

## HUMAN SPIRIT – READING LIST

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**Abani, Chris**                      **Song for Night**                                              **F ABA:C**  
Part Inferno and part Paradise Lost, Song for Night is the story of a West African boy soldier's lyrical, terrifying, yet beautiful journey through the nightmare landscape of a brutal war in search of his lost platoon.

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**Adichie, Chimamanda**  
**Ngozi**                                      **Purple Hibiscus**                                              **F ADI:C**  
Fifteen-year-old Kambili and her older brother Jaja lead a privileged life in Enugu, Nigeria. They live in a beautiful house, with a caring family, and attend an exclusive missionary school. They're completely shielded from the troubles of the world. Yet, as Kambili reveals in her tender-voiced account, things are less perfect than they appear.

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**Akpan, Uwem**                      **Say You're One of Them**                                              **F AKP:U**  
These stories centre on African conflicts as seen through the eyes of children and describe their resilience and endurance in heartbreaking detail. From child trafficking to inter-religious conflicts, Uwem Akpan reveals in beautiful prose the resilience and endurance of children faced with the harsh consequences of deprivation and terror.

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**Alizadeh, Ali**                      **Transactions**                                              **F ALI:A**  
A spoiled Emirati rich girl, an Iranian asylum seeker in Amsterdam, a Liberian refugee seeking aid from a charity, a Ukrainian prostitute, a Danish sex trafficker, a Chinese gamer. Alizadeh's characters live on the edge of what is considered civilised society, often caught between East and West, in the web of global politics.

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**Arias, Ron**                      **Five Against the Sea**                                              **910.45 ARI**  
The crew of the tiny Costa Rican fishing boat began drifting helplessly after a violent storm in January, 1988. Five months later, their battered craft was within hours of sinking when the five men were plucked to safety 600 miles south of Honolulu. The story of an epic battle with nature and a lasting testament to human courage.

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**Armstrong, Diane**                      **Winter Journey : a Novel**                                              **F ARM:D**  
Halina returns to Poland as part of a war crimes investigation team. She is forced to confront the worst of evils, but also the truth about her own past. She discovers that the human spirit is a far bolder and more courageous thing than she could ever have imagined.

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**Arneil, Stan**                      **One Man's War**                                              **940.547252 ARN**  
The day-to-day diary of a soldier who spent almost all of World War II as a prisoner of the Japanese in SE Asia. Stan Arneil lived through the defence and capitulation of Singapore, Changi prison camp, working in the Burma-Thailand railway after to which he was returned to Changi and survived to return home to Australia after liberation.

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**Attwood, Alan**                      **Burke's Soldier**                                              **F ATT:A**  
The young Irishman had already endured the horrors of the Indian Mutiny when he signed on with the erratic Burke to explore a land he knew little about. King was with Wills as he penned his final letter and at Burke's side when he died.

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**Aung Thin, Michelle**      **Hasina**      **F AUN:M**  
The men come at night. The first Hasina knows of it is her aunt's voice, urgent, full of fear. 'Up, up. Get up! The second thing is smoke. Then there is a scream. 'Run,' her father shouts. 'And don't stop!' Hasina races deep into the Rakhine forest to hide with her cousin Ghadiya and her little brother, Araf. When they emerge some days later, it is to a silent, smouldering village. Their own house has not been burnt down but where are the rest of her family?

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**Baillie, Allan**      **Little Brother**      **F BAI:A**  
Set in war-torn Kampuchea, this is the powerful story of Vithy's search for his brother, lost when they were forced to flee from the Khmer Rouge.

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**Baillie, Allan**      **Krakatoa Lighthouse**      **F BAI:A**  
Suddenly there was a trench across the beach, about ten meters away from the fishermen, where before there had been nothing but flat sand. The fishermen moved quickly away as the trench heaved grey ash across the sand. A powerful story of survival and loss based on the real-life events of the Krakatoa volcano eruption.

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**Baker, Mark**      **The Fiftieth Gate**      **920 BAK**  
Moving from Poland and Germany to Jerusalem and Melbourne, the author travels across the silence of 50 years, through the gates of Auschwitz, and into a dark bunker where a little girl hides in fear. This is the story of a journey from despair and death towards hope and life.

