

**THE GERNERT COMPANY**

**Middle Grade / Young Adult  
Rights Guide**

**Bologna Book Fair  
2017**



## Lee Bacon, LEGENDTOPIA: *The Shadow Queen* (Book 2)

The second book in the *Legendtopia* series, a fast-paced magical adventure story set in an enchanted kingdom.

Delacorte Press – June 13, 2017  
Middle Grade series

**The second novel in a two-book deal with Delacorte • Two foreign deals**

Praise for Lee Bacon's *Joshua Dread* series:

- "A twisty, swiftly moving adventure sure to please superhero fans." –*Kirkus*
- "*Joshua Dread* is funny, action-packed and a total page-turner." –**Adam Gidwitz**

Two kids—Kara, a girl from our world, and Prince Fred, a royal boy from the kingdom of Heldstone—join forces to save Urth.

Kara and her royal BFF, Prince Fred, are on the most important mission of their lives. Kara's long-lost dad is trapped in the magical kingdom of Heldstone—and the two friends are on an epic quest to rescue him.

It won't be easy. Heldstone is bustling with parades and parties in preparation for the Luminary Ball, an incredible celebration of the royal family. But not everyone is in the mood to celebrate. The evil Sorceress has transformed into the Shadow Queen. She has poisoned the prince's parents, and unless Kara and Fred find an antidote, the king and queen will be dead in three days. Their search will take them outside the palace walls, into an enchanting and dangerous world of talking animals, fierce monsters, and vegetarian trolls . . . all the while being hunted by the Sorceress and her evil army of shadows.

Can Kara and Fred save their parents? Or will the Shadow Queen destroy them all ?

**Lee Bacon** grew up in Texas and is the author of the *Joshua Dread* series.

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

Sold to: S. Fischer Verlag (Germany), V&R Editoras (Brazil)

- Target Audience: Middle grade
- Editor: Wendy Loggia
- Film: Please contact Sarah Burnes at The Gernert Company
- Material: Final pages



## Armand Baltazar, *TIMELESS: Diego and the Rangers of the Vastlantic*

A major new illustrated SciFi adventure series by a former Pixar art director.

Katherine Tegen Books/HC – October 3, 2017  
Middle Grade series

**Sold to HC Children's in a three-book deal, for six figures, World English • Film deal, for six figures, with Fox, with Ridley Scott producing • Pre-empts in Germany and Italy; 13 foreign deals**

- "Armand's alternate universe blazes to life with vibrant colors and gleaming light. His world of robots, dinosaurs, and steampunk cities will take its place alongside the classic adventure stories of H.G. Wells, Jules Verne, and Robert Louis Stevenson." **-James Gurney, creator of *Dinotopia***
- "Baltazar's adventure is fused with lush, rich illustrations, full of inventive and exciting ideas that make me want to lean into them and see what happens next!" **-Pete Docter, Academy award winning director of *Inside Out, Up, and Monster's Inc***
- "A truly magical combination of futuristic and historical, fantasy and adventure, familial and romantic." **-Brenda Chapman, Academy award winning director of *Brave and The Prince of Egypt***

The world did not end. At least not permanently. The Time Collision came from beyond the stars, a cosmic event that fractured time and space, tearing apart the earth and reshaping it into something entirely new. This is the world Diego Ribera was born into. The past, present, and future coexisting together. *Timeless*. With stunning illustrations, Armand Baltazar delivers an epic and imaginative new series, a cinematic tour de force about a boy and his friends embarking on a journey to save their world, and about the unshakeable bond of family.

**Armand Baltazar** has had a long career in visual storytelling in feature animation as a background artist, visual development artist, and art director for DreamWorks Studios, Walt Disney, and Pixar Animation. [www.armandbaltazar.com](http://www.armandbaltazar.com)

Sold to: HC Children's UK (UK & BC), cbj Verlag (Germany), Bayard (France), Editorial Hidra (Spain), Jieli (China), Il Castoro (Italy), Egmont (Bulgaria), Albatros (Czech), Noura (Indonesia), Blue Wing (Korea), HC Polska (Poland), Gelengi (Turkey), Kariera (Russia)

- Target Audience: Middle Grade
- Editor: Ben Rosenthal
- Film: Sold to Fox
- Material: Copyedited pages

# Kathryn Barker, WAKING ROMEO

A wildly inventive, time-traveling love story inspired by *Romeo and Juliet* and *Wuthering Heights*.

