



CHILDREN’S RIGHTS GUIDE DYSTEL, GODERICH & BOURRET



| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Middle Grade | <u>1</u> |
| Young Adult | <u>15</u> |
| Picture Books | <u>69</u> |
| Children’s Nonfiction | <u>75</u> |
| Contact Information | <u>82</u> |



Middle Grade

AARON STARMER

Aaron Starmer was born in northern California and raised in the suburbs of Syracuse, New York. Before pursuing writing full-time, he worked in New York City for over ten years as an editor for a travel bookseller and as an operations director for an African safari company. His middle grade and young adult novels have been translated into multiple foreign languages and have appeared on best of the year lists from *Time*, *Wall Street Journal*, *New York Public Library*, YALSA, Bank Street College of Education, Chicago Public Library and *School Library Journal*. He lives in Vermont with his wife and two daughters.

YOU ARE NOW OLD ENOUGH TO HEAR THIS

Fantasy

Penguin Workshop/March 2026

The Toe Beast looms large in the Barnes family lore—a tale concocted by twelve-year-old Roman's grandpa to explain his missing toe. But Roman has never actually heard the full story, and after his grandpa dies suddenly, it seems like he never will.

That is, until Roman is tasked with clearing out his grandpa's house, and stumbles upon some strange things. An old mason jar full of formaldehyde, a mysterious handwritten book about a girl and a pack of dogs, a rusty metal bucket with peculiar abilities.

And they all tie back to extraordinary secrets from the distant past.

By unraveling even more unbelievable stories that have been hidden from him, Roman is forced to rethink how he fits into his family's history. Now it's up to him to see his own story through to the end. Because the Toe Beast was only the beginning...

"A wildly original, deliciously strange tale of family secrets, magical mysteries, and one deeply creepy toe." –Anne Ursu, author of *Not Quite a Ghost*

"There is always a point, when I'm reading one of Aaron's books, when I look up from a page I've just read, and I try to predict where the tale is going to wind up. (I have yet to succeed.) But I also know, every time, that there will be a later page where everything suddenly comes together in a way that is as satisfying (and often heartshaking) as it is impossible to anticipate. This is one of those tales, but it's more than just a

A Junior Library Guild Selection

"Brimming with heart and creativity, Starmer's strange and spellbinding story of family, kinship, and coming of age is a triumph of imaginative storytelling that belongs on the same shelf as other offbeat classics of children's literature like Lemony Snicket's *A Series of Unfortunate Events* and Catherynne M. Valente's *Fairyland* series." –*Booklist*, **starred review**

"Roman's curiosity about his family and his place within it propels him on an unsettlingly strange and seemingly disjointed journey that Starmer (*Night Swimming*) cleverly conjures into a cohesive, genuinely touching narrative. Moody gray Steven Kellogg–esque illustrations by Zollars (*Snowshoe Kate and the Hospital Built for Pennies*) amplify the unrepentant weirdness of the setting." –*Publishers Weekly*, **starred review**

"While the number of stories within stories and generational overlap due to time travel require careful attention from the reader, the outcome of this rich, clever, and haunting story is well worth the effort, and the legacy of magical wishes owed and granted leads to a warm conclusion." –*BCCB*

"Starmer's latest calls to mind Rebecca Stead's *When You Reach Me* in the way the intricate plot similarly—and bafflingly—comes together with surprising twists. Most chapters focus on Roman's point of view, with perspective shifts clearly delineated throughout. Upon rereading, readers will discover cleverly placed clues that were there all along. Starmer explains the time-travel elements just enough while retaining an air of mystery. The overall theme that there's always more to the story leads to a

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>gloriously twisty puzzle. It's also a story of love and separation, of wishes and consequences that reverberate through generations, of the ways that families care for each other and the times when love and trust look different than we expect. It's a strange and beautiful book that I read in one glorious sitting and then, if it hadn't already been past my bedtime, would have flipped right back to the beginning to start again." –Kate Milford, <i>NYT</i> bestselling author of <i>Greenglass House</i></p> | <p>willing suspension of disbelief and a wild ride...Intriguingly bizarre and wholly original." –<i>Kirkus</i></p> <p>"YOU ARE NOW OLD ENOUGH TO HEAR THIS is a twisty, mesmerizing modern fairy tale that hooked me from the very beginning—I needed to know how all the threads fit together. This mysterious fable is filled with heart and will linger with readers long after they've read the last page." –Doug Cornett, author of <i>Finally, Something Mysterious</i></p> |
| <p><i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>All rights are available.</i></p> | |

REBECCA MIX

Rebecca Mix is the *New York Times* bestselling author of stories about weird magic & hope. Her debut novel, *The Ones We Burn*, was an instant *New York Times* & Indiebound bestseller. Her other books include *The Mossheart's Promise*, the first in a middle grade fantasy duology out now, and *Neopets: The Omelette Faerie*, official graphics novel developed in partnership with the game.

MILO & THE MONSTROUS BETWIXT

Fantasy

Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers/July 2027

Milo Huron is fine. Even though his mom is always gone, and his dad up and walked out years ago. But when Milo and his sister are sucked into a portal world called the Betwixt, a strange land where memories are currency and children transform into monsters once they have no more memories to offer, things become decidedly less fine.

Then a fierce memory-stealing monster called the Magpie captures Milo's little sister. Now, with the help of a definitely-cursed sword, an annoying Will o Wisp, and a Betwixter girl, Milo has until the next new moon complete seven monstrous trials, reach the Magpie's lair, and save his sister — or they'll both be turned into monsters for good.

Rebecca Mix's **MILO & THE MONSTROUS BETWIXT** is for fans of the magic and wonder of *The Boy & The Heron* and *Nevermoor: The Trials of Morrigan Crow*. It's beautifully written, filled with heart, and an incredible adventure.

A complete manuscript is available for submission and should be available for translation in Spring 2027.

DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.

All rights are available.

JOY McCULLOUGH and HANNAH SAWYERR

Joy McCullough's debut young adult novel *Blood Water Paint* won the Washington State and Pacific Northwest books awards, as well as honors such as the National Book Award longlist, finalist for the ALA Morris Award, a *Publishers Weekly* Flying Start and four starred reviews. Her debut middle grade novel, *A Field Guide to Getting Lost* releases on April 14, 2020, and is a Junior Library Guild Selection.

Hannah V. Sawyerr was recognized as the Youth Poet Laureate of Baltimore in 2016. Her debut novel in verse *All the Fighting Parts* was recognized as a William C. Morris Debut Award finalist, a Walter Dean Myers Award Honoree, a Rise Feminist Book Project Top Ten Title, and a *Kirkus* Best Book of the Year. *Truth Is* was a National Book Award Finalist. Her spoken word has been featured on the BBC's *World Have Your Say* program as well as the National Education Association's "Do You Hear Us?" campaign. Her written word has been included in *Essence*, *xoNecole*, and *gal-dem*. She holds a BA in English from Morgan State University and an MFA in Creative Writing from The New School.

THE 99th STREET SCHOOL

Contemporary Fiction

Abrams/Summer 2027

THE 99TH STREET SCHOOL is a novel in six voices from National Book Award finalist Hannah V. Sawyerr (*Truth Is*) and National Book Award longlists Joy McCullough (*Blood Water Paint*).

Set in upstate New York in 1978, near the now infamous Love Canal neighborhood in Niagara Falls, the novel traces the fallout when it becomes clear that Hooker Chemical, the area's largest employer, has been dumping toxic waste underground, which has led to stratospheric rises in cancer and other fatal diseases. While homeowners banded together to leave the neighborhood behind and receive compensation, the area's renters were primarily left to fend for themselves. The result: a neighborhood in crisis breaking along racial and economic lines, as the residents all try their hardest to save themselves.

In the voices of six children at **THE 99th STREET SCHOOL**, built directly above the toxic landfill, Joy and Hannah trace the

story of young friends learning to become activists and advocates, violently confronted by a world in which people are not treated equally.

A complete manuscript is available for submission and should be available for translation in Spring 2027.

DGB controls translation rights. Abrams controls U.K. rights.

All rights are available.

NICOLE MELLEBY

Nicole Melleby, a New Jersey native, is the author of highly praised novels for young readers, including the Lambda Literary finalist *Hurricane Season*, ALA Notable book *How to Become a Planet*, *Camp QUILTBAG* (co-written with A. J. Sass), and *The House on Sunrise Lagoon* series. She's also the author of *Sunny and Oswald*, as well as the co-editor of *Athlete Is Agender: True Stories of LGBTQ+ Excellence in Sports*.

CONSIDERING THE LOBSTER

Contemporary Fiction

Greenwillow/October 2027

CONSIDERING THE LOBSTER is about Louisa, a middle-schooler who begins the book getting in bad trouble at school for lashing out and injuring her closest friend. When her college-age sister picks her up instead of her parents, she ends up spending the day before Thanksgiving riding along as her sister does DoorDash orders. Which works out incredibly well for Louisa who is desperate not to go home, where her grandparents have just arrived.

While on their excursion, Louisa finds herself drifting to the lobster tanks in grocery store after grocery store, haunted by the memory of the sound lobsters make when they're boiled. She is determined to get them to safety. Over the course of the day, Louisa, her sister, and their friends attempt to free the lobsters. No one understands why it's so important to Louisa to usher these trapped creatures to safety. But in hilarious and inventive ways, they remain determined to help her.

Their ridiculous and often hilarious day eventually leads the characters (and the reader) to learn the deeply disturbing reasons why Louisa lashed out and why she's so scared to go home.

Ultimately, the novel tackles questions of sexual abuse and trauma head on. Nicole, in her deeply special, profoundly moving way, engages these issues with profound sensitivity and a respectful gentleness towards her characters and readers.

A complete manuscript is available for submission and should be available for translation in Summer 2027.

DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.

All rights are available.

JAMES RILEY

James Riley is the *New York Times* bestselling author of the *Half Upon a Time* series, *The Story Thieves* series, and *The Revenge Of Magic* series for middle grade readers. In his most recent series, *Once Upon Another Time*, which is set in the world of the popular *Half Upon A Time* series, storybook characters collide in a trilogy of twisted fairy tales. His newest novel for young readers is **THE DRAGON'S APPRENTICE**. James lives in Northern Virginia. <https://jamesrileyauthor.com>

THE DRAGON'S APPRENTICE

REVENANTS RETURN

DESTROYER OF MAGIC

DRAGON'S APPRENTICE BOOK 4

Fantasy

Labyrinth Road/April 2025, March 2026, November 2026, March 2027

In this hilarious fantasy adventure from the *New York Times* bestselling author of the *Story Thieves* series, a girl strikes a deal with the ancient, cranky dragon she accidentally summoned to teach her the forbidden magic she needs to save her mother.

STOP. Don't read any further. There are magic spells in this book, and the Emperor has *forbidden* anyone from learning magic, because it's *way* too dangerous! If you try one of the spells, any number of terrible things might happen (or so the Emperor says).

Don't be like Ciara, a twelve-year-old girl living in the tiny village of Skael. When *she* used a spell from within this book, she ended up summoning a dragon. A *DRAGON!* Those things breathe fire! *From their mouths!* She's obviously doomed.

A New York Times Bestseller!
An Indie Bestseller!

"Memorable characters, nuanced relationships, a complex magic system, laugh-out-loud humor, deadly peril, and a cliffhanger ending combine in this fast-paced sequel...The story goes beneath the surface, though. As they explore questions of truth, trust, and illusion, the characters experience genuine growth...A hilarious, swift-paced, thoughtful, and heartbreaking fantasy adventure." —*Kirkus*, on *REVENANTS RETURN*

"Taking a (somewhat) more serious tone in this volume, Riley raises the stakes while introducing both the main villain and a potential new friend for apprentice wizard Ciara...This episode, too, ends on a cliff-hanger—and a hint that all is not as hopeless as it seems." —*Booklist*, on *REVENANTS RETURN*

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>And don't listen if Ciara tells you that dragons won't hurt humans, and that they even once <i>taught</i> us magic, a thousand years ago. Definitely don't pay any attention to the fact that the dragon she summoned, Scorch, <i>might</i> be willing to help rescue Ciara's mother and free her village from the Emperor and his Warden, because it's all obviously a big lie. So put this book down, and forget about it. Magic is just way too dangerous. After all, you wouldn't want to summon your own dragon, would you?</p> | <p>"Undeniably entertaining." –<i>Booklist</i></p> <p>"Alternately humorous and heartrending, this lively fantasy will have wide appeal." –<i>Kirkus Reviews</i></p> <p>"An uproariously funny third-person narrative...chronicling high-spirited hijinks while unspooling an inventive mythology." –<i>Publishers Weekly</i></p> |
| <p><i>Complete manuscripts of Book 1 and 2 are available for submission and translation. A complete manuscript of Book 3 is available for submission and should be available for translation in Fall 2026.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>DGB controls translation rights. PRH controls U.K. rights.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>All rights are available.</i></p> | |
| <p>DGB represents a number of backlist titles by the author. Please see backlist catalogue for more information.</p> | |

BRANDY COLBERT

Brandy Colbert is the award-winning author of several books for children and teens, including *Black Birds in the Sky: The Story and Legacy of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre*, which was the winner of the 2022 Boston Globe–Horn Book Award for Nonfiction and a finalist for the American Library Association's Excellence in Young Adult Nonfiction Award. Her other acclaimed books include *The Blackwoods*, *Pointe*, *The Only Black Girls in Town*, and Stonewall Book Award winner *Little & Lion*. Her writing has been published in the *New York Times*, and her short stories and essays have appeared in several critically acclaimed anthologies for young people. She is on faculty at Hamline University's MFA program in writing for children, and lives in Los Angeles.

LET'S GET TOGETHER

Contemporary Fiction

Clarion Books/September 2025

Boston Globe–Horn Book Award–winning author Brandy Colbert gives *The Parent Trap* a fresh, funny, and delightfully unexpected update in this story of two girls—one raised by her single father, the other in the foster care system—who meet by chance...only to discover they're identical twins.

Kenya Norwood likes things just the way they are. She's lived all her life in Pasadena with her dad and grandmother, she's attended the same school with the same friends since pre-K, and she's always the center of attention. Even as she's about to start middle school, she knows one thing for sure: none of that is going to change.

For Liberty Perry, change is all she's ever known. Her mother disappeared when she was a toddler, and ever since, she's never stayed in one place for very long. But things seem different with her new foster mother, Joey. Maybe in this home, in this school, change won't come so quickly.

Except everything changes the day Liberty and Kenya meet—and discover they are identical.

Neither of them is ready to find out she has a twin sister (in fact, they're unsure if they even want one), and when the girls learn the truth of how they were separated, it's clear that no one else in their lives was ready for this, either. But the connection they share might be even stronger than the things that kept them apart—and teaming up might be the only way to set everything right.

A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.

DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.

All rights are available.

"A compassionate, emotionally intelligent story about family and belonging that will resonate widely." –*Kirkus*, **starred review**

"[A] nimble, winning reimagining of *The Parent Trap*." –*Publishers Weekly*, **starred review**

"Colbert impressively integrates current topics within the tropes of the familiar story. Readers about to enter middle school will relate to the girls' trials and tribulations at school—dances, crushes, and extracurricular clubs—but it's the specific details that make this book a triumph...A delightful tale of family lost and found, one that skillfully weaves discussion of heavier and relevant topics into a comedic plot." –*School Library Journal*, **starred review**

"An excellent story of sisterhood that tween readers will enjoy and that is perfect for realistic fiction collections." –*Booklist*

CHRISTINE VIRNIG

Christine Virnig is a fan of books, candy, spooky stories, poop jokes, and coffee...in no particular order. As a former physician, Christine now spends her days writing books, reading books, and working at a library where she is surrounded by books. Christine

| | |
|---|---|
| lives in southern Wisconsin with her husband, two daughters, a ridiculous number of dust bunnies, and one incredibly lazy cat. You can visit her on the web at ChristineVirnig.com. | |
| PHANTOM ACADEMY | Fantasy |
| Aladdin/August 2025 | |
| Lindsay Currie's <i>Scratch Scratch</i> meets <i>The School for Invisible Boys</i> in this fun romp of a middle grade novel about a newly dead boy who faces a spooky new school hiding an unearthly mystery. | |
| After an unlucky collision between a coconut and the top of his head, twelve-year-old Finn not only joins the ranks of the recently deceased, he also becomes the newest student at Phantom Academy, a boarding school for ghosts. | |
| Once Finn gets over the unfairness of still having homework (you'd think being dead would give you a pass, right?), he discovers that life—er, death?—as a ghost isn't that bad. He'd probably even enjoy it, if not for one thing: students cannot leave Phantom Academy until they graduate. He can't check on his family. He can't see his cat. In fact, he can't leave The Spirit Realm at all. | |
| As his homesickness builds, Finn convinces his new friends they should escape. But finding the way out is harder than he anticipated, especially when their biggest clue mysteriously goes missing. Finn's not giving up, though, not with his human memories growing fuzzier and fuzzier with time. They just need to find a way through the veil... | |
| "A heartfelt ghost story with a promising setup" – <i>Kirkus Reviews</i> | |
| <i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i> | |
| <i>DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.</i> | |
| <i>All rights are available.</i> | |
| ~ | |
| A BITE ABOVE THE REST | Fantasy |
| Aladdin/2024 | |
| A boy moves to a Halloween-themed town only to realize there may be more to the tourist trap than meets the eye in this fast-paced romp of a middle grade novel perfect for fans of <i>The Last Kids on Earth</i> and <i>Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library</i>! | "Thrills and chills in a gloriously goofy setting." – <i>Kirkus</i> |
| When Caleb's mom decides they are moving to her childhood home in Wisconsin, Caleb is not thrilled. Moving schools, states, and time zones would be bad enough, but Mom's hometown is Samhain, a small and ridiculously kitschy place where every day is Halloween. | Praise for <i>Dung for Dinner</i> : Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection SCBWI Golden Kite Finalist |
| Caleb is not a fan of Halloween when it only happens once a year, so Halloween-obsessed Samhain is really not the place for him. How is he supposed to cope with kids wearing costumes to school every single day? And how about the fact that the mayor is so committed to the bit that City Hall is only open from sundown to sunup to accommodate his so-called vampirism? Sure enough, Caleb becomes an outcast at school for refusing to play along with the spooky tradition like the other sixth graders. Luckily, he manages to find a friend in fellow misfit Tai, and just in time, because things are getting weird in Samhain...or make that weirder. | "Adds nuance to the old saw that we are what we eat...in an all-too-informative way." – <i>Kirkus</i> |
| But there's no way the mayor is an actual vampire, and their teacher absolutely cannot really be a werewolf—right? Caleb discovers Samhain is so much stranger than he ever could have imagined. As one of the only people who realizes what's happening, can he save a town that doesn't want saving? | "Physician and author Virnig encourages readers to think again as she describes myriad ways that people have consumed animal poop, pee, vomit, and other bodily fluids...Get ready to gulp!" – <i>Booklist</i> |
| Featured in <i>Book Riot</i> 's "New Books for the first Tuesday of August" | Praise for <i>Waist-Deep in Dung</i> : Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection "Full of the eww factor, the selection and presentation here are sure to engage readers. Appealingly and disgustingly informative." – <i>Kirkus</i> |
| <i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i> | |
| <i>DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.</i> | |
| <i>All rights are available.</i> | |

Z BREWER

Z Brewer is the author (writing under the name Heather Brewer) of the *New York Times*, *USA Today*, and *Wall Street Journal* bestselling series *The Chronicles of Vladimir Tod*, about a half-boy, half-vampire, and its spin-off series, *The Slayer Chronicles*, as well as the YA fantasy, *Soulbound*. Z's other novels include *Cemetery Boys*, *The Blood Between Us*, *Madness*, and *Into The Real*.

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>Z's newest book is THE CHRONICLES OF VIKTOR VALENTINE, a middle grade novel set in the same world as the Vladimir Tod series, but which will appeal to a whole new generation of readers. Z is also a tireless anti-bullying advocate and lecturer.</p> <p>The author's previous books have sold in: Australia (Puffin), France (La Martiniere Jeunesse), Germany (Loewe), Italy (Nord), Japan (Shinshokan), Spain (La Factoria de Ideas), Turkey (Alfa), and the UK (Razorbill UK).</p> | |
| <p>THE CHRONICLES OF VIKTOR VALENTINE WHAT LURKS IN THE SHADOWS</p> | <p>Fantasy</p> |
| <p>HarperCollins Children's/2024, October 2025</p> | |
| <p>A perfectly average boy uncovers a supernatural secret about his family that could put his whole town in grave danger—if it doesn't make him die of embarrassment first—in this mysterious and funny middle grade debut from <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author Z Brewer.</p> <p>Viktor Valentine can't think of a better way to end his summer vacation than playing <i>All the Vampires Everywhere</i>, his favorite video game, with his best friend, Damon. Yet his parents, who make cringey jokes and call him dorky nicknames, seem set on ruining his plans. Viktor knows he can't really compete with Damon's "cool" friends—so their epic video game playing is the best Viktor can do to come close to being cool in Damon's eyes.</p> <p>But then Viktor slowly starts to realize that his parents may be hiding something from him. They're acting very suspicious; they sneak out after midnight and return with bloody mouths. But he's probably just played too many video games. After all, vampires aren't real...right?</p> <p>Seventh grade is tough enough without having to figure out if your family has fangs. And to make matters worse, the new girl that moved in across the street seems particularly interested in things that go bump in the night. Can Viktor protect his family, or will his sleuthing come back to bite him?</p> | <p>"This tale walks the line between casual and actual horror—it combines plenty of dad jokes and talk about garlic with on-page blood and serious discussions of taking lives—and Brewer manages to balance it all well...An appealing choice for fans of spooky stories." <i>–Kirkus</i></p> <p>"Family drama and enigmatic supernatural intrigue mount as Viktor finds himself caught between friend and foe. While he laments being at the center of it all ("He was just this dude, trying to live his life"), compassionate, mature Damon helps to assuage his friend's fears. Viktor's paranormal adventure unfolds alongside healthy and grounded depictions of shifting relationship dynamics..." <i>–Publishers Weekly</i></p> <p>"Classic horror elements abound, and the stakes feel high even with a fairly idyllic setting and most of the spookiness saved until the end...burgeoning horror fans and those looking for a scare with just a little bite will find this the perfect read for the Halloween season." <i>–Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books</i></p> |
| <p><i>Complete manuscripts are available for submission and translation.</i></p> <p><i>DGB controls translation rights. HC controls U.K. rights.</i></p> <p><i>All rights are available.</i></p> | |

J. A. DAUBER

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>J. A. Dauber grew up devouring classic science fiction and comic books. A professor at Columbia University, he is the author of several adult nonfiction works including <i>American Horror: A History of Horror, from Salem to Stephen King and Beyond</i>, <i>Jewish Comedy: A Serious History</i>. <i>Mayhem and Madness</i> is his debut novel for young adult readers and PRESS 1 FOR INVASION is his debut middle grade. He lives in New York City with his wife and his three young children, who insist on making him the supervillain in their games every single time.</p> | |
| <p>PRESS 1 FOR INVASION</p> | <p>Science Fiction</p> |
| <p>Simon & Schuster/September 2025</p> | |
| <p>A kid who just wanted a cell phone ends up being responsible for saving the world from an alien invasion in this hilarious, action-packed new middle grade novel that's perfect for fans of <i>Sal and Gabi Break the Universe</i> and Gordon Korman.</p> <p>Ten-year-old Matt really wants a phone, but his parents won't let him have one. When he finds one just lying on the sidewalk, he naturally picks it up and claims it for himself. But when Matt uses his new phone to take pictures, they show the crossing guard in front of his school as a monster. But that can't be right...can it?</p> <p>Matt soon learns that: a) his lunch lady is also a monster (actually, an alien); b) an invasion of Earth is due to take place</p> | <p>"This humorous, fast-paced story has a light tone and plenty of action to keep readers hooked...Twists and turns and lots of silliness make this an appealing choice." <i>–Kirkus</i></p> <p>"Whether you believe in aliens or think the whole idea is a little out there, this read is the perfect adventure to escape the realities of homework, chores, and responsibilities." <i>–YAYOMG!</i></p> <p>"A perfect book for reluctant readers. It delivers on the humor front, and that combined with the impending alien invasion theme and icky, creepy monsters with tentacles (and icky, creepy monsters with tentacles who make out with each other!) makes this a slam-dunk for emerging readers looking for fun,</p> |

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>within the next few days; and c) the lunch lady is having cold feet (well, tentacles) about the whole thing and wants his help. Matt and his friend Marcela join forces with her to save the planet.</p> <p>Battles in their school cafeteria and high above the Earth's atmosphere place them in very close encounters with alien pets and the business end of a gigantic oven. As the danger mounts, Matt and Marcela must ask themselves what they're willing to risk to save their friends, their family, and their world.</p> <p>Featured by <i>School Library Journal's</i> Teen Librarian Toolbox, <i>Hollywood Reporter</i>, <i>Boston Globe</i>, SciFi Chick, Medium's <i>The Writing Cooperative</i>, Book Q&As with Deborah Kalb, <i>Young Adult Books Central</i>, <i>Literary Rambles</i>, KidLit Love podcast, <i>Writer's Digest</i>, <i>Smack Dab in the Middle</i>, <i>University of Kansas News</i>, I Love Books and Stuff, <i>Hasty Book List</i>, Reading in the Middle podcast, Adventures in Learning podcast, and <i>Columbia News</i>.</p> | <p>fresh reads and who are not yet ready to tackle the heavier stuff." <i>—From the Mixed Up Files of Middle-Grade Authors</i></p> <p>"School life mixes with a quirky but exciting adventure in a read, which lets the imagination fly and builds fun tension the entire way through...While this is a fast-paced read with dangerous predicaments, evil aliens, and high stakes, it carries quite a bit of humor to make it a fun tale with plenty of action and tension...Fans of silly adventures with unexpected heroes and evil plots are sure to enjoy this one." <i>—Bookworm For Kids</i></p> <p>"Laugh out loud adventure...A great choice for a read-aloud. I'd also welcome a sequel. Bravo to the author for a perfectly entertaining middle grade debut." <i>—ALWAYS in the MIDDLE</i></p> <p>"A fun blend of humor and adventure." <i>—Young Adult Books Central</i></p> <p>"Love this title...Sympathetic hero and some good tricks and twists." <i>—Wacky Mommy</i></p> |
| <p><i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>All rights are available.</i></p> | |

EDEN ROYCE

Eden Royce is a writer from Charleston, SC, now living in the garden of England. Her debut novel, *Root Magic*, was a Walter Dean Myers Award Honoree, an ALA Notable Children's Book, a Mythopoeic Fantasy Award winner, and a Nebula Award Finalist for outstanding children's literature. She is also a Shirley Jackson Award finalist for her short fiction for adults. You can find her online at edenroyce.com.

THE CREEPENING OF DOGWOOD HOUSE

Speculative

HarperCollins Children's Books/2024

At night, Roddie still dreams of sitting at his mother's feet while she braids his Afro down. But that's a memory from before. Before his mom died in a tragic accident. Before he was taken in by an aunt he barely knows. Before his aunt brought him to Dogwood House, the creepiest place Roddie has ever seen. It was his family's home for over a hundred years. Now, the house—abandoned and rotting, draped in Spanish moss that reminds him too much of hair—is his home too.

Aunt Angie has returned to South Carolina to take care of Roddie and reconnect with their family's hoodoo roots. Roddie, however, can't help but feel lost. His mom had never told him anything about hoodoo, Dogwood House, or their family. And as they set about fixing the house up, Roddie discovers that there is even more his mother never said. Like why she left home when she was seventeen, never to return. Or why she insisted Aunt Angie always wear her hair in locs. Or what she knew of the strange secrets hidden deep within Dogwood House—secrets that have awoken again, and are reaching out to Roddie...

Eden Royce, the award-winning author of *Root Magic*, returns with a terrifying story in the Southern Gothic tradition, inspired by the hoodoo practice of hair burning.

"Eden Royce's thriller has all the earmarks of a classic haunted house tale paired with deeply-woven family traditions centered on hoodoo and Black hair. While the horror plot will keep you turning the pages, it's the emotional story of grief and family healing that will have you

A We Need Diverse Books 2025 Walter Dean Myers Honor Book

"Royce's latest offers readers a strong, character-centered, hoodoo-infused narrative that's a tribute to the beauty of Black hair. Richly detailed settings and themes of family, heritage, and grief provide anchors for the creepy mystery. A thrilling, hair-raising story with strong cultural roots and a well-developed sense of place." *—Kirkus, starred review*

"Royce employs marvelously eerie ambiance to craft a tale that is at once a moving narrative about grief and remembrance and a frightening, slow-burning haunted house adventure." *—Publishers Weekly*

"An excellent middle-grade horror story full of eerie atmosphere that nicely folds in the importance of connections to cultural history, meaningful examinations of grief, the literal power of Black hair, and how to find light in darkness." *—Booklist*

"Royce charms readers with another work of intriguing supernatural fiction laced with historical context. By both offering engaging characters and successfully demystifying hoodoo, this will encourage discussion among kids that may spark a curious exploration into

| | |
|--|--|
| cheering at the end.” –Tracey Baptiste, <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author of <i>The Jumbies</i> | their own culture.” – <i>Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books</i> |
| <i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i> | |
| <i>DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.</i> | |
| <i>All rights are available.</i> | |

EVAN GRIFFITH

Evan Griffith is the author of the middle-grade novel *Manatee Summer* (a Junior Library Guild Gold Standard selection) and the picture book biography *Secrets of the Sea: The Story of Jeanne Power, Revolutionary Marine Scientist*. His books have received multiple starred reviews and been recognized as Bank Street’s Best Children’s Books of the Year, National Science Teachers Association Best Stem Books, and Chicago Public Library’s Best Informational Books for Younger Readers. His forthcoming titles include *The Strange Wonder of Roots* and *Wild at Heart: The Story of Olaus and Mardy Murie, Defenders of Nature*.

Evan studied creative writing at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and received his MFA in Writing for Children at the Vermont College of Fine Arts where he now serves as faculty. He worked for several years as an editor at Workman Publishing in New York City, where he specialized in non-fiction for children and adults, and he continues to take on select editorial projects. He often teaches online writing classes and enjoys mentoring writers of all ages.

THE STRANGE WONDERS OF ROOTS

Contemporary Fiction

Quill Tree Books/2024

“NOTHING LASTS.”

It’s one of twelve-year-old Holly’s Fundamental Truths of Life. And she has the evidence to back it up: Over the past few years her parents have divorced, her mom has remarried, and her dad has moved her all around the country to live in different places and attend different schools. Through it all, Holly has learned that it’s safer to never get attached to anyplace or anyone.

So when she spends part of her summer with her uncle Vincent in the tiny Vermont town of Arden, she knows better than to get involved. But soon she’s drawn into the drama splitting Arden in two: A local factory is planning to tear down a special grove of rare trees in the heart of town. As a budding forester, Holly knows a thing or two about trees. And she shocks herself by joining the fight to protect the grove— along the way, finding some unexpected allies and maybe even a few friends among the quirky townspeople.

However, not everyone is on Holly’s side. And when she accidentally takes on the most powerful family in town, Holly will have to dig deep to protect the one place she might actually want to put down roots.

"There’s so much to celebrate in this book—the lovely prose, the realistic character development, the call to nurture our own mycelial connection to nature. Griffith writes with such warmth and such love for all his characters that it’s hard to put this book down, and I didn’t!" –Brian Young, author of *Healer of the Water Monster*

A Junior Library Guild Selection

2025 Green Earth Book Award Long List

“Readers seeking a title that touches on the environment, pollution, and the interconnectedness of life will find many educational moments woven into this gentle tale. A quiet story to spark conversation about conservation and community.” –*Kirkus*

“The town of Arden and its population of quirky townsfolk come alive through Griffith's vibrant prose... This compelling story about the power of putting down roots will speak to anyone who has ever felt a little (or a lot) out of place.” –*BCCB*

“The story works on multiple levels; loner Holly must navigate new relationships and reexamine existing ones, all while learning about civic engagement and ecology... Hand this book to young readers who love realistic fiction and want to save the planet.” –*School Library Journal*

“A gentle, uplifting, and memorable story.” –*Horn Book*

“Evan Griffith’s **THE STRANGE WONDERS OF ROOTS** is a delightful look at friendship, community, and self, and how we’re all connected, no matter how apart we might feel. It’s a perfect book for reading alone as well as within book clubs and classrooms aimed at fostering a loving ecosystem.” –Samantha M Clark, author of *Arrow*

"A story both lyrically exquisite and wildly alive about the ties that bind us—to each other and to the earth. In **THE STRANGE WONDERS OF ROOTS**, Griffith demonstrates the great gift—and responsibility—of belonging to one other." –Liz Garton Scanlon, author of *Lolo's Light*

A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.

DGB controls translation rights. Harper controls U.K. rights.

All rights are available.

~

MANATEE SUMMER

Contemporary Fiction

HarperCollins Children’s Books/2022

In this poignant middle grade debut that *New York Times* bestselling author Katherine Applegate calls “by turns heartbreaking and heart-healing,” Evan Griffith beautifully captures all the tenderness and uncertainty that come with caring for family, friends, and the natural world.

Peter and his best friend, Tommy, have a goal for their last summer before middle school: finish their Discovery Journal, a catalog of the wildlife around their Florida town. When they spot a manatee in a canal, Peter knows they’ve found something special—and when the manatee is injured by a boat, something to protect!

As Peter joins the fight to save Florida manatees, he also finds himself taking care of his ailing grandfather and facing an unwelcome surprise that jeopardizes his friendship with Tommy. Soon Peter is adrift, navigating shifting tides and realizing that he has as much to discover about himself as he does about the world around him.

“*Manatee Summer* is an album of love stories: between a boy and his grandpa, between two kids and all creatures, between two best friends, and between a boy and his gentle giant, Zoe, a manatee. Peter is a kid who loves hard and yet loves effortlessly, and all readers will be touched by his earnestness and passion.” –Caela Carter, author of *How to Be a Girl in the World*

"Destined to become a classic—this book has a heart that will beat for the ages." –Martha Brockenbrough, author of *Into the Bloodred Woods*

“**MANATEE SUMMER** is an engaging debut novel about remaining compassionate in the face of adversity, standing strong when all is lost, and connecting to loved ones who seem to be an ocean away. I loved Peter’s connection to Zoe, and cheered for him to find his voice to speak up for himself and those who needed him most.” –Lynne Kelly, author of *Song for a Whale*

A Junior Library Guild Selection

A Bank Street Best Children’s Books of the Year 2023
Named to the 2024-2025 Florida Sunshine Young Readers Awards List
Nominated for the 2024-2025 South Carolina Children’s Book Award

“A boy balances weighty responsibilities and complicated emotions in a poignant and reflective debut novel perfect for budding conservationists... Hand this charming ecological tale—a terrific pick for libraries—to readers who appreciate having their heartstrings tugged by books like Carl Hiaasen’s *Hoot* (2002).” –*Booklist*, **starred review**

“Traditional masculine stereotypes are defied by a gentle, attentive friendship between two boys who are able to cry in front of each other... A lush backdrop and sweet characters facing complicated problems will keep readers hooked.” –*Kirkus*, **starred review**

“Peter’s attempts to save Zoe (his name for the manatee) become the heart of the novel... Peter grows up that summer and finds an apt metaphor for his life in his love of nature... Any writer who can make readers cry about “a gray, rubbery island” of a manatee has done his job well.” –*Horn Book*

“By turns heartbreaking and heart-healing, **MANATEE SUMMER** is an empowering story about facing change with bravery, humor, and hope. Don’t miss this unforgettable middle grade debut by an exciting new voice.” –Katherine Applegate, Newbery Medal-winning and *New York Times* bestselling author of *Wishtree* and *The One and Only Ivan*

“Transporting readers right to the Florida shore, Evan Griffith’s gorgeous debut makes you appreciate how simultaneously beautiful and tumultuous caretaking for a family member can be, and how loving and caring for those you love knows no depths.” –Nicole Melleby, author of *How to Become a Planet*

“With humor and real emotion in satisfying balance, Griffith tells the story of a boy dealing with a lot of change—in his family, his friendships, and in himself. The mysterious power of the natural world and Peter’s relationship with it through Tommy and Papa brings additional dimension and beauty to this affecting novel.” –Sara Zarr, author of *A Song Called Home* and National Book Award finalist *Story of a Girl*

A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.

