Aldridge, James  The true story of Spit MacPhee  F ALD:J
Young Spit lives a hand to mouth existence with his eccentric grandfather, Fyfe MacPhee, in an old shanty on the banks of the Murray River. The townspeople think Spit would be better cared for in a Boys' Home - and when old Fyfe dies, a fierce battle to decide Spit's destiny begins.

Ansell, Rod; Percy, Rachel To fight the wild  904.7 ANS
An incredible Robinson Crusoe saga of survival who lived for 2 months in a tree house in the wilds of the Northern Territory. Rod Ansell was the real-life character on whom ‘Crocodile Dundee’ was based.

Attwood, Alan  Burke’s soldier  F ATT:A
1871 - John King is dying and he is finally ready to tell his story. He was with Wills as he penned his final letter and at Burke's side when he died. Then he was alone, the sole survivor. This is his story.

Boldrewood, Rolf  Robbery under arms  F BOL:R
One of the best-known adventure stories of the Australian bush. It has insight into the life on the goldfields, and the tales of bushranging - the best ever written. It features the Marston boys, and Captain Starlight.

Bongers, Christine  Dust  F BON:C
In the blinding heat of 1970s Queensland, twelve-year-old Cecilia Maria learns the difference between real and imagined abuse as she battles six brothers and the despised Kapernicky girls from the farm next door. A warm but tough-minded tale of family, the shadows that hang over from childhood, and beauty in unexpected places.

Bunney, Ron  All that glitters  F BUN:R
Seventeen-year old Martin Graham loves and understands horses. Stable lad at the Travellers Inn just out of Guildford, he also longs to join the thousands making for the goldfields around Coolgardie. On the long journey east he joins forces with Beth Wilkes, a girl with a serious chip on her shoulder when it comes to members of the male sex.

Carey, Peter  Jack Maggs  F CAR:P
It was a Saturday night in April in the year 1837 that Jack Maggs arrived in London with a mission - and a determination that his past would remain in the past and his new life as a footman would enable him to achieve his purpose.

Castro, Brian  Birds of passage  F CAS:B
The powerful and haunting story of Seamus O'Young, an Australian-born Chinese, on a collision course with the past.

Caswell, Brian  Double exposure  F CAS:B
Chris Eveson is a genius; streetwise, artistic and sensitive, and rebelling against the domineering abuses of his father. Unlike his twin brother, Cain seems average in every way - at least to the outward observer. But gifts and talents run much deeper than two dimensions.

Caswell, Brian  Merryl of the Stones  F CAS:B
Megan has been recently orphaned and is haunted by dreams and vague memories of a previous life. She returns to her family's native Wales, where she meets Em, a brilliant and rebellious boy with nightmares of his own. Together they discover Merryl's true heritage and her special gift.
### Australian Fiction

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When Ellie and Davey climb off the bus onto the dusty road at Larsen's Point, things don't look like they can get any worse. Mum is dead, and the grandfather they've been sent to live with is nowhere in sight. Then, in the attic of Lighthouse Cottage, Ellie stumbles on an old mystery.

Shu Cheong works on the goldfields at Lambing Flat. Life is tough, and there are many white settlers who are anything but friendly. It is 1860, and the white miners' behaviour towards the Chinese is becoming more and more violent. Shu Cheong witnesses increasing hatred and brutality towards his people…

Murder, shipwreck, brutal tortures, cannibalism amongst escaping convicts - this novel brings to life all the horror and suffering of the settlement at Port Arthur and the system under which countless convicts disappeared without trace.

Set in Australia in the 1920s, this is the story of Paddy Carmody, a wandering drover, his wife Ida and their 14-year-old son Sean. Paddy’s wife, Ida, yearns for a permanent home and is bitterly disappointed when their chances of buying a share in a farm are destroyed by Paddy's gambling spree.

When Sadie is tumbled back in time to view a terrible crime, she is pulled into a strange mystery. Can Sadie, Walter and Lachie figure out a way to right old wrongs, or will they be condemned to repeat them?

The story of the ruthless Ikey Solomon, his brothel mistress, wife Hannah, his sometimes mistress Mary and their lives as convicts in the penal colony of Van Diemen's Land. The first in a trilogy that will cover Australia's history and development as a nation.

