



FICTION

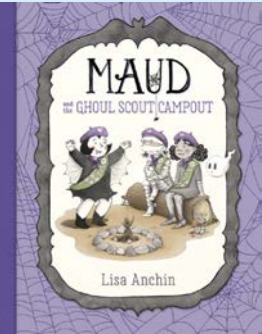
RIGHTS

FRANKFURT 2026

WALKER BOOKS GROUP

5+ Illustrated Fiction

LISA ANCHIN



Maud and the Ghou Scout Campout

Maud, the sweet little vampire, is back to join her scout troop on an ever-so-gently spooky adventure in the woods – but her scary campfire story has some gigantic competition!

Maud and her friends are eager to earn their Young Naturalist badges. But when it’s Maud’s turn to tell a tale around the fire, and she’s more than ready to scare everyone . . . CREAK! SNAP! What could be out there that’s even scarier than Maud’s story?

64 pages • July 2027 • Rights sold: French, German, Italian, Spanish • Candlewick Press

• *Perfect for readers graduating from Flavia Z. Drago’s adorably mystical stories, or any fans of vampires, witches, and all things spooky*

• *The vignette storytelling style and charming illustrations make for clever humor that will delight readers of all ages*

Book 3 to follow in April 2028.



Praise for Maud and the Very Eventful Week
“Cozy, witty, and brimming with charm – a perfect introduction to chapter books for spooky-loving young readers.” Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

DAVID EZRA STEIN



Praise for Interrupting Chicken
“Readers will fall hard for the antics of this hapless pair.” Publishers Weekly (starred review)

Interrupting Chicken and the Homework-Eating Dog

The *New York Times* bestselling series returns with a new format – blending comics with a traditional early reader – in another laugh-out-loud story about the little red chicken

It’s bath time for the little red chicken, but she forgot to do her homework! Luckily, she’s got the perfect idea for her newspaper article – interviewing her dog-shaped sponge to find out if dogs *really* eat homework. But it’s hard to get answers when the dog keeps interrupting to gobble everything down . . . ! Kids will love following Chicken’s investigation in this hilarious hard-boiled detective story told with graphic novel sections.

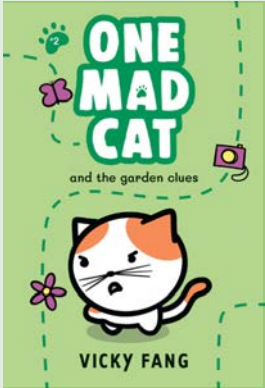
64 pages • October 2027 • World rights available • Candlewick Press

• *Chicken’s assignment to figure out WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN, and HOW teaches readers how to get to the bottom of a story, while the math assignments throughout make addition and subtraction fun*

• *The original Interrupting Chicken was a New York Times bestseller, and the character starred in a series on Apple TV+*

Book 2 to follow in September 2028

VICKY FANG



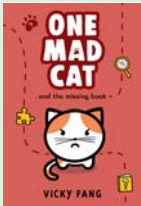
One Mad Cat and the Garden Clues

With a fresh, graphic illustrative style, rising star Vicky Fang brings a second adventure for young animal fans who relish a gentle mystery – and a touch of dry humor

Friendship outweighs Cat’s (many) peeves on a visit to the nature center in this funny story that deftly weaves in social and emotional learning. When Bunny is upset that his photo of the bunny ear cactus is blurry, Cat cedes her coveted place in the snack line to help find it again by solving a puzzle. Beginning and newly independent readers will be charmed and entertained by Cat’s further adventures.

64 pages • March 2027 • Rights sold: Catalan, Spanish • Candlewick Press

• *A great tool for social emotional learning, as Cat doesn’t only get mad – she also finds ways to calm herself down so she can solve the puzzle of the problem before her*



Praise for One Mad Cat and the Missing Book
“A simple story line, dry humor, and an enjoyably cranky feline protagonist combine for a satisfying whodunit.” Kirkus Reviews

5+ Illustrated Fiction

BERNARD MENSAH



Spookies: Don’t Wish on the Shooting Star

illustrated by Alea Marley

Be careful what you wish for in this early chapter book series sure to entice kids who like spooky tales

Siblings Kusi, Esi, and Fifi live with their parents in a very small house, where they all share a room. So, when they see a green shooting star outside their window, it’s a no-brainer for each child to wish for a room of their own. But when the three learn they’re moving to a big house, that’s just the start of some strange and creepy happenings.

72 pages • July 2027 • World rights available • Candlewick Press

• *This young scary story fills a gap for budding horror fans not yet ready for Mister Shivers and Goosebumps*

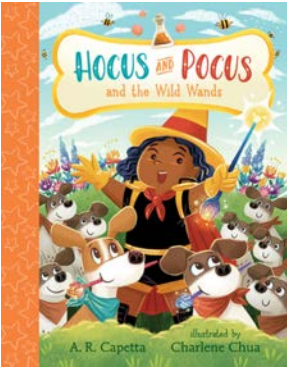
• *Author Bernard Mensah is passionate about writing for children of underrepresented backgrounds and is the co-founder of Black Creators in Kid Lit*

• *While a natural fit for Halloween season, this book will appeal to those looking to spook themselves year-round*

Book 2 to follow in July 2028

5+ Illustrated Fiction

A. R. CAPETTA



Hocus and Pocus and the Wild Wands

illustrated by Charlene Chua

An enchanted and affirming series by a Lambda Literary Award-winning author and a Stonewall Book Award-winning illustrator

Magical puppy Hocus wants to play, but her brother Pocus wants to nap. Hocus gets an idea – she snatches a wandflower and makes a second Pocus. But this Pocus doesn’t want to play, either. To make matters worse, they multiply again (and again)! Will the puppies be able to unspell each other before the party? Another lively adventure in this charming world where enchantment and empathy abound.

