



From the Library

JUNIOR FICTION RECOMMENDED READS

Y7 & Y8



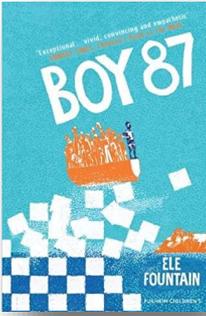
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BOY 87

by **Ele Fountain**

Multicultural Fiction

Shif is just an ordinary boy who likes chess, maths and racing his best friend home from school. But one day, soldiers with guns come to his door - and he knows that he is no longer safe. Shif is forced to leave his mother and little sister, and embark on a dangerous journey; a journey through imprisonment and escape, new lands and strange voices, and a perilous crossing by land and sea. He will encounter cruelty and kindness; he will become separated from the people he loves. *Boy 87* is a gripping, uplifting tale of one boy's struggle for survival; it echoes the story of young people all over the world today.

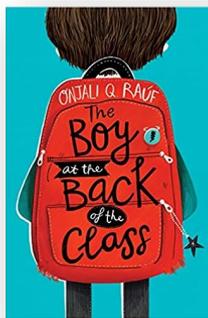


ASHA & THE SPIRIT BIRD

by **Jasbinder Bilan**

Adventure / Multicultural Fiction

Asha lives in the foothills of the Himalayas. Money is tight and she misses her papa who works in the city. When he suddenly stops sending his wages, a ruthless moneylender ransacks their home and her mother talks of leaving. From her den in the mango tree, Asha makes a pact with her best friend, Jeevan, to find her father and make things right. But the journey is dangerous: they must cross the world's highest mountains and face hunger, tiredness even snow leopards. And yet, Asha has the unshakeable sense that the spirit bird of her grandmother - her *nanijee* - will be watching over her.

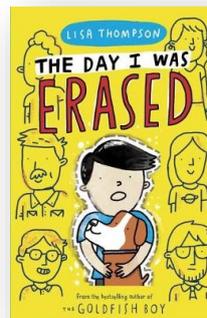


BOY AT THE BACK OF THE CLASS

by **Lisa Thompson**

Multicultural Fiction

There used to be an empty chair at the back of my class, but now a new boy called Ahmet is sitting in it. He's nine years old (just like me), but he's very strange. He never talks and never smiles and doesn't like sweets! But then I learned the truth: Ahmet really isn't very strange at all. He's a refugee who's run away from a War. A real one. With bombs and fires and bullies that hurt people. And the more I find out about him, the more I want to help.

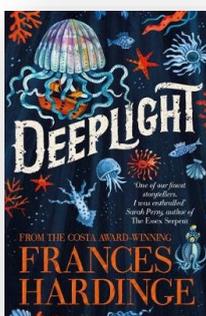


THE DAY I WAS ERASED

by **Lisa Thompson**

Families / Fantasy / Humour

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, if he'd never existed, then he wouldn't have swooped Monster out of the path of that car...

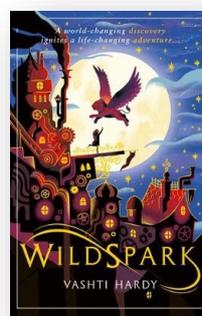


DEEPLIGHT

by **Frances Hardinge**

Fantasy / Families

On the jumbled streets of the Island of Lady's Crave live 14-year-old street urchins Hark and his best friend Jelt. They are scavengers: diving for relics of the gods, desperate for anything they can sell. But there is something dangerous in the deep waters of the undersea, calling to someone brave enough to retrieve it. Nothing is quite as it seems...

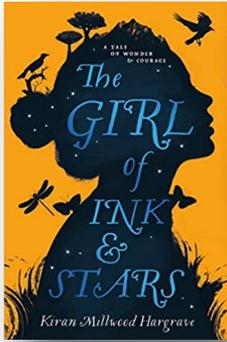


WILDSPARK

by **Vashti Hardy**

Fantasy/Families

A year after the death of her older brother, Prue Haywood's family is still shattered by grief. But everything changes when a stranger arrives at the farm. A new, incredible technology has been discovered in the city of Medlock, where a secretive guild of inventors have developed a way to capture spirits of the dead in animal-like machines, bringing them back to life.



