



50 great reads

FOR AGES 13+

50 GREAT READS FOR TEENAGERS AGED 13+ COMPILED BY DLR LIBRARIES 2013

dlr Libraries presents the 2013 updated list of the 50 best and most popular books written for teenagers.

Some of the books are old and loved enough to be called classics, and some are by exciting new writers, but they're all on this list because they are the most borrowed and requested books or authors from dlr Libraries.

If you find something you particularly enjoy, ask about other titles by the author, our staff will be glad to help.

Check out previous “**Great Reads**” also, for more recommendations.

This series is compiled from a variety of sources and we recommend that you look at the following websites for further information on books to suit all age groups and interests: ***www.inismagazine.ie***; ***www.booksforkeeps.co.uk***; ***www.carouselguide.co.uk***; ***www.goodreads.com*** and ***www.amazon.com***.

Can't find what you're looking for? Ask a member of staff, we're here to help.

You can also share your reading experiences by having your say on our Library Blog. Send your reviews and comments to ***libraryculture@dlrcoco.ie***, or let us know if we've missed any books you think should be on the list.

Happy reading!



CONTEMPORARY / HUMOROUS

› Carey, Anna: Rebecca's rules

This is the sequel to *The Real Rebecca* and is another warm and delightful read, with a positive and feisty heroine.

› Dowd, Siobhan: Solace of the road

Holly Hogan hates her foster family, and decides to hitch to Ireland and find her mum. She assumes the identity of Solace, an older, more confident character than herself, and so begins a bittersweet, and sometimes hilarious journey, as Solace swaggers and Holly tiptoes across England and through memory, discovering her true self, and unlocking the secrets of her past.

› Green, John: The Fault in our stars

Hazel has terminal cancer. But when Augustus Waters suddenly appears at Cancer Kid Support Group, her story is about to be completely rewritten. Insightful, bold, irreverent, and raw, *The Fault in our stars* is award-winning author John Green's most ambitious and heartbreaking work yet, brilliantly exploring the funny, thrilling, and tragic business of being alive and in love. For older readers.

› Handler, Daniel: Why we broke up

Daniel Handler has written for adults, and for children as Lemony Snicket, but this is his first book for teenagers. Min Green and Ed Slaterton are breaking up, so Min writes Ed a letter and gives him a box full of items collected over the course of their relationship. The letter and box contain the truth of why they broke up. A poignant, exhilarating tale of a love affair gone to the dogs.

› Hopkins, Cathy: Golden girl (Million dollar mates)

Jess and Pia are stuck at home revising, while all their friends jet off on glamorous holidays. Then Jess's new boyfriend, JJ, asks them to join him and his family on a 7 star, all-expenses paid trip to India! It's a dream come true for Jess - until she arrives and realises she's not the only golden girl with her heart set on JJ.



› McCombie, Karen: Hassles, heart-pings and sad, happy endings (Ally's World)

Sadly, the last instalment of the fab Ally's World series. Ally's totally gobsmacked – everyone's going away. Best mate Sandie's moving house and big sis is considering going to university miles away. Billy, on the other hand, has become something of a shadow, following Ally's every move - just what is the loveable muppet up to?

› McLynn, Pauline: Jenny Q, stitched up!

Funny, frank and surprisingly talented with a pair of knitting needles, meet Jenny Q in the new series from Father Ted star, Pauline McLynn. Jenny is unimpressed with her mother's pregnancy and working up the courage to audition for Teen Factor X while at the same time trying not to embarrass herself in front of her crush, Stevie. Captures perfectly the agony and ecstasy of being 13.

› Manning, Sarra: Adorkable

Jeane Smith is a blogger, a dreamer, a jumble sale queen, CEO of her own lifestyle brand, and has half a million followers on Twitter. Michael Lee is a star of school, stage and playing field - a golden boy in a Jack Wills hoodie. They have nothing in common but a pair of cheating exes. So why can't they stop snogging?

