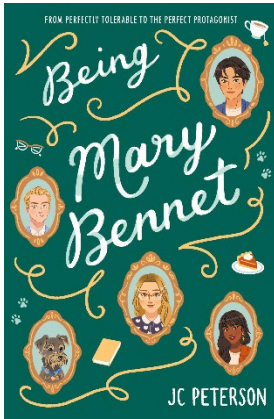


BOOKS FOR YOUNG ADULTS



***Being Mary Bennet* / J.C. Peterson 2023**

13 + years

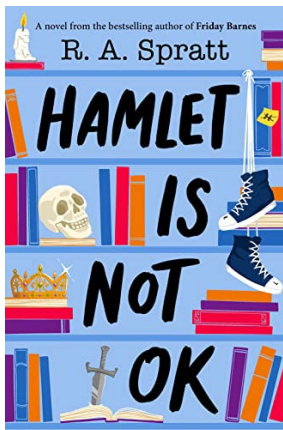
It is a truth universally acknowledged that every bookworm secretly wishes to be Lizzy Bennet from *Pride and Prejudice*. A less acknowledged truth is that Mary Bennet might be a better fit. For Marnie Barnes, realising she's a Mary Bennet is devastating. But she's determined to reinvent herself, so she enlists the help of her bubbly roommate and opens up to the world. And between new friends, a very cute boy, and a rescue pup named Sir Pat, Marnie finds herself on a path to becoming a new person entirely. But she's no Lizzy, or even Mary - instead, she's someone even better: just plain Marnie. With a hilariously sharp voice, a sweet and fulfilling romance that features a meet-cute in an animal shelter, and a big family that revels in causing big problems, this charming comedy of errors about a girl who resolves to become the main character of her own story (at any and all costs), is perfect for fans of Jenny Han and Becky Albertalli...and Jane Austen, of course.



***Gideon Green in Black and White* / Katie Henry 2023**

13 + years

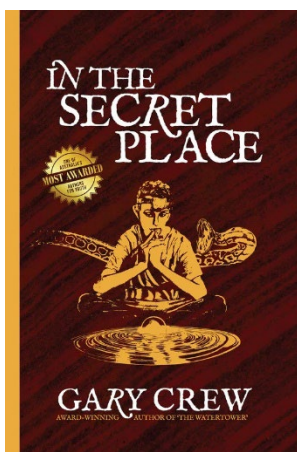
Gideon's short-lived run as a locally famous boy detective ended when middle school started, and everyone else - including his best friend, Lily - moved on while Gideon kept holding on to his trench coat, fedora, and his treasured film noir collection. Now he's sixteen and officially retired. That is, until Lily shows up suddenly at Gideon's door, needing his help. He might be mad at her for cutting him off with no explanation, but Gideon can't turn down a case. As a cover, Gideon joins Lily on the school paper. Surprisingly, he finds himself warming up to the welcoming, close-knit staff . . . especially Tess, the cute, witty editor-in-chief. But as the case gets bigger than Gideon or Lily could have anticipated, Gideon must balance his black-and-white quest for the truth with the full colours of real life-or risk a permanent fade to black.



***Hamlet is Not OK* / R. A. Spratt 2023**

13 + years

Selby hates homework. She would rather watch TV - anything to escape the tedium of school, her parents' bookshop and small-town busybodies. So Selby didn't plan to read *Hamlet*. She certainly never planned to meet him. This novel transports Selby, and the reader, into the cold and crime-ridden play itself. Here she meets Hamlet - heavy with grief, the young prince is overthinking and over everything. Selby can relate. But unlike Hamlet, Selby isn't afraid of making decisions. In her world, Selby is used to feeling overlooked. But in the bloody, backstabbing world of Shakespeare, Selby's good conscience and quiet courage might just save some lives... hopefully before Hamlet stabs one of her classmates...



***In the Secret Place* / Gary Crew 2023**

10-12 years

What does a teenage boy do when he has no friends? When everyone who knows him sneers. When he is laughed at to his face? The answer is simple. That boy chooses his own path. That boy makes his own way in life. That boy grows stronger. He finds his secret place and there - alone, in the dark - he grows even stronger. Ben Gardner is such a boy. Ben Gardner could be you.