GIRL OF INK AND STARS
by Kiran Millwood-Hargrave

Fantasy

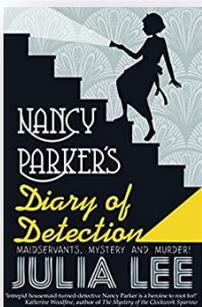
Forbidden to leave her island, Isabella dreams of the faraway lands her cartographer father once mapped. When her friend disappears, she volunteers to guide the search. The world beyond the walls is a monster-filled wasteland - and beneath the dry rivers and smoking mountains, a fire demon is stirring from its sleep. Soon, following her map, her heart and an ancient myth, Isabella discovers the true end of her journey: to save the island itself.



LAND OF NEVERENDINGS
by Kate Saunders

Fantasy

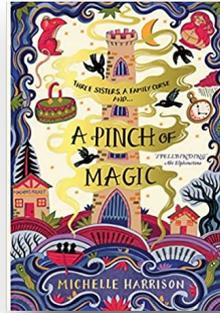
After her younger sister dies, a girl discovers a doorway to a world where people and their toys live when they have left this world. Moving, raw and funny in all the right ways this rip-roaring adventure, gives an honest portrayal of grief for young readers, and shows us that whilst sadness does exist in the world, it doesn't have to cancel out happiness, or silliness, even when you lose someone you love.



NANCY PARKER'S DIARY OF DETECTION
by Julie Lee

Crime/Mystery

Nancy Parker has recently been engaged in her first position - as a housemaid for the very modern Mrs Bryce. It's not Nancy's dream job (she'd rather be investigating crimes like they do in her beloved six-penny thrillers) but as Mrs Bryce starts to entertain her new neighbours with lavish parties, it becomes clear that something strange and interesting might be afoot.



A PINCH OF MAGIC
by Michelle Harrison

Fantasy

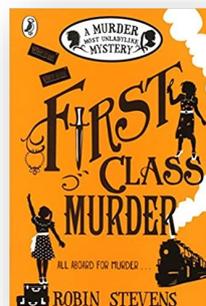
Three sisters trapped by an ancient curse. Three magical objects with the power to change their fate. Will they be enough to break the curse? Or will they lead the sisters even deeper into danger? This breath taking quest for survival and freedom is bursting with brave heroines, enchanted objects and deadly dangers. At its heart is a powerful and beautiful message of sisterly love and loyalty overcoming jealousy and betrayal.



GIRL IN THE WINDOW
by Penny Joelson

Mystery

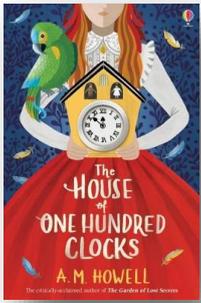
Libby is visually impaired but that doesn't stop her being a keen photographer. She loves going out walking with her guide dog, Samson, and taking photos. One day a boy gives her a secret note to deliver which changes everything. Because soon after, he goes missing, and no one - except Libby and her new friend Kyle - thinks there is anything to worry about. What if she's the only person who can solve the mystery...?



FIRST CLASS MURDER
by Robin Stevens

Crime/Mystery

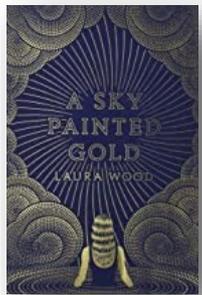
Daisy Wells and Hazel Wong are taking a holiday on the world-famous Orient Express - and it's clear that each of their fellow first-class passengers has something to hide. They are faced with their first ever locked-room mystery - and with competition from several other sleuths, who are just as determined to crack the case.



