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The season of spooks and sprites is upon us, and we have just the right reads that will get young readers – and beddy-bye gremlins alike – fear-fighting, or high-hearted here at Jonathan Ball.

This October is jam-packed with the latest books that young readers are guaranteed to love. Make sure to get your orders in before they – poof – disappear!

All the best,
The Jonathan Ball Kids Team

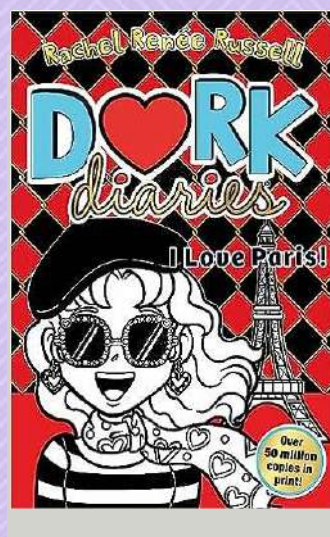
Spotlight



Mama's Sleeping Scarf by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
9780008550073 / HarperCollins / HB / R299

This beautiful family story follows a young girl called Chino as she plays with her mama's sleeping scarf through the day. Running with the scarf, Chino weaves together little incidentals of home life into a glorious celebration of the power of a mother-daughter relationship, and the gentle joys that build a perfect day. Exquisitely written with compelling simplicity, this is a heartfelt homage to family love.

A compelling debut picture book from one of the most important voices in literature today, brought into glorious technicolor through the vibrant and contemporary illustrations of Joelle Avelino.



Dork Diaries: I Love Paris by Rachel Renée Russell
9781471196867 / Simon & Schuster / PB / R215

Welcome to Nikki Maxwell's aDORKable world and Nikki's BRAND NEW ADVENTURE in the mega-selling Dork Diaries series.

Oh la la! Nikki and her band are invited to Paris for a super cool photoshoot, it's a dream come true! Nikki can't wait to learn new art styles, practice her French and explore the most romantic city in the world with her crush Brandon.

But when MacKenzie starts to stir trouble and invites old friend André to be their tour guide, the drama starts. Can Nikki still enjoy her dream vacay, or will it become a dorky disaster?



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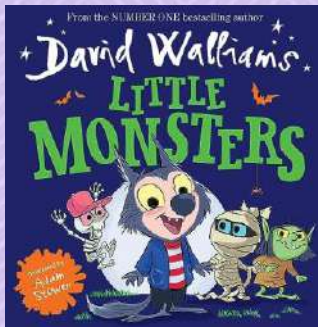


0 – 5 years



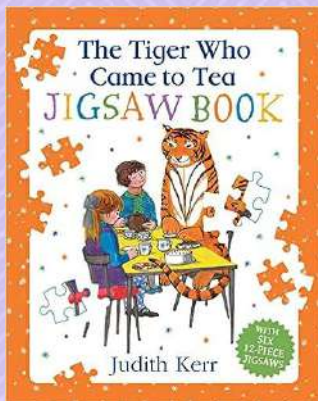
Begin Again by Oliver Jeffers
9780008579593 / HarperCollins / HB / R460

With his bold, exquisite artwork, Oliver Jeffers starts at the dawn of humankind following people on their journey from then until now, and then offers the reader a challenge: where do we go from here? How can we think about the future of the human race more than our individual lives? How can we change our story?



Little Monsters by David Walliams
9780008581428 / HarperCollins / PB / R200

Howler is a SMALL werewolf with a BIG problem. He is just not SCARY! And that makes him the odd one out at Monster School... But when Howler finds some new friends, he discovers that being the ODD one out might just make him the COOLEST one of all... With giggles on every page, this hilarious new picture book is perfect for ALL little monsters.



Tiger Who Came To Tea Jigsaw Book by Judith Kerr
9780008605551 / HarperCollins / BB / R445

A brilliant new interactive gift book featuring Judith Kerr's beloved story, *The Tiger Who Came to Tea*. Featuring Judith Kerr's best-loved story, *The Tiger Who Came To Tea*, this brilliant jigsaw book enables young readers to get closer than ever to this timeless tale. Containing six 12-piece jigsaw puzzles accompanied by the complete story, celebrate the magic of teatime anew with this exciting interactive gift book. Read the story, complete the puzzles and enjoy these classic illustrations again and again. Bound to keep even the tiniest tigers busy!



