

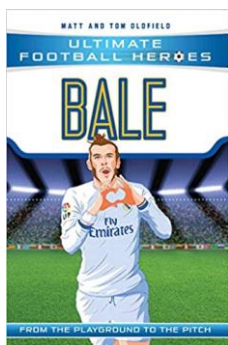
LIGHT READS.
**GREAT
STORIES**

Novels in manageable chunks, but with great storylines.

For more light reads check out our Short story collection, Graphic Novels and the Barrington stoke collection.

YEAR 9-11

(All books, apart from those highlighted, are stocked in the school library for you to borrow.)



Gareth Bale by Tom and Matt Oldfield.

'And then came the moment Gareth had been waiting for. He'd imagined it so many times. The President of Real Madrid held up the famous white shirt with his name on the back.' Gareth Bale: The Boy Who Became a Galactico tracks the Welsh wizard's impressive rise from talented schoolboy to Real Madrid star. This is the inspiring story of how Bale beat the odds and became the most expensive player in football history.

One of nearly 50 football books including the likes of Kane, Hazard, Salah and Messi.



Thief by Malorie Blackman.

Lydia's last thought before darkness closed over her mind was that the strange, swirling storm had trapped her. Would it ever let her go? Fleeing onto the moors when she is unfairly accused of being a thief an extraordinary storm suddenly whirls twelve-year-old Lydia into the future – a computer-dominated future where her home town is ruled by a cruel tyrant. As Lydia struggles to get back to her own time, she discovers she must face a terrible confrontation...



Diary of an Unteenager by Pete Johnson.

Spencer's mate Zac has decided he wants to be a real teenager and Spencer is disgusted. He's not interested in girls, skateboards or huge trainers! A hilarious and insightful story for teen boy.



The front room by Michelle Magorian.

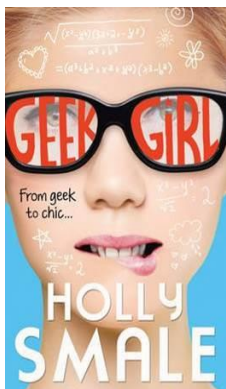
The holiday was supposed to give them a break, a chance to get away and heal after the loss of the baby. But Hannah's parents are still listless and distracted, and her toddler brother doesn't understand what's going on. And worst of all, something feels wrong in Hannah's room. Her mum and dad don't understand what she's trying to tell them, so one stormy night Hannah sneaks out to find someone who can tell her the truth about the Front Room...



Girl on line by Zoe Sugg.

Penny has a secret. Under the alias Girl Online, Penny blogs her hidden feelings about friendship, boys, high school drama, her crazy family, and the panic attacks that have begun to take over her life. When things go from bad to worse, her family whisks her away to New York, where she meets Noah, a gorgeous, guitar-strumming American. Suddenly Penny is falling in love - and capturing every moment of it on her blog. But Noah has a secret, too, one that threatens to ruin Penny's cover - and her closest friendship - forever.

1st in the Girl online trilogy.



Geek Girl by Holly Smale.

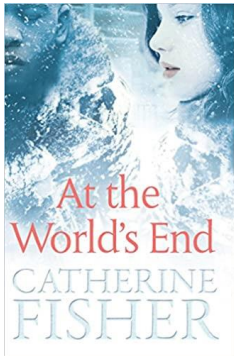
Everyone at school knows Harriet Manners is a geek – she's always spouting random facts, has zero fashion sense and can often be found in a tangled heap on the floor after falling over. But Harriet just can't see why this means everyone seems to hate her. Her nemesis Alexa goes out of her way to trip her up, point out her flaws and make her life miserable. At least she has best friend Nat to keep her sane. But when the class takes a trip to the Clothes Show Live and Nat is desperate to get spotted as a model – only Harriet does instead – she has to choose between the reinvention she believes will change her life at school, and stealing her best friend's dream.

1st in the 8 book series.



