

A.B. 'Banjo' Paterson Library

Family and Growing Up Stories

Armstrong, F W **Sounder** **F ARM:F**
Set in the South in the era of sharecropping and segregation, this tale describes the courage of a father who steals a ham in order to feed his undernourished family; the determination of the eldest son, who searches for his father; and the devotion of a dog named Sounder.

Bennett, Veronica **Monkey** **F BEN:V**
At school Harry's bullied by the vicious 'Brigadier' Gerard Fox, at home he's weighed down by the chores his mother sets him, on top of which, she asks him to visit a disabled patient of hers, Simon, twice a week. Simon, however, turns out to be quite different from what Harry imagines and Harry's life undergoes dramatic and traumatic changes!

Bowles, Colin **Going off** **F BOW:C**
Greg has lost his two best friends, his parents are getting a divorce and his little sister thinks she's Celine Dion. He doesn't think he can cope with his life any more. So what is he going to do? A funny, compulsive story of coming to terms with life - its pressures and its comedy.

Burke, J.C. **White lies** **F BUR:J**
Mitch's grandfather, former longboard champion, has taught Mitch all he knows about surfing. But when Grandpa gets seriously ill, everyone starts telling Mitch white lies...

Carmody, Isobelle **Greylands** **F CAR:I**
One night Jack enters a silent land made up of colourless reflections of his own world. In this lonely place, he meets Alice, a strange moody girl with a secret, and the tragic laughing beast. He learns from them that he must escape the greylands before the terrifying wolvers find him, or he will never be able to leave.

Carr, Roger Vaughn **Piano Bay** **F CAR:R**
A tense and interesting novel in which Tam and his father wreck a ship, Tam hoping for some promised new boots, his father for salvage. The immense consequences of their action result in their previous understandings of the world being overturned, with Tam seeing his father's beliefs against a wider context.

Carter, Alden **Up country** **F CAR:A**
A 15-year-old boy who repairs stolen radios to get spending money is suddenly sent away to live with conventional relatives in the country.

Christensen, Lars Saabye **Herman** **F CHR:L**
Eleven-year-old Herman is not that different from other boys - except that he's going bald! Presented with this dilemma, Herman uses his fertile imagination and a comical viewpoint on life to navigate through the rough seas commonly known as growing up and in the process teaches everyone something about friendship, courage, acceptance, and love.

Coleman, Michael **Going straight** **F COL:M**
Luke is a thief who knows that crime does pay - besides what other way is there for someone like him? Then he meets Jodi. She might be blind, but she can see where Luke's life is going wrong. And she has a burning ambition that only Luke can help her fulfill... if she can trust him.

A.B. 'Banjo' Paterson Library

Family and Growing Up Stories

Corlett, Shirley **Through thick and thin** **F COR:S**
Matthew can't believe it. He turns his back for one minute and some lowlife steals his brand new BMX bike. It just doesn't get any worse. That is until the events of one terrible night.....

Courtenay, Bryce **The power of one** **F COU:B**
Set in South Africa in the 1940s, a young boy struggles to realise his individuality in a society divided by racial hatred and conflict. It is a spellbinding story of cruelty, sadness, love and faith, filled with unforgettable characters and told with great compassion and humour.

Cross, Gillian **The Runaway** **F CRO:G**
Denny is very good at coping with most things by himself. He'd had to be since his parents had been killed. But he couldn't cope with Bouncer Bradley, the school bully, who lived at the local children's home. When his gran went into hospital, Denny decided he wouldn't let them take him to a home. He'd run away!

Davidson, Leon **Scarecrow army: the Anzacs at Gallipoli** **F DAV:L**
On 25 April 1915, thousands of Australians and New Zealanders landed at an unnamed cove on the Gallipoli peninsula. They had come to fight the Turks. They thought the battle would be over in three days, but months later they were still in the trenches they'd dug at the landing.

De Fossard, Esta **The Alien** **F DEF:E**
The universal adolescent problem of identity and a teenage boy's struggle to adapt to the people and customs of a strange land. The story centers around Nick Eliopolus and how he finds friendship and comes to terms with himself and Australia.

Dubosarsky, Ursula **The first book of Samuel** **F DUB:U**
On his twelfth birthday, Samuel Cass disappeared. Most of this story took place when Samuel was nearly twelve, and Theodora, his half-sister, just thirteen.

Durrell, Gerald **My family and other animals** **F DUR:G**
Carrying only what they consider 'the bare essentials of life', the Durrell family arrives in sun-soaked Corfu, and so begin the delightful tales of the extraordinary Durrell family and the even more extraordinary menagerie Gerry collects.

Fowler, Thurley **The green wind** **F FOW:T**
Jennifer's family struggle to make a living in their fruit farm, their father still suffering from the effects of being a POW in the Second World War. She tried hard to make a best friend but her quick temper and sharp tongue don't help.

Fox, Paula **One-eyed cat** **F FOX:P**
A boy growing up in New York during the 1930s confronts his own guilt when he secretly disobeys his father.

