



BOLOGNA 2025 Young Adult Rights Guide

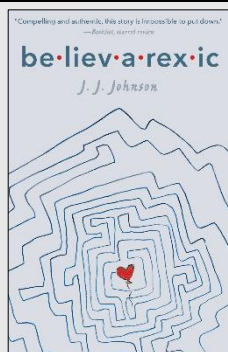
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**Find us at the fair in Hall 25 B 75
(with Walker UK/Candlewick)**



Cover art from *Climate of Chaos* by Cassandra Newbould
Jacket illustration © 2025 by Alexis-Francois Morand



NOT FINAL

JANUARY 2026

PB | 5½ x 8½ | 464 pages | Ages 14+

BELIEVAREXIC

JJ Johnson

Asking for help is only the first step.

Jennifer can't go on like this—binging, purging, starving, and all while trying to appear like she's got it all together. But when she finally confesses her secret to her parents and is hospitalized, her journey is only beginning.

As Jennifer progresses through her treatment, she learns to recognize her relationship with food, and friends, and family—and how each is healthy or unhealthy. She has to learn to trust herself and her own instincts, but that's easier than it sounds. She has to believe—after many years of being a believearexic.

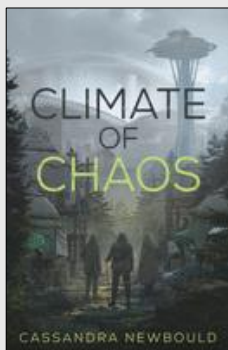
UK/Aus, Translation, Audio, Dramatic: Peachtree

All rights available

★ "Compelling and authentic, this story is impossible to put down... Perfect for fans of Laurie Halse Anderson's *Wintergirls* (2009), *Believearexic* is a raw, memorable reading experience."—**Booklist, Starred Review**

Also available

Rights sold: Croatian;
French; Korean;
Spanish



JULY 2025

HC | 5¼ x 8 | 384 pages | Ages 14+

CLIMATE OF CHAOS

Cassandra Newbould

An exhilarating dystopian YA recalling *The Last of Us* and *Divergent*— *Climate of Chaos* is a hard-hitting survival story featuring a disabled protagonist that explores the chilling effects of climate change and medical debt.

In dystopic Seattle, storms have devastated Earth's population, a new virus is spreading, and the privileged live inside domes controlled by Aegis Corp. Healthcare is earned by hours accrued working in Aegis's pharmaceutical factories. If you run short on hours, you're sent to the Harvest House for debt collection—a place few return from in one piece.

After a storm killed seventeen-year old Fox LaRosa's parents and left her disabled, Fox and her younger sister Rabbit join their fugitive aunt's mercenary group Still-Alive. Their mission is to restore the imbalance of medical access for post-storm survivors.

But when a med supply heist goes south, Rabbit is taken captive, and Still-Alive refuses to rescue her. Fox must choose between duty and family, and leaves home to infiltrate Aegis' interior domes where Rabbit is being held hostage. The more Fox learns about life in the domes, though, the more she realizes Still-Alive isn't as altruistic as they claim. In a world where everyone is out for themselves, Fox must rely on those she trusts least in order to reunite with her sister and expose both Aegis and Still-Alive for who they really are.

UK/Aus, Translation, Audio: Peachtree | **Dramatic:** Fuse Literary Agency**Rights sold:** Russia



OCTOBER 2025

HC | 5¼ x 8 | 400 pages | Ages 14+

A FATE UNWOVEN

Rachael A. Edwards

A heretical storyteller partners with an ancient spirit to undo the magic that subjugates her to the crown, in this chilling debut fantasy filled with monsters, forbidden rituals, and corrupted deities.

The Emperor of Wyrecia is dying, and 17-year-old Lena has just gained the power to control fate itself, binding her to the young prince Dimas as the kingdom's next Fateweaver. Hunted by the empire's most ruthless soldiers, Lena escapes with a handsome smuggler toward enemy territory. But a former lover betrays Lena, and her magic becomes agony—compelling Lena to submit to a gilded cage.

Still, an ancient spirit offers hope: to sever her bond to the throne, Lena must unroot a ritual hidden beneath the palace. As Prince Dimas struggles to forge friendship with Lena and bring his kingdom under peaceful rule, sinister cultists unveil a twisted plan to unleash an ancient evil that could tear the realm asunder. With every step Lena takes on her quest to freedom, she uncovers a troubling imperial past that tarnishes the nation's matron goddess. Perhaps the oral histories passed down to Lena are not foolish heresy, after all.

