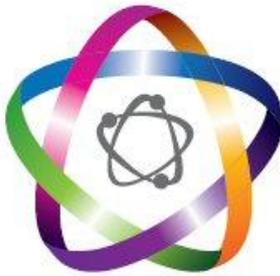


# **Debenham High School**



**RECOMMENDED BY ....**

**SUMMER READING LIST 2017**

This year's reading list is entitled "Recommended by" as we have formed our summer reading list from suggestions from our Year 9 Book Club and from Browsers Book Shop in Woodbridge. As the six weeks of the summer holiday stretch ahead, I know many parents and carers will be wondering how they can keep their children busy. Fresh air and exercise are near the top of my list for the summer, but along with "Get lost in a book". Reading is valuable in so many ways, there are endless stories that can both broaden your understanding of the world or help you get through a sticking point in your life.

The National Educational Association (<http://whytoread.com/why-to-read-10-reasons-why-reading-books-will-save-your-life/>) state ten reasons why we should all read more:

1. Reading develops our verbal communication skills
2. Reading improves our focus and concentration
3. Readers enjoy the arts and help others more
4. Reading improves your imagination
5. Reading really does make you smarter
6. Reading gives you things to talk about to others
7. Reading reduces stress
8. Reading improves memory
9. Reading helps us to understand ourselves
10. Reading is FUN

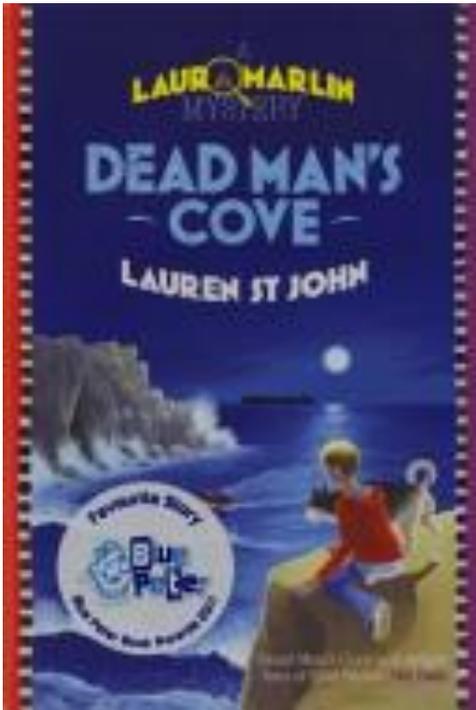
We hope that you will be able to lose yourself in a book during the summer and that our recommendations inspire you to turn the pages.

Miss J Upton  
Headteacher

**RECOMMENDED BY.....**

**THE YEAR 9 BOOK CLUB**

## Dead Man's Cove, Lauren St John



*Laura Marlin can't believe her luck when she goes to live with her uncle next to the sea after previously having to live in an orphanage. It doesn't take her long to realise that Cornwall is full of mysteries. Why is Uncle Calvin so intent on erasing his past? Why is Tariq the shopkeeper so afraid of his parents? And why is everyone so afraid of Dead Man's Cove?*

*This book is very exciting and thrilling. It is fun to share Laura's adventures in her new home and to try and work out the answers to all of the questions that she comes across. The book in many ways has the feel of an adventurous mystery and leaves you wanting to read the next story in the series.*

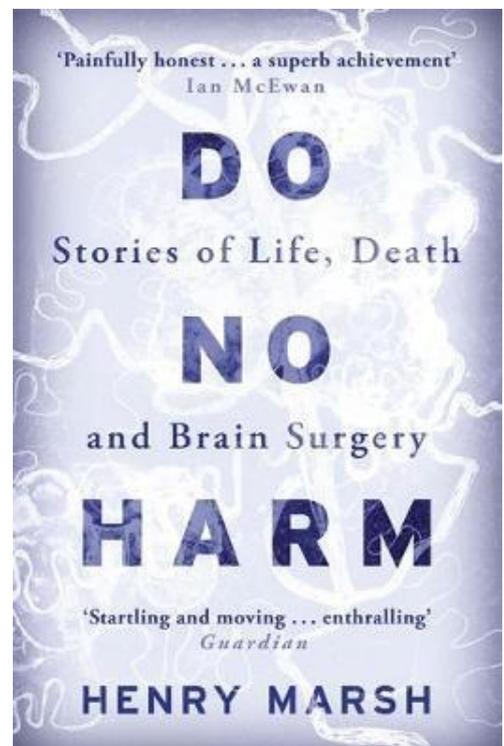
*This book is great for any reader.*

## Do No Harm, Henry Marsh

*This book is about a brain surgeon who has to go through the pain and struggles of being in the job and dealing with the stress of a dying patient.*

