

The logo for Bookbuzz is a colorful speech bubble with a dark blue center containing the word "Bookbuzz" in white. The bubble has a gradient of colors including blue, green, yellow, and red.

**Bookbuzz**

# Year 7

**Start your journey to become  
a Brilliant Bradfield Reader**

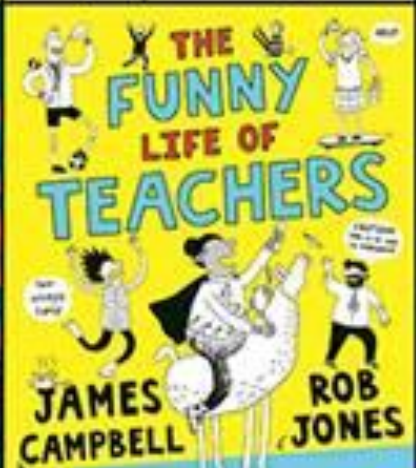
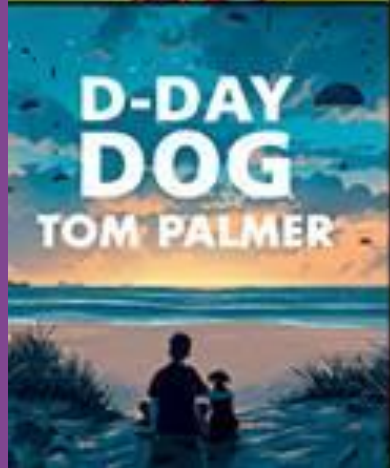
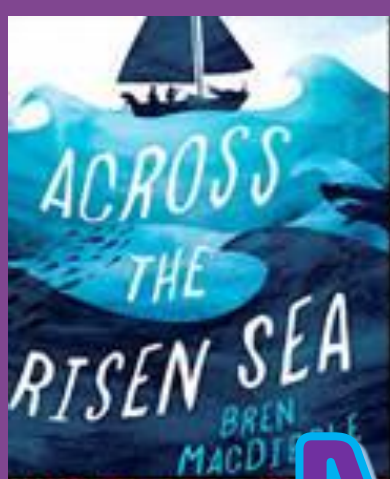
The logo for 'Bookbuzz' is located in the top left corner. It consists of the word 'Bookbuzz' in a white, bold, sans-serif font, centered within a dark blue rectangular box. This box is layered on top of several other semi-transparent, overlapping rectangles in shades of blue, green, and yellow, creating a vibrant, multi-colored effect.

**Bookbuzz**

**Let's get started  
by choosing a book**



Make your choice  
from this Selection





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## Bookbuzz

**# Read the short review**

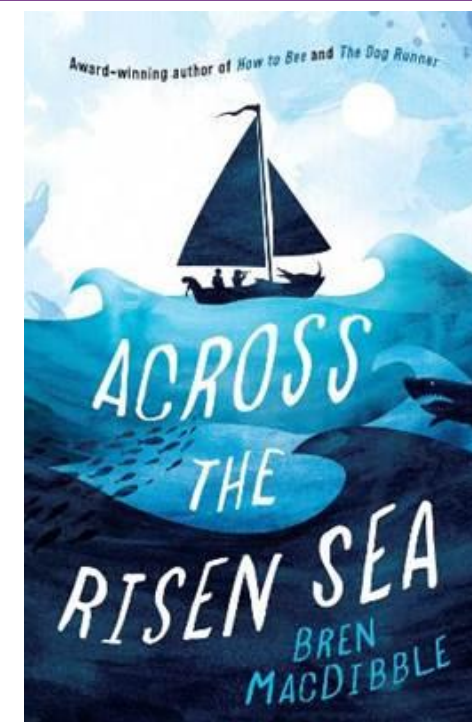
**# Make your choice**

**# Let your teacher know  
which book you'd like**

When three strangers arrive on her island home, everything Neoma thought she knew about the world is turned upside down. Set in a near-future where rising sea levels have decimated the land, Neoma and her best friend Jaguar live in a close-knit community on the Ockery Islands. They live simple lives, fishing and scavenging. But when the strangers arrive and install some strange tech on the hillside, ignoring the islanders' protests, everything changes.

