

CHILDREN'S BOOKS



Arcos, Carrie
CRAZY MESSY BEAUTIFUL (Young Adult)
 (Philomel Books/Penguin Random House, February 2017)
Galley (320 pages)
World English rights with Penguin Random House

A Junior Library Guild Selection!

From National Book Award finalist Carrie Arcos comes a fresh take on happily-ever-after—and friendship—that is anything but a love story

When your namesake is Pablo Neruda—the greatest love poet of all time—finding "the one" should be easy. After all, sixteen-year-old aspiring artist Neruda Diaz has been in love many times before. So it's only a matter of time before someone loves him back.

Callie could be that someone. She's creative and edgy, and nothing like the girls Neruda typically falls for, so when a school assignment brings them together, he is pleasantly surprised to learn they have a lot in common. With his better half in reach and his artistic ambitions on track, everything is finally coming together.

But as Neruda begins to fall faster and harder than ever before, he is blindsided by the complicated nature of love – and art – in more ways than one. And when the relationships he's looked to for guidance threaten to implode, Neruda must confront the reality that real love is crazier, messier, and more beautiful than he ever realized – and riskier, too, than simply saying the words.

Carrie Arcos is the author of *Out of Reach*, a National Book Award finalist, and the critically acclaimed novel, *There Will Come a Time*. She lives in Los Angeles, California, with her family.

Author website: www.carriearcos.com

Twitter: @carriearcos

Advance Praise:

"*Crazy Messy Beautiful* is crazy lovely beautiful. It's a gorgeously told poem of friendship and longing, and the exhilarating, heart-pounding ups and downs of love. It's also about hope, faith, and realizing *you are not alone*. I loved it with all my heart." –Jennifer Niven, NY Times bestselling author of *All the Bright Places*



Praise for OUT OF REACH (Simon Pulse, October 2012)
A National Book Award Finalist!

"An empathetic, highly readable tale that captures the messy dynamics of sibling relationships, the pain and powerlessness of addiction from a loved one's perspective, and, in an ending that brilliantly mingles loss and hope, the necessity of letting go." –*The Bulletin*, **starred review**

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Praise for THERE WILL COME A TIME (Simon Pulse, April 2014)

"This nuanced story presents a close study on how different people react to loss while posing many thorny questions about relationships. . . Give this book to anyone who wants a rock-solid, character-driven story of finding one's footing after a life-changing event. –*Booklist*, **starred review**

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Dinan, Kurt
DON'T GET CAUGHT (Young Adult)
(Sourcebooks Fire, April 2016)
Trade Paperback (326 pages)
World English rights with Sourcebooks

An ABA Winter Institute Buzz Book!

Let the prank war begin.

When Max receives a mysterious invite from the untraceable, epic prank-pulling Chaos Club, he has to ask: why him? After all, he's Mr. 2.5 GPA, Mr. No Social Life. He's just Max. And his favorite heist movies have taught him this situation calls for Rule #4: *Be suspicious*. But it's also his one shot to leave Just Max in the dust...

Yeah, not so much. Max and his four fellow students—who also received invites—are standing on the newly defaced water tower when campus security “catches” them. Definitely a setup. And this time, Max has had enough. It's time for Rule #7: *Always get payback*.

With a fantastic cast of characters—Ellie, Max's longtime crush who can fake cry her way into or out of anything; Kate, rock-climber/artist/overall badass who can rappel from any height; Wheeler, online genius/school flunky who creates web chaos; and Tim, the lacrosse goon with the strength of the Hulk—this entertaining, fast-paced debut filled with pranks and cons will keep readers on their toes, never sure who's pulling the strings or what's coming next.

Kurt Dinan has taught high school English for over twenty-one years, and while he's never pulled any of the pranks detailed in this novel, he was once almost arrested in college for blizzarding the campus with fliers promoting a fake concert. He lives and works in the suburbs of Cincinnati with his wife and four children, whom he affectionately refers to as “The Crime Spree.” *Don't Get Caught* is his first novel.