96 pages • February 2027 • World rights available • Candlewick Press

Praise for Hocus and Pocus and the Dragon Next Door
“Charming, quirky, and sweet – this one contains the magical ingredients for an absorbing read.” Kirkus Reviews

Books 5-6 to follow.



CECE BELL



Cat Fables

Move over, Aesop! This bevy of laugh-out-loud fables is catnip for reluctant readers

All of these fables have a cat in them. You will also see a mouse. And sometimes you’ll see a dog. You might even see a crab! But the cat is the important thing. From the incomparable Cece Bell, here is a pitch-perfect collection of ten droll feline fables with a decidedly modern sensibility, full of sharp-witted humor and a dose of pure silliness.

144 pages • October 2027 • World rights available • Candlewick Press

- **This collection of original fables is unlike anything else in the market**
- **The latest from the Newbery Honor-winning author-illustrator of El Deafo and Geisel Honor-winning creator of Chick and Brain: Smell My Foot and Rabbit and Robot: The Sleepover**

Dog Fables to follow in September 2028.

ATINUKE



Too Small Tola and Her New Best Friend

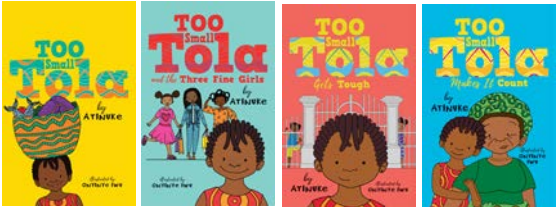
illustrated by Onyinye Iwu

Too Small Tola is back at school and excited to have made a best friend, Amina. Tola and Amina love playing together! But when they have their first disagreement, will they be able to put their differences aside and save their friendship? Whether she’s solving problems for her neighbours, or figuring out the answers just for herself, Tola proves that though she may be small ... she is mighty.

96 pages • April 2027 • Rights sold: Portuguese (Brazil) • Walker Books

- **Joyful, relatable stories that celebrate friendship and community with humour and authenticity**
- **Perfect for fans of Trish Cooke, and Malorie Blackman’s Betsey Biggalow series**
- **Atinuke is the award-winning author of more than 30 children’s books including the bestselling Anna Hibiscus series and acclaimed picture books including Baby Goes to Market**

Book 6 to follow.



7+ Illustrated Fiction

KIRBY LARSON



Shermy and Shake, the Not-So-Unhappy Campers

illustrated by Shinji Fujioka

Unlikely best pals Shermy and Shake go on a fun road trip, meet a brand-new baby, and spend the weekend at a real sleepaway camp in a season full of adventure and steadfast friendship

Shermy takes his time and thinks things through, while his best friend, Shake, likes to jump in with both feet. When Shermy’s dog escapes, Shake comes running to help. And when Shake is nervous about meeting his new baby sister, Shermy shows him how to hold her safely. Humor, worry, and excitement flavor a series of charming adventures in the fourth and final kid’s-eye-view installment of this delightful series.

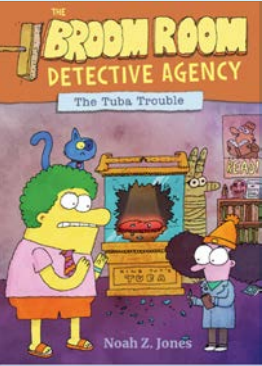
112 pages • November 2026 • World rights available • Candlewick Press

Praise for Shermy and Shake, the Not-So-Nice Neighbor
“Earnestly told, low-conflict vignettes affirm the compassion and understanding that friendship can require to bloom.” Publishers Weekly



7+ Illustrated Fiction

NOAH Z. JONES



The Broom Room Detective Agency: The Tuba Trouble

Another hilarious whodunit in this quirky series from the creator of the Disney animated series *Fish Hooks*

Sixth-grader Piper Corduroy is a top-notch detective who doesn’t guess and is rarely surprised. When King Tut’s ancient tuba is stolen from the library, it’s a case for her Broom Room Detective Agency! But this case is tricky. Piper finds herself a little afraid—and a little excited—at the thought of having something she’s never had before: a worthy adversary. Fun illustrations enhance this zany page-turner of a mystery.

112 pages • June 2027 • World rights available • Candlewick Press

Uniquely funny characters and a ridiculous mystery plot are paired with comic illustrations, making this series the perfect fit for reluctant readers.



CHITRA SOUNДАР



Sara Apsara: Fairy Friends at Holi

illustrated by Aditi Kakade Beaufrand

A magical adventure and a colourful Holi celebration inspired by Hindu fairy tales for readers who love *Isadora Moon* and *The Wild Magic* series

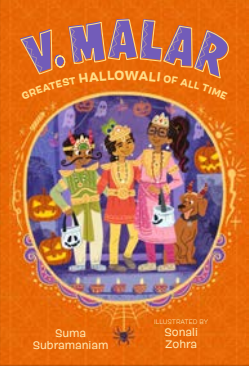
Nine-year-old Sara is an apsara, a magical guardian of nature. But when a yaksha tries to ruin their Holi celebrations with pranks, can Sara and her friends save the day?

128 pages • February 2027 • World rights available • Walker Books

- *A unique new series in the popular fairy genre about apsaras, nature spirits of Hindu mythology*
- *By the award-winning author of the CBeebies animated series Nikhil & Jay*

Book 2 to follow in August 2027.

SUMA SUBRAMANIAM



V. Malar: Greatest Hallowali of All Time

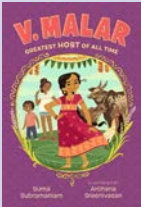
illustrated by Sonali Zohra

Learn about Diwali and Halloween as Malar reunites with her cousins in Seattle

As warm and engaging as its prequels, this third V. Malar follows Malar on her first trip to America. In Seattle, she discovers that her cousins are more interested in Halloween than Diwali, which happens to fall in the same week. The family decides to try out a new celebration: Hallowali. An ode to patience, creativity, and negotiating bonds, this festive new story champions the rich adaptability of family love.

