



Autumn 2023  
**FICTION**  
Rights Guide

## PUBLISHING FOR EVERY CHILD

Hachette Children's Group is one of the largest children's publishers in the UK.

Our mission is to make it easy for children and young people everywhere to access books and see themselves reflected there.

We are home to a wide range of groundbreaking illustrators and publish diverse and different voices and ideas in ground-breaking books across every genre, from baby and pre-school to YA.

We aim to inspire a lifelong love of reading and maximise our readers' life-chances by publishing books for every child and young person.

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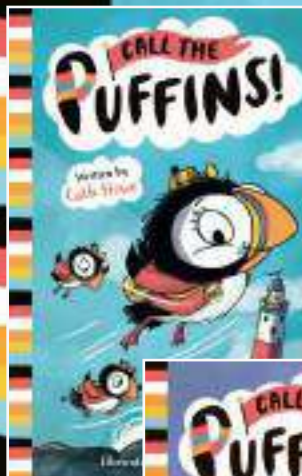
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# 5-7 FICTION

# CALL THE PUFFINS!



Team Puffin, always ready to fly to the rescue! A delightful four-book series about puffins and teamwork, with gorgeous integrated black and white illustrations.

Welcome to the island of Egg, where a group of young puffins are training to join a search and rescue team. Meet Muffin, who is following in her dad's footsteps and anxious not to let him down. Meet Tiny, whose eyesight is a challenge which won't stop him for long. And meet Forti, who seems so over-confident but is desperate to impress.

- *Paw Patrol* meets *Paddington* – with puffins! Ideal for young readers moving on from picture books to chapter books
- Warm and engaging storytelling with a traditional feel, it deals with themes of teamwork, belonging and resilience
- Perfect for fans of *Mr Penguin* by Alex T. Smith and *Dave the Pigeon* by Swapna Haddow

IMPRINT: Welbeck Flame  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 12,000  
 EXTENT: 128pp

PRICE: £6.99  
 PUB DATE: Book 1: Published; Book 2: October 2023; Book 3: March 2024; Book 4: October 2024  
 NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 4  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World

LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Anne Clarke Literary Agency



# GNOME ALONE at Christmas

Get ready for the craziest Christmas ever! This funny and festive story about a magical gnome is perfect for sharing aloud or reading independently.

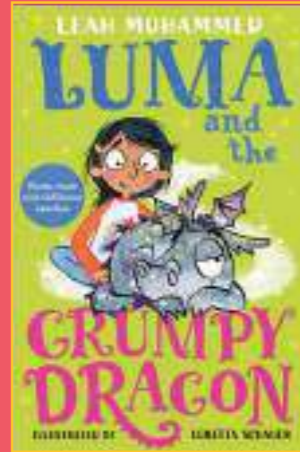
Noah can't believe his eyes – or his luck - when a magical gnome called Tommy turns up on 24th December. He's sure it's going to be AWESOME! But Tommy's magic spells keep going WRONG ... The Christmas tree topples over, a gingerbread army goes on the attack and a real-live reindeer is charging around the garden. Worst of all, Noah's parents are coming home soon! Can Noah fix Tommy's magical mischief in time to save Christmas?



- A hilarious, heart-warming story packed with magic and action, with fun black and white line illustrations throughout
- Scandinavian-style gnomes are a hot festive trend
- A perfect Christmas present for boys and girls

IMPRINT: Orchard Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 11,000  
 EXTENT: 160pp  
 PRICE: £6.99  
 PUB DATE: October 2023

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Hachette Children's Group



# LUMA and the PET DRAGON

A delightful six-book series for young readers and anyone who has dreamed of having their own pet dragon – feel-good storytelling sprinkled with magic.

When Luma Dewan wakes up on the morning of her seventh birthday, she knows that today will be special – but she has no idea just how much. Today is the day she will meet Timir, a real talking dragon – or at least when Luma is around, that's what he is. When anyone else is there, he becomes an ordinary grey puppy with a fluffy tail, who loves chasing squirrels and bouncing on trampolines. Each book contains two warm and funny stories.



- Perfect series for developing readers who are starting their journey on chapter books
- Celebrates family dynamics, intergenerational relationships and being a single-parent family
- Each story contains beautiful integrated black and white illustrations by Loretta Schauer

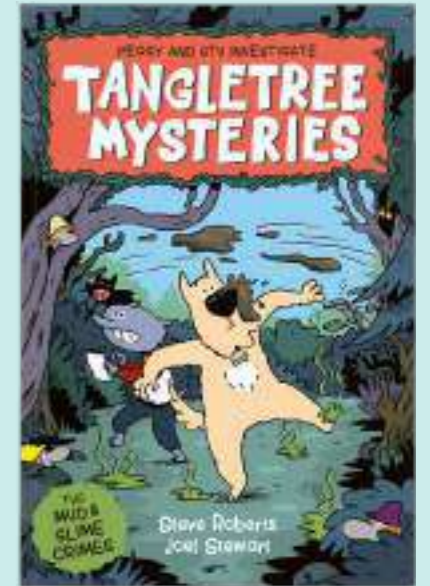
IMPRINT: Welbeck Flame  
FORMAT: PB  
SIZE: 198x129mm  
WORD COUNT: 15,000  
EXTENT: 64pp  
PRICE: £6.99  
PUB DATE: Published

NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 6  
RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
RIGHTS SOLD: Dutch  
LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/  
FILM/TV: Anne Clarke Literary Agency

# TANGLTREE MYSTERIES

A charming and uplifting colour detective series in graphic novel style for readers aged 5+, with two mysteries per book.

Meet Peggy the dog who – when she enters Tangletree Woods on her walk every day – takes up her position as detective. Beyond the park and deep in the woods is a world of surprises. There is a strange trail of smelly green slime in the Woods and none of the animals can sleep. Are these two things related? It's up to Peggy to brave the spooky moonlit trail and find out. In Peggy's next case, it's the annual Tangletree race day. All the animals have come to watch but the race course is far more muddy and treacherous than usual. What on earth is going on?



- Created by Steve Roberts and Joel Stewart, who have previously collaborated on TV animation including Abney & Teal and BOT and the Beasties
- Gentle in tone, this will appeal to fans of Winnie the Pooh and Rupert Bear as well as more recent books like *Isadora Moon* and *Hotel Flamingo*
- With themes of friendship and teamwork, no problem is too perplexing and no puzzle is too small as long as Peggy's faithful sidekick, Stu the shrew, is with her



IMPRINT: Welbeck Flame  
FORMAT: PB  
SIZE: 210 x 142mm  
WORD COUNT: 5,000  
EXTENT: 128pp  
PRICE: £7.99  
PUB DATE: Book 1: Published; Book 2:

May 2024, Book 3: May 2025  
NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 3  
RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/  
FILM/TV: United Agents



# RABBIT & BEAR



**JULIAN GOUGH**

Julian Gough is a novelist and playwright, and also wrote the *Minecraft End Poem*. He lives in Berlin.



**JIM FIELD**

Jim Field has won the Roald Dahl Funny Prize and illustrated a wide range of projects, including the bestselling *The Lion Inside* and *Oi Frog!* picture book series. He lives in Paris.

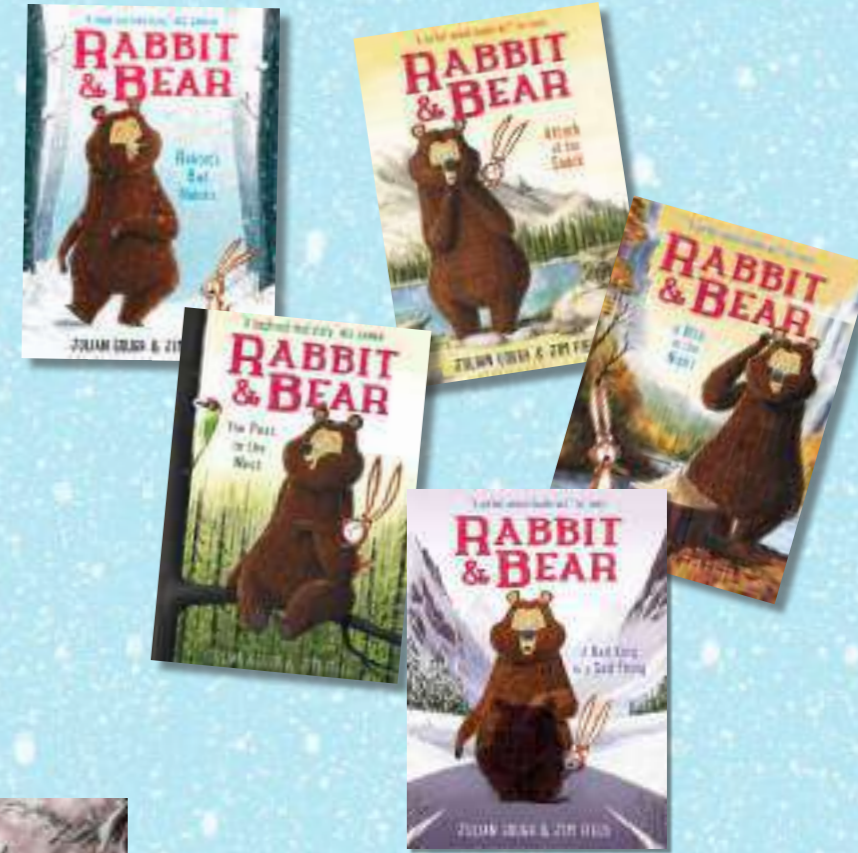
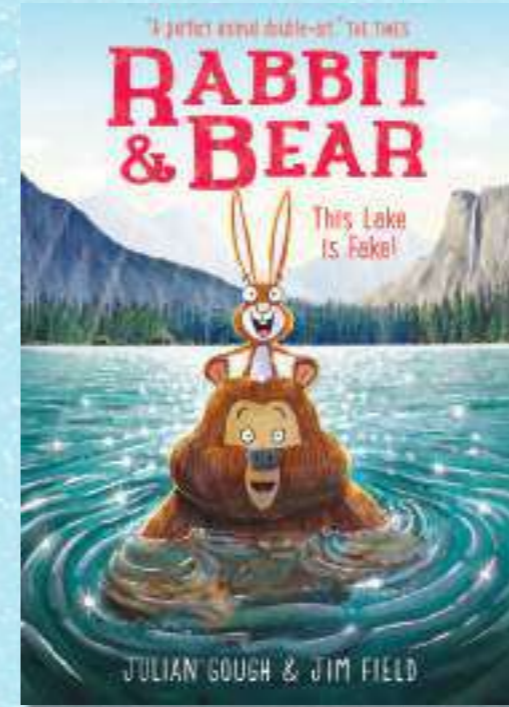
Bestselling series with a classic feel, beautiful illustrations and a funny story in each book – ideal for readers moving on from picture books.

Rabbit is fed up. Spring has come, but it's not as perfect as he thought it would be. Bear thinks that if they work hard, they can make it better. But Rabbit has a Plan. He sets off across the lake in search of a perfect world. Crossing the water together, Rabbit and Bear learn many things, and discover that their perfect world may be closer at hand than Rabbit had thought. A story of hope, friendship, and an entire island made of bird droppings.

- 34 rights deals to date, and 20,000 copies sold through the UK TCM!
- Laugh-out-loud series from a dynamic creative partnership in a beautiful smaller format, with single-colour insides that represent the seasonal setting of each book
- Simple language and stories, with more complex ideas to entertain adults and give depth to the telling

*'A breath of fresh air in children's fiction, a laugh-out-loud story ... that makes you want to send your children to bed early, so you can read it to them'*

Neil Gaiman



**IMPRINT:** Hodder Children's Books  
**FORMAT:** HB and PB  
**SIZE:** 181 x 129 mm  
**WORD COUNT:** 6,000 approx. per book  
**EXTENT:** 112pp  
**PRICE:** £10.99 and £6.99  
**PUB DATE:** Books 1–5: Published; Book 6: March 2024

**NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES:** 6  
**RIGHTS AVAILABLE:** World  
**RIGHTS SOLD:** Basque, Bulgarian, Castilian, Catalan, Chinese (simplified), Croat, Czech, Danish, Dutch, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Hungarian, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Lithuanian, Nepali, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese (PT), Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Slovak, Slovene, Swedish, Turkish, Ukrainian, US, Vietnamese, Welsh

**LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:** Kingsford Campbell/United Agents



# FAIRY FOREST SCHOOL

A magical fairy school series about helping animals and looking after nature, from the creative home of the bestselling *Rainbow Magic* series!

Poppy Merrymoss is taking part in the Starlight Dance Show with her best friends, Ninad and Rose. They're excited to perform in the magical toadstool ring with their new firefly friends, Zip and Zap. But before the big performance, nasty Lady Nightshade puts an evil spell on the forest, making it night-time forever! All the forest animals are confused and exhausted without day and night to guide them. Poppy and her friends must help the animals and make things right so the show can go on.



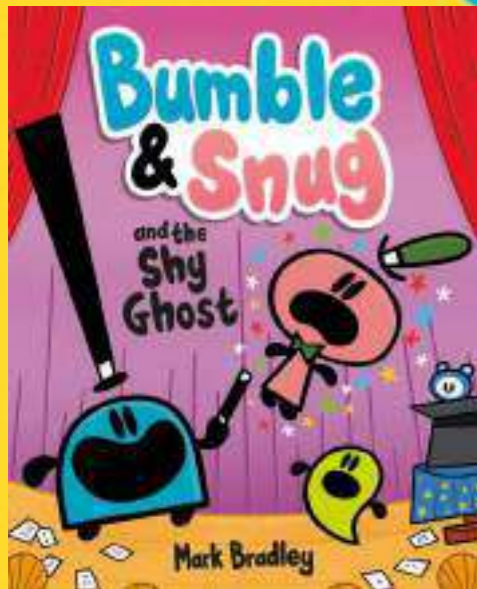
IMPRINT: Orchard Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 8,000 approx. per book  
 EXTENT: 128pp  
 PRICE: £5.99  
 PUB DATE: Books Book 1–5: Published; Book 6: October 2023

NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 6  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:  
 Hachette Children's Group



- Fairy school adventures with a focus on the natural world is a winning combination
- Featuring charming black and white interior illustrations from Paula Franco
- With a cast of diverse fairy characters and adorable animals, this series is set in a magical miniature world tailor-made to appeal to readers of 5+





A young graphic novel series about feelings, friendship and EPIC adventure! Best friends Bumble and Snug are bugbops – little monsters filled with BIG feelings!

Join them on comic adventures while they encounter lots of magical creatures and learn about the world outside and inside along the way.

'Gleefully energetic ... sure to prompt ear-to-ear grins' *Guardian*

- *Mr Men meets Inside Out* in this fun graphic novel series for young readers
- With a full-colour format, perfect for readers aged 5+, each book has a key emotion at its core: anger, excitement and shyness
- *Bumble and Snug and the Angry Pirates* was shortlisted for the Waterstones Children's Book Prize, 2022

IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 181 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 3,500/2,650/2,650  
 EXTENT: 160pp/144pp/160pp  
 PRICE: £7.99  
 PUB DATE: Books 1–3: Published; Books 4 & 5: TBC

NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 5  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 RIGHTS SOLD: Castilian, Catalan, Chinese (Simplified) Danish, Hebrew, Italian, Korean, Norwegian, Polish, Slovene, US  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Darley Anderson Children's Book Agency

# Mark Bradley Bumble & Snug



# The Pug who wanted to be a

Join Peggy the Pug in this bestselling series of gently humorous stories told from a loveable pug's point of view.

When a new family moves in next door, Peggy and her best friend Chloe can't wait to make friends with them. But Emma, the girl next door, isn't very nice and her mischievous kitten, Lucky, keeps getting Peggy into trouble. So, Peggy takes matters into her own paws . . . She decides to become a witch, so she can cast a magic spell and make her troublesome new neighbours vanish!

- 100,000 copies sold across the series in the UK/Commonwealth market!
- Series covers seasonal themes such as Christmas, Easter and Halloween and features adorable black and white line artwork
- Positive and affirming message about being yourself

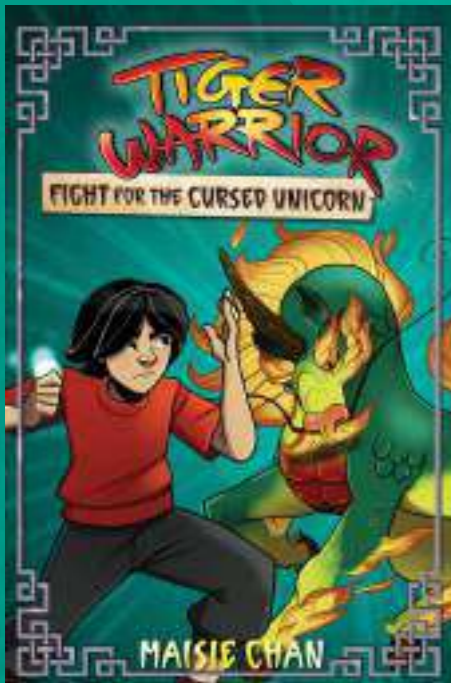


IMPRINT: Orchard Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 11,000 approx. per book  
 EXTENT: 160pp  
 PRICE: Books 1–6: £5.99; Books 7–10: £6.99  
 PUB DATE: Books 1–10: Published; Book 11: April 2024; Book 12: August 2024

NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 12  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 RIGHTS SOLD: Czech, Danish, French, Hungarian, Lithuanian, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Slovak, Ukrainian, US

LICENSING/MERCHANDISING//FILM/TV: Hachette Children's Group



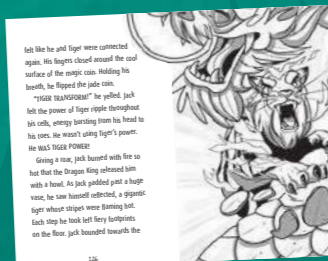
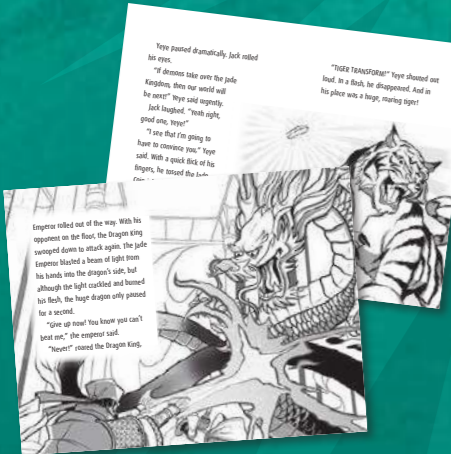


# TIGER WARRIOR

A thrilling new action–adventure series with the magical power of the Chinese Zodiac. Perfect as a chapter book series and for fans of Percy Jackson and Adam Blade.

Jack's met some incredible creatures in the magical Jade Kingdom, but the xiezhi – a mythical truth-telling unicorn – is the most amazing one yet!

- Commercial, high-concept action–adventure series
- Rich backdrop of Chinese mythology with black and white line art throughout
- Maisie Chan is a British Chinese children's author with a passion for storytelling and for Chinese myths and legends



IMPRINT: Orchard Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 12,000 approx. per book  
 EXTENT: 144pp  
 PRICE: £6.99  
 PUB DATE: Book 1-3: Published; Book 4: September 2023; Book 5: February 2024; Book 6: July 2024

NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 6  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 RIGHTS SOLD: Castilian, Chinese (simplified), Swedish, Ukrainian, US  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Hachette Children's Group



# THE ROBIN AND THE REINDEER

A reindeer, lost in the forest . . . and a robin, who gives his own colour to the reindeer's nose so they can fly home together; this is a lavish full-colour gift book for children and parents to treasure.

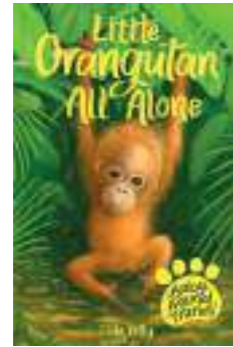
- A brilliant step up from shorter picture books, ideal for reading aloud
- The luscious full-colour artwork by acclaimed Carmen Saldaña celebrates friendship, love and returning home to family
- This heartwarming, beautiful story has a classic feel that will appeal to both adults and children



IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
 FORMAT: HB  
 SIZE: 234 x 153 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 2,000  
 EXTENT: 96pp  
 PRICE: £12.99  
 PUB DATE: Published

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 RIGHTS SOLD: Bulgarian, Dutch, German, Italian, Polish, Turkish, Ukrainian, Vietnamese  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Hachette Children's Group





**BABY ANIMAL FRIENDS** by Tilda Kelly

- Heartwarming stories about the special bond between young children and endangered animals
- Each book sensitively explores various themes: grief and sea pollution in *The Fairy Penguin*; neurodiversity and bush fires in *Baby Koala Rescue*; and adoption and habitat destruction in *Little Orangutan All Alone*
- Black line illustrations throughout

**IMPRINT:** Orchard Books  
**FORMAT:** PB  
**WORD COUNT:** 12,000 approx. per book  
**EXTENT:** 160pp  
**NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES:** 3  
**RIGHTS AVAILABLE:** World

**RIGHTS SOLD:** Czech, Polish, Romanian, Ukrainian  
**LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:** Hachette Children's Group



**THE FLAMINGO BALLERINA, THE PUPPY WHO NEEDED A PRINCESS, THE LLAMA BRIDESMAID** by Bella Swift

- Gently humorous stories from the bestselling author of *The Pug Who Wanted to Be a* series – told from the animals' points of view
- *The Flamingo Ballerina* delivers an uplifting message about working hard and standing up to bullies; *The Puppy Who Needed A Princess* about how to be brave and stay true to yourself; *The Llama Bridesmaid* about kindness and coping with change
- Black line illustrations bring the stories to life

**IMPRINT:** Orchard Books  
**FORMAT:** PB  
**WORD COUNT:** 10,000  
**EXTENT:** 160pp  
**NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES:** 3  
**RIGHTS AVAILABLE:** World

**RIGHTS SOLD:** *The Flamingo Ballerina:* Russian, Ukrainian; *The Llama Bridesmaid:* Czech, Hungarian, Russian, Ukrainian; *The Puppy Who Needed a Princess:* Russian, Ukrainian  
**LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:** Hachette Children's Group



**SEA KEEPERS** by Coral Ripley

- A magical mermaid series about saving our seas. When Emily, Grace and Layla rescue a dolphin from a fishing net, they get swept away on a magical mermaid adventure! The girls are chosen to become Sea Keepers – guardians of the underwater world
- Strong environmental message about saving the seas – a major concern for young people
- Black and white line illustrations throughout

**IMPRINT:** Orchard Books  
**FORMAT:** PB  
**WORD COUNT:** 9,000–12,000  
**EXTENT:** Books 1, 8 & 10: 192pp; Books 2–7, 9 & 11: 128pp  
**NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES:** 11  
**RIGHTS AVAILABLE:** World

**RIGHTS SOLD:** Czech, Turkish, Ukrainian, US  
**LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:** Hachette Children's Group



# CLAUDE

Alex T. Smith



Meet Claude, the ordinary dog with an extraordinary life! A bestselling and award-winning adventure series – adapted for TV on Disney Junior!

