



Little, Brown for Young Readers

Frankfurt 2025 Rights Guide



LITTLE, BROWN AND COMPANY
BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS



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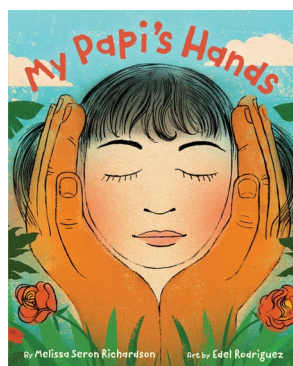
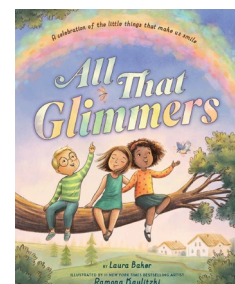
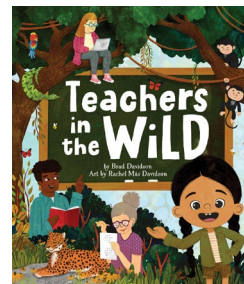
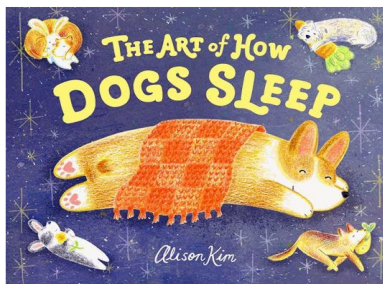
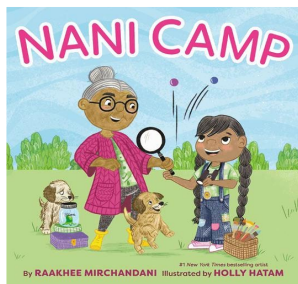
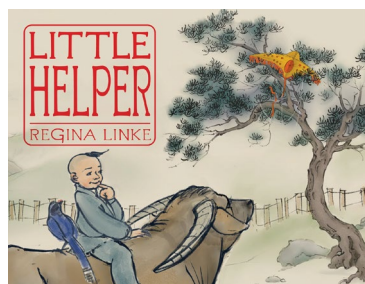
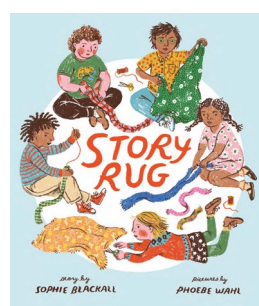
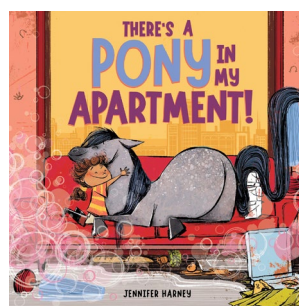
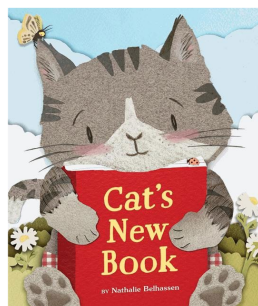
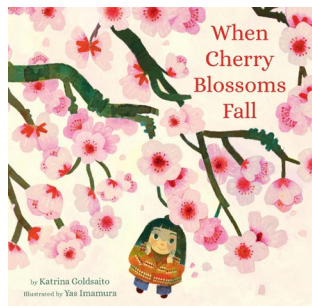
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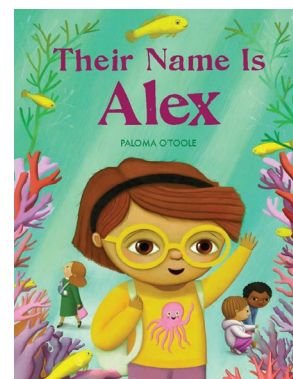
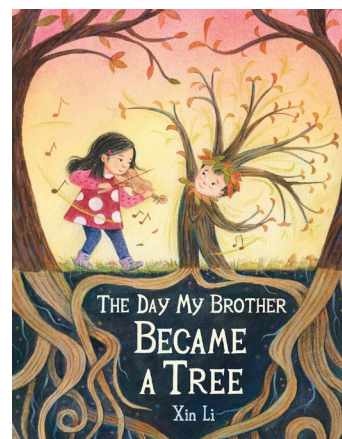
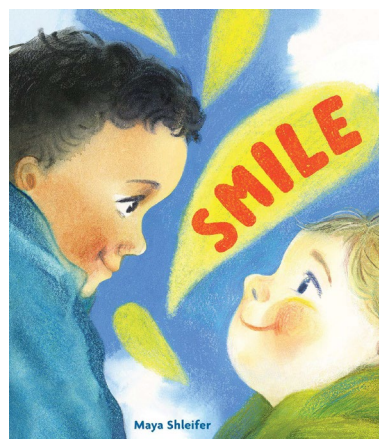
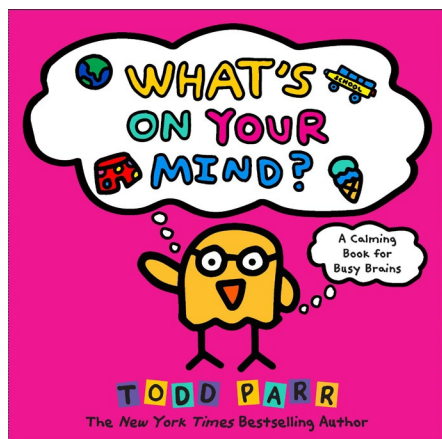
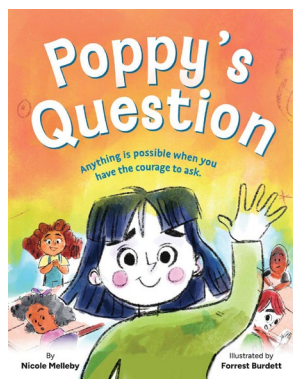
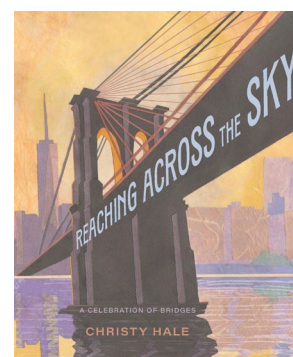
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Picture Books



Smile, Maya Shleifer

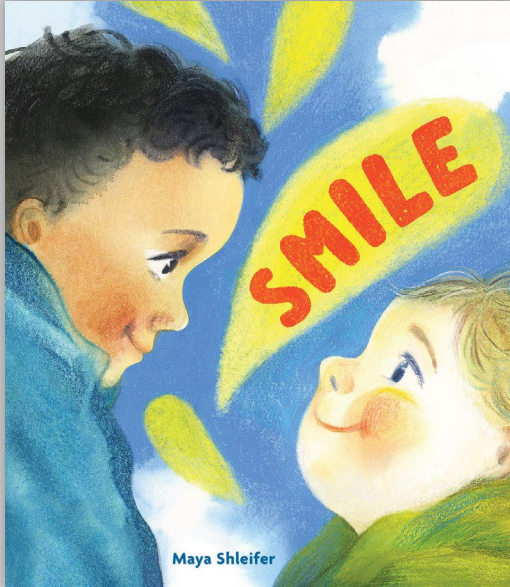


LITTLE, BROWN AND COMPANY
BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS

Pub Date: July 21, 2026

Pages: 40

Ages: 4-6



Maya Shleifer's beautiful celebration of the infectious and healing power of joy will leave readers smiling.

During a rainy morning in the city when everybody is in a rush, a child sees something unexpected—a smile!

Once he catches it, he can't stop sharing it. The smile moves from person to person through the city—and maybe around the whole world.



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All rights are free.



Meet the Author

Maya Shleifer is an award-winning artist and designer. Her children's books have been translated into many languages and celebrated around the world. She has visited many countries and was in New York City when she saw the smile on the subway featured in this book. She was born in Moldova, lived in Russia, settled in Israel, and currently lives and works in Berlin.

The Day My Brother Became A Tree, Xin Li



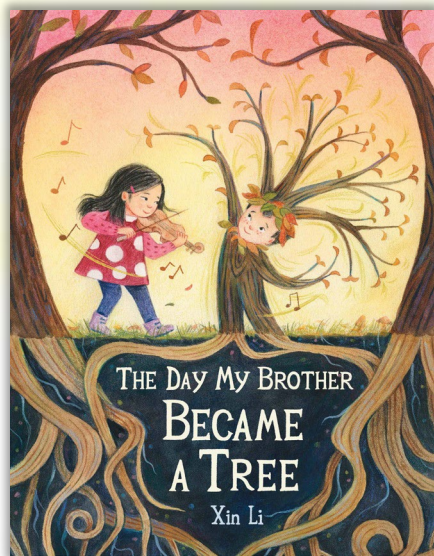
LITTLE, BROWN AND COMPANY
BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS

Pub Date: June 6, 2026

Pages: 48

Ages: 6-8

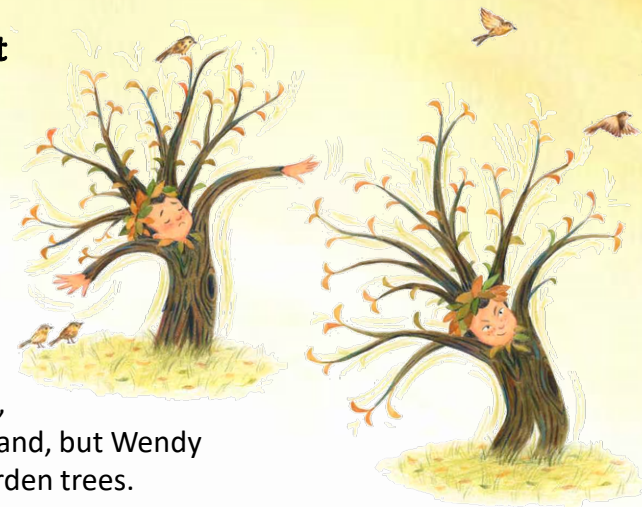
THE DAY MY BROTHER BECAME A TREE



A stunningly illustrated picture book about moving to a new home that celebrates compassion, imagination, nature, and sibling love, by the acclaimed creator of *I Lived Inside a Whale*.

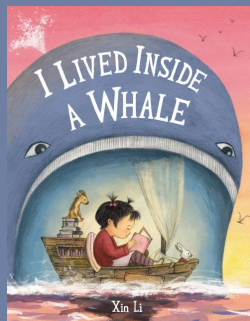
Wendy's brother, Owen, loves the trees in their garden. When their parents announce they will be moving and, of course, can't take the trees with them, Owen is devastated. In protest, Owen turns himself into a tree. The adults don't understand, but Wendy does. She cares for Owen just as he had cared for the garden trees.

Wendy shares with Owen that trees communicate through their roots, even from a far distance. Maybe he will still be able to talk to his beloved trees after relocating. And when all his friends bring him seeds from their garden, he realizes he will be able to put down new roots in his new home.



We can't
leave you behind!

Xin Li is an artist and writer. She was born and raised in China and currently lives in Norway with her husband and their daughter. After spending half of her life living in countries outside of her homeland, Xin chose to paint and write, as stories help her to make sense of a world that otherwise is often lost in translation. Xin is passionate about collecting books, watching clouds, and going for long train rides to cities she has never visited before. You can visit her online at Lixin.no



Xin Li's authorial debut, *I Lived Inside a Whale* was a Kids' Indie Next List Pick, a Barnes & Noble's Best Picture Book of 2024, and a Smithsonian Magazine Ten Best Children's Books of the Year Selection.



Xin Li has options in Arabic (Al Masar Publication), Bengali (Everbest Media), Malay (Everbest Media), German (PRH Verlagsgruppe), Spanish (Ediciones Obelisco), and Italian (Ediciones Obelisco).
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What's On Your Mind, Todd Parr



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Pub Date: July 14, 2026

Pages: 32

Ages: 4-6



A gentle, interactive introduction to mindfulness and handling feelings of all shapes and sizes from *New York Times* bestselling author Todd Parr.

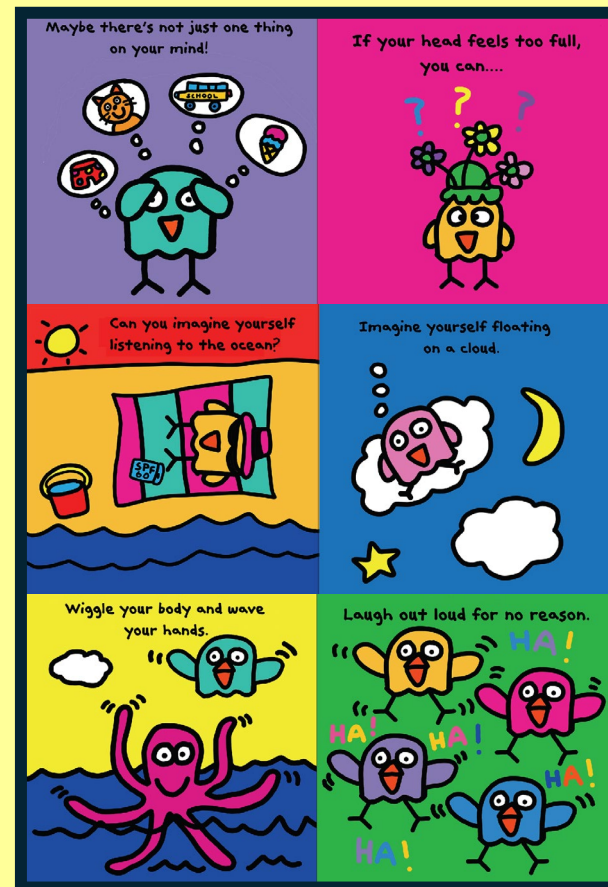
With his colorful illustrations, playful humor, and inclusive storytelling, beloved author Todd Parr has long been a favorite among

young readers and caregivers. His books promote an essential message of love and acceptance that is inspiring, empowering, and accessible.

