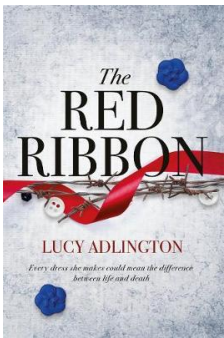


Education Library Service Recommended Secondary Fiction Summer Term 2019



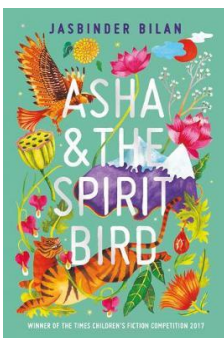
Adlington, Lucy

The Red Ribbon

Hot Key Pbk £7.99 9781471407161

Interest age: 12+ Reading age: 12+

As 14-year-old Ella begins her first day at work she steps into a world of silks, seams, scissors, pins, hems and trimmings. She is a dressmaker, but this is no ordinary sewing workshop. Hers are no ordinary clients. Ella has joined the seamstresses of Birkenau-Auschwitz. Every dress she makes could mean the difference between life and death. And this place is all about survival. Ella seeks refuge from this reality, and from haunting memories, in her work and in the world of fashion and fabrics. She is faced with painful decisions about how far she is prepared to go to survive. Is her love of clothes and creativity nothing more than collaboration with her captors, or is it a means of staying alive? Contains descriptions of the treatment of prisoners in a concentration camp and on a march from Auschwitz to another camp, in the closing stages of the war, when many of the prisoners died from hunger, exhaustion and cold. Powerful story drawn from fact. You are left in no doubt that this was an horrific experience but it is tempered by the friendship and hope for the future which is given by the character of Rose and the different look at the camps through the sewing workshop. An uplifting ending.



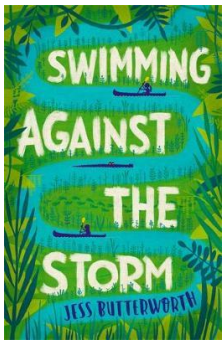
Bilan, Jasbinder

Asha and the spirit bird

Chicken House Pbk £6.99 9781911490197

Interest age: 9+ Reading age: 9+

Asha lives in the foothills of the Himalayas. Money is tight and she misses her papa who works in the city. When he suddenly stops sending his wages, a ruthless moneylender ransacks their home and her mother talks of leaving. Asha makes a pact with her best friend, Jeevan, to find her father and make things right. But the journey to the city is fraught with danger and they face hunger, tiredness, tigers and ruthless people who prey on children. But Asha believes she is guided by the spirit of her grandmother in the form of a great eagle and this gives her courage. Excellent quest story with very good characterisation that could be enjoyed by either gender. Could make a good group read and possible BBA? Short chapters and well paced narrative that draws the reader along. Lots of detail about Indian culture and life. First novel by this author.



Butterworth, Jess **Swimming against the storm**

Hachette Pbk £6.99 9781510105485

Interest age: 9+ Reading age: 9+

Twelve-year-old Eliza and her younger sister Avery live in a small fishing village on the coast of Louisiana, alongside the beautiful habitat and wildlife. But the sea levels are rising and their home is at risk of being swept away. Attempting to save their land Eliza and her younger sister Avery secretly go searching in the swamp for the dangerous, wolf-like loup-garou, believing that if they find this legendary creature the government will have to protect its habitat - and their community. However, Avery goes off on her own and gets in trouble and a tropical storm is approaching ... Usual Jess Butterworth well-written style with detail to the habitat and animals and a compelling read.

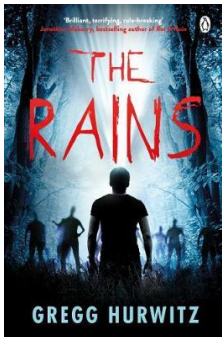


Hunt, Leo **Phantom**

Hachette Pbk £7.99 9781408345030

Interest age: 13+ Reading age: 12+

16-year-old thief and hacker Nova makes just enough to live on by leeching from the corpsesmen that live in the spires 400 storeys above the forgotten undercity slums she calls home. So when infamous anti-corp hacker The Moth offers Nova a huge sum to infiltrate and steal something from the biggest corp of all, Bliss Inc. - manufacturer of the neural implants that allow everyone in the spires continuous metanet access - she jumps at the chance. But what is the dark secret hidden in Bliss Inc. "Human futures" department and why does The Moth want to get his hands on it so badly? Superb SciFi thriller. Excellent characterisation and world-building, and gripping well-written plot that twists and turns keeping the reader's attention. Good to have a feisty believable female protagonist. Worth promoting. NOTE: a little mild conversational swearing occasionally, and some violence occasionally but not graphic.