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**Balchin, Nigel**      **The Small Back Room**      **F BAL:N**  
Sammy Rice is a weapons scientist, one of the 'back room boys' of the Second World War. A crippling disability has left him cynical and disillusioned - he struggles with a drink problem at home, and politics and petty pride at work. Worse still, he fears he is not good enough for the woman he loves.

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**Bancks, Tristan**      **Detention**      **F BAN:T**  
Sima and her family are pressed to the rough, cold ground among fifty others. They lie next to the tall fence designed to keep them in. The wires are cut one by one. When they make their escape, a guard raises the alarm. Shouting, smoke bombs, people tackled to the ground. In the chaos Sima loses her parents. Dad told her to run, so she does, hiding in a school and triggering a lockdown. A boy, Dan, finds her hiding in the toilet block. What should he do? Help her? Dob her in? She's breaking the law, but is it right to lock kids up? And if he helps, should Sima trust him? Or run?

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**Bavati, Robyn**      **Within These Walls**      **F BAV:R**  
For Miri and her family, life in Warsaw is full of simple joys. The smell of freshly baked challah, the promise of summer holidays, and Fridays when everyone comes together to celebrate the Sabbath. But when the Germans march into Warsaw with their campaign of hatred against the Jews, Miri and her family must move to the ghetto. One by one her family are taken from her, and Miri finds herself alone.

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**Bennett, Lerone, Jr.**      **What Manner of Man : Martin Luther King, Jr.**      **323.092 KIN:B**  
An outstanding biographical study that won the Patron Saints Award of the Society of Midland Authors in 1965. After Martin Luther King was assassinated in Memphis on April 4, 1968, Lerone Bennett amended the text and added a chapter which recorded the events of the last fateful weeks of Martin Luther King's life.

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**Carr, Roger Vaughan      Firestorm!      F CAR:R**  
For Ben, his family, and many other people, the bushfires that broke loose on Ash Wednesday could never be forgotten. Neither could the emotions that erupted in the township afterwards.

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**Chang, Jung      Wild Swans : Three Daughters of China      951.05092 CHA**  
Jung Chang describes the life of her grandmother, a warlord's concubine; her mother's struggles as an idealistic Communist; her parents' experience as members of the Communist elite and their ordeal during the Cultural Revolution.

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**Chase, Diana      No More Borders for Josef      F CHA:D**  
Orphaned in the brutal Balkans conflict, thirteen-year-old Josef is forced to flee dramatically through the forest to the border. Frightened, angry and deeply traumatised, he then suffers the uncertainty and boredom of a refugee camp before finally being plucked to safety in Australia by an uncle he never knew existed.

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**Chotjewitz, David      Daniel Half Human      F CHO:D**  
Daniel and Armin admire Hitler as an underdog and revolutionary hero. The boys talk about joining the Hitler Youth - until Daniel learns to his horror that his mother is Jewish.

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**Cleary, Simon      The War Artist      F CLE:S**  
When Brigadier John Phelan returns from Afghanistan with the body of a young soldier killed under his command, he is traumatised by the tragedy. An encounter with young Sydney tattoo artist Kira leaves him with a permanent tribute to the soldier, but it is a meeting that will change the course of his life.

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**Clendinnen, Inga      Reading the Holocaust      940.5318 CLE**  
Explores the experience of the Holocaust from both the victims' and the perpetrators' point of view. Includes survivor testimonies, 'resistance' in the camps and the motivations of the Nazi leadership. She also considers how the Holocaust has been portrayed in poetry, fiction, and film.

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**Crew, Gary      Voicing the Dead      F CRE:G**  
14-year-old English-born shipwreck survivor, Jack Ireland, is captured by head-hunters and adopted by Torres Strait Islanders as the ghost of their own dead child. This novel is based on his own remarkable autobiography published in 1845.

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**Cross, Gillian      After Tomorrow      F CRO:G**  
What if you woke up tomorrow and everything had changed? Money is worthless. Your friends are gone. Armed robbers roam the streets. No one is safe. For Matt and his little brother, Taco, that nightmare is a reality. Their only hope of survival is to escape through the Channel Tunnel. But danger waits on the other side.