Gigantic by Rob Biddulph
9780008413439 / HarperCollins / HB / R299

A powerful and standout sea life story featuring one very small and determined blue whale from bestselling and award-winning author and illustrator Rob Biddulph. Meet Gigantic, the smallest blue whale in the Atlantic. Dwarfed by the other whales, Gigantic keeps to himself, making new friends and perfecting his somersaults and flips in the bay. But one day when Gigantic's brother, Titan, gets stuck on the sand, it's down to Gigantic and his smallest sea creature friends to save the day. Can they show it's possible to be tiny and tough?

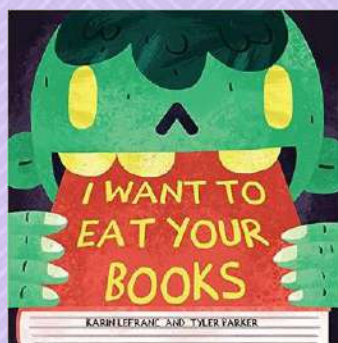


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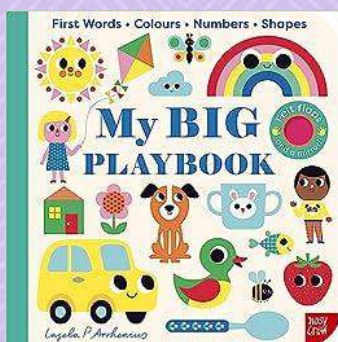
PAW Patrol Gift Box 2023 by PAW Patrol
9780008537463 / Farshore / Box / R390

Join the PAW Patrol on a fun adventure with this delightful Gift Collection. Featuring two storybooks, an activity book, a height chart, a door hanger and a craft. This Gift Collection will make a wonderful gift for all PAW Patrol fans.



I Want To Eat Your Books by Karin Lefranc
9781510773646 / Simon & Schuster / PB / R345

He's limping strangely down the hall with outstretched arms and a groaning drawl. A zombie! Could it really be? You race to class but turn to see he's sitting in the desk right next to you! But odds are you'll probably be okay, because this is no ordinary zombie. This zombie doesn't want to eat your brains—he wants to eat your books! Will the school library be devoured, or will the children discover something the zombie likes to do with books even more than eating them?



My BIG Playbook by Ingela P. Arrhenius
9781839949241 / Nosy Crow / Board Book / R295

A BIG book for sharing with a little person, introducing first words, colours, numbers, shapes and more - with felt flaps and a mirror! With bright, stylish artwork from Ingela P. Arrhenius, illustrator of the internationally bestselling Felt Flaps and Peekaboo series, this BIG playbook is perfect for sharing with older babies and toddlers. How many ladybirds can you count? What colour are the strawberries? Where is the cat hiding? And finally, where are you?



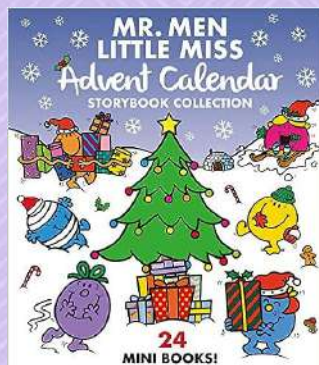
Hot Cocoa Penguin by Galison Mudpuppy
9780735379077 / Abrams / HB / R225

48-Piece Puzzle - The Hot Cocoa Penguin 48-Piece Scratch and Sniff Mini Shaped Puzzle from Mudpuppy is perfect for children ages 4 and up to complete on their own. Uniquely die-cut in the shape of a penguin, this colorful puzzle is sure to amuse and excite all puzzlers!

Scented Puzzle - Kids will love this mini puzzle's distinct and colorful artwork featuring a festive penguin holding a warm winter drink and is hot cocoa scented.