› Murail, Marie-Aude: My brother Simple

Girls, boys, love, lust, and a brother called Simple. The alternative coming-of-age story, which has been critically acclaimed across Europe, has now hit these shores. Kleber's older brother, nick-named Simple, is languishing in a care-home. But as their father is entirely preoccupied with his new wife, it's up to Kleber to liberate Simple, and that means finding somewhere for them to live in the city. Funny, thought-provoking and clever.

› Pratchett, Terry: Dodger

Dodger is a tosher - a sewer scavenger living in the squalor of Dickensian London. Everyone who is nobody knows Dodger. Anyone who is anybody doesn't. But when he rescues a young girl from a beating, suddenly everybody wants to know him. And Dodger's tale of skulduggery, dark plans and even darker deeds begins. Terrifically funny tale of dark deeds in Dickensian London from the master storyteller.

› Rai, Bali: Killing honour

When Sat's sister, Jas, enters an arranged marriage she changes and becomes quiet and distant. Sat's too busy with his own life to notice... until Jas disappears. According to her new husband, she's run off with another man, and her family disowns her. But Sat doesn't believe it and decides to investigate. A powerful, hard-hitting teen thriller on the controversial topic of honour killing, by multi-award-winning author Bali Rai.

› Rennison, Louise: A Midsummer tights dream (Misadventures of Tallulah Casey)

It's the hotly anticipated sequel to the winner of the Roald Dahl Funny Prize, *Withering tights*. Laugh your tights off as Tallulah Casey and her bonkers mates return for a new term at Dother Hall Performing Arts College. Boys, snogging and bad acting guaranteed!

› Zarr, Sara: How to save a life

Mandy is 18 and seven months pregnant. Jill is 16 and grieving for her father who died in a car crash. Jill's mother, Robin, is desperate for a baby to fill the void left by the husband she lost and the daughter she no longer feels able to communicate with. Sensitively told, this emotionally-charged story avoids cliché, possesses a cast of fully-formed characters and is an achingly poignant read. For older readers.

FUTURE / FANTASY

› Asher, Jay & Mackler, Carolyn: The Future of us

It's 1996 and very few high school students have ever used the Internet. Facebook will not be invented for a while yet. Emma just got a computer and when she and her best friend, Josh, power it up and log on they discover themselves on Facebook in 2011. Everybody wonders what they'll be like fifteen years in the future - Josh and Emma are about to find out. Jay Asher is the author of bestseller *Thirteen reasons why*.

› Collins, Suzanne: The Hunger games (Hunger games trilogy)

The Hunger games is set in a future with unsettling parallels to our present. Welcome to the deadliest reality TV show ever. Now a major movie starring Jennifer Lawrence.



› Delaney, Joseph: Slither's tale (The Wardstone chronicles)

Slither is not human. Far from the Spook-protected County, he preys upon humans, sneaking into their homes to gorge upon their blood while they sleep... The latest instalment of the terrifying Wardstone Chronicles. Not to be read after dark!

› Grant, Michael: Light (Gone)

This is the 6th and final heart-stopping instalment in the bestselling Gone series. The society that Sam and Astrid have struggled so hard to build is about to be shattered for good. Who will survive to see the light of day? If Stephen King had written *Lord of the Flies*, it might have been a little like this.

› Lloyd, Saci: Momentum

London, the near future. Energy wars are flaring across the globe, oil prices have gone crazy and regular power cuts are a daily occurrence. The cruel Kossak soldiers prowl the streets, keeping the Outsiders - the poor, the disenfranchised - in check. When Hunter, one of the privileged, meets Outsider, Uma, he is quickly drawn into their world - and into an electrifying and dangerous race to protect everything they hold dear. A wonderfully mordant look at the coming environmental meltdown.

