

September 2023

Welcome to our termly reading newsletter. Each term, we will recommend books from a range of genres and styles.

Don't forget to checkout our reading lists aimed at specific year groups. All are available on our website.

The English Department

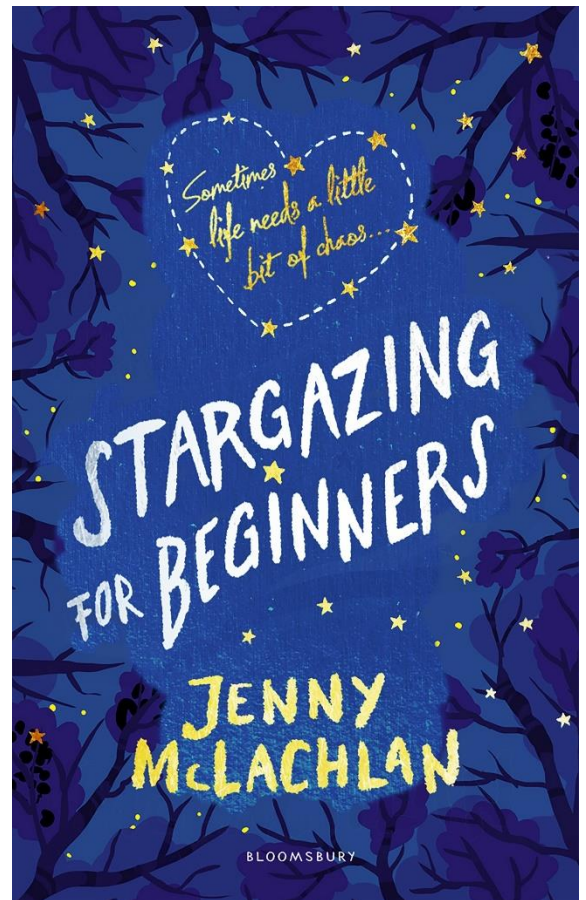


Stargazing for Beginners

- Science
- Relationships
- Family

Science geek Meg is left to look after her little sister for ten days after her free-spirited mum leaves suddenly to follow up yet another of her Big Important Causes. But while Meg may understand how the universe was formed, baby Elsa is a complete mystery to her.

And Mum's disappearance has come at the worst time: Meg is desperate to win a competition to get the chance to visit NASA headquarters, but to do this she has to beat close rival Ed. Can Meg pull off this double life of caring for Elsa and following her own dreams? She'll need a miracle of cosmic proportions ...



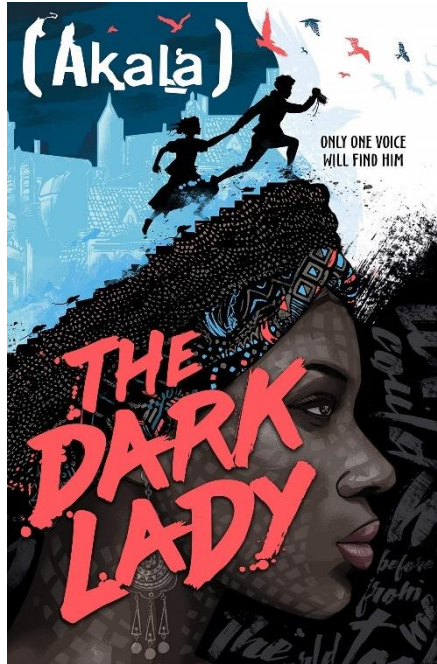
Yoto Carnegie Shortlist 2023 Winner



The Yoto Carnegie Medal for Writing is awarded by children's librarians for an outstanding book written in English for children and young people. Each year a book is selected from a shortlist.

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The Dark Lady
Fantasy
Historical
Mature content (YR9+)



A natural storyteller with a vision of his own, *The Dark Lady*, Akala's debut novel for teens will enthuse and entertain teenagers and young adults, showing that reading is a true super-power.

A pickpocket with an exceptional gift. A prisoner of extraordinary value. An orphan haunted by dreams of the mysterious dark lady.

Henry is an orphan, an outsider, a thief. He is also a fifteen-year-old invested with magical powers...

