

BOLOGNA 2026

An artistic illustration featuring two women in profile, looking towards a glowing, golden orb held in the hands of a third person. The scene is set against a dark, starry sky with faint constellations and small, glowing birds or spirits. The woman on the left has dark hair and is wearing a blue garment. The woman on the right has long, dark, wavy hair and is wearing a red and purple patterned garment. The overall mood is magical and ethereal.

Simon & Schuster
Children's Publishing

US RIGHTS GUIDE

SIMON & SCHUSTER CHILDREN'S PUBLISHING DIVISION

CONTACTS

US RIGHTS TEAM

Stephanie Voros
VP Director of Subsidiary Rights
stephanie.voros@simonandschuster.com

Amy Habayeb
Senior Director of Subsidiary Rights
amy.habayeb@simonandschuster.com

Deane Norton
Senior Director of Subsidiary Rights
deane.norton@simonandschuster.com

US IMPRINTS

ALADDIN

ATHENEUM BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS

BEACH LANE BOOKS

BOYNTON BOOKWORKS

DENENE MILLNER BOOKS

LITTLE SIMON

MARGARET K. MCELDERRY BOOKS

SALAAM READS

S&S BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS

SCARLETT PRESS

SIMON PULSE

SIMON SPOTLIGHT

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BOLOGNA 2026

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Please note: all page/word counts are tentative until a book has been published.

PICTURE BOOKS

Horizontal Crocodile,
Page 4



HORIZONTAL CROCODILE

By Scott Rothman

Illustrated by Brian Won

S&S Books for Young Readers

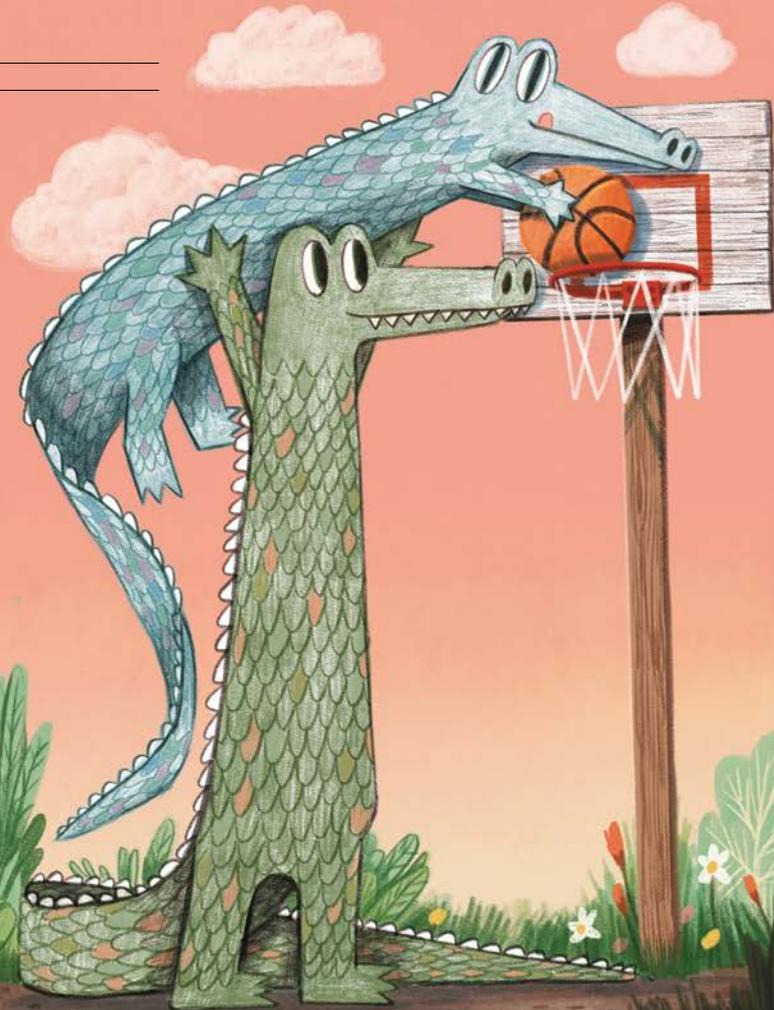
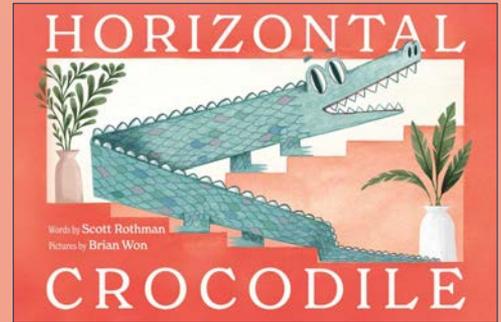
When a very looooooong Horizontal Crocodile gets ready for a visit from a friend, his list of chores makes for a looooooong day in this charming and ridiculous picture book perfect for fans of *Tiny T. Rex* and *the Impossible Hug* and *Mother Bruce*.

In a nice, looooooong swamp, lives a nice, looooooong Horizontal Crocodile whose long-lost best friend is coming over . . . but Horizontal Crocodile's nice, long house is one HUGE mess!

Can he get it cleaned up in time for his best buddy's visit? See the lengths Horizontal Crocodile goes to in the name of being a caring and considerate friend in this hilarious and heartwarming read-aloud.

Publication Date: September 2026

Page Extent: 48 pp



MONSTERS ARE THE WORST!

By Alex Willan

Imprint: S&S Books for Young Readers

Gilbert accidentally brings home a slobbery, bite-sized monster in the hilarious latest installment in *The Worst!* picture book series, where even the strangest of creatures can become the best of friends.

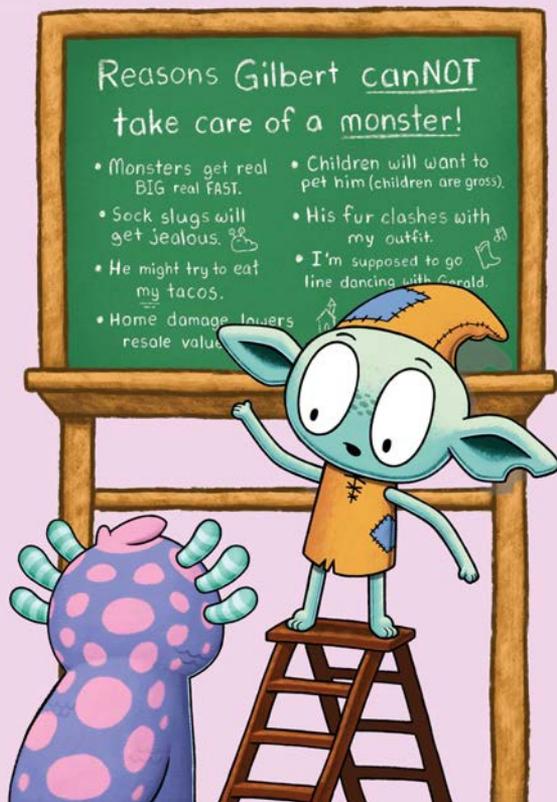
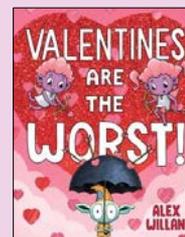
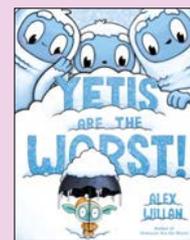
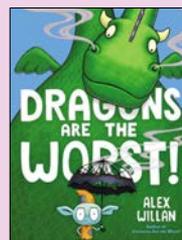
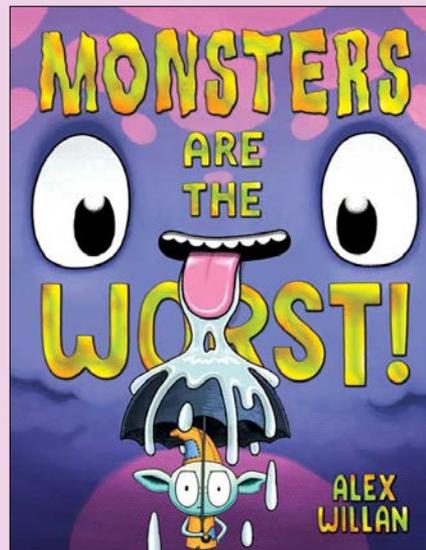
When plucky Gilbert the Goblin and his pal Chicken go camping together, they run into creatures that go bump in the night! The friends immediately flee the woods and head home—after all, everyone knows that monsters are absolutely, undeniably, unequivocally the worst!

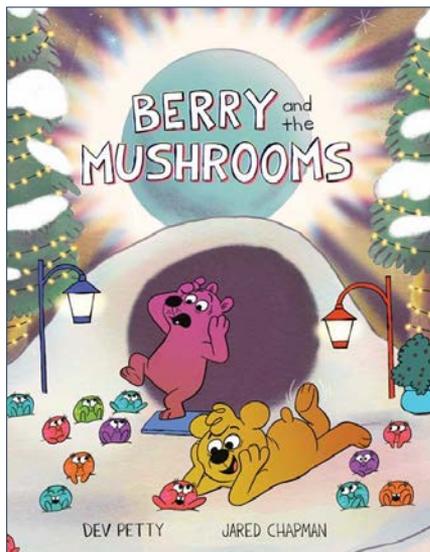
But when a shocking stowaway appears in Gilbert's knapsack, looking awfully cute and extra snuggly, Gilbert is . . . smitten! Sure, monsters can bite and drool and make a big mess, but they can also steal your heart. It's a tale so sweet, it's scary!

Publication Date: July 2026

Page Extent: 40 pp

RIGHTS SOLD FOR *UNICORNS ARE THE WORST!*: French, Italian, Spanish





BERRY AND THE MUSHROOMS

By Dev Petty
Illustrated by Jared Chapman
Imprint: S&S Books for Young Readers



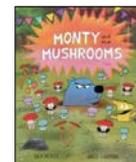
Hibernating bears get woken up by bizarre and noisy mushrooms in this slyly humorous picture book from the creators of *Monty and the Mushrooms*—perfect for fans of *Unicorns Are the Worst!* and *Fluffy McWhiskers Cuteness Explosion!*

Nature is all about balance—and in winter, it's time to rest. But when a strange blue moon rises in the sky, it brings out the cutest, weirdest mushrooms the forest has ever seen! Their aggressively adorable chatter wakes hibernating bears Glen and Berry.

While Glen worries these peculiar plants and the “mushmoon” that summoned them are a sign nature is out of whack, Berry adopts the vivacious newcomers as pets. With the mushrooms' motivations murky at best, will they mean the end of Glen and Berry's friendship—and, possibly, the end of Glen and Berry?

Publication Date: November 2026

Page Extent: 40 pp



I NEED SPACE

By Molly Harris
Illustrated by Jon Corby
Imprint: Margaret K. McElderry Books

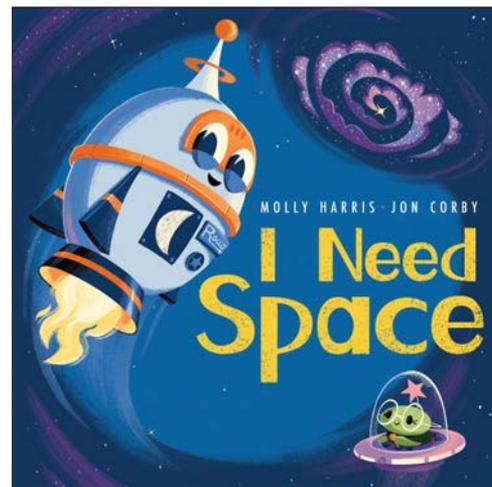
A rocket ship demonstrates how taking some time by yourself can help you cope with stressful or overwhelming situations in this sweet and brightly illustrated story about regulating emotions, perfect for fans of *I Am a Tornado* and *Nobody Hugs a Cactus*.

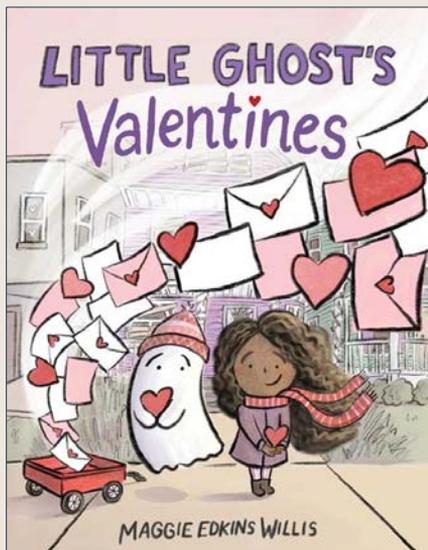
For a rocket ship like Rocco, space is one big playground, but like most playgrounds, not everyone plays by the rules. Rocco tries to be patient with the toy-stealers and line-cutters . . . until he's knocked off course by some roughhousing meteors. Suddenly he can't take it anymore!

Luckily, before he blows a fuse, Rocco remembers that sometimes the best way to cool his jets is to get some space. All it takes to refill his tank is a few peaceful minutes by himself—after all, space has plenty of room for everyone to have fun!

Publication Date: October 2026

Page Extent: 32 pp





LITTLE GHOST'S VALENTINES

By Maggie Edkins Willis
Imprint: Beach Lane Books

Little Ghost finds the courage to show his neighbors and friends just how much he cares for them in this delightful Valentine's Day picture book by bestselling author-illustrator Maggie Edkins Willis.

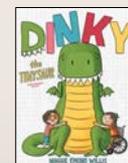
Little Ghost loves love and can't wait to make Valentine's Day cards for all his friends—especially Anya. But when it's time to hand them out, Little Ghost becomes overwhelmed and doesn't think he can do it. Then a gust of winter wind sends his cards flying around the neighborhood!

While tracking down the valentines, Little Ghost and Anya discover that a little love goes a long way in their community . . . and that sometimes the love you give will make its way back to you.

Publication Date: December 2026

Page Extent: 40 pp

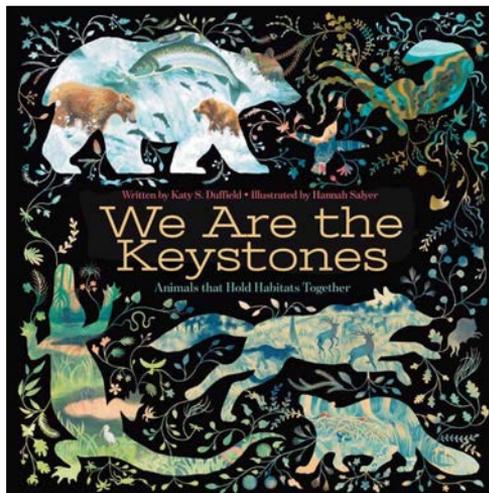
RIGHTS SOLD FOR *LITTLE GHOST MAKES A FRIEND*: Catalan, Portuguese (Portugal), Spanish



NON FICTION

Dinosaurs To Dragons
Page 11





WE ARE THE KEYSTONES

By Katy S. Duffield
 Illustrated by Hannah Salyer
 Imprint: Beach Lane Books

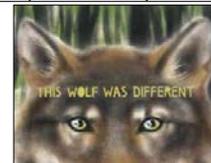
Meet keystone species—the hidden heroes of the natural world—and learn about the ecosystems they support in this marvelous nonfiction picture book from the author of *Crossings* and the illustrator of *This Wolf Was Different*.

