

Lamont Books Standing Order

July 2014

Primary Fiction

Roses Are Blue

By Sally Murphy & Illustrated by Gabrielle Evans

Publisher: Walker Books

ISBN 9781922244376

\$16.95

**Primary Fiction
Book of the Month**

Blurb:

From the award-winning author of *Pearl Verses the World* and *Toppling* comes a story about resilience and the importance of family.

"I have not got used to my new mum, even though I love her (I absolutely love her), I miss my happy, painting, dancing, gardening, smiling mum." Amber Rose and her family are dealing with tragedy and change. But sometimes hope suddenly blooms.



Lamont Review:

This is truly a gorgeous book. Sally Murphy has written a beautiful story of a young girl's struggle when her Mum is badly injured in car accident.

Amber has moved schools after her Mum's accident and she's not sure how her new friends will react to her Mum being in a wheelchair.

With Mother's Day approaching, Amber's teacher decides to hold a morning tea for all the mothers. But will Amber's Mum be able to come? And will the other kids laugh at her?

Heart-warming, sensitive and full of love and friendship, this story will be enjoyed by girls in Grade 4 and up.

Reviewed by Michelle

Lamont Books Standing Order

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Primary Fiction

Friday Barnes Girl Detective

By R.A Spratt

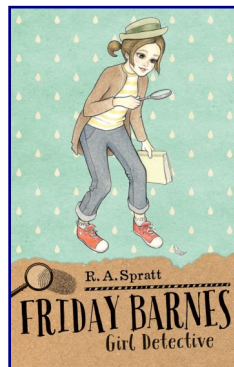
Publisher: Random House

ISBN 9781742759623

\$15.99

Blurb:

Imagine if Sherlock Holmes was an eleven-year-old girl! When girl detective Friday Barnes solves a bank robbery she uses the reward money to send herself to the most exclusive boarding school in the country, Highcrest Academy. On arrival, Friday is shocked to discover the respectable school is actually a hotbed of crime. She's soon investigating everything from disappearing homework to the Yeti running around the school swamp. That's when she's not dealing with her own problem - Ian Wainscott, the handsomest boy in school, who inexplicably hates Friday and loves nasty pranks. Can Friday solve Highcrest Academy's many strange mysteries, including the biggest mystery of all - what's the point of high school?



Lamont Review:

Friday Barnes is a very intelligent girl from a very unusual family. Her parents are serious scientists who had carefully planned to have and raise four children. Until Friday came along...

Friday's parents are not prepared for a fifth child. They haven't even thought of a name. In fact, they name her after the day of the week that they think it is when she is born, and don't even notice that it is actually Thursday.

So throughout her childhood, provided that Friday can keep her parents from noticing her too often, she is mostly left to her own devices. And keeping them from noticing her isn't too difficult!

By the age of eight Friday has read every book in her house, and has taught herself more than her poor primary school teachers ever could, so she instead spends her school days reading detective novels.

The only cloud in Friday's future is that the government keeps insisting that she go to high school. Being thoroughly bored with school, Friday decides to try university. But, despite passing the exam, the university aren't too keen on an 11 year old student. So Friday has a problem.

But when Friday's brilliant mind solves a real bank robbery, she solves her problem by using the reward money to enrol herself in an exclusive boarding school, Highcrest Academy. The school is full of rich kids who are willing to pay Friday to use her crime solving skills to solve their problems, from a stolen clock to missing homework.

Along with her observant but vague new friend Melanie, can Friday solve the school's biggest mystery – the strange Yeti that keeps appearing around the swamp?

A great detective novel, with a hint of Sherlock Holmes, this is an action packed story that your students will love. Friday does use some difficult vocabulary (to demonstrate her brilliance of course) so this should be a challenge even for good upper primary readers, but the story can also be followed without understanding every word she says!

Highly recommended for upper primary girls.

Reviewed by Kate

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Rescue on Nim's Island

By Wendy Orr

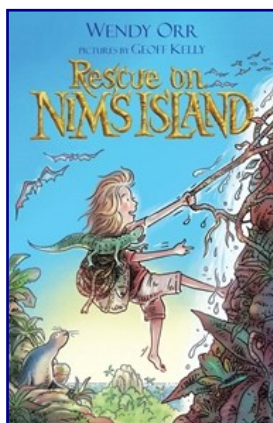
Publisher: Allen & Unwin

ISBN 9781743316788

\$14.99

Blurb:

Nim lives on an island with her father, Jack, a marine iguana called Fred, a sea lion called Selkie, and their friend Alex Rover, the adventure writer. Nim's island is the most beautiful place in the world, and she wouldn't swap it to live anywhere else. When Jack invites a group of scientists to visit, they bring their children as well. But two of the scientists have plans other than studying algae... By the time Nim discovers what they really want, and what they will do to get it, the children are in grave danger. And so is the island! Nim must choose between saving a natural treasure and saving someone's life.



Lamont Review:

Nim is excited that her friend Edmund is coming back to her island with some scientists interested in discovering a breakthrough sustainable bio-fuel.

But when two of the scientists fall mysteriously ill on the evening before leaving for the island, Dr Lance Bijou and his wife Dr Leonora Bijou take their place.

However, Nim soon discovers that they have a devious ulterior motive for being on the island. Can she save her island and her friends? With the help of Selkie the Sea Lion and Fred the Iguana, surely they can stop this evil couple.

