



STA LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2020

A monthly newsletter to see what's happening in the library, what new books have arrived, and what your peers are reading.

HAPPENING THIS MONTH:

HARRY POTTER AT HOME LIVE: Daniel Radcliffe, Stephen Fry, David Beckham, Dakota Fanning, Claudia Kim, Noma Dumezweni, and Eddie Redmayne are amongst the cast of narrators who have lent their voices to the story they love by recording videos of themselves reading the timeless Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone/Sorcerer's Stone. Catch-ups are available. New videos each Monday from 10am. <https://www.wizardingworld.com/collections/harry-potter-at-home>

NATIONAL THEATRE AT HOME: The National Theatre is streaming one production per week on YouTube. From 7pm on Thursday 28 May until Thursday 4 June, you will be able to watch This House, a timely, moving and funny insight into the workings of 1970s British politics by James Graham. The following week, beginning at 7pm 4 June, Tom Hiddleston will star in Shakespeare's Coriolanus. For more information: <https://www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/nt-at-home>

LOCKDOWN LITFEST: Welcome to the Lockdown LitFest, a global literature and culture hub, born in the time of COVID-19 to bring a real-world festival experience to your home screens. We're here for these tough times and beyond, to deliver interviews, readings, masterclasses and more, whatever your age or interests. With an ever-growing schedule of new talent, old favourites and best-selling household names, we'll connect you with authors, poets, scholars, scientists, illustrators and more, slow-cooking a feast for your minds and souls.

ACTIVITIES AND COMPETITIONS:

SCOTS STORY COMPETITION 2020—A' THE SEAS: We are inviting all young people aged 11 - 18 to take part in a brand new competition for 2020 to write a poem, a story, a play or a song in the Scots language. The theme for this year's competition is **Til a' the seas gang dry**. Write a poem, story, play or song in under 200 words, a one page comic or a video of you telling a story in three minutes or less on the theme by **Wednesday 24th June**. Enter here: <https://www.scottishbooktrust.com/writing-and-authors/scots-story-competition-2020>

