

The Sunday Times 100 Children's Modern Classics of the past 10 years

05/10/2014

Ages 10-12

Rooftoppers

Rundell, Katherine

Charles, a fellow survivor and an eccentric scholar, finds Sophie and brings her home to his London bachelor flat. Raised in a quirky home filled with music, words and love (though questionable diet), Sophie grows into a free-spirited tomboy with a taste for Shakespeare and the unshakeable belief...

A Monster Calls

Ness, Patrick

An extraordinary novel of love, loss and hope.

Airman

Colfer, Eoin

One dark night on the island of Great Saltee, fourteen-year-old Conor is framed for a terrible crime he didn't commit. Thrown into prison by the dastardly Hugo Bonvilain, Conor is trapped in a sea swept dungeon and branded a traitor. He must escape and clear his name; he wants his old life back -...

Larklight

Reeve, Philip

Utterly unique and devilishly witty, Larklight is a page-turningly brilliant (Victorian) space adventure, and truly original modern classic, told through the eyes of plucky Arthur Mumby.

Trash

Mulligan, Andy

Raphael is a dumpsite boy. He spends his days wading through mountains of steaming trash, sifting it, sorting it, breathing it, sleeping next to it. Then one unlucky-lucky day, Raphael's world turns upside down. A small leather bag falls into his hands. It's a bag of clues. It's a bag of hope. It...

Cuckoo Song

Hardinge, Frances

A breathtakingly dark and twisted tale from award-winning author Frances Hardinge

Dark Lord: The Teenage Years

Thomson, Jamie; Lloyd, Dirk

Winner of the 2012 Roald Dahl Funny Prize! "I will tell you all my secrets. But then of course I'm going to have to kill you..."

Binny for Short

McKay, Hilary

A funny and endearing new story of friendship from Whitbread-winning author Hilary McKay.

The Child's Elephant

Campbell-Johnston, Rachel

When a baby elephant is abandoned on the African savannah, a young boy named Bat takes her back to his village and cares for her. But Bat's grandmother explains that Meya cannot stay with them for ever - the call of the wild will always be sounding in her soul. And there are frightening rumours o...

The Boyhood of Burglar Bill

Ahlberg, Allan

Archie was a wonder dog in all our eyes. Nearly a year ago he had got run over. They found his foot in the street but the rest of him ran off. Mr Purnell mourned for a while; Mrs Purnell offered to beat the motorcyclist up or at least wreck his bike. Then, lo and behold, a fortnight later back ca...

The Phenomenals: A Tangle of Traitors

Higgins, F. E.

The Giant, the Huntress, the Rich Girl, the Thief: these haphazard heroes will save us from grief

Wonder

Palacio, R. J.

Auggie wants to be an ordinary ten-year-old. He does ordinary things - eating ice cream, playing on his Xbox. He feels ordinary - inside. But ordinary kids don't make other ordinary kids run away screaming in playgrounds. Ordinary kids aren't stared at wherever they go.

Russian Roulette

Horowitz, Anthony

The highly anticipated prequel to the bestselling Alex Rider series, charting the journey of a young assassin.

Cosmic

Cottrell Boyce, Frank

A tall story from Carnegie Medal-winning Frank Cottrell Boyce.

Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince

Rowling, J. K.

When Dumbledore arrives at Privet Drive one summer night to collect Harry Potter, his wand hand is blackened and shrivelled, but he does not reveal why. Secrets and suspicion are spreading through the wizarding world, and Hogwarts itself is not safe. Harry is convinced that Malfoy bears the Dark ...

The Seeing

Hendry, Diana

The second world war is over in the quiet town of Norton. When wild break-all-the-rules Natalie arrives, thirteen-year-old Lizzie is drawn irresistibly to the new girl from the wrong side of the tracks. Desperate for Natalie's friendship and respect, Lizzie soon discovers a side of the town - and...

Heroes of the Valley

Stroud, Jonathan

Halli loves the old stories from when the valley was a wild and dangerous place - when the twelve legendary heroes stood together to defeat the ancient enemy, the bloodthirsty Trows. Halli longs for adventure but these days the most dangerous thing in the valley is boredom. He tries to liven thin...

Wolf Brother

Paver, Michelle

Thousands of years ago the land is one dark forest. Its people are hunter-gatherers. They know every tree and herb and they know how to survive in a time of enchantment and powerful magic. Until an ambitious and malevolent force conjures a demon: a demon so evil that it can be contained only i...

Grace

Gleitzman, Morris

In the beginning there was me and Mum and Dad and the twins. And talk about happy families, we were bountiful. But it came to pass that I started doing sins. And lo, that's when all our problems began...

Alex, the Dog and the Unopenable Door

Montgomery, Ross

Alex Jennings is a boy with a problem. His mum's sent him away to boarding school because his father, the most famously failed explorer in the history of the Cusp, has escaped from hospital again, yelling 'squiggles'.