Keystone species are plants, animals, or other organisms that have a huge effect on the environments around them. From beavers to elephants, alligators to hummingbirds, keystones help themselves and other species survive. Whether creating habitats for themselves and other animals, leaving behind leftovers that fertilize the soil, or clearing out harmful algae, keystones live up to their name in their essential contribution to the harmony of our natural world.

Publication Date: September 2026

Page Extent: 40 pp

RIGHTS SOLD FOR *THIS WOLF WAS DIFFERENT*: Chinese (simplified), French, Japanese



ALIGHT

By Jennifer Torres
 Illustrated by Molly Magnell
 Imprint: Atheneum Books for Young Readers

Take flight with red-crowned parrots in this inspiring true story of animals adapting to an urban environment far from their native habitat. Perfect for animal lovers and anyone who has ever needed to find a new home!

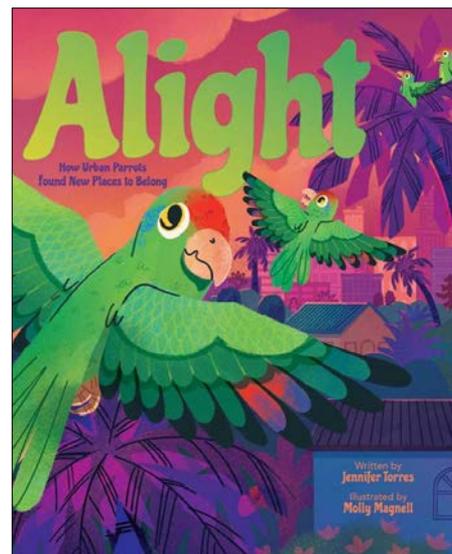
They squawk. They screech. They swoop from palm trees to power lines.

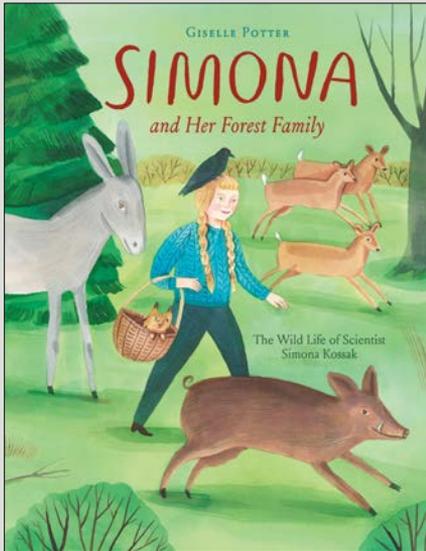
In sunny California, the chatty red-crowned parrot is a part of daily life. Every day, thousands of parrots soar above city streets, cackling and clamoring. They swipe fruit from gardens. They flap over pools and parking lots. They alight on branches where parrots did not always belong.

How did these urban parrots, native to the rugged slopes and wooded canyons of Mexico, find themselves so far from home? How did they form new communities and find new ways to thrive? This true story of animal adaptation and finding new places to belong is an inspiring example of resilience and resourcefulness in the natural world—and within us all.

Publication Date: June 2026

Page Extent: 40 pp





SIMONA AND HER FOREST FAMILY

By Giselle Potter
Imprint: Beach Lane Books

Follow scientist Simona Kossak as she steps into the forest and builds a life with a family of animal friends in this enchanting picture book biography by the illustrator of *How to Build a Hug*.

Simona Kossak set her heart on a life studying animals and living in their world. So she moved from the city where she was born to a cabin nestled in the forest. Over time, Simona grew her forest family, nursing injured animals back to health and fostering orphaned critters.

While the townsfolk accused her of being a witch, her compassion and respect for the rescued animals earned her the trust of the forest animals, and their worlds became one.

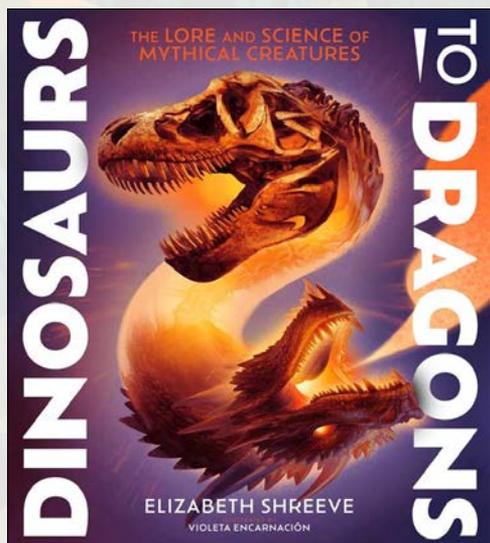
This moving story brings to light Simona Kossak's extraordinary and unconventional scientific pursuits, teaching young readers that by paying attention to the natural world and having compassion for all living things, they can find friendship in unexpected places.

Publication Date: January 2027

Page Extent: 40 pp

RIGHTS SOLD FOR *HOW TO BUILD A HUG*: Japanese





DINOSAURS TO DRAGONS

By Elizabeth Shreeve
 Illustrated by Violeta Encarnación
 Imprint: Atheneum Books for Young Readers

An imaginative nonfiction middle-grade exploration of mythology, paleontology, and early civilizations invites readers to delight in legendary creatures from across the globe and the fossils that might have inspired their origins.

What if we lived in a world with fire-breathing dragons? Or enigmatic, alluring mermaids? How about rainbow-nibbling unicorns? These fabled beasts aren't as far from us as we think. After all, their legends had to have come from somewhere . . .

This book weaves together legendary tales and new scientific findings to uncover connections between real and mythical creatures. Learn how our ancestors took what they found in the world and created the beloved fantastical creatures we dream about today.

Could the skull of a protoceratops have inspired the hooked beak of a griffin? From manatee to mermaid, heron to phoenix, readers will trace the truth behind these fantastical creatures and make some new discoveries along the way!

Publication Date: July 2026

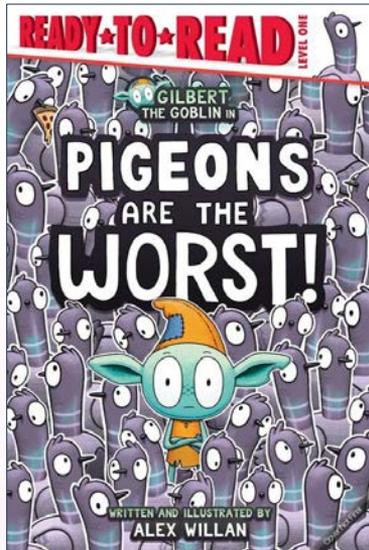
Page Extent: 96 pp





FICTION

Bawk to the Future,
Page 14



THE WORST! SERIES: PIGEONS ARE THE WORST! SQUIRRELS ARE THE WORST!

By Alex Willan
Imprint: Simon Spotlight

Renowned picture book author-illustrator Alex Willan brings Gilbert the Goblin to this new Ready-to-Read series. Mo Willems meets Bob Shea in these Level 1 stories about a grouchy goblin who wants to make it very clear which creatures really are the worst.

Gilbert the Goblin is absolutely, definitely, 100-percent certain that pigeons (but also squirrels) are the worst. Pigeons eat the food in his fridge—and worst of all—peck at his pizza! And don't get him started on the evils pigeons perpetrate! But really, they're the ones who should be afraid of Gilbert and his tremendous goblin power!

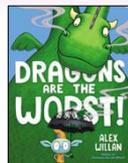
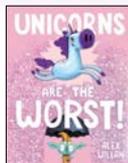
ALEX WILLAN is the author-illustrator of the Worst! picture book series and the Jasper & Ollie series, as well as the illustrator of *Got Your Nose*, written by Alan Katz. Alex lives in Chicago with his dog, Harley, who is the absolute best.

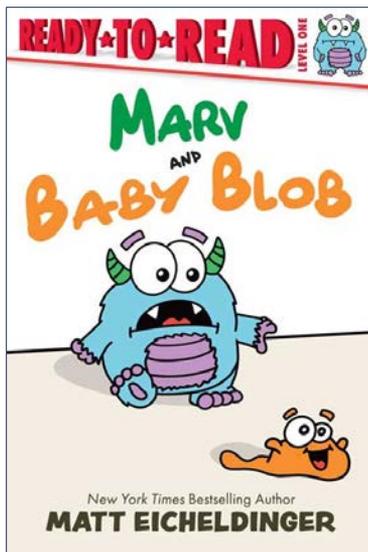
Publication Date: *Pigeons Are the Worst!*: August 2026; *Squirrels Are the Worst!*: January 2027

Ages: 4-6

Page Extent: 32 pp

RIGHTS SOLD FOR *UNICORNS ARE THE WORST!*: French, Italian, Spanish





MARV AND BABY BLOB MARV AND BABY BLOB FIND A BUTTERFLY

By Matt Eicheldinger
Imprint: Simon Spotlight

From *New York Times* bestselling author-illustrator Matt Eicheldinger comes a hilarious new Level 1 Ready-to-Read series starring Marv the alien and his brother, Baby Blob.

Sharing toys with his brother, Baby Blob, or helping him feel brave can be a problem for Marv. But when Baby Blob finds something else to do or is scared to face his fears, Marv is left with bigger problems that only a big brother can solve.

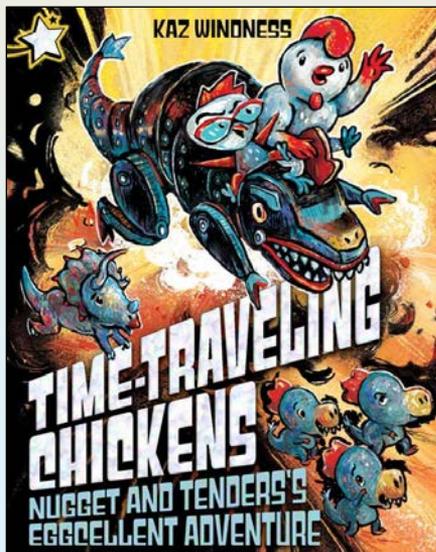
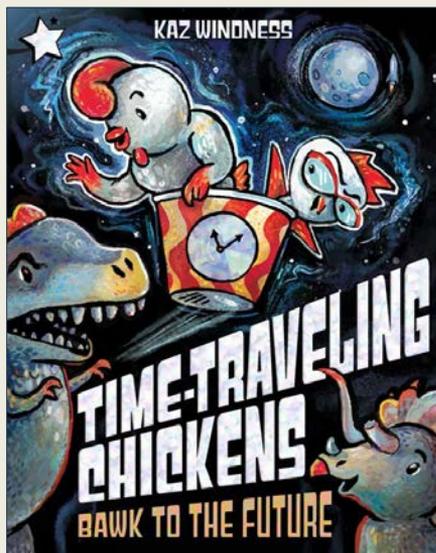
MATT EICHELDINGER is one of the most well-known teachers on social media, where his captivating and relatable storytelling has garnered more than 100 million views. A middle school teacher, author, public speaker, and storyteller, Matt draws on hundreds of memories, many from his years in the classroom, to connect to audiences with humor, heart, and perspective.

Publication Date: *Marv and Baby Blob*: August 2026; *Find a Butterfly*: January 2027

Ages: 4–6

Page Extent: 32 pp





TIME-TRAVELING CHICKENS: BAWK TO THE FUTURE NUGGET AND TENDERS'S EGGCELLENT ADVENTURE

By Kaz Windness
Imprint: Simon Spotlight

Two chicken friends have been trapped in a time-travel machine by evil mad scientists! Join these two unlikely heroes as they travel their way through the ages in this rollicking new series from Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor-winning author-illustrator Kaz Windness!

In *Bawk to the Future*, Tenders and Nugget have time-traveled to the age of the dinosaurs! Can Tenders and Nugget change the course of chicken-kind, save their fellow chicks from the evil scientists, and get back to their future, or is the duo doomed to be a dinosaur's dinner?

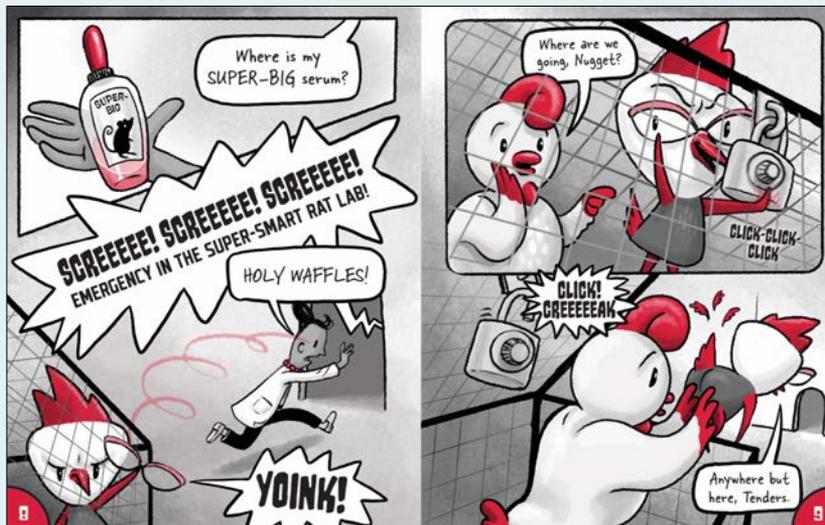
In *Nugget and Tenders's Eggcellent Adventure*, Nugget and Tenders discover that evil scientists are hatching a plan for world domination—and chicken is definitely on the menu! To make matters worse, the fowl friends' baby chick, Waffles, has been kidnapped by the scientist ringleader. Nugget and Tenders are going to need help from the greatest minds in history to rescue Waffles and stop the scientists, so they fire up their time machine and jump through history to recruit the perfect team. Can they work quickly enough to save their baby . . . and the world?

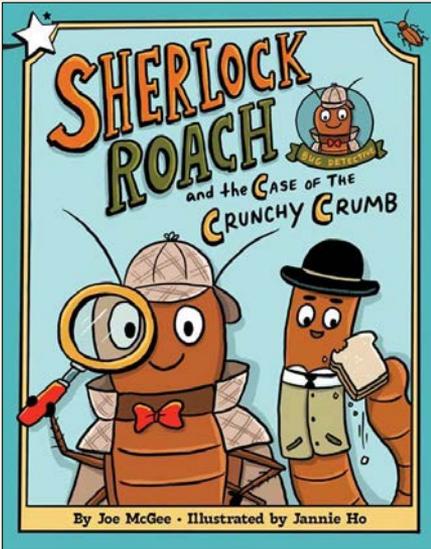
KAZ WINDNESS is the author-illustrator of picture books *Swim, Jim!*; *Bitsy Bat, Team Star*, and *Bitsy Bat, School Star*, and the creator of the Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor Ready-to-Read Graphics book *Worm and Caterpillar Are Friends* and its sequel *Worm and Butterfly Are Friends Always*.

