

Piccadilly
PRESS

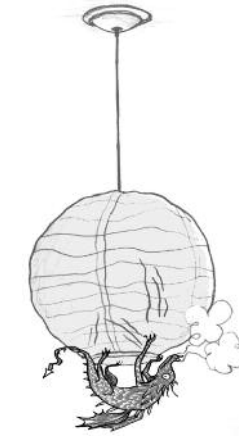
HOT
KEY
BOOKS



RIGHTS GUIDE

Autumn
2017





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Robert Muchamore **KILLER T**

Publication: September 2018

WORLD RIGHTS

Extent: 416pp

Film Rights: The Artists Partnership

ROBERT MUCHAMORE worked as a private investigator for thirteen years before becoming a full-time writer. He has written the global bestselling series *CHERUB* and YA series *HENDERSON'S BOYS* and *ROCK WARS*. *KILLER T* is his first stand-alone novel.



Our world is about to change in ways we can barely imagine. Two teenagers will have to be ready for anything in order to survive.

Charlie (Charlotte) is a geeky, science genius from the dregs of society who is unfairly sent to jail for designing a bomb. Harry is a talented aspiring journalist, whose ambition and morals don't always run on the same track. Misfits of society in their own ways, the two are dangerously and irresistibly drawn together at a time when gene-editing technology is starting to explode.

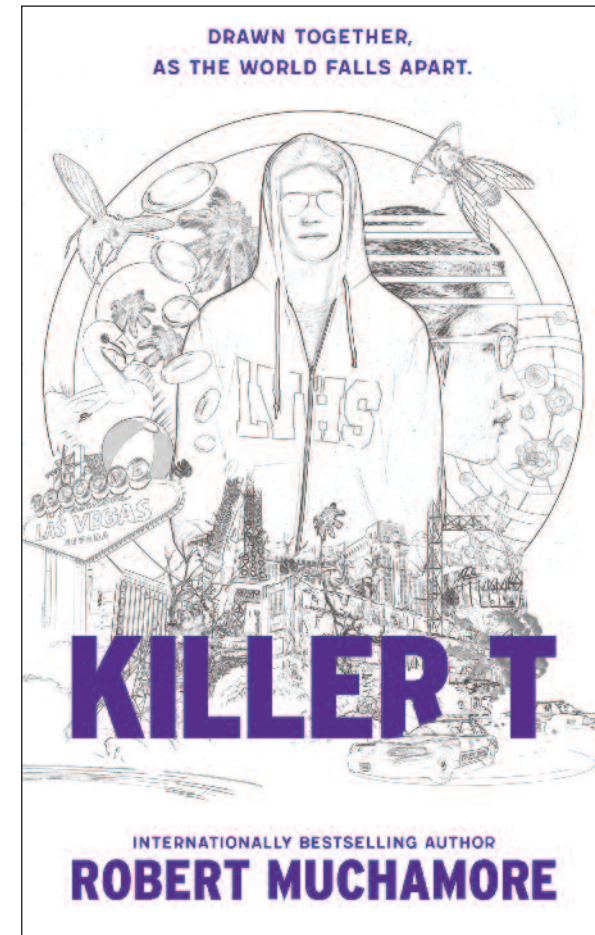
Now, with a lab in the garage, anyone can beat cancer, enhance their brain to pass exams, or tweak a few genes for a year-round tan and perfect beach body. But in the wrong hands, gene editing is the most deadly weapon in history.

Killer T is a synthetic virus with a ninety per cent mortality rate, and the terrorists who created it want a billion dollars before they'll release an antidote . . .

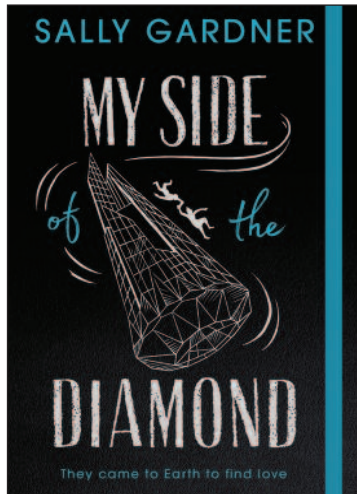
Spanning ten years and asking profound (often terrifying) questions, *KILLER T* is an unsentimental love story, a rollercoaster tale of human resilience, and most of all a novel for our times.

Epic, bold, uncompromising, this is master storyteller Muchamore as you have never seen him before.

CHERUB series:
12.5 million copies sold
Translated in 24 languages
#1 Bestseller in 8 countries



Sally Gardner

MY SIDE OF THE DIAMOND

Publication: October 2017

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: Turkey

Extent: 224pp

SALLY GARDNER has sold over 2 million copies in the UK and won several book awards, including the Costa Children's Book Prize and the Carnegie Medal for *MAGGOT MOON* (translated into twenty-three languages).

A startling, complex tale of friendship, loss and extraordinary love by the multi-award-winning author of *MAGGOT MOON*.

Jaz has been tormented ever since the day her best friend Becky disappeared. Jaz was quickly dismissed as an unreliable witness, her version of events too crazy.

Becky was inseparable from her black Moleskine notebook, where she obsessively wrote her stories, marvels of an imagination which was not of this world. Then she fell in love with an eerily ever-youthful man named Icarus. One day they had climbed the tallest building in London and jumped off . . . their bodies were never found.

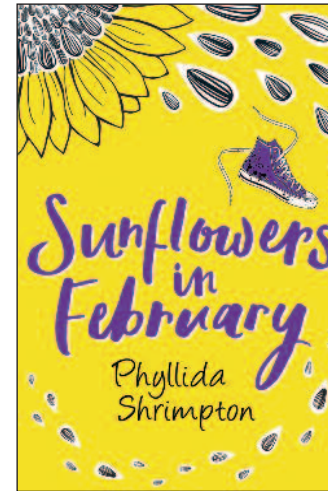
What on (or off) earth happened? Was Becky's disappearance something to do with Jaz? Or is the truth more disturbing and other-wordly than anyone would like to believe?

With echoes of *THE HUMANS* and delivered with stunning immediacy, this is an ambitious, memorable story about the power of love from the most unexpected points of view by an author who defines her own genre.

'Sally Gardner is quite possibly my favourite children's author of all time. Her poetic prose and seemingly effortless ability to flit from genre to genre never ceases to astonish me.'

– **INDEPENDENT**

Phyllida Shrimpton

SUNFLOWERS IN FEBRUARY

Publication: February 2018

WORLD RIGHTS

Extent: 352pp

PHYLLIDA SHRIMPTON is a teacher and an artist.

The saddest and funniest novel you will read this year.

Teenage Lily wakes up on the side of the road one crisp Sunday morning. She has no idea how she got there but all is peaceful, and in fact very beautiful. Until a police car, and then an ambulance arrive, and she sees her own body. Suddenly it hits her that she is in fact . . . dead. But what is she supposed to do now? Lily has no option but to follow her lifeless body and helplessly observe her parents and her twin brother Ben fall apart.

Then one night Ben gives her a once in a death-time opportunity – to use his own body for a while. Lily is now in the body of a fifteen-year-old boy and the awkwardness of the experience is mindboggling. In no time she starts to really enjoy being Ben and ultimately being alive again . . . But she really needs to find why she is stuck in this limbo in order to give her brother his body back. The trouble is, she is really not at all sure if she wants to 'move on' . . .

A moving story of death and a wryly funny body-swap tale: perfect for fans of JOHN GREEN and *THE LOVELY BONES*.

'I'd call it a triumph absolutely . . . Lily's voice carries through more than one life, and leaps from the page fully formed. Funny, tough, smart and infuriating; her voice demands to be heard even from beyond the grave . . .' – **MATTHEW CROW**, author of *IN BLOOM*

M.A. Bennett
S.T.A.G.S.



