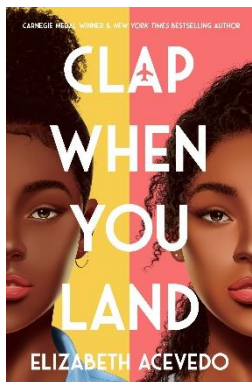




Clap When You Land by Elizabeth Acevedo (13+)

This is a powerful, heart-breaking and compellingly novel. A soul-healing novel-in-verse in which sisters separated by the Atlantic are united by grief for the father they never knew they shared



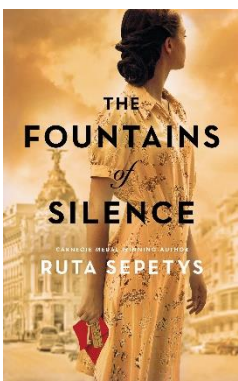
Camino Rios lives for the summers when her father visits her in the Dominican Republic. But this time, on the day when his plane is supposed to land, Camino arrives at the airport to see crowds of crying people...

In New York City, Yahaira Rios is called to the principal's office, where her mother is waiting to tell her that her father, her hero, has died in a plane crash.

Separated by distance - and Papi's secrets - the two girls are forced to face a new reality in which their father is dead and their lives are forever altered. And then, when it seems like they've lost everything of their father, they learn of each other. In a dual narrative novel in verse that brims with both grief and love, award-winning and bestselling author Elizabeth Acevedo (The Poet X) writes about the devastation of loss, the difficulty of forgiveness, and the bittersweet bonds that shape our lives.

The Fountains of Silence by Ruta Sepetys (14+)

A rich, mesmerising tale of love, betrayal, death and corruption set in Franco's post war Spain.



Madrid, 1957. Tourists and foreign businessmen flood into Spain under the welcoming guise of sunshine and wine while Spanish citizens are gripped by a dark secret.

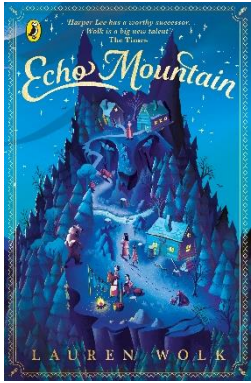
Daniel Matheson, the son of an oil tycoon, hopes to connect with the country of his mother's birth through the lens of his camera. Photography -and fate - introduce him to Ana, a hotel maid, whose family is suffering under the fascist dictatorship of General Franco.

Daniel and Ana's lives and hearts collide as they unite to uncover the hidden darkness within the city - a darkness that could engulf them all. . .

Master storyteller Ruta Sepetys once again shines light into one of history's darkest corners in this epic, heart-wrenching novel about identity, unforgettable love and the hidden

violence of silence.

Echo Mountain by Lauren Wolk (10+)



The grim life and ever-present tension of the Great Depression looms in this quiet but compelling plot. Descriptive and immersive figurative language draws the reader in to a family story of dynamic relationships.

When Ellie and her family lose everything, they flee to Echo Mountain.

Ellie runs wild, exploring the mountain's mysteries.

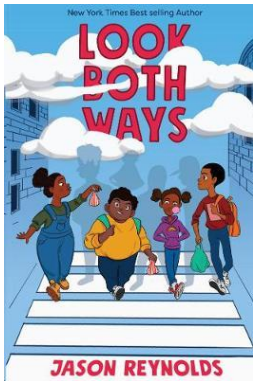
But the one she can't solve is who's leaving the gifts for her: tiny wooden carvings of animals and flowers, dotted around the mountain for her to find. Then Ellie's father has a terrible accident. When she sets out to find a cure for him, she discovers Cate, the outcast witch, and Larkin, a wild mountain boy.

From them she learns about being a healer, being brave - and how there can be more to a person than first meets the eye.

This compelling and thoughtful plot creates an experience that will stay with the reader long after the final page.

Look Both Ways by Jason Reynolds (10+)

Ten blocks, ten tales, and whole world of heartfelt humanity, Reynolds has done it again in these emotionally authentic interlinked stories about a set of kids making their way home from school.

