

Year 8:

1. **Just Call Me Spaghetti Hoop Boy by Lara Williamson**

My name is Adam Butters. I live on planet Earth, I like eating spaghetti hoops and I've decided I'm going to be a SUPERHERO.

Everyone loves superheroes, they solve problems and make people happy, and that's good because my mum needs cheering up. Also, I've found out that before I was adopted my real mum called me ACE. So now I've just got to prove to the world that's what I am.

2. **The Graveyard Book by Neil Gaiman**

There was a hand in the darkness, and it held a knife. The knife had a handle of polished black bone, and a blade finer and sharper than any razor. If it sliced you, you might not even know you had been cut, not immediately.

3. **The Giver By Lois Lowry**

Twelve-year-old Jonas lives in a seemingly ideal world. Not until he is given his life assignment as the Receiver does he begin to understand the dark secrets behind this fragile community. (One of Mrs. Bowdin's favourite books!)

4. ***Through The Woods by Emily Carroll GN (Eng)**

Five mysterious, spine-tingling stories follow journeys into (and out of?) the eerie abyss.

Come take a walk in the woods and see what awaits you there...

5. ***Far Far Away by Tom McNeal GN (Eng)**

It says quite a lot about Jeremy Johnson Johnson that the strangest thing about him isn't his name. Jeremy once admitted he's able to hear voices. The truth is, Jeremy can hear one voice: the voice of the ghost of Jacob Grimm, one half of writing duo, The Brothers Grimm.

Jacob watches over Jeremy, protecting him from an unknown dark evil. But when local girl Ginger takes an interest in Jeremy, a grim chain of events is put into motion. And as anyone familiar with the Grimm Brothers know, not all fairy tales have happy endings...

6. **Beautiful Creatures (The Manga) by Kami Garcia GN**

There were no surprises in Gatlin County. the middle of nowhere. I couldn't have been more wrong.

There was a curse.

There was a girl.

And in the end, there was a grave.

7. ***How Mirka Got Her Sword by Barry Deutsch GN (RE)**

Strong-willed eleven-year-old Mirka isn't interested in knitting lessons or how-to-find-a-husband advice. There's only one thing she *does* want: to fight dragons!

Granted, no dragons have been breathing fire around Hereville, the Orthodox Jewish community where Mirka lives, but that doesn't stop her

from honing her skills. She fearlessly stands up to bullies, battles a very large pig. She boldly accepts a challenge from a mysterious witch, a challenge that could bring Mirka her heart's desire. All she has to do is find the giant troll who's got it!

8. *Street Child by Berlie Doherty (Hist)

A fictional account of the experiences of Jim Jarvis, a young orphan who escapes the workhouse in 1860's London and survives brutal treatment and desperate circumstances until he is taken in by Dr. Barnardo, founder of a school for the city's "ragged" children.

9. *Love in Revolution by B. R. Collins (Hist)

Esteya is fifteen. As war rumbles closer, Esteya's brother - an important figure in the Revolutionary Communist Party - is able to protect their family from the worst of war. Then Esteya meets an extraordinary girl, Skizi, an outcast, shunned by all. And then Esteya's family are betrayed and forcibly taken away. Skizi disappears. Esteya is left deserted, heartbroken and in terrible danger. But she must find a way to escape - and to find Skizi.

10.*Soul Surfer: A True Story of Faith, Family and Fighting to Get Back on the Board by Bethany Hamilton NF (PE & RE)

A moving account of Bethany's life as a young surfer, her recovery after a shark attack, the adjustments she's made to her unique surfing style, her unprecedented bid for a top showing in the World Surfing Championships, and, most fundamentally, her belief in God.

11.I Can't Keep My Own Secrets: Six-Word Memoirs by Teens Famous & Obscure by Rachel Fershleiser NF

A collection of six-word memoirs created by and for teens. From cancer to creativity, prom dates, breaking hearts and breaking laws, the memoirs in this collection reveal that often the youngest writers have the most fascinating stories to tell. One life. Six words. What's yours?

12.How to Hang a Witch by Adriana Mather

Sam comes face to face with a real live (well technically dead) ghost. A handsome, angry ghost who wants Sam to stop touching his stuff. But soon discovers she is at the center of a centuries old curse affecting anyone with ties to the trials. Sam must come to terms with the ghost and find a way to work with The Descendants to stop a deadly cycle that has been going on since the first accused witch was hanged.

13.The Ship by Antonia Honeywell

People are killing each other for husks of bread, and the police are detaining anyone without an identification card. On her sixteenth birthday, Lalla's father decides it's time to use their escape route--a ship he's built that is only big enough to save five hundred people.

14.Barry Loser by Jim Smith

I've never minded that my name's Barry Loser because my coolness has always cancelled it out, but ever since Darren Darrenofski joined school with his horrible little crocodile face he's been completely ruining my life about it.

15. Z for Zachariah by Robert O'Brien

Ann is completely alone. The world as she once knew it is gone, ravaged by a nuclear war that has taken everyone from her. For the past year, she has lived in a remote valley with no evidence of any other survivors. But the smoke from a distant campfire shatters Ann's solitude.

16. Half My Facebook Friends are Ferrets by J.A. Buckle

Fifteen-year-old Josh fantasises about becoming a death metal guitarist complete with tattoos, piercings and hoards of adoring fans. But it's not easy when his super-strict mom won't let him grow his hair!

17. The Private Blog of Joe Cowley by Ben Davis

Sunday 1st January

So here's the thing. I've decided to start writing a blog. A private one. The idea is that it'll help me sort my life out, because quite frankly, it can't get much worse.

- I gained the nickname Puke Skywalker after vomiting over Louise Bentley on the waltzer.

- My so-called mates are trying to get me killed in a bid to win £250 on You've Been Framed.

This cannot go on.

18. Alex Rider Stormbreaker by Anthony Horowitz (also available as GN)

His uncle was killed while on a top-secret mission. Finding himself in the middle of terrorists, Alex must outsmart the people who want him dead. The government has given him the technology, but only he can provide the courage. Should he fail, every child in England will be murdered in cold blood.

19. Kid Normal by Greg James

When Murph Cooper rocks up to his new school several weeks into the beginning of term, he can't help but feel a bit out of his depth. And not because he's worried about where to sit, and making friends, it's because his mum has enrolled him at a school for superheroes by mistake. And unlike his fellow students, Murph has no special abilities whatsoever.

20. Time Travelling with a Hamster by Ross Welford

My dad died twice. Once when he was thirty nine and again four years later when he was twelve. The first time had nothing to do with me. The second time definitely did, but I would never even have been there if it hadn't been for his time machine

