

Year 9
Suggested
Reading List

Action/ Adventure

Lord of the Flies by William Golding

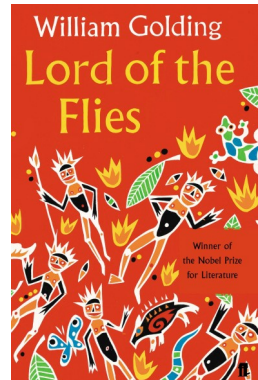
A plane full of school boys crashes onto a desert island. With no adult supervision, they initially celebrate freedom. However, order soon collapses and terror begins to reign...

Watch the film here: [https://](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjApB6liQKE)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjApB6liQKE

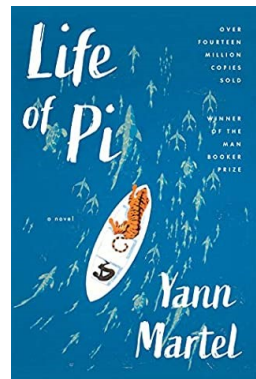
Want to listen to the first chapter? [https://](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Lu1QAQUhVY)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Lu1QAQUhVY



Life of Pi by Yann Martel

Piscine Molitor (Pi), comes from Pondicherry. During his adventure, Pi has to survive 227 days in a boat in the middle of the Pacific Ocean with a Bengal tiger called Richard Parker.



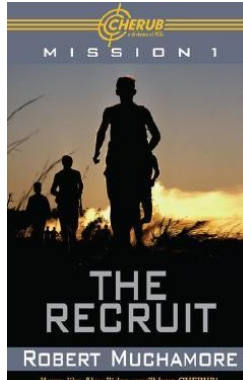
Listen here to the 1st chapter: [https://](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fa6a_UJ1ErM)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=fa6a_UJ1ErM

Watch the 2012 film trailer: [https://www.youtube.com/](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3mMN693-F3U)
[watch?v=3mMN693-F3U](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3mMN693-F3U)

The Recruit by Robert Muchamore

CHERUB agents are very talented teenagers and highly trained. Officially, they do not exist. They are sent on missions to spy on terrorists, gather intel and hack into important documents. The story follows James, the latest recruit. Can he survive the 100 days of grueling basic training when even some of the toughest recruits cannot make it to the end?

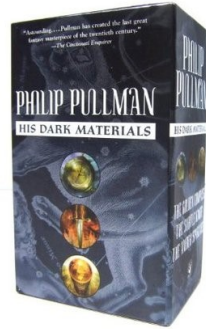


Check out the first chapter here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mdm6m2NQ-LY>

Fantasy

His Dark Materials by Philip Pullman

Consisting of 3 books, this series follows the adventures of Lyra and Will. A boy and a girl from two different worlds, brought together by splits in the fabric of reality. Their aim is to understand dust and soon the fate of the living and the dead is on them. Along the way, they meet witches, Amoured bears, fallen angels and soul eaters...

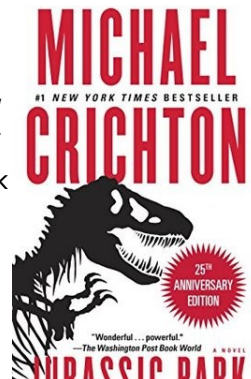


Want to listen to the first chapter? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vMhbFYgmQNU>

Watch the season 1 trailer here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=APduGe1eLVI>

Jurassic Park by Michael Crichton

When dinosaur DNA is discovered and successfully used to clone a real life dinosaur, People are bound to want to make money from it as well as study them. Jurassic Park is created to allow these ancient beasts to roam free. But something goes horribly wrong...



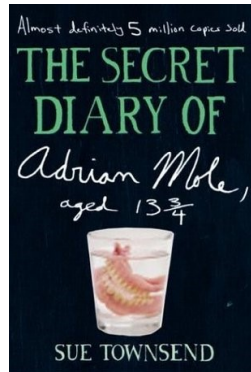
Listen to a preview here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=56PtNgEdUVk>

Watch the film trailer here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lcoUehYemQA>

Funny

The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole Aged 13 3/4 by Sue Townsend

Adrian Mole is in love with Pandora. Unfortunately, she has left him. His neighbour is seducing his mother. The BBC will not publish his poetry and his dog has swallowed the tree off of his Christmas cake. Its all part of growing up!

