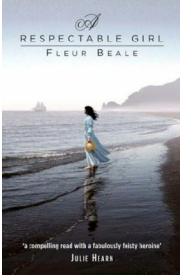


## Sakura Medal 2008

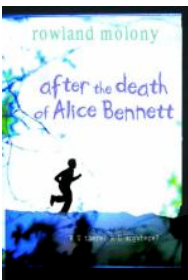
### Middle School List



#### **A respectable girl**

Fleur Beale

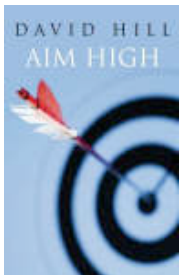
It is 1859 in the raw new township of New Plymouth, where 15-year-old Hannah Carstairs walks between two worlds with an English father and twin bother and a Maori step-mother and step-brother. Soon Hannah finds both worlds changing when disturbing hints about her dead mother's past surface, and then the tensions between Maori and the settlers boils over. With her family divided and war threatening, Hannah and her twin brother flee to England to discover the truth about their parentage.



#### **After the death of Alice Bennett**

Roland Moloney

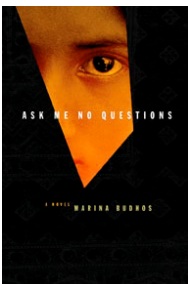
Before mum died, she told Sam that she would always be with him. On the day of mum's cremation, his sister Becky receives a text from a friend: 'Thinking about you. X' Sam becomes convinced that the text is from their mother. Sam thinks he's in contact with mum and forms a plan. How will Sam cope when confronted with the truth?



#### **Aim high**

David Hill

Neale's sport is archery and he faces a challenge between bow and arrows and a rifle when Kane, a boy he doesn't like, dares him to go out to the bush for a shoot-out. But a sudden terrifying event cuts the two boys off from help and they must put aside their differences and work together to survive.



#### **Ask me no questions**

Marina Budhos

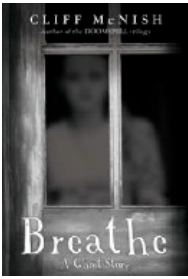
Fourteen-year-old Nadira, her sister, and their parents leave Bangladesh for New York City, but the expiration of their visas and the events of September 11, 2001, bring frustration, sorrow, and terror for the whole family.  
(Follett Titlewave)



#### **The black book of secrets**

F.E. Higgins

Fate delivers young Ludlow Fitch into the employ of strange Joe Zabbidou who every night buys up the secrets of the town's people, relieving them of the awful burdens they have borne for years. These secrets are all duly noted down in the pages of the Black Book. Ungrateful lot that they are, their happiness is short-lived.



## Breathe

Cliff McNish

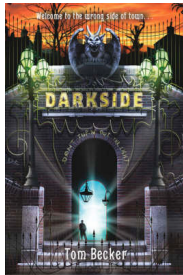
When he and his mother move into an old farmhouse in the English countryside, asthmatic, twelve-year-old Jack discovers that he can communicate with the ghosts inhabiting the house and inadvertently establishes a relationship with a tormented, malevolent spirit that threatens to destroy both his mother and himself. *(Follett Titlewave)*



## Dark hours

Gudrun Pausewang

A grandmother tells her granddaughter the story of how she spent her sixteenth birthday trapped in a bathroom with her younger siblings after an air-raid attack on Germany during the end of World War II. *(Follett Titlewave)*



## Darkside

Tom Becker

Your home's been attacked. Your dad's in an asylum. You're running for your life. And there's nowhere to hide. You've stumbled on the city's greatest secret: Darkside. Incredibly dangerous and unimaginably exciting. Darkside is ruled by Jack the Ripper's children - a place where nightmares walk the streets. You think you're in trouble now, but your problems have just begun... *(www.amazon.co.uk)*



## Don't call me Ishmael

Michael Gerard Bauer

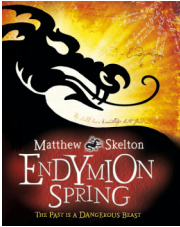
Ishmael is low in self esteem, hates his name and has no personal confidence which makes him the target of bullies at school.



## Don't tell

Sandra Glover

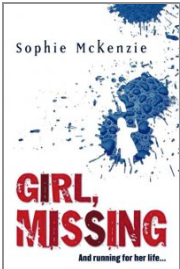
Simon found his mother stabbed to death when he was seven - and his father is in prison due to his evidence. But, supposing his seven-year-old eyes had been too unperceptive? Suppose his father was actually innocent, as he vehemently claims to be? The uncertainty has made Simon moody and violent, and it seems that no-one can help. But then, he runs into Kirsty, who is prepared to be persistent and to ask the questions that matter. Is the real killer still out there? Are all the near-fatal accidents happening to Simon extreme attention seeking, or is the killer after him now? What is it that he knows? *(amazon.co.uk)*



## Endymion Spring

Matthew Skelton

Having reluctantly accompanied his academic mother and pesky younger sister to Oxford, twelve-year-old Blake Winters is at loose ends until he stumbles across an ancient and magical book, secretly brought to England in 1453 by Gutenberg's mute apprentice to save it from evil forces, and which now draws Blake into a dangerous and life-threatening quest.



## Girl, missing

Sophie McKenzie

Lauren has always known she was adopted but when a little research turns up the possibility that she was snatched from an American family as a baby, suddenly Lauren's life seems like a sham. How can she find her biological parents? And are her adoptive parents really responsible for kidnapping her? She manages to wangle a trip across the Atlantic where she runs away to try and find the truth. But the circumstances of her disappearance are murky and Lauren's kidnappers are still at large and willing to do anything to keep her silent... ([www.amazon.co.uk](http://www.amazon.co.uk))



## The goat who sailed the world

Jackie French

Captain Cook's goat had already sailed around the world before it went on its first voyage with Cook, and helped save everyone on board the ship from scurvy. As well as telling the story of this less-than-famous goat, the book looks at the great sea explorations of the eighteenth century, including Cook's voyage to Australia.



