



AUTUMN

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Happy reading! – Miss Mullins and Miss Walker



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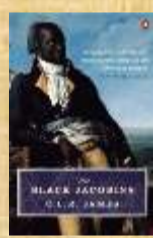
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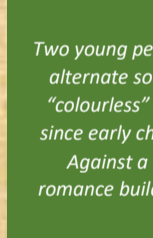
Black History Month



Black History Month is observed in the month of October every year in the UK. The concept of Black History Month began in the United States as a way of remembering important people and events in the history of the African diaspora and initially lasted a week before becoming a month-long observation in 1970. This year's theme in the UK is 'reclaiming narratives' – the Black History Month website says of the theme: 'Reclaiming Narratives is more than just a theme—it's an invitation. An invitation to every member of the Black community to take part in shaping how our stories are told. It's about ensuring that our voices are heard, our experiences acknowledged, and our contributions celebrated. This theme encourages us to shine a spotlight on the untold stories, the unsung heroes, and the everyday individuals who have made an indelible impact on our communities.' Find out more [here](https://www.bhm.org.uk/).



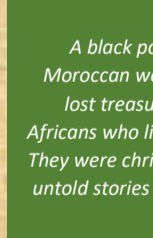
The Black Jacobins: Toussaint L'Ouverture and the San Domingo Revolution by C. L. R. James
In 1789 the West Indian colony of San Domingo supplied two-thirds of the overseas trade of France. The entire structure of what was arguably the most profitable colony in the world rested on the labour of half a million slaves. In 1791 the waves of unrest inspired by the French Revolution reached across the Atlantic dividing the loyalties of the white population of the island. The brutally treated slaves of Saint Domingo seized at this confusion and rose up in rebellion against masters. In this classic work, CLR James chronicles the only successful slave revolt in history and provides a critical portrait of their leader, Toussaint L'Ouverture, 'one of the most remarkable men of a period rich in remarkable men'.



Noughts and Crosses #1: Noughts and Crosses by Malorie Blackman
Two young people are forced to make a stand in this thought-provoking look at racism and prejudice in an alternate society. Sephy is a Cross – a member of the dark-skinned ruling class. Callum is a Nought – a 'colourless' member of the underclass who were once slaves to the Crosses. The two have been friends since early childhood, but that's as far as it can go. In their world, Noughts and Crosses simply don't mix. Against a background of prejudice and distrust, intensely highlighted by violent terrorist activity, a romance builds between Sephy and Callum – a romance that is to lead both of them into terrible danger. Can they possibly find a way to be together?



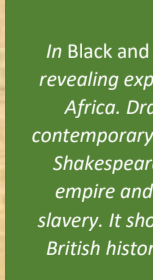
Homecoming: Voices of the Windrush Generation by Colin Grant
Homecoming draws on over a hundred first-hand interviews, archival recordings and memoirs by the women and men who came to Britain from the West Indies between the late 1940s and the early 1960s. In their own words, we witness the transition from the optimism of the first post-war arrivals to the race riots of the late 1950s. We hear from nurses in Manchester; bus drivers in Bristol; seamstresses in Birmingham; teachers in Croydon; dockers in Cardiff; inter-racial lovers in High Wycombe, and Carnival Queens in Leeds. These are stories of hope and regret, of triumphs and challenges, brimming with humour, anger and wisdom. Together, they reveal a rich tapestry of Caribbean British lives. Homecoming is an unforgettable portrait of a generation, which brilliantly illuminates an essential and much-misunderstood chapter of our history.



Black Tudors: The Untold Story by Miranda Kaufmann
A black porter publicly whips a white Englishman in the hall of a Gloucestershire manor house. A Moroccan woman is baptised in a London church. Henry VIII dispatches a Mauritanian diver to salvage lost treasures from the Mary Rose. From long-forgotten records emerge the remarkable stories of Africans who lived free in Tudor England... They were present at some of the defining moments of the age. They were christened, married and buried by the Church. They were paid wages like any other Tudors. The untold stories of the Black Tudors, dazzlingly brought to life by Kaufmann, will transform how we see this most intriguing period of history.



100 Great Black Britons by Patrick Vernon and Angelina Osborne
Frustrated by the widespread and continuing exclusion of the Black British community from the mainstream popular conception of 'Britishness', despite Black people having lived in Britain for over a thousand years, Patrick Vernon set up a public poll in which anyone could vote for the Black Briton they most admired. The response to this campaign was incredible. As a result, a number of Black historical figures were included on the national school curriculum and had statues and memorials erected and blue plaques put up in their honour. Mary Seacole was adopted by the Royal College of Nursing and was given the same status as Florence Nightingale. Children and young people were finally being encouraged to feel pride in their history and a sense of belonging in Britain. Now, with this book, Vernon and Osborne have relaunched the campaign with an updated list of names and accompanying portraits - including new role models and previously little-known historical figures. Each entry explores in depth the individual's contribution to British history - a contribution that too often has been either overlooked or dismissed.



