



AUTUMN

"Let us read, and let us dance; these two amusements will never do any harm to the world." – Voltaire

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Happy reading! – Miss Mullins, Miss Walker, and Miss Henry



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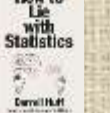
Realm Breaker #3: Fate Breaker by Victoria Aveyard

The Companions are torn apart, and the realm hangs in the balance, at the edge of ruin. Taristan and Queen Erida rise triumphant from the battlefield, while Corayne barely escapes with her life; her Companions left behind to uncertain fates. But not all hope was lost: Corayne managed to steal Taristan's Spindleblade. Without it, Taristan can't rip open any more Spindles. Without it, he can't end the world. Now, from every corner of the realm, the Companions race to reunite while they rally old allies and seek unexpected new ones, in one final push against darkness. But Taristan and Erida are all but invincible. With their cruel god, What Waits, on their side, they will sacrifice anything and anyone to his hunger. Everything has come to this. In the final clash between good and evil, a ragged alliance makes its bravest stand against a ruthless enemy... and the demon god who would consume the realm entire.



Short Stories in Japanese for Intermediate Learners by Olly Richards

Short Stories in Japanese for Intermediate Learners has been written especially for students from low-mid intermediate (ACTFL) level of Japanese. Mapped to B1 and approaching B2 on the Common European Framework of Reference, these eight captivating stories are designed to give you a sense of achievement and a feeling of progress when reading, and most importantly - enjoyment! Carefully curated to make learning a new language easy, these stories include key features that will support and consolidate your progress. As a result, you will be able to focus on enjoying reading, delighting in your improved range of vocabulary and grasp of the language, without ever feeling overwhelmed.



How to Lie with Statistics by Darrell Huff

Darrell Huff runs the gamut of every popularly used type of statistic, probes such things as the sample study, the tabulation method, the interview technique, or the way the results are derived from the figures, and points up the countless number of dodges which are used to fool rather than to inform.

Demon Slayer: Volume 6 by Koyoharu Gotouge

The members of the Demon Slayer Corps are sworn to destroy demons wherever they find them—but the condition of Tanjiro's sister, Nezuko, is a problem. What will the Hashira—the leaders of the Demon Slayer Corps—do about Tanjiro protecting his own demonic sister? Meanwhile, Kibutsuji assembles his own minions and intensifies his search for Tanjiro...



Paws and Whiskers by Jacqueline Wilson et al

This special anthology features the very best stories about cats and dogs from the world of children's literature, chosen by bestselling author and Battersea Cats and Dogs Home patron Jacqueline Wilson. Includes a brand new story by Jacqueline herself, Leonie's Pet Cat, as well as extracts from treasured classics such as The Hundred and One Dalmatians by Dodie Smith and Gobbolino the Witch's Cat by Ursula Moray Williams, and from modern favourite writers such as Anne Fine and Patrick Ness. The book also features personal new pieces from many authors about their own treasured pets, with contributions from Michael Morpurgo, Philip Pullman, Malorie Blackman and more.



Let's Split Up by Bill Wood

When hot "it-couple" Brad and Shelley are brutally murdered in a manor on the edge of town, a group of teen friends investigate. Set in Sanera, a small community in California where rumour spreads as fast as the fire on the day of the killings, the theory is the old ghoul who haunts the house after his own murder has finally taken revenge. As Cam, Jonesy, Amber and new-girl Buffy investigate, the rumour feels closer to the truth than they ever dared think possible, and as they enter the mansion themselves, the idea of splitting up to find evidence will prove to be either the best... or worst decision of all...



