



LOVE READING

Autumn 2020

The Queen's Park High School *Love Reading* newsletter aims to point you in the direction of books you'll love. Whether these are new releases or tried-and-tested favourites, we're sure you'll find something here to spark your imagination.



ORION LOST Alastair Chisholm

The transport ship Orion is four months out of Earth when catastrophe strikes – leaving the ship and everyone on board stranded in deep space.

Suddenly it's up to thirteen-year-old Beth and her friends to navigate through treacherous and uncharted territory to reach safety. But a heavily-damaged ship, space pirates, a mysterious alien species, and an artificial intelligence that Beth doesn't know if she can trust means that getting home has never been so difficult...

Hugely gripping, with incredible twists and a fast-paced, action-packed story, this is an unputdownable science fiction adventure – perfect for fans of Star Wars.

Recommended reading age: 11+

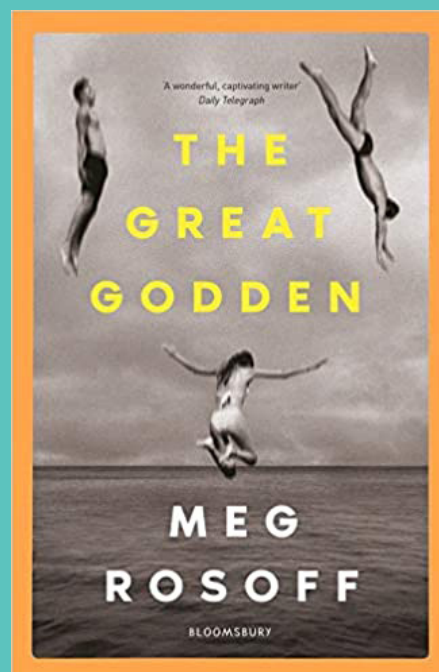
THE GREAT GODDEN Meg Rosoff

This is the story of one family, one dreamy summer - the summer when everything changes. In a holiday house by the sea, in a big, messy family, one teenager watches as brothers and sisters, parents and older cousins fill hot days with wine and games and planning a wedding. Enter the Goddens - irresistible, charming, languidly sexy Kit and surly, silent Hugo. Suddenly there's a serpent in this paradise - and the consequences will be devastating.

From bestselling, award-winning author Meg Rosoff comes a lyrical and quintessential coming-of-age tale.

Recommended reading age: 13+

'This smart and humorous novel is, from the first sentence, rapture to read.' - *The Sunday Times*