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**Dechian, Sonja      Dark Dreams : Australian Refugee Stories by Young Writers Aged 11-20 Years      F DAR**  
An anthology of essays, interviews and short stories written by children and young adults aged 11-20 years who recreate the story of someone who came to Australia as a refugee. Some focus on survival, some on horrors, some on the experiences and alienation of a new world, including refugees still living in detention centres in Australia.

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**Dembo, Margot  
Bettauer**

**The Girl in the Red Coat : Surviving Survival**

**940.5318 LIG**

Roma was one of the "hidden children" to survive the Holocaust. But memories of childhood trauma were deep-seated and, despite her successful life, the resonating effects of her past gradually took their toll. In this book she writes honestly about rising above the sorrow.

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**DePaul, Kim  
& Pran, Dith (eds.)**

**Children of Cambodia's Killing Fields: Memoirs of  
Survivors**

**959.6042 CHI**

Each witness was a child at the time of Cambodia's holocaust, and each tells of families torn apart, loss of innocence, a ceaseless struggle to survive against all odds, and ultimately the triumph of the human spirit.

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**Dinsdale, Robert**

**Little Exiles**

**F DIN:R**

Little Exiles tells the story of the forced child migration between Britain and Australia that took place after World War II and how this flight from home shaped the identity of a generation of children.

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**Dogar, Sharon**

**Annexed**

**F DOG:S**

Everyone knows about Anne Frank and her life hidden in the secret annex - but what about the boy who was also trapped there with her? Sharon Dogar explores what this might have been like from Peter's point of view. What was it like to be forced into hiding with Anne Frank, first to hate her and then to find himself falling in love with her?

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**Dowd, Siobhan**

**Bog Child**

**F DOW:S**

Digging for peat in the mountain with his Uncle Tally, Fergus finds the body of a child, and it looks like she's been murdered. As Fergus tries to make sense of the mad world around him - his brother on hunger-strike in prison, his growing feelings for Cora, his parents arguing over the Troubles, and him in it up to the neck, blackmailed into acting as courier to God knows what, a little voice comes to him in his dreams, and the mystery of the bog child unfurls.

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**Downham, Jenny**

**Before I Die**

**F DOW:J**

Tessa has just a few months to live. Fighting back against hospital visits, endless tests, drugs with excruciating side-effects, Tessa compiles a list: 'To Do Before I Die'. Released from the constraints of 'normal' life, Tessa tastes new experiences to make her feel alive while her failing body struggles to keep up. Tessa's feelings, her relationships with her family, her best friend, her new boyfriend, all are painfully crystallised in the precious weeks before Tessa's time finally runs out.

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**Duff, Alan**

**Once Were Warriors**

**F DUF:A**

This hard hitting story is a frank and uncompromising portrayal of a Maori family in New Zealand society. It is a raw and powerful story in which everyone is a victim until the strength and vision of one woman transcends brutality and leads the way to a new life. The themes in the book have universal resonance that transcends class and culture.

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**Ebury, Sue**

**Weary : the Life of Sir Edward Dunlop**

**920 DUN:E**

Weary turned his back on a brilliant surgical career and volunteered in 1939. He served in Palestine, Greece, Crete, Tobruk and Egypt before sailing to Java in 1942. Captured by the Japanese, his care of his fellow prisoners and his defiance of his captors in the face of brutality, starvation and death made him a legend in his lifetime.

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**Hill, Anthony**                      **The Story of Billy Young**                      **940.547252 HIL**

Bill Young was a boy of 15 when he joined the AIF in 1941. He was an orphan - hungry, broke, with nowhere to sleep - and the army offered him a feed, a blanket and five shillings a day in his pocket. The trouble was, the army sent him off to Malaya where he became a POW when Singapore fell to the Japanese.

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**Hill, Susan**                      **I'm the King of the Castle**                      **F HIL:S**

When Charles Kingshaw and his mother come to live with Hooper and his father in the ugly, isolated Victorian house, Hooper sees Kingshaw as an intruder, a boy to be subtly persecuted. Kingshaw realises that Hooper will never let him be. And the worst is still to come...

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**Holm, Anne**                      **I am David**                      **F HOL:A**

David has known no other life but that of a concentration camp. Then he escapes. Silent, watchful, he wanders through Europe, fearful that the Nazis will catch him, David's journey is long and dangerous and he only gradually finds hope and loses his fear and mistrust of the kindness of strangers.

