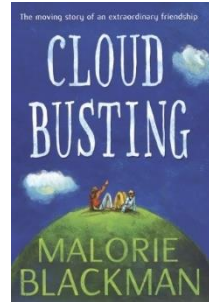


Verse Novels for Younger Readers

Cloud Busting by Malorie Blackman, 2004

Davey is the new boy in school and Sam really can't stand him. But when the two are thrown together, Sam discovers that Davey's eccentric way of looking at the world makes life a lot more exciting. Until something terrible happens.

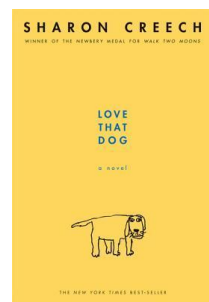
Told in verse, in first person, this is the touching story of an extraordinary friendship, that changes two boys lives for ever.



Love That Dog by Sharon Creech, 2001

Jack hates poetry. Only girls write it and every time he tries to, his brain feels empty. But his teacher won't stop giving her class poetry assignments—and Jack can't avoid them. But then something amazing happens. The more he writes, the more he learns that he does have something to say.

Love That Dog shows how one boy finds his voice with the help of a teacher, a pencil, some yellow paper, and of course, a dog.



Hate That Cat by Sharon Creech, 2008

Return to Miss Stretchberry's class with Jack, the reluctant poet, who over the course of a year encounters new and challenging things like metaphors, alliterations, onomatopoeia, and one mean, fat, black cat!

Jack is back at school and thankfully Miss Stretchberry is his teacher again. Jack Likes her, but he disagrees with her about one thing...CATS. Jack hates cats, or at least he does until he gets to know some kittens and reads some poetry about cats.



Bleakboy and Hunter Stand Out in the Rain by Steven Herrick, 2014

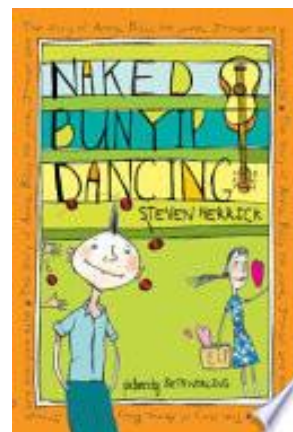
Some things are too big for a boy to solve. Jesse is an eleven-year-old boy tackling many problems in life, especially fitting in to a new school. Luckily, he meets Kate. She has curly black hair, braces and an infectious smile. She wants to 'Save the Whales' and needs Jesse's help. But they haven't counted on Hunter, the school bully, who appears to enjoy hurling insults at random. With Hunter's catchphrase 'Ha!' echoing through the school, something or someone has to give. But will it be Jesse? Kate? Or is there more to Hunter than everyone thinks?



Naked Bunyip Dancing by Steven Herrick, 2008

A humorous look at the way one quirky teacher brings out the best in each of his students. The author delves into the murky waters of a middle-school classroom, complete with a nerdy vegetarian teacher, Mr. Carey. What a crazy class! And what a funny, unpredictable year—the year of Naked Bunyip Dancing—when the students find out who they are, what they're good at, and how to put on a fantastic show.

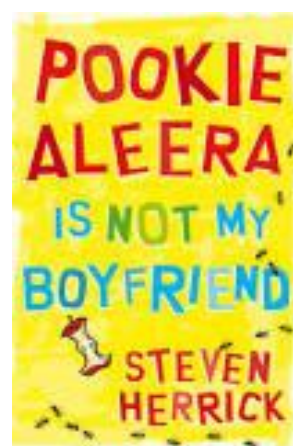
The cast of characters includes Mr. Carey the Hairy, Billy the punk genius, J-man the rapper, Sophie the poet, Ahmet the soccer star, Anna the yoga master, Peter the boy with the talking bottom, Emily the ballerina, and others, each with a special talent.



Pookie Aleera Is Not My Boyfriend by Steven Herrick, 2012

In a country town, in a school just like yours, the kids in Class 6A tell their stories. There's Mick, school captain and sometime trouble-maker, who wants to make the school a better place, while his younger brother Jacob just wants to fly. There's shy and lonely Laura who hopes to finally fit in with a circle of friends, while Pete struggles to deal with his grandpa's sudden death. Popular Selina obsesses over class comedian Cameron, while Cameron obsesses over Anzac biscuits and Pookie Aleera – whoever that is! For new teacher Ms Arthur, it's another world, but for Mr Korsky, the school groundskeeper, he's seen it all before.