THE HOUSE OF ONE HUNDRED CLOCKS
by **A. M. Howell**

Mystery / Historical Fiction

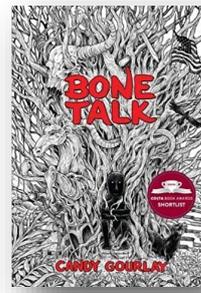
Helena and her parrot, Orbit, are swept off to Cambridge when her father is appointed clock-winder to one of the wealthiest men in England. There is only one rule: the clocks must never stop. Soon Helena discovers the house of one hundred clocks holds many mysteries: a ghostly figure, strange notes and stolen winding keys. Can she work out the house's secrets before time runs out?



SKY PAINTED GOLD
by **Laura Wood**

Historical Fiction

Growing up in her sleepy Cornish village dreaming of being a writer, sixteen-year-old Lou has always wondered about the grand Cardew house which has stood empty for years. When the owners arrive for the summer - a handsome, dashing brother and sister - Lou is quite swept off her feet and into a world of moonlit cocktail parties and glamour beyond her wildest dreams. But, as she grows closer to the Cardews, is she abandoning her own ambitions... and is there something darker lurking at the heart of



BONE TALK
by **Candy Gourlay**

Historical Fiction

The Philippines, 100 years ago. A boy called Samkad wants to become a man. He is desperate to be given his own shield, spear and axe. His best friend, Luki, wants to be a warrior too - but she is a girl and that is forbidden.



VOTE FOR EFFIE
by **Laura Wood**

School Stories / Friendship

The last thing new girl Effie Kostas needs right now is to be running a high-stakes campaign for Student Council President against the most popular boy in school. But she's now about to sit quietly by in the face of great injustice - so the race is on. With the help of a band of misfits, a whole lot of glitter glue and an angry parrot, can Effie defy the odds and win the election? And can one girl really make a difference?



THE STAR OUTSIDE MY WINDOW
by **Onjali Q. Rauf**

Fostering / Families / Empathy Read

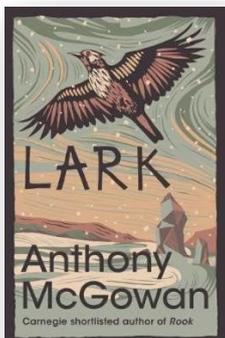
Following the disappearance of her mum, 10-year-old Aniyah suddenly finds herself living in foster care. With her life in disarray, she knows just one thing for sure: her mum isn't gone for ever. Because people with the brightest hearts never truly leave. They become stars. So when a new star is spotted acting strangely in the sky, Aniyah is sure it's her mum, and she embarks on the adventure of a lifetime to make sure everyone else knows too -- an adventure that involves breaking into the Royal Observatory of London, a mischievous scurry of squirrels and the biggest star in Hollywood...



NOTHING EVER HAPPENS HERE
by **Sarah Hagger-Holt**

Families / LGBT / Empathy Read

Twelve year old Izzy tries to deal with her dad coming out as transgender, as well as the school drama production and friendship dramas. Izzy's family is under the spotlight when her dad comes out as Danielle, a trans woman. Izzy is terrified her family will be torn apart. Will she lose her dad? Will her parents break up? And what will people at school say? Izzy's always been shy, but now all eyes are on her. Can she face her fears, find her voice and stand up for what's right?

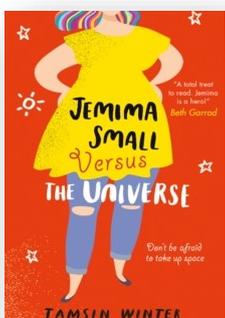


LARK
by Anthony McGowan

Families and Relationships

Things are getting tense at home for Nicky and Kenny as they wait for a visit from their estranged mum. To escape, they go for a walk on the moors, taking their little Jack Russell terrier with them. But what should have been a laugh, a lark, turns deadly when the weather changes and they are caught in a blizzard. Nothing will ever be quite the same again.