Black and British: A Forgotten History by David Olusoga
In Black and British, award-winning historian and broadcaster David Olusoga offers readers a rich and revealing exploration of the extraordinarily long relationship between the British Isles and the people of Africa. Drawing on new genetic and genealogical research, original records, expert testimony and contemporary interviews, Black and British reaches back to Roman Britain, the medieval imagination and Shakespeare's Othello. It reveals that behind the South Sea Bubble was Britain's global slave-trading empire and that much of the great industrial boom of the nineteenth century was built on American slavery. It shows that Black Britons fought at Trafalgar and in the trenches of the First World War. Black British history can be read in stately homes, street names, statues and memorials across Britain and is woven into the cultural and economic histories of the nation.



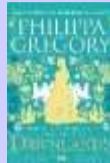
Love in Colour: Mythical Tales from Around the World Retold by Bolu Babalola
A high-born Nigerian goddess, who has been beaten down and unappreciated by her gregarious lover, longs to be truly seen. A young businesswoman attempts a great leap in her company, and an even greater one in her love life. A powerful Ghanaian spokeswoman is forced to decide whether she should uphold her family's politics or be true to her heart. In her debut collection, internationally acclaimed writer Bolu Babalola retells the most beautiful love stories from history and mythology with incredible new detail and vivacity. Focusing on the magical folktales of West Africa, Babalola also reimagines Greek myths, ancient legends from the Middle East, and stories from long-erased places.

"Be kind. Always if you have a choice, be kind." – Anne Rice



The Fairmile #3: Dawnlands by Philippa Gregory

Ned Ferryman, inspired by news of a rebellion against the Stuart kings, returns from America with his Pokanoket servant to join the uprising against Roman Catholic King James. As Ned swears loyalty to the charismatic Duke of Monmouth, he discovers a new and unexpected love. Meanwhile, Queen Mary summons her friend Livia to a terrified court. Recklessly, Livia drags her son Matthew and his foster mothers Alnor and Alys into a plot to save the queen from Monmouth's invasion, and Matthew is rewarded with the Manor of Faulmire: on the tidelands where Ned, Alnor and Alys had once scraped a poor living. Suddenly, Alnor is lady of the manor, as Ned marches into the last battle between the royalists and commoners, hoping for a new dawn for freedom.



The Potion Diaries #1: The Potion Diaries by Amy Alward

When the Princess of Nova accidentally poisons herself with a love potion meant for her crush, she falls crown-over-heels in love with her own reflection. Oops. A nationwide hunt is called to find the cure, with competitors travelling the world for the rarest ingredients, deep in magical forests and frozen tundras, facing death at every turn. Enter Samantha Kemi - an ordinary girl with an extraordinary talent. Sam's family were once the most respected alchemists in the kingdom, but they've fallen on hard times, and winning the hunt would save their reputation. But can Sam really compete with the dazzling powers of the Zoro Aster megapharma company? Just how close is Sam willing to get to Zain Aster, her dashing former classmate and enemy, in the meantime? And just to add to the pressure, this quest is ALL OVER social media. And the world news. No big deal, then.



The Potion Diaries #2: Royal Tour by Amy Alward

Having saved Princess Evelyn (and become her new BFF) Sam must accompany Evelyn on a world tour, so she can keep the princess (and everyone around her) safe with a power-binding potion. But Sam also has another reason to scour the globe. Someone has tampered with her grandpa's mind, and Sam is the only one who can unlock his memories to save him and the family business. And that's not all that's at stake. The stolen memories contain the recipe to a potion which many would kill to get hold of. With the most powerful people in the world desperate for the recipe, Sam must save her grandpa in order to save everyone else...



The Yearbook by Holly Bourne

Most likely to...be forgotten working on the school newspaper, Paige is used to dealing with fake stories. How popular girl Grace is such an amazing person (lie). How Laura steals people's boyfriends (lie). How her own family are so perfect (lie). Now Grace and friends have picked their "best" high-school moments for Paige to put in the all-important Yearbook. And they're not just fake. They're poison. But Paige has had enough of all the lies in her life. And with the help of Elijah - the only boy who could ever understand her - she's going to reveal the truth.



