

Rights Guide 2022

Children's Trade, Bonnier Books UK



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Helen Wicks **Managing Director – Children's Trade**
helen.wicks@bonnierbooks.co.uk

Emma Matthewson **Publishing Director**
emma.matthewson@bonnierbooks.co.uk

Ruth Bennett **Senior Commissioning Editor**
ruth.bennett@bonnierbooks.co.uk

Georgia Murray **Commissioning Editor**
georgia.murray@bonnierbooks.co.uk

Jenny Jacoby **Editor**
jenny.jacoby@bonnierbooks.co.uk

Ella Whiddett **Editor**
ella.whiddett@bonnierbooks.co.uk

Tia Albert **Editorial Assistant**
tia.albert@bonnierbooks.co.uk

Elle Brenton-Rounding
Senior Foreign Sales and Business Development Manager
elle.brenton-rounding@bonnierbooks.co.uk

Holly Potter **Foreign Sales Executive**
holly.potter@bonnierbooks.co.uk

Sharon Miller-Gold **Senior Foreign Sales Manager**
sharon.millergold@bonnierbooks.co.uk

Cecilia Fanucci **Senior Foreign Sales Manager**
cecilia.fanucci@bonnierbooks.co.uk

Caroline Burnett **Senior Foreign Sales Executive**
caroline.burnett@bonnierbooks.co.uk

Irina Yosifova **Foreign Sales Executive**
irina.yosifova@bonnierbooks.co.uk

Rheanna Hopkins **Foreign Sales Assistant**
rheanna.hopkins@bonnierbooks.co.uk



Publication:
September 2021

World Rights

Age range:
12+

Key themes:
family, grief, friendship

Extent:
128pp, b/w illustrations

The Dream House

Laura Dockrill
Illustrated by Gwen Millward

Everyone needs somewhere to dream.

Rex has gone to stay with his godfather, Sparky. Rex doesn't say much but that's OK because Sparky understands him. Rex has his sketchbook, and he draws how he feels even if he doesn't talk about it. And in Sparky's garden, hidden under the canopy of the willow tree, is the Dream House: a space for Rex to dream, to play, to think, to be. A place he's loved all his childhood. But to go inside now Rex must summon his strength for revisiting the ghosts of his past . . .

An evocative sketchbook novella revealing a boy's inner world and his way of reconnecting with the people who love him after loss.

LAURA DOCKRILL is the author of *LORALI*, *BIG BONES* and the *DARCY BURDOCK* series. She has been nominated and shortlisted for the CILIP Carnegie Medal and the Waterstones Children's Book Prize.

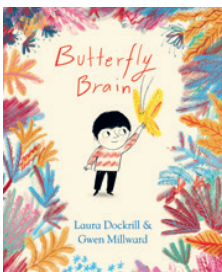
GWEN MILLWARD has illustrated *FLAT CAT* by Hiawyn Oram (Walker), and written and illustrated *TIGER LILY* (Egmont).

'Little gem . . . Grief and joy in abundance, I found it incredibly moving.'

KIRAN MILLWOOD HARGRAVE

'So beautiful, so powerfully moving, the ever-inventive Laura Dockrill has done it again.'

SCHOOL READING LIST



Publication:
September 2020

World Rights

Age range:
5-9

Key themes:
family, grief, imagination

Extent:
80pp, full-colour illustrations

Butterfly Brain

Laura Dockrill
Illustrated by Gwen Millward

Roald Dahl meets A MONSTER CALLS in this delightful and moving exploration of grief and the joy of all that makes us human.

Everyone is always shouting at Gus to stop leaning back in his chair – but does he care? No way! Then sure enough, the chair falls, he cracks his head and has to spend all summer in bed. Out of the crack escape his memories, dreams and imagination . . . and a beautiful little butterfly guide. Gus must follow the butterfly to recapture all he's lost, including that locked box he doesn't seem to want to touch . . .

Together they remember fish fingers, snapping bubble wrap, cracked pink soap and the leaky tap; they go wild, stomping around in the joy of imagination and happy dreams – but they can't go any further if Gus won't gather *all* of his memories. His butterfly will die unless Gus is ready to hear about his mum . . .

A delightful and moving exploration of grief and the joy that makes us human, from the effervescent voice of Laura Dockrill, with heartwarming full-colour illustrations from Gwen Millward.

LAURA DOCKRILL is the author of *LORALI*, *BIG BONES* and the *DARCY BURDOCK* series. She has been nominated and shortlisted for the CILIP Carnegie Medal and the Waterstones Children's Book Prize.

GWEN MILLWARD has illustrated *FLAT CAT* by Hiawyn Oram (Walker), and written and illustrated *TIGER LILY* (Egmont).

'Powerful, overwhelmingly comforting, and sensitive.'

READING ZONE

'An important little book.'

LAUREN CHILD



Publication:
March 2022 / September 2022 / March 2023 / September 2023

World Rights

Age range:
6-8

Key themes:
animal rescue, conservation, adventure

Extent:
128pp, b/w illustrations

The Woodland Magic Series

Fox Cub Rescue

Julie Sykes
Illustrated by Katy Riddell

Join the adventures of the Nature Keepers in this enchanting world of magic . . .

The Keepers are a secretive tribe of little people who live in the middle of Whispering Woods, sneaking out at night to care for the countryside and rewind it when humans (or Ruffins as they know them) are careless with it.

Young Keepers Cora and Jax have just finished school and are embarking on a trial, with several friends, to become fully fledged Keepers. But their first venture out on their own ends in disaster when they become distracted with playing in the Ruffin children's playground instead of concentrating on the task they've been given. Can they ever be trusted to be Keepers in their own right?

From the bestselling author of *The Unicorn Academy* comes a brilliant, adventure-filled, magical series for 6-8 year-olds combining animal rescue, nature conservation and the power of cooperation.

As a child, **JULIE SYKES** was always telling tales. Not the 'she ate all the cake, not me' kind, but wildly exaggerated tales of everyday events. Julie still loves telling stories. She's written 90 books for children of all ages and is published around the world.

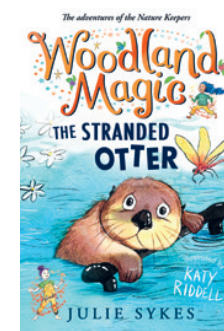
KATY RIDDELL grew up in Brighton and was obsessed with drawing from a young age. She rediscovered her love for illustrating children's books after graduating with a BA Hons in Illustration and Animation. She has worked on a variety of commissions including *PONGWIFFY* and *MIDNIGHT FEASTS*.

Coming soon:

Deer in Danger

The Stranded Otter

. . . followed by Book four!





Publication:
July 2021 / March 2022 /
January 2023

World Rights

Age range:
7-9

Key themes:
mystery, adventure,
friendship

Extent:
176pp, two-colour
illustrations

Kate on the Case

The Call of the Silver Wibbler

The Headline Hoax

Hannah Peck

Follow the super sleuthing of intrepid reporter-in-training, Kate and her mouse Rupert!

A witty three-book series about Kate's adventures as a special correspondent in training, as she encounters a colourful cast of suspects in settings worthy of Agatha Christie.

Young detective Kate and her mouse-accomplice Rupert are on board a train, to visit Kate's mum in the Arctic. But as soon as the train departs, mysterious things start happening.

A packet of ginger nuts goes missing . . .
A collection of gymnastics trophies is stolen . . .
And some ancient scrolls disappear . . .

Fellow passenger Madame Maude seems the most likely culprit, until a surprising – and delicious – twist turns the whole investigation on its head.

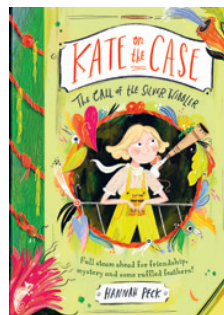
HANNAH PECK is an author and illustrator based in East London. Her love of books took her to study English at university, where she stocked up on Gothic stories and mythical poems that would later inspire her narrative illustrations. Using anything from tapestries to costume, Hannah researches around her subjects to create detailed and immersive illustrations. She has also worked as a children's bookseller – where she read as much as possible and gathered ideas for her debut, *KATE ON THE CASE*.

'Brimming with mystery, comedy, an inspirational heroine, some wonderful wordplay and brilliant orange-themed illustrations.'

LANCASTER GUARDIAN

'Surprising and somewhat delicious twist . . . Cleverly woven and illustrated with a cast of brilliant characters.'

ARMADILLO MAGAZINE



'Hannah Peck's super-creative joy of a book has mystery, humour, brilliant illustrations and a smorgasbord of puns and wordplay.'

BOOK TRUST

Coming soon
The third and final adventure in the *KATE ON THE CASE* series . . .



Publication:
June 2021 / January 2022 /
June 2022 / June 2023

World Rights

Age range:
5-8

Key themes:
adventure, friendship,
teamwork, caring for our
world

Extent:
192pp, two-colour
illustrations

Big Sky Mountain

The Forest Wolves

The Beach Otters

The Sky Eagles

Alex Milway

A love letter to the wild!

When young Rosa Wild leaves the city to go and live with her eccentric Grandma Nan in a cabin in the wilderness of Big Sky Mountain, she is not quite prepared for how much her life will change! There's no TV, no phone signal, and definitely no shops.

Grandma Nan seems to live in total isolation too – until Rosa meets her rather unusual companion, Albert the Moose. And before Rosa knows it, a whole host of other eclectic animal inhabitants begin to make themselves known. Let the adventures on Big Sky Mountain begin!

A little Wild Robot, a little bit Moomins, with a dash of Pippi Longstocking, this is a four-book series spanning four different natural environments, from river to forest to coast to sky, all told with Alex Milway's trademark humour and charm.

ALEX MILWAY is a full-time children's books author-illustrator and screenwriter. His books include *Pigsticks* and *Harold* (Walker Books) and, most recently, the *Hotel Flamingo* series (Piccadilly).

'Funny and charming; Alex Milway has made me want to fly right into Big Sky Mountain myself.'

ANDY SHEPHERD

'A wild adventure with an important message, bravo!'

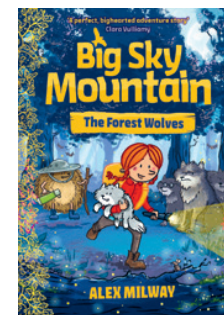
SOPHY HENN

'The perfect adventure to rewild young readers.'

BENJI DAVIES

'This is a perfect, big-hearted adventure story, with pictures and laughs on every page and an environmental message delivered with the lightest touch.'

