

THE WALKER BOOKS GROUP

# FICTION RIGHTS



**Frankfurt & Shanghai 2024**

# WALKER FIRST READERS

A child's very first chapter book – and one they will always remember.

## Vicky and June

Patricia Toht Hoang Giang



Vicky and June love to explore their woodland home together. Whether they're playing games under the big blue sky or planting seeds in their beautiful garden, they always find fun and giggles in everything they do.

Written by best-loved picture book author Patricia Toht and illustrated by rising star Hoang Giang.

VICKY AND JUNE:  
FRIENDS AT PLAY



SEPTEMBER 2025

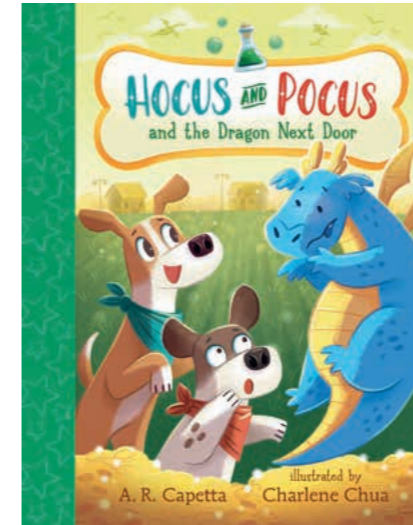
VICKY AND JUNE:  
FRIENDS IN BLOOM



MARCH 2026

64 pages • World rights available • Walker Books

## A. R. CAPETTA



### Hocus and Pocus and the Dragon Next Door

illustrated by Charlene Chua

Another fun-filled and enchanting romp about two magical puppies in a world where everyone can be their unique selves

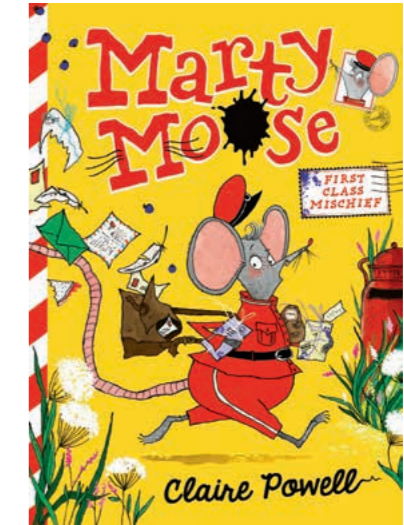
On a walk around the neighborhood Hocus and Pocus discover that the wizard next door, Jade, has a new pet – a dragon named Bye-Bye. Hocus is excited because she loves making new friends but Pocus is afraid. When Hocus bounds into Bye-Bye's yard wanting to play, the dragon shies away, then chases her off. Could it be that Bye-Bye isn't scary – she's scared?

96 pages • March 2025 • World rights available • Candlewick Press

A funny and affirming adventure that gently addresses the topic of anxiety and mental health.

BOOK 3 MAY 2026 • BOOK 4 MAY 2027 • BOOK 5 MAY 2028 • BOOK 6 MAY 2029

## CLAIRE POWELL



### Marty Moose: First Class Mischief

The first instalment in a brilliantly funny and charming series from a bestselling illustrator

It's Marty Moose's first day on the job as Postmouse. He's ironed his uniform, polished his buttons and waxed his whiskers; he's ready to go! But things take a tricky turn when he gets lost in Whisker Warren and needs rescuing by a doolally rabbit named Nibbles, and then gets caught in the crossfire of two less-than-neighbourly toads. Who knew postage could be so perilous!

160 pages • February 2025 • Rights sold: Dutch, Hungarian, Italian, Simplified Chinese Walker Books

Authorial debut from the illustrator of *The Swifts* by Beth Lincoln and *Montgomery Bonbon* by Alasdair Beckett-King.

BOOK 2 SEPTEMBER 2025 • BOOK 3 FEBRUARY 2026 • BOOK 4 SEPTEMBER 2026

## Bear and Bird

JARVIS

Bear and Bird are best friends! And while they don't always understand each other, they both agree: all they want is to make the other happy.

Jarvis' books have sold 1.7 million copies worldwide in 24 languages.



MARCH 2023



OCTOBER 2023



MARCH 2024



OCTOBER 2024



MARCH 2025



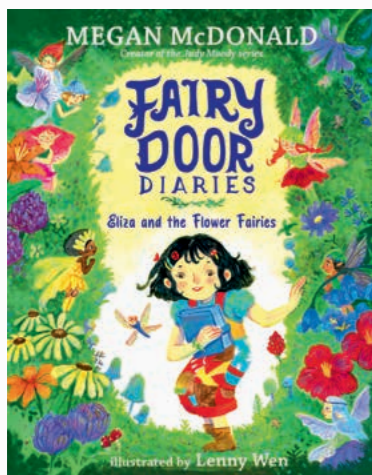
OCTOBER 2025

### COMING SOON!

Indie in Disguise, by Katie Clapham and Emma Farrarons, and *Salty Dog and Pals*, by Katie Chappell and Helen Stephens

64 pages • Rights sold: Catalan, Dutch, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Lithuanian, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese (EU), Simplified Chinese, Spanish (EU), Serbian, Swedish, Turkish • Walker Books

## MEGAN McDONALD



### Fairy Door Diaries: Eliza and the Flower Fairies

illustrated by Lenny Wen

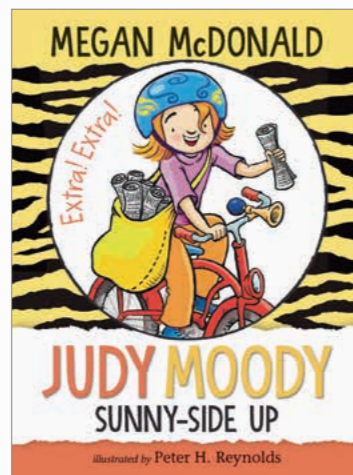
From the beloved author of *Judy Moody* and *Stink* comes the first in a sparkling series of chapter books about a girl whose love for magic and fairy folk takes her on enchanting adventures

The teeny-tiny door in Eliza's secret hideout can transport her to a world of tangerine sun and lemon-pudding sky, a place where flower fairies perch on every bloom and a new flower springs up whenever you pick one. But when Eliza tries to pick a strangely beautiful flower, things soon go terribly awry. Can her friend Poppy rescue Eliza from beyond the hedgerow before the Demon Wind steals all the flower fairies' scents, leaving the snapdragons with no snap?