Whispered Words Volume #3 by Takashi Ikeda

Sumika and Ushio's true feelings have finally been revealed, but they are torn between their ideals and reality. The sincerity of their feelings remains, but sudden upsets in their lives introduce even more conflict into their already turbulent relationship. This volume concludes their intricate and subtle love story, and it races toward a truly inspirational finale!



The Manga Guide to the Universe by Kenji Ishikawa et al

Join Kanna, Kanta, Yamane, and Gloria in The Manga Guide to the Universe as they explore our solar system, the Milky Way, and faraway galaxies in search of the universe's greatest mysteries: dark matter, cosmic expansion, and the Big Bang itself. As you rocket across the night sky, you'll become acquainted with modern astronomy and astrophysics, as well as the classical discoveries and theories on which they're built. You'll even learn why some scientists believe finding extra-terrestrial life is inevitable! You'll also learn about: Discoveries made by Copernicus, Galileo, Kepler, Hubble, and other seminal astronomers, theories of the universe's origins, evolution, and geometry, the ways you can measure and observe heavenly bodies with different telescopes, and how astronomers calculate distances in space, and more.

September's MOST POPULAR BOOKS

- 1** **The Hunger Games** by Suzanne Collins
- 2** **Heartstopper Volume 3** by Alice Oseman
- 3** **The Secret History** by Donna Tartt
- 4** **Pride and Prejudice** by Jane Austen
- 5** **A Good Girl's Guide to Murder** by Holly Jackson
- 6** **Heartstopper Volume 4** by Alice Oseman
- 7** **Heartstopper Volume 1** by Alice Oseman
- 8** **Toilet-bound Hanako-kun Volume 3** by Aidara

STAR BORROWERS OF THE MONTH

Each month we highlight star borrowers- those students that have borrowed 5 or more books within that month.

| Year 7 | Year 8 | Year 9 | Year 10 | Year 11 | Year 12 | Year 13 | | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|---|--|---|---|--|------------------------|---|---|
| Bade 7S Waisin 7S Ahaana 7S Annika 7S Deviya 7N Tioluwani 7S Ruchita 7N Yutong 7S Myrah 7N Zaram 7N Ireen 7N Zara 7N Jasmine 7W Avinsha 7W Miruthviga 7W Wenjun 7W Mayuka 7S | Sophia 7G Saaya 7G Ishita 7P Nesiah 7P Aditi 7P Krisha 7P Anika 7P Saatvika 7P Apishaline 7P Aurora 7P Krishu 7P Rowan 7P | Iris 8N Neevh 8N Florence 8N Khushi 8N Luna 8N Amy 8S April 8F Merisha 8F Tripti 8F Dia 8F Aarushi 8F Jasmine 8F Fiona 8F | Satara 9W Avani 9W Ayla 9W Erin D 9S Charlotte 9S Senumi 9S Erin W 9S Imaan 9F Aisha 9F Rose 9F Anushka 9F Shubhangini 9F | Emilie 9G Isla 9G Dhivyaa 9G Liya 9G Leony 9P Aksha 9P Taara 9P Adita 9P Valerie 9P | Vanessa 10N Kashviny 10N Tania 10N Anika 10S Sophiyaa 10S Eunice 10S Eniola 10F Aashvi 10G Christina 10G | Year 8 Ariadne 8F Sophie 8G Mehr 8G Rebecca 8P Elizabeth 8P Aahana 8P Naomi 8P | Year 9 Michaela 9N Natasha 9N Jess 9N Veda 9N Izzie 9W | Year 10 Vyshali 11W Anthiya 11P Lucy 11P Lizzy 11P | Year 11 Eleanor 12R | Year 12 Zahra 12P Vyshally 12B Daria 12R | Year 13 Trevor 13W Vivia 13W Julia 13S Sophie 13F Olivia 13H |

Polari Children's and YA Prize Longlist Announced

The Polari Book Prizes are the UK's book prizes for emerging and established LGBTQIA+ authors. Three prizes are given annually: The Polari First Book Prize, which is restricted to first books written by authors who were born or work in the UK and Ireland; The Polari Book of the Year, which is for any LGBT+ book published that year, excluding debuts; and the recently added Polari Children's and YA (young adult) Prize. The Polari Prize has been awarded annually since 2011, with the Book of the Year Prize being added in 2019 and the Children's and YA Prize in 2022. Previous Polari Prize winners include *Our Wives Under the Sea* by Julia Armfield, and *The Rental Heart and Other Fairytales* by Kirsty Logan. Below are some of the titles featured in this year's Polari Children's and YA Prize longlist that we have in the library. You can view the full shortlist, along with the shortlists for the First Book Prize and the Book of the Year Prize [here](https://www.polari.org.uk/).

