

**Editorial**

When students are faced with a research question, the first thing they do is turn to Google and let the internet do it's magic. The internet is a powerful tool, students and researchers alike need to harness its power to find just the right information they are looking for. Most of the time they are successful but what happens when they hit a brick wall? Even though the internet provides a vast array of information, sometimes the researcher must use **alternative sources of information**.

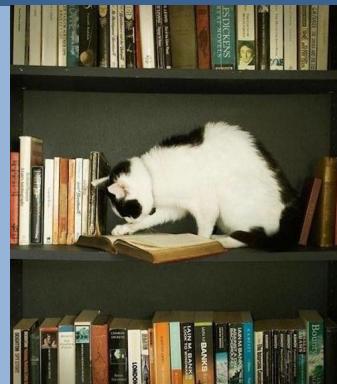
Alternative sources come under a variety of guises, some more obvious than others. These can include ephemera such as posters, advertisements, signs and placards. In fact, with the recent Women's March happening around the world, museums are collecting as many signs as they can. This is to not only preserve them in the collective memory, but also to highlight social issues for generations to come.

Another source of information can be in the form of small decorative plaques known as **Ex-Libris**. These small plaques are important because they provide the provenance i.e. the history of the book and its owner. They are also of art historical importance because collectors are able to date them in accordance to their aesthetic style.

Photographs, such as those discussed in the article **The Museum Fototeka** are a treasure trove of information, if only one knew where to look! These images are time capsules capturing moments in history which cannot be repeated. From photographs, one can learn about social history through, for example, costumes. Researchers can also document the passage of time on buildings and even whole cities. Additionally, photographs can help preserve first discoveries. The drawback with photographs is that they have to be well documented for the researcher to be able to decipher what the image is portraying.

Special collections in museums and libraries are not usually on display due to their fragility and security, however, institutions are more than happy to share them with anybody who asks.

There are many other types of alternative sources of information, especially when it comes to local research. If you don't know where to look, just ask your favourite librarian ... who just happens to be another source of alternative information!

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Ex-Libris (part 1)

By Katja Zahra Camilleri

Ex-Libris or bookplates have long been a passion of mine. I admire them not only for their artistic and aesthetic value, but also because they are a link between the book and the original owner.

The term Ex-Libris is a Latin phrase literally meaning "from the Books of ..." which can be taken to mean "from the Library of ..." This is normally followed by the book owner's name which can be an individual or an institution. This small act does not only mark possession but also serve as a reminder to people who have borrowed the book. Many of us tend to write down our name in pencil on a book's title page, however a bookplate is a more elegant and decorative way to claim ownership of a book.



The idea of an Ex-Libris has been around for a very long time. The earliest known Ex-Libris date from the 18th Dynasty (c. 1543–1292 BC) are in the form of small ceramic plates which were attached to wooden boxes, using string, containing papyrus scrolls. These scrolls belonged to Pharaoh Amenhotep III (c. 1386-1353 BC) and Queen Tiye. The hieroglyphs mention the Pharaoh and the Queen as owners and also notes the contents of the box, in this case "The book of the moringa tree".

The first printed bookplates came to be with the invention of Gutenberg's printing press, around 1470. The oldest bookplate in Europe is German and belongs to the Hildebrand Brandenburg of Biberach to the Monastery of Buxheim, and dates from around 1480.

Other examples of early bookplates can be found in France dating from 1529 from the collection of Jean Bertaud de la Tour-Blanche. The oldest surviving bookplate in England dates from 1579 and represents books presented to the University of Cambridge by Sir Nicholas Bacon. The latter was a politician during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I and Francis' Bacon's father.

*Continued on pg. 3*



Library Opening Hours

(1st October - 15th June)