CLARA VULLIAMY





Publication:
February 2019 / June 2019
/ November 2019 / April
2020

World Rights

Age range:
5–8

Key themes:
animals, friendship,
teamwork

Extent:
192pp, two-colour
illustrations

Hotel Flamingo

**Holiday Heatwave
Carnival Caper
Fabulous Feast**

Alex Milway

Everyone is welcome at Hotel Flamingo!

When young Anna inherits a dilapidated once-grand hotel from her great-aunt Mathilde, she's determined to restore it to its former glory. But this is no ordinary hotel – all of her staff and guests are animals! Anna soon rises to the challenge. Whether it's a flamingo, a penguin or a hippo knocking at the door, Anna is ready to welcome them all – with the help of her trusty sidekicks, T. Bear the doorman, Squeak the friendly elevator mouse and Lemmy the lemur receptionist . . .

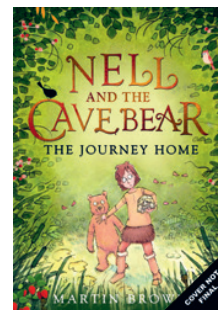
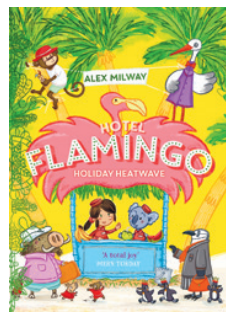
As she soon finds out though, running an animal hotel is no easy task. Can Anna make Hotel Flamingo a success once more?

OTTOLINE meets *THE GRAND BUDAPEST HOTEL* in this enchanting four-book illustrated series.

Over 70,000 copies sold
Featured in Book Trust's GREAT BOOKS
GUIDE 2019

'Crammed full of characterful animal illustrations with accents of zinging pink, this flamboyant early chapter book is a splendid, unpreachy testament to the power of hard work.'
THE GUARDIAN

'A heart-warming tale of friends pulling together to make a dream come true. May I please stay at this hotel!'
SARAH MCINTYRE



Publication:
July 2022

World Rights

Age range:
6–8

Key themes:
friendship, community,
animals

Extent:
160pp, two-colour
illustrations

Nell and the Cave Bear: The Journey Home

Martin Brown

Join brave little Nell and her beloved companion Cave Bear in this second delightful adventure from renowned illustrator Martin Brown (The Horrible Histories).

Nell and Cave Bear are safe in the company of the animal-loving Sea Clan. But when the Woodland Clan begin causing trouble, the two friends are separated. This time the Woodland hunters are determined not to return home empty-handed. Can Nell and Cave Bear escape the greatest danger yet?

With beautiful illustrations throughout, this captivating story is perfect for fans of Winnie-the-Pooh and Paddington Bear.



Publication:
September 2021

World Rights

Age range:
6–8

Key themes:
friendship, community,
animals

Extent:
160pp, two-colour
illustrations

Nell and the Cave Bear

Martin Brown

'It was a long, long time ago, when the land beyond the mountains was an everlasting sea of ice . . . But below the mountains, spring had finally come to the valley.'

Orphan girl Nell lives with her Cave Clan family. She loves them all, even though they are always wanting her to do chores for them, like sweeping the cave and carrying firewood.

But more than anything else, she loves her pet Cave Bear – who has lived with her since he was a tiny cub and is the best friend a girl could have.

So when Nell learns that her clan are planning to give Cave Bear away as a gift to the Sea Clan, she decides to run away – by following the tiny stream outside the cave and seeing where it leads. And that's just the beginning of her adventures.

With the classic appeal of *WINNIE-THE-POOH* – and a wonderful blend of wisdom, history, humour and gentle peril – this is a wise and entertaining tale for chapter-book readers.

After training as an art teacher and drawing cartoons for magazines and greetings cards, **MARTIN BROWN** started working on the *HORRIBLE HISTORIES* series with Terry Deary. Twenty years, sixty titles and twenty million copies sold later, the books have become a phenomenon, expanding into the award-winning BBC TV programme, exhibitions, games and stage shows.

More recently, Martin has also illustrated for Philip Pullman and John McLay.

NELL AND THE CAVE BEAR is the first fiction book he has written and illustrated.



Publication:
June 2018 / September
2018 / January 2019 / June
2020 / January 2021

World Rights

Age range:
7-9

Key themes:
fun, mischief, friendship,
dragons

Extent:
224pp / 240pp / 256pp /
272pp / 272pp, b/w
illustrations

The Boy Who Grew Dragons

The Boy Who Lived with Dragons

The Boy Who Flew with Dragons

The Boy Who Dreamed of Dragons

The Boy Who Sang with Dragons

Andy Shepherd

Illustrated by Sara Ogilvie

When Tomas brings home a dragon fruit picked from his grandad's garden and a tiny dragon hatches, he can't believe it. He has the coolest pet in town, because who wouldn't want to grow a dragon? But soon he finds out it is not always easy to tame the fiery little creatures.

ANDY SHEPHERD is a children's writer and an absolute expert on dragons. This is her debut series.

SARA OGILVIE has illustrated many books, including *THE DETECTIVE DOG* by Julia Donaldson, *THE WORST PRINCESS* by Anna Kemp, *IZZY GIZMO* by Pip Jones, and Phil Earle's *DEMOLITION DAD*.

Shortlisted for the Waterstones Children's Book Prize

Close to 400,000 copies sold across the series

Rights sold in 24 territories

**Nominated for Catalan's
Best Translated Children's Books 2020**



Publication:
September 2022

World Rights

Age range:
7-9

Key themes:
dragons, dragons, dragons

Extent:
256pp tbc, b/w illustrations

The Ultimate Guide to Growing Dragons

Andy Shepherd

Illustrated by Sara Ogilvie

An enchanting companion title to Andy Shepherd and Sara Ogilvie's bestselling THE BOY WHO GREW DRAGONS series.

Tomas, the boy who grew dragons, is officially the Grand High DragonMaster. He has had two pet dragons – Flicker and Zing – and grown dozens more. He's an expert at caring for the dragon-fruit tree. He knows all the tricks for training dragons, nurturing dragon-fruit seedlings and defusing dragon poo. So – he has this brilliant idea. He's got to get it all down, all his dragon expertise, in one easy-to-read place, for him and his friends, and anyone else who might end up doing this crazy thing.

Only problem is – Tomas's friends Ted, Kat, Kai, Liam and Aura are currently scattered all around the world, from Suffolk to Mexico to China. Perhaps, though, if they put their heads together, they can figure all this out, and create the most brilliant *ULTIMATE GUIDE* ever, together.

An enchanting new story which will follow the adventures of Tomas and his friends as they exchange ideas and stories for their *ULTIMATE GUIDE* – bursting with ALL the essential facts for all the dragon aficionados out there, including:

- **Dragon fact files**
- **Dragon-fruit trees: top tips for growing and nurturing**
- **Dragon facts, history and myths from around the world (from Suffolk to Mexico to China)**
- **The dragons' homeland – why dragons fly to the North Star!**
- **Dragon training – why you need a pocketful of ash!**
- **Best games to play with dragons**
- **Poo patrol! (water pistol and oven mitts essential)**
- **Tomas's little sister's dragon vet tips!**
- **The secret of chocolate!**

'Irresistible . . . A modern classic.'

THE GUARDIAN

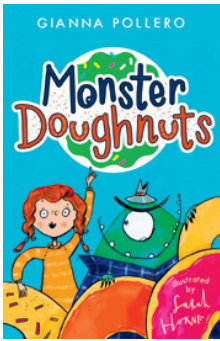
'A warm-hearted debut . . . lovely, expressive, characterful.'

SUNDAY TIMES

'Perfect for fans of Roald Dahl and Cressida Cowell.'

SOUTH WALES EVENING POST





Publication:
April 2021 / January 2022 /
August 2022

World Rights

Age range:
7-9

Key themes:
monsters, mayhem, fun,
friendship

Extent:
256pp / 256pp / 256pp tbc,
b/w illustrations

Monster Doughnuts

Cyclops on a Mission
Beastly Breakout!

Gianna Pollero
Illustrated by Sarah Horne

MONSTERS INC meets **THE SPY WHO LOVED SCHOOL DINNERS**, with heavy sprinklings of crumbs!

Ten-year-old Grace likes doughnuts and cakes as much as the next kid – but they are also her secret weapon. Grace is a monster hunter who owns a bakery – and everyone knows how much monsters LOVE any kind of sweet treat! Just don't tell them about the secret exploding baking powder inside the doughnuts and the cookies . . .

When Grace's Monster Scanning Machine alerts her to the doughnut-loving, people-eating, board-game-playing cyclops Mr Harris, she realises she's about to face her biggest challenge yet . . .

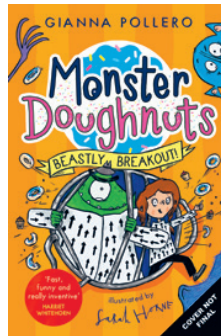
A laugh-out-loud story of monsters who smell of poo and hold grudges for a REALLY long time, **MONSTER DOUGHNUTS** is the first book in a hilarious three-book series from debut author Gianna Pollero.

GIANNA POLLERO was born and raised in Kent but also spent a considerable amount of her childhood in northern Italy. She completed the Curtis Brown Online Writing for Children course in 2017, and is a member of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators.

SARAH HORNE works on humorous children's titles and commissions for national newspapers. She is also the Children's Illustrator in Residence for IKEA.

'Delicious, dastardly, and diabolically delightful.'

JACK MEGGITT-PHILLIPS



Publication:
February 2023

World Rights

Age range:
9+

Key themes:
the future, family,
friendship

Extent:
256pp tbc

Bob vs the Selfie Zombies

Andy Jones

The hilarious and unforgettable story of Bob, accidental time traveller!

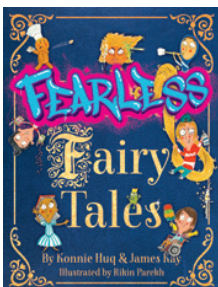
IT'S DOWN TO BOB TO SAVE THE WORLD . . . ALL HE NEEDS IS TIME!

For Bob and his best friend Malcolm, winning the school talent competition with their band the Tentacles of Time is really important. And that's before they realise the future of the world depends on it . . .

Bob travels through time to meet his future self and finds himself faced with a disastrous future reality. It's up to him to set things on course in the present to save future him, future Malcolm AND the whole world. Yikes!

Perfect for fans of DAVID BADDIEL and GREG JAMES & CHRIS SMITH.

