

LOOKBOOK

SPRING/SUMMER 2023

MIDDLE GRADE & TEEN TITLES



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Swifter than Starlight by Cerrie Burnell
The Mirror World by Femi Fadugba
Tiffany Aching's Guide to Being a Witch by Rhianna Pratchett and Gabrielle Kent

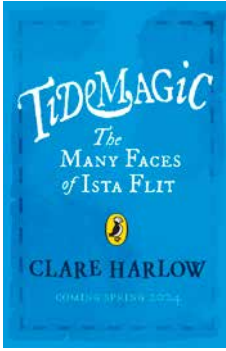
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The Double Trouble Society by Carrie Hope Fletcher
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Cappy and the Whale by Kateryna Babkina
Wild East by Ashley Hickson-Lovence

**BRAND
NEW
FOR
THIS
FAIR**



BRAND NEW FOR THIS FAIR



TIDEMAGIC : THE MANY FACES OF ISTA FLIT

Clare Harlow

Be swept away by this atmospheric, dangerous and enchanting middle-grade adventure where magic comes and goes with the tide, and no one is quite what they seem ...

- * **The debut novel from an exceptional new talent, perfect for fans of *Northern Lights*, *The Unadoptables* and *The Hatmakers***
- * **Starring a brilliantly engaging, fierce and determined new heroine with a unique magical gift who is Lyra Belacqua meets Arya Stark.**
- * **Brimming with heart-thumping adventure, wild and unreliable magic, a dark mystery to be solved and a gang of courageous and plucky children battling powerful, corrupt adults**
- * **More Tidemagic adventures to come - 2 books signed already**

DESCRIPTION

In Shelwich, magic rises and falls with the Tide. When the Tide is out, the magic ebbs to a low murmur. When the Tide is in, the magic is high – and Tide-blessings are at their strongest.

For most people, the Tide-blessing they are born with is nothing more than a simple party trick, like the ability to recite a poem backwards. But some are blessed with more powerful gifts. Telepathy. Flight. Or, in the case of Ista Flit, being able to transform to look like someone else. Anyone else ...

Ista has come to Shelwich in search of her missing father, where she meets Nat and Ruby, both struggling with their own search: Nat for his little brother, and Ruby for her sister. As more strange disappearances shock the town, the children must draw on all the Tidemagic they can to unravel a mystery that leads to the ancient caves beneath the town. But what they find there may be more than any of them have bargained for ...



After studying English at university, **Clare Harlow** went to drama school and became an actor. A few

years ago, she turned her love of storytelling from stage to page. Her first manuscript was longlisted for the Bath Children's Novel Award, her second was selected for the SCBWI 'Undiscovered Voices' anthology, and her third is *Tidemagic*. She lives with her husband in south-east London, where she spends a lot of time walking by the river in the hope that a little *Tidemagic* might rub off on her.

Age: 9–12 | **Publication Date:** February 2024

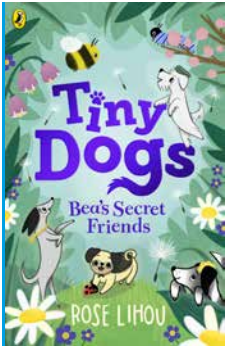
Extent: 304pp | **Word Count:** 60,000

Illustrations: black-and-white illustrations

Acquiring Editor: Natalie Doherty

Film Rights: PRHC | **World Rights:** PRHC

2 Language Sold: German , US English



THE TINY DOGS: BEA'S SECRET FRIENDS

Rose Lihou

A charming and sweet young fiction series featuring four tiny dogs, with full colour illustrations throughout from the author, for fans of Isadora Moon, Magic Kitten and Mummy Fairy.

- * **Gorgeous full colour illustrations from debut author-illustrator Rose Lihou.**
- * **Three titles contracted in the series**
- * **Captures the joy and fascination that children have for tiny things – with echoes of *The Borrowers*, *Flower Fairies* and *Polly Pocket*.**
- * **Perfect first reads for children moving on from picture books with messages about the importance of nature and how to cope with change**

DESCRIPTION

Bea and her mum are moving in with Bea's grandparents, which means a new school, new friends and too much change for Bea. All she can remember about Granny and Grandad's house is their big beautiful garden with its colourful flowers and places to hide, but when Bea and Mum arrive, the garden has become overgrown and neglected.

This wild garden feels like the perfect place for Bea to hide away from all the newness in her life but when she hears a strange noise and goes to investigate, Bea can't believe what she finds. Four tiny dogs, no bigger than mice, playing in the grass...

Follow the adventures of Bea and the tiny dogs as they become friends and help find a way to save the garden.



Rose Lihou is a children's author and illustrator living in Winchester, UK. Having previously worked in design teams across retail and children's publishing, she's now based from her home studio and supplies her illustrations to shops and galleries around the world. When she's not writing and illustrating, you're most likely to find Rose in a field with her two daughters and miniature schnauzer, Herbie.

Age: 5–7

Publication Date: May 2024

Extent: 144

Word Count: 13,000 approx

Illustrations: colour illustrations throughout by the author

Acquiring Editor: Kelly Hurst

Film Rights: The Blair Partnership

World Rights: PRHC

BRAND NEW FOR THIS FAIR



Arkspire

Jamie Littler

Glorious, powerful, magic; a city of twists, turns and tricksters; extraordinary secrets which only one girl can uncover . . . welcome to the world of Arkspire

- * *Frostheart* was the bestselling middle-grade debut of 2019. It was also shortlisted for the Branford Boase Award 2020, and the series has now sold over 77,000 copies through TCM.
- * In *Arkspire*, Jamie recreates all the amazing adventure, humour and heart that readers loved in *Frostheart*, but in a totally new world with characters children will fall equally in love with.
- * Jamie's brilliant text is matched by his extraordinary illustrations which vividly bring the world of *Arkspire* to life - perfect for reluctant readers who usually find big chunks of text intimidating.

DESCRIPTION

Arkspire is a city obsessed by magic. Within it lives Juniper Bell, a thief who'd do anything for her family. Then one night, something incredible happens. A stolen relic (nothing to do with Juni, ahem...) explodes, revealing a mysterious creature, Igna - who appears to 'bond' with Juni. Which is TOTALLY FORBIDDEN magic . . .

Soon Juni, Igna and everyone she loves are pulled into an extraordinary world of magic, power and prestige - but also grave danger. The world Juni thought she knew is nothing but a lie -and now only she and Igna can bring it down.



Jamie is an author-illustrator whose debut middle-grade novel, *Frostheart*, was a number one bestseller. He has also illustrated *Hamish and the Worldstoppers* which was the bestselling children's debut of 2015 and *Wilf the Mighty Worrier*, shortlisted for the Laugh Out Loud Book Awards.

Age: 9–11

Publication Date: July 2023

Extent: 448pp | **Word Count:** 63,000

Illustrations: black-and-white illustrations throughout

Acquiring Editor: Naomi Colthurst

Film Rights: United Agents

World Rights: PRHC



BILLY AND THE GIANT ADVENTURE

Jamie Oliver

Bestselling author and internationally renowned chef, Jamie Oliver, delivers the perfect recipe for a HUGE HIT in his children's fiction debut!

- * **Jamie Oliver has sold nearly 50 MILLION books worldwide and is a global phenomenon in food and campaigning.**
- * **Friendship, Food and Fantastical Adventure!**
- * **The start of an inspiring adventure series about self-belief and overcoming obstacles.**
- * **Includes recipes from the story at the end of the book.**

DESCRIPTION

Billy and his friends know that Waterfall Woods is out of bounds; strange things are rumoured to have happened there and no one in their village has ventured past its walls for decades...

But when they discover a secret way in, Billy and his best friends, Anna, Jimmy and Andy, can't resist the temptation to explore! Only to quickly discover that the woods are brimming with magic and inhabited by all sorts of unusual creatures, including a whole community of sprites who need the childrens' help!

With magical battles, a long-lost mythical city, fantastical flying machines, epic feasts and one GIANT rescue, this is an adventure not to be missed and never to be forgotten.



Jamie Oliver is the top-selling non-fiction author in UK history and achieved an estimated global TV audience reach of 67 million across 182 territories.

Jamie started cooking at his parents' pub, The Cricketers, in Clavering, Essex, at the age of eight. After leaving school he began a career as a chef that took him to the River Café, where he was famously spotted by a television production company and *The Naked Chef* was born. Jamie now lives in Essex with his wife, Jools, and their five children.

Age: 9–11

Publication Date: April 2023

Extent: 352pp

Word Count: 46,500

Illustrator: Mónica Armiño

Illustrations: black-and-white illustrations throughout

Acquiring Editor: Jane Griffiths

Film Rights: Jamie Oliver group

World Rights: PRHC

6 Languages Sold: American English, Croatian, Dutch, German, Lithuanian and Polish

BRAND NEW FOR THIS FAIR



ALEX VS AXEL

Sam Copeland

How to Train your Dragon meets *The Neverending Story* with a dash of Neil Gaiman's *Stardust*.

- * **First in a new series that blends real and fantasy worlds, taking the reader to new realms of adventure.**
- * **Hilarious action with huge heart – the classic Copeland combination.**
- * **Brilliantly illustrated package to highlight the epic scale of the story.**
- * **Sam's lifetime sales through TCM are now approaching 80,000 copies.**

DESCRIPTION

Alex is a normal, everyday kid, living in a normal, everyday city. Axel is a monster-slaying hero, living in a world of magic. Unfortunately, they look exactly the same. So when the two boys mysteriously swap places, each of them ends up being mistaken for the other.

With zero knowledge of dragon hunting and a very real aversion to danger, Alex is thrust into an epic mission to save the world of Aerth from destruction at the hands of the evil Master of Flies, Felonius Gloam.

Alex's chances aren't much better. He's faced with double maths, a mum who's six months behind on the rent, and a chess tournament he can't possibly win.

Can the two boys complete their impossible missions and find their way back to their own lives – or will they discover they don't have a life to come back to . . . ?



Sam Copeland is an author, which has come as something of a surprise to him. He is from Manchester and now lives in London with two smelly cats, three smelly children and one relatively clean-smelling wife.

He is the author of the bestselling *Charlie Changes Into a Chicken*, which was shortlisted for the Waterstones Children's Book Prize and spawned two sequels: *Charlie Turns Into a T-Rex* and *Charlie Morphs Into a Mammoth*.

His other books include *Uma and the Answer to Absolutely Everything* and *Greta and the Ghost Hunters*. With Jenny Pearson, he has also written *Tuchus & Topps Investigate: The Underparts of Chaos*.

Age: 9-11 | **Publication Date:** January 2024

Word Count: 60,000

Illustrations: black-and-white illustrations

Acquiring Editor: Ben Horslen

Film Rights: AM Heath | **World Rights:** PRHC



THE O.D.D. SQUAD: RISE OF INVISIDOG

Stuart Heritage

Do you want to laugh your pants off? Of course you do. In which case - come on into the world of the O.D.D. Squad - a team of (sort of) heroic animal crime-fighters you'll never forget. Though maybe not for the right reasons . . .

- * *Despicable Me* meets *Dog Man* in this utterly hilarious, highly-illustrated new series, perfect for fans of *Dav Pilkey* and *Bunny Vs Monkey*
- * Stuart's brilliant voice is perfectly matched by Vincent Batignole's illustrations which bring the world of the O.D.D Squad to life in glorious full colour
- * Perfect for reluctant readers, this exciting new series bridges the gap between young graphic novels and chapter books on the Puffin list

DESCRIPTION

Justice City. Rain soaks its streets. Crime soaks it more. The fate of the entire city has been left in the hands (well, paws) of one brave superhero.

That's right - dun dun dunnnnnn - INVISIDOG!

Invisidog hunts for danger wherever he finds it. There is no job too big, and no criminal too tough for the mighty Invisidog. He is the shadows!! And actually, that's kind of the problem. Because Invisidog's amazing superpowers . . . are kind of rubbish.

Turns out being invisible isn't all that helpful when you're trying to rid a city of terrible criminals. They tend to have a habit of ignoring you for one thing. So Invisidog's going to have to think BIG. Can he convince the most amazing superheroes of all time - adorable-but-mighty Quack Attack, and the world's greatest thinker, Detective Octopus - to join forces?



Stuart Heritage is a well-known *Guardian* columnist, who writes on a variety of subjects but often about family and parenting.



Vincent Batignole was born in France and raised with lots of French comics, colorful anime on TV and his grandparents' collection of true crime books. This is how he developed his taste for creating cute, absurd, and creepy stories. Trained at the Ecole Pivaut, his professional journey started with the comic series "GloomCookie", created by Serena Valentino (Disney's Villains book series) and Ted Naifeh ("Courtney Crumrin").

Age: 7–9 | **Publication Date:** January 2024

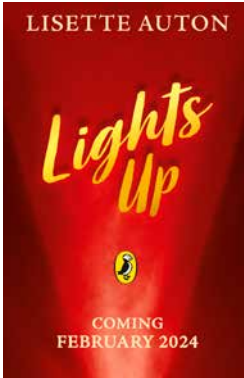
Extent: 240 | **Word Count:** 16,000

Illustrations: Colour illustrations throughout

Acquiring Editor: Naomi Colthurst

Film Rights: Greene and Heaton | **World Rights:** PRHC

BRAND NEW FOR THIS FAIR



LIGHTS UP

Lisette Auton

A magical theatre teaches a town to love storytelling, acceptance and community.



**OTHER BOOKS
BY THE AUTHOR:**

- * **Lisette is a disabled writer and activist who centres disabled characters in her novels with sensitivity and warmth. She creates diverse casts of disabled characters who are celebrated exactly the way they are, drawing on her own experiences consulting a range of people to make her book accessible, fair and representative.**
- * **Lisette's writing is as beautifully atmospheric as Katherine Rundell and Kiran Millwood-Hargrave, with magic, adventure and family at its heart.**

DESCRIPTION

Hettie grew up loving the local Arts Centre. She went to nursery there, saw comedians, put on plays – and it's where her friendship group, the Free Spirits, was born.

And now it's gone.

