

# AEVITAS

## Creative Management

### Fall 2025 Children's Rights Guide



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MY VERY FAVORITE BOOK...

THE MAGICIAN'S HAT



# ELIZA, FROM SCRATCH

## A Young Adult Novel

By Sophia Lee

NA

May 2025 / Quill Tree (HarperCollins) / US Editor: Jennifer Ung

Final PDF Available

### Rights Sold:

Brazilian Portuguese (Mood/Ciranda Cultural) Korean (Empty Page)

French (Albin Michel) Polish (Otwarte / Moondrive)

Perfect for fans of Jenny Han and Rachel Lynn Solomon, this charming, poignant rom-com follows an academics-obsessed teen who learns big truths about love, family, and herself when a scheduling snafu lands her in a culinary arts class.

Eliza Park's senior year will be perfect: She's going to be salutatorian, give a tear-jerking graduation speech in front of her parents, and enjoy her last year with her equally ambitious best friends. But when a scheduling mishap enrolls her in Culinary Arts, Eliza is suddenly the most clueless person in the class. Her typical title of star student belongs to the aggravatingly arrogant Wesley Ruengsomboon, a charming Thai American boy whose talent in the kitchen leaves Eliza both awed and annoyed.

With her rank on the line, Eliza's only hope is to snatch the midterm cooking contest win from Wesley, however improbable that may be. Add in the flavor of her grandmother's Korean recipes, the heat of being class partners with Wesley, and the sweetness of unexpected feelings—and Eliza must now rebuild everything she knew about success, love, and what it means to be herself, from scratch.

**Sophia Lee** grew up sharing her love of books on the internet but always wanted to write her own. Her passion for stories led her to study film and medical humanities at Vanderbilt University before earning her medical degree at UT Southwestern. A Corpus Christi native and Texan at heart, she currently lives in Washington, DC, as an OBGYN resident with dreams of being a lifelong storyteller and empathetic healthcare provider.



Page Count: 320

ACM Agent: Penny Moore



"A touching tribute to food, family, and the beauty in trying new things even in the face of failure. Equal parts romantic and inspiring, Sophia Lee's debut reminds us to not give up on the people we love—or ourselves." — **Michelle Quach**, author of *Not Here to be Liked*

"A savory rivals-to-lovers romance peppered with top-tier banter and profound emotion. Sophia Lee has a fresh, relatable voice that makes her charming characters easy to root for. This one is for all the overachievers who've veered off course" — **Rachel Lynn Solomon**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Today Tonight Tomorrow*

★ STARRED REVIEW, *KIRKUS* ★

"Tender, balanced, and nuanced; a story to savor."

★ STARRED REVIEW, *BOOKLIST* ★

"Lee's delicious debut will surely satiate readers."

"In her debut novel, Lee presents a character who doesn't handle it all with grace, but who takes accountability, learning and growing over the course of the school year." — *School Library Journal*

"Equal measures witty, poignant, and tender-hearted, *Eliza, from Scratch* hits the spot in all the best ways." — **Sarah Suk**, author of *Meet Me at Blue Hour*

"A true delight to read, with nuanced, instantly lovable characters, mouth-watering food descriptions, and a romance that will leave you swooning." — **Ann Liang**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *I Hope This Doesn't Find You*

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# EXTRAORDINARY QUESTS FOR AMATEUR WITCHES (Book 2 of a Young Adult Duology)

By Kayla Cottingham

NA

Book 2: September 2025 / Delacorte (PRH) / US Editor: Hannah Hill

Final PDFs Available

Rights Sold:

Brazilian Portuguese (Editora Rocco)

Spanish (V&R)

After accidentally cursing his ex-boyfriend, a reluctant hero must complete a dangerous quest to undo his spell . . . all while falling for a brooding new crewmate with dark secrets.

Kieran has never had much luck in love or magic. Other than being freed from a family curse that would have killed him and doomed his twin sister, life isn't going his way. So, after getting put on notice by his boyfriend and accidentally writing a poem so bad (and magically hazardous) that it makes him invisible to the guy, of course Kieran returns home to find the Witches Council sitting in his living room, demanding he complete his magical training. Panicked, he blurts out that his Calling—a kind of magical thesis—will be to find a magical cure-all that can break any curse . . . an enormous task that he absolutely doesn't have the power to pull off.

Nevertheless, Kieran sets off on this dangerous journey, accompanied by his sister Briar, her girlfriend Delilah, and a swoony new crewmate, Sebastian. If he survives, he may just learn how to turn his luck around and figure out what kind of witch, person, and boyfriend he wants to be.

"Cottingham expertly conjures a story of found family and generational trauma with a charming queer romance at the center, while building an immersive, cozy cottagecore atmosphere." —*Publishers Weekly*

**Kayla Cottingham** (they/she) is a former teen librarian and *New York Times* bestselling author of sapphic horror and fantasy novels. Originally from Salt Lake City, Utah, Kayla lives in Boston where they love to go hiking in the woods, play RPGs, and snuggle on the couch with their ridiculously large black cat, Squid.



Page Count: 413; 416

ACM Agent: Erica Bauman



★ **STARRED REVIEW, SLJ**  
"This feel-good magical fetch-quest-style adventure will do well in libraries with diverse young fantasy readers who love a cozy tale." ★

"A magical journey sure to delight lovers of love." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"Sapphic romantasy lovers will fall for this cozy fantasy world."  
—*Booklist*

"Part cozy romance, part coming-of-age adventure (with airships!). A whimsical delight... set against the backdrop of a Ghibli-esque fantasy world I longed to escape to." —**Heather Fawcett, *NYT* bestselling author of the *Emily Wilde* series**

"A big-hearted road trip bursting with charm, humor, and whimsical magic. I adored this entire queer found family." —**Allison Saft, *New York Times* bestselling author of *A Fragile Enchantment***

"The perfect recipe of complex yet charming characters, generational curses, monsters, and a dash of magic that blend together for an enchantingly good time."  
—**F. T. Lukens, *New York Times* bestselling author of *So This Is Ever After***

"An absolutely enchanting quest full of endearing characters you can't help but take into your heart! Prepare to be charmed!" —**Sarah Beth Durst, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Spellshop***



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# RULES FOR FAKE GIRLFRIENDS

## A Young Adult Novel

By Raegan Revord

NA

Sept 2025 / Wednesday Books (Macmillan) / US Editor: Eileen Rothschild

Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

French (Ellipsis/Eilean)



A charming and swoony YA rom-com debut about a young college student as she navigates her first year abroad, first love, first loss, and finding her place in the world.

Rom-com obsessed but perpetually single Avery Blackwell abandons her plans to attend Columbia in favor of spending her freshman year at her recently deceased mother's alma mater in a seaside town in England. On the train, Avery makes a deal straight out of one of her beloved romance books with a local girl named Charlie: if Avery will pretend to be her girlfriend to make her ex jealous, Charlie will help Avery solve the scavenger hunt her mother left behind on campus decades ago.

As their quest takes them all over Brighton, Avery finally starts to connect with the mother she always loved but never really understood. Before long, pretending to be Charlie's girlfriend starts to feel like more than just an illusion. But when long-hidden secrets come to light, Avery grapples with an uncertain future and whether or not love is worth the risk.

In her fresh take on the perennially popular romance genre, Revord begins each chapter with the "rules of rom-com," cleverly playing on classic tropes to weave an immensely satisfying narrative. *Rules for Fake Girlfriends* will attract fans of *She Gets the Girl* by Rachael Lippincott and Alyson Derrick, and readers of cult classics like *Anna and the French Kiss* by Stephanie Perkins will find something to love in the splendid European setting and whirlwind romance of Avery Blackwell's world.

**Raegan Revord** starred in the CBS hit series *Young Sheldon* and its spinoff, *Georgie and Mandy's First Marriage*, in the breakthrough role of Missy Cooper.

ACM Agent: Rick Richter

Page Count: 304

"The author charms."

—**Publishers Weekly**

"A deeply felt love letter to classic rom-coms and the evergreen allure of going abroad to find yourself, Revord's debut is hopeful and irresistible. It's a joy to explore Brighton, freedom, and other firsts through Avery's eyes."

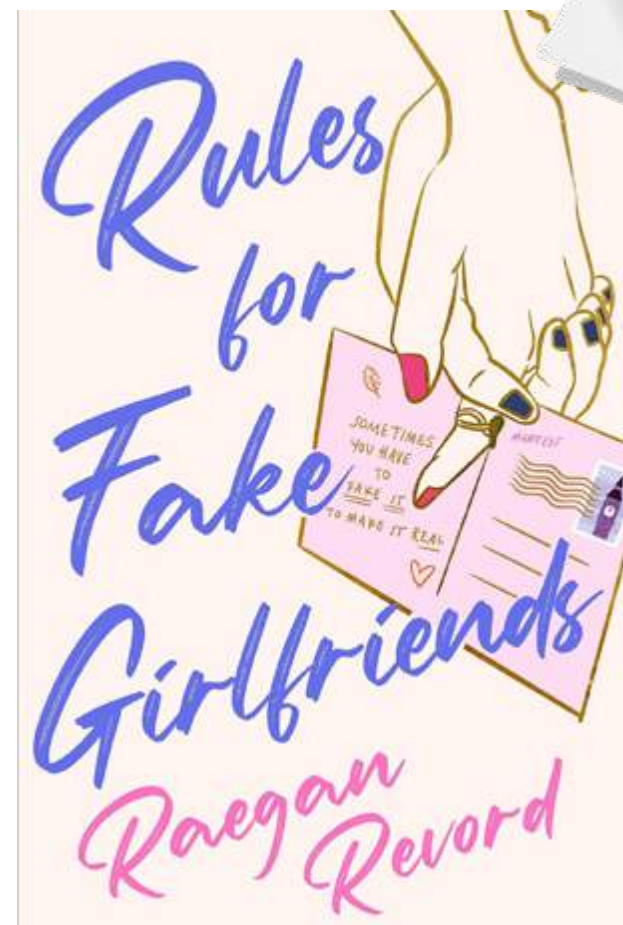
—**Melissa Albert,**  
author of instant *New York Times* bestseller  
*The Bad Ones*

"What a charming, feel-good rom-com! Packed with banter, butterflies, and all the best romance tropes, Revord's debut is sweet, smart, and swoon-worthy!" —**Sophie Gonzales,** Internationally bestselling author of *Never Ever Getting Back Together*

"A tender, sparkling journey of love in all its forms." —**Kelly Quindlen,** bestselling author of *She Drives Me Crazy*

"Warm and full of heart... beautifully captures the power of love even in the face of grief. A delightfully inclusive debut that puts its own spin on all your favorite tropes." —**Jennifer Dugan,** author of *Some Girls Do*

"Made me cry and laugh and then cry all over again. Revord masterfully blends together the sneaky pain of grief with the sparkle of fresh hope, creating characters so real you just want to hug all of them." —**Lynn Painter,** author of *Nothing Like the Movies*



# NOX WINTERS AND THE STYGIAN SERPENT

## Book 2 of a Middle Grade Series

By Rochelle Hassan

NA

October 2025 / Harper Children's / US Editor: Megan Ilnitzki

Final PDFs Available

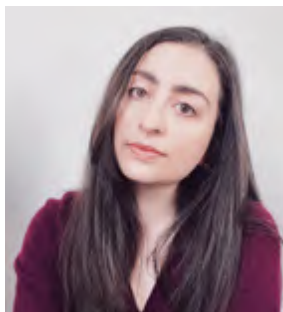
Rights Sold:

French (Michel Lafon)

The first book in a rich, eerie middle grade fantasy duology full of magic, monsters, and miles and miles of untamed forest, from the author of *The Prince of Nowhere*. Motivated by desperation and brotherhood, a boy must venture deep into the Nightwood to find a cure for his mysteriously sick brother. Perfect for fans of *Over the Garden Wall* and *Serafina and the Black Cloak*.

For twelve-year-old Nox Winters, the town of Evergreen isn't home—it's a tourist trap in middle-of-nowhere Maine for amateur cryptozoologists hoping to spot its infamous legend, a batlike creature known as the Evergreen Devil. But his twin brother, Noah, has been wasting away from an illness that has left medical professionals stumped, and the doctors here in Evergreen are his last hope. And Nox goes where Noah goes. But as Noah's condition worsens, Nox begins to suspect that Evergreen is doing more harm than good—and that there might be some truth to its tales of fearsome cryptids and mysterious disappearances. When Noah falls into a deep sleep that Nox can't wake him from, Nox's only chance at saving him lies in the surrounding forest; there, he discovers a hidden world where it's always nighttime, full of powerful magic, supernatural creatures, and capricious minor gods. Nox must venture deeper into an endless night and successfully bargain with the terrifying Keepers of the forest for a cure to Noah's ailment or else neither twin will leave Evergreen alive.

**Rochelle Hassan** grew up reading about dragons, quests, and unlikely heroes; now she writes about them, too. She is an author of middle grade and young adult fantasy novels, including *The Prince of Nowhere* and *The Buried and the Bound* trilogy. You can find her online at [rochellehassan.com](http://rochellehassan.com).



"Creepy, engrossing, and wonderfully strange... feels like being in a particularly vivid dream. I was completely entranced by this story."

—Anne Ursu, author of *Not Quite a Ghost*

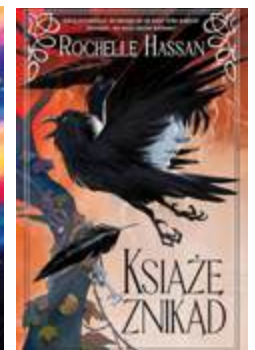


"A twisty, spellbinding adventure with cunning creatures, fiercely guarded secrets, and a creeping sense that nothing is as it seems."

—Tracy Badua, author of *Fred-die vs. the Family Curse*

"Calling all lovers of the creepy, mysterious, wondrous, and weird... No one does spooky magical forests quite like Rochelle Hassan! The perfect next step for Rior-dan fans, brimming with magic, mythology, and fierce characters. Don't miss it!"

— M. K. England, author of the *Player vs. Player* trilogy



Previously by Rochelle Hassan,  
*The Prince of Nowhere* :

German (dtv)

Polish (Nowa Baśń)

Russian (Eksmo)

US (Harper Children's)



# ZODIAC RISING + ZODIAC LEGACY

## A Young Adult Duology

By Katie Zhao

NA

Book 2: October 2025 / Random House Children's / US Editor: Tricia Lin  
Final PDFs Available

Rights Sold: Russian (AST)  
Brazilian Portuguese (Ediouro) Spanish (Hidra)

"A rollicking heist adventure." —Amélie Wen Zhao, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Song of Silver*, *Flame Like Night*

Return to the hidden world of the cursed Descendants of the Zodiac, where magic intertwines with dark academia at a boarding school dedicated to restoring their glory. In this thrilling sequel, the Descendants must navigate the aftermath of a chaotic heist and rescue a fallen comrade—all while battling dark forces determined to tear them apart.

A vampire on the run. A shapeshifter with a haunting past. A mortal trapped in enemy territory. And a werewolf with a score to settle.

After the heist of a lifetime to reclaim the source of their magic—the twelve Chinese zodiac statues—Evangeline Long and her crew of supernatural beings are on the run. Something—or someone—is working against the Descendants of zodiac from the shadows, and despite Evangeline's efforts, her people remain cursed as creatures of darkness.

However, not everyone wants to return to life before the curse. As factions begin to tear the Descendants apart, Evangeline must travel to London to finish her mission: break the curse and restore the Descendants to their former glory. But with one of her crew in enemy hands and longtime allies turning on her, Evangeline must barter with lives as she decides who to trust . . . and who to target.

And she'll have to do it soon. There are whispers of monsters on the loose—long-time foes of the Descendants who have returned for blood—and as long as the Descendants remain cursed, they don't stand a chance. Now more than ever, Evangeline's crew must finish their mission and reclaim their powers, before there is nothing left of the Descendants to save. . . .

ACM Agent: Penny Moore

Page Count: 389; 368



"Zhao's character building is nothing short of impressive, laying out alternating POVs with distinct backstories....this story is all about the characters and whether they, as individuals, choose to assimilate or reclaim their roots." —*Booklist*



"Zhao weaves together supernatural politics, teen drama, and a fusion of Western and Chinese mythologies to deliver an intriguing series start with great potential." —*Publishers Weekly*

**Katie Zhao** is a graduate of the University of Michigan, where she earned a BA in English and political science in 2017 and a master of accounting degree in 2018. She is the author of the *Dragon Warrior* series, *How We Fall Apart*, *Last Gamer Standing*, and the *Winnie Zeng* series. She's a passionate advocate for diverse representation in literature and media.

"Plucky humor and a packed storyline keep the pages turning in this urban fantasy.... will certainly leave readers begging for the next installment."  
—*School Library Journal*





# WE CAN BE BRAVE

## A Young Readers Edition

By Mariann Edgar Budde, Adapted By Brian Bliss

NA

October 2025 / Dutton BFYR (PRH) / US Editor: TK

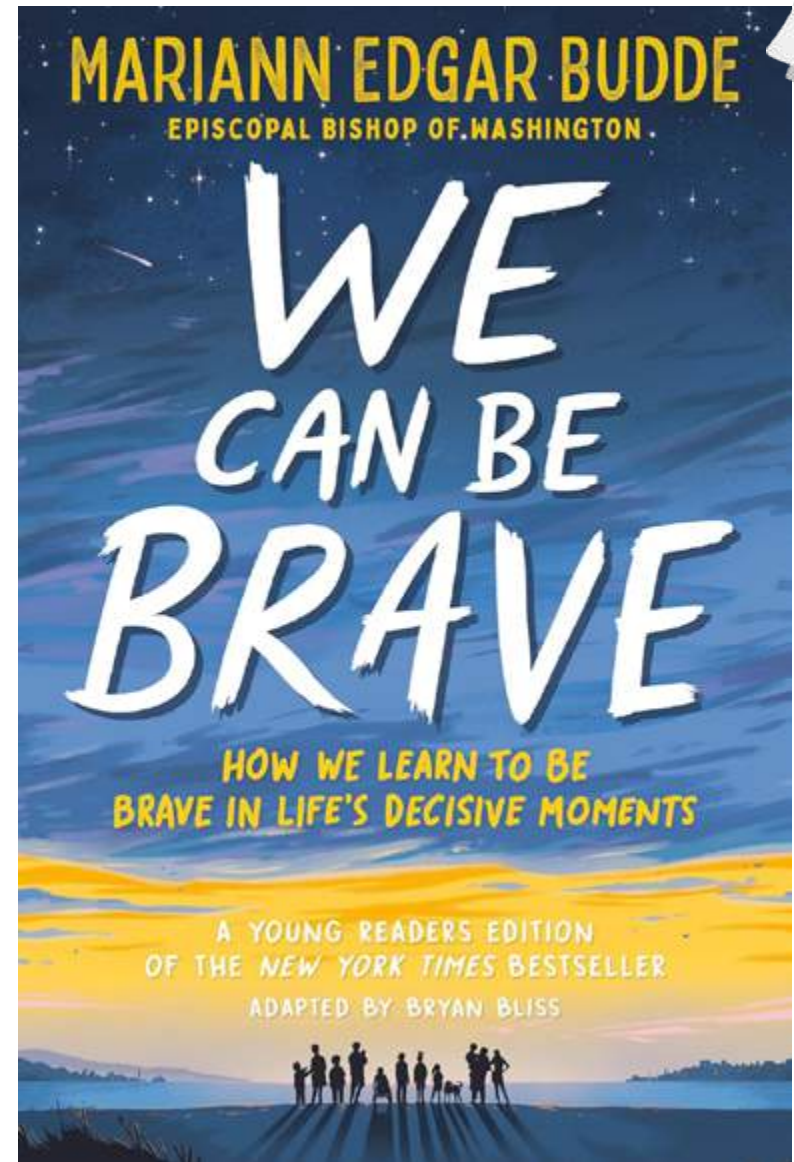
Final PDF Available

Bishop Mariann Edgar Budde is no stranger to bravery in the face of bullies. In this adaptation of her *New York Times* and internationally bestselling *How We Learn to Be Brave: Decisive Moments in Life and Faith*, Bishop Budde and acclaimed novelist Bryan Bliss share lessons in how to learn to be brave in life's hardest moments.

The decisive moments in life—even in the life of a young person—are those pivot points when we're called on to push past our fears and act courageously in the face of injustice and bullying. In *We Can Be Brave*, Bishop Mariann Budde shows readers examples of how to respond even in the toughest times. Bravery is not a singular occurrence; it's a journey that we can choose to undertake every day and it begins when we're young.

Budde explores the range of decisive moments people of all ages encounter, from the most visible and dramatic (the decision to go), to the internal and personal (the decision to stay), to brave choices made with an eye toward the future (the decision to start), those born of suffering (the decision to accept that which we did not choose), and those that come as surprises (the decision to step up to the plate). Drawing on examples relevant to young readers ranging from Harry Potter to Martin Luther King Jr., she weaves together personal experiences with stories from scripture, history, and pop culture of how adults and kids throughout history have faced these moments and heeded the call to be brave in challenging times.

**Mariann Edgar Budde** is the bishop and spiritual leader of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington, D.C., and the Washington National Cathedral. Prior to her election in 2011, she was a parish priest in Minneapolis for eighteen years. Bishop Budde earned her master's in divinity and doctor of ministry from Virginia Theological Seminary.



Publishers of original adult edition, *HOW WE LEARN TO BE BRAVE*:

Brazilian Portuguese (Citadel)	German (Fischer)
Czech (Biblion)	Italian (La Nave di Teseo)
Dutch (KokBoekencentrum)	Norwegian (Verbum)
French (Flammarion)	Spanish (Grijalbo / PRH Mexico)

# THE CUFFING GAME

## A YA Novel

By Lyla Lee

NA

November 2025 / Katherine Tegen (HarperCollins) / US Editor: Mabel Hsu  
Final PDF Available

Bestselling author Lyla Lee delivers a deliciously fun YA K-drama remix of *Pride and Prejudice*—if Mr. Darcy and Elizabeth Bennett were a college-run reality TV dating show.

It is a truth universally acknowledged, that when there is a hot person, there is also someone with a crush on them.

Mia Yoon has a plan for everything. Get a full-ride to her dream film school in Los Angeles, behind her mom's back, and escape her middle-of-nowhere hometown? Check. Produce her own dating show starring other people and their crushes? Check. But everything goes off the rails when she has to enlist the help of her own secret crush, Noah Jang, a boy she'd rather hate.

Despite being a campus celebrity voted “most eligible student bachelor,” Noah can't remember the last time he was in a relationship. And he's perfectly content with that, thank you very much, especially since just the word feelings makes him uncomfortable. But he can't stop staring at Mia, who keeps glaring at him in class. And when she asks him to be on her dating show—as one of the contestants—he can't say no.

As Noah goes on more and more romantic dates in *The Cuffing Game*, and Mia watches from behind the camera, something feels off. With the showrunner and contestant slowly falling for one another, can the show still go on?

**Lyla Lee** is the bestselling author of *Love in Focus*, *The Cuffing Game*, and other swoony rom com books inspired by pop culture and her Korean heritage. Her books have been translated into multiple languages around the world. Originally from South Korea, she's lived in various cities throughout the United States, worked various jobs in Hollywood, and studied Psychology and Cinematic Arts at the University of Southern California.

### Recent Publishers of Lyla Lee:

Polish (Znak Koncept )

Spanish (Planeta Mexico)

ACM Agent: Penny Moore

Page Count: 356



“This rom-com explores how vulnerability and the pressure to perform shape modern relationships. Mia’s perfectionism and Noah’s emotional guardedness create compelling romantic tension, while their intellectual sparring adds depth to their chemistry. Mia’s queerness adds to the book’s thoughtful diverse representation. A clever, contemporary romance that explores authenticity in an age of endless scrutiny.” — *Kirkus Reviews*



# I'LL FIND YOU WHERE THE TIMELINE ENDS

## A YA Novel

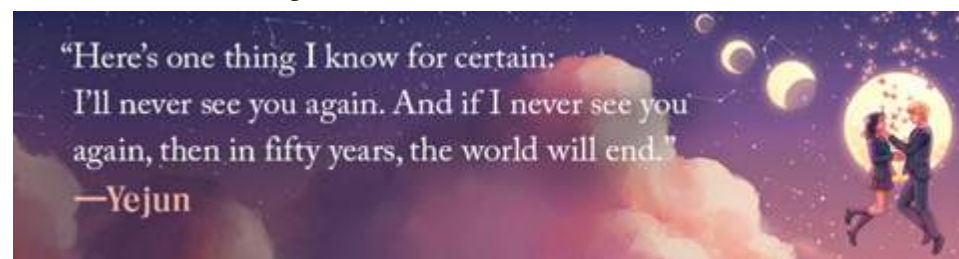
By Kylie Lee Baker

NA

November 2025 / Feiwel & Friends (Macmillan) / US Editor: Holly West  
Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

Brazilian Portuguese (Ciranda) Turkish (Timaş / Yuzu)



A teen descendant of a Japanese dragon god must find out the truth of what happened to her missing sister while trying not to fall for a handsome rogue agent in acclaimed author Kylie Lee Baker's magical new YA romance, *I'll Find You Where the Timeline Ends*.

