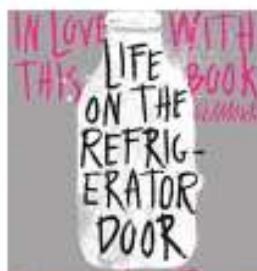


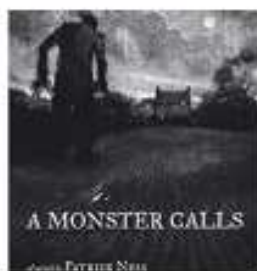
# Year 7 to Year 9

## Reading for pleasure: recommended reads for year 7



**Life On The Refrigerator Door - Alice Kuipers**

- Sad but in the best way!
- Told entirely through notes between a mum and her daughter
- A fast paced 'quick read'



**A Monster Calls - Patrick Ness**

- Genre defying brilliant book!
- Has won LOTS of awards for brilliant writing
- About loss, being angry, bullying, fairytales and so much more!



**The House with Chicken Legs - Sophie Anderson**

- Carnegie Shortlisted
- Based on Baba Yaga Folktales
- Imaginative with great themes of friendship, destiny and a house with a mind of its own!



**The Song From Somewhere Else - A F Harrold**

- Magical realism perfect for fans of Roald Dahl and Neil Gaiman.
- A brilliantly atmospheric and poignant story
- About finding friendship where you least expect it



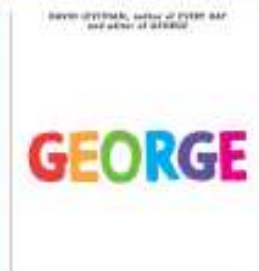
**Welcome To Nowhere - Elizabeth Laird**

- Best book for empathy
- Great characters and plot
- Based on real life accounts of life as a Syrian refugee



**Smile - Raina Telgemeier**

- Graphic novel (comic book)
- About life with braces
- Funny & heartwarming it's unlike anything you've read before



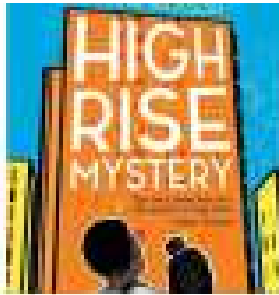
**George - Alex Gino**

- Simply told but powerful
- Warm, funny and inspiring
- "When people look at George, they think they see a boy. But she knows she's not a boy. She knows she's a girl."



**Rooftoppers - Katherine Rundell**

- Classic adventure
- About life with braces
- Funny & heartwarming it's unlike anything you've read before



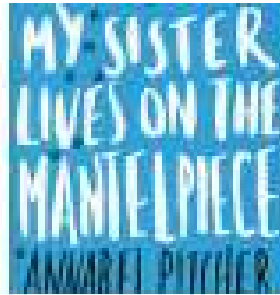
**High Rise Mystery - Sharna Jackson**

- First in a new mystery series!
- Set in the modern day about a murder in a London tower block
- Smart & sassy female characters



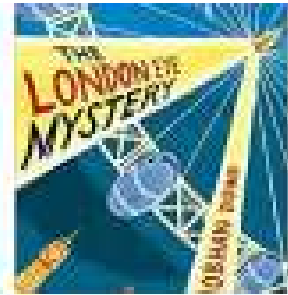
**Once - Morris Gleitsman**

- Set during WWII
- A young Jewish boy is determined to rescue his parents from the Nazis
- An emotional and vivid tale with 5 more books in the series



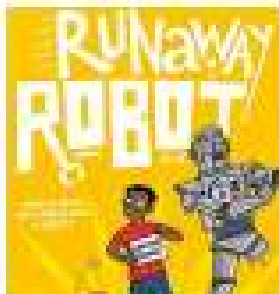
**My Sister Lives on the Mantelpiece - Annabel Pitcher**

- Heartbreaking but also funny
- about the tragedy that tears a family apart after a terrorist attack, and how they rebuild their lives



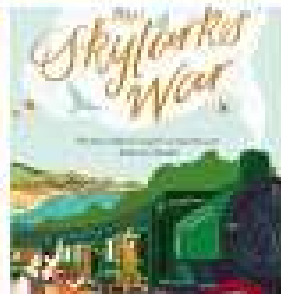
**The London Eye Mystery - Siobhan Dowd**

- Unpredictable thriller
- Tedious, engaging
- An analytical mind becomes an asset to his and his peers together the information surrounding their cousin's disappearance and begin to unravel the mystery



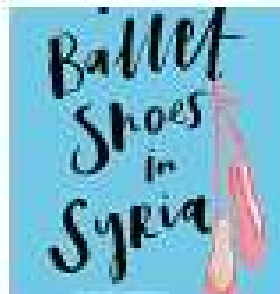
**Runaway Robot - Frank Cottrell Boyce**

- Zany adventure full of characters you'll love
- It will have you laughing out loud one minute, in tears the next!