In its place looms a new, cold, white building, promising flashy productions and big stars. Promises of bright lights and fame are tempting in a little town like Cawlington. It seems like Hettie alone can sense that it's soulless – and not only because she can't access the theatre club on her mobility scooter without drawing attention to herself.

But echoes of the old magic remain. It turns out the building is *full* of souls – and it's up to the Free Spirits to save them. Can Hettie and her friends reignite the old sense of community and help their town let go of the ghosts that hold it back – before it's too late?

From the author of *The Secret of Haven Point*, described by Elle McNicoll as 'A charming tale . . . with my favourite kind of hero at its heart!'



Lisette Auton is a northern disabled writer, activist, poet, novelist, spoken-word artist, actor, film and theatre-maker, and creative practitioner. She's an award-winning poet who has performed at Northern Stage, ARC, the Southbank Centre and the Sage, in pubs, in a crypt, at festivals, indoors, outdoors, on a bridge and in a launderette. *Lights Up* is her third novel.

Age: 9-11

Publication Date: February 2024

Extent: 304pp | **Word Count:** 71,500

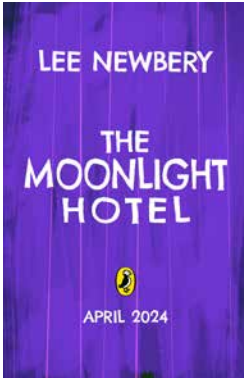
Illustrations: black-and-white illustrations

Acquiring Editor: Natalie Doherty

Film Rights: Lisette Auton

World Rights: PRHC

BRAND NEW FOR THIS FAIR



THE MOONLIGHT HOTEL

Lee Newbery

***Peter Pan* meets *Oliver Twist* in the new book by rising star Lee Newbery, author of *The Last Firefox*.**

OTHER BOOKS
BY THE AUTHOR:



- * Accessible, quality-commercial middle grade adventure about the power and importance of found family.
- * Mystery and magic combine, alongside top-notch inclusive representation.
- * An evocative illustrated package that brings the world of the Moonlighters to life.
- * Lee's debut novel, *The Last Firefox*, was Waterstones Children's Book of the Month in March 2022, and has now sold more than 20,000 copies through Bookscan.

DESCRIPTION

When ten-year-old Theo runs off from a school trip to London's Natural History Museum he finds himself alone in the big city with nowhere to turn.

Enter Alistair Goodfellow, a mysterious, flamboyant young person with a charismatic twinkle in their eye. Alistair offers Theo a room at the Casablanca Lily – by day, a run-down and unloved hotel; by night, a palace of magical wonders.

Each night, Alistair sends their found family of runaways and ne'er-do-wells, the Moonlighters, out into London in search of lost magical artefacts, gifting them their own temporary magical powers as a reward.

Theo is quickly enthralled, but there is more to Alistair than meets the eye, and soon Theo comes to realize that the items Alistair is hunting could be more dangerous than he'd ever imagined . . .



Lee Newbery lives with his husband, son and two dogs in a seaside town in West Wales. By day, he helps vulnerable people look for jobs and gain new skills, and by night, he sits down at his laptop to write.

Age: 9-11

Publication Date: April 2024

Word Count: 50,000

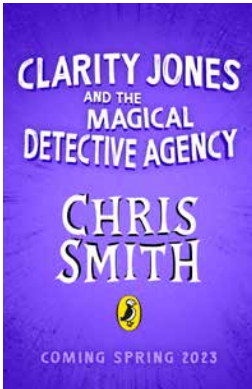
Illustrations: black-and-white illustrations

Acquiring Editor: Ben Horslen

Film Rights: PRHC

World Rights: PRHC

BRAND NEW FOR THIS FAIR



CLARITY JONES AND THE MAGICAL DETECTIVE AGENCY

Chris Smith

From the incredible imagination of bestselling author Chris Smith comes a hilarious fantasy adventure.

OTHER BOOKS
BY THE AUTHOR:



- * Chris Smith is one half of a best-selling author duo with Greg James. Together they have sold over 360,000 copies of the Kid Normal series through UK TCM and 50,000 copies of *The Great Dream Robbery*.
- * Chris is a major new solo talent. His accessible funny middle grade adventures are perfect for fans of Cressida Cowell and Pixar movies like *Onward* as well as being a hilarious love letter to the fantasy tropes he loved as a child.
- * *The Magical Detective Agency* is the start of a brilliant mystery middle-grade series ideal for middle grade mystery lovers who enjoy Robin Stevens or Sharna Jackson

DESCRIPTION

'Never, ever eliminate the impossible.' Clarity Jones

When Mutt gets a job as an apprentice at the leading detective agency in the realm of Rillia, he's not expecting to work with ex-princesses, snow goblins and the most notorious assassin of the White Hand Clan.

And he's definitely not expecting to be thrown in the deep end on the agency's toughest and most dangerous job yet - the mysterious case of the vanishing jester . . .



Chris Smith has wanted to be an author ever since he was eight and won a competition by writing a story about a baby dinosaur who loved biscuits. That story is soon to be brought to life as a blockbuster Hollywood movie. Not really, he made that part up. Chris worked for many years as a newsreader and presenter on radio stations including Xfm and BBC Radio 1. That's where he met Greg James, and in between messing about on the airwaves the pair created several bestselling children's books. Chris lives in north London with his family and a cat called Mabel who can go invisible.

Age: 9-11

Publication Date: June 2023

Extent: 304pp | **Word Count:** 55,000;

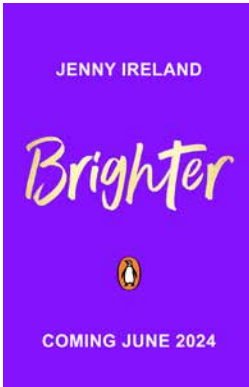
Illustrations: black-and-white illustrations

Acquiring Editor: Carmen McCullough

Film Rights: Curtis Brown

World Rights: PRHC

BRAND NEW FOR THIS FAIR



BRIGHTER (WORKING TITLE)

Jenny Ireland

Can old enemies come together
to fight for life . . . ?



OTHER BOOKS
BY THE AUTHOR:

- * **An Own Voices perspective on suddenly falling ill with a brain injury and living through the recovery. Jenny Ireland underwent emergency brain surgery in 2019.**
- * **Featuring all the hallmarks of the very best will-they-won't-they romances.**
- * **Jenny is an incredible writing talent who came through the 2020 cohort of Penguin Random House UK's award-winning WriteNow programme, which finds under-represented talent.**
- * **Perfect for fans of Beth O'Leary, Emily Henry, Alice Oseman and Nicola Yoon.**

DESCRIPTION

17-year-old Finbarr Fox's mum died when he was ten. He blames his dad, a GP who wasn't there at the time and his 'spawn of satan' sister who was born three weeks before she died. He also blames his neighbour, Molly. They used to be best friends, until his mum died, and Molly ruined their friendship. But it's OK, he doesn't need her anymore.

Molly Cassidy is blonde, beautiful . . . perfect. She's dating Conor Quinn, the hottest guy in the year and has a group of equally hot friends. But Molly falls ill. A virus has triggered inflammation in her brain. She needs brain surgery.

Her illness brings Molly and Finbarr together again – just as friends, of course because Connor is still on the scene and the person she wants to be with. But post surgery and medication, Molly is a completely different person to who she once was. A person who starts to want completely different things . . .



Jenny Ireland is a Young Adult writer who lives outside Belfast with her husband, two children and border collie. She is a Law and French Law graduate and former paralegal.

In 2019 she underwent emergency brain surgery. While this experience was relatively traumatic, the close encounter with death has given her the gift of seeing what truly matters in life: Writing books.

Age: 12+ | **Publication Date:** June 2024
Extent: 368pp | **Word Count:** 70,000
Acquiring Editor: Ruth Knowles
Film Rights: Bell Lomax Moreton
World Rights: PRHC

BRAND NEW FOR THIS FAIR



A CRUEL TWIST OF FATE

H. F. Askwith

And Then There Were None meets *The Inheritance Games*, with a heavy dash of *The Woman in Black*, in this gloriously gothic YA mystery-thriller.

OTHER BOOKS
BY THE AUTHOR:



- * Fans of dark magic mixed with family secrets will find plenty to love within the pages of this sweeping gothic thriller, with a pace that never lets up, and more shocking twists and turns than a Stephen King novel.
- * There is a real interest in dark, twisty gothic-horror stories at the moment, and fans of Netflix's smash-hit adaptation of Neil Gaiman's SANDMAN will enjoy the same hammy, gory vibes found here
- * Heather takes her writing in a new and exciting direction with the introduction of a strong romance theme, alongside the central race-against-time whodunnit (and who will be next...) mystery

DESCRIPTION

When seventeen-year-old Helena is sent to be a governess at Archfall Manor – a beautiful but crumbling manor house, perched at the edge of a causeway in the North Sea – she feels confident she will know how to deal with the esteemed but eccentric Cauldwell family who own it. But it quickly becomes clear that the Cauldwells are hiding more than Helena could ever have dreamed of.

A series of sinister events come to a head the night of a great storm, which washes away the only path back to the mainland – and reveals in the morning that there has been a murder... quickly followed by another.

Suspicions and paranoia quickly run rampant. Someone has dark motivations in mind – and a killer's instinct to enact them. But the Cauldwell's aren't the only ones keeping secrets. Helena has a very important one of her own – and soon she begins to wonder whether forces beyond her control might be willing her to enact her own dark plan . . .



H.F. Askwith is a British writer of dark fantastical fiction, and *A Cruel*

Twist of Fate is her second novel. She gained a Distinction in her Masters in Creative Writing, and in addition to her writing, H.F. Askwith has a love of puzzles, escape rooms and cyphers, which in turn has influenced her work.

Age: 12+

Publication Date: January 2024

Extent: 368pp

Word Count: 90,000

Acquiring Editor: Naomi Colthurst

Film Rights: Watson, Little

World Rights: PRHC



AND THEN THERE WAS ONE

Wendy Cross

They're all murderers, but one of them wants revenge.

- * *Then There Was One* is Agatha Christie's *And Then There Were None* crossed with the teen who-dunnit thrill of Karen McManus, the reality TV show aspects of *Survivor* and a tiny pinch of *Star Trek*
- * *Then There Was One* perfectly speaks to the revival of dystopian YA we are seeing taking Booktok by storm
- * Also perfect for the adventure-hungry Booktok market, speaking perfectly to fans of *The Hunger Games* just in time for the prequel movie currently scheduled for a 2023 release.

DESCRIPTION

Let the games begin.

Everyone in the quadrant knows about The Pinnacle, a reality TV show that will leave the winner with a five million cash prize.

For Bex, she can finally leave her family.

For Zane, it's his only opportunity to become his own person.

For Raya, it's her last chance at a better life.

But, when the teens are told that everyone there has been hand-selected because they're guilty of taking another person's life, the game becomes real.

They're all murderers. But one of them wants revenge.



Wendy Cross is a young adult author living on the Front Range with her husband and three

amazing daughters. After ten years as a copywriter, Wendy became a pseudo-expert on everything from patio furniture to composting toilets. She loves reading and writing YA - especially mysteries - and believes the very best of friends are those who will help you hide the bodies.

Age: 14+

Publication Date: Sept 2023

Extent: 272pp

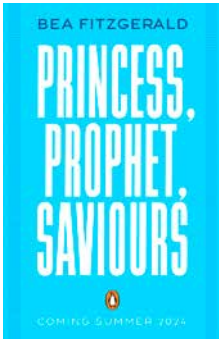
Word Count: 60,000

Acquiring Editor: Charlotte Moore

Film Rights: Odom Media ManagementWorld

Rights: PRHC

BRAND NEW FOR THIS FAIR



PRINCESS, PROPHET, SAVIOURS (WORKING TITLE)

Bea Fitzgerald

The second fierce, fresh and enormously fun YA Greek myth fantasy re-imagining from Bea Fitzgerald – full of snark, sass, romance and #spice, from a growing TikTok superstar

- * We snapped up World Rights in three of Bea's brilliant feminist myth retellings in a whirlwind pre-empt acquisition. Three-book deals have subsequently been sold in seven major territories.
- * This sensational book combines a unique, immersive world with characters that leap off the page - and beautifully-done sapphic romance that has Aphrodite-approved levels of sizzle.

DESCRIPTION

A princess of Troy, and a devoted priestess to its patron god, Apollo, Cassandra is used to serving the men (and gods) in her life. She's perfectly happy! Isn't she . . .?

Then two rather cataclysmic events occur. First, Apollo blesses her with the gift of prophecy. However, her gift comes with a fairly major caveat: all her prophecies will be true, but no one will believe her. This feels all the more alarming when Cassandra starts having visions of a girl – a girl who is going to start a war.

And that would be the second cataclysmic event.

When the goddess Aphrodite brings a handsome prince of Troy to Helen's door, she mistakenly believes it might be the true love she's always longed for. But it swiftly becomes clear that Paris sees her as little more than a prize.

Back in Troy, the two girls quickly clash – but they are also forced together in a way neither could have expected. And their friendship – and perhaps something more – quickly grows in devotion.

But as Cassandra knows all too well – can you ever really change your fate, especially when you go against the gods? Even when true love – found in the most unexpected of places – intervenes . . .?



Bea Fitzgerald

is an author, agent and content

creator. When she's not writing, she's entertaining her 100K+ followers on TikTok with her mythology-themed comedy account @chaosnolympus, and connecting with fellow BookTokers. Bea lives and works in the UK.

Age: 12+

Publication Date: July 2024

Extent: 512pp

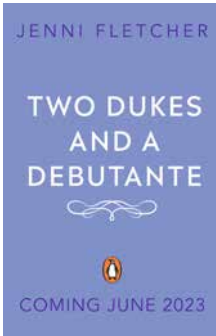
Word Count: 100,000

Acquiring Editor: Naomi Colthurst

Film Rights: LBA Books

World Rights: PRHC

Rights sold: Brazilian Portuguese, Dutch, French, German, Italian, Polish, Spanish



TWO DUKES AND A DEBUTANTE

Jenni Fletcher

One duke spells trouble, two spells disaster!

