

DIFFICULT DECISIONS – BETWEEN A ROCK AND A HARD PLACE

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. Michael's parents have founded a new political party called Aussie Values. When Mina wins a scholarship to Michael's private school, their lives crash together blindingly.

Abdolah, Kader **My Father's Notebook** **F ABD:K**

On a holy mountain in the depths of Persia there is a cave with a mysterious cuneiform carving deep inside it. Aga Akbar, a deaf-mute boy from the mountain, develops his own private script from these symbols and writes passionately of his life, his family and his efforts to make sense of the changes the twentieth century brings to his country.

Ambrosio, Gabriella **Before We Say Goodbye** **F AMB:G**

Jerusalem, 2002 - where one young Palestinian is about to make the greatest sacrifice of all. In the style of the TV drama 24, each chapter covers an hour in the day leading up to a suicide bombing.

Anderson, Laurie Halse **The Impossible Knife of Memory** **F AND:L**

Hayley is hoping for a normal life now that she and her father have left their life on the road. But it seems things will never be normal when your dad is running from a past that tortures him and you're trying to block out your own painful memories.

Anderson, Laurie Halse **Speak** **F AND:L**

A traumatic event near the end of the summer has a devastating effect on Melinda's freshman year in high school.

Armstrong, William **Souder** **F ARM:W**

Set in the American South in the era of sharecropping and segregation, this tale describes the courage of a father who steals a ham to feed his undernourished family; the determination of the eldest son, who searches for his father despite the apathy of prison authorities and the devotion of a dog named Souder.

Ayarbe, Heidi **Freeze Frame** **F AYA:H**

No matter how many times Kyle rewrites the scene, he can't get it right. He can't remember what happened that day in the shed. The day Jason died. And until he can, there is one question that keeps haunting Kyle: Did he kill his best friend on purpose?

**Bailey, Maralyn &
Bailey, Maurice** **117 Days Adrift** **910.45:BAI**

After Maralyn and Maurice Bailey's yacht 'Auralyn' sank, they spent 117 days in their small rubber life raft. For most of the time they were totally dependent on resources provided by the ocean and the sky.

Baillie, Allan **Cat's Mountain** **F BAI:A**

When Cat is dropped off at her grandmother's hut in a remote part of the bush, she suddenly finds herself on her own. What has happened, and what can she do? Piecing together clues, Cat starts making sense of things, but not the sort of sense she was hoping for.

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Crane, Stephen **The Red Badge of Courage** **F CRA:S**
A young Civil War recruit faces the terror of battle. Will he find the courage he needs? An 'American classic' - a story of fear, courage, conflict and death.

Cross, Gillian **On the Edge** **F CRO:G**
Kidnapped by a terrorist group, Tug finds himself in unfamiliar surroundings with a couple who claim to be his parents. Totally confused, Tug begins to doubt his own identity. A brilliant psychological thriller.

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 awaits.

Crossley-Holland, Kevin **Arthur: King of the Middle March** **F CRO:K**
Thousands of knights and foot soldiers are mustering in Venice for the launch of the Fourth Crusade. Among them is young Arthur de Caldicot, soon to be dubbed a knight. He is thrilled to be part of this huge gathering, but all too soon the crusade falls into disarray.

Dale, John **Plenty** **F DAL:J**
17-year-old Jed White lives with his mum and dad behind the service station in the small coastal town of Plenty. When a foreign trawler crashes on the rocks one night, Jed and his girlfriend, Chrissy, figure from the rolls of stained bedding below deck that the boat must have been carrying many people. They soon discover that dozens of refugees are sheltering at a nearby property.

Diver, Stuart **Survival: the Inspirational Story of the Thredbo Disaster's Sole Survivor** **920 DIV**
The story of how one man found the mental and physical strength to live through tragedy and survive against impossible odds. Stuart explores the event that changed his world forever.