Who are they? Where did they come from? And what are they doing? The strangers' actions set in motion a deadly mystery that threatens the peaceful community. And when Jaguar is kidnapped as a result, Neoma embarks on a dangerous journey across the sea to find the mysterious Valley of the Sun, rescue Jaguar, and get answers. She'll have to tackle crocodiles, sharks, and a ruthless pirate to get there. – can she survive the dangers, evade capture and save her home?

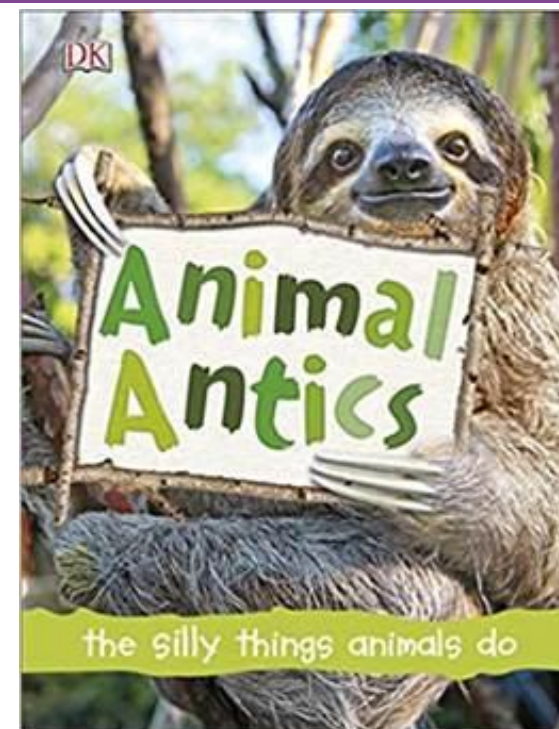
Short chapters, plenty of action and the mystery at its heart make this a really exciting read. Neoma is a wild spark of a character but passionate and kind-hearted, and the story touches on deeper issues such as environmental protection, modern slavery, and themes of freedom and respect.



Smile... you're on camera! In these candid and hilarious photographs, lots of different animals have been caught in the act of making funny faces or doing the silliest looking of things. There's a laughing leopard, polar bears having a boogie, and even a Komodo dragon practising kung-fu. Each photo is accompanied by a short paragraph of text that reveals the story behind the image and provides a useful and fascinating insight into the creature's life within the animal world.

Why exactly is a bobcat is perched on top of an enormous cactus? To hide from a cougar of course. And why does a fox have its head buried in the snow? Rather than playing hide-and-seek, it's actually hunting. And the tree shrew perched on a pitcher plant? Yup, it really is having a poo...

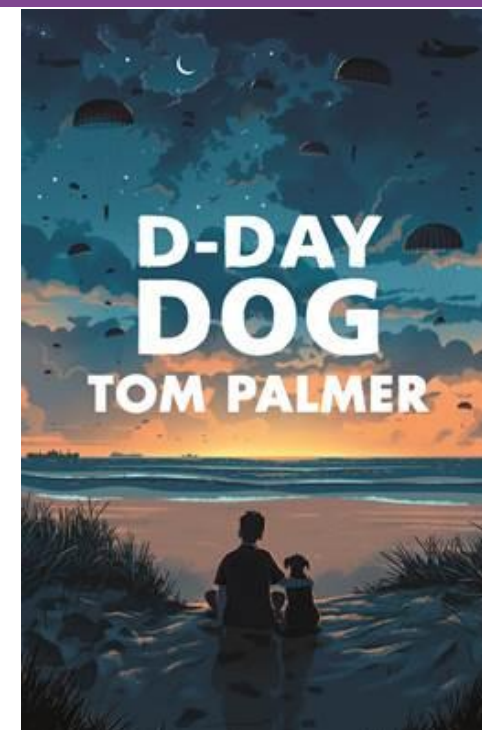
A book for dipping in and out of, laughing at, and then sharing the animal facts with your friends.



