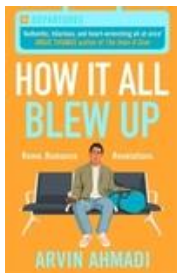


2021-22 Recommended Reads Year 9



Ahmadi, Arvin **How It All Blew Up**

Amir is gay and Iranian which makes for some difficult choices when dealing with his family. A trip to Rome confirms his belief in being himself especially when having to explain his life to a complete stranger. A novel dealing with a clash of cultures but also how you can never really escape your past.

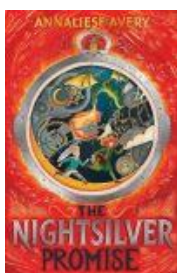
T+



Albert, Melissa **Tales From the Hinterland**

A collection of twelve short stories based on fairy tales. The stories are dark and creepy with the female protagonist usually, but not always, coming out the winner. Not to be read before bedtime.

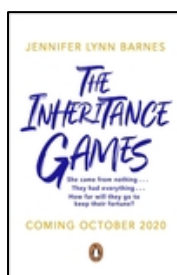
T+



Avery, Annaliese **The Nightsilver Promise**

The Empire of Albion is ruled by science and every one of its citizens lives is predetermined by the track of stars on their wrist. Paisley discovers that her destiny is to die before her 14th birthday but when her mother disappears, she must find a way to break the science and protect her younger brother.

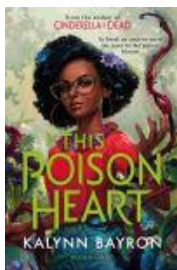
T



Barnes, Jennifer Lynn **The Inheritance Games**

Avery Grambs is funny, stubborn and smart. She has always been poor but since her mum died life has got harder. She plans to keep her head down and work hard, get a college scholarship and escape this life of hardship she and her stepsister endure. Out of the blue, Avery discovers an eccentric billionaire she has never heard of has left her his fortune. She finds herself caught up in a dangerous mix of thrills and mystery as his family try to figure out why she got 'their' money.

T+



Bayron, Kalynn

This Poison Heart

Briseis can grow plants through a single touch. When she inherits an old family estate with a walled garden filled with deadly plant life, she discovers a talent for concocting tinctures and elixirs. Inspired by 'Little Shop of Horrors' and 'The Secret Garden'.

T+



Cole, Steve

Welcome to Trashland

Theo lives in a mega-dump in Ghana, struggling to survive by finding scraps of metal to sell while dreaming of school and an escape from his harsh life. When Emmanuel appears with a map of treasure buried in the dump, this could be his chance. But it is not that straightforward as Emmanuel is keeping secrets and local gangs get involved.

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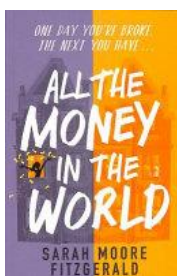


Collins, Tim

Signal

Teenagers Nikko and his sister Mei are on their way to begin a new life far from Earth. Why are they leaving and, when their ship picks up a distress signal, why are they sent to help investigate? And what will they find there?

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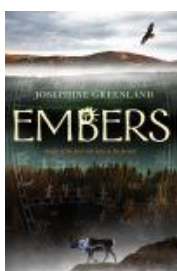


Fitzgerald, Sarah Moore

All the Money in the World

Penny lives in a high-rise block of flats which the landlord refuses to do any repairs on or fix the damp. Money is tight and life is tough, but she loves her neighbours as they look out for each other. When she unexpectedly makes friends with the old lady next door, she could never have imagined how it would change her life forever. Will it also change her, and at what cost?

T

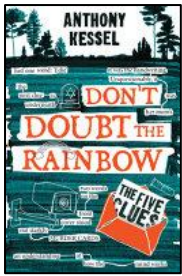


Greenland, Josephine

Embers

Teenagers Ellen and her brother Simon are sent by their parents on holiday to their father's ancestral hometown in the north of Sweden. Here they come across a gruesome and disturbing crime scene and Simon determines to solve the mystery when local police don't seem bothered. His investigations uncover some uncomfortable truths about the town, relationships between locals, and the traditional Sami people and their own family's past.

T

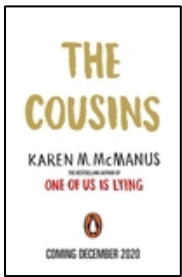


Kessel, Anthony

The Five Clues

Jewish teenager Edie has had a tough year. Twelve months ago, her mum died and at her stone setting Edie finds a note from her mother which makes her realise her death was not an accident. She had been investigating human rights violations and had received death threats. By following the clues left for her, Edie must unravel the mystery surrounding her mother's death and conclude her investigation for her. Will she bring her mother's killer to justice before becoming their next target?