DGB controls translation rights. Harper controls U.K. rights.

Rights Sold: Japan (Holp Shuppan)

REBECCA MIX

Rebecca Mix is the *New York Times* bestselling author of stories about weird magic & hope. Her debut novel, *The Ones We Burn*, was an instant *New York Times* & Indiebound bestseller. Her other books include *Neopets: The Omelette Faerie*, the first of two official graphic novels developed in partnership with the game, slated for summer 2024.

The author’s young adult novel *The Ones We Burn* has sold in Brazilian Portuguese (Intrinseca); Italian (Oscar Fantastica); Polish (Niezwykle); and Spanish (Mongatori).

THE MOSSHEART’S PROMISE
THE GHOSTWING’S LIE

Fantasy

Balzer + Bray/2023, 2024

From *New York Times* bestselling YA author Rebecca Mix comes a breathtaking middle grade fantasy duology about a young fairy who has always lived in her heroic grandmother’s shadow but now must step up

“Mix’s straightforward, magic-laced writing doesn’t shy away from hard but age-appropriately addressed truths of poverty, privilege, and natural disasters. Through

and embark on a quest to save her mother from the ever-creeping mold overtaking their world. Perfect for readers who loved Brandon Mull's *Fablehaven*, *The City of Ember* by Jeanne DuPrau, and *Endling: The Last* by Katherine Applegate.

The mold takes all.

Twelve-year-old fairy Canary Mossheart knows this better than most. A few years ago, the mold took her papa, and even her famous, former-chosen-one Gran never found a cure. So when Ary's beloved mama falls ill, Ary decides it's taken enough. Armed with only a bucket and a prayer, she sneaks out to find a magical, underground lake whose healing waters are straight out of Gran's adventures.

But when Ary gets there, the lake's bone dry, and instead of healing waters, she finds a terrifying secret: Her entire world is actually trapped inside a giant terrarium—one they were meant to leave centuries ago. Worse, Gran knew and hid the truth, dooming Ary and her generation to a dying, rotting world.

Now, allied with only her doomsday-obsessed frenemy, a timid pill bug, and a particularly grumpy newt, Ary has one week to unravel the clues and find a way out of the terrarium—or they'll be trapped for good.

THE MOSSHEART'S PROMISE was a *Kirkus* Best Middle Grade of 2023 and a Chicago Public Library Best Middle Grade of 2023

Complete manuscripts are available for submission and translation.

DGB controls translation rights. Harper controls U.K. rights.

All rights are available.

tears and laughter, readers will easily follow this exciting, honest, and hopeful tale that speaks gently and clearly to kids' fears and needs...A wonderful story for all the scared people doing the right thing because nobody else will." –*Kirkus*, **starred review**

"Boasting rich, confident worldbuilding and complex interspecies relations in a starkly rendered setting, this stirring middle grade debut from Mix passionately explores the courage it takes to lead with empathy and to become a hero in the face of older generations' failures." –*Publishers Weekly*, **starred review**

"A tender, touching, and thrilling exploration of how we can save the future by challenging the past." –Sofiya Pasternack, Sydney Taylor Honor Award-Winning author of *Black Bird*, *Blue Road*

"In this immersive middle grade fantasy debut, Rebecca Mix crafts a larger-than-life cast of ordinary heroes who grasp hope in the unlikeliest of times and places. A thought-provoking and unflinching reckoning of what it means to be the 'Chosen One' in a thankless, dying world – where yet, still, love burns bright." –Katie Zhao, author of the Winnie Zeng series and *The Dragon Warrior* duology

CHRIS LYNCH

Chris Lynch is the award-winning author of several highly acclaimed young adult novels, including Printz Honor Book *Freewill*, *Iceman*, *Gypsy Davy*, and *Shadow Boxer*—all ALA Best Books for Young Adults—as well as *Killing Time in Crystal City*, *Little Blue Lies*, *Pieces*, *Kill Switch*, *Angry Young Man*, and *Inexcusable*, which was a National Book Award finalist and the recipient of six starred reviews. Chris is the author of middle grade novel *Walkin' the Dog*. He holds an MA from the writing program at Emerson College. He teaches in the creative writing MFA program at Lesley University. He lives in Boston and in Scotland.

WALKIN' THE DOG

Contemporary Fiction

Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers/2024

A boy learns how to be a friend from man's best friend in this funny and moving middle grade novel about humans being able to change and dogs changing us from acclaimed author Chris Lynch.

In a family of strong personalities with very strong points of view, Louis is what his mother lovingly calls "the inactivist," someone who'd rather kick back than stand out. He only hopes he can stay under the radar when he starts high school in the fall, his first experience with public school after years of homeschooling.

But when a favor for a neighbor and his stinky canine companion unexpectedly turns into a bustling dog-walking business, Louis finds himself meeting an unprecedented number of new friends —both human and canine. Agatha, a quippy and cagey girl his age always seems to be telling two truths and a lie. Cyrus, a few years his senior, promises he's going to show Louis how to be a better person, whether Louis wants him to or not. And then there are the dogs: misbehaving border terriers, the four (possible stolen) sausage dogs, the rest of Louis's charges, and a mysterious white beast who appears at a certain spot at the edge of the woods.

"Lynch, master of the "show, don't tell" school of writing, goes to the dogs in a story lit up by examples of kindness, empathy, and people (and pooches!) helping people over rough spots in their lives...Along with the generally buoyant tone, the cast is really a strength here, being well stocked with memorable characters of the two-, four-, and yes, three-legged sorts...[A] funny, fetching tale." –*Booklist*, **starred review**

"The story illustrates the central importance of building community and friendships as a key to surviving and overcoming difficult times... tenderly underscores how love and trust can shepherd lost kids toward hopeful futures." –*Kirkus*

"Lynch explores elements of socioeconomic disparity and anxiety in this hopeful and humorous story...Lynch infuses Louis's narration with a

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>Dogs and human alike all seem to have something they want to teach Louis, including his menacing older brother who keeps turning up everywhere. But is Louis ready to learn the lesson he needs most: how to stop being a lone wolf and be part of a pack?</p> <p>The author has been featured by Animal Talk Radio, <i>Unleashing Readers</i>, Dogs Are Smarter Than People Podcast, <i>From the Mixed-Up Files of Middle-Grade Authors</i>, Pup Talk Podcast, The Baroo Podcast, <i>YA Book Nerd</i>, <i>Book Crushin'</i>, <i>Middle Grade Book Village</i>, <i>Book Q&As with Deborah Kalb</i>, <i>Young Adult Books Central</i>, <i>School Library Journal's</i> Teen Librarian Toolbox, and Dog Words Podcast.</p> <p>WALKIN' THE DOG has been featured on <i>Reading Middle Grade</i>, <i>School Library Journal</i>, <i>Young Adult Books Central</i>, <i>Bleeding Cool</i>, <i>Publishers Weekly</i>, <i>The Boston Globe</i>, <i>Cambridge Day</i>, <i>New Mexico Kids!</i> Family Magazine, and many more.</p> <p>"Lynch is back and better, smarter, and funnier than ever." –Jacqueline Woodson, National Book Award Winner</p> | <p>breezy, sometimes mature vernacular, crisp wit, and powerful emotions surrounding the intense joy, sorrow, and wisdom that come with canine companionship." –<i>Publishers Weekly</i></p> <p>"Lynch uses humor and playfulness to paint clear pictures of all of the people in Louis's life... Readers who enjoy license with language will get a kick out of these Louis-isms." –Youth Services Book Review</p> <p>"Both heartwarming and humorous, capturing the essence of adolescence with its struggles, triumphs, and unexpected connections... engaging and relatable, offering young readers a protagonist they can root for." –Review Thick and Thin</p> <p>"A great coming of age story that's perfect for middle schoolers and up." –The Momma Spot</p> |
| <p><i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>DGB controls translation rights.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>All rights are available.</i></p> | |

SARA ZARR

Sara Zarr is the acclaimed author of nine novels, including a collaborative novel with Tara Altebrando. She's a National Book Award finalist and two-time Utah Book Award winner. Her books have been variously named to annual best books lists of the American Library Association, *Kirkus*, *Publishers Weekly*, *School Library Journal*, the *Guardian*, the International Reading Association, the New York Public Library and Los Angeles Public Library, and have been translated into many languages. In 2010, she served as a judge for the National Book Award. In the academic year 2020-2021, she joined the faculty of the Seattle Pacific University Low-Residency Creative Writing MFA program. Sara has written essays, creative nonfiction, and short fiction for *Image*, *Hunger Mountain* online, *Response*, *Gather*, and *Relief Journal* as well as for several anthologies, and has been a regular contributor to *Image's* daily Good Letters blog on faith, life, and culture. Sara also hosts and produces the *This Creative Life* podcast (2012-2015; 2020-). In fall 2014, she received a MacDowell Fellowship. Her first book, *Story of a Girl*, was made into a 2017 television movie directed by Kyra Sedgwick. She divides her time between Utah and California.

Her young adult novels have been published in Germany (dtv and Aufbau), the UK (Usborne and Hodder), Brazil (Moderna), Macedonia (Sakam), Lithuania (Alma), Netherlands (Kokten Have and Clavis), Korea (Sallim and Darim), Vietnam (BachViet), France (Actes Sud and Bayard), Italy (Fanucci), and Japan (Shogakukan).

KYRA, JUST FOR TODAY

Literary Fiction

Balzer & Bray/2024

Kyra has always felt like she's a bit too much. Too tall. Too loud. Too earnest. But she's okay with that, because she's got her mom. Ever since Mom got sober about five years ago, she and Kyra have always been there for each other—something Kyra is thankful for every week when she attends her group meetings with other kids of alcoholics. When Mom is managing her cleaning business and Kyra is taking care of things at home, maybe, she thinks, she's not too much. Maybe, she's just enough.

Then, seventh grade starts, and everything Kyra used to be able to count on feels unsure. Kyra's best friend, Lu, is hanging out with eighth-graders and Mom is unusually distant. When Mom starts missing work, sleeping in, and forgetting things, Kyra doesn't dare say "relapse." But soon, not saying that word means not saying anything at all—to Lu or to her support group. And when Kyra suspects that her worst fears might be real, she starts to question whether being just enough is not

A Junior Library Guild Selection!
A Kirkus Best Book of the Year

"Informative and validating, this story is all the more powerful for Kyra's first-person narration... For anyone affected by an alcoholic family member, this story will resonate with searing truth... Authentic and heartbreaking but hopeful." –*Kirkus*, **starred review**

Praise for Sara Zarr:

"A tender, honest, and beautifully written story about family, faith, and friendship." –*Kirkus*, **starred review** on *A Song Called Home*

"Heartwarming, uplifting, and wonderfully real. Highly recommended." –*Booklist*, **starred review** on *A Song Called Home*

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>enough at all.</p> <p>With sensitivity and candor, acclaimed author Sara Zarr tells a heartfelt and personal story about finding hope in the most difficult places and love even in the most complicated relationships.</p> <p>“Zarr’s writing is remarkable...conveys great delicacy of feeling and shades of meaning.”—<i>Booklist</i>, starred review on <i>Sweethearts</i></p> <p>“This is realistic fiction at its best.”—<i>School Library Journal</i>, starred review on <i>Story of a Girl</i></p> | <p>“An exceptional, emotionally honest portrait of a tween navigating a blended family.”—<i>Publishers Weekly</i>, starred review on <i>A Song Called Home</i></p> <p>“Zarr adroitly crafts and dismantles the Baker family at the same time, noting the literal and figurative cracks even in the extended family center...”—<i>BCCB</i>, starred review, on <i>Goodbye from Nowhere</i> (also a Bank Street Books Best Book)</p> <p><i>Gem & Dixie</i> was a PEN America Los Angeles Literary Award Finalist, a <i>Publishers Weekly</i> Best Book, and a CCBC Choices Book</p> |
| <p><i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>All rights are available.</i></p> | |
| ~ | |
| <p>DGB represents a number of backlist titles by the author. Please see backlist catalogue for more information.</p> | |

MARIAMA J. LOCKINGTON

Mariama J. Lockington is an adoptee, writer, and nonprofit educator. She has been telling stories and making her own books since the second grade, when she wore shortalls and flower leggings every day to school. Her work has appeared in a number of magazines and journals, including Buzzfeed News Reader, and she is the author of the poetry chapbook *The Lucky Daughter*. Mariama holds a Masters in Education from Lesley University and Masters in Fine Arts in Poetry from San Francisco State University. She lives in Lexington, Kentucky with her partner and dapple haired dachshund, Henry.

Mariama J. Lockington has won the Schneider Family Book Award for 2023.

IN THE KEY OF US

Contemporary

Farrar, Straus & Giroux Books for Young Readers/2022

From the author of the critically acclaimed novel *For Black Girls Like Me*, Mariama J. Lockington, comes a coming-of-age story surrounding the losses that threaten to break us and the friendships that make us whole again.

Thirteen-year-old Andi feels stranded after the loss of her mother, the artist who swept color onto Andi’s blank canvas. When she is accepted to a music camp, Andi finds herself struggling to play her trumpet like she used to before her whole world changed. Meanwhile, Zora, a returning camper, is exhausted trying to please her parents, who are determined to make her a flute prodigy, even though she secretly has a dancer’s heart.

At Harmony Music Camp, Zora and Andi are the only two Black girls in a sea of mostly white faces. In kayaks and creaky cabins, the two begin to connect, unraveling their loss, insecurities, and hopes for the future. And as they struggle to figure out who they really are, they may just come to realize who they really need: each other.

IN THE KEY OF US is a lyrical ode to music camp, the rush of first love, and the power of one life-changing summer.

IN THE KEY OF US is a touching and heartfelt story that rhythmically follows the ache and joy of first love and finding yourself. Lockington manages to hit all the right notes, breaking your heart and filling you with joy as she looks at grief, growing

One of *School Library Journal*’s Best of 2022
 A New York Public Library Best Book of 2022
 A Chicago Public Library Best of 2022
 On ALA’s 2023 Rainbow Book List
Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Featured in *Entertainment Weekly*’s “LGBTQ authors recommend books that spark queer joy”

“Mariama writes so beautifully about emerging queerness and Black girlhood that it’s hard to walk away from her books without your spirit being lifted.”—Author Leah Johnson for *Entertainment Weekly*

“Alternating the two perspectives with verse interstitials, Lockington (*For Black Girls Like Me*) weaves an exploration of mental health, self-harm, and microaggressions with a love letter to music, the importance of representation, and the work of sticking up for the person one dreams of becoming.”—*Publishers Weekly*, **starred review**

“Told in Andi’s and Zora’s alternating perspectives, the well-paced coming-of-age narrative is sprinkled with contemporary references that bolster its authenticity as it sensitively explores topics such as racism and self-harm and offers a touching portrayal of young queer love...Vivid writing and relatable characters make this a worthwhile read.”—*Kirkus Reviews*, **starred review**

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>up, and the healing power of friendship." –Lisa Moore Ramée, author of <i>A Good Kind of Trouble</i> and <i>Something to Say</i></p> <p>"Warm and poetic, this gentle and emotional story of first love between two complicated and dynamic young girls completely captured my heart." –Jasmine Warga, Newbery Honor author of <i>Other Words for Home</i></p> <p>"Lockington's lyrical writing is tender and masterful. IN THE KEY OF US captures the many ways growing up is hard, exhilarating, unpredictable, and beautiful. Here, there is no pretense that life is easy but there is promise that there can be second chances, healing, and so much love." –Renée Watson, <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author</p> | <p>"Lockington's newest shines light on two girls trying desperately to find their own beat, and beautifully knits their songs together." –Rachel Strolle, <i>Buzzfeed</i>, "So Many Fantastic Books Are Releasing In April, And Here Are Our Top Picks"</p> <p>"Lockington's novel takes readers on a breathtaking, lyrical journey of the complexities of Black girlhood in a story about music, family, and recovery from loss. She weaves a tale that is both brutally honest and endearing, exposing the sincere flaws of her main characters in such a way that makes readers weep for each misstep and rejoice with each measure of success." –<i>Booklist</i></p> |
| <p><i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>DGB controls translation rights. FSG controls U.K. rights.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>All rights are available.</i></p> | |
| <p>~</p> | |
| <p>DGB represents a number of backlist titles by the author. Please see backlist catalogue for more information.</p> | |



Young Adult

CHARLOTTE LILLIE BALOGH

Charlotte Lillie Balogh is an author, a screenwriter, and a comic book writer born and raised outside Boston. She self-published her first book at sixteen years old and later graduated as a Remembrance Scholar from Syracuse University. CLB is a lifelong superhero fanatic, and she launched into the television and film industry by working at DC Entertainment on projects including *Wonder Woman 1984* and the CW's *Stargirl*. When she's not writing, CLB mentors young women through RowLA and WriteGirl, helping to create the next generation of real-life superheroes. She is the author of *Kill the Lax Bro* and *Capsized*.

CAPSIZED

Mystery

Delacorte/September 2026

A mystery and coming-of-age drama set against the backdrop of an elite all-girls rowing club as they navigate first loves, first heartbreaks, and the bonds that form when winning isn't the only thing on the line.

For high-achieving Margaret Douglas, rowing is everything—her friends, her family, and her way into college. As a senior and varsity captain, she's sacrificed everything to get where she is. But after mysteriously disappearing over the summer, rumors swirl: Was Margaret at Olympic training? Rehab? House arrest? Whatever happened, it haunts her...and when she returns at the beginning of the season, Margaret discovers that the sisterhood she once knew has moved on without her.

Meanwhile, spunky freshman and new girl Jo Bryant is being forced to row by her father: a former Olympian, a Boston legend, and the person Jo blames for her parents' divorce. Jo knows nothing about the sport, or why Margaret's return has everyone at the boathouse whispering, but she does know Margaret is the only person who doesn't treat her like a joke.

For both girls, the varsity team is a fierce, messy found family; a sisterhood earned in five a.m. wake-ups and blistered hands. But there are secrets and scandals waiting to surface—and with the biggest race of the year on the horizon, Margaret, Jo, and their teammates are about to find out just how deep they go.

"Charlotte Lillie Balogh tells this story with heart and honesty, capturing what it's like to come of age while chasing the next stroke. Her book reminds us that rowing is for everyone—and that somewhere in the boat, there's always a seat waiting for you." –Arshay Cooper, #1 *USA Today* Bestselling Author of *Let Me Be Real with You* and *A Most Beautiful Thing*

"Reading **CAPSIZED**, I simultaneously wanted to race through the gripping mystery about the dark side of high-school athletics and savor every moment of this heart-filled love letter to the women's sports. Balogh's brilliant writing made me nostalgic for my own years playing high-school sports—and especially for the beautiful friendships I made along the way. I absolutely loved this book!" –Jordyn Taylor, *USA Today* bestselling author of *Wicked Darlings* and *The Revenge Game*

Now in development for a television series with 20th Television, Hulu, and Charlie Craig, producer of *Pretty Little Liars*.

"A thoughtful love letter to all the intricacies, rivalries and familial intimacy in the sport of rowing. Balogh masterfully weaves a coming-of-age sports tale alongside a thrilling teen mystery, all set within a version of Boston that has never felt so authentic or fun.

CAPSIZED is the kind of story you want to climb right into and squeeze between the characters... at least while the boat is still upright!" –Kit Rosewater, author of *All's Fair in Love and Field Hockey*

"Charlotte Balogh has written a rollicking, fast-paced novel about a group of young women who ultimately (and not without some pain) find a sense of belonging when they join a high school rowing team. They discover that they are only as strong as their weakest link, and more importantly, that when they are united, they can navigate the ugly and beautiful transition into adulthood together." –Mary Mazzio, Award-Winning Documentary Film Producer/Director and Olympian (1992 – Rowing)

"Equal parts sports drama and coming-of-age mystery, **CAPSIZED** is full of heart and sure to enthrall readers. The stories of Margaret and Jo, set against the backdrop of competitive rowing, are deeply felt and expertly drawn." –Kathleen Glasgow, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Girl in Pieces*

A complete manuscript is available for submission and should be available for translation in Spring 2026.

DGB controls translation rights. PRH controls U.K. rights.

All rights are available.

~

KILL THE LAX BRO

Thriller

Delacorte/June 2025

A fresh and darkly funny 90s murder mystery about one high school's net of lies that begin to unravel when a star lacrosse player winds up dead.

The night before graduation, all of Lexington High celebrates at their school's annual senior lock-in. But what starts out as a fun night turns horribly wrong when a body is found and it is revealed that the victim is none other than Troy Edwards, the school's star lacrosse player.

Everyone is acting totally clueless. There's Jennifer (the dream girl), Lydia (the geek), Sas (the overachiever), and Tatum (the rebel). At a glance, it seems like they couldn't be more unlike except for the fact that they all hated Troy (the lax bro)...but who wanted him dead?

From debut author Charlotte Lillie Balogh comes a pitch-black, hilarious take on high school stereotypes including the boys we love and love to hate: lax bros.

"Charlotte Lillie Balogh's debut is utterly impossible to put down (no, really—I tore through it in 24 hours). The book's expertly-constructed plot is made even more propulsive by the use of six different narrators, each harboring their own secrets. And I still get goosebumps thinking about how it all ends."—Jordyn Taylor, *USA Today* bestselling author of *Wicked Darlings* and *The Revenge Game*

"**KILL THE LAX BRO** is exactly what the neon-green cover with pink-glitter-lip-gloss lettering promises: a love letter to the 1990s wrapped in a psychologically twisted whodunit...the individual characters' voices make this fast-paced mystery shine...Balogh's experience writing for TV clearly comes through the stellar quippy and sarcastic dialogue. Fans of Karen M. McManus or Diana Urban will devour this book." —*Booklist*

"Reading this was like inhaling a Pixy Stix only to find out it might be laced with poison. **KILL THE LAX BRO** is full of girls and boys alike thirsty for the hottest lax bro in school—thirsty for his murder, that is. A compulsive, whip-smart read from a talented new voice in YA. The twists at the end had me in a chokehold." —Trish Lundy, author of *The One That Got Away with Murder*

"Twisty, hilarious, and lethal, Charlotte Lillie Balogh's young adult debut is a perfect blend of your favorite 90s teen movie antics and modern-day murder mysteries, leaving you on the edge of your seat—and dying—to know who done it in this dark comedy!" —Matthew Hubbard, critically-acclaimed author of *The Rebel's Guide To Pride*

"Nostalgic '90s vibes mash with a punchy multi-POV narrative to create a thrilling mystery that's impossible to put down. **KILL THE LAX BRO** is the ultimate get back at your ex book — whether that be boyfriend, best friend, or otherwise — and follows an unlikely yet endearing crew bent on serving up karma. Balogh's debut is a reading rush you won't want to miss." —Mackenzie Reed, author of *The Wilde Trials* and *The Rosewood Hunt*

A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.

DGB controls translation rights. PRH controls U.K. rights.

All rights are available.

CINDY R.X. HE

Cindy R. X. He is an Edgar Award-nominated author of psychological thrillers and Young Adult thrillers. Her young adult books include *Perfect Little Monsters*, *This Is Where We Die*, and *The Murder Party*. Her forthcoming adult debut is *No One Else In Here*. Born and raised in multicultural Singapore, she currently resides in the French Alps.

THE MURDER PARTY

Thriller

Sourcebooks Fire/October 2026

It was supposed to be a party. Just a game. A night to blow off some steam and do something fun. No one was supposed to get hurt. No one was supposed to really be murdered...right?

When June Chan's older sister Lily is stabbed to death at a secret party in front of a dozen people, June learns about the exclusive murder mystery club Lily was in, and the themed games that members played.

The police rule Lily's death an accident caused by a malfunctioning prop knife and close the case. The school warns all the members—including Lily's boyfriend and best friends—and shuts Murder Club down.

Everyone seems fine to move on. Accept that life isn't fair and that Lily's death was just a tragic accident...everyone but June. Determined to find out more about the Club, its members, and exactly what happened that night, she dives into the personal lives of everyone who witnessed Lily's death.

As June begins to uncover secrets the club would prefer to remain hidden, it becomes clear Lily's death wasn't an accident. June realizes that the only way she can find out what really happened is to revive Murder Club and set a trap. To catch her sister's killer, she will have to host the deadliest Murder Night of all...

"Cindy R. X. He is the queen of tension and psychological crimes against readers. There is something so refreshing about an author who consistently reminds us we can have it all—perfect twists support sharply felt characterizations and intensely clever page-

| | |
|--|---|
| turning plots. That's to say nothing of the writing, which is visceral and taut. A true talent." –Courtney Summers, <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author of <i>Sadie</i> | |
| <i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and should be available for translation in Summer 2026.</i> | |
| <i>DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.</i> | |
| <i>All rights are available.</i> | |
| ~ | |
| THIS IS WHERE WE DIE | Thriller |
| Sourcebooks Fire/July 2025 | |
| <p>Eight friends went on a trip. Only six came back. Now a killer has one night to make sure the survivors pay for what they did...so that zero make it out alive. From the author of <i>Perfect Little Monsters</i> comes another incredible twisty thriller.</p> <p>Sadie, Will, Isla, Anthony, Emily, and Charlie are survivors. They were the six (out of eight) to return from a ski holiday turned nightmare two years ago. Although... nobody knows exactly what happened; the details hushed up via the wealth and connections of Sadie's rich parents.</p> <p>When an exclusive private island with a mansion for rent goes viral on social media, their graduating class persuades Sadie to rent it for the weekend. The six arrive first via helicopter and wait for the rest of their classmates to join them via boat the next day. But nobody ever comes.</p> <p>Cut off from the rest of the world with no cell service and no means off the island, paranoia and terror mount as they start to be picked off one by one by an unseen killer. Their past has finally caught up with them, and they'll need to figure out who is killing them before they all wind up dead.</p> <p>"I inhaled this dark, chilling, and incredibly suspenseful read in one sitting. With tension radiating off the page, distinct perspectives, and clever twists, THIS IS WHERE WE DIE is a stunningly fresh and modern twist on the locked room murder mystery that will leave readers reeling in the best way. Absolutely impossible to put down!" – Kelsea Yu, Shirley Jackson Award-nominated author of <i>It's Only a Game</i> and <i>Bound Feet</i></p> <p>"A devious, page-turning thriller full of terrible teens doing terrible things." –Alexa Donne, Edgar Award–nominated author of <i>Pretty Dead Queens & The Ivies</i></p> <p>"Twisty, shocking, and at times brutal, He's sophomore novel is an unputdownable, whip-smart take on Agatha Christie for today's YA reader." –MK Pagano, author of <i>Girls Who Burn</i></p> | <p>Nominated for the 2026 Edgar Award for Best Young Adult! A Chicago Public Library Must Read of 2025!</p> <p>"This psychological thriller will leave the reader gasping for air ...terrifying!" –<i>Booklist</i>, starred review</p> <p>"Full of twists and red herrings, with a satisfying conclusion readers won't see coming...[A] fast-paced mystery." –<i>School Library Journal</i></p> <p>"A chilling and suspense-filled tragedy" –<i>Kirkus</i></p> <p>"Themes of revenge, heightened by passionate emotion and complex relationship dynamics, contribute to the novel's mounting tension and...claustrophobic atmosphere." –<i>Publishers Weekly</i></p> <p>"THIS IS WHERE WE DIE is a locked room thriller at its finest. This twisted slasher tale of revenge gone wrong—or right, depending on how you look at it—had me questioning absolutely everything and everyone." –Trish Lundy, author of <i>The One That Got Away with Murder</i></p> <p>"THIS IS WHERE WE DIE is a cutthroat elimination thriller with a gloriously grisly premise and to die for cast of suspects. I devoured it in one sitting and immediately added it back to my TBR to read again. Wickedly funny, delightfully chilling, and propulsive to the final word." –Dana Mele, author of <i>People Like Us</i> and <i>Summer's Edge</i></p> <p>"From the very first page to the final twist, THIS IS WHERE WE DIE is an absolutely wild ride, a modern take on Agatha Christie's classic <i>And Then There Were None</i> like you've never read. He's sophomore effort is not one to be missed!" –Liz Lawson, <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author of The Agathas series</p> <p>"THIS IS WHERE WE DIE is a delightfully twisty and deliciously twisted take on a locked room mystery that feels both timeless and totally fresh. He has carved out a space in the thriller genre all her own, with breathtaking pacing, high-stakes drama, and dark humor that made me laugh out loud even when I still had the chills from a gruesome reveal the page before." –Meredith Adamo, author of Morris Award finalist <i>Not Like Other Girls</i></p> |
| <i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i> | |
| <i>DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.</i> | |
| <i>All rights are available.</i> | |
| ~ | |
| PERFECT LITTLE MONSTERS | Thriller |
| Sourcebooks Fire/2024 | |
| Someone has murdered the queen bee of Sierton High School. All the dead girl's friends are suspects. And each one has a | A finalist for the Daphne Du Maurier Award and the Killer Nashville Claymore Award. |

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>reason for wanting her to die.</p> <p>Ella Moore was the most popular girl in school... and also the most hated. When she's murdered at her own party, there are too many suspects to count. And too many people who think she deserved it.</p> <p>The police's prime suspect is the new girl, Dawn Foster. Dawn was the last to hand Ella a drink on the night she died. Plus, all of Ella's friends with a motive for wanting her dead are more than willing to throw Dawn under the bus if it means keeping the heat off themselves.</p> <p>But Dawn refuses to go down without a fight. She's determined to clear her name. As she delves deeper into the past, she discovers that Ella and her friends had major enemies, and someone is out for revenge. Dawn must uncover the truth before the police arrest the wrong suspect...and before the next person dies.</p> <p>"A dark, voicey, and inventive debut from an explosive new talent. Prepare to be captivated from start to pulse-pounding finish, and blown away by the many twists and turns. Perfect Little Monsters is at once a fast-paced thriller and a thoughtful, incisive look at the impact of bullying." –Laurie Elizabeth Flynn, author of <i>The Girls Are All So Nice Here</i> and <i>All Eyes On Her</i></p> <p>"This tense and twisty thriller will keep readers looking over their shoulder." –Natalie D. Richards, <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author of <i>Five Total Strangers</i></p> <p>"Fast-paced, dark, with a twist that satisfied my evil side, He's debut is a showstopper!" –Jesse Q. Sutanto, bestselling author of <i>The Obsession</i> and <i>The New Girl</i></p> <p>"PERFECT LITTLE MONSTERS is a viciously shocking examination of bullying with an ending that will leave you floored. A riveting debut you won't want to miss!" –Chelsea Icho, author of <i>Dead Girls Can't Tell Secrets</i> and <i>They're Watching You</i></p> | <p>"Woven throughout are themes of bullying, suicidal ideation, and eating disorders, which have meaningful bearing on the ultimate resolution of the mystery and might resonate with readers who have struggled with those experiences. Quick reveals and suspense drive the propulsive, Hitchcockian plot to an ending sure to leave teen mystery fans amazed at He's careful structuring of the story." –<i>Booklist</i>, starred review</p> <p>"Debut author He adds grit to a plot built on familiar high school mystery elements via the intertwining narratives...will keep readers on their toes all the way to the shocking conclusion." –<i>Publishers Weekly</i></p> <p>"A chilling twist in the third act will make readers rethink everything they've read up to that point...A dark and vindictive tale." –<i>Kirkus</i></p> <p>"Cindy R.X. He is the queen of tension and psychological crimes against readers. There is something so refreshing about an author who consistently reminds us we can have it all—perfect twists support sharply felt characterizations and intensely clever page-turning plots. That's to say nothing of the writing, which is visceral and taut. A true talent." –Courtney Summers, <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author of <i>Sadie</i></p> <p>"PERFECT LITTLE MONSTERS is a heart-pounding, harrowing, and twisty tale about the legacy of bullying and cruelty and its devastating consequences. An extraordinary debut from an extraordinary talent." –Alex Finlay, author of <i>Every Last Fear</i> and <i>The Night Shift</i></p> <p>"With characters you'll love to hate and a twist that you won't see coming, Cindy R X He's debut thriller PERFECT LITTLE MONSTERS is a book that will keep readers up all night. He deftly weaves the past with the present to create questions you'll only think you know the answer to. A shocking delight." –Jessie Weaver, author of <i>Live Your Best Lie</i> and <i>Lie Until It's True</i></p> |
| <p><i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>Rights Sold: Germany (Thienemann); Poland (WeNeedYA/Poznanskie)</i></p> | |

PATRICK DUNN

Patrick Dunn is the chair of the department of English at Aurora University, where he teaches creative writing, linguistics, and literature. He is the author of several books of esoteric philosophy, including *Postmodern Magic; Magic, Power, Language, Symbol; The Practical Art of Divine Magic;* and *Cartomancy with the Lenormand and Tarot*, as well as a chapbook of poetry, *Second Person*. He has also translated the Orphic Hymns from Ancient Greek. His short fiction has most recently appeared in *Antithesis*.

JACKALOPE

Suspense

Feiwel and Friends/January 2027

Mark knows it's technically kidnapping. But when his father rolls up in an unfamiliar truck, Mark doesn't hesitate to climb in. He'd rather live with his father than under the religious thumb of his mother and her new pastor boyfriend, Ted. As usual, Mark's father has a plan, and like most of his plans, it's exciting but a little bit crazy: live off the grid in the Sierra Nevada mountains, in a cabin he owns that no one, not even his ex-wife, knows about. It'll be an adventure, and the mountains will certainly be more fun than the suburbs of Chicago, even if Dad sometimes sees things that aren't there.

But living in the mountains isn't as easy as it sounds. Vicious winters, wild animals, and dwindling supplies make it hard enough, but when his father breaks his leg, Mark has to shoulder all the responsibility. Especially when his father's hallucinations and paranoia surge with the isolation. And he's not the only one whose mind might be going, because Mark's started seeing ghosts. He's pretty sure they're hallucinations, but that's hardly a comfort.

If Mark can't survive the winter, no one will ever find their bodies in the deep mountain snow.

JACKALOPE is Patrick Dunn's extraordinary debut novel. Blending the unreliable narration of *The Many Half-Lived Lives of Sam Sylvester* and the raw survival tension of *What the Woods Took*, **JACKALOPE** is a psychological thriller about family, isolation, and the breakdown of reality.

A complete manuscript is available for submission and should be available for translation in Fall 2026.

DGB controls U.K. and translation.

All rights are available.

JULIANA SMITH

Juliana Smith writes sweet, feel-good romance full of charm, laughter, and just the right amount of yearning. Juliana believes in happily ever afters, second chances, and that life is better when you're laughing (preferably with a Diet Dr Pepper in hand).

The Willow Creek Series
SPUR OF THE MOMENT
 Untitled Book 2
 Untitled Book 3
 Untitled Book 4

Contemporary Romance

Bloom Books/May 2026, November 2026, May 2027, November 2027

Seventeen-year-old Lottie Turner was born to ride bulls.

Rodeos, big dreams, dusty boots—bull-riding was her whole life. Until the accident. Until the diagnosis that changed everything: epilepsy. Now her doctor and her family have grounded her for good. No bulls. No danger. No freedom.