A heart-warming tale about loneliness, community, grief and kindness.



Rhyming Boy by Steven Herrick, 2008

Jayden Hayden, wordsmith, aka rhyming boy, doesn't have a dad - just a mum obsessed with Jayden Finch, the footballer, and an embarrassing name that gets him teased. When a school father-son day is announced, Jayden's quest for answers becomes a puzzle he needs to solve, and quickly. Could Jayden Finch be more than just a footballer? With the help of his 'an-answer-to-every-question' friend Saskia, he aims to track down his namesake and his father all in one go.

The novel, though simply told, manages to explore truth, friendship, disappointment, and the Guinness Book of Records, all in one go.



The Spangled Drongo by Steven Herrick, 1999

Twelve-year-old Sam has soccer fever. He lives with eccentric Auntie Amshara and Ronaldo his dog. His best friend is Goose, Captain of the local soccer team, until soccer crazed Jessica Bowles moves in next door. Sam soon discovers that there's more to life than just soccer. In this warmly reassuring verse novel for younger readers, Steven Herrick continues to capture the extraordinary within a young person's everyday life.



Inside Out & Back Again by Thanhha Lai.

From Saigon to Alabama, this is the story of a year in the life of Hà, a ten-year-old girl who flees Vietnam with her mother and brothers, in the hope of escaping the Vietnam War and building new—and safer—lives for themselves in the United States.

Written as a series of short poems, it is a sparse and honest narrative that follows Hà as she leaves behind the only home she's ever known to travel by boat to America where plenty of difficulty awaits, as she and her family struggle to find their footing in their new home.



This book was awarded the 2011 National Book Award for Young People's Literature and one of the two Newbery Honours.

Roses are Blue by Sally Murphy, 2014

Following a tragic car accident which leaves her mother confined to a wheelchair, unable to speak apart from making 'funny noises' and needing constant care, life has changed dramatically for Amber Rose and her family. Moving houses, starting a new school and having to make new friends finds Amber struggling with it all. On top of this her class is hosting a high tea for Mother's Day...what can she do? Will her classmates accept her and her mother?

Expertly told in verse this is a story to pull on your heartstrings. The reader can easily identify with Amber, her turmoil, grief and fondness of her mother both now and before the accident when they shared a love of painting and gardening.

This would be a great book to promote discussion around resilience and importance of family.



Almost Forever by Maria Testa, 2003

The young, six-year-old narrator of this novel must watch her father march off to Vietnam, where he'll serve a year in the U.S. Army Medical Corps. A year is a long time when you're waiting for letters, waiting for a word. A year becomes endless when you don't know where your father is anymore.

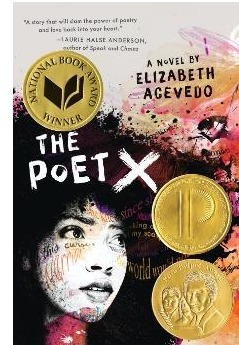
A wonderful novel of love, loss, fear, and waiting.



Verse Novels for Older Readers

The Poet X by Elizabeth Acevedo, 2018

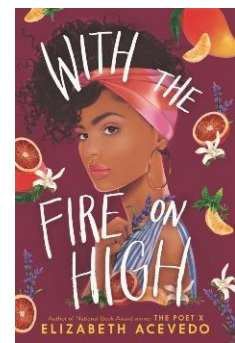
A young girl in Harlem discovers slam poetry as a way to understand her mother's religion and her own relationship to the world. Xiomara Batista (X) feels unheard and unable to hide in her Harlem neighbourhood. Ever since her body grew into curves, she has learned to let her fists and her fierceness do the talking. But Xiomara has plenty she wants to say, and she pours all her frustration and passion onto the pages of a leather notebook, because in the face of a world that may not want to hear her, Xiomara refuses to be silent.



With the Fire on High by Elizabeth Acevedo, 2019

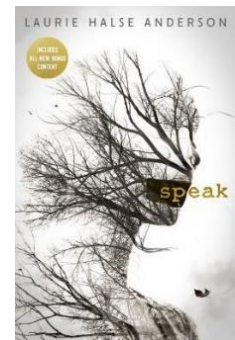
Ever since she got pregnant freshman year, Emoni Santiago's life has been about making the tough decisions—doing what must be done for her daughter. The one place she can let all that go is in the kitchen, where she adds a little something magical to everything she cooks, turning her food into straight-up goodness.

About a girl with talent, pride, and a drive to feed the soul that keeps her fire burning.



