

Lamont Books Standing Order

September 2012

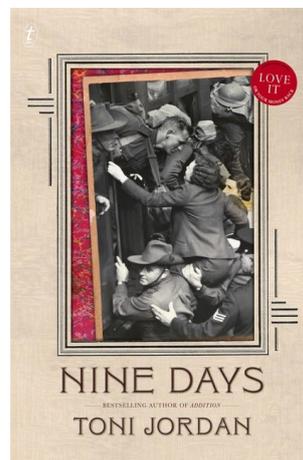
SECONDARY TITLES

Nine Days

By Toni Jordan
ISBN 9781921922831
\$29.99

It is 1939 and although Australia is about to go to war, it doesn't quite realise yet that the situation is serious. Deep in the working-class Melbourne suburb of Richmond it is business - your own and everyone else's - as usual. And young Kip Westaway, failed scholar and stablehand, is living the most important day of his life.

Publishers Blurb.



A wonderful novel of family, as we look at nine peoples stories through association with Melbourne's inner city working class suburb of Richmond.

We first read of young Kip Westaway, whose father has recently died. We explore his life as it revolves around a strict mother, adoring sister Connie and studious brother Francis in the years leading up to the second world war.

The following eight chapters are given exclusively to eight of Kip's relatives, including his children and grandchildren, at important points in their life.

While one chapter is set in the present and the next back around the time of war, we finally piece together the intricate relationships of the Westaway family. We share their hardships and enjoy their successes in a beautifully written novel.

I highly recommend this novel to senior students. I find it amazing how Toni Jordan has written this utterly believable story, inspired only by a classic war time photo.

Reviewed by Rob.

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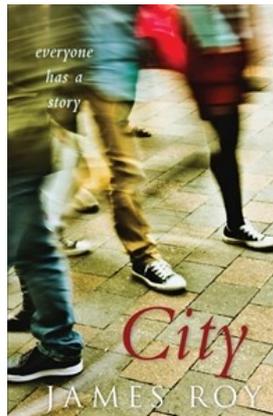
City

By James Roy
ISBN 9780702249266
\$19.95

The only water out this way was the river and the reservoir and the twin pipes that feed the city. Huge and dark, each as thick through as a small car, they rose and fell across the plains towards the glowing sky and the shimmering skyline.

In his acclaimed book *Town*, James Roy charted the social tapestry of a country town as seen through the eyes of thirteen young residents. The young people in *City* are linked in different ways—through chance meetings, found objects, social connections, the civil disobedience of the shadowy Poet, and the streets of a city.

Publishers Blurb.



City is based on the same concept as James Roy's decorated *Town*, but with a different setting and seen through the eyes of young people in a city with no name.

Each chapter is a short story in itself, but the central theme is the city.

Readers will find all the characters linked by something familiar to anyone who has ever lived in suburbia.

A great read for both boys and girls. Best suited for Year 9 and up.

Teacher notes are available for this title at www.uqp.uq.edu.au.

Reviewed by Michelle.

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Friday Brown

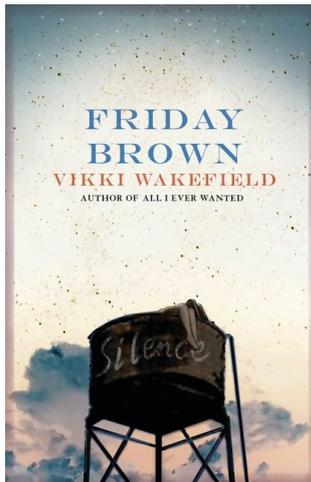
By Vikki Wakefield
ISBN 9781921922701
\$19.99

Seventeen-year-old Friday Brown is on the run—running to escape memories of her mother and of the family curse. And of a grandfather who'd like her to stay. She's lost, alone and afraid.

Silence, a street kid, finds Friday and she joins him in a gang led by beautiful, charismatic Arden. When Silence is involved in a crime, the gang escapes to a ghost town in the outback. In Murungal Creek, the town of never leaving, Friday must face the ghosts of her past. She will learn that sometimes you have to stay to finish what you started—and often, before you can find out who you are, you have to become someone you were never meant to be.

Friday Brown is the breathtaking second novel from the author of the award-winning *All I Ever Wanted*. Vikki Wakefield is an astonishing talent.

Publishers Blurb.



This is the second novel from Vikki Wakefield and it firmly stamps her as an exciting rising author in the young adult scene. It tackles the tough topics of homelessness and belonging brilliantly.

