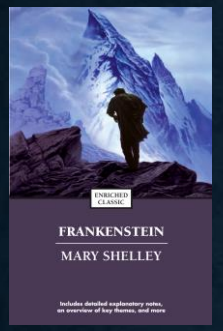
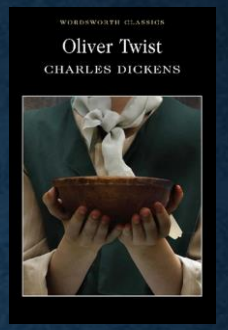
KS3 BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

"Reading is an exercise in empathy; an exercise in walking in someone else's shoes for a while." - Malorie Blackman



CURRICULUM LINKS



Frankenstein (Y7)

- Monsters by Sharon Dogar
- Frankenstein: The Graphic Novel, illustrated by Clive Bryant
- Dracula by Bram Stoker
- The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde by Robert Louis Stevenson

Novels in verse (Y7)

- The Weight of Water by Sarah Crossman
- Long Way Down by Jason Reynolds
- Booked by Kwame Alexander
- Creeping Beauty by Joseph Coelho

Bone Talk (Y8)

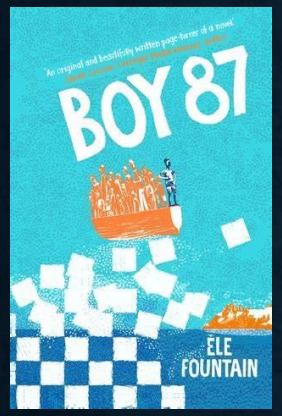
- Tall Story & Wild Song by Candy Gourlay
- Wonderscape by Jennifer Bell
- Girl of Ink and Stars by Kiran Millwood Hargeave
- Stone by Finbar Hawkins

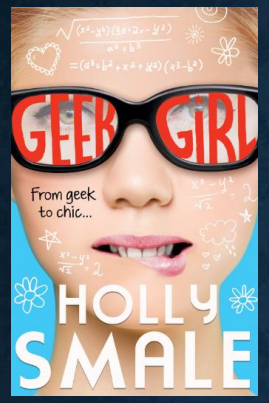
Oliver Twist (Y8)

- Cogheart by Peter Bunzl
- A Face like Glass by Francis Hardinge

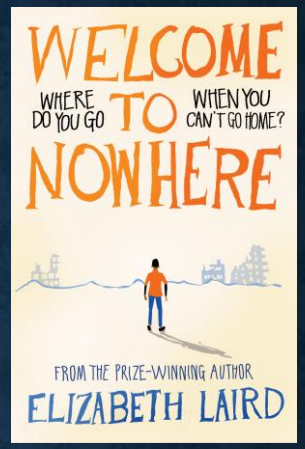
Never Let Me Go (Y9)

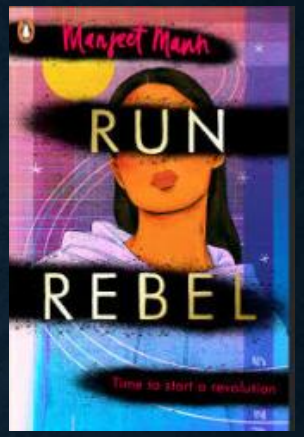
- Klara and the Sun by Kazuo Ishiguro
- The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood





REALISTIC FICTION



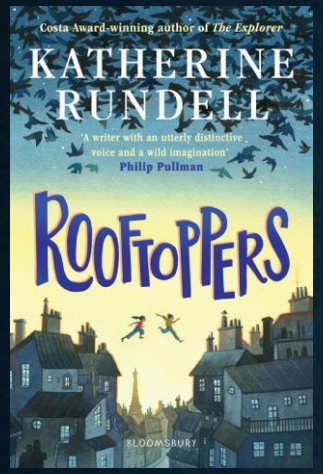


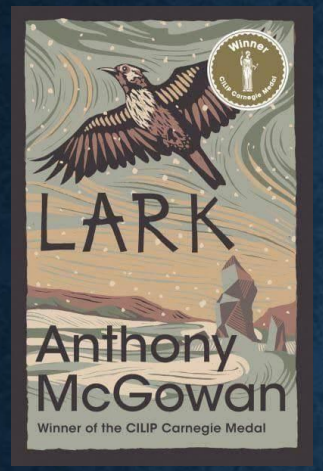
All ages

- Boy 87 by Ele Fountain
- Welcome to Nowhere by Elizabeth Laird
- Geek Girl by Holly Smale
- Talking to Alaska by Anna Woltz
- Toffee by Sarah Crossan
- October, October by Katya Balen

