



AUTUMN

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



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“There are some things you learn best in calm, and some in storm.” – Willa Cather



Silence by Shūsaku Endō
(Recommended for Older Readers)

Beneath the light of the candle I am sitting with my hands on my knees, staring in front of me. And I keep turning over in my mind the thought that I am at the end of the earth, in a place which you do not know and which your whole lives through you will never visit. It is 1640 and Father Sebastian Rodrigues, an idealistic Jesuit priest, sets sail for Japan determined to help the brutally oppressed Christians there. He is also desperate to discover the truth about his former mentor, rumoured to have renounced his faith under torture. Rodrigues cannot believe the stories about a man he so revered, but as his journey takes him deeper into Japan and then into the hands of those who would crush his faith, he finds himself forced to make an impossible choice: whether to abandon his flock or his God.



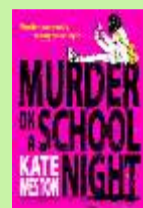
The Awesome Autistic Guide to Feelings and Emotions by Yenn Purkis and Tanya Masterman

Understanding your feelings and emotions is an incredibly important part of learning to become your most awesome autistic self! Yenn, Tanya and a tiny meerkat called Min are here to help you find out everything you need to know about your feelings and emotions, using tips and tricks they have picked up along the way to help you calm your brain down when it feels overloaded. From anger and worry to sadness and joy, emotions can come in all shapes and sizes with some feeling really big and others feeling much smaller (or even feeling like nothing), this book explores why we experience certain emotions, what they mean and how we can find the ultimate autistic comfort zone!



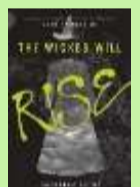
Murder on a School Night by Kate Weston

There's never a good time to find a dead body. But finding a dead body while you're trying to kiss your crush? Dead awkward. All Kerry wants to do is stay at home with her rom-coms and strict retainer schedule. Instead, her BFF Annie has roped her into going to their first sixth-form party to investigate who's cyberbullying Heather, the most popular girl in school. On the cusp of kissing her dreamy crush, Scott, Kerry discovers the body of Heather's second in command – suffocated with a menstrual cup. Within days, another student turns up dead, this time with a sanitary pad across the eyes. Now Annie and Kerry are officially on the case to stop the menstrual murderer... period.



Loki by Melvin Burgess
(Recommended for Older Readers)

Starting with the Norse creation myths, the trickster god Loki takes the reader on a wild ride through Norse mythology, from the time the gods - the founders of Asgard - defeated races of monsters, and hurtling through famous stories, including Odin hanging himself on the World Tree, the theft of the corrupting gold ring and the murder of Baldur, the god of love and the Sun. This narrative may seem familiar enough at first, but the reader should beware. Born within the heart of a fire in the hollow of a tree-trunk, Loki arrives in Asgard as an outsider. He is a trickster, an unreliable narrator, the god of intelligence and politics. In spite of his cleverness and sparkling wit (or, perhaps, because of this...) Loki struggles to find his place among the old patriarchal gods of supernatural power and is constantly at odds with the god of thunder - Thor. Alongside the politics of Asgard, it charts the course of Loki's many loves and families, from his mothering of Odin's famous horse to his intense, turbulent, and, eventually, fatal relationship with Baldur the Beautiful - a tender and moving story of love that goes wrong, jealous and a transgression that is forbidden by society. This is a retelling that is contemporary in tone, at once amusing and relatable. It is a heartfelt plea to overthrow the old gods of power and authority and instigate a new era ruled by love and intelligence.



Dorothy Must Die #2: The Wicked Will Rise by Danielle Paige

To make Oz a free land again, Amy Gumm was given a mission: remove the Tin Woodman's heart, steal the Scarecrow's brain, take the Lion's courage, and then Dorothy still lives. Now the Revolutionary Order of the Wicked has vanished, and mysterious Princess Ozma might be Amy's only ally. As Amy learns the truth about her mission, she realizes that she's only just scratched the surface of Oz's past—and that Kansas, the home she couldn't wait to leave behind, may also be in danger. In a place where the line between good and evil shifts with just a strong gust of wind, who can Amy trust—and who is really Wicked?



Dorothy Must Die #3: Yellow Brick War by Danielle Paige

Once upon a time, there was a girl from Kansas named Dorothy. You might know her as the Girl Who Rode the Cyclone. She ended up in Oz, where she became friends with the Tin Woodman, the Scarecrow, and the Cowardly Lion. But the temptation of magic was too much for her. She let it change her. Her friends became twisted versions of their former selves. The magical land of Oz is now a dark and menacing place. My name is Amy Gumm. Tornadoes must have a thing about girls from Kansas, because I got swept away on one too. I also landed in Oz, where Good is Wicked, Wicked is Good, and the Wicked Witches clued me in to my true calling: Assassin. The only way to stop Dorothy from destroying Oz—and Kansas—is to kill her. And I'm the only one who can do it. But I failed. Others died for my mistakes. Because of me, the portal between the worlds has been opened and Kansas and Oz are both in danger. And if I don't find a way to close it? Dorothy will make sure I never get to go home again.