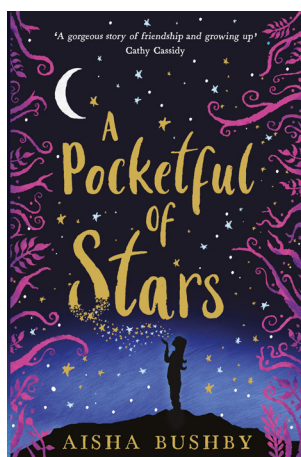


RECOMMENDED FOR YEARS 7 & 8

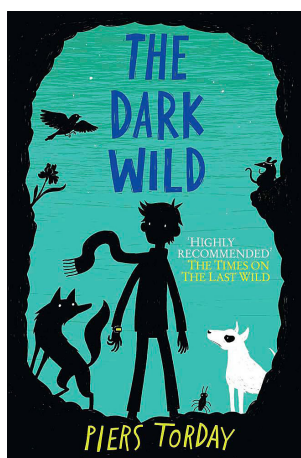
ADVENTURE



ASHA AND THE SPIRIT BIRD
Jasbinder Bilan

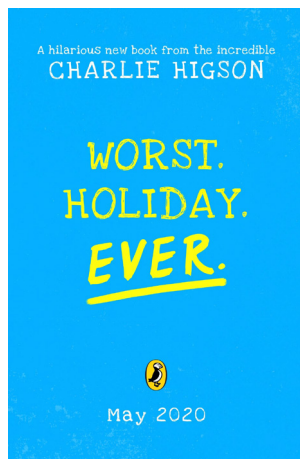


A POCKETFUL OF STARS
Aisha Bushby



THE DARK WILD
Piers Torday

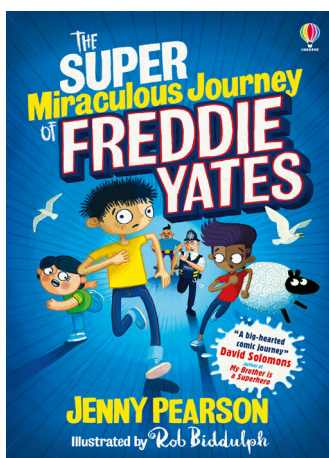
COMEDY



WORST. HOLIDAY. EVER.
Charlie Higson



HAPPY GIRL LUCKY
Holly Smale



THE SUPER MIRACULOUS JOURNEY OF FREDDIE YATES
Jenny Pearson

REAL LIFE / DRAMA



THE DISCONNECT
Keren David



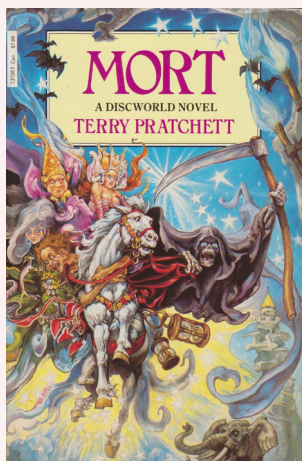
THE ISLAND AT THE END OF EVERYTHING
Kiran Millwood Hargrave



GHOST
Jason Reynolds

WHAT WE'RE READING

Sometimes the best recommendations come from people we know. Here are the books that our students can't get enough of.

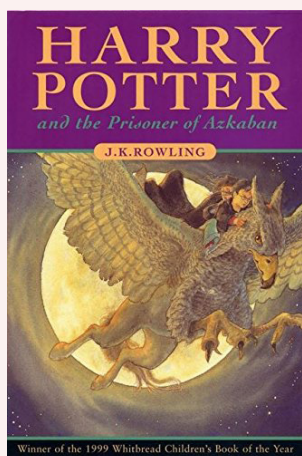


MORT (DISCWORLD #3)

Terry Pratchett

“This book is the third book in the Discworld series but if you are new to the series, I would recommend you start with this book, as it is an easier read than the first two of the series. It follows Mort, Death’s apprentice, and Death himself. The book has a more light-hearted approach to death than other books might, but it also explores many theories like multiple universes or if something has to happen to keep the universe moving. The book is set in a world created entirely by Terry Pratchett. If you want to know more about how that world works, I would recommend book one, *The Colour of Magic*.”

Recommended by Rhys Dunkerley (Year 8)

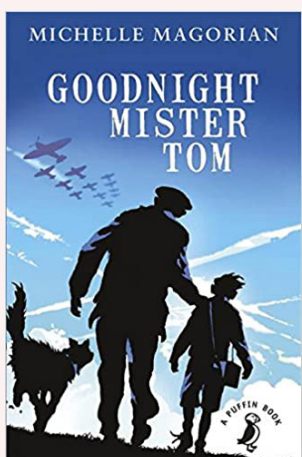


HARRY POTTER & THE PRISONER OF AZKABAN

J. K. Rowling

“This book is a highly awarded book full to the brim with magical adventures. Harry Potter and his two closest friends, Ron and Hermione, are attending their third year at Hogwarts school of witchcraft and wizardry. But over the summer before they depart for their magical education, a mass murderer by the name of Sirius Black, escaped from the heavily guarded wizard prison. This book is the perfect magical read for any age.”

Recommended by Isla Wilton-King (Year 8)



GOODNIGHT MISTER TOM

Michelle Magorian

“*Goodnight Mister Tom* is based in the Second World War. William Beech, an eight year old evacuee, is taken in by Tom Oakley, a widower in his 60’s. The book focuses on the changing relationship between the two characters that are both mentally and socially challenged by their past. Tom is fond of William from the very beginning, but as the story progresses it shows how the relationship evolves.

Overall I think this book is extremely good. It is very heart touching and the way it is written makes you really get to know the characters. It feels like you know them personally and you feel for them and the trauma they faced throughout their lives. I would say that this book is aimed at an audience of 11+, but as you get older, you start to understand the characters’ emotions more. I would definitely recommend this book to any of my peers.”

Recommended by Lydia Kelly (Year 10)

WHAT WE'RE READING



THE HUNGER GAMES Suzanne Collins

“This dystopian fiction is set in a segregated world where people are judged by their social and financial stability. Katniss Everdeen is a young sixteen-year-old living in the poorest and roughest district - district 12. When she steps forward to take her 12 year old sister's place in the annual games, her whole life changes. However, Katniss may have some advantages when entering another world of violence and survival.