Allen & Unwin (ANZ rights only) - future  
Young Adult

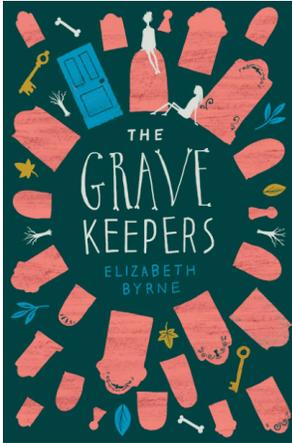
**A time-traveling love story by the acclaimed author of *In the Skin of a Monster* (winner of Australia's Aurealis Award for Best Young Adult Novel 2016)**

Heathcliff Ellis is a Deadender – part of a secret group of time-travellers who are trying to save humanity, one small “adjustment” to history at a time. Jules Capulet lives in the distant future, where an epic romance with her classmate Romeo left him in a coma and her a complete social outcast. Now, Jules spends her days writing *Romeo & Juliet*, a romanticized version of what *really* happened. She’s set her story in the past – the 1500s – complete with old-fashioned language, because the truth is just too painful. When Ellis is sent on a mission to “Wake Romeo,” Ellis and Jules are thrown together in the futuristic ruins of London, met with cryptic puzzles and deceptions... and secrets that go back hundreds of years. Because Emily Bronte, Shakespeare, and the Deadeners? Somehow they’re all connected...and Ellis and Jules are at the *heart* of everything.

As wildly inventive as it is sweepingly romantic, WAKING ROMEO combines two of literature’s most iconic love stories into a riveting and deeply moving narrative: the greatest love story of all times.

**Kathryn Barker** is a former attorney, trained film producer, and was the inaugural winner of Australia’s most lucrative TV award for Exceptional New Talent. Her debut novel *In the Skin of a Monster* received numerous accolades, including a national award for Best Young Adult Novel. *Waking Romeo* is her second novel. She lives in Sydney, Australia, with her family. <http://kathrynbarker.com/>

- Target Audience: Young Adult
- Editor: Susannah Chambers at Allen & Unwin
- Film: Please contact Sarah Burnes at the Gernert Company
- Material: Manuscript



## Elizabeth Byrne, THE GRAVE KEEPERS

Two teenage sisters must deal with the world outside their insular family in this imaginative coming-of-age novel.

HarperCollins - Sept 12, 2017

Young Adult

### First in a two-book deal with HarperCollins

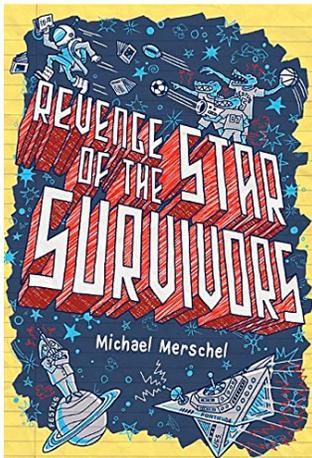
- "At times deeply atmospheric and darkly haunting, *THE GRAVE KEEPERS* takes us on a spine-tingling journey into a world much like our own, where more lies beneath than above." –Mindy McGinnis, **Edgar Award-winning author of *A Madness So Discreet***

Lately, sixteen-year-old Athena Windham has been spending all her spare time in her grave. Her parents—owners of a cemetery in Upstate New York—are proud of her devoutness, but her thirteen-year-old sister, Laurel, can't understand it. Laurel hates her own grave. It's so boring and chilly down there. She'd rather spend her time exploring the acres and acres of state forest that surround the Windhams' property. The Windham girls lead pretty secluded lives—their older sister died in a tragic accident the year before Laurel was born, and their parents' protectiveness has made the family semi-infamous in their small town.