ANDY JONES began his career as an author writing novels for adults. Grown-up stuff about falling in love, falling out of love, falling in love again and having babies. All of which he has experienced in his own life. More recently, he has been writing books for children. Crazy stuff about genies, monsters, time travel and zombies. None of which he has experienced in his own life. Andy's books are funny, dramatic and unpredictable. They might even make you think. Andy lives on the outskirts of London (the best part in his opinion) with his wife, daughters and an assortment of other creatures.



Publication:
October 2020

World Rights

Age range:
6+

Key themes:
fairy tales, inclusivity,
humour

Extent:
176pp, with full-colour
illustrations

Fearless Fairy Tales

Konnie Huq and James Kay
Illustrated by Rikin Parekh

A hilarious and anarchic collection of classic bedtime stories for young readers, vibrantly updated for a new generation.

Meet Trumplestiltskin, a vain and gold-obsessed little man who will stop at nothing to become richer and richer. There's Sleeping Brainy, the princess whose only dream is to become Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the Gingerbread Kid, who escapes persecution in his home country but struggles to fit in in his new one.

Packed with stories about boys who aren't afraid to cry and rhymes about girls who refuse to kiss frogs, this book shakes up dusty, old-fashioned (and, to be honest, rather sexist) bedtime stories and totally reinvents them for the twenty-first century. From fake news to female footballers, environmental pollution to equal pay, nothing is off limits in this anthology of laugh-out-loud fairy tales with thoroughly modern morals.

KONNIE HUQ is the longest-serving female *Blue Peter* presenter, from 1997 to 2008, and is no stranger to the middle-grade market. She is an ambassador for the Prince's Trust and the British Asian Trust.

JAMES KAY is a writer and full-time human who lives in Oxfordshire. His hobbies include eating and breathing. At school he was voted 'least likely to become Prime Minister' and he's on course for this to be the case.

RIKIN PAREKH studied art at Camberwell College of Arts and the University of Westminster. He has since worked designing monsters for the film industry and selling books for a national chain. He currently works with Year Fives in a London primary school, inspiring children to draw their own monsters.



Publication:
August 2019 / August 2020
/ September 2021

World Rights

Age range:
9+

Key themes:
science, humour,
friendship, doodles

Extent:
272pp / 288pp / 320pp,
b/w illustrations

Cookie!

Cookie and the Most Annoying Boy in
the World

Cookie and the Most Annoying Girl in
the World

Cookie and the Most Mysterious
Mystery in the World

Konnie Huq

**Konnie Huq's laugh-out-loud three-book series
starring bubbly COOKIE!**

A hilarious series for readers aged 9+, starring an effervescent, smart British Bangladeshi ten-year-old heroine, with madcap science experiments, warm friendships and fun illustrations throughout.

Film rights sold to Zodiak

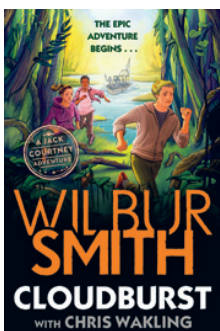
Winner of the Stockport Children's Book Award

Over 70,000 copies sold

'Smart, funny, and full of warmth.'
DAVID WALLIAMS

'It's clearly going to be a BIG HIT.'
JACQUELINE WILSON





Publication:
March 2020 / March 2021
/ March 2022

World Rights

Age range:
10+

Key themes:
adventure, danger,
betrayal, animals, travel

Extent:
320pp / 288pp / 288pp tbc

The Jack Courtney Adventures

Cloudburst
Thunderbolt
Shockwave

Wilbur Smith and Chris Wakling

Adventure runs in the blood.

Jack Courtney has lived in the UK his whole life. But this summer his parents are travelling to the Democratic Republic of Congo for a conference, and they've promised to take Jack and his friends with them.

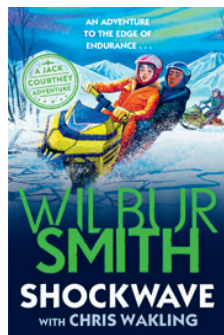
When his parents go missing in the rainforest, abducted by mercenaries, nobody seems to have any answers. Jack is pretty sure that it has to do with the nearby tantalum mines, but he needs to prove it. Along with Amelia and Xander, Jack must brave the jungle to save his parents. Standing in his way is a member of his own family – Caleb Courtney.

There are mountain gorillas, forest elephants and hippos, but also bandits, mercenaries and hostile tribes. The three friends will need their wits about them if they are to save Jack's parents, and their own lives too.

A three-book series for readers aged 10+ from the one and only master of adventure, starring a young modern-day descendant of the beloved Courtney family.

WILBUR SMITH was born in Central Africa in 1933. He became a full-time writer in 1964 after the publication of *WHEN THE LION FEEDS*, and has since written over thirty novels. His books are translated into twenty-six languages. Wilbur died in 2021, leaving behind him a treasure-trove of stories that will delight readers for years to come. This is his first children's series.

CHRIS WAKLING is a novelist and travel writer whose previous books, for adults, include *ON CAPE THREE POINTS* and *TOWARDS THE SUN*. He is also a lifelong fan of Wilbur Smith.



**Over 80,000
copies sold**



Publication:
April 2022

World English Language

Age range:
9+

Key themes:
pirates, friendship, bravery

Extent:
304pp tbc, b/w illustrations

The Riddle of the Sea

Jonne Kramer
Illustrated by Karl J. Mountford
Translated by Laura Watkinson

A gripping sea adventure featuring a lost father and a cursed ship makes for an outstanding debut by an exciting new author.

When Ravian's father doesn't return home from sea for his son's birthday, Ravian is certain he must be in danger. Hearing tales of a cursed ship that captures fishermen, Ravian goes in search of his father accompanied by his only friend, Marvin the seagull. Before long, the pair find themselves trapped on the ship with only a kindly boy and a bad-tempered pirate for company. The ensuing voyage is beset with battles with giant squid and fierce storms, and Ravian despairs of ever finding his father.

Translated from Dutch by the Carnegie-Medal 2020 shortlisted translator of LAMPIE by Annet Schaap, THE RIDDLE OF THE SEA is at once a captivating fantasy adventure and a thoughtful story of friendship and overcoming fears.

JONNE KRAMER studied Creative Writing at the University of Westminster in London. *THE RIDDLE OF THE SEA* is her debut novel. This heartwarming story was nominated for several prestigious prizes, including the Hotze de Roos-prize (for Best Children's Book Debut) and the Dutch Children's Jury Prize.

Edie and the Box of Flits

Edie and the Flits in Paris

Kate Wilkinson
Illustrated by Joe Berger

Enchanting, classic stories of a world just out of sight!

When eleven-year-old Edie Winter finds a mysterious wooden box on the London Underground she's amazed to discover that it's home to a family of Flits – tiny winged foragers who are only visible to children under thirteen. But Impy, Speckle and Nid need Edie's help. Not only do they want supplies (rice crispies, sugar sprinkles, digestive biscuits and raisins) and someone to look after them, they've also been separated from their brother Jot and the rest of their family.

Meanwhile, mysterious green winged birds have been flying around London stealing people's shiny valuables. It is up to Edie to find out what's been lost and what's being hidden.

Set against the backdrop of London and its Underground network, *EDIE AND THE BOX OF FLITS* is the first in a two-book series about friendship, family and noticing the little things in life.

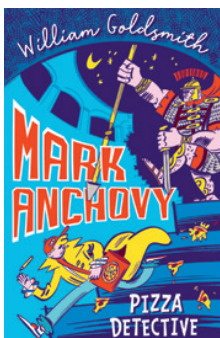
KATE WILKINSON started out as a children's writer for BBC Radio, creating audio stories for pre-school listeners that involved a lot of animals (and animal noises). She now works primarily on arts programmes, literary features and readings such as *BOOK AT BEDTIME* and *BOOK OF THE WEEK*. *EDIE AND THE BOX OF FLITS* is her debut novel.

JOE BERGER has a background in both writing and illustration, having written two children's books and illustrated many more.

'A charming story in the tradition of The Borrowers about little flying people, visible to only children, who live in the Underground and are found by a rather unhappy 11-year-old girl.'
SUNDAY TIMES

'This sparkling and heartwarming adventure story with a fast-paced plot will keep readers in years 4 and 5 gripped from beginning to end.'

SCHOOL READING LIST



Publication:
April 2020 / January 2021 /
July 2021

World Rights
(excl. Germany)

Age range:
7-9

Key themes:
spies, gadgets, aliens

Extent:
320pp / 272pp/ 288pp, b/w
illustrations

Mark Anchovy Pizza Detective

War & Pizza
Pizza Power

William Goldsmith

Codename: 'Extra Anchovy'.

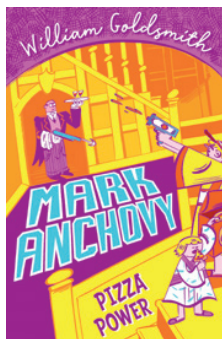
Colin Kingsley is a pizza delivery boy with a secret. He's actually an aspiring private detective. But in his sleepy town there are no cases to solve – until the Golden Spatula League come calling. They are the world's premier detective agency run by children and have been dazzled by Colin's freakish memory skills.

Codenamed 'Mark Anchovy', he is off to solve tough mysteries. First he must fly to Rome to track down a valuable stolen painting, titled *Girl with a Squirrel*. Next up is Russia, where he must find a missing casket of golden egg cups. It is rumoured his final mission will take him to the bright lights of Tokyo, but Colin has a bigger problem to solve first. His little sister Alicia has found out what 'extra anchovies' really means . . .

A hilarious, anarchic three-book detective series with an unforgettable cast, stylish full-page illustrations and adventures that will leave your stomach rumbling.

WILLIAM GOLDSMITH is a British writer and illustrator. Published by Jonathan Cape, his graphic novels *VIGNETTES OF YSTOV* and *THE BIND* were nominated for a Newton First Book Award and British Book Design Award respectively. This is his first series for children, and comes with a fully dedicated website: www.markanchovy.com

'Hilarious and exciting, a must-read for mystery fans.'
THE SCOTSMAN



Publication:
June 2024

World English Language

Age range:
11+

Key themes:
family, first love, summer

Extent:
224pp tbc

Rhubarb Lemonade

Oskar Kroon

A prize-winning novel about family old and new, friendship growing into more, the beauty of the sea and a hot summer on a Swedish island.

Vinga dreams of the sea. She's going to be a sailor when she grows up, sailing to distant lands and maybe finding a shipwreck or two. At home, back in the city, Mum is sad and Dad has left for good. But at least it's summer, here with Granddad on the island, and all her problems feel far away. Granddad has given Vinga an old boat that she is going to make seaworthy. On the island, the days go on as usual, with porridge for breakfast, drinking rhubarb lemonade under the lilac tree and watching the sunset from 'her' cliff.

