

## KS3 Reading List – English

The stars identify the difficulty of the text. Three stars means that the book is more sophisticated and/or contains more mature themes and language. The most important thing about reading is to make it a pleasurable habit for life.

Title	Author	Description	Level
Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy/Life the Universe and Everything	Adams, Douglas	It's an ordinary Thursday lunchtime for Arthur Dent until his house gets demolished. The Earth follows shortly afterwards to make way for a new hyperspace bypass and his best friend has just announced that he's an alien. At this moment, they're hurtling through space with nothing but their towels and an innocuous-looking book inscribed with the big, friendly words: DON'T PANIC.	*
Watership Down	Adams, Richard	Fiver could sense danger. Something terrible was going to happen to the warren – he felt sure of it. So did his brother Hazel, for Fiver's sixth sense was never wrong. They had to leave immediately, and they had to persuade the other rabbits to join them. And so begins a long and perilous journey of a small band of rabbits in search of a safe home. Fiver's vision finally leads them to Watership Down, but here they face their most difficult challenge of all... Published in 1972 Watership Down is an epic journey, a stirring tale of adventure, courage and survival against the odds.	*
The Monster Garden	Alcock, Vivien	The day she acquired some living tissue from the genetic engineering laboratory, was the day Frankie's life changed for ever. She'd never imagined her experiment would be so successful, but how will she keep the growing monster a secret from her family?	*
Vernon Bright and Frankenstein's Hamster	Barlow, Steve	When Watts finds Frankenstein's notebook, he lends it to Vernon Bright, his science-mad friend. Watts takes the school hamster home but an accident leaves Mr Nibbles lifeless. Watts realises too late that Bright plans to bring the hamster back to life by using Frankenstein's knowledge.	*
The Finding	Bawden, Nina	Since nobody knows Alex's birthday (he was found abandoned, at the age of 5 months next to Cleopatra's Needle on the Embankment), he celebrates his finding day instead. On his eleventh finding day, Alex's gran takes him to visit old Mrs Angel, her neighbour, who gives him a photo of a girl in an old photograph frame. The girl in the photo, Mrs Angel's daughter who disappeared years ago, looks a bit like Alex. When Mrs Angel dies a few days later, it is discovered that she has left a fortune to Alex. Mrs Angel's nephew, her only relative and an extremely nasty man, is furious.	*
Exodus	Bertagna, Julie	It is 2099 and the world is gradually drowning, as mighty Arctic ice floes melt, the seas rise, and land disappears forever beneath storm-tossed waves. For 15-year-old Mara, her family and community, huddled on the fast-disappearing island of Wing, the new century brings flight. Packed into tiny boats, a terrifying journey begins to a bizarre city that rises into the sky, built on the drowned remains of the ancient city of Glasgow. But even here there is no safety and, shut out of the city, Mara realizes they are asylum-seekers in a world torn between high-tech wizardry and the most primitive injustice. To save her people, Mara must not only find a way into the city but also search for a new land and a new home...	*
The Angel Factory	Blacker, Terence	<i>The Angel Factory</i> is a dark and delicious tale of a world where nothing is quite as it seems. Thomas Wisdom's life is almost too perfect, and he begins to feel that there must be a flaw in the perfection. Tom's best friend, a boy whose life could be described as anything but perfect, thinks he may have the answer to Thomas' questions. But as they are drawn closer and closer to the truth, the pair realise that they are living in a world where nothing is quite as it seems.	*
It's Not the End of the World	Blume, Judy	Karen's parents have always argued, and lately they've been getting worse. When her father announces that they're going to get divorced, it seems as if Karen's whole world will fall apart. Her brother, Jeff, blames their mum. Her kid sister, Amy, asks impossible questions and is scared that everyone she loves is going to leave. Karen just wants her parents to get back together. Divorce might not be the end of the world after all.	*
Dragon's Rock / Shadows / River Boy	Bowler, Tim	Dragon's Rock: Benjamin has terrible nightmares. Ever since taking the stone from Dragon's Rock he feels the beast chasing him. Sleep has become a place of fear, where the dragon hunts him. Benjamin returns to Dragon's Rock in the hope that he can put things right and so get rid of the visions. Once there, his nightmares become even more dangerous. And Benjamin realizes that he's no longer the only person at risk...	*
Boy in the Striped Pyjamas	Boyne, John	Bruno is nine years old, and the Nazis' horrific Final Solution to the 'Jewish Problem' means nothing to him. He's completely unaware of the barbarity of Germany under Hitler, and is more concerned by his move from his well-appointed house in Berlin to a far less salubrious area where he finds himself with nothing to do. Then he meets a boy called Shmuel who lives a very different life from him.	*

Dream Master / Remembrance	Breslin, Theresa	Dream Master: There are good dreams and there are rotten dreams, but once they're over, they're over. Or are they? For one morning, as Cy is about to wake up from a terrific dream about Ancient Egypt, he discovers that he can get back into his dream world. There's just one problem: the Dream Master, who isn't used to stropo boys standing up to him and wanting to break all the rules. And as Cy moves back and forth between the present day and the land of the pharaohs - sorting out all kinds of problems with schoolwork and bullies - dream life and real life become ingeniously intertwined!	*
Jennings Goes to School	Buckeridge, Anthony	When Jennings arrives at Linbury Court Preparatory School as a new boy, he soon discovers how much he has to learn, especially when the other boys seem to be talking in a different language! Spivish oward! But it is not long before Jennings becomes a celebrity, following an intrepid escape from the school grounds and a riotous attempt to enliven a fire practice, which leaves Old Wilkie literally climbing the walls! From then on, every time Jennings gives trouble the elbow, a new disaster trips him up. But only one thing really matters to J C T Jennings – his First Eleven debut. When the long-awaited match arrives, Jennings certainly uses his head.	*
Alice in Wonderland/ Alice Through the Looking Glass	Carroll, Lewis	Alice in Wonderland: Bored on a hot afternoon, Alice follows a White Rabbit down a rabbit-hole – without giving a thought about how she might get out. And so she tumbles into Wonderland: where animals answer back, a baby turns into a pig, time stands still at a disorderly tea party, croquet is played with hedgehogs and flamingos, and the Mock Turtle and Gryphon dance the Lobster Quadrille. In a land in which nothing is as it seems and cakes, potions and mushrooms can make her shrink to ten inches or grow to the size of a house, will Alice be able to find her way home again?	*
Glory in the Cup	Cattell, B.	Hooker, Azzie, Erica and the rest all play cricket in their spare time, but they've never taken it very seriously until now. Kiddo, one of their school teachers, suggests they form an official team and play proper matches – and Glory Gardens C.C. is formed. Hooker, as captain, soon finds out that cricket teams weren't built in a day: some players squabble, some can't catch, and some have tantrums and go home at half-time! So will Glory Gardens go all out for victory . . . or will they be out for a duck?	*
Utterly Me, Clarice Bean	Child, Lauren	Clarice's extraordinarily ordinary family are under pressure. Dad keeps muttering about how "there might be a reshuffle going on at work" and how he will "have to jump through hoops" if he wants to get a "share of the pie" because "the big cheese" has been making noises about "some people being left out in the cold if they don't keep their eye on the ball", while mum spends her life "gripping about pants on the floor and shoes on the sofa". And as for her brother, Minal Cricket, he "tends to be utterly a nuisance".	*
Al Capone Does my Shirts	Choldenko, Gennifer	When Moose Flanagan and his family move home, yet again, and become residents of the famous prison island Alcatraz, things get interesting. First of all, they share the island with a few other families and a lot of pretty heavy-duty criminals including Al Capone. And secondly, Moose's sister is starting a new school, which everyone hopes will help her become more integrated with those around her. When Moose comes up with some pretty cunning money-making schemes based on his famous co-residents, he does not count on his sister becoming inadvertently involved.	*
Just William	Compton, Richmal	There is only one Just William. The loveable imp has been harassing his unfortunate family and delighting hundreds of thousands of readers for years. Here the Outlaws plan a day of non-stop adventure. The only problem is, William is meant to be babysitting. But William won't let that stop him having fun with his gang - he'll just bring the baby along!	*
The Dark is Rising / King of Shadows	Cooper, Susan	The Dark is Rising: It is Midwinter's Eve, the night before Will's eleventh birthday. But there is an atmosphere of fear in the familiar countryside around him. Will is about to make a shocking discovery – that he is the last person to be born with the power of the Old Ones, and as a guardian of the Light he must begin a dangerous journey to vanquish the terrifyingly evil magic of the Dark.	*
Halo	Corder, Zizou	Washed ashore as a baby in ancient Greece, Halo is discovered by a family of centaurs. Although her true identity remains a mystery, she is loved as one of their own. But when Halo is dragged away by fishermen, her wild adventure begins . . . Halo soon realizes that if she is to survive then she must live in disguise – as a boy. A violent war is threatening to erupt and Halo is at the mercy of the mighty Spartan warriors. And as she battles to hide her secret, Halo never forgets her quest to find out who she is and where she really came from.	*
Millions	Cottrell Boyce, Frank	Two bothers, Damian and Anthony, are unwittingly caught up in a train robbery during Britain's countdown to join the Euro. Suddenly finding themselves with a vast amount of cash, the boys have just one glorious, appalling dilemma – how to spend it in the few days before it becomes worthless. Torn between the vices of buying a million pizzas and the virtues of ending world poverty, the boys soon discover that being rich is a mug's game. For not only is the clock ticking – the bungling bank robbers are closing in.	*