- * ***Two Dukes and a Debutante* follows on from *How to Lose an Earl in Ten Weeks* delivering regency romance for the YA market**
- * **Jenni is a Mills & Boon author and has written several historical romances. She has also been nominated for 4 RoNA awards, winning for Short Romantic Fiction in 2020. She writes satisfying, escapist romances and has an existing readership.**
- * **A fun and fresh regency romance with modern sensibilities, like *Bridgerton*. It's steamy and romantic, featuring a strong and independent female lead and a satisfying love triangle storyline.**

DESCRIPTION

One duke spells trouble, two spells disaster.

Caroline Foyle is sick of being a debutante. After her disastrous, failed elopement to Gretna Green, she doesn't know who she is or what she wants anymore - except to keep her head down and stay out of trouble. But trouble has a way of finding her, especially when it's in the form of the arrogant duke, not to mention his extremely charming half-brother, who have just moved into the house next door.

But Caro has to do what's right for her family.

Even if it means losing the one man she adores.

Discover the scandalous new regency romance story from Jenni Fletcher, author of *How To Lose An Earl In Ten Weeks*, perfect for fans of *Bridgerton* and *The Gilded Age*.



Jenni Fletcher was born in Scotland and now lives in Yorkshire where she writes historical romance novels.

She studied English at Cambridge and Hull and has been nominated for 4 RoNA awards, winning for Short Romantic Fiction in 2020. In her spare time she loves baking and, of course, reading.

PRAISE FOR *HOW TO LOSE AN EARL*:

'Be prepared to be enchanted and waltz the night away with this beautiful romance. Make this "Plan A" for "At the top of your TBR pile!" BETH REEKLES, author of *The Kissing Booth*

Age: 14+ | **Publication Date:** June 2023
Extent: 320pp | **Word Count:** 70,000
Acquiring Editor: Charlotte Moore
Film Rights: PRHC | **World Rights:** PRHC

BRAND NEW FOR THIS FAIR



THIS SUMMER'S SECRETS

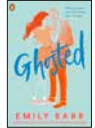
Emily Barr

Lies from the past have been buried for years – now they're being dug up . . .

A bold new story for fans of *We Were Liars*, intertwining past and present, secrets and lies, love and loss.

OTHER BOOKS

BY THE AUTHOR:



- * Two modern love stories intertwine with past romances and family secrets over the course of one long, hot summer.
- * Emily Barr is amongst the few UK YA authors who have broken through to see sales success in recent years, with her YA titles selling over 75,000 copies through UK Bookscan to date, and *The One Memory of Flora Banks* translated into 27 languages.
- * Praise for Emily Barr: 'Mesmerizing, electric, and achingly lovely' Jennifer Niven on *The One Memory of Flora Banks*; 'Thoroughly enjoyable' *The Times* on *Ghosed*; 'If you like dark fiction you'll devour it' *Heat* on *The Truth and Lies of Ella Black*
- * Combining two areas of the YA market that are seeing sustained sales - thriller and romance, this is a commercial offering from Emily Barr that has the scope to take her to an even wider audience.

DESCRIPTION

Senara has never been in love before. Actually, she's never done anything exciting before. Always the sidekick . . . Until the summer that changes everything.

Cliff House is closed off for most of the year, and comes to life when its rich owners arrive for the holidays. This year, despite herself, Senara finds herself pulled into their world of wealth and ease, sunbathing and beautiful people. She even finds herself falling for somebody for the first time.

But Cliff House and its owners are hiding things. They've been hiding things for too long and now, despite all their efforts, the secrets are coming out . . . Secrets that involve Senara's friends and family in a way she could never have imagined.



The One Memory of Flora Banks, published in 2017, was **Emily Barr's** first novel for young adults and was a global hit. Before that, she worked as a journalist in London but always hankered after a quiet room and a book to write. She went travelling for a year, which gave her an idea for a novel set in the world of backpackers in Asia. This became *Backpack*, an adult thriller which won the WHSmith New Talent Award, and she has since written eleven more adult novels published in the UK and around the world. She lives in Cornwall with her husband and their children.

Age: 12+ | **Publication Date:** May 2023

Extent: 400pp | **Word Count:** 90,000

Acquiring Editor: Ruth Knowles

Film Rights: Curtis Brown | **World Rights:** PRHC

BRAND NEW FOR THIS FAIR



UNTITLED

Connie Glynn

A teen fantasy dark academia adventure, full of magic and romance, perfect for fans of *Twin Crowns* and *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* from the globally bestselling author, Connie Glynn



**OTHER BOOKS
BY THE AUTHOR:**

- * Having now published five books in *The Rosewood Chronicles* series, Connie has become a much-loved name in the teen fiction market.
- * This new series has all the elements that Connie's fans and translation publishers have responded best to in her books so far: magic, queer romance, chosen family, hints of royalty, in a beautiful manor house setting, with threats, adventure and coming-of-age along the way.
- * *The Rosewood Chronicles* is translated into 17 languages and has sold over 200,000 copies in English.

DESCRIPTION

Unbeknownst to many people going about their day-to-day business, there is an old manor house overlooking the sea that's home to those who can see things that others can't; those who protect us when we don't know we need protecting.

This is the Order of Ascalon – a society of people who are bloom-blooded, meaning they are more in touch with magic and nature than most. They act under the instruction of the Queen, hunting monsters who put others at risk.

The Manor is full of history and secrets. It is the place where the next generation of monster hunters are trained.



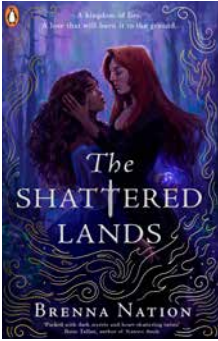
Connie Glynn has always loved writing and wrote her first story when she was six, with her mum at a typewriter acting as her scribe. This passion for stories has never left her, and Connie recently finished a degree in film theory.

It was at university that Connie started her hugely successful YouTube channel Noodlerella (named after her favourite food and favourite Disney princess). After five years of publicly documenting her life and hobbies to an audience of 900,000 subscribers on YouTube, Connie closed the book on the Noodlerella project in a bid for more privacy and to pursue her original passions in the performing arts. Connie now writes music and fiction full-time.

Follow Connie on YouTube, Twitter, Instagram and Tumblr @ConnieGlynn

Age: 12+ | **Publication Date:** April 2024
Extent: 304pp | **Word Count:** 75,000
Acquiring Editor: Ruth Knowles
Film Rights: Conville & Walsh | **World Rights:** PRHC

BRAND NEW FOR THIS FAIR



THE SHATTERED LANDS

Brenna Nation

**A missing princess. A kingdom in ruins.
A witch that will change everything**

- * **WELL CONNECTED AUTHOR** - Highly engaged, combined following of 100k on social
- * **TROPE-LED QUEER FANTASY PERFECT FOR BOOKTOK:** This book promises to be the perfect next read for fans of enemies to lovers such as *The Cruel Prince* and *Six of Crows*, but with a Sapphic twist, with the fun of *Her Majesty's Royal Coven*.
- * **This book delivers on everything that we are seeing is doing well in fantasy, and approaches enemies to lovers in a fresh, but satisfying way.**

DESCRIPTION

18 years after her disappearance, the missing princess has returned.

But, what is left of her kingdom?

Sapphire James finds herself back in Eriobis with a crown and too many handmaidens to count. Now she's the heir to the throne of a country she doesn't understand – a country of magic, monarchy, and war. As she struggles to navigate this world of power, politics, and a dark past, bigger questions begin to surface.

That's before she meets Ashes. A dark witch with the power to destroy Sapphire's life and kingdom. But Ashes is also the only person that can help her.

And Sapphire discovers that the real villain is far closer than she thought.



Brenna Nation is a TikTok superstar and writer of angry Sapphic women, *The Shattered Lands* is her debut.

Age: 14+

Publication Date: April 2023

Word Count: 90,000

Acquiring Editor: Charlotte Moore

Film Rights: The Bright Agency

World Rights: PRHC

1 language sold: Polish



RUN THROUGH THE STREETS AND ROAR

Manjeet Mann

An empowering novel of resistance inspired by Sampat Pal and the Pink Sari Gang from the multi-award-winning author of *Run, Rebel* and *The Crossing*

- * **Manjeet Mann is the most prize-winning author on the PRH Children's list – her first two novels have taken the YA world by storm. *Run, Rebel* won the UKLA Award, the Diverse Book Award and the Carnegie Shadower's Choice Award amongst others. *The Crossing* won the Costa Children's Book Award.**
- * **Inspired by the true-life story of the Gulabi (Pink Sari) Gang and their leader Sampat Pal – a group of vigilante women who formed as a response to widespread violence against women across India.**
- * **This is a feminist manifesto in powerful verse form – perfect for readers of Elizabeth Acevedo, Sarah Crossan and Rupi Kaur.**

DESCRIPTION

Bihar is known as India's 'Badlands' – a state famous for its lawlessness, and where witch hunting is on the rise.

Devi is widowed at eighteen. When she dares to speak out against the abuse she sees around her, she is declared a witch by her family and forced to flee her village.

Desperate for a place to belong, Devi finds herself joining up with a group of pink-sari-wearing, stick-wielding women, known for their vigilantism. Together they can help Devi return to her village, take back the land that's hers, and exact revenge on the men who wronged her.

Because sometimes, you have to run through the streets and roar.



Manjeet Mann is a multi-award winning children's author, actress, playwright and screenwriter. She is also the founder of Run The World - a not for profit that uses sport and theatre as a means to empower women and girls.

Age: 12+

Publication Date: March 2024

Extent: 320pp

Word Count: 30,000

Acquiring Editor: Carmen McCullough

Film Rights: Caroline Sheldon Literary Agent

World Rights: PRHC

**DID
YOU
MISS
IT?**



DID YOU MISS IT?



THE LABYRINTH OF LOST AND FOUND (THE WHISPERWICKS BOOK 1)

Jordan Lees

From the most exciting new voice in children's fiction comes a spectacular adventure for fans of Philip Pullman, Harry Potter and *The Unadoptables*.

- * An incredibly exciting new voice for 9-12 readers – one to rival Philip Pullman and J.K. Rowling.
- * A richly imagined, atmospheric and evocative world full of fascinating characters and a very special kind of magic.
- * This will be a major hardback launch for us in 2024 with a significant PR and Marketing campaign to ensure this is the one book everyone will be talking about.

DESCRIPTION

Eleven-year-old bookworm Benjamiah Creek believes in science, logic and the power of reason. He definitely does not believe in magic. But when he receives a mysterious knitted doll in the post – a doll that can transform into a bird – he is lead into the impossible and (**most definitely magical**) world of the Wreathenwold.

The Wreathenwold holds many secrets within its labyrinthine walls, and Benjamiah finds himself caught up in a perilous adventure with the fierce and brilliant Elizabella who is determined to solve the disappearance of her missing brother.

Will Benjamiah ever find his way home and discover his puzzling connection with this strange, enchanted world?



Jordan Lees was born in Scotland but grew up in Essex, where he still lives with his wife and young daughter. He studied literature at university and has worked in publishing since, firstly in royalties before becoming a literary agent. When not working, Jordan can usually be found reading whatever is lying around or losing at online chess. *The Labyrinth of Lost and Found* is his first book.

Age: 9–11 | **Publication Date:** April 2024

Extent: 400pp

Word Count: 70,000

Illustrations: black-and-white illustrations

Acquiring Editor: Carmen McCullough

Film Rights: Madeleine Milburn Literary

World Rights: PRHC

11 Languages Sold: Dutch, French, German, Greek, Italian, Lithuanian, Polish, Portuguese, Spanish, Turkish and US English



THE ATTACK OF THE ROBOT LIBRARIANS

Sam Copeland
and Jenny Pearson

The hilarious new book in the series from this funny fiction superstar duo.



OTHER BOOKS
IN THE SERIES:

- * Highly illustrated middle-grade fiction for fans of *Charlie Changes Into a Chicken* and *The Super-Miraculous Journey of Freddie Yates*.
- * Between them, Sam and Jenny are published in over 25 territories around the globe.
- * Critical and awards acclaim also follows these two: Sam was shortlisted for the Waterstones Children's Book Prize while Jenny was shortlisted for the Costa Book Awards.

DESCRIPTION

It's a new year at Little Strangehaven Primary but things are just as weird as last term . . .

Who put laser-eyed robot librarians in charge of class discipline? What's with the new pedal-powered desks? And what does it all have to do with the mysterious goings-on in the cellar?

Spy-detectives Tuchus and Topps reckon it's got to be something to do with Pamela Stranglebum and her sinister company, Minerva Industries. With the help of their Scottish gargoyle chum Gregor, can Lenny and Agatha uncover the truth before it's too late . . .?



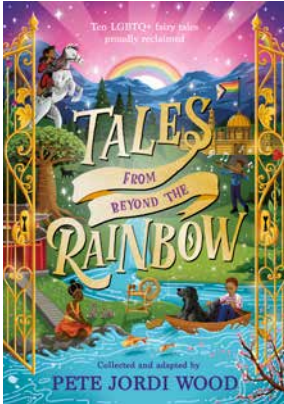
Sam Copeland is the author of *Charlie Changes into a Chicken* and *Uma and the Answer to Absolutely Everything*, widely considered to be the two funniest children's books ever written . . .



. . . until **Jenny Pearson** came on the scene with *The Super Miraculous Journey of Freddie Yates* and *The Incredible Record Smashers*. Both authors have enjoyed multiple prize nominations and been translated into over 20 foreign languages. Sam has the better singing voice but Jenny would win an arm-wrestle.

Age: 9+ | **Publication Date:** June 2022 | **Extent:** 320pp
Word Count: 45,000, black-and-white illustrations
Acquiring Editor: Ben Horslen |
Film Rights: A. M. Heath & Co. Ltd.
1 Language Sold: Finnish

DID YOU MISS IT?



TALES FROM BEYOND THE RAINBOW

Pete Jordi Wood

Ten LGBTQ+ folk stories, proudly reclaimed for a new generation of readers.

