



LOOKBOOK

AUTUMN/WINTER 2023

MIDDLE GRADE & TEEN TITLES



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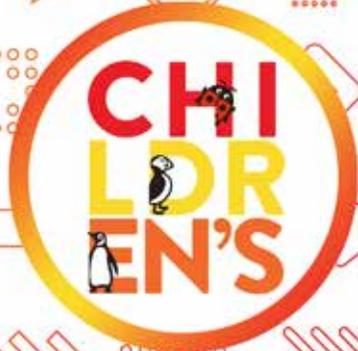
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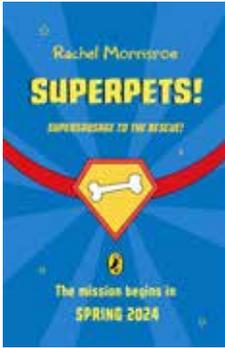
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**BRAND
NEW
FOR
THIS
FAIR**



BRAND NEW FOR THIS FAIR



SUPERSAUSAGE TO THE RESCUE

Rachel Morrisroe

Is it a bird? Is it a plane? No . . .

It's SUPERSAUSAGE! Get ready for the start of a hilarious young fiction series from bestselling author Rachel Morrisroe, packed with laughs, heart and superhero pets!

- * Rachel Morrisroe is a rising star in the picture book world. **HOW TO GROW A UNICORN**, her debut title, has sold over 20k copies through TCM since publishing in summer 2021, while **THE DRAMA LLAMA** has sold nearly 9k copies TCM.
- * Rachel's picture books have been sold to fourteen international territories to date.
- * **The Secret Life of Pets meets Marvel!** This is the start of a brilliant new series for readers aged 7-9, with a brilliant mix of superheroes and familiar pets in a silly, laugh-out-loud adventure. Perfect for fans of Pip Jones (**Naughtiest Unicorn**), Pamela Butchart (**Wigglesbottom Primary**) and Swapna Haddow (**Dave Pigeon**)

DESCRIPTION

Nine-year-old Harry has always wanted a dog and when he sees Dottie at the local animal shelter he knows she's the perfect puppy for him. What he doesn't realise is that Dottie is a dog with a difference . . . she can talk and fly!

And Harry's not the only one interested in Dottie, and soon they are both scooped up in their very first mission with the SuperPets, a secret league of very special pets who keep the world safe from harm.

But the other SuperPets have been kidnapped by Sparkletta Crystal, can "Super Sausage" (aka Dottie) and Harry stop the evil supervillain in her tracks before it's too late?

Full of friendship, fun and silly superhero antics, this is the perfect new series for fans of *The Naughtiest Unicorn*, *Wigglesbottom Primary* and *The Secret Life of Pets!*



Rachel Morrisroe is an inventively original new voice in the world of rhyming picture books.

With multiple projects under wraps, Rachel is working with leading picture book talents, including Steven Lenton and Ella Okstad, to bring her hilarious and humorous ideas to life. Rachel is also an abstract artist and sells her work internationally. Originally from Wales, Rachel has lived in Leeds and London and is now settled in Cheshire with her husband, two young children and a very daft dachshund.

Age: 7–11 | **Publication Date:** May 2024

Extent: 208pp

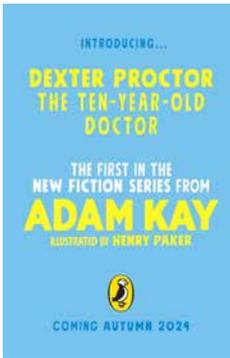
Word Count: 13,000 - 15,000

Illustrations: black-and-white illustrations

Acquiring Editor: Jane Griffiths

Film Rights: Darley Anderson | **World Rights:** PRHC

BRAND NEW FOR THIS FAIR



DEXTER PROCTOR THE TEN-YEAR-OLD DOCTOR

Adam Kay, Illustrated by Henry Paker

The debut novel from the record-breaking writer, comedian and former doctor, Adam Kay. Illustrated throughout by Adam's friend Henry Paker.

OTHER BOOKS
BY THE AUTHOR:



- * *Kay's Anatomy* launched to phenomenal success in Autumn 2020. Puffin's biggest ever non-fiction launch, it became the fastest-selling children's general non-fiction hardback of the last decade and was in the top 50 sellers of the last 10 years after only 10 days of sales.
- * A huge new launch for Adam - taking him into the fiction space for the first time with this hilarious mystery series.
- * Illustrated by Henry Paker, an award-winning comedian, the book has a distinctive and commercial package.
- * Adam is passionate about reaching children and inspiring the next generation of doctors, nurses, medical researchers, carers and scientists - they are needed now more than ever.

DESCRIPTION

It was clear from an early age that Dexter Proctor was different. For instance, he started speaking at four seconds old. By the age of three, he had 87 A-levels, from Afrikaans to Zoology. And by ten, he was working as a paediatrician at Lilydale General Hospital.

Despite a loving but annoying family and a couple of good friends (Rupi and Otto), Dexter's always struggled to fit in.

Add to this a mortal enemy (Dr Drake) and a major problem at his old school (all the teachers struck down with awful diarrhoea), will Dexter be able to save his job, save the school and find his place in the world? (Spoiler alert – yes.)



Adam Kay (Author) is a former doctor whose first book, *This is Going to Hurt*, was number one for over a year and his first children's book, *Kay's Anatomy*, became the fastest-selling children's general non-fiction hardback of the decade.

Henry Paker (Illustrator) is an award-winning comedian, writer and illustrator. He co-writes and performs in the Radio 4 sitcom *ReincarNathan* and co-hosts the *Three Bean Salad* podcast. Henry has illustrated all of Adam's children's books.

Age: 8–12 | **Publication Date:** September 2024

Extent: 352pp

Word Count: 62,000

Acquiring Editor: Ruth Knowles

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

BRAND NEW FOR THIS FAIR



LETTY AND THE GOLDEN THREAD

Penny Boxall

An exciting, middle-grade adventure from debut talent, Penny Boxall; a perfect next read for fans of the plucky hero ENOLA HOLMES, the humour of THE UNADOPTABLES, and the literary voice of ROOFTOPPERS.

- * **LETTY AND THE GOLDEN THREAD** is a continent-traversing adventure in which the reader joins plucky Letty on a quest through some of the historic cities of Europe - by boat, by carriage, and even hot air balloon. It's important to note the story is both a celebration of learning to appreciate history, and also a passionate argument on the importance of leaving it to rest in its natural home.
- * Debut children's author Penny Boxall is a Scottish published poet and an 18th Century enthusiast. She has an MA in Creative Writing and has worked at several museums, making her a passionate historian and perfect spokesperson for the appreciation of antiquities and the stories behind them.
- * Penny also won the 2016 Edwin Morgan Poetry Award, the Mslexia/PBS Women's Poetry Competition 2018, and a 2019 Northern Writers' Award.
- * She is the current Royal Literary Fund Fellow at Lucy Cavendish College, University of Cambridge. In 2020-2022 she was the RLF Fellow at the University of York.

DESCRIPTION

London, 1774

Twelve-year-old Lettice Breech and her father are about to embark on *The Grand Tour* – a journey through the museums and ancient sites of France and Italy, so popular with the youth of the day.

But their plan is dashed when part of a famous statue, discovered by Sir Joshua over fifty years ago, is exposed as a forgery, and he is arrested for the crime.

Letty knows how to tell a real from a fake, so she must travel to Europe, with only her pet magpie for company, and use her father's mystifying clues to hunt for all the pieces of the real statue. Can she prove his innocence, before it's too late?



Penny Boxall is the author of three adult poetry collections. She won the 2016 Edwin Morgan Poetry Award, the Mslexia/PBS Women's Poetry Competition 2018, and a 2019 Northern Writers' Award. She is the current Royal Literary Fund Fellow at Lucy Cavendish College, University of Cambridge.

