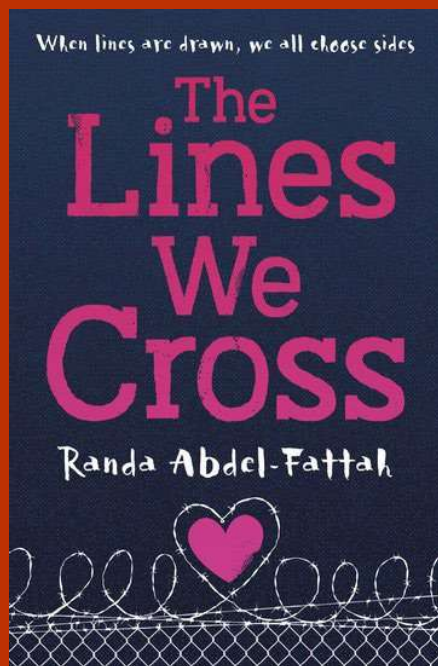


# Key Stage 3

## Years 7-9



r sit amet,  
ng elit,  
r  
dolore  
r  
tortor aliquam nulla facilisi.  
Id neque aliquam vestibulum  
morbi blandit cursus risus at.  
Risus feugiat in ante metus.  
Sed adipiscing diam donec  
adipiscing.  
Eu feugiat pretium nibh  
sum. Sed id semper risus in  
idelerit gravida rutrum  
ue. Duis tristique  
din nibh sit. Nunc  
nper risus in. Nisi  
a mollis aliquam  
t leo in vitae  
t. Habitant  
necus et.  
ut enim  
renas  
bsum  
Tortor condimentum lacinia  
quis vel eros donec ac odio.  
Eget gravida cum sociis  
toque. At quis risus sed  
utate odio ut enim  
t. Dictumst quisque  
urus sit. Sit  
nseco



**Publisher:** Scholastic  
**Year:** 2017

## The Lines We Cross

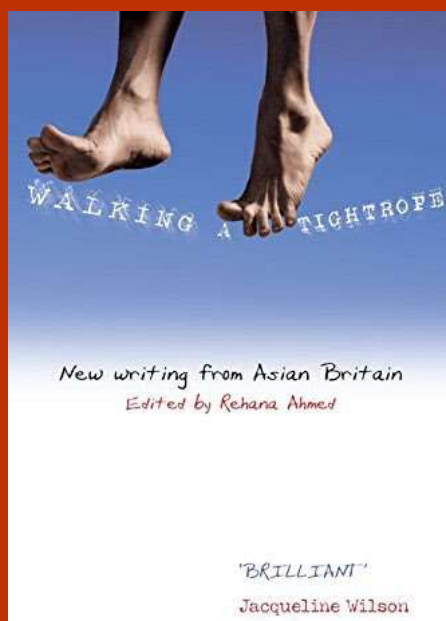
**Randa Abdel-Fattah**

**Themes/topics:** War, Immigration, Refugees, Politics, Racism

Michael likes to hang out with his friends and play with the latest graphic design software. Michael's parents like to take him to anti-immigrant rallies, where they rail against refugees coming into the country.

It all makes sense to Michael until he meets Mina, a Muslim refugee from Afghanistan who shows up at his school and is funny, smart and beautiful.

While Michael begins to question his parents' politics, Mina is getting used to life in a new school after a dangerous journey fleeing her home country. As tensions rise, Michael has to decide what he believes, and Mina has to protect herself and her family.



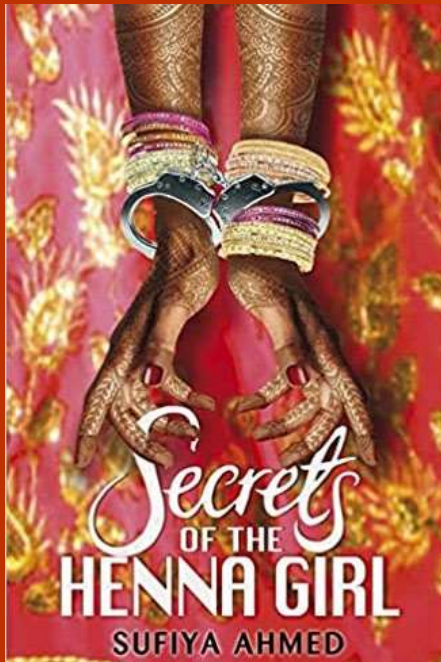
**Publisher:** Macmillan  
**Children's Books**  
**Year:** 2004

## Walking a Tightrope

**Rehana Ahmed**

**Themes/topics:** British Asian experience, Short stories

This collection of stories brings together Asian writers, who cover everything from the night man first set foot on the moon to the World Cup in 2002, from a tiny town miles from Mumbai to the multicultural heart of modern Leicester.



Publisher: Penguin  
Year: 2012

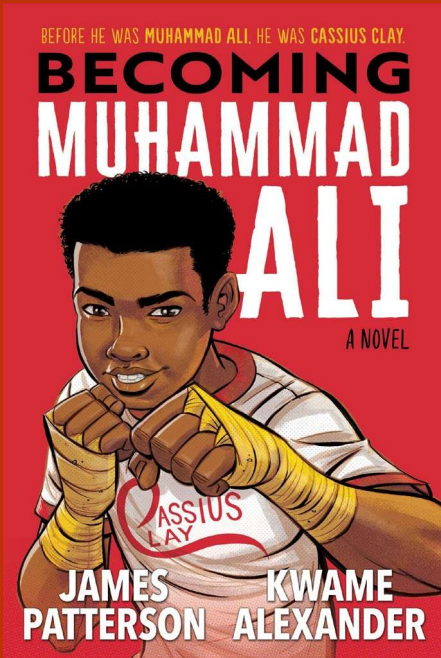
# Secrets of the Henna Girl

Sufiya Ahmed

Themes/topics: Forced marriage, Death, Family

Ahmed's debut YA novel is about Zeba, a 16-year-old girl living like any other teenager. But instead of spending the summer waiting for exam results and dreaming about boys, her parents tell her she is to go to Pakistan for the break. There, her world is shattered when her future is threatened by an unthinkable and forced duty to protect her father's honour.

As well as writing fiction, Ahmed contributed an essay to the anthology *It's Not About the Burqa*, edited by Mariam Khan.



Publisher: Jacaranda  
Year: 2020

# Becoming Muhammad Ali

Kwame Alexander and James Patterson, Dawud Anyabwile (illustrator)

Themes/topics: Biography, Coming-of-age

This biographical novel of cultural icon Muhammad Ali is written by prize-winning writers Alexander and Patterson.

The pair have told the story of the boxer, who was born Cassius Clay, up to the age of 17 in a mix of poetry and prose. Readers will learn about his family and struggles at school, and how, after a thief stole his bike, Cassius began training as an amateur boxer aged 12. *Becoming Muhammad Ali* is authorised by and written in cooperation with the late sportsman's estate.

