

## KS3 Recommended Reading List

Title	Author	Description
<b>'Noughts and Crosses'</b>	Malorie Blackman	<p><i>Sephy is a Cross: she lives a life of privilege and power. But she's lonely, and burns with injustice at the world she sees around her.</i></p> <p><i>Callum is a nought: he's considered to be less than nothing - a blanker, there to serve Crosses - but he dreams of a better life.</i></p> <p><i>They've been friends since they were children, and they both know that's as far as it can ever go.</i></p> <p><i>Noughts and Crosses are fated to be bitter enemies - love is out of the question.</i></p> <p><i>Then - in spite of a world that is fiercely against them - these star-crossed lovers choose each other.</i></p> <p><i>But this is love story that will lead both of them into terrible danger . . . and which will have shocking repercussions for generations to come.</i></p>
<b>'Face'</b>	Benjamin Zephaniah	<p><i>Martin seems to have it all. He's cool, funny, and he's the undisputed leader of the Gang of Three, who roam their East London estate during the holidays looking for fun. But one night after the Gang leave a late night rap club, Martin accepts a ride from Pete, a Raider's Posse gang member.</i></p> <p><i>Too late, he realises that the car is stolen, and that the police are after them. What happens next will change Martin's life and looks, and show him the true meaning of strength, courage, discrimination and friendship</i></p>
<b>'Mortal Engines'</b>	Phillips Reeve	<p><i>Built on the genius central conceit of motorised, airborne cities pursuing each other across a post-apocalyptic wasteland, this is a dazzling work of imagination and storytelling.</i></p> <p><i>In a dangerous future, huge motorized cities hunt, attack and fight each other for survival. As London pursues a small town, young apprentice Tom is flung out into the wastelands, where a terrifying cyborg begins to hunt him down.</i></p>
<b>'The Lie Tree'</b>	Frances Hardinge	<p><i>Faith's father has been found dead under mysterious circumstances, and as she is searching through his belongings for clues she discovers a strange tree. The tree only grows healthy and bears fruit if you whisper a lie to it. The fruit of the tree, when eaten, will deliver a hidden truth to the person who consumes it. The bigger the lie, the more people who believe it, the bigger the truth that is uncovered.</i></p> <p><i>The girl realizes that she is good at lying and that the tree might hold the key to her father's murder, so she begins to spread untruths far and wide across her small island community. But as her tales spiral out of control, she discovers that where lies seduce, truths shatter . .</i></p>
<b>'Life of Pi'</b>	Yann Martel	<p><i>After the tragic sinking of a cargo ship, a solitary lifeboat remains bobbing on the wild, blue Pacific. The only survivors from the wreck are a sixteen-year-old boy named Pi, a hyena, a zebra (with a broken leg), a female orang-utan - and a 450-pound Royal Bengal tiger. The scene is set for one</i></p>

		<i>of the most extraordinary and best-loved works of fiction in recent years.</i>
<b>'The Book Thief'</b>	Markus Zusak	<p><i>It is 1939. In Nazi Germany, the country is holding its breath. Death has never been busier - and will become busier still.</i></p> <p><i>By her brother's graveside, nine year old Liesel's life is changed forever when she picks up a single object, abandoned in the snow. It is The Gravedigger's Handbook, and this is her first act of book thievery.</i></p> <p><i>So begins Liesel's love affair with books and words, and soon she is stealing from Nazi book-burnings, the mayor's wife's library . . . wherever there are books to be found.</i></p> <p><i>But these are dangerous times, and when Liesel's foster family hides a Jew in their basement, nothing will ever be the same again.</i></p>
<b>'The House With Chicken Legs'</b>	Sophie Anderson	<p><i>Marinka dreams of a normal life, she dreams of standing still, but her house has chicken legs and a will of its own and moves on without warning.</i></p> <p><i>For governing Marinka's world is the powerful and feared Baba Yaga. To some she is a witch, to others the Goddess of Death who guides spirits between this world and the next and she is also Marinka's grandmother.</i></p> <p><i>Marinka longs to change her destiny and sets out to break free from her grandmother's footsteps, but her house has other ideas...</i></p>
<b>'The Storm Keeper's Island'</b>	Catherine Doyle	<p><i>When Fionn Boyle sets foot on Arranmore Island, it begins to stir beneath his feet ...</i></p> <p><i>Once in a generation, Arranmore Island chooses a new Storm Keeper to wield its power and keep its magic safe from enemies.</i></p> <p><i>The time has come for Fionn's grandfather, a secretive and eccentric old man, to step down.</i></p> <p><i>Soon, a new Keeper will rise. But, deep underground, someone has been waiting for Fionn. As the battle to become the island's next champion rages, a more sinister magic is waking up, intent on rekindling an ancient war.</i></p>
<b>'Peril in Paris'</b>	Katherine Woodfine	<p><i>t's 1911, and the young detectives of Taylor &amp; Rose are turning their talents to espionage. On a case for the mysterious Secret Service Bureau, the daring Miss Sophie Taylor and Miss Lilian Rose must leave London for the boulevards and grand hotels of Paris. But danger lurks beneath the bright lights of the city - and intrigue and murder lie in store. As aeroplanes soar in the skies overhead, our heroines will need to put all their spy skills to the test to face the peril that awaits them...</i></p>
<b>'The Hunger Games'</b>	Suzanne Collins	<p><i>Set in a dark vision of the near future, a terrifying reality TV show is taking place. Twelve boys and twelve girls are forced to appear in a live event called The Hunger Games. There is only one rule: kill or be killed.</i></p> <p><i>When sixteen-year-old Katniss Everdeen steps forward to take her younger sister's place in the games, she sees it as a death sentence. But Katniss has been close to death before. For her, survival is second nature.</i></p>