Age: 8-12 | **Publication Date:** January 2025

Extent: 368pp

Word Count: 50,000 approx

Acquiring Editor: Kate Sinfield

Film Rights: Darley Anderson

World Rights: PRHC

BRAND NEW FOR THIS FAIR



FIA AND THE LAST SNOW DEER

Eilish Fisher

A truly timeless novel in verse about hope, kindness and the power of friendship from an extraordinary new writing talent.

- * **A beautiful and haunting debut novel in verse that sings from the first page. Perfect for anyone who loves the accessible verse of Sarah Crossan and the magical wild landscapes of Hannah Gold and Abi Elphinstone.**
- * **Animal stories are perennially popular and Eilish's debut speaks powerfully to the amazing bond between people and animals - and will break the hearts of anyone who has loved and lost an animal friend.**
- * **Told in verse, but completely immersive and accessible. This is a novel not just for confident readers, but also for those who struggle with narrative novels but want to escape to a beautiful and evocative world full of adventure.**

DESCRIPTION

Born under the same solstice sky thirteen years ago, Fia and her reindeer Solas have a powerful and unbreakable connection. But now, struggling to survive a seemingly eternal winter, Fia's village turn their sights on Solas - both for the meat the last remaining reindeer can provide and an ancient prophecy promise that an ultimate sacrifice will once more return sunlight and life to the world . . .

Refusing to allow the worst to happen, Fia and her cousin Mish run from the village with Solas, seeking out the Deer Mother - the mythical being who wakes the sun at the winter solstice and who they believe is their only hope of saving Solas and their village.

But the wilderness is harsh and shadows lurk at every turn. Can they make it to the Deer Mother? And, if they do, what choices will they face to bring back the sun?

A truly timeless novel in verse about hope, kindness and the power of friendship from an extraordinary new writing talent.



Eilish Fisher lives in a small coastal town in Co.

Wicklow with her husband and son. Eilish received both a Words Ireland mentorship and a full Literary Bursary Award from the Arts Council of Ireland.

Age: 9–12

Publication Date: September 2024

Extent: 224pp

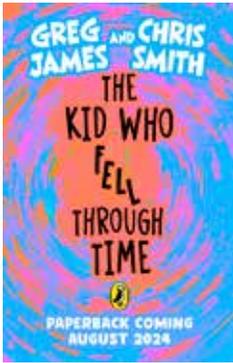
Word Count: 15,000 - 18,000

Acquiring Editor: Jane Griffiths

Film Rights: Skylark Literary

World Rights: PRHC

BRAND NEW FOR THIS FAIR



THE KID WHO FELL THROUGH TIME

Greg James and Chris Smith

**Time travel with a twist!
An action-packed hilarious
adventure from the bestselling
authors of KID NORMAL.**

**OTHER BOOKS
BY THE AUTHOR:**



- * **Brilliant characters, laugh-out-loud moments, and a powerful message about the importance of history.**
- * **An opportunity to learn about history in an accessible and entertaining way. In this story you will explore Ancient Egypt, Roman Britain and meet William Shakespeare, the Vikings and Emmeline Pankhurst.**
- * **Greg and Chris are award-winning authors. They have sold over 400,000 copies through UK TCM and been translated into 22 languages.**

DESCRIPTION

History has always seemed pretty boring to Angus. Who cares about things that happened thousands of years ago? Totally pointless!

That's what Angus thinks until the day he accidentally falls into a time machine and ends up on the most epic adventure of his life – exploring a market in Roman Britain, hanging out with Shakespeare, making friends in Ancient Egypt. Oh and trying to escape the Evil Emperor Kragg from the 99th Century.

Age: 9-11

Publication Date: February 2025

Extent: 320pp | **Word Count:** 47,500

Acquiring Editor: Carmen McCullough

Film Rights: Curtis Brown

World Rights: PRHC

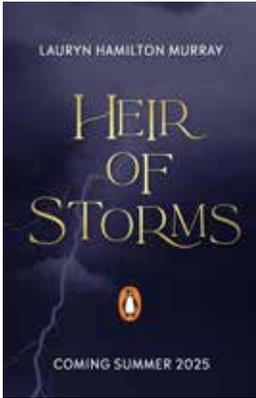


Greg James As well as writing the bestselling Kid Normal series with Chris Smith, Greg is the host of The Radio 1 Breakfast Show, the loosely cricket based podcast Tailenders and Radio 4's Rewinder. Basically he's turned all his favourite things into work and now has no hobbies. Greg also lives in north London but with his own family. This includes his wife Bella and his dog Barney who is staring at him impatiently because he wants to go for a walk.



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

BRAND NEW FOR THIS FAIR



HEIR OF STORMS

Lauryn Hamilton Murray

A sweeping new YA fantasy series from an incredible debut talent. Enter a world rich with magic, romance and intrigue.

- * Perfect for readers of **TWIN CROWNS**, early Sarah J. Maas and **THE HUNGER GAMES**.
- * Epic worldbuilding, commercial accessible writing and a compelling love triangle make this a must-read romantasy.
- * Ideal for a broad booktok audience
- * Rights already snapped up in **6 languages this summer**

DESCRIPTION

Born into one of the most powerful fire-wielding families in the kingdom, Blaze's birth summoned a devastating storm that resulted in the deaths of thousands.

Now, alongside her twin brother Flint, she must compete in a series of trials that will decide the future rulers of the kingdom.

The throne is within her grasp. But in order to take the crown, she'll have to destroy her competitors and find the courage to write her own story.



Lauryn Hamilton Murray is a debut author from Scotland. She is currently studying for an MFA at the University of Edinburgh.

Age: 12+

Publication Date: 2025

Extent: 400pp

Word Count: 100,000

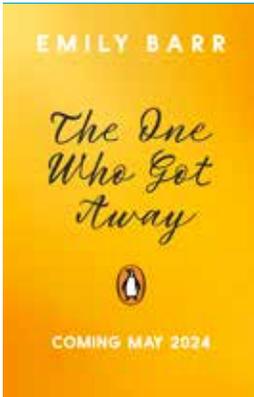
Acquiring Editor: Carmen McCullough

Film Rights: Paper Literary

World Rights: PRHC

5 Languages Sold: German, Brazilian Portuguese, Spanish, French, US English, Italian

BRAND NEW FOR THIS FAIR



THE ONE WHO GOT AWAY

Emily Barr

A love story and an un-love story all at once, full of unexpected twists – from the YA internationally bestselling author of *The One Memory of Flora Banks* and *Ghosted*.



OTHER BOOKS
BY THE AUTHOR:

- * This is a teen read for those who enjoy concept-driven love stories with a mystery at their heart like Nicola Yoon's *Instructions For Dancing*, and Casey McQuiston's *One Last Stop*, plus movies with a supernatural twist like *Last Christmas*, *Palm Springs*, *About Time* and the YA adaptation *Before I Fall*.
- * Emily Barr is amongst the few UK YA authors who have broken through to see sales success in recent years, consistently performing book on book. Her YA titles have sold over 80,000 copies through UK Bookscan to date, and *The One Memory of Flora Banks* has been translated into 27 languages.
- * This book is the perfect sweet spot between two buoyant areas of the YA market: thriller and romance. This is accessible and commercial YA writing at its best.

DESCRIPTION

Hazel has just got out of a relationship that was no good for her. Her best friend, Phoebe, and step-brother, Enzo, knew it from the start, but Hazel didn't hear them then. To her he was perfect.

Until he wasn't.

That's now over, Phoebe and Enzo have brought her to Venice – to escape, to find herself again. But that's easier said than done. She feels off; Venice feels off. There's a girl with beautiful eyes that she keeps seeing everywhere, and something about her causes Hazel to re-live the same moment . . . again and again . . .



The One Memory of Flora Banks, published in 2017, was **Emily Barr's** first novel for young adults and was a global hit, publishing in 27 languages.

