

No Shelf Control

Edition 29: September 2023

Sequel September



September is always such an amazing month for new releases, but it is also when many fantastic sequels are released. This year seems to be extra special. So I wanted to dedicate the front page to some superb sequels that are new this month.

'The Wild Robot' and 'Podkin One-Ear' are two of mine and my family's favourite books. They sit deeply in my heart and they're often the first books I will recommend to anyone.



I've been waiting for 'The Wild Robot Protects' since Peter Brown teased its release a few years back. The Podkin news was sprung on me last month. Both new books are an absolute joy and a welcome addition to both series.



Hannah Gold's 'The Last Bear' has been loved by so many readers since its release. 'Finding Bear' follows April as she returns to Bear Island in search of Bear after hearing that a polar bear has been shot. What follows is a story just as beautiful as the original. Levi Pinfold's illustrations are still stunning too!



Maz Evans blew everyone's minds when she wrote 'Who Let the Gods Out'. It was read in hundreds or maybe even thousands of classrooms up and down the country, spreading giggles as it went. 'Oh Maya Gods' follows Elliot and Virgo's (from the original trilogy) children. This time, instead of the Greek gods, they are supported by Maya gods... Many children study the Maya at school so this book is sure to delight many readers with Maz's trademark hilarity and wit!



David Farr's 'The Book of Stolen Dreams' was our book of the year in 2021 and I was very excited to get my hands on 'The Secret of the Blood-Red Key'. It is just as exciting and nail biting as the first book. This series has a real cinematic feel to it. As you read, you are transported to Krasnia where our characters are no longer outcasts but national heroes. There are still secrets though...

There's also the next 'Investigators' book out, which is just as fun as the rest of the series.

If you haven't started any of these series yet, then you really must rectify that. All 6 are simply brilliant!





Books and the People Who Make Them

Stéphanie Vernet & Camille de Cussac

Prestel 8+

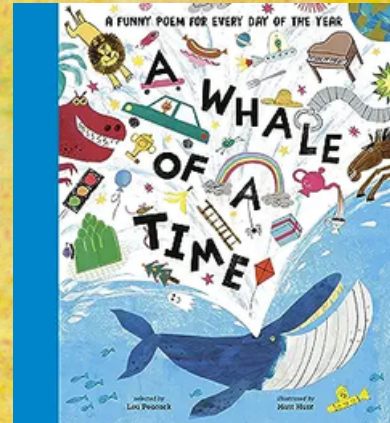
Obviously we love books, but often we don't think about how they get made. This awesome non-fiction is a round-up of all the superstars that work together to make books happen. So many great jobs that I'd never heard/thought of. A little shout-out to everyone in publishing!

A Whale of a Time

Various Poets, Lou Peacock & Matt Hunt

Nosy Crow 6+

A funny poem for every day of the year? I was sold straight away. But getting my hands on the book, I fell in love even more. This book is for anyone that doesn't know where to start with poetry (but equally those that do...) find the day, read the poem, laugh then repeat! Splendid!



Imelda and the Goblin King

Briony May Smith

Flying Eye 3+

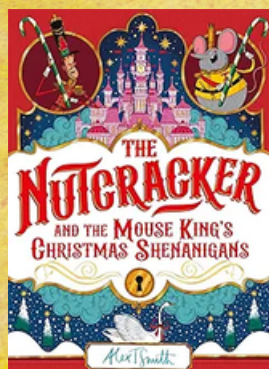
When the Fairy Queen is kidnapped by the Goblin King, there is only one person that can help... Imelda is a young girl who lives by the forest and befriends its inhabitants. Luckily little girls are good at things like this and she quickly comes up with a cunning plan. The illustrations are unmissable!

Impossible Creatures

Katherine Rundell

Bloomsbury 9+

Only a few days ago, a colleague said 'We need more Katherine Rundell books!' The day after, I found out that this beauty was being released later that week! Katherine's writing is truly exquisite and this story is no exception. When Christopher discovers that his grandfather is the guardian of one of the ways between our world and Archipelago - a magical world - an important quest follows!



One To Wait for...

The Nutcracker- Alex T. Smith

Macmillan Children - Oct 23

Alex's yearly Christmas offering is out next month but hopefully if you're sane, you'll wait until December before you read it... I'm all for Christmas, but not in October!



Last-Place Lin

Wai Chim & Freda Chiu

Allen & Unwin 4+

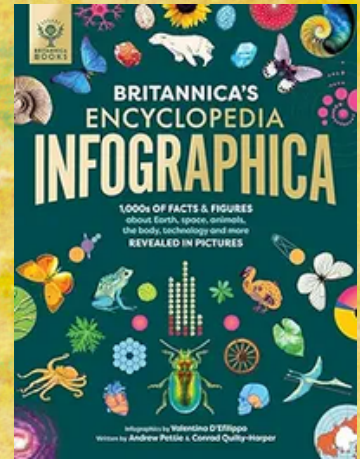
One of the most important lessons young children need to learn is that you can't always win. This story celebrates resilience and keeping going. Success doesn't always mean winning! You will come back to this book time and time again, finding yourself getting lost in the fantastic illustrations!

Encyclopedia Infographica

Valentina D'Efilippo, Andrew Pettie & Conrad Quilty-Harper

Britannica Books 9+

Britannica have been bringing back fat encyclopedias and every one has been loving them but now they're back and upping their game. Adults love a good infographic to share in a meeting or on social media, this new encyclopedia is chock-a-block full of them, from the weird to the wonderful. Infographica has something for everyone. A book that will be well read and sought after!

