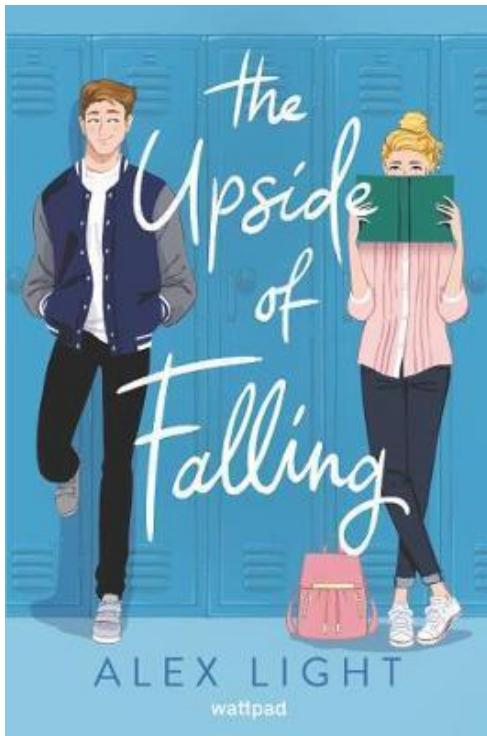


All the Jingle Ladies - Beth Garrod

Themes: Contemporary/ Romance/ Friendship

Molly and Grace are best friends. They share everything the good, the bad the sad and the embarrassing. And Molly has one of the MOST cringe worthy secrets ever. Her parents love Christmas but she is a reluctant participant especially when it comes to music. When her parents song get chosen to be the title song for the biggest movie of the season, she tries to do everything to keep her secret from being revealed. Grumpy G Grace's grandad who has passed away loved Christmas so Grace and Molly decide to use the movie to raise money for Holly Hospice. Things don't go according to plan. Lies are told and friendships fray. Romance blooms and heartbreak happens, all the features of the good 'hallmark movie'. I would recommend this book to mainly teens who enjoy a light romance with some humour and a little drama. Ages 13 years and up



The Upside of Falling – Alex Light

Themes: *Romance / Friendship/ Father-daughter relationships/ Father – son relationships*

Becca hides herself away in her romance novels. Brett is the captain of the football team. They make a deal to pretend to be together, both for different reasons. As time goes on they realise that how they are feeling about each other is changing and lines are becoming blurred.

This is mostly a light read with rom com vibes. There are issues with friendships and expectations between parents and children. The story is told from both Becca and Brett's perspectives.

I would recommend this book to teens 14 years and up who enjoy a rom com vibe.

These Violent Delights – Chloe Gong

Themes: *Mystery/ Romance/ Violence*

Series: *These Violent Delights*

- *These Violent Delights*
- *Our Violent Ends*

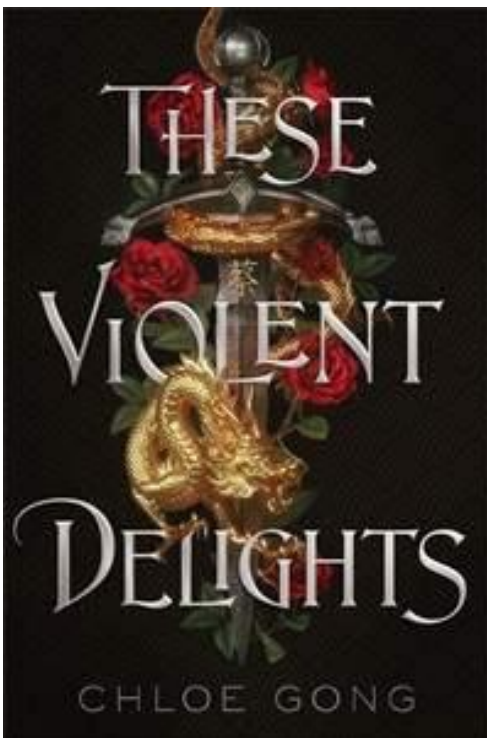
Set in 1920's Shanghai China a time where gangsters ruled the streets. There is also the increased interest from foreigners in setting up business in China and the start of the uprising of communism.

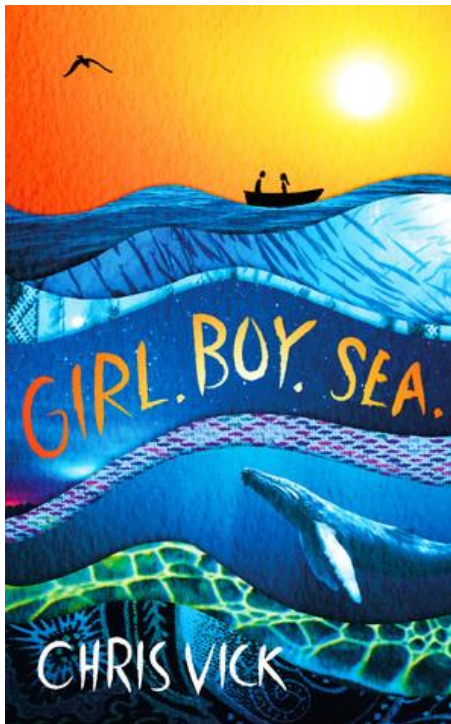
Our two main characters Juliette and Roma are the heirs to the two main gang houses in Shanghai, the scarlet gang and the white flowers. This book has a Romeo and Juliette style of romance flowing through it.