Translation, Audio: Peachtree | **UK/Aus, Dramatic:** Deborah Harris Agency
All rights available



OCTOBER 2025

HC | 5¼ x 8 | 352 pages | Ages 14+

A FEAST FOR THE EYES

Alex Crespo

Sawkill Girls meets Twin Peaks in a page-turning queer supernatural thriller, where four teens must track down a local cryptid that's feeding off secrets, before their own hidden truths are exposed.

On the dreary Oregon coast, a beast who feeds on secrets—known as the Watcher—lies in wait. When Shay and her girlfriend Lauren get into a fight over whether to go public with their relationship, they awaken the creature. Although Lauren is badly injured, the girls escape with their lives but can't shake the feeling of the creature's eyes tracking them.

Meanwhile, aspiring photographer Zoe is desperate to put together a portfolio worthy of earning a scholarship to attend art college. Her photography teacher praises her skill, but urges her to select more daring subjects for her submissions—a tall task when Zoe's camera acts as a barrier between herself and the rest of the world.

As rumors swirl about Lauren's injuries, Shay remains steadfast in that the Watcher is to blame. She asks for Zoe's help in snapping a photo of the local legend. Proof would help Shay get her life back on track and would certainly be daring enough for Zoe's scholarship. Together with their friends Jack and Parker, they set out to expose the Watcher before its ever-creeping eyes cast the secrets they're keeping from the town—and each other—into the light.

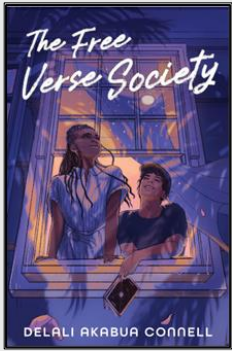
Eerily atmospheric and as piercing as eyes on the back of your head, Alex Crespo's LGBTQ+ supernatural thriller is a poignant story about the prices we pay to keep our secrets hidden—sometimes for good reason. Through creeping tension and mounting horror, readers will furiously turn the pages with their breaths held.

UK/Aus, Translation, Audio: Peachtree | **Dramatic:** Kimberley Cameron & Associates
All rights available

Also available



Rights sold: Spanish



Not Final

APRIL 2026
HC | 5¼ x 8 | 304 pages | Ages 14+

THE FREE VERSE SOCIETY

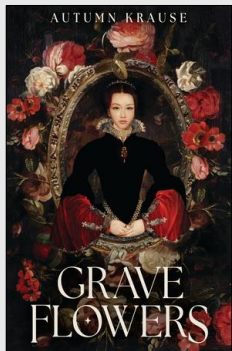
Delali Akabua Connell

Two teens connect through their high school poetry club and the power of the written word tears down the walls they've built around their hearts. A beautifully written and compelling debut that will appeal to fans of *The Sun is Also a Star*, *Far from the Tree*, and *The Poet X*.

Sixteen-year-old Jae Amevi knows one thing: eventually, everyone leaves. Like her mother, who left slowly and then left for good. When Jae moves in with her uncle, she does all she can to stay on his good side, but she has a past her uncle can't seem to forgive. Things get harder when an incident in the school bathroom threatens her reputation. She finds a haven in the school poetry club until the newest member, Derek, shows up.

When Derek and Jae are tasked with finding a venue for the year-end poetry reading, he's desperate to keep his broken family a secret, and she's desperate to protect her heart from the boy her uncle thinks is no good. Soon their pasts resurface, and they struggle to trust themselves and each other, and fight for the love they want the most.

UK/Aus, Translation, Audio: Peachtree | **Dramatic:** Writers House
All rights available



SEPTEMBER 2025
HC | 5¼ x 8 | 352 pages | Ages 14+

GRAVE FLOWERS

Autumn Krause

A twisty, dark royalcore fantasy that takes the courtly intrigue of Hamlet and infuses it with the vicious ambition of the Boleyn family. For readers who love Holly Black and Sarah J. Maas.

