

## MULTICULTURAL FICTION/GROWING UP IN AUSTRALIA

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**Abdel-Fattah, Randa    Ten Things I Hate About Me**

**F ABD:R**

For the last three years Jamie has hidden her Lebanese background from everyone at high school but can she keep the deception up for much longer?

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**Abdel-Fattah, Randa    When Michael met Mina**

**F ABD:R**

*Also available as an eBook.*

A boy. A girl. Two families. One great divide. When Michael meets Mina, they are at a rally for refugees - standing on opposite sides. Mina fled Afghanistan with her mother via a refugee camp, a leaky boat and a detention centre. When Mina wins a scholarship to Michael's private school, their lives crash together blindingly.

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**Ahmad, Michael**

**Mohammed**

**The Lebs**

**F AHM:M**

As far as Bani Adam is concerned, Punchbowl Boys is the arse end of the earth. Though he's a Leb and they control the school, Bani feels at odds with the other students, who just don't seem to care. He is a romantic in a sea of hyper masculinity. Bani must come to terms with his place in this hostile, hopeless world, while dreaming of so much more.

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**Armstrong, William    Sounder**

**F ARM:W**

Set in South USA 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.

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**Aranjuez, Adolfo    Amadeo : Changing Latitudes**

**F ARA:A**

When Amadeo first arrives in Australia with his sister and parents, he's greeted by the promise of 'a better life'. A change. A chance. But Amadeo must adapt quickly to these changes: new place, new people, new school, new freedoms, all so different from what he's used to.

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**Baillie, Alan**

**The China Coin**

**F BAI:A**

Tiananmen Square is the climax of the story of teenage Leah and her mother Joan, on a quest to find the other half of an ancient Chinese coin. The two of them take up the mission that is to take them across much of China looking for possible ancestors and the answer to an indecipherable riddle.

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**Baillie, Alan**

**Little Brother**

**F BAI:A**

Set in war-torn Kampuchea, this is the powerful story of Vithy's search for his brother, lost in their flight from the Khmer Rouge.

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**Batuman, Elif**

**The Idiot**

**F BAT:E**

Selin, a Turkish-American college freshman from New Jersey, is about to embark on her first year at Harvard University. Selin falls in love with a Hungarian maths student in her Russian class and spends the summer in the Hungarian countryside teaching English to village children, where sad and comic misunderstandings ensue.

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**Blackman, Malorie**      **Noughts and Crosses**

**F: BLA:M**

*Also available as an eBook.*

Callum is a Nought - a second-class citizen in a world run by the ruling Crosses...Sephya is a Cross, daughter of one of the most powerful men in the country...In their world, Noughts and Crosses simply don't mix. And as hostility turns to violence, can Callum and Sephya possibly find a way to be together? They are determined to try. And then the bomb explodes...

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**Blankley, Bridget**      **The Ghosts & Jamal**

**F BLA:B**

Waking up in the aftermath of a terrorist attack, 13-year-old Jamal tries to piece together what has happened whilst simultaneously trying to evade capture by the attackers.

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**Bowles, Colin**      **Surfing Mr. Petrovic**

**F BOW:C**

What do you do when you're eleven years old, your dad's going out with a fashion model, you mum's hooked up with Barry, who looks just like a math teacher and math is your worst subject? Then there's that little genius from hell, and the friends you don't even like that much...

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**Callegari, Moira**      **Kouanda : Saving Princess**

**F CAL:M**

Kouanda wants to be a 'Jack'. Now that he's in a new school, he wants a new name and a new start. Since his family fled to Australia from Burma as refugees, leaving so much behind, he has struggled to fit in. Even his best friend Minh, who he shares Buddhism with, doesn't seem to get it.

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**Caswell, Brian**      **Maddie**

**F CAS:B**

Mai Linh and her brother, Minh, are given new names when they arrive in Australia from Vietnam and go to Boundary Park School. When Minh falls into real trouble, it's up to Mai Linh (Maddie) to help him solve his present problems and overcome past fears.