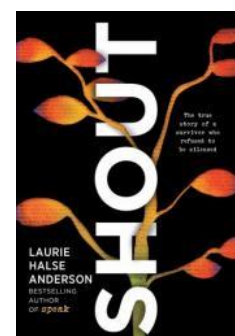
Speak by Laurie Halse Anderson, 1999

Tells the story of 13-year-old Melinda, who was raped at an end-of-summer party and feels she can tell no one about it as she begins her freshman year. Two key scenes feature violence, but they are expressionistic, and most readers will be prepared for them. Swearing is mild and infrequent. Written in diary format *Speak* was a 1999 National Book Award Finalist for Young People's Literature.



Shout by Laurie Halse Anderson, 2019

Award-winning author Laurie Halse Anderson's memoir focuses primarily on the aftermath of being sexually assaulted as a young teen, how it inspired her to write her breakthrough novel *Speak*, and how many readers have made similar revelations to her since the book's publication in 1999. Written in verse, the book is also an overview of her entire life, from childhood in upstate New York to the devastating rape at age 13, to a formative year abroad in Denmark in high school, and later her college years and beyond until she's an aspiring writer and mother. Then she is finally compelled to write Melinda's story in *Speak*. Poignant, poetic memoir about healing from sexual assault.



A Dangerous Girl by Catherine Bateson, 2000

A YA verse novel about the manipulative 'dangerous girl', Leigh, who impacts radically on the other characters in the story; Merri, who becomes her best friend, and John who becomes her boyfriend. A very sensitive portrayal of a first sexual experience; the terror one feels at 18 or so of making decisions that seem as if they may well impact on the rest of your life, and the exploration of a first-time broken heart.

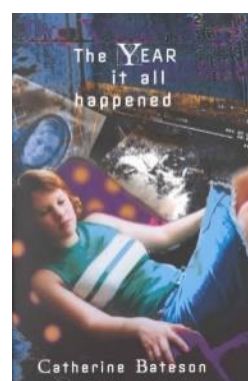
Years 10, 11 & 12 only



The Year it All Happened by Catherine Bateson, 2001

I throw the dice – four or over I stay, one to three I pack up. Six dots stare back, telling me I've nothing left to lose. John stays with the dice but not all choices can be left to fate. Merri makes a loaded decision. Nick takes his heart in his hands and gets a second chance. Leigh revs up her life with nearly disastrous results. In this **sequel** to A Dangerous Girl, the author delicately unveils a year in the life of these four emerging adults. It is a verse novel celebrating life, love, change and the year it all happened.

Years 10, 11 & 12 only



Shark Girl by Kelly Bingham, 2007

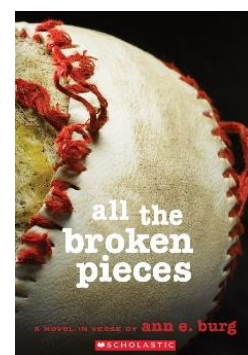
Fifteen-year-old Art student Jane Arrowood is attacked by a shark whilst swimming with her family at the local beach and loses her right arm. Now of course everything has changed, and she needs to adapt both physically and emotionally to move on with her life. The author uses poems, letters, telephone conversations, and newspaper clippings to look unflinchingly at what it's like to lose part of yourself - and to summon the courage it takes to find yourself again.



All the Broken Pieces by Ann E. Burg, 2009

Two years after being airlifted out of war-torn Vietnam, Matt Pin is haunted — by bombs that fell like dead crows, by smoke and death, by the brother (and the terrible secret) he left behind. Now in a loving adoptive home in the United States, over the course of a baseball season, a series of profound events forces him to confront his past, and slowly, sometimes painfully, heal.

By turns harrowing, dreamlike, sad, and triumphant, this searing novel in verse reveals an unforgettable and little-seen perspective on the Vietnam War and its survivors.

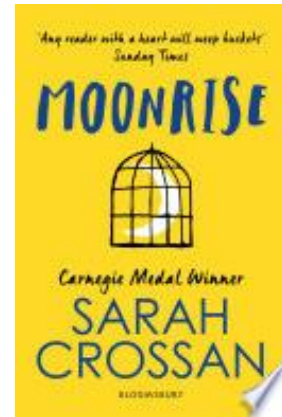


Moonrise by Sarah Crossan, 2017

This is a brutally emotional novel in verse that explores the complexity of the American justice system, the death penalty, and the irreparable toll taken on the families of loved ones who are in the penal system. The characters in this story are all white, but issues of race and class are lightly touched upon—particularly the severity of punishment for individuals accused of killing white law enforcement officers.

