

GLOBAL AND SOCIAL ISSUES

Under Rose Tainted Skies by Louise Gornall

Agoraphobia confines Norah to the house she shares with her mother. For her, the outside is sky glimpsed through glass, or a gauntlet to run between home and car. But a chance encounter on the doorstep changes everything.

Finding Audrey by Sophie Kinsella

Audrey can't leave the house she can't even take off her dark glasses inside the house. Then her brother's friend Linus stumbles into her life. With his friendly, orange-slice smile and his funny notes, he starts to entice Audrey out again - well, Starbucks is a start.

Consumed by Abbie Rushton

Jamie is new in town and also struggles with things most people find easy. Nobody gets why it's so hard for him to eat. But, like Myla, Jamie is trapped by his fears and feels anxious, awkward and alone.

Paper Butterflies by Lisa Heathfield

June's life at home with her stepmother and stepsister is a dark one—and a secret one. She is trapped like a butterfly in a net. A warning to those sensitive to scenes of physical and psychological abuse.

Noughts and Crosses by Malorie Blackman

Two young people are forced to make a stand in this thought-provoking look at racism and prejudice in an alternate society.

Torn by David Massey

Elinor Nielson, a 19-year-old British army medic, is led into a dangerous intrigue surrounding a mysterious young Afghan girl. What she discovers makes her question everything she believes about love and war.

The Deepest Cut by Natalie Flynn

Adam blames himself for his best friend's death. After attempting suicide, he is put in the care of a local mental health facility. Sad but unsentimental, this is a moving story of friendship and the aftermath of its destruction.

Louder than Words by Laura Jarratt

Rafi hasn't spoken for eight years but has to tell her brother's story as he can't speak either.

KIRKHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL
GREAT READS FOR THIRD YEARS



The Smell of Other People's Houses by Bonnie-Sue Hitchcock

Alaska, 1970: growing up here is like nowhere else. Ruth wants to be remembered by her grieving mother. Dora wishes she was invisible to her abusive father. Alyce is staying at home to please her parents. Hank is running away for the sake of his brothers. Four very different lives are about to become entangled.

CLASSICS

Lord of the Flies by William Golding

When a plane crashes on a remote island, a small group of schoolboys are the sole survivors. From the prophetic Simon and virtuous Ralph to the lovable Piggy and brutish Jack, each of the boys attempts to establish control as the reality - and brutal savagery - of their situation sets in.

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain

A sombre undercurrent flows through the high humour and unabashed nostalgia of the novel, however, for beneath the innocence of childhood lie the inequities of adult reality — base emotions and superstitions, murder and revenge, starvation and slavery.

Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury

Guy Montag is a fireman. In his world, where television rules and literature is on the brink of extinction, firemen start fires rather than put them out. His job is to destroy the most illegal of commodities, the printed book, along with the houses in which they are hidden.

Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte

Jane takes up the post of governess at Thornfield, falls in love with Mr. Rochester, and discovers the impediment to their lawful marriage.

Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen

Proud Mr. Darcy and the prejudiced Elizabeth Bennet as they play out their spirited courtship in a series of eighteenth-century drawing-room intrigues.

THRILLERS

One of us is lying by Karen McManus

Five students go to detention. Only four leave alive. For fans of Gossip Girl and Pretty Little Liars, this is the perfect high school thriller.

Follow Me Back by Nicci Cloke

Apparently, she'd met someone online, they write to each other in class, phones buzzing.

She ran away. She was taken.

What I couldn't Tell You by Faye Bird

Laura was head over heels in love with Joe. But now Laura lies in a coma and Joe has gone missing. Was he the one who attacked her?

After the First Death by Robert Cormier

A bus-load of young children is being held hostage by ruthless hijackers. Miro is the terrorist with no past and no emotions. Kate is the bus driver, caught up in the nightmare, and Ben is the General's son who must act as a go-between. A tense drama with death being the only escape.

When I was Joe by Keren David

When Ty witnesses a stabbing, his own life is in danger from the criminals he's named, and he and his mum have to go into police protection. Ty has a new name, a new look and a cool new image - life as Joe is good, especially when he gets talent spotted as a potential athletics star.

Bang Bang You're Dead by Narinder Dhani

When a mysterious gunman takes a class hostage, the rest of Mia's school is evacuated. But Mia is determined to stay behind. She knows it's a life or death situation but there's something she fears more than dying. Mia thinks she might know who the gunman is, and, if she's right, then she may be the only one who can save her schoolmates.