96 pages • February 2025 • World rights available • Candlewick Press

**Pure magic: that's what you get when you stir together fairies, lands of enchantment, jewel-toned illustrations and easy-to-read text.**

BOOK 2 FEBRUARY 2026 • BOOK 3 SEPTEMBER 2026 • BOOK 4 SEPTEMBER 2027



### Judy Moody: Sunny-Side Up

illustrated by Peter H. Reynolds

Sometimes you just have to find the good news, as Judy Moody discovers when she creates her very own newspaper

Mr. Todd has Class 3T looking for the Five Ws in the newspaper, but all Judy can see is how much bad news there is. Climate change! Deadly virus! Sea turtles endangered by straws! The good news is that Judy finds a call to action, transforms into a Kid Reporter, and goes out in search of happier stories. Rare bird sighting! Escaped bearded dragon found! Plastic straws banned! Kids intrigued by the first edition of Judy's Sunny-Side-Up News may just be inspired to create their own second edition. After all, there's no telling how much good news is out there until you start looking!

176 pages • September 2024 • Rights sold: Arabic, Georgian, Greek, Japanese, Polish, Portuguese (Brazil), Russian, Spanish (World), Ukrainian • Candlewick Press

**A timely and much-needed antidote to bad news: a reminder that silver linings and good news are all around us and just as noteworthy.**

BOOK 18 SEPTEMBER 2026

Celebrating  
25 years of  
Judy Moody  
in 2025

## KATE DiCAMILLO



### Orris and Timble: Lost and Found

illustrated by Carmen Mok

This charmingly offbeat pair of friends is back in a poignant and evocatively illustrated tale of trust

Orris the rat and Timble the owl are unlikely friends. Each night, Timble comes to the barn to visit Orris and listen to his stories. But Timble is growing up, and when he doesn't appear one day, Orris wonders if perhaps Timble has forgotten him. Is their friendship over – or does Timble have a story of his own to share?

80 pages • April 2025 • Rights sold: Greek, Romanian, Simplified Chinese, Spanish (US) • Candlewick Press

Praise for *Orris and Timble: The Beginning*

**“The spirits of Frog and Toad are alive and well in this moving and funny first volume in an early reader trilogy by DiCamillo, which chronicles the unlikely blossoming friendship between a cynical rat and a curious, naive owl . . . DiCamillo expertly wraps humor, kindness, the courage that purpose ignites, and a love of story into a concise, welcoming package.”**

Publishers Weekly

BOOK 3 JANUARY 2026



### Lost Evangeline

illustrated by Sophie Blackall

Two internationally acclaimed and beloved creators reunite to tell this original fairy tale set in the land of Norendy

When a shoemaker finds a tiny girl (as small as a mouse!), he takes her in, names her Evangeline and raises her as his own. The shoemaker's wife, however, fears that Evangeline has bewitched her husband, so when an opportunity arises to rid herself of the girl, she takes it. But with the help of those Evangeline meets on her journey – including a disdainful and self-satisfied cat – she may just find her way home again.

144 pages • September 2025 • Rights sold: Catalan, Complex Chinese, Dutch, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese (Brazil), Simplified Chinese, Spanish (EU, Lat Am, US) • Candlewick Press

Praise for *The Beatryce Prophecy*

**“The pairing of two-time Newbery Medalist DiCamillo and two-time Caldecott Medalist Blackall is a magical alchemy.”**

The Horn Book (starred review)



## KATYA BALEN

**The Appletree Animal Agency**  
illustrated by Gill Smith

The first in a delightful new series of cosy and heartwarming animal adventures from a Carnegie Medal-winning author, highly illustrated in black and white

Mattie longs for a puppy and knows her dad will never allow it. So she finds the next best thing – helping new vet Dr Polly. Soon she is helping to treat a runaway ferret, stop a greedy goat and look after an adorable puppy with a hurt paw. But as the animal rescue centre gets more and more crowded, Mattie and her friends realize they need to do something more: help the animals find their forever homes.

160 pages • March 2025 • World rights available • Walker Books

**Katya Balen is the author of Carnegie Medal-winning October, October and Gill Smith was shortlisted for the Klaus Flugge Prize for her first book, Saving the Butterfly.**

BOOK 2 SEPTEMBER 2025



## RICHARD AYOADE



**The Fairy Tale Fan Club: Legendary Letters Collected by C.C. Cecily**  
illustrated by David Roberts

A hilarious collection of letters to fairy-tale “idols”, illustrated in spoof-gothic splendour by a beloved artist

Think you know fairy tales? Think again! These letters from kid fans pose awkward questions to a Red Riding Hood with a freakishly hairy grandmother; a less-than-genius naked Emperor; a wellness-empire Sleeping Beauty; a badly parented Hansel and Gretel; and a couple of handsome but henpecked Prince Charmings. Turning the fairy tale genre on its head, this collection will have the Brothers Grimm in a spin!

