



Welland Park
Academy
Learning For Life

Year 9 Reading List



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An 11 - 16 Community College

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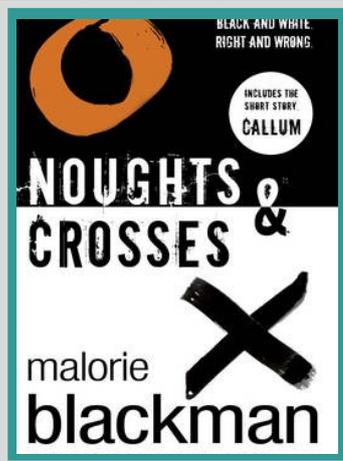
Learning for Life

Welcome

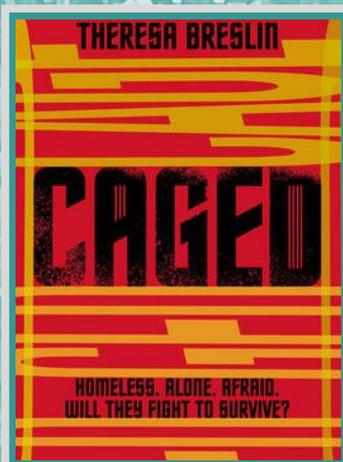


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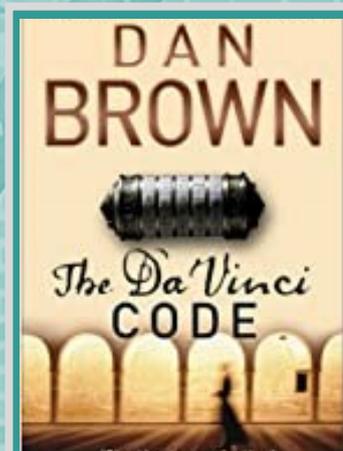
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Noughts and Crosses
Malorie Blackman



Caged
Theresa Breslin

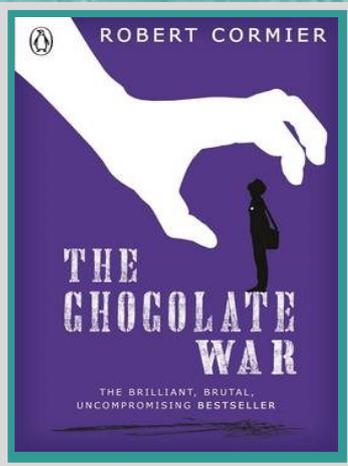


The Da Vinci Code
Dan Brown

Sephy is a Cross - a member of the dark-skinned ruling class. Callum is a nought - a 'colourless' member of the underclass who were once slaves to the Crosses. The two have been friends since early childhood. But that's as far as it can go. Until the first steps are taken towards more social equality and a limited number of Noughts are allowed into Cross schools. Against a background of prejudice and distrust, intensely highlighted by violent terrorist activity by Noughts, a romance builds between Sephy and Callum - a romance that is to lead both of them into terrible danger. The plot unravels at the pace of a thriller and as a consequence it's a book that is almost impossible to put down.

Escaping from a troubled home and struggling to survive on the streets, the abandoned tunnels of the London Underground are a perfect sanctuary for Kai. Along with other teenagers running from their pasts, he finds somewhere to belong in this strange community of outcasts. But Kai is now facing a very different kind of fight. Every night, led by the enigmatic Spartacus, the runaways must become cage fighters, each fight broadcast to the outside world via YouTube. With gambling profits from these videos racking up, Kai and his friends hope to be able to start a new life. Yet treachery and danger are never far behind, and a new arrival threatens the order that Spartacus has worked so carefully to maintain. And then there is the looming finale, the last battle between Kai and his nemesis Leo: the Kill Fight...

Harvard professor Robert Langdon receives an urgent late-night phone call while on business in Paris: the elderly curator of the Louvre has been brutally murdered inside the museum. Alongside the body, police have found a series of baffling codes. As Langdon and a gifted French cryptologist, Sophie Neveu, begin to sort through the bizarre riddles, they are stunned to find a trail that leads to the works of Leonardo Da Vinci - and suggests the answer to a mystery that stretches deep into the vault of history. Unless Langdon and Neveu can decipher the labyrinthine code and quickly assemble the pieces of the puzzle, a stunning historical truth will be lost forever...