*Kirkus Reviews* said of the book: "A stellar collaboration that introduces an important and intriguing individual to today's readers."



WINNER OF THE NEWBERY MEDAL & THE CORETTA SCOTT KING HONOR AWARD



BY KWAME ALEXANDER

## Crossover Series

Kwame Alexander

Publisher: Andersen Press

Year: 2015

Themes/topics: Sport, Bullying, Death, Grief

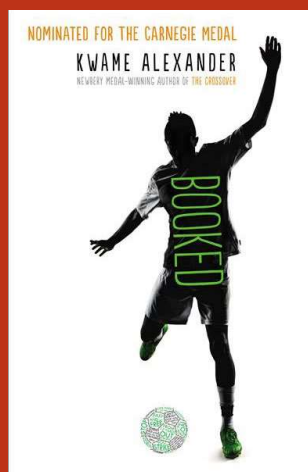
Alexander's Crossover series takes place in the world of sport, with different characters introduced in each book.

*The Crossover* is about twins Josh and Jordan, who are star players on their school's basketball team. Their father was a champion player, and all they want is to follow in his footsteps, but on and off the court there's conflict and hardship that will test Josh's bond with his brother.

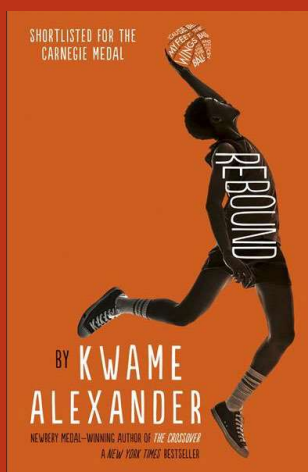
*Booked* follows Nick, a football fan who hates books. Nick has to figure out how to navigate his parents' break-up, stand up to bullies, and impress the girl of his dreams. Succeeding will change not just his life, but that of his best friend too.

In *Rebound*, Charlie is mourning his father and trying to work out how he feels about his best friend. When he gets into trouble one too many times, he's sent to stay with his grandparents for the summer. There, his cousin introduces him to basketball, and Charlie is enamoured with the court. But he has to learn to resist when trouble comes knocking once again.

Alexander won the Newbery Medal for *The Crossover*.



NOMINATED FOR THE CARNEGIE MEDAL  
KWAME ALEXANDER  
NEWBERY MEDAL-WINNING AUTHOR OF THE CROSSOVER



SHORTLISTED FOR THE  
CARNEGIE MEDAL

BY KWAME  
ALEXANDER  
NEWBERY MEDAL-WINNING AUTHOR OF THE CROSSOVER  
A NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER



# The Deep Blue Between

Ayesha Harruna Attah

Themes/topics: Family, Death, Adventure, Siblings

Publisher: Pushkin Children's Books

Year: 2020

Twins Hassana and Husseinah's home has been left in ruins after a brutal raid, leading them to take a journey to unfamiliar cities and cultures to forge new families.

As the twins pursue separate paths – one in Brazil and the other on the Gold Coast of West Africa – they remain connected through shared dreams of water.

*The Deep Blue Between* is a sweeping adventure tale about bonds that can endure even through the most dramatic changes.

*The Deep Blue Between* is Attah's first YA novel, but she has also written a number of books for adults. These include *Harmattan Rain*, which was nominated for the 2010 Commonwealth Writers' Prize, and *The Hundred Wells of Salaga*, a story exploring female friendship set in pre-colonial Ghana.

# A Jigsaw of Fire and Stars

Yaba Badoe, Leo Nickolls (illustrator)

Themes/topics: Adoption, Family, Grief, Death

Publisher: Zephyr

Year: 2017

Badoe's novel is about the horrors of people-trafficking, told via a story that is steeped with African folklore.

The book is about Sante, who was washed ashore as a baby in a chest laden with treasure, the sole survivor of a ship carrying migrants and refugees. Now 14, she is a member of Mama Rose's unique and dazzling circus, but from their watery graves, the unquiet are calling for Sante to avenge them.

Author M. G. Leonard said of the book: "When I was reading this book, I fell in love with Sante. She is a great protagonist. And in fact I loved all the females in this book and the relationships between them. This book has strong, interesting and complex characters a plenty and they're mostly women."

*A Jigsaw of Fire and Stars* was shortlisted for the Branford Boase Award and nominated for the Carnegie Medal, both in 2018.



acilisi.  
ibulum  
isus at.  
netus.  
onec

proin nibh nisl condimen-  
tum. Tristique senectus et  
netus et. Gravida arcu ac  
tortor dignissim convallis  
aenean et tortor at. Ante in  
nibh mauris cursus mattis.

ph  
risus in  
um  
e  
unc  
Nisi  
quam  
itae  
itant  
us et.  
enim  
enas  
ipsum  
nec

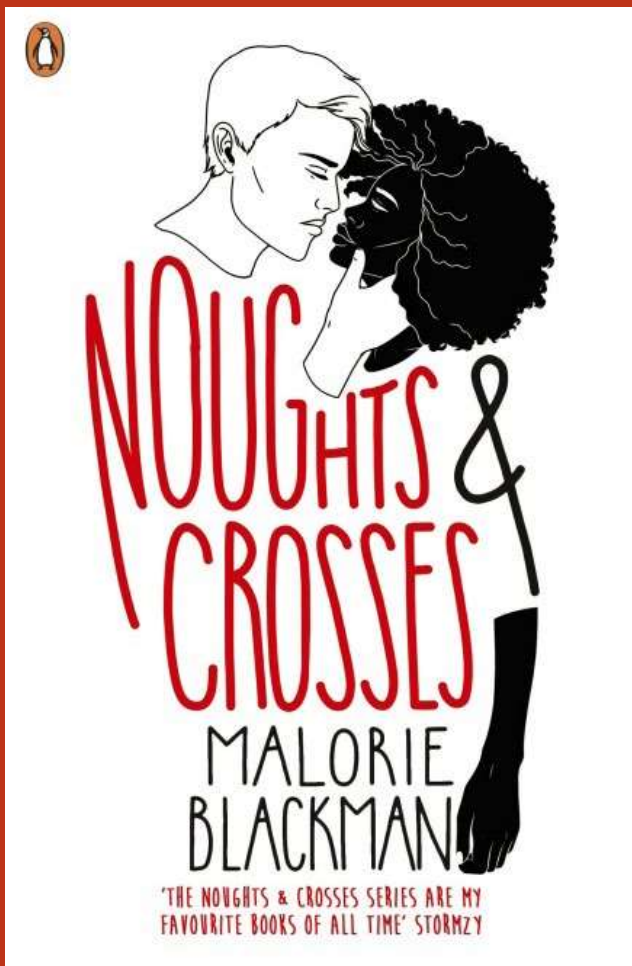
Tortor condimentum lacinia  
quis vel eros donec ac odio.  
Eget gravida cum sociis  
natoque. At quis risus sed  
vulputate odio ut enim  
blandit. Dictumst quisque  
sagittis purus sit. Sit amet  
volutpat consequat mauris  
nunc congue. Aliquet enim  
tortor at auctor urna nunc  
id. Nec feugiat in fermentum  
posuere. A erat nam at  
lectus. Enim diam vulputate  
ut pharetra sit amet

eget  
acilisi  
quis.  
ut eu  
pendis-  
ur  
ilisis  
vitae.