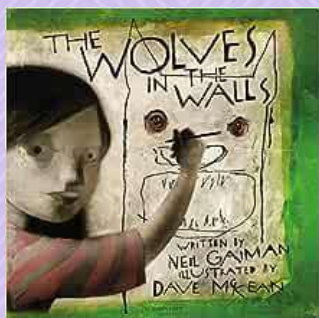


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Mr. Men Little Miss: Advent Calendar Storybook Collection by Adam Hargreaves
9780008610050 / Farshore / HB / R550

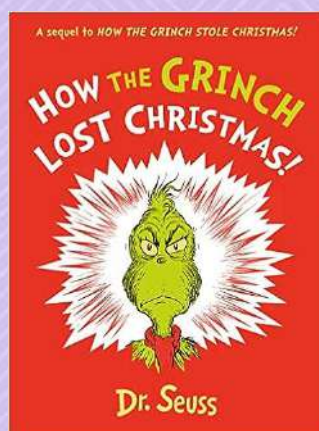
Count down to Christmas with the Mr. Men and Little Miss!
Join your favourite Mr. Men and Little Miss this Christmas for some festive fun and fairytales with this fantastic advent calendar featuring 24 individual stories. Reveal a special storybook every day during the Christmas countdown. The perfect gift for you to enjoy during the festive season and beyond.



The Wolves in the Walls: The 20th Anniversary Edition by Neil Gaiman
9781526661715 / Bloomsbury / PB / R300

Riveting text and astounding art make this a picture book to adore, from award-winning superstar author Neil Gaiman, and illustrated by the hugely talented and award-winning illustrator Dave McKean.
When Lucy hears noises from behind the wall she tries to warn her parents that there are wolves banging about. But her parents don't listen. So what was that noise Lucy heard coming from behind the wall ...?

6 – 9 years



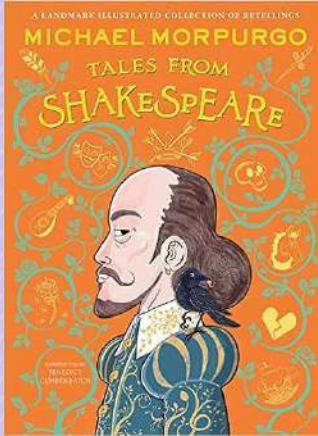
How The Grinch Lost Christmas by Dr. Seuss
9780008626013 / HarperCollins / HB / R399

The Grinch's newfound Christmas spirit is in jeopardy with the arrival of the Whoville's Christmas tree competition, but can one special Who remind him of what's really important? A sequel to the timeless classic How the Grinch Stole Christmas! featuring all your favourite characters!

The Grinch has grown to LOVE Christmas, so when the Grinch sees a poster for Who-ville's Christmas tree contest, he has an awfully crafty idea... he will show off his new festive spirit by making the tallest, most spectacular Christmas tree the Whos have ever seen!
But when things don't go as planned, will the Grinch return to his grinchy ways, or can one special Who remind him of the true meaning of Christmas?



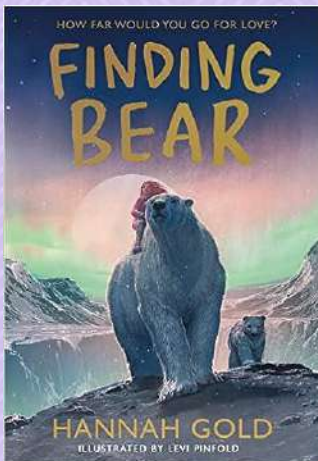
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Tales From Shakespeare by Michael Morpurgo
9780008352226 / HarperCollins / HB / R480

Featuring re-tellings of ten of Shakespeare's plays, and beautifully written with Michael Morpurgo's warm, accessible and inimitable style, this wonderful collection offers a new generation of readers the chance to discover the magic of Shakespeare, the perfect introduction to the Bard and an unmissable book for children, with an introduction by Benedict Cumberbatch.

Stunningly illustrated throughout with contributions from ten different artists, each with a special connection to the author, and published in a beautiful hardback edition, *Tales from Shakespeare* is a glorious tribute to both Shakespeare and Michael Morpurgo, making this the perfect gift.



Finding Bear by Hannah Gold
9780008582012 / HarperCollins / HB / R390

The unmissable follow-up to the phenomenal bestselling and award-winning *The Last Bear*. Beautifully illustrated by Levi Pinfold and perfect for readers 8+.

April Wood has returned home from her adventure on Bear Island. But, over a year later, she can't stop thinking about Bear.

When April hears that a polar bear has been shot and injured in Svalbard, she's convinced it's her friend and persuades her dad to travel with her to the northernmost reaches of the Arctic. So begins an unforgettable journey across frozen tundra and icy glaciers. But along the way, she discovers much more than she bargained for – a tiny polar bear cub, desperately in need of her help. In freezing temperatures, April must navigate the dangerous Arctic terrain and face her deepest fears if she's to save him.