Drake, John **The Fourth Test** **F DRA:J**
With no dad to guide him, Sam must make his own decisions about standing up for what he knows is right, but this time he's picked the wrong guy to mess with.

Eastham, Ruth **The Memory Cage** **F EAS:R**
Alex's beloved grandfather is sick. His memory is failing, and Alex's parents want to put him in a home. Alex has promised Grandad that he won't let that happen. But Alex has broken promises before. When he was growing up in the Bosnian War, he swore that he would protect his brother. It was a promise that he couldn't keep. Alex can't fail again.

Eishes Chayil (also known as Judy Brown) **Hush** **F CHA:E**
Haunted by memories of her childhood friend's rape and suicide, Gittel begins to question the close-knit religious community she has grown up in and overcomes her own guilt and fears by finally breaking her silence. Based on true events and Brown's own experience of growing up in the Chassidic sect.

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Forbes, Esther

Johnny Tremain

F FOR:E

Johnny Tremain is one of a group of conspirators preparing for the famous Boston Tea Party which sparked off the American Revolution.

Forman, Gayle

If I stay

F FOR:G

For seventeen-year-old Mia, surrounded by a wonderful family, friends and a gorgeous boyfriend, decisions might seem tough, but they're all about a future full of music and love, a future that's brimming with hope. But life can change in an instant.

Fraser, Antonia

King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table

F FRA:A

Arthur lifts the sword from the stone and the great age of chivalry is born. This retelling of the greatest of stories captures all the excitement and romance of the age.

Fraser, Antonia

Robin Hood

F FRA:A

Stealing from the rich to feed the poor, Robin Hood is a familiar figure from legend. In this skillful retelling a classic adventure is brought to life as never before. Every page is packed with adventure, romance and excitement. It also contains betrayal and blackmail, while the Sheriff's forces try to get the upper hand.

French, Jackie

Walking the Boundaries

F FRE:J

Martin's great-grandfather was told he could have the farm for free if he walked the boundaries. Unfortunately, others want to stop this happening, no matter what the cost.

Gallico, Paul

The Poseidon Adventure

F GAL:P

A sea-liner 'Poseidon' is caught by an underwater earthquake and capsizes. As the ship slowly sinks, a group of survivors, with the help of an American mountaineer, attempt to inch their way upward through the bowels of the ship to safety.

Garfield, Leon

The Golden Shadow

F GAR:L

An original and enthralling version of the Greek myths. The stories describe epic conflicts among the Greek Gods.

Glatshiteyn, Yankev

Emil and Karl

F GLA:Y

Two friends - Emil is Jewish, while Karl is not - are trapped in Vienna during the Anschluss with no-one to rely upon as murder and madness have disposed of their parents. They are more afraid of becoming separated than they are of the Nazis, it is clear they are coming of age and into a terrible knowledge, ahead of the rest of the population, as they observe the world descending into madness around them.

Great soldiers' tales presented by Michael Carver

F GRE

A collection of short stories based on the experiences of soldiers at war, from the writings of Kipling, C. S. Forester, Leon Tolstoy, Montserrat and many more.

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Green, Roger Lancelyn **King Arthur and His Knights of the Round Table** **F GRE:R**
Epic tales of good and evil, from the birth of Arthur to the mystical sword in the stone, to the quest for the Holy Grail and the Last Battle at Camlann.

Green, Roger Lancelyn **The Luck of Troy** **F GRE:R**
Carried off by his mother at the age of two, Prince Paris of Troy feels justified in helping the Greeks to attack Troy. This is the epic story of the siege of Troy by the Greeks.

Green, Roger Lancelyn **Tales of the Greek Heroes** **292.08 GRE**
The story of Helen and the judgment of Paris; the gathering of the heroes and the siege of Troy; of Achilles and Odysseus who conceived the idea and carried out the making of the Wooden Horse and his many adventures on his long journey back to Greece.