Then Walker—her former best friend, first crush, and the boy who once knew every piece of her—returns to town for the summer. Walker's supposed to be chasing stars with NASA, not mucking stalls, even if he really does want dirt, sweat, and saddles. He wants Lottie Turner and all of her wildness.

When Lottie makes a summer bucket list to find herself again, Walker's the first to volunteer to do it with her. One item at a time, they tumble back into laughter, heat, and everything they left unsaid.

But as the sparks between them reignite, Lottie has to face the hardest truth of all: some risks can break you, but others are worth taking anyway.

“In this series opener, the leads’ alternating perspectives immerse readers in the world of Willow Creek, with intentionally layered moments that propel the narrative. Lottie and Walker, who are cued white, are well characterized, and this sweet romance includes heart-pounding yearning, witty banter, and a thoughtful exploration of navigating disability. As Lottie struggles with accepting her new reality, including frustration with being treated as fragile, Walker responds in supportive ways that highlight his emotional intelligence. A summer romance distinguished by complex characters, emotional depth, and poetic storytelling.” – *Kirkus*, **starred review**

A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.

DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.

All rights are available.

ADAM SASS

Adam Sass began writing books in Sharpie on the backs of Starbucks pastry bags. (He's sorry it distracted him from making your latte.) He's the author of the buzzy YA novels *Surrender Your Sons*, *The 99 Boyfriends of Micah Summers*, *Your Lonely Nights Are Over*, and *Cursed Boys and Broken Hearts*, which were honored by *Kirkus*, *Seventeen*, and *USA Today*. Adam has been featured in *Entertainment Weekly*, *Teen Vogue*, and *Publishers Weekly*, and is a frequent guest on *The Savage Lovecast*, *Professional Book Ners*, and *Podcast: The Ride*.

HELLO, I LOVE YOU, GOODBYE

Contemporary Romance

Viking/February 2027

A witty and heartfelt YA romance about two boys who fall in love during an all-night school lock-in. Perfect for fans of Adam Silvera and David Levithan.

Freddie and Lyle have nothing in common. Except, of course, for the fact that they're each nursing an enormous crush on the other. A crush that they are both completely oblivious about.

Lyle is bi and not out at school, and Freddie is gay, and has never been close enough with a person his age to be able to come out to them.

Enter the high school's all-night lock-in, where the two finally collide. Freddie has never had a real friend, and Lyle is leaving to move to Germany for the rest of high school the following day.

When the two boys are thrown together at last, sparks fly, but can their love for each other outlast the ticking clock?

A complete manuscript is available for submission and should be available for translation in late 2026.

DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.

All rights are available.

EMMA CLANCEY

Emma Clancey is a fantasy writer and medical student living in Sydney. In 2024, she was awarded the Ray Koppe/Australian Society of Authors Young Writers Fellowship. Emma's debut novel, *This Dream Will Devour Us*, is a YA fantasy thriller that blends her passions for magic and medicine. When not writing or horrifying her friends with unsolicited medical facts, she's likely jabbering about her latest reads on Instagram @emma.clancey.

THIS DREAM WILL DEVOUR US
THIS BLOOD WILL BETRAY US

Fantasy

Amulet/March 2026, April 2027

An intoxicating mix of magic and the machinations of the rich and powerful creates a compulsive, bingeable read for readers who love Krystal Sutherland and Karen McManus.

Sometimes you have to kill a dream to escape a nightmare.

Nora is the opposite of lucky. She's still wrangling her dead dad's debts when a mysterious illness lands her brother in hospital. But her fortunes take an unexpected turn when she wins the lottery to attend the Lamour family's exclusive magical Dream Gala. If Nora can win over the Lamour heirs, she'll get a coveted spot on their magical training program - and the money she needs to save her brother.

There's just one problem: Nora never bought a lottery ticket.

Determined to discover who wants her at the Gala - and why - Nora plunges headfirst into magical high society. Caught up in a decadent world of brutal billionaires and cutthroat celebrities, Nora is soon in over her head. When her search for answers uncovers a sinister conspiracy, will Nora stay silent or risk the wrath of a family powerful enough to get away with murder?

"Luxurious and addictive...will suck you into a world of lavish, glittering magic with a sharp-edged dark side." –CG Drews, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Don't Let The Forest In*

"Full of sharp, inventive magic, deliciously unreliable characters, and pulse-pounding conspiracies, **THIS DREAM WILL DEVOUR US** left me breathless. A lavish, seductive fantasy that will keep you guessing at every turn." –Pascale Lacelle, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Curious Tides*

A complete manuscript of Book 1 is available for submission and translation. A complete manuscript of Book 2 is available for submission and should be available for translation in early 2027.

DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.

Rights Sold: Australia (Allen & Unwin); Ukraine (Athena Publishing)

THIS DREAM WILL DEVOUR US won the 2025 Readings Gab Williams Prize.

"Debut author Clancey's unusual, perfectly paced, queer-centered narrative will leave readers struggling to find a good place to put the book down and stop reading...A page-turner that shows what our reality would be if magic were a drug in our capitalist society." –*Kirkus*

"*Gossip Girl* meets *The Hunger Games* in this intoxicating and deadly fantasy romance." –*Readings*

"Set in a world where only the rich and powerful have access to magic, **THIS DREAM WILL DEVOUR US** is a captivating contemporary fantasy that blends a delightfully twisting plot with swoonworthy romance, and an exploration of celebrity and inequality. I adored this book and inhaled it in one sitting – an absolute page-turner!" –Vanessa Len, bestselling author of *Only a Monster*

"With biting wit and compelling characters, **THIS DREAM WILL DEVOUR US** is a dazzling debut – full of heart-racing romance, edge-of-your seat suspense and thrilling magic, all within a world that holds a gilded mirror to our own. Clancey will enchant you, challenge you, and leave you begging for more." –Mikayla Bridge, author of *Of Flame and Fury*

"Dark, deadly and decadent - prepare to stay up late to finish this one. Emma Clancey is a debut to watch." –Amie Kaufman, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Isles of the Gods*

"Lose yourself in this intoxicating world of decadent glamour and deadly secrets. You won't regret it." –Lili Wilkinson, award-winning author of *A Hunger of Thorns*

TALIA TUCKER

Talia Tucker (she/her) has spent her life investigating how identities shift and change between geographies, time, and cultures. Her Jamaican and Korean heritages inspire her to build worlds highlighting multiracial, queer, and neurodivergent characters of color within narratives that emphasize joy, something not typically centered in marginalized stories. She enjoys writing about messy women, soft boys, family, food, and trying to navigate the world as a child of multiple cultures. She is the author of *Rules for Rule Breaking* and *Solo Stan*. You can find her on Twitter and Instagram @taliatuck and on her website www.talia-tucker.com.

GHOSTED**Speculative****Feiwei and Friends/November 2026**

A darkly humorous story about a girl desperate for revenge against a boy who ghosts her, while trying to keep her sleep paralysis demon at bay and navigate her first serious crush on a girl—for fans of *The Ex Hex* and the *Scary Movie* franchise!

"Oh no. . . Did I hurt the big bad demon's feelings?"

Keziah is very familiar with the concept of ghosts—after all, a sleep paralysis demon has been her closest companion for the last few years. She's, unfortunately, also all-too-familiar with the concept of being ghosted. Which isn't helping her quest to secure a date for the Homecoming dance, to get her best friend off her back and help her bid for Homecoming queen. And then she meets a guy who just transferred to the all-boys school nearby. He's charming, cute, and—unlike with her other dates—she actually sees potential with him.

Too bad he ghosts her, too.

This time, though, she isn't going to take it so easily. Not when Guy and his friends mess with her real true love, Mr. Kim's food truck, and especially not when she finds out the real reason Guy transferred in the first place. If he wants to ghost, she'll haunt him right back to where he came from.

Enacting revenge while her sleep paralysis demon keeps bugging her certainly won't be easy but, with help from a cute girl, let the real (and well-deserved) ghosting begin!

A complete manuscript is available for submission and should be available for translation in Summer 2026.

DGB controls translation rights. Macmillan controls U.K. rights.

All rights are available.

JACKIE KHALILIEH

Jackie Khalilieh is the author of three young adult novels. *Something More*, her debut novel, was shortlisted for the Ruth & Sylvia Schwartz Award, as well as the Snow Willow Award, the Amy Mathers Teen Book Award and was selected for several Best of 2023 lists, including the New York Public Library and Audible Books Canada among others. As a Palestinian Canadian and late diagnosed autistic woman, she is passionate about positive representation within her writing—not to be confused with writing perfect characters. She resides just outside Toronto, Canada with her husband, two daughters and Samoyed, Pearl.

EVERYTHING COMES BACK TO YOU**Contemporary Romance****Tundra Books/August 2026**

Lennon has always tried to live up to her Palestinian Canadian father's exacting standards, even if her older sister hasn't, but when a crush on an older white boy develops into something more, she must find the strength to balance her own desires against her father's expectations.

I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter meets *The Sun Is Also a Star* in this new YA novel.

Lennon is excited and apprehensive about starting high school, where her older sister is going to be a senior. Then her sister drops a bombshell: she is pregnant. Her Palestinian Canadian parents are devastated, and Lennon finds herself under even more pressure to be a "good girl" – a role autistic Lennon has always played well. But after a chance encounter with John, a white boy in the grade above, Lennon finds herself nursing a crush on someone her parents would definitely not approve of—which only seems to intrigue her more.

As Lennon and John are drawn together and pulled apart throughout her four years of high school, Lennon wrestles with feelings of shame and yearning, obedience and rebellion through the lens of her autism, trying to both please her parents and herself. When a relationship with a different boy challenges her notions of family and happiness, her way forward becomes clear, even if it might mean losing everything and everyone she loves.

A complete manuscript is available for submission and should be available for translation

DGB controls translation rights. PRH Canada controls U.K. rights.

All rights are available.

| ~ | |
|--|---|
| YOU STARTED IT | Contemporary Romance |
| Tundra Books/May 2025 | |
| <p><i>Better Than the Movies</i> meets Olivia Rodrigo's <i>Sour</i> in a new YA romance novel from <i>Something More</i> author, Jackie Khalilieh.</p> <p>Seventeen-year-old Jamie Taher-Foster has big plans for senior year. She's made a list of things and places in Toronto she and her boyfriend of three years, Ben Cameron, need to check off before graduating. And the biggest plan of all: a very special night for the two of them at the upcoming Winter Formal. But then Ben arrives back home after a summer away with an unthinkable announcement: he wants to break up.</p> <p>And when Jamie discovers him with Olivia Chen the next day, she is determined to get him back. Even if that means fake dating the younger, curly-haired, TikTok dancer Axel Dahini, whose bicycle she accidentally ran over.</p> <p>Though she and Axel have nothing in common aside from their shared Arab heritage — she's a messy, type A with anxiety; he's carefree but meticulous — their forced time together brings them to better understand one another. And for Jamie, it just might mean learning that not all experiences or people need to be crossed off a list.</p> <p>"Khalilieh tackles relevant issues for teens, including self-discovery, strained family relationships, and learning to make healthy choices... YOU STARTED IT is a fun YA romance that would appeal to fans of Jenny Han or Nicola Yoon. It tackles relevant issues for teens and explores healthy ways to manage communication, relationships, and mental health." –<i>Diary of a Word Nerd</i></p> | <p>One of Indigo's Best Teen Books of 2025 A 2025 Indigo Best of the Year (So Far) A CBC Books Best Canadian Children's Book of 2025 An Indigo Most Anticipated Teen Book A JLG Gold Star Selection A Canadian Children's Book Centre Best Book for Teens, Fall 2025</p> <p>"Khalilieh creates an excellent balance between the complicated family relationships Jamie has with her mother and absentee father and some lighter comic moments of going on dates with Axel around their hometown of Toronto. With his golden retriever energy and loving Arab family, Axel shows Jamie how to try new things and embrace her identity in ways she never has before... Highly recommended for libraries diversifying their YA romance collections with more stories that focus on managing identity, disability, and mental health anxieties in positive ways. A sure delight for fans of authors like Tashie Bhuiyan and Farah Heron." –<i>School Library Journal</i>, starred review</p> <p>"Khalilieh explores heavier topics, including mental health and racism, in a deft manner that avoids heavy-handedness. Packed with intense moments, emotional drama, and lots of loving (and fraught) family moments, the book ultimately celebrates kindness and love. There's also a celebration of Palestinian heritage and a welcome inversion of negative stereotypes, especially about Arab men[.]" –<i>Kirkus</i></p> |
| <i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i> | |
| <i>DGB controls translation rights. PRH Canada controls U.K. rights.</i> | |
| <i>All rights are available.</i> | |
| ~ | |
| SOMETHING MORE | Contemporary Romance |
| Tundra Books/2024 | |
| <p>A contemporary teen romance novel, now available in paperback, featuring a Palestinian-Canadian girl trying to hide her autism diagnosis while navigating her first year of high school, for fans of Jenny Han and Samira Ahmed.</p> <p>Fifteen-year-old Jessie, a quirky loner obsessed with the nineties, is diagnosed as autistic just weeks before starting high school. Determined to make a fresh start and keep her diagnosis a secret, Jessie creates a list of goals that range from acquiring two distinct eyebrows to getting a magical first kiss and landing a spot in the school play. Within the halls of Holy Trinity High, she finds a world where things are no longer black and white and quickly learns that living in color is much more fun. But Jessie gets more than she bargained for when two very different boys steal her heart, forcing her to go off-script.</p> <p>Rights previously sold to Kobiece in Poland.</p> <p>"Compelling and so relatable, this unique YA romance is filled with memorable characters and vibrant prose. I loved watching Jessie's journey to accept that high school friendships, as well as first love, can</p> | <p>One of Audible Canada's Best of 2023 A New York Public Library Best Book for Teens for 2023 A CBC Best Canadian Book for Teens for 2023 One of Kids Committee List's Red Maple Fiction Readers Books for 2024</p> <p>"As an autistic person herself, Khalilieh presents readers with a genuine protagonist. Jessie's identity as the daughter of Palestinian immigrants is woven into the novel through cultural elements and brief explorations of Palestinian issues... [A]n enjoyable read that will have readers rooting for Jessie's success in love and life." –<i>Kirkus</i></p> <p>"Jessie's attempts to define herself within her school and home life are enhanced by Khalilieh's own experiences as an autistic Palestinian Canadian, imbuing Jessie's challenges with organic-feeling nuance and making for a fully realized protagonist. [A] thought-</p> |

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>be messy and unexpected, and still be so joyous. Jessie’s emotions and struggle to fit into a neurotypical world seem so authentic, and the author perfectly portrays feelings of teenage longing and yearning for connections. An essential book for YA autism representation." –Farah Heron, author of <i>Tahira in Bloom</i> and <i>Accidentally Engaged</i></p> <p>"Laugh-out-loud funny and heart-wrenching, Jessie Kassis has won my heart. For fans of Jenny Han and Helen Hoang, SOMETHING MORE has something for everyone." –Olivia Abtahi, author of <i>Perfectly Parvin</i></p> <p>"Hands down the best YA I’ve read in years! It was impossible to put down, bursting with charm, and I never wanted it to end. I dare you not to fall in love with Jessie!" –Lynn Painter, <i>NYT</i>-bestselling author of <i>Better Than the Movies</i></p> <p>"SOMETHING MORE is a funny, painfully relatable coming-of-age novel, but as its title suggests, it provides more than laughs with a uniquely nuanced portrait of an endearing protagonist whose trials in high school will remind readers of the power of self-love." –Aaron H. Aceves, author of <i>This Is Why They Hate Us</i></p> | <p>provoking and thoroughly entertaining debut that centers questions of identity via a fresh lens." – <i>Publishers Weekly</i></p> <p>"This is a genuine and heartwarming story of embracing being oneself that features a wide cast of characters and a neurodivergent protagonist. This book would be ideal for fans of the romance and coming-of-age genres." – Young Adulting</p> <p>"This is the best kind of YA romance, brimming with endearing adolescent awkwardness, bittersweet soul-searching, angsty emotions, and lovable, realistic characters. SOMETHING MORE is a warm, sweet, hope-filled portrayal of neurodivergence and coming of age that spoke deeply to my heart, as a grown woman who was once a confused, awkward (unbeknownst to her then) autistic girl, who’s learned, just as Jessie does, to understand and love her neurodivergent self. I adored it." –Chloe Liese, author of <i>Two Wrongs Make a Right</i></p> |
| <p><i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>DGB controls translation rights. PRH Canada controls U.K. rights.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>Rights Sold: Poland (Kobiece)</i></p> | |

CLAIRE M. ANDREWS

Claire M. Andrews was raised in both Alaska and Scotland, but currently lives in Vermont; when not writing, she can usually be found outside swimming, skiing, or hiking across the state’s famous green mountains. She is the author of *Daughter of Sparta*, *Blood of Troy*, *Storm of Olympus*, and the forthcoming **A BEAUTIFUL AND TERRIBLE MURDER**, and can be found on Instagram and Twitter at @cmandrewslit, or at her website, <https://clairemandrewsbooks.wordpress.com>.

The author’s Greek myth retelling trilogy sold in Czech (Slovart), Russian (AST), Slovak (Slovart), Spanish (Anaya), and Turkish (Yabancı).

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>A BEAUTIFUL AND TERRIBLE MURDER A LOVELY AND DEADLY DANCE</p> | <p>Historical Mystery</p> |
| <p>Little Brown Books for Young Readers/August 2025, August 2026</p> | |
| <p>Perfect for fans of <i>Stalking Jack the Ripper</i>, this historical murder mystery finds cunning Irene Adler teaming up with the mysterious Sherlock Holmes to discover who is murdering Oxford’s elite students in the All Souls class.</p> <p>The Victorian Era is reaching its apex, and the ancient hallways and corridors of Oxford teem with ghosts and secret societies. In Oxford’s All Souls College, Isaac Holland is pitted against the brightest of Britain’s young nobility for a seat among the prestigious school’s faculty and a coveted position in Queen Victoria’s court. Isaac finds the competition increasingly cutthroat and diabolical, but there are more pressing concerns. One, that someone—or something—is murdering Isaac’s fellow students, one by one, in ways more gruesome than the next. And two, that Isaac’s real name is actually Irene Adler.</p> <p>Determined to find out who’s responsible for these violent deaths, Irene—as Isaac—teams up with fellow classmate Sherlock Holmes to track down the murderer. But their mission grows increasingly dangerous, and keeping up her disguise gets trickier, as someone tries to frame Isaac for the murders, threatening her plan to get out from under the infamous James Moriarty’s thumb.</p> | <p>“In this gripping mystery, Andrews reinvents classically known and loved characters to bring a little bit of romance and a lot of mayhem to the halls of Oxford. Lovers of dark academia and historical mystery will absolutely devour this book.” –<i>Booklist</i></p> <p>“With fast-paced prose and a witty, likable hero, this work is a largely satisfying reimagining of <i>Sherlock Holmes</i>...The Oxford setting is a captivating backdrop, enhancing the story’s intrigue.” –<i>Kirkus Reviews</i></p> <p>“From the moment readers open this book to the moment it is closed, the adventure never stops... Staying true to the Holmes canon while inventing a background for Irene Adler, Holmes, Watson, and -Moriarty, Andrews pens a smart, witty, engaging, and fearless young woman who holds her own...Readers of <i>Sherlock Holmes</i>, <i>Enola Holmes</i>, and similar homage books will enjoy these younger versions of the characters as they struggle to uncover the mysterious deaths that may come too close for</p> |

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>A retelling of Arthur Conan Doyle’s beloved characters, A BEAUTIFUL AND TERRIBLE MURDER is the thrilling start to a duology full of twists and turns in the dark halls of Oxford.</p> <p>"With a fast-paced plot to match its quick-thinking heroine, readers will be racing towards the last page, desperate to solve the mystery first. Claire M. Andrews has reimagined Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's world with a modern mix of romance, intrigue, and a dash of the diabolical. It's a story with more twists and turns than a Victorian London alley, and the most fun I've had reading in a long while!" –Lauren J. A. Bear, author of <i>Mother of Rome</i></p> <p>"A BEAUTIFUL AND TERRIBLE MURDER has all the makings of a YA classic: a beloved literary heroine made anew, a thrilling mystery, a breathtaking romance, and a finale of break-neck twists. I would follow Claire M. Andrews' riveting version of Irene Adler anywhere!" –Kika Hatzopoulou, internationally bestselling author of <i>Threads That Bind</i></p> <p>"This book truly has it all: dark academia, a murder mystery, and romantic tension all skillfully woven into a historical context. The story is compelling and propulsive, the atmosphere so thick you can feel it. This is a Sherlock Holmes reimagining as you’ve never seen it before — spearheaded by an ambitious, competent young woman ahead of her time." –M. K. Lobb, author of <i>Seven Faceless Saints</i> and <i>To Steal From Thieves</i></p> | <p>comfort. This first book in a series sets the stage for more adventures.” –<i>School Library Journal</i></p> <p>“My favorite of her novels so far, Claire M. Andrews has written yet another compelling page-turner full of murder and intrigue. Irene is a wonderfully complex heroine, brilliant and headstrong, determined to prove herself, and impossible not to root for as she navigates the male dominated All Souls class and the dark and deadly hallways of Oxford. A BEAUTIFUL AND TERRIBLE MURDER will have you reading late into the night to discover the fate of Irene and her friends...and then desperately awaiting the sequel.” –Lillie Lainoff, author of <i>One for All</i></p> <p>“Irene Adler is a compelling protagonist with a burning secret — and on a mission to catch a murderer. A BEAUTIFUL AND TERRIBLE MURDER is a delightful read that plunges you into a mystery set at a supposedly haunted school full of adversaries and unlikely allies where no one is quite who they seem.” –Mackenzie Reed, author of <i>The Wilde Trials</i> and <i>The Rosewood Hunt</i></p> |
| <p><i>A complete manuscript of Book 1 and Book 2 are available for submission and translation.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>DGB controls translation rights. Hachette controls U.K. rights.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>All rights are available.</i></p> | |
| ~ | |
| <p>DAUGHTER OF SPARTA BLOOD OF TROY STORM OF OLYMPUS</p> | <p>Fantasy</p> |
| <p>Little, Brown Books for Young Readers/2021, 2022, 2023</p> | |
| <p><i>The Sparta you know will be gone forever on the bloody fields of Troy.</i></p> <p>A year after Daphne saved the powers of Olympus by defeating Nyx, the Goddess of Darkness, she’s haunted by still-looming threats, her complicated feelings for the god Apollo, and the promise she made to the Olympian gods that she would help them again when they called upon her. When their command comes, it is deceptively simple: secure herself a spot as one of Queen Helen’s guards. A war is coming, and all of Sparta must be prepared.</p> <p>In the midst of a treaty summit among the monarchs of Greece, Daphne and Helen uncover a plot of betrayal—and soon, a battle begins. As the kingdoms of Greece clash on the shores of Troy and the gods choose sides, Daphne must use her wits, her training, and her precarious relationship with Apollo to find a way to keep her queen safe, stop the war, and uncover the true reason the gods led her to Troy in this thrilling sequel to <i>Daughter of Sparta</i>.</p> <p>BLOOD OF TROY is one of Apple’s Most Anticipated Books for Fall.</p> <p>“It is hard to imagine a more compulsively readable book than DAUGHTER OF SPARTA...but Andrews has outdone herself with BLOOD OF TROY. Daphne is a stubborn, ambitious gem in a myth-spun tale full of glittering royalty, shining gods, and secrets that threaten to topple them all. The burning question I am left with? How will I—I mean readers—manage to wait for the trilogy’s final installment?” –Lillie Lainoff, author of <i>One For All</i></p> | <p>Praise for <i>Blood of Troy</i>:</p> <p>“...the whole of the Pantheon, spurned lover Apollo included, now demands her obedience, and unfortunately, each god seems to want something different from Daphne. She finds herself fighting not only to protect Helen but to save herself from gods both evil and neutral. This solid follow-up to <i>Daughter of Sparta</i> (2021) effectively stands alone. The gods are well characterized, and Daphne remains strong and staunch throughout. Hand to teens who can’t wait for more of Daniel José Older’s <i>Ballad & Dagger</i> series.” – <i>Booklist</i></p> <p>“Andrews’s writing and worldbuilding run closer to the Homeric epic than other retellings, while abandoning the traditional story of Helen’s abduction and giving the women more agency. This myth-infused adventure grounded in historical details is recommended for all YA collections.” – <i>School Library Journal</i></p> <p>“Free of vanity, indifferent to the male gaze, and portrayed without objectification, Daphne’s the compelling hero of an epic that is closer in tone to its Homeric source than to many pop-culture iterations. Abandoning the traditional <i>casus belli</i>—</p> |

| | |
|--|--|
| "Spectacular storytelling! BLOOD OF TROY is an action-packed sequel that brings a new twist to a classic tale. Daphne, Helen, and Apollo provide surprises at every turn. Don't miss this series!" –Carly Heath, author of <i>The Reckless Kind</i> | Helen's beauty and abduction—Andrews grants her agency, too...A vivid, riveting sequel." – <i>Kirkus</i> starred review |
|--|--|

Complete manuscripts of Books 1-3 are available for submission and translation.

DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.

Rights Sold: Czech Republic (Slovart); Russia (AST); Slovakia (Slovart); Spain (Anaya); Turkey (Yabancı)

KIKA HATZOPOULOU

Kika Hatzopoulou is the bestselling author of *Threads That Bind*, its sequel, *Hearts That Cut*, and the forthcoming standalone fantasy, *Moth Dark*. *Threads That Bind* was a *Sunday Times* bestseller, a CYBILS Young Adult Speculative Fiction winner, a Redbridge Children's Book Award winner, a Locus Awards Top Ten Finalist, a Barnes and Noble Young Adult Book Club pick, and selected as a monthly pick by the book boxes OwlCrate and Fairyloot. It was also a Best Book of the Year at *School Library Journal*, Book Riot, and Brightly. She is a native Greek and current Londoner and holds an MFA in writing for children from the New School. In her free time, she enjoys urban quests and gastronomical adventures while narrating entire book and movie plots with her partner. You can find her at kikahatzopoulou.com.

The author's previous books have sold in: France (La Martiniere), Greece (Patakis), Hungary (Konyvmolykepzo), Italy (Giunti), Poland (Uroboros), Russia (MIF), Spain (Nocturna), Turkey (Olimpos), and Ukraine (Fabula).

MOTH DARK

Romantasy

Putnam Books for Young Readers/October 2025

Sascia has always loved the Dark. Six years ago, when the world she knew collided with the Dark, she found it thrilling rather than terrifying. Now, she spends her days studying Darkcreatures or seeking them out in the shadows where they thrive.

Then, one day, she—impossibly—pulls a person from the Dark. A person who shouldn't exist. And they're here to kill her: Nugau, the heir to the Darkworld, claims to be delivering a sentence for Sascia's betrayal in a battle she's never heard of, in a war that hasn't happened.

Sascia escapes with her life—barely. But tensions are brewing between her world and the Dark, and it's not long before she discovers that she and Nugau are bound together by forces they don't understand. As they grow closer, crossing worlds and timelines, they realize that they must choose between ensuring the safety of their own kinds and fighting for peace the hard way—and in doing so, fighting for each other.

"Beautifully written and deeply compelling—**MOTH DARK** is an absolute triumph of a book. Kika Hatzopoulou masterfully weaves together an engaging, unexpected plot with the kind of swoon-worthy romance that spans worlds and timelines. Sascia and Nugau's story will leave you sobbing and desperate to read it all over again. I was hooked from the very start." –Pascale Lacelle, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Curious Tides*

"Hatzopoulou at her very best. A unique and fantastical story threaded with a compulsive mystery. A feast for YA romantasy readers." –Rachel Greenlaw, author of *Compass and Blade*

"**MOTH DARK** is an achingly hopeful, breathtaking love story and an ode to kindness and compassion. It's the sort

One of *Book Riot*'s "8 Lush New YA Romantasy Reads"
One of *Reactor*'s Notable YA Sci-Fi/Fantasy for 2025

"A dimension-crossing, time-twisting romantasy." –*Publishers Weekly*

"...[D]eftly addresses timely topics, such as war profiteering, climate change, and cycles of violence. The supporting characters, both elves and Sascia's family members and friends at the Umbra, are well developed...An engaging urban fantasy with an important message." –*Kirkus Reviews*

"Hatzopoulou's vivid imagery builds this urban fantasy into an anti-war tract that centers the importance of courageous choice over fearful instinct...For readers wanting court intrigue and magic against a modern backdrop." –*Booklist*

"With an incandescent love story that lights up the Dark and an intricately-crafted otherworld at the edge of our own that feels compellingly real, Hatzopoulou makes a blazing mark in the world of contemporary romantic fantasy. Utterly exhilarating, mysteriously alluring, and deeply beautiful." –Amélie Wen Zhao, *New York Times* and internationally bestselling author of *The Scorpion and the Night Blossom*

"A lush, breathtaking, and wholly unique fantasy, with a devastating star-crossed romance and a world that lifts off the page like a fluttering of moths. I was entranced." –Ava Reid, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *A Study in Drowning*

"Utterly enthralling and darkly whimsical, **MOTH DARK** is a thrill ride of a book, bringing a much-needed breath of fresh air to the YA genre with its tale of twisted timelines and unyielding love. Tender and fierce in equal measures, Sascia and Nugau's story is certain to stay with you long after the book is over." –A.B. Poranek, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Where the Dark Stands Still*

of book you want to linger in the dark with, and I absolutely loved every moment sunk within its pages.” – Bea Fitzgerald, author of *Girl, Goddess, Queen*

“Kika Hatzopoulou has crafted an enthrallingly original world, and an addictively intriguing story. The romance had me on the edge of my seat – falling for each other in nonlinear time is my new favourite trope. I miss this world already.” –Esmie Jikiemi-Pearson, author of *The Principle Moments*

"This is the most transportive book I've read in a long time. At once dark, engrossing, and enchanting, Hatzopoulou has crafted a multi-faceted jewel of a book. This story is resplendent, with complex world-building, achingly lovely writing, and a tough-as-nails heroine I couldn't help but love. **MOTH DARK** is perfect for fans of Laini Taylor and Holly Black." –Claire M. Andrews, author of *A Beautiful and Terrible Murder* and the *Daughter of Sparta* trilogy

“One of the most wildly weirdly original books I have read in a long time. I was absolutely gripped by the fascinating, twisty, world of **MOTH DARK**. And Sascia was the perfect compellingly flawed heroine with whom to plunge into the Dark. Kika Hatzopoulou spins a story full of complex theories around genetics, time and gender with such deftly confident writing that I found myself being happily led through the book like Theseus following Ariadne's thread.” –Alwyn Hamilton, author of *Rebel of the Sands*

“Decadent darkness, parallel words and a love that crosses so many boundaries. A unique fantasy that draws you in and doesn't let you go.” –Natasha Bowen, author of *Skin of the Sea*

"Darkly dreamy, timely, and expertly crafted, **MOTH DARK** is a bittersweet love letter to the wondrous and the inexplicable. Within the strange beauty of the Darkworld, you will find star-crossed romance, a heady blend of science and magic, and brilliant characters determined to end the cycle of violence. I cannot recommend it highly enough!" –Allison Saft, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *Wings of Starlight*

“I was utterly entranced by **MOTH DARK** and the gorgeous story of the ethereal Darkworld bleeding into ours. Sascia and Nugau’s connection is mesmerizing, and their love story both aches and captivates – tender and totally unforgettable.” –Leslie Vedder, author of *The Bone Spindle*

“For fans of *Daughter of Smoke and Bone*, **MOTH DARK** is wildly imaginative, achingly romantic and impossible to put down. Get ready, readers: your next book obsession has arrived.” –Angela Montoya, author of *A Cruel Thirst*

“Captivating, intricately crafted and brimming with wonder, **MOTH DARK** pulls its readers into a deeply romantic, time-tangled tale that feels, fittingly, timeless. As poignant as it is powerful, this story lingers with you far beyond the final page.” –Kiera Azar, author of *Thorn Season*

“**MOTH DARK** is everything I’ve come to expect from Kika Hatzopoulou – dark, twisty, romantic and completely, dazzlingly original. Unlike anything else I’ve read.” –Sarah Underwood, author of *Lies We Sing to the Sea*

“Kika Hatzopoulou has once again crafted a world so unique and addictive that I devoured this in a matter of days. I love how gender fluidity was explored in the Darkworld, and Kika’s take on Fae is both dark and incredibly fun. Whimsical prose and a slow burning romance unlike any I’ve read before made Sascia and Nugau’s story a new favourite.” –Alexandra Christo, author of *To Kill a Kingdom*

A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.
DGB controls translation rights. Putnam controls U.K. rights.
Rights Sold: Germany (Loewe)

| | |
|--|----------------|
| THREADS THAT BIND HEARTS THAT CUT | Fantasy |
|--|----------------|

Razorbill/2023 and 2024

In a world where the gods are long dead, a descendant of the Greek Fates must solve a series of impossible murders to save her sisters, her soul mate, and her city.

Descendants of the Fates are always born in threes: one to weave, one to draw, and one to cut the threads that connect people to the things they love and to life itself. The Ora sisters are no exception. Io, the youngest, uses her Fate-born abilities as a private investigator in the half-sunken city of Alante.

But her latest job leads her to a horrific discovery: somebody is abducting women, maiming their life-threads, and setting the resulting wraiths loose in the city to kill. To find the culprit, she must work alongside Edei

2023 CYBILS Award Winner in Young Adult Speculative Fiction
 A Junior Library Guild Selection
 Goodreads Choice Award Nominee in the Best Young Adult Fantasy & Science Fiction Category

“Io’s personal evolution, like the Moirae’s silver threads, is woven seamlessly into the complicated plot...Io’s world has an epic thematic scope and an intricately imagined setting...Enticing and original.” – *Kirkus on Hearts That Cut*

“A novel that will leave every type of fantasy reader greatly entertained.” –*New York Times on Threads That Bind*

Rhuna, the right hand of the infamous Mob Queen—and the boy with whom she shares a rare fate-thread linking them as soul mates before they have even met.

The investigation turns personal when Io's estranged oldest sister turns up on the arm of Io's best suspect. Amid unveiled secrets from her past and her growing feelings for Edei, Io must follow clues through the city's darkest corners and unearth a conspiracy that involves some of the city's most powerful players—before destruction comes to her own doorstep.

The author has prepared a video to introduce the book, which can be found here: <https://youtu.be/VR523r0Ixjg>

THREADS THAT BIND was featured on *The Nerd Daily's* "The Most Anticipated 2023 Book Releases", *Culturess*, *Distractify*, *Reader's Digest*, *Gizmodo*, *Tor.com*, *SheReads*, *Forever Young Adult*, *Popsugar*, *Book Riot*, *The Mary Sue*, *Goodreads*, *Barnes & Noble*, and more. Interviewed by *Geeks Out* and the *Shit We've Read* podcast. Featured in the *New York Times* as one of 6 Myth Reimaginings and Retellings for Young Adults.

THREADS THAT BIND was a Best of 2023 for *School Library Journal*, *BookRiot*, *Locus Magazine*, *Tor.com*, *Brightly*, and *The AU Review*; a 2024 Locus Awards First Novel Top Ten Finalist, winner of the Redbridge Teenage Book Award, a nominee for the 2024 Massachusetts Teen Choice Book Award, and a 2025 TAYSHAS Reading List selection.

HEARTS THAT CUT was featured on *Reactor's* "Most Anticipated Young Adult Sci-Fi Fantasy/Horror for May & June 2024", *Barnes & Noble's* Most Anticipated YA Books for June 2024, *Publishers Weekly's* Noteworthy Sequels for June 2024, *Honey Pop*, and *The Nerd Daily*.

