

Timeslip Novels Term Two, 2003

Contributors to this booklist are – Kerry Aluf, Helen Beckingsale, Anne Coppel, Bronwyn Fox, Lois Huston, Sandra Morris, Lorraine Orman, Frances Plumpton.

BOOKLIST

The Garden

Dyan Sheldon,
 Ill. Gary Blythe
 Red Fox, 1995
 ISBN 0099501716

Jenny finds an arrowhead in her garden. Her mother talks about what life was like those hundreds of years ago. When Jenny spends the night in her tent, in the garden, she dreams she joins the Native Americans around their campfire. Blythe's atmospheric illustrations perfectly complement the simple text, which mourns for a way of life now lost. For ages 6 and over. AC.



Time Spinner

Roy Apps
 Andersen Young Reader's Library 1990, reprinting June 2003
 ISBN 0862642809 (HB) , 1842702319 (PB).

A story for younger readers set in a space colony at the end of the 21st Century in which Rosemary, who is fascinated by her grandmother's forbidden box of relics from earth, decides to borrow her parents' space cruiser and return to 1990 to meet her great grandmother. She runs into a few problems coping with school rules, 20th century food and understanding present day English phrases all of which adds up to an entertaining story for 8+. HB

A Twist in Time

Jean Ure
 Walker Books 2000
 ISBN 074457823X

Cosy is being fostered while her mother is in hospital and as well as problems at home she is having great difficulty with maths. She sees the ghost of a young girl writing in a diary and it appears that she can also see Cosy, but thinks she is also a ghost. How Cosy manages to communicate with the girl from the past, read her diary and receive help with her maths, makes a very satisfying story which should appeal to girls of 9+. HB.



Tut Tut
Knights of the Kitchen Table
The Not-So-Jolly Roger

Jon Scieszka
 Puffin Books, 1993
 ISBN 0670848328
 ISBN 014036398X
 ISBN 0140363971

Three of the books in the Time Warp Trio series. These books are very easy to read and revolve around The Book which was given to Joe as birthday present. Every time anyone makes a wish and opens The Book, Joe and his two friends are zapped into the past. They fall into comical scrapes and must find The Book again before they can go home. Fun to read. Ages 8 and up. LH



The Time Bike
 Jane Langton
 Laura Geringer (May 28, 2002)
 ISBN: 0064407926

This is the sixth book in *The Hall Family Chronicles* about an eccentric family in Concord, Massachusetts. Eddie Hall is disappointed when his brand new bike is stolen the day after his birthday. This is soon forgotten when another bike (albeit an old-fashioned one) is delivered to his home and he discovers that it can travel through time. Independently he, his sister Eleanor, and best friend

Oliver, embark on time travel adventures. Meanwhile his Aunt and Uncle are threatened with eviction from their house for want of a proper title deed. It is Eleanor who unwittingly saves them as a result of her time travel. The Time Bike is not as unified and satisfying as Langton's previous books, but a fun read nonetheless. Suitable for middle to upper primary. BF

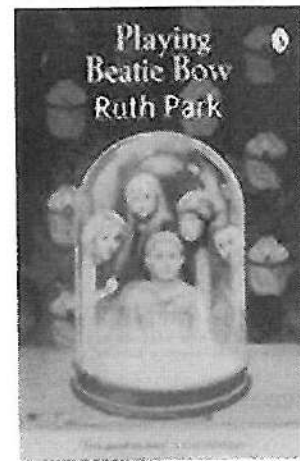
Gyrfalcon
 Grace Wells
 O'Brien Press, 2002
 Pb 0862787653

Gyr, who lives in an Irish country village, is upset and angry when his father leaves the family. He meets an amazing stranger who turns out to be Finn MacCuhail, a legendary Irish hero from the 3rd century. Several times Finn takes Gyr into the past so he can participate in the strength-giving rituals of the ancients. It's a haunting and mystical tale for children of about 9 to 11. LO



The Children of Green Knowe
 Lucy Boston
 Illustrated by Peter Boston
 Faber, 2000
 Pb, ISBN 0571202020

Tolly is a solitary little boy until he comes to stay with his great-grandmother in her very old house, Green Knowe, with its endlessly fascinating garden and moat. Here he soon discovers that others have shared his strange name Toseland, and that the children who lived in Green Knowe centuries earlier want to play with him too. This is first in a series of six books, often described as modern classics, set in and around the old manor, that will appeal to discerning readers of about 10 years onwards. FP