Fusillo, Archimede **The Dons** **F FUS:A**

A.B. 'Banjo' Paterson Library

Family and Growing Up Stories

Terry never expects any answers to all the letters he writes to Bruce Springstein - he knows they'll be lying at the bottom of a sack of fan mail somewhere. Terry has quite a few things to sort out in his life and somehow he gets the feeling that if Bruce had time he'd be just the person to listen to all Terry's problems.

Marsden, John **So much to tell you** **F MAR:J**
14-year old Marina, unable to speak following an accident, is sent to boarding school. Given an English exercise to start a diary she starts to put her thoughts on paper and eventually faces up to many of her problems.

Moloney, James **A bridge to Wiseman's Cove** **F MOL:J**
Carl Matt - even his name mocks him. The people of Wattle Beach do their best to grind him under foot. Why are the Matts such pariahs? The answer lies in Wiseman's Cove, a short ride across the strait where Carl finds refuge in the most unlikely place. Wiseman's Cove has been waiting for Carl - waiting a long time.

Monk, Scott **Raw** **F MON:S**
Brett is on his last chance - sent to The Farm in outback NSW for rehabilitation, next stop Detention Centre. Despite his determination not to change, ex-stockman warder Sam, and Caitlyn, a local girl he falls for, both influence him.

Morpurgo, Michael **The war of Jenkins' ear** **F MOR:M**
When Jenkins reluctantly returns to his boarding school for the new term, he forms a close friendship with a new boy, Simon Christopher - but Simon is no ordinary boy. There is something very strange and very special about him.

Morris, Willie **My dog Skip** **F MOR:W**
The classic story of a boy, a dog and small-town America in the vein of "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer".

Morrison, Robert **The secret sandwich** **F MOR:R**
When a former bank manager returns to home as a Buddhist monk, his presence stirs the community into various levels of scepticism and outrage. 14-year-old Brian, the narrator, becomes the Bunte's (teacher) best friend and disciple of sorts, while remaining a slightly confused Catholic.

Mowat, Farley **The dog who wouldn't be** **F MOW:F**
The story of Mutt, whose pedigree was uncertain, but whose madness was indisputable. He climbed trees and ladders, rode passenger in an open car wearing goggles and displayed hunting skills that bordered on sheer genius. He was a marvellous dog, worthy of an unusual boy growing up in a raw, untamed wilderness.

Noonan, Michael **McKenzie's boots** **F NOO:M**
Rod McKenzie, a Sydney schoolboy, over-size but underage, manages to enlist and is sent to New Guinea.

Paterson, Katherine **Bridge to Terabithia** **F PAT:K**

A.B. 'Banjo' Paterson Library

Family and Growing Up Stories

Jessie initially doesn't like the new girl at school who beats them in the champion running race. However, they become good friends and create a secret world until a tragedy occurs.

Paulsen, Gary **Harris and me** **F PAU:G**
A boy spends his tenth summer on his aunt and uncle's farm. From sunrise to sunset, his days are filled with backbreaking chores, gut-busting meals, and crazy escapades with his cousin Harris.

Peck, Richard **A long way from Chicago** **F PEC:R**
Joey and his sister Mary Alice aren't too excited about their first visit to Grandma Dowdel's sleepy country town. But from their first glimpse of a dead body in her front room, Joey and Mary Alice know they had Grandma all wrong. In her own way Grandma teaches them more about life, about death, and having fun, than they ever thought possible.

Pearce, Philippa **Tom's midnight garden** **F PEA:P**
Tom has gone to stay with his aunt and uncle while his brother is ill. When the downstairs clock strikes 13 at midnight, Tom enters the garden, which belonged to the house many years before.

Phipson, Joan **The boundary riders** **F PHI:J**
Describes the adventures of three children who are cut off from their home by a flood. Notable for its excellent characterization and authentic background.

Roy, James **Billy Mack's war** **F ROY:J**
When Captain Mack is released from his prison camp at the end of the war, no one is quite sure what to expect, least of all his son Billy. Will he be the same man who went off to war so full of hope and pride, or will his experiences on the dreaded railway have changed him forever?

Rubinstein, Gillian **Foxspell** **F RUB:G**
Tod's family is in turmoil; his father has gone to England and Tod, his two sisters and his mother have left their city home to live with his grandmother in the country. He is strangely drawn to the foxes that prowl the nearby quarry.

Singer, Nicky **Feather boy** **F SIN:N**
Robert is the class victim, the guy who's never picked for the team. So no-one is more surprised than Robert when a strange old lady sends him on a quest to solve the mystery of derelict Chance House. Legend has it that a boy once fell to his death from an upper window. But what has this past to do with Robert's future?

Snicket, Lemony **The bad beginning** **F SNI:L**
Things begin badly for the three Baudelaire children, and then get worse. While it's true that the events that unfold in Lemony Snicket's novels are bleak, and things never turn out as you'd hope, these delightful, funny books are reminiscent of Roald Dahl and Charles Dickens.

Stutley, D J **Operation Foxtrot Five** **F STU:D**