128 pages • September 2024 • Rights sold: French, Thai • Walker Books

**“A wonderful, funny book of fairy tales with a twist, with equally fabulous illustrations by the brilliant David Roberts.”**

Liz Pichon, author of Tom Gates

THE FAIRY TALE FAN CLUB: HAPPY EVER AFTER OCTOBER 2025  
THE FAIRY TALE FAN CLUB: THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS OCTOBER 2026

## EOIN COLFER

# DEERHEART

**Deerheart**  
illustrated by P.J. Lynch

A gripping and suspenseful ecological fairy tale set in old Ireland, from two legendary Irish children’s book-makers

Three fairy shapeshifter witches are the guardians of the Creedon Stone, the source of all magic, which runs all the way from the middle of the forest to the centre of mother earth. The witches’ changeling powers allow the eldest sister, Scrawb, to fight as a crow; the middle sister, Hackle, a wolf; and the youngest, Deerheart, a speckled red doe. When humans come to steal the magic for their own ends, young Deerheart must step up and discover the power within her.

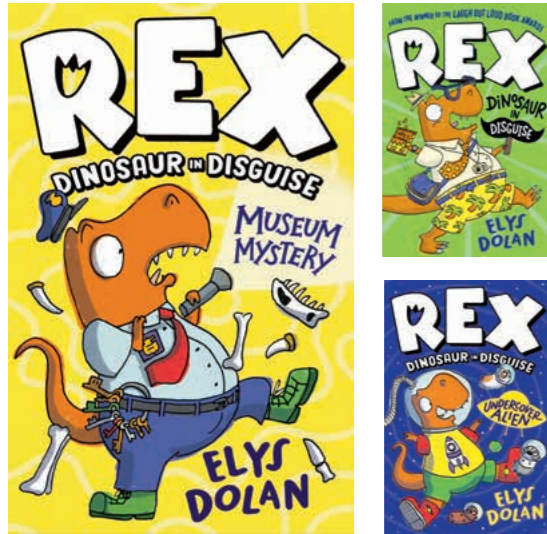
192 pages • October 2025 • World rights available • Walker Books

Praise for *Three Tasks for a Dragon*

**“Pleasingly traditional yet terrifically fresh. A wonderfully classic fairy tale that surprises and delights.”**

Booklist (starred review)

## ELYS DOLAN



### Rex Dinosaur in Disguise: Museum Mystery

Rex investigates funny goings-on in the city museum in his third hilarious adventure stylishly illustrated in two-colour

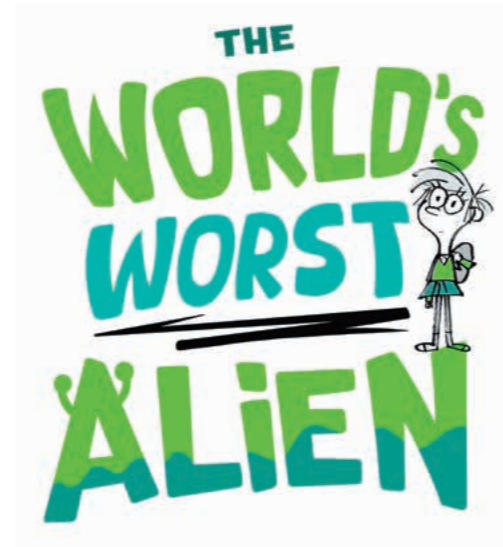
Rex can't wait for his first trip to the city museum. But, hold on, are those... bones? Dinosaur bones?! Museums can be scary. Someone has been causing havoc and it's up to Rex, Sandra and the gang to find out who. Can Rex successfully go undercover as the new security guard and help his newest friend, an Ancient Egyptian mummy? And can he pull off the greatest museum sleepover EVER?

192 pages • March 2025 • Rights sold: Korean, Simplified Chinese, Slovak, Ukrainian  
Walker Books

**Highly illustrated throughout and laugh-out loud funny, this series is perfect for fans of The Bolds, Dog Man and Bunny vs Monkey.**

BOOK 4 MARCH 2026

## ALICE PRIMMER



### The World's Worst Alien

illustrated by Fred Blunt

Hilarious observational humour and witty social commentary combine in this comic alien adventure packed with illustrations, from a brand-new writing talent and beloved artist

When alien "Sky" creates planet Earth as part of a school project, she's delighted by her success. Those dinosaurs roaming about the place are top-mark material! Then humans sweep in and it's farewell dinosaurs, hello destruction. This disappointing evolutionary twist calls for drastic measures: Sky, the laziest student in class, will have to go down to Earth herself to fix humanity...

224 pages • June 2025 • World rights available • Walker Books

**Dry humour meets social conscience in this debut comedy perfect for fans of the Loki series.**

BOOK 2 FEBRUARY 2026

## CHRISSIE SAINS



COVER NOT FINAL

### Beastopia

illustrated by Nia Tudor

Three children must pass three challenges to become Apprentice Guardians of Beastopia in the first adventure in a brand-new series

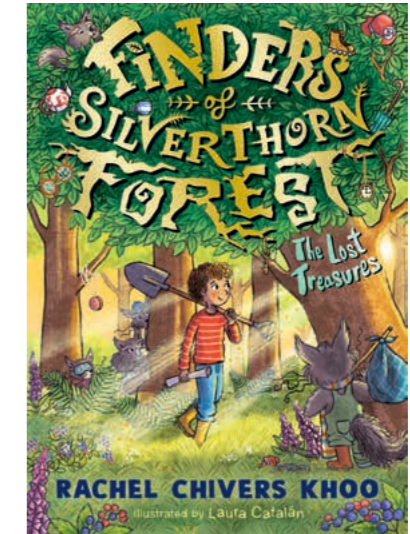
Everybody knows one thing about Digby Griffin: wherever you might find him, you'll also find his pet mouse, Cheddar. Unfortunately, The Curse of the Tenth Birthday is about to strike. Family pets ALWAYS disappear when their owners turn ten. Will Digby lose Cheddar? And where do all these lost animals go? Join Digby, his sister and his best friend to discover the magic of Beastopia...

