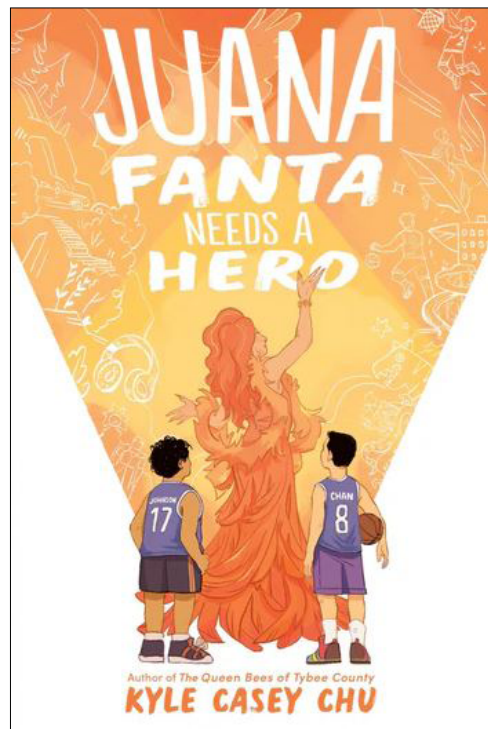




Children's Fiction & Non-Fiction

Spring 2026



Juana Fanta Needs A Hero

by Kyle Casey Chu

#SelfExpression #QueerMG #ChasingDreams

October 2026 • Working Partners • UK & Comm, Translation
HarperCollins • 288 pages • Age: 8–12

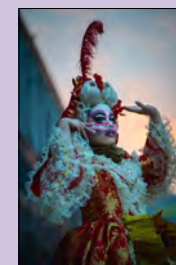
A thirteen-year-old basketball star must solve the mystery of his drag idol's disappearance—while navigating first love and a looming future—in this sparkling companion to *The Queen Bees of Tybee County*.

Derrick Chan is shooting for a once-in-a-lifetime high-school basketball scholarship with his best friend JJ by his side—while quietly embracing his queer identity and love of drag.

This weekend, Derrick's two worlds are colliding in a big way. At a career-defining basketball tournament, where scouts from elite schools are watching his every move, Derrick secretly plans to meet his drag idol, the magnificent Juana Fanta, at the Comic Con held in the very same hotel.

As the stakes skyrocket, team tensions bubble to the surface, including Derrick's own growing feelings for JJ. But when Juana Fanta disappears, Derrick and JJ must team up to find her before she misses her show-stopping performance.

Can Derrick find a community that celebrates slam dunks on the court and dazzling drag in the spotlight? Can he really save Juana Fanta's future—and his own—in one weekend?



Kyle Casey Chu (she/her, he/him), is a San Francisco born-and-raised queer Chinese American writer. Her writing has earned awards from the Sundance Institute, the San Francisco Arts Commission and the

California Arts Council. She holds a BA in Ethnic Studies from Sarah Lawrence College and an MSW from Columbia University. Find out more about Kyle at kylecaseychu.com

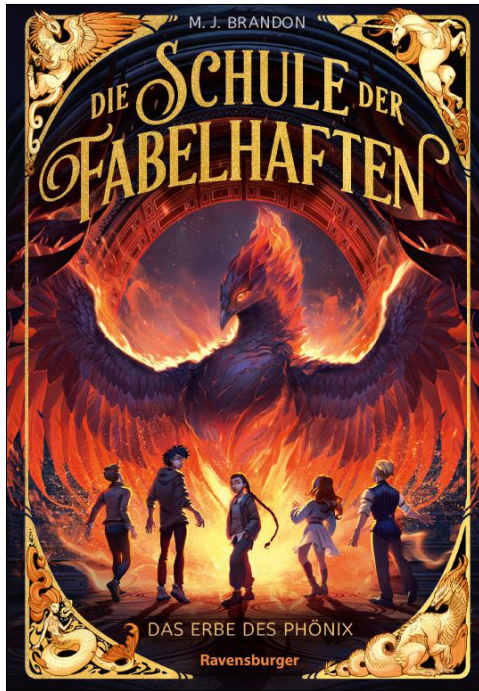
Praise for *The Queen Bees*:



- An NYPL Best Book of 2025
- An *SLJ* Best Book of 2025
- An Asian/Pacific American Award Honor book
- An ABA Kids' Indies Introduce Selection for Winter/Spring 2025
- A *Booklist* Editor Choice Pick for 2025

