

You don't understand!

There cannot be a teenager on the planet that has not uttered these words – frequently followed by a door slamming and then a deathly silence.

Everyone, at some time, has trials in their life, but these seem intensified in your teenage years. And no wonder – your hormones are raging, your body changes dramatically and you discover the opposite sex.

The pressures start to build up at school too as parents and teachers want you to study, choose courses, take exams and even plan your future. You, on the other hand, want your freedom - to go out and enjoy yourself **now** - because this is supposed to be the best time of your life! If you do go out there is even more stress – how you look, are you too fat, too thin, too tall or too short, and are you a fashion setter or ..?

Your parents not only add to the stress in your life, but they, and other members of the family seem programmed to cause the most embarrassment. Just how awful is it when everyone else is staying at the party until – well, really late – and your Dad turns up to collect you at 10.30pm on the dot?

Of course not all of teenage life is about schoolwork and socialising. Many people are passionately involved in music and the arts, environmental and political issues. Whilst others find themselves, often through no fault of their own, in situations that no young person should have to experience.

Many authors depict life as a teenager, and we have a large number of these titles in the library at Calibre. Here is a selection

covering a wide range of issues, and if you enjoy these there are many more books in the library.

16424 AN (UN)ARRANGED MARRIAGE by Bali Rai

Manjit is just seventeen and on his way to a wedding in Derby - his wedding - arranged by his family, to a girl he has never seen. But Manny has decided that his family will not decide his name and his future life! Key stage 4

16165 ANGUS, THONGS AND FULL FRONTAL SNOGGING MP3 by Louise Rennison

Meet Georgia Nicolson, fourteen years old and full of teenage angst. Read her diary and you will howl with laughter. If you liked Bridget Jones you will love Georgia. DY Key stage 3 /4

15595 AT RISK MP3 by Alice Hoffman

As a result of a blood transfusion a young, gifted 11-year-old girl contracts AIDS. DY Key stage 3

16266 THE BREADWINNER MP3 by Deborah Ellis In

Afghanistan, Parvana's father has been arrested by the Taliban and by law the women cannot leave home alone. When the food runs out Parvana pretends to be a boy. It is dangerous but the only way to save the family. DY Key stage 3 /4

16389 BREAK POINT

by Rosie Rushton

Emily, pretty, bright and a genius at tennis, has it all. But when she is practising or stuck at tournaments her friends are partying, and now she decides that she wants more out of life. When she confronts her family her mother explodes, whilst her Gran tells her to follow her heart. How can she please everyone?

Key stage 4

16670 THE CATCHER IN THE RYE

MP3

by J D Salinger

Holden Caulfield, a 16-year-old American, is the original 'cynical adolescent'. With unusual candour he relates the story of a few days of his life just after he has been expelled from his prep school. First published in 1951, this book is just as edgy today.

Key stage 4

16399 THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE

MP3 NIGHT-TIME

by Mark Haddon

Fifteen-year-old Christopher suffers from Asperger's Syndrome, which makes it difficult for him to understand the world around him. When the dog next door is mysteriously killed with a garden fork, Christopher is intrigued and determines to solve the mystery. In doing so he also unravels messy secrets in his family.

DY Key stage 3 /4

15748 DEAR NOBODY

MP3

by Berlie Doherty

Helen and Chris, in their final year at school, have to face an unknown future when Helen becomes pregnant.

DY Key stage 4

15904 THE DOOR FROM NOWHERE

MP3

by Jay Ashton

Simon's world is shattered by the discovery that he is adopted. He decides to run away to Wales to track down his real mother.

DY Key stage 3

15784 FALLING INTO GLORY

MP3

by Robert Westall

Seventeen-year-old schoolboy's love and infatuation for his female teacher.

DY Key stage 4

16376 FOR MARITSA WITH LOVE

by Enid Richemont

A gypsy girl begging on the Paris Metro, Maritsa has heard all the threats and insults before. She dreams of entering a different world and turns her back on her gypsy family when she falls in with a young couple who offer her a screen test. Far from being the start she wants, Maritsa is drawn into a dark, seedy underworld.