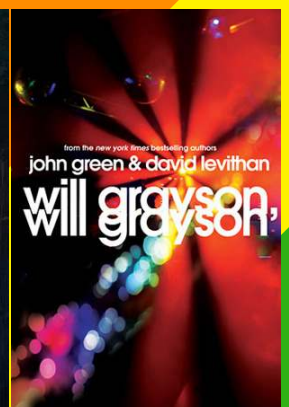
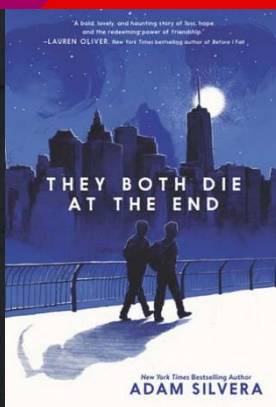
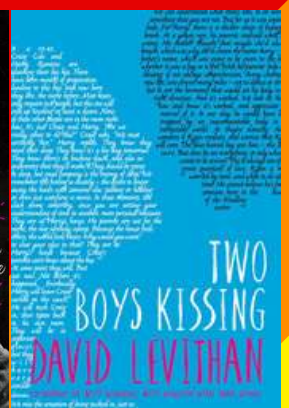
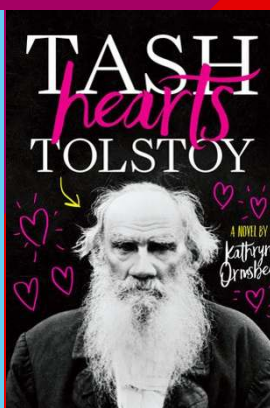
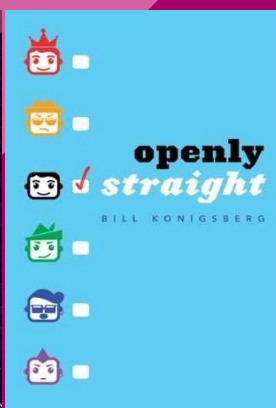
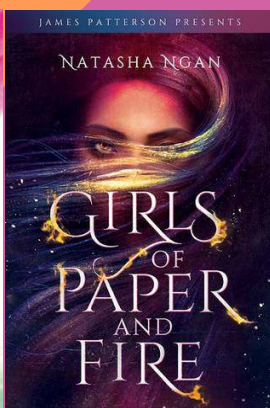
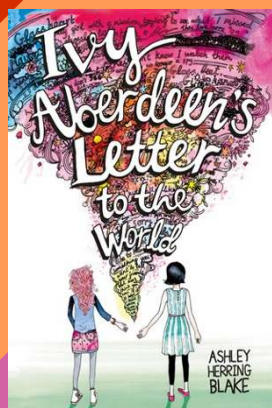
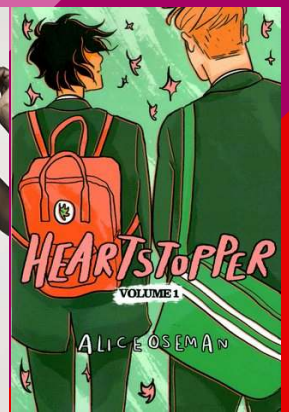
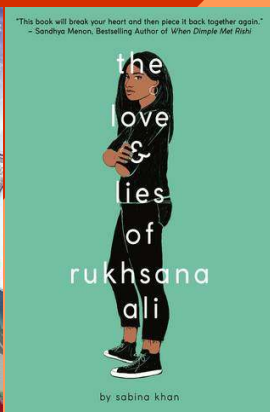
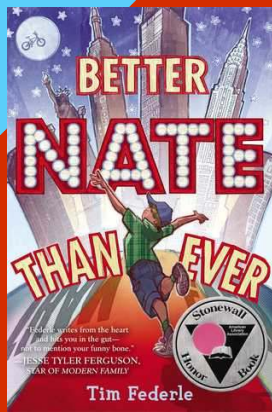
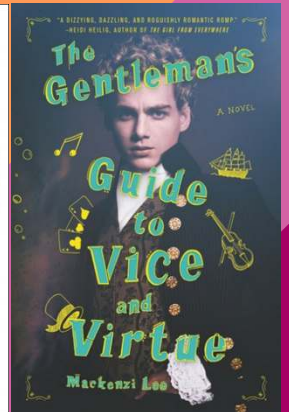
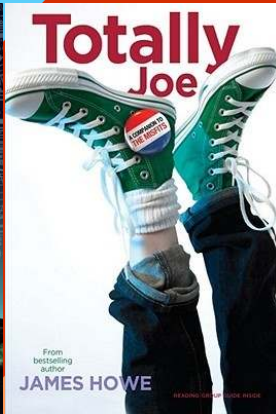
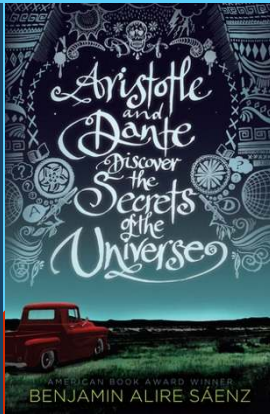
GENERATION LOCKDOWN CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION: This is your opportunity to write about your experience. Until midnight on Friday the 17th of July, you can submit a piece of writing about what life has been like in lockdown and during the coronavirus. This could be a personal experience, a poem, or a creative story. All of you will have had a unique experience that is only yours, and only you can capture in words. **Your entry should be 700 words or under and you should submit in your age category. DEADLINE IS JULY 17.**