- * **A Puffin Classic for contemporary children – publishing onto our Classics list is an indication of the importance of preserving these often overlooked stories.**
- * **A thing of beauty – each story will be accompanied by gorgeous, full-page art from an illustrator from the culture from which the story hails.**
- * **Tales on screen – a TV show based on the anthology is in development by producer Freddy Wexler, who has collaborated with Disney, Lady Gaga and Ariana Grande.**

DESCRIPTION

These are the folk tales that history forgot – or concealed. Tales in which gender is fluid and where queer stories can have a happy ending. From the humble sailor who finds his handsome prince to the transgender market girl who becomes queen, from Romania to China via the oceans of the Inuit First Nations, folklore expert Pete Jordi Wood has combed through generations of history to bring together ten unforgettable stories featuring LGBTQ+ characters.



Pete Jordi Wood is a British author, illustrator and screenwriter from Cornwall. Pete has written original drama for Channel 4 and the BBC and describes himself as a 'fairy tale detective' who has dedicated his life to the study of queer folk tales, myths and legends.

Age: 9–12 | **Publication Date:** June 2023

Extent: 272pp

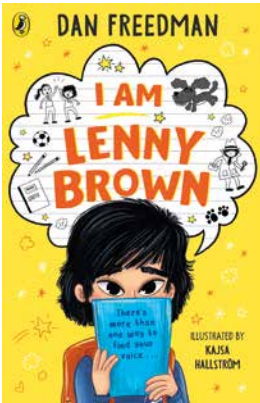
Word Count: 30,000

Illustrations: black-and-white illustrations

Acquiring Editor: Ben Horslen

Film Rights: RCW

World Rights: PRHC



I AM LENNY BROWN

Dan Freedman

A gorgeously accessible and inclusive young fiction story about a boy with selective mutism finding his voice and making friends at a new school.

- * *The Boy at the Back of the Class* meets *Sam Wu is Not Afraid of Ghosts* with a dash of *Jaz Santos vs the World*. Inclusive, feel-good fiction with a football element.
- * Fully illustrated package designed to be fully accessible to unconfident or reluctant readers.
- * The main character suffers from selective mutism, a condition rarely depicted in kids books.

DESCRIPTION

Lenny Brown is eight years old and doesn't talk. Except to his mum and his dog, Rocky.

At school, everyone understands that Lenny is different, but when he and his mum have to move across town, it means a new start for Lenny, and lots of new challenges.

With the help of a motivational diary, a football and a lot of determination, can Lenny forge a new future for himself and his family?



Dan Freedman is best known for his hugely popular series of Jamie Johnson football novels (Scholastic UK), which have sold more than 800,000 copies, and been adapted for TV by the BBC and broadcast around the world.

Before becoming an author, Dan was managing editor for the FA. He interviewed the likes of Messi and Ronaldo, and has been to two World Cups as part of the official England Team group. He was also part of the official delegations to meet the Queen, the Prime Minister and Nelson Mandela.

When not writing, Dan gives talks at schools and sports clubs, and has made more than 2,000 school visits during the last decade.

Age: 7–9 | **Publication Date:** June 2023

Word Count: 22,500

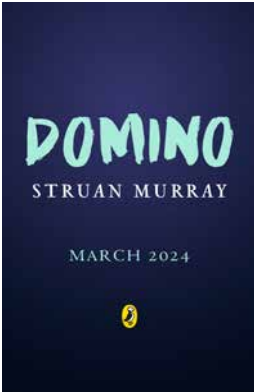
Illustrations: black-and-white illustrations

Acquiring Editor: Ben Horslen

Film Rights: Dan Freedman

World Rights: PRHC

DID YOU MISS IT?



DOMINO

Struan Murray

A breathtaking new fantasy adventure set in a world where science and magic collide, from the award-winning author of *Orphans of the Tide*.

- * **Immersive, captivating fantasy, perfect for fans of Philip Pullman**
- * **Extraordinary world-building, supported by select black and white illustration**
- * **Struan won the prestigious Branford Boase Award 2021 for *Orphans of the Tide***

DESCRIPTION

Decades ago, above the city of Abzalaymon, the defeat of the last Dark Lord, Surphantile, brought an end to the age of magic. Now the Science Barons rule unchallenged from their floating laboratory, Scientarium Celestis, bestowing new wonders upon the population – from electricity and televisions to giant thunder lizards, brought back from extinction by the Science Barons' wisdom.

The only thing the Barons can't seem to invent is a cure for eleven-year-old Domino's mysterious allergy to magic. Without that, she can never leave Scientarium Celestis, as the residual magic of the streets of Abzalaymon would kill her instantly. Or would it . . . ?

When a mysterious stranger appears on Scientarium Celestis, Domino's world is turned upside down as she discovers that not only have the Science Barons been lying to her all her life, but a new war is brewing between science and magic – and that she might just be the key to victory.



Struan Murray is Scottish and grew up in Edinburgh, the youngest of a large, rowdy family of redheads.

His first publication was a drawing in *Pingu* magazine, aged seven, but his debut novel, *Orphans of the Tide*, attracted rather more critical acclaim and won the prestigious Branford Boase Award 2021. When he's not writing, Struan is a lecturer at the University of Oxford.

PRAISE FOR ORPHANS OF THE TIDE:

'Unputdownable' *The Times*

'Enthralling' *Daily Express*

'Sumptuously atmospheric . . . tirelessly inventive' *Daily Telegraph*

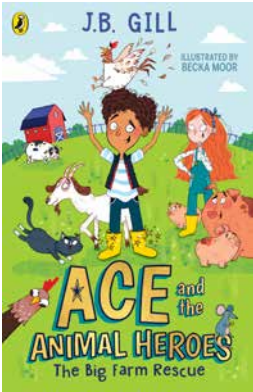
Age: 9+ | **Publication Date:** March 2024

Word Count: 75,000

Illustrations: black-and-white illustrations

Acquiring Editor: Ben Horslen

Film Rights: Curtis Brown UK. | **World Rights:** PRHC



ACE AND THE ANIMAL HEROES: THE BIG FARM RESCUE

JB Gill

Dr Dolittle meets Dick King-Smith in this funny and charming animal adventure from pop-star, presenter and award-winning farmer JB Gill

- * *Ace and the Animal Heroes* was inspired by JB's own move from the city to the countryside. His experience of running a working farm brings a real authenticity to this story.
- * JB came to fame as a member of popular band JLS before turning his hand to presenting nature programmes and running an award-winning farm.
- * This warm, magical and fun adventure about family, friendship and following your dreams is perfect for all the young animal lovers in your life.

DESCRIPTION

'Ace, you will only inherit the farm if we move in one week!'

When Ace receives a surprise gift from a long-lost relative, he and his amazing grandparents pack up their life in the city and move to the countryside to live on a run-down farm.

There's an even bigger surprise in store for Ace when he tries on some magical new wellies and realises he can talk to animals! He's going to need this new skill to take on the evil Mayor Crabbington, who is determined to shut down the farm.

With a little help from Ginger the Pig, some squawkative hens and a new best friend, Ace must find a way to save the farm before Mayor Crabbington gets his hands on it!



JB Gill rose to fame as a member of one of the UK's biggest boybands - JLS. They dominated the charts for five years, boasting 5 number 1 singles, over 10 million record sales worldwide and a multitude of awards.

Four years ago, JB set up a farm in the Kent countryside, where he lives with his wife, Chloe; son, Ace; and daughter, Chiara. JB is now the lead presenter on CBeebies' BAFTA-nominated television series, *Down on the Farm* and regularly contributes to BBC's *Countryfile* and *Springwatch*.

Age: 7–9 | **Publication Date:** April 2023 | **Extent:** 368pp

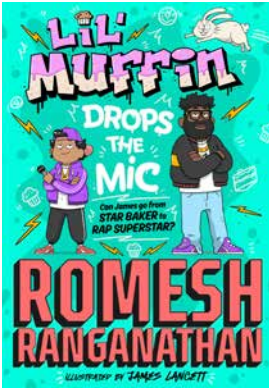
Word Count: 30,000

Illustrations: black-and-white illustrations

Acquiring Editor: Carmen McCullough

Film Rights: Curtis Brown | **World Rights:** PRHC

DID YOU MISS IT?



LIL' MUFFIN DROPS THE MIC

Romesh Ranganathan

From comedy superstar Romesh Ranganathan comes a hilarious and heartfelt tale that proves rap music and baking really can mix.

- * Romesh has a huge and growing international profile. As well as presenting his own shows he regularly tours his stand-up comedy around the UK to huge sell-out audiences.
- * For fans of *Charlie Changes into a Chicken* and *Little Badman*, this hilarious middle-grade balances humour with an important message about friendship, courage and believing in yourself.
- * Romesh is an ambassador for the mental health charity CALM and is passionate about opening up conversations around anxiety in young people - a topic he was keen to explore in this story.

DESCRIPTION

Ever since James's dad left, he can't seem to stop worrying about everything. Luckily his favourite hobby baking is a fun (and delicious!) distraction. But no matter how many delicious chocolate brownies James makes, he still feels like there's a missing ingredient in his life.

When James hears someone rapping in the playground one breaktime, he's completely hooked and starts writing his own raps featuring all of his favourite things - maths, his giant pet rabbit Graham and of course - cake!

Then he discovers that grime artist Bruikka is on the hunt for new talent and James wonders if this is his chance to share his muffins, his music, and maybe even his feelings with the whole school. If he can just find the confidence . . .



Romesh Ranganathan is a comedian, actor and writer. A former maths teacher, he is now known for his award-winning series, podcasts and sitcoms. *DJ Muffin drops the Mic* is his first children's book and gave him an excuse to write about two of his favourite things - hip hop and cake.

Age: 9-11 | **Publication Date:** July 2023

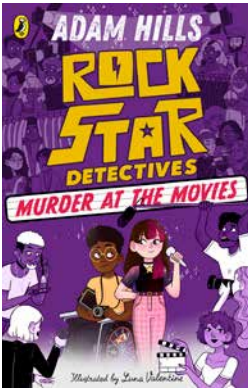
Extent: 288pp | **Word Count:** 40,000

Illustrations: black-and-white illustrations

Acquiring Editor: Carmen McCullough

Film Rights: Off the Kerb Production

World Rights: PRHC



ROCKSTAR DETECTIVES: MURDER AT THE MOVIES

Adam Hills

The brilliant and laugh-out-loud-funny second mystery from comedian Adam Hills featuring a young detective dream team, perfect for fans of Sharna Jackson, Robin Stevens, David Baddiel and David O'Doherty.



OTHER BOOKS
IN THE SERIES:

- * The follow-up to Adam's brilliant debut *Rockstar Detectives*, set in Adam's home city, Sydney.
- * A funny, accessible, inclusive and page-turning mystery with extra movie-set glitz and glam, perfect for fans of Sharna Jackson and David Baddiel.
- * Main character George is a wheelchair user, which is inspired by Adam's own experiences of disability.

DESCRIPTION

Meet Charley - a totally ordinary 13-year-old, who's also an international singing sensation.

Meet George - Charley's best friend, social media whizz, and budding comedian.

Charley and George are in Sydney, where Charley is filming her first movie. But when mysterious accidents begin to happen whenever Charley's on set, the duo suspect someone isn't as excited about her big screen debut as they are . . .

No one else seems to believe that Charley's in real danger - and from the bad-tempered director to Charley's rude co-star, anyone could be a suspect. Can the detective dream team solve their second mystery, wrap the movie - and keep Charley in one piece?

The fabulously funny new novel from award-winning comedian and author of *Rockstar Detectives*, Adam Hills.



Adam Hills is an internationally recognised comedian and host of award-winning Channel 4 series *The Last Leg*. His collection of stories from a life in comedy, *Best Foot Forward*, featured memories of his early days performing standup and his many encounters with famous faces, including Whoopi Goldberg and Billy Connolly.

Age: 9–12

Publication Date: February 2023

Extent: 384pp | **Word Count:** 45,000

Acquiring Editor: Natalie Doherty

Film Rights: Off the Kerb Productions

World Rights: PRHC

DID YOU MISS IT?



CITY OF STOLEN MAGIC

Nazneen Ahmed Pathak

An action-packed, inclusive and breathtakingly magical middle-grade adventure, for fans of *The Unadoptables*, *The Hatmakers* and *The Girl Who Stole An Elephant*.

- * A fast-paced, epic magical adventure from an extraordinary new voice in children's literature.
- * Nazneen is a British-Bangladeshi writer with a PhD in Bangladeshi literature from the University of Oxford. For several years she researched the history of migration, and her debut was inspired by real events, along with the myths and magic she was immersed in growing up.
- * Opens up timely conversations about racism, colonialism, Empire and the life-changing impact of literacy.

DESCRIPTION

India, 1855. The British rule, and all across the country, Indian magic is being stamped out. More terrifying still, people born with magic are being snatched from their homes. Rumour is that they are being taken across the sea - to England - by the all-powerful, sinister Company.

When Chompa's home is attacked and her mother viciously kidnapped, Chompa - born with powerful and dangerous magic that she has always been forbidden from using - must travel to the smoky, bustling streets of East London in search of her. But Chompa will discover far more treachery in London than she had bargained for - and will learn that every act of her rare magic comes with a price . . .



Nazneen Ahmed Pathak

is a British-Bangladeshi writer, historian, poet and artist. She studied English literature at the University of Warwick and holds a PhD in Bangladeshi literature from the University of Oxford. Her research into migration inspires much of her work. She was selected for Penguin Random House's WriteNow mentorship scheme which supports underrepresented writers.

Age: 9–11 | **Publication Date:** June 2023

Extent: 400pp

Word Count: 70,000 words

Illustrations: black-and-white illustrations

Acquiring Editor: Natalie Doherty

Film Rights: Luigi Bonomi Associates

World Rights: PRHC



SUPER GHOST

Greg James and Chris Smith

From the bestselling, award-winning authors of *Kid Normal* and *The Great Dream Robbery* comes a fresh and hilarious take on the classic superhero story.



OTHER BOOKS
BY THE AUTHORS:

- * Since 2017, the Kid Normal series by Greg James and Chris Smith has been translated into 22 languages and sold over 350,000 copies through UK TCM alone.
- * Pixar's *The Incredibles* meets *My Brother is a Superhero* – this accessible, fun and fresh twist on the superhero genre is packed with humour, vibrant characters and an action-packed adventure that readers aged 8–12 readers will love.
- * Alongside the laugh-out-loud moments is a powerful and heartwarming message about friendship, family and what it takes to be a real hero.

