BLOOMSBURY CHILDREN'S BOOKS

WINTER 2019

JANUARY THROUGH APRIL
Lola Dutch is always bursting with grand ideas - so of course she has many ideas for what she wants to be when she grows up!

She could be a magnificent performer . . .
or a daring inventor . . .
or a brilliant botanist . . .
there are exciting ideas all around! But Lola is too excited - she wants to try EVERYTHING. How will she ever decide what she is destined to become?

The curious and creative Lola Dutch is inspired to imagine every way to explore the wonder of her world. And she doesn't have to wait until she grows up!

Inspired by their own four gorgeously creative children, Sarah Jane and Kenneth Wright are thrilled to continue this fun series about the unstoppable Lola Dutch, a larger-than-life character perfect for fans of Olivia and Fancy Nancy.

Outrageous, extraordinary, and over the top, Lola puts her whole heart into everything. . . . Radiant." - starred review, Foreword Reviews on LOLA DUTCH

"The pencil-and-watercolor illustrations add an additional whimsical effect to an already imaginative story. . . . Young readers will love this innovative protagonist and her fanciful ideas.

Author Bio

Kenneth and Sarah Jane Wright live in Utah with their four uniquely intense children. In 2008 Sarah Jane opened a simple online shop that has since grown into a worldwide business with art prints, fabrics, wallpaper, puppets, and illustrated children's books. Kenneth is a full-time educator and history teacher. Together Kenneth and Sarah Jane share a ridiculous number of hobbies. On any given day at the Wright house you'll see treehouse building, pastry making, spontaneous musicals, and kids tucked into cozy nooks, reading stacks of books on EVERYTHING. They are thrilled to be writing picture books about Lola Dutch together.

www.sarahjanestudios.com
www.loladutch.com
@sarahjanestudios (Twitter and Instagram)
@loladutch (Instagram)
How Do You Do?
by Larissa Theule, illustrated by Gianna Marino

Water Buffalo and Crane’s field is dry, empty, and hot - so hot that they can barely think of anything else. Every day is the same . . .

Until one day, they hear something new.

How do you do?”

When Goat dances into their lives, Water Buffalo and Crane can’t help but join in. Suddenly their field doesn't seem dry, empty, and hot at all. Even after Goat dances away, their world is no longer so small.

This beautiful story about widening your horizons and making new friends, brought to life with stunning illustrations by Gianna Marino, shows how all it takes is one special friend to change your world.

Author Bio

Larissa Theule grew up in five different countries and learned firsthand the joy and adventure of making new friends. She has an MFA in Writing for Children from Vermont College of the Fine Arts and is the author of FAT & BONES: AND OTHER STORIES. Larissa now lives in Southern California with her family and dog, whose playfulness reminds her of Goat.

www.larissatheule.com

Gianna Marino is the author and illustrator of many books for, including Too Tall Houses, Night Animals, and If I Had a Horse. Even though the world sometimes seems very large, Gianna has managed to explore much of it. She lives in Northern California where she illustrates full time and dreams of her next adventure around the world.

www.giannamarino.com

Gianna Marino has written and illustrated numerous articles for travel and leisure magazines. Her children's books include Zoopa: An Animal Alphabet (Chronicle Books 2005), One Too Many (Chronicle Books 2010), Meet Me at the Moon (Viking 2012), Too Tall Houses (Viking 2012), and Following Papa’s Song (Viking 2014). Though she still wanders the world, Gianna now lives in Northern California and works full-time writing and illustrating. A Boy, A Ball, and a Dog is Gianna’s first picture book for Roaring Brook Press.
Lift Every Voice and Sing
by James Weldon Johnson, illustrated by Elizabeth Catlett, introduction and notes by Ashley Bryan

A stunning reissue of the backlist title celebrating the African American National Anthem - updated with a fresh design and introduction from Ashley Bryan

First written by a schoolteacher and activist in 1900 and then declared the official African American National Anthem by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in 1919, 'Lift Every Voice and Sing' has been a cornerstone hymn chronicling the black experience for more than one hundred years. Lyrics to this moving history are paired with the linocuts of Elizabeth Catlett, a Harlem Renaissance artist best known for her unique representations of the struggles and triumphs of black men, women, and children.

Newly back in print and updated with a fresh design as well as an introduction from beloved author and illustrator Ashley Bryan, Lift Every Voice and Sing is a more relevant than ever celebration of black lives.

Author Bio

James Weldon Johnson (1871-1938) was a prolific writer and legendary civil rights activist who produced several novels, a pioneering work of cultural history, the first major anthology of black poetry, and numerous treatises on race relations. He served as U.S. consul to Venezuela and Nicaragua and as secretary of the NAACP
Baby Shoes (padded board book)
by Dashka Slater, illustrated by Hiroe Nakata

Rediscover acclaimed author Dashka Slater's joyful picture book about a baby on the go - now in a padded book form!

Baby loves his brand-new white shoes, taking them all over the neighborhood while his frantic mom chases behind him. But he just can't resist stomping through puddles, squishing fallen plums, and dancing in fresh paint. It isn't long before those white, high-jumping, fast-running shoes are speckled and spotted with every color of the rainbow.

Dashka Slater's delightful, rhythmic text and Hiroe Nakata's sweet, jaunty illustrations are the perfect match for this playful tale of fun, sun, and fabulous shoes!

With a buoyant tone in both verse and illustrations, this book will be a fine addition to story hours and, given young children's affinity for shoes, a great conversation starter." - starred review, Booklist

"The smooth-flowing text contains wonderful repetitive phrases. The watercolor illustrations are warm and inviting and the expressions on the characters' faces are particularly delightful. A grand choice for one-on-one sharing, as well as for storytime." - School Library Journal

"Lighthearted multi-hued watercolor illustrations show an exuberant Baby doing everything a wee boy will do when he's got spiffy new shoes. Fast-moving rhyme and playful illustrations invite kids on the go to scuff, scrape and have a blast breaking them in." - Kirkus Reviews

Author Bio

Dashka Slater is the author of the picture book Firefighters in the Dark. She lives in Oakland, California, with her husband and son. Baby Shoes was inspired by her son's first pair of shoes, which stayed white only a few minutes longer than the ones in this story.

Hiroe Nakata has illustrated many picture books for children. Originally from Japan, she lives and works in Brooklyn, New York.
You Make Me Happy
by Smriti Prasadam-Halls, illustrated by Alison Brown

A new beautifully illustrated celebration of love and friendship from the bestselling creators behind I'll Never Let You Go and I Love You Night and Day.

In this delightfully optimistic and uplifting observance of that special someone who makes you happy, Fox and Porcupine discover that when they're together, life is ever so much brighter. Gorgeous, fun, and full of heart, this is the perfect gift for that sweet ray of light in your life.

"You make me happy, you make me new;
Together there's NOTHING that we cannot do.
You make me happy and hopeful and strong,
And right by your side is where I belong.

Another sweet book bearing a message of unconditional love and support . . .
The gender-neutral animal pairs could easily represent a number of close relationships, from parent and child to grandparent and grandchild to an older and younger sibling . . . A perfect choice for one-on-one sharing and a comforting bedtime story." - School Library Journal on I'LL NEVER LET YOU GO

"The last lines, echoing the premise of the whole book, will be reassuring to most . . . Sweet." - Kirkus Reviews on I'LL NEVER LET YOU GO

"Prasadam-Halls's rhymed couplets have a pleasing lilt . . . The gender-neutral, cross-species (…)

Author Bio

Smriti Prasadam-Halls has been a children's writer and editor for more than ten years and has written several children's books, including the bestselling Jingle Jangle Jungle, illustrated by Axel Scheffler. Smriti lives in Richmond-upon-Thames.

www.smriti.co.uk

Brown studied Fine Art at Liverpool and then became a graphic designer. She is the illustrator of The Wall Street Journal and Publisher's Weekly bestselling I Love You Night and Day, I'll Never Let You Go, Snowy Bear, I'll Love You Always, and Little Owl's Egg. Alison lives in the United Kingdom.
The Amazing Idea of You
by Charlotte Sullivan Wild, illustrated by Mary Lundquist

Fans of Emily Winfield Martin will delight in this loving, gorgeously illustrated story that celebrates new life.

Hidden inside every living thing is an idea. That idea can sprout, sing, wriggle, take wing... into something amazing!

Exploring beginnings both small and great, The Amazing Idea of You bonds the human and natural worlds in a lyrical burst of celebration.

So dig deep, fly high, look around, and find the extraordinary inside everything... including YOU!

Author Bio

Inside Charlotte Sullivan Wild was the idea of stories, long before she could write. So she told tales to her kindergarten teacher at the typewriter. Soon she read and wrote herself. So many stories (so many cross-outs). After years of teaching stories, and asking authors about their stories on the radio, and even selling stories in a bookstore - AT LAST, one of her ideas grew into this very book in your hands. Originally from Minnesota - land of sweet, crisp apples - she now scribbles her ideas in Texas amid clouds of dancing butterflies. Learn more at www.charlotteswild.com.

