



children's literature

FOUNDATION OF NEW ZEALAND INC.
Tūāpapa Tuhitahi Tamariki o Aotearoa

Humorous List Term Two, 2002

BOOKLIST

Contributors to this booklist are Guest Reviewer - Yaron Aluf (10 yrs), Kerry Aluf, Carol Arden, Helen Beckingsale, Anne Coppell, Lorraine Orman, and Rosemary Tisdall.

Olivia

Ian Falconer
Atheneum, 2000
Hb ISBN 0689829531

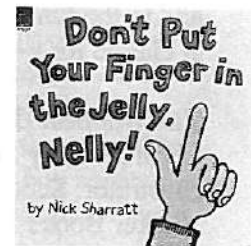
First picture book by an established illustrator - with a great commitment to "less is more." In minimalist cartoons done in linework, smudged sepia and bright orange highlights, he portrays the life of Olivia, a piglet (based on his daughter!). "She is good at wearing people out. She even wears herself out." Children will see themselves in this stropy little piglet, and weary parents will also find themselves chuckling. Recommended for three to five-year-olds. LO
Also available - **Olivia saves the circus**



Don't Put Your Finger in the Jelly, Nelly!

Nick Sharratt
Scholastic 1993
ISBN 0 590 13664 (PB)

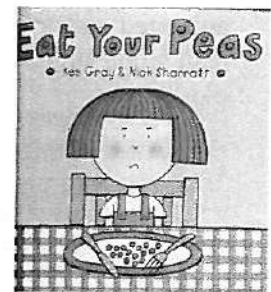
Appealing rhyming book that invites reader participation with the cut out circle on each page, just right for an eager finger to face the danger on the next page! "Don't put your finger in the cheese, Louise...you'll get caught by an alligator!" Bold illustrations utilising closeup photography with a collage effect and strong black outline. 3-5 yr KA

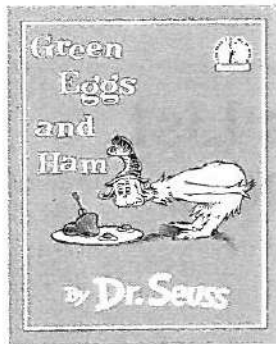


Eat Your Peas

Kes Gray
The Bodley Head Children's Books 2000
ISBN 0-370-32652-0 (HB)

Daisy doesn't like peas and despite her mother's very tempting bribes ("If you eat your peas you can have ten puddings, stay up really late...") which become progressively ridiculous ("If you eat your peas, I'll buy you a supermarket stacked full of puddings..., a bike shop, a zoo, ten chocolate factories"), Daisy resists eating her peas for dinner until she negotiates with her equally determined mother! Eat Your Peas won the 2001 Children's Book Award. Picture Book for 4 to 6 years old although I have read it aloud to Year 4 to 6 classes (8 - 10years) with much success! RT





Green Eggs and Ham

Dr Seuss

Random House, 1960

ISBN 0 583 32420 Hb

Green Eggs and Ham has charmed children for over 40 years and the magic still works!

A nonsense story about Sam-I-am's green eggs and ham. It is a great read aloud and also suitable for the beginning reader with its simple rhyming text. Humorous illustrations of the typical Dr Seuss characters add to the fun.

A classic for 4-6 yrs. KA

The Bugliest Bug

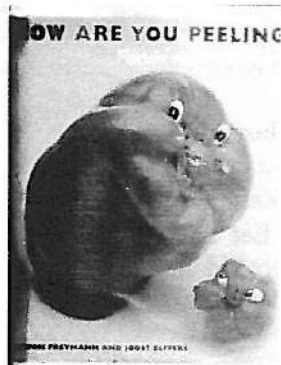
Carol Diggory Shields

Illustrator: Scott Nash

Walker Books 2002

ISBN 0 7445 5685 6

Written in rhyme this story of a bug contest has a fun twist. It is brightly illustrated with wacky stylised insects, whose animated antics create a lively read aloud suitable for 4-6 yr olds. CA



