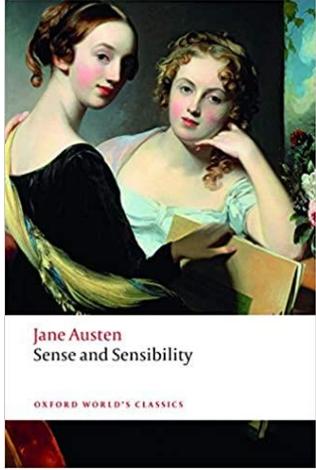
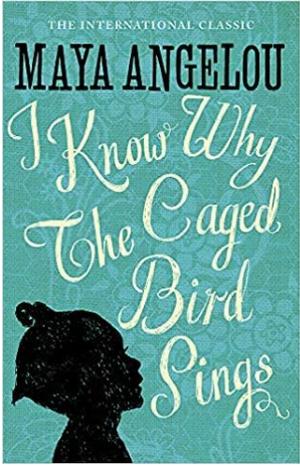
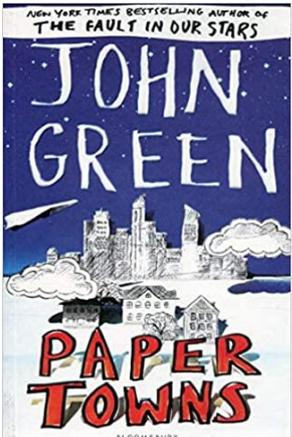
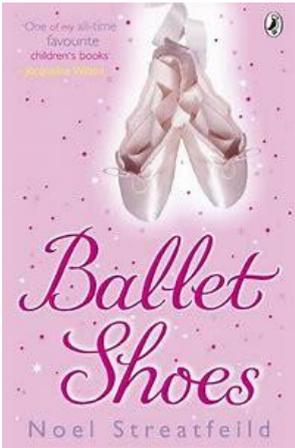
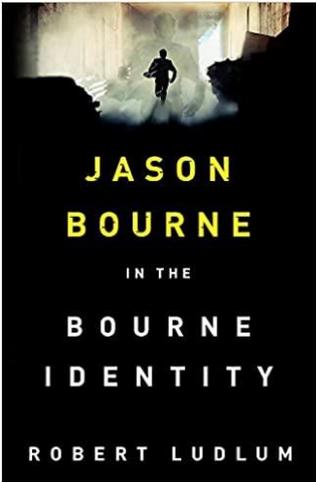
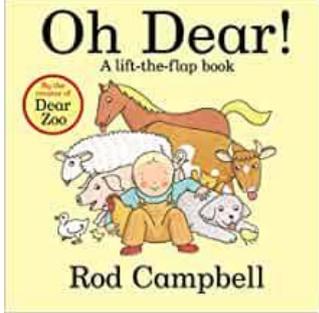
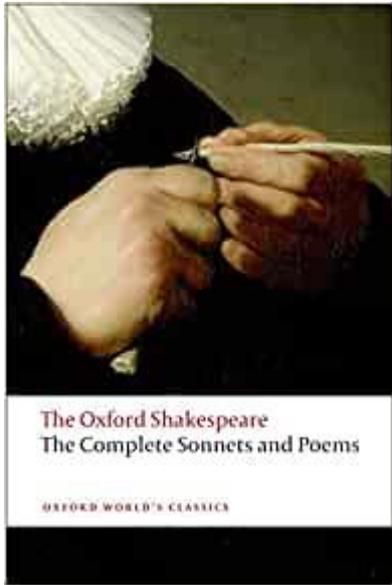
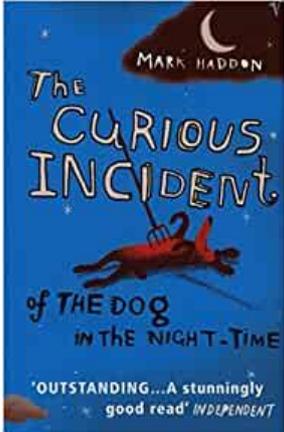
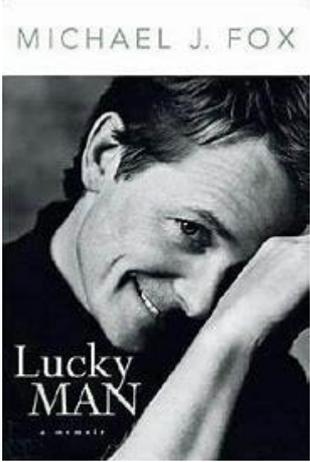
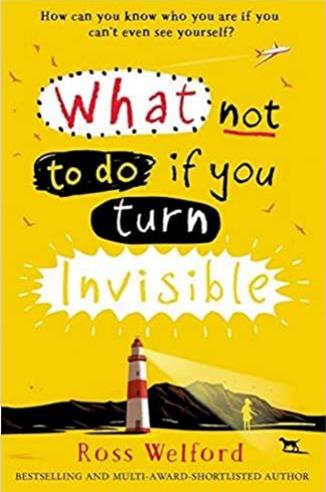


