

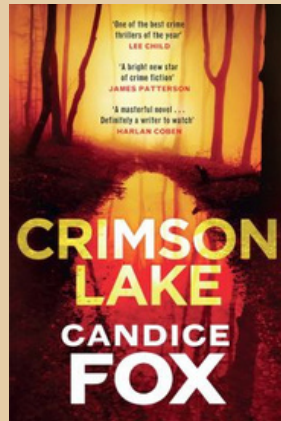
Welcome to our Staff Picks newsletter where we will share with you what we are reading, listening to or watching!

## Crimson Lake

Candice Fox

Book, eBook, Audiobook

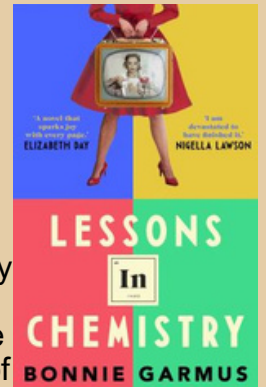
12.46: Thirteen-year-old Claire Bingley stands alone at a bus stop 12.47: Ted Conkaffey parks his car beside her 12.52: The girl is missing . . . Six minutes? That's all it took to ruin Detective Ted Conkaffey's life. Accused but not convicted of Claire's abduction, he escapes north, to the steamy, croc-infested wetlands of Crimson Lake. Amanda Pharrell knows what it's like to be public enemy number one. Maybe it's her murderous past that makes her so good as a private investigator, tracking lost souls in the wilderness. Her latest target, missing author Jake Scully, has a life more shrouded in secrets than her own? So she enlists help from the one person in town more hated than she is: Ted Conkaffey. But the residents of Crimson Lake are watching the pair's every move. And for Ted, a man already at breaking point, this town is offering no place to hide . . .



## Lessons in Chemistry

Bonnie Garmus  
Book

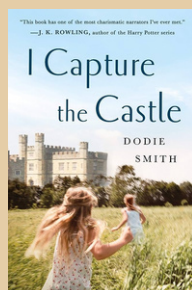
Chemist Elizabeth Zott is not your average woman. In fact, Elizabeth Zott would be the first to point out that there is no such thing. But it's the early 1960s and her all-male team at Hastings Research Institute take a very unscientific view of equality. Except for one Calvin Evans; the lonely, brilliant, Nobel-prize nominated grudge-holder who falls in love with -- of all things -- her mind. True chemistry results. But like science, life is unpredictable. Which is why a few years later, Elizabeth Zott finds herself not only a single mother, but the reluctant star of America's most beloved cooking show *Supper at Six*. Elizabeth's unusual approach to cooking ('combine one tablespoon acetic acid with a pinch of sodium chloride') proves revolutionary. But as her following grows, not everyone is happy. Because as it turns out, Elizabeth Zott isn't just teaching women to cook. She's daring them to change the status quo. Meet the unconventional, uncompromising Elizabeth Zott.



## I Capture the Castle

Dodie Smith  
Audiobooks

'I write this sitting in the kitchen sink' is the first line of a novel about love, sibling rivalry and a bohemian existence in a crumbling castle in the middle of nowhere. Cassandra Mortmain's journal records her fadingly glamorous stepmother, her beautiful, wistful older sister and the man to whom they owe both their isolation and poverty - Father. A minor cause celebre, he has since suffered from writer's block and is determined to drag his family down with him. But if the iron has entered Father's soul, it hasn't penetrated Cassandra's.