Key stage 3 /4

16548 THE FORESHADOWING

by Marcus Sedgwick

Seventeen-year-old Sasha's gift of being able to see into the future shows her the horrors of the battlefields of the First World War, and worst of all the fate of her two brothers, Edgar and Tom. Sasha is forced to flee from her over-protective parents to become a nurse at the front. There she tries to change the path of fate.

Key stage 4

15187 GOGGLE-EYES

MP3

by Anne Fine

Helen is not pleased at her mother's intended remarriage, particularly to the man she calls 'goggle-eyes'.

DY Key stage 3

16166 HOLES

MP3

by Louis Sachar

Through a miscarriage of justice, Stanley is sent to a juvenile detention centre where the boys have to dig a very large hole each day. Suspecting that the Warden is lying, Stanley decides to dig up the truth about the holes!

DY Key stage 4

15900 LOVING APRIL

MP3

by Melvin Burgess

Set in the 1920s, a moving love story of two young people from very different backgrounds. Tom, who lives in poverty since his father deserted the family, and April, a deaf and dumb girl, regarded as retarded by the villagers.

DY Key stage 4

16253 MATES, DATES AND INFLATABLE BRAS

MP3

by Cathy Hopkins

Lucy is fourteen and life is too complicated. Her teachers want her to choose her GCSE subjects, but how can she? Everyone else knows what they want to do, why can't Lucy?

DY Key stage 3 /4

16377 NOUGHTS AND CROSSES

by Malorie Blackman

Callum is a nought, a second class citizen in a world run by Crosses. Sephy is a cross, the daughter of a powerful man. The two meet and eventually fall in love but a life together is a hopeless dream that is about to become a horrifying nightmare.

Key stage 3 /4

16173 POSTCARDS FROM NO MAN'S LAND

by Aiden Chambers

Teenager Jacob Todd takes his grandmother's place at the commemoration of the Battle of Arnhem where his grandfather died. In Amsterdam alone he learns secrets about his grandfather, and is also forced to confront issues of today, including euthanasia.

Key stage 3 /4

16423 REALITY BITES BACK! by Caroline Plaisted

Cassie Lang is nearly sixteen, and all the magazines, TV and films tell her that this is the time of her life, and that she should be doing everything. But she isn't, so where has she gone wrong? When she goes out on her first date, she's read all the magazines and knows just what to expect but reality is different!

Key stage 4

15929 ROLL OF THUNDER, HEAR MY CRY

MP3

by Mildred Taylor

Mississippi in the 1930s is a harsh place for a young black girl. Cassie learns the truth of the bitter situation.

DY Key stage 3

15188 THE SECRET DIARY OF ADRIAN MOLE AGED 13¾
MP3 by Sue Townsend

Adrian Mole is a worrier. He is dogged by spots, cracks in his parents' marriage and misfortunes familiar to anyone over the age of 13. A 14 year old feminist, an 89 year old chain smoker and his spoilt best friend all help to lift Mole's moods.

DY Key stage 3 /4

16283 WRECKED
MP3

by Robert Swindells

Dennis and his friends are dreading their GCSE results, they did all their revision with a can of lager in one hand. Mark didn't even show up for the exams. Now all the lies will be found out as their lives spiral out of control. DY Key stage 3 /4

16350 XY – A TOOLKIT FOR LIFE

by Matt Whyman

For a teenage boy life is full of possibilities, temptations and choices. You need the facts, here they are. Sex, body changes, drink, drugs, the works. No preaching, no agenda. It's a toolkit for life, your life.

Key stage 4

16310 A YEAR DOWN YONDER by Richard Peck

In 1937 Mary Alice is sent from Chicago to spend a year in the country with scary Grandma Dowdel. She soon becomes Grandma's partner in crime as they help out their friends and take care of their enemies. Gradually Mary Alice realises she has more in common with Grandma than she thought.

Key Stage 3

15789 ZLATA'S DIARY

MP3

by Zlata Filipovic

Zlata was 11 years old when she wrote about her life in Sarajevo and the dramatic changes brought about by war.

DY Key stage 3

Christine Ronaldson