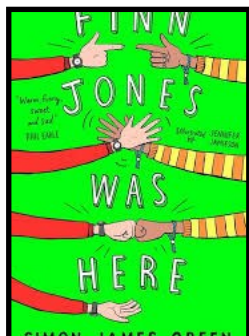
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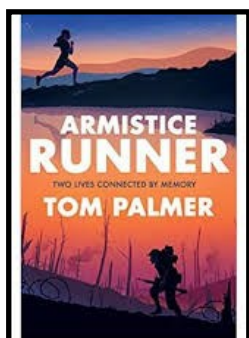
## Can You See Me ? Libby Scott and Rebecca Westcott

Tally is starting secondary school and she's anxious about lots of things. Tally knows she's different: she's autistic, meaning she sees and feels everything differently to her friends and family. Now, as she enters this new stage in her life, she is painfully aware of the way she is perceived and feeling an almost unbearable pressure to try to fit in. But what exactly are the rules for being "normal"?



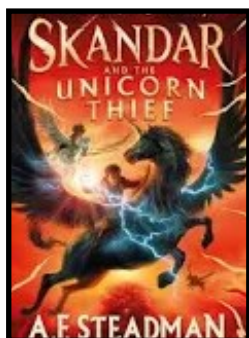
## Finn Jones Was Here M Simon James Green

Eric's best friend, Finn Jones, was the world's biggest prankster. Now Eric can't believe Finn's not here anymore. ...*Or is he?* Eric seems to be getting messages from beyond the grave, and as he follows Finn's wild, cryptic instructions, his hope grows that he'll find Finn laughing at the end. The journey also brings memories - and a truth that seems impossible to accept. This is a funny, heart-breaking book about making every second count.



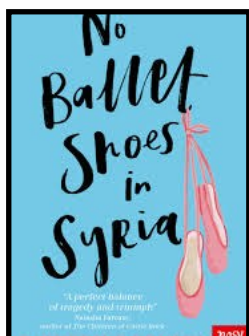
## Armistice Runner Tom Palmer

Lily has lots of worries. She's struggling to compete in her fell-running races and, worse, she's losing her gran to Alzheimer's. But then she discovers her great-great-grandfather's diaries from the First World War. Could his incredible story of bravery help her reconnect with her gran and even give her the inspiration she needs to push through and win?



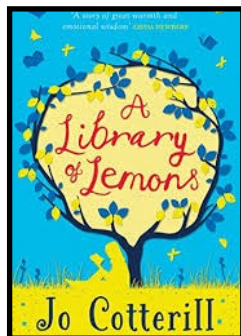
## Skandar and the Unicorn Thief A.F. Steadman

Skandar Smith dreams of becoming a unicorn rider, but his life is upended when the Island's most powerful unicorn is stolen by a shadowy enemy called the Weaver. Thrust into a dangerous world of elemental magic, ancient secrets, and fierce unicorns, Skandar must uncover the truth to stop the Weaver's plan to amass an army and save his world, while also confronting the secret about his own unicorn, which is bonded to a forbidden fifth element.



## No Ballet Shoes In Syria Catherine Bruton

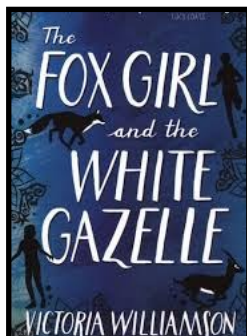
Aya is a Syrian asylum seeker, looking after her mother and baby brother in the cold, unfamiliar city of Manchester – but she is also a talented ballet dancer. A part of her life that seemed lost forever when she fled her home comes back to her when she encounters a ballet class led by the elegant Miss Helena.



**Library of Lemons**

Jo Cotterill

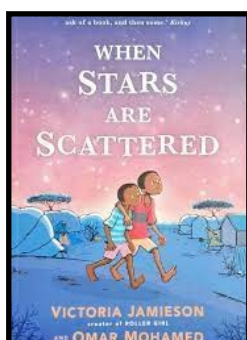
Calypto's mum died a few years ago and her Dad can't, or won't, talk about Mum at all. Instead he throws himself into writing his book *A History of the Lemon*. Meanwhile the house is dusty, there's never any food in the fridge, and Calypto retreats into her own world of books and fiction. When a new girl, Mae, arrives at school, the girls' shared love of reading and writing stories draws them together. But can their friendship survive when Mae visits their house?



**Fox Girl and White Gazelle**

Victoria Williamson

Heartfelt and full of hope, *The Fox Girl* and the *White Gazelle* is an uplifting story about the power of friendship and belonging. Inspired by her work with young asylum seekers, debut novelist Victoria Williamson's stunning story of displacement and discovery will speak to anyone who has ever asked 'where do I belong?'



**When Stars Are Scattered**

Victoria Jamieson and Omar Mohamed

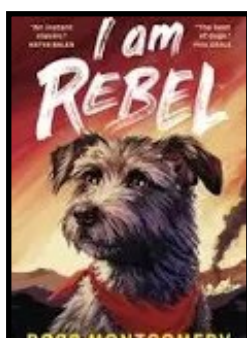
Eleven-year-old Omar lives with his little brother Hassan in Dadaab, a refugee camp in Kenya. They've been there for seven years now, waiting for the civil war in Somalia to end so that they can go home to the family farm and try to find their parents. Told in graphic novel form, this is the true story of Omar Mohamed's childhood in Dadaab.



**The Thrilling Adventures of Lovelace and Babbage: The (Mostly) True Story of the First Computer** **M**

Sydney Padua

This is a steampunk graphic novel. It features Ada Lovelace and Charles Babbage in an alternative universe where they have successfully built an analytical engine and use it to "fight crime".



**I am Rebel**

Ross Montgomery

This is an adventure children's book, written from the perspective of a dog named Rebel. The story follows Rebel's journey to find and save his beloved human, Tom, after war breaks out and Tom joins a rebellion against the King. The book explores the strong bond between the dog and his human, offering a heart-warming and thrilling adventure.