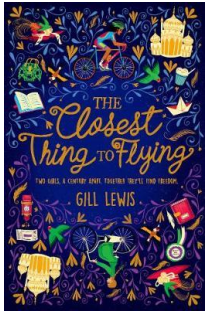


Hurwitz, Gregg **The Rains**

Penguin Pbk £7.99 9781405938280

Interest age: 14+ Reading age: 13+

It's never really been my thing to be the brave one - that's always been my older brother Patrick - but something world-changing is happening in our small town of Creek's Cause. Parasites have infected everyone over the age of eighteen, making them violent, and if they even sniff a kid they either bash our brains in or take us back to their creepy lair. We're trapped at the school with the other remaining survivors, including Patrick's girlfriend Alex, and we don't know how long we'll last. The school is surrounded by infected adults, and we're sure that there is something else out there, something controlling the people that used to be our parents, our guardians. But here's the real problem, Patrick is turning eighteen in a few days, so it's up to me - Chance Rain - to find a way to save him. And maybe, just maybe if we survive the next few weeks then we can help save humanity. Great science fiction horror thriller in the Michael Grant vein. Good setting, character building and fast paced. There is to be a sequel.

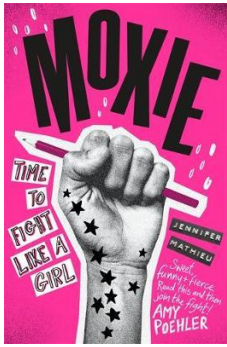


Lewis, Gill **The closest thing to flying**

OUP Pbk £6.99 9780192749482

Interest age: 9+ Reading age: 9+

Samira is an Eritrean refugee who has been brought to England with her Mum by a man who rules them, Robel. He says if they do not pretend he is Samira's dad they won't be allowed to stay in England. Samira finds a diary from over 100 years ago, in a hat box, written by a girl then her age. From this diary Samira gets inspiration to be brave and stand up to Robel and try and escape his clutches. A compelling story I read in one sitting. There is a brief reference to domestic violence but not explicit.



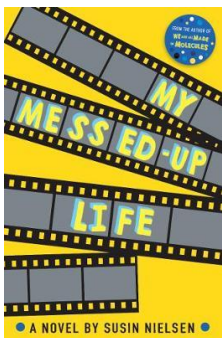
Mathieu, Jennifer

Moxie

Hodder Pbk £7.99 9781444940633

Interest age: 13+ Reading age: 13

Vivian Carter is fed up. Fed up with her high school teachers who think the football team can do no wrong. Fed up with sexist dress codes, hallway harassment and gross comments from boys during class. But most of all, Viv Carter is fed up with always following the rules. Viv's mum was a tough-as-nails, punk rock Riot Grrrl in the '90s, and now Viv takes a page from her mother's past and creates Moxie, a feminist zine that she distributes anonymously to her classmates. She's just blowing off steam, but other girls respond and spread the Moxie message. As Viv forges friendships with other young women across the divides of cliques and popularity rankings, she realises that what she has started is nothing short of a girl revolution. Describes small town life that could be anywhere and the misogynistic views that exist in them as they have little exposure to views other than the dominating one. Shows how one person with little confidence initially can start a movement from small beginnings. Describes feminism in terms teenagers could understand. Carried along with a rather gentle romance. Some swearing. Discussion of sexual assault. Good girl read. Characters are 16. Thought provoking.



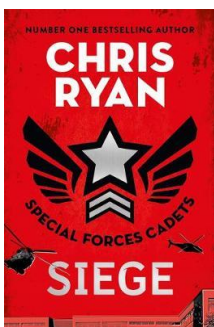
Nielsen, Susan

My Messed-Up Life

Anderson Pbk £7.99 9781783445523

Interest age: 11+ Reading age: 11+

Violet lives with her mum and younger sister Rosie. Violet's parents have divorced and Dad, who is a TV director, has left her mum for new younger actress. Dad has relocated to Los Angeles and lives in a modern house near the beach with a swimming pool. Violet also has two new sisters, twin girls. Violet is very upset about her parent's divorce and can see that her mum has taken it badly, initially going out and bringing home a string of unsuitable boyfriends. Violet and her friend Phoebe take to investigating any new boyfriends. Violet attempts to get Hollywood actor George Clooney to marry her mum, and this where Violet gets herself into a whole lot of trouble. A humorous family story with an element of fantasy.