Haggard, H. Rider **King Solomon's Mines** **F HAG:H**
They were diamond mines and there were chests full of uncut stones, some as large as pigeon's eggs. But it was not for them that three Englishmen made their perilous expedition north of Durban. They went in search of a man.

Hartnett, Sonya **Stripes of the Sidestep Wolf** **F HAR:S**
In a dying country town lives a young man fighting the future, a young woman fighting the past, and a long-lost animal that can teach them both the art of survival.

Heaney, Seamus **Beowulf** **829.3 BEO:H**
Composed towards the end of the first millennium of our era, the Anglo-Saxon poem "Beowulf" is one of the great Northern epics and a classic of European literature. It is a tale of its hero's triumphs as a young warrior and his fated death as a defender of his people.

Heffernan, John **Hotaka** **F HEF:J**
When the tsunami strikes the Japanese seaside town of Omori-wan, the effects are utterly devastating. Three years later, much of what happened on that day is still a mystery. As Hotaka sets about convincing local performers to appear at the town's upcoming Memorial Concert, he finds himself increasingly haunted by memories of best friend, Takeshi, who perished without trace in the tsunami.

Heyerdahl, Thor **Kon-Tiki : Across the Pacific by Raft** **910.9164 HEY**
The exciting true story of the Kon-Tiki's famous crossing of the Pacific on a balsa-wood raft.

Hill, Anthony **Soldier Boy: the True Story of Jim Martin the Youngest Anzac** **F HIL:A**
Jim Martin was 14 when he sailed away to war on the troopship Berrima, on 28 June 1915, bound for Gallipoli. This is the true story of how an inexperienced schoolboy became Australia's youngest known Anzac.

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Hope, Anthony

The Prisoner of Zenda

F HOP:A

It was a little more than idle curiosity and a penchant for travel that took Rudolf Rassdyll to Ruritania to witness the coronation of its king. There he is astonished to meet his exact double - the King of Ruritania! When the king is kidnapped, there seemed only one way to avert disaster: Rudolf must impersonate the king.

Hough, Richard

Razor Eyes

F HOU:R

A vivid portrayal of the experiences of a young man going from school in 1940 into the RAF. The descriptions of action in the air, culminates in an utterly thrilling solo flight into France to photograph and destroy Germany's prototype jet fighter.

Jones, V.M.

Shooting the moon

F JON:V

When Pip McLeod heads into the wilderness with his father on the traditional McLeod first hunting trip he faces a dramatic choice and discovers what it means to confront issues of life and death. (Follow up to the novel - Juggling with Mandarins.

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 family move from New York City back to Syria. 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 12th-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 neighbourhood.

Kadohata, Cynthia

Kira–Kira

F KAD:C

a novel about a young Japanese girl, Katie Takeshima, growing up in the late 1950s and early 1960s. Though she lives in a volatile time, she is oblivious to everything around her except the security of her family's love. That cocoon of love is slowly shattered, however, beginning with a move that takes her family from the familiar cornfields of Iowa to Georgia.

Kurlansky, Mark

Battle Fatigue

F KUR:M

Growing up in the years following World War II, Joel Bloom always played soldiers with his friends. But by the time he's eighteen, the Vietnam War is in full swing, and it's not as simple as the war games he played when he was a child. Old enough to be drafted, Joel loves his country, but he knows that fighting in an unjust war isn't something he can do.

Lahiri, Jhumpa

The Lowland

F LAH:J

The story of two very different brothers bound by tragedy, a fiercely brilliant woman haunted by her past, a country torn apart by revolution, and a love that endures long past death. Moving from the 1960s to the present, and from India to America and across generations

Lake, Nick

Hostage Three

F LAK:N

It's a once-in-a-lifetime thing: a girl on a yacht with her super-rich banker father; a chance for the family to heal after a turbulent time; the peaceful sea, the warm sun. But a nightmare is about to explode as a group of Somali pirates seizes the boat and its human cargo. Hostage One is Dad - the most valuable. Amy is Hostage Three. As she builds a strange bond with one of her captors, it becomes brutally clear that the price of a life and its value are very different things.