In this bittersweet, heart-breaking coming-of-age story, a teen boy gets reacquainted with his older brother, who only has two weeks until his execution date in a Texas prison.

Years 10, 11 & 12 only



One by Sarah Crossan, 2015

Tippi and Grace share everything—clothes, friends . . . even their body. Tippi and Grace. Grace and Tippi. For them, it's normal to step into the same skirt. To hook their arms around each other for balance. To fall asleep listening to the other breathing. To share. And to keep some things private. Each of the sixteen-year-old girls has her own head, heart, and two arms, but at the belly, they join. And they are happy, never wanting to risk the dangerous separation surgery. But the girls' body is beginning to fight against them. And Grace doesn't want to admit it. Not even to Tippi. How long can they hide from the truth—how long before they must face the most impossible choice of their lives?

A story about unbreakable bonds, hope, loss, and the lengths we will go to for the person we love most

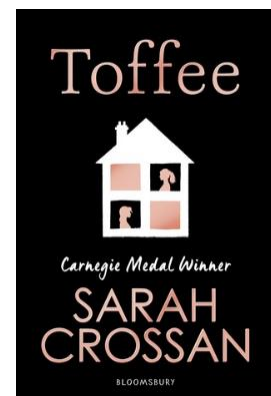


Toffee by Sarah Crossan, 2019

'I am not who I say I am, and Marla isn't who she thinks she is. I am a girl trying to forget. She is a woman trying to remember.'

Allison has run away from home, and with nowhere to live, finds herself hiding out in the shed of what she thinks is an abandoned house. But the house isn't empty. An elderly woman named Marla, with dementia, lives there – and she mistakes Allison for an old friend from her past 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. After all, it means she has a place to stay. There are worse places she could be.

Trauma, grief and belonging are all addressed in this poignant verse novel from the Irish Children's Laureate.



What Does Blue Feel Like? by Jessica Davidson, 2007

Char is seventeen and in her last year of school. She's in a mess - can't sleep or eat. She feels nothing. As Char deals with her parents, her boyfriend Jim, her friends, parties, school work and end-of-year exams, we feel just what it's like to be seventeen and so unsure that the future is anything more than just a concept of time.

Confronting, realistic, funny and chilling, the kaleidoscopic emotions of a teenager on the edge are poignantly conveyed in powerful verses that weave in and out of Char's view of the world, and the views of those around her who watch, disturbed, helpless, as Char slowly loses herself.

Years 10, 11 & 12 only



Keesha's House by Helen Frost, 2003

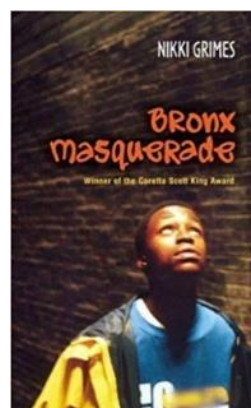
an award-winning young adult verse novel. The book's story is told through multiple poems and concerns a group of seven teenagers who are all drawn to the house of the title character, Keesha, due to serious issues in their personal lives. The teens are facing such problems as pregnancy, closeted homosexuality and abuse, and each describes in poetic forms what caused them to leave home and where they found home again.



Bronx Masquerade by Nikki Grimes, 2002

When Wesley Boone writes a poem for his high school English class and reads it aloud, poetry-slam-style, he kicks off a revolution. Soon his classmates are clamouring to have weekly poetry sessions.

Award-winning author Nikki Grimes captures the voices of eighteen American teenagers through the poetry they share and the stories they tell, and exposes what lies beneath the skin, behind the eyes, beyond the masquerade.



A Place Like This by Steven Herrick, 2017

Jack and Annabel have been dating for two years. With high school over they're about to start university – until Jack decides to chuck it all in. No destination in mind, Jack and Annabel leave town and discover themselves in a place they never knew existed. Sequel to *Love, Ghosts and Nose Hair: A Verse Novel for Young Adults*.

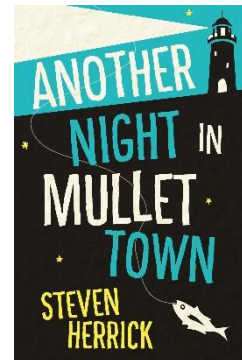
An inspiring verse novel about the pursuit of dreams and the realities of life.



Another Night in Mullet Town by Steven Herrick, 2016

People like you and me, Jonah, we drag down the price of everything we touch.