Enter here: <https://generationlockdown.co.uk/>

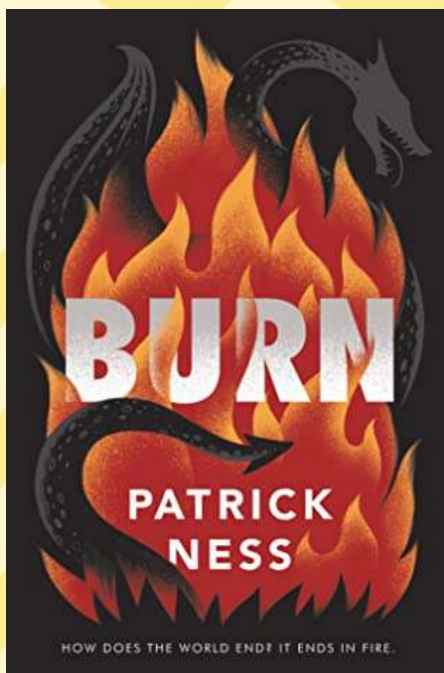
AUDIOBOOK APPRECIATION MONTH: The month of June is **AUDIOBOOK APPRECIATION MONTH**. Celebrate by checking out a new audiobook with your **SCHOOL LIBRARY CARD** on a variety of free apps: Overdrive, Libby, and BorrowBox. You can download these apps directly to your phone. **Email me if you need your library card details: gw17sferrazzokaitlin@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk**. Also, head over to Audible to check out their selection of free audiobooks! <https://stories.audible.com/start-listen>

JUNE IS PRIDE MONTH

CHECK OUT 20 BOOKS CELEBRATING
LGBTQIA+ IDENTITIES



BOOKS TO LOOK OUT FOR: JUNE 2020



Hunted by the Sky by Tanaz Bhathena—coming 23 June 2020: Gul has spent her life running. She has a star-shaped birthmark on her arm, and in the kingdom of Ambar, girls with such birthmarks have been disappearing for years. Gul's mark is what caused her parents' murder at the hand of King Lohar's ruthless soldiers and forced her into hiding to protect her own life. So when a group of rebel women called the Sisters of the Golden Lotus rescue her, take her in, and train her in warrior magic, Gul wants only one thing: revenge.

Cavas lives in the tenements, and he's just about ready to sign his life over to the king's army. His father is terminally ill, and Cavas will do anything to save him. But sparks fly when he meets a mysterious girl--Gul--in the capital's bazaar, and as the chemistry between them undeniably grows, he becomes entangled in a mission of vengeance--and discovers a magic he never expected to find. Dangerous circumstances have brought Gul and Cavas together at the king's domain in Ambar Fort . . . a world with secrets deadlier than their own.

Burn by Patrick Ness—coming 2 June 2020: Sarah Dewhurst and her father, outcasts in their little town of Frome, Washington, are forced to hire a dragon to work their farm, something only the poorest of the poor ever have to resort to. The dragon, Kazimir, has more to him than meets the eye, though.

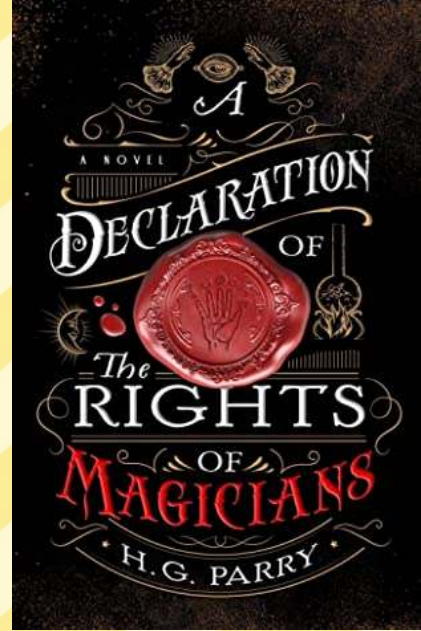
Sarah can't help but be curious about him, an animal who supposedly doesn't have a soul, but who is seemingly intent on keeping her safe. Because the dragon knows something she doesn't. He has arrived at the farm with a prophecy on his mind. A prophecy that involves a deadly assassin, a cult of dragon worshippers, two FBI agents in hot pursuit—and somehow, Sarah Dewhurst herself.

Seasons of the Storm by Elle Cosimano—coming 23 June 2020: One cold, crisp night, Jack Sommers was faced with a choice—live forever according to the ancient, magical rules of Gaia, or die.

Jack chose to live, and in exchange, he became a Winter—an immortal physical embodiment of the season on Earth. Every year, he must hunt the Season who comes before him. Summer kills Spring. Autumn kills Summer. Winter kills Autumn. And Spring kills Winter.

