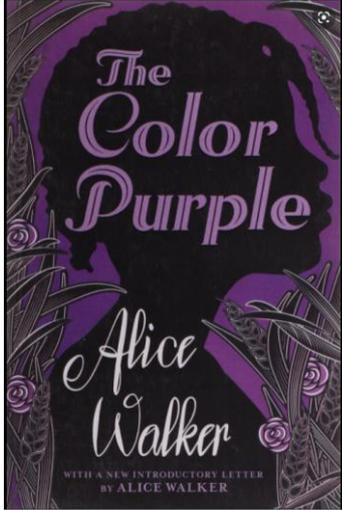
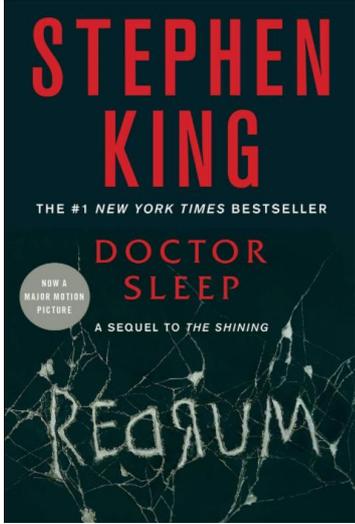
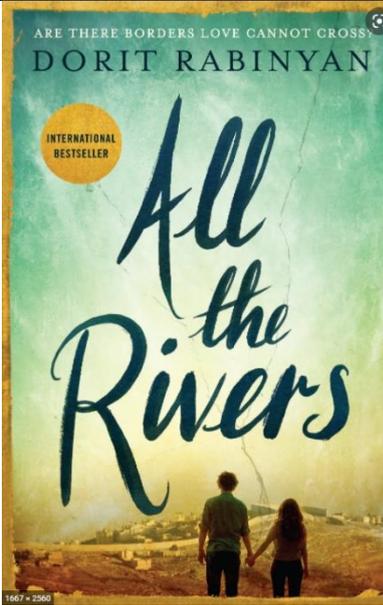
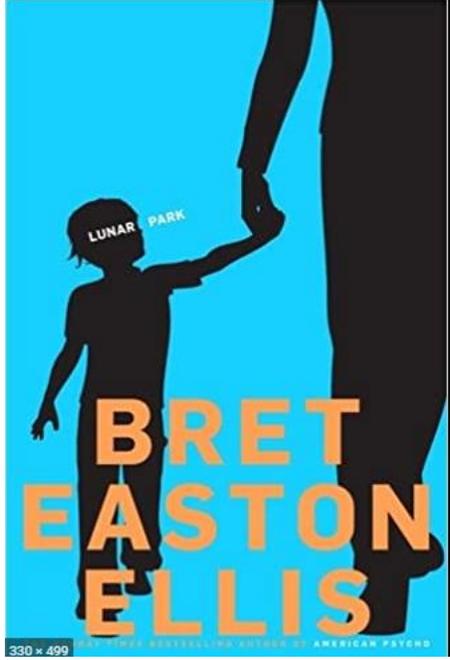
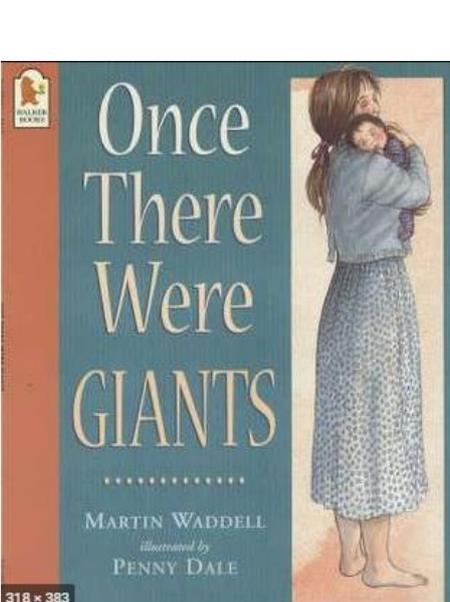


