

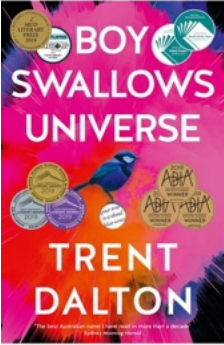
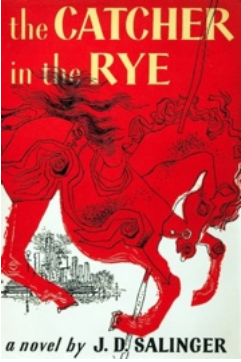
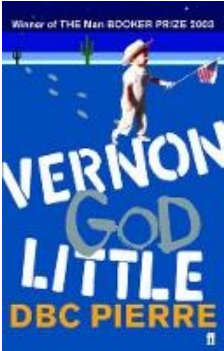
# Extended Reading for Seniors



## Contents:

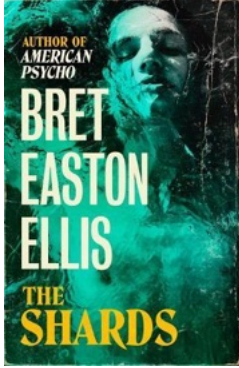
<u>Contents:</u>	1
<u>Antiheroes</u>	2
<u>Orientalism, Colonial and Post-Colonial Literature</u>	4
<u>Literature for Social Change</u>	7
<u>Modernism</u>	9
<u>Monster Theory</u>	11
<u>Marginalised Voices: The Dystopian Protagonist</u>	15
<u>Insanity</u>	16
<u>Satire</u>	18
<u>Masculinity</u>	20
<u>Moral Relativity</u>	22
<u>Edge of Survival</u>	24

## Antiheroes

Title & Author	What's it about?	Read it!
<p><b>Boy Swallows Universe</b> Trent Dalton</p> 	<p>Brisbane, 1983: A lost father, a mute brother, a mum in jail, a heroin dealer for a stepfather and a notorious crim for a babysitter. It's not as if Eli's life isn't complicated enough already. He's just trying to follow his heart, learning what it takes to be a good man, but life just keeps throwing obstacles in the way - not least of which is Tytus Broz, legendary Brisbane drug dealer. But Eli's life is about to get a whole lot more serious. He's about to fall in love. And, oh yeah, he has to break into Boggo Road Gaol on Christmas Day, to save his mum.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p>
<p><b>Catcher in the Rye</b> J.D. Salinger</p> 	<p>A 16 year old American boy relates in his own words the experiences he goes through at school and after, and reveals with unusual candour the workings of his own mind. What does a boy in his teens think and feel about his teachers, parents, friends and acquaintances?</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p>
<p><b>Vernon God Little</b> D.B.C. Pierre</p> 	<p>Fifteen-year-old Vernon Gregory Little is in trouble. And it has something to do with the recent massacre of 16 students at his high school. News of the tragedy serves as open invitation to the media and soon the quirky backwater of Martirio is flooded with wannabe CNN hacks all-too-keen to lay claim to their 15 minutes, and lay the blame for the killings at Vernon's feet. Eulalio Ledesma, in particular, sniffs out his opportunity to make good at Vernon's expense and as the media net tightens, and the twisted desires of the townsfolk for a scapegoat reach fever-pitch, Vernon finds himself drawn into a series of increasingly bizarre circumstances.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library</a> <a href="#">eBook</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library</a> <a href="#">Audiobook</a></p>

## The Shards

Brett Ellis Easton



Los Angeles, 1981:

17-year-old Bret is a senior at the exclusive Buckley prep school when a new student arrives with a mysterious past. Robert Mallory is bright, handsome, charismatic, and shielding a secret from Bret and his friends, even as he becomes a part of their tightly knit circle.

Bret's obsession with Mallory is equalled only by his increasingly unsettling preoccupation with The Trawler, a serial killer on the loose who seems to be drawing ever closer to Bret and his friends, taunting them. Can he trust his friends - or his own mind - to make sense of the danger they appear to be in?

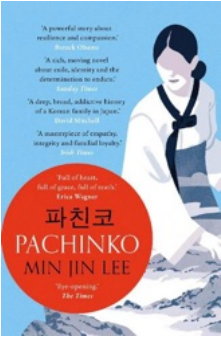
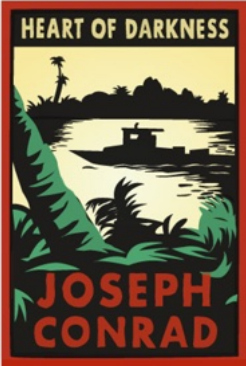

[School Library Physical Book](#)

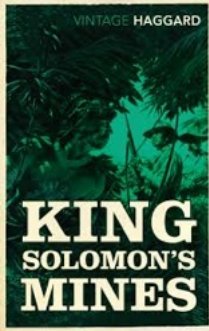
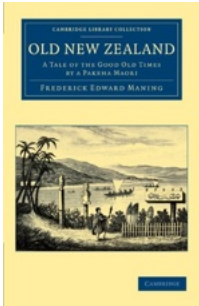
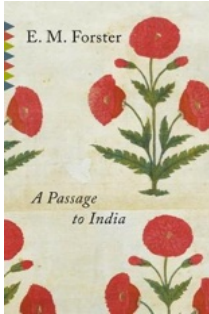
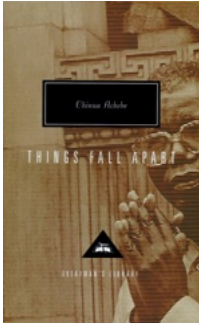
[Public Library Physical Book](#)



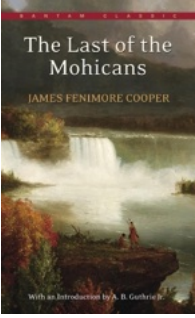
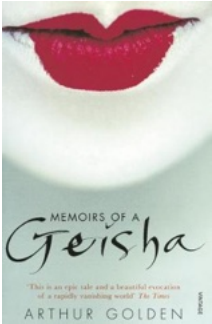
[Public Library eBook](#)

[Public Library Audiobook](#)

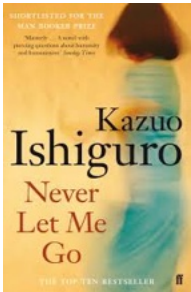
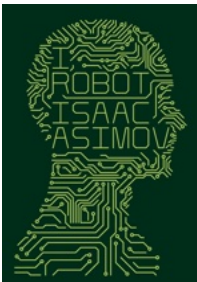
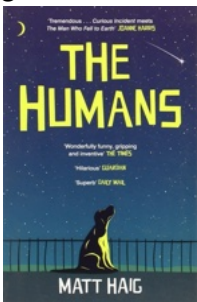