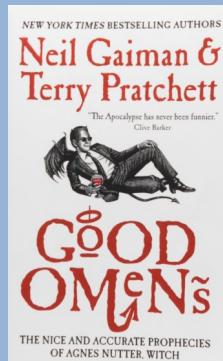
Monday to Friday: 8am to 4pm

Saturday: Closed

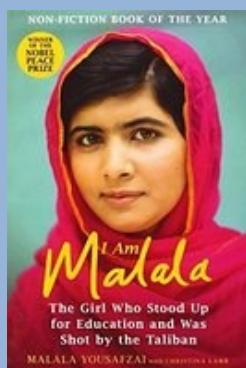
New books in the Fiction Section



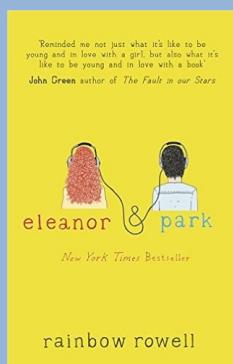
Il-Kulur tal-Lellux
Rita Saliba



Good Omens
Neil Gaiman &
Terry Pratchett

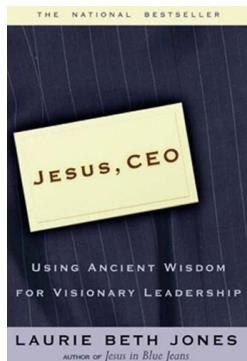


I am Malala
Malala Yousafzai

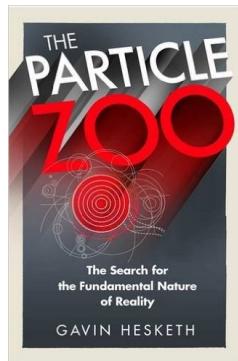


Eleanor & Park
Rainbow Rowell

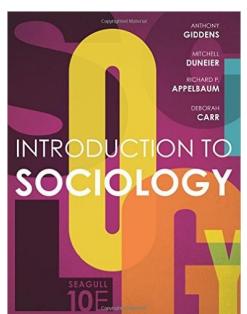
New Non-Fiction and Scholarly Works



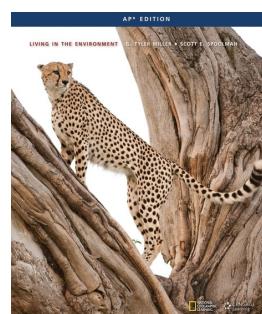
Jesus CEO
Laurie Beth Jones



The Particle Zoo : The search for
the fundamental nature of reality
Gavin Hesketh



Introduction to Sociology
Anthony Giddens et al.



Living in the environment
G. Tyler Miller et al.

And many more ...

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Phone: 21667114
E-Mail: info@pandorasboxmalta.com
Opening Hours: Mon-Fri: 16:30 - 19:00
Saturday: 9:00 - 13:00



Agenda bookshop

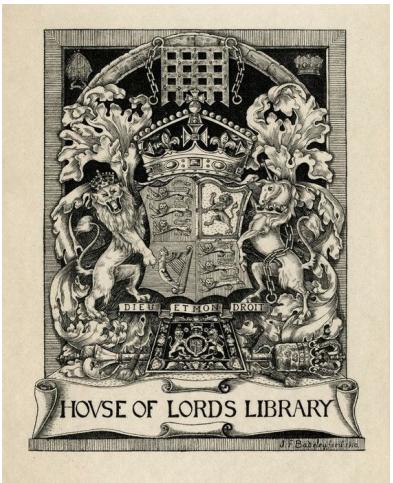
EX-LIBRIS ...

(cont.)

Bookplates were not only produced in Europe. In India, Shah Jahan of the Mughal dynasty had bookplates commissioned in 1645, whilst the earliest American bookplate belonged to John Williams in 1679.

The earliest bookplates usually had heraldic designs, which could have included the family motto. This was an easy way for people to recognise the owner, especially those who could not read. Later on, the designs started to reflect more the profession or personality of the owner. So, if the owner was a doctor, the design would have a medical theme, or if the owner happened to enjoy gardening, the design of the book plates would include floral motifs. Sometimes, they even included a short poem, warning users to return the book to its rightful owner.

For the artists creating the bookplates, these are quite a challenge because they had to work in an area of not more than 13x13cm. Surprisingly many famous artists such as Durer, Picasso and Dali produced bookplate designs. Additionally, personalities such as Dickens, Mussolini, Queen Elizabeth II, Albert Einstein etc... have used bookplates in their collections.



Between 1890 and 1940 bookplate collecting was very popular, however with the advent of TV and different pastimes, the number of collectors has dwindled. This does not mean that bookplates are lost forever. In fact there are over 40 associations of bookplate collectors such as the Bookplate Society of England and the German Deutsche Ex-Libris Gesellschaft. Many publish their own publications such as the Turkish Istanbul Ex-Libris society who has its own journal titled Ex-Librist.

Some artists produce bookplates which are for collection purposes only. Collectors value these for their aesthetic qualities. Apart from the aesthetics, collectors might specialise in certain themes such as animals, flowers, famous personalities, a certain designers etc...