As the new school year begins, the outside world comes creeping in. Athena—a professional high school loner—grapples with a newfound enemy and, even more surprising, her first best friend. And homeschooled Laurel, sheltered and shy, finds herself face-to-face with a runaway boy who's hiding out in an abandoned grave. All the while, a ghost hangs around the Windham house and cemetery—the only grave keeper never to cross over, as far as she knows—messing with people's graves, turning the Windhams' lights off and on, spying on the sisters, and plotting how to keep the girls close to home and close to her . . . forever.

**Elizabeth Byrne** grew up in New Jersey and earned her MFA at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. She lives in Northampton, Massachusetts. *The Grave Keepers* is her first novel.

- Target Audience: Young Adult
- Editor: Jessica MacLeish
- Film: Please contact Seth Fishman at the Gernert Company
- Material: Edited manuscript



## Michael Merschel, REVENGE OF THE STAR SURVIVORS

A painfully hilarious debut novel starring a social misfit and sci-fi fanboy trying to find his place in a new school.

Holiday House – March 30, 2017  
Middle Grade

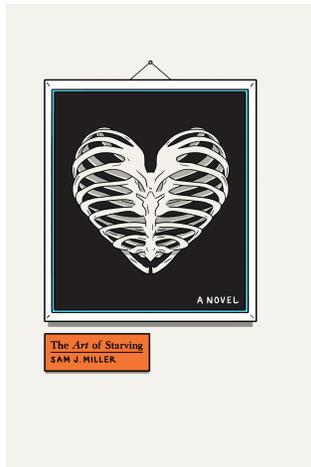
Mayday...Mayday...This is a Priority One distress call. Can anyone hear me ? Anyone ?

Gamers, nerds, Trekkies, *Star Wars* buffs, and anyone who's ever felt alone in the world will fall in love with this unforgettable and painfully hilarious debut novel starring social misfit and sci-fi fanboy Clark Sherman. When Clark enrolls at Festus Middle School to finish out eighth grade, he quickly learns that Planet Festus natives aren't keen on newcomers who practice Jedi mind tricks and obsess over nerdy TV shows like *Star Survivors*. But in the face of vicious bullies, browbeaten teachers, and the venal Principal Denton, the inspirational adages of the *Star Survivors* heroes are the only solace Clark has.

Then, just when Clark has all but given up on finding kindred life-forms on Festus, enigmatic Les, taciturn Ricki, and the insightful librarian Ms. Beacon enter his orbit. As Clark uncovers a dark truth connecting his tormentors and Principal Denton, he and his imperiled allies look to exact revenge in a way that will have ripple effects throughout the galaxy for years to come.

**Michael Merschel** is an editor at *The Dallas Morning News*. He's also written plays, contributed to *A Prairie Home Companion* and composed an out-of-office reply that appeared in *The New York Times* and on NPR. Although he was featured on *Humans of New York*, he lives in Texas with his wife and three kids, who tell him he is not all that funny, usually.

- Target Audience: Middle Grade
- Editor: Kelly Loughman
- Film: Please contact Sarah Burnes at the Gernert Company
- Material: Final pages



## Sam J. Miller, THE ART OF STARVING

A darkly funny, heartrending story of body image, addiction, friendship and love.

HarperTeen – July 11, 2017

Young Adult

### The first in a two-book deal with HarperTeen

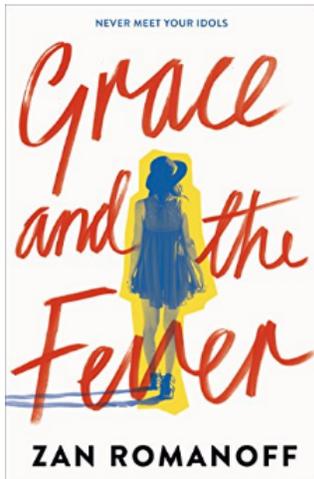
- “Beautiful rendered. This novel will break your heart and heal it again. I found myself leaning forward as I read it, barely aware of myself turning pages. So excited for Sam’s voice in the world.”—**Jacqueline Woodson, National Book Award winning author of *Brown Girl Dreaming***
- “This book is an ache, a bruise, a slaughterhouse of a love story; every word is a blow, but every blow is an anthem. This is what truth feels and smells and tastes like, and it’s one magnificent monster.” —**Margaret Stohl, bestselling author of the *Beautiful Creatures* series**
- “Funny, haunting, beautiful, relentless and powerful, *The Art of Starving* is a classic in the making.”—**Book Riot**

