

## Years 7 and 8



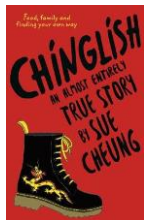
The return of the Warrior (Young Samurai book 9)  
**Chris Bradford**

A new instalment and standalone adventure charting series protagonist Jack Fletcher's return to pre-civil war England. His quest: to find his missing sister, with the help of some familiar faces (nominated for the Berkshire Book Award longlist)



Greta's Story: The schoolgirl who went on strike to save the planet **Valentina Camerini**

Every young person will have heard of Greta Thunberg, the schoolgirl whose strikes for the climate have developed into a world-wide movement and put young peoples' voices at the heart of the efforts to protect our planet. This book tells Greta's story, explaining how a wary, quiet girl from Sweden has found the courage and determination to stand up for what she knows is crucial to the future of every one of us. It's an inspiring story, and unique to Greta, but it also demonstrates how together we can all make a difference, and work towards the future we want. In addition to Greta's story, there's a chapter explaining the science of global warming, notes on what we can do as individuals and suggestions for further reading. This could be the most important book your children will read all year.



Chinglish **Sue Cheung**

*It is difficult trying to talk in our family cos: a) Grandparents don't speak English at all b) Mum hardly speaks any English c) Me, Bonny and Simon hardly speak Chinese d) Dad speaks Chinese and good English - but doesn't like talking. In other words, we all have to cobble together tiny bits of English and Chinese into a rubbish new language I call 'Chinglish'. It is very awkward.*

Jo Kwan is a teenager growing up in 1980s Coventry with her annoying little sister, too-cool older brother, a series of very unlucky pets and utterly bonkers parents. But unlike the other kids at her new school or her posh cousins, Jo lives above her parents' Chinese takeaway. And things can be tough - whether it's unruly customers or the snotty popular girls who bully Jo for being different. Even when she does find a BFF who actually likes Jo for herself, she still has to contend with her erratic dad's behaviour. All Jo dreams of is breaking free and forging a career as an artist.

Told in diary entries and doodles, Jo's brilliantly funny observations about life, family and char siu make for a searingly honest portrayal of life on the other side of the takeaway counter. (nominated for the Berkshire Book Award longlist)



The Fowl Twins **Eoin Colfer**

In THE FOWL TWINS, 11-year-old Myles and Beckett are on their own for the weekend on their family's Irish island. Their parents are on a short trip, and big-brother Artemis and his bodyguard, Butler, are on their way to Mars. Well, they think they're on their own until a sniper on a neighboring island, the nefarious Lord Teddy Bleedham-Drye, takes a shot at a toy-size troll breaching the surface of the Earth. Three things

happen at once: The toy troll, shrink-wrapped by the special bullet, is pocketed by Beckett -- he thinks it's an actual toy and not a fairy; the Fowl's fancy security system shuts down the compound; and a police fairy flying by in an invisible suit sees the whole thing. Nothing should be able to get in or out of the Fowl compound, but somehow a nun, Sister Jeronima, from a secret organization (acronym of ACRONYM) intent on finding and experimenting on fairies, breaches their system and whisks the boys away. The twins wake up in a secret prison in Amsterdam ready to do anything they can to escape. (Review from <https://www.commonensemedia.org/>)



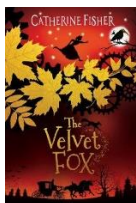
Beverly right here **Kate DiCamillo**

This is a return to the characters of Di Camillo's Raymie Nightingale and Louisiana's Way Home – though it is not away on a train, Molly makes it to the country, but once there the reality of her situation dawns on her: she doesn't know where she is or who to trust. It's not until Molly comes across two other runaways that she starts to feel safe again. Maybe, just maybe, with each other's help, they have a chance of overcoming the trials put in front of them.

It is not necessary to have read either novel to appreciate this story. Precipitated by the death of her dog companion, Buddy, Beverly has no reason now to stay at home, so she leaves. She is 14 years old, but by a sequence of good luck, and a lift from a cousin, she ends up in Tamaray, bunking with a grandmother figure in a trailer park community and getting a job with a very disorganised café owner.