Publication: August 2017

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, Netherlands, Poland, Russia, Serbia, Spain, Turkey, USA
 Extent: 304pp

MARINA FIORATO, writing as M. A. Bennett, is half Venetian and was raised in the Yorkshire Dales. She is a history graduate of Oxford University and the University of Venice where she specialised in the study of Shakespeare's plays as a historical source. She has worked as an illustrator, actress and film reviewer. She has also designed tour visuals for rock bands including U2 and The Rolling Stones.

There are some invitations you just shouldn't accept. Greer MacDonald doesn't know that. Yet.

It is the autumn term and Greer MacDonald is struggling to settle into the sixth form at the exclusive St Aidan the Great boarding school, known to its privileged pupils as S.T.A.G.S.

Just when she despairs of making friends, Greer receives a mysterious invitation with three words embossed upon on it: *huntin' shootin' fishin'*. When Greer learns that the invitation is to spend the half-term weekend at the country manor of Henry de Warlencourt, the most popular and wealthy boy at S.T.A.G.S., she is as surprised as she is flattered.

But when Greer joins the other chosen few at the ancient and sprawling Longcross Hall, she realises that Henry's parents are not at home; the only adults present are a cohort of eerily compliant servants.

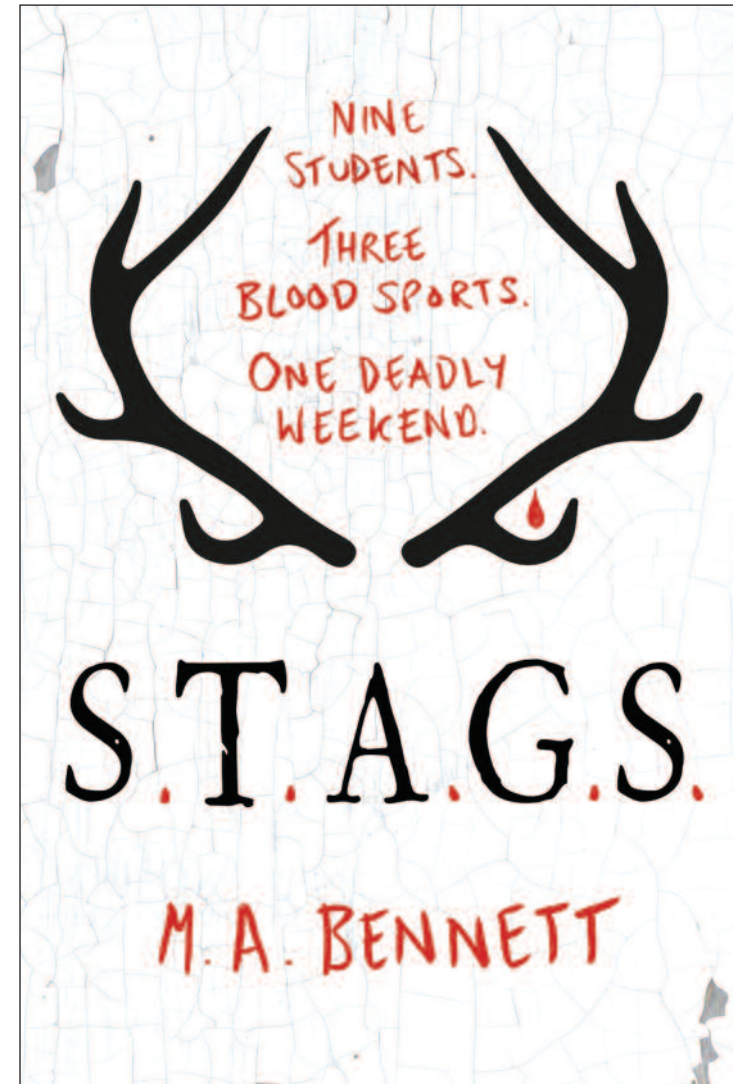
Over the next three days Greer comes to the horrifying realisation that those being hunted are not wild game, but the very misfits Henry has brought with him from school...

Part *BATTLE ROYALE*, part *GET OUT*, perfect for fans of *THE HUNGER GAMES* and *LOOKING FOR ALASKA*.

'This is a darkly compelling examination of the allure of privilege, and the unscrupulous means by which it preserves itself.'

– **GUARDIAN**

FILM RIGHTS TO FOX 2000/CHERNIN ENTERTAINMENT



Sebastien de Castell

SPELLSLINGER

SPELLSLINGER, SHADOWBLACK, CHARMCASTER, SOULBINDER, QUEENSLAYER, CROWNBREAKER

Publication: May 2017–May 2020

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: Czech Republic,

Denmark, France, Germany, Israel, Italy,

Netherlands, Poland, Turkey

Extent: Extent: 416pp / 352pp

SEBASTIEN DE CASTELL is smart and funny and Canadian. He also happens to be a bit of a whizz with a fencing foil.



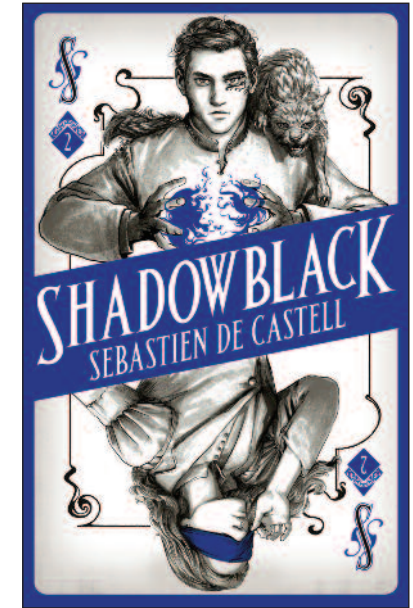
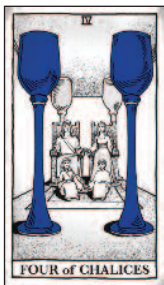
Magic, mayhem, myth and intrigue ... and a cocky talking squirrel cat.

Fifteen-year-old Kellen is moments away from facing his first mage's duel and the start of four trials that will make him a spellcaster. There's just one problem: his magic is gone.

When you're a Jan'Tep initiate approaching your sixteenth birthday, you'd better be ready to prove your worth as a mage. Either that or have a miracle on the way to avoid being relegated among the Sha'Tep servants. And Kellen isn't counting on either. So when the sassy, straight-talking Ferius Parfax arrives in town and offers to help, Kellen is all ears. She can't teach him to spark his bands and access the seven magics, but with the hand that Kellen's been dealt, he needs all the help he can get ...

Will Kellen find his path in life even if that means leaving his family behind and becoming an outcast? And what will happen when his greatest fear becomes true and the Shadowblack plague starts to creep up on him?

A compelling six-book fantasy series packed with wise-cracking humour, larger-than-life characters and non-stop action.



'Magic with a wild west flavour, served with flair ...'
FINANCIALTIMES

'It has cliffhangers, pace, humour, life lessons, and a memorably feisty squirrel cat ...'
SUNDAYTIMES

'Compelling, filmic storytelling in the first of a new fantasy series ...'
BOOKSELLER

'There's room for wit and playfulness amid the high-stakes duels and death matches, and Kellen's career is likely to run and run.'
OBSERVER

'This is one of the best young-adult novels I've seen in a long time – larky, clever and slick.'
LITERARY REVIEW

'The first book in a beautifully refreshing young adult series ... Sebastien de Castell treats the reader to short punchy chapters that make it easy to read "just one more" time after time ... there is a clever message here which hopefully will strike a chord.'
SCI-FI NOW

Julie Mayhew

THE ELECTRICAL VENUS

Publication: April 2018

WORLD RIGHTS

Extent: 304pp

JULIE MAYHEW is the author of *RED INK* (shortlisted for the 2014 Branford Boase Award), the critically acclaimed *THE BIG LIE*, set in an imagined contemporary Nazi England, and *MOTHER TONGUE*.

