

The Tulip Touch Anne Fine

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The More the Merrier

Rosie can't believe her friends don't want birthday parties this year. No ice cream. No presents wrapped in sparkly paper and no fancy cakes with candles. Can Rosie make them change their minds?

Ivan the Terrible

Funny story for young readers about a boy's attempts to choose with whom he should stay with while his mum is having a baby. Read aloud or 6 yrs+

Flour Babies

Let it be flour babies. Let chaos reign. When the annual school science fair comes round, Mr Cartwright's class don't get to work on the Soap Factory, the Maggot Farm or the Exploding Custard Tins. To their intense disgust they get the Flour Babies - sweet little six-pound bags of flour that must be cared for at all times.

Flour Babies

Lovers, colleagues, family - Tilly has always been brilliant at pushing people in and out of her life exactly as it suits her. Then along comes Geoffrey, gentle, compassionate, generous to a fault, with his miserable little children and his manipulative ex-wife. Tilly's own expertise in the arts of deception and avoidance should be enough to make sure she's always one step ahead of Geoffrey's disastrous, crumbling family. But time and again she finds herself staying, brought down by their cowardly backsliding and their barefaced lies. How has she managed to stay so long in a relationship she knows perfectly well has to be doomed? More importantly, how can Tilly plan her permanent escape?

Raking the Ashes

From the first day of their friendship, Natalie falls under the spell of bad-girl Tulip--telling lies to classmates, talking back to teachers, and playing evil tricks on people--but when Natalie tries to get away from the menace, she knows that Tulip will get the ultimate revenge.

Up on Cloud Nine

Ian's best friend, Stolly, is up on cloud nine. He's in the hospital, unconscious, and hooked up to machines. The question Ian is trying to answer is: How did Stolly end up there? In a way, Stolly's always been on cloud nine, living life by his own rules and making those rules up as he goes along. His parents' careers have them constantly rushing around, so Ian's family has all but adopted Stolly. That's why it's up to Ian to figure out what happened to his best friend. But once the pieces start coming together, the answer doesn't seem to make any sense.

Things We Have in Common

Tells of a strange and disturbing friendship, seen through the eyes of Natalie, as she gets to know Tulip Pierce, a delinquent girl most others go out of their way to avoid. This work explores the dark side of a friendship bordering on obsession, and depicts one girl's gradual decline into hostility and violence. Ages 10-13.

Nag Club

Little Hetty dreams of being a glow-worm instead of a boring old grey worm. She wants a light of her own so she can glow and light up the dark places. All the better to read after lights-out! So off Hetty sets, determined to get a glow of her very own. But will any of the people who live in the forest actually be able to help her achieve her dream?

Scaredy Cat

A classic children's book from best-loved Bill's New Frock author, former Children's Laureate Anne Fine. Perfect for readers aged between 7 and 9 and fans of The Midnight Gang and Pamela Butchart's Wigglesbottom Primary series. It's Ivan's first day at his new school, and Boris is told to look after him, and translate for him, because Ivan can only speak Russian. After all, St Edmund's is a civilized school. Only problem is, Ivan isn't civilized. So when Ivan starts greeting people as 'lowly shivering worms', and asking for words in English like 'crush' and 'mutilate', Boris realises that he's going to have his work cut out for him. And that's just the start of the day . . . Anne Fine's fun school stories have been delighting children for more than 20 years, winning her awards such as the Smarties Book Award and Carnegie Medal along the way.

A Pack of Liars

Presents a collection of stories about a boy named Jamie, and his stuffed animal named Angus.

Under a Silver Moon

"Playing together in the palace gardens, Haroun, the Sultan's son, and Akil, the gardener's son, are inseparable - until the day comes for haroun to learn how to be a proper prince"--Back cover.

The Devil Walks

Everyone loves the wickedly dry sense of humour of *The Diary of a Killer Cat* by Anne Fine. Okay, Okay. So hang me. I killed the bird. For pity's sake, I'm a cat. Poor Ellie is horrified when Tuffy drags a dead bird into the house. Then a mouse. But Tuffy can't understand what all the fuss is about. Who on earth will be the next victim to arrive through the cat-flap? Can soft-hearted Ellie manage to get her beloved pet to change his wild, wild ways before he ends up in even deeper trouble? The hilarious antics of Tuffy and his family as told by the killer cat himself. 'Anne Fine knows how to make readers laugh' Guardian Anne Fine has written numerous highly acclaimed and prize-winning books for children and adults. *The Tulip Touch* won the Whitbread Children's Book of the Year Award; *Goggle-Eyes* won the Guardian Children's Fiction Award and the Carnegie Medal; *Flour Babies* won the Carnegie Medal and the Whitbread Children's Book of the Year; and *Bill's New Frock* won a Smarties Prize. Anne Fine was named Children's Laureate in 2001 and was awarded an OBE in 2003.