With the current revival of everything vintage, bookplates have once again become popular with certain groups of enthusiasts, and a new generation of artists are creating new and wonderful designs. Let us hope, that bookplates will be around for many years to come.

References:

- http://www.britishmuseum.org/research/collection_online/collection_object_details.aspx?objectId=118202&partId=1&searchText=Amenhotep+III&page=6
- <http://www.darkroastedblend.com/2009/11/extraordinary-world-of-ex-libris-art.html>
- <http://www.fisae.org/whatareex.html>
- <http://exhibits.library.yale.edu/exhibits/show/exlibris/intro>
- <http://exlibrist.net/index.php/exlibrist/index>

LIBRARY EVENTS CALENDAR

February: Blind Date with a Book

It's February, so Love is in the air! What better way to fall in love than with books?



Single? In a relationship? It's complicated? Not to worry, these blind dates are perfect for everyone!

Never judge a book by its cover ... only this time you can! Using only some hints, you can decide if the book's a keeper. Take it home with you and see if you hit it off!

Not your type? No awkward moments or texts, all the books are returnable.



March: Women's Day

March 8th is International Women's Day and we shall be celebrating it in the Library!

In the Library you can find:

- Biographies
- Books about HerStory
- Books about female artists
- Literature by female authors
- Fiction



JC EVENTS CALENDAR

Health Awareness Week	Being Entrepreneurial!	Fair Trade Awareness Days
<p>Dates: 6th to the 9th February 2017 Venue: JC Foyer and other places Organised by: Sports and Leisure Department and the Youth Work Office</p> <p>During this week we will be raising awareness on Physical, Mental and Social Health and how these can effect each other. There will be different activities such as talks, sport and interactive sessions where students and staff can participate in. A full calendar of events will be published soon.</p>	<p>Dates: 27th and 28th February 2017 Venue: TBC Organised: Youth Work Office</p> <p>During these two days we will be meeting different persons involved in the entrepreneurial world who will be sharing their experience. We will also be having a session to get to know who an entrepreneur is and what skills one needs to be an entrepreneur.</p>	<p>Dates: 27th and 28th March 2017 Venue: TBC Organised: Youth Work Office</p> <p>During these two days there should be stands and talks on what is Fair Trade and what one can do to make a difference, even here in Malta.</p>

For more information, please contact Students Advisory Services representative Mr. Roberto Calleja

or

visit their Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/uom.studentsadvisoryservices/>

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For more information, please contact Ms. Boryana Chaneva at the Euro-Centre Office

New Year... New Goals! Challenge yourself and try out this reading challenge for 2017! Not sure where to begin? Check out the Library's Fiction Section where we're sure that you'd be able to tick all of the boxes!



READING CHALLENGE

A book about music	<input type="checkbox"/>	A short story	<input type="checkbox"/>
A book with an antihero	<input type="checkbox"/>	A motivational book	<input type="checkbox"/>
A crime novel	<input type="checkbox"/>	A poetry book	<input type="checkbox"/>
A book that became a movie the decade you were born	<input type="checkbox"/>	A book you see someone reading in public	<input type="checkbox"/>
A post-apocalyptic book	<input type="checkbox"/>	A book with a black cover	<input type="checkbox"/>
A book from the 19th century	<input type="checkbox"/>	An award winning book	<input type="checkbox"/>
A book you choose by it's cover	<input type="checkbox"/>	A international bestseller of 2015	<input type="checkbox"/>
A biography	<input type="checkbox"/>	A fantasy book	<input type="checkbox"/>
A book about something you love	<input type="checkbox"/>	A book about travel	<input type="checkbox"/>
A book mentioned/recommended in a book you read	<input type="checkbox"/>	A book recommended by someone you haven't talked to in more than a year	<input type="checkbox"/>
A book bought at a thrift store	<input type="checkbox"/>	A book about a conspiracy theory	<input type="checkbox"/>
A funny book	<input type="checkbox"/>	A graphic novel	<input type="checkbox"/>
An historical fiction	<input type="checkbox"/>	A book by an author your age	<input type="checkbox"/>
A book recommended by your oldest family member	<input type="checkbox"/>	A book written by an author of an ancestor's nationality	<input type="checkbox"/>
A classic romance	<input type="checkbox"/>	A book with two or more authors	<input type="checkbox"/>

