August 2012

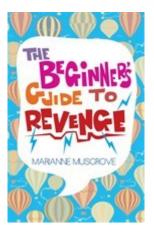
PRIMARY FICTION TITLES

The Beginner's Guide to Revenge

By Marianne Musgrove ISBN 9781742750866 \$15.95

As a soldier's daughter, Romola has been to six schools in eight years, always having to make new friends ... and now enemies. Meanwhile, Sebastian's mum is about to make the biggest mistake of their lives, unless Sebastian can find his dad in time to stop her. Thrown together by chance, these two thirteen-year-olds set out to even the score. But once that big old ball of revenge starts rolling down the hill, there's not an awful lot they can do to stop it ... or is there?

Publishers Blurb.



A classic story of two unlikely friends thrown together in unusual circumstances.

Romola, a serving soldiers daughter, has trouble making friends as she is constantly changing schools.

Sebastian, whose Dad is off the scene and Mum is preparing to marry Marshall, is sent with Marshall to Canberra where he meets Romola.

First Sebastian seeks ill fated revenge against Marshall and soon realises that revenge is not always sweet. When Romola seeks to take revenge against a school friend turned bully, Sebastian initially encourages her but soon tempers his enthusiasm when he realises his own mistakes.

Can Romola rise above her temptation and find a satisfactory outcome?

I find Marianne Musgrove's novels always enlightening and contain ethical dilemmas with wonderful outcomes that are not at all preachy.

An excellent read for independent readers 10+.

Reviewed by Rob.

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PRIMARY FICTION TITLES

Pookie Aleera Is Not My Boyfriend

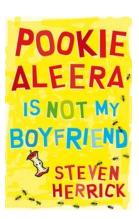
By Steven Herrick ISBN 9780702249280 \$16.95

Award-winning author Steven Herrick's latest book is a heart-warming tale about friendship, grief and the importance of baked goods.

In a country town, in a school just like yours, the kids in Class 6A tell their stories.

There's Mick, school captain and sometime trouble-maker, who wants to make the school a better place, while his younger brother Jacob just wants to fly. There's shy and lonely Laura who hopes to finally fit in with a circle of friends, while Pete struggles to deal with his grandpa's sudden death. Popular Selina obsesses over class comedian Cameron, while Cameron obsesses over ANZAC biscuits and Pookie Aleera – whoever that is!

For new teacher Ms Arthur, it's another world, but for Mr Korsky, the school groundskeeper, he's seen it all before.



This is a wonderful story told by the members of Class 6A about their school and their lives.

Your students will all relate to one of the characters and the adventures that they have. There are a few laugh-out-loud moments and a few moments to make them stop and think, with the overall theme being friendship. This would be a fantastic book to start your students on their Year 6 journey.

Will suit both boys and girls.

Reviewed by Michelle.

August 2012

PRIMARY FICTION TITLES

I Dare You: Lightning Strikes

By Aleesah Darlison ISBN 9781921977510 \$12.95

How far would you go for a dare?

Ben is set to start at his new school and he knows he's going to hate it. His bike, Marley, has been confiscated. His little brother embarrasses him at every step. And his mum's just started a new job so she has no time for him. Life couldn't be worse — until Ben gets forced to do a series of high-risk dares by the school bully.

Deals with themes of brotherly love, coping with change, acceptance and having the strength to stand up for yourself.

Publishers Blurb.



A new school.

A little brother who insists on wearing a kangaroo suit all the time, even in public.

A dream of becoming a famous stunt rider.

All the ingredients for an enjoyable middle years novel.

Throw in the classic bully and more importantly a successful and appropriate way of handling a bad and continuing bullying problem, and we have an ideal setting for a fantastic story.

Lightning Strikes is an increasingly popular Australian series that are meaty enough to engage the older reluctant reader and yet suitable for the 9+ audience as well.

Reviewed by Rob.

August 2012

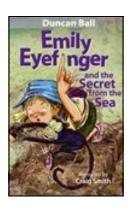
PRIMARY FICTION TITLES

Emily Eyefinger and the Secret from the Sea

By Duncan Ball ISBN 9780732293154 \$12.99

More fun adventures from Emily, the girl who was born with an eye on the end of her finger -- which, when you are into solving mysteries, can prove to be very 'handy' indeed!

Publishers Blurb.



Emily once again finds herself in situations where mysteries need to be solved.

Her encounters in this book include:

- Helping a movie star in need
- Catching jewel thieves in Paris dressed up as a gargoyle
- Dressing up as a baby elephant

—all things that having an eyefinger can come in very handy for!

These are great stories for your younger readers, culminating in a trip with her great aunt to uncover the "Secret from the Sea".

Emerging readers are sure to enjoy her adventures.

Reviewed by Sam

August 2012

PRIMARY FICTION TITLES

Tomato Dynamite: Aussie Bites
By Sharyn Eastaugh & Illustrated by Mitch Vane

ISBN 9780143306962 \$12.95

Tomato dynamite just might be the stinkiest, most powerful pickle in the world. But can it save Jack from certain humiliation at his school's annual swimming carnival?

Publishers Blurb.



Jack just loves science. But he hates swimming. Can he use his latest scientific discovery to get him out of the school swimming carnival?

When Jack uncovers an old jar of Mrs Thomas's Devil's Own Hot Tomato Pickle, bottled in 1984—he knows he has something special.

And whilst Mrs Thomas thinks that Jack has taken it to dispose of, once he discovers that it won't explode but that it has the worst smell he has ever come across, he has other plans for it!

A great story that many non-athletic types will surely relate to.

Suitable for both boys and girls, 7 and up.

Reviewed by Sam.