*You should read this book if you are interested in medicine or real life situations.*

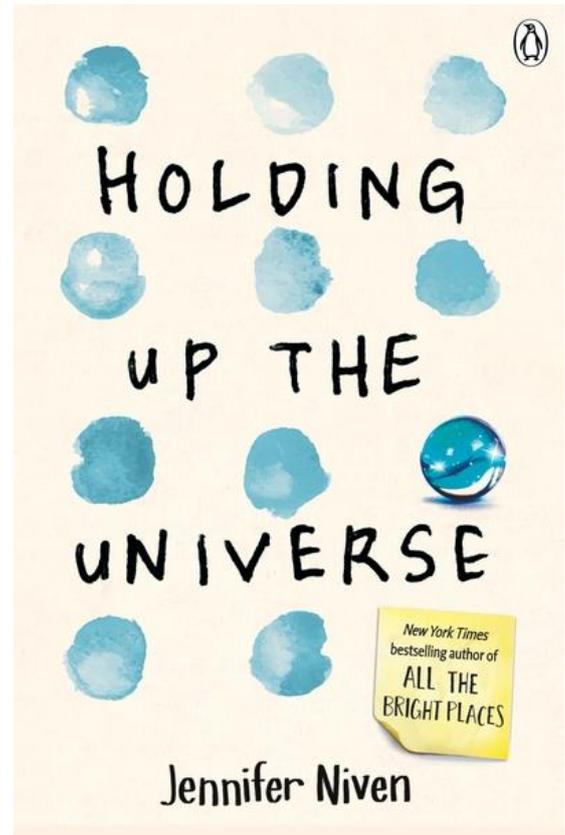
*This book is suitable for older age groups, Years 9, 10 and 11.*



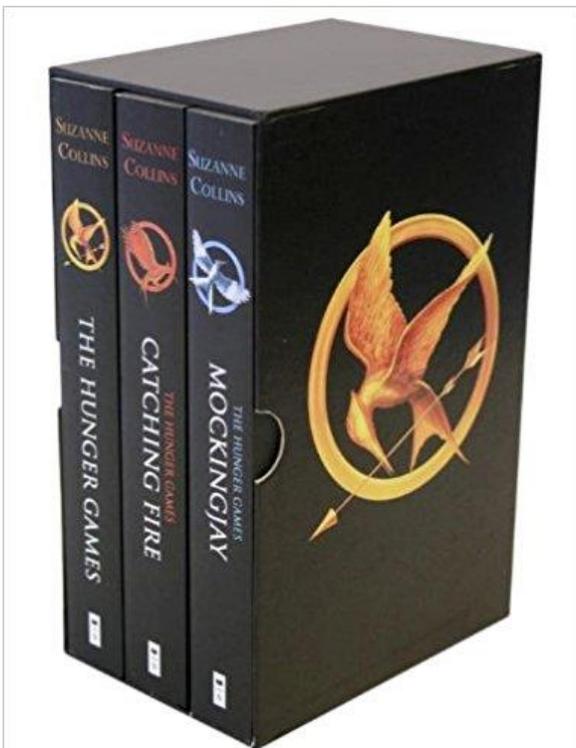
## Holding up the universe by Jennifer Niven

*This book is about a girl that is struggling because of the death of her mum, she dealt with this by eating a lot. Libby then joins a new school, people judge her by her weight and don't bother to get to know her and instead judge her on her appearance. At the new school she meets a boy called Jack Masselin who she feels a connection with. This boy is dealing with his own problems and decides to open up about them to Libby. Many things get in the way of their relationship.*

*I liked this book as they both are in love but many things get in their way. I would suggest this to anybody who loves a love story and it's not hard to read.*



## The Hunger Games, Suzanne Collins



*The first book I want to recommend is The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins. It is my all-time favourite book. The whole series is really good. It follows the story of a young girl, Katniss Everdeen, and what happens when she volunteers to take her little sister's place in the deadly hunger games, in which there is only one rule: kill or be killed.*

*These books are set in the near future, when a single city controls the whole of North America, known in these books as Panem. I would recommend this series because the whole way through you are kept in suspense and become unable to put the book down.*