The setting puts our main character Friday Brown on the city streets after the death of her transient mother. She immediately meets Silence, who aptly does not speak, and he introduces Friday to his 'family'. The family are an incredible mix of kids, who led by the tough and inspiring Arden, live and work for the common goal of saving for a better life.

But when things start to fall apart, together they leave their home, bound for a deserted country town. However, with Friday being the only one with real survival skills, she soon becomes a threat to Arden's control. When things come to a tragic end after a murder and terrible flood, Friday returns to her grandfathers home to try and heal past wounds.

A gripping novel with brilliant insights into human thoughts and behaviour that is sure to make all readers think and open many potential discussion points for group reading.

Best suited to the 15+ age group.

Reviewed by Rob.

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SECONDARY TITLES

White Ninja

By Tiffany Hall
ISBN 9780732294533
\$14.99

Roxy Ran is an ordinary thirteen-year-old girl who doesn't know anything about her ninja powers until a confrontation with the school bully unleashes them.

When new boy Jackson Axe introduces Roxy to the world of martial arts, she learns about the legend of the White Warrior and the powers that are trapped in the Tiger Scrolls. The White Warrior is hunted by both the ninja and samurai clans, and now Jackson and Roxy must find the Tiger Scrolls and unleash the powers of the White Warrior before the samurai do.

And in order to survive, Roxy must unleash her inner ninja.

Publishers Blurb.



Roxy Ran is an often bullied, average thirteen-year-old whose older sister, Electra is the coolest of the cool.

Mum was once a ninja, or is she still? She often travels overseas for extended periods.

Roxy's nemeses, Herashi (AKA Hero), makes life hell for many kids at school, but he seems to particularly focus on Roxy.

Then the gorgeous Jackson arrives at school and he takes Roxy to his Dojo to begin teaching her Martial Art skills. Roxy learns quickly and she gains super ninja powers that suggest she may be the once in a hundred year White Warrior. The final fight scene that culminates with Ninja Roxy fighting Hero, the Samurai, is hugely exciting.

A great Martial Art novel by the beautiful Tiffany Hall, trainer on Channel Ten's The Biggest Loser. It should be easy to get both boys and girls to read this, and it is best suited to the younger secondary age group.

Reviewed by Rob.

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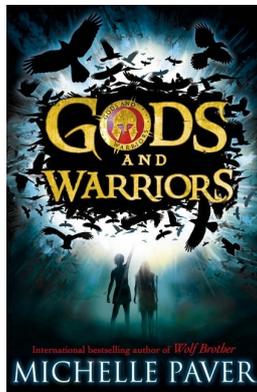
SECONDARY TITLES

Gods and Warriors

By Michelle Paver
ISBN 9780141343082
\$16.99

In the turbulent world of the Mediterranean Bronze Age, long before the Greek myths, a boy and a girl battle for survival. With the help of three animal allies - a dolphin, a falcon and a lion cub - they defeat the forces of tyranny and withstand the elemental powers of the gods of land and sea.

Publishers Blurb.



Set in the Mediterranean Bronze Age, Hylas and Pirra are thrown together as they battle for survival.

Hylas is a poor orphan boy who lives on the mountain. Pirra is the daughter of the High Priestess.

Fate or the Gods decree, that they must learn to trust one another if they are both to survive. But what part does the dolphin have to play in their lives?

A fantastic adventure story with wonderful characters that I'm sure we will meet again.

Suit both boys and girls, Year 7 & up.

Reviewed by Michelle.

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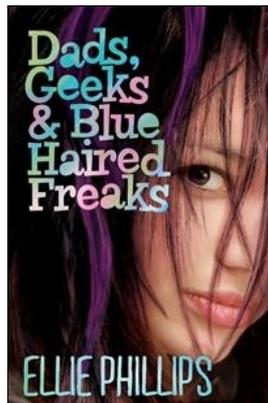
SECONDARY TITLES

Dads, Geeks and Blue Haired Freaks

By Ellie Phillips
ISBN 9781405258197
\$14.95

Sadie Nathanson spends her life trying to survive the excruciating embarrassment of simply existing. It's hard enough being a bit of a shrinking violet within a loud and outspoken extended family, but the unexpected card from 'Dad' on her 15th birthday is the last straw. As 'Dad' was an Internet sperm-donor, it doesn't take a genius to work out that this is a bad joke, probably set up by her ex-best-friend Shonna. But it starts Sadie wondering - just who was her father? Is he the cause of her worry crinkle and wonky bum? What would happen if she tracked him down? So she decides to do just that. With help from her nerd cousin Billy, his friend Nodding Tony and a regular dose of 'Haironomics' (Sadie's own hairstyle-related philosophy system), they uncover a lot more than they bargain for...