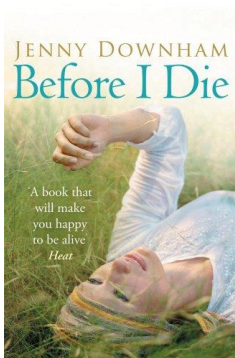
Girl Missing by Sophie Mckenzie

What if everything you thought you knew about your life was a lie? Lauren is adopted and eager to know more about her mysterious past. But when she discovers she may have been snatched from her family as a baby, her whole life suddenly feels like a sham. Why will no one answer her questions? How can she find her biological parents? And could her adoptive parents really have been responsible for kidnapping her? Running away from her family to seek out the truth, Lauren's journey takes her deeper and deeper into danger as she realises that someone wants to stop her uncovering what really happened when she was a baby... at any cost...



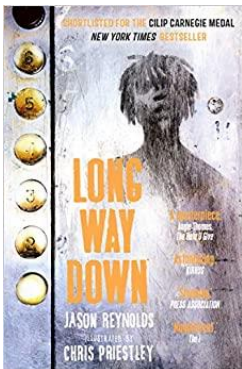
At the world's end by Catherine Fisher

Caz has been living in the department store since the day the Blue Star came and killed everyone who breathed in its toxic snow. She can't do so much as look outside. But life in the store is getting dangerous and so Caz decides to take her chances in the world outside, with only Will for company. What will she find in the bleak landscape? And is there even anything to find? A compelling vision of a dystopian society.



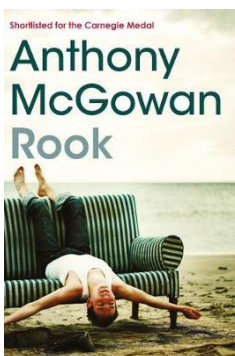
Before I die by Jenny Downham Yr 10 and Up.

Tessa has just months to live. Fighting back against hospital visits, endless tests, drugs with excruciating side-effects, Tessa compiles a list. It's her To Do Before I Die list. And number one is Sex. Released from the constraints of 'normal' life, Tessa tastes new experiences to make her feel alive while her failing body struggles to keep up. Tessa's feelings, her relationships with her father and brother, her estranged mother, her best friend, and her new boyfriend, all are painfully crystallised in the precious weeks before Tessa's time finally runs out.



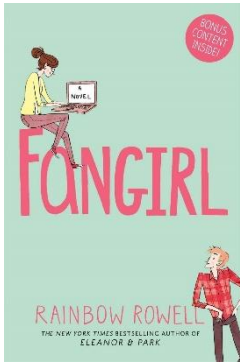
Long Way down by Jason Reynolds.

After Will's brother is shot in a gang crime, he knows the next steps. Don't cry. Don't snitch. Get revenge. So he gets in the lift with Shawn's gun, determined to follow The Rules. Only when the lift door opens, Buck walks in, Will's friend who died years ago. And Dani, who was shot years before that. As more people from his past arrive, Will has to ask himself if he really knows what he's doing. This haunting, lyrical, powerful verse novel will blow you away.



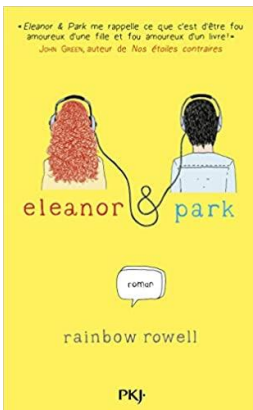
Rook by Anthony McGowan.

A young rook is attacked by a larger bird. Nicky and his younger brother Kenny save it. As the bird hovers between life and death, Nicky's own future is in the balance: an incident with the school bully sees him facing expulsion, at the same time he's tentatively trying to start a relationship with a girl he fancies. For all his nerve Nicky is vulnerable, and things could easily go wrong for him, instead they start to look up. He isn't expelled, Sarah likes him too, and Rooky is taken in by the animal sanctuary despite being, in Nicky's dad's words, 'too common and too scruffy and too much trouble. Bit like us, eh?'



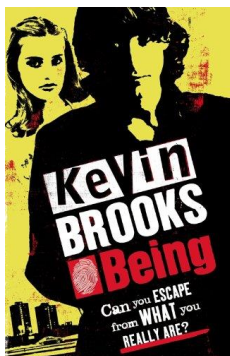
Fangirl by Rainbow Rowell.

