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Frankfurt Book Fair 2023

Children's Highlights Guide



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Welcome to the Frankfurt Book Fair 2023 Children's Highlights Guide

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Big Sky Publishing (ANZ) - World All Languages incl audio

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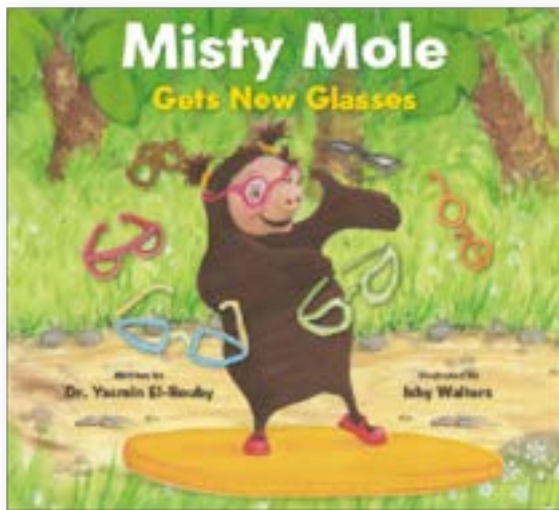
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- Hungary - Katai & Bolza
- Indonesia - Maxima Literary Agency
- Japan - Tuttle-Mori Agency
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- Thailand & Vietnam - Maxima & Big Apple Thailand (non exclusive)
- Turkey - AnatoliaLit

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Dr. Yasmin El-Rouby O.D MSc. PH is a Canadian trained eye doctor who has been practicing since 2000. She currently works at Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi and also works summers in Canada in a private practice.

She runs BASEERA Vision international (www.bvintl.org), a Canadian non-profit organization which aims to eradicate preventable forms of blindness worldwide by conducting early eye exams and screenings.

Ishy Walters works as an illustrator and mural artist from her home in the hills of North East Scotland.

Misty Mole and Friends



A funny, captivating educational series to raise awareness of eye health and guide children through a confusing time, with Misty Mole and friends!

Misty Mole Gets Glasses! (Book 1)

Misty Mole is a sweet and talented mole with a wonderful imagination. After a series of unfortunate events, she realizes that her life, so far, has been one big blur. With the help of her Woodlands friends, Misty Mole discovers what seeing truly is and learns valuable lessons along the way.

Misty Mole and the Screen Time Dilemma (Book 2)

Misty Mole can't believe her eyes! Screens are slowly taking over her Woodlands home and threaten to change everything forever. With the help of her friends, Misty Mole plans to save the day and give bring the fun back to the Woodlands.

Misty Mole and the Colourful Quest (Book 3)

Misty Mole discovers the importance of good nutrition for eye health as they soar the skies in a hot air balloon in an adventure of a lifetime. Misty Mole sails to faraway lands with Professor Bunny, Doctor Ellie Eagle, and Gran. They are dazzled by the scenery and amazed to discover how a good diet can help make good vision.



Boom Boom



A dramatic story of loss, faith, hope, loyalty,
and family ties

Osaik is an eight-year-old boy. He is charming and has an unusual ability to hear things no one else hears. But his world is thrown into disarray when a debilitating disease takes his mother from him.

Despite his grief, he has to find a way of saving his little sister, Eghe, from the same disease. Alongside his dad, and Kompa his dog, they begin a race to get her all the help she needs.

In this dramatic, fast-paced story of loss, faith, and hope, the limits of love, sacrifice, friendship, loyalty, and family ties are tested as the struggle to save his sister's life brings Osaik and those around him to a new knowledge of the world they can see, the world they cannot see, and the part of themselves they never knew existed.

Jude Idada is an award-winning screenwriter, actor, poet and playwright.

He won the ANA/NDDC prize for best drama with his book, *Oduduwa: The King of Edos* in 2013 while his screenplay *The Tenant* won the 6th African Movies Award in 2010.

For *Boom Boom*, he won the Nigeria Prize for Literature 2019, the youngest ever winner. *Boom Boom* is the first of his books to be published outside of Nigeria.