Life for Jonah and Manx means fishing for mullet at the lake, watching their school mates party on Friday night and wishing they had the courage to talk to Ella and Rachel. But now their lakeside town is being sold off, life doesn't seem so simple. Manx holds a grudge against the wealthy blow-ins from the city and Jonah just wants his parents to stop arguing. One memorable night at the lake will change everything. A verse novel from award-winning author Steven Herrick that shines light on friendship, family and finding your way. [Teacher's Notes](#)



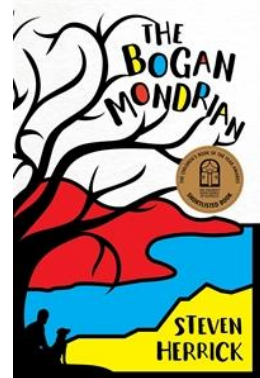
The Bogan Mondrian by Steven Herrick, 2018

'There are worse things than school.'

Luke sleepwalks through his days wagging school, swimming at the reservoir and eating takeaway pizza. That is until Charlotte shows up. Rumour has it that she was expelled from her city school and her family moved to the Blue Mountains for a fresh start. But when Luke is invited to her house, he discovers there's a lot more going on than meets the eye.

The novel deals with grief, loss, friendships and the fallout of domestic violence and also addresses the notion of masculinity and what it can mean. The author has created in Luke and other male characters powerful yet unexpected examples of strength, empathy and kindness.

A powerful and heart-stopping young adult novel. [Teacher's Notes](#)

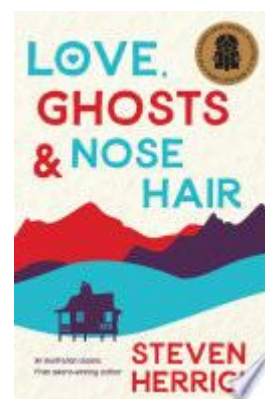


Love, Ghosts and Nose Hair: A Verse Novel for Young Adults by Steven Herrick, 2017

Jack is an everyday sixteen-year-old boy. He's obsessed with Annabel, sport and nose hair. He's also obsessed with the ghost of his mother...

*There's a ghost in our house
in a red evening dress,
black stockings
and Mum's sling back shoes.
Her hair whispers
over white shoulders
as she dances through the rooms.*

A bittersweet comedy about the infinite promise of first love and the everlasting sorrow of grief.



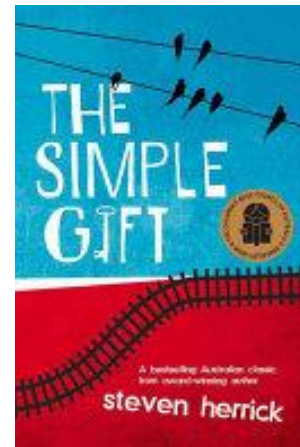
The Simple Gift: A Novel by Steven Herrick, 2014

*I'm not proud.
I'm sixteen, and soon
to be homeless.*

Weary of his life with his alcoholic, abusive father, sixteen-year-old Billy packs a few belongings and hits the road, hoping for something better than what he left behind. He finds a home in an abandoned freight train outside a small town, where he falls in love with rich, restless Caitlin and befriends a fellow train resident, "Old Bill," who slowly reveals a tragic past. Over early mornings, long walks and cheap coffee they discover, no matter how big or small, it's the simple gifts in life that really make a difference.

A life-affirming look at humanity, generosity and love and the real meaning of family.

[Teacher's Notes](#) Years 10, 11 & 12 only

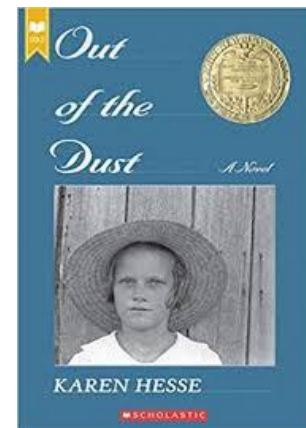


Out of the Dust by Karen Hesse, 1997

When Billie Jo is just fourteen, she must endure heart-wrenching ordeals that no child should have to face. The quiet strength she displays while dealing with unspeakable loss is as surprising as it is inspiring.

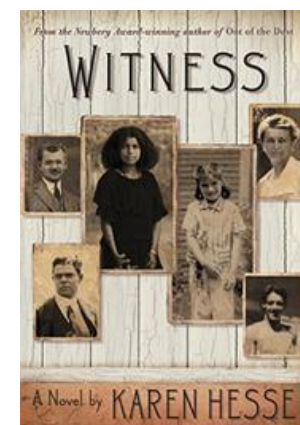
Written in free verse, this award-winning story is set in the heart of the Great Depression. It chronicles Oklahoma's staggering dust storms, and the environmental and emotional turmoil they leave in their path.

