

# **THE GERNERT COMPANY**

**Middle Grade / Young Adult  
Rights Guide**

**Bologna 2019**



## Lee Bacon, THE LAST HUMAN

A major lead title from Abrams - a poignant, funny and affecting novel about what it means to be human in a world ruled by machines.

Abrams (World English) - October 8, 2019  
Middle Grade

**Sony bought the film option in an 8-figure deal with the writer/director team of the *Lego* movies and *Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse* attached!** • Sony plan on making THE LAST HUMAN a tentpole animation production • 13 foreign deals including auctions in Germany and Poland

In the future, robots have eliminated humans, and 12-year-old robot XR\_935 is just fine with that. Without humans around, there is no war, no pollution, no crime. Every member of society has a purpose. Everything runs smoothly and efficiently. Until the day XR discovers something impossible: a human girl named Emma. Now, Emma must embark on a dangerous voyage with XR and two other robots in search of a mysterious point on a map. But how will they survive in a place where rules are never broken and humans aren't supposed to exist? And what will they find at the end of their journey? Humorous, action-packed, and poignant, *The Last Human* tells a story about friendship, technology, and challenging the status quo no matter the consequences. It's not just about what it means to be a robot—it's about what it means to be a friend.

**Lee Bacon** is the author of the Legendtopia series and the Joshua Dread series. The Joshua Dread series was an ABA Fall 2012 New Voices Pick and a 2014 Spirit of Texas Reading Program Selection. Lee grew up in Texas and now lives in New Jersey. Visit him online at [www.leebaconbooks.com](http://www.leebaconbooks.com).

Sold to: Urano (Spain), La Martiniere (France), Van Holkema & Warendorf (Netherlands), Random House Korea (Korea), Mondadori (Italy), Loewe (Germany), Tindur (Iceland), Publicat (Poland), Atticus-Azbooka (Russia), Vivat (Ukraine), V&R Editoras (Brazil), B. Wahlstroms (Sweden), DreamLitt (Denmark)

- Target Audience: Middle Grade
- Editor: Maggie Lehrman
- Film: Sold to Sony
- Material: Final pages

# Hannah Capin, FOUL IS FAIR

A dark, blistering novel that is a reimagining of *Macbeth* for the #MeToo era, FOUL IS FAIR is a primal scream against the patriarchy.

Wednesday Books / Macmillan – Winter, 2020  
Young Adult

**Sold to Sarah Goodman at Wednesday Books in a two-book deal in a pre-empt for six-figures (NA rights only) • UK rights sold to PRH UK Children's in a pre-empt**

Jade Khanjara and her three best friends rule their glittering LA circle. They get what they want. They destroy anyone who stands in their way. They decide how the party ends—every night but one.

The night four St Andrew's Prep lacrosse players mix poison into Jade's drink and lock her in a room with white sheets and spinning lights.

The night they try to ruin her.

But they chose the wrong girl. Certain the jocks from St Andrew's will face no consequences, Jade takes vengeance into her own hands. There's no mercy left: she won't rest until each boy has met the fate she's chosen for him. Until what's done is done.

Scorching, gripping, cathartic, FOUL IS FAIR is a primal scream against the privilege and patriarchy that have catalyzed #MeToo -- and puts the power to tell the story back into the hands of the girl it belongs to.

*Golden boys beware.*

**Hannah Capin** is the author of THE DEAD QUEENS CLUB, a feminist retelling of the wives of Henry VIII. When she isn't writing, she can be found singing with the Virginia Symphony Chorus. She lives in Tidewater Virginia.

Sold to: PRH UK Children's (UK & BC)

- Target Audience: Young Adult
- Editor: Sarah Goodman
- Film: Mary Pender-Coplan at UTA
- Material: Edited manuscript



## Pseudonymous Bosch, THE UNBELIEVABLE OLIVER AND THE FOUR JOKERS

A hilarious new illustrated middle grade series about a young magician from the NYT bestselling author of *The Secret Series*.

Dial Books for Young Readers / PRH – May 14, 2019  
Middle Grade

**The first in a 3-book deal for six figures • Pseudonymous Bosch is the NYT bestselling author of *The Secret Series* and the *Bad Books* trilogy, and his works have sold millions of copies worldwide.**

From the author of the bestselling *Secret Series* comes this funny chapter-book mystery about a third-grade magician and the wisecracking rabbit who is the secret brains behind his act.