## Orientalism, Colonial and Post-Colonial Literature



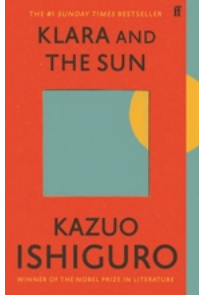

Title & Author	What's it about?	Read it!
<p><b>Pachinko</b> Min Jin Lee</p> 	<p>A work of post-colonial literature that examines the complex legacies of colonialism, showing how the impact of Japanese rule over Korea (1910-1945) continues to shape the lives of Korean immigrants in Japan. Despite the formal end of colonial rule, the characters remain marginalised, facing systemic inequality, economic exploitation, and a perpetual struggle with their Korean identity in a society that sees them as inferior. The novel follows the struggles and resilience of the family members as they navigate issues of identity, belonging, and survival under the shadow of colonialism and its aftermath.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p>
<p><b>Heart of Darkness</b> Joseph Conrad</p> 	<p>One of the most famous works often associated with colonialism, it tells the story of a European man, Marlow, traveling up the Congo River to find Kurtz, an ivory trader who has become a god-like figure among the indigenous population. Conrad critiques the brutal realities of European imperialism in Africa, but also portrays the African people in a way that reflects colonial assumptions about their inferiority. It presents Africa as a "dark" and primitive land, reinforcing the idea that European civilisation is the antidote to this "savagery."</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p>
<p><b>Robinson Crusoe</b> Daniel Defoe</p> 	<p>“The sole survivor of a shipwreck, Robinson Crusoe is stranded on an uninhabited island far away from any shipping routes. With patience and ingenuity, he transforms his island into a tropical paradise. For twenty-four years he has no human company, until one Friday, he rescues a prisoner from a boat of cannibals.” Published in 1719, this book uncritically perpetuates the ideas from the time of Europeans civilising ‘savage’ peoples.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p>

<p><b>King Solomon's Mines</b> H. Rider Haggard</p> 	<p>The novel follows British explorers as they journey into Africa in search of a fabled treasure. Along the way, they encounter dangerous landscapes and indigenous tribes, portrayed as either noble or threatening. The story reflects a colonial worldview, depicting Africa as an exotic, untamed land in need of Western guidance. Indigenous people are often shown as inferior, while the explorers are positioned as superior, reinforcing imperialistic ideas of European dominance and the "civilizing" mission in the face of "savage" wilderness.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p>
<p><b>Old New Zealand</b> Frederick Edward Maning</p> 	<p>Originally published in 1863 under the pseudonym "A Pakeha Maori", it is a history of sorts of early New Zealand written with significant amounts of personal bias. Few books from this period of New Zealand settlement exist and one theory of why this book has survived is that its portrayal of Māori suited the settler worldview as them being benign colonisers or even saviours of Māori from themselves.</p>	<p>In storage in the school library. Ask the Librarian.</p>
<p><b>A Passage to India</b> E.M. Forster</p> 	<p>While <i>A Passage to India</i> critiques the British colonial system and portrays some of the inherent tensions in colonial society, it still reflects the colonial mindset in many ways, particularly through the portrayal of the Indian characters. The British characters in the novel often view India and its people through a lens of cultural superiority.</p>	<p><a href="#">Public Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library</a> <a href="#">eBook</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library</a> <a href="#">Audiobook</a></p>
<p><b>Things Fall Apart</b> Chinua Achebe</p> 	<p>Published in 1958, <i>Things Fall Apart</i> is a seminal post-colonial novel that critiques the devastating effects of colonialism on indigenous cultures. Set in pre-colonial Nigeria, the novel follows Okonkwo, a respected Igbo warrior, as he navigates the complexities of his society, which is slowly disrupted by British colonialism and Christian missionaries. The arrival of European colonizers brings profound changes to Igbo life, threatening traditional values, beliefs, and social structures.</p>	<p><a href="#">Public Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library</a> <a href="#">Audiobook</a></p>

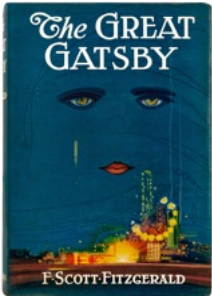
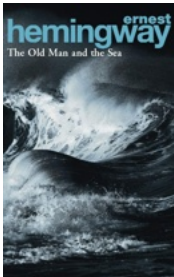
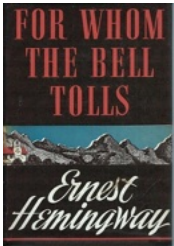
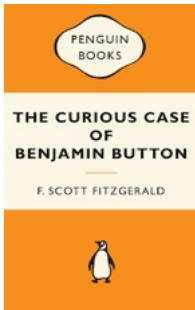
<p><b>Kim</b> Rudyard Kipling</p> 	<p>Set in British India, <i>Kim</i> follows a young boy of mixed heritage who becomes a spy for the British government. The novel is filled with depictions of British colonial life and offers a romanticized view of British rule in India. Kipling's writing reflects a paternalistic colonial mindset, wherein the British are depicted as bringing order and civilization to India, while Indians are often portrayed as exotic, mysterious, and inferior.</p>	<p><a href="#">Public Library Physical Book</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library eBook</a></p>
<p><b>Burmese Days</b> George Orwell</p> 	<p>Set in British Burma (Myanmar) during the time of the British Empire, it depicts the life of a colonial administrator who is disillusioned by the brutality of British imperialism. The novel critiques the moral decay and corruption of colonial rule but still portrays indigenous people in terms that reflect colonial attitudes. Orwell's portrayal of the Burmese people often reflects the colonial mindset. Characters are still shown through a lens of exoticism and inferiority, and the colonial administrators are positioned as the moral center, even in their moral decline.</p>	<p><a href="#">Public Library Physical Book</a></p>
<p><b>The Last of the Mohicans</b> James Fenimore Cooper</p> 	<p>Set during the French and Indian War, it follows the adventures of a white man raised by Native Americans, and his interactions with both indigenous peoples and colonial forces. The novel reflects the romanticised portrayal of Native Americans as either noble savages or tragic figures doomed to disappear in the face of European expansion. While Cooper sympathises with the natives to some extent, his portrayal still upholds the notion that Western civilisation is inevitable and superior, and that indigenous cultures are fated to fade or be conquered.</p>	<p><a href="#">Public Library Physical Book</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library Audiobook</a></p>
<p><b>Memoirs of a Geisha</b> Arthur Golden</p> 	<p>While it is a more modern book (1997) it reflects an Orientalist and colonialist worldview by presenting Japan as an exotic, mysterious culture, focusing on the geisha world as an object of Western fascination. The novel portrays Japanese society through a Western lens, reducing it to an exotic, patriarchal system where women are passive victims. The protagonist is depicted as a submissive figure controlled by men, reinforcing the colonial idea of the East as inferior, and in need of rescue. This aligns with Orientalist tropes of the East as a place of cultural and sexual exploitation for Western consumption.</p>	<p><a href="#">Public Library Physical Book</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library eBook</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library Audiobook</a></p>


