



Bird by Crystal Chan
 Jewel never knew her brother Bird, who died the day she was born, but all her life she has lived in his shadow. Her parents blame Grandpa for the tragedy of their family's past; they say that Grandpa attracted a malevolent spirit--a duppy--into their home. Grandpa hasn't spoken a word since. Now Jewel is twelve, and she lives in a house full of secrets. Jewel is sure that no one will ever love her like they loved Bird, until the night that she meets a mysterious boy in a tree. Grandpa is convinced that the boy is a duppy, but Jewel knows that he is something more.



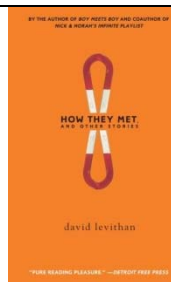
A Corner of White by Jaclyn Moriarty
 She knew this. That philematology is the science of kissing. That Samuel Langhorne Clemens is better known as Mark Twain. That, originally, gold comes from the stars. Madeleine Tully lives in Cambridge, England, the World - a city of spires, Isaac Newton and Auntie's Tea Shop. Elliot Baranski lives in Bonfire, the Farms, the Kingdom of Cello - where seasons roam, the Butterfly Child sleeps in a glass jar, and bells warn of attacks from dangerous Colours. They are worlds apart - until a crack opens up between them; a corner of white - the slim seam of a letter. Elliot begins to write to Madeleine, the Girl-in-the-World - a most dangerous thing to do for suspected cracks must be reported and closed. But Elliot's father has disappeared and Madeleine's mother is sick. Can a stranger from another world help to unravel the mysteries in your own? Can Madeleine and Elliot find the missing pieces of themselves before it is too late?



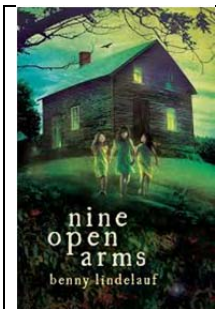
Dying to Tell Me by Sherryl Clark
 Sasha didn't think her life could get any worse - she was wrong. First, her dad decided they all needed a 'new start' and moved her and her younger brother to Manna Creek, a town whose residents don't seem very glad to have a new policeman - never mind his kids - in town. Then things start happening. Strange, inexplicable things that only she can see or hear. Just like before. And then there's King, retired police dog, who's come to live with them. Surely at least this dog will be normal?



The Executioner's Daughter by Jane Hardstaff
 Moss hates her life. As the daughter of the Executioner in the Tower of London, it's her job to catch the heads in her basket after her father has chopped them off. She dreams of leaving, but they are prisoners with no way out. Then Moss discovers a hidden tunnel that takes her to freedom, where she learns that her life isn't what she believes it to be and she doesn't know who to trust. Her search for the truth takes her on a journey along the great River Thames. Could the answers lie deep in its murky depths?

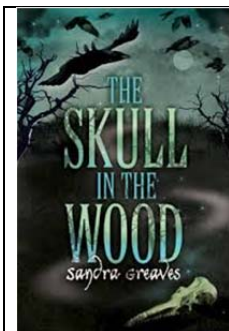


How They Met and other Stories by David Levithan
 Eighteen stories, all about love, and about all kinds of love. From the aching for the one you pine for, to standing up and speaking up for the one you love, to pure joy and happiness, these love stories run the gamut of that emotion that at some point has turned every one of us inside out and upside down. What is love? With this original story collection David Levithan proves that love is a varied, complicated, addictive, wonderful thing.



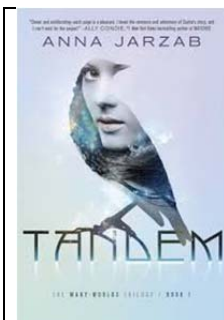
Nine Open Arms by Benny Lindelauf

It is the summer of 1937, and it hasn't rained for seven weeks when eleven-year-old Fing and her family of nine move into Nine Open Arms, along with their handcart of meagre belongings. 'The Dad' is a man who does all kinds of jobs and none of them well, while Oma Mei courageously holds everything together, including the family's history in her Crocodile bag full of pictures and stories. But as the year progresses, the family just gets poorer. Meanwhile, Fing and her two sisters, wild Muulke and fearful Jess, begin to discover strange mysteries.



