

Suggested Reading Year 5

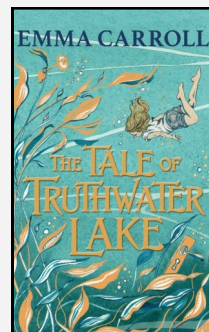
The Tale of Truthwater Lake by Emma Carroll

On one side of the underwater street is the remains of a house . . . It's beautiful here, and eerie, a lost kingdom, a ghost village . . .

It's the near-future and Britain is having yet another heatwave. Of course, the government have put in the normal curfews for this kind of weather, and shops are forced to shut again. For Polly, it's the sort of heat that makes her do wild, out-of-character things just to cool down. Like face her fear of deepwater.

Essential when she and her brother have been sent to their aunt's eco lake-side house for the summer. But Truthwater Lake is beginning to dry up. As the water level diminishes, a lost village emerges.

Swimming over the rooftops at midnight, Polly dives down and is suddenly able to breathe, to hear church bells and bird song . . . Polly has discovered an underwater gateway . . . to the past!



The Impossible Gladiator by M.G. Leonard

Sim, Jeopardy and Nelson are enjoying an amazing holiday in Rome, until they are swept up in the mysterious disappearance of world-famous illusionist Kinetic. He vanished during a live broadcast from the Colosseum, but he never reappeared.

When Kinetic's sister finds a strange description in a history book of a gladiator who sounds uncannily like her brother, the friends are determined to help. They travel through secret time doors to the spectacular — and deadly — Colosseum in Ancient Rome, but can the brave trio survive long enough to find Kinetic and bring him home?

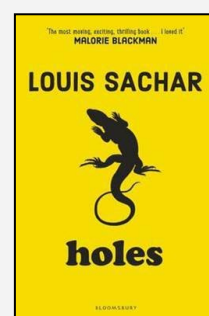


Holes by Louis Sachar

Stanley Yelnats' family has a history of bad luck, so he is not entirely surprised when a miscarriage of justice sends him to the Camp Green Lake Juvenile Detention Centre in the middle of the Texan desert. There is in fact no lake there at all and not much green either.

Stanley soon discovers that his work at the camp will be to dig a deep hole each day, and to report back about anything he finds there.

Stanley gets to work – but he soon discovers there's more to the task he's been given than merely an exercise in character-building.

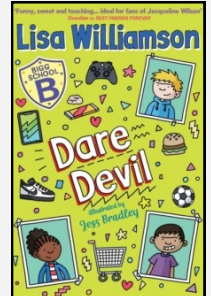


Bigg School: Dare Devil by Lisa Williamson

Welcome to Bigg School, where the extraordinary lives of ordinary kids take centre stage – like Ollie, who struggles under pressure to fit in, acting recklessly in a desperate bid to keep new friends. Ollie Marsden is popular and confident, but when his mates are banned from hanging out with him because he's a bad influence, Ollie realises how much he hates being on his own.

Determined to impress Luca, a boy from the year above, Ollie accepts all his dares to prove his worth.

As the risks get bigger, Ollie is sure he can count on Luca, but will his new friend have his back when it really matters?

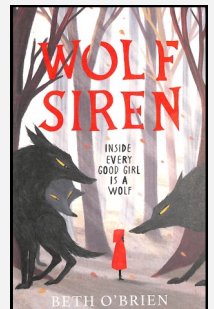


Wolf Siren by Beth O'Brien

The woods are hiding a secret... but then so is Red...

Red is not allowed to go into the woods. Everyone knows that they are dangerous – because of their strange magic and the wolves that lurk there... But Red finds herself increasingly drawn to the woods and the place where her grandmother disappeared without a trace three years ago.

When the woodcutter fails to return home one night and wolves are spotted close to the village boundary, fear drives a deep and dangerous divide between the villagers and the nature they live alongside. Only Red seems to hold the key – but she has a secret, and exposing it could ruin her family forever ...



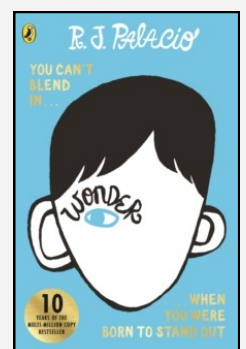
Wonder by R. J. Palacio

'My name is August. I won't describe what I look like. Whatever you're thinking, it's probably worse.'

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.

