

# MIDDLE GRADE AND YOUNG ADULT FRONTLIST RIGHTS GUIDE

*Fall 2014*

## MIDDLE GRADE

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### TONY ABBOTT

Tony Abbott has written over seventy-five books for young readers, including the bestselling series *The Secrets of Droon*. Over eight million of his books have been sold worldwide and have been translated into Italian, Spanish, Korean, French, Japanese, Polish, Turkish, and Russian. *Danger Guys* was named a Children's Book-of-the-Month Club Main Selection, and the American Booksellers Association voted *The Secrets of Droon* among the "Top 10 List of Books to Read while Waiting for the Next *Harry Potter*." The series was also a Main Selection of the Children's Book-of-the-Month Club, and is on many school and library reading lists. In 2007, his novel *Firegirl* won the Golden Kite Award for Fiction presented by the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators and was also a selection of the Junior Library Guild. Tony is a member of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators, the Yale Center for British Art, and other esteemed organizations. His website is [www.tonyabbottbooks.com](http://www.tonyabbottbooks.com)

**Agent:** George Nicholson

**\*MORE THAN 8 MILLION COPIES SOLD!**

**\*A NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLER!**

#### **GOOFBALLS #6: THE CRAZY CLASSROOM CAPER**

**Publisher:** Egmont (North American)

**Publication:** March 2014

**Editor:** Regina Griffin

[Manuscript available](#)

Jeff, Mara, Brian, and Kelly are Goofballs and proud of it. How do they discover the truth? With crazy disguises, wacky jokes, nutty inventions, and their secret weapon: Sparky the Goofdog! When an easel, building blocks, and the class goldfish disappear from Ms. Becker's classroom, the Goofballs vow to find out why faster than you can say 1-2-3. How? By going undercover as teachers! But knowing the ABCs of case-solving may not be enough when—*whoosh!*—items keep vanishing. Soon, the whole classroom will be gone! Have the Goofballs been out-goofed, or will their silly sleuthing save the day?

#### **GOOFBALLS #5: THE HA-HA-HAUNTING OF HYDE HOUSE**

**Publisher:** Egmont (North American)

**Publication:** August 2013

[Manuscript available](#)

Fans of Dav Pilkey's *The Adventure of Ook and Gluke* and Patricia Reilly Giff's *ZigZag Kids* series will flock to this chapterbook series full of slapstick humor and silly situations by the wildly popular Tony Abbott, author of *The Secrets of Droon* Series. When the Goofballs—Jeff, Brian, Mara, and Kelly—hear about a house that might be haunted, where someone disappeared years before, it sounds like the perfect case for them to solve on Halloween. But they'll need their best sleuthing skills and, of course, the help of the Goofdog, because this may be their silliest—and scariest—mystery yet.

#### **GOOFBALLS #4: THE MYSTERIOUS TALENT SHOW MYSTERY**

**Publisher:** Egmont (North American)

**Publication:** February 2013

[Manuscript available](#)

When the Goofballs sign up for the Badger Point Elementary School Talent Show, they're excited to show off their zany skills. But a series of strange events keeps interrupting rehearsals. Does someone not want the production to ever happen? The Goofballs jump on the case, hoping their crazy clue hunting will solve the mystery. Or—gulp!—the talent show curtain may never go up!

### **GOOFBALLS #3: SUPERHERO SILLINESS**

**Publisher:** Egmont (North American)

**Publication:** October 2012

[Manuscript available](#)

Jeff, Mara, Brian, and Kelly are Goofballs and proud of it. Goofball private eyes. Together, they solve mysteries. How do they discover the truth? They use funny disguises (like dressing up in aluminum foil), nutty inventions (dropped notes the bad guys must stop to read), and their secret weapon: Sparky the Goofdog! When super-rich kid Randall Crandall asks the Goofballs to help him protect his world-famous collection from a notorious thief, they can't wait to get started. Randall's hosting a superhero party, and the detectives will have to blend in to sniff out the criminal. Crazy costumes and off-the-wall schemes mean this is going to be the Goofballs' goofiest mystery yet.

### **GOOFBALLS #2: THE STARTLING STORY OF THE STOLEN STATUE**

**Publisher:** Egmont (North American)

**Publication:** February 2012

[Manuscript available](#)

**Rights sold: Israel** (Sefer Lakol)

The Goofballs Jeff, Brian, Mara and Kelly haven't had a mystery to solve in a while, so they help decorate for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Badger Point school celebration. The new statue of the first principal is being unveiled at the party, but the statue has disappeared. With clues like a skateboard in a piano, a broken pencil, a scrap of paper that smells like chlorine, and a climbing rope hung differently than the others, the Goofballs solve their goofiest mystery yet.

### **GOOFBALLS #1: THE CRAZY CASE OF MISSING THUNDER**

**Publisher:** Egmont (North American)

**Publication:** February 2012

[Manuscript available](#)

**Rights sold: Israel** (Sefer Lakol)

Jeff, Brian, Mara, and Kelly are self-proclaimed goofballs. Since first grade, these friends have been solving mysteries among their schoolmates and now their reputation is expanding. When rich kid Randall Crandall's horse, Thunder, goes missing, he calls upon the Goofballs to find him. Clues, clatter, and catastrophe almost ensue until the Goofballs recover Thunder, the flower-loving horse.

#### **Praise for the *Goofballs* series:**

“Everyone wants to be a Goofball.”

—**Kirkus Reviews**

“A multicultural cast of two boys and two girls kick off the chapter-book Goofball series for readers of Cam Jansen, Nate the Great, Chet Gecko, and the like.”

—**Booklist**

“Targeting readers who like a lot of humor with their mysteries, Abbott includes a great deal of wordplay and slapstick, and stretches the goofball joke to its limit (Jeff's dog even barks, ‘Goof! Goof!’). Madden's cartoons add to the fun, and Abbott's clipped, dialogue-driven text is accessible for beginning readers and creates just the hint of a noir atmosphere.”

—**Publishers Weekly**

“.../ the story will satisfy young mystery readers with a funny bone. Charming black-and-white illustrations dot most spreads, helping new readers follow the tricky parts. According to the illustrations, Brian is African-American, a welcome touch in a genre where kids of color are often absent /.../ Everyone wants to be a Goofball in this little

## STERLING LORD LITERISTIC

Szilvia Molnar, szilvia@sll.com

town, and readers will want to follow their cases in the future. That #1 on the spine ensures that there will be many more adventures from these goofy friends.”

—**Kirkus Reviews (for #1: *The Crazy Case of Missing Thunder*)**

“Cheery black-and-white illustrations complement the mystery’s light mood and quick pace. Although the likable foursome tidily connects the clues around town that lead to Thunder’s discovery, what is really at play is their humorous interactions and pun-filled dialogue. Sure, the young sleuths’ adventure is over the top at times, but they wouldn’t be such entertaining goofballs otherwise.”

—**Booklist (for #1: *The Crazy Case of Missing Thunder*)**

“The plot moves along quickly from clue to clue, enabling readers to test their own powers of deduction /.../ Bold black, white, and gray illustrations appear on almost every spread. Illustrations also suggest the multiracial make-up of the Goofballs. The humor consists of mostly pratfalls (tumbling into doorways, getting stuck in a chair) and puns (‘don’t leaf me here’), but early chapter book readers will enjoy this combination of mystery and silliness.”

—**School Library Journal (for #1: *The Crazy Case of Missing Thunder*)**

“The story moves quickly, and those looking for a humorous read will enjoy it. Although it is part of a series, it can stand alone and could encourage young readers ready for chapter books.”

—**School Library Journal (for #2: *The Startling Story of the Stolen Statue*)**

“Readers decipher clues while puns ricochet around the room as two young sleuths investigate strange happenings. Wordplay contributes complexity, while snappy dialogue-driven text keeps those pages turning. This series features short chapters and comic black-and-white drawings.”

—**School Library Journal (for #4: *The Mysterious Talent Show Mystery*)**

## JENNIFER ALLISON

Edgar Award nominee Jennifer Allison holds a B.A. from the University of Michigan and an M.F.A. from American University. Her various careers have included work as a news reporter and high school English teacher. Jennifer is also the author of the successful *Gilda Joyce* series. She lives in Chicago with her husband and their three children. Her website is [www.gildajoyce.com](http://www.gildajoyce.com)

**Agent:** Doug Stewart

**\*AN EDGAR AWARD NOMINEE!**

### IGGY LOOMIS #2: A HAGFISH CALLED SHIRLEY

**Publisher:** Dial (North American)

**Publication:** October 2014

**Editor:** Lucia Monfried

[Manuscript available](#)

**Rights sold:** Netherlands (Leopold) Turkey (Epsilon)

Iggy Loomis and his cool superpowers are back and more out-of-control than ever in this slimy sequel to *Iggy Loomis, Superkid in Training*. Daniel is trying really hard to be a good older brother, especially now that Iggy has insect-like superpowers that he got accidentally from the alien next door. But when Iggy flushes the alien’s pet hagfish down the toilet, he goes way too far. Now Shirley the hagfish is fated to a life in the sewers. Unless Iggy uses his powers to find Shirley, but with his temper tantrums and fits—and everyone on Daniel’s case—it looks more and more like Shirley will never come home. Can Daniel convince Iggy to save the day, before everyone is grounded for life? With aliens, space travel, gadgets, superpowers, extra-slimy creatures, and Jennifer Allison’s laugh-out-loud humor, this story is an out-of-control good time!

### IGGY LOOMIS #1: SUPERKID IN TRAINING

**Publisher:** Dial (North American)

**Publication:** September 2013

[Manuscript available](#)

**Rights sold:** Netherlands (Leopold) Turkey (Epsilon)

Iggy Loomis is the weirdest little brother ever—and he’s a huge pain in his older brother Daniel’s you-know-what. But when Daniel befriends Alistair, his new next-door-neighbor, Iggy gets much, much weirder. Little does Daniel know... Alistair is really an *alien*. When Iggy thinks he’s eating Alistair’s candy, he’s actually eating chemically-coated insects. Yuck! Soon Iggy’s DNA starts to mutate, and Daniel and Alistair have to keep Iggy’s new superpowers from manifesting—before *everyone* gets in trouble.

**Praise for *Iggy Loomis #1: Superkid in Training*:**

“A frazzled boy named Daniel and his wildly energetic younger brother, Iggy, get mixed up in intergalactic shenanigans in this series opener from Allison /.../ Allison creates a comically put-upon older brother in Daniel in a lighthearted story that captures the chaos of everyday family life, superpowers or not.”

—**Publishers Weekly**

“The author of the *Gilda Joyce, Psychic Investigator* series piles on the yuks in this slapstick science-fiction opener /.../ It doesn’t take psychic powers to see how this could be a crowd pleaser.”

—**Kirkus Reviews**

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## THE BERENSTAINS

The Berenstains have written over three hundred and eighty *Berenstain Bears* books over the last 60 years. Total sales of the series have topped more than 300 million copies. Until the late 1980s, Stan and Jan continued their work as magazine cartoonists along with their children’s book creation. Son Mike had become a children’s book illustrator and author in the ‘70s and joined with his parents in the ‘80s on magazine work, moving to illustrating and was co-writing Berenstain Bears books by 1992. The Berenstain Bears became popular beyond the world of children’s books. The first animated TV show, an NBC Christmas special, was produced in 1979. Four other NBC seasonal specials followed in the early ‘80s. Two seasons of Saturday morning animated cartoons followed on CBS in 1985-86 and a season of PBS daily shows was created in 2002. The characters have been featured as dolls, toys, games, puzzles, software, clothing, and many other products. During the ‘80s and ‘90s, there were Berenstain Bear Country attractions in a number of amusement parks. More recently, children’s museums across the country have displayed Berenstain Bears exhibits. There have been four Berenstain Bears plays and stage musicals including the highly successful musical, *The Berenstain Bears Live in Family Matters*.

**Agent:** Sterling Lord

**\*MORE THAN 300 MILLION COPIES SOLD WORLD-WIDE!**

**\*6.9 MILLION ANNUAL U.S. SALES!**

**\*TRANSLATED INTO 25 LANGUAGES!**

**\*OVER 380 BOOKS PUBLISHED AND OVER 190 TITLES IN PRINT!**

**\*38 NEW BOOKS PLANNED THROUGH 2017!**

**\*FILM RIGHTS UNDER OPTION!**

**\*SCHOOL BELL AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE, 1960!**

**\*CHILDREN’S LITERATURE CITATION, 2007!**

### SAY I’M SORRY

**Publisher:** Ideals Publications

**Publication:** 2015

Summary to come

### THE BERENSTAIN BEARS CLEAN UP

**Publisher:** Ideals Publications (North American)

**Publication:** 2015

Summary to come

### THE BERENSTAIN BEARS’ FIRST TIME DO-IT! BOOK

**Publisher:** Dover (World English)

**Publication:** October 2014

**Editor:** Jason Schneider

Join the busy bears for drawing lessons, science experiments, and other activities! The fun-loving Berenstain Bears are back, this time in a compilation of four classic activity books. Each book features a story accompanied by simple illustrated directions for the projects.

*\*Draw-It!* Go to art class with Brother and Sister Bear to learn about self-portraits and landscape drawing. Discover how to see objects as cubes, spheres, and other shapes and how to draw a still life.

*\*Cook-It!* Join Papa Bear and the cubs as they make a special breakfast for Mama's birthday. Find out how to surprise your own mom with a menu of her favorite foods.

*\*Fly-It!* Professor Actual Factual explains how inventing works, using the airplane, paper clip, and light bulb as examples. Build experimental planes, including the whisper jet, silver streak, and flying banana.

*\*Grow-It!* Mama Bear shows the cubs how to plant the garden, and the Professor explains the role of plants in our lives, from the importance of protecting forests to ways that you can turn your own home into an ecosystem.

### PLEASE AND THANK YOU

**Publisher:** Ideals Publications (North American)

**Publication:** March 2015

**Editor:** Peggy Schaefer

In *The Berenstain Bears' Please & Thank You Book*, little readers are introduced to the importance of manners, through gentle reminders given to Brother, Sister, and Honey as they await their milk and cookies. The shorter story length and well-loved characters provide toddlers a perfect introduction to valuable life lessons and routines.

### SLEEPY TIME BOOK

**Publisher:** Ideals Publications (North American)

**Publication:** March 2015

In *The Berenstain Bears' Sleepy Time Book*, little readers are introduced to a comforting nighttime routine. Brother, Sister, and Honey straighten up, take a bath, brush their teeth, read a bedtime story, and say their prayers before bidding their parents good night. The shorter story length and well-loved characters provide toddlers a perfect introduction to valuable life lessons and routines.

### LOVE BUG

**Publisher:** HarperCollins (North American)

**Publication:** August 2014

**Editor:** David Linker

[Manuscript available](#)

When Sister Bear is chosen as the flower girl at a Valentine's Day wedding, she is over-the-moon with excitement. But when she starts to get carried away planning all the dresses, flowers, cake, and more, things begin to go awry...

### THANKSGIVING ALL AROUND

**Publisher:** HarperCollins (North American)

**Publication:** August 2014

[Manuscript available](#)

It's Thanksgiving time in Bear Country: a perfect time for the Bear family to go for a stroll and enjoy the sights of the season! Bright fall foliage, ripe red apples, pumpkins, and, of course, a fine fat turkey. Thanksgiving really is all around!

### LEMONADE STAND

**Publisher:** HarperCollins (North American)

**Publication:** April 2014

[Manuscript available](#)

When Mama shares some fresh lemonade with the cubs, Brother and Sister Bear have a great idea—why not make a lemonade stand to share with the whole neighborhood? Sure enough, everyone stops by for a refreshing glass of lemonade, and the day turns into a wonderful event.

### GONE FISHIN'

**Publisher:** HarperCollins (North American)

**Publication:** April 2014

[Manuscript available](#)

Life-long fisherman Papa Bear delights in taking Brother and Sister fishing: finally he can share all the benefits of his knowledge and expertise! But Brother and Sister prefer to stick to their simple bamboo poles, bent pins, and worms. Can simple bamboo poles really be any match for Papa's fancy gear?

**GRADUATION DAY**

**Publisher:** HarperCollins (North American)

**Publication:** April 2014

[Manuscript available](#)

Brother and Sister are finishing another school year, and Bear Country School is holding a graduation ceremony for the whole school. This year Brother and Sister will get to wear a cap and gown-and get a diploma. But what about Honey Bear? Will she be able to get into the act? Read along as the Berenstain Bears learn the true meaning of the end of the school year. A perfect gift for graduates of all ages.

**EASTER PARADE**

**Publisher:** HarperCollins (North American)

**Publication:** January 2014

[Manuscript available](#)

Spring is here, the sun is shining, and the Berenstain Bears are getting ready for the Easter Parade! That is, everyone except Brother Bear, who just can't seem to get in good spirits. What will bring a smile to Brother Bear's face during this happy Easter celebration?

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## KEVIN EMERSON

Kevin Emerson is the author of the *Oliver Nocturne* series (film rights optioned by Overbrook Entertainment) and *Carlos is Gonna Get It*. A former elementary school science teacher, Kevin continues to work with kids and teens at 826 Seattle, Richard Hugo House, and with the Writers in the Schools program of Seattle Arts and Lectures. He is in a rock band. He lives in Seattle with his family. His website is [www.kevinemerson.net](http://www.kevinemerson.net)

**Agent:** George Nicholson

**STARBENDERS THREE-BOOK SERIES**

**UNTITLED #1**

**Publisher:** Walden Pond Press (North American)

**Publication:** Fall 2015

**Editor:** Jordan Brown

[Proposal available](#); [Manuscript available: January 2015](#)

Battlestar Galactica meets Dr. Who in this three-book middle grade science fiction series. After fleeing Mars and the expanding sun in the year 2241, thirteen-year-old Liam Saunders-Chang and his friends Phoebe and Shawn find themselves piloting a starship when their parents can't wake from hypersleep. Their journey thrusts them right into the middle of an intergalactic war as humans move to colonize a new planet, and Liam discovers a time-bending device that may be the key to saving the universe from an unseen nemesis, The Drove. Packed with action, gadgetry and danger, Starbenders asks: How do you find your place in an unfamiliar universe?

**BREAK OUT (Stand-alone)**

**Publisher:** Random House/Crown (North American)

**Publication:** February 2015

**Editor:** Phoebe Yeh

[Manuscript available: October 2014](#)

Ant, age 13, writes his first rock song. The only problem? It contains a certain word that will get him suspended if he sings it at the school talent show. Ant's had a bad day and his song lyrics reflect how pissed off he is at everyone and everything, including insipid cutebot girls, meaningless school assignments, and Fat Class at the local Y. The song—"Gotta Get Out"—goes live thanks to his best friend and fellow Rusty Souls bandmate, Keenan. Ant becomes an insta-hero to everyone at school. Except for the clueless teachers. And his parents (who he imagines as the enemy Nazis in his favorite video game, Liberation Force). What are your rights to free speech when you're just a 13-year-

old kid? Emerson captures the frustration of the quintessential 13-year-old boy, too old to be babied but also suffering for his growing peers.

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## BRIAN FARREY

Brian Farrey is an acquisitions editor at Flux, the young adult imprint of Llewellyn Worldwide. His first book, *With or Without You*, grew out of his award-winning MFA thesis, completed in 2008 at Hamline University. He lives in St. Paul, Minnesota with his husband. He has an enormous love for *Doctor Who* (both old-school *Who* and the recent reboot). His website is [www.brianfarreybooks.com](http://www.brianfarreybooks.com)

**Agent:** Robert Guinsler

### THE VENGEKEEP PROPHECIES #3: THE GRIMJINX REBELLION

**Publisher:** Harper Children's (World English)

**Publication:** October 2014

**Editor:** Rosemary Brosnan

[Manuscript available](#)

**Rights sold:** Brazil (Bertrand)

Jaxter Grimjinx and his family haven't had much time for thieving. Through no fault of their own, they've been too busy saving the day. But in the final installment of this rollicking trilogy, danger in the Five Provinces is only just beginning. The Palatinate Mages are almost ready to unveil their master plan, and legendary monsters will soon roam the land once more. Then Jaxter's sister, Aubrin, is kidnapped by the Mages. It seems she has a power greater than her family ever realized, and she may be the key to the impending battle for the Five Provinces. Jaxter will do anything to get his little sister back – even if it means pulling off the greatest heist of his life and starting a full-scale rebellion. Fast-paced, funny, and full of surprises, *The Grimjinx Rebellion* brings Brian Farrey's epic *Vengekeep Prophecies* trilogy to an unforgettable close.

### THE VENGEKEEP PROPHECIES #2: THE SHADOWHAND COVENANT

**Publisher:** Harper Children's (World English)

**Publication:** October 2013

[Manuscript available](#)

**Rights sold:** Brazil (Bertrand)

Trouble is brewing in the Five Provinces. Mysterious magical artifacts have gone missing from the royal vaults. Master thieves from a secret society known as the Shadowhands are disappearing. And without explanation, the High Laird has begun imprisoning the peaceful Sarosan people. Jaxter Grimjinx suspects all these things are connected, but after the tapestry fiasco involving his family that nearly destroyed Vengekeep, he knows better than to get involved. Then he and his parents receive a summons from the Shadowhands—a summons that they would be foolish to ignore—and Jaxter is thrust into the heart of the conspiracy. With the help of a few new friends, and an old friend he'd rather forget, Jaxter will have to delve deep into some long-buried—and dangerous—secrets. With more twists and turns than a palace vault and one unforgettable family of thieves, this second book in the epic Vengekeep trilogy will leave you breathless for the final installment.

### THE VENGEKEEP PROPHECIES #1

**Publisher:** Harper Children's (World English)

**Publication:** October 2012

[Manuscript available](#)

**Rights sold:** Brazil (Bertrand) Thailand (Jamsai Publishing)

**\*KIRKUS REVIEWS BEST CHILDREN'S BOOKS OF 2012!**

Forget what you know about prophecies—this epic middle-grade fantasy about a clumsy boy born into a family of thieves is fresh, fun, and anything but predictable! Full of twists and turns, friendship and adventure, *The Vengekeep Prophecies* takes everything you thought you knew about fantasy and spins it into pure magic.

Jaxter Grimjinx is a born thief. At least, he's supposed to be. For generations, the Grimjinx clan has produced the swiftest, cleverest thieves in Vengekeep. The problem is, Jaxter is clumsy. So clumsy that in his first solo heist, he sets the Castellan's house on fire and lands his family in prison. Even Jaxter's talent for breaking magical locks can't get them out of this bind. Then a suspiciously convenient prophecy emerges, naming the Grimjinx clan as the soon-to-be heroes of Vengekeep. It's good enough to get his family out of jail, but when the doomsday prophecy

starts to come true, Jaxter is pretty sure a life behind bars would be a better fate. Now, with the help of his new friend, Callie, Jaxter will have to face down flaming monsters, a bazaar of thieves, and a renegade sorcerer to become the hero he was truly born to be.

**Praise for *The Grimjinx Rebellion* #3:**

“Excellent /.../ Farrey’s rich fantasy hits the ground running and never lets up /.../ Farrey’s story is gentle enough for sensitive children, yet the travails of the conniving Grimjinx clan will entertain a broad range of readers.”

—**Publishers Weekly**

“There couldn’t be a more likable family of thieves /.../ features action, twists and pleasingly original vocabulary.”

—**Kirkus Reviews**

**Praise for *The Shadowhand Covenant* #2:**

“High-spirited fun, with complexity and surprises.”

—**Kirkus Reviews**

“Jaxter Grimjinx, the brilliant and inquisitive—but somewhat clumsy—thief and narrator of the surprising magical events of *Vengekeep* and its neighboring Five Provinces, keeps up the pace in the highly satisfying sequel to *The Vengekeep Prophecies*. Farrey’s prose is arch and vivid, creating by turns giggles, groans, and elevated heartbeats. He unfolds necessary details from the first volume with grace, ensuring that neither those new to the *Vengekeep* saga nor series fans will feel cheated. And there’s a tantalizing promise of more adventures to come.”