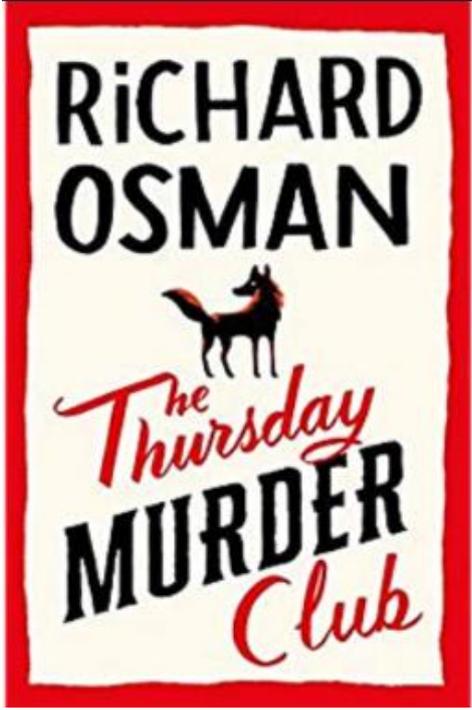
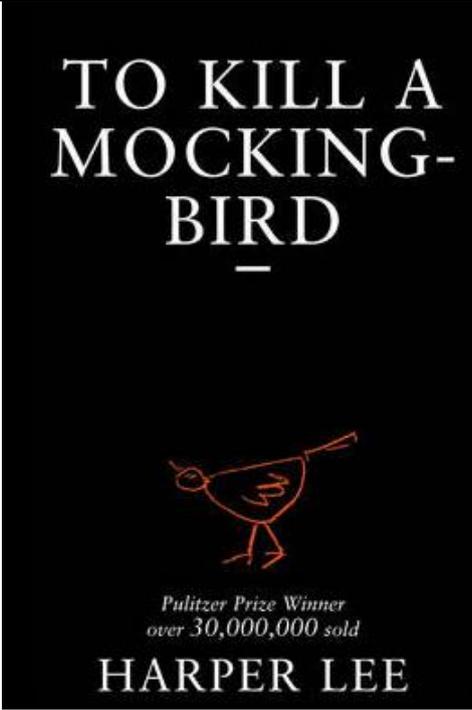
Miss Bolland's Desert Island Books

Book cover	Book Title and Author	Blurb	Reason for choice
	<p>The Color Purple- Alice Walker</p>	<p>Set in rural Georgia, 'The Color Purple' details the life of Celie, a young black girl born into poverty. Raped repeatedly by the man she calls 'father', she has two children taken away from her and is separated from her sister. But, after a chance meeting with singer, Shug Avery, she discovers the power and joy of her own spirit.</p>	<p>During my second year of A-Levels, I was asked to find a novel that I had not read before in order to begin a piece of coursework, centred around the theme of racism in America.</p> <p>I was instantly drawn to Walker's writing, and was deeply moved by the tragic story. Even after enduring such hardships, it details the life of an incredibly strong young woman.</p>
	<p>Doctor Sleep- Stephen King</p>	<p>Following the events of 'The Shining', Danny remains psychologically traumatised, whilst his mother recovers from her injuries. Ghosts from the hotel eventually find Danny, until he is taught to imprison the ghosts in lock boxes inside his mind. After reprising his father's legacy of anger and alcoholism, he finds a support community and settles in New Hampshire, where his remnant psychic abilities provide comfort to the dying.</p>	<p>I never truly appreciated horror fiction, until I began reading Stephen King.</p> <p>As I was already a fan of the classic 'The Shining', I was excited to read this and see how Danny's story proceeded.</p> <p>I found it terrifying and heart-breaking in equal parts, and quickly went onto purchase the rest of King's novels.</p>