128 pages • August 2027 • World rights available • Candlewick Press

Praise for V. Malar: Greatest Host of All Time
“A heartening tale of cultural clashes, family drama, and, ultimately, forged bonds.” *Kirkus Reviews*



7+ Illustrated Fiction

MEG MEDINA



Emi Grande-Grady and the Book-o-Matic

illustrated by Tania de Regil

Join eight-year-old Emi and the Grande Grady family’s laugh-out-loud antics in this a new early chapter book series

Emi Grande Grady has just started second grade when her teacher announces that on their birthday, students will get a token for the Book-o-Matic, a vending machine that dispenses books. Emi’s birthday is fast approaching and she already knows she’ll choose the new book in her favorite series, *Gumshoe Hounds*. But trouble arises when the boy in her class with the same birthday also wants the same book!

144 pages • September 2027 • World rights available • Candlewick Press

• *Breaking fresh ground with a joyful chapter book series for newly independent readers, a Newbery Medal winner focuses her inimitable warmth and wit on the nuances of second-grade life*

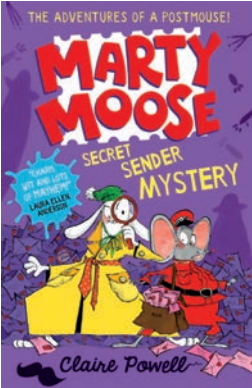
• *Join the playful and imaginative Emi and her diverse community of family and friends as they navigate the highly relatable trials and tribulations of elementary school*

• *Adorable illustrations capture all the excitement, emotions, and spirit of early childhood*

Books 2-5 to follow.

7+ Illustrated Fiction

CLAIRE POWELL



Marty Moose: Secret Sender Mystery

Special delivery! A laugh-out-loud early reader series from an award-winning, bestselling author-illustrator, starring a postmouse whose parcels never quite go to plan

Join Marty Moose, Little Ditch’s most unstoppable postmouse, as every delivery turns into a wildly funny adventure. From getting lost in Whisker Warren to racing with a golden egg, dodging ferret bandits and investigating a mystery sender, Marty always lands in chaos – usually with the “help” of his doolally rabbit friend, Nibbles.

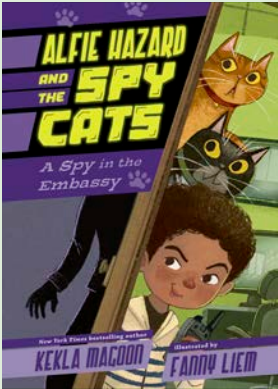
160 pages • March 2027 • Rights sold: Dutch, Finnish, Hungarian, Italian, Serbian, Simplified Chinese, Spanish • Walker Books

• **Perfect for fans of** *Grimwood* **by Nadia Shireen, Murray and Bun** **by Adam Stower** **and** *Adventuremice* **by Philip Reeve and Sarah McIntyre**
• **By the bestselling illustrator of over 50 books, including** *Montgomery Bonbon*, *The Swifts* **and** *The King’s Birthday Suit*



Book 4 to follow
in March 2028.

KEKLA MAGOON



Alfie Hazard and the Spy Cats: A Spy in the Embassy

illustrated by Fanny Liem

Bringing her talents to a younger audience, an award-winning author kicks off a fun chapter book series about a ten-year-old boy enlisted as a spy alongside his two savvy cats

Alfie Hazard is thrilled when his big sister, Mika, comes home from college to live with their family at the embassy in Washington, DC. But Mika definitely has a secret, and Alfie and the cats are determined to get to the bottom if it. When Alfie’s mom tells the family that some classified documents have been stolen, it’s up to Alfie, Bonnie, and Baxter to investigate! Surely Mika couldn’t be the spy ... or could she?

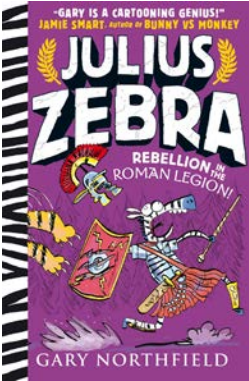
160 pages • February 2027 • World rights available • Candlewick Press

• **Bonnie and Baxter are cats that readers will fall in love with, leading kids to dream of what their own pets might be capable of**

“Perfect for younger fans of James Ponti’s *City Spies* series, *Alfie Hazard and the Spy Cats* is going to be an instant hit.” Kate Messner

Books 2-3 to follow.

GARY NORTHFIELD



Julius Zebra: Rebellion in the Roman Legion

The final title in this exciting, action-packed and hysterically funny series brimming with fascinating facts about life (and near-death) in the Roman Legion

Julius Zebra joins the Roman Legion, takes charge, and - hey presto! - becomes the Roman Emperor for about ten minutes. After that brief power trip, Julius and his chums march along with the Legion, but can Julius pass as an organised, disciplined Roman soldier ... or will chaos reign as the horsehair crest of his helmet tickles him and he tumbles in his tunic?

224 pages • June 2027 • Rights sold: Bulgarian, Dutch, Georgian, German, Hebrew, Polish • Walker Books

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

• **Speech bubbles, cartoon-style illustrations and non-stop jokes are catnip for both reluctant and not-so-reluctant readers**



9+ Illustrated Fiction

LOUIE STOWELL



Loki: A Bad God’s Guide to Monster Hunting

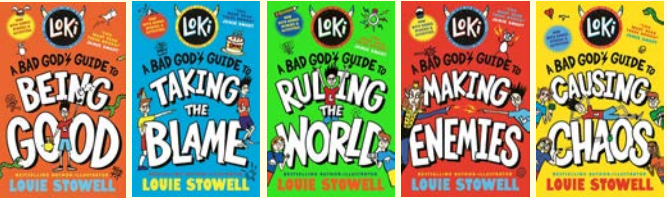
The latest installment in the bestselling series that brings together Norse mythology and a school setting in a hilarious, easy-to-read doodle diary

Loki, the mighty trickster god, has been banished by Odin for bad behaviour to live on Earth as an eleven-year-old boy. But when his monstrous children start going missing, Loki is sent on a quest to retrieve them with his fake-brother, the thunder god Thor, and the nauseatingly perfect god Balder. With this disaster-trio setting out, the quest feels doomed from the start...