Such Charming Liars by Karen M McManus

For all of Kat's life, it's just been her and her mother, Jamie—except for the forty-eight hours when Jamie was married and Kat had a stepbrother, Liam. That all ended in an epic divorce, and Kat and Liam haven't spoken since. Now Jamie is a jewel thief trying to go straight, but she has one last job—at billionaire Ross Sutherland's birthday party. And Kat has figured out a way to tag along. What Kat doesn't know, though, is that there are two surprise guests at the dazzling Sutherland compound that weekend. The last two people she wants to run into. Liam and his father—a serial scammer who has his sights set on Ross Sutherland's youngest daughter. Kat and Liam are on a collision course to disaster, and when Sutherland dies, they realize they might actually be in the killer's crosshairs themselves. Somehow Kat and Liam are the new targets, and they can't trust anyone—except each other. Or can they? Because if there's one thing both Kat and Liam know, it's how to lie. They learned from the best.



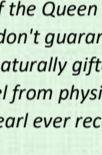
The Girl from the Sea by Molly Knox Ostertag

Fifteen-year-old Morgan has a secret: She can't wait to escape the perfect little island where she lives. She's desperate to finish high school and escape her sad divorced mom, her volatile little brother, and worst of all, her great group of friends—who don't understand Morgan at all. Because really, Morgan's biggest secret is that she has a lot of secrets, including the one about wanting to kiss another girl. Then one night, Morgan is saved from drowning by a mysterious girl named Keltie. The two become friends and suddenly life on the island doesn't seem so stifling anymore. But Keltie has some secrets of her own. And as the girls start to fall in love, everything they're each trying to hide will find its way to the surface...whether Morgan is ready or not.



Black Butler: Volume 3 by Yana Toboso

Terrorizing its populace, Jack the Ripper has shaken London to its very core. But when Sebastian Michaelis, singular butler of the Phantomhive house, lays bare the madman's true identity, all that is left for him to do is eliminate the perpetrator in the name of the Queen and Phantomhive. But inhumanly efficient skills don't guarantee victory when the opponent is just as supernaturally gifted! And though Sebastian may be able to save Ciel from physical harm in the battle that ensues, will the young earl ever recover from the emotional scars it will leave on his heart?



Tokyo Ghoul: Volume 1 by Sui Ishida

Shy Ken Kaneki is thrilled to go on a date with the beautiful Rize. But it turns out that she's only interested in his body—eating it, that is. When a morally questionable rescue transforms him into the first half-human half-Ghoul hybrid, Ken is drawn into the dark and violent world of Ghouls, which exists alongside our own.



Four Eids and a Funeral by Faridah Abiké-Iyimidé and Adiba Jaigirdar

Let's get one thing straight: this is a love story. Said Hossain hates Tiwa Olatunji. And Tiwa would happily never see Said again in her life. Growing up, the two were inseparable, but they have barely spoken since the incident many Eids ago and both of them would like to keep it that way. But when Said comes home for a funeral and the town's Islamic Centre burns down on the same day, they have to face each other again and sparks fly. Both of them want to see the Islamic Centre rebuilt. For Tiwa, it represents the community that she loves and a way to keep her fractured family together. For Said, it's an opportunity to build his portfolio for his secret application to art school, where he hopes that he'll be able to pursue his dreams of becoming an artist, rather than a doctor. Working with your sworn enemy is never easy, and this could be the hardest thing that Said and Tiwa have ever done. But in trying to save the Islamic Centre and Eid, could these enemies become something else...?



Legacy of Orisha 3: Children of Anguish and Anarchy by Tomi Adeyemi

New allies rise. The Blood Moon nears. Zélie faces her final enemy. The king who hunts her heart. When Zélie seized the royal palace that fateful night, she thought her battles had come to an end. The monarchy had finally fallen. The maji had risen again. Zélie never expected to find herself locked in a cage and trapped on a foreign ship. Now warriors with iron skulls traffic her and her people across the seas, far from their homeland. Then everything changes when Zélie meets King Baldyr, her true captor, the ruler of the Skulls, and the man who has ravaged entire civilizations to find her. Baldyr's quest to harness Zélie's strength sends Zélie, Amari, and Tzain searching for allies in unknown lands. But as Baldyr closes in, catastrophe charges Orisha's shores. It will take everything Zélie has to face her final enemy and save her people before the Skulls annihilate them for good.