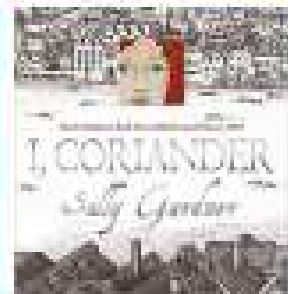
**The Skylarks' War - Hilary McKay**

- Set against the back drop of WW1
- Fragment family drama
- Excellent and vivid characters



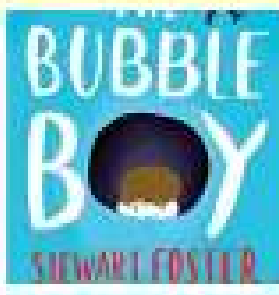
**No Ballet Shoes in Syria - Catherine Bruton**

- World War 1
- About championing the rights of refugees
- Beautiful, captivating writing



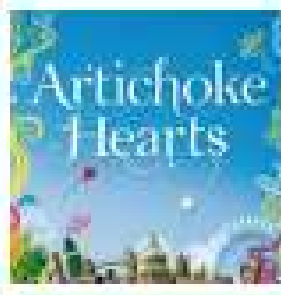
**I, Coriander - Sally Gardner**

- Fast paced action, great fairy tale
- A terrific page turner, involving kidnapping, murder and romance, as well as being an abundance of evil characters



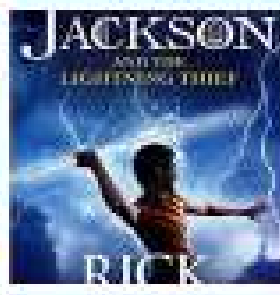
**The Bubble Boy - Stewart Foster**

- The boy was medical condition, but has always lived in a sterile room in a hospital, the life changes drastically when a new nurse appears...
- Moving and gripping
- Brilliant for inspiring empathy



**Artichoke Hearts - Sita Brahmachari**

- Set in modern multicultural London
- Follows story of 12 year old Mia & her party Coordinator
- About families and grief and love and growing up



**Percy Jackson & The Lightning Thief - Rick Riordan**

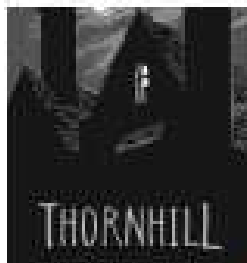
- Mythology and the modern world collide in the best kind of way (personally, I would recommend it to everyone)
- The adventures of the son of a Greek God



**Bong, Bong, You're Dead! - Siobhan Dowd**

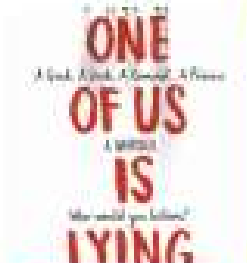
- When a mysterious gunman takes a class hostage, the rest of Mia's school is evacuated, but Mia is determined to stay behind - she thinks she might know the gunman...
- Brilliant twist at the end

# Reading for pleasure: recommended reads for year 8



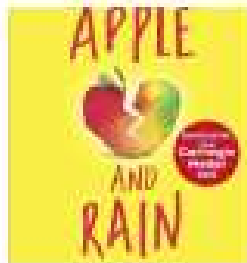
**Thornhill - Pam Sny**

- Told through a combination of wordless illustrated pages and diary entries this is an atmospheric and chilling read
- Cometgea Shortlisted



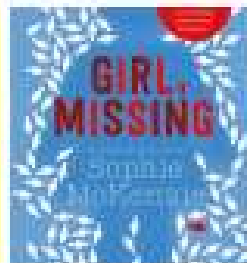
**One of Us is Lying - Karen McMane**

- Engaging twisted crime mystery with plenty of suspense
- 5 stars from Goodreads and 4.5 from Amazon
- Everyone is a suspect, and everyone has something to hide