240 pages • February 2027 • Rights sold: Albanian, Armenian, Bulgarian, Catalan, Croatian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, Estonian, Finnish, French, Georgian, German, Greek, Hebrew, Hungarian, Icelandic, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Lithuanian, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Serbian, Simplified Chinese, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish, Swedish, Turkish, Ukrainian • Walker Books

• **With English-language sales of over half a million copies, this series is perfect for fans of Tom Gates and Diary of a Wimpy Kid**

• **Starring an anti-hero whose rebellious nature and love**



“You must read these books.”
Jamie Smart,
bestselling author of
Bunny vs Monkey

MEGAN McDONALD



Fairy Door Diaries: Eliza and the Fairy Double

illustrated by Lenny Wen

An enchanting third adventure on the other side of the fairy door

Hic! Eliza has a bad case of the hiccups. That might mean that elves might need her help! Then Eliza meets her fairy double, a mini version of herself but one who is wearing funny clothes and a funny hat and acting, well, funny. The other elves of Elfindor claim that Eliza's double is not her true double but an imposter. Who should they believe?

96 pages • September 2026 • World rights available • Candlewick Press

Praise for *Fairy Door Diaries: Eliza and the Flower Fairies*
“A joyful tale of learning to believe in oneself and rejoicing in magic both grandiose and mundane.”
Publishers Weekly



Books 4-5
to follow.

JUDY MOODY A Graphic Novel

illustrated by Marilena Perilli

Close on the heels of its 25th anniversary, the first book in this internationally bestselling series gets the graphic novel treatment!

Judy Moody's moods are more colorful than ever in Marilena Perilli's full-color graphic novel adaptation of the book that launched the ground-breaking and popular series. This adaptation fills the need for books accessible to recovering readers and is perfect for introducing Judy to a whole new generation of readers.

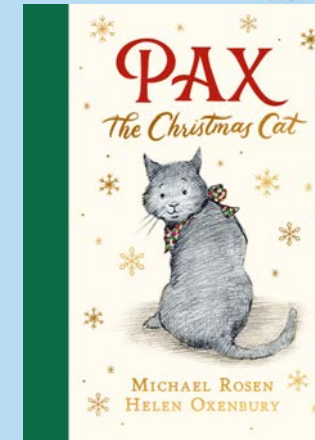
128 pages • September 2027 • World rights available • Candlewick Press

“It’s hard to find imagine a mood Judy couldn’t improve.” *Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

Books 2-3 to follow.



MICHAEL ROSEN



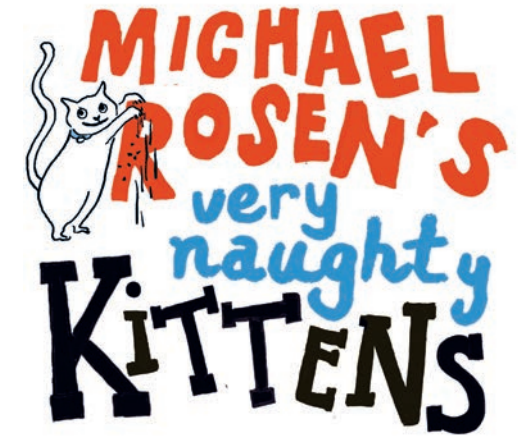
Pax the Christmas Cat

illustrated by Helen Oxenbury

The story of a little girl and her beloved cat who goes missing at Christmas – written and illustrated in black and white by the creative pairing behind international phenomenon *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*

64 pages • November 2026 • World rights available • Walker Books

• **Gently touches on themes of poverty and homelessness in an accessible way, encouraging conversation about reconciliation and family**
• **Michael's previous collaboration with Kate Greenaway Medal winner Helen Oxenbury** *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* **has sold over 16M copies worldwide**



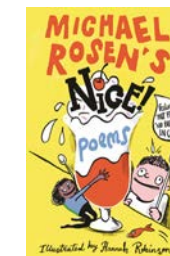
Michael Rosen's Very Naughty Kittens

illustrated by Hannah Robinson

A hilarious collection of poems and stories that perfectly capture the mischief and charm of kitten-kind with wry, observational humour, playfully illustrated in black and white

128 pages • September 2027 • World rights available • Walker Books

• **This seamless mix of poetry and prose with short chapters and plentiful art is ideal for both newly confident and reluctant readers**
• **Perfectly observed and highly illustrated, this blend of humour and cuteness is the narrative answer to the cat meme**



From
the hugely
popular writer
and orator, former
Children's Laureate
and winner of the Hans
Christian Andersen
Award 2026

KATE DiCAMILLO



On a Winter's Night

illustrated by Noah Saterstrom

A stunning collection of original, timeless tales, linked in unexpected and moving ways by a two-time Newbery Medalist

The sixteen tales in this groundbreaking collection take readers from ancient cathedrals and moonlit fields to department stores and church basements, where recurring characters and themes reveal profound connections that will resonate long after the final page. Kate DiCamillo – always a virtuoso storyteller – has outdone herself with classic stories that are worthy of sitting alongside the Brothers Grimm and Hans Christian Andersen, and the collaboration with Noah Saterstrom is truly a masterpiece.