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**Clark, Joan**      **Wild Man of the Woods**

**F CLA:J**

Stephen's holiday in the Rockies with his country cousin Louie, is marred only by two bullies who are determined to make things unpleasant. But when Stephen meets Angus, a mysterious Indian mask carver, and tries on the masks, he suddenly gains courage to face the troublemakers.

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**Clarke, Maxine**

**Beneba**      **Foreign Soil**

**F CLA:M**

The book is called Foreign Soil. Inside its covers, a desperate asylum seeker is pacing the hallways of Sydney's notorious Villawood detention centre, a seven-year-old Sudanese boy has found solace in a patchwork bike, an enraged black militant is on the warpath through the rebel squats of 1960s Brixton, a Mississippi housewife decides to make the ultimate sacrifice to save her son from small-town ignorance, a young woman leaves rural Jamaica in search of her destiny, and a Sydney schoolgirl loses her way.

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**Cole, Teju**      **Open City**

**F COL:T**

Along the streets of Manhattan, a young Nigerian doctor doing his residency wanders aimlessly. Though he is navigating the busy parts of town, the impression of countless faces does nothing to assuage his feelings of isolation. But it is not only a physical landscape he covers; he crisscrosses social territory as well, encountering people from different cultures and classes who provide insight on his journey - which takes him to Brussels, to the Nigeria of his youth, and into the most unrecognisable facets of his own soul.

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**Coming of Age : Growing Up Muslim in Australia**

**305.69794 COM**

Muslim people in Australia come from over seventy countries and represent a wide variety of cultural backgrounds and experiences. Yet we are constantly bombarded by media stories feeding one negative stereotype. What is it really like to grow up Muslim in Australia? In this book, famous and not-so-famous Muslim-Australians tell their stories in their own voices.

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**Courtenay, Bryce      The Power of One**

**F COU:B**

*Also available as an eBook.*

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.

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**Dark dreams : Australian Refugee Stories by Young Writers**

**F DAR**

This is an anthology of essays, interviews and short stories written by children and young adults aged 11-20 years. These young writers relate or imaginatively recreate the story of someone who came to Australia as a refugee.

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**Davies, Jeremy      Rosemary & Julia : Unblock Me**

**F DAV:J**

Julia's friend has disappeared; Rose isn't there anymore. She's somewhere, but never there. Julia's unblocked her on Facebook, but that hasn't helped. Something has come between them. If only she could get a message through.

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**Disher, Garry      The Divine Wind**

**F DIS:G**

In the pearling town of Broome, against the backdrop of World War II, a young man and a young woman fall in love. Hart is the son of a pearling master, Mitsy the daughter of a Japanese diver. Can their love survive as Japan enters the war and Mitsy encounters prejudice and hate?

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**Do, Anh      The Happiest Refugee : a Memoir**

**920 DO**

The laugh-out-loud, reach-for-your-hanky story of one of Australia's best-loved comedians. Anh Do nearly didn't make it to Australia. But nothing - not murderous pirates, nor the imminent threat of death by hunger, disease or dehydration as they drifted for days - could quench their desire to make a better life in the country they had dreamed about. Life in Australia was hard, an endless succession of back-breaking work, crowded rooms, ruthless landlords and make-do everything.

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**Dubosarsky, Ursula      The Blue Cat**

**F DUB:U**

A boy stood in the playground under the big fig tree. 'He can't speak English,' the children whispered. Sydney, 1942. The war is coming to Australia. Columba is drawn to Ellery, the little boy from far away, and, together with her highly practical best friend Hilda, the three children embark on an adventure through the harbour-side streets - a journey of discovery and terror, in pursuit of the mysterious blue cat.

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**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.

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**Evans, Alwyn**                      **Walk in My Shoes**    **F EVA:A**

After a terrifying escape from war-torn Afghanistan, Gulnessa and her family find themselves in Australia. They are exhausted and traumatised but so full of hope. At last somewhere safe to call home. But their struggle isn't over yet. They are confined a detention centre for asylum seekers and forced to prove their refugee status.