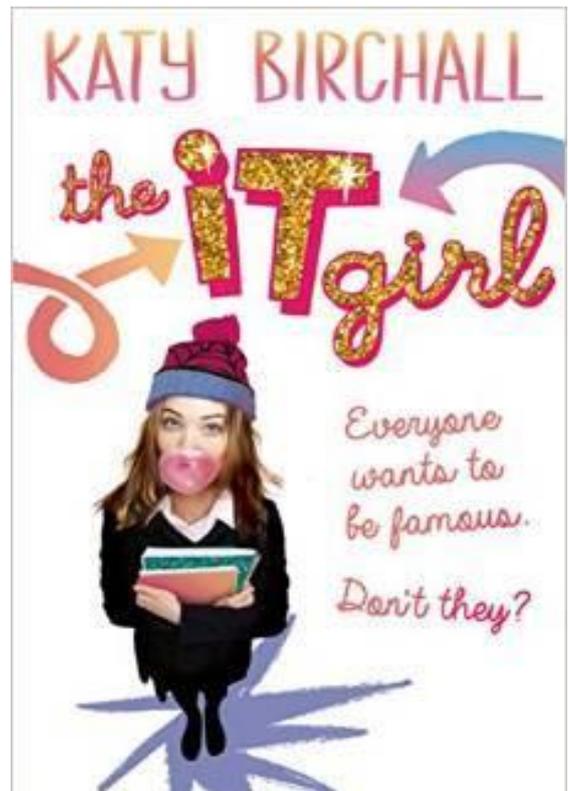
*I would recommend it for all years.*

## The IT girl, Katy Birchall

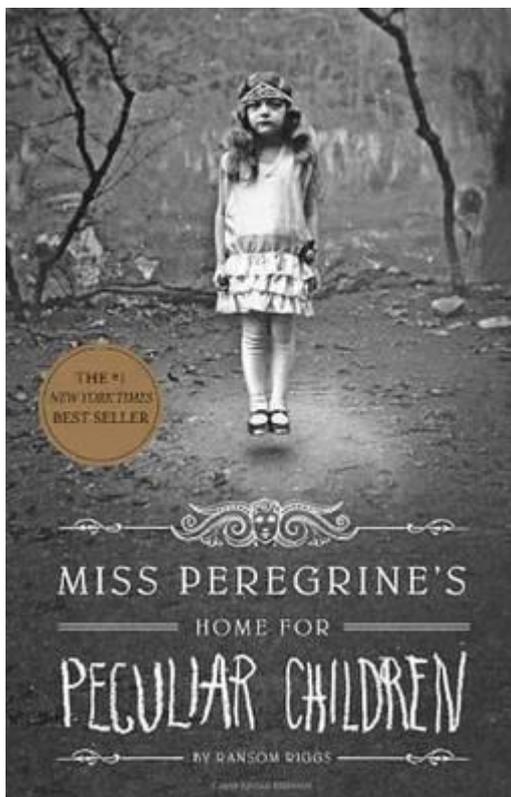
*The next book I would recommend is The IT Girl by Katy Birchall. There are other books in the series, but this one is my favourite. It is about a girl called Anna whose dad is getting married to a famous actress and she is struggling at school when the paparazzi keep trying to find out her most humiliating secrets.*

*I like this book because I find it very relatable, not because of the famous actress thing, but she is very much like me. This book is hilarious, and will keep you laughing the whole way through!*

*I would recommend this book to Years 7 & 8. It is an excellent summer read.*



## Miss Peregrine's Home For Peculiar Children by Ransom Riggs



*When Jacob's grandfather suddenly dies, he finds a series of peculiar pictures and a postcard. They are all from the same place: a small island off of the coast of Wales. There he will find an old children's home that is stuck in a time loop. And all of the children have their little quirks, or as it may be rather large quirks.*

*I chose this because it is very unique and I have never read anything like it. It is also good because there are lots of original pictures that have been found at boot sales and other things like that and they haven't been doctored at all.*