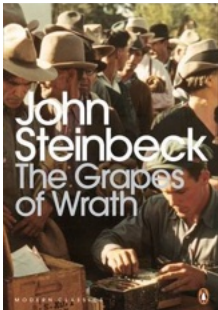
## Literature for Social Change

<p><b>Never Let Me Go</b> Kazuo Ishiguro</p> 	<p>In one of the most acclaimed novels of recent years, it imagines the lives of a group of students growing up in a darkly skewed version of contemporary England. Narrated by Kathy, now thirty-one, the story follows her attempts to come to terms with her childhood at the seemingly idyllic Hailsham School and with the fate that has always awaited her and her closest friends in the wider world.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library Physical Book</a></p>
<p><b>I Robot</b> Isaac Asimov</p> 	<p>A groundbreaking collection of interconnected short stories that explore the ethical dilemmas and complexities of artificial intelligence. Set in a future where robots are an integral part of society, the stories follow the development of robotic technology. As the robots evolve, they face situations that challenge their programming and blur the lines between machine and humanity. The book delves into what it means to be alive, the nature of consciousness, and the consequences of human creation. It reflects on technology, morality, and the future of AI.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library Physical Book</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library Physical Book</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library eBook</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library Audiobook</a></p>
<p><b>The Humans</b> Matt Haig</p> 	<p>Thought-provoking and funny, The Humans is about an alien sent to Earth to erase all evidence of a groundbreaking mathematical discovery. As the alien navigates human life, he struggles to understand emotions, relationships, and the messy complexity of human existence. Through this unique perspective, Haig explores what it truly means to be human—our flaws, our capacity for love, and the beauty in our imperfections.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library Physical Book</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library Physical Book</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library eBook</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library Audiobook</a></p>
<p><b>Ancillary Justice</b> Ann Leckie</p> 	<p>In a far-future empire where AI controls vast armies and fleets, one soldier—once part of a powerful ship AI—seeks revenge after being betrayed and left for dead. Disguised as a human and seeking answers, she embarks on a journey that uncovers deep secrets about identity, power, and the nature of justice. As she navigates a world of political intrigue and shifting allegiances, the story explores themes of gender, consciousness, and what it means to truly be yourself in a universe defined by inequality and conflict.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library Physical Book</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library Physical Book</a></p>

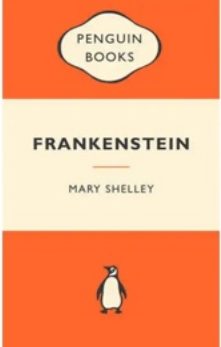


<p><b>Neuromancer</b> William Gibson</p> 	<p>Case, a washed-up computer hacker, is hired by a mysterious employer to pull off a high-stakes job. Case lives in a future where humans connect into a virtual realm with physical landscapes. As he teams up with mercenaries and artificial intelligence, he dives deeper into a world of corporate intrigue, AI manipulation, and a battle for control of cyberspace itself. With its exploration of technology, consciousness, and humanity's relationship to both, <i>Neuromancer</i> defined the cyberpunk genre.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library Physical Book</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library Physical Book</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library Audiobook</a></p>
<p><b>The Murderbot Diaries</b> Martha Wells</p> 	<p>On a distant planet, a team of scientists are conducting surface tests, shadowed by their Company-supplied 'droid' - a self-aware SecUnit that has hacked its own governor module, and refers to itself (though never out loud) as "Murderbot." Scornful of humans, all it really wants is to be left alone long enough to figure out who it is (and to watch its favourite show in its downtime.) But when a neighbouring mission goes dark, it's up to the scientists and Murderbot to get to the truth.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library Physical Book</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library eBook</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library Audiobook</a></p>
<p><b>Klara and the Sun</b> Kazuo Ishiguro</p> 	<p>From her place in the store that sells artificial friends, Klara - an artificial friend with outstanding observational qualities - watches carefully the behavior of those who come in to browse, and of those who pass in the street outside. She remains hopeful a customer will soon choose her, but when the possibility emerges that her circumstances may change forever, Klara is warned not to invest too much in the promises of humans.</p>	<p><a href="#">Public Library Physical Book</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library eBook</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library Audiobook</a></p>
<p><b>The Machine Stops</b> E. M. Forster</p> 	<p>Set in a future where humans live underground and rely entirely on a vast, automated system called "the Machine" meets all their needs. Individuals are isolated in small, cell-like rooms, communicating and accessing resources through the Machine rather than face-to-face interactions. The story follows Vashti, who champions this system, and her son, Kuno, who rebels against it. The story explores themes of technology, control, isolation, and the dehumanising effects of over-reliance on systems.</p>	<p><a href="#">PDF Online</a></p>



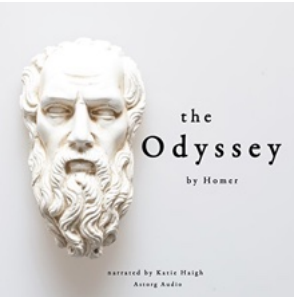
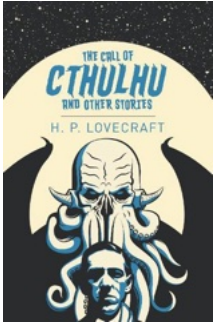
## Modernism

