

WINTER

"One's work may be finished someday, but one's education never." — Alexandre Dumas

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Happy reading! – Miss Mullins, Miss Walker, and Miss McGarr



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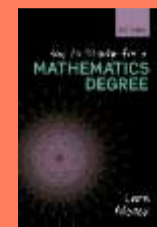
NEW



Hush, Hush #4: Finale by Becca Fitzpatrick
Nora and Patch thought their troubles were behind them. Hank is gone and they should be able to put his ugly vendetta to rest. But in Hank's absence, Nora has become the unwitting head of the Nephilim and must finish what Hank began. Which ultimately means destroying the fallen angels - destroying Patch. Nora will never let that happen, so she and Patch make a plan: lead everyone to believe they have broken up, and work the system from the inside. Nora will convince the Nephilim that they are making a mistake in fighting the fallen angels, and Patch will find out everything he can from the opposing side. They will end this war before it can even begin. But the best-laid plans often go awry. Nora is put through the paces in her new role and finds herself drawn to an addictive power she never anticipated. As the battle lines are drawn, Nora and Patch must confront the differences that have always been between them and either choose to ignore them or let them destroy the love they have always fought for.

How to Study for a Mathematics Degree by Lara Alcock

This no-nonsense book translates these research-based insights into practical advice for a student audience. It covers every aspect of studying for a mathematics degree, from the most abstract intellectual challenges to the everyday business of interacting with lecturers and making good use of study time. Part 1 provides an in-depth discussion of advanced mathematical thinking and explains how a student will need to adapt and extend their existing skills in order to develop a good understanding of undergraduate mathematics. Part 2 covers study skills as these relate to the demands of a mathematics degree. It suggests practical approaches to learning from lectures and to studying for examinations while also allowing time for a fulfilling all-round university experience.



A Twisted Tale: As Old as Time by Liz Braswell
What if Belle's mother cursed the Beast? When Belle touches the Beast's enchanted rose, memories flood through Belle's mind — memories of a mother she thought she would never see again. And, stranger still, she sees that her mother is none other than the beautiful enchantress who cursed the castle and all its inhabitants. Shocked and confused, Belle and the Beast will have to unravel a dark mystery about their families that is 21 years in the making.

Nevermoor #2: Wundersmith: The Calling of Morrigan Crow by Jessica Townsend

Morrigan Crow may have defeated her deadly curse, passed the dangerous trials and joined the mystical Wondrous Society, but her journey into Nevermoor and all its secrets has only just begun. And she is fast learning that not all magic is used for good. Morrigan Crow has been invited to join the prestigious Wondrous Society, a place that promised her friendship, protection and belonging for life. She's hoping for an education full of wonder, imagination and discovery — but all the Society want to teach her is how evil Wundersmiths are. And someone is blackmailing Morrigan's unit, turning her last few loyal friends against her. Has Morrigan escaped from being the cursed child of Wintersea only to become the most hated figure in Nevermoor? Worst of all, people have started to go missing. The fantastical city of Nevermoor, once a place of magic and safety, is now riddled with fear and suspicion...

Feel Good Club by Kiera Lawlor-Skillen and Aimie Lawlor-Skillen

Successful entrepreneurs Aimie and Kiera share their trademark of inspiring quotes alongside the wisdom that enabled them to overcome tough moments. Continuing their mission of wanting to make people feel good through positivity, love and normalising the way that we share how we feel. They want to make people feel good in a positive way, and also help us all open up about how we're truly feeling. They want you to make yourself feel good, as well as help you balance your feelings when you're not at your best.



2022-2023 Reflecting Realities Report Released



The annual Reflecting Realities report is the first UK study to look at diversity in children's literature. The report is run by the Centre for Literacy in Primary Education (CLPE) and funded by the Arts Council and Inclusive Books for Children, with the aim of quantifying and evaluating the extent and quality of ethnic representation and diversity in children's publishing in the UK. The survey looks at picture books, fiction, and nonfiction for ages 3-11. This year marks the 6th year the report has been carried out. The CLPE say that "the underpinning motivation of the survey is to encourage and support publishers to produce high quality ethnically representative and inclusive literature to enrich the stories available to all children."

