

## The Dragon and her Boy

Author: [Penny Chrimes](#)

Published: Late Feb 2021

Age: Junior Fiction + Reluctant Readers

Genre: Fantasy, Historical

RRP: \$15.99

When Stick discovers there is a dragon living underneath the streets of London, he finds himself unintentionally drawn into an epic adventure and a quest -- but how can he find a place for a dragon to live in London when dragons are not supposed to exist? And with foes at every corner who want to exploit the dragon for themselves, it is going to take a daring plan for Stick to find a safe place for his dragon -- and for himself.

'Never has gutter-life been more appealing. Penny Chrimes' blisteringly descriptive writing draws the heat from the cobbles and the steam from the nostrils.' - Zeb Soanes.

### Why you need it?

- Perfect for fans of *The Girl of Ink & Stars*
- Great descriptive language
- Excellent for reluctant readers
- "Teacher's looking for an engaging text that push the boundaries of language - here it is. Chrimes has used a wide variety of words that are not commonly used today, and this really helps 'set the time' of the piece, and to help explore their meanings - there is a handy glossary at the back!"

## Skywake: Invasion

Author: [Jamie Russell](#)

Published: March 2021

Age: Middle Fiction & Senior Fiction

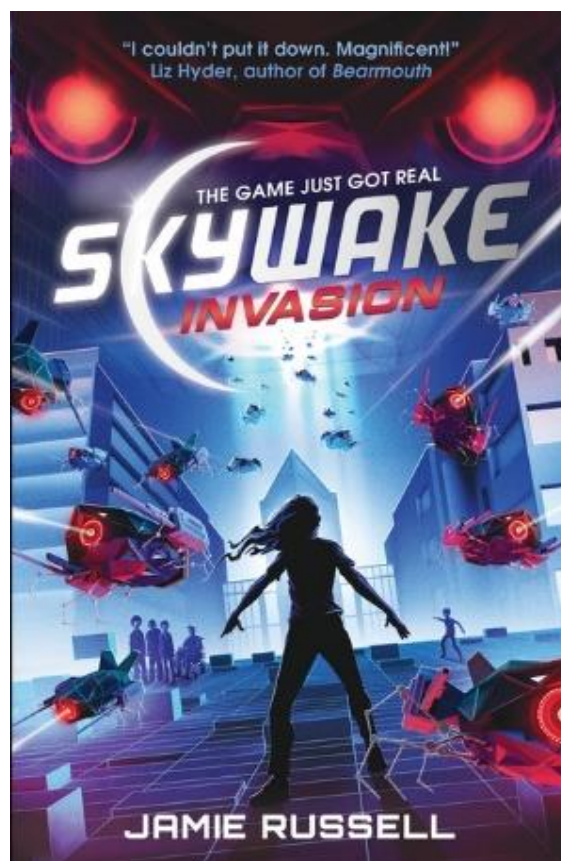
Genre: Science Fiction

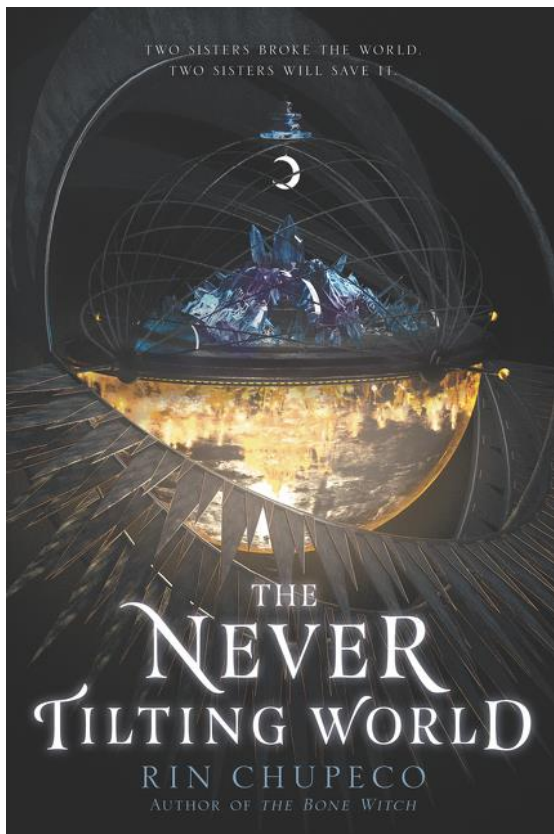
RRP: \$14.99

Fifteen-year-old girl gamer Casey Henderson is obsessed with smash-hit game SkyWake – and she's good at it, too. Little does she realize it's actually an alien training tool created by an evil extra-terrestrial race. When the aliens swoop down on a national gaming tournament, Casey and her teammates discover they are abducting the best gamers to fight in a distant alien war across the galaxy. And they have her brother! Casey's gaming skills are her best hope of stopping the aliens – but first she and her online teammates must learn to work together in real life

