



The Text Publishing Company

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Recent Adult and YA Acquisitions

Andrew, Sally	Tannie Maria: Recipies for Love and Murder	ANZ	Canongate
Attwell, David	J. M. Coetzee: A Life in Writing	ANZ	Cossee
Barbery, Muriel	La vie des elfes	ANZ	Gallimard
Berthault, Jean-Yves	The Passion of Mademoiselle S	ANZ	Susanne Lea Associates
Cook, Kenneth	Fear is the Rider	World excl. France	Curtis Brown Australia
Demick, Barbara	Eat the Buddha	ANZ	Abner Stein
Jarosinski, Eric	Nein. A Manifesto.	UK & Comm	Regal Hoffman & Associates
Lea, Caroline	When the Sky Fell Apart	UK & Comm	Peters, Fraser and Dunlop
Mantesso, Rafael	A Dog Named Jimmy	UK & Comm	Penguin Random House
Miller, Michelle	The Underwriting	UK & Comm	Penguin Random House
Modiano, Patrick	Accident nocturne	UK & Comm	Gallimard
Modiano, Patrick	La petite bijou	UK & Comm	Gallimard
Raabe, Melanie	The Trap	World English	Random House Germany
Roy, Lori	Let Me Die in His Footsteps	UK & Comm	Penguin Random House
Sala, Michael	The Restorers	World	Author
Singer, Peter	The Most Good You Can Do	ANZ	The Robbins Office
Taylor, Cory	The White Experiement	World	Author
Barnard, Simon	Convict Tattoos	World	Author
Cohen-Scali, Sarah	Max	UK & Comm (excl. Canada)	Gallimard Jeunesse
Currie, Chris	Clancy of the Undertow	World	Author
Griffin, Paul	Adrift	ANZ	Scholastic
Hall, Leanne	Iris and the Tiger	World	Author
Stead, Rebecca	Goodbye Stranger	ANZ	Penguin Random House

Recent Adult and YA Publications

Adams, Mark	Meet Me in Atlantis	Penguin Group USA
Biss, Eula	On Immunity: An Inoculation	David Grossman Literary Agency
Bruschini, Vito	The Prince	The Colchie Agency
Chanter, Catherine	The Well	Canongate
D'Ambrosio, Charles	Loitering: New & Collected Essays	Mary Evans Inc.
Ewen, Paul	Francis Plug: How to Be a Public Author	Galley Beggar Press
Grenville, Kate	One Life	Author
Hua, Yu	The Seventh Day	The Knopf Doubleday Group
Lianke, Yan	The Four Books	The Susijn Agency
Link, Kelly	Get in Trouble	Abner Stein
Mackenzie, Kenneth	The Refuge	Kenneth Mackenzie Estate
Murphy, Antonia	Dirty Chick: Adventures of an Unlikely Farmer	Jean V. Naggar Literary Agency
Richmond Mouillot, Miranda	A Fifty-Year Silence: Love, War and a Ruined House in France	The Crown Publishing Group
Tampke, Ilka	Skin	Author
Vann, David	Aquarium	Rogers, Coleridge & White Ltd.
Watson, S. J.	Second Life	Conville & Walsh

Aldridge, James	The True Story of Spit McPhee	Curtis Brown Australia
Higgins, Jane	Havoc	Author
Levithan, David	Hold Me Closer: The Tiny Cooper Story	Penguin Group USA
Levithan, David	The Realm of Possibility	William Morris Endeavor Entertainment Ltd.
Lim, Rebecca	The Astrologer's Daughter	Author
Newsome, Richard	The House of Puzzles	Author
Pitt, Darrell	The Broken Sun: A Jack Mason Adventure	Author

Molly and Pim and the Millions of Stars by Martine Murray

Molly knew it was that sort of a day. A day arrives with a certain feeling about it and this one was bright and bold; a day when the wild herbs would be just right for collecting. The vibration in them was the best at dawn. Molly didn't like to think about plants vibrating or emitting or having thoughts as this was all part of the strangeness of things, and she objected strongly to strangeness and tried to pretend it wasn't there. Yet something had woken her, something had let her know today had arrived with its own prickly plans, and she suspected it was vibrations.