Looking for JJ by Anne Cassidy

This is a gripping story straight from the newspapers. A child is murdered by one of her friends and 6 years later, the murderer, now a teenager, is released with a new identity. The circumstances of the case are slowly revealed throughout the book as we learn if, in an age of huge media interest, a killer can maintain a new identity.

SCIENCE FICTION AND DYSTOPIAN NOVELS

The Gone Series by Michael Grant

In the blink of an eye, everyone disappears. Gone. Except for the young. There are teens, but not one single adult. Just as suddenly, there are no phones, no internet, no television. No way to get help. And no way to figure out what's happened.

The Twilight Saga by Stephanie Meyer

Bella Swan and Edward Cullen, a pair of star-crossed lovers whose forbidden relationship ripens against the backdrop of small-town suspicion and a mysterious coven of vampires. This is a love story with bite.

How I Live Now by Meg Rosoff

15 year old American, Daisy, comes to the UK to stay with her English cousins and is particularly attracted to her cousin Edmond. Suddenly, England is invaded by unnamed aggressors and the cousins have to live their lives under occupation.

Ready Player One by Ernest Cline

In the year 2044, reality is an ugly place. The only time teenage Wade Watts really feels alive is when he's jacked into the virtual utopia known as the OASIS. When Wade stumbles upon the first clue, he finds himself beset by players willing to kill to take this ultimate prize.

Ender's Game by Orson Scott Card

Andrew "Ender" Wiggin thinks he is playing computer simulated war games; he is, in fact, engaged in something far more desperate. The result of genetic experimentation.

Legend by Marie Lu

Legend tells the stories of June Iparis, the Republic's most perfect prodigy, and Day, their most wanted criminal. June sets out on a mission to track down her brother's killer and bring him to justice, but on her trip she starts to discover the shocking secrets the Republic have been hiding. Maybe Day isn't her worst enemy after all.

The Rain by Virginia Bergin

The rain's a killer and if one drop touches you then it's all over. So far Ruby Morris has survived and this is her story.

HORROR & GHOST STORIES

Dracula by Bram Stoker

Little does Jonathan know that this is a land where babies are snatched for their blood and wolves howl menacingly from the forest, where reality is far more frightening than superstition. What's more, it's going to be up to him to stop the world's most bloodthirsty predator.

Frankenstein by Mary Shelley

The classic horror story about a scientist who creates his own human being using cadavers dug up from graveyards.

Anna dressed in blood by Kendare Blake

Cas Lowood is no ordinary guy - he hunts dead people. People like Anna. Cas knows he must destroy her, but as her tragic past is revealed, he starts to understand why Anna has killed everyone who's ever dared to enter her home.

The Ghost Files by Apryl Baker

Everyone thinks Sally's just another runaway, but Mattie knows the truth — she's dead. Murdered. Mattie feels like she has to help Sally, but she can't do it alone. Against her better judgment, she teams up with a young policeman.

Bad Girls Don't Die by Katie Alender

Kasey is acting stranger than ever: her blue eyes go green sometimes; she uses old-fashioned language; and she even loses track of chunks of time, claiming to know nothing about her strange behaviour.

Bad Bones by Graham Marks

A shallow grave. Gabe doesn't think twice about taking the gold bracelet he finds buried there. Even from the clutches of skeletal hands. But he has no idea what he's awakening.

Dark Room by Tom Becker

One of Darla's classmates is brutally killed when taking a photo of herself. When more teens die in a similar fashion it appears that a serial killer is on the loose - the 'Selfie Slayer'. Darla alone is convinced that the murderer might not be flesh and blood.

HISTORICAL

The Book Thief by Markus Zusak

Set during World War II in Germany, Markus Zusak's groundbreaking novel is the story of Liesel Meminger, a foster girl living outside of Munich. Liesel scratches out a meagre existence for herself by stealing when she encounters something she can't resist – books.

Code Name Verity by Elizabeth Wein

Oct. 11th, 1943 - A British spy plane crashes in Nazi-occupied France. Its pilot and passenger are best friends. One of the girls has a chance at survival. The other has lost the game before it's barely begun.

Beyond The Wall by Tanya Landman

The story of a runaway slave girl and her dangerous journey through the murky underworld of Roman Britain. Investigates the perilous position of women at every level of society, with frankness about sexual abuse and violence.