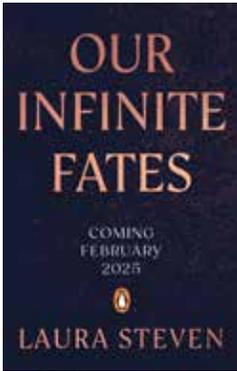
Before that, she worked as a journalist in London but always hankered after a quiet room and a book to write. She went travelling for a year, which gave her an idea for a novel set in the world of backpackers in Asia. This became *Backpack*, an adult thriller which won the WH Smith New Talent Award, and she has since written eleven more adult novels published in the UK and around the world. She lives in Cornwall with her husband and their children.

Age: 12-17 years | **Publication Date:** May 2024

Extent: 400pp | **Word Count:** 80,000 words

Acquiring Editor: Ruth Knowles

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



OUR INFINITE FATES

Laura Steven

From award winning author Laura Steven comes the heart wrenching YA tale of Evelyn and Arden, the star crossed lovers whose story has spanned Millenia.

* *For fans of The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue, They Both Die at the End and The Time Traveller's Wife, this YA star-crossed-lovers romance brings together a compelling concept, and a heartbreaking love story*

DESCRIPTION

Evelyn – or Branwen Blythe – can remember all her past lives. She can also remember that in every single one, she's been murdered before her eighteenth birthday.

The problem is that she's quite fond of the one she's in now, and more importantly, her sister needs her for bone marrow transplants to stay alive. So now she has to:

- a) find the centuries-old enemy who hunts her through each life and destroy them forever
- b) figure out exactly why she's being hunted in the first place,
- c) try quite hard not to fall in love with them.

...Again.



Laura Steven is the critically acclaimed and award-winning author of six books for kids and young adults. Her 2018 debut was *The Exact Opposite Of Okay*, a funny feminist YA which won the inaugural Comedy Women In Print Prize.

Age: 12+

Publication Date: February 2025

Extent: 320pp

Word Count: 80,000

Acquiring Editor: Carmen McCullough

Film Rights: Madeleine Milburn

World Rights: PRHCC

11 Languages Sold: German, Spanish, French, Italian, Lithuanian, Brazilian Portuguese, Bulgarian, Polish, Hungarian, Greek, Romanian

BRAND NEW FOR THIS FAIR



MASQUERADE

Calum McSwiggan

The Prom meets *Groundhog Day* in the irresistible new queer rom com from the author of *Straight Expectations*.

OTHER BOOKS
BY THE AUTHOR:



- * Inclusive, feelgood romantic comedy perfect for fans of Adam Silvera and Casey McQuiston.
- * Highly diverse cast of characters offering great representation across the LGBTQ+ spectrum.
- * Sits squarely in Calum's emerging YA brand – accessible queer romance with a high concept twist.

DESCRIPTION

Prom is supposed to be the night you remember your whole life. But for seventeen-year-old Zach, it's about to become his whole life – after a kiss from a masked stranger, Zach finds himself stuck in a time loop, endlessly repeating the same day.

Zach thinks that the only way to break the cycle is to work out the identity of his mystery admirer. But when everyone around him is wearing masks of one kind or another, how can he ever find out who his true love might be?



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

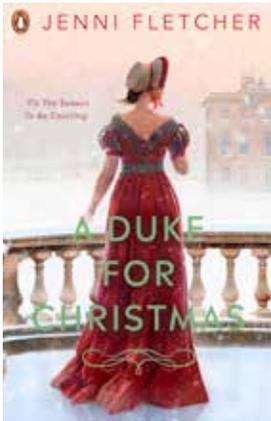
Age: 12+ | **Publication Date:** July 2024

Extent: 368pp

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

World Rights: PRHC

BRAND NEW FOR THIS FAIR



A DUKE FOR CHRISTMAS

Jenni Fletcher

'Tis The Season to be courting.

OTHER BOOKS
BY THE AUTHOR:



- * A fun and fresh regency romance with a seasonal hook. With the romance of *Bridgerton*. It's the strong and independent female lead of Queen Charlotte.
- * A *A DUKE FOR CHRISTMAS* follows on from *TWO DUKES AND A DEBUTANTE* and *HOW TO LOSE AN EARL IN TEN WEEKS* delivering regency romance for the YA market
- * Jenni is a Mills & Boon author and has written several historical romances. She has also been nominated for 4 RoNA awards, winning for Short Romantic Fiction in 2020. She writes satisfying, escapist romances and has an existing readership.

DESCRIPTION

What if you don't believe in fairy tales, but won't settle for anything less than happy ever after?

Imogen Abernethy was the Season's worst debutante. It's now December but the insults still hurt - about her height, her hair, her feet, the list goes on. Only now she also has bigger problems to deal with, such as saving her family home before Christmas.

So when a jilted duke proposes a marriage of convenience, it seems like the perfect solution. There's just one issue: despite all the slights she suffered at the hands of the 'gentlemen' of the *ton*, Imogen still believes in love and won't settle for anything less, no matter how many times the duke proposes.

But the more time she spends with him, the more she begins to discover there might be an actual heart beating beneath his snow-cold exterior. What if saying no was a big mistake? Is it too late for one last proposal before Christmas?



Jenni Fletcher was born in Scotland and now lives in Yorkshire where

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

Age: 16+

Publication Date: October 2023

Extent: 320pp

Word Count: 70,000

Acquiring Editor: Charlotte Moore

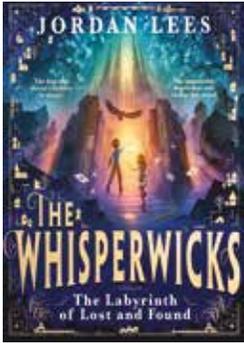
Film Rights: PRHC

World Rights: PRHC

**DID
YOU
MISS
IT?**



DID YOU MISS IT?



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

Jordan Lees

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

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

DESCRIPTION

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

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

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



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

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

Extent: 400pp

Word Count: 70,000

Illustrations: black-and-white illustrations

Acquiring Editor: Carmen McCullough

Film Rights: Madeleine Milburn Literary

World Rights: PRHC

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



ALEX VS. AXEL

Sam Copeland

The hilarious new fantasy adventure from the author of *Charlie Changes Into a Chicken*.

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

DESCRIPTION

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

With zero knowledge of dragon hunting and a very real aversion to danger, Alex is thrust into an epic quest to defeat the evil Felonius Gloam, who has stolen the Book of Lifetales and is using it to unravel the very fabric of the world of Aërth.

Axel's chances aren't much better. Faced with double maths, a grandma who's six months behind on the rent, and a crucial chess tournament he's expected to win, his 'decapitate first, ask questions later' strategy isn't yielding the best results.

Can the two boys complete their Impossible Quests™ and find their way back to their own lives - or will they each discover they don't have a life to come back to...?



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

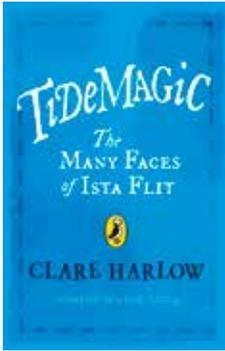
He is the author of the bestselling *Charlie Changes Into a Chicken*, which was shortlisted for the Waterstones Children's Book Prize and spawned two sequels: *Charlie Turns Into a T-Rex* and *Charlie Morphs Into a Mammoth*. His other books include *Uma and the Answer to Absolutely Everything* and *Greta and the Ghost Hunters*. With Jenny Pearson, he has also written *Tuchus & Topps Investigate: The Underpants of Chaos*.