<b>'Catching Fire'</b>	Suzanne Collins	<p><i>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.</i></p> <p><i>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.</i></p>
<b>'Mockingjay'</b>	Suzanne Collins	<p><i>Against all odds, Katniss Everdeen has survived the Hunger Games twice. But now that she's made it out of the bloody arena alive, she's still not safe. The Capitol is angry.</i></p> <p><i>The Capitol wants revenge. Who do they think should pay for the unrest? Katniss. And what's worse, President Snow has made it clear that no one else is safe either. Not Katniss's family, not her friends, not the people of District 12.</i></p>
<b>'A Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes'</b>	Suzanne Collins	<p><i>It is the morning of the reaping that will kick off the tenth annual Hunger Games. In the Capitol, eighteen-year-old Coriolanus Snow is preparing for his one shot at glory as a mentor in the Games. The once-mighty house of Snow has fallen on hard times, its fate hanging on the slender chance that Coriolanus will be able to outcharm, outwit, and outmaneuver his fellow students to mentor the winning tribute.</i></p> <p><i>The odds are against him. He's been given the humiliating assignment of mentoring the female tribute from District 12, the lowest of the low. Their fates are now completely intertwined – every choice Coriolanus makes could lead to favor or failure, triumph or ruin. Inside the arena, it will be a fight to the death. Outside the arena, Coriolanus starts to feel for his doomed tribute . . . and must weigh his need to follow the rules against his desire to survive no matter what it takes.</i></p>
<b>'The Girl of Ink and Stars'</b>	Kiran Millwood Hargrave	<p><i>Isabella Riosse is the daughter of a cartographer who lives on the island of Joya; an isle both steeped in mythology and shrouded in mystery. For the last thirty years, a strict Governor has forbidden the island inhabitants from venturing beyond their small township.</i></p> <p><i>Isabella is fascinated with the ancient myths of Joya, which is said to have once floated freely over the seas. Preoccupied with ideas of exploration and inspired by the far-flung places her father once documented, she yearns for adventure.</i></p> <p><i>When her best friend Lupe runs away, disappearing into the forbidden forest, Isabella volunteers to bring her back. With only her knowledge of ancient myths and one of her father's maps to guide her, Isabella ventures into</i></p>