How to Train your Dragon	Cowell, Cressida	Hiccup Horrendous Haddock III was an awesome sword-fighter, a dragon-whisperer and the greatest Viking Hero who ever lived. But it wasn't always like that. In fact, in the beginning, Hiccup Horrendous Haddock III was the most put upon Viking you'd ever seen. Not loud enough to make himself heard at dinner with his father, Stoick the Vast; not hard enough to beat his chief rival, Snotlout, at Bashyball, the number one school sport and CERTAINLY not stupid enough to go into a cave full of dragons to find a pet... It's time for Hiccup to learn how to be a Hero.	*
Ruby Holler	Creech, Sharon	Tiller and Sairy live a quiet life in Ruby Holler; their children have long since left home and they are happy with their routines. Until one day they each decide they want to undertake a big adventure and they need companions to accompany them. They adopt two children from the local orphanage and form an unlikely foursome, for the children cannot believe they are really 'wanted' and Tiller and Sairy have to deal with some pretty unconventional behaviour on the part of the children	*
Boy / Going Solo	Dahl, Roald	Roald Dahl's life was as bizarre, exciting and funny as the stories he wrote, and his own extraordinary autobiography is contained in these two books. Together they tell the story of Roald Dahl's school years and his time working in Africa and fighting in the war.	*
The Cat Ate my Gysmsuit	Danzinger, Paul	13 year old Marcy lacks self-confidence and feels weighed down by problems: she's afraid of her father, convinced she's so fat she'll never have a date, and bored by school. Along comes Ms Finney, a young, fun, new teacher, and life takes on new meaning. However, Ms Finney is suspended. This book is not about a cat or gysmsuits: read it to find it why it is called The Cat Ate my Gysmsuit.	*
My Family and Other Animals	Durrell, Gerald	Sometimes it's pretty hard to tell them apart... my family and the animals, that is. I don't know why my brothers and sisters complain so much. With snakes in the bath and scorpions on the lunch table, our house, on the island of Corfu, is a bit like a circus. So they should feel right at home...	*
The Tulip Touch / Flour Babies / Madame Doubtfire	Fine, Anne	The Tulip Touch: Nobody wants Tulip in their gang. She skives off school, cheeks the teachers and makes herself unpopular with her classmates by telling awful lies. None of this matters to Natalie who finds Tulip exciting. At first she doesn't care that other people are upset and unnerved by Tulip's bizarre games, but as the games become increasingly sinister and dangerous, Natalie realises that Tulip is going too far, much too far, racing, in fact, to the novel's shocking ending.	*
The Graveyard Book / Coraline	Gaiman, Neil	The Graveyard Book: Nobody Owens, known to his friends as Bod, is a normal boy. He would be completely normal if he didn't live in a sprawling graveyard, being raised and educated by ghosts, with a solitary guardian who belongs to neither the world of the living nor of the dead. There are dangers and adventures in the graveyard for a boy. But if Bod leaves the graveyard, then he will come under attack from the man Jack—who has already killed Bod's family . . .	*
Shadow of the Minotaur Caught in the Crossfire	Gibbons, Alan	Shadow of the Minotaur: 'Real life' or the death defying adventures of the Greek myths, with their heroes and monsters, daring deeds and narrow escapes - which would you choose? For Phoenix it's easy. He hates his new home and the new school where he is bullied. He's embarrassed by his computer geek dad. But when he logs on to The Legendeer, the game his dad is working on, he can be a hero. He becomes Theseus fighting the terrifying Minotaur, and Perseus battling with snake-haired Medusa. It feels as though he's really there - The Legendeer is more than just a game. Play it if you dare.	*
Once	Gleitzman, Morris	For three years and eight months Felix has lived in a convent orphanage high in the mountains in Poland. But Felix is different from the other orphans. He is convinced his parents are still alive and will come back to get him. When a group of Nazi soldiers come and burn the nuns' books, Felix is terrified that his Jewish, bookseller parents will also be in danger. After escaping from the orphanage, Felix embarks on a long and dangerous journey through Nazi occupied Poland.	*
The Enemy	Higson, Charlie	They'll chase you. They'll rip you open. They'll feed on you...When the sickness came, every parent, policeman, politician - every adult - fell ill. The lucky ones died. The others are crazed, confused and hungry. Only children under fourteen remain, and they're fighting to survive. Now there are rumours of a safe place to hide. And so a gang of children begin their quest across London, where all through the city - down alleyways, in deserted houses, underground - the grown-ups lie in wait. But can they make it to safety, alive?	*
The Star of Kazan	Ibbotson, Eva	In 1896, in a pilgrim church in the Alps, an abandoned baby girl is found by a cook and a housemaid. They take her home, and Annika grows up in the servants' quarters of a house belonging to three eccentric Viennese professors. She is happy there but dreams of the day when her real mother will come to find her. And sure enough, one day a glamorous stranger arrives at the door.	*
The Deptford Mice Trilogy	Jarvis, Robin	The Deptford Mice trilogy is an original and utterly captivating story. In the sewers of Deptford there lurks a dark presence which fills the tunnels with fear: Jupiter, an evil being who aims to take over the world. Worshipped by the fearsome rats, Jupiter's dreams could well come true. Can the mice ever survive against such evil? Or have they lost the comfortable world they once knew for ever...This stunning trilogy commences with The Dark Portal, in which Albert Mouse squeezes through the Grill and disappears. Realising that he has been captured by the rats of the sewers, Albert's children, Audrey and Arthur, embark on a treacherous journey to find him.	*

The Ghost Dog	Johnson, Peter	Where was I? I didn't like this place. I wanted to be away from here. And then I caught a glimpse of something, the tree which was bent double. Here it was, looking more sad and pathetic than ever. And beside it were all the stones. The stones which were supposed to mark the dog's grave. I must be back in the old churchyard, only I couldn't make out anything else. I coughed again. The mist seemed to be getting into my lungs. Then from out of nowhere came this howling noise. The same howling we'd heard that night at the churchyard. Only this time it sounded much louder. I peered around. I was being watched...	*
When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit	Kerr, Judith	Anna is too busy with schoolwork and tobogganing to listen to the talk of Hitler. But one day she and her brother are rushed out of Germany in alarming secrecy, away from everything they know. Their father is wanted by the Nazis - dead or alive. This is the start of a huge adventure, sometimes frightening, very often funny, and always, always exciting.	*
The Jungle Book	Kipling, Rudyard	Perhaps you've not heard of Baloo, Shere Khan and King Louie because you are from Mars. From the moment a little naked cub wanders into the lair of Father Wolf and Mother Wolf to the moment when the master of the jungle returns to his own people, Mowgli's adventures comprise a fable for human life.	*
The Garbage-King	Laird, Elizabeth	When Mamo's mother dies, he is abandoned in the shanties of Addis Ababa. Stolen by a child-trafficker and sold to a farmer, he is cruelly treated. Escaping back to the city, he meets another, very different runaway. Dani is rich, educated – and fleeing his tyrannical father. Together they join a gang of homeless street boys who survive only by mutual bonds of trust and total dependence on each other.	*
A Wizard of Earthsea	Le Guin, Ursula	Earthsea is a stunning fantasy world that grabs quickly at our hearts, pulling us deeply into its imaginary realms. Four books (A Wizard of Earthsea, The Tombs of Atuan, The Farthest Shore and Tehanu) tell the whole Earthsea cycle- a tale about a reckless, awkward boy named Sparrowhawk who becomes a wizard's apprentice after the wizard reveals Sparrowhawk's true name.	*
The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe	Lewis, C. S.	Four children (Lucy, Edmund, Susan and Peter) leave London to live in a country mansion to avoid German bombings during the war. While exploring the house, Lucy accidentally ventures into a winter-locked world called Narnia, ruled over by the evil White Witch. The god-king Aslan is about to return to destroy the Witch - but she has a hold on Edmund.... this is the best introduction to the series of seven books in the Narnia Chronicles.	*
Back Home	Magorian, Michelle	VW2 has just ended and twelve-year-old Rusty comes back home to Britain after being evacuated to the US. The greyness and bleakness of life in England is a shock, but even worse is adapting to the strict discipline of her family, including a brother she's never met, after the warmth and openness of her adopted American family. Rusty is sent to a horrific boarding school, before finally running away as her search for happiness becomes more and more desperate.	*
Just Henry	Magorian, Michelle	It's 1949 and life is bleak for Henry. He misses his father who died a war hero, and he escapes from his annoying stepfather and stepsister whenever he can and goes to the cinema - his passion. One day in the cinema queue he meets Mrs Beaumont who also loves films, and lends Henry a camera for his school project. Henry is disgusted that he's been put in a group with Jeffries, the son of a man who went AWOL, and Pip, who was born illegitimate; but he's about to learn that tolerance and friendship are more important than social stigmas. Henry will need his new friends when he processes the film and makes an alarming discovery. Like a bomb waiting to explode, Henry's world is about to unravel.	*
The Death Defying Pepper Roux / Tamburlaine's Elephants	McCaughrean, Geraldine	When Pepper Roux was born his aunt foretold that he would not live past 14 years of age. Throughout his childhood his parents haven't bothered with him much, knowing that his life would be short-lived. So when Pepper wakes up on his 14th birthday he knows this will be the day that he'll die. But as the day wears on, and Pepper finds himself still alive, he decides to set off to sea in an attempt to try and avoid death for as long as possible. Can he stay one step ahead of death?	*
The Butterfly Lion / War Horse / Kensuke's Kingdom	Morpurgo, Michael	<i>The Butterfly Lion</i> : Bertie rescues an orphaned white lion cub from the African veld. They are inseparable until Bertie is sent to boarding school far away in England and the lion is sold to a circus. Bertie swears that one day they will see one another again, but the butterfly lion ensures that their friendship will never be forgotten. <i>War Horse</i> : an incredibly moving story about one horse's experience in the deadly chaos of the first world war. In 1914, Joey, a young farm horse, is sold to the army and thrust into the midst of the war on the Western Front. With his officer, he charges towards the enemy, witnessing the horror of the frontline. But even in the desolation of the trenches, Joey's courage touches the soldiers around him.	*
Five Children and It	Nesbitt, E.	"Its eyes were on long horns like a snail's eyes... it had ears like a bat's ears, and its tubby body was shaped like a spider's and covered with thick, soft fur... and it had hands and feet like a monkey's". 'It' was the Psammead, the grumpy sand-fairy that could, if in the mood, grant a wish a day. When the five children befriend him they find that each wish granted often has a sting in its tail. Golden guineas are too difficult to spend, wings let them down in a most inconvenient way, and when they wish for Red Indians, the children forget that they can sometimes be a little warlike.	*