Jack's favourite things are his dog, Finn, and playing war-themed videogames with his dad, who's an army reservist. He's excited about the school trip to Normandy and the class project on World War II. War and being a soldier seem like really exciting things. As the class begins the research for their project, though, Jack's perceptions are questioned at every turn. First there's the new girl Cassandra, a Syrian refugee, who wants to research a civilian – but war is about soldiers, not civilians, right? Then his dad gets called up and his mum is really unhappy about it – but shouldn't she be excited and proud for Jack's dad? And when Jack's asked to research D-Day soldier Emile Corteil and learns about what happened to him and his dog, Jack's whole idea of war is turned inside-out.

As the school trip approaches, Jack has to try and figure out his feelings on war and soldiers and what it all means.

Inspired by a real-life soldier and events, Tom Palmer carefully introduces the grey lines and different perspectives of war, peeling away the layers for the readers and Jack alike. A highly thought-provoking book, printed in a dyslexia friendly format.



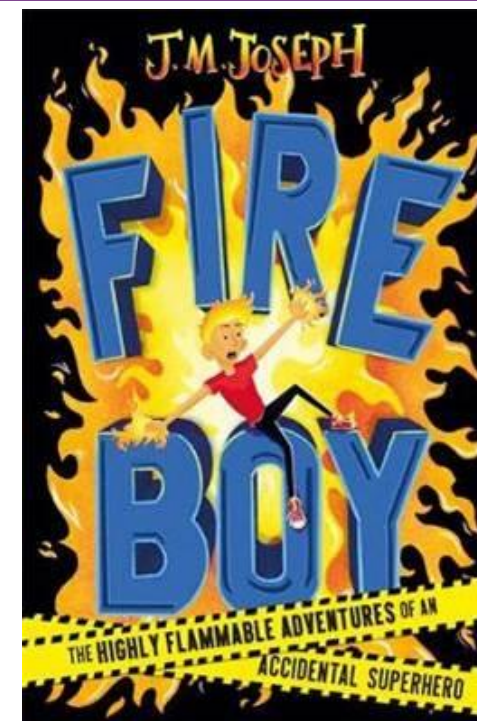


When Aiden receives a surprise parcel with 'Top Secret' written on it and a note saying not to open it until his mum gets home, obviously he opens it straightaway. It appears to be just a jar of sweets though, so why all the secrecy? Answer: they're sweets that give you superpowers. Now he can light his hands on fire and blow smoke-rings from his bum!

Normally, the most excitement Aiden has is when bully Mitchell Mulch is on the warpath, or when the She-bear (aka Granny) finds out he's eaten the last of the cornflakes. Now, Aiden and his best friends Sadie and Hussein have no trouble finding all sorts of fun things to do with their new-found abilities.

But the man who sent the sweets is on their trail – and will do *anything* to get them back...

The momentum of this super-powered action comedy is maintained with short, punchy chapters that draw you in to a ludicrous plot mixing crime, unusual superpowers, circus tricks and classic goody versus baddy themes. Aiden has an enjoyably reckless nature, and it's a very fun read, but beneath the hilarity there are also some and interesting thoughts on family and friendship

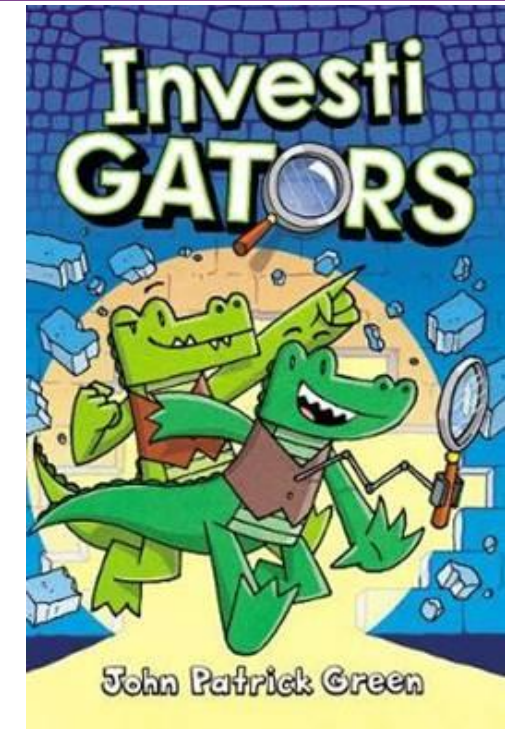




Mango and Brash, two alligator detectives, have an assignment to go undercover at Batter Down, a bakery owned by the world famous cupcake chef Gustavo Mustachio, who has mysteriously gone missing. Sporting an unconvincing fake moustache, Mango assumes chef Mustachio's identity at Batter Down to investigate his disappearance and protect his secret recipes.