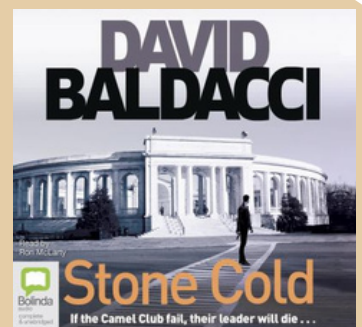


## Stone Cold

David Baldacci  
Audiobook

Casino king Jerry Bagger is hunting Annabelle Conroy, the elite con-artist who cheated him out

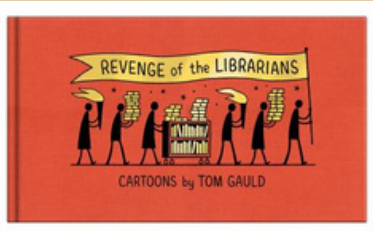
of millions. Stone and his colleagues must draw on all their resources if they are to protect Annabelle from a terrible fate. Yet all their skills may not be enough when a deadly new opponent rips off the veneer of Stone's own mysterious past. An unstoppable killer intent on one goal: the death of Oliver Stone.



## Revenge of the Librarians

Tom Gauld  
Graphic Novel

Tom Gauld returns with his wittiest and most trenchant collection of literary cartoons to date. Perfectly composed drawings are punctuated with the artist's signature brand of humour, hitting high and low. After all, Gauld is just as comfortable taking jabs at Jane Eyre and Game of Thrones. Some particularly favoured targets include the pretentious procrastinating novelist, the commercial mercenary of the dispassionate editor, the wilful obscurantism of the vainglorious poet. Quake in the presence of the stack of bedside books as it grows taller! Gnash your teeth at the ever-moving deadline that the writer never meets!

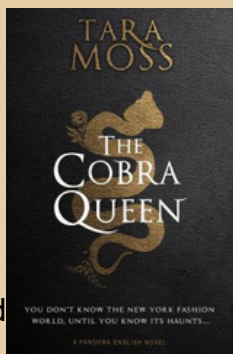


## The Cobra Queen

Tara Moss

Book, Audiobook

In the months since Pandora English left the small town of Gretchenville to live with her mysterious great aunt in a supernatural Manhattan suburb, her whole world has been turned upside down. Pandora has discovered she is the chosen one, the Seventh Daughter of a Seventh Daughter, and during the impending Revolution of the Dead, she alone will have the power to save all life as we know it. The Agitation is unfolding, building towards the Revolution, and Pandora can no longer deny the truth in these incredible prophecies. But what will she do when the moment comes? How can she stand against the army of the dead? Pandora's relationship to her spirit guide, Lieutenant Luke, is intensifying. She's had to grapple with ghosts, vampires and necromancers.



## Letting Go

Cat Clarke

Book

When Agnes made a promise to her girlfriend Ellie, she thought they would be together forever. One year later, Agnes is keeping that promise and it's put her in a situation she never could have predicted; climbing a desolate mountain, in miserable weather, with Ellie and her new boyfriend Steve. But when the weather takes a threatening turn and the sky-high tension between the trio hits its peak, Agnes will have to push herself further than she ever thought was possible.



## The Devil You Know

P.J. Tracy

Book

Darkness is nothing new to LAPD Detective Margaret Nolan, but in P.J. Tracy's *The Devil You Know*, even she isn't prepared for the scandalous deception of deadly proportions that shakes the very foundation of Hollywood and its untouchables...and leaves her entangled in its rotten core. Los Angeles has many faces: the real LA where regular people live and work, the degenerate underbelly of any big city, and the rarefied world of wealth, power, and celebrity. LAPD Detective Margaret Nolan's latest case plunges her into this insular realm of privilege, and gives her a glimpse of the decay behind the glitter. Beloved actor Evan Hobbes is found in the rubble of a Malibu rockslide, a day after a fake video ruins his career. It's not clear to Nolan if it's an accident, a suicide, or a murder, and things get murkier as the investigation expands to his luminary friends and colleagues. Meanwhile, Hobbes's agent is dealing with damage control, his psychotic boss, and a woman he's scorned.



## Malibu Rising

Taylor Jenkins Reid  
Books

Malibu: August, 1983. It's the day of Nina Riva's annual end-of-summer party, and anticipation is at a fever pitch. Everyone wants to be around the famous Rivas: Nina, the talented surfer and supermodel; brothers Jay and Hud, one a championship surfer, the other a renowned photographer; and their adored baby sister, Kit. Together, the siblings are a source of fascination in Malibu and the world over—especially as the offspring of the legendary singer, Mick Riva. By midnight the party will be completely out of control. By morning, the Riva mansion will have gone up in flames. But before that first spark in the early hours before dawn, the alcohol will flow, the music will play, and the loves and secrets that shaped this family's generations will all come bubbling to the surface. *Malibu Rising* is a story about one unforgettable night in the life of a family: the night they each have to choose what they will keep from the people who made them . . . and what they will leave behind.