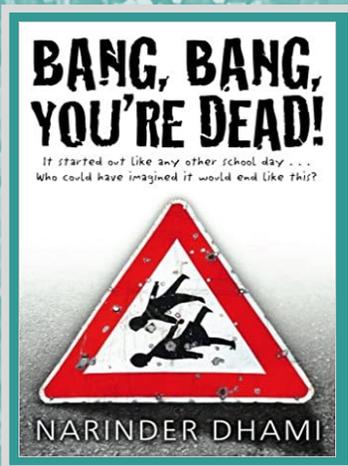


The Chocolate War
Robert Cormier

A controversial novel about corruption and misuse of power in an American boys' school.

The headmaster of Trinity College asks Archie Costello, the leader of the Vigils, a secret society that rules the school, to help with the selling of 20,000 boxes of chocolates in the annual fund-raising effort. Archie sees the chance of adding to his power - he is the Assigner, handing out to the boys tasks to be performed if they are to survive in the school. Freshman, Jerry Renault, a newcomer to the corrupt regime, refuses to sell chocolates. Enormous mental and physical pressure is put on him but he will not give in - the result is an inevitable, explosive tragedy.

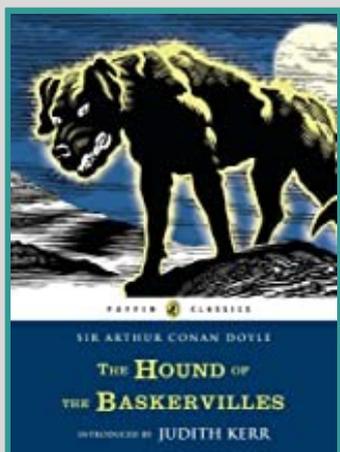
A bleak book that makes you think. Dare you rock the boat.....



Bang, Bang You're Dead
Narinder Dhami

It seems like just another day at school, then Mia's world turns upside down. School is being evacuated. Rumour has it there's a gunman in the building. And Mia has a horrible feeling she knows who it is... Her brother has been acting strangely. He's been threatening to do something drastic, something frightening, and something that cannot be ignored... but just how far will he go? Mia is determined to find out, but playing cat and mouse with a potential killer is a very dangerous game...

A fast paced plot with a hugely unexpected twist....



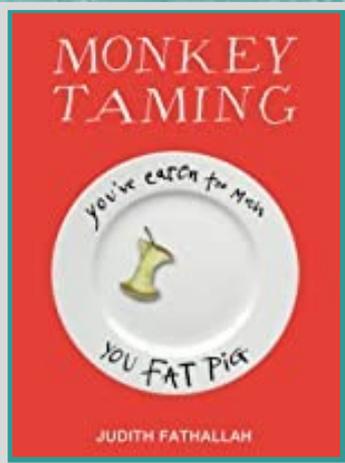
The Hound of the Baskervilles
Arthur Conan Doyle

Could the sudden death of Sir Charles Baskerville have been caused by the gigantic ghostly hound that is said to have haunted his family for generations? Arch-rationalist Sherlock Holmes characteristically dismisses the theory as nonsense. And, immersed in another case, he sends Dr Watson to Devon to protect the Baskerville heir and observe the suspects at close hand. With its atmospheric setting on the ancient, wild moorland and its savage apparition,

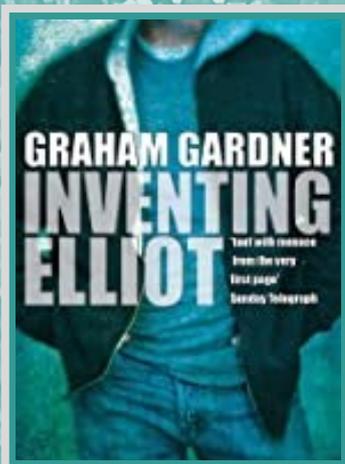
The Hound of the Baskervilles is one of the greatest crime novels ever written. Rationalism is pitted against the supernatural and good against evil as Sherlock Holmes sets out to defeat a foe almost his equal.