Tortor condimentum lacinia  
quis vel eros donec ac odio.  
Eget gravida cum sociis  
natoque. At quis risus sed  
vulputate odio ut enim  
blandit. Dictumst quisque  
sagittis purus sit. Sit amet  
volutpat consequat mauris  
nunc congue. Aliquet enim  
tortor at auctor urna nunc

lectus





# Noughts & Crosses

Malorie Blackman

Themes/topics: Race, Racism, Politics

Publisher: Penguin

Year: 2001

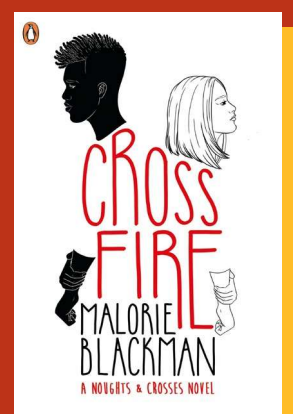
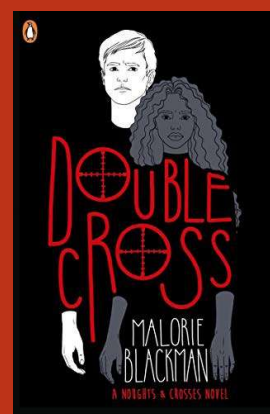
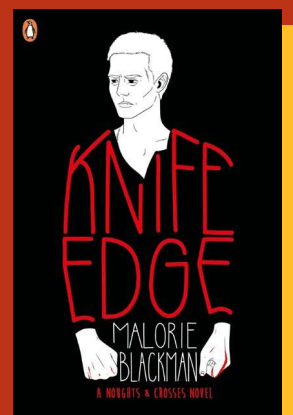
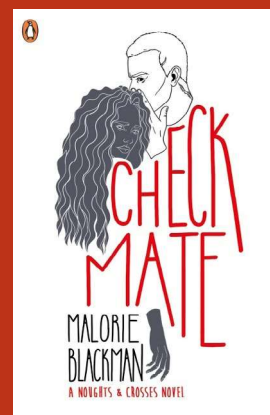
First published in 2001, the inspiration for Blackman's now legendary YA novel was the brutal murder of Stephen Lawrence in 1993, and the institutional racism exposed at the Metropolitan Police by the investigation into the crime.

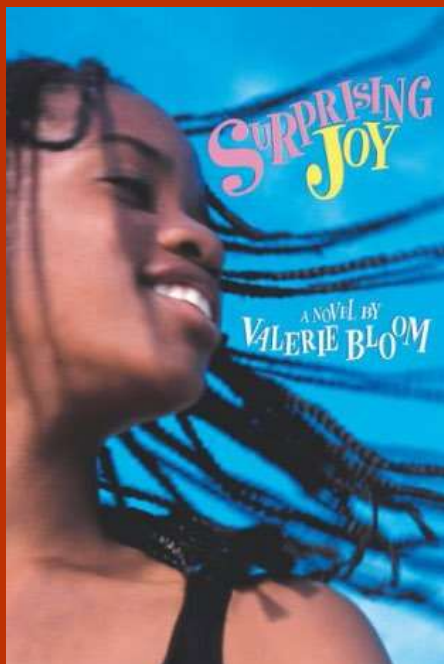
Blackman's book presents a world split into two: Black people are known as Crosses, and are the majority and the elite, holding all positions of power and the greatest wealth, while the white noughts are second-class citizens.

Through a friendship, and a budding relationship, between Cross Sephy and Nought Callum, Blackman explores racism, prejudice and more.

BookTrust said of *Noughts & Crosses*: "As well as being a compelling tale of love and friendship, this is an outstanding and thought-provoking exploration of the futility of prejudice. A contemporary classic."

*Noughts & Crosses* is the first in a series; Blackman has since written four more books in the series (*Knife Edge*, *Checkmate*, *Double Cross*, and *Crossfire*) with a fifth and final, *Endgame*, due out in Autumn 2021.





**Publisher:** Macmillan  
Children's Books  
**Year:** 2003

# Surprising Joy

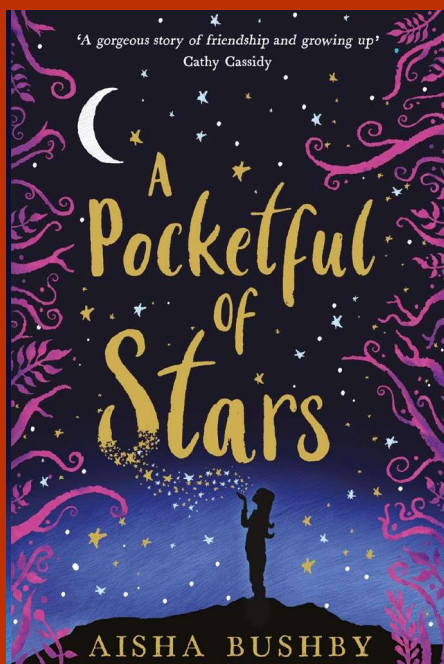
**Valerie Bloom**

**Themes/topics:** Migration, Coming-of-age, Racism

The title character, Joy, has spent her life living with her grandmother in Jamaica, dreaming of joining her mother in England.

When Joy's mother writes to say she's ready for Joy to come to London, Joy is excited. But London in December is cold and dark and unfriendly, and her mother has been keeping a secret that shocks Joy even more.

*Surprising Joy* is the first novel from poet Bloom, who worked as a teacher, a steel pan instructor and an arts officer before becoming a full-time writer.



**Publisher:** Egmont  
**Year:** 2019

# A Pocketful of Stars

**Aisha Bushby**

**Themes/topics:** Grief, Illness, Gaming

Bushby's debut novel is about Safiya, who loves gaming, and her mother, who doesn't understand her passion. Perhaps, thinks Safiya, her mum would prefer she were more like her confident best friend Elle.

When her mum falls into a coma, Safiya waits by her bedside, and finds herself in a strange and magical world that looks a bit like one of her games. And in that world, there's a rebellious and familiar-looking teenage girl with a secret.

Bushby was one of four previously unpublished authors chosen to have a story published in the anthology *A Change is Gonna Come*. The book, which featured original stories by writers including Malorie Blackman, Tanya Byrne and Nikesh Shukla, was awarded a YA Book Prize Special Achievement Award.