Yet when a mysterious customer requests a person-sized birthday cake and uses it to infiltrate the Science Factory, the mystery deepens: what is Gustavo Mustachio's big oven doing at the Science Factory, and what caused the massive explosion? And who might be keeping the famous chef prisoner, making him bake dough after dough, searching for the perfect sewer-resistant recipe...?

Fans of Dog Man or Elys Dolan's sophisticated, funny picture books will adore this pun-heavy whodunnit graphic novel which is just as clearly laid out, colourful and silly as Dav Pilkey's phenomenally successful series. Mango and Brash are an excellent detective duo that readers will definitely want to see more from after this first in the series.



Al is finally out of foster care and back living with his mum, now she's out of prison. She's made four important promises to help them stay together, but trouble is just around the corner and Al is devastated when she's arrested again.

It's clear to Al whose fault this is, though: the grumpy man from the flat downstairs, Mr Brayker, who's hated his mum since they moved in, and who was right there in the shop when Al's mum was arrested. Now Al is going to make him pay for what he's done. This absorbing tale provides a moving insight into Al's world, which is shaped by poverty and neglect. Getting revenge is the only thing on Al's mind, and he doesn't care what the consequences are; it already feels like the whole world is out to get him. But what is the best way to get it?

As he goes through various plans and scenarios, Al is forced to confront difficult things but he's gradually able to gain some understanding of those around him. An incredibly insightful and moving short story about young lives and the importance of community spirit, tolerance and kindness.



Slick is an android – a robot that looks and behaves just like a human. But no one knows he's an android, not even him. What Slick does know is that it's important to have the coolest clothes and the best tech, and be friends with the popular kids. That's what everyone's always telling him, anyway – his parents, his teacher, his Uncle Martin.

Danny is definitely not popular and definitely does not have the 'right' clothes. But when Slick meets Danny, he starts to wonder whether true friendship is about more than just popularity. And Danny quickly realises there's something different about Slick: Why does he go to the dentist every week? Why does he have gaps in his memories? And who exactly is the mysterious Uncle Martin?

When Danny uncovers the truth about Slick, the worst thing imaginable happens... Can Danny outwit Slick's creators and save the only real friend he's ever had?

Told from both boys' perspectives, this is a page-turning story as Danny gradually works out Slick's secret. There are themes of artificial intelligence, friendship and what it means to be human, alongside an interwoven and searing commentary on the marketing power of big corporations.





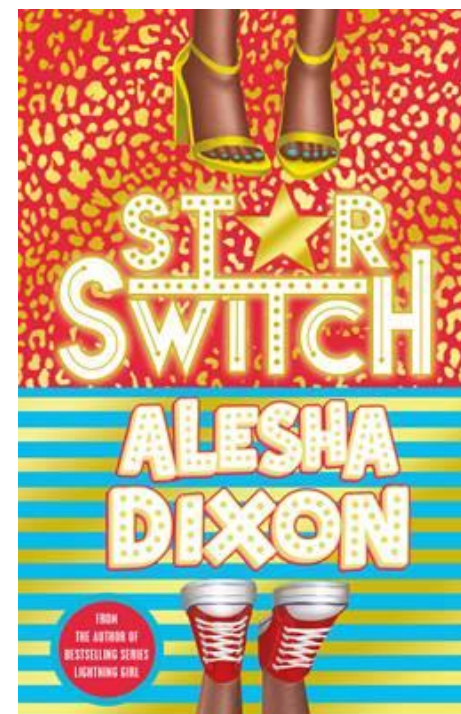
Naomi may be a famous popstar at just fifteen years old, but every minute of her life is micromanaged by her manager-slash-mum. She's tired, bored and acting out.