How Are You Peeling? Foods with Moods

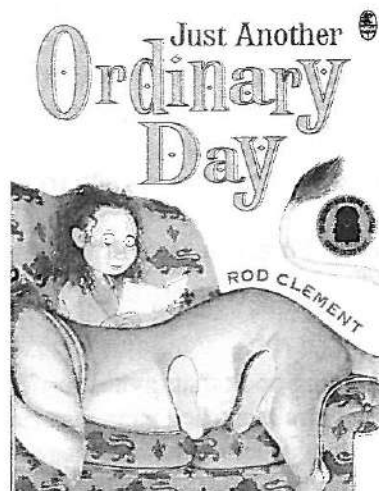
Saxton Freymann and Joost Elffers

Arthur A. Levine Books 1999

ISBN 0-439-10431-9 (HB)

A delightful book of photographs of different foods (vegetables and fruit), which have been cut, had eyes added and positioned in such a way to portray different moods or feelings. The simple text adds to the expressions making you smile as you turn the pages.

You'll never look at a capsicum in the same way again! Fun reading for a wide age range, 4 to adult! RT



Just Another Ordinary Day

Rod Clement

Angus & Robertson 1997

ISBN 0 207 18839 4 Pb

This highly imaginative book was reprinted in Blue Gum paperback edition in 2001.

The text reads as a regular story with all the humour portrayed through the double page illustrations. Original ideas, crazy creatures and the clever interpretations of the text make this a funny picturebook for 5-8 yr olds.

CA

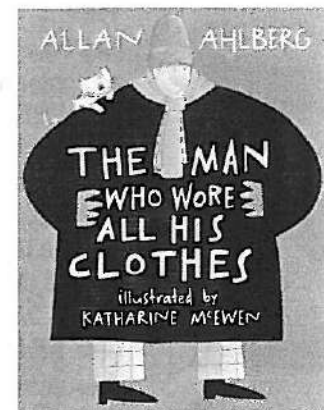
Jeremiah in the Dark Woods

Allan Ahlberg

Puffin 1999 (reprint)

ISBN 0141304960

Jeremiah Obadiah Jackanory Jones ventures into the dark woods in search of the no-good thief who stole his granny's tarts and meets a number of familiar fairy tale characters in slightly readaloud for those who know their fairy tales. 6-8. H.B.



The Man Who Wore All his Clothes

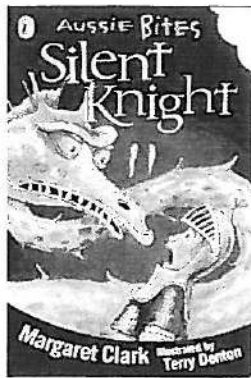
Allan Ahlberg

Illustrator: KatharineMcEwen

Walker Books 2001

ISBN 0 7445 8995 9 Pb

A delight for young independent readers. Alan Ahlberg describes simply a not so ordinary day in the life of the Gaskitt family when they become unwittingly involved in a bank robbery and the subsequent chase. The book title appears to have little to do with the storyline until Mr Gaskett arrives at work and all is made clear. Katharine McEwen's detailed funny illustration in clear colours complement Ahlberg's humour very well. Great fun for 6-8 yr olds. CA.



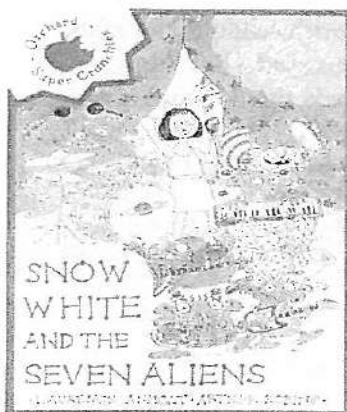
Silent Knight

Margaret Clarke
 Ill Terry Denton
 Puffin, 2002
 ISBN 0140372385

One of the *Aussie Bites* series. Silent Knight – the knight who doesn't talk much – is left by his horse Gallbladder. When it starts raining Silent Knight needs to find some shelter to prevent the dreaded Rusting Up (his second great fear). In the cave he meets a dragon – his first great fear. But it's amazing what can happen with a bit of negotiating! Fun for 7-8 years, particularly those gaining in confidence as solo readers. AC

Seriously Silly Stories Series

Laurence Anholt
 Ill Arthur Robins
 Orchard Books



Laurence Anholt puts a witty and twisty spin on fairy tales in

this series of books designed for young readers, aged 7-8 years, gaining in confidence as solo readers. AC

Snow White and the Seven Aliens

Laurence Anholt
 Orchard, 1998
 Hb ISBN 1860396100
 Pb ISBN 186039650X

Young Snow White escapes the clutches of her stepmother – former lead singer in the Wonderful Wicked Witches, who is insanely jealous of Snow White's singing voice and perfect little nose – to form the latest pop sensation. She also gets to meet and marry Hank Hunk from Boysnog – her hero! P.S. This story has not been tested on animals.

