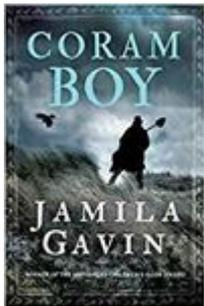




Southmoor Academy

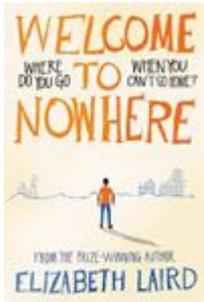
ASPIRE · ACHIEVE · ENJOY

Year 8 Reading List



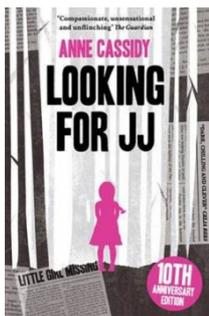
Coram Boy by Jamila Gavin Interest age: 12+ Reading age: 12+)

'*Coram Boy* is the story of Toby, saved from an African ship as a child, and Aaron, the illegitimate son of the heir to a great estate.'



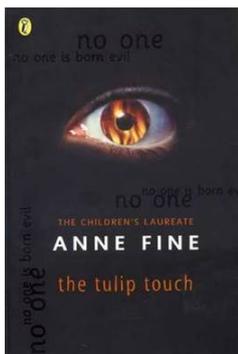
Welcome to Nowhere by Elizabeth Laird (Interest age: 11+ Reading age: 9+)

'Omar doesn't know much about politics, nor does he care, however, when his older brother, Musa, throws his lot in with the student opposition to the government, everything changes.'



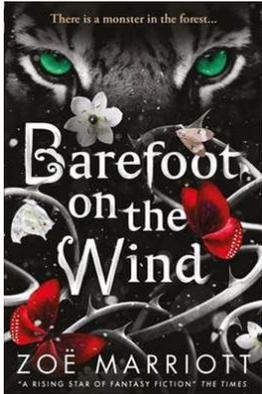
Looking for JJ by Anne Cassidy (Interest age: 13+ Reading age: 13+)

'When a 10-year-old girl kills her best friend, she is convicted of manslaughter and locked away. Seven years later she is released on licence with a new identity.'



The Tulip Touch by Anne Fine (Interest age: 12+ Reading age: 12+)

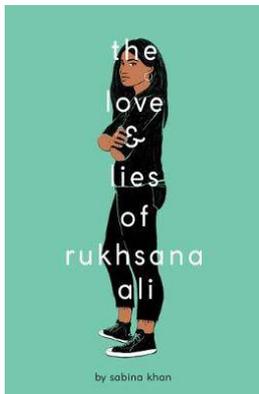
'Natalie befriends a loner called Tulip, who, from the start, displays some sinister character traits. As the story develops, her love of strange (and often malicious) games becomes increasingly disturbing when combined with her fascination with fire...'



Barefoot in the Wind by Zoe Marriott Interest age: 12+ Reading age: 12+

‘This stylish reworking of Beauty and the Beast unfolds in mythical Japan. The Dark Wood imprisons Hana's village; people speak of a monster, a curse. The forest has taken several of Hana's family, and now her brother's dead, and father blames her. Father lies wounded and unconscious: Hana must slay the beast to revive him.

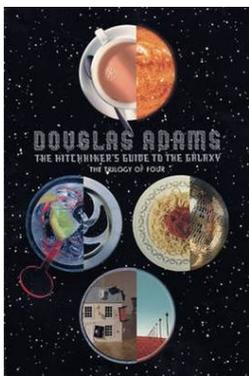
Alone, Hana enters the wood to discover an exquisite, terrible garden, simultaneously home *and* prison to Itsuki, a repellent yet heartbreakingly beautiful creature. Friendship blooms between them, until Hana discovers the truth at the Dark Wood's heart. Torn between love and loathing for Itsuki, she faces an agonising dilemma.’



The Love and Lies of Rukhsana Ali by Sabina Khan (Interest age: 12+ Reading age: 10+)

Rukhsana Ali keeps secrets. She has to. She loves her parents more than anything, but they love a person she isn't: someone she has to pretend to be. If her parents learn she is gay, Rukhsana knows it won't just disappoint them. It may destroy them.

Her friends mean well, but they don't understand the pressures she is under as a Bengali lesbian living in the USA. When her parents do find out the truth, Rukhsana finds herself in greater and more horrifying danger than she could ever have expected.’

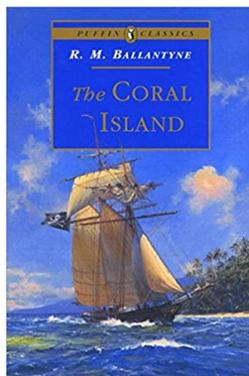


Hitch-hikers Guide to the Galaxy by Douglas Adams Interest age: 13+Reading age: 14+

‘It's an ordinary Thursday lunchtime for Arthur Dent until his house gets demolished. The Earth follows shortly afterwards to make way for a new hyperspace bypass and his best friend has just announced that he's an alien. At this moment, they're hurtling through space with nothing but their towels and an innocuous-looking book inscribed with the big, friendly words: DON'T PANIC.

And that's just the first twenty or so pages. What follows is the ultimate adventure, spanning space, time and improbability!’

Children's classic



The Coral Island by R.M Ballantyne

'When the three sailor lads, Ralph, Jack and Peterkin are cast ashore after the storm, their first task is to find out whether the island is inhabited. Their next task is to find a way of staying alive. They go hunting and learn to fish, explore underwater caves and build boats - but then their island paradise is rudely disturbed by the arrival of pirates.'