The Haunting of Pip Parker

'I don't think my mum's fit to be a parent, really I don't.' How would you feel if your mother had royal-blue hair and wore lavender fishnet tights? But Minna's whole family (including her mum's punk boyfriend, Crusher Maggot) is a bit unusual. Being the only sensible one is not easy for Minna

Goggle-Eyes

'I am NOT going to Charm School . . . ' But Bonny has no choice. Forced to spend a day at Charm School while her mother is on a course, Bonny makes some surprising and hilarious discoveries. Can Bonny cope with listening to Mrs Opalene's Helpful Handy Hits (like 'how to bleach your elbows!')? And what about the other girls - the awful, self-obsessed little princesses who really want to win the 'Glistening Tiara' and are prepared to do almost anything to get it? After Bonny's day there, Charm School will never be the same again . . .

Step by Wicked Step

It's war in the Flowers household. Will's sister Estelle has turned overnight into a screaming, screeching, banshee whose moods explode throughout the household. Mum and Dad have surrendered. Inspired by an author visit to his school, Will decides to keep a record of his life on the front line

The Tulip Touch

Anne Fine's extraordinary talent as a storyteller is wonderfully displayed in this new collection of nine short stories. The stories cover everything from romance to philosophy, with ghostly apparitions and crocheting footballers.

The Country Pancake

A Christmas quiz brings out some hidden truths for the Montfield family.

Crummy Mummy and Me

'I adore stories in which people have weird dreams, and strange things happen. But that's in books. Real life is supposed to be real, and I like my world to be solid around me . . . ' Mel is the class bookworm. She prefers books to people and doesn't want - or need - friends. She certainly doesn't want to be first-week minder for new girl, Imogen. And Imogen is odd. Slowly, Mel discovers that Imogen has a special talent - a family 'gift' that Mel thinks is more like a curse. And that's when she realizes that stories can happen in real life, too. For only she can stop Imogen's private horror story - stop the bad dreams . . .

Frozen Billy

Kitty Killin is not only a good storyteller, but also the World's Greatest Expert when it comes to mothers having new and unwanted boyfriends. Particularly when there's a danger they might turn into new and unwanted stepfathers

Madame Doubtfire

The author of Madame Doubtfire, How to write really badly, The Tulip touch, and many others discusses her childhood and family, schooldays, work, and career as a writer. Includes an overview of her books. Suggested level: primary, intermediate, junior secondary.

Little Gems: The Gingerbread Star

Calling herself Lady Melody Estelle Priscilla Hermione Irwin, Laura weaves a fantastic tissue of lies about herself to her dull penpal. But she soon finds she's not the only one capable of deception.

The Jamie and Angus Stories

'I hate Frozen Billy - his painted, staring wooden eyes, the way his eyelids click when Uncle Len pulls a string, his long thin legs and his bright red wooden mouth . . . ' Clarrie and Will live with their Uncle Len - a brilliant ventriloquist in the nearby music hall. But though Len loves his act almost as much as he loves his beer, Top Billing is out of his grasp until Will thinks up a way to double the drama with a new act and some extraordinary new patter that he and Frozen Billy can share on stage. It's a grand idea, hatched in hope and excitement. But, to Clarrie's horror, soon it begins to turn terribly sour . . . Anne Fine's novel combines her trademark humour, engaging characters and flawless prose to produce a spooky adventure set in the late-Victorian world of the music hall.

The True Story of Christmas

Twelve-year-old Barney Willow gets his wish to be a cat but soon discovers that not all felines are cute and cuddly--some are downright evil--and his life is in grave danger, but his missing father may be able to help.

Notso Hotso

Daniel is raised as an invalid in isolation by his mother until the day she is removed to an asylum and Daniel is taken to live with the doctor's family. Soon Daniel begins to uncover secrets about his mother's dark family history, and a sinister doll seems to be at the centre of the mystery. First person recount. Suggested level: intermediate, secondary.

The Party Club

Told who to cheer for, who to believe in, Yuri grows up in a country where no freedom of thought is encouraged - where even one's neighbours are encouraged to report any dissension to the authorities. But it is still a shock when a few careless words lead him to a virtual death-sentence - sent on a nightmare journey up north to a camp amidst the frozen wastes. What, or who, can he possibly believe in now? Can he even survive? And is escape possible . . . ?

Bad Dreams

Anna is thrown into a panic at school when the teacher announces that each member of the class must do a five-minute show on Monday morning. Everyone except Anna seems to have ideas but Anna can't think of anything to do. She worries all through the weekend and no one at home is helpful.

The Diary of a Killer Cat

Charm School

One stormy night, five stranded schoolchildren uncover the story of Richard Clayton Harwick – a boy who many years ago learned what it was like to have a truly wicked stepfather. But the children have stories of their own step-parents to tell – stories that have warmth and humour, as well as sadness, and a fair share of happy endings. ‘For children who have some similar experience, this novel will be therapeutic; for those who haven’t it’s an absorbing read, to make them laugh and cry’ Sunday Telegraph.