Born with a terrible facial abnormality, Auggie has been home-schooled by his parents his whole life. Now, for the first time, he's being sent to a real school – and he's dreading it.

All he wants is to be accepted – but can he convince his new classmates that he's just like them, underneath it all?

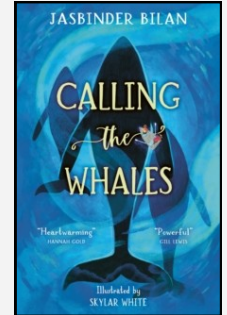


Calling the Whales by Jasbinder Bilan

After rowing out to an island near their seaside home, Tulsi and Satchen discover a whale that has been trapped in a fishing net. Determined to try to free the poor creature, they repeatedly dive down into the freezing sea to cut the netting, but eventually, exhausted and with a storm rolling in, they have to admit defeat.

As they head for home to seek help, their boat capsizes in the storm and they're left clinging to it, dangerously adrift.

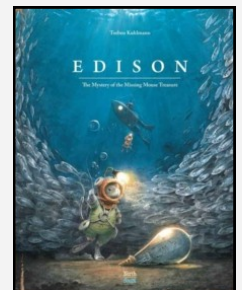
Just as they think all is lost, help arrives from an unexpected source ...



Edison: The Mystery of the Missing Mouse Treasure by Torben Kuhlmann

The world of mice has changed and smart mice are studying at mouse universities. They eagerly pursue human inventions.

Thanks to an old, yellowed diary note from his ancestor, a young mouse learns of a treasure that is said to have been lost on the ocean floor. With the help of his elderly professor, another mouse, of course, he builds a vessel capable of taking them to the bottom of the ocean to find the missing treasure.



The Mystery of the Locked Rooms by Lindsay Currie

Crack the codes. Find the treasure. Escape the house.

Twelve-year-old Sarah Greene wants nothing more from her seventh-grade year than to beat the hardest escape room left in her town with her best friends, West, and Hannah. But when a foreclosure notice shows up on Sarah's front door, everything changes. Since her father became ill two years ago, things have been bad, but not lose your house bad...until now.

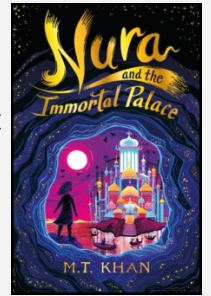


***Nura and the Immortal Palace* by M.T. Khan**

Nura has worked all her life in the mica mines, earning just enough to keep her family afloat – and enjoy the odd delicious gulab jamun from the market.

Some day she's going to find the Demon's Tongue, a legendary treasure buried deep in the mines, and her family will never have to worry about money again. But when a terrible accident buries her best friend below ground, Nura goes in search of him and passes over into the magical and terrible world of the jinn.

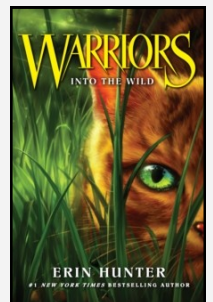
Across a pink sea and under a purple sky, she finds her way to a palace, where great riches and a whole new life are on offer. But it's not long before Nura discovers this world to be as unfair as the real one, and that trickster jinns will always live up to their reputation...



***Warriors: Into the Wild* by Erin Hunter**

When 'kittypet' Rusty strays into the forest beyond his owner's garden and is ambushed by a wild cat, life as he knows it is over. After a brave fight, he is invited to leave the 'twoleg' world and join Thunderclan, one of four cat tribes, to train as a warrior. Rusty becomes Firepaw and learns laws of the wild – hunting and fighting to protect the clan's survival. When the fearsome Shadowclan threaten Thunderclan's territory his warrior skills are put to the test.

But how can he protect the clan when he suspects their own deputy of treachery?

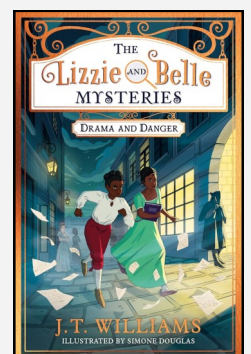


***The Lizzie and Belle Mysteries: Drama and Danger* by J.T. Williams**

Twelve-year-olds Lizzie Sancho and Dido Belle are from different worlds – Lizzie lives in Westminster in her dad's tea shop, while Belle is an heiress being brought up by her aunt and uncle at grand Kenwood House – but they both share a love of solving mysteries.