—**Booklist**

**Praise for *The Vengekeep Prophecies* #1:**

“In an excellent, self-contained adventure, 12-year-old Jaxter Grimjinx is anxious to prove himself at the family business: thievery. Farrey’s rich fantasy hits the ground running and never lets up.”

—**Publishers Weekly \*Starred Review\***

“There couldn’t be a more likeable family of thieves. This funny and serious series opener features action, twists and pleasingly original vocabulary, such as the swear ‘zoc’ (as in ‘Zoc that’) and the expression ‘bangers,’ which means, roughly, ‘awesome.’ Bangers!”

—**Kirkus Reviews**

“Rollicking. Highly accessible. Jaxter is as heroic as the early Harry [Potter], but he has a loving family, which makes a big difference in his ability to trust his own instincts as he works for the community’s greater good. Readers will hope for a continuation of the story.”

—**Booklist**

“A charming story that’s at times laugh-out-loud funny but also a satisfying fantasy, offering a magical world that will strike a chord with fans of the *Harry Potter* series.”

—**Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books**

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## ERIC KAHN GALE

*The Bully Book* was Eric Kahn Gale’s first novel, loosely based on events from his young life as told through the lens of a mystery novel. Eric has previously written for the theater as a member of Star Kid Productions, and his plays and screenplays have won awards from both The Hopwood Program and The Walt Disney Company. His inspiration in writing his second middle-grade novel, *The Zoo at the Edge of the World*, came from the great respect for animals that he learned from his mother: “When asked to choose my favorite superpower as a kid, I invariably picked the ability to speak to animals.” He currently lives and writes in Chicago. His website is:

[www.ericahngale.com](http://www.ericahngale.com)

**Agent:** Erica Rand Silverman

### **THE WIZARD'S DOG**

**Publisher:** Random House/Crown Children's (North American)

**Publication:** Fall 2016

**Editor:** Phoebe Yeh

[Proposal and Sample chapters available](#)

Everyone knows the story of the great sorcerer Merlin and his tutelage of Arthur, the Boy Who Would be King. But have you ever heard the story of Nosewise, the Dog Who Would be a Wizard?

Merlin rescues the fluffy maned pup from a cruel master and the two become inseparable friends. Under Merlin's magical influence, Nosewise grows very clever. Too clever, some might say, as he watches the sorcery lessons Merlin gives his apprentice, Mordred, and wishes to try his own paw, as it were, at the art.

The chance finally comes when Mordred betrays Merlin to a local warlord and Nosewise must adventure across the landscapes of legendary England to rescue him. Along his way he meets an orphaned boy named Arthur who joins him on his quest and together they battle the elements and their enemies with Nosewise's shaky knowledge of sorcery and his sharp canine senses.

### **THE ZOO AT THE EDGE OF THE WORLD**

**Publisher:** HarperCollins (North American)

**Publication:** August 2014

**Editor:** Jordan Brown

[Manuscript available](#)

**Rights sold:** Taiwan (Global Kids Books)

**Film agent:** Dana Spector at Paradigm Agency

Marlin is not slow, or mute; but he is a stutterer, and that makes it impossible for him to convince people otherwise. He is also a Rackham: the youngest son of the world-famous explorer Roland Rackham, renowned for his daring exploits in the dark continents, taming wild beasts and filling in the blank spaces on the map. Roland is the owner and proprietor of the Zoo at the Edge of the World, a resort well-to-do families can come to experience the last bit of the wild left in the world at the end of the nineteenth century. For Roland, each day is a new opportunity to cast a light into the dark recesses of the world; for Marlin, each day is a struggle: to speak, to communicate, to live up to the lofty expectations that his family name carries. This is especially hard when the only people who understand him are his father and his pet monkey. When a powerful duke comes to visit the Zoo, Marlin's father captures a mysterious black jaguar, the only one in captivity. Everyone is terrified of the jaguar, including Marlin—until one night, when the jaguar confers upon him a powerful gift. Soon, Marlin finds himself with a difficult choice to make, and, finally, something to say. If only he can figure out how to say it.

***Praise for *The Zoo at the Edge of the World*:***

**\*MIDDLE GRADE BEA BUZZ BOOK 2014**

**\*JUNIOR LIBRARY GUILD BOOK**

“The book is firmly pro-animal, but the stance isn't overt or preachy. A secondary plot concerning Marlin's relationships with his father and brother is equally nuanced and powerful, making the book a formidable read on two fronts. The romantic setting and striking prose are icing on the cake, creating an intoxicatingly charming book. Beautiful and fully absorbing.”

—**Kirkus Reviews**

“Gale's story seems to take place at the turn of the twentieth century, though Marlin's vocabulary more often sounds contemporary. That's a quibble, though, since the appeal is clearly not historical accuracy but rather the exotic setting, the playful banter of the animals, and Marlin's stalwart bravery in the face of sometimes-scary danger.”

—**Booklist**

“Well-paced action, a complex—but not too complicated—plot, healthy doses of suspense, and a wild, well-developed cast of characters (human and animal) make this an enjoyable page-turner.”

—**School Library Review**

“Being able to talk to animals would be my favorite superpower ever, and *The Zoo at the Edge of the World* would be my favorite place to use it.”

—**Katherine Applegate, Newberry Medal-winning author of *The One and Only Ivan***

“A killer jaguar, a zoo on a pyramid, a boy with a stutter who can talk to animals—this powerhouse novel doesn’t only tread the line between fantasy, action/adventure, and historical fiction, it dances on that line with wild abandon. Magical, mysterious, fresh, original and full of heart, Eric Kahn Gale’s *The Zoo at the Edge of the World* will keep you on the edge of your seat.”

—**Peter Lerangis, New York Times-bestselling author of the *Seven Wonders* and the *39 Clues* series**

**Praise for *The Bully Book*:**

**\*TOP TEN INDIE PICK 2013**

**\*A JUNIOR LIBRARY GUILD SELECTION**

**\*HIT #1 ON AMAZON’S CHILDREN’S MYSTERY LIST AS E-BOOK AND #7 ON CHILDREN’S BOOK LIST**

“[A] gripping debut novel /.../ A layered and attention-grabbing mystery. Gale’s accounts of bullying are subtle and chilling, but readers will finish the book believing that the humiliations Eric suffers can be conquered.”

—**Publishers Weekly**

“A compelling and unusual look at a complex and intractable problem that succeeds admirably as story as well.”

—**Kirkus Reviews**

“This debut novel incorporates both sides of the bullying issue into a single narrative /.../ Reinforces the insidious nature of bullying and its continued prevalence in the lives of middle-schoolers.”

—**Booklist**

“/.../ fast paced, with strong character voice in the writing /.../ Great for discussion.”

—**School Library Journal**

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## **PATRICIA REILLY GIFF**

Patricia Reilly Giff has received the Newbery Honor for *Pictures of Hollis Woods* and *Lily’s Crossing*, which is also a *Boston Globe*—Horn Book Honor Book. *Nory Ryan’s Song* was named an ALA Best Book for Young Adults and an ALA Notable Book. As a reading teacher for 20 years, the educational consultant for Dell Yearling and Young Yearling books, an adviser and instructor to aspiring writers, and the author of more than 60 books for children, Patricia Reilly Giff has spent her entire life surrounded by books. Her website is

[www.randomhouse.com/features/patriciareillygiff](http://www.randomhouse.com/features/patriciareillygiff)

**Agent:** George Nicholson

**\*A NEWBERY HONOR RECIPIENT!**

### **UNTIL WE FIND JULIAN (Stand-alone)**

**Publisher:** Random House (North American)

**Publication:** Winter 2016

**Editor:** Wendy Lamb

**Manuscript available:** Winter 2014

Matt’s brother Julian has disappeared somewhere in the United States, that huge country up north. What could have happened? Matt is determined to search for him. He’ll leave his family and the house he loves to take that long journey across the desert and cross the border. He travels with Angel, a girl who harbors a secret that he wants to unravel, and he promises himself that he won’t go home until he finds Julian.

### **WINTER SKY**

**Publisher:** Random House (North American)

**Publication:** January 2014

Manuscript available

Siria loves everyone at Pop’s firehouse and she loves the stars in the winter sky. Her mother, who died, named her after Sirius—the Dog Star, brightest in January. But starry nights can fill with flames, and Siria sneaks out to chase the fire trucks. If she’s there, everyone will be safe. Still, Siria’s not brave like Pop. Her best friend Douglas used to chase with her, and it wasn’t so scary. But she did something wrong; they’re not friends anymore. This winter, Siria must learn to be brave. Because she’s got to fix things with Douglas; and when Pop is injured, she needs courage and her friends, more than ever.

**Praise for *Winter Sky*:**

“Giff deftly builds upon Siria’s relationships with Pop, his colleagues at the firehouse, her friends Laila and Douglas, and a stray dog, greatly broadening the usual definition of family. There is some gritty reality, but the overall tone is one of goodness, kindness and community. Tender and satisfying.”

—**Kirkus Reviews**

“Siria’s close-knit community evokes a comforting atmosphere of warmth and mutual support even in the midst of danger.”

—**Publishers Weekly**

“Despite moments of seriousness, such as her father getting injured during a rescue and a fight with her best friend, conflicts are resolved smoothly and quickly. Interspersed throughout the book are tales about Siria’s namesake, the star Sirius, which add a layered dimension to the storytelling. Children will relate to Siria’s desire to protect her dad and those she loves. A powerful tale of friendship, family, and discovery.”

—**School Library Journal**

**Praise for *Lily’s Crossing*:**

**\*BOSTON GLOBE—HORN BOOK HONOR!**

“Brilliantly told.”

—**The New York Times Book Review**

“[*Lily’s Crossing*] has all the elements that best reward readers.”

—**Publishers Weekly \*Starred Review\***

“Details /.../ are woven with great effect into a realistic story.”

—**The Horn Book Magazine \*Starred Review\***

“[Giff] pulls readers’s heartstrings /.../ a deftly told story.”

—**Kirkus Reviews**

“Patricia Riley Giff’s Newbery Honor-winning story of a special friendship between a young girl and an immigrant boy set in Rockaway during World War II.”

—**School Library Journal**

“With wry comedy and intense feeling, and without intrusive historical detail, Giff gets across a strong sense of what it was like on the home front during World War II /.../ The friendship story is beautifully drawn: both Lily and Albert are wary, reluctant, and needy; they quarrel as much as they bond, and in the end, they help each other to be brave.”

—**Booklist**

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## **RALPH HARDY**

Ralph Hardy is a professor of English at North Carolina Central University in Durham, NC. He graduated from the University of North Carolina with a degree in English and received his MFA from Columbia College, Chicago. He

## STERLING LORD LITERISTIC

Szilvia Molnar, szilvia@sll.com

now lives in Chapel Hill, NC with his wife and children and is the author of *Lefty*, a novel, and a number of short stories.

**Agent:** George Nicholson

### **ARGOS: THE TRUE STORY OF MY MASTER ODYSSEUS AND HIS EXPLOITS AS TOLD BY HIS LOYAL DOG**

**Publisher:** HarperCollins Children's (North American)

**Publication:** Fall 2015

**Editor:** Toni Markiet

[Final Manuscript Available Spring 2015](#)

Of the Odyssey's more than 12,000 lines, fewer than 20 concern Odysseus's dog, Argos, who was a puppy when his master left Ithaca to fight the Trojans and is not heard from for nearly 20 years. *Argos: the True Story of my Master Odysseus and his Exploits as Told by His Loyal Dog* takes Homer's epic tale of angry gods and heroic men, fickle goddesses and loyal wives, and tells us the story Homer did not. Narrated by Odysseus's loyal dog, Argos tells us what happens on Ithaca during the turbulent years after his master left, when Odysseus's loyal wife Penelope and young son Telemachos fight to keep his estate from the suitors and his herds from the jaws of a marauding wolf pack. Woven between these events Argos hears from seabirds, turtles, bats and owls of the trials his master Odysseus is enduring, knowing that both of their fates lie in the hands of the gods.

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### **TOMMY HAYS**

Tommy Hays is the author of several adult novels, most recently the successful and critically acclaimed *The Pleasure Was Mine*. It was a 2006 SIBA Fiction Finalist, and was read on National Public Radio's "Radio Reader" and SCETV-Radio's "Southern Read." It was also chosen for the 2008 One City, One Book program in Greensboro, NC; the 2009 Amazing Read—Greenville, SC's first community-wide reading of a single book; the 2011 pick for "Alamance Reads," a community-wide event in Alamance County, North Carolina; and the 2010-11 selection for the similar "Rockingham County Reads." Tommy is the Executive Director of the Great Smokies Writing Program and a Lecturer in the Master of Liberal Arts Program at the University of North Carolina at Asheville. His website is [www.tommyhays.com](http://www.tommyhays.com)

**Agent:** Neeti Madan

**\*2006 SIBA FICTION FINALIST!**

**\*NPR "RADIO READER" PICK!**

### **WHAT I CAME TO TELL YOU**

**Publisher:** Egmont (World English)

**Publication:** September 2013

**Editor:** Regina Griffin

[Manuscript available](#)

Since the death of his mother, twelve-year-old Grover has been having a difficult time; the only thing that brings him solace are the hours he spends working on his "art" in the beloved bamboo grove near his Asheville home. His overworked father belittles his efforts; he feels his son is withdrawing from the world and throwing his time away. As tensions within and without the family build to a boiling point, help tiptoes its way into their lives. The roughhewn family from the mountains who have moved into the cheap rental nearby force their way into Grover's forest and heart; their prickly independent neighbor proves to be a stalwart pillar to both his little sister and him, and even the peculiar young man who always lurks around them plays a role in lifting Grover and his family from their paralyzing grief. Poignant and touching but with bite, *What I Came to Tell You* introduces a great talent to children's books.

#### **Praise for *What I Came to Tell You*:**

"Though the book spans just a few months, it's packed with incident and complex connections between a range of characters. Hays is especially strong at depicting the network of people, old and young, who help Grover and his family move through their grief and, along the way, save his beloved forest."

—**Publishers Weekly** \*Starred Review\*

“In addition to grief, this ambitious offering explores the meanings and value of art, faith and destiny, and Appalachian mountain culture /.../ The compelling characters and engaging prose put it squarely in the win column. Readers will be quickly and surely drawn in by quirky siblings Grover and Sudie, rooting for them to find a measure of peace and happiness in the wake of tragedy.”

—**Kirkus Reviews**

“Hays’ story is filled with touching honesty and youthful wisdom, all of which help undergird Grover’s own discovery of the healing power of family, love, and art /.../ The book’s quiet story of a young boy experiencing a tragic loss and learning how to live life /.../ is moving.”

—**Booklist**

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## PETER JOHNSON

Peter Johnson is the critically acclaimed author of several collections of poetry, short stories, and novels, including *Miracles & Mortifications*, winner of the James Laughlin Award, *Eduardo & “I,” Pretty Happy!*, *Love Poems for the Millennium*, *Rants and Raves: Selected and New Prose Poems*, *I’m a Man*, and two young adult novels: *Loserville* and *What Happened*, a Paterson Prize winner that ALA Booklist called the “most gorgeously written YA of 2007.” Johnson is the recipient of two creative writing awards from the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts and a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts. He teaches creative writing and children’s literature at Providence College in Rhode Island. His website is [www.peterjohnsonya.com](http://www.peterjohnsonya.com)

**Agent:** George Nicholson

**\*PATERSON PRIZE WINNER**

**\*TWO TIME RISCA CREATIVE WRITING AWARD WINNER**

**\*NATIONAL ENDOWMENT OF THE ARTS FELLOW**

### THE LIFE AND TIMES OF BENNY ALVAREZ

**Publisher:** HarperCollins (North American)

**Publication:** June 2014

**Editor:** Jordan Brown

**Manuscript available**

Benny Alvarez comes from a long line of negative men, and, at first, he doesn’t seem very interested in changing his image. In fact when he and his two friends, Jocko and Beanie, discover the pleasures of playing with the meanings of words and commonly used expressions, Benny often uses that knowledge to further his own ends. Things change, though, after Benny confronts the antics of his little brother Crash, a poetry contest he reluctantly participates in against his arch enemy Claudine, and the inevitable decline of his beloved grandfather’s health. Eventually, Benny realizes that all the words in the world can’t protect him from some of the unpleasant things we all have to experience.

#### **Praise for *The Life and Times of Benny Alvarez*:**

“This slice-of-life novel portrays Benny and his entertaining family and friends with just the right balance of angst and humor; Benny’s narration is a spot-on mix of the sharp wisdom and utter befuddlement that can result when hormones come into play. Johnson gives a strong sense of the fears and joys that come with being a 13-year-old-boy working to make sense of the way his life, friends, and family are changing.”

—**Publishers Weekly**

#### **Praise for *The Amazing Adventures of John Smith, A.K.A Houdini*:**

**\*A KIRKUS REVIEWS 100 BEST CHILDRENS BOOK AWARD WINNER!**

“By turns poignant and downright hilarious, Houdini’s story is delivered in a voice that’s wonderfully authentic. Johnson expertly handles real male middle school friendships, issues and angst and doesn’t avoid some tough contemporary realities: Domestic troubles, the prospect of Dad losing his job and the pain arising from his older brother going missing in Iraq are handled realistically but sensitively.”

—**Kirkus Reviews \*Starred Review\***

“Humorous Top-10 lists on various topics are interspersed within the well-paced plot, and ample coverage, including a reading list, is given to the life and work of the great Harry Houdini, as a sense of hope and possibility renews this hard-luck community.”

—**School Library Journal \*Starred Review\***

“Johnson delivers a strong contemporary urban novel with cross-gender appeal, thanks to his likable, kind, and clear-eyed narrator, John Smith Jr. /.../ Johnson offers solid insights into the varied well-drawn characters, and readers will appreciate Houdini’s realization that ‘writing makes you think very hard about things.’”

—**Publishers Weekly**

“A bit grittier and more believably boy-like than most contemporary first-person narratives, this novel has a lot of heart as well.”

—**Booklist**

“A book about writing, magic, family, and friendship, brilliantly captured in his middle-school hero’s voice /.../ *The Amazing Adventures of John Smith, Jr., Aka Houdini* is filled with marvelous minor characters, and side adventures. Johnson bites off his chapters, snapping them off like a magician riffling through a pack of cards /.../ Pitch-perfect: touching, hilarious—just right for days too rainy to play ball.”

—**The Boston Globe**

“The perfect book for adolescent readers—especially boys—who like humor combined with characters that seem completely real. [A] satisfying novel that will leave readers happy they met Houdini.”

—**Providence Journal**

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## C. ALEXANDER LONDON

C. Alexander London is an award-winning author of nonfiction for grown-ups and a fully licensed and accredited librarian. While traveling as a journalist, he did indeed watch television in twenty-three countries, survived an erupting volcano in the Democratic Republic of Congo, a hurricane on small island in the Caribbean, four civil wars (one of them was over by the time he got there, thankfully), and a mysterious bite on his little toe in the jungles of Thailand. His website is [www.calexanderlondon.com](http://www.calexanderlondon.com)

**Agent:** Robert Guinsler

**\*2014 TOP TEN QUICK PICKS FOR RELUCTANT YOUNG ADULT READERS! (FOR PROXY)**

**\*A PUBLISHERS WEEKLY PICK: “BEST NEW BOOK” FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2013! (FOR PROXY)**

**\*AN ATLANTIC WIRE SUMMER BOOK GUIDE PICK! (FOR PROXY)**

**\*A BOOKRIOT “BEST BOOK OF SEPTEMBER 2013” PICK! (FOR PROXY)**

### ACCIDENTAL ADVENTURES #4: WE SLED WITH DRAGONS

**Publisher:** Philomel (World English)

**Publication:** July 2013

**Editor:** Donna Bray

**Manuscript available**

**Rights sold:** France (Gallimard) Germany (Arena)

Oliver and Celia Navel are on a new adventure very far from home. With the help of their parents, a pet lizard, an ornery chicken, the president of the Explorers Club, and a man who may or may not be Santa Claus, their quest for the Lost Library will take its last terrible turn. The Navels are going to the North Pole and devious Sir Edmund, a vengeful grave-robber and a hungry polar bear aren’t far behind. If Oliver and Celia aren’t careful, they might accidentally fulfill their destiny and become the greatest explorers in history. If they’re lucky, they’ll get a made-for-TV movie about their lives. If they’re unlucky...well, did we mention the dragons?

### ACCIDENTAL ADVENTURES #3: WE GIVE A SQUID A WEDGIE

**Publisher:** Philomel (World English)

**Publication:** April 2013

[Manuscript available](#)

**Rights sold:** France (Gallimard) Germany (Arena)

It is a new year for Oliver and Celia Navel...or rather, it is New Year's Eve, and if they had any hopes that this year would be less deadly dangerous than the last, their hopes are quickly shattered...along with their television set. Oliver and Celia meet a strange scientist who risks life and limb to warn them that their mother is—yet again—in peril, and that they must—yet again—save the day. Join our heroes as they learn to sail the open seas! Watch as they try to forget how! Behold as they battle fearsome storms and fearsome sharks and the most fearsome creature of all: the giant squid called Kraken! In their newest accidental adventure, the pirates are real, Sir Edmund is on their trail, and an erupting volcano isn't making things easier. Even with teen sensation Corey Brandt by their side, Oliver and Celia are in the worst trouble of their young lives. The one thing we can be sure of is that they do indeed give a squid a wedgie. We won't discuss how.

### **ACCIDENTAL ADVENTURES #2: WE DINE WITH CANNIBALS**

**Publisher:** Philomel (World English)

**Publication:** November 2011

[Manuscript available](#)

**Rights sold:** France (Gallimard) Germany (Arena)

After falling into the clutches of Sir Edmund S. Titheltorpe-Schmidt III, Oliver and Celia will travel from the ruins of ancient temples to the shadowy forests of the Amazon. They'll need all their reality TV survival skills when they ride a llama, race the rapids, and even fly an airplane! If that's not enough excitement for you (it is decidedly too much excitement for Oliver and Celia Navel), they'll be forced to learn the proper etiquette for a cannibal feast and confront the strangest and most brutal rite of passage ever devised by human imagination: dodgeball.

### **ACCIDENTAL ADVENTURES #1: WE ARE NOT EATEN BY YAKS**

**Publisher:** Philomel (World English)

**Publication:** February 2011

[Manuscript available](#)

**Rights sold:** France (Gallimard) Germany (Arena)

Eleven-year-old twins Oliver and Celia Navel live on the 4-1/2th floor of the Explorers Club with their father, Dr. Navel. Their mother, Dr. Navel, has been missing for years. So when an explorer shows up with a clue as to where his wife could be, Dr. Navel drags Oliver and Celia to Tibet to find her. Once there, the twins fall out of airplanes, encounter Yetis, travel through waterfalls, and end up in the Demon Fortress of the Warrior King where they—just possibly—might find their mother and save their father from the Poison Witches. Thing is, they would much rather be watching television. And if their trip doesn't work out as planned, the twins could end up as slaves to Sir Edmund Thitheltorpe III, an evil explorer with breath that smells like boiled carrots, who has it in for the whole Navel family.

#### **Praise for the *Accidental Adventures* series:**

“If you like nonstop action, constant mortal danger, or television, you will love [*The Accidental Adventures*].”

—Adam Gidwitz, author of *A Tale Dark and Grimm*

“The twins’ struggles are absurdly comical /.../ making for boisterous reading. Readers will love the clever, ridiculous means by which the twins triumph over their pursuers as their TV expertise helps them outwit many bumbling adults.”

—Publishers Weekly (for #1: *We Are Not Eaten by Yaks*)

“London’s debut /.../ is a fine combination of dry wit and slapstick /.../ The quirky characters and Snicket-esque narrator should ensure a fan following.”