Molly's mother is not like other mothers: she rides a yellow bike and collects herbs and makes potions, perhaps even magical potions. Molly wants to be normal, like her friend Ellen, and watch television and eat food that comes in packets. But when Molly's mother accidentally turns herself into a tree, Molly turns to the strange and wonderful Pim for help. And as they look for a way to rescue her mother, Molly discovers how to be happy with the oddness in her life.

Martine Murray's new illustrated middle-grade novel *Molly and Pim and the Millions of Stars* is a whimsical story about friendship and individuality and learning to see the freshness and wonder in the world.

Martine Murray writes and illustrates picture books, middle-grade fiction and young adult fiction, including *The Slightly True Story of Cedar B Hartley*, *The Slightly Bruised Glory of Cedar B Hartley* and *How to Make a Bird*. Her books have been published internationally and translated into seventeen languages. She was born in Melbourne and currently lives in a country town north of Melbourne.

Children's Fiction • July 2015 • Manuscript available April 2015

Rights Held: World

Inbetween Days by Vikki Wakefield

The worst part was the waiting. I swear I spent half my life with my chin on my hands, looking out of my bedroom window. The summer I turned seventeen we were all waiting...

At seventeen, Jacklin Bates is all grown up.

She's dropped out of school. She's living with her runaway sister, Trudy, and she's in secret, obsessive love with Luke, who doesn't love her back. She's stuck in Mobius—a dying town with the macabre suicide forest its only attraction—stuck working in the roadhouse and babysitting her boss's demented father.

A stranger sets up camp in the forest and the boy next door returns; Jack's father moves into the shed and her mother steps up her campaign to punish Jack for leaving, too. Trudy's brilliant façade is cracking and Jack's only friend, Astrid, has done something unforgivable.

Jack is losing everything, including her mind.

As she struggles to hold onto the life she thought she wanted, Jack learns that growing up is complicated—and love might be the biggest mystery of all.

Praise for *Friday Brown*:

'Australian author Wakefield spins a tense, multilayered tale about loyalty, memory and survival... Lyrical, suspenseful and haunting.' *Starred Kirkus Review*

'A stunning contribution to young adult fiction. Five stars.' *Books+Publishing*

'*Friday Brown* will haunt you long after you've turned the last page. Vikki Wakefield waves the fantastical and the gritty into a harrowing, heartbreaking, intensely suspenseful story that's as dangerous and starkly gorgeous as the Australian outback. It will break your heart then put the pieces back together in a new way. I absolutely loved this book.' Libba Bray, author of the *Gemma Doyle Trilogy*

Vikki Wakefield's first Young Adult novel, *All I Ever Wanted*, won the 2012 Adelaide Festival Literary Award for Young Adult Fiction, as did her second novel, *Friday Brown*, in 2014. *Friday Brown* was also an Honour Book, Children's Book Council of Australia, 2013. Among other awards, it was shortlisted for the prestigious Prime Minister's Awards, 2013.

Young adult fiction • October 2015 • Manuscript available

Rights Held: World

Rights sold: UK & Commonwealth (excl. ANZ and Canada)—Hot Key Books; North America—Simon & Schuster

Option publishers: Germany—S. Fischer Verlag; Turkey—Dogan Egmont.

How to Be Happy by David Burton

WINNER, TEXT PRIZE FOR YOUNG ADULT AND CHILDREN'S WRITING, 2014

A funny, sad and serious memoir, *How to Be Happy* tackles depression, friendship, sexual identity, suicide, academic pressure, love and adolescent confusion. It's a brave and honest account of one young man's search for a happy, true and meaningful life that will resonate with readers young and old.

David grew up in a loving family, the older brother of twins with Asperger's Syndrome. He was bullied at school and made few friends. Then, as his best friend began self-harming he felt a sense of responsibility, which led to anxiety and depression. He became convinced he was gay and tried to find confidence in embracing that identity, only to find himself more confused and depressed and on the verge of suicide. His story of self-discovery and recovery is a heartwarming inspirational account of a difficult path through adolescence.

David Burton is a twenty-four-year-old award-winning playwright from Brisbane. His work *April's Fool* (Playlab Press) toured nationally in 2012. He has recently co-written *Hedonism's Second Album* for La Boite Indie, and *The Landmine Is Me* for Queensland Theatre Company. A speaker and presenter in schools across Queensland, David is passionate about sharing his remarkable story with young people.