Set in the 19th century; fourteen-year-old Sam Silverthorne runs away from his home in London and his cruel Aunt Bertha. He embarks on a quest to find his father, who has failed to return from his most recent ornithological expedition in search of the fabled silver Bird of Paradise which lives in the steamy jungles of the Malay Archipelago.

Set in the 1890's, the decade infamous for 'baby-farming', "Mama's babies" is based on fact. 12-year-old Sarah lives with her oppressive adoptive mother, a baby-farmer, who treats her as a servant, to look after the new babies. With the help of a local boy, Will, Sarah uncovers a grisly story…
De Berniere, Louis  Red Dog  F DEB:L
When the author visited Karratha, a mining town north of Perth, he was fascinated by the landscape and went exploring. He discovered a bronze statue to Red Dog outside the town of Dampier and felt straight away that he had to find out more about this splendid dog.

Denton, Kit  The Breaker  F DEN:K
There was a real Breaker Morant - he was executed at Pietersburg on 27 February 1902. His crime? Wilful murder of civilians. Yet to this day his guilt remains in doubt. This novel recounts the facts and the mystery surrounding Morant's death sentence.

Disher, Garry  The sunken road  F DIS:G
Set in the wheat and wool country of mid-north South Australia, this is the story of a region, a town and a people, as well as the story of Anna Tolley - 'leggy, wilful, auburn-haired, always answering back' - who lives through momentous changes and earns the envy, love and hatred of those around her.

Facey, Albert  A fortunate life  920 FAC
A book about a real Australian and how he coped with WWI. This is the autobiography of Albert Facey and tells of his early life in WA before the war and how he went on to fight at Gallipoli.

French, Jackie  A waltz for Matilda  F FRE:J
In 1894, twelve-year-old Matilda flees the city slums to find her unknown father and his farm. But drought grips the land, and the shearers are on strike. Her father has turned swaggie and he's wanted by the troopers. Set against a backdrop of bushfire, flood, war and jubilation, this is the story of one girl's journey towards independence. Drawing on the well-known poem by A.B. Paterson and actual events this is the untold story behind Australia's early years as an emerging nation.

Flynn, Warren  Return ticket  F FLY:W
How do you live in a world with no cars, no bras and no TV? What do you buy at the local shop if they don't have chips, pies or Coke? Abruptly thrust back in time, teenagers Sam, Shannon and Zak find themselves aliens in their own country, facing dangers and excitement they'd never imagined.

Gervay, Susanne  The cave  F GER:S
Boys always find the compulsory school camp gruelling - not only are there tough mountain climbs, but the final descent into the cave is the ultimate test. It is a living hell for most boys, with bullying and nastiness to contend with as well. For Sam this particular camp becomes a personal journey of growth.

Gleitzman, Morris  Once  F GLE:M
For three years and eight months Felix has lived in a convent orphanage high in the mountains in Poland. Felix is convinced his parents are still alive and that they will one day come back and get him. But instead, the orphanage is visited by a group of Nazi soldiers who burn the nun's books.

Grant, Neil  Rhino chasers  F GRA:N
Goog is about to learn three new Rs - relationships, responsibility and revenge - as he and Castro go barrelling across the country in Aldo's old Kingswood. Sharks the size of trucks, a sinister hitchhiker, campervan tourists, neo-Nazis, wild-haired surf fiends are just some of the things they encounter.
Greenwood, Kerry  The long walk  F GRE:K
For Isa Wyatt, there's only one thing she can do. She gathers together her brothers and her sister, packs an
old pram with their belongings and sets off to find her father. It is a long walk and the children have to face
the dangers and hardships of a country suffering the Depression.

Gwynne, Philip  Deadly, unna  F Gwy:P
Dumby Red and Blacky don't have a lot in common. Dumby’s the star of the footy team; Blacky’s a gutless
wonder. Dumby’s got the knack with girls; Blacky never knows what to say. Dumby’s got a killer smile,
Blacky needs braces. Dumby’s a Nunga. Blacky’s white. But they’re friends. And it could be deadly, unna?

Gwynne, Philip  Nukkin ya  F Gwy:P
Blacky and Clarence are falling for each other. Nothing complicated about that, but Blacky's starting to feel
the whole town's got a problem with them getting together. Now her cousin Lovely wants to make sure that
Blacky never sees Clarence again - and he means business.

