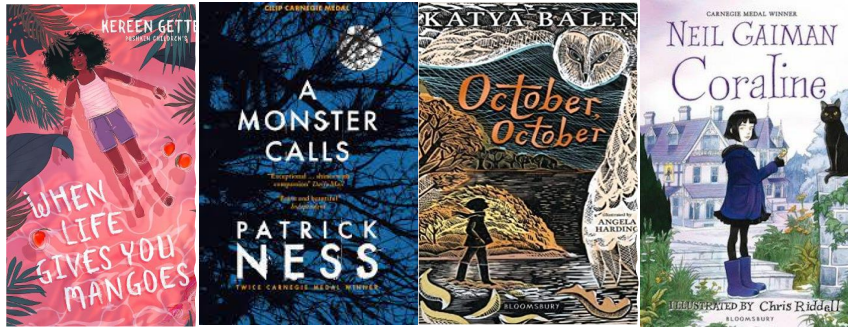


FORM READING 2023-24



YEAR 7



YEAR 8



YEAR 9

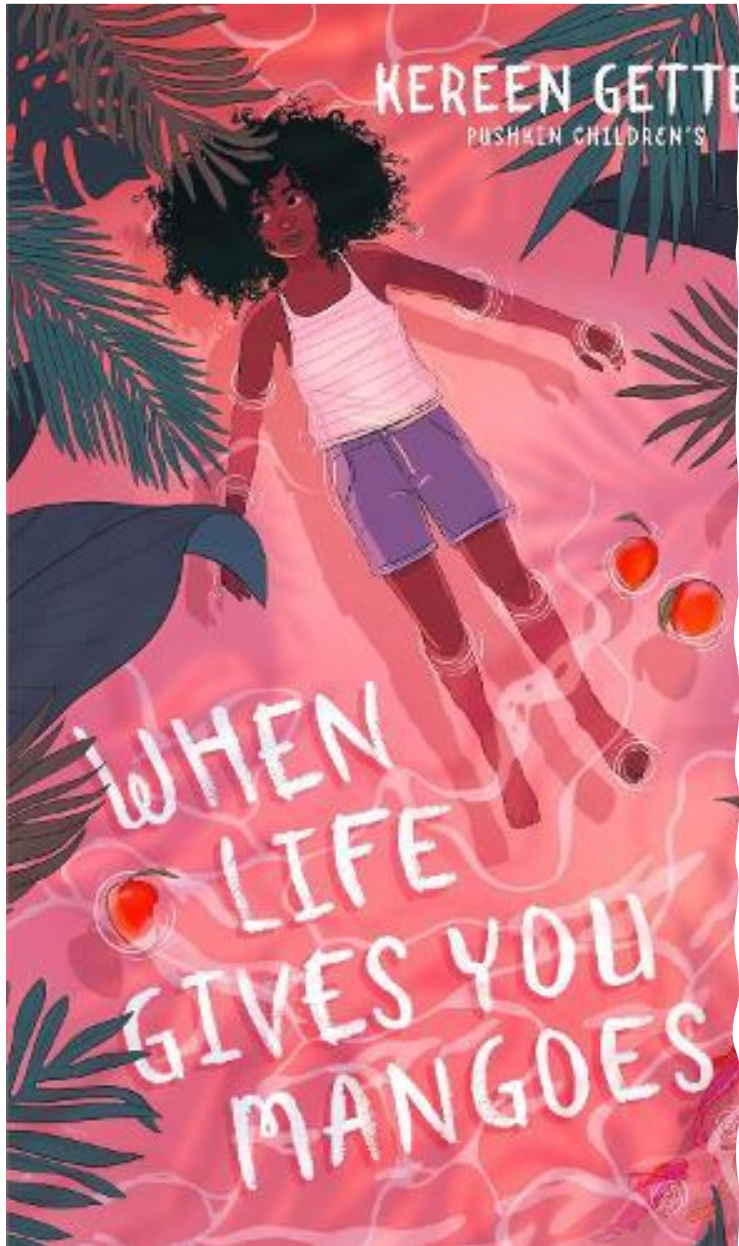


YEAR 10



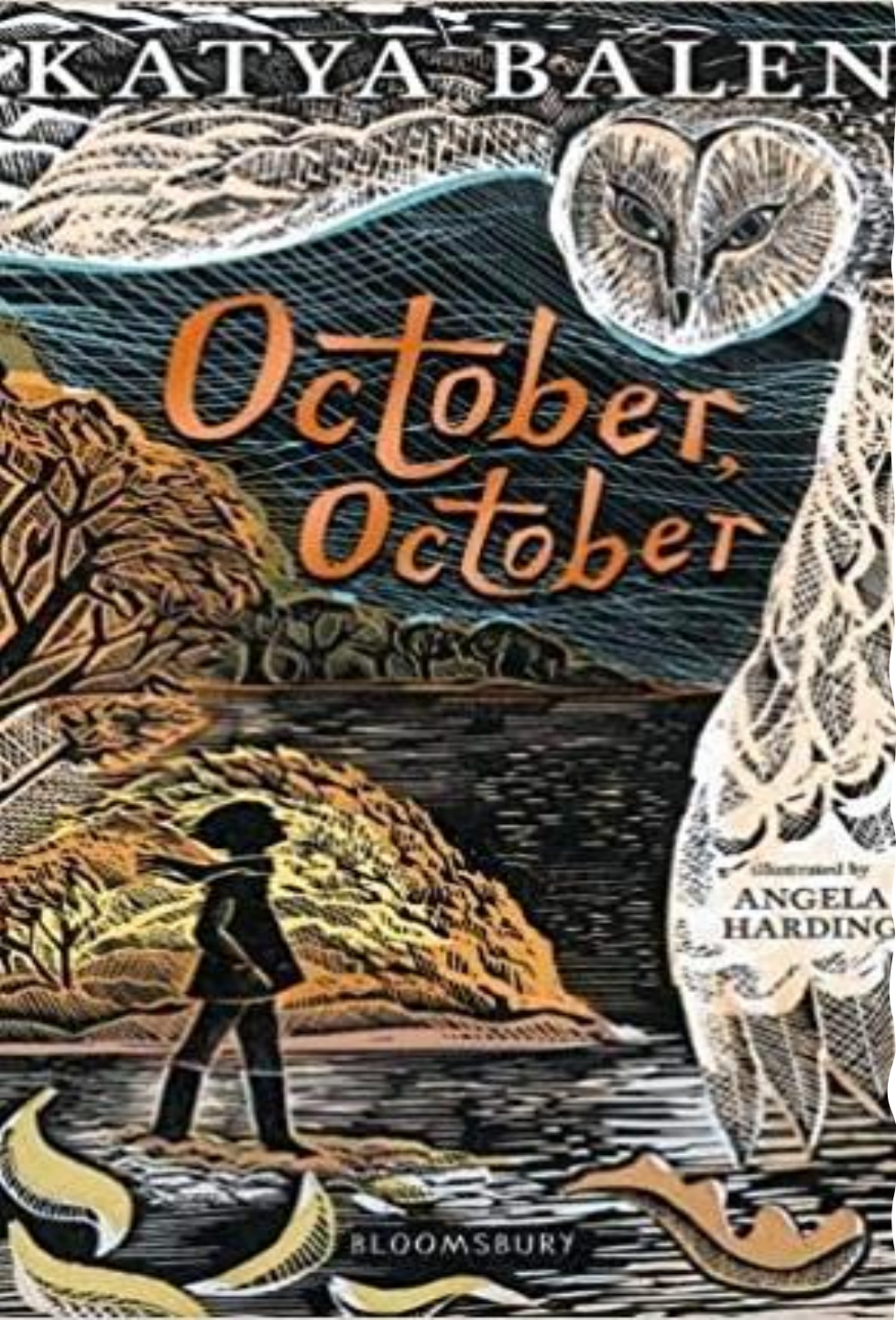
YEAR 12-13

# Year 7 Form Reading



# *When Life Gives You Mangoes* by Kereen Getten

- Nothing much happens in Sycamore, the small village where Clara lives - at least, that's how it looks. She loves eating ripe mangoes fallen from trees, running outside in the rainy season and escaping to her secret hideout with her best friend Gaynah. There's only one problem - she can't remember anything that happened last summer.
- When a quirky girl called Rudy arrives from England, everything starts to change. Gaynah stops acting like a best friend, while Rudy