

NOVELS

Adiga, Aravind Between the Assassinations F ADI:A
Adiga has produced a microcosm of Indian life in the 80s, the years between the assassinations of Indira Gandhi and her son Rajiv. Muslim, Christian and Hindu, high-caste and low-caste, rich and poor: all of Indian life - the 'sorrowful parade of humanity' - is here.

Adiga, Aravind Last Man in Tower F ADI:A
A suspense-filled story of money and power, luxury and deprivation; a rich tapestry peopled by unforgettable characters, not least of which is Bombay itself, Last Man in Tower opens up the hearts and minds of the inhabitants of a great city - ordinary people pushed to their limits in a place that knows none.

Adiga, Aravind Selection Day F ADI:A
Manjunath Kumar is fourteen. He knows he is good at cricket - if not as good as his elder brother Radha. He knows that he fears and resents his domineering and cricket-obsessed father, admires his brilliantly talented sibling and is fascinated by the world of CSI and by curious and interesting scientific facts. But there are many things, about himself and about the world that he doesn't know...

Adiga, Aravind The White Tiger F ADI:A
Also available as an eBook.
Meet Balram Halwai, the 'White Tiger': servant, philosopher, entrepreneur and murderer. Born in a village in the dark heart of India, the son of a rickshaw puller, Balram is taken out of school by his family and put to work in a teashop. As he crushes coal and wipes tables, he nurses a dream of escape.

Aslam, Nadeem The Blind Man's Garden F ASL:N
Jeo and Mikal, foster-brothers from a small Pakistani city, secretly enter Afghanistan: not to fight with the Taliban, but to help and care for wounded civilians. From the wilds of Afghanistan to the heart of the family left behind - their blind father haunted for years by the death of his wife, by the mistakes he may have made in the name of Islam and nationhood, Jeo's steadfast wife and her superstitious mother - Aslam's prose takes us on an extraordinary journey.

Baillie, Allan 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. Joan is Penang-Chinese, her late husband English, their daughter Australian. The half coin was a bequest from Leah's unknown Chinese grandfather, but Dad had been the one keenest to unravel its mystery.

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. They sprinted when it hurled black rocks at them. Kerta didn't want to go to Krakatoa.

ASIAN PERSPECTIVES – READING LIST

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 in their flight from the Khmer Rouge.

Baillie, Allan **Songman** **F BAI:A**
This story is set in northern Australia in 1720, before the time of Captain Cook. Yukuwa sets out across the sea to the islands of Indonesia. It is an adventure contrasting lifestyles and cultures, based on an episode of our history rarely explored in fiction.

Bauer, Michael **The Running Man** **F BAU:M**
There had always been the Running Man...always that phantom form somewhere in the distance, always shuffling relentlessly closer...Fourteen-year-old Joseph, a talented artist, is drawing a portrait of his silent, brooding neighbour, Tom Leighton. To draw him accurately, Joseph must see beyond the rumours and gossip to the man himself, the Vietnam War veteran who passes his days tending his silkworms and keeping his dark secrets.

Boyce, Frank
Cottrell **The Unforgotten Coat** **F BOY:F**
When two Mongolian brothers inexplicably appear one morning in Julie's sixth grade class, no one, least of all Julie, knows what to do with them. But when Chingis, the older of the two brothers, proclaims Julie as their Good Guide - a nomadic tradition of welcoming strangers to a new land - Julie must somehow navigate them through soccer, school uniforms, and British slang.

Bradford, Chris **The Way of the Warrior** **F BRA:C**
August 1611. Jack Fletcher is shipwrecked off the coast of Japan - his beloved father and the crew lie slaughtered by ninja pirates. Rescued by the legendary sword master Masamoto Takeshi, Jack's only hope is to become a samurai warrior. And so, his training begins. But life at the samurai school is a constant fight for survival.

Carlin, David **The Near and the Far: New Stories from the Asia-Pacific Region** **F CAR:D**
From 21 of the best writers in the Asia-Pacific region comes a collection about finding connections where you least expect them. It's post-9/11 San Francisco, and a woman meets her foster child, who provokes painful reminders of her past. It's contemporary Bangkok, and a writer's encounter with ladyboy culture prompts him to explore gender boundaries.

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.

Catran, Ken **Teresa Moran: Soldier** **F CAT:K**
Teresa Moran is a fourth-generation soldier. She wants to live up to her father and uphold the family name, but must fight to gain acceptance among her male comrades. In Timor and Iraq, she is put to the test. Can she break the cycle of wartime and peacetime violence that has always beset her family - and find the courage to change the future?

ASIAN PERSPECTIVES – READING LIST

Chim, Wai The Surprising Power of a Good Dumpling F CHI:W

Anna Chiu has her hands pretty full looking after her brother and sister and helping out at her dad's restaurant, all while her mum stays in bed. Dad's new delivery boy, Rory, is a welcome distraction and even though she knows that things aren't right at home, she's starting to feel like she could just be a normal teen. But when Mum finally gets out of bed, things go from bad to worse.

Coerr, Eleanor Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes F COE:E

Sadako Sasaki was two years old when an atom bomb was dropped on the city of Hiroshima in Japan, where she lived with her family. Ten years later, she had leukaemia as a result of radiation from the bomb. Sadako's letters were collected by her classmates and published in Japan. This book is the result of the author's research into those letters and Sadako's family background.

Crist-Evans, Craig Amaryllis F CRI:C

Amaryllis. It was the name of the ship that ran aground on Singer Island, Florida, during a hurricane in 1965. It became a battle cry for Jimmy Staples and his older brother, Frank, and a code word for going surfing together. But now that eighteen-year-old Frank is off battling the enemy (and his own addictive demons) in Vietnam and fifteen-year-old Jimmy is left to deal with the repercussions at home, "Amaryllis" takes on an ominous new meaning - a symbol of what happens when life places the unexpected in our paths.

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. These young people relate or imaginatively recreate the story of someone who came to Australia as a refugee.

Desai, Anita The Village by the Sea: an Indian Family Story F DES:A

Hari and his sister Lila are the eldest children of an Indian family. Their mother is ill and their father spends most of his time in a drunken stupor. Grimly, Lila and Hari struggle to hold the family together until one day, in a last-ditch attempt to break out of this poverty, Hari leaves his sisters in the silent, shadowy hut and runs off to Bombay.

Disher, Garry The Divine Wind F DIS:G

This is the story of four friends growing up in Broome before World War II. Alice and Hartley Penrose, Mitsy Sennosuke and Jamie Kilian have very different lives and backgrounds, but they swim, joke and watch films together happily. Until war breaks out and Japanese bombs start falling.

Ellis, Deborah Parvana F ELL:D

There are many types of battle in Afghanistan. Imagine living in a country where women and girls are not allowed to leave the house without a man. Imagine having to wear clothes that cover every part of your body, including your face, whenever you go out. This is the life of Parvana, a young girl growing up in Afghanistan under the control of an extreme religious military group.

Ellis, Deborah Shauzia F ELL:D

Parvana's friend Shauzia continues the story when she is in a refugee camp, focused on getting to France. She can see no other option, even when a different line of work is offered, making use of her nursing and humanitarian skills right there where she is needed.

ASIAN PERSPECTIVES – READING LIST

Evans, Alwyn **Walk in my Shoes** **F EVA:A**
After a perilous and terrifying escape from war-torn Afghanistan, Gulnessa and her family find themselves in Australia, a place they know nothing about. 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.

Farmer, Graeme **Brothers in Arms** **F FAR:G**
The story of a young Japanese boy's quest to lay his grandfather to rest. In order to achieve this 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.

Flynn, Warren **Escaping Paradise** **F FLY:W**
A tropical holiday turns into a nightmare for Nicki when she is kidnapped by freedom fighters and held to ransom. But, it's not her that the kidnappers want. They think she is the daughter of an oil magnate, whose money can pay for the weapons they need. When they discover she isn't, things can only go from bad to worse.