### Why you need it?

- Classic science fiction with a modern gaming twist that will appeal to readers and non-readers alike.
- Casey is a strong but relatable heroine whose story will resonate with fans of Rick Riordan, Charlie Higson and Suzanne Collins.
- An exciting and original debut sci-fi adventure for the gaming generation, from a screenwriter, film critic and gamer.





## The Never Tilting World

Author: [Rin Chupeco](#)

Published: Late February 2021 Paperback release

Age: Middle Fiction + Senior Fiction

Genre: YA Fiction / Fantasy

RRP \$19.99

A world split between day and night. Two sisters who must unite it. The author of *The Bone Witch* kicks off an epic YA fantasy duology perfect for fans of *Furyborn*. Generations of twin goddesses have long ruled Aeon-until one sister's betrayal split their world in two. A Great Abyss now divides two realms: one cloaked in eternal night, the other scorched beneath an ever-burning sun. While one sister rules the frozen fortress of Aranth, her twin rules the sand-locked Golden City-each with a daughter by their side. Now those young goddesses must set out on separate, equally dangerous journeys in hopes of healing their broken world, no matter of the sacrifice it demands.

### Why you need it?

- Told from four interweaving perspectives, this sweeping epic fantasy packs elemental magic, star-crossed romance, and incredible landscapes into a spectacular adventure with the fierce sisterhood of Frozen and the breakneck action of *Mad Max: Fury Road*.
- "Chupeco offers up an exciting page-turner that is so visually vivid that reading it feels like watching a movie."

## The Detective's Guide to Ocean Travel

Author: [Nicki Greenberg](#)