21 September 2023

Middle Grade

240 pages

Page proofs available

Rights available

World All Languages excl English in
West Africa, Audio, Film/TV



Angela Kecojevic is a senior librarian and a creative writing tutor and has written for the Oxford Reading Tree programme.

She is also the author whose work inspired the multi award-winning adventure park 'Hobbledown'. Her characters can be seen walking around the park, something she still finds incredibly charming!

She is a member of the Climate Writers Fiction League, a group of international authors who use climate issues in their work.

Rights sold

UK & Comm audio
- Little Acorns/Ulverscroft

Scareground



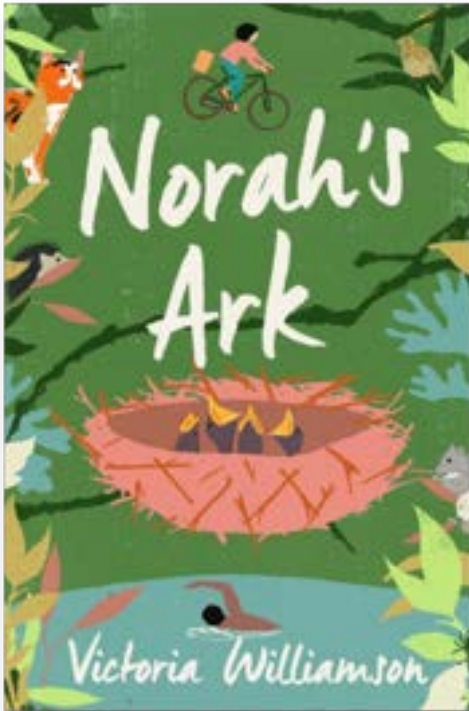
The brand-new spine-tingling middle-grade novel from Angela Kecojevic, featuring a deliciously spooky atmosphere and a feisty female protagonist

Roll up, roll up, the Scareground is in town...

The infamous Tombola fair has not been back to Greenwich since tragedy struck it years ago, but everything changes when black balloons with feathers float into town announcing the return of the Scareground, granting entry to anyone who is gifted one, like a spooky golden ticket. The whole town is abuzz with excitement and anticipation but Mr and Mrs Crumpet, the bakers, forbid their adopted daughter Nancy from going.

Nancy is certain the fair holds the answers to the disappearance of her birth parents, and with her best friend Arthur Green by her side, they meet the peculiar Skelter Tombola and uncover a world full of magic, mystery and the macabre. But behind such wonders hides a darkness Nancy never expected, a place where she must confront her greatest fears. Not least that someone might find out her deepest secret...

Perfect for fans of Katherine Rundell, Jennifer Killick and R.L.Stine's *Goosebumps*



Norah's Ark



A hopeful and uplifting middle-grade tale for our times about friendship and finding a sense of home in the face of adversity

Eleven-year-old Norah Day lives in temporary accommodation, relies on foodbanks for dinner, and doesn't have a mum. But she's happy enough, as she has a dad, a pet mouse, a pet spider, and a whole zoo of rescued animals to care for.

Eleven-year-old Adam Sinclair lives with his parents in a nice house with a big garden, a private tutor, and everything he could ever want. But his life isn't perfect – far from it. He's recovering from leukemia and is questioning his dream of becoming a champion swimmer.

When a nest of baby birds brings them together, Norah and Adam discover they're not so different after all. Can Norah help Adam find his confidence again? Can Adam help Norah solve the mystery of her missing mother? And can their teamwork save their zoo of rescued animals from the rising flood?

Perfect for readers of Katherine Applegate and Onjali Q Rauf.

Victoria Williamson is an award-winning children's author from Glasgow. She has taught maths and science in Cameroon, trained teachers in Malawi, taught English in China and worked with children with special needs in the UK.

Victoria is a qualified primary school teacher. Her books have been long-listed for the Branford Boase Prize, Waterstones Children's Prize, and she has won the Bolton Children's Fiction Award in 2020 and 2021

Rights sold

UK & Comm audio

- Little Acorns/Ulverscroft

Previous publishers

Korean - Green Frog.

29 August 2023

Middle Grade

295 pages

Final files available

Rights available

World All Languages excl UK, Film/TV



Looking for Lucie



What do you do when your entire existence is
a question with no answer?
You do a DNA test.