Inside Mary Lundquist was always the idea of being an artist. So when she was little she drew and drew, and when she was old enough, she went to art school and drew some more. Soon she was drawing (and sometimes writing) picture books, just like this one! Originally from Massachusetts, Mary now lives in Vermont with her husband and two sons, who love to go apple picking in the orchards during the fall (and, of course, get hot cider and donuts, too!). To see more of her work visit her website www.marylundquist.com.

Mary Lundquist is the author and illustrator of Cat & Bunny. She graduated with a BFA from Massachusetts College of Art and Design and now lives in Los Angeles, California, with her family.
Croc & Turtle
by Mike Wohnoutka

For fans of Penguin and Pinecone, this adorable new duo will warm your heart and tickle your funny bone.

Meet Croc! He is the strongest and fastest crocodile around.

Meet Turtle! He agrees that Croc is the strongest and fastest.

But what happens when Elephant lifts that heavy rock with ease? And when Cheetah speeds on by?

Croc and Turtle might not be the strongest or the fastest, but they're definitely the best at something even more important . . .

Introducing an utterly charming new duo, this humorous and heartwarming adventure will delight readers of all ages.

By the end of the book, readers will be all set for school too: this is sure to provoke shared laughter that will calm the fears of even the most unready parents." - starred review, Kirkus Reviews on DAD'S FIRST DAY

"Wohnoutka's gouache paintings poke gentle fun at Daddy, and they'll elicit giggles . . . It should leave new students with an extra jolt of confidence." - Publishers Weekly on DAD'S FIRST DAY

"The colorful gouache illustrations will elicit giggles from young readers as they imagine their parents behaving like Oliver's dad." - School Library Journal on DAD'S FIRST DAY

"The readaloud's the real fun here." - starred review, BCCB on MOO!

"This book is bold, original, and funny, and should be part of every picture-book collection." - starred review, School Library Journal on MOO!

Author Bio

MIKE WOHNOUTKA is the illustrator of Jack's House, Cowboy Sam and Those Confounded Secrets, and The Wizzy Foot. A graduate of the Savannah College of Art and Design, Mike lives with his wife and two children in Minneapolis, Minnesota. www.mikewohnoutka.com
Dragons Get Colds Too
by Rebecca Roan, illustrated by Charles Santoso

For fans of Dragons Love Tacos comes a fresh, funny story that deals with everyone's least favorite thing: a cold.

Is your dragon sleepy? Does he have a runny nose? Does he keep sneezing fire? Unfortunately, it sounds like your dragon has a cold. But luckily, this guide will help anxious dragon owners through the challenges of caring for their sick dragon!

Balancing tongue-in-cheek humor through Charles Santoso's illustrations with gentle reassurance, this story proves that laughter really is the best medicine and will appeal to anyone who has felt under the weather.

Author Bio

Rebecca Roan works in the book publishing division at Highlights for Children. She is a recipient of the PEN New England Children's Book Discovery Award. The inspiration for Dragons Get Colds Too came from her years of being sneezed on by tiny dragons. This is her first picture book.

www.rebeccaroan.com

Charles Santoso loves drawing things in his little journal and dreaming about funny, wondrous stories. He has illustrated several picture books, including Ida, Always, written by Caron Levis, which was mentioned in the New York Times as an example of children's books at their best," and The Snurth and I Don't Like Koala, both written by Sean Ferrell. He has also illustrated Wishtree, a New York Times bestselling chapter book by Katherine Applegate.

www.charlessantoso.com
When the World Is Full of Friends
by Gillian Shields, illustrated by Anna Currey

When the world is full of friends, the fun and laughter never ends.

Albert, Tom, Flossie, and Pipkin love to play. And while they have fun inventing games together, their biggest wish is to have friends to share them with. One day, something magical happens. A family of squirrels moves in across the stream! They could be the perfect friends - but how will they cross the stream?

With a little help from Father Rabbit, Albert, Tom, Flossie, and Pipkin will discover just how wonderful it is when the world is full of friends. This touching story from the revered team behind When the World Is Ready for Bed and When the World Was Waiting for You will warm the hearts of readers young and old.

The pen-and-ink with watercolor illustrations are soothing and set the perfect atmosphere for this calm book. This engaging story will be enjoyed in one-on-one readings or in a preschool storytime about solving problems." - School Library Journal

"The anthropomorphization and bucolic setting recall Beatrix Potter; like hers, these rabbits are a near-perfect blend of rabbit and human. A charming story of perseverance that's rooted in simplicity and nostalgia." - Kirkus Reviews

An intriguing combination of Beatrix (…)

Author Bio

Gillian Shields read English at St Catharine's College, Cambridge, before studying acting in London and later teaching at the Academy of Live and Recorded Arts. She has written many children's books including Puppy Love (Simon & Schuster) and Sam's Snowflake (Macmillan Children's Books).

Anna Currey was born in Norfolk, grew up in Ireland and now lives in Bath. Anna has illustrated a number of books, including Rosie's Hat (Macmillian Children's Books), The Christmas Unicorn (OUP) and the Silverlake Fairy School series (Usborne).

Anna Currey is the author and/or illustrator of several books for children, including Truffle's Christmas
Piggy: Let’s Be Friends!
by Trevor Lai

Piggy proves his heart is as big as his glasses by helping a friend in need in this sweet board book.

Piggy loves reading books, having tea parties, and most of all, making new friends! One day he sees a little mole across his garden. Before Piggy can get to know him, the mole hides underground.

Miles loves reading books and baking cakes, and he would love to have a friend! But the world above makes him so nervous . . . Can Piggy find a way to help Miles out of his shell?

This sweet story of friendship from big-hearted Piggy continues the series that is perfect for fans of Salina Yoon and Dan Santat.

The artwork is vibrant and the oversize emoji-like heads of the characters will be appealing to young children. Further, there is comfort for all in the message that an unknown friend is right around the corner and that others can be openhearted and generous. “ - School Library Journal

“Lai . . . gives Piggy a good amount of personality in his brassy cartoons.” - Publishers Weekly on PIGGY

“The illustrations - rendered in pencil and watercolor, then digitally finished - are well-done, and the characters really are adorable. . . . This tale of an endearing pig will catch the attention of young readers.” - School Library Journal on PIGGY

Author Bio

Trevor Lai is an author, artist and CEO/creative director of UP Studios, which was named by Animation Magazine as one of the Top 25 Animation Companies in the world to watch. When Trevor is not speaking at events around the world, he loves exploring museums and nature for more inspiration. His books include Meet Tomo’s Animal Friends, Tomo Counts Around the World, and Tomo Explores the World.
Gloria Takes a Stand
How Gloria Steinem Listened, Wrote, and Changed the World
by Jessica M. Rinker, illustrated by Daria Peoples-Riley

Perfect for fans of I Dissent, here is an inspirational and empowering account of the life of women’s rights icon Gloria Steinem.

Throughout Gloria Steinem’s life, she stood up for many things. In a time when most women didn’t go to college, Gloria knew the importance of education and studied at Smith College. In a time when almost all women stayed at home to raise a family, Gloria traveled to India and wrote about what she learned there. In a time when many people were fighting for equality, Gloria wanted to write about these important events. And as she heard more and more stories from women who didn’t have as many rights as men, Gloria decided to start Ms. Magazine to give women a voice.

This text introduces a new generation of children to Gloria Steinem, the icon who fought for a better world for all women - and encourages all readers to "stand up and speak for equal rights for all people.

Author Bio

Jessica Rinker is a freelance writer and editor with an MFA in Writing for Children and Young Adults from the Vermont College of Fine Arts. She has been published in Arts Poetica and Curious Parents magazine (as Jessica Cooper). Jessica earned second place for Amazon’s Breakthrough Novel Award and was recognized as one of Warren County New Jersey’s "Writers on the Rise." She lives in Pennsylvania. Visit her online at @jm_rinker.

Daria Peoples makes children’s books with a few inspirational words and a whole lot of colorful paint. She is a former 6th grade teacher who hopes to change the world one book at a time. Her first picture book, This Is It, will be published by Greenwillow in 2018. Visit Daria online at www.dariapeoples.com and @DariaPeoples
**Baby's First Bank Heist**

by Jim Whalley, illustrated by Stephen Collins

*Meet Baby Frank, the world's most unlikely criminal, as he masterminds his very own bank heist. Perfect for fans of Boss Baby.*

Move over, Bonnie and Clyde, because there's a new criminal mastermind in town . . . Baby Frank! Baby Frank is dangerously cute, and he's about to pull off the most daring baby bank heist ever. Why? His parents say that he can't have a pet - "pets are for older kids," be happy with your teddy," and "they cost too much to keep," they say. What's a baby to do... ? Rob a bank, of course! You have been warned...