THE MINIATURIST meets **THE NIGHT CIRCUS**.

In a lowly side-show fair in eighteenth-century England, teenager Mim is struggling to find her worth as an act. Not white, but not black enough to be truly exotic, Mim knows her pet parrot who speaks four languages is a bigger draw than her. But Alex, the one-armed boxer boy, sees her differently. And she, too, feels newly interested in him.

But then Dr Fox arrives with his scientific kit for producing 'electricity' – feats of electrical magic these bawdy audiences have never seen before. To complete his act, Fox chooses Mim to play the 'Electrical Venus'. Her popularity – and the electric-shocking kisses she can provide for a penny – mean takings are up, slop is off the menu and this spark between her and Fox must surely be love.

But is this starring role her true worth, or is love worth more than a penny for an electrifying kiss?

A heady and atmospheric coming-of-age story set in the grime and glitter of a travelling show during the height of the Georgian Enlightenment.

Praise for THE BIG LIE:

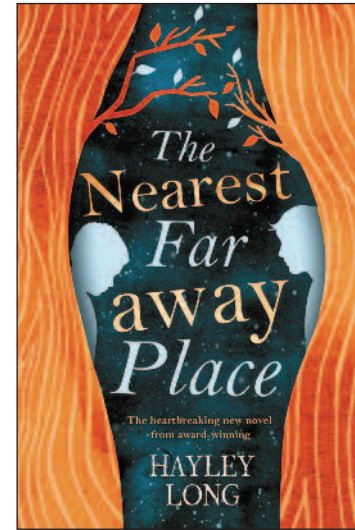
'A genius idea, executed flawlessly.' – **RED**

'A thought-provoking and chilling coming-of-age novel exploring loyalty, love and morals.'

– **BOOKSELLER**

'A powerful coming-of-age story, *THE BIG LIE* deftly takes on the big guns of dystopia, including sexism, feminism, sexuality, loyalty, propaganda, freedom and protest.' – **STYLIST**

Hayley Long

THE NEAREST FARAWAY PLACE

Publication: July 2017

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: China, France, Germany, Netherlands, Mexico, Spain, Turkey

Extent: 320pp

HAYLEY LONG has published two previous books with Hot Key: *SOPHIE SOMEONE*, shortlisted for the Costa Children's Book Award 2015, and a non-fiction title, *BEING A GIRL*.

A warm, moving and memorable tale about two brothers dealing with grief – with a twist.

Griff and Dylan are returning from a holiday with their parents, about to cross into Manhattan.

And then there is a terrible car accident. Dylan and Griff's parents are killed. The boys are suddenly orphans with nowhere to go until a kind aunt and uncle give them a new home in Wales. Now Dylan and Griff have everything they need – love, a happy home and future. But Dylan is worried about Griff: whether he is OK, how he is coping with the terrible loss. He doesn't seem to speak about it or really acknowledge it. And Dylan has something else that he needs to come to terms with too.

'A thought-provoking, sensitive tale of the different stages of grief and healing ... poignant, heart-warming tale of brotherly love.'

– **SOUTH WALES EVENING POST**

'The best tear-jerkers are often novels where pain goes hand-in-hand with humour, and Hayley Long's *THE NEAREST FARAWAY PLACE* offers up a superb example ...' – **IRISH TIMES**

'Heartbreaking and heart-warming. A welcome and important addition to teen literature.' – **READING ZONE**

'As I turned the final page, tears streaming down my face... A beautiful, lyrical story of love and brotherhood and loss and moving on.'

– **MUCH ADO ABOUT BOOKS**



Kerry Drewery

CELL 7**CELL 7 / DAY 7 / FINAL 7**

Publication: September 2016 / June 2017 /
January 2018

WORLD RIGHTS

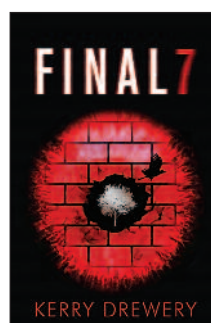
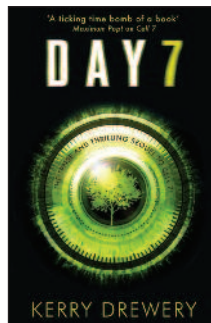
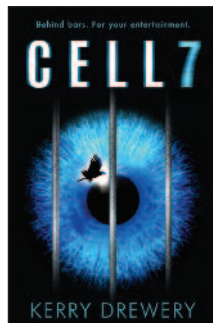
Rights sold: Brazil, Bulgaria, Denmark,
France, Germany, Hungary, Korea, Latvia,
Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Turkey,
Taiwan

Extent: 400pp / 448pp / 464pp

KERRY DREWERY is the author
of two highly acclaimed YA novels:
A BRIGHTER FEAR and *A DREAM
OF LIGHTS*.

‘This powerful thriller oozes
suspense and offers a sharp satire
on media and celebrity’
– **BOOKSELLER**

‘A ticking time bomb of a book,
and you’re counting down to an
electrifying end’ – **MAXIMUM POP!**

**Should she live? You decide.**

Sixteen-year-old Martha Honeydew from the disadvantaged Rises estate is the youngest murder suspect to be tried in the popular *Death is Justice*, the only TV show that gives the power of life and death to the general public. Nothing could be more democratic or fair – or could it?

Martha has admitted to the crime. But is she guilty? Or is reality more complicated than the images we are shown on TV? Her secret lover Isaac is the only one who might be able to save her, but not without sacrificing his own life.

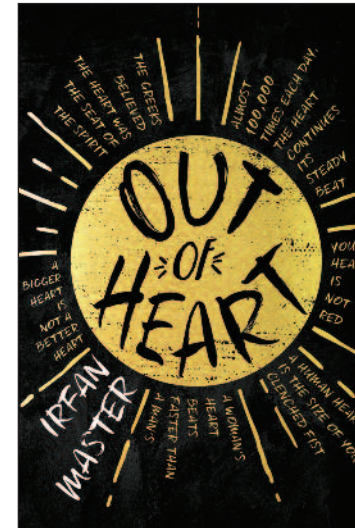
With corruption seeping into the TV show, and Trump-like walls going up in the real world, will the star-crossed lovers ever be reunited and win their fight for a better world?

Praise and nominations for DAY 7:

CRIMEFEST BEST YA CRIME 2017

‘An adrenaline-packed roller coaster of a novel.’
– **SUN**

Irfan Master

OUT OF HEART

Publication: April 2017

WORLD RIGHTS

Extent: 272pp

IRFAN MASTER's first novel, *A BEAUTIFUL LIE*, was shortlisted for the *Waterstones Children's Book Prize 2011* and nominated for the *Branford Boase Award 2012*, as well as a slew of regional awards. It also featured on the 2013 *USBBY Outstanding International Book Honor List*.

**Donating your heart is the most precious gift of all.**

Adam is a teenage boy who lives with his mum and younger sister. His dad has left but lives close by. His sister no longer speaks and his mum works two jobs. Adam feels the weight of the world upon his shoulders.

Then Adam's grandfather dies and in doing so he donates a very precious gift – his heart. William is the recipient of Adam's grandfather's heart. He has no family and feels rootless and alone. In fact, he feels no particular reason to live. And then he meets Adam's family. William has received much, but it appears that he has much to offer Adam and his family too.

A powerful tale of love and strength in adversity.