What's On Your Mind? helps little ones sift through overwhelming thoughts, identify feelings, and calm anxiety. A colorful cast of bird characters leads the reader through the book, and interactive pages offer specific tools—such as deep breathing, stretching, and sensory exploration—to relax the mind in a fun and silly way. With Todd's signature simple text and bold art, this is the perfect first book on mindful thinking for the youngest readers.

TODD PARR

has inspired and empowered millions of children around the world with his bold images and positive messages. He is the bestselling author of more than sixty books, including *The Goodbye Book*, *The Family Book*, *The I Love You Book*, and *It's Okay to Be Different*. He lives in California.



★ All rights to this title are free ★

★ Todd's work has been published in 20+ Languages ★

★ 8 million copies sold across Todd's list, with over 60 titles in print ★

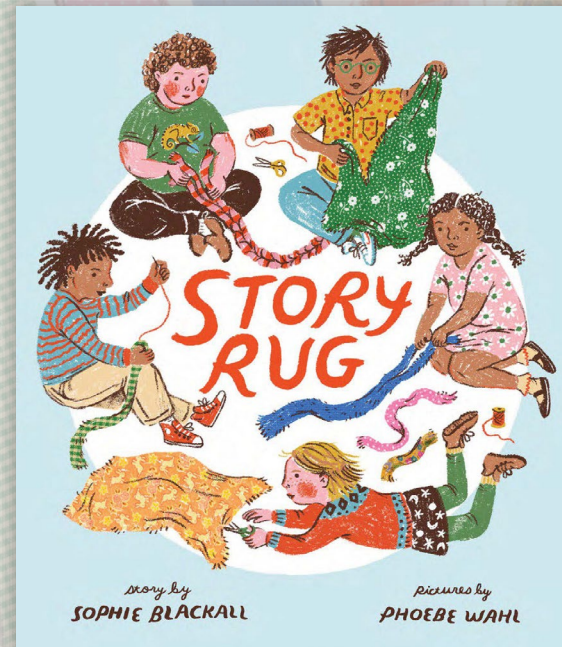


From two-time Caldecott Medalist Sophie Blackall and beloved artist Phoebe Wahl comes a luminous book that braids together the joy of storytelling with the satisfaction of learning a new craft.

The children of Class 203 are learning to braid. They started with hair and shoelaces, and now the children have brought rags from home. Their braid gets longer and longer until one idea transforms it into an extraordinary surprise for their teacher.

Here is the story of a rag rug, woven through with the stories of the scraps used to create it and those told during its making. The result is a special handmade spot where the whole class can gather, ready for more stories.

This beguiling celebration of storytelling is woven through with an easy-to-learn and impressive craft project, including instructions, will have readers reaching for scraps to make their own rag rug.



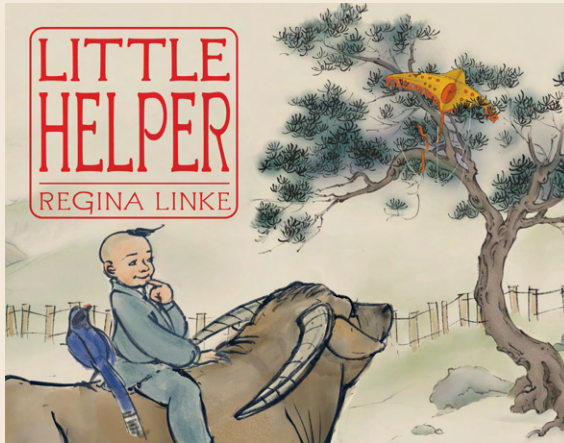
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Sophie Blackall has illustrated dozens of beautiful books, including the *New York Times* bestseller *Farmhouse* and the Caldecott Medal-winning titles *Finding Winnie* and *Hello Lighthouse*. She is also the founder of Milkwood, a creative retreat in the Catskills, where there are many vintage rag rugs, all made of scraps of clothing once worn by real people with stories of their own. She lives with her family in Brooklyn, New York, and invites you to visit her on Instagram @sophieblackall.

Phoebe Wahl is an award-winning illustrator and surface designer. She graduated from Rhode Island School of Design and has published several acclaimed picture books, including *Little Witch Hazel* and *Sonya's Chickens*. She lives with her family in Bellingham, Washington, where her children play on a rag rug braided by their great-grandmother. She invites you to visit her on Instagram @phobewahl.



A gorgeously illustrated original folktale about a little boy who must use his big imagination to help solve big problems.

It's a beautiful day in Ah-Fu's village, and all he wants to do is fly his kite, ride in his grandfather's oxcart, and have a picnic. But a tangled string, a busy aunt, a fallen tree, a picnic.

But a tangled string, a busy aunt, a fallen tree, and more threaten to ruin Ah-Fu's chances of enjoying this perfect day with the people he loves. Can little Ah-Fu come up with creative ways to help his friends and family, or will his plans for a nice day be ruined?

Rights Sold:

Regina Linke has options in **French** (Editions des Eléphants) and **Italian** (Ubiliber).
All rights are free.



Regina Linke is a Taiwanese American artist specializing in contemporary Chinese gongbi painting, using both traditional ink and wash techniques and digital painting to create truly enchanting illustrations. After living in Taipei, Taiwan, Regina moved to Rhode Island with her husband and young son, who inspires her every day as a real-life oxherd boy.



Little Helper features the main character from her debut picture book, **Big Enough**, and her well-loved, inspirational book for adults, **The Oxherd Boy: Parables of Love, Compassion, and Community**. *Little Helper* works as a companion book or a standalone.





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Join kindergarten teacher Mr. Bee as he gets ready for the new school year. Watch as he transforms a cluttered classroom into an inviting, orderly space where everything has its place -- art supplies, books, things for pretend, a chair for every child, a cubby marked with their name.



Kindergarten Gets Ready

Naomi Danis & Pete Oswald

Pub Date: May 26, 2026

Pages: 40 | Ages: 4-6

Kindergarten Gets Ready organizes the messy unknown into an orderly, irresistible place for children getting ready for kindergarten.



This satisfying journey equips children with what to expect when they start school, building excitement in the most comforting way – until, at last, here come the new students, ready to explore a room prepared just for them.

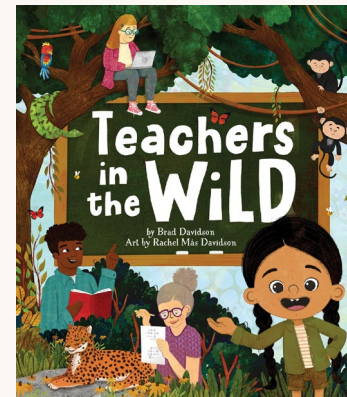
Teachers in the Wild

Brad & Rachel Más Davidson

Pub Date: May 26, 2026

Pages: 40 | Ages: 4-6

Told from the hilarious POV of a child posing as a tour guide, this cheeky and vibrant book will get both kids and teachers giggling.



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In this hilariously relatable picture book, young readers discover that teachers are, in fact, normal people who go to the supermarket, have dentist appointments and cheer at soccer games.



Presented in a playful "field guide" format, the book offers amusing strategies for handling unexpected run-ins with former and current teachers outside of school. This book has a quirky, fun read perfect for classroom read-alouds.



Meet the Author

Naomi Danis worked as the managing editor at *Lilith* magazine and is the author of several picture books, including *I Hate Everyone*; *Bye, Car*; and *While Grandpa Naps*. She lives with her family in Forest Hills, New York, where, soon enough, her youngest grandchild will be getting ready for kindergarten.

Meet the Illustrator

Pete Oswald is a *New York Times* bestselling picture book creator. He is the illustrator of many beloved picture books, including the celebrated Food Group series written by Jory John. Pete lives in Los Angeles, California, with his wife and three sons, one of whom started kindergarten as he was creating the art for this book.

Meet the Author

Brad Davidson has been a public educator for over seventeen years. He loves when his students spot him in the wild even though his brain sometimes struggles to remember their names. He is the author of *Pocket Full of Sads* which was illustrated by his wife, Rachel. He invites you to visit him at Bradwritesbooks.com

Meet the Illustrator

Rachel Más Davidson is a Cuban-American illustrator who has illustrated several books for children including *The Helping Sweater* which School Library Journal called "a positive and uplifting book with a generous circular ending that young readers will love." She has taught art for kids for twelve years as both a public school educator and private art instructor. She invites you to visit her at rachelmasdavidson.com.

With lyrical text and striking wood block illustrations, this ode to parental love uses the metaphor of a father's labor to illustrate how *manos poderosas* can teach little hands how to create change within their community.

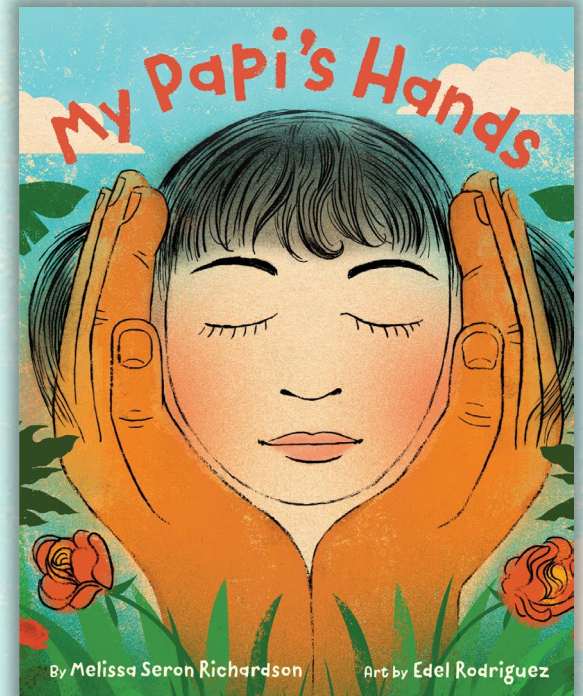
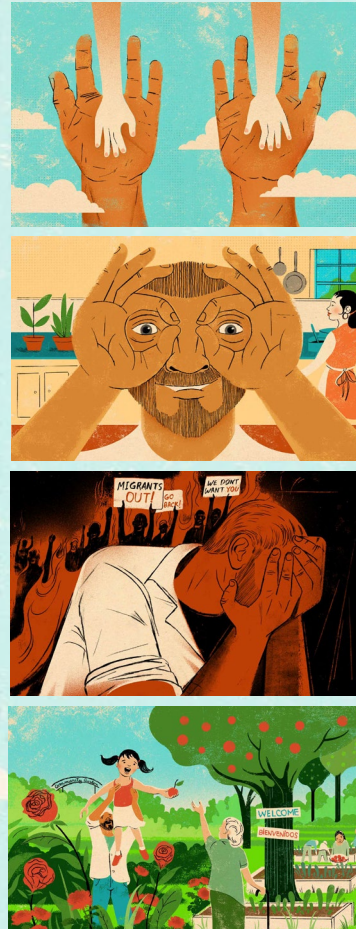
My Papi's hands are bigger than mine...
That's because they build cities piece by piece, día tras día.

My Papi's hands are more playful than mine.
That's because they turn songs into *sonrisas* and hold me and Mamá close.

Because of my Papi's hands, I know what my hands can do.
And together, our hands will build a brighter future, piece by piece, día tras día.

Meet the Author

Melissa Seron Richardson is a Mexican American mom of three who lives in Utah. Having grown up as a mixed-race child, she hopes her work will give a voice and a path to other mixed-race kids to discover where they belong. Melissa is the author of *The Last Slice* and *Five Words That Are Mine*. She invites you to follow her on Instagram @melissaseronrichardson.



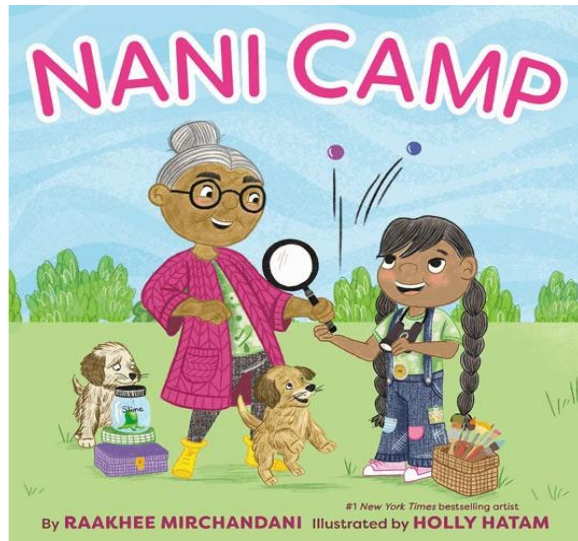
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Meet the Illustrator

Edel Rodriguez is a Cuban American artist and author who has exhibited internationally, was the art director of Time magazine, and has created artwork for *The New York Times*, *Time* magazine, and *The New Yorker*, to name a few. He is the illustrator of many books, including his own *The Mango Tree (La mata de mango)*, *Song for Jimi: The Story of Guitar Legend Jimi Hendrix* by Charles R. Smith Jr., and *Float Like a Butterfly* by Ntozake Shange. Edel lives with his wife and daughters in New Jersey, and he invites you to discover his work at edelrodriguez.com.

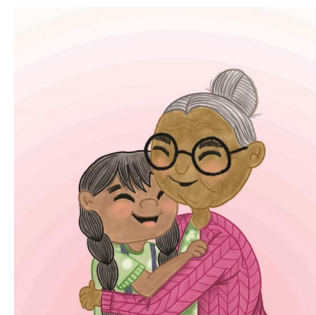
When Padma's parents go away for the weekend on a babymoon (whatever that is), Padma goes away too—to Nani Camp!