"Dripping with atmosphere and edged with danger, *Threads That Bind* weaves together a gorgeous dark tapestry of mystery, fated romance, and modern myth. You won't be able to put this one down." —Alexandra Bracken, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Lore*

Complete manuscripts are available for submission and translation.

DGB controls translation rights. Razorbill controls U.K. rights.

Rights Sold: France (La Martinière); Greece (Patakis); Hungary (Konyvmolykepzo); Italy (Giunti); Poland (Uroboros); Russia (Mann, Ivanov & Ferber); Spain (Nocturna); Turkey (Olimpos); Ukraine (Fabula)

ANNA-MARIE McLEMORE

Anna-Marie McLemore (they/them) is the author of *The Weight of Feathers*, *Wild Beauty*, *Blanca & Roja*, *Dark and Deepest Red*, *Lakelore*, *Venom & Vow* (co-authored with Elliott McLemore), *Flawless Girls*, and National Book Award longlist selections *When the Moon Was Ours*, *The Mirror Season*, and *Self-Made Boys: A Great Gatsby Remix*. They have received the Michael L. Printz Award, a Stonewall Honor, the Otherwise Award, three Northern California Book Awards, and an Américas Honor.

The author's previous books have been published in Italy (Newton Compton), Poland (Kobiece), Spain and Argentina (Urano and Planeta), and Turkey (Marti and Ithaki).

WE COULD BE ANYONE

Speculative Thriller

Feiwei & Friends/May 2026

"Epic and insightful, this adventure makes for a fun and heartrending page-turner." —*School Library Journal* on *Hearts That Cut*

"Kika Hatzopoulou's **HEARTS THAT CUT** reimagines Greek mythology in a tale about making true choices, sacrificing love, and changing the world." —*The Honey Pop*

"**HEARTS THAT CUT** is everything I want in a sequel! In this spellbinding return to the climate-ravaged world of the other-born, Kika Hatzopoulou delivers a high-stakes, page-turning mystery with an utterly gasp-worthy twist."—Leslie Vedder, author of *The Bone Spindle*

"**HEARTS THAT CUT** is a captivating, confident return to the fantastical—and utterly original—world established in *Threads that Bind*. Every word is essential, every sentence sings; I would read Kika's shopping lists at this point, but I'm so so glad I got this instead. A must-read for all Greek Mythology and fantasy fans." —Sarah Underwood, *NYT* bestselling author of *Lies We Sing to the Sea*

"Hatzopoulou braids many plot lines together to create her dystopian world, deftly weaving a gripping narrative about class, self-determination, and generational trauma. With vivid and compelling writing, the narrative immerses readers in a unique world on the edge of ruin and an achingly slow romance..." —*School Library Journal*, **starred review** of *Threads That Bind*

"Sizzling romance and action-packed sequences set against an intriguing plot plagued by political corruption and conspiracy build to a dynamic pace. The postapocalyptic mythos adds flair to the dark and mysterious premise, and intersectionally diverse characters round out this richly detailed adventure." —*Publishers Weekly*, **starred review** of *Threads That Bind*

"A novel that will leave every type of fantasy reader greatly entertained" —Deborah Crossland for the *New York Times*

"That sharp, judgmental gaze of the private investigator fits a member of the Fate family perfectly. The ability to see where the threads lead becomes a heady magic system, but it also gets Io into endless trouble. Just because you're related to the origin of fate doesn't mean you're immune to it. The books are both fun romps and meditations on what is predestined." —*People*

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>Two teen con-artists must execute an almost impossible scam at an exclusive mansion in this thriller that's <i>White Lotus</i> meets <i>Mexican Gothic</i> - for teens.</p> <p>“Lola and I grew up hearing that we could become anything, but our parents hadn’t meant it the way gringo parents did. They meant it as a warning.”</p> <p>Lola and Lisandro are actors during Hollywood’s Golden Age, but you won’t see them on any silver screen. Instead, these siblings use their talents to scam the rich and famous out of their ill-begotten cash. They have their act down to a science: Lola plays the tragic ghost who haunts the mansions of the wealthy, and Lisandro plays the brave spiritualist who will help her soul find peace. For a small fee, of course.</p> <p>The siblings have their sights set on their next target: The Coterie, the opulent estate of newspaper tycoon Bixby Fairfax and his famous mistress Blythe Bell. A score this big will allow them to move... well, anywhere but here. But this job requires them to do something they’ve never done before: switch roles. And as strange things keep happening at The Coterie... things that even Lola and Lisandro can’t explain.</p> <p>As they are drawn deeper into The Coterie’s gleaming façade and tensions rise between brother and sister, one question looms over them. Will they be able to pull off their act? Or will this be their last performance?</p> | <p>“McLemore’s latest novel for young adults may be their best, elegantly weaving together the threads that define their work: magical realism, mythology, and queer acceptance... Through vivid, poetic dual narration, McLemore crafts a story rich with allusion to mythical tales of metamorphosis and transformation, using these archetypes that frequently end in tragedy as a framework for the characters to grow beyond the constraints of society and seize upon their own power.” – <i>School Library Journal</i>, starred review</p> <p>“Via lived-in-feeling and fully fleshed-out alternating perspectives, McLemore infuses a cathartic revenge tale with allusions to Ovid’s <i>Metamorphoses</i> and Nahuatl folklore. Balancing depictions of searing rage and the costs of unfettered greed against a gorgeously rendered backdrop enriched by instances of queer love and acceptance, lush prose and deft character writing intertwine for a spectacular offering.” – <i>Publishers Weekly</i>, starred review</p> <p>“McLemore once again demonstrates their incredible ability to build out tales of naturalistic magical realism... the siblings’ stories wield distinct voices that effectively converge as secrets are revealed. Supporting characters Embry and Hayden are delightful foils to Lisandro and Lola respectively, adding layers of nuance beyond romance. And of course, there is a signature queer throughline to the tale, ultimately celebrating the power of queer joy and community.” – <i>Booklist</i>, starred review</p> |
| <p><i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>All rights are available.</i></p> | |
| <p>~</p> | |
| <p>FLAWLESS GIRLS</p> | <p>Horror</p> |
| <p>Feiweil & Friends/2024</p> | |
| <p>The Soler sisters are infamous in polite society—brazen, rebellious, and raised by their fashionable grandmother who couldn’t care less about which fork goes where. But their grandmother also knows the standards that two Latina young ladies will be held to, so she secures them two coveted places at the Alarie House, a prominent finishing school that turns out first ladies, princesses, and socialites.</p> <p>Younger sister Isla is back home within a day. She refuses to become one of the eerily sweet Alarie girls in their prim white dresses. Older sister Renata stays. When she returns months later, she’s unflinchingly pleasant, unnervingly polite, and, Isla discovers, possibly murderous. And the same night she returns home, she vanishes.</p> <p>As their grandmother uses every connection she has to find Renata, Isla re-enrolls, intent on finding out what happened to her sister. But the Alarie House is as exacting as it is opulent. It won’t give up its secrets easily, and neither will a mysterious, conniving girl who’s either controlling the house, or carrying out its deadly orders.</p> | <p>Featured on Rise: A Feminist Book Project List for 2025</p> <p>“FLAWLESS GIRLS splits storied notions of proper femininity—and gender itself—apart at the seams in an exemplary portrait of learning to express oneself. The horror in the book lies in the house's absurd beauty, in the girls' untamed nights never discussed by day, in unreal fragments of experience that deflect Isla's questions. McLemore's signature prose both cuts like ice and rolls languidly off the tongue.” – <i>Shelf Awareness</i>, starred review</p> <p>“This novel, which has a strongly gothic mood, gets off to a strong start... The book also has excellent representation of an intersex character, an element that further interrogates “what it means to be a girl, much less the right kind of girl.” A chaotic fever dream that will evoke strong responses from readers.” – <i>Kirkus</i></p> <p>“McLemore expertly layers dreamlike descriptions to craft the otherworldly, gothic atmosphere in which this sensitive portrait of an intersex person unfolds. Mixing horror and fantasy, the deftly woven plot simmers...” – <i>Publishers Weekly</i></p> <p>“As eerie and twisted as a delirium dream, this dark academia from award-winning author McLemore explores the pressures put on women to be perfect and what happens when those pressures become too much.” – <i>Booklist</i></p> |

| | |
|---|---|
| Tautly written, tense, and evocative, this is a stunning YA novel by award-winning and critically acclaimed author Anna-Marie McLemore. | “An unusual tale that drips with twisted glamour...Unsettling and packed with sparkly detail, this book is perfect for gothic-literature and period-piece fans who are eager for a much-needed update in representation.”— <i>Horn Book</i> |
| <i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i> | |
| <i>DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.</i> | |
| <i>All rights are available.</i> | |

ANNA-MARIE McLEMORE and ELLIOTT McLEMORE

Anna-Marie McLemore (they/them) writes magical realism and fairy tales that are as queer, Latine, and nonbinary as they are.

Elliott McLemore is a nonbinary trans guy who comes from mountains and loves trees. As a child, he romped in dresses, fought with plastic swords, and dreamed up his first stories. Between then and now, he has focused on academic and professional writing, research, and advocacy, including work toward adding nonbinary gender markers to California identity documents. *Venom & Vow* is his debut novel.

Anna-Marie McLemore’s previous books have sold in Argentina (Planeta), Italy (Newton Compton), Poland (Kobiece), Spain (Duermevela, Urano), and Turkey (Ithaki, Marti).

VENOM & VOW

Fantasy

Feiwel & Friends/2023

Keep your enemy closer.

Cade McKenna is a transgender prince who doubles for his brother Patrick, current ruler of Adare.

Valencia Palafox is a young dama to the princess of Eliana, and also an infamous boy assassin known as Gael.

Valencia has made Patrick her newest target, not knowing that the first time she meets him, she’s really meeting Cade.

Cade has placed Gael under his protection, not knowing that Gael has fatal plans for the Adare prince.

And when Cade and Valencia blame each other for an enchantment that takes both their families, neither of them realizes that they have far more dangerous enemies—and working together starts to draw them closer, something they never imagined was possible.

From married writing team Anna-Marie and Elliott McLemore comes a lush YA novel about owning your power and becoming who you really are.

One of *Book Riot’s* 10 SFF Books Out in May 2023 You Don’t Want to Miss

“Val and Cade are incredibly layered, and they complement each other so well, which makes it fun to watch their relationship unfold. Both Cade and Val have disabilities that are interwoven beautifully into every aspect of the story...Both of their trans identities and relevant personal journeys are well written and add dimension to their romantic relationship. Enemies-to-lovers romances rarely offer this much emotional depth, and fans of the trope will find a lot to love about this coauthored romantic YA fantasy.”—*Booklist*, **starred review**

“The authors gorgeously depict two very different kingdoms...Heart-pounding combat scenes center the protagonists’ physicality, giving realistic weight to their respective disabilities and chronic pain while showing their bodies as capable and their mobility aids as integrated parts of their lives. The worldbuilding is reminiscent of Isabel Ibañez, and readers hoping for more of McLemore’s signature sensitive treatment of trans and genderfluid characters will definitely want to pick this up.”—*BCCB*

“Much flirty fighting and banter ensue, making this a perfect choice for readers who prefer a heavy dose of romance with their fantasy. The kingdoms of Eliana and Adare are also beautifully described with poetic imagery and language steeped in Irish Gaelic and Aztec culture, respectively...the authentic representation and romance make this a great choice for fans of A.R. Capetta and Aiden Thomas.”—*School Library Journal*

A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.

DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.

Rights Sold: Poland (Kobiece)

KOSOKO JACKSON

Kosoko Jackson is the author of YA novels championing holistic representation of Black queer youth across genres, including *Yesterday Is History* and *Survive the Dome*. He also writes adult fiction and works as a digital media specialist focusing on digital storytelling and email, social, and SMS marketing. His work has also been featured on Medium, Thought Catalog, and the *Advocate* and in several literary magazines. He lives in New York, New York, and you can visit his website at kosokojackson.com.

LADY OF WIDOWSREST

Speculative Thriller

Quill Tree Books/February 2027

For Danny Wilmer, the past sixteen years of his life have been plagued with trauma. From the brutal, unexplained suicide of his father three years ago, to his mother buckling under the grief, leading to him being sent to his aunt and uncles in Virginia. And his older sister, Sydney, disappeared after their father's death, with only sporadic contact. He's looking forward to college in 2 years, where he hopes to start over.

But when his mother comes to him in a dream, and then Sydney reaches out to pick him up, confirming their mother passed, it feels like trauma has found the Wilmer family once again. Perhaps, as Sydney suggests, returning home to sell the family home will be a way for them to move on - the money they get from the plantation home won't hurt either.

Yet when Sydney and Danny return and realize their family home has additional residents — the Matthews family, renters of half the home to help their mother pay the mortgage — selling the house isn't as cut and dry as Sydney and Danny hoped. Not only that, but something strange is happening at the house. Not only does Danny have visions of a life he never lived, but he's also speaking to ancestors of his past with clues about what really happened to their father.

And, perhaps strangest of all, Maria Matthews is starting to show the same symptoms Danny and Sydney's father did before his death—paranoia, sleepless nights, and most of all, bouts of rage and violence. Time is running out to keep Maria from suffering the same fate as his father. And though no doctor or psychologist can solve it, Danny knows the answer lies in the Plantation's past, and the curse that has been bound to his family for generations.

A curse Danny might not be strong enough to break, even with his sister's help.

Praise for Kosoko Jackson:

“A gruesome modern fairy tale like this bloody, romantic tale gets its claws in you right from the start. I loved it.”—Hannah Whitten, *New York Times* bestselling author of *For the Wolf*

“In this nonstop roller coaster of suspense and intrigue, Jackson has crafted a tale rife with terrifying thrills, a perfectly ominous setting, and a healthy dose of heart.”—Kalynn Bayron, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Cinderella Is Dead*

“Sharp, visceral, and altogether stunning, *The Forest Demands Its Due* will haunt you long after the last page.”—Sasha Peyton Smith, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Witch Haven* and *The Witch Hunt*

“Readers will revel in the atmospheric prose and determined protagonist. Jackson pulls no punches, crafting a book that captivates and thrills.”—Emily Lloyd-Jones, bestselling author of *The Drowned Woods*

“Exhilarating. The pulse-pounding twists, riveting premise, and the enticing character dynamics formed amid intriguing magical troubles ensure that readers will want to follow along to the end.” —*Publishers Weekly*

A complete manuscript is available for submission and should be available for translation in late 2026.

DGB controls translation rights. Harper controls U.K. rights.

All rights are available.

THE FOREST DEMANDS ITS DUE

Horror

Quill Tree Books/2023

Regent Academy has a long and storied history in the small town of Winslow, Vermont. But so does the vast forest that surrounds its campus. While the school is known for molding teens into world leaders, its history is far more nefarious—and even more entangled with the forest—than anyone would suspect.

Seventeen-year-old Douglas wants nothing to do with Regent's king-making; he's just trying to forget his past and survive his present. But then a student is killed and no one remembers him ever existing, except for Douglas and the groundskeeper's son, Everett. As Douglas begins to research what he finds to be a centuries-long curse, he and Everett awaken a horror hidden within the forest. To save the town, and the school, the forest is demanding more blood as payment. But will Douglas and Everett be able to pay that debt?

Critically acclaimed author Kosoko Jackson explores how power can—and will—corrupt absolutely and how cycles of violence are perpetuated throughout history in this high-octane, page-turning dark academia mystery of murder and magic.

THE FOREST DEMANDS ITS DUE was featured in NPR's "5 YA books for fall that give academia vibes."

A *USA Today* Bestseller the week of release!

“Jackson digs deep to weave together an exploration of generational trauma, moral corruption, and the power that comes from letting go of the past. Jackson's novel is a fantastical, queer, grotesque, messy story that fans of dark academia and horror will love.”—*Booklist*, **starred review**

“This satisfying and suspenseful genre-bender delivers an uplifting gay romance: It's the perfect choice for fans of high-intensity action, surprising twists, and fantastically frightening creatures. A bold addition to queer dark academia stories.”—*Kirkus*

“Jackson's forest ripples with misery and power...Douglas is an effective narrator...A measured pace gives readers a chance to absorb the complexity of the characters as they are introduced, allowing ghosts, humans, or monsters to slot in where they belong...memorable.”—*BCCB*

“The book shines in developing compelling motivations for its central characters...The action and suspense are a good fit for fans of both horror and dark academia...A solid choice.” –*School Library Journal*

A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.

DGB controls translation rights. Harper controls U.K. rights.

All rights are available.

ADRIENNE TOOLEY

Adrienne Tooley is the author of *The Third Daughter*; *Sweet & Bitter Magic*; as well as the Indie Next List selection *Soft and the Bone Song*. *The Third Daughter* was a Read with Jenna Summer Reading List Selection. In addition to writing books, she is a singer-songwriter and has released several EPs which are available on Spotify & other streaming sites. Adrienne, her wife, and their dog live in Brooklyn.

THERE ARE GHOSTS HERE

Speculative

Delacorte/August 2026

Willa has no memory of anything before arriving at Dorsey House, and when she meets two sinister girls who seem to already know her, she slowly begins to lose her grip on what is real. . .and what is a lie. A haunting contemporary speculative thriller for fans of *Kill Creatures* and *We Were Liars*.

Willa Childs doesn't know why she's at Dorsey House. The tragic accident that banished her to the mysterious reformatory perched at the edge of the sea is lost in the recesses of her murky memory. The Dorseys themselves offer no answers, and the only other wards, Caroline and Ivy, seem intent on keeping Willa in the dark—and on the outside of their obsessive friendship.

Yet as the days pass, it begins to feel like the sinister twosome know Willa better than she knows herself. And as her memories gradually return to focus, the girls become even stranger, doing their best to convince Willa that she's been at Dorsey House before. Only, that's impossible.

Or is it? If they're telling the truth, Willa can no longer trust her own mind. The line between reality and nightmare begins to blur. Willa is certain Dorsey House is haunted, but by what? And if she can't remember leaving, how will she ever escape?

“Adrienne Tooley has written a razor-sharp fever dream of a book. Both staggeringly beautiful and deeply unsettling, **THERE ARE GHOSTS HERE** weaves elements of grief, girlhood, and self-worth into an evocative seaside horror that kept me awake well into the night.” –Kelly Andrew, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Your Blood, My Bones*

“As haunting as it is healing, **THERE ARE GHOSTS HERE** will stay with you long after you close its sea-soaked pages. I couldn't put it down.” –Trang Thanh Tran, *New York Times* bestselling author of *She Is a Haunting*

“No one does haunting prose like Adrienne Tooley. **THERE ARE GHOSTS HERE** is as breathtaking as it is insidious. Brackish as olive brine and smooth as a silk bow, Tooley's foray into horror is a must-read for fans of Rory Power, Kelly Andrew, and Ava Reid.” –Clare Edge, author of *Natural Selection*

“**THERE ARE GHOSTS HERE** is an intimate, affecting exploration of trauma, mental health, and abandonment. For Willa Childs, everything at Dorsey House is elusive: her memories of the fire that still burns on her skin, a friendship with the prickly codependent girls who share the home, and the relentless secrets of the ocean's taunting tide. Tooley's ethereal, devastating prose left me gasping for air; this is a story I will return to again and again.” –Jen St. Jude, author of *If Tomorrow Doesn't Come*

A complete manuscript is available for submission and should be available for translation in Spring 2026.

DGB controls translation rights. PRH controls U.K. rights.

All rights are available.

HANNAH V. SAWYERR

Hannah V. Sawyerr was recognized as the Youth Poet Laureate of Baltimore in 2016. Her debut novel in verse *All the Fighting Parts* was recognized as a William C. Morris Debut Award finalist, a Walter Dean Myers Award Honoree, a Rise Feminist Book Project Top Ten Title, and a Kirkus Best Book of the Year. Her spoken word has been featured on the BBC's *World Have Your Say* program as well as the National Education Association's "Do You Hear Us?" campaign. Her written word has been included in *Essence*, xoNecole, and gal-dem. She holds a BA in English from Morgan State University and an MFA in Creative Writing from The New School.

TRUTH IS

Literary Fiction

Amulet/September 2025

Finalist for the 2025 National Book Awards in Young People's Literature

A *LA Times* Book Prize Finalist!
A *Kirkus* Best Book of 2025
A *Horn Book* Best Book of 2025
A *Publishers Weekly* 2025 Best Young Adult

From the critically acclaimed author of *All the Fighting Parts* comes an empowering and defiant novel in verse in which a teen poet grapples with an unplanned pregnancy and determines what happens to her body in a world that wants to take the choice away from her.

Seventeen-year-old Truth Bangura wants nothing more than to know a life beyond her hometown. Writing and performing is her only solace in a life overwhelmed by a drifting relationship with her best friend, an emotionally turbulent home environment, and the reality that her below average grades make her true dream—escaping her mother’s grasp after graduation—uncertain.

When Truth learns she’s pregnant by her ex-boyfriend, she makes one decision she’s finally sure about: an abortion.

Determined to move forward, Truth turns to the pages in her notebook with the support of her slam poetry team—including the poet with a voice smooth as summer jazz, who’s been catching her eye during practice.

At an open mic night, Truth finally gains the courage to perform a piece that dives into her rocky relationship with her mother—and reveals the choice she never told her. But when a video of Truth’s performance is posted online and starts going viral, her decision quickly becomes everyone’s business—including her mother’s.

Told through searing free-verse, journal entries, and interspersed fill-in-the-blank poetry prompts, Hannah V. Sawyerr’s *Truth Is* reminds us there is always a choice. There is always hope. And there is always a way forward.

A Chicago Public Library Must Read of 2025
A *Book Riot* Best Book of the Year

"Sawyerr (*All The Fighting Parts*) combines fast-paced, unwavering verse poems with text messages, social media transcripts, and more in this stunning portrait of a teen in transition that earns all the snaps." —*Publishers Weekly*, **starred review**

"Sawyerr’s sophomore novel uses the verse format stunningly to highlight the complexities woven into each of Truth’s authentic and compelling relationships. The book deftly addresses restrictive policies related to abortion access while prioritizing Truth’s talent, goals, and growth in a humanizing and inspirational way...An unforgettable, dynamic, and emotionally resonant novel in verse." —*Kirkus Reviews*, **starred review**

"[P]ortrayed authentically with flaws and hope. Empowering and fierce..." —*Booklist*, **starred review**

"Former Baltimore youth poet laureate Sawyerr offers a realistic glimpse into issues surrounding abortion access, choice, and determination in a lyrical way. A timely read for teens navigating identity, autonomy, and self-expression." —*Horn Book*, **starred review**

"Sawyerr presents a stark look at how the oversimplification of an issue like abortion ignores the reality of people who do not have the choices so many imagine there to be." —*School Library Journal*

A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.

DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.

All rights are available.

ERIK J. BROWN

Erik J. Brown (he/him) is an award-winning writer based in Philadelphia, PA. His debut Young Adult novel, *All That’s Left in the World*, was nominated for a Goodreads Choice Award, shortlisted for the Waterstone’s Children’s Book Prize and won the UK reader’s choice Books Are My Bag award. In 2021 he was selected as a Lambda Literary Emerging Writers Fellow. His second novel for young adults, *Lose You to Find Me*, came out in May 2023, and the sequel to *All That’s Left in the World*, titled *The Only Light Left Burning*, comes out May 2024. You can find him on Twitter @WriterikJB, and Instagram @ErikJB, and on his website, <https://www.erikjbrown.com>.

His previous books have sold in Brazil (Faro); Czech Republic (Albatros); France (Nouvelles Editions ActusF); Italy (Rizzoli); Poland (Media Rodzina); Russia (AST); Spain (Salamandra); UK (Hachette).

BETTER THE DEVIL

Thriller

Storytide (HC)/January 2026

After being arrested for shoplifting, a homeless teen is afraid the police will send him home to his abusive family, so he assumes the identity of Nate Beaumont—a child who, according to the missing poster on the police station wall, went missing ten years ago. It doesn't hurt that he looks a lot like the age-progressed picture of Nate. He plans to escape before the police can discover his lie, but when Nate's family comes to collect him, he unexpectedly starts to bond with them.

A Kobo January Best of the Month selection in the Best of YA category

"This thriller calculates the costs of denial, propelling the story to its dangerous, page-turning edge—and readers won't be able to look away. At the novel's heart is unconditional love, which even in the face of questionable morality offers a salve that heals broken people...A grisly, unflinching, and twisty page-turner that takes an honest look at human nature." —*Kirkus*, **starred review**

"This addictively engrossing mystery blends unrelenting suspense with a genuinely heartfelt found family story. The "constant state of fear" that

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>The Beaumonts are nothing like his real family. There's Nate's loving, but intensely protective mother, his reserved and imposing father, an older brother wracked with guilt, and a quirky, card shark grandmother. When he looks further into the disappearance, "Nate" learns that the boy he's pretending to be didn't just go missing—rumor is, he was murdered. As strange occurrences begin to unfold around the Beaumont home, Nate realizes he's trapped in a dangerous game with an unknown killer. One who knows he isn't the real Nate Beaumont.</p> <p>Nate has three choices: run, confess, or find out who the real killer is...before history repeats itself.</p> <p>"With a charming, whip-smart hero and a palpable evil lurking beneath a thin veneer of the suburban dream, BETTER THE DEVIL is a propulsive, engaging page-turner you'll tear through in one sitting." –Gretchen McNeil, author of <i>Ten</i> and <i>#murdertrending</i></p> <p>"Readers will discover that this model loving family is anything but perfect—and that unconditional love can be both wrong, and right, at the same time." –First Clue</p> | <p>"Nate" lives in is tempered by adorable banter with Miles and quintessential family moments. That gentleness--from a family who may have killed one of their own--adds a deliriously disorienting atmosphere to this brilliant thriller." –<i>Shelf Awareness</i>, starred review</p> <p>"Brown fuses survival thriller and suspenseful mystery to deliver a resonant psychological roller coaster...Organic first-person narration persuasively captures the narrator's adolescent immaturity, self-awareness, and desire to belong. His conviction that love is always conditional—informed by his parents' rejection and his neglectful upbringing—lends emotional weight to the suspense." –<i>Publishers Weekly</i></p> <p>"This is an engrossing mystery with a surprisingly violent climax." –<i>Booklist</i></p> <p>"While an action-filled narrative drives the plot, readers get to know characters whose likability duels with the suspicions against them...A compelling thriller that is not for the faint of heart." –<i>Horn Book</i></p> <p>"A chilling domestic thriller...This novel blends intrigue and suspense with a surprisingly tender queer coming-of-age story about searching for belonging and acceptance. Readers will become invested in the fate of the Beaumont family and may see themselves in Nate, who just wants to find a place where he feels safe." –<i>School Library Journal</i></p> |
|--|--|

A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.

DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.

Rights Sold: Czech Republic (Albatros); U.K. (Hodder)

~

ALL THAT'S LEFT IN THE WORLD THE ONLY LIGHT LEFT BURNING

Speculative

Balzer & Bray/2022 and 2024

What If It's Us meets *They Both Die at the End* in **THE ONLY LIGHT LEFT BURNING**, a sequel to the beloved postapocalyptic queer YA adventure romance **ALL THAT'S LEFT IN THE WORLD** by *USA Today* bestselling author Erik J. Brown.

Perfect for fans of Adam Silvera, Alex London, and *Heartstopper* by Alice Oseman.

After a long and treacherous journey south, Andrew and Jamie have finally found safety in the Florida Keys. But they soon learn that safety doesn't always mean happily ever after.

Settling into life in the Islamorada colony with other survivors of the bug, Andrew believes they've finally found themselves a home, even a family. But anxious Jamie is less comfortable in their new community and is eager to keep the promise they made to their friend Henri—to go north and reunite her with her daughter—so Andrew and Jamie can return to the cabin where they met.

ALL THAT'S LEFT IN THE WORLD was a Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection, 2025 Lincoln Award Nominee, 2024-2025 Final Nominee for the Missouri Readers Gateway Reader Award, winner of the 2022 Books Are My Bag Reader Award for Young Adult Fiction, and shortlisted for Foyles Children's Book of the Year 2022

ALL THAT'S LEFT IN THE WORLD was a Top 20 YA bestseller in the UK upon publication.

"The questions keep the pages turning at a brisk pace, fueled by a generous helping of white-knuckle suspense, which Brown handles masterfully. Brown is obviously a skilled plotter, too, but also a pro at characterization. Both Andrew and Jamie are fully realized, empathetic characters whom readers will take to heart. Superb." –*Booklist*, **starred review** of **THE ONLY LIGHT LEFT BURNING**

"Die-hard fans will love delving into the story again." –*Kirkus* on **THE ONLY LIGHT LEFT BURNING**

Praise for *All That's Left in the World*:

"A haunting story that's sure to delight (and terrify). Readers will find this infectious; highly recommended." –*Kirkus*, **starred review**

"In allowing the protagonists moments of laughter and warmth amid so much loss, he gets to the terrifying heart of societal collapse: the loneliness and guilt of

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>When a hurricane and a shocking betrayal force them to leave the colony in search of new shelter, it brings their tensions to a head—and puts them in the path of some old enemies. Andrew and Jamie must set aside their differences to survive once more and find a new home. But what if “home” means different things to each of them?</p> <p>ALL THAT’S LEFT IN THE WORLD was included in BuzzFeed’s Best Books of March, ALA’s 2023 Rainbow Book List, ALA/YALSA’s 2023 Best Fiction for Young Adults, Bank Street’s Best Children’s Books of the Year, Apple’s Best Audiobooks of 2022, the <i>New York Times Book Review</i>’s 20 Great Queer YA Books to Add to Your Reading List.</p> | <p>outliving friends and family—and the resulting hope in connection.” –<i>Publishers Weekly</i></p> <p>“A slow-burning, heartfelt love story plays out against this post-apocalyptic backdrop, bringing hope and nuance to familiar survivalist themes.” –<i>The Guardian</i></p> <p>“It’s hard to believe that this is Brown’s first novel. The writing is fresh and vividly descriptive, and the dual narration is beautifully handled. Perfect for fans of Adam Silvera.” –<i>Irish Independent</i></p> <p>“Thrilling and heart-warming in equal measure, <i>All That’s Left In The World</i> explores the importance of trusting each other even in the direst circumstances, and the ways that love can emerge in the most unlikely of places.” –<i>The Scotsman</i></p> <p>“Their romance is endearing and hopeful, the world is well-built, albeit bleak, and the exploration of how humanity reacts after the sudden loss of society is thoughtful and intelligent.” –<i>BCCB</i></p> |
| <p><i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>Rights Sold: Brazil (Faro); Czech Republic (Albatros); France (Nouvelles Editions ActusF); Italy (Rizzoli); Poland (Media Rodzina); Russia (AST); Spain (Salamandra); UK (Hachette); Ukraine (Athena)</i></p> | |
| ~ | |
| <p>LOSE YOU TO FIND ME</p> | <p>Contemporary Romance</p> |
| <p>Balzer & Bray/2023</p> | |
| <p>A romantic, heartfelt, and hilarious queer coming-of-age story from <i>All That’s Left in the World</i> author Erik J. Brown, perfect for fans of <i>What If It’s Us</i> and <i>If This Gets Out</i>.</p> <p>Tommy Dees is in the weeds—restaurant speak for beyond overwhelmed. He’s been working as a server at Sunset Estates Retirement Community to get the experience he needs to attend one of the best culinary schools in the world. And to make his application shine, he also needs a letter of recommendation from his sadistic manager. But in exchange for the letter, Tommy has to meet three conditions—including training the new hire.</p> <p>What he doesn’t expect is for the newbie to be an old crush: Gabe, with the dimples and kind heart, who Tommy fell for during summer camp at age ten and then never saw again. Unfortunately, Gabe doesn’t remember Tommy at all. The training proves distracting as old feelings resurface, and the universe seems to be conspiring against them.</p> <p>With the application deadline looming and Gabe on his mind, Tommy is determined to keep it all together—but what if life isn’t meant to follow a recipe?</p> <p>"Erik J. Brown perfectly captures how heart-warming and cringey falling in love for the first time can be. I couldn't stop laughing, I need Academy Award-worthy ice cream, and I'll never recover from that whole new interpretation of giving someone the finger." –Jason June, <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author of <i>Out of the Blue</i> and <i>Jay’s Gay Agenda</i></p> | <p>A USA Today Bestseller!</p> <p>“Snappy banter among a vibrant cast makes for a charming read about finding who and what really matters in life.” –<i>Kirkus</i></p> <p>“Erik J. Brown has a special way of writing LGBTQ+ romances that feels at once modern but also timeless. Going into LOSE YOU TO FIND ME I thought Erik J. Brown’s writing couldn’t get any better, but I was wrong. LOSE YOU TO FIND ME has the warmth of a fresh loaf of bread, straight out the oven, and is as comforting as a good cup of tea.” –Book Trade Professional (Walker Books)</p> <p>"LOSE YOU TO FIND ME is a can't-be-missed, read-in-one-sitting, absolutely unputdownable story about following your dreams while finding yourself. Full of banter, butterflies, and just the right amount of awkwardness, this coming-of-age story is truly a chef's kiss." –Jennifer Dugan, author of <i>Hot Dog Girl</i> and <i>Some Girls Do</i></p> <p>"Laugh-out-loud funny and genuinely moving in turn. Erik Brown's LOSE YOU TO FIND ME has deep affection for its characters and its world—as will anyone who reads this book." –Amy Spalding, bestselling author of <i>We Used to Be Friends</i></p> |
| <p><i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>Rights Sold: UK (Hodder)</i></p> | |

CLARE OSCONGO

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>Clare Osongco is a biracial Filipina American writer living in Los Angeles. <i>Midnights With You</i> is her debut novel. She enjoys mangos with bagoong, mechanical keyboard sounds, and writing super early in the morning when it's easier to pretend the rest of the world doesn't exist. Find her online at www.ClareOsongco.com and on Instagram @ClareOsongco.</p> | |
| SUDDENLY I MISS EVERYONE | Contemporary Fiction |
| Rick Riordan Presents/March 2027 | |
| <p>Tessa's family has moved to a new town every few years, and she's spent most of her life anxiously trying to hold onto her friends long-distance. But after her brother died last year, she cut everyone off suddenly. Now she just wants to be left alone—no attachments, no missing anyone, no more chances to get hurt.</p> <p>Then, the summer before senior year, Tessa's insufferable girl-boss sister, Jenna, makes her a deal: If Tessa comes along on a road trip through all the towns they used to live in and helps Jenna get her ghost-hunting YouTube channel off the ground, once it's all over, Jenna will give Tessa her wish and leave her alone for good.</p> <p>Unfortunately for Tessa, the night before they leave on the trip, Jenna sends off a bunch of drafts she found sitting in Tessa's email—messages Tessa wrote pouring her heart out to her friends but never planned for anyone to read.</p> <p>Now Tessa will have to face all of her ex-friends in person. And to make matters worse, her dad springs a surprise on them: Their former neighbor, Justin—secretly Tessa's forever crush, and the recipient of one of the dreaded emails—was visiting schools nearby, and could use a ride home, anyway. Her dad insists he'll feel much better about his two daughters driving all over the country if Justin comes along for the ride. Too bad not speaking to each other for almost a year hasn't done anything to change Tessa's feelings.</p> | <p>Praise for Clare Osongco: “An emotionally gripping debut novel that shines with hope, even through its traumas and trials.” – <i>School Library Journal</i></p> <p>“A tender and aching story about family and first love, about finding stolen moments in which we can heal, forgive, and find ourselves.” –Randy Ribay, National Book Award finalist author of <i>Patron Saints of Nothing</i></p> <p>“Powerful, gorgeous, and intimate. A tender punch to the heart.” –Trang Thanh Tran, New York Times best-selling author of <i>She Is a Haunting</i></p> <p>"Reading this felt like going on a late night road trip with your best friend." –Graci D. Li, <i>New York Times</i> best-selling author of <i>Portrait of a Thief</i></p> <p>“A knock-out of a debut. Osongco's words will leave readers in awe and thinking about the story long after the turn of the last page.” –Hannah V. Sawyerr, award-winning author of <i>All the Fighting Parts</i></p> |
| <i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and should be available for translation in late 2026.</i> | |
| <i>DGB controls translation rights. Disney controls U.K. rights.</i> | |
| <i>All rights are available.</i> | |
| ~ | |
| MIDNIGHTS WITH YOU | Contemporary Romance |
| Disney Hyperion/2024 | |
| <p>Fans of Susan Lee and Dustin Thao will be enchanted by this soulful YA romance about how we love, how we heal, and how we find the strength to go on</p> <p>“Where were you thinking of going?” “Nowhere.” “Great,” he says lightly, putting the car in gear. “Then we’ll go there.”</p> <p>Seventeen-year-old Deedee's life is full of family ghosts and questions she can't ask. She longs to escape her stifling home, but guilt holds her back—that, and the fact that her strict, single Filipino mom won't let her learn to drive.</p> <p>But one sleepless night leads Deedee down a road she never thought possible: secret driving lessons with the new boy next door, Jay, whose turbulent family life also keeps him up until sunrise.</p> <p>As midnights stretch into days, Jay helps Deedee begin to unravel her past, and as shared secrets blossom into love, Deedee starts to imagine a life where happiness—where freedom—is possible. But the deeper she digs into the trauma that has shaped her, the more that trauma threatens to</p> | <p>“[A]n achingly authentic portrayal of a romance of teens growing up too fast due to family circumstances. Heartfelt and woven together by themes of responsibility, generational trauma, privacy, and maturity, this debut will strike a chord with fans of Erika L. Sánchez's <i>I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter</i> and Mary H. K. Choi's <i>Yolk</i>.” –<i>Booklist</i>, starred review</p> <p>“Osongco successfully tackles a story of transgenerational trauma and complex relationships through the hopeful lens of a love story. Deedee and Jay's interactions with each other are so raw and real that readers will quickly fall into rhythm with their seemingly simple, but truly life-changing, conversations...An emotionally gripping debut novel that shines with hope, even through its traumas and trials.” –<i>School Library Journal</i></p> <p>“A romance steeped in an emotionally gut-wrenching tale of trauma.” –<i>Kirkus</i></p> <p>“A hauntingly beautiful story that exists within a liminal space and time that hits all the notes of what it means to be young, finding yourself, first love, and how the burden of generational trauma weighs on one's shoulders.” –Zoulfa Katouh, award-winning and bestselling author of <i>As Long As The Lemon Trees Grow</i></p> |

tear Deedee and Jay apart. Together, these two must decide if the pain they've both inherited has the power to choose their fate, or if they have the power to choose for themselves.