DESCRIPTION

'Onward to the unknown!'

It's just another day at the office for world-famous superhero Doctor Extraordinary as he battles his arch-nemesis Captain Chaos in yet another epic showdown. Unfortunately this one doesn't quite go to plan and they both get blown up inside a giant robot.

Twelve-year-old Sonny Nelson is devastated. A world without heroes is totally rubbish! But things take an even more extraordinary turn when Doctor Extraordinary returns as a ghost and only Sonny can see him . . .



Greg James is an award-winning author and broadcaster, best known for hosting the Radio 1 *Breakfast Show*, the *Tailenders* cricket podcast and for creating the Kid Normal series with his pal Chris Smith. He lives with his wife Bella and their dog Barney (who's staring at him as he writes this) in north London.



Chris Smith is an award-winning journalist and broadcaster, known to listeners of BBC Radio 1 as Chris Smith With The News for what are hopefully obvious reasons. Chris lives in north London with his wife, their son and a cat called Mabel who can travel through time.

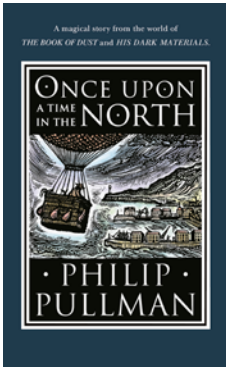
Age: 8–12 | **Publication Date:** September 2022

Extent: 320pp | **Word Count:** 50,000

Acquiring Editor: Carmen McCullough

Film Rights: Curtis Brown | **World Rights:** PRHC

DID YOU MISS IT?



ONCE UPON A TIME IN THE NORTH

Philip Pullman

A mesmerizing episode from the universe of His Dark Materials and The Book of Dust, giving an extraordinary insight into this world and its characters.

- * Illustrated by Chris Wormell, one of Britain's most celebrated author-illustrators and print makers. Known for his instantly recognizable style, he has won literary awards including the Bologna Ragazza Prize, a Nestlé Smarties Award and a Booktrust Early Years Award.
- * A perfect companion to *Lyra's Oxford*, this delightful new edition of a beautiful book gives incredible insight into the world of His Dark Materials and The Book of Dust, and is perfect for Philip Pullman fans both new and old.
- * The His Dark Materials trilogy is widely regarded as a modern classic. Its heroine, Lyra Belacqua, frequently tops polls as an all-time favourite character.
- * Philip's books have sold over 6 million copies in the UK alone, and tens of millions of copies all over the world, and have been translated into 40 languages.

DESCRIPTION

When Lyra is studying at Oxford University, she comes across the story of Lee Scoresby and Iorek Byrnison's first meeting, many years ago, along with much evidence of the adventure that brought them together.

She discovers that when young Texan balloonist Lee came down to earth in the harbour of an Arctic town in the North, little did he realize that he is about to be caught in a war between the residents of the town and the huge arctic bears that also live there.

And when Lee meets one of these bears – Iorek – for the first time, they cement a friendship that will continue throughout their lives, as the tensions in the town threaten to erupt . . .



Philip Pullman is one of the most highly respected children's authors writing today. Winner of many prestigious awards, including the Carnegie and the Whitbread Award, Pullman's epic fantasy trilogy His Dark Materials has been acclaimed as a modern classic. It has sold 17.5 million copies worldwide and been translated into 40 languages. In 2005 he was awarded the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award. He lives in Oxford.

Age: 12+ | **Publication Date:** September 2023

Extent: 144pp

Illustrations: black-and-white illustrations

Word Count: 5,100 | **Acquiring Editor:** Ruth Knowles

Film Rights: United Agents

World Rights: United Agents | **Rights:** Artwork only



STRAIGHT EXPECTATIONS

Calum McSwiggan

What If It's Us meets *Sex Education* with a *Sliding Doors* twist in this deliciously romantic YA debut.

- * **Inclusive, high-concept LGBTQ+ romance, perfect for fans of Adam Silvera.**
- * **Accessible and commercial writing with real polish.**
- * **Highly engaged author with a significant online audience of over 250,000.**

DESCRIPTION

Seventeen-year-old Max has always been out, proud and just a little spoiled. Frustrated by the lack of romantic options in his small-town high school, during an argument with his lifelong best friend Dean, Max lashes out and says he wishes he had never been born gay.

Max gets more than he bargained for when he wakes up to find his wish has come true – not only have his feelings for boys vanished, but so has Dean. With his school life turned upside down and his relationship with his family in tatters, Max sets out on a journey of rediscovery to find a way back to the life he took for granted, and the romance he thought he'd never have.



Calum McSwiggan is an author, presenter and LGBTQ+ advocate. He's worked for *Attitude* magazine, written for the *Metro*, *Gay Times* and *Pink News*, and was recently placed in *The Guardian's* list of the 50 most influential LGBTQ+ figures. Putting LGBTQ+ stories at the heart of everything he does, he's produced award-winning films that have been showcased at film festivals around the world, and racked up over 10 million views on his online videos.

Age: 12+ | **Publication Date:** May 2023

Extent: 368pp

Acquiring Editor: Ben Horslen | **Film Rights:** DKW

World Rights: PRHC

1 Language Sold: US English

**NEXT
IN
A
SERIES**





THE FIRST SHADOWDRAGON

Lee Newbery

More magical adventures abound in the sequel to *The Last Firefox*, which was Waterstones Children's Book of the Month.



OTHER BOOKS
BY THE AUTHOR:

- * *Cogheart* meets Pokemon in another effortlessly inclusive story that combines cute magical creatures with exciting adventure.
- * Hits the sweet spot between quality and commercial, with illustrations from Laura Catalan.
- * *The Last Firefox* was Waterstones Children's Book of the Month and has been one of 2022's most successful UK debuts, with TCM sales now over 20,000 copies.

DESCRIPTION

All legends start somewhere . . .

After defeating the evil Grendilock and saving Cadno, the last firefox, Charlie Challinor is looking forward to a well-earned rest. But when a familiar face appears from the realm of Fargone, Charlie's family is once again swept up into adventure.

Along with Lippy, Roo and new magical friend Blodyn, Charlie must travel to Fargone to face the dreaded Draig, the shadowy monster that is draining the life from the land – and uncover the lost secret that links Draig's history to Charlie's own . . .



Lee Newbery lives with his husband, son and dog in a seaside town in West Wales. Lee enjoys adventuring, drinking ridiculous amounts of tea, and giving his family a good cuddle – or a *cwttch*, as they say in Wales.

Age: 8–12 | **Publication Date:** April 2023

Extent: 304pp

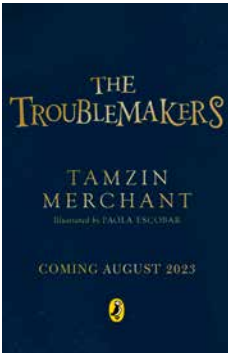
Illustrations: black-and-white illustrations

Word Count: 45,000

Acquiring Editor: Ben Horslen

Film Rights: PRHC

World Rights: PRHC



THE TROUBLEMAKERS

Tamzin Merchant

Return to the spellbinding magical world of *The Hatmakers* in this sweeping, epic and exciting new adventure on the high seas. Perfect for fans of *Nevermoor*, *A Pinch of Magic* and *Harry Potter*.

OTHER BOOKS
IN THE SERIES:



- * The enchanting sequel to *The Hatmakers* and *The Mapmakers*, which have sold over 30k copies through TCM.
- * Breathtakingly magical, epic and adventurous, warm-hearted and wise - Tamzin Merchant is a born storyteller and will delight readers who love *Harry Potter*, *Abi Elphinstone*, *Catherine Doyle*, *Jessica Townsend* and *Anna James*.
- * Tamzin is a talented actor and screenwriter who starred in *the Tudors*, *Pride and Prejudice*, *Salem* and *Carnival Row*, which has had over 4m views worldwide.

DESCRIPTION

Cordelia Hatmaker has finally united the warring Maker families and restored the kingdom's faith in Maker magic. In just one week, King George will overturn a centuries-old law, and Making will at last be open to every person in the land.

But there remain those who do not trust the Makers, particularly when mysterious outbreaks of chaotic magic begin to happen across London. And then the unthinkable happens: Cordelia is accused of treason. As the guards close in, she must flee London at once.

Together with her best friends Sam and Goose, Cordelia sets sail on her family's ship, the *Little Bear*, for the adventure of a lifetime. But soon they are deep into the territory of a band of legendary pirates: the *Troublemakers*, captained by a fierce and unstoppable pirate queen . . .



Tamzin grew up in Australia, South Africa and Dubai before moving to England in her early teens, where she finally discovered the season of winter.

She has been an actor since the age of 17, when she played the part of Georgiana Darcy in the 2005 adaptation of *Pride and Prejudice*. Since then, her acting work has taken her around the world and on a journey through time. She has also written and directed several award-winning short films. Her latest role is as Imogen Spurnrose in Amazon's original series, *Carnival Row*.

Tamzin's first book is *The Hatmakers*.

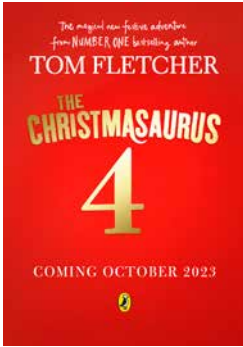
Age: 9–12 | **Publication Date:** January 2024

Extent: 384pp | **Word Count:** 60,000

Acquiring Editor: Natalie Doherty

Film Rights: Rogers Coleridge and White Ltd.

World Rights: PRHC



CHRISTMASAURUS CAROL

Tom Fletcher

The Christmasaurus returns in the magical new adventure from number-one-bestselling author Tom Fletcher!

OTHER BOOKS
IN THE SERIES:



- * Over 1.3m copies of the CHRISTMASAURUS books have sold in the UK alone. This series is fast becoming a true modern classic for families at Christmas.
- * Tom Fletcher was the 5th bestselling children's fiction of 2022 in the UK, and has sold just under 5m copies in total.
- * This magical new adventure will delight fans of David Walliams and Cressida Cowell.

DESCRIPTION

The Christmasaurus is back! Get ready to soar into the sky with the magical new festive adventure from bestselling author, **Tom Fletcher!**

William Trundle and his family can't wait for Christmas. But when a sprinkle of powerful festive magic brought home from the North Pole is accidentally spilled onto a copy of A Christmas Carol, and Ebenezer Scrooge himself emerges from its pages - Christmas is suddenly in grave danger.

Can William, Santa and the most unique and magical dinosaur of all - the Christmasaurus - find a way to return Scrooge to the book and save Christmas, before it's too late?



Tom Fletcher is a number one bestseller and one of the UK's most popular children's authors. The Christmasaurus was the biggest debut middle-grade novel of 2016 and was shortlisted for a British Book Award. Since then, Tom has published several more chart-topping children's novels including The Creakers, The Christmasaurus and the Winter Witch, and the instant number one bestseller The Danger Gang. Tom also writes the incredibly successful Who's in Your Book? picture book series and is one half of the author duo behind The Dinosaur that Pooped picture book series too, which has sold over 1.5 million copies. The Christmasaurus is currently being developed by The Greatest Showman director Michael Gracey into an animated, feature-length movie with original songs written by Tom.

Age: 9–11 | **Publication Date:** October 2023

Extent: 400pp | **Word Count:** TBC

Acquiring Editor: Nathalie Doherty

Film Rights: Curtis Brown | **World Rights:** PRHC



TRIXIE PICKLE TOXIC TAKE DOWN

Olaf Falafel

A hilarious and highly illustrated adventure for fans of *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* and Tom Gates featuring Trixie Pickle, who hates bullies and takes them down using art

OTHER BOOKS
BY THE AUTHOR:



- * The second in this hilarious series that includes illustrated, irreverent fact files (with a Horrible Histories vibe) about real artists from around the world
- * Illustrated throughout with Olaf's distinctive cartoons, this short and very funny text continues this ideal series for kids who have finished the Wimpy Kid and Tom Gates books and are ready to move on
- * Olaf Falafel's Art Club on Youtube was a lockdown smash hit, teaching children all about art and artists with lots of jokes on the side

DESCRIPTION

A weird sickness bug has been spreading through Wormwood Town and everyone is wondering if there's something in the water. Trixie Pickle Art Avenger uses the power of art to investigate - can she get to the bottom of the mystery around the town reservoir?

She's got a lot on her plate - being bored to sleep by Money Week at school, making comics with her best friend Beeks and finding a way to bring down the local mean girls - but with artistic inspiration from Botticelli, Damien Hirst and Kehinde Wiley, the Art Avenger is sure to win the day.

PRAISE FOR *TRIXIE PICKLE ART AVENGER*:

'Funny, arty and just a little bit naughty, the Art Avenger is amazing!' Matt Lucas

'Very funny . . . I learned tons about art and laughed A LOT!' Joe Lycett

'Genuinely laugh out loud funny. Not gentle smile, actual laugh!' Louie Stowell, author of *Loki*

'This is a great book!' Adam Kay



Olaf Falafel is an author, illustrator and a stand-up comedian (which is pretty similar to a stand-up

chameleon except he doesn't change colour to blend in with the background). He's the winner of The Funniest Joke of the Edinburgh Fringe and has created and performed several stupidly named comedy shows including Olaf Falafel and the Cheese Of Truth. As well as trying to make people laugh on stage, Olaf draws a lot and tries to come up with funny ideas for kids books. He also has an Art Club on Youtube full of real drawing tips and facts about famous artists.

Age: 9–11 | **Publication Date:** May 2023

Extent: 288pp

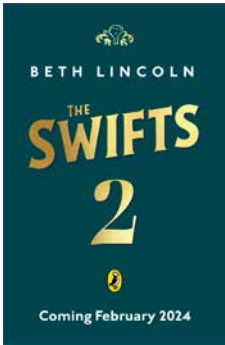
Word Count: 26,000 words

Illustrations: black-and-white illustrations

Acquiring Editor: Kelly Hurst

Film Rights: Anthony Topping, Greene & Heaton Ltd.