The Borrowers	Norton, Mary	Pod, Homily and daughter Arrietty of the diminutive Clock family fit out their subterranean quarters with the titbits and trinkets they've "borrowed" from "human beans", employing matchboxes for storage and postage stamps for paintings. The persistent pilfering goes undetected until a boy (with a ferret) comes to live in the country house. Curiosity drives Arrietty to commit the worst mistake a Borrower can make: she allows herself to be seen.	*
Shadow of the Dragon (Series)	O'Hearn, Kate	Kira is twelve, and strong willed. The daughter of a retired dragon knight, she yearns for adventure and dreams of following in her father's footsteps astride her own magnificent mount. But this can never happen. According to the 'stupid laws' of the kingdom, she must be married by thirteen. Kira hates it, but being a girl she has no choice. Then Lord Dorcon arrives, in a whirl of destruction and fire and Kira knows the real fight is just beginning. To stand a chance of seeing her family again, and to protect the life of her younger sister, she will need every bit of willpower she can find. Let the battle commence.	*
Silverwing	Oppel, Kenneth	Shade, a young Silverwing bat, has always been the runt of the litter. When he sets off on the long and dangerous winter migration to Hibernaculum, millions of wing beats to the south, it is his chance to prove himself. He strays and is swept away from his family and friends.	*
North Child	Pattou, Edith	Rose was born into the world facing north, and as a north child, superstition says that she will be a wanderer, travelling far from home. This prophecy is fulfilled when she is taken on the back of a white bear to a mysterious empty castle, where a silent stranger appears to her night after night. When her curiosity overcomes her, she loses her heart, and must journey to a land east of the sun and west of the moon to reclaim it.	*
Wolf Brother: The Chronicles of Ancient Darkness (Series)	Paver, Michael	The book begins dramatically with the death of Torak's father, the mage, Fa, from mortal wounds inflicted by a giant, possessed bear. Fa's dying words bind Torak to a quest to find the mythical Mountain of the World Spirit. Only there will Torak find the strength needed to defeat the demonic creature and killer of men.	*
Nation Also: the Discworld series (from Mort onwards)	Pratchett, Terry	Nation: When a giant wave destroys his entire Nation, Mau finds himself totally alone. Until he meets Daphne, daughter of a colonial Governor and the sole survivor from a shipwreck. They have no common language, no common culture - but together they discover some remarkable things, like how to milk a pig and why spitting in beer is a good idea, and must try and forge a new kind of Nation. Then other survivors arrive to take refuge on the island, and not all of them are friendly.	*
The Amazing Maurice and his Educated Rodents	Pratchett, Terry	Maurice is a talking cat who leads a band of rather special rats from town to town to fake invasions of vermin. Keith, in cahoots with Maurice, turns up with his flute and leads the rats out of town, a hefty reward in tow. It's a scam that works perfectly... until they arrive in the town of Bad Blintz and their ruse is discovered by the young girl Malicia. Maurice and his mice realise they are about to be caught in the middle of something rather bad.	*
Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief	Riordan, Rick	Look, I didn't want to be a half-blood. I never asked to be the son of a Greek God. I was just a normal kid, going to school, playing basketball, skateboarding. The usual. Until I accidentally vaporised my maths teacher. That's when things started really going wrong. Now I spend my time fighting with swords, battling monsters with my friends, and generally trying to stay alive. This is the one where Zeus, God of the Sky, thinks I've stolen his lightning bolt - and making Zeus angry is a very bad idea. Can Percy find the lightning bolt before a fully-fledged war of the Gods erupts?	*
Last Seen Wearing Trainers	Rushton, Rosie	It all seemed like such a good idea at the time; a plan that would punish Mum for what she'd done and make me happy for the first time in ages. I should have realised that the warnings were staring me in the face. But it's funny what you don't notice when you want so very much to believe in something and someone. You can go on kidding yourself for ages - until that moment when you realise that your life is on the line. That's when you discover the real meaning of love - and sometimes it's not at all what you expect.	*
Magyk: Septimus Heap Book One (Series)	Sage, Angie	A baby girl is rescued from a snowy path in the woods. A baby boy is stillborn. A young Queen is taken ill. An Extraordinary Wizard mysteriously resigns from his post. And all on the same night. A string of events, seemingly unconnected, begins to converge ten years later, when the Heap family receive a knock at the door. The evil Necromancer DomDaniel is plotting his comeback and a Major Obstacle resides in the Heap family. Life as they know is about to change, and the most fantastically fast-paced adventure of confused identities, magyk and mayhem, begin.	*
Bootleg / The Lost	Shearer, Alex	Bootleg: The Good for You Party is improving the health of the nation. Fruit and vegetables are compulsory and chocolates are banned. When best friends Smudger and Huntly discover an overlooked stock of cocoa and sugar, their secret chocolate-making business takes off fast. Can they stay ahead of the law?	*
Feather Boy	Singer, Nicky	Robert's participation in the Elders Project begins a sequence of events that change his life forever. Selected members of his class are chosen to visit the elderly residents of Mayfield Rest Home - to interact with them, to find out about their lives and to "counter ignorant attitudes about such senior members of society". Robert's main attacker, Jonathan Niker, may think them all "vegetables", but Robert's own buried true-life personality is slowly unearthed by Edith Sorrel, a prickly resident who singles him out as her boy to talk to.	*

Dragonslayer / Eagle of the Ninth	Sutcliffe, Rosemary	Dragonslayer: Grendel prowled in, hating all men and all joy and hungry for human life. So swift was his attack that no man heard an outcry; but when the dawn came, thirty of Hothgar's best and noblest thanes were missing. Only Beowulf, foremost among warriors, has the strength and courage to battle with Grendel the Night-stalker. In this thrilling re-telling of the Anglo-Saxon legend, Rosemary Sutcliff recounts Beowulf's most terrifying quests: against Grendel the man-wolf, against the hideous sea-hag and, most courageous of all - his fight to the death with the monstrous fire-drake.	*
Montmorency (series)	Updale, Eleanor	Who is Montmorency? Some say he's a dangerous villain. To others he's a hero. How do a terrible accident and an ambitious young doctor forge his two identities? And how long can he sustain them without getting caught? And could he just be the mastermind criminal of the Victorian age?	*
Kingdom by the Sea The Machine Gunners Blitzcat The Scarecrows	Westall, Robert	Kingdom by the Sea: When a bomb during an air raid destroys Harry's home and kills his family, he knows that he is all alone in the world and has only himself to rely on. Anxious that he will be sent to live with his fussy Cousin Elsie he goes on the run across the war-battered land of North East England, his only friend in his journey a stray dog that he meets on the beach. Will Harry ever find a place to call home again, or will he be on the run forever? The Scarecrows: There were three people, standing in the darkest place, watching him. Simon is outraged that his Mum plans to remarry. He can't bear her new fiancé or the way his mother and sister seem to have forgotten his late father. Overwhelmed by hatred and anger he seeks solace in a nearby abandoned water mill. But another, powerful hatred lingers within its walls. And it is about to be unleashed... Westall's immense talent is evident from the opening line - Simon's anger and unhappiness are tangible, and the Scarecrows' ill-intentions terrifying. A brooding story about jealousy, hatred, murder and love from this multi-award winning author.	*
The Happy Prince The Selfish Giant The Star Child	Wilde, Oscar	The Happy Prince tells of the statue of a once pleasure-loving Prince which, with the help of a selfless Swallow helps people in distress. All of these special fairy tales, which Oscar Wilde made up for his own sons, are moving and often sad. 'The Happy Prince', who was not as happy as he seemed; 'The Selfish Giant', who learned to love little children; 'The Star Child', who suffered bitter trials when he rejected his parents. . . . Often whimsical, they all shine with poetry and magic.	*
Double Act	Wilson, Jacqueline	Identical twins Ruby and Garnet are inseparable. They do everything together, and go everywhere together. They love being twins, and since the death of their mother they have been closer than ever, safe in their little world. But when Dad finds a new girlfriend everything in the twins' lives is turned upside down--new home, new school, new everything. And gradually, being twins isn't quite the same anymore. In <i>Double Act</i> , Wilson brilliantly captures the pain and uncertainty that change can bring. This story of two little girls gradually realising that they have no control over what is happening is both funny and poignant.	*
Down the Rabbit Hole	Abrahams, Peter	When Ingrid accidentally leaves her favourite football sneakers at a murder scene, she is sucked into the mysterious case. It's all her fault that the police are on the wrong track, so Ingrid swears to hunt down Cracked-up Katie's killer herself. When the clues lead her to the new member of the theatre group, Vincent, she doesn't realize the danger until it's too late...	**
Little Women	Alcott, Louisa M.	The charming story of the March sisters, <i>Little Women</i> has been adored by generations. Readers have rooted for Laurie in his pursuit of Jo's hand, cried over a sad death, and dreamed of traveling through Europe with old Aunt March and Amy. Future writers have found inspiration in Jo's devotion to her writing. In this simple, enthralling tale Louisa May Alcott has created four of American literature's most beloved women.	**
Unique	Allen-Grey, Alison	Dominic has always been a disappointment to his ambitious father, but he has never understood why. Then he discovers that he had an older brother who died before he was born. Dominic decides to try to find out about his brother, but he discovers more than he bargained for. Their father had Dominic's dead brother cloned, and Dominic is the result...	**
Kit's Wilderness / The Fire-eaters	Almond, David	Kit's Wilderness: When Kit moves to Stoneygate - a once thriving mining village haunted by a long-ago tragedy which killed 117 children - he is befriended by the wretched, sullen John Askew, a boy whose very soul has been fractured by his violent upbringing. As Kit's grieving grandfather begins to lose his grip on life, Kit is irresistibly drawn into a treacherous game played for the highest of stakes. Coming face to face with the ghosts of the wilderness, this game ultimately tests his perceptions of life and death.	**
Thirteen Reasons Why	Asher, Jay	Clay Jensen returns home from school one day to find a mysterious box, with his name on it, lying on the porch. Inside he discovers 13 cassette tapes recorded by Hannah Baker - his classmate - who committed suicide two weeks earlier. On tape, Hannah explains that there are thirteen reasons why she did what she did - and Clay is one of them. If he listens, he'll find out how she made the list - and it'll change Clay's life forever.	**