—Kirkus Reviews (for #1: *We Are Not Eaten by Yaks*)

“Among the many recent novels that feature kids who fearlessly save the world /.../ this one stands out for its funny take on the theme.”

—Booklist (for #1: *We Are Not Eaten by Yaks*)

“London’s second in the *Accidental Adventure* series has more thrills and more mystery (and naturally more complaining and more laughs) than the first. Fans will be glad of the promise of an adventure in Atlantis to come; Celia and Oliver know adventure is only thrilling when it happens to someone else.”

—Kirkus Reviews (for #2: *We Dine With Cannibals*)

“London’s third in the series does not let up on the Saturday-morning-cartoon goofiness, and the sibling rivalry heats up a bit, too. Duddle’s occasional black-and-white illustrations are a plus in this open-ended romp that will definitely satisfy fans. High-seas hijinks with more laughs (and groans and squids) than adventure.”

—Kirkus Reviews (for #3: *We Give a Squid a Wedgie*)

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## ANDREA PYROS

Andrea Pyros is an experienced writer and editor who has worked at a variety of publications including top teen magazines like *Twist* and YM.com. She’s also one of the original founders of the beloved pop culture site *Girls on Film*, which received praise from *The New York Times*, *Entertainment Weekly*, and others. Andrea currently lives in New York’s Hudson Valley with her husband, their two children, and one elderly, slightly befuddled pug. *My Year of Epic Rock* is her first novel.

**Agent:** Erica Rand Silverman

### MY YEAR OF EPIC ROCK

**Publisher:** Sourcebooks (World English)

**Publication:** September 2014

**Editor:** Aubrey Poole

[Manuscript available](#)

A funny, relatable tale about friendship, first crushes and...anaphylactic shock? When Nina’s BFF ditches her on the first day of 7th grade, Nina is banished to the peanut-free table where she forms a band with the other allergic kids called The EpiPens. *My Year of Epic Rock* is a rollicking debut from Andrea Pyros, whose spot-on tween voice rings with authenticity.

#### Praise for *My Year of Epic Rock*:

“Nina is brave and at times, pragmatic, and recognizes she deserves to be treated better. With food allergies becoming commonplace for many kids, Nina’s struggles will hit the right note with readers /.../ Nina is a likable character and her story feels authentic. A charming addition to upper elementary and middle school collections.”

—School Library Journal

“A good choice for younger readers /.../ valuable for its portrayal of a young person living with serious food allergies.”

—Kirkus Reviews

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## EMILY RAABE

Emily Raabe was a finalist for the FutureCycle First Book Award for her poetry collection *Leave It Behind*. Her poetry has also been published in periodicals like *The Marlboro Review*, *Big Ugly Review*, *Indiana Review*, *Diner*, *Chelsea*, *Alaska Quarterly Review*, *Gulf Coast*, *Crab Orchard Review*, *Antioch Review*, *AGNI*, and *Eleven Eleven*. She has received fellowships from the Macdowell Colony, the Ragdale Foundation, Rotary International, and the Breadloaf Writers Conference. Emily lives in New York with her husband, the filmmaker Paul Devlin.

**Agent:** George Nicholson / Erica Rand Silverman

**\*FINALIST FOR THE FUTURECYCLE FIRST BOOK AWARD, 2011!**

### LOST CHILDREN OF THE FAR ISLAND

**Publisher:** Random House (North American)

**Publication:** April 2014

**Editor:** Michelle Frey

Manuscript available

Twins Gus and Leo and their little sister, Ila, live a quiet life in Maine—until their mother falls ill, and it becomes clear her strength is fading because she is protecting them from a terrible evil. Soon the children are swept off to a secret island far in the sea, where they discover a hidden grandmother and powers they never knew they had. Like their mother, they are Folk, creatures who can turn between human and animal forms. Now they must harness their newfound magic for a deeper purpose. The ancient, monstrous King of the Black Lakes will stop at nothing to rise to power, and they are all that stands in his way. Their mother’s life hangs in the balance, and the children must battle this beast to the death—despite a dire prophecy that whoever kills him will die. Can Gus, Leo, and Ila overcome this villain? Or has he grown too strong to be defeated? *Lost Children of the Far Islands* is a story filled with magic, excitement, and the dangers and delights of the sea.

**Praise for *Lost Children of the Far Islands*:**

“The strongest, most believable scenes in this cinematic book take readers firmly into the realm of the fantastic, with their vivid descriptions of such wonders as a living, breathing book and swimming and communicating as seals /.../ A mostly strong magical adventure in the grand tradition.”

—**Kirkus Reviews**

“Twins Gustavia and Leomaris live fairly normal lives, so it comes as a complete surprise that their mother becomes mysteriously ill—because she’s not really human; she’s a Folk, part of a group of people who can turn into animals. Gus and Leo are about to turn 11, the age at which the Folk begin to Turn, and they start to notice peculiar things happening to them, like being able to hold their breath underwater for long periods of time /.../ The characters are complex and well developed, and the plot flows smoothly /.../ Raabe has created a rich and detailed world for fantasy fans.”

—**School Library Journal**

“Eleven-year-old twins Gus and Leo and their younger sister, Ila, don’t know it yet, but they are Folk, creatures of Celtic legend who can transform into animals, and when their mother can no longer hide them from a scary, vengeful monster, they are secreted away to a rocky island off the coast of Maine for protection /.../ Raabe’s debut novel is brimming with pleasing details, and her description of Gus and Leo’s transformation into seals really shines /.../ This page-turning fantasy—adventure is tailor-made for marine-life fanatics.”

—**Booklist**

**Praise for *Leave it Behind*:**

**\*FINALIST FOR THE 2011 FUTURECYCLE POETRY BOOK PRIZE (SECOND PLACE)!**

“*Leave It Behind* expresses the paradoxical wish of every poet, seeking to leave behind—in both senses of that phrase—the language trace of her mind and heart. And what a fine first book Emily Raabe has left behind: vivid and strange, haunted by dreamed animals, alive with the landscapes and losses of her Vermont childhood. Raabe’s poetry seeks ‘something like love / in that it is the absence / of distance’—and yet it faces both absence and distance with unflinching imagination, intelligence and grace.”

—**Dan Chiasson, author of *Where’s the Moon, There’s the Moon***

“The poems in Emily Raabe’s first collection, *Leave It Behind*, are distinct and imaginative. Often with a surreal edge, they have the intensity and grip of dream imagery and dream narrative: ‘My best dream / goes like this: two fields / cut by a thin line of trees. / In the dream I’m at the line / when the storm comes in.’ And so the reader is immediately drawn into the poem with a sense of suspense in which the familiar has a strange and ominous aura. Raabe is able to find her identity in correlations between herself and the outer world as in ‘Self-Portrait of a House’: ‘If I were a house, I’d be a little / green house, with peeling paint / and an Ali Baba stairway / to my swinging green screen door,’ and so she invites her reader into a world of innuendo. Her poems possess an engaging freshness, and her debut as a new poet is to be welcomed.”

—**Robert Pack, author of *Laughter Before Sleep***

## OBERT SKYE

Obert Skye is the author of the bestselling children's fantasy adventure series *Leven Thump*, winner of the Benjamin Franklin Award for 2005 Best Juvenile Fiction and Book of the Year Award for Best Audio Fiction by *ForeWord* Magazine. His website is [www.abituneven.com](http://www.abituneven.com)

**Agent:** Laurie Liss

**\*WINNER OF THE BENJAMIN FRANKLIN AWARD FOR BEST JUVENILE FICTION, 2005!**

### THE CREATURE FROM MY CLOSET #6: UNTITLED

**Publisher:** Henry Holt (North American)

**Publication:** September 2016

**Editor:** Christy Ottaviano

Manuscript available: June 2016

Summary to come

### THE CREATURE FROM MY CLOSET #5: THE LORD OF THE HAT

**Publisher:** Henry Holt (North American)

**Publication:** September 2015

Manuscript available: June 2015

Rob Burnside thinks he's getting the hang of things. It almost seems as if he has learned all he needed to from his unusual closet. Beardy, the doorknob, has it locked up and there are no signs nor sounds of the closet door opening again. Of course, Rob would feel differently if he only looked under his bed. Someone has already slipped from the closet unnoticed and that someone is part Gollum, part Cat in the Hat. He's an obsessed visitor with mad rhyming skills. And when Rob's family wins a trip to Colorado to ride on trains and explore mountains, something extra makes it into his luggage. Family trips can be fun, but what happens to Rob and his family is funny. A couple of Rob's friends have been invited on the trip and trying to keep the newest creature from being discovered is a team effort. Not only must Rob find the books that hold the answers, but he is about to stumble upon the origins of Beardy. Get ready for school fights, train rides, long mysterious hikes, and a creature that is unlike any of the others who have slipped from his closet before. What Rob discovers is epic.

### THE CREATURE FROM MY CLOSET #4: KATFISH

**Publisher:** Henry Holt (North American)

**Publication:** September 2014

Manuscript available

**Rights sold:** Korea (IllusText)

Rob Burnside's life is in ruins. He needs help. And his science laboratory closet is there to give him a hand. In walks Katfish, a mashup of Katniss from the Hunger Games and the Little Mermaid. This girl is strong as nails and sports a tail. Everyone at school is excited about an upcoming riff on the Hunger Games created by Principal Smelt: the Fun-ger Games. Rob—well, not so much. But Katfish is sticking around to help Rob with girl advice, Fun-ger Games tips, and how to get people to stop hating him. What could go wrong?

### THE CREATURE FROM MY CLOSET #3: PINOCULA

**Publisher:** Henry Holt (North American)

**Publication:** September 2013

Manuscript available

**Rights sold:** Korea (IllusText) Turkey (Epsilon)

Rob Burnside's closet is at it again. This time the books of Pinocchio and Dracula are being mashed up and Pinocula is thrust into his life. Rob must navigate the humor and horror of middle school while Pinocula makes things extra difficult. A small lie grows to be a great obstacle that ends with Rob's life falling apart at his school's first dance. Funny, embarrassing, and filled with heart Pinocula just might be the messiest, and most enjoyable creature, to stumble out of Rob's closet yet. Obert Skye doesn't let his fans down in this hilarious follow-up to *Wonkenstein* and *Potterwookiee*. This is terrific diary fiction with black and white illustrations throughout.

### THE CREATURE FROM MY CLOSET #2: POTTERWOCKIEE

**Publisher:** Henry Holt (North American)

**Publication:** September 2012

Manuscript available

**Rights sold:** Korea (IllusText) Turkey (Epsilon)

**\*FIRST PRINT RUN 40,000 COPIES!**

The creature that emerges from Rob Burnside's closet this time is a hilarious mash up of Harry Potter and Chewbacca from *Star Wars*. Rob must figure out why the little Potterwookiee is here, while also dealing with his friends and working to impress the girl of his young dreams. He takes on the school bully, participates in a cooking contest, and races to find the answers in the books that brought Potterwookiee to life. Skye's hilarious illustrations add to the fun!

### **THE CREATURE FROM MY CLOSET #1: WONKENSTEIN**

**Publisher:** Henry Holt (North American)

**Publication:** September 2011

Manuscript available

**Rights sold:** Korea (IllusText) Turkey (Epsilon)

In this illustrated middle-grade novel, twelve-year-old underachiever Rob Burnside has better things to do than read. His parents give him lots of books but most of them just end up in the messy pile of junk he keeps locked in his closet that once doubled as a makeshift science laboratory. One day, Rob hears weird sounds coming from behind his closet door and discovers a funny little creature that seems to be a cross between two characters from books he's tried to ignore. He names him Wonkenstein. Keeping track of "Wonk" is hard work. But with help from friends and a little off-the-wall magic, Rob and Wonkenstein's crazy adventures set the stage for great laughs...and Rob might even read some good books along the way.

#### **Praise for *The Creature From My Closet* series:**

"Comfy antics."

—**Kirkus Reviews**

"[A] highly amusing new series starter /.../ Skye gives Rob a self-deprecating charm and highlights the pleasures of books both subtly and effectively."

—**Booklist**

"Skye delivers a familiar and appealing mix of anecdotes, sketches, and self-deprecating humor. He is also an able satirist of family dynamics."

—**Booklist**

"Original and hilarious."

—**School Library Journal**

"The text is hysterical by itself, but acts as the straight man in relation to the one-two punch of the childlike drawings and captions that appear on almost every page. Get multiple copies of this book: it will fly off the shelves."

—**School Library Journal**

"Skye captures all the silly action in the winning text-plus-cartoons format popularized by the *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* books. Rob's dry commentary on his family, school, and social life is sure to provoke laughs."

—**Publishers Weekly**

"There's enough humor here to elicit at least a few guffaws from even the most literary averse."

—**Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books**

"Filled with spot-on commentary and a wince-inducing supporting cast, middle grade guys won't be able to keep *Wonkenstein* to themselves /.../ This pitch-perfect offering should appeal to reluctant readers, not to mention the legion *Wimpy Kid* fans."

—**Shelf Awareness**

## CLETE BARRETT SMITH

Clete Barrett Smith's first novel, *Aliens on Vacation*, was named an American Booksellers Council "New Voices" selection as one of the top middle grade novels of the year by a debut author. Clete received his MFA in Writing for Children and Young Adults from the Vermont College of Fine Arts in 2010. His website is

[www.cletebarrettsmith.com](http://www.cletebarrettsmith.com)

**Agent:** George Nicholson

### MAGIC DELIVERY

**Publisher:** Hyperion (North American)

**Publication:** June 2014

**Editor:** Stephanie Lurie

Manuscript available

Nick is a natural born businessman. His schoolmates think he's a heartless hustler, but secretly he's just trying to earn money to help his mother, who works two jobs. Eager to be part of the popular circle, Nick wheedles an invitation to Hayley's upcoming Halloween party by agreeing to get her the answers to a test. His goofy friend Burger wants to be part of the deal too, and he nearly blows it for Nick, but desperate Hayley finally caves. Nick and Burger are riding home high on their success—even on their old, beat-up bikes—when they see a delivery van careen off the side of the road. The boys could have sworn that the driver was a bear... but that couldn't be right. Or could it? Turns out the van is carrying a load of costumes. With the driver nowhere in sight, Nick's first thought is about how much money he could get by selling the merchandise. Burger just wants to try them out, for fun. In the gorilla costume he chooses, Burger is very convincing. The boys make an amazing discovery: these costumes have the magical ability to transform whoever puts them on, and the bear driving the truck is actually a man named Chuck Flanagan, trapped in a grizzly costume. Chuck, they learn, is part of a secret family business: for over three centuries, the Flanagan family has discreetly transported magical items to ultra-wealthy clients all over the globe. And now Nick and Burger could become a part of it... Once again Clete Barrett Smith makes a wild premise believable and funny in a story perfectly pitched to middle graders.

#### **Praise for *Magic Delivery*:**

"Nick is the go-to guy for help at Bayside Middle School. He can delay a test or change your grade—all for a fee of course. This year, even Hayley Millard has asked him for help, in return for an invite to her famous Halloween party. Then Nick and his best buddy Burger witness a delivery truck go off a cliff and while trying to help they stumble across some Halloween costumes with very peculiar abilities /.../ Smith captures the essence of middle school and the teenage boy, with some well-placed exaggeration. An above average middle school adventure, zany and fast paced, with just enough magic to be dangerous."

—**School Library Journal**

#### **Praise for *Aliens on Vacation*:**

**\*AMERICAN BOOKSELLERS COUNCIL "NEW VOICES" SELECTION!**

**\*INDIEBOUND'S SUMMER 2011 KID'S INDIE NEXT LIST!**

**\*TEXAS BLUEBONNET AWARD MASTER LIST SELECTION, 2012-13!**

"With goofy alien illustrations to kick start each chapter, this tale explores the confusion of impending teen-hood and the importance of a sense of purpose, plus how cool it would be to have friendly aliens living among us. Ideal for upper-elementary readers dabbling in sci-fi."

—**Kirkus Reviews**

"Smith, a teacher and screenplay writer, delivers a first novel about being a stranger in a strange land that many middle-schoolers will find funny and relatable. Slade adds a few goofy touches in the black-and-white spot art."

—**Booklist**

"[Clete Barrett Smith] shares a powerful message about tolerance and responsibility. The town's mounting prejudice and fear creates an atmosphere of conflict, and the final confrontation with the terrified crowd is genuinely tense. A good choice for young science fiction fans, with special appeal to middle-school boys."

—**School Library Journal**

“Short chapters and cheerful illustrations at the beginning of each chapter make the sometimes complex philosophical debates about interplanetary travel and the rights of humans as “owners” of the Earth more accessible. Readers will likely be as disappointed as Scrub when the end of summer arrives and he has to leave behind his new girl, his beloved grandma, and, of course, the endlessly entertaining stream of aliens who need his disguising skills.”

—**Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books**

**Praise for *Aliens on a Rampage*:**

“Warm-hearted /.../ With a festival grand finale that's like a picnic of the living dead, this outing is spot-on for middle graders who like a dash of humor in their science fiction.”

—**Kirkus Reviews**

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## ROBIN YARDI

Robin Yardi, an elementary school teacher, book blogger, and mom, is a deft and discerning new author. She has a special understanding of young people, a wonderful sense of humor and does a beautiful job conveying both through her writing. She lives up in the hills of Santa Barbara surrounded by chickens, bobcats, coyotes, California quail, hawks, her own noisy kids, and, yep, some skunks. Her websites are: <http://robindobsonbooks.com> and <http://thenonfictionnook.com>

**Agent:** Erica Rand Silverman

### THE MIDNIGHT WAR

**Publisher:** Lerner Publishing Group/Carolrhoda Books (North American)

**Publication:** Spring 2016

**Editor:** Greg Hunter

**Final manuscript available:** Spring 2015

As if fourth grade hasn’t been confusing enough with old best friends and new best friends, Mateo Martinez wakes up in the middle of the night and sees two spotted skunks squeaking off on his rusty old red trike. Even he thinks it’s a dream. But it’s not. On his way to school he smells skunks and suddenly he’s sure, okay almost sure, that two skunks really did steal that old trike and are up to something in his neighborhood. But almost sure is never good enough for Mateo. He tries to convince everybody the trike is missing, that two skunks stole it, and that they should mount a midnight watch, but nobody believes him. Not Dad. Not Mom. Not his little sister, Mila. Even his new best friend he’s still kind of getting used to needs some convincing. Everyone thinks Mateo hid it. That he’s making stuff up. But Mateo knows something is going on in his neighborhood, in his own driveway, and he is going to find out what it is—TONIGHT!

Debut author, Robin Yardi, expertly draws us into Mateo’s world where language and culture are as defining to young boys as the kind of bike you ride; where honor is not just a silly oath you make with friends; and, where animals definitely should not talk or steal tricycles, but on this day they do. A sweet and humorous novel full of magical realism starring one boy, two skunks and the midnight war for playground freedom that puts everything back into perspective.

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## VIRGINIA ZIMMERMAN

Virginia Zimmerman writes novels for young readers and teaches literature at Bucknell University to somewhat older readers. She loves chocolate, cheese, swimming in the Mediterranean Sea, reading aloud to her children, and getting lost in a good book. She hopes readers young and old will get lost in her first novel, *The Rosemary Spell*, forthcoming from Clarion Books. Her website is: <http://virginiazimmerman.com>

**Agent:** George Nicholson

### THE ROSEMARY SPELL

**Publisher:** Clarion (World English)

**Publication:** Summer 2015

**Editor:** Dinah Stevenson

Manuscript available: [Fall 2014](#)

*The Rosemary Spell* is about memory and loss and the power of words to preserve and to destroy. 13-year-old Adam and Rosemary rely on imagination and friendship to unravel a literary mystery when they find an ancient book that may have belonged to Shakespeare. Hidden in the book is a poem that causes people to disappear and be erased from memory, and as the children work to make sense of the old writing, they unleash its power. Their struggle to bring someone back even as they forget her is a suspenseful race against time.

Young readers will find kindred spirits in these bright and resourceful main characters as they reflect on how writing, poetry in particular, outlasts all other monuments. Even as today's children are surrounded by technology, they need not be estranged from the joy of stories that celebrate the staying power of well-chosen words. *The Rosemary Spell* is an adventure that reveals personal stories young readers will relate to, stories of changing friendships, absent parents, and growing independence. It is a book that respects children's interpretative abilities and will invite children who love reading to see themselves as heroes.

## YOUNG ADULT

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### SONIA BELASCO

Sonia Belasco wrote her first book on construction paper when she was six years old and sick with the chicken pox. She got over the chicken pox but has been writing ever since. She has an M.F.A. in Creative Writing from California College of the Arts, and received her M.S.S. from Bryn Mawr College Graduate School of Social Work in May 2014. She has spent much of her professional life working with teenagers as a mentor, tutor and therapist, and her writing is often inspired by the amazing stories they tell her. She will watch almost any TV show about high school and has seen every contemporary movie that involves dance battles or superheroes. In eighth grade, she was voted Most Likely to Become a Comedian. She is a native of Washington, D.C. and currently lives in Philadelphia, PA, where she is trying to acquire a taste for cheesesteak. *Speak of Me As I Am* is her first novel.

**Agent:** Erica Rand Silverman

### SPEAK OF ME AS I AM

**Publisher:** Egmont (North American)

**Publication:** Spring 2016

**Editor:** Alison Weiss

**Final manuscript available:** [February 2015](#)

Damon and Melanie know something about what it means to lose those you love. Months after his death, Damon tries to see the world through the viewfinder of his best friend Carlos's camera, hoping to understand what Carlos saw—or perhaps what he didn't. With her artist mother gone, Melanie picks up a paintbrush to feel her nearby, but the set pieces she paints are filled with empty spaces. When fate conspires to bring them together, Melanie and Damon quickly become each other's anchors. But as their friendship deepens into romance, things get complicated fast. They find that they can't ignore the past forever—especially when the school production of *Othello* (in which Damon is cast as the lead) triggers memories of a past he wishes he could leave behind.

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### CATHLEEN BELL

Cathleen Bell is the author of two previous novels, *Slipping* and *Little Blog on the Prairie*. She lives in Brooklyn, NY with her husband, two children, and two neurotic dachshunds, loves apples and spaghetti, counts getting lost in space among her greatest fears, and probably shouldn't smile at strangers so often on the subway.

**Agent:** George Nicholson

### I REMEMBER YOU

**Publisher:** Crown (North American)

**Publication:** February 2015

**Editor:** Melanie Cecka

**Manuscript available**

Lucas and Juliet couldn't be more different from each other. But from the moment Lucas sees Juliet, he swears he remembers their first kiss. Their first dance. Their first fight. He even knows what's going to happen between them—not because he can predict the future, but because he claims to have already lived it. Juliet doesn't know whether to be afraid for herself or for Lucas. As Lucas's memories occur more frequently, they also grow more ominous. All Juliet wants is to keep Lucas safe with her. But how do you hold on to someone you love in the present when they've begun slipping away from you in the future?

**Blurbs for *I Remember You*:**

“I stayed up late into the night reading *I Remember You*, unable to sleep until I found out what happened to Juliet and Lucas. This is a book that shows you what true love is: heart stopping, mind bending, life changing. *I Remember You* is unforgettable.”

