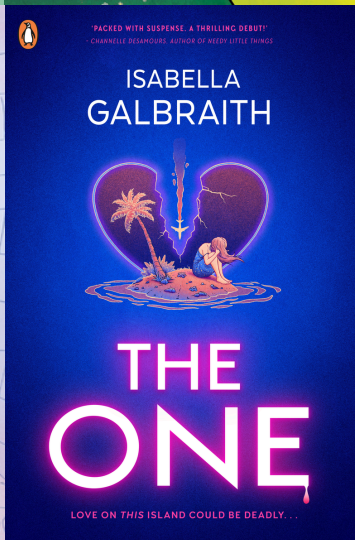
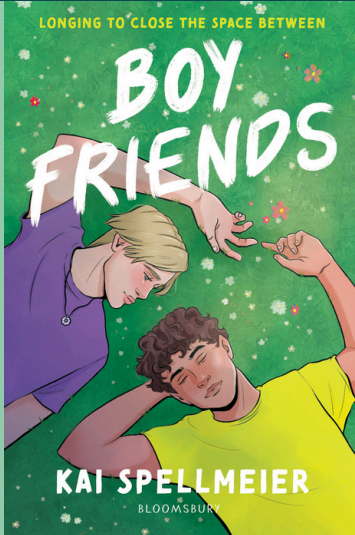


ANA

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ASSOCIATES



YOUNG ADULT
& CHILDREN'S
FICTION
LONDON 2026

YOUNG ADULT

MORNINGSTAR

BROOKE FORTUNE



A sweeping and richly imagined romantic fantasy for fans of Rebecca Yarros and Sarah J. Maas. *MORNINGSTAR* is the start of an epic trilogy, set in a world as dangerous as it is magical.

The Black Temple is known as a place of beauty and sacrifice. Only a handful of girls are chosen each year to be raised within its ancient walls. They are reared for one purpose only; to die.

Aiya is to be sacrificed to the Gods as part of a ritual offering on her twenty-first birthday. Aiya has always known that she was marked for death, but as the fateful day approaches, she regrets the fact that she has never truly lived...

But when Aiya is caught up in a series of seismic events that will rock the Black Temple to its core – she seizes her chance, escaping with a young male guard into the great city beyond. What starts out as one girl’s bid for freedom soon transforms into a battle for the very heart of a nation.

MORNINGSTAR is a deeply immersive, page-turning novel of desire and adventure, risk and passion that asks an eternal question; just how far would you go for love?

Publisher:

UK - Bloomsbury

Publication Date: 31-Jul-27

Available Material: MS

Length: 100k words

Primary Agent: Sara O’Keeffe

Rights Sold:

France - Bayard

Germany – Thienemann

Italy - Il Castoro

Spain - Urano

Brooke Fortune holds a doctoral degree in Victorian Literature from University of Florida, and has published articles in *Nineteenth Century Gender Studies*, *Medium*, and others. She resides in her hometown of Atlanta, Georgia, where she can be found battling a bottomless TBR pile, snuggling her very naughty dog, crafting, and tending to her near-alarming amount of houseplants.

THE ONE

ISABELLA GALBRAITH

They all came to find love, but only some will leave with their lives *The Wilds* meets Sophie Gonzales *Never Ever Getting Back Together* for thriller fanatics, romance lovers and the reality TV-obsessed.

Constance Berardi signs up to teen reality dating show, *The One*, to prove that she's over her ex-girlfriend. What seems like a free vacation and a second chance at romance quickly takes a sinister turn when a plane crash leaves contestants deserted on an island. That night, one of the girls is murdered. And the weapon? A blood-stained stiletto – found in Constance's hand.

With no memory of the night before, Constance has no idea if she's the murderer – or if she's being framed. With Easton (whose eyes seriously aren't that piercing) convinced of her innocence, they search the island for clues and accidentally uncover dangerous secrets. As supplies dwindle and tensions rise, Constance must discover the truth or die trying....