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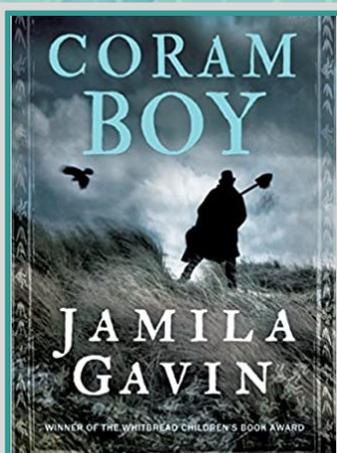
Welcome



Monkey Taming
Jennifer Fathallah



Inventing Elliot
Graham Gardner



The Coram Boy
Jamila Gavin

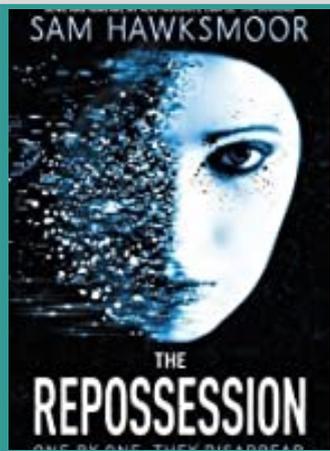
When Jessica was thirteen years old, she met the Monkey. The Monkey lived inside her: a driving, fiery voice telling her that thinness was the only way. The only way to be safe, to be good, to be acceptable and above all, to escape from the cold, looming threat of approaching adulthood. Jessica listened to the Monkey, and it consumed her. This is the illuminating story of a teenage girl's wanderings in darkness: the spiral down into madness, the terrible realities of an adolescent psychiatric unit, and the stark choice that she must either tame her monster - or die. Through memory, reflection, and enduring black humour, Jessica makes a tenuous peace with the world and with her emerging adult self.

Inventing Elliot is about a boy who is violently bullied at his school. There isn't much for him to go home to either; his father suffers from severe depression and his mother struggles to cope. So when Elliot and his parents move to a new home and he to a new school, he decides it's the start of a new life too. He is going to be so cool that no one will touch him. He's going to stand out just enough not to get noticed. But he is too successful, and he does get noticed by the Guardians. They are a mysterious group of three who manipulate others and run the school with a reign of terror. They invite Elliot to become one of them. He faces an agonising decision.

Reminiscent of *The Chocolate War*, it is a chilling, disturbing and entirely believable story. Not for the faint-hearted.

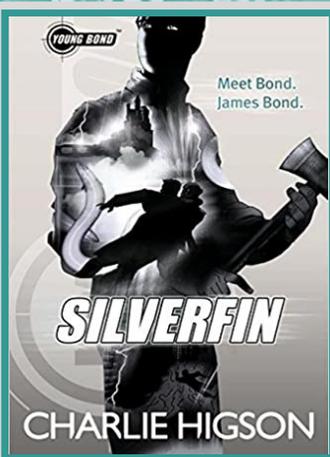
This is a fascinating, though sometimes shocking account, of the brutal realities of 18th Century life for the poor children in England.

The Coram man takes babies and money from desperate mothers, promising to deliver them safely to a Foundling Hospital in London. Instead, he murders them and buries them by the roadside, to the helpless horror of his mentally ill son, Mish. Mish saves one, Aaron, who grows up happily unaware of his history, proving himself a promising musician. As Aaron's new life takes him closer to his real family, the watchful Mish makes a terrible mistake, delivering Aaron and his best friend Toby back into the hands of the Coram man.



The Repossession
Sam Hawksmoor

Romance and suspense combine in a tense teen thriller that will leave you gasping for more ...34 kids missing. Vanished without a trace. Believing she is possessed, Genie Magee's mother has imprisoned her all summer encouraged by the sinister Reverend Schneider. Beautiful Rian, love of her life, sets her free, and their escape washes them up at Marshall's remote farmhouse downriver. But why are there newspaper clippings of the missing kids pinned to Marshall's bathroom wall? And should they believe his stories about the experiments at the Fortress, an underground research station nearby? Genie meets Denis. Missing two years now, but hasn't grown an inch. Rian is haunted by Renee, who insists she's not actually dead. Soon they discover the terrible truth about Reverend Schneider and worse, Genie is next ...and Rian can't do a thing to prevent it. *The Repossession* is just the beginning.