264 pages • October 2027 • Rights sold: Simplified Chinese • Candlewick Press

Backward, forward, the past and the future,
up and down, and on and on and on . . .
the stories can go anywhere, and anything
is possible.



**Kate DiCamillo's classic bestselling
novels now available as deluxe
collectors editions**



DAVID ALMOND



Ollie Mitchell's Ghosts

illustrated by Sydney Smith

A standalone novel that pairs a multi-award-winning, globally bestselling author with one of today's most celebrated children's illustrators

Since his da died, Ollie Mitchell is obsessed with turning his family's battered old caravan into a scary fairground attraction. Knowing that Ollie needs pals right now, Davie from next door agrees to help, and soon other kids get involved. Then a local TV station hears about it, and suddenly a project born out of grief becomes a source of pride for the whole estate.

240 pages • June 2027 • Rights sold: Dutch • Walker Books

- **A go-to title for readers navigating grief and loss, such as Katya Balen's *The Light in Everything* and All the Blues in the Sky by Renée Watson**
- **An uplifting story of friendship and acceptance with the appeal of titles like *The Boy at the Back of the Class* and *Wonder***
- **A richly evocative story of working class life in the 1960s told in accessible, engaging language with black-and-white illustrations**

"David Almond's books are strange, unsettling wild things... They are, like all great literature, beyond classification"
Guardian



My Dad's a Birdman

illustrated by Polly Dunbar

An eccentric and tender family story that deftly balances themes of grief and mental health with humour and warmth

160 pages • June 2027 • Rights sold: Portuguese (Brazil) • Walker Books

Text rights
handled
separately



The Boy Who Swam with Piranhas

illustrated by Oliver Jeffers

A joyfully life-affirming and quirky fishy tale about one boy's journey from anguish to joy

256 pages • June 2027 • Rights sold: Catalan, French, Hungarian, Italian, Portuguese, Romanian, Spanish, Turkish • Walker Books

9+ Fiction

CHRISTOPHER EDGE



Fear Files: Jump Scare

Are you ready to dive into the FEAR FILES, first-hand accounts of the strange and unexplained? This time, there is no game over...When Noah finds a retro videogame called JUMP! at a car boot sale, he plans to sell it online. But when he tries to load the game on his dad’s old console to check it works, things turn spooky. Noah and his best friend, Amir, discover that JUMP! is cursed, spreading to the real lives of those who dare to play it. When his sister, Poppy, goes missing, Noah has no choice but to play the game to save her...

160 pages • October 2027 • Rights sold: Turkish • Walker Books

- A spine-tingling, accessible horror series for for fans of Goosebumps, Doctor Who and books by Jennifer Killick
- Each story is packed with mysterious found material and illustrations
- Christopher Edge is the author of the global sensation, Escape Room



Praise for Fear Files: Hide and Seek
“A deliciously scary and suspense-filled treat.” The Guardian

PÁDRAIG KENNY



The Edge of the Wild

A darkly magical Wild West adventure from one of Ireland’s most acclaimed writers for young people Twelve-year-old huckster Nathan Quixby travels a barren world of monsters and strange phenomena, selling elixir to gullible frontier towns. Jess Crow comes from a family of soul-eaters who haunt the wilderness – but she wants a different life. When their paths cross, Nathan agrees to help Jess find a cure for her dangerous “appetite” before it takes hold completely.

240 pages • March 2027 • World rights available • Walker Books

- A literary yet highly accessible short novel, perfect for fans of Piers Torday and Jonathan Stroud
- A gripping story about good and evil, freedom and connection, and the choices that shape who we become
- From the multi-award-winning author of Stitch, After and The Monsters of Rookhaven



AMY SPARKES



Praise for The Unchosen One:
“Wonderfully inventive, brilliantly funny, warm-hearted and magical.” Andy Shepherd, author of The Boy Who Grew Dragons

The Not-So-Heroic Quest

Hold on to your cloaks and brace for trouble in the hilarious second book in a New York Times bestselling author’s new fantasy adventure trilogy

An ancient evil is rising on the Isles of Peryll, threatening to bring doom and destruction. And by some strange twist of fate, it is disaster-prone Tassie who is in possession of the magical stone that is needed to restore this enemy to full power. So along with her best friend, a griffin called Spin, and enigmatic elf Darley, Tassie decides to make the epic trek to the Well of Fortune to destroy the stone once and for all. But as it turns out, destroying a stone of power is hard when everyone wants to get their hands on it...

240 pages • July 2027 • Rights sold: Bulgarian, French, Polish • Walker Books

- The wit and eccentricity of Terry Pratchett meet the epic quest narrative of The Lord of the Rings as Amy Sparkes takes common fantasy tropes and spins them on their heads
- Decorative maps and chapter artwork make this the perfect step towards more challenging epic fantasy series
- No one writes funny and fast-paced magical adventures better than Amy Sparkes, whose House at the Edge of Magic series has sold over 250,000 copies

Book 3 to follow in May 2028.

9+ Fiction

J. P. ROSE



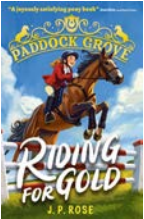
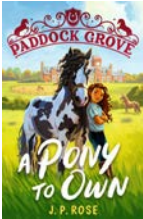
Paddock Grove: Horse Show Rivals

At the exclusive equestrian boarding school Paddock Grove, the only lessons that matter are the ones on horseback... and the ones you learn with your friends

Lively, lovable Lili is used to having the best of everything, and that includes her incredible horse, Ted. But when a new girl starts with her snow-white steed, she seems set on turning everyone against Lili, a vendetta that only intensifies when the two compete for a slot in a televised horse show.