Katniss is a very dominant and headstrong female lead who takes on several challenges. I love the idea of authors using females as protagonists in adventure plots in which many would expect a male. Katniss Everdeen is portrayed as a very brave character who is also extremely caring whilst also sensitive. She is shown as a mature young lady who, when faced with challenges, is able to balance the need for survival with a motherly role. Katniss is revealed as being very motherly towards two characters in particular: her younger sister Prim and a much younger competitor called Rue. Therefore in 'The Hunger Games' the female protagonist is portrayed as an extremely good and positive representation of a female, as she is both headstrong and intelligent whilst also caring.

Two male characters in this story

are Gale and Peeta. Gale is an eighteen-year-old boy with whom Katniss has grown up. It is hinted that although Katniss says that he is 'like a brother' there are aspects of a love interest from both characters towards one another. Peeta is sixteen and is the son of the baker in district 12. Throughout the book, Peeta is shown in multiple different lights which allows the reader to change their views on him. Personally I believe Peeta Mellark is a very controversial character as when the plot thickens, his personality and behaviour towards Katniss begin to change. There are also many side characters who play minor parts on the story. Some examples include Katniss' mother and sister, the staff who prepare Katniss and Peeta for the games, the competitors themselves, Effie Trinket (the district 12 escort) and Haymitch Abernathy who is Katniss and Peeta's mentor.

I would rate this book 9/10 as I absolutely love the plot and character development as well as how gripping Suzanne Collins makes the book to read. I have read it multiple times! I would recommend this book to anyone looking for a dystopian story as well as a bit of romance. Overall I love this book and would definitely encourage you to read it! It is also the first installment of a trilogy and so you are left on a cliff hanger making you want to read the second and third book in the series...”

Recommended by Hannah Jones (Year 10)

Want to see your review in the next edition of Love Reading?

Email Mrs Cogger at
k.cogger@qphs.co.uk

Include a spoiler-free summary of the plot and what you loved about the book!



URBAN OUTLAWS Peter Jay Black

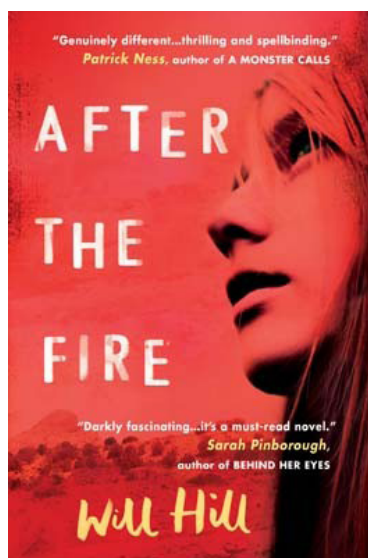
This is a book about five teenagers who complete daring missions to save the world. It is set in London and is a series of four books.

The main characters are Jack who is a famous hacker, Charlie a gadget geek (who does not like to be called by her actual name), Slink who is a free runner, Ollie who is the commander and Wren who is meant to act as a decoy in missions. They live in a bunker in the London Underground which they have made into their house with all the necessities.

It is a fun, exciting book to read for people who want something that is very quick-paced. All of the books have between 150-250 pages and the series could be compared to Anthony Horowitz' Alex Rider series as they have very similar themes. If you enjoy Alex Rider, there is a good chance you will enjoy this and the other way around. I read this first before I read Alex Rider but I have friends who read Alex Rider first, so if you like the theme of either of the two series you should try the one of the two you have not read yet, compare and get your own opinion on them.

Recommended by Jannik Specht (Year 10)

RECOMMENDED FOR YEAR 9+



PERFECT IF YOU LOVE... ORIGINAL, EDGY THRILLERS

AFTER THE FIRE Will Hill

Father John controls everything inside The Fence. And Father John likes rules. Especially about never talking to Outsiders. Because Father John knows the truth. He knows what is right, and what is wrong. He knows what is coming. But Moonbeam is starting to see the lies behind Father John's words. She wants him to be found out. What if the only way out of the darkness is to light a fire?