Playing Beatie Bow
 Ruth Park
 Puffin
 Pb, 0140314601

Fourteen year old Abigail Kirk often wondered about the tatty little girl who seemed to be riveted by the scary game of Beatie Bow that the other children played. When Abigail tried to follow her through the back streets of Sydney's The Rocks area she found herself transported into the area as it existed in Victorian times. As Beatie's family cared for her she slowly came to understand their convoluted family life and the special gift that some members had inherited and was somehow part of her own life too. Capable readers 10 onwards. FP

Whose Side Are You On?
 Alan Gibbons
 Dent 1991, Dolphin 2000, Collins Educational 2002.
 ISBN 1858810531, 000713441X.

A time slip story which also looks at the issues of racism and bullying. Mattie runs away from school rather than confront the bullies who are picking on his Asian friend. While exploring a derelict country mansion he slips back to when it was a fine house belonging to rich man involved in the slave trade. From there he retreats into a painting and finds himself in Jamaica, sharing the life of a community of slaves and eventually helping them to escape during a rebellion. These experiences help him to stand up for what he believes and to encourage others to join him when he returns to his own time. 10+. HB



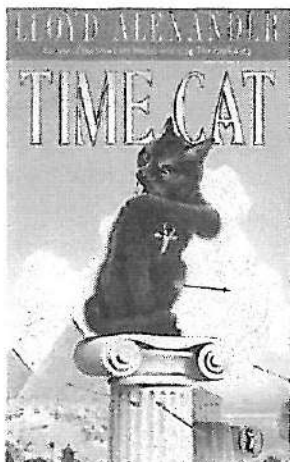
The Time Witches

Michael Molloy

The Chicken House, 2002

Hbk ISBN 190343453X

Sequel to *The Witch Trade*. Light witches from across the world are arriving in Speller for the wedding of Sir Chadwick Street and Hilda Bluebell. Unbeknownst to them, their enemy Wolfbane, has returned and with the help of his mother, he is ready for revenge. Breaking the time agreement Wolfbane travels back to change history. With the 'help' of the Wizards, Chadwick and Abby move to stop Wolfbane, and so do their friends. Add in a few coincidences and you get a rollicking adventure (with enough icky bits to satisfy, too). Recommended for ages 10 and over. AC.



Time Cat: the Remarkable Journeys of Jason and Gareth

Lloyd Alexander

Hardcover: Henry Holt & Company, 2003 (reprint)

ISBN 0805072705

Paperback: Puffin, 1996 (reprint)

ISBN 0140378278

One night Jason discovers his cat, Gareth, can talk. He also finds out that cats have only one life, but can

visit nine different lives. By the power of his blink, Gareth takes Jason on a whirlwind trip through history. First off, it's ancient Egypt, thereafter other times, including the introduction of the Manx Cat, and they help Leonardo da Vinci become an artist. Gareth stars as a Yoda-type figure dispensing wisdom to his young apprentice. The language and writing style are slightly dated, so best used for capable 10+ readers. AC

Ghost at the Window

Margaret McAllister

Oxford University Press 2000,

Dutton 2002.

ISBN 0192718479,

Ewan lives in an ancient house in Scotland which frequently shows scenes from previous times. The previous occupants of the house are oblivious to its future inhabitants until Elspeth appears in Ewan's bedroom pleading for his help to help her spirit move on. This is perhaps more of a ghost story than a timeslip book as Ewan is never in the past for more than a couple of minutes but his interaction with Elspeth, who died of diphtheria in the 1930s, is real and his successful efforts to help her solve her plight make a satisfying story. 10+ HB.

Angels Unlimited Series

Annie Dalton

Collins 2001-2003.

Winging It

ISBN 0006754848

Losing the Plot

ISBN 0006754856

Flying High

ISBN 0006754864

Calling the Shots

ISBN 0006754872

Fogging Over

ISBN 0007129874

Fighting Fit

ISBN 0007129882

Mel Beeby is a teenager who has died and gone to heaven (where there are lots of parties and fashionable outfits- very much a teenage girl's heaven). However she has also been selected as part of a trouble shooting group which monitors time - past, present and future, to sort out problems and oppose the Powers of Darkness. There are more titles but so far Mel has found herself in

London during the Blitz, Shakespearean times, medieval England, Hollywood in the 1920s, Victorian England when Jack the Ripper is on the prowl and in ancient Rome. This a light hearted, high action series which will appeal mainly to girls. 10+, HB.