—Melissa Kantor, author of *Maybe One Day*

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## FRANCESCA LIA BLOCK

Francesca Lia Block is the bestselling author of the *Weetzie Bat* series. She has received numerous honors, including the Margaret A. Edwards Lifetime Achievement Award and the Phoenix Award, as well as citations from the American Library Association, *The New York Times Book Review* and the *School Library Journal*. She is renowned for her groundbreaking novels and stories—postmodern, magic-realist tales that transport readers through the harsh, gritty landscapes of contemporary life to transcendent realms of the senses where love is always our saving grace. *The New York Times Book Review* lauds “Block writes about the real Los Angeles better than anyone since Raymond Chandler.” Her books have sold over 500,000 copies in the US. Her website is

[www.francescaliablock.com](http://www.francescaliablock.com)

**Agent:** Laurie Liss

**\*MARGARET A. EDWARDS LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD!**

### THE ISLAND OF EXCESS LOVE

**Publisher:** Henry Holt & Co. (World English)

**Publication:** August 2014

**Editor:** Christy Ottaviano

[Manuscript available](#)

**Rights sold:** Turkey (BKY)

Pen has lost her parents. She’s lost her eye. But she has fought Kronen; she has won back her fragile friends and her beloved brother. When a foreboding ship appears in the harbor across from their home, they all start having strange visions of destruction and violence. In a trance, they head for the ship, and their new battles begin—battles that will test their love for one another. This companion to *Love in the Time of Global Warming* follows Pen as she searches for love among the ruins, this time using Virgil’s epic *Aeneid* as her guide. A powerful and stunning book filled with Francesca Lia Block’s beautiful language and inspiring characters.

### LOVE IN THE TIME OF GLOBAL WARMING

**Publisher:** Henry Holt & Co. (World English)

**Publication:** August 2013

[Manuscript available](#)

**Rights sold:** Bulgaria (Ex Libris) Turkey (BKY)

**\*FIRST PRINT RUN 100,000 COPIES!**

**\*ON THE RAINBOW LIST OF 2014 ALA YOUTH MEDIA AWARDS & HONORS!**

**\*A JUNIOR LIBRARY GUILD SELECTION, 2013!**

Seventeen-year-old Penelope (Pen) has lost everything: her home, her parents, and her ten-year-old brother. Like a female Odysseus in search of home, she navigates a dark world full of strange creatures, gathers companions and loses them, finds love and loses it, and faces her mortal enemy. In her signature style, Francesca Lia Block has created a world that is beautiful in its destruction and as frightening as it is lovely. At the helm is Pen, a strong heroine who holds hope and love in her hands, and refuses to be defeated. A stunning reimaging of Homer’s *Odyssey* set in post-apocalyptic Los Angeles, written by a master storyteller.

#### Praise for *The Island of Excess Love*:

“Just as Block’s earlier novel was loosely based on *The Odyssey*, this is even more loosely based on *The Aeneid*. The result is a mesmerizing, magical, and mysterious tale of love and loss, stories and visions, and betrayal and redemption, all told in the author’s signature lyrical voice.”

—Booklist

“The language and imagery are beautiful but haunting /.../ For fans of the first book, this will be a treat, but new readers should check out the previous installment.”

—**School Library Journal**

**Praise for *Love in the Time of Global Warming*:**

“This Halloween, bypass the usual vampires and werewolves of teen fiction for what lurks between the covers of Francesca Lia Block’s brutal, beautifully written *Love in the Time of Global Warming*. Those fanged and furry creatures are but a sugar rush compared with Block’s genetically engineered giants as she treats us to a dystopian tale tricked out in her signature lush prose /.../ As Penelope connects with a new love and strives to protect her friends, Block asks readers to rethink the role of hero. Penelope grows to become not just a skilled sword-wielder, but also a talented weaver of stories that warn, chronicle and save.”

—**The Washington Post**

“A post-apocalyptic setting awash with danger brings an exhilarating twist to Block’s signature mashup of rock-and-roll urchins and high literature /.../ Literary-minded readers will enjoy teasing out the allusions to Homer—and possibly even *The Wizard of Oz*—but knowledge of the classics is not a requirement to be swept up in the tatterdemalion beauty of the story’s lavish, looping language.”

—**Publishers Weekly \*Starred Review\***

“Block’s trademark magical realism works best in a brief, dreamy journey such as this one, even if the destination is uncertain /.../ Mishmash or no, there’s something encouraging about seeing four queer kids on an epic journey across the post-apocalyptic American Southwest.”

—**Kirkus Reviews**

“[*Love in the Time of Global Warming*] is original and, no surprise, gracefully written. Magic is no stranger to Block’s world, nor is her signature poetic sensibility. And love, in its many varieties and forms, is celebrated, as always.”

—**Booklist**

“/.../ juxtapositions [and other literary tricks] are pulled off flawlessly /.../ Block achieves these feats in this sophisticated melding of post-apocalyptic setting, re-imagined classic, and her signature magical realism.”

—**Horn Book Review**

“The dreamlike quality of the writing, typical of the author’s works, functions well with the fantastical elements of the story, which is solid and dense in its descriptions. This is an excellent title for students who have read Homer’s *Odyssey* as well as readers who enjoy a mix of fantasy and reality.”

—**School Library Journal**

“[*Love in the Time of Global Warming*] is a fine adventure story that leaves the question of what comes next in the reader’s hands. You can read it in an afternoon, but you’ll be thinking about it for days afterwards.”

—**Bookpage**

“These are fairytales, sure, but really they’re just gorgeously dressed-up coming-of-age stories, and no matter how old you are, this reading /.../ isn’t to be missed.”

—**East Bay Express**

“In a style that is Francesca Lia Block’s alone, *Love in the Time of Global Warming* is heartbreaking and true and beautiful in a way that only this author can write.”

—**Write All the Words**

“Hers is a voice so unique that nobody will ever be able to imitate it.”

—**Cindy Dobrez, Chairwoman of the committee that awarded Block the Margaret A. Edwards Lifetime Achievement Award in 2005**

## JENNIFER BOSWORTH

Novelist and screenwriter Jennifer Bosworth is the writer half of a writer director team, with Ryan Bosworth. Her debut novel, *Struck*, was published by FSG/Macmillan in 2012, and was featured as part of the Fierce Reads campaign. Jennifer's short films have screened at the LA Film and Music Festival, the Burbank International Film Festival, the Zero Film Festival, and the El Cid Short Film Night. Her website is [www.jenniferbosworth.com](http://www.jenniferbosworth.com)

**Agent:** Doug Stewart

### THE KILLING JAR (Stand-alone)

**Publisher:** Farrar, Straus & Giroux (World English)

**Publication:** Winter 2016

**Editor:** Janine O'Malley

**Manuscript available:** December 2014

Option publishers: **Brazil** (Nova Fronteria) **Germany** (Goldmann) **Hungary** (Konyvmolykepzo) **Italy** (Corbaccio) **Spain** (Nocturna) **UK** (Random House)

It's the best night of Kenna Marsden's life until she comes home to find her family slaughtered and the killer still in the house. Trapped, with death moments away, the killer reveals to Kenna that he didn't choose the Marsdens at random. He came there for her. She's the only one who can save him. But Kenna taps into an uncanny ability lying dormant inside her, and the killer winds up dead, while Kenna's family survives. Kenna's relief at having her family back is marred by the inexplicable, dark impulses that plague her now. Her search for help leads her to Eclipse, a nearby utopian commune. There, Kenna discovers an extraordinary new way of life as she learns who she really is, and the wonders she's capable of. But when she discovers a shocking connection between the unthinkable crime against her family and the commune leaders, Kenna realizes the inhabitants of Eclipse harbor dark secrets about her past, their inception, and their plans for her.

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## CELESTE CONWAY

Celeste Conway is a New York-based writer and artist. She is the author of the young adult novels *When You Open Your Eyes* and *The Melting Season*, and the middle-grade book *The Goodbye Time*. *The Melting Season* was listed as the New York Public Library's "Best Books for Teens" in 2007. She is also the author-illustrator of the picture book, *Where Is Papa Now?*. Celeste holds a Master of Fine Arts degree from Columbia University and teaches Literature and Writing classes at Berkeley College. Her website is [www.celesteconway.com](http://www.celesteconway.com)

**Agent:** Erica Rand Silverman

### UNLOVELY

**Publisher:** F&W Media/Merit Press (World English)

**Publication:** January 2015

**Editor:** Jacqueline Mitchard

**Manuscript available**

They look so soft and delicate, these beautiful girls from the fancy summer ballet school. But ugliness lies under the surface. Inspired by the ballet *Giselle* in which heartbroken ghosts extract revenge on duplicitous boys, some of these ballerinas have taken out punishment of their own.

Has Harley, the hometown boy back from college for summer break, put himself in danger by falling in love with one of these girls? Is Julian, the talented male ballerina, telling the truth about his sudden injury—perhaps it wasn't just an accident? In this atmospheric novel, set in a close-knit seaside town, values, class, and loyalty clash as lovely summer visitors engage in dark and unlovely acts.

### **Blurbs for *Unlovely*:**

"A perfect combination of romance and horror."

—Lois Duncan, author of *I Know What You Did Last Summer* and *Down a Dark Hall*

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## KEVIN EMERSON

Kevin Emerson is the author of the *Oliver Nocturne* series (film rights optioned by Overbrook Entertainment), *Carlos is Gonna Get It*, and *Excile* (to be published in 2015). A former elementary school science teacher, Kevin continues to work with kids and teens at 826 Seattle, Richard Hugo House, and with the Writers in the Schools program of Seattle Arts and Lectures. His website is [www.kevinemerson.net](http://www.kevinemerson.net)

**Agent:** George Nicholson

### THE ATLANTEANS TRILOGY #3: THE FAR DAWN

**Publisher:** HarperCollins (North American)

**Publication:** August 2014

**Editor:** Katherine Tegen

Manuscript available

**Rights sold:** Brazil (Leya) France (Milan) Germany (Heyne)

In *The Far Dawn*, Owen and Lilly are on their own, two of the three Atlanteans left on a journey to find Atlantis and protect it from the selfish greed of their nemesis Paul and Project Elysium. As time grows short and darkness overtakes the planet, Owen must face Paul's greatest treachery yet. He must choose—does he save the planet, or the people he loves?

Perfect for fans of *Star Wars*, Percy Jackson, or *The Hunger Games*, *The Far Dawn* takes readers on an explosive journey through time and space with heartrending decisions, pulse-pounding action, and fascinating questions of science and ethics alike. *The Far Dawn* is the third and final novel in Kevin Emerson's Atlanteans series, bringing the story of Atlantean descendant Owen Parker to a high-stakes, dramatic conclusion. The Atlanteans series has been praised for its "emotional sucker punches" (Kirkus Reviews), "solid world building" (ALA Booklist), and "mind-blowing fantasy with characters you'll love" (bestselling author Michael Grant).

### THE ATLANTEANS TRILOGY #2: THE DARK SHORE

**Publisher:** HarperCollins (North American)

**Publication:** May 2013

Manuscript available

**Rights sold:** Brazil (Leya) France (Milan) Germany (Heyne)

Owen, Lilly, and Leech, on the run from EdenWest, cross the deserts of North America, following clues as to the mysterious location of Atlantis. Their travels lead them to the third Atlantean, wild child Seven, who is the goddess of the Heliad-7 death cult, located on the Yucatan. Within their Mayan-inspired society, a land of blood and wonder, Owen finds himself caught between two worlds, and two girls. And beneath that is an emerging mystery, as the further Owen gets from EdenWest, the more his dreams and thoughts suggest that his past is not what he believes it to be.

### THE ATLANTEANS TRILOGY #1: THE LOST CODE

**Publisher:** HarperCollins (North American)

**Publication:** May 2012

Manuscript available

**Rights sold:** Brazil (Leya) France (Milan) Germany (Heyne)

What is oldest will be new, what was lost shall be found. The ozone is ravaged, ocean levels have risen, and the sun is a daily enemy. But global climate change is not something new in the Earth's history. Now it is less-than-ordinary. Owen's turn to make right in his world what went wrong thousands of years ago. If Owen can unlock the lost code in his very genes, he may rediscover the forgotten knowledge of his ancestry...and that *less-than-ordinary* can evolve into *extraordinary*. In *The Lost Code* perilous adventures take place in a grimly plausible dystopian future, fueled by high-stakes action, romance, and a provocative question: What would you do if you had the power to save humanity from its own self-destruction?

### **Praise for *The Atlanteans* series:**

"A thematic buildup leads to a choice between saving the world and saving personal love—the execution's surprising, believable and refreshingly true to the characters. The ending more than satisfies without being too tidy. A winning combination of high stakes, sacrifice and heroism."

—Kirkus Reviews (for #3: *The Far Dawn*)

“Pulsating and heartbreaking.”

—**School Library Journal (for #3: *The Far Dawn*)**

“Heart-stopping scenes of passion and power.”

—**Peter Lerangis, *New York Times* bestselling author (for #3: *The Far Dawn*)**

“The twists at Desenna are expertly executed, surprising while illuminating, and some pack emotional sucker punches. Readers will beg for the follow-up to this tense, well-plotted sequel.”

—**Kirkus Reviews (for #2: *The Dark Shore*)**

“[An] engrossing and engaging sequel /.../ Solid world building enhances a plot that accelerates to a dramatic ending that will have readers craving the next installment. Plenty here to elicit rich discussions about the environment, identity, and religion, too.”

—**Booklist (for #2: *The Dark Shore*)**

“The plot twists around like a vine, blending mythology, technology, pandemics, violence, and excitement. The three main characters are likable, though they all seem to have nine lives. This second installment will appeal to dystopian fans.”

—**School Library Journal (for #2: *The Dark Shore*)**

“Emerson launches the *Atlanteans* series with a novel that blends post-apocalyptic, SF, and paranormal elements into a summer camp story /.../ The high-stakes narrative moves forward with momentum, and a romance between Owen and Lilly is gracefully unveiled.”

—**Publishers Weekly (for #1: *The Lost Code*)**

“The ending of the book leaves plenty of room for the sequel, and readers will likely be intrigued enough to continue.”

—**School Library Journal (for #1: *The Lost Code*)**

“The familiar array of apocalypse-ready themes, ranging from corporate greed to the fragility of the environment to human arrogance, are on display, harnessed to a combination of science and mysticism /.../ The broad strokes of conflict and characterization make this a movie-ready action flick at heart; with an easy romance and a social world primarily built on well-trodden summer camp tropes, it’s a lighter alternative to the bleak post-apocalyptic waterworld of Bertagna’s *Exodus* or Bacigalupi’s *Ship Breaker* (BCCB 6/10) and an accessible entree to the dystopia trend.”

—**Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books (for #1: *The Lost Code*)**

“*The Lost Code* will satisfy teens’ thirst for post-apocalyptic dystopian novels with just the right amount of suspense, adventure, science fiction, fantasy, and romance, but without the brutal violence found in other stories. Readers will eagerly devour Owen’s tale and look forward to its continuation.”

—**VOYA (for #1: *The Lost Code*)**

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## RICHARD PAUL EVANS

Richard Paul Evans is the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Christmas Box*. Each of his eighteen novels has appeared on *The New York Times* best seller list; there are more than 14 million copies of his books in print worldwide. Evans has won the American Mothers book award, two first place Storytelling World awards, The Romantic Times Best Women’s Novel of the Year Award, the German Leserpreis Gold Award for Romance, and the Religion Communicator’s Council’s Wilbur Award. Four of Evans’s books have been produced as television movies. Evans also received the *Washington Times* Humanitarian of the Century Award and the Volunteers of America National Empathy Award for his work helping abused children. His website is [www.richardpaulevans.com](http://www.richardpaulevans.com)

**Agent:** Laurie Liss

**\*MORE THAN 14 MILLION COPIES SOLD!**

**\*A NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLER!**

**MICHAEL VEY #7: UNTITLED**

**Publisher:** S&S/Mercury Ink (North American)

**Publication:** August 2017

**Editor:** Mara Anastas

Manuscript available: April 2017

**Rights sold:** France (Pocket Jeunesse) Hungary (Könyvmolyképző)

Summary to come

**MICHAEL VEY #6: UNTITLED**

**Publisher:** S&S/Mercury Ink (North American)

**Publication:** August 2016

Manuscript available: April 2016

**Rights sold:** France (Pocket Jeunesse) Hungary (Könyvmolyképző)

Summary to come

**MICHAEL VEY #5: UNTITLED**

**Publisher:** S&S/Mercury Ink (North American)

**Publication:** August 2015

Manuscript available: April 2015.

**Rights sold:** France (Pocket Jeunesse) Hungary (Könyvmolyképző)

Summary to come

**MICHAEL VEY #4: HUNT FOR JADE DRAGON**

**Publisher:** S&S/Mercury Ink (North American)

**Publication:** August 2014

Manuscript available

**Rights sold:** France (Pocket Jeunesse) Hungary (Könyvmolyképző)

**\*ON AMAZON BOOKS AND CHILDREN'S BOOKS BESTSELLER LIST ON DAY OF PUBLICATION!**

Michael and his friends must rescue a child prodigy as the thrilling action continues in this electrifying fourth installment of the #1 *New York Times* bestselling series!

Michael, Taylor, Ostin and the rest of the Electroclan head to China in search of a girl who may have discovered why Michael and his friends became electric. Her name is Lin Julung, or Jade Dragon, and she is a child prodigy with an IQ higher than Einstein's and Ostin's. But malicious Hatch gets to her first, and the Elgen are holding her prisoner in their Taiwan Starxource plant. Now the Voice wants Michael and the Electroclan to go to Taiwan and free her before Hatch can realize his dreams of an army of electric children. The hunt for Jade Dragon is on, and it's a race against time!

**MICHAEL VEY #3: BATTLE OF THE AMPERE**

**Publisher:** S&S/Mercury Ink (North American)

**Publication:** August 2013

Manuscript available

**Rights sold:** France (Pocket Jeunesse) Hungary (Könyvmolyképző) Latin America (Planeta) Poland (Fabryka) Taiwan (Global Kids) Turkey (Pegasus)

**\*#2 & #4 FOR TWO CONSECUTIVE WEEKS ON THE NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER LIST!**

**\*#1 PUBLISHERS WEEKLY FRONTLIST FICTION**

**\*#10 ON THE USA TODAY TOP 150 BESTSELLERS FOR SEPTEMBER 26<sup>TH</sup>, 2013**

**\*AN AMAZON BEST SELLER THE TIME OF PUBLICATION IN 3 CATEGORIES: #3 IN CHILDREN'S BOOKS "GROWING UP & FACTS OF LIFE," #4 IN CHILDREN'S BOOKS "SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY," AND #10 IN CHILDREN'S BOOKS "ACTION & ADVENTURE"**

**\*SOLD MORE THAN 175,000 COPIES SO FAR!**

In the third book of the electrifying *Michael Vey* series, Michael and his friends must continue to fight the Elgen and disrupt their plans to rule the world. The kids have destroyed the largest of the Elgen Starxource plants, but now they are scattered across the Amazon jungle. The Elgen have joined forces with the Peruvian army, and only Michael has managed to remain free. With his friends due to stand trial for terrorism—a charge that may carry the

death penalty—Michael will need all his wits and his abilities if he's to save them. Meanwhile, Dr. Hatch and his loyal electric children have seized control of the ES Ampere—the superyacht the Elgen use as their headquarters. With the Elgen fleet under his control, Hatch heads back to Peru to pick up his army and begin his quest for global domination. Michael will have to free his friends, then find a way to stop Hatch, but the organization that has guided him has been compromised. Hatch knows Michael and the Electroclan are coming. And he's ready.

#### **MICHAEL VEY #2: RISE OF THE ELGEN**

**Publisher:** S&S/Mercury Ink (North American)

**Publication:** August 2012

[Manuscript available](#)

**Rights sold:** France (Pocket Jeunesse) Germany (Baumhaus) Hungary (Könyvmolyképző) Latin America (Planeta) The Netherlands (Kluitman) Poland: (Fabryka) Taiwan: (Global Kids) Turkey (Pegasus)

**\*A NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLER!**

**\*AN AMAZON BEST SELLER!**

Michael, Taylor, Ostin and the rest of the Electroclan have escaped from the Elgen Academy in Pasadena and are headed back to Idaho to plan their next move and save Michael's mother. But what they find waiting for them will change everything. After narrowly defeating an Elgen trap, a mysterious voice leads Michael and his friends to the jungles of Peru in search of Michael's mother. There the Electroclan discovers that Dr. Hatch and the Elgen have risen in power and one-by-one, entire countries are beginning to fall before them. Only the Electroclan and their anonymous "friend" stand in the way of the Elgen's brilliant plan for global domination. But is the voice Michael follows truly a friend or just another Elgen trap? And will Michael ever see his mother again? With new Elgen technology and new enemies with horrible powers, the young Electroclan faces its greatest challenge yet.

#### **MICHAEL VEY #1: THE PRISONER OF CELL 25**

**Publisher:** S&S/Mercury Ink (North American)

**Publication:** August 2011

[Manuscript available](#)

**Rights sold:** Brazil (Leya) France (Pocket Jeunesse) Germany (Baumhaus) Hungary (Könyvmolyképző) Indonesia (Mizan) Israel (Matar) Latin America (Planeta) The Netherlands (Kluitman) Poland (Fabryka) Russia (Ast) Taiwan (Global Kids) Turkey (Pegasus)

**\*A NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLER!**

**\*AMAZON TEEN OUTSTANDING BOOK, 2011!**

**\*OUTSTANDING SCIENCE TRADE BOOK (NSTA/CHILDREN'S BOOK COUNCIL), 2012!**

**\*BEST OF BOOKTWRIPS.COM NOMINEE, 2011!**

To everyone at Meridian High School, Michael Vey seems like an ordinary 14-year-old. He likes waffles and video games, hates homework, and gets bullied at school. But Michael is anything but ordinary. He was born with special electrical powers. When Michael's best friends, Ostin Liss and cheerleader Taylor Ridley, make an accidental discovery, the trio learns that there are other children with electric powers—and that someone, or something, is hunting them. After Michael's mother is kidnapped, Michael will have to rely on his wits, powers and friends to combat the powerful Elgen and free his mother.

#### **Praise for the *Michael Vey* series:**

“Fast-paced /.../ Evans delivers a pair of believable lead characters—Taylor has wits and personal integrity, while Michael's Tourette's syndrome, coupled with an emotional jolt from his past, adds dimension.”

—**Publishers Weekly (For *Michael Vey #1*)**

“Short chapters with intriguing titles, excellent writing, and engaging characters make this action-packed story a compulsively entertaining read. /.../ This first book of a planned series has a satisfying conclusion but leaves the reader determined to discover what the next book, *Rise of the Elgen*, has in store for our young hero and his friends. Though contemporary and edgy, this book contains no bad language, sex, or gratuitous violence.”

—**VOYA (For *Michael Vey #1*)**

“Fans of action-driven adventure and science fiction may find the characterizations to be less important than the gripping pace and the unusual superpowers these teens are just learning to control.”

—**Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books (For *Michael Vey #1*)**

“Evans has created a character that will entertain both adults and children /.../ Questions of ethics and evil versus good become pivotal points and serve to develop a moral compass for the youngsters, both in the story and hopefully for the children reading the book /.../ The book is electric.”

—**New York Journal of Books (For *Michael Vey* #1)**

“*Michael Vey: The Prisoner Of Cell 25* is a fantastic read /.../ because of the realistic writing, the likable characters, and a plot that guarantees non-stop action from almost the first page /.../ Any teen into action, adventure or science fiction will want to make sure *Michael Vey* is on his or her bookshelf.”

—**ChicagoExaminer.com (For *Michael Vey* #1)**

“*Michael Vey* is electrifyingly awesome.”

—**Teenreads.com (For *Michael Vey* #1)**

“Fans of Michael Vey will not be disappointed in this high-octane addition to the series featuring a boy who can manipulate electricity and who tries to stop the nefarious Dr. Hatch from controlling the world’s power /.../ Chaste romantic scenes and a conspicuous lack of profanity may widen the audience. Readers new to the series may be confused by the large cast and lack of backstory, but the relentless pace and constant one-liners should keep the pages turning easily.”