Johnny's Blitz / Little Soldier	Ashley, Bernard	Johnnie Blitz: East-Ender Johnnie Stubbs is on the run from the law. His dad's in the army and he has no mother. Innocent Johnnie finds himself protecting little Shirley, a 3-year-old traumatized girl whose house has been bombed and her mother left in a coma. They head away from the London blitz to the country, where Johnnie meets up with gypsy girl Biddy and her people. Will Johnnie be able to help Shirley and at what cost to himself?	**
Noughts and Crosses (Trilogy)	Blackman, Malorie	Sephy and Callum have been best friends since childhood, and now they are older and they realise they want more from each other. But the harsh realities of lives lived in a segregated society are beginning to take their toll: Callum is a nought – a second-class citizen in a world dominated by the Crosses – and Sephy is a Cross, and the daughter of one of the most powerful men in the country. The barriers they would have to cross to be together at first seem little more than minor obstacles to the two idealistic teenagers, but soon those barriers threaten not only their friendship but their lives.	**
Road of the Dead	Brooks, Kevin	Late one night, two brothers learn that their sister has died in the worst way imaginable. She's found, strangled, in a desolate place hundreds of miles from their East London home. Ruben is the smarter of the two, with a gift for getting into other people's hearts; Cole may be older, but he's a devil's angel who doesn't care if he lives or dies. Together, they set out to find their own answers and retrace Rachel's final journey.	**
The Sword of Shannara (Series)	Brooks, Terry	Long ago, the world of the Four Lands was torn apart by the wars of ancient Evil. But in the Vale, the half-human, half-elfin Shea Ohmsford now lives in peace - until the mysterious, forbidding figure of the druid Allanor appears, to reveal that the supposedly long dead Warlock Lord lives again. Shea must embark upon the elemental quest to find the only weapon powerful enough to keep the creatures of darkness at bay: the fabled Sword of Shannara.	**
An Angel for May/Kite	Burgess, Melvin	An Angel for May: Tam is unhappy at home and often takes refuge in the ruins of Thowt It Farm. One day he is transported back to the Second World War. Alone and afraid, he makes friends with May, who has been rescued from a bombed-out house. She tries to persuade him to stay at the farm, but Tam is afraid of being trapped in the past forever.	**
Stolen	Christopher, Lucy	Sixteen year old Gemma is kidnapped from Bangkok airport and taken to the Australian Outback. Ty, her captor, is no stereotype. He is young, fit and completely gorgeous. This new life in the wilderness has been years in the planning. He loves only her, wants only her. Under the hot glare of the Australian sun, cut off from the world outside, can the force of his love make Gemma love him back?	**
2001 A Space Odyssey	Clarke, Arthur C.	When an enigmatic monolith is found buried on the moon, scientists are amazed to discover that it's at least 3 million years old. Even more amazing, after it's unearthed the artefact releases a powerful signal aimed at Saturn. What sort of alarm has been triggered? To find out, a manned spacecraft, the <i>Discovery</i> , is sent to investigate. Its crew is highly trained and they are assisted by a self-aware computer, the ultra-capable HAL 9000. But HAL's programming has been patterned after the human mind a little too well. He is capable of guilt, neurosis, even murder, and he controls every single one of <i>Discovery's</i> components. The crew must overthrow this digital psychotic if they hope to make their rendezvous with the entities that are responsible not just for the monolith, but maybe even for human civilization.	**
Jurassic Park	Crichton, Michael	On a remote jungle island, genetic engineers have created a dinosaur game park. You heard the hype, maybe seen the films but as usual the book is very different. Read the science-fiction Hollywood missed out and discover a world of truly terrifying lizards.	**
Wolf	Cross, Gillian	Cassy lives with her granny, until the night that she hears strange footsteps coming into their flat. The next morning, she is packed off to her mum's - a squat in London that her beautiful, simple mother shares with a couple of actors. Cassy does her best to throw herself into her mother's life, even agreeing to take part in their travelling show called 'Wolf'. But she can't ever get rid of the feeling that something is following her, and something bad is going to happen.	**
When I Was Joe	David, Keren	When Ty witnesses a stabbing, his own life is in danger from the criminals he's named, and he and his mum have to go into police protection. Ty has a new name, a new look and a cool new image. Life as Joe is good, especially when he gets talent spotted as a potential athletics star, special training from an attractive local celebrity and a lot of female attention. But his mum can't cope with her new life, and the gangsters will stop at nothing to flush them from hiding. Joe's cracking under extreme pressure, and then he meets a girl with dark secrets of her own.	**
Red Dog	de Bernieres, Louis	In 1998, de Bernières visited the mining towns of Western Australia and stumbled across a bronze statue of Red Dog (1971-1979) outside Dampier. Inspired by this legendary canine, he made another visit, collecting the stories of his life and gently fictionalising them. We follow Red Dog, the itinerant, resourceful, if flatulent hero ("a real dag of a dog") as he seduces all who meet him at Hamersley Iron Transport.	**
Dear Nobody	Doherty, Bertie	The moving and very real story of two teenagers and an unplanned pregnancy. It is told from two viewpoints - that of Helen as she writes her thoughts in a series of letters to the unborn baby, the Dear Nobody of the title, and of Chris as he reads the letters and relives events as Helen is in labour.	**

A Swift Pure Cry / The London Eye Mystery / Bog Child	Dowd, Siobhan	A Swift Pure Cry: After Shell's mother dies, her obsessively religious father descends into alcoholic mourning and Shell is left to care for her younger brother and sister. Her only release from the harshness of everyday life comes from her budding spiritual friendship with a naive young priest, and most importantly, her developing relationship with childhood friend, Declan...	**
Auslander	Dowswell, Paul	A tense and dramatic story of growing up in Berlin during World War Two. When Piotr's parents are killed he is taken to an orphanage in Warsaw. But Piotr is a 'volksdeutscher' – of German blood with the result that he is adopted by a German family and taken to live at the heart of the Nazi power, in Berlin. How Piotr becomes Peter and adapts to the new life and particularly how he discovers that behind the apparent adulation of Hitler there are many dissenters taking great risks is a thrilling story which also offers fascinating insight into the lives of young Germans during the Second World War.	**
The Diary of Anne Frank	Frank, Anne	<i>The Diary of a Young Girl</i> is among the most enduring documents of the 20th century. Anne Frank kept a diary from 1942 to 1944. Initially she wrote it strictly for herself. Then, one day in 1944, a member of the Dutch government in exile announced in a radio broadcast from London that after the war he hoped to collect eyewitness accounts of the suffering of the Dutch people under the German occupation, which could be made available to the public. As an example, he specially mentioned letters and diaries. Anne Frank decided that when the war was over, she would publish a book based on her diary. Anne's diary ends abruptly.	**
I, Coriander	Gardner, Sally	It is night, and I have lit the first of seven candles to write my story by. My name is Coriander Hobie, and I have a great many things to tell - of silver shoes that tempted me and an alligator most rare; of London, the home of my childhood, and another, stranger land, one that I thought only existed in dreams; and of an ebony box whose treasure only now am I beginning to understand. The box was once my mother's, but its secrets were meant for me...	**
The Vanishing of Katharina Linden	Grant, Helen	It's December 1998, and 10-year-old Pia Kolvenbach and her family are living happily in the quaint German town where her father grew up, until Pia's grandmother accidentally sets herself on fire and burns to death. A rumour erupts that her grandmother exploded, and, overnight, Pia becomes an outcast. Her only friend from then on is the most unpopular boy in her class, nicknamed StinkStefan. The two of them attempt to solve the decades-old mystery of a number of local girls who have gone missing.	**
The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night	Haddon, Mark	Life can be very puzzling, and even more so if you are autistic. Discover how the daily detective work Christopher must do to survive becomes crucial to his solving the case of the dead dog with a garden fork in him. As a mathematician, Christopher says that prime numbers are what is left when you have taken all the patterns away and this is how life is. Will Christopher find any patterns in life? Some maturity is required since this book contains numerous swear words.	**
Rowan the Strange	Hearn, Julie	How does a doctor examine a person's brain? They won't use any knives on me, will they? Rowan knows he is strange. But dangerous? He didn't mean to scare his sister. In his right mind, he wouldn't hurt a fly. But there's a place he can go where they say they can fix his mind. Beyond the bars on the window, England is at war. Behind them, Rowan's own battle is only just beginning.	**
Across the Nightingale Floor	Hearn, Lian	Brought up in a remote mountain village among the Hidden, a reclusive and spiritual people, Takeo has learned only the ways of peace. Why, then, does he possess the deadly skills that make him so valuable to the sinister Tribe? These supernatural powers will lead him to his violent destiny within the walls of Inuyama - and to an impossible longing for a girl who can never be his. His journey is one of revenge and treachery, honour and loyalty, beauty and magic, and the passion of first love.	**
Silverfin	Higson, Charlie	After a supremely scary opening sequence featuring some terrifying mutated eels and a gruesome death, Bond's early days at Eton in the 30's as a thirteen-year-old are the focus for the first third of the book. Since the death of his parents in a climbing accident, James had previously been educated at home by his aunt. The alien world of this infamous public school is a new world for him and he makes enemies immediately. But young James is not without a backbone of his own, and he soon begins to win small victories against those who choose to bully him.	**
I am David	Holm, Anne	The story of a young boy's journey through Europe after escaping from the camp where he had lived all his life. Sea, mountains and flowers, the colours of Italy, the taste of fruit, people laughing and smiling, all are new to David. And David learns that his polite manner, his haunted eyes and his thin features are strange to other people.	**
Crusade	Laird, Elizabeth	Two boys - two faiths - one unholy war... When Adam's mother dies unconfessed, he pledges to save her soul with dust from the Holy Land. Employed as a dog-boy for the local knight, Adam grabs the chance to join the Crusade to reclaim Jerusalem. He burns with determination to strike down the infidel enemy. Salim, a merchant's son, is leading an uneventful life in the port of Acre - until news arrives that a Crusader attack is imminent. To keep Salim safe, his father buys him an apprenticeship with an esteemed, travelling doctor. But Salim's employment leads him to the heart of Sultan Saladin's camp - and into battle against the barbaric and unholy invaders.	**