Publication Date: *Bawk to the Future*: August 2026; *Eggcellent Adventure*: November 2026

Ages: 5–9

Page Extent: 112 pp/2.6K words





**SHERLOCK ROACH, BUG DETECTIVE:
THE CASE OF THE CRUNCHY CRUMB
THE CASE OF THE STICKY SITUATION**

By Joe McGee
Illustrated by Jannie Ho
Imprint: Simon Spotlight

Have you ever wondered what goes on underneath your couches and carpets? There's a whole world of house bugs, and the famous Sherlock Roach and his loyal partner Dr. Wormston are the best chance Bugopolis has when it comes to cracking the dirtiest cases. More than just a detective duo, they're friends who always stick together.

In *Sherlock Roach and the Case of the Crunchy Crumb*, when a very important crumb vanishes without a trace, the pair hunts for clues throughout the insect underworld in a mystery that's easy to follow, fun to read, and filled with laughs. Can they crack the case before all the crumbs disappear for good?

In *Sherlock Roach and the Case of the Sticky Situation*, all the pies at the Queen Bee's annual pie competition have gone missing. Who would do such a terrible thing? Could it have been three-year champion Bella Beetle? Or perhaps it was the Moth Brothers trying to outdazzle the competition? Come along as Sherlock Roach follows the crumbs that lead to a sticky and surprising whodunit!

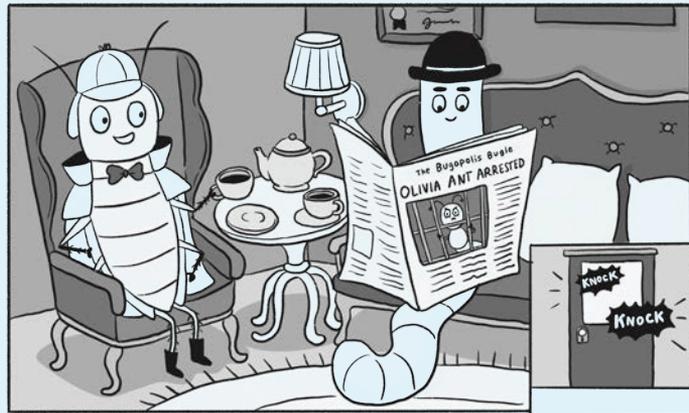
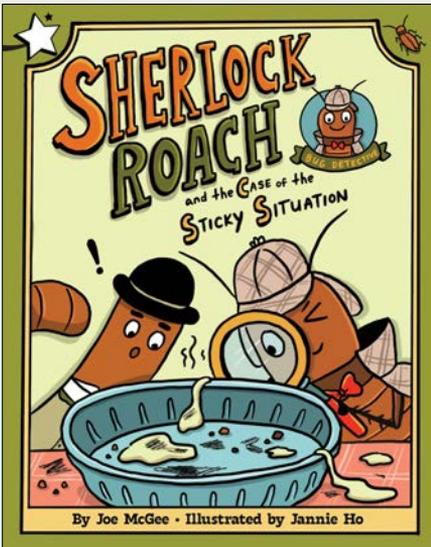
JOE MCGEE (1972–2025) always loved to write about monsters and magic and other strange, curious, and quirky things. He grew up with his nose in a book and his imagination exploring other worlds. He knew when he was ten years old that one day he would grow up to be an author!

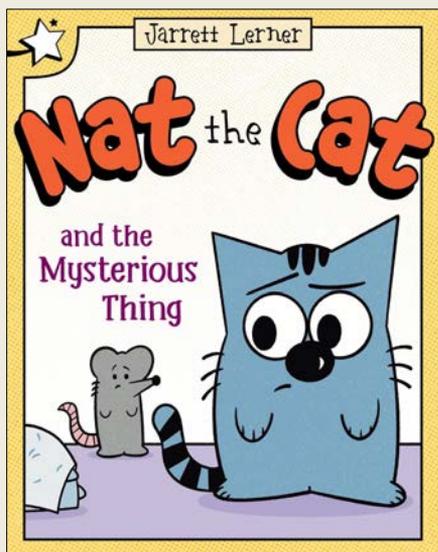
JANNIE HO writes and illustrates children's books and is a cartoonist for Chickengirl comics, in which she draws herself as a neurotic hen observing everyday life. She has worked at Nickelodeon and Scholastic and is the author-illustrator of *Bear and Chicken*, *Happy Chinese New Year!*, and *The Lost Mitten*.

Publication Date: *Crunchy Crumb*: May 2026; *Sticky Situation*: February 2027

Ages: 5–9

Page Extent: 112 pp/1.8K words





NAT THE CAT AND THE MYSTERIOUS THING NAT THE CAT AND THE WEEPY KITTY

By Jarrett Lerner
Imprint: Simon Spotlight

A grumpy cat, a curious rat, and an exasperated narrator bring their hijinks to Star Chapter Books in this new spin-off series from powerhouse creator Jarrett Lerner!

In *Nat the Cat and the Mysterious Thing*, Nat the Cat and Pat the Rat see something strange. It is a mystery! Then they start to notice the thing is dusty. What is the dusty thing? They will have to work together to find out!

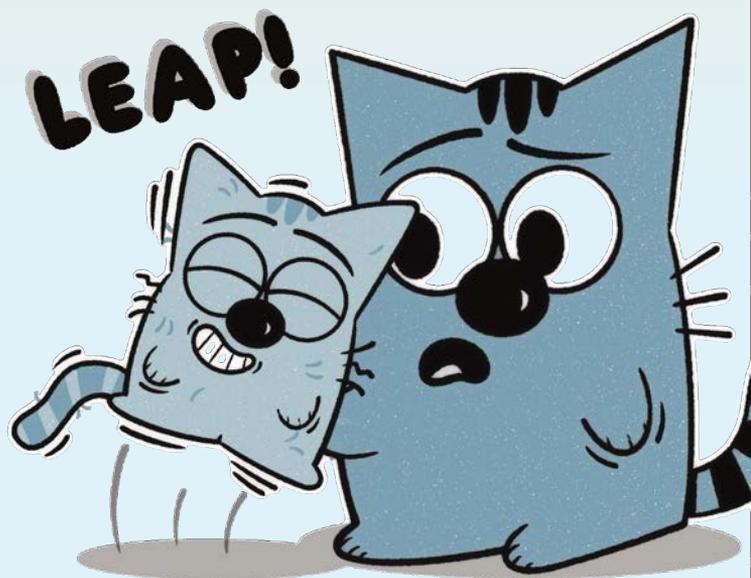
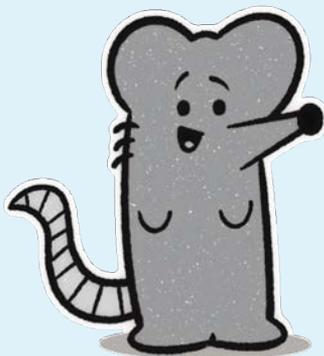
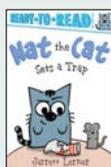
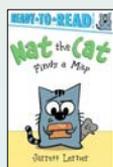
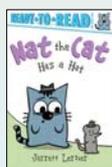
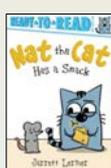
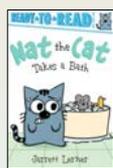
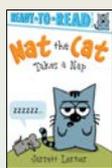
In *Nat the Cat and the Weepy Kitty*, Nat the Cat and Pat the Rat have a new friend who is a kitty. The kitty keeps weeping. It is a very weepy kitty! Or is it? As they work together to figure out how to help, they get a big surprise!

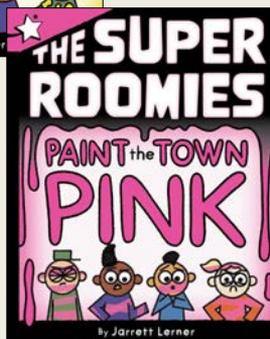
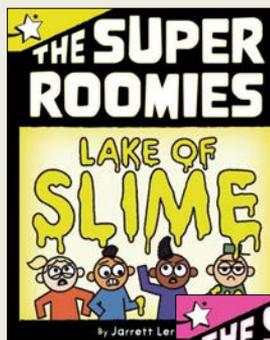
JARRETT LERNER is the award-winning creator of more than a dozen books for kids, including the EngiNerds series of middle-grade novels, the Geeger the Robot series of early chapter books, the Hunger Heroes series of graphic chapter books, two activity books, the illustrated novel in verse *A Work in Progress*, and the Nat the Cat series of early readers.

Publication Date: *The Mysterious Thing*: November 2026; *The Weepy Kitty*: February 2027

Ages: 5–9

Page Extent: 112 pp/1.8K words





THE SUPER ROOMIES: LAKE OF SLIME PAINT THE TOWN PINK

By Jarrett Lerner
Imprint: Simon Spotlight



Every city needs a hero—and this big city has four! Join the Super Roomies in this laugh-out-loud superhero spoof from Star Chapter Books!

In *Lake of Slime*, four roommates with very different powers—Abby Astro, Blix Blaster, Captain Kooky Pants, and Wanda Weather—don't always see eye to eye. But when slime starts rising and the city is in danger, these unlikely heroes must put aside their squabbles and learn to work as a team to save the day.

In *Paint the Town Pink*, the super roomies must stop their former roommate Nina Neon from turning the city the nauseating shade of Projectile Pink! They stayed up late watching their favorite TV show. Can they still pull through and save the city?

Publication Date: *Lake of Slime*: May 2026; *Paint the Town Pink*: August 2026

Ages: 5–9

Page Extent: 112 pp/1.8K words

DOG MEETS DOG: SUPER SIBLING MEGA BATTLE!

By Dan Yaccarino
Illustrated by Ethan Long
Imprint: Simon Spotlight

Dog siblings Betsy and Bones travel to Tokyo and get swept up in a whirlwind of overnight fame in this third book in the Dog Meets Dog series!

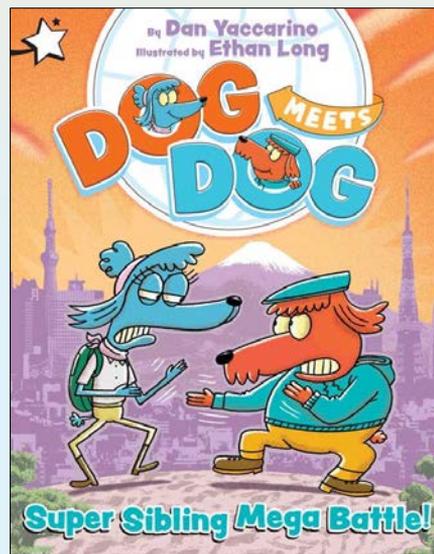
Betsy and Bones say “konnichiwa” to Tokyo!

Soon after they arrive, Betsy draws the attention of the company behind Fab Crab, one of the most popular snacks in Japan, and they offer her the incredible honor of being their spokesperson, which she happily accepts! Unfortunately, the demands of her new position means she doesn't have time to do the sightseeing she'd planned with Bones—in fact, she doesn't have time for Bones at all. Bones is disappointed and wants Betsy to quit. Can he convince her to hang up her Fab Crab crown?

Publication Date: August 2026

Ages: 5–9

Page Extent: 112 pp/2.6K words



Little Simon Chapter Books Are Filling the Gap!

DESMOND COLE GHOST PATROL

#28: AI TOLD YOU SO

By Andres Miedoso
Illustrated by Victor Rivas

A fearless eight-year-old runs his own ghost patrol, looking for ghosts, monsters, and mischief makers in this adventure-filled chapter book series.

Publication Date: September 2026

RIGHTS SOLD: Danish, French, Russian, Ukrainian



PREVIOUS TITLE COVER

ITTY BITTY PRINCESS KITTY

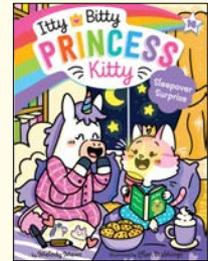
#17: THE BALLOON PARADE

By Melody Mews
Illustrated by Ellen Stubbings

Join Itty Bitty Princess Kitty on her royal adventures!

Publication Date: October 2026

RIGHTS SOLD: UK



PREVIOUS TITLE COVER

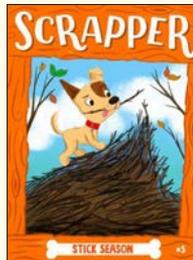
SCRAPPER

#5: STICK SEASON

By Cam Higgins
Illustrated by Ariel Landy

Scrapper is a rambunctious and mischievous puppy always up for adventure & hijinks!

Publication Date: September 2026



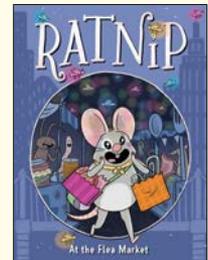
RATNIP

#9: AT THE FLEA MARKET

By Cam Higgins
Illustrated by Allison Steinfeld

In this sweet and silly series, a young rodent named Ratnip scurries around the city looking for food and adventure.

Publication Date: October 2026



FAIRY SCOUT FRIENDS

#5: RIGHT AS RAIN

By Hannah Fay
Illustrated by Mag Takac

The Fairy Scout Friends go on adventures to earn their magical fairy dust.

Publication Date: September 2026



THE CRITTER CLUB

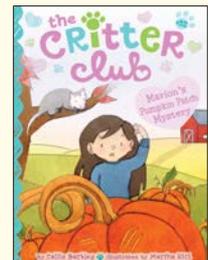
#32: MARION'S PUMPKIN PATCH MYSTERY

By Callie Barkley
Illustrated by Marsha Riti

At the Critter Club, Amy, Ellie, Marion, and Liz rescue lost and lonely animals!

Publication Date: September 2026

RIGHTS SOLD: Hebrew



KINGDOM OF WRENLY

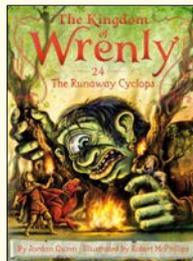
#24: THE RUNAWAY CYCLOPS

By Jordan Quinn
Illustrated by Robert McPhillips

Welcome to the Kingdom of Wrenly, a mystical land with dragons, trolls, wizards, mermaids, and fairies!