—**Booklist (For *Michael Vey* #3)**

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## ALEX FLINN

#1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *Beastly*, Alex Flinn’s debut novel *Breathing Underwater* was chosen as a “Top 10 Best Book for Young Adults” by the American Library Association. She also authored *Breaking Point*, *Nothing to Lose*, *Fade to Black*, *Diva*, and *A Kiss in Time*. Her website is [www.alexflinn.com](http://www.alexflinn.com)

**Agent:** George Nicholson

**\*#1 NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLER!**

### MIRRORED

**Publisher:** HarperTeen (North American)

**Publication:** Fall 2015

**Editor:** Toni Markiet

Manuscript available: October 2014

Violet is hideous. That’s all there is too it. Smart, as if it matters, but hideous and hated. The only one who can stand her at all is Greg, a shy boy, who meets her because of her mysterious gift of healing. The two become fast friends. Violet hopes for more, but when teen years hit and Greg comes into his own beauty, he rejects Violet. Spurned, she meets a mysterious woman, Kendra, a witch who tells her about her own powers and gives her a magic mirror. She is especially gifted at controlling animals, getting them to carry out her will. Also, she makes herself beautiful. Beauty becomes her obsession. But beauty does not get Greg back. Celine, Violet’s new stepmother, is not happy at all and despises her. That much is obvious. Perhaps it’s because she reminds Violet of her mother, though she resembles her father, with raven-black hair and skin of porcelain. When her father is suddenly killed in an accident, Violet is devastated. She devotes herself to her beauty and in pursuing Celine. Violet means to be the fairest, at whatever cost.

### TOWERING

**Publisher:** HarperTeen (North American)

**Publication:** February 2013

Manuscript available

A contemporary retelling of *Rapunzel*: ‘High in my tower I sit. I watch the birds fly below, the clouds float above, and the tall, green forest stretch to places I might never see. Mama, who isn’t my mother, has kept me hidden away for eight long years. My only companions, besides Mama, are my books—great adventures, mysteries, and romances that I long to make my reality. But I know that no one will come to save me—my life is not a fairy tale after all. Well, at least no one has come so far. Recently, my hair has started to grow rapidly and it is now long

enough to reach the bottom of the tower from my window. I've also had the strangest dreams of a beautiful, green-eyed boy. When Mama isn't around, I plan my escape, even if it's just for a little while. There's something—maybe someone—waiting for me out there and it won't find me if I'm trapped here towering above it all.'

### **BEWITCHING**

**Publisher:** HarperTeen (North American)

**Publication:** February 2012

[Manuscript available](#)

**Rights sold:** Czech Republic (MOBA) Germany (Baumhaus) Turkey (Pegasus)

**\*2013 YALSA BEST FICTION FOR YOUNG ADULTS!**

The companion novel to the #1 *New York Times* bestseller *Beastly*; a spinoff featuring the always sassy witch Kendra, the standout character from the first book. Once again Flinn draws from classic fairytales to create a high school story with a touch of something magical. Kendra tells of the trials and tribulations of being a high school witch and of her hundreds of years on earth that made her the sparkplug that she is.

### **CLOAKED**

**Publisher:** HarperTeen (North American)

**Publication:** February 2011

[Manuscript available](#)

**Rights sold:** Germany (Baumhaus)

Excerpt: 'I'm not your average hero. I actually wasn't your average anything. Just a poor guy working an after-school job at a south beach shoe repair shop to help his mom make ends meet. But a little magic changed it all. It all started with the curse. And the froggnapping. And one hot-looking princess, who asked me to lead a rescue mission.'

### **A KISS IN TIME**

**Publisher:** HarperTeen (North American)

**Publication:** April 2009

[Manuscript available](#)

**Rights sold:** Russia (Exmo) Turkey (Pegasus)

Talia fell under a spell and Jack broke the curse: 'I was told to beware the accursed spindle, but it was so enchanting, so hypnotic...I was looking for a little adventure the day I ditched my tour group. But finding a comatose town, with a hot-looking chick asleep in it, was not what I had in mind. I awakened in the same place but in another time—to a stranger's soft kiss. I couldn't help kissing her. Sometimes you just have to kiss someone. I didn't know this would happen. Now I am in dire trouble because my father, the king, says I have brought ruin upon our country. I have no choice but to run away with this commoner! And I ask myself: Can a kiss transcend all—even time?'

### **BEASTLY**

**Publisher:** HarperTeen (North American)

**Publication:** October 2007

[Books available](#)

**Rights sold:** Brazil (Record) Bulgaria (Pergament) Croatia (Algoritam) Czech Republic (MOBA) Estonia (Varrak) France (Hachette) Germany (Baumhaus) Greece (Psychogios) Hungary (Bookworm) Indonesia (Mizan) Italy (Giunti) Japan (Kadokawa Shoten) Korea (Bookfolio) Lithuania (Media Incognito) Macedonia (Prosvetno) Poland (Wydawnictwo Galeria) Portugal (Character) Romania (RAO) Russia (Exmo) Spain (Versatil) Spain (Catalan) (Versatil) Sweden (Bonnier) Turkey (Pegasus) Thailand (Book Innovation) Vietnam (Dong-A)

**\*A #1 NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLER!**

**\*A MAJOR FEATURE FILM!**

**\*RERELEASED AS A DELUXE EDITION WITH THE INCLUSION OF NOVELLA LINDY'S DIARY  
JANUARY 2012**

**\*INTERNATIONAL READING ASSOCIATION YOUNG ADULT CHOICES, 2009**

**\*AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION QUICK PICKS FOR RELUCTANT YOUNG ADULT  
READERS, 2008**

**\*VOYA REVIEW EDITOR'S CHOICE, 2008**

**\*NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY BOOKS FOR TEEN AGE**

**\*WOZZLES (CANADA) TEEN BATTLE OF THE BOOKS TITLE, 2010**

Love is never ugly: ‘I am a beast. A beast! Not quite wolf or bear, gorilla or dog but a horrible new creature who walks upright. I am a monster. You think I’m talking fairy tales? No way. The place is New York City. The time is now. It’s no deformity, no disease. And I’ll, stay this way forever—ruined—unless I can break the spell. A spell that the witch in my English class cast on me. Why did she turn me into a beast, who hides by day and prowls by night? I’ll tell you. I’ll tell you how I used to be Kyle Kingsbury, the guy with money, perfect looks, and the perfect life. And then, I’ll tell you how I became perfectly beastly.’

**Praise for *Beastly*:**

“Flinn delivers a lighthearted and contemporary twist on *Beauty and the Beast*, and /.../ her retelling is eminently satisfying /.../ The happily-ever-after ending is rewarding, if not surprising.”

—**Publishers Weekly**

“Flinn’s contemporary adaptation of *Beauty and the Beast* pulls fairy tales and classics like *Phantom of the Opera* into the context of modern teen life /.../ Teens will LOL. They will also find their preoccupations with looks, status and pride explored thoroughly.”

—**Kirkus Reviews**

“Equally strong appeal for boys and girls.”

—**Booklist**

“*Beastly* has romance, true love, tragic circumstances, magic, action adventure, and hope. It’s a must-read for all fairy-tale fans, and has a knockout cover to boot.”

—**School Library Journal**

“[An] engrossing tale that will have appeal for fans of fantasy and realistic fiction.”

—**VOYA**

**Praise for *A Kiss in Time*:**

“Clever and humorous /.../ Fans of happily-ever-after endings will delight in the upbeat resolution, which confirms the notion that ‘love conquers all.’”

—**Publishers Weekly**

“Listeners, especially girls, will fall in love with the humor, magic, and believable romance in this happily-ever-after tale.”

—**School Library Journal**

“Fans of Meg Cabot’s *Princess Diaries* and Gail Carson Levine’s *Ella Enchanted* will embrace this charming, lightweight fantasy.”

—**Booklist**

“Those fans of Flinn’s widely popular *BEASTLY* will thoroughly enjoy this fractured fairy tale as well.”

—**VOYA**

“Flinn /.../ injects a little magic and chivalry into the modern world /.../ all on the road to a satisfying “happily ever after.”

—**The Horn Book**

**Praise for *Bewitching*:**

“[Flinn] keeps the narrative moving along in sprightly fashion. It all adds up to plenty of fun that should appeal to many readers, particularly those who will delight in seeing the familiar tales in their new clothes. It’s often touching, with an undercurrent of wry comedy, some history and a bit of a moral thrown in, as in any good fairy tale. Clever and enjoyable.”

—**Kirkus Reviews**

“The inventive spin on the traditional will please fans of Flinn and fairy tales alike and leave them eager for Kendra’s next volume.”

—**Booklist**

“With hints of *Cinderella* and a sprinkling of valuable life lessons for teens (‘beautiful on the outside does not mean beautiful on the inside’ and ‘accept your own shape and size’), Emma’s story will leave readers cheering. *Bewitching* is a humorous and engaging read that will appeal to those who love classic tales.”

—**School Library Journal**

**Praise for *Cloaked*:**

“A warmhearted, goofy and occasionally quite silly tale /.../ The friends proceed through this appealing, magic- and mishap-laced adventure, and it all ends quite nicely, as told in Johnny’s clueless but endearing voice.”

—**Kirkus Reviews**

“A princess, a cobbler, a witch, and modern-day South Beach mash up in Flinn’s latest fairy-tale retelling /.../ Instead of a well-known classic, several lesser-known tales combine here to give the book a nice blend of the familiar (the frog who needs a kiss to transform) and the novel (how will a puny kid best two giants?). Readers will keep turning pages.”

—**Booklist**

“Flinn cleverly plays on some lesser-known fairy tales to make this book a fun, romantic adventure with likable characters. Rapid action and amusing situations make it a quick read that will easily entice even reluctant readers.”

—**School Library Journal**

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## MICHAEL HARMON

Michael Harmon was born in Los Angeles and now lives in the Pacific Northwest. He dropped out of high school as a senior and draws on many of his own experiences in his award-winning fiction for young adults. His website is:

<http://www.booksbyharmon.com/index.html>

**Agent:** George Nicholson

### STICK

**Publisher:** Knopf (North American)

**Publication:** Summer 2015

**Editor:** Erin Clarke

**Manuscript available:** Fall 2015

Brett Patterson has golden hands. He can catch anything, but the thing he likes catching the best is a football. The only problem is that he hates playing. Hates the game, his teammates, his coach, and most of all, he hates that something he once loved has turned into something ugly. Brett faces the biggest decision in his life; quitting the thing he loves. But then he meets Preston, a dork who dresses up as a superhero for reasons of his own, and the last person in the world Brett ever thought would help him find the true meaning of what he loves, and what he lost.

**Praise for *Last Exit to Normal*:**

**\*AN ALA-YALSA “BEST BOOK FOR YOUNG ADULTS”**

**\*ANA ALA RAINBOW LIST SELECTION FOR LGBTQ CONTENT FOR YOUTH**

**\*A JAMES COOK BOOK AWARD WINNER FOR DIVERSITY IN TEEN LITERATURE**

**\*A TEXAS TAYSHAS HIGH SCHOOL READING LIST SELECTION**

**\*A MARYLAND BLACK-EYED SUSAN BOOK AWARD**

“Harmon makes it work with believable characters, Ben’s biting wit, and solid lessons about acceptance and responsibility”

—**Library Journal \*Starred Review\***

“[Harmon] digs beneath the stereotypes of gays and rednecks to tackle issues emerging when conservative and liberal values clash /.../ with skillful, often witty insights into human nature; because his take on people is convincing, audiences will want to believe in his story, too.”

—**Publishers Weekly \*Starred Review\***

**Praise for *Under the Bridge*:**

**\*A TEXAS TAYSHA HIGH SCHOOL READING LIST SELECTION**

**\*PEN BOOK AWARD**

“Harmon offers a down-to-earth portrait of teenagers and adults alike working hard to exert control over their lives, a daily grind that is messy, complicated, and never easy.”

—**Publishers Weekly**

“While the swearing, sex and drug use proclaim this an issues book for older teens, the heart is very much in the after-school-special camp, with a satisfying resolution never in doubt.”

—**Kirkus Reviews**

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## CJ HILL

CJ Hill is a pen name for Janette Rallison, who is best known for writing romantic comedies, including *My Fair Godmother* and *My Unfair Godmother*. She is also the author of the *Slayers* series. Her writing has shifted away from the romantic comedy genre, so her editor thought a pen name would be a good idea. New books will include: dangerous dragons, time travel to dystopian worlds, and flesh-eating beetles. Her website is

[www.janetterallison.com](http://www.janetterallison.com)

**Agent:** Erica Rand Silverman

**\*MORE THAN A MILLION BOOKS SOLD!**

### **ECHO IN TIME (ERASING TIME #2)**

**Publisher:** Harpercollins (North American)

**Publication:** December 2013

**Editor:** Katherine Tegen

[Manuscript available](#)

After being pulled 400 years into the future, twins Taylor and Sheridan have found some refuge from the government of Traventon, which used the dangerous Time Strainer to yank the girls from the past. Yet the threat of the dangerous technology still looms. Taylor and an ally, Joseph, are selected to go on a mission to destroy the time machine and weapon. But their actions before they do may have major consequences for the future and the past. Action-packed and romantic, this futuristic sequel to *Erasing Time* is perfect for fans of dystopian and sci-fi novels such as *The Maze Runner* by James Dashner, *Across the Universe* by Beth Revis, and *Matched* by Ally Condie.

### **ERASING TIME #1**

**Publisher:** Harpercollins (North American)

**Publication:** August 2012

[Manuscript available](#)

When twins Sheridan and Taylor wake up 400 years in the future, they find a changed world: domed cities, no animals, and a language that's so different, it barely sounds like English. And the worst news: They can't go back home. The twenty-fifth-century government transported the girls to their city hoping to find a famous scientist to help perfect a devastating new weapon. The same government has implanted tracking devices in the citizens, limiting and examining everything they do. Taylor and Sheridan have to find a way out of the city before the government discovers their secrets. To complicate matters, the mob-like Dakine has interest in getting hold of them

too. The only way for the girls to elude their pursuers is to put their trust in Echo, a guy with secrets of his own. The trio must put their faith in the unknown to make a harrowing escape into the wilds beyond the city. Full of adrenaline-injected chases and heartbreaking confessions, *Erasing Time* explores the strength of the bonds between twins, the risks and rewards of trust, and the hard road to finding the courage to fight for what you believe in.

**Praise for *Erasing Time*:**

“This age-old jailbreak plot is seasoned with plentiful, often amusing novelties and historical misinterpretations. It’s a mash-up of *Weird Science* and *Erewhon*...the fun is never far behind.”

—**Publishers Weekly**

“A dash of time travel gives a fresh flavor to the quickly staling dystopia genre. /.../ Dramatic twists and turns to the very end ensure readers’ attention and the possibility of an equally thrilling sequel.”

—**Kirkus Reviews**

“Hill leaves the ending wide open for a sequel, and the combination of action and romance—which has become a trademark of the ever-growing trend of dystopian series—will make readers eager for the next installment.”

—**Booklist**

**Praise for *Slayers*:**

“Part urban fantasy, part superhero tale, this adventure is full of action, drama, and humor, with just a touch of romance. It’s a strong beginning with a memorable, realistic heroine who is competent without being unstoppable, fashion-conscious without being shallow, and thoroughly capable of rising to the occasion.”

—**Publishers Weekly**

“Enjoyably campy.”

—**Kirkus Reviews**

“[A] high-tension story /.../ Hill offers cunning peeks into the minds of characters /.../ This promising new series may feature dragons and a reeducation camp for contemporary youths who have mythological roots, but the character development, plotting, and ethical quandaries make this more than a worthy equal of the works of Rick Riordan or Christopher Paolini.”

—**Booklist**

## POLLY HOLYOKE

Polly Holyoke holds a B.A. from Middlebury College and a teaching certificate from the University of Colorado. Before becoming a writer, Polly worked as a researcher and middle school history teacher. An avid scuba diver, Polly drew on her own diving experiences to create the undersea scenes depicted in *The Neptune Project*. Polly currently resides in Dallas, Texas with her husband and two children. Her website is [www.pollyholyokey.com](http://www.pollyholyokey.com)

**Agent:** Doug Stewart

### THE NEPTUNE CHALLENGE

**Publisher:** Hyperion (North American)

**Publication:** April 2015

**Editor:** Stephanie Lurie

Manuscript available: January 2015

**Rights sold:** UK (Puffin)

*The Neptune Challenge* continues the story of Nere and delves deep into the lives of the Neptune kids at Safety Harbor. Nere and her friends embark on many undersea adventures and discover some very intriguing mysteries along the way.

### THE NEPTUNE PROJECT

**Publisher:** Hyperion (North American)

**Publication:** April 2013

Manuscript available

**Rights sold:** UK (Puffin)

With her awkward limbs, pale-bordering-on-translucent skin, and lungs so weak that she's often left gasping for air, Nere feels more at home swimming with the dolphins her mother studies than she does hanging out with her classmates. Nere has never understood why she is so much more comfortable and confident in water than on land, but everything falls into place when she learns that she is one of a group of kids who—unbeknownst to them—have been genetically altered to survive in the ocean. These products of the “Neptune Project” will be able to build a better future under the sea, safe from the barren country's famine, wars, and harsh laws. But there are some very big problems: no one ever asked Nere if she wanted to be a science experiment; the other Neptune kids aren't exactly the friendliest bunch; and in order to reach the safe haven of the Neptune colony, Nere and her fellow mutants must swim through hundreds of miles of dangerous water, relying only on their wits, protective dolphins, and one another to evade terrifying undersea creatures and a government that will stop at nothing to capture the Neptune kids...dead or alive. Fierce battles and daring escapes abound as Nere and her friends race to safety in this action-packed aquatic adventure.

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## MADELEINE KUDERICK

Madeleine Kuderick writes contemporary young adult fiction and poetry. She is published in anthologies and magazines and has spoken at International Reading Association conferences and similar venues. She received her bachelor's degree from the University of South Florida and an MBA from Saint Leo University. Madeleine grew up in Oak Park, Illinois, a community with rich literary tradition, where she was editor-in-chief of the same high school newspaper that Ernest Hemingway wrote for decades earlier. Madeleine lives on Florida's Gulf Coast with her husband and two children.

**Agent:** George Nicholson

### KISS OF BROKEN GLASS

**Publisher:** HarperCollins (World English)

**Publication:** September 2014

**Editor:** Toni Markiet

Manuscript available

When 15-year-old Kenna is caught cutting at school and involuntarily committed to a psychiatric ward, she loses everything that matters: her blade; her friends; her freedom. The only thing she doesn't lose is the relentless craving to cut. While in lock up, Kenna initially denies her problem but soon plunges into a fierce emotional journey that forces her to face her addiction, deal with rejection, and find a shred of hope. Along the way, she's bolstered by three teens who are locked up with her and struggling with problems of their own. When Kenna is released just 72 hours later, the world is still the same sharp trigger it's always been, but Kenna feels different...and for the first time, she hopes that she's different enough to change.

#### Praise for *Kiss of Broken Glass*:

“This novel in verse offers snapshots of a teen girl's thoughts and experiences while under mandatory psychiatric watch after being caught in the school bathroom cutting herself /.../ Each word of the narrative is carefully chosen and the imagery is vivid and descriptive, offering readers a moving story about a serious issue. Mild language and scenes of mutilation are included, adding authenticity to the characterization and the treatment of the subject /.../ a great discussion starter for teens, families, and educators.”

—**School Library Journal**

“Vivid and descriptive /.../ a moving story about a serious issue.”

—**School Library Journal**

“Kuderick's keen diction and free-verse technique shine.”

—**Kirkus Reviews**

“A fresh, honest, and ultimately hopeful story.”

—Horn Book

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## ALEX LONDON

Alex London is the YA pen name for C. Alexander London, award-winning author of nonfiction and a fully licensed and accredited librarian. While traveling as a journalist, he survived an erupting volcano in the Democratic Republic of Congo, a hurricane on small island in the Caribbean, four civil wars (one of them was over by the time he got there, thankfully), and a mysterious bite on his little toe in the jungles of Thailand. His website is:

[www.calexanderlondon.com](http://www.calexanderlondon.com)

**Agent:** Robert Guinsler

### GUARDIAN

**Publisher:** Philomel (World English)

**Publication:** May 2014

**Editor:** Jill Santopolo

[Manuscript available](#)

The system of credit and debt has been obliterated. There are no more proxies, no more patrons, no debts or contracts or controls. Mountain City has been thrown into chaos. The Maes gang roams wild, thugs and bandits loot the houses of the rich. Anarchy reigns. And then people start dying. The Guardians, at first, the former corporate enforcers. Nobody seems to pay attention to this fact—they were barely human anyway. But Syd notices and to save civilization, Syd has to wrest control from the Rebooters who are fighting to create a new system and cure the plague that is ignited. *Guardian* is the sequel to the highly praised young adult novel *Proxy*.

### PROXY

**Publisher:** Philomel (World English)

**Publication:** June 2013

[Manuscript available](#)

**Rights sold:** Turkey (Final Arts and Culture Publications)

**\*2014 TOP TEN QUICK PICKS FOR RELUCTANT YOUNG ADULT READERS**

**\*A PUBLISHERS WEEKLY PICK: BEST NEW BOOK FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2013!**

**\*AN ATLANTIC WIRE SUMMER BOOK GUIDE PICK!**

**\*A BOOKRIOT 'BEST BOOK OF SEPTEMBER 2013' PICK!**

**\*BUZZFEED LIST '15 BOOKS TO SATISFY YOUR INNER NERD'\***

There is no government. The market, unchecked by mercy, rules. Corporations keep the peace and provide for every need. For the children of the rich—the Patrons of society, like 16 year old Knox—this means a life of excess and privilege. For the poor—like 16 year old Shaun—to get by, it means debt. He's in debt from the orphanage where he grew up; he's in debt for his education (what passes for it at the cheap school he attends anyway), and he's in debt for everything he's ever done and ever dreams of doing. And debt has made him a Proxy. When a Patron breaks a law, his Proxy takes the punishment. A Patron and a Proxy are never supposed to meet, but when Knox's mischief leaves a girl dead, the punishment is too much for Shaun to bear, and he's going to do the unthinkable: escape. When his escape goes wrong, he finds himself caught up with Knox in a conspiracy that's much bigger than either of them, on a collision course with ruthless men, desperate greed, and with the girl who set it all in motion. The two boys are going to need each other to survive, if they can survive each other first.

### Praise for *Proxy*:

“*Accidental Adventures* author London drops his first initial for his teen debut, a smart, stylish science-fiction thriller that deftly weaves big issues like guilt, accidents of birth, redemption and commerce into a page-turning read.”

—Kirkus Reviews

“*Proxy* is a fast-paced dystopian novel which should appeal to readers of the *Hunger Games* and other books with themes which question the assumed social order and view society with a critical eye. The value of friendship and the ability of individuals to create change in the world resonates, while the action and intrigue engage the reader.”

—VOYA

“A big twist and heroic ending will leave readers eager for more.”

—**Shelf Awareness**

“By the time I reached the end, I was so invested and completely heartbroken that it had come to an end. This novel was just what I was looking for in a dystopian with its originality and complex characters. A huge high five to the author for providing us with a main character who is gay in this genre. It was refreshing and added a dynamic I absolutely adored. Now, how long until the sequel?”

—**forever17.com**

“You should buy it!”

—**Forever Young Adult**

“For a story to juggle so many layers of symbolism and allusions without seeming like awkward and heavy handed allegory takes immense skill on the author’s part, and the fact that London manages to do that here while still creating some of the most believable and nuanced young characters I’ve ever met in fiction is a true accomplishment. I wish this book had been around when I was a kid. I’m proud to display *Proxy* on my shelf alongside the classics in this beloved genre, because its position there is entirely deserved. Rating: A.”

—**Geeks Out**

“It’s a story full of action, fully of twists, a bit of romance, a bit of heartache /.../ Five out of five stars.”

—**chaosreads.com**

“This story is gripping, the characters are believable, and the action is nonstop. Great for avid readers and reluctant readers alike, it’s a terrific combination of sci-fi, suspense, and action.”