Author blog: <http://kurt-dinan.blogspot.com/>

Twitter: [@KurtDinan](https://twitter.com/KurtDinan)

Praise:

"Genre-savvy and clever, this twisty tale is funny, fast-paced, and full of surprises. Newcomer Dinan brings in numerous classic heist elements, including sleight-of-hand, code names, flashback sequences, and elaborate schemes, leading to one revelation after another." - *Publishers Weekly*

"This caper comedy about an Ocean's 11-style group of high school masterminds will keep readers guessing." - *Kirkus*

"Teen readers will delight in the way such totally different individuals begin to cooperate to triumph over their wrongs." - *VOYA Magazine*

Film Rights: Michelle Kroes, CAA: michelle.kroes@caa.com

Rights sold:

German: Magellan Verlag



Dinnison, Kris
YOU AND ME AND HIM (Young Adult)
 (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Books for Young Readers, July 2015)
Trade Paperback, July 2016 (288 pages)
World English rights with Houghton Mifflin

An Amazon Book of the Month! (July 2015)

What if getting the guy means losing your soulmate?

Maggie and Nash are outsiders. She's overweight. He's out of the closet. They're best friends, and they've helped each other survive their small-minded town. But when Tom moves to Cedar Ridge at the start of the school year, Maggie and Nash have something unexpected in common—feelings for the same guy. As emotions take hold, their friendship is put to the ultimate test... Up until now they have always chosen each other, but what if winning someone's heart means losing your soul mate?

Kris Dinnison's story of music, friendship, and making amends is perfect for anyone who has ever felt like a misfit or taken a misstep and still wanted to be loved anyway.

Kris Dinnison learned to read when she was five years old. She grew up reading books nobody else had read and listening to music nobody else had heard of and thinking she was weird, which she kind of was. She spent nearly two decades as a teacher and librarian working with students from kindergarten to graduate school. The bulk of that time she spent teaching High School English while dreaming of becoming a writer. Now she lives and writes in Spokane, Washington with her family, two cats, and a Labradoodle named Charlie.

Author website: www.krisdinnison.net

Praise:

"This isn't just another love triangle. Dinnison takes the trope and mixes thing up with three lovable, quirky characters." —*Romantic Times*, **four-starred review**

"A powerful tale with an emotional rawness that will resonate with readers." —*Booklist*

"*You and Me and Him* is a delicious mix of humor, heartache, music, and cookies. This fresh take on friendships and soulmates will have you going back for seconds." —**Elizabeth Eulberg**, author of *The Lonely Hearts Club*

Rights sold:

German: cbt/Random House Verlag



Gagnon, Michelle
UNEARTHLY THINGS (Young Adult)
 (SoHo Teen, April 2017)
Manuscript (208 pages)
World English Rights with SoHo Press

A modern Gothic noir retelling of *Jane Eyre* from acclaimed thriller veteran Michelle Gagnon, set in the world of San Francisco debutantes—with a paranormal twist.

After losing her parents in a tragic accident, surfer girl Janie Mason is forced to trade the sunny beaches of Hawaii for the cold fog of San Francisco. She's never even met her new guardians, the Rochesters—an old money family who relish being pillars of high society. Janie feels hopelessly out of place in their world of Napa weekends, fancy prep schools, and cotillions. Nicholas is the only Rochester who treats her with anything resembling kindness—but he's only six. When she strikes up a friendship with Daniel, a fellow surfer, it feels like things might finally be improving.

But something isn't right in the Rochester mansion. There are noises—screams—coming from the attic nearly every night. Noises everyone else claims they can't hear. Then John, the black sheep of the family, returns after getting kicked out of yet another boarding school. Soon Janie finds herself torn between this new “brother” and Daniel, who has secrets of his own. Just when she thinks her life can't get any worse, she learns the truth about the Rochesters: what they're hiding, what they want from Janie, and how far they'll go to get it.

