

## Recommended Secondary Fiction Summer Term 2025

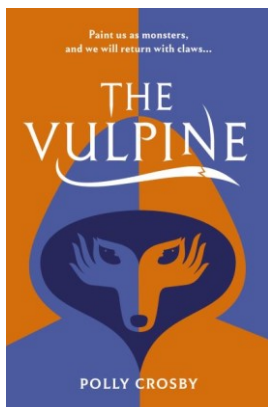


**Bond, Ash**

**Peregrine Quinn and the cosmic realm**

Piccadilly	Pbk	7.99	9781800786837
Interest age:	9+	Reading age:	9+

Peregrine Quinn has always loved hearing her godfather Daedalus Bloom's stories about his life as an immortal, but that's all they were - stories. That is, until the portals that connect the Terran Realm with the Cosmic Realm mysteriously shut down and Daedalus, the only one who can fix them, is kidnapped. Peregrine is then swept into a nail-biting adventure, helped by a dryad and a faun, who must fix the portals and rescue Daedalus before an ancient evil rises and chaos takes over. Great fun fantasy adventure with feisty characters and plenty of jeopardy to keep readers interested right through to the end. Great start to a new series.

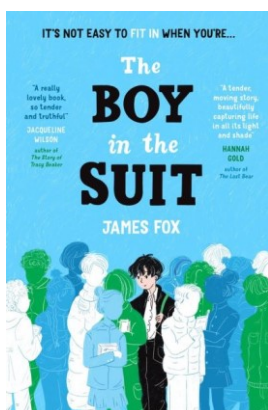


**Crosby, Polly**

**The Vulpine**

Scholastic	Pbk	8.99	9780702325618
Interest age:	12+	Reading age:	12+

Ora has always been fascinated by chilling fairy stories of the Vulpine; hideous monsters who live below ground, emerging at night to snatch 'imperfect' babies and children. Because Ora's world is trying to eradicate disability and illness, and the only way to succeed in life is to be genetically 'perfect'. But when her friend Casta's baby sister disappears, and then shockingly Ora finds out she has a genetic lung illness, her world is turned upside down. Super dystopian sci-fi mystery adventure with a compelling central character in Ora, and an exciting narrative that grips the reader's attention from the start. Good underlying message of accepting and valuing difference. Good leisure read.



**Fox, James**

**The boy in the suit**

Scholastic	Pbk	7.99	9780702333101
Interest age:	9+	Reading age:	9+

Solo just wants to be normal, have a proper school uniform and fit in to the crowd. But money is scarce for him and his mum, and she often comes up with imaginative ways to solve their money problems, such as gate crashing funerals for free food. So, when Solo and his mum gate crash the funeral of a celebrity and get caught, the press make them a viral sensation. Solo's pursuit of security, community and connection is poignant and uplifting, and the central characters are very relatable. Super read for empathy with regard to poverty and mental health. A laugh while you're crying read.



**Hayden, Chaz**

**Diet soda club**

Walker	Pbk	8.99	9781529511109
Interest age:	14+	Reading age:	12+

Reed's little sister has a debilitating condition that means many stays in hospital. When there is the offer of a potentially life-enhancing operation, Reed is determined that she should have it. But, life becomes ever harder for them both when their mother leaves them with her new boyfriend to fend for themselves. With no job prospects on the horizon, Reed begins making and selling fake IDs so he and Bea can survive. But the problems keep piling up, from an angry landlord demanding rent to looming medical bills. Very well-written narrative with empathy for both Reed and his sister, and the reader starts to care about the characters and their struggles from the start. There are lots of strong themes handled sensitively, from the issue of being a young carer, taking responsibility when parents can't cope, and issues around medical transplants. Nevertheless, this is an uplifting story well told.