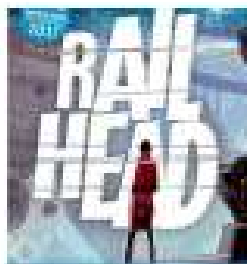
**Apple and Rain - Sarah Crossan**

- Compelling family drama - Apple's mum returns after 11 years away
- You will laugh & cry!
- Beautifully written with a lovely helping of poetry sprinkled throughout



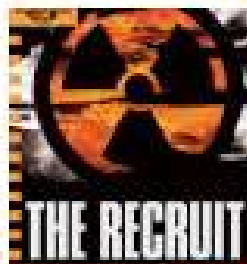
**Girl Missing - Sophie McKenzie**

- Gripping thriller, inspired by the real-life case of a toddler who went missing in the early '90s
- Cometgea Reading



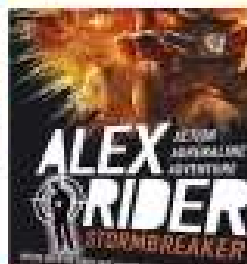
**Bull Head - Philip Reeve**

- Thrilling Sci-Fi adventure /conspiracy thriller
- Astonishing world building with talking bats & intergalactic travel
- Brilliantly inventive



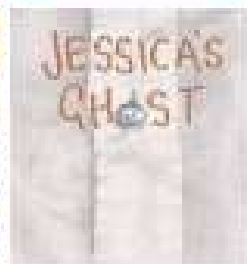
**The Recruit (Cheril) - Robert Muchamore**

- Fast in bestselling series
- CHERIL & agents are apart between MI & IT, sleeping under adult radar they get into first hand missions and terrorists to get



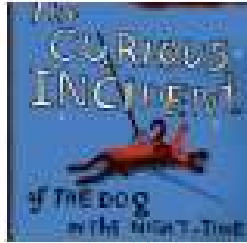
**Alex Rider - Anthony Browne**

- Stormbreaker is the first in this hugely popular series
- 14 year old Alex is forcibly recruited into MI6
- Teenage spy
- Major danger!



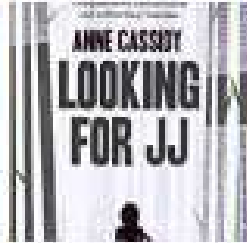
**Jessica's Ghost - Andrew Morris**

- Friendship
- Bullying
- Francis is the only one who has been able to see Jessica since she died...



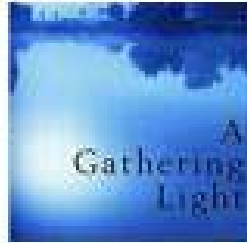
**The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time - Mark Haddon**

- Modern Classic
- 15 year old Christopher has Asperger's & is obsessed with facts, science and libraries but finds it hard to understand other people



**Looking For JJ - Anne Cassidy**

- When a 16 year-old girl kills her best friend, she is convicted of manslaughter and locked away. Seven years later she is released on licence with a new identity
- Gritty & compulsive reading



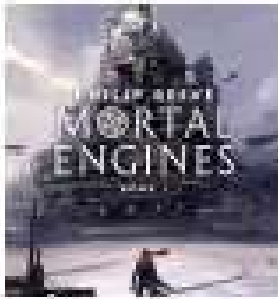
**A Gathering Light - Jennifer Donnelly**

- Survival story
- Mystery
- Memory
- Unusual format
- Coming of age story with a touch of romance



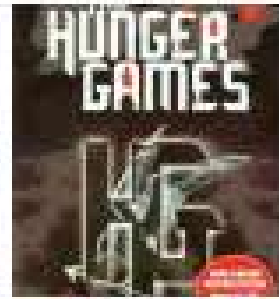
**Orbiting Jupiter - Gary B. Schwartz**

- Superbly written...the space setting and the near-catastrophe is a pocket gem
- Your heart will ache for the 14 year old boy and his quest to find his daughter he's never seen



**Mortal Engines - Philip Reeve**

- Futuristic and imaginative with a definite steampunk vibe
- Truncated cities roam the world capturing and eating smaller towns
- Recent film version



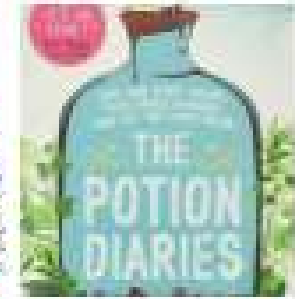
**The Hunger Games - Suzanne Collins**

- Definitely worth a read if you've not got round to it yet
- Page turning dystopian fiction
- The book is better than the film!



