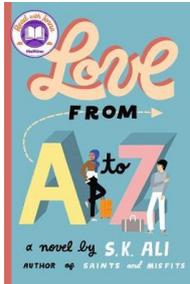


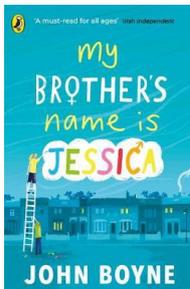
Recommended Reads Year 9 2020-21



Ali, S K Love From A to Z

T

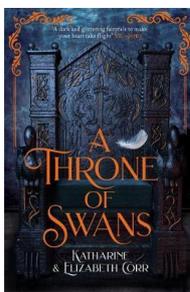
Zayneb, a hijabi girl living in America, and Adam, a boy who converted to Islam, meet in an airport during their trip to Doha, in Qatar. Zayneb has just been suspended for speaking out against an Islamophobic teacher and Adam is coming to terms with being diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. Told through the journals of their real thoughts, logging one marvel and one oddity about life every day, Zayneb and Adam have to navigate the push and pull of friendships and attraction while honouring the traditions and expectations of their Muslim faith. A wonderful story that centres the Muslim experience and shows the power of anger, peace, and connection.



Boyne, John My Brother's Name is Jessica

T+

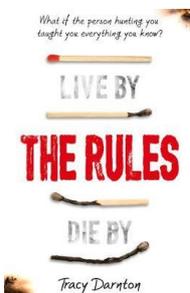
Imagine you're 13 years old with no real friends, parents who are so politically ambitious they almost forget you exist and only a big brother to rely on. What if one day that brother who is good looking, popular and an ace footballer tells you that he's not your brother but your sister. How would you cope? A moving and heartfelt portrait of one family's journey to acceptance.



Corr, Katharine; Corr, Elizabeth A Throne of Swans

T+

Aderyn's father dies just shy of her 18th birthday and she inherits the role of Protector of Atratys. In this kingdom, nobles can transform into birds and her ancestral bird is a swan but since witnessing the murder of her mother, Aderyn is no longer able to transform. Driven by revenge and love, she ventures into the malevolent heart of the Citadel to seek the truth about the attack that nearly destroyed her. Aderyn must work out who to trust with her secret in this treacherous world of politics. An engaging story of royalty, betrayal & secrets inspired by Swan Lake.

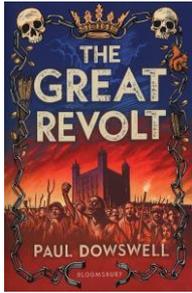


Darnton, Tracy The Rules

T+

Amber has escaped from a violent and abusive father who is a 'prepper' - a fanatic who thrives on extreme survival and trusts no-one. Over 23 taut and tense days in December, Amber is forced to outwit him again using the skills he has drilled into her. Mixed in with her recollections of their past life together and his cruel treatment of her and her mother, this is a hard hitting and genuinely scary thriller. Qyr 10/11?





Dowsell, Paul The Great Revolt

T

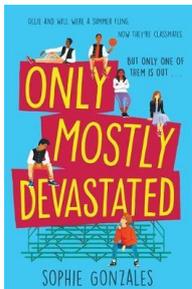
In 1381 Richard II's greedy court enforce a poll tax on an already impoverished and down trodden peasant workforce. Tilda, a young serf with a rising sense of injustice, and her father feel compelled to join the demonstrations in London. An alternative viewpoint is presented by Guy de Clare, a young scribe and confidant of the King. A vivid and atmospheric portrayal of this significant historical event that conveys the harsh realities of life - and death - at that time.



Elliott, Joseph The Good Hawk

T+

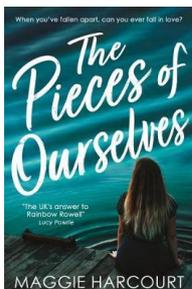
Agatha and Jamie live on the Isle of Skye in a mythical era where clans live and battle. Agatha has Down's Syndrome and works as a Hawk or sentinel. Jaime is a reluctant Angler and afraid of the sea. When their clan is betrayed and captured, the unlikely duo set out on a daring rescue mission taking them to mainland Scotia, where the people have been all but annihilated by a plague, and limb-ripping shadows haunt the ruins of the land. Tense, enthralling, brilliant; an utter feast for lovers of fantasy and historical fiction



