

September 2024

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 from our website.

The English Department



Birdsong

Friendship

Struggle

Animals

The blackbirds' song uplifts and restores in this captivating novella from one of the most exciting voices in children's fiction.

After a devastating car crash, Annie is unable to play her flute and retreats from the music she's always loved. She exists in a world of angry silence – furious with her mum and furious she can't seem to play her beloved flute any more.

Then she meets Noah, who shows her the blackbirds' nest hidden in the scrubland near their flats. As their friendship grows, the blackbirds' glorious song reignites Annie's passion for music. But when tragedy strikes again, will her fragile progress be put at risk?

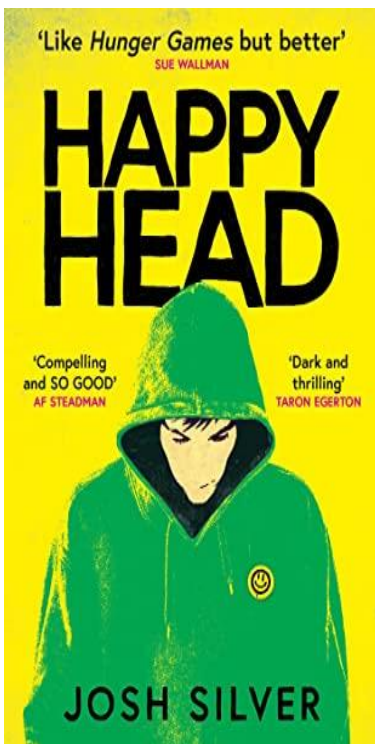


## The Yoto Carnegie Medal for Writing Shortlist 2024





September 2024



*We are in an epidemic. An epidemic of unhappiness.*

*Friends, here is the good news: HappyHead has the answer.*

*When Seb is offered a place on a radical retreat designed to solve the national crisis of teenage unhappiness, he is determined to change how people see him and make his parents proud. But as he finds himself drawn to the enigmatic Finn, Seb starts to question the true nature of the challenges they must undergo. The deeper into the programme the boys get, the more disturbing the assessments become, until it's clear there may be no escape...*



**HappyHead**

Young Adult

Mental Health

Dystopia



*Winter was the only season every Lake-Lander feared...*

*In a post-apocalyptic America, a community survives in a national park, surrounded by water that keeps the Dead at bay. But when winter comes, there's nothing to stop them from crossing the ice.*

*Then homebody Peter puts the camp in danger by naively allowing a stranger to come ashore and he's forced to leave the community of Wranglestone. Now he must help rancher Cooper, the boy he's always watched from afar, herd the Dead from their shores before the lake freezes over.*

*But as love blossoms, a dark discovery reveals the sanctuary's secret past. One that forces the pair to question everything they've ever known.*

**Wranglestone**

Young Adult

LGBT

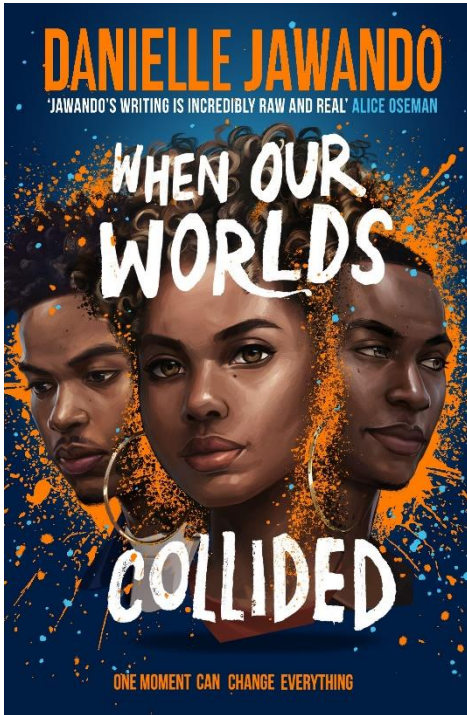
Zombies



Our summaries are taken from the Goodreads website:

<https://www.goodreads.com/>

September 2024



*When fourteen-year-old Shaq is stabbed outside of a busy shopping centre in Manchester, three teenagers from very different walks of life are unexpectedly brought together. What follows flips their worlds upside down and makes Chantelle, Jackson, and Marc question the deep-rooted prejudice and racism that exists within the police, the media, and the rest of society.*



### When Our Worlds Collide

Young Adult

Prejudice

Crime



***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.