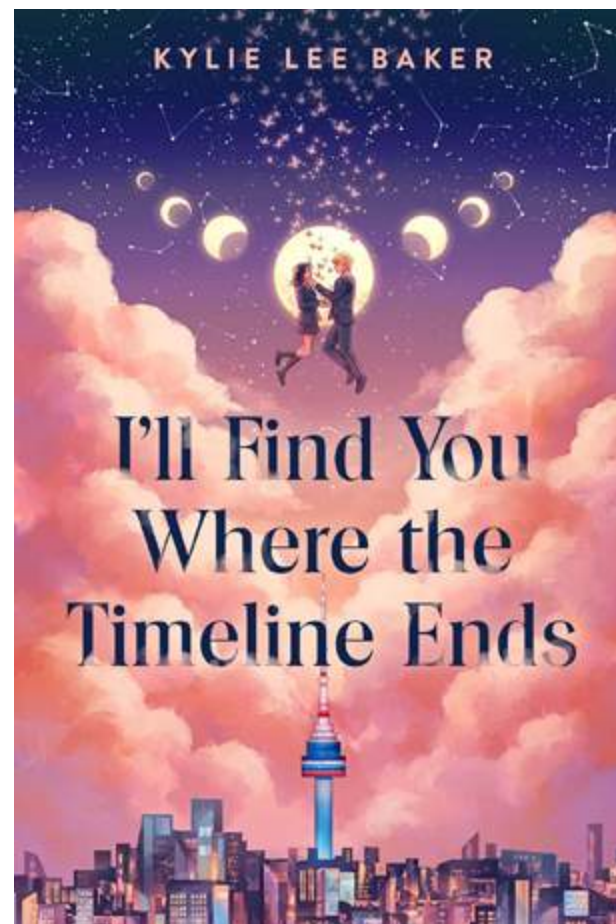
Yang Mina, descended from a Japanese dragon god, was born with the power to travel through time, and has spent her life training to take her place in the Descendants, a secret organization whose purpose is to protect the timeline. But since moving to Seoul, everything is falling apart. Mina has discovered that the Descendants are corrupt, that her sister has been erased from existence, and that she can't pass Calculus, which puts her mission to kiss the cutest boy in her year at risk.

With her very existence on the line, Mina decides to tread a dangerous path: team up with a handsome rogue agent named Yejun, who has a plan to free the Descendants from the corrupt influence, and (hopefully) restore Mina's sister. Between class and their time travel dates, Mina can't stop herself from falling for the mysterious Yejun. Yet, as Mina grows closer to Yejun, she also grows closer to discovering the truth, which may be the very thing that breaks her...

**Kylie Lee Baker** is the *Sunday Times* bestselling author of *The Keeper of Night* duology and *The Scarlet Alchemist* duology. She grew up in Boston and has since lived in Atlanta, Salamanca, and Seoul. Her writing is informed by her heritage (Japanese, Chinese, and Irish), as well as her experiences living abroad as a student and teacher.

ACM Agent: Mary C. Moore

Page Count: 304



"Magical in every sense. Kylie Lee Baker's writing is so effortlessly beautiful, and her new YA romance further proves that she can master any genre." —**Ann Liang**, *New York Times*–bestselling author of *If You Could See the Sun*

"Immersive and engaging... entwines themes of culture and heritage with complicated family dynamics into a fast-paced time-travel story that kept me on the edge of my seat!" —**Jessica S. Olson**, author of *Den of Liars*

"Mina and Yejun's zinging chemistry propels both the fast-paced romance and time-leaping plot." —**Publisher's Weekly**

"A sweet and clever time-travel romance with lots of laugh-out-loud moments. An absolutely delightful read!" —**Judy I. Lin**, *New York Times*–bestselling author of *Song of the Six Realms*

"A sparkling, stunning read... perfectly captures the twists of time-travel magic alongside its hope and its whimsy. Between warm romance and heart-wrenching high stakes, prepare to gasp and swoon in spades." —**Chloe Gong**, #1 *New York Times*–bestselling author of *These Violent Delights*

"This charming love story combines humor, action, magic, and a touch of darkness." —**Kirkus**

Previous Publishers:

French (DeSaxus)

Italian (Fanucci)

Russian (MIF)

Spanish (Monogatari)

UK/Comm (Hodderscape)

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# THE DREAM & THE HOPE

## The Historic Rise of Ketanji Brown Jackson

By Garen Thomas and Lori Rozsa

NA

January 2026 / HarperCollins / US Editor: TK

Final PDF Available

This powerful biography follows Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson's road to the Supreme Court as the first Black woman to be confirmed, for middle grade readers from *New York Times* bestselling author Garen Thomas and *The Washington Post* reporter Lori Rozsa. This inspiring story features key childhood moments and all those who influenced and encouraged her along the way.

Before becoming the first Black woman Supreme Court Justice, Ketanji Brown Jackson's early days revealed a truth that was evident to all who knew her: she was born for greatness. From a childhood filled with days of happily reading her father's law books to an adolescence of leading roles in musical theater plays and victories in debate competitions that would bring her national recognition, Ketaji had a spirit, drive, and ambition that never wavered,

This captivating nonfiction biography tells of Justice Jackson's life from childhood to her formative years at Harvard to the pivotal day of her confirmation in Washington D.C. From *New York Times* bestselling author Garen Thomas and *The Washington Post* reporter Lori Rozsa comes the empowering true story of Ketanji Brown Jackson's incredible journey to the Supreme Court, and the dreams and hopes that her journey will inspire in others.

**Garen Thomas** worked as an editor in children's book publishing for more than a decade, editing numerous notable children's picture books and novels, including Carole Boston Weatherford's Caldecott Honor Book *Moses: When Harriet Tubman Led Her People to Freedom*, illustrated by Kadir Nelson; Nelson's *We Are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball*; and the Coretta Scott King Award-winning novel *Day of Tears: A Novel in Dialogue*, by Julius Lester. She continues to act as a consultant and children's books editor on a freelance basis while working on her own writing and film projects. She holds an A.B. from Harvard University.

**Lori Rozsa** is a reporter for the *Washington Post* based in Florida. She is also a former staff correspondent for *People* magazine, and was part of a Pulitzer Prize winning team at the *Miami Herald*.

ACM Agent: Todd Shuster

Page Count: TK





# THE BICYCLE GIRL

## A Picture Book

By Garen Thomas and Suhasini Raj

WE

January 2026 / Candlewick / US Editor: TK

Final PDF Available

Beautifully illustrated with scenes of contemporary Indian life, this inspiring (and true) story follows a young girl's remarkable bicycle journey across India to bring her father safely home as pandemic restrictions take hold.

It's early in the pandemic in India. The trains have been shut down to prevent contagion. For Jyoti, as for millions of migrant workers, getting home with her injured father will require enormous ingenuity and gumption. Follow the real-life story of a girl who—desperate for her father to survive—rode almost a thousand miles across India with him on the back of a hot-pink twenty-dollar bicycle.

Her amazing story, relayed for a young audience by reporter Suhasini Raj and author Garen Thomas, is a portrait of an unassuming girl who made an extraordinary decision and became celebrated across India, breaking entrenched stereotypes of caste and gender. This story of love, determination, problem-solving, and a pink bicycle will speak to young people everywhere.

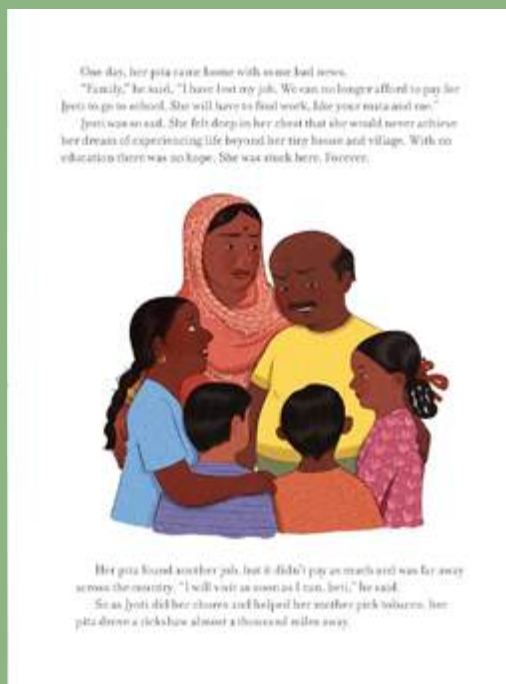
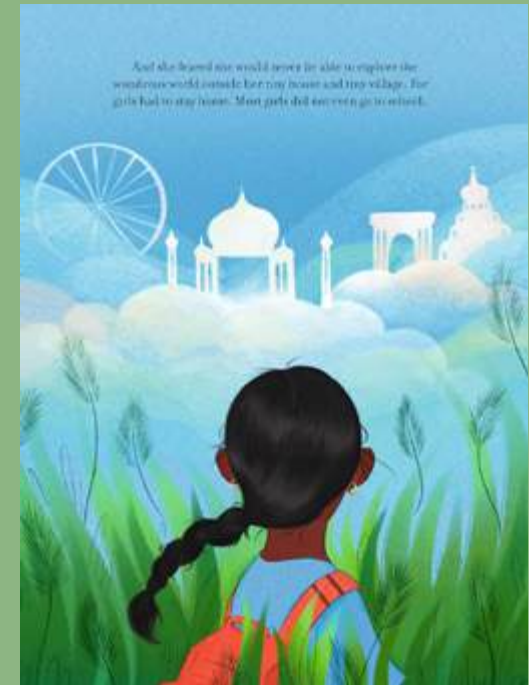
**Garen Thomas** is the author of the *New York Times* best-selling children's book *Yes We Can: A Biography of President Barack Obama* and worked as a kids' book editor for Scholastic and Disney-Hyperion and its imprint Jump at the Sun, among other publishers. She lives in New York City.

**Suhasini Raj** is a New Delhi-based reporter in the South Asia bureau of *The New York Times*. She has covered everything from the rise of Hindu nationalism under Prime Minister Narendra Modi to how India fared with COVID-19 to gender justice and climate change. In 2021, she and her colleagues won a Human Rights Press Award for a video revealing the plight of stateless Muslims in India.

"[An] inspiring variation on the archetypal hero's journey in which personal courage, family loyalty, and the broader cultural context all play equally strong roles."

—*School Library Journal*







# FUNERALS ARE FOR THE LIVING

## A Young Adult Novel

By Sami Ellis

WE

July 2026 / Amulet (Abrams) / US Editor: Claire Stetzer

Edited MS Available

New from the author of *Dead Girls Walking* comes a YA horror about a girl kidnapped by a racist cult after investigating the supernatural happenings at her sister's gravesite

A month ago, Junie Daniels was in a car crash that left her with a dead sister, fragmented memories of the accident, and a mother too checked-out to plan a funeral. The cheapest grave plot Junie can find is in the next town over. Sure, Williamsville is still proudly named after a slave master who was rumored to dabble in dark magic—but this North Carolina, after all.

When unexplained occurrences start happening at the graveyard, though, Junie and her best friend, Omari, investigate. And it's not long before Junie and Omari are taken...

Williamsville wants both Daniels girls. But Junie will do anything to protect her sister—even if it's only her corpse.

**Sami Ellis** is a queer horror writer who's inspired by the horrific nature of Black fears and the culture's relation to the supernatural. When she's not acting as the single auntie with a good job, she spends her time not writing. You can check out her words in the Black horror anthology *All These Sunken Souls* and her debut novel, *Dead Girls Walking*.

### Praise for DEAD GIRLS WALKING:

"Shockingly brutal, beautifully written, this is a must read."—**Kalynn Bayron**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *You're Not Supposed To Die Tonight*

"Unhinged, shocking, and scary as hell... a pure adrenaline rush" —**Terry J. Benton-Walker**, bestselling author of *Blood Debts* and *The White Guy Dies First*

ACM Agent: Maeve MacLysaght



Page Count: TK



# BREATH OF THE DRAGON

## Book 1 of Breathmarked, a Young Adult Duology

By Shannon Lee & Fonda Lee

NA

Wednesday Books / US Editors: Sara Goodman and Vanessa Aguierre

Final PDF Available; Book 2 Publishing Fall 2026

### Rights Sold:

Bulgarian (AMG)	Russian (AST)
French (Elder Craft)	Spanish (Hidra)
German (Vajona)	Turkish (Eksik Parça)
Italian (Mondadori / Oscar)	UK/Comm (Hodderscape)
Polish (Rebis)	Ukrainian (Ranok)

**AN INSTANT NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER**  
**ALSO A USA TODAY AND INDIE NEXT BESTSELLER**

A young warrior dreams of proving his worth in the elite Guardian Tournament, fighting not only for himself but the fate of everything he loves.

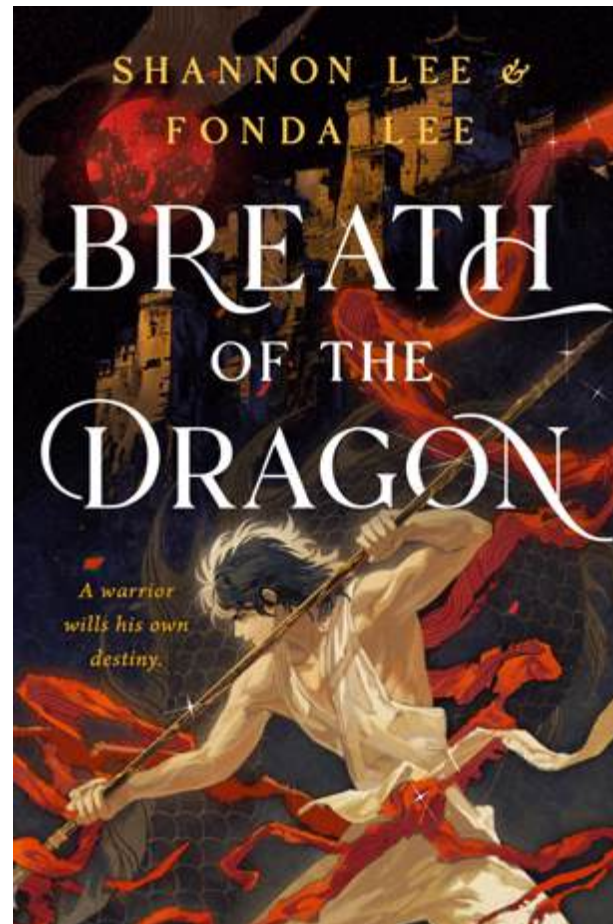
Sixteen-year-old Jun dreams of proving his worth as a warrior in the elite Guardian's Tournament, held every six years to entrust the magical Scroll of Heaven to a new protector. Eager to prove his skills, Jun hopes that a win will restore his father's pride—righting a horrible mistake that caused their banishment from his home, mother, and twin brother. But Jun's father strictly forbids him from participating. He believes there is no future in Jun honing his skills as a warrior, especially considering Jun is not breathmarked, born with a patch of dragon scales and blessed with special abilities like his twin. Determined to be the next Guardian, Jun stows away in the wagon of Chang and his daughter, Ren, performers on their way to the capital where the tournament will take place.

As Jun competes, he quickly realizes he may be fighting for not just a better life, but the fate of the country itself and the very survival of everyone he cares about.

**Fonda Lee** is the World Fantasy Award-winning author of the epic fantasy *Green Bone* Saga. She is also the author of the acclaimed young adult science fiction novels *Zeroboxer*, *Exo* and *Cross Fire*. Fonda is a winner of the Locus Award, a four-time winner of the Aurora Award, and a finalist for the Nebula Award and Hugo Award. **Shannon Lee** serves as the CEO of the Bruce Lee Family Companies and the chairperson of the Bruce Lee Foundation. Her mission is to provide access to her father's philosophy and life through education and entertainment.

ACM Agent: Jane von Mehren & Penny Moore

Page Count: 352



"I'm genuinely awestruck by the brilliance of this coming-of-age novel."  
—**Jamie Ford**, *The Many Daughters of Afong Moy*

"Fantastic cinematic mayhem lovingly molded in a deadly martial world."  
—**Wesley Chu**, #1 *New York Times* bestseller

"A perfect balance of Bruce Lee's inspiring philosophies, Shannon Lee's galvanizing execution, and Fonda Lee's masterful writing. As thrilling and cinematic as the best big-screen experience." —**F.C. Yee**, *NYT* bestselling author, *Avatar*, *the Last Airbender: The Rise of Kyoshi*

"A masterclass in cinematic action and riveting storytelling... breathtakingly refreshing." —**Elizabeth Lim**, *Six Crimson Cranes*

"A tale in equal turns powerful and gripping, inspiring and meaningful, and with vividly cinematic combat scenes that felt like movie sequences. Lee and Lee have forged a new classic born of legacy." —**Amélie Wen Zhao**, *New York Times* and internationally bestselling author of the *Song of the Last Kingdom* duology

"The rite of passage/coming of age story moves fast, is compelling, and shows with deep emotionality the yin and yang in humans and in our relationships, politics and martial arts." —**Mark Dacascos**

"A marvelous tale of war, family, and revolution told in the grand tradition of Suzanne Collins and Jin Yong... a riveting pulse-pounding story." —**Jeff Chang**, author of *Can't Stop Won't Stop*

"A thrilling fantasy inspired by ancient China and martial arts and brimming with Bruce Lee magic... magnificent." —**A.Y. Chao**, #1 *Sunday Times* bestselling author of *Shanghai Immortal*

AEVITAS 17



# THE WONDERLING

## Book 1 of a Middle Grade Duology

By Mira Bartók

NA

September 2017; Fall 2026 / Candlewick Press / US Editor: Karen Lotz

#1 Final PDF Available, #2 Edited MS Available Spring 2026

### Rights Sold:

Complex Chinese (Commonwealth)

Czech (Euromedia)

French (Laffont)

German (Aladin)

Polish (Czarna Owca)

Russian (Kariera)

Spanish - Latin America (Panamericana)

Simplified Chinese (Big Fish)

Slovak (Ikar)

Turkish (Hep Kitap)

UK/Commonwealth (Walker Books)

Welcome to Miss Carbunkle's Home for Wayward and Misbegotten Creatures, an orphanage for young groundlings (part human, part animal) run by a cunning villainess.

For lonely Number Thirteen, a shy, one-eared, foxlike creature, it is the only home he has ever known. When he meets a bird groundling named Trinket, Number Thirteen gains two things: a real name (Arthur, like the good king in the old stories) and a best friend. Trinket and Arthur escape over the high walls of the orphanage and embark on an adventure that will take them out into the wider world and to Arthur's true destiny: to become the Wonderling and save music for everyone. Rife with steampunk inventions, magical plot twists, and finely detailed illustrations, the paperback edition of Mira Bartók's debut novel is sure to enchant.

**Mira Bartók** is a writer and artist whose *New York Times* best-selling memoir, *The Memory Palace: A Memoir*, won the National Book Critics Circle Award for Autobiography. *The Wonderling* is her first novel for young readers. She lives in Western Massachusetts.

### STARRED REVIEW, *BULLETIN OF THE CENTER FOR CHILDREN'S BOOKS*

"Richly imagined and gorgeously described...Arthur's story of friendship, hope, and heroics will delight adventure seekers, and the open-ended conclusion and tantalizing hints of larger doings afoot will bring readers eagerly back for the promised sequel. Younger readers not yet ready to tackle a long novel on their own will still be enthralled by the story in shared reading or readaloud."



### STARRED REVIEW, *KIRKUS*

"Full of rich description and effulgent inventories of food and places...Bartók's lovely, detailed illustrations and drawings throughout support the sense of enchantment in this imaginative adventure. Captivating and with great potential as a read-aloud."

### STARRED REVIEW, *SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL*

"Written with clear and detailed descriptions, this novel drops readers into a strange, magical, mythical, and mechanical world...A stellar new contribution to fantasy that should find a place in every middle grade collection."

"Momentum builds toward a thrilling crescendo and, rarest of all, a wholly satisfying ending that still whets the appetite for a sequel."

—*The New York Times Book Review*

# THE INFINITY COURTS

## Book 2 of a Young Adult Trilogy

By Akemi Dawn Bowman

NA

Book 3 - Fall 2026 / Simon & Schuster BFYR / US Editor: Alyza Liu

Final PDF for Book 1 & 2 Available — Book 3 Available 2026

### Rights Sold:

Brazilian Portuguese (Globo Livros)	Russian (Eksmo)
Romanian (EuroLibris / Veridia)	Turkish (Perseus)

*Westworld* meets *Warcross* in this high-stakes, dizzyingly smart sci-fi about a teen girl navigating an afterlife in which she must defeat an AI entity intent on destroying humanity, from award-winning author Akemi Dawn Bowman.

Eighteen-year-old Nami Miyamoto is certain her life is just beginning. She has a great family, just graduated high school, and is on her way to a party where her entire class is waiting for her—including, most importantly, the boy she's been in love with for years.

The only problem? She's murdered before she gets there.

When Nami wakes up, she learns she's in a place called Infinity, where human consciousness goes when physical bodies die. She quickly discovers that Ophelia, a virtual assistant widely used by humans on Earth, has taken over the afterlife and is now posing as a queen, forcing humans into servitude the way she'd been forced to serve in the real world. Even worse, Ophelia is inching closer and closer to accomplishing her grand plans of eradicating human existence once and for all.

As Nami works with a team of rebels to bring down Ophelia and save the humans under her imprisonment, she is forced to reckon with her past, her future, and what it is that truly makes us human. An incisive, action-packed tale that explores big questions about technology, grief, love, and humanity.

**Akemi Dawn Bowman** is a critically-acclaimed author who writes across genres. Her novels *Starfish*, *Summer Bird Blue* and *Harley in the Sky* have received multiple accolades and award nominations, and her debut novel, *Starfish*, was a William C. Morris Award Finalist.

"An intriguing speculative world that interrogates consciousness and humanity."  
—*Kirkus Review*

ACM Agent: Penny Moore

Page Count: 465, 388



### STARRED REVIEW, *SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL*

"A cerebral and pulse-pounding exploration of what it means to be human. Highly recommended for any library shelf."

"Richly imaginative... gripping... every part of this book felt masterful and left me on the edge of my seat." —**Adalyn Grace**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *All the Stars and Teeth*

"A wildly imaginative epic powered by dazzling fantastical concepts, a wonderfully passionate heroine, and so much vibrant heart—this will be your new obsession!"  
—**Sarah Kuhn**, author of the *Heroine Complex* series

"*The Infinity Courts* walks that glorious knife's edge between science fiction and fantasy, balanced at all times by Akemi Dawn Bowman's deep understanding of characters and relationships. The layered conflicts between humanity and technology and reality and perception kept me up at night." —**Tracy Deonn**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Legendborn*

AEVITAS 19



# THE MUSIC OF US

## A YA Romance

By Emerald Alexandria

WE

Summer 2026 / Blink (HarperCollins) / US Editor: Katherine Easter  
Edited MS Available

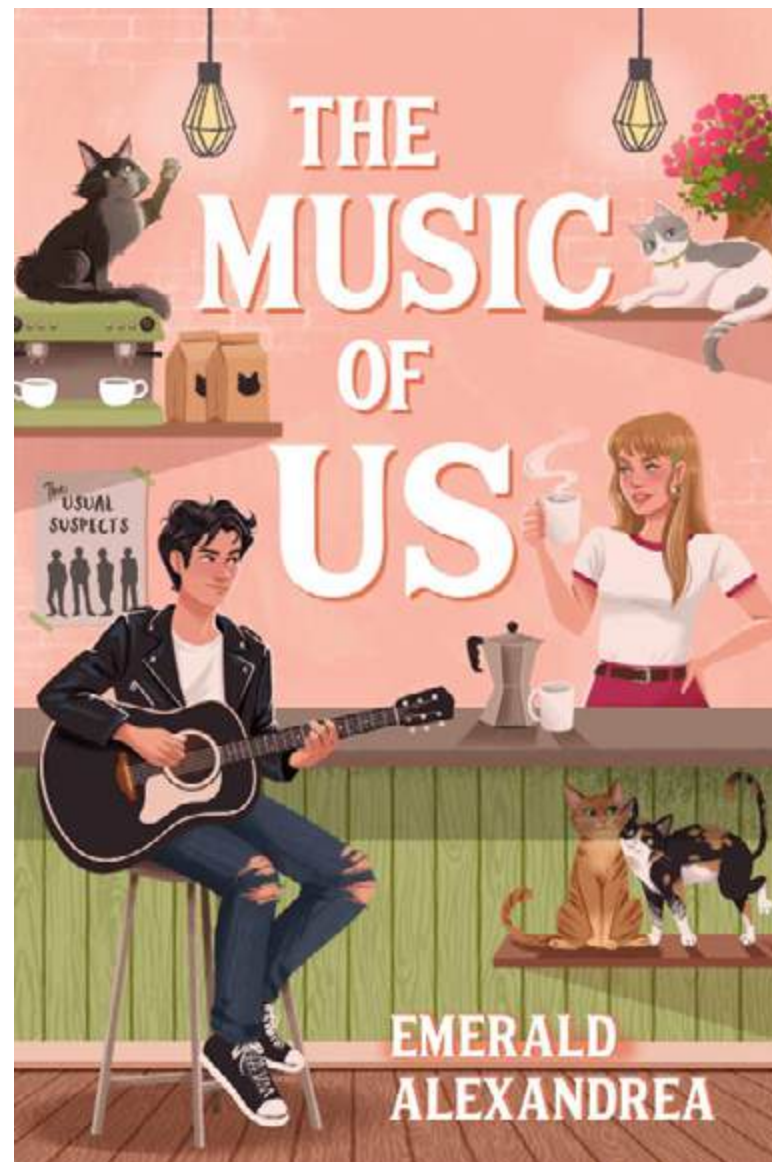
A fun and flirty contemporary YA novel between a cat café barista and a boy band pop star that hits all the right notes! *The Music of Us* is a laugh-out-loud friends-to-more romance perfect for fans of Kasie West, Beth Reekles, and Lynn Painter.