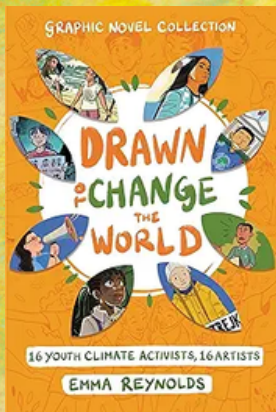


Drawn to Change the World

Various, curated by Emma Reynolds

HarperAlley 8+

A collection of graphic novel biographies of some of the biggest (and some of the unsung) heroes in the world of youth climate activism. This book is fantastic for so many reasons. Engaging graphic novel, modern heroes, inspirational young people, environmental issues. One of my favourite things was comparing the art and story telling for each activist. My daughter and I have different favourites - which are yours?



The Final Year

Matt Goodfellow

Otter-Barry Books 9+

A beautiful novel about the final year of primary school written in verse. Nate isn't having a great time at school; his best friend isn't in his class and has made friends with the school bully and his brother has been rushed to hospital. Luckily his new teacher helps him to navigate this through books. There's a lot of hype around this books and it's obvious to see why! Joe Todd-Stanton is flawless with his illustrations as always!

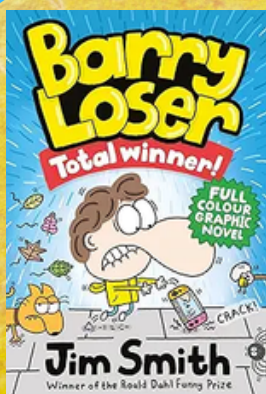


One You Might Have Missed

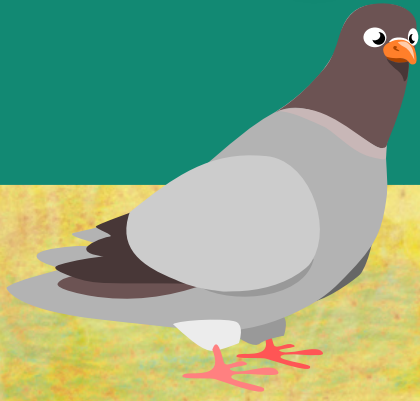
Barry Loser - Jim Smith

Farshore- 7+ May 2022

The Barry Loser books are always popular in school libraries, but the new graphic novels seem to have been over looked. They are having a bit of a resurgence in our library so it seemed like a great time to make sure that everyone else was aware of them.

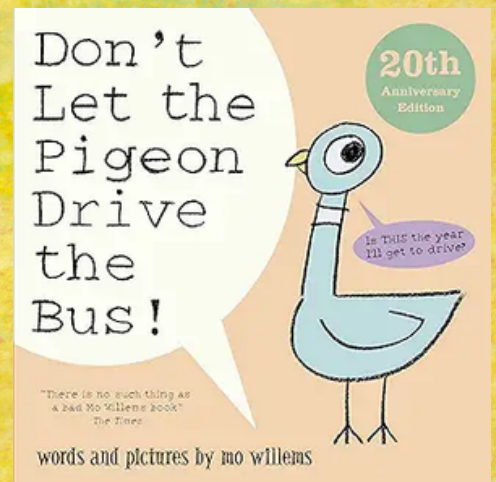
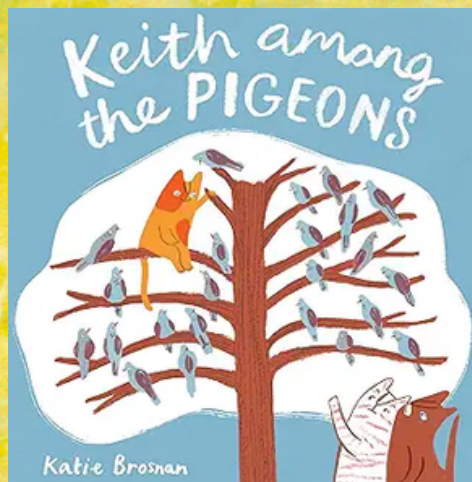
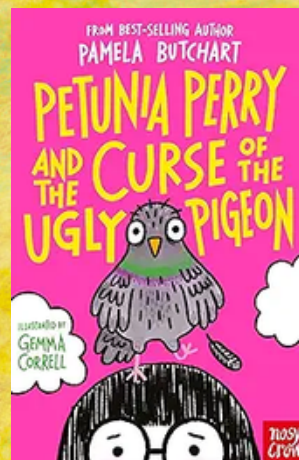


8 books about Pigeons



I'll be honest, I was stuck for what to feature this month and then I found a pigeon feather on top of a book that I dropped and I took it as a sign from the book gods. It's surprising that there are any good pigeon books at all, let alone 8 of them... (Well 7 and 1 is just a very funny book that happens to have a pigeon in it...)

1. Real Pigeons
Andrew McDonald & Ben Wood
2. Petunia Perry
Pamela Butchart & Gemma Correll
3. Alex Sparrow
Jennifer Killick
4. Keith among the Pigeons
Katie Brosnan
5. Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus
Mo Willems
6. Peggy the Always Sorry Pigeon
Wendy Meddour & Carmen Salana
7. Dave Pigeon
Swapna Haddow & Sheena Dempsey
8. Pigeon Poo
Elizabeth Baguley & Mark Chambers



If you have any questions or have a book released soon that you feel deserves a place on the newsletter: Email us - MisterBodd@outlook.com