This story could have been very bleak, but the wonderful characters DiCamillo draws, and the humour with which she tells this story make it very engaging. Obviously set in the US this gives the landscape an exotic feel, and the characters have a wonderfully transatlantic humour that can be appreciated anywhere. This is the story of Beverly's survival, and the rebuilding of her grief battered resilient character – so she can eventually return to her hometown, her close friend and her

less than satisfactory mother. An ultimately uplifting story of survival, acceptance and friendship in unlikely places.



The Velvet Fox **Catherine Fisher**

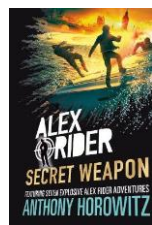
It's autumn and the happiness and warmth of manor house Plas-y-Fran, now home to orphan Seren, is about to be disturbed by the arrival of the sinister Tylwyth Teg, or Fair Family. First, it's Mrs Honeybourne in her red, velvet gloves, claiming to be a governess for Seren and her friend Tomos, but even stranger and much more frightening figures follow. Can Seren stand up to the Fair and save Tomos and her adopted family? A story of danger, courage and strength, Seren's adventures will send delicious shivers down the spine. Catherine Fisher is a superb storyteller, breathing new life into old stories and setting them free like the wind whirling autumn leaves. This is the second story about Seren and also stars her magical clockwork companion Crow but stands on its own. Highly recommended especially for winter nights.



A pinch of Magic **Michelle Harrison**

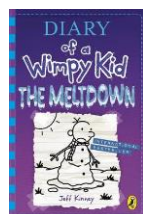
This is a delightful, newly-minted fairy tale (three sisters, a quest, a witch, a moral) and thoroughly satisfying. The Widdershins sisters – Fliss, Betty and Charlie – live with their granny on the island of Crowstone, a miserable, end of the line kind of place, all damp, and marsh and mist. It's not somewhere you'd want to live but as the story unfolds, we discover that because of an age-old curse, the girls can never leave. When breaking the curse becomes a matter of life or death, the three girls will have to work together – despite their sometimes spiky relationships – and at least they have a pinch of magic to help. This is an ingenious and compelling story and like the age-old tales that are its inspiration, pitches love, generosity and

forgiveness against human cruelty. Superb! (nominated for the Berkshire Book Award longlist)



Alex Rider: Secret Weapon **Anthony Horowitz**

Blimey, but can Anthony Horowitz pack huge amounts of tension, excitement and humour into his short stories! He shows off a breath-taking ability to conjure adventure out of the most unlikely beginnings, and in his hands even a trip to the dentist turns into a full-on, peril-laden caper. There's everything in this collection that makes the Alex Rider novels so addictive: dangerous situations, daring escapes, gadgets galore. And of course, there's Alex himself – super-smart, super-resourceful, super-cool. Irresistible, unbeatable reading. (nominated for the Berkshire Book Award longlist)



The Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Meltdown **Jeff Kinney**

The brand new Diary of a Wimpy Kid book is out now!\*\* The 13th hilarious book in Jeff Kinney's bestselling Diary of a Wimpy Kid series. When snow shuts down Greg Heffley's middle school, his neighbourhood transforms into a wintry battlefield. Rival groups fight over territory, build massive snow forts, and stage epic snowball fights. And in the crosshairs are Greg and his trusty best friend, Rowley Jefferson. It's a fight for survival as Greg and Rowley navigate alliances, betrayals, and warring gangs in a neighbourhood meltdown. When the snow clears, will Greg and Rowley emerge as heroes? Or will they even survive to see another day? With millions of books sold around the world in 65 editions and 56 languages, Wimpy Kid has turned millions of kids into readers. (nominated for the Berkshire Book Award longlist)



Skulduggery Pleasant: Bedlam **Derek Landy**

The 12th explosive novel in the internationally bestselling Skulduggery Pleasant series, BEDLAM will blow your mind - and change everything...