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Makkai, Rebecca **The Borrower** **F MAK:R**

Lucy Hull, a 26-year-old children's librarian in Hannibal, Missouri, finds herself both kidnapper and kidnapped when her favourite patron, 10-year-old Ian Drake, runs away from home. The odd pair embarks on an improvised road trip from Missouri to Vermont.

Malory, Sir Thomas **King Arthur and his knights** **F MAL:T**

A retelling of the story of King Arthur, the Round Table, and the exploits of the knights, with the principal focus on Sir Gawain.

Marsden, John **Tomorrow When the War Began** **F MAR:J**

Seven teenagers go on a weekend trip to an isolated valley. Upon their return they find their families have disappeared and their country has been invaded by a foreign army. The teenagers take on new maturity when they realise that they must not only survive but try to counteract this foreign invasion.

**Martin, Jesse &
Gannon, Ed** **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 eighteen years old and didn't know the meaning of impossible. 'Lionheart' is Jesse's story.

Matarasso, P.M. **The Quest of the Holy Grail** **F QUE**

A translation from the French of the fabulous legend of King Arthur where chivalrous adventures like Gawain, Lancelot and Galahad journey across a land strewn with fantastic dangers and temptations.

Mayne, William **Drift** **F MAY:W**

A thrilling adventure of a young boy and an Indian girl, stranded on a frozen floating island in the North American wilderness.

McCaffrey, Kate **Destroying Avalon** **F MCC:K**

When Avalon moves to the city her life is turned upside down. Starting at a new high school, she finds herself at the centre of a brutal cyber-bullying campaign. She is inundated with obscene text messages, and subject to increasingly vicious web site postings, as things spiral out of control.

McCaughrean, Geraldine **Tamburlaine's Elephants** **F MCC:G**

Rusti is a Tartar, travelling and pillaging with the legendary Horde of Tamburlaine, Conqueror of the World. He dreams of honour and riches, and is proud to capture his first prisoners - an elephant and her keeper. Yet amidst the death and destruction, an unlikely friendship takes hold in this breathtaking tale.

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.

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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.

Morpurgo, Michael **Joan of Arc of Domremy** **F MOR:M**
The moving story of the life of Joan of Arc of Domremy - one of the most extraordinary lives ever lived - brings Joan to life, nearly seven hundred years after her terrible death in Rouen.

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

**Mowat, Farley &
Geer, Charles** **Lost in the Barrens** **F MOW:F**
Jamie and Awasin accompany a hunting party into the wilds and discover a mysterious cache of relics. The adventure becomes terror when they are separated from their Indian friends, and with their canoe lost in the rapids, they are faced with months of desperate struggle to survive in the Barrenlands winter.

Naidoo, Beverley **No Turning Back** **F NAI:B**
Escaping from his violent stepfather, twelve-year-old Sipho heads for Johannesburg, where he has heard that gangs of children live on the streets. Surviving hunger and the bitter-cold winter nights is hard enough, but Sipho also has to learn, in the 'new' South Africa, who to trust.

Naidoo, Beverley **Web of Lies** **F NAI:B**
Two years after their flight from Nigeria, 14-yr-old Sade, her younger brother Femi and her father are living in a council flat in London, waiting for their claim for asylum to be approved. But when Femi is arrested for murder, and the gang set fire to their flat, the family has to pull together to get through this most difficult time.

Napoli, Donna Jo **Stones in Water** **F NAP:D**
Life is hard for Roberto and Samuele in the Nazi labour camp - backbreaking work, near starvation and above all Samuele's secret, a secret that, if discovered, will mean death for them both. Escape is Roberto's only chance. But can he survive the brutal winter cold? Can he find his way back home?