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**Joukhadar, Jennifer**  
**Zeynab**                      **The map of salt and stars**                      **F JOU:J**

In the summer of 2011, just after Nour loses her father to cancer, her mother moves Nour and her sisters from New York City back to Syria to be closer to their family. In order to keep her father's spirit as she adjusts to her new home, Nour tells herself their favourite story--the tale of Rawiya, a twelfth-century girl who disguised herself as a boy in order to apprentice herself to a famous mapmaker. But the Syria Nour's parents knew is changing, and it isn't long before the war reaches their quiet Homs neighbourhood.

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**Kadohata, Cynthia**                      **A Million Shades of Grey**                      **F KAD:C**

Ever since Tin can remember, he's wanted to be an elephant trainer. At twelve years old, he's the youngest - and in his eyes the best - elephant handler in his village. But Tin's peaceful, idyllic life is changed dramatically when the Viet Cong attack his village and he finds himself held hostage by the terrifying soldiers who don't care if he lives or dies. Can Tin find the courage to escape from his captors and save not only his own life, but his precious elephant's too?

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**Kalu, Pete**                      **Silent Striker**                      **F KAL:P**

Marcus' life used to be great. A fantastic football player, cool friends and decent grades. But facing racism and feeling left out because of his deafness, his courage and ambition are put to the test.

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**Keneally, Thomas**                      **Schindler's Ark**                      **F KEN:T**

In the shadow of Auschwitz, a flamboyant German industrialist grew into a living legend to the Jews of Krakow. This is the story of Oskar Schindler who risked his life to protect the beleaguered Jews in Nazi - occupied Poland, who continually defied the SS and who was transformed by the war into a man with a mission.

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**Khan, Rukhsana**                      **Jameela**                      **F KHA:R**

Jameela lives with her family in a war-torn village in Afghanistan. Life is hard, but when her mother dies, Jameela has to face a greater horror. To survive, she draws on the strong sense of self that her mother gave her.

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**Levi, Primo**                      **If This is a Man ; The Truce**                      **F LEV:P**  
"With the moral stamina and intellectual prose of a twentieth - century Titan, this slightly built, dutiful, unassuming chemist set out systematically to remember the German hell on earth, steadfastly to think it through and then to render it comprehensible in lucid, unpretentious prose." [Philip Roth]

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**Levi, Primo**                      **If Not Now, When?**                      **F LEV:P**  
Based on a true story, this novel chronicles the adventures, crises and moral struggles of a group of Russian and Polish refugees trying to return home, but stranded by the German Army in retreat in the final phases of WWII.

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**Levine, Karen**                      **Hana's Suitcase: a True Story**                      **F LEV: K**  
When Hana's suitcase arrives from Germany at the small Holocaust Education Centre in Japan, all the children want to know what happened to Hana. Fumiko decides to find out. She embarks on a journey across Europe and America, and seventy years of history. What Fumiko finds in Hana's suitcase is a story of terrible sadness and great joy.

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**Li, Cunxin**                      **Mao's Last Dancer**                      **920 LI**  
A young peasant boy from a small, desperately poor village in China is chosen by Madame Mao's cultural delegates to be moulded into a faithful guard of Chairman Mao's great vision for China. A true story of how the course of a small boy's life changed in ways beyond description.

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**Lindsay, Martin**                      **The Epic of Captain Scott**                      **998.9 SCO:L**  
The unforgettable story of Captain Robert Scott's ill-fated attempt to be the first Antarctic Expedition to reach the South Pole.

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**Mah, Adeline Yeh**                      **Chinese Cinderella – the Story of an Unwanted Daughter**                      **F MAH:A**  
When Adeline Yen Mah's mother died giving birth to her, the family considered Adeline bad luck and she was made to feel unwanted all her life. This is the story of her struggle for acceptance and how she overcame the odds to prove her worth.

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**Malouf, David**                      **The Great World**                      **F MAL:D**  
Every city, town and village has its memorial to war. Nowhere are these monuments more eloquent than in Australia, where generations of young men have enlisted to fight other people's battles - from Gallipoli and the Somme to Malaya and Vietnam.

