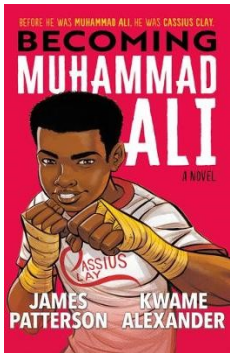


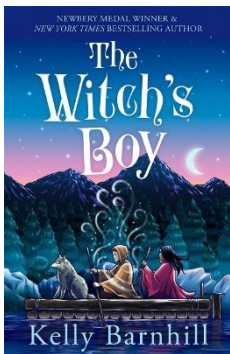
Education Library Service Recommended Secondary Fiction Summer Term 2021



Alexander, Kwame & Patterson, James **Becoming Muhammad Ali**

Jacaranda	Pbk	8.99	9781913090715
Interest age:	12+	Reading age:	12+

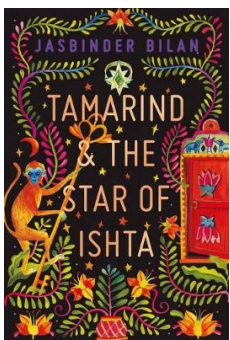
Kwame Alexander and James Patterson join forces in 'Becoming Muhammad Ali', the illustrated novel on the life of the boxing legend. A mixture of prose and verse, it follows the life of the young Ali up until age 17. Easy to read with excellent illustrations by Dawud Anyabwile.



Barnhill, Kelly **The Witch's Boy**

Piccadilly	Pbk	6.99	9781848129351
Interest age:	10+	Reading age:	10+

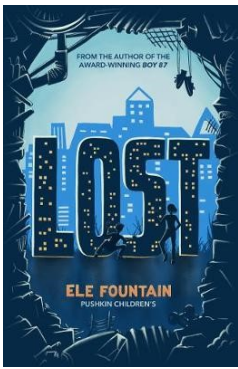
When Ned and his twin brother tumble from their raft into a raging river, only Ned survives. The villagers are convinced the wrong boy lived. But when a Bandit King comes to steal the magic Ned's mother, a witch, is meant to protect, it's Ned who safeguards the magic and summons the strength to protect his family and community. Excellent and compelling fantasy adventure, with very good believable world building, and superb relatable characters. A very enjoyable read for either gender, but needs some emotional maturity as there are character deaths, and much exploration of loss in various forms, and some violence, although all is handled sensitively and is age appropriate.



Bilan, Jasbinder **Tamarind and the Star of Ishta**

Chicken House	Pbk	6.99	9781913322175
Interest age:	9+	Reading age:	9+

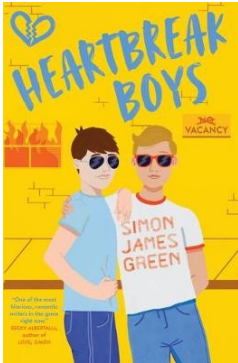
Tamarind grew up in England and never knew her Indian mum, Chinty, who died soon after she was born. So when her dad sends her to stay at her ancestral home, a huge mansion in the Himalayas surrounded by luxuriant gardens, she's full of questions for her extended family who she's never met before. But instead of answers, she finds an ominous silence - and a trickle of intriguing clues: an abandoned hut, a friendly monkey, a glowing star ring, and a strange girl in the garden who calls herself Ishta. Slowly, Tamarind unravels a mystery at the heart of who she is. This is a fairly short, easy to read, and compelling family story. Excellent characterisation, and the descriptions of the house and gardens and family life in the Himalaya are extremely well drawn. But this is a serious exploration of themes of belonging, loss, and reconciliation which do require some advanced emotional intelligence in the reader.



Fountain, Ele **Lost**

Pushkin Pbk 7.99 9781782692553
Interest age: 11+ Reading age: 10+

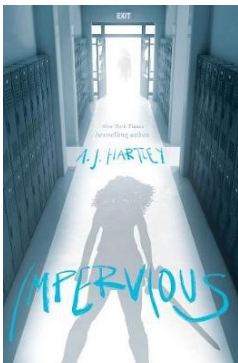
When their father fails to come home one day, Lola and Amit face a terrifying new reality. With no money and no idea how to look after themselves, they are made homeless and must find a way to survive on the streets. Good characterisation and good description of street life for children and how they are treated. No specific location is mentioned- could be India.



Green, Simon James **Heartbreak Boys**

Scholastic Pbk 7.99 9781407194257
Interest age: 14+ Reading age: 12+

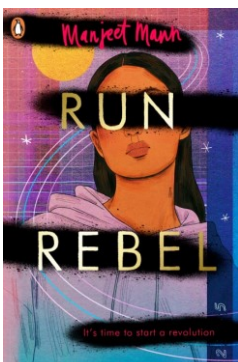
Nate and Jack were childhood friends, but grew apart as the years went by. Jack has worked on perfecting an artistic "lunny" persona to protect himself from abuse, and Nate just tries to keep his head down. But when both discover in a very public setting of the end of Year 11 Prom, that they have been jilted by their boyfriends they are thrown together in to an unlikely alliance. As the summer holidays progress, both boys try to show that they are riding high after all, but can they really accept themselves, and open themselves up to new possibilities? Hilarious tale of friendship, families and getting to know yourself. Superb and very relatable characterisation, using the device of chapters told by each of the main protagonists with very distinct narrative voices. Very enjoyable.