and Clara roam across the island and uncover an old family secret. As the summer reaches its peak and the island storms begin, Clara's memory starts to return and she must finally face the truth of what happened last year.

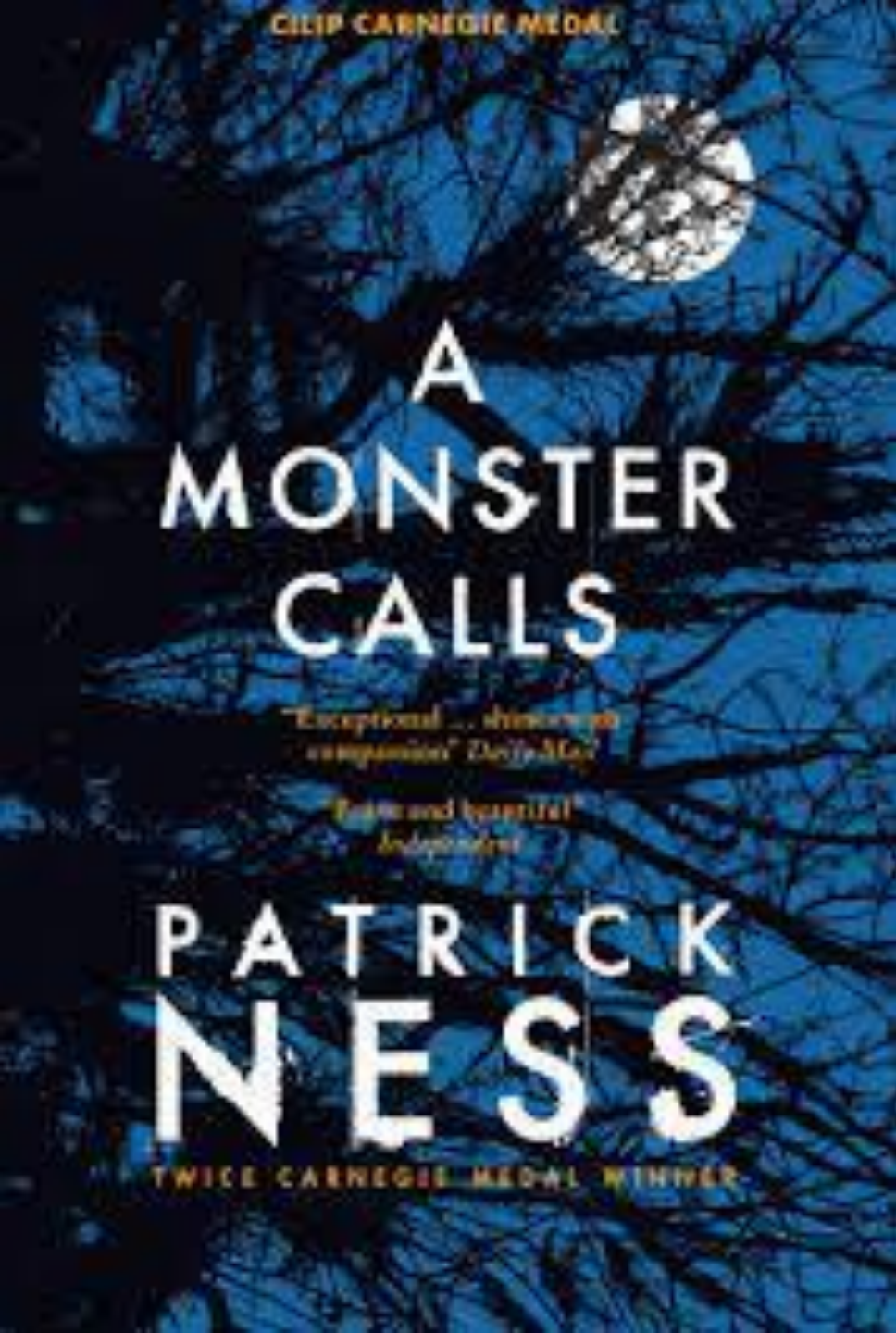


## *October, October* by Katya Balen

October and her dad live in the woods. They sleep in the house Dad built for them and eat the food they grow in the vegetable patches. They know the trees and the rocks and the lake and stars like best friends. They read the books they buy in town again and again until the pages are soft and yellow - until next year's town visit. They live in the woods and they are wild.

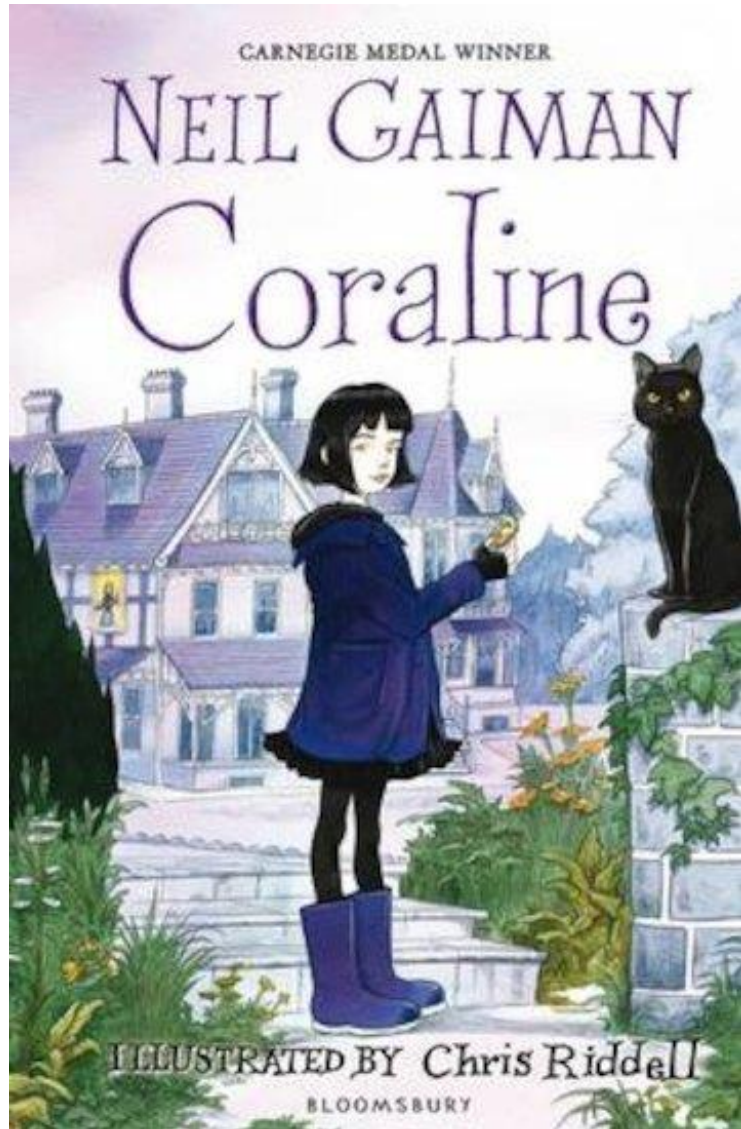
And that's the way it is.