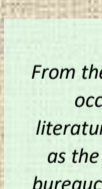
Trust Me I'm a (Junior) Doctor by Max Pemberton

The bestselling real life story of a hapless junior doctor, based on his columns written anonymously for the Telegraph. If you're going to be ill, it's best to avoid the first Wednesday in August. This is the day when junior doctors graduate to their first placements and begin to face having to put into practice what they have spent the last six years learning. Starting on the evening before he begins work as a doctor, this book charts Max Pemberton's touching and funny journey through his first year in the NHS. Progressing from youthful idealism to frank bewilderment, Max realises how little his job is about 'saving people' and how much of his time is taken up by signing forms and trying to figure out all the important things no one has explained yet -- for example, the crucial question of how to tell whether someone is dead or not. Along the way, Max and his fellow fledgling doctors grapple with the complicated questions of life, love, mental health and how on earth to make time to do your laundry.



Fire Force: Volume 1 by Atsushi Ohkubo

The city of Tokyo is in the grip of a reign of terror! Possessed by demons, people have begun to burst into flame, leading to the establishment of a special firefighting team: the Fire Force, ready to roll on a moment's notice to fight spontaneous combustion anywhere it might break out. But the team is about to get a very unique addition: Shinra, a boy who possesses the unique power to run at the speed of a rocket, leaving behind the famous "devil's footprints" (and destroying his shoes in the process). Can the Fire Force discover the source of this strange phenomenon and put a stop to it? Or will the city burn to ashes first?



Russian Short Stories from Pushkin to Buida by Various

From the reign of the Tsars in the early nineteenth century to the collapse of the Soviet Union and beyond, the short story has long occupied a central place in Russian culture. Included here are pieces from many of the acknowledged masters of Russian literature—including Pushkin, Turgenev, Dostoyevsky, Tolstoy, and Solzhenitsyn—alongside tales by long-suppressed figures such as the subversive Kryzhanovsky and the surrealist Shalamov. Whether written in reaction to the cruelty of the bourgeoisie, the bureaucracy of communism, or the torture of the prison camps, they offer a wonderfully wide-ranging and exciting representation of one of the most vital and enduring forms of Russian literature.

Cogheart #4: Shadowsea by Peter Bunzl

Swept into the bright hustle and bustle of New York, Lily, Robert and Malkin discover shadowy secrets lie beneath its surface. For there are chilling goings-on in their hotel... A strange boy held captive, haunted by an undersea mystery; and a revengeful villain with a treacherous plan. Searching for clues, Robert and Lily are plunged into deep water... But can they reveal the deadly truth before the secrets submerge them? Join Lily, Robert and Malkin on a fantastic voyage of terror and triumph, in this fourth Cogheart Adventure.



Saga of the Swamp Thing: Book Three by Alan Moore

After meeting the Swamp Thing, the Hellblazer sends the man-monster on a voyage of discovery that takes him from the darkest corners of America to the roots of his own long-hidden heritage. Collects issues #35-#42.



Blue Lock: Volume 1 by Muneyuki Kaneshiro

After a disastrous defeat at the 2018 World Cup, Japan's team struggles to regroup. But what's missing? An absolute ace striker. The Football Union is hell-bent on creating a striker who hungers for goals and thirsts for victory, so Blue Lock—a rigorous training ground for 300 of Japan's best and brightest youth players—is created. To survive this battle royale, the last striker standing will have to out-muscle and out-ego everyone who stands in his way!



Blue Lock: Volume 2 by Muneyuki Kaneshiro

Despite his harsh criticism of Japan's citizens and media, the genius midfielder Sae Itoshi has set his gaze on Blue Lock, where the training is about to begin. To survive the first round robin tournament in the training center, Isagi's Team Z will need to find a way to use their own unique weapons while struggling through a clash of egos. What does it take to be the best in the world?!