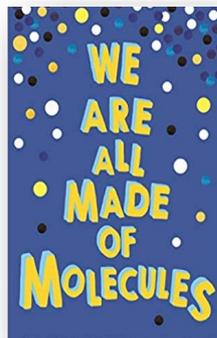
JEMIMA SMALL VERSUS THE



UNIVERSE
by Tamsin Winter

School Stories / Families

Jemima Small is funny and smart. She knows a lot of things. Like the fact that she's made of 206 bones, over 600 muscles and trillions of cells. What she doesn't know is how that can be true and yet she can still sometimes feel like nothing. Or how being made to join the school's "special" healthy lifestyle group - aka Fat Club - could feel any less special. But Jemima also knows also knows that the biggest stars in the universe are the brightest. And maybe it's her time to shine.



WE ARE ALL MADE OF MOLECULES
by Susin Nielsen

Families and Relationships

Stewart is geeky, gifted and sees things differently to most people. Ashley is popular, cool and sees things very differently to her new family. Her dad has come out and moved out - but not far enough. Now she has to live with a freakazoid step-brother. Stewart doesn't fit in at his new school, and Ashley can't quite get used to her totally awkward home. Things are about to get a whole lot more mixed up when these two very different people attract the attention of school hunk Jared...



THE KID WHO CAME FROM SPACE
by Ross Welford

Sci-Fi/Family Stories

A small village in the wilds of Northumberland is rocked by the disappearance of twelve-year-old Tammy. Only her twin brother, Ethan, knows she is safe. It is a secret he must keep, or risk never seeing her again. Together with his friend Iggy and the mysterious Hellyann, Ethan teams up with a spaceship called Philip, and Suzy the trained chicken, for a nail-biting chase to get his sister back.



HUNGER GAMES
by Suzanne Collins

Dystopian

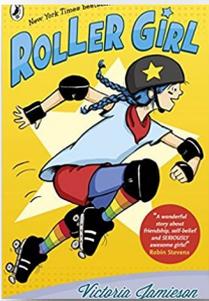
Sixteen-year-old Katniss Everdeen regards it as a death sentence when she is forced to represent her district in the annual Hunger Games, a fight to the death on live TV. But Katniss has been close to death before - and survival, for her, is second nature. The Hunger Games is a searing novel set in a future with unsettling parallels to our present. Welcome to the deadliest reality TV show ever.



CROSSFIRE
by Malorie Blackman

Dystopian

Years have passed since the love between Sephy - a Cross - and Callum - a Nought - destroyed their world and changed their families and society forever. Society appears to be very different now. For the first time ever, a Nought Prime Minister - Tobey Durbridge - is in power. Race and class don't divide people anymore. But things are never really that easy. Because Tobey's just been framed for murder, and the only way to free himself is to turn to his oldest friend - Callie-Rose.



ROLLER GIRL
by Victoria Jamieson

Graphic Novel

Astrid has always done everything with her best friend Nicole. So when Astrid falls in love with roller derby and signs up for a summer camp, she's sure Nicole will be right by her side - until Nicole signs up for ballet camp instead, with Astrid's biggest rival. So begins the hardest summer of Astrid's life, as she struggles to stay on her skates, to learn who she is without Nicole . . . and to find out what it takes to be a strong, tough, awesome roller girl.



BRAVE
by Svetlana Chmakova

Graphic Novel

Still on high alert about the looming threat of sunspots, Jensen reaches out to the school newspaper to spread his message. But when Jenny and Akilah discover that Berrybrook's resident bullies have set their sights on Jensen, the girls are determined to use their positions on the school paper to shine a light on the issue. As the bullying escalates, will Jensen be left to face this fate worse than sunspots entirely on his own?



GUTS
by Raina Telgemeier

Graphic Novel

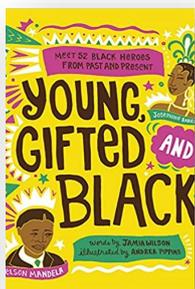
Raina wakes up one night with a terrible upset stomach. Her mom has one, too, so it's probably just a bug. Raina eventually returns to school, where she's dealing with the usual highs and lows: friends, not-friends, and classmates who think the school year is just one long gross-out session. It soon becomes clear that Raina's tummy trouble isn't going away... and it coincides with her worries about food, school, and changing friendships. What's going on?