Cath's identical twin sister Wren is excited about starting a new life at college - meeting boys, going to parties, letting loose - but introverted Cath isn't too sure. She's more comfortable in the world of the successful fan fiction she writes inspired by the Simon Snow novels, much preferring to write about romance than to experience it for herself. Cath and Wren used to write fan fiction together, but Wren has decided she's grown out of fandom, and no longer wants to be one half of a pair. Left alone without her twin's support, Wren must face challenges that take her far outside her comfort zone, from sharing a room with a complete stranger, to dealing with a creative writing professor who thinks that fan fiction isn't real writing at all, as well as worrying about her fragile Dad, left alone at home. Can Cath embrace the new opportunities and experiences at hand - even if it means leaving Simon Snow behind?



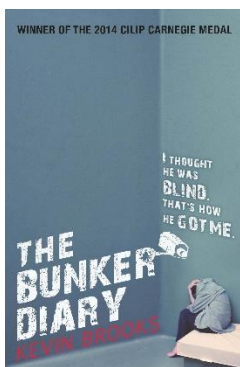
Eleanor and Park by Rainbow Rowell Yr 10 and Up.

Eleanor is the new girl in town, and with her chaotic family life, her mismatched clothes and unruly red hair, she couldn't stick out more if she tried. Park is the boy at the back of the bus. Black T-shirts, headphones, head in a book - he thinks he's made himself invisible. But not to Eleanor, never to Eleanor. Slowly, steadily, through late-night conversations and an evergrowing stack of mix tapes, Eleanor and Park fall for each other. They fall in love the way you do the first time, when you're young, and you feel as if you have nothing and everything to lose.



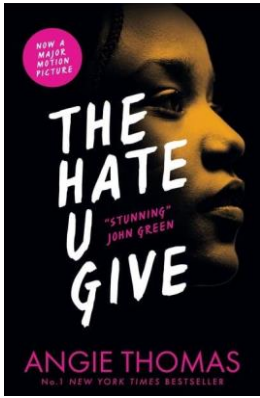
Being by Kevin Brooks.

Sixteen-year-old Robert lies anaesthetized. A routine operation has just gone wrong. 'What the hell is that?' 'That, Mr Ryan, is the inside of this boy.' 'Christ . . . It looks like some kind of plastic.' As Robert slowly wakes, he can hear, he can feel, but he can't scream. The operation isn't over. But life, as Robert knows it, is. Robert goes on the run, terrified and desperate for answers. But what if the answers are too terrifying to face?



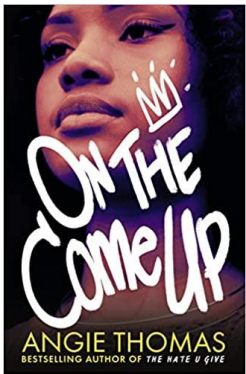
The Bunker Diary by Kevin Brooks.

I can't believe I fell for it. It was still dark when I woke up this morning As soon as my eyes opened I knew where I was. A low-ceilinged rectangular building made entirely of whitewashed concrete. There are six little rooms along the main corridor. There are no windows. No doors. The lift is the only way in or out. What's he going to do to me? What am I going to do? If I'm right, the lift will come down in five minutes. It did. Only this time it wasn't empty . .



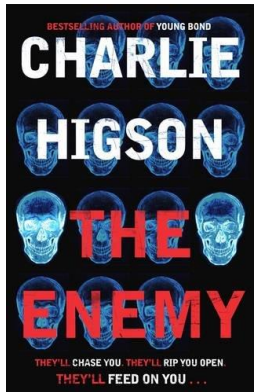
The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas.

One night, Starr and her childhood friend Khalil get pulled over by police. They end up shooting and killing Khalil after apparently mistaking the boy's hairbrush for a gun. Starr is the only witness and has to decide whether to use her voice to try and fight for justice. What follows is a brilliant and fantastically told exploration of race in America - and of growing up, too. The Hate U Give is rightly named by many critics as one of the most important books of 2017. It's a profound, deeply compelling modern-day classic that won't be forgotten



On the Come Up by Angie Thomas.