Michelle Gagnon is the international bestselling author of thrillers for teens and adults. Her Persefone trilogy for young adults (*Don't Turn Around, Don't Look Now, Don't Let Go*) was nominated for a Thriller Award, and was selected as a top read by *Entertainment Weekly*, *Kirkus*, *Voya*, and the Young Adult Library Services Association. Her standalone young adult thriller, *Strangelets*, was a Junior Library Guild pick for 2013. She lives in Los Angeles with her family.

Author website: <http://www.michellegagnon.com/>

Advance Praise:

"Effortlessly paced, full of heart, humor and horror, Gagnon revives the spirit of a classic while putting her own unique spin on the story. Janie is sympathetic and brave, the perfect lens for us to peer into a world of grandeur, secrets and dark lies. You can't help but lament the family Janie lost while also cheering for her to succeed in her new and strange reality. Charlotte Brontë would never have guessed that her classic fits so well with a Mean Girls twist, but the blend is addictive, fast-paced and haunting."

—**Madeleine Roux, *New York Times* bestselling author of the Asylum series**

Kowitt, Holly

THE PRINCIPAL'S BRA IS MISSING (Middle Grade Series)

(Feiwel and Friends/Macmillan, May 2017)

Galley (224 pages)

(Ages 9-12), Black and white illustrations by the author

Oh no. Not her. Anyone but her.

When you're a sixth-grade nobody, the *last* person you want to accidentally zonk with a volleyball is Selfie St. Clair—the eighth-grade glamour queen of the school. But that's what happens to Becca Birnbaum, and it only gets worse when she tries to do Selfie a favor. She grabs the wrong shopping bag from the principal's office—one containing a *very* personal item. And even that might not be so bad, if only Selfie didn't immediately...*lose it*.

If they don't get it back ASAP, they're toast. They try not to panic—until they hear that the Biggest Prank Ever is about to happen. Can the school's oddest couple stop the disaster of a lifetime?

Holly Kowitt has written more than fifty books for younger readers, including the Loser List series. She lives in New York City, where she enjoys cycling, flea markets, and West Coast swing dancing.

Author website: www.kowittbooks.com



Kudler, David

RISUKO: A Kunoichi Tale (Seasons of the Sword Book #1) (Young Adult Series)

(Stillpoint Digital Press, June 2016)

Trade Paperback, 230 pages

Can one girl win a war?

My name is Kano Murasaki, but most people call me Risuko. Squirrel.

I am from Serenity Province, though I was not born there.

My nation has been at war for a hundred years, Serenity is under attack, my family is in disgrace, but some people think that I can bring victory.

That I can be a very special kind of woman.

All I want to do is climb.

My name is Kano Murasaki, but everyone calls me Squirrel.

Risuko.

Though Japan has been devastated by a century of civil war, Risuko just wants to climb trees. Growing up far from the battlefields and court intrigues, the fatherless girl finds herself pulled into a plot that may reunite Japan -- or may destroy it. She is torn from her home and what is left of her family, but finds new friends at a school that may not be what it seems. Magical but historical, *Risuko* follows her along the first dangerous steps to discovering who she truly is.

David Kudler is the founder, publisher, and editor-in-chief for Stillpoint Digital Press. Since 1999, he has overseen the publications program of the Joseph Campbell Foundation, for which he has edited three posthumous volumes of Campbell's previously unpublished work (*Pathways to Bliss*, *Myths of Light* and *Sake & Satori*) and managed the publication of over seventy print, ebook, audio, and video titles, including the third edition of the seminal *Hero with a Thousand Faces*. He is honored to serve as the vice-president for the Bay Area Independent Publishers Association (BAIPA). He lives just north of the Golden Gate Bridge with his family.

Praise:

“The characters are nicely varied and all the pieces fit into place deftly...a tight, exciting, and thoughtful first volume in what promises to be a fine series.” —*Kirkus Reviews*



Manzer, Jenny

SAVE ME, KURT COBAIN (Young Adult)

(Delacorte/Penguin Random House, March 2016)

Hardcover (272 pages)

World English rights with Penguin Random House

What if you discovered that not only is Kurt Cobain alive, but he might be your real father?