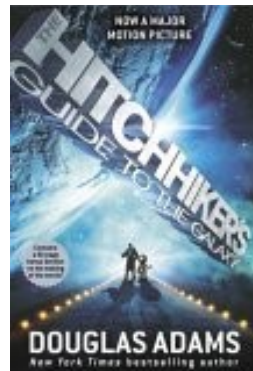


Trailer for the stage play: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C4lXwodrZ28>

Check out the first chapter here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bl6ERjumAvw>

The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy by Douglas Adams

Just moments before the Earth is destroyed, Arthur Dent is abducted off the planet by FORD Prefect, a researcher for the revised edition of The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy. Together, they begin a journey through space, exploring the universe and its many quirks.



Listen to an extract here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kEWGCdER5VM>

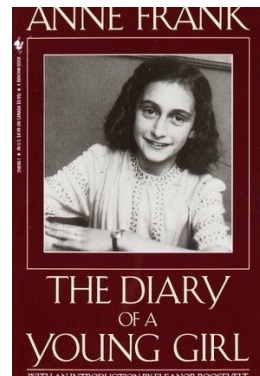
Watch the film trailer here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eLdiWe_HJv4

Historical

The Diary of Anne Frank by Anne Frank

Anne's diary, discovered in the attic in which she and her family were hiding in from 1942—44 from the Nazi's, was published by her father after the war. Her diary is a powerful insight into what it was like to be Jewish under the Nazi's and what life was like in hiding. Beautifully powerful and thought provoking.

Watch the 1959 film trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nLCooqzoFtA>

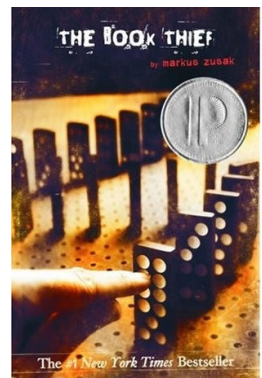


The Book Thief by Marcus Zusak

Liesel lives in 1939 Nazi occupied Germany. She has a love affair with books, eager to get hold of them from anywhere, even Nazi burnings. Liesel's family offers to hide a Jew in their basement and soon prejudices are challenged and friendships made and broken...

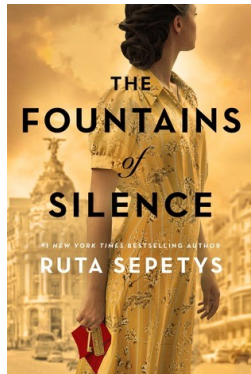
Watch the 2013 trailer here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g2EBSmxinus>

Listen to the first chapter here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FLmR6xQVe-A>



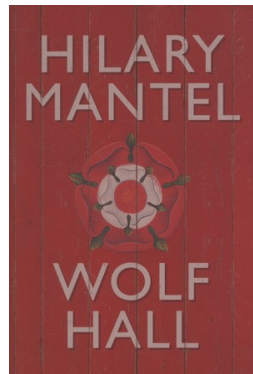
Fountains of Silence by Ruta Sepetys

Set in Madrid 1957 when Spain was ruled by the fascist dictator Franco, 18 year old Daniel Matheson arrives in Spain with his parents, hoping to connect to his mother's birth country. He meets Ana whose family has been scarred by the Spanish Civil War.



Wolf Hall by Hilary Mantel

Following the early part of Thomas Cromwell's career, this book delves deep into the Tudor court. Set around the time that Cardinal Wolsey fell and Anne Boleyn's star rose, how will Cromwell negotiate the dangerous Tudor court?



Watch a clip from the 2015 BBC series:

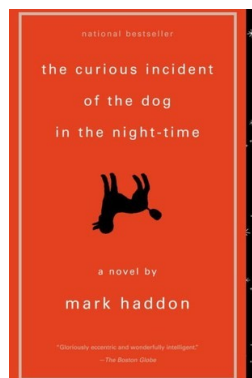
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pEojqwttn8>

Listen to an extract here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pGfuXK8CExY>

Crime and Mystery

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime by Mark Haddon

Chris Boone can relate well to animals. But not to humans. He doesn't like to be touched. Hates the colour yellow and is overwhelmed by noise and lights. But one night, we he finds his neighbours dog dead on the lawn, the mystery will hit close to home...