Nani Camp may look suspiciously like Nani's house, but it's a lot more fun than staying home.

From scavenger hunts to arts-and-crafts, camp is packed with activities, but things don't always go to plan. Luckily, Padma will learn there's no problem a cup of chai and a positive attitude can't fix!

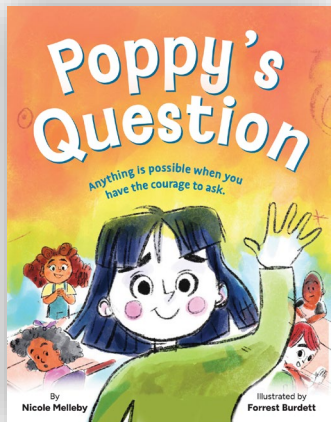
Grab your emergency slime, fill your pockets with supplies, and don't wear anything you're afraid of getting wet. Now you're ready for Nani Camp!



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Raakhee Mirchandani is an award-winning writer and editor. She is the author of *Mama's Roti*, *Kamala Raised Her Hand*, *My Diwali Light*, *Hair Twins*, *Journey to the Stars: Kalpana Chawla*, *She Persisted: Kalpana Chawla*, and *Super Satya Saves the Day*. She lives in Hoboken, New Jersey, with her husband and daughter. She invites you to follow her on Instagram @RaakstarWrites or visit her online at raakstarwrites.com.

Holly Hatam is the author-illustrator of *Unicorns Are Real!* and the illustrator of the #1 New York Times bestsellers *Dear Girl* and *Dear Boy* as well as *Hair Twins*, *Made by Maxine*, and *Jack (Not Jackie)*. She loves tree hugging, book sniffing, tea drinking, music, animations, and most important, unicorns. She invites you to be transported to her magical world by visiting hollyhatam.com



Poppy's Question

Nicole Melleby & Forest Burdett

Pub Date: May 12, 2026

Pages: 40 | Ages 4-8

A simple spelling lesson leads to a life changing moment for Poppy in this sweet picture book that normalizes queerness and finding one's voice, for fans of *Love, Violet* and *Pink Is for Boys*.



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Every morning, Poppy wakes up eager to go to school. It's where she plays house, colors with her class, and learns from her teacher, Ms. Merriwick. Best of all, it's where Poppy sees Ava, who has big, bouncy curls and pencils to share. But when one spelling lesson about words beginning with the letter Q leaves Poppy confused and disappointed, she turns to her teacher for answers.

This heartwarming school story follows Poppy as she navigates her big feelings and discovers the power in asking questions. Bright, colorful artwork brings to life this impactful picture book about imagination, acceptance, and the importance of representation.



Meet the Author

Nicole Melleby, a New Jersey native, is an author of highly praised books for young readers, including the Lambda Literary Award finalist *Hurricane Season*, ALA Notable Children's Book *How to Become a Planet*, *Camp QUILTBAG* (co written with A. J. Sass), *Sunny and Oswald*, and the *House on Sunrise Lagoon* series. She lives with her wife and their family, and invites you to visit her online at nicolemelleby.com.

Meet the Illustrator

Forrest Burdett is an illustrator based in the Pacific Northwest, where he spends his time daydreaming and painting fantastical worlds. When he's not creating or painting, he's off looking for magic out in nature. You can see more of his work at www.forrestburdett.com.

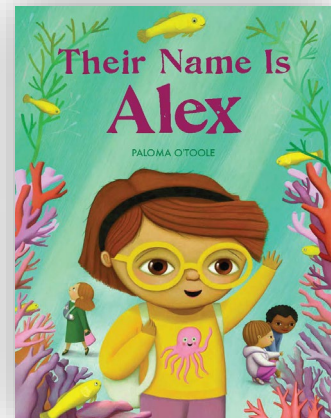
Their Name is Alex

Paloma O'Toole

Pub Date: May 12, 2026

Pages: 40 | Ages 6-8

A light, fun debut picture book about gender identity and pronouns—and fish!—from a new nonbinary talent to watch.



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During a field trip to an aquarium, a group of young students are asked to choose which fish they would most like to be.



While some students pick jellyfish for their dance skills, and others pick octopi for their many arms, Alex wants most to be a Yellow Coral Goby because they love the color yellow—and also because of their ability to change their gender.

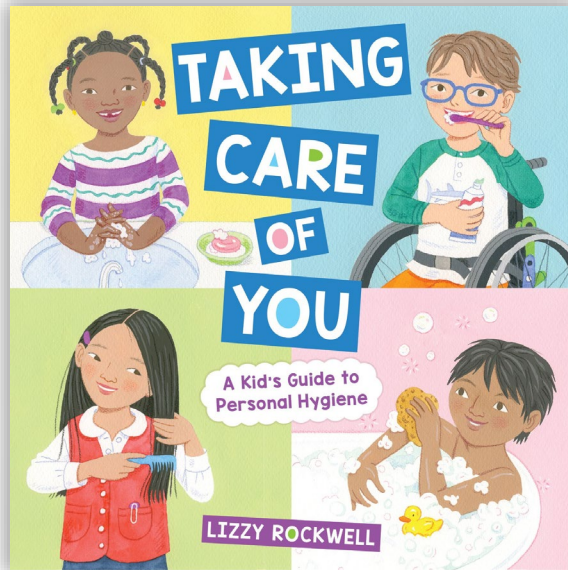


A moving picture book about gender identity and fluidity, *Their Name is Alex* shows readers just how powerful it can be for a child to feel seen and understood.

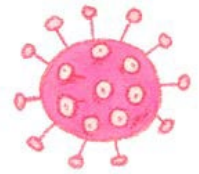


Meet the Author/Illustrator

Paloma O'Toole is an autistic and nonbinary artist from Spain. They studied Fine Arts in Seville, and graduated with a Master's in Painting. While working as a Spanish language teacher in the UK, they were introduced to a student who identified as gender fluid. Inspired by their student and armed with a term to describe how they always felt, Paloma began identifying as nonbinary. This, coupled with their long time fascination with animals, inspired them to write their debut picture book, *Their Name is Alex*. They live in a small town in England with their husband and two black cats. Paloma invites you to connect with them at palomaotoole.com.



This practical, hands-on picture book is the perfect guide to staying clean and healthy. It is *The Care and Keeping of You* for younger readers.



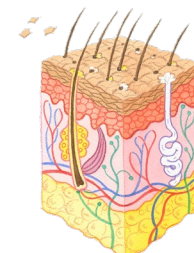
Learn about the many ways we take care of ourselves—through handwashing, bathing, brushing teeth, practicing good hair care and more—in this empowering primer for young children that spotlights the importance of personal hygiene. The text expressly details how daily health care helps us protect our bodies so that we can be the healthiest version of ourselves.



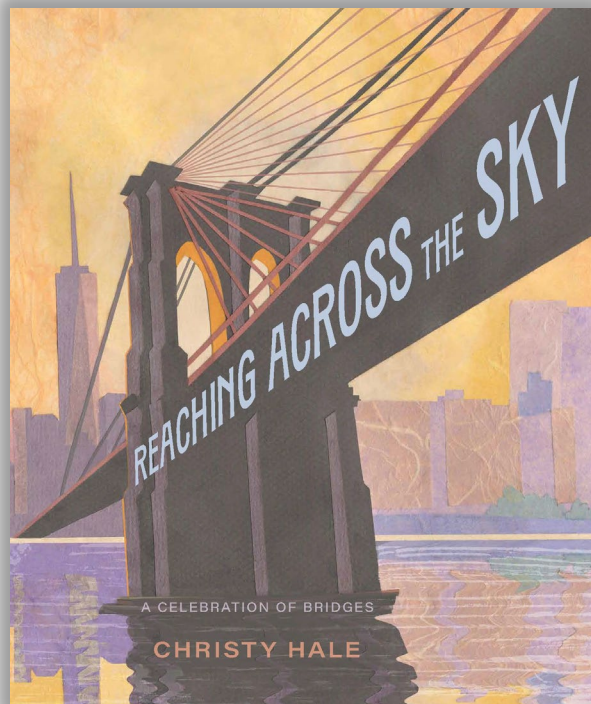
Featuring a classroom of kids from different backgrounds, this informative introduction explores important concepts related to the what, why, and how of caring for our bodies so that we stay healthy and strong and looking our best!



Lizzy Rockwell is the illustrator of over 25 children's books, including *Career Day* written by her mother, and acclaimed creator, Anne Rockwell. She is the author/illustrator of more than two dozen books, including *Plants Feed Me*, *Good Enough to Eat: A Kid's Guide to Food and Nutrition*, *Hello Baby!*, and *The Busy Body Book: A Kid's Guide to Fitness*. Most of her books have been picked up by JLG and sold to Scholastic. She studied art and art history at Connecticut College, and drawing and illustration at the School of Visual Arts in New York City.



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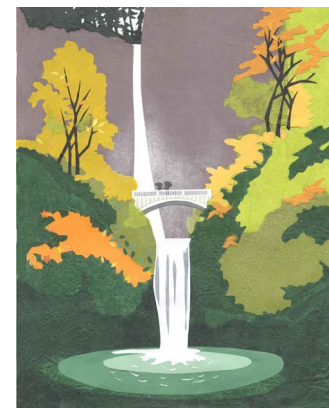
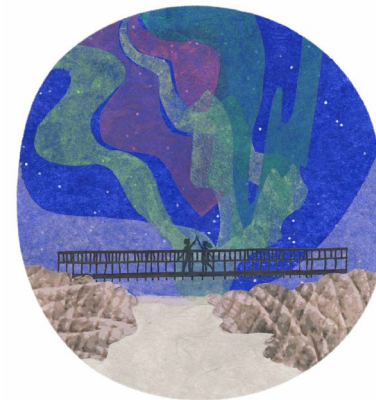
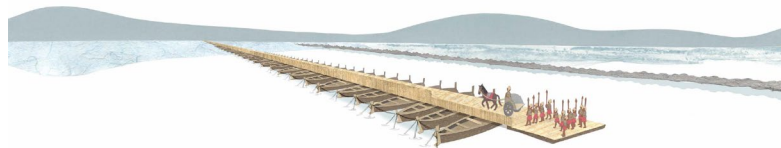
Celebrate more than 100 bridges from around the world in this informative picture book that highlights human innovation, the science of engineering, and global community.

Bridges are feats of human innovation that bring people together.

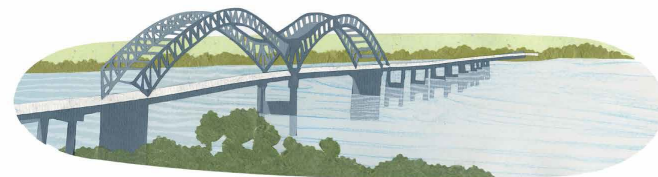
This essential STEAM offering celebrates these spectacular wonders of architecture and engineering, including examples found in nature, different styles and materials used in their construction, and the science behind how they work. It's a one stop information panoply for young readers on all there is to know about these magnificent structures that unite people throughout the world.

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Christy Hale is the creator of many award-winning books for young readers including two ALA Notable books: *Dreaming Up: A Celebration of Building* and *Todos Iguales: Un Corrido de Lemon Grove/All Equal: A Ballad of Lemon Grove*; as well as *Copycat: Nature-Inspired Design Around the World*, a Mathical Book Prize Honor, *Out the Door*, an SLJ Best Book of the Year; and *Water Land: Land and Water Forms Around the World*, a Booklist Editor's Choice. An art director, designer, and educator, Hale lives with her husband in Palo Alto. You can visit her at <https://www.christyhale.com/>

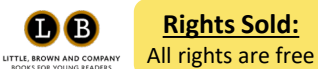




Three Little Witches and the Spooky Old House

Peggy Archer & Gaia Bordicchia
 Pub Date: August 11, 2026
 Pages: 40 | Ages 6-8

Three little witches stir up a surprise in this cozy Halloween read aloud for fans of *Room on the Broom* and *The House in the Night*.



A trio of witches needs a place to brew their magic, and the spooky old house down a dark road looks just right. It's full of hairy scary spiders, musty dusty ghosts, creeeeeeeaky floorboards, and shivery curtains.

But as the witches work, the house seems to grow warmer and brighter. Just what kind of spell are these little witches casting?

This not so spooky story is just right for reading aloud at bedtime, with a surprise ending that celebrates the best type of magic: the kind that's shared with friends.

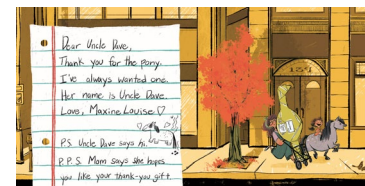
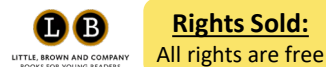
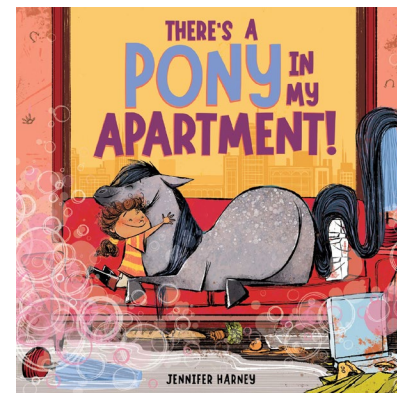
Peggy Archer is an author of fiction, poetry, and nonfiction for children. Her picture book *A Hippy Hoppy Toad* was a Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection, a Bank Street College of Education Best Children's Book of the Year, and a winner of the SCBWI Crystal Kite Award. She lives in Valparaiso, Indiana, with her husband. peggyarcher.com

Gaia Bordicchia is a graduate of the European Institute of Design and has illustrated numerous children's books, including *The Amazing Animal Atlas* by Nick Crumpton. Based in northern Italy. lagaia.art

There's a Pony in my Apartment!

