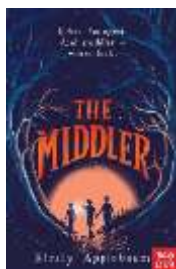


Education Library Service Recommended Secondary Fiction Autumn Term 2019



Applebaum, Kirsty

The Middler

Nosy Crow	Pbk	6.99	9781788003452	
Interest age:	11+		Reading age:	9+

Set in a dystopian future eleven-year-old Maggie lives in Fennis Wick, enclosed and protected from the outside world by a boundary beyond which the wanderers roam. Her brother Jed is the eldest and therefore, revered and special and everyone loves her younger brother Trig. Maggie's just a middler; invisible and left behind. One hot September day, she meets Una, a hungry wanderer girl in need of help, and everything Maggie has ever known gets turned on its head. Through Maggie we see the trials and frustrations of being the forgotten middle child, the child with no voice, even in her own family.



Burge, Rachel

The Twisted Tree

Hot Key	Pbk	7.99	9781471407765	
Interest age:	12+		Reading age:	11+

Martha can tell things about a person just by touching their clothes, as if their emotions and memories have been absorbed into the material. It started the day she fell from the tree at her grandma's cabin and became blind in one eye. Determined to understand her strange ability, Martha sets off to visit her grandmother, Mormor - only to discover Mormor is dead, a peculiar boy is in her cabin and a terrifying creature is on the loose. Martha must work out how to defeat the evil that has been released. Some horrific and scary episodes. A little gentle romance too.



David, Keren

The Disconnect

Barrington Stoke	Pbk	7.99	9781781128558	
Interest age:	12+		Reading age:	9+

Dame Irene Irvine, an entrepreneur has challenged Esther's year group to hand in their smart phones for six weeks and use a simple phone which will make call and text only. The winners will walk away with 1000 pounds. For Esther, whose dad, sister and baby nephew live in New York, the prize might be her only chance to afford flights for a visit ... Can she stay disconnected for long enough to win? An easy to read Barrington Stoke title looking at the highs and lows of social-media life and use of mobile phones. Would be brilliant for discussion.



Edge, Christopher

The Longest Night of Charlie Noon

Nosy Crow Pbk 6.99 9781788004947
Interest age: 10+ Reading age: 10+

Three friends embark upon an adventure when they venture into the woods to discover what secrets lie at the heart of it. Secrets, spies or maybe even a monster. What lies in the heart of the wood? Charlie, Dizzy and Johnny are determined to discover the truth, but when night falls without warning they find themselves trapped in a nightmare. Lost in the woods, strange dangers and impossible puzzles lurk in the shadows. As time plays tricks, can Charlie solve this mystery and find a way out of the woods? But what if this night never ends...? The story encapsulates time, nature and the world around us. A book which can be read on lots of levels, A mystery, time travel and adventure all merged into one. Could be enjoyed by both girls and boys.



Flanagan, Liz

Dragon Daughter

David Fickling Pbk 6.99 9781788450218
Interest age: 10+ Reading age: 10+

When a stranger is murdered, Milla finds herself taking care of four precious dragon eggs. Before long the eggs are stolen and given to the Duke who rules the island, as these are supposedly the last eggs in existence. When the eggs hatch, Milla, the Duke's son and two friends bond with the dragons and are instructed to stay at the Duke's palace and raise them. Milla is delighted, but concerned that the Duke only wants to control them. She is also worried about the many people coming to the island who claim that the Duke stole their island and forced them to leave. There is much tension between the islanders and the migrants which leads to violence. Eventually the Duke is arrested and peace is restored. Milla also discovers that her family had once looked after the dragons before they were forced from their island and the dragons wiped out. An exciting fantasy adventure for more committed readers.

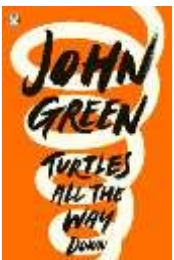


Foster, Stewart

Check Mates

Simon & Schuster Pbk 7.99 9781471172236
Interest age: 10+ Reading age: 11+

Felix has ADHD finds playing chess with his grandfather helps to focus his mind and find out more about his family history. Felix is struggling at school. His ADHD makes it hard for him to concentrate and his grades are slipping. Everyone keeps telling him to try harder, but no one seems to understand just how hard he finds it. When Mum suggests that Felix spends time with his grandfather, Felix can't think of anything worse. Granddad hasn't been the same since Grandma died and he's always trying to teach Felix chess. A very sensitively written story which draws out the relationship between Felix and his friend, alongside that of him and his grandfather. Added to this a sense of mystery and adventure add to the plot. Humour and pathos, a brilliant read.