Marry the Prince, then kill him... Princess Madalina and her twin sister Inessa were born attached at the hand and separated right after. That's the only time the sisters ever held hands. The girls' personalities have been shaped in the Sinet family's drive to make their kingdom more than it is: unrespectable and loathsome, a damp place where deceit fills the palace walls like mold.

Madalina is different from her family. She's considered the weak one and only finds peace in the garden, tending the flowers, which are pejoratively called grave flowers because they are ideal for tortures and torments. Secretly, she dreams of escape and a new life.

Then Inessa, who was betrothed to Prince Hadrian, the heir of a wealthy kingdom, appears to Madalina as a ghost. She decries her murder and begs Madalina to free her from Bide, a terrifying place where souls get caught. Now Madalina must take her sister's place and carry out her secret mission: Inessa wasn't just sent to marry Prince Hadrien, but to kill him, too, and solidify a pact with his uncle.

On behalf of her family, Madalina must finish the job, knowing that whoever wanted Inessa dead is sure to wish her dead as well.

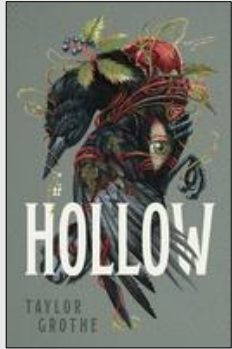
UK/Aus, Translation, Audio: Peachtree | **Dramatic:** Upstart Crow
Rights sold: French; UK

"A sumptuously dark tale of revenge and atonement that beautifully explores the ties both duty and family use to claim us. From the first page to the last, I was dazzled." —Erin A. Craig, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Thirteenth Child*

Also available



Rights sold: French



SEPTEMBER 2025

HC | 5¼ x 8 | 352 pages | Ages 14+

HOLLOW
Taylor Grothe

Don't Let the Forest In meets The Whispering Dark in a queer YA cult horror following a recently diagnosed autistic teen who becomes enmeshed in a community of outcasts harboring sinister secrets.

After a meltdown in her school cafeteria prompts an unwanted Autism diagnosis, Cassie Davis moves back to her hometown in upstate New York, where her mom hopes the familiarity will allow Cassie to feel normal again. Cassie's never actually felt normal, but she craves the ease she used to have with her old friends. Cassie's friends aren't so eager to welcome her back. Though they extend an olive branch by inviting her on their backpacking trip to Hollow Ridge, in the upper reaches of the Adirondacks. But when a fight breaks out their first night, Cassie wakes to a barren campsite—her friends all gone.

With severe weather approaching and nearing sensory overload, Cassie is saved by a boy named Kaleb, who whisks her away to a compound of artists and outcasts he calls the Roost. As Kaleb tends to her injuries, Cassie begins to feel—for the first time in her life—that she can truly be herself. But as the days pass, strange happenings around the Roost make Cassie question her instincts. Noises in the trees grow louder, begging the question: Are the dangers in the forest, on the trail, or in the Roost itself?

UK/Aus, Translation, Audio: Peachtree | **Dramatic:** Jill Grinberg Literary Management
Rights sold: UK

"Hollow is one of the best horror novels of the year, full stop. Haunting, heartfelt, and downright creepy, this book introduces imagery that will give you nightmares and an autistic protagonist in Cassie who will teach us all something new about standing up for each other and ourselves." —
Kamilah Cole, bestselling author of So Let Them Burn



Not Final

MARCH 2026

HC | 5¼ x 8 | 368 pages | Ages 14+

THE HYACINTH LABYRINTH
Jamie Paction

The iconic fantasy movie Willow meets Emily Wilde's Encyclopedia of Faeries in a lush, fairy core, sapphic YA fantasy romance that returns readers to the Fae world introduced in The Absinthe Underground!

Princess Hyacinth, youngest daughter of the Fae queen Mab, just wanted to escape the dreadful Solstice ball and read a book. She's pouring over a mysterious spell book when her best friend (and constant pain), Chloe convinces her to borrow one of the Queen's Dragons and visit a night market.

After the two of them are hauled back from the market by Queen Mab's guards, they learn that in reading the spell book, Hyacinth set free a dark wizard with connections to her past. The only way to stop him from hunting Hyacinth is to keep the Princess locked in the Castle or imprison him once again in a portal between worlds. The only problem: the portal is hidden inside a wild-magic and monster-filled labyrinth in the far reaches of the Moonshadow kingdom. Under no circumstance is Hyacinth allowed to try to reach it. Absolutely not. Of course, Hyacinth and Chloe sneak away from the castle, desperately racing through forests, over mountains, and across swamps. They battle bandits and try to stay ahead of the dark wizard who hunts them. Along the way, they learn more about each other's pasts and fall for each other, despite their relationship being a terrible idea.