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**Farmer, Graeme**                      **Brothers in Arms**    **F FAR:G**

The story of a young Japanese boy's quest to lay his grandfather to rest. Yukio needs to search for his grandfather's bones in the bay of the small Australian town of Yanyan. This quest creates tensions with his father, though at the same time it unites two local boys who have been continuing with their own fathers' feud.

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**Fein, Yvonne**                      **Rachel : Racing Time**    **F FEI:Y**

Rachel's otherwise comfortable life is suddenly turned upside down. She's strong and healthy; she's an athlete. Then there are tests and hospitals and nurses and doctors and all sorts of bother that she didn't ask for, and she wouldn't wish on anyone. And no one really seems to be able to help.

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**French, Jackie**                      **Walking the Boundaries**    **F FRE:J**

When Martin's great-grandfather told him he could have the farm if he walked the boundaries, Martin could hardly believe his ears. But when he is almost killed while walking the boundaries, he begins to realise that it may not be a joke.

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

Paul is trying to escape from an Italian heritage that just doesn't seem to have relevance for him anymore and he's trying to escape from his Nonno. They come from two different worlds, he and his grandfather, and Paul is more interested in his own world - his friends, the girls, the fast cars, the go-carts - than Nonno's strange and embarrassing behaviour.

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**Gleeson, Libby**                      **Refuge**    **F GLE:L**

Andrew's sister likes fighting for causes and she's getting Andrew involved. Now he has to keep secrets from his parents, from his friends, from the girl he really likes. Andrew's never broken the law before. But no-one seem to care about a stranger who's had to run for her life. Escaping a hostile regime. Seeking refuge.

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**Gleitzman, Morris**                      **Boy Overboard**    **F GLE:M**

Jamal and Bibi have a dream. To lead Australia to soccer glory in the next World Cup. But first they must face landmines, pirates, storms and assassins. Can Jamal and his family survive their incredible journey and get to Australia?

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**Gross, Dick**                      **Zac : Hats in Cool Town**    **F GRO:D**

Growing up in the Jewish quarter of St Kilda has its scary and funny moments for Zac. His dad is an annoying weirdo, his little sister Nell thinks she's the Queen of the World and their two dogs are lovable but pretty stupid. And then a girl with a scarf on her head and a cute dog turns up and this brings frightening conflict out into the open.

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**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?

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**Harris, Christine**      **Fortune Cookies**      **F HAR:C**  
Sarah has nightmares, Huong is threatened, Miki longs to follow her dreams, Lacey is haunted by memories, Halil's father disappears, the daughter of Ta-wha risks darkness and wild animals for a taste of freedom. A mixture of funny and sad stories.

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**Hawke, Rosanne**      **Borderland**      **F HAW:R**  
Jaime Richards was brought up in Muslim Pakistan. Will she ever find her own place in Australia or will she forever live in a borderland - the space between two countries and two cultures? Or is the borderland a true place of her own?

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**Heffernan, John**      **More Than Gold**      **F HEF:J**  
Raiko is a runner and he's come a long way since he arrived as a refugee from his war-torn homeland. The memory of his father spurs him on. This is the compelling story of the start of an Olympic journey, not just for one boy, but for a whole town.

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**Herbert, Xavier**      **Dream Road**      **F HER:X**  
Dream Road is a journey into Xavier Herbert's country. It is the story of the flight by a group of Aborigines who have escaped from a compound where they were interned. This book is primarily a series of visions and they so inspired the artist that he created the paintings and drawings used throughout the text.

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**Li, Cunxin**      **Mao's Last Dancer**      **920 LI**  
One day, not so very many years ago, a small peasant boy was chosen to study ballet at the Beijing Dance Academy. His mother urged him to take this chance of a lifetime. But Li was only 11 years old and he was scared and lonely, pushed away from all that he had ever known and loved. All he wanted to do was go home - to his mother, father and six brothers, to his own small village. But soon Li realised that his mother was right. He had the chance to do something special with his life - and he never turned back . . .