With eye-catching illustrations from Guardian cartoonist Stephen Collins, this laugh-out-loud rhyming text is Boss Baby meets Mission Impossible.

**Author Bio**

Jim Whalley went to school in England with the intention of writing silly stories but got sidetracked into journalism and academia. He ended up with PhD in Film Studies and got back to writing stories in his spare time. He eventually quit academia because the stories were more fun, a move he justified by also renovating a house. He now lives in that house in the United Kingdom with his wife and two children, Fletch and Charlie.

STEPHEN COLLINS was born in 1980 and grew up in Penge, South London. He began cartooning for *The Times* in 2003, and has since won several awards, including the Jonathan Cape/Observer Graphic Short Story Prize 2010. His work has appeared in many publications worldwide, and he contributes regular comics to *The Guardian Weekend* and *Prospect* magazine. *The Gigantic Beard That Was Evil* is his debut graphic novel. He lives near Hertford with his wife.
Princess Ponies 9: The Lucky Horseshoe
by Chloe Ryder

Enter a land of magical ponies in this chapter book series that features illustrations throughout and comes with a collectible charm!

The enchanted island of Chevalia, where ponies rule, has finally had its magic restored, thanks to human Pippa and pony Princess Stardust. Her task complete, Pippa returned to our world . . . but her friends in Chevalia are never far away.

It’s St. Patrick’s Day, but Pippa is having terrible luck at school. Even worse, Princess Stardust and the Pirate Ponies arrive to tell Pippa that trouble-making Divine has cast a spell to steal all of Chevalia’s good luck, too. Whisked off to Chevalia, Pippa embarks on a journey across the high seas to find a way to win the ponies’ luck back. Along the way, she and her friends discover a mysterious island, where a new pony might be able to tell them exactly how to turn their luck around!

Pippa’s adventures in magical Chevalia continue brought to life with delightful illustrations, and the book includes a special collectible charm.

Author Bio

Chloe Ryder lives on a farm for thoroughbred and rescue horses. When she’s not caring for the horses, she rides them across the hills surrounding her house. Chloe is one of the very few who know the true location of the magical island Chevalia. She is also the alter ego of Julie Sykes, award-winning author of over 60 books for children. Julie lives in Hampshire with her family and their pet wolf.
The Adventures of Caveboy
by Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen, illustrated by Eric Wight

Continuing the Read & Bloom line for newly independent readers comes a hilarious, boy-friendly series . . .

Meet Caveboy! Ooga booga!

Caveboy is just like any other boy . . . he loves playing base-skull, running really fast, and especially whacking things with his club. But when his club breaks, he will need to find a new one . . . which just might lead him to a new friend. In this first book, Caveboy will find the perfect club, meet his best friend, and learn to be brave!

Single-minded and single-eyebrowed, Caveboy is a mischievous, relatable hero . . . Wight's full-color cartoons have a scruffy charm and readily draw out the humor woven into each chapter.” - Publishers Weekly

"The easy language and short chapters may prompt outbursts of 'ooga booga' from newly independent readers." - Booklist

"A great first step away from early readers for those approaching chapters . . . Will likely please little cavepersons." - Kirkus Reviews

"With short chapters, appealing illustrations, and simple story lines, this series is just right for brand-new readers." - School Library Journal

"Read & Bloom will be wildly popular. And I am very happy to see some new friendship books come along with the end of the Elephant and Piggie books." - Teri Lesesne, Professor of Library Science at Sam Houston State University

"Funny and appealing, the Read & Bloom books (...)"

Author Bio

Location: Eric Wight - Chalfont, Pennsylvania

Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen has written many books for children including the picture books Duck, Duck, Moose—a CBC Children's Choice nominee; Snoring Beauty; and Tyrannosaurus Wrecks. She lives with her family in New Jersey.

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Eric Wight is an author, illustrator, and animation director, whose books for children include the Flamingo Brothers' series and The Smalldog Diaries.
Caveboy Is Bored!
by Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen, illustrated by Eric Wight

This hilarious, boy-friendly series in the Read & Bloom line for newly independent readers continues . . .

Ooga booga!

Most days, Caveboy has lots of fun things to do, like taking care of his pet rock and playing baseskull. But today, he’s bored. Mama is hunting, Papa is repainting their cave, and his friend Mags is busy. He could play with Sister, but sisters smell like burps! Will Caveboy ever find someone to play with?

Read & Bloom will be wildly popular. And I am very happy to see some new friendship books come along with the end of the Elephant and Piggie books.” - Teri Lesesne, Professor of Library Science at Sam Houston State University

"Funny and appealing, the Read & Bloom books will charm readers." - Linda M. Pavonetti, Ed.D., professor of Reading and Language Arts at Oakland University

"The easy language and short chapters may prompt outbursts of "ooga booga" from newly independent readers." - Booklist on THE ADVENTURES OF CAVEBOY

"Single-minded and single-eyebrowed, Caveboy is a mischievous, relatable hero . . . Wight's full-color cartoons have a scruffy charm and readily draw out the humor woven into each chapter." - Publishers Weekly on THE ADVENTURES OF CAVEBOY

Author Bio

Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen has written many books for children including the picture books Duck, Duck, Moose!, a CBC Children's Choice nominee; Snoring Beauty; and Tyrannosaurus Wrecks. She lives with her family in New Jersey.

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@SudiptaBQ

Eric Wight is an author, illustrator, and animation director, whose books for children include the Frankie Pickle and Magic Shop series. Eric lives in Chalfont, Pennsylvania with his family.
Wallace and Grace and the Lost Puppy
by Heather Alexander, illustrated by Laura Zarrin

Read & Bloom offers high interest, character driven stories for newly independent readers that feature full-color illustrations throughout and will transition kids from leveled readers to a lifetime of reading.

In this charming series, kids are treated to simple whodunit mysteries as an utterly delightful owl duo put their heads together. When Wallace and Grace are on a scavenger hunt, they stumble upon a puppy named Jasper who can't find his way home. Will the owl detectives be able to follow clues to get the lost puppy home?

Author Bio


Laura Zarrin spent her childhood in the St. Louis area exploring creeks, woods, and attic closets, with plenty of tree climbing and digging for artifacts in the backyard all in preparation for her future career as an archeologist. She never became one because she realized she's much happier drawing. Laura lives in Silicon Valley in California with her very logical husband and teen sons, and their illogical dog, Cody. www.laurazarrinstudios.com
@Laura Zarrin
1919 The Year That Changed America
by Martin W. Sandler

Acclaimed author Sandler examines the pinnacle events of 1919 and their relevance to significant issues in American life today.

1919 was a world-shaking year. America was recovering from World War I and black soldiers returned to racism so violent that that summer would become known as the Red Summer. The suffrage movement had a long-fought win when women gained the right to vote. Laborers took to the streets to protest working conditions; nationalistic fervor led to a communism scare; and temperance gained such traction that prohibition went into effect. Each of these movements reached a tipping point that year.

Now, one hundred years later, these same social issues are more relevant than ever. Sandler traces the momentum and setbacks of these movements through this last century, showing that progress isn't always a straight line and offering a unique lens through which we can understand history and the change many still seek.

Though written for teenagers, this album-size volume lends itself to coffee-table enjoyment for adults, who may naturally feel some connection to the numerous photographs of John, Paul, George and Ringo.” - Wall Street Journal on HOW THE BEATLES CHANGED THE WORLD

“Here this delicate topic is handled with sensitivity and insight. . . . A must-have for any library collection.” - starred review, School Library Journal on IMPRISONED

“Beautifully illustrated with well-chosen photographs and other documents, this handsome book offers a clear view of an episode in American history that still receives too little focus.” - starred review, Booklist on IMPRISONED

Author Bio

Martin W. Sandler is an award-winning author of many books for young readers, including The Story of Photography, a Boston Globe-Horn Book Award Honor Book, and Vaqueros . He is also a television producer. A five-time Emmy winner and a two-time Pulitzer Prize nominee, he lives in Massachusetts with his wife.
This Promise of Change
One Girl's Story in the Fight for School Equality
by Jo Ann Allen Boyce and Debbie Levy

A never-before-told firsthand account of a trailblazer in American history, for fans of Brown Girl Dreaming and Warriors Don't Cry.

In 1956, a year before the integration of Central High School in Little Rock, 14 year old Jo Ann Allen made history when she and 11 other black students in Clinton, Tennessee integrated a public high school. As outside protesters arrived, tensions rose and neighbor turned against neighbor. Soon even the students themselves wondered if they should just return to their old school. Jo Ann wanted everything a girl her age should be able to have: friendships, an education, and time to daydream about her crush - but instead, she was thrust into national spotlight as a spokesperson for the cause. This nonfiction in verse, the first children's book about a forgotten moment in history, is based on Jo Ann's experience as well as extensive primary research and features archival materials and notes from the authors.