Hartley, AJ **Impervious**

Uclan Pbk 6.99 9781912979394
Interest age: 14+ Reading age: 12+

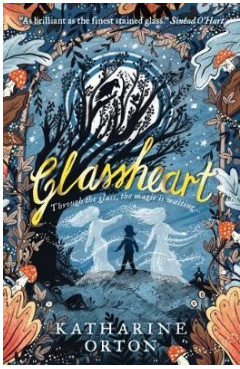
Trina Warren planned on going to fourth period as normal. But then there was a bang, and an overturned chair, and everything was different. Now Trina finds herself in a fantasy world where she is a sword wielding hero, believing she is empowered by a guardian angel but being pursued by a faceless, nameless monster that only she can stop. Just one second is all it takes for Trina to turn from a regular clumsy high school girl, to a monster-fighting warrior. Plot is fast moving and a shorter read at under 200 pages. Contains scenes of violence but as we believe it is a fantasy it is not really shocking, until the end. Author is British living in the US and has had direct experience of being involved in a school shooting and how everyday that incident was regarded and has written this in response. Powerful stuff that will stay in the mind of any reader.



Mann, Manjeet **Run Rebel**

Penguin Pbk 7.99 9780241411421
Interest age: 14+ Reading age: 12+

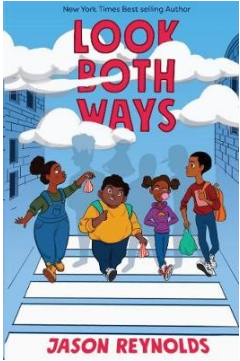
Amber is trapped by her father's rules and expectations but also her own fears. However, she feels ready to fight for her mother, her sister and herself. A very fast paced, strong emotive text written in powerful accessible verse. Very powerful and sometimes shocking, but ultimately a message of hope.



Orton, Katharine Glassheart

Walker Pbk 7.99 9781406385236
Interest age: 10 Reading age: 10

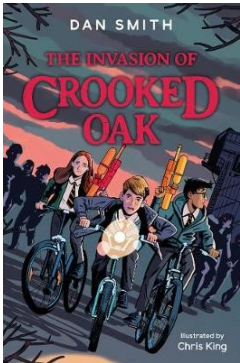
Nona now lives with her uncle, after the death of her Mum and brother in the Blitz. He is a master craftsman and is replacing stained glass windows throughout England. A commission takes them to Dartmoor. When they get there Nona discovers there is powerful magic at hand and it is believed that she had the power to fight the darkness and protect those she loves. A well-written and compelling story with a feisty yet believable heroine.



Reynolds, Jason Look Both Ways

Knights OF Pbk 6.99 9781999642594
Interest age: 11+ Reading age: 10+

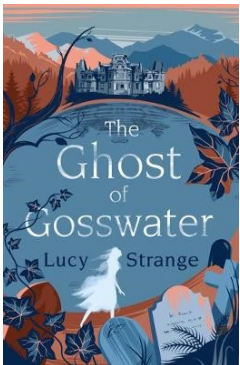
Ten stories about ten walks home - ten different kids, their friendships, their worries, their moments of joy, their routines. What makes today the same as any other walk home, and what makes it different? Issues of friendship, family, bullying, sexuality dealt with openly. Very evidently USA middle grade. American lilt to style and language.



Smith, Dan The Invasion of Crooked Oak

Barrington Pbk 6.99 9781781129203
Stoke
Interest age: 8+ Reading age: 8+

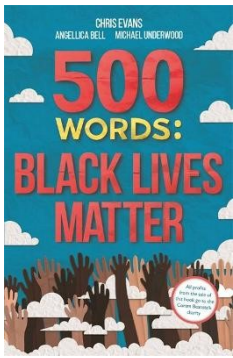
When Nancy's parents start behaving very oddly after visiting the local village fracking site, she is quite concerned. But then other adults in the village start to behave equally oddly, and she and her friends Pete and Krish make a startling discovery down at the site. It is then a race against time for the children to be able to save themselves and their village from a sinister invasion. Very good creepy sci-fi adventure with believable characters. Short and pithy writing style for this dyslexia friendly title. Could be enjoyed by readers of either gender.



Strange, Lucy The Ghost of Gosswater

Chicken House Pbk 6.99 9781911077848
Interest age: 10 Reading age: 10

A well written gothic ghost tale. Set in the Lake District in 1899 twelve year old Lady Agatha has to come to terms with the death of The Earl of Gosswater who, with his wife has raised her as their child. She is cast out of the only home she has known (Gosswater Hall) by her cruel cousin, Clarence, who has inherited the hall and estate on the Earl's death. She is taken to a tiny cottage to live with a man who is claimed to be her real father. She struggles to adapt to her new life and sees the ghost of another young girl who seems unable to rest. Can Aggie find out her identity? Great characterisation and plot. Great for reading for pleasure. Would be good for reading groups - but upper primary, lower secondary.



500 Words: Black Lives Matter

Bonnier Books Pbk 6.99 9781787419605
Interest age: 10+ Reading age: 10+

100 short stories shortlisted for the competition 500 Words: Black Lives Matter, in 2020. Almost 6,000 children, aged between 5-13, submitted stories expressing their personal experiences, tales of empathy, learning and respect, building on the international conversation around Black Lives Matter. The book contains 100 winning short stories. At the back of the book there are writing tips from the head judges, Malorie Blackman, Frank Cottrell Boyce, Charlie Higson and Francesca Simon.

You can buy these books for your classroom or school library from Peters Library suppliers

To obtain a login for Petranet, their on-line ordering system, and qualify for a **26%** discount, contact Angie Jacks.

angie.jacks@inspireculture.org.uk

Books will be delivered and invoiced direct to school.

Education Library Service, Inspire HQ, Glaisdale Parkway, Nottingham NG8 4GP

Tel: 0115 804 4499

E-mail: elsg@inspireculture.org.uk