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**Le, Nam**      **The Boat**      **F LE:N**  
In 1979, Nam Le's family left Vietnam for Australia, an experience that inspires the first and last stories in *The Boat*. In between, however, Le's imagination lays claim to the world. *The Boat* takes us from a tourist in Tehran to a teenage hit man in Colombia, from an ageing New York artist to a boy coming of age in a small Victorian fishing town, from the city of Hiroshima just before the bomb is dropped to the haunting waste of the South China Sea in the wake of another war. Each story uncovers a raw human truth.

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**Lucashenko, Melissa**      **Killing Darcy**      **F LUC:M**  
Angry young Koori Darcy Mango is on parole, and looking for his mob in Northern New South Wales. Befriending the Menzies family wasn't at all what he had in mind, but then neither was the old house hidden in the bush near Desperation Creek. And why does the camera from the house take pictures from the past?

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**Mah, Adeline Yeh**      **Falling Leaves Return to Their Roots : The True Story  
of an Unwanted Chinese Daughter**      **920 MAH**  
In an affluent Chinese family the fifth child and youngest daughter, Adeline, suffered appalling emotional abuse. Set against the background of changing political times and the collision of East and West, this story describes how, despite the legacy of her painful childhood, the author survived to make a successful career.

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**Marchetta, Melina**      **Looking for Alibrandi**      **F MAR:M**  
Josephine Alibrandi is 17, and in her final year of school. Dealing with her mum and the ways of her Nonna are daunting enough as she prepares for her exams. But Josie is about to discover real life gets in the way of her carefully-made plans.

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**Marshall, James**      **Walkabout**      **F MAR:J**  
The story of two white American children stranded in the central Australian desert who must rely on a nomadic tribal Aboriginal boy for survival. Peter and Mary survive a plane crash with the help of this boy: this is the story of the terrors and trials of the desert, touching friendship, and the courage of the children.

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**Masson, Sophie**      **The Tiger**      **F MAS:S**  
Nick has always wanted to visit Yogyakarta - his father's childhood home has been just as much a part of his life as his own Australian upbringing. But the real Indonesia stirs many emotions and poses unanswered questions about what really happened all those years ago. Why has it taken so long for Nick's father to return?

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**Matthingley, Christina**      **No Gun for Asmir**      **F MAT:C**  
War has come to Asmir's home in Sarajevo. Asmir has seen his friends wounded, in the park where they used to play. He hears bombs exploding, guns firing, his parents talking in worried voices. And then one day he is torn from his father, his home and everything he has known. He becomes a refugee....

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**McCuaig, Sandra**      **Spaghetti Connections**      **F MCC:S**  
Sam and Lucio are sons of strict Italian migrants who want their children to get a good education and become important citizens of their new country. Honey and Sugar are two streetwise persecutors from the sleazy end of town who know a lot more than they ought to about the 'crop' that all four become involved with.

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**McDonald, Meme**      **Njunjul the Sun**      **F MCD:M**  
"I'm heading out on m'own, down the highway to the big city. Going south, I lost my taste for knowing the old ways. I'm wanting what's new." But in the city you can feel like you don't exist anymore. Your mind can go crazy, crammed with everyone else's thoughts, so you can't hear your voice on the inside.

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**Medcraft, Rosalie &  
Gee, Valda**      **The Sausage Tree**      **F MED:R**  
A well written account of a battling family of Tasmanian Aborigines during the Depression. The title celebrates the favourite game of the authors when they were children.

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**Meehan, Kierin**      **Night Singing**      **F MEE:K**

When Josh breaks his leg, he is rescued by his kind but mysterious neighbour, Mrs. Murakami. Then Isabelle comes rollerblading into his life, bringing with her a circus-full of excitement, the key to Mrs. Murakami's tragic past and a whole new world of friends with secrets and mysteries of their own.