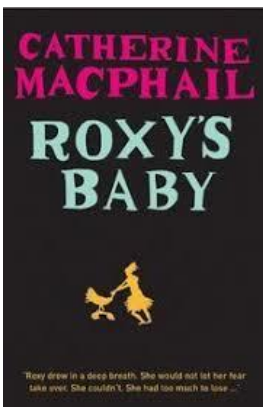
This is the story of 16-year-old Bri, an aspiring rapper, daughter of a murdered father, living in a tough American neighbourhood. At school, she's been defined as "trouble" and her mum (a former drug addict) is struggling to pay the bills after losing her job. Life is tough and when Bri records her first rap full of anger and guns, it goes viral for all the wrong reasons. How can Bri be a success as well as really true to herself, her friends and her family?



The Enemy by Charlie Higson.

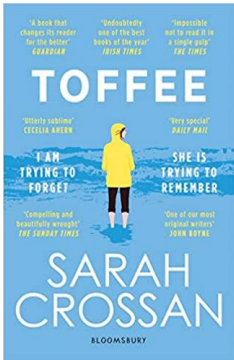
When the sickness came, every parent, police officer, politician - every adult fell ill. The lucky ones died. The others are crazed, confused and hungry. Only children under fourteen remain, and they're fighting to survive. Now there are rumours of a safe place to hide. And so a gang of children begin their quest across London, where all through the city - down alleyways, in deserted houses, underground - the grown-ups lie in wait. But can they make it there - alive?

1 st in the 7 book Enemy Series



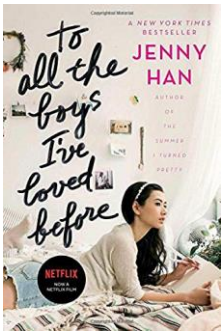
Roxy's baby by Catherine MacPhail.

Roxy is wild, uncontrollable. She hates her parents - and her goody-two-shoes sister. Her only solace is her equally wild friends, Pat, Tracey and Jacqueline. Then there is the night of the party, where she lets that boy kiss her, and more ...and Roxey is pregnant. Wilfully, she won't tell her mother, her family. She decides to run away to London. And in London Roxey is found by Mr and Mrs Dyce. They are understanding, sympathetic, and promise her a way out of her troubles. They will take her to a comfortable place, along with other girls in the same position and look after her and her baby - which is exactly what happens. Roxey cannot believe her luck. But Roxey eventually works out the dark truth of the outwardly genial Dyces.



Toffee by Sarah Crossan.

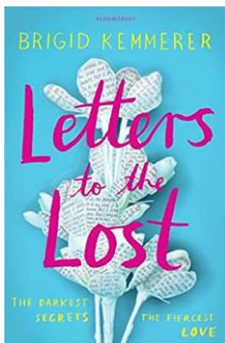
When Allison runs away from home she doesn't expect to be taken in by Marla, an elderly woman with dementia, who mistakes her for an old friend called Toffee. Allison is used to hiding who she really is, and trying to be what other people want her to be. And so, Toffee is who she becomes. But as her bond with Marla grows, Allison begins to ask herself -where is home? What is a family? And most importantly, who am I, really?



To All the boys I've loved before by Jenny Han.

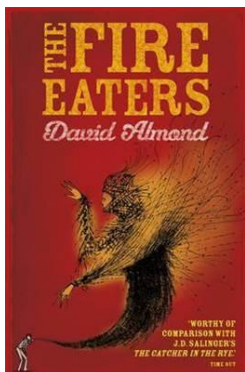
Lara Jean keeps her love letters in a hatbox her mother gave her. One for every boy she's ever loved. When she writes, she can pour out her heart and soul and say all the things she would never say in real life, because her letters are for her eyes only. Until the day her secret letters are mailed, and suddenly Lara Jean's love life goes from imaginary to out of control!

1 st book in the Boys I've loved before trilogy.



Letters to the Lost by Brigid Kemmerer.

