

# Lamont Books Standing Order

April 2012

SECONDARY TITLES

## The Industry

By Rose Foster

ISBN 9780732293307

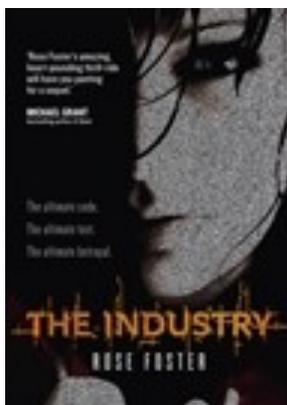
\$18.99

Kirra Hayward is an ordinary sixteen year old - smarter than most, but otherwise completely anonymous. When she stumbles across an unusual puzzle on the internet and manages to solve it, she has no idea of what she's letting herself in for.

Kidnapped by a shadowy organisation known only as The Industry, Kirra soon discovers how valuable her code-breaking skills are. And when she stubbornly refuses to help them, they decide to break her ... by any means at their disposal.

Kirra knows that to protect herself, she must trust no one, not even her fellow prisoner, Milo. But as time goes by she realises he might be the only person she can rely on ...

Publishers Blurb.



Kirra Howard is an over achiever - a Year 10 student studying Year 12 Maths. When a puzzle appears on an internet site she absently keys in the answer. An answer that sees her abducted from her street and immediately sent overseas by the strangely sinister, but all powerful, 'The Industry'. Much like our understanding of the Mafia, The Industry is a worldwide criminal organisation.

A recently invented Spencer Security System has seen The Industry's work stunted, but with Kirra's ability to crack the Spencer code as easily as reading, she is the most important person in their organisation.

Kirra is imprisoned, drugged and manipulated into assisting The Industry against her will. Can she ever escape back to her normal life in Sydney?

A pacy new series by an exciting young debut Melbourne author, Rose Foster.

Reviewed by Rob.

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## A Confusion of Princes

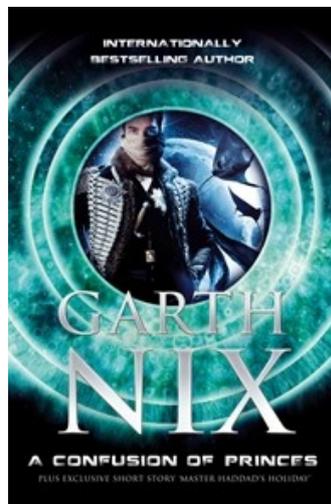
By Garth Nix

ISBN 9781741758610

\$22.99

I have died three times, and three times been reborn, though I am not yet twenty in the old earth years by which it is still the fashion to measure time. This is the story of my three deaths, and my life between. My name is Khemri.

Publishers Blurb.



A thoroughly entertaining and superbly written sci-fi adventure. Set in the distant future where some humans are enhanced and trained as Princes of the Empire. Should a Prince die and be deemed worthy, they will be reborn.

Which is just as well because when Khemri graduates from the academy, he soon discovers that there are millions of princes and they all want to kill each other. With the help of his Master of Assassins, Khemri sets out to survive as long as possible and see as much of the Galaxy as he can.

However, not all goes according to plan when he is sent to the far off outer edge of the Galaxy and meets Raine. Why is he so confused? Does Khemri want to be Emperor or does he want to stay with Raine?

Your seniors will love this coming of age story with a sci-fi twist.

Reviewed by Michelle.

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## 10 Futures

By Michael Pryor

ISBN 9781742753768

\$18.95

Sam and Tara are best friends in a future where artificial intelligence organises our lives, and micropets are the latest craze. Best friends when rationing means cold showers and no internet. Best friends when genetic matching makes asking a girl on a date a minefield of epic proportions. But will they still be best friends in a future when plague wipes out most of humanity? Or a future when the Inquisitor asks Sam to choose one betrayal over another? Michael Pryor, one of Australia's best authors of speculative fiction, imagines what our next 100 years might be like. Utopia or dystopia? Miracle or catastrophe? Whatever might happen, it's just around the corner. Which future will be yours?

Publishers Blurb.



Sam and Tara are best friends. In Michael Pryor's *10 Futures*, we experience what their futures may hold in totally different circumstances in 10 different short stories.

Each story portrays the future in a totally different light. With themes including cloning, artificial intelligence, over population and religious fundamentalism, we experience the highs and lows of what earth's future may hold.

Unashamedly written with the new Australian curriculum in mind, this book will easily lend itself to multiple uses with the Year 9 & 10 English programs. Included are more than 30 pages of teacher notes and activities to enable the many ideas to be properly explored within the above parameters.

Highly recommended for 12+ students.

Reviewed by Rob.

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## Revived

By Cat Patrick

ISBN 9781921690631

\$22.95

Daisy has died five times. She's a test subject for a government super drug called Revive, which brings people back from the dead. Each time she is revived, Daisy has to move cities and change her identity to avoid suspicion. Daisy has always gotten a thrill out of cheating death, but her latest move has come with unexpected complications: a new best friend, and a very cute new crush who is taking a special interest in her... As Daisy's attachment to her new home grows, she discovers secrets that could tear her world apart. And the more she learns, the more she feels like a lowly pawn in a sinister game. When the stakes are life and death, someone is going to get hurt.

Publishers Blurb.



Daisy is one of a large group of children who all die in a bus crash. They were brought back from the dead in a secret government test for a super drug called 'Revive'. Daisy has died five times and each time she is revived she has to move to a new town with a new name and start again.

This has never bothered her before, but this time she has a new best friend who has a very cute brother named Matt, who takes more than a passing interest in Daisy. When Daisy shares her secret with Matt, she also discovers some things about the government test which don't seem right. Who should get the right to decide who should live and die?