Blue Lock: Volume 3 by Muneyuki Kaneshiro

As Blue Lock's first selection rages on, Isagi's Team Z has tasted sweet victory after overcoming the formidable Team Y. But it's not long before Team Z encounters an unimaginable internal rift... On top of that, Team Z's Hyoma Chigiri is on the verge of giving up completely. In the face of Team W's powerful ace, the Wanima twins, will Team Z be able to come together in time to escape defeat?



Hitler, Stalin, Mum and Dad by Daniel Finkelstein

From longstanding political columnist and commentator Daniel Finkelstein, a powerful memoir exploring both his mother and his father's devastating experiences of persecution, resistance and survival during the Second World War. Daniel's mother Mirjam Wiener was the youngest of three daughters born in Germany to Alfred and Margarete Wiener. Alfred, a decorated hero from the Great War, is now widely acknowledged to have been the first person to recognise the existential danger Hitler posed to the Jews and began, in 1933, to catalogue in detail Nazi crimes. After moving his family to Amsterdam, he relocated his library to London and was preparing to bring over his wife and children when Germany invaded the Netherlands. Before long, the family was rounded up, robbed and sent to starve in Bergen-Belsen. Daniel's father Ludwik was born in Lwów, the only child of a prosperous Jewish family. In 1939, after Hitler and Stalin carved up Poland, Ludwik's father was arrested and sentenced to hard labour in the Gulag. Meanwhile, deported to Siberia and working as a slave labourer on a collective farm, Ludwik survived the freezing winters in a tiny house he built from cow dung. Hitler, Stalin, Mum and Dad is a deeply moving, personal and at times horrifying memoir about Finkelstein's parents' experiences at the hands of the two genocidal dictators of the twentieth century. It is a story of persecution; survival; and the consequences of totalitarianism told with the almost unimaginable bravery of two ordinary families shining through.

The Narrow Road to the Deep North and Other Travel Sketches by Matsuo Bashō

In later life Bashō turned to Zen Buddhism, and the travel sketched in this volume reflect his attempts to cast off earthly attachments and reach out to spiritual fulfillment. The sketches are written in the "haibun" style—a linking of verse and prose. The title piece, in particular, reveals Bashō striving to discover a vision of eternity in the transient world around him and his personal evocation of the mysteries of the universe.



Quick & Easy: Frame by Frame – A Visual Step-by-Step Cookbook by Love Food

This book is like having one-to-one lessons with an experienced chef in your very own kitchen. Step-by-step photographs and easy-to-follow instructions will guide you through each recipe, from assembling the ingredients to the final flourish of the finished dish. Following the recipes frame by frame makes cooking effortless, successful, and a genuine pleasure. Even the novice cook can confidently prepare any of the dishes, whether savoury or sweet, in a matter of minutes.

National Book Tokens' Hidden Books Game Returns



Every year, National Book Tokens runs the Hidden Books Game from November up until the last day of December. The game consists of a cartoon picture of a bookshop, in which 20 visual clues to 20 different book titles are hidden. The books may be classic or contemporary, and span from all age ranges and genres. If you are successful in guessing the titles of all 20 books, you will be entered into a draw to win a £500 National Book Token. The website also features an archive of previous year's games, which you can play for fun. Click on the link below to get started. If you need any hints, feel free to ask a librarian!

[Click here to play.](#)

On This Day in History... The First Calvin and Hobbes Comic Strip is published, 18th November 1985



On November 18th 1985, the comic strip *Calvin and Hobbes* debuted in 35 newspapers, introducing readers to the mischievous 6-year-old Calvin and his best friend, a possibly imaginary tiger named Hobbes. The comic strip quickly became a cultural phenomenon and is commonly described in retrospect as "the last great newspaper comic." *Calvin and Hobbes*, created by author and artist Bill Watterson, was featured in newspapers until December 1995

when Watterson made the decision to bring the comic strip to an end. Despite his enormous success, Watterson famously resisted merchandise licensing and adaptations, including offers from Steven Spielberg and George Lucas, as he valued the integrity of the comic strip over commercial compensation. During its decade-long run, *Calvin and Hobbes* became iconic, resonating deeply with both children and adults. The comic offered a thoughtful critique of American society: an intellectual depth that challenged the idea that comics lack substance. At the height of its popularity, *Calvin and Hobbes* was featured in over 2,400 newspapers globally and, since their release, nearly 45 million copies of the *Calvin and Hobbes* books have sold internationally. *Calvin and Hobbes'* timeless themes and insightful commentary on American culture contribute to its lasting popularity and influence. The legacy of *Calvin and Hobbes* endures through its timeless comic strips, which remain beloved by fans worldwide.