Age: 8–12 | **Publication Date:** May 2024

Extent: 320pp | **Word Count:** TBC

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

World Rights: PRHC



TIDEMAGIC : THE MANY FACES OF ISTA FLIT

Clare Harlow

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

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

DESCRIPTION

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

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

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



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

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

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

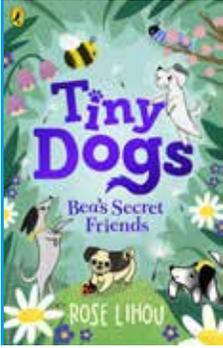
Extent: 304pp | **Word Count:** 60,000

Illustrations: black-and-white illustrations

Acquiring Editor: Natalie Doherty

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

3 Languages Sold: German, Italian, US English



TINY DOGS: BEA'S SECRET FRIENDS

Rose Lihou

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

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

DESCRIPTION

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

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

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



Rose Lihou is a children's author and illustrator living in Winchester, UK. Having previously worked in design

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

Age: 5–7

Publication Date: April 2024

Extent: 144

Word Count: 13,000 approx

Illustrations: colour illustrations throughout by the author

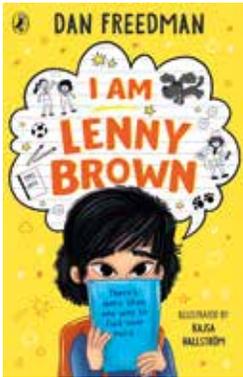
Acquiring Editor: Kelly Hurst

Film Rights: The Blair Partnership

World Rights: PRHC

2 LanguageS Sold: Lithuanian, Polish

DID YOU MISS IT?



I AM LENNY BROWN

Dan Freedman

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

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

DESCRIPTION

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

Word Count: 22,500

Illustrations: black-and-white illustrations

Acquiring Editor: Ben Horslen

Film Rights: Dan Freedman

World Rights: PRHC



SPACE BAND

Tom Fletcher

The out-of-this-world new adventure from the number-one-bestselling author of *The Danger Gang* and *The Christmasaurus*, Tom Fletcher.



OTHER BOOKS
BY THE AUTHOR:

- * This is the first time Tom has written about his experience of being in a band so the story is packed with real detail that McFly superfans will love!
- * Inventive, funny, and full of adventure and heart...
- * Tom has written and recorded a brilliant new soundtrack to accompany the book, which readers will be able to link through via QR codes throughout the story
- * Features exciting and engaging interior artwork

DESCRIPTION

George, Neila and Bash are the worst band on Earth. George wants them to be brilliant - but Neila has stage fright, and Bash is too distracted by his obsession with stars, aliens and faraway planets. But what they lack in talent and confidence, they make up for in heart.

They're determined to blow their friends away at their school Battle of the Bands contest. But the moment they start to play... They're beamed up into space!!!

Now the kids face an even bigger challenge: Battle of the Bands, but the intergalactic version. They're competing against alien bands from every galaxy! And if they don't win, they might never make it home again... Can the worst band on Earth become the best band in the universe?



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

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

Extent: 352pp | **Word Count:** 40,000

Illustrations: black-and-white illustrations

Acquiring Editor: Natalie Doherty | **Film Rights:** Curtis Brown

World Rights: PRHC

5 Languages Sold: Dutch, German, Norwegian, Serbian, Ukrainian

DID YOU MISS IT?



Arkspire

Jamie Littler

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

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

DESCRIPTION

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

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



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

Age: 9–11

Publication Date: July 2023

Extent: 384pp | **Word Count:** 63,000

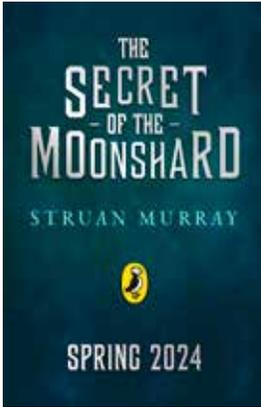
Illustrations: black-and-white illustrations throughout

Acquiring Editor: Naomi Colhurst

Film Rights: United Agents

World Rights: PRHC

3 Languages Sold: Ukrainian, Greek, French



THE SECRET OF THE MOONSHARD

Struan Murray

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

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

DESCRIPTION

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

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

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



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

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

PRAISE FOR ORPHANS OF THE TIDE:

'Unputdownable' *The Times*

'Enthralling' *Daily Express*

'Sumptuously atmospheric . . .

tirelessly inventive' *Daily Telegraph*

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

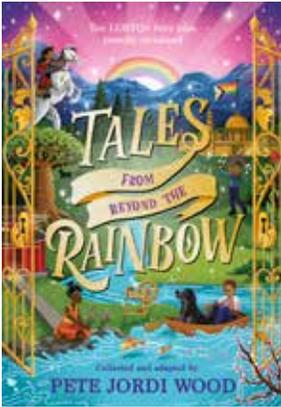
Word Count: 75,000

Illustrations: black-and-white illustrations

Acquiring Editor: Ben Horslen

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

DID YOU MISS IT?



TALES FROM BEYOND THE RAINBOW

Pete Jordi Wood

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

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

DESCRIPTION

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



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

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

Extent: 272pp

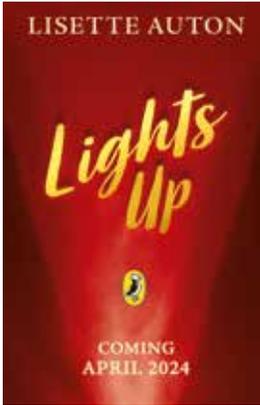
Word Count: 30,000

Illustrations: black-and-white illustrations

Acquiring Editor: Ben Horslen

Film Rights: RCW

World Rights: PRHC



LIGHTS UP

Lisette Auton

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



**OTHER BOOKS
BY THE AUTHOR:**

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

DESCRIPTION

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

And now it's gone.

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

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

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



Lisette Auton is a northern disabled writer, activist, poet, novelist, spoken-

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

Age: 9-11

Publication Date: February 2024

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

Illustrations: black-and-white illustrations

Acquiring Editor: Natalie Doherty

Film Rights: Lisette Auton

World Rights: PRHC

DID YOU MISS IT?



CLARITY JONES AND THE MAGICAL DETECTIVE AGENCY

Chris Smith

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

OTHER BOOKS
BY THE AUTHOR:



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

DESCRIPTION

'Never, ever eliminate the impossible.' Clarity Jones

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

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



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

Age: 9-11

Publication Date: June 2023

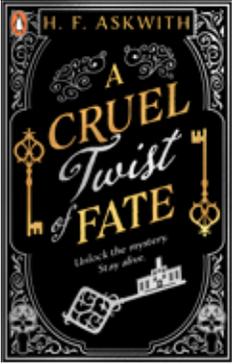
Extent: 304pp | **Word Count:** 55,000

Illustrations: black-and-white illustrations

Acquiring Editor: Carmen McCullough

Film Rights: Curtis Brown

World Rights: PRHC



A CRUEL TWIST OF FATE

H. F. Askwith

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



OTHER BOOKS
BY THE AUTHOR:

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

DESCRIPTION

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

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

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



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

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

Age: 12+

Publication Date: January 2024

Extent: 368pp

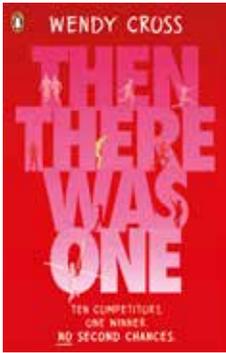
Word Count: 90,000

Acquiring Editor: Naomi Colthurst

Film Rights: Watson, Little

World Rights: PRHC

DID YOU MISS IT?



THEN THERE WAS ONE

Wendy Cross

A high-octane, out-of-this-world thriller, perfect for fans of Suzanne Collins' *Hunger Games* and Kara Thomas' *The Cheerleaders*.

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

DESCRIPTION

Let the games begin.

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

For Bex, she can finally leave her family.