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**Mandela, Nelson**                      **Long Walk to Freedom**                      **968.06092 MAN**  
The memoirs of one of the greatest political leaders of our time recreates the drama of the experiences that helped shape Nelson Mandela's destiny. Emotive, compelling and uplifting, it is the story of an epic life, a story of hardship, resilience and ultimate triumph told with the clarity and eloquence of a born leader.

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**Mankell, Henning**                      **The Fury in the Fire**                      **F MAN:H**  
The unforgettable story of Sofia, a courageous young woman struggling to take care of her poverty-stricken family in Mozambique. This is the third novel about Sofia, which began with a terrible landmine accident in 'Secrets in the Fire', and continued into her teenage years in 'Playing with Fire'.

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**Marino, Andy**                      **American Pimpernel**                      **940.548173 MAR**  
The incredible story of Varian Fry, the American who saved more lives than Schindler - great literary, scientific and artistic figures who represented the political and cultural elite of Europe. It is a tale full of surreal and heart-stopping episodes as Fry tried to keep ahead of the Nazis.

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**Martin, J. ; Gannon, E.**    **Lionheart : a Journey of the Human Spirit**                      **910.41 MAR**  
On 31 October 1999, Jesse Martin, in his yacht "Lionheart", completed the last great adventure of the twentieth century, becoming the youngest person to sail solo, non-stop and unassisted around the world. He was 18 years old and didn't know the meaning of impossible.

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**Mason, Prue**                      **Zafir**                      **F MAS:P**  
Zafir has a comfortable life in Homs, Syria, until his father, a doctor, is arrested for helping a protester who was campaigning for revolution. While his mother heads to Damascus to try to find out where his father is being held, Zafir stays with his grandmother - until her house is bombed.

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**Masson, Sophie**                      **1914**                      **F MAS:S**  
In June 1914, Louis and his brother Thomas are enjoying the European summer in a small town near Sarajevo. In the shadow of the assassination of the heir to the Austrian throne, the world erupts into war and Louis' life changes forever. Old Europe is torn apart and Louis finds himself in the midst of his own battle - as fighting for the truth in war means that sometimes even your own side is against you.

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**Masson, Sophie**                      **Emilio**                      **F MAS:S**  
For high-school student Emilio Garcia Lopez, it's an ordinary school day. But that evening the knock on the door announcing the arrival of his police-officer cousin Juanita, flanked by a tall man in the uniform of the Federal Police, will turn his ordinary day into the beginning of a long nightmare.

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**McCarthy, Cormac**                      **All the Pretty Horses**                      **F MCC:C**  
**Also available as an eBook.**  
Young John Grady Cole, the last of a long line of Texas ranchers, almost the last American cowboy, sets off with two companions, on an idyllic, sometimes comic adventure, to Mexico, beautiful and desolate, rugged and cruelly civilised, where dreams are paid for in blood. A classic adventure from the lost heart of the American Wild West.

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**McCormick, Patricia**                      **Never Fall Down**                      **F MCC:P**  
Eleven-year-old Arn is walking through the countryside in Cambodia. His whole town is walking with him. They're walking into one of the most tragic moments of history: the Killing Fields.

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**McCourt, Frank**                      **Angela's Ashes**                      **F MCC:F**  
The author's bittersweet memoirs of growing up in New York in the '30s and Ireland in the '40s. It is a story of courage and survival against apparently overwhelming odds of having not only a miserable Irish childhood, but a miserable Irish Catholic childhood!

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**McKay, Sharon E.**                      **War Brothers**                      **F MCK:S**  
Jacob is a 14-year-old Ugandan who is sent away to a boys' school. Once there, he assures his friend Tony that they need not be afraid -- they will be safe. But not long after, in the shadow of the night, the boys are abducted by rebel soldiers. Ordered to kill or be killed, the boys are thrust into a terrifying struggle to endure and survive.

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**McPhedran, Colin**      **White Butterflies**      **940.53092 MCP**  
Colin McPhedran arrived in Australia alone half a century ago, aged 20, with nothing. This is an inspiring and candid account of a young boy's wartime struggle for survival, his journey to manhood and the characters and dark secrets he encountered during his quest for a place in the world.