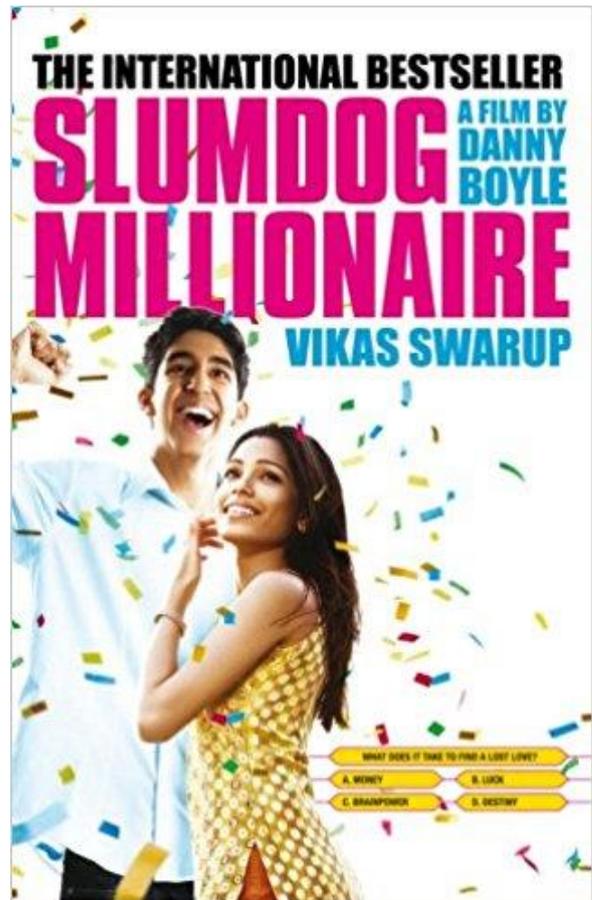
*This book is good for everyone.*

## Slumdog Millionaire, Vika Swarup

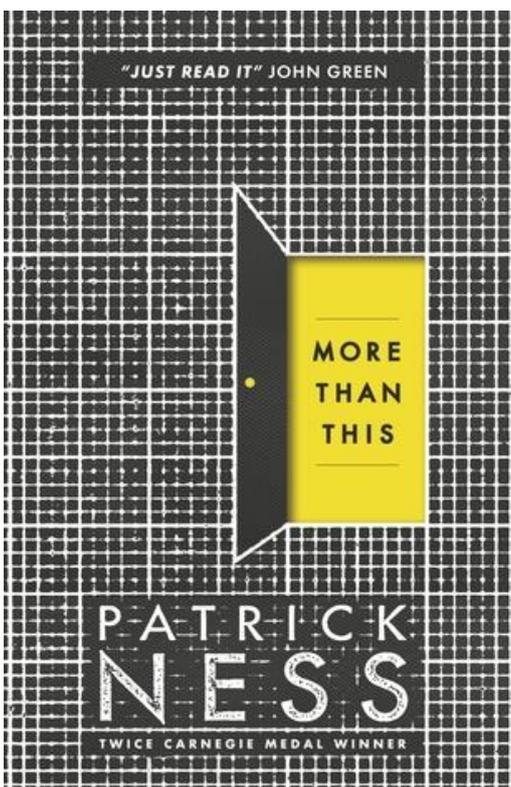
*Ram Mohammad Thomas is a young Indian man who has spent all of his life in the slums of India. One day he is accepted on a gameshow in a chance to win one million rupees. He answers all questions correctly and should win one million rupees. However, the real question is 'How does a boy who has lived in the slums all his life with no education win a gameshow on knowledge?!'*

*He is taken in by the police and asked how he answered all questions correctly. Throughout the book you learn about Ram's adventures and how they perfectly tie together with the answers and how he is in fact innocent and not a cheat.*

*'Slumdog Millionaire' is an action-packed, fast-paced book with a clever plot and exciting yet sad story. I highly recommend it!*



## **More than this, Patrick Ness**



*This book is about a divided city where violence has begun to breed actual monsters. Kate Harker and August Flynn are two children that are heirs to this divided city. Kate wants to be as ruthless as her father and all August wants to be is human but is that really possible when a single strand of the music he plays has the power to kill?*

*When August has a chance to keep an eye on Kate he jumps at it. But Kate soon discovers his secret and after a failed assassination attempt the pair are forced to flee for their lives.*

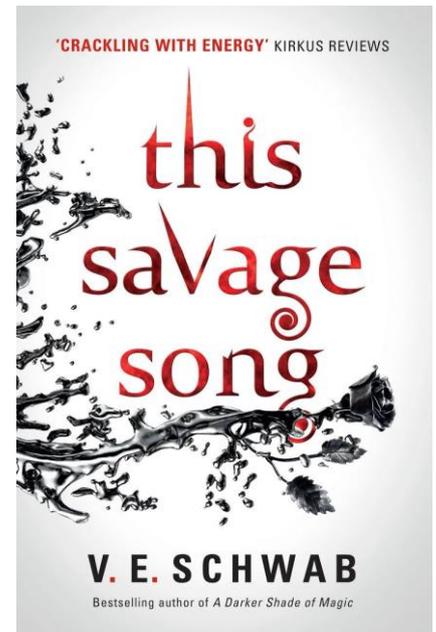
*I recommend this book as it is full of excitement with danger literally lurking around every corner. I would recommend this book to all who like adventure, fantasy and mystery books.*

