

Lamont Books Standing Order

August 2012

SECONDARY TITLES

Phyllis Wong and the Forgotten Secrets of Mr Okyto

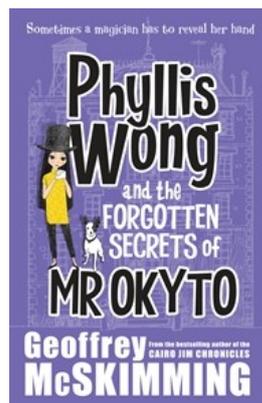
By Geoffrey McSkimming

ISBN 9781742378213

\$14.99

Conjuring is in Phyllis Wong's veins. It was passed down from her great-grandfather who, before his mysterious disappearance, was one of the world's most brilliant and successful magicians. Now Phyllis lives in what was his grand old home, converted into a number of apartments, in the middle of the city with her father and her loyal dog Daisy. When a series of incomprehensible robberies takes place in the city, Phyllis realises there is much more to the crimes than meets the eye. It may be baffling her friend Chief Inspector Inglis, but Phyllis is determined to find out more. Who is this thief? What does he want? And how is he achieving the impossible?

Publishers Blurb.



If you like Geoffrey McSkimming's Cairo Jim series, then you will also love Phyllis Wong. This is a 'who dunnit?' mystery with wonderful characters and relationships, all entwined with the magicians secrets.

Phyllis is clever and resourceful and your girls will want to be just like her. The first book in a new series and I'm sure your students will be eagerly awaiting the next instalment.

Reviewed by Michelle.

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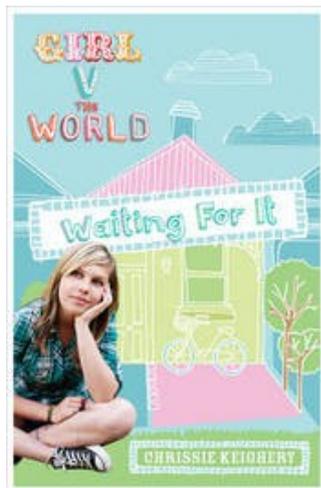
SECONDARY TITLES

Waiting For It: Girl v The World

By Chrissie Keighery
ISBN 9781742971810
\$12.95

There's something wrong with Hazel Atherton, she just knows it. She's not a kid anymore, but she's not grown-up either. Hazel hasn't even kissed a boy and she's not sure she ever will. Although that doesn't stop her from thinking about Leo in the year above... Hazel wishes she could talk to her mum about it - but these days her mum is too busy hanging out with her new boyfriend. Does anyone understand what's going on with Hazel?

Publishers Blurb.



A perfect book for your Year 7 & 8 girls who are trying to find their way in the scary world of high school, boys and growing up.

Hazel is the main character and the girls will relate to her immediately as her story unfolds with good friends, drama and fun.

I think this series will fill a big gap in novels for girls in this age group and will be really popular.

Reviewed by Michelle.

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Louis Beside Himself

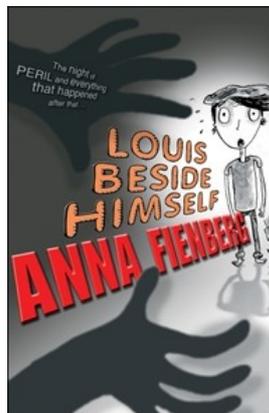
By Anna Fienberg
ISBN 9781742379944
\$15.99

Louis's best mates, Singo and Hassan, are into basketball and skateboarding, and his dad is into arm-wrestling. Dad wants to build Louis up with wrestling moves like the Walls of Jericho or the Five Star Frog Splash, but Louis is better at flexing words than flexing his muscles.

This summer Louis is put to the test, starting with the *Phenomenon* of the broken mirror, leading to the *Paralysing* burglar incident, and finally the night when he comes face to face with *Peril*.

It's a larger-than-life week when the friends hide a runaway girl named Cordelia in the backyard tent, Dad falls for Doreen, and Louis tries the Top Roll Move on a big burly burglar.

Publishers Blurb.



Not all kids growing up fit into a particular pigeon hole, but Louis is really quite different.

With a wrestler for a father and a mates that are into basketball and skateboarding, Louis, a collector of words, finds it difficult to find his place. When he helps a homeless intruder re-establish her family connections, facing formidable challenges head on, he regains self respect and the important respect of his father.

It is a novel about growing up, developing friendships and having the courage to be true to yourself.

Best suited to a younger secondary market.

Reviewed by Rob.