Gibb, Camilla **The Beauty of Humanity Movement** **F GIB:C**
Raised in the United States but Vietnamese by birth, Maggie has come to Hanoi seeking clues to the fate of her father, a dissident artist who disappeared during the war. Her search brings her to Old Man Hu'ng's pho stall. The old man once had a shop frequented by revolutionary artists, but now Tu', a hustling young entrepreneur, is his most faithful customer. Maggie, Hu'ng, and Tu' come together during a highly charged season that will mark them forever.

Gleeson, Libby **Mahtab's Story** **F GLE:L**
Mahtab and her family are forced to leave their home in Afghanistan and journey secretly through the rocky mountains to Pakistan and from there to faraway Australia. Months go by, months of waiting, months of dread. Will they ever be reunited with their father; will they ever find a home?

Gleeson, Libby **Refuge** **F GLE:L**
Andrew is in year 9, obsessed with palaeontology and hoping to develop his friendship with Kim. Anna, his sister, is at University, getting involved with causes and trying to draw Andrew in to assist her. The Church is developing a plan to hide asylum seekers from East Timor and Anna feels that their big house is just the place that no one will think to look.

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?

Grant, Neil **Indo Dreaming** **F GRA:N**
A surf odyssey that reveals a rarely seen glimpse of Indonesia and its people: funny, compassionate, angry, wild, clever. It's for anyone who has the spirit of travel wedged in their soul. Goog's best mate Castro vanished into the Southern Ocean, but his body was never found.

ASIAN PERSPECTIVES – READING LIST

Grant, Neil The Ink Bridge F GRA:N
Omed is a boy from Afghanistan. After making an enemy of the Taliban on the day the Buddhas of Bamiyan are destroyed, he undertakes a perilous journey to seek asylum in Australia. Hector is a grieving Australian boy who has given up on school and retreated into silence. Their paths meet at a candle factory where they both find work.

Grindley, Sally Broken Glass F GRI:S
When Suresh and Sandeep run away from home to escape their abusive father, they find themselves homeless in the big city. With the help of other street children, the brothers learn to work as glass collectors, and things begin to look brighter. But when Suresh realises his younger brother isn't coping as well as he thought, he must find a way to save Sandeep and himself from a terrible fate.

Guo, Xiaolu I am China F GUO:X
In her flat in north London, Iona Kirkpatrick sets to work on a new project translating a collection of letters and diaries by a Chinese musician. With each letter and journal entry, Iona becomes more and more intrigued with the unfolding story of two lovers: Jian, a punk rocker who believes there is no art without political commitment, and Mu, the young woman he loves as fiercely as his ideals.

Hamid, Mohsin The Reluctant Fundamentalist F HAM:M
Also available as an eBook.
Set in the years following 9/11, *The Reluctant Fundamentalist* tackles, through the engaging, articulate words of its narrator Changez, what it is to be a Pakistani living in the suspicious, terrorism-altered Western world.

Harcourt, Emma The Shanghai Wife F HAR:E
Leaving behind the loneliness and trauma of her past in country Australia, Annie Brand arrives to the political upheaval and glittering international society of Shanghai in the 1920s. Journeying up the Yangtze with her new husband, the ship's captain, Annie revels in the sense of adventure but when her husband sends her back to Shanghai, her freedom is quickly curtailed.

Harris, Christine Fortune Cookies F HAR:C
The mixture of funny and sad stories in this collection gently lifts the familiar imagery of places like China, Vietnam, Singapore, Korea, the Philippines, Bali and Australia and allows us to share the reality of lives that are at best only half understood.

Hawke, Rosanne Mountain Wolf F HAW:R
Razaq Nadeem lives in the tribal area of Kala Dhaka, known as Black Mountain, in Pakistan. When an earthquake strikes and his family is lost, Razaq is told by his dying father to flee to Rawalpindi, where his uncle Kamil lives. In the aftermath of the quake, all is chaos. Razaq is sold into slavery by a man preying on orphans in the area, and is desperate to escape.

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?

ASIAN PERSPECTIVES – READING LIST

Hawke, Rosanne Shahana

F HAW:R

Shahana lives alone with her young brother in the shadow of the Line of Control, the border patrolled by Pakistani and Indian soldiers that divides Kashmir in two. Life is hard, but Shahana ekes out a living with her beautiful embroidery. Then she finds a boy lying unconscious near the border. Zahid is from across the Line of Control, and Shahana takes a terrible risk by sheltering him.

Hearn, Lian Across the Nightingale Floor

F HEA:L

In a novel set in a land much like ancient Japan, a young boy named Takeo becomes a pawn in the ceaseless wars between rival warlord clans in a culture ruled by codes of honour and formal rituals.

Hearn, Lian Emperor of the Eight Islands: the Tale of Shikanoko

F HEA:L

Two rival clans struggling over who will be crowned Emperor of the Eight Islands, in a medieval Japanese country inhabited by warriors, assassins, ghosts and guardian spirits. As the laws of destiny play out their inexorable drama, so the battle for the Lotus Throne begins.

Hearn, Lian Heaven's Net is Wide

F HEA:L

Lord Shigeru, heir to the Otori clan, faces hostility from the shrewdly ambitious Iida family in the East and base treachery at home from his own uncles. His noble education and training as a warrior have prepared him for leadership and combat, but fate and Shigeru's youthful determination bring the Three Countries to war, and he must endure terrible and tragic defeat at the battle of Yaegahara and its brutal consequences.

Higashino, Keigo Malice

F HIG:K

Acclaimed bestselling novelist Kunihiko Hidaka is brutally murdered in his home on the night before he's planning to leave Japan and relocate to Vancouver. His body is found in his office, in a locked room, within his locked house, by his wife and his best friend, both of whom have rock solid alibis. Or so it seems.

Hirata, Andrea The Rainbow Troops

F HIR:A

Ikal is a student at Muhammadiyah Elementary, on the Indonesian island of Belitong, where graduating from sixth grade is considered a major achievement. His school is under constant threat of closure.

Hosseini, Khaled And the Mountains Echoed

F HOS:K

In this tale revolving around not just parents and children but brothers and sisters, cousins and caretakers, Hosseini explores the many ways in which families nurture, wound, betray, honour, and sacrifice for one another; and how often we are surprised by the actions of those closest to us, at the times that matter most.

Hosseini, Khaled The Kite Runner
Also available as an eBook.

F HOS:K

Growing up in Kabul, Amir and Hassan are inseparable friends. As an adult living in California, Amir remains haunted by a childhood incident in which he betrayed Hassan's trust. When he learns that the Taliban has murdered Hassan and wife, Amir returns to his homeland to learn the fate of the couple's son.

ASIAN PERSPECTIVES – READING LIST

Hosseini, Khaled A Thousand Splendid Suns F HOS:K

Mariam, a young girl, lives in a small shack with her mother, Nana, outside of the city of Herat in Afghanistan. Nana had worked as a housemaid for the wealthy cinema owner Jalil, Mariam's father, but after she became pregnant, Jalil cast her out to the shack.

Hyde, Michael Hey Joe F HYD:M

Jimi doesn't know his father, Joe; the least he can do is go to Vietnam and try to find him. With the aid of Joe's half-written novel, an uncanny sense of direction and more than a dash of luck, Jimi sets off on a search for his father... and himself.

Jaivin, Linda The Empress Lover F JAI:L

Peking, 1944: Sir Edmund Backhouse is a man of many parts. A polyglot scholar. A closeted homosexual. A genius of perversity, a forger, arms salesman, occasional spy and fantasist. Also, if he is to be believed, the onetime lover of the redoubtable Empress Dowager of China, a woman many decades his senior.

Jia, Mai Decoded : a Novel F JIA:M

Decoded tells the story of Rong Jinzhwen, one of the great code-breakers in the world. A semi-autistic mathematical genius, Jinzhen is recruited to the cryptography department of China's secret services, Unit 701, where he is assigned the task of breaking the elusive 'Code Purple'. Jinzhen rises through the ranks to eventually become China's greatest and most celebrated code-breaker; until he makes a mistake.