The Museum Fototeka

By Lindsay Galea

Photographs open windows into the past. They are not only important memories of what was, but are also very important primary documents. Photography was introduced at a very early stage in Malta. It was March 1840 when Horace Vernet demonstrated to the Governor at the time, Sir Henry Bouvierie, how a 'drawing'¹ was taken. This 'drawing' was what we nowadays know as a photograph. The photographic technique at the time was known as a Daguerreotype, which had been invented only a few months before in France. This documents what we believe, as the first photograph taken on the island and we know it represented the statue of Manoel de Vilhena which was, at the time, situated in the centre of the courtyard of Fort Manoel on Manoel Island.²

In 2008 a project started whereby the extensive collection of historic 19th century photographic material housed in Heritage Malta's National Museum of Archaeology, were gathered in one storage facility, the 'Fototeka'. Apart from a large collection of printed photographs in the Photographic archive, there are also a significant number of negatives, both on glass and film. Even though these negatives were found in this particular museum, Archaeology is not the only subject matter. In fact, the subjects are extremely varied and include: paintings, architecture, archaeology, social life, war damage, feasts, important visits, ships that entered the harbour, etc. These photographs have already managed to shed light on past excavations, important historical visits and events for which one had no proper documentation.

Unfortunately not all the photographs are signed and therefore we don't know who all the photographers who took these photographs were. However, the majority of the photographs in the collection were taken by Edward Alfred Gouder. Fortunately, most of the photographs he took are stamped with his name. He also numbered and catalogued his photographs, and thanks to this, by comparison we can also identify the photographs he did not mark with his name, as his. Records show that Edward Alfred Gouder was employed by the government between 1892 and 1936 to take photographs which included: National and Maritime events; Archaeological sites and artefacts; Paintings and other works of art; Tapestries; Churches and other buildings; Construction and demolition works.

Another person who took a number of photographs, which are now stored in the Fototeka, was Sir Temi Zammit. He took quite a number of photographs as a way of documenting excavations during his time as director of The Museum, between 1903 and 1935. He also used some of these photographs as illustrations in his notebooks. It is interesting to note that there are a number of copies of some of these photographs at the University of Malta which are in the form of lantern slides³. These were used by Zammit to illustrate lectures he gave at the university.

A conservation project is currently underway and this involves the cleaning, digitising, cataloguing and storing of this photographic material in order to preserve them for future generations.



E.A. Gouder - Eucharistic Congress, Valletta (1913)



Sir T. Zammit - Tarxien Temples excavations (1915)

¹Henry Edward Fane, *Five Years in India*, Volume II, London, 1842, pp. 305.

²Unfortunately the present location of this photograph is unknown.

³The Lantern slide is the predecessor of the slide.

Acknowledgments: Ms. Sharon Sultana – Senior Curator of the National Museum of Archaeology

Bibliography

Cardona, David; Galea, Lindsay; Sultana, Sharon, 2016, 'Through Lens and Pen': Caring for Our Heritage: Conference proceedings, Heritage Malta: Malta Fane, Henry Edward, 1842, *Five Years in India*, Volume 2, Henry Colburn, Great Marlborough street: London.

Harker, Margaret, 1992, *Photographers of Malta: 1840 – 1990*, Fondazzjoni Patrimonju Malti: Malta.

DID YOU KNOW?

Origins of the Trench Coat



What is now considered as a fashion staple, started off as a very utilitarian garment used for ... you guessed it, in the trenches of WW1.

In 1879, Burberry created a new textile called gabardine which was a tightly woven cloth that was light, water repellent and kept the wearer warm. Previous water repellent materials were coated in wax or rubber which made them quite stiff and uncomfortable for the wearer. The trench coat's design originated from the Tielocken coat, designed by Thomas Burberry for officers to use during the Boer War, in 1895. Before the Tielocken coat, officers wore a heavy woolen greatcoat which was not suitable for the African climate.

Burberry and London's Acquascutum continued to develop the design of the Tielocken coat into what we now call the Trench coat for extensive use during WW1. Burberry added D-rings and shoulder straps to the coat, which made it more practical for soldiers to wear.

Another important aspect of the Trench Coat is its colour. Previously military uniforms were made out of colourful fabrics so that soldiers would be able to distinguish who was friend or foe. However, with modern warfare, colourful uniforms made soldiers easy targets for their enemies. 'Khaki' is the Indian word for dust, and it was the perfect colour for British soldiers to camouflage themselves in the African environment. This was welcomed by the British soldiers as a practical solution, however French soldiers still insisted on wearing red trousers because they felt it was dishonourable to fight in camouflage.

Despite its popularity amongst the ranks, the Trench Coat was not a regulation garment and therefore only those who could afford had one. Companies such as Burberry and Acquascutum went into mass production, in turn this produced cheaper garments which could be bought by lesser ranking officers.