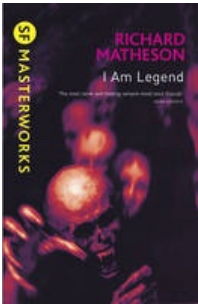
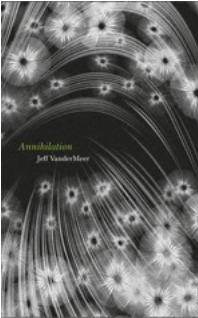
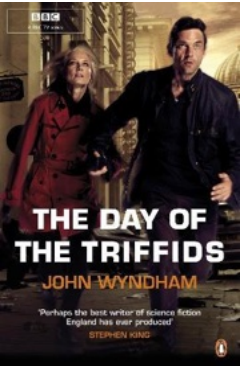
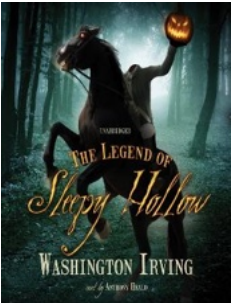
<p><b>Great Gatsby</b> F. Scott Fitzgerald</p> 	<p>Nobody throws a party like Jay Gatsby, whose Long Island mansion buzzes day and night with riotous crowds of bright young things. But Gatsby is always alone in the crowd, silently longing for the one thing he cannot have. And eventually this yearning will kill him.</p> <p>F. Scott Fitzgerald's masterful novel of a mysterious millionaire and his tragic obsession reveals the darkness at the heart of the glittering jazz age.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p>
<p><b>The Old Man and the Sea</b> Ernest Hemmingway</p> 	<p>The Old Man and the Sea is one of Hemingway's most enduring works.</p> <p>Told in language of great simplicity and power, it is the story of an old Cuban fisherman, down on his luck, and his supreme ordeal - a relentless, agonising battle with a giant marlin far out in the Gulf Stream.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p>
<p><b>For Whom the Bell Tolls</b> Ernest Hemingway</p> 	<p>The story of Robert Jordan, a young American in the International Brigades attached to an antifascist guerilla unit in the mountains of Spain during the Spanish Civil War. Originally published in 1941, it tells of loyalty and courage, love and defeat, and the tragic death of an ideal..</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p>
<p><b>Curious Case of Benjamin Button</b> F. Scott Fitzgerald</p> 	<p>When Benjamin Button's father arrives at hospital, he is surprised and ashamed to find his new baby boy is a weathered, aged man, to all appearances no younger than seventy years old. As time goes by, young Benjamin comes to no longer require a cane, his hair ceases to be grey, his limbs become less frail, his wrinkles less deep, but still the world around him fails to come to terms with his oddness, as he ages towards infancy and beyond...</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p>

<p><b>To the Lighthouse</b> Virginia Woolf</p> 	<p>For years now the Ramsays have spent every summer in their holiday home in Scotland, and they expect these summers will go on forever; but as the First World War looms, the integrity of family and society will be fatally challenged. With a psychologically introspective mode, the use of memory, reminiscence and shifting perspectives gives the novel an intimate, poetic essence, and at the time of publication in 1927 it represented an utter rejection of Victorian and Edwardian literary values.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p>
<p><b>East of Eden</b> John Steinbeck</p> 	<p>Set in the rich farmland of the Salinas Valley, California, this powerful, often brutal novel, follows the intertwined destinies of two families - the Trasks and the Hamiltons - whose generations hopelessly re-enact the fall of Adam and Eve and the poisonous rivalry of Cain and Abel. Here Steinbeck created some of his most memorable characters and explored his most enduring themes: the mystery of identity; the inexplicability of love, and the murderous consequences of love's absence.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p>
<p><b>Of Mice and Men</b> John Steinbeck</p> 	<p>Drifters in search of work, George and his childlike friend Lennie, have nothing in the world except the clothes on their back - and a dream that one day they will have some land of their own. Eventually they find work on a ranch in California's Salinas Valley, but their hopes are dashed as Lennie - struggling against extreme cruelty, misunderstanding and feelings of jealousy - becomes a victim of his own strength.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p>
<p><b>Grapes of Wrath</b> John Steinbeck</p> 	<p>Set against the background of dust bowl Oklahoma and Californian migrant life, <i>Grapes of Wrath</i> tells of the Joad family, who, like thousands of others, are forced to travel West in search of the promised land. Their story is one of false hopes, thwarted desires and broken dreams, yet out of their suffering Steinbeck created a drama that is intensely human, yet majestic in its scale and moral vision; an eloquent tribute to the endurance and dignity of the human spirit.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p>

## Monster Theory

<p><b>Frankenstein, or, The modern Prometheus</b> Mary Shelley</p> 	<p>A Gothic tale of the scientist, Victor Frankenstein, whose obsession with fashioning a new being leads him to create a pathetic but monstrous creature, with terrifying consequences.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p> <p>More in storage - ask at Library</p>
<p><b>It</b> Stephen King</p> 	<p>It is the children of the town of Derry, Maine who see - and feel - what makes the town so horribly different. In the storm drains and sewers It lurks, taking the shape of every nightmare, each one's deepest dread. As the children grow up and move away, the horror of It is buried deep - until they are called back.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p>
<p><b>The Strange case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde</b> Robert Louis Stevenson</p> 	<p>A strange and terrible tale of the battle between good and evil within a man's soul. The dual personalities of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, one the essence of good, the other the essence of evil, fight for supremacy in one man, in this story of a medical experiment gone wrong.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p>

<p><b>War of the Worlds</b> H.G. Wells</p> 	<p>The night after a shooting star is seen streaking across the sky, a cylinder is discovered near London. Armed with just a white flag, the locals approach the mysterious object - only to be burned alive by heat-rays as horrific, tentacled invaders emerge. Soon, the whole of human civilization is under threat, as powerful Martians move across the land in massive killing machines, armed with black gas and burning rays. The aliens are determined to win the Earth for themselves.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library Physical Book</a></p>
<p><b>Beowulf</b></p> 	<p>Written by an anonymous poet between the 8th and 11th centuries, this Old English epic poem follows the story of Beowulf, courageous hero of the Geats in Scandinavia. The King of the Danes has found his hall and his people under attack by a monster known as Grendel, and Beowulf fearlessly offers to defend them.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library Physical Book</a> - verse translation</p> <p><a href="#">School Library Physical Book</a> - prose translation</p>
<p><b>The Odyssey</b> Homer</p> 	<p>The Trojan War is over and Odysseus, the cunning King of Ithaca, sets out for home, his wife Penelope and his son Telemachus. It proves a long, ten-year journey, fraught with dangers, from Polyphemus, the one-eyed Cyclops, and the seductive Sirens, to the love of Calypso on her all-too-comfortable isle. When he arrives in Ithaca, he has to contend with a group of suitors who have been pressing his wife to forget about her husband, admit she is a widow, and marry one of them.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library Physical Book</a></p>
<p><b>The Call of Cthulhu</b> H.P. Lovecraft</p> 	<p>H.P. Lovecraft marries creeping horror and colossal fantasy in his gothic tales. These brilliant narratives show humanity confronted with ineffable creatures and grim geographies, as individuals lift the veil to discover hidden realities. This collection brings together 11 of Lovecraft's short stories, including 'Call of the Cthulhu', 'The History of the Necronomicon' and 'Rats in the Walls', where we encounter ancient and cosmic terrors.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library Physical Book</a></p>