Shampoozel

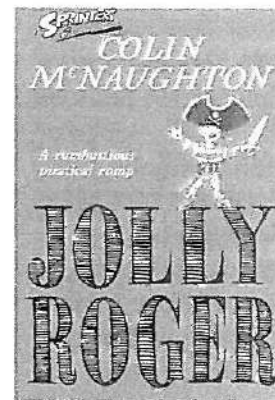
Laurence Anholt
 Orchard, 1999
 Hb ISBN 1860396119
 Pb ISBN 1860396518

Dan Druff, the hairdresser, promises the Bad Hair Witch his first born child in order to gain a cure for his love's – Tam O'Tei – terrible hair. After their daughter, Shampoozel, is born, the Bad Hair Witch takes her away. Together Shampoozel and the Witch work on hair potions that make them so famous Prince Gary Baldie sets out to obtain the Ultimate 2-in-1 Hair Growing Lotion.

Also available in the series are: Eco-Wolf and the Three Pigs

Orchard, 1999
 ISBN 1860399908

Rumply crumply stinky pin
 Orchard, 1997.
 1860393551



Jolly Roger

Colin McNaughton
 Walker Books 2001
 ISBN 07445 8293 8 Pb

Roger is kidnapped to be a cabin boy, but the pirates' hijinks and hilarity are curtailed by Roger's mum. The boisterous rhymes and slapstick action are well expressed by the detailed pen and ink illustrations which are the strength of the book. Good fun for 7 & 8 yr olds. CA.

Skull Island

G. Brassi
 Scholastic NZ, 2001
 Pb ISBN 1869434439

A breathless adventure in an easy-to-read style that would be great for reluctant boy readers. Mum takes two kids plus the cat plus the pet rat to a friend's bach on a remote island. But what do they find stuck up the chimney - why, the jewellery from a local burglary. And what's that strange noise outside the window? After much excitement it's only thanks to the cat and the rat that everyone avoids the clutches of the criminals... Best for ages of about 7 to 9. LO

The Transmogrification of Roscoe Wizzle

David Elliott
Walker Books, 2001
Pb ISBN 0744573858

A quirky little story about what happens to Roscoe when he eats too many Jungle Drums hamburgers from Gussy's. His best friend tells him that he's turning into a bug - his eyes are popping and his face is a funny shape. The two of them try to find out what's going on - but then Roscoe is kidnapped by the managers of Gussy's. He discovers that giant bugs have been falling into the meat grinder and going into the hamburgers... It's wacky and way-out, but should appeal to boys of about 7 to 9. LO

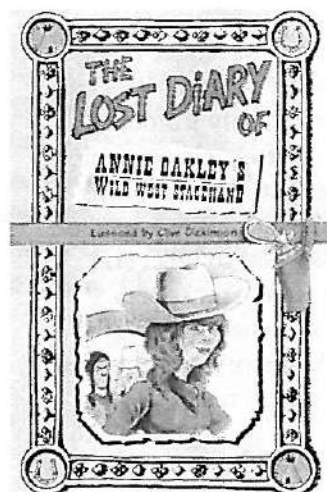
The Mermaid of Bondi Beach

Gillian Rubinstein
Hodder Children's Books, 2000
Hb ISBN 0733609600
Jack and Mikey go surfing, and unfortunately meet a mermaid who's determined to marry a human. Add to this complicated situation several other problems, such as Mikey's father's bad temper, Jack's interest in a girl called Anna, Jack's grandmother's fury at the loss of a valuable bracelet, and Mikey's brother's tendency to get mixed up with criminals... After a lot of funny scenes involving the mermaid, all is resolved to everyone's satisfaction. For readers of about 8 or 9. LO

Selby Spacedog

Duncan Ball
Angus & Robertson, 1996
ISBN 0207 18925 0
Selby the talking dog has had many hilarious adventures and

they continue in this collection of short stories. Jokes from Gary's Gagg Bag save the day in 'Books Bombs and Bookweek'. Space nonsense is in evidence in 'My Space Walk', 'Touchdown', and the title story, 'Selby Spacedog'. Light and easy reading for 8 & 9 yr olds. CA



The Lost Diary of Annie Oakley's Wild West Stagehand

Clive Dickinson
Ill George Hollingworth
Collins, 2001
ISBN 00694597X
Phil McCatridge takes readers on a romp through America, England and Europe, travelling with Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show, helping out Annie Oakley - Little Sure Shot. Facts are interspersed with fun, for example, the fictional characters' names follow in the punning tradition of Asterix, like Phil McCatridge, and Prof. Joe King of Larfingstock College.

