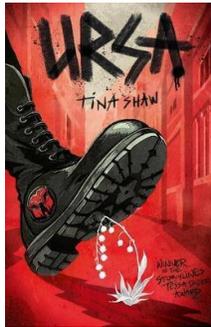


Storylines Christmas List 2019

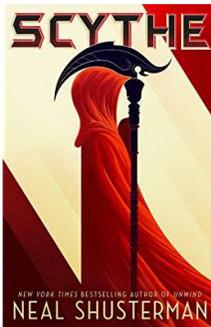


Young Adult



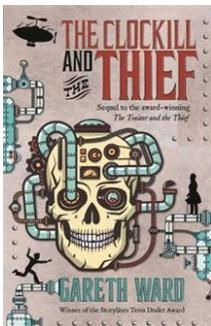
***Ursa*, by Tina Shaw**
Walker Books Australia. Ages 13+

This Storylines Tessa Duder Award winner in 2018 is a gripping read about a dystopian world ruled by a terrifying Director in which two groups of people live contrasting lives. Fifteen year old Leho, born as one of the Ceres, the oppressed group, fights for his family and his beliefs. Highly recommended.



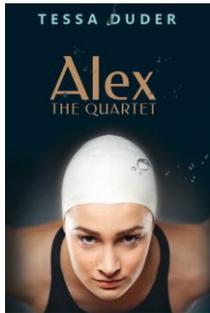
***Scythe*, by Neal Shusterman**
Walker Books. Ages 15+

Imagine a future world that has conquered death and sickness. A super-computer looks after everything so there is plenty for all. People live for ever and can 'turn the corner' on their age to stay forever young. In such a society, balance is essential, and the Scythes' role is to ensure that balance by 'gleaning' people. Looked on with both fear and respect, being a Scythe is no easy life and Citra and Rowan find themselves selected as apprentices. They discover not all is well within the Scythehood. Neal Shusterman is a master of dystopia and has created a gripping read that is hailed as the trilogy to read after the Hunger Games.



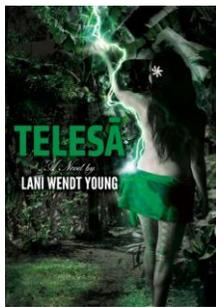
***The Clockkill and the Thief*, by Gareth Ward**
Walker Books. Ages 12+

This is the sequel to *The Traitor and the Thief*, a fantastic steampunk adventure which won the 2016 Storylines Tessa Duder Award and the 2018 Sir Julius Vogel Award for Best Youth Novel and Best New Talent, and was a Storylines Notable Book. In this follow-on story, the team of cadet spies continue their training accompanied by secrets, conspiracies and the very real threat of the Clockkills – a band of mechanical humanoids who have zero humanity. Friendships are strained, skills are learned and values are tested - all in all a thrilling adventure for all readers.



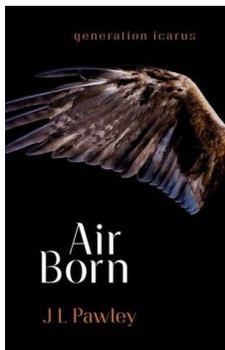
***Alex the Quartet*, by Tessa Duder
One Tree Hill Publishing. Ages 12+.**

A welcome re-issue, in one volume (great new cover!) of the four books that were all award-winners and best-sellers between 1987 and 1993: *Alex*, *Alex in Winter*, *Alessandra: Alex in Rome*, and *Songs for Alex*. With a beautifully-written and thoughtful foreword by Lani Wendt Young, analysing her reactions both as teenage reader and now mother of teens, *Alex the Quartet* allows a new generation to appreciate the full range of Alex's complex personality and her experiences of Olympic participation, falling in love and maturing into adulthood. A '...masterwork that pulls you into Alex's life and makes you dream about her dilemmas ... amazing storytelling from one of our best storytellers. I recommend it for age 10+, but it is probably better enjoyed by those 13+, those who are starting to feel the pressure of the world and need an incredible strong, female hero to share this with.' (Sarah Forster, *The Sapling*).



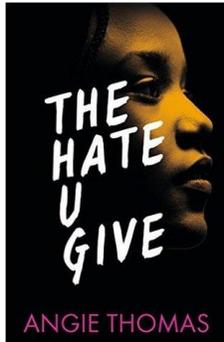
***Telesā* trilogy, by Lani Wendt Young
One Tree House. Ages: 13+**

Lani Wendt Young draws on her Samoan heritage to bring this thrilling story to life. Leia arrives in Samoa to reconnect with her Samoan family and find out more about her mother. She uncovers more than she bargained for and is suddenly thrust into the supernatural world of the Telesā. Combining myth and teenage romance, fans of the trilogy describe it as 'the Pacific *Twilight*'. There are also two companion books in the Telesā world. *I am Daniel Tahi* tells the initial story from Daniel's perspective, and the other, *Ocean's Kiss*, explores deeper into the Telesā mythology. Highly recommended.



***Air Born*, by Jess Pawley
Steam Press. Ages 13+**

Meet Generation Icarus – a group of teens who have suddenly and inexplicably grown wings. As if dealing with this strange new reality is not difficult enough, they also find themselves hunted by an evil corporation. Grouping together offers some security while they try to figure out what is going on and how they will survive. This gripping adventure is set out in a quartet of books, the first two of which are now published.



***The Hate U Give*, by Angie Thomas**
Walker Books. Ages 14+

Set in contemporary New York and inspired by the Black Lives Matter movement, this gripping story is a must-read. Starr lives in two worlds – a poor neighbourhood she was born in, and the posh, white school she attends. Witnessing a fatal shooting by a police officer thrusts her in the spotlight, and knowing that what she says could change lives, she has to choose her path wisely. A powerful story that firmly places us in the lives and perspectives of others, it has won awards and been turned into a film.



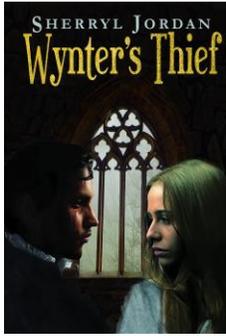
***Eleanor & Park*, by Rainbow Rowell**
Orion Publishing. Ages: 12+

It is a timeless tale... new quirky girl in town meets quiet boy, they talk, they make mixtapes, they fall in love... Over the course of the school year, Eleanor and Park fall, and fall heavily, in love for the first time. There are funny bits, sad bits, hopeful bits and lots of nostalgia for those who might remember the '80s. A truly lovely tale, perfect for summer holiday reading.



***The Boy at the Top of the Mountain*, by John Boyne**
Random House UK. Ages: 12+

Imagine growing up in Hitler's lair. Young Pierrot is orphaned and taken in by his aunt who just happens to be one of the staff at Berghof, a chateau at the top of a mountain and Hitler's holiday home. As he grows up, Pierrot comes under Hitler's gaze and is schooled in the Nazi ideology. Much to his aunt's horror, Pierrot longs to join the Hitler Youth and is proud to wear their uniform. Boyne helps us to see how life was on the inside of Nazi Germany, from a different perspective.



***Wynter's Thief*, by Sherryl Jordan**
One Tree House. Ages 13+

Sherryl Jordan is fascinated by medieval history and this passion shows in her writing; her close research brings scenes to life and draws you in with images and details of the times. This tale features two characters who meet and have to overcome prejudice and superstition to find their happy endings. A great tale of love, compassion and courage.