Juliet Young always writes letters to her mother, a world-travelling photojournalist. Even after her mother's death, she leaves letters at her grave. It's the only way Juliet can cope. Declan Murphy isn't the sort of guy you want to cross. In the midst of his court-ordered community service at the local cemetery, he's trying to escape the demons of his past. When Declan reads a haunting letter left beside a grave, he can't resist writing back. Soon, he's opening up to a perfect stranger, and their connection is immediate. But neither Declan nor Juliet knows that they're not actually strangers. When life at school interferes with their secret life of letters, sparks will fly as Juliet and Declan discover truths that might tear them apart.



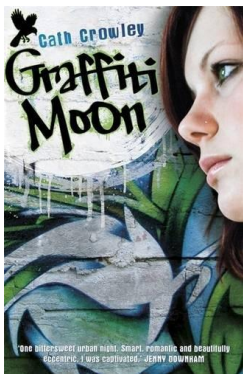
The Fire Eaters by David Almond.

Set in Keely Bay in the north of England during the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962, The Fire-Eaters opens with the first encounter between 11-year-old Bobby Burns and a wild-eyed, extensively tattooed performer called McNulty (the eponymous fire-eater), whose presence signals a time of apocalyptic change. When Bobby begins a new school and endures sadistic cruelty at the hands of his new teachers, he is drawn away from his old friends and towards newcomer Daniel, who urges Bobby to stand up for what he knows is right. Meanwhile, in the tense atmosphere of impending war, Bobby's father is threatened with serious illness.



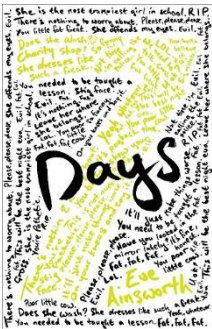
Salvage by Keren David. Yr 10 and Up.

Aidan Jones was my brother. But I couldn't really remember his face. I couldn't remember talking to him or playing with him. He was just a gap, an absence, a missing person. Before she was adopted by a loving family and raised in a leafy Home Counties town, Cass Montgomery was Cass Jones. Her memories of her birth family disappeared with her name. But when her adopted family starts to break down, a way out comes in the form of a message from her lost brother, Aidan. Having Aidan back in her life is both everything she needs and nothing she expected. Who is this boy who calls himself her brother? And why is he so haunted?



Graffiti Moon by Cath Crowley.

'We've got at least seven hours to get what we want before the sun comes up.' School is over, and Lucy has the perfect way to celebrate: tonight she's going to find Shadow, the mysterious graffiti artist whose work appears all over the city. Somewhere in the glassy darkness, he's out there, spraying colour, birds and blue sky on the night. And Lucy knows that a guy who paints like Shadow is someone she could fall for - really fall for. The last person Lucy wants to spend this night with is Ed, the guy she's managed to avoid since punching him in the nose on the most awkward date of her life. But when Ed tells Lucy he knows where to find Shadow, the two of them are suddenly on an all-night search to places where Shadow's pieces of heartbreak and escape echo off the city walls. And what Lucy can't see is the one thing that's right before her eyes.



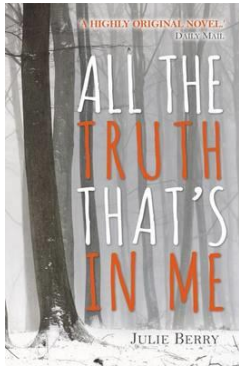
Seven Days by Eve Ainsworth.

School should be a safe place for Jess, a refuge from her difficult home life - but thanks to Kez and her friends, it's everything she dreads. Despite being beautiful and popular, Kez's life isn't any sweeter. She clings to the fact she is better off than Jess - or so she thinks. . . Told from the point of view of the bullied and the bully, this is a taut, powerful story of two girls locked in battle with each other and themselves, spiralling towards a shocking conclusion.



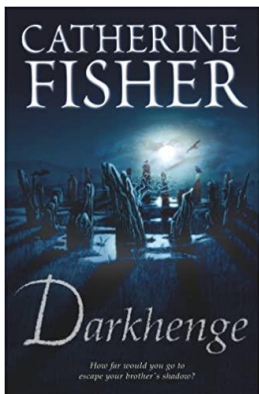
Bog Child by Siobhan Dowd.