- Claude has sold over 700,000 copies worldwide in 28 languages
- Illustrated in two-colour throughout, *Claude in the City* was shortlisted for the Waterstones Children's Book Prize. Alex T. Smith has also won the UKLA Picture Book Award, the Sainsbury's Children's Book Prize and a World Illustration Award
- Several TV tie-ins published with titles ranging from picture books and activity books to comic collections

**IMPRINT:** Hodder Children's Books  
**FORMAT:** HB & PB  
**SIZE:** 181 x 129 mm  
**WORD COUNT:** 3,000  
**EXTENT:** 96pp  
**PRICE:** £8.99 (HB); £6.99 (PB)  
**PUB DATE:** Published  
**NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES:** 10

**RIGHTS AVAILABLE:** World  
**RIGHTS SOLD:** Afrikaans, Bulgarian, Castilian, Chinese (complex), Chinese (simplified), Finnish, Georgian, Greek, Hungarian, Lithuanian, Polish, Portuguese (ex Brazil), Romanian, Russian, Slovak, Slovene, Swedish, Turkish, Ukrainian, US, Welsh

**LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:**  
 Hachette Children's Group/Sixteen South

# SERIES FICTION



# RAINBOW magic™

The bestselling series for children aged 5+ is packed full of fairies, adventure and friendship.

When Rachel and Kirsty meet on holiday on Rainspell Island, they never expected to meet the Rainbow Fairies and have their first adventure in Fairyland. Together, they have met hundreds of fairies and helped them to defeat the naughty goblin, Jack Frost, and his goblin henchmen. Now Rachel and Kirsty have made two new friends, Gracie and Khadijah, and together, the four of them help the fairies whenever Jack Frost causes trouble. What adventures will they get up to next?

*Rainbow Magic* is written by a collective of experienced writers under the name Daisy Meadows.

Over  
**40**  
million  
copies sold

- Rights have been acquired to make *Rainbow Magic* into a TV series
- A highly collectable series of over 300 books on all the most popular themes and trends such as fidget toys, sports, STEM and helping the environment
- With short chapters and lots of illustrations; perfect for new or reluctant readers



IMPRINT: Orchard Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 4,500–9,000  
 EXTENT: 80–160pp  
 PRICE: Series £5.99; Specials £6.99  
 PUB DATE: Published  
 NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 300+

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 RIGHTS SOLD: Greek, Portugal (PT), Slovak, Turkish, Ukrainian, US  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:  
 CPLG on behalf of IoM and DHX WW

# HORRID HENRY

Over  
**30**  
million  
copies sold

**Number one for fiendish fun! Horrid Henry is everyone's favourite troublemaker.**

Since 1994 Francesca Simon's Horrid Henry has been delighting children across the world. The bestselling books include illustrations by Tony Ross and feature a defiant Henry who plays pranks on his little brother, Perfect Peter, his arch enemy, Moody Margaret, and many others. Ideal for independent readers who are starting to read for pleasure.

Horrid Henry has sold over 30 million copies worldwide and is a hugely successful animated TV series, broadcast in over 90 countries.

An irresistible introduction to reading for pleasure – the perfect gift for *Horrid Henry* fans everywhere.



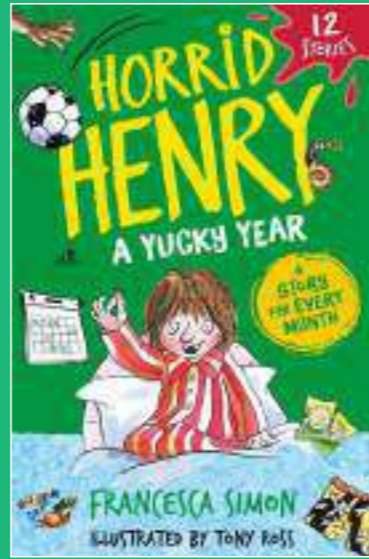
Francesca Simon wrote the first *Horrid Henry* book in 1994. She has won the Children's Book of the Year Award.



Tony Ross is one of the most popular children's illustrators of all time, best known for *Horrid Henry* and the works of David Walliams.

IMPRINT: Orion Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: Chapter books: 7,500;  
 Bumper collections: 14,000  
 EXTENT: Chapter books: 144pp; Bumper collections: 224pp  
 PRICE: Series £4.99; Specials £5.99  
 PUB DATE: *Terrible Teachers*: August 2023  
 NUMBER OF TITLES IN THE CORE SERIES: 25

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 RIGHTS SOLD: Castilian, Chinese (simplified), Croat, Czech, Estonian, Faroese, French, Gaelic, Georgian, Greek, Hebrew, Icelandic, Italian, Korean, Norwegian (audio) Polish, Romanian, Russian, Slovak, Slovene, Spanish (LAME), US  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Novel Entertainment Limited



# Princess -ACADEMY-

Where do princesses go to school? At Princess Academy!

With dramas and tiaras, this series is all about becoming a proper princess. Each story revolves around the six members of the Tiara Club and follows their adventures as they pass through each level of schooling, from Grade 1 (How to behave at a Grand Ball) to Grade 6 (How to deal with a Wicked Fairy).



- The original series sold almost 700,000 copies through TCM
- Low word count with lots of black and white illustrations by Sarah Gibbs
- Princess stories set in a school environment from bestselling children's author Vivian French

**IMPRINT:** Orchard Books  
**FORMAT:** PB  
**SIZE:** 198 x 129 mm  
**WORD COUNT:** approx 4,000–5,000  
**EXTENT:** 80pp  
**PRICE:** £4.99  
**PUB DATE:** Published  
**NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES:** 6

**RIGHTS AVAILABLE:** World  
**RIGHTS SOLD:** Albanian, French, Hebrew, Macedonian, Turkish  
**LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:** Hachette Children's Group

# Secret Kingdom

When best friends Jasmine, Ellie and Summer find a mysterious box, they are transported into a magical world the Secret Kingdom! The three girls must help King Merry and his pixie assistant, Trixi, as they try to stop mean Queen Malice and her horrid storm sprites from causing trouble.

- Over 850,000 copies of *Secret Kingdom* have been sold worldwide and rights sold in 31 languages
- Five series of four titles each, plus six bumper-length stand-alone specials
- Perfect for developing reading confidence in young readers



**IMPRINT:** Orchard Books  
**FORMAT:** PB  
**SIZE:** 198 x 129 mm  
**WORD COUNT:** 8,000–12,000  
**EXTENT:** Series: 128pp; Specials: 208pp  
**PRICE:** Series: £5.99; Specials: £6.99  
**PUB DATE:** Published  
**NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES:** 42  
**RIGHTS AVAILABLE:** World

**RIGHTS SOLD:** Albanian, Castilian, Catalan, Czech, Danish, Hungarian, Icelandic, Norwegian, Romanian, Spanish (LAME), Turkish, Ukrainian  
**LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:** Working Partners Limited

# Secret PRINCESSES

Princesses, friendship, magic and fun! Best friends Mia and Charlotte can't bear it when Charlotte's family moves to the other side of the world. But when they are given magic necklaces, they begin an amazing adventure together. Their necklaces transport them to Wishing Star Palace, where they meet the Secret Princesses, who make wishes come true.

- Strong, inspirational female characters and exciting adventures
- Ideal for new readers to enjoy independently
- Five series of four titles each, plus five bumper-length stand-alone specials



**IMPRINT:** Orchard Books  
**FORMAT:** PB  
**SIZE:** 198 x 129 mm  
**WORD COUNT:** 8,000–12,000  
**EXTENT:** Series: 128pp; Specials: 208pp  
**PRICE:** Series: £5.99; Specials: £6.99  
**PUB DATE:** Published  
**NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES:** 25  
**RIGHTS AVAILABLE:** World

**RIGHTS SOLD:** Castilian, Catalan, Danish, French, Hebrew, Hungarian, Indonesian, Portuguese (PT), Russian, Ukrainian  
**LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:** Working Partners Limited

**7-9**  
**FICTION**

# FLORA STORMER



A brand-new series with a neurodiverse heroine combining magic, adventure and a message celebrating difference and self-acceptance.

Flora Stormer has always dreamed of adventure. So when her father falls ill, she doesn't think twice about going solo on an expedition to find the golden lotus, a legendary flower with healing powers. But the lotus only blooms once a century, so there's no time to lose! With the help of a magical map and her new friends, can Flora find the flower first and save the rainforest?

- Own voices series – like her heroine, the author has Tourette's syndrome and wants to fill a gap in the market for fiction exploring this condition
- Popular influencers on TikTok and pop musicians such as Lewis Capaldi have raised awareness of Tourette's syndrome
- The rainforest plants and animals are brought to life with beautiful black and white illustrations throughout



IMPRINT: Orchard Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 22,000  
 EXTENT: 208pp  
 PRICE: £7.99  
 PUB DATE: Book 1: April 2024;

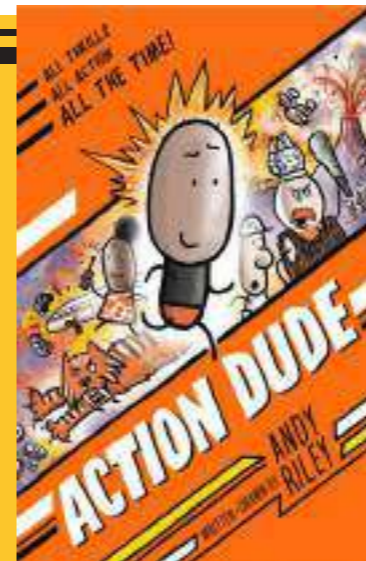
Book 2: October 2024; Book 3:  
 April 2025; Book 4: October 2025  
 NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 4  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/  
 FILM/TV: Hachette Children's  
 Group

# ACTION DUDE

First name . . . Action. Second name . . . Dude. A full-colour, three-book graphic novel series from the million-copy-selling creator of *King Flashypants* and *The Bunny Suicides*.

Action Dude lives for danger and excitement. He's always jumping out of helicopters, crashing ships, running along the tops of cranes and walking out of buildings just before they explode. He's nine years old and the bravest action hero there ever was. Except that he's terrified of spiders. (But don't ever tell anyone that!) When a theme park full of robots goes haywire, and strange happenings take place in a hotel on the moon, it's up to Action Dude to come to the rescue.

- Printed in black and orange throughout – with extra splashes of colour for moments of high drama
- The first book in the series contains a bonus activity at the back so kids can learn to draw Action Dude
- The *King Flashypants* series has been sold in 21 languages



IMPRINT: Welbeck Flame  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 5,000  
 EXTENT: 144pp  
 PRICE: £7.99

PUB DATE: Book 1-2: Published;  
 Book 3: June 2024  
 NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 3  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 RIGHTS SOLD: Castilian, Catalan,  
 Czech, Dutch, Italian

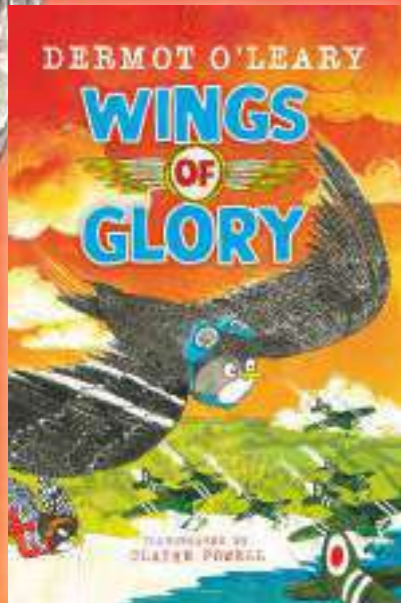
LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/  
 FILM/TV: Curtis Brown Group







# WINGS OF GLORY



Can one tiny bird help to win the Second World War? A funny action-adventure story featuring courageous loop-the-loops, top secret plans and more than a smattering of bird poo.

It's 1940, and Linus, a swift, swoops at the chance to fly with the Royal Bird Force. But it's a dangerous journey to reach the airfield for training, and his sister goes missing on the way. Linus will face bomber planes, arrogant falcons and a spy who's determined to take him down . . . but can he find his sister AND prove that winning the war is more about the size of your heart, than the size of your wings?



- The start of a new historical series, set in different locations around the world, from the bestselling author of *Toto the Ninja Cat*
- The story has been fact-checked by a historian, and is a heartfelt animal action-adventure with an authentic Second World War setting
- The glorious black and white illustrations throughout from Claire Powell bring out the humour and heart

IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
 FORMAT: HB  
 SIZE: 216 x 153 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 24,000  
 EXTENT: 224pp

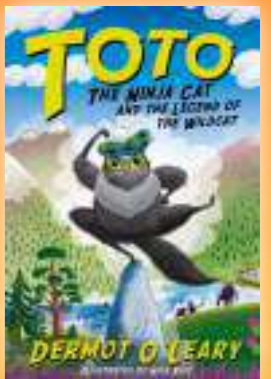
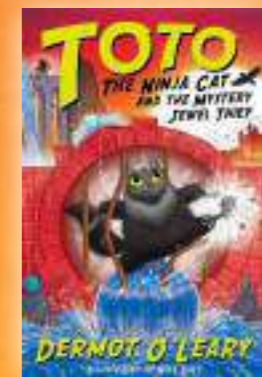
PRICE: £12.99  
 PUB DATE: September 2023  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/  
 TV: Hachette Children's Group

# TOTO THE NINJA CAT

Toto and her brother, Silver, live fancy-free in a London townhouse. Toto is almost totally blind and learned to trust her senses from a ninja-cat-master in Italy. By day, Toto and Silver are ordinary cats, but by night they solve mysteries, fight crime and have ninja adventures.



- Bestselling series with sales of over 470,000 copies and rights sold in 17 languages to date
- Black and white illustrations throughout from Nick East
- With themes of friendship, inclusivity and winning in the face of adversity



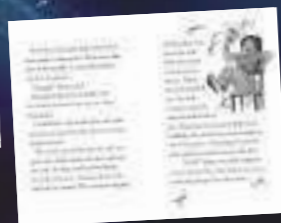
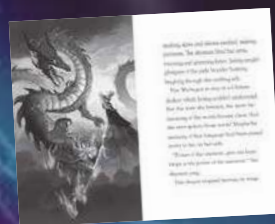
RIGHTS SOLD: Castilian, Chinese (simplified), Czech, Farsi, French, German, Macedonian, Norwegian, Portugal (PT), Portuguese (BR), Russian, Serbian, Slovak, Swedish, Turkish, Ukrainian, Vietnamese



# Spellcasters

Welcome to Spellcroft Street, where ancient magic meets girl power. Four friends channel the magical abilities of their ancestors to protect their community in this empowering, action-packed new series for readers aged 7+.

Jenny and her friends love helping at the Spellcroft community garden. But this spring, when flowers should be in bloom, plants are dying and the lake has mysteriously dried up. Could this be the work of an evil witch? The Spellcasters must use their ancestral magic to find a way to fix the problem before the balance of nature is destroyed forever!



- Bewitching, empowering and action-packed series for readers aged 7+, by Crystal Sung, a creative partnership between the award-winning Storymix, debut author Tania Tay and illustrator Wendy Tan
- Celebrating cultural heritage, positive thinking and the power of friendship
- Black and white interior illustrations throughout



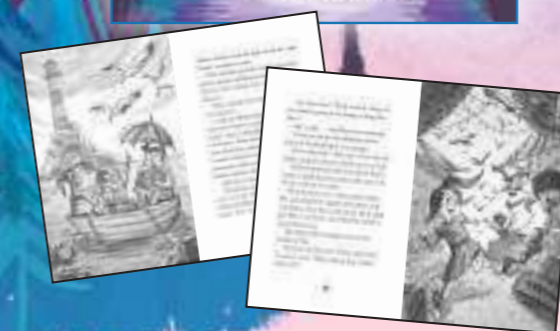
IMPRINT: Orchard Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 25,000  
 EXTENT: 256pp  
 PRICE: £6.99

PUB DATE: Book 1: Published;  
 Book 2: May 2024; Book 3: September  
 2024; Book 4: March 2025  
 NUMBER OF TITLES IN THE  
 SERIES: 4  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World

LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/  
 FILM/TV: Storymix Ltd



# WISH



With a classic feel and beautiful illustrations by Alice McKinley, this is a brilliant adventure story for newly independent readers.

Pixie's life falls apart when her parents are swept out to sea in a storm. She's sent to live with her grandma and discovers that she lives in a treehouse and wears an eye patch, like a pirate! Pixie makes a new friend called Wyld, and together they uncover an amazing mystery involving the wishing well in the garden, mermaids and magical coins. They embark on a whimsical journey to search for answers. But can they find Pixie's parents?

- Magical storytelling perfect for fans of the *Magic Faraway Tree*
- The first of a duology – second book to follow in 2024
- Stunning illustrations throughout to capture readers' imagination

IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 19,400  
 EXTENT: 176pp  
 PRICE: £7.99

PUB DATE: Book 1: Published; Book 2: TBC  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World excluding US and  
 Canada  
 RIGHTS SOLD: Portuguese (PT)  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Hachette  
 Children's Group





# X-TINCT!

A roaring adventure series that brings prehistoric creatures back to life – from T-Rexes and tigers to mega-sharks and mammoths. Perfect for fans of *Beast Quest*, *Jurassic World* and *Deadly 60*.

Time is running out! Evil Barron Fox's hunting lodge is opening soon, and Jeevan discovers that he's planning a very big surprise for his guests – a woolly mammoth, brought back to life for them to hunt! If the lodge opens, all the other animals in the forest will be in danger too. Jeevan and his friends launch a daring rescue mission that will trample over Fox's plans and keep the animals safe.

- Author Ash Stone has spent much of his life travelling the world to help rescue endangered animals from the brink of extinction – 100,000 species go extinct every year
- An action-packed and timely adventure to inspire readers to help combat extinction
- *Jurassic World: Dominion* and the fifth season of the successful *Camp Cretaceous* series were both released in 2022 with great acclaim – dinosaurs are perennially popular

IMPRINT: Orchard Books  
FORMAT: PB  
SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
WORD COUNT: 12,000/13,000/10,000  
EXTENT: 160–176pp  
PRICE: £6.99

PUB DATE: Books 1–3: Published;  
Book 4: October 2023  
NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 4  
RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/  
TV: Hachette Children's Group



# HOTEL OF THE GODS

Check in to Hotel of the Gods – where mythical guests cause magical mayhem!

When the gods and goddesses who live at the hotel become Atlas's teachers, he can barely keep up with Thor's PE classes, Venus's Latin lectures and Hades' music lessons. On top of that, he needs to come up with an amazing science project to impress Quetzalcoatl, the ancient Aztec god of wisdom (and chocolate). Quetzalcoatl has lots of rules ... and somehow Atlas seems to keep breaking them. If Atlas can't work out who is sabotaging him before the end of term science fair, there's going to be a major meltdown!

- Tom Easton is the *Sunday Times* bestselling author of *Max Magic* with Stephen Mulhern
- Dynamic layouts and funny black and white illustrations by Steve Brown
- Diverse cast of characters from world mythology

IMPRINT: Orchard Books  
FORMAT: PB  
SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
WORD COUNT: 16,000 per book  
EXTENT: 192pp  
PRICE: £7.99

PUB DATE: Book 1–2: Published;  
Book 3: February 2024; Book 4:  
August 2024  
NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 4  
RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/  
FILM/TV: Hachette Children's Group



# Moonlight Riders

Harness the power of the elements with the *Moonlight Riders*! A six-book series from bestselling author Linda Chapman.

When the Moonlight Stables friends are invited to a seaside pony camp, they can't wait! Unfortunately, the Storm Stables team are going too, and they're determined to make the week a nightmare for the friends and their magical horses. Things get even worse when Bea's dad decides he wants her to move to Storm Stables. The True Riders need to work out how to convince Bea's dad to let her stay at Moonlight Stables.

- The next generation of pony series, rooted in reality but with powerful fantasy elements
- These chapter books are full of friendship, action and adventure, and feature diverse and modern families
- With black and white illustrations, these books are perfect for independent readers and pony fans



Linda Chapman is the million-copy selling author of more than 250 books including such series as *My Secret Unicorn*, *Star Friends* and *Stardust*, has written for the *Rainbow Magic* and *Heartland* series and co-authored the *New York Times* bestselling series *Unicorn Academy*, along with close friend Julie Sykes.

Her website is [www.lindachapmanauthor.co.uk](http://www.lindachapmanauthor.co.uk)

IMPRINT: Orchard Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT:  
 14,000/16,000/16,000/16,000  
 EXTENT: 160pp  
 PRICE: £6.99  
 PUB DATE: Books 1-4:

Published: Book 5: October 2023; Book 6: February 2024  
 NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 6  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 RIGHTS SOLD: Chinese (Simplified), Czech, Dutch, Finnish, Norwegian,

Slovak, Swedish, US  
 LICENSING/  
 MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:  
 Hachette Children's Group

# Scarlett Fife

Scarlett Fife has BIG feelings which get her into BIG trouble. From bestselling Maz Evans comes a heartfelt and hilarious series, each book dealing with a different emotion.

In book 3, Scarlett notices that every time she pushes her sadness down, a storm breaks! To stop her world getting soaking wet, Scarlett will have to learn how to manage her feelings once and for all . . .



- Maz Evans' *Who Let the Gods Out?* series has sold over 100,000 copies in the UK and rights have sold in over 15 territories
- Heartfelt and hilarious, this series is perfect for fans of Roald Dahl's *Matilda*
- Black and white illustrations by rising star Chris Jevons

IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 30,200/32,000/30,000  
 EXTENT: 240pp  
 PRICE: £6.99  
 PUB DATE: Published

NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 3  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 RIGHTS SOLD: Norwegian, Polish, Romanian,  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:  
 David Higham Associates

**'A laugh-out-loud story full of warmth, Big Feelings and explosive results'**  
 Dominique Valente,  
 author of *Starfell*





# INDIGO WILDE



Enter the colourful world of Indigo Wilde and the magical creatures she looks after at Jellybean Crescent . . . including three new giants who are causing ENORMOUS trouble! A WILD series for 7+ fans of *Pippi Longstocking* and *Amelia Fang*.