Jian, Ma The Noodle Maker F JIA:M

Every week, a writer of political propaganda and a professional blood donor meet for dinner. Over the course of one especially gastronomic evening, the writer starts to complain about his latest Party commission: the story of an ordinary soldier who sacrifices his life to the revolutionary cause.

Johnson, Mitch Kick F JOH:M

Budi's plan is simple. He's going to be a star. Budi's going to play for the greatest team on earth, instead of sweating over each stitch he sews, each football boot he makes. But one unlucky kick brings Budi's world crashing down. Now he owes the Dragon, the most dangerous man in Jakarta. Soon it isn't only Budi's dreams at stake, but his life.

Kelman, Stephen Man on Fire F KEL:S

The novel follows Nayak and John Lock, an Englishman that has been diagnosed with terminal cancer. He has left his life and spouse behind in order to elope to India under the pretence of committing suicide. Once in India he meets Nayak and decides to help the man break the world record for breaking the greatest number of baseball bats on his shin bone.

Keyi, Sheng Death Fugue F KEYS:S

At the heart of the novel lies Yuan Mengliu, a poet who gave up poetry to become a doctor in the aftermath of a Tiananmen Square-like protest movement that occurs in a fictitious country called Dayang.

ASIAN PERSPECTIVES – READING LIST

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, and her father remarries, Jameela has to face a greater horror. To survive, she draws on the strong sense of self that her mother gave her.

**Krasznahorkai,
Laszlo**

Seiobo There Below

F KRA:L

Seiobo - a Japanese goddess - has a peach tree in her garden that blossoms once every three thousand years; its fruit brings immortality. In Seiobo There Below, we see her returning again and again to mortal realms, searching for a glimpse of perfection.

Lahiri, Jhumpa Interpreter of Maladies: Stories

F LAH:J

Also available as an eBook.

These elegant stories tell the lives of Indians in exile, of people navigating between the strict traditions they've inherited and the baffling New World they must encounter every day.

Lahiri, Jhumpa The Namesake

F LAH:J

Born to an Indian academic and his wife, Gogol is afflicted from birth with a name that is neither Indian nor American nor even really a first name at all. He grows up a bright American boy, goes to Yale, has pretty girlfriends, becomes a successful architect, but like many second-generation immigrants, he can never quite find his place in the world.

Lahiri, Jhumpa Unaccustomed Earth

F LAH:J

A new collection of stories that explore the heart of family life and the immigrant experience, from the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of Interpreter of Maladies and The Namesake.

Lai, Thanhha Inside Out & Back Again

F LAI:T

Moving to America turns Ha's life inside out. For all the ten years of her life, Ha has only known Saigon: the thrills of its markets, the joy of its traditions, the warmth of her friends close by, and the beauty of her very own papaya tree. But now the Vietnam War has reached her home.

Lalwani, Nikita Gifted

F LAL:N

The novel is set in the 1980s Cardiff where maths prodigy Rumi Vasi grows up with her Hindu parents. Subjected to her father's strict tutoring he is determined that she be accepted by Oxford University at the age of only fifteen. But on starting University she finds it hard to adapt to her new-found freedom.

Le, Nam The Boat

F LE:N

Also available as an eBook.

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.

ASIAN PERSPECTIVES – READING LIST

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 70 years of history. What Fumiko finds in Hana's suitcase is a story of terrible sadness and great joy.

Lewis, Richard **The Killing Sea** **F LEW:R**
Aceh, Indonesia, December 2004. Two teens find themselves surrounded by the destruction left in the wake of the most devastating tsunami the world has ever seen: Ruslan, a native of Aceh, in search of his missing father, and Sarah, an American girl, who has already lost her mother and is now struggling to find medical treatment for her sick brother. Only together can they find what they're searching for.

Lloyd, Alison **Year of the Tiger** **F LLO:A**
The story is set in the 2nd century AD, during the Han Dynasty. Two very different boys, both dreaming of glory. One year in their lives will be more dangerous than they ever imagined. Where the Great Wall meets the Yellow River, Hu's family struggles on the edge of starvation.

Lloyd, Alison **Battle of the Jade Horses** **F LLO:A**
Far from the capital a group of bandits challenge the Emperor's rule. At stake are hundreds of priceless war horses and the power of the mighty Chinese empire. Even best friends, Hu and Ren, find themselves on opposite sides, torn apart by family loyalties. Ren and Hu must make terrible choices that could destroy them all.

Mah, Adeline Yen **Chinese Cinderella and the Secret Dragon Society** **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.

Mansell, Deryn **Tiger Stone** **F MAN:D**
Java, fourteenth century. The villagers are fearful of Mbah Merapi, the rumbling volcano that overshadows their lives. Kancil, the lowliest kitchen servant, knows the real danger is human but is fatherless and mute - and she will lose everything if her identity is revealed. How can Kancil warn the villagers of the danger they are in?

Massey, David **Torn** **F MAS:D**
Afghanistan. In the heat and dust, young British army medic Elinor Nielson watches an Afghan girl walk into a hail of bullets. But when she runs to help, Ellie finds her gone. Who is she? And what's happened to her? What Ellie discovers makes her question everything she believes in - even her feelings for the American lieutenant who takes her side.

Masson, Sophie **The Tiger** **F MAS:S**
Nick has imagined himself in Yogyakarta in Indonesia since before he could remember - 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?

ASIAN PERSPECTIVES – READING LIST

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 breath-taking tale.

McCormack, Patricia **Sold** **F MCC:P**
Lakshmi lives in a small and remote village in Nepal. She is aware of the hardness of life, where there is never enough to eat and little hope that her stepfather will ever be anything but selfish and lazy. Then one day her stepfather hands her over to an aunty in exchange for money and she is taken away to work, she thinks, as a maid. Unfortunately, 13-year-old Lakshmi is destined for a squalid brothel in India.

McDonald, Ian **River of Gods** **F MCD:I**
It depicts a futuristic India in 2047, a century after its independence from Britain, characterized both by ancient traditions and advanced technologies such as artificial intelligences, robots and nanotechnology.

Meehan, Kierin **Night Singing** **F MEE:K**
A tale of survival in Hiroshima at the end of the second World War. 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.

Mitchell, David **Number9Dream** **F MIT:D**
As Eiji Miyake's twentieth birthday nears, he arrives in Tokyo with a mission - to locate the father he has never met. So begins a search that takes him into the seething city's underworld, its lost property offices and video arcades, and on a journey that zigzags from reality to the realm of dreams.

Mitchell, David **The Thousand Autumns of Jacob De Zoet: a Novel** **F MIT:D**
The year is 1799, the place Dejima in Nagasaki Harbour, the Japanese Empire's single port and sole window onto the world, designed to keep the West at bay. To this place of devious merchants, deceitful interpreters, and costly courtesans comes Jacob de Zoet, a devout young clerk who has five years in the East to earn a fortune of sufficient size to win the hand of his wealthy fiancée back in Holland.

Mitchell, Jane **Chalkline** **F MIT:J**
This is the story of Rafiq's transformation from child to boy soldier, as he is indoctrinated into the cause of fanatical belief. But his family have not forgotten him - when he can no longer recognise himself, they remember the boy he was, and reach out a hand of redemption as he spirals towards a final act of atrocity.

Morpurgo, Michael **Kensuke's Kingdom** **F MOR:M**
Washed up on a desert island in the Pacific, Michael struggles to survive on his own. He can't find food or water, and lies down to die. When he wakes up there is a plate of fish and fruit and a bowl of fresh water beside him. Then he realises he is not alone on the island after all.

ASIAN PERSPECTIVES – READING LIST

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.