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**Moloney, James**      **Dougy**      **F MOL:J**

"Aborigines get special treatment," some of the angry white people say when Dougy's sister Gracey is picked for the state athletics championships. The championships change everything for Gracey and trigger dramatic events in the town too: black and white relations reach explosion point.

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**Moloney, James**      **Gracey**      **F MOL:J**

Gracey's come home for holidays. But everything has changed and is almost frightening. Her younger brother Dougy is a dropout who does odd jobs around the town. Part history, part mystery, this is a challenging story about the past and the present, murder and compassion and black and white identity.

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**Morrison, Rob**      **The Secret Sandwich**      **F MOR:R**

When a former bank manager returns to his home town 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 (meaning teacher) best friend and disciple of sorts, while remaining a slightly confused Catholic.

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**Naidoo, Beverley**      **The Other Side of Truth**      **F NAI:B**

A tragedy - and a terrible loss for Sade and her younger brother, Femi, children of an outspoken Nigerian journalist. Now terror is all around them and they must flee their country. Plans for their journey have to be hastily arranged. But once Sade and Femi reach England, they will be safe - won't they?

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**Newton, Robert**      **Mr. Romanov's Garden in the Sky**      **F NEW:R**

Lexie lives in a block of commission flats in Melbourne. Unfortunately, she comes a poor second to her mother's drug addiction, so she has had to fend for herself and not rely on her mother for any help. One day she witnesses a particularly upsetting incident involving the block's bullies and an old man's dog, but it is the catalyst for finding a new friend.

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**Nguyen, Viet Thanh**      **The Refugees**      **F NGU:V**

In *The Refugees*, Viet Thanh Nguyen gives voice to lives led between two worlds, the adopted homeland and the country of birth.

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**Orwin, Joanne**      **Owl : a Novel**      **F ORW:J**

Owl and Tama could hardly be more different. Owl has a lot to cope with. He's trying to get used to life without his Dad while helping his family run their struggling farm. All he wants is to escape by getting into archaeology and improve his climbing. And along comes Tama, a disgruntled city kid.

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**Razak, Manda**

**Waleed : Patches of Memory**

**F RAZ:M**

Waleed is a young Iraqi boy caught in a terrible conflict that he cannot understand; he is powerless in the face of forces beyond his control. He is knocked down, pushed around, bumped from one place to the next, and subjected to all the terrors of war. But there is one thing he has control of - himself.

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**Roy, T.A.**

**The Vengeance of the Dolphin**

**F ROY:T**

Jimmy, the son of the station owner, discovers a hidden Aboriginal message among his grandfather's papers. When he shows it to his mother, he unwittingly cuts across Aboriginal taboos and almost causes her death. With his friend, Tajuria, he sets out to solve an old mystery that involves death to pay back an old crime.

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**Scott, Bill**

**Boori**

**F SCO:B**

Boori, the young Aboriginal warrior must repay his debt to Perentie, the Old Man of the Hill of Opals. He must seek and fight the savage warrior Dingo, win his friendship and outwit the thieving Pukwudgies. On the way he overcomes many perils, from water women and from Ganba the Rainbow Snake, greatest being of all.

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**Shkempi, Nur**

**Rookie : Games We Play**

**F SHK:N**

What are these games Rookie finds herself playing? Her real name is Rokaya but she often feels like a 'rookie' for some reason, like she's new, like she has to prove herself to everyone. She doesn't know why. And when her Muslim family moves to Australia from New Zealand, things don't seem to get any better.

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**Starke, Ruth**

**Nips XI**

**F STA:R**

If white boys can't jump, can Asian kids play cricket? Lan's fed up with being called a nip. He wants to be a true-blue Aussie. What better way than by playing the greatest Anglo game of all? Lan gathers a team together and defiantly gives it a name: Nips XI.

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**Takac, Esther**

**Jacob : a World of Faces**

**F TAK:E**

Although Jacob goes to the local school and plays footy with his mates, his Jewish traditions seem to be always pulling him away from his friends. And it's like he's constantly misunderstood and missing out. One day, Jacob can't fact it anymore and decides to take a stand.