Eight-year-old Oliver dreams of being a professional magician, even though he has terrible stage fright. And now, his friends Teenie and Bea have gotten him invited to a classmate's birthday party as the paid entertainment! Desperate for help, he visits The Great Zoocheeni's Magic Emporium, but comes away with nothing more than a moth-eaten top hat. Oliver is in for a lucky surprise, though. Inside that top hat hides a wisecracking rabbit named Benny, who agrees to help Oliver with his act. But at the party, Oliver is accused of robbery! He'll need to solve the mystery of the missing robo-cat to clear his name before he and Benny can amaze the crowd with their grand finale.

"Like Lemony Snicket with a little Monty Python" is how *LA Weekly* described Pseudonymous Bosch's writing. He is the infamously anonymous author of the *Secret Series* and the *Bad Books*, which have been nominated for an Edgar Award and named one of the 100 Best YA Books of All Time by *Time* magazine, among other honors.

Option publishers: Anaya Infantil y Juvenil (Spain), PT Elexmedia (Indonesia)

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



## Jessica Hische, TOMORROW I'LL BE BRAVE

A beautiful and uplifting picture book that encourages kids to promise that tomorrow they will try new things, do their best, and be brave

Penguin Workshop – October 16, 2018  
Picture Book

***New York Times* bestseller ! • More than 20,000 copies sold**

- "Jessica Hische, one of the great designers and typographers, now shows herself equally adept at creating gorgeous and immersive images for young readers. This is a joyous burst of color."--**Dave Eggers**, author of *Her Right Foot*

*Tomorrow I'll be all the things I tried to be today:  
Adventurous, Strong, Smart, Curious, Creative, Confident, & Brave.  
And if I wasn't one of them, I know that it's OK.*

Journey through a world filled with positive and beautifully hand-lettered words of wisdom, inspiration, and motivation. As this book reminds readers, tomorrow is another day, full of endless opportunities--all you have to do is decide to make the day yours.

Jessica Hische grew up in Pennsylvania. She currently lives in Brooklyn, where she works as a letterer, illustrator, type designer, and relentless procrastinator. Clients include Wes Anderson, Dave Eggers, *The New York Times*, Tiffany & Co., OXFAM America, *McSweeney's*, American Express, Target, Victoria's Secret, Chronicle Books, Nike, and Samsung. website: [jessicahische.is](http://jessicahische.is) | twitter: @jessicahische.

- Target Audience: Picture Book
- Film: Please contact Seth Fishman at The Gernert Company
- Material: Finished books

# Zan Romanoff, LOOK

A feminist, emotionally rich, queer coming-of-age story about falling in love and taking ownership of your own self—your whole self—in the age of social media by acclaimed YA novelist Zan Romanoff.

Dial – March 31, 2020

Young Adult

**Sold to Jessica Garrison at Dial in a two-book deal in a pre-empt (World English) • Zan Romanoff's previous novel – GRACE AND THE FEVER – was named as one of best YA novels of the year by NPR and *Vulture***

Some things Lulu Talachi's 10,000 Flash followers don't know about her:

- That the video of her and Sloane was never supposed to go public.
- That Owen definitely wasn't supposed to break up with her because of it.
- And that behind the well-put-together scenes she projects onto their screens every day, her life feels like a big, terrible, falling-apart mess.

So when Lulu meets Cass, a girl who doesn't know about Flash and doesn't really care, it seems like exactly the escape Lulu's been craving. Cass isn't interested in looking at Lulu's life, only at living in it. But just because Lulu has decided to step out of the spotlight doesn't mean it will stop following her every move, leaving her to tangle with big questions about who she is, who she loves, and how to be herself, both in public and in private.

**Zan Romanoff** is the author of two young adult novels, *A SONG TO TAKE THE WORLD APART* and *GRACE AND THE FEVER*, which was named one of the best YA novels of 2017 by *Vulture* and NPR. She writes essays and journalism with a focus on food, feminism, television and books, and her work has appeared in print and online for *Allure*, *Buzzfeed*, *Eater*, *GQ*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *LitHub*, *The New Republic*, *The Paris Review Daily*, and *The Washington Post*, among other outlets. She lives and writes in LA.