## **This Savage Song, V.E. Schwab**

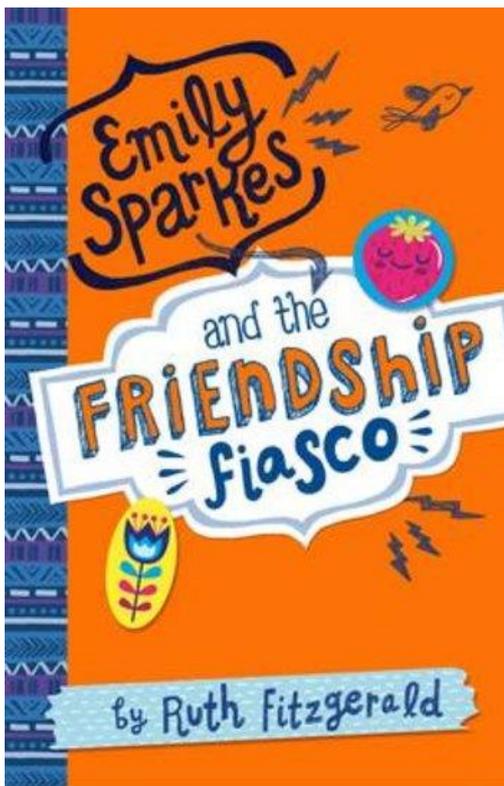
*This book is about a boy who drowns.  
When he wakes he is alone, bloodied and bruised.  
Is he really alive? Is there more to life, perhaps afterlife?*

*As the boy struggles to come to terms with where he is he comes across a girl and a boy. Together they try to find a way back to his world.*

*This is a great mystery book which I would recommend to anybody looking for a good adventure and action boo*



## **Emily Sparkes and the Friendship Fiasco by Ruth Fitzgerald**



*I recommend this book to those who are willing to have a good laugh. I read this book in less than a day; Emily is very relatable as each crisis is worse than the last! I was giggling out loud constantly. It is about how Emily's best friend Bella has just moved to Wales and left her alone at school. If that wasn't enough, her mother has just had a baby and her parents can't decide what to name her. To put the cherry on the cake, Emily is facing the awful possibility of being partnered with 'Gross-Out Gavin' for the school trip as Bella has left her; until posh new girl Chloe Clarke arrives. Emily then has to battle it out with her enemy Zuzanna, to see who will be Chloe's partner on the historical school trip.*

*I think that everyone should read this book as it is so light-hearted and if you love it, there are three more books in the series! It is probably more aimed at girls as it is based around a girl's life, but I think that any age could read this book and enjoy it.*

*Any lovers of the Dork Diaries series will instantly adore this book.*

## **Wonder by R. J. Palacio**



*Wonder is about a young boy called August with a rare facial deformity and a cleft palate. It explores him going to school for the first time, and how other people react to him, whether they are friends or enemies.*

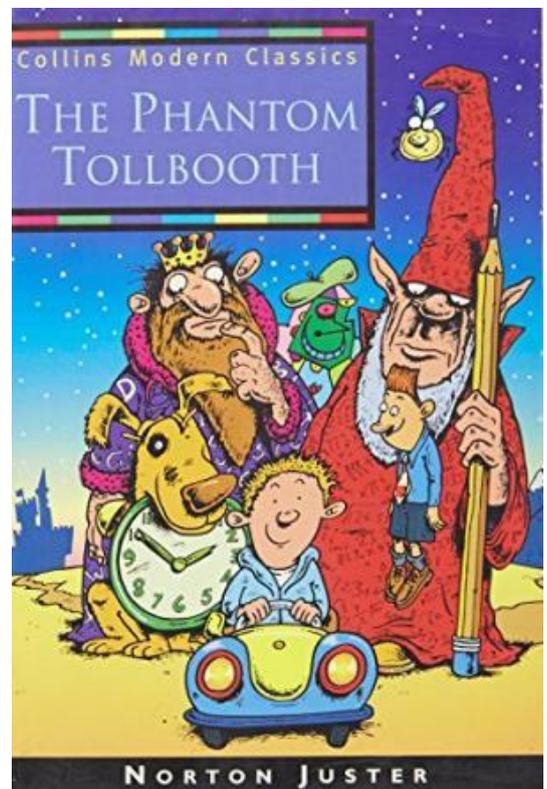
*I would recommend this book as it is very thought provoking, and has some emotional moments as well. The characters seem like real people and the story is extremely hooking.*

*I would recommend this book to anyone, although there isn't much action.*

## **The Phantom Tollbooth by Norton Juster**

*This book is very cleverly devised, as it involves many intelligent ideas; for example, the island of 'Conclusions', which you reach by jumping to conclusions. A summary would be that it is about a boy named Milo who is bored with his life. One day, after walking home from school, he walks into his bedroom to find an enormous package. He sets it up to discover that it is a turnpike tollbooth, complete with road signs and a car. He tests it out as he has nothing better to do, and to his surprise, he ends up on a genuine road!*