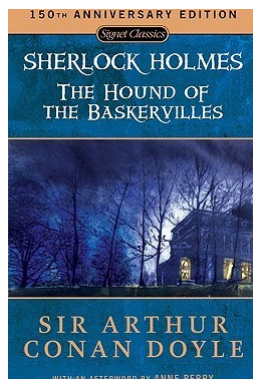


Watch the Theatre show trailer: <https://www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/shows/the-curious-incident-on-tour>

Listen to the story here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PgZx_lrgWKE

The Hound of the Baskervilles by Arthur Conan Doyle

Could the death of Sir Charles Baskervilles be down to a giant ghostly hound that has haunted his family for generations? Holmes and Watson are set to find out...

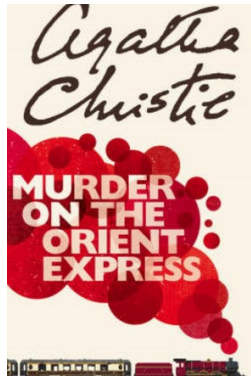


Watch the 1959 trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l4p5yJVbnvQ>

Listen to the 1st chapter: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v7bARyeBgVg>

Murder on the Orient by Agatha Christies

It is just after midnight. The luxurious sleeper train, the Orient Express is on track to its destination but with one less passenger than it had begun with. The killer must be on the train and it is up to Hercule Poirot to find them.



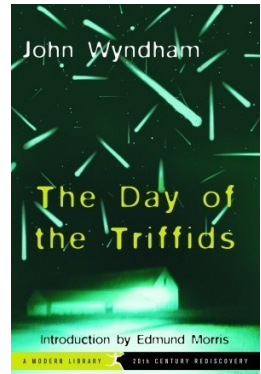
Check out the 1st chapter here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BBZV7w-gwls>

Watch the 2017 trailer here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mq4m3yAoW8E>

Horror

The Day of the Triffids by John Wyndham

Bill Masen misses the biggest meteor shower England has ever seen. The next morning, he finds many people have become sightless and that's when he meets Josella (who has also retained her sight). They work together to survive the apocalypse and most of all, the Triffids—strange plant beings that have suddenly appeared...

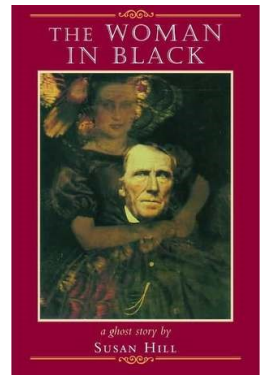


Listen to an extract here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qw5Qml1hVQY>

Watch the film here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8hVUuRAAF_s

The Woman in Black by Susan Hill

Arthur Kipps, a young solicitor, has been sent to deal with the affairs of the recently Deceased Mrs Alice Drablow of Eel Marsh House. However, things soon take a spooky turn when a ghostly apparition appears...



Listen to the story here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aR-L_Qb2pEw

Watch the 2012 trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VnYofEV3oWk>

The Beginning by R. L. Stine

Fear Street is linked to danger, curses and all things spooky. This story takes you back to how it all began. When Corey Brooks falls for the perfect Anna, he is devastated when she goes missing on Fear Street. The Street where Meg Dalton's friend Evan died in mysterious circumstances. Are you brave enough to find out what lives on this street?



Watch the an extract from the Netflix show: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B8BjVmKJnPY>

Animal

Animal Farm by George Orwell

The animals have taken over the farm. Fed up of being mistreated, the animals set out to create paradise and equality on the farm. However, when the pigs take over, tyranny soon creeps in and paradise is lost...

Trailer for the film: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LAeKX5n-5lE>

Listen to the 1st chapter here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EgY4S582xh8>

Signet Classic

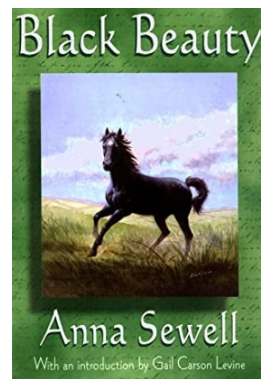
GEORGE ORWELL ANIMAL FARM

Black Beauty by Anna Sewall

Black Beauty quickly learns that his idyllic start to life is not all that it seems and that humans are not so kind. Being passed from owner to owner, will Black Beauty ever find his forever home?

