

SENIOR FICTION

Title: Unworthy

Author Joanne Armstrong

Publisher: www.createspace.com/4849705

ISBN: 9781500807474

Summary: Dystopian fiction at its best. Arcadia is considered unworthy and is shunned by a paranoid population in a world that favours the strong over the weak. A journey to the city with a Polis guard gives answers to Arcadia's past and the world in which she resides.

Title: Being Magdalene

Author: Fleur Beale

Publisher: Penguin Random House, 2015

ISBN: 9781775537670

Summary: The 3rd part of the trilogy about the Children of the Faith religious cult and the Pilgrim family who have constantly challenged the Rule which guides the behaviour of the cults members. Magdalene aged 12 and Zillah aged 8 lead the challenge this time in a satisfying and positive conclusion to this story that began with I am Not Esther and I am Rebecca. Secondary

Title: The Magisterium Book2. The Copper Gauntlet

Author: Holly Black & Cassandra Clare

Publisher: Corgi Childrens Penguin Random House, 2015

ISBN: 9780552567718

Summary: Callum Aaron and Tamara enter their second year at the Magisterium. Callu and his wolf companion Havoc fight the forces of Chaos in an atmosphere of doubt as Callum fears he has the soufl of Constantine Madden inside him and he is to become the Evil Lord. Secondary

Title: The Bakehouse

Author: Joy Cowley

Publisher: Gecko Press, 2015

ISBN: 9781776570072

Summary: 11 year old Bert made a decision in wartime New Zealand that will affect the lives of his family for the rest of their lives. He made it when he and his 15 year old sister were harbouring a deserter in an abandoned bakehouse they named after Geronimo. Recreates life in NZ during WW2. Excellent short novel. Junior secondary

Title: Theophilus Grey and The Demon Thief

Author: Catherine Jinks

Publisher: Allen&Unwin, 2015

ISBN: 978760113605

Summary: Philo lives in squalor in Georgian London, so do all of his acquaintances. He makes a living delivering messages and escorting wealthier people through the dark alleys of London. A Demon is on the loose, stealing and killing at will. Brilliant historical mystery. Junior secondary

Title: Evie's War

Author: Anna Mackenzie

Publisher: Penguin Random House, 2015

ISBN: 9781775537656

Summary: 18 year old Evie travels to Europe with her family in 1914 when war breaks out. She stays in an Aristocratic household with views toward women like those of a Jane Austen novel. She becomes involved as a nurse and experiences the full horror of war. Superbly written in diary fashion chronicling Evie's fortunes and those of the war.

Title: The Rest of Us Just Live Here

Author: Patrick Ness

Publisher: Walker Books, 2015

ISBN: 9781406331165

Summary. Mike is approaching graduation and the school Prom. He has OCD and is in love with Henna whom he has known for a long time. The town he lives in has had vampires and weird happenings in the past and trouble is brewing again. Two stories are happening that are to come together at the end. Brilliantly conceived novel. For all those people who are not the chosen ones. Senior Secondary.

Title: Newt's Emerald

Author: Garth Nix

Publisher: Allen & Unwin

ISBN: 9781760112653

Summary: 18 year old Lady Trthful Newington inherits a magical emerald that is stolen. Disguised as a man she goes to look for it in the denizens of London during the Regency Period. Excellent story of Regency manners magic and romance. Secondary.

Title: Fire Colour One

Author: Jenny Valentine

Publisher: HarperCollins, 2015

ISBN: 9780007512362

Summary: A powerful novel with superbly structured characters. Iris is 14 and lives with her mother and film star like stepfather. She meets her art collecting father for the first time and finds out some home truths. The problem she has is that she loves fire. Superbly written with descriptions that will have you impressing your friends for years. Guardian prize winner.