Looking for Lucie is a contemporary clean teen YA novel that explores identity, self-discovery, and newfound friendship as a 18-year-old girl sets out to uncover her ethnic heritage and family history.

“Where are you really from?”

It’s a question every brown girl in a white-washed town is familiar with, and one that Lucie has never been able to answer. All she knows is that her mother is white, her father was an anonymous sperm donor, and she looks nothing like the rest of her family. She can’t even talk about it because everyone says it shouldn’t matter!

Well, it matters to Lucie and - with her new friend Nav, who knows exactly who he is - she’s determined to find some answers.

Amanda Addison is an award-winning author of books for adults and children. Her books have been shortlisted for The CILIP Carnegie and Kate Greenaway Medal and the Searchlight Writing Novel Opening Award. Amanda holds an MA in Writing the Visual and lectures in Art & Design, which also running workshops in Creative Writing at the National Centre for Writing, Amanda lives in Norfolk, UK, with her family

18 April 2024 - Neem Tree Press

YA contemporary

Approx 83,000 words

Edited manuscript available

Rights available

World All Languages excl UK, Audio,
Film/TV



Djamila Morani is an Arabic-speaking Algerian novelist and a professor of Arabic language and literature. She writes fast-paced historical set in the Abbasid period—the golden age of Baghdad. Djamila lives in Relizane, in the west of Algeria.

Translated by **Sawad Hussain** is a multi-award winning Arabic-to-English translator whose work has been recognised by English PEN, the Anglo-Omani Society and the Saif Ghobash Banipal Prize for Arabic Literary Translation, among others. She is a judge for the Palestine Book Awards and the 2023 National Translation Award.

The Djinn's Apple



Historical fiction meets crime fiction in *The Djinn's Apple*, a YA murder mystery set in the Abbasid period—the golden age of Baghdad.

Winner of English Pen Translates Award.

A ruthless murder. A magical herb. A mysterious manuscript.

When Nardeen's home is stormed by angry men frantically in search of something—or someone—she is the only one who manages to escape. And after the rest of her family is left behind and murdered, Nardeen sets out on an unyielding mission to bring her family's killers to justice, regardless of the cost...

Full of mystery and mayhem, *The Djinn's Apple* is perfect for fans of *Arabian Nights*, *City of Brass*, and *The Wrath and the Dawn*.

29 February 2024 - Neem Tree Press

YA historical crime

129 pages

Edited manuscript available

Rights available

World All Languages excl UK, Audio, Film/TV



Tom Ramsay works for a West End Producer as Literary Manager and Dramaturg, looking after new work and writers of theatre for the company. This role has included working on an Olivier-nominated play and helping to translate a musical about the life of Marie Curie from Korean to English. In his own writing, he is passionate about telling queer stories with the hope and optimism that he longed to find on bookshelves growing up, with a touch of theatrical magic for good measure.

Tom is agented by Charlotte Colwill at Colwill & Peddle LitAg.

Showstopper



A joyful and hilarious queer YA romance set in the mad mad world of musical theatre

In the bright lights of the West End, a competition – and romance – is heating up to bring the drama, plot twists and exhilarating highs that only musical theatre can.

Gregarious giant Olly is back at the UK's most prestigious competition for teen performers to prove he has what it takes to be a leading man after he was sabotaged last year; determined to stand out like his favourite Broadway diva Bernadette Peters.

Nervous novice Tarun would rather be anywhere other than centre stage. Nominated after stepping into his school show under much duress; he's been blackmailed into attending by his Mum and mates and knows nothing about musicals. As far as he's concerned, 'Chicago' is somewhere you get deep dish pizza, and 'Hairspray' is something you buy in Boots.

So when the two boys get paired to share a hotel room, Olly can't comprehend sharing with someone who doesn't live and breathe the magical world of musicals, whilst Tarun thinks Olly is "way too much" and cannot decipher a single one of his references. But as they get to talking, they discover they've more in common than the opening number might reveal. Amidst the drama of rehearsals, could two boys be falling in love?