Market Blues

Kirsty Murray

Allen & Unwin, 2001

ISBN 1865082848

Sam likes to work at the markets with his friend Tony. It's another world, keeping him too busy to think about his parents' divorce and his troubles at school, but what he loves most is his trumpet. He takes up busking to try to earn some extra money. A particular tune comes into his head. He pours his soul into it, trying to lose himself in the rhythm, trying so hard he blacks out. When he comes to, he's in a different century. A fascinating book, set in modern day and 19th century Melbourne. Intermediate age and up. LH

Green Boy

Susan Cooper

Bodley Head, 2002

Hb 037032675X

A complex story that transposes a British myth to the Bahamas. When a tourist development threatens their favourite island, Trey (aged 12) and Lou (aged 7) are suddenly transported to a future world where urban development has consumed the planet. A group of environmental fighters hail Lou as their saviour, summoned by Gaia. He magically turns into the Green Man, and the natural world is restored. For intermediate ages. LO



Walking the Boundaries

Jackie French
Angus & Robertson, 1993
ISBN 0207177961

Martin has been given an offer he cannot refuse. All he must do is walk the boundaries of his great-grandfather's farm, and it will be his. Martin dreams of how much money the farm will bring when sold, and what he can buy. However as Martin begins his journey, his Reeboks crunching dead gumleaves, he does not realise he has walked into another time, and that walking the boundaries will mean more than just discovering the limits of his great-grandad's land. A thought provoking book, with a strong Australian flavour, suitable for Intermediate age and up. LH

Red Velvet

Carol Hedges
Oxford University Press 2002.
ISBN 019275193

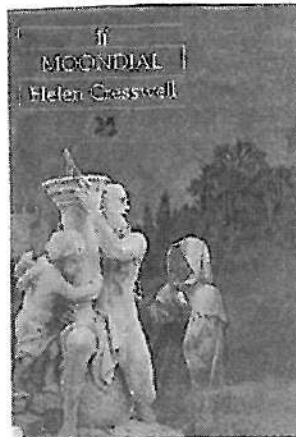
Elly visits an old Tudor mansion which she senses is hostile to her. She is told that the body of a girl dressed in red velvet has recently been discovered in a chest and she begins to see and hear episodes from the past. She is able to reveal the true identity of the body in the chest, solve an ancient mystery and find out about her own family history. A gripping story for 11+. HB

To Summon A Spirit

Enid Richemont
Walker Books 2000
ISBN 0744569796

Jess is living where a Victorian stately home once stood in extensive grounds and moves between her own time and Victorian times where she meets Letitia who is convinced that Jess is a demon. Jess's conversations with Letitia reveal she is at risk from her own family and when she finds out that Letitia died when she was 12

she decides to try and change the past. As a result her own life circumstances are quite different, something which writers of timeslip fantasies usually avoid, but which was still a believable and fascinating story. 11+. HB



Moondial

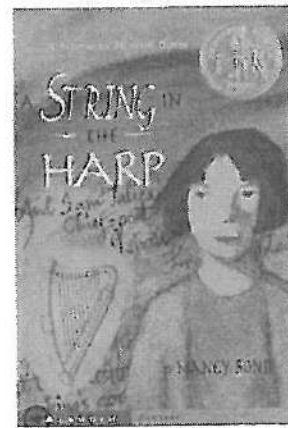
Helen Cresswell
Macmillan 1987
ISBN: 0027253708

As soon as Minty meets World, the lodge-keeper at Belton, he tells her that she is the one to 'turn the key'. An old moondial is the link into another time and through a series of events and journeys into this earlier time, Minty realises that only she can free the children from their prisons and release them to run free for ever in moontime. 11+ years. SM

Blitzed

Robert Swindells
Doubleday 2002
ISBN 0385410425

The story is told from the point of view of George, a bored schoolboy who is obsessed with and thinks it must have been cool to live during World War II. A class visit to a realistic War Museum leads to a timeslip. George finds himself in London during the Blitz where he has to fend for himself and quickly sheds his ideas about war being exciting and romantic. His account of living with a gang of homeless children with its attendant dangers, discomforts and tragedies gives a realistic picture of what life must have been like in the Blitz. A final twist has him realise he knows "the gallant lass who took me in is the silly old bag whose garden I love to wreck, and that's what time'll do." 11+. HB