UK/Aus, Translation, Audio: Peachtree | **Dramatic:** KT Literary
All rights available

Also available



Rights sold: Spanish



MAY 2025
HC | 5¼ x 8 | 368 pages | Ages 14+

IF I COULD GO BACK
Briana Johnson

An achingly compassionate and beautifully empathetic novel exploring the intersections of race, mental health, and the meaning of family—perfect for fans of Robin Benway's *Far from the Tree* and Jas Hammonds' *We Deserve Monuments*.

For Aaliyah Campbell, family is everything. Her cousin Ivy is her best friend and track co-star, and Grandpa Joe is her rock. He may be crotchety and dramatic, but he's raised Aaliyah since she was a toddler. Still, Aaliyah can't stop thinking about what's missing—her parents. When Aaliyah secretly contacts her mom, she risks upsetting the family who's always been there. But Grandpa Joe refuses to explain why her parents gave her up, and without answers, Aaliyah cannot silence the anxious voice telling her she's never been good enough.

Surprisingly, it isn't Aaliyah's mom, but her dad, Quincy, who steps up. Quincy turns out to be immature but surprisingly fun to hang out with. And when the rest of the family finds out they're in contact, old secrets will finally be forced into the light.

UK/Aus, Translation, Audio: Peachtree | **Dramatic:** Jill Grinberg Literary Management
All rights available

★ "Debut author Johnson provides readers with an in-depth look into living with anxiety... A deeply emotional and complex novel that looks at how we define family."**—Kirkus Reviews, Starred Review**



APRIL 2026
PB | 5¼ x 8 | 352 pages | Ages 14+

THE MISDIRECTION OF FAULT LINES
Anna Gracia

Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants goes to the US Open in an emotionally honest and openhearted novel for fans of Yamile Saied Méndez and Jenny Han. Three teen girls compete at an elite tennis tournament for a shot at their dreams—if only they knew what their dreams were.

Alice doesn't belong at the Bastille Invitational Tennis Tournament. She needed a sponsorship to attend. She only has a few wins on the junior circuit. And now, she has no coach. Tennis was a dream she shared with Ba. After his death, her family insisted she compete anyway. But does tennis even fit into her life without him?

Violetta is Bastille's darling. Social media influencer, coach's pet, and daughter of a former tennis star who fell from grace. Bastille is her chance to reclaim the future her mother gave up to raise her. But is that the future she wants for herself?

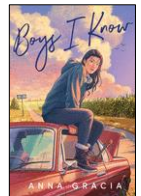
Leylah has to win. After a forced two-year hiatus, Bastille is her last chance to prove professional tennis isn't just a viable career, it's what she was built for. She can't afford distractions. Not in the form of her ex-best friend and especially not by getting DQ-ed for her "attitude" before she even sets foot on the court. If she doesn't win, what future does she have left?

One week at the Bastille Invitational Tennis Tournament will decide their fates. If only the competition between them stayed on the court.

UK/Aus, Translation, Audio: Peachtree | **Dramatic:** Donald Maass Literary Agency
Rights sold: French

★ "Gracia engages readers from the start with well-developed characters whose motivations and secrets are carefully revealed over the course of the tournament."**—Kirkus Reviews, Starred Review**

Also available



Rights Sold: French;
Spanish



MAY 2025
PB | 5¼ x 8 | 416 pages | Ages: 14+

THE SPIRIT BARES ITS TEETH

Andrew Joseph White

New York Times bestselling author Andrew Joseph White returns with the transgressive gothic horror of our time! A blood-soaked and nauseating triumph that cuts like a scalpel and reads like your darkest nightmare.

Mors vincit omnia. Death conquers all.

London, 1883. The Veil between the living and dead has thinned. Violet-eyed mediums commune with spirits under the watchful eye of the Royal Speaker Society, and sixteen-year-old trans, autistic Silas Bell would rather rip out his violet eyes than become an obedient Speaker wife.