Buffalo Soldier by Tanya Landman

She don't have no Ma, no Pa. One day, just like that, them fine white gentlemen in Washington decide slavery is finished. Over. All slaves are free. Well, she has nothing to lose no more; so she steals a dead man's clothes and runs away. She runs to the army.

Lies We tell Ourselves by Robin Talley

In 1959 Virginia, the lives of two girls on opposite sides of the battle for civil rights will be changed forever. Forced to work together on a school project, Sarah and Linda must confront harsh truths about race, power and how they really feel about one another.

All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr

A beautiful, stunningly ambitious novel about a blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide in occupied France as both try to survive the devastation of World War II. Marie-Laure has been blind since the age of six.

Salt to the Sea by Ruta Sepetys

World War II is drawing to a close in East Prussia and thousands of refugees are on a desperate trek toward freedom, many with something to hide. Among them are Joana, Emilia, and Florian, whose paths converge en route to the ship that promises salvation.

TEENAGE

What's a Girls Gotta Do? by Holly Bourne

When two men subject Lottie to threatening sexual harassment, she feels embarrassed, afraid and, most of all, outrage at the male entitlement that led them to believe *"my body was theirs to comment on"*.

If I Stay by Gayle Forman

Mia has a wonderful family and boyfriend and is trying to decide whether to take up a place at Julliard when she and her family are involved in a terrible car accident which leaves her in a coma. As the fate of the rest of her family becomes clear, Mia has to decide whether to wake up or let go of her life.

Before I Die by Jenny Downham

16 year old Tessa is dying of cancer after being ill for some years and has a wish list of things to do before she dies. This is an emotional rather than sentimental story.

(Un) arranged Marriage by Bali Rai

A British Asian boy who is tricked into going to the Punjab to go through an arranged marriage. As so much press is given to the problem of forced marriages from the female point of view, this book is refreshing to read from a male standpoint.

Candor by Pam Bachorz

In Candor all teenagers are being given subliminal messages to study hard, eat healthily and not get too close to the opposite sex. But is this really perfection? Oscar knows a way to get round the messages and get teenagers away to live a normal life, but at what cost to his own safety?

Summer's Shadow by Anna Wilson

When Summer loses her mother she's sent to live with relatives in Cornwall. Scared and lonely, she spends more and more of her time at a sheltered beach. A local boy called Zach also uses the secret cove and he aims to help Summer escape her family's past.

HUMOUR

Spud by John Van de Ruit

Spud Milton—thirteen-year-old, prepubescent choirboy extraordinaire—is about to start his first year at an elite boys-only boarding school in South Africa. Spud takes readers of all ages on a rowdy boarding school romp full of illegal midnight swims, raging hormones, and catastrophic holidays that will leave the entire family in total hysterics and thirsty for more.

Boys Don't Knit by T S Easton

To avoid the Young Offenders unit, Ben is ordered to give something back to the community and develop his sense of social alignment. Take up a hobby and keep on the straight and narrow. The teacher he likes runs a knitting group so Ben, reluctantly at first, gets 'stuck in'. Not easy when your dad is a sports fan and thinks Jeremy Clarkson is God. To his surprise, Ben finds that he likes knitting and that he has a mean competitive streak. If he can just keep it all a secret from his mates...and notice that the girl of his dreams, girl-next-door Megan Hooper has a bit of a thing for him..

Winger by Andrew Smith

Ryan Dean West is a fourteen-year-old junior at a boarding school for rich kids in the Pacific Northwest. He's living in Opportunity Hall, the dorm for troublemakers, and rooming with the biggest bully on the rugby team. And he's madly in love with his best friend Annie, who thinks of him as a little boy.

Swim the Fly by Don Calame

Three adolescent boys with a single goal: see a real live naked girl. The result? Razor-sharp, rapid-fire and raunchy, of course. And beyond hilarious.

The Gifted, The Talented and Me by William Sutcliffe

Fifteen-year-old Sam isn't special. He's not a famous vlogger, he's never gone viral, and he doesn't want to be the Next Big Thing. What he likes most is chatting to his friends and having a bit of a kick about. None of which was a problem until Dad got rich and Mum made the whole family move to London. Now Sam is being made to go to the North London Academy for the Gifted and Talented, where every student is too busy planning Hollywood domination or starting alt-metal psychedelica crossover bands or making clothes out of bathmats to give someone as normal as him the time of day.

The logo for KLIB, featuring the letters 'KLIB' in a bold, orange, sans-serif font with a slight shadow effect, set against a dark blue rectangular background.

Updated February 2020