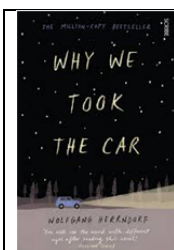
The Skull in the Wood by Sandra Greaves

In Old Scratch Wood, cousins Matt and Tilda find a buried skull. From that moment, black things begin to happen: birds and animals go bad, and there's talk of the return of an ancient curse. But what can Matt and Tilda do to stop it?



Tandem by Anna Jarzab

Everything repeats. You. Your best friend. Every person you know. Many worlds. Many lives, infinite possibilities. Welcome to the multiverse. Sixteen-year-old Sasha Lawson has only ever known one small, ordinary life. When she was young, she loved her grandfather's stories of parallel worlds inhabited by girls who looked like her but led totally different lives. Sasha never believed such worlds were real until now, when she finds herself thrust into one against her will. To prevent imminent war, Sasha must slip into the life of an alternate version of herself, a princess who has vanished on the eve of her arranged marriage. If Sasha succeeds in fooling everyone, she will be returned home; if she fails, she'll be trapped in another girl's life forever. As time runs out, Sasha finds herself torn between two worlds, two lives, and two young men vying for her love and one who knows her secret, and one who thinks she's someone she's not. Tandem is a riveting saga of love and betrayal set in parallel universes in which nothing and no one is what it seems.



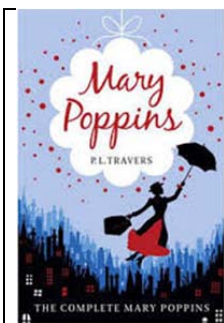
Why We Took the Car by Wolfgang Herndorf

Mike Klingenberg is a troubled fourteen-year-old from a dysfunctional family in Berlin who thinks of himself as boring, so when a Russian juvenile delinquent called Tschick begins to pay attention to him and include Mike in his criminal activities, he is excited - until those activities lead to disaster on the autobahn.



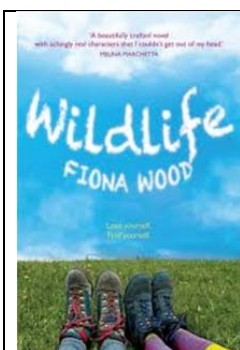
Racing the Moon by Michelle Morgan

Joe Riley has to be a little creative to make pocket money in his rough and tumble neighbourhood of Glebe. He's watched his dad keep ahead of the law and he's sure that he can too, gambling on billycart races and selling farm-fresh eggs from his uncle's chook farm. But when his parents send him off to St Bartholomew's - a Catholic boarding school on the other side of the harbour - Joe's carefree existence is a thing of the past. Homesick and lonely, Joe meets the darker side of human nature and finds himself at odds with the school, especially Brother Felix. Expelled from St Bart's, Joe is sent to a reform school on the south coast known as The Farm. Life is tough there for a boy from the city, but it's through working the land and tending the animals that Joe finds inner strength and peace, and rediscovers the thrill of true freedom.



Mary Poppins by P.L. Travers

When the Banks family advertise for a nanny, Mary Poppins and her talking umbrella appear out of the sky, ready to take the children on extraordinary adventures. Mary Poppins is strict but fair, and soon Michael and Jane are whisked off to a funfair inside a pavement picture and on many more outings with their wonderful new nanny! Needless to say, when at last 'the wind changes' and she flies away, the children are devastated. But the magic of Mary Poppins will stay with the Banks family forever.



Wildlife by Fiona Wood

Life? It's simple: be true to yourself. The tricky part is finding out exactly who you are...
"In the holidays before the dreaded term at Crowthorne Grammar's outdoor education camp two things out of the ordinary happened. A picture of me was plastered all over a twenty-metre billboard. And I kissed Ben Capaldi."

Boarding for a term in the wilderness, sixteen-year-old Sibylla expects the gruesome outdoor education program - but friendship complications, and love that goes wrong? They're extra-curricula. Enter Lou from **SIX IMPOSSIBLE THINGS** - the reluctant new girl for this term in the great outdoors. Fragile behind an implacable mask, she is grieving a death that occurred almost a year ago. Despite herself, Lou becomes intrigued by the unfolding drama between her housemates Sibylla and Holly, and has to decide whether to end her self-imposed detachment and join the fray. And as Sibylla confronts a tangle of betrayal, she needs to renegotiate everything she thought she knew about surviving in the wild. A story about first love, friendship and NOT fitting in.