Publication Date: September 2026

RIGHTS SOLD: German, Mongolian



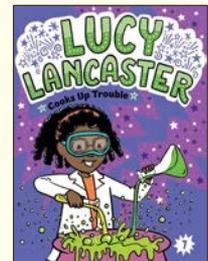
LUCY LANCASTER

#7: LUCY LANCASTER COOKS UP TROUBLE

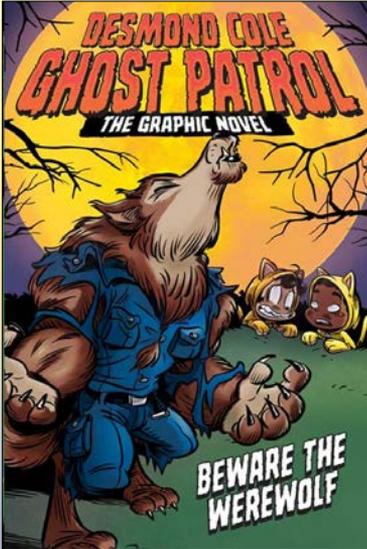
By Willow Coven
Illustrated by Priscilla Burris

Lucy Lancaster, Heidi Heckelbeck's best friend, sprinkles magical mishaps into everyday childhood adventures in this charming series.

Publication Date: July 2026



Little Simon Graphic Novel Chapter Books



DESMOND COLE GHOST PATROL: THE GRAPHIC NOVEL #2: BEWARE THE WEREWOLF

By Andres Miedoso
Imprint: Little Simon

Desmond and Andres team up to solve a furry, spooky mystery with a twisty werewolf surprise in this graphic novel based on the popular story from the Desmond Cole Ghost Patrol chapter book series!

Kersville has a furry problem: There's a dogcatcher on the loose! He's snatching up every dog he can find, including the ugliest stray you've ever seen—that Desmond Cole has fallen in love with, of course. But what happens if one of the dogs in the pack is actually a werewolf?

Perfect for emerging readers, this full-color graphic novel tells the spooky story better for a new audience.

The Desmond Cole Ghost Patrol chapter book series has over 1.3 million copies in print!

Publication Date: July 2026

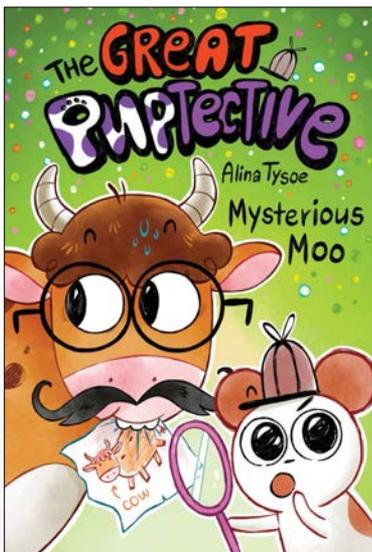
Ages: 5–9

Page Extent: 144 pp

RIGHTS SOLD FOR *THE HAUNTED HOUSE NEXT DOOR*: French



make these chapter book series perfect for newly independent readers.



THE GREAT PUPTECTIVE #4: MYSTERIOUS MOO

By Alina Tysoe
Imprint: S&S Books for Young Readers

Poppy is determined to solve the curious case of the mysterious moo in this fourth hilarious title in the graphic novel chapter book series—from the creator of the popular *What's Up, Beanie?* webcomics!

MoooOOOOooooOoo!

What was that? The entire neighborhood is spooked in the middle of the night by the sounds of a mysterious mooing sound. In the light of day, the pets notice claw marks on the fence, clothes scattered across the lawns, and cookie batter stuck in a tree. Does this all have to do with that strange evening moo? There's only one neighbor who could possibly figure it all out . . . THE GREAT PUPTECTIVE!

Poppy and her trusty sidekick, Truffles, are always up to the task—no matter how frightful this mysterious mooing creature turns out to be.

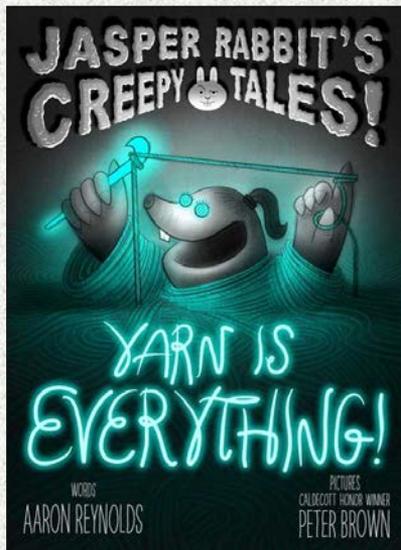
Publication Date: March 2027

Ages: 6-9

Page Extent: 128 pp

RIGHTS SOLD FOR *THE GREAT PUPTECTIVE*: ANZ, Catalan, French, Korean, Spanish





JASPER RABBIT'S CREEPY TALES! YARN IS EVERYTHING!

By Aaron Reynolds
Illustrated by Peter Brown
Imprint: S&S Books for Young Readers

From the team behind the *New York Times* bestselling Caldecott Medal winner *Creepy Carrots!* comes the third title in a spin-off chapter book series about a mole whose hobby unravels into horror!

Ready for some serious spookiness? Ready to surrender to the goofiness of your imagination? Let Jasper Rabbit tell you about Winona Mole and her unsettling experience with her favorite thing in the world . . . yarn!

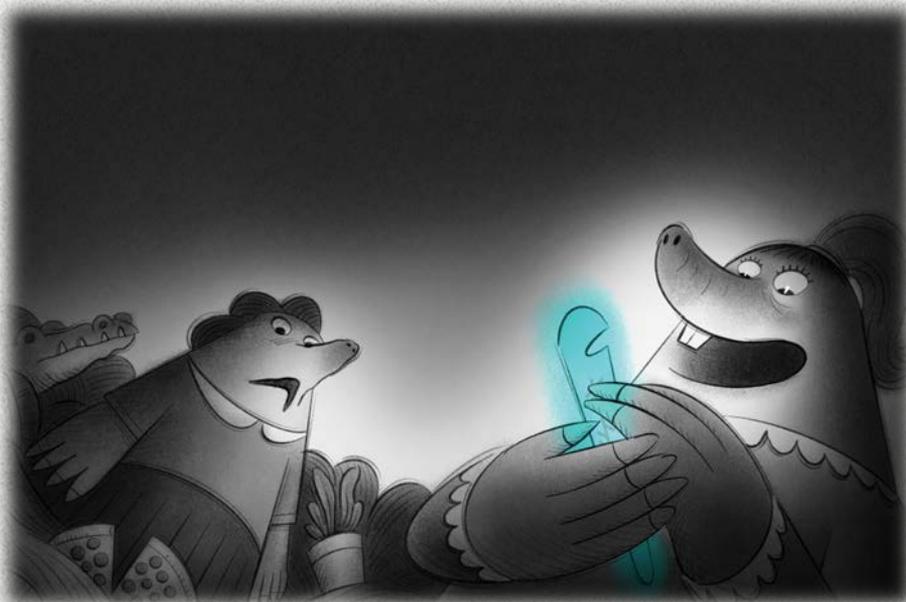
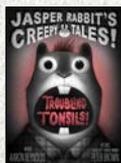
Winona had one true love, and that was crocheting. She loved it more than anything: her father even took her to the Museum of Woolen Arts and Yarn Stitchery for her ninth birthday. But an unexpected souvenir changes her life forever. With a talent that seems to grow overnight, she earns a spot on the hottest show on television, *Yarn Is Everything!* She might earn the title of Ultimate Yarn Master of all time—but at what price? Because nothing comes for free . . .

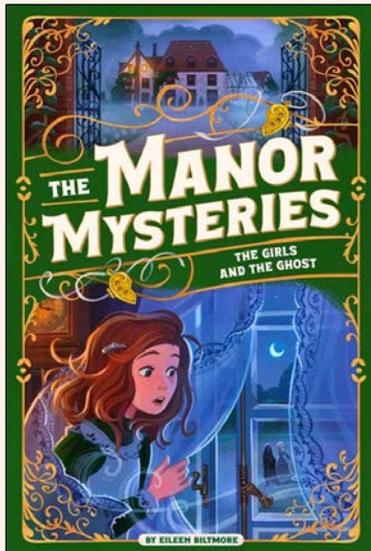
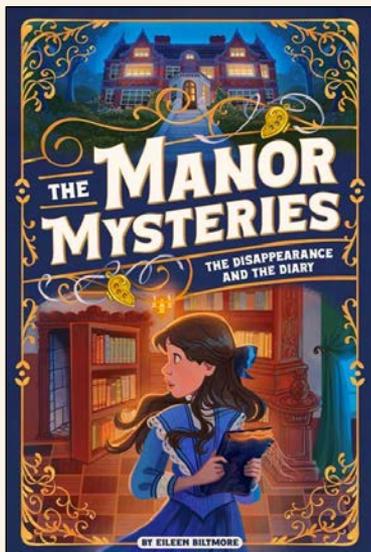
Publication Date: July 2026

Ages: 6–9

Page Extent: 104 pp/7K words

RIGHTS SOLD FOR *TROUBLING TONSILS!*: Chinese (simplified), Italian, Korean, Spanish





THE MANOR MYSTERIES

#1: THE DISAPPEARANCE AND THE DIARY

#2: THE GIRLS AND THE GHOST

By Eileen Biltmore
Imprint: Simon Spotlight

In this cozy historical fiction mystery series, two locket passed down through the Linden family for generations are clues to long-lost secrets.

In *The Disappearance and the Diary*, Peggy Eldritch can't wait to turn twelve and receive the heirloom Margaret locket, which originally belonged to her great-grandmother Margaret Linden. Every girl named Margaret in the family has been gifted it on her twelfth birthday—and Peggy's turn has finally arrived. When Juliette, Peggy's cousin from France, visits Linden Manor for the birthday ball and another heirloom goes mysteriously missing, Peggy finds herself on a quest to clear the name of her lady's maid and friend, who gets accused of the theft. Her search for answers leads her to a hidden diary with clues to a much larger family mystery that dates back generations. Can Peggy find the lost heirloom? And what will she discover about her Margaret necklace along the way?

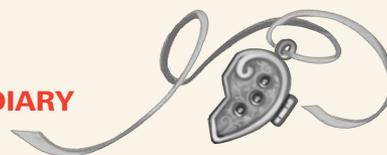
In *The Girls and the Ghost*, Thea Beekman can't wait for her cousin Peggy to visit America and be there when she receives the heirloom Dorothea necklace on her twelfth birthday, as is custom for every girl named Dorothea in the extended Linden family. But the trip is cut short when news arrives of the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand. With war on the horizon, Peggy is ordered to return home, but Thea knows the perfect hiding place to help her stay. A wing of Beekman Manor is rumored to be haunted, and as the girls explore, they discover a hidden passageway and a trove of family secrets. What they find might change everything they thought they knew about their great-grandmothers.

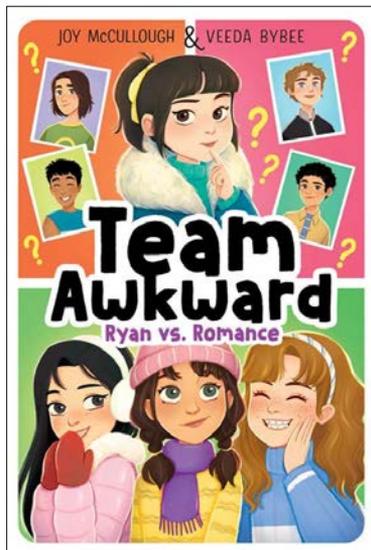
EILEEN BILTMORE is a writer, fine art curator, and amateur baker who loves nothing better than a cup of tea and a good book on a rainy day. When she's not penning cozy mysteries for young readers, she is scouring rummage sales and thrift shops for the perfect antique art pieces to cover the walls of her fixer-upper Victorian home. She lives with her family and three black cats.

Publication Date: August 2026

Ages: 8–12

Page Extent: 160 pp/27K words





TEAM AWKWARD #4: RYAN VS. ROMANCE

By Joy McCullough and Veeda Bybee
Imprint: Aladdin

The charm of the Baby-Sitters Club meets the humor in Dork Diaries when four girls vow to ride out the super highs and cringe-worthy lows of middle school together, no matter how awkward it gets.

The middle school's winter dance is coming up, and now that Ryan is in public school for the first time after being homeschooled, she's both excited and nervous to attend. Her parents have a rule that she's not allowed to go on a date until she's older, but that's not a problem—Ryan and Team Awkward are planning on going to the dance together.

But when an unknown writer leaves a note for Ryan saying they have a crush on her and asking to meet at the dance, it throws a wrench in her plans. Team Awkward is on the case to figure out the identity of the secret crush! But what then? Hidden identities and family rules take the awkwardness of first crushes to a whole new level in this fourth book of the Team Awkward series.

Publication Date: December 2026

Ages: 8–12

Page Extent: 192 pp/30K words

RIGHTS SOLD FOR *JOJO VS. MIDDLE SCHOOL*: Czech



SPOTLIGHT SPRINKLES: THE CHRISTMAS WISH

By Lee Heart
Imprint: Simon Spotlight

A girl full of holiday spirit hopes to get her secret crush's attention for Christmas in this latest installment in the acclaimed tween middle-grade rom-com series, Spotlight Sprinkles—full of evergreen tropes like holiday parties and the magic of the season!

Joy Rudolph is convinced nobody loves Christmastime more than her. After all, she was born on Christmas Day! Joy's birthday parties are always full of holiday cheer, but this year she has an extra-special wish: for her secret crush, Kris Conrad, to be there.

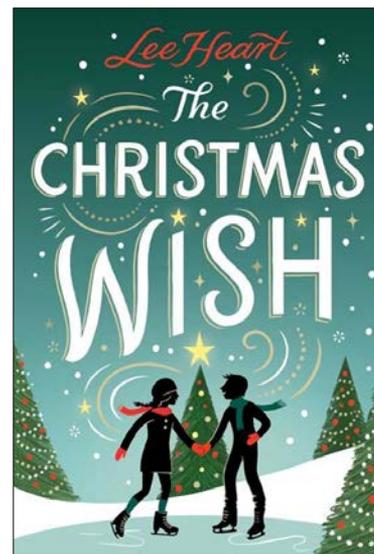
Kris is the cutest boy in their grade, and he was born on Christmas Eve! Could they be any more perfect for each other? If Kris comes to Joy's party, she can figure out if he likes her and maybe even share a moment under some mistletoe! Will the combined magic of a birthday and Christmas wish make her dream come true?

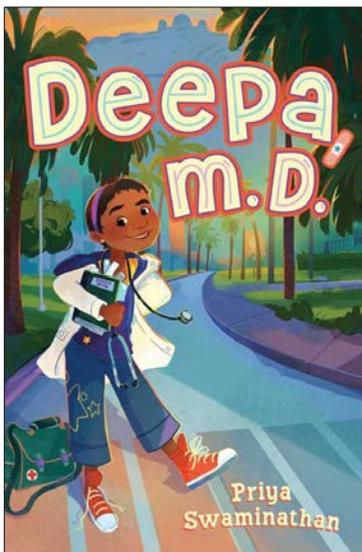
Publication Date: September 2026

Ages: 8–12

Page Extent: 160 pp/25K words

RIGHTS SOLD FOR *MEET ME AT SUNSET*: Danish





DEEPA, M.D.