Nico Cavan has been adrift since her mother vanished when she was four—maternal abandonment isn't exactly something you can just get over. She copes by staying invisible at school. That and listening to alternative rock music and summoning spirits on the Ouija board with Obe, her best friend and co-conspirator in sarcasm. But when a chance discovery opens a window onto her mom's wild past, it plants an idea in her brain that takes root and won't let go.

On a ferry departing Seattle, Nico encounters a slight blond guy in a hooded jacket with piercing blue eyes. Something in Nico's heart tells her that this feeling she has might actually be the truth, and so she follows him to a remote cabin in the Pacific Northwest. When she is stranded there by a winter storm, fear and darkness collide, and the only one who can save Nico might just be herself. A nuanced, bittersweet debut that will keep you guessing until the end.

Jenny Manzer is a writer, an editor, and a former news reporter. She lives in Victoria, British Columbia, with her husband, son, and daughter. She loves music but never did see Nirvana play live.

Twitter: @JennyManzer

Praise:

“Utterly gorgeous. Mesmerizing. Hypnotic. I *love* this book.” —**Jennifer Niven**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *All the Bright Places*

“*Save Me*, Kurt Cobain rocked my world. Like a favorite song, Manzer's stunning and heartfelt words have stayed with me long after turning the final page.” —**Marisa Reichardt**, author of *Underwater*

"Raw emotion that will resonate strongly with teens."—*School Library Journal*

Oppenheim, Joanne

STRANGE BEAUTY: An Illustrated History of Makeup over the Centuries—From Arsenic to Zinc

(FSG Books for Young Readers, August 2017)

Manuscript (176 pages with illustrations)

World English Rights with FSG

A well-researched, super-interesting (and even funny!) history of makeup and beauty for tweens with four-color art from different historical periods that also examines how arbitrary our ideals of beauty are and explores some of the weirdest things that women have sprayed, smeared and slathered on their bodies through the ages in the name of beauty

Joanne Oppenheim is the author of more than fifty books for and about children. In addition, she is the president and cofounder of Oppenheim Toy Portfolio, Inc. One of the nation's most highly-regarded child development experts, Oppenheim is seen regularly on NBC's *Today* show, where she is a contributor. Joanne lives in New York City with her husband and is the mother of three grown children and the grandmother of seven.



Pauls, Chris and Matt Solomon

THE GIANT SMUGGLERS (Middle Grade)

(Feiwel & Friends/Macmillan, May 2016)

Hardcover (288 pages)

World English rights with Macmillan

Charlie's world is bigger than he ever thought possible.

Charlie Lawson's only summer excitement in small-town Wisconsin came from kicking butt in video games, where he's the undisputed *Total Turbo* champ. Now it's time to go back to middle school, where nine long months of boredom await.

But then Charlie stumbles onto something big happening inside the abandoned warehouse across the street from his house. Specifically, *someone* big. He befriends Bruce, a twenty-foot-tall teenage giant, who Charlie must keep a secret.

Charlie isn't the only one in town who knows what's hiding in the warehouse. Powerful, ruthless forces are closing in, and they'll stop at nothing to acquire a giant. But Charlie will do whatever it takes to protect the biggest and best friend he's ever had.

Chris Pauls has been a contributing writer for *The Onion* for over a decade. He co-authored the novel, *Deck Z: The Titanic* with Matt Solomon. Chris lives in Middleton, Wisconsin.

Matt Solomon is the coauthor of *Deck Z: The Titanic*, a Junior Library Guild and Scholastic Book Club selection. He is a regular contributor to *The Onion*. He lives in Madison, Wisconsin.

Praise:

"Middle schoolers with a need for action and adventure will scoop up this title."--*School Library Journal*

"Prepare for massive wedgies, stolen Hummers, impromptu parades, and more. Plus, Paul's and Solomon's treatment of trust, prejudice, and boundless loyalty is spot-on."--*Booklist*

Rights sold:

World English Audio: Audible



Pett, Mark

THIS IS MY BOOK! (Picture Book, Ages 3-7)
(Knopf Books for Young Readers, September 2016)

Hardcover (40 pages)

A hilarious and playful romp about making books, perfect for fans of *Press Here* and *The Book with No Pictures*.

