

booklist

Spotlight titles September 2009

Key Stage 1

The Silence Seeker by Ben Morley

When a new family moves in next door, Joe's mum explains that they are asylum seekers. Joe hears that they are silence seekers, especially as Mum adds that they need peace and quiet. When he sees a young boy from the family sitting disconsolately on the steps, Joe decides to help him find a quiet place in the noisy and chaotic city.

pub. Random House Children's

ISBN 9781848530034

Scaredy Squirrel at Night by Melanie Watt

Scaredy never sleeps – sleep might mean bad dreams about dragons, ghosts, vampire bats and polka-dot monsters. Of course he has a plan: stay awake all night, every night. Between counting stars, playing cymbals and making scrapbooks, he does a good job of avoiding dreamland but exhaustion takes its toll and Scaredy just has to find a way to have sweet dreams.

pub. Catnip

ISBN 9781905117895

Key Stage 2

Tollins: Explosive Tales for Children by Conn Iggulden

It's Peter Pan with attitude as Conn Iggulden, creator of the phenomenal bestseller *The Dangerous Book for Boys*, introduces an explosive and magical new fictional world.

"Tollins are not fairies. Though they both have wings, fairies are delicate creatures and much smaller.

Tollins are also a lot less fragile than fairies. In fact, the word 'fragile' can't really be used about them at all. They are about as fragile as a housebrick..."

In these three tales, Conn Iggulden introduces the explosive, magical and adventurous world of the Tollins, all beautifully illustrated in full colour by Lizzy Duncan. Complete with thrilling stories of danger and derring-do, glorious drawings, maps and diagrams, this is more than a fantastic fiction debut for children – it's also the definitive guide to these remarkable little flying creatures. Just don't ever call them fairies...

pub. HarperCollins

ISBN 9780007303991

Kenny & the Dragon by Tony Diterlizzi

Kenneth is a little rabbit with a very big problem. His two best friends are heading for a battle of legendary proportions - with each other! In one corner there's Grahame, a well-read and cultured dragon, with sophisticated tastes and no stomach for battle. In the other, there's George, a retired knight and dragon slayer who would be content to spend the rest of his days in his bookshop with a pipe and a good book. But when the townsfolk catch wind there's a dragon running loose in the countryside, and call George out of retirement, the stage is set. And it's up to Kenny to avert disaster.

A fun-filled, thoroughly theatrical spin on a classic tale of subterfuge and showmanship.

pub. Simon and Schuster

ISBN 978-1847384072

Key Stage 3

The Bride's Farewell by Meg Rosoff

On the morning of her wedding, Pell Ridley creeps out of bed in the dark, kisses her sisters goodbye and flees - determined to escape a future that offers nothing but hard work and sorrow. She takes the only thing that truly belongs to her: Jack, a white horse.

The road ahead is rich with longing, silence and secrets, and each encounter leads her closer to the untold story of her past. Then Pell meets a hunter, infuriating, mysterious and cold. Will he help her to find what she seeks?

With all the hallmarks of Meg Rosoff's extraordinary writing, *The Bride's Farewell* also breaks new ground for this author, in a nineteenth century, Hardy-esque setting. This is a moving story of love and lost things, with a core of deep, beautiful romance.

pub. Puffin

ISBN 9780141383934

The Hunger GamesII: Catching Fire by Suzanne Collins

After winning the brutal Hunger Games, Katniss and Peeta return to their district, hoping for a peaceful future. But their victory has caused rebellion to break out ... and the Capitol has decided that someone must pay. As Katniss and Peeta are forced to visit the districts on the Capitol's Victory Tour, the stakes are higher than ever. Unless they can convince the world that they are still lost in their love for each other, the consequences will be horrifying. Then comes the cruellest twist: the contestants for the next Hunger Games are announced, and Katniss and Peeta are forced into the arena once more...

pub. Scholastic

ISBN 9781407109367