If life came with a playlist, Lucy's current era would be "stressed girl summer." While her friends are out enjoying the last summer before college, Lucy has her hands full managing her mom's quirky cat café. But with the fancy new coffee shop across the street, how will she attract enough customers to adopt the cats—or even pay the rent?

In a desperate moment, Lucy emails her ex-best friend (and first crush) Jake Moody, who's now the resident bad boy in the massively popular boy band the Usual Suspects. Lucy hasn't spoken to him in years—not since he kissed her and left for auditions without a backward glance. Which she's totally not holding a grudge about, thanks for asking.

To her surprise, Jake is all in on hosting a livestream performance to raise support for the café—and salvage his image after his most recent scandal. As Jake and Lucy work together to corral his bandmates and plan the livestream, she finds her old feelings resurfacing despite her firm intentions to keep her distance. Is it possible the old Jake she knew is still hiding under his new rebellious image?

Before focusing on her own writing, **Emerald Alexandria** was an award-winning YA book blogger, working in a professional capacity with publishers: conducting author interviews, attending book tours, and writing jacket blurbs.



# AUNTIE Q'S GOLDEN CLAWS NAIL SALON

## A Middle Grade Novel

By Van Hoang

WE

April 2026 / Roaring Brook Press / US Editor: Mekisha Telfer  
Edited MS Available

A new heartwarming and funny middle grade novel about family, resilience, and the power of second chances!

A young girl's summer punishment turns into a mission to save her aunt's struggling nail salon and bring her family together. Twelve-year-old Domi Pham had the perfect summer planned: lounging by the pool, making art with her best friend, and celebrating her escape from seventh grade. But one costly mistake puts her dream summer on hold. Instead, she finds herself deep in debt to her parents, and shipped off to New Mexico to work at her Auntie Q's nail salon for the next three months.

At first, Domi is miserable—surrounded by nosy aunties, constant nail polish fumes, and endless work. But as she gets to know Auntie Q and the people in the salon, she starts to see their struggles and resilience in a new light. When she discovers that the salon is at risk of closing, Domi puts her creativity and determination to the test to help save it.

*Auntie Q's Golden Claws Nail Salon* is perfect for fans of Kelly Yang's *Front Desk* and Jessica Kim's *Stand Up Yumi Chung!*

**Van Hoang** is the author of *Girl Giant and the Monkey King*, *Girl Giant and the Jade War*, and the forthcoming *Hidden Tails* for middle grade readers. Her adult debut novel *The Monstrous Misses Mai* will publish in spring 2024. She earned her bachelor's in English at the University of New Mexico and her master's in library information science at San Jose State University. She was born in Vietnam, grew in up Orange County, California, and now resides in Los Angeles with her husband, kid, and dog.

ACM Agent: Mary C. Moore

# THE MYSTERY OF THE STOLEN WORLD CUP TROPHY

## A Middle Grade Novel

By Angela Cervantes

NA

May 2026 / Henry Holt BFYR (Macmillan) / US Editor: Carina Licon  
Edited MS Available

From Pura Belpré Honor recipient Angela Cervantes and perfectly timed for the 2026 FIFA World Cup, *The Mystery of the Stolen World Cup Trophy* follows 12-year-old sleuth Diez Espada on a high-stakes case as he tracks down the tournament's stolen trophy in time for the championship match.

Diez Espada—named after the jersey number of his soccer-obsessed father's favorite player, Lionel Messi—would rather be chasing clues than soccer balls. When the World Cup trophy disappears at a glitzy party in Miami, he's suddenly at the center of the most thrilling match of his life—a race to find the trophy before it's gone for good.

Teaming up with his crush, Rio, and the world-famous Detective Enzo, Diez dives headfirst into a one-night whirlwind of secret tunnels and a squad of suspicious suspects: a spoiled son of a Miami tycoon, a famous sportscaster, and even Rio's two prankster younger brothers.

The clock is ticking, the suspects are slippery, and the stadium lights are ready to shine. Will Diez find the trophy in time for the World Cup championship match?

**Angela Cervantes** is the award-winning author of several beloved children's novels including *Lety Out Loud*, which won a Pura Belpré Honor Award. Angela's other children's novels include *Anomalies 53: Into the Shadows*; *The Cursed Moon*; *Maritza: Lead With Your Heart*, an American Girl book; *Gaby, Lost and Found*; *Allie, First at Last*; and the Frida Kahlo-inspired mystery, *Me, Frida and the Secret of the Peacock Ring*. In addition to her original work, Angela adapted *Coco: The Junior Novelization* and *Encanto: The Junior Novelization*.

"Humor, heart, and fútbol... everything a middle grade mystery should be."  
—Chris Grabenstein, *New York Times*-bestselling author of the *Lemoncello* series

"Mystery, friendship, and redemption, all wrapped up in one great detective story."  
—Christina Wyman, bestselling author of *Jawbreaker*

ACM Agent: Adriana Domínguez

AEVITAS 21



# HATCHED

## A Middle Grade Novel

By Allison Bell

NA

Fall 2027 / Greenwillow (HarperCollins) / US Editor: Virginia Duncan

Edited MS Available Spring 2027

Eleven-year-old Billie Rae Swumper lives in the Florida Everglades swamp. It's been three years since Billie Rae has seen her mother and if there's one thing she knows, it's that keeping your loved ones close requires vigilance. Which is why she carefully checks the cages in her homegrown petting zoo every night...

Bernard is a newly hatched lizard who unexpectedly finds himself a member of the community of "pets" in Billie Rae's "Creatures of the Swump" exhibit: Ziggy, an enormous and lonely python, Greta the cantankerous turtle, and Slipper, a pig frog who knows only one word ("Gorf"). Contented Bernard loves the security of "In Here," where endless mealworms are the menu of the day. Then a new resident in a cardboard box is dropped into Bernard's tank: an electric blue tarantula that Billie Rae hopes will ease the awkward memories of her last day of school.

Aurelia is not happy in captivity! And this tarantula definitely is not from the local swamp. She may even be an endangered species illegally captured and sold . . . and she wants out of Swumperland. When Aurelia and Ziggy execute a plan to escape, Billie Rae sets off on the airboat in a storm at night to track her pets down. What they all discover is even more than what her Dad has told her, that "some things are meant to be wild."

With utterly original characters and an engrossing narrative voice, Allison Bell crafts a poignant story of family and love, growth and resilience, set against the wildlands and waters of the Everglades.

*Hatched* combines a moving coming of age arc with a dramatic animal adventure and modern-day environmental themes, bringing layers of resonance and emotion to a novel that might be described as *The One and Only Ivan* crossed with *Because of Winn Dixie*.

**Allison Bell** is a former teacher with a master's degree in Reading Education. *Hatched* springs from the author's childhood in South Florida, where she trapped lizards in Dixie cups, tracked alligators in local canals, and trudged through the muck of the Everglades.

**ACM Agent:** Amy Thrall Flynn

# **YA & MIDDLE GRADE NOTABLE HIGHLIGHTS**





# THE PROMISE OF LOST THINGS

## A Young Adult Novel

By Helene Dunbar

WE

### Sourcebooks / Final PDF Available

A medium desperate to save his town, a grieving brother wanting revenge, and a girl who's decided to end ghosts once and for all, converge in the town of St. Hilaire, where the spirits of the dead roam the streets and there's no such thing as resting in peace.

Russ Griffin has always wanted to be a fantastic medium. Growing up in the town of St. Hilaire, where most residents make their living by speaking to the dead, means there's a lot of competition, and he's always held his own. But Russ knows the town he loves is corrupt, and he's determined to save it before the sinister ruling body, The Guild, ruins all he's ever wanted.

Willow Rogers is St. Hilaire royalty. An orphan, raised by The Guild, she's powerful and mysterious. But she has secrets that might change everyone's fate. She's done with St. Hilaire, done with helping spirits move on. She wants to end the cycle for good and rid the town of ghosts, even if that means destroying the only home she's ever known.

Asher Mullen lost his sister, and his parents can't get over her death. They sought answers in St. Hilaire and were turned away. Now they want revenge. Asher is tasked with infiltrating the town, and he does that by getting to know Russ. The only problem is, he might be falling for him, which will make betraying him that much harder.

Russ, Willow, and Asher all have their own agendas for St. Hilaire, but one thing's for certain, no one will be resting in peace.

**Helene Dunbar** is the author of several novels for young adults including *These Gentle Wounds*, *What Remains*, *Boomerang*, *We Are Lost and Found* and *Prelude for Lost Souls*. Over the years, she's worked as a drama critic, journalist, and marketing manager, and has written on topics as diverse as Irish music, court cases, and theater. She lives in Nashville with her husband and daughter.

"Fantastic elements layered in with poignant, human moments of grief..."

—*Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books*

ACM Agent: Lauren MacLeod

Page Count: 298



"...Told in alternating first-person narration, the novel's three distinct voices together weave a delightfully atmospheric tale, and the story shines in presenting a refreshing, surprisingly uplifting exploration of grief and love. In particular, Russ' romance with charming ghost Ian contrasted with the tentative friendship with sweet and very much alive Asher will make readers swoon and ache. Hauntingly Good." — *Kirkus Reviews*

"Readers who enjoy romance and intrigue will be hard pressed to put down this title" — *Youth Services Book Review*

Previous publishers of Helene Dunbar:

French (Bayard Editions)

# DEAD GIRLS WALKING

## A Young Adult Novel

By Sami Ellis

WE

Abrams / US Editor: Emily Daluga

Final PDF Available

Sami Ellis's *Dead Girls Walking* is a shocking, spine-chilling YA horror slasher about a girl searching for her dead mother's body at the summer camp that was once her serial killer father's home—perfect for fans of *Friday the 13th* and *White Smoke*.

Temple Baker knows that evil runs in her blood. Her father is the North Point Killer, an infamous serial killer known for how he marked each of his victims with a brand. He was convicted for murdering 20 people and was the talk of countless true crime blogs for years. Some say he was possessed by a demon. Some say that they never found all his victims. Some say that even though he's now behind bars, people are still dying in the woods. Despite everything though, Temple never believed that her dad killed her mom. But when he confesses to that crime while on death row, she has no choice but to return to his old hunting grounds to try see if she can find a body and prove it.

Turns out, the farm that was once her father's hunting grounds and her home has been turned into an overnight camp for queer, horror-obsessed girls. So Temple poses as a camp counselor to go digging in the woods. While she's not used to hanging out with girls her own age and feels ambivalent at best about these true crime enthusiasts, she tries her best to fit in and keep her true identity hidden.

But when a girl turns up dead in the woods, she fears that one of her father's "fans" might be mimicking his crimes. As Temple tries to uncover the truth and keep the campers safe, she comes to realize that there may be something stranger and more sinister at work—and that her father may not have been the only monster in these woods.

**Sami Ellis** is a queer horror writer who's inspired by the horrific nature of Black fears and the culture's relation to the supernatural. When she's not acting as the single auntie with a good job, she spends her time not writing. You can follow her on Twitter, or check out her words in the Black horror anthology, *All These Sunken Souls*. *Dead Girls Walking* is her debut novel.

ACM Agent: Maeve MacLysaght

Page Count: 368



"An atmospheric bloodbath that effectively disrupts the expected prototype of the Final Girl."

—*Kirkus*

"[T]his fresh, if blood-soaked, take on the classic camp slasher story will keep readers mesmerized, half in thrill and half in terror."

—*Booklist*

"Temple's prickly personality serves as a foil through which the author highlights heartening character relationships, and punchy horror-centric banter adds verve to this gruesome slasher."

—*Publishers Weekly*

"Shockingly brutal, beautifully written, this is a must read for horror fans. Keep the lights on for this one."—**Kalynn Bayron**, *New York Times* Bestselling author of *You're Not Supposed To Die Tonight*

"Ellis has crafted a riotously funny and blood-drenched slasher that should be #1 on your TBR."—**Trang Thanh Tran**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *She Is a Haunting*

"Unhinged, shocking, and scary as hell. At the most unsuspecting moment, [it] launches you headfirst into a Black Queer Evil Dead vibe that's a pure adrenaline rush until the very satisfying (and bloody) end."—**Terry J. Benton-Walker**, bestselling author of *Blood Debts* and *The White Guy Dies First*



# LION OF THE SKY

## A Middle Grade Novel

By Ritu Hemnani

WE

Balzer + Bray / US Editor: Alessandra Balzer

Final PDF Available

An evocative historical novel in verse about a boy and his family who are forced to flee their home and become refugees after the British Partition of India. Perfect for fans of *Other Words for Home*.

Twelve-year-old Raj is happiest flying kites with his best friend, Iqbal. As their kites soar, Raj feels free, like his beloved India soon will be, and he can't wait to celebrate their independence.

But when a British lawyer draws a line across a map, splitting India in two, Raj is thrust into a fractured world. With Partition declared, Hindu, Sikh, and Muslim families are torn apart—and Raj's Hindu and Iqbal's Muslim families are among them. Forced to flee and become refugees, Raj's family is left to start over in a new country. After suffering devastating losses, Raj must summon the courage to survive the brutal upheaval of both his country and his heart.

Inspired by the author's true family history, *Lion of the Sky* is a deeply moving coming-of-age tale about identity, belonging, and the power of hope.

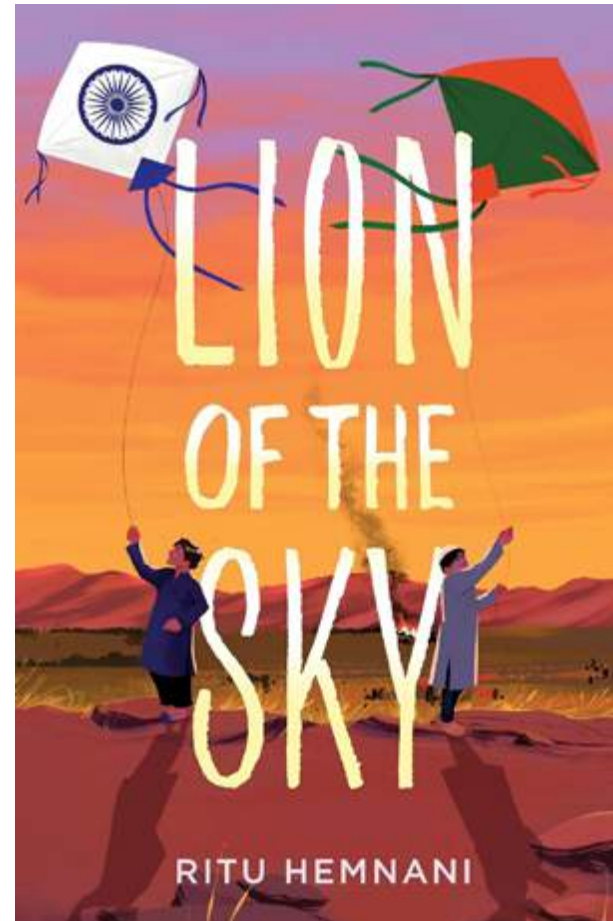
**Ritu Hemnani** is a journalist, teacher, voice actor, and motivational speaker. She recognizes herself as ethnically Indian and a British national and calls Hong Kong her home, where she lives with her husband and three children. *Lion of the Sky* is Ritu's debut middle grade novel. You can find her online at [rituhemnani.com](http://rituhemnani.com).

★ STARRED REVIEW, *KIRKUS* ★

"This is a tale about being lion-hearted, soaring after falling many times, and still reaching for the sky. It's also about lines that divide, that cut across hearts and countries, and that are seared into memories. An exquisite, memorable story about new beginnings and the quest to belong."

★ STARRED REVIEW, *PUBLISHERS WEEKLY* ★

"Compelling stakes ratchet up the tension in this illuminating and harrowing story about displacement, grief, and hope."



"A culturally rich reading experience that is heart-breaking and inspiring, this will have readers crying at the loss of Raj's innocence and cheering for him as he takes on bullies and fights social norms to support his family."

—*School Library Journal*

"This verse novel weaves historical information and Sindhi language into a powerful story about friendship and bravery, and Raj's epic journey ends on a believably hopeful note without downplaying the unimaginable things he and his country face." —*Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books*

"An eye-opening tale of friendship, displacement, horror, and hope. Set during the Partition of India, Ritu Hemnani's stirring story touches upon the worst that people can be, but also how they can reveal the best of themselves during the most difficult times." — **Rajani LaRocca**, Newbery Honor-Winning Author of *Red, White, and Whole*

"With gorgeous writing and beautiful characters, *Lion of the Sky* left my heart both aching and full of hope. Ritu Hemnani's deeply personal story about the Partition of Pakistan and India does not shy away from the painful parts of history. But perhaps more important, it charts a map for young people—like Raj and Iqbal in the book—to choose kindness and understanding over hatred and division." — **Maulik Pancholy**, Award-Winning Author of *The Best at It* and *Nikhil Out Loud*

"Detail-oriented and emotional." —*ALA Booklist*

# ONCE I WAS YOU

## A Young Adult Memoir

By Maria Hinojosa

NA

Simon and Shuster Books for Young Readers

Final PDF Available

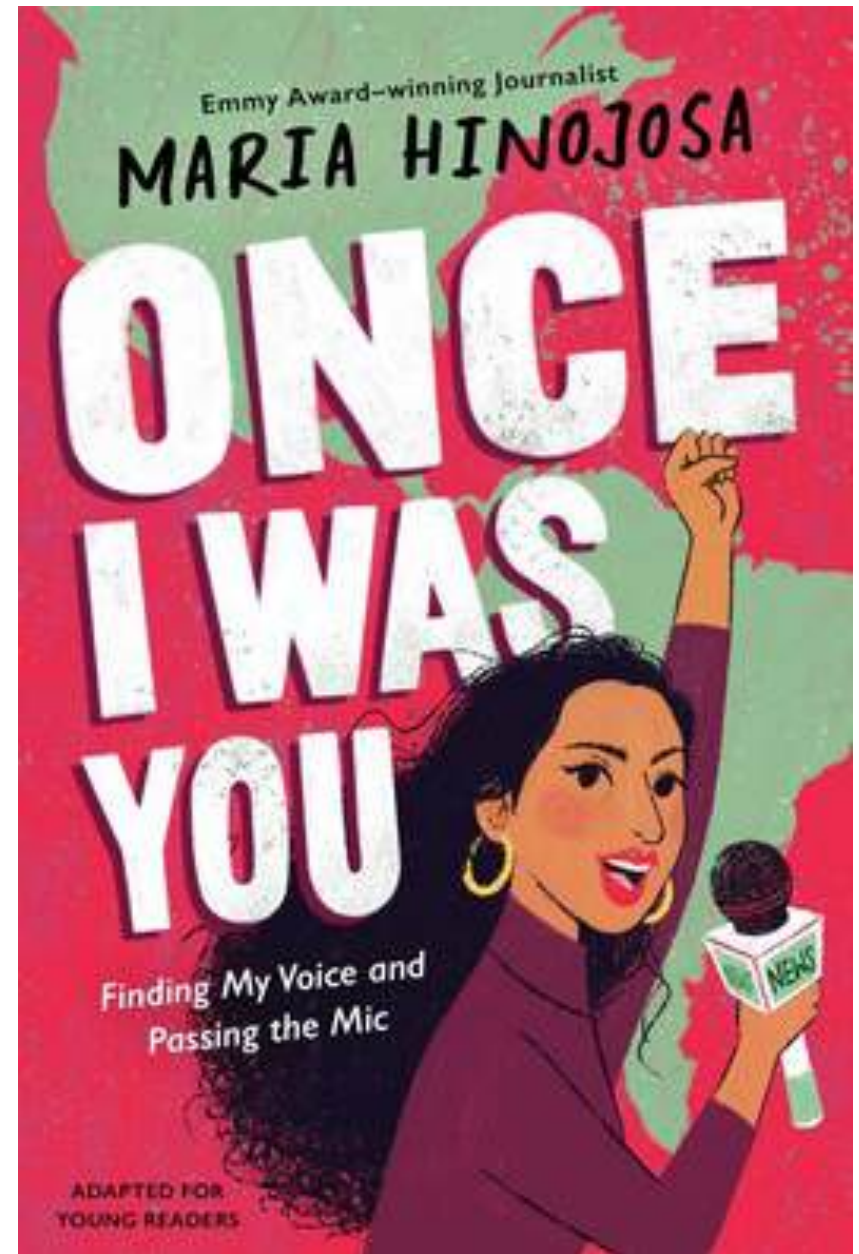
Emmy Award and Pulitzer Prize–winning journalist Maria Hinojosa has created a brand-new, unique version of her adult memoir, which was an NPR Best Book of 2020, for young readers, blending her story with perspectives on history in the vein of Jason Reynolds’s *Stamped*.

“There is no such thing as an illegal human being.”

Maria Hinojosa is an Emmy Award–winning journalist, a bestselling author, and was the first Latina to found a national independent nonprofit newsroom in the United States. But before all that, she was a girl with big hair and even bigger dreams. Born in Mexico and raised in the vibrant neighborhood of Hyde Park, Chicago, Maria was always looking for ways to better understand the world around her—and where she fit into it.

Here, she combines stories from her life, beginning with her family’s harrowing experience of immigration, with truths about the United States’s long and complicated relationship with the people who cross its borders, by choice or by force. Funny, frank, and thought-provoking, Maria’s voice is one you will want to listen to again and again.

**Maria Hinojosa’s** nearly thirty-year career as a journalist includes reporting for PBS, CBS, WGBH, WNBC, CNN, NPR, and anchoring and executive producing the Peabody Award–winning show *Latino USA*, the longest running national Latinx news program in the country. She has won several awards, including a Pulitzer Prize, four Emmys, the Studs Terkel Community Media Award, two Robert F. Kennedy Awards, the Edward R. Murrow Award from the Overseas Press Club, and the Ruben Salazar Lifetime Achievement Award. Through the breadth of her work and as the founding coanchor of the political podcast *In the Thick*, Hinojosa has informed millions about the changing cultural and political landscape in America and abroad. She lives with her family in Harlem in New York City.





# I'LL BE THE ONE

## A Young Adult Novel

By Lyla Lee

NA

Katherine Tegen (HarperCollins) / US Editor: Mabel Hsu

Final PDF Available

### Rights Sold:

Canadian French (Editions de L'Homme)

Brazilian Portuguese (Vergara & Riba)

French (Hachette Livre)

Korean (Bluemoosebooks)

Polish (Znak Koncept)

Russian (AST)

Slovak (Albatros Media)

Spanish (Planeta Mexico)

Turkish (Epsilon)

A **KIRKUS** BEST BOOK OF 2020 / A **YALSA** 2021 BEST YA NOVEL /  
A 2021 **ALA RAINBOW LIST TOP 10** /  
TO BE ADAPTED FOR THE SCREEN BY **HBO MAX**

*The world of K-Pop has never met a star like this. Debut author Lyla Lee delivers a deliciously fun, thoughtful rom-com celebrating confidence and body positivity—perfect for fans of Jenny Han and Julie Murphy.*

Skye Shin has heard it all. Fat girls shouldn't dance. Wear bright colors. Shouldn't call attention to themselves. But Skye dreams of joining the glittering world of K-Pop, and to do that, she's about to break all the rules that society, the media, and even her own mother, have set for girls like her.

She'll challenge thousands of other performers in an internationally televised competition looking for the next K-pop star, and she'll do it better than anyone else.