Until the year October turns eleven. That's the year October rescues a baby owl. It's the year Dad falls out of the biggest tree in their woods. The year the woman who calls herself October's mother comes back. The year everything changes



## *A Monster Calls* by Patrick Ness

Thirteen-year-old Conor O'Malley is dealing with far more than other boys his age. His beloved and devoted mother is ill. He has little in common with his grandmother. His father has resettled thousands of miles away. But Conor finds a most unlikely ally when the Monster appears at his bedroom window one night. Ancient, wild, and relentless, the Monster guides Conor on a journey of courage, faith, and truth that powerfully fuses imagination and reality.



## *Coraline* by Neil Gaiman

Coraline Jones moves into a new apartment with her parents during school break. As a curious and adventurous 9-year-old girl, Coraline quickly becomes bored of her new surroundings even though she has some eccentric neighbors to keep her company.

One rainy day, Coraline becomes interested in a strange door that opens up to a brick wall. Mysteriously, the brick wall vanishes the next day and the door leads to an eerie corridor. Further into the corridor, Coraline chances upon a parallel universe that looks exactly like the one she just left behind. The universe even has an alternate family with the Other Mother and the Other Father, who look exactly like Coraline's real parents.

When Coraline returns home from the parallel universe, she finds that her parents have gone missing. She decides to go back to the parallel universe and look for them. Coraline undertakes several brave adventures in the Other universe as she battles the evil Other Mother. She ends up discovering the incredible strength within herself through these adventures.

Additional for year 7:

## *A Kind of Spark* by Elle McNicholl

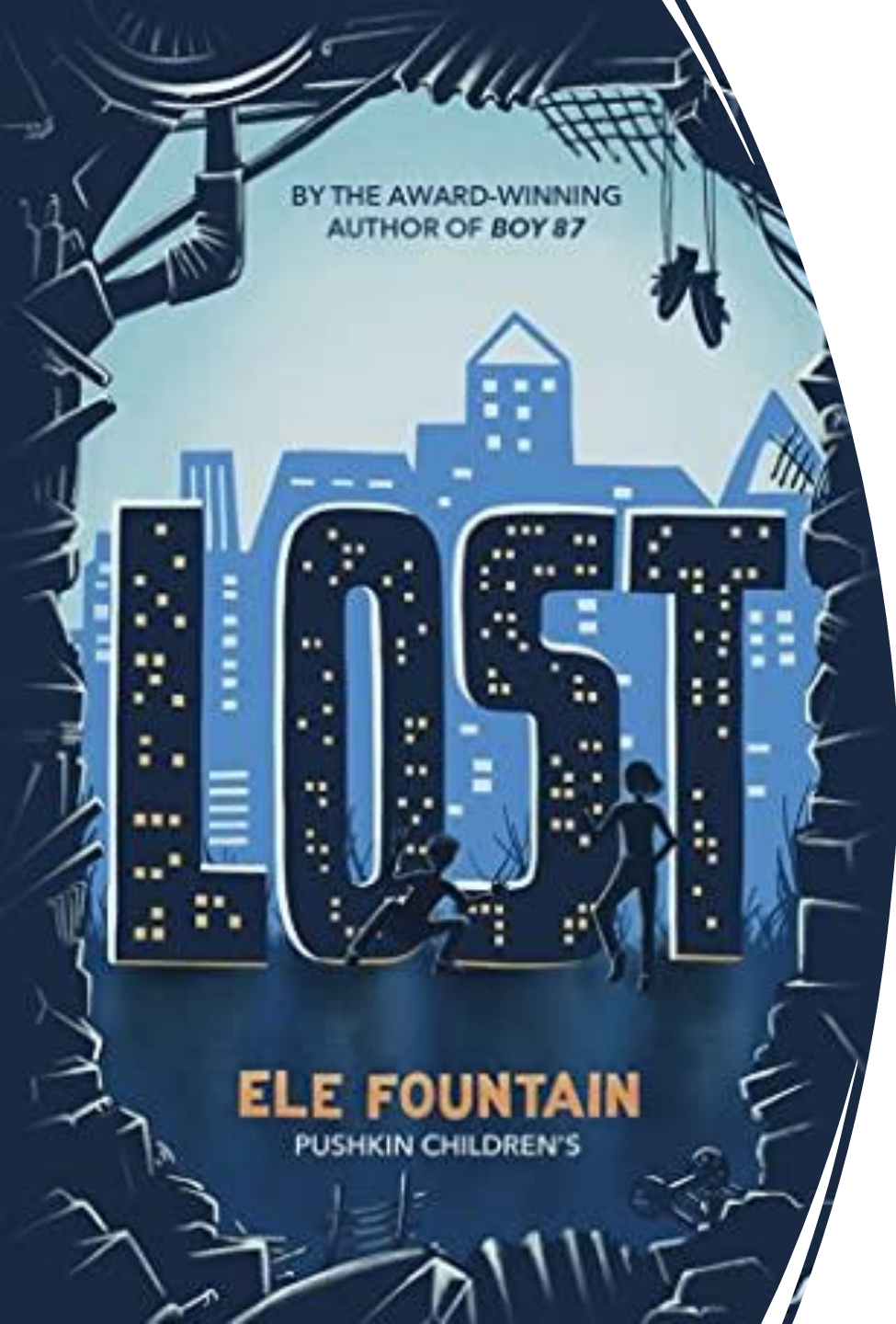
*A Kind of Spark* tells the story of 11-year-old Addie as she campaigns for a memorial in memory of the witch trials that took place in her Scottish hometown. Addie knows there's more to the story of these 'witches', just like there is more to hers.

Can Addie challenge how the people in her town see her, and make her voice heard? A story about friendship, courage and self-belief, perfect for fans of *The Goldfish Boy*, Addie's story was born from Elle's own experiences of neurodiversity and her commitment to seeing greater representation in children's books.