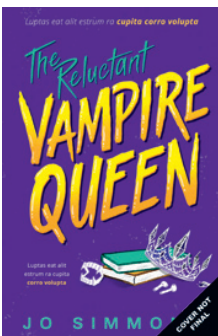
But things are different now too. The heat vibrates during the day, and a girl with a black hat has started appearing in Vinga's workshop. Her name is Ruth. The only thing they seem to have in common is their age and that they are both on the island for the summer. But spending time together, their friendship soon turns out to be something much more.

RHUBARB LEMONADE is story filled with empathy and heart about an unusual summer when childhood comes to an end. Vinga must learn to hold her course during the storm of farewells, newfound friendship and a stranded whale.

OSKAR KROON was a journalist who retrained as a baker. Now he bakes part-time so he can spend time with his family as well as write. *RHUBARB LEMONADE* was published in Sweden in 2019 as *WAITING FOR WIND* and won the August Prize for the best Swedish children's book in 2019. It has been published in 11 other languages.

Winner of 2019 August Prize for Sweden's best children's book of the year

Winner of 2021 Dutch VLAG EN WIMPLE award for children 12-15



Publication:
August 2022 / July 2023 /
July 2024

World Rights

Age range:
11+

Key themes:
feminist vampires,
friendship, coming of age,
romance, funny

Extent:
352pp/ 352pp tbc / 352pp
tbc

The Reluctant Vampire Queen

The Reluctant Vampire Queen
Bites Back

The Reluctant Vampire Queen: Return
of the Undead

Jo Simmons

Meet Mo, schoolgirl by day, vampire queen by night. It can't be that difficult to do both . . . can it?

Fifteen-year-old Mo Merrydrew isn't exactly expecting to be asked to be Vampire Queen of Great Britain when she's cycling home from school one wet Tuesday evening. Apparently, she is 'the Chosen One'.

Aside from being uncomfortable with the idea of unelected power (not very democratic), patriarchal vampiric traditions (Mo is a feminist), there's the blood drinking to consider (Mo is a vegetarian), and frankly it's just not really the sort of role Mo's looking for (she wants to aim for a real job in international politics).

But – if you're Vampire Queen, you probably don't have to do PE any more, and when the dreamy Luca, a vampire familiar, turns up, it all suddenly starts to look a bit more appealing . . .

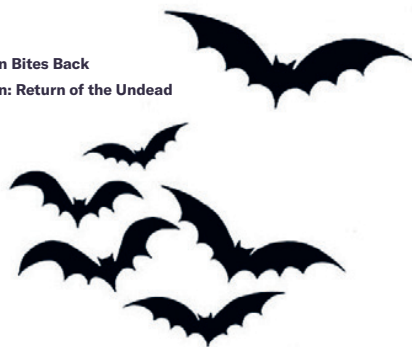
GEEK GIRL meets BUFFY in a brilliantly funny new teen three-book series from bestselling author Jo Simmons!

JO SIMMONS, the bestselling author of *I SWAPPED MY BROTHER ON THE INTERNET*, began her working life as a sub-editor on magazines in London and later became a freelance journalist. She started writing for children when her two boys were young and hungry for daft and silly stories to make bedtime more fun. *THE RELUCTANT VAMPIRE QUEEN* is her first novel for teenagers.

Coming soon:

The Reluctant Vampire Queen Bites Back

The Reluctant Vampire Queen: Return of the Undead



Publication:
14 March 2022

World Rights

Age range:
11+

Key themes:
thriller, action adventure,
apex predators, genetic
engineering, technology,
evil villains

Extent:
336pp tbc

Prey Zone

Wilbur Smith, Keith Chapman and Steve
Cole

A thrilling new Wilbur Smith series for teen readers with high action and high stakes – starring Ralph and Robyn Ballantyne

Ralph and Robyn live at Crocodile Lodge, their family ranch in South Africa, where they help with the animals, aid the conservation effort and learn the land. That is, until a mysterious predator starts terrorising the reserve.

On the trail for answers, the siblings discover the fearsome culprit: the largest crocodile they've ever seen, uncannily similar to the long-extinct *Sarcosuchus* Ralph recognises from his favourite game, *Predasaur*. And when a nearby village is ravaged by a deadly disease, seemingly stemming from a millennia-old animal, the stakes are higher than ever.

As Ralph and Robyn follow the clues, all roads lead to Crocodile Lodge's infamous neighbour: millionaire tech giant and hunting enthusiast Josef Gerhard. Could it really be that Gerhard is bringing the beastly creatures of *Predasaur* to life – and at what cost?

WILBUR SMITH was born in Central Africa in 1933. He became a full-time writer in 1964 after the publication of *WHEN THE LION FEEDS*, and has since written over thirty novels. His books are translated into twenty-six languages. Wilbur died in 2021, leaving behind him a treasure-trove of stories that will delight readers for years to come. This is his second children's series.

KEITH CHAPMAN is a television writer and producer, best known as the creator of children's television programmes *Bob the Builder* and *PAW Patrol*. Keith originates from Norfolk, East Anglia, and currently resides in Monaco.

STEVE COLE is the bestselling author of over 150 books, of which sales exceed three million copies. His works include the hugely successful *ASTROSAURS* series, original fiction titles for *DOCTOR WHO*, the *YOUNG BOND* series and *SWARM RISING* co-authored with astronaut Tim Peake. Steve lives and works in Buckinghamshire.



Publication:
April 2020 / January 2021 /
July 2021 / February 2022

World Rights

Option Publishers:
France (Casterman),
Netherlands (Billy Bones),
Portugal (Porto), Turkey
(Eksik Parca)

Age range:
11+

Key themes:
action, adventure, bandits,
revenge

Extent:
256pp / 258pp / 256pp /
256pp tbc

Robin Hood

**Hacking, Heists & Flaming Arrows
Piracy, Paintballs & Zebras
Jet Skis, Swamps & Smugglers
Drones, Dams & Destruction**

Robert Muchamore

The world's first superhero

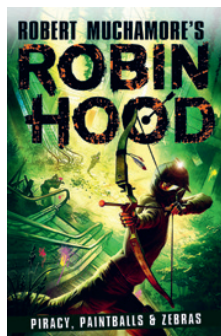
Lockley City has been on a downward spiral since the last car plant closed. When his dad is framed and thrown in jail for speaking out against corruption, twelve-year-old Robin finds himself on the run. The only place to hide is Sherwood Forest, stretching hundreds of kilometres on the outskirts of the city. It's a dangerous place, where the bears and snakes are almost as scary as the human population of bandits, terrorists, cultists and biker gangs. Robin wants revenge on the people who threw his dad in jail. But first, he must learn to survive in the forest.

Featuring breathtaking heists, genius hacking and corrupt business dealings that only a young hero of our times can bring down, this is the start of a truly compelling eight-book series for children aged 10+.

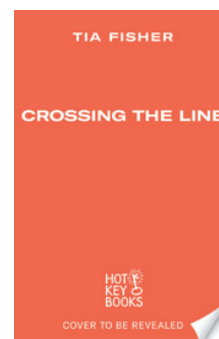
ROBERT MUCHAMORE's books have sold over 15 million copies worldwide, have been translated into 24 languages, and have been number-one bestsellers in eight countries including the UK, France, Germany, Australia and New Zealand. **ROBIN HOOD** is Robert's first series for readers aged 10-13 since his **CHERUB** series, having recently published two YA novels, **ARCTIC ZOO** and **KILLER-T**, with Hot Key Books.

The Times Children's Book of the Week

More than 60,000 copies sold



Coming soon: Four new episodes in the explosive Robin Hood saga



Publication:
April 2023

World Rights

Age range:
13-16

Key themes:
drug running, tests of
teenage friendship, family
bonds

Extent:
256pp tbc

Crossing the Line

Tia Fisher

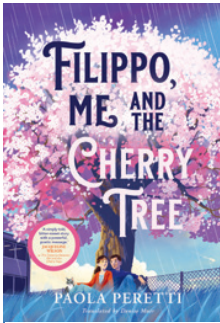
A powerful, immersive novel that deals realistically and openly with how vulnerable teenage boys can be swept up into drug-running. For fans of PUNCHING THE AIR and SPLINTERS OF SUNSHINE.

Both these factors Erik's mum is juggling the challenge of two small babies, plus the recent death of her husband due to COVID-19. Both these factors affect Erik too, struggling with homework as the babies continually cry at home – as well as needing to support his mum. When the difficulties at home affect Erik's behaviour at school and he is pushed into the company of the 'bad boys', Erik is tempted to earn some easy money. . .

But this kind of money is never truly easy to earn and comes with a terrible cost.

The author does not have direct experience of drug-running herself but has spoken extensively with a teenage boy who has, who vouches for its authenticity. The UK Children's Society charity is authenticity-reading the script. Written as a verse novel, the writing is immediately accessible.

TIA FISHER is a librarian in South London and is also taking her Masters in Writing for Young People at Bath Spa University. She has published poems in *The Rialto*, and a YA novel was long-listed for the Mslexia Children's Novel Award. Tia lives with her husband and teenage children, who resist her attempts to use them as source material. This is her debut novel.



Publication:
June 2022

World Rights

Option Publishers:

Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Catalan, China, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, South Korea, Spain, Taiwan, Turkey, USA

Age range:
10+

Key themes:
friendship, family, first love

Extent:
144pp tbc

Filippo, Me and the Cherry Tree

Paola Peretti

Translated into English by Denise Muir

A powerful, uplifting and moving story of a young girl's battle against losing her sight.

Mafalda is thirteen and has been blind since she was ten. Her best friend is the cheerfully rule-breaking Filippo, and she is accompanied everywhere by Ottimo Turcaret, her devoted cat. Mafalda is ever positive, always thinking of things she can do both now and in the future despite her loss of sight. But other things are worrying her too: her father, who has lost his job and is now in the depths of depression, refusing to leave his bed; and then there is the horrible girl in school, Debbie, who seems very interested in Filippo, which means Mafalda has to start thinking in a new way about what Filippo means to her . . .

Then two new adults come into her life: Elsa, a homeless young woman, and Signor Nino, the elderly upstairs neighbour with an awful temper and a great passion for Charles Dickens and *GREAT EXPECTATIONS*. Little by little Mafalda learns their stories, and how their lives were shaped by brave and difficult choices.

PAOLA PERETTI lives in Verona and teaches immigrant children. Fifteen years ago she was diagnosed with Stargardt disease, which causes progressive vision loss and eventually blindness. There is no known cure. She is the author of *THE DISTANCE BETWEEN ME AND THE CHERRY TREE* (Hot Key Books, 2018) which was translated into 25 languages and has sold over 150,000 copies across the world.