JUNIOR FICTION

Title: Percy Jackson and the Greek Heroes

Author: Rick Riordan

Publisher: Penguin Random House, 2015

ISBN: 9780141360515

Summary: Percy Jackson tells the amazing stories of the Greek Heroes fro Perseus and hercules through to Jason and Orpheus and a few heroines like Psyche and Persephone all with a modern slant and tongue buried in the cheek. Very clever. Junior secondary

Title: Goodbye Stranger

Author: Rebecca Stead

Publisher: Text Publishing, 2015

ISBN: 9781925240320

Summary: Bridge, Tab and Em are in 7th grade and have been friends for ever. They are changing physically and emotionally. When Em is asked to send a photo of herself to a hot boy it starts off a series of events that changes lives. Good relationship novel. Junior secondary

Title: Flying Free. Stories and where they come from

Author: Adrienne M. Frater

Publisher: Atawhai Press amgk.frater@xtra.co.nz

ISBN:9780473319144

Summary: 25 short stories about growing up in NZ for 7-14 year olds. Previously published in the School Journal and Radio NZ. Tips on how to write and the source of a writers ideas are invaluable and the stories are excellent.

Title: The Girl Who Rode the Wind

Author: Stacy Gregg

Publisher: HarperCollins, 2015

ISBN: 9780008124304

Summary: Two girls, two horses, two boyfriends, two stories set in Siena, Italy during World War 2 and present day. 12 year old Lola and her Nonna go to Italy which opens up a lot of history and tells of the Palio, the roughest horse race around the piazza of Siena. Much horse talk from girls who love horses. Intermediate

Title: Johnny Danger D.I.Y. Spy

Author: Peter Millett

Publisher: Puffin Books

ISBN: 978014330856

Summary: Jonathon creates a web page as Johnny Danger a master spy. He wants to save the World from baddies and after the Queen's speech is sabotaged Johnny is called in to clean up. Perfect for reluctant readers with bellyaching jokes and antics. Primary Intermediate.

Title: Molly and Pim and the Millions of Stars

Author: Martine Murray

Publisher: Text Publishing, 2015

ISBN: 9781925240085

Summary: Molly's mum uses herbs and plants in her life. They have a neighbour who hates them and to solve it Molly's mum starts to plant a tree that will grow very very fast. She makes a mistake and turns into a tree herself. How can Molly get her back and what will the neighbours do?

Title: The First Case

Author: Ulf Nilsson Illus. Gitte Spee

Publisher: Gecko Press, 2015

ISBN: 9781927271506

Summary: Someone is stealing squirrel's nuts and its up to Detective Gordon, an old toad, to catch the thief. He gets Buffy the mouse to help him because she has young legs. Good read-a-loud for Juniors and reader for confident readers at primary level

Title: How I Alienated my Grandma

Author: Suzanne Main

Publisher: Scholastic, 2015

ISBN: 9781775433064

Summary: Michael unearths a strange object not of this world. He points it at his grandma and she turns into a giant lizard then back into grandma. A story of an attempted alien invasion of Earth. Good fun with boy appeal. Primary Intermediate.

PICTURE BOOKS

Title: Moonman

Author: Ned Barraud

Publisher: Craig Potton Publishing, 2015

ISBN: 9781927213285

Summary: Man in the moon has an imagination. He wants to travel to the Blue Planet, hitches a ride and spends a day on Earth. It is not to his liking so he makes his way back to the Moon then sees the Red Planet.

Title: First to the Top Sir Edmund Hillary's Amazing Everest Adventure

Author: David Hill illus. Phoebe Morris

Publisher: Penguin Random House, 2015

ISBN: 9780143506874

Summary: The story of Sir Ed and Tenzing Norgay's trip up Everest told at a simple level with outstanding illustrations.

Title: Franky

Author: Leo Trimmers

Publisher: Geck Press, 2015

ISBN: 9781927271933

Summary: Sam loves robots, he is certain they come from outer space but his family and dog poo poo the idea. He makes his own robot to play. Then the robots come to earth and guess who they look like. Brilliant illustrations of space, robots and space craft. High boy appeal

Title: Have you seen Elephanf?

Author: David Barrow

Publisher: Gecko Press, 2015

Summary: Never play hide and seek with an elephant, they are too good at hiding. A little boy does and can't find him. Then he is invited to play tag by a tortoise. Witty and beautifully illustrated..

Bob Docherty

bobsbooksnz.wordpress.co -blog.