Northern Ireland in 1981 is a confusing place to grow up. The Troubles are at their height and Fergus' brother is on hunger strike in prison. His parents are always arguing and the world around Fergus seems beset by conflict and unrest. One day while digging for peat with his uncle, Fergus unearths the body of a perfectly preserved Iron-Age girl. As her tragic story unfolds in his dreams, we learn more of his own burgeoning love life and hopes for the future.



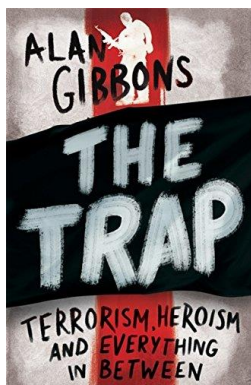
All the truth that is in me by Julie Berry Yr 11 and Up.

Four years ago, Judith and her best friend disappeared from their small town of Roswell Station. Two years ago, only Judith returned, permanently mutilated, reviled and ignored by those who were once her friends and family. Unable to speak, Judith lives like a ghost in her own home, silently pouring out her thoughts to the boy who's owned her heart as long as she can remember—even if he doesn't know it—her childhood friend, Lucas. But when Roswell Station is attacked, long-buried secrets come to light, and Judith is forced to choose: continue to live in silence, or recover her voice, even if it means changing her world, and the lives around her, forever.



Darkhenge by Catherine Fisher

Rob's sister Chloe lies in a coma after a riding accident, trapped in a forest of dreams between life and death. But when a dark druid shape-shifts his way into Rob's life, despair turns to hope. Because the druid knows the way through the Unworld, where he claims Chloe is imprisoned. Could the ominous black ring of timbers slowly emerging from a secret archaeological dig hold the key to rescuing her? And will Chloe want to be rescued from a world where the landscapes of story merge and blur, and she has the chance to be Queen?



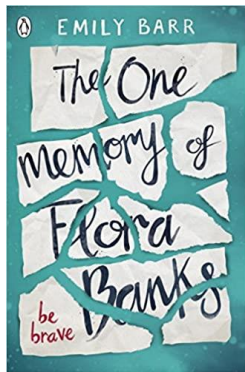
The Trap by Allan Gibbons.

Terrorism, heroism and everything in between...THE TRAP is a teen thriller about espionage, a missing brother and the ever-raging war on terror by million-copy-selling author, Alan Gibbons. MI5 agent, Kate, receives a tip-off about an asset, who seems too good to be true. Amir and Nasima are trying to make friends at their new school but struggling to keep a terrible secret. A group of jihadists are planning something. And behind it all stands Majid. Brother. Son. Hero. Terrorist. Spanning Iraq, Syria and England, THE TRAP grapples with one of the greatest challenges of our time



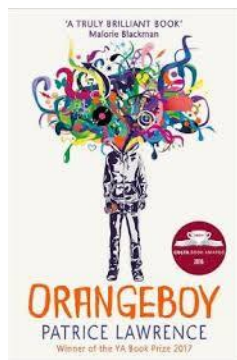
Dead Gorgeous by Malorie Blackman.

When the mysterious stranger shows up at Nova's parents' hotel, she thinks her luck has changed - until she realizes she's the only one who can see him .Liam explains he's been here a long time. And he can never leave, no matter how hard he tries. Soon, Nova begins to piece his tragic story together. But she's hiding a secret of her own - one she's desperate to keep from her family. And now Liam's found her out . . .



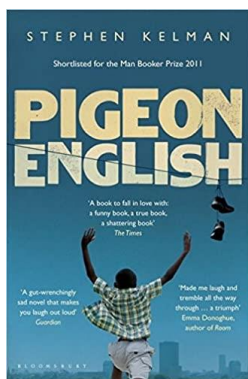
The One Memory of Flora Banks by Emily Barr Yr 10.