If You Still Recognise Me by Cynthia So

Elsie has a crush on Ada, the only person in the world who truly understands her. Unfortunately, they've never met in real life and Ada lives an ocean away. But Elsie has decided it's now or never to tell Ada how she feels. That is, until her long-lost best friend Joan walks back into her life. In a summer of repairing broken connections and building surprising new ones, Elsie realises that she isn't nearly as alone as she thought. But now she has a choice to make...



Away With Words by Sophie Cameron

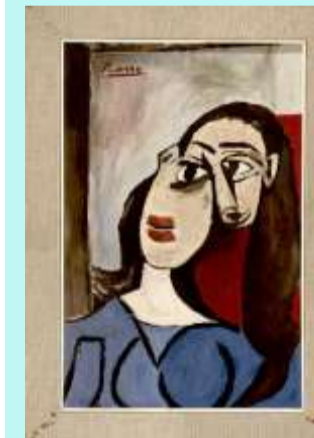
Set in a world where words appear physically when people speak, AWAY WITH WORDS explores the importance of communication and being there for those we love. Gala and her dad, Jordi, have just moved from home in Catalonia to a town in Scotland, to live with Jordi's boyfriend Ryan. Gala doesn't speak much English, and feels lost, lonely and unable to be her usual funny self. Until she befriends Natalie, a girl with selective mutism. The two girls find their own ways to communicate, which includes collecting other people's discarded words. They use the words to write anonymous supportive poems for their classmates, but then someone begins leaving nasty messages using the same method - and the girls are blamed. Gala has finally started adapting to her new life in Scotland and is determined to find the culprit. Can she and Natalie show the school who they really are?

Bitterthorn by Kat Dunn

Blumwald is a town overshadowed by an ancient curse: in a sinister castle in the depths of the wild wood lives a monstrous Witch. Once a generation, she comes to claim a companion to return with her - never to be seen again. Now that time is drawing near once more... Mina, daughter of the duke, is grieving and lonely. She has lost all hope of any future for herself in Blumwald. So when the Witch demands her next companion, Mina offers herself up - though she has no idea what fate awaits her. Stranded with her darkly alluring captor, the mystery of what happened to the previous companions draws Mina into the heart of a terrifying secret that could save her life or end it.



Picasso Painting Found in Cellar



Capri junk dealer Luigi Lo Rosso recently found a genuine painting by Pablo Picasso hanging in his cellar - the painting had hung in his home for decades without anyone realising its value. He stumbled upon the portrait in 1962 and took the rolled-up canvas home with him to Pompeii, where it resided for the next few decades. Before its authenticity was confirmed, Lo Rosso's mother wanted to get rid of the painting, saying it was 'horrible'. After his son discovered the artist's signature, experts confirmed that the painting was genuine. Despite doubts from the Picasso Foundation, the painting is now sorted in a vault in Milan and believed to be worth around 6 million euros. The painting is titled *The Buste de Femme* and is thought to be a portrait of Dora Maar, Picasso's muse, painted between 1930 to 1936.

[Click here to read the original Guardian article by Angela Giffurda.](#)

Pablo Picasso: 1881-1973 by Ingo F Walther

In the history of 20th-century art, Pablo Picasso (1881-1973) stands alone. His enormous output of paintings, drawings, lithographs, ceramics, and sculptures is one of the most diverse and creatively energetic ever produced. A relentless innovator, his aesthetic bravado kept him one step ahead of his contemporaries. With almost 1500 illustrations, this exhaustive study reviews Picasso's entire oeuvre, from the early Blue and Rose Periods, through the cubist, classicist, and political phases, and finally to the late work of the artist, still vital and productive in his nineties.



Portrait of Picasso as a Young Man by Norman Mailer

By general consensus, Pablo Picasso is the most brilliant and influential artist of the 20th century. In this work, Norman Mailer sets out to capture Picasso's early life, and explores in bold fashion the originality of his art and ambition. At the heart of Mailer's interpretation is Picasso's first, great love, Fernande Olivier, with whom the artist lived for seven years - a period that included Picasso's most revolutionary works. Fernande is here given her own voice by way of excerpts from her candid memoirs, hitherto unpublished in English. Since this period also included Picasso's friendships with Apollinaire and Gertrude Stein, this book evokes the charm and excitement of bohemian life in Paris in the early 1900s.