Winner of the YA Book Prize 2018 / Shortlisted for the CILIP Carnegie Medal 2018 / Shortlisted for the UKLA Book Award 2019

PERFECT IF YOU LOVE... PAGE-TURNING, TENSE, EXCITING, HEARTBREAKING DRAMA

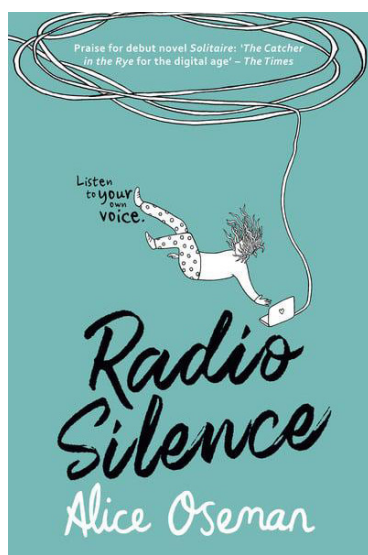
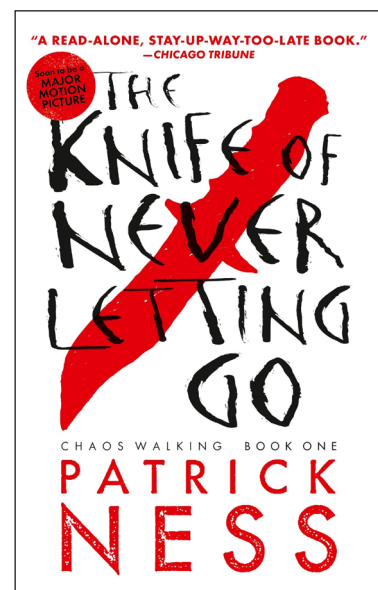
THE KNIFE OF NEVER LETTING GO Patrick Ness

Prentisstown isn't like other towns. Everyone can hear everyone else's thoughts in a constant, overwhelming Noise.

There is no privacy. There are no secrets. Then Todd Hewitt unexpectedly stumbles on a spot of complete silence. Which is impossible. And now he's going to have to run...

"Furiously paced, terrifying, exhilarating, and heartbreaking, [it] haunts your imagination." - The Sunday Telegraph

"A stunning debut...As compelling as it is original." - The Times



PERFECT IF YOU LOVE... FUNNY, REALISTIC, HEARTWARMING STORIES

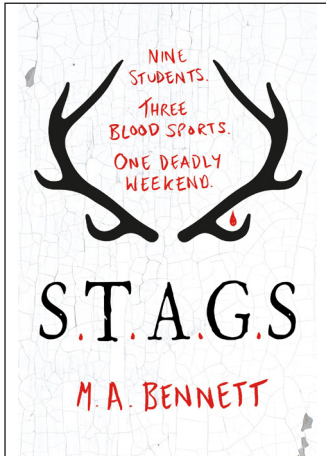
RADIO SILENCE Alice Oseman

Frances has always been a study machine with one goal, elite university. Nothing will stand in her way; not friends, not a guilty secret - not even the person she is on the inside. But when Frances meets Aled, the shy genius behind her favourite podcast, she finds a new freedom. He unlocks the door to Real Frances and for the first time she experiences true friendship, unafraid to be herself. Then the podcast goes viral and the fragile trust between them is broken.

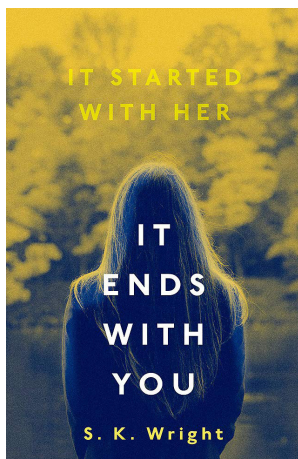
'Full of wit, cynicism, sarcasm and humour.' - Goodreads