› McGann, Oisín: Merciless reason (The Wildenstern saga)

Another action-packed and wickedly funny instalment of the Wildenstern family steampunk adventures. It has been three years since Nate left Ireland - and his ruthless, feared family - behind. But the Wildensterns are not finished with him. When he discovers his treacherous cousin is still alive, he is drawn back into their world of plotting, betrayal and murder.

› Ó Guilín, Peadar: The Deserter

The humans are weak and vulnerable. Soon the beasts that share their stone-age world will kill and eat them. To save his tribe, Stopmouth must make his way to the Roof, the mysterious hi-tech world above the surface. This original and pulse-racing sequel to the Irish author's extraordinary debut, *The Inferior*, describes a dystopian world in which human primitivism collides with futuristic technology.



› Rosoff, Meg: There is no dog

Imagine that God is a typical teenage boy named Bob. He is lazy, careless, self-obsessed, sex-mad - and about to meet Lucy, the most beautiful girl on earth. Unfortunately, whenever Bob falls in love, disaster follows. A masterpiece of joyful singularity from the multi-award winning author.

› Scarrow, Alex: City of shadows (TimeRiders)

Once again Liam, Maddy and Sal must work together to prevent time travelling from destroying history in the 6th instalment of the TimeRiders series. Hunted by cyborg assassins from the future they escape to Victorian London and the streets where Jack the Ripper roams...

› Scott, Michael: The Enchantress (The Secrets of the immortal Nicholas Flamel)

Nicholas and Perenelle Flamel have one day left to live, and one job left to do. They must defend San Francisco against the monsters gathered on Alcatraz Island. If they are not stopped, they will destroy everyone and everything in their path. The 6th and final book in the New York Times bestselling Secrets of the Immortal Nicholas Flamel series.

› Stiefvater, Maggie: The Raven boys (The Raven Cycle)

The first book in a new series from the bestselling author of Shiver. Blue has spent the majority of her sixteen years being told that if she kisses her true love, he will die. When Blue meets Gansey's spirit on the corpse road she knows there is only one reason why - either he is her true love or she has killed him. Keeps you guessing to the end.

SUPERNATURAL

› Bray, Libba: The Diviners

It's 1920s New York with flappers, Follies, jazz and gin, and for a certain group of bright young things it's the opportunity to party like never before. But New York City has a dark side. Recently arrived from Ohio, Evie is able to 'read' the histories of objects she touches, and becomes entangled in a sinister series of occult-based murders that menace the city. Not for the faint-hearted. Suitable for older readers.



› Brennan, Sarah Rees: Unspoken (Lynburn Legacy)

Kami is in love with someone she's never met - a boy the rest of the world is convinced is imaginary - and she's become an outsider in Sorry-on-the-Vale. But then disturbing events begin to happen, and the Lynburn family, who ruled the town a generation ago and who all left without warning, return. And key to it all just might be the boy in her head. The boy who everyone thought was imaginary may be real and possibly dangerous. A thrilling and darkly humorous new series from the author of *The Demon's lexicon*.

› Cabot, Meg: Insatiable

Sick of hearing about vampires? So is Meena Harper. She's familiar with the supernatural, but not even Meena's precognition can prepare her for Lucien Antonescu — who she meets and then makes the mistake of falling in love with — a modern-day prince with a bit of a dark side. Cabot, adored for her Princess Diaries series, holds her own in the crowded paranormal arena, proving that she is truly a versatile, entertaining writer.

› Clare, Cassandra: Clockwork prince (Infernal devices)

Vampires, warlocks and other supernatural folk stalk the gaslit streets of Victorian London. In the second part of the series Tessa Gray finds her heart drawn more and more to Jem, while her longing for Will, despite his dark moods, continues to unsettle her. As their search for the truth leads the three friends into peril, Tessa's heart is increasingly torn...

› Fitzpatrick, Becca: Finale (Hush, hush)

Nora is more certain than ever that she is in love with Patch. Fallen angel or no, he is the one for her. Her heritage and destiny may mean that they will always be enemies, but there's no turning her back on him. Nora always knew she would have to pick a side sooner or later. The lines are drawn - which sides will they be on?