Morrison, Rob The Secret Sandwich

F MOR:R

This is a moving and dramatic story of a young boy's friendship with an outsider - a man who has shunned convention and 'taken the robe' as a Buddhist monk. The bigotry and confusion felt by the people of the small country town lead to tragedy, but the boy's constant loyalty and friendship prevail.

Mulligan, Andy Trash

F MUL:A

Also available as an eBook.

The story is told in the alternating voices of Raphael, Gardo, and Rat. The character of Rat lives in a shelter that is buried beneath and surrounded by trash. This is a compelling story with enough plot twists to keep the reader hungry for the next clue.

Mulligan, David Angels of Kokoda

F MUL:D

A novel based on actual events written around Australian battles along the Kokoda Trail during World War II. The story centres on the intertwined lives of Derek, the son of Australian missionaries, and Morso, a native Papuan. When all are evacuated from PNG, Derek and Morso disappear into the jungle.

Murakami, Haruki Colorless Tsukuru Tazaki and His Years of Pilgrimage

F MUR:H

Tsukuru Tazaki had four best friends at school. By chance all of their names contained a colour. The two boys were called Akamatsu, meaning 'red pine', and Oumi, 'blue sea', while the girls' names were Shirane, 'white root', and Kurono, 'black field'. Tazaki was the only last name with no colour in it.

Murakami, Haruki The Strange Library

F MUR:H

On his way home from school, the young narrator of The Strange Library finds himself wondering how taxes were collected in the Ottoman Empire. He pops into the local library to see if it has a book on the subject. This is his first mistake.

Murray, Kirsty India Dark

F MUR:K

Madras 1910. A troupe of child performers are stranded, having staged a strike against their manager. Their fate now depends on the outcome of a court case, and an alliance with gentlemen of the British Raj.

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.

Palmer, Tony Break of Day

F PAL:T

On the Kokoda track, in the disease-filled jungles of Papua New Guinea, Murray Barrett and the rest of the 39th battalion are the only thing standing between Australia and a Japanese invasion. Everyone thinks they'll be slaughtered, and Murray finds that he will have to fight alongside his worst enemy.

ASIAN PERSPECTIVES – READING LIST

Park, Linda Sue A Single Shard F PAR:L
Tree-ear is an orphan in twelfth-century Korea. He lives under a bridge with Crane-man, a homeless widower who has taken him under his wing. Tree-ear hasn't got many prospects, but he is fascinated by master potter, Min, who lives in the nearby village. Secretly watching Min work, Tree-ear longs to be a potter himself.

Park, Linda Sue When My Name was Keoko F PAR:L
Sun-hee and her older brother, Tae-yul, live in Korea with their parents. Because Korea is under Japanese occupation, the children study Japanese and speak it at school. Their own language, their flag, the folktales Uncle tells them - even their names - are all part of the Korean culture that is now forbidden. When World War II comes to Korea, Sun-hee is surprised that the Japanese expect their Korean subjects to fight on their side.

Patterson, James & Sanghi, Ashwin Private India F PAT:J
When Santosh Wagh isn't struggling out of a bottle of whisky he's head of Private India, the Mumbai branch of the world's finest PI agency. In a city of over thirteen million he has his work cut out at the best of times.

Perera, Anna Guantanamo Boy F PER:A
Khalid, a fifteen-year-old Muslim boy from Rochdale, is abducted from Pakistan while on holiday with his family. He is taken to Guantanamo Bay and held without charge, where his hopes and dreams are crushed under the cruellest of circumstances.

Phommavanh, Oliver Con-Nerd F PHO:O
Mama tells me I'm gifted and talented. But I know the truth. I'm just a nerd. Kids call me Con-nerd - half Connor and all nerd. Only a nerd goes to tutoring classes on weekends and in school holidays! I'm supposed to become a doctor but I have this deep, dark secret: I just want to draw. But I'm not sure my family will see it quite that way.

Phommavanh, Oliver Punchlines F PHO:O
As long as you can make a girl laugh, she'll go for you, right? Well, unless you're a seriously weird teenager like Johnny Khamka. Surviving high school is hard enough, but how on earth can he get his childhood bestie, Josie, now a seriously hot teenager, to take him seriously? The answer is to keep her laughing. But when Johnny decides to take comedy seriously, he's suddenly at risk of not being funny at all.

Phommavanh, Oliver Thai-Riffic F PHO:O
Albert (Lengy) Lengviriyakul, is fed up with being Thai. His parents own a Thai restaurant with the cheesy name of Thai-riffic! and Lengy is sick of being his father's curry guinea pig, longing to just eat pizza! At school he is a bit of a troublemaker, going to any lengths to hide his background.

ASIAN PERSPECTIVES – READING LIST

**Phommavanh,
Oliver**

Thai-No-Mite!

F PHO:O

I'm Lengy and I'm Thai. My parents run a restaurant named Thai-riffic! but I'm always craving hot chips and pizza. Mum and Dad's idea of a holiday? Going to Thailand to visit all our relatives. Recipe for getting there? Survive Dr Needlemouse and his arsenal of needles. Squeeze in a snappy budget trip to Dreamworld. Catch a red-back spider for my Auntie. Fight off a savage bat attack. Celebrate Christmas, Thai-riffic style!

Rai, Bali

City of Ghosts

F RAI:B

1919, India. Amritsar is a city in ferment. Riots against British rule are increasing and, sooner or later, there will be a showdown. We follow three intertwining stories. Bissen fought for the British in the Great War. Badly wounded in the trenches, he meets pretty English nurse, Lilian, in the army hospital. They fall in love, but is marriage between an English girl and a Sikh possible?

Rai, Bali

The Night Run

F RAI:B

Amritsar, India, 1919. A city on the verge of meltdown, as tensions between the local people and the British colonial rulers explode. 12-year-old Arjan Singh learns that his father has been falsely charged with serious crimes and faces hanging.

Reedy, Trent

Words in the Dust

F REE:T

Zulaikha hopes. She hopes for peace, now that the Taliban have been driven out of Afghanistan. She hopes for a better relationship with her hard stepmother. And she hopes one day even to go to school. Then she meets Meena, who offers to teach her the poetry she once taught her mother. And the Americans come to the village, promising not just new opportunities, but surgery to mend Zulaikha's face. But can Zulaikha dare to hope they will come true?

Rippin, Sally

Chenxi and the Foreigner

F RIP:S

Anna never imagined living in such a foreign place. Fresh out of high school, she has joined her father, who works in Shanghai. Too bad Anna seems nothing but trouble for Chenxi. His ideas about art already rankle the authorities, and he could do without the added attention of being with a wai guo ren -- a foreigner. Even so, he is intrigued by Anna's brashness and the freedoms she takes for granted. The novel is set around the time of the 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre.

Roberts, Gregory

David

The Mountain Shadow

F ROB:G

In the sequel to Shantaram, The Mountain Shadow, Lin must find his way in a Bombay run by a different generation of mafia dons, playing by a different set of rules. It has been two years since the events in Shantaram, and since Lin lost two people he had come to love: his father figure, Khaderbhai, and his soul mate, Karla, married to a handsome Indian media tycoon.

Rong, Jiang

Wolf Totem

F RON:J

It is the 1960s, and Beijing intellectual Chen Zhen volunteers to live in a remote nomadic settlement on the Inner Mongolian grasslands. There, he discovers an age-old synergy between the nomads, their livestock, and the wild wolves who roam the plains. Chen learns about the rich spiritual relationship that exists between these adversaries, and what each might learn from the other.

ASIAN PERSPECTIVES – READING LIST

Roy, Arundhati The God Of Small Things F ROY:A

Set against a background of political turbulence in Kerala, this novel tells the story of twins Esthappen and Rahel. Amongst the vats of banana jam and heaps of peppercorns in their grandmother's factory they try to craft a childhood for themselves amidst what constitutes their family.