Jack and Fleur, a Winter and a Spring, fall for each other against all odds. To be together, they'll have to escape the cycle that's been forcing them apart. But their creator won't let them go without a fight.

BOOKS TO LOOK OUT FOR: JUNE 2020



The Brave by James Bird—coming 30 June 2020: Collin can't help himself—he has a unique condition that finds him counting every letter spoken to him. It's a quirk that makes him a prime target for bullies, and a continual frustration to the adults around him, including his father.

When Collin asked to leave yet another school, his dad decides to send him to live in Minnesota with the mother he's never met. She is Ojibwe, and lives on a reservation. Collin arrives in Duluth with his loyal dog, Seven, and quickly finds his mom and his new home to be warm, welcoming, and accepting of his condition.

Collin's quirk is matched by that of his neighbor, Orenda, girl who lives mostly in her treehouse and believes she is turning into a butterfly. With Orenda's help, Collin works hard to overcome his challenges. His real test comes when he must step up for his new friend and trust his new family.

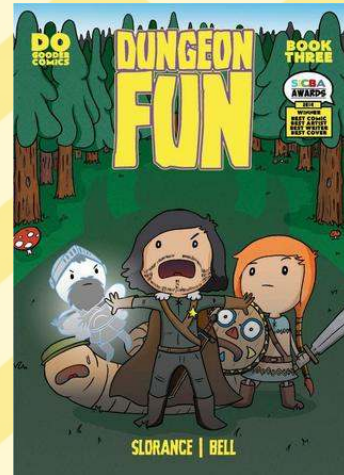
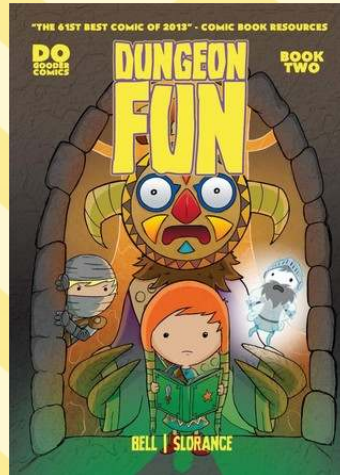
You Should See Me in a Crown by Leah Johnson—coming 2 June 2020: Liz Lighty has always believed she's too black, too poor, too awkward to shine in her small, rich, prom-obsessed midwestern town. But it's okay -- Liz has a plan that will get her out of Campbell, Indiana, forever: attend the uber-elite Pennington College, play in their world-famous orchestra, and become a doctor. But when the financial aid she was counting on unexpectedly falls through, Liz's plans come crashing down . . . until she's reminded of her school's scholarship for prom king and queen. There's nothing Liz wants to do less than endure a gauntlet of social media trolls, catty competitors, and humiliating public events, but despite her devastating fear of the spotlight she's willing to do whatever it takes to get to Pennington.

The only thing that makes it halfway bearable is the new girl in school, Mack. She's smart, funny, and just as much of an outsider as Liz. But Mack is also in the running for queen. Will falling for the competition keep Liz from her dreams . . . or make them come true?

A Declaration of the Rights of Magicians—coming 23 June 2020: It is the Age of Enlightenment -- of new and magical political movements, from the necromancer Robespierre calling for revolution in France to the weather mage Toussaint L'Ouverture leading the slaves of Haiti in their fight for freedom, to the bold new Prime Minister William Pitt weighing the legalization of magic amongst commoners in Britain and abolition throughout its colonies overseas.

But amidst all of the upheaval of the early modern world, there is an unknown force inciting all of human civilization into violent conflict. And it will require the combined efforts of revolutionaries, magicians, and abolitionists to unmask this hidden enemy before the whole world falls to darkness and chaos.

INTERVIEW WITH AN ILLUSTRATOR: NEIL SLORANCE



Can you tell us a bit about yourself and how you got into comics?

Of course! I'm Neil Slorance, I'm an illustrator and comic artist. I first got into comics when I was 5-6 and really loved The Beano, The Dandy and Spider-Man comics. I used to make my own comics at home too. When I was a bit older I took it a bit more seriously and started self publishing my own comics and the rest is history!