Awarded annually to the best manuscript written for young adults and children, the Text Prize has unearthed extraordinary, multi-award-winning novels and launched international publishing careers. The winner receives \$10,000 and a publishing contract with Text Publishing.

Praise for the Text Prize:

'The Text Prize is going from strength to strength...Winners that push the boundaries of young-adult fiction.' *Junior Bookseller + Publisher*

'Quickly building a glowing reputation.' *Sydney Morning Herald*

daveburton.com.au

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Young Adult Fiction

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September 2015

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Manuscript available

Rights Held: World

Max by Sarah Cohen-Scali, translated by Penny Hueston

'When the war's over, and if we manage to survive it, we both have to testify. Me, for what the Nazis did to the Jews and to the Polish; you, for what they did to you.'

'Okay!' I reply, even though I don't have a clue what 'testify' means.

Testify in front of who? Why? When the war's over, the Reich will begin its thousand-year reign. There'll be no more secrecy about the Lebensborn...All right, too bad, there's no point arguing with him. You never quite know how he'll react.

Meet Max—it's 1936, Bavaria, and he's still a foetus inside his blonde, blue-eyed mother. Utterly indoctrinated in the Nazi ideology, he will address you, tell you his story until 1945—his destiny as an exceptional being, the prototype of the "Lebensborn" (Fountains of Youth) program, designed to produce perfect specimens of the Aryan race to regenerate the Reich. When Max meets Lukas, a young Polish boy who resembles him but who rebels against the Nazi system, cracks starts to appear in Max's convictions...

Max is compulsive reading. Against all your instincts to despise what Max tells you, about his childish cruelty, his attempts to eliminate any aspect of weakness in order to become a tough Hitler youth, you will find yourself somehow understanding him, becoming attached to this orphan who personifies the evil that people are capable of inflicting on children in times of war.

Max is a fascinating, confronting historical fable. A little-known aspect of the Second World War is brought to life through two striking characters whose paths cross tragically. In the words of Sarah Cohen-Scali to her readers: 'I hope that, as I did, you will be able to feel indulgent towards Max's flaws, and that you will love him, defend him, believe in him...'

Sarah Cohen-Scali is a French writer, born in Morocco. She has published a number of books for both young adults and adults. *Max*, first published in France by Gallimard, has won the Prix des Dévoreurs de livres 2014, the Prix Passages 2014, the Prix Tatoulu Noir 2014, the Prix Sorcières 2013 and the Prix Jeunesse des libraires du Québec, 2013.

Young adult fiction • February 2016 • Manuscript available

Rights Held: UK & Commonwealth (excl. Canada)

Lullaby by Bernard Beckett

I remember the machine by his bed. It made a sound like sighing. Numbers twitched, unable to settle. A jagged line sawed across the screen. At least it was something to look at. Something that wasn't him. They'd brushed his hair, as if he were already dead. A song came into my head, I couldn't chase it away. 'Girlfriend in a Coma.' I pretended to smile, pretended to be brave. 'Twin brother in a coma,' I mouthed, 'I know it's serious.' He would have laughed. He would have been better than me at this.

From the author of *Genesis* and *August* a new psychological thriller that questions what it is that makes us who we are.

Rene's twin brother Theo lies unconscious in hospital after a freak accident left him with massively disrupted brain function. There is hope, though. An experimental procedure—risky, scientifically exciting and ethically questionable—could allow him to gain a new life. But what life, and at what cost?

Only Rene can give the required consent. And now he must face that difficult decision.

But first there is the question of Rene's capacity to make that decision. And this is where the real story begins.

Praise for Bernard Beckett:

'Stunning and beguiling...This is superb fiction – thoughtful, clear, well-written and engrossing...Beckett's characterisation, as ever, is sharp...*August* is compelling, fascinating and very thought-provoking.' *Sunday Star Times* on *August*

'A compelling story about freedom, love and destiny...this is a fascinating exploration of what it means to have free will and to live fully in the moment.' *Herald Sun* on *August*

Bernard Beckett is a multi-award winning author of books and plays for young adults and one of New Zealand's most outstanding writers. In 2006 Bernard was awarded a fellowship for a project examining DNA mutations. This new direction in his life led to the publication of the sophisticated sci-fi novel *Genesis*, which has since been published in over twenty countries and was the winner of the 2010 Prix Sorcières. He lives near Wellington with his wife and twin sons.