Publishers Blurb.



I loved the characters in this book and I couldn't put it down, for wanting to know more.

On her 15th birthday, Sadie gets a card signed 'Love Dad'. But could he really know who she is? Sadie was conceived using a sperm donation, and this is her search to find her Dad. We meet her loud and loving family, her ex-best friend and maybe—new boyfriend.

This is the first book I've read that acknowledges sperm donation, and the effects on a family. A fantastic story with great characters—a perfect combination that your girls aged 14+ will love.

Reviewed by Michelle.

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Into That Forest

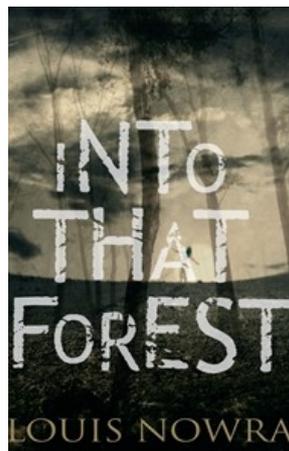
By Louis Nowra
ISBN 9781743311646
\$19.99

Me name be Hannah O'Brien and I be seventy-six years old. Me first thing is an apology - me language is bad cos I lost it and had to learn it again. But here's me story and I be glad to tell it before I hop the twig.

So begins this extraordinary novel, which will transport you to Australia's wild frontier and stay in your mind long after you've finished reading.

From one of Australia's foremost literary talents, this is an unforgettable and heartbreaking story about two young girls living in the wild with Tasmanian Tigers.

Publishers Blurb.



Written in a voice that gets easier to read as you become used to the broken pigeon English, we are transported back seventy years to the remote Tasmanian wilderness in a time when Tasmanian Tigers were still prevalent.

The story predominately revolves around our main character, Hannah, and her friend Becky who, as the result of a terrible accident in which Hannah's parents die, find themselves, at the ages of six and seven, lost in the wild. They are befriended by a couple of Tasmanian Tigers and they soon form a type of family unit.

What follows is years of this lifestyle, with the girls adapting to their environment in so many ways. Their acute sense of smell and tendency to walk on all fours being a few of the most memorable.

Their journey and their 'rescue' by Becky's father some years later proved extremely eventful. Could they be tamed and expected to live a normal life in the future?

A fantastic insightful novel that leads itself beautifully to group discussions on themes of wild animals, extinction, and adaptation, together with many other ideas that I am sure will come from this great book.

I loved it and I am sure that your students will find it intriguing. It's really suitable for any age, but middle to upper secondary students will probably benefit most from the experience.

Reviewed by Rob.

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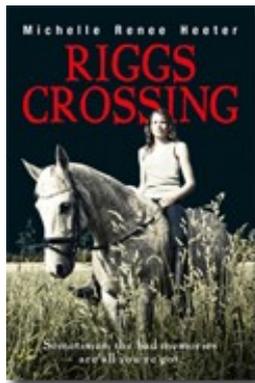
Riggs Crossing

By Michelle Heeter
ISBN 9781921665707
\$19.95

A girl is found in the wreckage of a car crash. Severely injured and psychologically damaged, the girl cannot or will not tell the authorities who she is or where she comes from. Her carers call her 'Len', after the name embroidered on the jumper she was wearing when she was found.

Secretive, intelligent, and abrasive, Len is moved to a children's shelter. Slowly, Len's repressed memories fight their way to the surface of her troubled mind. And an evil figure from her shadowy past comes looking for her.

Publishers Blurb.



READER BEWARE: The cover of this book does not reflect its content! While there is a horse on a picture in a room at the Inner West Youth Refuge, it is certainly not a horsey story.

The story is based on the workings of the refuge and its various inhabitants, as seen through the eyes of our lead character, Samantha Rose Patterson (aka Len Russell).

You see, Samantha has no memory of before the accident. Slowly recollections form that allow us to piece together her life before the refuge.

A disenfranchised life— with no mother and a father involved in the growing of marijuana. While not a drug user himself, life was dispersed with many unacceptable situations and people.

To then see the intelligent Samantha begin to rise above her upbringing, gives us hope.

A gritty, issues based novel, best suited to a 15+ audience, who are not necessarily horse lovers.

Reviewed by Rob.