240 pages • November 2026 • Rights sold: Danish • Walker Books

Praise for Paddock Grove: A Pony to Own
“J. P. Rose understands that special almost magical connection between rider and pony, and captures it all beautifully.” Love Reading for Kids



9+ Fiction

JOSEPH COELHO



Relic Hamilton, Genie Hunter: The Storm Monster

illustrated by Hyun Song We

The epic finale to this fantasy adventure trilogy featuring futuristic gadgets, magical creatures, ancient lore, rogue genies and an underground community of genie hunters

Supplies are running critically low at Genie Hunters HQ, and Ravenna, the king of evil genies, remains a terrible threat. There’s only one thing to do: Relic and the gang must find a portal into the genie realm to collect what they need. But it will take all their teamwork, tech-wizardry and magical powers to track down resources – and new levels of bravery to face the dangers they meet along the way.

256 pages • August 2027 • Rights sold: Danish • Walker Books

- **Features 20 black-and-white illustrations from Korean artist and animator Hyun Song We, who has worked on Pixar films including Inside Out 2**
- **From the former UK Children’s Laureate and winner of the Yoto Carnegie Medal for Writing**



HENRY COLES



Traitor’s Magic

Haskell is the son of a shipping magnate; Agatha a poor village girl. Opposites in every way, the two children are sent to work for the wizard Titus. Whoever proves best will become his apprentice. But Titus is used to his own company and teaches the children little, more interested in complex sums and keeping his magical library locked. When the king’s sorcerer visits, it becomes clear that the library holds secrets worth lying, stealing – and dying – for.

304 pages • January 2027 • World rights available • Walker Books

- **Full of magic, intrigue and secrets as two children are apprenticed to a reclusive and dangerous wizard**
- **Perfect for readers of The House With Chicken Legs and books by Diana Wynne Jones**
- **Henry Coles has been a part of several new writer award lists, including the SCBWI Undiscovered Voices, Scottish Book Trust New Writer Awardees and The Times/Chicken House Prize**

NATALIE PRECIANS



Firebird Riders

Thirteen-year-old firebird rider cadet Ari Flint has only ever wanted one thing: to qualify as the Wing Leader for her class and head to the Wyvern Front. But when the firebird paired with the most popular cadet at the academy – and Ari’s well-know rival – is murdered, Ari becomes the prime suspect. Ari interrogates suspects and tracks down clues, but just when she thinks she’s found the answer, there’s another death. Can Ari solve the mystery before it costs her the future she’s always dreamed of?

324 pages • October 2027 • World rights available • Walker Books Australia

- **A high-stakes fantasy adventure and murder mystery**
- **For fans of Skandar, Wings of Fire, Impossible Creatures and Nevermoor**

Books 2-3 to follow.

9+ Fiction

EMILY B. MARTIN



Nell O’Dell Hates Bards

A reluctant quester finds is kidnapped by pirates in this droll but heartfelt adventure

Nell O’Dell just wants to rebuild her chicken coop before school starts. Instead, she and her friends – goblin Midge, troll Bevin, and dragon-keeper Celeste – find themselves on the most important quest of all: the quest to not disappoint Nell’s mom. Before long, they’ve been kidnapped by pirates, shipwrecked, and are searching for treasure on a desert island, all thanks to that most-annoying of all questing types: a banjo-playing bard.

336 pages • September 2027 • World rights available • Candlewick Press

- Praise for Nell O’Dell Hates Quests**
- “A lively, trope-aware adventure that questions the very idea of heroic destiny.” School Library Journal (starred review)**



ROGBA PAYNE

Legendborn meets Ace of Spades, Bad Witches Only turns what you've come to expect from a magical boarding school on its head with sass and flair from this major new YA fantasy voice

Sixteen-year-old Tinu has carried one deep secret alone – she's a witch. When she creates a ruckus in a shawarma store her secret is spotted. Now she finds herself on the path to join Chatterton, Britain's finest (secret) school for witches. As the only black girl in a school where her magic is mocked, Tinu goes from being a fish out of water to being a fish in flaming hot soup when the most popular girl in school is found dead in her dormitory. With Chatterton's witches hell-bent on seeing her expelled, Tinu will have to grapple with dark secrets, dark witches and self-doubt to stand her ground in a place she was never truly welcome...

352 pages • August 2027 • Rights sold: Bulgarian, French • Walker Books

- **The perfect commercial offering for YA readers looking for something new, Bad Witches Only combines the secrets and magic of Legendborn, the social critique of Ace of Spades, the murder mystery and high school dynamics of One Of Us Is Lying and the sass and society intrigue of Gossip Girl.**
- **Globally fantasy is booming for all ages, and with key 2027 fantasy franchise moments coming with HBO's TV adaptation of Harry Potter and Paramount's movie adaptation of Children of Blood and Bone, magical fantasy will be at its height in popular culture.**
- **A totally original way into magical fantasy, while also hitting tropes and themes that YA readers love, including enemies to lovers, rich people behaving badly and murder mystery.**

Book 2 to follow in September 2028.



TRACY BANGHART



Ink and Soul

Introducing a twisty meta-fantasy duology brimming with snark, high-stakes adventure, and sizzling romance

Lucy Quinn grew up with her grandmother's stories but after inheriting the fantasy world of Celestium, she discovers it is real. And so is its soul-sucking villain and heroes, including Gideon, the guy she wrote (exactly to her private specifications) as the love interest. What's more, Lucy enters Celestium at a fever point in the plot . . . just in time for her main characters to take her hostage.

384 pages • August 2027 • Rights sold: German • Candlewick Press

- **Combines the immersive worldbuilding of epic fantasy, the wry humor of contemporary realistic, and the page-turning excitement of suspense**
- **Explores heady questions of power, responsibility, consent, and structural inequities in a thoroughly enjoyable, entertaining package**

Book 2 to follow in September 2028.