Gwynne, Phillip  Swerve  F Gwy:P
One of the country's finest young cellists, 16-year-old Hugh Twycross, has a very bright future. Hugh has a
secret, though: he loves cars and he loves car racing. When his newly discovered grandfather, Poppy, asks
him to go on a road trip to Uluru in his 1970 Holden HT Monaro, Hugh decides, for once in his life, to do
the unexpected.

Harris, Christine  Strike!  F Har:C
It's 1928 and the Australian waterfront has come to a standstill. There's a strike! And George Dobson
knows that when his father is arrested, the whole family will end up paying. Workers have rights, but the
battle lines are drawn and it's the bosses against workers, workers against scabs.

Hayes, Rosemary  The blue-eyed aborigine  F Hay:R
This is the story of a cabin boy called Jan Pelgrom and a soldier involved in a notorious mutiny after the
shipwreck of the Batavia off Western Australia in 1629. Unlike most of the other mutineers who were
hanged, the two men were marooned on the Australian mainland and became Australia's very first European
settlers. Later European explorers to the region reported coming across Aboriginal Australians with blue
eyes.

Hill, Deirdre  Flight from fear  F Hil:D
After his mother and sister were killed in an air raid Tommy goes to Australia to live with his aunt in
Tibboorie. To Tommy, Tibboorie is the end of the world, middle of nowhere. Yet even here there's an Air
Force base with its reminder of air raids and bombs...

Harris, David ; Jones, Max  A man called Possum  F Har:D
Max
He was a loner. He hid from his pursuers in wild bush country. He was one of the greatest survivors of the
20th century. People along the Murray River called him Possum, but who was he really? Max Jones,
country detective, was determined to find out - even if it took him thirty years.

Hartnett, Sonia  Thursday’s child  F Har:S
Through the years of the Depression, Harper Flute watches her family's struggle to survive in a hot and impoverished landscape. As life on the surface grows harsher, her brother Tin escapes ever deeper into a subterranean world of darkness and troubling secrets, until his memory becomes a barely whispered myth.

Hathorn, Libby

When Vaughan’s parents go overseas, he is dumped with his grandmother in an isolated coastal town. He longs to join the local gang, but has to complete a frightening initiation - a seemingly impossible swim. Little does Vaughan know he is a pawn in a terrifying ritual and he must fight for his very survival.

Hirsch, Odo

The Bell family's ancestors were showered with honours, gifts and grants of land. In exchange, they have bestowed a Gift, once every 25 years, on the town. The Gifts have ranged from a statue to a bell tower with stained-glass windows, but now it's Darius's father's turn - and there is no money for an impressive gift. It looks as though a wheelbarrow full of vegetables is the best they can do. Darius is determined to preserve the family honour, and when an earthquake reveals a glorious cave, with the most beautiful minerals lining the walls, he thinks he's found the answer...

If you lose, you’re dead

22 stories written by young Australians aged from 14 to 18 who won commendation in the SMH Young Writer of the Year competition. The stories provide a fresh view of life from young people. Some are frightening in their acute observation of adult fallibility.

Hawke, Rosanne

Beltana, South Australia, 1875: Twelve-year-old Taj and his camel Mustara are joining explorer Ernest Giles on his second attempt to cross the Australian desert where wild dogs, scorpions, poisonous snakes and a constant shortage of water mean they are never far from disaster. Taj, raised in the ways of the Afghan people, is struggling to find his place in this new and exciting land.

Kelleher, Victor

Up in the Promised Land, Jack Curtis reigns supreme. And along the mighty Darling River, somewhere in a post-Greenhouse future, Nat, his nephew, is journeying to find him. It's a journey of challenge, of devastating reality, even of death. But ultimately, for Nat it's a search for truth and release.

Kelleher, Victor

He is born on a bare hillside near the end of the Dry Time. Abandoned by his mother, cared for and suckled only by a dog, he becomes a creature of the wilds. To the poor villagers, he hardly appears human at all, and they reject him.

Klemm, Barry

To Tom, Barton is an intrepid explorer and finder of lost treasure, but Tom's mum and his uncle, Roy Barton is a con man and thief. But Roy Barton is also Tom's father, whom Tom hasn't seen since he was a kid, until his mum decides to send him across Australia to spend time with Roy.

Lindsay, Joan

Three girls from a boarding school disappear while on a picnic at Hanging Rock. A classic Australian story.