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

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

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

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



Wendy Cross is a young adult author living on the Front Range with her husband and three amazing daughters. After ten years as a copywriter, Wendy became a pseudo-expert on everything from patio furniture to composting toilets. She loves reading and writing YA - especially mysteries - and believes the very best of friends are those who will help you hide the bodies.

Age: 14+

Publication Date: Sept 2023

Extent: 272pp

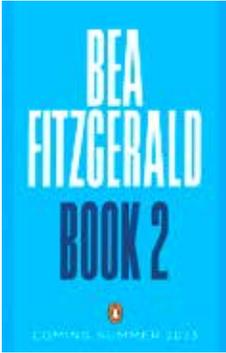
Word Count: 60,000

Acquiring Editor: Charlotte Moore

Film Rights: Odom Media Management

World Rights: PRHC

1 Language Sold: Complex Chinese (Taiwan)



THE END CROWNS ALL

Bea Fitzgerald

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

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

DESCRIPTION

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

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

And that would be the second cataclysmic event.

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

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

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



Bea Fitzgerald

is an author, agent and content

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

Age: 12+

Publication Date: ebook October 2023, PB February 2024

Extent: 512pp

Word Count: 130,000

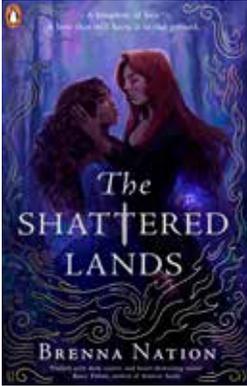
Acquiring Editor: Naomi Colthurst

Film Rights: LBA Books

World Rights: PRHC

7 languages sold: German, Spanish, Polish, Italian, French, Dutch, Brazilian Portuguese

DID YOU MISS IT?



THE SHATTERED LANDS

Brenna Nation

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

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

DESCRIPTION

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

But, what is left of her kingdom?

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

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

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



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

Age: 14+

Publication Date: April 2023

Word Count: 90,000

Acquiring Editor: Charlotte Moore

Film Rights: The Bright Agency

World Rights: PRHC

1 language sold: Polish



THE BOY NEXT DOOR

Jenny Ireland

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



OTHER BOOKS
BY THE AUTHOR:

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

DESCRIPTION

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

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

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



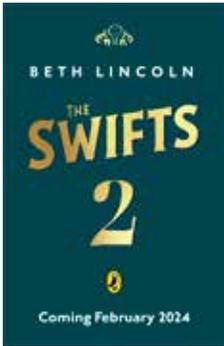
Jenny Ireland is a Young Adult writer who lives outside Belfast with her husband, two children and border collie. She is a Law and French Law graduate and former paralegal.

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

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

**NEXT
IN
A
SERIES**





THE SWIFTS: A GALLERY OF ROGUES

Beth Lincoln

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

OTHER BOOKS
IN THE SERIES:



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

DESCRIPTION

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

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

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



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

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

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

Illustrations: black-and-white illustrations

Acquiring Editor: Ben Horslen

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

World Rights: PRHC

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

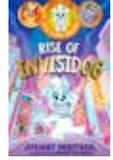


THE O.D.D. SQUAD VS AUNTY ENCHANTY

Stuart Heritage

Do you want to laugh your pants off? Then join the world of the O.D.D Squad - a team of (sort of) heroic animal crime-fighters you'll never forget . . .

**OTHER BOOKS
IN THE SERIES:**



- * **Stuart has written two stand-out picture books (illustrated by Nicola Slater) - *Jonathan the Magic Pony* and *Don't Say Elephant!* - and provided a storyline for a forthcoming episode of *Bluey*.**
- * ***The Bad Guys* meets *Dog Man* in this utterly hilarious, highly-illustrated new series, perfect for fans of *Dav Pilkey* and *Bunny Vs Monkey***
- * **Stuart's brilliant voice is perfectly matched by Vincent Batignole's comic-book style illustrations, which bring this vibrant world to life in glorious full colour**

DESCRIPTION

The O.D.D. Squad are BACK! And this time, they're even more amazing (well, amazingly rubbish) than ever. Quack Attack, Detective Octopus and Invisidog are the most feared crime-fighters ever to roam Justice City. They're a bit of a strange gang, but by heck they get the job done. Most of the time. And only so long as the criminals they're facing are useless.

But unfortunately for them, their nemesis in this adventure really ISN'T useless. In fact, she's kind of an all-powerful sorceress, who goes by the name of Aunty Enchanty. And what's worse than an all-powerful sorceress? How about an all-powerful sorceress determined to wipe Justice City from the face of the Earth, using mega-monsters . . . One of which looks suspiciously familiar.

Can the gang unite to defeat Aunty Enchanty, or is this the end of the road for the O.D.D. Squad?



Stuart Heritage has written for the *Guardian* since 2009. Earlier in his career he founded a website that was named as both Metro's Best British Blog and one of the Observer top 50 most powerful blogs in the world. He lives in Ashford, Kent.



Vincent Batignole was born in the southwest of France, and trained at the Ecole Pivaut in Nantes, Vincent has written and illustrated for many international clients, including EPIC!, Capstone and Andrews McMeel, and owns what's easily one of the biggest collections of manga drawn by CLAMP.

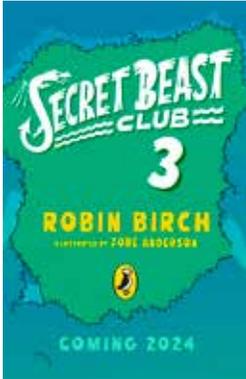
Age: 5–10 | **Publication Date:** August 2024

Extent: 224 | **Word Count:** 15,000

Acquiring Editor: Naomi Colthurst

Film Rights: Greene and Heaton

World Rights: PRHC



SECRET BEAST CLUB: 3

Robin Birch

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



OTHER BOOKS
IN THE SERIES:

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

DESCRIPTION

Join the club, find the magic!

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

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



Jasmine Richards and Rachael Davis as Robin Birch, credit: Joanne Senior for The Black Writers Guild.

Robin Birch is the pen name for writer Rachael Davis and series creator Jasmine Richards, Founder of Storymix. They are passionate about creating stories that reveal the magic of the every day.

Age: 7+

Publication Date: February 2024

Extent: 176pp

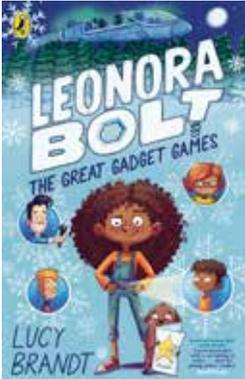
Word Count: approx 18,000

Illustrations: B/W throughout

Acquiring Editor: Jane Griffiths

Film Rights: Storymix

World Rights: PRHC



LEONORA BOLT: THE GREAT GADGET GAMES

Lucy Brandt

The fourth hilarious book in the brilliant STEM adventure series *Leonora Bolt*. With glorious illustrations by Gladys Jose throughout.

OTHER BOOKS
IN THE SERIES:



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

DESCRIPTION

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

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

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

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



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



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

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

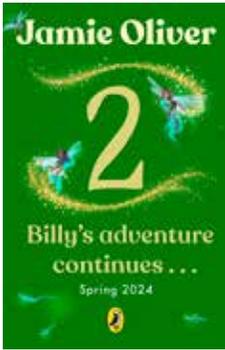
Extent: 208pp | **Word Count:** 20,000

Illustrations: Gladys Jose

Acquiring Editor: Katie Sinfield

Film Rights: Northbank Talent Management

World Rights: PRHC

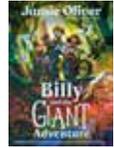


BILLY AND THE GIANT ADVENTURE 2

Jamie Oliver

Bestselling author and internationally renowned chef, Jamie Oliver, takes readers back to the magical world of Waterfall Woods in his second children's novel

**OTHER BOOKS
BY THE AUTHOR:**



- * **Jamie Oliver has sold nearly 50 MILLION books worldwide and is a global phenomenon in food and campaigning. Now he's brought his passion for food, family and togetherness to children's books with this brilliant series full of adventure and magic.**
- * **Friendship, Food and Fantastical Adventure! - Speaking to Jamie's passions and brand values, the book explores the importance of friendship and working together, getting out into the wild and exploring the world and, of course, the joy of sharing food with the people you love.**
- * **Accessible and engaging– Jamie has openly discussed his challenges with reading and brings his personal experiences to Billy's story. Accessibility for readers is at the heart of the series with short chapters, dyslexia-friendly fonts and plenty of white space within the interior design.**

DESCRIPTION

The adventure continues in the sequel to Jamie Oliver's bestselling children's debut, *Billy and the Giant Adventure*!