Hex	Lassiter, Rhiannon	Raven is a young, black-clad teenage youth of the future, born with a mutant gene that affords her an incredible power--the ability to control computer networks by thought alone. As a "Hex" she can interface with machinery, reach out to explore remote databases anywhere on the planet and break through security codes with the flick of a neural pathway. Unfortunately, in the high-rise London of 2367, such powers are considered freakish in the extreme and these Hexes are hunted down with startling brutality.	**
Fearless	Lott, Tim	The smartly painted exterior of the City Community Faith School hides a disturbing secret. Behind its walls, one thousand girls are forced to labour in the city's laundry, separated from their families and deprived of their freedom. One of these girls is Little Fearless, a courageous spirit who never gives up hope that one day they will be rescued. Unafraid of the punishment she will face, Little Fearless escapes the institute to tell her story to the world. But why does nobody believe she's telling the truth?	**
The Chinese Cinderella	Mah, Adeline Yen	Christened with the Chinese name Jun-ling, her mother died just a few days after her birth, and from that moment her fate within her family was sealed. As one of seven siblings, including two children from her father's second marriage, Jun-ling struggled to maintain her dignity from a young age, treated as she was with a vicious contempt by all around her at home, apart from her beloved Aunt Baba and her elderly grandfather	**
The Changeover	Mahy, Margaret	The face in the mirror. From the moment she saw it, Laura Chant knew that something dreadful was going to happen. It wasn't the first time she'd been forewarned. But never before had anything so terrible happened. The horrifyingly evil Carmody Braque touched and branded her little brother and now Jacko was very ill, getting steadily worse. There was only one way to save him. Laura had to change over: had to release her supernatural powers. And that meant joining forces with the extraordinary and enigmatic Sorenson Carlisle!	**
The Declaration / The Resistance	Malley, Gemma	In the year 2140, it is illegal to be young. Children are all but extinct. The world is a better place. Longevity drugs are a fountain of youth. Sign the Declaration, agree not to have children and you too can live forever. Refuse, and you will live as an outcast. For the children born outside the law, it only gets worse – Surplus status. Not everyone thinks Longevity is a good thing, but you better be clear what side you're on. Surplus Anna is about to find out what happens when you can't decide if you should cheat the law or cheat death.	**
They Do Things Differently There	Mark, Jan	Charlotte has always thought there's something not right about living in Compton Rosehay (aka Stalemate). Perhaps it's the plastic families, the identical rows of houses, or the girls who only talk about diets. When she meets Elaine, Charlotte sees there is life outside her stifling neighbourhood. Together they spot the cracks in the town's exterior, to discover the hidden world of Stalemate.	**
Kai-ro	Marks, Graham	In the year 2499, a strange new city has risen, hot and dusty, dotted with half-built pyramids and ruled over by a dark army. Beneath it all, forgotten statues of ancient gods lie waiting to wreak their power on an unsuspecting world. One boy will stand up and become a hero.	**
Stop the Train / A Pack of Lies / The Kite-rider	McCaughrean, Geraldine	It's 1893 and for Cissy and her family, a new life beckons on the prairies of Oklahoma and they and their fellow settlers prepare for steady business alongside the Red Rock Railroad track. But when they refuse to sell their land to the railroad company, the boss swears that his trains will never stop in Florence again. How will they ever make a living now? Cissy and her friends, family and neighbours vow that they will make the train stop - by whatever means are necessary, no matter how dangerous that may prove to be . . .	**
Those Faraday Girls	McInerney, Monica	As a child, Maggie Faraday grew up in a lively, unconventional household in Tasmania, with her young mother, four very different aunts and eccentric grandfather. With her mother often away, all four aunts took turns looking after her – until, just weeks before Maggie's sixth birthday, a shocking event changed everything. Twenty years on, Maggie is living alone in New York City when a surprise visit from her grandfather brings a revelation and a proposition to reunite the family. As the Faradays gather in Ireland, Maggie begins to realise that the women she thought she knew so intimately all have something to hide...	**
Blood Ties / Girl Missing	McKenzie, Sophie	When Theo discovers the father he thought died when he was a baby is still alive, he's determined to find him. The clues lead him to the lonely Rachel, who has problems of her own, including parents who compare her unfavourably to her long-dead sister. But when Rachel and Theo are attacked by men from RAGE - the Righteous Army against Genetic Engineering - at Rachel's school disco, they are rescued by strangers and taken to meet a mysterious figure. There, they both make some startling discoveries about their identities, which will affect their past, present, and future in dramatic and life-altering ways...	**
Twilight / The Host	Meyer, Stephanie	You've heard of Twilight, so why not try The Host? Melanie Stryder refuses to fade away. The earth has been invaded by a species that take over the minds of human hosts while leaving their bodies intact. Wanderer, the invading "soul" who has been given Melanie's body, didn't expect to find its former tenant refusing to relinquish possession of her mind. As Melanie fills Wanderer's thoughts with visions of Jared, a human who still lives in hiding, Wanderer begins to yearn for a man she's never met. Reluctant allies, Wanderer and Melanie set off to search for the man they both love.	**

The Wind Singer	Nicholson, William	"I hate school! I hate ratings! I won't reach higher! I won't strive harder! I won't make tomorrow better than today!" In the walled city of Aramanth, exams are everything - not only for children, but for whole families. When Kestrel Hath dares to rebel, the Chief Examiner humiliates her father and sentences the family to the harshest punishment. Desperate to save them, Kestrel discovers that life in Aramanth was once different - and if she can find the secret of the Wind Singer, maybe life can change for the better once more. So she and her twin brother, Bowman, set out on a terrifying journey - to the true source of the evil that grips Aramanth...	**
The Story Giant	Pattern, Brian	The Story Giant is a master illusionist and the ur-storyteller. In his memory exists every tale ever told in the world - except for one, which has eluded him for millennia. If he cannot track it down the whole facade of his castle will crumble and fall, and the Story Giant himself will die. In a last desperate attempt to find this lost tale, he draws four children from the different corners of the globe into his castle while they sleep, there to exchange the tales they know from their own cultures, to see if between them they can piece together the missing story. If he fails and dies, so will all the stories, and the world will be a poorer, duller, grimmer place. Fifty tales are told within this magical framework in Brian Patten's inimitable style - from Brer Rabbit to the tale of how St George killed the Dragon (except it wasn't St George - it was his mother, with a pudding!) but none of them is the missing tale...	**
Tamar	Peet, Mal	In the final winter of the second world war, after the failure of the Arnhem offensive, two very young Dutchmen, trained in England by the Special Operations Executive, parachute into the heart of the occupied Netherlands, one charged with coordinating the disparate and dissenting resistance groups in the area, the other a wireless operator maintaining contact with London.	**
Triskellion	Peterson, Will	Rachel and Adam are sent to stay with their grandmother, following their parents' divorce. But the quiet English village is a sinister, unsettling place. Is there a dark heart beating beneath the thatched roofs of Triskellion? It is a place protected by an ancient, three-bladed artefact; a village where crops never fail and where the war memorial is blank; a community with much to protect. With the help of the mysterious Gabriel, Rachel and Adam begin to unearth centuries-old secrets and make a shocking revelation about their family's past and their own future...	**
Flambards	Peyton, K.M.	A totally absorbing novel about twelve-year-old Christina who is sent to live with her fierce uncle and his two sons in their decaying mansion, Flambards. Christina discovers a passion for horses and riding but finds herself part of a strange household, divided by emotional undercurrents and cruelty.	**
Mercy / The Pact / Nineteen Minutes etc	Picoult, Jodi	Mercy: Cameron MacDonald has spent his life guided by duty. As the police chief of a small Massachusetts town that has been home to generations of his Scottish clan, he is bound to the town's residents by blood and honour. Yet when his cousin Jamie arrives at the police station with the body of his wife and the bald confession that he's killed her, Cam immediately places him under arrest. The situation isn't as clear to Cam's wife, Allie. While she is devoted to her husband, she finds herself siding against Cam, seduced by the picture James paints of a man so in love with a woman that he'd grant all her wishes . . . even the one that meant taking her life. Into this charged atmosphere drifts Mia, a new assistant at Allie's floral shop, for whom Cam feels an instant and inexplicable attraction.	**
Northern Lights (His Dark Materials Trilogy)  Ruby in the Smoke	Pullman, Philip	Lyra lives in a society where experimental theology is regarded as the true science, and this seems quite natural in a world where everyone's soul is separate and visible as a daemon, an animal form which stays close and shares all intimate thoughts and which by its very appearance can reflect the person's state of mind. Lyra and her daemon Pantalaimon enjoy a carefree existence as an orphan under the haphazard care of Jordan College in Oxford. There she plays with her friend Roger the kitchen boy. But a morbid fear lurks in Lyra's skewed society. Children are disappearing, vulnerable children who are unlikely to be missed, taken by the Gobblers. When the Gobblers strike in Oxford their appearance coincides with that of the strangely compelling Mrs Coulter who distracts Lyra from the alarming loss of Roger. Lyra begins to fear that Mrs Coulter is responsible for the abduction of the children and she determines to uncover the truth behind the Gobblers and what goes on at the Experimental Station in the remote north. There may also be a chance to rescue Roger.	**
Treasure Island	R L Stevenson	The tale is told by an adventurous boy, Jim Hawkins, who gets hold of a treasure map and sets off with an adult crew in search of the buried treasure. Among the crew, however, is the treacherous Long John Silver who is determined to keep the treasure for himself. Stevenson's first full-length work of fiction brought him immediate fame and continues to captivate readers of all ages.	**
Witch Child / The Bailey Game	Rees, Celia	Witch Child: Mary's grandmother is executed for witchcraft, and Mary is forced to leave her home to avoid the same fate. At first she flees to the English countryside, but when the atmosphere of superstition and suspicion becomes all-consuming she leaves on a boat for America in the hope that she can start over and forget her past. But during the journey, she realises that the past is not so easy to escape.	**