Indigo and her little brother, Quigley, live in a house full of magical creatures that her parents have taken in over the years. Watch out for the next Monster Mail delivery! Whatever the creature is, Indigo and Quigley are ready for an adventure – it might be an invisible fire-breathing wabbit, a beautiful winged moon bear or a GIANT with a problem . . .

- Beautifully designed, with outstanding full-colour artwork throughout
- Winner of the Alligator's Mouth Award
- Ideal for parents to read to their children and for new readers to read alone



Pippa Curnick is the illustrator of many bestselling picture books, including *Chatterbox Bear*, and is the creator of the iconic cover for Onjali Q. Raúf's *The Boy at the Back of the Class*.

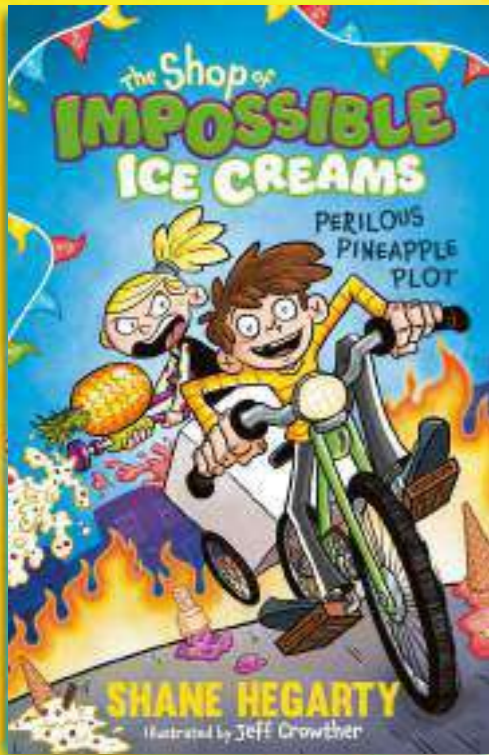


**'Vibrant and spectacular'**  
*The Sunday Times*



IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
FORMAT: HB & PB  
SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
WORD COUNT: 10,000/12,500/13,000  
EXTENT: 160pp/160pp/160pp  
PRICE: £9.99 HB & £5.99 PB  
PUB DATE: Books 1–3: Published

NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 3  
RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
RIGHTS SOLD: Castilian, Chinese (Simplified), Dutch, German, Greek, Hebrew, Italian, Korean, Romanian, Russian  
LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Hachette Children's Group



# The Shop of IMPOSSIBLE ICE CREAMS

A funny and heartwarming illustrated series for 7+ fans of *The Nothing to See Here Hotel* and *Charlie Changes into a Chicken*.

Limpet and his mum run an ice-cream shop, full of her favourite flavours – spaghetti sorbet, anyone?

In book 3, Limpet discovers a rival smoothie palace has opened, whose healthy fruit recipes have magical effects on customers. But all is not as it seems . . . Can Limpet save the day?



- Shane Hegarty's successful *Darkmouth* series is in production for a big-screen animation
- Fully illustrated throughout in black and white
- Shane's books have been shortlisted for the Sainsbury's Children's Book Awards, the An Post Irish Book Awards, and chosen for the Dublin UNESCO citywide read

IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 19,000 per book  
 EXTENT: 224pp  
 PRICE: €6.99

PUB DATE: Books 1–3: Published  
 NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 3  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:  
 Marianne Gunn O'Connor Literary Agency

# GLOBAL HEROES

DAMIAN HARVEY & ALEX PATTERSON



A fast-paced adventure series with eco themes featuring a global cast of characters whose mission is to save and preserve planet Earth's future.

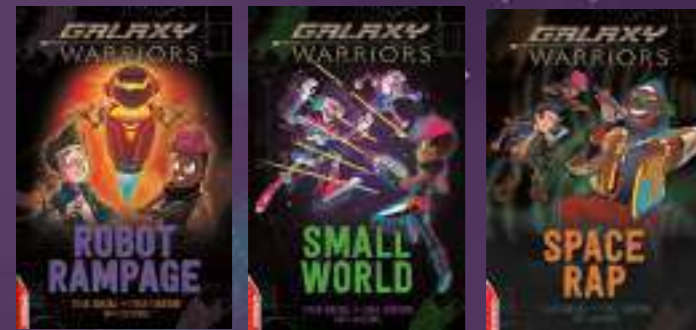
From rescuing koalas from bushfires in Australia to stemming plastic waste in Brazil, from saving polar bears in the Arctic to escaping floods in Madagascar, the heroes must save the planet and defeat villains along the way.

- Each story contains scientific facts within the narrative to encourage learning by stealth
- The team of characters each have different areas of expertise from STEM-based subjects
- Endmatter features fascinating fact sheets about topics covered in the book, plus a glossary and fun quiz



IMPRINT: Franklin Watts  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 8,000 approx. per book  
 PRICE: €6.99  
 PUB DATE: Published

NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 4  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/  
 TV: Hachette Children's Group



# GALAXY WARRIORS

Join intrepid Galaxy Warriors Jet, Tip and Boo Hoo on their quest to save the universe from destructive baddies Lord and Lady Evil and Dr Y.

**Titles in the series:** *Space Pirates, Robot Rampage, Space Chase, Space Rap, Web World, Move Star Set-Up, Galaxy Football Cup, Small World.*

- Eight intergalactic adventures that combine graphic novel and prose perfectly pitched to engage both older reluctant readers and younger, confident readers, written by The 2 Steves, experts in children's adventure stories
- Each title is printed using a dyslexia-friendly font on an off-white background, with colour artwork
- Features a diverse cast of characters



**IMPRINT:** Franklin Watts  
**FORMAT:** PB and HB  
**SIZE:** 229 x 151mm  
**WORD COUNT:** approx. 300  
**EXTENT:** 32pp  
**PRICE:** £6.99 and £8.99  
**PUB DATE:** Published

**NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES:** 8  
**RIGHTS SOLD:** Swedish  
**LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:** Steve Barlow and Steve Skidmore

## 7-9 FICTION



- IGUANA BOY SERIES** by James Bishop, illustrated by Rikin Parekh
- One boy. One disappointing superpower. Can Dylan tame a bunch of hyper iguanas and come up with a masterful plan to save the WORLD?
  - Perfect for fans of *Tom Gates*, *Future Ratboy* and *My Brother is a Superhero*
  - 'HILARIOUS and so silly – superheroes, reptiles and pizza . . . AWESOME, why didn't I think of that?!' Tom Fletcher

**IMPRINT:** Hodder Children's Books  
**FORMAT:** PB  
**WORD COUNT:** 25,000  
**EXTENT:** 256pp  
**NUMBER OF TITLES:** 3

**RIGHTS AVAILABLE:** World  
**RIGHTS SOLD:** Chinese (simplified), Turkish  
**LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:** Hachette Children's Group



**THE ADVENTURE CLUB SERIES** by Jess Butterworth

- A warm and heartfelt animal adventure series following Tilly, who joins an amazing club that takes kids around the world to learn about wild animals
- Each book features a different animal and location: red pandas in Nepal, Tigers in India, polar bears in the Arctic and orangutans in the Borneo rainforest
- Written in a first-person notebook style with integrated illustrations by Kirsti Beautyman

**IMPRINT:** Orion Children's Books  
**FORMAT:** PB  
**WORD COUNT:** 20,000  
**EXTENT:** 160-192pp  
**NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES:** 4  
**RIGHTS AVAILABLE:** WORLD

**RIGHTS SOLD:** Hungarian  
**LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:** Mulcahy Associates



#### CLARICE BEAN SERIES by Lauren Child

- New 20th anniversary editions of the classic *Clarice Bean* novels by bestselling Children's Laureate, Lauren Child
- *Clarice Bean, Utterly Me* is the first novel by Lauren Child, bestselling creator of *Charlie and Lola*, Kate Greenaway Medal winner and Children's Laureate 2017–2019
- The *Clarice Bean* novels are modern childhood classics, with sales of over 1 million copies in the UK alone

'Witty and charming. We can't get enough of Clarice Bean' *Independent*

IMPRINT: Orchard Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 WORD COUNT: 20,000–40,000  
 EXTENT: 192pp/192pp/256pp  
 NUMBER OF TITLES: 3  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World

RIGHTS SOLD: Chinese (simplified), Hungarian, Portuguese (BR), Turkish, US  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/  
 FILM/TV: David Higham Associates Limited



#### EVIE'S MAGIC BRACELET SERIES by Jessica Ennis-Hill

- Discover this magical, exciting series – inspirational stories of friendship and determination in this sparkling seven-book series, full of sports, activities and fitness
- Main character Evie is determined and driven, an inspiration for kids everywhere
- Over 70,000 copies sold



IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 WORD COUNT: 10,000  
 EXTENT: 144pp  
 NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 7  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World

RIGHTS SOLD: Castilian, Finnish, German, Hungarian, Norwegian, Slovak, Swedish, Turkish  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/  
 FILM/TV: Hachette Children's Group



#### AGENT WEASEL SERIES by Nick East

- Meet Agent Weasel: woodland super-spy and adventure-lover. An animal adventure series with a clumsy hero, perfect for reading alone or sharing together
- Highly illustrated throughout in dynamic black and white by Nick East, the illustrator of the bestselling series *Toto the Ninja Cat*
- Accessible, page-turning storytelling, perfect for new readers



IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 WORD COUNT: 20,000 per book  
 EXTENT: 192pp/224pp/224pp/192pp  
 NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 4  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World

RIGHTS SOLD: Chinese (simplified), Dutch, Russian, Turkish, Ukrainian  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/  
 FILM/TV: Hachette Children's Group



#### VETMAN by Noel Fitzpatrick

- Join Vetman, Imogen, Finn and a whole cast of incredible bionic animals as they save pets everywhere from the evil plans of The-Man-With-No-Name!
- Over 60,000 copies sold since publication to date, this novel promotes messages of animal care and oneness with the planet
- Noel is the author of two adult memoirs – *Being the Supervet* and *Becoming the Supervet* – which have sold over 300,000 copies to date

IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 WORD COUNT: 45,000  
 EXTENT: 336pp  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 RIGHTS SOLD: Bulgarian, Hungarian  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/  
 FILM/TV: YMU





**LUCY AND THE PAPER PIRATES by Pat Hutchins**

- Written by the beloved Pat Hutchins, author of classics such as *The Wind Blew*, *Rosie's Walk* and *Where, oh Where, is Rosie's Chick?*
- Superbly illustrated by CILIP Carnegie Medal nominated (in 2020, for her picture book *What Clara Saw*) illustrator Jessica Meserve
- This lively story, with a colourful cast of characters, is perfect for sharing and reading aloud

**IMPRINT:** Hodder Children's Books  
**FORMAT:** PB  
**WORD COUNT:** 5,000  
**EXTENT:** 96pp

**RIGHTS AVAILABLE:** World  
**LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:** Morgan and Sam Hutchins



**KING FLASHPANTS SERIES by Andy Riley**

- Edwin isn't an ordinary boy. He is a king, with a throne, and his own suit of armour, and a castle with secret passages and everything. He rules Edwinland whilst the Evil Emperor Nurbison, ruler of neighbouring Nurbisonia, seeks every opportunity to thwart Edwin's rule
- 'Brilliantly original and hilarious. It's nearly as good as one of my books' David Walliams
- Written and illustrated by Emmy award-winning film and TV comedy writer and cartoonist Andy Riley, creator of the bestselling adult series *The Bunny Suicides*

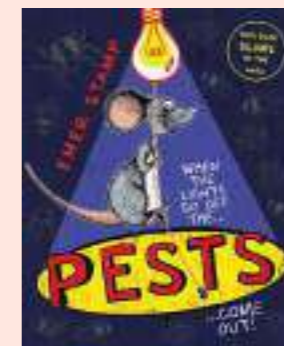
**IMPRINT:** Hodder Children's Books  
**FORMAT:** PB  
**WORD COUNT:** 12,500  
**EXTENT:** 192–224pp  
**NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES:** 5  
**RIGHTS AVAILABLE:** World excluding USA and Canada

**RIGHTS SOLD:** Castilian, Catalan, Chinese (simplified), Dutch, Estonian, French, German, Hebrew, Icelandic, Italian, Korean, Macedonian, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese (BR), Portuguese (PT), Romanian, Russian, Slovene, Turkish  
**LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:** Curtis Brown Group Limited



**PESTS SERIES BY EMER STAMP**

- *The Unbelievable Top-Secret Diary of Pig* has sold over 100,000 copies in the UK and sold in 15 languages
- 'Riotously funny, with enough expressive drawings and poo jokes to delight Pig fans as well as new readers' *Guardian*



**IMPRINT:** Hodder Children's Books  
**FORMAT:** PB  
**WORD COUNT:** 22,000/25,400/21,200  
**EXTENT:** 192pp/208pp/192pp  
**NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES:** 3  
**RIGHTS AVAILABLE:** World excluding USA & Canada

**RIGHTS SOLD:** Chinese (simplified)  
**LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:** The Catchpole Agency

**MR PENGUIN SERIES by Alex T. Smith**

- Meet Mr Penguin – Indiana Jones meets Hercule Poirot. Join Mr Penguin and his spider sidekick, Colin, as they tackle mystery and adventure with plenty of slapstick humour!
- Highly illustrated throughout in a striking black and orange design, *Mr Penguin* was shortlisted for the Children's Book Award
- The *Claude* series by Alex T. Smith has been published in 28 territories so far, and Claude is the star of his own TV show on Disney Junior



**IMPRINT:** Hodder Children's Books  
**FORMAT:** HB & PB  
**WORD COUNT:** 27,700  
**EXTENT:** 208pp/288pp/288pp/208pp  
**NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES:** 4  
**RIGHTS AVAILABLE:** World  
**RIGHTS SOLD:** Chinese (simplified), Czech,

French, German, Greek, Korean, Lithuanian, Polish, Russian, Serbian, Turkish, Ukrainian, US  
**LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:** Hachette Children's Group

# 9-12 FICTION SERIES



Cover not final

# ARTEZANS

THE FORGOTTEN MAGIC

Prepare for the magical adventure of your dreams ...

In Edward Crane's world, magic has been dwindling for the past five hundred years. So even though he's part of a powerful magical family, Ed is worried that he won't have any magic in him at all. He's adopted, for one thing. He also has a perfect twin sister, Elodie, who seems to always get the better end of the deal and will no doubt be the one to get a powerful power like their dads. So, when Ed discovers he's the Lord of the Realm of Dreams, he's thrilled.

But the problem with dreams is that sometimes they turn into nightmares ...



- The first in a brand-new major magical middle-grade series from the author of *The Strangeworlds Travel Agency* and *Jamie*
- The Realm of Dreams and Nightmares is a creative world that lends itself perfectly to a major marketing campaign and a strong and standout package
- *Strangeworlds* series has printed nearly 100,000 copies and sold into 16 languages to date

IMPRINT: Orion Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 60,000  
 EXTENT: 320pp  
 PRICE: £7.99  
 PUB DATE: February 2024  
 NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 3

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 RIGHTS SOLD FOR *The Strangeworlds Travel Agency*: Castilian, Catalan, Czech, Dutch, French, German, Greek, Italian, Norwegian, Romanian, Russian, Slovak, Swedish, Turkish, Ukrainian, US  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Rogers, Coleridge & White



# STEP FATHER CHRISTMAS

From L. D. Lapinski, the author of *The Strangeworlds Travel Agency* and *Jamie* comes a magical Christmas story about a girl who is convinced her new stepdad is actually Father Christmas.

Written in an advent structure (a chapter to read each day in December until Christmas Day), this is a story to enjoy with the whole family. 10-year-old Harper lives with her single mum and her older brother Will. All is happy and well, until Mum announces she is bringing her new boyfriend, Nick, home for the Christmas season. Nick is a bit . . . well . . . weird. He's impossible to annoy, always jolly, an expert at fixing toys, has a white beard and works part-time on a reindeer farm . . . could he be Father Christmas?



- This book's unique and exciting advent structure gives readers a chapter to read each day in December until Christmas Day
- A hilarious and heartwarming Christmas story, perfect for families with non-traditional structures
- Follow-up title *Santa Baby* has just been confirmed for publication in 2024!

IMPRINT: Orion Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 26,000  
 EXTENT: 224pp  
 PRICE: £7.99  
 PUB DATE: October 2023

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 RIGHTS SOLD FOR *JAMIE*: Dutch, Swedish, US  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Rogers, Coleridge & White



# Which Way Round the GALAXY

## CRESSIDA COWELL

Hold on tight for the sequel in this out-of-this-world new series from former Waterstones Children's Laureate and no.1 bestselling author of *How to Train Your Dragon*.

A Magical Creature lost far from home leads the O'Hero-Smith children on another adventure through the Which Ways and across the galaxy. But by setting off on a secret mission to planet Blink22 to return 'Bug' home, they're heading straight into danger. Can the kids escape venomous snowsnakes, a witch's curse and an army of murderous robots to find their way back through the WHICH WAYS?

**Warning:** contains dangerous space travel and very illegal magic.

- Cressida Cowell's exciting new series is a story about family and creativity, filled with humour and adventure
- WildBrain have acquired film rights, to be produced by the team behind *How to Train Your Dragon* and *Toy Story*
- Over 20,000 copies of *Which Way to Anywhere* sold in the UK to date



**WHICH WAY TO ANYWHERE**  
**IMPRINT:** Hodder Children's Books  
**FORMAT:** HB  
**SIZE:** 234 x 153 mm  
**WORD COUNT:** 68,000  
**EXTENT:** 432pp  
**PRICE:** £12.99  
**PUB DATE:** Book 1: Published; Book 2: September 2023

**NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES:** TBC  
**RIGHTS AVAILABLE:** World excluding USA  
**RIGHTS SOLD:** Albanian, Castilian, Catalan, Czech, Danish, Dutch, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Korean, Portugal (PT), Romanian, Slovak, Slovene  
**LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:** David Higham Associates

**HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON**  
**IMPRINT:** Hodder Children's Books  
**FORMAT:** PB  
**SIZE:** 198 x 129 mm  
**WORD COUNT:** 68,000  
**EXTENT:** 464pp  
**PRICE:** £6.99  
**PUB DATE:** Published  
**NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES:** 12

# HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON

JUST ANNOUNCED:  
 NEW LIVE ACTION  
 HOW TO TRAIN  
 YOUR DRAGON MOVIE  
 COMING IN 2025!



Hiccup Horrendous Haddock the Third is a smallish Viking with a longish name. The HAIRY HOOLIGAN TRIBE think he's totally useless, but Hiccup is about to face his destiny . . . and one tiny dragon.

Can he prove his worth and become the HERO everyone expects him to be? Or will he be banished forever?

- The *How to Train Your Dragon* series has sold over 11 million books worldwide in 42 languages and is a major DreamWorks Animation film franchise, as well as being made into a TV series on Netflix and CBBC
- 2023 is the 20th anniversary of *How to Train Your Dragon* – celebrations will include the release of a special hardback anniversary edition that will include a new original story

**RIGHTS AVAILABLE:** World excluding USA  
**RIGHTS SOLD:** Afrikaans, Chinese (complex), Chinese (simplified), Czech, Dutch, French, Georgian, German, Hebrew, Hungarian, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Lithuanian, Mongolian, Polish, Portuguese (BR), Romanian, Russian, Slovak, Slovene, Turkish, Ukrainian, US  
**LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:** David Higham Associates

**THE WIZARDS OF ONCE**  
**IMPRINT:** Hodder Children's Books  
**FORMAT:** PB  
**SIZE:** 198 x 129 mm  
**WORD COUNT:** 30,000  
**EXTENT:** 480pp/384pp/384pp/464pp  
**PRICE:** £7.99  
**PUB DATE:** Published  
**NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES:** 4  
**RIGHTS AVAILABLE:** World excluding USA

# The Wizards of ONCE

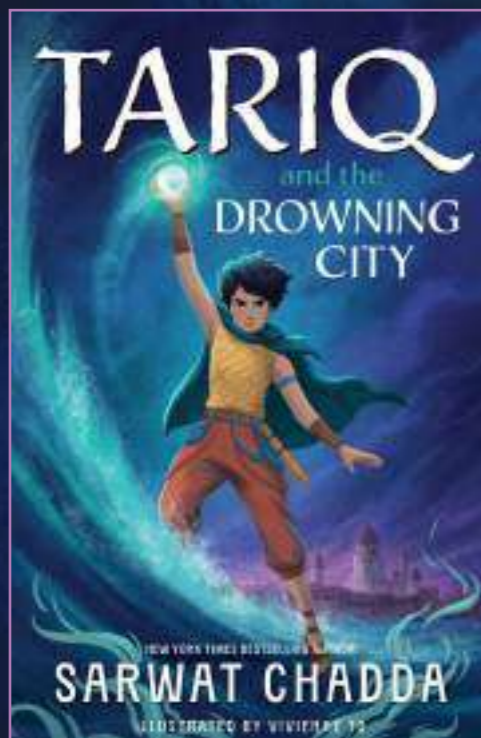


Xar is a Wizard boy who has no Magic, and will do anything to get it. Wish is a Warrior girl, but she owns a banned Magical Object, and she will do anything to conceal it. They have been taught since birth to hate each other like poison . . . but they must forget their differences if they are going to defeat the dreadful Kingwitch.

- The *Wizards of Once* series has sold over 600,000 copies so far and has been translated into 38 languages
- DreamWorks Animation has acquired the film rights to *The Wizards of Once* series

**RIGHTS SOLD:** Afrikaans, Albanian, Castilian, Catalan, Chinese (complex), Chinese (simplified), Croat, Czech, Danish, Dutch, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Hungarian, Icelandic, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Lithuanian, Norwegian, Persian, Polish, Portugal (PT), Portuguese (BR), Romanian, Russian, Slovak, Slovene, Swedish, Turkish, Ukrainian, US, Vietnamese, Welsh  
**LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:** David Higham Associates

# THE SPIRITSTONE SAGA



The first story in an action-packed middle grade fantasy trilogy, perfect for fans of Dungeons and Dragons.

