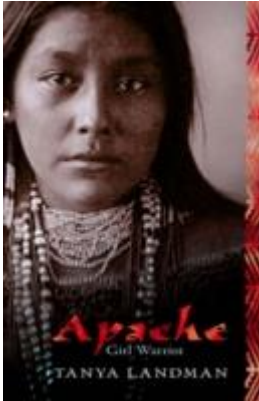
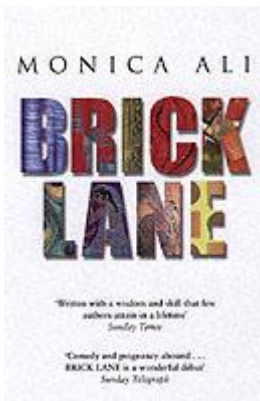


Recommended Reading List - Year 10/11



Apache **Tanya Landman**

Siki is an orphan of the Black Mountain Apache. Her mother was killed by Mexicans three years ago and her father lost in an ambush the winter before that. When Siki witnesses the brutal murder of her little brother Tazhi, she vows to become an Apache warrior and avenge her brother's death.



Brick Lane **Monica Ali**

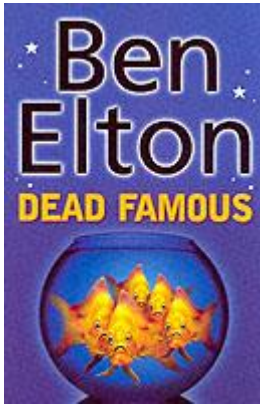
Still in her teenage years, Nazneen finds herself in an arranged marriage with a disappointed man who is twenty years older. Away from the mud and heat of her Bangladeshi village, home is now a cramped flat in a high-rise block in London's East End. Nazneen knows not a word of English, and is forced to depend on her husband. But unlike him she is practical and wise, and befriends a fellow Asian girl Razia, who helps her understand the strange ways of her adopted new British home. Confined in her flat by tradition and family duty, Nazneen sews furiously for a living, shut away with her buttons and linings - until the radical Karim steps unexpectedly into her life. On a background of racial conflict and tension, they embark on a love affair that forces Nazneen finally to take control of her fate. Strikingly imagined, gracious and funny, this novel is at once epic and intimate. Exploring the role of Fate in our lives - those who accept it; those who defy it - it traces the extraordinary transformation of an Asian girl, from cautious and shy to bold and dignified woman.

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Brighton Rock **Graham Greene**

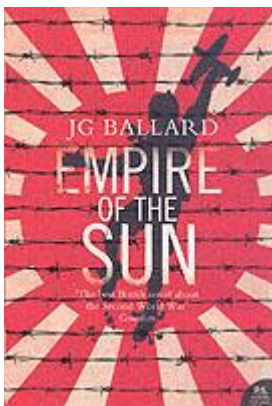
A gang war is raging through the dark underworld of Brighton. Seventeen-year-old Pinkie, malign and ruthless, has killed a man. Believing he can escape retribution, he is unprepared for the courageous, life-embracing Ida Arnold. Greene's gripping thriller, exposes a world of loneliness and fear, of life lived on the 'dangerous edge of things'



Dead Famous
Ben Elton

One house, ten contestants, 30 cameras and 40 microphones. Another televised, real-life soap opera, House Arrest. Everyone knows the rules: total strangers are forced to live together while the rest of the country watches them do it.

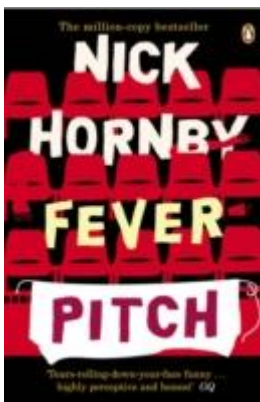
Only this time they're asking: who is the murderer?



Empire of the Sun
J G Ballard

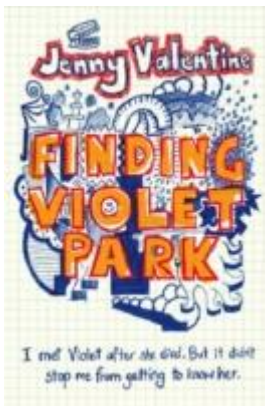
The heartrending story of a British boy's four-year ordeal in a Japanese prison camp during the Second World War. Based on J. G. Ballard's own childhood, this is the extraordinary account of a boy's life in Japanese-occupied wartime Shanghai - a mesmerising, hypnotically compelling novel of war, of starvation and survival, of internment camps and death marches. It blends searing honesty with an almost hallucinatory vision of a world thrown utterly out of joint. Rooted as it is in the author's own disturbing experience

of war in own time, it is one of a handful of novels by which the twentieth century will be not only remembered but judged.