★ "This delightful middle-grade debut shines as it tackles the challenges of being different in a small, homogenous town [...] this book sparkles with queer joy."—*Booklist*, starred

"An affirming coming-out narrative with honest, approachable accounts of familial secrets, intergenerational trauma, and systemic racism and homophobia." —*Publishers Weekly*



Also in this series:

Book 2: May 2027

Book 3: TBC

Mythborn: The Legacy of the Phoenix

by M. J. Brandon

#MythicalCreatures #SecretAcademy #EpicAdventure

October 2026 • Working Partners • US, UK & Comm, Translation
Ravensburger • 75,000 words • Age: 10+ • 3 books

A magical middle-grade adventure set in a secret academy for students with mythic heritage. Perfect for readers who love hidden schools, epic quests, and powerful friendships.

Starling Academy is hidden from the world, and for good reason: it's a place for students who aren't entirely human.

When Colt learns that the blood of dragons runs through his veins, he is invited into Starling's secret halls and drawn into a mystery that has been waiting a thousand years to resurface. There, he teams up with four unlikely friends, students who share the blood of phoenixes, unicorns, gryphons, and sirens. They are the first to realize that ancient magic is stirring and that its awakening isn't accidental. The clues they uncover point to a legendary villain whose return could set the world ablaze.

As danger closes in and secrets unravel, the five friends are pulled into a race against time. If they fail, it won't just be Starling that's destroyed. It will be everything.

Packed with magic, mystery, and heart, *Mythborn* launches a fast-paced middle-grade fantasy series about friendship, courage, and discovering who you are when the world needs you most.

M. J. Brandon has a lifelong love of adventure and fantasy stories. He enjoys building hidden worlds and creating characters who face extraordinary challenges together. When not writing, he can usually be found hiking, researching mythology, or getting lost in a good book.



Rights Sold:

Catalan (Grup 62), Chinese Complex (CommonWealth), Czech (Albatros), Dutch (Pelckmans), English UK (Scholastic), French (Pocket Jeunesse), German (Beltz), Italian (Adriano Salani), Korean (Garamchild), Lithuanian (Terra Publica), Norwegian (Cappelen Damm), Polish (Nowa Basn), Portuguese SA (HarperCollins) Romanian (Bookzone), Spanish (Duomo), Swedish (Bokfabriken)



Renegades: The Magic Awakens

by Erin Hunter

#TalesOfMagic #AnimalFantasy #CourageAndChoice

May 2026 • Working Partners • Translation
HarperCollins Inc • 200 pages • Age: 10+ • 4 books

This story of two feline siblings swept up on a journey of danger and magic with human friends and foes, where themes of freedom, loyalty, and belonging unfold in a modern urban setting full of secrets and peril.

Willow and Luna have been on their own since they were kittens. After their mother's death, they settled into a scrappy life in the heart of the city. But when a mysterious fire rips through their makeshift shelter, they're left searching for a new home.

Luna is immediately drawn in by the strange, secretive animals they meet in the park—animals they can somehow talk to...and who unlock her ability to perform magic. Willow is less sure about these so-called "attuned" animals and has no interest in joining their world—or their fight against the human witches who seek to "bind" the animals to them.

As Luna and Willow come to realize their own unique magic, they find themselves at odds, separated by destiny, with the fate of the whole city in their paws.

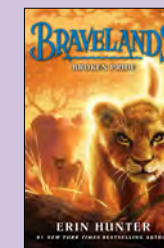
Erin Hunter is the author of the renowned *Warriors* series, which has sold well over 70 million copies internationally, as well as many other beloved and bestselling series. She is inspired by a love of animals and a fascination with the ferocity of the natural world. Alongside a deep respect for nature in all its forms, Erin enjoys creating rich mythical explanations for animal behaviour.

Praise for *Renegades*:

"A briskly paced adventure [...] Warriors fans and cat fanciers alike will find much to pounce on amid the suspenseful action and mysterious milieu that permeate a simultaneously dramatic and heartwarming series launch in which family ties and personal loyalties are put to the test."

—Publishers Weekly

Also available:



Cover to be revealed!