Gonzales, Sophie Only Mostly Devastated

T+

Ollie and Will have a summer fling but Ollie is devastated when the summer ends he never hears from Will again. Forced to move schools, Ollie finds himself at Will's school. Happy coincidence? More likely a recipe for heartbreak especially as no one knows that Will is gay and even worse likes to share homophobic jokes with his jock friends. Ollie befriends a circle of girls, each with their own dramas and tires of Will pretending to be someone he's not at Ollie's expense. This funny, heartfelt, queer update on the musical Grease illustrates a timeless truth: love is love is love!



Harcourt, Maggie The Pieces of Ourselves

T+

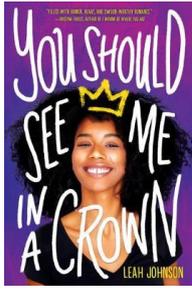
Meet Flora. Something happened last year at school so having dropped out now works as a cleaner in a hotel. She was diagnosed with Bipolar II and ever since the incident she doesn't do people. That is until Hal arrives, a hotel guest looking to solve a mystery from WWI. Forbidden romances of the past, slow burning feelings in the present, Flora and Hal work together to find out the truth. A warm hug of a read with endearing characters this is a great insight into living with Bipolar.



Holland, Sara Havenfall

T+

Maddie longs to be her maternal uncle's successor, the trusted innkeeper at Havenfall, where mysterious realms intersect via hidden tunnels beneath the mountains. Havenfall is also a place she feels most at home after dealing with her tragedy at the hands of the unseen. However, when a body is found in the grounds, the peace is shattered, and Maddie must uncover the shocking truths about herself and the dangers lurking beneath Havenfall. A slow build sense of menace, mystery and romantic tension that is shattered by screams when the soul-eaters attack!



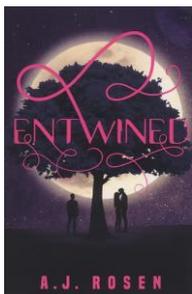
Johnson, Leah **You Should See me in a Crown** **T+**
Unexpected circumstances force Liz Lighty to do the thing she'd least like to do in the world - enter the school's highly competitive competition for prom queen. Pitched against entitled, privileged girls who expect to win, Liz is forced to test herself and challenge the system in order to achieve her ambition of getting to a first class college of music. This novel deftly and soundly deals with racism, homophobia and mental health issues but is light and funny and true. You will be routing for Liz Lighty every step of the way.



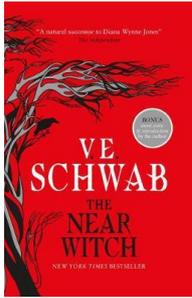
Lord, Emery **The Map From Here to There** **T+**
After the pain of her first boyfriend drowning, life has finally taken an upward turn for Paige. She has a set of supportive friends, excited by the prospect of studying screenwriting, and besotted with her new boyfriend Max. But having such an active life begins to take its toll. Paige wants it all, but big decisions must be made, and the trouble is, saying yes to one thing means you have to say no to another. This bittersweet story is about friendships, being in love, making big choices and self discovery. An authentic and honest read for those on the cusp of adulthood.



Lupo, Kesia **We are Bound by Stars** **T+**
Livio, descendant of the greatest family in the Kingdom of Wishes, has railed against his destiny his whole life. Beatrice, one of three mask makers, fated triplets destined to make the magical masks worn by the powerful guards, is desperate to flee this life of servitude. But when a twist of fate unites them, it falls on the pair to prevent devastating insurgency, as the menacing masked assassins close in on their heels. Together they must save their island and the future of the Islands of Wishes. This tale of masks, politics, desire and deception is a beautifully realised fantasy epic.



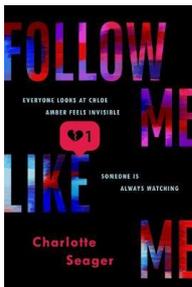
Rosen, A J **Entwined** **T+**
Avery is a descendant of the Greek gods and at eighteen will join the Court and gain the ability to entwine her thoughts with her destined soul mate and be tied to them. But Avery is not sure she even wants a soulmate. What she is not prepared for is to fall for two very different men or to be thrust into the dark side of Court. When she learns of buried secrets, it is up to Avery to decide her own fate or leave it in the hands of her ancestors! An epic story of romance, drama, and Greek mythology.