A String in the Harp

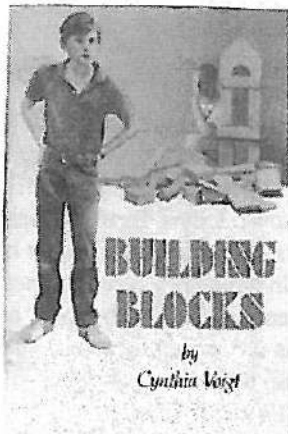
Nancy Bond
Atheneum 1976
ISBN 0689500368

When fifteen year old Jen joins her father and brother and sister in Wales for Christmas, she finds that the family is no longer the happy unit it was when her mother was alive. There is tension between her bother Peter who resents being taken to Wales and their father who seems preoccupied by his teaching job at the university of Aberystwyth. Her younger sister Becky seems to have accepted the place and made friends but is still desperate for Jen to stay for the rest of the year. The story and characters really develop when Peter discovers an ancient harp key belonging to Taliesen- a sixth century legendary bard from the same area. Peter claims the key has magical powers- Jen doesn't believe him, but there are some locals who believe in the ancient magic. In the end Peter must decide whether to hand the key over to the local museum or whether to return it to its rightful place. 11+years. SM

Warriors of Alavna

N.M.Browne
Bloomsbury 2001, 2003
ISBN 0747546940

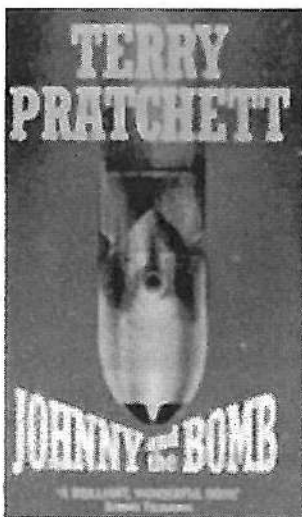
Two teenagers on a school field trip are engulfed in mist and find themselves in a primitive time where their lives are in danger and they must learn to be warriors in order to survive. There is plenty of action right from the start as Dan and Ursula come to terms with the brutality and totally different values of a society fighting for survival. The sequel **Warriors of Camlann** is due for publication this year. 11+. HB



Building Blocks
Cynthia Voigt.
Atheneum 1984
ISBN: 0689310358

As far as Brann is concerned his father is a loser – always putting everything that happens down to ‘fate’- something you wait passively for. But Brann sees fate as something you grab and steer for yourself. One day Brann crawls into a building block fortress built by his father and falls asleep.

Waking, he finds himself transported thirty-seven years into the past. He meets his father as a young boy and Brann finds he must fend for himself and take fate in his hands. He learns there is more to his father and he comes to understand why his father is the way he is. 11+ years. SM

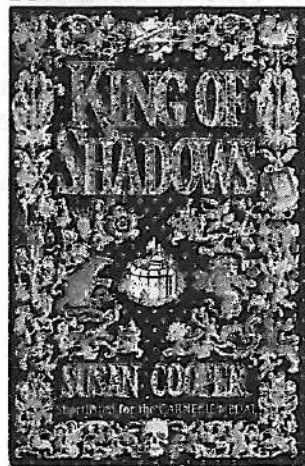


Johnny And The Bomb
Terry Pratchett
Acacia Press, Inc. (1997)
ISBN: 0552529680

12 year old Johnny and his friends have to do something when they find Mrs. Tachyon, the local bag lady, semi-conscious in an alley way.

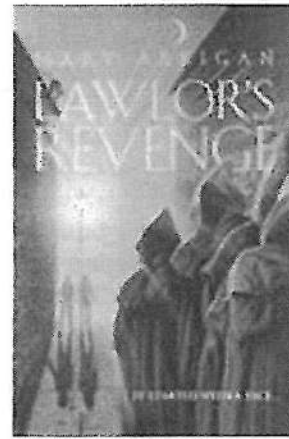
What they don't expect is to be transported back in time (by means of her rickety supermarket trolley) to 1941, the day before the bombing of one section of their town by the Germans. Events become complicated with different but interconnecting versions of the same two days, one in the nineties, the other in 1941. Johnny and friends eventually find their way back to the future but then have to return to retrieve their friend.