*As he meets new friends and gets into a few tricky situations, like getting stuck in the Doldrums and being saved by a friendly watchdog called Tock, Milo finds himself on an unexpected mission to save Princesses Rhyme and Reason to restore order back to the Kingdom of Wisdom. Together with his faithful companions, Tock and the Humbug, Milo must travel through dangerous lands like the Mountains of Ignorance to reach the Castle in the Air, alongside vicious rivalry between the two Kings of Dictionopolis and Digitopolis. Will he succeed and make it home? I adore this book and I believe that everyone should read it as it brings a smile to your face and takes you along on the journey too. This book is definitely targeted towards all genders and all ages as it is a modern classic: it never grows old.*



**RECOMMENDED BY.....**

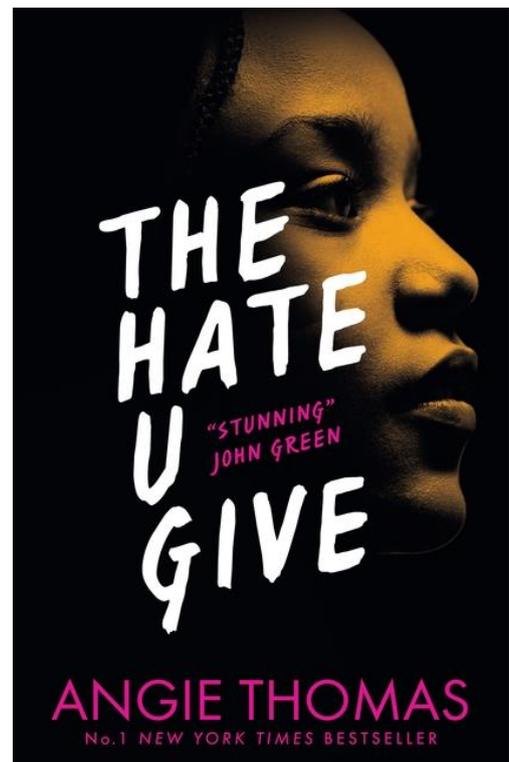
**BROWSERS BOOK SHOP**

## The Hate U Give, Angie Thomas

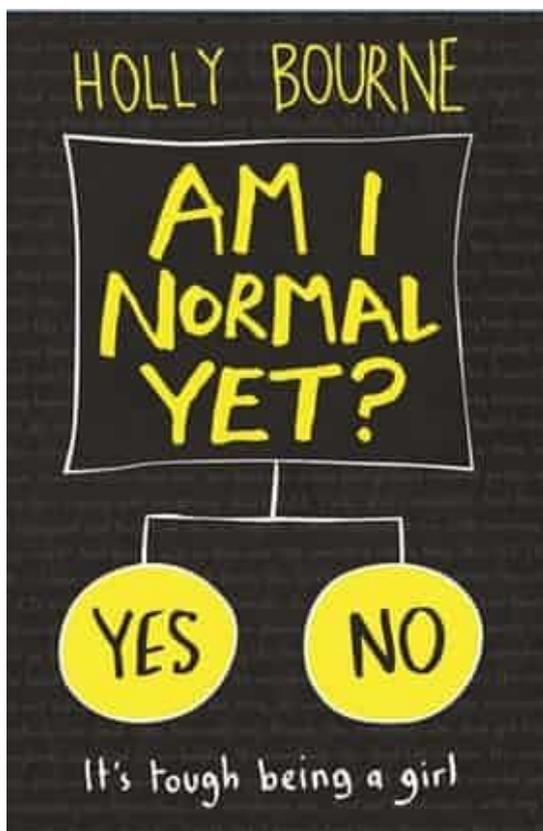
*A powerful and brave YA novel about what prejudice looks like in the 21st century.*

*"A stunning, brilliant, gut-wrenching novel that will be remembered as a classic of our time." John Green No. 1 New York Times bestseller.*

*Sixteen-year-old Starr lives in two worlds: the poor neighbourhood where she was born and raised and her posh high school in the suburbs. The uneasy balance between them is shattered when Starr is the only witness to the fatal shooting of her unarmed best friend, Khalil, by a police officer. Now what Starr says could destroy her community. It could also get r killed. Inspired by the Black Lives Matter movement, this is a powerful and gripping YA novel about one girl's struggle for justice. Movie rights have been sold to Fox, with Amandla Stenberg (The Hunger Games) to star.*



## Am I Normal Yet? Holly Bourne



*This book completely challenges the mixed messages sent out from society about what a normal teenage girl 'should be' and gives a honest and sometimes humorous insight into the life of a teenage girl and the struggles they face day to day.*