Fever Pitch
Nick Hornby

A famous account of growing up to be a fanatical football supporter. Told through a series of match reports, "Fever Pitch" has enjoyed enormous critical and commercial success since it was first published in 1992. It has helped to create a new kind of sports writing, and established Hornby as one of the finest writers of his generation.



Finding Violet Park **Jenny Valentine**

Narrated by the most compelling voice since *Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*, this is a quirky and original voyage of self-discovery triggered by a lost urn of ashes. The mini cab office was up a cobbled mews with little flat houses either side. That's where I first met Violet Park, what was left of her. There was a healing centre next door, a pretty smart name for a place with a battered brown door and no proper door handle and stuck-on wooden numbers in the shape of clowns. The 3 of number 13 was a w stuck on sideways and I thought it was kind of sad and I liked it at the same time.

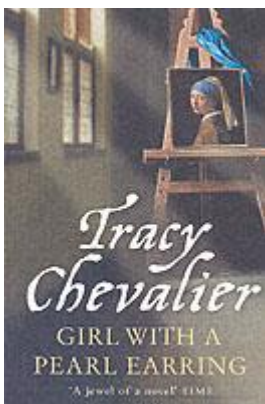
Sixteen-year-old Lucas Swain becomes intrigued by the urn of ashes left in a cab office. Convinced that its occupant -- Violet Park -- is communicating with him, he contrives to gain possession of the urn, little realising that his quest will take him on a voyage of self-discovery and identity, forcing him to finally confront what happened to his absent (and possibly dead) father!



Frankenstein **Mary Shelley**

Victor Frankenstein is obsessed with the secret of resurrecting the dead. But when he makes a new 'man' out of plundered corpses, his hideous creation fills him disgust. Rejected by all humanity, the creature sets out to destroy Frankenstein and everyone he loves.

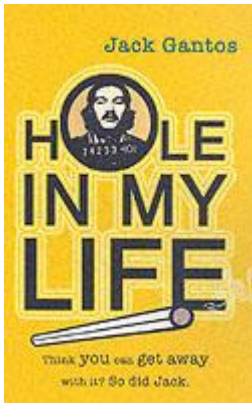
And as the monster gets ever closer to his maker, hunter becomes prey in a lethal chase that carries them to the very end of the earth.



Girl with a Pearl Earring **Tracy Chevalier**

A sumptuous new look for Tracy Chevalier's bestselling novel. Griet, the young daughter of a tilemaker in seventeenth century Holland, obtains her first job, as a servant in Vermeer's household. Tracy Chevalier shows us, through Griet's eyes, the complicated family, the society of the small town of Delft, and life with an obsessive genius.

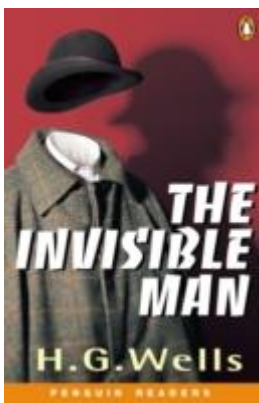
Griet loves being drawn into his artistic life, and leaving her former drudgery, but the cost to her own survival may be high.



Hole in my Life

Jack Gantos

Jack Gantos, bestselling author of the Joey Pigza books, had a peripatetic childhood around the US and the Caribbean. At 18 years old, he was doing a dead-end job on a Caribbean island, looking for adventure and a way to fund himself through university. When he was offered \$10,000 to sail a boat load of drugs to New York, he jumped at it. It resulted in a year in a federal prison - and a lot of thinking time. In prison, Jack discovered the library where he was able to indulge his passion for literature and continue to write the journal he'd started in childhood. Denied a diary of his own by prison regulations, he wrote his notes in a tiny hand between the lines of a Russian novel. Becoming ever more determined to get to university, Jack discovered that he didn't have to let one bad choice map out the course of the rest of his life. There are such things as second chances. Paroled after a year in order to go directly to college to study writing, Jack had his first children's book published within two years of being released.



The Invisible Man

H G Wells

With his face swaddled in bandages, his eyes hidden behind dark glasses and his hands covered even indoors, Griffin the new guest at The Coach and Horses is at first assumed to be a shy accident-victim. But the true reason for his disguise is far more chilling: he has developed a process that has made him invisible, and is locked in a struggle to discover the antidote. Forced from the village, and driven to murder, he seeks the aid of an old friend, Kemp.