—**examiner.com**

“/.../ *Proxy* is what a dystopian novel should be.”

—**whimsicallyyours.com**

“Whatever your kid’s age, interests, or literary predilections, he or she has no excuse to whine about being booooooored now that summer’s half over. [*Proxy* is] ominous summer reading for all!”

—**Tablet**

“/.../ a poignant story of friendship and self-sacrifice, with an impressive ending without a clear resolution that will leave [readers] anxious for planned sequels.”

—**BCCB**

“*Proxy* moves blindingly fast through a world of danger gone viral. It’s science-fiction on a joy ride full of deceit and imagination.”

—**Deseret News**

**Praise for *Guardian*:**

“Corrupt powers, budding romance, an epidemic and grisly action synthesize to sate sci-fi fans.”

—**Kirkus Reviews**

“London puts his protagonists through the ringer in this exciting conclusion, especially in the final chapters. Liam’s enduring devotion and growing affection for Syd create a potential for romance amidst all the battles, without dominating the story. New spins on the classic plot of the rich and omnipotent drained of power, smart insights on debt and dogma, and nonstop action starring everyday heroes will keep the pages turning.”

—**Shelf Awareness, book review by Adam Silvera, children's bookseller**

## MICHAELA MACCOLL

Michaela MacColl studied multi-disciplinary history at Vassar College and Yale University, which turns out to be the perfect degree for writing historical fiction. She lives with her husband, two daughters, and three extremely large cats in Connecticut. Her website is [www.michaelamaccoll.com](http://www.michaelamaccoll.com)

**Agent:** George Nicholson

### UNTITLED BOOK 4

**Publisher:** Chronicle (North American)

**Publication:** March 2016

**Editor:** Victoria Rock

Manuscript available November 2015

Summary starring Jane Austen to come.

### THE REVELATION OF LOUISA MAY

**Publisher:** Chronicle (North American)

**Publication:** March 2015

**Editor:** Victoria Rock

Manuscript available: November 2014

Louisa May Alcott, author of the beloved *Little Women*, lives a very different life than her heroine Jo. With her mother gone to try and earn enough money to support the family, it is up to Louisa to manage her helpless family, the house, and her own writing. Her life is further complicated by the return of an old friend who is interested in courting her, and a fugitive slave who appears on Louisa's doorstep asking for help. When a vicious slave catcher is found murdered, Louisa must think fast to safeguard her family and famous friends, Ralph Waldo Emerson and Henry David Thoreau.

### ALWAYS EMILY

**Publisher:** Chronicle (North American)

**Publication:** March 2014

**Editor:** Victoria Rock

Manuscript available

**\*A JUNIOR LIBRARY GUILD SELECTION, 2013!**

Emily and Charlotte Bronte are about as opposite as two sisters can be. Charlotte is practical and cautious. Emily is curious and headstrong. But they have one thing in common: a love of writing. And when two strangers appear on the desolate English moors that surround their home, they must combine the imagination and wit usually reserved for their pens to unravel a string of mysteries. Is there a connection between a series of local burglaries and rumors that a neighbor's death may not have been accidental? Can the handsome young man Emily met on one of her solitary walks be trusted? Or is the equally handsome local landowner that keeps appearing on Charlotte's doorstep the one they should confide in? And what about the seemingly mad woman that Charlotte encountered at a crossroads on the outskirts of the village—is she the key? There are a lot of knots to untangle, and they had better do it quickly—before someone else is killed. Michaela MacColl has drawn upon her own love of writing and reading to craft a suspenseful tale inspired by the real-life Emily and Charlotte, young writers who would grow up to author several of the most enduring English novels of all time.

### NOBODY'S SECRET

**Publisher:** Chronicle (North American)

**Publication:** April 2013

**Editor:** Liz Szabla

Manuscript available

**Rights sold:** Japan (Tokyo Sogensha)

One day, fifteen-year-old Emily Dickinson meets a mysterious, handsome young man. Surprisingly, he doesn't seem to know who she or her family is. And even more surprisingly, he playfully refuses to divulge his name. Emily enjoys her secret flirtation with Mr. "Nobody" until he turns up dead in her family's pond. She's stricken with guilt. Only Emily can discover who this enigmatic stranger was before he's condemned to be buried in an anonymous grave. Her investigation takes her deep into town secrets, blossoming romance, and deadly danger. Exquisitely

written and meticulously researched, this novel celebrates Emily Dickinson's intellect and spunk in a page-turner of a book that will excite fans of mystery, romance, and poetry alike.

### **RORY'S PROMISE**

**Publisher:** Calkins Creek

**Publication:** September 2014

**Editor:** Carolyn Yoder

[Manuscript available](#)

Twelve-year-old orphan Rory Fitzpatrick lives with her younger sister Violet at New York City's Foundling Hospital in the early 1900s. But when Rory discovers that Violet will be sent to the Arizona Territory to be adopted, her world is shattered. Although too old to be adopted herself, Rory—brave and smart—is determined to stay with her sister, even if it means hiding out on a train traveling west. When Rory and Violet arrive in Arizona, everything that could go wrong does go wrong. Will Rory give up? This uplifting novel about the power of faith and the true meaning of family launches the Hidden Histories series, spotlighting little-known tales from America's past, and the children behind those stories.

### **Praise for *Always Emily*:**

#### **\*A JUNIOR LIBRARY GUILD SELECTION!**

“As exhilarating as a stroll across the wind-swept moor, *Always Emily* will captivate readers with its mystery and period-perfect details. A must read for lovers of historical fiction!”

—Laurie Halse Anderson, author of *Speak*

“Filled with life, death, mystery and witty humor.”

—School Library Journal **\*Starred Review\***

“The prolonged climax is satisfyingly action-filled and breathtakingly resolved.”

—Publishers Weekly

“Equal parts gothic melodrama and Nancy Drew derring-do.”

—Kirkus Reviews

“There's lots to like here: mystery, adventure, and a snippet of romance.”

—Booklist

“Inspired by the real-life Brontë sisters, MacColl has crafted a fictional tale of suspense and romance that is guaranteed to bring new readership to MacColl, as well as to the classic tales by both Brontë sisters.”

—VOYA: Voice of Youth Advocates

“Characters so remarkably that they simply spring to life on the pages.”

—Reading Today

### **Praise for *Nobody's Secret*:**

#### **\*THREE STARRED REVIEWS!**

“MacColl skillfully draws from Dickinson's life to create a vision of the young poet as sharp-thinking, nature-obsessed, and determinedly curious. Lines from Dickinson's poems open the chapters, which hint at how the themes and subjects they explored might have developed in her life and mind, providing tantalizing—if fictional—context for the poet's taut verse.”

—Publishers Weekly **\*Starred Review\***

“Emily is extremely well drawn /.../ The fast-moving plot makes this a well-crafted page-turner. The dialogue rings true, both to the historical time and to the chronological ages and social status of the characters. The full text of “I'm

Nobody,” as well as quotes from other poems, not only focus readers’ thoughts but also provide an easy introduction to the recluse’s poetry /.../ MacColl once again brings a strong female protagonist to life.”

—**School Library Journal** \*Starred Review\*

“A suspenseful, often humorous historical novel /.../ MacColl demonstrates how accessible Dickinson’s poetry was.”

—**Shelf Awareness for Readers** \*Starred Review\*

“This imaginative take on the young poet /.../ will find a wide audience for both classroom connections and personal reading.”

—**Booklist**

“For readers interested in Emily Dickinson and her poetry, this would certainly be of interest.”

—**Stacked**

“MacColl gracefully folds factual elements of Dickinson’s life and work into the fiction. In characterizing teenaged Emily, MacColl highlights her youthful sociability, humor, and wit, as well as her intelligence and curiosity. While following up on clues, this fictional Emily’s skills of practical-mindedness and precise observation are on display, much as they are in the real Dickinson’s poetry, a quote from which introduces each chapter.”

—**The Horn Book**

“MacColl takes a character that most people do not really know much about and brings her to life /.../ fun, interesting reading.”

—**VOYA**

**Praise for *Rory’s Promise*:**

“Twelve-year-old Rory Fitzpatrick, a feisty red-haired orphan, helps care for the youngest children at the Foundling Hospital in New York where she lives with her younger sister, Violet. When Rory finds out that about 50 of the youngest orphans, including Violet, will be sent by train to ‘good Catholic homes’ in the West, she secretly vows to accompany them /.../ the story takes a dramatic and unexpected turn when the train arrives in the isolated mining town of Clifton, in the territory of Arizona /.../ Issues of racial violence and environmental illness have deeply divided the town /.../ Rory is caught in a desperate situation as she struggles to keep herself and Violet safe. Readers will enjoy the fast-paced action and likable main character. Based on a true story and an actual event that took place in 1904, this is a historical novel with a unique topic and plenty of substance, making it especially suitable for class or group discussions.”

—**School Library Journal**

“If feisty, red-haired orphans from New York conjure a certain cartoon character, be ready to meet a challenger to Orphan Annie’s fame /.../ Rory’s decision to be adopted with Violet and move to Mexico with their chosen parents is an interesting twist in the story and will offer young readers a chance to think about what really makes a family.”

—**Children’s Literature**

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## LAURA MCNEAL

Laura Rhoton McNeal was born in Arizona and raised near Air Force bases in Iceland, New Mexico, South Carolina, and Utah. She holds an MA in fiction writing from Syracuse University and taught middle and high school English in Salt Lake City. With Tom McNeal she is the author of a picture book called *The Dog Who Lost His Bob* and four young adult novels: *Crooked*, *Zipped*, *Crushed*, and *The Decoding of Lana Morris*. Her solo young adult title, *Dark Water*, was a finalist for the National Book Award in 2010. Her website is: <http://mcnealbooks.com>  
**Agent:** Doug Stewart

**I AM ON FIRE AND HAVE DANGEROUS CARGO**

**Publisher:** Knopf Children's Books (US)

**Publication:** Spring 2016

**Editor:** Nancy Hinkel

Manuscript available Spring 2015

One night in June, a studious 17-year-old girl disappears from the apex of the Coronado-San Diego Bay Bridge, third in North America for its suicide rate. The police can only assume Thisbe jumped, but her body isn't found the next day, or the next, and Frank Le Stang, who lives alone on his boat beside the bridge, believes Thisbe is the reincarnation of a girl called Julia and thus his only hope for atonement. A psychological thriller about a haunted drifter, a naïve girl, and missed connections, *I Am On Fire* is also a kaleidoscopic version of the Greek myth "Pyramus and Thisbe" set in a world where cell phones become the walls we try to whisper through, and where too much freedom can be as deadly as too little.

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## TOM MCNEAL

Tom McNeal holds an MA in creative writing from UC Irvine and was a Stegner Fellow and Jones Lecturer at Stanford University. McNeal's solo young adult debut, *Far Far Away*, was released by Knopf in June 2013 to great critical acclaim. His short stories have been widely anthologized, and "What Happened to Tully" was the basis of the award-winning independent film: *Tully*. He is also the author, with his wife, Laura, of four young adult novels (also published by Knopf)—*Crooked*, *Crushed*, *The Decoding of Lana Morris*, and *Zipped*. His adult titles include *Goodbye, Nebraska*, winner of the California Book Award, and *To Be Sung Underwater*. He lives with his wife and two sons in Southern California. His website is [www.mcnealbooks.com](http://www.mcnealbooks.com)

**Agent:** George Nicholson

**\*JAMES A. MICHENER MEMORIAL PRIZE WINNER!**

**\*CALIFORNIA BOOK AWARD FOR FICTION WINNER!**

## FAR FAR AWAY

**Publisher:** Random House (North American)

**Publication:** June 2013

**Editor:** Joan Slatterly

Manuscript available

**Rights sold:** UK (Random House) Turkey (Pegasus)

**\*LONGLISTED FOR THE 2014 CARNEGIE MEDAL!**

**\*AN EDGAR AWARD FINALIST, 2014**

**\*A NATIONAL BOOK AWARD FINALIST, 2013**

**\*AUDIE AWARD FINALIST, 2014**

**\*PUBLISHERS WEEKLY BEST OF 2013 LIST**

**\*A SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL BEST BOOKS 2013**

**\*THE HORN BOOK FANFARE – BEST BOOKS OF 2013**

**\*AN ATLANTIC WIRE SUMMER BOOK GUIDE "YA EDITION" PICK, 2013**

**\*AMAZON'S BEST YA BOOKS OF 2013**

**\*BOOKLIST "BOOKS FOR YOUTH" EDITORS' CHOICE: 2013**

**\*SUMMER 2013 KIDS' INDIE NEXT LIST – SELECTED THE "TOP TEN" CATEGORY**

**\*SCIBA YA BOOK OF THE YEAR**

**\*TEXAS TAYSHAS READING LIST SELECTION**

**\*FIVE STARRED REVIEWS!**

Jeremy Johnson Johnson hears voices. Or, specifically, one voice: the ghost of Jacob Grimm, one half of The Brothers Grimm. Jacob watches over Jeremy, protecting him from an unknown dark evil whispered about in the space between this world and the next. But Jacob can't protect Jeremy from everything. When coltish, copper-haired Ginger Boultinghouse takes a bite of a cake so delicious it's rumored to be bewitched, she falls in love with the first person she sees: Jeremy. In any other place, this would be a turn for the better for Jeremy, but not in the small town of Never Better, where the Finder of Occasions—whose identity and evil intentions nobody knows—is watching and waiting, waiting and watching....The beauty of the book lies in the narrator's ability to take Jeremy on a

## STERLING LORD LITERISTIC

Szilvia Molnar, szilvia@sll.com

fantastical journey when reality is too hard to handle and the reader is brought along for the wild ride. *Far Far Away* is a “folklore-infected, adventurous, romantic fantasy” written in a rich, playful, and completely mesmerizing style.

### **Praise for *Far, Far Away*:**

“In addition to recounting pieces from the Grimms’ stories, McNeal—in his first solo novel for teens—weaves in fantastical fairy-tale details into this inventive and deeply poignant narrative, creating a world that hovers between realism and enchantment. Jacob’s tale is menacing, at times terrifying, and often strange—much like the stories collected by the Brothers Grimm.”

—**Publishers Weekly** \*Starred Review\*

“Reminiscent of Hansel and Gretel, and rife with allusions to Grimm Brothers’ tales, this is a masterful story of outcasts, the power of faith, and the triumph of good over evil. McNeal’s deft touch extends to the characterizations, where the ritual speech of traditional tales (‘Listen, if you will’) establishes Jacob’s phantasmagoric presence amid the modernist American West. There are moments of horror (as there were in Grimm Brothers’ original tales), but they are accomplished through the power of suggestion. Details aplenty about Jacob and his famous sibling make this a fiction connector to both fairy tales and Grimm biographies too.”

—**Booklist** \*Starred Review\*

“McNeal spins a tale fluctuating from whimsy to macabre in such a beguiling voice that—like Hansel and Gretel—readers won’t realize they’re enmeshed in his dangerous seduction until it’s too late /.../ When is a bully not so bad? Where’s the line between justifiable grief and parental neglect? Can an older man love a teenager in a way that’s not creepy? How do stories nourish us? At what point do they stifle us? All these questions, and many more, are raised in this folklore-inflected, adventurous, romantic fantasy. Whether readers connect more deeply with the suspense, the magical elements, or the gloriously improbable love story, they will come away with a lingering taste of enchantment.”

—**School Library Journal** \*Starred Review\*

“McNeal superbly and elegantly enfold those stories’ essence and depth into plot, setting, and characters; archetypal figures and situations glimmer through McNeal’s small-town American cast like tantalizing clues in a novel that becomes ever darker even as it sparkles with the dignified, affectionate voice of its ghostly narrator.”

—**The Horn Book Review** \*Starred Review\*

“Enchanting, romantic, and tinged with terror, this modern story subtly weaves the haunting essentials of the fairy-tale tradition into a fascinating and beautifully written homage to its source material.”

—**The Bulletin of the Center of Children’s Books** \*Starred Review\*

“Readers who love spotting allusions will appreciate this intelligent book’s robust vocabulary, its inclusion of French, German, and Swedish words, and the real scholarship behind it.”

—**Kirkus Reviews**

“Sprightly, assured and original.”

—**The Toronto Star**

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## MATTHEW QUICK

Matthew Quick is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Silver Linings Playbook*, which was made into an Oscar-winning movie by the Weinstein Company, *The Good Luck of Right Now*, and three young adult novels. All of his books have been optioned for film. Matthew was awarded the PEN/Hemingway Award Honorable Mention in 2009. He was also named an Amelia Elizabeth Walden Book Award for Young Adult Fiction Finalist and a *LA Times* Book Prize finalist, and won the Michigan Library Association’s Thumbs Up! Award. His work has been a #1 bestseller in Brazil, recognized as a *New York Times* Book Review Editor’s Choice, and made the YALSA Best Fiction for Young Adults 2011 list. Matthew was also a finalist for the *TIME* “100 Most Influential People of 2013.” His website is [www.matthewquickwriter.com](http://www.matthewquickwriter.com)

**Agent:** Doug Stewart

**\*2009 PEN/HEMINGWAY AWARD HONORABLE MENTION!**

**\*A LA TIMES BOOK PRIZE FINALIST!**

**\*A NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLER!**

**\*A BEST SELLER IN BRAZIL!**

**\*AUTHOR OF THE SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK!**

### EVERY EXQUISITE THING

**Publisher:** Little, Brown Books For Young Readers (North American)

**Publication:** Spring 2016

**Editor:** Alvina Ling

Manuscript available: December 2014

**Option publishers:** **Brazil** (Intrinseca) **Czech Republic** (Euromedia) **Germany** (DTV) **Hungary** (Könyvmolyképző) **Italy** (Salani) **Korea** (Sam & Parkers) **The Netherlands** (Lemniscaat) **Poland** (Otwarte) **Russia** (Azbooka-Atticus) **Slovakia** (Ikar) **Spain** (Destino) **Taiwan** (ThinKingdom) **Turkey** (Feniks) **UK** (Headline) **Vietnam** (Tre Publishing House)

The author *The Silver Linings Playbook* is back with what early readers in New York and L.A. are calling the high-water mark of his young adult career. Meet Nanette O'Hare, an unassuming teen who has been playing the role of dutiful daughter and conscientious student-athlete. When a beloved teacher gives her his dog-eared copy of *The Bubblegum Reaper*—the mysterious, out-of-print cult-classic—the rebel within Nanette awakens. But she learns there is a high price to pay, as she befriends the reclusive local author, experiments with a young Bukowski-quoting poet, and attempts to insert her true self into the world with wild abandon. A celebration of the self and the formidable power of story, this is Matthew Quick at his finest.

### FORGIVE ME, LEONARD PEACOCK

**Publisher:** Little, Brown (North American)

**Publication:** August 2013

Manuscript available

**Rights sold:** **Brazil** (Intrinseca) **Czech Republic** (Euromedia) **Germany** (DTV) **Hungary** (Könyvmolyképző) **Italy** (Salani) **Korea** (Sam & Parkers) **The Netherlands** (Lemniscaat) **Poland** (Otwarte) **Russia** (Azbooka-Atticus) **Slovakia** (Ikar) **Spain** (Destino) **Taiwan** (ThinKingdom) **Turkey** (Feniks) **UK** (Headline) **Vietnam** (Tre Publishing House)

**Film:** Weinstein & Co.

**\*AN ATLANTIC WIRE SUMMER BOOK GUIDE 'YA EDITION' PICK**

**\*AN IMAGE UK BOOK OF THE MONTH**

**\*A HEAT MAGAZINE UK TOP FIVE BOOK**

**\*SPOTLIGHTED BY SUNDAY TIMES UK**

**\*A NEW YORK TIMES EDITOR'S CHOICE**

Today is Leonard Peacock's birthday. It is also the day he hides a gun in his backpack. Because today is the day he will kill his former best friend, and then himself, with his grandfather's P-38 pistol. But first he must say good-bye to the four people who matter most to him: his Humphrey Bogart obsessed next-door neighbor, Walt; his classmate Baback, a violin virtuoso; Lauren, the Christian homeschooler he has a crush on; and Herr Silverman, who teaches the high school's class on the Holocaust. Speaking to each in turn, Leonard slowly reveals his secrets as the hours tick by and the moment of truth approaches. A breathtaking, heart-stopping, and important book that is sure to become a topic of fevered discussion among readers of all ages.

### BOY 21

**Publisher:** Little, Brown (North American)

**Publication:** March 2012

Manuscript available

**Rights sold:** **Brazil** (Intrinseca) **China** (Beijing Ruyi Xinxin) **Germany** (DTV) **Korea** (Our Value Corporation) **The Netherlands** (Lemniscaat) **Poland** (Otwarte) **Taiwan** (Commonwealth) **UK** (Headline) **Vietnam** (Tre Publishing House)

**Film:** Tom Heller

**\*A YALSA BEST BOOK OF 2012**

Basketball has always been an escape for Finley. He lives in broken-down Belmont, a town ruled by the Irish mob, drugs, violence, and racially charged rivalries. At home, his dad works nights, and Finley is left to take care of his disabled grandfather alone. He's always dreamed of getting out someday, but until he can, putting on that number 21 jersey makes everything seem okay. Russ has just moved to the neighborhood, and the life of this teen basketball phenom has been turned upside down by tragedy. Cut off from everyone he knows, he won't pick up a basketball, but answers only to the name Boy21—taken from his former jersey number. As their final year of high school brings these two boys together, a unique friendship may turn out to be the answer they both need.

### **SORTA LIKE A ROCK STAR**

**Publisher:** Little, Brown (North American)

**Publication:** May 2010

Manuscript available

**Rights sold:** Brazil (Intrinseca) Poland (Otwarte) Netherlands (Lemniscaat) UK (Headline)

**Film:** Searchlight

**\*AMELIA ELIZABETH WALDEN BOOK AWARD FOR YA FICTION FINALIST!**

Amber Appleton lives in a bus. Ever since her mom's boyfriend kicked them out, Amber, her mom, and her totally loyal dog, Bobby Big Boy (aka Thrice B) have been camped out in the back of Hello Yellow (the school bus her mom drives). Still, Amber, the self-proclaimed princess of hope and girl of unyielding optimism, refuses to sweat the bad stuff. But when a fatal tragedy threatens Amber's optimism—and her way of life, can Amber continue to be the rock star of hope? With an oddball cast of characters, and a heartwarming, inspiring story, this novel unveils a beautifully beaten-up world of laughs, loyalty, and hard-earned hope. The world is Amber's stage, and Amber is, well...she's sorta like a rock star. True? True.

### **Praise for *Forgive Me, Leonard Peacock*:**

“Books like Quick’s are necessary, if only because novels, at their best, do what horrific headlines cannot: they reintroduce human subjectivity into large-scale national disaster.”

—**The New York Times Book Review**

“Quick’s attentiveness to [a] few key relationships and encounters gives the story its strength and razor-like focus /.../ Through Leonard, Quick urges readers to look beyond the pain of the here and now to the possibilities that await.”

—**Publishers Weekly \*Starred Review\***

“Quick’s use of flashbacks, internal dialogue, and interpersonal communication is brilliant, and the suspense about what happened between Leonard and Asher builds tangibly. The masterful writing takes readers inside Leonard’s tormented mind, enabling a compassionate response to him and to others dealing with trauma.”

—**School Library Journal \*Starred Review\***

“*Forgive Me, Leonard Peacock* presents a host of compelling, well-drawn, realistic characters—all of whom want Leonard to make it through the day safe and sound. An artful, hopeful exploration of a teen boy in intense need.”

—**Kirkus Reviews**

“Quick is most interested in Leonard’s psychology, which is simultaneously clear and splintered, and his voice, which is filled with brash humor, self-loathing, and bucket loads of refreshingly messy contradictions, many communicated through Leonard’s footnotes to his own story. It may sound bleak, but it is, in fact, quite brave, and Leonard’s interspersed fictional notes to himself from 2032 add a unique flavor of hope.”