Option publisher: Dogan Egmont (Turkey)

- Target Audience: Young Adult
- Editor: Jessica Garrison
- Film: Please contact Sarah Burnes at the Gernert Company
- Material: Edited manuscript



## Django Wexler, **SHIP OF SMOKE AND STEEL**

An action-packed epic fantasy series from acclaimed author Django Wexler.

Tor Teen – January 22, 2019  
Young Adult

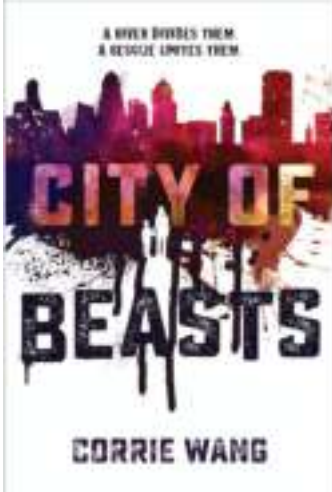
### **First in a three-book deal with Tor Teen**

- “Truly epic, fierce, and exhilarating, *Ship of Smoke and Steel* will capture you and lock you away. With magical combat sequences fit for the big screen, the action is almost as breathtaking as the intrigue.” —**Morgan Rhodes, *New York Times* bestselling author of the *Falling Kingdoms* series**

In the lower wards of Kahnzoka, the great port city of the Blessed Empire, eighteen-year-old ward boss Isoka comes to collect when there's money owing. When her ability to access the Well of Combat is discovered by the Empire—an ability she should have declared and placed at His Imperial Majesty's service—she's sent on an impossible mission: steal *Soliton*, a legendary ghost ship—a ship from which no one has ever returned. If she fails, her sister's life is forfeit.

**Django Wexler** graduated from Carnegie Mellon University with degrees in creative writing and computer science, worked in artificial intelligence research and as a programmer/writer for Microsoft, and is now a full-time fantasy writer. Django is the author of *The Shadow Campaigns*, an epic fantasy series for adults, and *The Forbidden Library*, a classic fantasy series for middle-grade readers.

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



## Corrie Wang, CITY OF BEASTS

An exciting and timely YA novel, in the vein of *The Handmaid's Tale*, about a world in which the sexes live in separate communities under a fragile peace that might erupt in war.

Freeform / Disney – September 17, 2019  
Young Adult

### Second novel in a two-book deal with Freeform

Praise for Corrie Wang's THE TAKEDOWN:

- “An exciting, prescient story . . . Highly recommended for all YA collections.” —*School Library Journal (starred review)*
- “Wang brilliantly balances the complexity of lives lived online. ... A thought-provoking, entertaining read.”—*Kirkus Reviews*

*“If you see a beast, and you have the shot, don't hesitate. Kill it.”*

For seventeen years, fees have lived separate from beasts. The division of the sexes has kept their world peaceful. Glori Rhodes is like most other fees her age. She adores her neighborhood's abandoned Costco, can bench her body weight, and she knew twenty-seven beast counter attack moves by the time she was seven. She has never questioned the separation of the sexes or the rules that keep her post-nuclear hometown safe. But when her mother secretly gives birth to a baby beast, Glori grows to love the child and can't help wondering: What really is the difference between us and *them*?

When her brother, at the age of five, is snatched in a vicious raid, Glori and her best friend, Su, do the unthinkable – covertly infiltrate the City of Beasts to get him back. Glori and a motley cohort of friends will go to the ends of the earth to find her little brother. And maybe save their divided world while they're at it.

**Corrie Wang** is the author of *The Takedown*. Visit her at [www.corriewang.com](http://www.corriewang.com) or on Instagram @corrie\_wang.

Option publisher: Il Castoro (Italy)

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



## More Opportunities . . .



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

by A major new illustrated SciFi adventure series  
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; 16 foreign deals**

- "Like a midsummer action movie, the scope (and budget) of the book is dazzling. ... The world of *Timeless* is rich with diversity and its challenges, both new and familiar."--***The New York Times***
- "The stunning artwork is the real star here. Sure to be popular with middle school fantasy readers."--***School Library Journal***
- "Baltazar's story is a captivating adventure lavishly illustrated with beautiful full-color paintings worth lingering over."--***Kirkus***

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), Egmont (Bulgaria), DarkSide (Brazil), Yediot (Israel)



## 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), Mirae (Korea)

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