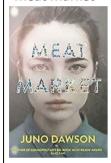
Key Stage Four Literacy

Recommended Reads Top Picks:

Dear Evan Hansen

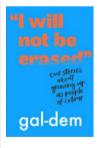
When a letter that was never meant to be seen draws high school senior Evan Hansen into the Murphy family's grief over the loss of their son, he is given the chance of a lifetime: to belong.

Meat Market



Honest and raw, Meat Market is a timely expose of the dark underbelly of the fashion industry in an era of #TimesUp and #Me Too

gal-dem



gal-dem, the award-winning online and print magazine, is created by women and non-binary people of colour. In this thought-provoking and moving collection of fourteen essays, gal-dem's writers use raw material from their teenage years – diaries, poems and chat histories – to give advice to their younger selves and those growing up today

Dracula



An 1897 Gothic horror novel. Famous for introducing the character of the vampire Count Dracula, the novel tells the story of Dracula's attempt to move from Transylvania to England so he may find new blood and spread undead curse



Orangeboy

Sixteen-year-old Marlon has made his mum a promise - he'll never follow his big brother, Andre, down the wrong path. So far, it's been easy, but when a date ends in tragedy, Marlon finds himself hunted. They're after the mysterious Mr Orange, and they're going to use Marlon to get to him. Marlon's out of choices - can he become the person he never wanted to be, to protect everyone he loves?

The Boxer



Told over the course of the ten rounds of his first fight, this is the story of amateur boxer Sunny. A seventeen year old feeling isolated and disconnected in the city he's just moved to, Sunny joins a boxing club to learn to protect himself after a racist attack.

Recommended Reads By Genre:

Realistic

Concentr8- William Sutcliffe (In a future London, Concentr8 is a prescription drug intended to help kids with ADD. Soon every troubled teen is on it. It makes sense, doesn't it? Keep the undesirable elements in line.)

The Black Flamingo- Dean Atta (A boy comes to terms with his identity as a mixed-race gay teen - then at university he finds his wings as a drag artist, The Black Flamingo. A bold story about the power of embracing your uniqueness.)

Adventure

Echoes -Laura Tisdall

(Volatile genius Mallory Park is living two lives. In one, she is trying to survive senior year, balancing OCD and social anxiety with looking after her troubled family. In the other, she spends her nights glued to her laptop, breaking into some of the world's most secure systems as the hacker Echo Six.)

Horror

Grave Matter – Juno Dawson ('I think we love more freely... more playfully, with reckless abandon', says Eliza to her boyfriend Sam shortly before she is killed in a car crash, which almost explains his actions after her death.) DYSLEXIA FRIENDLY

Non Fiction

We should all be feminists – Chimamanda Ngozi Adiche (this book is a great stepping stone for discussions on gender roles and equity. Drawing from Adichie's own experiences, it's a key read for young women and men as they navigate the future together.)

The Borden murders: Lizzie Borden and the trial of a century – Sarah Miller (*There's a reason why true crime is a genre that's always popular: It's addictive and thought-provoking. An investigation of an unsolved 1892 murder*)



Tribe – On Homecoming and Belonging – Sebastian Junger (In Tribe, Junger learns that it's not a veteran's failure to "get back in" to society, but often society's failure to re-assimilate veterans, and he looks at what tribal societies can teach ours about loyalty and belonging.)

Silk Roads – Neil Packer (From ancient world laws laid down by King Hammurabi and the mighty Persian empire, to terrifying huns, the rise of Europe, two world wars and politics today, The Silk Roads moves through time and history sewing together the threads from different peoples, empires and continents into a phenomenal history of the globe.)

Graphic Novels

Honor Girl – Maggie Thrash (a romantic, honest, and funny account of the author falling hard for her female summer-camp counsellor)

V for Vendetta Alan Moore and David Lloyd (*V FOR VENDETTA takes place in a totalitarian England following a devastating war that changed the face of the planet. In a world without political freedom, personal freedom and precious little faith in anything comes a mysterious man in a white porcelain mask who fights political oppressors through terrorism and seemingly absurd acts.)*

The Walking Dead - Robert Kirkman (*Rick Grimes*, a Kentucky deputy, is shot in the line of duty and awakens from a coma in a zombie apocalypse that has resulted in a state-wide quarantine. After joining with some other survivors, he gradually takes on the role of leader of a community as it struggles to survive the zombie apocalypse.)

Classics

Fahrenheit 451 – Ray Bradbury (*The hauntingly prophetic classic novel set in a not-too-distant future where books are burned by a special task force of firemen. Guy Montag is a fireman. His job is to burn books, which are forbidden, being the source of all discord and unhappiness)*

Brave New World – Aldous Huxley (Far in the future, the World Controllers have created the ideal society. Through clever use of genetic engineering, brainwashing and recreational sex and drugs all its members are happy consumers. Bernard Marx seems alone harbouring an ill-defined longing to break free.)

Thriller/Horror

Genuine Fraud –E Lockhart (Two girls, in an intense relationship are both looking for escape but at what cost? When one disappears events suddenly become darker and we fall into a world of murder, fraud and villainy as identities are blurred and friendships crossed.)

Street Soldier- Andy McNab Criminal turned soldier - Now he must stop a war on London's streets. London gang member Sean Harker is down on his luck. After a car heist gone wrong, he finds himself in a young offender's institution... aged only 16.)