"Reading this felt like going on a late-night road trip with your best friend."—Grace D. Li, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Portrait of a Thief*

"A powerful debut. Raw and redemptive."—Laura Taylor Namey, *New York Times* bestselling author of *A Cuban Girl's Guide to Tea and Tomorrow*

"A tender and aching story about family and first love, about finding stolen moments in which we can heal, forgive, and find ourselves."—Randy Ribay, National Book Award Finalist author of *Patron Saints of Nothing*

"Powerful, gorgeous, and intimate, **MIDNIGHTS WITH YOU** puts the headlights on the haunting specter of intergenerational trauma and what it means to truly break free. A tender punch to the heart."—Trang Thanh Tran, *New York Times* bestselling author of *She Is a Haunting*

"Equal parts heartbreaking, haunting, and hopeful, Osongco explores complicated mother-daughter relationships, generational trauma, and first love in **MIDNIGHTS WITH YOU**. With prose that is both rhythmic and intimate, Osongco's words will leave readers in awe and thinking about the story long after the turn of the last page."—Hannah V. Sawyerr, author of *All the Fighting Parts*

"**MIDNIGHTS WITH YOU** brims with Deedee's yearning to be understood and seen. Osongco's honest and mesmerizing prose guides us on Deedee's journey as she navigates how complicated, messy, and heartbreaking love's many forms can be. This is a book you'll revisit over and over again, comforted by the familiar and exhilarated by the discovery of the unknown—much like a late-night drive with a new friend."—Alex Brown, Locus Award nominated author of *Damned If You Do*

"An achingly beautiful coming-of-age story with powerful prose that cuts straight to the heart. Between the complex family dynamics, the tender romance, and all the raw, real emotions that come with finding your way in life as a teenager, **MIDNIGHTS WITH YOU** is everything I've ever wanted in a book."—Ann Liang, *New York Times* bestselling author of *I Hope This Doesn't Find You*

A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.

DGB controls translation rights. Disney Hyperion controls U.K. rights

Rights Sold: Brazil (Globo Livros)

JUNE HUR (허주은)

June Hur (허주은) is a bestselling and Edgar Award-winning author of YA historicals, including *The Silence of Bones*, *The Forest of Stolen Girls*, *The Red Palace*, and *A Crane Among Wolves*. Born in South Korea, June spent her formative years in the USA, Canada, and South Korea before studying History and Literature at the University of Toronto, and working at the city's public library. Her work has been featured in *Forbes*, NPR, the *New York Times*, CBC, and KBS. June resides in Toronto with her family and can be spotted writing in coffee shops.

Her previous books have sold in Brazil (Panini Books); Bulgaria (Prozoretz); Egypt (Aser Al-Kotob); France (Bayard); Germany (Cross Cult); Hungary (Konyvmolykepzo); Indonesia (PT Gramedia); Italy (Il Castoro); Japan (Tokyo Sogensha); Korea (Changbi Media and Sigongsa); Poland (Vesper); Russia (Eksmo); Spain (Wonderbooks); Turkey (Olimpos); Ukraine (Bookchef); and UK (Headline).

BEHIND FIVE WILLOWS

Historical Romance

Feiwei & Friends/May 2026

From the *New York Times*-bestselling author of *A Crane Among Wolves* comes a warm and romantic homage to Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* set in historical Korea, about a reader and a writer who secretly fight against government book banning and find themselves irresistibly drawn together.

As the dutiful second-eldest daughter of a poor family, society would have Haewon believe that her only hope of a decent life is to marry well. But during a time of rampant government censorship and book banning, she instead works as an illegal book transcriber to make a little extra money. It's dangerous work, but she loves it—especially when she gets to transcribe the work of her favorite author, known as Black Lotus.

When her older sister becomes smitten with a wealthy young gentleman, Haewon is roped into chaperoning them during their courtship. Which wouldn't be so terrible...if it weren't for the young man's uptight and annoying best friend who also accompanies them.

Featured in *Publishers Weekly*'s "Jane Austen at 250: A YA Book List"

"Hur's latest historical YA work is an homage to *Pride and Prejudice* that feels devastatingly timely as it shines an unflinching light on the downsides of government-enforced censorship of stories and ideas... Despite the historically accurate restrictions on the characters' ability to so much as brush hands, their romance is utterly swoony and heartstopping... An engaging, thoughtful Austen interpretation."—*Booklist*, **starred review**

"Heartwarmingly beautiful...A charming love story."—*Kirkus*

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>As the only son of a noble, Seojun has a lot expected of him. Wealth. Status. Respectability. Certainly not frivolous and often illicit activities such as reading fiction. But Seojun loves to do something even more scandalous: writing. He's kept his work secret from his father and friends, but with each passing day, the pressure of being his father's son and the dispiriting actions of the government make Seojun question the purpose of it all. The only thing keeping him going are the encouraging letters he receives from his transcriber, known only as Magpie.</p> <p>When his best friend falls hard for a girl of lower social status, Seojun finds himself forced to act as chaperone to the infatuated couple—along with the girl's younger sister, who is as irritating as she is judgmental. But as Haewon and Seojun spend more time together, they begin to suspect they may have judged each other too quickly...</p> | <p>"Warmly rendered characters navigate a unique and evocative setting, which echoes with sharp societal commentary as well as witty repartee that's reminiscent of <i>Pride and Prejudice</i>." – <i>Publishers Weekly</i></p> <p>"Both an homage to Jane Austen and historical K-dramas, every page of Hur's novel stuns with its absorbing plot, exquisite attention to detail, and breathtaking romance. BEHIND FIVE WILLOWS is an instant classic and a book that I will cherish for a very long time." –Axie Oh, <i>New York Times</i>-bestselling author of <i>The Girl Who Fell Beneath the Sea</i> and <i>The Floating World</i></p> |
| <p><i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>Rights Sold: Italy (Il Castoro); Korea (Sigongsa); UK (Headline)</i></p> | |
| ~ | |
| <p>A CRANE AMONG WOLVES</p> | <p>Mystery</p> |
| <p>Feiwel & Friends/2024</p> | |
| <p>June Hur, bestselling author of <i>The Red Palace</i>, crafts a devastating and pulse-pounding tale that will feel all-too-relevant in today's world, based on a true story from Korean history.</p> <p>Hope is dangerous. Love is deadly.</p> <p>1506, Joseon. The people suffer under the cruel reign of the tyrant King Yeonsan, powerless to stop him from commandeering their land for his recreational use, banning and burning books, and kidnapping and horrifically abusing women and girls as his personal playthings.</p> <p>Seventeen-year-old Iseul has lived a sheltered, privileged life despite the kingdom's turmoil. When her older sister, Suyeon, becomes the king's latest prey, Iseul leaves the relative safety of her village, traveling through forbidden territory to reach the capital in hopes of stealing her sister back. But she soon discovers the king's power is absolute, and to challenge his rule is to court certain death.</p> <p>Prince Daehyun has lived his whole life in the terrifying shadow of his despicable half-brother, the king. Forced to watch King Yeonsan flaunt his predation through executions and rampant abuse of the common folk, Daehyun aches to find a way to dethrone his half-brother once and for all. When staging a coup, failure is fatal, and he'll need help to pull it off—but there's no way to know who he can trust.</p> <p>When Iseul's and Daehyun's fates collide, their contempt for each other is transcended only by their mutual hate for the king. Armed with Iseul's family connections and Daehyun's royal access, they reluctantly join forces to launch the riskiest gamble the kingdom has ever seen: Save her sister. Free the people. Destroy a tyrant.</p> | <p>A <i>New York Times</i> and ABA Indie Bestseller! A 2025 Edgar Award Nominee for Best Young Adult! A We Need Diverse Books 2025 Walter Dean Myers Honor Book</p> <p>Featured in <i>We Are Bookish</i>'s "May's Most Anticipated Books"</p> <p>"Award-winner Hur's latest historical intrigue is well researched and doesn't shy away from depicting elements of this real king's brutal history, and the resulting tale is immersive, intense, and engaging. A page-turner." –<i>Kirkus</i></p> <p>"Searing." –<i>Publishers Weekly</i></p> <p>"A highly detailed, culturally rich tale that combines elements of mystery, palace intrigue, found family and romance." –<i>The Washington Post</i></p> <p>"The romance and found family elements offer moments of hope to balance the darkness...An intense mystery and slow-burn romance that highlight a historical moment." –<i>School Library Journal</i></p> <p>"A CRANE AMONG WOLVES brings attention to a dark time in Korean history while still highlighting June Hur's trademark skill for devastatingly romantic relationships, told in such achingly lovely prose that will capture you from the very first page." –<i>Reactor</i></p> <p>"A richly detailed historical thriller...unflinching in both its honesty and period-accurate realism...both meticulously researched and emotionally compelling." –<i>Paste</i></p> <p>"Captivating mystery, political intrigue, and a perilously beautiful romance. A CRANE AMONG WOLVES excels at suspense even with true history's outline. June Hur reigns supreme in making the past come alive." –Chloe Gong, #1 <i>New York Times</i>-bestselling author of <i>These Violent Delights</i></p> <p>"Gripping and devastating, June Hur's lush writing brings history to life in this intricately plotted tale of love, betrayal, and political</p> |

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>"BRILLIANT! There were literally moments in this book where I forgot to breathe." –Ellen Oh, award-winning author and co-founder of We Need Diverse Books</p> | <p>intrigue, where hope ultimately shines through the darkness. A CRANE AMONG WOLVES drew me in from the very first page, and will no doubt become a favorite for readers as it did for me." –Ann Liang, <i>New York Times</i>-bestselling author of <i>I Hope This Doesn't Find You</i></p> |
| <p><i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>Rights Sold: Brazil (Panini Books); Egypt (Aser al-Kotob); France (Bayard); Germany (CrossCult); Hungary (Konyvmolykepzo Kiado); Indonesia (PT Gramedia Pustaka); Italy (Il Castoro); Korea (Sigongsa); Poland (Vesper); Russia (Eksmo); Turkey (Olimpos); Ukraine (Bookchef); United Kingdom (Headline)</i></p> | |
| ~ | |
| <p>THE RED PALACE</p> | <p>Historical Fiction</p> |
| <p>Feiwei & Friends/2022</p> | |
| <p>June Hur, critically acclaimed author of <i>The Silence of Bones</i> and <i>The Forest of Stolen Girls</i>, returns with THE RED PALACE—a third evocative, atmospheric historical mystery perfect for fans of Courtney Summers and Kerri Maniscalco.</p> <p>To enter the palace means to walk a path stained in blood...</p> <p>Joseon (Korea), 1758. There are few options available to illegitimate daughters in the capital city, but through hard work and study, seventeen-year-old Hyeon has earned a position as a palace nurse. All she wants is to keep her head down, do a good job, and perhaps finally win her estranged father's approval.</p> <p>But Hyeon is suddenly thrust into the dark and dangerous world of court politics when someone murders eight palace nurses in a single night, and the prime suspect is Hyeon's closest friend and mentor. Determined to prove her beloved teacher's innocence, Hyeon launches her own secret investigation. In her hunt for the truth, she encounters Eojin, a young undercover police inspector also searching for the killer. When evidence begins to point to the Crown Prince himself as the murderer, Hyeon and Eojin must work together to search the darkest corners of the palace to uncover the deadly secrets behind the bloodshed.</p> <p>THE RED PALACE was a Junior Library Guild selection. It made numerous lists including Buzzfeed's 40 New YA Books Releasing Before Spring That You'll Want To Get Your Hands On, Forbes' The Most Anticipated Books of 2022, According to Book Podcasters, NPR's Best Books of 2022, BookRiot's Best Books of 2022 (So Far), Popsugar's 125 Best New YA Books of 2022, and <i>New York Times</i>' "6 Unforgettable YA Thrillers to Add to Your Reading List". It was featured by <i>Elle India</i>.</p> <p>THE RED PALACE was a best of the year for YALSA's 2023 list, <i>The Globe and Mail</i>, <i>School Library Journal</i>, the Chicago Public Library, <i>Forever Young Adult</i>, and <i>Popsugar</i></p> <p>"Compulsively readable and utterly unique, THE RED PALACE is a must-read murder mystery steeped in royal intrigue." –Jennifer Lynn Barnes, <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author of <i>The Inheritance Games</i></p> | <p>WINNER OF THE 2023 EDGAR AWARD FOR BEST YOUNG ADULT</p> <p>Shortlisted for the CCBC Amy Mathers Teen Book Award NCTAsia Freeman Book Awards 2022 Honorable Mention for Young Adult/High School Literature Selected for the Rise: A Feminist Book Project 2023 Booklist Included in NPR's 2022 Books We Love A National Bestseller</p> <p>"Steeped in rich historical details, Hur's palace thriller offers a sharp critique of the monarchy's abuse of power while maintaining a quick pace and crafting a captivating murder mystery." –<i>Publishers Weekly</i></p> <p>"Hur, who was born in South Korea and raised in Canada, deftly celebrates subversive female ingenuity. With captivating cinematic flair, she transforms true royal drama into a closeup-ready mesmerizing mystery. June Hur seamlessly combines court intrigue, multiple murders and forbidden love to create a riveting YA historical thriller set in mid-18th-century Joseon Korea." –<i>Shelf Awareness</i></p> <p>"THE RED PALACE is an expertly choreographed mystery with a touch of romance and an emotionally satisfying conclusion that beautifully binds fiction to fact. It's the perfect book to curl up with for a cozy winter afternoon of murder and intrigue." – NPR</p> <p>"The English-language novel, THE RED PALACE, which deftly brings the genre of historical whodunit books to the 18th-century Joseon-era court, has been a breath of fresh air hitting the bookshelves across North America this year." – <i>Korea Times</i></p> <p>"Hur set the bar high with her previous works and has cleared it with room to spare. A tense political thriller, a beautiful romance, and a coming of age all in one unique package." –<i>School Library Journal</i>, starred review</p> <p>"A beautifully written story full of historical and cultural details that will leave readers aching for a follow-up." –<i>Booklist</i>, starred review</p> |
| <p><i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.</i></p> | |

Rights Sold: Brazil (Panini Books); Bulgaria (Prozorets); Egypt (Aser Al-Kotob); France (Bayard); Germany (CroCu); Indonesia (PT Gramedia Pustaka); Italy (DeAgostini); Japan (Tokyo Sogensha); Korea (Sigongsa); Poland (Vesper); Russia (Eksmo); Spain (Wonderbooks); Turkey (Olimpos); United Kingdom (Headline)

RAY STOEVE

Ray Stoeve is the author of the young adult novels *The Summer Love Strategy*, *Arden Grey*, and *Between Perfect and Real*. They also contributed to the young adult anthology *Take The Mic: Fictional Stories of Everyday Resistance*. They created the YA/MG Trans and Nonbinary Voices Masterlist, a database that tracks all books in those age categories written by trans authors about trans characters. When they're not writing, they can be found gardening, making art in other mediums, or hiking their beloved Pacific Northwest.

WORST-CASE SCENARIO

Contemporary Romance

Amulet Books/January 2026

An enemies-to-lovers romance about nemeses who are forced to share their school's Queer Alliance presidency following a tie in the election, new from beloved author Ray Stoeve

Sidney has one goal for their junior year. Well... two, if they're being honest. Number one: become president of their school's Queer Alliance club. And number two: keep their self-diagnosed anxiety in check so their grades don't tank like they did last year.

But when the election results in a tie with none other than Sidney's arch nemesis, the class clown Forrest, the two are forced to share the presidency until a revote at the end of term. Sidney expects Forrest to be insufferable, but it turns out that working together is...kind of nice?

As surprising feelings for Forrest emerge, Sidney's techniques for managing their anxiety stop working. With the reelection approaching and assignments starting to pile up, will all this pressure be too much for Sidney to handle on their own?

One of NetGalley Bookish's 30 Must-Read Books Hitting Shelves in 2026

"Don your pride flag, grab some tissues, and prepare to curl up with this hard-hitting high-school rom-com about friendship, crushes, and the many other struggles of being a teenager...Stoeve's latest is a beautiful journey of self-discovery and the power of just being there for people...It's the perfect queer enemies-to-lovers romance for those who crave an emotionally devastating ride." *–Booklist, starred review*

"Taking from their own experience living with OCD, Stoeve creates a true-to-life telling of what Sidney is feeling and thinking as the condition worsens without intervention. All the myths and misdiagnoses surrounding OCD are explored in the safe environment of the world Stoeve creates—this is perfect for students who want to read more about someone living with OCD and how to be a good friend to them..." *–School Library Journal, starred review*

"A refreshing take on LGBTQIA+ adolescence, where a queer neurodivergent character can authentically be both extremely sympathetic and still an irritating jerk. Sidney's journey toward their OCD diagnosis and/or Forrest's lips is undoubtedly worthwhile" *–BCCB*

"Enlivened by playful rom-com devices, empathetic prose and Sidney's vulnerable first-person narration vividly portray the protagonist's emotional distress, resulting in an honest unpacking of one teen's struggle to manage their spiraling mental health alongside authentic high school drama." *–Publishers Weekly*

"The writing [depicts] Sidney's feelings and experiences authentically and poignantly...An honest depiction of OCD paired with a cute queer romance." *–Kirkus*

A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.

DGB controls translation rights. Abrams controls U.K. rights.

All rights are available.

~

THE SUMMER LOVE STRATEGY

Contemporary Romance

Abrams/2024

A sweet and swoony YA rom-com about two friends making a pact to find summer romance like they've seen in the movies—and finding love where they least expect it along the way!

Hayley always has a crush. The problem is, her crushes never like her back. After her latest unrequited love—a girl from her basketball team—gets a boyfriend, she decides she's done falling for girls who are unavailable. Her best friend, Talia, wants romance too, but rarely gets crushes on anyone, and she's tired of watching Hayley get her heart stomped on over and over. So the two girls make a pact: they'll help each other find summer love by putting themselves in situations that always

"This excellent addition to the slew of YA friends-to-lovers romance novels offers a nuanced portrayal of an autistic sapphic trans girl in Talia and a lesbian with ADHD and anxiety in Hayley...genuinely shines when it zeroes in on Hayley and Talia's friendship and blossoming romance. Readers will feel like they're in a teen summer romance themselves." *–Booklist*

"Hayley and Talia's story has all the butterfly-worthy moments of first love...Readers will appreciate that neurodivergence is normalized and represented positively in the novel: In addition to Talia, two other members of their friend group are autistic. A charming friends-to-lovers summer romance." *–Kirkus*

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>lead to romance in movies.</p> <p>To help carry out their summer love strategy, they make a list of all the places they could find their real-life rom-com: the beach, the Pride parade, the pool, a MUNA concert, and a party. But as they go to each place and try to find the one, it seems like they just can't catch a break—they don't know how to talk to cute strangers, someone mistakes Hayley as straight, and Hayley does a truly unfortunate DIY haircut (that she cannot be held responsible for—it was a crisis!). But when Talia and Hayley finally manage to score dates, will they be able to get out of their own way and really dive into the romances they deserve? Or is summer love not as far off as Hayley thought?</p> <p>An <i>Autostraddle</i> Most Anticipated Queer Book for Spring</p> <p>"Ray Stoeve gorgeously captures that bubbling, fizzy, all-encompassing energy of a crush becoming so much more. With heart, hope, and delightful awkwardness, THE SUMMER LOVE STRATEGY is the perfect ode to falling in love!" – Jason June, <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author</p> <p>"An endearing portrait of the ups and downs of crushes, first dates, and falling in love. Hayley and Talia's dynamic is as pure as sunshine." –Kelly Quindlen, author of <i>She Drives Me Crazy</i></p> | <p>"Stoeve's novel is chock-full of all the feels of first loves and deep friendships. The cast of characters includes neurodivergent friends who know each other's needs to make all feel comfortable and accepted. Teens searching for stories exploring nuanced friendships will love the easy flow of dialogue, the adventures, the acceptance, and the sweet "friends to girlfriends" romance." –<i>School Library Journal</i></p> <p>"THE SUMMER LOVE STRATEGY is a fun romance full of tropes and plenty of summer hijinks on the surface. Readers who look deeper will find it's also a book about the intersections of Queer, Trans, and neurodivergent identities that paints a picture of how the world should treat people...The best summer beach read." –SGN</p> <p>"THE SUMMER LOVE STRATEGY is a bear hug in book form; it's a love story within a love story. Intimacy takes so many beautifully complicated forms here. These are friends who care enough to carve out space for each other's differences, even as they feel their way through shifting relationship dynamics. Stoeve explores what it means to find new ways to love a person you know by heart—and they tackle it with such specificity and care. This one's going to make so many people feel seen." –Becky Albertalli, <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author of <i>Simon Vs the Homo Sapiens Agenda</i></p> |
| <p><i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>DGB controls translation rights. Abrams controls U.K. rights.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>All rights are available.</i></p> | |
| <p>~</p> | |
| <p>DGB represents a number of backlist titles by the author. Please see backlist catalogue for more information.</p> | |

CANDICE JALILI

Candice Jalili is an Iranian American writer based in New York City. Her work has appeared in *Cosmopolitan*, *The Cut*, *Rolling Stone*, *Elite Daily* and more. *Finding Famous: A Mashad Family Story* is her first novel. Candice lives in New York City with her husband, a convenient walk away from her cousins and her childhood best friend. She grew up in the Bay Area and spends hours of her days FaceTiming her parents there. You can find her on Instagram at @candicejalili and online at candicejalili.com

SEEING STARS

Contemporary Romance

Disney Hyperion/October 2025

The tabloids wish they could give you gossip this jaw droppingly juicy...

Mona Mashad grew up on camera, with millions of fans around the world tuning in to see her every move. Nothing was off-limits: not her first pimple, her first crush, and definitely not the death of her father, Mashad family patriarch and the best dad ever, Ali.

After more than a decade on screen, Mona has discovered the key to being the most famous teenager on the planet: never let your guard down and never give your heart away (because if it breaks, the whole world will know).

But she didn't expect to meet Lukas Haas, notorious heartthrob and only son of Jordana Haas, the beloved President of the United States. Lukas sweeps Mona off her feet—he literally saves her when she falls down the stairs at the Met Gala—and for just one second Mona wants to let her walls come down. So, it hurts a lot when he betrays her, and even more when their moms demand they pretend to keep dating to appease their respective fan bases.

Normally, a fake relationship would be manageable for Mona. After all, she's

"From flirty banter and fake dating to falling for the first (and second) lead, Candice Jalili's **SEEING STARS** might be one of our favorite books this year!" –*The Honey Pop*

Praise for Candice Jalili:

"A candy bar of a book readers will want to devour in one sitting" –*School Library Journal*

"Pants-splittingly funny and full of heart, with a romance to root for, this story about discovered family is a delight from start to finish. Hands down the best time I've had in a book all year" –Stacey Lee, *New York Times* bestselling author of Reese's Book Club Pick *The Downstairs Girl*

"I wish *Finding Famous* had been around when I was a teenager! A fun, heartfelt read that

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>used to playing a part for the camera. But pretending to fall in love with Lukas when she's still furious with him is no easy feat. And things get extra complicated when she meets Kai. A (hot) surfer and all-around normal guy. For the first time in her life, she can forget the cameras and just be...Mona. Could he be the escape from this fake reality that Mona needs? Or will fake dating America's most eligible bachelor lead to real feelings?</p> <p>SEEING STARS as been featured by Pop Goes the Reader, <i>Book Riot</i>, <i>The Honey Pop</i>, BookCrushin, YA Books Central, and Book Q&A with Deborah Kalb</p> | <p>turns awkwardness into empowerment.” – Firoozeh Dumas, <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author of <i>Funny in Farsi</i></p> <p>“Sparkling wit, delightfully real characters, and a ton of heart combine to make <i>Finding Famous</i> absolutely unforgettable. I couldn't put it down!” –Adib Khorram, Award-winning author of <i>Darius the Great is Not Okay</i></p> |
|---|---|

A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.

DGB controls translation rights. Disney controls U.K. rights.

All rights are available.

FINDING FAMOUS

Contemporary Fiction

Rick Riordan Presents/2024

They always say you can't choose your family. . .

Ever since her mom died, Josie has been content with her small, safe, predictable life. She hangs out with exactly two people: her best (and only) friend, Louise, and her stepdad, Matt. She has exactly one (unrequited) crush on resident high school himbo Isaac. And she's fully prepared to spend her last semester of senior year exactly like she always expected: preparing for Stanford and actively avoiding anything that reminds her of her mother.

But when Josie discovers that her biological father is the recently deceased Ali Mashad —patriarch of the world's original reality-television family, dripping with wealth, fame, and Vogue magazine covers—Josie's “predictable” life is gone quicker than you can say “You're doing amazing, sweetie.”

Being a Mashad doesn't just mean that the entire world is now at Josie's feet—desperate to dress her, to photograph her, to know her—it also opens a door to a world that Josie never expected to find: like a really cute guy who just might be her soulmate, three absolutely ridiculous but wonderful sisters, and answers to all the questions she wishes she could ask her mom. But the biggest question of all is: If being a Mashad is the chance of a lifetime, will Josie be brave enough to take it?

Featured by *Girl's Life Magazine*

“Iranian diasporic culture collides with Hollywood life in this over-the-top children's debut by Jalili... Jalili ascribes depth and nuance to the Persian American cast and, as a treat for die-hard fans of media glamour, peppers the text with tongue-in-cheek nods to *Keeping Up with the Kardashians*, *Gossip Girl*, and *The Princess Diaries*.” –*Publishers Weekly*

“Jalili's YA debut is fast paced and full of drama...the warm moments of familial connection are highlights. Light, pleasurable fare for pop-culture fans.” –*Kirkus*

“The story showcases the Iranian American experience as Josie fights to keep her new celebrity status a secret, learning more about her famous deceased biological father and his celebrity wife and daughters. This blend of *The Princess Diaries* and *Keeping Up the Kardashians* brings themes of family, mental health, the pressures of being famous, LGBTQIA+ life, and generational trauma.” –*Booklist*

“Josie has found her way into my heart. She is funny, kind, generous and shows us how to take on the world, change and yet somehow still remain true to ourselves and those we love.” –*Armadillo Postbag Picks (UK Newsletter)*

“I wish **FINDING FAMOUS** had been around when I was a teenager! A fun, heartfelt read that turns awkwardness into empowerment.” – Firoozeh Dumas, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Funny in Farsi*

"Sparkling wit, delightfully real characters, and a ton of heart combine to make **FINDING FAMOUS** absolutely unforgettable. I couldn't put it down!" –Adib Khorram, Award-winning author of *Darius the Great Is Not Okay*

A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.

DGB controls translation rights. Disney controls U.K. rights.

All rights are available.

MACKENZIE REED

Mackenzie Reed is the author of *The Rosewood Hunt*, her debut thriller, and the forthcoming *The Wilde Trials*. She cultivated her love of storytelling at Nazareth College, where she graduated with a BA in communication and media and shifted her focus from songwriting to novel writing. A native and resident of Rochester, New York, she loves going for brainstorming walks when the weather's behaving and spending time with her family. In the sparse moments she's not writing or daydreaming about her next book, she's usually winging her eyeliner and hunting for the best slice of pizza in town. mackenziemreed.com

| | |
|---|--|
| Her debut novel sold in Germany (CJB); Poland (Poznanski); and Russia (Eksmo). | |
| THE WILDE TRIALS | Mystery |
| HarperCollins Children's/January 2025 | |
| <p>From the acclaimed author of <i>The Rosewood Hunt</i> comes a thrilling new mystery about a high-stakes competition packed with shocking twists, second chances, and deadly deceit, where allies—and enemies—are the people you'd least expect.</p> <p>Chloe Gatti will do whatever it takes to win her elite boarding school's annual competition, the Wilde Trials. In the two weeks leading up to graduation from Wilde Academy, a dozen seniors are chosen to compete in a series of seven ultimate physical and mental tests, and the winner will take home over half a million dollars—money that Chloe needs to help her sick sister.</p> <p>But the competition is fierce and includes her brooding ex-boyfriend, Hayes Stratford, whose brother was the only student to die during the trials a few years ago. When someone starts blackmailing Chloe during the competition, she's forced to strike a deal with Hayes—if he helps her discover who is sabotaging her, she'll help him solve the mystery his brother left behind.</p> <p>Following clues from Hayes's brother, the unlikely allies discover that something isn't right about the Wilde Trials. With a life-changing prize looming over her head and her buried feelings for Hayes rising to the surface, Chloe will have to decide what's really worth fighting for, and if the cost of competing outweighs the potential consequences, even if that includes ending up like Hayes's brother—dead.</p> <p>Fans of Jessica Goodman and Maureen Johnson will love this dark academia thriller with a romantic twist!</p> <p>THE WILDE TRIALS was one of Forbes 40 Most Anticipated YA Books of 2025.</p> | <p>“Sparks fly as the duo’s previously smothered attraction roars to life amid a tangled web of hidden motivations, shocking betrayals, and unchecked ambition. Via Chloe’s lively first-person POV, Reed spins a fun, action-packed mystery wrapped in riddles and scavenger hunts, while lightly touching on themes of class privilege and academic pressure.” –<i>Publishers Weekly</i></p> <p>“Atmospheric, pulse-pounding, and swoonworthy, THE WILDE TRIALS is perfect for readers who like their thrillers with a delicious side of dark academia. Full of riddles, hidden passageways, and a creepy, crumbling estate, Mackenzie Reed’s sophomore novel offers not only a high-stakes competition but also a thoughtful examination of ambition—and its sometimes deadly cost.” –Olivia Worley, author of <i>People to Follow</i></p> <p>“An action-packed, fast-paced adventure with characters that crackled off the page. I had so much fun on this wild ride.” –Goldy Moldavsky, <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author of <i>The Mary Shelley Club</i></p> <p>“Action-packed and filled with heart, THE WILDE TRIALS is a thrill ride from start to finish. With a jaw-dropping mystery and unexpected twists at every turn, this cutthroat academic competition keeps its Challengers—and readers—on their toes.” –Rachel Moore, author of <i>Us in Ruins</i> and <i>The Library of Shadows</i></p> <p>“Come for the brain-bending puzzles. Stay for the second chance romance. THE WILDE TRIALS by Mackenzie Reed is a twisty, addictive ride sure to thrill fans of her debut and new readers alike. If you binged <i>Survivor</i> and <i>The Inheritance Games</i>, this one is for you.” –Jessie Weaver, author of <i>Live Your Best Lie</i> and <i>Lie Until It's True</i></p> |
| <i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i> | |
| <i>DGB controls translation rights. Harper controls U.K. rights.</i> | |
| <i>All rights are available.</i> | |
| ~ | |
| DGB represents a number of backlist titles by the author. Please see backlist catalogue for more information. | |

JAY COLES

| | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Jay Coles is a graduate of Vincennes University and Ball State University. When he's not writing diverse books, he's advocating for them, teaching middle school students, and composing for various music publishers. He is the author of the acclaimed YA novels <i>Tyler Johnson Was Here</i> and <i>Things We Couldn't Say</i> , as well as the original novel <i>Outer Banks: Dead Break</i> . He resides in Indianapolis, Indiana, and invites you to visit his website at jaycoleswrites.com . | |
| YOUR FINAL MOMENTS | Speculative Contemporary |
| Scholastic/June 2025 | |
| A heartbreaking story of suicide, addiction, and hard truths from acclaimed author Jay Coles, for fans of <i>The Perks of Being a Wallflower</i> , <i>You've Reached Sam</i> , <i>They Both Die at the End</i> , and Tiffany D. Jackson. | |
| Hakeem goes to Narcotics Anonymous meetings to keep his addictions in check. But when his best friend Miles kills himself, Hakeem finds the days harder and harder to get through. He loved Miles – maybe even loved loved him – and he's haunted by the fact that there might have been something he could have done to ease his friend's pain. He meets a girl named Eliza in his NA meetings, and she is there for him when something truly out-there happens... Hakeem calls Miles's old phone number. And Miles not only calls back from beyond the grave, but has news to share: He didn't kill himself. He was murdered. | |

Finding out the truth about Miles might end up helping Hakeem find his way to his own truth...and further strength to stay alive himself. But as his relationship with Eliza grows, other cracks begin to show...and holding his world together may be even harder than he thought it would be.

Featured in *Publishers Weekly's* 2025 Read with Pride campaign

"Enriched by sensitive depictions of Hakeem's substance use as well as his frank questioning and exploration of his sexual identity... [with] emotionally honest discussions of grief and moving on from one's past." –*Publishers Weekly*

"An ambitious exploration of addiction and grief." –*Kirkus*

A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.

DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.

All rights are available.

~

DGB represents a number of backlist titles by the author. Please see backlist catalogue for more information.