HOW DO YOU KNOW WHO TO TRUST WHEN YOU CAN'T EVEN TRUST YOURSELF? I look at my hands. One of them says FLORA BE BRAVE. Flora has anterograde amnesia. She can't remember anything day-to-day: the joke her friend made, the instructions her parents gave her, how old she is. Then she kisses someone she shouldn't, and the next day she remembers it. It's the first time she's remembered anything since she was ten. But the boy is gone. She thinks he's moved to the Arctic. Will following him be the key to unlocking her memory? Who can she trust?



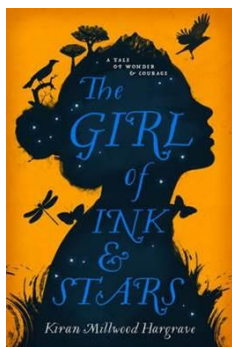
Orangeboy by Patrice Lawrence Yr 10 and Up.

Not cool enough, not clever enough, not street enough for anyone to notice me. I was the kid people looked straight through. NOT ANY MORE. NOT SINCE MR ORANGE. Sixteen-year-old Marlon has made his mum a promise - he'll never follow his big brother, Andre, down the wrong path. So far, it's been easy, but when a date ends in tragedy, Marlon finds himself hunted. They're after the mysterious Mr Orange, and they're going to use Marlon to get to him. Marlon's out of choices - can he become the person he never wanted to be, to protect everyone he loves?



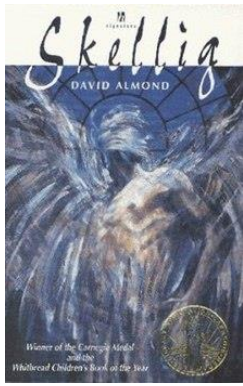
Pigeon English by Stephen Kelman.

Eleven-year-old Harrison Opoku, the second best runner in Year 7, races through his new life in England with his personalised trainers - the Adidas stripes drawn on with marker pen - blissfully unaware of the very real threat around him. Newly-arrived from Ghana with his mother and older sister Lydia, Harri absorbs the many strange elements of city life, from the bewildering array of Haribo sweets, to the frightening, fascinating gang of older boys from his school. But, his life is changed forever when one of his friends is murdered. As the victim's nearly new football boots hang in tribute on railings behind fluorescent tape and a police appeal draws only silence, Harri decides to act, unwittingly endangering the fragile web his mother has spun around her family to keep them safe.



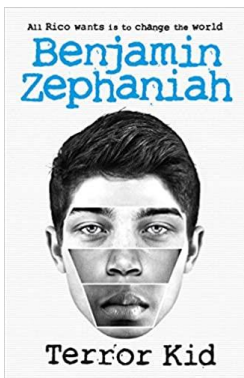
The Girl of Ink and Stars by Kiran Millwood Hargrave.

Forbidden to leave her island, Isabella Riosse dreams of the faraway lands her father once mapped. When her closest friend disappears into the island's Forgotten Territories, she volunteers to guide the search. Following her map, her heart and an ancient myth, Isabella discovers the true end of her journey: to save the island itself. For beneath the dry rivers and smoky mountains, a fiery legend is stirring from its sleep.



Skellig by David Almond.

When a move to a new house coincides with his baby sister's illness, Michael's world seems suddenly lonely and uncertain. Then, exploring a ramshackle garage with newfound friend Mina, he finds something magical. A strange creature - part owl, part angel, a being who needs Michael's help if he is to survive. With Mina's help, Michael nourishes Skellig back to health. The creature is ill mannered, with questionable personal hygiene, but persevering in their kindness towards him, Michael and Mina find a bond forms between them that will change their lives forever.



Terror Kid by Benjamin Zephaniah

Rico knows trouble. He knows the look of it and the sound of it. He also knows to stay away from it as best he can. Because if there's one thing his Romany background has taught him, it's that he will always be a suspect. Despite his efforts to stay on the right side of the law, Rico is angry and frustrated at the injustices he sees happening at home and around the world. He wants to do something - but what? When he is approached by Speech, a mysterious man who shares Rico's hacktivist interests, Rico is given the perfect opportunity to speak out. After all, what harm can a peaceful cyber protest do...?