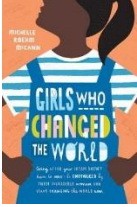


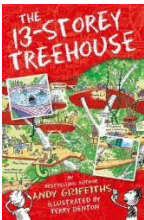
Years 7 and 8



Girls who Changed the World **Michelle**

Roehm McCann

An Inspiring read, this book follows on from the author's earlier title 'Girls Who Rocked the World'; it contains the stories of 45 influential women world-wide who have made a lasting impact and over-come obstacles to achieve their goals. It also contains snippets from young women who intend to change the world in the future.



Thirteen Storey Treehouse **Andy Griffiths**

Best-selling Australian author/ illustrator Andy Griffiths and Terry Denton have created a fantastical treehouse which will tickle the imagination of all readers. It's a house with everything – and if there is something it lacks, it can easily be created! The guys are full of crazy and inventive ideas some of which have very unexpected and disastrous results. When Andy and Terry aren't having fun in their tree house doing terrible things like turning their neighbour's cat into a canary they are meant to be writing a book! The jokes about the book being created within a book are good (Review from lovereadingforkids.co.uk)



Back on Weird Street **Anne Fine**

Return to Weir(d) Street with three more unnerving tales told with all of Anne Fine's trademark eye for drama and suspense. Suitable for struggling and reluctant readers. (Review from lovereadingforkids.co.uk)



Race to the Bottom of the Sea **Lindsay**

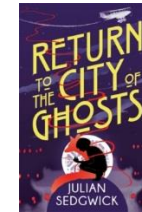
Eagar

Race to the Bottom of the Sea is a well-written, thoroughly unusual, thought-provoking pirate story, and a rip-roaring adventure. Our hero 11-year old Fidelia Quail has grown up with the sea in her blood: ever since she was a baby she's accompanied her marine biologist parents on their travels. In the book's dramatic opening, she's on the surface tracking sharks while her parents record life on the seabed, until their submarine – designed and built by Fidelia – is destroyed by the deadly 'Undertow'. Still grieving, Fidelia is kidnapped by the notorious pirate Merrick the Monstrous and forced to build a diving suit that will allow her to retrieve his treasure, hidden in an undersea cave and believed cursed. (Review from lovereadingforkids.co.uk)



The Sand Dog **Sarah Lean**

| Full of hope and wonder but also shot through with deep feelings of sadness this is a beautiful story about the importance of belonging. Azi's home is with his grandfather on a Mediterranean island but he has always known that it isn't where he was born. When Grandfather goes missing Azi, together with the dog who has befriended him and a young girl who is visiting the island, sets out to find him and to discover the truth about where he really comes from. . (Review from lovereadingforkids.co.uk)



Return to the City of Ghosts **Julian**

Sedgwick

'The thing about ghosts is sometimes we create our own. And sometimes they find us, no matter what we do.' The thrilling conclusion to the Ghosts of Shanghai by the award-winning author of the Mysterium trilogy, for fans of Philip Pullman, Susan Hill and Robin Stevens. Ruby is on a mission to rescue the boy she loves: Charlie has been swept away in the powerful waters of the River Yangtze.

But the world she loves is now broken by danger and fear, and Ruby is lost and surrounded by ghosts.

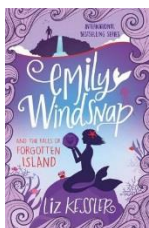
Can Ruby trust herself, and those around her, to find Charlie and return to Shanghai? Or has she ventured too deep into the realm of spirits? On an amazing journey down the Yangtze, crossing from one world to the other, Ruby must follow the 'red thread of destiny' to find Charlie and home, before she loses herself . . (Review from lovereadingforkids.co.uk)



Embassy of the Dead **Will Mabbitt**

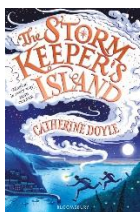
Jake is supposed to be going on a school trip, but somehow becomes caught up in a race against time, in which the living

meet the dead. It all starts when he mistakenly opens a mysterious package and finds a human finger inside. Following this fatal error, he has to go on a dangerous mission to the world of the dead. Somehow he manages to make the journey into the void and spin a tissue of lies regarding the school trip. Whilst on his mission, he has to send text messages to both his parents (separately, as they do not all live in the same household) and to his friend Sab, who is on the trip. The best story he can think of is that he has really bad diarrhoea, so cannot go on the trip. To complicate matters, he obviously has to send messages to his mother saying how much he is enjoying the trip. Miraculously, neither party ever finds out the truth of what he was really doing for those fateful few days!