The Complete Calvin and Hobbes: Books 1-4 by Bill Watterson

Join Calvin and Hobbes on all their adventures in this four-volume collection of every comic strip from the comic strip's eleven-year history (1985 to 1996). *Calvin and Hobbes* is unquestionably one of the most popular comic strips of all time. The imaginative world of a boy and his real-only-to-him tiger was first syndicated in 1985 and appeared in more than 2,400 newspapers when Bill Watterson retired on January 1, 1996. The entire body of Calvin and Hobbes cartoons are published in a truly noteworthy tribute to this singular cartoon in *The Complete Calvin and Hobbes*. Composed of four paperback, four-colour volumes in a sturdy slipcase, this New York Times best-selling edition includes all Calvin and Hobbes cartoons that ever appeared in syndication.



Samantha Harvey Wins the 2024 Booker Prize

Samantha Harvey's novel *Orbital* was announced as the 2024 Booker Prize winner on November 12th, earning her a £50,000 prize and a trophy presented by last year's winner, Paul Lynch. The award ceremony, held at Old Billingsgate in London, was hosted by Samira Ahmed and broadcast live on BBC Radio 4's *Front Row*. It was also livestreamed on the Booker Prize's social media channels. The Booker Prize, awarded to authors worldwide who write in English and are published in the UK or Ireland, has celebrated outstanding fiction for over fifty years, shaping modern literature. Harvey has been longlisted for the Booker Prize twice: once for *The Wilderness* in 2009 and again this year for *Orbital*. Booker Prize judges said of *Orbital*: "Six astronauts observe Earth's splendour while navigating bereavement, loneliness and mission fatigue. Compact yet beautifully expansive, this is a love letter to our planet." When asked why *Orbital* was chosen as the ultimate winner, Chair of Judges Edmund de Waal explained: "All year we have celebrated fiction that inhabits ideas rather than declaiming on issues, not finding answers but changing the question of what we wanted to explore. Our unanimity about *Orbital* recognises its beauty and ambition. It reflects Harvey's extraordinary intensity of attention to the precious and precarious world we share." Despite initial doubts about her ability to write about space, Harvey, inspired by her own struggles with insomnia, found a unique way to approach the story: the novel, set over a single day but with time in space experienced differently to time on Earth, balances recounting the protagonists' mundane tasks with their reflections on Earth's beauty and its destruction. Harvey's personal experiences, including her childhood fascination with space and philosophical themes of faith, memory, and time deeply influenced the novel. Written during the pandemic, *Orbital* became a form of solace for Harvey, as she used the beauty of space as a contrast to the troubles on Earth. The book reflects her contemplation of humanity's cooperation and destructive tendencies, leaving readers to decide whether it offers hope or despair. Click [here](#) to find out more and to listen to actor Will Poulter reading an extract from *Orbital*.



Jake is in the tailspin of old age. His wife has passed away, his son is in prison, and now he is about to lose his past to Alzheimer's. As the disease takes hold of him, Jake's memories become increasingly unreliable. What happened to his daughter? Is she alive, or long dead? Why is his son imprisoned? And why can't he shake the memory of a yellow dress and one lonely, echoing gunshot? Like Marilynne Robinson's *Gilead*, *The Wilderness* "holds us in its grip from the first sentence to the last" "with the sheer beauty of its language and its ruminations on love and loss.



The Wilderness by Samantha Harvey