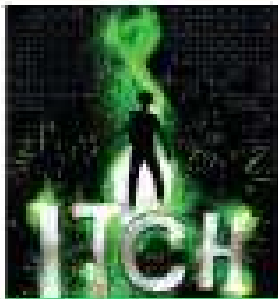
**Everything Everything - Nicola Yoon**

- Story of secrets, lies, love and discovery
- Moody is allergic to the world; stepping outside her home could kill her. But Han Ohyun is in real... about...



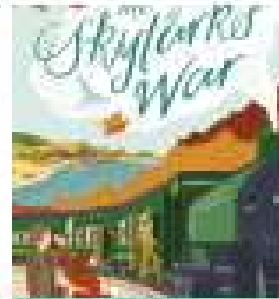
**The Potion Diaries - Amy Alward**

- Good old fashioned quest meets social media
- Page turning around the world adventure
- Unicorns, obnoxious mermaids, and potion making



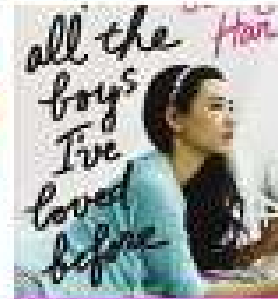
**Itch - Simon Mayo**

- An accidental accident gives him...
- Science is his weapon. Clones to use his gadgets
- Adventure starts when Itch finds an alien cat on the Periodic Table



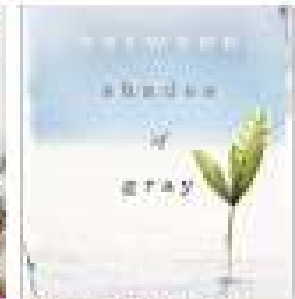
**The Skybirds War - Hilary McKay**

- Historical fiction following the lives and losses of a family growing up against the harsh backdrop of World War One
- Superb characters



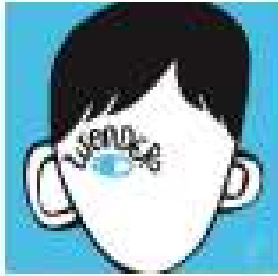
**To All The Boys I've Loved Before - Jenny Han**

- Read the book that inspired the Netflix series
- When Lara Jean's letters are mysteriously mailed out her love life goes from imaginary to out of control



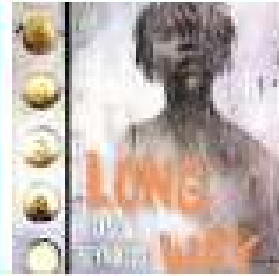
**Between Shades of Gray - Ruta Sepetys**

- Hearting and powerful Second World War novel
- Also been made into the film Journey to the End of the Earth
- Separate exercise at writing the history you don't get taught at school



**Wonder - R.J. Palacio**

- Born with a visible facial abnormality, Auggie has been home-schooled by his parents for whole life. Now, for the first time, he's being sent to a real school
- Funny, frank and very moving



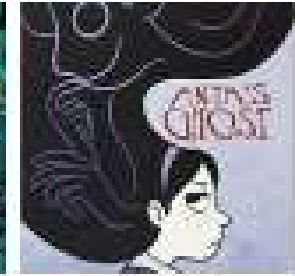
**Long Way Down - Jason Reynolds**

- WB's brother, is shot dead. WB is ready to follow "the rules" and get revenge
- Tense & powerful - Carnegie shortlisted
- Told in real time, during a lift journey in a block of flats



**Orion Lost - Alastair Chinaman**

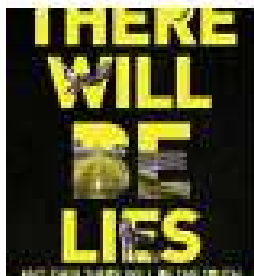
- Hugely gripping, with incredible twists
- Fast-paced, action-packed story
- Unputdownable science fiction suspense - perfect for fans of The Maze



**Aya's Ghost - Yara Braugel**

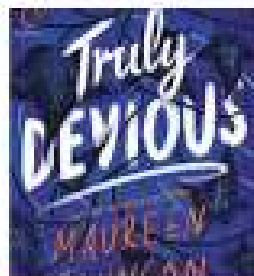
- Graphic novel
- Of all the things Aya wanted to find at the bottom of an old well, a new friend was not one of them. Especially not a new friend who's been dead for a century...