Jennifer Harney
 Pub Date: July 13, 2026
 Pages: 40 | Ages 4-6

A wildly funny story about one kid's determination to keep a pet horse inside her home—perfect for fans of *You Don't Want a Unicorn!*



Maxine Louise is super excited about the extra special gift her Uncle Dave sent her. Her mom? Not so much. But Maxine Louise insists that there is nothing to worry about—ponies love apartments!

After all, the apartment is the pony's natural habitat. They love elevators and bunkbeds and the late night news. And feeding the pony will be a breeze since ponies famously love leftovers. Can Maxine Louise convince her mom to let her keep her new pet?

Jennifer Harney has illustrated several picture books, including *How to Become a Knight (in Ten Easy Lessons)* by Todd Tarpley, *Never Trumpet With a Crumpet* by Amy Gibson, and *How Dinosaurs Went Extinct: A Safety Guide* by Ame Dyckman. She is the author and illustrator of *Underwear!* and *Swim Swim Sink*. Jenn lives in Cleveland, Ohio, with her husband, her daughter, a corgi named Steve, and the ghost of the oldest living goldfish in North America.

All That Glimmers

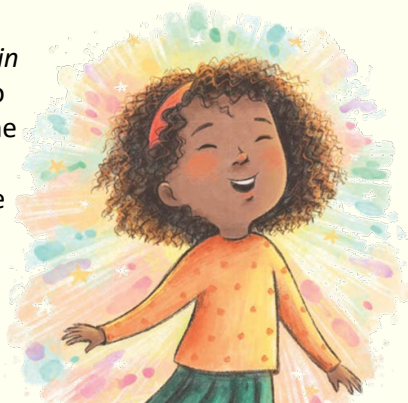
A celebration of "glimmers," the little moments in our lives that spark joy, bring peace, and inspire hope—with illustrations by a #1 *New York Times* bestselling artist.

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Search with your eyes, keep your heart open too, and look for the glimmers that shine their way through.

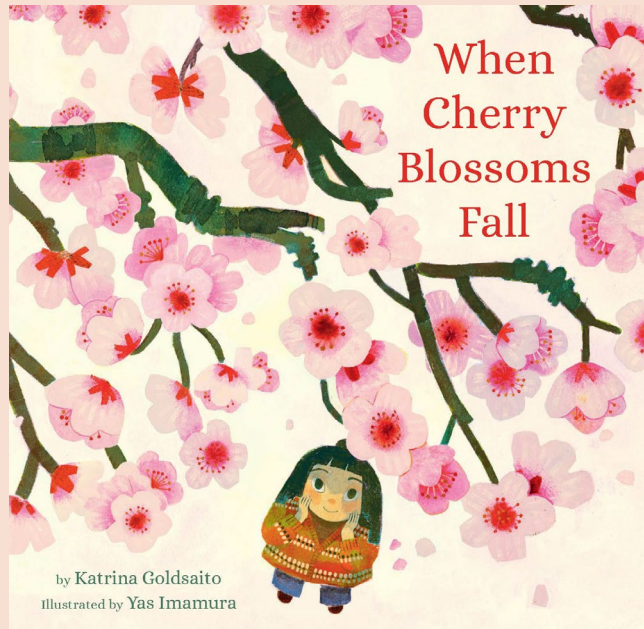
You can find a glimmer anywhere: a flower growing out of the sidewalk, a rainbow after a storm, a whiff of something delicious—even a puppy licking your nose. When you're feeling anxious or gloomy, spotting a glimmer can calm racing thoughts or put a smile on your face. And once you begin looking, you'll find more and more glimmers and start sharing their magic with friends!

Laura Baker has written over fifty books for children, including *All the Wonderful Ways to Read*, *Monsters in Trucks*, and many more. She loves to write about finding the wonder in the everyday. Laura grew up in Canada but now lives in a lovely town on the coast of Wales with her family. She invites you to visit her online at laurabakerbooks.com and on Instagram @laurabakerbooks.



Ramona Kaulitzki is the illustrator of the *New York Times* bestsellers *Sisters First* and *The Christmas Owl*, among numerous other books. Her art seamlessly blends digital and analog techniques and is inspired by nature, animals, seasons, and stories of all kinds. Ramona lives in to visit her online at ramonakPotsdam.com, and invites you ulitzkiart.com and on Instagram @ramonakaulitzki.





This stunning picture book spins an original tale that explains the power and meaning behind the Japanese concept of *mono no aware*—a bittersweet yet ultimately hopeful celebration of life's ever-changing nature and fleeting beauty.

"We wait for so long, and when they finally come, the petals fall so quickly. Mono no aware, ne?"

"What does that mean, mono no aware?"



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Little Yuna can't wait for her great grandmother's cherry tree to bloom. She and her hībāchan spend each day outside, watching the tree's flowers unfurl. But once the tree blooms, the moment is so brief before it loses its petals again—this is what her hībāchan calls *mono no aware*.

It isn't until her great grandmother—and the petals she loves—are gone that Yuna finally understands what the phrase really means: an awareness of something's impermanence.

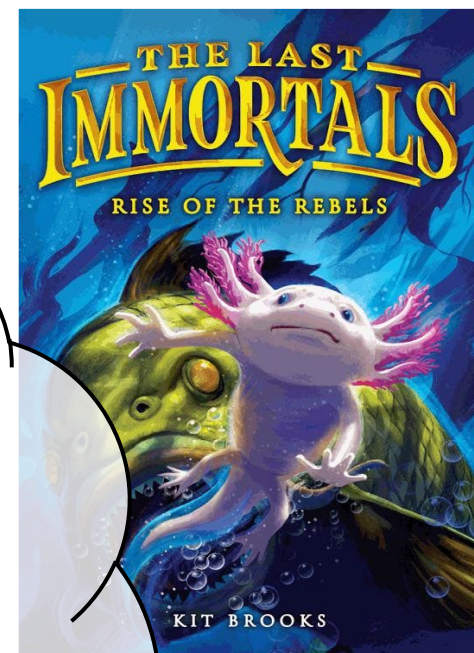
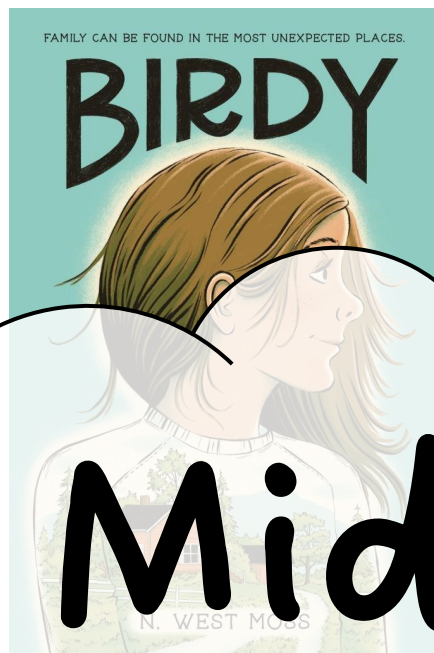
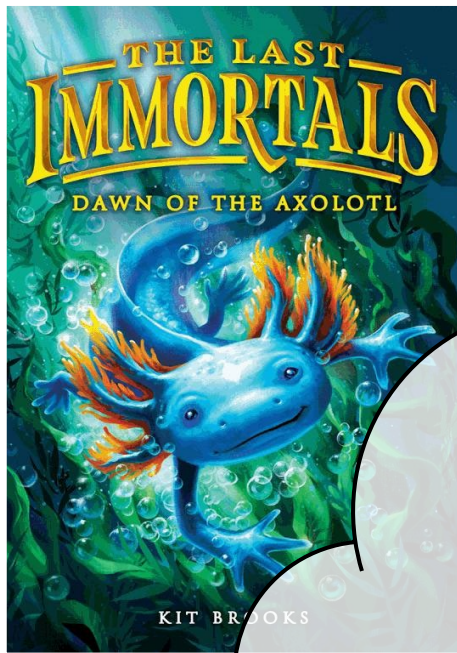
Meet the Author

Katrina Goldsaito finds *mono no aware* in the ever-changing sky above the fields of western Massachusetts and in her ever-changing children. She is the author of the award winning *The Sound of Silence*, translated into seven languages, and named a Book of the Year by NPR and many others. katrina.goldsaito.com

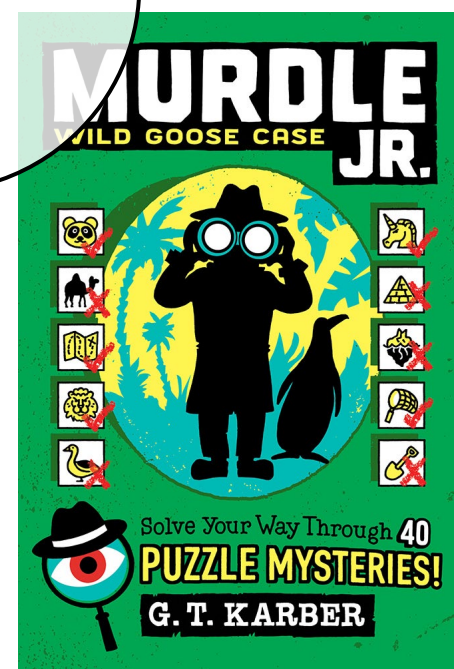
Meet the Illustrator

Yas Imamura is the acclaimed artist of picture books such as *Love in the Library* by Maggie Tokuda Hall, *Winged Wonders* by Meeg Pincus, and *The Very Oldest Pear Tree* by Nancy I. Sanders. She currently lives and works in Portland, Oregon. yasimamura.com

Alison Kim is an author, illustrator, and UX designer with BA degrees in Art and English from UC Berkeley and an MFA in Graphic Design from the Academy of Art. She has worked in some awesome creative environments, including Pixar, ModCloth and Office: Jason Schulte Design. Alison believes that picture books and dogs are the best things in the whole wide world. She is a member of SCBWI, and lives in California with her sweet pups, Peanut and Oliver. The Art of How Dogs Sleep is her debut picture book. alisonkim.com



Middle



Grade

LEAD MIDDLE GRADE SERIES



Mini Murdle Jr.: Summer Fun!

Do you have what it takes to be a real detective? Join Buster McPaws on a series of puzzles, mazes, and activities to help you celebrate the summer season. Perfect for junior detectives on the go, this pocket-sized Murdle Jr. book will feature roughly 40 puzzles.

Murdle Junior: Codes, Cover-Ups, and Cookies

Olivia is literally the world's smartest detective. She can hack into any computer, get past any firewall, download anything she wants. Olivia's father is the owner of the largest and most powerful company in the world, TekCo Futures. And he's about to debut an Artificial Intelligence supercomputer that will change the world forever. But when Olivia's father collapses on the night before the big release, it's up to Olivia—and her arch nemesis—to solve the mystery and unmask the criminal behind it all!

Companion Books with Easter Egg Puzzles!

Murdle Jr.: Wild Goose Case

Calling all junior detectives! What happens when a flock of zoo animals escape their enclosures and end up in the wrong habitats? With a new detective protagonist out on the lamb, this third puzzle book in the wildly popular Murdle Jr. series invites readers to come solve the mystery alongside the detective.

Meet the Author

G. T. Karber grew up in a small town in Arkansas, the son of a judge and a civil rights attorney. As a lifelong mystery fan, he has organized more than forty immersive mysteries in Los Angeles.

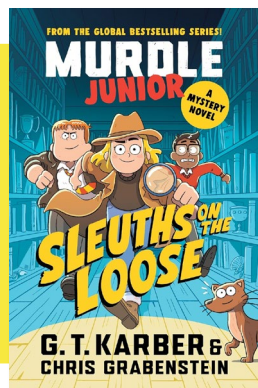
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MINI PUZZLES



Mini Murdle Jr.
Book 1
May 5, 2026
112 Pages

MYSTERIES



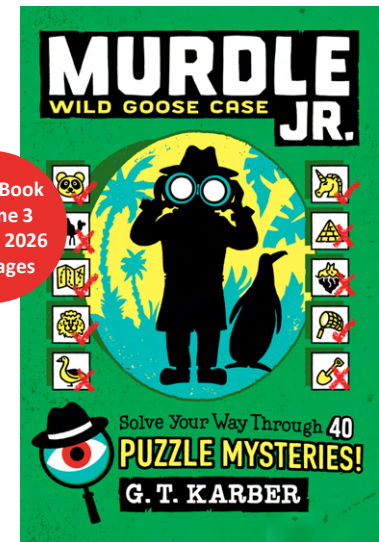
Mystery Novel
Book 2
May 5, 2026
112 Pages

PUZZLE BOOKS



150K NET
75K POS
ACROSS 2
VOLUMES

Puzzle Book
Volume 3
July 14, 2026
208 Pages



The Last Immortals Series, Kit Brooks


Christy Ottaviano Books

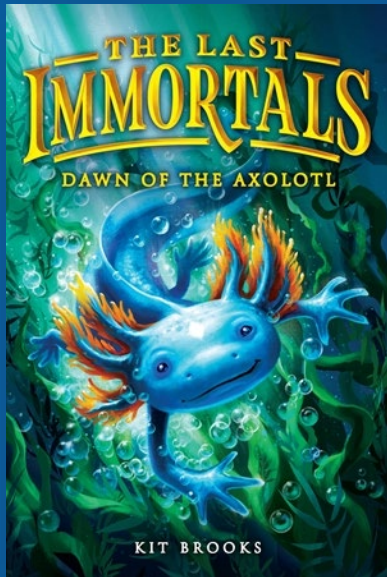
Pub Date: May 5, 2026

Pages: 192

Ages: 8-12

THE LAST IMMORTALS

2 BOOK LAUNCH OF EPIC MIDDLE GRADE FANTASY SERIES FOR FANS OF *WARRIOR CATS*, STARRING THE X-MEN OF THE SEA: AXOLOTLS

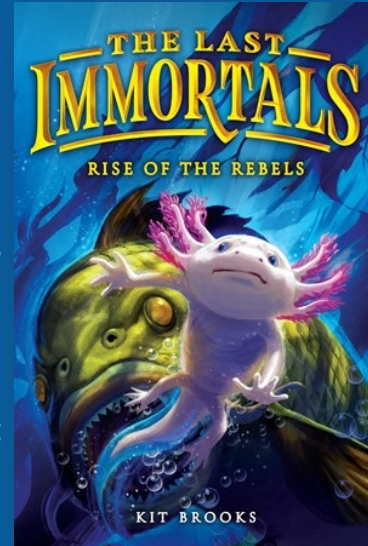


Book 1: Dawn of the Axolotl

There's danger lurking in the depths of the lake. Ace learns this early when his twin brother cruelly devours his tail and leaves him for dead.