Matt hasn’t eaten in days. His stomach stabs and twists inside, pleading for a meal. But Matt won’t give in. The hunger clears his mind, keeps him sharp—and he needs to be as sharp as possible if he’s going to find out just how Tariq and his band of high school bullies drove his sister, Maya, away—what they did to make her steal off in the middle of the night without a word, a clue to where she was going, or even a good-bye.

Matt’s hardworking mom keeps the kitchen crammed with food, but Matt can resist the siren call of casseroles and cookies because he has discovered something: the less he eats the more he seems to have . . . powers. The ability to see things he shouldn’t be able to see. The skill of tuning in to thoughts right out of people’s heads. Maybe even the authority to bend time and space. So what is lunch, really, compared to finding out the secrets of the universe?

Sam J. Miller’s fiction has been nominated for the Nebula Award and the Theodore Sturgeon Award, was long-listed for the Hugo Award, and has won the Shirley Jackson Award. He’s a graduate of the Clarion Writers Workshop. You can visit him online at [www.samjmilller.com](http://www.samjmilller.com).

- Target Audience: Young Adult
- Editor: Kristen Pettit
- Film: Please contact Seth Fishman at the Gernert Company
- Material: Final pages



## Zan Romanoff, GRACE AND THE FEVER

A contemporary YA novel about what it means to be a fan – and what it means to be a friend – when your whole world is in flux.

Knopf Books for Young Readers – May 16, 2017

- "A thrilling romp through a fangirl fantasy in which everything crashes and burns and the heroine emerges stronger."—*Kirkus*
- "*Grace and the Fever* reads a lot like how loving a boy band feels: you think it's cute at first and then suddenly you find yourself so enthralled that you just need more and more and you hope your family isn't too concerned because yep you are definitely obsessed. Super addictive." —**Goldy Moldavsky, NYT bestselling author of *Kill the Boy Band***
- "A wise, bittersweet coming-of-age story for the thinking fangirl." —**Anna Breslaw, author of *Scarlett Epstein Hates It Here***

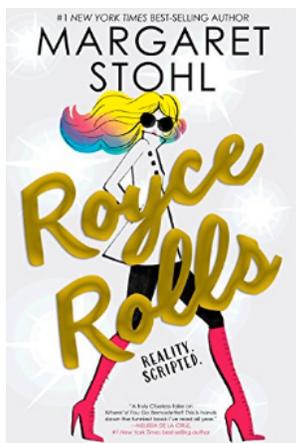
In middle school, everyone was a Fever Dream fan. Now, a few weeks after her high school graduation, Grace Thomas sometimes feels like the only one who never moved on. She can't imagine what she'd do without the community of online fans that share her obsession. Or what her IRL friends would say if they ever found out about it.

Then, one summer night, the unthinkable happens: Grace meets her idol, Jes. What starts out as an elusive glimpse of Fever Dream's world turns into an unlikely romance, and leads her to confront dark, complex truths about herself and the realities of stardom. From the author of *A Song to Take the World Apart*, *Grace and the Fever* is a heart-clutching reminder of what it's like to fall in love—whether it's with a boy or a boy band—and how difficult it is to figure out who you are after you've fallen out of love again.

Zan Romanoff fell in love with Hanson when she was ten and has been a boy-band fanatic and teen-idol obsessive ever since. She lives and writes in Los Angeles; this is her second novel. Visit her at [zanromanoff.com](http://zanromanoff.com) or follow her on Twitter at @zanopticon.