Minecraft: The Ultimate Inventor's Collection Gift Box 2023 by Mojang AB
9780008537449 / Farshore / Box / R390

Ever wanted to build a redstone contraption? Seeking inspiration for your next epic build? This gift box is the perfect toolkit for unlocking the inventor in you!

Learn the basics of redstone in the Mini Redstone Handbook, start to apply your creative skills with Amazing Bite-Size Builds Mini Edition and then take inspiration for an immense build in Epic Inventions. Plus kit out your bedroom with the double-sided poster and door hanger, and build yourself a little creeper friend to keep you company as you play!



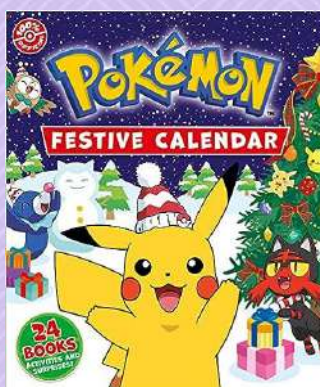
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Pokémon: Epic Battle Gift Box 2023 by Pokémon
9780008537302 / Farshore / Box / R390

With 3 awesome activity books, a poster, a bookmark and stickers, this is a perfect gift for fans of all ages. Jam-packed with Pokémon fun, this gift box contains a colouring book, search and find and a how-to-draw book.

The poster folds out to reveal a group of your fave Poké pals to hang on your wall and the bookmark is perfect for your next Pokémon reading adventure. Plus, some fun stickers of Pikachu and friends. Become the ultimate Trainer with this creative collection!

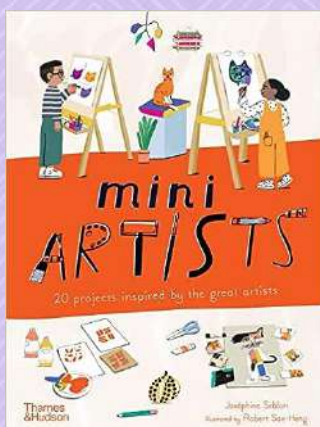


Pokémon: Festive Calendar 2023 by Pokémon
9780008609153 / Farshore / HB / R550

Count down to the festive season with this collection of 24 mini books, activities and crafts! Packed with Alola-themed story books, guides, activity books, riddles and crafts, this is the perfect gift for fans of all ages. Create 3D Poké Balls, make your own decorations and learn how to draw your favourite Pokémon.

With 24 awesome surprises inside, there's something for each December day leading up to the festive season, making this the perfect calendar treat.

Become the ultimate Trainer with this awesome festive calendar!



Mini Artists by Joséphine Seblon
9780500660195 / Thames & Hudson / PB / R450

The benefits of art to young children are well known. Art stimulates curiosity, creativity and the imagination. It also cultivates wellbeing, but being creative with young children can feel surprisingly daunting and this is where Mini Artists comes in.

The twenty projects in Mini Artists are designed to engage children with art through making. Mini artists will discover drip painting with Jackson Pollock, carve soap sculptures with Barbara Hepworth, and create their own obliteration room with Yayoi Kusama.

They'll also travel through time and explore art from different periods, from cave painting to Medieval stained-glass, and Chinese ink painting to washable graffiti inspired by Jean-Michel Basquiat.



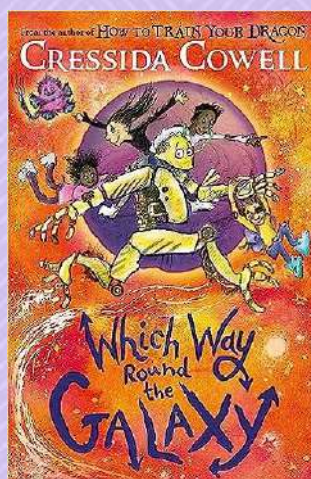
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Little Prince: Wisdom From Beyond the Stars by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry
9780008589622 / Farshore / HB / R200

A pilot stranded in the desert awakes one morning to see the most extraordinary little fellow standing before him. "Please..." asks the stranger, "draw me a sheep..." And the pilot realises that when life's events are too difficult to understand, there is no choice but to succumb to their mysteries. He pulls out a pencil and paper ... and thus begins this wise and enchanting fable that, in teaching the secret of what is really important in life, has changed the world forever for its readers.