MAYA SOETORO

YELLOWWOOD

Yellowwood

In a time of endless war, three resilient young adults seek their place and purpose in vastly different ways

Savita has lived a life torn by war between Avan, her home island, and Menak, the island of her mother. When a shocking revelation forces her on a journey of self-discovery, she falls in love with Junn, an Avan soldier torn between the healing vision Savita offers and the war he is destined to wage – and is imprisoned by Kaliga, a rebel guerrilla fighter who will gladly deal in fire and death if it means a free and just future for her people. An epic and lyrical debut laced with adventure, spiritual wisdom, and healing magic.

400 pages • October 2027 • World rights available • Candlewick Press

- **The YA debut from the sister of former President Barack Obama and an accomplished peace and justice educator in her own right**
- **Sophisticated themes will strongly appeal to new adult and adult audiences, while also offering a content-appropriate adventure for smart middle-schoolers**
- **Following three protagonists navigating adolescence in the time of war, this powerful coming-of-age story tackles identity, destiny, and violence and peace**

RACHAEL
DAVIS-FEATHERSTONE



Oxford Secrets

A Good Girl’s Guide to Murder meets The Secret History in this riveting YA murder mystery thriller exploring themes of privilege, prejudice and identity

Studying English at Oxford University might be Eva’s dream, but a bloodthirsty gossip site and a tricky love triangle look set to turn it into a nightmare.And that’s before Eva’s new friend turns up dead...

352 pages • February 2027 • Rights sold: Bulgarian, Dutch, French, German • Walker Books

- **For fans of Ravena Guron, Holly Jackson and Karen McManus**
- **Publishing simultaneously with Wednesday Books in the US to maximise global visibility**
- **Part of a long tradition of crime novels and detective series set in Oxford**



Praise for Oxford Blood
“A smart, captivating murder mystery, packed full of twists and turns.”

The Bookseller

LILA HAZELL



Sunflowers or Sandy Beaches?

There’s LOVE IN OAK FALLS in every season – a cosy YA romance series for younger fans of The Pumpkin Spice Cafe and readers of Jenny Han and Lynn Painter

In this summery title, Maggie is back in her home small town, Oak Falls, amongst the flowers, iced coffees and tourists. In one strand she gets a job on a nearby farm where the almost-silent Caleb also works.And in the other it’s a job at the beach club where all the rich people go. Her childhood friend Nate also works there and it turns out one of the club members – a rich girl called Genevieve – has caught both their eyes ...

272 pages • May 2027 • Rights sold: Italian • Walker Books

- **Stand-alone romances connected by a shared setting of the cosy town of Oak Falls, a place that’s perfect for falling in love in every season!**
- **A unique ‘Sliding Doors’/ ‘Butterfly Effect’ style twist in which the series’ leading ladies face a choice at the outset of each book. In alternating chapters readers will then see her live out two different versions of the season – and two different versions of falling in love**
- **Featuring the most popular romance tropes that readers love including small town romance, enemies to lovers, grumpy x sunshine and all things cosy**

Book 4 to follow in August 2027.

NICOLA PENFOLD



Our Last Days of Summer

A forbidden love story set in a dystopian future where humanity must retreat beneath the Earth

Molly and her friends are making the most of summer: swimming in the salt pools, roaming the parched hills, falling in love, living every day like it’s their last.And it might as well be because, for the sake of the planet, the whole of humanity is about to enter vast subterranean bunkers for a century of retreat. However, when that day comes, nothing they’ve been told turns out to be true.At least not for everyone...

288 pages • June 2027 • World rights available • Walker Books

- **A propulsive story about love, survival, and what we sacrifice for the future, speaking directly to a generation navigating their own uncertain world**
- **The YA answer to the Silo series with the lyricism and accessibility of How I Live Now – perfect for the resurgence of YA dystopia**
- **Short chapters and flowing language make this a compelling, page-turning read**

“Nicola Penfold is an author to watch.” Nizrana Farook

M.T. ANDERSON



“Subversive, vigorously conceived, painfully situated at the juncture where funny crosses into tragic.”
New York Times

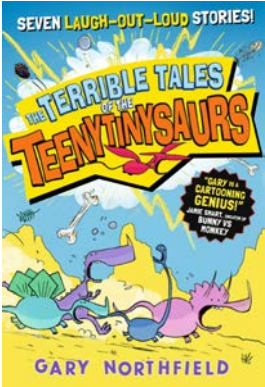
Feed

Identity crises, consumerism, and star-crossed teenage love star in a beloved National Book Award Finalist and LA Times Book Prize winner

For Titus and his friends, it started out like any ordinary trip. But that was before the hacker caused all their feeds to malfunction.And it was before Titus met Violet, a beautiful, brainy teenage girl who has decided to fight the feed and its ever-present ability to categorize human thoughts and desires. M.T.Anderson’s smart, savage imagines a future that veers unnervingly close to the here and now.

336 pages • May 2027 • Rights sold: Italian, Polish, Spanish LatAm • Candlewick Press

- **A quarter-century after its initial publication, M.T. Anderson’s futuristic society where people connect to the Internet via feeds implanted in their brains feels closer than ever**
- **This deluxe anniversary edition includes a dozen pages of new material from M.T. Anderson, including copious end notes and an essay reflecting on Feed in our current era. Discussion questions are also included**



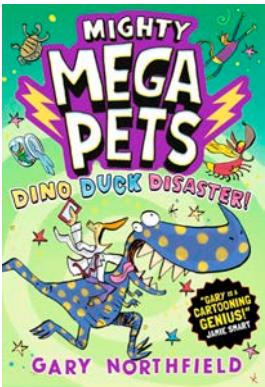
The Terrible Tales of the Teenytinysaurs!

From the king of comics comes ONE teeny tiny gang of dinosaurs, SEVEN ridiculously silly comic strip stories, and LOTS of big laughs and wild adventures!