After a failed attempt to escape an arranged marriage, Silas is diagnosed with Veil sickness—a mysterious disease sending violet-eyed women into madness—and shipped away to Braxton's Finishing School and Sanitorium. When the ghosts of missing students start begging Silas for help, he decides to reach into Braxton's innards and expose its guts to the world—so long as the school doesn't break him first.

UK/Aus, Translation, Audio: Peachtree | **Dramatic:** Jennifer De Chiara Literary Agency
Rights sold: Czech; German; Italian; Portuguese (Brazil); UK; Ukrainian

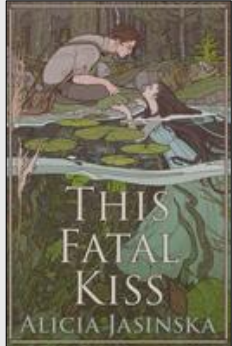
★ "Redefines the concept of a 'visceral' book... parallels to the dangerous pressure to conform (especially for trans or autistic teens) and the importance of being seen and understood are masterfully shown... readers, take care."—

Booklist, Starred Review

Also available



Rights Sold: Italian; UK; Ukrainian



JANUARY 2026
PB | 5¼ x 8 | 416 pages | Ages: 14+

THIS FATAL KISS

Alicia Jasinska

Spirit away with a whimsical fantasy filled with dark magic and flirty, polyamorous romance.

Cursed to haunt the river running through the magical spa town where she drowned, Gisela is a water nymph who dreams of returning to the living world and the family she left behind. All it takes to regain her humanity is a kiss from a mortal...but everyone sees her as a monster.

And then there's Kazik, the brooding, interfering, spirit-hunting grandson of a local witch. He's determined to rid the world of unholy creatures like Gisela. After Kazik botches Gisela's exorcism, she strikes up a deal. She won't tell the other spirits that he's losing his magic, *if* he agrees to play matchmaker and helps her get a kiss. But Gisela's plan goes awry when Kazik also falls for the devilishly handsome young man that she sets her heart on—someone who could be linked to Gisela's troubled past.

UK/Aus, Translation, Audio, Dramatic: Peachtree | **Dramatic:** The Deborah Harris Agency
Rights sold: Czech; Italian; Spanish

★ "A delightfully queer polyamorous romance teeming with splashes of ethereal magic."—***Publishers Weekly, STARRED REVIEW***



FEBRUARY 2025

HC | 5¼ x 8 | 320 pages | Ages: 14+

THE UNDERWOOD TAPES

Amanda DeWitt

A captivating and profoundly moving novel with hints of supernatural intrigue, blending *We Were Liars* and *Your Name* into a can't-miss read for fans of *You've Reached Sam*.

Thirty years ago, Grace's mom left her hometown of Hermitage, FL and never looked back—which is exactly why Grace thinks it's the safest place to spend her summer now. Since her mom died in a car crash, Grace has been desperate to get away from the memories and reminders of her loss. That, and finish the volunteer hours for her college scholarship. The Hermitage Historical Society solves one of those problems, and while spending the summer transcribing cassette tapes might be boring, boring is just what Grace needs.

Until she hears the voice of Jake Underwood—the boy who first recorded the cassette tapes back in 1991. When Grace realizes Jake can hear anything she records, despite thirty years of time between them, she strikes up an impossible conversation with Jake through the tapes. But the past isn't any simpler than the present, and a mystery has haunted Hermitage through the generations. In the 1970's, a hurricane made landfall and resulted in the tragic death of Jake's uncle Charley. In a town as suffocatingly small as Hermitage, it's impossible not to notice how no one talks about that storm, or Charley, and as the mystery unfurls, Grace can't help but realize a worse truth: No one talks about Jake either.

UK/Aus, Translation, Audio: Peachtree | **Dramatic:** Harvey Klinger

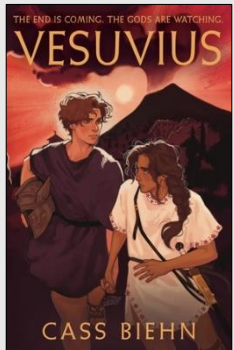
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"DeWitt shines with a character-driven, emotional mystery that tests the veil between past and present. Intriguingly supernatural, this moving novel on grief and healing features supportive, platonic friendships and a protagonist worth rooting for."—**Booklist**

Also available



Rights Sold: German



JUNE 2025

HC | 5¼ x 8 | 384 pages | Ages 14+

VESUVIUS

Cass Biehn

The end is coming. The gods are watching. This thrilling historical fantasy set in the days before Mount Vesuvius destroys Pompeii is a meet cute with an explosive fallout.