# Reading for pleasure: recommended reads for year 9+



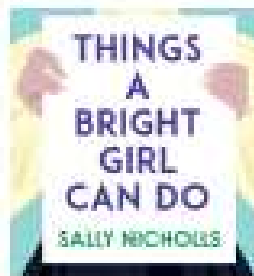
**There Will Be Lies - Nick Lowe**

- If the person who keeps you safe also tells you lies, who can you trust?
- Great twisty turny plot
- Page turner (with talking myones!)



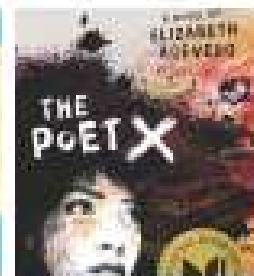
**Truly Devious - Maureen Johnson**

- Twisted mystery unfold in this compellingly readable novel
- Alternating past and present scenes
- Well-paced, wacky detective story



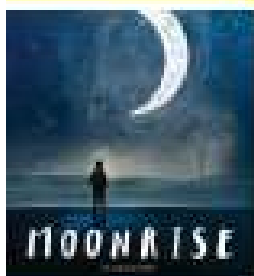
**Things A Bright Girl Can Do - Sally Nicholls**

- Carnegie Shortlisted
- Hilarious look on the battle for women's rights from multiple (wonderful) narrators
- Best book about WW1 without ever leaving the shores of Britain



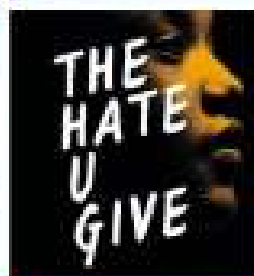
**The Poet X - Elizabeth Acevedo**

- Verse Novel
- About Slam poetry and finding your voice
- Deals with first love, religion and creativity in a gripping and utterly believable way



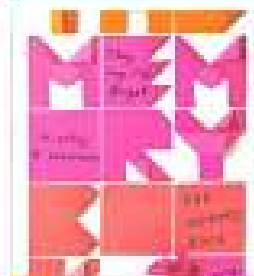
**Moonrise - Sarah Crossan**

- Examining the effects of the death penalty
- Powerfully told in her usual lyrical, award winning style
- Compelling but quick read



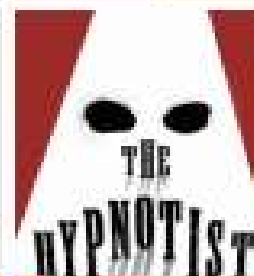
**The Hate You Give - Angie Thomas**

- Amazing characterisation and dialogue
- Well structured story with witness the total crushing of her unnamed friend at the hands of a police officer



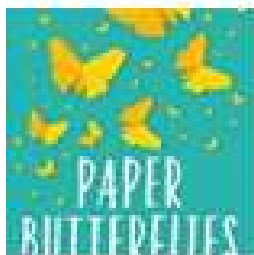
**The Memory Book - Lisa Jewery**

- Mind-bending novel that may require reread
- Science fact or sci-fi genre? A thriller that will slowly start to read like romance and then far more
- Told through Gemma's notes to her future self



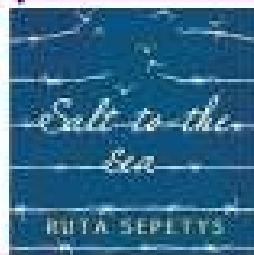
**The Hypnotist - Lisa Jewery**

- Set in the American South during the 1950s
- On the powerful mind with a strong, intriguing message
- Will be back at the top!



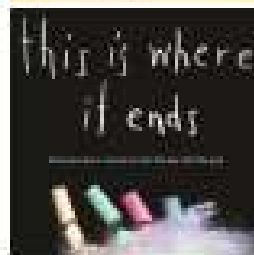
**Paper Butterflies - Lisa Heathfield**

- With an abusive stepmother and a sister, June feels like a butterfly trapped in a net
- Deals with difficult subjects with grace
- There's a huge and unexpected plot twist!