DENISE MUIR is a translator of fiction and picture books from Italian to English, writes a blog about inclusive children's books, works with local libraries to promote reading in the community, performs as a storyteller in Italian and English, and collaborates with the Italian Children's Writers Association, Outside In World. Denise divides her time between Edinburgh and Abruzzo, Italy.

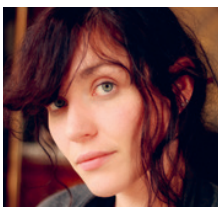
Nominated for the CLIP CARNEGIE MEDAL 2019
Winner of IBBY Honour List 2020

Praise for *THE DISTANCE BETWEEN ME AND THE CHERRY TREE*:
'A simply told, bitter-sweet story, with a powerful poetic message.'
JACQUELINE WILSON

Translated into 25 languages



Over 150,000 copies sold across the world



Publication:
September 2022

World Rights

Age range:
14+

Key themes:
hauntings, trauma, sisters,
memory

Extent:
368pp tbc

Wise Creatures

Deirdre Sullivan

I always thought that hauntings began with houses. They don't, of course. It's people, isn't it? It starts with people.

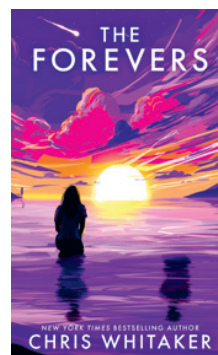
Former child psychic Daisy hasn't thought about her past for a long time. She was only six, after all. The 'wise creatures' in the walls of the house, whispering secrets to her, are long gone. Her parents, dead in a mysterious accident, are forgotten. Some surfaces are better left unscratched. Daisy has left those things behind.

And now, ten years on, she has a happy, normal life. But she does wonder, sometimes, about the blank spaces in her memories. The fear when she encounters certain textures, scents. It can be hard to feel safe in a world that's full of fears you can't explain. Thank God for Nina, her trusting, sweet foster sister and best friend. So when something seems to shift in Nina's life Daisy is shaken. Nina has some secret she is guarding, that she won't share with Daisy. And then Nina begins to speak of murmurs in the walls, of cold spots. She claims it isn't her. It's something else. A malevolent force.

And Daisy knows that something's up. And that the wise creatures, locked away for so long, are back. And this time they want both Nina, and Daisy

A darkly thrilling contemporary supernatural horror novel from award-winning author Deirdre Sullivan.

DEIRDRE SULLIVAN is a writer from Galway. Her 2016 novel *NEEDLEWORK* was awarded a White Raven and the CBI Honour Award for fiction. *TANGLEWEED AND BRINE*, a collection of dark fairy-tale retellings, won an Irish Book Award in 2017, as did the sequel, *SAVAGE HER REPLY*. Her novels for Hot Key Books are *PERFECTLY PREVENTABLE DEATHS* (shortlisted for the Irish Book Awards) and *PRECIOUS CATASTROPHE*.



Publication:
July 2021

World Rights

Age range:
14+

Key themes:
apocalypse, lies, betrayal,
dark humour

Extent:
356pp

The Foreverers

Chris Whitaker

The debut YA novel from the adult New York Times bestselling author.

They knew the end was coming. They saw it ten years back, when it was far enough away in space and time and meaning.

The changes were gradual, and then sudden.

For Mae and her friends, it means navigating a life where action and consequence are no longer related. Where the popular are both trophies and targets. And where petty grudges turn deadlier with each passing day. So, did Abi Manton jump off the cliff or was she pushed? Her death is just the beginning of the end.

With teachers losing control of their students and themselves, and the end rushing towards all of them, everyone is facing the answer to one, simple question . . .

What would you do if you could get away with anything?

With echoes of *THIRTEEN REASONS WHY*, *LITTLE MISS SUNSHINE* and *SEX EDUCATION*, *THE FOREVERERS* is part thriller, part coming-of-age novel, shining a light on the best and worst of humanity in a world without consequences.

CHRIS WHITAKER has won several awards, including the 2021 CWA Gold Dagger Award, the Theakstone Award and the Ned Kelly Award. His *NEW YORK TIMES* bestselling novel *WE BEGIN AT THE END* has been translated into 22 languages and has sold almost 200,000 copies. The title was featured as Thriller of the Year by *THE GUARDIAN* and Waterstones, and TV Rights have been optioned by Disney Television Studios. *THE FOREVERERS* is his first YA novel.

'Incredibly moving and beautifully written.'

'A thought-provoking, highly quotable, soul-searching appreciation of life in an end of the world tale.'

'Whitaker's themes of young people being robbed of their chances to grow up, of the opportunities lost to them and the hopelessness that brings feel very close to home just now.'

'Thought-provoking page-turner founded on a killer concept. Masterfully evoked in all its heart-stopping starkness.'

LOVEREADING4KIDS – STAFF PICKS



Publication:
August 2022 / August 2023

World Rights

Age range:
13+

Key themes:
freedom, betrayal, the Underworld

Extent:
448pp tbc

Daughter of Darkness Queen of Gods

Katharine and Elizabeth Corr

Enter the Underworld in an epic new fantasy duology, HOUSE OF SHADOWS, where the Gods of ancient Greece rule everything but fate.

Deina is trapped. As one of the Soul Severers serving the god Hades on earth, her future is tied to the task of shepherding the dying on from the mortal world – unless she can earn or steal enough to buy her way out.

Then the tyrant ruler Orpheus offers both fortune and freedom to whoever can retrieve his dead wife, Eurydice, from the Underworld. Deina jumps at the chance. But to win, she must enter an uneasy alliance with a group of fellow Severers she neither likes nor trusts.

So begins their perilous journey into the realm of Hades . . . The prize of freedom is before her – but what will it take to reach it?

From the authors of *A THRONE OF SWANS* and *A CROWN OF TALONS* comes an evocative and thrilling fantasy set in an alternative Ancient Athens, where humans are marked by Gods and Athens is ruled by the sorcerer-king Orpheus.

KATHARINE and ELIZABETH CORR are sisters and writers. When they both decided to write novels – on account of fictional people being much easier to deal with than real ones – it was obvious they should do it together. They can sometimes be found in one of their local coffee shops arguing over which character to kill off next.



Publication:
January 2020 / January 2021

World Rights

Age range:
13+

Key themes:
shapeshifting, power, intrigue

Extent:
352pp / 400pp

A Throne of Swans A Crown of Talons

Katharine and Elizabeth Corr

Birds of the sky. Rulers of the land.

When her father dies just before her birthday, seventeen-year-old Aderyn inherits the role of Protector of Atratys, a dominion in a kingdom where nobles can transform at will into the bird that represents their family bloodline. Aderyn's ancestral bird is a swan, but she has not transformed for years. Not since witnessing the death of her mother – ripped apart by hawks that have supposedly been extinct since the long-ago War of the Raptors.

With the benevolent shelter of her mother and her father now lost, Aderyn is at the mercy of her brutal uncle, the king, and his royal court. Driven by revenge and love, she must venture into the malevolent heart of the Citadel in order to seek the truth about the attack that so nearly destroyed her, to fight for the only home she has ever known and for the land she has vowed to protect.

35,000 copies sold across the duology.

A BOOK TRUST Great Book Guide Pick

'A dark and glittering fairytale to make your heart take flight.'
VIC JAMES

'Tons of intrigue, mystery, family drama, glamorous gowns and hidden swords . . .'
BOOK TRUST





Publication:
August 2022

World Rights

Age range:
13+

Key themes:

identity, female empowerment, revenge, transformation, Welsh & Arthurian legend

Extent:
288pp tbc

Waking the Witch

Rachel Burge

Her destiny lies buried deep within her . . .

Seventeen-year-old Ivy has spent years looking for her birth mother. Growing up in care, all she has of her mother is the note that was left with her when she was a baby:

'I'm so sorry. I tried to keep you safe, but I see now that I can't. They won't stop until they have you, but I can't let that happen . . .'

When Ivy finally finds her mother on the remote Bardsey Island, off the coast of Wales, rumoured to be the site of Avalon and Merlin's last resting place, she is not prepared for what greets her. Her mother abandoned her as a baby to keep her safe from witches who wanted to steal her away – the eight witches of Arthurian legend, who have long sought the ninth.

What Ivy discovers about herself will shake her to the core – she is the reincarnation of a long-ago witch, and her sisters need her, if they are to exact revenge on Merlin for wrongs done to them all those centuries ago.

As the powers within Ivy grow and the witch within her begins to awaken, can she find the strength to fulfil her magical destiny while staying true to who she believes herself to be?

A highly atmospheric contemporary fantasy, steeped in Welsh mythology and Arthurian legend, for YA/crossover readers. For fans of Melinda Salisbury (*HOLD BACK THE TIDE*), Menna Van Praag (*THE SISTERS GRIMM*), Finbarr Hawkins (*WITCH*) and Krystal Sutherland (*HOUSE OF HOLLOW*).

RACHEL BURGE works as a freelance feature writer and has written for a variety of websites, including BBC Worldwide, Cosmo and MTV. She lives in East Sussex with her partner, son and black Labrador, Biff.



Publication:
January 2019 / January 2021

World Rights

Age range:
12+

Key themes:

Norse myth, ghosts, mystery

Extent:
272pp / 288pp

The Twisted Tree The Crooked Mask

Rachel Burge

Part ghost story, part Nordic mystery – a creepy and chilling tale steeped in Norse myth, perfect for fans of Neil Gaiman, and Michelle Paver's DARK MATTER.

Martha can tell things about a person just by touching their clothes, as if their emotions and memories have been absorbed into the material. It started the day she fell from the tree at her grandma's cabin and became blind in one eye.

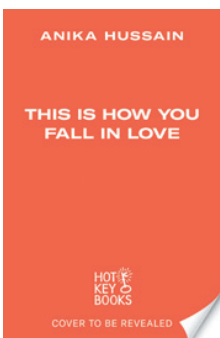
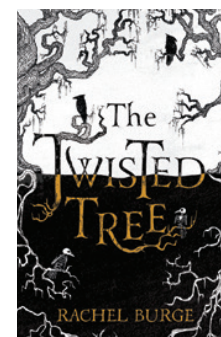
Determined to understand her strange ability, Martha sets off to visit her grandmother, Mormor – only to discover Mormor is dead, a peculiar boy is in her cabin and a terrifying creature is on the loose.

Then the spinning wheel starts creaking, books move around and terror creeps in . . .

Set in the remote snows of contemporary Norway, *THE TWISTED TREE* is a ghost story that twists and turns – and never takes you quite where you'd expect.