Young Adult Fiction • June 2015 • Manuscript available

Rights Held: World
Option publishers: Netherlands–Lemniscaat

Afterlight by Rebecca Lim

Life's been tough on Sophie Teague.

Since her parents died in a freak motorbike accident, she's been living with her gran in their rundown pub. And she's just enrolled at a new school, desperate for a fresh start.

That's until 'Eve', a beautiful ghost clad in black, starts making terrifying nightly appearances in Sophie's bedroom.

Eve doesn't speak, or write – she just hovers, transmitting images. She needs Sophie's help.

What happened to Eve? Does it have something to do with the recent murder that sent a notorious bikie-gang leader on the run?

Sophie isn't sure – but she knows Eve won't stop haunting her until she finds out. So with the unlikely help of brooding classmate Jordan Haig, Sophie sets out to unravel the mystery.

Dark, thrilling and utterly spooky, *Afterlight* will take you deep into the heart of a dangerous love story, revealing the unworldly – and deadly – pull of the past.

Praise for *The Astrologer's Daughter*:

'Compulsively readable. Avicenna is a captivating hero—tough yet vulnerable. This gritty and mysterious love story will stay with me for a long time.' Cath Crowley, author of *Graffiti Moon*

'Smart and original—a beautifully written mash-up of mystery, thriller and love story.' Vikki Wakefield

'A perfect balance of wit, humour, willpower and raw emotion.' *Dolly*

Rebecca Lim is a Melbourne-based writer and illustrator. She worked as a commercial lawyer for several years before leaving to write full time. Rebecca is the author of ten other books for children and young adult readers, including *The Astrologer's Daughter* (Text Publishing, 2014). Her *Mercy* series is published in the USA, UK, ANZ, Germany and Brazil.

Young Adult Fiction • July 2015 • Manuscript available

Rights Held: World

Iris and the Tiger by Leanne Hall

‘Bosk...de Noob,’ Iris blurted out. ‘What does that mean in English?’

‘Bosque de las Nubes,’ Ursula corrected her. ‘The English translation is Forest of Clouds. You saw the forest on your way in? It goes for miles. A tangle of thorns and ditches, ferns and watchful trees. Rotting leaves. Apparently a swamp or two. It’s a lovely place to go rambling.’

Aunt Ursula was smiling now as she looked down at Iris. But Iris remembered how dark and close the forest had seemed from the car – it had been anything but lovely. She tried to imagine exploring it alone and a shivery feeling ran through her again.

A magical tale for fans of Neil Gaiman, *The Wildwood Chronicles* and *The Incorrigible Children of Ashton Place*.

Twelve-year-old Iris has been sent to Spain on a mission: to discover to whom her eccentric Aunt Ursula plans to leave her fortune – and her sprawling estate.

But from the moment Iris arrives at Bosque de las Nubes, she realises something isn’t quite right. There is an odd atmosphere around the house, where time moves slowly and Iris’s eyes play tricks on her. While outside, in the wild and untamed forest, a mysterious animal moves through the shadows.

Just what is Aunt Ursula hiding?

But when Iris discovers a painting named *Iris and the Tiger*, she sets out to uncover the animal’s identity – putting her life in perilous danger.

Praise for Leanne Hall:

‘It’s original; it’s edgy; it skirts the borders of fantasy while being anchored in the real world, and it’s totally absorbing.’ *Good Reading on This is Shyness*

‘Refreshingly original, Hall’s debut novel has a genuine edge. It’s *Bladerunner* meets *Peter Pan* with a bit of sweetness, sadness and tension.’ *Sunday Age on This is Shyness*

Leanne Hall is the author of two novels for young adults, the Text Prize-winning *This Is Shyness* and its sequel *Queen of the Night*. Leanne has had shorter pieces published in *Meanjin*, *Age*, *Best Australian Stories* and the anthology *Growing Up Asian In Australia*. Her work plays with the borders of reality and fantasy. Leanne has worked in the arts, educational publishing and as a bookseller, but her enduring passion is for youth literature.

