

# 50(ish) Brilliant Books to Read during Year 7



Library  
Camden School for Girls  
London NW5 2DB

- All the books on this list may be borrowed from the school library.
- This list contains just one title per author. Most of the authors have written other equally good books. **If you enjoy reading a book, then do try other books by the same author.**
- Titles in italics are the first in a series.

Alcott, Louisa	<i>Little Women</i>	Classic family story four sisters during the American Civil War. Less demanding to read alongside the original, is <b>Becoming Jo</b> by Sophie McKenzie, which retells the sisters' story as it might be today.
Balen, Katya	<b>October, October</b>	Eleven year old October lives a simple life in the woods with her Dad. When her Dad has an accident, she must go and live in London with her estranged mother.
Brahmachari, Sita	<i>Artichoke Hearts</i>	A thoughtful story set locally. Mira will soon be a teenager. Life is full of possibilities. At the same time, there is sadness as her beloved grandmother is dying.
Burnett, Frances H	<b>The Secret Garden</b>	A classic. When Mary's parents die, she is sent to live with an uncle she has never met who lives in a large house full of secrets on the Yorkshire Moors.
Cross, Gillian	<b>After Tomorrow</b>	In the near future, Britain goes bankrupt. In a reversal of the current situation, thousands of desperate British refugees try to cross the English Channel and France is overwhelmed.
Dassu, A M	<b>Fight Back</b>	After a terrorist attack, there is racial tension in Aliyah's town. As a Muslim, Aaliyah finds herself the target of bullies. How can she fight back?
De Prince, Michaela	<b>Hope in a Ballet Shoe</b>	An autobiography. Born in war-torn Sierra Leone, Michaela was adopted and taken to America. Her new parents encouraged her love of dance. She is now a professional dancer with the Boston Ballet Company.
Dhami, Narinder	<b>13 Hours</b>	A nail-biting thriller. Anni's home is under siege. She had the chance to escape, but her agoraphobic mother refused to leave the house.

Dowd, Siobhan	<b>The London Eye Mystery</b>	At 11.32am Salim enters a pod on the London eye. The pod completes a revolution. At 12.02pm the door opens. But Salim does not exit the pod. How could this happen?
Doyle, Roddy	<b>A Greyhound of a Girl</b>	A family story set in Ireland which shows how life has changed for women over 4 generations.
Edge, Christopher	<b>Twelve Minutes to Midnight</b>	Partly historical, partly fantasy and definitely a mystery. Why do the inmates of Bedlam, London's notorious lunatic asylum, begin writing frenziedly at 12 minutes to midnight each night?
Erskine, Kathryn	<b>Mockingbird</b>	Caitlin is autistic. Her classmates think she is "weird". When her beloved brother is shot dead, her life implodes.
Farrant, Natasha	<b>After Iris</b>	Everyday life in a chaotic family as captured by 13 year old Bluebell in her diaries.
Fine, Anne	<b>The Devil Walks</b>	Gothic horror. Daniel has never been outside. When he is "rescued" by a well-meaning doctor, he ends up in the clutches of his sinister uncle.
Fraillon, Zana	<b>The Bone Sparrow</b>	Subhi's family are Rohingya Muslims from Myanmar. Subhi has spent all his life in a refugee camp. Will he ever get to see the outside world?
Getten, Kareen	<b>When Life Gives You Mangoes</b>	There are good and bad things about living in a small town in Jamaica where everybody knows your secrets. Clara realises this when she loses her memory of the events of last summer.
Hagger-Holt, Sarah	<b>Proud of Me</b>	Becky and Josh share the same anonymous donor dad. Now in Year 8, they are starting to question who they really are.
Hardinge, Frances	<b>The Lie Tree</b>	Adventure, intrigue, fantasy, history and very clever writing. Faith is a girl in Victorian times reluctant to conform to Victorian ideas of womanhood. A demanding read.
Hickes, Phil	<b>The Haunting of Aveline Jones</b>	When Aveline goes to stay with her aunt in a small seaside village she expects to be bored, not to come face to face with a ghost.
Ibbotson, Eva	<b>The Star of Kazan</b>	A long historical adventure set in Austria and Germany. Annike was abandoned and adopted. Then unexpectedly her mother claims her back.
LaFleur, Suzanne	<b>Love Aubrey</b>	This book will make you both smile and cry. After a family tragedy, Aubrey must start a new life with her grandmother in Vermont.
McCaughrean, Geraldine	<b>Where the World Ends</b>	A gripping tale of survival set in the St Kilda islands, the remotest part of Britain.