An unforgettable tribute to hope and inner strength. Many study resources available online.



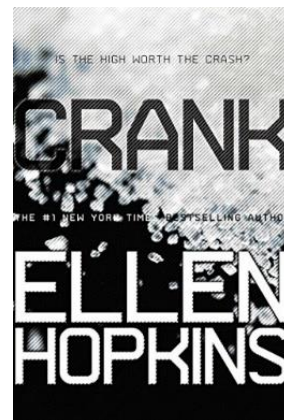
Witness by Karen Hesse, 2001

Eleven characters speak revealingly for themselves to describe a year in which the Ku Klux Klan arrives, seduces many solid citizens, moves from intimidation to threat to violence, and is finally rejected by the tolerant, no-nonsense townsfolk. Central to the story are two children, one an African-American named Leanora, and the other, a Jewish child from New York, named Esther. As targets of prejudice, the lives of both are affected by the actions of the KKK: Leanora is the victim of racist remarks and threats, and Esther sees her father shot while she's sitting on his lap. The story is all the more haunting for its exquisite balance of complex and intersecting points of view on gender, ethnicity, politics, religion, and money.



Crank by Ellen Hopkins, 2004

Kristina Georgia Snow is the perfect daughter: gifted high school junior, quiet, never any trouble. But on a trip to visit her absentee father, Kristina disappears, and Bree takes her place. Bree is the exact opposite of Kristina -- she's fearless. Through a boy, Bree meets the monster: crank. And what begins as a wild, ecstatic ride turns into a struggle through hell for her mind, her soul and her life. The novel, written in free verse is based loosely on the real-life addictions of the author's daughter to crystal meth.



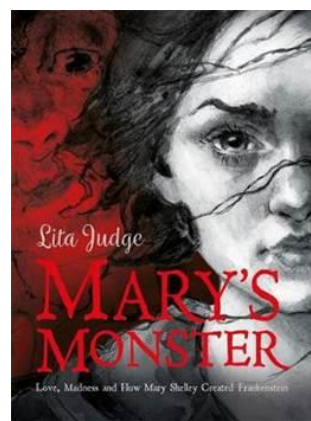
Mary's Monster: Love, Madness and How Mary Shelley created Frankenstein by Lita Judge, 2017

Most people know that Mary Shelley wrote the novel Frankenstein, but the common perception that she dreamed up this story as part of a parlour game with poets Shelley and Byron is misleading. In fact, the book's themes of birth, creation and science versus nature were very much a combination of her own experiences of pregnancy, birth and death, as well as developments in science and philosophy.

In this illustrated verse novel, the author reminds us that Mary was a teenager when she wrote Frankenstein, having run away pregnant with the married Romantic poet Percy Bysshe Shelley – enduring his depression and infidelities over many years, and that she was a vastly intelligent and well-read young woman who also followed her heart.

Through free-verse poems that draw vividly upon Mary Shelley's journals, letters and manuscripts, the author offers a riveting immersion in Mary's experiences as a teenage runaway.

Years 10, 11 & 12 only



The Art of Taxidermy by Sharon Kernot, 2018

Set in a small Australian town in the 1960s the novel explores themes of grief and identity in the story of Lottie, the daughter and granddaughter of German immigrants. Lottie has suffered several losses in her own short life, and her way of grieving is unique – she collects dead animals and attempts to preserve and resurrect them. The reasons for Lottie's desire to express her grief through taxidermy are evident:

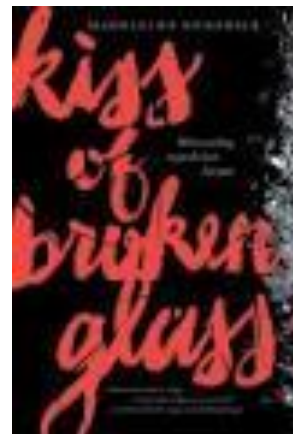
'I wanted flesh and blood, not ghosts.'