Author Bio
Jo Ann Allen Boyce was one of twelve students to integrate Clinton High School in 1956. She has worked as a professional singer and a nurse. We Shall Walk is her first book. She lives in Los Angeles.

Debbie Levy is the author of many books, including the New York Times bestseller I Dissent: Ruth Bader Ginsburg Makes Her Mark; The Year of Goodbyes: A True Story of Friendship, Family, and Farewells, a Sydney Taylor Honor book; Soldier Song: A True Story of the Civil War, a Publishers Weekly Best Book of the Year; and Imperfect Spiral. She lives in the Chesapeake Bay area. Visit her online at debbielevybooks.com and @debbielevybooks
How to Properly Dispose of Planet Earth
by Paul Noth

Popular New Yorker cartoonist Paul Noth continues his illustrated middle grade series about a boy, his wacky family, and an out-of-this-world adventure in this laugh-out-loud sequel to How to Sell Your Family to the Aliens.

Happy Conklin Jr. is still the only 10-year-old who has to shave three times a day, thanks to being tested on by his inventor father. And it's safe to say Hap is the only 10-year-old who accidentally sold his entire family to aliens. The good news is that Hap managed to save his family - including his tyrannical Grandma - but now the Conklins face a problem that might put the whole world in danger.

Hap wants a girl in his sixth-grade science class to be his lab partner but lacks the courage to even talk to her. Through the mysterious powers of Squeep! the lizard, he finds a way to overcome this fear but also, unfortunately, opens a black hole in his middle school that will swallow the solar system unless he's able to stop it. In his race against time to save everything, he's helped by his sister Kayla, greatly hindered by his sister Alice, and uncovers the truth about Grandma's plan to take over the Galaxy.

From its very first outrageous sentence, Paul Noth's How to Sell Your Family to the Aliens is hysterically funny. . . . An incredibly imaginative story. Each decision that Hap makes seems to result in greater strangeness and hilarity; it's impossible to predict what will happen from one page to the next.” - Foreword Reviews

"Strange (...)"

Author Bio

Paul Noth 's cartoons have appeared regularly in The New Yorker since 2004. He has created short animated films for Late Night with Conan O’Brien, and been an animation consultant for Saturday Night Live. He is the author of How to Sell Your Family to the Aliens.

www.paulnoth.com; @PaulNoth
The Storm Keeper's Island
by Catherine Doyle

Catherine Doyle's stunning middle grade debut, an evocative tale of ancient magic and family bonds, perfect for fans of Beyond the Bright Sea.

Fionn Boyle and his sister Tara have been sent to stay with their grandfather on the island of Arranmore for the summer. Fionn has never met his grandfather, but he knows he's from a brave family of lifeboat men - a family with the sea behind their eyes. Except, Fionn is scared of the sea. He feels sick just looking at it.

But an old magic is stirring deep inside the layers of Arranmore, and it is calling out to Fionn. A dark storm is coming, through time and over sea, the same storm that took his father twelve years ago. To protect his family, Fionn must embrace his destiny as the Storm Keeper's heir and face the fear that has haunted him for as long as he can remember.

This gorgeously written, magical tale of family, bravery, and self-discovery is perfect for fans of Orphan Island and A Snicker of Magic.

Author Bio

Catherine Doyle grew up beside the Atlantic Ocean in the west of Ireland. Her love of reading began with great Irish myths and legends, and fostered in her an ambition to one day write her own. The Storm Keeper's Island is her debut middle-grade novel and was inspired by her real-life ancestral home of Arranmore Island (where her grandparents grew up), and the adventures of her many sea-faring ancestors. After living in Dublin City for two years, Catherine is now based in Galway but spends a lot of her time in the US and London.

@doyle_cat
Secret in the Stone
by Kamilla Benko

Hand to readers who love Narnia.” - *School Library Journal* on *The Unicorn Quest*

“Those who love Madeleine L'Engle’s *A Wrinkle in Time* or . . . Neil Gaiman's *Coraline*, can't miss this debut.” - *Booklist*, starred review, on *The Unicorn Quest*

The second book in an enchanting fantasy series *The Unicorn Quest*, about a real-world girl and her sister in a land full of magic and strange creatures.

Claire Martinson and her sister Sophie have decided to stay in Arden - the magical land they discovered by climbing up a chimney in their great-aunt's manor. If what they've learned is true, the sisters are the last descendants of the royal family, and only a true heir of Arden - with magic in her blood - can awaken the unicorns.

Since Sophie has does not have magic, the land's last hope rests on Claire. The sisters journey to Stonehaven, a famed Gemmer school high in the mountains of Arden, so Claire can train in the magic of stone. As Claire struggles through classes, Sophie uncovers dangerous secrets about the people they thought they could trust. With Arden on the brink of crumbling, can Claire prove she is the prophesized heir and unlock the magic of the unicorns before it's too late?

“Fans of magic and fantasy, especially those who love Madeleine L'Engle's (…)

**Author Bio**

Kamilla Benko spent most of her childhood climbing into wardrobes, trying to step through mirrors, and plotting to run away to an art museum. Now, she visits other worlds as a children’s book editor. She currently lives in New York with her bookshelves, teapot, and hiking boots. She is the author of *The Unicorn Quest* series.
The Unicorn Quest
by Kamilla Benko

An enchanting, exciting fantasy about a real-world girl searching for her sister in a land full of magic and strange creatures, blending the timeless feel of A Wrinkle in Time with Frozen’s powerful themes of identity, enchantment, and sisterhood.

Claire Martinson still worries about her older sister Sophie, who battled a mysterious illness last year. But things are back to normal as they move into Windermere Manor . . . until the sisters climb a strange ladder in a fireplace and enter the magical land of Arden.

There, they find a world in turmoil. The four guilds of magic no longer trust each other, the beloved unicorns have disappeared, and terrible wraiths roam freely. Scared, the girls return home. But when Sophie vanishes in the night, it will take all of Claire’s courage to climb back up the ladder, find her sister, and uncover the unicorns’ greatest secret.

Fans of magic and fantasy, especially those who love Madeleine L'Engle’s A Wrinkle in Time . . . [or] Neil Gaiman’s Coraline, can’t miss this debut.” - Booklist, starred review

"Hand to readers who love Narnia." - School Library Journal

"Rich worldbuilding and high stakes make this a quest worth taking with a protagonist who grows by facing her fears." - Kirkus Reviews

"Enter and be transported to a lush land full of intrigue, danger, and thrilling magic! Benko's sharp storytelling will keep readers madly flipping the pages in this new, timeless adventure. Spectacular!" - Jennifer Lynn Alvarez, author of (...)

Author Bio

Kamilla Benko spent most of her childhood climbing into wardrobes, trying to step through mirrors, and plotting to run away to an art museum. Now, she visits other worlds as a children's book editor. She currently lives in New York with her bookshelves, teapot, and hiking boots. She is the author of The Unicorn Quest series.
Spy Toys: Out of Control
by Mark Powers, illustrated by Tim Wesson

Fresh from the success of their first mission, our heroes the Spy Toys - Dan the Snugaliffic Cuddlestar Bear, Arabella the Loadsasmiles Sunshine Doll and Flax the custom-made police robot rabbit - are ready for their next task. This time, the secret code that controls every Snaztacular Ultrafun toy has been stolen and all over the world toys are revolting and turning against the children who own them.

Can Arabella disguise herself as a super-sweet little doll in order to spy on the daughter of Snaztacular’s top scientist? Can Dan and Flax chase down Jade the Jigsaw, the puzzling prime suspect for the robbery? And can they save the day before the mind-controlled toys forget what it means to play nice?

Featuring hilarious illustrations throughout, this hilarious book has reluctant reader appeal written all over it.

Praise for Spy Toys:

An entertaining riff on the idea that supposed faults can actually be assets, as well as the rewards of finding friends in surprising places.” - Publishers Weekly

"Plenty of action! This will be appealing book for a pre-teen audience." - School Library Connection

"Powers's action-packed novel starts off at a jog and keeps the pace quick all the way through. . . . An entertaining choice for reluctant readers." - School Library Journal

Author Bio

Mark Powers has been making up ridiculous stories since primary school and is slightly shocked to find people now pay him to do it. As a child he always daydreamed that his teddy bear went off on top secret missions when he was at school, so a team of toys recruited as spies seemed a great idea for a story. He grew up in north Wales and now lives in Manchester. His favorite animals are the binturong, the aye-aye and the dodo.

@mpowerswriter

Tim Wesson was born somewhere in England. As a young boy he enjoyed climbing trees and drawing pictures of dogs in cars. Eventually he became an illustrator who creates children’s books. Tim doodles and paints whenever he can and likes to draw the first thing that pops into his head. He lives by the sea. 

