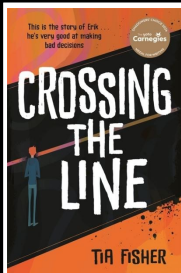


Crossing the Line by Tia Fisher



Erik's mum is juggling the challenge of two small babies, plus the recent death of her husband due to Covid-19. Both these factors affect teenage Erik too, struggling with homework as the babies continually cry, or his mum needs help. When the difficulties at home affect Erik's behaviour at school and he is pushed into the company of the 'bad boys', Erik is tempted to earn some easy money. But this kind of money is never truly easy to earn and comes at a terrible cost.

Find me in the Adult Fiction section.
AR Level 4.5

The Final Year by Matt Goodfellow



Life can be tough in your last year of primary school. Tests to take, and preparing for the change to high school. But when Nate and his best friend, PS are separated, and PS finds a new friend in Turner, the school bully, Nate's world is turned upside-down. As he struggles to make sense of this and make new friends, he's dealt another blow when his youngest brother is rushed to hospital. Nate's new teacher, Mr Joshua, sees Nate's love of reading and writing, and shows Nate how to use this to process what's going on. But with so much going on, and his anger building, will this be enough?

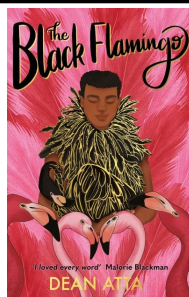
Find me in the Teen Fiction section.
AR Level 5.4

The Poet X by Elizabeth Acevedo



Xiomara has always kept her words to herself. When it comes to standing her ground in her Harlem neighbourhood, she lets her fists and her fierceness do the talking. But X has secrets, like her feelings for a boy in her biology class, and the notebook full of poems that she keeps under her bed. But a slam poetry club will pull those secrets into the spotlight, because in a world that might not want to hear her, Xiomara refuses to stay silent.

Find me in the Teen Fiction section.
AR Level 5.2

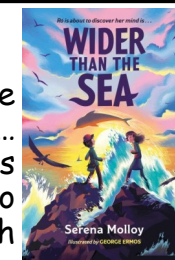


The Black Flamingo by Dean Atta

This is Michael's story. Follow Michael's journey from school to college, where he discovers his flock, and comes to terms with his identity as a mixed-race, gay teen. But when at university, Michael discovers his alter ego, and spreads his wings as a drag artist, The Black Flamingo. A bold story about discovering that only you get the privilege of choosing who you are.

Find me in the Adult Fiction section.
AR Level 4.7

Wider Than the Sea by Serena Molloy



Ro finds school impossible. She knows people think she's shy... and stupid. But when she goes by the bay each afternoon to watch the dolphin leap through the water, she finds the strength to keep going. Then the dolphin disappears, and everything starts to fall apart. Can Ro overcome her fears to find him?

Find me in the Teen Fiction section.
AR Level 5.3



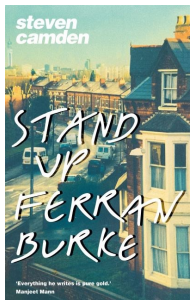
The Weight of Water by Sarah Crossan

Armed only with a suitcase and an old laundry bag filled with clothes, Kasienka and her mother head for England. Life is pretty lonely for Kasienka. At home her mother's heart is breaking and at school friends are scarce. But when someone special swims into her life, Kasienka learns that there might be more than one way for her to stay afloat. **Find me in the Teen Fiction section.**
AR Level 4.7

Punching the Air by Ibi Zoboi



Suddenly at sixteen years old, Amal Shahid's bright future is upended when he is convicted of a crime he didn't commit and sent to prison. Despair and rage almost sink him until he turns to the refuge of his words, his art. But can he change his story? **Find me in the Adult Fiction section.**
AR Level 5.7

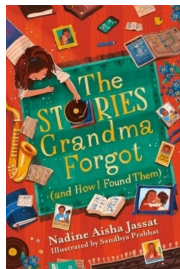


Stand Up Ferran Burke By Steve Camden

Ferran Burke is many things, but to most people he is just, Emile Burke's little brother. Emile is all about himself. Now Ferran is starting high school alone and needs to learn how to survive, quickly. New allies, new enemies, new feelings and new passions. Follow Ferran on his journey through secondary school.

**Find me in the Adult Fiction section.
Not currently on AR.**

The Stories Grandma Forgot (and how I Found Them) by Nadine Aisha Jassat



Twelve-year old Nyla's Dad died when she was four, or that's what she's been told. So when Grandma Farida insists she saw him in the local supermarket, Nyla wonders if Grandma is "time travelling" again (the phrase she uses when Grandma forgets). But Grandma is Nyla's best friend and when she asks Nyla to find her Dad and bring him home, Nyla decides to make a brand new promise to her Grandma, to find him. Nyla turns detective and sets out to discover her family's past to try and find the truth. She also hopes that by uncovering important family stories it will help her understand who she is, and where she fits in the world.

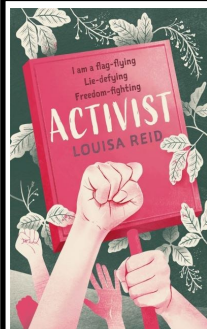
**Find me in the Teen Fiction section.
AR Level 5.3**

The Bones of Me by Kel Duckhouse



Living on an East London council estate has its worries, and life for fifteen year old Molly hasn't always been easy, but she can dream. Molly dreams about being a boxer just like her older brother Denny. When he finally agrees to train her, she couldn't be more excited. But one night, everything changes. There is an assault outside Molly's local boxing club. And now Denny's nowhere to be found, and the Police are after him. Molly must prove her brother's innocence and delve into the underbelly of East London and her family history where new and old secrets are revealed.

**Find me in the Teen Fiction section.
AR Level 3.5**



Activist by Louisa Reid

Cassie goes to a school where girls have only just been admitted after decades of it being single-sex. When a female student anonymously posts about the sexual abuse she has suffered, the school does not act properly. Cassie knows that she needs to take matters into her own hands. A powerful verse novel about the need to act and stand up for what's right.

**Find me in the Adult Fiction section.
AR Level 5.8**

HAZELWICK SCHOOL LIBRARY

Verse
Novel

This is a list of recommended verse novels.

What is a verse novel?

A novel or story that is told in verse (rhyming or rhythmic sentence or passage), rather than prose. Combining poetry and story telling, they usually have a third of the word count to standard novels. They are often visually more attractive than prose.

If you have any questions regarding these books or need more suggestions, please come and ask Mrs Thornton or Mrs Bridgman in the library.

Happy reading...