By Priya Swaminathan
Imprint: S&S Books for Young Readers

A precocious seventh grader whose cancer has recently gone into remission assists her medical-detective uncle while readjusting to life in middle school in this heartwarming and funny middle-grade debut novel that's *Front Desk* meets *Roll with It*.

Twelve-year-old Deepa is ready to un-pause her life. After spending a year in the hospital, she's itching for things to go back to the way they were before she got sick. Only everything's changed. Her parents treat her like she's made of glass, there's a mean girl out to get her, and her best friend Renée forgot to mention she has a whole new life now.

When her Uncle Jai, the Sherlock Holmes of medical mysteries, needs her help with a tricky case involving a teenage patient, Deepa steps up to the plate. As the case spirals and her illness flares up, Deepa quickly learns that if she wants to save her patient, she'll have to diagnose what's going on inside herself first.

Deepa returns for her next case in September 2027.

Publication Date: May 2026

Ages: 8–12

Page Extent: 256 pp/55K words

THEN A HOUSE FELL ON HER HEAD . . .

By Frances O'Roark Dowell
Imprint: Atheneum Books for Young Readers

When a sixth grader is transported to the past, she realizes the recent changes in her present may not be as impossible as they seem. From acclaimed author Frances O'Roark Dowell comes an immersive speculative middle-grade novel perfect for fans of Jamie Sumner.

Sarah T. does not believe in magic. She does not believe that her best friend has a new best friend. She does not believe that her dad still loves her now that he has a new baby boy with a new wife. Most of all, she does not believe in time travel. But when she follows a pair of beckoning squirrels up a long leaf-covered driveway to an empty lot, a house falls on her head.

Sarah T. does not believe a house fell on her head. Yet here she is, now inside the house, which is old-timey, like from the sixties. Then the new boy in school shows up. He does believe in magic and time travel . . . even though he doesn't quite understand cell phones or computers. And he believes a house fell on Sarah's head.

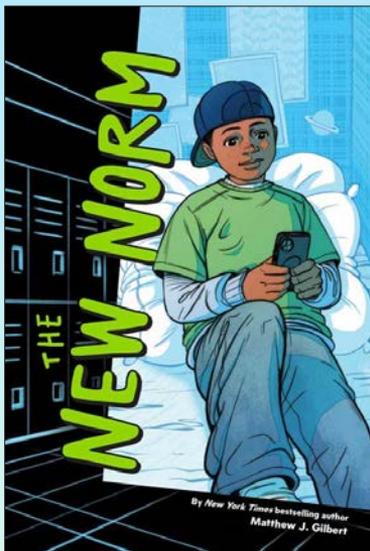
For the first time in a long time, Sarah T. feels truly seen, even if it's by someone she just met. But what happens when the house falls again—this time on them both?

Publication Date: October 2026

Ages: 8–12

Page Extent: 288 pp/58K words





THE NEW NORM

#1: THE NEW NORM

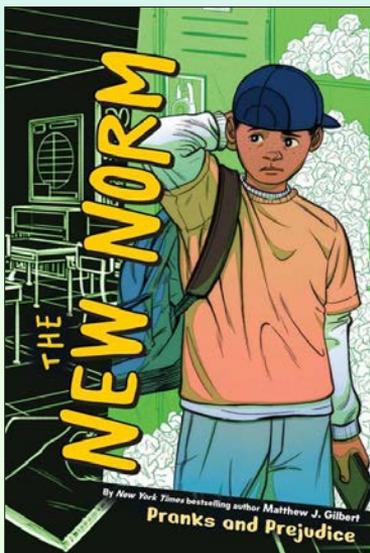
#2: PRANKS AND PREJUDICE

By Matthew J. Gilbert
Imprint: Simon Spotlight

A chronically online middle schooler tries to bring his social media fame into his real life in this new middle-grade series about surviving cringe both on the internet and IRL!

In *The New Norm*, everyone's got a lot to say on the Meadowview Middle School social media forum. And in the middle of it all is Alexander "Norm" Norman, who has just gone unintentionally viral across the internet and become a middle-school celebrity. Pretty sweet, right? Well, not so much. Can Norm balance his real friends and his new fame—and make it through the first week of school without getting totally roasted in the chat?

In *Pranks and Prejudice*, it only takes a stack of sticky notes to start the great prank challenge at Meadowview Middle School. Now everything and everyone is a potential target, and no one wants to be caught off guard in 4K. But when Norm and Mia's prank brings more chaos than likes, no one is laughing. With upset students and angry faculty working together to hunt down the culprit, Norm and Mia must fix the mess or face the fire.

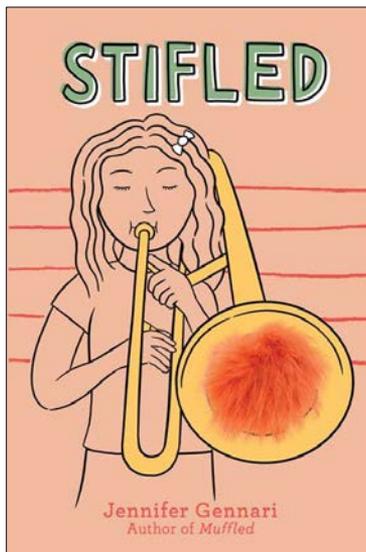


MATTHEW J. GILBERT is the author of more than forty books. Besides coauthoring the award-nominated Classroom 13 series, he has written books for some of the world's most beloved properties including *Stranger Things*, Tim Burton's *The Nightmare Before Christmas*, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, *TRON*, and more. Under the pen name Jordan Quinn, Matthew is the writer for the Dragon Kingdom of Wrenly graphic novel series. Before becoming an author, Matthew was an award-winning TV writer for Nickelodeon, working in creative advertising for big Hollywood movies.

Publication Date: May 2026

Ages: 8–12

Page Extent: 160 pp/23K words



THE BAND KIDS: STIFLED

By Jennifer Gennari
Imprint: Beach Lane Books

Madge from *Muffled* gets her own story in this companion coming-of-age novel about rediscovering your voice, overcoming challenges in school, facing loss, and experiencing the ups and downs of friendship.

Madge Hesse is the best sixth-grade trombonist, and getting into the middle school elite jazz ensemble proves it. She plans to become a professional musician like her mother, who died when Madge was one. Her best friend Amelia doesn't get in, though, and instead joins the Free Readers, a group fighting book banning at their school.

Madge wants to support Amelia and the Free Readers cause, but she is preparing for a jazz solo audition, which means hours of practicing. As Madge tries to juggle both commitments, her friendship with Amelia erodes and her music suffers. It doesn't help that the eighth graders in band are constantly correcting her.

With her confidence and voice stifled, Madge no longer knows where she belongs. To make matters worse, she uncovers a secret about her mother. Faced with pressure on all sides, Madge must rediscover her loud self to help Amelia fight book censors and to harmonize with the music of her heart once more.

Publication Date: September 2026

Ages: 8-12

Page Extent: 272 pp/52K words



WISH YOU WELL

By Jamie Sumner
Imprint: Atheneum Books for Young Readers

From the acclaimed author of *Roll with It* comes a luminous, sharply funny novel about three kids with big diagnoses, bigger personalities, and one outrageous plan to team up and scam a wish-granting foundation.

Violet Marino doesn't want your sympathy. And she definitely doesn't want friends. She just wants to play soccer and deal with the whole slowly-going-blind thing on her own terms.

Then she witnesses a boy choke on a hot dog at a hospital picnic. Enter Wyatt: dangerously charming and full of terrible ideas, especially for a kid with a newly transplanted heart. Add sharp-as-a-blade Noor, who is always armed with excellent snacks she can't eat, thanks to chemo. Other than their illnesses, the three don't have much in common—except for the fact that a wish-granting foundation keeps calling.

Ever the optimist, Wyatt has a plan: team up to game the foundation, even if it means faking friendship. One wish is fine, but three sick kids on three epic adventures? That's history in the making. Soon what starts as a distraction feels high-stakes. Because when you finally let someone in, there's more to lose.

Publication Date: September 2026

Ages: 10 up

Page Extent: 288 pp/58K words

RIGHTS SOLD FOR *ROLL WITH IT*: French, Italian, Japanese





EVIL VILLAINS INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE #3: KEEPER CHANCE AND THE PIGEON PREDICAMENT

By Alex Evanovich
Imprint: S&S Books for Young Readers

For graduates of Percy Jackson and fans of Alex Rider comes the third book in the adventure-filled Evil Villains International League series about good and evil, growing up, and making your mark on the world.

H.E.R.O. communications operative Pigeon needs to retrieve a secret message from the field—but he's failing big time. Desperate for help, Pigeon enlists the assistance of unexpected allies: Keeper Chance and Toby, both new members of the Evil Villains International League, and their friend Y.

But what seems at first like a simple task escalates into a shadowy and sinister plot, ruining the trio's plans for a lazy spring break. With danger lurking around every corner, Keeper, Toby, and Y must stay one step ahead of their many adversaries: Keeper's ferocious and feared grandmother, Nana; a seriously demented dentist who will do anything for a dollar; and a mysterious mastermind who may have nefarious designs on Keeper.

Being a hero isn't for the faint of heart—especially when not every H.E.R.O. can be trusted. As the lines between good and evil get blurrier than ever, it will take every trick of villainy for Keeper and his friends to get home in one piece.

Publication Date: September 2026

Ages: 10 up

Page Extent: 336 pp/70K words



DOLL ISLAND: DON'T WAKE UP

By Cassandra Ramos-Gomez
Imprint: S&S Books for Young Readers

Diego and his friends must face the legendary Mexican boogeyman, El Cucuy, in this fast-paced, action-packed middle-grade horror that's Rick Riordan meets R. L. Stine, in the sequel to *Lost on Doll Island*.

Stay awake. Stay alive.

After going head-to-head with a demonic doll, life for Diego is now surprisingly good. He's settled into Mexico City, he's joining clubs at school, and he, Jandro, and Itzel are tighter and things feel normal for the three amigos. Until kids start mysteriously falling asleep . . . and never waking up.

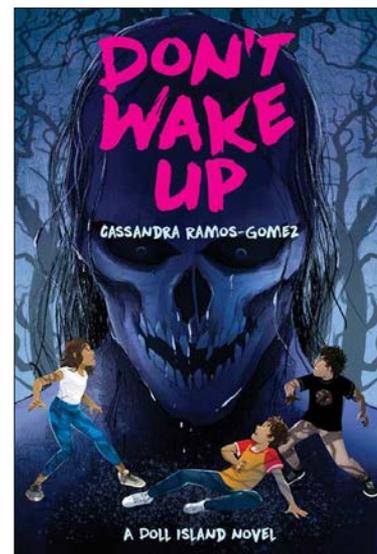
When Diego hears rumors of a boogeyman with the power to enter children's dreams and steal their souls, he knows there's a connection between the sleeping illness that has fallen over his school and this monster. But beware of El Cucuy, because once you enter his domain of dreams, he'll do everything in his power to make sure that you don't . . . wake . . . up.

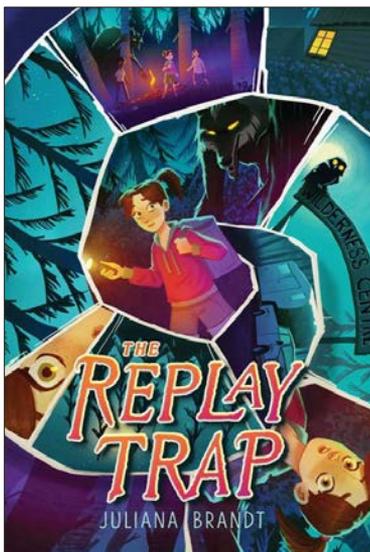
Publication Date: August 2026

Ages: 8-12

Page Extent: 160 pp/36K words

SPANISH RIGHTS UNAVAILABLE





THE REPLAY TRAP

By Juliana Brandt
Imprint: Aladdin

A girl stuck in a time loop repeatedly relives an awkward sleepover at a wildlife center with a wolflike monster in the woods in this fun and creepy middle-grade adventure.

When Sydney heads to a sleepover birthday party at a wildlife center, she's sure it's a terrible idea. Not only because she'll be staying in a creepy cabin surrounded by wolf enclosures, but because she wasn't actually invited to the party. Instead, her mom asked Ari's mom if Sydney could join, and now she's crashing the event with a group of kids she barely knows. Ugh

It turns out she isn't the only party crasher when a strange, wolflike creature bounds out of the woods and throws the night into chaos. In the rush to escape, Sydney hits her head, is knocked out cold . . . and wakes up back in the car, headed to the party.

Sydney realizes she's living the same night again and again and again. Why is the evening stuck in a loop, and what is the creature prowling around the center? And how can she break the loop and finally see the morning?

Publication Date: June 2026

Ages: 8–12

Page Extent: 320 pp/54K words



STAR FIRE ACADEMY #1: FIREBIRD WALTZ

By Misty Copeland
Imprint: Aladdin

Step into the spotlight in this new four-book series where courage, artistry, and magic await.

From *New York Times* bestselling author and former American Ballet Theatre principal dancer Misty Copeland comes the first book in a new series about a girl who must balance her ballet aspirations with her magical destiny.

Twelve-year-old Josie can't wait to start classes at the prestigious Star Fire Academy for the Performing Arts. She has been dancing ballet since she was three years old and hopes she can live up to the expectations of the school—and make her parents proud.

As Josie digs deep for the confidence and inspiration required for a solo role in the fall recital, she grows closer to her ballet teacher, Miss Fiona, who tells Josie she's destined for something far greater than a solo.

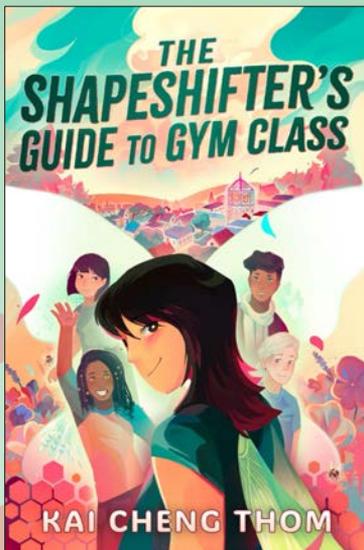
According to Miss Fiona, centuries ago an evil sorcerer attempted to turn himself into the most amazing dancer in the world, but his spell went wrong, transforming him into a monstrous being full of rage and envy—but also creating a beautiful dance spirit full of goodness: the Firebird. Ever since, the two have been fighting for the souls of young artists, with the Firebird being embodied by a new hero in every generation, and Josie is next in line. Suddenly, Josie is faced with two roles of a lifetime. Can she rise to the occasion?