<p><b>I am Legend</b> Richard Matheson</p> 	<p>Robert Neville is the last living man on Earth but he is not alone. Every other man, woman and child on the planet has become a vampire, and they are hungry for Neville's blood. By day he is the hunter, stalking the undead through the ruins of civilisation. By night, he barricades himself in his home and prays for the dawn. How long can one man survive like this?</p>	<p><a href="#">Public Library Physical Book</a></p>
<p><b>Annihilation</b> Jeff VanderMeer</p> 	<p>Area X has been cut off from the rest of the continent for decades. Nature has reclaimed the last vestiges of human civilization. The first expedition returned with reports of a pristine, Edenic landscape; all the members of the second expedition committed suicide; the third expedition died in a hail of gunfire as its members turned on one another; the members of the eleventh expedition returned as shadows of their former selves, and within months of their return, all had died of aggressive cancer. This is the twelfth expedition.</p>	<p><a href="#">Public Library Physical Book</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library eBook</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library Audiobook</a></p>
<p><b>The Day of the Triffids</b> John Wyndham</p> 	<p>Bill Masen, bandages over his wounded eyes, misses the most spectacular meteorite shower England has ever seen. Removing his bandages the next morning, he finds masses of sightless people wandering the city. He soon meets Josella, another lucky person who has retained her sight, and together they leave the city. But to survive in this post-apocalyptic world, one must survive the Triffids, strange plants that years before began appearing all over the world. The Triffids can pull their roots from the ground to walk, and kill a man with one quick lash of their poisonous stingers. With society in shambles, they are now poised to prey on humankind.</p>	<p><a href="#">Public Library Physical Book</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library eBook</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library Audiobook</a></p>
<p><b>The Legend of Sleepy Hollow</b> Washington Irving</p> 	<p>A superstitious schoolmaster, in love with a wealthy farmer's daughter, has a terrifying encounter with a headless horseman.</p>	<p><a href="#">Public Library Physical Book</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library Audiobook</a></p>

**The Monkey's Paw**

W.W. Jacobs



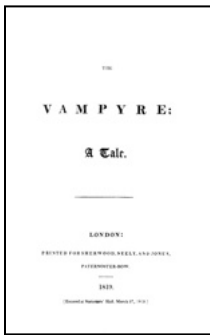
A horror short story from 1902, the Monkey's Paw has been adapted many times but this is the original story that inspired the rest.

A mummified monkey's paw has been imbued with the power to grant three wishes, but each wish comes with terrible consequences.

[Short Story online](#)

**The Vampyre**


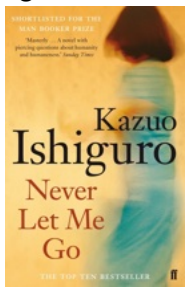

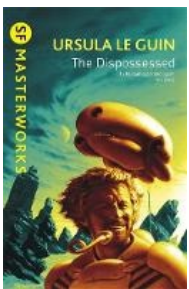
John Polidori



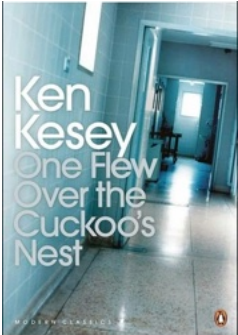
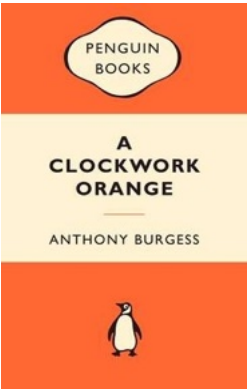
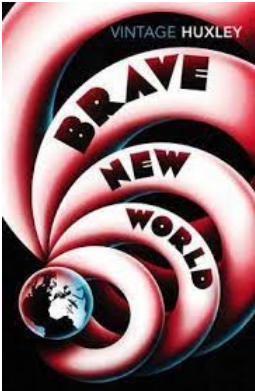
A short story from 1819 that helped develop the vampire lore that we know today.



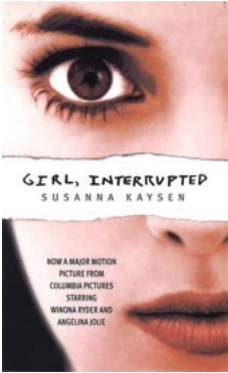
[Short Story online](#)

## Marginalised Voices: The Dystopian Protagonist

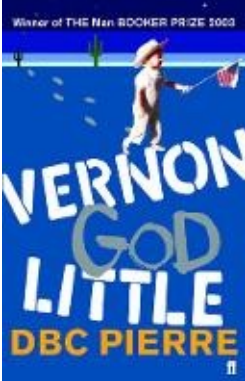
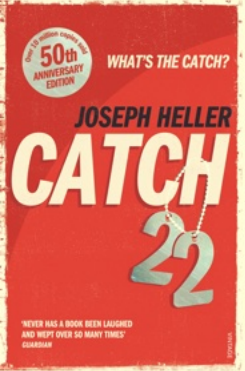
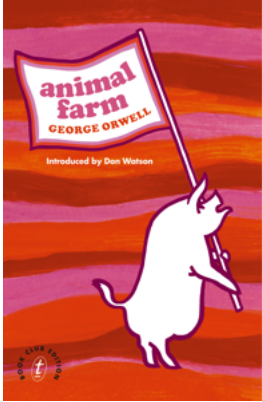
<p><b>The Handmaid's Tale</b> Margaret Atwood</p> 	<p>This is the story of Offred, one of the "Handmaids" under the new social order who have only one purpose: to breed. In Gilead, where women are prohibited from holding jobs, reading, and forming friendships, Offred's persistent memories of life in the "time before" and her will to survive are acts of rebellion.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p> <p>More in Storage - Ask at Library</p>
<p><b>Never Let Me Go</b> Kazuo Ishiguro</p> 	<p>Hailsham seems like a pleasant English boarding school. Its students are well looked after, trained in art and literature, and become just the sort of people the world wants them to be. But, curiously, they are taught nothing of the outside world and are allowed little contact with it. Within the grounds of Hailsham, Kathy grows from schoolgirl to young woman, but it's only when she and her friends Ruth and Tommy leave the school, that they realise the truth of what Hailsham is all about.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p>
<p><b>The Children of Men</b> P.D. James</p> 	<p>The year is 2021. No child has been born for twenty-five years. The human race faces extinction. Under the despotic rule of Xan Lyppiat, the Warden of England, the old are despairing and the young cruel.</p> <p>Theo Faren, a cousin of the Warden, lives a solitary life in this ominous atmosphere. That is, until a chance encounter with a young woman leads him into contact with a group of dissenters. Suddenly his life is changed irrevocably as he faces agonising choices which could affect the future of mankind.</p>	<p><a href="#">Public Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library</a> <a href="#">Audiobook</a></p>
<p><b>The Dispossessed</b> Ursula K. Le Guin</p> 	<p>Centuries ago, the moon Anarres was settled by utopian anarchists who left the Earth-like planet Urras in search of a better world, a new beginning. Now a brilliant physicist, Shevek, is determined to reunite the two civilisations that have been separated by hatred since long before he was born.</p> <p>The Dispossessed is a penetrating examination of society and humanity - and one man's brave undertaking to question the unquestionable and ignite the fires of change.</p>	<p><a href="#">Public Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p>

