

2026

# 50 FICTION PICKS Years 7 & 8

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LAUGH,  
LIFE &  
LOVE

**Cringe Club**, Emily Jane Clark  
(Online Chat)  
**Ghost**, Jason Reynolds  
**Glow Up**, Lara Bloom, Dee Benson  
(Diary)  
**My Heart & Other Breakables**, Alex  
Barclay (Diary)  
**Northern Soul**, Phil Earle  
**Steady for This**, Nathanael Lessore  
**The Crossover**, Kwame Alexander  
(Graphic Novel or Verse Novel)  
**The Humiliations of Welton Blake**, Alex  
Wheatle



RESIST  
JUSTICE  
EMPOWER

**Fight Back**, A.M. Dassu  
**Ghost Boys**, Jewell Parker  
Rhodes  
**Safiyyah's War**, Hiba Noor Khan  
**The Closest Thing to Flying**, Gill Lewis  
**The Raven's Song**, Zana Fraillon & Bren  
MacDibble  
**The Summer We Turned Green**, William  
Sutcliffe  
**When Secrets Set Sail**, Sita Brahmachari

FANTASY  
SCI-FI  
HORROR

**Bad Magic: A Skulduggery  
Pleasant Graphic Novel**, Derek  
Landy, Matthew Soffe & P.J. Holden  
**Impossible Creatures**, Katherine  
Rundell  
**In the Shadow of the Wolf Queen**,  
Kiran Millwood Hargrave  
**Legendarium**, Jennifer Bell  
**Phoenix**, S. F. Said  
**The Forest of a Thousand Eyes**,  
Frances Hardinge & Emily Gravett  
(Picture Book Novella)  
**The Last Dragon on Mars**, Scott  
Reintgen

THRILLS  
&  
MYSTERY

**Ali Cross**, James Patterson  
**Beyond the Frozen Horizon**,  
Nicola Penfold  
**Electric Life Surge**, Rachel Delahaye  
**Foul Play**, Tom Palmer  
**Hide and Secrets**, Sophie McKenzie  
**Kick**, Mitch Johnson  
**People Like Stars**, Patrice Lawrence  
**Queen of the Tiles**, Hanna Alkaf  
**The Longest Night of Charlie Noon**,  
Christopher Edge

EMPATHY  
&  
KINDNESS

**A Monster Calls**, Patrick Ness  
& Siobhan Dowd (Illustrated)  
**Can You See Me?** Libby Scott &  
Rebecca Westcott  
**Jemima Small Versus the Universe**,  
Tamsin Winter  
**October, October**, Katya Balen  
**Sadé and Her Shadow Beasts**, Rachel  
Faturoti  
**The Climbers**, Keith Gray  
**The Falling Boy**, David Almond  
**The Soup Movement**, Ben Davis  
**The Wrong Shoes**, Tom Percival  
**When I See Blue**, Lily Bailey

SET  
IN THE  
PAST

**Birdie**, J.P. Rose  
**Chinglish**, Sue Cheung (Diary)  
**Escape from Amritsar**, Bali Rai  
**Midwinter Burning**, Tanya Landman  
**Sawbones**, Catherine Johnson  
**Shrapnel Boys**, Jenny Pearson  
**The Door of No Return**, Kwame  
Alexander  
**The Somerset Tsunami**, Emma Carroll  
**Where the World Ends**, Geraldine  
McCaughrean