Billy and his friends Anna, Jimmy and Andy are looking forward to a summer full of fun and adventure as they start to explore Waterfall Woods and discover more about its magic. But, when the woods come under attack from the mysterious red lady and the rhythm is once again thrown off balance, it seems that the gang might need to come to the rescue . . . again!



Jamie Oliver is a global phenomenon in food and campaigning. He has sold over 46 million books worldwide, is the top-selling non-fiction author in UK history and achieved an estimated global TV audience reach of 67 million across 182 territories.

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

Age: 8+ years | **Publication Date:** April 2024

Extent: 336pp | **Word Count:** TBC

Acquiring Editor: Jane Griffiths

Film Rights: Jamie Oliver Group

World Rights: PRHC



A CHRISTMASAURUS CAROL

Tom Fletcher

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

OTHER BOOKS
IN THE SERIES:



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

DESCRIPTION

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

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

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



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

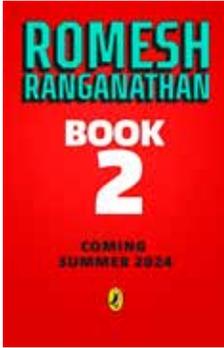
Age: 9–11 | **Publication Date:** October 2023

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

Acquiring Editor: Nathalie Doherty

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

NEXT IN A SERIES



UNTITLED STANDALONE

Romesh Ranganathan

The next hilarious new middle-grade novel from comedy superstar Romesh Ranganathan.



OTHER BOOKS
BY THE AUTHOR:

- * As well as being a hilarious and accessible read, the story also delivers a really powerful and heartwarming message about the importance of believing in yourself and following your dreams.
- * Part David Baddiel and part Little Badman, this hilarious commercial middle-grade from a much-loved comedian will sit confidently alongside big hitters such as David Walliams, David Baddiel, *Adam Wins the Internet* and *Vetman*.
- * Romesh has a huge and growing profile. As well as presenting his own shows, including the Bafta award-winning *Asian Provocateur*, Romesh is a regular on several panel shows including *A League of their Own* and is the new face of family gameshow *The Weakest Link*. He regularly tours his stand-up comedy around the UK to huge sell-out audiences.

DESCRIPTION

From comedy superstar Romesh Ranganathan comes a second unique and hilarious middle-grade story!

Set in the same world as *Lil' Muffin Drops the Mic*, we meet a new hero. Filled with hilarious classroom capers, relatable characters and heartfelt moments, this is a brand-new story centring around the fun of online videogaming and football.



Romesh Ranganathan is a comedian, actor and writer. A former maths teacher, he is now known for his award-winning series *The Misadventures of Romesh*

Ranganathan, his weekly topical show *The Ranganathan*, his sitcom *The Reluctant Landlord* and the BAFTA nominated *Asian Provocateur*.

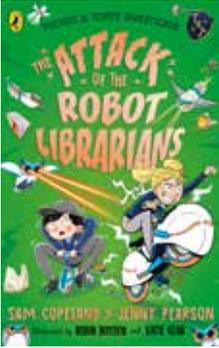
Romesh also presents an award-winning BBC Radio 2 show *For The Love Of Hip Hop* and wrote a bestselling autobiography *Straight Outta Crawley*. *Lil' Muffin Drops the Mic* was his first children's book and gave him an excuse to write about two of his favourite things – hip hop and cake.

Age: 8–12 | **Publication Date:** July 2024

Extent: 288pp | **Word Count:** 35,000 (TBC)

Acquiring Editor: Lowri Ribbons

Film Rights: Off the Kerb | **World Rights:** PRHC



TUCHUS & TOPPS INVESTIGATE: ATTACK OF THE ROBOT LIBRARIANS

Sam Copeland and Jenny Pearson

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

OTHER BOOKS
IN THE SERIES:



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

DESCRIPTION

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

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

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



Sam Copeland is the author of *Charlie Changes into a Chicken* and *Uma and the Answer to Absolutely Everything*, widely considered

to be the two funniest children's books ever written . . .



. . . until **Jenny Pearson** came on the scene with *The Super Miraculous Journey of Freddie*

Yates and *The Incredible Record Smashers*. Both authors have enjoyed multiple prize nominations and been translated into over 20 foreign languages. Sam has the better singing voice but Jenny would win an arm-wrestle.

Age: 9+ | **Publication Date:** June 2022 | **Extent:** 320pp

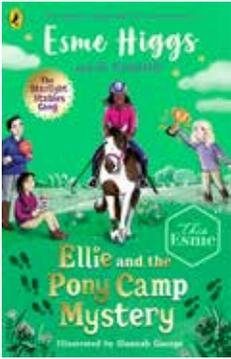
Word Count: 45,000, black-and-white illustrations

Acquiring Editor: Ben Horslen |

Film Rights: A. M. Heath & Co. Ltd.

World Rights: PRHC

1 Language Sold: Finnish



THE STARLIGHT STABLES GANG 3: ELLIE AND THE PONY CAMP MYSTERY

Esme Higgs, Jo Cotterill

The third story in this gorgeous pony series for animal-mad readers age 8–12 – from Youtuber and equestrian influencer Esme Higgs.

OTHER BOOKS
BY THE AUTHOR:



- * Esme is a twenty-one-year-old equestrian influencer with more than 1 million followers across YouTube and Instagram. Her online videos are a mix of tutorials, horse care videos and more general lifestyle content.
- * This is aspirational fiction, with a positive girl-power message, ensuring this series feels fresh and distinctive from other, more traditional animal fiction.
- * Combining relevant social issues and exciting endeavours, this is the perfect animal-adventure series for fans of Clare Balding and Jacqueline Wilson..

DESCRIPTION

The Starlight Stables Summer Show is over, and Ellie's starting at a new school. Even though her best friends Summer and Jessie will be there too, Ellie still can't help but worry a little – will she be able to fit in?

But excitement is on the horizon – news of a half-term pony camp reach the gang, and they're all keen to attend! Along with new faces, horses and activities, there's a mystery to be solved. Will super-sleuth Ellie and the rest of the gang be able to get to the bottom of it before the end of camp?

Full of fun, friendship and mystery, this is the much-anticipated third book in the Starlight Stables Gang series. Beautifully illustrated by Hannah George.



© David Higgs

Esme Higgs is one of the biggest influencers in the equestrian world – with more than a million followers. She's a writer, presenter, video producer – and a horse-mad ordinary girl.

Jo Cotterill is a multi-award-winning writer for children and often gives talks and workshops in schools. She's written and published more than fifty books.

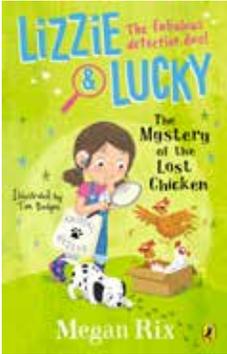
Hannah George's love of drawing and storytelling began at a young age. As a child she carried her sketchbook everywhere capturing all her adventures and mischievous exploits.