When Skye nails her audition, she's immediately swept into a whirlwind of countless practices, shocking performances, and the drama that comes with reality TV. What she doesn't count on are the highly fat-phobic beauty standards of the Korean pop entertainment industry, her sudden media fame and scrutiny, or the sparks that soon fly with her fellow competitor, Henry Cho. But Skye has her sights on becoming the world's first plus-sized K-pop star, and that means winning the competition—without losing herself.

**Lyla Lee** is the author of *I'll Be the One* and the *Mindy Kim* series for younger readers.



### STARRED REVIEW, **KIRKUS**

"Skye's strength and talent make her an inspiration to K-pop-loving teens everywhere—including those in real life. Lee's YA debut slathers on all the juicy drama, high emotion, and kick-ass performances you'd expect from a K-pop talent competition but also has quieter moments where true friendships and a swoony romance develop... A fresh perspective on body image and K-pop? Jjang!"

### STARRED REVIEW, **SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL**

"This rom-com is everything it needs to be...filled with a sweet new romance and starring a heroine to root for. Lee finds a spot alongside Jenny Han and Stacey Lee in representing the diversity of Asian American experiences. A joyful protagonist who speaks to Generation Z."

# FLIP THE SCRIPT

A YA Novel

By Lyla Lee

NA

Katherine Tegen (HarperCollins) / US Editor: Mabel Hsu

Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

Polish (Znak Koncept )

Spanish (Planeta Mexico)

*The first rule of watching k-dramas: Never fall in love with the second lead.*

Hana knows this. She's been consuming k-dramas her whole life, and now she's finally living out her dream in Seoul, South Korea—playing a lead role in a buzzy new TV show, all while dating her co-star and K-pop heartthrob Bryan Yoon. Millions would kill to be her. Yet underneath the glittering façade, the truth is much more complicated. Her “relationship” with Bryan is no more real than their on-screen romance and comes with a strict contract specifically designed to drum up public interest. But when viewership numbers fall, the producers add another lead actress to create a love triangle on the show. And it's not just any actress—Hana's new rival is none other than Minjee Park, her former best friend, classmate... and crush. While they compete for Bryan's affections on-screen, Hana and Minjee fall in love behind the scenes. But when dating in secret soon becomes impossible, they find themselves on the brink of a huge scandal that might end their careers. In this simmering, joyous novel, author Lyla Lee delivers a tender romance between two brave girls who decide that when the script isn't working, it's time to rewrite it themselves.

**Lyla Lee** is the author of *I'll Be the One* and the *Mindy Kim* series for younger readers.

"The story challenges Korea's heteronormative culture and media . . . also transports readers to popular destinations in and around Seoul, beautifully highlighting Korean food and culture. A fun and boundary-pushing take on typical K-drama romances." — *Kirkus Reviews*

"I don't think my heart will ever stop floating after reading *Flip the Script*! Lyla Lee has created the perfect blend of fake dating, young love, and queer joy that had me smiling from ear to ear and whooping in triumph. Sometimes those who say 'stick to the script' can simply stick it." — **Jason June, author of *Jay's Gay Agenda* and *Out of the Blue***

ACM Agent: Penny Moore

Page Count: 291



"A love letter to K-dramas with sapphic romance at the forefront. *Flip the Script* is fun and full of heart—an instant favorite!" — **Emiko Jean, NYT bestselling author of *Tokyo Ever After***

"Fans will flip for this heartwarming romance. Behind-the-scenes showbiz drama, a handsome K-pop star, fake dating, an LGBTQ twist, and an ending that made me want to stand up and cheer—there's so much to love about this book!" — **Misa Sugiura, author of *It's Not Like It's a Secret* and *This Time Will Be Different***

"Nothing makes me smile like a Lyla Lee book. I had a blast following Hana and her friends as they film the hottest K-Drama on television, all while falling for one another behind the scenes. Effervescent and joyous from start to finish, *Flip the Script* is guaranteed to put a smile on your face." — **Axie Oh, author of *XOXO***



# FORETOLD

## A Young Adult Novel

By Violet Lumani

WE

Uproar Books / US Editor: Rick Lewis

Final PDF Available

2021 Finalist for the Indies Today Award (Y.A. Literature)

2021 Runner-Up for the Maxy Award (Y.A. Literature)

*As if struggling with OCD and extreme anxiety wasn't enough, high schooler Cass Morai discovers she can also see the future. But only by joining a secret organization of soothsayers can she hope to rewrite fate and save the life of the boy she's falling in love with.*

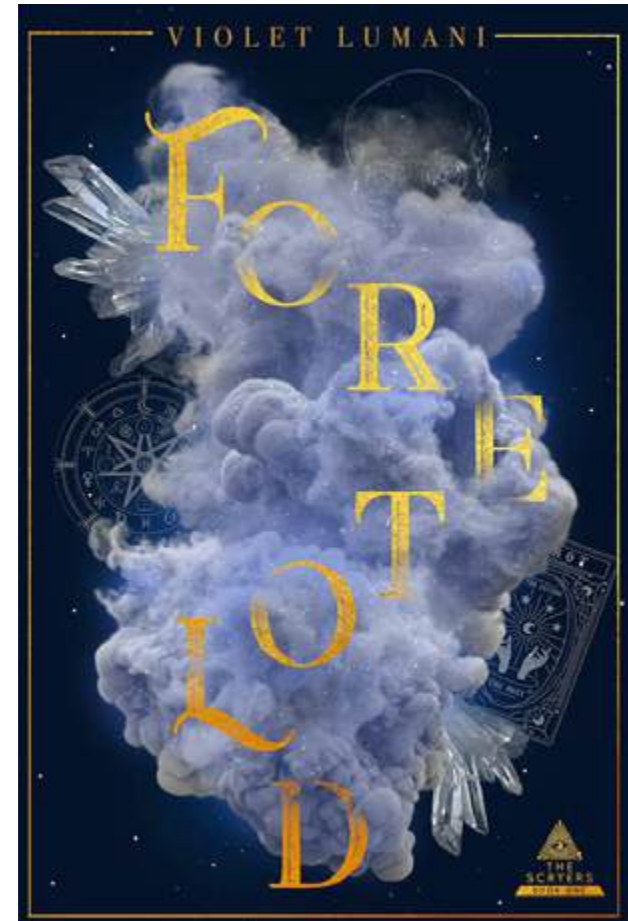
Cassandra sees death and devastation all around her. In vivid detail. It's the price of living with her OCD and extreme anxiety. In every situation, Cass imagines the worst possible fate for everyone in her life. Her dad in a pool of blood after a break-in. Her beloved older neighbor, homeless. A splinter in her finger turned to gangrene. But this time, it's not her imagination. The boy next door, Colin, is destined to die. Cass has foretold a real death before; she knows this is a true vision.

Desperate to save Colin's life, Cass immerses herself in a secret organization of soothsayers that promises to teach her how to change the future she foresees. But as she descends into their hidden world of divinatory magic and predictive technology, she discovers there's always a price to pay for unraveling fate's strands. And cheating death will cost her everything.

**Violet Lumani** was raised in a family of superstitious omen-watchers, absorbing the stories and myths her family brought to America with them. She holds a BA from Barnard College of Columbia University, and an MBA from UCONN and lives in Connecticut with her husband, two kids, and forever-dieting chihuahua named Kiwi. *Foretold*, part of the Scryer series, is her YA debut.

"Riveting. A must-read."—**Amber Rae, author of *Choose Wonder Over Worry***

"A thrilling read! Will grip you from page one and leave you begging for more."  
—**Greta Kelly, author of *The Frozen Crown***



"Wracked with OCD, Cassandra is the perfect imperfect heroine... The mystical world Lumani has conjured is intriguing, making you wish you could step through the unassuming doors of the Theban Group to shop at the frenetic market and discover your own abilities! With a stunning cover, a flawless edit, marvelous chemistry between the characters and a plot moving inexorably toward a breathless climax, *Foretold* is a novel you'll devour in a single sitting."—**Nicky Flowers, Indies Today**

# FROM HERE

## A Young Adult Memoir

By Luma Mufleh

NA

Nancy Paulsen Books (PRH) / US Editor: Stacey Barney

Final PDF Available

*In her coming-of-age memoir, refugee advocate Luma Mufleh writes of her tumultuous journey to reconcile her identity as a gay Muslim woman and a proud Arab-turned-American refugee.*

With no word for “gay” in Arabic, Luma may not have known what to call the feelings she had growing up in Jordan during the 1980s, but she knew well enough to keep them secret. It was clear that not only would her family have trouble accepting who she was, but trapped in a religious society, she could also be killed if anyone discovered she was gay. Luma spent her teenage years increasingly desperate to find a way out. After two suicide attempts, she finally realizes that to survive, she must leave the Middle East for good. While attending college in the United States, Luma endures the agonizing process of applying for political asylum, which ensures her safety—but causes her family to break ties with her.

Suddenly becoming a refugee in America is a rude awakening. Disowned, depressed, and broke, Luma must rely on the grace of both friends and strangers as she builds a tenuous new life finally embracing her full self. Slowly, she forges a new path forward with both her biological and chosen families, eventually founding Fugees Family, a nonprofit dedicated to the education and support of refugee children in the United States.

As hopeful as it is heartrending, *From Here* is a coming-of-age memoir about one young woman’s search for belonging and the many meanings of home for those who must leave theirs.

**Luma Mufleh** is the founder of Fugees Family, with schools now in Georgia and Ohio and an expanding footprint bringing educational equity to refugee resettlement communities across America. Her TED Talk on educational justice for refugee families was viewed more than 1.8 million times.





# THE ORPHAN QUEEN

## A YA Duology

By Jodi Meadows

WE

Katherine Tegen (HarperCollins)

Final PDFs Available

From one of the coauthors of the *MY LADY JANE* series, soon to be available on Prime Video in 240 countries worldwide!

An epic fantasy filled with adventure, intrigue, and romance from the *New York Times* bestselling coauthor of *My Plain Jane*, perfect for fans of *Graceling* by Kristin Cashore, *The Girl of Fire and Thorns* by Rae Carson, and *Shadow and Bone* by Leigh Bardugo.

When Princess Wilhelmina was a child, the Indigo Kingdom invaded her homeland. Ten years later, Wil and the other noble children who escaped are ready to fight back and reclaim Wil's throne. To do so, Wil and her best friend, Melanie, infiltrate the Indigo Kingdom palace with hopes of gathering information that will help them succeed. But Wil has a secret—one that could change everything. Although magic has been illegal for a century, she knows her ability could help her save her kingdom.

But magic creates wraith, and the deadly stuff is moving closer and destroying the land. And if the vigilante Black Knife catches her using magic, she may disappear like all the others....

**Jodi Meadows** is the author of the *Incarnate* trilogy, the *Orphan Queen* duology, and the *Fallen Isles* trilogy and coauthor of the *New York Times* bestsellers *My Lady Jane*, *My Plain Jane*, and *My Calamity Jane*. Visit her at [www.jodimeadows.com](http://www.jodimeadows.com).

"Hidden identities, allusions to environmental concerns, a clever heroine with a worthy potential love interest, and some monster-mashing fight scenes elevate this romantic series opener. A cliff-hanger ending will have many readers exclaiming aloud their impatience at having to wait for the sequel." — **Booklist**

"Solid worldbuilding, interesting characters and just enough romance make this an enjoyable read." — **Kirkus Reviews**

"Meadows delivers a powerful coming-of-age story." — **Publishers Weekly**

ACM Agent: Lauren MacLeod

Page Count: 391, 531



"Fans of Katniss and the Sisters of St. Mortain from Robin LaFevers's "His Fair Assassin" series and other strong, vengeful female heroines will root for Wil."

— **School Library Journal**

"Meadows deftly juggles a multitude of plot points here, managing to link each element to Wil's growth as a character. A cliffhanger ending puts a beloved character's life in peril, ensuring both a sequel and readers' clamoring for it." — **Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books**

"One of the most compelling fantasies I've ever read. Fans of strong heroines, secret identities, and terrifyingly dangerous magic should put Jodi Meadows at the top of their 'to read' lists." — **C.J. Redwine, author of the Defiance trilogy**

"Exquisite, captivating and romantic—Jodi Meadows's world forbids magic, but *The Orphan Queen* is brimming with it." — **Danielle Paige, New York Times bestselling author of Dorothy Must Die**

# FAITH: TAKING FLIGHT & FAITH: GREATER HEIGHTS

## A Young Adult Series

By Julie Murphy & Valiant Entertainment

NA

Balzer & Bray / US Editor: Alessandra Balzer

Final PDF for Books 1 & 2 Available

### Rights Sold:

Russian (Popcorn Books) Turkish (Epsilon)

*From Julie Murphy, #1 New York Times bestselling author of Dumplin', comes the first in a two-book origin story of Faith, a groundbreaking, plus-sized superhero from the Valiant Entertainment comics.*

Faith Herbert is a pretty regular teen. When she's not hanging out with her two best friends, Matt and Ches, she's volunteering at the local animal shelter or obsessing over the long-running teen drama *The Grove*.

So far, her senior year has been spent trying to sort out her feelings for her maybe-crush Johnny and making plans to stay close to Grandma Lou after graduation. Of course, there's also that small matter of recently discovering she can fly....

When the fictional world of *The Grove* crashes into Faith's reality as the show relocates to her town, she can't believe it when TV heroine Dakota Ash takes a romantic interest in her.

But her fandom-fueled daydreams aren't enough to distract Faith from the fact that first animals, then people, have begun to vanish from the town. Only Faith seems able to connect the dots to a new designer drug infiltrating her high school.

But when her investigation puts the people she loves in danger, she will have to confront her hidden past and use her newfound gifts—risking everything to save her friends and beloved town.

**Julie Murphy** lives in Texas with her husband who loves her, her dog who adores her, and her cats who tolerate her. When she's not writing, she can be found watching made-for-TV movies, hunting for the perfect slice of cheese pizza, and planning her next great travel adventure. She is also the author of the young adult novels *Dumplin'* (now a film on Netflix), *Puddin'*, *Ramona Blue*, and *Side Effects May Vary*.

ACM Agent: Jennifer Gates & Jen Marshall

Page Count: 338, 344



### STARRED REVIEW, *SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL*

"This #OwnVoices genre and format mashup is fun and memorable, and should produce legions of new Faith superfans."

"As in all her work, Murphy's portrayal of a plus-size protagonist is nuanced and heartfelt.... Destined for great heights."—*Kirkus Reviews*

"Putting a queer spin on a tale as old as time, Julie Murphy proves that everyone can be a superhero – no matter their size, gender, or sexual orientation – at heart, we all have the power to make the world a better place!"—*The Nerd Daily*

"Body positive and deliciously keyed into fandom. Readers will flock to this inclusive romp."—*ALA Booklist*

"Faith is an awesome, crime-stopping superhero."—*People*



# BONSMITH + GHOSTSMITH

## A Young Adult Duology

By Nicki Pau Preto

NA

McElderry (S&S) / US Editor: Sarah McCabe

Final PDFs Available

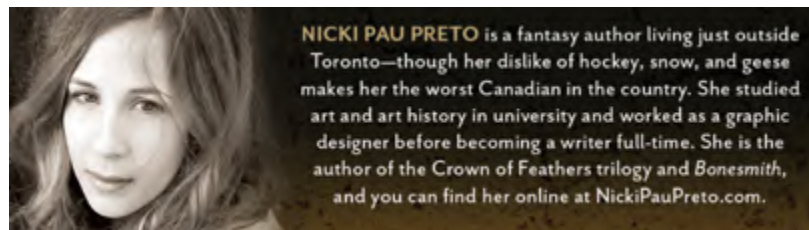
### Rights Sold:

Czech (Albatros Media)  
French (Edition Lumen)  
German (Vajona)  
Hungarian (Maxim)  
Italian (Rizzoli)

Polish (Niezwykłe)  
Russian (Eksmo)  
Spanish (Monogatari)  
UK/Comm (Hodderscape / Hachette)  
Ukrainian (Zhorzh / Ranok)

*Gideon the Ninth* meets the *Game of Thrones* White Walkers in this dark young adult fantasy about a disgraced ghost-fighting warrior who must journey into a haunted wasteland to rescue a kidnapped prince.

In the Dominions, the dead linger, violent and unpredictable, unless a bonesmith severs the ghost from its earthly remains. For bonesmith Wren, becoming a valkyr—a ghost-fighting warrior—is a chance to solidify her place in the noble House of Bone and impress her frequently absent father. But when sabotage causes Wren to fail her qualifying trial, she is banished to the Border Wall, the last line of defense against a wasteland called the Breach where the vicious dead roam unchecked. Determined to reclaim her family's respect, Wren gets her chance when a House of Gold prince is kidnapped and taken beyond the Wall. To prove she has what it takes to be a valkyr, Wren vows to cross the Breach and rescue the prince. But to do so, she's forced into an uneasy alliance with one of the kidnappers—a fierce ironsmith called Julian from the exiled House of Iron, the very people who caused the Breach in the first place...and the House of Bone's sworn enemy. As they travel, Wren and Julian spend as much time fighting each other as they do the undead, but when they discover there's more behind the kidnapping than either of them knew, they'll need to work together to combat the real danger: a dark alliance that is brewing between the living and the undead.

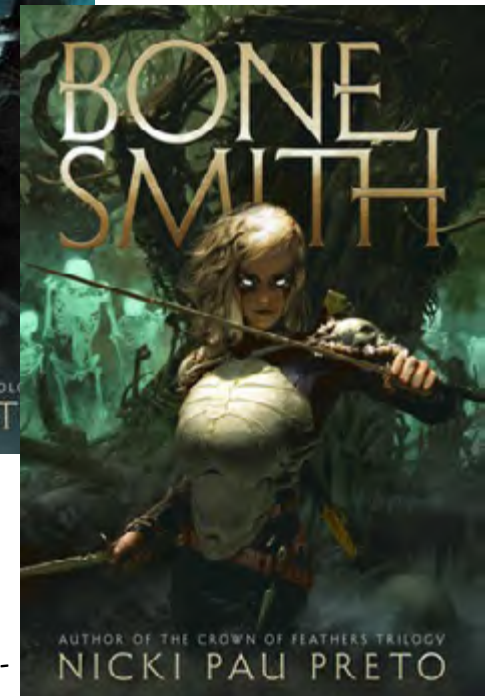


ACM Agent: Penny Moore

Page Count: 447, 433



"Pau Preto's kaleidoscopic close-third-person narrative complements the swiftly paced, bombshell-strewn plot, which crescendos to an explosive finish." —*Publishers Weekly*



"A fascinating world, absolutely delightful characters, and enemies-to-loves romance—this book is one readers will devour before begging for more." —*Tricia Levenseller, New York Times bestselling author of Blade of Secrets*

"Gripping and action-packed in its plot, tender yet fierce in its romance, haunting and gritty in its worldbuilding, *Bonesmith* is a dark fantasy thrillride from start to finish." —*Amélie Wen Zhao, author of Song of Silver, Flame like Night and the Blood Heir trilogy*

"Filled with magic, betrayal, and undead horrors, *Bonesmith* will keep you turning pages as fast as you can." —*Jodi Meadows, New York Times bestselling author*

"[An] eerie atmospheric read packed with action and betrayal."

—*Rebecca Schaeffer, author of the acclaimed Market of Monsters series*

### Publishers of the CROWN OF FEATHERS series:

French (Lumen/AC Media)  
German (cbj)  
Russian (AST)

Turkish (Yabancı Yayınları)  
UK/Commonwealth (Ink Road)

# CROWN OF FEATHERS

## A Young Adult Series

By Nicki Pau Preto

NA

Simon & Schuster / US Editor: Sarah McCabe

Final PDF Available

**\*\*ACM handles rights for only Book 3\*\***

### Publishers of Crown of Feathers:

French (Lumen/AC Media)

German (cbj)

Russian (AST)

Turkish (Yabancı Yayınları)

UK/Commonwealth (Ink Road)

*An Ember in the Ashes meets Three Dark Crowns in this lush debut fantasy novel about a girl who disguises herself as a boy to join a group of phoenix riding warriors.*

*I had a sister, once...*

In a world ruled by fierce warrior queens, a grand empire was built upon the backs of Phoenix Riders—legendary heroes who soared through the sky on wings of fire—until a war between two sisters ripped it all apart.

*I promised her the throne would not come between us.*

Sixteen years later, Veronyka is a war orphan who dreams of becoming a Phoenix Rider from the stories of old. After a shocking betrayal from her controlling sister, Veronyka strikes out alone to find the Riders—even if that means disguising herself as a boy to join their ranks.

*But it is a fact of life that one must kill or be killed. Rule or be ruled.*

Just as Veronyka finally feels like she belongs, her sister turns up and reveals a tangled web of lies between them that will change everything. And meanwhile, the new empire has learned of the Riders' return and intends to destroy them once and for all.

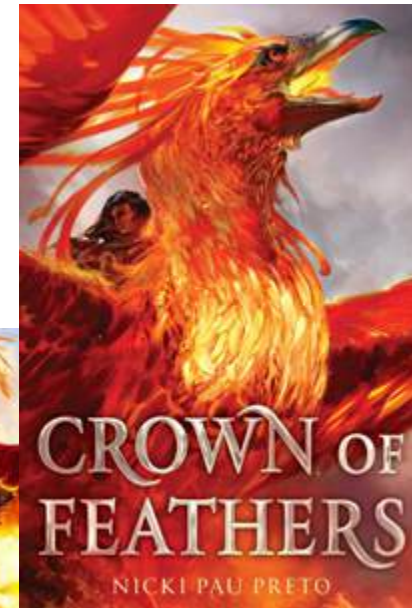
*Sometimes the title of queen is given. Sometimes it must be taken.*

*Crown of Feathers* is an epic fantasy about love's incredible power to save—or to destroy. Interspersed throughout is the story of Valkyra Ashfire, the last Rider queen, who would rather see her empire burn than fall into her sister's hands.

Nicki Pau Preto is a YA fantasy author living just outside Toronto, Canada.

ACM Agent: Penny Moore

Page Count (Book 3): 606



“Set in a world of warrior queens and their fierce phoenixes, Nicki Pau Preto’s *CROWN OF FEATHERS* is absolutely unforgettable. It draws you in with the first flaming feather and doesn’t let go. Fans of magical creatures, get in line, because I haven’t loved a phoenix this much since Dumbledore’s Fawkes. This is an instant favorite.”—**Kendare Blake, #1 New York Times bestselling author of the *Three Dark Crowns* series**

“A beautifully told story about justice, sisterhood, and warrior women. This richly woven world had me turning pages well into the night. Nicki Pau Preto is one to watch!”—**Shea Ernschaw, New York Times bestselling author of *The Wicked Deep***

“The unique and imaginative world of the Phoenix Riders had my rapt attention from the first sentence. Nicki Pau Preto is a bright new talent, and I can’t wait to read more!”—**Morgan Rhodes, NYT Bestselling author of the *Falling Kingdoms* series**

AEVITAS 35



# I AM NOT YOUR PERFECT MEXICAN DAUGHTER

## A Young Adult Novel

By Erika L. Sánchez

NA

Knopf Children's (PRH) / US Editor: Michelle Frey

Final PDF Available

### Rights Sold:

Brazilian Portuguese (Intrínseca)	Polish (Znak)
Complex Chinese (Rye Field)	Simplified Chinese (Peking Juvenile & Children's)
French (Ellipsis)	Spanish (Planeta Mexico)
Italian (Piemme / Mondadori)	Turkish (Nemesis)
Korean (OrangeD / Ridibooks)	UK/Comm (Oneworld / Rock the Boat)

\* A NATIONAL BOOK AWARD FINALIST \*

\* A #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER \*

\* NETFLIX MOVIE FILMING IN 2023, DIRECTED BY  
AMERICA FERRERA\*

A stunning YA novel about a teenager coming to terms with losing her sister and finding herself amid the pressures, expectations, and stereotypes of growing up in a Mexican American home.

Perfect Mexican daughters do not go away to college. And they do not move out of their parents' house after high school graduation. Perfect Mexican daughters never abandon their family. But Julia is not your perfect Mexican daughter. That was Olga's role.