**Publisher:** Allen & Unwin  
Children's Books  
**Year:** 2019

# The Surprising Power of a Good Dumpling

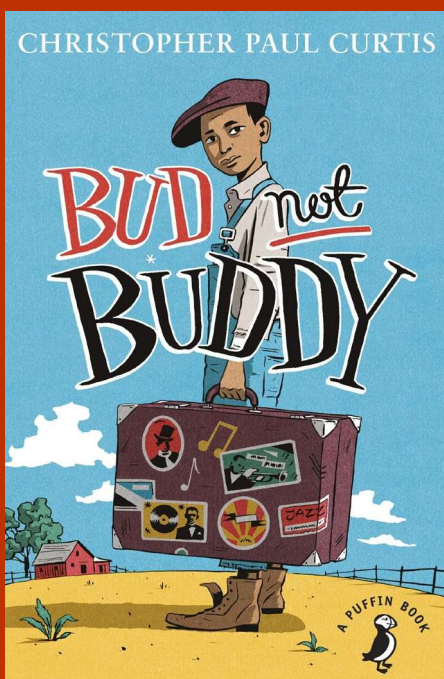
Wai Chim

**Themes/topics:** Mental health, Family, Romance

Anna Chiu spends her days looking after her brother and sister and helping out at her dad's restaurant, while her mum stays in bed. So her dad's new delivery boy Rory is a welcome distraction, making her feel like a "normal" teenager even when she knows things aren't right at home.

When Anna's mum finally gets out of bed, her condition worsens, leaving Anna and her family questioning everything they know about each other.

*Kirkus Reviews* said of ***The Surprising Power of a Good Dumpling***: "Gritty details lend depth to this viscerally powerful tale of a teen struggling to help her troubled family."



**Publisher:** Corgi Children's  
**Year:** 2012

# Bud, Not Buddy

Christopher Paul Curtis

**Themes/topics:** Poverty, Racism, Race, Civil Rights

Bud is without a mother and on the run, determined to track down a father he hasn't met. The only clue he has is from his late mum, who left him a bunch of flyers about Herman E Calloway and his famous jazz band, the Dusky Devastators of the Depression.

***Bud, Not Buddy*** won the Newbery Medal and Coretta Scott King Award, and Curtis' 1995 novel ***The Watsons Go to Birmingham - 1963*** was adapted into a TV film of the same name.



# The Gilded Ones

Namina Forna

Themes/topics: Magic, Fantasy, Women's rights

Publisher: Usborne

Year: 2021

Forna's debut novel follows 16-year-old Dekka, who lives in a deeply patriarchal ancient kingdom called Otera. There, a woman's worth is tied to her purity, and she must bleed to prove it.

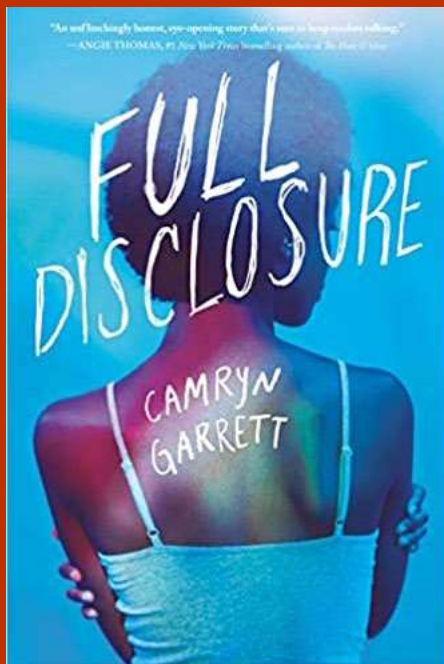
When Dekka bleeds gold, a colour signifying impurity, she faces a consequence worse than death. Rescued by a mysterious woman, Dekka finds out that she is an Alaki, a near-immortal with exceptional gifts. The woman offers Dekka a choice: fight for the Emperor, with others just like her, or be destroyed.

*Refinery 29* said Forna could be the "Toni Morrison of YA fantasy" while Dhonielle Clayton, the author of *The Belles*, said: "A dark feminist tale spun with blood and gold, *The Gilded Ones* lifts the veil of violent patriarchy and burns the idea of purity to the ground. Must read!"

Forna is originally from Sierra Leone, West Africa, and moved to the US when she was nine. As well as writing books, she works as a screenwriter in LA.

● The *Gilded Ones* is perfect for fans of Tomi Adeyemi's *Children of Blood and Bone*.





**Publisher:** Penguin  
**Year:** 2019

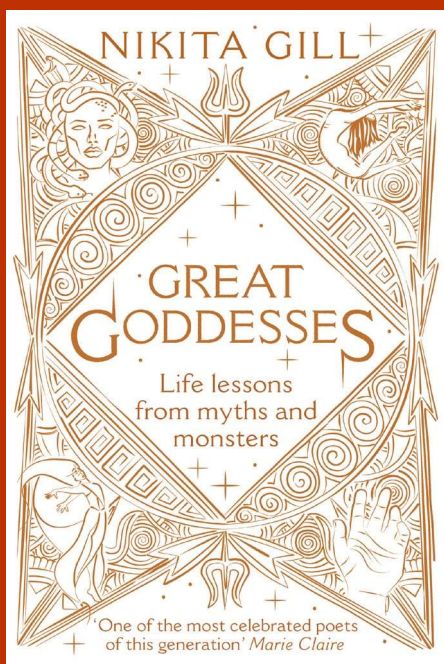
## Full Disclosure

**Camryn Garrett**

**Themes/topics:** Health, Mental Health, Bullying, Sexuality

*Full Disclosure* follows Simone, who won't let her HIV-positive status define her. She knows that staying celibate is the best way to stay safe, but when intelligent, funny and sexy Miles Austin enters her life, she finds it difficult to resist. Miles and her classmates don't know Simone is HIV-positive, and now someone is threatening to reveal her secret.

Garrett's debut novel was published when she was just 20 years old. When she was 13, she was selected as a *TIME* for Kids reporter, where she interviewed celebrities including Warren Buffett and Kristen Bell, and in 2015 she was named as one of MTV's 8 Inspiring Teens Using Social Media to Change the World. Becky Albertalli, author of *Simon Vs the Homosapiens Agenda*, called *Full Disclosure* "romantic, funny, hopeful, and unflinchingly real".