› MacPhail, Cathy: Secret of the shadows (Tyler Lawless)

Tyler Lawless has an unusual and sometimes scary gift – she's able to see dead people. While staying in her grandmother's cottage to help tidy it up after her death, she feels the presence of a frail old lady who is nothing like her grandmother and senses that the old lady is asking for her help. Perhaps Tyler will need to use her gifts to help save somebody from a terrible fate . . . A thrilling and spooky tale from the acclaimed Cathy MacPhail.



› Meyer, Stephenie: *Breaking dawn* (Twilight)

Twilight tempted the imagination, *New moon* made readers thirsty for more, *Eclipse* turned the saga into a worldwide phenomenon, and finally *Breaking dawn* reveals the ultimate fate of Bella and Edward, and their epic love affair.

› Ness, Patrick & Dowd, Siobhan (ill. by Jim Kay): *A Monster calls*

Conor has the same dream every night, ever since his mother first fell ill, ever since she started the treatments that don't seem to be working. But tonight when he wakes there's a visitor at his window, ancient, elemental, a force of nature. Patrick Ness, author of the Chaos Walking series, takes the final idea of the late, award-winning writer Siobhan Dowd and weaves a heartbreaking tale of mischief, healing and the courage it takes to survive.

› Pullman, Philip: *Northern lights* (His Dark materials)

Lyra Belacqua and her animal daemon live half-wild and carefree among scholars of Oxford University. The destiny that awaits her will take her to the frozen lands of the Arctic, where witch-clans reign and ice-bears fight. Her extraordinary journey will have consequences far beyond her own world. The first volume in the award-winning His Dark materials trilogy, an acclaimed modern masterpiece.

› Shan, Darren: *Brothers to the death* (The Saga of Larten Crepsley)

Just as Larten is finding a new place for himself in vampire society, trying to help vampires escape the Nazi menace, horrifying tragedy falls on his own family, thanks to the nefarious Vampaneze. A satisfying conclusion to the Larten' Crepsley saga.

CLASSIC / HISTORICAL

› Adams, Douglas: *The Hitchhiker's guide to the galaxy*

First a legendary radio series, then a bestselling book, finally a blockbuster movie, the immensely successful *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* needs no introduction. One of the funniest Sci-Fi spoofs ever written, with hyperbolic ideas folding in on themselves - inspired lunacy that leaves hardly a science fiction cliché alive.

› Breslin, Theresa: *Spy for the Queen of Scots*

A fast-paced, passionate tale of treachery and deceit in the court of Mary, Queen of Scots, from a multi-award-winning author of gripping historical fiction, that reveals not only the splendour and politics of court but also the bloodthirsty savagery of war and rebellion.

› Du Maurier, Daphne: *Rebecca*

When the unnamed heroine of *Rebecca* agrees to marry Max De Winter she is whisked away to the ominous and brooding Manderley, where the memory of his dead first wife Rebecca is forever kept alive by the forbidding Mrs Danvers. Not since *Jane Eyre* has a heroine faced such difficulty with the Other Woman. For older readers.

› Harrison, Cora: *Debutantes*

Set in Jazz Age London, this is the story of the four impoverished Derrington girls, who each have a plan to escape their humdrum country life: Rose wants to be a novelist, Poppy a jazz musician and Daisy a famous film director. Violet, however, only wants to become the perfect debutante. A cross between *Downton* and *Pride and Prejudice* with a hint of the Mitfords, this is an interesting take on a world moving rapidly towards equality for women.

› Murray, Kirsty: *India Dark*

1910: Two girls, Posey and Tilly, are caught up in a scandal that will change their lives forever. Singing and dancing across a hundred stages as members of a troupe of Australian child performers, they travel by steam train into the heart of India. Based on a true story this is a fascinating story of secrets, lies and lost innocence.