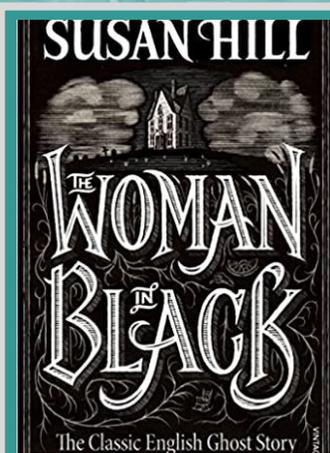


Silver Fin
Charlie Higson

Before the name became a legend. Before the boy became a man. Meet Bond. James Bond.

There's something in the water at Loch Silverfin. Something deadly. Something that must be kept secret...It's James Bond's first day at Eton, and he's already met his first enemy. This is the start of an adventure that will take him from the school playing fields to the remote shores of Loch Silverfin and a terrifying discovery that threatens to unleash a new breed of warfare.

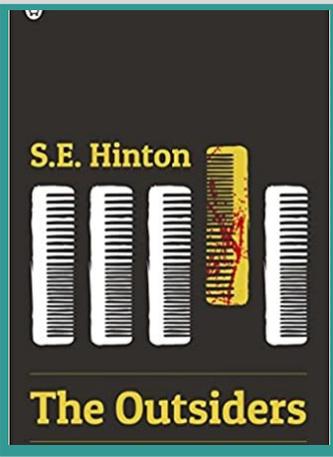
If you are a fan of Alex Ryder, you will love these books. This is the first in the *Young Bond* series of nine books.



The Woman in Black
Sarah Hill

Arthur Kipps, a lawyer, is recently widowed and grieving the loss of his wife when he is sent to a remote village to put a deceased eccentric's affairs in order. Soon after his arrival, it becomes clear that the villagers are hiding a terrible secret. Kipps discovers that his late client's house is haunted by the spirit of a woman who is trying to find someone and something she lost, and that no one -- not even the children -- is safe from her terrible wrath.

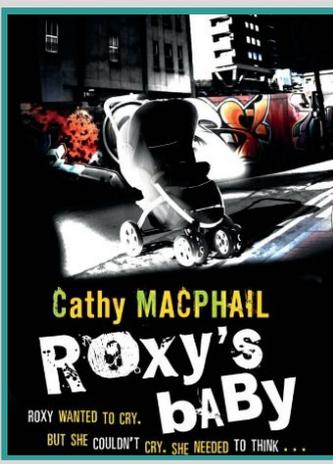
This is a creepy, rather than downright scary story, but it is still a horror story. Read at your peril....



The Outsiders
S. E. Hinton

What defines a family? That is the underlying question in the life of Pony Boy Curtis. When his parents die in a car wreck, he comes to depend on the love, friendship and support of his two older brothers and a gang of friends defined by poverty, bad attitudes and long greasy hair. The gang, called greasers, carry on a long-standing war with a group of rich kids, known as Socs, a fight fuelled by ignorance and prejudice. An American coming-of-age classic, a story of friendship and social prejudice among a gang of friends.

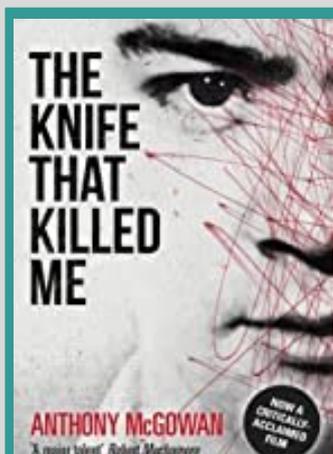
The Outsiders is an outstanding story of teenage rebellion, written when the author was only 17 years old.