On a desperate journey to recover her sister's lost soul, Valkyrie Cain goes up against the High Sanctuary itself, and there's nothing Skulduggery Pleasant can do to stop her. With Abyssinia's grand plan about to kick off in a night of magic, terror, and bloodshed, it falls to Omen Darkly to save the lives of thousands of innocent people. And as the madness unfolds around him, as hidden enemies step into the light, and as Valkyrie is sucked into a desperate, lawless quest of her own, he has no choice but to become the hero he never really wanted to be - or die in the attempt. (nominated for the Berkshire Book Award longlist)



The Land of Roar **Jenny McLachlan**

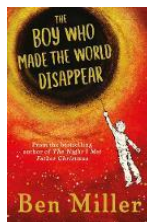
The first in a new children's fantasy adventure series, full of imagination, humour and heart, and with echoes of Peter Pan, The Chronicles of Narnia, The Neverending Story and Jumanji. The Land of Roar is perfect for children aged 8 to 12, and can sit on their bookshelf next to Nevermoor, Wizards of Once and How to Train Your Dragon. Readers can bring their fantasy world to life and meet dragons, unicorns, mermaids and more in this beautifully illustrated children's book.

Believing is just the beginning . . .

When Arthur and Rose were little, they were heroes in the Land of Roar, an imaginary world that they found by climbing through the folding bed in their grandad's attic. Roar was filled with things they loved - dragons, mermaids, ninja wizards and

adventure - as well as things that scared them (including a very creepy scarecrow. . .)

Now the twins are eleven, Roar is just a memory. But when they help Grandad clean out the attic, Arthur is horrified as Grandad is pulled into the folding bed and vanishes. Is he playing a joke? Or is Roar . . . real? (nominated for the Berkshire Book Award longlist)



**THE BOY WHO MADE THE WORLD DISAPPEAR**  
**BEN MILLER**

Harrison tries his best to be good. He doesn't steal, he always shares with his sister and he never cheats at board games, but Harrison also has a BIG flaw ... He can't control his temper! So when he's given a black hole instead of a balloon at a party, Harrison jumps at the chance to get rid of everything that makes him cross. But when it's not just things he hates that are disappearing into the black hole but things he loves, too, Harrison starts to realise that sometimes you should be careful what you wish for... An out-of-this-world adventure about twists of fate, time travel and troublesome black holes, Ben Miller's stunning storytelling is brought to life with beautiful illustrations from emerging talent Daniela Jaglenka Terrazzini.



**The Night I met Father Christmas** **Ben Miller**

A gorgeous tale brimming with the magic of Christmas. A sheer delight for all kids both big AND small.' Ruth Jones, award-winning writer and comedian 'Enchanting, funny and intriguing in equal measure' Philip Ardagh, bestselling author 'You can always tell when a children's book has been written by a brilliant father because there's a particular intimacy. Jackson knows all about the flying reindeer, he knows about the elves

and the secret North Pole workshop, he knows about the magic that allows Father Christmas to deliver presents around the world in just one night, but there's one thing he doesn't know ... how did Father Christmas become Father Christmas?



**The way past Winter** **Kiren Millwood Hargrave**

From the bestselling author of THE GIRL OF INK & STARS comes a paperback edition of this gorgeous wintry folk tale for young and old alike - an exciting adventure to the frozen north, perfect for fans of Philip Pullman. 'This gorgeous story of bravery, sisterhood, goodbyes and beginnings is a must for everyone.' JESSIE BURTON 'The Way Past Winter is a masterclass in exquisite storytelling.' CATHERINEDOYLE 'Gorgeous, heartfelt and incredibly exciting. Her best yet, and that's saying something.' ROBIN STEVENS Mila and her sisters live with their brother Oskar in a small forest cabin in the snow. One night, a fur-clad stranger arrives seeking shelter for himself and his men. But by the next morning, they've gone - taking Oskar with them. Fearful for his safety, Mila and her sisters set out to bring Oskar back - even it means going north, crossing frozen wild-lands to find a way past an eternal winter. (nominated for the Berkshire Book Award longlist)



**The Last Spell Breather** **Julie Pike**

A stunning fantasy debut, enter the unique world of the Spell Breathers. Spell Breathing does not come naturally to Rayne - she loathes the hours of practice, the stacks of scrolls, and the snapping mud devils that cover her mother's precious spell book. But it is spell breathing that keeps her village safe from the dreaded monster curse that plagues their world. It is ancient powerful magic, but as Rayne learns to her horror . . . it is also fragile. In one clumsy move, the magic that keeps them safe is broken, her village is plunged into danger, and an

incredible adventure begins . . . (nominated for the Berkshire Book Award longlist)