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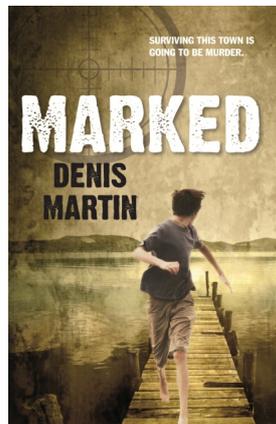
Marked

By Denis Martin
ISBN 9781921977541
\$17.95

Surviving this town is going to be murder.

Cully thinks life in small-town Cooksville will be quiet. Then he meets Kat. Athletic. Stunning. Intriguing. But something is going on with Kat – Cully is sure of it. He knows he should stay out of it, but he can't. Now Kat and Cully are caught in the middle of a deadly web. And it's too late to hide from those who hunt them.

Publishers Blurb.



Cully's family move around a lot, so when they move to Cooksville he thinks life will be quiet and boring. That is until he meets Kat. She is gorgeous and intriguing.

He works out that she is in some sort of trouble and he should stay out of it, but events force them together. Now they are in the middle of a race against time, can they stay out of sight long enough to get help or will they be hunted down?

This was a great read that made me keep turning the pages (even when I should have been doing lots of other things). Mystery and adventure combined in a realistic setting with very believable and likeable characters.

Will suit both boys and girls Year 9 and up.

Reviewed by Michelle.

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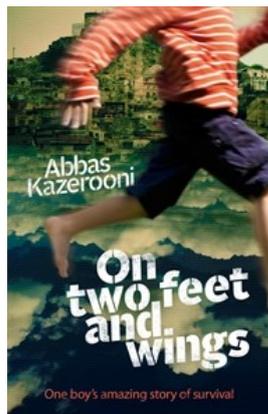
On Two Feet and Wings

By Abbas Kazerooni
ISBN 9781743311059
\$15.99

I was not aware that I was crying until I saw the tears hit my shoes. Even with all the lights at the airport, the night outside looked dark and the air seemed thick. I wiped my eyes and tried to figure out what I could do. I was alone in a foreign land at the age of nine, and I did not speak the language. I was, quite simply, terrified...

Close to his tenth birthday, Abbas has to leave his parents and friends to escape Tehran. The Iran-Iraq War is at its bloodiest. The ayatollahs, the rulers of Iran, have reduced the age of recruitment into the army. If Abbas doesn't leave soon, he will have to go to war. In the strange and often frightening city of Istanbul, Abbas has to grow up fast. Living alone for twelve weeks in a rundown hotel, he has to learn to live by his wits, and watch his back. Will he ever get his dream visa to England?

Publishers Blurb.



This is the true story of Abbas Kazerooni. Forced to flee Iran without his mother and father, he ends up in Istanbul. A nine-year-old boy on his own, with no one to help, and not sure who he can trust.

This is a story of courage and ingenuity, as we follow Abbas for the twelve weeks he is alone in a rundown hotel.

It is also a story of both the good and evil in people, as Abbas finds that many people have a giving and generous heart and are happy to help a small defenceless boy.

This is a unique novel in that it is a boy's eye view of a world in turmoil, that most of us will never have to face.

Will suit all secondary students.

Reviewed by Michelle.

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The Forsaken

By Lisa Stasse

ISBN 9781408318805

\$16.99

Alenna Shawcross is a sixteen-year-old orphan growing up in a police state formed from the ashes of Canada, the US and Mexico after a global economic meltdown. But when she unexpectedly fails 'the test' - a government initiative which supposedly identifies teens destined to be criminals - she wakes up alone on a remote island reserved for the criminally insane. Terrified and confused, she soon encounters a group of other teen survivors battling to stay alive, including Liam, a boy who will become her love...and her lifeline. Soon Alenna makes the terrifying discovery that there's more to the island (and her past) than she could ever have guessed... But who can she trust and can she ever escape? The first of a planned trilogy, this incredible novel will leave you gasping for the sequel...

Publishers Blurb.



This is a fast paced thriller that keeps you on the edge of your seat. There are so many great characters and the story is full of twists and turns, so you are never quite sure who are the good guys.

This will suit all your readers who love action, with a bit of mystery, both boys and girls Year 9 and up.

Reviewed by Michelle.