Ryan, Chris

Siege

Hot Key Books Pbk £6.99 9781471407253

Interest age: 11+ Reading age: 10+

The first in a new Special Forces cadets series. The government needs teenage undercover agents for situations where adults would attract suspicion. Max Johnson is desperate to become a Special Forces Cadet. The youngsters have to make it through a gruelling selection camp and are immediately deployed to their first mission - an armed siege by a Chechen terrorist group in an inner-city school. Gripping storyline with lots of action and violence as expected in the context of the plot. A page turner with lots of action.



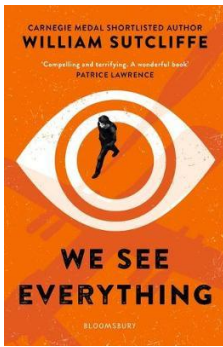
Simpson, Darren

Scavengers

Usborne Pbk £6.99 9781474956024

Interest age: 11+ Reading age: 12+

Landfill has lived his whole life as a scavenger on the ground surrounding an old coke plant. He's been here for as long as he can remember, looked after by Old Babagoo. Animals surround them, and they eat whatever they can catch or find. Babagoo expects Landfill to follow his rules and to never go beyond the wall. However, Landfill longs to venture Outside, yet is fearful of it and begins to question some of Babagoo's rules. The relationship between Landfill and his guardian is well portrayed. Well written story which draws you into their unsettling world and makes the reader try to piece it together. Thought provoking. Local author.

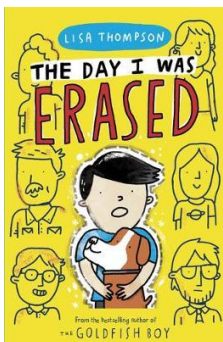


Sutcliffe, William We See Everything

Bloomsbury Pbk £7.99 9781408890189

Interest age: 14+ Reading age: 14+

The lives of two young men living in a future hostile London. Lex is 16 and lives on The Strip - the closed off, bombed out shell of a city once known as London. He's used to living his life under the watchful eye of the menacing enemy drones that buzz in the air above him. Alan is a little older than Lex and their lives run in parallel. Both are gamers, and where Lex finds freedom biking through The Strip, Alan's late-night motorbike rides give him the feelings of power and certainty he craves. Their lives are destined to intersect. Because Alan is to become an eye in the sky - a drone operator - and he has just been assigned a high profile enemy target, Lex's Dad. Gripping story. For older students as at one-point Alan forces a girl to kiss him, against her wishes, then realises this is unacceptable and there is a consensual sex scene between Lex and Zoe.

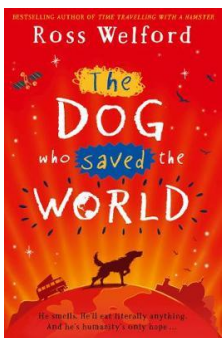


Thompson, Lisa The Day I was Erased

Scholastic Pbk £6.99 9781407185125

Interest age: 9+ Reading age: 9+

Eleven-year-old Maxwell is always in trouble. He has Monster, the dog he rescued to escape his parents' constant arguing at home but he's a menace to neighbours and teachers. He was banned from the school ball and turns off the school's electricity. Yet the reader can't help but like him. While visiting an elderly neighbour, Maxwell comes across a mysterious cabinet of curiosities and suddenly finds himself erased from his life: it's as if he's never existed. Now he can walk around anonymously yet comes to realise he misses his old life. Maxwell needs to find a way to reverse his erasure, with the help of his best friend Charlie and his sister Bex, who need persuading that this weird kid they've never clapped eyes on is known to them in his former life. Appealing concept with the lively main character offering moments of humour and poignancy. Easy to read and well written.



Welford, Ross The Dog Who Saved the World

Harper Collins Pbk £6.99 9780008256975

Interest age: 11-13 Reading age: 11+

Georgie makes friends with an eccentric retired scientist, she becomes the test-subject for a thrilling new experiment: a virtual reality, 3D version of the future. Then a deadly virus threatens to wipe out every dog in the country, and Georgie's beloved dog Mr Mash gets sick. Which is bad - but worse is still to come. As the world is thrown into chaos, Georgie embarks on a desperate quest: to save every dog on earth and all of humanity...Very typical Ross Welford mix of adventure, time travel and reality.

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