Lowe, Pat

Matthew returns to the remote town in the Kimberley where he spent the happiest years of his childhood. He needs work, and he’s looking for Frances, the girl who once meant so much to him. But things have
changed and a shocking event shakes his confidence and threatens all his plans and dreams.

Malouf David  
*Fly away Peter*  
F MAL:D  
"Fly away Peter" is a novel of contrasts and continuity in which the atrocities of war are set against and played out before the inviolable forces of nature. Jim Saddler, protector of wild birds at a private sanctuary on the Queensland coast, is catapulted into the horrors of frontline fighting in war torn France in 1915.

McDonald, Roger  
*Slipstream*  
F MCD:R  
The story of a famous Australian aviator, Roy Hilman who first achieved glory as a pilot in WWI and then as a stuntman in the early days of Hollywood.

Masson, Sophie  
*The hunt for Ned Kelly*  
F MAS:S  
North-east Victoria, 1879. Jamie Ross and his older sister Ellen are alone in the world after the death of their father. Determined to make their fortune, they head to Beechworth - and straight into the midst of the search for Ned Kelly, the most notorious bushranger of all time.

Metzenthen, David  
*Stony heart country*  
F MET:D  
Dangerously complicated, is Aaron's view of life, and that's before he's met Rose, the haunted young woman wandering the wild paddocks. Aaron's father is a city consultant brought in to sack country workers. Aaron Knott is the city kid taken along for the ride. And the ride in the Rocky Rises is always rough.

Metzenthen, David  
*Wildlight: a journey*  
F MET:D  
Dirk Wildlight was found in a forest, aged about three, tethered to a stake. Reluctantly he's taken into the tiny Victorian settlement of Tilmore to be treated with suspicion, neglect and cruelty. Then, a strange turn in fortune leads him not only towards freedom, but to an understanding of the mystery of his earliest years.

Midnight dip  
F MID  
The title says it all. Here is a collection of short stories that are tantalising, exciting, fresh and unusual. The stories, written by secondary students, explore universal themes in a variety of styles from farcical humour to desperate loneliness.

Michaels, Chrissie  
*In Lonnie's shadow*  
F MIC:C  
The discovered artifacts from an archaeological dig in Melbourne become the backdrop for this story about a group of teenagers in 1891 who are struggling to make their way in a world that seems to be conspiring against them whichever way they turn.

Mitchell, Euan  
*Feral tracks*  
F MIT:E  
Survival on the road means growing up fast. The true story of the author as a 16-year-old who ran away from home with four dollars in his pocket and hitchhiked around Australia.

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.

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 Brett's determination not to change, the ex-stockman warder Sam, and Caitlyn, a local girl he falls for, both influence him.

Morgan, Sally  
‘My Place’ begins with Sally Morgan tracing the experiences of her own life, growing up in suburban Perth in the 50s and 60s. Through the memories and images of her childhood and adolescence, vague hints and echoes begin to emerge, hidden knowledge is uncovered and a fascinating story unfolds.

Nilsson, Eleanor  
The HBS is getting better and better at its dangerous games. Gunno, Jess, Wally and Pete make a great team - until the fateful day when they discover the old secluded house in the valley. After that, nothing is the same again, for there’s something very strange about this house, something waiting ...

Noonan, Michael  
Rod McKenzie, a Sydney schoolboy, over-size but underage, manages to enlist and is sent to New Guinea.

Park, Ruth  
The classic novel of the Darcy family of Sydney who, despite the brothels and the razor gangs, the tenements and the fish and chip shops, still find life exuberant and full of promise.

Park, Ruth  
Erika Magnus is a 14-year-old stirrer with complete confidence that she alone knows best. So, when her homesick sister Sif longs to return home to the island of Rongo, Erika successfully plots to get her there, and runs away to join her shortly after. Arriving on the island she finds the locals frightened by the changes happening to their world, and the cracks beginning to form in their once-perfect environment.

Phipson, Joan  
Two boys are kidnapped when their father wins the lottery. They are taken into the wilderness while their captors bargain for their ransom. Willy, who is at home in the wilderness, uses his knowledge of feral cats to help them survive.

Pyers, Greg  
A thrilling, fast-paced story of life in the future, where genetic cloning has created a world of designer plants and animals. The year is 2029. It's a future where the boundaries that separate species are blurred, where genetic manipulation produces whatever organisms people want.

