



Good Reads 223

[223](#) [1]

Article Category:

Good Reads

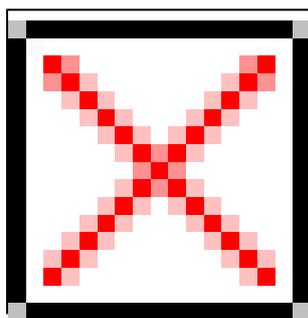
Byline:

Chosen by pupils at **Cambourne Village College, Cambridgeshire**

Our Good Reads were chosen by young people at **Cambourne Village College**, a Free School which forms part of the CAM Trust in Cambridgeshire. Thanks to school librarian Alison Tarrant, who is one of the four librarians on the 2016 School Librarian of the Year Honour list.

[The Art of Being Normal](#) [2]

Lisa Williamson, David Fickling Books, 978-1-9102-0052-0, £7.99 pbk



The Art of Being Normal focuses on a very emotional and grown up topic. Gender identity. The book is narrated by two characters, David and Leo. David wants to be a girl, and he desperately wants to tell his parents but he never plucks up the courage to tell them. Leo's POV is definitely more realistic as it talks about his dad leaving him and his mum and how his mum always has a different boyfriend. This book is an amazing topic to learn about as it never gets talked about by anyone and it's very nice to see tons of more books coming out focusing on LGBT+ topics like this. I have recommended this book to many friends and I would definitely tell more people to read it.

By Kai B, aged 14

[Skulduggery Pleasant](#) [3]

Derek Landy, HarperCollins Children's Books, 978-0-0072-4162-0, £6.99 pbk

Skulduggery Pleasant is an incredible book as it's witty and very enjoyable. At first it can seem slightly confusing, but turns into a cracking read - fast paced but measured so it stays interesting. Landy blends current myths and monsters with twists of his own, creating a world that is deep and immersive, pulling you ever further into it. You won't want to put it down even when you have finished the last page - and you don't have to, as there are another seven books currently in the series! This book is definitely one of my favourite books ever.

By Ivan K, aged 15 (we're very excited about the new Skulduggery Pleasant to be released in June...)

Let It Snow

John Green and Laura Myracle, Penguin, 978-0-1413-4917-6, £7.99 pbk

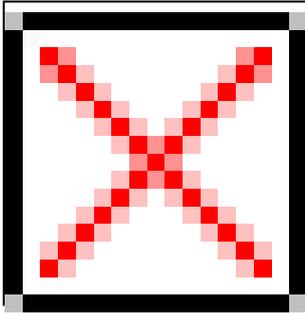
Let It Snow is three different stories in one book. All the stories are based around one story but all told by different characters. The book is about three different teenagers who experience a big snowstorm in their town of Gracetown during Christmas and their lives during the snowstorm. The first story is very gripping but also funny in parts. The second part is about two friends who have known each other for a long time, there are some very funny bits but it is also quite sad in some parts. The third story brings the other two stories together, it was quite hard to understand this section as there were lots of characters involved and I found it difficult to know who was who. Overall the book was very good. It's perfect for teenagers and for people who have enjoyed reading John Green's other books.

By Imogen R, aged 15

One

[Sarah Crossan](#) [4], Bloomsbury, 978-1-4088-2721-5, £7.99 pbk

One is an intriguing read which keeps you hooked until you unfortunately end the book. On picking up the book we



knew it was about conjoined twins ? but the expectation was of a descriptive novel, rather than a plot driven novel. It being in poetry made it much easier to get into the book. The poetry allows the emotion to take centre stage without being overwhelmed by text. This is at the cost of description, but it is the best format for the novel.

Reading the book, we experienced sadness, curiosity, empathy, confidence in their reading and sympathy for all the characters. The poetry allows the story to progress and allows Crossan to tightly control the pace at which the reader goes.

Alexandra, Ellie and Annie aged 13

Page Number:

19

Source URL (retrieved on Jul '19): <http://w.booksforkeeps.co.uk/issue/223/childrens-books/articles/good-reads/good-reads-223>

Links:

[1] <http://w.booksforkeeps.co.uk/issue/223>

[2] <http://w.booksforkeeps.co.uk/issue/210/childrens-books/reviews/the-art-of-being-normal>

[3] <http://w.booksforkeeps.co.uk/issue/166/childrens-books/reviews/skulduggery-pleasant>

[4] <http://w.booksforkeeps.co.uk/issue/214/childrens-books/articles/authorgraph/authorgraph-214-sarah-crossan>