What happens when a writer learns that he doesn't quite have as much control over his book as he thinks? When Mark Pett's characters, led by a panda bear named Spike, take over his book and begin telling a story of their own, pandemonium ensues! Who's really in charge of this book? With clever interactive elements, including a pull tab, flap, and pop-up, *This Is My Book* is sure to appeal to a large and varied audience—kids who will identify with the “my” aspect of the book and adults who will appreciate the humor.

Mark Pett has practiced his craft in Philadelphia, Prague, Cambridge, New York City, and the Mississippi Delta. In addition to illustrating several books, Mark is the coauthor and illustrator of *The Girl Who Never Made Mistakes* and the creator of the syndicated comic strips Mr. Lowe and Lucky Cow. His most recent books are *The Boy and the Airplane* and *The Girl and the Bicycle* and *Lizard from the Park*. He lives in Salt Lake City.

Author website: <http://www.markpett.com/authorstrator/>





Sanchez, Jenny Torres
BECAUSE OF THE SUN (Young Adult)
 (Delacorte Press/Penguin Random House, January 2017)
Galley (272 pages)

From the backyards of suburban Florida to the parched desert of New Mexico, *Because of the Sun* explores the complexity of family, the saving grace of friendship, and the healing that can begin when the truth is brought to light.

Dani learned to tolerate her existence in suburban Florida with her brash and seemingly unloving mother by embracing the philosophy *Why care? It will only hurt*. So when her mother is killed in a sudden and violent manner, Dani goes into an even deeper protection mode, total numbness. It's the only way she can go on.

But when Dani chooses *The Stranger* by Albert Camus as summer reading for school, it feels like fate. The main character's alienation after his mother's death mirrors her own.

Dani's life is thrown into further turmoil when she is sent to New Mexico to live with an aunt she never knew she had. The awkwardness between them is palpable. To escape, Dani takes long walks in the merciless heat. One day, she meets Paulo, who understands how much Dani is hurting. Although she is hesitant at first, a mutual trust and affection develops between them. And as she and her aunt begin to connect, Dani learns about her mother's past. Forgiving isn't easy, but maybe it's the only way to move forward.

Deeply emotional, and dreamlike at times, BECAUSE OF THE SUN explores the complexity of family, the saving grace of friendship, and the healing that can begin when the truth is brought to light.

Jenny Torres Sanchez is a full-time writer and former English teacher. She was born in Brooklyn, New York, but has lived on the border of two worlds her whole life. She lives in Orlando, Florida, with her husband and children. *Because of the Sun* is her third novel.

Author website: www.jennytorressanchez.com

Twitter: @jetchez

Advance Praise:

"Sanchez expertly conjures the eerie sense of being a stranger in one's own life."

—**Jenny Hubbard, Michael L. Printz Honor Winner**

"[An] emotional, beautiful novel about loss and forgiveness, love and hate."

—**Lauren Gibaldi, author of *Autofocus***



Snow, Carol
THE LAST PLACE ON EARTH (Young Adult)
 (Henry Holt Books for Young Readers, February 2016)
Hardcover (304 pages)
World English rights with Holt

Henry Hawking is sixteen years old, brilliant, funny, and sly—and now he's missing. But no one seems worried—except his best friend, Daisy Cruz, who knows that Henry's security-obsessed parents would never leave town without taking proper precautions. And Henry would never go away without saying goodbye.

Daisy considers all the obvious explanations for Henry's disappearance (federal witness protection program, alien abduction) before breaking into Henry's house. In his room, she finds a note that pleads, *SAVE ME*.

Desperate to find Henry, Daisy follows his trail deep into the California wilderness. What she finds there makes her wonder if she ever knew Henry at all...and if the world as she knows it will ever be the same.

Carol Snow is the author of *Bubble World* and many other books for teens. Originally from New Jersey, she now lives in Southern California with her family.