Published: Late February 2021

Age: Junior Fiction + reluctant readers

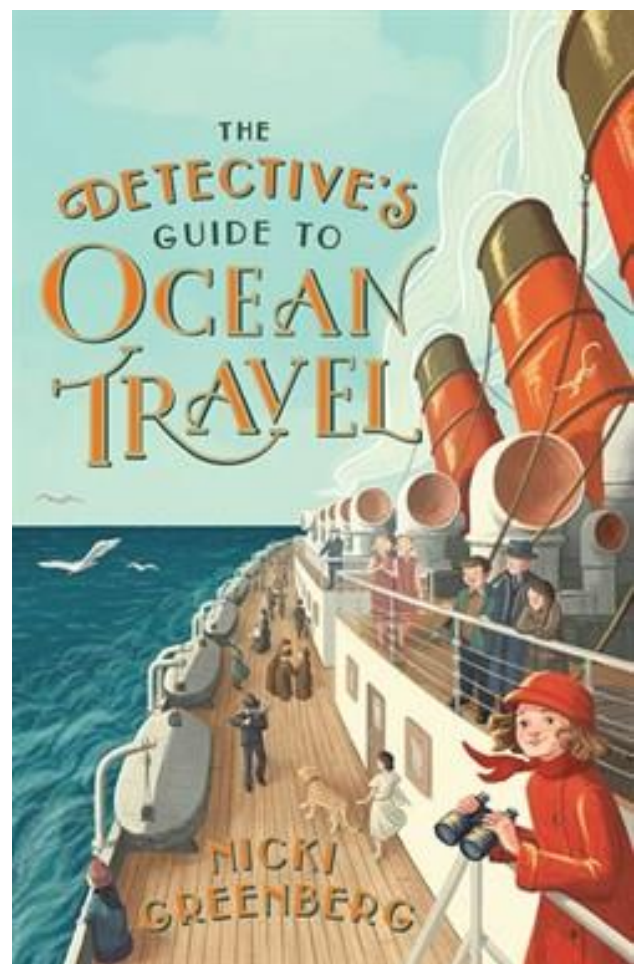
Genre: Children's Fiction

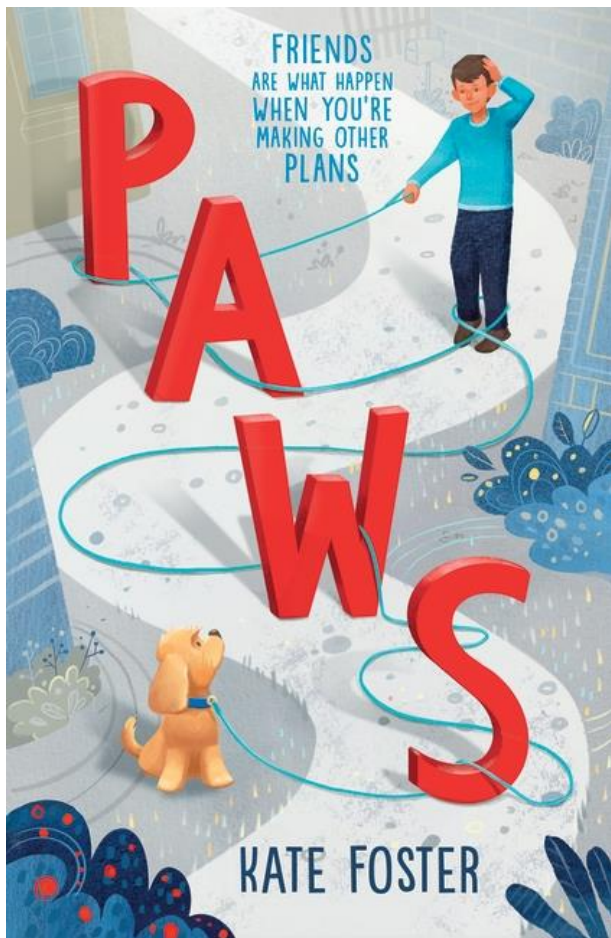
RRP \$17.99

The first middle-grade novel from award-winning author Nicki Greenberg, this book is a classic whodunnit mystery set aboard a grand ocean liner in the 1920s. With first-class glitz and glamour and a deliciously plotted intrigue featuring an uppity stage star, a missing diamond, a leopard and a loveable cast of child sleuths. *The Detective's Guide to Ocean Travel* is an exciting romp on the high seas, perfect for fans of *Murder Most Unladylike* and *The Good Thieves*.

### Why you need it?

- Perfect for young crime and historical fiction fans, including those who devoured the *Enola Holmes* series or *The War That Saved My Life*, this classic whodunnit is fast-paced and lots of fun.
- Themes such as social class and societal expectations, traditional gender roles, problem solving, dreams and aspirations and family relationships.
- **Teacher Notes available!** Click [here](#)





## Paws

Author: [Kate Foster](#)

Published: April 2021

Age: Junior Fiction + Reluctant reader

Genre: General fiction / Autism awareness

RRP \$16.99

At home Alex's best friend is Kevin the cockapoo, although what he wants most of all is a friend at school. But that is harder than he ever expected. A touching story about learning that friendship isn't one size fits all and is often found where you least expect it.

Everything is changing for 11-year-old Alex and, as an autistic person, change can be terrifying. With the first day of high school only a couple of months away, Alex is sure that having a friend by his side will help. So he has devised a plan – impress the kids at school by winning a trophy at the PAWS Dog Show with his trusty sidekick, Kevin. This should be a walk in the park . . . right?

### Why you need it?

- An absolute must for all libraries - a touching story about neurodiversity and autism in 2021.
- The author based her story on real-life experience, with an autistic child who has benefitted greatly from the companionship of animals.
- A story that demonstrates how autistic brains don't always come with the templates of human interaction and emotion that neurotypical people usually have and shows how many autistic people must build these from scratch, learning through mirroring and masking often with hard emotional lessons and confusing rejection.

## Displaced

Author: [Cristina Sanders](#)