Watch the 2020 film trailer here:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DpZ3yZhsWZE>

Listen to Chapter 1 here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eiamVNECK5w>



Romantic

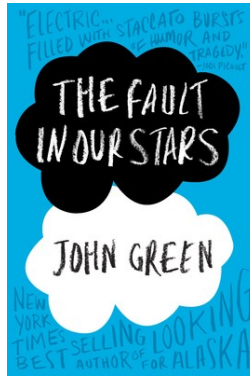
The Fault in our Stars by John Green

Hazel has been diagnosed with terminal cancer. But when she meets Augustus Waters at a cancer support group, a romance strikes up.

Check out the 2014 film trailer:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gltBvH5J6ss)

[v=gltBvH5J6ss](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gltBvH5J6ss)



Listen to the 1st chapter here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F_vFvbfngFs

Guard Your Heart by Sue Divin

Set in Derry, Northern Ireland in 2016, this story follows the unlikely romance between Aidan, a catholic, Irish, republican, and Iona, a protestant loyalist. Have old prejudices really died?

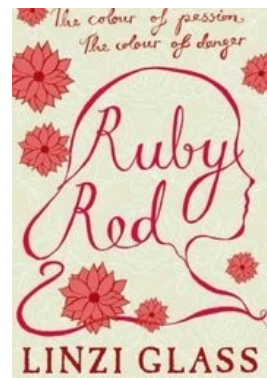
Listen to an extract here: [https://](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UVlo_l3yQ8c)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=UVlo_l3yQ8c



Ruby Red by Linzi Glass

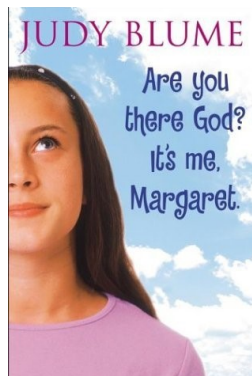
South Africa is a divided country. Ruby lives in a wealthy neighbourhood of Johannesburg. A far cry from the streets of Soweto where violence is rife. It is love at first sight when Ruby sees an Afrikaans boy but their romance is frowned upon.



Friends and Family

Are You There God? It's Me Margaret by Judy Blume

Margaret has moved from New York to Farbook. She is anxious to fit in but she does form a secret club with her friends to talk about boys, bras and periods. But none of her friends can believe that Margaret does not have a religion. But what they Don't know is that Margaret has a special relationship with God already...

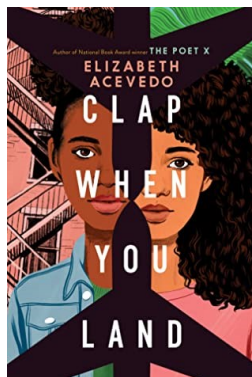


Listen to an extract here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fbw7qxejiwE>

Clap When Your Land by Elizabeth Acevedo

Camino visits her father in the Dominican Republic each summer. But when she lands into the principal's office where her on the first day this year, she sees thousands crying in the airport.

Meanwhile in New York, Yahaira is called weeping mother is waiting to tell her that her father has died in a plane crash. Two separate stories which are in fact connected by secrets.



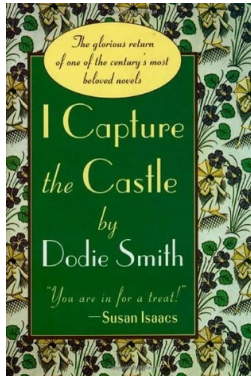
Listen to an extract: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BdgR2UHwebk>

I Capture the Castle by Dodie Smith

Set in 1934, 17 year old, Cassandra Mortmain writes her journal with relish. Filling three notebooks, she describes her home, a ruined castle in Suffolk, and her eccentric family.

Watch the 2006 film trailer here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=47V6teY1iwA>



Sport

The Fastest Boy in the World by Elizabeth Laird

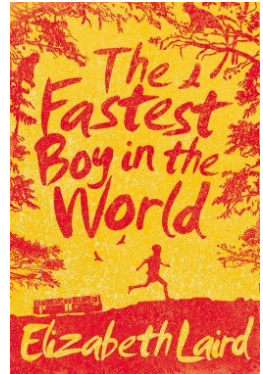
Solomon loves to run. His heroes are the Ethiopian national athletics team and he dreams of winning a gold at the Olympics. When his grandfather suggests

A trip to the capital Addis Ababa, he is overjoyed.

But this trip will surprise Solomon when he discovers that his grandfather is a war hero, risking his life to save and friend and has consequently

been in hiding ever since. When his grandfather collapses, its up to Solomon to run 20 miles to get help.