During WW1 the Trench Coat was also marketed for the civilian man and woman. After the war, the Trench coat was a symbol of heroism. The popularity of the Trench Coat continued to increase with some help from Hollywood. Many gangster movies portrayed characters wearing these coats. After WW2 they were associated with actors such as Humphrey Bogart and continued being used on in movies by the likes of Audrey Hepburn in Breakfast at Tiffany's.

References:

- <http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-29033055>
- <http://www.artofmanliness.com/2010/10/20/man-guide-trench-coat/>



RESEARCH TIP

Using Alternative Sources for Research

When it comes to research, many students use the internet to help them find the information they need. Sometimes, however, the internet is not enough and more in-depth information is needed. There are other sources of information which you can use; first and foremost you can use the Library. Even if in the library you cannot find what you are looking for, asking the Librarian might help you discover different sources, ones you didn't even think of! These may include your village Band Club or the Parish Office, maybe a local history group, who in turn might direct you to other sources of information. Who knows when serendipity will strike!

GETTING TO KNOW ...

Neil Gaiman (1960 -)

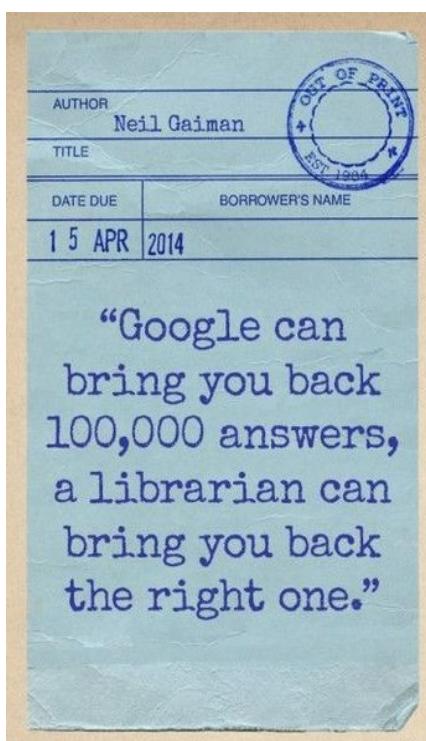
Neil Gaiman is a British author currently residing in the United States. He was born in Hampshire in the UK. He is mostly known for his short fiction, novels, graphic novels and comics, but he has also worked in theatre and film. His most notable works include the comic book series *The Sandman* and novels *Stardust*, *American Gods*, *Coraline*, and *The Graveyard Book*. For his work he has won prestigious awards such as the Bram Stoker award and also Newbery and Carnegie medals.

Able to read by the age of four, Gaiman was a prolific reader throughout his childhood. His favourite books included Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings*, C.S. Lewis' *Narnia Chronicles*. Other favourites included *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and *Batman* comics.

In his early years, Gaiman pursued journalism. He worked extensively for the British Fantasy Society both as a writer and a reviewer. "Featherquest" was his first professional short story which was published in *Imagine Magazine* in May 1984. His first book was a *Duran Duran* biography which was a great success.

After reading Alan Moore's comic *Swamp Thing*, Gaiman became immersed in the world of comics and graphic novels. In January 1989, Gaiman published his first graphic novel for DC comics, which ended up into *The Sandman* series. This series is about Dream, a mythical personification of imaginative powers, also known as Morpheus. A total of 75 issues and spin-off characters such as Death (Dream's big sister) were produced with the series officially ending in 1996.

In 1990, Gaiman collaborated with Terry Pratchett to write *Good Omens*. *Neverwhere* was released in 1996 as a novel in tandem with the TV BBC series. 1999 saw the release of *Stardust* in both novel and illustrated editions. In 2001, further success was gained with *American Gods*. In this novel, Old World deities ended up transplanted into the landscape of the United States, where new gods such as Celebrity, Fame and Drugs are considered Kings. Gaiman also wrote a book for children, titled *The Graveyard Book*. Based on Kipling's *Jungle Book*, the plot involves an orphaned toddler, aptly named Nobody 'Bod' Owens, who is raised by ghosts residing in a cemetery where he happened to wander. Bod is a normal boy who happens to be educated by ghosts who are always warning him not to leave the cemetery. *The Ocean at the End of the Lane* is Gaiman's latest novel, published in 2013. It involves a man who returned home for a funeral and starts to remember events which started forty years earlier.