Schwab, V E The Near Witch

T+

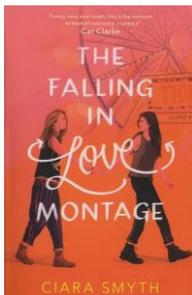
The Near Witch is only a story to frighten children. You must not listen to the lonely wind when it calls at night. There are no strangers in the town of Near. These are the truths 16-year-old Lexi has heard all her life. But then one day, a strange boy appears and stays. On that same night, children start disappearing from their beds and the villagers suspect the interloper. But Lexi wonders about the stranger and what made him stay; why the villagers are so ready to accuse and judge but most of all, she wonders about those simple truths and if one is not set in stone, what about the others? Eerie and subtle with a good measure of tension, this is definitely one for fantasy fans.



Seager, Charlotte Follow me, Like me

T+

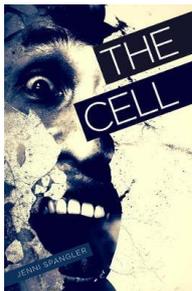
The virtual lives and the real lives of two teenagers begin to merge in this story full of suspense. Chloe and Amber are drawn into social media and it starts to become an obsession. What started out as fun for both turns into something quite different. A realistic look at cyber stalking.



Smyth, Ciara The Falling in Love Montage

T+

Saoirse doesn't believe love at first sight or happy endings. She plans to spend her Summer before University having fun and forgetting about her worries. Her mum is in a care home with early onset dementia. She didn't want another relationship, but then she meets Ruby. Ruby convinces her to have a romance but like in the movies, a romcom montage without the serious bits. As they spend the summer having fun, it soon become more than a romcom though. This is a fun read, not the traditional teenage romance.



Spangler, Jenni The Cell

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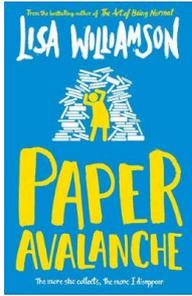
Raheem and his friend Josh are urban explorers, posting videos of their adventures online. One night though, they are separated and Raheem finds himself caught trespassing by the police. Being locked up in a cell is Raheem's worst nightmare, he hates enclosed spaces. But it soon turns out but there are worse things outside the cell, attacking people and this cell could be the safest place right now. A short horror story that will have you looking over your shoulder for the shadows.



Stewart, Gill Lily's Just Fine

T

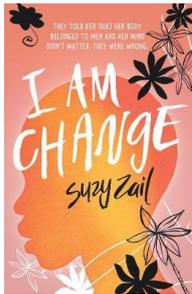
Follow this group of mismatched friends through one summer as strong willed Lily intends that this year's summer gala will be an event not to be forgotten. She drags shy and anxious Gemma and reluctant, preoccupied Tom into her plans for the gala. This book covers some big issues, mental health, chronic illness and LGBT issues with sensitivity.



Williamson, Lisa Paper Avalanche

T

Ro Snow is very good at staying below the radar, never letting anyone to get too close. Ashamed of her mother, Bonnie, who cannot throw anything away. The only clear space is in her bedroom, which she keeps under lock and key. Until one day, Tanvi Shah, after a long illness comes back to school and instantly befriends Ro. Despite Ro's best efforts, she cannot shake Tanvi, and as friendships forms, keeping her homelife secret becomes more and more difficult. A beautiful tale that proves letting people in, can help fix problems rather than cause them.



Zail, Suzy I am Change

T+

Lilian, a young girl growing up in rural Uganda, has big dreams. She is hungry to learn and plans to be the first person in her family to graduate primary school, hoping to one day be a teacher or an author. Unfortunately, Lilian's mother has other plans for her, viewing a good marriage as the only thing that can save her from a life of poverty. Though Lilian is fiercely intelligent, will she be strong enough to resist her mother's pressure and carve out the future she desires? A powerful and confronting story about young African girls and the struggles they face for education and equality.

T = Younger Teen Reads

T+ = Older Teen Reads



= Available as an eBook

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