And when their eyes meet in the audience of the Drury Lane theatre one night, both girls are sure they've seen something suspicious on stage.

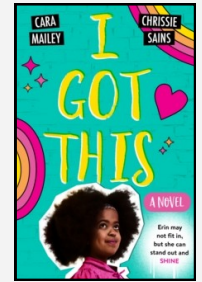
Lizzie and Belle soon find themselves on the trail of a mystery – and becoming best friends. But can they work out what's going on in time to prevent a murder?



I Got This by Cara Mailey

When a mega-famous pop group announces a competition for fans to be part of their next music video, Erin decides to go for it. She wants to show her younger brother that in life, there are no limits – even if you don't look like most other kids.

But making an audition video is proving more difficult than Erin expected; it's almost like her best friend is trying to ruin it! And when an opportunity comes up that might increase her chances, Erin begins to wonder: can she stay true to herself and pursue her dreams?



Two is a Crowd by Cath Howe

Hattie's life is already complicated enough. She's about to start secondary school, her best friend is going off with someone else and her dad seems to have completely forgotten his promise to let her have a room of her own.

So when her mum's goddaughter, Seren, arrives and gets special treatment, Hattie feels pushed out.

Could it be that Hattie's family actually prefer Seren?

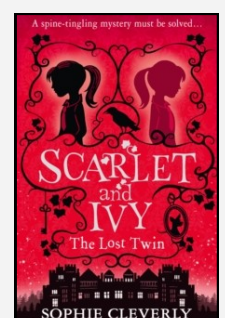


Scarlett and Ivy: The Lost Twin by Sophie Cleverly

This is the story of how I became my sister...

When troublesome Scarlet mysteriously disappears from Rookwood School, terrifying Miss Fox invites her quiet twin sister Ivy to 'take her place'. Ivy reluctantly agrees in the hope of finding out what happened to her missing sister.

Only at Rookwood will Ivy be able to unlock the secrets of Scarlet's disappearance, through a scattered trail of diary pages carefully hidden all over the school. Can Ivy solve the mystery before Miss Fox suspects? Or before an even greater danger presents itself?



Tomorrow's Ghost by Tanya Landman

Haunted by the past, can Anna rewrite the future? 1976: Twelve-year-old Anna, bored and lonely away from her friends for the summer, finds herself dreaming about a girl from 1919 – a neglected and lonely girl living in a mansion with an austere and unloving grandfather.

As Anna's dreams grow more vivid, she realizes that the girl from the past is calling out to her – and that Anna must cross time to save her from an untimely death...



Anne of Green Gables by L.M. Montgomery

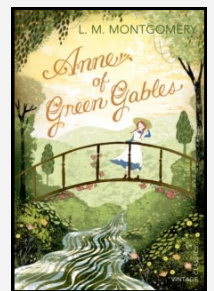
It's a million times nicer to be Anne of Green Gables than Anne of nowhere in particular, isn't it?

My dislikes: Being an orphan. Having red hair. Being called 'carrots' by Gilbert Blythe.

My likes: Living at the Green Gables with Marilla and Matthew. My bosom-friend Diana. Dresses with puff sleeves.

My regrets: Dying my hair green. Smashing a slate over Gilbert Blythe's head.

My dream: To tame my temper. To be good (this is an uphill struggle). To grow up to have auburn hair!



Eragon by Christopher Paolini

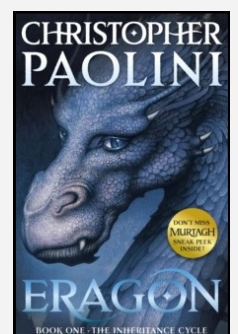
When Eragon finds a polished stone in the forest, he thinks it is the lucky discovery of a poor farm boy; perhaps it will buy his family meat for the winter.

But when the stone brings a dragon hatchling, Eragon soon realizes he has stumbled upon a legacy nearly as old as the Empire itself.

Overnight his simple life is shattered and he is thrust into a perilous new world of destiny, magic and power. With only an ancient sword and the advice of an old storyteller for guidance, Eragon and the fledgling dragon must navigate the dangerous terrain and dark enemies of an Empire ruled by a king whose evil knows no bounds.

Can Eragon take up the mantle of the legendary Dragon Riders?

The fate of the Empire may rest in his hands..



Artemis Fowl by Eoin Colfer

At just twelve years old, Artemis Fowl is a criminal genius. No scheme is too dastardly, no plot too devious.