‘Cleverly constructed and thought provoking coming of age story, rich in metaphor, offering the reader much to reflect upon’
– **GUARDIAN**

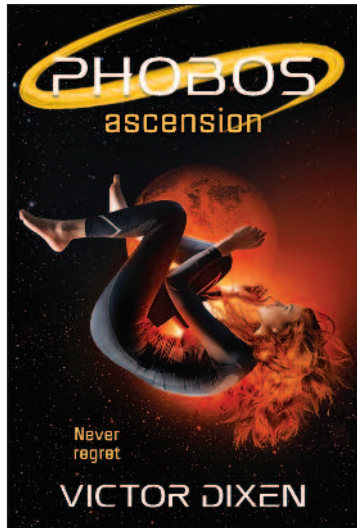
‘Lyrical and moving, this is an intimate picture of a small family coming to terms with their past and learning to fight for their future’
– **SCOTSMAN**

‘Thoughtfully conceived and beautifully executed.’ – **ANNA PARERA**, author of *GUANTANAMO BOY*

‘A novel of exquisite artistry and contemporary storytelling’ – **NUDGE MAGAZINE**

Victor Dixen PHOBOS

ASCENSION / COLLISION / DISTORTION



Publication: February 2018 / May 2018 / August 2018

US RIGHTS

Extent: 384pp

VICTOR DIXEN is the author of three series for children and teenagers: THE STRANGE CASE OF JACK SPARK, ANIMALE and PHOBOS. He twice won the Grand Prix de l'Imaginaire, the most prestigious science-fiction and fantasy award in France. His father is Danish and his mother is French, and as a child he travelled throughout Europe. He lives in New York with his family and two inquisitive cats.

A one-way ticket to Mars and six minutes to choose your partner for life.

Six girls, six boys. Each in the two separate bays of a single spaceship. They have six minutes each week to seduce and to make their choices, under the unblinking eye of the on-board cameras. They are the contenders in the Genesis programme, the world's craziest speed-dating show ever, aimed at creating the first human colony on Mars.

Leonor, an eighteen-year-old orphan, is one of the chosen ones.

She has signed up for glory.
She has signed up for love.
She has signed up for a one-way ticket.
Even if the dream turns to a nightmare, it is too late for regrets?

Originally published in French.

'A bloodcurdling plot . . . a captivating YA novel' – *L'EST REPUBLICAIN*

'A new addictive trilogy by a very promising author' – *METRONEWS*



Debi Gliori NIGHT SHIFT

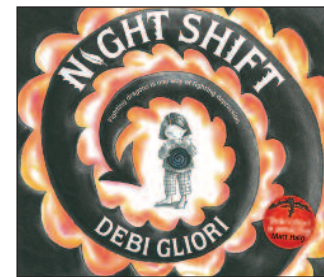
Publication: PB May 2018

WORLD RIGHTS

Extent: 32pp

Rights sold: Netherlands, US

DEBI GLIORI is a children's books writer and illustrator who has been shortlisted for all the major prizes (including the Kate Greenaway Award – twice) and the Scottish Arts Council Award.



'I don't know when it began. Perhaps it drifted in at night like fog.'

A powerful, moving picture book for all ages offering an insight into depression that words often struggle to reach.

'Debi Gliori is amazing . . . She makes visible the invisible. And I for one want to thank her for that' – *MATT HAIG*

'Beautiful, brave and poetic . . . books like this are immensely important, so that children, teenagers and adults going through similar night journeys through the fog of illness can feel they are not alone in their struggles. The spread where "something shifted" and the depression lifts, is moving beyond words.'
– *CRESSIDA COWELL*

'I cannot recommend this beautiful picture book about depression highly enough. It's a masterpiece' – *DAVID WALLIAMS*

'It's uniquely personal, but equally, speaks to all – whether or not they've ever found themselves in thrall to this terrible illness'
– *JILL R. BENNETT, RED READING HUB*

'The most empathetically written and illustrated book on depression. Everyone should read it, whether depression has a grasp on you, or not!' – *PICTURE BOOKS BLOGGER*

'An instantly relatable picture book' – *STYLIST*

Rutendo Tavengerwei

HOPE IS OUR ONLY WING

Publication: May 2018

WORLD RIGHTS

Extent: 208pp

RUTENDO NOMSA TAVENGERWEI

lived and studied in Zimbabwe until the age of eighteen. She then continued her studies in South Africa and Switzerland. She is currently carrying out an internship at the World Trade Organization in Geneva.

An extraordinary debut novel about hope – and its power to heal a family, a friendship or even a nation.

For fifteen-year-old Shamiso, struggling with grief and bewilderment following her father's death, hope is nothing but a leap into darkness. For Tanyaradzwa, whose life has been turned upside down by a fearful diagnosis, hope is the only reason to keep fighting.

As the two of them form an unlikely friendship, Shamiso begins to confront her terrible fear of loss. In getting close to another person, particularly someone who's ill, isn't she just opening herself up to more pain? And underpinning it all – what did happen to her father, the night of the fateful car crash?

Delicately weaving themes of corruption in contemporary Zimbabwe and bringing to life its sights, smells, faraway beauty, this unforgettable novel takes an honest look at hope, and the grit and courage it takes to hang on to it.

'The trees in the distance whispered to her. The sky painted the frame of the mountains in dim yellow and thick red. She could see a lot from here. Her grandmother's farm lay on top of a plateau, surrounded by a host of banana trees and overlooking the valley where the fields were.

The land had been allocated to her during the land reformation process. The valley beamed with life, generous in colour and soaking up the water that flowed from a ravine close by. It was remarkable how in this dry weather little corners of heaven still hid in the country.'



Andy Lane
A.W.O.L.
 AGENT WITHOUT LICENCE

Publication: July 2018–January 2019
 WORLD RIGHTS
 Rights sold: Germany
 Extent: 288pp

ANDREW LANE is the author of the YOUNG SHERLOCK HOLMES series, which has been published in forty-four countries and of three adult crime novels. Before becoming a writer, Andrew worked for twenty-seven years for the Ministry of Defence on the fringes of the intelligence and counter-terrorism communities. He has also worked on the popular BBC TV programme DOCTOR WHO.

A rollicking four-book series with high-octane adventure, great James Bond settings, mind-blowing gadgets and lots of chasing and explosions ...

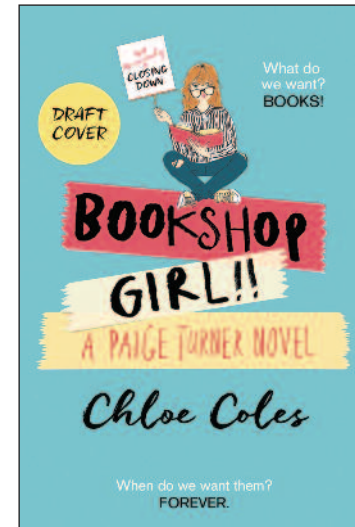
Kieron and his friend Sam are shocked to see a man kidnapped in a Newcastle shopping centre right in front of their eyes. The boys quickly realise that the kidnapped man left something behind in the scuffle – an earpiece and glasses. Kieron puts them on and realises he sees not what is in front of him, but a busy, tourist city, somewhere very hot – Mumbai ...

Kieron has accidentally stumbled upon the undercover world of Rebecca 'Bex' Wilson – a freelance agent working for the British Secret Intelligence Service. And without her handler Bradley (the man who was kidnapped), Bex is in trouble. She doesn't know which of her usual contacts she can trust, and, like it or not, she is going to have to use teenage Kieron to get her out of danger. Before Kieron and Sam know it, they are part of a mission to stop a Weapon of Mass Destruction from falling into the wrong hands ...

'Don't worry, I am not supposed to be here either' – James Bond



Chloe Coles
BOOKSHOP GIRL
 A BOOKSHOP GIRL, A BESTIE AND ONE SERIOUSLY BAD FRINGE ...



Publication: June 2018 / September 2018
 WORLD RIGHTS
 Extent: 224pp

Originally from Northampton, CHLOE COLES studied Illustration at Cambridge School of Art before moving to London. She has worked in bookselling since the age of sixteen and she is now a Children's Specialist and Assistant Buyer at Foyles Charing Cross Road. All of her hair is her own. People ask her about that. A lot.