AARON STARMER

Aaron Starmer was born in northern California and raised in the suburbs of Syracuse, New York. Before pursuing writing full-time, he worked in New York City for over ten years as an editor for a travel bookseller and as an operations director for an African safari company. His middle grade and young adult novels have been translated into multiple foreign languages and have appeared on best of the year lists from *Time* magazine, the *Wall Street Journal*, New York Public Library, YALSA, Bank Street College of Education, Chicago Public Library and *School Library Journal*. He lives in Vermont with his wife and two daughters.

NIGHT SWIMMING

Speculative Contemporary

Penguin Workshop/April 2025

One final swim of the summer. Let's make it last all night...

Summer, 1994. Trevor can barely wrap his mind around the fact that he and his friends have graduated high school. And yet there's no rush to get to college. He's determined to live one night at a time. Riding shotgun from party to party, windows down, music up, his focus is entirely on his crush, the enigmatic girl in the driver's seat. Will things ever go anywhere with Sarah?

Maybe? Because Sarah has proposed a mission: They're going to swim in all the pools in town. Before long, they're sneaking into backyards every night, splashing, floating, and loving every minute of it. But it's still not enough for Trevor. He yearns for Sarah, despite her college boyfriend, despite her "not yet"s, despite the way she keeps pulling away the moment it starts to feel truly magical.

Things finally change when they learn about a natural pool hidden deep in the woods. It seems like just another spot to check off their summer bucket list. But once they get there, they realize that this place has a curious hold on them, and something very strange is happening...

Aaron Starmer, the author of *Spontaneous*, delivers a '90s mixtape of a novel that combines summer romance, coming-of-age angst, and one unearthly twist.

"Starmer's eerie love story is spooky, sad and sweetly funny — a highly original 90's retro mixtape of a book that will have you wishing you could go night swimming with Sarah and Trevor, until chills go down your spine

"Starmer's writing is beautifully lyrical, creating an atmospheric tone and weaving a nontraditional coming-of-age story about self, friendship, and first love. The dual narrative structure proves utterly absorbing...An evocative and otherworldly tale." –*Kirkus*

"Starmer's work is both an intriguing metaphor and the story of young people on the precipice of uncertain adulthood." –*Booklist*

"**NIGHT SWIMMING** is a gorgeous novel, a lovely consideration of that last summer after high school before everything changes forever...thoughtful and compelling and utterly unique for teen readers." –*Locus Magazine*

"**NIGHT SWIMMING** is just the kind of book I like: a beautifully-written character dive that plays with the boundaries of reality. Bonus points for the nineties nostalgia and music references that had me thinking wistfully of my own teen years. An exciting offering in the world of speculative fiction, Starmer's novel asks all sorts of questions about who we are, who we might become, and who we're meant to be with. I'm very much here for this book (and I think Michael Stipe would be too)." –David Arnold, *New York Times* bestselling author

"Allegorical and shimmering with expectation, **NIGHT SWIMMING** is an all-consuming dream of a novel that feels at once vital and timeless. In one singular perfect summer, what's momentary becomes everlasting, and what's feared becomes beautiful and necessary. Unforgettable." –Nova Ren Suma, *New York Times* bestselling author

"A haunting, romantic, and mesmerizing story of the perilous moments between adolescence and adulthood that will take your breath away. Aaron Starmer's latest will take readers on what they think is one ride, and then turns out to be another—and it's a fantastic one powered by crisp, beautiful prose and a story that will linger long after the book is over. (Bonus: the songs that begin each section are sure to comprise

| | |
|--|---|
| and you realize what a very very bad idea that would be.” –E. Lockhart, author of <i>We Were Liars</i> and <i>Genuine Fraud</i> | your next favorite playlist.)” –Kathleen Glasgow, <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author of <i>Girl in Pieces</i> |
| <i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i> | |
| <i>DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.</i> | |
| <i>All rights are available.</i> | |
| ~ | |
| DGB represents a number of backlist titles by the author. Please see backlist catalogue for more information. | |

ANANYA DEVARAJAN

Ananya Devarajan is the author of *Kismet Connection*. She is a medical student at the Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine in Middletown, New York. Like the majority of her characters, she is a second-generation Indian American young adult. Her love for storytelling began on Wattpad, where she grew her audience as a Featured Author, and she later went on to win first place in TeenPit 2019. In her free time, she can be found watching her favorite Bollywood movies or studying for yet another Anatomy exam. ananyadevarajan.com

SANSKARI SWEETHEART

Contemporary Romance

Inkyard/May 2025

Raina needs to win the National Bollywood Dance Circuit Scholarship. That will show her mother that dance can be a financially stable career and prove to her boyfriend and co-captain, Aditya, that they're still the perfect couple, even if all they seem to do these days is fight. There's only one problem—Aditya breaks up with her, their Nationals choreography crumbles on stage, and Raina, as well as her hopes of winning the scholarship, is taken right down with it.

All Raina wants is a do-over, so when she wakes up the next morning to a miracle—another chance at Nationals with Aditya by her side—she couldn't be happier. But as the events of the day start repeating, Raina realizes she's stuck in a time loop, cursed to humiliate herself at Nationals and then get dumped—over and over again.

Raina is certain that if she follows all the right steps, she can break out of the time loop, win Nationals, and earn back the heart of her one true love in the process. But what if perfection isn't enough?

“SANSKARI SWEETHEART pairs carefully choreographed time-looping surprises with a sweet, smart romance that dances off the page. Lively and surefooted, Devarajan's latest puts a speculative spin on a charming story of family, rediscovery and renewed love.”

–Emily Wibberley and Austin Siegemund-Broka, authors of *Never Vacation With Your Ex*

A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.

DGB controls translation rights. Harlequin controls U.K. rights.

All rights are available.

~

DGB represents a number of backlist titles by the author. Please see backlist catalogue for more information.

BRANDY COLBERT

Brandy Colbert is the award-winning author of several books for children and teens, including *Black Birds in the Sky: The Story and Legacy of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre*, which was the winner of the 2022 Boston Globe–Horn Book Award for Nonfiction and a finalist for the American Library Association's Excellence in Young Adult Nonfiction Award. Her other acclaimed books include *The Blackwoods*, *Pointe*, *The Only Black Girls in Town*, and Stonewall Book Award winner *Little & Lion*. Her writing has been published in the *New York Times*, and her short stories and essays have appeared in several critically acclaimed anthologies for young people. She is on faculty at Hamline University's MFA program in writing for children, and lives in Los Angeles.

THE BLACKWOODS

Contemporary Fiction

Balzer & Bray/2023

From Boston Globe/Horn Book Award-winning author Brandy Colbert comes the story of four generations of a Hollywood family—an unforgettable tale of ambition, fame, struggle, loss, and love in America.

The Blackwoods. Everyone knows their name.

Blossom Blackwood burst onto the silver screen in 1962, and in the decades that followed, she would become one of the most celebrated actors of our time—and the matriarch of the most famous Black family in Hollywood. To her great-granddaughters, Hollis and Ardith, she has always just been *Bebe*. And when she passes away, it changes everything.

Hollis Blackwood was never interested in fame. Still, she's surrounded by it, whether at home with her family or at the prestigious Dupree Academy among Los Angeles' elite. When private photos of Hollis are leaked in the wake of Blossom's death, she is thrust into the spotlight she's long avoided—and finds that trust may be a luxury even she can't afford.

Ardith Blackwood has always lived in the public eye. A television star since childhood, she was perhaps closer with Blossom than anyone—especially after Ardith's mother died in a drug overdose. Ever since, she has worked to be everything her family, her church, and the public want her to be. But as a family secret comes to light and the pressures from all sides begin to mount, she wonders what is left beneath the face she shows the world.

Weaving together the narratives of Hollis, Ardith, and Blossom, award-winning author Brandy Colbert tells an unforgettable story set in an America where everything is personal, and nothing is private.

THE BLACKWOODS is featured as a *Kirkus* Best Book of the Year, Audible Best Book of the Year, RISE: A Feminist Book Project Top Ten Title, Amazon Best Book of the Month, *The Today Show* Best Books to Read in October Pick, and a 2024 Capitol Choices Noteworthy Books List Pick.

"Brandy Colbert delivers yet again with a whip-smart look at gender, Blackness, and aspiration, and what the Hollywood machine has historically given and taken from performers of color. **THE BLACKWOODS** is a story about the messiness of family and the burdens and triumphs of carrying the legacy of Black excellence. As a family, the Blackwoods are so tenderly drawn and beautifully human, I found myself wishing I could spend even longer with them well after I'd turned the final page." – Christina Hammonds Reed, *New York Times*-bestselling author of *The Black Kids*

"Binge-able as the best movies, this epic, beautifully-written tale of one famous Hollywood family is Brandy Colbert at the top of her game. Full of secrets and lies, loss and love, history and destiny, **THE BLACKWOODS** shines." –Laura Ruby, National Book Award finalist and author of *Thirteen Doorways, Wolves Behind Them All*

A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation. DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.

Golden Poppy Award Finalist
Junior Library Guild Selection
2024-2025 Pennsylvania Young Readers Choice Awards Finalist

"Colbert's sprawling novel is a deeply felt love letter to Black Hollywood's groundbreaking forebears and a tribute to the transformative power of maternal love, providing rich emotional insights layered with thoughtful explorations of the intersectionalities around race, class, and gender. A striking testament to the bonds of family and a perceptive study in how events can echo throughout generations." – *Kirkus*, **starred review**

"An absorbing intergenerational tale about a famous Black Hollywood family, their relationship with notoriety, and the ramifications that come with it." –*Publishers Weekly*, **starred review**

"Colbert beautifully describes the complex lives of three young women through the alternating perspectives of Blossom in 1942, and Ardith and Hollis in the present day. Carefully tackles serious themes of race, family, sexual harassment, and addiction, and invites readers into the joyous highs and painful lows of fame and its legacy." –*Shelf Awareness*, **starred review**

"Told in two time periods and following the perspectives of a young Blossom Blackwood and her two great-granddaughters, Colbert's novel explores the difficult choices each has to make to stay true to themselves." – *Booklist*

"Colbert delivers a heartfelt, layered story that delves into themes of identity, societal expectations, and the blurred boundaries between private and public lives. The exploration of family secrets [and] the weight of expected gender roles add elements of intrigue and suspense, keeping readers engaged and eager to unravel the truth." –*Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books*

"A gorgeously layered, expansive, and emotionally generous page-turner, **THE BLACKWOODS** made me think about fame and family and legacy in ways I never had before. To put it simply, it swept me off my feet." –Nina LaCour, author of the Michael L. Printz Award-winner *We Are Okay*

"Wholly absorbing and meticulously researched, I was captivated from page one by this multigenerational story of Black Hollywood royalty. You will fall in love with Blossom Blackwood, her ambitions, and her entire family." –Malinda Lo, National Book Award-winning and *New York Times*-bestselling author of *Last Night at the Telegraph Club*

All rights are available.

LITTLE & LION

Contemporary Fiction

Little, Brown Books for Young Readers/2017

When Suzette comes home to Los Angeles from her boarding school in New England, she isn't sure if she'll ever want to go back. L.A. is where her friends and family are (as well as her crush, Emil). And her stepbrother, Lionel, who has been diagnosed with bipolar disorder, needs her emotional support.

But as she settles into her old life, Suzette finds herself falling for someone new...the same girl her brother is in love with. When Lionel's disorder spirals out of control, Suzette is forced to confront her past mistakes and find a way to help her brother before he hurts himself—or worse.

LITTLE & LION was featured as a Best Book of the Year by *Kirkus*, *Booklist*, Bank Street, *Buzzfeed*, *Bustle*, *Vulture*, *Seventeen* Magazine, and *Paste* Magazine.

"**LITTLE & LION** is beautifully insightful, honest, and compassionate. Brandy's ability to find larger meaning in small moments is nothing short of dazzling." –National Book Award Finalist and #1 *New York Times* bestselling author Nicola Yoon

"Brandy Colbert further establishes herself as one of contemporary YA's biggest talents in this thoughtful and thought-provoking examination of identity, loyalty, and what it means to live with integrity. **LITTLE & LION** is a stunningly good novel." –Kiersten White, *New York Times* bestselling author of *And I Darken*

A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.

DGB controls translation rights. Little, Brown controls U.K. rights.

All rights are available.

A 2018 Stonewall Book Award Winner

ALA Best Fiction for Young Adults

Junior Library Guild Selection

"This superbly written novel teems with meaningful depth, which is perfectly balanced by romance and the languorous freedom of summer." –*Booklist*, **starred review**

"A moving, diverse exploration of the challenges of growing up and the complicated nature of loyalty." –*School Library Journal*, **starred review**

"Colbert sensitively confronts misconceptions about mental illness, bisexuality, and intersectional identity...A vibrantly depicted Los Angeles." –*Kirkus*, **starred review**

"From the threads of love and romance, to redefining family life, readers of all walks of life will find an entry point to this title." –*Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books*, **starred review**

"Brandy Colbert takes us on an emotional and gorgeous journey with a protagonist who is trying to figure out where she fits in with her family as well as in the world. A book full of overwhelming love and courage." –Sara Farizan, author of *Tell Me Again How a Crush Should Feel*

POINTE

Contemporary Fiction

Putnam/2014

Theo is better now.

She's eating again, dating guys who are *almost* appropriate, and well on her way to becoming an elite ballet dancer. But when her oldest friend, Donovan, returns home after spending four long years with his kidnapper, Theo starts reliving memories about his abduction—and his abductor.

Donovan isn't talking about what happened, and even though Theo knows she didn't do anything wrong, telling the truth would put everything she's been living for at risk. But keeping quiet might be worse.

Brandy Colbert dazzles in this heartbreaking yet hopeful debut novel about learning how to let go of even our most shameful secrets.

POINTE was featured as a Best Book of the Year by *Publishers Weekly*, *Buzzfeed*, Los Angeles Public Library, Chicago Public Library, and Bank Street. It was also a 2014 *Publishers Weekly* Flying Start.

"A brave and resonant debut that is as captivating as it is heartbreaking." –Nina LaCour, author of *Hold Still*

"Brandy Colbert's debut is beautiful, sharp and memorable." –Courtney Summers, author of *Cracked Up to Be*

A 2014 CYBILS Award Winner

"Colbert builds characters whose flaws, struggles, and bad decisions make them real and indelibly memorable...and it's this complexity and empathy that set this gripping story apart." –*Publishers Weekly*, **starred review**

"Colbert's strong debut believably portrays self-delusion through a first-person voice—readers will see the protagonist's every mistake but also understand why she made them." –*Booklist*

"A victory for young people, especially young women, everywhere." –*Chicago Tribune*

"A must-read for all young adult fans." –*Parade*

"Colbert has put out a stunningly poignant novel... Readers who discover this book will be unable to put it down." –*VOYA*

| | |
|--|--|
| | “Drama, plus pointe shoes? Yes, please: this is one book that’s bound to make a splash.” –MTV News |
| <i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i> | |
| <i>DGB controls translation rights. Putnam controls U.K. rights.</i> | |
| <i>Rights Sold: Brazil (Vergara y Ribas); France (Editions du Masque); Germany (Dtv); Latin America (V&R Editoras); Mexico (Vergara y Riba Editoras); Russia (Azbooka-Atticus)</i> | |
| ~ | |
| DGB represents a number of backlist titles by the author. Please see backlist catalogue for more information. | |

DIANA URBAN

Diana Urban is an award-winning author of dark, twisty thrillers, including *All Your Twisted Secrets* and *Under the Surface*. Her novels have been published internationally, and when she’s not torturing her fictional characters, she freelances in video game narrative writing. She lives with her husband and cat in Boston and enjoys reading, playing video games, fawning over cute animals, and looking at the beach from a safe distance. Visit her online at DianaUrban.com

The authors previous books have been published in Czech (Dobrovsky), Danish (Dobrovsky), French (Albin Michel), Hungary (XXI Szazad), Romanian (Herg Benet), Russian (Eksmo), and Spanish (Obscura).

UNDER THE SURFACE

Thriller

Razorbill/2024

A twisty survival-thriller set in the catacombs of Paris from rising YA star, Diana Urban, perfect for fans of Natalie D. Richards, Stephanie Perkins, and Jessica Goodman.

Ruby has always dreamed of her senior class trip to Paris and is dead set on capturing original content for her travel YouTube channel while abroad. Bonus? It means she will get to spend more time with her crush/video editor Sean.

After a calm first night, Ruby’s best friend Val convinces Ruby and two other girls—including Ruby’s ex best friend and current nemesis—to sneak out of the hotel and attend a once-in-a-lifetime party with a sexy new Parisian friend, within the catacombs, the dark uncharted maze of bones beneath the streets of the City of Light.

As the group travels the miles of twisted tunnels, the eternal resting place to countless, anonymous souls, it becomes clear: they’re hopelessly lost. The deeper they venture, the darker the secrets revealed about the catacombs become. But Ruby’s biggest problem may not be the strange noises coming from those dark narrow halls or the bones of the dead fortifying the walls but instead the people she thought she could trust the most.

“**UNDER THE SURFACE** is a claustrophobic, terrifying, jump-scare of a novel that will leave you breathless. Urban perfectly weaves the longing and angst of the love story with an absolutely terrifying adventure through the catacombs. Truly her most terrifying work yet.” –Megan Lally, *New York Times* bestselling author of *That’s Not My Name*

“Urban’s sharp banter and engaging voice pull you in, then send you through a maze of frankly terrifying

An IndieNext pick!

An Apple Best Book of August

An Amazon Best Teen & Young Adult Book of August

An Amazon Best Teen & Young Adult Book of 2024

“Punchy dialogue, drum-tight pacing, and tense stakes permeate this nail-biting adventure, a delight from start to finish.” –*Publishers Weekly*, **starred review**

“A nonstop thrill ride.” –*Kirkus*

“Lots of twists, heart-pounding near-misses, and heartbreaking turns of events make for an exhilarating read.” –*School Library Journal*

“Tense and fast-moving, with a unique setting and compelling characters, **UNDER THE SURFACE** is Diana Urban’s best yet.” –Karen M. McManus, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *One of Us Is Lying*

“A riveting read full of cagey twists and turns and featuring a spectacular setting, readers will devour this delicious story.” –Kathleen Glasgow, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Girl in Pieces* and *The Agathas* series

“**UNDER THE SURFACE** is a nail-biting thriller with a paranormal edge, a high-stakes romance, and can’t-put-it-down pacing. It transported me to the Paris catacombs right alongside Ruby, where the twists and turns kept me glued to the pages until the very end.” –C. L. Herman, *New York Times* bestselling author of *All of Us Villains*

“A nightmare we’ve all had: in a place we don’t know well, innocent spontaneity gone awry. Yet, a heart beats fierce throughout this book, from Diana Urban’s brilliantly rendered characters to the City of Light itself. It’s survival, yes, but more than merely physical: **UNDER THE SURFACE** explores the survival of friendship, optimism, romance, and hope. All in the horrifying presence of the innumerable dead. Urban is magnificent.” –Josh Malerman, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Bird Box* and *Incidents Around the House*

“**UNDER THE SURFACE** is a wild, twisty, romantic adventure that will leave you feeling afraid of the dark, and putting this book down before

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>twists that get darker the deeper you go. UNDER THE SURFACE is a thrilling heartbreak of a journey, from start to finish.” –Eva V. Gibson, Edgar-nominated author of <i>Frightmares</i> and <i>Where Secrets Lie</i></p> <p>“The most propulsive book I’ve read in recent memory, UNDER THE SURFACE manages to be at once nail-bitingly terrifying and potentially emotional.” –M. K. Lobb, <i>Sunday Times</i> bestselling author of <i>Seven Faceless Saints</i></p> <p>“Your heart will race as you dodge and travel through the story’s surprising twists and turns. Horror, fear and relationships take center stage, in a story that thrills and chills.” –Aurora Dominguez, reviewer at <i>Booklist & BookTrib</i></p> | <p>you reach the end is almost as impossible as escaping the winding catacombs of Paris.” –Ginny Myers Sain, <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author of <i>Dark and Shallow Lies</i></p> <p>“Fast-paced and thrilling, UNDER THE SURFACE has as many dangerous turns and secrets as the catacombs below Paris. Urban’s writing and use of alternating narrators keeps the tension high and the pages turning. At the heart of this dark and creepy (in the best way!) survival story is love, friendship, and hope.” –Krystal Marquis, <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author of <i>The Davenport</i></p> <p>“An exhilarating adventure filled with twists, secrets, and nonstop tension, UNDER THE SURFACE keeps you guessing—and on the edge of your seat—until the very end. Diana Urban has crafted a page-turning survival thriller that grips you from the very first page.” –Alex Aster, #1 <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author of <i>Lightlark</i></p> |
| <p><i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>DGB controls translation rights. PRH controls U.K. rights.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>Rights Sold: Netherlands (De Fontein); Poland (Kobiece); Ukraine (Fabula)</i></p> | |
| ~ | |
| <p>THESE DEADLY GAMES</p> | <p>Thriller</p> |
| <p>Wednesday Books/2022</p> | |
| <p>Sixteen-year-old Crystal Donovan wants to murder her nemesis Kira—in a video game tournament, that is. If she defeats her former best friend and wins the nationwide championship tomorrow, she’ll score a million dollars and save her family from the bank foreclosing on their house—not to mention the glory of beating that vicious backstabber.</p> <p>But Crystal’s world turns upside-down when her phone pings with a video of her little sister bound and gagged, and a message from an anonymous sender: “Let’s play a game. If you don’t follow the rules, she dies. If you go to the police, she dies. If you tell your parents or anyone else, she dies. You have 36 hours.”</p> <p>In her panic, Crystal completes tasks that get more and more bizarre. Steal an exam and slip it into locker 416 without getting caught. Call in a prank tip to the FBI. Bake brownies for her esports team. But locker 416 belongs to her friend and teammate Dylan, and he’s suspended for cheating. A SWAT team raids another teammate’s house, shooting and injuring his dad. And another teammate dies from an allergic reaction to the brownies.</p> <p>Now Crystal must spend 36 hours destroying her friends’ lives or the person closest to her dies. THESE DEADLY GAMES is a young adult thriller that’s a cross between <i>I Know What You Did Last Summer</i> and <i>Nerve</i>.</p> | <p>“A propulsive mystery with high stakes and devious, masterful twists that will leave you guessing until the very last page. Diana Urban’s latest had my jaw on the floor.” –Jessica Goodman, bestselling author of <i>They Wish They Were Us</i></p> <p>Praise for Diana Urban: “Talk about frightening page-turners! I kept reading chapter after chapter. I had to know what happens next! And trust me—the scares just keep on coming!” –R.L. Stine, bestselling author of <i>Goosebumps</i> and <i>Fear Street</i></p> <p>“Urban’s debut is a powerful one, rich in emotional turmoil and intracharacter conflict.” –<i>Publishers Weekly</i></p> <p>“A compelling thriller...readers will be captivated as layers of each teen’s life are peeled back to complicate the mystery.” –<i>School Library Journal</i></p> <p>“Cleverly plotted...Full of surprises.” –Lisa Unger, <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author of <i>The Stranger Inside</i></p> |
| <p><i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>DGB controls translation rights. Macmillan controls U.K. rights.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>Rights Sold: Czech Republic (Dobrovsky); Hungary (XXI Szazad Kiado); Romania (Bookzone); Spain (Obscura)</i></p> | |
| ~ | |
| <p>ALL YOUR TWISTED SECRETS</p> | <p>Thriller</p> |
| <p>HarperTeen/2020</p> | |
| <p>What do the queen bee, star athlete, valedictorian, stoner, loner, and music geek all have in common? They were all invited to a scholarship dinner, only to discover it’s a trap. Someone has locked them into a room with a bomb, a syringe filled with poison, and a note saying</p> | <p>“Talk about frightening page-turners! I kept reading chapter after chapter. I had to know what happens next! And trust me—the scares just keep on coming!” –R.L. Stine, bestselling author of <i>Goosebumps</i> and <i>Fear Street</i></p> |

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>they have an hour to pick someone to kill... or else everyone dies.</p> <p>Amber Prescott is determined to get her classmates and herself out of the room alive, but that might be easier said than done. No one knows how they're all connected or who would want them dead. As they retrace the events over the past year that might have triggered their captor's ultimatum, it becomes clear that everyone is hiding something. And with the clock ticking down, confusion turns into fear, and fear morphs into panic as they race to answer the biggest question: Who will they choose to die?</p> <p>ALL YOUR TWISTED SECRETS is the debut novel from Diana Urban, a marketing manager at BookBub. As promised by the conceit, by the end of the hour, at least one person will, in fact, be dead. There are no cheats to a happy ending in this world, but there are a whole lot of twists along the way. Alternating flashback chapters that drop clues about who's set them up and who the victim will be with real time updates from inside the locked dining room, the novel is a carefully constructed thriller—and a whole lot of fun.</p> <p>Named a must-read book of 2020 by <i>Cosmopolitan</i>, <i>PopSugar</i>, <i>SheReads</i>, Goodreads, BookBub, <i>Paste Magazine</i>, and more!</p> <p>“With mystery layered on intrigue layered on suspense, Urban delivers a fast-paced, unforgettable escape room thriller—a gripping debut...I can't wait to see what Urban has for us next.”—Wendy Heard, author of <i>The Kill Club</i></p> | <p>“Urban’s debut is a powerful one, rich in emotional turmoil and intracharacter conflict, with a strong message against bullying and a focus on standing up for oneself and one’s goals.” —<i>Publishers Weekly</i></p> <p>“<i>The Breakfast Club</i> meets <i>One of Us Is Lying</i> in Urban’s adrenaline-fueled thriller, pitting the six teens against one another in a satisfying and delightfully claustrophobic ode to Agatha Christie.” —<i>Booklist</i></p> <p>“A compelling thriller...readers will be captivated as layers of each teen’s life are peeled back to complicate the mystery.” —<i>School Library Journal</i></p> <p>“Debut author Urban’s high-pressure revenge thriller puts a sinister twist on the escape room motif.” —<i>Kirkus</i></p> <p>“Cleverly plotted...Full of surprises.”—Lisa Unger, <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author of <i>The Stranger Inside</i></p> <p>“Like a diabolical version of <i>The Breakfast Club</i> with equal parts murder and angst, <i>All Your Twisted Secrets</i> is a tense and exhilarating rollercoaster, sprinting against time to a shocking ending that will make you immediately want to read it again.”—Mike Chen, author of <i>Here And Now And Then</i></p> <p>“<i>All Your Twisted Secrets</i> is an absolute nail-biter. Diana Urban takes the locked room puzzle mystery and gives it a modern, scary, young adult twist. Young fans of Agatha Christie will be entranced. A stellar new voice to watch.”—J.T. Ellison, <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author of <i>Good Girls Lie</i></p> <p>“Reminiscent of an Agatha Christie, <i>All Your Twisted Secrets</i> will keep you guessing to the end. A page-turner with characters you will love and hate. Simply, a fabulous mystery!”—Kaira Rouda, <i>USA Today</i> bestselling author of <i>Best Day Ever</i></p> |
| <p><i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>DGB controls translation rights. Harper controls U.K. rights.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>Rights Sold: Czech Republic (Dobrovsky); Denmark (Gyldendal); France (Albin Michel); Romania (Herg Benet); Russia (Eksmo); Spain (Obscura)</i></p> | |

KEELY PARRACK

Keely Parrack is a young adult novel and picture book author whose titles include, *Don't Let in the Cold*, and *10 Hours to Go*. Born and raised in England, she came to America for a two-year adventure. She is still here twenty years later, doing all the things she loves: writing YA novels, picture books, poetry, and motivating kids to be excited about reading and creative writing. She has worked in retail, education, and for her local indie bookstore. When she's not brainstorming her next books, she loves to read, binge-watch horror movies, run, travel, and take too many photographs. She lives in the San Francisco Bay Area, with her husband and son.

10 HOURS TO GO

Thriller

Sourcebooks Fire/2024

Lily wants to get home. Her friends want to get even. Lily needs a ride—a fire warning in Oregon has cancelled her train home to California. Her ex-best friend, Natasha, has offered to pick Lily up on her way back from Portland, though they're barely on speaking terms. As it turns out, Natasha's also giving a ride to Elke Azizi, the girl Lily got expelled from their school four years ago. Elke hasn't forgotten, and neither has Natasha.

“By gradually unveiling details about the trio's tumultuous eighth grade year throughout the tense present-day narrative, Parrack heats up the suspense, skillfully balancing nail-biting survival sequences with angsty character interactions that will have readers hooked.” —*Publishers Weekly*

“The breathless writing, with most chapters ending in cliffhangers, feels appropriate, creating a sense that the air has been sucked from the room. The peril the teens endure makes the saccharine ending a

It's getting tense in the car, and it's not just about the past.

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>There's smoke in the air, and with the wildfires nearby, staying on the road is becoming riskier by the hour. When Natasha and Elke decide to take a detour, Lily hopes it'll get them out of danger. She has no idea, though, what her former friends have planned for her.</p> <p>But as night comes, the plans change again when it becomes all too clear that leaving the main road was a mistake. Now the three of them are trapped in the woods under a burning sky, with no easy way out. To survive, Lily must depend on Elke and Natasha—but after all that's happened, can she trust them with her life?</p> | <p>cleansing sigh of relief. No slow burn here—this extreme homeward-bound tale thrills.” –<i>Kirkus</i></p> <p>“Old friends collide, and secrets erupt during this propulsive, blazing whirlwind of a road trip. Buckle up!” –Jennifer Lynn Alvarez, author of <i>Lies Like Wildfire</i></p> <p>“A thrilling ride of a novel with friendship at its burnt core.” –Stacey Lee, <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author of Reese's Book Club pick <i>The Downstairs Girl</i></p> <p>“Captivated in an atmosphere of fear and panic, I raced through 10 HOURS TO GO!” –Anja Gutbrod-Piiltz, Towne Center Books</p> |
| <p><i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>DGB controls translation rights. Sourcebooks controls U.K. rights.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>All rights are available.</i></p> | |
| <p>~</p> | |
| <p>DGB represents a number of backlist titles by the author. Please see backlist catalogue for more information.</p> | |

ROBIN TALLEY

Robin Talley (she/her) is a queer author who grew up in southwest Virginia and now lives in Washington, D.C., with her wife and their rambunctious kiddos. She did digital communications work for LGBTQ rights, women's rights, educational equity, and other progressive causes for fifteen years before she turned to writing full-time, and is now the *New York Times*-bestselling author of seven novels for teen readers, including *The Love Curse of Melody McIntyre*, *Music From Another World*, *Pulp*, and *As I Descended*. Her short stories have appeared in the young adult collections *Toil & Trouble: 15 Tales of Women & Witchcraft*, *All Out: The No-Longer-Secret Stories of Queer Teens throughout the Ages*, *A Tyranny of Petticoats: 15 Stories of Belles, Bank Robbers and Other Badass Girls*, and *Feral Youth*.

Her books have won accolades including the Amnesty CILIP Honour and the Concorde Book Award, have been short-listed for the Lambda Literary Award and the CILIP Carnegie Medal, and have appeared on the Junior Library Guild, Amelia Bloomer Project, Kids' Indie Next, and ALA Rainbow lists. They've also been covered in media outlets including *Entertainment Weekly*, the *Guardian*, the *Chicago Tribune*, *Teen Vogue*, NPR, BuzzFeed, *Vulture*, *Huffington Post*, *Vice*, and *Bustle*.

EVERYTHING GLITTERED

Historical Mystery

Little, Brown BFYR/2024

Society girls try to find a murderer in a city filled with secrets and stunted by shame, in this queer historical thriller by award-winning author Robin Talley, perfect for fans of *Last Night at the Telegraph Club*.

It's 1927 and the strict laws of prohibition have done little to temper the roaring 20s nightlife, even in the nation's capitol. Everyone knows the booze has never stopped flowing, especially amongst the rich and powerful, and seventeen-year-old Gertrude and her best friends Clara and Milly are determined to get a taste of freedom and liquor, propriety be damned. But after sneaking out of the Washington Female Seminary to visit a speakeasy, they return to discover that their controversial young headmistress, Mrs. Rose, has been murdered.

Reeling from the death of her beloved mentor, Gertrude enlists her friends in her quest to clear Mrs. Rose's reputation, while trying to keep her own intact. But in Prohibition Washington, it's difficult to sidestep grifters, bootleggers, and shady federal agents when investigating a murder. And with all the secrets being uncovered, Gertrude is finding it harder and harder to keep her attraction to her best friends hidden.

"Talley examines intense queer longing and self-discovery through a well-realized jaunt into Gilded Era high society, juxtaposing suffocatingly stiff etiquette with an undercurrent of misogyny and homophobia...tender explorations of Gertie's burgeoning awareness of her queer identity drive this glitzy murder mystery." –*Publishers Weekly*

"**EVERYTHING GLITTERED** is more than just a page-turning mystery that will keep you guessing; it is also a story of self-discovery, and a moving look at the struggle and resilience of queer subculture in the Roaring 20s. Another must-read from Robin Talley." –Caleb Roehrig, author of *The Fell of Dark*

"Prohibition-era Washington DC springs to life in **EVERYTHING GLITTERED**, which shimmers with Gatsby-glamour and mysterious intrigue – you'll fall in love with Robin Talley's gorgeous, feisty girls." –Ellie Marney, *New York Times* bestselling author of *None Shall Sleep* and *The Killing Code*

"An atmospheric thriller that shines a light on the enticing underbelly of the Prohibition era and the people who found freedom within it. Robin Talley expertly cloaks a heartfelt coming of age tale in secrets, scandals, and a very sharp knife." –Rebecca Kim Wells, author of *Briar Girls*

| | |
|--|--|
| A proper, upscale life is all Gertrude has ever known, but murder sure makes a gal wonder: is all that glitters really gold? | “Talley is one of my favorites; stunning historical details, brilliant plotting - everything she touches turns to gold.” –Lev AC Rosen, author of <i>Lavender House</i> and <i>The Bell In The Fog</i> |
| <i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i> | |
| <i>DGB controls translation rights. Hachette controls U.K. rights.</i> | |
| <i>All rights are available.</i> | |
| ~ | |
| DGB represents a number of backlist titles by the author. Please see backlist catalogue for more information. | |

A.S. KING

A.S. King is an award-winning author, hailed by the *New York Times* as “one of the best YA writers working today.” She is the only two-time winner of the Michael L. Printz Award, and she was the recipient of the 2022 Margaret A. Edwards Award, which recognizes an author and their “significant and lasting contribution to young adult literature.” Her novels include *The Dust of 100 Dogs*, an ALA Best Book for Young Adults; *Please Ignore Vera Dietz*, a Michael L. Printz Honor Book and an Edgar Award Nominee; *Everybody Sees the Ants*; *Ask the Passengers*, winner of the LA Times Book Prize; *Reality Boy*; *Glory O’Brien’s History of the Future*, which was on the Best Book of 2014 lists *Publishers Weekly*, *Kirkus*, *School Library Journal*, *BookPage*, *Boston Globe*, and the NYPL; *I Crawl Through It*; *Still Life with Tornado*, a *New York Times* Notable Book; *Dig*, which received the 2020 Printz Award and was an LA Times Book Prize finalist; and *Switch*, which was a YALSA 2022 Best Fiction for Young Adults pick. As Amy Sarig King, she has written middle grade novels *Me and Marvin Gardens*; *The Year We Fell from Space*; and *Attack of the Black Rectangles*, an instant bestseller. Most recently, she is the editor of *The Collectors: Stories*, winner of the 2024 Printz Award.

PICK THE LOCK**Literary Fiction****Dutton/2024**

From Michael L. Printz Award winner A.S. King, a weird and insightful new novel about a girl intent on picking the lock of her toxic family.