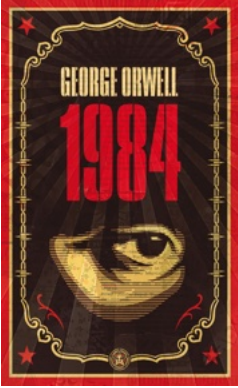
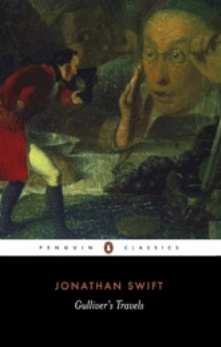
## Insanity

<p><b>One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest</b> Ken Kesey</p> 	<p>Tyrannical Nurse Ratched rules her ward in an Oregon State mental hospital with a strict and unbending routine, unopposed by her patients, who remain cowed by mind-numbing medication and the threat of electroshock therapy. But her regime is disrupted by the arrival of McMurphy - the swaggering, fun-loving trickster with a devilish grin who resolves to oppose her rules on behalf of his fellow inmates.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p> <p>More in Storage - Ask at Library</p>
<p><b>A Clockwork Orange</b> Anthony Burgess</p> 	<p>This novel uses disorientating language - Burgess's own invented teenage slang of Nadsat - to relate a story of extreme violence and moral anarchy.</p> <p>Four thugs run riot until their leader, Alex, is caught, jailed and an attempt made to reform him by methods as depraved as his own. A brilliant and terrifying examination of the nature of good and evil.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p>
<p><b>Brave New World</b> Aldous Huxley</p> 	<p>Far in the future, the world controllers have created the ideal society. Through clever use of genetic engineering, brainwashing and recreational sex and drugs, all its members are happy consumers.</p> <p>Bernard Marx seems alone in his desire to break free. A visit to one of the few remaining Savage Reservations where the old, imperfect life still continues, may be the cure for his distress.</p> <p>Huxley's classic prophetic novel describes the socialised horrors of a futuristic dystopia devoid of individual freedom.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p>


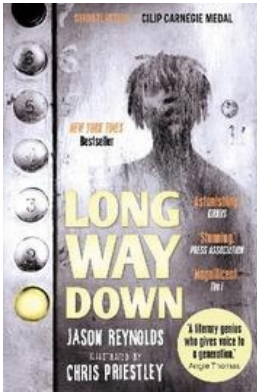
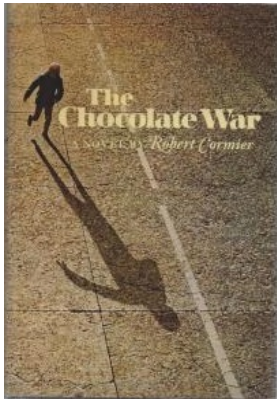
<p><b>The Crucible</b> Arthur Miller</p> 	<p>Arthur Miller's classic parable of mass hysteria draws a chilling parallel between the Salem witch-hunt of 1692 - 'one of the strangest and most awful chapters in human history' - and the McCarthyism which gripped America in the 1950s.</p> <p>The story of how the small community of Salem is stirred into madness by superstition, paranoia and malice, culminating in a violent climax, is a savage attack on the evils of mindless persecution and the terrifying power of false accusations.</p>	
<p><b>The Great Pretender</b> Susannah Cahalan (Non-fiction)</p> 	<p>For centuries, doctors have struggled to define mental illness. In search of an answer, in the 1970s a Stanford psychologist named David Rosenhan and seven other people - clinically sane members of society - went undercover into asylums around America to test the legitimacy of psychiatry's labels.</p> <p>Forced to remain inside until they'd 'proven' themselves sane, all eight emerged with alarming diagnoses and even more troubling stories of their treatment. Rosenhan's watershed study broke open the field of psychiatry, closing down institutions and changing mental health diagnosis forever.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library Physical Book</a></p>
<p><b>Girl, Interrupted</b> Susanna Kaysen (Non-fiction)</p> 	<p>In 1967, after a session with a psychiatrist she'd never seen before, eighteen-year-old Susanna Kaysen was put in a taxi and sent to McLean Hospital. She spent most of the next two years on the ward for teenage girls in a psychiatric hospital as renowned for its famous clientele as for its progressive methods of treating those who could afford its sanctuary.</p> <p>Kaysen's memoir encompasses horror and razor-edged perception while providing vivid portraits of her fellow patients and their keepers.</p>	<p><a href="#">Public Library Physical Book</a></p>