'THE ONE is the kind of book you curl up to read on a stormy night, letting the characters and the premise sweep you away. Galbraith blends the mystery of an Agatha Christie novel with the unhinged flair of a reality TV show, and the result is a compelling narrative about the complexity of the human heart. Galbraith's characterisation across the board makes THE ONE a fun, heartfelt read. And Constance, the protagonist, though a little messy, is a gem--someone to root for, not despite her messiness, but because of it.'

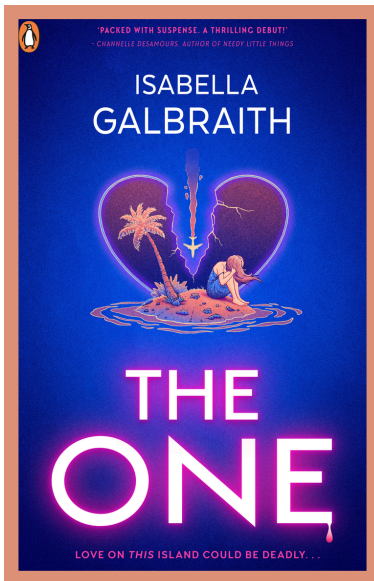
- Tomi Oyemakinde, author of *The Changing Man*

'Galbraith blends high-stakes survival with the deliciously messy drama of reality TV in a way that hooks you from the very first page. *The One* is packed with suspense, romance, and pulse-pounding twists. A thrilling debut!'

- Chanelle Desamours, author of *Needy Little Things*

'Sharp, subversive, and completely addictive. Galbraith's debut is a heart-pounding ride, from its gripping beginning to its disarmingly poignant co'

- Becky Albertalli, author of *Simon vs the Homo Sapiens Agenda*



Publisher:

UK: PRH

Publication Date: Jul-26

Available Material:

Copyedited MS

Length: 279pp

Primary Agent: Gyamfia Osei

Isabella Galbraith (she/her) is a queer, neurodiverse author from Niagara on the Lake, Canada, currently living in London. When not writing, she enjoys watching too much reality TV and researching methods of murder. She is a Pitch Wars alum.

THE WHALE IN MY POCKET

LEE GEUM-YI

The story of four teenagers chasing their dreams to become the next K-pop star.

“Min-gi listened to his father’s song while gazing at the sky. The familiar crescent moon looked like a baby whale swimming in the night. He imagined placing that baby whale inside his pocket, keeping it safe. Though lost for now, one day he would release his dream—his whale—into the vast ocean.”

Min-gi is a handsome young boy, but his parents only approve of his sister, an A+ student. After receiving offers from multiple celebrity agencies, Min-gi is determined to become the next K-pop star.

Yeon-ho possesses an extraordinary singing talent but faces financial hardships that make dreaming a luxury.

Jun-hee receives ample love from his adoptive parents but struggles with unresolved emotions about his biological mother.

Hyeon-jung is an academically struggling yet quick-witted and charismatic friend who always stands by his peers.

Despite their different backgrounds, the four become entangled in a journey sparked by Min-gi’s bold dreams. As they navigate their newfound friendships, ambitions, and personal struggles, they gradually discover themselves and their true potential. The story portrays the pain and resilience of youth, reminding readers that even when dreams feel distant, they are worth chasing.



Publisher:

South Korea: Prooni Publishing (2008)
Bamtee Publishing (2021 revised edition)

Publication Date: 01-May-26

Available Material:

- Korean manuscript
- English sample translation

Length: 264pp

Rights sold:

Russia - Soda Press

Lee Geum-yi was born in 1962, in her grandmother’s house in the small, mountainous village of Chungcheongbuk-do, Korea. She became enthralled with the charms of storytelling early on, having spent her childhood under the influence of her grandmother’s bedtime stories. Since then, Lee Geum-yi has published over fifty books in South Korea, and her work has been translated around the world. Beloved by readers and literary critics alike, many of her books have been adapted into TV series, musicals, and webtoons. In 2018, she was selected for the IBBY Honour List for *Can’t I Go Instead?*. She was nominated for the Hans Christian Andersen Award in 2020, 2024 and 2026. The author lives in Seoul, South Korea, with her husband, son, and her old rescue dog, Lulu

YUJIN AND YUJIN

LEE GEUM-YI

A modern classic, coming-of-age tale with one key message for readers: “It’s not your fault.” For fans of *Sadie* and *The Way I Used to Be*