A heart-breaking verse novel exploring love and death, grief and beauty, 'alien' internment and the ways we try to make sense of it all. It also touches on wartime prejudice, Aboriginality, loneliness and friendship in a delicate and sensitive way. [Teaching Notes](#)



Kiss of Broken Glass by Madeleine Kuderick 2014

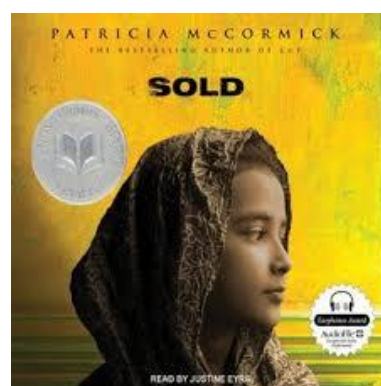
When fifteen-year-old Kenna is found cutting herself in the school bathroom, she is sent to a facility for a mandatory psychiatric watch. There Kenna meets other kids like her—her roommate, Donya, who's there for her fifth time; the birdlike Skylar; and Jag, a boy cute enough to make her forget her problems . . . for a moment. A darkly beautiful and lyrical novel in verse, perfect for fans of Sonya Sones and Laurie Halse Anderson. It pulses with emotion and lingers long after the last page. **Years 10, 11 & 12 only**



Sold by Patricia McCormick, 2012

Lakshmi's family is desperately poor, but village life in the mountains of Nepal has its share of pleasures. When the monsoons wreck their crops yet again, Lakshmi's stepfather says she must leave home and take a job to support her family. She arrives at 'Happiness House' full of hope, but soon learns the unthinkable truth - she has been sold into prostitution.

This new world becomes a nightmare from which there is no escape. But, very gradually, Lakshmi makes friends with others in the house, and gathers her courage, until the day she must face the hardest decision of all: will she risk everything to reclaim her life? Deceptively simple, eloquent, and shocking - this is an award-winning story you will not easily forget.

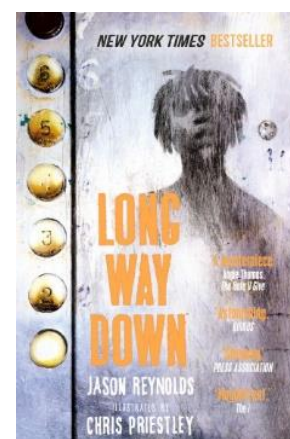


Long Way Down by Jason Reynolds, 2018

Will is only fifteen but he's experienced more violence and loss than most people might in an entire lifetime. His big brother Shawn was recently shot dead, right in front of him, but as "everybody knows", "gunshots make everybody/deaf and blind especially/when they make somebody/dead". While his mom mourns, Will knows what he has to do. He must follow the three rules: No crying. No snitching. Revenge.

A gripping, ground-breaking novel-in-verse about gun violence, grief and breaking cycles.

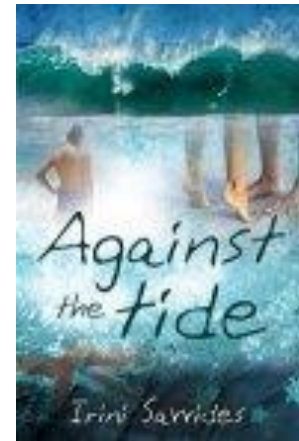
Winner of UKLA Shortlist Book Awards 2019 | Shortlisted for the CILIP Carnegie Medal 2019



Against the Tide by Irimi Savvides, 2008

Set in Sydney, this is a verse novel about teenagers from the opposite worlds of beachside Cronulla and the western suburbs. These worlds come together when 16-year-old Katie, a champion ocean swimmer, finds herself forced to move to the western suburbs where she meets Greek-Australian Effie who is afraid of the sea. So begins the story of a cultural divide, an unlikely friendship and an unexpected romance.

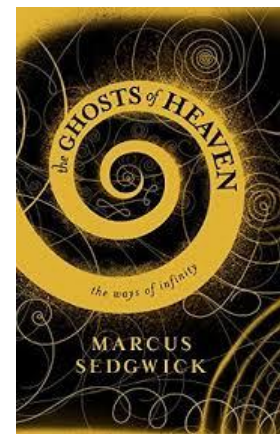
The author is not afraid to tackle the ugly side of today's multi-cultural Australia, weaving into her story the ethnic tensions that finally exploded into the Cronulla riots.



The Ghosts of Heaven by Marcus Sedgwick, 2014

This book is divided into four quartets. The first quartet, "Whispers in the Dark", is written entirely in verse and is set in the Palaeolithic era. We follow a girl and her tribe and see the mysterious caves where the first kind of writing was made. The second part, "The Witch in the Water", is set three centuries later, and is about a girl who is wrongly accused of witchcraft after her mother's death. "The Easiest Room in Hell" follows and is about a doctor who goes with his daughter to work in a lunatic asylum. The final story, "The Song of Destiny", is set in the future, on a spaceship taking 500 people to a new world.

