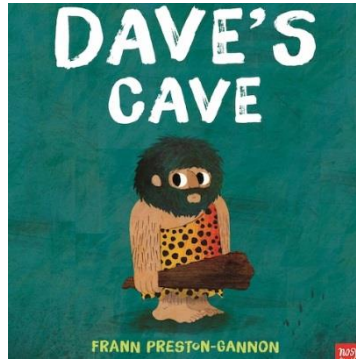


# Best children's books of 2016

## The Telegraph

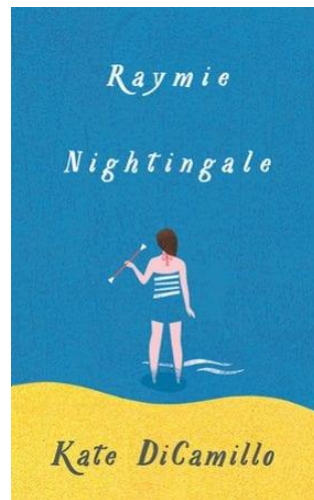
### 1) Dave's Cave by Frann Preston-Gannon

*A funny bedtime story about an upwardly mobile Neanderthal charms Tim Auld*



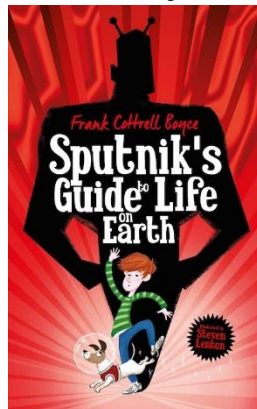
### 2) Raymie Nightingale by Kate DiCamillo

*Emily Bearn admires a sad tale of a young girl who wants to win back her absent father*



### 3) Sputnik's Guide to Life on Earth by Frank Cottrell Boyce

*Tim Auld enjoys a touching tale that imagines the Soviet space dog Laika survived*



### 4) Hour of the Bees by Lindsay Eagar

Dinah Hall is moved by a magical fable about a grandfather, bees and a 100-year drought



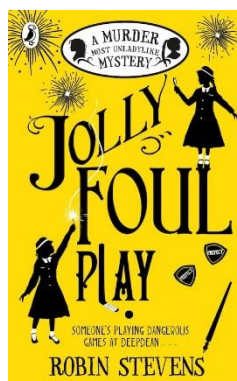
5) Lois Lane: Fallout by Gwenda Bond

Julia Llewellyn Smith admires a novel that recasts Lois Lane as an army brat



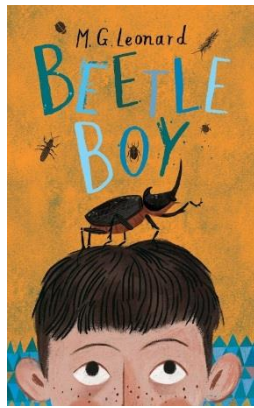
6) Jolly Foul Play by Robin Stevens

Dinah Hall applauds a boarding school mystery set in the 1930s but with a modern sensibility



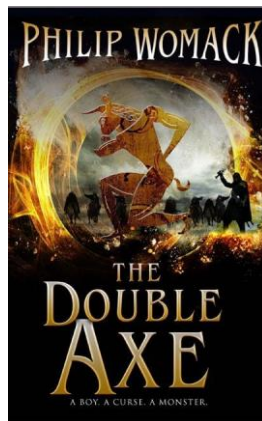
7) Beetle Boy by MG Leonard (Local author)

Emily Bearn is enchanted by a beautifully written tale about a boy and his insect sidekick



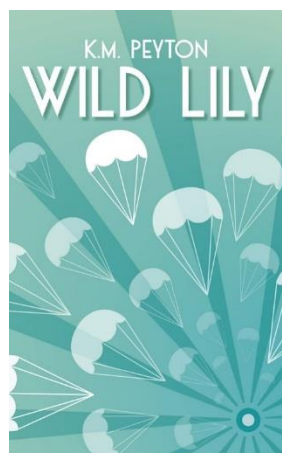
8) The Double Axe by Philip Womack

A tale of heroism breathes new life into the Minotaur myth, says Toby Clements



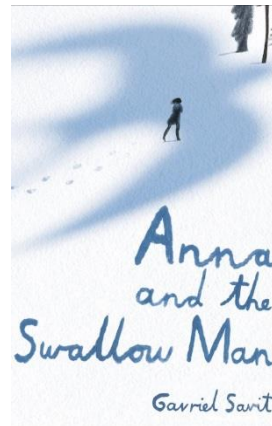
9) Wild Lily by KM Peyton

The author of the Flambards has written her best book yet, argues Emily Bearn



10) Anna and the Swallow Man by Gavriel Salvit

Emily Bearn admires a dramatic wartime novel about a girl's adventures with a fugitive



11) Romans on the Rampage: JAIL BREAK! by Jeremy Strong

Jeremy Strong's stories set in ancient Rome and sprinkled with Latin amuse Dinah Hall