Mortal Engines / Predator's Gold / Fever Crumb	Reeve, Philip	Mortal Engines launched Philip Reeve's brilliantly-imagined creation, the world of the Traction Era, where mobile cities fight for survival in a post-apocalyptic future. The first instalment introduces young apprentice Tom Natsworthy and the murderous Hester Shaw flung from the fast-moving city of London into heart-stopping adventures in the wastelands of the Great Hunting Ground. The Mortal Engines quartet now has written a stunning prequel: Fever Crumb is set a generation before the events of Mortal Engines, when cities are just beginning to devour each other. Is the mystery of Fever, adopted daughter of Dr Crumb, the key to the secret that lies at the heart of London?	**
Just In Case	Rosoff, Meg	After finding his younger brother teetering on the edge of his balcony, fifteen-year-old David Case realizes the fragility of life and senses impending doom. Without looking back, he changes his name to Justin and assumes a new identity, new clothing and new friends, and dares to fall in love with the seductive Agnes Day. With his imaginary dog Boy in tow, Justin struggles to fit into his new role and above all, to survive in a world where tragedy is around every corner. He's got to be prepared, just in case.	**
The Little Prince	Saint-Exupery, Antoine de	It is the simple tale of a pilot who is grounded in the desert and meets the enigmatic Prince who has come from another planet. A tiny planet inhabited by the Prince and his beloved flower - and the constant fear of Baobab trees which could overwhelm everything. It is so small that he once watched 44 sunsets. He watches these when he is sad. How sad he must have been on that day observes the narrator. We laugh as much as we cry. As the little prince journeys the planets around his own home, he encounters a variety of individuals: the Conceited Man, the King, the Accountant, the Drunkard, the Geographer and the Lamplighter. Each one becomes a parable of human nature: or rather, the nature of adults. The Little Prince is a story about childhood, mortality, friendship, love, hope and the magic in our lives that we are at risk of losing as we grow older.	**
My Swordhand is Singing / Revolver	Sedgwick, Marcus	In the bitter cold of an unrelenting winter Tomas and his son, Peter, arrive in Chust and, despite the inhospitable villager, settle there as wood-cutters. When a band of gypsies comes to the village Peter's drab existence is turned upside down. He is infatuated by the beautiful gypsy princess, Sofia, intoxicated by their love of life and drawn into their deadly quest. For these travellers are Vampire Slayers and Chust is a dying community - where the dead come back to wreak revenge on the living.	**
Touching the Void	Simpson, Joe	<i>Touching the Void</i> is the heart-stopping account of Joe Simpson's terrifying adventure in the Peruvian Andes. He and his climbing partner, Simon, reached the summit of the remote Siula Grande in June 1995. A few days later, Simon staggered into Base Camp, exhausted and frost-bitten, with news that that Joe was dead. What happened to Joe, and how the pair dealt with the psychological traumas that resulted, when Simon was forced into the appalling decision to cut the rope, makes not only an epic of survival but a compelling testament of friendship.	**
I Capture the Castle	Smith, Dodie	Cassandra Mortmain lives with her bohemian and impoverished family in a crumbling castle in the middle of nowhere. Her journal records her life with her beautiful, bored sister, Rose; the fading glamour of her stepmother, Topaz; her little brother Thomas; and her eccentric novelist father who suffers from a financially crippling writer's block. However, all their lives are turned upside down when the American heirs to the castle arrive and Cassandra finds herself falling in love for the first time...	**
Brother in the Land / Room 13 / Daz 4 Zoe / Abomination	Swindells, Robert	Brother in the Land: An 'After-the-Bomb' story told by teenage Danny, one of the survivors - one of the unlucky ones. Set in Shipley, an ordinary town in the north of England, this is a powerful portrayal of a world that has broken down. Danny not only has to cope in a world of lawlessness and gang warfare, but he has to protect and look after his little brother, Ben, and a girl called Kim. Is there any hope left for a new world?	**
The Hobbit	Tolkien, J. R.R.	Poor Bilbo Baggins! An unassuming and rather plump hobbit (as most of these small, furry-footed people tend to be), Baggins finds himself unwittingly drawn into adventure by a wizard named Gandalf and 13 dwarves bound for the Lonely Mountain, where a dragon named Smaug hordes a stolen treasure. Before he knows what is happening, Baggins finds himself on the road to danger...	**
Tom Sawyer	Twain, Mark	The Adventures of Tom Sawyer is redolent of life in the Mississippi River towns in which Twain spent his own youth. A sombre undercurrent flows through the high humour and unabashed nostalgia of the novel, however, beneath the innocence of childhood lie the inequities of adult reality. Superstitions, murder and revenge, starvation and slavery fill this novel with drama.	**
20 Thousand Leagues under the Sea / 80 Days Around the World / Journey to the Centre of the Earth	Verne, Jules	20,000 Leagues: Professor Aronnax, his faithful servant, Conseil, and the Canadian harpooner, Ned Land, begin an extremely hazardous voyage to rid the seas of a little-known and terrifying sea monster. However, the "monster" turns out to be a giant submarine, commanded by the mysterious Captain Nemo, by whom they are soon held captive. So begins not only one of the great adventure classics by Jules Verne, the 'Father of Science Fiction', but also a truly fantastic voyage from the lost city of Atlantis to the South Pole.	**

Uglies	Westerfeld, Scott	Tally lives in a world where your sixteenth birthday brings aesthetic perfection: an operation which erases all your flaws, transforming you from an 'Ugly' into a 'Pretty'. She is on the eve of this important event, and cannot wait for her life to change. As well as guaranteeing supermodel looks, life as a Pretty seems to revolve around having a good time. But then she meets Shay, who is also fifteen - but with a very different outlook on life. Shay isn't sure she wants to be Pretty and plans to escape to a community in the forest - the Rusty Ruins - where Uglies go to escape 'turning'...	**
Poison	Wooding, Chris	Poison has always been a wilful, contrary girl, prone to being argumentative and stubborn. So when she discovers that her younger sister has been snatched by the phaeiries, she decides to seek out the Phaeie Lord herself to get her back. But finding him is not easy, and he's a little preoccupied when she does. Poison has stepped into a murderous world of intrigue, where the Lords of the Realms, a sinister pantheon of demi-gods, conspire and plot to overthrow the Hierophant-the most powerful lord of all.	**
Empire of the Sun / The Drowned World	Ballard, J G	Empire of the Sun: The heart-rending story of a British boy's four year ordeal in a Japanese prison camp during the Second World War. Based on J. G. Ballard's own childhood, this is the extraordinary account of a boy's life in Japanese-occupied wartime Shanghai. A mesmerising, hypnotically compelling novel of war, of starvation and survival, of internment camps and death marches. It blends searing honesty with an almost hallucinatory vision of a world thrown utterly out of joint. <i>The Drowned World</i> : In this future, our old world has been gradually drowned as global warming melts the ice-caps and primordial jungles and swamps have returned to tropical London, recreating the ancient ecology of the Triassic age. As an expedition to London busies itself with more or less futile schemes like draining Leicester Square in hope of loot, the passive central character Kerans moves in his own "neuronic odyssey" to a strange acceptance of and assimilation by this lushly transformed world.	***
Genesis	Beckett, Bernard	The island Republic has emerged from a ruined world. Its citizens are safe but not free. Until a man named Adam Forde rescues a girl from the sea. Fourteen-year-old Anax thinks she knows her history. She'd better. She's sat facing three Examiners and her five-hour examination has just begun. The subject is close to her heart: Adam Forde, her long-dead hero. In a series of startling twists, Anax discovers new things about Adam and her people that cause her to question everything that she holds sacred. But why is the Academy allowing her to open up the enigma at its heart?	***
Fahrenheit 451	Bradbury, Ray	In <i>Fahrenheit 451</i> , Ray Bradbury's classic, frightening vision of the future, firemen don't put out fires: they start them in order to burn books. Bradbury's vividly painted society holds up the appearance of happiness as the highest goal: a place where trivial information is good, and knowledge and ideas are bad. What will Montag risk and lose for his belief that books are important? Is he alone in this dystopian world?	***
Jane Eyre	Bronte, Charlotte	The thrilling story of mystery, betrayal and love. Orphaned Jane Eyre endures an unhappy childhood, hated by her aunt and cousins and then sent to comfortless Lowood School. But life there improves, and Jane stays on as a teacher, though she still longs for love and friendship. At Mr Rochester's house, where she goes to work as a governess, she hopes she might have found them - until she learns of a terrible secret.	***
Looking For JJ	Cassidy, Anne	A gripping and emotionally searing novel from a talented author, Looking for JJ explores the circumstances and motives behind the murder of a child - by her friend. Six years later, JJ has now been released, and has a new identity. But is there any way that she can lead a "normal" life?	***
Postcards from No-Man's Land	Chambers, Aidan	Two craftily interwoven stories, separated by 50 years in time, make up this emotionally and intellectually challenging novel. Set in Holland, one story tells of the passionate love between a young Dutch woman and Jacob Todd, a wounded English soldier: "I filled the glass and gave it to the soldier who had not yet spoken, who now said, 'Thanks, miss, you're an angel of mercy.' He had eyes that made me melt."	***
The Hunger Games	Collins, Suzanne	Katniss Everdeen is a survivor. She has to be; she's representing her District, number 12, in the 74th Hunger Games in the Capital, the heart of Panem, a new land that rose from the ruins of a post-apocalyptic North America. To punish citizens for an early rebellion, the rulers require each district to provide one girl and one boy, 24 in all, to fight like gladiators in a futuristic arena. The event is broadcast like reality TV, and the winner returns with wealth for his or her district.	***
I Am The Cheese / Heroes / After the first death	Cormier, Robert	Robert Cormier's dark, psychological thriller, I Am The Cheese, is one of the most chilling and disturbing books of its kind. As Adam Farmer begins to reveal his darkest fears to a faceless and nameless psychiatrist, he is forced to look deep into his memory to discover why he made such a treacherous journey to get to this point. As the events and suspicions that led Adam to the psychiatrist's chair begin to form more clearly in his mind, he is obliged to face the undeniable truth about the fearful secrets and nightmares that his mind has chosen to erase.	***