Published: April 2021

Age: Senior Fiction

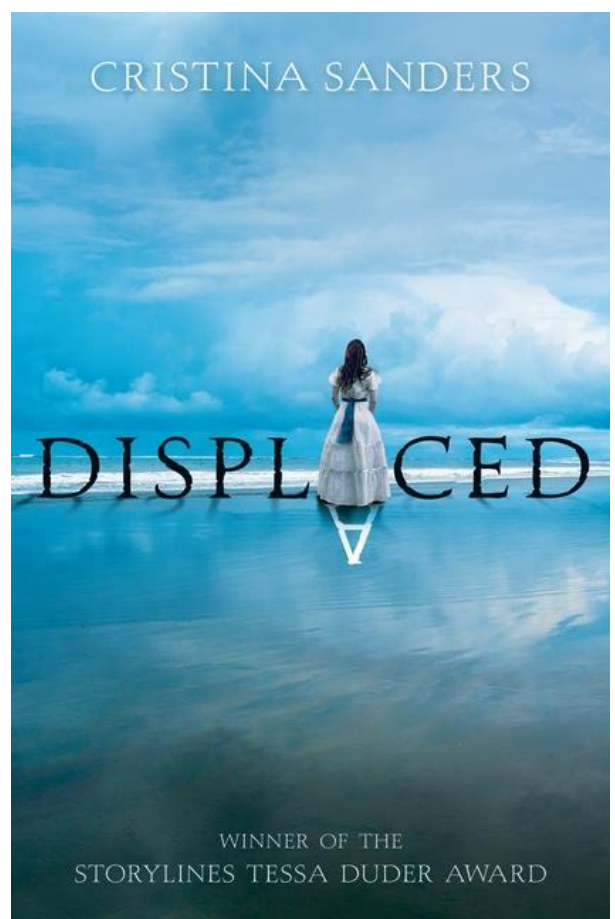
Genre: Historical Fiction

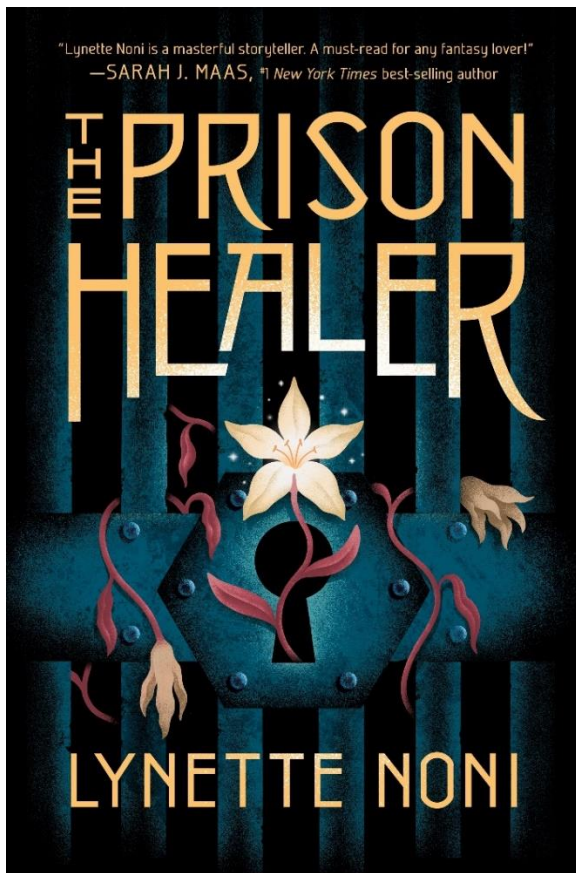
RRP \$19.99

Eloise and her family must leave Cornwall on a treacherous sea journey to start a new life in 1870s colonial New Zealand. On the ship across Eloise meets Lars, a Norwegian labourer travelling below decks, and their lives begin to intertwine. When her brother disappears, her father leaves and the family are left to fend for themselves in their new home, Eloise must find the strength to stand up for what she believes in and the people she loves.

### Why you need it?

- An enthralling historical novel of immigration, courage and first love from an award-winning New Zealand author.
- The novel's strong themes the meritocratic ideal, feminism, environmental awareness, along with its carefully research historical content, will appeal to education markets.
- The author's personal experience on tall ships creates a realistic depiction of sea life and all its hardship, which are central to the novel and helped her get close to her characters.





## The Prison Healer

Author: [Lynette Noni](#)

Published: March 2021

Age: Senior Fiction

Genre: YA Fiction / Fantasy

RRP \$24.99

Kiva Meridan has spent the last ten years fighting for survival in the notorious death prison, Zalindov, working as the prison healer. When the Rebel Queen is captured, Kiva is charged with keeping the terminally ill woman alive long enough for her to undergo the Trial by Ordeal, assigned to only the most dangerous of criminals. Then a coded message from Kiva's family arrives, containing a single order- Don't let her die. We are coming.

With an incurable plague sweeping Zalindov, a mysterious new inmate fighting for Kiva's heart, and a prison rebellion brewing, Kiva can't escape the terrible feeling that her trials have only just begun.

### Why you need it?

- Lynette Noni is currently Australia's #1 YA fiction author. She won the 2019 Gold Inky Award.
- The Prison Healer is gripping and fast paced with an ending that will leave readers reeling.
- Highly recommended for those who adore Sarah J. Maas, and for fantasy readers ages 14+.