CORALINE
by Neil Gaiman

Graphic Novel

When Coraline moves to a new house she is fascinated by the fact that their house is only half a house. Divided into flats years before, the other flat, it soon becomes clear to Coraline, is not quite as cosy and safe as her own.



YOUNG GIFTED AND BLACK
by Jamia Wilson

Non-Fiction

Meet 52 icons of colour from the past and present in this celebration of inspirational achievement – a collection of stories about change makers to encourage, inspire and empower the next generation of change makers. Jamia Wilson has carefully curated this range of black icons and the book is stylishly brought together by Andrea Pippins' colourful and celebratory illustrations.



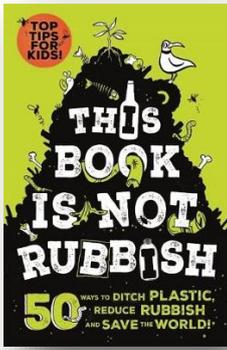
NO ONE IS TOO SMALL TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

by Greta Thunberg

Non-Fiction

'Everything needs to change. And it has to start today'

In August 2018 a fifteen-year-old Swedish girl, Greta Thunberg, decided not to go to school one day. Her actions ended up sparking a global movement for action against the climate crisis, inspiring millions of pupils to go on strike for our planet, forcing governments to listen, and earning her a Nobel Peace Prize nomination.



THIS BOOK IS NOT RUBBISH

by Isabel Thomas

Non-fiction

50 practical tips on how to conserve natural resources and be kinder to our planet. Discover how YOU can save the planet, and become an eco-warrior, not an eco-worrier, with 50 practical tips to really make a difference! Our planet is in peril and it needs your help! But the good news is that there are loads of easy ways that you can get involved and make a difference!

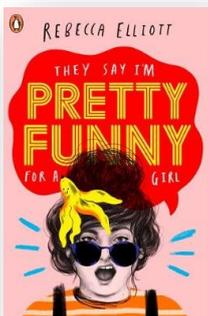


WHAT CAN YOU DO TO REDUCE CLIMATE CHANGE

by Seth Wynes

Non-Fiction

Climate Change researcher, Seth Wynes, sets out in the simplest terms how you can make a real and positive impact. Make changes at home, at work, to how you shop, eat, live - start by finding one thing your family can change with this book and do it today. What you do matters - and the science proves it. How many actions can you tick off the list in this book to help save our planet?

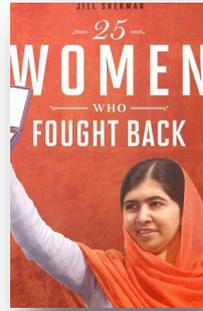


PRETTY FUNNY

by Rebecca Elliott

Humour

Teenager Haylah accepts who she is (despite some wobbles) and wrong-foots the bullies with her humour. What she really wants to be is a stand-up comedian but she'll have to overcome the obstacles, real and in her head, to get to where she wants to be.

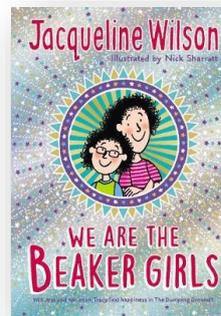


25 WOMEN WHO FOUGHT BACK

by Jill Sherman

Non-Fiction

Be a Bold Girl - discover 25 women who challenged the status quo and fought for what they believed in. From all corners of the globe, these women show that barriers are meant to be broken and obstacles can be overcome. Learn about some of the fierce women who persevered in the face of adversity to fight for what they thought was right.

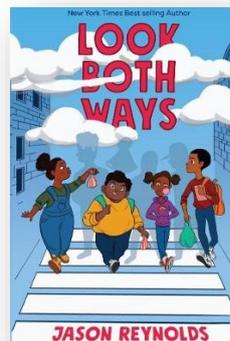


WE ARE THE BEAKER GIRLS

by Jacqueline Wilson

Families / Relationships / Humour

The second instalment in the grown-up lives of Tracy Beaker and her daughter Jess. Jess and Tracy Beaker now live in The Dumping Ground. Not that Dumping Ground - the children's home that Tracy grew up in - but a seaside antiques shop full of treasures, along with Flo, the owner, and Alfie, their dog. A story about new beginnings and unexpected challenges.