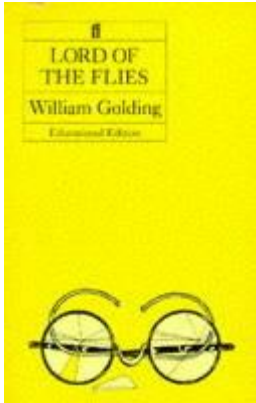
The horror of his fate has affected his mind, however and when Kemp refuse to help, he resolves to wreak his revenge.



The Joy Luck Club

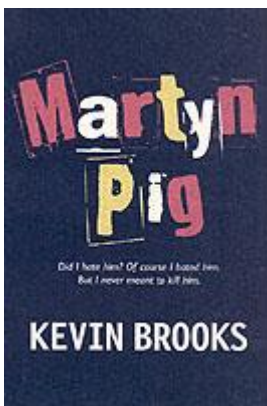
Amy Tan

A first novel which became a major US film. From the wealthy homes of pre-Revolutionary China to downtown San Francisco, this is the story of four mothers and their first-generation Chinese-American daughters; two generations of women struggling to come to terms with their cultural identity.



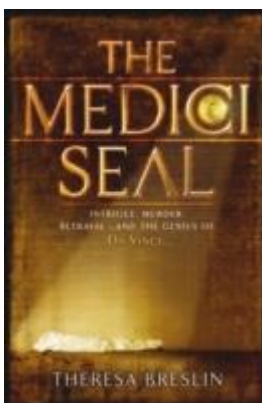
Lord of the Flies **William Golding**

Golding's best-known novel is the story of a group of boys who, after a plane crash, set up a fragile community on a previously uninhabited island. As memories of home recede and the blood from frenzied pig-hunts arouses them, the boys' childish fear turns into something deeper and more primitive.



Martyn Pig **Kevin Brooks**

Meet Martyn Pig. A boy caught in a miserable world whose life just got worse. Trapped by events following a single, shocking accident, he makes a decision with breathtaking consequences. And Alex. Talented and ambitious, she's his only friend, an older girl with wild dreams and a foolhardy streak of recklessness. Witness the mounting craziness as things spiral in and out of control in moments of mid-numbing confusion, powerful drama, tenderness and humour. And nothing will prepare you for the last surprise. It's a story you won't forget.



The Medici Seal **Theresa Breslin**

This story is set in Romagna, Italy in the year 1502. Fleeing from the murderous brigand Sandino, Matteo - a young boy - is saved from drowning by the companions of Leonardo da Vinci. From this moment on, Matteo is at the Maestro's side as he carries out his work, which ranges from the painting of magnificent frescos to intricate dissection of the human body. But Leonardo is employed by Cesare Borgia, head of one of Italy's leading families. Cruel and ruthless, the Borgia punishes without mercy those who oppose him or who threaten him in any way. And as Da Vinci and Matteo travel across Italy on the Borgia's business, murder, deceit and revenge follow in their trail. For Matteo carries with him a secret - a secret that both the Borgia and Medici families would kill to obtain. A life-changing secret that must, finally, come to light for all to see ...A gloriously rich and authentic story of the Renaissance, "The Medici Seal" is also both the personal story of Matteo, a boy becoming a man, and a fascinating glimpse into the world of Da Vinci.



Note of Madness

Tabitha Suzuma

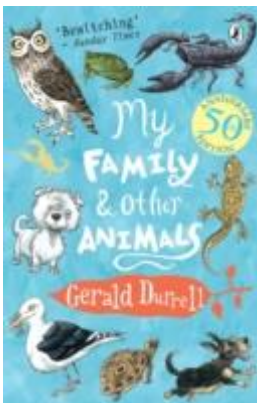
Life as a student is good for Flynn. As one of the top pianists at the Royal College of Music, he has been put forward for an important concert, the opportunity of a lifetime. But beneath the surface, things are changing. On a good day, he feels full of energy and life, but on a bad day being alive is worse than being dead. Sometimes he wants to compose and practise all night, at other times he can't get out of bed. His flatmate Harry tries to understand but is increasingly confused by Flynn's erratic mood swings. His friend Jennah tries to help, but Flynn finds it difficult to be around her as he struggles to control his feelings and behaviour. With the pressure of the forthcoming concert and the growing concern of his family and friends, emotions come to a head. Sometimes things can only get worse before they get better.



