

Years 8/9

(Feel free to look at the Y7 list too—there are good things there)

Thrillers/Adventure

Sally Gardner: Maggot Moon
Charlie Higson: The Enemy series
E Lockhart: We Were Liars
Tracey Mathias: The Night of the Party
Simon Mayo: Blame
Karen McManus: One of Us is Lying
Patrick Ness: The Ask and the Answer
Tom Pollock: White Rabbit, Red Wolf
Sara Shepard: The Amateurs

Auto/Biography

Floella Benjamin: Coming to England
Nelson Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom
Ellen MacArthur: Taking on the World

Comedy

Ross Welford: What Not to Do if You Turn Invisible
Stella Gibbons: Cold Comfort Farm
Sue Townsend: The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole

Classics

Harper Lee: To Kill a Mockingbird
JD Salinger: Catcher in the Rye
Dodie Smith: I Capture the Castle
George Orwell: Animal Farm
Bram Stoker: Dracula
Charlotte Bronte: Jane Eyre

Fantasy

Neil Gaiman: Coraline
Neil Gaiman & Terry Pratchett: Good Omens
Neil Gaiman: The Graveyard Book
Frances Hardinge: The Lie Tree
Derek Landy: Skulduggery Pleasant
Peadar O'Guilini: The Call
Terry Pratchett: Carpe Jugulum
Ransom Riggs: Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children

Science Fiction

Douglas Adams: The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy
Lauren James: The Loneliest Girl in the Universe
Philip Reeve: Railhead
John Wyndham: The Midwich Cuckoos

Verse Novels

Elizabeth Acevedo: The Poet X
Dean Atta: The Black Flamingo
Sarah Crossan: One
Louisa Reid: Gloves Off

Horror

Alex Bell: Frozen Charlotte

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Relationships/True to Life

Keren David: When I Was Joe
Zana Fraillon: The Bone Sparrow
Will Hill: After the Fire
Bonnie-Sue Hitchcock: The Smell of Other People's Houses
Sabina Khan: The Love and Lies of Rukhsana Ali
Patrice Lawrence: Orangeboy
Gill Lewis: Scarlet Ibis
Ian McEwan: The Child in Time
Beverley Naidoo: The Other Side of Truth
Alex Wheatle: Crongton Knights
Lisa Williamson: The Art of Being Normal
Lauren Wolk: Wolf Hollow

Non-Fiction

Mary Beard: Women and Power
Alex Bellos: Football School: Star Players
Bill Bryson: Made in America
Catherine Hurley: Could Do Better: School Reports of the Great and Good
Piers Read: Alive! The True Story of the Andes Survivors
Carlo Rovelli: Seven Brief Lessons on Physics
Greta Thunberg: No One is Too Small to Make a Difference
Yanis Varoufakis: Talking to my Daughter about the Economy

Mystery

Agatha Christie: Murder on the Orient Express
Caroline Lawrence: The Roman Mysteries series
Robin Stevens: The Guggenheim Mystery

Short Stories

Amnesty International (ed): Here I Stand
Agatha Christie: The Labours of Hercules
Dennis Pepper (ed): The New Young Oxford Book of Ghost Stories
Marcus Sedgwick: Ghosts of Heaven

Historical

Nina Bawden: Carrie's War
Louis de Bernieres: Captain Corelli's Mandolin
Frances Hardinge: A Skinful of Shadows
Sally Nicholls: Things a Bright Girl Can Do
Marcus Sedgwick: Blood Red Snow White
Robin Talley: Lies We Tell Ourselves
Markus Zusak: The Book Thief

Sport

Kwame Alexander: Booked
Kobe Bryant: The Wizenard Series
Elizabeth Laird: The Fastest Boy in the World
Tom Palmer: Football Academy series
Nukesh Shukla: The Boxer