# Year 8 Form Reading





# *Lost* by Ele Fountain

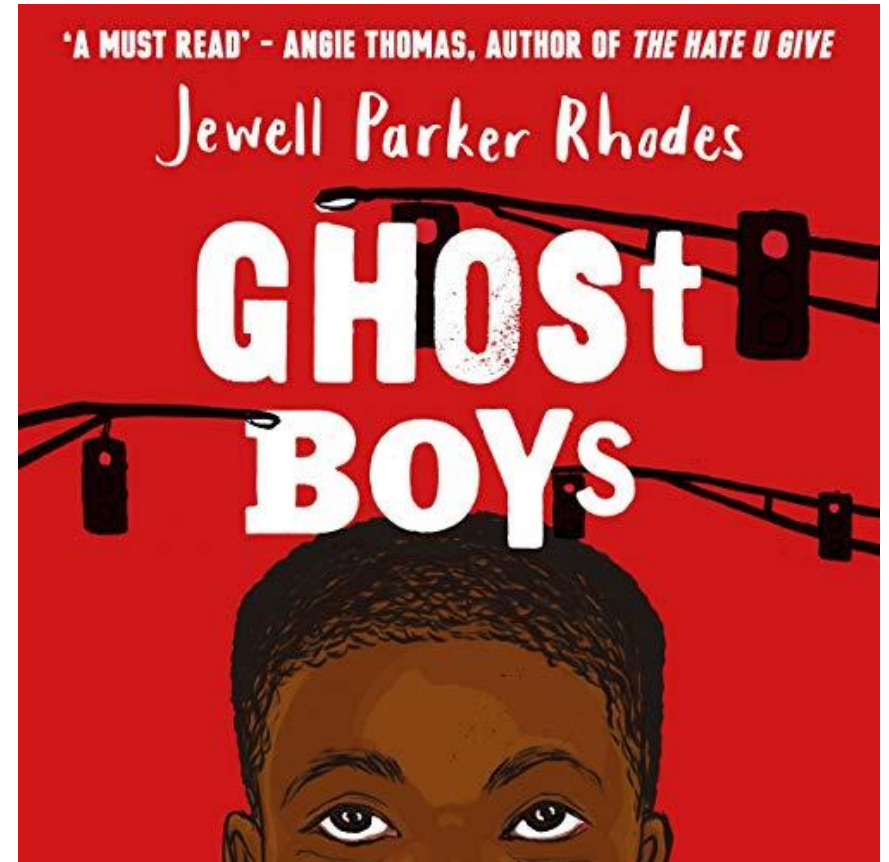
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- When their father fails to come home one day, Lola and Amit face a terrifying new reality. With no money and no idea how to look after themselves, they are made homeless and must find a way to survive on the streets.

Things go from bad to worse when Lola and Amit are separated. In a race to find her brother, Lola must rely on the help of Rafi - a boy who, like her, is struggling to endure homelessness. Thrilling and hard-hitting in equal measure, *Lost* is a rich adventure story with urgent social themes.

# *Ghost Boys by Jewell Parker Rhodes*

- Twelve-year-old Jerome is shot by a police officer who mistakes his toy gun for a real threat. He then becomes a ghost and watches what happens to his family as a result.
- Soon Jerome meets another ghost: Emmett Till, a boy from a very different time but similar circumstances. Emmett helps Jerome process what has happened, on a journey towards recognizing how historical racism may have led to the events that ended his life. Jerome also meets Sarah, the daughter of the police officer, who struggles with her father's actions.
- This book has gone down very well with our current year 8s!



# *Oh My Gods* by Alexandra Sheppard

Life as a half-mortal teenager should be epic.  
But, for Helen Thomas, it's tragic.

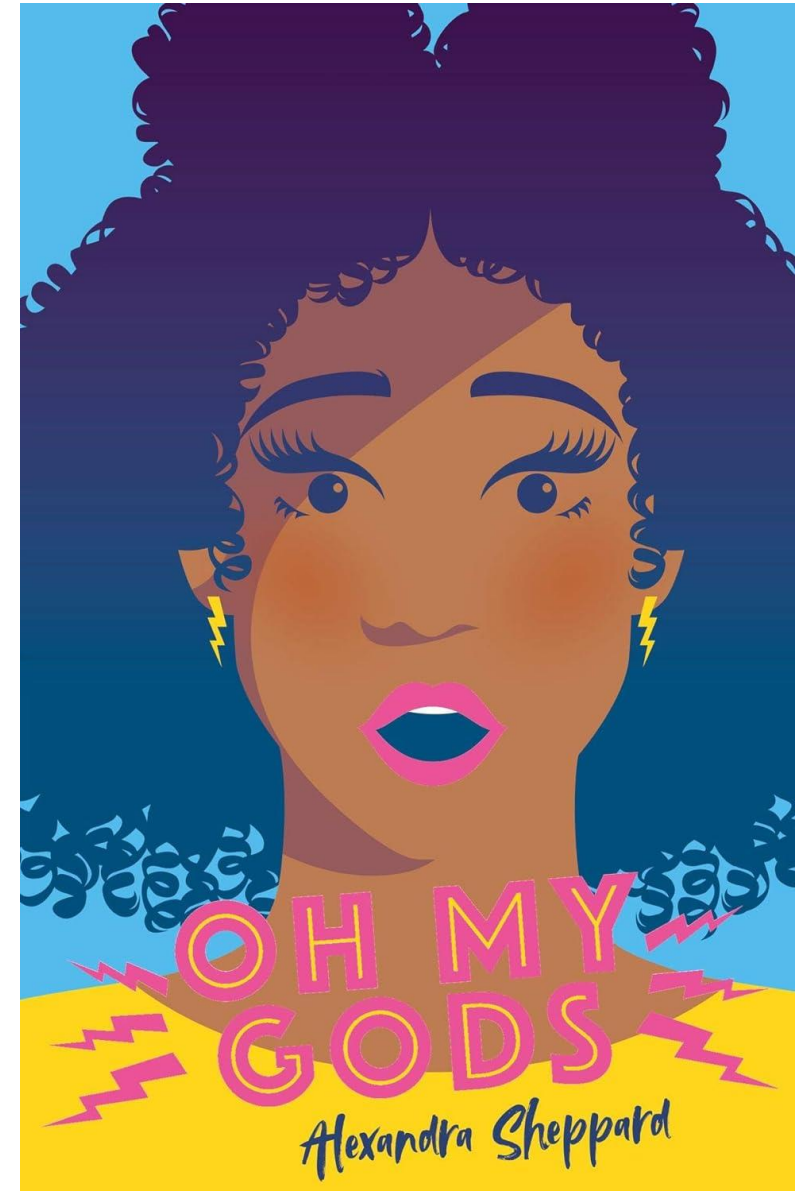
She's just moved in with her dorky dad and self-absorbed older siblings - who just happen to be Greek gods, living incognito in London! It's hard not to feel inferior when your older sister is Aphrodite, queen of beauty and massive star of social media. Not to mention introducing a boy to your dad when he's really Zeus.

Between keeping her family's true identities secret, trying to impress her new friends, and meeting Marco, an actually cute boy, Helen's stress levels are higher than Mount Olympus.

Especially as it seems like someone is determined to expose the family secret and have them banished from the mortal world.