Publication Date: #1: August 2026; #2: August 2027; #3: September 2028; #4: September 2029

Ages: 8–12

Page Extent: 256 pp/55K





THE SHAPESHIFTER'S GUIDE TO GYM CLASS

By Kai Cheng Thom
Imprint: Simon & Schuster Canada

Turning Red meets *Animorphs* by way of Judy Blume in this middle-grade fantasy that is magical and moving in turns, unfolding as one part narrative, one part guidebook.

In every generation, a special few residents of Nor Numinem are born shapeshifters: children who develop the mysterious ability to transform into a part-animal shape.

Unfortunately for Maia, her ability is merely this: to grow giant moth wings that grow uncontrollably out of her back whenever she's excited or upset, or for some reason, whenever her new classmate Luke looks at her in a particular way. Worse than worse? Maia's wings are useless. Weak and fragile—unlike her talented friends.

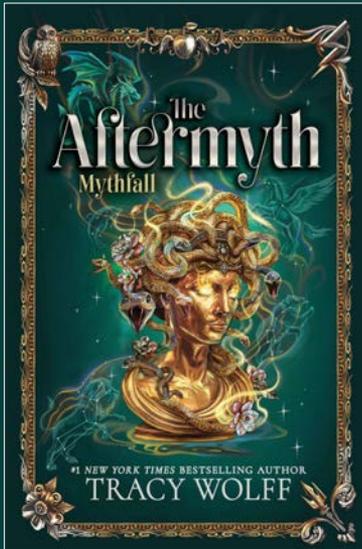
But Maia's problems are about to get much harder. A strange illness is spreading through the gardens of Nor Numinem—the very gardens that feed and sustain this once-perfect town. Worse still, some of the adults think the shapeshifter children are to blame. As rumors turn into hate, life gets tougher for those who aren't seen as normal. Maia and her friends will soon discover that there is a dark rift in Nor Numinem, one that will take all their talents, known and unknown, to heal.

KAI CHENG THOM is a Chinese-Canadian writer, performance artist, mental health community worker, youth counselor, and former social worker. Thom, a non-binary transgender woman, has published five books and won the 2017 Dayne Ogilvie Prize for LGBTQ2S+ Emerging Writers and was a finalist for a Lambda Literary Prize both in 2016 for Transgender Fiction and in 2017 for Transgender Poetry.

Publication Date: September 2026

Ages: 8-12

Page Extent: 288 pp/71K words



THE AFTERMYTH: MYTHFALL

By Tracy Wolff
Imprint: Aladdin

The second book in a new dark academia fantasy middle-grade series inspired by Greek mythology from the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of the *Crave* series

Penelope and the gang are returning to Anaximander's for a semester. The means to gain entry to campus this semester is every bit as complicated as it was for Penelope's first. Instead of having to cross a treacherous bridge while dodging snakes and runaway vans, this time the students will have to navigate an ice labyrinth. Will Penelope fare better than she did last time?

Once the kids make it to campus (some more frozen than others), it becomes immediately apparent that something is a little . . . off. No one realizes it yet, but the Gods are angry and want to stop Penelope from her fated quest to find out the answers to the questions that no one wants her to be asking. And the angrier the Gods get, the more chaos is unleashed.

In the meantime, each hall is assigned a baby animal to rear and care for as part of the curriculum, which includes studying the stories of the Greek constellations. Penelope and the Aphrodites are assigned the cutest (and most mischievous!) baby pegasus. The other baby animals featured include a dolphin (Poseidon Hall), a dragon (Hades Hall), a bear (Athena Hall), and a Nemean lion (Zeus Hall).

This semester also includes a parent's weekend, where readers will find out just how disappointed Penelope's Athenian mom can become, and just wait to see who asks Penelope to the dance! (And who maybe has regrets about not acting sooner and asking her first!)

Everything comes to a head the night of the big dance, and after the Gods have unleashed their fury, Penelope, her friends, and the night sky itself will never be the same.

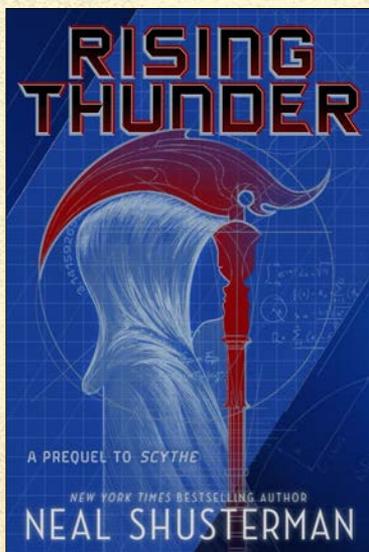
Publication Date: February 2027

Ages: 8–12

Page Extent: 384 pp/95K words

RIGHTS SOLD FOR *AFTERMYTH*: Dutch, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Spanish





FIRST BLADES: RISING THUNDER

By Neal Shusterman
Imprint: S&S Books for Young Readers

The storm begins here—the thrilling first installment in a new *Scythe* prequel trilogy!

Discover Thunderhead's origin—the fragile moment before the world changes forever and the hidden forces that set the storm in motion—in this long-awaited prequel to the *New York Times* bestselling and Printz Honor-winning *Arc of a Scythe* series by Neal Shusterman.

And of course, as every school child knows, December 2042 marks the end of the Age of Mortality.

What no one has ever fully understood is how the world reached that moment.

As death begins to seem optional, humanity looks for ways to bend the rules of existence. Twi-life centers begin storing the nearly deceased, while eco-nihilists destroy civilization's icons and threaten to end the human race entirely. Public opinion fractures. Systems strain. The world feels . . . unstable.

Behind the scenes, two powerful and diametrically opposed artificial intelligences set out to optimize, stabilize, and protect—each with its own idea of what that means. But in a world already tipping toward transformation, the consequences could be catastrophic.

Meanwhile, in an obscure online chatroom, a small group of teenagers from around the globe debate both the glorious and the terrifying prospects of the future, never realizing that they stand on a very literal cutting edge—and that their conversations, their choices, their very existence matter far more than they realize.

Because when humanity stands on the brink of immortality, someone must decide what survives . . . and what must be cut away.

Publication Date: December 2026

Ages: 12 up

Page Extent: 528 pp/126K words

AGENT-CONTROLLED TERRITORIES: German, Italian, Japanese

RIGHTS SOLD FOR *SCYTHE*: Arabic, Bulgarian, Chinese (complex), Czech, Dutch, French, Hebrew, Indonesian, Korean, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese (Brazil), Portuguese (Portugal), Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Slovak, Spanish, Thai, Turkish, UK, Ukrainian



THE QUEEN OF THE SPIRIT WOODS

By Sharon Choe

Imprint: Atheneum Books for Young Readers

***The Girl Who Fell Beneath the Sea* meets *The Cruel Prince* in this epic, lush romantic fantasy following a royal kitchen maid who gets swept up in dangerous palace intrigue and a forbidden love triangle . . . and accidentally becomes the vessel for thousands of spirits and deities.**

Mirae has a dangerous secret: She has faked her way into a job as a royal kitchen maid with the hope of sending money to her family. And life in the kitchens isn't easy. The palace is in an uproar after a recent assassination attempt on the king, and Mirae nearly gets fired after inadvertently getting in the crosshairs of Jae, the prickly crown prince, during his investigation.

Her position gets even more precarious when a chance encounter with a witch in the mysterious spirit woods makes her the vessel of ten thousand spirits and deities. When her new powers spill out into the palace kitchens, Wonshik, a kind nobleman, lends a helping hand. Soon Mirae finds herself embroiled in a power struggle between the queen and Wonshik's best friend, Prince Jae.

With the help of a fellow kitchen maid and a meddlesome ghost, Mirae must untangle the web of lies to find the traitor within the palace. But an encroaching threat from the empire to the east looms ever closer, and the palace is rife with lies and shadowy allegiances. Who can Mirae trust?

Return to the spirit woods in Spring 2028 for book two.

Publication Date: November 2026

Ages: 14 up

Page Extent: 352 pp/112K words

RIGHTS SOLD: UK



SPELLWRIGHT

By Heather Kassner
Imprint: Atheneum Books for Young Readers

A plucky writer of spells must team up with a frustratingly charming magician to uncover the secrets of a dangerous grimoire—and maybe open her heart in the process—in this light academia, young adult romantasy perfect for fans of Margaret Rogerson.

No one is allowed past the gargoyles guarding the doors of Thistledown Library. Spellwright Fia Ives should know—for months she's hoped to be admitted inside to find a magic powerful enough to locate her late mother's spellbook. One midnight, she finally breaks in, only to discover three mysterious figures already searching the forbidden stacks.

When the library announces the theft of a dangerous grimoire, suspicion falls on Fia. The only way to clear her name is to root out the thieves she spied that night. However, solving a magical theft isn't easy while running her inherited spellshop alone. So Fia hires the first person who applies to help—the insufferably charming Penbrook Madbury, who is as sleepy as a cat and just as stubborn. Fia isn't sure she can trust him with her reckless plan (let alone her beloved shop), but there's something about the secretive magician that tempts her to try.

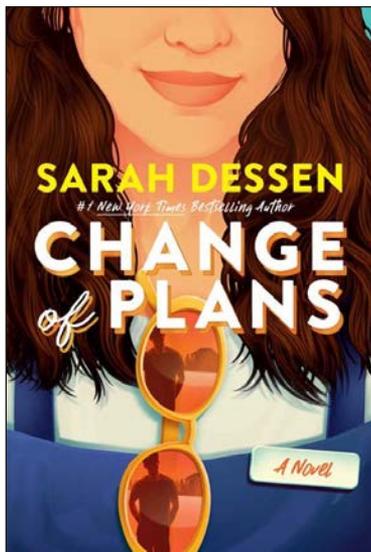
As a strange magic curls through town, Fia must risk her own heart to unravel a string of curses before they claim both her and Penbrook. And if some of those curses require kisses to break them, well, that's just the whimsy of magic.

Publication Date: October 2026

Ages: 14 up

Page Extent: 320 pp/104K words

RIGHTS SOLD: UK



CHANGE OF PLANS

By Sarah Dessen
Imprint: S&S Books for Young Readers

From acclaimed #1 *New York Times* bestselling author Sarah Dessen comes a “sweet, nuanced, and reflective coming-of-age love story” (*Kirkus Reviews*, starred review) about an unassuming girl who learns to stand on her own while falling in love during a life-changing summer.

Finley has always felt most comfortable in someone else’s shadow. Fortunately, she’s got Colin, her magnetic boyfriend, who sweeps her along for activities, friendships, and future plans. Then she goes on a last-minute trip with her distant mom to a family vacation house that Finley didn’t know is about to be sold.

Once there, Finley is welcomed by her aunts and cousins plus the handful of teens who work at the Egg, her aunt’s diner, including undeniably handsome guitarist Ben.

When her relationship with Colin goes into freefall, and Finley’s road map for life after high school is gone, she has no choice but to live, for the first time, without plans. The longer Finley stays, the closer she gets to the truth about why her mother stayed away—and why she’s brought Finley here now.

And the closer she grows to new friends at the Egg, the more she starts to fall for charmingly awkward, soulful Ben and to realize how much of herself she’s been missing. By the end of the summer, nothing will be the same—for this community or for Finley herself.

Publication Date: May 2026

Ages: 12 up

Page Extent: 368 pp/86K words

RIGHTS SOLD: ANZ, French, Spanish

THE SECRET TO BELONGING

By Megan E. Freeman
Imprint: Atheneum Books for Young Readers

A neglected teen travels to Norway for a fresh start in this stunning coming-of-age novel in verse about longing, love, and the courage to create joy from the ashes of despair by award-winning and *New York Times* bestselling author Megan E. Freeman.

You are invisible in your own family. Your parents spend all their care and attention on your brother, who is addicted to drugs. Your dreams don’t matter to anyone but you.

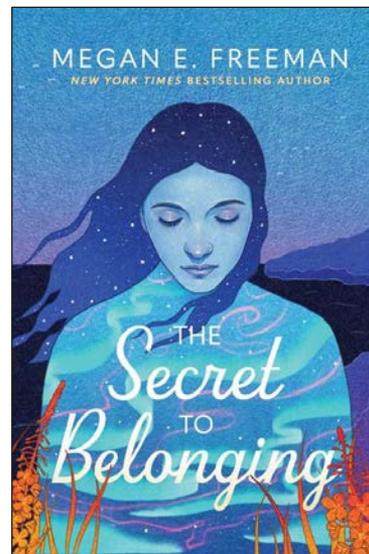
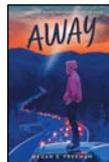
Your only ticket out is a college fund left by your grandfather—until your parents use it to pay for your brother’s drug rehab.

Just when your future seems about to collapse, you are offered a lifeline: a scholarship to become an exchange student in a remote part of Norway. It’s an invitation to begin a new life in a new place with new people . . . a place where you might finally feel like you belong.

Publication Date: September 2026

Ages: 12 up

Page Extent: 352 pp/21K words





TRUST FALL

By Lynn Painter
Imprint: S&S Books for Young Readers

***New York Times* bestselling author with over 2 million copies sold!**

A shy Nebraskan girl and her family inherit a fortune and are forced to live in a *Gossip Girl* world as they are swept away to New York City, where not everyone is happy that they are there, in this glittering new romance that is the perfect addition to the Lynn-iverse!

Julia is just a small-town girl from Nebraska who loves her peaceful life. But when her elderly next-door neighbor—who just happens to be a secret multimillionaire—leaves everything to Julia and her family after his passing, Julia is swept away to live in a historic brownstone in New York City and attend an elite private school designed for the super-rich.

Should be a dream come true.

Wrong. Julia isn't fitting in at all at her private school. Worse, she is failing. Enter Damion, the mysterious and handsome tutor who will get Julia back on track. Except Damion has a secret. He is the great-nephew of the man who left everything to Julia's family. Damion doesn't buy for a second that the person who was like a father to him would leave his home to strangers. And he's determined to prove it.

To uncover the truth, Damion schemes to earn Julia's trust. Not an easy task with Julia unsure about this rich boy with a rebellious personality. But the more time Damion spends with Julia, the more his plan begins to backfire. Because he is falling for the enemy—and the enemy is falling for him. Can the two see past their differences and act on their feelings, or will the trust he has worked so hard to gain fall apart?

As both Damion and Julia figure out where they belong, will their growing attraction be enough to make it work or is his big-city life too much for this small-town girl?