Publisher:

South Korea: Prooni Publishing (2004)
Bamtee Publishing (2020)

Publication Date: 05-Nov-20

Available Material:

- Korean manuscript
- English sample translation

Length: 304pp

Rights sold:

China - Beijing Yuchen Culture
Indonesia - PT. Haru Media Sejahtera
Italy - HarperCollins Italia
Japan - Futabasha
Taiwan - Linking

On the first day of school, two girls meet in the same classroom. They are both eighth graders and have the same name, Yujin. Big Yujin remembers they went to the same preschool and is happy to see Little Yujin again, but Little Yujin says she never went to that preschool. They were both molested at the preschool, and Big Yujin thinks Little Yujin doesn’t want to be reminded of it. The truth is that Little Yujin has blotted out the experience from her memory; however, she suffers from the broken pieces of the repressed memory which she has buried away. Big Yujin, who believes she has overcome the painful memory, also suffers from its unexpected side-effects.

Told with the narrative style of a mystery novel, the story uncovers the painful truth buried in the two Yujins’ memories. As the story progresses, Big Yujin and Little Yujin begin to see each other as their other self, and “with the wings they have gained from their emotional wounds,” they decide to soar even if they might fall.

The story prompts readers to think about how everyone has a painful experience or memory, how they carry it with them, and how they should deal with it. Although the book deals with a serious theme, it is full of playful, light-hearted teen moments. Since its publication, *Yujin and Yujin* has moved hundreds of thousands of readers and played a pivotal role in shaping Korean YA literature. First released in 2004, during the nascent years of the genre in Korea, this novel by Lee Geum-yi marked a defining moment in literature by portraying the present-day realities of Korean youth through their own voices. Loved across generations, this book remains a legendary bestseller.

Lee Geum-yi was born in 1962, in her grandmother’s house in the small, mountainous village of Chungcheongbuk-do, Korea. She became enthralled with the charms of storytelling early on, having spent her childhood under the influence of her grandmother’s bedtime stories. Since then, Lee Geum-yi has published over fifty books in South Korea, and her work has been translated around the world. Beloved by readers and literary critics alike, many of her books have been adapted into TV series, musicals, and webtoons. In 2018, she was selected for the IBBY Honour List for *Can’t I Go Instead?*. She was nominated for the Hans Christian Andersen Award in 2020, 2024 and 2026. The author lives in Seoul, South Korea, with her husband, son, and her old rescue dog, Lulu

YOU TOO ARE A TWILIGHT LILY

LEE GEUM-YI



Publisher:

South Korea: Prooni Publishing (1999)
Bamtee Publishing (2021 revised edition)

Publication Date: 10-Sep-21

Available Material:

- Korean manuscript
- English sample translation

Length: 212pp

Rights sold:

France - Albin Michel
China - Beijing Memory House Culture

You Too Are a Twilight Lily is the first book of a trilogy that has captivated more than a million readers over decades.

It follows three young protagonists—Mir, Sohui, and Bau—who, despite their struggles, come to embrace their unique identities. Each of them bears emotional scars, yet their friendships become a source of healing.

Mir has left Seoul to live with her mom in a small village in the countryside, after the parents’ divorce. She takes her anger out on her mom for taking her away from her father and the excitement of Seoul. Sohui lives with her grandmother. Everyone in town knows her as the model child: she is mature, obedient, and self-reliant. However, under the guise of a “good kid”, So-hee is tormented by the fear of abandonment.

Traumatized by the passing of his mother, Bau has developed selective mutism. His father is the only person he speaks to. Bau finds solace in drawing plants and nature, spends his summer sketching wildflowers. He recalls the Twilight Lily he once saw in the forest—a striking red flower that stood tall with elegance. This flower reminds him of Sohui. As he carefully sketches it, he writes a small note in the corner of his sketchbook:

“Twilight Lily, a flower that resembles Sohui. A flower that knows how to love itself.”

Through their shared experiences, Mir, Sohui, and Bau realize that true connection comes from self-acceptance. Just like the Twilight Lily, they bloom into their full selves, reminding readers that we are all Twilight Lilies in our own right.