	<p>Die Again- Tess Gerritsen</p>	<p>In Boston, Detective Jane Rizzoli and forensic pathologist Maura Isles investigate a bizarre murder. A man has been found gutted and hanging in his home. When the remains of another victim are found, it is clear that this murder has been at work for years, and not just in Boston.</p>	<p>After reading one of Gerritsen's previous novels, I went straight back for another.</p> <p>Gerritsen matches the ins and outs of the Boston PD, with terrifying plot twists and intense murder mysteries.</p> <p>I loved the development of the stories and the thought the twist at the end was brilliant.</p>
	<p>All the Rivers- Dorit Rabinyan</p>	<p>An award- winning story about a passionate but untenable love affair between an Israeli woman and a Palestinian man, from one of Israel's most acclaimed novelists.</p> <p>When Liat meets Hilmi on an autumn afternoon, she finds herself unwillingly drawn to him. As an aspirational translation student, she plans to return to Israel the following summer. Despite knowing that their love can only be temporary, she lets herself be captured by Hilmi, a talented young artist from Palestine.</p>	<p>This book was at the top of my reading list as soon as lockdown came into effect.</p> <p>I loved the Rabinyan's story telling, and was moved by Liat and Hilmi's struggle between their heads and their hearts.</p>

	<p>Romeo and Juliet- William Shakespeare</p>	<p>The world's most famous drama of tragic young love. Defying the feud which divides their families, Romeo and Juliet enjoy the fleeting rapture of courtship and marriage, but a combination of old feuds and new battles brings them to their tragic deaths.</p>	<p>This was one of the first Shakespeare plays I studied at GCSE.</p> <p>Ultimately, it was my English teacher that made me fall in love with this play. After spending so long studying it, it quickly became a frequent find in my reading pile, and one I have kept close to my heart ever since.</p>
	<p>The Catcher in the Rye- J.D. Salinger</p>	<p>The classic novel details two days in the life of sixteen-year-old Holden Caulfield, after he has been expelled from prep school. Confused and disillusioned, Holden searches for truth and rallies against the 'phoniness' of the adult world. He ends up exhausted and emotionally unstable.</p>	<p>This was one of the first pieces of literature I started to read. It was recommended to me by my school librarian for some summer reading. Nearly fourteen years later, the same copy still sits on my bookcase at home.</p>

	<p>Lunar Park- Bret Easton Ellis</p>	<p>He became a bestselling novelist while still in college, immediately famous and wealthy. He watched his insufferable father reduced to a bag of ashes in a safety-deposit box. He was lost in a haze of booze, drugs and vilification. Then he was given a second chance.</p> <p>This is the life of Bret Easton Ellis, the author and subject of this remarkable novel. Confounding one expectation after another, Lunar Park is equally hilarious, horrifying and heart-breaking.</p>	<p>This was one of the first novels I started studying in my second year of university. As a fan of 'American Psycho', I was excited to get stuck into more of Ellis' work.</p> <p>The novel became a fast favourite of our seminar group, and it is one that we still read today.</p>
	<p>Once There Were Giants- Martin Waddell</p>	<p>Once there was a baby in the house- and to that baby, Mum and Dad and Jill and John and Uncle Tom were giants. Little by little, that baby grew up- until she became a giant too!</p>	<p>You never really let go of the books your parents read to you. This was one of my particular favourites when I was younger, and my mum used to sit and read it to me often.</p> <p>Not only that, but we did giggle at the illustration of 'Dad', who was the mirror image of my own father!</p>

	<p>The Thursday Murder Club- Richard Osman</p>	<p>In a peaceful retirement village, four unlikely friends meet up once a week to investigate unsolved murders.</p> <p>When a brutal killing takes place on their very doorstep, the Thursday Murder Club find themselves in the middle of their first live case.</p> <p>Elizabeth, Joyce, Ibrahim and Ron might be pushing eighty, but they still have a few tricks up their sleeve.</p>	<p>I was intrigued to read Osman's work as soon as it was released.</p> <p>I picked this one up as a summer read, and could not put it down. It was funny and fascinating, with a few twists and turns thrown in for good measure.</p>
	<p>To Kill a Mockingbird- Harper Lee</p>	<p>A lawyer's advice to his children as he defends the real mockingbird of this enchanting classic- a black man charged with the rape of a white girl.</p> <p>Through the eyes of young Scout and Jem Finch, Harper Lee explores with exuberant humour the irrationality of adult attitudes to race and class in the Deep South of the thirties.</p> <p>The conscience of a town steeped in prejudice, violence and hypocrisy is pricked by the stamina of one man's struggle for justice.</p>	<p>A timeless classic.</p> <p>Not only did it become a favourite of mine after studying it at school, I find it quite poignant that I now get to teach it as well.</p>