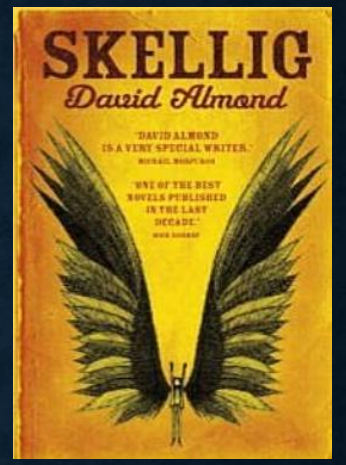
12+

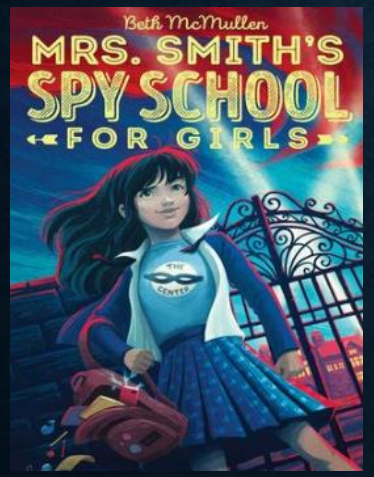
- Are You There, God? It's Me, Margaret by Judy Blume
- Face by Benjamin Zephaniah
- The Poet X by Elizabeth Alvecedo
- Run Rebel by Manjeet Mann
- One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest by Ken Kesey





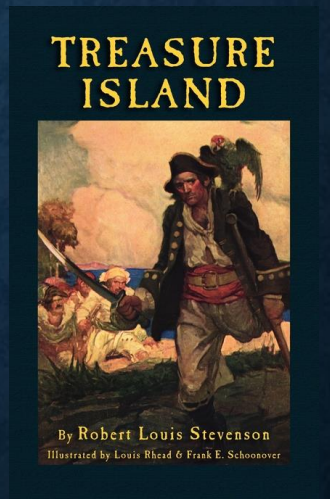
ADVENTURE

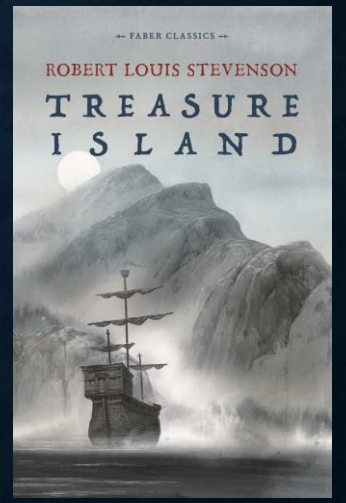




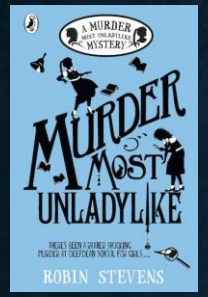
All ages

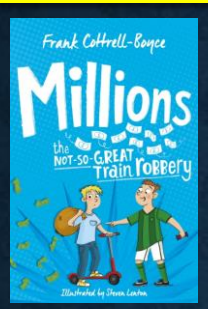
- Rooftoppers by Katherine Rundell
- Lark by Anthony McGowan
- Skellig by David Almond
- Treasure Island by R.L. Stevenson
- Mrs. Smith's Spy School for Girls by Beth McMullen
- The Book of Stolen Dreams by David Farr

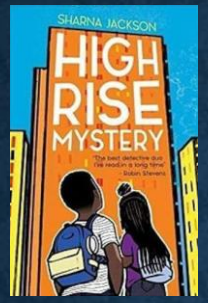


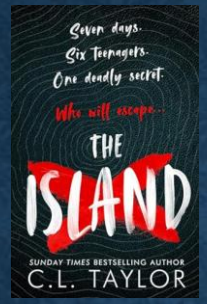


MYSTERY / CRIME









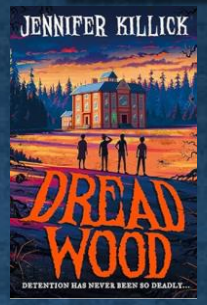
All ages

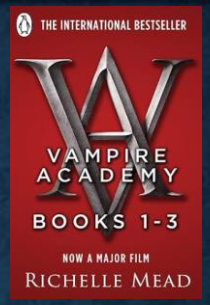
- The Ruby in the Smoke by Philip Pullman
- A Murder Most Unladylike series by Robin Stevens
- The Ministry of Unladylike Activity series by Robin Stevens
- Millions by Frank Cottrell-Boyce
- High-Rise Mystery by Sharna Jackson