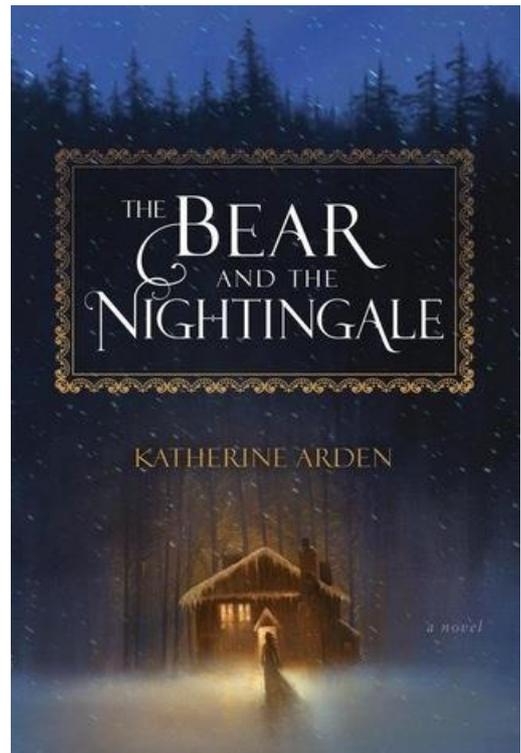
*In Am I Normal Yet?, we follow Evie around while she tries to be a normal teenager while at the same time adjusting to her new medicine dosages and suffering with severe OCD. Holly Bourne writes about OCD so compassionately and realistically and I could really empathise with Evie.*

*I especially loved the continuing theme of feminism throughout the book. Holly Bourne shows how it applies to a multitude of situations and I think that this makes it very relatable with all readers as it makes it a lot more accessible and easy to understand.*

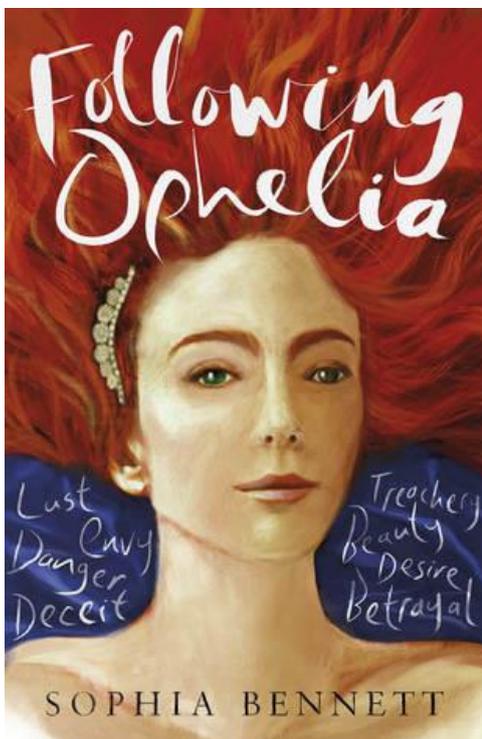
## The Bear and the Nightingale, Katherine Arden

*The Bear and the Nightingale* tells a story set at the edge of the Russian wilderness, where winter lasts most of the year and the snowdrifts grow taller than houses. But Vasilisa doesn't mind—she spends the winter nights huddled around the embers of a fire with her beloved siblings, listening to her nurse's fairy tales. Above all, she loves the chilling story of Frost, the blue-eyed winter demon, who appears in the frigid night to claim unwary souls. Wise Russians fear him, her nurse says, and honor the spirits of house and yard and forest that protect their homes from evil.

Words cannot describe how much I cherish this book. The characters were described so well and the story was absolutely fantastic and so magical.