Dorothy Must Die #4: The End of Oz by Danielle Paige

Ding dong—Dorothy is dead. I watched as the Emerald Palace crumbled to the ground, burying Dorothy, the Girl Who Rode the Cyclone, under the rubble. And now that the rightful ruler, Ozma, has been restored to the throne... Oz is finally free. My name is Amy Gumm. You might remember me as the other girl from Kansas. When a tornado whisked me away to the magical land of Oz, I was given a mission: Dorothy must die. But it turns out girls from Kansas are harder to kill than we look. Now the Road of Yellow Brick is leading me away from Oz to the dark world of Ev, where I have a new, powerful enemy to deal with: the Nome King. And—surprise—he has a gingham-clad bride. With my magical shoes and a shrinking group of allies, I have one final chance to fulfill my mission, and save not only what's left of Oz, but Kansas, too. As the line between Good and Wicked blurs even further, I have to find a way to get rid of Dorothy once and for all—without turning into a monster myself. Dorothy once said there's no place like home. Can I stop her from destroying mine?

Bungo Stray Dogs: Volume 1 by Kafka Asagiri

Having been kicked out of the orphanage, a despairing young man by the name of Atsushi Nakajima rescues a strange man from a suicide attempt—Osamu Dazai. Turns out that Dazai is part of an armed-detective agency staffed by individuals whose supernatural powers take on a literary bent!



Chain-Gang All-Stars by Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah
(Recommended for Older Readers)

Loretta Thurwar and Hamara "Hurricane Staxx" Stacker are the stars of Chain-Gang All-Stars, the cornerstone of CAPE, or Criminal Action Penal Entertainment, a highly-popular, highly-controversial, profit-raising program in America's increasingly dominant private prison industry. It's the return of the gladiators and prisoners are competing for the ultimate prize: their freedom.



Last One to Die by Cynthia Murphy

A supernatural thriller that will keep you guessing until the very end. Packed with voice-driven whodunit storytelling, and a classic slasher-movie feel, this dark, pacy, and irresistibly creepy thriller really has something for everybody! 16-year-old, Irish-born Niamh has just arrived in London for the summer, and quickly discovers that girls who look frighteningly like her are being attacked. Determined to make it through her Drama Course, Niamh is placed at the Victorian Museum to put her drama skills to the test, and there she meets her kind, fun, attentive, and really hot! Nonetheless, there's something eerie about the museum... As present-day serial attacker and sinister Victorian history start to collide, Niamh realizes that things are not as they seem. Will she be next?



Signed, Sealed, Dead by Cynthia Murphy

True-Crime obsessed Paige, and her family, move across the Atlantic to her father's eerie hometown, and it's not long before she uncovers the town's dark history - a string of unsolved murders and disappearances in the 90s. And then notes start appearing at their dilapidated old home, about the secrets the house is keeping. The clues lead Paige to a diary concealed in the walls that belonged to one of the missing girls. Could this be the key to solving a quarter-of-a-century mystery, or will this make Paige the next target?!



Hunter x Hunter: Volume 1 by Yoshihiro Togashi

Hunters are a special breed, dedicated to tracking down treasures, magical beasts, and even other people. But such pursuits require a license, and less than one in a hundred thousand can pass the gruelling qualification exam. Those who do pass gain access to restricted areas, amazing stores of information, and the right to call themselves Hunters.



Crookhaven #3: The Island Heist by J.J. Arcaño

It's Gabriel's third year at Crookhaven School for Thieves. Along with the usual Break-In challenge - this year to Reclamation Island - and difficult new classes like Signs & Signals, Gabriel and his friends have another taking down the Nameless. The Nameless are the very worst type of criminals - they steal, trick and kidnap for their own benefit, rather than to do good in the world. Each member of Gabriel's crew has a very personal reason for wanting to take the Nameless down - but what can a group of underage school children do compared to the most powerful crew of the underworld? Luckily, there might be something hidden at Crookhaven that could help them. But first they have to find it...