## House of Hollow

Author: [Krystal Sutherland](#)

Published: Late March 2021

Age: Middle Fiction + Senior Fiction

Genre: Teen & Young Adult Fantasy Fiction

RRP \$19.99

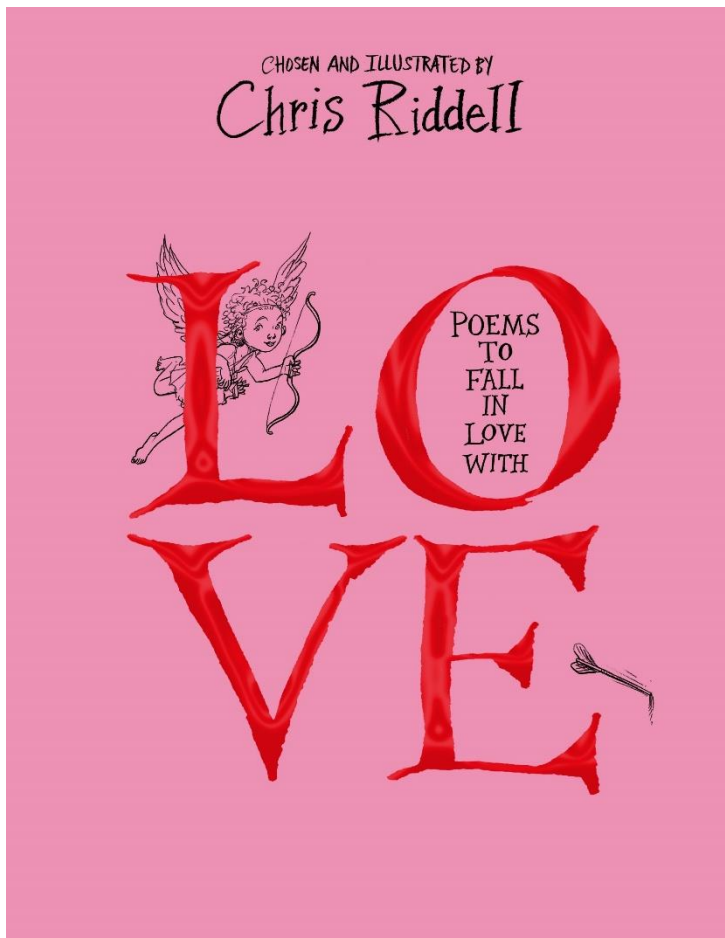
Iris Hollow and her two older sisters are unquestionably strange. Ever since they disappeared on a suburban street in Scotland as children only to return a month later with no memory of what happened to them, odd, eerie occurrences seem to follow in their wake. And they're changing. Their dark hair turned white, their blue eyes slowly turned black. People find them disturbingly intoxicating, unbearably beautiful and inexplicably dangerous.

Now ten years later, Iris Hollow is doing all she can to fit in and graduate high school. But when Grey goes missing, leaving behind only bizarre clues, Iris and Vivi are left to trace her last few days. They aren't the only ones looking for her. As they brush against the supernatural, they realise the world that returned them seemingly unharmed, might just be calling them home.

### Why you need it?

- This novel is receiving rave reviews with Sutherland winning the Indie Bestselling Author in April 2021.
- 'This dark, deliciously twisted novel has everything you could hope for as a reader - a brilliant concept, glamorous characters with secrets to hide, immersive world-building, and some of the *finest writing I've seen in YA fiction*. I'll put it like this - I am obsessed with House of Hollow.' Louise O'Neill
- Outstanding reading for ages 15+ **An Indie Bestseller!**





## Poems to Fall in Love With

Author: [Chris Riddell](#) and Various  
Published: Late March 2021 Paperback release  
Age: Junior Fiction + Middle Fiction  
Genre: Poetry anthologies (various poets)  
RRP \$19.99

In *Poems to Fall in Love With* Chris Riddell has selected and illustrated his very favourite classic and modern poems about love. This gorgeously illustrated collection celebrates love in all its guises, from silent admiration through passion to tearful resignation. These poems speak of the universal experiences of the heart and are brought to life with Chris's exquisite, intricate artwork. Classic verses sit alongside the modern to create the ultimate collection. Includes poems from Neil Gaiman, Nikita Gill, Carol Ann Duffy, E. E. Cummings, Shakespeare, Leonard Cohen, Derek Walcott, Hollie McNish, Kate Tempest, John Betjeman and Roger McGough and many more.