## Following Ophelia, Sophia Bennett

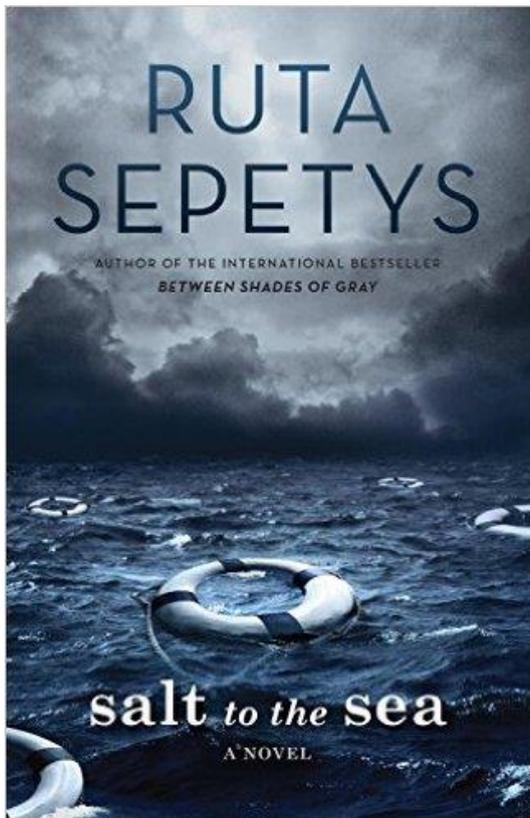


When Mary Adams sees Millais' depiction of the tragic Ophelia, a whole new world opens up for her. Determined to find out more about the beautiful girl in the painting, she hears the story of Lizzie Siddal – a girl from a modest background, not unlike her own, who has found fame and fortune against the odds. Mary sets out to become a Pre-Raphaelite muse, too, and reinvents herself as Persephone Lavelle. But as she fights her way to become the new face of London's glittering art scene, 'Persephone' ends up mingling with some of the city's more nefarious types and is forced to make some impossible choices.

Will Persephone be forced to betray those she loves, and even the person she once was, if she is to achieve her dreams?

I loved this book. It's wonderfully well written and sweeps the reader along with a lush myriad of texture and colour. Every time I was forced to put it down, I couldn't wait to pick it up again.

## Salt to the Sea, Ruta Sepetys



*In 1945, World War II is drawing to a close in East Prussia and thousands of refugees are on a desperate trek toward freedom, almost all of them with something to hide. Among them are Joana, Emilia, and Florian, whose paths converge en route to the ship that promises salvation, the Wilhelm Gustloff. Forced by circumstance to unite, the three find their strength, courage, and trust in each other tested with each step closer toward safety. Just when it seems freedom is within their grasp, tragedy strikes. Not country, nor culture, nor status matter as all ten thousand people aboard must fight for the same thing: survival.*

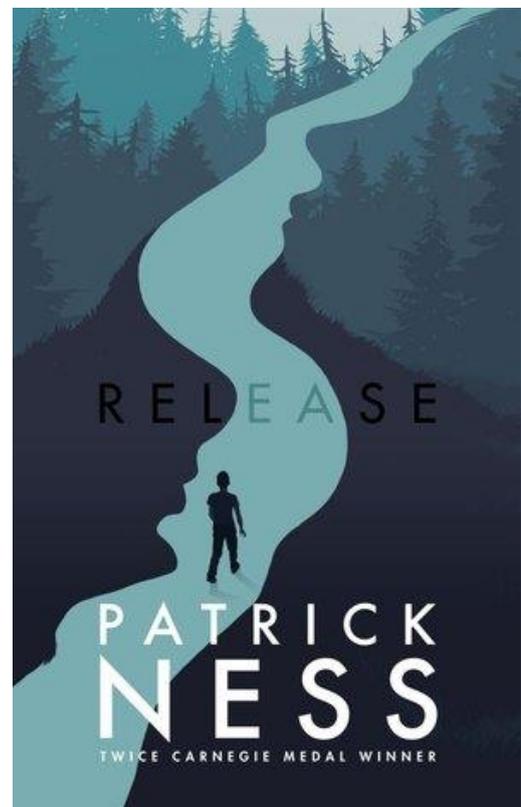
*"Compelling for both adult and teenage readers. Once again, Ruta Sepetys acts as champion of the interstitial people so often ignored — whole populations lost in the cracks of*

*history."* *The New York Times Book Review*

## Release, Patrick Ness

*Inspired by Mrs Dalloway and Judy Blume's Forever, Release is one day in the life of Adam Thorn, 17. It's a big day. Things go wrong. It's intense, and all the while, weirdness approaches...*

*Adam Thorn is having what will turn out to be the most unsettling, difficult day of his life, with relationships fracturing, a harrowing incident at work, and a showdown between this gay teen and his preacher father that changes everything. It's a day of confrontation, running, sex, love, heartbreak, and maybe, just maybe, hope. He won't come out of it unchanged.*



## Floodland, Marcus Sedgwick

*Winner of the Branford Boase Award 2001, Marcus Sedgwick's powerful debut novel about surviving in a sinking world marks the beginning of the author's multi-award-winning career. Imagine that a few years from now England is covered by water, and Norwich is an island.*

*Zoe, left behind in the confusion when her parents escaped, survives there as best she can. Alone and desperate among marauding gangs, she manages to dig a derelict boat out of the mud and gets away to Eels Island. But Eels Island, whose raggle-taggle inhabitants are dominated by the strange boy Dooby, is full of danger too. The belief that she will one day find her parents spurs Zoe on to a dramatic escape in a story of courage and determination that is handled with warmth and humanity.*