Oliver Twist	Dickens, Charles	This novel contains many classic Dickensian themes - grinding poverty, desperation, fear, temptation and the eventual triumph of good in the face of great adversity. Oliver Twist features some of the author's most enduring characters, such as Oliver himself (who dares to ask for more), the tyrannical Bumble, the diabolical Fagin, the menacing Bill Sykes, Nancy and 'the Artful Dodger'. This story looks long but is written in bite sized chunks of sheer delight and terror.	***
The Tea Rose / The Winter Rose / A Gathering Light	Donnelly, Jennifer	Set in Whitechapel in 1888, The Tea Rose is a life-affirming tale of a love lost and won. Fiona Finnegan is the spirited, ambitious daughter of an Irish dock worker. She longs to break free from the squalid lanes and alleys of Whitechapel, where she has a job in a tea factory. With the love of her life, Joe Bristow, she dreams of escaping the poverty and opening her own tea shop. But one by one her dreams fall apart as disaster strikes in the form of Jack the Ripper. Devastated, her life in tatters, Fiona flees to New York...	***
Hideous Kinky	Freud, Esther	Two little girls are taken by their mother to Morocco on a 1960s pilgrimage of self-discovery. For Mum it is not just an escape from the grinding conventions of English life but a quest for personal fulfilment; her children, however, seek something more solid and stable amidst the shifting desert sands. 'Just open the book and begin, and instantly you will be first of all charmed, then intrigued and finally moved by this fascinating story' claims The Spectator.	***
Sophie's World	Gaarder, Jostein	When 14-year-old Sophie encounters a mysterious mentor who introduces her to philosophy, mysteries deepen in her own life. Why does she keep getting postcards addressed to another girl? Who is the other girl? And who, for that matter, is Sophie herself? To solve the riddle, she uses her new knowledge of philosophy, but the truth is far stranger than she could have imagined.	***
King Solomon's Mines	Haggard, H.R.	A thrilling search for a missing man amidst the scorching deserts and perilous mountains of Africa. The story is told by Allan Quartermain. Nevil is off to make his fortune by finding King Solomon's lost diamond mines. Allan sends him a 300 year old map to help. This is the last anyone heard from Nevil. Nevil is really the estranged brother of Henry Curtis. Sir Henry Curtis now wants to make amends and he with his friend Captain John Good, bribe Allan Quartermain to take them across an endless desert and through impassable mountains to an adventure that will hold you to the very end. Along with them is their self imposed helper Umbopa who carries a secret of his own.	***
Dr. Franklin's Island	Halam, Ann	What's it like to see your friend transformed into a raven before your very eyes, and to know it's your turn next? How does it feel to morph into a manta ray or slide into the body of a snake? This is what happens to Miranda, Semi and Arnie, three friends who are the sole survivors of a plane crash. They find themselves on a tropical island of azure waters and white sands. But beyond the palm-fringed beaches lies the hospital run by the sinister Dr Franklin, and the three teenagers are about to become his next patients. Perfect candidates for his experiments in genetic engineering...	***
The Old Man and the Sea	Hemingway, Ernest	Set in the Gulf Stream off the coast of Havana, Hemingway's magnificent fable is the story of an old man, a young boy and a giant fish. It was <i>The Old Man and the Sea</i> that won for Hemingway the Nobel Prize for Literature. Here, in a perfectly crafted story, is unique and timeless vision of the beauty and grief of man's challenge to the elements in which he lives.	***
Ghost Stories – The Woman in Black	Hill, Susan	Proud and solitary, Eel Marsh House surveys the windswept reaches of the salt marshes beyond Nine Lives Causeway. Arthur Kipps, a junior solicitor, is summoned to attend the funeral Mrs Alice Drablow, the house's sole inhabitant, unaware of the tragic secrets which lie hidden behind the shuttered windows. It is not until he glimpses a wasted young woman, dressed all in black, at the funeral, that a creeping sense of unease begins to take hold, a feeling deepened by the reluctance of the locals to talk of the woman in black - and her terrible purpose.	***
Misery / The Shining / The Green Mile	King, Stephen	<i>Warning: horror content.</i> Misery: After a car crash, writer Paul Sheldon is saved by his number one fan, Annie Wilkes. She brings him home, splints his mangled legs, and all he has to do in return is write a very special book, one all about her favourite character. Because if he doesn't, if he is bad, she will be cross - very cross. The Shining: Danny is only five years old, but he is a 'shiner', aglow with psychic voltage. When his father becomes caretaker of an old hotel, his visions grow out of control. Cut off by blizzards, the hotel seems to develop an evil force, and who are the mysterious guests in the supposedly empty hotel?	***
Children of the Dust	Lawrence, Louise	Everyone thought, when the alarm bell rang, that it was just another fire practice. But the first bombs had fallen on Hamburg and Leningrad, the headmaster said, and a full-scale nuclear attack was imminent... It's a real-life nightmare. Sarah and her family have to stay cooped up in the tightly-sealed kitchen for days on end, dreading the inevitable radioactive fall-out and the subsequent slow, torturous death, which seems almost preferable to surviving in a grey, dead world, choked by dust. But then, from out of the dust and the ruins and the desolation, comes new life, a new future, and a whole brave new world...	***
The Call of the Wild / White Fang	London, Jack	Jack London's tale of a dog's fight for survival in the harsh and frozen Yukon is one of the greatest animal stories ever written. It tells of a dog born to luxury but sold as a sledge dog, and how he rises magnificently above all his enemies to become one of the most feared and admired dogs in the North.	***

The Other Side of Truth	Naidoo, Beverly	Sade and her brother Femi are the children of an outspoken Nigerian journalist. When an assassination attempt on their father's life leaves their mother slain instead, their world is understandably turned upside down. The family must flee the country to survive. Sade and Femi are sent on ahead, escaping the country undercover as the children of a shady Nigerian woman called Mrs Bankhole.	***
The Knife of Never Letting Go	Ness, Patrick	Imagine you're the only boy in a town of men. And you can hear everything they think. And they can hear everything you think. Imagine you don't fit in with their plans... Todd Hewitt is just one month away from the birthday that will make him a man. But his town has been keeping secrets from him. Secrets that are going to force him to run...	***
Sisterland	Newbery, Linda	Hilly's grandmother contracts Alzheimer's disease, and her family is turned upside down by revelations that emerge from her memories of life during the Second World War. 'Sisterland' is a book which deals with many complex issues – Alzheimer's disease and its effect on the family, the holocaust, homosexuality and briefly, teenage pregnancy. Unless you feel ready to confront these issues, save this book for later. If you do decide to read it, you'll find it very rewarding and thought provoking.	***
Animal Farm	Orwell, George	Fuelled by Orwell's intense disillusionment with Soviet Communism, Animal Farm is a nearly perfect piece of writing - both an engaging story and an allegory. When the downtrodden beasts of Manor Farm oust their drunken human master and take over management of the land, all are awash in collectivist zeal. Everyone willingly works overtime, productivity soars and for one brief, glorious season, every belly is full. Too soon, however, the pigs, who have styled themselves leaders by virtue of their intelligence, succumb to the temptations of privilege and power.	***
The Sterkarm Handshake	Price, Susan	It's the twenty-first century and a scientific corporation have come up with the ultimate holiday destination... the past. They've devised a Time Tube, the ultimate time travel experience. Pack your bags and travel back to the sixteenth century! Enjoy all that fresh air and organic, wholesome food. There's just one problem... the locals.	***
Alive	Read, Piers Paul	In 1972, a Fairchild plane crashed in the Andes mountains. The survivors were hopelessly lost in one of the most remote places on earth. After eight days of heavy snowfall, the rescue attempt was abandoned. Even if the plane could be found, the likelihood of the forty-five passengers and crew being discovered alive was remote. Yet ten weeks later two emaciated men fell to their knees at the sight of a Chilean peasant tending his cattle in a remote Andean valley. After finally persuading the incredulous authorities that that they really were passengers from the missing plane, the two men led a rescue team to the site of the crash, the remaining fourteen survivors and a tale of horrific bravery.	***
Unwind	Shusterman, Neal	Set in America in the near-future, this novel tells of Unwinding – whereby a parent may choose to retroactively 'abort' their teenage children and harvest their organs. Connor's parents want to be rid of him because he's a troublemaker. Risa has no parents and is being unwound to cut orphanage costs. Lev's unwinding has been planned since his birth as part of his family's strict religion. Brought together by chance, and kept together through desperation, these three unlikely companions make a harrowing cross-country journey, knowing all the while that their lives are hanging in the balance.	***
Talking in Whispers	Watson, James	A book about courage, nationhood, friendship and hope. Set in Chile, and based closely on events surrounding Pinochet's military coup, Watson's book follows the fortunes of Andres - a young musician with a dream that soon his country will be free. However his hopes are dashed in a security ambush on a lonely road which leaves his uncle dead and his father a prisoner of the secret police. Andres himself is forced to go into hiding whilst the military junta impose a brutal dictatorship. Those who question are tortured and murdered. They become 'the disappeared'...	***
The Freedom Tree / Talking in Whispers	Watson, James	The Freedom Tree : From all over Europe volunteers flocked to Spain to join the ranks of the Republicans in their fight against the Fascists under General Franco. Will Viljoen experiences it all - fierce combat in the mountains, rescuing the wounded at the battle of Jarama and finally desperately seeking shelter as bombers of Franco's ally, Adolf Hitler, destroy the town of Guernica. But will, against all odds, the Freedom Tree growing in the centre of the town, survive in a world of such tyranny?	***
The Time Machine / The War of the Worlds	Wells, H. G.	The Time Machine: When a Victorian scientist propels himself into the year 802,701 AD, he is initially delighted to find that suffering has been replaced by beauty, contentment and peace. Entranced at first by the Eloi, an elfin species descended from man, he soon realises that this beautiful people are simply remnants of a once-great culture – now weak and childishly afraid of the dark. They have every reason to be afraid: in deep tunnels beneath their paradise lurks another race descended from humanity – the sinister Morlocks. When the scientist's time machine vanishes, it becomes clear he must search these tunnels, if he is ever to return to his own era.	***