**Publisher:** Ebury Press  
**Year:** 2019

## Great Goddesses

**Nikita Gill**

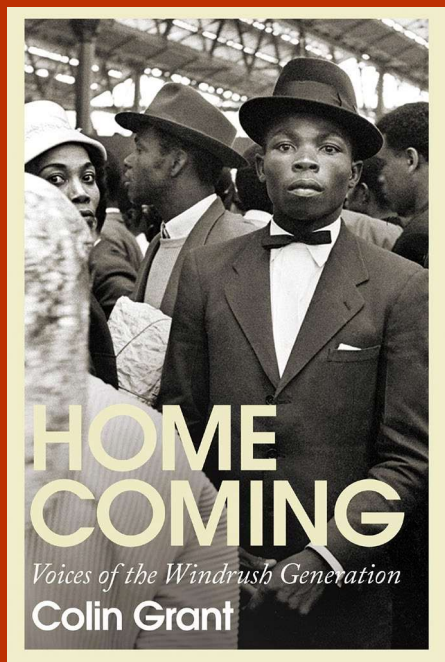
**Themes/topics:** Women's rights, Feminism, Domestic Violence, Death, Grief

Poet Gill tackles the Greek myths in this collection, which looks not just at female heroes, but also the women deemed monsters by the Ancient Greeks.

From Medusa and her venomous hair to Circe and her sorcery and Athena rising up over Olympus, Gill gives a voice and a story to the women who were often a side note in some of the most famous stories in all history.

Gill's reimagining of the stories brings them right up to date, and the collection addresses the Me Too movement, coercive control, and women at work, among other topics.





**Publisher:** Jonathan Cape  
**Year:** 2019

# Homecoming: Voices of the Windrush Generation

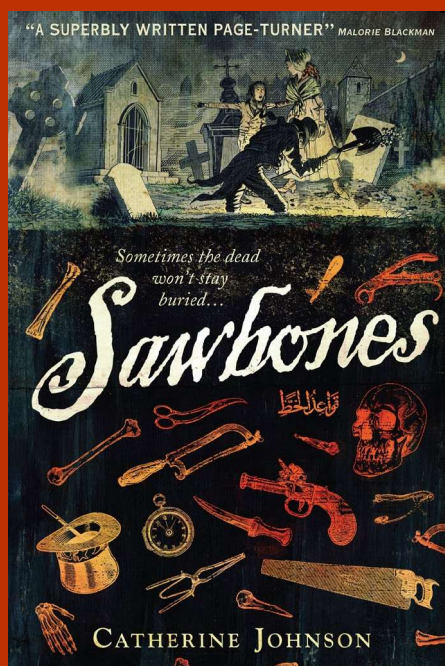
**Colin Grant**

**Themes/topics:** British history, Migration, Racism

Drawing on more than 100 first-hand interviews, archival recordings and memoirs by the women and men who came to Britain from the West Indies between the late 1940s and the early 1960s, *Homecoming* paints a rounded portrait of the Windrush generation.

Readers will hear from nurses in Manchester, bus drivers in Bristol, seamstresses in Birmingham, inter-racial lovers in High Wycombe, and Carnival Queens in Leeds.

*Homecoming* was a BBC Radio 4 Book of the Week and named as one of *The Daily Telegraph's* books of the year.



**Publisher:** Walker Books  
**Year:** 2013

# Sawbones

**Catherine Johnson**

**Themes/topics:** Death, British history, Mystery

Johnson's novel is a murder mystery set in Victorian London, centring on surgeon's apprentice Ezra McAdam. His knowledge of human anatomy and skill at the dissection table mean Ezra has a trade for life, but when a failed break-in at his master's house results in murder, Ezra's path changes.

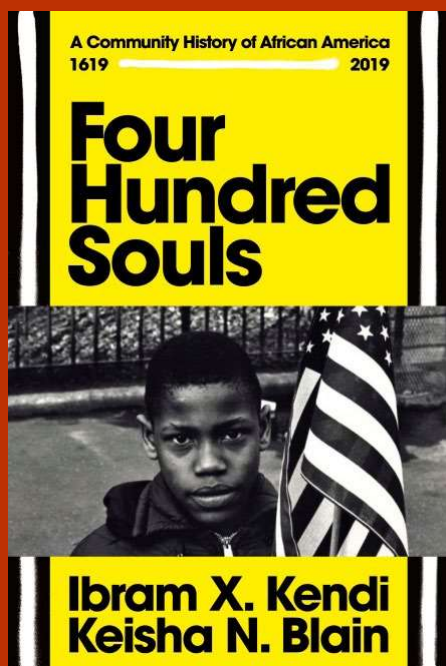
He teams up with Loveday Finch, the daughter of the late Mr Charles Finch, to investigate the death of Loveday's father. Along the way, the pair discover similarities between Mr Finch's corpse and others'.

From the Operating Theatre at St Bart's to the desolate wasteland of Coldbath Fields and the streets of Clerkenwell, Ezra and Loveday must pursue a dangerous path to the truth. *Sawbones* won the Young Quills Award for best historical fiction for 12+.

>Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Maleuada habitant arcu vitae eleum curabitur vitae nuntum id velit ut tortor pretium viverra suspendisse potenti. Imperdiet maecenas faucibus mollis interdum nunc pulvinar sapien et ligula ullamcorper malesuada.

Vestibulum mattis ullamcorper velit sed ullamcorper morbi tincidunt. Ror quisque non tellus orci auctor augue mauris auger nam libero elit. Pulvinar sapien et ligula ullamcorper malesuada proin massa ultricies. Hendrerit dolor magna eget est lorem ipsum. Vestibulum sed arcu odio euismod lacinia at quisque velit. Pulvinar sapien et ligula ullamcorper malesuada proin libero, justo quisque lorem ipsum dolor sit amet. Massa ultricies sed quisque egestas sed. Aliquam vestibulum blandit cursus.

aliquam nulla facilis, ac aliquam vestibulum ligula cursus risus at, scing diam donec. retium nibh, semper risus in ulla rutrum risique sit. Nunc proin nibh nisl condimentum. Tristique senectus et tortor dignissim convallis, nisl mauris cursus mattis. Tortor condimentum lacinia quis vel eros donec. Eget gravida.



**Publisher:** Bodley Head  
**Year:** 2021

## Four Hundred Souls: A Community History of African America 1619-2019

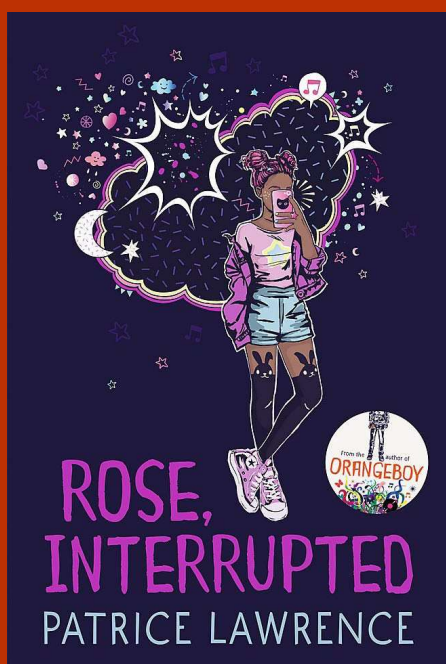
Ibram X. Kendi and Keisha N. Blain

Themes/topics: American history, Race, Racism

Bringing together 90 leading Black voices, *Four Hundred Souls* is a history of African America, compiled by Kendi, author of *How To Be an Antiracist*, and Blain, author of *Set the World on Fire*.