### Why you need it?

- Poems specifically targeted at YA.
- Described as “a warm hug”, a wonderful addition to your library.
- A gorgeous, heart-warming anthology of poems about love and romance selected and illustrated by Chris Riddell OBE.

## The True Colour of a Little White Lie

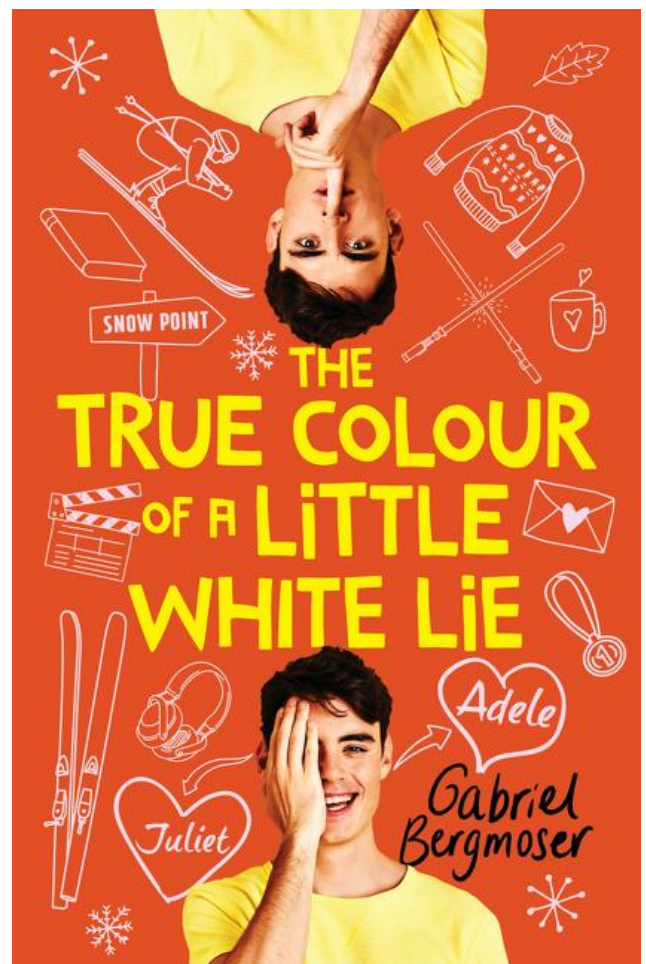
Author: [Gabriel Bergmoser](#)  
Published: April 2021  
Age: Middle Fiction + Senior Fiction  
Genre: Teenage romance, bullying, decision making, friendship  
RRP \$19.99

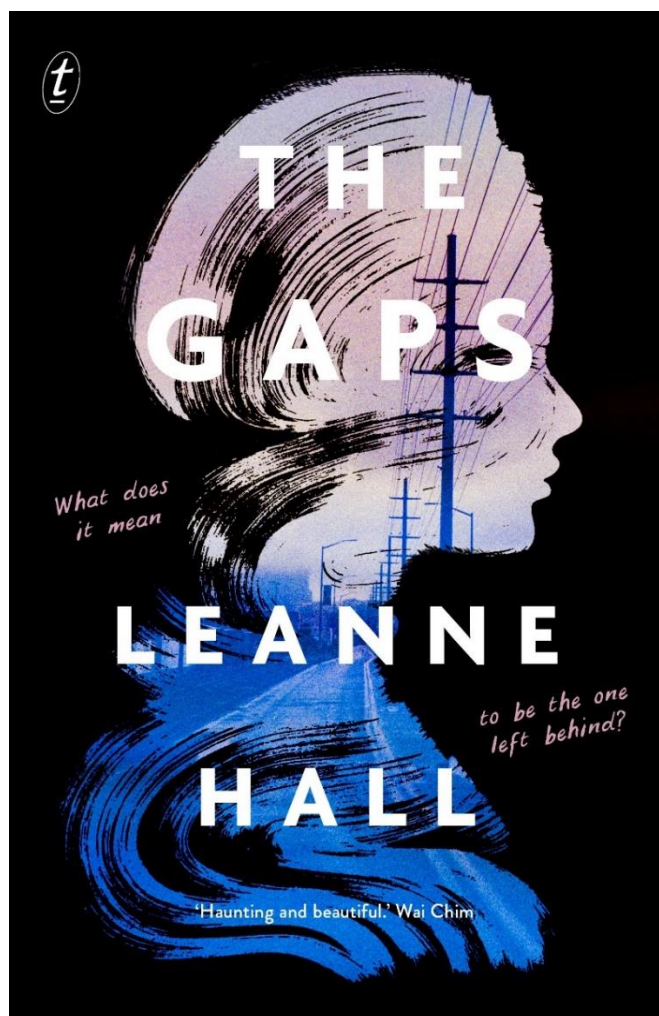
After a catastrophic attempt to ask out his crush, fourteen-year-old Nelson is desperate for any chance to escape the daily humiliations of his small-town high school. And with his parents taking over a nearby ski lodge, that chance seems to have arrived. Up at the lodge he discovers a whole new freedom in a world where nobody knows he is a loser and he can be whatever he wants.