Only a Show

Lancelot's teacher Miss Mirabelle is amazing, but her daydreaming and her green high-heels have not endeared her to the school head. He worries about her terribly. And now she's told the head a giant whopper about her secret idea to raise money at the school Open Day. Lance thinks desperately for an idea to save Miss Mirabelle from having to admit they're empty-handed, and he comes up trumps. As part of the plan, the class have to divide the school pitch into a thousand equal squares, each one marked with a numbered lolly stick, an exercise which delights the head for a change. When the big day dawns Flossie the cow, obliges by choosing a winning square on which to deposit her very own country pancake. It's a huge success and Miss Mirabelle is saved from the wrath of the head. Lance, on the other hand, is disgusted to see that she takes all the credit for herself

To Be a Cat

The Chicken Gave it to Me

“[A] perfectly orchestrated girl-who-cried-wolf thriller.”—The New York Times Book Review A dark, utterly compulsive novel about what happens when the warped imagination of a teenage girl turns into reality... When fifteen-year-old Yasmin—obese, obsessive and deemed a freak by her peers—sees a sinister man watching Alice Taylor from the school fence, she becomes convinced he’s planning to take her. After all, who wouldn’t want the popular and perfect Alice? Then Yasmin realizes if she can find out who he is before he acts, she’ll be the only one who can tell the police, save Alice and become Alice’s heroine. But as Yasmin discovers more about this man, her affections begin to shift. Perhaps she was wrong about him. Perhaps she doesn’t need Alice after all... And then Alice vanishes.

Stranger Danger?

Lydia, Christopher and Natalie are used to domestic turmoil. Their parents' divorce has not made family life any easier in either home. The children bounce to and fro between their volatile mother, Miranda, and Daniel, their out-of-work actor father. Then Miranda advertises for a cleaning lady who will supervise the children after school - and Daniel gets the job, disguised as Madame Doubtfire. This is a bittersweet, touching and extremely funny book.

Very Different and Other Stories

Joe learnt his safety rules about speaking to strangers, but he soon realizes that rules aren't everything - you have to use your common sense as well. The author also wrote Goggle Eyes, Madame Doubtfire which was shortlisted for the Observer Teenage Fiction Award and A Pack of Liars.

The Tulip Touch

Boggle hats are the latest thing. Everybody at school wants one - but only Lola actually has one. So she decides to form a club to show the other children how best to nag their parents into buying them one. However, the children get mixed results.

Care of Henry

Lots of children find it difficult to sleep on Christmas Eve, because they are excited, but Pip Parker is scared. Every night she's been lying awake watching the skull shape gleaming from her wall. Why is it haunting her?

The Road of Bones

Christmas comes but once a year. Luckily . . . The Christmas holiday is, traditionally, a time when families gather together. In Ralph's case this means ten or more relatives coming to stay, including assorted aunts and uncles, nutty Great-Aunt Ida (the Home tells them to be careful not to let her out) and

his ghastly cousins: Titania in her silly, sick-making frilly fairy dresses and the twins Sylvester and Sylvia (it took until Easter last year before the family dog got over them). Jammed into one small house for three days of merriment and family fun, with the tv on the blink and Mum on the verge of a breakdown, it soon becomes obvious that, in this house, more definitely does not mean merrier . . .

An Interview with Anne Fine

Flour Babies by Anne Fine, won the Carnegie Medal and the Whitbread Children's Book Award in 1992. When the annual school science fair comes round, Mr Cartwright's class don't get to work on the Soap Factory, the Maggot Farm or the Exploding Custard Tins. To their intense disgust they get the Flour Babies - sweet little six-pound bags of flour that must be cared for at all times. Hilariously funny, Flour Babies is a brilliant depiction of secondary school life.

The Tulip Touch

Nobody wants Tulip in their gang. She skives off school, cheeks the teachers and makes herself unpopular with her classmates by telling awful lies. None of this matters to Natalie who finds Tulip exciting. At first she doesn't care that other people are upset and unnerved by Tulip's bizarre games, but as the games become increasingly sinister and dangerous, Natalie realises that Tulip is going too far. Much too far. Racing, in fact, to the novel's shocking ending.

Keep it in the Family

It's a dog's life for Anthony. Not only is he lacking the respect he deserves from the neighbourhood dogs and cats, but suddenly all he can do is scratch, scratch, scratch. And now bits of him are dropping off - yeuch! Just when Anthony thinks things can't get any worse, he finds himself on the vet's table. What she has in mind is about to destroy the tiny shred of street cred he has left

The Book of the Banshee

A classic children's story from one of our best-loved authors, former Children's Laureate Anne Fine. Gemma doesn't believe a chicken could have written a book - chickens can't even read! But here in front of them is *The True Story of Harrowing Farm*, and its scratchy pages definitely look, well, chickeny. It is an epic tale of cruelty and bravery, the story of a chicken who flies frillions of miles, reaching the heights of intergalactic superstardom, to try to save us humans . . . Anne Fine's fun school stories have been delighting children for more than 20 years, winning her awards such as the Smarties Book Award and Carnegie Medal along the way.

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