As crops fail and a plague spreads across the land of Osha, Tariq has a troubling vision – he sees an ancient prophesy about a flood coming true. He travels to the capital city of Ethrial to warn the leaders of an impending disaster, but no one listens. It's up to the seer and his new friends, an elf inventor and a dwarf soldier, to take matters into their own hands.

Embarking on an epic quest, the unlikely trio must find a magical moonstone and use its powers to prevent a tidal wave from wiping out the city. But they aren't the only ones seeking to find the moonstone, and not everyone wants to use its ancient powers to save Ethrial . . .

- This pacy adventure combines classic fantasy tropes with contemporary issues such as race, class and climate change in a richly imagined world
- Includes a truly diverse cast of characters
- Author is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Cursed Carnival* and *Other Calamities*, an anthology for Rick Riordan Presents series

IMPRINT: Orchard Books  
FORMAT: PB  
SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
WORD COUNT: approx 50,000  
EXTENT: 288pp  
PRICE: £7.99

PUB DATE: Book 1: April 2024; Book 2: November 2024; Book 3: May 2025  
NUMBER OF TITLES IN THE SERIES: 3  
RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Hachette Children's Group



# BELLA BRIGHT AND THE GHOST GAME

A spooky middle-grade ghost story set on the night of Halloween.

During a Halloween sleepover, 11-year-old Bella Bright and her classmates Skylar, Regan and Lex are playing hide-and-seek when they discover that they are locked in the house. When her friends mysteriously disappear, Bella is confronted by Alice, the ghost of a young girl who died in the house 150 years ago.

If Bella can't find her new friends before midnight in a terrifying game of hide-and-seek, then Alice the ghost gets to keep them as her playmates forever . . .



- Safely spooky text - enough to thrill but not too scary for younger readers
- Imagine *Mean Girls* but as a ghost story...
- Explores themes of shyness, stammering, home and friendship

IMPRINT: Welbeck Flame  
FORMAT: PB  
SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
WORD COUNT: 40,000  
EXTENT: 304pp  
PRICE: £7.99

PUB DATE: Book 1: Published; Book 2: August 2024

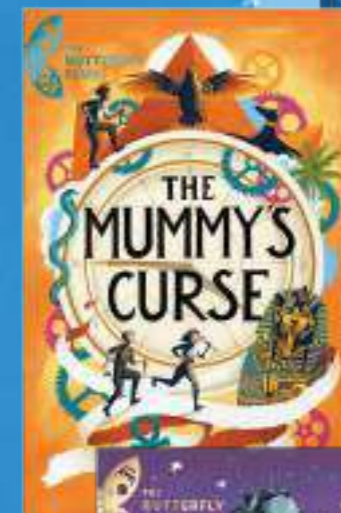
NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 2  
RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Susanna  
Lea Agency

# THE BUTTERFLY CLUB

From the author of the *STAGS* series comes a four-book middle-grade series that cleverly weaves together fact and fiction.

Luna thinks that an evening at her aunt's butterfly club sounds deathly boring. But it turns out that the meeting is not at all as Luna expects. The Butterfly Club is a society with an unusual secret . . . they use time travel to plunder the future for wonders. Readers will head off to the Titanic (Book One), Egypt's Valley of the Kings (Book Two), Houdini and the Mona Lisa in Paris (Book Three) and the 1969 moon landings (Book Four).

- Perfect for fans of *The Train to Impossible Places* by PG Bell
- Rights to *STAGS* have been sold in 13 territories
- M.A. Bennett was shortlisted for the YA Book Prize in 2018



IMPRINT: Welbeck Flame  
FORMAT: PB  
SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
WORD COUNT: 60,000/70,000/70,000/ 60,000  
EXTENT: 384pp/416pp/416pp/ 352pp  
PRICE: £7.99

PUB DATE: Book 1-3: Published; Book 4: October 2023  
NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 4  
RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:  
Teresa Chris Literary Agency



# IN THE SHADOW OF THE WOLF QUEEN

*Internationally bestselling author  
Kiran Millwood Hargrave*

From bestselling, award-winning author Kiran Millwood Hargrave comes an epic new fantasy trilogy about the magic of nature, the lure of power and the strength of love.

Ysolda has lived her life in the shadow of the wolf queen's tyrannical rule but, safe in her forest haven, she has never truly felt its threat.

Until the day when her older sister Hari vanishes.

Accompanied by her loyal sea hawk, Ysolda is forced to strike a bargain with the wolf queen herself, on a quest for a magic more powerful – and more dangerous – than she could ever have imagined ...

- Kiran Millwood Hargrave is a *Sunday Times* bestseller, and has sold over half a million copies through the UK TCM
- Kiran has won the Waterstones Children's Book Prize and the British Book Awards Children's Book of the Year. Her work has been short- and long-listed for numerous other major prizes including the Costa Award and the Carnegie Award

IMPRINT: Orion Children's Books  
FORMAT: HB  
SIZE: 234 x 156 mm  
WORD COUNT: 67,200  
EXTENT: 320pp  
PRICE: £14.99

PUB DATE: Book 1: Published; Book 2: September 2024; Book 3: September 2025  
NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 3  
RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
RIGHTS SOLD: French  
LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Janklow & Nesbit (UK) Ltd

GEOMANCER BOOK ONE

# PAPER DRAGONS

## THE FIGHT FOR THE HIDDEN REALM



Join Zhi Ging on an incredible adventure to an underwater realm, a floating market and a jade mountain as she journeys to fulfil her extraordinary destiny . . .

In a village above the cloud sea, 12-year-old orphan Zhi Ging's only chance of survival is to become a Silhouette, an apprentice to the immortals. When she is unexpectedly chosen as the Second Silhouette following a strange dragon attack, she finds herself in an underwater realm, learning new skills and competing in thrilling challenges. But rumours are spreading of a growing dark force, and Silhouettes who fail the challenges are disappearing. Zhi Ging begins to realise that there is so much she has yet to learn about the world of the immortals – and herself.

- Perfect for readers of *Amari and the Night Brothers* and *Dragon Mountain*, this is the must-read magical fantasy debut series of 2024
- A hugely imaginative and commercial premise featuring dragons, magic and rich worldbuilding inspired by the author's Chinese heritage
- Siobhan McDermott was born in Hong Kong and grew up on a steady stream of stories filled with Chinese legends and Irish folklore. *Paper Dragons* is her debut novel and was inspired by moments across her life: from childhood ferry trips between Lantau Island and Hong Kong, to travelling around Taiwan, Italy and Spain

IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 70,000  
 EXTENT: 368pp  
 PRICE: £7.99

PUB DATE: Book 1: February 2024; Book 2: February 2025; Book 3: February 2026  
 NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 3  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World excluding USA and Canada  
 RIGHTS SOLD: French, German, Italian  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: The Bent Agency

# THE SWAN'S WARNING



From million-copy-selling Holly Webb comes an epic story about an against-the-odds journey.

The otters who live on the Greenriver have only just recovered from last year's flood when a swan arrives with news of a new threat: a clan of foxes is approaching. It is up to young otters Sedge and Silken to find a way to protect their home, if they can . . .

- A modern classic and a gorgeously written animal epic
- A select number of full-page illustrations by Zanna Goldhawk create maximum visual impact
- Themes such as understanding the point of view of outsiders and coming together as a community are tackled accessibly through the animals' relationships



IMPRINT: Orion Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 50,000  
 EXTENT: 240pp

PRICE: £7.99  
 PUB DATE: Book 1: Published; Book 2: September 2023  
 NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 2  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World

RIGHTS SOLD: Hungarian, Italian, Polish  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: A.M. Heath & Co. Ltd





# MEET THE MALIKS

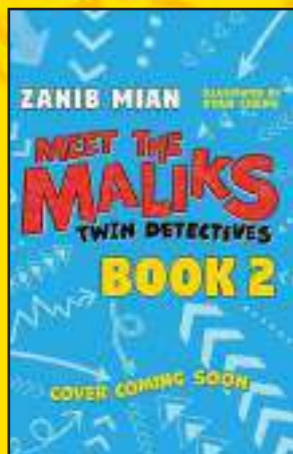
## TWIN DETECTIVES

ZANIB MIAN

ILLUSTRATED BY  
KYAN CHENG

Meet Maysa and Musa Malik. They might be twins but they are total opposites. And together they make an unstoppable team, especially when trying to solve a mystery!

Maysa Malik has got herself into trouble yet again and this time she's forgotten to post her dad's passport application before his SUPER IMPORTANT work trip. Then Imam Abdullah goes missing, and Maysa and her twin brother, Musa, have a new mystery to solve with the help of their neighbour, Norman, of course. But, as they search for clues around the neighbourhood, Maysa will have to find a way to save her dad's trip too!



- Zanib Mian was the winner of The Little Rebels Award 2018, was longlisted for the UKLA Award and nominated for the CILIP Carnegie Medal
- Features the classic family mystery that Zanib is known for – and that booksellers and children love and ask for – and it appeals to the same readership as Planet Omar
- 'Maysa and Musa are twins who are very different to each other but share a lovely bond. Together with their loveable sidekick Norman, they cause chaos and put the world to rights! This is a book of mystery and mayhem but also family bonds, admitting mistakes and standing up for what is right.' - Nizrana Farook, author of *The Girl Who Stole an Elephant*

IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
FORMAT: PB  
SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
WORD COUNT: 17,000  
EXTENT: 224pp  
PRICE: £6.99

PUB DATE: Book 1: Published; Book 2: February 2024; Book 3: August 2024  
NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 3  
RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
RIGHTS SOLD: Dutch  
LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Hachette Children's Group



# PLANET OMAR



Welcome to the imaginative brain of Omar! A hilarious and contemporary five-book series from a brilliant new voice in children's fiction, Zanib Mian and with fantastic cartoon-style illustrations from Nasaya Mafaridik's.

- With a TV option signed with Bafta award-winning producers Lime Pictures, this is the perfect read for fans of *Tom Gates* and *Wimpy Kid*
- Initially titled *The Muslims*, the first book in the series won The Little Rebels Prize, was chosen as CBBC's book club pick, was nominated for the UKLA Award and Longlisted for the CILIP Carnegie Medal
- Contemporary, funny and accessible, the stories give a friendly insight into an ordinary Muslim family



IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
FORMAT: PB  
SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
WORD COUNT: 17,000/18,000/18,000/16,400/18,137  
EXTENT: 224–256pp

PRICE: £6.99  
PUB DATE: Books 1–5: Published  
NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 5  
RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
RIGHTS SOLD: Arabic, Danish, Dutch, German, Italian, Turkish, US  
LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Hachette Children's Group



THOMAS LEEDS  
**JAYBEN**  
 AND THE  
 STAR GLASS

COVER  
 COMING  
 SOON

# JAYBEN

AND THE  
 STAR GLASS

Immersive fantasy world with high stakes adventures and authentic, own-voices representation of memory loss and epilepsy.

Jayben wakes up in the Elf world with no memories but a powerful golden torch in his pocket. An evil villain called Null is burning down the forests, hellbent on becoming the most powerful being ever to live.

Jayben must discover his magic and ignite the torch to keep Null from ruining the amazing world he's discovering. The trilogy takes readers on amazing adventures through richly imagined lands, featuring monsters, loveable magic creatures and a whole host of new friends.

Can Jayben save the world before the lights go out forever?

- Own voices narrative inspired by the author's unique experience of brain injury
- A traditional storytelling voice, quirky humour and unlikely friendships give this the feel of a modern classic
- 'I loved this book – a triumphant and richly imagined fantasy as well as a compelling insight into life with seizures and memory loss. I can't wait to see where this story goes!' - Lee Newbery, author of *The Last Firefox*



IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 62,000  
 EXTENT: 368/288pp  
 PRICE: £7.99

PUB DATE: Book 1: Published; Book 2: March 2024;  
 Book 3: February 2025  
 NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 3  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World excluding US and Canada  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: The Good  
 Literary Agency

# YESTERDAY CRUMB

AND  
 THE TEA WITCH'S  
 SECRET



When strangeling girl Yesterday Crumb discovers a magical, walking teashop, she feels like she belongs for the first time – but she will have to battle many foes to protect her new home. Perfect for readers fans of *The Strangeworlds Travel Agency* and *Starfell*.

Yesterday is nearly ready to defeat Mr Weep, the Lord of the Dead, also known as her father. Together with her friends, she begins to search for his weakness. Except the dark influence of a strange flower is taking hold of Yesterday's friends and allies, turning them cold-hearted and pitting them against each other. As the flower's effects spread further, Yesterday needs to save her friends and rally the magical world to overcome Mr Weep's dark reign . . .

- The third book in a new fantasy series full of magic, adventure, unique spells and messages about the importance of self-love and acceptance
- 'Yesterday Crumb and the Storm in a Teacup is endlessly enchanting. The world building is so fresh and inventive, the characters so charming and individual . . . I can't wait for my next visit to Dwimmerly End!' Annabel Steadman, author of *Skandar and the Unicorn Thief*

IMPRINT: Orion Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 64,000/65,500  
 EXTENT: 352pp/384pp/384pp  
 PRICE: £7.99  
 PUB DATE: Books 1 & 2: Published; Book 3: February 2024;

NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 3  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 RIGHTS SOLD: French, German, Italian, Ukrainian  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:  
 United Agents Ltd





**'Fresh, funny and ultra cool'**  
Jacqueline Wilson

A sparky and HILARIOUS series for readers aged 9+. Perfect for fans of Jacqueline Wilson and *Dork Diaries*.

'Hi! I'm Edie Eckhart. I'm a little bit different. I have a disability called cerebral palsy, so I talk slowly and fall over a lot. It's never really bothered me because I've never known anything else.'

Edie navigates moving school, making new friends, first crushes and figuring out who she would like to be in the world. Brilliantly relatable for tweens, this is positive, engaging and heart-warming storytelling, from a brilliantly funny author!

- Author Rosie Jones has cerebral palsy, and her character is based on her own experiences of navigating a school setting with the disability.
- Cerebral palsy is the most common disability in childhood
- Black and white illustrations/doodles throughout

# THE AMAZING EDIE ECKHART



IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
FORMAT: PB  
SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
WORD COUNT: 30,000/31,300  
EXTENT: 240pp/224pp/272pp  
PRICE: £7.99  
PUB DATE: Books 1 & 2: Published;  
Book 3: TBC

NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 3  
RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:  
Off the Kerb

*'Told in Edie's breezy, engaging voice, this book is as much fun as hanging out with your bestie. (. . .) It describes a life full of joys and possibilities'*  
Children's book of the week,  
*Sunday Times*



**LAUREN LAYFIELD**

For fans of *Geek Girl* and *Lottie Brooks* comes a funny, relatable new teen series from a young British Guyanese author.

Indi has just moved city and school and has zero friends. Unless you count Gary, who, unfortunately, is a gecko.

If Indi's going to find some real mates – and maybe even a boyfriend – she's going to have to FAKE IT.

Will Indi ever get her first kiss? Will she accept her mum's new boyfriend (yuck)? And will she EVER learn that just being yourself is the most important thing of all?

- This is the start of a HILARIOUS new series all about first teen experiences (finding a bra, finding some friends, finding yourself!)
- Indi learns that being true to herself is the best way to find real friends – but lives through some enormously funny disasters first!
- Cute doodles throughout make the package really appealing for readers on the cusp of being teens

IMPRINT: Hodder  
FORMAT: PB  
SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
WORD COUNT: 67,200  
EXTENT: 384pp

PRICE: £7.99  
PUB DATE: Book 1: Published;  
Book 2: August 2024  
NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 2  
RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World

LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/  
TV: Madeleine Milburn Literary, TV &  
Film Agency



WHAT'S NEW

# Harper DREW?

LIGHTS, DRAMA, ACTION!

Welcome to the hilarious WORLD of Harper Drew . . . A funny, contemporary diary series, perfect for fans of *Dork Diaries*.

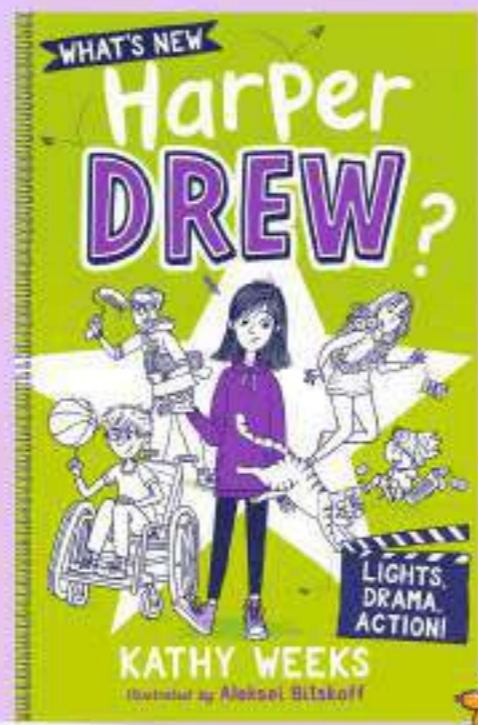
In book 3, Harper's family have signed up for a reality TV house-swap makeover challenge, there's a street party competition in her neighbourhood and her school playing field is going to be turned into a supermarket. How much DRAMA can Harper deal with?



- On publication, book 1 went straight to number 8 in the *Bookseller's* Children and Young Adult Fiction top 20
- Featuring doodle artwork in diary format, this is a fun, accessible package exploring timely themes. The books are about embracing your family and finding unique ways to deal with life's dramas
- Using her extensive knowledge of kids' mental health, Kathy Weeks has created a character who learns to accept herself, just as she is, and that there is no limit to the power of self-confidence

IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 35,000/32,000  
 EXTENT: 256pp/240pp/240pp  
 PRICE: £6.99  
 PUB DATE: Books 1-3: Published

NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 3  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 RIGHTS SOLD: Castilian, Danish, Dutch, Polish, Spanish  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Curtis Brown Group Ltd



# EMBER SHADOWS

and The FATES of MOUNT NEVER

A timeless adventure series filled with magical realms and creatures.

Ember Shadows has discovered something terrible underneath the magical Mount Never. Someone has been interfering with the Fate Threads that come from the mountain, cutting people's lives short.

Determined to prevent this, Ember and her friend Hans, a talking clock hand, travel through new and mysterious magical landscapes in search of the Lost Desert of Time.

If they can get there, they hope to turn back time to prevent the trespasser from getting into Mount Never. But it's called the Lost Desert of Time for a reason . . .



- The story is brought to life by talented Spanish illustrator Raquel Ochoa
- The mild peril of Ember's journey provides a safe way to encourage embracing uncertainty, as the characters no longer having their lives planned out for them through Fate Cards
- Rebecca King is a young author who currently lives in Slovakia. She's worked as a journalist and as a primary school teacher in China

IMPRINT: Orion Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 49,721/50,000  
 EXTENT: 304pp/256pp/256pp  
 PRICE: £7.99

PUB DATE: Book 1-2: Published; Book 3: August 2024  
 NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 3  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: The Shaw Agency



# ZEINA STARBORN

## and the EMERALD KING

The thrilling new fantasy adventure in the *Zeina Starborn* series, perfect for 9+ readers.

Zeina and Jackson are now on the run with the fearsome sky pirates, and they are invited to the infamous Solstice Festival in a secret palace built by the ice bears.

But from crumbling ice structures to the strange behaviour of the Emerald King, it's obvious something is wrong. Soon Zeina must fight to stop a cruel new technology that would change the world of the sky whales forever . . .

- Sequel set in the same amazing world of great imagery, incredible inventions and sky whales
- Hannah Durkan is the winner of the 2020 Hachette Children's Novel Award; and is a passionate believer in the power of writing to support mental health
- A fast-paced trilogy about high-stakes thievery and what it really means to do good



IMPRINT: Orion Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 53,000/70,000  
 EXTENT: 256pp/304pp  
 PRICE: £7.99

PUB DATE: Book 1–2 Published  
 NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 2  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/  
 FILM/TV: Madeleine Milburn  
 Literary, TV & Film Agency



# CROOK HAVEN

A fast-paced trilogy about high-stakes thievery and what it really means to do good.

12-year-old Gabriel is a brilliant pickpocket who attends Crookhaven: School for Thieves – where you are taught to do wrong but all with the aim of doing good. Now it's Gabriel's second year at school. With new classes, an impossible break-in challenge and the mystery of The Nameless to uncover, it's going to be a busy year . . .

*Sunday Times*  
**Children's Book of the Week, calling it, 'lively storytelling for, well, yes, fans of Harry Potter'**

- Perfect for fans of M.G. Leonard and Anthony Horowitz, it is a fresh take on a boarding school that feels magical but is firmly set in our world
- A diverse cast of characters and a main character who reflects the author's own dual Portuguese and British heritage
- Sold in 15 languages so far

IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 68,852/68,000  
 EXTENT: 336pp/336pp/240pp

PRICE: £7.99  
 PUB DATE: Book 1–2 Published; Book 3: August 2024  
 NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 3  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: USA

LICENSING/  
 MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:  
 The Blair Partnership

# WELCOME TO HORROR HEIGHTS

A fusion of creepy stories with laugh-out-loud humour, this is *Goosebumps* for a new generation by award-winning comedian and TV presenter, Bec Hill.

When Yas takes a photo of a grave in a cemetery, she thinks nothing of it. But the next day, when she uploads the photo to social media, she notices an old lady photobombing her picture. Then, each time Yas takes a photo on her phone, the figure reappears . . . and she seems to be silently screaming. Yas decides to investigate with best friend Eric. If the pair are being haunted, then maybe the ghost has something important to tell them . . .

What does she want? Can Yas and Eric find a way to banish her for good?

- The new *Point Horror* and *Goosebumps* for contemporary kids
- Easily digestible but with truly satisfying scares, with a dyslexia-friendly font
- Bec is a Kids comedy TV writer for several Cbeebies, CBBC and SkyKIDS shows

CAN THE CHILDREN  
WHO LIVE HERE CONCEAL  
THE STRANGE GOINGS ON  
BEHIND CLOSED DOORS?

Dyslexia-  
friendly text  
inside



IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
FORMAT: PB  
SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
WORD COUNT: 21,000/22,960/21,500  
EXTENT: 192pp  
PRICE: £7.99

PUB DATE: Books 1–3: Published  
NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 3  
RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Hachette  
Children's Group



# NIGHTSPARK

Find your fire. Light your path. A riveting, magical adventure set on the waterways of a richly reimagined London.

Having escaped from the half-bombed, blackened power station where he was imprisoned, 12-year-old Luke is finally reunited with his family above ground. But now he must try to save Ravi, the friend who was left behind.