Was there a particular moment you just knew you *had* to do this for a living?

I can't pin point a specific moment but I guess I've always known from very early on I like being creative, and I like drawing and communicating through pictures. I was always much better at drawing than talking.

What type of issues do you engage with in your work?

In my own person work I like my stories to be kind of slice-of-life and have a focus on relationships and the world around us. I love making autobiographical comics and also travelogue comics from when I've been abroad.

How long does it take you to write a comic?

The actual writing of the comic might not take that long, of course you might come across road blocks along the way. For me, a small comic can take a few weeks to write but for the complete comic including all the drawing and colouring etc it can be a month or two. The Dungeon Fun graphic novel (which is written by Colin Bell) took two years to make.

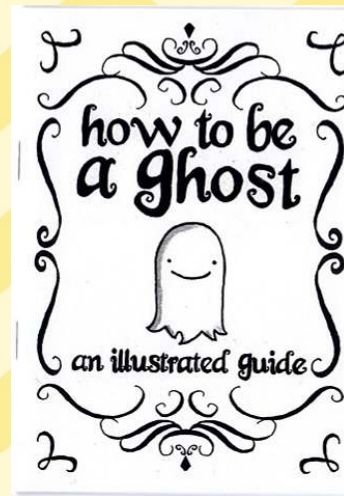
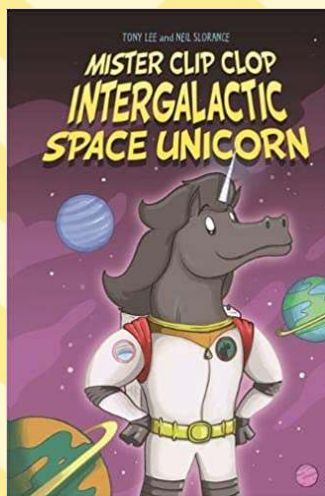
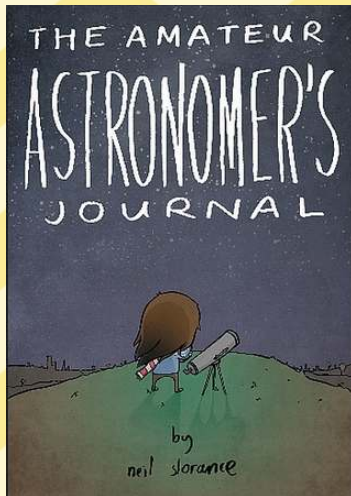
What was one of the most surprising things you learned by being a comic writer and illustrator?

I think one of the most surprising things for me is how much reach a comic can have. It still amazes me to see people making Dungeon Fun art or telling me it's their favourite book or that it was the first comic they've read. Another big surprise for me was also how long comics can take to make especially if you're making the comic on your own. I've heard of artists spending up to two weeks on a page!

How did you get published?

Getting published was a very gradual thing. I had been self publishing for about 10 years. Always printing and selling my comics and taking them into shops. I have a really good relationship with BHP who publish Dungeon Fun and also run comic cons. Me and Colin approached them with the possibility of publishing Dungeon Fun and fortunately they took it on.

INTERVIEW WITH AN ILLUSTRATOR: NEIL SLORENCE, CONTINUED



At school, did you get any encouragement to be creative?

A lot of my teachers were very encouraging, especially my art and music teachers. Some other teachers didn't like that I was drawing in my jotters a lot, but that's totally understandable as I probably should've been listening to them.

Was your artistic side something you felt you had to hide from peers?

Not at all. I think if you're really passionate about something you shouldn't be afraid to tell people about it. For me yes, I've gotten strange looks telling people I love comics and draw cartoons for a job but I guess the more it's talked about the less strange it'll become.

Did you use your school library?

I did yes, both my primary and secondary school libraries. Although I will say when I've been visiting libraries recently it's been amazing to see comic/manga/graphic novel sections. I never had that in my school and I'm pretty jealous!

What advice would you give your teenage self?

I'd say go easy on yourself. Try different things and don't be afraid to show you work, even if you're not proud of it.

What types of things influenced you when you were young?