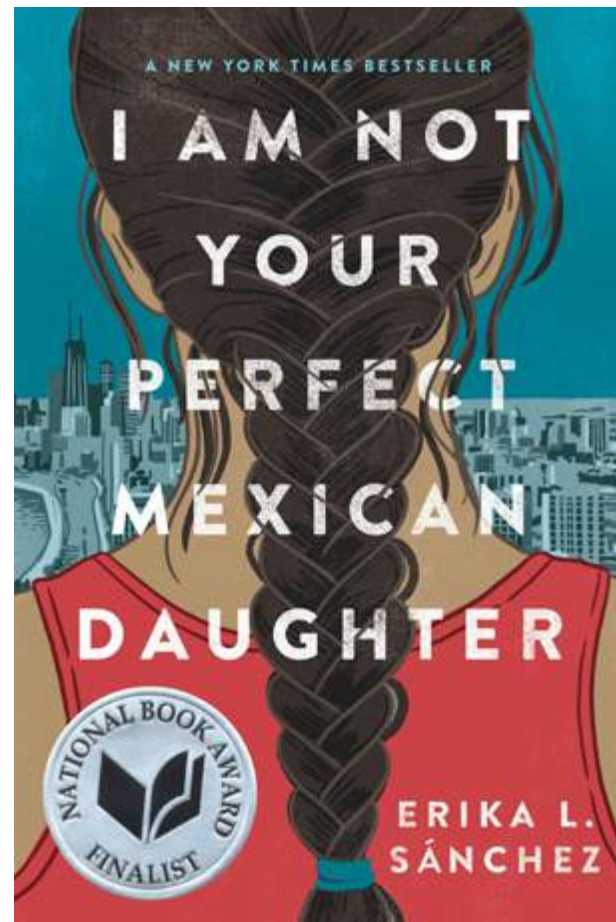
Then a tragic accident on the busiest street in Chicago leaves Olga dead and Julia left behind to reassemble the shattered pieces of her family. And no one seems to acknowledge that Julia is broken, too. Instead, her mother seems to channel her grief into pointing out every possible way Julia has failed.

But it's not long before Julia discovers that Olga might not have been as perfect as everyone thought. With the help of her best friend Lorena, and her first love, first everything boyfriend Connor, Julia is determined to find out. Was Olga really what she seemed? Or was there more to her sister's story? And either way, how can Julia even attempt to live up to a seemingly impossible ideal?

**Erika L. Sánchez** is the daughter of Mexican immigrants, and a poet, essayist, and fiction writer.

ACM Agent: Michelle Brower

Page Count: 340



"Alive and crackling—a gritty tale wrapped in a page-turner."

—*The New York Times*

"A wonderfully complex and interesting character."

—*Los Angeles Review of Books*

**STARRED REVIEW, *School Library Journal***

"A timely and must-have account of survival in a culturally contested world."

**STARRED REVIEW, *Shelf Awareness***

"Beautifully written."

**STARRED REVIEW, *The Bulletin***

"Ultimately, it's Julia herself who's the key to the novel... She'll resonate with many readers, and they'll be glad to see her make it through a tough time."

# THE INSIDE BATTLE

## A Young Adult Novel

By Melanie Sumrow

WE

Yellow Jacket (Little Bee) / US Editor: Sonali Fry

Final PDF Available

*Thirteen-year-old Rebel Mercer yearns for his father's approval. His dad suffers from PTSD and spends time in their basement communicating with a racist, anti-government militia group called the Flag Bearers. He doesn't agree with his dad's ideology, but he isn't speaking out against it either. Can Rebel find his voice when it's needed most?*

Thirteen-year-old Rebel Mercer lives in west Texas with his dad, Nathan, and his aunt Birdie. His dad is finally home after serving in the military, and Rebel longs for his approval. But something isn't right. His dad has PTSD, and lately he has been spending his time communicating with a racist, anti-government militia group called the Flag Bearers. Rebel doesn't agree with his dad's newfound ideas, but he turns a blind eye to them. So when his best friend Ajeet beats Rebel at a robotics tournament by using one of Rebel's pieces, Rebel begins to wonder if there's some truth to what his dad has been saying, and he lashes out at Ajeet.

Expelled from school, Rebel's dad takes him to the mountains of Oklahoma, where they meet up with the Flag Bearers. Soon his dad is engulfed in the group and its activities, and they're becoming more and more dangerous. When Rebel gets wind of a planned attack on an African American church, he knows that this group has gone too far and innocent people could get hurt. Can Rebel find his voice and stop the Flag Bearers from carrying out their plans before it's too late?

*The Inside Battle* is a gripping story of family, bravery, and speaking up for what's right from author Melanie Sumrow.

**Melanie Sumrow** received her undergraduate degree in religious studies and has maintained a longtime interest in studying social issues. Before becoming a writer, she worked as a lawyer for more than sixteen years, with many of her cases involving children and teens. Her first novel, *The Prophet Calls*, was published in November 2018. Melanie lives in Dallas with her husband, daughter, and one very spoiled dog. Follow her on Twitter and Instagram @melaniesumrow. melaniesumrow.com



### STARRED REVIEW, *SHELF AWARENESS*

"Sumrow takes on an incredibly fraught subject with care and restraint, remaining firmly within Rebel's point of view as a young teen who desperately longs for his macho father's esteem even as he wages an internal battle against his racist indoctrination...Entering Rebel's world will be an eye-opening, disturbing but rewarding experience for young readers."

"Powerful in its impact while remaining true to its middle-grade audience, Sumrow's latest is unafraid to fully explore how hate, misplaced anger, and racism can affect the relationship between a boy and his father."—*Booklist*



# COOKIES & MILK + ELLIS JOHNSON...

## A Middle Grade Series

By Shawn Amos

NA

Little, Brown BFYR/ US Editor: Lisa Yoskowitz

Final PDF Available

***COOKIES & MILK*: WINNER OF THE NAACP IMAGE AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING LITERARY WORK—YOUTH/TEENS!**

This joyful and heartfelt sequel to the NAACP Image Award-winning *Cookies & Milk* is a story of fame, self-confidence, and second chances, based on author Shawn Amos's memories of growing up the son of Wally "Famous" Amos.

After the overnight mega success of his dad's cookie store, twelve-year-old Ellis Johnson is on top of the world. He's met celebrities, strangers stop "the Cookie Kid" on the street, and he's even headed to NYC to be in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade with his dad. Ellis is ready for his star turn, playing harmonica on national television—until his big break turns into the most embarrassing moment of his life.

Ellis's confidence bubble has officially burst, and he tries to keep a low profile at school. To make matters worse, Ellis's dad is going gaga for a new girlfriend, and DJ Wishbone is pushed out of his radio station—and takes over Ellis's place in the store. Can Ellis help those he loves, carve out a place for himself in Dad's new life, and recover his confidence? This charming semi-autobiographic novel proves that anything is possible with good music, good friends, loving family, and great cookies.

Don't miss Ellis's first adventure in *Cookies and Milk*!

**Shawn Amos** is a world-renowned Blues musician who grew up the son of Wally Amos, aka Famous Amos: a pop culture icon, cookie mogul, and household name to this day. When Shawn's not touring or recording as The Reverend Shawn Amos, he works as a partner at NYC communications firm Hudson Cutler.

### Praise for *Cookies & Milk*:

"Offbeat and enchanting. The humorous narration is breezy and conversational ... there are also exquisite descriptions of musical transcendence, an uplifting community, and a gorgeous father-son relationship"—**Booklist**

ACM Agent: David Kuhn & Penny Moore

Page Count: 296, 296



"Full of heart and humor...A wholesome story that bridges generations."—**Kirkus**

"Shawn Amos has written a beautiful story of family and music, of growing up and having adventures, of business building and character building, that is at once very specific and universal. I love Cookies and Milk as much as I love cookies and milk." —**Lisa See, New York Times bestselling and award winning author of Snow Flower and the Secret Fan and Shanghai Girls**

"Energetic prose... Championing interpersonal bonds, be they found family or blood relatives, the narrative also emphasizes unconditional love and one community's impact on a boy shaping his identity." —**Publishers Weekly**

"Music, family dynamics, friends, and cookies are all delivered with imagery so strong that readers will taste those cookies."—**School Library Journal**

AEVITAS 38

# SPELLBINDERS 3: OVERPOWERED

## A Middle Grade Series

By Andrew Auseon

WE

Labyrinth Road / US Editor: Liesa Abrams

Final PDFs Available!

Rights Sold:

German (Loewe Verlag)

How far would you go to play the hero? One lonely seventh grader gets way more than he bargained for when he is swept into the fantasy quest of his gaming dreams in this magical illustrated series full of laughs, adventure, and twists.

Ben doesn't feel chosen by anybody—not by his friends, who haven't kept in touch since he moved after his parents' divorce, or by his mom, who's so busy he barely sees her. He spends all his time living in fantasy worlds and writing extensively planned adventure campaigns in his role-playing-game notebook. So when Niara, a character who could be right out of one of his favorite games, shows up and tells him he's destined to save her realm (like, foretold-by-a-prophecy destined), Ben has two possible moves: tell her the truth or play along. He's tired of feeling left behind, so his choice is clear—game on.

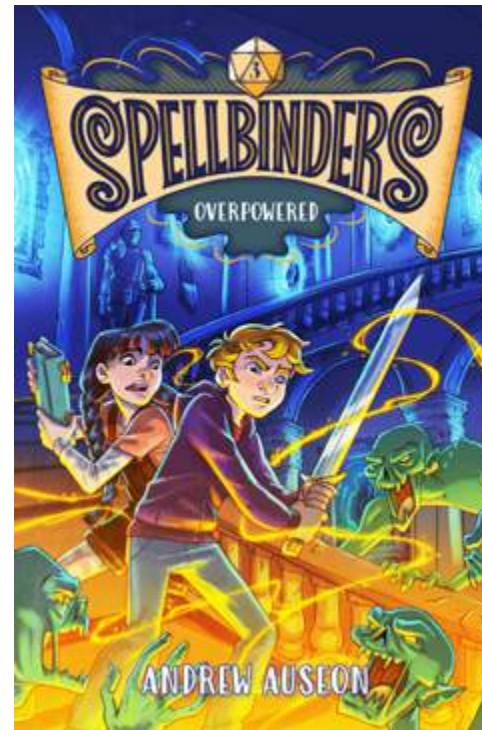
One interdimensional portal later, Ben is in full hero mode. At first, adventuring in Lux seems like a dream come true, but pretending to be the Chosen One—and lying to his new friends—isn't quite what he imagined it to be. And the more he learns about Lux and his quest, the more he realizes this is way beyond a game—and the rules seem to be changing as he goes. In fact, it might be time for him to write some new ones.

**Andrew Auseon** is an author of acclaimed novels for young people, including *Funny Little Monkey*, *Jo-Jo and the Fiendish Lot*, *Alienated* (with David O. Russell), and *Freak Magnet*, a Bank Street Best Book of the Year. His books have been nominated for numerous awards, including the ALA-YALSA Best Books for Young Adults, the Cybils Awards for Young Adult Fiction, and state book awards.



ACM Agent: Jennifer Gates & Erica Bauman

Page Count: 433, 388, 416



"Ben may only be pretending to be the 'Chosen One'—but I've definitely chosen this one as my favorite new fantasy series."—**Max Brallier, #1 New York Times bestselling author of the Last Kids on Earth**

"*Spellbinders* hooked me from the beginning, but it became one of my favorites around the first flying narwhals."—**James Riley, New York Times bestselling author of the Story Thieves series**

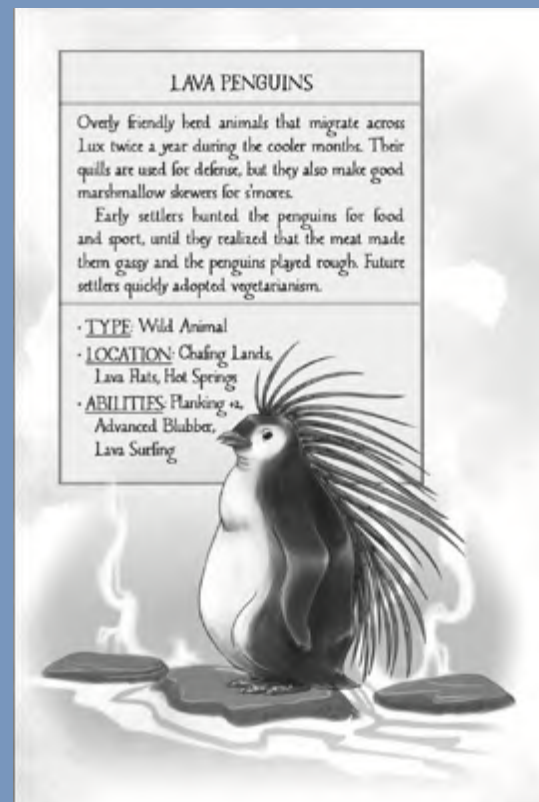
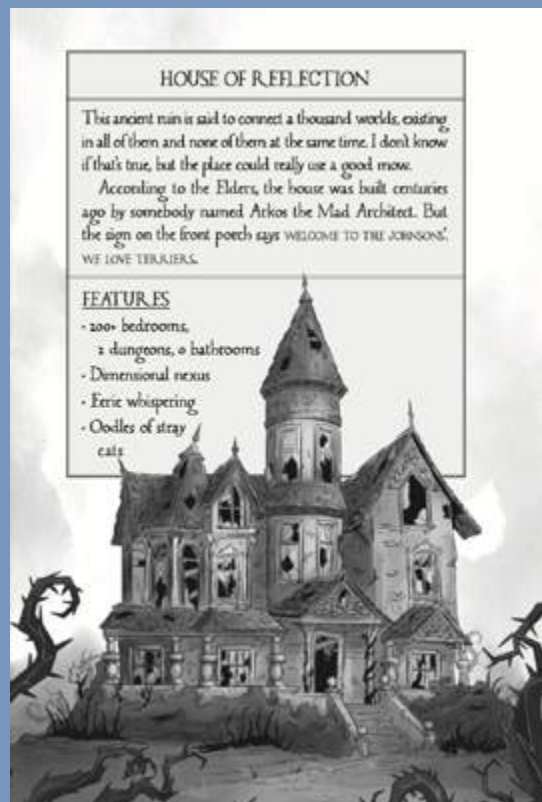
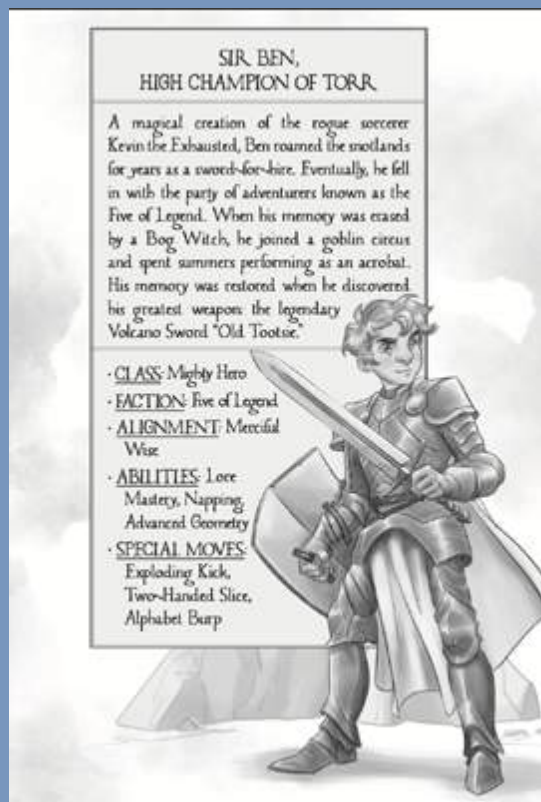
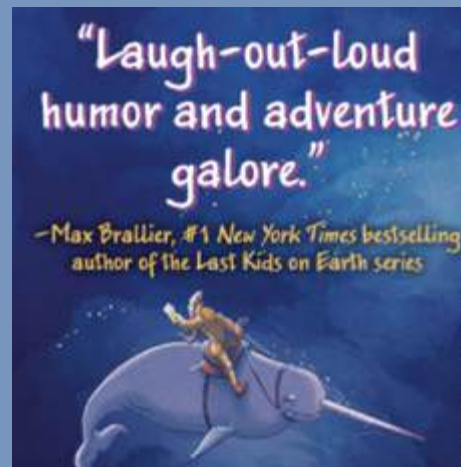
"Here comes a new series that brilliantly embodies the power of creativity...The book's immersive fantasy world of Lux is one I did not want to leave."  
—**George Jreije, author of the Shad Hadid series**

"To use the local parlance, a "ridonkulously" entertaining kickoff." —**Booklist**

"The themes of interpersonal relationships and change give the work emotional heft...A love letter to escapism and writing one's own destiny." —**Kirkus Reviews**

"Eendearing characters, madcap humor, and hijinks-filled adventure" —**PW**  
**AEVITAS 39**





# ASK EMMA

## A Middle Grade Series

By Sheryl and Carrie Berk

WE

Yellow Jacket (Little Bee) / US Editor: Sonali Fry

Final PDF Available

### Rights Sold:

Russian (Eksmo)

*Emma Woods knows just how to fix all her peers' problems-or so she thinks-in this first book in the brand-new middle grade series Ask Emma, from the bestselling creators behind the Cupcake Club series!*

When 13-year-old Emma Woods gets that tingling feeling in her fingertips, she knows she's on to a great idea-and starting an advice blog for her classmates at Austen Middle may be one of her most brilliant ones yet! Who better to give advice on friendship, style, school, and even crushes than someone who's going through it too?

But when *Ask Emma* goes live, she quickly realizes not everyone sees it that way. Suddenly, Emma is bombarded with peers asking her to help them postpone quizzes, get out of detention, and cut gym class short. This wasn't exactly what she had in mind. . . .What's worse, someone is posting hurtful comments, telling her to mind her own business. Despite her good intentions, Emma's blog seems to only be getting her-and her friends--deeper and deeper into trouble.

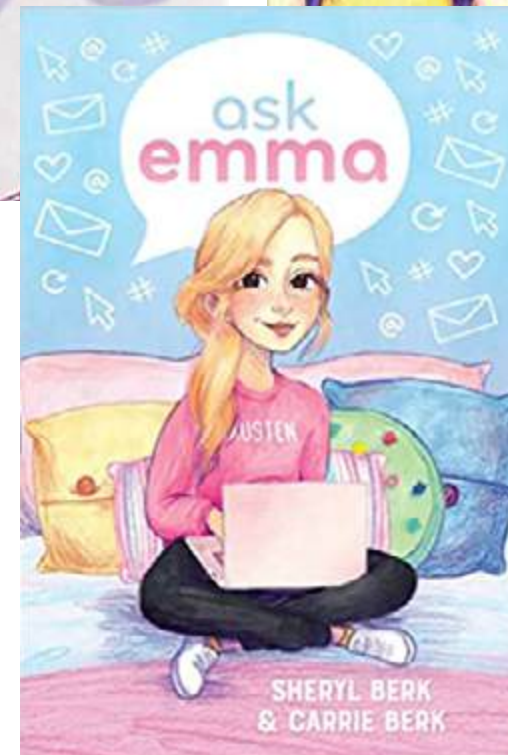
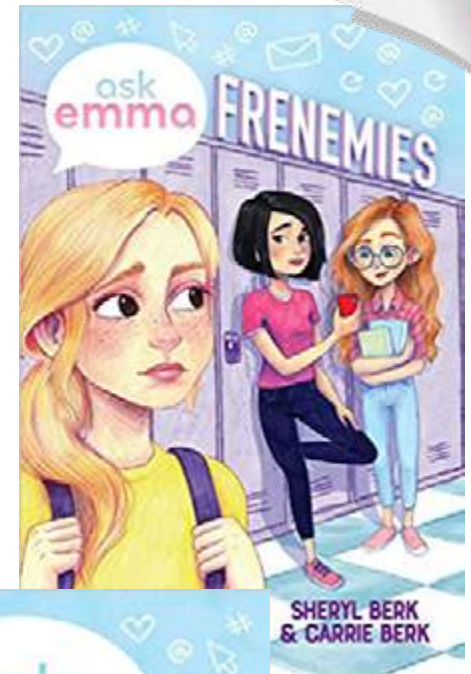
Will *Ask Emma* come to an end before it's really begun? Or can Emma find her voice, write what's in her heart, and truly stand up for what she believes in? This book includes an appendix on cyberbullying resources.

A *New York Times*-bestselling author several times over, **Sheryl Berk** is most proud of the books she has co-written with her daughter, Carrie, including *The Cupcake Club* and *Fashion Academy* series. A renowned ghostwriter, Sheryl has worked with Maddie Ziegler, Zendaya, Britney Spears, and others. Her number-one bestseller, *Soul Surfer* with Bethany Hamilton, was adapted into a major motion picture.

At only fifteen years old, **Carrie Berk** is already a bestselling children's book author, playwright, dancer, singer, actor, model and lifestyle blogger.

ACM Agent: Rick Richter

Page Count: 176, 199, 186





# WHERE THE LOST ONES GO

## A Middle Grade Novel

By Akemi Dawn Bowman

WE

FSG BFYR / US Editor: Trisha De Guzman

Final PDF Available

In this middle grade contemporary fantasy by critically acclaimed author Akemi Dawn Bowman, a twelve-year-old biracial Japanese American girl grieves the loss of her beloved grandma and attempts to contact her beyond the grave.

Eliot is grieving Babung, her paternal grandmother who just passed away, and she feels like she's the only one. She's less than excited to move to her new house, which smells like lemons and deception, and is searching for a sign, any sign, that ghosts are real. Because if ghosts are real, it means she can find a way back to Babung.

When Eliot chases the promise of paranormal activity to the presumably haunted Honeyfield Hall, she finds her proof of spirits. But these ghosts are losing their memory, stuck between this world and the next, waiting to cross over. With the help of Hazel, the granddaughter of Honeyfield's owner (and Eliot's new crush), she attempts to uncover the mystery behind Honeyfield Hall and the ghosts residing within.

And as Eliot fits the pieces together, she may just be able to help the spirits remember their pasts, and hold on to her grandmother's memory.

**Akemi Dawn Bowman** is a critically-acclaimed author who writes across genres. Her novels have received multiple accolades and award nominations, and her debut novel, *Starfish*, was a William C. Morris Award Finalist. She has a BA in social sciences from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and currently lives in Scotland with her husband and two children. She overthinks everything, including this bio. Visit Akemi online at her website or on Instagram.



"A beautiful and gripping tale of ghosts, friendships, and moving on without forgetting the ones who have mattered to us. Eliot is a heroine readers are sure to love." —**Katie Zhao, author of *Last Gamer Standing* and the *Winnie Zeng* series**

"Full of heart and captivating from start to finish, *Where the Lost Ones Go* takes the sharp pieces of grief and molds them into a story full of warm, radiant love. With both the fantastical elements and profoundness of a Miyazaki film, it's a story that'll stick with me for a long time." —**Lyla Lee, author of the *Mindy Kim* series**

# GENERATION MISFITS

## A Middle Grade Novel

By Akemi Dawn Bowman

WE

FSG BFYR / US Editor: Trisha De Guzman

Final PDF Available

*Generation Misfits is a heartwarming, fish-out-of-water own voices story about an eleven-year-old Japanese-American girl who finds her true friends—through the power of J-Pop!*

Previously homeschooled and an only child, Millie is attending a real school for the first time and dreams of finally having friends and a little bit of freedom—especially from her strict parents, who only seem to care about flute lessons. After a week of disastrous moments—like accidentally making enemies with the first chair flutist, failing her first test, and spilling her lunch tray all over the most popular girl in the 6th grade, Millie is pretty sure she’s burning bridges faster than she can mend them.

So when she joins an imitation band of her favorite J-Pop group, she’s thrilled to meet a group of misfits who quickly become like family. But Millie realizes that one of them is dealing with problems bigger than what notes to hit when it comes time for their performance. Can Millie help her friend, even when their problem feels too big to say out loud? Join Millie as she discovers the importance of friendship, acceptance, and staying true to yourself.

**Akemi Dawn Bowman** is a critically-acclaimed author who writes across genres. Her novels *Starfish*, *Summer Bird Blue* and *Harley in the Sky* have received multiple accolades and award nominations, and her debut novel, *Starfish*, was a William C. Morris Award Finalist.

“A sincere story about being true to oneself and others.”—*Kirkus*

“One of the great themes of the book is how everyone is going through something ... Bowman also gets into the good, bad, and ugly of what it means to be a friend. A great read for both misfits and insiders, this encourages readers to embrace their true selves.”—*Booklist*

“A heart-warming story about friendship that will have readers cheering for Millie and her friends.”—**Debbi Michiko Florence**, author of *Keep It Together*, **Keiko Carter**

ACM Agent: Penny Moore

Page Count: 341



**STARRED REVIEW, BULLETIN FOR THE CENTER OF CHILDREN'S BOOKS**  
“...the book is uncondescending and happily celebratory about the fandom experience and what it means to the kids. Never mind cool: sincerity and enthusiasm rule here in a book that believes fervently in the value and joy of friendship.”

**STARRED REVIEW, SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL**

“This character-centered coming-of-age novel features authentic dialogue with a fully realized cast of diverse characters, and celebrates the power, importance, and value of friendship.”