Noonan, Michael **McKenzie's Boots** **F NOO:M**
Rod McKenzie, a Sydney school boy, over-size, but underage, manages to enlist and is sent to New Guinea. This is the story of Rod's life as a young soldier, full of incidents and discoveries as he matures.

O'Brien, Raud **Little Wing : Eastabout the Southern Oceans** **910.41 O'B**
The story of Raud O'Brien's single-handed circumnavigation of the world in his yacht, Little Wing, a journey of 20,000 miles. In a vessel totally designed, predominantly built, and entirely financed by his own efforts, no life-raft, no means of communication, no engine, and no modern technology to help him.

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Sutcliffe, William **The Wall : a Modern Fable** **F SUT:W**

In an isolated town that closely resembles the West Bank, 13-year-old Joshua discovers that his world may not be as it seems; that his people may be aggressors rather than victims; and that he must stand up to his stepfather and forge his own sense of right and wrong.

Sutherland, Robert **Mystery at Black Rock Island** **F SUT:R**

David's vacation, in the Scottish Hebrides, becomes a life or death struggle when he is caught in a race to stop terrorists from holding the world to ransom.

Thiele, Colin **Blue Fin** **F THI:C**

'Snook' Pascoe never seems to be able to do the right thing as far as his father is concerned. He is desperate to accompany his father on his tuna clipper, 'Blue Fin'. His chance comes when his father finds himself short of a crew member at Easter.

Thiong'o, Ngugi wa **Weep Not, Child** **F THI:N**

Details the effects of the infamous Mau Mau war, the African nationalist revolt against colonial oppression in Kenya, on the lives of ordinary men and women, and on one family in particular.

Tranter, Nigel **Lord of the Isles** **F TRA:N**

By the power of his sword arm, his dragon fleet and his sheer personality, Somerled Norse Slayer carved an enduring name for himself in Scottish legend. Inheriting his father's shattered kingdom in Argyll in the twelfth century, he enlarged it by courage, initiative, military shrewdness and diplomacy.

Uris, Leon **Mila 18** **F URI:L**

Set in the midst of the ghetto uprising that defied Nazi tyranny, as the Jews of Warsaw boldly met Wehrmacht tanks with homemade weapons and bare fists. It is a compelling story of one of the most heroic struggles of modern times.

Vann, David **Goat Mountain** **F VAN:D**

Three generations of men hunt for deer on Goat Mountain. One hot autumn day, grandfather, son and grandson discover a poacher on their land. The eleven-year-old studies the poacher through the scope of his father's rifle - and pulls the trigger. Goat Mountain is an intensely powerful novel about how these men, and their boy, deal with the poacher's death, and with his body. In prose devastating and beautiful in its precision, David Vann explores our most primal urges, the ties that bind us, and the consequences of our actions - what we owe for what we've done.

Vondra, Josef **No-Name Bird** **F VON:J**

Jose Rodrigues was 14 years old when the Indonesians came to East Timor in 1975. This is the story of his Uncle Adolfo and the fighting bird they train as their daily lives changed forever. Jose is caught up in adventure and danger, and the fighting bird becomes a symbol of courage which he clings to.

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Zail, Suzy

The Wrong Boy

F ZAI:S

Hanna is a talented pianist. Relatively late in World War II the Budapest Jews were rounded up and sent to Auschwitz. Hanna and her mother and sister are separated from her father. Her mother becomes increasingly mentally ill until she too is taken away somewhere. Her sister Erika is slowly starving to death. Hanna is quite a naive 15-year-old but when presented with the opportunity to play piano for the camp commander, she is desperate to be chosen.

Zenatti, Valerie

Message in a Bottle

F ZEN:V

Following a suicide bomb attack on her local Jerusalem café, in which she and her friends could so easily have been its victims, a seventeen-year-old Israeli schoolgirl decides to send a message in a bottle to Gaza. Her message is found by a young man who calls himself Gazaman, and a remarkable email correspondence begins.