Option publisher: Bachviet (Vietnam)

- Target Audience: Young Adult
- Editor: Katherine Harrison
- Film: Please contact Lucy Stille at APA
- Material: Final pages



## Margaret Stohl, ROYCE ROLLS

A hilarious send-up of a reality tv family, with a LA noir twist, from #1 NYT bestselling author Margaret Stohl.

Freeform/Disney - April 4, 2017

Young Adult

**The first in a two-book deal for six figures • Foreign Deals in UK, Germany and Hungary**

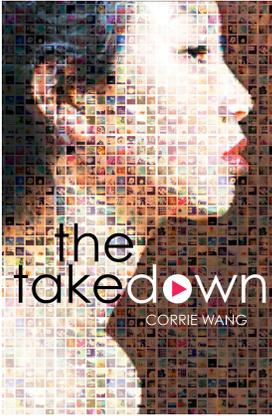
- "Finally! YA gets its own *Where'd You Go Bernadette*. This is hands down the funniest book I've read all year." —**Melissa de la Cruz, *New York Times* bestselling author**
- "Stohl creates a laugh-out-loud send-up that pulls back the curtain on the unreality of reality TV."—***Publishers Weekly***
- "[T]his funny, fast-paced read . . . explores identity, tragedy, and rallying around the people you love."—***Kirkus Reviews***
- "Anyone who ridicules celebrity TV shows while secretly watching them will get a kick out of this."—***Booklist***

Sixteen-year-old Bentley Royce seems to have it all: an actual Bentley, tuition to a fancy private school, lavish vacations, and everything else that comes along with being an LA starlet. But after five seasons on her family's reality show, *Rolling with the Royces*, and a lifetime of dealing with her narcissistic sister, Porsche, media-obsessed mother, Mercedes, and somewhat clueless brother, Maybach, Bentley wants out. Luckily for her, without a hook for season six, cancellation is looming and freedom is nigh. With their lifestyle on the brink, however, Bentley's family starts to crumble, and one thing becomes startlingly clear--without the show, there is no family. And since Bentley loves her family, she has to do the unthinkable--save the show. But when her future brother-in-law's car goes over a cliff with both Bentley and her sister's fiance inside--on the day of the big made-for-TV wedding, no less--things get real. Really real. Like, not reality show real.

Margaret Stohl is the #1 *New York Times* best-selling co-author of the *Beautiful Creatures* series. She is also the author of the instant best-seller *Black Widow: Forever Red*, and its sequel *Black Widow: Red Vengeance*.

Sold to: Bloomsbury (UK & BC), DTV Junior (Germany), Konyvmolykepzo (Hungary)

- Target Audience: Young Adult
- Editor: Kieran Viola
- Film: Please contact Sarah Burnes at the Gernert Company
- Material: Final pages



## Corrie Wang, THE TAKE DOWN

A sharp, fast-paced novel about high school, a doctored sex tape, and who your friends really are.

Freeform/Disney (World English) – April 11, 2017

Young Adult

**A stylish, propulsive, and provocative whodunit, set in near-future Brooklyn • Pre-empt in Italy**

Kyla Cheng doesn't expect you to like her. For the record, she doesn't need you to. On track to be valedictorian, she's president of her community club, a debate team champ, *plus* the yummy Mackenzie Rodriguez has firmly attached himself to her hip. She and her three high-powered best friends don't just own their senior year at their exclusive Park Slope, Brooklyn high school, they practically *define* the hated species Popular. Kyla's even managed to make it through high school completely unscathed.

Until someone takes issue with this arrangement.

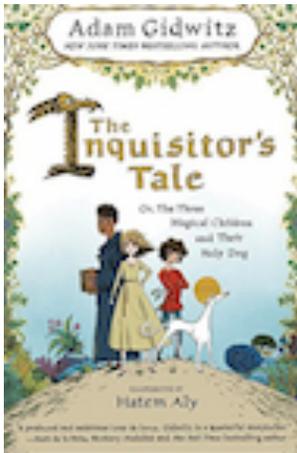
A week before college applications are due, a video of Kyla "doing it" with her crush-worthy English teacher is uploaded to her school's website. It instantly goes viral, but here's the thing: it's not Kyla in the video. With time running out, Kyla delves into a world of hackers, haters and creepy stalkers in an attempt to do the impossible—take something *off* the internet—all while dealing with the fall-out from her own kharmic footprint. Set in near-future Brooklyn, where privacy is a bygone luxury and every perfect profile masks damning secrets, *The Take Down* is a stylish, propulsive, and provocative whodunit, asking: Who could you rely on if your tech turned against you?