Lee Geum-yi was born in 1962, in her grandmother’s house in the small, mountainous village of Chungcheongbuk-do, Korea. She became enthralled with the charms of storytelling early on, having spent her childhood under the influence of her grandmother’s bedtime stories. Since then, Lee Geum-yi has published over fifty books in South Korea, and her work has been translated around the world. Beloved by readers and literary critics alike, many of her books have been adapted into TV series, musicals, and webtoons. In 2018, she was selected for the IBBY Honour List for *Can’t I Go Instead?*. She was nominated for the Hans Christian Andersen Award in 2020, 2024 and 2026. The author lives in Seoul, South Korea, with her husband, son, and her old rescue dog, Lulu

IL SILENZIO DELL'ORSA (THE SILENCE OF THE BEAR)

OLIVO DEPERO #2

DAVIDE LONGO



Publisher:

Italy - Mondadori

Publication Date: 18-Nov-25

Available Material: Italian MS

Length: 137pp

Primary Agent: Barbara Barbieri

Rights Sold:

Russia - Azbooka

The same clothes every morning, a daily limit of six-hundred words to pronounce, an impeccable memory, great attention to the correct verbs, an annoying imaginary friend: the important things, for Olivo Depero, are never changing. Although there have been some news recently.

For instance, Olivo is now wanted by the police. This has not stopped him from setting off to search for his mother while continuing to rescue young people in trouble.

Speaking of news, Olivo had never tried to cross the Italian-Swiss border with a group of undocumented migrants, ending up stuck in a cabin up in the mountains, at risk of freezing to death, with a guide who is missing. But there is a first time for everything, if you know what I mean.

Fortunately, Olivo always exerts his charm on the right people. Or on the wrong ones, depending on your point of view. This time it's Daphne, who offers him a ride across the border provided that he discovers who killed his brother. In a small village of about two thousand souls, this should be a fairly simple task for someone like Olivo Depero. Right?

Born in 1971, Davide Longo is a writer, documentary maker and teacher of Creative Writing at the Scuola Holden in Turin. For his debut novel, *Un mattino a Irgalem* (A morning in Irgalem) (Marcos y Marcos, 2001), he was awarded the Premio Grinzane and the Premio Via Po in 2001. With his next works he came to be considered one of the best Italian writers to emerge in recent years. *Il mangiatore di pietre* (The Stone Eater) (Fandango, 2004) won the Città di Bergamo and the Viadana prizes and was adapted into a movie starring Luigi Lo Cascio. His third novel, *L'uomo verticale* (The Vertical Man) (Fandango, 2010), was awarded the Premio Lucca. Einaudi is publishing his beloved literary crime series starring detectives Bramard and Arcadipane, which sold more than 150.000 copies in Italy and is in development as a TV series. His work has been translated into five languages, including English. He has also written for publications such as La Repubblica, for radio and for theatre.

BOY FRIENDS

KAI SPELLMEIER

How do you close the space between boy friends?

Luca has secretly been in love with Simo for as long as he can remember. He wishes he knew how to tell Simo the truth, but he's terrified that it will mean losing his best friend.

When an anonymous message on the town noticeboard announces that SIMO AND LUCA ARE IN LOVE, the boys are forced to confront their deepest feelings for one another.

Figuring out their feelings is hard enough, even without getting shipped by an entire town. One thing's for certain: nothing will be the same again. Is their friendship set to break or can they close the gap between boy friends.

Curl up and prepare to be swept away by this cosy, beautiful love story perfect for fans of Alice Oseman and Sophie Gonzales.



Publisher:

WEL: Bloomsbury

Publication Date: 01-May-26

Available Material: Final MS

Length: 310pp

Primary Agent: Gyamfia Osei

Kai Spellmeier is a German author currently living in England. He has published several books in Germany, including YA novels and non-fiction, and he has been blogging about books on Instagram for many years.

LUIS & DIMA:

FOREVER OUR BEGINNING

KAI SPELLMEIER

Twenty-five days until Christmas. One chance to fall in love.