But reinvention is complicated, especially when a few white lies land you in the middle of an unexpected love triangle which leads you to sign up for a ski race that you're nowhere near good enough for. As Nelson's new world spirals out of control, he'll slowly discover that no matter where you are, sometimes the hardest thing to run away from is yourself.

### Why you need it?

- Gabriel Bergmoser is an award-winning Melbourne-based author and playwright. He won the prestigious Sir Peter Ustinov Television Scriptwriting Award in 2015, was nominated for the 2017 Kenneth Branagh Award for New Drama Writing.
- “A sweet and heartfelt coming of age YA read with a number of lovely lessons to be taken from it”.





## The Gaps

Author: [Leanne Hall](#)

Published: March 2021

Age: Middle Fiction + Senior Fiction

Genre: Thriller

RRP \$19.99

**Based on true events**, this compelling YA novel by award-winning Melbourne author Leanne Hall examines grief and guilt in the aftermath of a community tragedy. When sixteen-year-old Yin Mitchell is abducted, the news reverberates through the whole Year Ten class at Balmoral Ladies College. As the hours tick by, the girls know the chance of Yin being found alive is becoming smaller and smaller.

Everyone is affected by Yin's disappearance—even scholarship student Chloe, who usually stays out of Balmoral dramas, is drawn into the maelstrom. And when she begins to form an uneasy alliance with Natalia, the queen of Year Ten, things get even more complicated.

### Why you need it?

- A tribute to friendship in all its guises
- 'A powerful, compelling read about the fragility, resilience and fierceness of girlhood. Unputdownable.' Lili Wilkinson
- **Teacher Notes available!** Click [Here](#)
- **Book Club Notes available!** Click [Here](#)

## Dirt Circus League

Author: [Maree Kimberley](#)