The story begins with the arrival of 20 Ndongo people on the shores of the first British colony in mainland America in 1619, and over 80 chronological chapters charts the 400-year journey of African Americans to the present day.

Contributors include leading writers, historians, poets, activists and more, creating a history told through various perspectives.



**Publisher:** Hodder Children's Books  
**Year:** 2019

## Rose, Interrupted

Patrice Lawrence

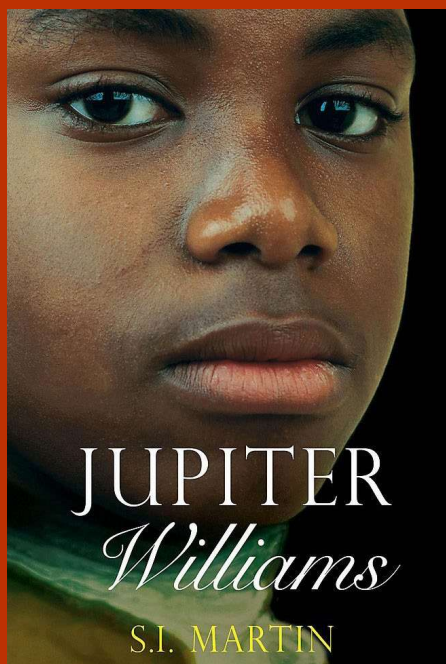
Themes/topics: Revenge porn, Coming-of-age, Siblings

*Rose, Interrupted* is Lawrence's third novel, and follows a family who have escaped from a strict religious sect.

In their new life, 13-year-old Rudder is embracing everything from Harry Potter to Simon and Garfunkel, while Rose has swapped her ankle skirts and uncut hair for Japanese-cute fairy dresses and her new boyfriend Kye.

But Rose and Rudder aren't equipped to handle everything this strange world is throwing at them, and when Rudder accidentally sets a devastating chain of events into action, Rose must decide whether to sacrifice everything and go back to the life she hates, in order to save the people she loves.





**Publisher:** Hodder Children's Books  
**Year:** 2007

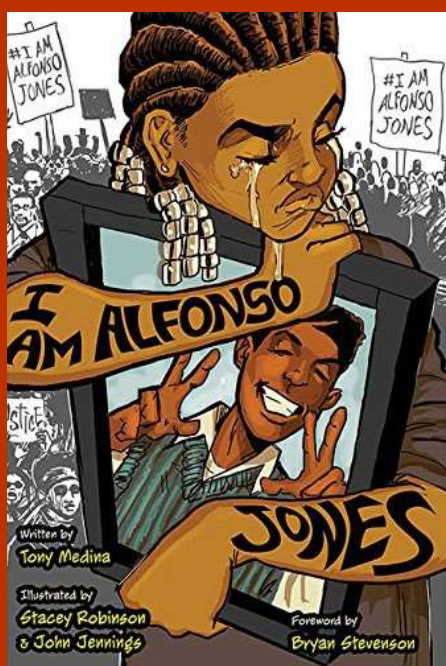
# Jupiter Williams

**S I Martin**

**Themes/topics:** Wealth inequality, Race, Racism

Set in London in the 1800s, *Jupiter Williams* follows the young boy of the title, who is living at the African Academy in Clapham with other wealthy Sierra Leonean boys. Jupiter's life is a mix of privilege and dispossession as he copes with the cruelty of his teachers, the rivalries and tensions among his schoolmates, a sense of duty towards his younger brother Robert and guilt over the death of another brother in Africa.

When Robert vanishes, Jupiter has to go out into London, where he discovers poor Black communities struggling for survival along the squalid reaches of the Thames. There, his education and background mean nothing, and his skin colour is the only thing determining his fate. Martin is a writer and historian, and the founder of a series of narrative London walks entitled 500 Years of Black London.



**Publisher:** Tu Books  
**Year:** 2017

# I Am Alfonso Jones

**Tony Medina, Stacey Robinson and John Jennings**  
**(illustrators)**

**Themes/topics:** Death, Grief, Race, Racism, Police violence

Described as *The Hate U Give* meets *The Lovely Bones*, Medina's novel is about Alfonso Jones, who is looking forward to playing Hamlet in his school's hip-hop rendition of the Shakespeare play. But when Alfonso is out buying a suit, an off-duty police officer mistakes his clothes hanger for a gun, and fatally shoots the teenager.

Alfonso wakes up in the afterlife, on a ghost train guided by victims of police shootings, who teach him what he needs to know about the subterranean spirit world. Meanwhile, Alfonso's family and friends are trying to come to terms with their grief, and seek justice for Alfonso in the streets.

This graphic novel has a foreword by Bryan Stevenson, executive director of the Equal Justice Initiative, and the author of *Just Mercy*, which was made into a film starring Michael B. Jordan.



DAVID OLUSOGA

# Black AND British

A short, essential history

Macmillan  
Children's Books  
will donate 50p  
for every copy sold to  
**THE CURRICULUM**  
Help Support Education  
No. 1202273

## Black and British: A Short, Essential History

David Olusoga

Themes/topics: British history, Non-fiction

Publisher: Macmillan Children's Books

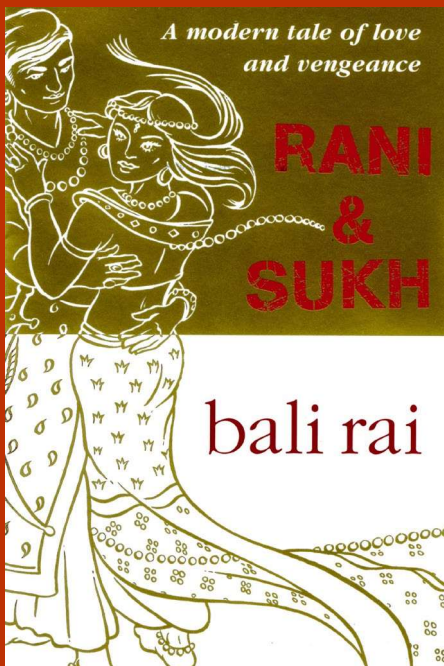
Year: 2020

Historian Olusoga's bestselling book *Black and British*, which won the 2017 PEN Hessel-Tiltman Prize, accompanied a BBC TV series, and is available in an edition specially created for readers aged 12 and over.

Covering topics including when Africans first come to Britain, who the well-dressed Black children in Georgian paintings are and more, *Black and British* is an introduction to 1800 years of Black British history to the present day.

Illustrated with maps, photos and portraits, *Black and British: A Short, Essential History* was shortlisted for the Waterstones Book of the Year Award in 2020.