“A rhythmic, melodic story of friendship and bravery. You’ll not only root for Millie and her misfits—you’ll want to join them.”—**Ashley Herring Blake**, author of **Stonewall Honor Book** *Ivy Aberdeen’s Letter to the World*



# THE AGE OF DINOSAURS

## Middle Grade Nonfiction

By Steve Brusatte

NA

Quill Tree Books (HarperCollins) / US Editor: Karen Chaplin

Final PDF Available

### Rights Sold:

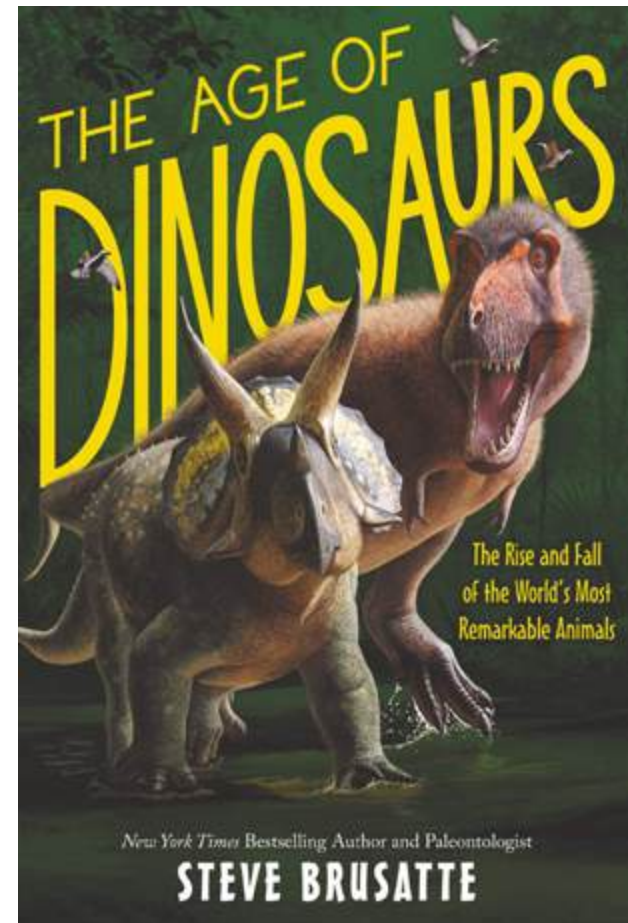
Turkish (Koç University Press) UK/Comm (Macmillan Children's)

*From the internationally bestselling author of The Rise and Fall of the Dinosaurs comes the story of the dinosaurs and the paleontologists who hunt them—for middle-grade readers!*

Based on the bestselling *The Rise and Fall of the Dinosaurs*, this new book, geared to the middle-grade reader and featuring more than 50 photographs and illustrations, will trace the fascinating evolutionary story of the dinosaurs from origin to extinction. Covering new discoveries made and what they add to our knowledge of the dinosaurs, Steve will also show young readers how paleontologists work in the field and in the lab. How do they choose where to look for dinosaurs? How do they dig up the bones? And how are they using new technologies including CAT scanners, particle accelerators and animation software to study them.

Steve brings this history of the field vividly to life by telling the story of such figures as the colorful Barnum Brown—among the first to discover fossils in the United States—and Walter Alvarez who found the evidence of the meteor that led to dinosaurs' extinction. Steve also give readers a front row seat to his own discoveries: from clay quarries in Poland and the windy coasts of Scotland, to the mountains of Transylvania and the deserts of North America. A glossary of terms, further reading resources, and dinosaur family trees will be included as a resource for younger readers.

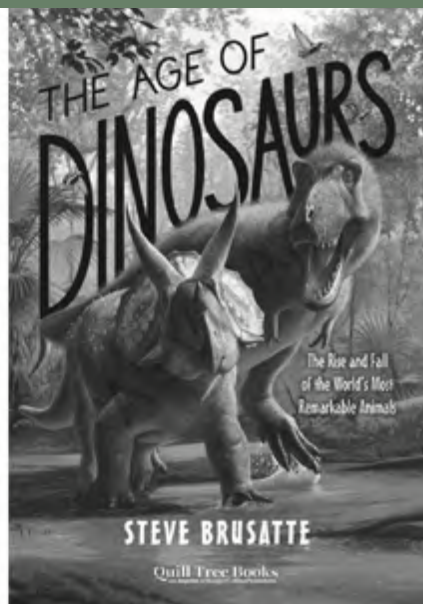
**Stephen L. Brusatte** is a 35-year-old paleontologist on the faculty at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland. Steve has discovered and named 10 new species of dinosaurs. A gifted science communicator, he is frequently featured on television, radio and at major festivals around the globe. He has previously written for children, including *Tinnochio Rex* and *Other Tyrannosaurs* (with Melissa Stewart) and *Day of the Dinosaurs*.



### Publishers of *The Rise and Fall of the Dinosaurs*:

Brazilian Portuguese (Record)  
Bulgarian (Ciela)  
Canadian French (Editions Quebec Amerique)  
Complex Chinese (Marco Polo)  
Dutch (Ambo Anthos)  
Estonian (Aripaev)  
French (Editions Quanto)  
German (Piper)  
Hungarian (Park Könyvkiadó)  
Italian (UTET)  
Japanese (Misuzu)

Korean (Woongjin ThinkBig)  
Polish (ZNAK)  
Portuguese (Contraponto)  
Romanian (Editura Art)  
Russian (Alpina)  
Simplified Chinese (United Sky)  
Spanish (PRH Spain)  
Thai (Bookscape)  
Turkish (Koc University Press)  
UK (Macmillan UK)





# SKELANOR, THE DECOMPOSER

## An Early Reader Graphic Novel

Written and Illustrated by Emily Ettlinger

WE

Penguin Workshop (PRH) / US Editor: Rachel Sonis

Final PDF Available

### Rights Sold:

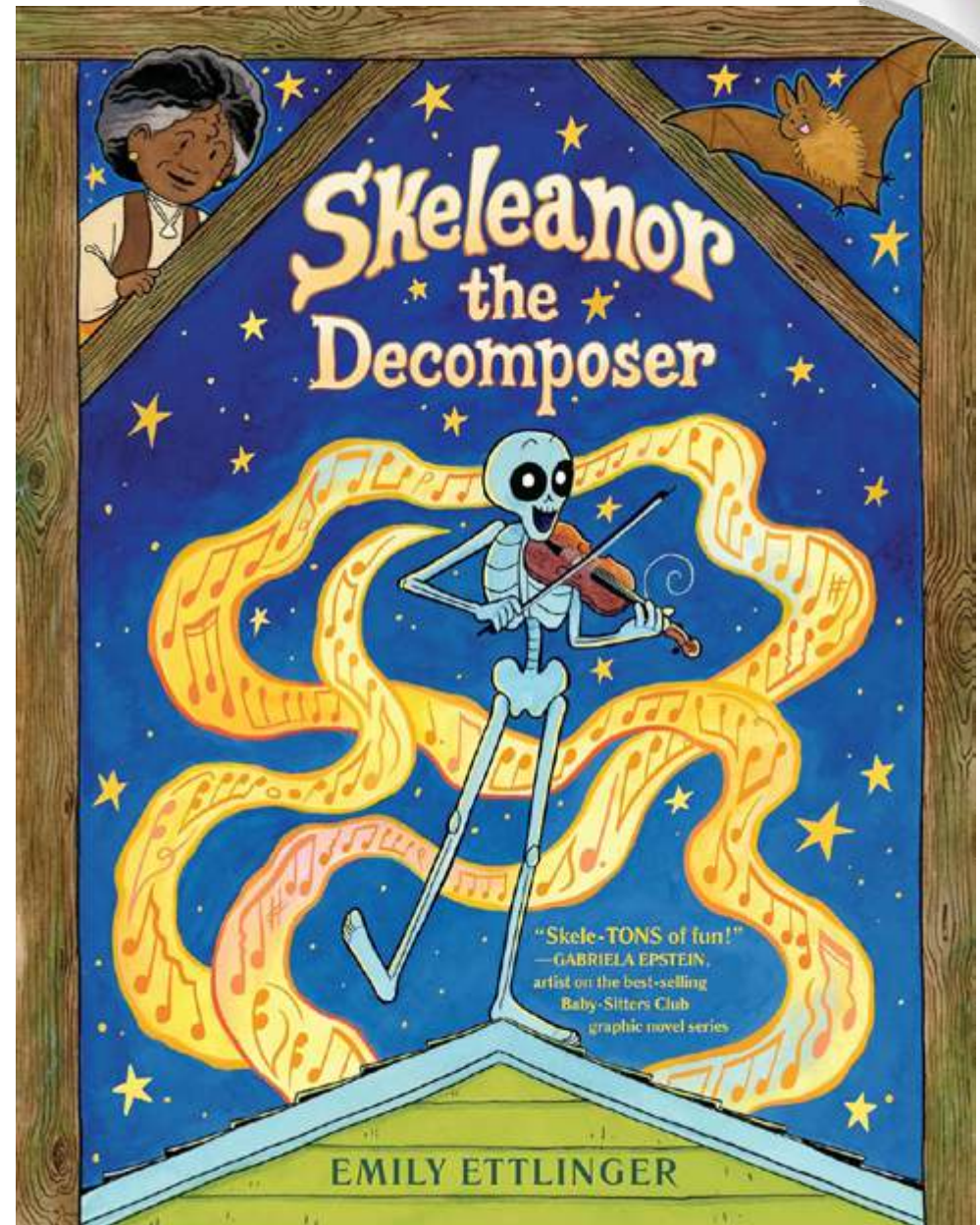
Spanish (Norma Editorial)

An instantly charming and vivid chapter-book graphic novel, starring a music-obsessed skeleton, Skeleanor, and her quest to find her sound (and her confidence) by debut creator Emily Ettlinger.

Skeleanor loves music more than life itself. There's just one problem: She has a bit more rattle than rhythm at the moment. No matter what type of instrument she plays—from the fiddle to the xylobone—she always seems to scare the people of Little Casketon away. But with the Little Casketon Summershine festival coming up, and the town band missing a player, maybe Skeleanor (along with the help of her best friend, Batima) could show people her skills and finally take center stage.

Hilarious and heartfelt, *Skeleanor the Decomposer* by debut author and illustrator Emily Ettlinger is a story about chasing your passions no matter what other people say. Sometimes, all you need is a dream, your friends, and a little music.

**Emily Ettlinger** is an artist from almost-DC, Maryland. When she's not drawing, you can find her working on one of an infinite number of sewing, furniture, or toy-making projects. She graduated from the Rhode Island School of Design with a degree in illustration. *Skeleanor the Decomposer* is her first graphic novel. Visit her online at [emiettt.com](http://emiettt.com).









# THE MAGIC MISFITS

## A Middle Grade Series

By Neil Patrick Harris

NA

Little, Brown BFYR / US Editor: Deidre Jones

Final PDF Available

### Rights Sold:

Australia (Hardie Grant)

Brazilian Portuguese (Vegeta & Riba)

Bulgarian (Soft Press)

Croatian (Knjigoteka)

Czech (Albatros)

Danish (Carlsen)

Dutch (Uitgeverij Moon)

Finnish (Aula & Co.)

French (Bayard)

German (Schneiderbuch)

Greek (Savalas)

Hebrew (Yeodith)

Hungarian (Maxim)

Italian (Il Castoro)

Japanese (Sayzansha Ltd.)

Korean (Jaum & Moeum)

Polish (ZNAK)

Portuguese (Zero a Oito)

Romanian (Editura Art)

Russian (AST)

Simplified Chinese (CITIC)

Slovak (Albatros)

Spanish (RBA Libros)

Turkish (Ybanci)

Vietnamese (Ha Giang)

UK (Egmont UK)

Ukrainian (Nebo)

**\*\*A #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING SERIES\*\***

*"I read this book with excitement, delight, and the increasing suspicion that it was going to make me disappear."*—Lemony Snicket, author of the bestselling A Series of Unfortunate Events

When street magician Carter runs away, he never expects to find friends and magic in a sleepy New England town. But like any good trick, things change instantly as greedy B.B. Bosso and his crooked crew arrive to steal anything they can get their sticky fingers on. After a fateful encounter with the local illusionist, Carter teams up with five other kids. And together, these six Magic Misfits will discover magic, adventure, friendship, and their own self-worth in this delightful new series.

**Neil Patrick Harris** is an accomplished actor, producer, director, host, and author.

*(Psst. Hey, you! Yes, you! Congratulations on reading this far. As a reward, I'll let you in on a little secret... This book isn't just a book. It's a treasure trove of secrets and ciphers and codes and even tricks. Keep your eyes peeled and you'll discover more than just a story—you'll learn how to make your own magic!)*

ACM Agent: Laura Nolan

Page Count: 253, 312, 312, 343



*"An earnest message about discovering the magic in the world and finding the family that suits you."*—**Kirkus Reviews**

*"A rollicking ride of a magical tale that's wholesomely suspenseful, values friendship, and applauds courage."*—**School Library Journal**

*"The approachable length and lively, funny writing will ensure this book, the first in a series, performs its own vanishing act from shelves."*—**Booklist**

*"[A] good choice for fans of Lemony Snicket and Pseudonymous Bosch. With an emphasis on friendship and individuality, this fast-paced and clever series opener should have readers eager to check out future installments."*—**Publishers Weekly**

AEVITAS 48



## FOUR

Here you ever been to a night that you have literally been unable to turn away? Maybe it was a sunset that filled the sky with splatters of color just as the moon rose over the horizon. Or maybe a rare animal somewhere out in the wild fearlessly approached you to make sure you were friendly. Or maybe it was a musician who was able to play five different instruments all at once. For Carter, seeing Mr. Vernon in the midst of the crowded carnival was just that spectacular.

The man wore a black-and-white suit, with his sleeves rolled up at the elbows. A cape hung from his

• 44 •

### THE MAGIC MISFITS

shoulders, black on the outside and shiny red on the inside. His head was crowned with a top hat, floating on a cloud of white curls, which contrasted against his pitch-black mustache.

Yet it wasn't merely the outfit that caught Carter's eye. It was what the stranger was doing with a coin.

The quarter rolled across his knuckles, back and forth. But each time it got to the edge of his hand, it vanished, reappearing at the other side *(instantaneously)*.



### MR. PATRICK HARRIS

everything he knew. It turned out Carter was a natural-born magician.

Soon enough, Carter was doing all of Uncle Sly's tricks—only better. Carter had a special talent. His fingers were long and his tendons were taut, which gave him fast hands and expert card-shuffling skills. He could make coins vanish and reappear across the room. He could materialize playing cards out of thin air. He even revised Uncle Sly's *ice cube* trick, using ice cubes instead of coins (which was rather impressive, given the size of the average kitchen countertop).

Now, Uncle Sly wasn't the type of man to celebrate his young nephew's ability to change up his eldritch and beer illusion, but he was smart enough to notice an opportunity when it was sneaking ice cubes right in front of him. So on Carter's birthday, instead of throwing him a party, Uncle Sly decided to test him. He sent the boy up to a random couple on the street to perform his very first show.

As Carter approached, he nervously slicked his blond mop of hair to the side, pinched his pale cheeks, and opened his blue eyes wide. The couple seemed happy to stop for him. First, Carter presented a deck of cards and asked the woman to choose one and keep

• 45 •



### MR. PATRICK HARRIS

the horizon, turning the few wispy clouds overhead a lovely fuchsia as the dome of blue sky darkened into evening. He'd been asleep for a long time.

A sign standing along a nearby road said: WELCOME TO MINERAL WELLS.



### THE MAGIC MISFITS

Carter climbed back up the ladder to get a better view of the town. From the top of the train car, he could see a quiet community blanketed with twinkling lights that were spread out to the north and east of the tracks. Far beyond the grid of streets, a sprawling sea of buildings sat on a hill overlooking the town.



#### STEPS (BEFORE YOU HAVE AN AUDIENCE):

1. Fasten the thread to the top of the stick.



2. Fasten the other end of the thread to a button on your shirt.



#### STEPS (AFTER YOU HAVE AN AUDIENCE):

3. Ask an audience member for a ring. If you already have one, give it to an audience member to inspect for any trickery. Then ask for it back.



4. Put the ring over the top of the stick, moving it slowly (so no one sees the thread!).



5. Move the stick away from your body slowly. The ring should go up. Now move the wand back toward you. The ring will go down. You now have complete control over whether the ring moves up or down the stick—simply by moving the stick back and forth!





# THE PRINCE OF NOWHERE

## A Middle Grade Novel

By Rochelle Hassan

NA

Harper Children's / US Editor: Megan Ilnitzki

Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

German (dtv)

Russian (Eksmo)

Polish (Nowa Baśń)

A JUNIOR LIBRARY GUILD GOLD STANDARD COLLECTION!

*This sweeping middle grade fantasy debut by Rochelle Hassan follows Roda and Ignis, who embark on an adventure filled with magic and mystery—perfect for fans of Howl's Moving Castle by Diana Wynne Jones.*

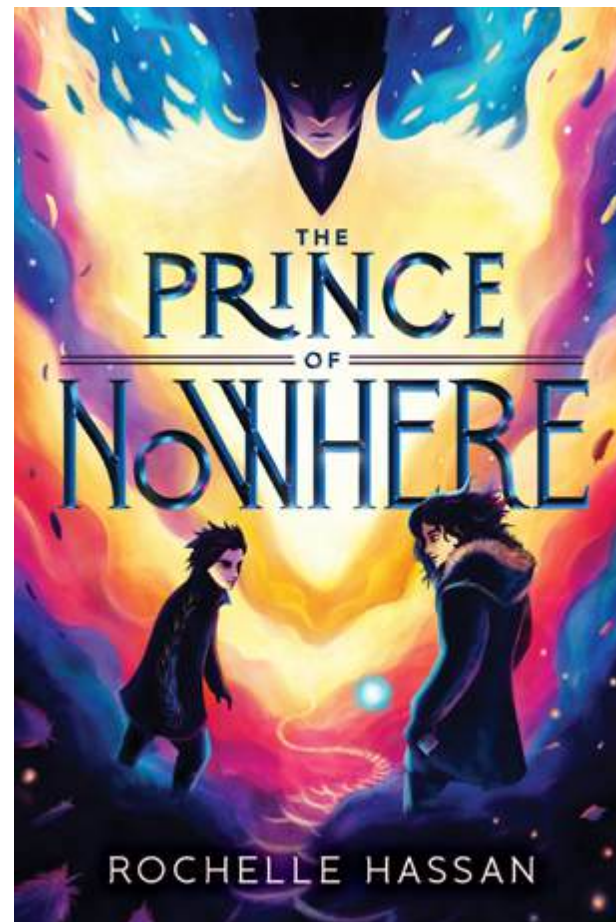
Roda isn't afraid of the monsters that roam the wilds of the Aerlands. She's safe in her small town, which is surrounded by a wall of freezing, enchanted mist that keeps the beasts away. So when Roda rescues an injured crow on the instruction of her secret pen pal, Anonymous—whose letters arrive without warning and correctly predict the future—she's surprised to learn she's brought one of the so-called monsters home. Because her crow is really a shape-shifting boy named Ignis. Ignis doesn't remember where he was going before he crashed. But Anonymous brought him and Roda together for a reason—and the only way to find out what Anonymous wants is to follow the trail of baffling clues in Roda's letters. Their perilous journey leads them into the mist and beyond, to a mysterious place called Nowhere. But Ignis has secrets, and the farther they get, the more Roda doubts she can trust him. As a nefarious force closes in, they'll have to put aside their differences and work together. For they might be each other's only defense against an enemy who threatens their past, present, and future.

**Rochelle Hassan** is the author of the middle grade fantasy, *The Prince of Nowhere*, a Junior Library Guild Gold Standard selection. Rochelle is also the author of a YA trilogy from Macmillan, entitled *The Buried and the Bound*.

"Hassan grounds complex worldbuilding and characterizations with easily digestible writing and fluid dialogue. This keenly plotted fantasy debut blends a tranquil contemporary world with an epically time-rending adventure." — *Publishers Weekly*

ACM Agent: Erica Bauman

Page Count: 325



### STARRED REVIEW, *KIRKUS*

"Hassan's visually rich and sure-handed prose, strong characters, realistic dialogue, and page-turning plotting offer a compelling adventure with a philosophical heart. A marvelous blend of fantasy and time-travel speculation with a seasoning of steampunk."

"Hassan's debut title is a wondrous and spellbinding adventure filled with many magical beings and memorable characters. The cinematic world building and pacing will enchant readers, and the multiple twists will leave them on the edge of their seats." — *Booklist*

"Hassan's debut is a wonderful blend of speculative genres, featuring a rich world and complex characters readers are sure to love. A highly recommended purchase, excellent for fans of Studio Ghibli, Rick Riordan, and Madeleine L'Engle alike." — *School Library Journal*

AEVITAS 50

# SARDINES

## A Middle Grade Novel

By Sashi Kaufman

### Quill Tree / Final PDF Available

In this affecting middle grade debut, perfect for fans of Erin Entrada Kelly and Lynda Mullaly Hunt, a boy finds unexpected friendship in a motley group of kids following a devastating loss.

Nothing's been the same since Lucas's older brother died. After the accident, Lucas's mom disappeared without any warning, and his dad is struggling to cope. Lucas is pretty much alone—except for the other kids he meets at his middle school's after-care program.

There's Cat, the star athlete; Robbie, the goofball; Anna, the popular girl; and Finn, the mysterious new kid. Between games of Sardines, a reverse hide-and-seek, the kids realize that each group member has a secret wish. If they work together, the group might be able to help make each person's dream come true. But for that to happen, Lucas will have to find the strength to trust his new friends with his family's secrets.

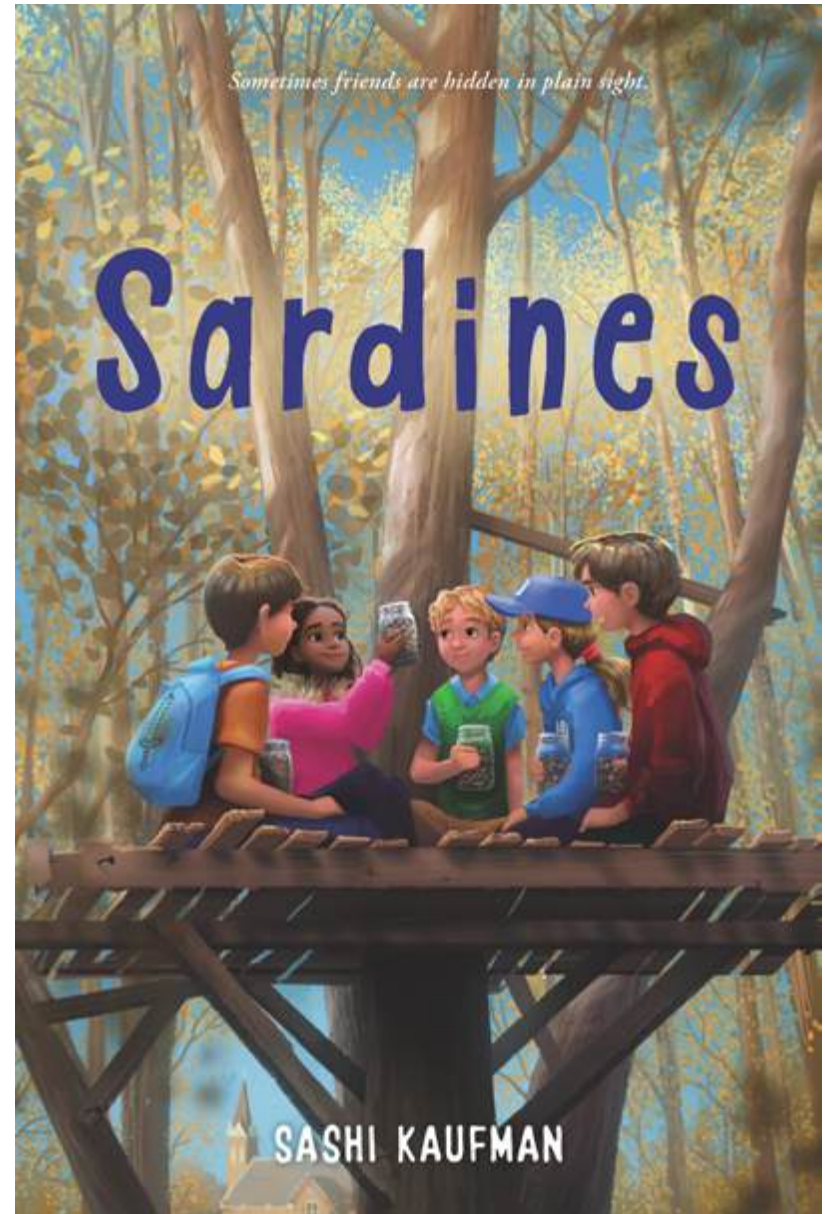
**Sashi Kaufman** writes books for kids and young adults, including *The Other Way Around* and *Wired Man and Other Freaks of Nature*. She's a middle school teacher in southern Maine, where she lives with her family. When she's not reading or writing, she likes to hike, explore, and eat ice cream. Visit her online at [www.sashikaufman.com](http://www.sashikaufman.com).