Rushdie, Salman Luka and the Fire of Life F RUS:S

On a beautiful night in the city of Kahani in the land of Alifbay a terrible thing happened: twelve-year-old Luka's storyteller father, Rashid, fell suddenly into a sleep so deep that nothing and no one could rouse him.

Sankaran, Lavanya The Red Carpet F SAN:L

A collection of stories as rich and absorbing as any novel. From traditional mothers trying to marry off their Westernised children to software billionaires, chauffeurs and the legacy of the Raj, Lavanya Sankaran's stories of Bangalore, India's Silicone Valley, are a pleasure from first to last.

Savanadasa, Rajith Ruins F SAV:R

A country picking up the pieces, a family among the ruins. In the restless streets, crowded waiting rooms and glittering nightclubs of Colombo, five family members find their bonds stretched to breaking point in the aftermath of the Sri Lankan civil war. Latha wants a home. Anoushka wants an iPod. Mano hopes to win his wife back. Lakshmi dreams of rescuing a lost boy. And Niranjana needs big money so he can leave them all behind.

Sijie, Dai Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress F SIJ:D

Two boys, both sons of doctors, are sent to the top of a mountain for "re-education" in Mao's China; an education that involves carting buckets of excrement up and down precipitous paths. They discover instead the discreet charm of bourgeois literature and the local tailor's attractive daughter.

Sinha, Indra Animal's People F SIN:I

Ever since he can remember, Animal has gone on all fours, the catastrophic result of what happened on That Night when, thanks to an American chemical company, the Apocalypse visited his slum. Now not quite twenty, he leads a hand-to-mouth existence with his dog Jara and a crazy old nun called Ma Franci.

Smith, Roland Peak F SMI:R

The emotional, tension-filled story of a 14-year-old boy's attempt to be the youngest person to reach the top of Mount Everest is an action-packed adventure about friendship, sacrifice, family and the drive to take on Everest, despite the incredible risk.

**Staples, Suzanne Under the Persimmon Tree: a Story of
Fisher Survival in War-Torn Afghanistan F STA:S**

Northern Afghanistan, 2001. When the Taliban takes her brother and father to be soldiers and the bombing of her tiny village kills her mother and baby brother, Najmah makes a dangerous journey over the mountains to Pakistan. Najmah joins Elaine's refugee school under the persimmon tree, until, sure that both their families are dead, Elaine tries to persuade her to go to America. But when Najmah's brother arrives at the school, still alive, she bravely decides to return with him to the village of their birth.

ASIAN PERSPECTIVES – READING LIST

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. Now all they have to do is get some equipment, find a coach, get themselves a sponsor and learn the rules of the game.

Starke, Ruth

Noodle Pie

F STA:R

Meeting relatives for the first time isn't easy. When they speak a different language and seem to be greedy and impatient and, worst of all, run a pretty crummy restaurant, it's the pits. For Andy and his dad, a former refugee, returning to Vietnam is full of surprises.

Swarup, Vikas

Slumdog Millionaire: a Novel

F SWA:V

Ram Mohammad Thomas has just got twelve questions correct on a TV quiz-show to win a cool one billion rupees. But he is brutally slung in prison on suspicion of cheating. How can a kid from the slums know who Shakespeare was, unless he is pulling a fast one? In the order of the questions on the show, Ram tells us which amazing adventures in his street-kid life gave him the answers.

Tan, Amy

The Joy Luck Club

F TAN:A

In 1949 four Chinese women - drawn together by the shadow of their past - begin meeting in San Francisco to play mah jong, invest in stocks, eat dim sum, and say stories. They call their gathering the Joy Luck Club. Nearly forty years later, one of the members has died. When her daughter comes to take her place, she learns of her mother's lifelong wish, and the tragic way in which it has come true.

Tolbert, Steve

Tracking the Dalai Lama

F TOL:S

Her world shattered by tragedy, Jess withdraws from school, family and friends. She is angry, and life is bleak. When Tim, Jess's father, is asked to interview the Dalai Lama in Northern India, a reluctant Jess agrees. They end up tracking the Dalai Lama on a trip across the roof of the world into Tibet, where life is under threat from the Chinese military as well as the bitter climate and harsh terrain.

Tomo: Friendship Through Fiction: an Anthology of Japan Teen Stories (Edited by Holly Thompson)

F TOM

Tomo (meaning "friend" in Japanese) is an anthology of young adult short fiction in prose, verse and graphic art set in or related to Japan. This collection for readers age 12 and up features thirty-six stories—including ten in translation and two graphic narratives—contributed by authors and artists from around the world, all of whom share a connection to Japan.

Vondra, Josef

No-Name Bird

F VON:J

East Timor. 1975. Jose Rodrigus was fourteen years old when the Indonesians came. This is his moving and extraordinary story. It 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 for ever, Jose is caught up in adventure and danger.

ASIAN PERSPECTIVES – READING LIST

Waheed, Mirza The Collaborator F WAH:M

It is Kashmir in the early 1990s and war has finally reached the isolated village of Nowgam close to the Pakistan border. Indian soldiers appear as if from nowhere to hunt for militants on the run. Four teenage boys, who used to spend their afternoons playing cricket, or singing Bollywood ballads down by the river, have disappeared one by one, to cross into Pakistan and join the movement against the Indian army.

Wenxuan, Cao Bronze and Sunflower F WEN:C

When Sunflower, a young city girl, moves to the countryside, she grows to love the reed marsh lands - the endlessly flowing river, the friendly buffalo with their strong backs and shiny round heads, the sky that stretches on and on in its vastness. However, the days are long, and the little girl is lonely. Then she meets Bronze, who, unable to speak, is ostracized by the other village boys. Soon the pair are inseparable.

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.

White, Trudy Japan Diary F WHI:T

Amy Deerson and Taro Nakagawa are exchanging lives for six months and they are taking their diaries with them, Amy to Japan, and Taro to Australia.

Whyman, Matt The Wild F WHY:M

Alexi and his little brother Misha have grown up in the shadow of the nuclear arms. Living in a bleak and increasingly destitute town next to the old Aral Sea in Kazakhstan, the boys and their 'crew' are the first to spot the rocket and missile testing out in the nearby desert, and first to scavenge for nuclear debris, from which they can make a good living on the black market.

Wilkinson, Carole Blood Brothers F WIL:C

The year is 325. The powerful Han Dynasty is a distant memory and tribes of barbarian soldiers fight over what was once the Empire. It is a dangerous time. Kai is 465 years old - a teenager in dragon years. He is searching for the person predestined to be his dragon keeper.

Wilkinson, Carole Shadow Sister F WIL:C

Tao is learning to be a dragon keeper. With no one to teach him it is not easy. He must keep Kai safe but there is danger at every turn -- they are pursued by a gang of murderous nomads, tricked by unseen spirits, attacked by a giant seven-headed snake and disoriented in the realms of the dead. Most terrifying of all is the ghost who can turn blood into ice.

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.

ASIAN PERSPECTIVES – READING LIST

Wingrove, David Daylight on Iron Mountain: Chung Kuo 02 F WIN:D
Seventy-five years in the future, Earth is ruled by China, cities span entire continents, history has been erased. 2087: Japan lies under a radioactive cloud, its denizens wiped out. America has been subjugated, its inhabitants scattered.

Xi, Xi My City: a Hong Kong Story F XI:X
Presents life in this vibrant city through the eyes of its young protagonists. It was a time of tremendous growth for the territory not only in economic terms, but more significantly in terms of local self-confidence and the forging of a Hong Kong identity. It 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.

Xingjian, Gao Buying a Fishing Rod for my Grandfather F XIN:G
The six stories in this volume explore the limits and the very meaning of fiction. From honeymooners, grasshoppers and a trolley bus accident to the purchasing of a ten-piece imported fibreglass fishing rod, the author creates art in language in these extraordinary short stories.