Neil Gaiman is also a great supporter of Libraries. He credits librarians as the people who helped foster his imagination and his love for reading. He regularly speaks against the closure of libraries due to financial constraints stating that "Libraries really are the gates to the future. So it is unfortunate that, round the world, we observe local authorities seizing the opportunity to close libraries as an easy way to save money, without realising that they are stealing from the future to pay for today. They are closing the gates that should be open."

Interested in reading Gaiman's work? Check out the JC Library's Fiction section!

References:

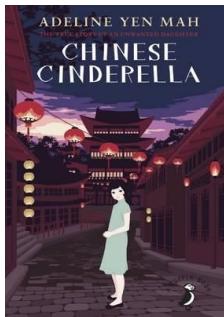
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https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neil_Gaiman

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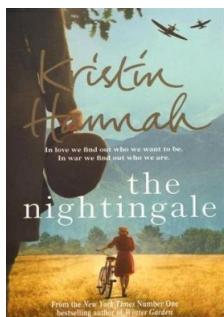
LIBRARIANS' CHOICE

Recommended readings from our bookshelves



Chinese Cinderella by Adeline Yen Mah

Chinese Cinderella is an autobiography for children based on the bestselling Falling Leaves by Adeline Yen Mah. Jung-ling's family considers her bad luck because her mother died giving birth to her. They discriminate against her and make her feel unwanted yet she yearns and continuously strives for her parents' love. Her stepmother is vindictive and cruel and her father dismissive. Jung-ling grows up to be an academic child, with a natural ability for writing. Only her aunt and grandfather offer her any love and kindness. The story is of survival in the light of the mental and physical cruelty of her stepmother and the disloyalty of her siblings. Jung-ling blossoms in spite of everything and the story ends as her father agrees to let her study in England.



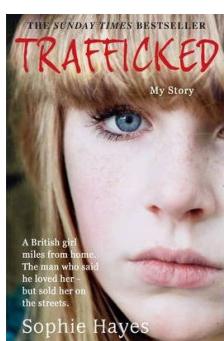
The Nightingale by Kristin Hannah

Despite their differences, sisters Viann and Isabelle have always been close. Younger, bolder Isabelle lives in Paris while Viann is content with life in the French countryside with her husband Antoine and their daughter. But when the Second World War strikes, Antoine is sent off to fight and Viann finds herself isolated so Isabelle is sent by their father to help her. As the war progresses, the sisters' relationship and strength is tested. With life changing in unbelievably horrific ways, Viann and Isabelle will find themselves facing frightening situations and responding in ways they never thought possible as bravery and resistance take different forms in each of their actions. Vivid and exquisite in its illumination of a time and place that was filled with atrocities, but also humanity and strength, Kristin Hannah's novel will provoke thought and discussion that will have readers talking long after they finish reading.



The Grisha Trilogy by Leigh Bardugo

Follow Alina Starkov through Shadow and Bone, Siege and Storm, and Ruin and Rising as she discovers her dormant powers and is swept up in a world of luxury and illusion. As Alina struggles to fit into her new life, a threat to the kingdom of Ravka growsone that will test old alliances and challenge the very limits of magic, one that will forge a leader from a frightened girl.



Trafficked : The Terrifying True Story of a British Girl Forced into the Sex Trade by Sophie Hayes

He'd been her friend for years. He said he loved her. Then she realised she didn't know him at all...When everything seemed to be falling apart in Sophie's life, she was thankful for her friend Kas, who was always at the end of a phone, ready to listen and to offer comfort and advice. Her father's cold dislike of her and then her parents' divorce had left her with a deep distrust of men. But, gradually, Kas made her believe there was at least one man who truly cared about her. But she was wrong. At first when Sophie went to stay for a few days with Kas in Italy, he was kind and caring, as he'd always been. But three days after she arrived, everything changed. His eyes were cold as he described the things he expected her to do 'for love'. But soon Sophie's bewilderment turned to fear as he punched and shouted at her and threatened to kill her adored younger brothers if she didn't do exactly as she was told...to sell her body on the streets to pay off Kas's debts. Terrified of Kas, the police and the men whose pleasures she was forced to satisfy, Sophie worked seven nights a week for the next six months on the dark and lonely streets of a town in northern Italy. Subjected regularly to Kas's verbal, mental and physical abuse, she knew she would never escape. And then, one day, after she'd been admitted to hospital with stomach pains - and knowing that Kas would kill her if he found out - she dared to phone her mother. But who would reach her first?