Nightspark is set in a future where London is half-flooded and nothing is as you'd expect.

- Perfect for fans of Vashti Hardy and Thomas Taylor
- Michael Mann appeared in the *Undiscovered Voices* anthology 2020 and was one of the London Writers' Award listed authors
- Passionate about diversity in children's literature, he has made this an inclusive story

*'A superbly  
inventive and  
magical debut'*  
Piers Torday



IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
FORMAT: PB  
SIZE: 216 x 135 mm  
WORD COUNT: 61,000/63,000  
EXTENT: 352pp  
PRICE: £7.99  
PUB DATE: Books 1 & 2: Published

NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 2  
RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
RIGHTS SOLD: US  
LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:  
Curtis Brown Group Limited

# SWARM ENEMY

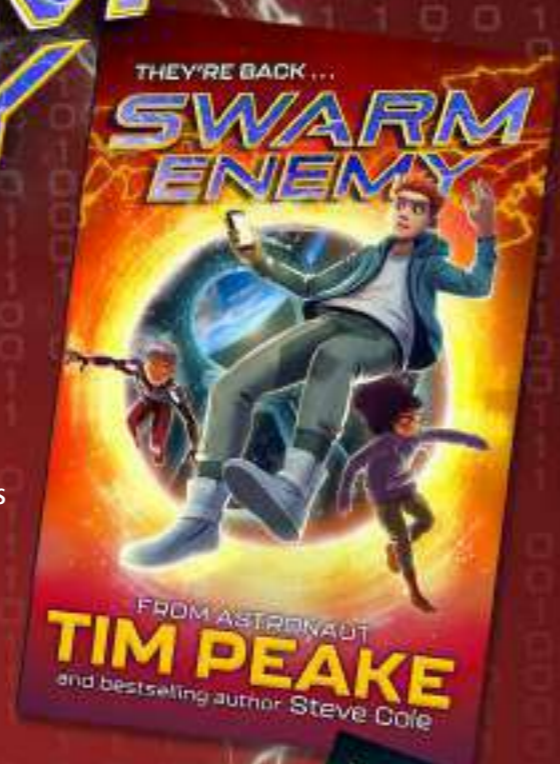
From astronaut Tim Peake and bestselling author Steve Cole comes book 2 in this pacy science action-adventure.

When Danny's best friend Jamila goes missing, Danny knows the alien Swarm are back. But it's not just the Swarm who are after Jamila. Her super-powered DNA can be used to clone super-strong beings, and human scientists and aliens know this. Danny needs to find her and together they must stop both humans and aliens from destroying the human race.

- Fast-paced adventure rooted in STEM and real-life, cutting-edge technology
- Timely eco themes about protecting our beautiful planet from extinction
- The most inspirational astronaut for children writing on subjects close to his heart – science, technology and ecology – in a page-turning story!

IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 216 x 135 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 48,000/55,000  
 EXTENT: 304pp  
 PRICE: £7.99  
 PUB DATE: Books 1 & 2: Published  
 NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 2  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World

RIGHTS SOLD: German  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:  
 The Soho Agency Ltd



## 9-12 FICTION SERIES BACKLIST

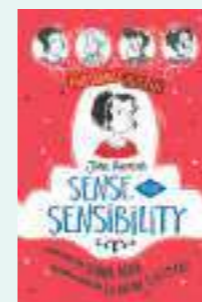


THE WIZARD IN MY SHED SERIES by Simon Farnaby

- From the writer of *Paddington 2* comes a hilariously silly, heartfelt comedy of errors with a historical twist perfect for fans of David Walliams and David Baddiel
- Merdyn the Wizard is the greatest wizard of the Dark Ages, banished to the 21st century for bad behaviour. Rose is his 21st-century descendant. Together they are a haphazardly unstoppable duo ready to tackle whatever havoc comes their way!
- Claire Powell's black and white illustrations create a standout creative package

IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
 FORMAT: HB and PB  
 WORD COUNT: 50,000/45,000  
 EXTENT: 384pp/320pp  
 PRICE: £12.99 and £6.99  
 NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 2

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 RIGHTS SOLD: Dutch, German, Hungarian, Romanian, Russian, Slovak, Turkish, Ukrainian  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Independent Talent



AWESOMELY AUSTEN by various authors

- Fresh, funny and accessible retellings of Jane Austen's novels, in this highly collectible set, with witty black and white illustrations throughout
- Faithful to the original plots, but with humour brought to the fore
- Églantine's black and white art gives the series a strong aesthetic, and makes the books accessible for younger readers

IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 WORD COUNT: 25,000-30,000  
 EXTENT: 240-256pp  
 NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 6  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World

RIGHTS SOLD: Castilian, Croat, Georgian, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Polish, Slovak  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Hachette Children's Group



**EMILY WINDSNAP** by Liz Kessler

- The *New York Times* bestselling series, packed with magic and friendship, about Emily Windsnap who grows a tail as soon as she gets into water
- International bestselling series with over 5 million books sold worldwide and rights sold in 27 languages
- This enchanting fantasy deals with universal themes of family, friendship, love and justice – all handled with the lightness of touch for which Liz Kessler is so well known

**IMPRINT:** Orion Children's Books  
**FORMAT:** PB  
**WORD COUNT:** 52,000–54,000  
**EXTENT:** 240–320pp  
**NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES:** 9  
**RIGHTS AVAILABLE:** World

**RIGHTS SOLD:** Chinese (simplified),  
French, German, Greek, Hungarian,  
Italian, Japanese, Russian Slovak,  
Turkish, Ukrainian, US  
**LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/  
FILM/TV:** Felicity Bryan Associates

9-12  
FICTION





# THE BOY IN THE SMOKE

From acclaimed author of *Sadé and her Shadow Beasts*, a story of two boys divided by time, united by hope – perfect for fans of *A Kind of Spark*.

Isaiah always has an easy smile and smart answer for his teachers. He's good at fixing things and making people happy. But ever since Mum left and Dad got ill, it's been getting harder to keep all that up. To not let his friends know they're struggling. To keep believing things will get better. . . Then Isaiah meets the boy in the smoke, a boy he connects with through a forgotten fireplace in his tower block. A boy from the past with a mystery to solve, who desperately needs Isaiah's help. Can Isaiah change Jacob's life for the better? And in doing so, maybe can he change his own?



- Future classic, contemporary middle-grade fiction with a cinematic magic realism twist
- Shines a light on universal themes of child poverty and hardship with authentic child dialogue and adventure – wholly accessible
- Passionate author advocate for increasing Black representation in children's fiction, and in driving awareness of historical Black representation

IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 54,800  
 EXTENT: 288pp  
 PRICE: £7.99  
 PUB DATE: Published

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Poetic Dreams Limited on head contract c/o Bell Lomax Agency

# THE TREE THAT SANG TO ME

Some feelings are so big, they're hard to express. . . A dyslexia-friendly verse story of friendship, family and self-discovery, perfect for readers aged 9+, beautifully illustrated in black and white.

When Kai's big sister Jen leaves the family home, Kai knows it's all his fault. His secret burns, but he tells no one, just keeps pulling at tufts of his hair. But in the broad branches of a wasteland sycamore tree, Kai feels safe and free from his troubles. And when a girl called Sky starts climbing his tree, a friendship blossoms . . . a friendship with the power to heal.



- Joyful and inspiring verse narrative, following debut *Wider Than The Sea*
- Own voices novel from a dyslexic author with dyslexia-friendly layout, low word count and non-rhyming verse
- Features universal themes of child-focused worries, family, friendship, nature and healing

IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 12,000  
 EXTENT: 240pp  
 PRICE: £7.99

PUB DATE: March 2024  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Aevitas Creative Management

# Where Magic Grows

From Onjali Q. Raúf, author of *The Boy at the Back of the Class*, comes a collection of seven unique fables, filled with humour, heart and messages of hope.

Written with heart and humour, these never-before-told fables are for kids who want to make the world a better place, with beautiful full-colour illustrations by Katarzyna Doszla throughout.

- A gorgeous gift for any young reader, and the perfect collection to read at bedtime, with universal themes of hope and love - and the idea that anyone can make a difference with a bit of kindness
- Set in various locations across the world, these read like classic fables – but have never been heard before
- *The Boy at the Back of the Class* won both the Blue Peter Award and the Waterstones Children's Book Prize, and has consistently been in the *Bookseller* Top 20 Children's and Young Adult Fiction chart since publication in 2018. Her subsequent books have all followed on from the success of her first, selling thousands of copies, being translated into multiple languages and winning awards and critical acclaim

IMPRINT: Orion Children's Books  
 FORMAT: HB  
 SIZE: 234 x 153mm  
 WORD COUNT: 40,000  
 EXTENT: 256pp  
 PRICE: £20

PUB DATE: October 2023  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 RIGHTS SOLD: Portuguese (PT)  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:  
 Silvia Molteni, Peters, Frasers & Dunlop

# ONJALI Q. RAÚF



Onjali Q. Raúf is a British Muslim women's rights activist and the founder of Making Herstory, a charity that aspires to mobilise men, women and children of all backgrounds to take action against gender-based abuses and crimes both in the UK and beyond. Onjali Q. Raúf has recently been awarded an MBE for her services to literature and women's rights.

*The Boy at the Back of the Class* has sold over 750,000 copies and has been translated into 22 languages



IMPRINT: Orion Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT:  
 45,000/60,000/55,000/58,000  
 EXTENT: 320pp/336pp/304pp/320pp

PRICE: £7.99  
 PUB DATE: Published  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World excluding USA  
 RIGHTS SOLD ACROSS ALL TITLES:  
 Albanian, Arabic, Castilian, Catalan,  
 Chinese (simplified), Dutch, Farsi, French,

Georgian, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Lithuanian,  
 Polish, Portuguese (PT), Romanian, Slovak, Spanish, Thai,  
 Turkish, Welsh  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Peters Fraser  
 + Dunlop

# WHEN I FEEL RED

An uplifting middle-grade story with a relatable dyspraxic main character that celebrates individuality and finding your place in the world.

'I feel like I'm always . . . last. Like I'm running to try and keep up with everyone but it's no good.'

April feels everything to the max. More likely to be found drawing and doodling than paying attention in class, April has always struggled with school. Lessons feel like they're in a foreign language making her brain shut down. And it sometimes feels like her classmates come from a different planet. As the detentions build up, April wonders if she is doing school wrong? Perhaps life would be easier if she just learned to fit in.

- An empowering follow-up to *When I See Blue*, this is another own voices novel authentic representation of dyspraxia based on author's lived experience
- Reflects the confusing transition from childhood to teenager through the eyes of a relatable character
- Diverse representation of race, neurodivergence and LGBTQ+ across the cast

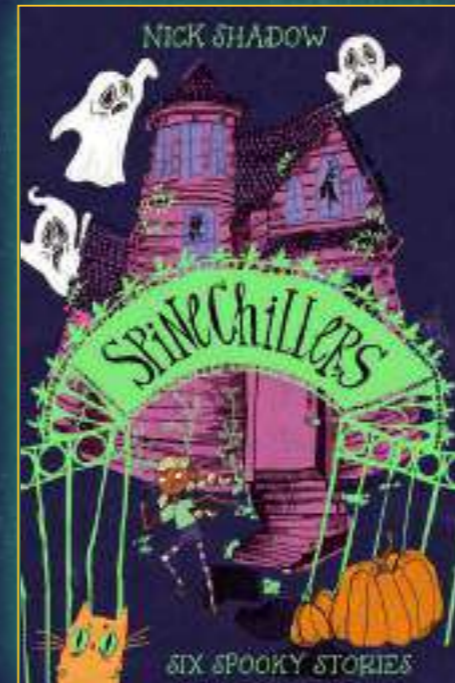


Cover not final



IMPRINT: Orion Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 68,500  
 EXTENT: 356pp  
 PRICE: £7.99

PUB DATE: February 2024  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Hachette Children's Group



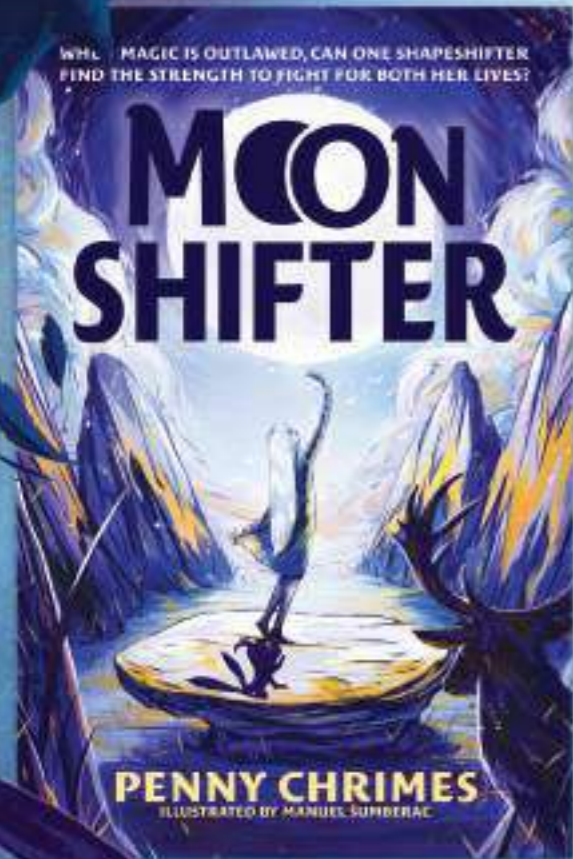
A horror story collection to reach the *Stranger Things* audience. These six spooky stories are sure to send shivers down your spine.

From a pair of trainers with a mind of their own, to some terrifying phone calls, to a demon babysitter, these really scary stories are perfect for campfires, sleepovers, reading aloud and reading alone in the dark . . . if you dare!

- Published in time for Halloween, but research shows that readers enjoy spooky stories all year round
- Scariest than *Goosebumps*, with twists in the tail to rival Roald Dahl's short stories, these are strictly not for the faint-hearted!
- Stories previously published in the *Midnight Library* series

IMPRINT: Orchard Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 58,000  
 EXTENT: 304pp  
 PRICE: £7.99  
 PUB DATE: September 2023

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: US  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:  
 Working Partners Ltd



# MOON SHIFTER

An enthralling story about bravery and standing up for what's right, steeped in the wonder and magic of the natural world.

In the village of Penros, the Old Magic is outlawed. But Loveday Gwynne can't give up magic easily. As a shapeshifter – part Silver Hare, part girl – she has magic in her bones. The question is . . . how far will she go to defend it?

- Gorgeous writing and an arresting voice combine with the magic and intrigue of shapeshifting
- The theme of environmental destruction is overlaid with hope for healing
- Vibrant cover and a curated selection of gorgeous full page black and white illustrations by Manuel Šumberac bring the animal world to life



IMPRINT: Orion Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 48,000  
 EXTENT: 272pp

PRICE: £7.99  
 PUB DATE: February 2024  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 LICENSING/  
 MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:  
 Curtis Brown



# TOXIC

Hidden in the heart of the rainforest lies a secret . . . if three friends can survive long enough to find it.

Billionaire beauty mogul Anura Hegarty has pledged to acquire as much of the rainforest as possible to preserve it. But when armed guards appear and bring in portable terrariums to capture wildlife, Jessica and her friend Renata realise something much more sinister is going on.

The rainforest holds a frog with a secret to staying young forever, and Jessica and Renata know they must find and save it first!

- Mitch Johnson is the author of the acclaimed, Branford Boase-winning debut novel *Kick*.
- *Toxic* tackles timely themes of deforestation, habitat destruction and the beauty industry in a humorous and accessible way
- The rare combination of truly excellent, award-winning writing with strong commercial appeal



IMPRINT: Orion Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129mm  
 WORD COUNT: 54,000

EXTENT: 320pp  
 PRICE: £7.99  
 PUB DATE: February 2024  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World

LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/  
 FILM/TV: Caroline Sheldon  
 Literary Agency



# Skellig



25TH ANNIVERSARY ILLUSTRATED EDITION  
WITH ART BY TOM DE FRESTON

The bestselling story about love, loss and hope that launched David Almond as one of the best children's writers of today. Winner of the Carnegie Medal and the Whitbread Children's Book of the Year Award, *Skellig* was among the ten 'Carnegie of Carnegie' winners to celebrate 70 years of the prestigious prize. This unforgettable book now has captivating illustrations by Tom de Freston to celebrate its 25th anniversary.



- David Almond is a multiple award-winning writer whose work has been translated into 40 languages and adapted for stage and screen
- In 2021, David was awarded an OBE for services to literature
- Tom de Freston is a visual artist known for his focus on images of humanity and emotions, and for the construction of multimedia worlds and immersive visceral narratives. Tom made his illustrative debut with *Julia and the Shark* and *Leila and the Blue Fox* in collaboration with his wife, Kiran Millwood Hargrave



IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
FORMAT: HB  
SIZE: 234 x 153 mm  
WORD COUNT: 35,000  
EXTENT: 320pp  
PRICE: £12.99  
PUB DATE: Published

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: US for text, World for artwork by Tom de Freston  
RIGHTS SOLD FOR SKELLIG: US  
RIGHTS SOLD FOR THE ARTWORK: Castilian  
LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Felicity Bryan Associates Literary Agency/ David Higham Associates

OVER 1 MILLION  
COPIES SOLD IN THE  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
ALONE



# PAPER BOAT, PAPER BIRD

A stunning new story from the bestselling, prize-winning David Almond, unfolding the magic of the everyday. Mina, from the unforgettable *Skellig* and *My Name is Mina*, journeys to Japan and discovers the wonders of the world around her.

- A story revisiting Mina, from *Skellig*, one of David's most popular novels, and *My Name is Mina*.
- David Almond is a unique, multiple award-winning and boundary-breaking writer. In compelling narratives, in prose that is both accessible and hypnotic, he brings to us the magic that exists in the everyday world
- With gorgeous two-tone illustrations from Kirsti Beautyman



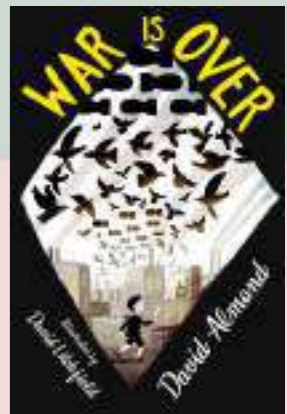
'Our world would be a little less without this touching, sensitive book about the joys of new experiences and chance meetings'  
*The Times, Children's Book of the Week*

IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
FORMAT: HB & PB  
SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
WORD COUNT: 4,000  
EXTENT: 112pp

PRICE: £12.99 & £6.99  
PUB DATE: Published  
RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
RIGHTS SOLD: Chinese (simplified), Italian

LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Felicity Bryan Associates

RIGHTS SOLD for *War is Over*: Castilian (LAME), Italian, Portuguese (PT), Romanian, Simplified Chinese-English, Slovak, US





# A TRICKY kind of MAGIC

A funny, action-packed, black and white graphic novel about a boy coming to terms with the loss of his dad.

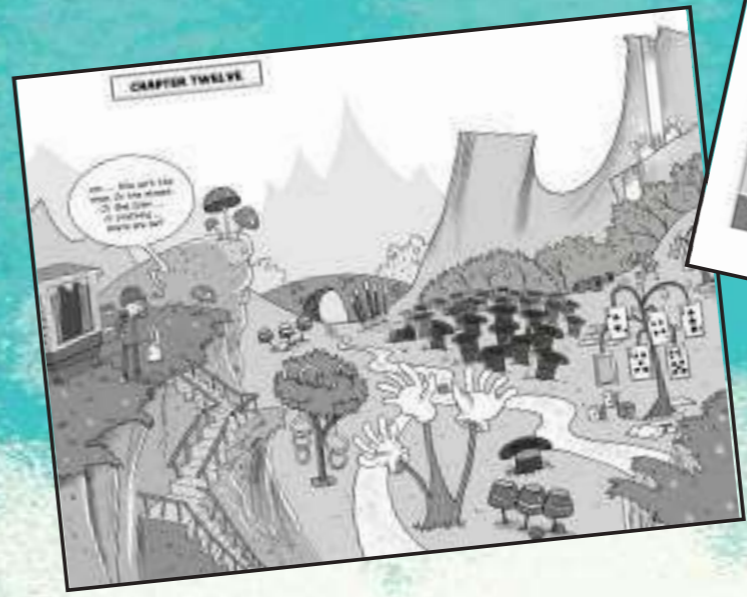
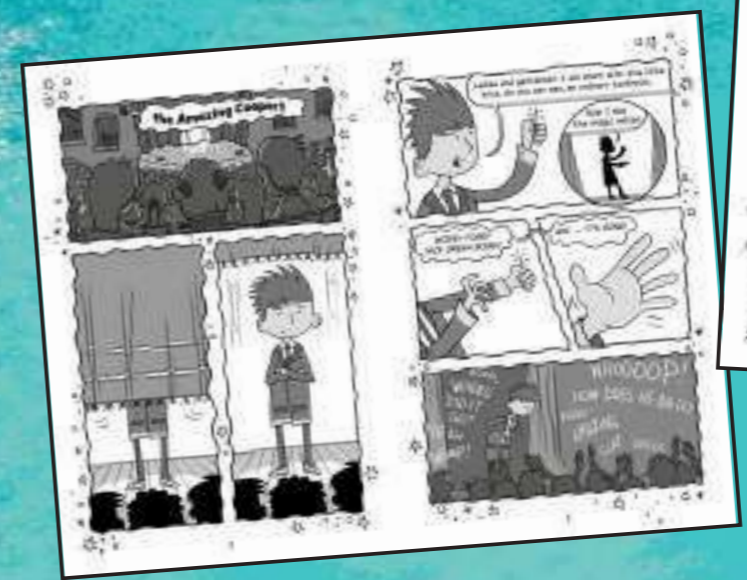
Cooper's dad, also known as the Great Eduardo, taught him the tricks of the magical trade before he passed away. But the one thing Cooper can't do is see his dad again.

Then a talking rabbit appears from his dad's top hat and reveals there is a place where Cooper might find him. Magic is about believing the impossible, after all. And Cooper desperately wants to believe that he can see his dad once more.