## H.I.V.E.: Higher Institute of Villainous Education

Mark Walden

Thirteen-year-old orphan Otto Malpense, identified as a boy with a special talent for villainy, is kidnapped and taken to the remote Higher Institute of Villainous Education, or H.I.V.E., where he is enrolled in a six-year training program and immediately begins formulating a plan to escape.

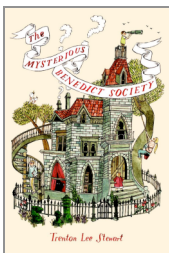
(*Follett Titlewave*)



## Half moon investigations

Eoin Colfer

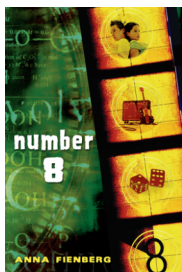
Twelve-year-old Fletcher Moon, the youngest qualified private detective in the world, receives a diploma and gold-plated detective's shield after completing an Internet course, and sets out to solve petty crimes at school, but he is forced to go on the run when, while investigating the town's biggest crime family, his badge is stolen and he is framed for several crimes he did not commit. (*Follett Titlewave*)



## The mysterious Benedict Society

Trenton Stewart Lee

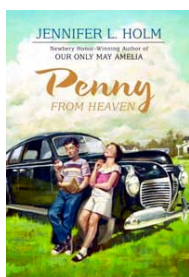
After passing a series of mind-bending tests, four children are selected for a secret mission that requires them to go undercover at the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened, where the only rule is that there are no rules. *(Follett Titlewave)*



## Number 8

Anna Fienberg

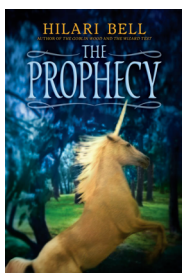
While hiding out from the mob in the suburbs with his mother, who is a singer, Jackson uses his fascination with math and numbers to make friends, but strange phone calls and even greater threats endanger not only Jackson and his mother, but his new girlfriend as well. *(Follett Titlewave)*



## Penny from Heaven

Jennifer Holm

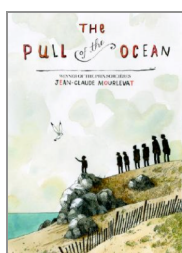
As she turns twelve during the summer of 1953, Penny gains new insights into herself and her family while also learning a secret about her father's death. *(Follett Titlewave)*



## The prophecy

Hilari Bell

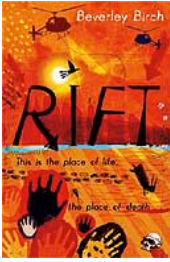
Guided by the words of a prophecy, Prince Perryndon, who loves books more than swords, sets out to slay the black dragon that is destroying his kingdom.



## The pull of the ocean

Jean-Claude Mourlevat

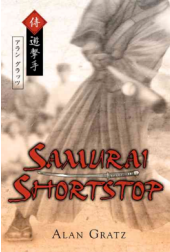
Loosely based on Charles Perrault's "Tom Thumb," seven brothers in modern-day France flee their poor parents' farm, led by the youngest who, although mute and unusually small, is exceptionally wise. *(Follett Titlewave)*



## Rift

Beverley Birch

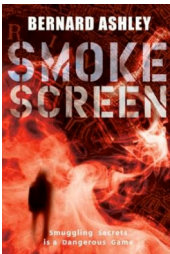
In a vast African landscape four teenagers and a journalist vanish without a trace from a camp below a steep rock ridge, 'Chomlaya'. As Ella, the sister of one of the missing girls, helps Inspector Murothi piece together what happened, she realises there are terrifying possibilities for her sister and the four others. ...



## Samurai shortstop

Alan Gratz

While obtaining a Western education at a prestigious Japanese boarding school in 1890, sixteen-year-old Toyo also receives traditional samurai training which has profound effects on both his baseball game and his relationship with his father. *(Follett Titlewave)*



## Smokescreen

Bernard Ashley

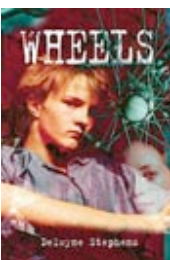
Ellie hates living in the pub by the dark, swirling canal waters. And her troubles grow when she discovers the shady dealings that take place there.



## Sure fire

Jack Higgins

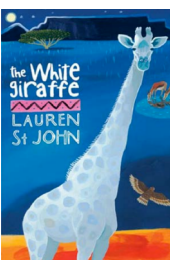
The mother of fourteen-year-old twins Rich and Jade dies in a car crash and they are told they must go and live with their estranged father, who they have never met before. Neither the children nor their father get on, but when Rich and Jade witness him being kidnapped they are drawn into a dangerous crisis that could engulf not just their family but the whole world! *(Amazon.co.uk)*



## Wheels

Delwyne Stephens

Fifteen year old Shane Jamieson is put to the ultimate test when he loses the use of his legs in a motocross accident. He soon learns that many aspects of his life are surprisingly shallow; his girlfriend, his father's obsession with winning and his own insecurity.



## The white giraffe

Lauren St. John

After a fire kills her parents, eleven-year-old Martine must leave England to live with her grandmother on a wildlife game reserve in South Africa, where she befriends a mythical white giraffe. *(Follett Titlewave)*