Ruby loves to sing and dance but is too shy to tell anyone other than her best friend about it. She's also Naomi's biggest fan and dreams of being her and being on stage.

But Naomi's and Ruby's lives are about to cross in the strangest of ways... Thanks to an unplanned encounter, an unusual book, and a magical jinx, Naomi accidentally ends up in Ruby's body and Ruby in Naomi's. Now Ruby really is going to get a taste of Naomi's starry lifestyle – but is it everything she dreamt it would be? Meanwhile, how will Naomi cope with school and teachers, not to mention Ruby's manic family?

Stepping into each other's shoes could open up all sorts of possibilities...

*Star Switch* is a super fun story about friendship, growing up, and two girls with very different personalities figuring out who they are and how to follow their dreams. A classic body swap story but done brilliantly. It's funny but also has bigger themes of understanding and finding self-confidence, with very relatable characters.



Astronauts Jim Lovell, Jack Swigert and Fred Haise were over 200,000 miles from Earth, in a rocket on the way to the moon, when a faulty wire caused a disastrous explosion. With compromised support systems and one oxygen tank completely destroyed, their survival was on the line.

This is the true story of the famous Apollo 13 mission, told in an accessible narrative style and dyslexia friendly format, brilliant for reluctant readers but also anyone who loves non-fiction and real-life stories about breaking boundaries and overcoming challenges.

The story includes some fascinating background to the mission, such as how the Apollo programme came about, the building of the absolutely enormous Saturn V rockets, and what it's like to travel through space. Although very much non-fiction and rooted in facts, David Long's brilliant writing recounts the unfolding events in a story-like way.

After the explosion, Lovell, Swigert and Haise face a series of life-threatening challenges as they try to get home. What really comes across, though, is the extraordinary bravery and pioneering creativity of everyone involved, both the astronauts themselves and those on the ground, and those who envisioned us venturing into space in the first place. An inspiring read.

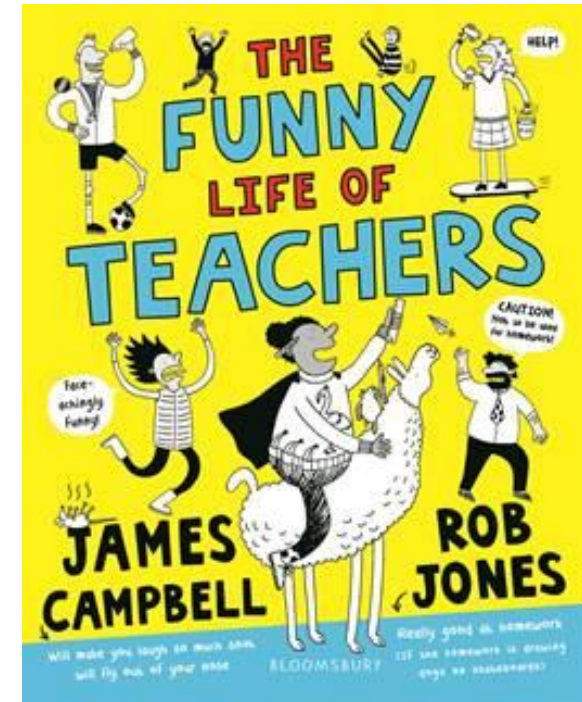


You shouldn't believe everything you read in this imaginative and inventive 'guide' to anything and (almost) everything related to school and teachers!

Packed with cartoon-style illustrations, this highly interactive book mixes together real and made-up facts about school and teachers, with hilarious results. Topics include the different types of teachers and what they might get up to in the staffroom, those supremely embarrassing moments of seeing your teacher outside of school, and other hilarious takes on subjects such as school toilets, the school hamster, lollipop ladies, dinner ladies, class names, accidentally calling your teacher mum, PE, how teachers try to motivate you and – obviously – emergencies you might need a banana for.

Plus this book can be read however you like – rather than reading from cover to cover, readers are encouraged to pick their own route through the book via the different options given to them at the end of each page. This zany and inventive format and the bite-sized chapters make it great for less confident readers, as well as lots of fun of course.

A book full of very silly things, but there are some real facts in there too if you can find them!