12+

- A Good Girl's Guide to Murder by Holly Jackson
- One of Us is Lying by Karen McManus
- The Island by C.L. Taylor
- Night Lights by Sarah Epstein
- Girl, Missing by Sophie McKenzie

HORROR / GHOST STORIES



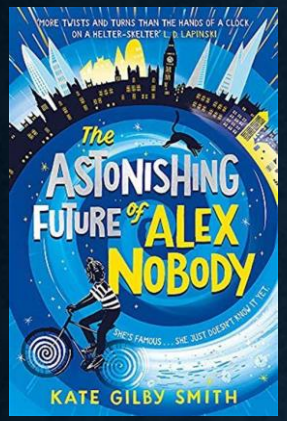


All ages

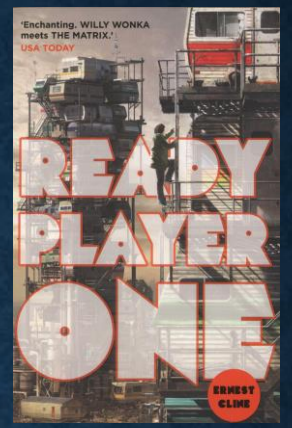
- The Graveyard Book by Neil Gaiman
- Dreadwood byJennifer Killick
- Small Spaces by Katherine Ardern
- Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children by Ransom Riggs
- Goosebumps (series) by R.L. Stein
- Lockwood & Co. (series) by Jonathan Stroud

12+

- Vampire Academy (series) by Richelle Mead
- The Twilight Saga by Stephanie Meyer



SCIENCE FICTION



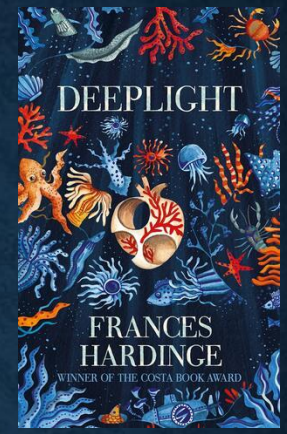
All ages

- The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy (series) by Douglas Adams
- The Astonishing Future of Alex Nobody by Kate Gilby Smith
- The Rhythm of Time by Questlove and S.A. Cosby
- Nic Blake and the Remarkables by Angie Thomas
- Fake by Ele Fountain

12+

- Ready Player One by Ernest Cline
- Dune (series) by Frank Herbert
- The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins
- The Loop Trilogy by Ben Oliver
- Sanctuary Trilogy by Caryn Lix
- Light the Abyss series by London Shah
- Gone (series) by Michael Grant
- Ender's Game by Orson Scott Card

MAGIC / FANTASY

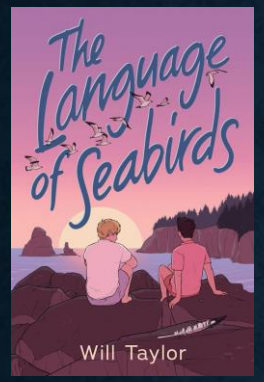


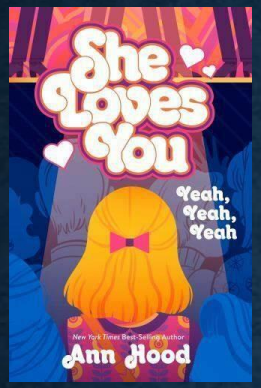
All ages

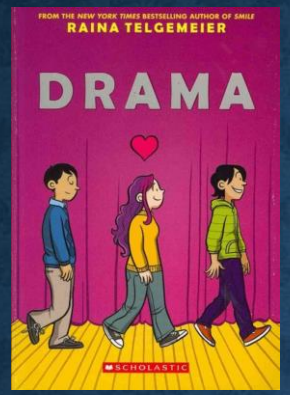
- The House with Chicken Legs by Sophie Anderson
- Inkheart (Inkworld Series) by Cornelia Funke
- The Owl Service by Alan Garner
- Deeplight by Frances Hardinge
- A Wrinkle in Time by Madeline L'Engle
- Eragon (series) by Christopher Paolini
- His Dark Materials (series) by Philip Pullman