Monstrillo by Gerardo Sámáno Córdoba
(Recommended for Older Readers)

A literary horror debut about a boy who transforms into a monster, a monster who tries to be a man, and the people who love him in every form he takes. Grieving mother Magos cuts out a piece of her deceased eleven-year-old son Santiago's lung. Acting on fierce maternal instinct and the dubious logic of an old folktale, she nurtures the lung until it gains sentience, growing into the carnivorous little Monstrillo she keeps hidden within the walls of her family's decaying Mexico City estate. Eventually, Monstrillo begins to resemble the Santiago he once was, but his innate impulses—though curbed by his biological and chosen family's communal care—threaten to destroy this fragile second chance at life.



Books for Treats Day, 31st October 2024 (USA)

While the 31st of October is best known as Halloween, in America it is also Books for Treats Day. The non-profit organisation Books for Treats encourages adults to give books to trick-or-treating children in place of sweets - a healthier alternative for minds as well as teeth. The idea originated when Rebecca Morgan, the founder of Books for Treats, shared her belief that books are more beneficial to children than sweet treats. Morgan wanted to "feed kids' minds, not their cavities." The first Books for Treats Day was observed in 2001 and it has grown in popularity since, spreading from the United States of America to Canada. Morgan noticed that children who receive books on Halloween are excited about them and offer to swap them with their friends after reading, fostering a reading culture. It is recommended by Books for Treats that adults give out second-hand books, which makes the idea ecologically sustainable too. As Halloween becomes ever more popular in the UK, maybe we will see the Books for Treats trend catch on here at some point. Below are some suggestions for horror-themed books to read around Halloween.

American Psycho by Bret Easton Ellis
(Recommended for Older Readers)

Patrick Bateman is twenty-six and works on Wall Street. He is handsome, sophisticated, charming, and intelligent. He is also a psychopath. Taking us to head-on collision with America's greatest dream—and its worst nightmare—American Psycho is a bleak, bitter, black comedy about a world we all recognize but do not wish to confront.



The Bloody Chamber by Angela Carter
(Recommended for Older Readers)

From familiar fairy tales and legends - Red Riding Hood, Bluebeard, Puss in Boots, Beauty and the Beast, vampires, and werewolves - Angela Carter has created an absorbing collection of dark, sensual, fantastic stories.

Demon Slayer: Volume 1 by Koyoharu Gotouge

In Taisho-era Japan, Tanjiro Kamado is a kind-hearted boy who makes a living selling charcoal. But his peaceful life is shattered when a demon slaughters his entire family. His little sister Nezuko is the only survivor, but she has been transformed into a demon herself! Tanjiro sets out on a dangerous journey to find a way to return his sister to normal and destroy the demon who ruined his life.

Learning to slay demons won't be easy, and Tanjiro barely knows where to start. The surprise appearance of another boy named Giyu, who seems to know what's going on, might provide some answers...but only if Tanjiro can stop Giyu from killing his sister first!



October's MOST POPULAR BOOKS



1. Heartstopper Volume 1 by Alice Oseman	2. Heartstopper Volume 3 by Alice Oseman	3. The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins	4. The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood
5. The Trials of Apollo: The Hidden Oracle by Rick Riordan	6. Fallen by Lauren Kate	7. The Secret History by Donna Tartt	8. Unravel Me by Tahereh Mafi

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
Cynthia 7N Zara 7N Kanika 7N Zaram 7N Myrah 7N Hayley 7N Haveeni 7N Aaradhya 7N Devika 7N Hashikha 7N Eleanor 7N	Wenjun 7W Shravya 7W Ella 7W Deetya 7W Avisha 7W Rithu 7W Tioluwani 7S Aanya 7S Kayley 7S Ahaana 7S Shreya 7S Waisin 7S Elana 7S	Bade 7S Mayuka 7S Magathy 7F Brishty 7F Saaya 7G Harshitha 7G Letty 7G Saanvi 7G Alice 7G Rosie 7G Jasmine 7G Rowan 7P Aphsaline 7P	Saatvika 7P Zoey 7P Greta 7P Harmani 7P	Tripti 8F Ariadne 8F Aniela 8G Mehr 8G Rebecca 8P Elizabeth 8P	Iris 8N Neevh 8N Ruzena 8N Lea 8N Khushi 8N Amy 8S	Diyansa 9S Erin D 9S Charlotte 9S Reika 9S
Angel 9S Senumi 9S Erin W 9S Avni 9F Preeethi 9F Anushka 9F Sara 9F Emilie 9G Dhiviya 9G Caroline 9G Leony 9P Aksha 9P Taara 9P	Ketki 9P Ojal 9P Valerie 9P	Eva 11N Astrid 11W Yi Ray 11S Anthyia 11P Lizzy 11P	Kashviny 10N Eunice 10S Aashvi 10G Christina 10G	Vyshally 12B	Elleanore 12F Tanya 12F Venella 12B	Frances 13N Trevor 13W Vivia 13W Julia 13S Vantien 13P Lucy 13P Caz 13B Olivia 13H