**The Good Thieves** **Katherine Rundell**

After stories set in jungles and on the Russian steppes, Katherine Rundell has chosen the streets of Prohibition New York for her latest, but it's just as full of the sense of peril and freedom from rules that characterises her earlier books, with central character Vita facing possibly the greatest danger yet. Newly arrived from England, Vita is determined to win back her family home, the fabulous Hudson Castle, acquired from her grandfather in a distinctly shady way by mob boss Victor Sorrotore. This will involve breaking and entering – and legend has it the castle is impregnable – and safe cracking, but Vita is fortunate enough to have as associates an extremely talented pickpocket and two fearless young circus performers. Rundell revels in setting her characters these kind of challenges and also in exploring the kind of physical and mental daring required to undertake them. She likes to equip her protagonists with right and with love too, the latter proves a formidable weapon for Vita. (nominated for the Berkshire Book Award longlist)

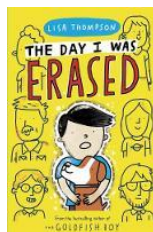


**Night Terrors** **Ali Sparkes**

It's not every day a couple of eagles pay you a visit in the middle of the night and tell you your friend, who happens to be hundreds of miles away, is in terrible danger. But Matt and Elena are not everyday people. They're Night Speakers, with the ability to communicate with animals, and an uncanny habit of getting into save-the-world situations. But what is shaking the birds' world so much that it would drive them to fly hundreds of miles? Something huge and horrifying is happening, and Tima is in the middle of it. Can Matt and Elena



get to her in time? Something is going on below the surface, and only the Night Speakers can stop us all from falling into the cracks. . . The fourth standalone adventure in the Night Speakers series - action adventures about contemporary children with extraordinary powers, told with award-winning author Ali Sparkes's classic humour and energy.



The Day I was erased **Lisa Thompson**

The third read-in-one-sitting mystery from the author of unforgettable bestseller The Goldfish Boy. Maxwell is always in trouble. He's a total menace to his teachers and big sister, but has a soft side, too: he rescued his dog, Monster, from being run over and checks on his elderly neighbour after school. One day, while looking through a mysterious cabinet of curiosities, Maxwell finds himself erased from his life: it's as if he's never been born. At first, being able to walk around without being yelled at is great, but Maxwell starts to miss his old life. And, if he'd never existed, then he wouldn't have swooped Monster out of the path of that car... A story of family, friendship and finding your place in the world. (nominated for the Berkshire Book Award longlist)

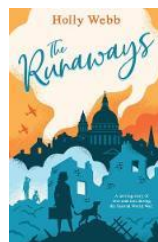


The Ghouls of Howlfair **Nick Tomlinson**

The scariest legends are about to come true! Molly Thompson has lots of questions. Questions like, is her Aunt Carol an undead fiend who drinks the blood of the living? Is she secretly lurking in the attic? And is Molly's friend Lowry a descendant of a long line of Kroglin werewolves?

Serious young historian Molly suspects that the creepy legends about her tourist town of Howlfair are starting to come true.

But when her mother bans her from doing any further research, bookworm Molly and her friends - Lowry and guardian-cat Gabriel - become covert monster-hunters to keep Howlfair safe. It seems that someone is secretly trying to summon Howlfair's mythical monsters, and with the election of a new town mayor looming, everything - and everyone - is becoming increasingly suspicious...



The Runaways **Holly Webb**

Written by bestselling author Holly Webb, The Runaways beautifully captures the spirit of Great Britain during the Second World War, weaving together themes of resilience, identity and what it means to call a place your home. It's London in the late 1930s, and the Second World War is imminent. When a young Londoner called Molly hears that the children in her neighbourhood are being evacuated, she feels relieved. The war scares her, and living in the city means living in the heart of danger. However, Molly's relief is short lived because her mum refuses to let her go, telling her that she has to stay and help with the war effort. And that's not all - times are tough, and there's not enough food or supplies for people, let alone pets. This means that Molly's beloved dog Bertie is now considered surplus to requirement. So Molly decides to escape. Stowing away on a train, Molly makes it to the country, but once there the reality of her situation dawns on her: she doesn't know where she is or who to trust. It's not until Molly comes across two other runaways that she starts to feel safe again. Maybe, just maybe, with each other's help, they have a chance of overcoming the trials put in front of them.