This is a great novel for both boys and girls and will stimulate a great deal of thought and discussion on life and death.

Reviewed by Michelle.

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## Love-Shy

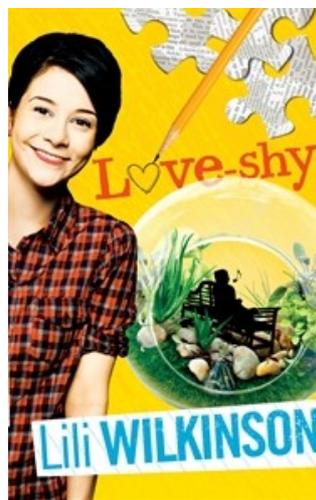
By Lili Wilkinson  
ISBN 9781742376233  
\$17.99

Penny Drummond aspires to be a journalist. A good one. A Pulitzer prize-winning journalist. In the meantime, she's honing her journalistic skills on the *East Glendale Secondary College Gazette*. When she discovers a boy at her school is posting anonymous messages on loveshy.com, Penny believes she has found just the story that will help make her name. Her mission: find him, fix him, feature-article him. Next stop: Pulitzer Prize.

But what will become of her 'journey of the soul' article if the love-shy boy is not who she expects? And what happens when Penny finds that *her* soul might be in need of a little attention as well?

*Love-Shy* is a lively, entertaining and warm-hearted romantic comedy filled with serious secrets, ambitious plans, awkward moments and unexpected friendships - funny and engaging to the very last page.

Publishers Blurb.



Penny Drummond would love to be a journalist. She just needs the right story to get noticed. When she stumbles across a boy at her school leaving messages on loveshy.com she sets out to find him and help him. Her plan is to write an article about how to fix a love-shy boy. In typical teenage fashion, not all goes to plan.

This is a great story that all teenagers will relate to. The characters in the book are wonderful and you find yourself laughing and crying with them. I thoroughly enjoyed this book and recommend it for your Year 9 and up students, both boys and girls.

Reviewed by Michelle.

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## Grace Beside Me

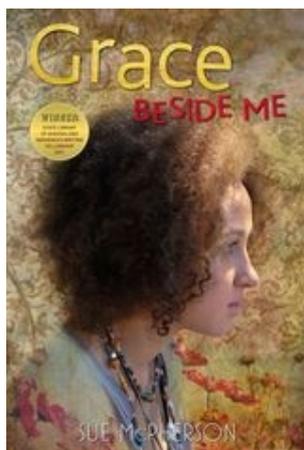
By Sue McPherson  
ISBN 9781921248498  
\$19.95

Life is not ordinary for Fuzzy Mac, but it should be. What could possibly be exciting about growing up with her Nan and Pop in a small country town?

Rivalry, romance, Nan's mysterious premonitions, an encounter with a particularly unusual kind of ghost and the mix characters who live in this high-country town make Fuzzy's life far from boring.

*Grace Beside Me* is packed full of timely wisdom, humour and down-to-earth advice, reminding us that, despite the difficulties of growing up, we are never alone on this journey.

Publishers Blurb.



When I first started reading this book, I wasn't sure that it was worthy of Standing Order selection, but the characters and the family in which this story is set just wouldn't let me put the book down.

Fuzzy is an Aboriginal girl being raised by her grandparents, Nan and Pop. The book is about a year in Fuzzy's life with lots of wonderful characters.

There is fascinating language, with lots of Aussie slang, which your students may find challenging and interesting.

This story also has a deep spiritual thread, with a combination of church and Aboriginal dreaming. There is also some political content regarding Sorry Day and Nan's reaction to it.

But above all else, this book is about joy and hope, and believing in your story and your family. I think all your students will relate to Fuzzy, and it wouldn't surprise me to see this book on the CBCA Short List.

We all need to have some 'Grace' beside us.

Reviewed by Michelle.

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## **Punchlines**

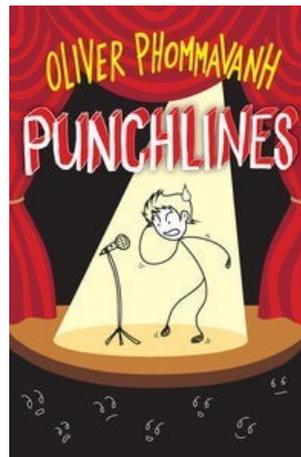
By Oliver Phommavanh  
ISBN 9780143306511  
\$16.95

**As long as you can make a girl laugh, she'll go for you, right?**

Well, unless you're a seriously weird teenager like Johnny Khamka. Surviving high school is hard enough, but how on earth can he get his childhood bestie, Josie, now a seriously hot teenager, to take him seriously? The answer is to keep her laughing. But when Johnny decides to take comedy seriously, he's suddenly at risk of not being funny at all.

From the talented and funny author of Thai-riffic! and Con-nerd comes another LOL story about surviving your teens.

Publishers Blurb.



Everyone student who reads this book will know someone like Johnny! Not real cool, not in with the 'in-crowd', but a good kid who just happens to have the knack of knowing how to make people laugh.

This story is about the life of typical teenage boys- surviving High School, issues with parents, hanging around with mates at KFC or Maccas, playing Xbox - and trying to find 'the girl'. But Johnny already has found 'his girl'. She just doesn't know it yet!

In fact, Josie and Johnny have been friends since they were kids. Their families are like family. And that's where it gets complicated. Josie has always laughed at Johnny's jokes, but when he takes his comedy routine one step too far, he puts their whole friendship and any possibility of a relationship in jeopardy. Can he prove to her how he really feels and still be the 'funny boy' that everyone loves?

It is full of humour and great characters, and Johnny's friendships with Jeffro & Razeal are a real highlight.

All secondary students will love and relate to this book.

Reviewed by Sam.