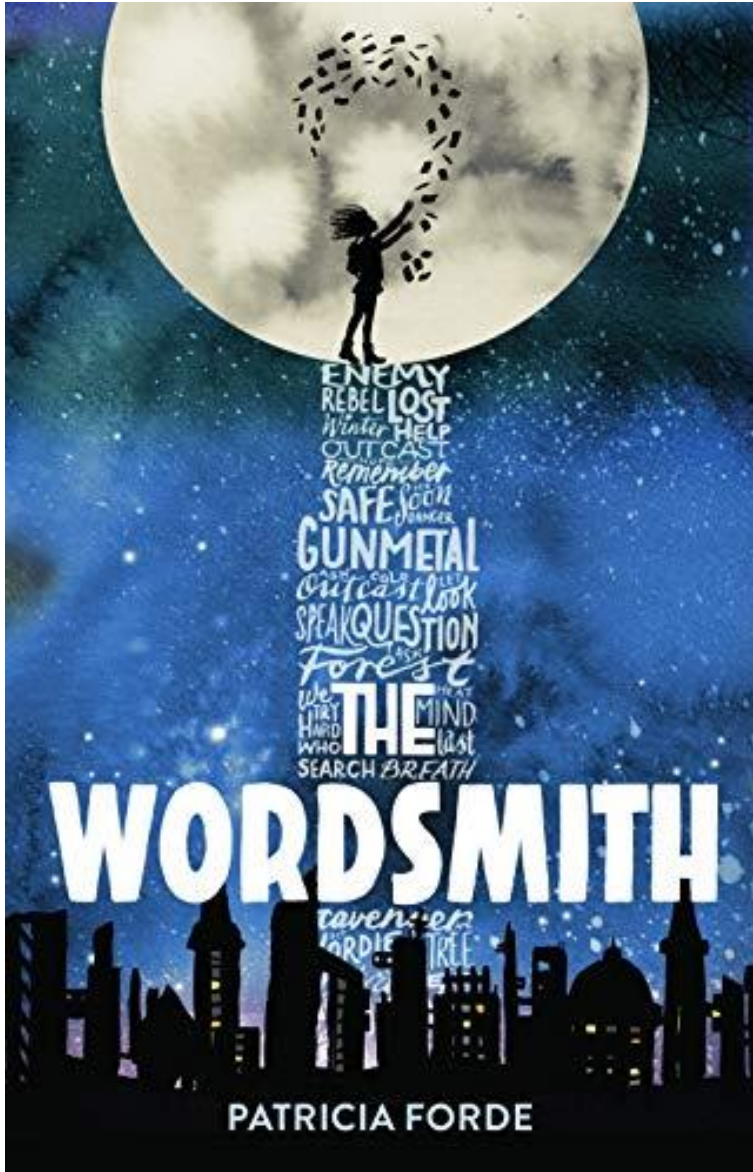
Can Helen find a way to save her family, or will she lose them forever?

Fabulous friendships, sparky romance, and a family like no other  
Alex Sheppard is an hilarious new voice in the world of funny, relatable teen fiction. Perfect for fans of *Geek Girl* and *To All the Boys I've Loved Before*



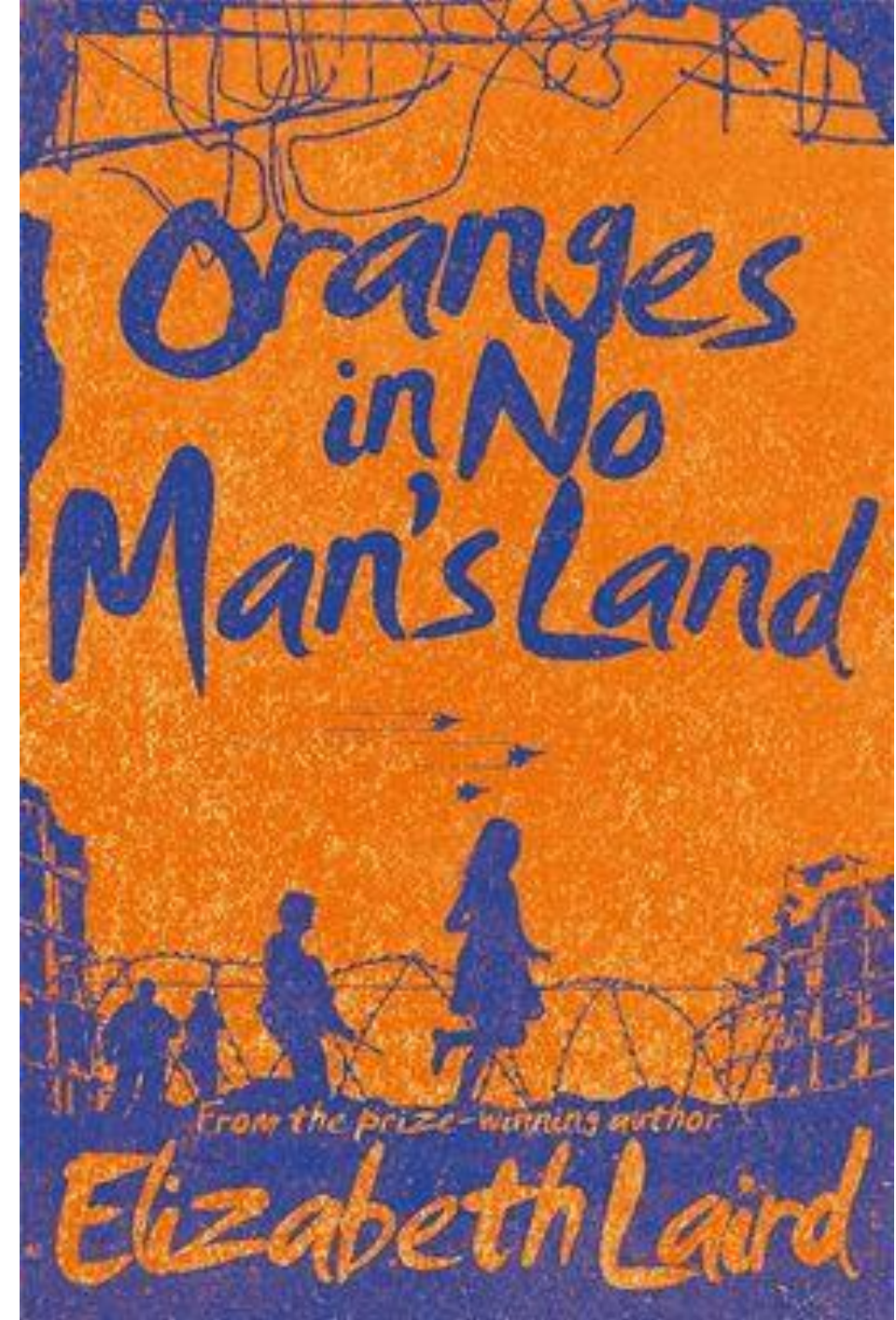
# *The Wordsmith* by Patricia Forde

Letta is Ark's Wordsmith – responsible for handing out words to people who need them. She has never questioned why language is rationed and why words like freedom, hope, and love are banned. But, one day, her eyes are forced open when her master disappears and she encounters a young man dying on her doorstep.