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**McVeity, Jen**      **Where are the Billabongs**      **F MCV:J**  
A group of city kids with few survival skills and an inability to trust or understand anyone who is different are stranded in the Australian Alps. With no food or shelter, they must struggle to learn enough about the land and each other to endure and survive.

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**Millard, Glenda**      **A Small Free Kiss in the Dark**      **F MIL:G**  
Skip's an outsider, a quiet observer. He draws pictures to make sense of the world. He's never fitted in. So he takes to the streets. Life there may be hard, but it's better than the one he's left, especially when he teams up with old Billy.

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**Mitchell, Jane**      **Chalkline**      **F MIT:J**  
It's an ordinary morning at nine-year-old Rafiq's school in rural Kashmir when the silence of dawn prayers is ripped apart by gunfire. Soldiers of the Kashmir Freedom Fighters have raided the village in search of new recruits - they scrawl a line in chalk across the schoolroom wall, and any boy whose height reaches the line will be taken to fight.

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**Mitchell, Jane**      **A Dangerous Crossing**      **F MIT:J**  
Ghalib doesn't want to leave his home. But Syria has become too dangerous, and his family has no choice but to flee. Together they start out on a terrible journey that leads them through dark and dangerous places.

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**Moloney, James**      **The Love That I Have**      **F MOL:J**  
Margot Baumann has left school to take up her sister's job in the mailroom of a large prison. But this is Germany in 1944, and the prison is Sachsenhausen concentration camp near Berlin.

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**Moon, Chris**      **One Step Beyond**      **920 MOO**  
Chris Moon was captured by the Khmer Rouge when he joined the UN mine-clearance team in Cambodia. He went on to supervise mine clearance in Mozambique where he lost his lower right leg and right arm. Less than a year later he ran the London Marathon, raising money for charity.

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**Morgan, Michelle**      **Racing the Moon**      **F MOR:M**  
Joe Riley has to be a little creative to make pocket money in his rough and tumble neighbourhood of Glebe. He has watched his dad keep ahead of the law and he's sure that he can too, gambling on billycart races and selling farm-fresh eggs from his uncle's chook farm. But when his parents send him off to a Catholic boarding school, his carefree existence is a thing of the past.

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**Morpurgo, Michael**      **Shadow**      **F MOR:M**  
When Hero, a bomb-sniffing spaniel, goes missing in the middle of war torn Afghanistan, his soldier-owner is devastated. Meanwhile, Hero makes friends with a local Afghan boy, and sees a whole other side of the war. As Christmas draws ever closer, the question is -- will Hero and his trainer ever be reunited!?

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**Solzhenitsyn,  
Alexander**

**One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich**

**F SOL:A**

This brilliant novel describes a single prisoner's day in a remote Siberian labour camp. The deprivation and hardship is hard to comprehend.

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**Spiegelman, Art**

**Maus: a Survivor's Tale**

**940.5315 SPI**

Vladek Spiegelman is a Jewish survivor of Hitler's Europe and his son is a cartoonist trying to come to terms with his father, his father's terrifying story, and History itself. Ties together two powerful stories: Vladek's harrowing tale of survival against all odds, and the author's account of his tortured relationship with his aging father.

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**Spinelli, Jerry**

**Milkweed**

**F SPI:J**

The incredible memoir of Misha, an orphan living on the streets of Warsaw during the Nazi occupation of World War II. Told through the eyes of a child who has no past and no identity, we witness the horrors of the invasion and its ramifications for the Jewish people Misha befriends in the ghettos.

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**Styron, William**

**Sophie's Choice**

**F STY:W**

Stingo meets Nathan, a charismatic Jewish intellectual and Sophie, a beautiful and fragile Polish Catholic. Stingo is drawn into the heart of their passionate and destructive relationship. He uncovers the dark core of Sophie's past: her memories of pre-war Poland, the concentration camp and the essence of her terrible secret - her choice.

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**Sweeney, Diana**

**The Minnow**

**F SWE:D**

Tom survived a devastating flood that claimed the lives of her sister and parents. Now she lives with Bill in his old shed by the lake. But it's time to move out

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**Szymanik, Melinda**

**A Winter's Day in 1939: Sometimes Your Only  
Weapon is the Will to Survive**

**F SZY:M**

Taken from their home, forced to leave their country, put to work in labour camps, frozen and starved, Adam and his family doubt that they will ever make it out alive.