Emily Windsnap and the Tales of Forgotten Island **Liz Kessler**

An idyllic holiday in the sun with her parents and best friends turns into a testing adventure for mer-girl Emily, and she finds herself caught up in an ancient prophecy. As ever, it makes for very exciting reading, Emily's first-person narrative keeping things both immediate and completely recognisable for readers, even if she does swap her legs for a tail when she's in water. What really sets this series apart though is what goes on beneath the surface, and the stories explore themes of tolerance, understanding and identity – all issues that are particularly important for the readership. Review from lovereadingforkids.co.uk



The Storm Keeper's Island **Catherine Doyle**

Swept along by the wind and sea and suffused with magic and mystery this is an ebullient adventure story that compels its

readers to believe just as the young hero Fionn begins to do. Sent to stay on the wild Arranmore Island with his reclusive grandfather, Fionn enters a world dominated by the forces of magic – and by water which has always terrified Fionn. Gradually, Fionn begins to understand his grandfather's now fading power as to accept and embrace his own new destiny. Catherine Doyle has a lightness of touch as a story-teller that makes the impossible convincing. . (Review from lovereadingforkids.co.uk)



Girls can Vlog **Emma Moss**

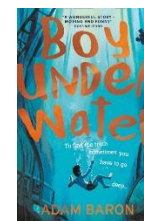
In book 5 of this popular series, our gang of friends/vloggers Lucy, Abby, Hermione and Jessie, are enjoying a special week camping, and not just on any old campsite – they'll be going to a famous music festival too. It should be a holiday they'll never forget, but tensions between Jessie and Abby threaten to spoil it for everyone. Then Sassy arrives and does something so irresponsible it seems like they'll all miss out on the festival. Told in a mix of straight narrative, diary entries and vlog scripts, this series feels bang up to date. (Review from lovereadingforkids.co.uk)



A Skinfull of Shadows **Frances Hardinge**

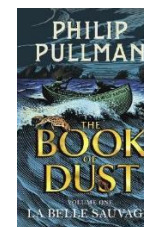
Twelve year Makepeace has grown up practising how to defend herself against spirits who go in search of another living being to inhabit when they are released from the dead. Makepeace is skilful at defence but, when grieving the death of her mother, she lets her guard down and is filled with the spirit of a bear. But Bear is a friend as much as a foe and now Makepeace has a

strong internal ally who may be exactly what she needs when she goes to stay with her father's terrifying family whom she needs to resist at all costs. Frances Hardinge's beautiful writing makes the unbelievable credible and tangible as she weaves together and then unravels layer upon layer of complexities in this substantial and deeply story. (Review from lovereadingforkids.co.uk)



Boy Underwater **Adam Baron**

Boy Underwater is one of those rare books that manages to be both very funny and heartbreakingly sad. Being pulled to safety from the bottom of Lewisham Pool by classmate Veronique (losing his trunks in the process) is a terrible experience for Cymbeline Igloo, as it would be for any 9 year old, but it leads his mum to have a breakdown. Cym has never understood her determination to keep him away from water, but now it's only by uncovering the family secrets that he can give her the help she needs. Cymbeline carries the story brilliantly, confiding in readers all his confusion (the adult world really is incomprehensible), his concerns and his hopes, so that we live it as he does. What he finds out is horribly sad, but leads to a new beginning, and a kind of healing. (Review from lovereadingforkids.co.uk)



La Belle Sauvage (The Book of Dust Volume 1) **Philip Pullman**

La Belle Sauvage: The Book of Dust Volume One is a story for our time, with themes that resonate with our world today. It is a story for everybody: a much longed-for treat for established fans of His Dark Materials as they meet Lyra Belacqua again

and the chance for new readers to step into the magical world of Philip Pullman for the first time.

Pullman is a master storyteller, and Lyra has established herself firmly as one of the most-loved characters in literature, a worthy contemporary of the likes of Hermione Granger (Harry Potter series), Jean Louise 'Scout' Finch (To Kill a Mockingbird) and Katniss Everdeen (The Hunger Games). In this book, she is joined by a new hero readers will love: an ordinary boy who steps up to the challenge of a lifetime."