The Old Man and the Sea

F K , Falkner, J Meade Exell

Everyone in the tiny village of Moonfleet lives by the sea one way or another, so it's no surprise when young John Trenchard gets involved in the smuggling trade. Forced to flee England with a price on his head, John little guesses the adventures and trials he will have before he sees Moonfleet again or the change in his fortunes when he does.

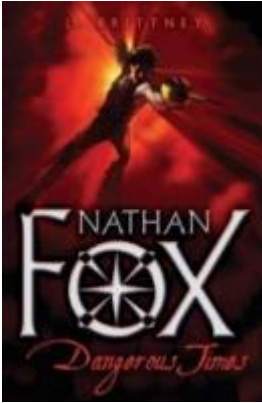


My Family And Other Animals

Gerald Durrell

Sometimes it's pretty hard to tell them apart...my family and the animals, that is. I don't know why my brothers and sisters complain so much. With snakes in the bath and scorpions on the lunch table, our house, on the island of Corfu, is a bit like a circus.

So they should feel right at home...



Nathan Fox: Dangerous Times

L Brittney

The Spymaster General has formed an intelligence network to ensure that England remains the mightiest super-power. He is always looking for brilliant new agents, and Nathan Fox has just caught his eye ...Nathan is a gifted actor in the same company as thespian and fledgling playwright, Will Shakespeare. Of gypsy descent, Nathan is a skilled acrobat and horseman, and picks up accents and languages easily.

When the Spymaster General sends one of his top agents, John Pearce, to recruit him, Nathan accepts with delight. He leaves the theatre and is sent to Master Robey's School of Defence to learn the skills that will keep him alive - swordplay, dagger-throwing and streetfighting, as well as codebreaking and intelligence gathering. Now set for his first assignment, Nathan partners Pearce and they travel to Venice to secure an alliance against the dreaded Spaniards.

On their arrival, Nathan and John - posing as servant and master - are brought into contact with the great General Othello. As their mission goes awry, the partners become embroiled in the events surrounding the explosive, tragic love affair between Othello and a young noblewoman, Desdemona. Nathan is leading a dangerous life of the highest drama - but will he survive to tell Will Shakespeare the details of his adventure?



Playing With Fire

Henning Mankell

Sofia has lost her legs and her sister in a landmine accident. But now she's growing up and ready to fall in love. Her older sister Rosa is strong and beautiful and loves dancing.

Sofia will never be able to dance, so how will anyone ever notice her enough to love her? She imagines a boy who will love her for herself, and then she meets him - but is the Moonboy real, or just a dream of the African night?

Then Rosa falls sick with a mysterious illness and Sofia fears the worst. When Rosa is diagnosed with HIV and turns to African magic for a cure, Sofia is the one who has to be practical and think of the future.

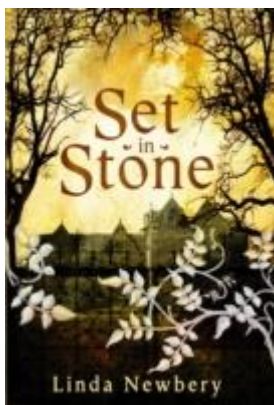


Refugee Boy **Benjamin Zephaniah**

Alem is on holiday with his father for a few days in London. He has never been out of Ethiopia before and is very excited. They have a great few days together until one morning when Alem wakes up in the bed and breakfast they are staying at to find the unthinkable.

His father has left him. It is only when the owner of the bed and breakfast hands him a letter that Alem is given an explanation. Alem's father admits that because of the political problems in Ethiopia both he and Alem's mother felt Alem would be safer in London - even though it is breaking their hearts to do this.

Alem is now on his own, in the hands of the social services and the Refugee Council. He lives from letter to letter, waiting to hear from his father, and in particular about his mother, who has now gone missing...

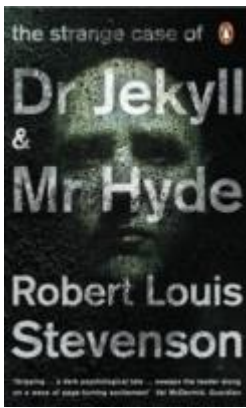


Set In Stone **Linda Newbery**

When Samuel Godwin, a young and naive art tutor, accepts a job with the Farrow family at their majestic home, little does he expect to come across such a web of secrets and lies. His two tutees are as different as chalk and cheese - the beautiful younger sister Marianne, full of flightiness and nervous imagination, and Juliana, oddly sensible and controlled. Assisted by their elusive governess, Charlotte Agnew, Samuel begins to uncover slowly why Marianne is so emotionally fragile.