- Explores grief and loss in a sensitive and moving way, through an exciting adventure
- Accessible, funny and moving, this is perfect for children aged 9 and upwards
- Graphic novels have seen a significant rise in sales in recent years

**IMPRINT:** Hodder Children's Books  
**FORMAT:** PB  
**SIZE:** 198 x 129 mm  
**WORD COUNT:** 30,000  
**EXTENT:** 256pp  
**PRICE:** £7.99

**PUB DATE:** Published  
**RIGHTS AVAILABLE:** World  
**RIGHTS SOLD:** US  
**LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:** Hachette Children's Group





# The Lovely Dark

A beautifully moving story of bravery and second chances, for 10+ readers of Piers Torday's *There May Be A Castle* and Sally Nicholls' *Ways to Live Forever*.

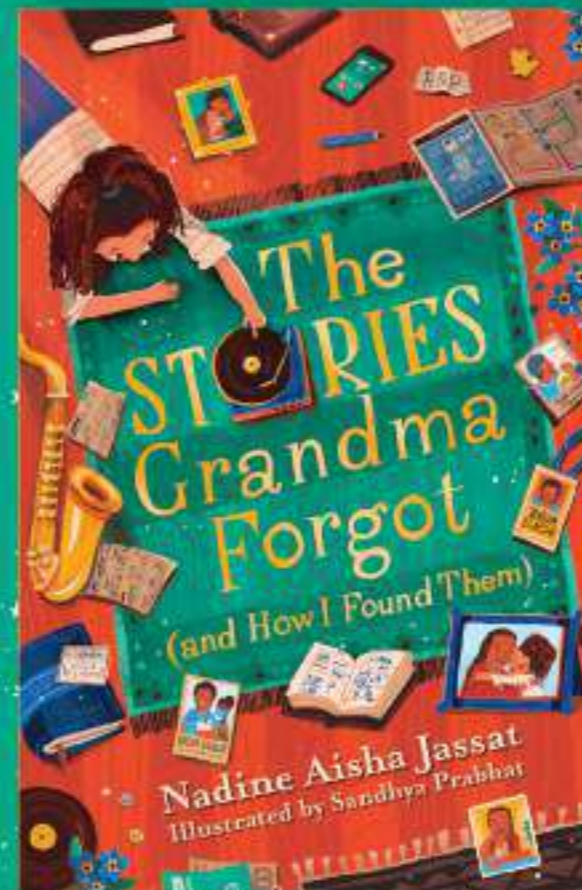
When 12-year-old Eleanor dies in an accident, she finds herself in the Underworld. She begins her 'afterlife' at Eventide House, a boarding school for children who have died. But she desperately wants to get back to meet her new baby brother, even if it means being a ghost. Can Ellie find a way out of the Underworld? And who – or what – will she be if she does?



- From the author of *The Sky Over Rebecca* Matthew Fox, who won the Bath Children's Novel Prize in 2019
- This book has the capacity to give you the chills in one moment and make you weep with hope the next. Matt's writing is lyrical and poignant, and so moving
- Set now in our post-pandemic era – and touches on grief, mental health and hope

IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 41,206  
 EXTENT: 272pp  
 PRICE: £7.99

PUB DATE: Published  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Bell Lomax Moreton Agency



# The Stories Grandma Forgot (and How I Found Them)

'Grandma Farida has Alzheimer's – but I'm going to help her remember a huge secret . . .' A gripping mystery from an award-winning poet, perfect for 9+ fans of Elle McNicoll and *Me, My Dad and the End of the Rainbow*.

12-year-old Nyla's dad died when she was 4, or that's what she's been told. So when Grandma insists she saw him in the supermarket, Nyla decides to make a brand-new promise to her grandma: to find him.

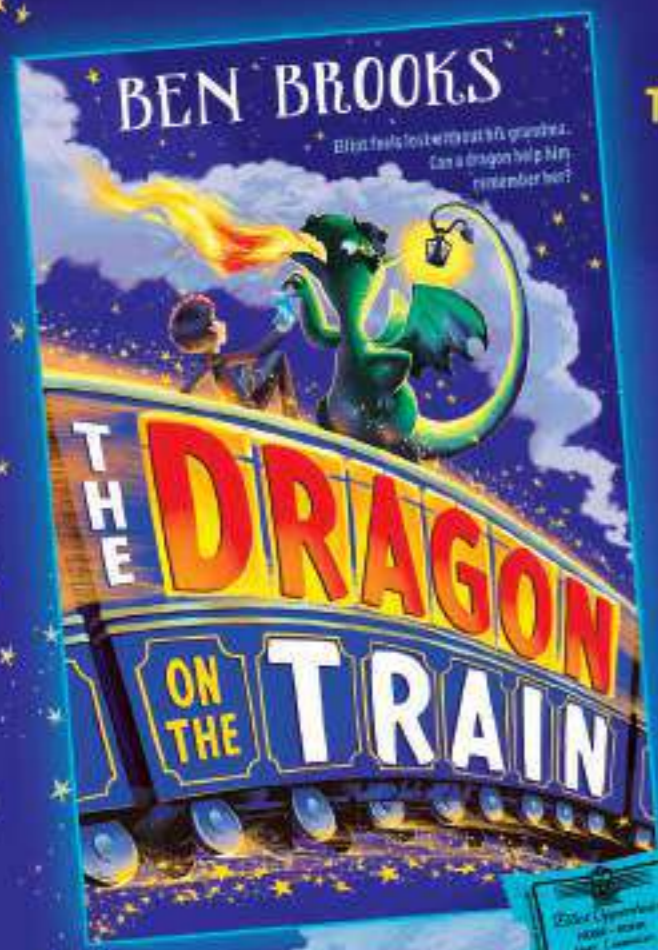
A page-turning verse novel about the power of memory and storytelling, and the unbreakable bond between a grandmother and granddaughter.

- Own voices: the story is based on the author's lived experience of her grandma's alzheimer's
- This is voice-driven fiction at its finest with an exciting debut author talent
- A beautiful story about memory loss, identity and the generational stories that reveals the true meaning behind where we come from

IMPRINT: Orion Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 43,289  
 EXTENT: 352pp  
 PRICE: £7.99

PUB DATE: Published  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: The Bent Agency UK





# THE DRAGON ON THE TRAIN

A heartwarming exploration of loss and the magic of hope and family from the bestselling author of *The Impossible Boy*.

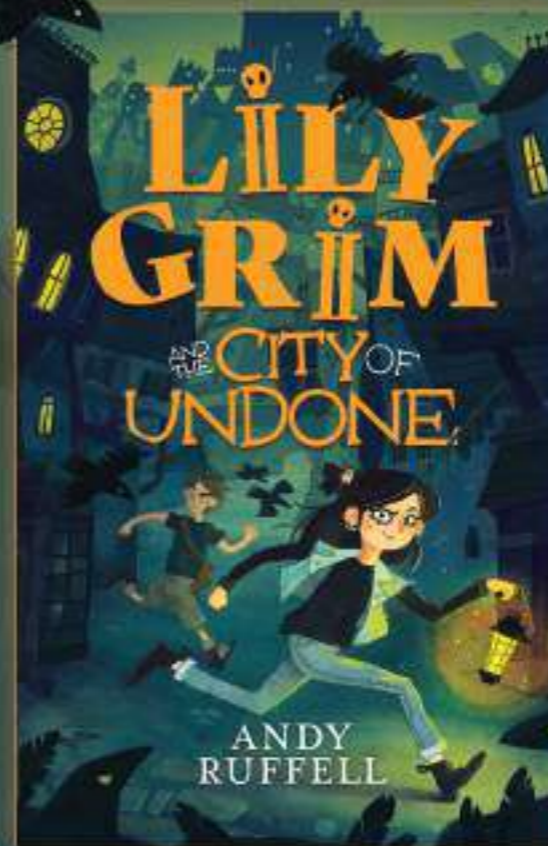
A little while after his grandma passes away, Elliot finds a strange train ticket under his pillow. When a well-dressed dragon appears in his bedroom and asks for it, the adventure of Elliot's life is about to begin . . .

- Perfect for 8+ fans of Matt Haig and Ben Miller
- Tackles grief with sensitivity and reassurance for a young audience
- Ben Brooks is the author of the bestselling *Stories for Boys Who Dare to Be Different*, which was the winner of Children's Book of the Year at the National Book Awards and has sold over 300,000 copies since publication in 2018



IMPRINT: Quercus Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 50,000  
 EXTENT: 288pp  
 PRICE: £7.99

PUB DATE: Published  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/  
 FILM/TV: Hamilton Agency Limited



# LILY GRIM AND THE CITY OF UNDONE

A mysterious gothic fantasy adventure with friendship at its heart. Perfect for 10+ fans of *Malamander* and *The Uncommoners*.

Lily Grim has lived with her guardian, Gabriel, for as long as she can remember. But Undone is a dark and dangerous place to live, especially if you're an Other. Feared for their special gifts, Others are persecuted by the cruel Master of the City. When Lily discovers she is an Other too, she realises she is now in grave danger – because the Master wants her dead . . .

- Perfect for 10+ fans of *Malamander* and *The Uncommoners*
- An original mysterious, gothic fantasy adventure with friendship at its heart, from a hugely talented debut author
- With map and part title page illustrations in black and white

IMPRINT: Hodder  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 50,000  
 EXTENT: 300pp  
 PRICE: £7.99  
 PUB DATE: Published

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/  
 FILM/TV: Hachette Children's  
 Group





# LEILA AND THE BLUE FOX

The enthralling true story of a fox who embarks on a very long journey across ice and snow, and a girl, Leila, who embarks on a journey of her own – finding her way to the mother who left her. On a breath taking adventure across the sea, Leila rediscovers herself and the mother she thought she'd lost, with help from a determined little fox.

- With dazzling blue and black illustrations and presented as a deluxe hardback with tracing paper inserts, this is a perfect gift for 9+ fans of *The Last Bear*
- Kiran Millwood Hargrave's books have sold over 250,000 copies in the UK alone
- Touches upon themes of love, family, identity and inner strength



Kiran Millwood Hargrave and Tom de Freston met in 2009, when Kiran was a student and Tom was artist-in-residence at Cambridge University. They have been a couple and collaborators ever since, but *Julia and the Shark* was their first novel together. It was Indie Book of the Month and Scottish Booktrust Book of the Month, and won the Waterstones Children's Gift of the Year 2021.

# JULIA AND THE SHARK

A captivating, powerful and luminous story about a mother, a daughter and the great Greenland shark. A mental health crisis for a parent, experienced from the point of view of a child, is written with warmth and optimism.

- *Julia and the Shark* has sold over 20,000 copies to date in hardback in the UK, and rights have sold in 19 languages and counting
- The deluxe hardback features two pantone-printing – with striking yellow accents against black and white artwork throughout. Tracing paper inserts create mystery and lend a unique quality to the package
- With timely themes of the importance of mental health as well as science and the environment



## PRAISE FOR JULIA AND THE SHARK

*'Deep, beautiful and true. The art shines and the writing soars. A classic from cover to cover.'*

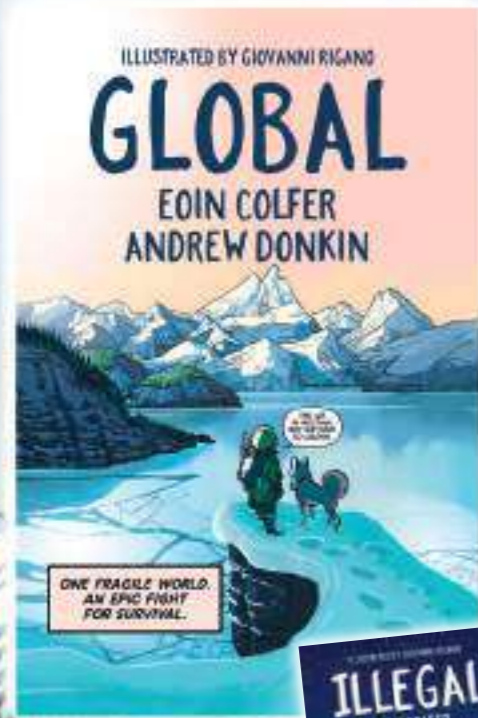
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IMPRINT: Orion Children's Books  
FORMAT: HB and PB  
SIZE: 216 x 153 mm  
WORD COUNT: 32,000  
EXTENT: 224pp  
PRICE: £12.99 and £7.99  
PUB DATE: Published

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
RIGHTS SOLD FOR *Leila and the Blue Fox*: Chinese (simplified), Czech, German, Slovak, US  
RIGHTS SOLD FOR *Julia and the Shark*: Bulgarian, Castilian, Catalan, Chinese (simplified), Czech, Danish, Dutch, French, German, Greek, Italian, Latvian, Polish, Portuguese (BR), Russian, Slovak, Slovene, Turkish, US  
LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Janklow & Nesbit

# GLOBAL



A powerful, hopeful and timely story about two young people on different continents whose lives are catastrophically changed by global warming.

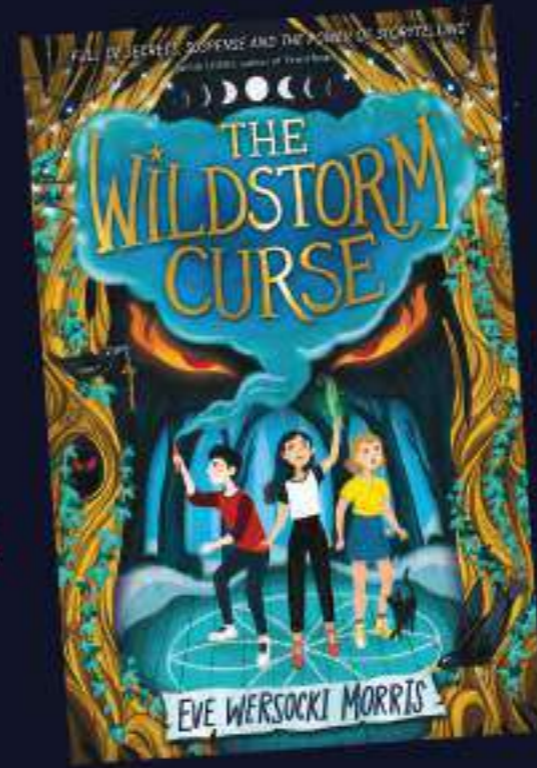
Yuki lives in an increasingly deserted Inuit township in Nova Scotia and is on a mission to save a starving growler bear, a terrifying grizzly-polar crossbreed created by climate change. Sami lives in a fishing village on the Bay of Bengal, but because of the ever-rising ocean level, each day is a struggle to survive. One night, Sami sets out to return to his family home, alone. He takes a deep breath and dives beneath the moonlit waters, hoping to find his past. But a cyclone is coming, and at the end the two strands of the story weave together with one hero unexpectedly saving the life of the other.



- Companion graphic novel to *Illegal*, winner of the Judges' Special Award at the Children's Books Ireland Book of the Year Awards
- Contains additional material such as interviews with people on the front line, a description of growler bears and what readers can do to get involved
- From Eoin Colfer, author of the bestselling, award-winning *Artemis Fowl* series, Andrew Donkin, who has written over sixty books and graphic novels, and illustrated in full colour by award-winning Giovanni Rigano

IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
 FORMAT: HB  
 SIZE: 260 x 170 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 3,000  
 EXTENT: 144pp  
 PRICE: £14.99  
 PUB DATE: Published

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 RIGHTS SOLD: Castilian, Chinese (simplified),  
 French, German (Educational edition), Italian, Korean,  
 Polish, Slovene, US  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Sophie  
 Hicks Agency



# THE WILDSTORM CURSE

A spine-tingling adventure, perfect for 9+ fans of Michelle Harrison and Abi Elphinstone.

A fabled witch. A monster awakes. A dark shadow is stirring in the woodland near Wildstorm: an ancient and dangerous creature has awoken from a centuries-old slumber, and he's out for revenge, putting Kallie in grave danger.

'A riveting tale full of secrets, suspense and the power of storytelling' Jamie Littler, author of *Frostheart*

'Fabulously gripping. I couldn't put it down' Abi Elphinstone, author of *Sky Song*

- Own voices – the book features a neurodiverse (dyslexic) main character very much inspired by the author's real life experience as a dyslexic person
- Eve's debut, *The Bird Singers*, was selected for *The Sunday Times* Children's Book of the Week and as one of Waterstones' Best Books for February 2022
- Themes of courage, bravery and the power of storytelling are touched upon in an accessible and suspenseful narrative

IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 50,000  
 EXTENT: 320pp

PRICE: £7.99  
 PUB DATE: Published  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:  
 Luigi Bonomi Associates Limited (LBA)

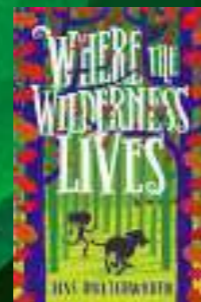


# LOST ON GIBBON ISLAND

*The Last Bear* meets *The Life of Pi* in this high-stakes survival story, following a shipwrecked girl and a baby gibbon who becomes her companion. Together, they must evade poachers and find their way home . . .

When Lark's mum takes her family with her on a research trip to Cambodia, she finds herself stranded on an island when her boat is shipwrecked. With her only companion a baby gibbon, Lark faces many dangers – brutal storms, scorching sunshine and jellyfish-infested waters. And with dwindling food and water, she must make a plan to find her way off the island before it's too late. . .

- Includes a map of Gibbon Island and cover illustration by Rob Biddulph
- Tackles the topical theme of gibbon poaching and the illegal pet trade
- Features a brave heroine as a positive role model for young readers who want to protect the environment and wild animals themselves



IMPRINT: Orion Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 35,000  
 EXTENT: 288pp  
 PRICE: £7.99  
 PUB DATE: Published

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Mulcahy  
 Sweeney Associates Ltd

Sarah Moore Fitzgerald – all titles

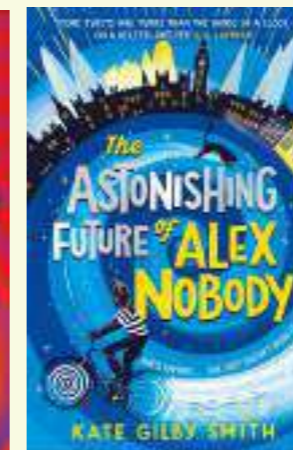


Sarah Moore Fitzgerald is an award-winning novelist, teacher and researcher based in Ireland. Her work has been translated into 16 languages and also adapted for the stage. Her books are gripping, timely and immersive, full of hope and life.

- Centres on a complicated but loving father-son relationship
- The scarring of the main character is dealt with in a sensitive and positive way – it is not a weakness or something to hide for reasons of vanity or shame
- *The Apple Tart of Hope* was a *People* Children's Book of the Year and was shortlisted for the Waterstones Children's Book Prize

IMPRINT: Orion Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 WORD COUNT: 53,000 approx. per book  
 EXTENT: 240-320pp  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World

RIGHTS SOLD ACROSS ALL TITLES: Castillian (LAME),  
 German, Polish, Portuguese (BR), US  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Jo Unwin  
 Literary Agency Limited



OLIVE JONES AND THE MEMORY THIEF and  
 THE ASTONISHING FUTURE OF ALEX NOBODY by Kate Gilby Smith

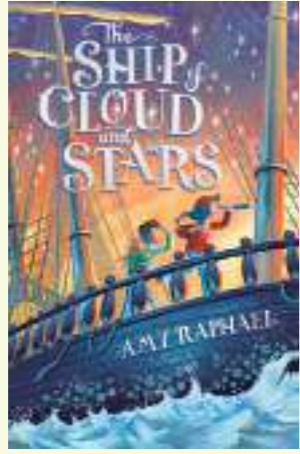
- Contemporary real-life middle-grade with a futuristic twist – Olive is a normal kid who is introduced to a mystery thanks to a new technology called a memoriser, which records your memories for others to watch
- Themes of science and technology, perfect for girls interested in STEAM subjects
- It explores topical themes of truth and whether to believe everything you're shown

IMPRINT: Orion Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 59,060  
 EXTENT: 304pp

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World (excluding Italy)  
 RIGHTS SOLD: Dutch, Russian  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Madeleine  
 Milburn Literary, TV & Film Agency



**IMPRINT:** Orion Children's Books  
**FORMAT:** PB  
**SIZE:** 198 x 129 mm  
**WORD COUNT:** 48,000  
**EXTENT:** 288pp/336pp



**RIGHTS AVAILABLE:** World  
**LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:**  
Johnson & Alcock Literary Agency

THE FOREST OF MOON AND SWORDS and  
THE SHIP OF CLOUD AND STARS by Amy Raphael

- Another lyrical adventure which perfectly positions Amy Raphael as 'Frances Hardinge for younger readers'
- Rebellious female protagonist fighting for women's freedom

# TEEN/YA FICTION

# In the Shallows

From the acclaimed author of *Afterlove* comes a beautiful YA sapphic love story drenched with longing, loss and mystery.

Nico is Mara's everything . . . even though she's never sure that she herself is Nico's anything. Especially when Nico cruelly dumps her on the eve of the new year. But on New Year's Day, a girl is rescued from the sea – a girl with no memory of who she is or what came before. That girl is Nico. And after a chance encounter, she and Mara are reunited.

Mara's friends try to convince her she's better off forgetting, but what if this is Mara's second chance? What if now, their relationship can make it out of the shallows and into the wide oceans beyond?



IMPRINT: Hodder  
FORMAT: PB  
SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
WORD COUNT: 88,000  
EXTENT: 384pp  
PRICE: £8.99  
PUB DATE: February 2024  
RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World

RIGHTS SOLD FOR  
AFTERLOVE: Castilian, Czech,  
French, German, Italian,  
Polish, USA  
LICENSING/  
MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:  
Hachette Children's Group



- Building on Tanya's trailblazing position in the YA market for high-concept sapphic stories with heart-stopping emotional prose, perfect for the BookTok generation
- Themes of relationship dynamics, love and infatuation, friendship, amnesia, familial dysfunction and a brilliantly dark twist (Munchausen's by proxy)
- *Afterlove* was a real TikTok success story, the 15th bestselling YA title in the TCM in 2021 and the 8th bestselling fantasy/paranormal YA title in 2021

# ALL ABOUT ROMANCE



A joyful happy-ever-after queer romance, perfect for fans of Simon James Green and Becky Albertalli.