SUNDAY TIMES Children's Book of the Week

'A creepy and evocative fantasy.'
SUNDAY TIMES



Publication:
February 2023

World Rights

Age range:
14–16

Key themes:

romance, fake dating, friends to lovers, love triangle, high school, coming of age

Extent:
336pp tbc

This Is How You Fall In Love

Anika Hussain

A hilarious and heartfelt YA fake dating romcom from an exciting debut author.

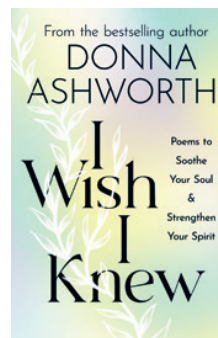
Zara and Adnan are just friends. Always have been, always will be. Even if they have to pretend to be girlfriend and boyfriend. . .

Zara loves love in all forms and she's desperate to have her own great love story. Crucially, a real one. So when her best friend Adnan begs her to pretend to date him to cover up his new top-secret relationship, Zara is hesitant. This isn't the kind of thing she had in mind. But there's something in it for Zara too: making her parents, who love Adnan, happy might just stop them arguing for a while. She may not be getting her own love story, but she could save theirs.

So Zara agrees and the act begins: after all, how different can pretending to be in a relationship with your best friend be to just hanging around with them like usual? Turns out, a lot. With fake dating comes fake hand-holding and fake kissing and real feelings. . . And when a new boy turns up in Zara's life, things get more confusing than ever.

The course of true love never did run smooth, but Zara's love story is messier than most. . .

ANIKA HUSSAIN is a debut author who was born in Stockholm and now lives in Bath. She is a graduate of Bath Spa Masters in Writing for Young People. Not having seen herself in the books she read as a teenager, Anika writes YA novels with South Asian characters at the heart of the story. Anika often returns to Sweden where she has made TV and radio appearances, speaking about the impact writing has had on her life, and her work with the Ministry of Storytelling.



Publication:
April 2022

World Rights

Age group:
YA

Extent:
192pp, b/w illustrations

I Wish I Knew

Donna Ashworth

A brilliant collection of poems for young people addressing contemporary issues.

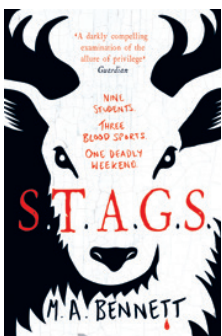
Donna Ashworth is the wordsmith behind the social media phenomenon LADIES PASS IT ON, and she has more than 600,000 followers across two platforms, a following that's growing by 10,000 every month. *I WISH I KNEW* is a very personal collection of poems, for young women in particular who are navigating their bodies, emotions, mental health and growth in this fast-paced world.

Having struggled in her teenage years with perfectionism, eating disorders and depression, for Donna this a very personal passion project. *I WISH I KNEW* is a book that will bring comfort, confidence, sisterhood and acceptance into the hearts of young women, and is also relevant for young men.

Many of Donna's poems have gone viral, travelled round the world and been viewed millions of times. Her work has been turned into songs, videos and been read by celebrities and she was recently featured in both *GRAZIA* and *GLAMOUR* magazines as one of the most celebrated female poets. This new collection of 60 poems, covering body image, self-esteem, depression, pressure, acceptance, growth and relationships, is published at a perfect time and will resonate with young people and adults everywhere.

Wattpad sensation with over 100 million reads and no. 3 in 'Wattpad Most Viral'

DONNA ASHWORTH has self-published three poetry books, and each one has been an online bestseller. Many of Donna's recent poems have been printed in yearbooks, school newsletters and even now appear as part of the curriculum. Her work has featured in over a hundred magazines and blogs and Donna regularly speaks at events, on TV shows, on radio and more, where she loves to read her work aloud.



S.T.A.G.S.
D.O.G.S.
F.O.X.E.S.
T.I.G.E.R.S.
H.A.W.K.S.
M. A. Bennett

**Nine students.
 Three bloodsports.
 One deadly weekend.**

The shocking finale is here . . .

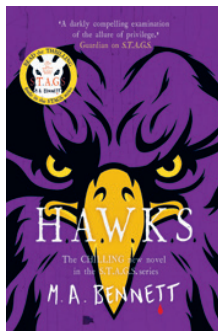
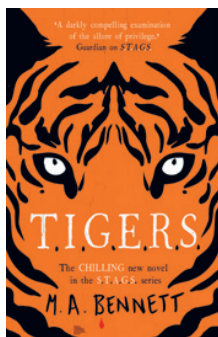
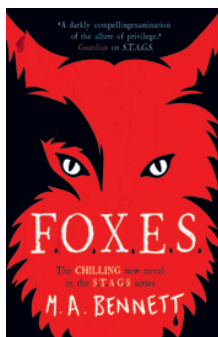
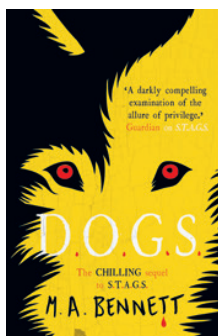
Seventeen-year-old Greer McDonald is a fish out of water at the exclusive St Aidan the Great School (S.T.A.G.S.). When handsome, influential Henry de Warlencourt invites her to join him and his exclusive Medievalls clique at his family mansion, she can't believe her luck. But as Greer sets foot in Longcross Hall, she is drawn into a dangerous, alluring world that just won't let her go . . .

Shortlisted for the YA BOOK PRIZE 2018 and Winner of the Great Reads 'Most Read' 2018 Senior Award. A twisting thriller for fans of *ONE OF US IS LYING* and *PRETTY LITTLE LIARS*.

M.A. BENNETT is half Venetian and a history graduate of Oxford University and the University of Venice. S.T.A.G.S., was shortlisted for the YA BOOK PRIZE 2018, won the Warwickshire Secondary Book Award 2019, Gold in the Sussex Coast Schools Amazing Book Award 2019 and the Great Reads 'Most Read' 2018 Senior Award. Find Marina @MABennettAuthor on Twitter and @mabennettauthor on Instagram.

'Darkly compelling.'
THE GUARDIAN

'A cracking debut psychological thriller.'
IRISH SUNDAY TIMES



Why Is Nobody Laughing? Yasmin Rahman

A powerful contemporary novel tackling teenage mental health in boys.

Ibrahim and Dexter have been best friends forever. While Dexter is always cool and confident, Ibrahim... well, Ibrahim's dealing with a lot. Hiding his passion for comedy from his family, dealing with the pressure of being the oldest child in an immigrant family, and now he's started having episodes he soon realises are panic attacks.

When Ibrahim has a panic attack on stage at a local stand up competition, he runs off to a deserted room. There he finds Sura.

Sura is kind and helps him come to terms with his anxiety. He can open up to her in a way he's never been able to with Dexter. But there's also something strange about her - how much she knows about Ibrahim, and how she seems to disappear in an instant.

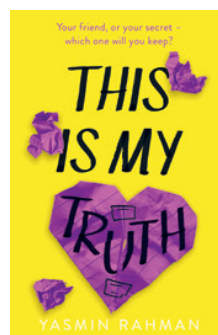
Will Ibrahim crumble under the pressure, or will Sura's words be enough to help him? And what will happen when he no longer has her help?

From the runner-up for the inaugural YA Diversity Book Awards.

Teenage mental health in boys is an important subject that needs to be aired widely.

YASMIN RAHMAN is a British Muslim born and raised in Hertfordshire. She has an MA in Creative Writing and an MA in Writing for Young People, both with Distinction. Her short story 'Fortune Favours the Bold' was published in the Stripes anthology *A CHANGE IS GONNA COME* in 2017, with *THE BOOKSELLER* awarding the contributors a YA Book Prize Special Achievement Award 2018 for commitment to making YA publishing more inclusive.

Publication:
 July 2022
World Rights
Age range:
 14+
Key themes:
 mental health, male friendship, panic attacks
Extent:
 352pp tbc



This Is My Truth Yasmin Rahman

Your friend or your secret . . . which one will you keep?

Best friends Amani and Huda are getting nervous about their school exams - and their future beyond school, which they're both wildly unprepared for. Shy, quiet Amani has an outwardly picture-perfect family - a father who is a successful TV presenter, a loving mother and an adorable younger brother - while confident and impulsive Huda has grown up with over-affectionate foster parents who are now expecting a baby of their own.

Both girls are jealous of each other's seemingly easy life, without realising the darkness or worries that lie underneath. Then Huda witnesses Amani's father hitting her mother, and Amani's biggest secret is suddenly out.

As Amani convinces Huda to keep quiet by helping her with her own problems, a prank blog starts up at school, revealing students' secrets one by one. Will this anonymous blogger get hold of Amani's secret too? Will Huda keep quiet?

Publication:
 July 2021
World Rights
Age range:
 14+
Key themes:
 family, domestic abuse, adoption and fostering, blackmail, friendship
Extent:
 416pp



**Runner-Up for the 2020
 Diverse Book Awards**



Publication:
May 2019 / September 2021

World Rights

Age group:
13+

Key themes:
sisters, sacrifice, witchcraft, coming of age

Extent:
368pp / 432pp

Perfectly Preventable Deaths

Deirdre Sullivan

THE HAZEL WOOD meets SABRINA THE TEENAGE WITCH.

Fifteen-year-old twins Catlin and Madeline live in Ballyfran, a place that seems entirely ordinary but in fact seethes with secrets. It's a village where, for centuries, people who are not quite human and not always righteous have gathered. After Catlin fell foul of one such evil creature, Madeline had to give up part of her soul to save her sister.

Now the girls are building their strange new lives: Catlin is still haunted by what happened and Madeline continues her witchcraft training with the local wise woman, Mamó. But this is no easy task. And Madeline knows she has to keep watch over her sister. Notice things before they start to happen. And before long, they do . . .

Dark, savage and spellbinding, this is the final instalment in a thrilling coming-of-age duology about twins, witchcraft and the sacrifices we have to make for those we care about the most..

Shortlisted for the Irish Book Awards 2019

DEIRDRE SULLIVAN is a writer from Galway. Her books include the PRIMROSE LEARY trilogy, *NEEDLEWORK* (winner of the CBI Honour Award for Fiction) and *TANGLEWEED AND BRINE*, a collection of dark fairy-tale retellings, which won an Irish Book Award for Best YA Book of the Year 2017.

'A classic in the making.'
SFX MAGAZINE

'Intoxicating, skilfully crafted.'
THE BOOKSELLER



Publication:
May 2022

World Rights

Age group:
YA

Extent:
256pp

Behind Frenemy Lines

Lauren Price

An authentic, sharp-eyed take on the twists and turns of teenage life. Funny and heart-warming, BEHIND FRENNEMY LINES is perfect for lovers of quirky, laugh-out-loud rom-coms.