World Rights: PRHC



THE SWIFTS 2

Beth Lincoln

The second book in the gleefully gothic series that blends mystery and adventure – perfect for fans of *Nevermoor* or *Coraline*.



**OTHER BOOKS
BY THE AUTHOR:**

- * **Hilarious, critically-acclaimed writing with an utterly unique voice. Beth is an extraordinary new talent in middle grade fiction.**
- * **Taking the Swifts on tour, in this adventure Shenanigan visits Paris and her French relatives, the Martinets, only for characteristic chaos to ensue.**
- * **Exceptional illustrated package from Claire Powell brings the eccentric Swift family to life in glorious detail.**

DESCRIPTION

Having solved the mystery of Arch-Aunt Schadenfreude's non-murder and uncovered the location of Grand Uncle Vile's long-lost treasure, Shenanigan Swift might just be in the running for junior detective of the year. But when robbers target Swift House, her sleuthing skills are tested like never before.

The trail leads Shenanigan and her sisters to Paris and the Hotel Martinet, home of the estranged French branch of the Swift family. From there, the girls must venture into the spooky catacombs below the city to track down Ouvolpo, a gang of daring thieves who design each of their crimes as audacious pieces of performance art.

What links Ouvolpo and the Swifts? Who kidnapped Cousin Pomme? And why has Uncle Maelstrom taken to wearing an earring again . . . ? All will be revealed in this second hilarious and mysterious adventure for Shenanigan and Co.



Beth Lincoln was raised in a former Victorian railway station in the North of England. She grew neither tall nor wise, and never learned to play an instrument – but she did write stories, a bad habit that has persisted to this day. When she isn't writing, Beth is woodcarving, or making a mess of her flat, or talking the nearest ear off about unexplained occurrences. Her favourite things include ghosts, crisps, and weird old words like bumbershoot and zounderkite. She lives in Newcastle upon Tyne with her partner and hopefully, by the time you are reading this, a dog.

Age: 9–11 | **Publication Date:** February 2024

Extent: 464pp | **Word Count:** 75,000 words

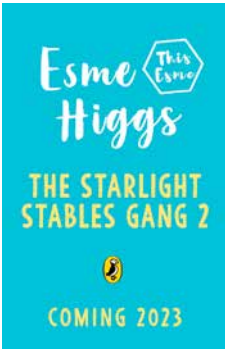
Illustrations: black-and-white illustrations

Acquiring Editor: Ben Horslen

Film Rights: The Bent Agency (but the option has been sold to Netflix)

World Rights: PRHC

13 Languages Sold: Brazilian Portuguese, Danish, Dutch, French, German, Greek, Italian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Spanish and US English



THE STARLIGHT STABLES GANG 2

Esme Higgs

The second story in this brand-new pony series for 8–12-year-old animal lovers from superstar equestrian influencer Esme Higgs, perfect for fans of Jacqueline Wilson and Clare Balding!



OTHER BOOKS
BY THE AUTHOR:

- * Esme is a twenty-one-year-old equestrian influencer with more than 1 million followers across YouTube and Instagram. Her online videos are a mix of tutorials, horse care videos and more general lifestyle content.
- * This is aspirational fiction, with a positive girl-power message from a big-sister figure, ensuring this series feels fresh and distinctive from other, more traditional animal fiction.
- * Combining relevant social issues and exciting endeavours, this is the perfect series for animal-crazy-readers as well as fans of fun adventure stories with a gang of new best friends.

DESCRIPTION

After solving the mystery of the stolen pony, the Starlight Stables Gang are ready to have a relaxing summer and enjoy the Haversham Horse Trials, but things aren't as sunny as they seem. The stables are in danger of closing, and the gang are worried that the place they love most could be taken away from them. Can the Starlight Stables Gang band together and work as a team once again, or will it prove too much for one of the friends?

This story is told from the viewpoint of Jessie, Summer's fellow Starlight Stables Gang member, from Book 1.



Esme Higgs is one of the biggest influencers in the equestrian world - with one million followers. She's a writer, presenter, video producer - and a horse-mad ordinary girl. She is also a proud ambassador and patron of several different horse and donkey charities including The Brooke and World Horse Welfare.

Age: 8-12 | **Publication Date:** 24 August 2023

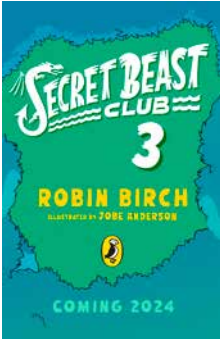
Extent: 304pp | **Word Count:** 44,000 words

Illustrations: Hannah George

Acquiring Editor: Lowri Ribbons

Film Rights: This is Esme Ltd.

World Rights: PRHC



SECRET BEAST CLUB: 3

Robin Birch

The third title in an exciting younger middle grade series brimming with adventure, friendship and an amazing array of magical beasts!



OTHER BOOKS
IN THE SERIES:

- * **Magic on your doorstep!** - This series is focused on finding magic in the urban wilderness – a landscape that will be recognisable to lots of children. It will show readers that magic can be found anywhere!
- * **Accessible fantasy adventure** – fun, fast-paced storytelling, highly-illustrative in style, and a diverse cast of characters.
- * **A must-have series for fans of *Beast Quest* and *The Naughtiest Unicorn*.**

DESCRIPTION

Join the club, find the magic!

Aisha, Jayden and the rest of the Secret Beast Club are back for another mission – this time a community of merpeople are being put at risk by boat trips who are promising tourists a sighting of the magical creatures. Can the SBC stop the boats and keep the merpeople safe from discovery?

Featuring fun facts about the magical creatures within each story, this exciting new series for 6+ readers is not to be missed!



Jasmine Richards and Rachael Davis as Robin Birch credit: Josmar Senior for The Black Writers Guide

Robin Birch is the pen name for writer Rachael Davis and series creator Jasmine

Richards, Founder of Storymix. They are passionate about creating stories that reveal the magic of the every day.

Age: 7+

Publication Date: 1st February 2024

Extent: 176pp

Word Count: approx 18,000

Illustrations: B/W throughout

Acquiring Editor: Jane Griffiths

Film Rights: Storymix

World Rights: PRHC



DAISY AND THE TROUBLE WITH SPACE

Kes Gray

The **BRAND NEW** laugh-out-loud new Daisy adventure, from bestselling author of the Oi Frog series, Kes Gray.

OTHER BOOKS IN THE SERIES:



- * Over 2 million copies of Kes's award-winning books have now been sold, including the hilarious DAISY and the phenomenal OI FROG picture book series, firmly establishing him as one of the funniest bestselling writers around.
- * The DAISY books were reissued in 2020 with updated fresh new covers from superstar illustrator Garry Parsons. Perfect for dipping in and out, reading together out loud, or trying alone and building reading confidence. Like all the DAISY stories, this new book features Garry Parsons' wonderfully funny and engaging pictures throughout.
- * Space is one of the most popular and exciting topics for children, studied in schools.

DESCRIPTION

The **BRAND NEW** laugh-out-loud Daisy adventure for readers of 6-9, from bestselling author of the Oi Frog series, Kes Gray. Here comes trouble!

Daisy and her class have **SPACE FEVER** after a talk about stars, moons and faraway planets. **THEN** their teacher announces they're going to spend a **WHOLE WEEK** learning all about space. How **COSMIC** is that?!

Trouble is, **SPACE FEVER** follows Daisy back home too. And turning your bedroom ceiling into the universe isn't that easy. Even with lots of glow-in-the-dark stars, superglue, and your best friend to help . . .



Kes Gray is one of the UK's bestselling writers for children, with over two million copies of his stories sold. He is the author of the award-winning DAISY picture books and fiction, as well as the creator of the chart-topping OI! series with illustrator Jim Field. Kes lives in Essex.

Age: 5-7 | **Publication Date:** January 2024
Extent: 304pp | **Word Count:** 11,000
Illustrations: black and white illustrations
Acquiring Editor: Natalie Doherty
Film Rights: Kes Gray | **World Rights:** PRHC



NEW NOVEL

Sharna Jackson

A thrilling mystery adventure set over the nine nights of the traditional West Indian grieving period featuring Wesley, Josie and Margot from *The Good Turn*, from the award-winning Sharna Jackson.



**OTHER BOOKS
IN THE SERIES:**

- * **An extraordinary adventure starring ordinary kids, this mystery with themes of grief and friendship has the mystery-solving of Robin Stevens, the real-life setting of *The Boy at the Back of the Class*, the adventure of *The Famous Five* and the inspiring quality of *Wonder*.**
- * **Sharna Jackson's debut novel *High Rise Mystery*, won the Waterstones Prize for Younger Readers and was chosen as a Booktrust pick**
- * **Sharna Jackson was a 2021 World Book Day author, introducing her characters Josie, Margot and Wesley to thousands of new readers in her WBD book**

DESCRIPTION

Wesley, Josie and Margot are ordinary kids, friends who live in a pretty normal cul-de-sac, right?

But now their neighbour has been found dead in her house – clutching a mysterious list of nine clues. There's something not right about the whole thing – and the Copeys are determined to get to the bottom of it. As her friends and family gather for a Nine Night to mourn her and help her spirit pass over, the Copeys know they have to work through the clues before the funeral. As they work through the mystery of the nine tasks, they find out things that they never knew, and a lot about themselves too.



Sharna Jackson is an award-winning author and curator who specialises in developing socially-engaged initiatives for children across culture, publishing and entertainment. She was recently the Artistic Director at Site Gallery in Sheffield, and was formerly the editor of the Tate Kids website. Sharna's debut novel *High-Rise Mystery* received numerous awards and accolades including the Waterstones Book Prize for the Best Book for Younger Readers. Sharna lives on a ship in Rotterdam in the Netherlands.

PRAISE FOR SHARNA JACKSON:

*'I utterly loved *The Good Turn*; it's bone-deep brilliant; a joy to the very end. It's so warm and so funny, and so ferociously on the side of justice and of hope. I adored it.'* **Katherine Rundell**

Age: 9–11 | **Publication Date:** January 2024

Extent: 300pp | **Word Count:** 62,000

Illustrations: chapter heads | **Acquiring Editor:** Kelly Hurst

Film Rights: Janklow & Nesbit | **World Rights:** PRHC



LEONORA BOLT: THE GREAT GADGET GAMES

Lucy Brandt

The fourth hilarious book in the brilliant STEM adventure series

Leonora Bolt. With glorious illustrations by Gladys Jose throughout.

OTHER BOOKS
IN THE SERIES:



- * Lucy Brandt is a brilliant new voice for young readers aged 6+. Leonora Bolt is the perfect next read for children who loved Rosie Revere, Engineer - and her fourth adventure is just as creative, bonkers and hilarious as the rest of the series.
- * STEM: Leonora Bolt is an inventor and scientist, who uses her brilliant brainpower and problem-solving skills to get herself and her friends out of the tightest squeezes.
- * With hugely fun integrated illustrations by Gladys Jose to bring Leonora's adventures to life, this will have an unmissable package to appeal to fans of Rosie Revere, Engineer and Amelia Fang.

DESCRIPTION

It's Leonor's first ever Christmas on Crabby Island!

But instead of presents she receives an invitation to a new, global invention competition: The Great Gadget Games.

The host is her evil Uncle Luther, and the judges are Harry and Eliza Bolt . . . Leonora's kidnapped parents!

Leonora HAS to WIN the competition. All she needs is her imagination, a foolproof disguise, and some help from her fellow young inventors.



Lucy Brandt is a mum of two young kids and lives and works in Brighton. She has worked for nearly twenty years in a variety of traditional and digital marketing roles, largely specialising in technology - she has poured her technological knowledge into the inventions she created for her debut novel *Leonora Bolt: Secret Inventor*.



Gladys Jose is an illustrator and storyteller. She graduated from the University of Central Florida in 2012, where she earned a Bachelor's degree in Fine Arts, specializing in Graphic Design. She is the illustrator of *Fresh Princess* (HarperCollins).

Age: 5–7 | **Publication Date:** April 2023

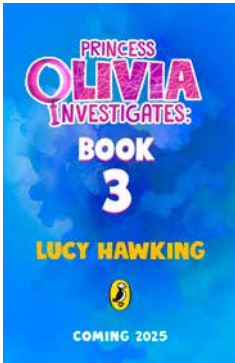
Extent: 208pp | **Word Count:** 20,000

Illustrations: Gladys Jose

Acquiring Editor: Katie Sinfeld

Film Rights: Northbank Talent Management

World Rights: PRHC



PRINCESS OLIVIA INVESTIGATES: BOOK 3

Lucy Hawking

The new adventure series about real-life science from bestselling author Lucy Hawking.



OTHER BOOKS
IN THE SERIES:

- * Illustrated throughout by Zoe Persico and with fascinating non-fiction sections from world-renowned scientists, this is perfect for readers 7 and over.
- * Lucy is dedicated to educating young people about science and this new illustrated series introduces them to the concept of climate change in a completely accessible way, with an exciting new heroine in Olivia giving a voice to young girls interested in STEM subjects
- * The next reading step for children who have loved *Rosie Revere Engineer* and *Ada Twist Scientist*
- * Stephen and Lucy and Stephen Hawking's series of children's books *George's Secret Key To The Universe* was a global hit, selling over 400,000 books worldwide. Their last title was *Unlocking the Universe*, a non-fiction compendium, and it sold in 16 languages on publication in 2020.

DESCRIPTION

The third title in this unique series by global bestseller and science educator Lucy Hawking about a former princess desperate to find out about the world around her - and what she can do to help it. This third title will cover the land following book one on the skies (weather) and book two on the oceans, and non-fiction expert sections will cover topics like sustainable farming



Lucy Hawking is a children's writer, the co-creator of non-fiction compendium *Unlocking the Universe* and the George fiction series, with her father Stephen Hawking. Lucy is a former journalist, having written widely for British newspapers, and she gives regular talks about science and stories to audiences all over the world.