Clever thief Felix slips from city to city to survive the present and escape a past he can't remember. When Felix steals a divine artifact—Mercury's helmet—from a temple in Pompeii, pieces of his forgotten past begin to surface.

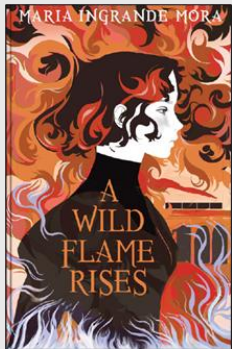
Loren, an ambitious temple attendant, has seen Felix in his apocalyptic nightmares for years. The last thing Loren expects is for his dream to stumble headfirst through his temple doors, moments after an earthquake rocks the city.

When Felix shows Loren the helmet, Loren sees the world coming to an end. He knows they have mere days to uncover Felix's ties to the relic and to Loren's visions if they have any hope of saving the city. But Ancient Rome is ruled by bloody politics and unstoppable destinies, and now that Loren and Felix are intertwined, their lives aren't all they risk losing. When all has turned to ash and rubble, the boys will have to piece together their fates to make it out of a burning city alive.

UK/Aus, Translation, Audio: Peachtree | **Dramatic:** Ladderbird Literary Agency

Rights sold: French; Spanish; UK

"A heartfelt and absorbing historical adventure with light fantasy elements." - **Kirkus Reviews**



Not final

JANUARY 2026

HC | 5¼ x 8 | 320 pages | Ages 14+

A WILD RADIANCE

Maria Ingrande Mora

A searing YA dystopian fantasy for fans of *Arcane* and *Iron Widow*! When a girl with the ability to conduct electricity discovers that the powerful House of Industry is not the benevolent organization they present to be, she teams up with two boys—former lovers—who are standing against the harm the House has caused in the name of progress.

Josephine Haven's outbursts are infamous at the House of Industry, the secretive school for children who can wield Radiance, an electricity-like magic. She's tried to follow the rules, but her fiery nature is at odds with the core tenant of the House: never form attachments to others. How is she meant to feel nothing when her classmates are maddening?

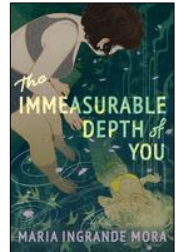
No one is surprised when upon graduation, Josephine is banished to the Mission farthest from Sterling City. In Frostbrook, she must work under the authority of standoffish Julian, the former golden boy of the House of Industry. Rather than being helpful, he seems determined to watch her fail. And then there's Ezra, the flirtatious stranger who's a little too curious about how the Mission operates.

But there are bigger problems than two frustrating, secretive boys. A deadly disease is spreading across the countryside. When Josephine pulls on threads she shouldn't, she discovers that the Wasting is a consequence of the powerful magic she's been spreading across the land.

UK/Aus, Translation, Audio: Peachtree | **Dramatic:** Aevitas Creative Management, LLC

All rights available

Also available



— ABOVE THE BLACK —

Plummet into a kill-or-be-killed competition where a scrappy underdog hell-bent on revenge must battle colossal monstrosities and claw his way to the top.

Series Overview: In this YA fantasy trilogy, *Above the Black*, *New York Times* bestselling author Marc J Gregson delivers a postapocalyptic world set in the clouds with high stakes, betrayal, and plenty of surprising twists to keep you racing toward the finish!

UK/Aus, Translation, Audio, Dramatic: Peachtree

Rights sold in series: dramatic; French; Spanish; Portuguese (BRAZIL); Russian; Turkish; Ukrainian



Above the Black 01: SKY'S END

Marc J Gregson

Exiled to live as a Low, sixteen-year-old Conrad refuses to become heir to his murderous uncle. But Meritocracy is a harsh and unforgiving rule on the floating island of Holmstead, and when his ailing mother is killed by monstrous gorgantauns, Conrad cuts a deal to save the only family he has left. To rescue his sister from his uncle's clutches, Conrad must enter the Selection of the Twelve Trades.