192 pages • April 2025 • World rights available • Walker Books

**Brand-new wildly imaginative magical adventure series from the author of An Alien in the Jam Factory, illustrated in black and white.**

BOOK 2 OCTOBER 2025

## RACHEL CHIVERS KHOO



### Finders of Silverthorn Forest

illustrated by Laura Catalán

A modern classic in the making, this magical new series is perfect for fans of animal adventures and secret worlds hidden within our own

While hunting for an old time capsule that his grandma once buried in the woods, Max never expects to discover the home of a small magical creature. Yet this is how he meets Tuftorious Snook, collector of lost objects, and just one of the many Finders of Silverthorn Forest. But with the woods under threat, can Max help save their home before it's too late?

208 pages • May 2025 • World rights available • Walker Books

**Beautifully illustrated in black and white, this enchanting story will appeal to fans of The Borrowers and The Magic Faraway Tree.**

BOOK 2 FEBRUARY 2026

## LOUIE STOWELL

**Loki: A Bad God's Guide to Unruly Activities**

Introducing puzzles, quizzes, short stories and more from best-selling Bad God, Loki!

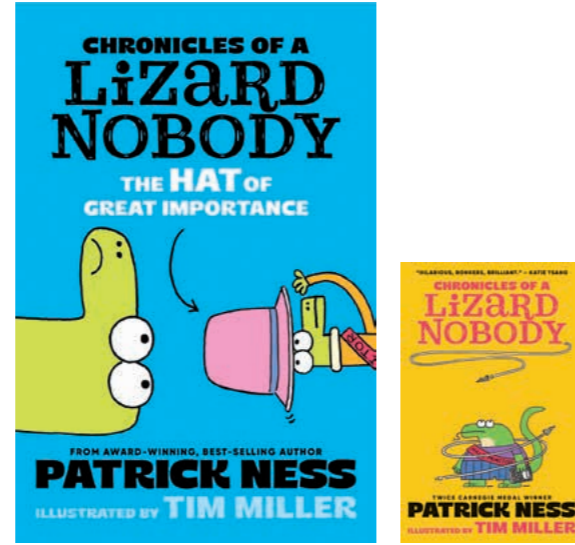
Tired of Loki's poo-related pranks, Heimdall sends him to his room to think about the consequences of his actions. But this is Loki, God of Not Doing What He's Told! What emerges is a selection of Loki-themed activities such as moral mazes, secret codes, how-to-draw guides, personality quizzes, short stories from Loki's legendary life and much much more.

160 pages • March 2025 • Rights sold: Albanian, Bulgarian, Catalan, Czech, Danish, Dutch, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Hungarian, Icelandic, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Lithuanian, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese (EU), Romanian, Serbian, Simplified Chinese, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish (World), Swedish, Turkish, Ukrainian • Walker Books

**New activity strand to complement bestselling fiction series, which has sold over 300,000 copies in the home market.**

**Perfect for Loki fans with short attention spans looking for bite-size stories and activities for rainy days and long journeys.**

## PATRICK NESS

**Chronicles of a Lizard Nobody: The Hat of Great Importance**

illustrated by Tim Miller

The second book in the absurdly funny **Chronicles of a Lizard Nobody** series by a multi-award-winning author

When Daniel arrives at the school bus stop sporting a salmon-coloured hat, Zeke is shocked. Don't only birds wear hats? As if this isn't strange enough, the school suddenly has an unusual new student and a mysterious Guidance Counsellor. Meanwhile, everybody seems to be ignoring Zeke. So when somebody melts his house with the Death Ray of Death – twice – Zeke has had enough. Who is sabotaging his life – and why?

208 pages • June 2025 • Rights sold: Danish, Dutch, French, Greek, Italian  
Walker Books

Praise for *Chronicles of a Lizard Nobody*

**“Ness and Miller, the dream team you never knew you needed, deliver an exceptional chapter book that explores bullying, stereotyping, grief, and friendship . . . Sure to amuse and even move young middle-graders.”**

Booklist (starred review)

## JONATHAN HILL

**Lizard Boy 2: The Most Perfect Summer Ever**

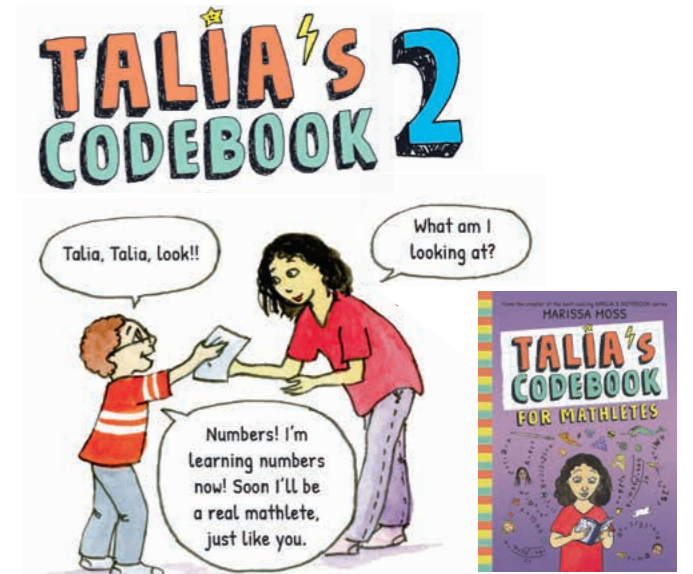
The sequel to acclaimed graphic novel *Tales of a Seventh-Grade Lizard Boy* explores intolerance through a relatable – and empowering – cast of middle-grade cryptids, immigrants and outsiders

In human disguise, the Lizk't family of Elberon is now comfortably settled in Eagle Valley as the all-American Tomkins family. But when Tommy's face, the real one, turns up in an episode of Eagle Valley Paranormal, the hidden truth threatens to emerge, and a not-so-perfect Eagle Valley summer becomes a chance for a lizard boy to shine. Jonathan Hill's graphic series captures the nuances of middle-grade life with energy, insight, and ample comic relief, proving that a united front – and sharing origin stories to keep the past alive – are a timeless antidote to intolerance.