› Nicholls, Sally: *All fall down*

When Isabel's Yorkshire village is devastated by the Black Death, it seems that the world is coming to an end. But for the survivors of the terrible plague, a new and freer society will rise from the destruction of the feudal system that enslaved them. A powerful historical novel from one of today's most exciting young writers.

› Salinger J.D.: *The Catcher in the rye*

Anti-hero, Holden Caulfield's constant wry observations about what he encounters capture the essence of the eternal teenage experience of alienation. For older readers.



› Taylor, Mildred D.: Roll of thunder, hear my cry

This much-loved classic follows a feisty African-American girl - Cassie Logan - as she grows up in Mississippi during the Great Depression and learns the shocking realities of racism. Cassie finds it difficult to understand why their farm means so much to her father, but as she witnesses the hatred and destruction all around her she begins to learn the importance of standing up for your rights. Perfect for fans of *The Help* and *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

› Tolkien, J.R.R.: Lord of the rings

The gospel of the fantasy genre, a story magnificently told, with every kind of colour and movement and greatness.

THRILLER

› Carter, Ally: Out of sight, out of time (Gallagher Girls)

Cammie Morgan has never known normality, being a girl spy and all. But waking up in an Alpine convent having lost her memory of the whole summer is a trying experience, even for her. Action and intrigue abound in this witty spy series.

› Cassidy, Anne: Dead time (The Murder notebooks)

Joshua and his dad move in with Rose and her mum. One evening Joshua's dad and Rose's mum go out to dinner and never return. Then Rose witnesses not one, but two murders. Why is this happening to Rose? Can it be anything to do with the investigations Joshua has been doing into the disappearance of their parents? This taut and pacy thriller introduces a stylish new series from the acclaimed author.

› Cassidy, Laura Jane: Eighteen kisses

Jacki King has a gift – she can communicate with the dead and uses her powers to help the police with unsolved murders. When she starts to have frightening nightmares just before Sergeant Lawlor contacts her about a local missing girl, she knows the two are connected. Two years before, on her 18th birthday, Kayla Edwards disappeared. Now Kayla is communicating with Jacki from beyond the grave - and she won't stop until the truth is revealed. For older readers.



› Fitzpatrick, Marie-Louise: Dark warning

Growing up in Dublin in the 18th century, Taneey always knew she was different from other children. She can see things before they happen, and her own father seems afraid of her gift. Life improves when she meets the mysterious Billy, but then the visions come - lone girls attacked as they walk home at night by the so-called Stoneybatter strangler. As Billy begins to withdraw into himself, Taneey must decide who she can trust. For older readers.

› Henry, April: Girl, stolen

Sixteen-year-old Cheyenne Wilder is sleeping in the back of a car - her mother has just stepped out to fill a prescription - when the car is stolen by a gang banger. Cheyenne is not only sick with pneumonia, she's also blind. Griffin, the teenage driver, hadn't meant to kidnap her, he just wanted the car. But once Griffin's dad finds out that Cheyenne's father is the president of Nike, everything changes. A thrilling story that races to a heart-pounding conclusion. For older readers.

› McKenzie, Sophie: Missing me (Girl, Missing)

In this instalment of the Missing series, Madison is now a teenager. During a visit to older sister Lauren, she learns that their biological father was an anonymous sperm donor and sets out to find him, but is the father she discovers all he seems? As Madison gets drawn into a mysterious investigation involving missing girls and secret hideaways, she finds herself in more and more danger. For older readers.

› Muchamore, Robert: Shadow wave (CHERUB)

It's James Adams' last mission as a CHERUB agent. After a tsunami causes massive devastation to a tropical island, its governor sends in the bulldozers to knock down villages, replacing them with luxury hotels. Sent to guard the corrupt governor's family, James is torn between loyalty to CHERUB and to an old friend. Another high-octane adventure in the CHERUB series, this is James Bond for teenagers.