A very humorous book with many wry observations on life. Contains textual references to other books and movies. (eg The Men In Black) For Intermediate / Lower Secondary. BF



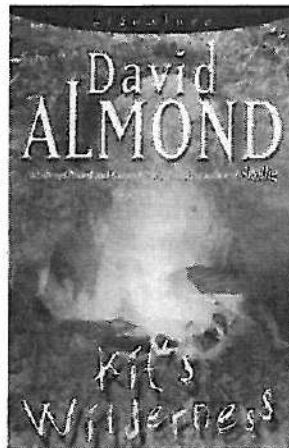
King of Shadows
Susan Cooper
Aladdin Library, 2001 (reprint)
ISBN 068984445X

Nat(haniel) Field has joined an acting troupe to perform Shakespearean plays at the opening of the New Globe. While in London, he starts feeling ill. He awakes as Nathan Field, an actor on loan to the Lord Chamberlain's Men, playing Puck to Shakespeare's Oberon. A strong bond forms between the two of them. Shakespeare helps Nat deal with the grief caused by his parents' deaths, particularly his father's suicide. Shakespeare finds in Nat the perfect Puck and a dear friend. When Nat suddenly returns to the modern world he is devastated by his new loss. Struggling to cope with everything Nat begins to learn why it was so important for him to have swapped with Nathan. Recommended for ages 12 and over. AC.



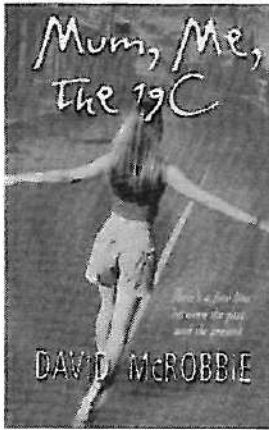
Lawlor's Revenge
Mary Arrigan
Harper Collins, 2002
ISBN 0007137656

Bron's best friend is Mrs Caffrey - but one day Bron visits and the house has gone, like it was destroyed years ago. Distraught, she meets Alby - the 13-year-old ghost of Mrs Caffrey's great-grandfather. Alby's determined to change history and stop his father from being wrongly accused of theft and deported to Tasmania. A tense chase through time and possibilities follows as the children try to divert the course of history. Recommended for ages 12 and over. AC.



Kit's Wilderness
Almond, David
Hodder Children's Books, 1999
ISBN 0340727160

A haunting tale set in England. Kit Watson has moved with his parents to Stoneygate, a town built beside ancient coal mines. His grandfather tells him the tales of the miners, and John Askew entices him to play a game called Death, until Kit is no longer sure were reality lies. He thinks the ghostly children he sees are illusions, until his own experience in the dark leads him to another conclusion. Ages 12 and up. LH



Mum, Me, the 19C
McRobbie, David
Angus & Robertson, 2002
ISBN 020719789X

Cara is not terribly thrilled to find that her parents' idea of a birthday treat for her is a trip to Harpley, a reconstructed historical village. She cheers up a little when she notices the cute guy working in the blacksmith's, but is perfectly happy to leave when her mother calls her. On the way to the exit, she picks up what seems to be a radio, lying in the long grass. One twiddle is all it takes. Cara and her mother are now in the 19th century, and have to deal with bushrangers and convicts, besides trying to find their way home. An enjoyable book, particularly for teenage girls. Lots of action, adventure and love interest. The only jarring part is the inclusion of the nerd-like future time-traveller. Ages 12 and up. LH



The White Ship
Jackie French
Angus & Robertson, 2002
ISBN 0207197989

In the 16th century, Queen Catherine de Medici orders the killing of all the Protestants in France, all those who do not follow the Catholic religion. One captain decides to flee the anger of the merciless queen, and sails away with all the children from the island where he grew up, in the hope that at least they will be saved. Somehow, the determination of the captain creates their own little world on the white ship, and they sail into time until they find a land where the children can be free.

In the 21st century, Rachel returns home from another week at school. Home is a small island off the coast of Australia where she lives with her parents, her grandparents and her Aunt Miriam. Rachel loves the loneliness of the island, but most of all she loves watching for the white ship. The ship only appears at sunset on fine evenings, and can only be seen from the island. Rachel dreams about the ship at night. She also dreams about a boy called Michel, who is on board.

Michel has accepted the captain's assurance that all is well, but he is troubled by dreams. Dreams of a strange girl on a strange island, whose name is Rachel. Will Rachel and Michel ever meet? Will their friendship transcend time? A well written book, touching on friendship, religious persecution and idealism, and very topical in today's world. Ages 12 and up. LH

Touch and Go (in The Liontamer's Daughter).