Welcome to our Staff Picks newsletter where we will share with you recommendations for our favourite childrens' content.

## Meet Grace

Sofia Laguna

Junior Book

It's 1808 and Grace is living with her uncle in London. They have no money, and Grace is always lonely and often hungry. The best part of her day is going to Fleet Street to talk to the horses that she loves so much. One afternoon Grace can't resist taking a shiny red apple from a grocer's cart - and then another.

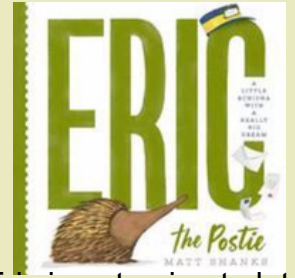


## Eric the Postie

Matt Shanks

Picture Books

Eric had a dream ...he knew he could be the best postman ever. There was one big obstacle-he didn't have any mail to deliver. Eric is not going to let that stop him ... An adorable, heartwarming story about chasing your big dreams, no matter how little you are.

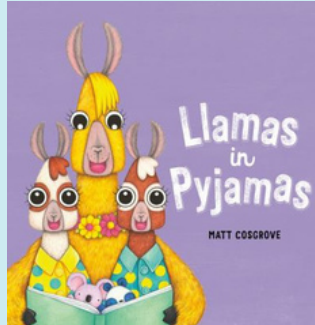


## Llamas in Pyjamas

Matt Cosgrove

Picture Book

Book-loving Dharma the Llama is the best babysitter in town. But when she has to look after two unruly little llamas, will bedtime be a battle or a fairytale ending?



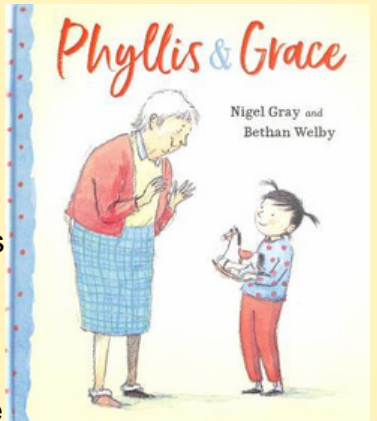
## Phyllis & Grace

Nigel Gray and

Bethan Welby

Picture Book

Grace is a little girl; Phyllis is the old lady next door. Phyllis lives alone and her memory is fading, but that doesn't stop Grace from liking her. They find that, despite the gap in their ages, they have much in common and a moving and enduring friendship is born.

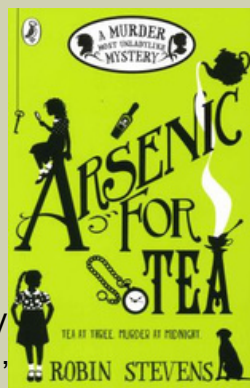


## Arsenic For Tea

Robin Stevens

Junior Book

Schoolgirl detectives Daisy Wells and Hazel Wong are at Daisy's home, Fallingford, for the holidays. Daisy's glamorous mother is throwing a tea party for Daisy's birthday and the whole family is invited, from eccentric Aunt Saskia to dashing Uncle Felix. But it soon becomes clear that this party isn't really about Daisy at all. Naturally, Daisy is furious. Then one of their party falls seriously, mysteriously ill and everything points to poison.



## Ruffles and the

## Teeny, Tiny Kittens

David Melling

Picture Book

Ruffles does not love the teeny, tiny kittens and he does not want to share. Not his snacks... not his cushion... not his chew... and not big blue blanket! But maybe the teeny, tiny kittens can show Ruffles that sharing is actually the best fun of all.