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**Tolstoy, Leo**

**Anna Karenina**

**F TOL:T**

Acclaimed by many as the world's greatest novels, Anna Karenina provides a vast panorama of contemporary life in Russia and of humanity in general. Tolstoy uses his intense imaginative insight to create some of the most memorable characters in literature.

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**Trueman, Stuart**

**All the way round**

**920 TRU:S**

In 2010, Stuart Trueman set out on a 16-month voyage to circumnavigate Australia by kayak. He wasn't the first person to complete the circumnavigation, or even the second - but he was determined to make it a triumphant third. Stuart's adventure was to be done on a shoestring, with no support team and a powerful belief in the philosophy of Do-It-Yourself, albeit with the kindness and help of the many people he met along the way.

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**Weil, Jiri**                      **Life With a Star**                      **F WEI:J**

The experience of living in hiding during the Nazi occupation of Prague furnished Jiri Weil with the inspiration for this remarkable and intensely moving novel. It is the story of Josef Roubicek, an unemployed bank clerk, who has been reduced to a meagre existence by the arbitrary regulations of a nightmarish, Kafkaesque world.

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**West, Morris**                      **Eminence**                      **F WES:M**

Rossini suffered torture and personal degradation as a young priest in Argentina before being exiled to Rome, where he eventually achieved high office and the distinction of papal candidacy. This novel explores the nature of belief, love and commitment and how these came to be tested during a time of crisis and change.

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**Whelan, Gloria**                      **Goodbye, Vietnam**                      **F WHE:G**

When Mia's family learns that her grandmother is about to be arrested, they decide to flee for their lives. Leaving Vietnam behind, they sail for Hong Kong in a rickety boat full of refugees. The captives can't navigate and the boat continually breaks down. Mia's hope of reaching Hong Kong and freedom start to dwindle.

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**Whitebeach, Terry**                      **Trouble Tomorrow**                      **F WHI:T**

Obulejo's family has already been torn apart by the civil war in Sudan when the Rebels come again. It's night; Obulejo wakes in his boarding school to the sound of machine guns and people screaming.

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**Williams, Eric**                      **The Tunnel**                      **F WIL:E**

Peter Howard was shot down and captured by the Germans. He was sent to a high-security prison camp in Poland where the only hope was escaping through the tunnel.

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**Wilson, Leslie**                      **Last Train From Kummersdorf**                      **F WIL:L**

Set in German in 1945. Hanno is on the run, having just seen his twin brother killed. Effi has learned the hard way that she must be vigilant and she's not keen to trust Hanno. They join forces to protect each other from the far more dangerous people on the road, Russian soldiers, German deserters - and Major Otto, who likes to kill - randomly.

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**Yaxley, Richard**                      **This is my Song**                      **F YAX:R**

In the early 1940s in Czechoslovakia, Rafael Ullmann and his family are sent to Terezin, the so-called model ghetto for Jewish artists. In the 1970s in Canada, Annie Ullmann lives a predictable, lonely life on a prairie with her reclusive father and deaf-dumb mother. Thirty years later, in Australia, Joe Hawker is uncertain about himself and his future, until he discovers a song, written by his grandfather many years ago.

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**Yousafzai, Malala**                      **I am Malala : the girl who stood up for education and was shot by the Taliban**                      **920 YOU:L**

When the Taliban took control of the Swat Valley, one girl spoke out. Malala Yousafzai refused to be silenced and fought for her right to an education. On Tuesday October 9, 2012, she almost paid the ultimate price.

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## HUMAN SPIRIT – READING LIST

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**Zephaniah, Benjamin      Refugee Boy**

**F ZEP:B**

Life is not safe for Alem. His father is Ethiopian and his mother Eritrean - and with both countries at war, he is welcome in neither place. So his father does an astonishing thing, which at first appears callous, but is in fact the ultimate gift of love from a parent to their child.

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**Zusak, Marcus              The Book Thief**

**F ZUS:M**

***Also available as an eBook.***

Death has never been busier. Liesel's father has been arrested, her mother is in grave danger and her brother is dead. Liesel is taken to live with strangers. Liesel will have many encounters with fear, death, and despair. Books and reading become both an escape and stealing them an obsession.

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