And he's just discovered that fairies are real. Poor fairies. But these are not the cuddly creatures of bedtime stories. They are armed. They are dangerous. And when Artemis captures Captain Holly Short for her fairy gold, he messes with the wrong elf.

Holly isn't armed but she's incredibly dangerous, and pretty annoyed with all the kidnapping. Artemis Fowl is about to find out that fairies fight back . . .

Let the misadventure begin.



Skandar and the Unicorn Thief by A.F. Steadman

Thirteen-year-old Skandar Smith has only ever wanted to be a unicorn rider. To be one of the lucky few selected to hatch a unicorn. To bond with it for life; to train together and race for glory; to be a hero. But just as Skandar's dream is about to come true, things start to take a more dangerous turn than he could ever have imagined.

A dark and twisted enemy has stolen the Island's most powerful unicorn – and as the threat grows ever closer, Skandar discovers a secret that could blow apart his world forever . . .



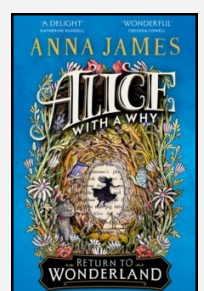
Alice With A Why by Anna James

Alyce – with a Y – lives with her grandmother, the original Alice, having lost her father during the Great War.

When a mysterious invitation to a tea party hits her square in the face, Alyce realises her grandmother's strange stories of a place called Wonderland might have some truth to them after all. But the land Alyce finds herself in feels different from the Wonderland of her grandmother's stories – for it is trapped in its own war.

The Sun King and the Queen of the Moon are fighting over a stolen hour, and soon Alyce is tasked with setting it right.

With the help of the Hatter, the Cheshire Cat and a Sailor Fox, Alyce will have to solve Wonderland's problems and, eventually, find her way back home.



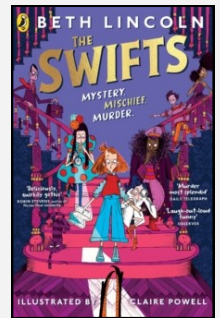
The Swifts by Beth Lincoln

On the day they are born, each Swift is brought before the Family Dictionary. They are given a name and a definition, and it is assumed they will grow up to match.

Unfortunately, Shenanigan Swift has other ideas. So what if her relatives all think she's destined to turn out as a troublemaker, just because of her name? Shenanigan knows she can be whatever she wants – pirate, explorer or even detective.

Which is lucky, really, because when one of the Family tries to murder Arch-Aunt Schadenfreude, someone has to work out whodunit. With the help of her sisters and cousin, Shenanigan grudgingly takes on the case, but more murders, a hidden treasure and an awful lot of suspects make thing seriously complicated.

Can Shenanigan catch the killer before the whole household is picked off? And in a Family where definitions are so important, can she learn to define herself?



The Legendary Mo Seto by A.Y. Chan

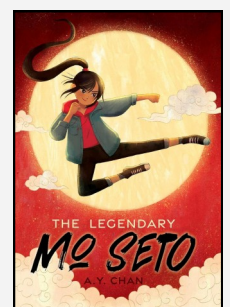
Twelve-year-old Modesty “Mo” Seto dreams of being a taekwondo champion.

Even though her mom disapproves, Mo can always count on her dad, who is her number one fan and biggest supporter.

Lately, Mo has been on a losing streak, and it doesn't help that she keeps losing to her archnemesis, Dax, who's much bigger than her. If only she were faster, stronger, not so petite. Mo can't even lean on her dad like usual with how distracted he's been lately. When Mo learns about the chance to audition to star alongside her idol and legendary martial artist and movie star Cody Kwok, she knows this her chance to prove to her dad, to the world, and to herself that she can compete with anyone, no matter her size.

Unfortunately, Dax is auditioning, too. As Mo and her nemesis progress to callbacks, someone attempts to sabotage the movie set and Mo's dad disappears—and both events seem linked to a mysterious book, the Book of Joy. The book contains information on Xiaoxi Fu, a secret dance-like martial art developed by Mo's ancestral grandmother.

Armed with these secret moves and an unexpected ally, Mo embarks on a high-octane adventure to rescue her father, save the movie, and discover an unexpected joy in being small.



***The London Eye Mystery* by Siobhan Dowd**

11.32 a.m. Ted and his sister Kat watch their cousin Salim get on board the London Eye.