Jane Vandermaker-Cook would like her mother back. As Jane's mother tours the world to support the family, Jane lives and goes to school in a Victorian mansion with her younger brother and their mendacious father who confines Jane's mother to a system of pneumatic tubes whenever she's at home. And then there's weirdly ever-present Aunt Finch, Milorad the gardener, and his rat, Brutus. For Jane, this is all normal until she suddenly gains access to the files for a lifetime worth of security-camera videos—her lifetime.

A.S. King's latest surrealist masterpiece follows Jane's bizarre and brilliant journey to reconnect with her mother by breaking out of her shell and composing a punk opera.

“King delivers a searing, surreal novel about toxic relationships and systemic abuse...Helmmed by Jane's penetrating commentary, this unconventional narrative melds punk anthems and bewildering interludes from a shape-shifting rat with King's quirky blend of present-day issues and mind-bending twists to unlock complex, thought-provoking insight.” –*Publishers Weekly*

An NPR Books We Love Pick for 2024
An Amazon Best Teen & Young Adult Pick for 2024
A *Shelf Awareness* Best Book of the Year
A *Horn Book* Fanfare List Pick
A *Boston Globe* Best Book of the Year
A Chicago Public Library Best Book of the Year
A YALSA Amazing Audiobooks Top Ten Pick

“Printz Award-winning King has written another remarkable, character-driven book that dazzles with its originality. With that and its employment of magic realism, it is sui generis, and at 400-plus pages, it is one of King's most ambitious, and most successful, books.” –*Booklist*, **starred review**

“A stunning novel of pain and power that lays bare the complexities of gaslighting, psychological violence, family trauma, and the social structures that normalize them...Surreal elements, meanwhile, add discomforting strangeness and empowering hope. A worthy literary heir to feminist novels like *The Stepford Wives*, updated and recast for a new generation, this is a much-needed, thought-provoking tale of survival and triumph.” –*BCCB*, **starred review**

“In her 11th young adult novel, three-time Michael L. Printz Award-winner A.S. King employs her signature surrealism to portray the emotional reality of domestic abuse through an unflinching feminist gaze...Teen readers are lucky to have King in their corner.” –*Shelf Awareness*, **starred review**

“A young adult feminist anthem that thoughtfully addresses issues of abuse. Fans of King's work and teens interested in music and social issues will be drawn to this work.” –*School Library Journal*, **starred review**

A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.

DGB controls translation rights. PRH controls U.K. rights.

All rights are available.

~

SWITCH**Literary Fiction**

| | |
|--|---|
| Dutton/2021 | |
| <p>A surreal and timely novel about isolation and human connection from Michael L. Printz Award winner A.S. King.</p> <p>Time has stopped. It's been June 23, 2020 for nearly a year as far as anyone can tell. Frantic adults demand teenagers focus on finding practical solutions to the worldwide crisis. Not everyone is on board though. Javelin-throwing prodigy Truda Becker is pretty sure her "Solution Time" class won't solve the world's problems, but she does have a few ideas what might. Truda lives in a house with a switch that no one ever touches, a switch her father protects every day by nailing it into hundreds of progressively larger boxes. But Truda's got a crowbar, and one way or another, she's going to see what happens when she flips the switch.</p> <p>SWITCH was #1 on the BookPage Best Young Adult Books of 2021 and made the Chicago Public Library Best Teen Fiction of 2021.</p> <p><i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i></p> <p><i>DGB controls translation rights. Dutton controls U.K. rights.</i></p> <p><i>All rights are available.</i></p> | <p>"Timely and extraordinary, teen readers will find themselves immersed in this timeless world... Highly recommended." –<i>School Library Journal</i>, starred review</p> <p>"An unsettling but emotionally resonant novel for our own unsettling times." –<i>Bookpage</i>, starred review</p> <p>"Inventive, surreal." –<i>The Horn Book</i>, starred review</p> <p>"A work of literary genius." –<i>Booklist</i></p> <p>"Poignant, propulsive, and profound." –<i>Publishers Weekly</i></p> <p>"Another surrealist masterpiece... Timely and timeless." –<i>Kirkus</i></p> |
| ~ | |
| DIG | Literary Fiction |
| Dutton/2019 | |
| <p>A surreal and searing dive into the tangled secrets of a wealthy white family in suburban Pennsylvania and the terrible cost the family's children pay to maintain the family name.</p> <p>The Shoveler, the Freak, CanIHelpYou?, Loretta the Flea-Circus Ring Mistress, and First-Class Malcolm. These are the five teenagers lost in the Hemmings family's maze of tangled secrets. Only a generation removed from being Pennsylvania potato farmers, Gottfried and Marla Hemmings managed to trade digging spuds for developing subdivisions and now sit atop a seven-figure bank account--wealth they've declined to pass on to their adult children or their teenage grandchildren. "Because we want them to thrive," Marla always says. What does thriving look like? Like carrying a snow shovel everywhere. Like selling pot at the Arby's drive-thru window. Like a first-class ticket to Jamaica between cancer treatments. Like a flea-circus in a double-wide. Like the GPS coordinates to a mound of dirt in a New Jersey forest. As the rot just beneath the surface of the Hemmings' precious suburban respectability begins to spread, the far-flung grandchildren gradually find their ways back to one another, just in time to uncover the terrible cost of maintaining the family name.</p> <p>With her inimitable prose and keen insight into teenage experience, A.S. King explores how a corrosive culture of polite, affluent white supremacy tears a family apart and how one determined generation can save themselves.</p> <p>DIG made the 2019 Best of the Year lists of <i>School Library Journal</i>, <i>Horn Book</i>, and Chicago Public Library. It was a YALSA 2020 Amazing Audiobooks for Young Adults top ten selection. It won the Michael L. Printz Award and was a finalist for the LA Times Book Prize.</p> <p>"A.S. King challenges readers from the first page to the last. <i>Dig</i> will make you question the confines of your comfort zone—if you have one. An incredible addition to an already impressive body of</p> | <p>2020 MICHAEL L. PRINTZ AWARD WINNER</p> <p>Das außergewöhnliche Buch 2022 (The Extraordinary Book 2022) at International Literature Festival Berlin</p> <p>2019 L.A. Times Book Prize in Young Adult Literature Finalist</p> <p>"This combination of masterly storytelling, memorable characters, and unexpected twists and turns make this book into an unforgettable, linger read." –<i>School Library Journal</i>, starred review</p> <p>"This visceral examination of humanity's flaws and complexity... nevertheless cultivates hope in a younger generation that's wiser and stronger than its predecessors." –<i>Booklist</i>, starred review</p> <p>"The author's trademark surrealism and trenchant prose will speak profoundly to a generation of young people who are waking up to the societal sins of the past and working toward a more equitable future." –<i>The Horn Book</i>, starred review</p> <p>"King fans know to expect the unexpected, and they'll be richly rewarded with this intricate, heartfelt, readable concoction." –<i>BCCB</i>, starred review</p> <p>"This is a story of racism, family, secrets, and how many things are hidden beneath the surface. Although it is a hefty 400 pages, the development of the characters, the flow of the storylines, and the suspense over how it all will end will have young adult readers who enjoy contemporary realistic fiction feeling satisfied." –<i>School Library Journal</i>, starred review</p> |

| | |
|--|--|
| work." –Erin Entrada Kelly, <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author and Newbery medalist | “This combination of masterly storytelling, memorable characters, and unexpected twists and turns make this book into an unforgettable, lingering read.”– <i>Junior Library Guild, starred review</i> |
| “Heavily meditative, this strange and heart-wrenching tale is stunningly original.” – <i>Kirkus</i> | “Like King’s other novels, this one has a hallucinatory quality that keeps the reader guessing what’s real and what’s not. The payoff is in the profound ending, which pulls together the disparate threads and offers hope.” – <i>Publishers Weekly</i> |
| “Anyone who thinks YA books can’t also be great literature needs to read this author” –Claire Hennessy, <i>Irish Times</i> | |
| <i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i> | |
| <i>DGB controls translation rights. Dutton controls U.K. rights.</i> | |
| <i>Rights Sold: Germany (Festa); Slovakia (Albatros)</i> | |
| ~ | |
| DGB represents a number of backlist titles by the author. Please see backlist catalogue for more information. | |

JOY McCULLOUGH

Joy McCullough’s debut young adult novel *Blood Water Paint* (Penguin) won the Washington State and Pacific Northwest books awards, as well as honors such as the National Book Award longlist, finalist for the ALA Morris Award, a Publishers Weekly Flying Start and four starred reviews. Her debut middle grade novel, *A Field Guide to Getting Lost* (Simon & Schuster) was a Junior Library Guild Selection. She writes books and plays from her home in the Seattle area, where she lives with her husband and two children.

EVERYTHING IS POISON**Historical Fiction****Dutton/January 2025**

This historical novel in prose and verse tells the story of a deadly secret hiding in plain sight and of the women who risk everything to provide care for those with nowhere else to turn, perfect for fans of *Blood Water Paint* and *The Lost Apothecary*.

For as long as she can remember, Carmela Tofana has desperately wanted one thing: to be allowed behind the counter of her mother’s apothecary in Campo Marzio, Rome. When she turns sixteen, she’s finally allowed into the inner sanctum: the workroom where her mother, Giulia Tofana, and two assistants craft renowned remedies for their customers. But for every sweet-smelling flower extract in the workroom, there’s another potion requiring darker ingredients. And then there’s Aqua Tofana, the apothecary’s remedy of last resort for husbands who are just as deadly as any disease. In all Carmela’s years of wishing to follow in her mother’s footsteps, she never realized one tiny vial could be the death of them all.

“We can always count on Joy McCullough’s powerful and unflinching work to guide us through the past and shape our understanding of our place in the present.” –Courtney Summers, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Sadie and I’m the Girl*

A School Library Journal Best Book of the Year!
A Chicago Public Library Must Read of 2025!
A Horn Book Best Book of 2025

“Bracing...Enrapturing...This eloquent, rapid-fire novel is rich in cadence and history.” –*Publishers Weekly, starred review*

“Acclaimed author and playwright McCullough exquisitely reimagines her play *La Tofana’s Poison Emporium* into a historical teen novel that smoothly mixes in Italian history. Fans of McCullough’s *Blood Water Paint* will be enthralled to delve into another story that includes interspersed verse on the subject of ‘giving women a choice over what happens to their bodies.’ A must-read for those who embrace the #MeToo movement.” –*Booklist, starred review*

“McCullough has again found a real historical figure to breathe to life. An important and necessary purchase for all collections.” –*School Library Journal, starred review*

“**EVERYTHING IS POISON**’s mixture of tenderness, brutality, loneliness, resignation, and joy makes for an intimate reading experience. Free-verse poems between prose chapters elevate the story and highlight the universal elements. An emotionally stirring celebration of women finding community.” –*Kirkus Reviews*

*A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.**DGB controls translation rights. PRH controls U.K. rights.**All rights are available.*

~

ENTER THE BODY**Literary Fiction****Dutton/2023**

Each time their characters die on stage, Shakespeare’s women fall into a universal trap room beneath all the stages everywhere. They’re stuck in the stories the Bard gave them. Until Juliet reaches out to find

A CYBILS Award Finalist for Poetry Novel in Verse
Nominated for the 2024 Sakura Medal for High School, as voted by international students across Japan

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>Ophelia, Cordelia, and Lavinia, willing to hear her story.</p> <p>Through verse, these tragic heroines, from <i>Romeo & Juliet</i>, <i>Hamlet</i>, <i>King Lear</i>, and <i>Titus Andronicus</i>, tell their stories as they were told originally. But then through scripted dialogue with each other, they push back on these narratives and begin to tell the stories anew.</p> <p>One of <i>BCCB</i>'s Blue Ribbon Best of the Year</p> <p>“This shifting, experimental format will surprise and challenge readers’ ideas of storytelling and “classic” literature. By innovatively mining feminist themes of autonomy, exploitation, and patriarchy, McCullough boldly reconceptualizes Shakespeare’s version of the female point of view for a new generation of Bard enthusiasts.” –<i>Horn Book</i>, starred review</p> <p>“McCullough’s understanding of dramatic genre deeply informs the directions her heroines’ revised accounts take...Form as a mode of personal expression is conscious, deliberate, and stunningly effective here and elevates this novel above and beyond many run-of-the-mill Shakespeare retellings to a carefully constructed and emotionally resonant consideration of tragedy and autonomy...this will be a revelation for teens seeking to claim their own narrative as a distinct and whole person outside of adult or societal input.” –<i>BCCB</i>, starred review</p> <p>“McCullough, in turn, commendably retells the Bard's tragedies in fiercely feminist examinations of <i>Romeo & Juliet</i>, <i>Hamlet</i> and <i>King Lear</i>...A poetic and entrancing tribute to the women of Shakespeare.” –<i>Shelf Awareness</i>, starred review</p> | <p>“All readers will emerge with a more thorough understanding of these girls’ stories along with a deep sense of grief for the independence their fathers (and ultimately Shakespeare) denied them...This work elevates and reenergizes the canon; it’s an absolute must-read regardless of readers’ knowledge or opinion of Shakespeare.” –<i>School Library Journal</i>, starred review</p> <p>“These teenage girls reach out to each other, share their stories, and dance. Is this the way they can finally stop their mad cycles of sexual assault, death, and partner violence? In the end, they unburden their souls and are left with a sense of hope. Written in verse, this novel explores the topic of violence against women and, ultimately, their response to it...This is a strong, powerful look at the bonds women share and the power telling stories has to unburden us all.” –<i>SLC</i>, starred review</p> <p>“ENTER THE BODY turns Shakespeare on his head while honoring his talent as the girls retells their stories on their own terms. Each speaking character cleverly receives a distinct verse style befitting their original characterizations...While readers familiar with the original works will get the most out of this striking combination of formats in the shape of a novel, Shakespeare novices will appreciate the masterful command of prose, script, and verse alongside the classic stories from unexpected perspectives...This truly outstanding offering will leave readers pining for a continuation with Shakespeare’s adult women taking up the pen.” –<i>Booklist</i>, starred review</p> <p>“[A] radically creative book...This provocative book could inspire all kinds of fresh approaches to the plays, not to mention lots of engaging writing projects for students.” –<i>The Washington Post</i></p> <p>“At once tender, poetic and ferocious, <i>Enter The Body</i> breathes new life into the Bard’s most tragic heroines. More than a tribute to Shakespeare, this kaleidoscopic, ambitious novel-in-verse gives Juliet, Ophelia, Cordelia, and Lavinia the chance to tell their own stories full of passion, justice, sisterhood, and love. Simply spectacular.” –Two-Time National Book Award Finalist and Michael L. Printz Award Winner Laura Ruby, author of <i>Bone Gap</i></p> |
| <p><i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>DGB controls translation rights. PRH controls U.K. rights.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>All rights are available.</i></p> | |
| <p style="text-align: center;">~</p> | |
| <p>DGB represents a number of backlist titles by the author. Please see backlist catalogue for more information.</p> | |

SERENA KAYLOR

Serena Kaylor is a neurodiverse, romcom super-fan, who is always moments away from cornering you and outlining all her favorite ships. Her books are stuffed with awkward moments, angsty kisses, and jokes that at least she finds funny. She is the author of *Long Story Short* and *The Calculation of You and Me*.

THE CALCULATION OF YOU AND ME

Contemporary Romance

Wednesday Books/2024

A calculus nerd enlists her surly classmate’s help to win back her ex-boyfriend, but when sparks start to fly, she realizes there’s no algorithm for falling in love.

“A delightful, richly characterized slow-burn romance about figuring out what you want.” –*Kirkus*, **starred review**

Marlowe Thompson understands a lot of things. She understands that calculus isn’t overwhelmingly beautiful to everyone, and that it typically kills the mood when you try to talk Python coding over beer pong. She understands people were surprised when golden boy Josh asked her out and she went from weird, math-obsessed Marlowe to half of their school’s couple goals. Unfortunately, Marlowe was surprised when Josh dumped her because he’d prefer a girlfriend who was

“A celebration of embracing differences, trusting the process, and demanding better for oneself, Kaylor's sophomore novel shines as a delightfully fun romance filled with an abundance of humor and hope...A one-sit

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>more romantic. One with emotional depth.</p> <p>But Marlowe has never failed anything in her life, and she isn't about to start now. When she's paired with Ashton Hayes for an English project, his black clothing and moody eyeliner cause a bit of a systems overload, and the dissonant sounds of his rock band make her brain itch. But when she discovers Ash's notebook of love songs, Marlowe makes a desperate deal to unleash her inner romantic heroine: if Ash will agree to ghostwrite some love letters, she'll calculate the perfect data analytics formula to make Ash's band go viral.</p> <p>As the semester heats up with yearning love notes and late nights spent with a boy who escapes any box her brain tries to put him in, Marlowe starts to question if there's really a set solution to love. Could a girl who has never met a problem she couldn't solve have gotten the math so massively wrong?</p> <p><i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i> <i>DGB controls translation rights. Macmillan controls U.K. rights.</i> <i>All rights are available.</i></p> | <p>read rom-com with lots of heart and plenty of sarcasm, perfect for Jenny Han or Emma Lord aficionados." –<i>School Library Journal</i></p> <p>"Deliciously satisfying...and nail-biting, tear-inducing, uproarious, and generally just all the feels...Kaylor has a real knack for storytelling that left me flying through the pages, and she writes her characters with respect and thoughtfulness... CALCULATION gets into the flow early and becomes a rushing river that you're only too glad to be carried along." –<i>Associate Publishers</i></p> |
| ~ | |
| <p>DGB represents a number of backlist titles by the author. Please see backlist catalogue for more information.</p> | |

MASON DEAVER

Mason Deaver is a bestselling and award-winning author of young adult and adult romance novels. Their work has been awarded stars from *Bookpage* and *Booklist*, nominated for the Goodreads Choice Awards, and nominated for YALSA's Best Fiction For Young Adults Award. Their first novel, *I Wish You All the Best*, named one of *Cosmopolitan's* 100 Best YA Books Everyone Should Read was made into a film directed by Tommy Dorfman. It premiered at the SXSW film festival in 2024 to rave reviews. They currently live in San Francisco.

Their previous books have sold in Brazil (Globo Livros), Germany (Zuckersüss Verlag), Hungary (Konyvmolykepzo), Italy (Oscar Fantastica), Netherlands (DVP), Norway (Cappelen Damm), Poland (Poznanskie), Portugal (Desrotina), Spain (Planeta), the UK (Macmillan Children's), and Vietnam (Az Group).

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>OKAY, CUPID</p> <p>Scholastic/2024</p> <p>From the bestselling author of <i>I Wish You All the Best</i>, the story of a cupid who thinks they know everything about love...until they fall in love themselves.</p> <p>As a cupid, Jude thinks they understand love a little bit more than the average human. It makes sense – Jude's been studying love their whole teen life. And, yes, there have been some bumps in the road, and they're currently on probation for doing something that they absolutely, definitely shouldn't have done... but they're ready to prove they can make matches without ever getting involved.</p> <p>Only...Jude's next assignment isn't about setting up two adults. No, this time Jude has to go to high school, with kids their own age. And the assignment is a tough one: two best friends who are meant to be more than just best friends...but who aren't currently speaking to each other after a huge falling out.</p> <p>Jude thinks they've got this one all under control, and that they won't get involved whatsoever.</p> <p>Which proves that maybe Jude hasn't learned the first lesson of humans and love...It's complicated.</p> <p>Featured in Scholastic's Spring 2024 Preview, <i>Publishers Lunch's</i> Notable New Releases, as one of <i>B&N Reads'</i> Most Anticipated YA Books of January 2024, as one of <i>ELLE's</i> "Best (and Most Anticipated) Romance</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Contemporary Romance</p> <p>A Children's Book Council 2025 Reader Favorite</p> <p>"A heartfelt and unique approach to the mythological love facilitator, OKAY CUPID is ripe with genuine human connection and characters that walk right off the page." –<i>B&N Reads</i></p> <p>"The undeniable chemistry—both platonic and romantic—between Jude and the intersectionally diverse, distinctly rendered cast fuels this insightful romantic comedy, which sensitively explores the queer spectrum and issues of privilege while keeping the emotional components front and center." – <i>Publishers Weekly</i></p> <p>"Jude and Huy's budding romance is both tender and heartbreaking, given that readers are constantly aware of potential tragedy looming over every sweet moment. The romantic tension between the two will move even the most stonehearted readers. A deep look at the expectations of family and society and how they can negatively affect teenagers' lives fills out the narrative. A well-crafted slow-burn romance with plenty of depth." –<i>Kirkus</i></p> |
|--|--|

| | |
|---|---|
| Books of 2024”, and in <i>Publishers Weekly</i> ’s Read with Pride 2025 campaign. | "Queer joy abounds in Deaver’s whimsical tale."– <i>Elle</i> |
| <i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i> | |
| <i>DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.</i> | |
| <i>All rights are available.</i> | |
| ~ | |
| I WISH YOU ALL THE BEST | Contemporary Fiction |
| Scholastic/2019 | |
| <p>When Ben De Backer comes out to their parents as nonbinary, they’re thrown out of their house and forced to move in with their estranged older sister, Hannah, and her husband, Thomas, whom Ben has never even met. Struggling with an anxiety disorder compounded by their parents’ rejection, they come out only to Hannah, Thomas, and their therapist and try to keep a low profile in a new school.</p> | <p>Film adaptation directed by Tommy Dorfman, premiered at SXSW 2024, released in theaters November 7th, 2025, and received a GLAAD Award nomination for Outstanding Film – Limited Theatrical Release</p> |
| <p>But Ben’s attempts to survive the last half of senior year unnoticed are thwarted when Nathan Allan, a funny and charismatic student, decides to take Ben under his wing. As Ben and Nathan’s friendship grows, their feelings for each other begin to change, and what started as a disastrous turn of events looks like it might just be a chance to start a happier new life.</p> | <p>“This book gives an honest look at the harm inflicted on nonbinary teens today, but it uses a beautiful romance to show why that bigotry will never be greater than the love these teens deserve.” –Robbie Couch, author of <i>If I See You Again Tomorrow</i>, for <i>New York Times Book Review</i></p> |
| <p>At turns heartbreaking and joyous, <i>I Wish You All the Best</i> is both a celebration of life, friendship, and love, and a shining example of hope in the face of adversity.</p> | <p>“Heartfelt, romantic, and quietly groundbreaking. This book will save lives.”–Becky Albertalli, <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author of <i>Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda</i></p> |
| <p>Scholastic featured I WISH YOU ALL THE BEST in their Read with Pride campaign, which includes in store merchandising kits, digital assets, dedicated Edelweiss and Tumblr sites, a month-long social media campaign, a street team, trade advertising in <i>Publishers Weekly</i> and <i>Shelf Awareness</i>, as well as consumer advertising.</p> | <p>“Stellar...Compelling...Everyone should read it.” –NPR</p> |
| <p>Bookish called I WISH YOU ALL THE BEST a must-read book of spring, <i>Chicago Review of Books</i> and Canadian retailer Indigo named it a most anticipated book of 2019, Women.com named it one of 8 LGBTQ YA Romances to Read in 2019, School Library Journal named it one of 19 2019 YA Books to Have on Your Radar, <i>Parade</i> magazine named it one of 10 Buzzworthy YA Books to Read in 2019, and Buzzfeed called it one of 29 YA Books You Absolutely Must Read This Spring.</p> | <p>“Over the course of the novel, Ben moves with trepidation and courage from trauma to a fuller embrace of hope and love—an example for any reader yearning to take that first step into a new possibility.” –<i>Dallas Morning News</i></p> |
| <p>I WISH YOU ALL THE BEST is a Junior Library Guild Selection and an Indie Bestseller. The book made the Best of 2019 lists at NPR, Indigo Teen, and Book Riot, and YALSA’s 2020 list of Best Fiction for Young Adults and PinkNews’ 2020 YA Book of the Year. Featured twice in the <i>New York Times Book Review</i> in one of the Lit Quizzes and in “20 Great Queer Y.A. Books to Add to Your Reading List”</p> | <p>“An emotionally complex story about finding acceptance and redefining family. Debut author Deaver portrays Ben’s reaction to the difficult situation, including panic attacks and anxiety, with care and empathy, and readers will be filled with joy and hope as Ben begins to grow toward self-acceptance. A powerful illustration of the ways that compassion and love can overcome intolerance.” –<i>Publishers Weekly</i></p> |
| <p>“A truly unique and beautiful debut.” –Adi Alsaid, author of <i>Let’s Get Lost</i></p> | <p>“Deaver’s first novel deals with a complexity of serious issues that are generally well-handled. Withal, Deaver’s novel is a welcome addition to the growing body of LGBTQIAP+ literature.” –<i>Booklist</i></p> |
| <p>“Profoundly poignant and often swoon-worthy...a stunning gift to the world.” –Jay Coles, author of <i>Tyler Johnson Was Here</i></p> | <p>“Holds appeal for readers of all genders and sexualities through sympathetic characters and a hopeful narrative of empowerment.” –<i>Kirkus</i></p> <p>“In this v charming debut, high schooler Ben comes out to their parents as nonbinary...and they respond by forcing Ben to move in with their estranged sister and transfer high schools halfway through senior year. Luckily, a charismatic guy named Nathan befriends Ben, and it isn't long before sparks are flying.” –<i>Cosmopolitan</i></p> <p>“Tender and bursting with humanity, I WISH YOU ALL THE BEST tells a heartwarming queer love story without compromise.” –Meredith Russo, Stonewall Award-winning author of <i>If I Was Your Girl</i></p> |

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>“Mason Deaver’s debut is an important and inspiring novel about identity, acceptance, friendship, familial relationships, and the people who become your family.”—Sabina Khan, author of <i>The Love and Lies of Rukhsana Ali</i></p> <p>“A soft, sweet and incredibly important story about a nonbinary teen finding their voice. This book is going to be important to so many people.”—Alice Oseman, author of <i>Radio Silence</i> and <i>Heartstopper</i></p> <p>“I WISH YOU ALL THE BEST reminds us that, when we open up to love, we have the capacity to become our most authentic selves.”—Adib Khorram, Morris and APALA Award-winning author of <i>Darius the Great Is Not Okay</i></p> | <p>“Both a window into a deeply human and beautifully complex experience, and a mirror reflecting some of the simplest, yet most powerful desires of the heart, <i>I Wish You All the Best</i> is a beacon of hope in a broken world. We all need this book.”—Nic Stone, <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author of <i>Dear Martin</i></p> <p>“Emotional and heartfelt, Mason Deaver’s debut will have you smiling through tears, and as someone who identifies as nonbinary, <i>I Wish You All the Best</i> will always have a special place in my heart. This is the sort of novel that goes beyond being important; it has the potential to save and change lives.”—Kacen Callender, author of <i>This Is Kind of an Epic Love Story</i></p> |
| <p><i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>Rights Sold: Brazil (Globo Livros); Germany (Zuckersuss Verlag); Hungary (Konyvmolykepzo); Italy (Oscar Fantastica); Netherlands (DVP, Saga); Poland (Poznanskie); Portugal (Desrotina); Spain (Planeta); United Kingdom (Macmillan Children’s); Vietnam (I Love Books)</i></p> | |
| <p>~</p> | |
| <p>DGB represents a number of backlist titles by the author. Please see backlist catalogue for more information.</p> | |

BRYAN BLISS

Bryan Bliss is the author of *Thoughts & Prayers*, *Meet Me Here*, *No Parking at the End Times*, and *We’ll Fly Away*, which was longlisted for the 2018 National Book Award for Young People’s Literature. He holds master’s degrees in theology and fiction and—shockingly—found a professional job that allows him to use both of those degrees. His political philosophy degree, however, is still underutilized. His nonfiction has been published in *Image Journal*, along with various other newspapers, magazines, and blogs. He lives in Saint Paul with his wife and two children, both of whom wish he wrote books about dragons. Or wizards.

<http://bryanbliss.com/>

DISPATCHES FROM PARTS UNKNOWN

Contemporary Fiction

Greenwillow/2024

Julie knows it’s unusual for a professional wrestler to run a constant commentary on her life that only she can hear. But grief can be awfully funny sometimes.

Ever since her dad died three years ago, Julie has been surviving more than she’s been thriving. And surviving is sneaking into her parents’ closet when her mom is out, since it’s the only place that still smells like her dad. It’s roaming around the Mall of America, stopping to get two Orange Juliuses, just like they always did. It’s pulling out the box of her dad’s VHS tapes, recordings of his favorite vintage professional wrestling matches.

And it’s hearing the voice of the Masked Man in her head, running a commentary of her life.

It’s embarrassing, really. Sure, he was her dad’s favorite wrestler, but that doesn’t mean she wants him in her head. And does he really have to comment on everything?

As Julie finally starts to come out of the haze of grief, just as her senior year is winding down, maybe she’ll finally figure out why that voice is there, and how to let it go. She might even find herself a crush...one

A 2024 Booklist Editors’ Choice Pick!
A 2025 Odyssey Honor Audiobook

“Julie’s grief for her dead father gives a poignancy that adds depth to her character and is never maudlin. Indeed, the engaging tone of this terrific novel is spot on, while Bliss demonstrates a welcome gift for dialogue... this, so far, is the feel-good novel of the year.” —*Booklist*, **starred review**

“Emotionally honest, touching work...Julie’s wryly funny, self-deprecating, and authentic narrative voice, the wide cast of eccentric but realistically drawn characters whom she begins to let in as the story progresses, and the beautiful, unshowy writing will keep readers going all the way to the auspicious end...A smart, poignant meditation on losing someone you love and living with the loss.” —*Kirkus*

“A mourning Minneapolis teen’s final semester of high school takes a surprising turn in this hopeful novel...Bliss writes incisively about grief, approaching a weighty topic with empathy, grace, and genial humor. Sweet, caring relationships—parental, platonic, and romantic—add to the uplifting tone.” —*Publishers Weekly*

“Bliss ably balances humor, poignancy, and raw grief, emphasizing that mourning looks like all sorts of things...Ultimately, the book refuses to tidy up the messiness of grief and instead makes room for the truth that one might never actually be the same kind of okay after losing a loved

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>who could convince her to go to prom.</p> <p>National Book Award nominee Bryan Bliss delivers a thought-provoking, one-of-a-kind novel about how to tread the line between moving on and holding on. For fans of David Arnold, Nina LaCour, and <i>You've Reached Sam</i>, DISPATCHES FROM PARTS UNKNOWN explores how a teenager deals with grief, while also being Bryan's funniest novel yet. Expertly balancing dark and light, Bryan weaves a compelling and ultimately uplifting story that readers will want to revisit again and again.</p> | <p>one, but that this transformation into a different sort of okay is valid and meaningful." –<i>BCCB</i></p> <p>"This book reminds readers that grief is not a one-size-fits-all process, and it opens a window into the world of professional wrestling and its fandom. A unique and moving portrait of grief and love set against the backdrop of professional wrestling." –<i>School Library Journal</i></p> <p>"Full of humor, memorable characters (so glad to see a quick glimpse of Dr. Palmer!), great dialogue, and more wrestling than maybe any other book I've read before, this empathetic and meaningful look at grief makes it clear that there's no wrong way to do it, even if that means living with the voice of a professional wrestler in your head." –Teen Librarian Toolbox</p> |
| <p><i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>All rights are available.</i></p> | |

JADE ADIA

Born and raised in Los Angeles, Jade Adia writes stories about Black nerds, mischief, and home. She holds a bachelor's degree in Ethnicity, Race & Migration, and a certificate in Human Rights. She recently survived law school, graduating with a specialization in Critical Race Studies. She is the author of *There Goes the Neighborhood* and *Our Shouts Echo*.

OUR SHOUTS ECHO

Contemporary Fiction

Hyperion/2024

Survival Tip #1: The world is going to shit. Whatever you do, don't fall in love.

Sixteen-year old Niarah Holloway's only goal in life is to get through it unnoticed. That, and to spend her first summer in LA building a doomsday bunker in her backyard. Because if the past few years have taught Niarah anything, it's that the ocean levels are rising, minimum wage is a scam, and the people who are supposed to protect you will hurt you. Now the only thing that helps Niarah stay afloat amidst the constant waves of anxiety and dread that threaten to drag her under is her new mantra: Be prepared.

But Niarah wasn't prepared for Mac Torres. Not for his disarmingly cute face, or for his surfer lifestyle, or for the way his smile resuscitates her heart. Mac is a bomb that blows Niarah's world to pieces, but instead of disaster, he fills it with sunset bonfires, breakfast burritos, and new friends.

For years, Niarah's life has been about ignoring the demons in her past, avoiding the problems in her present, and preparing for catastrophe she knows is coming. Now Mac—with his sunshine laugh and infectious optimism—is determined to show her another way to be. But in a world where the worst feels inevitable, can one summer be enough to light the way to a hopeful future? Can one summer be enough to fall in love?

Formerly titled *Don't Mind If I Don't*

"Skillfully weaves humor, insight, and a deeply moving romance through illustrations, vignettes, and survival

A Children's Book Council 2025 Teacher Favorite

"In a narrative that teems with hope, nihilism, and strong anti-capitalist themes, Adia pays homage to the "boiling cauldron of terror we live in" via a scorching blend of realistic teenage snark and aching earnest prose. Sex-positive messaging throughout adds further depth to this already potent romance." –*Publishers Weekly*, **starred review**

"Mixed media of pages from Niarah's prepper guide, emails, and text messages adds a unique layer of interest and perspective...Suicidal ideation, first sexual experiences, domestic abuse, and eco-anxiety are just a few of the issues tackled...When the world seems to be collapsing, living can be the hardest challenge to overcome. A first choice for collections serving older teens." –*School Library Journal*

"The emotional tenor of the narrative will resonate with many readers: The author thoroughly examines depression and family trauma, while also weaving poignant moments, cute romantic encounters, and a generous helping of humor into this satisfying story that has appealing leads. An engaging read that contains both the hard realities and beautiful aspects of teen life." –*Kirkus*

"**OUR SHOUTS ECHO** is a storm and the sunlight afterward. Simply Brilliant." –Jas Hammonds, award-winning author of *We Deserve Monuments* and *Thirsty*

"Captures the heartbreaking, beautiful reality of being alive and growing up in what feels like the end of the world, wrapping it all in swoon-worthy romance." –Brittany N. Williams, author of *That Self-Same Metal*

| | |
|--|--|
| guides, gracefully leading us toward hope where it is seldom found.” –Danielle Parker, author of <i>You Bet Your Heart</i> | “A deftly comedic and compassionate story from Jade Adia, who has written the definitive young adult novel for this generation.” – Maureen Goo, author of <i>Throwback</i> and <i>I Believe in a Thing Called Love</i> |
| <i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i> | |
| <i>DGB controls translation rights. Disney controls U.K. rights.</i> | |
| <i>All rights are available.</i> | |
| ~ | |
| DGB represents a number of backlist titles by the author. Please see backlist catalogue for more information. | |

REBECCA MIX

Rebecca Mix is the *New York Times* bestselling author of stories about weird magic & hope. Her debut novel, *The Ones We Burn*, was an instant *New York Times* & Indiebound bestseller. Her other books include *The Mossheart's Promise*, the first in a middle grade fantasy duology out now, and *Neopets: The Omelette Faerie*, the first of two official graphic novels developed in partnership with the game, slated for summer 2024. Rebecca is based in Michigan; if you can't find her, she's probably goofing off on social media @mix.becca, or attempting to sneak yet another plant into the house.

THE ONES WE BURN

Fantasy

Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers/2022

Love and duty collide in this richly imagined, atmospheric young adult debut about a witch whose dark powers put her at the center of a brewing war between the only family she's ever known and the enemy who makes her question everything.

Monster. Butcher. Bloodwinn.