288 pages • April 2025 • World rights available • Walker Books US

**This humorous, sci-fi take on fitting in at school is also a thoughtful look at aspects of the immigrant experience.**

## MARISSA MOSS

**Talia's Codebook 2**

In this diary sequel, math-loving Talia deals with the pressures of leadership and friendship on her new team

Packed with full-colour doodles, charts and comic panels, this is Marissa Moss doing what she does best, creating the diary of an ordinary girl as she navigates the highs and lows of middle school. Talia, like Amelia before her, worries about friendships and grades and how to make her voice heard. For Talia, her voice is caught up in the maths she loves so well. Can she enjoy something for herself when other people – parents and mathlete teammates – are relying on her to always have the correct answer to problems?

224 pages • December 2025 • World rights available • Walker Books US

**“Fans of Moss’ Amelia’s Notebooks series will feel at home with the engagingly illustrated text and tips for navigating social situations.”**

Kirkus Reviews

**“A delightful novel sure to be a hit with readers wishing to become mathematicians or even scientists ... a fantastic start to a new series.”**

School Library Journal

## SOPHIE DEEN



### Agent Asha: Double Trouble Alert

illustrated by Priyanka Sachdev

The third instalment in the action-packed spy adventure series, combining STEM with exciting adventures to engage young readers in coding and critical thinking

Top-secret Children's Spy Agency recruit Asha Joshi goes undercover to investigate teenage tech billionaire Shelly Belly – and discovers that Shelly has used AI to program the world's first robot twins. Disaster! As the robot twins run riot chasing an “evil” cow, top coder and super-spy Asha must work out how to deactivate them. Can she stop Shelly from launching her robot twin technology before anyone gets hurt... or worse?

224 pages • October 2024 • Rights sold: Korean • Walker Books

Praise for *Agent Asha: Mission Shark Bytes*  
**“This rip-roaring secret agent caper for seven-plus is full of algorithms, debugging ... and fart jokes.”**

Guardian

## JOSEPH COELHO



### Relic Hamilton, Genie Hunter

illustrated by Hyun Song We

The gripping first instalment in a new middle grade trilogy written by a UK Children's Laureate and 2024 Yoto Carnegie medallist

Relic lives with his grandfather above their old antique shop. One day, Relic is polishing a mysterious brass lamp, when something extraordinary happens – he unleashes a genie! An EVIL genie that feeds on the hope that people feel when they make a wish. Relic soon finds himself at the centre of an underground community... of archaeologists! Together, they hunt rogue genies before they can wreak havoc on the world.

288 pages • October 2024 • World rights available • Walker Books

**Ghostbusters meets Raiders of the Lost Ark meets Pokémon – with a genie twist!**

BOOKS 2–3 TO FOLLOW

## GARY NORTHFIELD



### Mighty Mega Pets: Freaky Food Fiasco

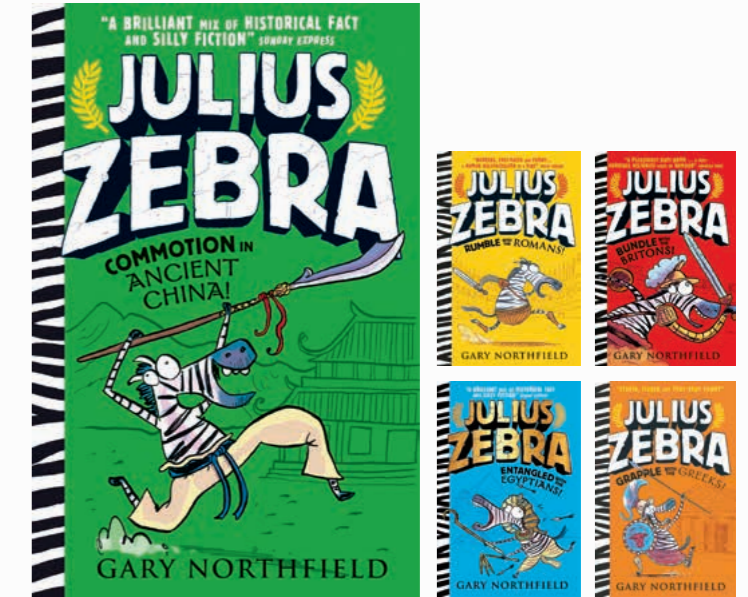
Pets! Superpowers! Silliness! ACTION! A new full-colour graphic novel series by the award-winning, bestselling king of comics

A strange magical substance has seeped into a pet food warehouse, and now dogs, cats, bunnies and fish all have freaky superpowers – whether they want them or not! Becoming either a superpowered hero or a villain comes down to each pet's personality, as their character traits get magnified. The newly-formed Mighty Mega Pets are determined to get to the bottom of the pet food mystery in order to... no pressure... save the world!

224 pages • February 2026 • World rights available • Walker Books

**Gary Northfield's comics have appeared in The Beano, The Phoenix and The Dandy.**

BOOK 2 TO FOLLOW



### Julius Zebra: Commotion in Ancient China!

The fifth title in this award-winning and internationally bestselling series takes readers on an eventful, action-packed journey to Ancient China

Join in as the chaotic friends travel along the Silk Road to Ancient China, hoping to discover the secret of silkmaking. What could possibly go wrong as our unlikely heroes dress up as a giant dragon, play kickball by the Great Wall of China, meet the Emperor, practise martial arts and fly Milus the lion as a kite? The riotously funny storyline is bursting with fascinating historical information and the cartoon-style illustrations on every spread educate and entertain in equal measure!

272 pages • February 2025 • Rights sold: Bulgarian, Dutch, French (Canada), Georgian, German, Greek, Hebrew, Italian, Spanish (LatAm) • Walker Books

**Fast-paced, full of ridiculously dynamic action and packed with witty historical references, this is Horrible Histories meets Madagascar!**

BOOK 6 TO FOLLOW

## LUAN GOLDIE

**Oops, I Kidnapped a Pharaoh!**

**Back to the Future** meets K-pop in a laugh-out-loud time-travel adventure for fans of Jenny Pearson and David Solomons

When Skylar and best friend Dana accept a ride in Nana's new tuktuk, they don't expect to travel through time – nor to accidentally kidnap Ancient Egyptian Pharaoh King Tut and turn him into a K-pop sensation! Soon Skylar and Dana are on a whirlwind race through time to put things right before they change history for ever... A hilarious and life-affirming time-travel adventure from the funniest new voice in fiction.