Yan, Geling The Flowers of War F YAN:G
It's December 1937. The Japanese have taken Nanking. A group of terrified schoolgirls hides in the compound of an American church. Among them is Shujuan, through whose thirteen-year-old eyes we witness the shocking events that follow. Run by Father Engelmann, an American priest who has been in China for many years, the church is supposedly neutral ground in the war between China and Japan. But it becomes clear the Japanese are not obeying international rules of engagement.

Yan, Mo Frog F YAN:M
Mo Yan chronicles the sweeping history of modern China through the lens of the nation's controversial one-child policy. Frog opens with a playwright nicknamed Tadpole who plans to write about his aunt. In her youth, Gugu--the beautiful daughter of a famous doctor and staunch Communist--is revered for her skill as a midwife. But when her lover defects, Gugu's own loyalty to the Party is questioned.

Ye, Xin Educated Youth F XIN:Y
During the Cultural Revolution over fourteen million Chinese high school graduates were sent from the cities to live and work in the countryside. They were known as zhiqing – 'educated youth'. They fell in love, married, and had children.

Yoda, Hiroko Yurei Attack!: the Japanese Ghost Survival Guide F YOD:H
Yurei is the Japanese word for ghost. They are the souls of dead people, unable--or unwilling--to shuffle off this mortal coil. Yurei are many things, but friendly isn't the first word that comes to mind. Not every yurei is dangerous, but they are all driven by emotions so uncontrollably powerful that they have taken on a life of their own: rage, sadness, devotion, a desire for revenge, or even the firm belief that they are still alive.

Yoshimura, Akira Shipwrecks F YOS:A
The narrator of this short novel, set in medieval Japan, is Isaku, a nine-year-old boy living in a remote fishing village. To save the family from starvation, the father has sold himself into indentured servitude, leaving Isaku and his strong-willed mother to care for three younger children.

NON-FICTION

Bailey, Diane **Emperor Qin's Terra-Cotta Army** **951.01 BAI**
Every new and ground-breaking archaeological discovery refines our understanding of human history. This title examines the exploration and study of Emperor Qin's terra-cotta army. The book explores the mausoleums creation, traces its discovery and scientific investigation, and discusses future study and conservation efforts.

Bo, Zhiyue **The History of Modern China** **951.05 BO**
Examines the history of the global power, including its dynastic times, how the Communists took over, and its role in the world today.

Brierley, Saroo **Lion** **920 BRI**
When Saroo Brierley used Google Earth to find his long-lost home town half a world away, he made global headlines. Saroo had become lost on a train in India at the age of five. Not knowing the name of his family or where he was from, he survived for weeks on the streets of Kolkata, before being taken into an orphanage and adopted by a couple in Australia.

Carey, Peter **Wrong about Japan** **920 CAR**
When Peter Carey offered to take his son to Japan, 12-year-old Charley stipulated no temples or museums. He wanted to see manga, anime, and cool, weird stuff. His father said yes. Out of that bargain comes this enchanting tour of the mansion of Japanese culture, as entered through its garish, brightly lit back door.

Chang, Jung **Empress Dowager Cixi: the Concubine Who Launched Modern China** **951.035 CIX:C**
Empress Dowager Cixi (1835-1908) is the most important woman in Chinese history. She ruled China for decades and brought a medieval empire into the modern age. At the age of sixteen, in a nationwide selection for royal consorts, Cixi was chosen as one of the emperor's numerous concubines and sexual partners. In this groundbreaking biography, Jung Chang vividly describes how Cixi fought against monumental obstacles to change China.

Demick, Barbara **Nothing to Envy: Love, Life and Death in North Korea** **306.095193**
Follows the lives of six North Koreans over fifteen years, a chaotic period that saw the rise to power of Kim Jong Il and the devastation of a famine that killed one-fifth of the population, illustrating what it means to live under the most repressive totalitarian regime today.

Dikotter, Frank **The Cultural Revolution : a People's History, 1962-1976** **951.05 DIK**
This is the final volume of 'The People's Trilogy', begun by the Samuel Johnson prize-winning Mao's Great Famine. After the economic disaster of the Great Leap Forward that claimed tens of millions of lives between 1958 and 1962, an ageing Mao launched an ambitious scheme to shore up his reputation and eliminate those he viewed as a threat to his legacy.

ASIAN PERSPECTIVES – READING LIST

Do, Anh **The Happiest Refugee** **920 DO**
Anh Do nearly didn't make it to Australia. His entire family came close to losing their lives on the sea as they escaped from war-torn Vietnam in an overcrowded boat. 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.

Duyal, Yasar **Paper boats: an Anthology of Short Stories About Journeys to Australia** **325.94 PAP**
Paper Boats is a compelling collection of 21 short stories written by students from immigrant, refugee or asylum seeker backgrounds, reflecting their origins, their journeys and their arrivals in Australia.

Fenby, Jonathan **The Penguin History of Modern China : the Fall and Rise of a Great Power, 1850 to the Present** **951.033 FEN**
This book examines China's history to understand how the country went from also-ran to leading power

Galloway, Priscilla **Adventures on the Ancient Silk Road** **951 GAL**
A gripping account of three dramatic journeys that changed history. The fabled Silk Road conjures up the sights, smells and sounds of faraway lands. But traveling the Silk Road took years, and those who set out encountered bandits, starvation and treacherous storms. The book introduces readers to three great historical figures: Buddhist and pilgrim Xuanzang, warrior Genghis Khan and merchant Marco Polo.

Gandhi, Mahatma **An Autobiography: the Story of my Experiments with Truth** **920 GAN**
Written in the 1920s, Gandhi's autobiography tells of Gandhi's struggles and his inspirations; a powerful and enduring statement of an extraordinary life.

Hall, Lincoln **Alive in the Death Zone** **796.522 HAL**
Lincoln Hall's story of climbing the world's highest mountain, being left for dead near the summit and his subsequent return to life and safety, is an incredible and exciting adventure that will inspire anyone who reads it. It's a story of survival against all odds using sheer willpower, courage and determination.

Harden, Blaine **Escape from Camp 14: One Man's Remarkable Odyssey from North Korea to Freedom in the West** **920 SHI:H**
Twenty-six years ago, Shin Dong-Hyuk was born inside Camp 14, one of five sprawling political prisons in the mountains of North Korea. This is the gripping, terrifying story of his escape from this no-exit prison-- to freedom in South Korea.

Joyful Strains: Making Australia Home (edited by Kent MacCarter & Ali Lemer) **A820.8 JOY**
Joyful Strains collect twenty-seven memoirs from writers describing their expatriation to Australia. These are stories about what they found, who they became and what they now think of Australia – stories that provide entertainment, perspective and cause to celebrate our increasingly diverse nation.

ASIAN PERSPECTIVES – READING LIST

Li, Charles N. The Bitter Sea: Coming Of Age in a China before Mao 920 LI
In this exceptional memoir, Charles N. Li brings into focus the growth pains of a nation undergoing torturous rebirth and offers an intimate understanding of the intricate, subtle, and yet all-powerful traditions that bind the Chinese family.

Li, Cunxin Mao's Last Dancer 920 LI
In a small, desperately poor village in north-east China, a young peasant boy sits at his rickety old school desk, interested more in the birds outside than in Chairman Mao's Red Book and the grand words it contains. But that day, some strange men come to his school - Madame Mao's cultural delegates. They are looking for young peasants to mould into faithful guards of Chairman Mao's great vision for China. This is the true story of how that day changed the course of a small boy's life in ways that are beyond description. One day he would dance with some of the greatest ballet companies of the world.

Liming, Wei Chinese Festivals 394.26951 LIM
One of the most distinctive features of Chinese culture is the great variety of unique festivals that has evolved over the course of China's long history. Chinese festivals are deeply rooted in popular tradition and despite China's many changes they remain firmly established as part of the country's vibrant culture. Chinese Festivals introduces a representative selection of these celebrated traditions with full colour illustrations, providing a flavour of the diversity and development of traditional Chinese culture.