The Dog who saved the world **Ross Welford**

Ross Welford has a knack for combining science and philosophical questions in stories that stem from things we all understand – family, friendship, self-discovery and love. Georgie and her friend Ramzy are fascinated by the eccentric Dr Pretorius and the amazing VR machine she's created in her secret hideout on the Whitley Bay seafront. She claims it can send them into the future, something Georgie is willing to try, despite the dangers, if the future holds a cure for the disease that is threatening all dogs – including her beloved Mister Mash – and even humanity itself. Welford cleverly balances tension with humour and sets readers thinking about what's really important in our lives. This is another warm-hearted, intelligent and gripping adventure from a consistently excellent author. (nominated for the Berkshire Book Award longlist)



The Box of Demons **Daniel Whelan**

Ben Robson can't remember a time before he had the box, with its three mischief-making demon occupants: smelly, cantankerous Orf, manically destructive Kartoffel and fat, slobbering greedy-guts Djinn. When Ben was a kid it was fun, and he enjoyed their company. Now he's twelve they're nothing but trouble. Then one day Ben has an angelic visitor who tells him that he can be rid of the box forever if he sends it back to hell. There's only one catch - the box has other plans . . . The Box of Demons by Daniel Whelan was the winner of the 2012 Write Now! Prize. It is now available in paperback with a gorgeous illustrated cover by Chris Riddell.



Snowglobe **Amy Wilson**

When daydreamer Clementine discovers a mysterious house standing in the middle of town that was never there before, she is pulled towards it by the powerful sense of a mother she never knew. The place is full of snowglobes, swirling with stars and snow and each containing a trapped magician, watched over by Gan, the bitter keeper of the house. One of these is Dylan, a boy who teases her in the real world but who is now desperate for her help. So Clem ventures into the snowglobes, rescuing Dylan and discovering her own powerful connection to the magic of these thousand worlds. Vowing to release the magicians from the control of their enchantments, Clem unknowingly unleashes a struggle for power that will not only put her family, but the future of magic itself in danger. *Snowglobe* by Amy Wilson is a beautifully spellbinding story from the author of *A Girl Called Owl* and *A Far Away Magic*. (nominated for the Berkshire Book Award longlist)

## Years 9, 10 and 11



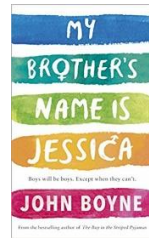
With the Fire on high **Elizabeth Acevedo**

Ever since she got pregnant freshman year, Emoni Santiago's life has been about making the tough decisions--doing what has to be done for her daughter and her abuela. The one place she can let all that go is in the kitchen, where she adds a little something magical to everything she cooks, turning her food into straight-up goodness.

Even though she dreams of working as a chef after she graduates, Emoni knows that it's not worth her time to pursue the impossible. Yet despite the rules she thinks she has to play by, once Emoni starts cooking, her only choice is to let her talent break free. With recipes liberally sprinkled throughout the book, this is a story that reaches for the soul and shows a

glimpse of the richness of life... even for those the reader might want to initially stereotype.

With a commitment to following her dreams, a desire to break free from both wider society and her community's expectations, Emoni shares the story of her heart; of creativity and determination, of obligation and sacrifice, love and resilience.



My brother's name is Jessica **John Boyne**

A heart-warming story written from the perspective of the brother of the transgender sibling. Sam finds it difficult to accept that his brother would in fact like to be his sister and change his name from Jason to Jessica. The parents of Sam and Jessica also find it hard to accept and to face up to the reality of what is happening. Their mother is in the running for the post of Prime Minister so finds the whole subject too sensitive politically. It takes the kindness of an aunt, who looks after Jessica and lets her be who she wants to be, for Sam to realise how unfair he has been on his brother/sister. We have an upbeat conclusion to look forward to and an important message to be accepting of our fellow human beings. (Review by Mrs Seddon; nominated for the Berkshire Book Award longlist)



Toffee **Sarah Crossan**

When Allison runs away from home she doesn't expect to be taken in by Marla, an elderly woman with dementia, who mistakes her for an old friend called Toffee. Allison is used to hiding who she really is, and trying to be what other people want her to be. And so, Toffee is who she becomes.