The pod rises from the ground, high above the city. 12.02 p.m. The pod lands and the doors open. Everyone exits – everyone but Salim. Has he spontaneously combusted? (Ted's theory.) Has he been kidnapped? (Aunt Gloria's theory.) Is he even still alive? (The family's unspoken fear.) Ted doesn't see the world like most people he knows and is sure that with his "unique operating system" of a brain he can uncover the truth about Salim's disappearance. So, teaming up with Kat, Ted sets out to do just that – following a trail of clues across London.

But with time ticking dangerously by, can Ted solve the mystery before it's too late?

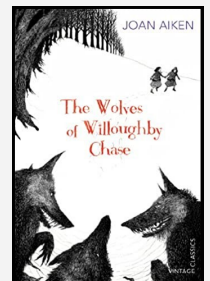


***The Wolves of Willoughby Chase* by Joan Aiken**

Long ago, at a time in history that never happened, England was overrun with wolves. But as Bonnie and her cousin Sylvia discover, real danger often lies closer to home.

Their new governess, Miss Slighcarp, doesn't seem at all nice. She shuts Bonnie in a cupboard, fires the faithful servants and sends the cousins far away from Willoughby Chase to a place they will never be found.

Can Bonnie and Sylvia outwit the wicked Miss Slighcarp and her network of criminals, forgers and snitches?



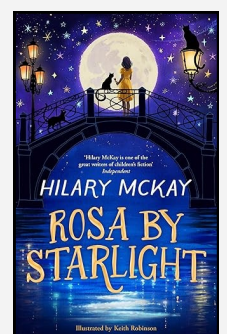
***Rosa by Starlight* by Hilary McKay**

Rosa lives in a world where she discovers there is magic.

It arrives with Balthazar, a large black cat, just when she needs it most.

Even so, it takes all her courage to stay hopeful and adventurous when her dreadful aunt and uncle move into her life. And when she finds herself abandoned in the ancient city of Venice, can magic help her then?

Perhaps it can. The stars are watching, and there are lots of cats in Venice . . .



A Girl's Guide to Spying by Holly Webb

Did you know that the Girl Guides worked undercover for MI5 during the First World War?

When Phyl is dragged along to the Girl Guides by her younger sister, Annie, the last thing she expects is the adventure of a lifetime.

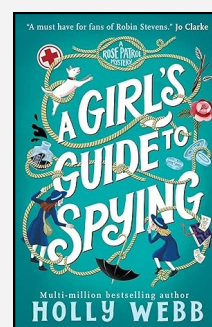
Then her Guide captain offers her a job as a messenger for MI5.

Phyl is desperate to help the war effort and is thrilled to be working with spies. But she can't seem to do anything right in the eyes of the grumpy Major Warren.

When he suddenly disappears, Phyl and Annie suspect that he may in fact be a double agent.

The two sisters must solve the mystery of his whereabouts, before it's too late.

Luckily their friends from the Rose Patrol are ready to help...



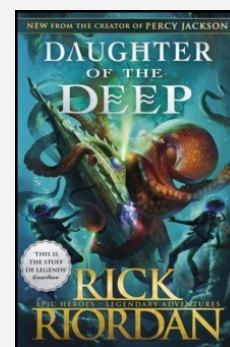
Daughter of the Deep by Rick Riordan

Ana Dakkar is a freshman at Harding-Pencroft Academy, a five-year high school that graduates the best marine scientists, naval warriors, navigators, and underwater explorers in the world. Ana's parents died while on a scientific expedition two years ago, and the only family she's got left is her older brother, Dev, also a student at HP.

Ana's freshman year culminates with the class's weekend trial at sea, the details of which have been kept secret. She only hopes she has what it'll take to succeed. All her worries are blown out of the water when, on the bus ride to the ship, Ana and her schoolmates witness a terrible tragedy that will change the trajectory of their lives.

But wait, there's more. The professor accompanying them informs Ana that their rival school, Land Institute, and Harding-Pencroft have been fighting a cold war for a hundred and fifty years. But now the heat is on and the freshman are in danger of becoming fish food.

In a race against deadly enemies, Ana will make amazing friends and astounding discoveries about her heritage as she puts her leadership skills to the test for the first time.



Black Beauty by Anna Sewell

Black Beauty is a handsome, sweet-tempered colt with a strong spirit. As a young colt he is free to gallop in the fresh green meadows with his beloved mother, Duchess, and their kind master. But when his owners are forced to sell him, Black Beauty goes from a life of comfort and kindness to one of hard labour and cruelty.