Lynch, Michael China : from Empire to People's Republic 1900-49 951.04 LYN
In 1900 China was politically undeveloped and economically exploited by western colonial powers. Over the next fifty turbulent years it had rejected its imperial past, welcomed republicanism, survived Japanese occupation, witnessed civil war and embraced a Marxist revolution. These extraordinary developments are examined in this book which combines a factual narrative with up-to-date analysis of the events.

Macinnis, Peter Kokoda Track: 101 days 940.5426 MAC
An extraordinary story of a small force defeating a much larger one. It is the tale of 550 men of the 39th Militia Battalion. In eight short and brutal weeks, these soldiers slowed, and eventually stopped the advance of 6000 experienced Japanese troops of the Nankai division across the massive Owen Stanley range.

**Mah, Adeline Yen Falling Leaves Return to their Roots: the True Story of
an Unwanted Chinese Daughter 920 MAH**
Her grand aunt formed the Shanghai Women's Bank. Her father was known as the miracle boy with the power of turning iron into gold. Yet in this 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.

Mah, Adeline Yen China: Land of Dragons and Emperors 951 MAH
The history of China - the six major dynasties - and information on selected topics such as the Silk Road, festivals, various inventions, Chinese beliefs about numbers and colours.

ASIAN PERSPECTIVES – READING LIST

Man, John **The Mongol Empire : Genghis Khan, his Heirs and the Founding of Modern China** **950.2 MAN**
Genghis Khan is one of history's immortals - a leader of genius, driven by an inspiring vision for peaceful world rule. Believing he was divinely protected, Genghis united warring clans to create a nation and then an empire that ran across much of Asia. Under his grandson, Kublai Khan, the vision evolved into a more complex religious ideology, justifying further expansion.

Mortenson, Greg **Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Extraordinary Journey to Promote Peace One School at a Time** **920 MOR:R**
Here we drink three cups of tea to do business; the first you are a stranger, the second you become a friend, and the third, you join our family, and for our family we are prepared to do anything; even die. In 1993, after a terrifying and disastrous attempt to climb K2, a mountaineer called Greg Mortenson drifted, cold and dehydrated, into an impoverished Pakistan village in the Karakoram Mountains. Moved by the inhabitants' kindness, he promised to return and build a school.

Mortenson, Greg **Stones into schools: Promoting Peace With Books, Not Bombs in Afghanistan and Pakistan** **920 MOR:B**
The continuing story of this determined humanitarian's efforts to promote peace through education. In this dramatic first-person narrative, Greg Mortenson picks up where Three Cups of Tea left off in 2003, recounting his relentless, on-going efforts to establish schools for girls in Afghanistan; his extensive work in Azad Kashmir and Pakistan after a massive earthquake hit the region in 2005; and the unique ways he has built relationships with Islamic clerics, militia commanders, and tribal leaders even as he was dodging shootouts with feuding Afghan warlords and surviving an eight-day armed abduction by the Taliban.

Meyer, Eric. **Tibet, the Last Cry** **915.15 MEY**
Eric Meyer and Laurent Zylberman were the only freelance journalists allowed into Tibet after the 2008 riots which left parts of Lhasa in ruins. They saw the friction between two cultures: police and soldiers patrol the towns, while crowds of Han immigrants pour into the region like new frontier settlers seeking their fortunes.

Moshinsky, Sam **Goodbye Shanghai: a Memoir** **920 MOS**
During his seventeen years in Shanghai, Sam experienced wars, changing regimes, different currencies and a variety of schools that reflected the evolving political landscape. In a world obsessed with conflicting nationalism, his family survived as stateless residents, neither beholden to, nor the responsibility of, any country. They were instead, sustained by their Russian Jewish culture and community.

Passarlay, Gulwali; Ghouri, Nadene **The Lightless Sky : an Afghan Refugee Boy's Journey of Escape to a New Life** **920 PAS**
Gulwali Passarlay was sent away from Afghanistan at the age of twelve, after his father was killed in a gun battle with the US army for hiding Taliban fighters. Trafficked into Iran, Gulwali began a twelve-month odyssey across Europe, spending time in prisons, suffering hunger, cruelty, brutality, nearly drowning in a tiny boat on the Mediterranean. Somehow, he survived, and made it to Britain, no longer an innocent child but still a boy of twelve.

GRAPHIC NOVELS

Delisle, Guy **Pyongyang: a Journey Through North Korea** **GRA DEL**
When the fortress-like country recently opened the door a crack to foreign investment, cartoonist Guy Delisle found himself in its capital Pyongyang on a work visa for a French film animation company, becoming one of the few Westerners to witness current conditions in the surreal showcase city. Armed with a smuggled radio and a copy of '1984', Delisle could only explore Pyongyang and its countryside while chaperoned by his translator and a guide.

Delisle, Guy **Burma Chronicles** **GRA DEL**
An informative look at a country that uses concealment and isolation as social control, where scissor-wielding censors monitor the papers, the de facto leader of the opposition has been under decade-long house arrest, insurgent-controlled regions are effectively cut off from the world, and rumour is the most reliable source of current information. Drawn by Guy Delisle.

Lat **Kampung Boy** **GRA LAT**
Recounts the life of Mat, a Muslim boy growing up in rural Malaysia in the 1950s: his adventures and mischief-making, fishing trips, religious education, and work on his family's rubber plantation. Meanwhile, the traditional way of life in his village (or Kampung) is steadily disappearing, with tin mines and factory jobs increasingly overtaking the village's agricultural way of life.

Satrap, Marjane **Persepolis** **GRA SAT**
This is the story of a girl growing up in Iran during the Revolution. Wise, often funny, sometimes heart-breaking, Persepolis tells the story of Marjane Satrapi's life in Tehran from the ages of six to fourteen, years that saw the overthrow of the Shah's regime, the triumph of the Islamic Revolution and the devastating effects of war with Iraq.

Tan, Shaun **The Arrival** **GRA TAN**
What drives so many to leave everything behind and journey alone to a mysterious country, a place without family or friends, where everything is nameless and the future is unknown? This graphic novel is the story of the migrants, refugees and displaced persons who have made this journey.

Yang, Gene Luen **American Born Chinese** **GRA YAN**
The novel follows three stories: the tale of a monkey that strives to be seen as God-like; a young boy with naturalized Chinese parents acclimating to his new home and school in the predominantly white American suburbs; and a seemingly-white adolescent trying to maintain his social posture.

PICTURE BOOKS

Do, Anh **The Little Refugee** **PB DO**
Anh Do nearly didn't make it to Australia. His entire family came close to losing their lives as they escaped from war-torn Vietnam in an overcrowded boat. Life in suburban Australia was also hard for a small boy with no English and funny lunches. But there was a loving extended family, lots of friends, and always something to laugh about for Anh, his brother Khoa and their sister Tram.

ASIAN PERSPECTIVES – READING LIST

Bend it Like Beckham **Director: Gurinder Chadha** **DVD BEN**

A comedy about bending the rules to reach your goal, the film explores the world of women's football, from kick-about in the park to free kicks in the Final. Set in Hounslow, West London and Hamburg, the film follows two 18-year olds with their hearts set on a future in professional soccer.

Blackboards **Director: Samira Makhmalbaf** **DVD BLA**

Itinerant Kurdish teachers, carrying blackboards on their backs, look for students in the hills and villages of Iran, near the Iraqi border during the Iran-Iraq war. Said falls in with a group of old men looking for their bombed-out village; he offers to guide them, and takes as his wife Halaleh, the clan's lone woman, a widow with a young son. Reebair attaches himself to a dozen pre-teen boys weighed down by contraband they carry across the border; they're mules, always on the move.

Cave of the Yellow Dog **Director: Byambasuren Davaa** **DVD CAV**

The little nomad girl Nansal finds a baby dog in the Mongolian veld, who becomes her best friend - against all rejections of her parents. A story about a Mongolian family of nomads - their traditional way of life and the rising call of the City.

Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon **Director: Ang Lee** **DVD CRO**

Set against the breath-taking landscape of 19th century China, two master warriors confront formidable opponents when the treasured Green Destiny sword is stolen. As each warrior battles for justice, they face their worst enemy, the inescapable and enduring power of love.

The Cup **Director: Norbu Khyentse** **DVD CUP**

Inspired by true events, the story follows two young Tibetan boys, Palden and Nylma, escaping Tibet and arriving at a Tibetan monastery-in-exile nestled in the picturesque foothills of the Himalayas. The monastery attempts to hook up a satellite dish so that the locals can watch the World Cup soccer matches.

Dersu Uzula **Director: Akira Kurosawa** **DVD DER**

"Dersu Uzula" is epic in form yet intimate in scope. Set in the forests of Eastern Siberia at the turn of the century, it is a portrait of the friendship that grows between an aging hunter and a Russian surveyor. A romantic hymn to nature and the human spirit, it boasts a performance by Maxim Munzuk as the wise and wizened old man of the Taiga.

Endless Way **Director: Wensheng Shen** **DVD END**

As he comes of age Ah Ming must begin a life of endless labour to bring sacred water to his family. Forced into an arranged marriage with a young girl from a neighbouring village he must forsake his true love.

Fire **Director: Deepa Mehta** **DVD FIR**

In a barren, arranged marriage to an amateur swami who seeks enlightenment through celibacy, Radha's life takes an irresistible turn when her beautiful young sister-in-law seeks to free herself from the confines of her own loveless marriage and into the supple embrace of Radha.

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Gabbeh**Director: Mohsen Makhmalbaf****DVD GAB**

Early one morning, an old couple emerge from a hut, she carrying a gabbeh, a small carpet, that she wove many years ago while waiting for her husband-to-be to carry her on horseback away from her family clan. As they wash the gabbeh, it comes to life, telling the old woman's story of waiting for marriage.

Gandhi**Director: Richard Attenborough****DVD GAN**

The biography of Mohandas K. Gandhi, who rose from a small-time lawyer to India's spiritual leader through his philosophy of non-violent but direct-action protest. The film dramatises his life and times as he manages to free his country from British rule using peaceful means.

Hidden Fortress**Director: Akira Kurosawa****DVD HID**

Lured by gold, two greedy peasants escort a man and woman across enemy lines. However, they do not realize that their companions are actually a princess and her general.

House of Flying Daggers**Director: Yimou Zhang****DVD HOU**

The Tang Dynasty is fighting to keep control over China, a battle they are losing to several rebel groups. One such group is the House of Flying Daggers, who steals from the wealthy and gives to the poor. Two police deputies working with the government are ordered to investigate the dancer Mei, who is rumoured to be working with the House of Flying Daggers. But both men fall under her charms and decide to help her escape instead.

Howl's Moving Castle**Director: Hayao Miyazaki****DVD HOW**

Sophie has an uneventful life at her late father's hat shop, but all that changes when she befriends wizard Howl, who lives in a magical flying castle. However, the evil Witch of Waste takes issue with their budding relationship and casts a spell on young Sophie, which ages her prematurely. Now Howl must use all his magical talents to battle the jealous hag and return Sophie to her former youth and beauty.

Iron Island**Director: Mohammad Rasoulof****DVD IRO**

Squatters, mostly Arabs in Persia, live on a mothballed oil tanker in the Persian Gulf. The children attend a school on board; men harvest scrap metal and old oil in the hull; women keep house and raise children. Captain Nemat runs things with an iron hand, orienting new residents, keeping the books, negotiating with new buyers who may want to scrap the ship, arranging things, keeping discipline.

The Joy Luck Club**Director: Wayne Wang****DVD JOY**

Tells the epic story of four families whose extraordinary lives are filled with joy and heartbreak, richness and magic. From the war-torn fields of early-century China to the streets of modern-day San Francisco, the hopes, dreams and triumphs of two generations are revealed through the startling events that shaped their lives.

Kandahar**Director: Mohsen Makhmalbaf****DVD KAN**

Nafas is a young Afghan journalist who has taken refuge in Canada. She receives a desperate letter from her little sister, who has stayed behind in Afghanistan and has decided to end her life before the imminently approaching eclipse of the sun. Nafas fled her country during the Taliban civil war.

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Kiki's Delivery Service **Director: Hayao Miyazaki** **DVD KIK**

It is tradition for all young witches to leave their families on the night of a full moon to learn their craft. That night comes for Kiki, who follows her dream and embarks on the experience of a lifetime. With her chatty black cat, Jiji, She flies off to find the perfect spot in a faraway city. There, a bakery owner befriends Kiki and helps her start her own business: A high-flying delivery service.

Kite Runner **Director: Marc Forster** **DVD KIT**
Also available as an eBook.

A tale of friendship, family, devastating mistakes and redeeming love. In a divided country on the verge of war, two childhood friends, Amir and Hassan, are about to be torn apart forever. It's a glorious afternoon in Kabul and the skies are bursting with the exhilarating joy of a kite-fighting tournament. But in the aftermath of the day's victory, one boy's fearful act of betrayal will mark their lives forever and set in motion an epic quest for redemption.

Lin Family's Shop **Director: Puzi Linjia** **DVD LIN**

In the 1930s, many small businesses had a hard time surviving with the confusion generated by the political uncertainty of the time. Whose law is to be followed the Japanese occupation forces or the bureaucrat nationalist government? Lin, who owns a family shop, racks his brain to save himself from bankruptcy.

Lost in Translation **Director: Sofia Coppola** **DVD LOS**

An aging, world weary movie star with a sense of emptiness, and a young neglected newlywed meet up as strangers in Tokyo and form an unlikely bond.

The Lunchbox **Director: Ritesh Batra** **DVD LUN**

A mistaken delivery in Mumbai's famously efficient lunchbox delivery system connects a young housewife to an older man in the dusk of his life as they build a fantasy world together through notes in the lunchbox.

Mao's Last Dancer **Director: Bruce Beresford** **DVD MAO**

A drama based on the autobiography by Li Cunxin. At the age of 11, Li was plucked from a poor Chinese village by Madame Mao's cultural delegates and taken to Beijing to study ballet. In 1979, during a cultural exchange to Texas, he fell in love with an American woman. Two years later, he managed to defect and went on to perform with the Australian Ballet.

Marooned in Iraq **Director: Bahman Ghobadi** **DVD MAR**

During the war between Iran and Iraq, a group of Iranian Kurd musicians set off on an almost impossible mission. They will try to find Hanareh, a singer with a magic voice who crossed the border and may now be in danger in Iraqi Kurdistan. As in his previous films, this Kurdish director is again focusing on the oppression of his people.

Monsoon Wedding **Director: Mira Nair** **DVD MON**

A stressed father, a bride-to-be with a secret, a smitten event planner, and relatives from around the world create much ado about the preparations for an arranged marriage in India.

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Water**Director: Deepa Mehta****DVD WAT**

Set in 1938 Colonial India, against Mahatma Gandhi's rise to power, the story begins when eight-year-old Chuyia is widowed and sent to a home where Hindu widows must live in penitence. Chuyia's feisty presence affects the lives of the other residents, including a young widow, who falls for a Gandhian idealist.

Whale Rider**Director: Caro, Niki****DVD WHA**

In a small New Zealand coastal village, Maori claim descent from Paikea, the Whale Rider. In every generation, a male heir has succeeded to the chiefly title. When twins are born and the boy twin dies, Koro, the chief is unable to accept his granddaughter Pai as a future leader.

The Wind Rises**Director: Hayao Miyazaki****DVD WIN**

A look at the life of Jiro Horikoshi, the man who designed Japanese fighter planes during World War II.

Yojimbo**Director: Akira Kurosawa****DVD YOJ**

The story of a samurai who wanders into a town in turmoil. Pitting the town's two warring clans against each other, the mysterious samurai plays a profitable, yet dangerous game.