This Year's Report in Summary:

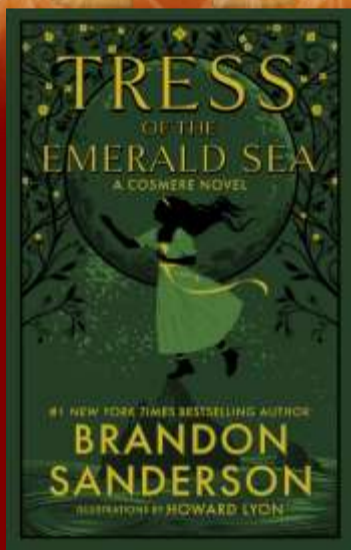
- 30% of books published in 2022 feature a racially minoritised character, a significant and consistent increase from the 4% first reported in 2017.
- There is also an increase of racially minoritised main characters – a figure which has increased from 1% in 2012 to 14% in 2022.
- For the first year in the history of the Reflecting Realities Report, there is not an increase in representation across all text types. Only fiction books show an increase in racially minoritised presence, while there has been a year-on-year decrease in presence for nonfiction and picture books. Representation in nonfiction dropped from 41% in 2021 to 30% in 2022, and in picture books from 63% down to 52%.

Farrah Serroukh, the Executive Director of Research and Development at the CLPE said: 'We welcome the increase in overall output and were pleased to encounter more variation in the breadth of realities reflected in the literature we reviewed. We encourage publishers and creatives to build on the traction of recent years and continue to strive towards improving the volume and quality of titles that meaningfully reflect realities available to young readers.'



Read the full report [here](#).

Wish List Spotlight:



Tress of the Emerald Sea by Brandon Sanderson

Author Brandon Sanderson expands his Cosmere universe shared by The Stormlight Archive and Mistborn with a new standalone novel for everyone who loved *The Princess Bride*. The only life Tress has known on her island home in an emerald-green ocean has been a simple one, with the simple pleasures of collecting cups brought by sailors from faraway lands and listening to stories told by her friend Charlie. But when his father takes him on a voyage to find a bride and disaster strikes, Tress must stow away on a ship and seek the Sorceress of the deadly *Midnight Sea*. Amid the spore oceans where pirates abound, can Tress leave her simple life behind and make her own place sailing a sea where a single drop of water can mean instant death?

Arthur Conan Doyle's Secret Resentment of Sherlock Holmes



According to historian Lucy Worsley, Arthur Conan Doyle secretly hated his protagonist Sherlock Holmes, and blamed the character for denying him recognition as the author of highbrow historical fiction. *A Study in Scarlet*, Doyle's first story featuring Holmes (and his sidekick Dr Watson) was published in *Beeton's Christmas Annual* in 1887 but the character did not become popular until several years later in 1891 when the first series of Holmes and Watson short stories appeared in *The Strand Magazine*. Just eleven years after that, Conan Doyle was awarded a knighthood for writing a pamphlet justifying British actions in the Boer War. This series of events catapulted him from "obscurity to worldwide fame."

Lucy Worsley claims that beneath the surface of celebrity, Conan Doyle was a discontented man. He initially struggled to find a publisher for his Sherlock Holmes stories, and only after being rejected by three publishers was his work

finally accepted by a fourth who were looking for "cheap fiction." When the Holmes stories proved lucrative for the author, he decided to kill off the detective in 1893 once he had earned him enough money. A decade later however, Conan Doyle resurrected the character when an American publisher offered him the equivalent of \$1.6million to do so. Worsley said: "Arthur must have hated himself. And he would have hated the fact that today, 93 years after his death, his historical novels lie unread, while his 'cheap' – but beloved – detective lives forever on our screens." Conan Doyle wrote a total of 4 novels and 46 short stories featuring Sherlock Holmes. Read the original *Guardian* article by Harriet Sherwood [here](#).

A Study in Scarlet by Arthur Conan Doyle

When Dr John Watson takes rooms in Baker Street with amateur detective Sherlock Holmes, he has no idea that he is about to enter a shadowy world of criminality and violence. Accompanying Holmes to an ill-omened house in south London, Watson is startled to find a dead man whose face is contorted in a rictus of horror. There is no mark of violence on the body, yet a single word is written on the wall in blood. Dr Watson is as baffled as the police, but Holmes's brilliant analytical skills soon uncover a trail of murder, revenge, and lost love...