Max has a terrible habit of getting in trouble – he really doesn't mean it, but somehow things just go wrong. His home life is tough too: since mum died, Max's dad works several jobs and Max has to help look after his three little sisters. Then, after one too many not-quite-legal jobs, Dad gets into trouble too and leaves Max all alone to look after his three little sisters. Dad hasn't said how long he'll be gone and Max knows he's expected to step up, to be a 'Big Man', but he's scared and it's definitely not fair. So after finding a key to a remote Welsh cottage, Max makes a plan: hide out in Wales until Dad gets back. It seems like a great idea at first, but when things go from bad to worse, can he find a way to make them right? And should he have to?

A remarkable book about families, being a boy and coping with loss. The characters are supremely well written, the author sensitively exploring how there are different ways to be a man and how boys are shaped into men. An emotional read about real-life challenges and figuring out where you belong.



Aveline is not looking forward to spending half term with her austere Aunt Lilian in Malmouth, a windswept village on the Cornish coast. Despite her fondness for ghost stories, she finds the town a little creepy, particularly when sinister scarecrows appear outside people's homes in the lead up to Halloween.

When she finds a book about local ghosts and phantoms in a dusty, second-hand bookshop, Aveline is intrigued to learn that it once belonged to 11-year-old Primrose Penberthy, who mysteriously disappeared from Malmouth thirty years earlier. Hoping the stories may provide clues about Primrose's fate, Aveline investigates, enlisting the help of bookseller Mr Lieberman and his great-nephew Harold. However, as Aveline is drawn deeper into the tales, events take an unsettling turn.

With appealing characters, a spine-tingling plot and a fittingly bleak, stormy setting, this chilling chapter book is not for the faint-hearted. Ideal for confident junior readers, it is enhanced by a smattering of atmospheric black-and-white illustrations. The first in a compelling series of ghostly mysteries, which is sure to prompt readers to check under their beds before they turn the lights out.



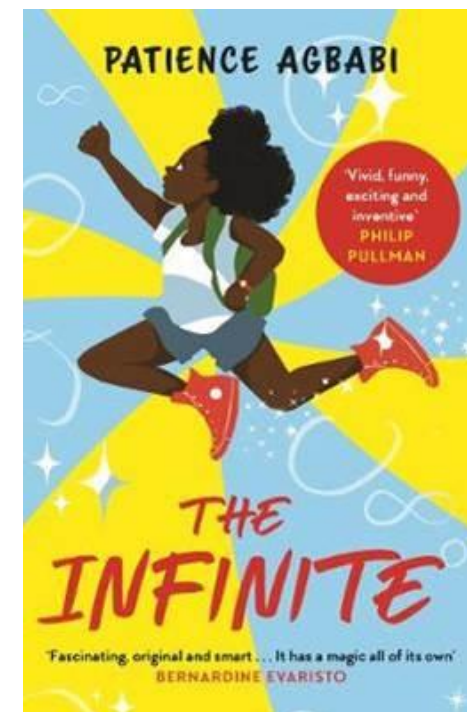
Elle is a Leapling: born on a leap day (29<sup>th</sup> February) and with the ability to leap backwards and forwards through time.

On her twelfth birthday she'll take her first official leap, on a school field trip to 2048. They'll visit the Time Squad Centre, a time-travelling crime-fighting organisation. But when Elle, in 2020, receives a cryptic SOS text message sent from someone in 2048 she knows something is wrong in the future. Who sent it? Why?

Someone's in trouble in 2048 – and it's up to Elle to figure out who it is, and how to save them.

A time-travelling science fiction adventure combined with crime mystery, *The Infinite* is fresh, exciting, bold and witty. Elle loves running, white food and her Nigerian heritage, but she dislikes eye contact, being stared at, too much noise, bullies and anything that makes her head too full. Managing everyday experiences can be hard, but her determination, curiosity and intelligence help her pursue her goals while the sparky friendship between Elle and her best friend Big Ben is touching and entertaining.

A diverse cast of unique individuals, a complex narrator, and a character-driven plot with ethical undertones makes this a book not to be missed.





In the town of Fennis Wick, there are two rules: eldests go to military camp when they turn 14, and you don't talk to wanderers: they're dirty, dangerous and deceitful, or so Maggie's been told.