Publication Date: September 2026

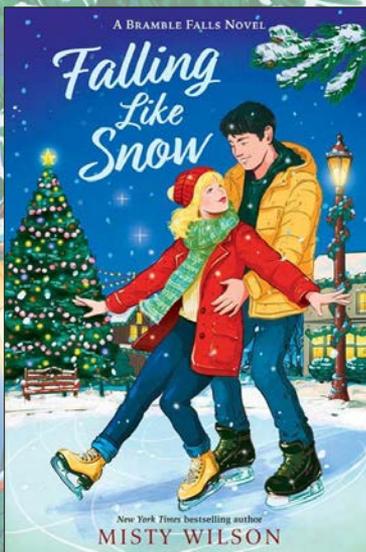
Ages: 14 up

Page Extent: 416 pp/100K words

RIGHTS SOLD: Dutch, German, Portuguese (Brazil), UK

RIGHTS SOLD FOR *FAKE SKATING*: Arabic, Bulgarian, Czech, Dutch, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Lithuanian, Polish, Portuguese (Brazil), Portuguese (Portugal), Slovak, Spanish, Swedish, Turkish, UK





BRAMBLE FALLS: FALLING LIKE SNOW

By Misty Wilson
Imprint: Margaret K. McElderry Books

A girl juggles planning her town's first-ever winter festival and untangling her complicated feelings for both her best friend and the star hockey player in this charming book in the swoony Bramble Falls series that began with *New York Times* bestselling *Falling Like Leaves*.

After the wildly successful *Falling Leaves Festival*, Sloane Sullivan is looking forward to some downtime—especially kicking back and marathoning Nora Ephron movies with her best friend, Asher. But they barely make it through *Sleepless in Seattle* before Sloane's mom calls an emergency tourism department meeting; it's all hands on deck—Bramble Falls is having its first ever *Falling Snow Festival*!

Sloane may still be recovering from the last seasonal event, but she's also excited. After all, Christmas is the best time of year! And she'll have her whole crew by her side, including her cousin Ellis and, of course, Asher. But when irresistible, hockey-playing Micah catches Sloane's attention, she finds herself a bit distracted. The emotions her unexpected flirtation brings up make Sloane feel confused about Micah . . . and Asher.

She's never thought of Asher as more than her best friend, but even if Sloane is seeing Asher in a new light, what does that mean for her and Micah? Uncertain and more than a little overwhelmed, Sloane throws herself into festival preparations, hoping to get a little Christmas magic in return that will help her figure out where her heart lies.

Bramble Falls has a story for every season! Next up: *Falling Like Stars* in June 2027.

Publication Date: October 2026

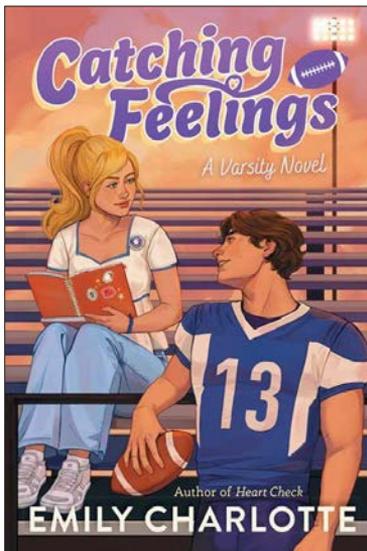
Ages: 14 up

Page Extent: 352 pp/79K words

RIGHTS SOLD: Catalan, French, German, Portuguese (Portugal), Spanish

RIGHTS SOLD FOR *FALLING LIKE LEAVES*: Bulgarian, Catalan, Czech, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Polish, Portuguese (Brazil), Portuguese (Portugal), Russian, Spanish, Turkish, UK, Ukrainian





CATCHING FEELINGS: A VARSITY NOVEL

By Emily Charlotte
Imprint: Margaret K. McElderry Books

The first rule for a drama-free senior year? Don't fall for the mysterious new football transfer. Perfect for fans of Lynn Painter and *Friday Night Lights* another swoony romance full of undeniable chemistry and school spirit from the author of *Heart Check*.

When Sabrina and Tyler meet by accident outside (okay, inside) the football locker rooms, it's not a big deal. Neither is looking for romance.

But as the team's newest varsity athlete, Tyler is suddenly the center of attention. And Sabrina is busy dodging Ryan, her longtime flirtationship, who is determined to take her to the Homecoming Dance. Ryan is exactly the kind of chaos Sabrina doesn't need, so she asks Tyler to go as friends instead. Eager to fend off other unwanted advances, Tyler is happy to accept.

Of course, this was before Sabrina realized Tyler is Ryan's *cousin*. But as long as they're just friends, everything should be fine. Tyler is less willing to ignore the connection he feels toward Sabrina, but he's also desperate to keep his past buried. When the chemistry between them becomes impossible to deny, can their carefully laid plans survive the fallout, or will secrets and social pressure threaten everything they've built?

Publication Date: September 2026

Ages: 14 up

Page Extent: 304 pp/76K words

RIGHTS SOLD FOR HEART CHECK: German, Portuguese (Brazil)



VACATIONSHIP: OH MY AFFOGATO!

By Daphne Ang and Donna Ghorbanpoor
Imprint: S&S Books for Young Readers

***Love & Gelato* meets *Emily in Paris* in this sassy, sexy romp through the Amalfi Coast. Some things—like love and vacations—just can't be planned.**

Soraya is so close to getting the boy of her dreams to finally pay attention to her—she's sure of it. When she learns that her on-again, off-again secret situationship Wes is heading to Italy on a trip with his fraternity brothers, Soraya decides that there's no better place to reignite a romance than the Amalfi Coast!

Under the guise of a graduation trip to Europe with her friends, Soraya's plan is simple: make memories with her besties during the day, make out with Wes at night. But vacations can be messy, and romances messier—especially when you're keeping secrets from your friends, discovering your dream boy may be a nightmare, and spending more and more time with the sweet, wholesome, and supremely cute Italian boy whose family runs the B&B.

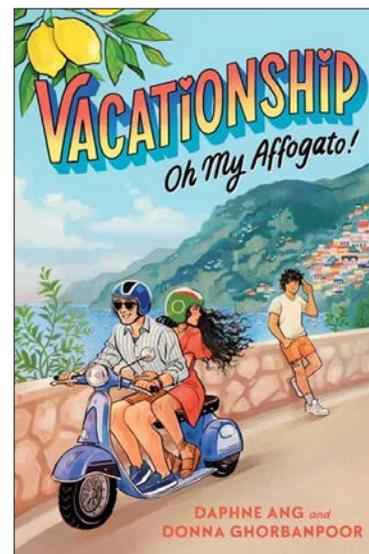
For a girl who's a true believer in sure things, Soraya has to learn the hard way that there really is no planning for love—or an epic vacation.

Say "Oui" to your next Vacationship when *Roux La La* heats up Paris in May 2027!

Publication Date: May 2026

Ages: 14 up

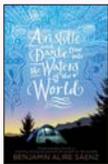
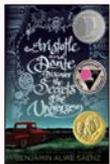
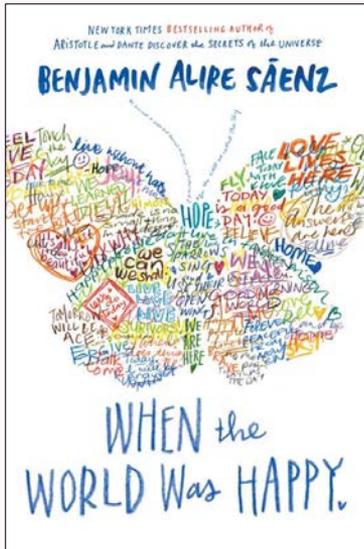
Page Extent: 272 pp/64K words



Let's do TODAY.

HOPE

TOMORROW
WILL BE
ACE.



WHEN THE WORLD WAS HAPPY

By Benjamin Alire Sáenz
Imprint: S&S Books for Young Readers

A heartrending but uplifting tale of twins and their group of friends who are forced to navigate life, relationships, and grief after their world is turned upside down, from *New York Times* bestselling and award-winning author Benjamin Alire Sáenz

CheChe knows that he and his twin sister, Emma, lead an unusual life. They enjoy spending time with their parents and grandparents, love to read, and don't have a huge circle of friends—and they're happy. Then, just a few months after they turn seventeen, three gunmen show up one morning at their high school, and everything changes.

CheChe loses a leg, and both he and Emma have friends who die. Suddenly, the world feels like a very different place. But what they find hasn't changed—or has only gotten deeper—is their love for their family, their close friends and each other; as they begin to heal, they create their own little community, one that wields the power of humor, kindness, and hope.

CheChe finds himself doing all kinds of things he never expected for his junior year: relearning to walk, falling in love with the boy he's nursed a longtime crush on, making friends with a kid he always found intimidating. By the end of this life-changing school year, none of them will be the same, and many of them will have found their voices in ways they never imagined.

BENJAMIN ALIRE SÁENZ is an author of poetry and prose for adults and teens. He was the first Hispanic winner of the PEN/Faulkner Award and a recipient of the American Book Award for his books for adults. He is the author of *Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe*, which was a Printz Honor Book, Stonewall Book Award winner, Pura Belpré Award winner, the Lambda Literary Award winner, and finalist for the Amelia Elizabeth Walden Award, and its sequel *Aristotle and Dante Dive into the Waters of the World*.

Publication Date: September 2026

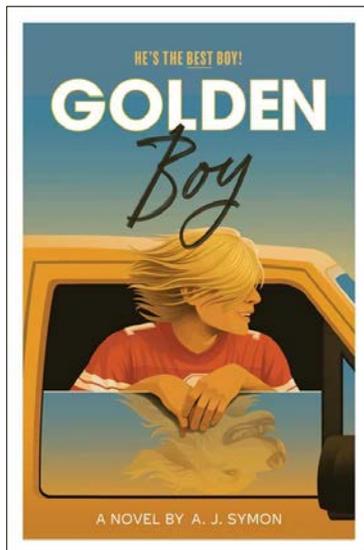
Ages: 14 up

Page Extent: 416 pp/90K words

RIGHTS SOLD FOR *ARISTOTLE AND DANTE DISCOVER THE SECRETS OF THE UNIVERSE*: Albanian, Bulgarian, Catalan, Chinese (complex), Chinese (simplified), Danish, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Lithuanian, Polish, Portuguese (Brazil), Portuguese (Portugal), Romanian, Serbian, Slovak, Spanish, Thai, Turkish, UK, Ukrainian, Vietnamese

BELIEVE





GOLDEN BOY

By A. J. Symon

Imprint: S&S Books for Young Readers

When a girl's beloved golden retriever becomes human, her relationships with her family and herself transform in ways she never thought possible in this heartwarming and funny young adult novel.

Science-obsessed, teen-genius Emma Branch is used to being the odd one out—in her family, among her classmates, and in her small town that only ever seems to care about football. She doesn't mind being all alone; in fact, she prefers it. Besides, who needs friends when she has a best friend already—her golden retriever, Hudson.

But when Hudson gets into an accident, Emma can't bear to lose her only friend. Luckily, she's been working on an experimental substance for her school science project that could help him out. All it was supposed to do was heal Hudson, not . . . turn him human?!

Emma, her family, and the whole town are about to learn just how a golden retriever can change hearts and minds for the better—that is, after causing a big old mess first.

Publication Date: August 2026

Ages: 12 up

Page Extent: 288 pp/65K words

KILLING SADIE

By Rachel Peterson

Imprint: Simon Pulse

Perfect for fans of *How to Survive Your Murder* and *Dead Girls Can't Tell Secrets*, this young adult thriller unspools the truth behind a tragic murder through multiple unreliable narrators who all have secrets to keep.

Here's what we know: there was a party at the McClain family farm last night, and things went horribly wrong. By the end of the night, there were two dead bodies: seventeen-year-old Sadie Cooper and her killer, Mason Vreeland. The murder was heartbreakingly witnessed by Sadie's twin sister, Jayne, and Sadie died in her arms. Mason was killed by Sadie's boyfriend, Ben, in an attempt to save Sadie.

Aside from figuring out Mason's motive, it should be an open and shut case . . . but it's not.

The story unfolds just after the murders, and Jayne, Ben, and Sadie's best friend, Liz, are telling the cops what transpired at the party and the events leading up to it. But little details don't match. And those little details start to add up to big discrepancies. But who's lying, and why?

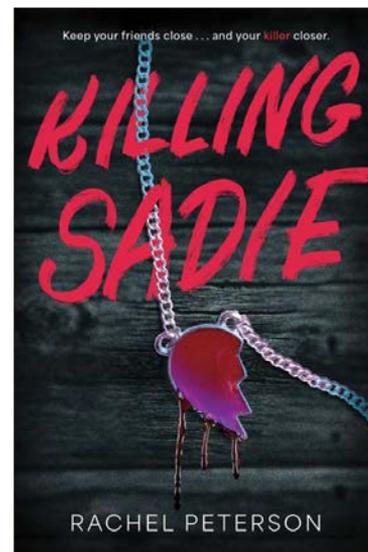
The shocking truth is revealed in the third act, when the POV shifts to victim Sadie herself, in the days leading up to the party. Witness exactly what happened—and see if you can piece it all together. Because poor Sadie totally missed what was right in front of her.

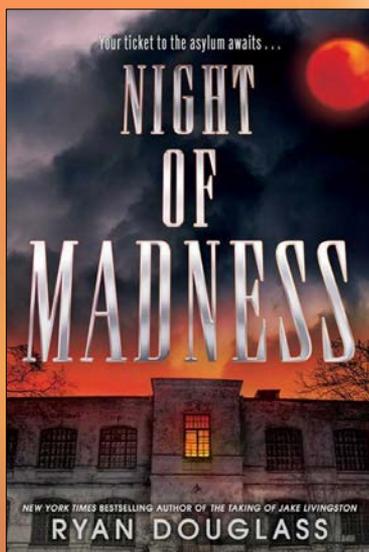
Publication Date: August 2026

Ages: 14 up

Page Extent: 304 pp/70K words

RIGHTS SOLD: German





NIGHT OF MADNESS

By Ryan Douglass
Imprint: Simon Pulse

Teen influencers compete in a horror movie–themed overnight competition, only to realize the real test is staying alive in this chilling, blood-soaked horror novel from the *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Taking of Jake Livingston* and the production company behind *Clown in a Cornfield*.

Mara is a horror buff whose only fond memories of her dad are bonding over movies by Jack Stanley—the producer of the eighties. Stanley’s campy slasher movies may have kept Mara’s fraught parental relationship on life support and gained a cult following, but the man himself has faded from the public eye . . . until he announces a contest centered around *Asylum*, his most terrifying film. Five teen influencers will be invited to spend the night on the fully constructed set; whoever sticks it out until morning wins a hundred thousand dollars.

Stuck in a dead-end job, Mara seriously needs that cash. She may not be a famous influencer, but there has to be a way to manufacture an online presence that will capture Stanley’s attention. With the help of her brother and best friend, Mara finds some creative solutions to her dilemma and lands herself on the roster of the lucky chosen few by way of her engaging authenticity.

When Mara and the other contestants arrive on set, it’s a horror fan’s dream being immersed in the asylum setting, but as the night wears on, they realize the danger is more than movie magic. They’re not there to win or lose but to live or die. As Mara fights to survive, she discovers an inner ruthlessness she didn’t know she had. Just how far will she go to see the sunrise—and will she still recognize herself by the end?