Ridden, Brian  
1851 and 'Champion', the fastest ship in the Victorian trade was sailing in the kind of conditions when nothing bad at sea was supposed to happen. What did happen cost lives and wracked Seaman Will Drake with guilt. This is a story of survival and courage.

Robinson, Sue  
This eco-thriller is set in the not too distant future, when the earth has been ravaged and whales have been horrifically exploited. The whales are now looking for revenge. Ellie and Per, unlikely friends, risk everything to try and put things right.

Scott, Bill  
A thrilling, fast-paced story of life in the future, where genetic cloning has created a world of designer plants and animals. The year is 2029. It's a future where the boundaries that separate species are blurred, where genetic manipulation produces whatever organisms people want.
It is 1851 and young Snowy Woolcott has finally come face to face with the man who had murdered his father three years before. Now he must take his revenge.

Silvey, Craig  
Jasper Jones  
Late on a hot summer night in 1965, Charlie Bucktin, a precocious and bookish boy of thirteen, is startled by an urgent knock on the window of his sleep-out. His visitor is Jasper Jones, an outcast in the regional mining town of Corrigan. Rebellious, mixed-race and solitary, Jasper is a distant figure of danger and intrigue for Charlie. So when Jasper begs for his help, Charlie eagerly steals into the night by his side, terribly afraid but desperate to impress. Jasper takes him to his secret glade in the bush, and it's here that Charlie bears witness to Jasper's horrible discovery.

Stone, Louis  
Jonah  
The streets of Sydney in the late 19th century are the setting for this lively kaleidoscope. This is where Stone lived after emigrating from England in 1871 aged 13. The authenticity of the dialogue he picked up as he pretended to look in shop windows while listening to the talk of the gangs lounging on the street corners.

Thiele, Colin  
Sun on the stubble  
Set in a South Australian farming district between the Wars. The images and pictures are brought to life through a boy's keen observation of the mood and atmosphere. The landscape and surroundings are rural: farmers discussing crops and the weather, their harvest, the church, and quality of life.

Walker, Kate  
Peter  
Peter is 15 and like most kids his age he goes along with the gang. His free time is spent mostly in the paddock where you must talk tough and act tougher to belong. Sex, of course, is the constant topic, and if you don't want to be labelled a poofter you have to make out with girls.

Watt, Peter  
Flight of the eagle  
A deadly curse holds two families in its powerful grip. Captain Patrick Duffy is pitted against his father and his scheming grandmother. On the Queensland frontier, Native Mounted Police trooper Peter Duffy is torn between his bond with Gordon James, his sister Sarah and his mother's people, the Nerambura tribe.

Wheatley, Nadia  
The house that was Eureka  
Evie is 16, on the dole and ordinary. Noel is 15, still at school (sometimes) and weird. Noel's grandmother is 87, bedridden and horrendous. When they meet in adjoining terrace houses in Sydney's dilapidated inner city, something more powerful than a dream sets the past back in motion.

Wheeler, Paul  
Bodyline: the novel  
Bodyline is the story of the 1932-33 fateful test series between Australia and England. It tells how cricket, once the sport of gentlemen and honourable fair play, was pitched into the realms of war.

Winton, Tim  
Lockie Leonard, legend  
Life becomes tough for Lockie and his family when his mother has a nervous breakdown and goes to hospital. But life can still have its lighter moments and it’s not all bad!

Wrightson, Patricia  
The Nargun and the Stars
When Simon Brent's parents are killed in a car accident he is taken to live with his mother's second cousins, Edie and Charlie, on Wongadilla, their 5000 acre sheep run in the Hunter Valley. Simon, with his city attitudes, feels like an outsider, unable even to bring himself to call his cousins by name. But Simon is not the only thing that doesn't belong in Wongadilla. The arrival of heavy machinery intent on clearing the land brings to life the Nargun, a great rock, older than time itself, that has slowly dragged itself into the valley - and with it, a simmering rage that drives it to kill..

Meet Ed Kennedy - cab driving prodigy, pathetic card player and useless at sex. He lives in a suburban shack, shares coffee with his dog and he's in nervous-love with Audrey. His life is one of peaceful routine and incompetence - until he inadvertently stops a bank robbery. That's when Ed becomes the messenger.