Anderson, R.J.  A pocketful of murder
Orchard  Pbk  6.99  9781408338933
Interest  10+  Reading age:  10+
Isaveth determined to prove her father’s innocence when he is arrested for the magical murder of a prominent citizen in her country. Quiz, the street boy who befriends her agrees to help. However, it seems her father has been deliberately framed, and Quiz may not be trustworthy. Excellent mystery tale set in a very well imagined magical world. Good characterisation, and a feisty heroine.

Cassidy, Anne  Moth girls
Hot Key  Pbk  6.99  9781471405112
Interest  14+  Reading age:  12+
Nearly five years have passed since Petra and Tina were intent on entering the dilapidated house on Princess Street. But what started off as a dare, ended with the 79 year old owner dead and the girls vanishing. As Mandy’s concern over the disappearance of her two childhood friends is ignited once again, disturbing details about the girls and that night will soon be revealed and Mandy is determined that she will find out the truth.

Becker, Tom  Dark room
Red Eye  Pbk  6.99  9781847154576
Interest  14+  Reading age:  14+
When Darla moves to a new school, she stands no chance of fitting in with the beautiful, selfie-obsessed teens at her new school. She starts having gruesome visions making her believe she’s going crazy, until she realizes they’re a horrifying glimpse into the future. With a killer on the loose, can she make sense of what she's seeing before it’s too late? Well written tense thriller. NOTE : The victims are killed in a variety of gruesome ways – not for the squeamish!

D’Lacey, Chris  The Wearle
Orchard  Pbk  6.99  9781408332481
Interest  11+  Reading age:  11+
A boy helps a race of dragons who have come to his world looking for their lost relatives who never returned home. Gabrial, a young blue dragon, is desperate to prove his worth. But the dragons aren’t alone in the mountains. Out beyond the scorch line, Ren, a young hom boy, is fascinated by the 'skalers'. Little does he know that his fate and theirs are linked in ways he could never have imagined. First in an excellent new fantasy series, “The Erth Dragons”.
Graudin, Ryan  
*Wolf by wolf*

Orion  
Pbk  
7.99  
9781780622033  
Interest: 14+  
Reading age: 14+

Set in Germania in 1956, a decade after the Germans have won WWII. Yael is a 17 year old girl who has survived experimentation during her time at Auschwitz which has given her the ability to change her appearance at will. Using her abilities she transforms into Adele Wolfe, winner of a legendary motorcycle race. Her aim is to win the race to enable her to get close enough to Hitler to kill him. A compelling novel, which is well written and has excellent characterisation. It is the first in a two book series. Contains some swearing, death and scenes of torture.

Martin, Ann M  
*How to look for a lost dog*

Usborne  
Pbk  
6.99  
9781474906470  
Interest: 9+  
Reading age: 9+

Set in America, 11-year-old Rose is autistic and struggles to understand her classmates. When her father gives her a stray dog, which she names Rain, the dog becomes her best friend who helps her deal with issues at home and school. When Rain goes missing during a storm, Rose refuses to stop looking for him. A satisfying story which deals with some tough issues. Rose is described as hitting herself during some anxiety episodes at school and Rose's father has anger management issues. There is one scene in which he physically threatens Rose, and also hits the dog, which may disturb sensitive readers.

Sands, Kevin  
*The Blackthorn key*

Puffin  
Pbk  
6.99  
9780141360645  
Interest: 11+  
Reading age: 11+

London, 1665. 14 year old Christopher is an apprentice to master apothecary Benedict Blackthorn. Christopher learns of a mysterious cult preying on the most learned men in London. The murders are growing closer and closer to home and soon Christopher is torn away from his master's shop with only a page of cryptic clues and the unambiguous warning: 'Tell no one'. Fast paced adventure with some torture scenes. First in a series.

Sepetys, Ruth  
*Salt to the sea*

Penguin  
Pbk  
7.99  
9780141347400  
Interest: 14+  
Reading age: 12+

1945: four young people trek across Germany with thousands of others, desperate to reach the ship that can take them away from a war-ravaged land. They each narrate their own unforgettable stories. Inspired by the worst disaster in maritime history: the sinking of the "Wilhelm Gustloff". Over 9000 civilian refugees were on board. Nearly all were drowned. Lots of short chapters with graphic descriptions of war violence.

Sheinmel, Alyssa  
*Faceless*

Chicken House  
Pbk  
7.99  
9781910655191  
Interest: 13+  
Reading age: 12+

When Maisie is struck by lightning, her face is partially destroyed. She's lucky enough to get a face transplant, but how do you live your life when you can't even recognize yourself? Maisie has to figure out both who she really is, and what 'lucky' really means. As Maisie discovers how much her looks did and didn't shape her relationship to the world, she has to redefine her own identity. Occasional swearing and drinking.
Webb, Sarah (ed)  

Beyond the stars: twelve stories of adventure, magic and wonder

Harper  Pbk  6.99  9780008113148

Interest  9+  Reading age:  10+

A collection of stories on various themes by mostly well-known Irish authors and illustrators. They have been put together to raise money for a creative writing centre in Dublin, which was co-founded by Roddy Doyle. Many of the stories have a supernatural or magical theme, and are all well written. Writers include Derek Landy, Eoin Colfer, Siobhan Parkinson and John Boyne.

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