This stunning new edition for adults of the classic book *The Little Prince*, includes the classic English translation by Katherine Woods and original colour illustrations which will capture the hearts of readers of all ages.



Which Way Round The Galaxy by Cressida Cowell
9781444973501 / Hodder & Stoughton / TPB / R275

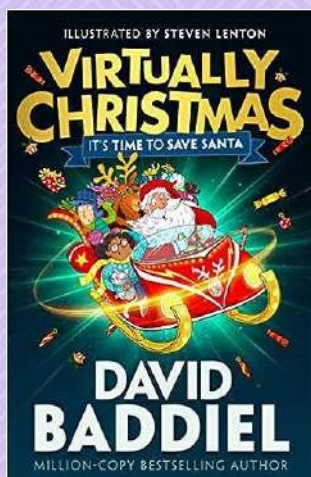
There is no Magic here on Earth. At least, that's what you've been told... But in an ordinary-looking house in an ordinary-looking village, live a group of children who are about to uncover a secret.

A tiny and helpless Magical Creature lost far from home leads the O'Hero-Smith children on another Starcrossing adventure through the Which Ways and across the galaxy. The children have a plan to get little Bug back to the fiery-ice planet where it belongs, and to prove to their parents that they can be trusted with Magic along the way...

But a witch's curse, venomous snowsnakes and a gang of fighter robots are waiting for them through the Which Ways.

The fate of the galaxy is once again in their hands - they better not mess it up!

10 – 12 years



Virtually Christmas by David Baddiel
9780008334321 / HarperCollins / PB / R195

All the things that made Christmas special are gone: the human connection, the baubles passed down through generations, even the rubbish cracker jokes.

Instead, Christmas is run by robots, while 3D holograms of Santa Claus called Santavatars check if you've been naughty or nice and on Christmas Eve, all of the presents are delivered by ZoneDrones instead of Santa's reindeer!

But when they stumble on a curious clue, eleven-year-old Etta and her friend Monty find themselves thrown into a fight to bring back Christmas. Racing against time and against the might of Winterzone, they must find the real Santa – before the true meaning of the festive season is lost forever . . .



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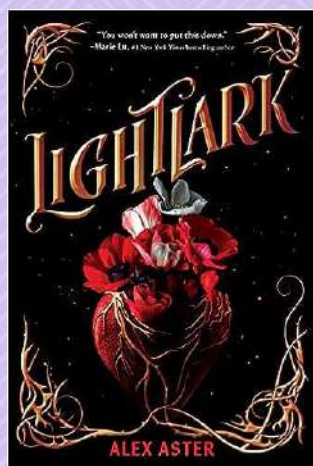


What's The Big Idea by Tracey Turner
9781398523715 / Simon & Schuster / HB / R445

Have you ever wondered what capitalism is? How about feminism, ecology, epidemiology or astronomy?

Well, this book will give you straightforward, easy-to-understand answers to all your troublesome-word questions WITHOUT going on and on for ages OR using even BIGGER words to explain them.

Informative, bite-sized explanations alongside beautiful, eye-catching illustrations will help readers aged 8+ understand crucial concepts, giving them the power to take part in the most important conversations on the planet. Perfect for inquisitive minds.



Lightlark by Alex Aster
9781419760877 / Abrams / PB / R335

#BookTok phenomenon and award-winning author Alex Aster delivers readers a masterfully written, utterly gripping YA fantasy novel. Welcome to the Centennial.

Every 100 years, the island of Lightlark appears to host the Centennial, a deadly game that only the rulers of six realms are invited to play. The invitation is a summons—a call to embrace victory and ruin, baubles and blood. The Centennial offers the six rulers one final chance to break the curses that have plagued their realms for centuries. Each ruler has something to hide. Each realm's curse is uniquely wicked. To destroy the curses, one ruler must die.

To survive, Isla Crown must lie, cheat, and betray... even as love complicates everything.



Woodwitch by Skye McKenna
9781801301091 / Welbeck / PB / R195

Step into the magical world of Hedgewitch, where the land of Faerie lies just beyond our own... The enchanting new series continues.