What do we want? BOOKS! When do we want them? FOREVER.

Bennett's Bookshop has always been a haven for sixteen-year-old Paige Turner. It's a place where she can escape from her sleepy hometown, hang out with her best friend, Holly, and also earn some money.

But, like so many bookshops, Bennett's has become a 'casualty of the high street' – it's strapped for cash and going to be torn down. Paige is determined to save it, but mobilising a small town like Greysworth is no mean feat. Time is ticking – but that's not the only problem Paige faces. How is she going to fend off the attractions of beautiful fellow artist, Blaine? And, more importantly, will his anarchist ways make or break her bookshop campaign?

Holly Bourne meets *ANGUS, THONGS AND FULL-FRONTAL SNOGGING* in this hilarious tale of female friendship, bookshops and fighting for a cause. The first in a laugh-out-loud sparky two-book teen series.



Jess Vallance

GRACIE DART: MY LIFE AND OTHER AWKWARD SITUATIONS



Publication: April 2018 / August 2018 /
February 2019

WORLD RIGHTS

Extent: 192pp

JESS VALLANCE works as a freelance writer specialising in educational materials and has written articles on everything from business accounting to embalming a body. Her YA novels for Hot Key Books are BIRDY and THE YELLOW ROOM. BIRDY has just been optioned for film.

Cringe and blush . . . but never hide.

Gracie Dart is your classically studious, responsible, clearheaded, career-focused girl. The sort of girl whose exam revision timetable is fully colour-coded and always triple-checked. But now GCSEs are behind her – and suddenly Gracie starts thinking WHAT IS THE POINT? And then she accidentally thinks she is dying of some terminal illness (the perils of believing all you read on Google).

One super embarrassing A&E visit later (no, Gracie, you are not dying of some fatal skin disease, you've simply overdone it with the fake-bake lotion), Gracie starts to rethink her life. And when she decides to do something, just like her fully colour-coded revision timetable, Gracie does nothing by half measures. Gracie Dart is about to live it large . . .

A thoughtful exploration of the meaning of life? Well, no . . . It's actually an exuberant, witty, hilarious three-book series about the trials and embarrassing life of an unforgettable character.

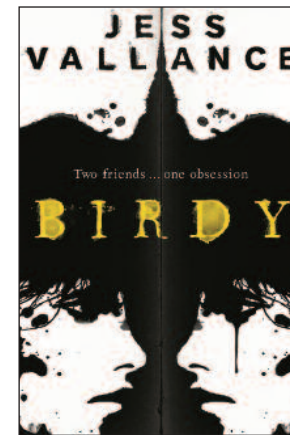


BIRDY

A deliciously dark, haunting teen novel about friendship and obsession.

Frances Bird has been a loner for so long that she's given up on ever finding real friendship. But when she meets eccentric, talkative Alberta the two strangely click immediately, and it's not long before they are inseparable. But as Frances finds out more about her new best friend – her past, her secrets, her plans for the future – she starts to realise that perhaps it is all just too good to be true . . .

FILM RIGHTS SOLD TO LOOP PRODUCTIONS.



Publication: July 2015

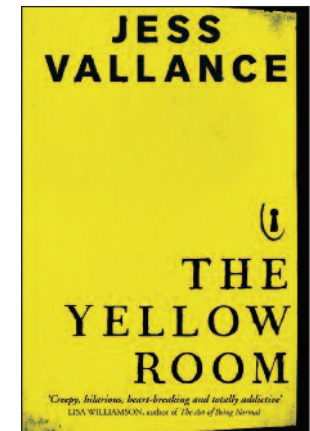
Extent: 272pp

Rights sold: Spain

THE YELLOW ROOM

Sixteen-year-old Anna lives with her ambitious, unemotional scientist mother. One day she receives a letter from her estranged father's current girlfriend, Edie, with some shocking news: her father has died. Anna is warned by everyone to steer away from Edie. But Anna is drawn to her: her warmth, her character, her ability to rustle up delicious meals . . . and the way she can tell Edie the secret that is buried inside her; that she cannot bring herself to tell her mother or her best friends.

'Creepy, , heart-breaking and totally addictive'
– Lisa Williamson, author of *THE ART OF BEING NORMAL*



Publication: July 2016

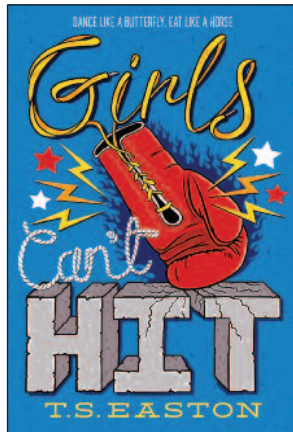
Extent: 272pp

Rights sold: Israel

T.S. Easton



'Boxing, battle re-enactments. Why do you girls choose such dangerous activities?' Mum groaned. 'Because we can, Mum,' I said, pouring her a fresh cup of tea. 'Because we can.'



Publication: April 2017

Extent: 304pp

Rights sold: France, Poland, US

GIRLS CAN'T HIT

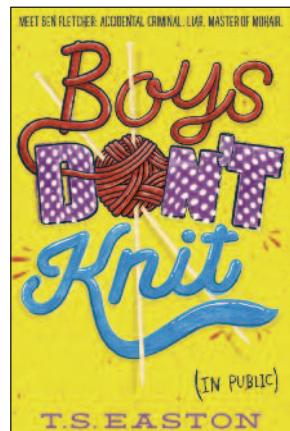
A brilliant, hilarious celebration of girl power.

Fleur Waters never takes anything seriously – until she turns up at her local boxing club one day, just to prove a point. She's the only girl there, and the warm-up alone is exhausting . . . but the workout gives her an escape from home and school, and when she lands her first uppercut on a punching bag she feels a rare glow of satisfaction. Fleur's overprotective mum can't abide the idea of her entering a boxing ring, her friends don't get it either and even her boyfriend, 'Prince' George, seems concerned by her growing muscles and appetite – but it's Fleur's body, Fleur's life. When she finally makes it into the ring Fleur realises that sometimes in life it's better to drop your guard and take a wild swing!

BOYS DON'T KNIT

When Ben Fletcher is threatened with the Young Offenders unit following an unfortunate incident with a lollipop lady and a stolen wine bottle from Waitrose (all a big misunderstanding of course), he jumps at the chance to take up community work instead. The hot teacher he likes runs a knitting group so Ben gets 'stuck in'. To his surprise, Ben finds that he likes knitting and that he has a mean competitive streak. If he can just keep it all a secret from his mates . . . and notice that the girl of his dreams, girl-next-door Megan Hooper has a bit of a thing for him . . .

Perfect for fans of *THE INBETWEENERS* – it'll have you in stitches!



Publication: January 2014

Rights sold: France, Germany,

Poland, Spain (Galician)

Bear Grylls | Illustrator: Emma McCann BEAR GRYLLS ADVENTURES

Publication: March 2017–2019

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: China, Greece, US

Extent: 128pp

BEAR GRYLLS got the taste for adventure at a young age and has become known around the world as one of the most recognised faces of survival and outdoor adventure. Among other exploits he has led expeditions to the Arctic and Antarctic, crossed oceans, set world records and shared his survival skills with people all over the worlds – even President Barack Obama. His TV shows *MAN VS WILD* and *BORN SURVIVOR* are two of the most watched programmes on the planet, with audiences estimated at 1.2 billion, and he is an internationally bestselling author. His live arena spectacular, *ENDEAVOUR*, launched in the UK this year and saw Bear recreate some of the greatest moments of human exploration ever. Global tour dates are to come . . .

In the wild you're stronger together!