RECOMMENDED FOR YEAR 9+

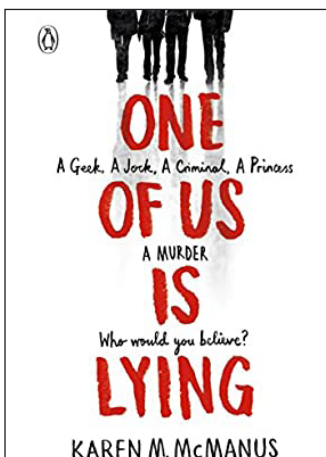
THRILLERS



S.T.A.G.S.
M.A. Bennett



IT ENDS WITH YOU
S. K. Wright



ONE OF US IS LYING
Karen M. McManus

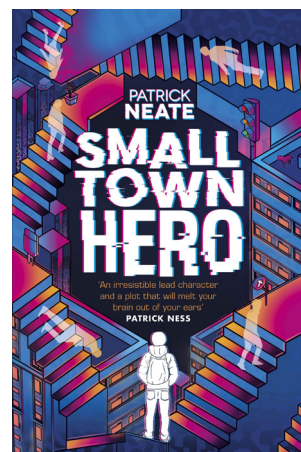
SCI-FI / FANTASY



THE LOOP
Ben Oliver

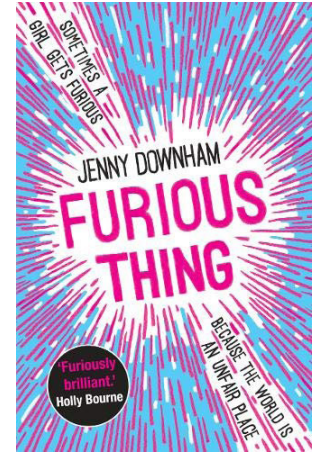


WE ARE BOUND BY STARS
Kesia Lupo



SMALL TOWN HERO
Patrick Neate

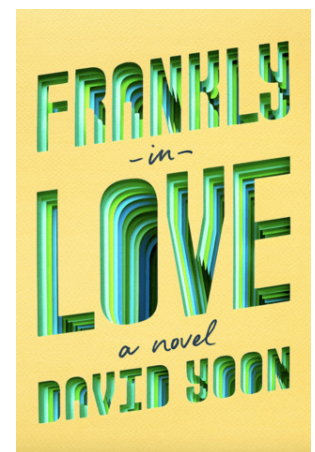
DRAMA / ROMANCE



FURIOUS THING
Jenny Downham



MEAT MARKET
Juno Dawson



FRANKLY IN LOVE
David Yoon

FOCUS ON... LGBTQ+ STORIES



PERFECT IF YOU LOVE... SARCASTIC NARRATORS, ROM COMS, FAMILY STORIES

THE FALLING IN LOVE MONTAGE **Ciara Smyth**

Seventeen-year-old Saoirse has finished with exams and is facing a long hot summer before uni. She plans to party, get drunk, watch horror movies and forget all her troubles by kissing girls. Enter the scene: Ruby, who might just be the prettiest girl Saoirse's ever seen. A romcom fan and a believer in true love, Ruby challenges cynical Saoirse to try a summer romance with the serious parts left out, just like in the movies. But what happens when the falling in love montage ends?

Recommended age: 13+

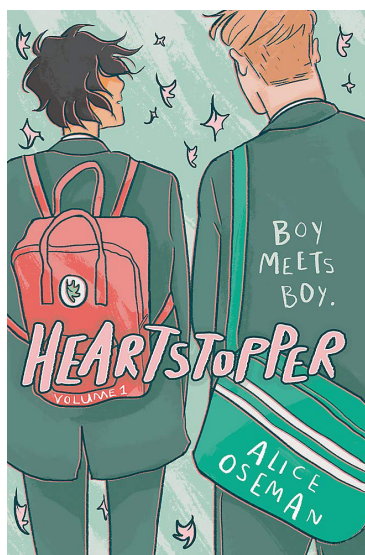
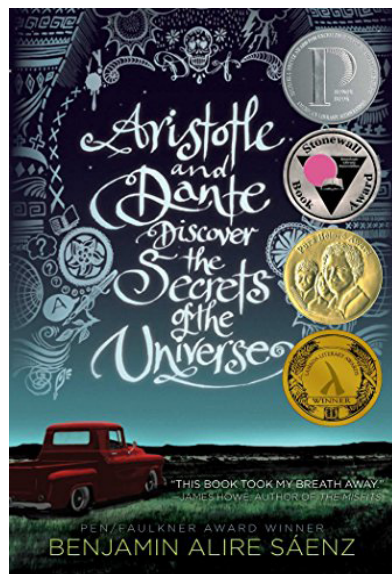
PERFECT IF YOU LOVE... COMING OF AGE STORIES

ARISTOTLE AND DANTE DISCOVER THE SECRETS OF THE UNIVERSE

Benjamin Alire Sáenz

Aristotle is an angry teen with a brother in prison. Dante is a know-it-all who has an unusual way of looking at the world. When they meet at the swimming pool, they seem to have nothing in common. But as the two loners start spending time together, they discover that they share a special kind of friendship - the kind of friendship that changes lives and lasts a lifetime.