Ranka is tired of death. All she wants now is to be left alone, living out her days in Witchik's wild north with the coven that raised her, attempting to forget the horrors of her past. But when she is named Bloodwinn, the next treaty bride to the human kingdom of Isodal, her coven sends her south with a single directive: kill him. Easy enough, for a blood-witch whose magic compels her to kill.

Except the prince is gentle, kind, and terrified of her. He doesn't want to marry Ranka; he doesn't want to be king at all. And it's his sister—the wickedly smart, infuriatingly beautiful Princess Aramis—who seems to be the real threat.

But when witches start turning up dead, murdered by a mysterious, magical plague, Aramis makes Ranka an offer: help her develop a cure, and in return, she'll help Ranka learn to contain her deadly magic. As the coup draws nearer and the plague spreads, Ranka is forced to question everything she thought she knew about her power, her past, and who she's meant to fight for. Soon, she will have to decide between the coven that raised her and the princess who sees beyond the monster they shaped her to be. But as the bodies pile up, a monster may be exactly what they need.

One of Apple's Most Anticipated Books for Fall, a Waterstones Best Fantasy of 2022, and an Amazon Editors' pick for Best Young Adult

A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.

DGB controls translation rights. S&S controls U.K. rights.

Rights Sold: Poland (Niezwykle); Spain (Monogatari)

An Indie Next Pick, *New York Times* Bestseller, and Indie Bestseller

“One of the freshest YA fantasies I've read in years. Every page brims with passion. Ranka, Percy, Galen and Aramis are still vivid in my imagination long after I turned the final page. Fans of diverse YA fantasy –do NOT miss this one.” –Natasha Ngan, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Girls of Paper and Fire*

“**THE ONES WE BURN** is a fierce story of healing, told with teeth bared. Romantic, brutal, and hopeful, it marks Rebecca Mix as a writer to watch.” –Hannah Whitten, author of *For the Wolf*

“Feral and tender at once. Rebecca Mix has created a world teeming with terrifying magic and ferocious monsters to be saved. **THE ONES WE BURN** is a story of strength, and love that is chosen.” –Chloe Gong, *New York Times* bestselling author of *These Violent Delights*

“At once familiar and entirely fresh, Rebecca Mix's **THE ONES WE BURN** is a stunning fantasy that deftly navigates grief, love, and the powerful necessity of hope. Set in a rich, sweeping world, and penned with prose as brutal as Ranka's blood-magic, you'll find yourself lost in the thoughtful exploration of found family, the whip-smart magic system and the tender, striking sapphic romance. Ranka is the sort of heroine you can't help but root for and Aramis, Galen and Percy will linger long after the final page. I love this book. Rebecca Mix is a writer to watch.” –Adrienne Tooley, author of *Sweet & Bitter Magic*

MALINDA LO

Malinda Lo is the critically acclaimed and bestselling author of several young adult novels, including *Ash*, *Huntress*, *Adaptation*, *Inheritance*, *A Line in the Dark*, and the *New York Times* bestseller *Last Night at the Telegraph Club*, which received eight starred

reviews and **won the 2021 National Book Award for Young People's Literature**. She has been nominated for the 2023 Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award. Her debut novel *Ash*, a lesbian retelling of Cinderella, was a finalist for the William C. Morris YA Debut Award, the Andre Norton Award for YA Science Fiction and Fantasy, the Mythopoeic Fantasy Award, and was a Kirkus Best Book for Children and Teens. She has been a three-time finalist for the Lambda Literary Award. Malinda's short fiction and nonfiction has been published by the *New York Times*, NPR, Autostraddle, *The Horn Book*, and multiple anthologies. She lives in Massachusetts with her partner and their dog.

The author's previous books have sold in Brazil (Universo dos Livros), Germany (Droemer), Italy (Elliot Edizioni), Korea (Imagine Books), and Turkey (Artemis). Her work has sold more than 200,000 copies.

A SCATTER OF LIGHT

Literary Fiction

Dutton/2022

Aria Tang West thought she'd be spending one last summer on Martha's Vineyard with her friends before starting MIT in the fall, where she intends to study astronomy, like her late grandfather. But after topless photos of her are posted online, she's abruptly uninvited from her friends' summer homes. Aria's parents, a writer and opera singer with plans of their own, send Aria to stay with her artist grandmother, Joan West, in Northern California. Although Aria has never been attracted to girls before, she finds herself drawn to Joan's gardener, Steph Nichols, an aspiring musician a few years older than Aria. The only problem? Steph isn't single; she lives with her girlfriend, Lisa. But the chemistry between Aria and Steph seems undeniable, and Aria pursues a relationship that will turn her world upside down.

At the same time, while Aria helps her grandmother with an art project, she becomes interested in creating art of her own. Over the summer, Aria's desire for Steph becomes entwined with the development of Aria's artistic self. When Aria's grandmother suddenly suffers a stroke, Aria and Steph's relationship escalates, and Aria will be forced to face her choices and herself in ways she has never had to do before.

Set in 2013 shortly after the legalization of same-sex marriage in the United States, **A SCATTER OF LIGHT** is a companion novel to *Last Night at the Telegraph Club*, and is about how the threads of family, inspiration, art, and identity are woven across generations.

A SCATTER OF LIGHT made numerous lists including Apple's Most Anticipated Books for Fall, *Popsugar's* 125 Best New YA Books of 2022, Goodreads' 39 Most Anticipated YA Books for the Rest of the Year, Electric Lit's Most Anticipated YA Books for Fall 2022, and NPR's Five New YA Reads to Check Out This Fall. A Boston.com Book Club Pick.

A best of the year for ALA/YALSA, B&N, BuzzFeed, and Parents Magazine. A Bank Street Best Children's Book of the Year 2023

"Aria's journey is a love letter to the messiness of exploration, reveling in the ambiguity and impermanence of taking the stumbling first steps into understanding one's relationship to queerness. The voyage into the queer unknown is label-free but still honest about the pain Aria's choices will cause, and a palpable anxiety hangs over the narrative—not only will Aria's summer in California end, but the romance she's started is destined for disaster, whether Aria sees it coming or not.." —*BCCB*

WINNER OF THE 2023 MASSACHUSETTS BOOK AWARD

Malinda Lo is a finalist for the 2025 NSK Neustadt Prize for Children's and Young Adult Literature
Nominated for the Garden State Teen Book Awards
A New York Times and Indie Bestseller
Malinda Lo has been nominated for the 2023 Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award
A Target Book Club Pick
Kids' Indie Next List selection
An NPR Best Book of 2022
On the ALA 2024 Rainbow Book List

"Aria's vulnerable narration is an intensely driving force in this expansive tale of yearning, self-discovery, and first love." —*Publishers Weekly*, **starred review**

"Lo here presents an excellent coming-of-age and coming out story. Characters are complicated and messy but in a realistic and relatable way. The story is driven by Aria's truthful narration, which is beautifully reflective of an 18-year-old at that time. A must-have." —*School Library Journal*, **starred review**

"Lo's novel explores the complexity of queer identity through a sex-positive lens...Lo vividly conveys the giddy euphoria of a teenage crush while also recognizing the fraught nature of Aria and Steph's mutual attraction when Steph is in a relationship with someone else. And yet **A SCATTER OF LIGHT** does not make moral judgments about its characters—Aria's foibles and mistakes are what make her a compelling protagonist...Both newcomers and longtime fans of Lo's work should enjoy this narrative of a young woman coming to understand herself and her wants better...An engrossing story." —*Shelf Awareness*, **starred review**

"Aria's story is not just about discovering and embracing your sexuality. It's also about what it means to be an artist, a friend, a daughter and a granddaughter, and about how identities of all kinds can converge and crystallize as part of the process of growing up." —*BookPage*, **starred review**

"The exploration of her queer identity reads as both timeless and wonderfully early 2010s, with Tumblr used as a resource for new vocabulary. A Scatter of Light is not one but many love letters—to art, to first crushes, and to friendships that span decades and ground you while letting you grow." —*Booklist*

“This deeply perceptive bildungsroman thoughtfully explores several absorbing topics, but first and foremost it is an intimate, exhilarating story of first love.” –*Horn Book*

“A contemporary queer coming-of-age story steeped in pivotal events.” –*Kirkus*

“A SCATTER OF LIGHT is a book that feels like summer. It is long and hazy with moments of sharp clarity that puncture the constant sense of aching and longing that define the feel of much of the story. It captures a series of simple but vital moments such as noticing Steph’s eye colour over burgers. This is a book that feels young, like a Malinda Lo novel but equally a story of its own.” –*The National*

A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.

DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.

Rights Sold: Poland (WeNeedYA); UK (Coronet)

LAST NIGHT AT THE TELEGRAPH CLUB

Literary Fiction

Dutton/2021

Acclaimed author of *Ash* Malinda Lo returns with her most personal and ambitious novel yet, a gripping story of love and duty set in San Francisco’s Chinatown during the 1950s.

“That book. It was about two women, and they fell in love with each other.” And then Lily asked the question that had taken root in her, that was even now unfurling its leaves and demanding to be shown the sun: “Have you ever heard of such a thing?”

Seventeen-year-old Lily Hu can’t remember exactly when the question took root, but the answer was in full bloom the moment she and Kathleen Miller walked under the flashing neon sign of a lesbian bar called the Telegraph Club.

America in 1954 is not a safe place for two girls to fall in love, especially not in Chinatown. Red-Scare paranoia threatens everyone, including Chinese Americans like Lily. With deportation looming over her father—despite his hard-won citizenship—Lily and Kath risk everything to let their love see the light of day.

O, the Oprah Magazine included **LAST NIGHT AT THE TELEGRAPH CLUB** in their list of 32 LGBTQ Books That Will Change the Literary Landscape in 2021. BuzzFeed included it on its list of 25 LGBTQ+ YA Books You’ll Want to Curl Up with This Winter. *Bustle* included it in their 42 Books to Get Excited About This Winter and The Best Books of 2021 So Far. *Autostraddle* included it in a roundup of 69 Queer and Feminist Books Coming Your Way in Winter 2020 and 2021. Lambda Literary included it in 6 Forthcoming Queer YA Books to Add to Your TBR Pile. One of *Cosmopolitan*’s 100 Best YA Novels of All Time. One of *TIME*’s 50 Best Romance Novels to Read Right Now.

“Lush, ambitious and layered, Malinda Lo’s sweeping historical novel is the queer romance we’ve been waiting for.” –*Ms. Magazine*

“A gripping historical thriller...Alluring...**LAST NIGHT AT THE TELEGRAPH CLUB** is proof of Lo’s skill at creating darkly romantic tales of love in the face of danger.” –*O, the Oprah Magazine*

“Malinda Lo was, for so many of us...the first introduction to seeing ourselves on the page. Her latest book continues that

2021 National Book Award Winner
New York Times and Indie Bestseller
 2022 Michael L. Printz Honor
 2022 Stonewall Award
 2022 Asian/Pacific American Award
 2022 We Need Diverse Books Walter Dean Myers Award Honor
 Finalist for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize in the Young Adult Literature Category
 Barnes & Noble January 2022 YA Pick of the Month
 Eight Starred Reviews
 Finalist for the NEIBA Book Award
 2021 Medal Winner of the Alice B Awards
 ALA 2022 Rainbow List
 Winner of the California Library Association Beatty Award for 2022
 A 2021 Nerdy Book Club Award Winner
 Runner-Up for the 2021 Swoon Awards in the Young Adult Romance category
 2023 Illinois Lincoln Award Nominee
 Nominated for the 2022-2023 Pennsylvania Young Readers Choice Award
 Shortlisted for the 2022-2023 Vermont Green Mountain Book Award
 Nominated for the 2022-2023 Maine North Star YA Award
 Young Adult Fiction Winner of the 2022 Chinese American Librarians Association Best Book Awards
 Kids’ Book Choice Awards Finalist for Best Book of the Year in the Young Adult Category
 Best Books of 2021: NPR, Publishers Weekly, BookPage, School Library Journal, Chicago Public Library, New York Public Library, Goodreads, Horn Book, Book Riot, Brightly, YALSA, Kirkus, Booklist, CCBC, San Francisco Chronicle, BCCB, Shondaland, Cosmopolitan, NCSS-CBC, Bank Street, Penn GSE, Rise, Wall Street Journal
 Best Books of 2022: YALSA (A Top Eleven Title), Bank Street, NCSS-CBC Social Studies, CCBC
 A 2022 Rise: A Feminist Book Project Top Ten Selection
 Winner of the 2024 CPNB Best Book for Young Adults
 Shortlisted for the Siam Book Awards (Thailand)
 One of *Kirkus* Best Books of the 21st Century (So Far)

Paperback debuted at #6 on the *New York Times* Bestseller List February 2022

legacy with this startlingly beautiful historical coming-of-age.” – Leah Johnson for Reese’s Book Club

“Lo has really outdone herself here. I don’t think I can overstate how refreshing it is to read queer historical fiction that is so complex, nuanced, and tender. It’s my opinion that this book will quickly become a new touchstone of the genre of queer literature. What an accomplishment.” –Sarah Gailey, award-winning author of *Magic for Liars* and *Upright Women Wanted*

“Malinda Lo’s **LAST NIGHT AT THE TELEGRAPH CLUB** is a beautifully observed story about finding love and fighting for one’s identity against tremendous odds. In bringing a fascinating chapter of history to life, this novel illuminates a path to the future through a careful understanding of our past. It’s vivid, emotional, and hopeful. I loved it.” –Abdi Nazemian, author of Stonewall Honor Book *Like a Love Story*

“Lo’s writing, restrained yet luscious, shimmers with the thrills of youthful desire. A lovely, memorable novel about listening to the whispers of a wayward heart and claiming a place in the world.” – Sarah Waters, bestselling and award-winning author of *Tipping the Velvet* and *The Night Watch*

“This immersive, powerful coming-of-age novel tackles perceptions, expectations, and identity while sweeping readers into smoky lesbian nightclubs and ‘50s culture.” –*BCCB*, **starred review**

“In this meticulously researched title, Lo skillfully layers rich details...Beautifully written historical fiction about giddy, queer, first love.” – *Kirkus*, **starred review**

“**LAST NIGHT AT THE TELEGRAPH CLUB**—focused on unapologetically embracing one’s true self—is a spectacular addition to the young adult historical fiction genre.” –*Shelf Awareness*, **starred review**

“This standout work of historical fiction combines meticulous research with tender romance to create a riveting bildungsroman.” –*Horn Book*, **starred review**

“This book is the perfect mix of historical fiction and a look back at the decades of hardships the LGBTQ community has had to endure before today.” –*School Library Connection*, **starred review**

“Shout it from the highest hills: this is a beautiful, brave story, and Lily is a heroine that readers will love.” –*Bookpage*, **starred review** (also named to *Bookpage*’s Reader’s Choice: Favorite Books of 2021 (So Far))

“Smoothly referencing cultural touchstones and places with historic Chinese American significance, Lo conjures 1950s San Francisco adeptly while transcending historicity through a sincere exploration of identity and love.” –*Publishers Weekly*, **starred review**

“Writing beautifully with a knowing, gentle hand that balances Lily’s unease and courage, Lo presents a must-read love story in an uncommon setting.” –*Booklist*, **starred review**

A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.

DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.

Rights Sold: Brazil (Verus); Germany (dtv); Greece (Dioptra); Italy (Oscar Mondadori); Netherlands (Oceaan); Poland (WeNeedYA); Portugal (Desrotina); Russia (Eksmo); Spain (Planeta, Sembra Llibres (Catalan)); Ukraine (Artbooks); UK (Hodder)

~

A LINE IN THE DARK

Thriller

Dutton/2017

Jess Wong is Angie Redmond’s best friend. And that’s the most important thing, even if Angie can’t see how Jess truly feels. Being the girl no one quite notices is OK with Jess anyway. If nobody notices her, she’s free to watch everyone else. But when Angie begins to fall for Margot Adams, a girl from the nearby boarding school, Jess can see it coming a mile away. Suddenly her powers of observation are more a curse than a gift.

As Angie drags Jess further into Margot’s circle, Jess discovers more than her friend’s growing crush. Secrets and cruelty lie just beneath the carefree surface of this world of wealth and privilege, and when they come out, Jess knows Angie won’t be able to handle the consequences.

“A twisty, dark psychological thriller that will leave you guessing til the very end.” –*Teen Vogue*

“[A] riveting read...” –NPR

“Mesmerizing.” –*Kirkus*, **starred review**

“[A] heart-tugging story of a teenage girl who expresses herself in art in ways she can’t quite do in real life—even as she tries to hold on to her best friend despite grappling with deeper feelings for her.” –*Vulture*

“Lo instantly invites readers along, enticing them to stay up just a little bit later for the next big reveal, and supplies readers with one final twist that will take their breath away.” –*Lambda Literary*

“[A] hauntingly captivating thriller.” –*Bustle*

“A Line in the Dark marks Lo’s foray into the contemporary genre, promising

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>When the inevitable darkness finally descends, Angie will need her best friend.</p> | <p>an intense read that should be at the top of your list."—<i>Paste</i></p> |
| <p>A LINE IN THE DARK is a story of love, loyalty, and murder.</p> | <p>“Malinda Lo delivers an enthralling mystery full of twists, turns, dark heroics...and high school.”—<i>Shelf Awareness</i>, starred review</p> |
| <p>★ Kirkus Best Teen Book ★ Vulture 10 Best YA Books ★ Chicago Public Library’s Best Teen Fiction ★ Rainbow List ★</p> | <p>“The plot is fast-paced and will keep readers guessing until the end. Any young adult reader who loves psychological thrillers will be clamoring to get their hands on this captivating book.”—<i>School-Library Connection</i>, starred review</p> |
| <p>DGB took over the rights to A LINE IN THE DARK from the author’s previous agent.</p> | <p>“Dark, twisty, and unsettling, this book almost begs to be read in one sitting, and then instantly reread...A high-interest thriller with wide appeal recommended for all collections.”—<i>SLJ</i></p> |
| <p><i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>DGB controls translation rights. Dutton controls U.K. rights.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>All rights are available.</i></p> | |

EMILY X.R. PAN

Emily X.R. Pan is the New York Times bestselling author of *The Astonishing Color of After*, which won the APALA Honor Award and the Walter Honor Award, received six starred reviews, was an L.A. Times Book Prize finalist, and was longlisted for the Carnegie Medal, among other accolades. NBC News called the novel “moving and poetic” and the Wall Street Journal named it as one of the top twelve books of the season. Emily is also co-creator of the *Foreshadow* anthology. She currently lives on Lenape land in Brooklyn, New York, but was originally born in the Midwestern United States to immigrant parents from Taiwan. Visit Emily online at exrpan.com, and find her on Twitter and Instagram: @exrpan.

Emily’s previous novel sold in Brazil (Universos dos Livros), Croatia (Znanje), Poland (Poznanski), Romania (Epica), Russia (Popcorn), Serbia (Vulkan), Spain (Nocturna), and Turkey (Epsilon).

AN ARROW TO THE MOON

Speculative

Little, Brown Books for Young Readers/2022

Romeo and Juliet meets Chinese mythology in this magical novel by the *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Astonishing Color of After*

In Fairbridge, a series of bizarre phenomena brings together a pair of star-crossed lovers from rival families.

Hunter Yee has perfect aim with a bow and arrow, but all else in his life veers wrong. He’s sick of being haunted by his family’s past mistakes. The only things keeping him from running away are his little brother, a supernatural wind, and the bewitching girl at his new school.

Luna Chang dreads the future. It’s the last year of high school, and her parents’ expectations are stifling. When she begins to break the rules, she finds her life upended by the strange new boy in her class, the arrival of unearthly fireflies, and an ominous crack spreading across the town.

As Hunter and Luna navigate their families’ enmity and secrets, everything around them begins to fall apart. All they can depend on is their love...but time is running out, and fate will have its way.

AN ARROW TO THE MOON, Emily X.R. Pan’s brilliant and ethereal follow-up to *The Astonishing Color of After*, is a story about family, love, and the magic and mystery of the moon that connects us all.

FINALIST FOR THE LOCUS AWARD NOMINATED FOR THE GARDEN STATE TEEN BOOK AWARDS NOMINATED FOR THE CHINESE AMERICAN LIBRARIANS ASSOCIATION BEST BOOK AWARD

“In lush prose, Pan retells both the Chinese legend of Chang’e and Houyi and Shakespeare’s *Romeo and Juliet*. The seemingly ordinary setting...opens up to a world full of mystery and magic.”—*Horn Book*, **starred review**

“Pan imbues a timeless story with magical realism...while remaining firmly rooted in the real and important concerns of its teenage protagonists...[An] intricately woven tapestry of first love, intergenerational struggles, and the joys and heartaches of growing up.”—*BCCB*, **starred review**

“...An enchanted tale of love, loss, expectations, and identity, including a compelling exploration of Taiwanese and Chinese heritage...This novel is a work of art.”—*School Library Journal*, **starred review**

“Expansive, third-person chapters...and snippets of lore create a contemporary telling with an otherworldly, age-old feel in this cleverly conceived novel.”—*Publishers Weekly*

“Pan’s singular storytelling makes this fantasy distinctive and romantic...Vivid imagery infuses her tale with an

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>AN ARROW TO THE MOON made <i>Time Magazine</i>'s 12 YA Books We Can't Wait to Read This Year, Goodreads' The 68 Most Anticipated YA Novels of 2022, <i>Bookpage</i>'s Most Anticipated Young Adult Books, BuzzFeed's 40 Highly Anticipated YA Books Releasing in the First Half of 2022, and BuzzFeed's All the Best Books Releasing in April 2022, NPR's Best Books of 2022, Audible's Most Anticipated Listens of 2022, Popsugar's 125 Best New YA Books of 2022, 2022 Kid's Indie Next List, the Horn Fanfare List 2022. It was an Instant IndieBound Bestseller, debuting at #11; and was the May Teen Staff Pick of the Month by Indigo, Canada's biggest bookstore chain. The paperback edition was a <i>BookRiot</i> featured YA paperback release.</p> <p>"AN ARROW TO THE MOON is a beautifully crafted blend of mythology and modern love story, full of stunning prose, characters who feel achingly real, and magic lurking just behind the ordinary. One of my new favorites!"—Hannah Whitten, <i>New York Times</i> and <i>USA Today</i> bestselling author of <i>For The Wolf</i></p> <p>"An effortless fusion of myth and realism, coming of age and fairy tale, this luminous love story cuts bone deep."—Melissa Albert, <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author of <i>The Hazel Wood</i></p> | <p>otherworldly magic...Fantasy lovers should adore this enchanting novel."—<i>Shelf Awareness</i></p> <p>"Readers will find themselves fully immersed in this fantastical, magic-filled world."—<i>School Library Connection</i></p> <p>"AN ARROW TO THE MOON will blend romance, emotional storytelling, Chinese mythology and fantastical elements for an unforgettable combination."—<i>BookPage</i></p> <p>"A lovely, lyrical exploration of how a poignant Chinese myth might play out in a contemporary setting."—<i>Kirkus</i></p> <p>"Pan effortlessly weaves Chinese mythology and Romeo and Juliet into a fresh tapestry of love, secrets and grief."—<i>Ms. Magazine</i></p> <p>"A lyrical love story infused with Chinese mythology."—<i>TIME Magazine</i></p> <p>"[A] bittersweet narrative of love, family, and culture."—<i>The International Examiner</i></p> |
| <p><i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>DGB controls translation rights. Little, Brown controls U.K. rights.</i></p> | |
| <p><i>Rights Sold: Russia (Popcorn Books); Spain (Urano)</i></p> | |
| <p>~</p> | |
| <p>DGB represents a number of backlist titles by the author. Please see backlist catalogue for more information.</p> | |



Picture Books

CARLOS APONTE

Carlos Aponte is an artist, designer, and author-illustrator of the children's book *A Season to Bee* and Pura Belpre Illustration Honor recipient *Across the Bay*. His fashion illustrations, inspired by the great Antonio Lopez and Jack Potter, have been featured in Laird Borelli's Fashion Illustration Next, Bil Donovan's Advanced Fashion Drawing, Tony Glenville's The New Icons of Fashion Illustration, and Richard Kilroy's Menswear Illustration. Carlos is a faculty member at the Fashion Institute of Technology. He lives in Jersey City with his partner, Christopher, and a French pointer named Rex.

ACROSS THE BAY

Penguin Workshop/2019

Carlitos lives in a happy home with his mother, his abuela, and Coco the cat. Life in his hometown is cozy as can be, but the call of the capital city pulls Carlitos across the bay in search of his father. Jolly piragüeros, mischievous cats, and costumed musicians color this tale of love, family, and the true meaning of home.

Carlos Aponte won a 2020 Pura Belpre Illustration Honor for ACROSS THE BAY.

A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation. Art files will be available from Penguin Workshop.

DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.

Rights Sold: Spanish (PRH)

~

A SEASON TO BEE: A STYLISH BOOK OF COLORS

Grosset & Dunlap/2017

The insects are putting on a fashion show! Ms. V. McQueen, editor of BUZZ magazine, introduces all the latest looks for Spring and explains to the press how each color fits the season. For instance, to be bold like the sun that melts the snow...wear gold! And to look tall and get seen...wear green! But even with so many stylish choices, of course the most important thing to Bee is...YOU!

With **A SEASON TO BEE**, acclaimed designer and Fashion Institute of Technology instructor Carlos Aponte makes a *tres chic* debut, teaching young children about colors, self-confidence, and looking your best

A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation. Art files are available from Grosset.

DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.

All rights are available.

TADGH BENTLEY

Tadgh (pronounced "TEEG") Bentley is a picture book author and illustrator originally from England, but now living in the Hocking Hills region of Ohio with his wife and their dog Atticus. After six years teaching elementary-aged children in Britain and Jordan, he pursued his long-held dream of writing and illustrating his own picture books including *Little Penguin Gets the Hiccups* and *Samson: The Piranha Who Went to Dinner*. You can visit him online at tadghbentley.com

DRAGONS EAT NOODLES ON TUESDAYS by Jon Stahl, illustrated by Tadgh Bentley

Scholastic/2019

"Once upon a time," begins the big blue monster who is trying to tell a fabulous story. "It needs to be about a kid who is eaten by a dragon," he insists. But his little monster friend is not convinced that this is a good idea. "Dragon stories usually don't end well," he warns.

As the two monsters argue over how the story should go, a hungry dragon named Dennis is listening nearby. Dennis knows exactly how this story should go... And by the way, what day is it? Watch out!

Jon Stahl is a former elementary school teacher, an award-winning filmmaker, and a proud father of two adorable monsters. He lives with said monsters and his wife, Wendy, in California. This is his first book for young readers.

A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation. Art files are available from Scholastic.

DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.

All rights are available.

~

"No matter how silly it gets, this title never loses its engagement with readers."
– *Kirkus*

"The surprise conclusion is just the ticket for young readers, and it offers the potential for more. Bentley's illustrations, created by pencil and pen and colored with digital gouache and watercolor, are muted, with some surreal landscapes, giving the story a dreamlike focus and highlighting the world of the imagination." – *Booklist*

**LITTLE PENGUIN GETS THE HICCUPS, LITTLE PENGUIN AND THE LOLLIPOP,
and LITTLE PENGUIN STAYS AWAKE by Tadgh Bentley**

Balzer & Bray/2015, 2017, 2018

Poor Little Penguin has a major case of the HIC! hiccups. It all started last week on chili night. Since then he's tried everything to get rid of them, but nothing HIC! works. So when his friend Franklin suggests that a good scare might do the trick, Little Penguin is willing to give it a try. . . All he needs is a little help from YOU! Can you help Little Penguin HIC! cure his hiccups?

“Children will love the audience participation and the chance to get noisy during storytime.”—*School Library Journal*.

“Bentley’s debut utilizes simplicity and humor to great effect, and his digitally colored pen-and ink illustrations are heart-meltingly adorable. Youngsters will easily get swept up in this endearing story...” Julia Smith, *Booklist*

“Young readers will be hooked.” – *Kirkus*, **starred review**

Complete manuscripts are available for submission and translation. Art files are available from Harper.

DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.

Rights Sold: China (Hangzhou Guomi); France (Kaleidoscope); Turkey (Sola)



Children's Nonfiction

PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA

Barack Obama was the 44th president of the United States, elected in November 2008 and holding office for two terms. He is the author of three *New York Times* bestselling books, *Dreams from My Father*, *The Audacity of Hope*, and *A Promised Land* and is the recipient of the 2009 Nobel Peace Prize. He lives in Washington, D.C., with his wife, Michelle. They have two daughters, Malia and Sasha.

DREAMS FROM MY FATHER (Adapted for Young Adults)
A Story of Race and Inheritance

Memoir

Delacorte Press/2021

Now adapted for young adults—the #1 *New York Times* bestselling memoir, which Toni Morrison called “quite extraordinary,” offers an intimate look at Barack Obama’s early days. This is a compelling journey tracing the future 44th president’s odyssey through family, race, and identity.

A revealing portrait of a young Black man asking questions about self-discovery and belonging—long before he became one of the most important voices in America. This unique edition includes a new introduction from the author, full-color photo insert, and family tree.

The son of a white American mother and a Black Kenyan father, Obama was born in Hawaii, where he lived until he was six years old, when he moved with his mother and stepfather to Indonesia. At twelve, he returned to Hawaii to live with his grandparents. Obama brings readers along as he faces the challenges of high school and college, living in New York, becoming a community organizer in Chicago, and traveling to Kenya. Through these experiences, he forms an enduring commitment to leadership and justice. Told through the lens of his relationships with his family—the mother and grandparents who raised him, the father he knows more as a myth than as a man, and the extended family in Kenya he meets for the first time—Obama confronts the complicated truth of his father’s life and legacy and comes to embrace his divided heritage.

On his journey to adulthood from a humble background, he forges his own path through trial and error while staying connected to his roots. Barack Obama is determined to lead a life of purpose, service, and authenticity. This powerful memoir will inspire readers to examine both where they come from and where they are capable of going.

“Young adults who read this book, a quick read and less abstract than the adult version, will find bits and pieces of themselves among the pages. The former president demonstrates his well-known ability as a wordsmith and a storyteller in this narrative. This title will be enjoyed by all readers for generations to come.”
 —*School Library Journal*

Praise for *Dreams from My Father*:
 ONE OF *ESSENCE*’S 50 MOST IMPACTFUL BLACK BOOKS OF THE PAST 50 YEARS

“Guides us straight to the intersection of the most serious questions of identity, class, and race.” —*The Washington Post*

“Provocative...Persuasively describes the phenomenon of belonging to two different worlds, and thus belonging to neither.”
 —*The New York Times Book Review*

“Obama’s writing is incisive yet forgiving. This is a book worth savoring.” —Alex Kotlowitz, author of *There Are No Children Here*

“One of the most powerful books of self-discovery I’ve ever read, all the more so for its illuminating insights into the problems not only of race, class, and color, but of culture and ethnicity. It is also beautifully written, skillfully layered, and paced like a good novel.” —Charlayne Hunter-Gault, author of *In My Place*

“*Dreams from My Father* is an exquisite, sensitive study of this wonderful young author’s journey into adulthood, his search for community and his place in it, his quest for an understanding of his roots, and his discovery of the poetry of human life. Perceptive and wise, this book will tell you something about yourself whether you are black or white.” —Marian Wright Edelman

A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.

DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.

Rights Sold: Australia (Text); Brazil (Companhia das Letras); France (Presses de la Cite); Germany (Hanser); Greece (Athens Bookstore); Italy (Garzanti); Netherlands (Atlas); Poland (Agora); Spanish in the US (Vintage Español); and UK (Canongate)

AMY MORIN

Amy Morin is a licensed clinical social worker, instructor at Northeastern University, and psychotherapist. She is the author of the international bestseller *13 Things Mentally Strong People Don't Do*, *13 Things Mentally Strong Parents Don't Do*, and *13 Things Mentally Strong Women Don't Do*. Amy is a regular contributor to *Verywell*, *CNBC*, *Forbes, Inc.*, and *Psychology Today*. She gave one of the most viewed TEDx talks of all time and was named the “self-help guru of the moment” by *The Guardian*.

13 THINGS STRONG KIDS DO

Self-Help

| | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Think Big, Feel Good, Act Brave | for Middle Grade Readers |
| HarperCollins Children's/2021 | |
| The internationally bestselling author of <i>13 Things Mentally Strong People Don't Do</i> , Amy Morin, empowers tweens, teaching them how to think, feel, and act stronger than ever! Perfect for fans of <i>The Confidence Code for Girls</i> , this book tackles mental strength in a relatable way. Filled with fun graphics and illustrations throughout. | |
| Do you worry that you don't fit in? Do you feel insecure sometimes? Do you wish your life looked as perfect as everyone else on social media? Do you have anxiety about things you can't control? Being a tween can be really hard, especially in today's world. You balance it all—homework, extracurricular activities, chores, friendship drama, and family, all while trying to give the impression that you know exactly what you're doing. Sometimes when we try to look perfect on the outside, we can feel rotten in the inside. Do you want to become a stronger person, inside and out? By picking up this book, you're already taking the first step toward becoming a better person where it counts—by training your brain. | |
| Prominent psychotherapist and social worker Amy Morin offers relatable scenarios, then shows tweens the ways they can develop healthy habits, build mental strength, and take action toward becoming their best selves. 13 THINGS STRONG KIDS DO gives tweens the tools needed to overcome life's toughest challenges. This nonfiction middle grade book is an excellent choice for tween readers from ages 10 to 13, including those living through the stresses of homeschooling, returning to the classroom, and navigating a changed and stressful world. | |
| <i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i> | |
| <i>DGB controls U.K. and translation rights.</i> | |
| <i>Rights Sold: Lithuania (Alma Littera); Saudi Arabia (Jarir Bookstore); Vietnam (Saigon Books)</i> | |

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| CHRISTINE VIRNIG | |
| Christine Virnig made her kidlit debut with <i>Dung for Dinner</i> . Christine is a pediatric physician specializing in allergies where—in addition to dodging the occasional snot rocket or projectile vomit—she gets to talk about topics that most adults find downright repulsive, like phlegm, snot, and dust mite poo. She lives in Madison, Wisconsin with her husband, two children, and two hairball producers. <i>Dung for Dinner</i> was a finalist for the SCBWI Golden Kite Award for Older Nonfiction. | |
| WAIST DEEP IN DUNG | Nonfiction |
| Henry Holt & Co/2024 | |
| A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection | |
| What did the ancient Egyptian embalmer say when he was feeling sad? I want my mummy! | |
| After wading into the grossest animal pee, poop, and vomit humans have consumed in <i>Dung for Dinner</i> , Christine Virnig dives back into the muck with an equally humorous and informative exploration of the most revolting jobs throughout history. | |
| From the ancient Egyptian mummy makers who removed brains by shoving iron hooks up peoples' noses, to the 19th century Toshers who hunted for treasure deep in the London sewers, to modern day forensic entomologists who study the fly eggs, maggots, and other creepy crawlies that live on—and crawl through—human corpses, we'll learn about jobs that deal with poop, pee, blood, medicine, and dead bodies. | |
| Combining history, science, and a slew of fascinating facts, it's middle grade nonfiction with real kid appeal. | |
| "Full of the eww factor, the selection and presentation here are sure to engage readers. Appealingly and disgustingly informative." — <i>Kirkus</i> | |
| <i>A complete manuscript is available for submission and translation.</i> | |
| <i>DGB controls translation rights. Macmillan controls U.K. rights.</i> | |
| <i>All rights are available.</i> | |
| ~ | |
| DGB represents a number of backlist titles by the author. Please see backlist catalogue for more information. | |



| | |
|--|--|
| Lauren E. Abramo, VP & Subsidiary Rights Director Gracie Freeman Lifschutz, Subsidiary Rights Associate | labramo@dystel.com gfreemanlifschutz@dystel.com |
|--|--|