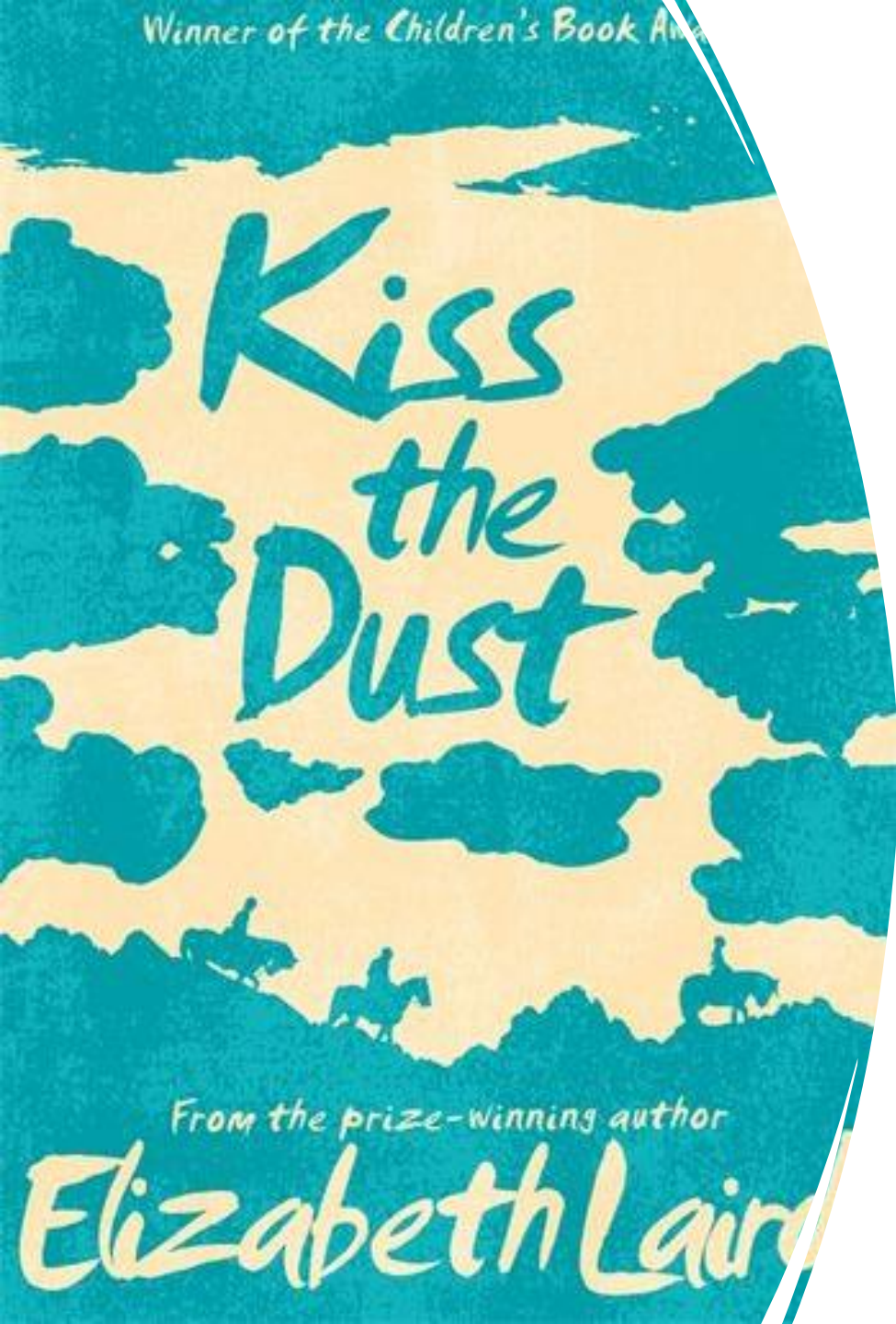
## *Oranges in No Man's Land* by Elizabeth Laird

Young children are the innocent victims of war and Ayesha is no exception. With her father abroad looking for work and her mother killed in a rocket attack, Ayesha and her young brothers find themselves refugees in a bombed out flat in Beirut with only an elderly grandmother to care for them.





# Year 9 Form Reading

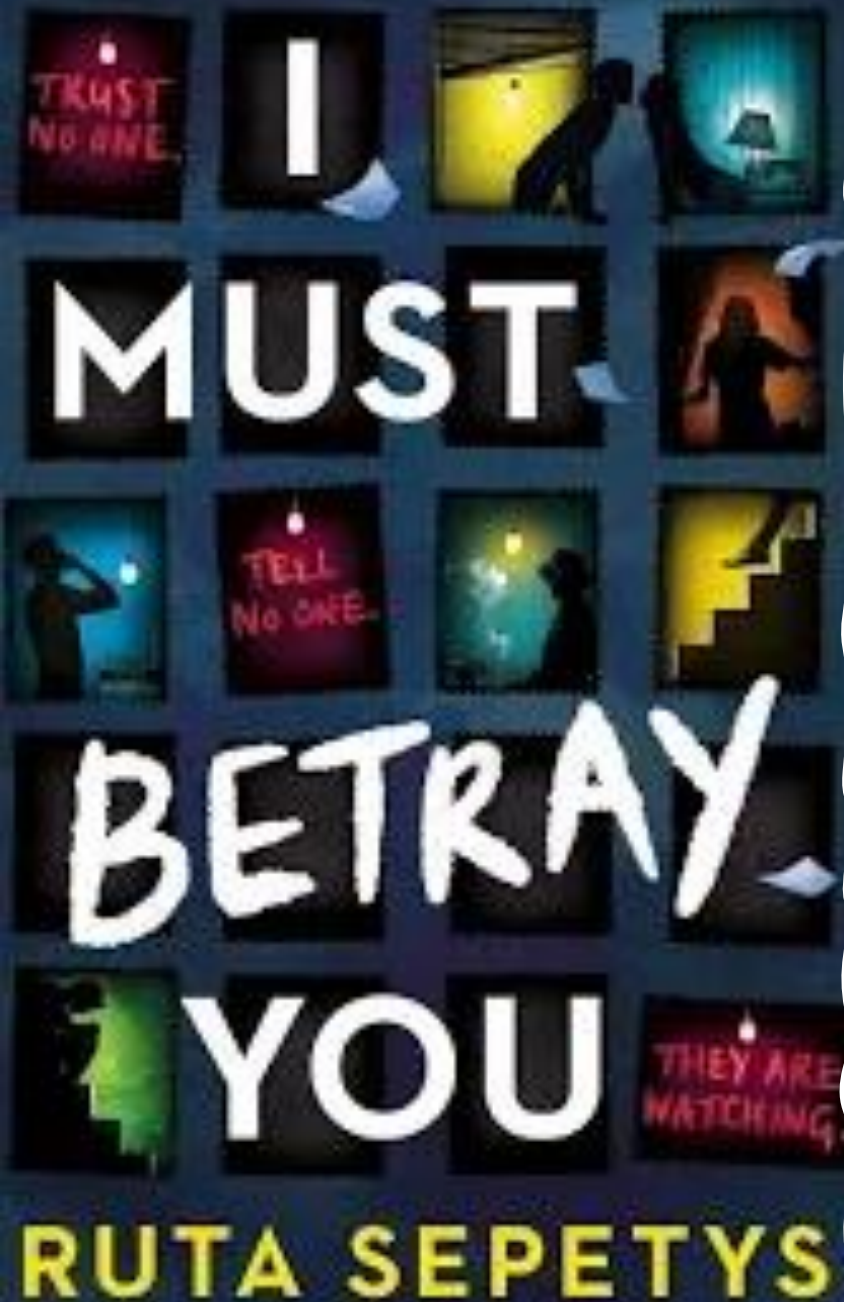


## *Kiss the Dust* by Elizabeth Laird

- Kiss the Dust is a book written by Elizabeth Laird on the conflicts between the Iraqi Kurds and Saddam Hussein's regime. It is a young adult historical fiction novel about a twelve-year-old Kurdish girl and her family's escape from Iraq over the border into Iran.