Green, John

Turtles All the Way Down

Penguin Pbk 7.99 9780141346045
Interest age: 12+ Reading age: 12+

16-Year-old Aza is trying to be a good daughter, friend and student. Aza suffers with OCD and is under a therapist who she regularly visits. Interspersed with this is an element of mystery and adventure as Aza and her best friend Daisy try to track down a fugitive billionaire. Russell Pickett, who has disappeared without a trace. Aza is very complex individual, and the reader really gets into her mind as the relationship between her and Davis, Russell's son develops. An intriguing and emotional read, dealing well with sensitive teenage issues.

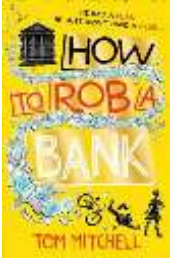


Green, Julia

The House of Light

Oxford University Press Pbk 6.99 9780192771568
Interest age: 10 Reading age: 10

Bonnie lives near the sea with her Granda, her Mum left years ago. One day Bonnie is scavenging on the beach and finds a battered rowing boat and a boy in need of help. The authorities and border guards would take him away if they found him. Bonnie keeps him hidden and helps him get better. Together with her Granda they escape one night in search of a new beginning and hope. Well and poignantly written with empathy. The reader feels for the characters, who are well drawn.



Mitchell, Tom

How to Rob a Bank

Harper Collins Pbk 6.99 9780008276508
Interest age: 12+ Reading age: 11+

15-year-old Dylan Thomas is very keen on one of the girls at his school. Unfortunately, when he gives her a scented candle for her birthday which he then throws into her waste bin minutes before her uninsured house burns to the ground, he feels so guilty he decides to rob a bank in order to buy her a new house. With the help of his over-confidant sister, Dylan acquires a Saturday job at the local bank, and a USB stick with a code that will hack into the bank's ATM machine. All he must do is locate the USB port at the back of the machine, make sure he's got the correct USB stick, not be seen, and not to get locked in the bank once he's successfully robbed it. Simple. An amusing debut novel with a likeable lead character. Some mild swearing.



Mussi, Sarah

You Can't Hide

Hodder Pbk 7.99 9781444917888
Interest age: 14+ Reading age: 13+

Lexi's been in an accident and is still in her hospital bed. But she can't remember it - or any of the events leading up to it. The only thing she knows for sure is that she's still in danger. As fragments of her past start to return, Lexi thinks she knows what happened. But can Lexi trust her own memories? Because if she's wrong - she's in more danger now than ever before. Exactly what happened on that spring evening down by the railway tracks? Author maintains the suspense throughout this mystery thriller. Lexi is a flawed character who has to lie in order to protect both her and her mother from her violent stepfather but she embellishes unnecessarily at times to impress. Contains graphic accounts of domestic violence, an incident of naked 'making out' which is filmed without the participants' consent and characters who take naked photos of one another on their phones.



Palmer, Tom

D-Day Dog

Barrington Stoke Pbk 6.99 9781781128688
Interest age: 9 Reading age: 9

Jack can't wait for the school trip to the D-Day landing beaches. It's his chance to learn more about the war heroes he has always admired - brave men like his dad, who is a Reserve soldier. When his dad is called up to action and things at home spiral out of control, everything Jack believes about war is thrown into question. Finding comfort in the presence of his dog, Finn, Jack is drawn to the true story of the D-Day paratrooper Emile Corteil who parachuted into France with his dog, Glen. Thought provoking story about war but also a story combining WW2 and life today. Relevant to D Day and beyond.

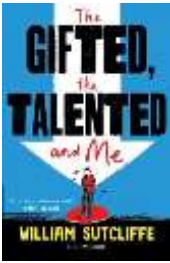


Rawsthorne, P

The New Boy

Scholastic Pbk 7.99 9781407180267
Interest age: 12+ Reading age: 11+

When Zoe falls for the new boy at school, she discovers a dark secret about him which explains why he seems so perfect. New boy Jack is clever, handsome and popular. At first Zoe is immune to his charms, but she soon falls under his spell. As their romance grows, disturbing events arise and Zoe doesn't know who or what to believe. Until she discovers a secret so shocking it will leave her fighting for her life. A tense and exciting, thriller Science Fiction story, a great read for younger teens.



Sutcliffe, William

The Gifted, the Talented and Me

Bloomsbury
Interest age:

Pbk
14+

7.99

9781408890219

Reading age:

14+

Sam, 15, is ordinary and proud of it and enjoys football. Then Dad gets rich and Mum makes the whole family move to Hampstead. Sam's off to the North London Academy for the Gifted and Talented. Football is frowned on there and Sam is trying to fit in, but the school is full of wannabe stars and artistic types. Sam thinks he'll never belong, even if he wanted to. Then he's on stage wearing a mask and a fur onesie ... A well written funny story about teenage woes, enjoyable and not depressing! Enjoyed it! An up to date Adrian Mole for older teens. A book about fitting in, falling out and being average and yourself.

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