Sophie Hannah Publishes Fourth Poirot Novel

Agatha Christie's Belgian detective Hercule Poirot initially appeared in 33 novels, two plays, and 51 stories published by the queen of crime between 1920 and 1975. In 2014, best-selling crime author Sophie Hannah was chosen by the estate of Agatha Christie to write the first new Poirot novel in nearly 40 years. Christie's estate was historically against the idea of anyone writing new books containing her original characters, but Hannah's idea for the plot of her first original story featuring Poirot, *The Monogram Murders*, persuaded them that the time was right. Since 2014, Sophie Hannah has written three Poirot novels, with her fourth, *Hercule Poirot's Silent Night*, published in October this year. In an interview conducted by the BBC, Sophie Hannah said she felt like "Poirot's sidekick" and shared that she is an Agatha Christie "superfan".



Read the original BBC article by Neve Gordon- Farleigh and Chris Mann [here](#).

The Killings at Kingfisher Hill by Sophie Hannah

Hercule Poirot is travelling by luxury passenger coach from London to the exclusive Kingfisher Hill estate, where Richard Devonport has summoned him to prove that his fiancée, Helen, is innocent of the murder of his brother, Frank. But there is a strange condition attached to this request: Poirot must conceal his true reason for being there. The coach is forced to stop when a distressed woman demands to get off, insisting that if she stays in her seat, she will be murdered. Although the rest of the journey passes without anyone being harmed, Poirot's curiosity is aroused, and his fears are later confirmed when a body is discovered with a macabre note attached. Could this new murder and the peculiar incident on the coach be clues to solving the mystery of who killed Frank Devonport? And if Helen is innocent, can Poirot find the true culprit in time to save her from the gallows?



On This Day in History... The Death of Alexandre Dumas, 5th December 1870



Alexandre Dumas, born 24th July 1802, was one of the most popular French authors of the 19th century. He is best known for his novels *The Count of Monte Cristo* (1844-46) and *The Three Musketeers* (1844), stories that were met with acclaim at the time and have since become true classics. Dumas began his career as a writer by penning plays, but he also turned his hand to writing travel books after taking journeys across Europe. Across his lifetime Dumas wrote a total of 200 books in his lifetime as well as numerous other works, totalling approximately 100,000 pages. His legacy is far-reaching, which is well illustrated by the fact that since the early 20th century, his novels have been adapted into nearly 200 films.

Dumas passed away at the age of 68 due to natural causes, (possibly a heart attack, though this is speculation) and was buried at his birthplace, Villers-Cotterêts.

Posthumously, Dumas has had several memorials dedicated to him, for example on the centenary of his death in 1970, the Paris Metro named a metro station in his honour. Additionally, Dumas' country home outside of Paris named the Château de Monte-Cristo was restored in the 1990s and is still open to the public as a museum.

In 2002, Dumas' ashes were reinterred at the mausoleum of the Panthéon in Paris, where many other French luminaries are buried. His remains are now in the company of such French celebrities as Voltaire, Victor Hugo, Louis Braille, and Marie Curie. The French president at the time, Jacques Chirac, gave a speech at the reinterment, saying: "With you, we were D'Artagnan, Monte Cristo, or Balsamo, riding along the roads of France, touring battlefields, visiting palaces and castles—with you, we dream.

The Count of Monte Cristo by Alexandre Dumas

Thrown in prison for a crime he has not committed, Edmond Dantès is confined to the grim fortress of If. There he learns of a great hoard of treasure hidden on the Isle of Monte Cristo and he becomes determined not only to escape, but also to unearth the treasure and use it to plot the destruction of the three men responsible for his incarceration. Dumas' epic tale of suffering and retribution, inspired by a real-life case of wrongful imprisonment, was a huge popular success when it was first serialized in the 1840s.



The Three Musketeers by Alexandre Dumas

One of the most celebrated and popular historical romances ever written, *The Three Musketeers* tells the story of the early adventures of the young Gascon gentleman, D'Artagnan and his three friends from the regiment of the King's Musketeers - Athos, Porthos and Aramis. Under the watchful eye of their patron M. de Treville, the four defend the honour of the regiment against the guards of Cardinal Richelieu, and the honour of the queen against the machinations of the Cardinal himself as the power struggles of seventeenth century France are vividly played out in the background. But their most dangerous encounter is with the Cardinal's spy, Milady, one of literature's most memorable female villains, and Alexandre Dumas employs all his fast-paced narrative skills to bring this enthralling novel to a breathtakingly gripping and dramatic conclusion.

Find out more about Alexandre Dumas [here](#).

library Ornament Competition

Design and make a book/ literature-themed ornament for the library (can be any material).

Bring your ornament up to the library by **Monday 18th of December** to be in with a chance of winning.

1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes to be won!