

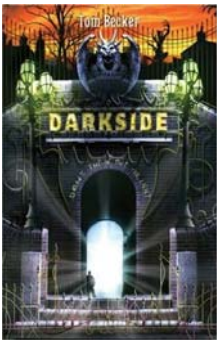
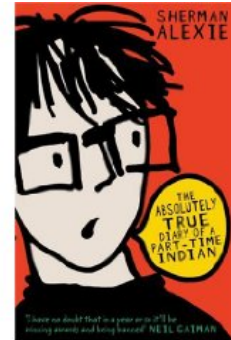
Award-Winning Fiction

Why not try some of these recent award-winning titles?

The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian by Sherman Alexie

WINNER OF THE NATIONAL BOOK AWARD (US)

Junior, a budding cartoonist leaves his school on the Spokane Indian Reservation to attend an all-white high school. But he's a skinny kid in glasses who soon becomes a target...



Darkside by Tom Becker

WINNER OF THE WATERSTONE'S CHILDREN BOOK PRIZE

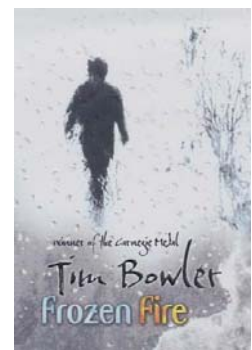
Your home's been attacked. Your dad's in an asylum. You're running for your life. And there's nowhere to hide. You've stumbled on the city's greatest secret: Darkside. Incredibly dangerous and unimaginably exciting Darkside is ruled by Jack the Ripper's children - a place where nightmares walk the streets. You think you're in trouble now, but your problems have just begun...

Frozen Fire by Tim Bowler

WINNER OF THE HIGHLAND CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARD

It starts with the phone call, late at night. The mysterious boy says he is dying. Dusty doesn't want to get involved - but the boy seems to have a link to the one person who's most important to her. Soon, she has been drawn in - and now she has to deal with the other people who are looking for the boy - the violent man and his two sons, and the police too...

Yet, throughout all this, Dusty senses the presence of a boy who is not dying, a strange elusive boy who can show her what happened to her missing brother and solve the greatest mystery of her life. Where he is, who he is, why he wants to die, she cannot say. Only one thing is certain: finding him will be dangerous.





A Swift Pure Cry by Siobhan Dowd

WINNER OF THE BRANFORD BOASE AWARD

After Shell's mother dies, her obsessively religious father descends into alcoholic mourning and Shell is left to care for her younger brother and sister. Her only release from the harshness of everyday life comes from her budding spiritual friendship with a naive young priest, and most importantly, her developing relationship with childhood friend, Declan, charming, eloquent and persuasive.

But when Declan suddenly leaves Ireland to seek his fortune in America, Shell finds herself pregnant and the centre of a scandal that rocks the small community in which she lives, with repercussions across the whole country. The lives of those immediately around her will never be the same again.

Before I Die by Jenny Downham

WINNER OF THE BRANFORD BOASE AWARD

Tessa has just a few months to live. Fighting back against hospital visits, endless tests, drugs with excruciating side-effects, Tessa compiles a list. It's her To Do Before I Die list. Released from the constraints of 'normal' life, Tessa tastes new experiences to make her feel alive while her failing body struggles to keep up.



The Raven Queen by Pauline Francis

WINNER OF THE HIGHLAND CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARD

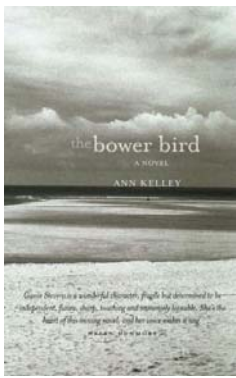
The life of Lady Jane Grey, the Nine Day Queen, is all too often remembered as just a line in a history book, but this debut novel reveals the full fascinating and tragic story - a tale of treachery, power struggles, and religious turmoil in the Tudor court.

The Graveyard Book by Neil Gaiman

WINNER OF THE NEWBERY MEDAL

When a baby escapes a murderer intent on killing the entire family, who would have thought it would find safety and security in the local graveyard? Brought up by the resident ghosts, ghouls and spectres, Bod has an eccentric childhood learning about life from the dead. But for Bod there is also the danger of the murderer still looking for him - after all, he is the last remaining member of the family...





The Bower Bird by Ann Kelly

WINNER OF THE COSTA CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARD

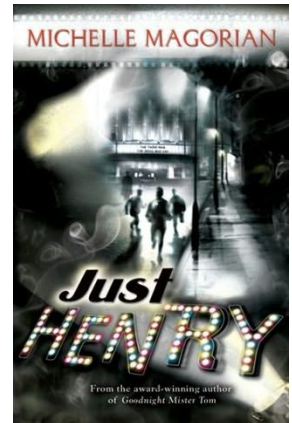
Gussie is twelve years old, loves animals and wants to be a photographer when she grows up. The only problem is she's unlikely to ever grow up.