**Corrie Wang** won the SCBWI WIP grant for Best Contemporary YA Novel. She is a recent transplant from Bed-Stuy, Brooklyn to Charleston, South Carolina, where she co-owns and operates Short Grain, an untraditional Japanese food truck. Find her online at [www.corriewang.com](http://www.corriewang.com).

Sold to: Il Castoro (Italy)

- Target Audience: Young Adult
- Editor: Kieran Viola
- Film: Please contact Sarah Burnes at the Gernert Company
- Material: Final pages

## More Opportunities . . .



### Adam Gidwitz, THE INQUISITOR'S TALE

The bestselling author of *A Tale Dark and Grimm* takes on medieval times in an exciting and hilarious new adventure about history, religion . . . and farting dragons.

Dutton Books for Young Readers – Sept 27, 2016  
Middle Grade

***New York Times* bestseller • Newbury Honor Book**

**One of the most celebrated children's books of 2016:**

- An *Entertainment Weekly* Best Middle Grade Book of 2016
- A *New York Times* Notable Book of 2016
- A *Wall Street Journal* Best Book of 2016
- A *Washington Post* Best Book of 2016
- A *School Library Journal* Best Book of 2016
- A *Publishers Weekly* Best Book of 2016
- A *Booklist* Best Book of 2016
- A *Kirkus Reviews* Best Book of 2016
- An Amazon Top 20 Children's Book of 2016

1242. On a dark night, travelers from across France cross paths at an inn and begin to tell stories of three children: William, an oblate on a mission from his monastery; Jacob, a Jewish boy who has fled his burning village; and Jeanne, a peasant girl who hides her prophetic visions. They are accompanied by Jeanne's loyal greyhound, Gwenforte . . . recently brought back from the dead. Their adventures take them on a chase through France to escape prejudice and persecution and save precious and holy texts from being burned. They're taken captive by knights, sit alongside a king, and save the land from a farting dragon. And as their quest drives them forward to a final showdown at Mont Saint-Michel, all will come to question if these children can perform the miracles of saints.

**Adam Gidwitz** grew up in Baltimore, Maryland and taught at Saint Ann's School in Brooklyn. He is the bestselling author of *A TALE DARK AND GRIMM*, *IN A GLASS GRIMMLY* and *THE GRIMM CONCLUSION*.  
[www.adamgidwitz.com](http://www.adamgidwitz.com)

Sold to: TB Publishing (China), Art Grup (Romania), Kariera (Russia)



## Pseudonymous Bosch, BAD NEWS

The third and final book in the *New York Times* Bestselling trilogy about magic and friendship.

Little Brown Books for Young Readers (World English) – March 28, 2017  
Middle Grade series

**The can't-miss final installment of beloved author Pseudonymous Bosch's bestselling Bad Books trilogy!**

At Earth Ranch, Clay encountered a haunted library, a castaway boy, and a fire-breathing dragon--not to mention incredible magic. Now he faces his most dangerous foes yet: the mysterious white-gloved members of the Midnight Sun, whose scheming leads Clay to a dragon reserve. Up against impossible odds, will Clay and his Secret Series Allies be able to triumph over these villains once and for all? Packed with action, humor, magic, mystery, and dragons, Pseudonymous Bosch answers long-simmering questions as he delivers his most exciting adventure yet.

**Pseudonymous Bosch** is the infamously anonymous author of the *New York Times* bestselling Secret Series. Despite rumors to the contrary, his books are not actually written by his pet rabbit quiche; the rabbit is merely his typist.

Sold to: Usborne (UK&BC), PT Elexmedia (Indonesia)  
Option publishers: Dogan Egmont (Turkey)

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