Age: 7-9 | **Publication Date:** January 2025

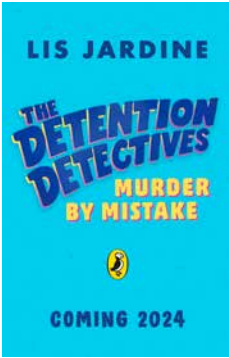
Extent: 256pp | **Word Count:** 33,000

Illustrations: black-and-white illustrations throughout

Acquiring Editor: Ruth Knowles

Film Rights: Janklow and Nesbit

World Rights: PRHC



THE DETENTION DETECTIVES: MURDER BY MISTAKE

Lis Jardine

The second book in the thrilling contemporary murder-mystery series, *The Detention Detectives!* A perfect next read for fans of The High-Rise Mysteries.



OTHER BOOKS
IN THE SERIES:

- * Book 2 in The contemporary mystery series, *The Detention Detectives*
- * 9–12-year-old fans of contemporary crime by Sharna Jackson (HIGH RISE MYSTERY) and Robin Stevens (THE GUGGENHEIM MYSTERY) will love this new series. The sparky prose paired with thrilling plotlines set in a modern-day secondary school will hook avid detective story fans and reluctant readers alike.
- * In each book, The Detention Detectives will take on a new case. Each story will focus on one of the core characters, and will be recorded from their point of view; the first book was told by new-boy Jonno, and the second book, *Murder by Mistake*, will be told by school-reporter Lydia.
- * The books also contain some real-world issues, such as moving to a new school, being a young carer, and absent parents
- * Lis Jardine is an exciting debut talent and graduate of the prestigious Bath Spa MA course. She's a school librarian and is passionate about getting kids reading.

DESCRIPTION

The Detention Detectives are back!

It's been five months since Jonno, Lydia and Daniel solved the mystery of their teacher's killer.

But murder has returned to Hanbridge, and this time twelve-year-old Lydia leads the case.

With the mystery VERY close to home, can our trio win the day once again?



Lis Jardine grew up in London and the Black Country, and now lives with her family on the edge of Bristol, where she works as a secondary school librarian. Her life has been shaped by a passion for fantasy, middle grade fiction and Golden Age crime.

Lis studied English Literature at the University of Warwick and the MA in Writing for Young People at Bath Spa University. Lis was longlisted for the 2020 Penguin WriteNow programme and participated as a mentor in WriteMentor 2021.

In her spare time, Lis likes to knit baby socks, practice Norwegian and invent interesting sandwich recipes.

Age: 9–12 | **Publication Date:** January 2024

Extent: 352pp | **Word Count:** 55,000

Illustrations: two-colour illustrations

Acquiring Editor: Katie Sinfield | **Film Rights:** PFD

World Rights: PRHC



LIZZIE AND LUCKY: BOOK 4

Megan Rix

The fourth fully illustrated young fiction book in the brilliantly heart-warming and exciting Lizzie & Lucky series.

OTHER BOOKS
IN THE SERIES:



- * **Authentic inclusive voice:** Megan pours research into her books, and has written Lizzie, the deaf protagonist, by drawing on her own experience of living with partial deafness.
- * **The brilliantly fun and sparky package** has fully illustrated black-and-white interiors by Tim Budgens, and is perfect for fans of *The Naughtiest Unicorn and Claude*.
- * **Megan Rix** is the hugely popular author of animal books which have sold nearly a quarter of a million copies across the world.
- * **Megan Rix** brings her trademark adorable animals to early readers in this irresistible tale of a young deaf detective and her loyal dalmatian sidekick.

DESCRIPTION

Join Lizzie and her adorable puppy Lucky on another mystery-solving adventure!

Lizzie and her dog Lucky are visiting Aunt Rita at her animal sanctuary.

While there, the detective duo discover some GIANT footprints at a nearby stream – but what kind of creature has made them?

It's up to Lizzie and Lucky to get to the bottom of things!

With charming illustrations throughout, and fun activities to try.

PRAISE FOR THE LIZZIE & LUCKY BOOKS:

'This is a joyous tale celebrating animals, mysteries, family and friendship (both of the two-legged and four-legged variety!)' - **BookTrust**



Megan Rix is the hugely popular author of animal adventure books set in the modern day and key periods of history. An animal lover and dog-trainer, Megan draws inspiration from her own adorable dogs Traffy, Bella, Freya and Ellie, and many fascinating and extraordinary animal stories to engage her readers.

Age: 5-7

Publication Date: September 2023

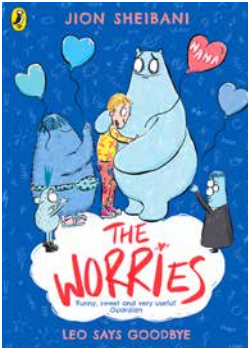
Extent: 160pp

Word Count: 15,000 approx.

Acquiring Editor: Katie Sinfield

Film Rights: Eddison Pearson

World Rights: PRHC



THE WORRIES: LEO SAYS GOODBYE

Jion Sheibani

The Truth Pixie meets *Inside Out* in this gently funny, highly illustrated new story, perfect for helping children work through their worries.

OTHER BOOKS
IN THE SERIES:



- * This beautiful and gently humorous story is perfect for any care-giver looking to talk to their children about grief, and specifically how death can feel very worrying, but isn't something to be scared of.
- * Jion has written this book with input from Winston's Wish, a leading child bereavement charity. Given the sensitive nature of the story, we have included parent-focused endmatter with guides on how to talk to your child about death, grief, and living with loss, as well as activities for children.
- * Jion's thoughtful text is matched by her simple, child-focused artwork, which not only brings the characters beautifully to life, but is presented in a gorgeous two-colour format.
- * This series has been written with child-friendly stories at their core, but caregiver-focused needs as a framework. This new story is gentler and slightly more serious than Jion's previous stories, but speaking to a concern many adults face with children.

DESCRIPTION

Leo has always been a very happy little boy. But when his beloved Nana dies, he feels very sad. And very worried. What if something happens to him - or his mum and dad? And what if he begins to forget Nana? Mum and Dad say Leo's feelings are normal - but they don't feel very normal to Leo.

The last thing Leo thinks he needs is a bunch of fretful furry monsters causing chaos - it's the Worries! But sometimes, Worries are good. Sometimes, they show us that our feelings might be sad and strange, but by paying attention to them, they can help us heal.



Jion Sheibani grew up in Brighton and now lives in Paris with her family, where she runs a language school.

She is a self-taught illustrator and studied English literature at Oxford University.

Age: 5–10

Publication Date: July 2022

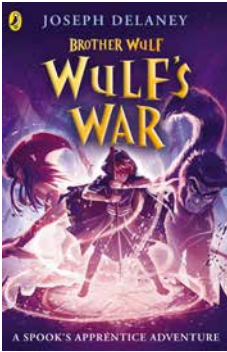
Extent: 160pp

Word Count: 10,000 words; two-colour illustrations

Acquiring Editor: Naomi Colthurst

Film Rights: United Agents

World Rights: PRHC



BROTHER WULF: WULF'S WAR

Joseph Delaney

Another thrilling and magical adventure from master storyteller Joseph Delaney, set in the multi-million copy bestselling world of *The Spook's Apprentice*

OTHER BOOKS
IN THE SERIES:



- * This is the fourth story in Joseph's new fantasy-horror series for younger readers, *Brother Wulf*. Featuring many characters from his beloved and bestselling *Spook's Apprentice* series, it's perfect for new readers and old fans alike, as well as fans of *Stranger Things*, *The Witcher*, *Percy Jackson* and *Goosebumps*.
- * The *Spook's Apprentice* series has sold over half a million copies through TCM in the UK alone, and Joseph's worldwide sales total over 4.5 million. He also has an incredibly loyal international fanbase - *Spook's* has been translated into over 30 languages.
- * Fans of *Spook's* will love learning more about the complex fantasy-horror world that Joe has spent over sixteen years crafting.
- * Joseph's fantastically accessibly-written book are often praised as being perfect for reluctant readers, and always feature strong male and female characters.

DESCRIPTION

Wulf must face his greatest enemy yet - and this time, he's all alone . . .

Wulf is at war - war against the Dark. As Pan's soldier and champion, it's his responsibility to fight for what is right. An early Winter has come to the County, threatening its people with starvation - but there is an even more dangerous foe to face. A demon is trying to become the next ruler of the dark. He has many names but one of them is Loki, the Trickster God. Loki has many, terrible powers - but his most deadly weapon is the one that controls all Wulf's own power . . .

Featuring fan-favourite characters Grimalkin, Thorne, Jenny and even Slither, *Wulf's War* is sure to delight - and fright!



Joseph Delaney worked as an English teacher, writing in the early mornings before school, until his first children's book, *The Spook's Apprentice*, was published in 2004. He then left teaching and went on to write 13 titles in the series, *The Wardstone Chronicles*, plus 17 other titles, predominantly set in the same world. The books have now sold over 4.5 million copies worldwide and been translated into thirty languages. In 2014, *The Spook's Apprentice* was made into a movie called *The Seventh Son* starring Ben Barnes, Julianne Moore and Jeff Bridges. Joe died after a short illness in August 2022.

Age: 9–14 | **Publication Date:** May 2023

Extent: 320pp | **Word Count:** 65,000

Acquiring Editor: Naomi Colthurst

Film Rights: PRHC | **World Rights:** PRHC



SWIFTER THAN STARLIGHT

Cerrie Burnell

A new, wonderfully magical tale set in the whimsical world of *Wilder than Midnight*. Perfect for fans of Sophie Anderson, Katherine Rundell and Catherine Doyle.



**OTHER BOOKS
IN THE SERIES:**

- * This new tale is a fresh, exciting and intrinsically inclusive story that showcases Cerrie's gorgeously atmospheric writing, and features bold female characters who will whisk the reader on a thrilling adventure, all while weaving in a celebration of difference and the joys of found family.
- * Like *Wilder than Midnight*, this story also features a broad and diverse cast of characters, including a new character Lilac, a child with dwarfism, Raven, a deaf child, and Wild Rose, a character who, like Cerrie, was born without the lower part of her right arm.
- * Cerrie is passionate about representation in storytelling and the media, and was recently appointed as one of the BBC's first Disability Ambassadors.
- * Cerrie's writing is perfect for fans of Camilla Cabello's *Cinderella*, *Cruella*, or MG classics like Katherine Rundell, Kiran Millwood-Hargrave and Sophie Anderson
- * Former CBeebies presenter Cerrie Burnell is a much-beloved and well-established children's book author, whose previous works include *I Am Not a Label*, *The Girl With Shark's Teeth* and *Harper and the Scarlet Umbrella*.

DESCRIPTION

Long ago, on a winter's eve, two sisters walked into a wolf-wild wood, but only one returned . . .

It's been seven years since Clover lost her headstrong sister Lilac in the pathless forests of Goldbrooke. Since then she's never left the family cottage, afraid of what, or who, lies beyond it . . .

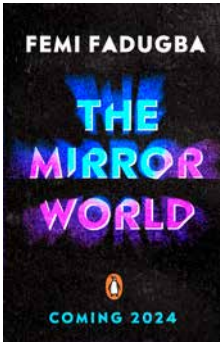
That is until she hears the stirring music of wandering travellers, and in their song, *The Ballad of The Scarlet Bandits*, recognises a figure that can only be her missing sister.

Can Clover find this troupe of misfits, led by a mysterious leader cloaked in red velvet?



Cerrie Burnell is an author, actor and activist. A former children's TV presenter, she is the author of twelve children's books. In 2017 Cerrie was awarded an honorary degree for Services to Media from the Open University. She is a patron of Polka Theatre and has been an author-in-residence at Great Ormond Street Hospital.

Age: 9–12 | **Publication Date:** June 2023
Extent: 352pp | **Word Count:** 65,000
Acquiring Editor: Naomi Colthurst
Film Rights: RCW | **World Rights:** PRHC



THE MIRROR WORLD

Femi Fadugba

The electrifying sequel to *The Upper World*, the superbly original, time-bending YA debut thriller.



OTHER BOOKS
IN THE SERIES:

- * In *The Mirror World*, Esso and Rhia discover they are not the only ones who can wield the incredible power of *The Upper World*, and there is danger coming at them from past and present . . .
- * As mind-blowing as a Christopher Nolan epic with the high-stakes drama and heart of *Top Boy*, this is perfect for fans of Marie Lu and Jason Reynolds.
- * A major Netflix movie is in development, with Daniel Kaluuya (*Get Out*, *Black Panther*) attached to produce and star.

DESCRIPTION

Now

With her mentor, Dr. Esso, by her side, eighteen-year-old Rhia is determined to make her mark on the hallowed halls of Cambridge University. But the power of the Upper World is becoming an addiction she can't shake. Even worse, she's not alone. Someone else knows the secrets of the Upper World. And he's come to eliminate his newest rival: Rhia

Then

In 1990s Benin, Serou believes he's destined to inherit the powers of the Upper World. But instead of being welcomed into his temple as a young adept, he is exiled – only to uncover a conspiracy that has sacrificed dozens of kids like him so one man can stay in power. In his quest for justice, Serou faces a deadly crossroads: a choice that could break the cycle of violence . . . or send him down the same path.

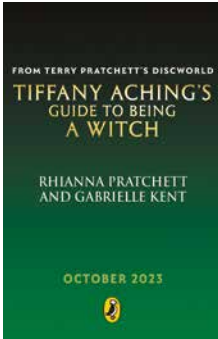
Real physics blends with slick, fast-paced cinematic action to deliver a thrilling game of cat-and-mouse – across time – that only one can win . . . LET THE GAMES BEGIN.



Femi Fadugba has a Master's degree from Oxford University where he published in Quantum Physics and subsequently studied as a Thouron Scholar at University of Pennsylvania. Femi has worked as a science tutor as well in solar energy and consulting. He currently lives between Peckham, London and Baltimore, USA. *The Upper World* is his first book.

'A time-twisting, mind-bending thrill ride . . . I loved it!' Holly Jackson, author of *A Good Girl's Guide to Murder* (on *THE UPPER WORLD*)

Age: 12+ | **Publication Date:** Spring 2024
Extent: 400pp | **Word Count:** 70,000
Acquiring Editor: Anthea Townsend
Film Rights: Netflix | **World Rights:** PRHC
4 Languages Sold: German, Brazilian Portuguese, Russian, Italian



TIFFANY ACHING'S GUIDE TO BEING A WITCH

Rhianna Pratchett and Gabrielle Kent

Dive into the universe of Discworld in this guide to being a witch from Tiffany Aching herself.