NUMBER ONE NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER



## *I Must Betray You* by Ruta Sepetys

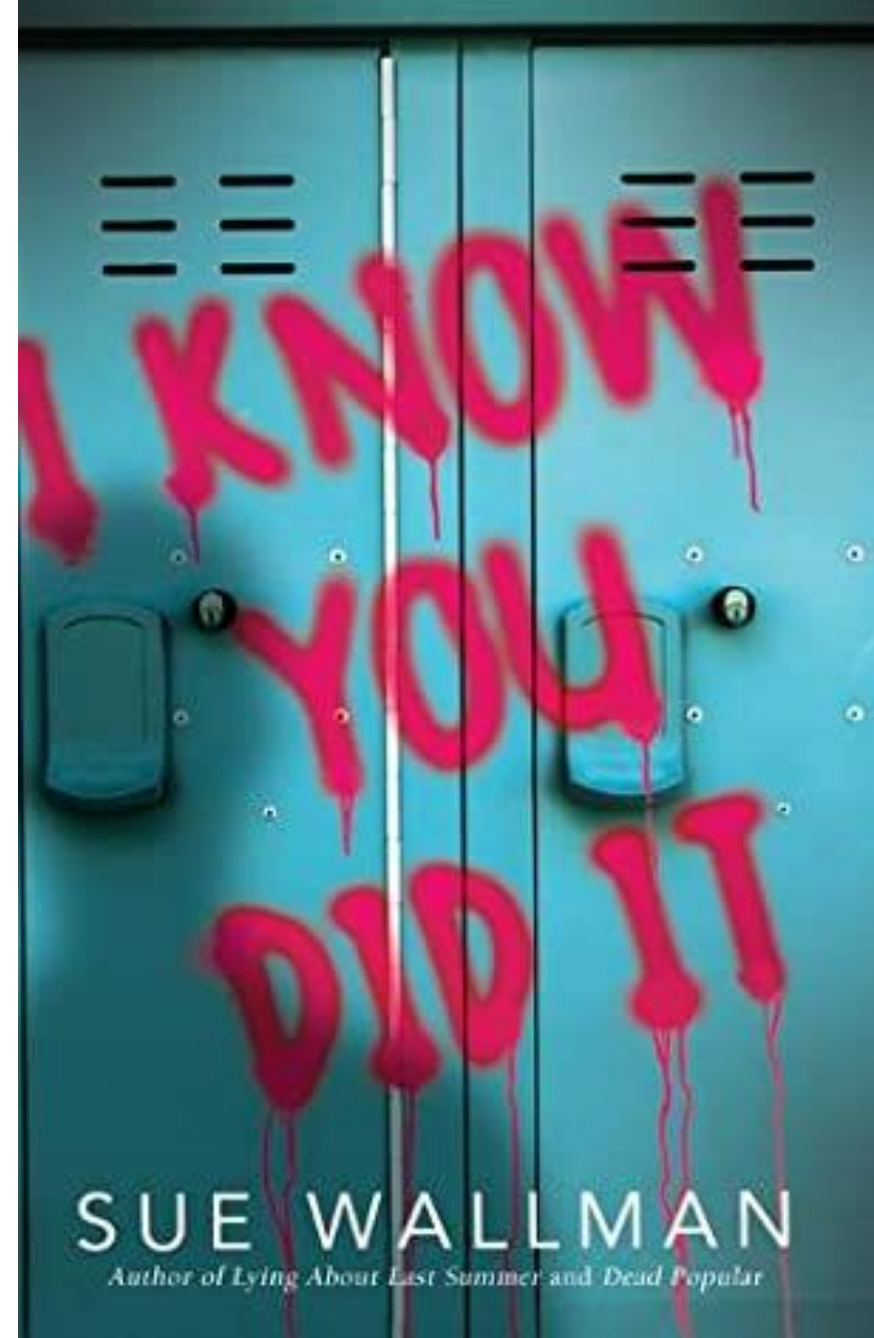
- **Romania, 1989.** Communist regimes are crumbling across Europe. Seventeen-year-old Cristian Florescu dreams of becoming a writer, but Romanians aren't free to dream; they are bound by rules and force.

Amidst the tyrannical dictatorship of Nicolae Ceaușescu in a country governed by isolation and fear, Cristian is blackmailed by the secret police to become an informer. He's left with only two choices: betray everyone and everything he loves—or use his position to creatively undermine the most notoriously evil dictator in Eastern Europe.

Cristian risks everything to unmask the truth behind the regime, give voice to fellow Romanians, and expose to the world what is happening in his country. He eagerly joins the revolution to fight for change when the time arrives. But what is the cost of freedom?

# *I Know You Did It by Sue Wallman*

- A secret from her past threatens to detonate her present... On her first day at a new school, Ruby finds a note in her locker saying I Know You Did It. She's terrified that someone has found out she was responsible for the death of a girl called Hannah in a playground when they were both toddlers - a secret she has been keeping guiltily for ten years. When other pupils at the school start suffering serious accidents, the finger of blame points at Ruby. She knows she's not the perpetrator, but who is? And what link do they have to her past...?



# Year 10 Form Reading



## *The Outsiders* by S. E. Hinton

From Penguin's The Originals collection, *The Outsiders* is an outstanding story of teenage rebellion, written when the author was only 17.

Teenagers in a small Oklahoma town have split into two gangs, divided by money, tastes and attitude. The Socs' idea of having a good time is beating up Greasers like Ponyboy Curtis.

Ponyboy knows what to expect and knows he can count on his brothers and friends - until the night someone takes things too far, and life is changed forever.

*We Were Liars* is utterly unforgettable.