Age: 8-12 | **Publication Date:** 25 January 2024

Extent: 320pp (TBC) | **Word Count:** 40,000

Acquiring Editor: Lowri Ribbons

Film Rights: Esme Ltd | **World Rights:** PRHC



LIZZIE AND LUCKY: THE MYSTERY OF THE LOST CHICKEN

Megan Rix

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

OTHER BOOKS IN THE SERIES:



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

DESCRIPTION

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

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

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

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

With charming illustrations throughout, and fun activities to try.

PRAISE FOR THE LIZZIE & LUCKY BOOKS:

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



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

Age: 5-7

Publication Date: September 2023

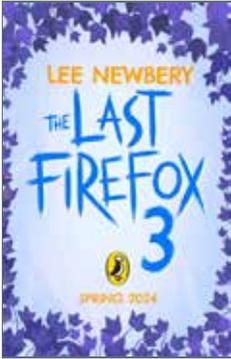
Extent: 160pp

Word Count: 15,000 approx.

Acquiring Editor: Katie Sinfield

Film Rights: Eddison Pearson

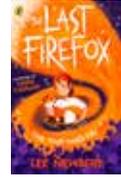
World Rights: PRHC



THE LAST FIREFOX #3

Lee Newbery

The final magical, inclusive adventure in the spellbinding Last Firefox trilogy.



OTHER BOOKS
BY THE AUTHOR:

- * *Cogheart* meets Pokemon in another effortlessly inclusive story combining magical creatures with exciting adventure.
- * Hits the sweet-spot between quality and commercial, with illustrations from Laura Catalan.
- * Lee has racked up UK sales of over 30,000 copies in little more than a year, and won the Fantastic Book Awards. He was also shortlisted for the Waterstones Children's Book Prize, Wales Book of the Year, and Wolverhampton Children's Book Award.

DESCRIPTION

When out-of-control weather brings danger to his home town, Charlie Challinor suspects that more than climate change might be to blame. Heading back to Fargone with Cadno the firefox, Lippy and Roo, Charlie discovers the magical realm is also in dire peril.

The sinister giant Gawr has stolen the Cariad, the Heart of Fargone, mixing up the world's magic and plunging the land into chaos. With the Cariad's ancient guardian, the sunlion Llew, missing in action, only Charlie and his friends can save the day – but at what cost . . . ?



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

His first book, *The Last Firefox*, was Waterstones Children's Book of the Month and shortlisted for the Waterstones Children's Book Prize 2023.

Lee enjoys adventuring, drinking ridiculous amounts of tea, and giving his family a good cuddle – or a *cwtch*, as they say in Wales.

Age: 8–12 | **Publication Date:** 16 May 2024

Extent: 352pp

Word Count: 50,000

Acquiring Editor: Ben Horslen

Film Rights: PRHC

World Rights: PRHC



PRINCESS OLIVIA INVESTIGATES: THE SEA OF PLASTIC

Lucy Hawking

The brilliant second book in the unique series by global bestselling and science educator, Lucy Hawking, about a former princess desperate to find out about the world – and what she can do to help it.

OTHER
BOOKS
IN THE
SERIES:



- * Illustrated throughout and with fascinating non-fiction sections from world-renowned scientists, this series will inspire the scientists and activists of the future and is perfect for fans moving on from Rosie Revere Engineer and Ada Twist Scientist.
- * Lucy and Stephen Hawking's series of children's books, *George's Secret Key to the Universe* was a global hit, selling over 400,000 copies worldwide, and their most recent book, *Unlocking the Universe* (2020), sold in sixteen languages.
- * Lucy is dedicated to educating young people about science and this new series introduces them to the concept of climate change in a completely accessible way, with an exciting new heroine in Olivia giving a voice to young girls interested in STEM subjects.

DESCRIPTION

Olivia Alez is loving her life away from the royal palace. Now she doesn't have to do princess stuff she's fascinated by the world around her, and she and her best friends Helga and Ravi are keen to find a new science mystery to investigate.

Olivia has started to notice all the rubbish in the oceans around Alez but when she and Ravi go to visit her uncle Cassander on his island she realises the problems are much worse than she thought - the living things in the seas are dying because of human behaviour. When some pirates turn up, Olivia wonders if they're part of the problem but it turns out she's got even more to learn than she thought if she wants to help the waters around her . . .



Lucy Hawking is a children's writer, the co-creator of non-fiction compendium *Unlocking the*

Universe and the *George* fiction series, with her father Stephen Hawking. Lucy is a former journalist, having written widely for British newspapers, and she gives regular talks about science and stories to audiences all over the world.

Age: 6–10 | **Publication Date:** April 2023

Extent: 208pp | **Word Count:** 22,000

Acquiring Editor: Ruth Knowles

Film Rights: Janklow and Nesbit

World Rights: PRHC

1 Language Sold: German

NEXT IN A SERIES



THE DETENTION DETECTIVES: MURDER BY MISTAKE

Lis Jardine

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

OTHER BOOKS
IN THE SERIES:



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

DESCRIPTION

The *Detention Detectives* are back!

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

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

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



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

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

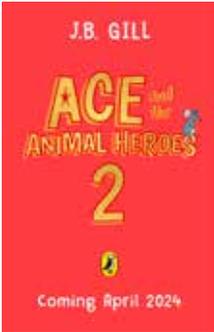
In her spare time, Lis likes to knit baby socks, practice Norwegian and invent interesting sandwich recipes.

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

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

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

World Rights: PRHC



ACE AND THE ANIMAL HEROES: BOOK 2

JB Gill

Dr Dolittle meets Dick King-Smith in this magical animal-adventure series from popstar, presenter and award-winning farmer JB Gill!

**OTHER BOOKS
IN THE SERIES:**



- * Fun, magical animal adventures – both classic and contemporary continue to be extremely popular with young fiction and middle-grade readers, from Dick King-Smith to Clare Balding and Sam Copeland.
- * *Ace and the Animal Heroes* was inspired by JB's own move from the city to the countryside. His experience of running a working farm brings a real authenticity to this story.
- * Packed full of illustrations by Becca Moor, illustrator of *Wigglesbottom Farm* and the recent reissues of *The Famous Five*.

DESCRIPTION

Join Ace and the Farm Squad in their second magical farmyard adventure by popstar, presenter and award-winning farmer JB Gill! Perfect for readers 7+ and fans of Clare Balding, Mudpuddle Farm and Dick King-Smith.

Fresh from passing the farm's inspection, Ace and the farm squad (including his new best friend, Bear) are flying high – but soon the weather starts acting strangely. There's snow, rain, sleet and sun – and that's just in one day! What could be happening? And could there be someone at the root of it all . . . ?

With the use of his magical wellies, it's time for Ace to talk to the animals and see what can be done, but will he be able to fix the strange weather in time for the farm's summer festival?

Beautifully illustrated by Becca Moor, Ace's second adventure is full of magic, friendship and environmental themes.



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

Ten years ago, JB set up a farm in the Kent countryside, where he lives with his wife, Chloe, son, Ace, and daughter, Chiara. Their farm successfully produces award-winning KellyBronze turkeys and free-range Tamworth pork.

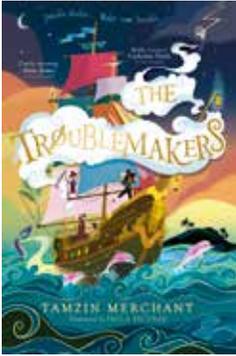
Together with his family, JB presents Channel 5's Milkshake TV series *Cooking with the Gills*. He is also the lead presenter on CBeebies BAFTA-nominated television series *Down on the Farm* and features on Channel 5's *On the Farm* series.

Age: 7–10 | **Publication Date:** June 2024

Extent: 288pp | **Word Count:** 25,000

Acquiring Editor: Lowri Ribbons

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



THE TROUBLEMAKERS

Tamzin Merchant

Return to the spellbinding magical world of *The Hatmakers* in this sweeping, epic and exciting new adventure on the high seas.