Cassie has settled into life in Hedgely when, out of the blue, her troubled cousin, Sebastian, comes to stay for Hallowe'en. Sneering and scornful, Sebastian trails after Cassie and her friends, interfering with their coven projects and belittling the dangers of the faery world. But Cassie, Rue and Tabitha have bigger problems – as the nights grow longer, a dark shadow creeps out of the Hedge and villagers start behaving strangely, possessed with the desire to find a mysterious object.

When the Hedgewitch is called away, the girls decide to investigate and discover that whoever is controlling the villagers is seeking a faery relic: an ancient and dangerous weapon, hidden somewhere in the village.



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Dogtown by Katherine Applegate
9781801301428 / Welbeck / PB / R190

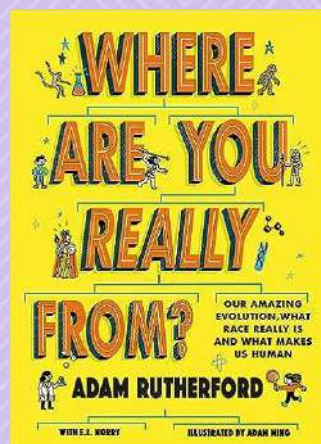
Dogtown is a shelter for stray dogs, misbehaving dogs, and discarded robot dogs, whose owners have outgrown them.

Chance, a real dog, has been in Dogtown since her owners unwittingly left her with irresponsible dog-sitters who skipped town.

Metal Head is a robot dog who dreams of being back in a real home.

And Mouse is a mouse who has the run of Dogtown, pilfering kibble, and performing clever feats to protect the dogs he loves.

When Chance and Metal Head embark on an adventure to find their forever homes, there is danger, cheese sandwiches, a charging station, and some unexpected kindnesses along the way.



Where Are You Really From? by Adam Rutherford
9781526364241 / Wren & Book / HB / R275

Come on an extraordinary adventure through millions of years of human history where you will learn the story of our species from evolution to dinosaurs to YOU! You will meet kings and queens, pharaohs and vikings, and see just how far and wide humans have migrated around the world. You'll discover why we're related to a super cheesy man and that no matter what skin colour you have, language you speak, or place you are from - we all share the same small pool of ancestors.

Armed with a deeper understanding of science and history, readers will learn how to dismantle common myths of who we really are - like what race is, where we come from, and what it means to be human.



Thieves Gambit by Kayvion Lewis
9781398522121 / Simon & Schuster / PB / R265

Challenge: Join the Thieves' Gambit, a cut-throat competition to crown the world's greatest thief

Rule 1: Never fall in love with your opponent

Rule 2: The only thief you can trust is yourself

Endgame: Win the heist to save your family - and yourself . . .

Seventeen-year-old Rosalyn Quest was raised by a legendary family of thieves with one rule: trust no one. When her mother is kidnapped, her only chance to save her is to win the Thieves' Gambit, a deadly competition for the world's best thieves, where the victor is granted one wish. To win, she must outwit all of her backstabbing competitors, including her childhood archnemesis. But can she take victory from the handsome, charming boy who makes a play for her heart and might be hiding the most dangerous secret of all?



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Nightbane by Alex Aster
9781419760907 / Abrams / HB / R470

Isla Crown has secured the love of two powerful rulers and broken the curses that plagued the six realms for centuries, but few know the true origins of her powers. Now, in the wake of a crushing betrayal, Isla finds herself hungry for distraction, preferring to frequent Lightlark's seductive haunts instead of embracing her duties as the newly crowned leader of two separate realms. Worse, her fellow rulers haven't ceded victory quietly, and there are others in Isla's midst who don't believe her ascent to power was earned. As certain death races toward Lightlark and secrets from the past begin to unravel, Isla must weigh her responsibility to her people against the whims of the most dangerous traitor of all: her heart.

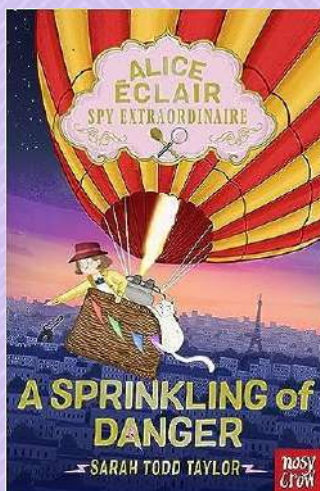


The Borrow A Boyfriend Club by Page Powers
9781444968354 / Hodder & Stoughton / PB / R250

Need a prom date? Want to impress your friends? Or make your ex jealous? Just call the BORROW A BOYFRIEND CLUB!