John Green, bestselling author  
of *The Fault in Our Stars*

# we were liars

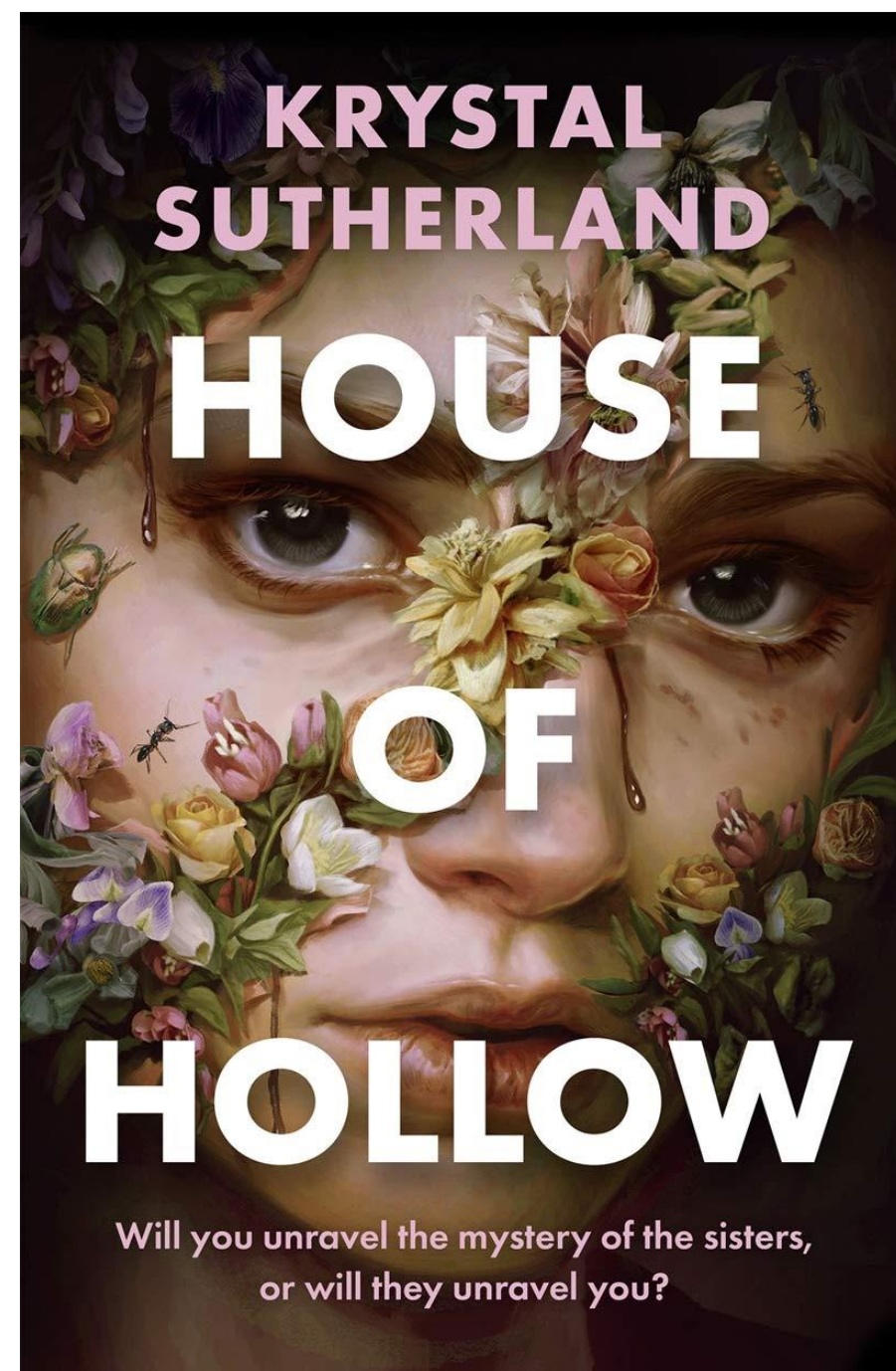
e.lockhart

## *We Were Liars* by E. Lockhart

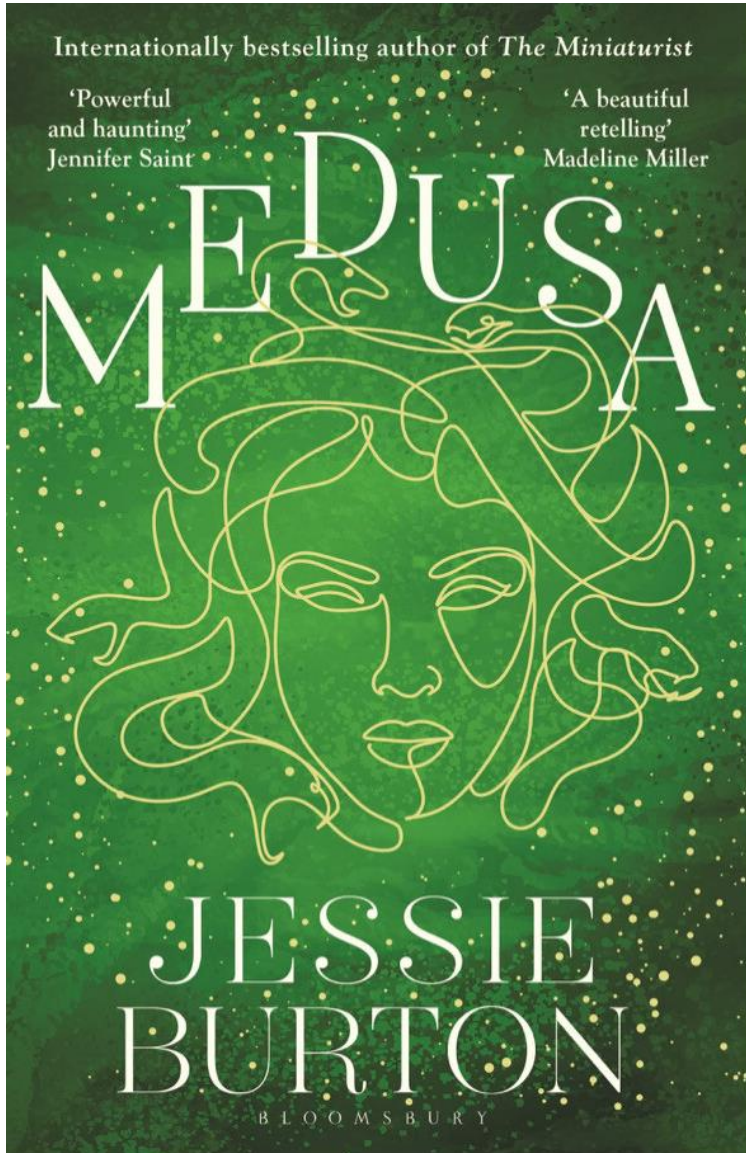
The novel *We Were Liars* by E. Lockhart is a shocking and twisted tale about the seemingly perfect Sinclair family who hides their secrets, lies, and flaws behind their tall and handsome builds. The story takes place on a private island off the coast of Massachusetts, where the Sinclair family spends their summers.

# *House of Hollow* by Krystal Sutherland

- The Hollow sisters - Vivi, Grey and Iris - are as seductively glamorous as they are mysterious. They have black eyes and hair as white as milk. The Hollow sisters don't have friends - they don't need them. They move through the corridors like sharks, the other little fish parting around them, whispering behind their backs.
- And everyone knows who the Hollow sisters are. Because one day the three Hollow sisters simply disappeared. And when they came back, one month later, with no memory of where they had been, it was as if nothing had changed. Almost nothing. Apart from, for example, the little scar that had appeared in the hollow of their throats ... and a whispering sense that something is not quite right about them, despite (or maybe because of) the terrible passion to be with them that they can exert on anybody at will...
- **An other-worldly mystery with relatable characters and an intriguing plot.**



# Year 12-13 Form Reading



## *Medusa* by Jessie Burton

- Exiled to a far-flung island after being abused by powerful Gods, Medusa has little company other than the snakes that adorn her head instead of hair. Haunted by the memories of a life before everything was stolen from her, she has no choice but to make peace with her present: Medusa the Monster. But when the charmed and beautiful Perseus arrives on the island, her lonely existence is blown apart, unleashing desire, love... and betrayal.



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