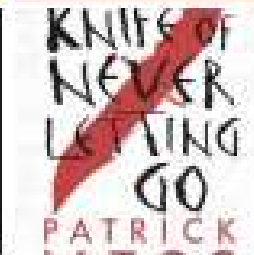
**Salt to the Sea - Ruta Sepetys**

- Challenge-winning book about the history that is never yet taught in school - the paper boats of fleeing refugees
- Simply and elegantly written and the human element is what this is about



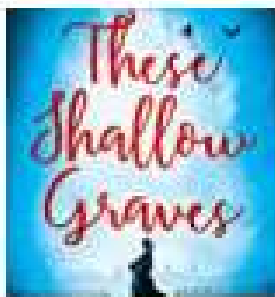
**This is Where it Ends - Marika Mijnsop**

- Told in real time by multiple narrators as a school shooting unfolds
- Emotional and compelling
- Diverse cast of characters



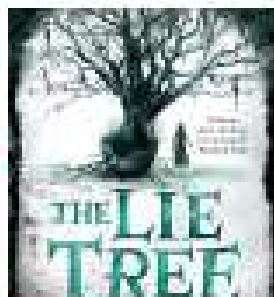
**The Knife of Never Letting Go - Patrick Ness**

- Told from the only boy in a world where there are no cities, remembered with the most grace. You'll be too busy trying to survive, and they have everything to do with it
- Don't miss missing & loved writing things



**These Shallow Graves - Jennifer D'Arcy**

- Page turning historical fiction that will keep you guessing right to the end
- Smart & savvy female character
- Immersive 19th century New York setting



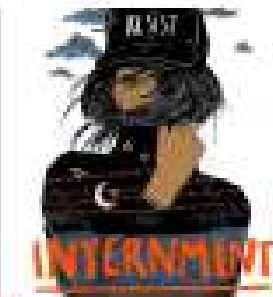
**The Lie Tree - Frances Hardinge**

- Set just after the publication of 'The Origin of The Species' science and nature collide in the Victorian thriller
- Deliciously creepy
- Mystery and intrigue



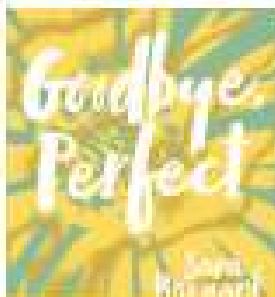
**The Marshes We Deserve - Marcus Sedgwick**

- Atmosphere and haunting
- An unusual read - a metafictional ghost story about the very process of writing a book
- Creative, witty and philosophical



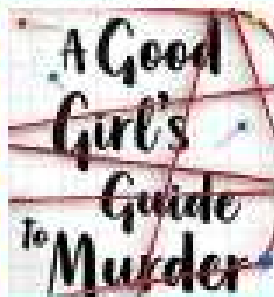
**Internment - Savina Ahmed**

- Set in a haunting near-future, looks back & her parents are forced into an internment camp for Muslim American citizens
- A heart racing, an emotional fight for freedom
- Challenges readers to fight against a world that seems to be slowly taking over



**Goodbye Perfect - Sara Barnard**

- Brilliant honest writing
- Set against the backdrop of stressful GCSE exams
- Explores ideas about perfection, love, friendship and family



**A Good Girl's Guide To Murder - Holly Jackson**

- Standalone novel crime thriller
- You'll like this if you enjoyed One Of Us Is Lying
- Compulsively readable and elegantly plotted



**All The Bright Places - Jennifer Wynn**

- A compelling and beautiful story about a girl who learns to live from a boy who wants to die
- Honest & poignant
- Film adaptation due 2020



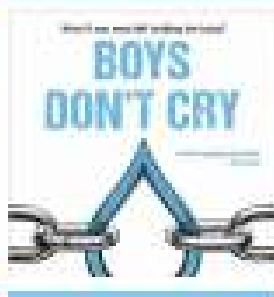
**Furious Thing - Jenny Downham**

- Explores the myriad ways a girl's sense of self can be whittled away and what might happen when she fights back
- It's a book about being born, about being angry and about wanting to



**Birthday - Meredith Russo**

- Tell us one day every year, how we pass, this is a story about how change pulls people apart... and how love brings them back together
- A sensitive writer who gender coming of age story



**Boys Don't Cry - Malorie Blackman**

- Starts in waiting for his A level results to arrive in the post, but what he gets instead is an ex-girlfriend on the doorstep with a baby she says is his
- Spaced-out sensitive look at the overlooked territory of teenage fatherhood



**Ketchup Clouds - Anabel Rivera**

- A girl with a guilty conscience writes her emotional death poem in America
- Poetic powerful emotion & dialogue with a twist towards
- A gripping and moving story about secrets, lies and growing up



**Six Of Crows - Leigh Bardugo**

- Sweeping fan-fare epic
- Queens Eleven set in a Game Of Thrones-esque world
- Great ensemble cast & page turning action