T

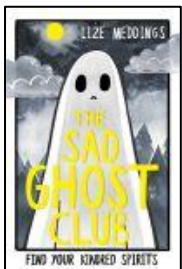


McManus, Karen M

The Cousins

More than twenty years ago, wealthy Mildred Story disowned all her children and has had nothing to do with them or her grandchildren since. When cousins Milly, Aubrey and Jonah are invited - summoned - to stay with their Grandma and work at her resort for a summer, they have no choice but to go. They get to know each other but also find themselves caught up in family dramas and secrets in this book full of twists which will keep you guessing right to the end.

T+



Meddings, Lize

The Sad Ghost Club

Anxiety, loneliness, feeling as if you don't belong. Explore these emotions in this graphic novel. An uplifting, relatable tale about mental health.

T+



Ness, Patrick Burn

In 1950's rural America lives Sarah Dewhurst and her father. Desperate to keep their farm going they hire an animal to help that only the poorest are crazy enough to take on – a dragon. But there's more to the dragon Kazimir than meets the eye and soon Sarah finds herself entangled in a prophecy with Kazimir, the FBI, an assassin and a cult. Completely unique and fantastical this book touches on issues including racism and homophobia.

T+



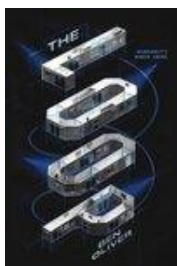


**O'Donoghue,
Caroline**

**All Our
Hidden
Gifts**

Maeve has always felt that she doesn't fit in. However, when she finds a pack of tarot cards and begins to give scarily accurate readings at school, she suddenly becomes popular. Then a reading for her ex-best-friend Lily goes wrong and two days later, Lily disappears. Can Maeve and her new friends find her? Will Maeve's new gift be enough to bring Lily back, before she's gone for good? This book deals with themes of friendship, growing up, acceptance and the supernatural.

T

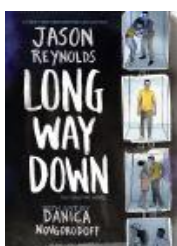


Oliver, Ben

The Loop

Luka Kane is trapped in The Loop, a prison for teenagers in a future where the world is run by The One World Government and an AI called Happy. Life inside the Loop is horrific, but all is not well outside either, as Luka discovers. This fast paced and inventive dystopian adventure is packed with twists which will entertain and make you think. Fans of The Hunger Games and the Maze Runner will be happy to know that this is also the first in a trilogy.

T



**Reynolds,
Jason**

**Long Way
Down: The
Graphic
Novel**

Will's brother Shawn has just been shot in a gang attack. Will knows what he needs to do – take revenge. So, he picks up Shawn's gun and gets in the lift to go and find the person he believes killed his brother. On the way down, he is joined by ghosts of people linked in some way to Shawn. Will they help him decide what to do? Is revenge really the best choice? The original version of this award-winning book was written in verse and the illustrations really add to the text. Unforgettable.

T+

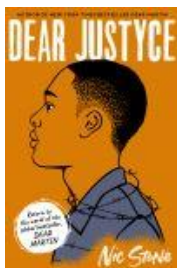


**Reynolds,
Justin A**

**Forever
Ends on
Friday**

Q has been reanimated and has one month left to live and his best friend Jamal is determined to make it great and keep past truths hidden from him. As the chapters count down Q's life, the readers' emotions will continue to rise; a heart-wrenching exploration of life and death.

T+



Stone, Nic

Dear Justyce

Growing up together doesn't mean you won't grow apart. While Quan and Justyce have stayed in touch, they've surely followed different paths. Now in a life of crime and gang violence, Quan finds himself closer than ever to Justyce after he is charged with murder.

T+



Wallman, Sue

I Know You Did It

At the end of her first day at her new school, Ruby finds a note on her locker saying, 'I know you did it'. Is the past coming back to haunt her? When serious accidents start happening to students at the school the finger of blame is pointed at Ruby. She knows it's not her but who is behind these scary events?

T



Yoon, David

Super Fake Love Song

Sunny is a self-confessed nerd. Cirrus, the new girl at school, sees him hanging out in his older brother's room and assumes he is in a rock band. Of course, Sunny goes along with this in an attempt to impress her and soon he and his friends are actually attracting attention at school. Can they really 'fake it 'til they make it'? Can people really change who they are, and should they even want to? A fun read which manages to deal with important topics such as friendship and self-discovery.

T+

Y = Picture Book/ P = KS2 Picture Book
M = Beginner Readers / N = Developing Readers
CF = Children's Fiction
T = T/T+ = T+



= Available as an eBook

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