"Full of honesty, humor, and hope. You will fall in love with these characters and root for them each step of the way." — **Ann Braden**, author of *The Benefits of Being an Octopus*

"At once tender and funny, honest and smart. The characters will squeeze into your heart." — **Megan Frazer Blakemore**, award-winning author of *The Water Castle*

"Strong. A thoughtful and compassionate story of friends and family." — **Kirkus Reviews**

"Fresh and relatable." — **Publishers Weekly**



\* A Bank Street Children's Best Books of the Year \*  
\* 2023 Maine Literary Award Winner \*



# SARAH, PLAIN AND TALL

## A Middle Grade Novel

By Patricia MacLachlan

HarperCollins / Final PDF Available

### Rights Sold (\*license expired):

Arabic (Nahdet Misr)\*

Complex Chinese (3 & 3)\*

French (Gallimard Jeunesse)\*

German (Sauerlander)\*

Hebrew (Am Oved)

Italian (Salani)\*

Japanese (Genius Education)\*

Korean (Longtail Inc.)

Kyrgyz (RenArt Publishing)\*

Polish (Muza)\*

Romanian (Editura Art)

Russian (AST)\*

Simplified Chinese (China South  
Booky Culture Media, Ltd.)

Spanish (Planeta)

Swedish (Raben & Sjogrens)\*

Thai (Amarin)\*

### WINNER OF THE NEWBERY MEDAL

This beloved Newbery Medal–winning book is the first of five books in Patricia MacLachlan's chapter book series about the Witting family.

Set in the late nineteenth century and told from young Anna's point of view, *Sarah, Plain and Tall* tells the story of how Sarah Elisabeth Wheaton comes from Maine to the prairie to answer Papa's advertisement for a wife and mother. Before Sarah arrives, Anna and her younger brother Caleb wait and wonder. Will Sarah be nice? Will she sing? Will she stay?

This children's literature classic is perfect for fans of Laura Ingalls Wilder's *Little House on the Prairie* books, historical fiction, and timeless stories using rich and beautiful language. *Sarah, Plain and Tall* gently explores themes of abandonment, loss and love.

This modern classic is a strong choice for independent reading.

**Patricia MacLachlan** (1938-2022) was the celebrated author of many timeless books for young readers, including *Sarah, Plain and Tall*, winner of the Newbery Medal. She was also the author of many beloved picture books, a number of which she cowrote with her daughter, Emily.



*"Did Mama sing every day?"*

*Caleb asks his sister Anna.*

*"Every-single-day," she answers.*

*"Papa sang, too."*

Their mother died the day after Caleb was born. Their house on the prairie is quiet now, and Papa doesn't sing anymore. Then Papa puts an ad in the paper, asking for a wife, and he receives a letter from one Sarah Elisabeth Wheaton, of Maine. Papa, Anna, and Caleb write back. Caleb asks if she sings.

Sarah decides to come for a month. She writes Papa: I will come by train. I will wear a yellow bonnet. I am plain and tall, and Tell them I sing. Anna and Caleb wait and wonder. Will Sarah be nice? Will she like them? Will she stay?

# LATINITAS

## Middle Grade Nonfiction

By Juliet Menéndez

NA

Henry Holt and Co. BFYR (Macmillan) - English and Spanish US rights  
Final PDF Available

Dream big with the Latinitas in *Latinitas: Celebrating 40 Big Dreamers*.

Discover how 40 influential Latinas became the women we celebrate today! In this collection of short biographies from all over Latin America and across the United States, Juliet Menéndez explores the first small steps that set the Latinitas off on their journeys. With gorgeous, hand-painted illustrations, Menéndez shines a spotlight on the power of childhood dreams.

From Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor to singer Selena Quintanilla to NASA's first virtual reality engineer, Evelyn Miralles, this is a book for aspiring artists, scientists, activists, and more. These women followed their dreams—and just might encourage you to follow yours!

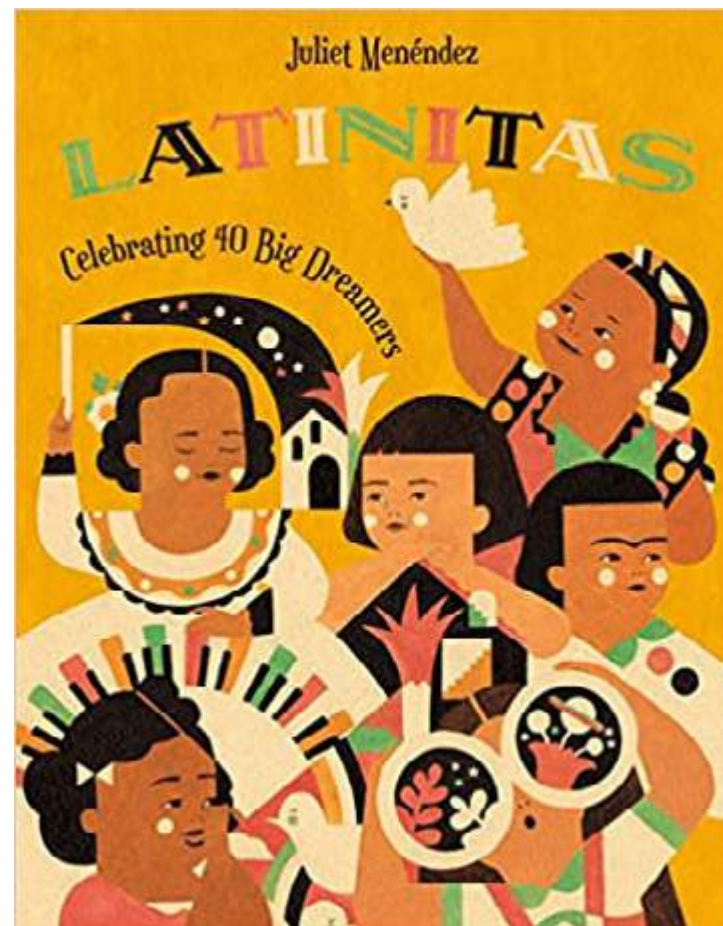
The book features Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, Juana Azurduy de Padilla, Policarpa Salavarrieta, Rosa Peña de González, Teresa Carreño, Zelia Nuttall, Antonia Navarro, Matilde Hidalgo, Gabriela Mistral, Juana de Ibarbourou, Pura Belpré, Gumerinda Páez, Frida Kahlo, Julia de Burgos, Chavela Vargas, Alicia Alonso, Victoria Santa Cruz, Claribel Alegría, Celia Cruz, Dolores Huerta, Rita Moreno, Maria Auxiliadora da Silva, Mercedes Sosa, Isabel Allende, Susana Torre, Julia Alvarez, Sandra Cisneros, Sonia Sotomayor, Rigoberta Menchú Tum, Mercedes Doretti, Sonia Pierre, Justa Canaviri, Evelyn Miralles, Selena Quintanilla, Berta Cáceres, Serena Auñón, Wanda Díaz-Merced, Marta Vieira da Silva, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, and Laurie Hernandez.

LATINITAS is also available for Spanish rights, outside of the US.

**Juliet Menéndez** is a Guatemalan American author and illustrator living between Guatemala City, Paris, and New York. While working as a bilingual teacher in New York City's public schools, Juliet noted the need for more books that depicted children like the ones in her classrooms. She studied design and illustration in Paris and now spends her days with her watercolors and notebook. *Latinitas* is her first children's book.

ACM Agent: Adriana Domínguez

Page Count: 102



### STARRED REVIEW, *KIRKUS*

"Will inspire young children to follow their own dreams . . . This book belongs in any child's hands."

"What will pull young people in is that Menéndez depicts these women as children (Latinitas), both visually and anecdotally . . . What will keep these readers engaged is how their soon-to-be heroines bloom into their future selves on the page." —*The New York Times Book Review*

"This is an engaging and important book that should stimulate young Latinas to become the best they can be—and I am delighted to be in such good company!"  
—**Susana Torre, acclaimed architect featured in *Latinitas***





## • Antonia Navarro •

1910-1991

From the time Antonia was a young girl growing up in El Salvador, she was already questioning the things people said. When her brothers' teachers told her "Girls aren't smart enough to do math," Antonia went ahead and tried it anyway. Watching her single mother raise her and her brothers, Antonia learned to believe in herself.

She taught herself algebra, technical drawing, and trigonometry, too. She hiked through the clouds, studying the patterns of volcanoes and the levels of the sea. Then, in 1951, although only men were allowed to attend universities, Antonia fought her way into the engineering school at the Universidad de El Salvador. It was there that she became fascinated with the moon.

At night from her bed, she would chart each of the moon's phases. What she wanted to see most was the harvest moon she had been told about in class. But she never saw it. "Could it be," she wondered as she calculated each angle carefully, "that this moon can't actually be seen by everybody?" With proof after proof, it became clear there were missing facts that the European astronomers had failed to explore. One day, she announced to her professors, "There is no harvest moon in El Salvador or in many other countries around the world!"

"Who does this senorita think she is?" her professors said. But seeing her thesis with detailed calculations and drawings, they had to agree. Antonia had made history. Her proofs were published in the newspaper, and she became the first woman in all of Central America to graduate from university! News of her discovery traveled all around the world, reminding mathematicians and scientists alike how important it is to challenge assumptions when new facts come to light.

• • •



## • Celia Cruz •

October 21, 1925-July 16, 2013

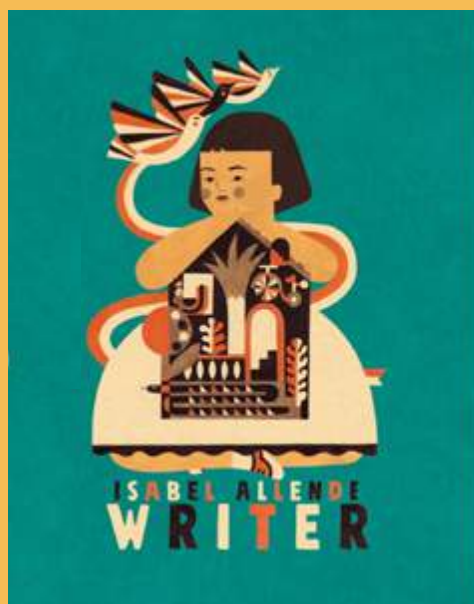
From the time she was a little girl, music was the most important thing in Celia's life. She loved every type there was: the songs her mother sang while making fresh plantains, the beats from her neighbor's banda heard down the street, and the boleros she would hear while walking along the streets of Havana, Cuba. And she loved to sing. She knew every song on the radio by heart and was happy to sing for anyone who wanted to listen.

But one night, she discovered her very favorite kind of music. Inspired by the sounds of the carnival, walking through her window, she snuck out with her tie to join in the fun. She couldn't believe what she saw! Everyone was dressed up in sparkling costumes and dancing and singing to salsa music everywhere she went. It felt like magic. And when she got back home, she had the most wonderful dream she had ever had: she was wearing a flowing white dress and she was the queen of the carnival!

Celia never forgot that dream, and when she grew up, she put on that beautiful white dress she had imagined and auditioned to sing for her favorite salsa band, La Sonora Matancera. They fell in love with her voice, and before long everyone in Cuba did, too. Her dream came true! Only, instead of becoming the queen of the carnival, she became the salsa queen. "Antonia" she would shout out. Life was sweet.

Celia's voice became the sound of salsa, and she was Grammy Award after Grammy. She traveled all over the world giving concerts, moved to the United States, recorded more than seventy albums, and even got her own star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame! To this day, if there is salsa dancing at a party and it feels like "La vida es un carnaval," one of her songs is sure to be playing.

• • •



## • Isabel Allende •

1928-present

Isabel grew up in her abuelita's house in Chile, which was filled with wild pets and the ghosts her abuelita summoned during stances. At night, her abuelita loved to recite epic poems and fabulous folktales. For Isabel, it was the most magical place.

But when Isabel was ten, her mother remarried and the two of them had to follow her stepfather as he traveled the world for work. Isabel packed every object, small and precious, of the rooms at her abuelita's house into her heart. And during lonely, homesick nights, it would travel back there in her dreams.

Right when Isabel was going to finally return to her abuelita's house, a brutal political coup in Chile forced her to stay abroad for her safety. Far away and missing her home more than ever, she received a phone call: "Your abuelita is very sick." With her heart breaking, she wrote him a long letter filled with all the memories she had packed away from her childhood. She wrote page after page to her dear abuelita, traveling through her words to the times and places that made up her extraordinary life and weaving in her own fantastic imagination. By the time she finished, she had written over five hundred pages!

That very long letter became her first book, *The House of the Spirits*. It was an epic as her grandmother's poems and as magical as the folktales he told. This book and the twenty-four she has written since have been translated into forty-two different languages! So even though her grandmother is no longer alive, people from all over the world get the chance to know her and all the other wonderful characters Isabel brings back to life.

• • •



## • Lauren Zoe Hernandez •

June 6, 2000-present

In Lauren's house, music framed the days. It marked each new year, when her family and friends would dance right up until the ball dropped at midnight. It marked weekend mornings, when it was time to snuggle up and relax with her pup and her jazz records. And it even marked the cleaning parties, when everyone in her family would drop their mops and brooms to dance.

So, when Lauren started taking gymnastics at five years old, she naturally thought: let's put her routines to music. Music helped her remember all the different steps and flips. It kept her from knowing how and when each of her moves came together. But one day, just as she was about to turn on the music for her beam routine, her coach stopped her. "Today, I want you to do your routine in silence," she said. "It's the way it's done in competitions."

Everyone in the gym stopped to watch, and Lauren started to feel shaky. She felt like she couldn't move. But as she felt the beam under her feet, she had an idea. It felt a little strange at first, but she let the sound of her hands and feet hitting the beam mark the beat. She gave each twist, turn, and jump its own rhythm. And before she knew it, she had done her whole routine perfectly!

Lauren went on to do many perfect routines following her own beat. She made it all the way from her small gym in New Jersey to the Olympics, where she won silver and gold medals. And, since she had always loved to dance, she tried out for Dancing with the Stars and won that competition, too! Now, as she thinks of all of the wonderful possibilities for what she will do next, she feels strong knowing that she has everything she needs inside of herself. Whether she decides to compete a second time in the Olympics, goes on to become a dancer or an actress, or discovers a new path she hasn't even dreamed up yet, she knows, as she decided that day for her first silent routine, "I got this!"

• • •

# TWO GIRLS, A CLOCK AND A CROOKED HOUSE

## A Middle Grade Novel

By Michael Poore

WE

Random House BFYR / US Editor: Caroline Abbey

Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

Bulgarian (Kibea)

*Combine the thought-provoking time travel of When You Reach Me with the humorous storytelling of Lemony Snicket, and you get a wholly original journey through time, space, and the depths of the human heart.*

This is a story of things that are not possible.

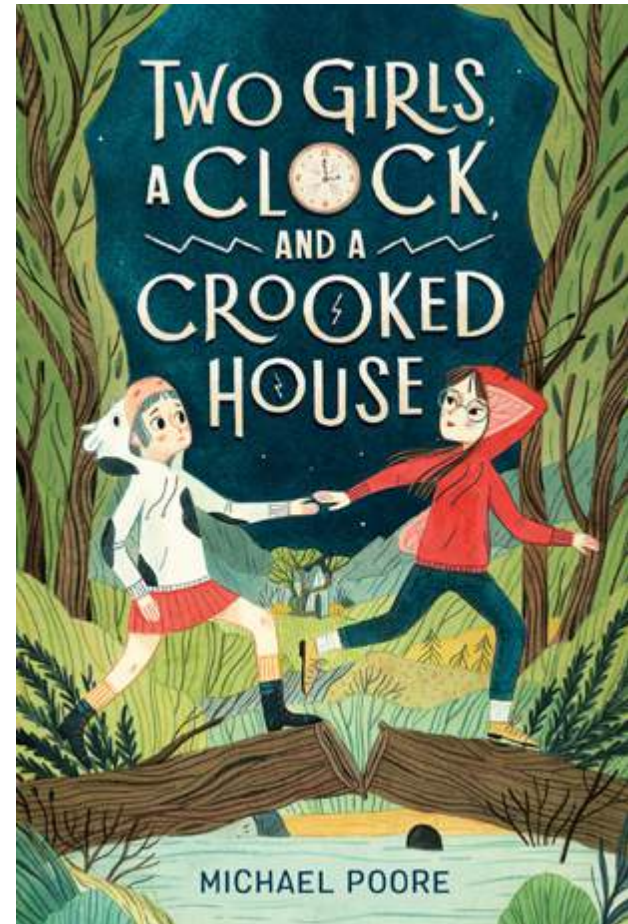
It's not possible for Amy to see spirits.  
(She does.)

It's not possible that Amy and Moo can  
communicate using only their minds.  
(They do.)

It's not possible to time-travel.  
(Yet.)

And it's definitely not possible that  
witches exist.  
(Seriously?)

None of these things are possible.  
(Until now . . .)



“This fun middle grade novel will appeal to reluctant readers and those who prefer their stories on the weird side....Entertaining and engaging.” —*School Library Journal*

“Humorous dialogue and descriptions keep readers on their toes.... Kids will take pleasure in navigating Amy and Moo’s wacky world.” —*Booklist*

“With its hodgepodge of science, magic, lightweight natural philosophy, self-aware humor, and language play, this novel offers some quirky and amusing science fantasy.” —*Bulletin*





# VINCENT AND THE GRANDEST HOTEL ON EARTH

## A Middle Grade Novel

By Lisa Nicol

Penguin Random House Australia

Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

German (dtv)

Russian (Exem)

*Everyone deserves a bit of grand . . .*

From ordinary to extraordinary, *Vincent and the Grandest Hotel on Earth* is a marvellous ride that will delight readers of all ages.

Perched high on the snowy slopes of the Mabombo Ranges lies The Grandest Hotel on Earth. It's wilder than the African savanna, more fantastical than Disneyland and more magical than Shangri-la.

So when ordinary eleven-year-old Vincent meets the hotel's young Florence he sets off on a path leading into his most wondrous dreams.

But of course, dreams have a funny way of taking strange and surprising turns and, before long, Vincent is torn between right and wrong, friendship and family and the most enticing of desires – to see into the future . . .

Warning: this book includes insanely cute pocket dogs, travelling by llama or jet pack, chocolate fountains and shoes that play Bach.

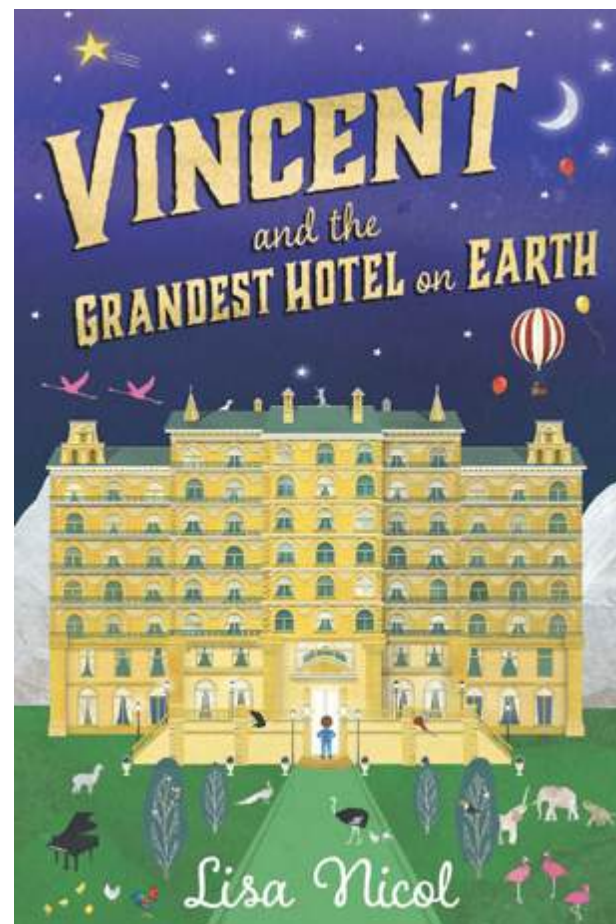
**Lisa Nicol** is an internationally published children's author and sometimes documentary-maker. Her feature *Wide Open Sky* won the Audience Award for Best Documentary at the Sydney Film Festival. Her first novel, *Dr Boogaloo and The Girl Who Lost Her Laughter* was a CBCA Notable, Shenzhen Reading Month, Top Ten Children's Books of the Year 2021.

"This is absolutely GRAND! I adored it. What a wonderful read!"—**Karen Foxlee**, author of *Lenny's Book of Everything*

"Wondrous and uplifting." —*Sunday Telegraph*

"Highly recommended." —*Buzz Words*

ACM Agent: Amy Thrall Flynn



"So alive with magic and wonder ... simply impossible to resist. This is a charming and surprisingly moving delight for readers aged eight and older seeking more of Nevermoor's capriciousness, with all the sensitivity of Kate DiCamillo's best."

—**Phil Lesnie**, Books+Publishing

"A grand read from start to finish with a touch of magic thrown into the mix!"

—*Impuse Gamer*

"An epic and addictive adventure for junior readers... truly, truly magical"

—*Kids' Book Review*

"This novel so engaging it is difficult to stop reading it until the very end!"

—**Patricia Halsall**, *Magpies*

# THE WHAT ON EARTH INSTITUTE OF WONDER

## A Middle Grade Novel

By Lisa Nicol

Penguin Random House Australia

Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

Simplified Chinese (CITIC)

A mind-boggling expedition into the secrets of the Animal Kingdom with only an invisible map of the human heart as a guide. (Unless, of course, you count the talking parrot.) What on Earth could possibly go wrong...?

Sal has always had an affinity with animals – especially the lost kind. But when two rare and endangered creatures appear out of nowhere, life takes a detour into strange and uncharted territory...

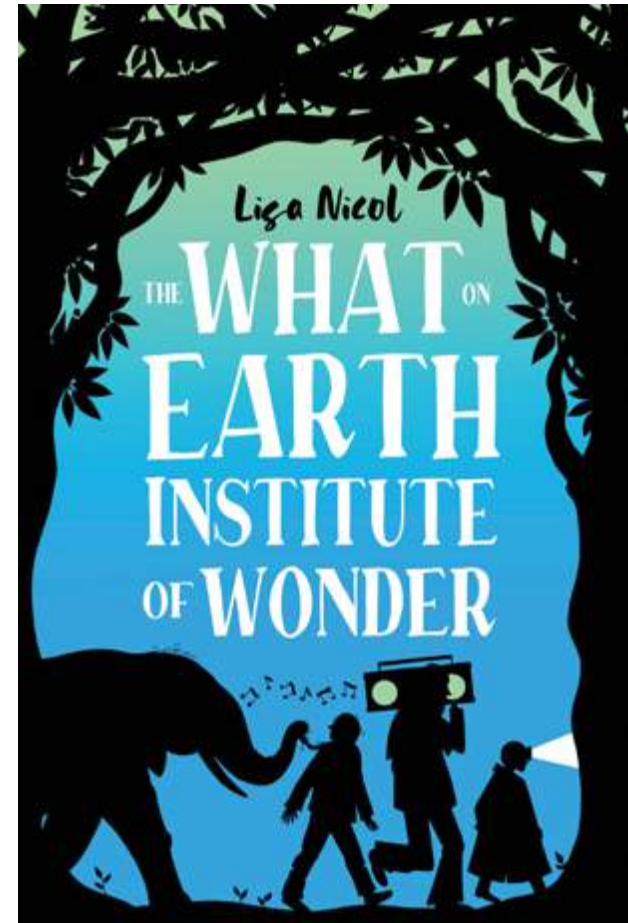
One elephant, one kakapo, one unlicensed teenage driver, one boy waiting for the world to end and a twelve-year-old girl with a very special gift.

Lisa Nicol is an internationally published children's author and sometimes documentary-maker. Her feature *Wide Open Sky* won the Audience Award for Best Documentary at the Sydney Film Festival. Her first novel, *Dr Boogaloo and The Girl Who Lost Her Laughter* was a CBCA Notable, Shenzhen Reading Month, Top Ten Children's Books of the Year 2021 and is currently being adapted for the screen. Her other works include the hugely popular *Vincent and The Grandest Hotel on Earth* and *The What on Earth Institute of Wonder*. Lisa lives in Sydney with two out of her three children and a dusty old dog who smells worse than an elephant fart.