Bravely he works as hard as he can, suffering at the hands of men who treat animals badly. But Black Beauty has an unbreakable spirit and will, and is determined to survive . .



The Last Dragon by Polly Ho-Yen

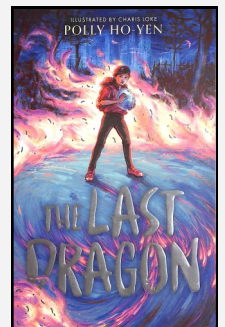
Yara has only glimpsed the last dragon on Earth twice.

She's got other things to worry about: her sister is in hospital, her parents are panicking, and her new teacher has labelled her a troublemaker and wants her out.

But one evening, in the glow of the lights of the shopping centre in Milton Keynes, Yara finds herself being watched by the last dragon and, before it departs, it leaves her a gift: its only egg.

Entrusted with the care of the last dragon egg, Yara discovers it is more powerful than she could ever have imagined. But there are others who want it and they'll stop at nothing to steal it for themselves...

A moving story about bravery, self-belief and our responsibility to protect the natural world.



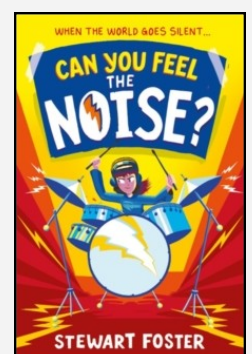
Can You Feel The Noise by Stewart Foster

Life is going well for Sophie.

She's getting by at school, has some pretty awesome friends, and their band have made it through to the semifinals of the Battle of the Bands competition. But when Sophie wakes up completely deaf one morning, the life she once knew seems like a distant memory.

With lessons replaced by endless hospital appointments, and conversations now an exercise in lip-reading, Sophie grows quieter and quieter.

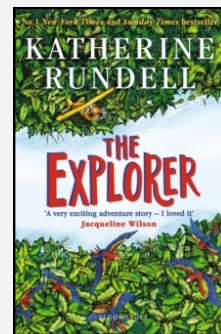
Until she discovers the vibrations of sound through an old set of drums and wonders whether life onstage is actually still within reach.



The Explorer by Katherine Rundell

From his seat in the tiny aeroplane, Fred watches as the mysteries of the Amazon jungle pass by below him. He has always dreamed of becoming an explorer, of making history and of reading his name amongst the lists of great discoveries. If only he could land and look about him. As the plane crashes into the canopy, Fred is suddenly left without a choice. He and the three other children may be alive, but the jungle is a vast, untamed place.

With no hope of rescue, the chance of getting home feels impossibly small. Except, it seems, someone has been there before them ...

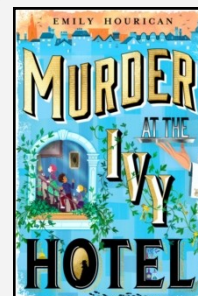


Murder at the Ivy Hotel by Emily Hourcan

Twelve-year-old Meredith and ten-year-old Macy feel like the luckiest girls around.

The Ivy Hotel in Dublin is old, beautiful and beloved, with a tight-knit staff that feel like family, and they get to call it home. Meredith and Macy's mum is the General Manager, and their modest apartment is tucked away in a corner, but it has lots of perks. The girls make friends with long-term residents - like Colin, the quiet little boy who plays piano, and Agatha, the eccentric older lady who stays in a plush suite with her dog, Milo. The girls love spying on fancy events, sneaky treats from the restaurant and knowing all the secret stairs and corridors that guests never see, where the staff move around invisibly, making sure everything runs like clockwork...

This is going to come in handy. Because within the cosy walls of the Ivy Hotel, there is also danger, intrigue and threat. Just as the hotel's new owners arrive, ready to sniff out any excuse to make cuts and fire staff, the girls are faced with their biggest task yet: a murder to solve.



No Ballet Shoes in Syria by Catherine Bruton

Aya is eleven years old and has just arrived in Britain with her mum and baby brother, seeking asylum from war in Syria. When Aya stumbles across a local ballet class, the formidable dance teacher spots her exceptional talent and believes that Aya has the potential to earn a prestigious ballet scholarship.

But at the same time, Aya and her family must fight to be allowed to remain in the country, to make a home for themselves and to find Aya's father - separated from the rest of the family during the journey from Syria.