When sixteen-year-old Noah starts at a new school, he has a plan to ensure the students see him as his true gender: join the school's secretive Borrow a Boyfriend Club, where members rent themselves out to their classmates for dates. The endless "accidental slip-ups" that plagued him at his last school will be a thing of the past once he joins the club; after all, it has "boy" right in the title.

But he fails the audition. Desperate, he strikes a deal with the club's prickly president, Asher: he'll help lead the nearly-bankrupt club to victory at the school's fundraising dance competition, and in exchange Asher will allow Noah to prove his skills as a boyfriend in a series of tests that include romancing Asher himself.



Alice Éclair Spy Extraordinaire: A Sprinkling Of Danger by Sarah Todd Taylor
9781839948855 / Nosy Crow / PB / R235

Baker by day, spy by night - Alice Éclair leads an exciting double life!

On a glamorous movie set at the Palace of Versailles, someone is leaking national secrets. Is it the American director with the shady past, or the flamboyant lead actress whose Renaissance wig is full of secrets? Or is it someone so devious, Alice hasn't even noticed them? Whoever it is, this person has a deadly plan...

Armed with a light sponge mix and an airy disregard for danger, Alice Éclair is on the case! And she'll need to use every trick in her recipe book to survive this mission.



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Pages & Co.: The Last Bookwanderer by Anna James
9780008410896 / HarperCollins / HB / R350

The Pages and Co. series comes to a thrilling end in this perfect final instalment. When Tilly, Oskar, Milo and Alessia venture into King Arthur's realm in search of the wizard Merlin, they discover that the magic of book wandering is not at all what they thought. Together, they must journey into myth and legend – to bargain with the trickster Loki and unlock their destinies with the help of the Three Fates – and find a way to untangle the Alchemist's grip on the world's imagination. To save Pages & Co. and the very foundations of book wandering, Tilly and her friends will have to learn the true power of imagination in a thrilling final adventure, but an unexpected enemy stands in their way...

Young Adult



The Statistical Probability of Love at First Sight by Jennifer E. Smith
9781529427455 / Quercus / PB / R280

Soon to be a major Netflix film starring Haley Lu Richardson!

Who would have guessed that four minutes could change everything? Today should be one of the worst days of Hadley's life. Her father is getting married in London to a woman she's never even met, and she's just missed her flight. Hadley has never believed in destiny or fate before. But, stuck at the airport in New York, today is also the day she meets Oliver. He's British. He's cute. And he's on her new flight. Set over twenty-four hours, Hadley and Oliver's story will make you believe that true love finds you when you're least expecting it.



Foul Heart Huntsman by Chloe Gong
9781529380323 / Hodder & Stoughton / TPB / R390

The captivating sequel to Foul Lady Fortune, by the New York Times bestselling author of These Violent Delights.

Winter is drawing thick in 1932 Shanghai, as is the threat of a Japanese invasion. Rosalind Lang's identity as a national spy has been exposed. With the media camped outside her apartment, she's barely left her bedroom in weeks, plotting her next course of action after Orion was taken and his memories wiped. Their marriage might have been a sham, but his absence hurts more than any physical wound. She won't rest until she gets him back. But with her identity in the open, the task is near impossible. The only way to rescue Orion is under the guise of a national tour. It's easy to convince her superiors that the countryside needs unity more than ever, and who better than an immortal girl to stir pride and strength?



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Skulduggery Pleasant: Bad Magic by Derek Landy

9780008585785 / HarperCollins / PB / R360

Experience *Skulduggery Pleasant* as never before, in this fully original graphic novel brought vibrantly to life in full colour

A small town in the middle of Ireland, a string of unexplained deaths and a monster on the loose. Better call in the experts.

When *Skulduggery Pleasant* and Valkyrie Cain drive into Termoncara, they discover a town with a dark past and a people haunted by their own secrets.

There is a creature stalking the streets, a creature who delights in cruelty, who feeds off the little hatreds, who grows stronger with every drop of blood spilled.





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NB! Deadline for requests:

Wednesday, 20 September 2023

Click [here](#) to get your wish lists in!

Thank You.