12+

- Children of Blood and Bone by Tomi Adeyemi
- This Poison Heart by Kalynn Bayron
- Mortal Instruments (series) by Cassandra Clare
- Chaos and Flame by Tessa Gratton and Justina Ireland
- The Dragon's Promise by Elizabeth Lin
- These Violent Delights by Chloe Gong







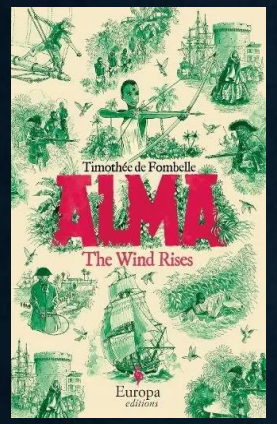
ROMANCE

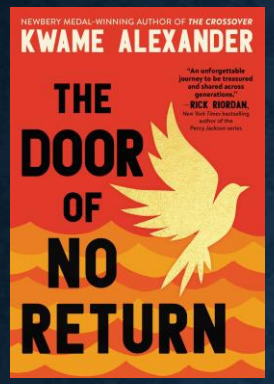
All ages

- Drama by Raina Telgemeier
- The Language of Seabirds by Will Taylor
- She Loves You (Yeah Yeah Yeah) by Ann Hood

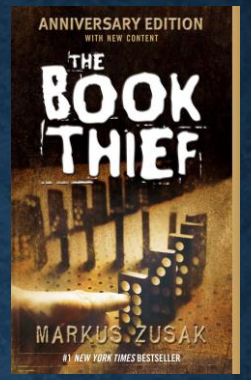
12+

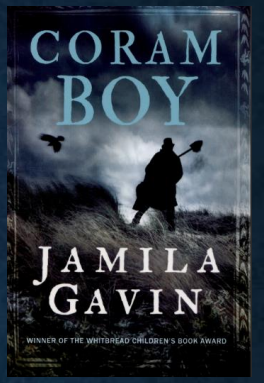
- Only on the Weekends by Dean Atta (14+)
- Chaos Theory by Nic Stone (14+)
- Highly Suspicious and Unfairly Cute by Talia Hibbert
- Confessions of an Alleged Good Girl by Joya Goffney (14+)
- One True Way by Shannon Hitchcock
- Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli
- Love Hurts, edited by Malorie Blackman

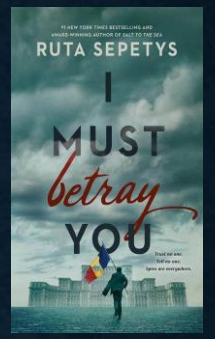




HISTORICAL





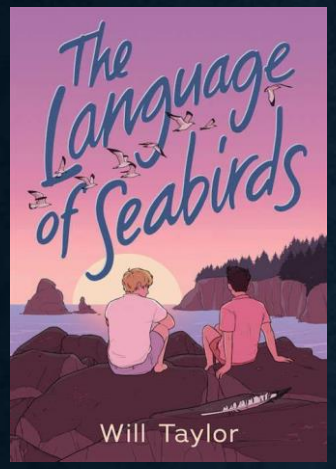


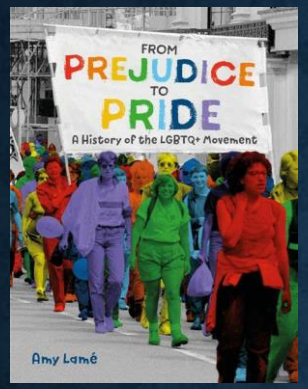
All ages

- Coram Boy by Jamila Gavin
- Alma: The Wind Rises by Timothy deFombelle
- Once by Morris Gleitzman
- Refugee by Alan Gratz
- The Door of No Return by Kwame Alexander

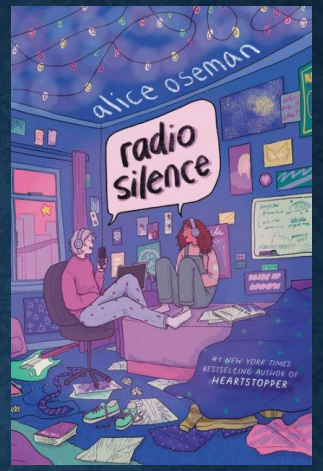
12+

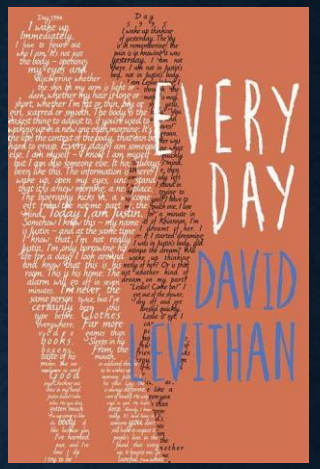
- The Book Thief by Markus Zusak
- This Rebel Heart by Katherine Locke
- As Long as the Lemon Trees Grow by Zoulfa Katouh (13+)
- I Must Betray You by Ruta Sepetys
- African Town by Charles Waters and Irene Latham





