

2023-24 RECOMMENDED READS YEAR 8

Alex Barclay, Alex Alex Barclay Heavel * OTHER BRAKABLES Between were were and the second	x My Heart & Other Breakables	Alex's famous author mum has died and she is being looked after by her trans- Atlantic, high maintenance family. Alex starts to keep a diary as, helped by her BFF, she starts her detective work to find out who her dad is. Through a series of events, in turn heart-rending and hysterical, we follow Alex on her quest as she discovers more about herself and her family.	Younger Teen Reads
Benson, Dec	e Glow Up, Lara Bloom	Meet Lara Bloom and her friends who are dealing with teenage life and loves in their hometown of Liverpool. Lara has a passion for football and is the star of the girls' football team. When she falls for new boy Caiden she decides the way to get noticed is to give herself a makeover, a Glow Up, but her friends are not impressed. All seems well until her private journal is published online and all her innermost thoughts are spread across social media, aaarrrggghhhh.	Younger Teen Reads
Bulckaert, Jay	King Warrior	A Somali immigrant works in a remote region of Canada, trying to earn enough for his wife and son Afrah to join him. He keeps in touch with Afrah by creating and sharing an epic fantasy story with them as characters. This book tells all three stories – Afrah in Somalia, his dad in Canada and the fictional Kingdom of Jayrikås – in a graphic novel format. A completely original melting pot of stories and cultures.	Younger Teen Reads
Cameron, Sophie Cameron	Away With Words	Gala's father has moved them from Spain to Scotland to live with his partner and life could not be more different for her. At her new school, Gala struggles to learn the language until she meets, Natalie, who suffers from selective mutism. Together, they find a way to communicate using their own form of words. An inventive and beautiful tale of friendship and resilience.	Younger Teen Reads



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The Hamited Hurs Berlie Poherty	Doherty, Berlie	The Haunted Hills	Carl has been taken to the Peak District by his parents after a tragedy has shaken his world. Attempting to make sense of everything, he finds he is drawn to the bleak surroundings and also to the story of the Lost Lad, the ghost of a boy who died on the moors. A tale of friendship and guilt and overwhelming sorrow, where Carl must find a path to bring him back to those he loves. Very atmospheric.	Younger Teen Reads
AFTERSHÖCKS ANNE FINE	Fine, Anne	Aftershocks	After his brother's tragic death, Louis and his parents suffer and grieve in their own ways. When Louis accompanies his father to the Endlands, a far-off outpost of the Federation with a strange culture, an Earthquake strikes followed by a devastating Tsunami. As they help to rebuild, Louis discovers unsettling paranormal happenings. Can the way the Endlanders grieve their own losses help Louis let go of his own ghosts?	Younger Teen Reads
SIMON FOX OF the second during	Fox, Simon	Running Out of Time	When Alex's dad is caught stealing secrets from their home country's corrupt government, they attempt to flee to the safety of the UK. When things get messy, Alex uses a hidden ability to get him out of tough situations – he can steal time. A fast- paced, sci-fi adventure told from the perspective of a refugee seeking a safe place away from war.	Younger Teen Reads
REALIZED VIEW OF THE PROPERTY	Hardinge, Frances	Unraveller	In a magical world where anyone can put a curse on you, there is only one person able to undo them. Kellen doesn't understand his talent but he saved Nettle from a curse and now they travel together, saving others but also trying to unravel the webs of conspiracy at the heart of the country. A beautifully written, richly detailed fantasy adventure/mystery with themes of family, friendship, guilt, anger, revenge and redemption.	Younger Teen Reads
Sophie McKenzie	McKenzie, Sophie	Secret Sister	A thriller told from the perspectives of two twin sisters separated as toddlers. Willow has grown up believing her sister died, while Asha has spent years living in an isolated community not knowing she has a sister. Can they find their way back to one another in this tension filled dramatic tale?	Younger Teen Reads

SUSIN NELSEN	Nielsen, Susin	Tremendous Things	Since year 7, Wilbur has been the butt of every joke after experiencing an unfortunate event at the hands of the school bully. When his French exchange student Charlie arrives, Wilbur is immediately smitten and agrees to a total life makeover to win her heart.	Younger Teen Reads
	Oppel, Kenneth	Ghostlight	Set in Toronto, Gabe's holiday job is doing ghost tours of the lighthouse, where in 1839, two people fell to their deaths. Gabe loves to embellish the tale, but once he connects to one of the ghosts, he realises just how terrifying and dangerous some of them are. A battle ensues where Gabe must enlist the help of his friends, both alive and dead, to fight the army of the dead that threaten to engulf them.	Younger Teen Reads
RAVENCAVE MARCUS SEDGWICK	Sedgwick, Marcus	Ravencave	Jamie and his family are on holiday to scatter Gran's ashes where her ancestors lived. The family has been through a lot and Jamie, feeling increasingly left behind by his parents and older brother, hopes they will be able to reconnect on this trip. What can he learn from the ghostly girl he sees? Ghosts, grief, family, technology and community – this short, masterfully written book packs in a lot.	Younger Teen Reads
The task are not the task are not task are n	Sheppard, Alexandra	Friendship Never Ends	Four girls, inseparable since they started school, are spending the summer apart for the first time and, worse, without internet connection – no texting or FaceTime. They decide to spend the summer before Year 10 growing up a bit and to keep in touch by postcard, but will their friendship survive their very different summer holiday experiences? A funny and heart-warming coming-of-age story.	Younger Teen Reads
WILDUR SMITH UT COMPANY STORE COL DREAM THE UTIMATE PREDATOR	Smith, Wilbur	Prey Zone	Robyn and Ralph do not live a normal life at their father's game reserve in South Africa; their days are filled with caring for the animal life and finding adventures. When suspicious events take place, they take matters into their own hands to investigate the cause only to discover the presence of extinct ice age predators roaming their neighbour's land. In this fast paced adventure, the siblings must discover what powerful men are behind this deadly plot!	Younger Teen Reads

Taylor, Wi	II The Language of Seabirds	Jeremy has some big decisions to make after the summer, including whether to live with mum or dad after the divorce. When his dad suddenly announces a boys' holiday at the seaside, he is not thrilled by the prospect. Jeremy is beginning to understand more about himself, but he is not ready to share this with the world yet, and certainly not his father. And then a new friendship suddenly changes everything.	Younger Teen Reads
Wills, S J	Bite Risk	Once a month, when the moon is at its fullest, all adults must be locked away to reduce the danger they pose when they turn into their werewolf states. Sel Archer and his friends crave to just be normal teenagers in a normal town, but there's nothing normal about the monsters that come out at night.	Younger Teen Reads
Brown Girc Dreaming Jacqueline	Brown Girl Dreaming	An autobiography written in verse about a girl growing up in the USA in the 1960s/70s. Woven into the story is the prejudice and racism that she experienced.	Teenage Non- Fiction 920

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