Roxy's Baby
Cathy MacPhail

Roxy is wild, uncontrollable. She hates her parents - and her goody-two-shoes sister. Her only solace is her equally wild friends. Then there is the night of the party, where she lets that boy kiss her, and more ...and Roxy is pregnant. She runs away to run away to London where she is found by Mr and Mrs Dyce. They take her to a comfortable place, along with other girls in the same position and look after her and her baby - Roxy cannot believe her luck. But Roxy eventually works out the dark truth of the outwardly genial Dyces....

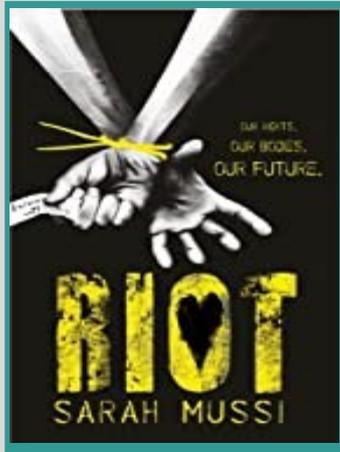
A gripping and completely compelling story of a girl forced to grow up and think of others other than herself. You may think that this story is too far-fetched to be true but it is actually based on fact!



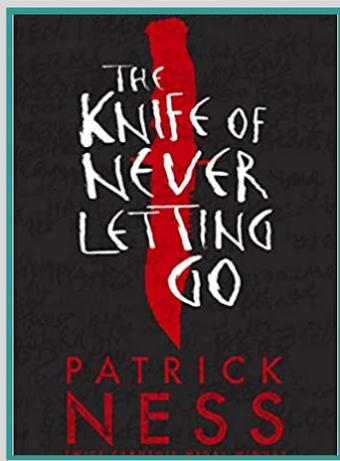
The Knife That Killed Me
Antony McGowan

Paul Varderman could be at any normal school - bullies, girls and annoying teachers are just a part of life. Unfortunately, 'normal' doesn't apply when it comes to the school's most evil bully, Roth, a twisted and threatening thug with an agenda quite unlike anyone else. When Paul ends up delivering a message from Roth to the leader of a gang at a nearby school, it fuels a rivalry with immediate consequences. Paul attempts to distance himself from the feud, but when Roth hands him a knife it both empowers him and scares him at the same time . . .

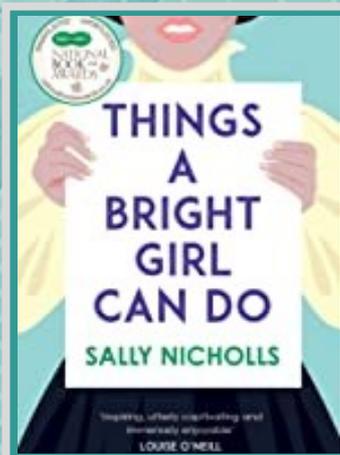
This thought-provoking and original novel highlights the terrible consequences of peer pressure and violence, and manages to cast a spotlight on the worrying rise in knife crime among teenagers without being "preachy".



Riot
Sarah Mussi



The Knife of Never Letting Go
Patrick Ness



Things a Bright Girl Can Do
Sally Nicholls

England is struggling under a recession that has shown no sign of abating. Years of cuts has devastated Britain: banks are going under, businesses closing, prices soaring, unemployment rising, prisons overflowing. The authorities cannot cope. And the population has maxed out.

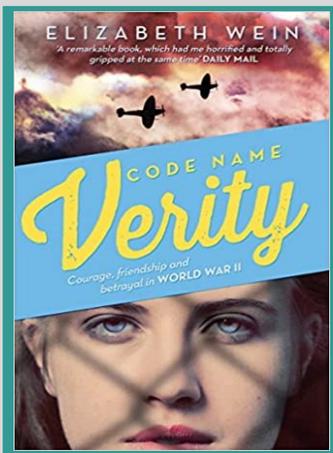
The police are snowed under. Something has to give. Drastic measures need taking.

The solution: forced sterilisation of all school leavers without secure further education plans or guaranteed employment.....It's time for the young to take to the streets. It's time for them to Riot.