Hunter, the deadliest of all the Trades, gains a fresh recruit with Conrad. Now he must endure vigorous training, manipulative peers, and the Gauntlet—a brutal final test that yields riches and status to whichever skyship crew kills the most gorgantauns. Forced to serve in the lowest of stations and unseen by all, Conrad overhears whispers of rebellion in the dark. Conrad had never known anything existed below the toxic black clouds of the Skylands... until now.

View author's viral cover reveal here. <https://www.facebook.com/reel/599476788968973>).

★ **"A thrilling and brilliantly realized series opener; readers will clamor for the next installment." —Kirkus Reviews, Starred Review**

JANUARY 2025

PB | 5¼ x 8 | 416 pages | Ages 14+



Above the Black 02: AMONG SERPENTS

Marc J Gregson

Strap in for a high-octane mission that hurls Conrad and crew toward jaw-dropping discoveries that could trigger total obliteration, in Book Two of the Above the Black fantasy trilogy from *New York Times* bestselling author Marc J Gregson.

It takes guts to rise to the top of Meritocracy. It'll take sheer ruthlessness to stay there. As militants and monsters lay waste to the Skylands, Uncle's lawless tyranny threatens to unravel fragile Trade alliances. Conrad, no longer a mere Captain, now commands a squadron of ships at the order of the King. But Conrad's High status can't protect him from his own turmoil, and the price of power is steeped in blood.

Tormented by tragedies of war and by betrayal from his own family, Conrad must prove his worth to all of the Skylands. Led by an unhinged Explorer, Conrad embarks on a secret expedition to turn the tides of battle—before another island falls at the jaws of the gigataun. It's a journey fraught with peril: Deadly monstrosities. Sabotage. Stowaways. And with friendships pushed to the brink and gentle romance stirring, Conrad will have to muster more than courage to weather the raging storms ahead.

"The ending sets the stage for an exciting trilogy finale..."—Kirkus Reviews

JANUARY 2025

HC | 5¼ x 8 | 496 pages | Ages 14+



Not final

JANUARY 2026

HC | 5¼ x 8 | 496 pages | Ages 14+

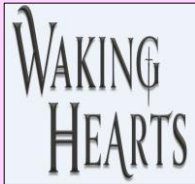
Above the Black 03: DOWNFALL

Marc J Gregson

The riveting fantasy adventure from New York Times bestselling author Marc J Gregson comes to an explosive conclusion in Book Three of the Above the Black fantasy trilogy.

Mayhem has erupted in the Skylands. Uncle's iron-fisted grip has eroded peaceful governance, and the Meritocracy hovers on the brink of civil war. Disowned once again, teenage hero Conrad is sent to invade the Below's colonies—a perilous mission with almost no chance of survival, where Conrad is left for dead.

Rescued by an old enemy and escaping capture by sky pirates, Conrad finds shelter on a faraway island in the Eastern Airs. Under the guise of a new identity, Conrad undergoes training from the King's enemies and takes to the dueling pits where he competes for the status to challenge Uncle once and for all. Can a dead prince rise again, or will Conrad succumb to the brutal horrors of his world? To rally support and overthrow a despot, Conrad will have to prove the Meritocracy won't be trading one feckless tyrant for another.



For fans of Margaret Rogerson, Rin Chupeco, Tamsyn Muir, and Adalyn Grace comes a harrowing romantic fantasy adventure duology.

Series Overview: Waking Hearts is a young adult fantasy duology from author Erica Ivy Rodgers. Told in varying points of view, this cleverly constructed narrative follows a girl with a dark gift who partners with an ancestral guardian to defy zealots while defending her heart from a handsome enemy.

UK/Aus, Translation, Audio: Peachtree | Dramatic: Root Literary Agency

Rights sold in series: Russian

Waking Hearts 01: LADY OF STEEL AND STRAW

Erica Ivy Rodgers

A tenacious heroine with a dark gift must defend her family's legacy and faith from a handsome enemy, in this young adult fantasy debut.

Lady Charlotte Sand was born to calm the restless dead, but her power has grown unpopular thanks to the newly ascendant religion of the Silent Gods. Worse, her family's ancestral Guardian, a lavender scarecrow who was once a defender of the crown, hasn't woken for a new heir since her father's sordid death. With other Guardians also reduced to pitiful bags of herbs on distant farms, the Order of the Guardians is a struggling remnant filled with political exiles. But darkness stirs in Niveaux, and the spirits of the dead are turning into vengeful wraiths with alarming frequency.