Book Cover	Book Title and Author	Blurb	Reason for choice
 <p>Jane Austen Sense and Sensibility OXFORD WORLD'S CLASSICS</p>	<p>“Sense and Sensibility” by Jane Austen</p>	<p>After their father’s death, the Dashwood family are left impoverished. The story focuses on the journey of two very different sisters and their different approaches to life and love.</p>	<p>This was the first Jane Austen I read at the age of 13 and after this all of her novels became lifelong friends. I return to them again and again, especially in the winter as comfort food! I know that I am not unique in this choice, but could not imagine my life without Jane Austen in it.</p>
 <p>THE INTERNATIONAL CLASSIC MAYA ANGELOU I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings</p>	<p>“I know why the caged bird sings” by Maya Angelou</p>	<p>This story focuses on how strength of character and love of literature overcomes racism and trauma. It’s a coming of age story of a precocious but insecure black girl in the 1930s American South. Autobiographical - it describes the early years of the American writer and poet, Maya Angelou.</p>	<p>I read this when still at school and was extremely moved by the story. Angelou shares her experiences and you relate to her so quickly. It also describes a very different time in history and I was fascinated by how the themes and messages are still applicable today. As a result of reading this, I went on to read much of Angelou’s poetry.</p>
 <p>NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF THE FAULT IN OUR STARS JOHN GREEN PAPER TOWNS BLOOMSBURY</p>	<p>“Paper Towns” by John Green</p>	<p>Another coming of age novel about a protagonist, “Q”, who goes in search of his neighbor and childhood sweetheart after she goes missing.</p>	<p>“Paper Towns” introduced me to the fantastic work and style of John Green, an American author based mostly in New York. As a writer, he has struggled with severe anxiety and obsessive compulsive disorder, overcoming many</p>

			<p>obstacles. This might be why he writes so clearly about emotional topics. Quotes from his novels are everywhere and are both perceptive and poignant.</p>
	<p>“Ballet Shoes” by Noel Streatfeild</p>	<p>3 adopted sisters, who were all discovered by an explorer, have to survive when the money he has left them begins to run out and he doesn't return. The story focuses on the different journeys each girl has to follow to achieve their dreams – and they are so different from one another.</p>	<p>Everyone should read this novel if you want inspiration to follow your dreams and be resilient. Although written in the 30s, the themes are still relevant today. For me, I loved the fact that one of the girls fought against stereotypes of how girls should be and explores the careers that girls are often pushed towards. It is beautifully written and the first of a collection of “shoe” stories.</p>
	<p>“The Bourne Identity” by Robert Ludlum</p>	<p>This is a 1980 spy fiction that tells the story of Jason Bourne, a man with remarkable survival abilities who is also suffering from amnesia. We watch him try to put together the dangerous puzzle of his missing past.</p>	<p>As a teenager, I was an avid reader and read literally everything I could get my hands on. This included all of my dad's action thrillers – creating a love of crime and action that has stayed with me ever since. This is the first one I remember reading and I gradually worked my way through his whole collection. Even now, I can't resist a thriller, such as a Jack Reacher or Mitch Rapp novel!</p>
	<p>“Oh Dear!” by Rod Campbell</p>	<p>A picture book for children where a</p>	<p>If there was ever a book that makes me</p>

		<p>young boy goes around the farm in search of eggs and learning a lot about animals on the way.</p>	<p>joyful just by thinking about it, it is this one. You could read it in about 2 minutes, but you need to have a toddler on your lap while you do it. A family favourite that has become a tradition – and a catch phrase! This is a great example of how important books and stories are to babies and toddlers.</p>
	<p>Shakespeare's Sonnets</p>	<p>Shakespeare wrote 154 sonnets – poems on a variety of themes but mostly love</p>	<p>How could I be trapped on a desert island without Shakespeare? It was very hard not to choose a play, particularly "King Lear", but the sonnets would keep me going for a long time. Each one is only 14 lines long but so cleverly written. My parents bought me a copy of the complete works when I went to university to read English Literature and it is still a treasured possession.</p>
	<p>"The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time" by Mark Haddon</p>	<p>We follow the story of Christopher Boone, a 15 year old boy who is exceptional at maths but finds people confusing. The story starts with Christopher discovering a dead dog in his neighbour's garden... a murder mystery!</p>	<p>I read this and had to immediately reread it. I have never known a book to be so talked about by both adults and children as it deals with the subject of Autism and we see how Christopher copes with the obstacles this puts in front of him. I recently saw a</p>

			<p>fantastic stage play of it which reminded me just how good it is.</p>
	<p>“Lucky Man” by Michael J Fox</p>	<p>In September, 1998, Michael J Fox, the famous Hollywood actor of “Back to the Future”, stunned the world by announcing that he had Parkinson’s disease that he had been secretly fighting for 7 years. This is his story.</p>	<p>I’m not the greatest fan of biographies or autobiographies – yet this is the second one in my collection. Strange! I think it is because it is so inspirational. The clue is in the title!</p>
	<p>“What not to do if you turn invisible” by Ross Welford</p>	<p>A 13 year old tries a remedy for acne, only to find out that it turns you invisible. As it wears off, the character is thrown into a nightmare of lies and deception, dealing with bullies and learning about friendship on the way.</p>	<p>Ross Welford is a local artist who I discovered recently when choosing a birthday present for my niece. It is extremely funny and engaging. It will make you both gasp, laugh out loud and empathise with the character’s predicament.</p>