This series is the fictional equivalent of the very popular *Horrible Histories* (and *Science, and*) series. Perfect for trying to ease a young boy into reading fiction

- so long as the character's popular.

Other lost diaries are: The Lost Diary of Leonardo's Paint Mixer

Alexendra Parsons
Collins, 1999
ISBN 0006945902

The Lost Diary of Hercules' Personal Trainer

Steve Barlow and Steve Skidmore
Collins, 1998
ISBN 00069452821

The lost diary of Erik Bloodaxe, Viking warrior : sometime King of Norway, King of the Hebrides and King of the Kingdom of York

Steve Barlow and Steve Skidmore
Collins, 1997.
0006945562

Great for 8-10 years. AC

The Killer Underpants

Michael Lawrence
Orchard, 2000
Pb ISBN 1860398375
Funny, rude and sometimes revolting! Jiggy McCue's mother buys him a hideous pair of underpants - but he finds that he can't take them off. Worse still, the pants keep on itching, and then Jiggy realises that anyone nearby will do whatever he commands. Lots of hilarious scenes with schoolmates and teachers result - but Jiggy and his friends finally work out how to neutralize the magical powers of the pants... Great for boys of about 8 to 10. LO

What Howls at the Moon in Frilly Knickers?

E.F. Smith

Orchard Books, 2001

Pb ISBN 1841218081

An under-were wolf, of course. This is a light-hearted and well-plotted book with lots of laughs, but there's a solid theme at its heart. Julian's grandmother is dying, and he and his mates decide to write a joke book to cheer her up. Lots of corny jokes, lots of interesting characters, plus lots of hard work and fun as the joke book comes together. A great story, especially for boys of about 8 to 10 who want books like Maurice Gleitzman's. LO

Frindle

Andrew Clements

Aladdin Paperbacks 1998

ISBN 0-689-81876-9

Nick likes to liven things up at school and he really does when he decides to challenge Mrs Granger with how words are created. Why should a pen be called a pen for example? He could never have imagined the uproar he creates when he decides to call it a *frindle*. Mrs Granger wants him to stop the nonsense but it has gone beyond Nick's control! A surprise ending keeps you reading, and the whole concept makes you think!

8 to 11 years old. RT



Just Annoying!

Andy Griffiths

Pan Macmillan Australia 1998

ISBN 0-330-36078-7 (pb)

A book of short stories of ridiculous and hilarious incidents which happen in Andy's life (I don't think they are intended to be autobiographical, but with Andy Griffith's sense of humour, who knows?). He gets himself into all sorts of predicaments such as being in the shower with the tap stuck so it won't turn off but he's bunged up all the drain holes so the shower is filling fast! He tests his parents' patience by swinging on the clothesline, asking "are we there yet?" repeatedly on a long car trip... he's tireless. Terry Denton's funny cartoon-style illustrations around the pages add to the whole effect!

One in a series of four, each one stands alone:

Just Tricking! Just Stupid!

Just Crazy!

Funny stories for 8 to 11 years old. RT

SOMUCH2DO

Vince Ford

Scholastic NZ, 2001

Pb ISBN 1869435087

This sequel to *2MUCH4U* returns with all the familiar characters. Davin and his mates have a new teacher who gives them a business investment project. Davin decides to set up a worm farm. Initially he has no success, but then things take off. The vermicast is sold as fertilizer, the worms get fed to eels in the creek which are then sold off, the worms also feed up some chickens which then produce eggs for Gavin to sell, and finally Gavin acquires a pig to

fatten up on the scraps which the worms don't eat. Add to this the hilarious money-making activities of the other children, plus a couple of local thugs doing some car-jacking... It's a funny, lively story - great for readers of about 9 to 11. LO

The Land of Green Ginger

Noel Langley

Faber 2001 (reprint)

ISBN 057121083X

Prince Abu Ali, the hero of this book is the son of Aladdin, now the Emperor of China. His quest for the Land of Green Ginger is full of slapstick humour and reads aloud well. This edition was first published in the 1960s and judging by the comments on Amazon my adult nephews are not the only ones who have been searching for copies of a book which used to have them in stitches. A very welcome addition to Fabers Modern Classic series. 9-12 H.B.

Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key

Jack Gantos

Pub. Corgi Yearling 2000

ISBN 0-440-86433-X

Joey is a good kid but he's *wired*. Teachers never know what he's going to do next. He sharpens his finger in the pencil sharpener and he swallows the house key. He can't sit still and trouble seems to fall his way without him trying! A delightfully funny story about Joey who wants to be good and not get into trouble but he feels the springs popping inside and he can't control them. Gives you a huge understanding for those "difficult" children in many classes some of whom are ADHD which is how the author describes Joey.

9 to 12 years old RT

The Exiles

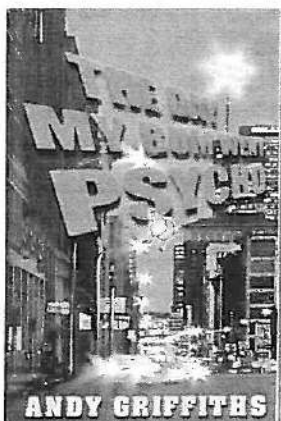
Hilary MacKay
Hodder 2001 (reprint)
ISBN 0340726911

The story of four sisters, all avid readers, who are exiled to the Lake District for the summer, where their grandmother has hidden all her books with disastrous consequences. The relationships between the sisters and their efforts to entertain themselves in the country make very entertaining reading. 10+ HB

The Exiles at Home

Hilary McKay
Hodder 2001 (reprint)
ISBN 0749744936

Ruth, eldest of the exiles, decides to sponsor an African child, not realising that this is an ongoing commitment. Her sisters all join her in her fundraising efforts and the results are just as entertaining as the first book. 10+ HB



The Day my Bum went Psycho

Andy Griffiths
Pan Macmillan Australia
ISBN 0 330 36320 4 (NZ ed)
Zack Freeman is a 12 year old boy whose bum has gained the habit of dropping off and wreaking chaos over the city. One night Zack wakes up to

see his bum jump out of his window and see it start a bum revolution. With the help of Eleanor, the Smacker, the Kicker and the Kisser, Zack travels through the Great Windy Desert, the Brown Forest, and onto a bum infested island to face the...Greatest, Meanest and Ugliest Bum of them all... Warning: Hide this book extremely carefully, do not allow it to come across an adult's eyes!

Another masterpiece by Andy Griffiths, author of the 'Just' series. Exciting, but smelly, this is a very rude book, it is funny, just like his other creations. It is so disgusting and funny that your own bum will pop off and read it with you!

2003: The Bums strike back in: Zombie Bums from Uranus.
10+ Y.A.

The Summerhouse Loon

Anne Fine
Mammoth 2000 (reprint)
ISBN 0749744928

A blind professor with a secretary who is a secret guide dog kicker might seem an unlikely subject for comedy but this is one of Anne Fine's funniest books. Ione Muffet, daughter of the blind professor, finds herself involved in the romance between her father's secretary and one of his students and manages to steer events to a happy conclusion. 11+ H.B.

The Other Darker Ned

Anne Fine
Mammoth 2000 (reprint)
ISBN 0749744936

Ned and Caroline of the Summer House Loon are now married and Ione is determined to raise money for overseas aid. Enlisting Ned's help she organises a jumble sale in the graveyard with riotous results. 11+ H.B.



The Princess Diaries

Meg Cabot
HarperCollins, 2000
ISBN 0380978482
Macmillan Children's Books,
2001
033048205X

Fantastically funny diary of Mia, the unexpected heir of a small European principality, Genovia. Not quite the same as the movie released last year, which is based on the book. Mia is hip, funny, uptight even – and very New York. Not at all a traditional princess! Add to that the fact her mom is dating her algebra teacher - and Mia's failing algebra. And then there's her obsession with her flat hair, and matching chest, and the fact she's never been kissed! What's a teenage girl to do?