Maggie is a middler – a middle child – and she's sick of it. Eldest children get all the good stuff: the parties, the prizes and the praise, while middle children grow up in the eldests' shadows. Maggie desperately wants a taste of being an eldest. So when she meets a wanderer, she reckons that if she can catch them that will make her a hero and people will finally listen to her. But Fennis Wick is hiding a terrible secret and everything Maggie thought she understood about the world is about to come crashing down.

Maggie's just a middler, though, so who's going to listen when she tries to tell the truth?

This is a wonderfully conceived and slickly executed dystopian novel set in a seemingly idyllic town, but with an undercurrent of secrets to send a shiver down the spine. Maggie is a boiling pot of adolescent emotions, whose jealousy of the eldests leads her to make some challenging choices which have far-reaching consequences.

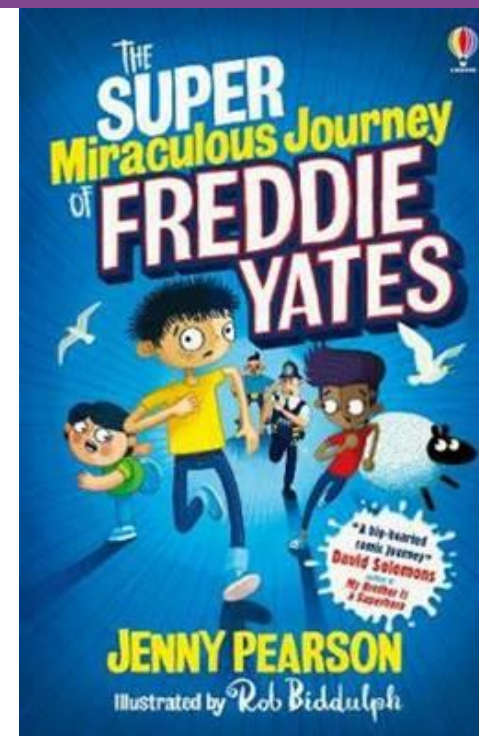


Do miracles really happen? Freddie Yates isn't convinced – until the summer he goes on an unexpected journey with his two best friends.

Freddie loves his adoptive dad, but when his Grams dies and leaves Freddie a letter revealing the name of his birth father, curiosity takes over. Freddie's plan is simple: pretend he's staying at his mate's, then get the train to Cardiff and find his biological dad. But things do not go according to plan...

Accidentally embarking on a madcap adventure across Wales, Freddie and his best friends leave a trail of chaos and increasingly crazy incidents behind them. After all, what are best friends for if not to encourage you to start the summer holidays with a massive deception and a disaster-prone race across the country? There's the exploding toilet incident, the onion eating competition, the accidentally setting fire to a boat incident and, yes, appearing on television dressed as a girl.

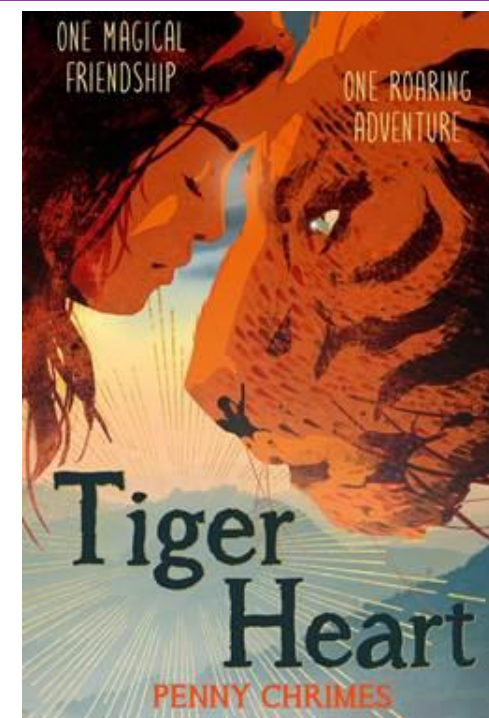
Though packed with humour, Freddie's journey also explores the ups and downs of friendship, the experience of grief, and the fact that family doesn't have to mean just a blood relation. Funny and heart-warming, this is the story of a summer road trip no like no other.