Gussie needs a heart and lung transplant, but the donor list is huge and she can't wait around that long. She has things to do...

Just Henry by Michelle Magorian

WINNER OF THE COSTA CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARD

It's 1949 and life is bleak for Henry. He misses his father who died a war hero, and he escapes from his annoying stepfather and stepsister whenever he can and goes to the cinema - his passion. One day in the cinema queue he meets Mrs Beaumont who also loves films, and lends Henry a camera for his school project. Henry is disgusted that he's been put in a group with Jeffries, the son of a man who went AWOL, and Pip, who was born illegitimate; but he's about to learn that tolerance and friendship are more important than social stigmas. Henry will need his new friends when he processes the film and makes an alarming discovery. Like a bomb waiting to explode, Henry's world is about to unravel.



The Knife of Never Letting Go by Patrick Ness

WINNER OF THE GUARDIAN CHILDREN'S FICTION PRIZE

WINNER OF THE BOOKTRUST TEENAGE PRIZE

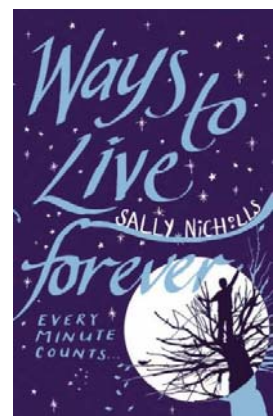
Imagine you're the only boy in a town of men. And you can hear everything they think. And they can hear everything you think. Imagine you don't fit in with their plans...

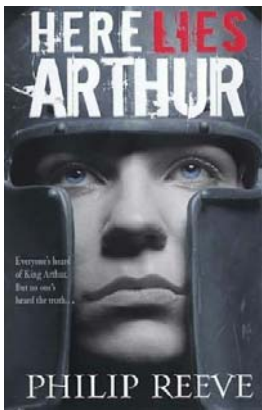
Todd Hewitt is just one month away from the birthday that will make him a man. But his town has been keeping secrets from him. Secrets that are going to force him to run...

Ways to Live Forever by Sally Nicholls

WINNER OF THE WATERSTONE'S CHILDREN'S BOOK PRIZE

Sam loves facts. He wants to know about UFOs and horror movies and airships and ghosts and scientists, and how it feels to kiss a girl. And because he has leukaemia he wants to know the facts about dying. Sam needs answers to the questions nobody will answer.





Here Lies Arthur by Philip Reeve

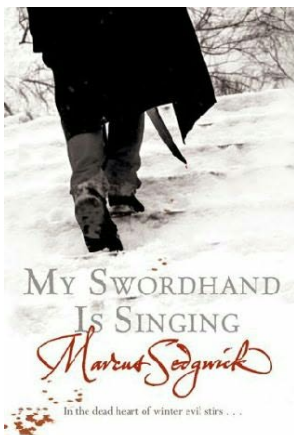
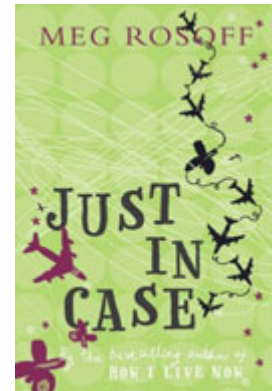
WINNER OF THE CARNEGIE MEDAL

Arthur fights giants, rescues maidens and tricks the devil with his words - or so they say. Gwyna is overwhelmed. She's only a slave-girl and he's a king. Soon Arthur's magician, Myrddin, will show her the real secret behind Arthur's power...

Just in Case by Meg Rosoff

WINNER OF THE CARNEGIE MEDAL

The day David Case saves his brother's life, his whole world changes. Suddenly, every moment is fizzing with significance. He must hide, become an entirely new person to escape Fate if he can. Will changing his name, befriending an astrophysicist and gaining an imaginary pet be enough? Bewildered and obsessive, he'll try anything to survive.



My Swordhand is Singing by Marcus Sedgewick

WINNER OF THE BOOKTRUST TEENAGE PRIZE

In the bitter cold of an unrelenting winter Tomas and his son, Peter, arrive in Chust and settle there as woodcutters. Tomas digs a channel of fast flowing waters around their hut, so they have their own little island kingdom.

Peter doesn't understand why his father has done this nor why his father carries a long, battered box, whose mysterious contents he is forbidden to know.

But Tomas is a man with a past; a past that is tracking him with deadly intent. As surely as the snow falls softly in the forest of

one hundred thousand silver birch trees, Father and son must face a soul-less enemy and a terrifying destiny.

Finding Violet Park by Jenny Valentine

WINNER OF THE GUARDIAN CHILDREN'S FICTION PRIZE

Sixteen-year-old Lucas Swain becomes intrigued by the urn of ashes left in a cab office. Convinced that its occupant -- Violet Park -- is communicating with him, he contrives to gain possession of the urn, little realising that his quest will take him on a voyage of self-discovery and identity, forcing him to finally confront what happened to his absent (and possibly dead) father!