A thrilling twelve-book fiction series about adventure and survival skills from survival expert and chief Scout Bear Grylls. Each episode follows a different child on an outdoor activity camp. At night the protagonists are handed a magical compass which suddenly transports them to the wildest corners of the world. There they meet Bear Grylls, from whom they learn new skills and facts that will inspire them and help them both on their adventure and in real life.

'Great motivational reads that remind children to take responsibility for their own actions, and attitudes. The stories are well paced and nicely illustrated, great for those aged 7+ who are developing confidence as readers.'

– **READING ZONE**



Jay Jay BurrIDGE
SUPERSAURS

**RAPTORS OF PARADISE / THE STEGOSORCERER /
 CASH KINGSLEY'S RODEO / THE SECRET ORDER
 OF THE SAURS / THE LAST SPINOSAURI /
 THE STYRACO CIRCUS**

Publication: September 2017–February 2020

WORLD RIGHTS

Extent: 352pp

Rights sold: Catalan, China, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Turkey

JAY JAY BURRIDGE studied Fine Art Sculpture at Central Saint Martin's College of Art and Design. For his degree show he made a 40-foot, self-assembled dinosaur skeleton out of MDF. In 1994 he took over writing and co-presenting the TV show SMART for the BBC. In the summer of 2010 he returned to his favourite subject of dinosaurs and exhibited his supersaurs sculptures in a one-man show in Beverly Hills, LA. Along with chef Jamie Oliver, he created the Dinosaur Diner pop-up, in Piccadilly Circus. Jay lives in Oxfordshire with his family and a life-sized triceratops called Trevor.

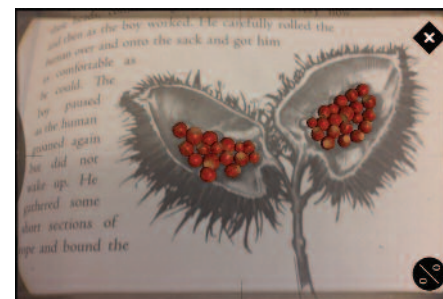
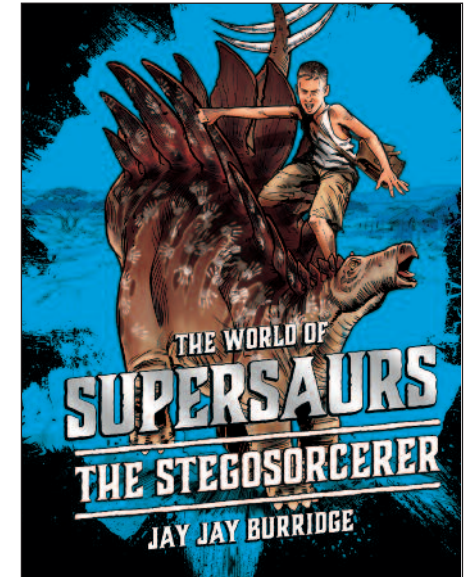
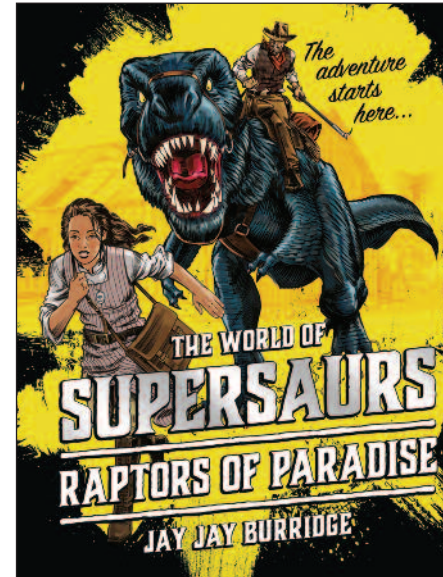
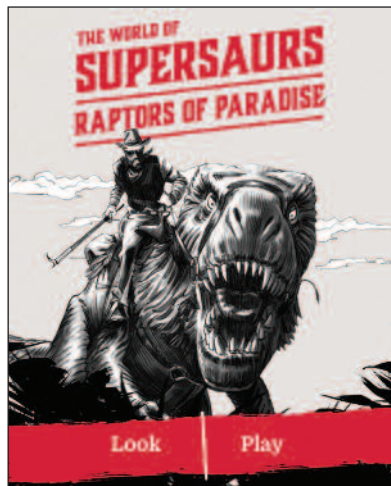


What if dinosaurs had never died out and lived alongside humans? Welcome to the world of SUPERSAURS.

This is the world that Bea Kingsley lives in. She is the daughter of explorer parents who went missing when she was just a baby. So when her grandmother suddenly takes her on a trip to the remote Indonesian islands of Aru, Bea starts asking some big questions. But the more questions Bea asks, the more trouble she and her grandmother find themselves in. Was the journey to the islands a big mistake?

THE ADVENTURE STARTS HERE ...

RAPTORS OF PARADISE is the launch of a major new six-book series for readers aged 8+, illustrated throughout with black-and-white artwork.



Jon Claydon and Tim Lawler

THE STIG**THE STIG PLAYS A DANGEROUS GAME / THE STIG DRIVES AGAIN / THE STIG AND SOMETHING WICKED / THE STIG AND THE SILVER GHOST**

Publication: March 2018 – September 2018

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: Czech Republic

Extent: 272pp

JON CLAYDON and TIM LAWLER's collaboration began at university in Edinburgh where they wrote sell-out shows. They then embarked on different successful careers in the UK and abroad until one day they were both mysteriously summoned by The Stig. He non-verbally communicated that it was high time someone wrote a book for his many younger fans, and it is thus that they went back to the career they'd always thought they should have had.

Cars and races ... and a taciturn man in a white suit

The first in a highly commercial, funny, illustrated action series for 8–11 year-olds, featuring the legendary TOP GEAR racing driver The Stig.

EPISODE I

SETTING: Bunsfold, an unremarkable English town, and its local school Bunsfold High

PROTAGONISTS: the junior Top Gear gang: Sam Wheeler, Minnie Cooper, Ford Harrison and Buster Mustang (later joined by a reformed Cabriola Cruiser)

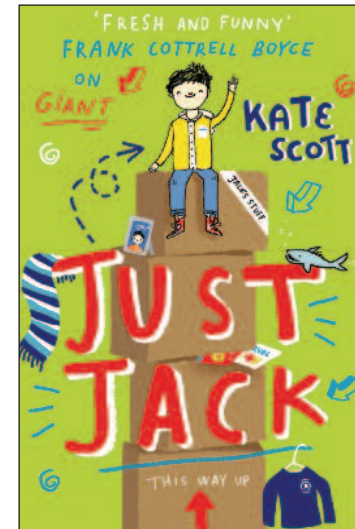
VILLAIN: PT Cruiser, inventor of the vicious computer game Xenon

MISSION: Saving Bunsfold from the most malicious cyber-attack known to mankind

PLOT: The sleepy town of Bunsfold is in the thrall of the local billionaire and inventor PT Cruiser. With his devilish, highly addictive video-game creation, Xenon, he controls the residents and has a plan to launch the game globally. Sam Wheeler and his new gang of friends must race against time to stop him and there is only one person who can help them: THE STIG.

THE GOONIES meets **ALEX RIDER** in this four-book series which introduces a feisty junior 'Top Gear Gang' embarking on exciting missions in the most diverse locations, from the Wild West of America to even under the Ocean.

Kate Scott

JUST JACK

Publication: April 2018

WORLD RIGHTS

Extent: 240pp

Rights sold in **GIANT**: Korea, Vietnam

KATE SCOTT has lived in Hong Kong, Paris, Scotland and two tiny villages in France, but now lives in Dorset. Her first published children's novel was BOY IN TIGHTS which developed into the three-book series, SPIES IN DISGUISE. She also published the standalone novel GIANT in 2016.

A warm and funny story about making new friends and being yourself.