@twwesson
Simon Thorn and the Shark's Cave
by Aimee Carter

Simon Thorn has only recently discovered that he's an Animalgam - a member of a secret race of people who can shift into animals. Now, after years of being bullied, he has found a home where he truly belongs, at a secret Animalgam academy.

But danger lurks around the corner . . . Simon's evil grandfather, Orion, is bent on taking over the entire animal kingdom. He intends to gather the pieces of a terrible weapon that could shred the very foundations of their world. That is, unless Simon can find the pieces first.

So when Simon's dolphin Animalgam friend Jam is summoned home to the underwater kingdom's headquarters, Simon sees an opportunity to secure another piece. But as soon as he and his friends arrive, their search is complicated by Jam's strict family - and a potential traitor among their ranks. Can Simon locate the piece before the entire underwater kingdom is put at risk?

With plenty of action and adventure and characters full of heart, the Simon Thorn series is perfect for fans of Rick Riordan and Brandon Mull.

Lives up to the first book's charm. A fan-pleasing sequel that will have readers anticipating the next installment." - Kirkus Reviews on SIMON THORN AND THE VIPER'S PIT

"Simon is likable and brave . . . Buy this and keep up with the series as it delves deeper into the enchanting world of Animalgams." - Booklist on SIMON THORN AND THE VIPER'S PIT

"Simon Thorn is a hero (...)"

Author Bio

Aimee Carter is the author of the Simon Thorn series: Simon Thorn and the Wolf's Den, Simon Thorn and the Viper's Pit, and Simon Thorn and the Shark's Cave, along with the two YA series The Blackcoat Rebellion and The Goddess Test, of which The Goddess Inheritance was a Cybils nominee. She started writing fan fiction at eleven, began her first original story four years later, and hasn't stopped writing since. Besides writing and reading, she enjoys seeing movies, playing with her puppies, and wrestling with the puzzles in the paper each morning. She lives in Novi, Michigan.

www.aimeecarter.com

Notes

Bloomsbury
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9781619637207 • $11.99 • pb
Juvenile Fiction / Action & Adventure • Ages 8-12 years
Series: Simon Thorn

Promotion

www.raincoast.com
The Afterwards
by A.F. Harrold, illustrated by Emily Gravett

From the acclaimed team behind The Imaginary comes another poignant, darkly fantastical story about the power of friendship.

Fact: Ember and Ness are best friends. There's nothing more to say about it. It is what it is. It is what will always be. Ember and Ness.

Then Ness dies. It is sudden and unexpected and leaves Ember completely empty. How can this be?

When Ember finds a way into the Afterworld, she is determined to bring Ness back. Because that's what friends do, isn't it? They rescue each other. They never give up. But how far into this strange and unpredictable new world will Ember go - and can she really make things the way they were again?

Paired with enchanting interior illustrations from Emily Gravett, acclaimed author A. F. Harrold weaves a heart-wrenching story about unbreakable friendship.

Author Bio

A.F. Harrold is an English poet (1975 - present). He writes and performs for adults and children, in cabaret and in schools, in bars and in basements, in fields and indoors. He was Glastonbury Festival Website's Poet-In-Residence in 2008, and Poet-In-Residence at Cheltenham Literature Festival in 2010. He won the Cheltenham All Stars Slam Championship in 2007 and has had his work on BBC Radio 4, Radio 3 and BBC7. He is active in schools work, running workshops and slams and doing performances at ungodly hours of the morning, and has published several collections of poetry.

He is the owner of many books, a handful of hats, a few good ideas and one beard. Emily Gravett is an award-winning children's author and illustrator who lives in Brighton, England. She is the winner of the Kate Greenaway Medal for Wolves and Little Mouse's Big Book of Fears.
The Restless Girls
by Jessie Burton, illustrated by Angela Barrett

Bestselling author Jessie Burton’s feminist retelling of "The Twelve Dancing Princesses," lushly illustrated in full color.

For her twelve daughters, the Queen's death is a loss beyond their mother: the King decides his daughters must be kept safe at all costs, which includes their lessons, possessions, and even their freedom. While locked away most hours of the day and night, they stumble upon a hidden, magical world, and it seems a perfect temporary escape. Their outings do not go unnoticed, however, and the King announces a contest: the man who discovers where the princesses go each night can marry the girl of his choice and become ruler of the kingdom. But the sisters will not bend to this fate, so they determine to save themselves in a brilliant twist.

The Restless Girls is a sparkling whirl of a fairytale that doesn’t need a prince to save the day, and instead is full of brave, resourceful, clever young women.

Author Bio

Jessie Burton studied at Oxford University and went on to the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama. She worked as an actress and a PA before her first novel, The Miniaturist, was published. The Miniaturist was translated into 38 languages and has sold over a million copies around the world. The television adaptation was broadcast on the BBC in 2017. Her second novel, The Muse, was published in 2016 and is also a number one bestseller. www.jessieburton.co.uk @jesskatbee

Angela Barrett has taught Illustration at Cambridge College of Technology and Drawing at Chelsea College. She has illustrated multi-starred-review titles like The Night Fairy by Laura Amy Schlitz and The Most Wonderful Thing in the World by Vivian French. She lives in London.
Can You Crack the Code?  
by Ella Schwartz, illustrated by Lily Williams

A fun and interactive look at codes throughout history, from Caesar's battlefield message to contemporary hackers.

Codes can carry big secrets! Throughout history, lots of good guys and lots of bad guys have used codes to keep their messages under wraps. This heavily designed, fun, flippable nonfiction features stories of hidden treasures, wartime maneuverings, and contemporary hacking while explaining the mechanics behind the codes in accessible and kid friendly forms. Sidebars call out activities that invite the reader to try their own hand at cracking and crafting their own secret messages. This is the launch of an exciting new series that invites readers into a STEM topic through compelling historical anecdotes, scientific backup, and DIY projects.

Author Bio

Ella Schwartz is a government anti-hacking professional and is dedicated to encouraging more young people, especially girls, to explore STEM fields. She lives in Long Beach, New York. Visit her online at @EllaSchwartz.

Notes
Caterpillar Summer
by Gillian McDunn

This beautifully honest middle-grade debut tells the story of a girl, her special needs brother, and the summer they will never forget.

Cat and her brother Chicken have always had a very special bond. When Chicken has a "meltdown", Cat's the one who scratches his back and reads his favorite story. She's always knows what he needs. Since their mom has had to work double-hard to keep their family afloat after their father passed away, Cat is the glue holding her family together. When a summer trip doesn't go as planned, Cat and Chicken end up spending three weeks with grandparents they've never met. With their help, Cat can be a kid again for the first time in years, and the journey she takes shows that even the most broken relationships can be healed if people take the time to walk in one another's shoes.

Perfect for fans of Lynda Mullaly Hunt and Ali Benjamin, this special novel features an unforgettable voice and is brimming with heart.

Author Bio
Gillian McDunn has lived in California, Missouri, and North Carolina, and is a fan of both the Pacific and the Atlantic Oceans. Like Cat, Gillian grew up as the big sister to a younger brother with special needs. She lives near Raleigh, NC, with her family. This is her first book. Visit her online at www.gillianmcdunn.com.
Princess Before Dawn
by E.D. Baker

In the seventh tale of the Wide-Awake Princess series, Princess Annie's beloved home Treecrest has become a favorite destination for all sorts of magical beings. One new set of guests are particularly strange, and they are ready to take over a new hunting ground. Annie and Liam turn to their only friends who can help, Francis and Zoe. But when Francis and Zoe arrive in Treecrest, the new hunting group is having too much fun to pack up and go home and nothing Francis or Zoe say seems to help.

Can Annie, Liam and their new friends figure out a way to reclaim Treecrest before it's overrun with hunters? Or will Annie lose her one true home?

Author Bio

E. D. Baker is the author of the Tales of the Frog Princess series, the Wide-Awake Princess series, the Fairy-Tale Matchmaker series, the Magic Animal Rescue series, and many other delightful books for young readers, including *Fairy Wings*, *Fairy Lies*, and *A Question of Magic*. Her first book, *The Frog Princess*, was the inspiration for Disney's hit movie *The Princess and the Frog*. She lives with her family and their many animals in Maryland.

www.talesofedbaker.com
The Multiplying Mysteries of Mount Ten
by Krista Van Dolzer

For fans of The Book Scavenger comes a smart and funny middle grade mystery with built-in logic puzzles that readers can solve.

Twelve-year-old painter Esther can't wait to attend Camp Vermeer, the most prestigious art camp around. But when her stepdad accidentally drives up the wrong mountain, she lands at Camp Archimedes - a math camp!

Determined to prove herself to the other campers, she tackles a brain-teaser that's supposed to be impossible - and solves it in a single day. But not everyone is happy about it... someone wants her out of camp at any cost, and starts leaving cryptic, threatening notes all over the camp's grounds. Esther doesn't know who to trust - will she solve this riddle before it's too late?