But his discoveries lead to revenge and betrayal - and lives all around are turned upside down as life and death combat each other for supremacy. Linda Newbery has written a novel in diary style, combining different voices and a different century with her usual brilliance and ease. These are characters full of the same passions as our own today, while living in a less familiar and fascinating time.





The Strange Case Of Dr Jekyll And Mr Hyde **Robert Louis Stevenson**

Everyone has a dark side. Dr Jekyll has discovered the ultimate drug. A chemical that can turn him into something else.

Suddenly, he can unleash his deepest cruelties in the guise of the sinister Hyde. Transforming himself at will, he roams the streets of fog-bound London as his monstrous alter-ego. It seems he is master of his fate.

It seems he is in complete control. But soon he will discover that his double life comes at a hideous price.



The White Darkness **Geraldine Mccaughrean**

Captain Titus Oates, hero of the Antarctic, has been dead for nearly a century. But not in Sym's head. In there, he is her constant companion, her soulmate, her adviser.

It is as if he walked out of the Polar blizzard and into her mind. In fact, if it were not for Titus, life might be as bleak a place as the Antarctic wilderness. When she is taken on a mystery expedition by her eccentric uncle Victor, Sym can't believe her luck.

Destination Antarctica-the very place she's always wanted to visit. But Victor has other plans, more sinister than Sym could possibly imagine. Stranded in the most isolated part of the world with her trust in someone she comes to realize is a madman, she must find a way to avoid a gruesome fate.

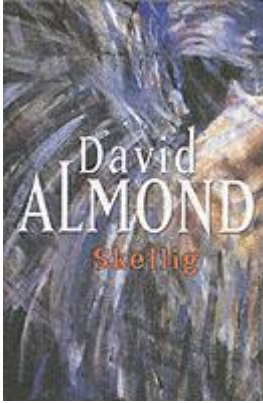
But what should a teenage girl do? Could it be that Titus, the one who perished in that very place, will be the means of her survival?



Witch Child **Celia Rees**

"This is a powerful, absorbing and unusual novel" - "The Bookseller". "The sort of historical novel eleven and twelve year olds will gobble up at a sitting" - Nina Bawden. When Mary sees her grandmother accused of witchcraft and hung for the crime, she is silently hurried to safety by an unknown woman.

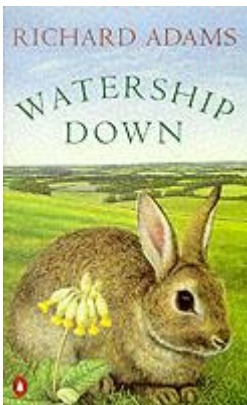
The woman gives her tools to keep the record of her days - paper and ink. Mary is taken to a boat in Plymouth and from there sails to the New World where she hopes to make a new life among the pilgrims. But old superstitions die hard and soon Mary finds that she, like her grandmother, is the victim of ignorance and stupidity and once more she finds herself having to make important choices to ensure her survival.



Skellig
David Almond

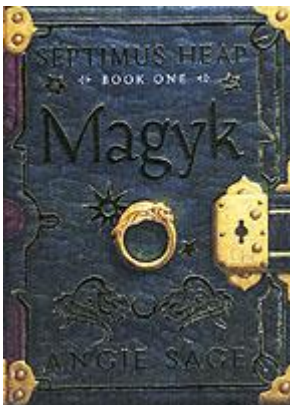
Michael's baby sister is ill, and the whole house is sick with her. While his parents spend time at the hospital, he explores their new home. In the old, derelict garage he finds something sinister: a strange creature, part owl, part angel.

Is it something good? Or something evil?



Watership Down
Richard Adams

A story of rebellion in a rabbit warren and the subsequent adventures of the rebels.



Magyk
Angie Sage

A baby girl is rescued from a snowy path in the woods. A baby boy is stillborn. A young Queen is taken ill.

An ExtraOrdinary Wizard mysteriously resigns from his post. And all on the same night. A string of events, seemingly unconnected, begins to converge ten years later, when the Heap family receive a knock at the door.

The evil Necromancer DomDaniel is plotting his comeback and a Major Obstacle resides in the Heap family. Life as they know is about to change, and the most fantastically fast-paced adventure of confused identities, magyk and mayhem, begin.