Years 9 and 10



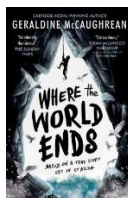
Noah Can't even **Simon James Green**

Noah is 16 and very confused with life. His mother has a job which embarrasses him (she performs a Beyonce tribute act) and his father left the household some years ago. Noah feels as if all eyes are on him. He feels that his problems would be solved if he found himself a girlfriend. Sophie at school would suit him just fine. They do strike up a friendship, but then Noah's best friend Harry kisses him at a party. Just what is going on?



Ink **Alice Broadway**

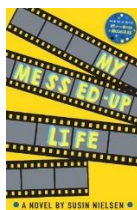
In Leora's world, every action is recorded on your skin for all to see. When her father dies, she attempts to have his tattoos removed and made into a Skin Book. It is then that she discovers that his tattoos have been edited, so she cannot include the whole story. How well did she really know him?



Where the World Ends **Geraldine**

McCaughrean

The winner of the 2018 prestigious Carnegie Medal, this is a beautifully written story set in the summer of 1727. It is based on a true story; a group of men and boys have the task of collecting birds and eggs on Warrior Stac, a remote island in the Atlantic. It was 9 months before anyone came to collect them. Around these facts, the author has woven an intriguing tale of survival, love, faith and imagination.



My Messed up Life **Susin Nielsen**

This is a fun read, and will delight those who have already tried the delights of a Susin Nielsen novel. Violet's father has moved to LA and has twin daughters from his new relationship to a young actress. Her mother is also dating again, but the new man is a complete nerd. There is even a cameo appearance from George Clooney.



The List of Real Things **Sarah Moore**

Fitzgerald

A poignant and big-hearted story about love, loss and believing in the magic of the imagination. The fourth novel from bestselling Waterstones Children's Book Prize shortlisted author Sarah Moore Fitzgerald, following BACK TO BLACKBRICK, THE APPLE TART OF HOPE and A VERY GOOD

CHANCE. Grace knows the difference between what's real and the strange ideas that float around in her little sister's mind. Their parents died - that's real. A secret hotel on the cliff-top where their parents are waiting - definitely NOT real. So when grief strikes again, Grace is determined not to let her sister's outlandish imagination spiral out of control. (Review from lovereadingforkids.co.uk)



The Truth of Different Skies **Kate Ling**

What makes you abandon your world? How do you say goodbye when it's forever? A heart-breaking story about survival, love and hope.

For fans of Meg Rosoff and Beth Revis. 'I've always feared this place would keep me rooted forever . . . but now, without gravity, I'm flying, floating, falling' Bea feels trapped.

Having never left her small town and with no money or anyone to rely on, she faces the inevitable future of a dead-end job - forced to survive, rather than live. When a message arrives from space, a mission is planned to travel to its source.

Bea knows she has to be chosen to go, no matter what it takes, even though it means leaving Earth forever.

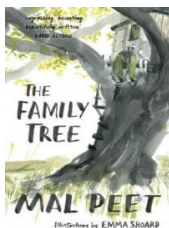
Her life has to matter. Except she didn't plan on falling in love before she left. (Review from brownsbfs.co.uk)



The Wonder of us **Kim Culbertson**

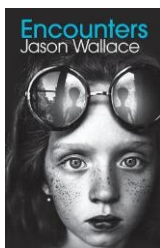
Introverted history fanatic Abby has had it with feeling abandoned, what with Mom having left the family home and best friend Riya leaving their Californian hometown for Berlin. Moreover, she and Riya parted on bad terms and life hasn't

been the same since. But now, thanks to Riya's grandmother, they have an opportunity to fix their fractured friendship during a two-week trip around Europe. Being chaperoned by Riya's cousin is initially annoying, but he and Abby find themselves bonding while things run less smoothly for her and Riya. Matters come to a head in Edinburgh when Riya's secret is revealed, and the eruptions they experience in Iceland aren't only of a volcanic nature... (Review from lovereadingforkids.co.uk)