Mia's adventures continue in:
The Princess Diaries: Princess in the Spotlight

HarperCollins, 2001
ISBN 0060294655

Also published as:
The Princess Diaries: Take Two

Macmillan Children's Books,
2001

ISBN 0330482068

The Princess Diaries:

Princess in Love

HarperCollins, 2001

ISBN 006029468X

Also published as:

**The Princess Diaries: Third
time lucky.**

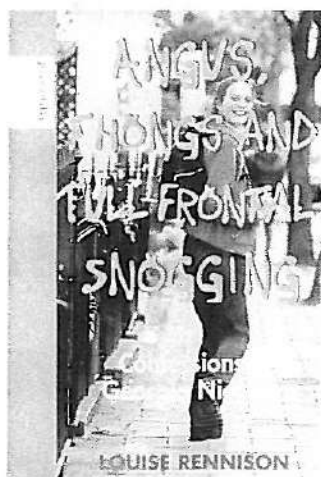
Macmillan Children's Books,
2002

ISBN 0330482076

And the author's promised
more adventures.

Recommended for 12+ years.

AC



**Angus, thongs and full-
frontal snogging: confessions
of Georgia Nicolson**

Louise Rennison

Piccadilly Press, 1999

ISBN 1853405140

Hysterically funny adventures
of Georgia, told in diary
format. The teenage version of
Bridget Jones's Diary.

Georgia's just your typical
teenager, with typical
problems - family, friends,
body image, boys. And then
there's Angus - her Scottish
wildcat. Read all about the
rebellion against berets at
school, her crush on the Sex
God, and the problems with
having a 'bonkers' baby sister.
Not recommended to read in
public or before bed - the

laughter and inability to put it
down won't be appreciated by
others.

Georgia's adventures continue
in:

**It's OK, I'm wearing really
big knickers!: further
confessions of Georgia**

Nicolson.

Piccadilly, 2000

ISBN 1853406856

**Knocked out by my nunga-
nungas: further further
confessions of Georgia**

Nicolson.

Piccadilly Press, 2001

ISBN 1853406430

Keep an eye out for the next
instalment:

Dancing in my Nuddy-Pants

Piccadilly Press, current

release date of July 2002

ISBN 1853407364

Recommended for 12+ years,
particularly 14-year-olds -
Georgia's age. AC

**The Amazing Maurice and
His Educated Rodents**

Terry Pratchett

Doubleday, 2001

Hb ISBN 0385601239

Hurray - the first book for
young readers set in

Discworld. Maurice, a cunning
cat, and a pack of rats eat some
magical rubbish - and suddenly
find they can talk and think.

They join forces with a young
man and set up a scam where
they visit towns and act out the
Pied Piper story. But they meet
their match in a town where a
pair of evil rat-catchers have
stolen all the food and locked
up all the local rats - and
created something really evil
in the deepest basement...

Non-stop action and great
humour make this a good read
for about 12 to 14 year-olds.

LO

Feeling Sorry for Celia

Jaclyn Moriarty

Pan Macmillan Australia, 2000

ISBN 0330362100

This is one of those books that
makes you laugh out loud.
Celia's life is depicted in a
series of letters, some from
friends and family, some from
imaginary organisations which
provide a commentary on the
typical preoccupations of a
teenage girl's life. 13+ HB

Finding Grace

Alyssa Brugman

Allen & Unwin, 2001

Pb ISBN 1865084530

16-year-old Rachel is caregiver
for a brain-damaged woman
called Grace. Grace has a lovely
house, greedy sisters who steal
from her, and a box of
mementos which Rachel
investigates to try and find out
about Grace before her accident.
All this may sound rather dire,
but it's written in such a light-
hearted style and Rachel's voice
is so appealing, that the book is
a real gem - funny and moving
at the same time. For teenage
girls of about 14 to 16. LO

48 Shades of Brown

Nick Earls

Penguin Books Australia, 1999

Pb ISBN 0140287698

Dan, aged 16, falls in love with
Naomi, aged 18. He devises
various plans to impress her
with his intelligence - such as
learning all about birds,
including the 48 different shades
of brown used to describe wild
ducks. His plans are
excruciatingly unsuccessful, and
he finally realises he just needs
to be himself. The story is wry,
self-deprecating, often funny
and sometimes hilarious. For
teens of 15 and up. LO