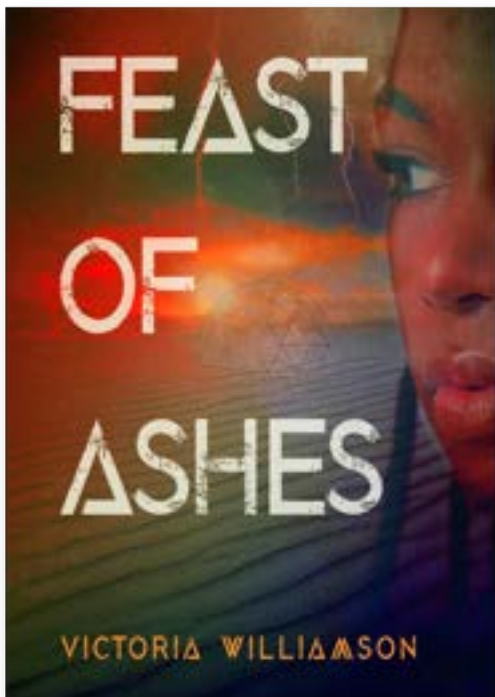
The novel is filled to the brim with humour, drama and queer joy, and is a laugh-out-loud page-turner that will be appreciated and embraced both by musical theatre fans and by those who are more sceptical. The love of musicals is irresistibly infectious, as is the romance, and it is perfect for readers who loved *Heartstopper*, *Gay Club*, and those who are re-discovering *Glee* (as well as those who remember it the first time around!)

On submission

Young Adult LGBTQ+ contemporary
67,525 words
Full manuscript available

Rights available

World All Languages, excl UK & Comm,
Audio, Film/TV



Victoria Williamson is an award-winning children's author from Glasgow. She has taught maths and science in Cameroon, trained teachers in Malawi, taught English in China and worked with children with special needs in the UK.

Victoria is a qualified primary school teacher. Her books have been long-listed for the Branford Boase Prize, Waterstones Children's Prize, and she has won the Bolton Children's Fiction Award in 2020 and 2021.

Feast of Ashes



An action-packed young adult dystopian eco-thriller — the first in a breath-taking new trilogy — set in East Africa

It's the year 2123, and sixteen-year-old Adina has just killed nearly every person she knows. All fourteen thousand seven hundred and fifty-six of them. Brought up in the East African eco-bubble of Eden Five, as far as she knows the whole world had been destroyed by ecological disasters brought about by human greed for profit. The Amonston Corporation built eco-bubbles across Africa to keep the remaining plant and animal species safe, and their generosity saved thousands of people.

When Eden Five is incinerated by an explosion caused by a routine maintenance job Adina skipped, she and a small group of survivors have to brave the toxic wilds outside the ruined dome to get to the Sanctuary before their biofilters give out and their DNA starts to mutate in the toxic outside air.

With a strong environmental theme, and warnings on the dangers of corporate takeover, this action-packed novel takes a deep look at family, friendship, romance and sacrifice.

Feast of Ashes is the first in an explosive trilogy which includes *Seeds of Hunger* (2024) and *Harvest of Flame* (2025). Perfect for fans of *The Hunger Games*.

19 October 2023

YA dystopia

325 pages

Final files available

Rights available

World All Languages excl UK, Audio, Film/TV



Tangerine Green



A coming of age 'spiritual prequel' to *Kim Jiyoung, Born 1982*

Soran, Dayun, Haein, and Eunji met at a movie club and they became good friends. Before they move up to the final grade in middle school, they travel to Jeju Island. They come up with a promise, and write it down to put it in a time capsule. The author alternates the four children's feelings surrounding this promise.

With intertwined relationships and unspeakable subtle emotions growing, the four go find their own way without saying their own voices. They are the portrait of ourselves passing through our days of green, living day by day, hurt, but pushing through the harsh and cold reality that will eventually make us turn orange and ripe one day.

Cho Nam-joo debuted as a novelist by receiving the Munhakdongne Fiction Award in 2011 with her *If You Listen*. She received the Artist of Today Award in 2017 with *Kim Jiyoung, Born 1982*. *Kim Jiyoung, Born 1982* (Scribner UK/Liveright US) was translated into many languages and has received a lot of attentions from the world. It contributed greatly to feminist movement in South Korea.