The Family Tree **Mal Peet**

Mal Peet, who died in 2015, wrote with extraordinary sensitivity and insight and this novella, freshly published by Barrington Stoke, is testimony to his talent. Benjamin finds himself by accident outside his old home and revisits memories of the garden and treehouse that 20 years ago were such a key part of his childhood. His father built the treehouse for him but it quickly changed from being a place of shared stories to something less happy – a hideaway from his mother, a hiding place for his father as he turned away from the outside world. The story is a painful one, years on Ben is still torn by conflicting loyalties, still angry with his father, still guilty for abandoning him. His return brings some new perspectives, but no happy resolution. Suitable for struggling and reluctant readers. (Review from lovereadingforkids.co.uk)



Encounters **Jason Wallace**

With over fifty children asserting that they saw the same spaceship, and the same evil-eyed aliens, American psychiatrists have come to investigate. It could be a form of mass hysteria, but why are all the accounts and depictions so completely identical? How could so many kids tell the exact same lie for so long, and *why* would they lie? Alongside being gripped by the

uniquely mysterious event at the heart of the novel, I was bowled over by the author's mastery of multiple narratives. The intertwined lives of six young people affected by the encounter are explored in all their brutal complexities, and the novel's real-life origins will surely draw in more reluctant readers. Magnetic, haunting, and richly rewarding. (Review from lovereadingforkids.co.uk)



Skylarks **Karen Gregory**

Joni's family is struggling to make ends meet. With her mum working all hours and her dad incapacitated by a bad back, she brings in extra cash with a weekend job at the local library. It's at the library that Joni meets Annabel, daughter of a big shot businessman and benefactor. Joni has good reason to dislike posh Annabel, but her first reaction soon shifts to overwhelming attraction, a feeling that turns out to be mutual. Their life chances are as different as their life styles. While Annabel has a huge house and an actual lake, Joni's family is on the brink of being evicted as a result of a corporate buy-out of their estate. As is clear from Annabel's situation, money doesn't buy happiness, but it does keep a roof over your head, and so with time running out Joni steps up her involvement in her brother's campaign to save their estate. (Review from lovereadingforkids.co.uk)



The Exact Opposite of Okay **Laura Steven**

A hilarious, groundbreaking young adult novel for anyone who's ever called themselves a feminist . . . and anyone who hasn't. Izzy O'Neill here! Impoverished orphan, aspiring comedian and Slut Extraordinaire, if the gossip sites are anything to go by . . . Izzy never expected to be eighteen and

internationally reviled. But when explicit photos involving her, a politician's son and a garden bench are published online, the trolls set out to take her apart. Armed with best friend Ajita and a metric ton of nachos, she tries to laugh it off - but as the daily slut-shaming intensifies, she soon learns the way the world treats teenage girls is not okay. It's the Exact Opposite of Okay. Bitingly funny and shockingly relevant, The Exact Opposite of Okay is a bold, brave and necessary read. (Review from lovereadingforkids.co.uk)



The Colour of the Sun **David Almond**

The day is long, the world is wide, you're young and free. One hot summer morning, Davie steps boldly out of his front door. The world he enters is very familiar - the little Tyneside town that has always been his home - but as the day passes, it becomes ever more mysterious. A boy has been killed, and Davie thinks he might know who is

Year 11



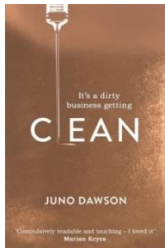
Margot and me **Juno Dawson**

Fliss's mum needs peace and quiet to recuperate from a long illness, so they both move to the countryside to live with Margot, Fliss's stern and bullying grandmother. Life on the farm is tough and life at school is even tougher, so when Fliss unearths Margot's wartime diary, she sees an opportunity to get her own back. But Fliss soon discovers Margot's life during the evacuation was full of adventure, mystery . . . and even passion. What's more, she learns a terrible secret that could tear her whole family apart . . .



Theatrical **Maggie Harcourt**

Hope dreams of working backstage in a theatre, and she's determined to make it without the help of her famous costume designer mum. So when she lands an internship on a major production, she tells no one. But with a stroppy Hollywood star and his hot young understudy upstaging Hope's focus, she's soon struggling to keep her cool... and her secret.



Clean **Juno Dawson**

When socialite Lexi Volkov almost overdoses, she thinks she's hit rock bottom.

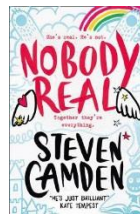
She's wrong. Because rock bottom is when she's forced into an exclusive rehab facility. From there, the only way is up for Lexi and her fellow inmates, including the mysterious Brady. As she faces her demons, Lexi realises love is the most powerful drug of all ...

