

We recommend these great reads in

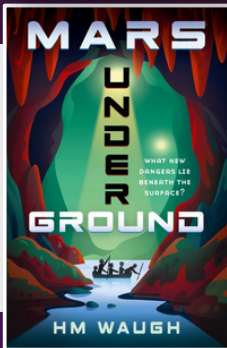
NEW JUNIOR FICTION

July 2023



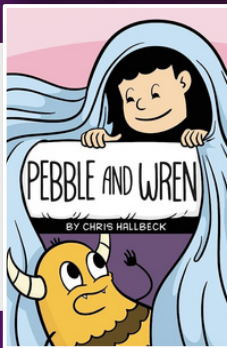
Hercules Quick's Big Bag of Tricks by Ursula Dubosarsky

Hercules Quick wants to be a magnificent magician. He just needs a special box of magic tricks. But the box is expensive, and Hercules doesn't have any money. Luckily, Hercules lives in a big apartment block with Aunt Alligator and his tadpole friend, Sylvie, and he has plenty of neighbours who are willing to pay for his help. Whether it's babysitting for the Elks, spring-cleaning for Queen Claude, or helping Professor Calamari choose the perfect bow tie, no job is too odd for Hercules Quick!



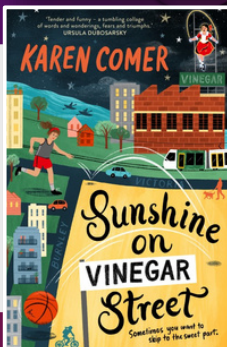
Mars Underground (Mars Duology #2) by HM Waugh

Dee and Holt think they've found safety, but together they must face new dangers to reunite the humans of Mars in this heart-stopping, page-turning sequel to *Mars Awakens*.



Pebble and Wren by Chris Hallbeck

A little girl and her live-in monster learn about what makes them different—and what unites them. This graphic novel is a silly, sweet, and sometimes gross tribute to friendship, and to the wacky world we live in.



Sunshine on Vinegar Street by H. Hayek

Twelve-year old Freya's world is turned upside down when she and her mum relocate to inner-city Melbourne. STUCK in a new apartment on the eleventh floor and Freya is afraid of lifts. STUCK in a new basketball team where not everyone likes a star new player. STUCK in a classroom of kids who don't know Freya is a donor-conceived baby. STUCK, just like Little Audrey in the Skipping Girl sign – suspended in mid-air over the suburb of Abbotsford. Being the new girl makes Freya feel like a dark cloud on a summer's day. Can she figure out how to belong on Vinegar Street?



InvestiGators by John Patrick Green

When rare paintings go missing, the InvestiGators are called on the scene...the ART SCENE! Mango and Brash go undercover and under canvas as internationally renowned painters to expose a crook who has truly mastered the art of CRIME! Can they recover the missing masterpieces and save the city art museum's fundraising gala before it's too late...and they run out of appetizers? Find out in this latest pièce de résistance of action-packed illustrated fun.



The 39 Clues by Rick Riordan

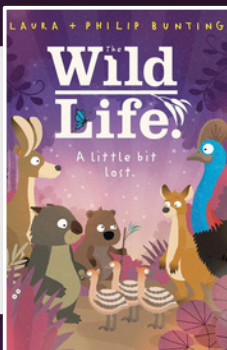
Minutes before she died Grace Cahill changed her will, leaving her descendants an impossible decision: 'You have a choice - one million dollars or a clue.' 39 Clues hidden around the world will reveal the family's secret, but no one has been able to assemble them. Now the clues race is on, and young Amy and Dan must decide what's important: hunting clues or uncovering what really happened to their parents.



Mikki and Me and the Out-of-Tune Tree by Marion Roberts

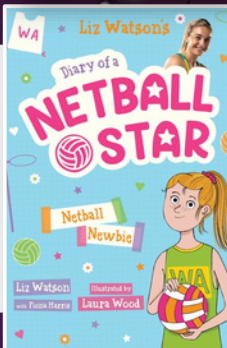
After becoming attuned to the songs of the forest and setting up a successful social media nature channel, Alberta Bracken and Mikki Watanabe are determined to pull out all the stops to save their local grove of trees in this thoroughly enjoyable novel for young readers.

NOTABLE BOOK: 2023 CBCA Book of the Year, Younger Readers



Wild Life #3 by Laura & Philip Bunting

Roo has woken up with three new babies – weird babies – in her pouch. But where did they come from? And can Wombat become the funcle (fun uncle) he thinks he will be? Follow Quokka, Wombat and Roo on a quirky quest to return three very lost chicks to their parents.



Diary of a Netball Star #1 by Liz Watsons

Liz Watson loves reading, baking, and hanging out with her BFF, Katie. But there's one thing she loves the most ... netball. Read all about it in her diary! Liz's best friend, Katie, has signed up to a try-out day at the local netball club, and Liz decides to give it a go too! But she's never played netball before. What if the rest of the team don't like her? What if she can't shoot a goal? What if she forgets all the rules? Will she be the next netball star?



Apple Crush : A graphic novel by Lucy Knisley

Jen is just getting used to her life on Peapod Farm with her new stepsisters, Andy and Reese. But when the school year starts, there are even more changes in store for her. Jen has to navigate new friends and new challenges—but at least she'll have Andy with her, right? As she starts the sixth grade, she finds that her stepsister seems way more interested in crushes and boys than hanging out with her, while Jen wants to know when the world decided boys and girls couldn't be "just friends" anymore.



Leeva at Last by Sara Pennypacker

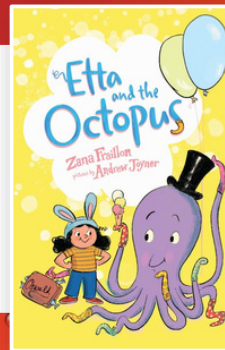
What are people for?

That's the burning question on the mind of Leeva Spayce Thornblossom.

Fame! says Leeva's mom, the mayor of Nutsmore.

Money! says her dad, the town treasurer.

With the help of an orphaned badger, a risk-averse boy in a hazmat suit, and the town's librarians, Leeva sets off to discover her own answer—setting off a chain of events that will change Nutsmore forever.



Etta and the Octopus by Zana Fraillon

FOUND!

One octopus!

Likes to eat tuna sandwiches.

Goes by the name of 'Oswald'.

A hilarious, fully illustrated tale about an unlikely friendship between a girl and an octopus that is perfect for newly independent readers,



Smarty Pup #2 by Anh Do

Okay, okay! said Mr Hosking. *'Fine, JJ can come on school camp. But he has to be on his absolute best behaviour!'*

'Deal!' promised JJ.

JJ the genius pup has Lily and her teammates rolling around with laughter at his antics, until glowing eyes start appearing in the shadows . . . Could it be the legendary GIANT PANTHER??



Jude Saves the World by Ronnie Riley

Twelve-year-old Jude struggles with some things: focusing at school, feeling like everything rests on their shoulders, not being able to come out as nonbinary to their old-fashioned grandparents. But Jude doesn't struggle with Dallas, their best friend in the whole world. Their person.

This is the joyful and heartwarming story of Jude, a nonbinary kid who knows exactly who they are and decides to create a safe space in their community.



Harriet Hound by Kate Foster

Meet Harriet Hound. She's eight years old and loves dogs!

But Harriet has something else that makes her super ... the power to summon the dogs from her family's rescue shelter every time there's trouble afoot.

Whether it's a carnival catastrophe, a sudden storm, or vanishing vegetables, Harriet and her best dog friends use their super special talents and problem-solving skills to save the day!