Reviewing the original book for *The Guardian*, Colin Grant said: "For all the fanfare heralding the book and the series as a revolutionary landmark – as a means of seeing our history differently – it is Olusoga's personal story that is most arresting. At the beginning and end, he mournfully captures that feeling of being unwelcome in Britain, and the desire for flight, to escape the brutal and bruising atmosphere that I, as a child of Jamaican immigrants, felt in the 1970s."



**Publisher:** Corgi Children's  
**Year:** 2004

# Rani and Sukh

**Bali Rai**

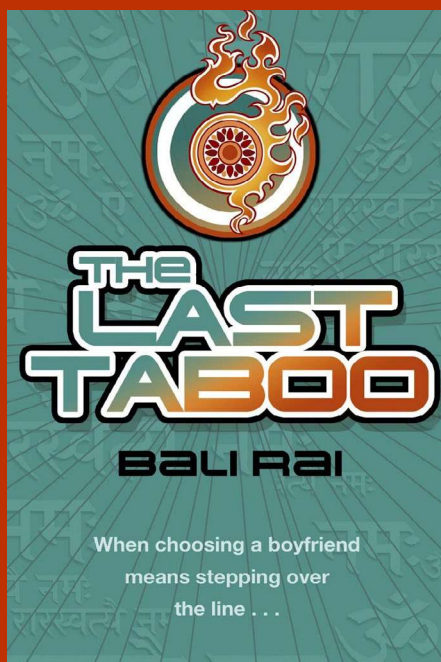
**Themes/topics:** Death, Grief, Family

Set between modern-day Britain and Punjab in the 1950s and 1960s, Rai's novel is about tragedy and conflict, and love.

In 1950s Punjab, a secret affair goes wrong, and the bride dies by suicide after her lover is attacked by her family. The two families involved are separated by the violence forever.

In 2004 in Leicester, Rani and Sukh fall in love, completely unaware of the conflict between their families, and the tragic past that still affects their lives. Rani and Sukh must try and avert tragedy and escape the cycle of violence that threatens their future.

Rai's debut novel *(Un)arranged Marriage* was critically acclaimed, and was shortlisted for the Branford Boase award.



**Publisher:** Corgi Children's  
**Year:** 2006

# The Last Taboo

**Bali Rai**

**Themes/topics:** Race, Romance, Family

When Simran spots Tyrone, she falls for him immediately. But Simran is unsure how her family will react to Tyrone being Black, even though her parents had a love marriage and got together against the wishes of their families. Simran doesn't think they will approve, and she knows her nightmare aunts and uncles definitely won't.

But Simran likes Tyrone too much, and she's not willing to walk away. When their relationship becomes harder than they predicted, and eventually the hatred they encounter escalates into violence, Simran and Tyrone have to question whether they are strong enough to fight for what they believe in.



Shortlisted for the Costa Biography Award  
Winner of the Mind Book of the Year Award



'One of my favourite  
ever memoirs.  
I loved it'  
J.K. Rowling

'Told with enormous  
compassion and the  
most unexpected wit'  
Jonathan Coe

'A fine book'  
Aravind Adiga

'Heartbreaking  
and wonderful'  
Maggie O'Farrell

# The Boy with the Topknot

SATHNAM SANGHERA

## The Boy with the Topknot

Sathnam Sanghera

Themes/topics: Family, Mental health,  
Love, Memoir

Publisher: Viking

Year: 2008

Journalist Sanghera's first book is about trying to reconcile the past he remembers from growing up in Wolverhampton with a discovery that his family has been keeping a huge secret: when he was 24, Sanghera found out his father and sister were both suffering from a severe mental illness he didn't know about.

The revelation prompted Sanghera to embark on a journey into the past to try and find out more about how the secret came to be.

*The Boy with the Topknot* is a portrait of a family dealing with mental ill health, and is filled with love and humour.

BookTrust said of *The Boy with the Topknot*: "The book moves along quickly, never boring, always painting an interesting picture of a family dealing with mental illness and a family dealing with the cultural differences of old and new, East and West."

Sanghera's memoir was adapted for a BBC series in 2017, starring Sacha Dhawan in the lead role.





**Publisher:** Penguin USA  
**Year:** 2010

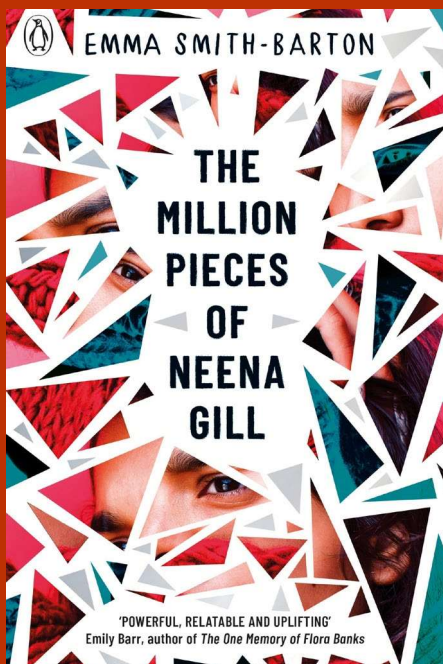
# Flygirl

**Sherri L. Smith**

**Themes/topics:** Race, Racism

Ida Mae Jones wants to follow in the footsteps of her late father, who was a pilot, and take to the skies. But as a young Black woman in 1940s Louisiana, she knows that her dream is unlikely to come true. That is, until America enters the Second World War, and the Women Airforce Service Pilots are formed.

But to fulfil her dreams, Ida has to use her light skin to pass as a white girl. Ida wants to fly more than anything, but she soon learns that denying who she is, and by extension denying her family, is a heavy burden to bear.



**Publisher:** Penguin  
**Year:** 2019

# The Million Pieces of Neena Gill

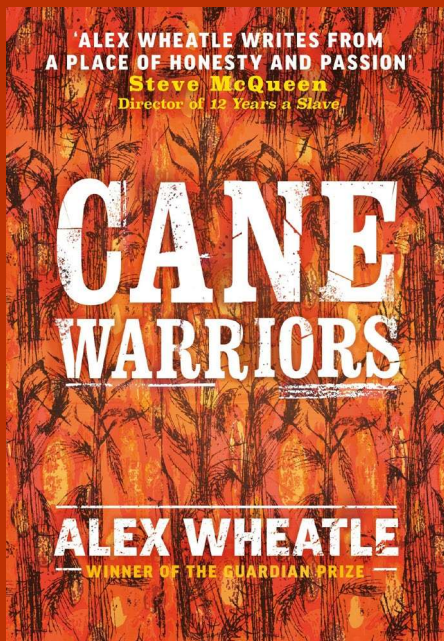
**Emma Smith-Barton**

**Themes/topics:** Mental health, Family

The title character of Smith-Barton's book has always got great grades, her friends are all parent-approved, and she's never had a boyfriend. But since her brother Akash left, Neena has been falling apart, discovering a version of herself who is both freer and more dangerous.