Perfect for fans of *Nevermoor*, *A Pinch of Magic* and *Harry Potter*.

OTHER BOOKS
IN THE SERIES:



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

DESCRIPTION

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

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

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



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

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

Tamzin's first book is *The Hatmakers*.

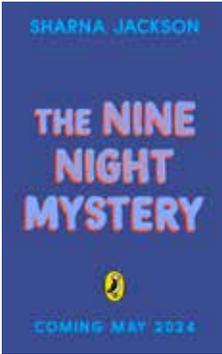
Age: 9–12 | **Publication Date:** January 2024

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

Acquiring Editor: Natalie Doherty

Film Rights: Rogers Coleridge and White Ltd.

World Rights: PRHC



THE NINE NIGHT MYSTERY

Sharna Jackson

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



OTHER BOOKS
IN THE SERIES:

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

DESCRIPTION

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

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



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

PRAISE FOR SHARNA JACKSON:

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

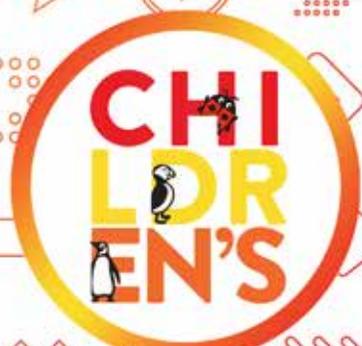
Age: 9–11 | **Publication Date:** January 2024

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

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

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

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THE WHISPERLING 2 (TITLE TBC)

Hayley Hoskins

From the author of spooky Victorian adventure, *The Whisperling*, comes a new, thrilling tale. A perfect next read for fans of Emma Carroll and and Katherine Rundell.

OTHER
BOOKS
BY THE
AUTHOR:



- * *The Whisperling* was longlisted for the Branford Boase award 2023, alongside bestseller *Skandar and the Unicorn Thief* and award-winning *The Cats We Meet Along the Way*
- * LoveReading4Kids Debut of the Month for September 2022
- * This second middle-grade story from Hayley Hoskins can be read as a standalone, but is still set in the *Whisperling* world. Fans of Hayley's first book will be pleased to find a few Easter Eggs in this new story
- * Author Hayley was born in the Forest of Dean and currently lives in Cheltenham, and has peppered both *The Whisperling* and this new story with lots of interesting south-west historical detail, and lovely local vernacular

DESCRIPTION

Gloucestershire, 1918.

We whisperlings are the living voice for the dead. It's always been so.

But not everyone likes it . . .

Whisperling sisters, Violet and Clemency, run regular 'Messaging' sessions at their mam's canal-side pub. People come from far and wide to hear from their fathers, brothers, sons - ghosts of the men who died in the 'great' war. The sisters are happy to do their bit, and the service they provide is welcomed by all.

That is until whisperlings begin to go missing. Girls, with the special ability to speak with the dead, are disappearing, without a trace. And perhaps what had become a prized gift, is once again becoming a reason for persecution.

The girls are afraid but have each other...until Clemency becomes one of the missing. The only option Violet has is to follow her sister's trail, enter a murky underworld beneath the cobbled streets of Gloucester to find both Clemency, and perhaps more than she's ever bargained for.



Hayley is the author of a new, historical

middle-grade fiction series. Her accomplished middle-grade debut, *The Whisperling*, which published in September 2022, was longlisted for the Branford Boase award.

Age: 9–12

Publication Date: April 2024

Extent: 368pp

Word Count: 50,000 approx

Acquiring Editor: Kate Sinfield

Film Rights: Watson Little

Rights: US

Translation Rights: Watson Little



THE MINISTRY OF UNLADYLIKE ACTIVITY

Robin Stevens

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

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

DESCRIPTION

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

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

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

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



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

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

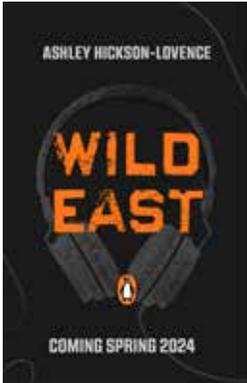
Extent: 352pp | **Word Count:** 75,000

Acquiring Editor: Natalie Doherty

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

Translation Rights: The Bent Agency

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WILD EAST

Ashley Hickson-Lovence

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

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

DESCRIPTION

When fourteen-year-old music-lover Ronny's life gets messy, his mum decides they're moving out of London.

In Norwich, as a Black teenager in a mostly white school, Ronny feels like a complete outsider. He tries his best to stay out of trouble, and keep his goal of becoming a rapper alive.

But when a local poet comes into class, he opens Ronny's world to something new. Rap is like spoken word, lyrics equal poetry - and maybe the combination of both could be the key to Ronny's dreams.



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

Age: 12+

Publication Date: May 2024

Extent: 320pp

Word Count: 35,000

Acquiring Editor: Kate Sinfield

Film Rights: David Godwin Associates

Rights: US only

Translation Rights: David Godwin Associates



THE DAY MY DOG GOT FAMOUS

Jen Carney

A laugh-out-loud, caper of an adventure with family and friendship at its heart from Jen Carney, the author and illustrator of the B.U.G series.

- * Readers love Jen's first series, *The Accidental Diary of B.U.G.* - perfect for fans of Tom Gates, with a warm and inclusive LGBTQ thread at its heart. The series has now sold 20,000 copies via TCM.
- * Totally accessible and broad appeal: *The Day My Dog Got Famous* is the perfect blend of the hilarious family caper-antics of Danny Wallace, the warm, funny friendships of Jenny Pearson the laugh-out-loud and the joyful inclusive family representation of Ben Dean.
- * The book includes comic-style panels and incidental doodle illustrations from Jen which all add a fun, accessible graphic-novel element to the book, an area of the middle-grade market that's proving to be more and more popular, especially with reluctant or less-confident readers.

DESCRIPTION

Meet **Ferris Foster** - the cartooning genius (if he does say so himself) behind the AUSTOUNDOG comic (available exclusively in Ferris' school playground) and owner of the actual **Aldo**, quite possibly the world's most average dog . . .

When Ferris' totally annoying neighbour **Destiny** boasts about her popular YouTube channel, featuring her perfect pooch, **Princess Foo Foo**, Ferris foolishly claims that Aldo can easily become a BIGGER internet star.

There's just one problem: Aldo has about as much talent as a teaspoon.

Then Ferris and his new foster sister, Tia, accidentally film Aldo doing what looks like an amazing trick . . . will Aldo finally live up to name of his comic book alter-ego and wow the world with his skills or is this about to be the biggest EPIC FAIL ever?



Jen Carney is an author-illustrator living in Lancashire with

her wife, three children and an array of animals. She wrote her debut novel to celebrate diverse, contemporary and slightly bonkers families.

Age: 8–12

Publication Date: February 2024

Extent: 208pp

Word Count: 25,000-35,000

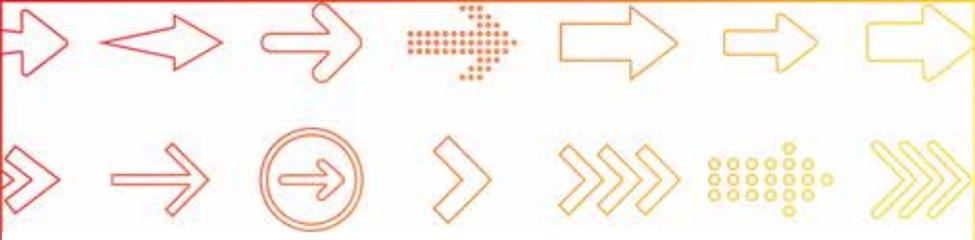
Illustrations: comic style panels

Acquiring Editor: Jane Griffiths

Film Rights: Madeleine Milburn

Rights: US only

Translation Rights: Madeleine Milburn



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