Recommended age: 13+



PERFECT IF YOU LOVE... FLUFFY, GENTLE STORIES / GRAPHIC NOVELS

Heartstopper **Alice Oseman**

Boy meets boy. Boys become friends. Boys fall in love. An LGBTQ+ graphic novel about life, love, and everything in between.

Charlie and Nick are at the same school, but they've never met... until one day when they're made to sit together. They quickly become friends, and soon Charlie is falling hard for Nick, even though he doesn't think he has a chance. But love works in surprising ways, and Nick is more interested in Charlie than either of them realised.

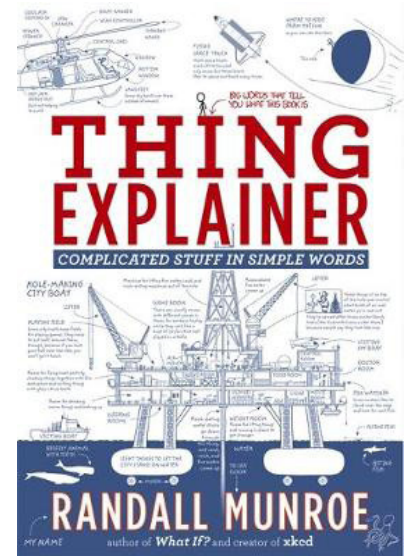
Recommended age: 11+

NON-FICTION

IDEAL FOR... ANSWERING THE TRICKY QUESTION: 'HOW DOES THAT WORK?'

THING EXPLAINER **Randall Munroe**

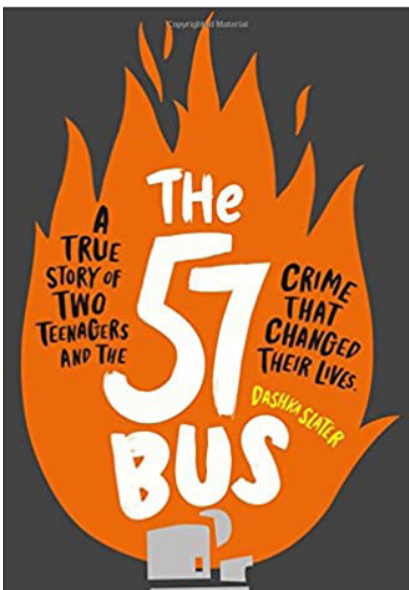
From the man who created xkcd and explained the laws of science with cartoons comes a series of brilliantly simple diagrams that show how important things work: from the nuclear bomb to the biro. Using only drawings and a vocabulary of just 1,000 of our most common words, Munroe explains many of the things we use every day - like our food-heating radio boxes ('microwaves'), our very tall roads ('bridges'), and our computer rooms ('datacentres'). For anyone who has ever wondered how things work, and why.



IDEAL FOR... EXPLORING IMPORTANT ISSUES

THE 57 BUS **Dasha Slater**

Two teenagers growing up in Oakland, California. One, Sasha, was born male but identifies as agender, wears skirts and attends a private school. The other, Richard, is an African American from a poor part of Oakland who attends a rough public school. They have no reason to meet, except for eight minutes every day, they catch the same bus home. And one day, messing about, Richard spies Sasha napping. He flicks the flame of his lighter to Sasha's skirt, and Sasha wakes up in a ball of flame. A true story of recovery, reconciliation, forgiveness and, above all, hope.



IDEAL FOR... INSPIRING YOUNG ARTISTS!

ART MATTERS **Neil Gaiman**

Be bold. Be rebellious. Choose art. It matters.

A creative call to arms from the mind of Neil Gaiman, combining his extraordinary words with deft and striking illustrations by Chris Riddell. Art Matters will inspire its readers to seize the day in the name of art. Drawn together from speeches, poems and creative manifestos, Art Matters explores how reading, imagining and creating can change the world, and will be inspirational to young and old.