Young Adult Fiction • February 2016 • Manuscript available May 2015

Rights Held: World

Clancy of the Undertow by Chris Currie

The tiny light flicks on in the Monaro and my heart jags because she's there, painting Cleopatra edges to her eyes, peering at the rearview mirror. Sasha Strickland. Leaning back to shuffle on a jeans leg, kicking one foot out at the evening air, her transformation from Daytime Travel Agent to Nighttime Smalltown Royalty complete. All the guys have gone with Buggs to the edge of the skate ramp. Nobody watches Sasha except for me. Nobody sees the three holes in her stockings that look like a ghost's face. I think of being a ghost, of being invisible. Being in the back seat as Sasha prepares for another night out. Leaning my ghost head close to her cheek and feeling its heat.

'Awkward, titless, something approaching hopeless.' That's how Clancy describes herself. Actually she's just your typical sixteen-year-old loser dropkick gay misfit. But in a country town like Barwen, you don't have to be that different to feel like a freak. And Clancy, with a moderately dysfunctional family, a genuine interest in Nature Club and a major crush on the local hot girl, is packing a capital F.

As the summer before Clancy's final school year begins, a road smash kills two local teenagers and Clancy's dad is involved. While the family is dealing with the reaction of a hostile town, Clancy meets someone who could possibly—at last—become a friend. Not only that, the unattainable Sasha starts to show what may be a romantic interest.

In short, this is the summer when Clancy has to figure out who the hell she is.

Christopher Currie is a Brisbane writer. His first book, a novel for adults called *The Ottoman Motel*, was shortlisted for the Commonwealth Book Prize and the Queensland Literary Awards in 2012. *Clancy of the Undertow* is his first YA novel.

furioushorses.com

@furioushorses

Young adult fiction

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February 2016

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Manuscript available

Rights Held: World

Option publishers: UK & Commonwealth (excl. ANZ)—Sandstone Press

Waer by Meg Caddy

As night fell, something stirred in the darkness. Birds shrieked, rising into the air as the peace cracked and fell apart. Flashes of crimson uniform cut through the smothering black of the woods. The smell of smoke lifted through the boughs and choked the leaves. A drum beat out a steady pulse as soldiers tore over the dead leaf matter, hacking their way through the web of forest.

The prisoner ran.

When Lowell Sencha finds the strange girl lying as if dead on the riverbank, he is startled to find that she is like them: waer. Human, but able to assume the form of a wolf. The Sencha family's small community has kept itself sequestered and unnoticed, free from persecution. The arrival of a fellow traveller, and a hunted one at that, threatens their very survival.

Sure enough, the soldiers of the blood-purist Daeman Leldh soon descend on the village searching for her, burning and slaughtering. Lowell and the mysterious stranger are among the few to escape. And now they must find their way to the city of Luthan where, she says, they will find people to help them bring down Daeman Leldh.

If she can persuade them not to kill her.

This brilliant young adult fantasy debut from twenty-one-year-old Australian writer Meg Caddy heralds the emergence of an exciting new talent in speculative fiction.

Meg Caddy is a student of Literature and History at the University of Western Australia. In 2013, her young adult fantasy novel *Waer* was shortlisted for the Text Prize. Meg was the 2013 Young Writer-in-Residence at the Katharine Susannah Prichard Writers' Centre, and has been mentored by fantasy author Juliet Marillier.

www.megcaddy.com

Young Adult Fiction • March 2016 • Manuscript available

Rights Held: World

Havoc by Jane Higgins

I stopped my story. The girl was past hearing it, so I began to sing to her instead. I sang the drum chants in the old language of the desert. Why choose a warrior chant for a dying girl? Because we die fighting when we die young. And because no one should die in silence. I knew she would be gone soon, for I knew this disease. I'd seen my own people die of it. We knew it as HVC-6: Hemorrhagic Virus, Class 6.

The whitecoats called it Havoc.

From the winner of the Text Prize, the much awaited sequel to *The Bridge*.

The ceasefire is barely holding. Southside wait, with a kind of hope that feels like defeat.

Then Cityside blow up the bridge.

And amid the chaos and rubble Nik and Lanya are drawn into a complex web of power, fear and betrayal.

Who is the girl found crying out from the bombed bridge? What is her connection to the secret experiments taking place at Pitkerrin Marsh? And why does she cry 'havoc'?

But before Nik can find out he must find his father, and face the hardest decision of his life.