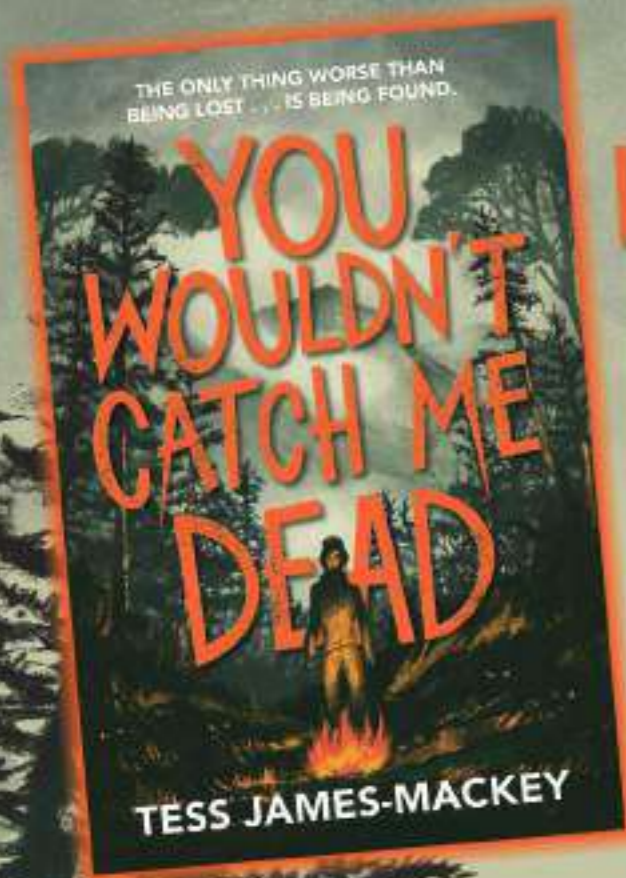
Roman Bright has always loved love stories. But being a non-binary teenager in a small northern town means their dating pool is limited and they haven't had their own sweeping romance . . . yet.

When anonymous postcards from 'Big Red' start showing up in Roman's locker, Roman realises they may have a secret admirer. Will they finally get their happily ever after?

- A joyful non-binary love story – following *Heartstopper* into the space where queer romance is celebrated
- Issues such as bullying are addressed with humour and a light touch
- Roman is based on Daniel's own teenage diaries – making it an authentic teenage voice

IMPRINT: Hodder  
FORMAT: 198 x 129 mm  
SIZE: B Format  
WORD COUNT: 76,000  
EXTENT: 352pp  
PRICE: £8.99

PUB DATE: Published  
RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:  
Hachette Children's Group



# YOU WOULDN'T CATCH ME DEAD

The second spine-chilling stand-alone from the author of *Someone is Watching You*.

The only thing worse than being lost . . . is being found.

When Keely is roped into a programme that involves camping in the wilderness with five over-keen try-hards, her plan is to keep her head down and get through the next few days.

But Keely is running from something. Something that drove her family out of their home and to this quiet town. And when her fellow explorers start disappearing and the bodies begin to pile up, she has to ask herself: did she run far enough?

- A thriller to get the pulse racing – immersive and chilling, you won't be able to put it down
- Tess explores difficult themes of change, grief and emotional abuse with the backdrop of a chilling wilderness setting
- Second stand-alone novel from Tess James-Mackey to come a year after debut novel *Someone is Watching You*

IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
FORMAT: PB  
SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
WORD COUNT: 65,000  
EXTENT: 320pp

PRICE: £8.99  
PUB DATE: Jan 2024  
RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Curtis Brown Ltd



# THE GIRL IN QUESTION

IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
FORMAT: PB  
SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
WORD COUNT: n/a  
EXTENT: 384pp

PRICE: £8.99  
PUB DATE: February 2024  
RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Hachette Children's Group

The unmissable, thrilling follow-up to *The Girls I've Been*, soon to be a Netflix film.

Following the thrilling conclusion of *The Girls I've Been*, Nora is delighted just to be alive, but she knows her stepfather, Raymond, still really, really wants revenge. When Wes's new girlfriend, Amanda, goes missing, it's clear Nora's stepfather has tracked them down . . . Now Nora, Wes and Iris must get Amanda back – and survive Raymond and his three henchmen – with no help or mobile service, relying on only their camping gear, a one-eyed dog named Turbo and each other.



- The heart-pounding sequel to explosive bestseller *The Girls I've Been*, soon to be a Netflix film starring Millie Bobby Brown
- A fast-paced commercial thriller, full of twist and turns, starring a strong queer protagonist
- Themes include the joy of found family, childhood trauma, romance, revenge and how to escape the reach of a criminal boss



## THE BOY BEHIND THE WALL

### BREAKING DOWN THE WALL

Two edge-of-your-seat thrillers about the Berlin Wall, set a generation apart.

In *The Boy Behind The Wall*, teenagers Harry and Jakob live either side of the divide. When Jakob finds a message that Harry has sent over the Wall, he sees an opportunity. The boys begin a secret friendship, evading the authorities and sharing truths about their lives in letters, using lemon juice as invisible ink. They soon realise that a hidden tunnel is the only way out for Jakob – and it's time to put their friendship to the test.

In *Breaking Down The Wall*, 13-year-old Greta feels stifled by her parents. Her dad, Jakob, is in prison and her mum is full of secrets. Greta longs for freedom and the truth. Desperate to take a stand, she begins to circulate anti-communist fliers and graffiti through her school and neighbourhood. She is arrested and starts to question who she can trust. The Berlin Wall is about to come down, but will it be too late for Greta, Jakob and their family?

- Explore themes of family, belonging and friendship that defies the odds
- Music is a huge part of the stories, used to set the tone and evoke different emotions throughout the dual narrative of Harry and Jakob
- Author's name is a pseudonym. The duology has been developed with a team of new writers, who work collaboratively with a creative approach echoing the TV-script-writing model

IMPRINT: Welbeck Flame  
FORMAT: PB  
SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
WORD COUNT: 60,000  
EXTENT: 304pp

PRICE: £6.99  
PUB DATE: Published  
RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
RIGHTS SOLD: German  
LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Hachette Children's Group



A fresh, fierce and sharply funny YA debut about learning how to cope when life literally goes to shit. Perfect for fans of *Sex Education*, *Not My Problem* by Ciara Smyth and Bryony Gordon.

When 16-year-old Freya collapses and wakes up with a temporary ileostomy bag on her stomach, her dreams of the perfect summer go down the toilet. Instead of partying in the Algarve, she's packed off to 'Poo Camp' – a place for kids with bowel disease to 'bond'.

And things can only get worse. Someone has started the nickname 'Sh!t Bag' . . . and it's catching on.

Freya decides to live up to the name, raging at her friends, her ex and the world. Only her campmate Chris seems to see past her new attitude.

Can Freya get her sh!t together or will she end up with just her bag by her side?



- Accessible, commercial writing, from outspoken new YA talent
- Own voices, groundbreaking story exploring a hidden disability with honesty and humour – inspired by author's own teenage experience
- Opens an important conversation in the YA/crossover space

IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
FORMAT: PB  
SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
WORD COUNT: 58,000  
EXTENT: 304pp  
PRICE: £8.99  
PUB DATE: Published

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
RIGHTS SOLD: German  
LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Hachette Children's Group





# BLACK HEAT

Exile. Rebel. Healer. Three underestimated women, destined to be brought together by revenge in this dark and thrilling new YA fantasy.

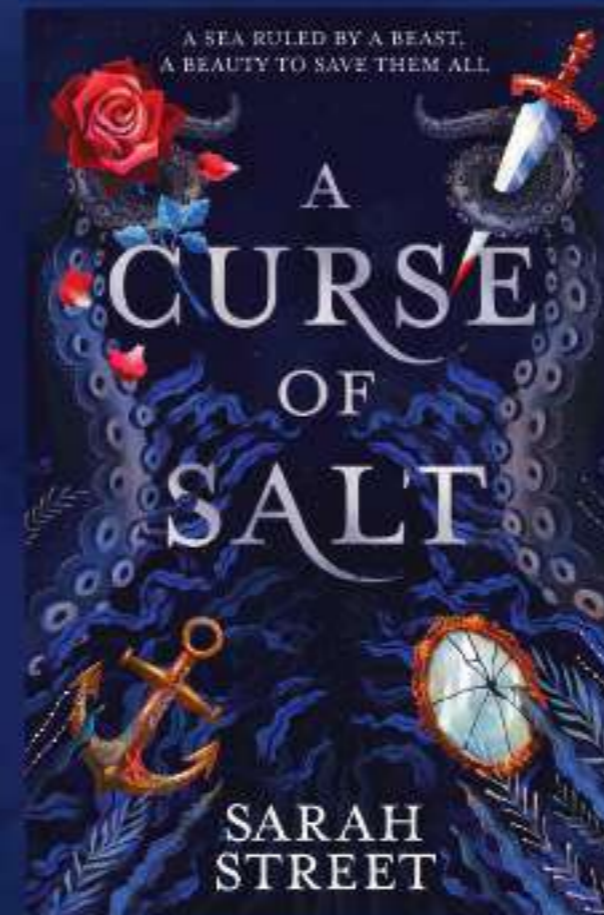
Each young woman wants peace for their country, but in times of war, not everyone fights by the same rules. As their countries burn around them and the stakes of victory rise, each woman will have to decide how far she is willing to go for peace.

But the desire for revenge also burns deep. . .

- A story with one unreliable narrator and a big twist at the end – the unexpected finale of this book will leave readers shocked
- Set between warring kingdoms where power and political intrigue dominate, the three different stories each draw you in to different parts of this fantasy world
- Accessible and commercial, with an appealing enemies-to-lovers romance

IMPRINT: Orion Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 91,000  
 EXTENT: 384pp  
 PRICE: £8.99

PUB DATE: Published  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Andlyn Agency



Addictive enemies-to-lovers retelling of *Beauty and the Beast* set on board a cursed ship where love blooms in the darkest of hearts . . .

A heartless beast.  
 A sister's sacrifice.  
 And a love so strong it will drown the raging sea . . .  
 THIS FAIRY TALE IS CURSED

Battling creatures of the deep alongside those that reign its surface, Ria discovers how to love a heartless man and that some curses aren't so easy to break.

- Feeds appetite for fairy tale retellings and 'romantasy' genre
- Popular TikTok tropes: enemies to lovers, found family, close proximity, slow-burn romance
- Strong and evocative writing plus addictive romance will appeal to crossover readers and fans of Sarah J. Maas and Brigid Kemmerer

IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 95,000  
 EXTENT: 352pp  
 PRICE: £8.99  
 PUB DATE: Published

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World excluding US  
 LICENSING/ MERCHANDISING/ FILM/TV: Peters Fraser + Dunlop





deathless girls

# THE DEATHLESS GIRLS



Gothic, intoxicating, feminist and romantic – this is the breathtakingly imagined untold story of the brides of Dracula.

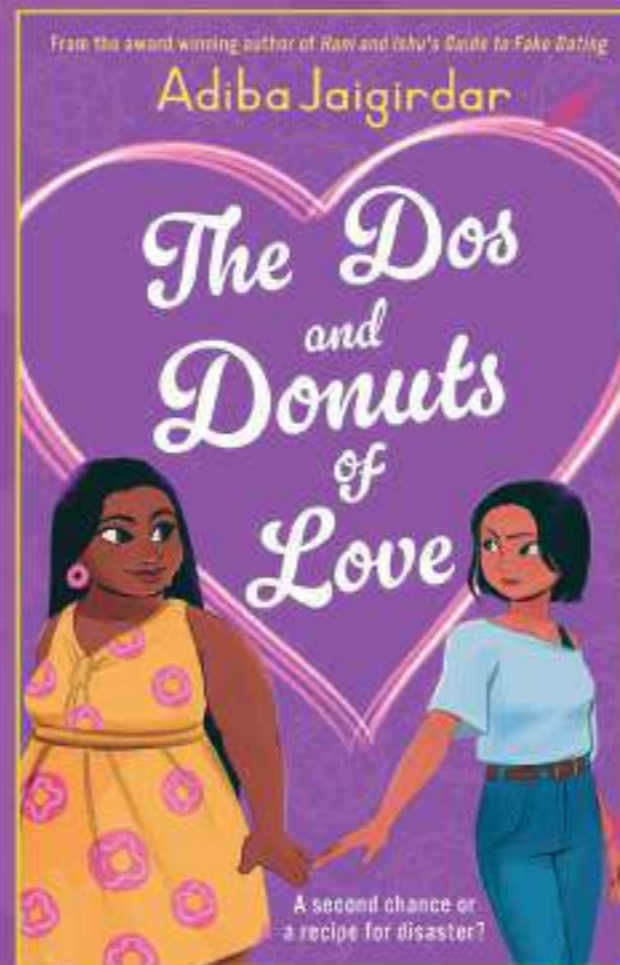
They say the thirst of blood is like a madness – they must sate it. Even with their own kin.

On the eve of her divining, the day she'll discover her fate, 17-year-old Lil and her twin sister, Kizzy, are captured and enslaved by the cruel Boyar Valcar, taken far away from their beloved traveller community. The girls learn of the Dragon, a mysterious and terrifying figure of myth and legend who takes girls as gifts. They may not have had their divining day, but the girls will still discover their fate. . .

- This is Kiran's first YA and appeals widely to the YA community and adult readership
- Imagining the untold story of the brides of Dracula, the book is gothic, gripping, intoxicatingly romantic and deeply evocative
- Perfect for fans of Leigh Bardugo, Frances Hardinge and Louise O'Neill's *The Surface Breaks*

IMPRINT: Orion Children's Books  
FORMAT: HB  
SIZE: 216 x 135mm  
WORD COUNT: 60,000  
EXTENT: 400pp  
PRICE: £12.99  
PUB DATE: Published

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
RIGHTS SOLD: French, Italian, Polish, Turkish  
LICENSING/ MERCHANDISING/FILM/ TV: Janklow & Nesbit UK Ltd



From the award-winning author of *Hani and Ishu's Guide to Fake Dating*

Adiba Jaigirdar

# The Dos and Donuts of Love

A second chance or a recipe for disaster?

# The Dos and Donuts of Love

Delicious food, intense competition and whirlwind romance combine in this heart-warming queer YA love story for fans of Becky Albertalli and Simon James Green.

From award-winning author Adiba Jaigirdar *The Dos and Donuts of Love* finds a teenage girl competing in a televised baking competition, with contestants including her ex-girlfriend and a potential new crush!

Will Shireen find the recipe for love or disaster on the Junior Irish Baking Show?

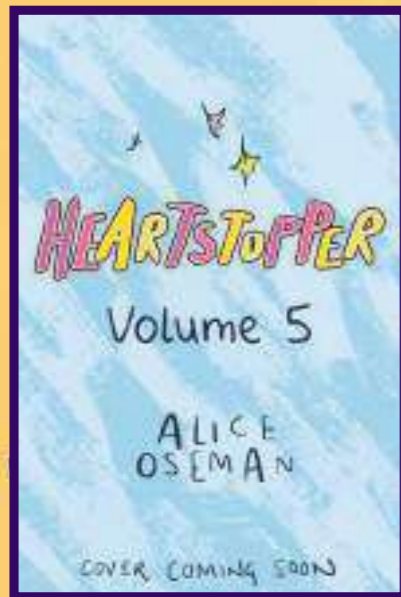
- Own-voices YA romance from a talented, award-winning Irish writer
- *Hani and Ishu's Guide to Fake Dating* won the YA Book Prize 2022
- Inclusive and accessible, Adiba's stories are a breath of fresh air from a Muslim, Bangladeshi perspective

IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
FORMAT: PB  
SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
WORD COUNT: 80,000  
EXTENT: 400pp  
PRICE: £7.99  
PUB DATE: Published

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/ TV: Triada US

# HEARTSTOPPER

## Volume 5



Boy meets boy.  
Boys become friends.  
Boys fall in love.

The bestselling LGBTQ+ graphic novel series about life, love, and everything that happens in between: this is the fifth volume of the much-loved *Heartstopper* series.

Nick and Charlie are very much in love. They've finally said those three little words, and Charlie has almost persuaded his mum to let him sleep over at Nick's house . . . But with Nick going off to university next year, is everything about to change?

'The queer graphic novel we wished we had at high school' *Gay Times*



Alice Oseman is a teen/YA novelist, and winner of the YA Book Prize. She began to post *Heartstopper* webcomic updates in 2016 and soon had tens of thousands of subscribers. As the buzz increased, she launched a limited Kickstarter edition: it hit its target in under two hours, making headlines in the *Bookseller*, and ultimately achieved almost £60,000 of funding.



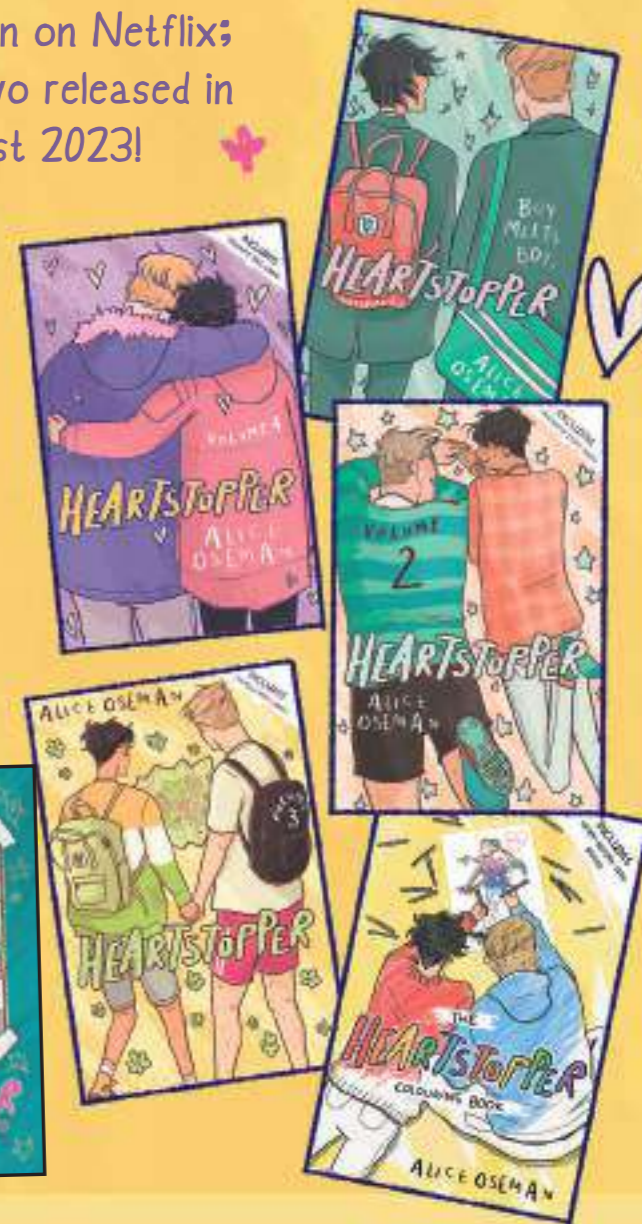
Live-action on Netflix;  
season two released in  
August 2023!

OVER EIGHT MILLION  
copies of *Heartstopper*  
sold worldwide and rights sold  
in 37 languages to date and  
counting

- *Heartstopper* is a *Sunday Times* and *New York Times* Children's Bestseller
- Over 20 weeks in top 10 Children's TCM
- Three seasons commissioned by Netflix

37  
RIGHTS DEALS  
CONFIRMED  
SO FAR!

YIKES



IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
FORMAT: HB/PB  
SIZE: 234 x 153 mm  
WORD COUNT: n/a  
EXTENT: 288pp/320pp/384pp/384pp/Colouring Book: 96pp/Yearbook: 160pp  
PRICE: Volume 1: £10.99; Volumes 2-4: £12.99; Colouring Book: £8.99; Yearbook: £14.00  
PUB DATE: Published

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
RIGHTS SOLD ACROSS ALL TITLES: Bulgarian, Castilian, Catalan, Chinese (complex), Croatian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Hungarian, Icelandic, Irish, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Lithuanian, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese (BR), Portuguese (PT), Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Slovak, Slovene, Spanish (LAME), Swedish, Thai, Turkish, Ukrainian, US,

Vietnamese, Welsh  
LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:  
Rogers, Coleridge & White

# HEARTSTOPPER



Exclusive editions of Alice Oseman's bestselling LGBTQ+ graphic novel series, *Heartstopper*.

IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
FORMAT: HB  
SIZE: 234 x 153 mm  
WORD COUNT: n/a  
EXTENT: 304pp/336pp/400pp/400pp  
PRICE: £16.99  
PUB DATE: Volume 1–3: published; Volume 4: October 2023

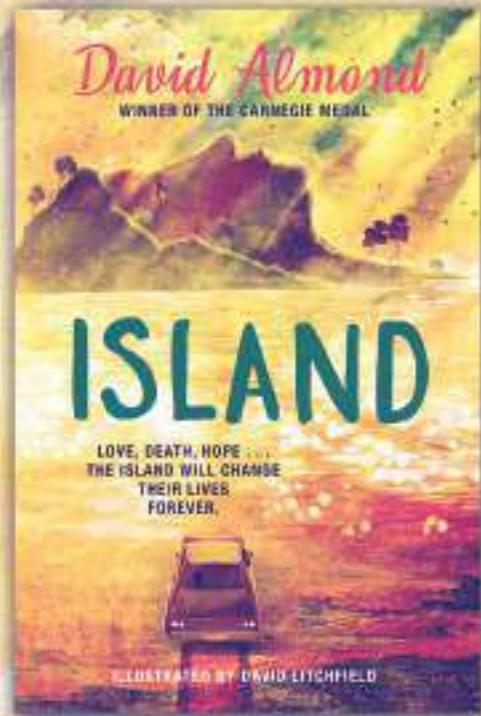
RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
RIGHTS SOLD TO THE HARDBACK EDITIONS:  
Castilian (LAME), Castilian, Catalan, Italian, Polish,  
Portuguese (PT), Spanish (LAME), US  
LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Rogers,  
Coleridge & White

These gorgeous special-edition hardbacks of the original four volumes feature an exquisite foiled cover and beautiful end-papers, which opens the series up to the gifting market. Plus each special edition includes an extra never-before-in-print mini-comic, which will make these a must-have for fans of the series.

*Heartstopper* is about love, friendship, loyalty and mental illness. It encompasses all the small stories of Nick and Charlie's lives that together make up something larger, which speaks to all of us.

- *Heartstopper* is a cultural phenomenon. It has seen unprecedented growth since its first publication, with the live-action Netflix TV series taking it to even higher levels
- With over 8 million copies sold worldwide, *Heartstopper* is a UK Children's Number 1, a *Sunday Times* bestseller, a *New York Times* bestseller, with rights sold in 37 countries
- Alice has won many awards for her writing and illustrating, including the Books Are My Bag awards, the YA Book Prize and an Emmy for her screenwriting on the *Heartstopper* TV show





# ISLAND

Love, death, hope . . . the island will change their lives forever. From the bestselling David Almond, now with fantastic illustrations by the award-winning David Litchfield.