Is it possible to fly to the moon in a bubble of snot? Can you really have an argument with a cloud? Are there bogey monsters at the bottom of the garden? All these questions and more are explored in an hysterical and charming collection of comic strip adventures, following a teeny tiny gang of dinosaurs as they wind each other up and muddle their way through the myths and mysteries of prehistoric life.

144 pages • June 2027 • World rights available • Walker Books

Perfect for children moving from picture books to their first graphic novels as each of the seven chapters is an individual story.



Mighty Mega Pets: Dino Duck Disaster!

The second book in the laugh-out-loud, turbo-charged graphic novel series by the award-winning *Phoenix* comic creator and author-illustrator of the Julius Zebra series

The superpowered Mighty Mega Pets time-travel to the age of dinosaurs, the Ice-Age and Ancient Rome in order to change the course of history ... and save the world from a dinosaur invasion orchestrated by a baddie duck, Professor Quackpot!

224 pages • April 2027 • Rights sold; Bulgarian, Catalan, Dutch, German, Spanish, Turkish • Walker Books

Themes centre on the perils of power, the importance of teamwork, friendship, standing up to bullies – and how to survive an evil duck!

“Gary Northfield is a cartooning genius!” Jamie Smart, author of Bunny vs Monkey

Books 3-4 to follow.



TIMOTHY WINCHESTER

SPELL SCHOOL

HEADMASTER'S HEX

Learn magic, make friends, cause mayhem!

Disaster! The mischievous magical portraits of the school's old head teachers have set the students a riddle – if they don't solve the challenges hidden within the mysterious rhyme, then the holidays will be called off. The gang are determined to rise to the challenge and solve the riddle – even if that means dealing with rampaging mud monsters, completing the Headmaster's impossible to-do list and... defending the school from a deadly dragon?!

208 pages • October 2027 • World rights available • Walker Books

- **The second in the stand-out graphic novel series for readers aged 7+, featuring a group of friends at a school for magic and sorcery**
- **Timothy Winchester is a prolific cartoonist with long-standing fandoms on the most popular webcomics**
- **For younger fans of Hooky, each book contains three separate stories with interactive elements throughout**

Books 3-4 to follow.

SUPRIYA KELKAR



Off the Cuff
illustrated by Ani Bushry

In a semi-autobiographical graphic novel, an Indian American girl growing up in a small Midwestern town finds the confidence to stop disappearing into the melting pot – and to be her best stand-out self

It’s the start of middle school and Priya vows to reinvent herself – by being like everyone else. But as conformity becomes more and more uncomfortable, will Priya find the strength to be herself – an Indian-American girl with thick, frizzy hair that smells like coconut oil – and prove that a potluck is better than a melting pot? Inspired by the author’s own childhood, this moving graphic novel tackles big themes with compassion and gentle humor.

240 pages • February 2027 • World rights available • Candlewick Press

- **For fans of** *New Kid* **by Jerry Craft** and *Sunny Rolls the Dice* **by Jennifer L. Holm** **comes an uplifting story about learning to celebrate our differences**
- **This uplifting graphic novel masterfully balances everyday life with complex social topics such as “not seeing color” and the “melting pot” ideology**

MARK CRILLEY

GWEN BENNY
AND THE
SHOPPING LIST
OF DESTINY

Humor, heart, and hearty adventure from a graphic novel superstar

Fifth-grader Gwen Benny doesn’t just love fantasy books, she lives them – seeing herself as the spunky elf Guinevere, and her down-to-earth friends, Hernando and (Sir) Andre, as her adventuring companions. So when a mysterious list blows into her lap one day, she’s convinced it’s the start of an epic quest! Turns out, she might be right...

272 pages • October 2027 • World rights available • Candlewick Press

- **From a widely-published author and YouTube sensation (350 million views and counting!)**
- **The graphic novel format and the relatable premise are guaranteed to hook avid and reluctant readers alike**
- **This funny and surprisingly heartwarming adventure is a must-read for anyone who wishes the real world could be a bit more magical**

Book 2 to follow.



KATE MILFORD



Seacritters! The Hunt for the Jigamaree
illustrated by Lucy Bellwood

A beloved *New York Times* best-selling fantasy writer and an indie adventure cartoonist join ranks to helm a wry, high-seas graphic series unlike any other!

Welcome aboard the topsail schooner *Rodentia*, where pirates of every animal stripe, from capybaras to pangolins, toil for glory, and where the hunt for a legendary beast will prove the making of a small whiskered hero with big ambitions. Through breakneck pacing and dynamic worldbuilding, follow young badger Monty Mellivore and other bold, bright, and irresistible characters in this highly original, hilarious middle-grade series in which nautical shenanigans rule the day.

272 pages • March 2027 • World rights available • Candlewick Press

- **A debut middle-grade graphic novel from the award-winning author of the Greenglass House series and an adventure cartoonist.**
- **If someone took a literary blender and threw in the seafaring novels of Patrick O’Brien, the funny animal shenanigans of Madagascar or Ice Age, and the inspiring hero’s journey of The Tale of Despereaux, they might whip up this delicious, original, and highly-entertaining new graphic novel animal adventure series**

Books 2-4 to follow.

REMY LAI



The Prince’s Demon
illustrated by Lauren Dimaya

The Heartless Prince duology concludes in a high-octane romantic adventure exploring reincarnation, the flip side of revenge, and love’s power in the shadow of destiny

For the past 250 years, Langya has been seventeen years old – and dead – his spirit imprisoned as one of the Five Demons after being murdered by the heartless crown prince he was sworn to protect. Now Langya must complete one final task: pose as a high schooler and induce the same heartless prince who killed him, now reincarnated as a much-sought-after prom date, to fall in love.

184 pages • November 2027 • World rights available • Candlewick Press

- **A queer romantasy for fans that combines the heart of Heart Stopper and the action of K-Pop Demon Hunters**
- **Following the events of The Demon’s Prince after JJ remembers his life as the heartless prince**