A beast is roaming the streets of Shanghai killing all who are in its wake and Juliette and Roma have to work together to find who is behind this and save the city and themselves. Will they be able to put the past behind them?

This is a good book if you enjoy history, violence, star crossed lovers and mystery.

I would recommend this book to teens 15 years and up.





Girl. Boy. Sea. – Chris Vick

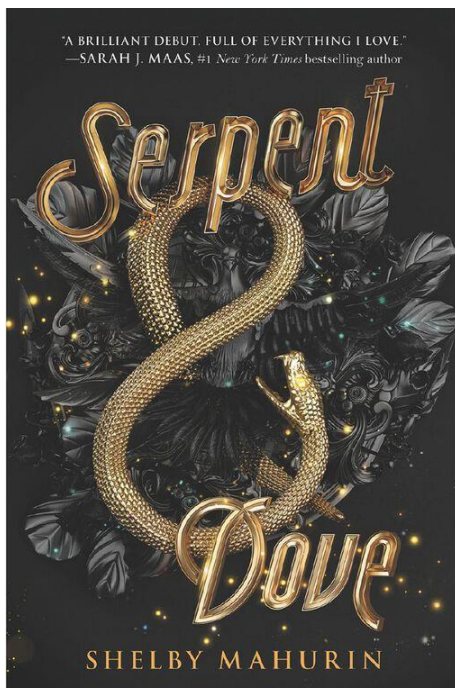
Themes: Adventure/ Friendship/ Hope

Bill is on an adventure of a lifetime sailing off the coast of Africa with a group of boys. Bill is separated from his shipmates when a storm destroys their boat 'Pandora'.

Lost at sea Bill finds a girl floating on the remains of raft. Her name is Aya. Bill and Aya start to learn about how far they would go to stay alive and other things about themselves and each other.

This book is beautifully written with twists and turns showing the beauty and majesty of the ocean and the animals who live in it but also how it can be cruel and unrelenting.

I would recommend this book to teens 13 years and up who love a good adventure story.



Serpent & Dove – Shelby Mahurin

Themes: Fantasy

Series : Dove Series

- *Serpent & Dove*
- *Blood & Honey*
- *Gods & Monsters*

Lou is a witch in a time when being a witch could see you burn. Lou is in hiding but not from who you might think.

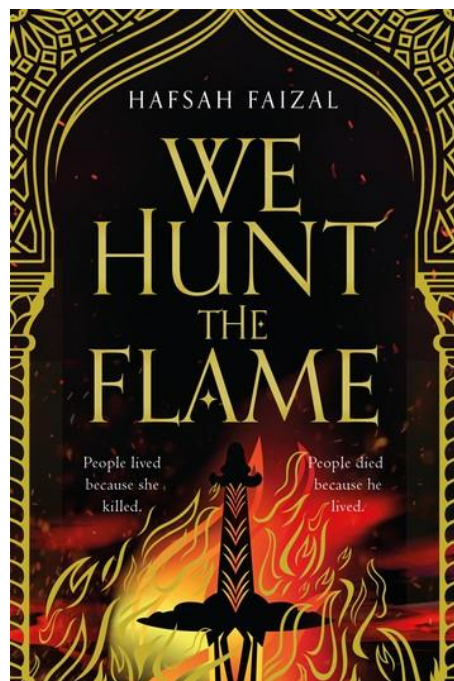
Reid Diggory is a vessel for the church to rid the world of witches. Then the unthinkable happens where these two worlds come together in a city called Cesarine which feels heavily based on the city of Paris.

This book is action packed and had kept me wanting to read more. There is a love story that flows through the story which is full of action and mystery.

Highly recommend this series to anyone who enjoys fantasy with a bit of romance.

I would recommend this book to teens 14 years and up.

We hunt the flame – Hafsa Faizal



Themes: Fantasy/ Mystery/ Betrayal/ Adventure

Series: Sands of Arawiya

- We hunt the flame
- We free the stars
-

Zafira has always known she was different, the Arz calls to her. Disguising her identity as a woman she hunts in the Arz for her people.

Nasir the assassin prince has had to bury his compassion and become a cold heartless creature, who is always looking to get his father's approval.