Rights Sold:

Chinese Simplified (CCPPG), Czech (Grada)

The Wild: The Wolf Cub

by Deborah Cohn

#WildAdventure #SurvivalStory #CourageAndFriendship

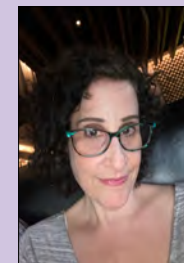
Fall 2026 • Working Partners • UK & Comm, Translation
CCPPG • 60,000 words • Age: 8–12 • 4 books

An epic tale of courage, friendship, and survival where three kids and a lost wolf cub must become a pack to outlast the wild, perfect for fans of Gary Paulsen, Megan Freeman and the *I Survived* series

Twelve-year-old Amelia and her classmates were on a simple back-country hiking trip. But when an earthquake strikes, she, Tristan, and Jacob are separated from the group. At the same time, a little wolf cub is lost from her pack.

Amelia, Tristan, and Jacob must use all their wits and resources to survive as they struggle against the dangers of the natural world. When they accidentally trap the wolf cub, the three children name her Long Ears and she becomes part of their odd found family in the wilderness.

Told from the perspectives of both Amelia and Long Ears, *The Wolf Cub* is the first in this thrilling adventure series.



Deborah Cohn is a novelist and screenwriter and holds a BA in Creative Writing from Sarah Lawrence and Oxford and earned her MFA in Screenwriting from the American Film Institute.

She lives in L.A.'s San Fernando Valley with her husband, teenage daughter, and twin cats. When she was writing the *Wild* series, her daughter provided great inspiration by surviving the wilds of middle school. *The Wolf Cub* is her first novel.





Vampire Beach

by Alex Duval

#DangerousAttraction #ParanormalRomance #DeadlyFriends

June 2026 • Working Partners • Translation
Simon & Schuster • 208 pages • Age: 12+ • 6 books

A darkly glamorous twist on the vampire myth, where a new kid in Malibu is drawn into the seductive—and dangerous—world of the ultra-rich.

Jason Freeman and his family just moved to Malibu, and he loves it. The kids at his exclusive new high school are surprisingly welcoming, and pretty soon Jason has a great group of new friends. The fact that one of them might just be the hottest girl he's ever seen is a nice bonus.

Then, the morning after a fabulous party, a girl washes up on the beach dead. There's no explanation...but there is a suspicious-looking bite mark on her neck.

Jason finds himself surrounded by a mystery, and the more he digs into it, the more he becomes convinced that there's a horrible explanation. And his new friends might be at the heart of it all.

 **A key title in the relaunch of the Simon Pulse imprint**

Alex Duval is a pseudonym for two seasoned YA writers, Melinda Metz and Laura J. Burns. Between them they have written more than sixty novels, and together wrote for the cult classic TV series *Roswell*, which was based on Melinda's series *Roswell High*.

Also in this series:





Monster Mia/Monstrous Maud

by A. B. Saddlewick

#EmbracingUniqueness #MonsterSchool #QuirkyCharacters

Working Partners • Translation
Michael O'Mara Books • 128 pages • Age: 6–9 • 10 books

A funny and gently spooky series about fitting in at a school for monsters, where caring and scaring go hand in claw! Perfect for fans of the TV series *Wednesday*

When Maud’s pet rat, Quentin, escapes in the middle of science class, it’s the very last straw. While Primrose Towers is full of decorous young ladies, including her perfect twin, Milly, Maud is ungraceful and never quite fit in with the rest of the students. She is transferred to dark and mysterious Rotwood Middle School—but what is in store for Maud at Rotwood?

There is something strange about the students and teachers. Everyone is dressed as if it’s Halloween, and the school motto is “Because We Scare.” Maud learns two very important things on her first day: first, all of the students and teachers are monsters, and second, she’s finally found a place where she feels like she belongs.

Currently in production as an animated film with the leading international multi award-winning German animation studio Arx Anima, due for theatrical release in 2026

Rights Sold:
Czech (Albatros), Greek (Minoas),
Italian (Piemme), Portuguese SA
(Faro)



A.B. Saddlewick is a pseudonym of author Tim Collins who is originally from Manchester, but now lives in London. He is the author of over thirty books including *Wimpy Vampire*, *Cosmic Colin* and *Dorkius Maximus*. His books have been translated into over twenty languages and he has won the Lincolnshire Young People's Book Award and Manchester Fiction City.

Also in the *Monstrous Mia* series:



...and more!