Featuring tricky logic puzzles readers can solve along with the characters and starring a unique, smart, and crafty young heroine, this story has just the right mix of mystery, humor, and wit.

Author Bio

Krista Van Dolzer was inspired to write this story in part by her degree in Mathematics Education from Brigham Young University. She's a stay-at-home mom by day and a children's author by bedtime. She lives with her husband and three kids in Mesquite, Nevada. She's also the author of The Sound of Life and Everything, a Junior Library Guild selection, and Don't Vote for Me. www.kristavandolzer.com

@KristaVanDolzer
They Lost Their Heads!
What Happened to Washington's Teeth, Einstein's Brain, and Other Famous Body Parts
by Carlyn Beccia

From the kidnapping of Einstein's brain to the horrifying end of Louis XIV's heart, the mysteries surrounding some of history's most famous body parts range from medical to macabre. Carlyn Beccia explores the misadventures of noteworthy body parts through history and springboards to exploring STEM topics such as forensics, DNA testing, brain science, organ donation, and cloning. The engaging tone, wonderfully creepy subject matter, and delightfully detailed art are sure to capture even the most reluctant readers.

The famous people and their body parts include:
Galileo Galilei / Fingers
Louis XIV / Heart
George Washington / Teeth
Franz Joseph Hadyn / Head
Beethoven / Hair
Abraham Lincoln / Body
Chang and Eng Bunker / Liver
Phineas Gage / Skull
John Wilkes Booth / Neck vertebrae
Sarah Bernhardt / Leg
Vincent Van Gogh / Ear
Mata Hari / Head
Albert Einstein / Brain
Elvis Presley / Wart
Thomas Edison / Last Breath

Frequent black-and-white spot art and snarky footnote asides add comedy to this already high-interest blend of history and science. Entertaining and fascinating, with a clever incorporation of STEM topics." - starred review, Booklist

"Beccia's light, cheeky approach to the subject matter is tailor-made for a middle-grade audience . . . Readers fond of the gruesome and grotesque with a heavy dose of humor will find much to enjoy here." - Kirkus Reviews

Author Bio
Carlyn Beccia (pronounced Betcha) is an author, illustrator, graphic designer, and organ donor who (so far) has kept all her body parts. Beccia's children's books, including Who Put the B In the Ballyhoo?, Raucous Royals, and I Feel Better with a Frog In My Throat, have won numerous awards including the
The Ring of Honor
by Sarah L. Thomson

Middle school geniuses Sam, Martina, and Theo arrive in New York City on a mission. They're after the third key left behind by the Founding Fathers. They've escaped the forests of Glacier National Park with the second key, but at great cost - Evangeline, their chaperone and friend, was captured by the nefarious and dangerous Gideon Arnold.

Now they have to navigate New York City following clues related to Alexander Hamilton, solve (and survive) the puzzles and traps they encounter along the way, and find the third key before Gideon Arnold does. But the stakes have never been higher, and they might not all make it out alive . . .

Another exciting adventure filled with clues, puzzles, and action that dives into the fascinating history behind the Founding Fathers and our country's natural wonders.

Author Bio

Sarah L. Thomson is an award-winning author who has published more than thirty books for young readers, including the Secrets of the Seven series, Deadly Flowers, and Dragon's Egg. Sarah lives in Portland, Maine, with her daughter and her two cats. Her daughter helps with inspiration, and her cats help by lying on the piece of paper she needs most.

sarahlthomson.com
secretsoftheseven.com
Seeker of the Crown
by Ruth Lauren

One month has passed since Valor broke her twin sister Sasha out of jail. But the girl who imprisoned her there to begin with - Princess Anastasia - has gone missing. The queen, desperate to find her daughter, asks Valor and Sasha to track Anastasia down and bring her home.

But just as the girls and their friends embark on the search, the queen also vanishes, throwing the realm into utter chaos. If Valor can’t restore order, she risks getting sent back to prison . . . and tearing her newly reunited family apart once again. She must rely on people she can't quite trust, as well as her own instincts, to protect the people she holds dear.

This thrilling sequel to Prisoner of Ice and Snow is just as unputdownable as its predecessor, sweeping readers back into Valor’s vivid world, the icy - and dangerous - Demidova.

References to women as scholars, prison guards, and rulers abound in this thrill-a-minute adventure story . . . True to the best fantasy traditions for preteens." - starred review, Kirkus Reviews

"Chases, captures, and intrigue at every turn . . . This is for fans of intrepid girl heroes who aren’t perfect; Valor isn’t always patient and tends toward the clumsy, but she definitely gets the job done." - Booklist

"An excellent series that will have readers once again wondering what will happen in a land of ice and snow filled with treason and treachery." - School Library Journal

"Anyone who likes adventure, survival stories, folktales, or novels with strong female protagonists will not be able to put this down." - starred review, School Library Journal on PRISONER OF ICE AND SNOW

Author Bio

Ruth Lauren is the author of Prisoner of Ice and Snow. She lives in a Victorian house in the West Midlands, England with family and a lot of cats. She likes chocolate, walking in the woods, cheese, orchids, going to the movies, and reading as many books as she can. She's been a teacher and worked in many different offices, but she likes writing best.

www.ruthlauren.com
@Ruth__Lauren
A Curse So Dark and Lonely
by Brigid Kemmerer

In a lush, contemporary fantasy retelling of Beauty and the Beast, Brigid Kemmerer gives readers another compulsively readable romance perfect for fans of Marissa Meyer.

Fall in love, break the curse.

It once seemed so easy to Prince Rhen, the heir to Emberfall. Cursed by a powerful enchantress to repeat the autumn of his eighteenth year over and over, he knew he could be saved if a girl fell for him. But that was before he learned that at the end of each autumn, he would turn into a vicious beast hell-bent on destruction. That was before he destroyed his castle, his family, and every last shred of hope.

Nothing has ever been easy for Harper. With her father long gone, her mother dying, and her brother barely holding their family together while constantly underestimating her because of her cerebral palsy, she learned to be tough enough to survive. But when she tries to save someone else on the streets of Washington, DC, she's instead somehow sucked into Rhen's cursed world.

Break the curse, save the kingdom.

A prince? A monster? A curse? Harper doesn't know where she is or what to believe. But as she spends time with Rhen in this enchanted land, she begins to understand what's at stake. And as Rhen realizes Harper is not just another girl to charm, his hope comes flooding back. But powerful forces are standing against Emberfall . . . and it will take (…)

Author Bio

Brigid Kemmerer is the author More Than We Can Tell, Letters to the Lost, and the Elementals series. She was born in Omaha, Nebraska, though her parents quickly moved her all over the United States, from the desert in Albuquerque, New Mexico, to the lakeside in Cleveland, Ohio, and several stops in between, eventually settling near Annapolis, Maryland.

www.brigidkemmerer.com
@BrigidKemmerer
An absolutely fantastic tale of legends, magic and destiny." - Kendare Blake, #1 New York Times bestselling author of the Three Dark Crowns series

Two sisters become unwitting rivals in a war to claim the title of Emperor in this richly imagined, Asian-inspired fantasy for fans of Renee Ahdieh and Sabaa Tahir.

Sisters Lu and Min have always known their places as the princesses of the Empire of the First Flame: the eldest, assertive Lu, will be named her father's heir and become the dynasty's first female ruler, while timid Min will lead a quiet life in Lu's shadow. Then their father names their male cousin Set the heir instead, throwing both girls' lives into chaos.

Determined to reclaim her birthright, Lu is forced to flee, leaving Min to face the volatile court alone. Lu crosses paths with Nokhai, the lone, unlikely survivor of the decimated Ashina, nomadic wolf shapeshifters. Nok never learned to shift - and he has no trust for the Empire that killed his family - but working with the princess might be the key to unlocking his true power.

As Lu and Nok form a tenuous alliance, Min's own hidden power awakens - a forbidden, deadly magic that could secure Set's reign . . . or allow her to claim the throne herself. But there can only be one Emperor, and the sisters' greatest enemy could very well turn out to be each other.

Told in three distinct points-of-view, this (…)

Author Bio

Mimi Yu is an alumna of Voices of Our Nation's Arts (VONA/Voices) UC Berkeley 2014, and VONA/Voices University of Miami 2015. She has a B.A. in Liberal Arts from Sarah Lawrence and an M.F.A. in Fine Art from Parsons The New School for Design. When she's not writing, she enjoys gardening, quilting, and fostering kittens. She currently lives in the San Francisco Bay Area with her partner. She has 5 cats, 1 dog, and 4 planets in Aquarius.

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Imprison the Sky
by A.C. Gaughen

A fantasy romance in the vein of books by Sabaa Tahir, Renee Ahdieh.” - School Library Journal on Reign the Earth

The sweeping Elementae series continues with a heroine so powerful she can command the sky . . .

Stolen from her family as a child, Aspasia has clawed her way up the ranks of Cyrus’s black market empire to captain her own trading vessel - and she risks it all every time she uses her powerful magic to free as many women, children, and Elementae from slavery as she can.