Zafira and Nasir's worlds come together when they are approached to try and save their caliphates from the ever encroaching Arz. In the hopes that this will stop the war that is brewing Arawiya.

Can Zafira become who she is truly meant to be? What will be the cost if she does?

I would recommend this book to all teens 14 years and up. I strongly recommend reading the books in order as they follow on.

All your twisted secrets – Diana Urban

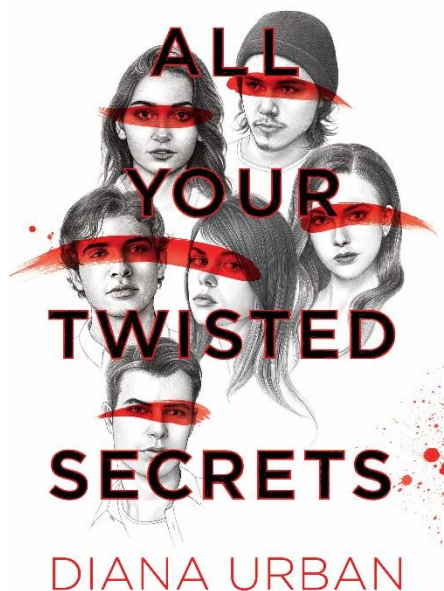
Themes: Thriller/ Suspense/ Bullying/ Sisters/ Suicide.

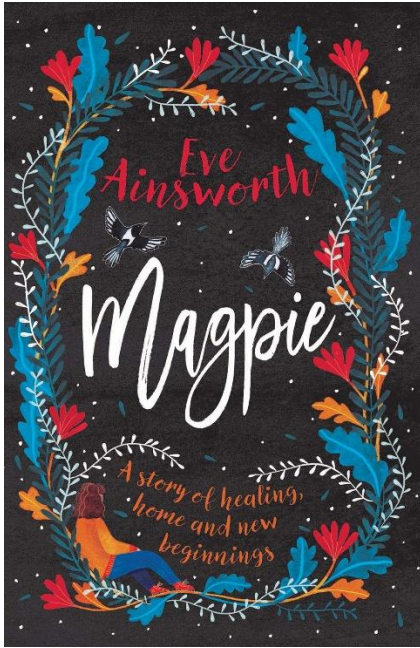
Amber is desperate to get into the music programme as her dream school. Her plan is to befriend the most popular girl at school to influence her to do a play to showcase Amber's ability in composing.

Sasha has it all beauty, brains but it all comes with a cost. She gets what she wants with a sharp tongue that cuts with back handed compliments and harsh criticism.

The story jumps back and forth between the past and the present, where six teens are trapped in an isolated room with a choice to make. The storyline keeps you guessing about the mastermind behind this trap? Do they survive? What twisted secrets will be revealed?

I would recommend this book mainly to girls 15 years and up.





Magpie – Eve Ainsworth

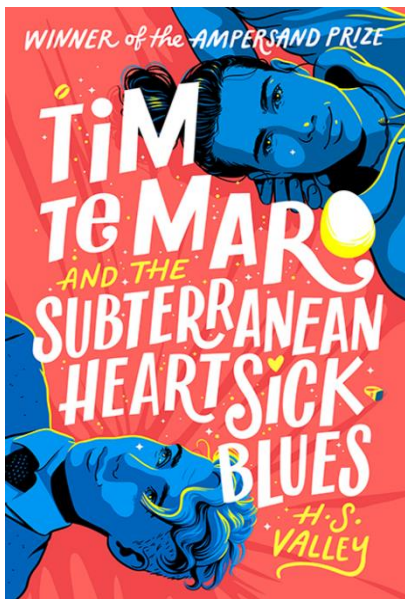
Themes: Family/ Domestic Violence/ Trust

Alice is trying to get use to her new life after her mum finally leaving Ross for good, or so her mum says. Alice feels unsafe and she thinks someone is watching their new house. At least she has Alfie to talk things through with about home and school, maybe she can even make new friends.

Can Alice trust in what her mum is saying? Not all is as it seems and Alice needs to find out that sometimes people really can be trusted.

This book is very powerful and talks about domestic violence through the eyes of a child/teen who has had to witness the physical and mental decline of their mother at the hands of their step dad.

I would recommend this book to either boys or girls 14 years and up as it deals with this subject very well, some of the scenes are detailed.



Tim TeMaro and the subterranean heartsick blues – H.S. Valley

Themes: Friendship/ relationships/ fantasy/ LGBTQIA+

AMPERSAND Prize winner

Tim has just been dumped and now has to look forward to being a 'parent' with his now ex Lizzie.

That is until he is approached by Elliot Parker his nemesis who suggests an alternative option to the upcoming social experiment. Will Tim make the deal with the devil? Is there something else a foot?

I would recommend this book to teens 17 years and up who enjoy a romantic storyline and an exploration of sexuality.