Day of the Triffids / The Midwich Cuckoos	Wyndham, John	The Day of the Triffids: When Bill Masen wakes up blindfolded, following an operation, in hospital there is a bitter irony in his situation. Carefully removing his bandages, he realizes that he is the only person who can see: everyone else, doctors and patients alike, have been blinded by a meteor shower. Now, with civilization in chaos, the triffids - huge, venomous, large-rooted plants able to 'walk', feeding on human flesh - can have their day.	***
Refugee Boy / Face	Zephaniah, Benjamin	Refugee Boy: Alem is on holiday with his father for a few days in London. He has never been out of Ethiopia before and is very excited. They have a great few days together until one morning when Alem wakes up in the bed and breakfast they are staying at to find the unthinkable. His father has left him. It is only when the owner of the bed and breakfast hands him a letter that Alem is given an explanation. Alem's father admits that because of the political problems in Ethiopia both he and Alem's mother felt Alem would be safer in London - even though it is breaking their hearts to do this. Alem is now on his own, in the hands of the social services and the Refugee Council. He lives from letter to letter, waiting to hear from his father, and in particular about his mother, who has now gone missing...	***
The Book Thief	Zusak, Markus	Nine-year-old Liesel lives with her foster family on Himmel Street during the dark days of the Third Reich. Her Communist parents have been transported to a concentration camp, and during the funeral for her brother, she manages to steal a macabre book: it is, in fact, a gravediggers' instruction manual. This is the first of many books which will pass through her hands as the carnage of the Second World War begins to hungrily claim lives. Both Liesel and her fellow inhabitants of Himmel Street will find themselves changed by both words on the printed page and the horrendous events happening around them.	***

Updated STC/HLL 2011

## Book Series

Some writers have written series of books and some of the best and most popular are recommended below.

Author	Series	Description	Rating
Higson, Charlie	Young Bond	This series of thrilling adventure books follows James Bond as a teenager as he solves mysteries and helps to rid the world of evil criminals.	*
Hunter, Erin	Warrior Cats	What do cats get up to in the wild? This animal adventure series is exceedingly popular with both girls and boys.	*
Jaques, Brian	Redwall	This fantasy series follows the adventures of forest animals including a heroic mouse.	*
Muchamore, Robert	Thriller	Who would ever suspect that the spies are children trained by the CHERUB agency? Follow their adventures in the Cherub series. Or if you prefer your adventures set in wartime then explore the prequel series, Henderson's Boys. If you're looking for more suggestions look out for the "Where next after Muchamore...?" leaflet in the library.	*
Nix, Garth	Old Kingdom	An exciting fantasy adventure where magic and non-magic worlds collide.	*
Patterson, James	Maximum Ride	A hugely popular science-fiction thriller series about children who have been genetically enhanced with the power of flight. Escaping from their laboratory captors they are now on the run.	*
Paver, Michelle	Chronicles of Ancient Darkness	Set in the distant past this adventure series is filled with magic, dark forces and friendship.	*
Pierce, Tamora	Song of the Lioness	An adventure fantasy where Alanna disguises herself as a boy to train as a knight. Mystery, magic and sword fights!	*
Price, Willard	Adventure series	Two brothers must brave adventures across the globe in pursuit of rare and wild animals. From the deep sea to cannibals, the arctic wastes to mountains their lives are non-stop adventure.	*
Ryan, Chris	Alpha Force	A group of childhood undercover agents travel the world in a series of adventures that test their abilities to the limit.	*
Shan, Darren	The Saga of Darren Shan	If you like the flavour of blood and gore, then an excellent training ground before you read more adult horror writers is Shan. His stories are simple, simply gory. Satisfy your blood lust.	*
Snickett, Lemony	A Series of Unfortunate Events	There is nothing to be found in the pages of these books but misery and despair. You still have time to choose something else to read. But if you must know what unpleasanties befall the charming and clever Baudelaire children read on... Avoid these books in Lemony Snicket's international bestselling series and you'll never have to know what happens!	*

Colfer, Eoin	Artemis Fowl	Wickedly funny fantasy series involving a young master criminal who learns fairies aren't as sweet and innocent as you might think.	**
Pratchett, Terry	Discworld	The discworld series is riotously funny and moving. It is a fantastical world where absolutely anything could happen, and it does. Twice. In the wrong order. Usually.	**
Pullman, Philip	His Dark Materials	His Dark Materials trilogy is an incredible step into another World where our soul is a transforming animal and a constant companion.	**
Reeve, Philip	Mortal Engines	This steampunk fantasy set in a future London is a fast action adventure by an award winning author. If you like Terry Pratchett or Douglas Adams then this is for you.	**
Rose, Malcolm	Traces	A young forensic scientist solves murder mysteries with the help of a robot in these futuristic thrillers.	**
Tolkein, J R R	The Lord of the Rings	You may have read the Hobbit, but the ultimate reading quest must surely be the epic Lord of the Rings. The films are a flimsy substitute and miss much of the world of Middle Earth.	**
Townsend, Sue	The Adrian Mole Diaries	Going through the problems of growing up? These funny diaries capture teenage life perfectly.	**
Westerfeld, Scott	Uglies	This science fiction series is an exciting adventure about why being yourself is more important than being just like everybody else.	**
Blackman, Malorie	Noughts and Crosses	Racism and love in a dystopian society provide a compelling thriller that is very popular with boys and girls.	***
Meyer, Stephenie	Twilight	This story of vampires and werewolves is becoming a modern classic. A very exciting urban fantasy romance. If you're looking for more suggestions look out for the "Where next after Twilight...?" leaflet in the library.	***
Poe, Edgar Allen	short stories	Complex, psychological and gruesome horror from the pen of the man who has influenced all horror since and most of the films too.	***

## Graphic Novels

The graphic novel and comic book form are an alternative way to explore stories. It is a modern and developing form of literature deserving of attention. The following list covers a range of artistic styles and will appeal to both girls and boys.

Pride and Prejudice	Austen, Jane & Tanner, Tony	*
Jane Eyre	Bronte, Charlotte & Corzine, Amy	*
Wuthering Heights	Bronte, Emily	*
The Essential X-Men	Claremont, Chris	*
Wanted: Wolverine - Dead or Alive	Claremont, Chris & Byrne, John	*
The Hound Of The Baskervilles	Conan Doyle, Arthur	*
Great Expectations	Dickens, Charles & Burningham, Hilary	*
Atlanta - The Race against Destiny	Fontes, Justine and Ron	*
The Wolves in the Wall	Gaiman, Neil & McKean, Dave	*
The Mayor of Casterbridge	Hardy, Thomas & Kramer Dale	*
The Midnight Sun	Kneece, Mark	*
Essential Fantastic Four	Lee, Stan	*
Tristan and Isolde	Limke, Jeff	*
Saga of the Swamp Thing	Moore, Alan & Bissette, S.	*
Alien Hunter	Patterson, James	*
Frankenstein (or Modern Prometheus)	Shelley, Mary	*
Gulliver's Travels	Swift, Jonathan & Hayward John	*
Fact V Fiction	Vaughan, Brian K. & Mettler, J. D.	*
Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea	Verne Jules	*
Sinbad the Sailor	Williams, Marcia	*
Mr William Shakespeare's Plays	Williams, Marcia	*
The Iliad And The Odyssey	Williams, Marcia	*
King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table	Williams, Marcia	*
Ethel and Ernest - A True Story	Briggs, Raymond	**
When The Wind Blows	Briggs, Raymond	**
Marvel 1602	Gaiman, Neil	**



Rapunzel's Revenge	Hale, S.&D.	**
The Eternals	Kirby, Jack	**
Essential Silver Surfer	Lee, Stan	**
Mendel's Daughter	Lemelman, Martin	**
Superman – Red Son	Millar, Mark	**
Batman: The Dark Knight Returns	Miller, Frank	**
Batman: Year One	Miller, Frank	**
Nausicaa of the valley of the wind I + II	Miyazaki, Hayao	**
Promethea Book I	Moore, Alan	**
The Killing Joke	Moore, Alan & Bolland, Brian	**
Wonder Woman Love and Murder	Picoult, Jodi	**
Persepolis	Satrapa, Marjane	**
Macbeth: The Graphic Novel	Shakespeare, William & McDonald, John	**
Skim	Tamaki, Mariko	**
Blankets	Thompson, Craig	**
The Furies	Carey, Mike & Bolton, John	***
Ghost World	Clowes, Daniel	***
The Sandman series	Gaiman, Neil	***
The Facts in the Case of the Departure of Miss Finch	Gaiman, Neil	***
Mr Punch	Gaiman, Neil	***
The 9/11 Report	Jacobson, Sid	***
Berlin: City of Stones	Lutes, Jason	***
300	Miller, Frank	***
From Hell	Moore, Alan	***
The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen Vols I & 2	Moore, Alan	***
Modesty Blaise – Death in Slow Motion	O'Donnell, Peter	***
Che: a graphic biography	Rodriguez, Spain	***
Palestine	Sacco, Joe	***
Maus	Speigelman, Art	***
Alice in Sunderland	Talbot, Bryan	***
Summer Blonde	Tomine, Adrian	***
Y: The Last man	Vaughan, Brian K. & Pia Guerra	***

## READING at RGS

As part of your education, you are expected to be reading regularly, widely and independently. Whilst it is most important that you read for pleasure, it is also crucial for your academic development to read books that are more challenging in both their content and difficulty of vocabulary and expression. Those who manage to keep a strong reading habit will find that it has a positive effect on their final grades across all subjects. In addition to just reading books you should also:

- talk to friends and family about your reading
- read non-fiction books on other subjects that interest you ie. biography, travel writing, science etc.
- read news stories once or twice a week either online or in a newspaper
- read other online writing eg. non-fiction websites, blogs etc.
- ask others for recommendations – what have they enjoyed from this book list?
- Search for online recommended book lists eg. top 50 sci-fi books: <http://forbiddenplanet.com/picks/50-sf-books-you-must-read/>