Imagine you're the only boy in a town of men. And you can hear everything they think. And they can hear everything you think. Imagine you don't fit in with their plans. Todd Hewitt is just one month away from the birthday that will make him a man when he unexpectedly stumbles on a spot of pure silence. Which is impossible. But his town has been keeping secrets from him. Secrets that are going to force him to run. This is a challenging read, but well worth the effort.

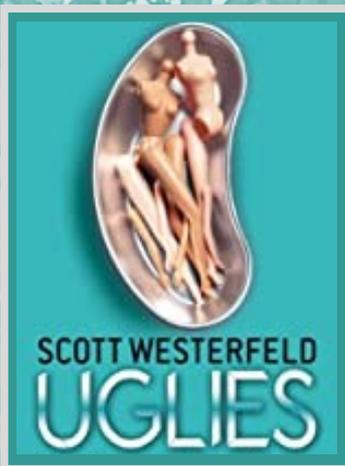
The first book in the *Chaos Walking* trilogy, the other two being *The Ask and the Answer* and *Monsters of Men*.

Through rallies and marches, in polite drawing rooms and freezing prison cells and the poverty-stricken slums of the East End, three courageous young women join the fight for the vote. Evelyn is seventeen, and though she is rich and clever, she may never be allowed to follow her older brother to university. Enraged that she is expected to marry her childhood sweetheart rather than be educated, she joins the Suffragettes, and vows to pay the ultimate price for women's freedom. May is fifteen, and already sworn to the cause. When she meets Nell, a girl who's grown up in hardship, she sees a kindred spirit. Together and in love, the two girls start to dream of a world where all kinds of women have their place. But the fight for freedom will challenge Evelyn, May and Nell more than they ever could believe. As war looms, just how much are they willing to sacrifice?



Code Name Verity
Elizabeth Wein

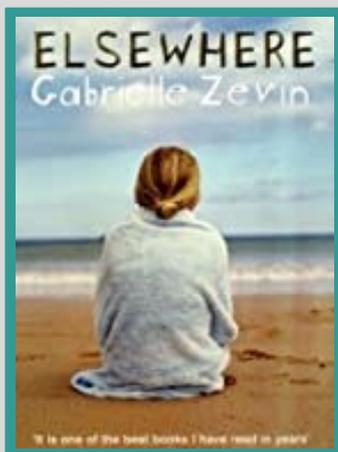
Two young women become unlikely best friends during WWII, until one is captured by the Gestapo. Only in wartime could a stalwart lass from Manchester rub shoulders with a Scottish aristocrat, one a pilot, the other a special operations executive. Yet whenever their paths cross, they complement each other perfectly and before long become devoted to each other. But then a vital mission goes wrong, and one of the friends has to bail out of a faulty plane over France. She is captured by the Gestapo and becomes a prisoner of war. The story begins in Verity's own words, as she writes her account for her captors. Truth or lies? Honour or betrayal? Everything they've ever believed in is put to the test...



Uglies
Scott Westerfeld

The longing for fairy-tale beauty has never looked so sinister! In Tally Youngblood's world, looks matter. At sixteen everyone undergoes a transformation from Ugly to Pretty and is catapulted into a high-tech paradise where the only thing that matters is having a great time and you never have to worry or think for yourself. Tally can't wait. But then, with just weeks to go to Tally's birthday, her friend Shay runs away and the ugly truth about the world of the Pretties starts to reveal itself. What if the beauty of the Pretties utopia really is just skin deep?

A blistering commentary on our obsession with perfection, *Uglies* is a really interesting Dystopian novel. It is the first in a trilogy, the other two being *Pretties* and *Specials*.



Elsewhere
Gabrielle Zevin

Liz is killed in a hit a run accident and her 'life' takes a very unexpected turn. At nearly sixteen she knows she will never get married, never have children, and perhaps never fall in love. But in Elsewhere all things carry on almost as they did on earth except that the inhabitants get younger, dogs and humans can communicate (at last) new relationships are formed and old ones sadly interrupted on earth are renewed.

Full of the most ingenious detail and woven around the most touching and charming relationships this is a novel of hope, of redemption and re-birth. It is a novel that tells of sadness with heart-breaking honesty and of love and happiness with uplifting brilliance.