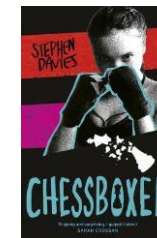
But as her bond with Marla grows, Allison begins to ask herself - where is home? What is a family? And most importantly, who am I, really?



Rosie loves Jack **Mel Darbon**

Rosie is a feisty 16 year old who happens to have Downs. Her boyfriend is Jack. He suffered brain damage and has anger management issues. After a violent incident at Henley college, where they met and are studying, Jack is sent away to deal with his problems. Rosie decides to run away to Brighton to find him. She does not take her phone with her and has very little money, although enough for her rail fare. Unfortunately it is very snowy in London and trains are cancelled, so Rosie is delayed on her journey. Along the way she meets a variety of people who, some of whom try to help her; others are not so kindly and she encounters danger and situations quite alien to her.

This is a tense story; from the start the reader is drawn to Rosie and wants her to find her Jack. The writer has based Rosie on very detailed research and experience of working with students with Downs. Rosie's speech patterns are very carefully thought out and written down exactly as Rosie expresses herself. The author visited Gillotts in November this year, giving Year 8 and 9 students the opportunity to meet her and ask questions about writing techniques. (Review by Mrs Seddon)



Chessboxer **Stephen Davies**

Leah Baxter is a genius. She's a few wins away from becoming a junior chess grandmaster, and her life is on course to achieve everything her mom and coach want for her. But Leah is at stalemate - grieving for her father, and feeling suffocated. She decides to make the ultimate sacrifice and quit chess. But chess

doesn't want to quit her. Soon Leah discovers her new gambit: chessboxing, a dangerous hybrid sport which will test her body and mind to their limits. Can the pawn become the queen?



See all the Stars Kit Frick

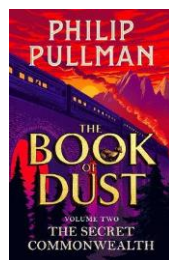
Demands to be read in one sitting Karen M. McManus, bestselling author of One of Us Is Lying and Two Can Keep A Secret We Were Liars meets Goodbye Days in this thrilling page-turner... It's hard to find the truth beneath the lies you tell yourself. Then: They were four - Bex, Jenni, Ellory, Ret. (Venus. Earth. Moon. Sun.) Headstrong, loyal, electric ; Ellory's whole solar system. Now: Ellory is alone, her once inseparable group of friends torn apart by secrets, deception and a shocking moment that changed their lives forever. Then: Lazy summer days. A party. A beautiful boy. The beginnings of a spectacular, bright love. Now: Senior year, and Ellory's back at school after a two-month suspension and summer away - no boyfriend, no friends. No going back. Tormented by some and sought out by others, and consumed by guilt over her not entirely innocent role in everything and everyone she's lost, Ellory finds that even in the present, the past is everywhere. The path forward isn't a straight line. And moving on will mean sorting the truth from the lies - the lies Ellory has been telling herself.



Five Feet apart Rachel Lippincott, Mikki Daughtry and Tobias Iaconis

In this moving story that's perfect for fans of John Green's The Fault in Our Stars, two teens fall in love with just one minor complication - they can't get within a few feet of each other without risking their lives. Can you love someone you can never touch? Stella Grant likes to be in control - even though her totally out of control lungs have sent her in and out of the

hospital most of her life. At this point, what Stella needs to control most is keeping herself away from anyone or anything that might pass along an infection and jeopardize the possibility of a lung transplant. Six feet apart. No exceptions. The only thing Will Newman wants to be in control of is getting out of this hospital. He couldn't care less about his treatments, or a fancy new clinical drug trial. Soon, he'll turn eighteen and then he'll be able to unplug all these machines and actually go see the world, not just its hospitals. Will's exactly what Stella needs to stay away from. If he so much as breathes on Stella she could lose her spot on the transplant list. Either one of them could die. The only way to stay alive is to stay apart. But suddenly six feet doesn't feel like safety. It feels like punishment. What if they could steal back just a little bit of the space their broken lungs have stolen from them? Would five feet apart really be so dangerous if it stops their hearts from breaking too? (nominated for the Berkshire Book Award longlist)



The Book of Dust: The Secret Commonwealth Philip Pullman

It is twenty years since the events of La Belle Sauvage: The Book of Dust Volume One unfolded and saw the baby Lyra Belacqua begin her life-changing journey.