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**Thiele, Colin**

**Coorong Captive**

**F THI:C**

An adventure story about a holiday that went wrong. Fitzie is left on his own and befriends an Aborigine who teaches him about their ways. Together they outwit a ring of bird smugglers.

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**Tolbert, Steve**

**Escape to Kalimantan**

**F TOL:S**

When you lose someone you love, how do you lose the pain? For Jack and his dad, the answer is escape to the wilds of Kalimantan. But this is no holiday. A dark ghost house, a leper colony and someone is killing the orangutans. Jack finds out it's not just his own survival he has to worry about.

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**Vasa, Aruna**

**Archana & Aaditya : More Than Just a Party**

**F VAS:A**

Archana and her big brother Aaditya are comfortable around their friends, but not around each other. And Aaditya really isn't interested in their parents being all 'Hindu' around them. The last thing he wants is all his friends finding out how 'weird' a Diwali ceremony is.

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**Vondra, Josef**                      **No-Name Bird**    **F VON:J**  
East Timor. 1975. Jose was 14 when the Indonesians came. This is the story of his unusual relationship with Uncle Adolfo and the fighting bird they train. As the politics of their country erupt and the people, including Jose's family, have their daily lives changed forever, Jose is caught up in adventure and danger.

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**Weare, Romaine**                      **Malanbarra**    **F WEA:R**  
Malanbarra is based on true incidents in north Queensland's history; it is an excellent account of interactions that occurred between indigenous people, white settlers and the police.

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**Wheatley, Nadia**                      **My Place**    **PB WHE**  
This highly original book traces Australian history from 1988 back to 1788. Each double page spread steps back ten years, always at the same site, and reveals life at that time through the perspective of a child living there. A superlative example of historical accuracy presented in an exciting innovative way.

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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. When the captives can't navigate and the boat continually breaks down, Mia's hope for Hong Kong and freedom start to dwindle.

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**Wilson, Dominique**                      **The Yellow Papers**    **F WIL:D**  
It's 1872 and China - still bruised from its defeat in the two Opium Wars - sends a group of boys, including seven-year-old Chen Mu, to America to study and bring back the secrets of the West. But nine years on Chen Mu becomes a fugitive and flees to Umberumberka, a mining town in outback Australia. He eventually finds peace working for Matthew Dawson, a rich pastoralist.

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**Winton, Tim**                      **Lockie Leonard, Human Torpedo**    **F WIN:T**  
Lockie Leonard has to face not only the trauma of moving to a new town but facing a new school. Surfing is his one love until he meets Vicki Streeton. Then he finds what it is like to be 12 3/4 and in love.

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**Wirrer-George**  
**Oochunyang, Fiona**                      **Ebony : Strong Heart**    **F WIR:F**  
Fingers are often pointed at Ebony. Sometimes the people behind the fingers say things too. They say mean things, things she doesn't always understand, things about who she is and what she is. Maybe she doesn't always 'understand', but she knows what they mean. How come they get to say these things? How come they have the power to point fingers?

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**Wright, Judith**                      **The River and the Road**    **F WRI:J**  
A trespasser was keeping watch on Iscanus House. It is Max who first stumbles on the fact that a secret lurks in the small township along the Great North Road from Sydney, where his father keeps the mill. The year is 1859: these are the days of coaches and gold prospecting.

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**Xi, Xi; Hung, Eva**

**My City: a Hong Kong Story**

**F XI:X**

Life in this vibrant city seen through the eyes of its young protagonists. It was a time of tremendous growth for the territory and was also a time in which political and social problems which plague Hong Kong to this day came to the fore - the influx of Chinese and Vietnamese refugees, and the shadow of China.

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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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**Pryor, Boori**

**Maybe Tomorrow**

**791.092 PRY:M**

Boori Pryor's career path has taken him from the Aboriginal fringe camps of his birth to the runway, the catwalk, the basketball court, the DJ console and now to performance and storytelling around the country.

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