Separated from his family, he is cast off into the depths of a perilous waterway. Ace is wary to trust others, but his survival will depend on it.

When he stumbles upon a glowing green axolotl named Ariel, he learns that with training axolotls can develop an incredible power: immortality. With high rewards come unspeakable risks, and Ace has been hurt before. But the potential to cheat death might be too hard to resist.



Book 2: Rise of the Rebels

Zephyr isn't out to make friends. After a grueling escape from an axolotl breeding facility all he cares about is being reunited with his sister Luna.

Zephyr finds himself embroiled in a fight between axolotls who believe regeneration is the key to survival and others who want to evolve and roam free. The struggle for power is vicious, and there are many more dangers waiting for them both above and below the surface of the lake.

About the Author

Kit Brooks is the author of The Last Immortals series. She is inspired by a love of axolotls and a fascination with their exceptional regenerative abilities, as well as the environmental challenges they currently face as an endangered species. Kit lives in a small village, where she enjoys creating epic adventure stories inspired by real axolotl behaviors.

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**Territories Sold:**

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Meet the Author

Michael Buckley is the New York Times bestselling author of the *Sisters Grimm* and *NERDS* series and the cocreator, writer, and executive producer of Cartoon Network's *Robotomy*. He lives in New York City with his son, Finn and their wonder pup, Friday. michaelbuckleywrites.com

Weirdies Get Weirder

(The Weirdies, Book 2)

When the Weirdies' parents come back from the dead, chaos ensues in this darkly humorous sequel, perfect for fans of the Swifts and a Series of Unfortunate Events.

The Weirdie triplets are miserable, and their horrible parents are to blame. Barnacle, Melancholy, and Garlic have been burdened with the arduous chore of finding their bank-robbing grandfather's lost fortune hidden somewhere in the Weirdie mansion. Deadeye Manor was built around a whole entire bank, and their parents want every last penny.

But the triplets long to be reunited with Miss Emily, the lovely adoptive mother they were ripped away from. Undeterred, she'll stop at nothing to get her three mischievous children back, even if it means sneaking into Dead-Eye manor itself, where hooligans and criminals are now taking up residence!

Will the Weirdies and Miss Emily find their way back to each other, or are they doomed to never see one another again?

Meet the Illustrator

Forrest Burdett is an illustrator, writer, and amateur cryptozoologist based in Portland, Oregon. When he is not out hiking trails (on the hunt for bigfoot, of course), he is busy painting and imagining faraway worlds where much more pleasant things occur. forrestburdett.com





The Wild Robot: Anniversary Collector's Edition

This 10th anniversary collector's edition of Peter Brown's #1 *New York Times* bestseller *The Wild Robot* features deluxe specs, bonus content, and more!

Can a robot survive in the wilderness?

When robot Roz opens her eyes for the first time, she discovers that she is all alone on a remote, wild island. She has no idea how she got there or what her purpose is--but she knows she needs to survive. After battling a violent storm and escaping a vicious bear attack, she realizes that her only hope for survival is to adapt to her surroundings and learn from the island's unwelcoming animal inhabitants.

As Roz slowly befriends the animals, the island starts to feel like home--until, one day, the robot's mysterious past comes back to haunt her.



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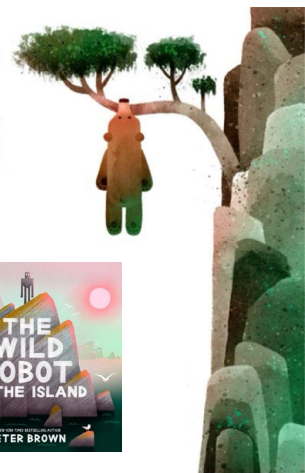
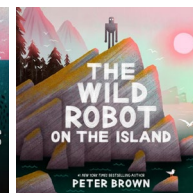
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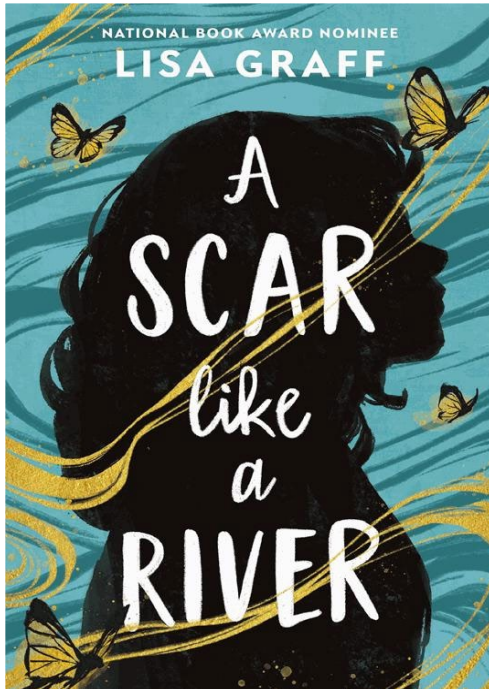
Deluxe Collector's Edition includes:

Gold gilded edges
Gold foil on cover
Full color interior art
Printed endpapers
... and more!



Don't miss the whole series!





Territories Sold:
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A groundbreaking novel on the topic of sexual abuse for upper middle grade readers about Fallon Little, a thirteen-year-old with a mysterious scar on her face—and a big secret she feels pressured to keep, by bestselling author Lisa Graff.

Thirteen-year-old Fallon Little has only ever told one person what really happened on the day she got her scar. Why would she? The truth is dark, and Fallon has much brighter things to focus on, like being cast as the lead in the school play, and hanging out with her two best friends, Trent and Kaia.

But when Fallon's uncle dies, his funeral ignites a wildfire of events that Fallon can't manage to tamp down. The school play is spiraling out of control, Fallon's impossible Aunt Lune comes to live with them, and Trent and Kaia might just be so into each other that there isn't room for Fallon in their friend group any more. And when secrets even worse than the one about Fallon's scar threaten to come to light, Fallon might not have the strength to keep them buried for much longer.

Through unflinching prose and with a pitch-perfect voice, bestselling author Lisa Graff explores the power of confronting the past as a way to heal in the present in this propulsive and absorbing tour de force.

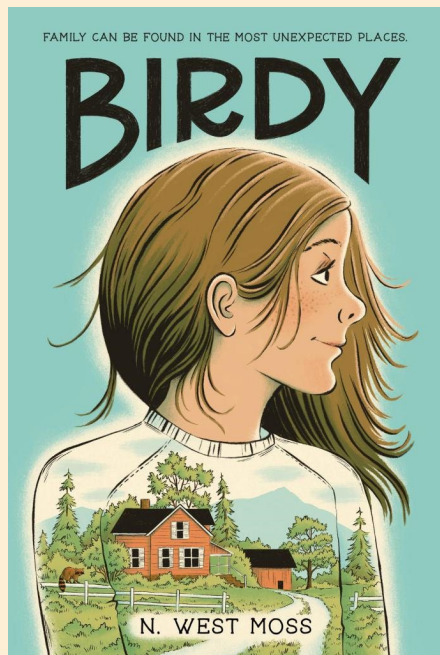
“Graff breaks our hearts and heals them, all in one compelling story.”

Kirby Larson, Newbery Honoree for Hattie Big Sky

Lisa Graff is the author of many award-winning novels, including *The Thing About Georgie*, *Umbrella Summer*, *Absolutely Almost*, *Lost in the Sun*, and *A Tangle of Knots*, which was nominated for the National Book Award for Young People’s Literature. A graduate of UCLA and a recipient of an MFA in Creative Writing for Children from The New School, Lisa also spent five years as an editor at Farrar, Straus & Giroux Books for Young Readers. She now lives with her family outside Philadelphia. lisagraff.com

“Wit and heart are such disparate things to combine appropriately in the span of a single novel for kids. What Lisa Graff has managed here isn’t merely extraordinary – it’s monumental.”

Betsy Bird, author of Long Road to the Circus and creator of the renowned School Library Journal blog Fuse #8



Territories Sold:
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After the death of their mother, Birdy and Mouse are forced to start over in this debut novel about discovering where you belong—for fans of *Forever This Summer* and *The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise*.

Eleven-year-old Birdy and her younger brother, Mouse, have always looked out for each other. They make the perfect team: Birdy is realistic and practical, while Mouse is affable and trusting. After their mother dies of cancer, Birdy and Mouse are forced to move out of the city to the country with relatives they've never met.

Aunt Mitzie and Uncle Shadow's house is full of organized chaos, and it takes Birdy time to adjust to having adults around. But the kitchen is always stocked, and both kids are allowed to play outside as often as they want. There's only one problem: it's all temporary. Their social worker has promised to find them a permanent home by the next school year, whether they want to leave or not. As the summer unfolds, Mouse starts to feel attached to their new life. But Birdy knows better—adults have never been reliable. When Birdy's fears get the best of her, she makes a big mistake that could jeopardize their future.

Heartfelt and emotionally resonant, this literary coming-of-age novel explores the unbreakable bond between siblings—and how family can be found in the most unexpected places.

N. West Moss is the author of the memoir *Flesh and Blood: Reflections on Infertility, Family, and Creating a Bountiful Life* (Algonquin, October 2021). Her essays and short stories have appeared in The New York Times, McSweeney's, and The Saturday Evening Post, among many other publications. Birdy is her first book for young readers. She lives in New Jersey and teaches at Montclair State University. nwestmoss.wordpress.com

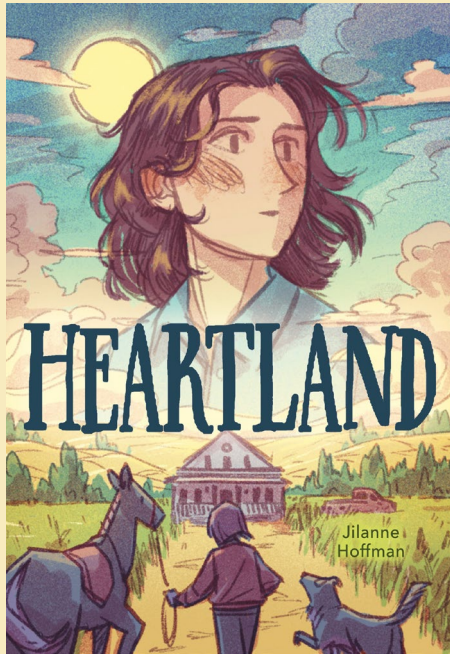
Praise for Birdy

"A moving intergenerational story about the power of love, loss, and chosen family. It shines with hope and resilience and second chances."

—Elly Swartz, acclaimed author of *Same Page*, *Hidden Truths*, and *Dear Student*

"Some writers have a special gift to connect readers with their characters and their story from page one. N. West Moss is one of those writers."

—Minneapolis Star Tribune



Out of the Dust meets *Me and Marvin Gardens* in this coming-of-age novel about a young misfit finding her voice within her family and her community, against the backdrop of an environmental cover-up that threatens the groundwater of the entire state.

Twelve-year-old Xyla is sick of two things: working on her family's sixth-generation Iowa farm and her mother's nagging words, "Pay attention!" But Xyla can't help getting lost in the thoughts that fill her head, sometimes leaving a wake of costly mistakes. If only her mother would tell her something, anything, about her father, who left when she was little. When Xyla finds her mother's hidden childhood diary, she's soon sucked into the story of a hardscrabble life on the family farm in the 1980s. Can she find the key to her past and her father in the pages?

Xyla's life grows even more complicated as a new family begins renting a vacant house on the farm, and the daughter Alegría is focused and motivated—the kind of kid Xyla is sure her mother prefers. But when the girls stumble upon an environmental disaster right next door, Xyla must trust her new friend and her complicated mother to figure out how to stop it. Alternating timelines connect the quiet desperation of Iowa farmers in the late 1980s to the modern farming landscape in this layered and voice-driven middle grade debut.