**Hayes, Larry**

**The nightmares of Finnegan Quick**

Bloomsbury	Pbk	7.99	9781526677785
Interest age:	10+	Reading age:	10+

Finnegan Quick is haunted by nightmares. So much so, that he's terrified of going to sleep. Because Finn's dreams actually change the waking world with horrific consequences. He has already lost his mum, his dad, his dog, and now the monsters are coming for his gran. Then a mysterious girl starts appearing in his dreams, helping Finn to fight back against the creatures. But, then Cass appears at Finn's school in real life and tells him she can help him solve the mystery of his missing parents. Together with Finn's best friend Squid, they set about battling the monsters of nightmare. Fast paced horror adventure with engaging central characters and plenty of plot twists, jeopardy and monster battles to keep readers turning the pages. Some blood and gore, but nothing too graphically described. Good start to a new horror series

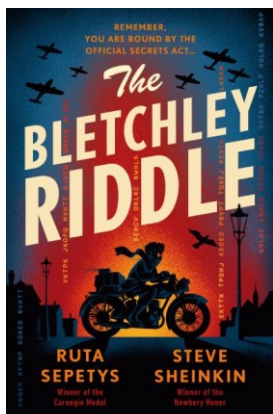


**McNicoll, Elle**

**Some like it cold**

Pan	Pbk	8.99	9781035027842
Macmillan			
Interest age:	13+	Reading age:	10+

Jasper Montgomery is heading home to Lake Pristine for the holidays and keeping secrets. Determined to return to her small town home one last time before leaving for good, Jasper doesn't bank on accidentally ruining her sister's engagement - or bumping into her teen adversary, budding filmmaker Arthur Lancaster. But that same brooding film buff could be a very big reason to stay. Can Jasper decide what she wants from Arthur, and from Lake Pristine, before she leaves them both forever? A light but enjoyable romance for young teens dealing well with the issue of fitting in when you are different.

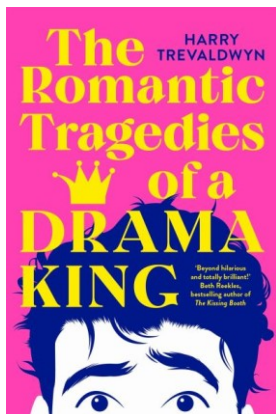


**Sepetys, Ruta**

**The Bletchley riddle**

Rock the Boat	Pbk	7.99	9780861549023
Interest age:	11	Reading age:	11

Jakob Novis is brilliant at maths and is studying at university but has been recruited to the secret codebreaking centre at Bletchley Park. As Jakob works to crack the Nazi's Enigma cipher, his younger sister Lizzie is busy on a mission to find out what's happened to their mum. She is missing in Poland, presumed dead, but is she? A compelling historical mystery story. Well written with great characters and plot.



**Trevaldwyne, Harry      The romantic tragedies of a drama king**

Pan                      Pbk      8.99      9781035049202  
 Macmillan  
 Interest age:    14+                      Reading age:      12+

Patch has decided that this is the year he will get a boyfriend, so it's goodbye to his French pen-pal and hello to the world. Unfortunately, the only other "out" boys in his school year are dating each other, so finding a boyfriend isn't going to be easy. Until fate finally intervenes and two new mysterious boys join drama club: Peter, who's just moved from New York and his best friend, Sam. Patch is confident that one of them will be his first boyfriend. So, armed with his over-supportive best friend Jean and an alarming level of self-confidence, Patch sets out to make his mission a success. Whether or not they actually like boys or him is a problem for later. Romantic comedy for older teens, very entertaining read.



**Varga, Emily                      For she is wrath**

Pan                      Pbk      8.99      9781035045037  
 Macmillan  
 Interest age:    16+                      Reading age:      12+

Dania has been betrayed by her ex-lover and falsely imprisoned for a crime she didn't commit. She counts down the days until she can exact her revenge. But the one person standing in her way is the very man who signed her life away in the first place, and retribution becomes a complicated game of cat and mouse. Because sometimes betrayal isn't as simple as it seems and revenge certainly isn't as easy, not when your heart is involved. Gripping from the outset with pacy action, a feisty female lead, strong cultural references and a well-developed plot. Includes violence and harsh treatment of those in captivity.

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