As Neena's wild behaviour spirals out of control, her sanity begins to weaken. And when her parents announce two life-changing bombshells, she reaches breaking point. The only thing that can piece Neena together now is love.

Smith-Barton's debut novel was shortlisted for the Waterstones Children's Book Prize, the Branford Boase Award, and the Romantic Novelists' Association Debut Romantic Novel Award, all in 2020.



**Publisher:** Andersen Press  
**Year:** 2020

# Cane Warriors

**Alex Wheatle**

**Themes/topics:** Race, Racism, Colonialism, Slavery

*Cane Warriors* is based on the true story of Tacky's War in Jamaica in 1760, led by a Fanti royal and warlord called Tacky, which was one of the most significant slave uprisings of the 18th century.

Wheatle's fictionalisation follows the character of Moa, a 14-year-old who has only ever known a life toiling on the Frontier surge cane plantation. When he learns of an uprising, Moa is determined to join and become a cane warrior, fighting for the freedom of all the enslaved people in the nearby plantations.

But before he can escape, Moa and his friend Keverton have to kill their overseer, Misser Donaldson, a task that won't be easy.



**Publisher:** Corgi Children's  
**Year:** 2015

# Everything, Everything

**Nicola Yoon**

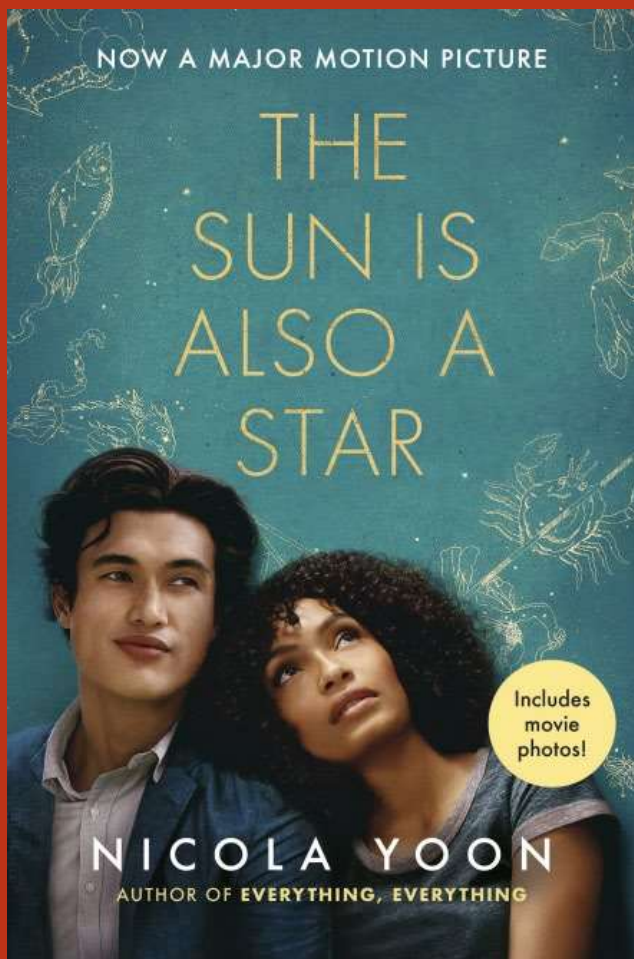
**Themes/topics:** Health, Mental health, Family, Romance

A number one *New York Times* bestseller, *Everything, Everything* is the story of Maddy, who is allergic to everything. She is strictly confined to the sterile sanctuary of her home, watching the world go by outside her window.

And then Olly moves in next door, and Maddy realises that being alive is not the same as living. As Olly and Maddy begin to fall in love, Maddy begins to question her life and her relationship with her mother.

*Everything, Everything* was made into a film starring Amandla Stenberg as Maddy and Nick Robinson as Olly.





# The Sun is Also a Star

Nicola Yoon

Themes/topics: Love, Immigration, Coming-of-age

Publisher: Corgi Children's

Year: 2016

Yoon's second novel is told from the perspectives of two characters. On one side is the practical Natasha, who doesn't have a moment to waste: she and her family are being deported back to Jamaica at 10pm. Meanwhile, dreamer Daniel is on his way to a life-changing interview, having become the focus for his Korean parents since his older brother dropped out of Harvard.

When Natasha and Daniel's lives collide, it results in love, tragedy and hope for both of them.

Yoon's book goes back and forth between the two characters, and the majority takes place during the course of one day.

*The Sun is Also a Star* was a National Book Award Finalist, a 2017 Michael L. Printz Honor Book, and a *New York Times* Notable Book of 2016.

*Kirkus Reviews* said of the book: "With appeal to cynics and romantics alike, this profound exploration of life and love tempers harsh realities with the beauty of hope in a way that is both deeply moving and satisfying."

iquam nulla facilisi.  
e aliquam vestibulum  
blandit cursus risus at.  
ugiat in ante metus.  
ipiscing diam donec  
ing.

proin nibh nisl condimen-  
tum. Tristique senectus et  
netus et. Gravida arcu ac  
tortor dignissim convallis  
aenean et tortor at. Ante in  
nibh mauris cursus mattis.

Tortor condimentum lacinia  
quis vel eros donec ac odio.  
Eget gravida cum sociis  
natoque. At quis risus sed  
vulputate odio ut enim  
blandit. Dictumst quisque  
sagittis purus sit. Sit amet  
volutpat consequat mauris  
nunc congue. Aliquet enim  
tortor at auctor urna nunc  
id. Nec feugiat in fermentum  
posuere. A erat nam at  
lectus. Enim diam vulputate  
ut pharetra sit amet

Tortor condimentum lacinia  
quis vel eros donec ac odio.  
Eget gravida cum sociis  
natoque. At quis risus sed  
vulputate odio ut enim  
blandit. Dictumst quisque  
sagittis purus sit. Sit amet  
volutpat consequat mauris  
nunc congue. Aliquet enim

giat pretium nibh  
i. Sed id semper risus in  
perit gravida rutrum  
que. Duis tristique  
itudin nibh sit. Nunc  
d semper risus in. Nisi  
a lorem mollis aliquam  
orttitor. Id leo in vitae  
pis massa sed. Habitant  
rbi tristique senectus et.  
d vulputate odio ut enim  
ndit volutpat maecenas  
lupat. Nisl nunc mi ipsum  
ucibus vitae aliquet nec  
lamcorper. Libero id  
ucibus nisl tincidunt eget  
ullam non nisi est. Facilisi  
tiam dignissim diam quis.  
Velit dignissim sodales ut eu  
sem integer vitae. Suspendis-  
se interdum consectetur  
libero id faucibus. Facilis  
mauris sit amet massa vitae.