Rights sold

China, Japan, Taiwan, Thailand, Indonesia, Vietnam

Option publishers

US - Liveright

28 May 2020 - Munhakdongne Korea

Coming of Age YA/Crossover novel

83,000 words

Full manuscript in English or Korean

Rights available

World All Languages excl Korean

(handled non exclusively)



The Rainbow Goblin Store



The Crowd-funding hit sold into 11 languages and 30,000 copies sold in the first month of publication

Imagine a shop where you can purchase the happiness you desire instead of selling misfortune. In this mysterious store that opens only when it rains, high school student Serin is invited to embark on a heartwarming adventure fantasy with enchanting guides like Itsha and mischievous goblins, who can steal people's hearts.

You Yeong-Gwang was born in Seongnam in 1984. He wrote this story during breaks while delivering food for a living. This is his first novel.

Rights sold:

World English - Michael Joseph (at auction)(Ed. Rebecca Hilsdon - Autumn 2024)

- Russian - Mann, Ivanov and Ferber
- Polish - Albatros
- Portuguese (excl brazil) - Infinito Particular(Cultura)
- Japan - Say-zan-sha
- taiwan - Book Spring
- italian - DeAgostini
- Indonesian - Gramedia Pustaka Utama
- French - Laffont
- Thailand - SE-ED

Also optioned for Korean film animation

August 2023 - Clay House Korea

YA Crossover fantasy

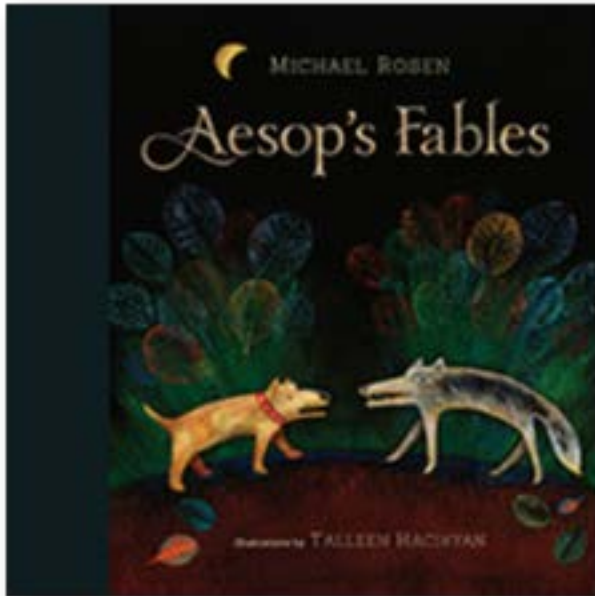
TBC pages

Korean manuscript and English sample available. available. Full english manuscript due November 2023

Rights available

World All Languages excl Korean

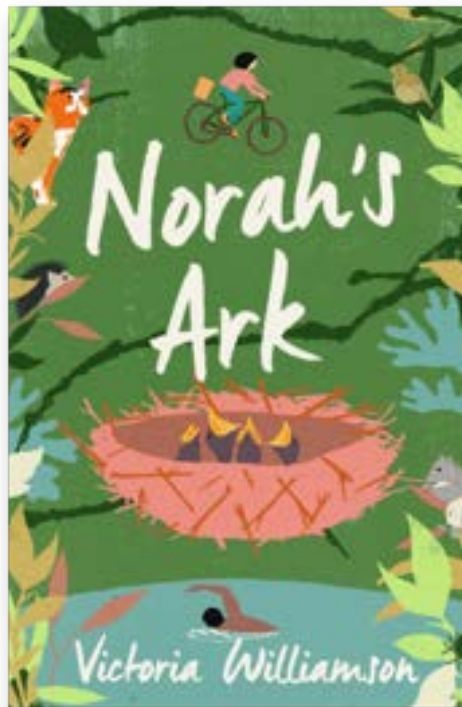
Special Mentions



Michael Rosen was previously Children's Laureate and excitingly has now been awarded the PEN Pinter Prize for his 'fearless' body of work



Finalist BC Yukon Prize Sheila A. Egoff Children's Literature Prize 2023



Longlisted for Juniper Prize 2023



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