First day back at high school and a new principal is in post, determined to stamp his authority on a handful of kids who are running wild, bringing his reputation and that of the school into disrepute.

Meanwhile star student Erica Monroe is equally determined – her heart's set on a place at Stanford. That fantasy of her mom actually being proud of her is strong . . . and Erica will do whatever it takes to prove her worth to her family, her friends and most of all herself.

Featuring some of the seriously cute characters and at least as much warmth, wit and teenage heart as her hit debut *A BAD BOY STOLE MY BRA*, Lauren Price can't fail to delight with this hilarious, fun-filled and offbeat high-school comedy.

LAUREN PRICE is 22 years old, and began writing her first book, *A BAD BOY STOLE MY BRA*, at the age of 14. Lauren spent her childhood with her nose in a book or writing short stories and, as a self-confessed book lover, studies English at university.



Publication:
April 2021 / October 2021

World Rights

Age group:
13+

Key themes:
adventure, philosophy, magic, wit

Extent:
384pp / 368pp

Way of the Argosi

Fall of the Argosi

Sebastien de Castell

THE ALCHEMIST meets THE THREE MUSKETEERS.

Ferius Parfax has a simple plan: kill every last inhabitant of the spell-gifted nation that destroyed her people, starting with the man who murdered her parents. Killing mages is a difficult and dangerous business, of course, but when she meets the inimitable and extraordinary Durrall Brown she discovers that physical strength is not the only way to defeat evil of all kinds.

Ferius undertakes to study the ways of the Argosi. But the Argosi have a price for their teachings, and by the time Ferius learns what it is, it may be too late.

Exploring the childhood of one of the most-loved characters of the author's popular SPELLSLINGER series, this is perfect for fans of *THE DARK TOWER*, *FIREFLY* and *GAME OF THRONES*.

Ferius's adventurous quest continues in *FALL OF THE ARGOSI*, bound to take the reader on a journey that will be hard to forget.

SEBASTIEN DE CASTELL's acclaimed swashbuckling fantasy series, *THE GREATCOATS*, was shortlisted for both the Goodreads Choice Award for Best Fantasy and the Gemmell Morningstar Award. His YA fantasy series, *SPELLSLINGER*, is published in more than a dozen languages. He spends his time writing, travelling and going on strange adventures.



Spellslinger Series

Sebastien de Castell

250,000 copies sold across the world

Film rights optioned

Sold in 15 territories

Winner of the Prix Elbakin for Fantasy

'One of the best YA novels I've seen in a long time – larky, clever and slick.'

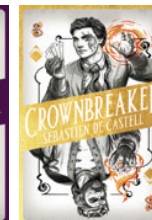
LITERARY REVIEW

'Gloriously escapist fantasy.'

THE OBSERVER

'FANTASY JUNKIES WILL DEVOUR WITH RELISH.'

THE GUARDIAN





Publication:
May 2022

World Rights

Age range:
13+

Key themes:
sex, relationships, bodies, honesty

Extent:
272pp, b/w illustrations

Honest

Everything They Didn't Tell You About Sex, Relationships and Bodies

Milly Evans
Illustrated by Lucia Picerno

Let's talk about sex.

Reading the above will probably conjure up embarrassing memories of awkward sex-education lessons, the dreaded cringey 'talk' with Mum and Dad. Even worse, those confusing tales of the experiences of your more adventurous friends . . .

But happily, journalist and campaigner Milly Evans, has got it all covered – from sexuality to sexting, masturbation to sexual consent – she lets us in to her number-one secret: grown-ups have NO idea what they're doing. Sex education doesn't need to be embarrassing, scary and only about what you need to be aware of. *HONEST* is a positive guide to sex, relationships and bodies, full of all the secrets that parents are too scared to talk to their teens about.

In addition to Milly's own views and advice, we meet some brilliant sex-positive activists and inspirational people along the way. LGBTQ+ perspectives are integrated throughout the book, so that every reader can see their experiences reflected and know that sex-and-relationship education doesn't have to be from a hetero-normative perspective.

So, enough foreplay. Let's talk about sex, and spark open and honest conversations through the voice of a young woman who is steeped in the subject and knows how to broach it.

MILLY EVANS is a journalist and sex-education advocate who has been campaigning for a more inclusive and comprehensive sex-education curriculum since 2016. She has worked with Brook and the Terrence Higgins Trust as well as being involved with Stonewall and UNESCO.

LUCIA PICERNO is an award-winning designer and illustrator from Uruguay, living in London. She aims to spread thought-provoking messages that inspire women to be seen and heard. Her clients include Penguin Random House, HarperCollins, Honda, Bodyform, Palmer's and Danone among many others.

You Are a Story

Laura Dockrill

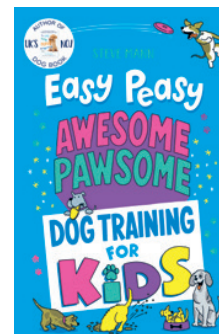
Tell your story. A guide and companion for using creative writing to speak your own truth.

When you are a teenager, everything changes – including you. How do you find your way back to yourself when it can feel like teachers, parents, friends, the rest of the world, all want you to be something else? It can be fun to try on different ways of being but the best way to steer yourself through crazy, brilliant adolescence is to hold onto your sense of you.

Laura's stress-free invitations to creative writing encourage you to find your voice, celebrate it and use it.

Everybody can write. You don't need a fancy desk; you don't need a posh expensive pen. You don't need a degree or to be the smartest cookie in the cookie jar. All you need is a brain and a heart.

LAURA DOCKRILL, a graduate of the Brit School of Performing Arts, is a poet, writer and illustrator. At the age of 22 she was named by *THE TIMES* as a 'Top Ten Literary Star'. She is the author of the *DARCY BURDOCK* series and the YA novels *LORALI*, *AURABEL* and *BIG BONES*. Her adult book, *WHAT HAVE I DONE*, is an honest memoir about suffering from post-natal mental illness. Find her on Twitter and Instagram @LauraDockrill



Publication:
July 2021

World Rights

Extent:
192pp

Easy Peasy Awesome Pawsome Dog Training for Kids

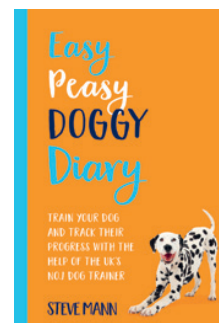
Steve Mann

There is nothing more exciting than having a dog: your own best friend to play with. In this guide, Steve Mann shares the passion he had when he was a child growing up with dogs and fires up that same passion in a new generation of children.

It is packed with facts, fun and bow-wow know-how, including essential exercises, the history of dogs and dog safety – not to mention lots of tricks, quizzes and fun games for kids and their dogs!

From the author of *EASY PEASY PUPPY SQUEEZY* (over 250,000 copies sold), this is THE must-have book for any family with a dog and kids living under the same roof – ahem – roof.

'Dog Training Genius!'
EMILIA CLARKE



Publication:
November 2020

World Rights

Extent:
400pp

Easy Peasy Doggy Diary

Steve Mann

The training journal with new tips and techniques.

This weekly diary is the perfect tool to help you and your dogs stay on track, set out in a simple format with new tips and techniques to help you and your dog enjoy the journey to domesticated bliss.

Beautifully designed with illustrations and line drawings, with weekly targets and progress checks, *EASY PEASY DOGGY DIARY* is the perfect way to record those special dog moments, such as walking without a lead, perfecting recall, sleeping through the night and socialisation with other dogs and visitors.

Whether you want to keep track of diet, jot down your favourite local walks, record health visits or celebrate key achievements, this journal helps you plan for the future and see how far you've come.

STEVE MANN has been a full-time dog trainer for over twenty years. He has trained thousands of dogs and hundreds of professional dog trainers.

Publication:
2017-2021

World Rights

Extent:
176pp

Age range:
8+

Key themes:
football, teamwork,
biography

Ultimate Football Heroes

Matt and Tom Oldfield

Over a million copies sold

Rights sold in 14 territories

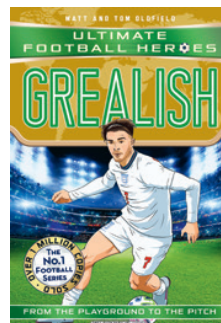
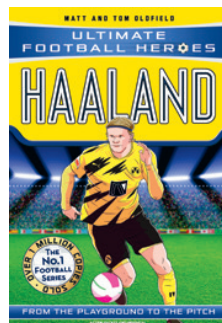
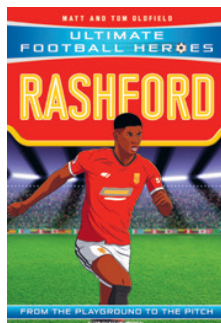
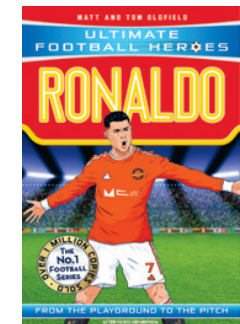
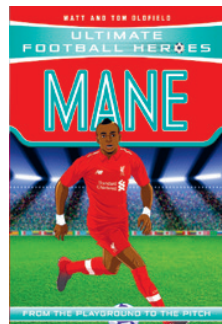
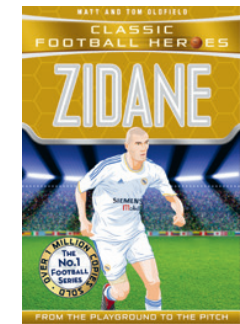
Over 50 titles available

An epic series of biographies telling the life-stories of the biggest and best footballers in the world and their incredible journey from childhood fan to superstar professional player.

Written in fast-paced, action-packed style, these books are perfect for all the family to collect and share.

Latest titles include: Lewandowski, Rashford, Zidane, Mbappe, Dele Alli, Salah, Grealish, Son Heung-min and Kane.

MATT OLDFIELD is an accomplished writer and the editor-in-chief of football review site OF PITCH AND PAGE. **TOM OLDFIELD** is a freelance sports writer and the author of biographies on Cristiano Ronaldo, Arsène Wenger and Rafael Nadal.



Publication:
September 2019
World Rights
Age range:
10+
Key themes:
spooky, historical, magical realism

The Wind in the Wall

Sally Gardner
Illustrated by **Rovina Cai**

'I have no idea how long I have been incarcerated in these ancient walls . . . Let me explain how I find myself in this predicament . . .'