Territories Sold:
All rights are free

Meet the Author

Jilanne Hoffmann is the author of the picture books *The River of Dust: Africa to the Amazon* and *The Ocean's Heart*. She has a degree in engineering, an MFA in writing, and co-directs San Francisco's Kidquake. She is an active member of SCBWI, the Writing Barn Courage to Create, and 12x12, along with her science/engineering communities. She lives in San Francisco with her family. jilannehoffmann.com

Jilanne Hoffman's Awards and Recognitions

- ★ 2024 ALA Notable Children's Book
- ★ A 2023 Junior Library Guild Gold Selection
- ★ American Meteorological Society Louis J. Battan Author's Award (K-12)
- ★ Bank Street College of Education Best Children's Books of the Year, 2024
- ★ SCBWI Crystal Kite Winner, 2024



Graphic Novels



The Library of Memories, Barbara Perez & Lissy Marlin



Pub Date: August 25, 2026

Pages: 328

Ages: 8-12

The LIBRARY of MEMORIES

There is a library that exists out of time...

Copenhagen arrived one day to the Library of Memories with little memory of who she is, and she's been stuck here ever since. She takes to helping preserve the library alongside the wise mechanical creatures who tend to its care, but the longer she stays, the more she forgets. Unless she can find her memories, Copenhagen will cease to remember everything that makes her who she is.

But the library has been losing magic for quite some time, and with it, all the memories it holds. To save this wondrous place from ruin, Copenhagen will have to journey deeper into the library than she's ever ventured before, even if what she finds shatters everything she thought she knew.

In this luminous middle grade graphic novel full of magic and mystery, childhood friends Barbara Perez Marquez and Lissy Marlin have dreamed up a whimsical yet tender story that explores the power of memories lost and memories borrowed, of memories joyful and memories sad.



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(Scholastic Australia)

All other rights are free

Meet the Author

Barbara Perez Marquez is an Eisner-nominated, award-winning and bestselling queer writer. Born and raised in the Dominican Republic, she now lives in the USA. She writes short and long-form fiction, usually using coming-of-age and LGBTQIA+ themes. She invites you to find her online at mustachebabs.com

Meet the Illustrator

Lissy Marlin is an award-winning, *New York Times* bestselling illustrator from the Dominican Republic with a simple mission: To bring a little bit of magic to everyday life, one piece of art at a time! With comics, she hopes to bring stories to life full of color and whimsy. She invites you to find her online at lissymarlin.com



LEAD GRAPHIC NOVEL

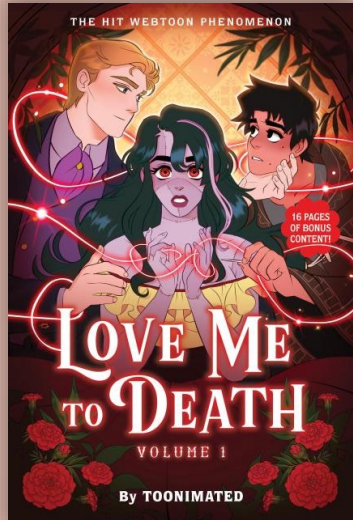


Love Me To Death: Volume 1, Toonimated



Pub Date: Jan 13, 2026

Pages: 432 Ages: 14+



Toonimated's wildy popular Webtoon is now in print for with a never-before-seen short story! For fans of *Anatomy: A Love Story* and *Lore Olympus* comes a graphic novel romantasy about the love triangle between a necromancer, a resurrected bride, and her very-much-alive groom.

31.4 million views,
551K subscribers, and
a high 9.53 rating on
Webtoon

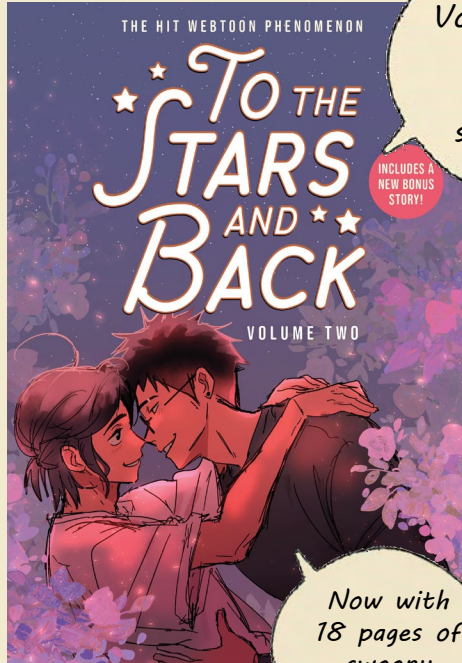
In the city of San Guadario, necromancy has been banned for one hundred years. Every aspect of life, from buying food to getting married, requires a signature written in one's own blood. If a necromancer were to sign, their identity would be revealed by the magic that courses through their veins. As a necromancer, Victor and his cute one-eyed cat must live a discreet life, constantly on the run.

Everything changes when the wealthiest patron in San Guadario hires Victor to resurrect his recently deceased, and impossibly beautiful, bride. The catch? Victor must perform an ancient ritual which eternally binds himself to this bride. After he brings her back to life, Victor finds himself magically entangled with the bride and groom and caught in the middle of more romance than he knows what to do with.



Rights Sold:
French (Editions Bliss)
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Volume 2 of
the hit
Webtoon
sensation!

INCLUDES A
NEW BONUS
STORY!

Now with
18 pages of
swoony
new comics!



To the Stars and Back: Volume 2

The heart-pounding conclusion to the sunshine-grumpy romance that is a WEBTOON sensation

Bo Seon and Kang Dae have been neighbors for several months, and best friends for a few more. They're closer than ever now but Bo Seon can't quiet the butterflies in his stomach much longer. He likes Kang Dae, but he doesn't want to ruin what they have.

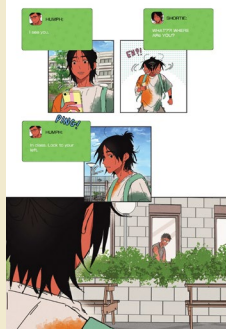
When the two finally confess to each other one starry night, everything aligns—they're officially a couple! But they're still learning to open up and trust one another. Bo Seon is haunted by secrets from his past but too scared to let anyone in, hiding further within in himself everyday. Kang Dae will do whatever it takes to earn his trust before it gets worse. After all, that's what you do when you're in love.



Rights Sold:

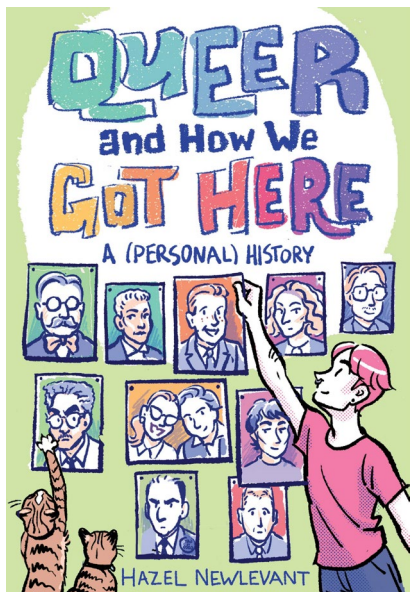
French (AC Media/Mana Books), Italian (Editrice Il Castoro), Portuguese (HarperCollins Brasil)

All other rights are free



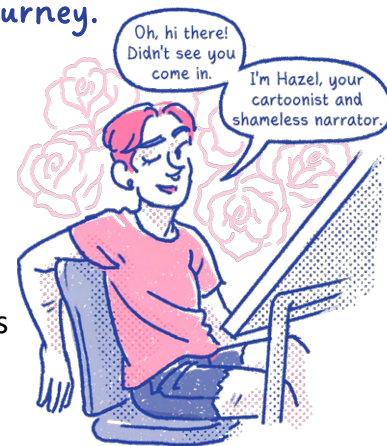


More than a historical narrative, this story of queer identity interweaves the author's personal history, showing queerness as both a community endeavor and deeply personal journey.

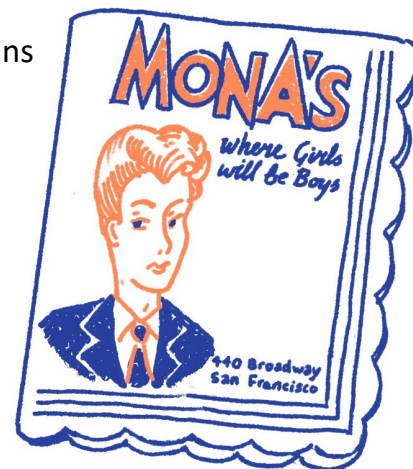


When Hazel was twelve years old, they came out as bisexual to their parents. At the time, they couldn't have imagined who they are today: a transmasculine and nonbinary person in a loving queer relationship.

In seeking to understand their own journey, Hazel takes readers on a parallel historic journey through queer culture and history—from the Western concepts of homosexuality and bisexuality to the synthesis of hormones. They unpack the idea of gender and its multitudes throughout time. They dive into the origins behind our concept of “coming out,” the history of cross-dressing and pronouns, and the emergence of drag.



As Hazel grows and changes, so too does their understanding of those who came before them, and the interweaving of both narratives gives the reader a powerful entryway into not just Hazel's journey to self-actualization, but the queer community at large.



Post-WW2, there was a broad US cultural push to reinforce the gender binary.

Remember, this is when doctors started doing surgeries on *infants* to try to eliminate any sexual ambiguity.

Many in the homophile movement were eager to drop their association with “the third sex.”



Rights Sold:
All rights are free

About the Author:

Hazel Newlevant is a Portland-raised, Brooklyn-based cartoonist. Their other comics include the graphic novellas *If This Be Sin* and *Sugar Town*, and the graphic novel *No Ivy League*. They also (co)edited the comics anthologies *Chainmail Bikini*, *Comics for Choice*, *Puerto Rico Strong*, and *Becoming Who We Are: Real Stories About Growing Up Trans*. Hazel's work as a cartoonist and editor has been honored with the Ignatz Award, the Eisner Award, and the GLAAD Media Award.



MIDDLE SCHOOL MONSTERS

Robin Easter

Pub Date: August 4, 2026

Pages: 224 | Ages 8-12

A werewolf looking for a fresh start finds unexpected friendship with her school's so-called vampire in this middle-grade graphic novel about fitting in, standing out, and accepting what makes us unique.



Rights Sold:

All rights are free

Everyone's hiding something in middle school.

Jamie McKenzie's secret? *She's a werewolf.*

New town. New school. Fresh start. Jamie's determined to keep her hairy legs hidden, her emotions in check, and her monster side locked down. No drama. No disasters. Just one painfully normal middle school year.

Everything seems to be going according to plan until she's seated next to Vera—the school “vampire”—in English class. Jamie's popular new friends say to steer clear. But there's something about Vera that feels... familiar.

The more she and Vera talk, the more Jamie wonders: could there really be other monsters like her out there?



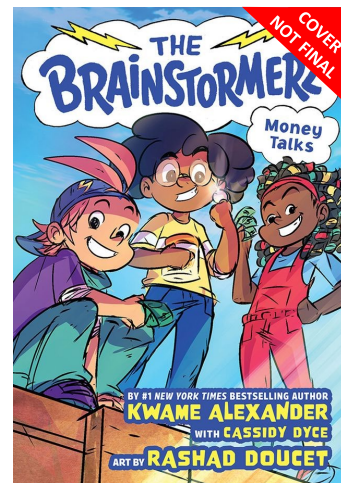
The Brainstormerz: Money Talks

Kwame Alexander, Cassidy Dyce, and Rashad Doucet

Pub Date: May 5, 2026

Pages: 248 | Ages 8-12

For readers of *New Kid* and *Click* comes a fresh, funny new middle grade graphic novel series about three resourceful best friends who take on everyday challenges at school and home with humor and heart.



Rights Sold:

All rights are free

Electric, or Lex, as his friends call him, is finally turning ten, and that means one thing: he's getting a phone! He's planning on getting the hottest phone on the market—the Apollo XL. But when his parents break the news that the Apollo XL way out of their budget, Lex is crushed.

Determined to achieve his dreams of being the coolest kid at Roberto Clemente Elementary School, he and his best friends DJ and Cass come up with a number of plans to raise the money for the phone themselves. From a hot chocolate stand to trying to run a doggie daycare, what could possibly go wrong?



Meet the Author/Illustrator

Robin Easter is a cartoonist and illustrator who graduated from SCAD with a degree in sequential art. They are also a grown-up theater kid, former camp counselor, and walking encyclopedia of random facts. Robin currently lives in Pennsylvania with their cats and more dice than any reasonable person should own.

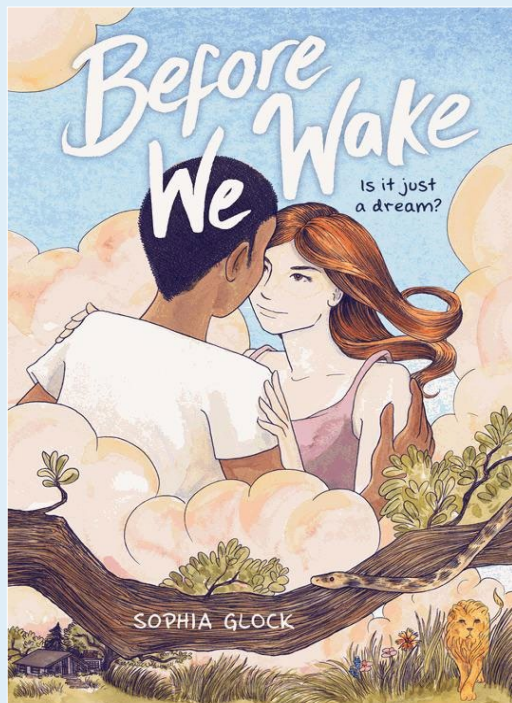
Meet the Authors

Kwame Alexander is the bestselling author of over forty books, including Newbery Medal-winning novel *The Crossover* and *The Undeclared*, winner of the Caldecott Medal and Newbery Honor. kwamealexander.com

Cassidy Dyce is an up-and-coming author who lives in Charlottesville, VA. cassidydyce.com

Meet the Illustrator

Rashad Doucet is an Eisner-winning cartoonist from New Orleans. He's written and illustrated several graphic novels, including *Art Club*, which was an ALA Best Graphic Novel of 2024. artstation.com



With the dreaminess of *Lore Olympus* and the magic of *The Girl from the Sea*, here is an ethereal, paranormal romance that plays out between a waking life that feels muted and a world of lucid dreams that sparkles in full color.