Louise has travelled with her father to the island every summer. But the arrival of Hassan from war-torn Syria changes everything. Hassan is an acrobat, maybe a sorcerer, possibly a source of great danger. The forces of love, death and hope move Louise and Hassan together. The island will change their lives forever.

- David Almond is the author of many beloved and prize-winning books for children and teenagers. His best-known work, *Skellig*, won the Whitbread Children's Award and the Carnegie Medal and was made into a feature-length film. *A Song for Ella Grey*, a beautiful retelling of the myth of Orpheus, won the Guardian Children's Book Prize 2015
- In 2022, David Almond won the James Kruss Prize for International Children's and Young Adult Literature
- This edition of *Island* includes fantastic illustrations by the award-winning David Litchfield



IMPRINT: Orion Children's Books  
 FORMAT: HB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 78,000  
 EXTENT: 160pp

PRICE: £9.99  
 PUB DATE: Published  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Felicity Bryan Associates/The Bright Agency

David Almond is the author of *Skellig*, *My Name is Mina*, *Counting Stars*, *The Colour of the Sun* and many other works of fiction. His work is translated into 40 languages, and widely adapted for stage and screen.



# SCARE ME

A darkly twisting supernatural YA thriller, from the award-winning author of the *Slated* and *Circle* trilogies.

Liv can't get on with her own life – not as long as the ghost of her twin sister, Molly, who died at birth, is always there – a part of her that no one else can see or hear.

Then she meets a boy called Echo, who is searching for the truth about his mother's death.

Echo and Liv begin an increasingly dangerous game that tests their greatest fears – but how far is Echo willing to go to uncover the truth? And will Liv trust her senses . . . before it's too late?

- This is a darkly twisting, pacy thriller that will keep you guessing right until the very end – you don't know who to like or trust but you're compelled to read more
- Teri Terry's multi-award-winning *Slated* trilogy has been translated into 16 languages
- Over 118,000 copies sold in the UK across all titles

IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 72,654

EXTENT: 448pp  
 PRICE: £7.99  
 PUB DATE: Published  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Caroline Sheldon Literary Agency

# THE SAD GHOST CLUB



FIND YOUR KINDRED SPIRITS



*'We wanted to create a space where anyone who is feeling sad or alone could come and feel . . . well, not so alone.'*

A heartwarming series about friendship, compassion and finding your kindred spirits. Follow the Sad Ghost Club as they navigate the joys and complexities of forming a community.

This is the story of one of those days – a day so bad you can barely get out of bed, when it's a struggle to leave the house, and when you do, you wish you hadn't. But even the worst of days can surprise you. When one sad ghost, alone at a crowded party, spies another sad ghost across the room, they decide to leave together. What happens next changes everything.

Because that night they start The Sad Ghost Club – a secret society for the anxious and alone, a club for people who think they don't belong.

- Poignant themes around friendship, identity and belonging, and the redemptive power of finding your people
- Lize's personal story around her own mental health struggles informs her hugely authentic and moving story
- Takes a playful yet profound look at anxiety and depression via the metaphor of a person appearing like a ghost



IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 234 x 153 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 3,000  
 EXTENT: 240pp  
 PRICE: £10.99

PUB DATE: Published  
 NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 3  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 RIGHTS SOLD: Danish, French, Polish, Portuguese (PT), Turkish  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Hachette Children's Group

The Sad Ghost Club's Instagram account has a community of over 600,000 followers around the world



# THE WRITING ON THE WALL

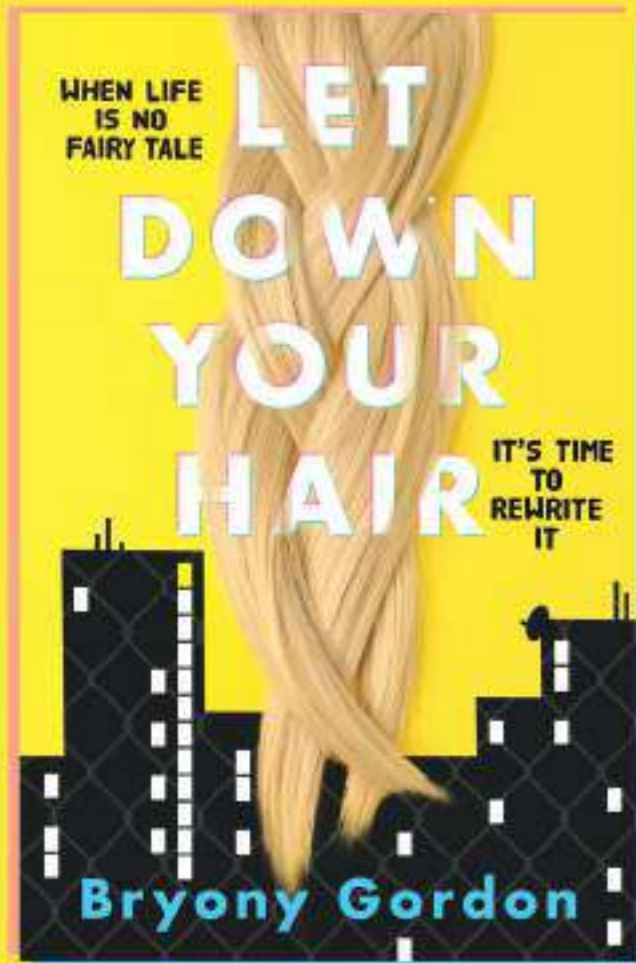
*Back to the Future* meets *Derry Girls*. From acclaimed writer and comedian Jenny Eclair.

When Hermione discovers Helena's writing in the bedroom they share across decades, Hermione is transported back to 1975 where she meets Helena for real. Then Hermione discovers that Helena is in great danger . . .

A heartbreaking story about friendship against all odds.

- This book is a celebration of being a teenager, with all the humour and heart that Jenny cultivates in her stand-up comedy
- A modern classic in the making, in the vein of Louise O'Neill with authentic teen voices
  - Crossover content with appeal for adults too

IMPRINT: Orion Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 78,000  
 EXTENT: 320pp  
 PRICE: £7.99  
 PUB DATE: Published  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Avalon Management Group Ltd



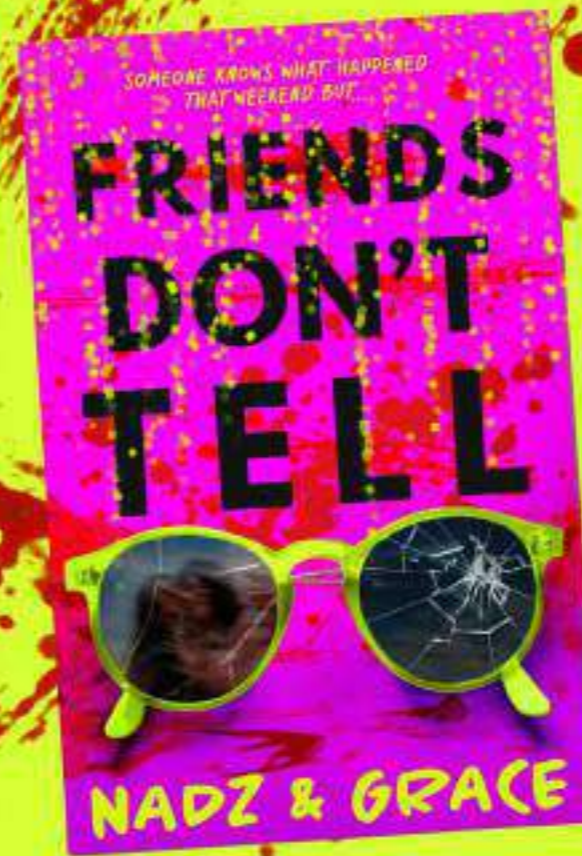
A modern-day twist on *Rapunzel*, about one girl's quest to find a different kind of happy ever after . . .

Barb has zero friends, but online she is several-hundred-thousand-followers popular. Because Barb has the hair of dreams. But all she wants is to be a typical teenager who isn't confined to her tower-block flat making content about her hair. And then she discovers a bald patch. Right in the middle of her head. Barb has alopecia.

- Bryony Gordon is a journalist and bestselling author of a number of non-fiction titles
- Bryony was the first journalist to interview Prince Harry about his mental health and has 204k followers on Instagram
- Based on author's own experience of alopecia and how it is tied to her mental health journey

IMPRINT: Orion Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 62,747  
 EXTENT: 288pp

PRICE: £7.99  
 PUB DATE: Published  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Peters  
 Fraser + Dunlop



# FRIENDS DON'T TELL

Two best friends. A weekend to remember. But what happened to Jade? A page-turning YA story tackling grief, anxiety and mental health – for fans of *A Good Girl's Guide to Murder* and Juno Dawson.

One year ago, Jade's body was found floating in a lake at a musical festival, but everyone wrote it off as a tragic accident. Ever since, her best friend Lexi has been trying to piece her life back together, but she just can't get over that weekend. Told in alternating chapters in Jade and Lola's voices, *Friends Don't Tell* twists and turns through the past and the present. You'll be desperate for Jade to survive, even though you know: only one can make it home alive.

- The dual narrative between Jade and Lola creates suspense, but also highlights the unreliability of both narratives
- There are themes of mental health based on the author's experiences (in the book Lexi has OCD and Jade takes medication for her mental health)
- Best friends Nadz and Grace founded the Self Esteem Team - delivering emotional and lifestyle education to students, parents and teachers throughout the UK and beyond. In 2020, Grace also launched I am Ally – anti-racist support for schools

IMPRINT: Hodder Children's Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 70,425  
 EXTENT: 320pp

PRICE: £7.99  
 PUB DATE: Published  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Madeleine  
 Milburn Literary, TV & Film Agency



A must-read queer love story written in verse, for fans of Sarah Crossan and *Sex Education*.

15-year-old Mack is a hopeless romantic – he blames the films he’s grown up watching. He has liked Karim for as long as he can remember, and is ecstatic when Karim becomes his boyfriend – it feels like love.

But when Mack’s dad gets a job on a film in Scotland, Mack has to move, and soon he discovers how painful love can be. It’s horrible being so far away from Karim, but the worst part is that Karim doesn’t make the effort to visit. Love shouldn’t be only on the weekends.

Then, when Mack meets actor Finlay on a film set, he experiences something powerful, a feeling like love at first sight. How long until he tells Karim – and when will his old life and new life collide?



- This book builds on Dean’s reputation as an authentic voice for LGBTQ+ inclusive stories
- A must-read queer romance written in verse
- *The Black Flamingo* won the Stonewall Book Award and was shortlisted for many prestigious awards

# ONLY ON THE Weekends

IMPRINT: Quercus Children’s Books  
 FORMAT: PB  
 SIZE: 198 x 129 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 59,589  
 EXTENT: 368pp

PRICE: £8.99  
 PUB DATE: Published  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 RIGHTS SOLD FOR *ONLY ON THE WEEKENDS*: US  
 RIGHTS SOLD FOR *BLACK FLAMINGO*: French,

German, Polish, Portuguese (BR), US.  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:  
 Johnson & Alcock Ltd

# CLASSICS IN GRAPHICS

Adapted by Steve Barlow and Steve Skidmore



Flinging wide the doors of literature for everyone to enter and understand. A series of graphic novel adaptations of some of Shakespeare’s most famous plays, which will inspire and further a young generation’s love of his work.

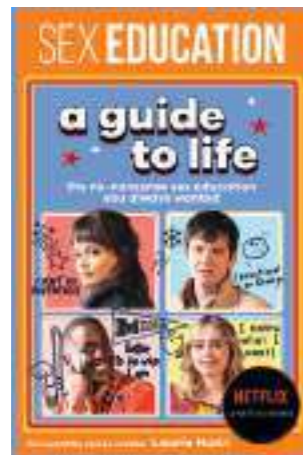
Each graphic novel has four-colour illustrations and snappy, simplified text presenting Shakespeare’s themes clearly. There are introductory materials to help set the scene and context of each story, with extra material at the back exploring themes in the play, the language, Shakespeare’s inspirations, the publication and performance of the play in history. They also feature a timeline of Shakespeare’s life and works, and much more!

- The wealth of extra material enhances understanding and satisfies curiosity – going above and beyond your typical adaptation
- Fully illustrated with engaging graphic illustrations, commissioned with care to suit each play in its own right
- Designed with dyslexia-friendly fonts and layouts, bringing all readers into the fold of these iconic works

IMPRINT: Franklin Watts  
 FORMAT: HB  
 SIZE: 244 x 172 mm  
 WORD COUNT: 10,000  
 EXTENT: 112pp  
 PRICE: £14.99  
 PUB DATE: Published  
 NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES: 6  
 RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World  
 RIGHTS SOLD: Chinese (simplified), French, German, Italian  
 LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV: Steve Barlow & Steve Skidmore/Hachette Children’s Group



NEW TITLES  
 COMING IN  
 2024: OTHELLO  
 AND TWELFTH  
 NIGHT



**SEX EDUCATION**  
**THE ROAD TRIP** by Katy Birchall  
**A GUIDE TO LIFE**

- *Sex Education* season 2 was viewed in more than 40 million households in its first four weeks on Netflix and the series has huge social media presence, including 3.3m Instagram followers
- Book content complements the TV show but is brand-new and specially created, reflecting the show's widely acclaimed honest and sensitive approach to teenage sexuality
- Season 4 coming to Netflix soon

**IMPRINT:** Hodder/Wren & Rook  
**FORMAT:** PB/HB  
**WORD COUNT:** 65,000/25,000  
**EXTENT:** 384pp/192pp  
**RIGHTS AVAILABLE:** World

**RIGHTS SOLD:** Castilian, Czech, Danish, Danish (audio), Dutch, Finnish, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Italian (audio), Polish, Portuguese (BR), Portuguese (PT), Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Slovak, Ukrainian, US, Welsh

**LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:** Netflix



**LOVE ON THE MAIN STAGE** and **LOVE, SECRET SANTA** by S. A. Domingo

- Two wholesome clean teen romances set at Christmas and at a music festival
- *Love on the Main Stage* is a perfect summer beach read, for fans of Holly Smale and Jenny Han
- *Love, Secret Santa* is a feel-good festive read with a cosy and heartwarming Christmas story

**IMPRINT:** Orchard Books  
**FORMAT:** PB  
**WORD COUNT:** 60,000  
**EXTENT:** 336pp  
**NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES:** 2  
**RIGHTS AVAILABLE:** World

**RIGHTS SOLD:** *Love on the Main Stage:* Italian  
*Love, Secret Santa:* Czech, Portuguese (PT)  
**LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:** Hachette Children's Group



**KISSING EMMA**  
 by Shappi Khorsandi

- Explores the darker side of Instagram fame – and the price some young girls pay for likes and followers. For fans of Juno Dawson
- Rewriting history in a modern twist with witty dialogue and timely themes

**IMPRINT:** Orion Children's Books  
**FORMAT:** PB  
**WORD COUNT:** 67,000  
**EXTENT:** 320pp

**RIGHTS AVAILABLE:** World  
**LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/TV:** Vivienne Clore Artist Management



**IMPRINT:** Hodder Children's Books  
**FORMAT:** PB  
**WORD COUNT:** 69,000  
**EXTENT:** 336–488pp

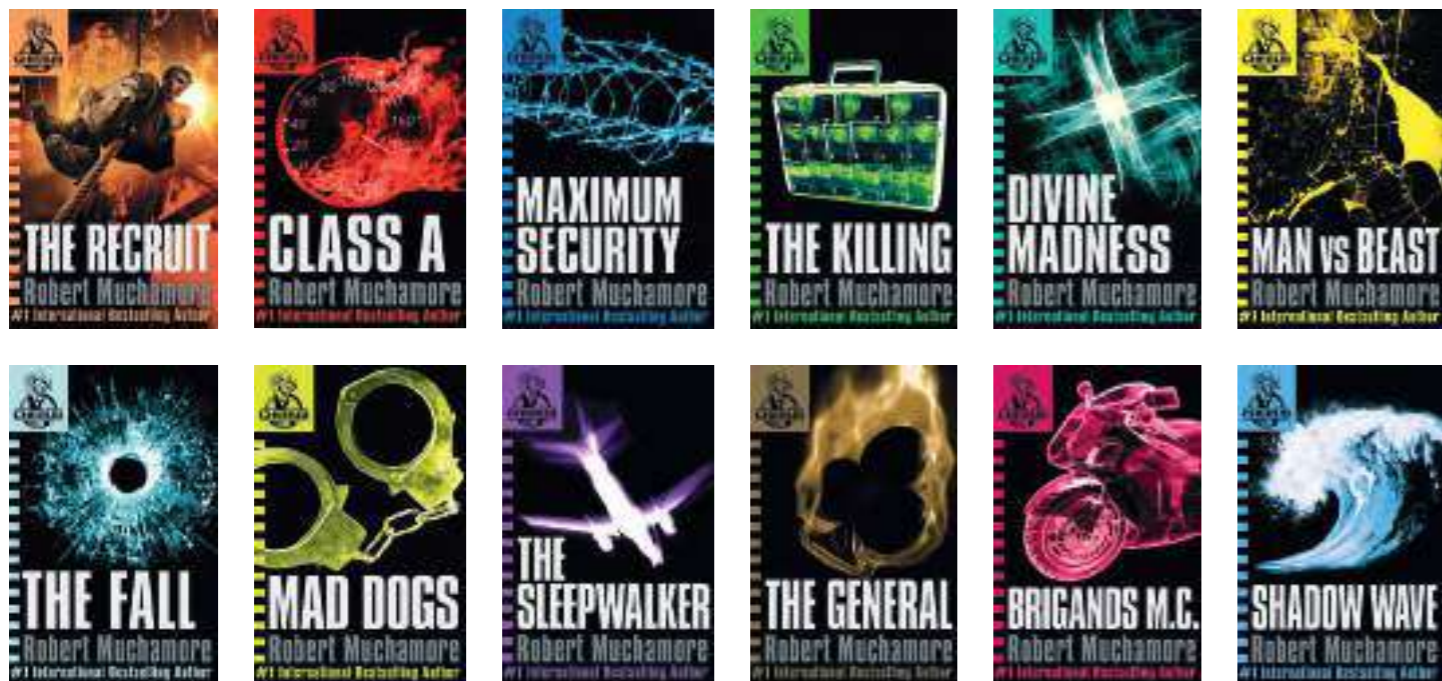
**RIGHTS AVAILABLE:** World excluding USA, Philippine Republic & Canada  
**RIGHTS SOLD FOR PREVIOUS TITLES:** Dutch, Indonesian, Italian, Polish, Portuguese (BR), Romanian

**All titles by Patrice Lawrence**

- Authentic experiences, unique voices, powerful storytelling – Patrice Lawrence opens a window into young people's lives. Exploring serious themes in each book, the connections between friends and family bind each story. Pacey, page-turning reads
- *Splinters of Sunshine* was shortlisted for the Crimefest Award in the Best Crime Novel for Young Adults category. It is longlisted for the Diverse Book Awards
- *Indigo Donut* has been awarded the 2021 YA Crime Award. *Orangeboy* won the Waterstones Book Prize for older readers and the Bookseller's YA Book Prize 2017
- *Eight Pieces of Silva* won both the 2020 Crimefest Award for best crime novel for Young Adults and 2021 Jhalak Prize and Jhalak Children's & YA Prize

**LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:** Caroline Sheldon Literary Agency





**CHERUB by Robert Muchamore**

- This bestselling spy series has captured kids' imaginations everywhere: over 14 million copies sold in 26 territories worldwide with over 700,000 copies of *The Recruit* sold in the UK alone
- Compelling, fast-paced action for kids who wish they could join CHERUB, too! Agents are aged between 10 and 17. They live in the real world, slipping under adult radar and getting information that sends criminals and terrorists to jail
- Two full-colour graphic novels available

**IMPRINT:** Hodder Children's Books  
**FORMAT:** PB  
**WORD COUNT:** 74,000 approx.  
**EXTENT:** 304–416pp  
**NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES:** 17  
**RIGHTS AVAILABLE:** World

**RIGHTS SOLD:** Chinese (simplified), French, German, Hungarian, Norwegian, Portuguese (PT), Turkish  
**LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:** Eddison Pearson Komixx Entertainment



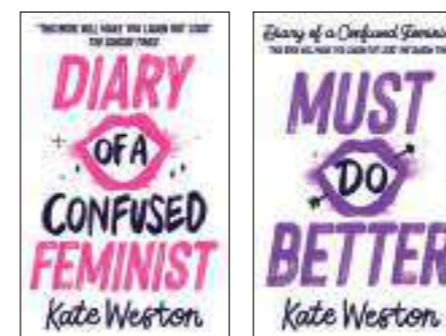
**HEXED AND TWICE HEXED**

by Julia Tuffs

- Everyday school setting with a magical twist – Jessie Jones is dealing with all the same struggles that readers will be facing in their everyday lives, but a dash of magical powers makes this stand out
- This second book in the series tackles the theme of toxic friendship – with the added complication that when the toxic friend is a witch, things can get pretty complicated
- Jessie's inner voice is authentic and funny, allowing the reader to immediately connect to her and the story

**IMPRINT:** Orion Children's Books  
**FORMAT:** PB  
**WORD COUNT:** 73,000 approx.  
**EXTENT:** 400pp/304pp  
**NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES:** 2

**RIGHTS AVAILABLE:** World  
**RIGHTS SOLD:** Portuguese (BR)  
**LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:** Hachette Children's Group



**DIARY OF A CONFUSED FEMINIST**

**MUST DO BETTER by Kate Weston**

- Hugely commercial and accessible, Kate Weston nevertheless pushes boundaries in the way sex, feminism and relationships are treated for young people – this is Louise Rennison for a new generation
- This duology explores timely themes about peer pressure, mental health and finding your place in the world
- Bold, authentic and laugh-out-loud funny

**IMPRINT:** Hodder Children's Books  
**FORMAT:** PB  
**WORD COUNT:** 76,000/79,893  
**EXTENT:** 384pp  
**NUMBER OF TITLES IN SERIES:** 2

**RIGHTS AVAILABLE:** World  
**RIGHTS SOLD:** Dutch, French, US  
**LICENSING/MERCHANDISING/FILM/TV:** Madeline Milburn Literary, TV & Film Agency



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