Published: Late March 2021

Age: Middle Fiction + Senior Fiction

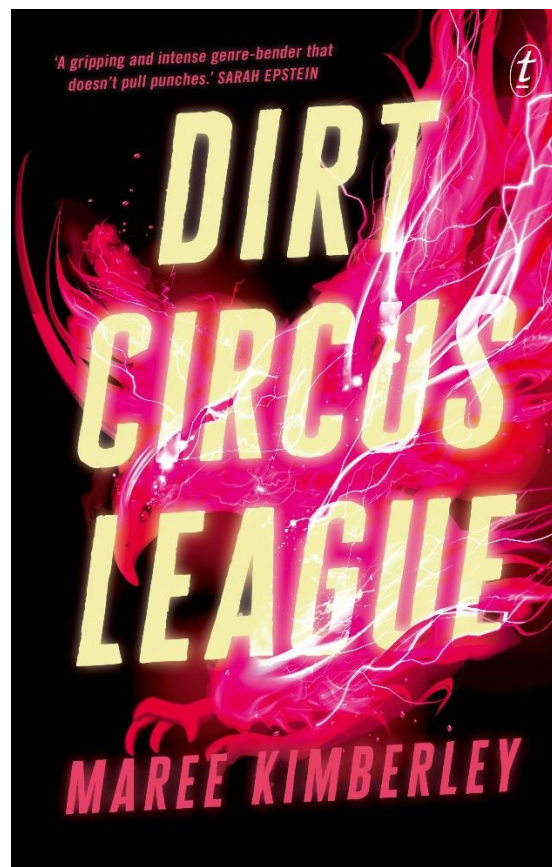
Genre: Fantasy

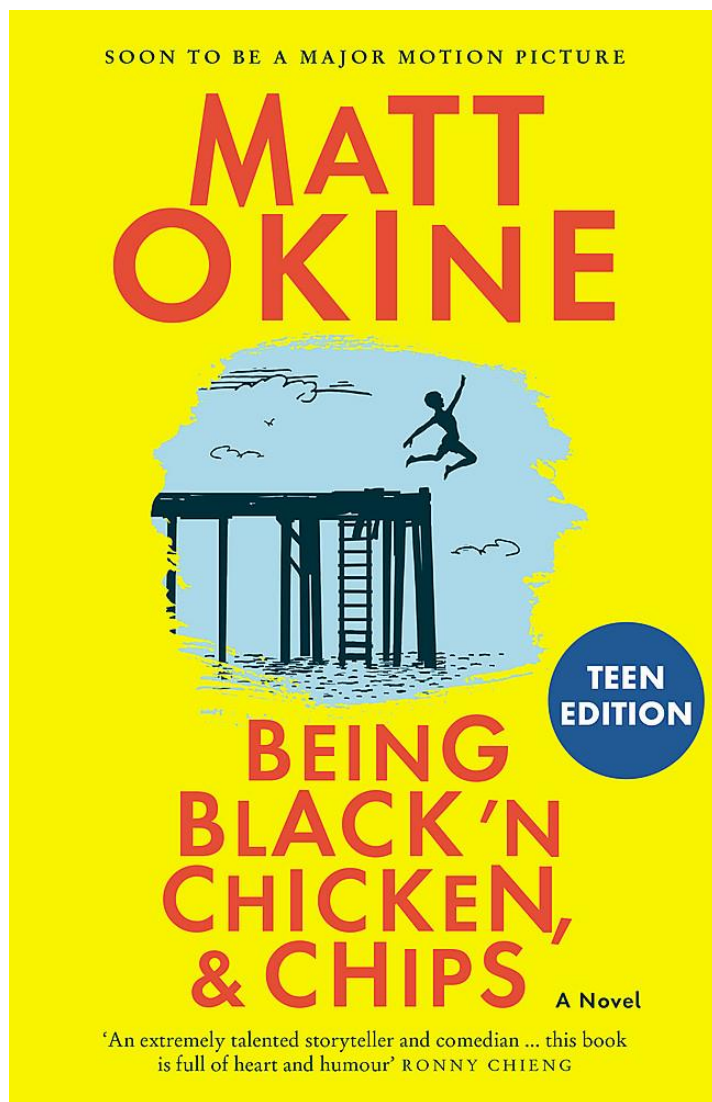
RRP \$19.99

Asa's running from a troubled past. To a remote outback town, a disappointing father and a fresh start that's already souring. But then the notorious Dirt Circus League arrives. A troupe of outcast teens performing spectacular fight sequences and challenging any who dares to take part. Will Asa be drawn into the league's mysterious community? And, as she discovers the violent secrets at its heart, will she delve into her own untapped abilities to save herself—and heal those caught in its evil web?

### Why you need it?

- Dirt Circus League is a compelling and fast-paced novel about the powerful allure of danger and the battles we face with our demons in a world beyond our control.
- Maree Kimberley is a writer from Brisbane. Her work has been published in several anthologies, including The Year's Best Australian Fantasy and Horror 2015 and Defying Doomsday. Dirt Circus League, her first novel for young adults, was inspired by the remote landscapes of Cape York and her fascination for neuroscience.
- **Teacher Notes available!** Click [Here](#)





## Being Black 'n Chicken, and Chips

### – TEEN EDITION

Author: [Matt Okine](#)

Published: Late March 2021

Age: Middle Fiction + Senior Fiction

Genre:

RRP \$19.99

Mike Amon just wants to fit in. He wants to be a star athlete. He wants his dad to stop embarrassing him. He wants his first kiss. He also wants his mum to survive. When his mum is diagnosed with advanced cancer, Mike figures if he gets his own life right and makes his mum proud, maybe it'll be enough to help her get better. But this might be harder than it looks. First, he has to move in with his African dad whose skills in the kitchen don't extend beyond heating up frozen chicken nuggets. Then he has to contend with the school bully who has it in for him, and all while navigating puberty as a late bloomer and trying to face a serious phobia of jellyfish.

As if that wasn't enough, the girl he has a crush on has her own heartbreak to deal with, and after a dramatic encounter down at the Jetty, Mike finds himself being rushed to hospital nursing the worst injury imaginable.

If he can't even sort out his own problems, how can he possibly save his mum?

#### Why you need it!

- **TEEN EDITION** and soon to be a Major Motion Picture!
- Themes of grief, loss, identity, and the pressure to fit in.
- Based on Matt Okine's award-winning stand-up show, this is a heart-breaking and often hilarious story about trying to grow up when everything around you is falling down.