It's not easy fitting in at a new school. It's even harder to be yourself.

Jack knows LOTS about starting a new school. Since Dad left, he and his mum have moved house five times.

He also knows all about fitting in. The trick is to act exactly like everyone else and make sure no one ever notices him. But it's hard work trying to be something he isn't, and Jack doesn't have any good friends. That is, until Tyler comes along.

Tyler is funny and different and might be the key to getting Jack to realise that although he is brilliant at pretending to be other people, the very best thing he can be is ... JUST JACK.

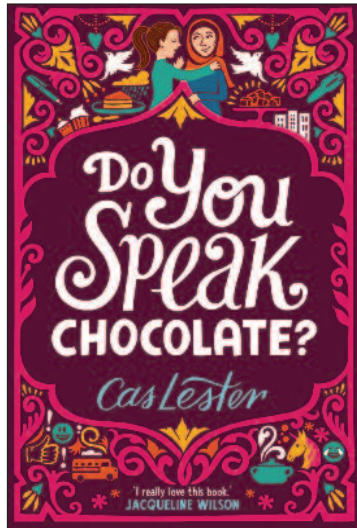
Praise for GIANT:

'GIANT is a fresh and funny meditation on the fickleness of peer pressure, and the pointlessness of trying to conform to its demands ... It's a book that celebrates friendship and the power of being true to yourself.' – **FRANK COTTRELL BOYCE**



Cas Lester

DO YOU SPEAK CHOCOLATE?



Publication: August 2017

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: France, Germany

Extent: 288pp

CAS LESTER worked for many years at CBBC, where she developed and produced several children's programmes. Now Cas writes books for children and among her previous books are the HARVEY DREW series and WILFRED THE UNWISE.

'I love this book'
JACQUELINE WILSON

Chocolate: what better beginning for a friendship?

'Do you speak chocolate?' Jaz has found the best way to make friends with new girl Nadima, who doesn't speak any English: by offering her a chocolate bar. Nadima grins and offers back some Turkish delight, the ice is broken, and a special friendship begins . . .

The path of true friendship doesn't run smooth though. Jaz, ever the entrepreneur, cooks up a plan to sell Turkish delight at school, with disastrous results. A drama project with Nadima about family history proves impossible to manage. And Charity Challenge Week puts the icing on the cake as Jaz puts every possible foot wrong. Can she find a way to put things right, and restore the wonderful and unique friendship that she has with Nadima?

In a story of friendship, family and entrepreneurial wizardry, Cas Lester deftly navigates the trials and tribulations of girlhood, and examines with the lightest of touches and gentle humour the thorny and compelling issues of integration, belonging and identity.



Jo Cotterill

A STORM OF STRAWBERRIES



Publication: June 2017

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: China

Extent: 240pp

Rights sold in **A LIBRARY OF LEMONS**:

China, Finland, France, Germany, Japan, Korea, Norway, Romania, Sweden, Taiwan, Turkey



The world can change in a day.

Darby loves summer on her family's strawberry farm – but is the weather about to turn?

Darby's favourite things are listening to music – preferably the Beatles – the annual chocolate hunt on the family's strawberry farm and spending time with her big sister. She is looking forward to doing all three over the long weekend, but when Kaydee has a friend to stay and the sunshine disappears, everything gets turned on its head. When the storm clears, will Darby find everything is back to normal, and what is 'normal' anyway?

A timely, reassuring story about love in all its different forms narrated by twelve-year-old Darby with Down's syndrome and a passion for music.

Praise and nominations for **A LIBRARY OF LEMONS**

Shortlisted for the Leeds Book Awards 2017
Nominated for the CILIP Carnegie Medal
Shortlisted for the Leeds Book Awards 2017

'A story of great warmth and emotional wisdom, focusing on the importance of friendship and loyalty, openness and creativity'
– **LINDA NEWBERY**

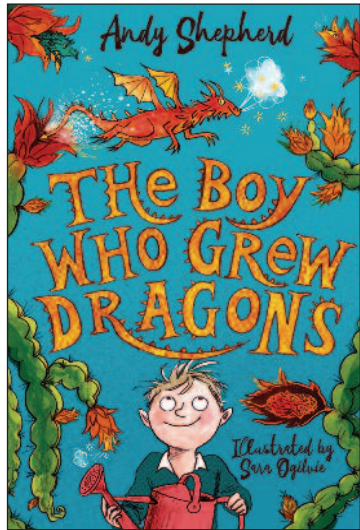
'A gorgeously written and profound story about books, grief and friendship'
– **GUARDIAN**

'Believable, memorable, charming and moving, fans of Jacqueline Wilson's domestic dramas will enjoy this bittersweet story of a family finding their feet in the next chapter of their lives'
– **BOOK TRUST**

Andy Shepherd | Illustrator: Sara Ogilvie

THE BOY WHO GREW DRAGONS

THE BOY WHO LIVED WITH DRAGONS / THE BOY WHO FLEW WITH DRAGONS



Publication: June 2018 / September 2018 /
January 2019

WORLD RIGHTS

Extent: 224 pp

Who wants to grow dragons?

When Tomas discovers a strange old tree at the bottom of his grandpa's garden, he doesn't think much of it. But he takes one of the funny fruits back into the house – and gets the shock and delight of his life when a tiny dragon hatches! The tree is a dragon-fruit tree – and Tomas has got his very own dragon. But life with Flicker doesn't prove easy – there are the flames and the flammable poo to deal with – and how long can Tomas keep his dragon secret from everyone? And what about all the other dragon fruits on the tree ... what could be hiding inside those?

The series has been optioned by the independent TV company Adastral (*GRANDPA IN MY POCKET* – CBEEBIES).

ANDY SHEPHERD and SARA OGILVIE are huge fans of dragons.



Joanne Owen | Illustrator: Tony Ross / Mark Beech

MARTHA MAYHEM AND THE WITCH FROM THE DITCH

MARTHA MAYHEM GOES NUTS! / MARTHA MAYHEM'S BARMY BIRTHDAY

Publication: July 2017 / January 2018 / July 2018

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: Turkey

Extent: 256pp

JOANNE OWEN has been longlisted for both the CILIP Carnegie Medal and the Branford Boase Award. She has also written older fiction, including CIRCUS OF THE UNKNOWN, for Hot Key.

A magical, laugh-out-loud trilogy full of witches and mischief.

Martha May is a chaos magnet. She can't help it – somehow chaotic things always seem to happen to her, so she has been nicknamed Martha Mayhem! She lives with her eccentric grandfather, Professor Gramps, and her handsome pet hog, just past Raspberry Road in the picturesque village of Cherry Hillsbottom.

One fine day she discovers an enormous pair of purple polka-dot knickers in a ditch, attached to a bedraggled and rather annoyed witch, and that's when life begins to get a bit overexciting. As Halloween looms, Martha must help grumpy Griselda Gritch find her missing grandfather, cheer up a miserable hog and avoid mean Miss Parpwell. All while being chased by a ghastly ghoul!

A wildly chaotic and hilariously imaginative trilogy with a lovable heroine – for fans of PIPPI LONGSTOCKING and PONGWIFFY.



Isla Fisher | Illustrator: Eglantine Caulemans

MARGE IN CHARGE

MARGE AND THE PIRATE BABY / MARGE AND THE GREAT TRAIN RESCUE / MARGE AND THE SECRET TUNNEL (newly acquired)

Publication: 28 July 2016, 12 January 2017 / 10 August 2017 / May 2018

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: France, Israel, Korean, Lithuania,

Poland, Romania, Turkey, US

Extent: 176pp / 144pp / 127pp

ISLA FISHER began acting as a child and has worked in television and film for the past twenty-five years. She has appeared in CONFESSIONS OF A SHOPAHOLIC, HOME AND AWAY, THE GREAT GATSBY and DEFINITELY MAYBE. (She studied in Paris to become a clown for two years before realising that there is not much call for miming 'the wall'!) PS She is also Mrs Ali G.