Captain Luc de Montaigne is a pious follower of the Silent Gods, and he comes calling on Sand Manor with orders to collect the magic hearts of every sleeping Guardian. His success would purge the kingdom of the Old God once and for all, but Charlotte proves defiant and triggers a faction war. As an army of the dead amasses and dormant warriors stir from slumber, Luc and Charlotte grapple with a forbidden attraction: kill the other and step closer to victory—or yield to the electricity between them. The hearts they stand to lose may, in fact, be their own.

"A duology opener featuring a cleverly built world populated by appealing characters."—Kirkus Reviews



NOVEMBER 2025

PB | 5¼ x 8 | 432 pages | Ages: 14+



Waking Hearts 02: LORD OF BLADE AND BONE

Erica Ivy Rodgers

A harrowing companion to the romantic fantasy adventure, *Lady of Steel and Straw*.

The kingdom of Niveaux's most vulnerable are being hanged—their bones mercilessly collected for an arsenal of wraiths. With young Prince Artus locked away and the Order of the Guardians driven from the capital, Cardinal Lorraine the Pure fixes her gaze on conquering bordering nations. To succeed, she'll have to convince Captain Luc de Montaigne to embrace the darkness he's been running from his entire life.

But even in chains, Luc yearns for the light of Lady Charlotte Sand. Proclaimed an outlaw, Charlotte and her lavender scarecrow Guardian, Worth, are staging rebellion with the underground network, the Broken Bird. Three new Guardians have also woken to aid their cause, but someone in their ranks is not who they seem. And with corruption spreading, the Guardians's hearts are weakening. Can Charlotte trust Luc to abandon his former master and secure peace for the kingdom? Or will the lethal plot that Charlotte's Guardian has been scheming destroy any chance for reconciliation?

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HC | 5¼ x 8 | 400 pages | Ages: 14+



SUB-AGENTS

CHINESE (China) - Bardon-Chinese Media Agency Electra Chang – electra@bardonchinese.com	CHINESE (Taiwan) - Bardon-Chinese Media Agency Cynthia Chang – cynthia@bardonchinese.com
CZECH / SLOVAK - Kristin Olson Literary Agency s.r.o. Martina Knapková – martina.knapkova@litag.cz	DUTCH - International Literatuur Bureau B.V. (ILB) Linda Kohn – lkohn@planet.nl
FRENCH - Michelle Lapautre Agency Catherine Lapautre – catherine@lapautre.com	GERMAN - Literarische Agentur Silke Weniger Alexandra Legath – legath@litag.de
GREEK - JLM Literary Agency Tatiana Moukakou – jlm@jlm.gr	HEBREW - Book Publishers Association of Israel Mickey Chesla – rights@tbpai.co.il
INDONESIAN / THAI / VIETNAMESE - Maxima Creative Agency Santo Manurung – santo@maximacreativeliterary.com	ITALIAN - Berla & Griffini Rights Agency Vanessa Maus – maus@bgagency.it
JAPANESE - Japan Uni: Takeshi Oyama – takeshi.oyama@japanuni.co.jp	POLISH - Graal. Ltd. Paulina Machnik – paulina.machnik@graal.com.pl
ROMANIAN - Simona Kessler Agency Marina Adriana – marina@kessler-agency.ro	RUSSIAN - Andrew Nurnberg LA Olga Lutova – o.lutova@lit-agency.com
SPANISH & PORTUGUESE - ACER Elizabeth Atkins – eatkins@acerliteraria.com	UK / AUS & OTHER EUROPEAN LANGUAGES - Petula Chaplin Agency Petula Chaplin – petulachaplin@aol.com
<i>We work non-exclusively with the following sub-agents:</i>	
KOREAN Agency Sosa: Seyoung Chon – seyoung_chon@hotmail.com Eric Yang Agency: July Lee – eya-child@eyagency.com PK Agency: Pauline Kim – paulinekim@pkagency.com Shin Won Agency: Jihyun Hwang – children@swla.co.kr THE Agency: JeongRim Yoo - theagencyco@hotmail.com	TURKISH Akcali: Begüm Ayfer – begum@akcalicopyright.com Libris Agency: Bengü Ayfer Gungor – bengu@librisagency.com
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