LOOK BOTH WAYS

by Jason Reynolds

Humour / School Stories

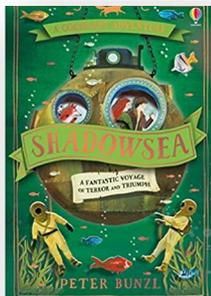
Follows the journey of four middle school friends as they walk back home after a day at school. When the bell rings and school is finished for the day, the walkers are finally set free. For ten blocks they have no-one telling them what to do; they can talk about bogies, skateboard, plan dramatic escapes, make jokes, face bullies, and hear about the school bus that fell from the sky. From hilarious escapades to brave challenges, join the walkers for one journey and many, many detours.



THE GIRL WHO STOLE AN ELEPHANT
by Nizrana Farook

Adventure

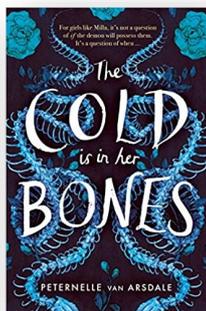
Chaya, a no-nonsense, outspoken hero, leads her friends and a gorgeous elephant on a noisy, fraught, joyous adventure through the jungle where revolution is stirring and leeches lurk. Will stealing the queen's jewels be the beginning or the end of everything for the intrepid gang?



SHADOWSEA
by Peter Bunzl

Adventure

Swept into the bright hustle and bustle of New York, Lily, Robert and Malkin discover shadowy secrets lie beneath its surface. For there are chilling goings-on in their hotel... A strange boy held captive, haunted by an undersea mystery; and a revengeful villain with a treacherous plan. Searching for clues, Robert and Lily are plunged into deep water... But can they reveal the deadly truth before the secrets submerge them? ...



THE COLD IS IN HER BONES
by Pertenell Van Arsdale

Supernatural Stories

Milla's whole world is her family's farm. She is never allowed to travel to the village and her only friend is her beloved older brother, Niklas. When a bright-eyed girl named Iris comes to stay, Milla hopes her loneliness might finally be coming to an end. But Iris has a secret she's forbidden to share: The village is cursed by a demon who possesses girls at random, and the townspeople live in terror of who it will come for next.



THE HIGHLAND FALCON THIEF
by M. G. Leonard & Sam Sedgman

Adventure

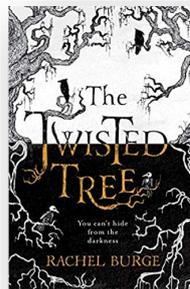
Harrison Beck is reluctantly joining his travel-writer Uncle Nat for the last journey of the royal train, The Highland Falcon. But as the train makes its way to Scotland, a priceless brooch goes missing, and things are suddenly a lot more interesting. As suspicions and accusations run high among the passengers, Harrison begins to investigate and uncovers a few surprises along the way. Can he solve the mystery of the jewel thief and catch the culprit before they reach the end of the line?



THE BATTLE FOR PERFECT
by Helena Duggan

Supernatural Stories

Things are quiet in the town that used to be Perfect until Violet and Boy uncover more trouble brewing. Five scientists are missing and Town is about to be taken over by a huge zombie army. Can Violet and Boy save their friends? It's a matter of life or death! A highly charged finale to the series that began with A Place Called Perfect. Fans of Roald Dahl, Neil Gaiman and Tim Burton will love this quirky, creepy and unforgettable adventure series.



THE TWISTED TREE
by Rachel Burge

Ghost Story/Thriller

Martha can tell things about a person just by touching their clothes, as if their emotions and memories have been absorbed into the material. It started the day she fell from the tree at her grandma's cabin and became blind in one eye. Determined to understand her strange ability, Martha sets off to visit her grandmother, Mormor - only to discover Mormor is dead, a peculiar boy is in her cabin and a terrifying creature is on the loose.