But Cyrus is close to uncovering her secrets - not only that Aspasia is a wind Elementa with the ability to sail her ship through the sky, but that she is also searching for her lost family. And if Aspasia can’t find her younger siblings before Cyrus does, she will never be able to break free.

Armed with her loyal crew full of Elementae and a new recruit who controls an intriguing power, Aspasia finds herself in the center of a brewing war that spans every inch of the ocean, and her power alone may not be enough to save her friends, family, and freedom.

“A series opener with depth. . . . Gaughen delivers an emotionally resonant tale full of magic so powerful it can move the earth; rich writing and worldbuilding will (…)

Author Bio

A. C. Gaughen is a freelance writer and regular blogger who has had several stories published in the Chicken Soup for the Soul series. She attended college in Scotland but now lives in Massachusetts, USA.
Reign the Earth
by A.C. Gaughen

Another fantasy romance in the vein of books by Sabaa Tahir, Renee Ahdieh... Shalia matures from a frightened girl in a foreign land to a woman unwilling to allow her destiny or desires to be controlled by the men around her." - School Library Journal

"I will be thinking about Shalia's strength and fearlessness (and swooning over the slow-burn romance) as I anxiously await book two!" - Erin Bowman, author of Vengeance Road

Shalia is a proud daughter of the desert, but after years of devastating war with the adjoining kingdom, her people are desperate for an end to the violence that has claimed so many of their loved ones. Willing to trade her freedom to ensure the safety of her family, Shalia becomes Queen of the Bone Lands, a country where magic is outlawed and the Elementae - those that can control earth, air, fire and water - are traitors, subject to torture... or worse.

Before she is even crowned, Shalia discovers that she can bend the earth to her will. Trapped between her husband's irrational hatred of the Elementae and a dangerous rebellion led by her own brother, Shalia must harness her power and make an impossible choice: save her family, save the Elementae, or save herself.

"A series opener with depth... Gaughen delivers an emotionally resonant tale full of magic so powerful it can move the earth; rich writing and worldbuilding will appeal to readers seeking complex characters, palace intrigue (...)

Author Bio

A. C. Gaughen is a freelance writer and regular blogger who has had several stories published in the Chicken Soup for the Soul series. She attended college in Scotland but now lives in Massachusetts, USA.
What Momma Left Me
by Renee Watson

Rediscover Newbery Honor- and Coretta Scott King Author Award-winner Renee Watson's heart-rending debut, about one girl's journey to reconnect to joy.

Serenity is good at keeping secrets, and she's got a whole lifetime's worth of them. Her mother is dead, her father is gone, and starting life over at her grandparents' house is strange. Luckily, certain things seem to hold promise: a new friend who makes her feel connected, and a boy who makes her feel seen. But when her brother starts making poor choices, her friend is keeping her own dangerous secret, and her grandparents put all of their trust in a faith that Serenity isn't sure she understands, it is the power of love that will repair her heart and keep her sure of just who she is.

Renee Watson's stunning writing shines in this powerful and ultimately uplifting novel.

Warm, rich, and satisfying." - Kirkus Reviews

"The author is a natural storyteller. . . . While the events, setting, and characters of this story are definitely contemporary, the tale is timeless." - VOYA

"Serenity Evans is a strong African-American character who will resonate with girls who are facing transitions of their own, large or small." - School Library Journal

"Timely and timeless." - Jacqueline Woodson, National Book Award-winning author of BROWN GIRL DREAMING on PIECING ME TOGETHER

"Watson, with rhythm and style, somehow gets at the toxicity of sympathy, the unquenchable thirst of fear, and the life-changing power of voice and opportunity, all wrapped up in Jade." - Jason Reynolds, New York Times bestselling and award-winning coauthor of ALL AMERICAN BOYS on PIECING (...)
Rediscover *New York Times* bestselling, Newbery Honor- and Coretta Scott King Author Award-winning author Renee Watson’s heart-rending debut, about one girl’s journey to reconnect to joy.

Serenity is good at keeping secrets, and she’s got a whole lifetime’s worth of them. Her mother is dead, her father is gone, and starting life over at her grandparents’ house is strange. Luckily, certain things seem to hold promise: a new friend who makes her feel connected, and a boy who makes her feel seen. But when her brother starts making poor choices, her friend is keeping her own dangerous secret, and her grandparents put all of their trust in a faith that Serenity isn’t sure she understands, it is the power of love that will repair her heart and keep her sure of just who she is.

Renee Watson's stunning writing shines in this powerful and ultimately uplifting novel.

Warm, rich, and satisfying." - *Kirkus Reviews*

"The author is a natural storyteller... While the events, setting, and characters of this story are definitely contemporary, the tale is timeless." - *VOYA*

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"Watson, with rhythm and style, somehow gets at the toxicity of sympathy, the unquenchable thirst of fear, and the life-changing power of voice and opportunity, all wrapped up in Jade." - Jason Reynolds, New York Times bestselling and award-winning coauthor of (...)"

**Author Bio**

Renee Watson grew up in Portland Oregon, came to New York for her degree in writing, and now teaches poetry in the New York City Schools. Her books include *Betty Before X, Harlem's Little Blackbird: The Story of Florence Mills, A Place Where Hurricanes Happen,* and *What Momma Left Me* which debuted as the New Voice for 2010 in middle grade fiction by The Independent Children's Booksellers Association.
Inventing Victoria
by Tonya Bolden

In a searing historical novel, Tonya Bolden illuminates post-Reconstruction America in an intimate portrait of a determined young woman who dares to seize the opportunity of a lifetime.

As a young black woman in 1880s Savannah, Essie’s dreams are very much at odds with her reality. Ashamed of her beginnings, but unwilling to accept the path currently available to her, Essie is trapped between the life she has and the life she wants.

Until she meets a lady named Dorcas Vashon, the richest and most cultured black woman she’s ever encountered. When Dorcas makes Essie an offer she can’t refuse, she becomes Victoria. Transformed by a fine wardrobe, a classic education, and the rules of etiquette, Victoria is soon welcomed in the upper echelons of black society in Washington, D.C. But when the life she desires is finally within her grasp, Victoria must decide how much of herself she is truly willing to surrender.

Readers will fall in love with Bolden’s gentle lyricism as she unflinchingly unfolds a difficult story.” - starred review, Shelf Awareness on CROSSING EBENEZER CREEK

"Bolden . . . bravely concludes this concise, moving story with a historically accurate and horrifying ending." - starred review, Publishers Weekly on CROSSING EBENEZER CREEK

"The well-executed premise, a compelling love story, and unique historical details will appeal to fans of Ruta Sepetys’s Salt to the Sea . . . This moving and engrossing portrayal of a little-known historical tragedy belongs on all YA (...)"

Author Bio

Tonya Bolden is a critically acclaimed award-winning author/co-author/editor of more than two dozen books for young people. They include Crossing Ebenezer Creek, which received five starred reviews; Finding Family, which received two starred reviews and was a Kirkus Reviews and Bank Street Best Children's Book of the Year; Maritcha: A Nineteenth-Century American Girl, a Coretta Scott King honor book and James Madison Book Award winner; MLK: Journey of a King, winner of a National Council of Teachers of English Orbis Pictus Award for Outstanding Nonfiction for Children; Emancipation Proclamation: Lincoln and the Dawn of Liberty, an ALSC Notable Children's Book, CBC/NCSS Notable Social Studies Trade Book for Young People, and

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5.51 x 8.25 • 272 pages
9781681198071 • $23.99 • CL - With dust jacket
YA Fic / Historical / United States / 19Th Century • Ages 13 years and up
Life in a Fishbowl
by Len Vlahos

A weird, sardonic delight with the shape of an allegory and the heart of a joyful song." - Brenna Yovanoff, New York Times bestselling author of The Replacement

In this brilliantly written tragicomedy from acclaimed Morris finalist Len Vlahos comes a story about a girl whose dying father does the unthinkable - puts his life up for auction online.

When fifteen-year-old Jackie discovers that her father has been diagnosed with a terminal brain tumor, her whole world starts to crumble. She can't imagine how she'll live without him.

Then, in a desperate act to secure his family's future, Jackie's father does the unthinkable - he puts his life up for auction on eBay. Jackie can do nothing but watch and wait as an odd assortment of bidders, some with nefarious intentions, drive the price up higher. The fate of her entire family hangs in the balance.

But no one can predict how the auction will finally end, or any of the very public fallout that ensues. Life as Jackie knows it is about to change forever . . .

"Surprising, original, political, and deeply affecting . . . It is one of those rare works of art that keeps you guessing up to the very last page." - Leila Sales, author of This Song Will Save Your Life

"It will tear you apart, and (...)"