It's a dirty business getting clean. Addiction, redemption, love and despair. Clean is Gossip Girl meets Girl, Interrupted, and it will have you hooked from the very first page. 'I loved it' Marian Keyes. 'One to just enjoy' Stylist.' An emotional freight train of a novel.' Heat. 'As bold and gritty as it is fabulously glossy and readable' Observer** With a stunning rose gold foil cover, Clean will look amazing on your bookshelf. (Review from brownsbfs.co.uk)



Little Liar **Julie Gray**

This story begins in a spiritual retreat. 17 year old Nora is there to recover from an accident and promises readers she will describe the chain of events that brought her there. It will, she says, be a true story, before immediately admitting that she hasn't always told the truth. This is putting it mildly: Nora's whole life is a series of lies and deceptions. She has a library of stories to explain her father's death for example, and in an early incident in the story orchestrates the sacking of a young art teacher. A skilful and convincing liar, Nora has always got what pretty much what she wants. When she meets the Ingram family, a theatrical dynasty, the part in a new film seems within her reach. But in Bel Ingram, wild, reckless and ruthless, has Nora finally met her match? Nora is a fascinating character who will have readers completely in thrall, while her 'true story' is full of shocks and surprises. Intelligent, gripping, highly original. (Review from lovereadingforkids.co.uk)



Nobody Real **Steven Camden**

Marcie is on the verge of everything changing. About to leave school and head to university, she feels lost, left in limbo. She's struggling with family, she has yet to discover her own dreams and she simply doesn't know what she wants. Cue the re-entry of her childhood imaginary best friend, Thor, a boy with bear arms whom Marcie cast from her life some years ago. Through their alternating narratives, we learn that both Marcie and Thor are heading towards a time of epic transformation, and together they navigate these terrifying tides of change. (Review from lovereadingforkids.co.uk)



The Weight of a Thousand Feathers **Brian Conaghan**

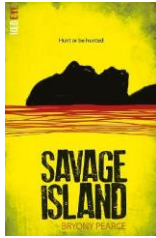
Seventeen-year-old Bobby Seed is a devoted son and big brother and an all-round firework of wit and charm, wise and strong beyond his years. He's also a young carer to his mum who's suffering from debilitating MS. Bobby has to *"brush his mother's locks every day, sort out her medicine, sponge her clean three times a week, ooze positivity"* even when all he wants to do is *"punch the shit out of a walk or wail in the shower"*. In his situation *"the worry of death never leaves you"*, but that doesn't stop the brilliant banter between Bobby and his mum. Theirs is a beautiful, tender relationship. Bobby does what he does for her *"because she's my Mum. That pure and simple"*. (Review from lovereadingforkids.co.uk)



Dear Martin **Nic Stone**

Picture this. You're an honours student with a top university in your sights. You work hard, and you follow your mother's advice to always put your best foot forward. So how come, when you help a friend in need, you're man-handled by the police and arrested? How come the cops tell you that they *"know your kind...Just couldn't resist the pretty white girl who's locked her keys in her car, could ya?"* As Yale-bound African American Justyce knows only too well, *"things aren't as equal as folks say they are"*. At every turn he's caught between worlds: a white classmate attributes his success to positive discrimination, while he's accused of being a race traitor by some of his black peers. He airs this elemental conundrum with SJ, his debate partner: *"white people hold most positions of authority in this country. How do I deal with the fact that I DO need them to get ahead without feeling like I'm turning my back on my own people"*. And what's he supposed to do when he falls for SJ and

his mama's dead against him dating a white girl? (Review from lovereadingforkids.co.uk)



Savage Island **Bryony Pearce**

How hard can it be for a bunch of bright young things to solve a series of riddles and locate geocaches on an island? The prize seems to be theirs for the taking. But on arrival, abuzz with ideas about what they'll spend the prize money on, the friends realise that there's more to the competition than they've been led to believe. In fact, it's not long before they're trapped in a horrifying 'hunt or be hunted' situation as the story twists and turns in disturbing directions. (Review from lovereadingforkids.co.uk)

For more book recommendations, please contact Mrs Seddon (term-time only) sseddon@gillotts.org.uk and see also lovereadingforkids.co.uk