It is almost ten years since readers left Lyra and the love of her young life, Will Parry, on a park bench in Oxford's Botanic Gardens at the end of the ground-breaking, bestselling His Dark Materials sequence.

Now, in The Secret Commonwealth, we meet Lyra Silvertongue. And she is no longer a child . . .

The second volume of Philip Pullman's The Book of Dust sees Lyra, now twenty years old, and her daemon Pantalaimon, forced to navigate their relationship in a way they could never have imagined, and drawn into the complex and dangerous factions of a world that they had no idea existed. Pulled along on his own journey too is Malcolm; once a boy with a boat and

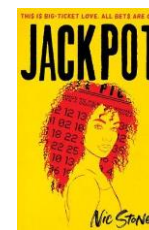
a mission to save a baby from the flood, now a man with a strong sense of duty and a desire to do what is right.

Theirs is a world at once familiar and extraordinary, and they must travel far beyond the edges of Oxford, across Europe and into Asia, in search of what is lost - a city haunted by demons, a secret at the heart of a desert, and the mystery of the elusive Dust.



Scars like wings Erin Stewart

Everyone has scars. Some are just easier to see ... 16-year-old Ava Gardener is heading back to school one year after a house fire left her severely disfigured. She's used to the names, the stares, the discomfort, but there's one name she hates most of all: Survivor. What do you call someone who didn't mean to survive? Who sometimes wishes she hadn't? When she meets a fellow survivor named Piper at therapy, Ava begins to feel like she's not facing the nightmare alone. Piper helps Ava reclaim the pieces of Ava before the Fire, a normal girl who kissed boys and sang on stage. But Piper is fighting her own battle for survival, and when Ava almost loses her best friend, she must decide if the new normal she's chasing has more to do with the girl in the glass-or the people by her side. The beautiful, life-affirming debut from Erin Stewart that's being called the YA answer to Wonder. Perfect for fans of Jandy Nelson, Nicola Yoon and John Green.



Jackpot Nic Stone

Jackpot is a hard-hitting novel about class, money and how you make your own luck in the world. Seventeen-year-old Rico splits her time outside school between looking after her younger brother and working in the local gas

station to help her mum pay the bills. So when she sells a jackpot-winning lotto ticket and the money goes unclaimed, Rico thinks maybe her luck has changed.

If she can find the ticket holder and reunite them with the cash, hopefully she will get a cut of the winnings. . . That is if she can avoid falling for the annoyingly handsome (and filthy rich) boy she roped into helping her with the hunt.



Paper Avalanche **Lisa Williamson**

Bonnie. Never Mum or Mummy or Mother. Just Bonnie... When it comes to flying under the radar, Ro Snow is an expert. No friends. No boys. No parties. And strictly NO VISITORS. It may be lonely, but at least this way the truth remains where it should - hidden. Then Tanvi Shah, the girl who almost died, comes tumbling back into her life, and Ro finds herself losing control of her carefully constructed lies. But if Ro's walls come crumbling down, who's going to take care of Bonnie...?

**All synopses and reviews are from [loveread4kids.co.uk](http://loveread4kids.co.uk), unless otherwise stated.**

**See also <https://www.common sense media.org/> for more book and age recommendations**

Some books on this list have been nominated for the longlist for the Berkshire Book Award. Young people of 11-14 years old are eligible to vote for this prestigious local award. Ask Mrs Seddon for more details and see:

**<https://www.berkshirebookaward.org.uk/> for more information**

**For more book recommendations, please contact Mrs Seddon (term-time only) [sseddon@gillotts.org.uk](mailto:sseddon@gillotts.org.uk)**