Mah, Adeline Yen	<b>Chinese Cinderella</b>	An autobiography. Adeline's mother died giving birth to her. According to an old Chinese belief, Adeline was unlucky and was treated badly.
McKay, Hilary	<b><i>Binny for Short</i></b>	First in a series about the Cornwallis family Binny and her family move to a dilapidated house in a Cornish seaside village.
McKenzie, Sophie	<b><i>Girl Missing</i></b>	Lauren always knew she was adopted, but her adoptive parents refused to tell her anything about her real family. Was she adopted legally?
Montgomery, L M	<b><i>Anne of Green Gables</i></b>	Classic heart-warming story about an orphan girl mistakenly sent to middle-aged siblings who wanted a boy to work on their farm.
Morpurgo, Michael	<b>War Horse</b>	Joey is an exceptional horse who makes his mark on the battlefields during World War One.
Mulligan, Andy	<b>Trash</b>	A thriller about a group of children living in extreme poverty in the Philippines who find a bag of money.
Norry Em	<b>Amber Under Cover</b>	Amber likes maths and solving problems. These skills lead to her being recruited as a spy and sent to infiltrate a gang of teenage hackers.
Norriss, Andrew	<b>Jessica's Ghost</b>	Jessica is dead but lives on as a ghost, Francis, Andi and Quentin are children experiencing difficulties. They are the only ones who can communicate with Jessica. But why?
Palacio, R J	<b>Wonder</b>	August is severely disfigured. At the age of 10, he is going to school for the first time. How will his new classmates react to his face?
Parsons, Karyn	<b>How High the Moon</b>	Ella is a mixed race girl living in segregated South Carolina during the 1940s. When she moves to Boston, she is amazed to find black and white people mixing freely.
Paver, Michelle	<b><i>Wolf Brother</i></b>	An epic historical adventure set in the Stone Age, a time when people believed in magic. Torak is all alone in the world apart from his dog.
Pitcher, Annabel	<b>My sister lives on the Mantelpiece</b>	Following the death of his sister in a terrorist attack, Jamie's family falls apart. He has to leave London and start a new life in the Lake District.
Pullman, Philip	<b><i>Northern Lights</i></b>	A complex fantasy adventure story set in an alternative world where everyone is accompanied by a "daemon", an animal version of their soul.
Rundell, Catherine	<b>Rooftoppers</b>	As a baby Sophie is found floating cello case. When Social Services threaten to take her from

		the kind man who found her, the 2 go to Paris in search of her mother.
Sachar, Louis	<b>Holes</b>	Stanley Yelnats was framed for a crime he did not commit. He is sent to a detention camp in the hot desert and forced to dig a large hole each day.
Said, S F	<b>Tyger</b>	An adventure involving a magical cat. It is set in a future London where people of non-British heritage must live in ghettos and slavery is rife.
Selznick, Brian	<b>The Marvels</b>	An intriguing book about family connections for over 300 years. The book is in two parts. The first consists entirely of pencil drawings.
Smith, Dan	<b>Nisha's War</b>	Nisha and her mother escape war-torn Malaysia during World War 2. They go to Nisha's paternal grandmother who lives in an isolated ruin on the Northumberland coast. Here Nisha finds herself caught up in a ghostly adventure
St John, Lauren	<b>The One Dollar Horse</b>	When Casey rescues a starving horse, she dreams of becoming a champion rider. But the odds are stacked against a poor girl from Hackney. If you enjoy this, try Enid Bagnold's classic, <b>National Velvet</b> .
Stevens, Robin	<b><i>Murder Most Unladylike</i></b>	A murder mystery set in a girls' boarding school during the 1930s. Good readers are encouraged to move on from this series to the works of <b>Agatha Christie</b> which have many similarities.
Scott, Libby / Westcott Rebecca	<b><i>Can you see me?</i></b>	Acclaimed author Rebecca Westcott has teamed up with Libby Scott, an 11 year old autistic girl to write this story about starting secondary school and trying to fit in when everyone can see that you are different.
Stead, Rebecca	<b>Liar and Spy</b>	Set in an apartment building in New York, this is partly a family story and partly a mystery. The ending is guaranteed to surprise you.
Thebo, Mimi	<b>Dreaming the Bear</b>	A thoughtful family story about a teenage girl who cares for an injured bear in a snowy wilderness.
Torday, Piers	<b><i>The Last Wild</i></b>	In a fantasy future world where there are no animals and the only food is flavoured pink gloop, Kester embarks on a great adventure.
Welford, Ross	<b>What Not to do if You Turn Invisible</b>	12 year old Ethel is beset with problems. At least she has found a cure for her spots. But the "cure" turns her invisible.

Williamson, Lisa	<b><i>Best Friends Forever</i></b>	Lola's life has fallen apart. Her parents have divorced. It's her first term at secondary school and she finds herself separated from her best friend. Ideal for Jacqueline Wilson fans.
Winter, Tamsin	<b>Bad Influence</b>	Amelia is bullied relentlessly at school. When popular new boy Evan takes an interest in her, she hopes things might change. But a single foolish act brings her world crashing down.
Wolk, Lauren	<b>Wolf Hollow</b>	When bully Betty comes to live with her grandmother, a chain of terrible events is set in motion. Set in rural Pennsylvania in the 1940s. This book has similarities with the American classic <b>To Kill a Mockingbird</b> .

CSG Library Catalogue: <https://camdensfg.oliverasp.co.uk/library/home/advancedSearch>