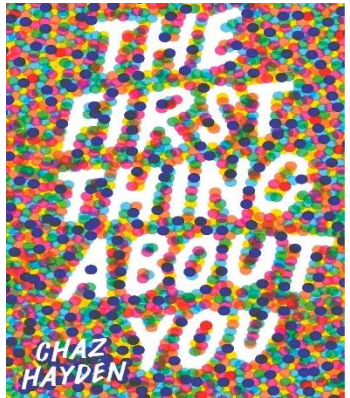
This brilliant, at times brutal, first novel from the amazing imagination that is Akala, will glue you to your seat as you are hurled into a time when London stank and boys like Henry were forced to find their own route through the tangled streets and out the other side.

Our summaries are taken from the Goodreads website: <https://www.goodreads.com/>

A high school student with spinal muscular atrophy is determined to reinvent himself.

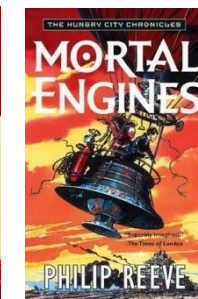
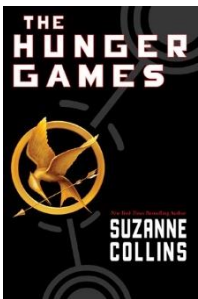
When fifteen-year-old Harris moves with his family from California (home of beautiful-but-inaccessible beaches) to New Jersey (home of some much-hyped pizza and bagels), he's determined to be known as more than just the kid in the powered wheelchair. Armed with his favourite getting-to-know-you question ("What's your favourite colour?"), he'll weed out the incompatible people—the greens and the purples, people who are too close to his own blue to make for good friends—and surround himself with outgoing yellows, adventurous oranges, and even thrilling reds. But first things first: he needs to find a new nurse, stat, so that his mom doesn't have to keep accompanying him to school.

Enter Miranda, a young nursing student who graduated from Harris's new high school. Beautiful, confident, and the perfect blend of orange and red, Miranda sees Harris for who he really is—funny, smart, and totally worthy of the affections of Nory Fischer, the cute girl who's in most of his classes. With Miranda at his side, Harris soon befriends geeky Zander (yellow) and even makes headway with Nory (who stubbornly refuses to reveal her favourite colour). But Miranda is fighting her own demons, and Harris starts to wonder if she truly has his best interests at heart.

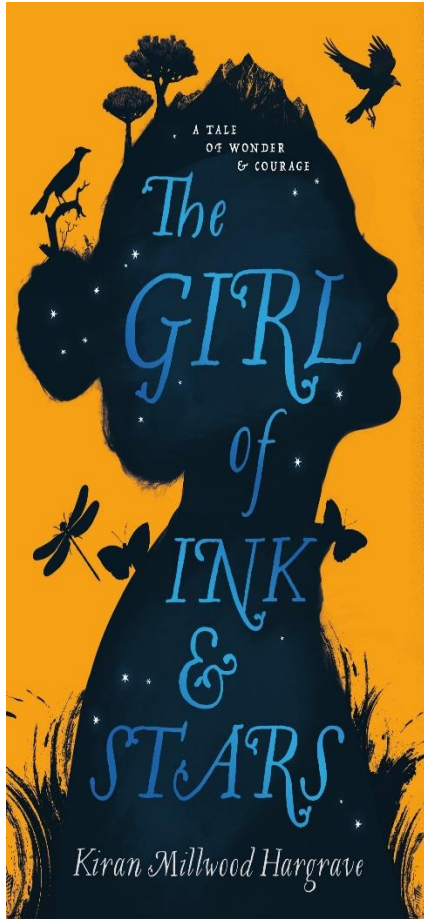


The First Thing About You
Disability
Friendship
Mature content (Y9+)

What about reading a dystopian story?



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Winner of the Waterstones Children's Book Prize 2017, and the British Book Awards' Children's Book of Year 2017

Forbidden to leave her island, Isabella Riosse dreams of the faraway lands her father once mapped.

When her closest friend disappears into the island's Forgotten Territories, she volunteers to guide the search. As a cartographer's daughter, she's equipped with elaborate ink maps and knowledge of the stars, and is eager to navigate the island's forgotten heart.

But the world beyond the walls is a monster-filled wasteland – and beneath the dry rivers and smoking mountains, a legendary fire demon is stirring from its sleep. Soon, following her map, her heart and an ancient myth, Isabella discovers the true end of her journey: to save the island itself.



The Girl of Ink and Stars

Historical

Mystery

Growing up



We love hearing about books you have read so let us know what book you think everyone should read!



A student who reads is a student who succeeds.