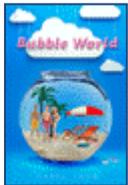
Author website: www.carolsnow.com

Praise:

“Themes of loyalty, friendship, and family bonds are the foundations of a winning story filled with small, poignant moments that, against a background of uncertainty, don’t feel small at all.” —*Publishers Weekly*

“Full of twists and turns with teenage jolts of humor and angst that will attract reluctant readers, especially fans of Caroline B. Cooney and Joan Lowery Nixon.” —*School Library Journal*

"Constantly clever... hilarious." —*Kirkus Reviews*



Snow, Carol
BUBBLE WORLD (Young Adult)
 (Henry Holt Books for Young Readers, July 2013)
Trade Paperback, July 2014 (352 pages)
World English rights with Holt

Freesia’s carefree island life may literally be too good to be true.

Praise:

“Readers who enjoyed Libba Bray's *Beauty Queens* will relish Snow's sarcastic wit, and fans of Neal Shusterman's *Unwind Dystology* series will recognize an alternate world in which parents have exclusive rights over the lives of their children.” —*School Library Journal*

“Snow nestles a powerful message about bravery, self-confidence, and integrity in the midst of fluffy, irreverent talk of fashion and teen idols and a virtual world at the crossroads of *The Matrix* and Barbie’s *Dreamhouse*.” —*Booklist*



Swain, H.A.
GIFTED (Young Adult)
 (Feiwel & Friends/Macmillan, June 2016)
Hardcover (336 pages)
World English rights with Macmillan

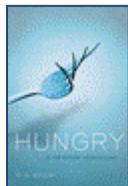
In Orpheus Chanson's world, the human brain has been mapped and patented. Geniuses and prodigies like him are no longer born or honed through hard work. Instead, procedures to induce Acquired Savant Abilities (ASAs) are now purchased and utilized by the most privileged sect of society.

Zimri Robinson—a natural musical prodigy—is a lowly "plebe," a worker at an enormous warehouse. Her grueling schedule and her grandmother's illness won't keep her from using her gifts—even if making music is illegal.

The paths of Orpheus and Zimri were never meant to cross. He is destined for greatness; she is not. But sometimes, rules are meant to be broken.

H. A. Swain is the author of *Hungry*. She lives in Brooklyn.

Author website: www.heatherswain.com



Swain, H.A.
HUNGRY (Young Adult)
 (Feiwel and Friends/Macmillan, June 2014)
Trade Paperback, June 2015 (384 pages)
World English rights with Macmillan

In the future, there is no food, and hunger has become a relic of the past. That is, until a girl named Thalia Apple begins to feel something unfamiliar and uncomfortable. She's hungry.

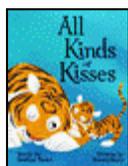
Praise:

"Swain completes a unique tour de force with *Hungry*, one that requires readers to examine current society, their place within invisible and sometimes all-too-visible hierarchies, and the consequences of genetic engineering. Fans of Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale* and Lois Lowry's *The Giver* will flock to this story." –*SLJ*

Film rights: Ineffable Pictures for Paramount

Rights sold:

Slovenian: Zalozba Meander



Swain, Heather
ALL KINDS OF KISSES (Picture Book, Ages 4-8)
 (Feiwel and Friends/Macmillan, December 2016)
Text only (32 pages)
World English rights with Macmillan

*A grasshopper mouth opens east-west but not south. They're like scissors for chopping up leaves.
 "Don't try to hide from a kiss on its side," says grandpa grasshopper to nymphs.
 How would a grasshopper kiss?*

Whichever it is, this much is true. When we say goodnight, I love all kinds of kisses from you!

We humans smooch with our lips. But how do giraffes, whales, hummingbirds, tree frogs, and other creatures kiss? It's fun to wonder about and to see in the pages of this charming book, which includes facts about each animal at the end.

Heather Swain's previous books for young readers include *Me, My Elf and I*, and *Josie Griffin Is Not a Vampire*. *Hungry* is her first novel for teens. She lives in Brooklyn, New York, with her family.