		<i>the perilous world beyond, where monsters lurk and magical rivers run.</i>
<b>'Blade and Bone'</b>	Catherine Johnson	<p><i>A forensic crime thriller set in Revolutionary Paris.</i></p> <p><i>Young surgeon Ezra McAdam must hasten to Paris to rescue his friend Loveday Finch and her charge Mahmoud, the Ottoman prince, who have been caught up in the Revolution. On the way, Ezra experiences the war first hand on the battlefields of Northern France, where his surgical skills are in high demand by the beleaguered French army.</i></p> <p><i>Meanwhile, in Paris, the guillotine is busy, and the medical world is finding the surfeit of bodies useful to its research into the seat of life. Ezra is not persuaded by the controversial theories of his French colleagues, but his mind is on other matters. Finding Loveday and Mahmoud is proving harder than he had imagined: it would appear that Paris really is the most dangerous place on earth.</i></p> <p><i>Ezra's search takes him from the grand Hotel Dieu to the dark catacombs below the city; from the opulent War Office to the tall, forbidding Conciergerie - the city prison - here he must undertake the most audacious rescue attempt of all.</i></p>
<b>'Pax'</b>	Sarah Pennypacker	<p><i>Pax was only a cub when his family was killed and he was rescued by 'his boy', Peter. Now the country is at war and when his father enlists, Peter has no choice but to move in with his grandfather.</i></p> <p><i>Far worse than leaving home is the fact that he has to leave Pax behind. But before Peter spends even one night under his grandfather's roof he sneaks out into the night, determined to find his beloved friend.</i></p>
<b>'Cogheart'</b>	Peter Bunzl	<p><i>13 year-old Lily has no idea why her father has worked so hard to keep her identity a secret. Having exhausted any number of governesses, Lily has been sent to the crumbling red-brick institution of Miss Octavia Scrimshaw's Finishing Academy for young ladies, under the tutelage of The Kraken, a formidable witch of a woman who thinks young ladies should concentrate on learning to stand up straight and deport themselves properly.</i></p> <p><i>Lily would far rather be reading the Penny Dreadful's her father sends her in his monthly care packages, learning piracy and air combat but when Lily's inventor father vanishes after a Zeppelin crash, Lily is determined to hunt down the truth behind his disappearance.</i></p> <p><i>Helped by Robert, the local clockmaker's son, and her wily mechanical fox Malkin she finds herself deep in a mystery she could never have foreseen. But shadowy figures are closing in and treachery lurks among the smoky spires of London - along with a life-changing secret.</i></p>

'Witch Born'	Nicholas Bowling	<i>Alyce's mother has just been burnt at the stake for practicing witchcraft. With only a thin set of instructions and a witch's mommet for guidance, Alyce must face the world that she's been sealed off from -- a world of fear and superstition. With a witch hunter fast on her trail, she'll need the help of an innkeeper and a boy looking to discover the truth behind his own mother's past.</i>
'The Extinction Trials'	S.M.Wilson	<i>Betrayal. Sacrifice. Survival. Welcome to The Extinction Trials... In Stormchaser and Lincoln's ruined world, the only way to survive is to risk everything. To face a contest more dangerous than anyone can imagine. And they will do anything to win. But in a land full of monsters - human and reptilian - they can't afford to trust anyone. Perhaps not even each other..</i>
'Alex Rider: Stormbreaker'	Anthony Horowitz	<i>Forcibly recruited into MI6 after the mysterious death of his guardian, fourteen-year-old Alex is sent to infiltrate the organization of a sinister billionaire. Within days he's gone from schoolboy to superspy - and it looks like his first assignment may be his last...</i>
'The Graveyard Book'	Neil Gaiman	<i>obody Owens, known to his friends as Bod, is a normal boy. He would be completely normal if he didn't live in a graveyard, raised and educated by ghosts. There, living among the dead, Bod discovers that he possesses remarkable magical powers: he can avoid people's notice, scare them, and even invade their dreams. There are dangers and adventures for Bod in the graveyard. But it is in the land of the living that the real danger lurks, for it is there that the man Jack lives - and he has sinister plans for Bod...</i>
'How to Hang a Witch'	Adriana Mather	<i>After Sam's father is hospitalised, she has to move from New York to Salem with her stepmother, Vivian. Unfortunately, Sam is related to Cotton Mather, one of the men responsible for the Salem Witch Trials, and to say she feels unwelcome in Salem is an understatement... She is particularly unnerved by The Descendants, a mysterious and tight-knit group of girls related to those persecuted in the Trials. At the same time, she must deal with Elijah, the handsome but angry ghost who has appeared in her house, and her new neighbour Jaxon only complicates things further.</i>  <i>When a centuries-old curse is rekindled, Sam finds herself at the centre of it. Can she stop history repeating itself?</i>
'Flawed'	Cecilia Ahern	<i>Celestine North lives a perfect life. She's a model daughter and sister, she's well-liked by her classmates and teachers, and she's dating the impossibly charming Art Crevan. But then Celestine encounters a situation in which she makes an instinctive decision. She breaks a rule and now faces life-changing repercussions. She could be imprisoned. She could be branded. She could be found FLAWED.</i>
'I Have No Secrets'	Penny Joelson	<i>Fourteen-year-old Jemma has severe cerebral palsy. Unable to communicate or move, she relies on her family and carer for everything. She has a sharp brain and inquisitive nature, and knows all sorts of things about everyone. But when she is</i>

		<i>confronted with this terrible secret, she is utterly powerless to do anything. Though that might be about to change...</i>
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