Peter Dickinson
Delacorte 1997.
ISBN 0385323271.

This a novella published as part of a book of stories dealing with different aspects of time. An elderly bookseller visits a country manor house and recognises it as the house where he spent part of the war, living with his grandmother who was the cook. His visit triggers memories of himself as a frightened child on the servants' stairs and how he helped a girl he met there to overcome her own fear. He realised that she was from an earlier time but was able to reach across time to help her overcome her problems. A cleverly constructed story for 12+.HB

Black Harvest

Ann Pilling
Collins, 1983
ISBN 0006926037

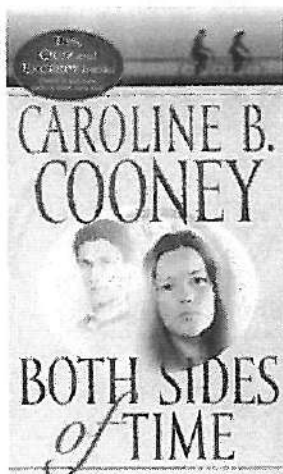
Colin and Prill are looking forward to their holiday on the west coast of Ireland. They are to stay in a newly built house lent to them by their father's employer. But horror haunts their dreams. Who are the ghostly children they see on the road, and what is the sickening stench that turns all their food rotten? Ages 12 and up. LH



The Devil's Arithmetic

Jane Yolen
Puffin; reprint edition 1990
ISBN 0140345353

12 year old Hannah is tired of remembering and is embarrassed by her Grandfather's behaviour when he sees TV footage of Nazis. Her mother's explanation of how her Grandparents and Great-Aunt lost their entire family during the Holocaust has no effect on Hannah. Then, during a Passover Seder, Hannah is chosen to open the door to welcome the prophet Elijah. When she does so, she is transported back in time to a small village in 1940's Poland, where she is known as Chaya. Her name translates as 'Life' She is interred in a concentration camp and experiences its horrors first hand. At her impending death she returns to the door of her Grandparents apartment. This is a very powerful book and the material very sensitively handled. The reader, like Hannah, comes to understand the importance of remembering. For mature readers. Secondary level. BF



Both Sides of Time

Caroline B. Cooney
Laurel Leaf, 1997 (reprint)
ISBN 0440219329

Annie yearns for her boyfriend, Sean, to be romantic. Instead Sean is obsessed by cars and other mechanical objects. While walking through the historic Stratton Mansion Annie finds herself falling through time – from the 1990s to 1895.

There she meets Hiram Stratton Jr – Strat – the romantic boy of her dreams. But her arrival causes problems and Annie must return to her own time, for love's sake. Annie's travels continue in:

Out of Time

Bantam Books, 1997 (reprint)
ISBN 0440219337

Prisoner of Time

Laureleaf, 1999 (reprint)
ISBN 044022019X

For all Time

Laureleaf, 2003 (reprint)
ISBN 0440229316

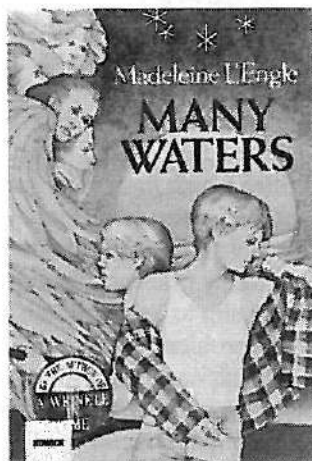
Recommended for ages 14 and over.
AC.

The Named

Marianne Curley
Bloomsbury, 2002
ISBN 0747557640

Ethan is one of The Named – those who are the Guards of Time, fighting the Order of the Goddess of Chaos. Ethan has been apprenticed since he was four, brought into the group early in an effort to save his sanity, after he witnessed the murder of his sister, Sera. His new challenge – as if living a double, and entirely secret, life wasn't enough – is to train his new apprentice, in three weeks. Isabel, his apprentice is the sister of his former best friend. Written in

alternating chapters, Ethan and Isabel train and work together as the forces of Chaos loom. The sequel, *The Dark*, is due out this year. Recommended for ages 14 and over. AC.