—**Booklist**

“Complicated characters and ideas remain complicated, with no facile resolutions, in this memorable story.”

—**Horn Book Review**

“It’s a stream-of-consciousness format that’s far easier to digest than James Joyce or Virginia Woolf /.../ The gravity in *Forgive Me, Leonard Peacock* sets it apart from its YA fellows. Quick taps the intensity of *The Hunger Games* and the emotional resonance of *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* while forgoing dystopia, massive crowd scenes, or other hallmarks of successful YA franchises.”

—**Christian Science Monitor**

**Praise for *Boy 21*:**

“Beautiful /.../ It is this depth that makes *Boy 21* more than a first-rate novel fueled by basketball; it’s a first-rate work of art.”

—**The New York Times Book Review**

“Quick is a master of capturing the rawness of adolescence and the bleakness that comes from being trapped in the wrong world, whether it’s Finley’s bad neighborhood or, in the case of *Boy 21*, Earth /.../ [A] tale of two troubled boys learning to connect and find safety.”

—**The Boston Globe**

“The answers here are satisfying but never simple /.../ A story that, like Finley, expresses a lot in relatively few words.”

—**Kirkus Reviews \*Starred Review\***

“His emotionally raw tale retains a delicate sense of hope and optimism, making it a real gut punch of a read.”

—**Publishers Weekly**

“Finley’s relationships are sweet, supportive, and authentic. The revelation of what happened in Finley’s childhood is heartbreaking, but the hopeful ending pays off. An unusual and touching story.”

—**Booklist**

“If you’ve read the novels *The Silver Linings Playbook* and *Sorta Like a Rock Star* you are familiar with author Matthew Quick’s capacity to create emotionally at risk, eccentric, believable characters. His new young adult novel, *Boy 21* adds Finley McManus and Russ a.k.a. ‘Boy 21’ to his list of quirky and likable characters.”

—**New York Journal of Books**

“Every aspect of this multilayered novel harmonizes /.../ Excellently set-up twists display Quick’s mastery of pacing; authentic dialogue and deft character development ensure both our emotional investment in these richly complex boys and also our empathizing with their main commonality—feeling like ‘you’re not the person on the outside that you are on the inside.’”

—**The Horn Book Review**

“Quick assembles a cast /.../ so credible in both vulnerability and resilience.”

—**The Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books**

**Praise for *Sorta Like A Rock Star*:**

“Quick’s first book for teenagers is a searing story of redemption /.../ It’s nearly impossible to remain unmoved as [Amber] is brought back from her lowest moments by the very people she refused to give up on.”

—**Publishers Weekly**

“This memorable teen’s fresh voice and uplifting spirit will endear readers (word!), while a bring-down-the-house ending will inspire them to find the best in humanity (true!). Sure, Amber may be a little over the top at times, but aren’t all rock stars?”

—**Booklist**

“This book is the answer to all those angst-ridden and painfully grim novels in the shortcut lingo of short attention-span theater. Hugely enjoyable.”

—**School Library Journal**

“The multidimensionality of [Amber’s] character—its bittersweet possibility and utter improbability—will suck readers completely into her world, where they will ride waves of tears through to a world washed clean.”

—**The Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books**

## DANA REINHARDT

Dana Reinhardt is the author of *A Brief Chapter in My Impossible Life*, *Harmless*, *How to Build a House*, *The Things a Brother Knows*, *The Summer I Learned to Fly* and *Odessa Again*. She lives in San Francisco with her husband and two daughters. Her website is [www.danareinhardt.net](http://www.danareinhardt.net)

**Agent:** Doug Stewart

### WE ARE THE GOLDENS

**Publisher:** Random House (North American)

**Publication:** May 2014

**Editor:** Wendy Lamb

**Manuscript available**

**\*ONE OF PUBLISHERS WEEKLY'S BOOKS OF THE WEEK FOR MAY 26TH**

**\*A JUNE BEST BOOK OF THE MONTH AT AMAZON**

Nell worships her older sister, Layla. They're one unit, intertwined: Nellayla. As Nell and her best friend, Felix, start their freshman year in high school, on Layla's turf, there's so much Nell looks forward to: joining Layla on the varsity soccer team, parties, boys, adventures. But the year takes a very different turn. Layla is changing, withdrawing. She's hiding something, and when Nell discovers what it is, and the consequences it might have, she struggles. She wants to support Layla, to be her confidante, to be the good sister she's always been. But with so much at stake, what secrets should she keep? What lies should she tell?

### **Praise for *We Are the Goldens*:**

"Reinhardt succeeds in capturing the full gamut of fluctuating adolescent emotions, including the intensity of first love, the disappointment of mis-judgement, and the pain of losing one's innocence."

—**Publishers Weekly** \*Starred Review\*

"Nell's voice is engaging, clever, and colloquial—making this a speedy, engrossing read with a trajectory that offers a certain reassurance to parents and teens."

—**The Horn Book Review**

"Dana Reinhardt's gripping, realistic novel tells of two extremely close sisters, Nell and Layla Golden, whose relationship unravels because of a secret /.../ Reinhart beautifully captures the messy passage from adolescence to adulthood. Part of Nell wants to stay the child, while the other part knows she must follow her own moral compass. Is it her responsibility to keep her sister's secret? Or to protect her, perhaps against her wishes? Reinhardt gets this delicate balance just right, and leaves readers thinking long after the last page."

—**Shelf Awareness**

### **Praise for *Odessa Again*:**

"Deftly incorporating magic realism into her plot, Reinhardt introduces a smart, big-hearted heroine who isn't afraid to go after what she wants. *Odessa's* triumphs and mishaps will bring laughs and pangs of sympathy, and set imaginations spinning."

—**Publishers Weekly**

"With humor as well as depth, this is an endearing story of a spunky girl who realizes that life gets more, not less, confusing as she grows up."

—**Kirkus Reviews**

"/.../ The story flows well and will be relished by readers who have ever wished they could go back and fix events that have just occurred."

—**School Library Journal**

“This Groundhog Day redo for the younger set does pose some intriguing questions about what’s important in life and whether you want the power to make other people’s decisions for them.”

—**Booklist**

“Reinhardt takes a simple fantastical premise and uses it as the engine for a sharply perceptive and sympathetic account of a girl’s struggle through a difficult time /.../ Even readers past Odessa’s age will be intrigued by the possibilities, and the book could also absorb listeners as a chapter-by-chapter read aloud.”

—**Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books**

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## RYWKA LIPSZYC

Rywka Lipszyc was a 14-year old Jewish girl, orphaned and living in the Lodz ghetto. From October 1943 to April 1944, she recorded her thoughts, feelings, hopes and dreams in her diary. Along with 67,000 other inhabitants of the Lodz ghetto, Rywka was deported to Auschwitz-Birkenau in August 1944. Months later, in June 1945, her diary was found in the ashes of the crematoria at Auschwitz-Birkenau by Zinaida Berezovskaya, a doctor with the Soviet Army that had liberated the camp.

The diary details Rywka’s activities at work and in school; her relationships with her friends and family; and describes events in the ghetto. Despite the crushing circumstances she endured in the Lodz ghetto, Rywka worked, studied, participated in literary clubs and cultural activities, wrote poetry, and dreamed of a better future. Website:

[www.rywkadiary.org](http://www.rywkadiary.org)

**Agent:** Laurie Liss

### THE DIARY OF RYWKA LIPSZYC

**Publisher:** HarperCollins (North American)

**Publication:** Spring 2015

**Editor:** Gail Winston

[Materials available](#)

**Rights sold:** **Brazil** (Companhia das Letras) **Catalan** (Empuries) **Czech Republic** (Prah) **France** (Calmann-Levy) **Germany** (Suhkamp) **Italy** (Garzanti) **Slovakia** (Fortuna) **Spain** (Nube de Tinta)

In 1940, the Nazis forced young Rywka Lipszyc and her family into what would become Poland’s notorious Lodz Ghetto. After witnessing the death of her parents and deportation of her younger siblings, Rywka, at the age of 14, began to record her thoughts and dreams in a precious diary. Discovery of this rare manuscript prompted exhaustive research into what actually happened to Rywka. While it is known that Rywka survived the war, collaborative efforts of archivists and historians around the world have not uncovered the mystery of her ultimate fate. In one sense the diary reads like a detective novel with a mysterious ending. Accompanied by rich background materials and edited by National Jewish Book Award recipient Alexandra Zapruder, the diary is destined to become an important source of inspiration for students of the Holocaust around the world.

### ***Praise for The Diary of Rywka Lipszyc:***

“*The Diary of Rywka Lipszyc*—published by S.F.-based Jewish Family and Children’s Services in partnership with Lehrhaus Judaica—was exhaustively researched, authenticated and annotated. It took a team of historians, archivists and translators years to finalize the newly published book. More than anything, the survival of the diary itself constitutes a modern-day miracle /.../ With its extraordinary recovery, preservation and publication, the world gains a renewed understanding of the human price of the Holocaust.”

—**J Weekly**

“At 14, Rywka Lipszyc was wise, generous, and passionate about God. She was also an orphan, a prisoner in a ghetto, and a witness to the ongoing catastrophe of her people. To read her diary is to encounter a lively mind and a bountiful heart. Even as she recorded the daily horrors, she was grateful to be a Jewish girl; as she feared for the future, she was thoughtful about how to become a Jewish woman. We have very few documents like this, and none is more touching.”

—**Timothy Snyder, Housum Professor of History, Yale University, and author of *Bloodlands: Europe Between Hitler and Stalin***

“Rywka Lipszyc’s diary is a searing account of daily life. And this documentary gem is set in a rich context of archival photos, scholarly essays, family eyewitness accounts, and efforts to discover Rywka’s fate after liberation / .../ her singular diary speaks for the hundreds of thousands of young teens who left no record of their lives.”

—**Deborah Dwork, Rose Professor of Holocaust History and Director, Strassler Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Clark University**

“We are commanded to remember. But what should we remember? *The Diary of Rywka Lipszyc* reminds us that in the midst of hell there was life: the life of an adolescent girl who clung to her normalcy, dreams, and spirit—regardless of and because of her pain. This diary offers a unique opportunity to travel back in time to hear from a unique human soul. It is obligatory reading, not only for those who feel commanded to remember, but for everyone.”

—**Rabbi Dr. Donniel Hartman, President, Shalom Hartman Institute, Jerusalem**

“Innocent...insightful...terrifying. Rywka’s diary is as significant a find as it is heartbreaking to read. The book is a well-documented masterpiece and an engaging new resource for Holocaust and genocide studies worldwide.”

—**Stephen Smith, Executive Director of the University of Southern California Shoah Foundation, Adjunct Professor of Religion, and UNESCO Chair on Genocide Education**

“The improbable survival of Rywka Lipszyc’s diary is in many ways a metaphor for the inextinguishable spark of Jewish life. Through this moving account, we are reminded that 6 million is just a number, to which we are all too numbed. As the Holocaust grows ever more distant, this poignant chronicle with the extraordinary story of its coming back to life is a wellspring of deep and unexpected inspiration.”

—**Daniel Gordis, Koret Distinguished Fellow, Shalem College, Jerusalem**

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## GABRIELLE ZEVIN

Gabrielle Zevin is the author of award-winning books for young adults, including *Memoirs of a Teenage Amnesiac* and *Elsewhere*. Her books for adults include *The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry*, *The Hole We’re In* and *Margarettown*. She was also the screenwriter for *Conversations with Other Women*, which received an Independent Spirit Award nomination. Of her writing, *The New York Times Book Review* said, “Zevin’s touch is marvelously light even as she considers profundities.” Her books have been translated in over 20 languages. *Memoirs of a Teenage Amnesiac* was made into a film in Japan. Her website is <http://gabriellezevin.com>

**Agent:** Doug Stewart

**\*TRANSLATED INTO OVER 20 LANGUAGES!**

### **BIRTHRIGHT #3: IN THE AGE OF LOVE AND CHOCOLATE**

**Publisher:** Farrar, Straus and Giroux (North American)

**Publication:** September 2013

**Editor:** Janine O’Malley

Manuscript available

**Rights sold:** **Brazil** (Rocco) **Germany** (Fischer) **Israel** (Keter) **Poland** (Foksal) **UK** (Macmillan)

Now eighteen, life has been more bitter than sweet for Anya. She has lost her parents and her grandmother, and has spent the better part of her high school years in trouble with the law. Perhaps hardest of all, her decision to open a nightclub with her old nemesis Charles Delacroix has cost Anya her relationship with Win. Still, it is Anya’s nature to soldier on. She puts the loss of Win behind her and focuses on her work. Against the odds, the nightclub becomes an enormous success, and Anya feels like she is on her way and that nothing will ever go wrong for her again. But after a terrible misjudgment leaves Anya fighting for her life, she is forced to reckon with her choices and to let people help her for the first time in her life. *In the Age of Love and Chocolate* is the story of growing up and learning what love really is. It showcases the best of Gabrielle Zevin’s writing for young adults: the intricate characterization of *Memoirs of a Teenage Amnesiac* and the big-heartedness of *Elsewhere*. It will make you remember why you loved her writing in the first place.

### **BIRTHRIGHT #2: BECAUSE IT IS MY BLOOD**

**Publisher:** Farrar, Straus and Giroux (North American)

**Publication:** September 2012

Manuscript available

**Rights sold:** **Brazil** (Rocco) **France** (Albin Michel) **Germany** (Fischer) **Israel** (Keter) **Poland** (Foksal) **Russia** (AST) **Thailand** (Muse Publishing) **UK** (Macmillan)

Since her release from Liberty Reformatory, Anya Balanchine is determined to follow the straight and narrow path. Unfortunately, her criminal record is making it hard for her to do that. No high school wants her with a gun possession charge on her rap sheet. Plus, all the people in her life have moved on: Natty has skipped two grades at Holy Trinity, Scarlet and Gable seem closer than ever, and even Win is in a new relationship. But when old friends return demanding that certain debts be paid, Anya is thrown right back into the criminal world that she had been determined to escape. It's a journey that will take her across the ocean and straight into the heart of the birthplace of chocolate where her resolve—and her heart—will be tested as never before.

### **BIRTHRIGHT #1: ALL THESE THINGS I'VE DONE**

**Publisher:** Farrar, Straus and Giroux (North American)

**Publication:** September 2011

Manuscript available

**Rights sold:** **Brazil** (Rocco) **France** (Albin Michel) **Germany** (Fischer) **Israel** (Keter) **Poland** (Foksal) **Russia** (AST) **Thailand** (Muse Publishing) **UK** (Macmillan)

In 2083, chocolate and coffee are illegal, paper is hard to find, water is carefully rationed, and New York City is rife with crime and poverty. And yet, for Anya Balanchine, the sixteen-year-old daughter of the city's most notorious (and dead) crime boss, life is fairly routine. It consists of going to school, taking care of her siblings and her dying grandmother, trying to avoid falling in love with the new assistant D.A.'s son, and avoiding her loser ex-boyfriend. That is until her ex is accidentally poisoned by the chocolate her family manufactures and the police think Anya is to blame. Suddenly, Anya finds herself thrust unwillingly into the spotlight—at school, in the news, and most importantly, within her mafia family.

### **Praise for the *Birthright* series:**

[“Offering the excitement of a crime drama and the allure of forbidden romance, this introduction to a reluctant Godfather-in-the-making will pique the interest of dystopia-hungry readers.”](#)

—**Publishers Weekly (for #1: *All These Things I've Done*)**

“Zevin excels at inviting readers into Anya's *mafia* paranoia—so much so that readers will be expecting double crosses that never happen, at least in this series opener. Anya is a likable character. /.../ The love story's to die for, and the tangled web of relationships will keep readers intrigued to the last page.”

—**Kirkus Reviews (for #1: *All These Things I've Done*)**

[“It's precisely Anya's attractive blend of strength and innocence that makes her such a likable heroine. /.../ The aching realistic romance between this latter-day Romeo and Juliet, told in Anya's earnest voice, will attract readers as surely as chocolate attracts /.../ mobsters.”](#)

—**The Horn Book (for #1: *All These Things I've Done*)**

“Zevin has created a frank, entertaining and thought-provoking read that will appeal to teens across the board. The best part? It's just the first installment!”

—**Shelf Awareness (for #1: *All These Things I've Done*)**

“Discerning characters' true motives will keep readers guessing, and the conflicting forces within Anya add an extra dimension of drama to this action-packed sequel.”

—**Publishers Weekly (for #2: *Because It Is My Blood*)**

“Fans of the first will enjoy the author's inventive combination of chocolate, crime and politics, as well as finding out Anya's post-prison fate.”

—**Kirkus Reviews (for #2: *Because It Is My Blood*)**

“Zevin’s strong suit is characterization, and it shines here. Whatever the nefarious plot, no one becomes a cartoon character—like chocolates, each is delicious in his or her own right.”

—**Booklist (for #2: *Because It Is My Blood*)**

“Readers who enjoy mob stories and visions of future societies will be pleased. As in the first book, Zevin provokes thought about what we make illegal and why.”

—**School Library Journal (for #2: *Because It Is My Blood*)**

“The idea of a world in which chocolate, coffee, and other stimulants have been outlawed is alluring, and Anya is a strong, smart protagonist. Fans will want to find out what happens to her.”

—**VOYA (for #2: *Because It Is My Blood*)**

“Anya’s flaws are what make her a complicated, thoroughly human character, one whom readers will enjoy continuing to try to understand...Readers will love her, flawed as she is.”

—**Teenreads.com (for #2: *Because It Is My Blood*)**

“An engaging heroine, lots of humor...in this Godfather for teens.”

—**EW.com (for #2: *Because It Is My Blood*)**

## **BACKLIST HIGHLIGHTS**

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### **LOIS DUNCAN**

Lois Duncan (born 1934) began submitting stories to magazines when she was 10 and made her first sale at 13. At 20, she wrote her first novel, *Debutante Hill*, and entered it in Dodd, Mead and Company’s “Seventeenth Summer Literary Competition.” Initially the story was rejected because Duncan had an underage character drink a beer. She changed the beer to a soft drink, re-entered the contest, and won first prize, which included the book’s publication. Since then, Duncan has written over 50 books, receiving worldwide acclaim for her young adult fiction. Those novels often include supernatural elements, and she is considered a pioneer of the teen suspense genre. She has received Young Readers Awards in 16 states and three foreign countries, and in 1992 was awarded the Margaret A. Edwards Award, presented by the School Library Journal and the American Library Association to honor an author for a Distinguished Body of Work for Young Adults. Her novels *I Know What You Did Last Summer* and *Hotel for Dogs* were adapted into popular films, and six of her other books have been made-for-TV movies. Duncan holds a degree in English from the University of New Mexico, where she taught for many years for the Journalism Department. She is the daughter of renowned commercial photographer Joseph Janney Steinmetz, and appeared in many of his famous photographs, including the one on the cover of *Debutante Hill*. She now lives with her husband in the Florida town where she grew up and is the mother of five. In the nonfiction book, *Who Killed My Daughter?* Duncan writes about the unsolved case of her youngest daughter’s murder, which happened in 1989.

**Agent:** George Nicholson

### **DOWN A DARK HALL**

**Publisher:** Little, Brown (North American)

**Publication:** April 2011

[Manuscript available](#)

**Rights sold:** Brazil (Editora Saraiva) Czech Republic (Baronet) France (Hachette) Germany (Bertelsmann) Italy (Mondadori Ragazzi) Slovakia (Ikar) Turkey (Epsilon)

**\*Young Adult**

**\*OPTIONED FOR FILM BY TWILIGHT AUTHOR STEPHANIE MEYER!**

Kit Gordy sees Blackwood Hall towering over black iron gates, and she can’t help thinking, this place is evil. The imposing mansion sends a shiver of fear through her. But Kit settles into a routine, trying to ignore the rumors that the highly exclusive boarding school is haunted. Then her classmates begin to show extraordinary and unknown talents. The strange dreams, the voices, the lost letters to family and friends, all become overshadowed by the magic around them. When Kit and her friends realize that Blackwood isn’t what it claims to be, it might be too late.

### **STRANGER WITH MY FACE**

**Publisher:** Little, Brown (North American)

**Publication:** April 2011

[Manuscript available](#)

**Rights sold: Germany (Bertelsmann)**

**\*Young Adult**

Laurie Stratton finally has everything a sixteen-year-old could ever want. But just as her perfect summer comes to a close, things start to unravel when her boyfriend insists he saw her out with another guy—when Laurie was really home sick! More mysterious sightings convince Laurie someone very real is out there, watching her ... The truth reveals a long-lost sister who has spent the years growing bitter and dangerous. She has learned how to haunt Laurie, but the visits soon become perilous. She wants something from Laurie—her life!

### **SUMMER OF FEAR**

**Publisher:** Little, Brown (North American)

**Publication:** April 2011

[Manuscript available](#)

**Rights sold: Germany (Bertelsmann)**

**\*Young Adult**

From the moment Rachel's family takes in her orphaned cousin Julia, strange things start to happen. Rachel grows suspicious but soon finds herself alienated from her own life. Julia seems to have enchanted everyone certain-she is not who she says she is, and Rachel's family is in grave danger.

### **LOCKED IN TIME**

**Publisher:** Little, Brown (North American)

**Publication:** October 2011

[Manuscript available](#)

**Rights sold: Japan (Hyoronsha)**

**\*Young Adult**

Nore Roberts didn't ask for a new life, but now that her mom is gone and her dad is newly married, she has to settle in at Shadow Grove, the old Civil War mansion her stepfamily calls home. When she meets her stepmother, Lisette, Nore is shocked by her youth and beauty that gives her chills—and a hint of something sinister. There's hope of becoming friends with her stepbrother and sister, until Nore realizes they're hiding something. When she begins to feel like the target of a deadly plan, Nore starts digging into her stepfamily's past. The skeletons in their closet are more real than she ever imagined. Can Nore expose her stepmother's dark secret before an old and evil magic swallows her up?

### **DAUGHTERS OF EVE**

**Publisher:** Little, Brown (North American)

**Publication:** October 2011

[Manuscript available](#)

**\*Young Adult**

The girls at Modesta High School feel like they're stuck in some anti-feminist time warp—they're faced with sexism at every turn, and they've had enough. Sponsored by their new art teacher, Ms. Stark, they band together to form the Daughters of Eve. It's more than a school club—it's a secret society, a sisterhood. At first, it seems like they are actually changing the way guys at school treat them. But Ms. Stark urges them to take more vindictive action, and it starts to feel more like revenge—brutal revenge. Blinded by their oath of loyalty, the Daughters of Eve become instruments of vengeance. Can one of them break the spell before real tragedy strikes?

### **I KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER**

**Publisher:** Little, Brown (North American)

**Publication:** October 2010

[Manuscript available](#)

**Rights sold: Brazil (Editora Saraiva) Denmark (Lindhardt og Ringhof) Germany (Bertelsmann)**

**\*Young Adult**

**\*A MAJOR FEATURE FILM!**

**\*REMAKE BY SONY PICTURES IN THE WORKS!**

Some secrets just won't stay buried. They didn't mean it. They didn't mean to hit the boy. There was a party, and it was an accident ... that wasn't who they were. They were pre-law, a football player, bound for New York. No one could know, so Barry, Julie, Helen, and Ray swore one another to secrecy. But now, a year later, someone knows. Julie receives a haunting, anonymous threat: "I know what you did last summer." The dark lie is unearthed, and before the four friends know it they need to outsmart a killer... or they will be the next to die. Leave the lights on when reading this classic thriller! This new edition features modernized text and a new introduction by Lois Duncan, the master of teen horror.