A bold, genre-bending epic that chronicles madness, obsession, creation and our space bound future.

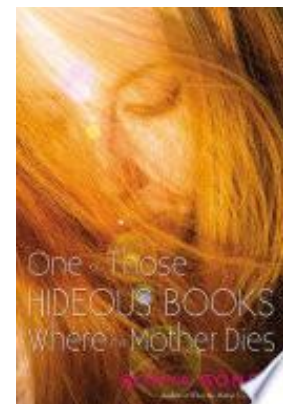


One of Those Hideous Books Where the Mother Dies by Sonya Sones, 2004

When Ruby's mother dies, she's dragged three thousand miles away from her doting Aunt, her friends and her gorgeous boyfriend, Ray, to live in LA with her estranged father, who she's only ever seen in movies. He's a mega-famous actor who divorced her mom before Ruby was even born, and while the rest of the world may love him, Ruby definitely does not.

As time passes, Ruby comes to understand that circumstances are far more complicated than they seem, and sometimes forgiveness is found where you least expect it.

An award-winning, young adult novel with the themes of betrayal, friendship, homosexuality and coping with change.



Saving Red by Sonya Sones, 2016

Right before winter break, fourteen-year-old Molly Rosenberg reluctantly volunteers to participate in Santa Monica's annual homeless count, just to get her school's community service requirement out of the way. But when she ends up meeting Red, a spirited homeless girl only a few years older than she is, Molly makes it her mission to reunite her with her family in time for Christmas. This turns out to be extremely difficult—because Red refuses to talk about her past.

In Sonya Sones's inspiring novel, two girls, with much more in common than they realize, give each other a new perspective on the meaning of family, friendship, and forgiveness.



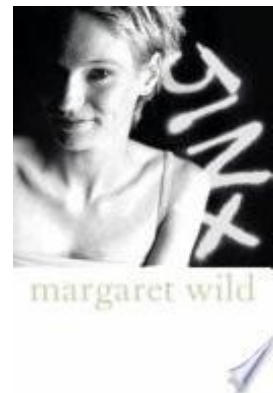
Jinx by Margaret Wild, 2001

Do not get to know me. Do not ask me out. Do not love me. Be warned! Jinx doesn't start out as Jinx -- at first, she's dull, safe, boring Jen. Jen who always hands her homework in on time, Jen who never stays out late, Jen who can always be counted on. When Jen's first boyfriend dies, she thinks she's unlucky...until her second boyfriend dies too.

Jen "is" Jinx now -- a curse, a promise of bad luck, a girl who's angry and alone, who can't get close to people anymore. Can Jinx find her way back to being Jen again? Young or old, everyone in Jen's life has a story to tell.

This novel sensitively explores a portrait of a young woman pulling herself out of despair.

Years 10, 11 & 12 only



Make Lemonade by Virginia Euwer Wolff, 1993

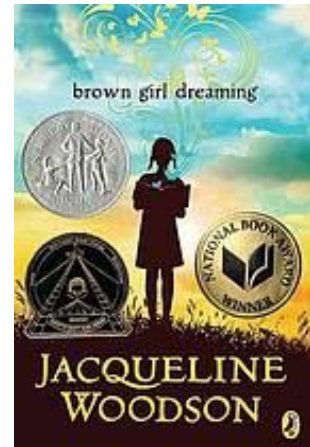
Fourteen-year-old LaVaughn needed a part-time job. Something she could do after school to help earn money for college. Jolly needed a babysitter. Someone she could trust with two kids while she worked the evening shift. It didn't matter that LaVaughn was fourteen-years-old - only three years younger than Jolly. It didn't matter that Jolly didn't have a husband - or a mom and dad. Because LaVaughn gives Jolly and her two babies more love and understanding than should be possible for a fourteen-year-old. Because if she doesn't no one else will.

This book clearly exposes what it means to be a young, poverty stricken, unsupported single mother and is a realistic account of the trials and struggles they must go through. Sequels are *True Believer*, and *This Full House*.



Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson, 2014

Raised in South Carolina and New York, the author always felt halfway home in each place. In vivid poems, she shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement. Touching and powerful, each poem is both accessible and emotionally charged, each line a glimpse into a child's soul as she searches for her place in the world.



Prepared by Dajo Finlayson 2019