Many Waters

Madeline L'Engle
Farrar Strauss Giroux 1986
ISBN Hb 86 14911

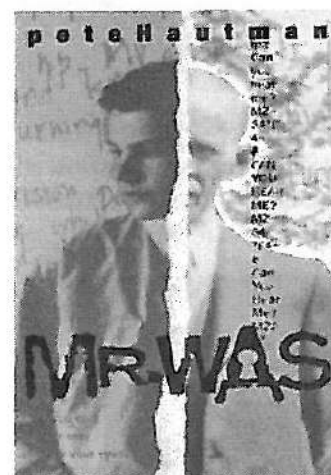
15 yr old twins, Sandy and Dennys, siblings of Meg and Charles from *A Wrinkle in Time*, are home alone on a cold winter's eve with a desire to be someplace warm. Within moments of entering their parent's laboratory, they are transported to the time of the Book of Genesis – a newly created world, still burning and shimmering from its birth, a fiery sun, scorching deserts, a fertile oasis, supernatural beings, singing stars, ethereal unicorns and the people of the Old Testament. As they recover from their initial encounter with this hostile climate, they realize time is already running out for their return to the future as the 'many waters' or flood that God is sending will destroy all mankind apart from patriarch Noah, his sons and their wives. A startling representation of the biblical world. For mature readers 14+years. KA



Singing the Dogstar Blues

Alison Goodman
Harper Collins, 1998
ISBN 0007144024

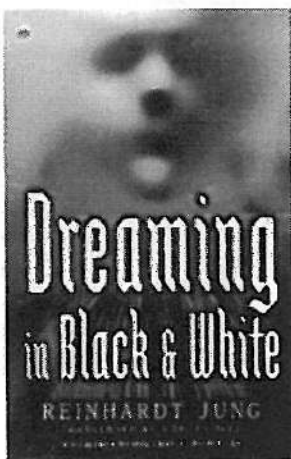
Joss is a first-year time travel student. Used to doing her own thing her activities are about to be curtailed by her study partner - Mavkel, the university's first alien student. Mavkel's health - and life - hangs in the balance. His people, the Chorians, live in pairs, but Mavkel's partner has died. Alone, Mavkel cannot link telepathically to his people. In order to save him, Joss and Mavkel travel back in time to discover Joss's father so she and Mavkel can link. But they discover that the danger is to Joss's own life. A twisty science-fiction story. Recommended for ages 14 and over. AC.



Mr Was

Pete Hautman
Pulse, 1998
ISBN 0689819145

Jack's life turns upside-down and totally inside out when he visits his dying grandfather, whom he has not seen for years. Jack is lost as to why his grandfather tries to strangle him, and then dies. When he finds the door in his grandfather's house some hope of understanding comes. For the door is a 50-year door - going through it one way takes you back 50 years, the other forward. When Jack travels to when his grandfather was young and meets his grandfather's girlfriend, the consequences are immense. A very twisty and suspenseful story, where time has a very different relevance. Recommended for ages 16 and over. AC.



Dreaming in black & white
Reinhardt Jung, translated by Anthea Bell
Mammoth, 2000
ISBN 0749741570
Hannes has incredibly realistic dreams in which he is Hannes Keller, a disabled young boy in 1930s Germany. Able to remember his history lessons, in the dreams he knows what is happening but can do nothing to prevent it. A sobering look at another group persecuted by the Nazi propaganda machine. Recommended for ages 16 and over. AC.



The Sterkarm Handshake
Susan Price
Scholastic, 1998
Hb 0590543016
A vivid and exciting timeslip for older teens. A time travel tube can transport people from the 21st century to the 16th century English/Scottish border – the home of the fierce and lawless Sterkarm clan. Cultural differences result in violent conflict both in the present and in the past. Interwoven through the plot is the love affair between Andrea, a modern anthropologist, and Per, the handsome son of the laird. LO

In 1985 the Children's Literature Association produced "In and Out of Time", a list of time slip books compiled by Brenda Knight. That list included such titles as Tom's Midnight Garden, and the Edward Eager titles, which are still available as modern classics. Nearly 20 years later there have been numerous additions to the genre. This CLFNZ list concentrates on titles written or reprinted since 1990. Both lists include titles which have underlying issues but there seem to be more just for fun or adventure stories in the 1985 list. Many titles on this new list use the time slip to help children deal with family problems, bullying, racism or to expose the horror of war. Look out for several new time slip novels due for publication this year. If you would a copy of the 1985 list email Helen Beckingsale at hbeck@ww.co.nz