Left on the orphanage doorstep as a baby, Fly doesn't know anything about her past. Working as a chimney sweep, she mostly lives on the streets and has to scrounge for food. But when she decides to run away and jumps down an unknown chimney to escape her employer, she's surprised to find herself face-to-face with a tiger. She's even more surprised when the tiger speaks to her, instead of eating her.

The tiger tells Fly she has royal blood. She doesn't believe she's a princess, but she vows to free the tiger from his cage and help him get home to the faraway country he was stolen from. But something dark is following Fly and her past is about to catch up with her. Will the tiger be able to protect her, and will Fly be able to protect the tiger? As she unwraps her past, Fly embarks on a daring journey to right a terrible wrong and break the curse placed on hers and the tiger's homeland.

Fly is a wonderfully sparky character who is loyal and brave and determined, and *Tiger Heart* is perfect for any reader who loves daring adventures with a twist of magic.





Something happened last summer – something big – but Clara cannot remember what. She's fallen out with her best friend Gaynah because of it, and Clara feels like she's a problem that everyone is trying to fix.

As a new summer stretches out before her, Clara cannot help questioning the things she thought she knew about the adults and the world around her. And when magnetic, outgoing Rudy arrives and shakes things up, Clara begins to unlock her buried memories. Can she work out what happened last summer and why Gaynah is so angry at her? But if she does, what will that mean for Clara?

In the small community of Sycamore Hill, where Clara lives, everyone knows everyone else's business, but there are plenty of things nobody will talk about. Is it really true that no one here has any secrets?

This is a beautifully-written story of small towns and the eternally shifting sands of friendship and family. It's impossible not to feel everything Clara feels, while the storytelling is mysterious, poetic and dream-like at times. And then there's the dramatic and surprising twist that will send readers back to the start of the book to enjoy it all over again.

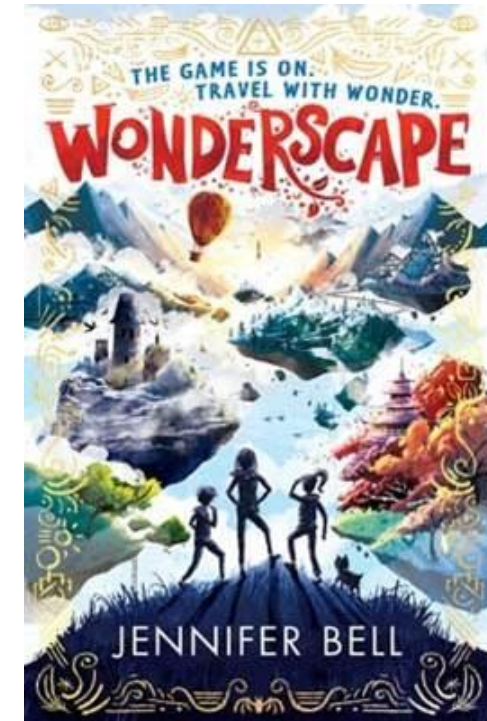


When Arthur, Ren and Cecily enter an abandoned house to rescue a trapped dog, they unknowingly step through a portal into both the future and a galactic ‘in reality’ adventure game called Wonderscape.

But what now? To get home, they need to find one of the game’s creators, Milo Hertz, who has a special time-key that will open the gateway back to 2021. That means navigating the Wonderscape, solving the game’s puzzles and completing the challenges. But there are bigger problems: firstly, Milo’s been missing for three years. And secondly, they only have 57 hours to find him before a game reset turns them into slime...

*Wonderscape* is an expertly crafted, breakneck speed adventure with a videogame-like structure: codes to crack, loot to collect and different levels – or ‘realms’ – to explore. Combine this with the mystery of Milo’s disappearance, the time-sensitive nature of the heroes’ quest, and the discovery of some much darker goings-on within the Wonderscape, for a page-turning, fun and highly imaginative read.

As they progress through the game, Arthur, Ren and Cecily must each face their greatest fears but, equally, each discover their unique strengths and build what will surely be a long-lasting friendship.



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**Books will be in school before Christmas**