**KILLING MR. GRIFFIN**

**Publisher:** Little, Brown (North American)

**Publication:** October 2010

[Manuscript available](#)

**Rights sold:** Denmark (Lindhardt og Ringhof) Germany (Bertelsmann) Korea (Prooni)

**\*Young Adult**

They only meant to scare him. Mr. Griffin is the strictest teacher at Del Norte High, with a penchant for endless projects and humiliating his students. Even straight-A student Susan can't believe how mean he is to the charismatic Mark Kinney. So when her crush asks Susan to help a group of students teach a lesson of their own, she goes along. After all, it's a harmless prank, right? But things don't go according to plan. When one "accident" leads to another, people begin to die. Susan and her friends must face the awful truth: one of them is a killer. Leave the lights on when reading this classic thriller! This new edition features modernized text and a new introduction by Lois Duncan, the master of teen horror.

**DON'T LOOK BEHIND YOU**

**Publisher:** Little, Brown (North American)

**Publication:** October 2010

[Manuscript available](#)

**Rights sold:** German (Bertelsmann) UK (Little, Brown)

**\*Young Adult**

How can April give up her name, her friends, her boyfriend Steve, and everything she's ever known? April Corrigan feels like her life is over when she learns that her father has been working undercover for the FBI and the family must relocate under the Federal Witness Security Program. No one can reach them now ... or can they?

**A GIFT OF MAGIC**

**Publisher:** Little, Brown (North American)

**Publication:** June 2012

[Manuscript available](#)

**\*Young Adult**

When the old woman died, she left her grandchild Nancy with the extraordinary gift of magic. Nancy can read people's minds, know their thoughts, and make them do what she wants. Will she use her gift for good, or satisfy her own selfish desire? Lois Duncan presents a paranormal rollercoaster ride with goose bumps at every turn.

**THE THIRD EYE**

**Publisher:** Little, Brown (North American)

**Publication:** June 2012

[Manuscript available](#)

**\*Young Adult**

When Karen closes her eyes, the visions come. Through time and space, she sees a place where stolen children sleep. And if Karen denies a young policeman's request for help, the children may never go home again. Lois Duncan presents a ticking clock mystery with thrills at every turn.

**DEBUTANTE HILL**

**Publisher:** Ig Publishing/Lizzie Skurnick Books (World English)

**Publication:** September 2013

[Manuscript available](#)

**\*Young Adult**

Lois Duncan's 1958 young adult classic tells the story of what happens when the debutante tradition comes to one small town: there are the parties, the ball gowns, and one girl's growing sense of right and wrong. Lynn Chambers is popular, wealthy, and going (almost) steady with a handsome college boy. But when she decides not to be a debutante, for the first time Lynn finds herself on the outside. Lonelier than ever, Lynn meets a side of her town she barely knew existed. This includes Anna, an artist overlooked by the Hill crowd, and bad-boy Dirk Masters, who has a fast car, quick temper, and a dark secret involving Lynn.

### **WRITTEN IN THE STARS**

**Publisher:** Ig Publishing/Lizzie Skurnick Books (World English)

**Publication:** April 2014

[Books available](#)

From the master of thrillers and the supernatural comes a collection of thirteen short stories that have never been published before in book form. *Written in the Stars* contains Lois Duncan's earliest stories—one published at the age of thirteen—from the tale of an army sergeant whose suspicious behavior sets off a chain reaction to a group of children (humorously) tormenting their temporary guardian. This unique collection, whose stories originally appeared in magazines such as *Seventeen* and *American Girl*, is a marvelous portrait of the depth and breadth of Duncan's work, covering topics such as WWII, parenthood, sibling relationships, and love. As a special bonus, Duncan has followed each story with a brief essay describing her work and life at the time the story was written. *Written in the Stars* is a must have addition to the library of work from this spectacular and groundbreaking young adult author.

#### **Praise for *Debutante Hill*:**

“The [Lizzie Skurnick Series] kicks off with a bang: the great Lois Duncan's 1958 *Debutante Hill*. The book, Duncan's first, is a classic coming-of-age page-turner with a protagonist you root for. But like all her fiction, it deals with real issues of class, social consciousness, and growing up with seriousness and sensitivity, and is as fresh and engaging today as it was upon its publication.”

—The Paris Review

#### **Praise for *Gallows Hill*:**

“Duncan delights in building suspense brick by brick until she has a whole creepy wall to collapse at the climax.”

—Publishers Weekly

“Entertaining and enlightening, this is a book that should have wide appeal.”

—VOYA

“/.../ An exciting, suspenseful tale that will certainly be welcomed by Duncan's many fans.”

—School Library Journal

#### **Praise for *The Twisted Window*:**

“Duncan is a true pro, grounding the twists of her plot lines with sure motivation and providing the reader with several surprises along the way.”

—Kirkus Reviews

#### **Praise for *Locked in Time*:**

“Duncan's new thriller is impeccably structured, convincing and harrowing /.../ In the denouement, Duncan proves again her talent for outguessing even veteran mystery buffs.”

—Publishers Weekly

#### **Praise for *Stranger with My Face*:**

“The best of the sinister and supernatural is Lois Duncan’s *Stranger With My Face* /.../ Spine-chilling from top to bottom.”

—The New York Times

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## ZILPHA KEATLEY SNYDER

Zilpha Keatley Snyder (b. 1927) is a three-time Newbery Honor–winning author of adventure and fantasy novels for children. Her smart, honest, and accessible narrative style has made her books beloved by generations. When not writing, she enjoys reading and traveling. Snyder lives in Mill Valley, California.

**Agent:** George Nicholson

### CASTLE COURT KIDS SERIES

For the fifth graders who live at Castle Court, life is full of excitement. When they’re not dealing with know-it-all teenage siblings and tag-along kid sisters and brothers, Eddy, Carlos, Bucky, Kate, and Aurora are squaring off over baseball or banding together to fight bad guys. Their secret weapon is Lump, the Garcias’ trusty Saint Bernard, who can play hero without a whimper. School’s an adventure, too, especially when someone tries to sabotage a top-secret science project. Whether playing detective or busting ghosts, the Castle Court Kids’ adventures are just beginning!

#### CASTLE COURT KIDS #1: THE BOX AND THE BONE

**Publisher:** Open Road

**Publication:** March 2014

[Manuscript available](#)

**\*Middle Grade**

Who stole the buried treasure? Carlos Garcia, Eddy Wong, and Bucky Brockhurst are building a brand-new private clubhouse when they stumble upon buried treasure. No sooner have they hauled the old metal box out of the ground than Bucky’s irritating kid sister, Muffy, shows up and tells him he has to come home. Left alone with the box, Carlos and Eddy manage to pry it open. It’s filled with hundreds of gold coins! Knowing Bucky will be furious that they opened it without him, the boys dump it back into the ground. But when the fifth graders return later that night to dig it up again, all they find is an old bone. What happened to the treasure? And who buried the bone? Was it Lump, the Garcias’ enormous Saint Bernard? Susie Garcia, Athena Pappas, and Muffy Brockhurst (the meanest girl in school) also want to know. As the search for the box heats up, turning everyone against one another, will the three PROs lose the treasure—and their friendship?

#### CASTLE COURT KIDS #2: THE DIAMOND WAR

**Publisher:** Open Road

**Publication:** March 2014

[Manuscript available](#)

**\*Middle Grade**

It’s the girls against the boys when the fight for a baseball diamond erupts into an all-out war. Fifth graders Eddy Wong, Carlos Garcia, and Bucky “Buckaroo” Brockhurst all live in the Castle Court apartment complex. They’re part of a special club called the PROs. They plan to build a baseball diamond on the site of the deserted Dragoman property and are already picking out balls, mitts, and bats. Kate Nicely and Aurora and Athena Pappas also live at Castle Court. They believe the vacant lot is a magical grove and a perfect haven for unicorns. No way are they letting those insensitive boys cut down their precious trees. The girls hold a council meeting in the Pappas gazebo to plot their next move. Families take sides. And the full-scale battle to claim the land begins.

#### CASTLE COURT KIDS #3: GHOST INVASION

**Publisher:** Open Road

**Publication:** March 2014

[Manuscript available](#)

**\*Middle Grade**

It’s almost Halloween, and the Castle Court Kids are ready to raise some ghosts. The old Anderson barn is haunted. According to sixteen-year-old Bettina Katzenbach, the ghosts of Addie Anderson and her bandit boyfriend return every Halloween. Enthralled by the sad story of the doomed, centuries-old romance, Kate Nicely and Aurora Pappas hatch a plot to see the phantom lovers for themselves. Their scheme is thwarted by the other Castle Court Kids, who

are trying to horn in on the action. Eddy Wong, Carlos Garcia, and Bucky Brockhurst have their own plan for raising the spirits. So do their younger sisters and brothers. How are the ghosts supposed to rest easy with an invasion of Castle Court Kids? To top it all off, their parents just came up with the brilliant idea that they all go trick-or-treating together. But on this Halloween of chills and thrills, strange creatures walk the night...

#### **CASTLE COURT KIDS #4: SECRET WEAPONS**

**Publisher:** Open Road

**Publication:** March 2014

[Manuscript available](#)

**\*Middle Grade**

The Castle Court Kids are back—and this time, they’re teaming up to fight the bad guys. Kate Nicely and her BFF, Aurora Pappas, haven’t told anyone about their top-secret science project that’s going to win first place at the Annual Interschool Science Fair. Carlos Garcia, Bucky Brockhurst, and Eddy Wong are working on one, too, if they could just agree on an idea that isn’t lame. But everyone could lose to Aurora’s kid brother, Carson, and Eddy’s younger brother, Web, who everyone at school knows is a genius. Does Web’s secret project have something to do with the two sinister-looking men in a black van who’ve been lurking around Castle Court? The rumors spread like wildfire: Web is developing some kind of secret weapon and terrorists are trying to steal it. That’s when the Castle Court Kids decide to form the top-secret AT Club (that’s Anti-Terrorist, of course). With the kids—and one enormous Saint Bernard—outnumbering the bad guys, all they have to do is wait for the perfect time to strike.

#### **AND CONDORS DANCED**

**Publisher:** Open Road

**Publication:** March 2014

[Manuscript available](#)

**\*Middle Grade**

The tenth day of June in the year of Our Lord, 1907, Mehitabel Carlton Hartwick becomes invisible. Eleven-year-old Carly Hartwick lives a life of adventure on her family’s ranch in Santa Luisa. No one has a clue about her secret life—not her strict father, her ailing, distracted mother, her older sister, or her older brother. Carly shares her adventures with her faithful dog, Tiger, and documents their exploits in her journal. She loves visiting her aunt Mehitabel and hearing the story of her Chinese servant’s danger-filled immigration to California during the gold rush. And soon she and Tiger have a real-life mystery to solve: Who bombed a float during the annual Fourth of July parade? This fateful summer and fall, two tragedies will test Carly’s courage and forever alter her views on life and death. Culled from Snyder’s mother’s memories of growing up in this slice of rural Southern California, *And Condors Danced* introduces a heroine with a big imagination and an even bigger heart.

#### **THE RUNAWAYS**

**Publisher:** Open Road

**Publication:** March 2014

[Manuscript available](#)

**\*Middle Grade**

Dani O’Donnell hates the dusty desert town of Rattler Springs and the ramshackle cabin where she lives with her widowed mother. On the eve of her thirteenth birthday, Dani hatches a plan to run away and return home to Sea Grove, California, with its palm trees and ocean breezes. But her scheme gets complicated when Stormy Arigotti, a dyslexic nine-year-old, decides he wants in. As if that weren’t enough, a big-city family just set up shop on the rundown ranch Dani’s mother inherited from her husband—and the daughter, Pixie Smithson, wants to join the runaway group. Pixie’s the strangest girl Dani has ever met, but now they have to think about practical things, like raising money for three bus tickets. For Dani, Stormy, and Pixie, running away might not turn out to be the great adventure they envisioned.

#### **THE GHOSTS OF RATHBURN PARK**

**Publisher:** Open Road

**Publication:** March 2014

[Manuscript available](#)

**\*Middle Grade**

## STERLING LORD LITERISTIC

Szilvia Molnar, szilvia@sll.com

Eleven-year-old Matt comes face to face with his town's haunted past. Matthew Hamilton—a.k.a. the Hamster—and his family recently moved to Timber City. More of a loner than his older brother and sister, Matt gets lost when he wanders away from the town's annual July Fourth picnic into nearby Rathburn Park. He is rescued by a white mutt with shaggy hair and pointed ears. Matt follows him into a clearing, but the dog vanishes. According to legend, Rathburn Park is haunted. Weirdered out by his experience but unable to stay away, Matt returns to the ruins. In a burned-out church, a girl in a hat and old-fashioned ruffled dress appears. She warns him to leave if he wants to stay alive. Her name is Amelia Rathburn. But when Matt looks her up, he discovers that she is one hundred years old. Is Amelia a ghost from the past? Or someone a lot more human? The truth is stranger than Matt could ever imagine.

### **BIRDS OF SUMMER**

**Publisher:** Open Road

**Publication:** March 2014

[Manuscript available](#)

**\*Middle Grade**

**\*WINNER OF THE PEN LITERARY AWARD AND THE PARENTS' CHOICE AWARD!**

Summer is just a teenager, but sometimes she feels like the parent. Fifteen-year-old Summer McIntyre lives with her mother, Oriole, and seven-year-old sister, Sparrow, in a trailer in Alvarro Bay City, overlooking the Pacific. Oriole is a Northern California flower child who fantasizes about being at one with nature and forgets about needing money. Even though she's only fifteen, Summer is good at being Mom. That is, until Oriole's new boyfriend upsets the precarious balance in their lives. Suddenly Summer has to protect her family as she copes with the dangers of drug-smuggling, blackmailing, and even terrorism. Set during the 1980s, *The Birds of Summer* is the story of a teenager with the responsibilities of adulthood thrust upon her shoulders, who learns how to adapt . . . and how to survive.

### **A FABULOUS CREATURE**

**Publisher:** Open Road

**Publication:** March 2014

[Manuscript available](#)

**\*Middle Grade**

Fifteen-year-old James has just discovered the magnificence of nature—but can he protect it from the phoniness of the material world? When his academic-minded parents decide to forsake civilization for a wilderness summer in the Sierra Nevada mountains, James Fielding figures he'll be counting the minutes until it's over. But in the woods one day, he comes upon a magnificent deer and becomes fascinated by its majesty and beauty. Then he meets two very different girls. Thirteen-year-old Griffin Donahue is “pure and free and beautiful.” Diane Jarrett is a tanned, “hot-pink-bikinied” goddess. Griffin is at one with nature. Diane is slumming at the nearby exclusive camp, with its decadent luxury and A-list guests. When these two worlds collide, threatening the existence of the stag, James embarks on a quest to find a friend who's gone missing—and to save a life.

### **SPYHOLE SECRETS**

**Publisher:** Open Road

**Publication:** March 2014

[Material to come](#)

**\*Middle Grade**

After her father dies, a lonely eleven-year-old finds a solution to her grief when she discovers a secret window into another life. Hallie Meredith is furious with God. First, her adored father died in a car accident. As if that weren't horrible enough, Hallie had to move away, leaving school and all her friends behind. Now she and her mother live in a cramped apartment in a stuffy old mansion. The only bright spot is the crack in a boarded-up window in the attic that gives Hallie an unobstructed view of the apartment in the building next door. Hallie knows she shouldn't be up there—the attic is forbidden territory. And she shouldn't be spying on the beautiful teenage girl with the long blond hair who seems so tragic (and whom Hallie christens “Rapunzel”). And there's Rapunzel's kid brother and their father, who seems unnaturally strict. Morphing into an amateur spy, Hallie is determined to solve the mysteries of this other family. But is the truth about the people next door different from how it appears?

### **THE MAGIC NATION THING**

**Publisher:** Open Road

**Publication:** March 2014

Material to come

**\*Middle Grade**

Abigail O'Malley doesn't want to be different, but she doesn't have a choice—she has magic, and it's not in her imagination. Abby resents having the psychic powers that set her apart from other kids. Even though her kindergarten teacher assured her that her visions were just her imagination (which Abby heard as “magic nation”), Abby knows they're very real. She just wants to be normal, like her best friend, Paige Borden, and grow up to be a lawyer or maybe an Olympic gold-medalist skier. If her powers are so special, why can't she find a way to bring her parents back together? But Abby's ability to read minds and find missing objects comes in handy when she helps solve cases at her mom's private detective agency. The trouble starts when Abby accidentally reveals her special gift to Paige. Now that Paige knows her secret, she keeps trying to get Abby to use her magic to figure out everyday mysteries. But when Paige's little brother Sky goes missing, Abby has to put her powers to the ultimate test.

**EYES IN THE FISHBOWL**

**Publisher:** Open Road

**Publication:** March 2014

[Manuscript available](#)

**\*Middle Grade**

The whole thing started six years ago when Dion James was around eight or nine. He got a shoe-shining gig on the corner of Palm and Eighth, outside the big glass-and-bronze doors of Alcott-Simpson's department store. With his unruly hair and bad limp from polio, Dion looked like a refugee. Envisioning himself one day working at Alcott-Simpson's, he cleans up his act and starts dressing better. Fourteen-year-old Dion still dreams of working at the luxury department store when he sees a girl with big black eyes and long black hair pursued by store detectives for stealing a sweater. A few days later, Dion is in the store when he hears a scream, and all hell breaks loose. Locked in after the store empties out, Dion sees a familiar figure: the sweater thief. Her name is Sara, and soon she and Dion are eyewitnesses to a bizarre series of events that have no rational explanation. Who is Sara? And why is there a pair of eyes in the mink-lined fishbowl?

**FOOL'S GOLD**

**Publisher:** Open Road

**Publication:** March 2014

[Manuscript available](#)

**\*Middle Grade**

**\*A JUNIOR LIBRARY GUILD SELECTION!**

For as long as he can remember, people have warned Rudy not to play in the mines. Fourteen-year-old Rudy Drummond lives with his mother and half sisters, Margot and Moira—“the M and M's”—in Pyramid Hill, California's legendary gold rush town. But Rudy's got a secret: He's terrified of dark, closed-in places. So when his best friend, Barney, and Tyler, the new kid in town, decide to explore the abandoned Pritchard's Hole mine, Rudy has to come up with an excuse for why he can't go without arousing their suspicions. He tries everything, from babysitting Margot and Moira to giving a girl named Heather horseback riding lessons. But Rudy can't stop the other boys from venturing into the forbidden mine shaft—an expedition that brings back memories of being buried alive. During this summer vacation, Rudy will struggle to overcome his fears, fall in love, and become a hero as he makes life-changing discoveries about himself, his family, and his friends.

**THE UNSEEN**

**Publisher:** Open Road

**Publication:** March 2014

[Manuscript available](#)

**\*Middle Grade**

Twelve-year-old Alexandra Hobson stumbles upon the key to a hidden world—but is it a gift, or a nightmare? Alexandra feels ignored and unloved in her family of annoying, self-absorbed overachievers. One day in the woods she hears a shot, and is horrified to see a large, beautiful bird fall to the ground. She takes the injured egret home, hiding it in the basement behind the furnace, where it joins the other wounded creatures Xandra cares for unbeknownst to her parents. The next morning, the bird is gone. But it has left something behind: a quivering white feather. Convinced the feather is enchanted, Xandra brings it to school, where a weird, uncool seventh-grader named Belinda tells her it's a key to an unseen world. As Xandra enters a strange and scary realm, she confronts a magic that's all too real. Can she figure out how to stop the key from becoming a curse?

**Praise for *And Condors Danced*:**

“Blends emotional insight and a joyous sense of play to create a lively, compelling tale.”  
—**Publishers Weekly**

“The story is an interesting one /.../ moving along at a leisurely pace that should appeal to thoughtful readers.”  
—**School Library Journal**

**Praise for *The Runaways*:**

“Snyder pulls off another feat of prestidigitation with this roundly satisfying story /.../ Readers will gravitate to her protagonist, 12-year-old Dani O’Donnell, right from the opening scene in a graveyard /.../ Even the minor characters here seem to have lives off the page.”  
—**Publishers Weekly \*Starred Review\***

“The dying town and desperate people are very real and touching. The plight of these creative and neglected children will keep readers turning the pages.”  
—**School Library Journal \*Starred Review\***

“Dani’s pal Stormy is a richly drawn character with few words and rough gestures, an unforgettable portrait of a child whose life is heartbreakingly complicated.”  
—**Booklist**

“An intriguing tale, with believable characters. Pixie, in particular, is a character worthy of a tale all her own.”  
—**Kirkus Reviews**

**Praise for *The Diamond War*:**

“The kids of Castle Court are a lively, diversified group, representing many cultures, interests, and ages /.../ Humorous. The action is fast-paced, with end-of-chapter teasers guaranteed to keep the pages turning.”  
—**School Library Journal**

“The children are a well-rounded, likable lot /.../ A nice beginning to a promising series.”  
—**Booklist**

**Praise for *The Ghosts of Rathburn Park*:**

“Veteran novelist Snyder offers up a contemporary mystery /.../ satisfying for its wonderfully delineated cast /.../ Her gifts for fashioning lifelike and sympathetic characters are as pronounced as ever, as is her understanding of family dynamics. The payoff here is the storytelling itself.”  
—**Publishers Weekly**

“This skillfully told story is full of both history and middle-grade concerns about peer pressure and acceptance.”  
—**School Library Journal**

“A satisfying read for those who like some character development along with their not-too-scary ghost stories.”  
—**Kirkus Reviews**

**Praise for *A Fabulous Creature*:**

“Richly symbolic /.../ [Snyder’s] settings of camp and wilderness become powerful protagonists /.../ Even lesser characters are fully drawn /.../ A novel of flesh, idea and design, a novel that dares approach what a fine juvenile novel can be.”  
—**The New York Times Book Review**

**Praise for *Spyhole Secrets*:**

“Snyder pairs an idiosyncratic plot with her customarily insightful characterizations in this adept story /.../ Testifies to the realism and power of Snyder’s writing.”

—**Publishers Weekly**

“The suspense /.../ will keep readers turning the pages.”

—**School Library Journal**

“Complex, appealing /.../ Hallie is a likable, dimensional character /.../ An absorbing book with many intriguing issues.”

—**Booklist**

“A deftly told story with sympathetic characters, from one of the real veterans in the field.”

—**Kirkus Reviews**

**Praise for *The Magic Nation Thing*:**

“Abby’s desire to be like everyone else is utterly understandable and Paige is simultaneously manic and likable /.../ An additional purchase to the many books that examine the connections between magic and day-to-day life.”

—**School Library Journal**

“Readers will delight in Snyder’s vivid descriptions of Abby’s special powers, but what will draw them most is the warm, believable story about friends dealing with anger and new feelings.”

—**Booklist**

“Snyder proves herself to be an excellent storyteller, and develops a /.../ diverse cast of characters with realism and creativity /.../ Pre-teen girls will relate to the emotions and concerns of Abby and Paige’s friendship, home lives and the very real energies of school, which makes for entertaining reading.”

—**Children’s Literature**

“Readers will find plenty to relate to here /.../ A lively, engaging read.”

—**Kirkus Reviews**

**Praise for *Fool’s Gold*:**

“Plucky, resourceful Rudy is a likable protagonist—and his story is as ebullient as it is adventurous.”

—**Publishers Weekly**

“A fine adventure story /.../ Snyder’s lively plot and distinctive characters provide the vehicle for a greater understanding of one’s self and others /.../ A rich, varied panorama /.../ Both fast paced and thought provoking.”

—**School Library Journal**

“Lively and likable characters /.../ Entertaining.”

—**Kirkus Reviews**

**Praise for *The Unseen*:**

“A wonderful ride into fantasy, with a lot of realistic touches /.../ This perceptive story is not to be missed.”

—**School Library Journal**

“Zilpha Keatley Snyder is the sort of writer who makes you peek in the closet, check under the bed, and spend all night under the covers, reading with a flashlight to find out what happens next.”

—**Lemony Snicket**