272 pages • February 2025 • World rights available • Walker Books

Praise for *Skylar and the K-pop Headteacher*

**“Fizzing with fun, fandom and heart... This book is thunderingly awesome!”**

Ryan Hammond, author of *Villains Academy*

## J. P. ROSE

**Paddock Grove: A Pony to Own**

**A brand-new pony series about the trials and triumphs of students at an equestrian boarding school**

Georgia has a scholarship to attend Paddock Grove, an exclusive equestrian boarding school. The only issue is that she doesn't have a horse of her own – until her parents surprise her with a pony. But chunky, scruffy Bear is a world away from the well-bred warmbloods of her classmates, and it seems he's more of a problem than a solution. How can Georgia hope to fit in when everything about Bear stands out?

224 pages • July 2025 • World rights available • Walker Books

**Modern-day Mallory Towers meets the Saddle Club, focusing on a different lead character with each story for maximum pony appeal!**

RIDING WILD NOVEMBER 2025 • PLAYING TRICKS JANUARY 2026 • ALL STARS APRIL 2026

## LAUREN MYRACLE

**Incredibly Penelope**

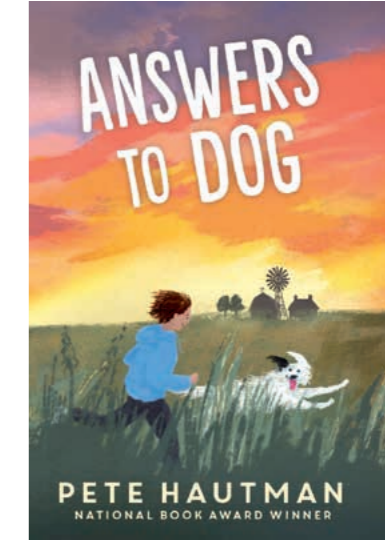
**A witty and moving novel from an acclaimed author about the friends and family that can be found in surprising places**

Penelope has been all over the globe with her godmother, the super-celebrity Queenie Bee. She's done things most kids never dream of, but she's never gone to school! After persuading her godmother to let her attend Idlewild Academy for Girls, Penelope wins over many of her new classmates, but some think she's a snob. When Penelope's mother and godmother go missing, and her wealth along with them, people start treating her differently. Who is Penelope now, and whatever will she do?

336 pages • August 2025 • World rights available • Walker Books US

**The setting and plucky heroine give A Little Princess a fresh, contemporary spin.**

## PETE HAUTMAN

**Answers to Dog**

**A National Book Award winner explores a friendship like no other – and the universal truth that dogs make life better, especially for underdogs**

Evan doesn't seem to fit in at school or at home. He goes out of his way to avoid attention. But when a border collie starts following him around and joining him on his runs, Evan's simple existence becomes a lot more complicated... a lot more like life. Evolving from wary companions to steadfast friends, Evan and the dog find the courage to stand up for themselves and to open up to those who matter most. Narrated in alternating viewpoints, this relatable middle-grade novel with classic coming-of-age themes has all the emotional complexity that mark Pete Hautman's books.

240 pages • October 2024 • World rights available • Candlewick Press

**“Once again, Pete Hautman has proven that we readers are mere putty in his hands and that, in fewer than two hundred pages, he can shape us into joy, grief, bemusement, fear, and delight. A Rumpelstiltskin of an author, who takes the straw of everyday life and spins it into storytelling gold.”**

Barry Lyga, *New York Times* best-selling author



## MIKE EDWARDS

**Riverskin**

**A dark, pacy and atmospheric journey of self-discovery from a debut author and performance poet**

Tess lives in the “turns”, a network of tunnels under the River Tees, with her Aunt Peg and her monstrous Uncle Darkwater. When Aunt Peg starts to develop signs of dementia, Tess must find someone else to keep her safe. But Tess is an amphibious creature who has never known dry land or dry-folk, and she is beginning to doubt her aunt’s stories about where she came from. Who is she *really*? And does she have the strength to change who she will become?

240 pages • April 2025 • World rights available • Walker Books

**A delightfully original literary debut reminiscent of David Almond and Sophie Anderson.**

## KEVIN CROSSLEY-HOLLAND

**Kata and Tor**

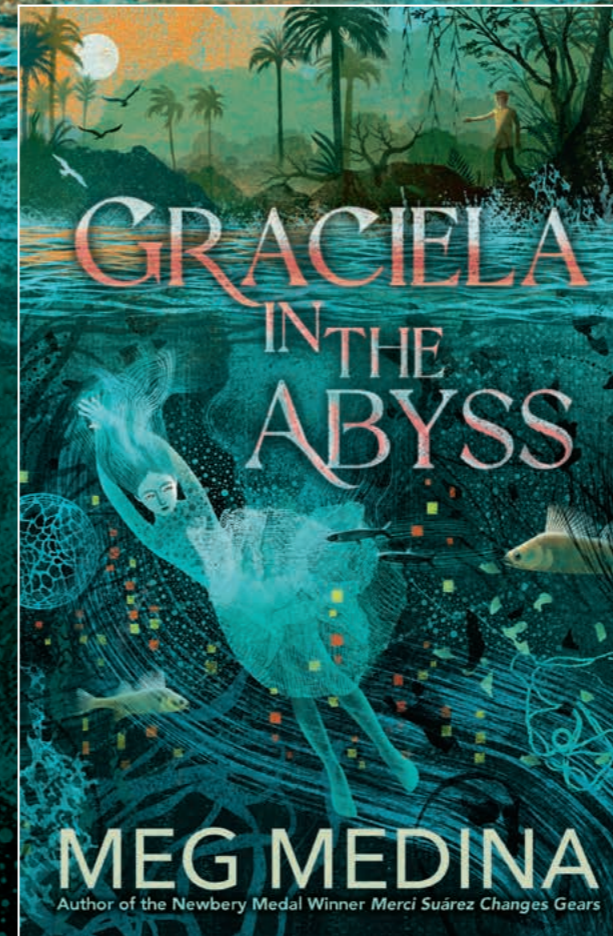
**A sweeping historical tale of honour, love and loyalty set during a thrilling, violent period of history, from a multi-award-winning storyteller**