Praise for *The Bridge*

'If you loved Suzanna Collins' *The Hunger Games* series and John Marsden's *Tomorrow* series, chances are you'll love this'. *Girlfriend NZ*

'A powerful dystopian adventure about questioning authority, the complexities of war and enduring bonds.' *Age*

'A brilliant novel with echoes of John Wyndham's *The Chrysalids*, its young protagonists show heart in a world of despair.' *West Australian*

Jane Higgins lives in Christchurch, New Zealand. She won the Text Prize for Young Adult and Children's Writing for her first novel, *The Bridge*. Translation rights in *The Bridge* are also available.

Young Adult Fiction • March 2015 • Finished copies available

Rights Held: World
Option publishers: North America–Tundra

The Jack Mason Adventures by Darrell Pitt

Jack Mason has grown up as an acrobat in a circus. Now, after the tragic death of his parents, he must live inside the gloomy walls of Sunnyside Orphanage in London, a city of fog and snow, filled with airships, steamcars and metrotowers that stretch into space.

Luckily for Jack, he's taken under the wing of the brilliant and eccentric detective Ignatius Doyle. But when a girl named Scarlet Bell come seeking help from the great detective, little does he know how dangerous life is about to become.

With all of its twists and turns and helter-skelter action, the *Jack Mason Adventures* are addictive stories and spellbinding homages to the world of Victorian literature that will appeal to readers of all ages.

Praise for Darrell Pitt and the *Jack Mason Adventures*:

'Charming, witty and intelligently written...this series no doubt will be a huge hit for early teens, the writing is intelligent and Darrell Pitt has created characters that challenge and provoke readers to invest in the storyline.' *Diva Booknerd*

'Mind-bending mystery.' *Launceston Examiner* on *The Firebird Mystery*

'Set in a fantastical London, filled with airships, steam cars and metrotowers stretching into space, this fast paced adventure and homage to the world of Victoria literature and Conan Doyle offers an enjoyable roller-coaster read for fans of Artemis Fowl and the Lemony Snicket series...[a] rollicking who-dunnit that will keep young Sherlocks guessing to the very end.' *Magpies* on *The Firebird Mystery*

'A fun story, easy to read and full of action. The action, by the way, is excellently written...Bonus points for being the first kids' book of its kind I've come across that gives mention to the suffragettes!' *Books+Publishing* on *The Firebird Mystery*

Darrell Pitt began his lifelong appreciation of Victorian literature when he read the Sherlock Holmes stories as a child, quickly moving on to H.G. Wells and Jules Verne. This early reading led to a love of comics, science fiction and all things geeky. Darrell is married with one daughter. He lives in Melbourne.

Young Adult Fiction

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Finished copies available

Rights Held: World

***Burn* by Paula Weston**

Suddenly, Gaby remembers everything.

For a year she believed she was a backpacker chilling out in Pandanus Beach. Working at the library. Getting over the accident that killed her twin brother.

Then Rafa came to find her, and Gaby discovered her true identity as Gabe: one of the Rephaim. Over a hundred years old. Half angel, half human, all demon-smiting badass—and hopelessly attracted to the infuriating Rafa.

Now she knows who faked her memories, and how—and why it’s all hurtling towards a massive showdown between the forces of heaven and hell.

More importantly, she remembers why she’s spent the last ten years wanting to inflict serious damage on Rafa.

Fast-paced and wildly compelling, *Burn* is the final in a stand-out series of paranormal romance for fans of Richelle Mead, Laini Taylor and Stephenie Meyer.

Praise for the *Rephaim* series:

‘The smart-mouthed character of Rafa kicked the Edwards, Peters and Jacobs of the YA world to the curb. If only he were real...’ *Sun Bookshop*

‘Forget everything you know about angels and demons...*Shadows* is beyond explosive with a kick-ass heroine, an amazing storyline with incredible mythology, and a romance sure to heat up even the coldest of hearts.’ *Winter Haven Books*

‘If this doesn't drag young adult readers away from their computer screens, nothing will. Fallen angels, demons, superhuman hybrids...it's a wild start to what should be an even wilder series.’
Adelaide *Advertiser*

Paula Weston is a Brisbane-based author. She has more than twenty years’ experience as a professional writer—first as a print journalist and then as a government communication and media specialist. She co-owns a writing/design consultancy. Translation rights in *Shadows* (book 1), *Haze* (book 2) and *Shimmer* (book 3) are also available.

paula-weston.com

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Young adult fiction • July 2015 • Manuscript available

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: UK & Comm excl ANZ & Canada—Orion; North America—Tundra.