Listen to the 1st chapter here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IQf6MCFvxEI>

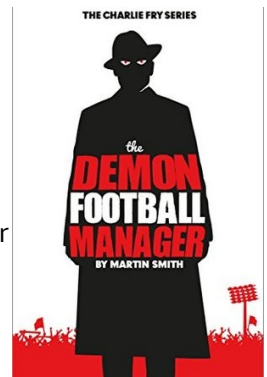


The Demon Football Manager

Charlie Fry is an ace footballer. But after Being hit by a bold of lightening, he develops magical powers. He never misses when he shoots. Now he is being touted for

England. But his new manager does not like sharing the limelight with his players. Can Charlie win him over and

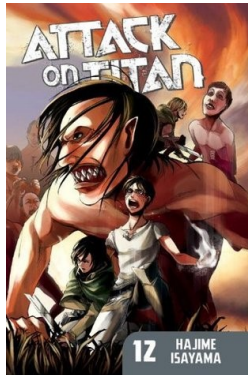
keep his dreams alive. Or will the Demon Football Manager live up to his name?



Graphic Novels

Attack on Titan by Hajime Isayama

Humanity is forced to live in cities surrounded by huge walls because of the threat from giant, man eating humanoids called Titans. Eren Yeager vows to exterminate the Titans after they destroy his home town.



Watch the trailer here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=agrvEE8payo>

Death Note by Tsugumi Ohba

The series focuses on a high school student who discovers a supernatural book that allows him to kill anyone by writing down the victim's name and picturing them.

Watch the Netflix trailer here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zSgUW2xjdqE>



Blue Exorcist by Kazue Kato

This story revolves around Rin Okumura, who discovers that he and his twin, Tukio, are the sons of Satan born to a human woman. Rin is also the inheritor of Satan's powers...

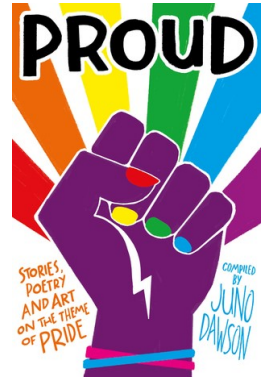
Watch the anime trailer here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rNIKIMdW4x8>



LGBTQ+

Proud by Juno Dawson

An anthology of stories and poetry from LGBTQ+ authors giving their experiences on the theme of pride and sexuality.



The Art of Being Normal by Lisa Williamson

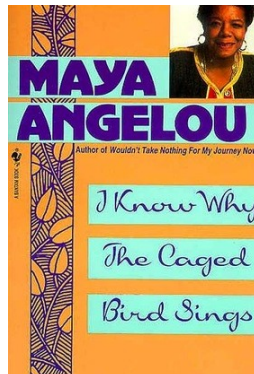
David has always felt like an outsider. His parents think he's gay. The school bully, a freak. Only his two best friends know the Truth: David wants to be a girl. When David meets Leo, a new boy at school who just wants to keep his head down, a friendship begins. But secrets do not stay hidden for long at this school.



Black History Month

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou

Sent by their mother to live with their devout grandmother in the south, Maya and Bailey suffer racism and prejudice from the locals. When back with her mother, Maya is attacked by a man several times her age and has to live with the consequences...



Listen to an extract here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OLAHWugRRDA>

Punching the Air by Ibi Zoboi and Yusef Salaam

Amal has been wrongly accused and convicted of a crime he did not commit. He is sent to prison where anger and depression consume him. So he turns to art and poetry for refuge. Can he change his story?

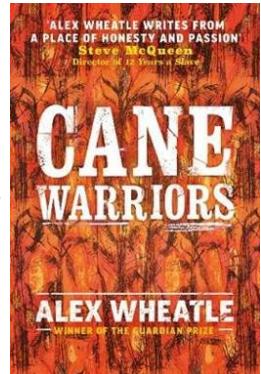
Listen to the backstory here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s6ngLGHScgw>



Cane Warriors by Alex Wheatle

This story was inspired by the real life rebellion of British owned slave plantations in Jamaica in 1760. Moa is just 17 years old when he joins the rebellion to overthrow and kill the slave owners of not just his plantation, but across Jamaica. Can Moa and the other rebels finally achieve freedom.