Tor is the youngest son of the King of Norway and leader of the Viking fleet, whose prowess is the stuff of legend. Kata knows little of her parents but her heart yearns for something beyond the small world of her Anglo-Saxon village south of the great city of York. When Tor is sent to scout ahead of the Viking fleet after their invasion of Scarborough, he meets Kata, whose fierce nature sets his heart alight. As the eve of battle draws closer, Kata and Tor must question to whom their loyalty lies: heart or home?

304 pages • March 2025 • World rights available • Walker Books

**Kevin Crossley-Holland is a widely respected children’s author best known for his trilogy about King Arthur, which sold over one million copies worldwide and was translated into 25 languages.**

## MEG MEDINA

GRACIELA  
IN THE  
ABYSS

**A sea ghost, a mortal boy, and a dangerous enchanted harpoon... A Newbery Medalist takes us far beneath the waves in this extraordinary foray into fantasy**

In the deepest recesses of the ocean, Graciela – once an ordinary twelve-year-old girl – welcomes newly awakened sea ghosts from their death sleep. In the mortal world on land, twelve-year-old Jorge Leon works in his family’s forge. Unlikely allies Graciela and Jorge have to work together to keep evil spirits from wreaking havoc on both the living and the dead. If only the answer to saving what they care about didn’t lie within the depths of the abyss . . . Newbery Medal-winning author Meg Medina and illustrators Anna and Elena Balbusso have crafted a thoughtful tale infused with magic and high-stakes adventure.

256 pages • July 2025 • World rights available • Candlewick Press

**A gripping new fantasy novel from the National Ambassador of Young People’s Literature.**

## LOGAN MACX



Praise for  
*Swift and Hawk: Cyberspies*

**“Hi-tech, hi-spec and high adventure. This is the next generation of super spies.”**  
Eoin Colfer,  
author of *Artemis Fowl*

### Swift and Hawk: Shiver

An addictive spy series for Alex Rider fans who love breathless plot, cutting-edge tech and action-packed adventure

Evil organization Razor have triggered their plan for world domination – and teen spies Swift and Hawk are the only people who can stop them. As Razor instruct their superhuman assassins the Shiver to take out their enemies, Swift and Hawk race to Berlin to track down the only tech capable of standing in their way. Time is running out – if they fail, the world will change for ever...

320 pages • May 2025 • Rights sold: French, German • Walker Books

BOOK 5 MAY 2026



## PÁDRAIG KENNY



### After

A powerful and tender dystopian tale of family, hope and survival from a multi-award-winning author

Jen and her father live in the aftermath of a technological collapse that brought about the end of the world as they knew it. Those left behind are searching for each other, and for a new way of life in the After. But Jen's father isn't related to her by blood – he is a human-appearing AI, an anomaly that survived, and a secret that must be kept even from those she wishes she could trust. His kind brought about the end of the world, but could he also be the key to a new future?

240 pages • April 2025 • World rights available • Walker Books

**From the bestselling author of *Stitch, Tin and The Monsters of Rookhaven* – and twice winner of the CBI Honour Award for Fiction.**

## JENNIFER BELL



### Magicalia: Thief of Shadows

The second page-turning adventure in the spectacular series from a bestselling author, bursting with incredible magicores and amazing science

When Kosh is accused of being the notorious thief the Shadowsmith, he and Bitsy must go into hiding before Kosh is arrested. Determined to prove his innocence, Bitsy, Mateo and Kosh set out to find the real villain. But they have something the Shadowsmith desperately wants, something the conservatoire also needs for protection. Can Bitsy, Kosh and Mateo figure out the true culprit before time runs out and someone catches them?

352 pages • February 2025 • Rights sold: Danish, French, German, Lithuanian, Turkish  
Walker Books

**Jennifer Bell is a bestselling author with UK sales of over £760k. Her books have twice been chosen as Waterstones Children's Books of the Month.**

BOOK 3 FEBRUARY 2026 • BOOK 4 MARCH 2027

## JAMIE RUSSELL



### Mech Brigade

An exciting new science fiction adventure about a boy and his rebellious giant battle mech fighting alien spiders on a distant planet, from the author of the hugely popular *SkyWake* trilogy

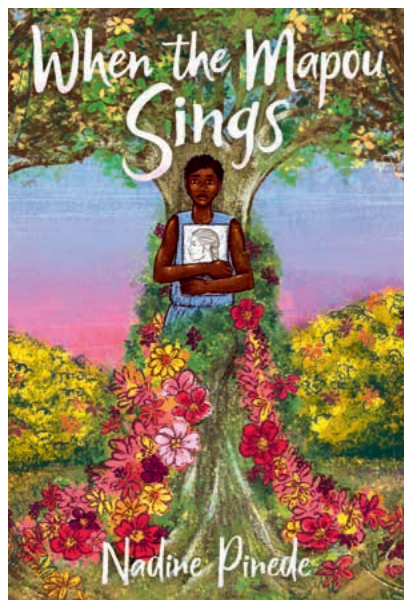
In a future where child soldiers are trained to pilot deadly combat robots, thirteen-year-old Miles Riley signs up, determined not just to follow in the footsteps of his inventor father but also to find him. Professor Riley has been missing presumed dead since Miles was born, and the circumstances around his disappearance have never been explained. But on the harsh alien planet of Icarus, mech warfare is harder than it looks – especially when someone on the inside wants you dead...