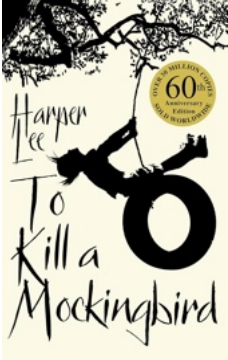

# Satire

<p><b>Vernon God Little</b> D.B.C. Pierre</p> 	<p>Fifteen-year-old Vernon Gregory Little is in trouble. And it has something to do with the recent massacre of 16 students at his high school. News of the tragedy serves as an open invitation to the media and soon the quirky backwater of Martirio is flooded with wannabe CNN hacks all-too-keen to lay claim to their 15 minutes, and lay the blame for the killings at Vernon's feet.</p> <p>Eulalio Ledesma, in particular, sniffs out his opportunity to make good at Vernon's expense and as the media net tightens, and the twisted desires of the townsfolk for a scapegoat reach fever-pitch, Vernon finds himself drawn into a series of increasingly bizarre circumstances.</p>	<p><a href="#">Public Library Physical Book</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library eBook</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library Audiobook</a></p>
<p><b>Catch-22</b> Joseph Heller</p> 	<p>Catch-22 is like no other novel. It is one of the funniest books ever written, a keystone work in American literature, and even added a new term to the dictionary.</p> <p>Set in the closing months of World War II, in an American bomber squadron on a small island off Italy. Its hero is a bombardier named Yossarian, who is frantic and furious because thousands of people he hasn't even met keep trying to kill him. (He has decided to live forever even if he has to die in the attempt.)</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library Physical Book</a></p> <p>More in storage - ask at Library</p>
<p><b>Animal Farm</b> George Orwell</p> 	<p>'It is the history of a revolution that went wrong - and of the excellent excuses that were forthcoming at every step for the perversion of the original doctrine,' wrote George Orwell for the first edition of Animal Farm in 1945.</p> <p>His simple and tragic fable, telling of what happens when the animals drive out Mr Jones and attempt to run the farm themselves, has since become a world-famous classic of English prose.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library Physical Book</a></p>



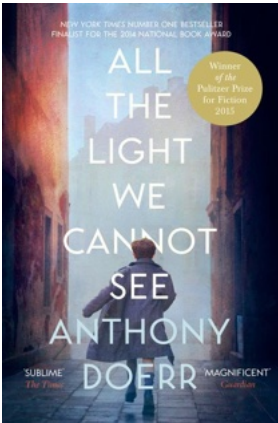
<p><b>1984</b> George Orwell</p> 	<p>Winston Smith works for the Ministry of Truth in London, chief city of Airstrip One. Big Brother stares out from every poster, the Thought Police uncover every act of betrayal. When Winston finds love with Julia, he discovers that life does not have to be dull and deadening, and awakens to new possibilities.</p> <p>Despite the police helicopters that hover and circle overhead, Winston and Julia begin to question the Party; they are drawn towards conspiracy. Yet Big Brother will not tolerate dissent - even in the mind. For those with original thoughts they invented Room 101. . .</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p>
<p><b>Gulliver's Travels</b> Jonathan Swift</p> 	<p>Shipwrecked and cast adrift, Lemuel Gulliver wakes to find himself on Lilliput, an island inhabited by little people, whose height makes their quarrels over fashion and fame seem ridiculous. His subsequent encounters - with the crude giants of Brobdingnag, the philosophical Houyhnhnms and the brutish Yahoos - give Gulliver new, bitter insights into human behaviour.</p> <p>Swift's savage satire views mankind in a distorted hall of mirrors as a diminished and finally bestial species, presenting the reader with an uncompromising reflection of themselves.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p>
<p><b>A Modest Proposal</b> Jonathan Swift</p>	<p>A Modest Proposal is a satirical essay proposing that the impoverished people of Ireland could solve their problems by selling their own children as food for the rich. It mocks heartless attitudes towards the poor.</p>	<p><a href="#">Project Gutenberg</a></p>

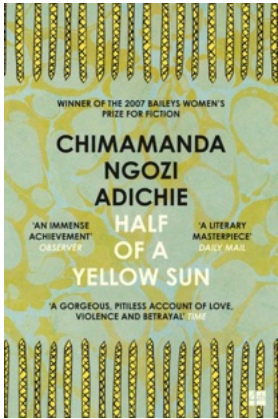
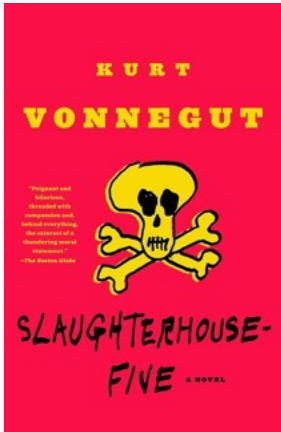
## Masculinity

<p><b>The Handmaid's Tale</b> Margaret Atwood</p> 	<p>This is the story of Offred, one of the "Handmaids" under the new social order who have only one purpose: to breed.</p> <p>In Gilead, where women are prohibited from holding jobs, reading, and forming friendships, Offred's persistent memories of life in the "time before" and her will to survive are acts of rebellion.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p> <p>More in Storage - Ask at Library</p>
<p><b>Long Way Down</b> Jason Reynolds</p> 	<p>Written in verse.</p> <p>There are three rules in the neighbourhood:</p> <p>Don't cry Don't snitch Get revenge.</p> <p>Will takes his dead brother Shawn's gun, and gets in the elevator on the 7th floor. As the elevator stops on each floor, someone connected to Shawn gets on. Someone already dead. Dead by teenage gun violence. And each has something to share with Will.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p>
<p><b>The Chocolate War</b> Robert Cormier</p> 	<p>The headmaster of Trinity College asks Archie Costello, the leader of the Vigils, a secret society that rules the school, to help with the selling of 20,000 boxes of chocolates in the annual fund-raising effort. Archie sees the chance of adding to his power - he is the Assigner, handing out to the boys tasks to be performed if they are to survive in the school.</p> <p>Freshman, Jerry Renault, a newcomer to the corrupt regime, refuses to sell chocolates. Enormous mental and physical pressure is put on him but he will not give in - the result is an inevitable, explosive tragedy.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p>

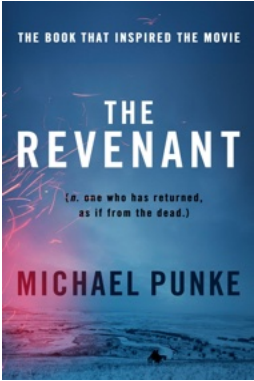
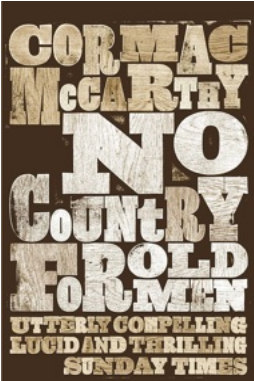

<p><b>To Kill A Mockingbird</b> Harper Lee</p> 	<p>The explosion of racial hate and violence in a small Alabama town is viewed by a little girl whose father defends a black man accused of rape.</p> <p><i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i> offers a new version of white masculinity for the Jim Crow South. Instead of protecting white women from black predation and believing in the Lost Cause of the Confederacy, Atticus Finch fights for the lost cause of Tom Robinson, defending a black man from white predation.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p>
<p><b>How Not to be a Boy</b> Robert Webb</p> 	<p>Rules for being a man: Don't Cry; Love Sport; Play Rough; Drink Beer; Don't Talk About Feelings.</p> <p>But Robert Webb has been wondering for some time now: are those rules actually any use? To anyone? Looking back over his life, from schoolboy crushes, to discovering the power of making people laugh (in the Cambridge Footlights with David Mitchell), and from losing his beloved mother to becoming a husband and father, Robert Webb considers the absurd expectations boys and men have thrust upon them at every stage of life. Hilarious and heartbreaking.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p>