LGBT+





All ages

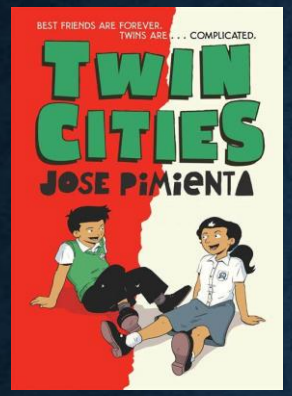
- The Language of Seabirds by Will Taylor
- Rick: A Melissa Novel by Alex Gino
- Proud of Me by Sarah Hagger-Holt

Non-Fiction:

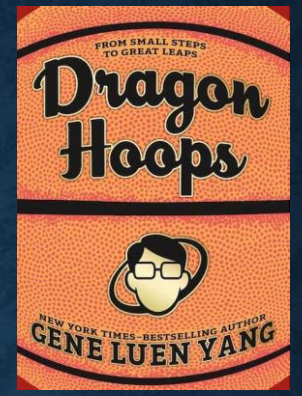
- From Prejudice to Pride: A History of the LGBT+ Movement
- This Book is Gay by James Dawson (13+)
- Proud ed. Juno Dawson (14+)
- Here and Queer: A Queer Girl's Guide to Life (14+)

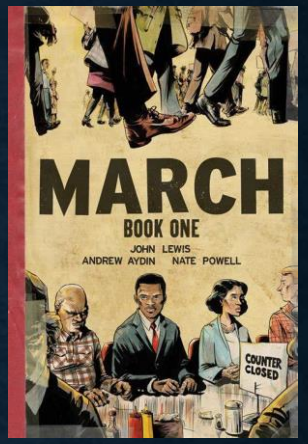
12+

- Radio Silence by Alice Oseman
- The Black Flamingo (verse novel) by Dean Atta
- Leah on the Offbeat by Becky Albertalli
- Every Day by David Leviathan (13+)



GRAPHIC NOVELS





All ages

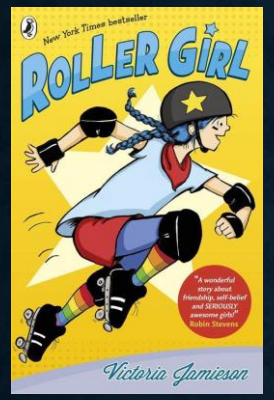
- Sad Ghost Club series by Lize Meddings
- Alex Rider graphic novels by Anthony Horowitz
- Mexikid by Pedro Martin
- Twin Cities by Jose Pimienta
- Space Boy series by Stephen McCranie
- Muhammad Najem, War Reporter by Muhammad Najem and Nora Neus

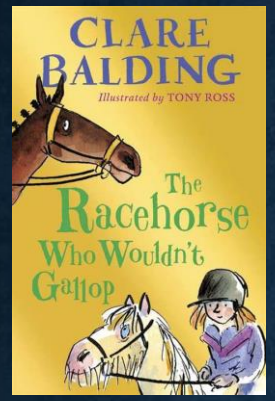
12+:

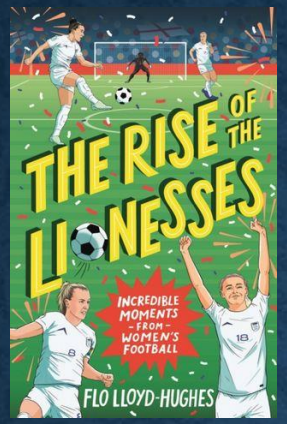
In Waves by AJ Dungo

March by John Lewis

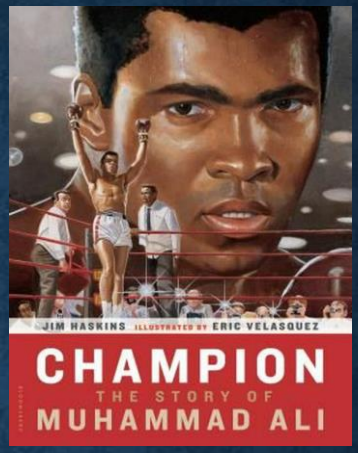
Dragon Hoops by Gene Luen Yang

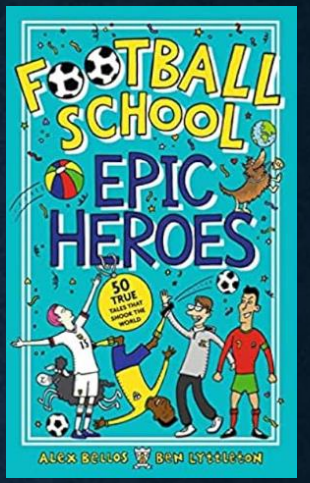






SPORT



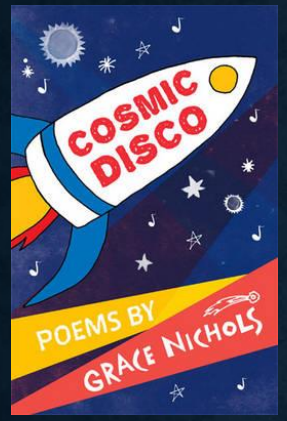


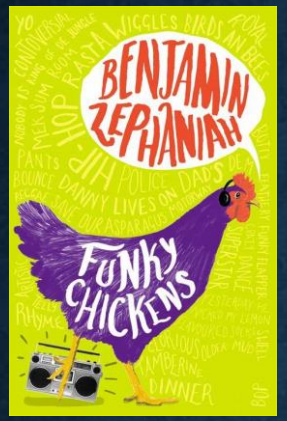
Fiction

- Roller Girl by Victoria Jamieson (graphic novel)
- The Racehorse Who Wouldn't Gallop by Clare Balding & Tony Ross
- Ghost by Jason Reynolds
- Our Beautiful Game
- Striking Out by Musa Okwonga
- Booked by Kwame Alexander

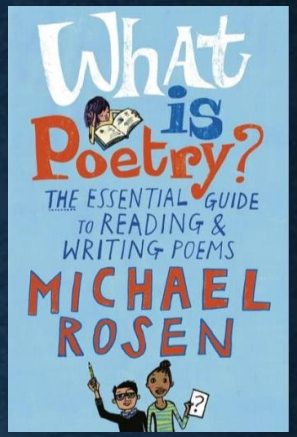
Non-Fiction

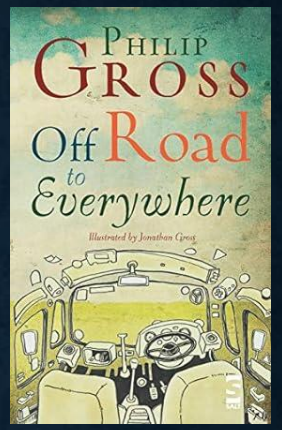
- Football School: Epic Heroes series
- Rise of the Lionesses
- Courage to Soar by Simone Biles
- Coming up for Air by Tom Daley
- Champion: The Story of Mohammed Ali by Eric Velasquez





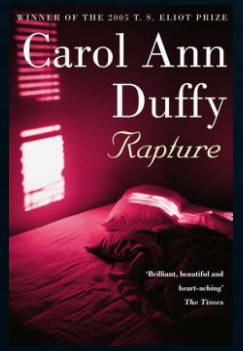
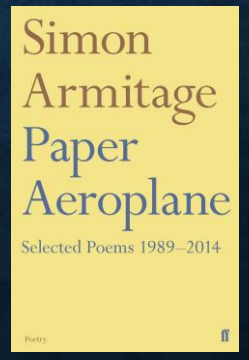
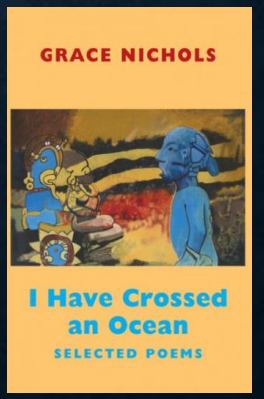
POETRY





KS3

- Cosmic Disco by Grace Nichols
- Off Road to Everywhere by Philip Gross
- Funky Chickens, Talking Turkeys and Funky Chickens by Benjamin Zephaniah
- What is Poetry? By Michael Rosen
- The Boy Lost in the Maze by Joseph Coelho (verse novel, 14+)

More challenging reads:

- Carol Ann Duffy, Rapture
- Death of a Naturalist by Seamus Heaney
- Over the Moon by Imtiaz Dharker
- Selected Poems by Simon Armitage