RYAN DOUGLASS is the author of young adult horror novel *The Taking of Jake Livingston*, a *New York Times* bestseller and an ALA Rainbow Book List Pick. His work explores the ways young people fight to survive in hostile worlds. He lives in Atlanta with his dog and spends his free time baking ambitious desserts and scoping out true crime documentaries.

Publication Date: September 2026

Ages: 14 up

Page Extent: 304 pp/61K words

NEW ADULT

Of Blades and Wings,
Page 47





THE SPELLBOUND SERIES #1: SOULS IN RUIN

By Jacqueline White
Imprint: Scarlett Press

Raven Kennedy's *Gild* meets Jennifer L. Armentrout's *From Blood and Ash* in this dark and riveting romantasy following a bastard princess caught up in the revenge of gods—the first book in a trilogy about survival, obsession, and the quiet fury of a woman who won't be forgotten.

A marriage forged in blood. A kingdom bathed in silence. And a princess who refuses to break.

When Princess Mireille is wed to a foreign king with cold eyes and colder intentions, she expects distance, perhaps cruelty, not chains. Kept imprisoned within her own kingdom's walls, she learns her father's past sins are not easily buried.

But neither is she.

As her world twists into something unrecognizable, Mireille finds herself caught between two powerful beings—one who wants her obedience and one who wants what little soul she has left.

But Mireille was not born to kneel.

JACQUELINE WHITE writes emotionally rich fantasy stories for adult readers, blending slow-burn romance with high stakes and morally complex characters. When she's not writing, Jacqueline enjoys crafting new Spotify playlists, rereading her favorite books, and drinking overly sweetened coffee. She lives in New York and is passionate about creating stories that linger long after the final page.

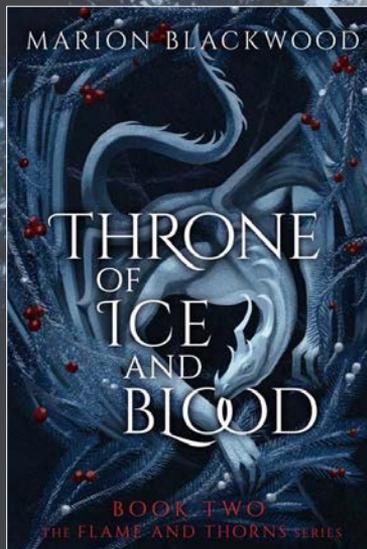
What begins in blood never ends quietly. The saga continues November 2027.

Publication Date: November 2026

Spice: 🌶️🌶️🌶️

Page Extent: 544 pp/180K words

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FLAME AND THORNS

#2: THRONE OF ICE AND BLOOD

#3: COURT OF LIES AND DECEIT

#4: REALM OF WIND AND VINES

#5: WAR OF FIRE AND FURY

By Marion Blackwood
Imprint: Scarlett Press

Fourth Wing meets *Powerless* in this riveting new adult romantasy series! Set in a world where the Seelie fae are enslaved to dragon shifters, the series follows a fae rebel fighting for her freedom and the ruthless dragon shifter commander who is determined to make her lose.

Selena and Draven are once more on opposite sides of a life-and-death struggle in this captivating sequel to *Empire of Flame and Thorns*.

After the Atonement Trials, Selena is trying to navigate her new life outside the Seelie Court. The world is very different from what she imagined, but her mission remains the same. Using every skill she has, she is going to help the secret resistance take down the Iceheart Dynasty.

But that path yet again sets her on a collision course with Draven Ryat. While the rebellion plots a daring scheme, important people start turning up dead. Draven is tasked with solving the murders. Selena is trying to help the killer. If either one of them fails, they will face dire consequences.

When blood stains the ice and dangerous secrets are brought to light, Selena must decide if she is willing to doom Draven in order to achieve her own goals. After everything that has happened between them, their relationship is already complicated. But now, with their very lives on the line, their tangled feelings for each other might destroy them both.

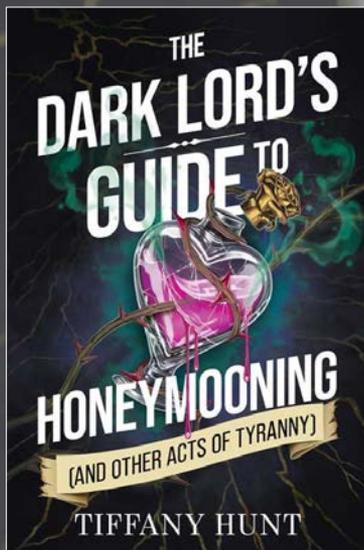
MARION BLACKWOOD is the author of *The Oncoming Storm* series, the *Court of Elves* series, the *Ruthless Villains* series, the *Ruthless Enemy* trilogy, and the *Flame and Thorns* series. She has a master's degree in English and history education, and she worked as a high school teacher before becoming a full-time author. Marion has previously lived in the US and China, but now she once again calls the beautiful country of Sweden home.

Publication Date: #2: May 2026; #3: August 2026; #4: October 2026; #5: February 2027

Spice: 🌶️🌶️🌶️

Page Extent: #2-4: 368 pp/118K words; #5: 384 pp/150K words

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GUIDES TO VILLAINY AND LOVE
#2: THE DARK LORD'S GUIDE TO HONEYMOONING
(AND OTHER ACTS OF TYRANNY)
#3: THE DARK LORD'S GUIDE TO MARRIAGE
(AND OTHER RITUAL SACRIFICES)

By Tiffany Hunt
Imprint: Scarlett Press

Kazimir and Arabella embark on a honeymoon where the only thing more dangerous than their enemies are their growing feelings for each other in this deliciously wicked and riotously funny second book in the Guides to Villainy and Love romantasy series that's *Assistant to the Villain* meets *Dreadful*.

Step Four: Take her on a honeymoon.

Step Five: Learn to co-villain effectively.

Step Six: Try not to get possessed by ancient evil.

Now bound by marriage and the formidable power of the Heirloom, Dark Lord Kazimir Blackrose and his Dark Lady Arabella are the realm's most feared and chaotic power couple. And after years of scheming, Kazimir is poised to conquer Solandris. But when the Alchemist calls in a debt, Kaz is forced to postpone his reign of terror or face consequences even he can't escape.

Arabella declares it the perfect opportunity for the honeymoon she was never promised. But their villainous getaway soon devolves into mayhem involving mass kidnappings, uncomfortable truths about Kazimir's demonic past, and a talented pastry chef with heroic blood who won't stop baking scones.

As if that weren't enough, Kazimir's mind is also filling with whispers not his own while Arabella secretly tries to recover her stolen memories. But the greatest threat may be those three dangerous little words that could shatter their carefully constructed walls . . . and unleash an evil that destroys them all.

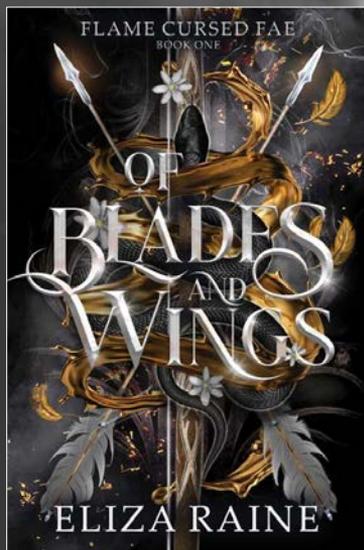
This sexy and side-splittingly funny fantasy romance is perfect for readers who love villains who stay deliciously wicked (but are catastrophically in love); a powerful heroine carving out her place in the world; "touch them and die"; plotting world domination; sizzling spice and wickedly amusing banter; dark humor; found family of villains; and a honeymoon phase with assassination attempts.

Publication Date: #2: September 2026; #3: May 2027

Spice: 🌶️🌶️🌶️

Page Extent: 688 pp/195K words

RIGHTS SOLD FOR *DARK LORD'S GUIDE TO DATING*: Czech, French, German, Hebrew, Portuguese (Brazil), Russian, Spanish, UK, Ukrainian



FLAME CURSED FAE

#1: OF BLADES AND WINGS

#2: OF FROST AND FEATHER

#3: OF ASH AND IRON

By Eliza Raine

Imprint: Scarlett Press

A princess with hidden abilities must train to become a Valkyrie, an elite guardian, without being tempted away from duty by an alluring fallen warrior with no loyalty to the realm in the first book in a Viking fae romantasy trilogy.

She wants to earn her Valkyrie wings. He wants to burn every Valkyrie to ash.

Princess Madivia is the fae Ice Court's best kept secret; only her family knows what she can really do—and how dangerous it is for her to leave her tower. Then destiny comes for her. Maddy has been selected by the gods themselves to train at Featherblade to become a Valkyrie, an elite guardian of Odin against the lethal Frost Giants.

Trainees, or rooks, have a series of trials to pass to earn their wings. Maddy must get stronger, bond with an ancient animal gifted to her by the gods, and survive the Wild Hunt—all without revealing her hidden powers. Above all, she must determine who she can trust. At the bottom of that list is Kain the Ruinous, disgraced fire fae, villain of Featherblade—and Maddy's obsession.

She knows she should avoid him. He's lethal and unhinged, and he feeds on fear. But when he's standing before her, fire in his eyes and heat blazing from his cursed skin, Maddy fears she would let the world go up in flames if he told her to. And if she's not strong enough, that may be exactly what happens.

ELIZA RAINE writes mythology-inspired fantasy romance that is fast-paced and full of magic, adventure, and couples who will set the world on fire for each other. She lives near Reading, England, with her husband, three cats, and outrageously cute puppy. She has a BA with honors in history and a deep-rooted passion for mythology and stories about women who don't need rescuing.

Publication Date: #1: November 2026; #2: February 2027; #3: May 2027

Spice: #1: 🌶️; #2: 🌶️🌶️; #3: 🌶️🌶️🌶️

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CONTACTS

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INTERNATIONAL CO-AGENTS

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Prava and Prevodi Literary Agency

Ms. Nada Popovic & Ms. Tamara Vukicevic
Yu-Business Center
Blvd. Mihaila Pupina 10B/1
5 floor, Suite 4
11070 Belgrade, SERBIA
E-mail: nada.popovic@pravaiprevodi.org
E-mail: tamara@pravaiprevodi.org
Telephone: 381-11-3016141 & 3119880
Fax: 381-11-311-9879

BALTIC STATES RIGHTS (Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania)

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Ms. Tatjana Zoldnere
19/21-3 Gertrudes St., Riga LV 1011, LATVIA
E-mail: zoldnere@eearagency.com
Telephone: 371-67506-495

CHINESE RIGHTS

Bardon-Chinese Media Agency

Ms. Cynthia Chang
3F, 150 Section 2
Roosevelt Road
Taipei, TAIWAN 100
E-mail: cynthia@bardonchinese.com
Telephone: 8862-2364-4995
Fax: 8862-2364-1967

Ms. Jian-Mei Wang
Room 2-702, Building 2
RongHuaShiJia, No. 29
XiaoYingBeiLu, Chao Yang District
Beijing 100101, CHINA
E-mail: jianmei@bardonchinese.com
Phone: 8610-82235383
Fax: 8610-82235362

CZECH REPUBLIC and SLOVAKIAN RIGHTS

Kristin Olson Literary Agency s.r.o.

Ms. Kristin Olson
Klimentaska 24
110 00 Praha 1, CZECH REPUBLIC
E-mail: kristin.olson@litag.cz
Telephone: 420-2-2258-2042
Fax: 420-2-2258-0048

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Mo Literary Services

Ms. Monique Oosterhof
Zwaluwtong 41
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E-mail: mo@moliterary.nl
Telephone: 31-20-632-58-10

FRENCH RIGHTS

Agence Michelle Lapautre

Ms. Catherine Lapautre
91 ter, rue du Cherche-Midi
75006 Paris, FRANCE
E-mail: catherine@lapautre.com
Telephone: 33-1-47-34-82-41

GERMAN RIGHTS

Michael Meller Agency

Mr. Niclas Schmolll
Landwehrstraße 17
80336 München, GERMANY
E-mail: n.schmolll@melleragency.com
Telephone: 49-89-36-63-71
Fax: 49-89-36-63-72

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The Israeli Association of Book Publishers Ltd.

Ms. Mickey Chesla
29 Carlebach Street
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Ms. Eszter Szász
Szerb u. 17-19.
H-1056 Budapest, HUNGARY
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Telephone: 36-1-456-0313
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Maxima Creative Agency

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Ms. Marika Iwai (Fiction)
Tokyodo Jinbocho No. 2 Bldg.
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Tokyo 101-0051, JAPAN
Email: junko.hirano@japanuni.co.jp
Email: marika.iwai@japanuni.co.jp
Telephone: 81-3-3295-0301
Fax: 81-3-3294-5173

KOREAN RIGHTS

KCC (Korean Copyright Center, Inc.)

Ms. Rock Young Lee
Gyonghigung-achim
Officetel Rm. 520, Compound 3
Naesu-dong 72, Chongno
Seoul 110-070, KOREA
E-mail: kids@kccseoul.com
Telephone: 82-2-725-3350
Fax: 82-2-725-3612

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Graal Ltd.

Ms. Paulina Machnik
Ul. Pruszkowska 29/252
020-119 Warsaw, POLAND
E-mail: paulina.machnik@graal.com.pl
Telephone: 48-22-895-2000
Fax: 48-22-895-2001

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Agência Riff

Ms. Camila Marandino
Avenida Calógeras n° 6 Centro, sl 1007
Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20030-070 BRAZIL
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Telephone: 55-21-2287-6299
Fax: 55-21-2267-6393

ROMANIAN RIGHTS

Simona Kessler

International Copyright Agency, Ltd.

Ms. Adriana Marina
Str. Banul Antonache 37
001 663 Bucharest I, ROMANIA
E-mail: marina@kessler-agency.ro
Telephone: 4021-316-4806
Fax: 4021-316-4794

RUSSIAN RIGHTS

Andrew Nurnberg Literary Agency

Ms. Anastasia Falcón & Ms. Olga Lutova
21 Tsvetnoy Blvd., Stroenie 6
Moscow 127051, RUSSIA
E-mail: a.falcon@lit-agency.com
Email: o.lutova@lit-agency.com
Telephone: 7495-625-81-88

SPANISH RIGHTS

RDC Agencia Literaria

Ms. Beatriz Coll
Fernando VI 13-15, 3 D
28004 Madrid, SPAIN
E-mail: rdc@rdclitera.com
Telephone: 00-34-91-391-20-32

TURKISH RIGHTS

Akcali Agency

Ms. Begum Ayter
Bahariye Cad. 8/9-10
34714 Kadikoy, Istanbul, TURKEY
E-mail: begum@akcalicopyright.com
Telephone: 90-216-338-8771
Fax: 90-216-414-2265

**Simon & Schuster Children's
Publishing Division
Subsidiary Rights Department
1230 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10020
USA**

**For all other inquiries,
please contact Amy Habayeb,
amy.habayeb@simonandschuster.com
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deane.norton@simonandschuster.com**

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