Longlisted for the CILIP Kate Greenaway Medal 2021



Publication:
August 2019
World Rights
Age range:
9-12
Key themes:
creative writing, imagination, ideas, doodles

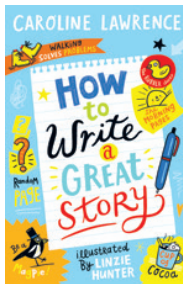
How to Write a Great Story

Caroline Lawrence

Million-copy-selling author Caroline Lawrence shares her best tips in this fun and accessible guide to creative writing and storytelling.

'Caroline captures the children's imaginations and makes them feel like they CAN write.'

CHRISTINA WEERASEKERA, SCHOOL COORDINATOR



Publication:
April 2018
World Rights
Age range:
9-12
Key themes:
being yourself, family, friendships, humour

Just Jack

Kate Scott

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.

'A clever and tenderly told tale of growing up . . . and wising up.'
LANCASHIRE EVENING POST



Publication:
February 2017
World Rights
Age range:
9-12
Key themes:
being yourself, family, friendships, humour

GIANT

Kate Scott

Anzo is eleven years old and very, very short. Mum, Dad and his two uncles are extremely tall but they're also high achievers, obsessed with fulfilling their lifelong ambition of opening a restaurant together. Everyone has a role – but where does Anzo fit in? If only he could grow a few inches in height, then no one would be able to overlook him.

Then, overnight, Anzo starts to grow. Is life as a giant going to solve all his problems, or should he stop worrying and learn to just be himself?

'A book that celebrates friendship and the power of being true to yourself.'
FRANK COTTRELL-BOYCE



Publication:
March 2019
World Rights
Age range:
13+
Key themes:
privilege, cliques, apocalypse

The Secret Runners of New York

Matthew Reilly

A twisting YA novel from New York Times and international bestselling thriller writer Matthew Reilly.

The Australian Number 1 bestseller

'Bloodily exuberant thriller . . .'
FINANCIAL TIMES

'Such a fun read.'
SFX MAGAZINE



Publication:
April 2020
World Rights
Age range:
13+
Key themes:
Hiroshima, promise, guilt, forgiveness, Haiku, history, memory

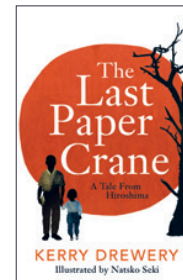
The Last Paper Crane

Kerry Drewery
Illustrated by **Natsko Seki**

A powerful novel set in contemporary Japan and also at the time of the bombing of Hiroshima that, despite its harrowing subject matter, has hope at its heart.'

Nominated for the CILIP Carnegie Medal 2021

'An outstanding and heart-filled book.'
BOOK FOR KEEPS



Publication:
May 2018
World Rights
Age range:
12+
Key themes:
Zimbabwe, courage, friendship

Hope Is Our Only Wing

Rutendo Tavengerwei

An extraordinary debut that takes an honest look at hope, and the grit and courage it can take to hang on to it.

Nominated for the CILIP Carnegie Medal 2019

KIRKUS STARRED REVIEW

'A narrative of courage and optimism in the face of loss, this novel is brilliant storytelling.'
KIRKUS REVIEWS

'A beautiful [. . .] touching story about friendship and what it means to face your everyday fears. I can't recommend it enough!'
THE BOOKSELLER



Publication:
May 2020
World Rights
Age range:
13+
Key themes:
Zimbabwe, outsider, forgiveness, hatred, love

The Colours That Blind

Rutendo Tavengerwei

A breathtaking teen novel set in Zimbabwe about freedom, inter-generational friendships and forgiving the past.

Nominated for the CILIP Carnegie Medal 2021

'An eloquent plea for acceptance and reconciliation.'
THE GUARDIAN



Publication:
February 2019

World Rights

Age range:
YA

Key themes:
zombie apocalypse,
non-binary

Highway Bodies

Alison Evans

A unique zombie apocalypse story featuring a range of queer and gender non-conforming teens who have lost their families and friends and can only rely upon each other.

THE TIMES Children's Book of the Week

'It warms hearts as often as it slits throats, telling a story driven by love and acceptance, and lots of zombies. [...] wonderful writing.'
THE AU REVIEW



Publication:
April 2019 /
September 2019 /
February 2020

World Rights

Age range:
7+

Key themes:
fun, adventure,
princesses, magic

Beatrix the Bold
The Curse of the Wobblers
The Riddletown Dragon
The Balloon of Doom

Simon Mockler
Illustrated by
Cherie Zamazing



Publication:
September 2018

World Rights

Age range:
14+

Key themes:
gene-editing,
near-future, Las
Vegas, survival

KILLER T

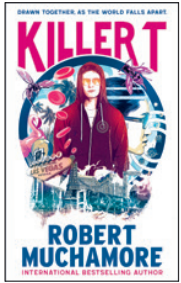
Robert Muchamore

Set in a near future world where gene editing allows anyone to beat cancer or enhance their brain to pass exams. But in the wrong hands, gene editing is the most deadly weapon in history. Enter Killer T ... A powerful novel from bestselling CHERUB author Robert Muchamore.

THE TIMES Children's Book of the Week

'A pulsating rollercoaster read.'
'DAILY EXPRESS

'The intriguing concept and high-stakes action will keep readers turning the pages, whether they're already die-hard Muchamore fans or newcomers.'
IRISH TIMES



Publication:
June 2018 /
September 2019 /
January 2020

World Rights

Age range:
12+

Key themes:
friendship, books,
feminism

Bookshop Girl
Life's a Beach
Bookshop Girl In Paris

Chloe Coles

'A funny, feisty, feminist heroine ...'
SUNDAY EXPRESS

'Hilarious ... great fun.'
SCHOOL LIBRARIAN



Publication:
October 2017

World Rights

Age range:
13+

Key themes:
friendship, truth,
search for love, UFOs

My Side of the Diamond

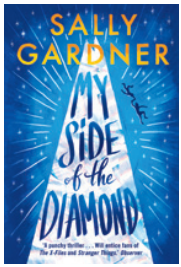
Sally Gardner

An extraordinary tale about the search for love from the acclaimed Costa and Carnegie winning novelist Sally Gardner.

Longlisted for the CLIP Carnegie Medal 2019

'A unique and complex reading experience about the search for love.'
THE BOOKSELLER

'Bizarre and brilliant ...'
KIRAN MILLWOOD HARGRAVE



Publication:
August 2018 /
February 2019 / June
2019

World Rights

Age range:
12+

Key themes:
friends, summer,
humour

Gracie Dart
You Only Live Once
To Be Perfectly Honest
By Popular Demand

Jess Vallance

'Hilarious.'
HOLLY BOURNE

'Funny and touching.'
BOOKBAG



Publication:
January 2013

World Rights

Age range:
12+

Key themes:
friendship, danger,
rebellion, conspiracy
theories

Maggot Moon

Sally Gardner

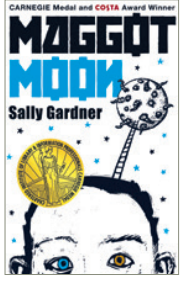
A starkly original and heartbreaking tale of friendship and rebellion set within a ruthless regime determined to beat its enemies in the race to the moon.

Carnegie Medal and Costa Award Winner

'Startlingly original, horribly gripping.'
THE TIMES

'A remarkable novel.'
BOOKS FOR KEEPS

'An unusual, deeply moving and thought-provoking story.'
BOOK TRUST



Publication:
June 2018 / June 2017
/ May 2016

World Rights

Age range:
9-12

Key themes:
family, friendship,
growing up, kindness

Jelly
A Storm of Strawberries
A Library of Lemons

Jo Cotterill



Publication:
April 2019 / May 2020

World Rights

Age range:
12+

Key themes:
adventure, time
travel, history, snacks

The Time Travel Diaries Adventure in Athens

Caroline Lawrence

SUNDAY TIMES Children's Book of the Week

'Accurate and hilarious.'
LITERARY REVIEW



Publication:
July 2018 / October
2018 / January 2019 /
July 2019

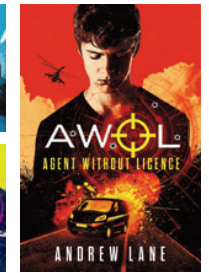
World Rights

Age range:
12+

Key themes:
spies, action, gadgets

AWOL Agent Without Licence Last Safe Moment Last Boy Standing Last Day on Earth Andrew Lane

'Exciting take on the teenage spy book.'
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Publication:
March 2019 /
September 2019 /
March 2020

World Rights

Age range:
9-12

Key themes:
ghosts, crime,
friendship

Potkin and Stubbs The Haunting of Peligan City Ghostcatcher

Sophie Green

**Illustrated by Karl James
Mountford**

**Scooby-Doo meets
Casper in Gotham City!**



Publication:
September 2017 /
February 2018 /
September 2018 /
February 2019 /
September 2019

World Rights

Age range:
8+

Key themes:
adventure, fearsome
creatures, danger

Supersaurs Raptors of Paradise The Stegosorcerer Clash of the Tyrants Temple of the Saur The Seventh Spinosauri

Jay Jay Burridge



Publication:
2017 – 2020

World Rights

Age range:
6+

Key themes:
adventure, outdoor
skills, environment

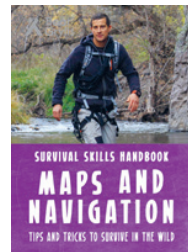
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Enola Holmes – Nancy Springer

Frogkisser! – Garth Nix

Genuine Fraud – E. Lockhart

Iremonger series - Heap House, Foulsham, Lungdon
– Edward Carey

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Marge in Charge series – Isla Fisher

Night Shift - Debi Gliori

Our Chemical Hearts – Krystal Sutherland

Perfectly Preventable Deaths – Deirdre Sullivan

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The Boy Who Grew Dragons – Andy Shepherd

The Cruel Prince (Folk of the Air) series – Holly Black

The Distance Between Me and the Cherry Tree – Paola Peretti

The Ghost Bride – Yangsze Choo

The Girl Who Drank the Moon – Kelly Barnhill

The Keys to the Kingdom series – Garth Nix

The Last Human – Lee Bacon

The Old Kingdom series – Garth Nix

The Red Ribbon – Lucy Adlington

The Tattooist of Auschwitz – Heather Morris

The Wild Robot – Peter Brown

The Witch's Boy – Kelly Barnhill

Vivian Versus the Apocalypse - Katie Coyle

We Were Liars – E. Lockhart

With the Fire on High - Elizabeth Acevedo

Publication:
March 2018 / August
2018 / October 2019

World Rights

Age range:
9-12

Key themes:
friendship, adventure,
humour, cars

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