"I could not love this book any more! @lisanicolauthor has once again blown our minds with a story so fabulously bonkers and so beautifully written that I had to just lie in a dark room for a good while and appreciate what I had just read..... definitely in the running for one of my favourite books of the year!"—**Rachel Robson, Children's literacy specialist, Gleebooks**

"Charming and surprising and mysterious and whacky. It hooked me from the beginning... One of those books you just put down and sigh with satisfaction."  
—**Middlegrade Mavens Podcast**

ACM Agent: Amy Thrall Flynn



"Will make readers smile, yearn, feel sad and most of all wonder... A quirky, heart-felt, unique story of friendship, family and conviction that is sure to be eaten up by kids aged 9-13." —**CBCA's Reading time**

"[Nicol's] writing wraps around me like a warm doona and I slip immediately back into my childhood" — **One More Page Podcast**

"An intoxicating mix of wonderment, cheek and incredible heart; a strange combination but one that makes her middle grade novels fulfilling and memorable. *The What on Earth Institute of Wonder* perpetuates this premise while managing to incorporate an African forest elephant and a New Zealand Kakapo into the same sentence, never mind the same Kombi van!"  
—**Dimity Powell, Dim's Write Stuff**



# PROPERTY OF THE REBEL LIBRARIAN

## A Middle Grade Novel

By Allison Varnes

WE

Yearling (PRH) / US Editor: TK

Final PDF Available

Celebrate the freedom to read with this timely, empowering middle-grade debut about a girl who fights back against banned books in the spirit of *The View from Saturday* or *Frindle*.

When twelve-year-old June Harper's parents discover what they deem an inappropriate library book, they take strict parenting to a whole new level. And everything June loves about Dogwood Middle School unravels: librarian Ms. Bradshaw is suspended, an author appearance is canceled, the library is gutted, and all books on the premises must have administrative approval.

But June can't give up books . . . and she realizes she doesn't have to when she spies a Little Free Library on her walk to school. As the rules become stricter at school and at home, June keeps turning the pages of the banned books that continue to appear in the little library. It's a delicious secret . . . and one she can't keep to herself. June starts a banned book library of her own in an abandoned locker at school. The risks grow alongside her library's popularity, and a movement begins at Dogwood Middle—a movement that, if exposed, could destroy her. But if it's powerful enough, maybe it can save Ms. Bradshaw and all she represents: the freedom to read.

Equal parts fun and empowering, this novel explores censorship, freedom of speech, and activism. For any kid who doesn't believe one person can effect change...and for all the kids who already know they can!

Like librarian Ms. Bradshaw in *Property of the Rebel Librarian*, **Allison Varnes** has fought for her students. She taught English in special education for eight years and once had to convince administrators that *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* is not an endorsement of witchcraft. She has a PhD in education from the University of Tennessee. And like heroine June, Allison is a former marching-band geek.

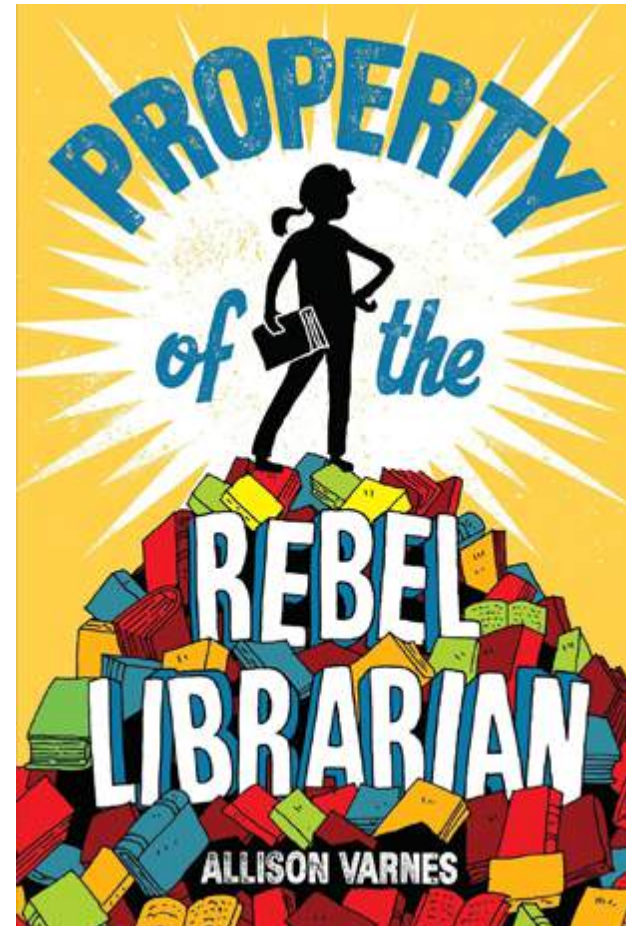
“An accessible introduction to the importance of the freedom to read.”—*Kirkus*

“Drives home important points about bureaucracy, oversight, and freedom.”

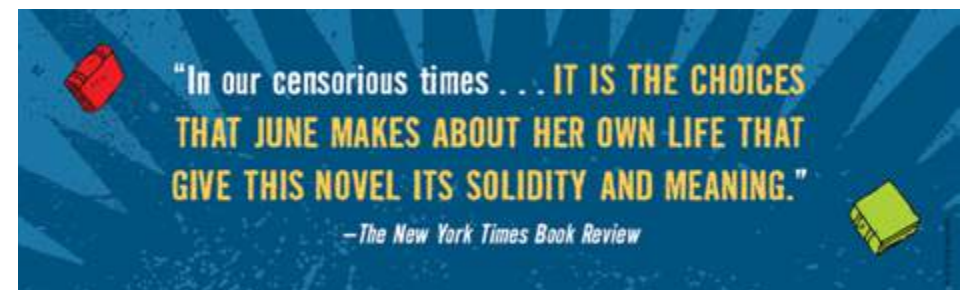
—*Booklist*

ACM Agent: Rick Richter

Page Count: TK



“This debut novel tackles the issue of censorship in a humorous and engaging way. June is a worthy and winsome heroine who is sure to charm... This funny and fast read could be used to fuel discussions about book banning, censorship in general, and activism.”—*School Library Journal*



# SAY IT OUT LOUD

## A Middle Grade Novel

By Allison Varnes

WE

Random House BFYR (PRH) / US Editor: TK

Final PDF Available

An empowering look at finding your voice, facing your fears, and standing up for what's right, from the author of *Property of the Rebel Librarian*.

Charlotte Andrews is perfectly fine being quiet—in fact, she prefers it. When she doesn't speak, people can't make fun of her stutter. But when she witnesses bullying on the school bus and doesn't say anything, her silence comes between her and her best friend.

As if that wasn't bad enough, her parents signed her up for musical theater. Charlotte doesn't want to speak onstage, but at least she doesn't stutter when she sings. Then, just as she starts to find her voice, the arts program is cut. Charlotte can't stay silent anymore.

So she begins to write. Anonymous encouraging notes to her classmates. Letters to the school board to save the school musical. And an essay about the end of her best friendship—and her hope that she can still save it.

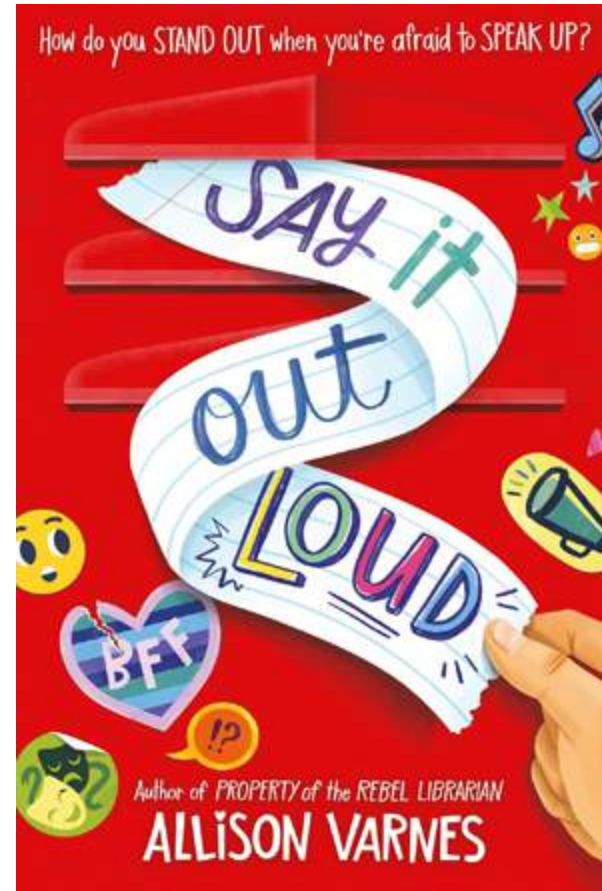
Words could save Charlotte Andrews and everything she believes in . . . if she just believes in herself enough to speak up.

**Allison Varnes** taught English in special education for eight years and once had to convince administrators that *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* is not an endorsement of witchcraft. She's from a family of teachers and has a PhD in education from the University of Tennessee. When she's not writing, she howls along to the Hamilton soundtrack with a trio of Chihuahuas named after Peanuts characters. Find her on Twitter at @allisonvarnes or on Facebook at facebook.com/allisonvarnes-author.

"Varner's got a knack for capturing the middle school experience and readers in this age group will see themselves reflected in the cast of characters and situations that make up the story. The book could also serve as a springboard for topics such as bullying (cyber and physical) and even plagiarism." —*School Library Journal*

ACM Agent: Rick Richter

Page Count: TK



"I wish one of the older kids would say something. The bus is full of them, but all they're doing is snickering and filming the drama with their phones. It's going to be all over the school by the end of homeroom.

This is so wrong. But what can I do? They wouldn't listen to me anyway, and if they did-- Maddie pokes my arm. "I'm going to say something," she whispers.

"No," I say. "D-d-don't." I inwardly cringe. Stuttering in public is the worst. My cheeks flood with warmth.

She frowns. "Why not?"

Because I want to stay invisible, since I'm new to riding the bus. Because if I sit here quietly, there's a chance no one will mess with me and I can escape without gum in my hair. But I can't say that. I'm already stuttering more because I'm worried, and my speech will just get worse if I try to explain it. Not that Maddie is bothered by that. She's heard me stutter a million times since we met in third grade, and she's never made me feel bad about it. "I don't know. Just stay out of it."

The wheels groan as the bus lurches to a stop. Carol Burnett Middle, here we come."

AEVITAS 59



# THE ELEMENTIA CHRONICLES

## A Middle Grade Series

By Sean Fay Wolfe

WE

Harper Children's / US Editor: Pamela Bobowicz

Final PDFs Available

### Rights Sold:

Brazilian Portuguese (Rocco)

Dutch (Unieboek / Het Spectrum)

Finnish (Readme.fi Oy)

French (Pocket Jeunesse)

German (Panini)

Hebrew (Yedioth)

Portuguese (Marcador Editora)

Spanish (Planeta)

*An unofficial Minecraft-fan adventure series inspired by the bestselling game!*

Fans of the bestselling video game Minecraft, middle grade readers, and action-adventure story enthusiasts of all ages are about to embark on an exciting journey that will take them far beyond the world they know.

Dark forces are at work on the Elementia server, and when new players Stan, Kat, and Charlie arrive on the scene, they quickly find themselves in peril. Targeted by more experienced players, the noobs must band together against the king, battle the natural forces of the game, and unravel the mysteries of Elementia in the name of justice.

Written when he was sixteen, Sean Fay Wolfe's *Quest for Justice* is the debut novel by an unstoppable young storyteller and the first book in *The Elementia Chronicles* trilogy.

Disclaimer: This book is not authorized, sponsored, endorsed or licensed by Mojang AB, Microsoft Corp. or any other person or entity owning or controlling any rights to the Minecraft name, trademarks or copyrights. Minecraft is a registered trademark of Mojang Synergies AB.

**Sean Fay Wolfe** was sixteen years old when he finished the first book of the *Elementia Chronicles*. He is a Minecraft player and an author of action-adventure tales. Sean is an Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts of America, a five-time all-state musician, a second-degree Black Belt in Shidokan karate, and has created many popular online games in the Scratch programming environment. He lives in Rhode Island with his mother, father, two brothers, three cats, and a little white dog named Lucky.

ACM Agent: Rick Richter

Page Count: 509, 489, 771



# LIA PARK AND THE MISSING JEWEL + LIA PARK AND THE HEAVENLY HEIRLOOMS

A Middle Grade Series By Jenna Yoon

NA

Aladdin (Simon & Schuster) / US Editor: Alyson Heller

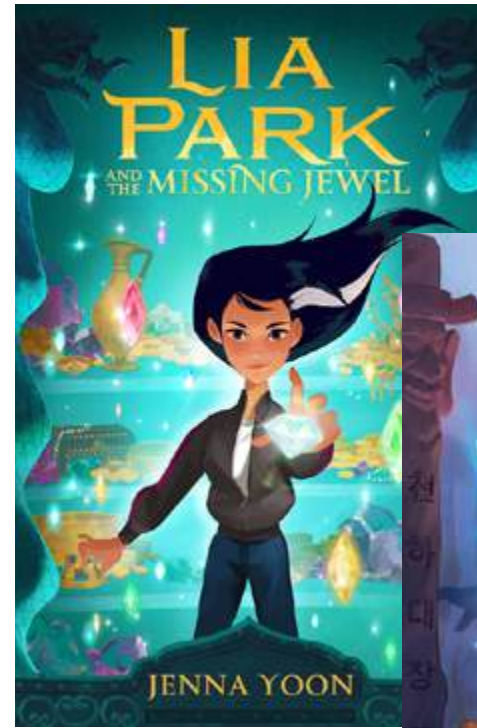
Final PDF Available

Perfect for fans of the *Storm Runner* and *Aru Shah* series, this thrilling middle grade fantasy follows a young girl who must venture to the undersea kingdom of the Dragon King in Korea to save her parents from an evil diviner spirit.

Twelve-year old Lia Park just wants to fit in. Her parents work with a mysterious organization that makes them ridiculously overprotective. Lia's every move has been scrutinized since she was born, and she'd love to have the option of doing something exciting for once. So when she gets invited to the biggest birthday party of the year—and her parents say she can't go—Lia sneaks out.

But her first act of rebellion not only breaks her parents' rules, but also an ancient protection spell, allowing an evil diviner spirit to kidnap and ransom her parents for a powerful jewel that her family has guarded for years. With just the clothes on her back and some very rusty magical skills, Lia finds herself chasing mysterious clues that take her to her grandmother's home in Korea.

From there, she has to make their way to the undersea kingdom of the Dragon King, the only person who knows where the powerful jewel might be. Along with her friend, Joon, Lia must dig deep and find courage to stand up for those who are weak—and become the hero her parents need.



**Jenna Yoon** studied art history at Wellesley College and received her master's degree in Korean art history from Ewha Womans University. She's lived about half her life in both Korea and the United States. When she's not writing, Jenna loves to travel, find yummy eats, play board games, and take skin care very seriously. Currently, she lives in Austin, Texas, with her husband and two kids.

"Strong worldbuilding continues to provide a captivating magical universe inspired by Korean mythology. Grounding the story is the platonic relationship between Lia and Joon, which realistically portrays the tension between establishing your own identity while preserving a close friendship. Meaningful cultural connections provide a solid foundation for this inventive fantasy adventure." —*Kirkus*

"Fun and fast-paced, this debut novel will please the Rick Riordan Presents crowd." — *Booklist*

"This action-packed fantasy with a Korean-American heroine will entertain [...] Lia Park is an exciting new protagonist in the fantasy adventure scene." — *School Library Journal*

"An intriguing, fast-paced fantasy adventure." — *Kirkus Reviews*



# PICTURE BOOKS



# DON'T BLINK! and DON'T TELL!

## Two Picture Books

By Tom Booth

Feiwe! and Friends (Macmillan) / US Editor: Jean Feiwe!

Final PDFs Available

Rights Sold:

Dutch (Van Goor)

German (cbj)

Greek (Key Books)

Simplified Chinese (CITIC Kids)

Spanish (La Brujita de Papel)

### DON'T BLINK!

Think you can win a staring contest against an elephant? What about a gorilla, a cheetah, a fox, or an alligator? What about all them—AND a bunch of their other animal friends—at the same time? You're about to find out!

Whatever you do DON'T BLINK!

Readers will enjoy testing their own staring skills against a vibrant assortment of characters in this interactive picture book from talented new author Tom Booth.

### DON'T TELL!

Once again Tom Booth, author of *Don't Blink!*, breaks the fourth wall to delight and entice readers young and old in this sweet and funny, experiential picture book.

How did you find this book? Don't you know this book is a secret book?

Readers will delight in being asked how they found this book. Did Monkey tell? Was it Owl? Giraffe?

Maybe the animal who "told" would rather share than keep a secret. Especially when sharing a book as good as this one makes him so happy!

**Tom Booth** is an author, illustrator, and character designer who has worked in both animation and publishing at Macmillan, Scholastic, Simon & Schuster, Workman Publishing, and Nicktoons. Now living in Brooklyn, New York, Tom is currently at work on several picture books on a table all his own. His books include *Derek Jeter Presents Night at the Stadium* and *Don't Blink!*.

ACM Agent: Rick Richter







# THIS IS CHRISTMAS

## A Picture Books

By Tom Booth

Jeter Publishing (S&S)

Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

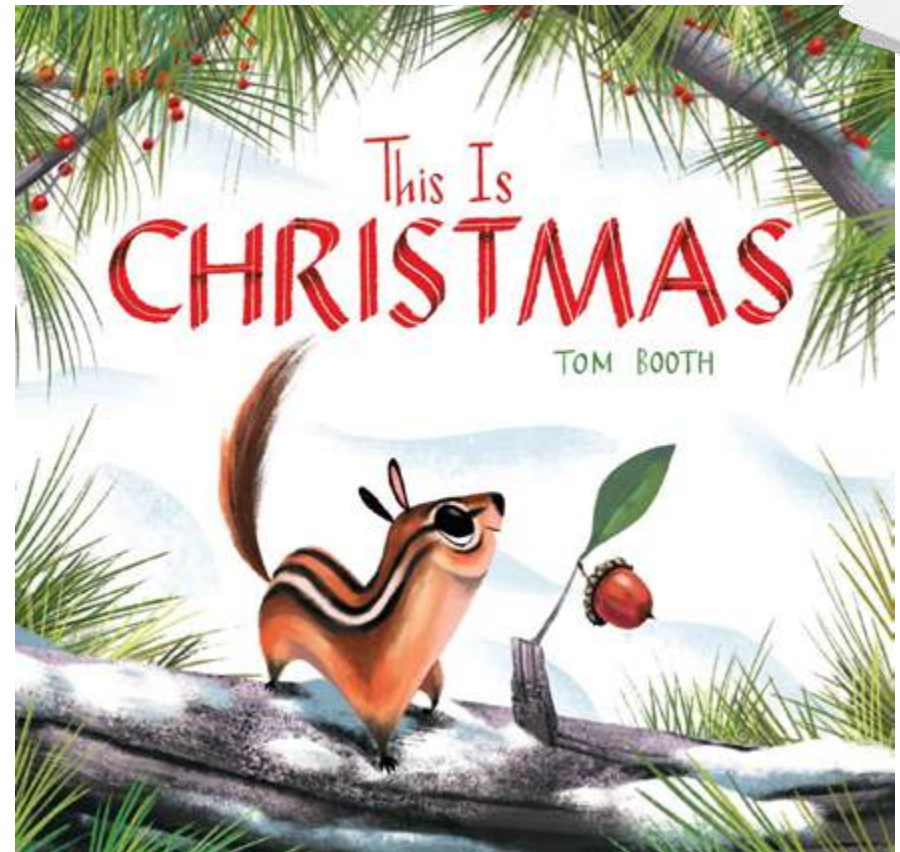
Dutch (Pelckmans)

A modern holiday classic about a chipmunk who has to learn the true meaning of Christmas.

It is Christmas Eve and Little Chipmunk asks his mother, “What is Christmas, Mama?” His Mama tells him that Christmas is many things and as they walk together through the woods, Little Chipmunk sees badgers decorating their burrow with bright red berries, ducks exchanging holidays greetings on golden leaves, beetles carrying presents on their shiny backs, and geese singing in the winter sky. Each time he asks his mother if this is Christmas, and each time she answers, that yes, this is part of Christmas.

Night falls and Little Chipmunk and his Mama snuggle in to sleep. When he wakes up on Christmas morning, he is surprised by the wonderland that greets him: all the world is blanketed in deep snow. And, then, one by one, Chipmunk and his mother see the geese, the badgers, the ducks, and the beetles, as well as some new forest friends—all gathered to celebrate joy and friendship, beauty and wonder, love and kindness—all of what Christmas truly means.

**Tom Booth** is an author, illustrator, and character designer who has worked in both animation and publishing at Macmillan, Scholastic, Simon & Schuster, Workman Publishing, and Nicktoons. Now living in Brooklyn, New York, Tom is currently at work on several picture books on a table all his own. His books include *Derek Jeter Presents Night at the Stadium*, *Don't Blink!* and *Don't Tell!*



ACM Agent: Rick Richter





# MY VERY FAVORITE BOOK IN THE WHOLE WIDE WORLD

## A Picture Book

By Malcolm Mitchell (Author only)

Scholastic / US Editor: Andrea Pinkney

Final PDF Available

**Rights Sold:**

Canadian French (Scholastic Canada)

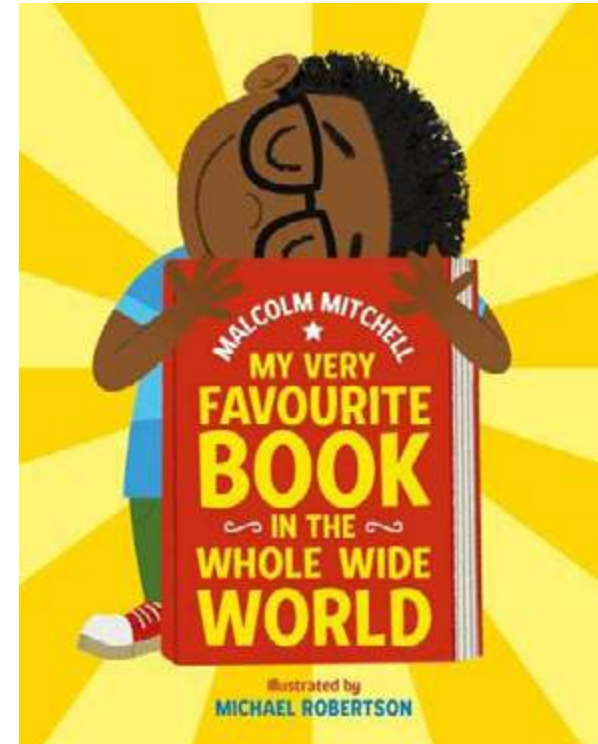
*From Super Bowl champion and literacy crusader Malcolm Mitchell comes an exciting new story that shows even reluctant readers that there is a book out there for everyone!*

Meet Henley, an all-around good kid, who hates to read. When he's supposed to be reading, he would rather do anything else. But one day, he gets the scariest homework assignment in the world: find your favorite book to share with the class tomorrow. What's a kid to do? How can Henley find a story that speaks to everything inside of him?

Malcolm Mitchell, bestselling author of *The Magician's Hat*, pulls from his own literary triumph to deliver another hilarious and empowering picture book for readers of all abilities. Through his advocacy and his books, Malcolm imparts the important message that every story has the potential to become a favorite.

**Malcolm Mitchell** is the rookie who helped the New England Patriots win Super Bowl LI and the founder of an initiative called Read with Malcolm, which introduces book ownership to students, and works to improve literacy in schools. Malcolm's Share the Magic Foundation promotes the benefits of reading to kids in underserved communities.

"Mitchell proves to have a touch of magic as an author as well as on the field."—*Kirkus Reviews*







# THE MAGICIAN'S HAT

## A Picture Book

By Malcolm Mitchell (Author only)

Scholastic / US Editor: Andrea Pinkney

Final PDF Available

**Malcolm Mitchell is changing the world through the power of reading.”**  
—Dav Pilkey, bestselling creator of the *Dog Man* and *Captain Underpants* series

Super Bowl champion and literacy crusader Malcolm Mitchell presents the story of a magician who reveals an awe-inspiring treasure from his bag of tricks—books that make every kid’s dream come true!

This is not your typical afternoon at the library—a magician invites kids to reach into his hat to pull out whatever they find when they dig down deep. Soon—poof!—each child comes away with something better than they could’ve imagined—a book that helps them become whatever they want to be, and makes their dreams come true through pages and words, and the adventures that follow. But each child can’t help but wonder, “What’s really making the magic happen?”

“The Magician’s Hat will cast its spell on you!”—*Jeff Kinney, bestselling author of the Diary of a Wimpy Kid series*

“Suitably cheerful cartoon illustrations show a diverse group of children and families at a magic show at the library [...] the amusing story encourages children to see the library as a fun place and to see books as a source of inspiration and support for their passions.” —*School Library Journal*

**Malcolm Mitchell** is the rookie who helped the New England Patriots win Super Bowl LI and the founder of an initiative called Read with Malcolm, which introduces book ownership to students, and works to improve literacy in schools. Malcolm’s Share the Magic Foundation promotes the benefits of reading to kids in underserved communities.