I think like a lot of kids I really loved The Beano and Dandy. I also really loved video games and Spider-man, they were a huge influence on my early doodles.

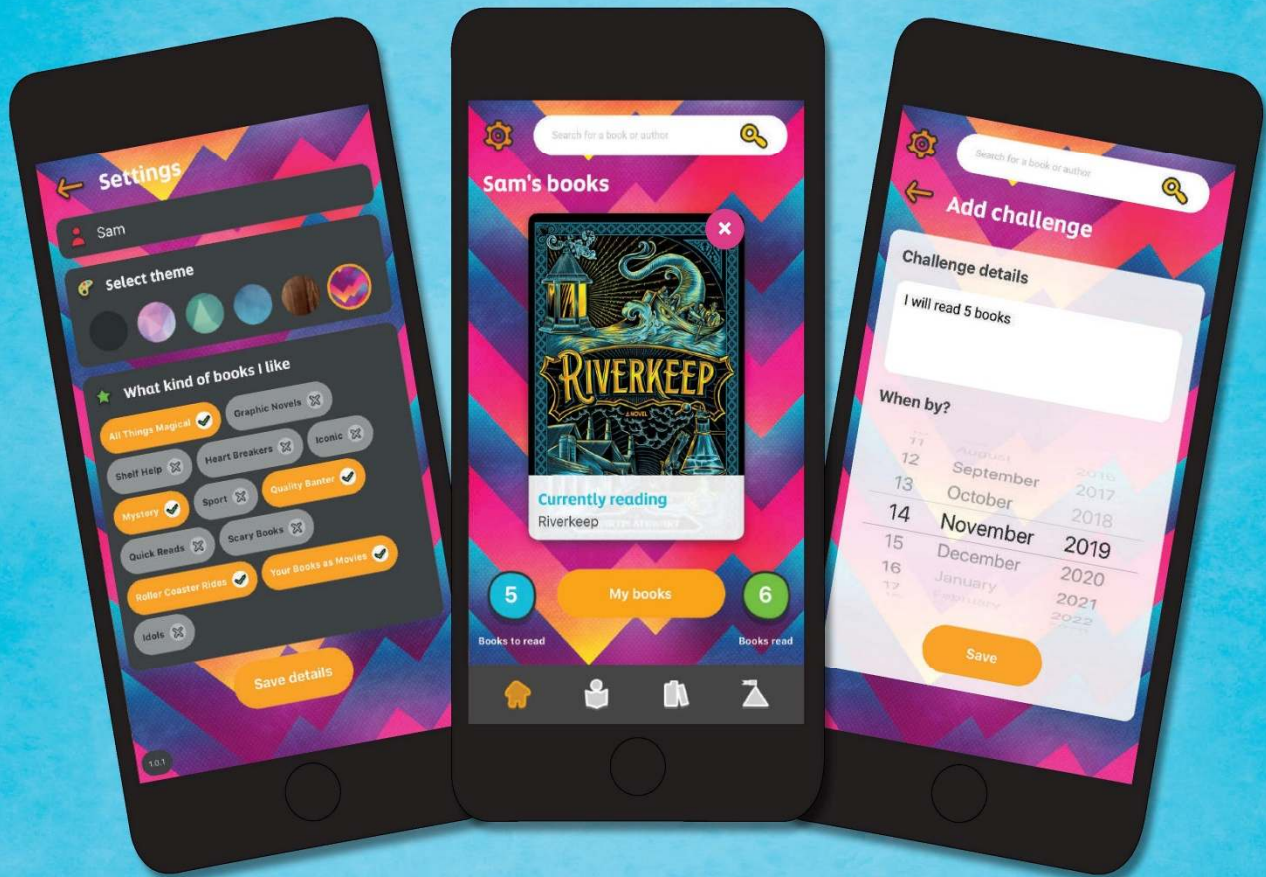
What's your favourite book/comic and why?

Two huge influences when I was taking my comics more seriously were 'Clumsy' by Jeffrey Brown and 'Jimmy Corrigan' by Chris Ware. They're both very different but they really showed me how comics could be human and tell everyday down to earth stories.

Describe a library in three words.

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