MARY POPPINS meets *THE CAT IN THE HAT*.

BZ's Kids No. 1 BESTSELLER

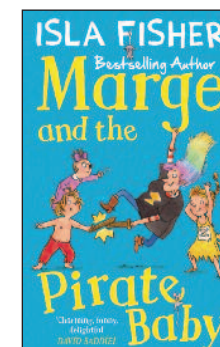
OVER 120,000 COPIES SOLD

When Jemina and Jake meet their new babysitter Marge for the first time, they are not impressed. But as soon as their parents leave the house, Marge reveals her rainbow hair and how much she loves to make a mess and bend the rules . . . just like them.

'Isla Fisher is hilarious!' – **DAVID WALLIAMS**

'Charming, funny, delightful: Marge is the babysitter all children would wish for' – **DAVID BADDIEL**

'Warm, funny stories of Saturnalian mischief' – **GUARDIAN**



Dave Lowe | Illustrator: The Boy Fizhammond

THE INCREDIBLE DADVENTURE**THE MUMBELIEVABLE CHALLENGE / THE SPECTACULAR HOLLY-DAY**

Publication: April 2017–August 2017

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: Turkey

Extent: 192pp

DAVE LOWE spends his days writing books, drinking lots of tea and treading on Lego that his daughters have left lying around. He loved reading Enid Blyton books growing up and now has the chance to write adventurous stories of his own! He is the author of the Stinky and Jinks books – MY HAMSTER IS A GENIUS: ‘Fab, furry fun!’

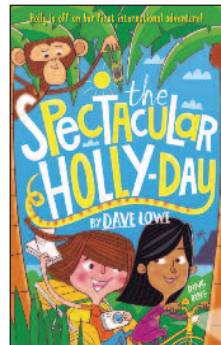
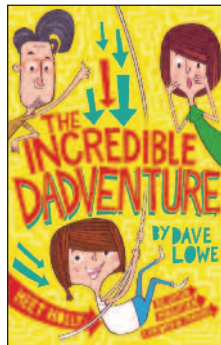


Smart and funny, this heart-warming series is perfect for fans of David Baddiel and *THE 13-STOREY TREEHOUSE*.

Holly wants to be an adventurer, just like her dad. He’s an explorer but he’s always off on expeditions, leaving Holly stuck at home with her mum and baby brother. When he is off to Greenland just before her tenth birthday he leaves a special treasure hunt, just for Holly.

In *THE MUMBELIEVABLE ADVENTURE*, Mum has packed Holly and her Dad off to a log cabin for five days with NO technology. Holly meets Zeb, and the two enjoy exploring the forest together. But then Zeb’s dad goes missing and word gets out that there is a bear on the loose!

In *THE SPECTACULAR HOLLY-DAY*, Dad’s finally taking Holly on one of his travel-writing trips – to Malaysia! Holly can’t wait to explore, but Dad doesn’t want to leave their luxury hotel. If Holly wants an adventure, she’s going to have to find it herself.

Rachel Delahaye
JIM REAPER**SON OF GRIM / SAVING GRANNY MAGGOT / THE GLOVE OF DEATH**

Publication: February 2016 / July 2016 /

April 2017

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: Czech Republic

Extent: 224pp

RACHEL DELAHAYE studied linguistics in Wales, very near a town called Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwllllantysiliogogoch (which is a great word). She then began a career in print journalism. Nowadays, when she’s not playing Boggle, Scrabble or Balderdash, she writes children’s books.

**So Dad’s the Grim Reaper ...
What next?**

Jim Wimble needs a Bazoom! and fast. The Bazoom! is an amazing new scooter – it’s super-speedy, deadly cool (and swoonsome), and Fiona the Fierce, sister of his best friend, Will, has just started riding hers to school and (possibly) out of Jim’s life forever.

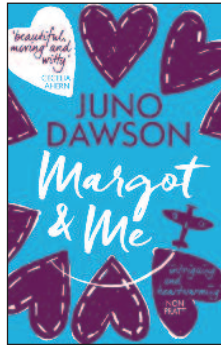
Jim and Will devise a fiendishly persuasive plan that involves sneaking into his dad’s boring accounting firm. But when the boys break into the premises after hours, instead of calculators and maths nerds, they find the walls are lined with ancient portraits, the staff are highly secretive and Jim’s dad’s office bears the sign ‘G. Reaper’ on the door ...

What in heaven’s name is going on?

‘Hilarious and fun and spooky and brilliant – I LOVE Jim Reaper!’ – **PAMELA BUTCHART**

‘Laugh? I almost kicked the bucket!’ – **JONATHAN MERES, author of THE WORLD OF NORM**





MARGOT & ME

Juno Dawson

'Dawson deftly intertwines stories from two generations to make an immensely readable whole.' – **OBSERVER**

'Witty, intriguing and heart-warming' – **NON PRATT, author of TROUBLE**

Publication: January 2017

Rights sold: France



ONE ITALIAN SUMMER

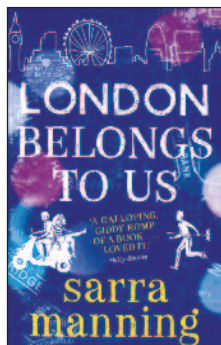
Keris Stainton

'Gentle and romantic. A holiday in itself' – **RAINBOW ROWELL**

'A modern love story and an honest but hopeful exploration of grief. A gem...' – **SOPHIA BENNETT, author of LOVE SONG**

Publication: May 2017

TEEN



LONDON BELONGS TO US

Sara Manning

'Galloping, giddy romp of a book about empowerment and staying out until the sun rises.' – **HOLLY BOURNE**

'It's a love letter to the capital, fresh and contemporary. A brilliant summer read.' – **BOOKSELLER**

Publication: June 2016

Rights sold: France, Germany, Brazil



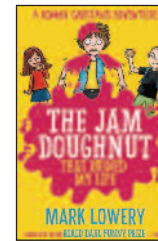
THE THORNTHWAITE BETRAYAL

Gareth Jones

The companion novel to the hugely popular **THE THORNTHWAITE INHERITANCE**

Publication: October 2016

Rights sold: Czech Republic, Norway, Sweden, Romania, Russia



THE ROMAN GARSTANG ADVENTURES

Mark Lowery

Shortlisted for the Roald Dahl Funny Prize – over 30,000 copies sold

FREAKY AND FEARLESS (Trilogy)

Robin Etherington

Illustrator: Jan Bielecki

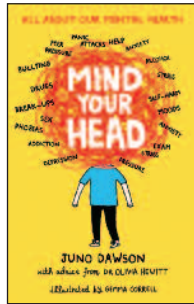
Rights sold: France, Turkey



THE BOOK OF STORMS (Trilogy)

Ruth Hatfield

Rights sold: Brazil, Czech Republic, Norway, Poland, Turkey, USA



NON-FICTION

MIND YOUR HEAD

Juno Dawson
Illustrator: Gemma Correll

Publication: January 2016
Rights sold: Korea, Turkey, Vietnam
Extent: 208pp

**THIS BOOK IS GAY**

Juno Dawson
Illustrator: Spike Gerrell

Publication: September 2014
Rights sold: Brazil, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Norway, Poland, Spain, USA
Extent: 272pp

**BEING A GIRL**

Hayley Long
Illustrator: Gemma Correll

Publication: June 2015
Rights sold: Canada, Catalan, China, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Greece, Hungary, Korea, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Vietnam, USA
Extent: 224pp

**BEING A BOY**

Juno Dawson
Illustrator: Spike Gerrell

Publication: September 2013
Rights sold: China, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Greece, Hungary, Japan, Korea, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Vietnam
Extent: 192pp

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