272 pages • June 2025 • World rights available • Walker Books

Praise for *SkyWake: Invasion*

**“If any book can get between kids and their screens, it's this one.”**  
The i

## NADINE PINEDE



### When the Mapou Sings

Infused with magical realism, this story blends first love and political intrigue with a quest for justice and self-determination in 1930s Haiti

Forced to flee her home after her friend vanishes, Lucille takes a servant post where she falls in love with her employer's son. But when their relationship is found out, she is banished to another city to work for a visiting American writer. While Lucille's new employer studies vodou and works on the novel that will become *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, Lucille risks losing everything she cares about as she fights to save their lives.

432 pages • December 2024 • World rights available • Candlewick Press

**“1930s Haiti comes alive in this unique and richly imagined coming-of-age tale of a girl finding her way in a country on the brink of change. Pinede’s debut is poignant, searing, and timely.”**

Stacey Lee, *New York Times* best-selling author of Reese’s Book Club pick *The Downstairs Girl*

## ANN SEI LIN



### Rebel Dawn

The third and final book in a vivid fantasy adventure set in a world of flying ships, sky cities and powerful paper spirits

Kurara and her friends have found the key to releasing shikigami from their bonds and granting them eternal freedom – if they can unlock its power. The answer lies in Kurara’s homeplace, deep in the mountains of Mikoshima. But can the crew reach it before the imperial forces catch up with them, or their own internal battles break them apart forever? Excellent world-building, a dramatic and pacy plot, and an array of deep and believable characters make for a thrilling final instalment in this masterful fantasy adventure.

352 pages • November 2024 • Rights sold: Bulgarian, French, German, Spanish (World), Turkish • Walker Books

Praise for *Rebel Skies*

**“Featuring a vivid mythology, spectacular battles, and an endlessly surprising heroine . . . intricate, beautiful and startling.”**

Jonathan Stroud

## RACHAEL DAVIS FEATHERSTONE

### Oxford Blood

The first in a series of slick and compelling dark academic thrillers from a brilliant new voice in YA fiction

Eva has one dream: to study English at Oxford University. Not only will she receive a world-class education – getting into Oxford is a pass to freedom. But when Eva and her best friend George are invited to Interview Week, they find themselves among competition that feels more than a little cut-throat.

When Eva finds George dead on the steps of a statue in the college, she knows he’s been murdered – but all eyes are now on her. She has one week to prove her innocence and win her place at Beecham College – and Oxford Slays will be watching.

352 pages • September 2025 • World rights available  
Walker Books

**Ace of Spades meets The Secret History in this riveting murder mystery thriller exploring themes of privilege, prejudice and identity.**

BOOK 2 SEPTEMBER 2026



CAROLINE O'DONOGHUE

# SKIPSHOCK

The first in a dazzlingly inventive fantasy duology from a bestselling Irish author, set in a universe where time is a resource – coveted and exploited, the key to power and privilege

Margo is on a train to a new boarding school when she slips from the height of Irish summer into the chill of an alien winter, from a 24-hour day to one that begins and ends in just six hours. From Moon, a travelling salesman she meets on board, Margo learns that she's fallen into another dimension – one scarred by uprisings, travel bans and world sealings, and where time is the greatest resource of all.

Will Margo find a way to get back home, or will she choose to stay in a world where her life is slipping away faster than ever before – but where she may have found the only person with whom she would spend eternity?

400 pages • June 2025 • World rights available • Walker Books

From the author of *All Our Hidden Gifts*, the *New York Times* bestselling YA series, published in 13 languages, and *The Rachel Incident* for adult readers now available in 17 languages and in development for the screen.

BOOK 2  
FOLLOWING  
JUNE 2026

Caroline O'Donoghue is the host and creator of the phenomenally successful *Sentimental Garbage* podcast, with six million downloads and a weekly listenership of 60,000 people.

NATALIE C. PARKER



**“A high-octane adventure with killer tension. *The Assassin’s Guide to Babysitting* hits the mark perfectly on friendship, perception, and embracing your truest self, talents and dangers alike.”**

Chloe Gong,  
#1 *New York Times*  
best-selling author of  
*These Violent Delights*

## The Assassin’s Guide to Babysitting

This riveting, superpowered adventure unveils a shadow world of Talented bounty hunters – and plumbs the nature of identity, deadly secrets and found family

Tru has been hiding all her life. Her parents taught her to conceal her bastion Talent: indestructible skin, muscles and bones. In a world where Talents are common and varied, no one trusts a bastion – they’re too powerful. When assassins interrupt a babysitting job Tru flees with a baby strapped to her chest and spiraling questions: Who killed her parents? Whom can she trust? And is it ever OK to kiss a girl who’s trying to hunt you down?

320 pages • January 2025 • Rights sold: French • Candlewick Press

**“An action-packed thriller filled with Natalie C. Parker’s signature ingredients: suspense, found family, identity exploration, otherworldly talents, and heart. This book is a good time.”**

Dhonielle Clayton, *New York Times* best-selling author of *The Belles* series

THE ASSASSIN’S GUIDE TO DATING MAY 2026

WREN JAMES

# The VICTORS

## The Victors

illustrated by Beth Fuller

Classic fantasy meets slice-of-life in a graphic novel about two erstwhile enemies rooming together at university

Five years after saving the world from a demon horde, Dirk Earnest is just a normal university student. Or he’s trying to be. But life as the poster boy for victory means adoring fans following his every move, untreated PTSD, and crushing loneliness. Cue his new housemate, Medusa De La Nuage, art student, former demon soldier... and Dirk’s nemesis.

240 pages • March 2026 • World rights available • Walker Books

**A witty, compassionate and inventive graphic novel from Wren James, who has writing credits on the TV show *Heartstopper*, paired with an exciting debut artist.**