Author Bio

Len Vlahos dropped out of NYU film school in the mid '80s to play guitar and write songs for Woofing Cookies, a punk-pop four piece that toured up and down the East Coast, and had two singles and one full-length LP on Midnight Records. After the band broke up, he followed his other passion, books. He is the author of The Scar Boys, a William C. Morris Award finalist and a #1 Indie Next pick, and Scar Girl, the book's sequel. Len lives in Denver with his wife and two young sons, where he owns the Tattered Cover Book Store.

www.lenvlahos.com
@LenVlahos
From the acclaimed author of When Mr. Dog Bites comes a compelling, heartbreaking, and timely story about how far you’d go for family.

With an estranged father, terminally ill mother, and a little brother in need of a guardian, seventeen-year-old Bobby Seed already has a lot on his plate. But when his mother’s illness worsens, she makes a startling request, forcing Bobby to make an impossible choice that will change his life forever.

In a deftly told coming-of-age story, acclaimed author Brian Conaghan offers a fresh perspective on the complicated topic of assisted suicide that will have readers connecting deeply with this young man as he’s forced to act well beyond his years and consider what loyalty and compassion truly mean - to him, and to the world around him.

Author Bio

Brian Conaghan was born in 1971. He was raised in the Scottish town of Coatbridge but now lives and works as a teacher in Dublin. He is the author of The Boy Who Made It Rain and has a Master of Letters in Creative Writing from the University of Glasgow. Over the years Brian has made his dosh as a painter and decorator, a barman, a DJ, an actor, a teacher and now a writer. He currently lives in Dublin with two beauties who hinder his writing: his wife Orla and daughter Rosie. 
@BrianConaghan
We Come Apart
by Sarah Crossan and Brian Conaghan

Authors Brian Conaghan and Sarah Crossan have joined forces to tell the story of Nicu and Jess, two troubled teens whose paths cross in the unlikeliest of places.

Nicu has emigrated from Romania and is struggling to find his place in his new home. Meanwhile, Jess’s home life is overshadowed by violence. When Nicu and Jess meet, what starts out as friendship slowly blossoms into romance as the two bond over their painful pasts and their hope and dreams of a better future. But will they be able to save each other, let alone themselves? This illuminating story told in dual points of view through vibrant verse will stay with readers long after they’ve finished.

Nominated for the Carnegie Medal
Finalist, Goodreads Choice Awards

Acclaim for Brian Conaghan
Shortlisted for the 2015 Carnegie Award, When Mr. Dog Bites
Shortlisted for the CBI Book of the Year Award, When Mr. Dog Bites

Acclaim for Sarah Crossan
Winner of the 2016 Carnegie Award, One
Winner of the 2016 Bookseller's prize for YA fiction, One
Winner of the 2016 CBI Book of the Year, One
Shortlisted for the 2015 Carnegie Award, Apple and Rain
Shortlisted for the 2013 Carnegie Award, The Weight of Water

This crushingly honest story effectively confronts issues of racism, abuse, and bullying, while admitting that often there's no easy answers to misery.” - Booklist

"This contemporary star-crossed love affair is convincing and moving - and also a heartbreakingly timely portrayal of discrimination and bullying in Brexit-era London." - The Horn Book Magazine

"Told in verse through alternating viewpoints, this is a powerful novel about (...)"

Author Bio

Location: Sarah Crossan - Hertfordshire, England; Brian Conaghan - Dublin, Ireland
When Light Left Us
by Leah Thomas

A nuanced exploration of human nature." - Booklist, starred review

"For fans of Patrick Ness and Lauren Oliver, this is a must buy." - SLJ, starred review

When the Vasquez siblings' father left, it seemed nothing could remedy the absence in their lives . . . until a shimmering figure named Luz appeared in the canyon behind their house.

Luz filled the void. He shot hoops with seventeen-year-old Hank's hands. He showed fourteen-year-old Ana cinematic beauty behind her eyelids. He spoke kindly to eight-year-old Milo. But then Luz left, too, and he took something from each of them. As a new school year begins, Hank, Ana, and Milo must carry on as if an alien presence never altered them. But how can they ever feel close to other people again when Luz changed everything about how they see the world and themselves?

In an imaginative and heartfelt exploration of human - and non-human - nature, Leah Thomas champions the unyielding bonds between family and true friends.

Because You'll Never Meet Me
A William C. Morris YA Debut Award finalist

Metaphor and figurative language make the prose here beautiful to read. . . . The poignant, strange, and poetic novel is a nuanced exploration of human nature." - starred review, Booklist

"A compelling, character-driven, and imaginative novel. . . What makes it (...)

Author Bio

Leah Thomas frequently loses battles of wits against her students and her stories. When she's not huddled in cafes, she's usually at home prickling her fingers in service of cosplay. Leah lives in San Diego, California and is the author of Nowhere Near You and the William C. Morris YA Debut Award finalist, Because You'll Never Meet Me.
Watch Us Rise
by Renee Watson and Ellen Hagan

Newbery Honor and Coretta Scott King Award-winning author Renee Watson teams up with poet Ellen Hagan in this YA feminist anthem about raising your voice, for fans of Moxie and The Poet X.

Jasmine and Chelsea are best friends on a mission - they're sick of the way women are treated even at their progressive NYC high school, so they decide to start a Women's Rights Club. They post their work online - poems, essays, videos of Chelsea performing her poetry, and Jasmine's response to the racial macroaggressions she experiences - and soon they go viral. But with such positive support, the club is also targeted by trolls. When things escalate in real life, the principal shuts the club down. Not willing to be silenced, Jasmine and Chelsea will risk everything for their voices - and those of other young women - to be heard.

Renee Watson and debut novelist Ellen Hagan present two dynamic, creative young women who stand up and speak out in a novel that features their compelling art and poetry along with powerful personal journeys that will inspire readers and budding poets, feminists, and activists.

Acclaim for Piecing Me Together
2018 Newbery Honor Book
2018 Coretta Scott King Author Award
2017 Los Angeles Times Book Prize, Young Adult Finalist

Timely and timeless." - Jacqueline Woodson, award-winning author of Brown Girl Dreaming

"Watson, with rhythm and style, somehow gets at . . . the life-changing power of voice and opportunity." - Jason Reynolds, award-wining author of When I Was the Greatest and coauthor of All American Boys

"Brilliant." - John Green, New York Times bestselling and award-winning (…)

Author Bio

Renee Watson grew up in Portland Oregon, came to New York for her degree in writing, and now teaches poetry in the New York City Schools. Her books include Betty Before X, Harlem's Little Blackbird: The Story of Florence Mills, A Place Where Hurricanes Happen, and What Momma Left Me which debuted as the New Voice for 2010 in middle grade fiction by The Independent Children's Booksellers Association.
Kitty’s Magic Bind-up Books 4-6
Star the Little Farm Cat, Frost and Snowdrop the Stray Kittens, and Sooty the Birthday Cat
by Ella Moonheart

Kitty loves cats more than anything, even though they make her eyes puffy and her nose tickly. When her best friend’s new kitten, Misty, causes Kitty to have a sneezing fit in the middle of their sleepover, something magical happens - Kitty turns into a cat!

Being cat and human means that Kitty can have the best of both worlds! But with her special power comes a new role: Kitty becomes the Guardian of the Cat Council. Will she be able to help the local cats find the purrfect solutions to all of their feline problems?

This bind-up includes books 4-6 in the delightful Kitty’s Magic series - Star the Little Farm Cat, Frost and Snowdrop the Stray Kittens, and Sooty the Birthday Cat.

Author Bio

Ella Moonheart grew up telling fun and exciting stories to anyone who would listen. Now that she’s an author, she’s thrilled to be able to tell stories to so many more children with her Kitty's Magic books. Ella loves animals, but cats most of all! She wishes she could turn into one just like Kitty, but she’s happy to just play with her pet cat, Nibbles - when she’s not writing her books, of course!
Welcome to an enchanted land ruled by unicorn princesses! Cressida Jenkins, a unicorn-obsessed girl who is sure that unicorns are real, is invited to visit, and readers will be thrilled to journey to the Rainbow Realm along with her! In each story, Cressida is called to help a unicorn princess and her sisters in a magical adventure.

This bind-up includes books 4-6 in the delightful Unicorn Princesses series - *Prism's Paint, Breeze's Blast, and Moon's Dance*.

**Author Bio**

Emily Bliss lives just down the street from a forest. From her living room window, she can see a big oak tree with a magic keyhole. Like Cressida Jenkins, she knows that unicorns are real.

Sydney Hanson was raised in Minnesota alongside numerous pets and brothers. In addition to her traditional illustrations, Sydney has worked for several animation shops, including Nickelodeon and Disney Interactive. In her spare time she enjoys traveling and spending time outside with her adopted brother, a Labrador retriever named Cash. She is the illustrator of the Unicorn Princesses series and the picture book, *Next to You*. Sydney lives in Los Angeles.

www.sydwiki.tumblr.com