An exciting adventure, full of suspense, that 8-12 year olds will love.

This is the third book in the hugely popular Nim series, but it can easily be read without previously reading the others.

Reviewed by Rob

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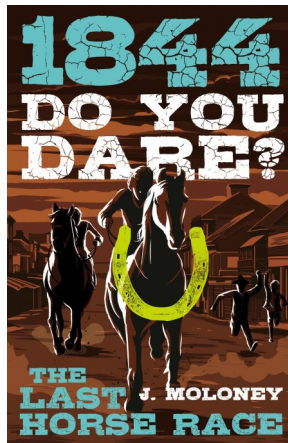
Primary Fiction

The Last Race Horse: 1844 Do You Dare?

By James Moloney
Publisher: Penguin
ISBN 9780143307822
\$14.99

Blurb:

Do You Dare . . . Stick up for your mates? Ride a horse at breakneck speed? Risk your life for freedom? It's an adventure in history. Do You Dare?



Lamont Review:

Set in Moreton Bay in the harsh times of 1844, when ex-convicts and squatters were trying to build a new home as best they could, we are introduced to Toby Thompson and his Mum.

They have a secret, and for the sake of their future together they are determined to keep it that way.

Toby is a knock about kid who doesn't go to school, unlike his friend Robert Poole, the much more 'well to do' son of a lawyer. Toby's love is horses and he will do anything to be around them, including helping his mate Stan fix an illegal race or two.

A story about a life that children today are unfamiliar with, this is also a true story of friendship, trust, courage and loyalty.

What Toby ends up doing for his Mum would make any parent proud!

I really liked this book for the characters and the relationships they form. However, it will probably be best suited and enjoyed by your middle to senior primary boys.

Reviewed by Sam

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Primary Fiction

Stolen Stash: Billie B. Brown Mystery

By Sally Rippin

Publisher: Hardie Grant Egmont

ISBN 9781760121136

\$9.95

Blurb:

Billie and the Secret Mystery Club are investigating their most serious mystery yet. Someone has taken something from the principal's office at school! Who would have done such a terrible thing? And when one of Billie's friends becomes a suspect, will Billie even know who to trust anymore?



Lamont Review:

Someone has stolen money from the school office! Who would do such a thing?

Billie is determined that her and her friends in the Secret Mystery Club should find out! But not everyone in the club thinks this is a good idea. Maybe this mystery is too serious for their club? Or are there other reasons?

The issues of theft, trust, friendship, honesty, and sticking up for your family and friends are dealt with extremely well in this story, in a simple and matter of fact way that your younger to middle level students are sure to think about and understand.

Girls in particular are sure to enjoy this book.

Reviewed by Sam

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Primary Fiction

Bully On The Bus

By Kathryn Aple

Publisher: University of Queensland Press

ISBN 9780702253287

\$14.95

Blurb:

She's big.

She's smart.

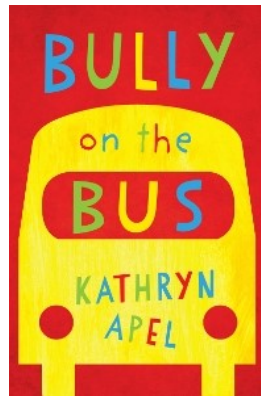
She's mean.

She's the bully on the bus.

She picks on me and I don't like it.

But I don't know how to make her stop.

The bully on the bus taunts seven-year-old Leroy, then silences him with threats of worse to come. To distract him, his teacher introduces him to the adventures in *The Big Bad Book of Fairytales*. Hidden throughout are the clues that Leroy needs to overcome the bullying taunts once and for all.



Lamont Review:

A beautifully handled prose novel exploring bullying.

It looks mainly at the victim, Leroy, and his anxieties at having to face this angst every day.

It also looks at ways of facing this problem and resolving what is a horrible situation.

Ideal for lower to middle primary students who will feel for Leroy's problem and cheer his positive actions at the end.

Reviewed by Rob.

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Primary Fiction

Flat Stanley's Epic Canadian Adventure

By S. Pennypacker

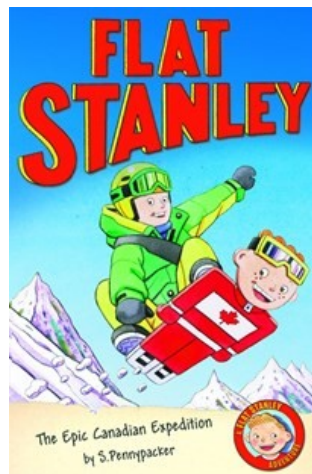
Publisher: Hardie Grant Egmont

ISBN 9781405272452

\$9.95

Blurb:

Stanley Lambchop and his family are in British Columbia, Canada, for some skiing and winter fun. But when Stanley and his new friend Nick go snowboarding - with Stanley as the snowboard, of course - they take a midair tumble just as the wind picks up . . . and find themselves floating in an amazing Canadian cross-country journey. This might just be Stanley's wildest adventure yet!



Lamont Review:

Trouble seems to follow Flat Stanley everywhere!

When his family go on a family vacation to Canada, on their way to a family wedding, this is the case again.

Stanley meets a new boy on his travels, Nick. He is a bit of a bragger, and they don't really hit it off to begin with. But when Stanley finds himself coming in very useful, they find that their adventure and friendship are just beginning.

A fun story that your junior to middle boys are sure to enjoy.

Reviewed by Sam