Haunted by a recurring dream, Alicia borrows a book about lucid dreaming, and soon learns to take control of her sleeping life. She welcomes the arrival of her best friend's boyfriend in her dreamworld, and soon sparks start to fly. But then he admits, when they are both awake, that he remembers everything that happened while they were asleep. Suddenly, Alicia's dream life has become as complicated as her waking one.

In this electrifying graphic novel, Glock whisks readers on a head-spinning romantic dream odyssey, exploring the ways in which we hold ourselves back—and what it will take to let our wildest dreams come true.

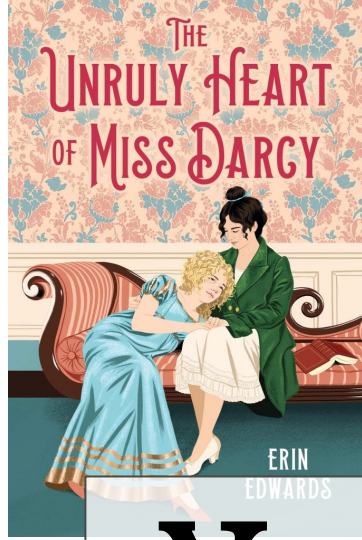
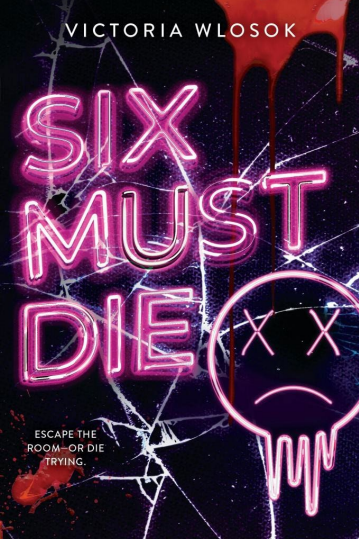
Sophia Glock is a cartoonist and the author of the graphic memoir *Passport*. Her comics and cartoons have been published in *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, *Buzzfeed*, *Narratively*, and *Time Out New York*. Her collection of comics *Born, Not Raised* was selected to be included in *The Society of Illustrators Cartoon and Comics Art Annual 2016* and her short comic *The Secrets in My Mother's Nightstand* was shortlisted for *The Cartoonist Studio Prize for Best Web Comic of the Year* in 2016. She is also the author of *The Lettuce Girl*, *SemiSolid*, *Over Ripe* and *Passport: Fig*. She currently lives in Virginia. sophiadraws.com

Rights Sold:

Sophia Glock has an option in **France** (Casterman).

All other rights are free.





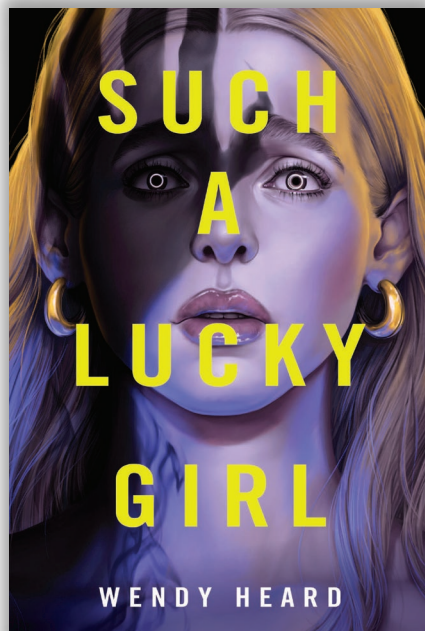
Young Adult



Such A Lucky Girl, Wendy Heard



Pub Date: June 16, 2026 Pages: 304 Ages: 14+



Territories Sold:
All rights are free

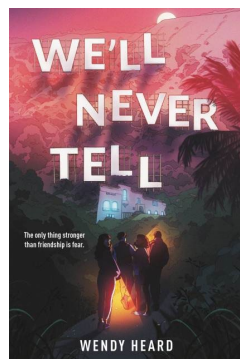
Perfect for fans of Rory Power and Tiffany D. Jackson, this twisty horror novel follows a magnetic young influencer who gets ensnared in a web of dark, jealousy-fueled magic.

Three years ago, Bella dumped her best friend Kerry to follow her dreams of becoming an influencer. It worked; she is Such a Lucky Girl, famous for her epic manifesting glow-up and dedicated to helping other girls be "lucky," too. She's living the dream—success, sponsorships, and fame. She burned her old life to the ground and never looked back.

Leaving Kerry behind. Alone. Angry.

When Kerry picks up a vintage self-help book on shadow work, she's fascinated by the suggested rituals. Get back at those who have wronged her? Yes, please. She has one person in mind, and that girl is smiling at her millions of followers, having forgotten Kerry long ago. But there's something attached to the book, something dark and ancient, and Kerry and Bella may not be ready for what is about to be unleashed.

Wendy Heard is the author of the acclaimed YA novels *We'll Never Tell*; *Dead End Girls*; and *She's Too Pretty to Burn*, which *Kirkus Reviews* praised as "a wild and satisfying romp" in a starred review, as well as three adult thrillers: *The Kill Club*, *Hunting Annabelle*, and *You Can Trust Me*. She is a member of Sisters in Crime, International Thriller Writers, and Mystery Writers of America, and is a contributor at *Crimereads.com* and *Writer's Digest*. Wendy lives in Los Angeles, California. wendyheard.com



Praise for *We'll Never Tell*

"Thriller fans, especially those who love One of Us Is Lying, will devour this page-turner."

Buzzfeed

"Readers be forewarned: once you pick up Heard's latest, you won't be able to put it back down, so be sure to clear your schedule...I could not put it down."

Liz Lawson, New York Times Bestselling author of *The Agathas* and *The Lucky Ones*

Such A Witch, Sarah Henning

LITTLE, BROWN AND COMPANY
BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS

Pub Date: July 28, 2026 Pages: 336 Ages: 12+



Territories Sold:
UK (Hachette UK)
 All other rights free

***Wednesday* meets *Clueless* set in magic boarding school in this delightfully fast-paced read that's part fluffy romcom, part murder mystery with a (literal) witchhunt.**

Pretty, popular, and a total witch, Embry Woodcross is entering senior year the queen bee of Raven's Head Boarding School for the Magically Gifted. But her first day of school is disrupted by the arrival of Oakley Riddle, clueless transfer student who's been homeschooled all her life. Oh, and she's a vampire, the only student with that magical designation.

Embry's mission is clear: take the new girl under her wing and make sure her first and last year of co-ed goes smoothly. Her boy-next-door coven-mate Rye Knighton may scoff at her crusade of good deeds, but Raven's Head students flock to Embry with love and appreciation. Until one good deed too many makes her the lead suspect in a murder investigation.

Everyone loves a witch until something bad happens.

As everything she's ever done is used against her, Embry and Rye must reclaim the term "witch hunt" to find the real killer and clear Embry's name once and for all—and maybe fall in love along the way.



Sarah Henning is the author of several books for young readers, including *Throw Like a Girl*, *It's All in How You Fall*, *Sea Witch*, *The Lies We Conjure*, and the *Kingdoms of Sand and Sky* series. When not writing, she runs a ton (but no longer has time for ultramarathons), dotes on her two kids and two cats, and takes walks with her husband and fluffy corgi. Sarah lives in Lawrence, Kansas, home to Langston Hughes, William S. Burroughs, and a really good basketball team (Rock Chalk!).

May The Dead Keep You, Jill Baguchinsky



LITTLE, BROWN AND COMPANY
BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS

Pub Date: April 21, 2026 Pages: 384 Ages: 14+



Territories Sold:
All rights are free

Jill Baguchinsky is the award-winning author of *So Witches We Became*. She lives in Florida.
jillbaguchinsky.com

A gothic YA horror about the pasts that haunt us and the stories we decide to make for ourselves, perfect for fans of *Don't Let the Forest In* and *Wuthering Heights*.

There's nowhere Catie East would rather be than the redwood forest that surrounds her family's unusual historic home, the Heights. She prefers being alone in the forest. People are...complicated. But when a scientist and his son move into the estate's cottage, planning to study the woods around them, the boy catches Catie's eye. And when a dead woodpecker miraculously comes back to life in his precious hands...he captures her heart.

Necromancy isn't the only strange thing happening in the Heights. There's an unfamiliar face in the mirror. Blood on the floors. Eyes in the wallpaper. And the men around her—including her once-sweet nature boy—are becoming something else. Something possessive and frightening.

Something violent.

As the Heights's dark history starts to come to light, Catie discovers that the home she loves is imbued with pain. And even though the pain isn't her own, it will corrupt her and the people around her all the same—unless she can stop it.

A story about breaking cycles of abuse and overcoming generational trauma, *May the Dead Keep You* is an edge-of-your-seat read—equally horrifying, heart-wrenching, and hopeful.



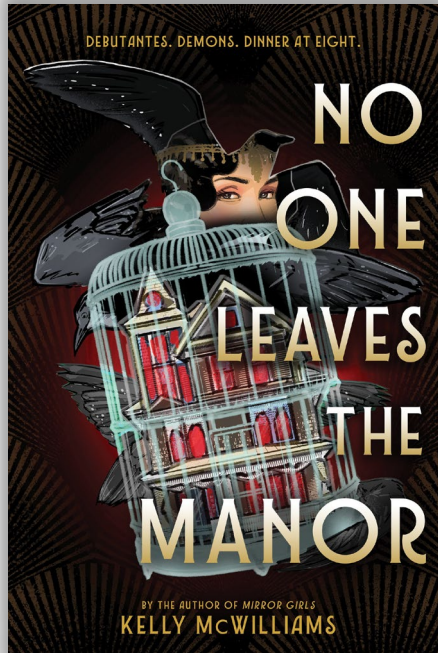
Praise for *So Witches We Became*

"Baguchinsky's first step into YA horror slams in like a storm, leaving you anxious and breathless in just the right way."

Andrew Joseph White, New York Times bestselling author of *Hell Followed with Us*

★ *"This is a claustrophobic, evocative tale, skillfully crafted and sharply descriptive... Powerfully angry and vengeance-laden, with terrifying and very human monsters."*

SLJ, starred review



Debutante dreams become bloody nightmares in this deliciously twisted multi-POV YA gothic horror—perfect for fans of *House of Hollow* and *Their Vicious Games*.

It's 1921, and Mrs. Caroline Reginald Kane, the last surviving descendant of a family of oil barons, has invited four young debutantes to visit her at Greystone Manor. There, they'll compete for the ultimate prize: to become heir to her unspeakably vast fortune.

But only one girl can win. *And the manor is watching.*

Dorothea is a thief, and the best liar in the American Northeast. Her mother vanished at Greystone years ago, and she's determined to find out why--so long as no one uncovers *her* secrets first.

Vaughn isn't crazy. She was born for this life. And she won't let anyone come between her and the fortune she deserves.

Birdie doesn't know why she's been invited. But she believes everything happens for a reason...and that reason just might be divine.

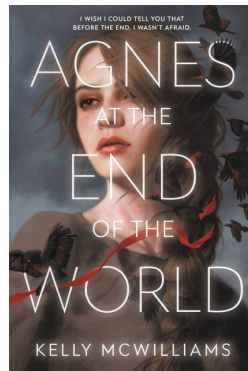
Elspeth is called "pretty as a peach, dim as a doorknob." But she sees things that the others can't: whispering birds, shifting walls, and a language that should never be spoken.

And there's **something else** hidden behind these walls. Something sinister.

It doesn't plan to let them leave alive.

Territories Sold:
All rights are free

Kelly McWilliams is the mixed race author of *Agnes at the End of the World* and *Mirror Girls*. Her work blends horror, history, and girlhood into something sharp enough to cut. She lives in Seattle, where she always feeds the birds, just in case they're keeping track.
kellymcwilliamsauthor.com



Praise for *Agnes at the End of the World*

★ "The ornate, complex text takes readers through Agnes' and Beth's journeys of reconciling their faith and desires, imbuing her well-rounded characters with purpose.... An excellent read."

Kirkus, starred review

"In a word: beautiful. With *Agnes at the End of the World*, Kelly McWilliams has crafted an emotional, powerful story, filled with hope and grace and utterly selfless love. Absolutely unforgettable."

Jodi Meadows, NYT bestselling author of *My Plain Jane* and the *Fallen Isles* Trilogy



Territories Sold:
All rights are free

**Stunning, immersive
debut voice**

★

**Enemies to friends to
lovers**

★

**A laugh-out-loud story
that is tender,
emotional, and real**

For fans of *Shut Up, This Is Serious*, this humorous, relatable novel gives an honest look at what it's like to fall in love for the first time...with someone you were sure you hated.

High school senior Mayte has never been kissed, but it hardly matters. Her abuelita has cancer, her half sister with special needs has moved in, and college is off the table—family comes first. Across town, fellow senior and aspiring novelist Auggie is set on attending an elite creative writing program in college despite being the self-proclaimed most boring person alive.