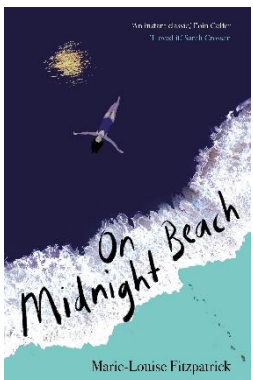


For the chorus of kids whose lives play out on these impeccably-written pages, the walk home from school represents a rare time of freedom; a period of limbo between being under the watchful eyes of teachers and parents. Unsupervised, the kids reveal their true selves, most of them dealing with hidden heartache and anxieties alongside goofing around, self-reflecting and navigating their way through Middle School.

An engaging, funny and totally unique read!

On Midnight Beach by Marie-Louise Fitzpatrick (12+)

An exceptional retelling of the Irish legend of Tain Bo Cuailnge, this beautiful coming-of-age novel is set in Co Donegal in the long hot summer of 1976.

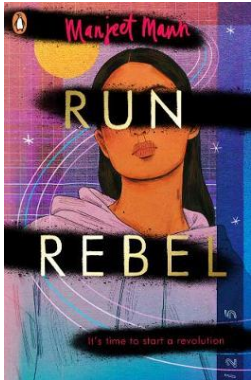


Donegal, 1976 When a dolphin takes up residence in Carrig Cove, Emer and her best friend, Fee, feel like they have an instant connection with it. Then Dog Cullen and his sidekick, Kit, turn up, and the four friends begin to sneak out at midnight to go down to the beach, daring each other to swim closer and closer to the creature . . . But the fame and fortune the dolphin brings to their small village builds resentment amongst their neighbours across the bay, and the summer days get longer and hotter . . . There is something wild and intense in the air. Love feels fierce, old hatreds fester, and suddenly everything feels worth fighting for.

This compelling novel beautifully evokes a time and place. The reader needs no knowledge of the original legend to enjoy this gripping tale of love, loss and petty rivalry between two small fishing villages.

Run, Rebel by *Manjeet Mann* (13+)

Powerful verse novel charting a female rebellion against cultural rules and abusive family patriarchy

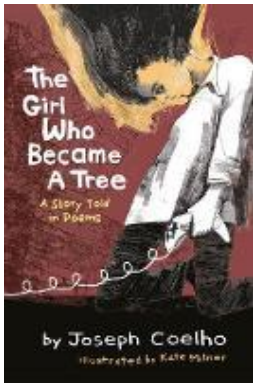


A compelling verse novel in which Amber is trapped – by her abusive father's rules, by his expectations, by her own fears. She only feels alive when running, but even that is forbidden. Inspired by school lessons about revolution Amber slowly finds the strength to free not only herself, but also her downtrodden mother and her trapped sister from their domestic prison.

This is an inspiring book that leaves a lasting impression.

The Girl Who Became a Tree by *Joseph Coelho* (12+)

Heart-breaking, powerful, totally involving, and engrossing to read



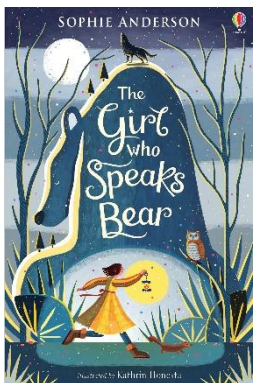
The myth of Daphne and Apollo combines with a story of a girl struggling to make sense of loss in this innovative novel playfully told across a plethora of poetic forms. The book cleverly relays complex emotions and brings to life the inner-world of Daphne's grief an isolation whilst showcasing the power of story, reading and libraries as a form of release.

The duality of the myth of Daphne and Apollo is realised in a layered and intricate way which offers readers insight into the psychology of grief and loss. Language is used in ways that is playful and powerful so that the words can almost be tasted.

An immersive and inventive novel that empowers, educates and inspires whilst wrenching at the heart.

The Girl Who Speaks Bear by *Sophie Anderson* (10+)

A captivating fairy story, beautifully told and perfect for today's readers



They call me Yanka the Bear. Not because of where I was found - only a few people know about that. They call me Yanka the Bear because I am so big and strong. Found abandoned in a bear cave as a baby, Yanka has always wondered about where she is from. She tries to ignore the strange whispers and looks from the villagers, wishing she was as strong on the inside as she is on the outside. But, when she has to flee her house, looking for answers about who she really is, a journey far beyond one that she ever imagined begins: from icy rivers to smouldering mountains meeting an ever-growing herd of extraordinary friends along the way.

Interwoven with traditional stories of bears, princesses and dragons, Yanka's journey is a gorgeously lyrical adventure from the best-selling author of 'The House With Chicken Legs.' A beautifully written and original fantasy adventure story that will linger long after the last page.