- * **The perfect gift for all Terry Pratchett fans, giving a unique glimpse of the Discworld universe**
- * **A beautiful package inside and out, the book will feature full-colour illustrations from Paul Kidby throughout**
- * **2023 is the 20th anniversary of the first Tiffany Aching title, so this is the perfect addition to the anniversary year**

DESCRIPTION

An illustrated and practical guide to being a witch, compiled by Tiffany Aching, based on her own astonishing experiences. Tiffany's notes are accompanied by snippets of remembered wisdom from Granny Aching and Granny Weatherwax and supplemented by colourful hand-written (often strongly contradictory) notes from Nanny Ogg, Letice Earwig, Miss Tick, and Geoffrey Swivel – Discworld's first male witch.

Covering the whole of witching, casting spells to setting cheese, from dealing with elves to making deals with demons, from tending flocks to fending off forces from other worlds, this colourful, funny and insightful guide is a must-have for all Terry Pratchett fans.



Rhianna Pratchett is a video game writer, journalist and novelist. She has worked on Heavenly Sword, Overlord and Tomb Raider and others and has been nominated for a BAFTA and won a Writers' Guild of Great Britain award. She is the daughter of fantasy writer Terry Pratchett.

Gabrielle Kent grew up in the 1980's riding her bike into trouble, drawing monsters, reading comics and playing games on her best friend's Atari. She has written several children's books including the Knights on Bikes series and Alfie Bloom series.

Age: 9+

Publication Date: October 2023

Extent: 192pp

Word Count: (TBC)

Illustrations: Full colour throughout

Acquiring Editor: Jane Griffiths

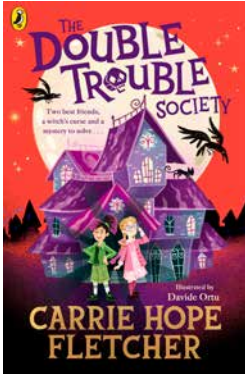
Film Rights: RCW

World Rights: PRH

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THE DOUBLE TROUBLE SOCIETY

Carrie Hope Fletcher

A spell-binding adventure from acclaimed performer and bestselling author Carrie Hope Fletcher.

- * Carrie has an incredibly dedicated fan-base across her social channels with 565k followers on Instagram and 650k on Youtube.
- * Carrie's first children's book *Into the Spotlight* was the second bestselling children's hardback debut of 2020 and she has written several bestselling women's fiction titles.
- * Witches, potions, a haunted house and two best friends determined to solve a mystery – a warm, fun and exciting adventure that will delight middle grade readers.

DESCRIPTION

Ivy and Maggie have been best friends ever since they were born at exactly the same minute twelve years earlier. They're always on the look-out for a new adventure but unfortunately Crowood Peak is officially the most boring town in the world. Or at least it was until children start to mysteriously disappear and, even stranger, none of the grown-ups seem to have noticed . . .

It's up to the Double Trouble Society to work out what's going on. All the evidence points to the old mansion next door with strange green lights in the windows and a new owner who looks suspiciously like a witch!

Can Ivy and Maggie solve the mystery of Hokum House and rescue their friends or will they be next on the witch's list of victims?



Carrie Hope Fletcher is an actress, singer and vlogger. Carrie has starred in a number of shows on

London's West End and on national theatre tours. She has written several books for adults and had numerous number one bestsellers. Carrie lives just outside London with her tuxedo cat, Edgar and numerous fictional friends that she keeps on bookshelves, just in case.

Age: 9–11 | **Publication Date:** July 2022

Extent: 288pp | **Word Count:** 50,000

Illustrations: chapter head illustrations

Acquiring Editor: Carmen McCullough

Film Rights: Hardman Swainson Agency

World Rights: PRHC



THE SOUL SURVIVOR

Chris Bradford

The final pulse-raising adventure in bestselling author Chris Bradford's explosive trilogy.

- * The final epic installment in this unforgettable fantasy series from Chris Bradford, whose books have sold more than half a million copies worldwide.
- * Genna is a heroine to root for: thrust into an adventure beyond her wildest dreams, she must draw on the things she has learned in every one of her previous lives - including her epic samurai skills that Chris has drawn from his lifelong study of martial arts
- * Chris Bradford is famed for his amazing action-packed live events and is touring widely (and virtually!) to support the new series.
- * The perfect next series for fans of Rick Riordan and Skulduggery Pleasant.

DESCRIPTION

The final epic adventure that started with THE SOUL HUNTERS sees Genna Adams thrust into a deadly race against time - only now, all of her lives are on the line . . .

WILL EXPAND THIS IN THE NEXT ROUND

Age: 9-11

Publication Date: September 2023

Extent: 400pp | Word Count: 95,000

Acquiring Editor: Emma Jones

Film Rights: Viney Agency

World Rights: PRHC

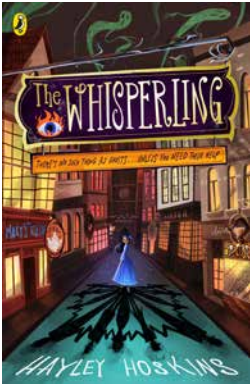


As an author, **Chris Bradford** practises what he terms 'method writing'. For his award-winning Young Samurai series, he trained in samurai swordsmanship, karate, ninjutsu and earned his black belt in Zen Kyu Shin Taijutsu. For his Bodyguard series, he embarked on an intensive close-protection course to become a qualified professional bodyguard.

And for the Soul Prophecy trilogy, Chris travelled extensively to experience first-hand the cultures featured in the story - from living with the Shona people in Zimbabwe, to trekking the Inca trail, to meditating in a Buddhist temple amid the mountains of Japan.

His bestselling books are published in over twenty-five languages and have garnered more than thirty-five children's book awards and nominations. Young Samurai: The Way of the Warrior was deemed one of Puffin's 70 Best Ever Books, alongside Treasure Island and Robin Hood. To discover more about Chris, go to www.chrisbradford.co.uk

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THE WHISPERLING

Hayley Hoskins

Spooky historical middle-grade debut by author Hayley Hoskins, perfect for fans of Emma Carroll, Robin Stevens and Enola Holmes.

- * Hayley was longlisted for the Bath Children's Novel Award, chosen by literary agent Sallyanne Sweeney.
- * *The Whisperling* is an accomplished debut novel full of spooky mystery that will make readers laugh and cry, all told by a plucky female protagonist, and through an accessible historical lens.
- * Author Hayley was born in the Forest of Dean and set *The Whisperling* in and around Bristol, peppering the story with lots of fascinating south-west historical references and lovely Bristolian vernacular.

DESCRIPTION

1897.

Peggy Devona is a Whisperling, someone who can speak with the dead. It's a skill she tries to keep secret from the rest of her village, who fear anyone 'different'.

But when her best friend is accused of murder and thrown in a Bristol gaol, Peggy realizes she must use her abilities to save Sally and solve the case.

Away from home the plot thickens at her Uncle's psychic emporium, where Peggy finds herself surrounded by new friends, new enemies, and new spirits. Who can she trust?

Peggy is running out of time, and every day she spends getting closer to the truth brings Sally a step closer to the gallows . . .



Hayley Hoskins was longlisted for the Bath Children's Novel Award, and writes in the space between family and work, with much support from her writing group. Originally from the Forest of Dean, Hayley lives with her family and hairy breeze-block of a dog in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. *The Whisperling* is her debut novel.

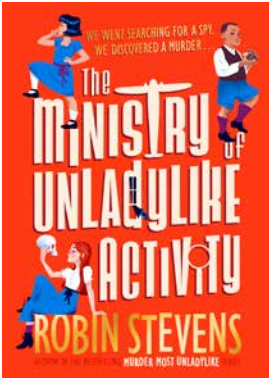
Age: 9–12 | **Publication Date:** September 2022

Extent: 368pp | **Word Count:** 54,000

Acquiring Editor: Katie Sinfield

Film Rights: Watson Little Ltd. | **Rights:** US only

Translation Rights: Watson Little Ltd.



THE MINISTRY OF UNLADYLIKE ACTIVITY

Robin Stevens

The start of a thrilling new World War Two mystery series from the number-one-best-selling and multi-award-winning author of *Murder Most Unladylike*.

- * Robin is one of the UK's bestselling and most beloved children's authors, with over 1 million copies sold through TCM. She was the seventh biggest children's fiction author in the UK in 2020. Her *Murder Most Unladylike* series has won and been shortlisted for numerous awards, including a British Book Award.
- * This is the start of a thrilling and highly-anticipated new series set during WWII, and featuring brilliant but underestimated children, wonderful friendships and rivalries, twisty mystery plots, and history brought to life: perfect for fans of *Enola Holmes* and *Knives Out*.
- * Stars a cast of fantastic and diverse new characters, alongside the best-loved faces from the *Murder Most Unladylike* series.

DESCRIPTION

Britain is at war, and a secret arm of the British government called the **Ministry of Unladylike Activity** is training up spies.

Ten-year-old May Wong – courageous, stubborn, smart – is desperate to enlist and help end the war, so she can go home to Hong Kong. May knows that there is no one more perfect to become a spy than a child. So when May and her friend Eric are turned away by the Ministry, they take matters into their own hands.

Masquerading as evacuees, May and Eric arrive at Elysium Hall, home to the wealthy Vereys, one of whom is suspected of passing information to Germany. May and Eric know if they can gather enough evidence on their suspect, the Ministry will have to take them on.

But there are more secrets at Elysium Hall than May or Eric could ever have imagined . . .



Robin was born in California and grew up in an Oxford college, across the road from the house

where *Alice in Wonderland* lived. When she was twelve, her father handed her a copy of *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd* and she realized that she wanted to be either Hercule Poirot or Agatha Christie when she grew up. She studied crime fiction at university, and then she worked at a children's publisher. Robin is now a full-time author. She lives in Oxford.

Age: 9–12 | **Publication Date:** October 2022

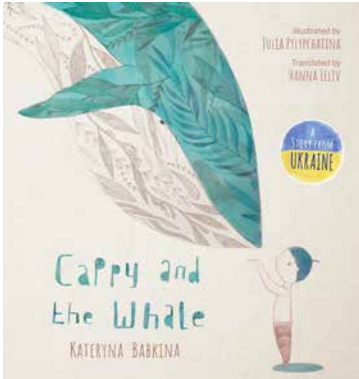
Extent: 352pp | **Word Count:** 75,000

Acquiring Editor: Natalie Doherty

Film Rights: The Bent Agency | **Rights:** US only

Translation Rights: The Bent Agency

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CAPPY AND THE WHALE

Kateryna Babkina,
illustrated by Julia Pylypchatina

A unique, moving and gently funny story about hope, family, and the power of imagination, translated from Ukrainian into English for the first time.

- * Filled with beautiful full-colour illustrations, and a text that is short but perfectly formed, *Cappy* is perfect for fans of *A Monster Calls*, and this charming story is a wonderful tool for building empathy with children curious to know more about living with illness, as well as a snapshot of life in Ukraine
- * Originally published in Ukraine in 2015, Puffin are proud to be publishing this story in English for the first time.
- * Alongside a lump-sum donation, Puffin will be donating all their profits on the hardback to the National Literacy Trust.
- * The author originally wrote the story to highlight how the lives of children living with cancer - is Cappy's case, leukaemia - don't simply stop. They remain children with hopes, dreams and interests that should be supported.

DESCRIPTION

When eight-year-old Cappy discovers a cloud whale swimming outside of his bedroom window, it's fair to say he's quite surprised. Thanks to his leukaemia, Cappy's used to not being allowed to do things he wants - like eating sweets, playing with dogs, or roaming too far from his protective family - so he's delighted when the amazing whale not only speaks to him, but asks him to join him for a ride in the sky. Soon, Cappy and the whale are the best of friends, and together they will go on an amazing journey of imagination, hope and curiosity.



photo credit Oksana Borovets

Kateryna Babkina

is an award-winning Ukrainian poet and writer. She writes books both for children and grown-ups, teaches creative writing, and writes film scripts.

Age: 6–14 | **Publication Date:** 6 October 2022

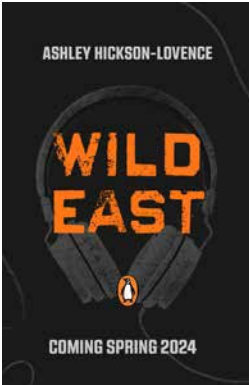
Extent: 64pp | **Word Count:** 10,000

Acquiring Editor: Naomi Colthurst
and Anna Barnes Robinson

Film Rights: Old Lion

World Rights: US only

Translation Rights: Old Lion.



WILD EAST

Ashley Hickson-Lovence

A thrilling and emotional debut YA novel-in-verse by former secondary school teacher. Perfect for fans of Dean Atta and Manjeet Mann.

- * Author and former educator Ashley is passionate about making poetry accessible to all young adult readers, and engage reluctant readers through his work, especially teenage boys
- * The narrative embeds innovative Creative Writing exercises for teachers, serving as a teaching aide for English teachers wanting to try new creative activities in the classroom
- * *Wild East* is inspired by Ashley's lived experiences, including five years as a secondary school English teacher in London, his experience working in a Pupil Referral Unit, and time tutoring a group of asylum seekers and refugees

DESCRIPTION

A YA, novel-in-verse about a Black British teenage boy, exploring themes of coming of age, prejudice, and finding confidence through poetry and spoken word performance. Perfect for fans of Manjeet Mann and Dean Atta



Ashley Hickson-Lovence was born in London and lives in Norwich. He is a former secondary school English teacher, currently completing his PhD in Creative and Critical Writing. Ashley lectures at the University of Suffolk, and works with young writers for England's leading creative writing charity, First Story. He is the author of two adult novels.

Age: 12+

Publication Date: March 2024

Extent: 320pp

Word Count: 35,000

Acquiring Editor: Kate Sinfield

Film Rights: David Godwin Associates



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