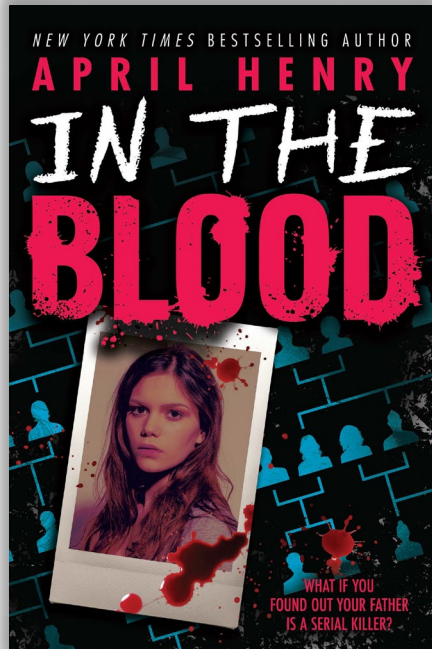
Then Auggie's popular best friend, Janko, drags him to a house party, where he stumbles into meeting Mayte and her friends. The very next week, while Auggie tries to salvage his reputation after puking in a pool at said house party, Mayte's abuelita and Janko decide to set Mayte and Auggie up on a blind date. “Disaster” doesn't even begin to describe it.

But like it or not, their social circles are merging, and Mayte and Auggie must at least pretend to get along. No way they could actually like each other, especially not like that. Until they do. And neither has the guts to admit it.

When tragedy strikes Mayte's family, Auggie's noble intentions to help her heal intertwine with his personal ambitions, upending his relationships and the truest story he's ever been part of. Can Auggie redeem himself to the people he loves the most, or will he throw it all away for a shot at a prestigious future?

Gabriela Gonzales holds a BA in creative writing from Belmont University. A former literary nonprofit program coordinator, her poetry and fiction have been featured in Wigleaf, Lost Balloon, Chestnut Review, The Lumiere Review, and elsewhere. She has been nominated for Best of the Net, Best New Poets, and multiple times for The Pushcart Prize. She also performed last year at TEDx Nashville. Gabriela lives in Camp Hill, PA. *How to Love You When You're Gone* is her debut novel.

gabriलगonzales.com



Territories Sold:
All rights are free

When Tessa takes a DNA test to try to find her biological parents, she unknowingly puts herself in the sights of a serial killer known as the Portland Phantom.

Adopted as a newborn, Tessa has always wondered who her biological parents are. After turning 18, she takes a DNA test in hopes of finding the answers. With best friend El and lab partner Victor, Tessa uses the results to start building her family tree. But they find more dead ends than answers.

Her biological mother, who was raised in a religious cult, has cut all ties with her controlling family. And her biological father remains a complete mystery, at least until the police show up. For fifteen years, they've been trying to identify a serial killer known as the Portland Phantom. Tessa is the link they've been waiting for.

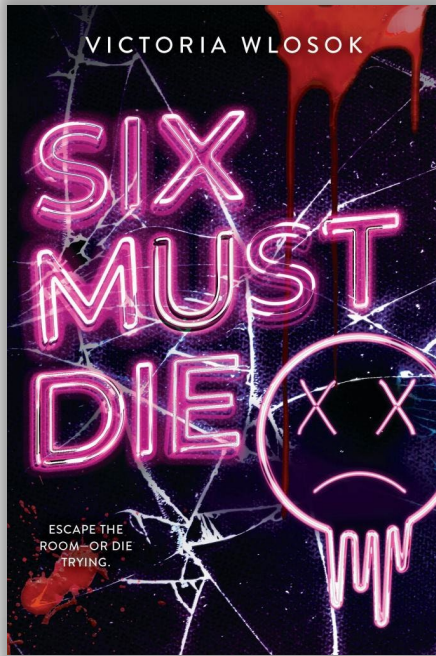
April Henry delivers a twisty tour-de-force about the families who choose us—and the ones we're born into. Biology doesn't have to be one's destiny.

April Henry is the New York Times bestselling author of many acclaimed mysteries for adults and over fifteen novels for teens, including the bestselling *Girl, Stolen*; *Girl Forgotten*, which won the Edgar Award, *Two Truths and a Lie*, which was a YALSA Top Ten Quick Pick for Reluctant Young Adult Readers; and *The Girl I Used to Be*, which was an Edgar Award finalist and won the Anthony Award for Best YA Mystery. aprilhenry.com



April Henry's Awards

- ★ Edgar Award Winner for Best Young Adult Mystery
- ★ Anthony Award Winner for Best Young Adult Mystery
- ★ Two-time Edgar Award Nominee for Best Young Adult Mystery
- ★ Five Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selections

**Territories Sold:**

German (HarperCollins Germany)
French (Editions Robert Laffont)

Victoria Wlosok is the author of the young adult thrillers *How to Find a Missing Girl* and *Six Must Die*. She spends her time researching methods of murder for future books, attempting to break out of escape rooms, and teaching language arts in the mountains of the Czech Republic. She invites you to follow her on Instagram, TikTok, and X @xvictoriawrites, or visit her website at victoriawlosok.com

Perfect for fans of *I Know What You Did Last Summer* and Karen M. McManus, this propulsive thriller follows a fractured group of friends as they fight to survive a killer escape room in rural Tennessee.

Twelve months ago, an escape room fire took everything from Steffi Zamekova. In just one hour, she lost it all: her popular blog, her close-knit inner circle, and her memories of the night that killed one of the group's own... the charismatic (if infuriating) Matt Cesari.

On the anniversary of the bewildering tragedy, Steffi is still desperate to piece together what went wrong. So when she receives an ominous invitation in the mail summoning her to the new escape room across town, she seizes the chance for answers.

Reunited with her former friends, Steffi sees the game as a last chance to uncover the truth behind Matt's death. But it's soon clear that each participant has their own cagey reasons for accepting the challenge.

As tensions rise and the players are picked off one by one, it's a race against the clock for Steffi to uncover their secrets and unlock her own memories before the game's mastermind ensures that *no one* escapes the room alive.



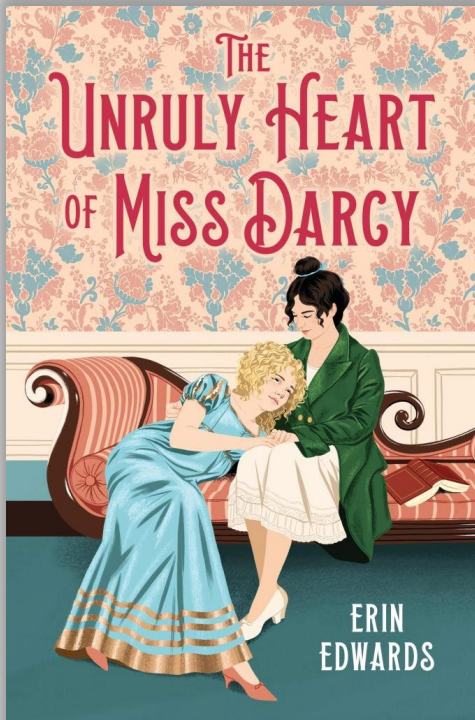
Praise for *How To Find A Missing Girl*

"Heart-pounding and riddled with twists and turns, Wlosok's debut is a thrill-ride I hoped would never end."

Courtney Gould, award-winning author of *The Dead* and *the Dark* and *Where Echoes Die*

"The voice that this generation's mystery readers have been waiting for. *How to Find a Missing Girl* is edge-of-your-seat compelling from beginning to end. Victoria Wlosok promises teenage sapphic detectives and delivers on every beat."

Chloe Gong, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *These Violent Delights*



Territories Sold:
All rights are free

Mr. Darcy got his happily ever after in *Pride and Prejudice*, and now it's his sister's turn in this swoony queer romance, perfect for fans of *Bridgerton*.

Georgiana Darcy has only ever kissed one girl before, and the resulting blackmail almost ruined her reputation. Since then, she's carefully calibrated her life to be as quiet as possible, focusing on books and music. She certainly isn't planning on falling in love with another girl. But then she meets Kitty Bennet, and everything is thrown off kilter.

After a moonlit kiss shifts their newfound friendship into something more, Georgiana follows Kitty to the Bennets' home. The visit proves ill-timed when she encounters the one man who knows her secret and threatened her with it before. Terrified of testing the limits of her family's love and of putting Kitty in danger, Georgiana doesn't know if there's any chance of a happy ending.

Every etiquette guide she's ever read makes it clear that if she wants to protect her family name, Georgiana must pretend her heart follows society's accepted rhythm. Unless, with a little help from those who understand how it feels, she can compose the future she and Kitty both deserve.

Erin Edwards is a lesbian with a love for all things literary, historical, and theatrical. By day, she can be found in an archive, attempting to decipher old handwriting and digging through boxes of hidden histories. By night, she's probably in a theatre, waiting for the lights to go down and the magic to start. Erin grew up struggling to find enough queer fiction to fill a single shelf and now she's committed to the cause of helping to fill endless bookcases with queer stories. She lives in London. *The Unruly Heart of Miss Darcy* is her debut novel.

"Moonlit meetings, secret longings, and whispering touches – this tender romance captures the feeling of having your heart cradled for the first time. The Unruly Heart of Miss Darcy composes a vibrant, clever, and much-needed tune for the Regency genre."

Cass Biehn, author of Vesuvius



Hachette's newly-launched **New Adult** imprint,
led by the Little, Brown for Young Readers
Publishing Team

The REQUITED list offers fast-paced, romantic, bingeable novels across genres that center characters in their upper teens and twenties as they navigate early adulthood. The imprint will have a boutique approach, with a balanced list of 10-20 titles a year and a focus on author partnership.

The Wicked Sea, Jordan Stephanie Gray



Pub Date: April 7, 2026

Pages: 448

Ages: 18+



In this dark and sultry romantasy perfect for fans of Emily McIntire, Kerri Maniscalco, and Callie Hart, a mermaid battles hatred—and lust—for the wretched warlock who saved her life.

Mermaid Zephyra of the Syl dreams of freedom. On the run from a dangerous captor and years of abuse, she's shed her tail, grown legs, and hidden herself on land in the merrow-loathing kingdom of Mortia, left to steal and barter on the dirty streets. But her freedom is short-lived when she's caught and sentenced to death by the brutal warlock, Arion Stone.

Arion is as beautiful as he is cold and deadly, only interested in punishing the merrow he views as evil. He has grown as strong as any warlock might, but at great personal cost...which can only be remedied by the heart of the God of Death, lost to a fabled kingdom beneath the ocean's treacherous depths.

"Sexy, treacherous, and deeply romantic, this is the mermaid series we've all been waiting for."

Shelby Mahurin, New York Times bestselling author of Serpent & Dove

So Arion offers Zephyra a deal she can't refuse; help him find the mystical heart, and he'll spare her life. With no other options, Zephyra agrees, entangling their souls and forbidden desires in a magical bargain until death do they part. But Zephyra's past is catching up to her, and the enemy she fled seeks vengeance. If Zephyra and Arion can't learn to fight together—and trust each other—there are worse things awaiting them than just death.

Of course, in the wicked sea, everyone has secrets, and no one should be trusted.

Jordan Stephanie Gray is the debut author of the young adult werewolf romantasy, *Bitten*, and the adult mermaid romantasy, *The Wicked Sea*. When she isn't dreaming up the fantastical and romantic, she is likely cuddling her two pugs and two chihuahuas in sunny Florida. She invites you to visit her at jordanstephaniegray.com.



THE WICKED SEA Territories Sold:
UK (Hodder And Stoughton Limited),
Spanish (Urano World Spain),
Portuguese - Brazil (Companhia das Letras), **Portuguese - Portugal** (PRH Grupo Editorial), **Romanian** (Corint Books SRL), **German** (Lyx), **French** (Eilean Books)

"Jordan Gray is sure to be a force in romantic fantasy."

Sasha Peyton Smith, New York Times bestselling author of The Rose Bargain



Fall 2026 Teaser!

Merry Ex-mas by C.C. Dador

In this time-loop holiday romance, a 26-year-old woman is caught reliving the same Christmas Day with a different ex, until she can finally discover her one true love and break the cycle, perfect for fans of *In A Holiday* or *The Holiday Swap*.

26-year-old Mary is home for the holidays and feeling very single. With every other member of her boisterous family either dating, engaged, or expecting, she's getting desperate to find her other half...so desperate, in fact, she consults a psychic.

But the prediction she receives might as well be a lump of coal: The psychic tells her this time next year she'll be with her one true love. The catch? It's someone she's got history with. With Mary's list of terrible exes, she finds that hard to believe.

After a Christmas Eve non-hookup gone wrong, Mary slips on a patch of ice and blacks out, waking up on Christmas Day one year later, married to her college ex. Soon she discovers she's caught in a time loop, as she relives the same Christmas Day, each time with a different ex. Through it all, Mary learns that none of these people are who she wants to spend Christmas with, and with the help of her childhood friend Robbie who pops up in every scenario, she uncovers who she really wants to be...and who she really wants to be with.



C.C. Dador writes heartwarming romances filled with big laughs, cozy vibes and sexy moments you'll want to snuggle up with again and again. Like her work in event planning, C.C. is all about swoon-worthy details and making sure her readers are having their best day. C.C. lives in the D.C. metro area and is a first generation Filipino American. When C.C. isn't writing, you can find her enjoying seasonal drinks and hunting for the perfect gifts for friends and family. C.C. Also writes for young adults under the name Celeste Dador. *Stars, Stripes & Summer Nights* is her young adult debut.

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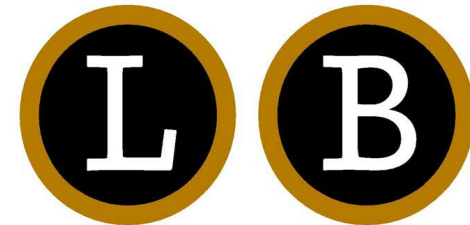
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