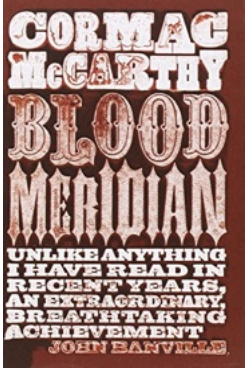
## Moral Relativity

<p><b>The Book Thief</b> Markus Zusak</p> 	<p>It is 1939, Nazi Germany. The country is holding its breath. Death has never been busier and will become busier still. These are dangerous times, when Leisel's foster family hides a Jewish fighter in their basement, Leisel's world is both opened up, and closed down.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p>
<p><b>All Quiet on the Western Front</b> Erich Maria Remarque</p> 	<p>One by one the boys begin to fall...  In 1914 a room full of German schoolboys, fresh-faced and idealistic, are goaded by their schoolmaster to troop off to the 'glorious war'. With the fire and patriotism of youth they sign up. What follows is the moving story of a young 'unknown soldier' experiencing the horror and disillusionment of life in the trenches.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p>
<p><b>All the Light We Cannot See</b> Anthony Doerr</p> 	<p>For Marie-Laure, blind since the age of six, the world is full of mazes. The miniature of a Paris neighbourhood, made by her father to teach her the way home. The microscopic layers within the invaluable diamond that her father guards in the Museum of Natural History. The walled city by the sea, where father and daughter take refuge when the Nazis invade Paris. And a future which draws her ever closer to Werner, a German orphan, destined to labour in the mines until a broken radio fills his life with possibility and brings him to the notice of the Hitler Youth.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library</a> <a href="#">Physical Book</a></p>

<p><b>Half of a Yellow Sun</b> Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie</p> 	<p>Half of a Yellow Sun is set in Nigeria during the Biafran civil war in which a million people starved and thousands were massacred in cold blood.</p> <p>The three main characters in the novel are swept up in the violence during these turbulent years. As these people's lives intersect, they have to question their own responses to the unfolding political events. This extraordinary novel is about Africa in a wider sense: about moral responsibility, about the end of colonialism, about ethnic allegiances, about class and race; and about the ways in which love can complicate all of these things.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library Physical Book</a></p>
<p><b>Slaughterhouse-Five</b> Kurt Vonnegut</p> 	<p>Captured by Germans after the Battle of the Bulge in World War II, soldier Kurt Vonnegut and other prisoners of war were taken to Dresden, Germany, where they were confined in a cement shed used for butchering livestock and called "Schlachthof-funf" or "Slaughterhouse-Five." Several weeks later, American and British planes firebombed Dresden, killing 135,000 civilians and levelling the city.</p> <p>Amazingly, the prisoners survived by taking cover in an underground meat locker. Vonnegut spent two decades coming to grips with the experience, producing this classic American novel as his ultimate response to the ordeal.</p>	<p><a href="#">Public Library Physical Book</a></p> <p>Multiple copies in Storage - Ask at Library</p>
<p><b>Other titles by Tim O'Brien</b></p>	<p><a href="#">If I die in a Combat Zone</a></p> <p><a href="#">July, July</a></p> <p><a href="#">In the Lake of the Woods</a></p> <p><a href="#">America Fantastica</a></p>	<p>All available at Christchurch City Libraries</p>

## Edge of Survival

<p><b>The Revenant</b> Michael Punke</p> 	<p>Rocky Mountains, 1823. The trappers of the Rocky Mountain Fur Company live a brutal frontier life. Hugh Glass is one of the most respected men in the company, an experienced frontiersman and an expert tracker. But when a scouting mission puts Glass face-to-face with a grizzly bear, he is viciously mauled and not expected to survive. Two men from the company are ordered to remain with him until his inevitable death. But, fearing an imminent attack, they abandon Glass, stripping him of his prized rifle and hatchet.</p>	<p><a href="#">School Library Physical Book</a></p>
<p><b>No Country for Old Men</b> Cormac McCarthy</p> 	<p>Llewelyn Moss, hunting antelope near the Rio Grande, instead finds men shot dead, a load of heroin, and more than \$2 million in cash. Packing the money out, he knows, will change everything. But only after two more men are murdered does a victim's burning car lead Sheriff Bell to the carnage out in the desert, and he soon realises how desperately Moss and his young wife need protection.</p>	<p><a href="#">Public Library Physical Book</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library eBook</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library Audiobook</a></p>
<p><b>True Grit</b> Charles Portis</p> 	<p>There is no knowing what lies in a man's heart. On a trip to buy ponies, Frank Ross is killed by one of his own workers. Tom Chaney shoots him down in the street for a horse, \$150 cash, and two Californian gold pieces. Ross's unusually mature and single-minded fourteen-year-old daughter Mattie travels to claim his body, and finds that the authorities are doing nothing to find Chaney. Then she hears of Rooster - a man, she's told, who has grit - and convinces him to join her in a quest into dark, dangerous Indian territory to hunt Chaney down and avenge her father's murder.</p>	<p><a href="#">Public Library Physical Book</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library eBook</a></p>

<p><b>Blood Meridian</b> Cormac McCarthy</p> 	<p>Set in the anarchic world opened up by America's westward expansion, Blood Meridian by Cormac McCarthy is an epic and potent account of the barbarous violence that man visits upon man.</p> <p>Through the hostile landscape of the Texas-Mexico border wanders the Kid, a fourteen year-old Tennessean who is quickly swept-up in the relentless tide of blood. But the apparent chaos is not without its order: while Americans hunt Indians collecting scalps as their bloody trophies, they too are stalked as prey.</p>	<p><a href="#">Public Library Physical Book</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library eBook</a></p> <p><a href="#">Public Library Audiobook</a></p>
--	--	---

## Ash and Atoms DRAFT

Never Let Me Go		
The Children of Men		
Annihilation Jeff VanderMeer		
Station Eleven		
World War Z	Form fits well, though not related to technological progress	
I am Legend	Similar in form to The Road	
I have no mouth and I must scream		

Metro 2033		
Room by Emma Donoghue	Is the content too mature for year 12s?	
There will come soft rains - Ray bradbury	Maybe?	