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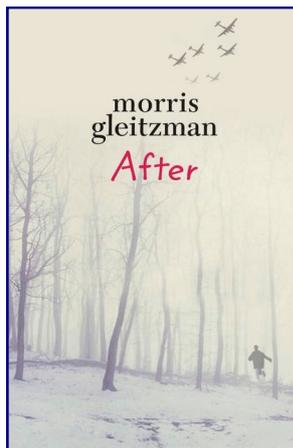
SECONDARY TITLES

After

By Morris Gleitzman
ISBN 9780670075447
\$19.99

After the Nazis took my parents I was scared
After they killed my best friend I was angry
After they ruined my thirteenth birthday I was determined
To get to the forest
To join forces with Gabriek and Yuli
To be a family
To defeat the Nazis after all

Publishers Blurb



Set close to the end of World War 2, *After* takes us back to Felix's life after his parents internment and death of his sister.

He goes with Gabriek to join the partisans in their fighting against the Nazis. When Gabriek is badly injured, Felix forms a strong bond with Yuli, a mother figure to him, even though only nineteen herself.

After much bloodshed and imagery of Felix assisting the partisan surgeon in his many horrific operations, the war ends and hearing that there were survivors from the camp where his parents were taken, Felix sets off to find them.

But all does not end wonderfully. When do we have wonderful results from war? But we are left with hope for Felix's future.

A wonderful instalment in this fantastic series. I'm not sure if there will be any more, but this one answers a lot of questions. All stories in this series are fine to be read alone, and are best appreciated by younger secondary students, but they are also great reading for any age.

Reviewed by Rob.

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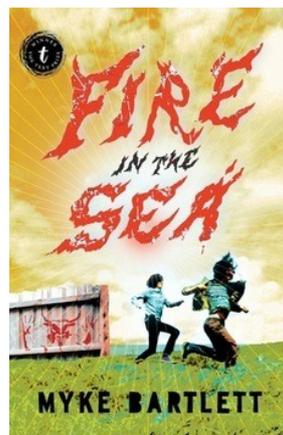
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Fire in the Sea

By Myke Bartlett
ISBN 9781921922749
\$19.99

Sadie is sixteen and bored with life in Perth. It's summer, and lazing on the beach in the stifling heat with her cousins and Tom is a drag. Then something comes out of the sea. Dark menacing forms attack an old man, leaving him for dead and Sadie wracking her brains to understand what she saw. Then there's a mysterious inheritance, a strange young man called Jake and a horned beast trampling the backyard. Sadie finds herself caught in the middle of an ancient conflict that is nearing its final battle, a showdown that threatens to engulf Perth and all those she loves in a furious tsunami. Fire in the Sea is a fast-paced thrilling adventure with a feisty heroine who is not afraid to fight for what she knows is right.

Publishers Blurb.



Sadie's life in a small seaside town is pretty monotonous—nothing could prepare her for the changes that are about to take place.

A small act of kindness to an old man leaves her the beneficiary of his large old house and all within it. But it seems that the ancient relic left behind holds true value and a secret trapped within, that the future of the world depends on.

Then strange deadly creatures come from the sea and people who die come back to life in someone else's body.

The final showdown where Sadie's good may keep the relic out of the demons hands, is fantastic.

A wonderful first novel that was the winner of the fantastic Text Publishing prize, where the prize is a guarantee to publish their novel. It is action packed with some great characters and enough story to have middle secondary students enthralled.

Reviewed by Rob.

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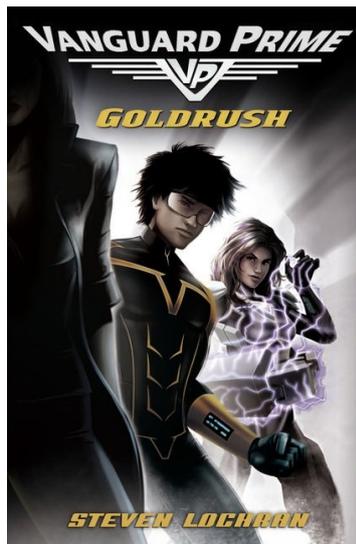
Goldrush: Vanguard Prime Book 1

By Steven Lochran
ISBN 9780143306894
\$14.99

Elite superhero team Vanguard Prime has a new recruit . . .

Sam Lee was just a normal teenager . . . until the disastrous emergence of his superpowers. Now he has the chance to join his childhood heroes and become the youngest-ever member of Vanguard Prime. But when the time comes, will Sam have what it takes to save the world?

Publishers Blurb.



Who hasn't dreamt of being a superhero? Reality, however, is quite different from dreams, and Sam soon realises this.

This book has strong male and female main characters, with an action packed storyline that both boys and girls will enjoy.

It will suit good Year 7 readers and up.

Reviewed by Michelle.