Listen to an extract here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZ8oPZzQzPU>



To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee

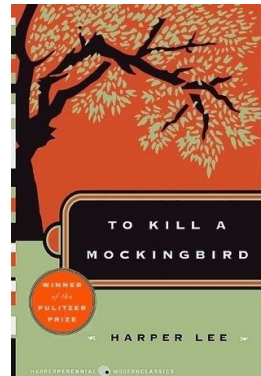
This story takes place in Alabama during the Great Depression. Jean Louise Finch is raised by her brother, Jeremy, and father Atticus. Atticus is a prominent lawyer who

encourages his children to be empathic and just. When Tom Robinson, a local black man, is falsely accused of raping Mayella Ewell, a white woman, Atticus

Becomes Tom's attorney, despite backlash from the community. Atticus stands by Tom through thick and thin but can he prove Tom's innocence?

Listen to an extract here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9sXfbbkLX14>

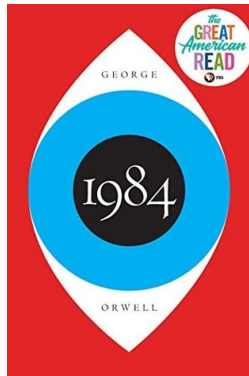
Watch the trailer here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KR7IoA_oziY



Challenging books

Nineteen Eighty-Four by George Orwell

Set in Oceania in 1984, one of the three warring totalitarian states. Oceania's government has brainwashed the population into unquestioning obedience to the leader, Big Brother. There is no freedom of speech or thought. The story follows Winston Smith, whose job is to rewrite history in the Ministry of Truth. However, he is a secret rebel, involved in a forbidden affair with likeminded Julia. However, the pair are being watched closely...

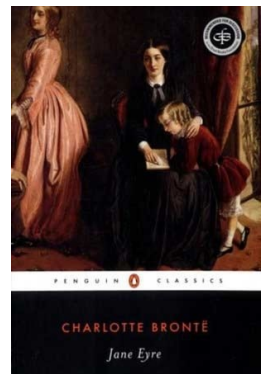


Want to listen to an extract? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vYdeklignuw>

Watch the 1984 trailer here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z4rBDUJTnNU>

Jane Eyre by Charlotte Brontë

Jane is orphaned as a child and grows up in a strict girls boarding school. She eventually becomes a governess to a little girl at Thornfield Hall—owned by the proud Mr Rochester. As Jane begins to fall in love with Mr Rochester, will she discover his dark secret?



Listen to an extract here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iACpyfprkG8>

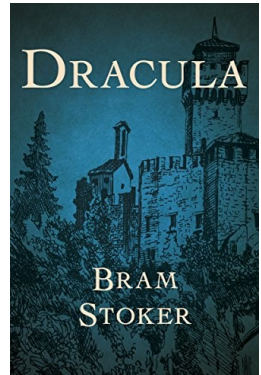
Watch the 2010 film trailer here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8lFsdfk3mlk>

Dracula by Bram Stoker

Told through the journals, letters and telegrams of solicitor Jonathan Harker, this story charts Harker's journey to Transylvania. He is there to visit a Count Dracula on business. But there is something strange and unsettling about Dracula and his castle. What are Dracula's plans? But most importantly, what is Dracula?

Listen to an extract here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JcfffzyL-hA>

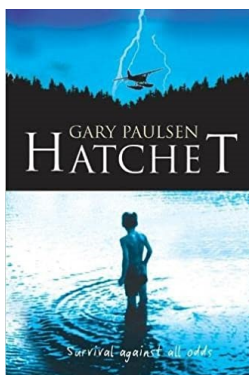
Watch the 1992 trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VtJ8iio4yrg>



Reluctant Readers

Hatchet by Gary Paulsen

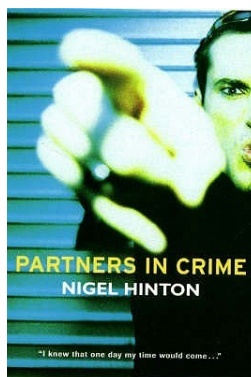
Brian is visiting his estranged father in Canada when the pilot of his plane suffers a heart attack. Brian crash lands the plane in the Canadian wilderness with only his clothing and hatchet to survive...



Listen to the story her:? https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E_HgO17gPZ4

Partners in Crime by Nigel Hinton

A postman is only his normal rounds when he sees bodies through a window. The neighbourhood presumes that the deaths are all connected to drugs and gangs. But they are wrong. Only one person knows the truth...



Respect by Michaela Morgan

Tully and his brother have been orphaned and sent to a children's home. His life is tough but his talent is his ticket to success and will earn him a place in history.