Julius and the Soulcatcher by Tim Hehir

Julius moved closer. He saw the buttons of a jacket and what looked like the stem of a clay pipe sticking out from a pocket. Bending down, he finally saw what he hoped he would not.

It was a screaming face, the skin like dried leather. Stems ran from its gaping mouth, nostrils and empty eye sockets, from which the orchids grew and spread to consume the whole statue.

'It's the soulcatcher,' said Julius. 'Like the painting in Mr Darwin's diary.'

It's 1838 and London is in the grip of orchid fever. When Charles Darwin's diary turns up in Julius's grandfather's bookshop, it brings a trail of strange characters desperate to get their hands on it. Could it have something to do with paintings of monstrous orchids it contains? Or anything to do with the orchid that Emily has taken home to Mrs Trevelyan's Academy for Young Ladies.

Before he knows it Julius is spinning through time and into alternative dimensions in a race to rid London of the soulcatcher before the future is locked onto a path of horror. *Julius and the Soulcatcher* is a fabulous time-travel adventure full of richly imagined characters and intricately crafted time twists, an exciting sequel to the much-loved *Julius and the Watchmaker*.

Praise for *Julius and the Watchmaker*:

'Hehir's steampunk-inspired debut novel is an adventure through time and space...Good, lively fun.' *Kirkus*

'This will be a thoroughly absorbing read for 12-year-olds, who can engage as much or as little as they like with the historical detail and lessons in time, while getting swept along in the adventures and fates of Julius, our likeable hero, and his slowly evolving band of friends.' *Big Issue*

'Alternate worlds, time travel, mechanical horror, the demi monde of Victorian England and evil trickery all come together to make this novel a compelling read...Hehir's first novel will be a winner for those who love good fantasy.' *Reading Time*

Tim Hehir is an author of short stories and plays. His short story *God Bless Us One and All* was published by *Structo* magazine (UK) and his play *Pride and Prejudice in 10 Minutes Flat* has been performed in various countries and at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Hehir is based in Melbourne.

Young Adult Fiction • October 2015 • Manuscript available July 2015

Rights Held: World

Option publishers: Israel–Modan; Italy–Feltrinelli.

Text Classics

***They Found a Cave* by Nan Chauncy** introduced by John Marsden

Described as an Australian 'Famous Five', four English orphans migrate to Tasmania where they find adventure, danger and intrigue. *They Found a Cave* was made into a popular feature film winning Best Children's Feature at the Venice Film Festival in 1962. Nancy Chauncy won the CBCA Book of the Year Award three times and was the first Australian writer to win the Hans Christian Andersen diploma of merit.

Rights Held: World

***The Watcher in the Garden* by Joan Phipson** introduced by Margo Lanagan

A girl with a violent temper and a blind old man become friends when she seeks sanctuary from her family and everyday cares in his huge, wild garden. But while the garden gives her a sense of peace, strange forces are at work. *The Watcher in the Garden* received an International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) Honour Diploma.

Rights Held: World

***Hills End* by Ivan Southall** introduced by James Moloney

One fateful day in Hills End, a timber-milling town in the mountains of Victoria, seven children and their teacher set off to explore caves in the nearby mountains said to contain ancient Aboriginal rock art. While they are deep inside the mountain caves a storm of tremendous violence all but sweeps the town away and threatens to leave them stranded. Ivan Southall was awarded the Australian Children's Book Council Book of the Year on three occasions. *Hills End* was an American Library Association Notable Book in 1963.

Rights Held: World

***Ash Road* by Ivan Southall** introduced by Maurice Saxby

It's hot and dry on Ash Road, where Graham, Harry and Wallace are getting their first taste of independence, camping, just the three of them. When they accidentally light a bushfire, no one would have guessed how far it would go. And they are forced to face a major crisis with only each other to depend on. *Ash Road* was named Children's Book of the Year by the *New York Times Book Review* in 1966. Ivan Southall was the first Australian to be awarded the prestigious Carnegie Medal.

Rights Held: World

***I Own the Racecourse!* By Patricia Wrightson** introduced by Kate Constable

A tender novel about a boy with an intellectual disability who believes he has bought a racecourse from an old tramp for \$3. His friends are horrified, but then things take an unexpected and magical turn. Published in the US in 1968 as *A Racecourse For Andy*.

Rights Held: World

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