Publisher:

Germany: Bastei Lübbe

Publication Date: 25-Oct-24

Available Material:

- Unedited English MS
- Edited German MS

Length: 372pp

Primary Agent: Gyamfia Osei

It's December in Fountainbridge and 16-year-old Luis Winter is nursing a broken heart. It may have been a year since Thom dumped him, but Luis has vowed to stay far away from boys this holiday season. That is...until Dima Sharapnova moves in next door. Dima could not care less about Christmas; he's far too busy agonising over his abrupt move to Fountainbridge and why his best friend is ghosting him after their fateful last night together.

In need of a distraction, Dima agrees to embark on a crash course of the town's quirky holiday traditions with his charmingly chaotic new neighbour. From tentative friendship to something undeniably more, Luis and Dima collide in a blizzard of unspoken feelings that force them to confront their own attitudes towards sexuality, toxic masculinity, and what it means to be unashamedly yourself.

Kai Spellmeier is a German author currently living in England. He has published several books in Germany, including YA novels and non-fiction, and he has been blogging about books on Instagram for many years.

MIDDLE GRADE

THE ART OF A HEIST

FIASCO AND FRIENDS, BOOK 1

LAURA CAPUTO-WICKHAM



Twelve-year-old Raffaele dreams big: to become a famous artist and leave his small - and extremely nosy - town behind. But for now, he's stuck in Terracotta, working at his parents' flower stall in the market. When Raffaele finds a heist plan to rob the local art museum amongst their papers, he's afraid that his parents are up to no good. After all, Papà's past isn't exactly squeaky clean, and Mamma keeps sneaking off without explanation. But when his attempt to prevent the robbery ends up being a fiasco worthy of his family name, Raffaele substitutes the stolen painting with his own copy.

But have the florists really turned felons? And if not, who is Raffaele protecting?

Publisher:

WEL: Little Tiger

Publication Date: 01-Jun-27

Available Material: Copyedited MS

Length: 144pp

Primary Agent: Gyamfia Osei

Illustrations: Yes

Laura Caputo is an Italian author who grew up in Rome and now lives in England with her family. Having spent every holiday visiting her grandparents in their medieval village in central Italy, Laura has amassed a stack of stories from this charming world, where life runs more slowly, a full stomach is everything and privacy is as rare as a white truffle. Laura is now a school librarian and co-runs the Page Turners Book Awards, an annual book award for teenagers & young adults in South East England. Laura's writing was previously longlisted for the 2021 Write Mentor Children's Novel Award and shortlisted for the I Am In Print Middle Grade Novel Competition 2024. *THE ART OF A HEIST* is her debut novel.

NETTA BECKER AND THE MISSING MEMORY MAZE



JENNIFER CLAESSEN

Legend and edge-of-your-seat action fuse together in this exciting second instalment of the Netta Becker trilogy, underpinned with a feminist retelling of Ancient Greek myth.

A hall full of statues. A pair of lost siblings. Monsters at every turn.

Under orders from the Titan called the Crone, Netta steps out of time itself. And, panicking just a little, her little brother Remy follows. Lost and alone, they each wake in a strange maze-like world as statues. Netta breaks free and begins her double quest: to find her brother and the second sister Titan.

But Remy can't remember who he has lost – and when he is rescued by young Tig, he leaves his memories of Netta behind. By breaking sphinx riddles and with mythical beasts as new allies, Netta and Remy must find out who they are – and who the League of Archon is – in the Realm of Memory itself.

Praise for Netta Becker and the Timeline Crime

‘I wholeheartedly recommend that all young readers take this book on their summer holidays’

- Bryony Pearce

‘Very impressive creative story telling with a delightful twist that breathes new life and enjoyment into the core and gaps in mythology, by combining past and present. I found this engaging, thrilling and very hard to put down, and much like Netta, we were sucked in and happily, avidly insisted on stayed till the very last page.’

- Waterstones reader review.

Publisher:

UK: Fox & Ink

Publication Date: 05-Mar-26

Available Material: Final MS

Length: 186pp

Primary Agent: Jenny Savill

Jennifer Claessen is an author and theatre-maker. She was born in Reading so, of course, grew up a book worm. Her debut novel, *The October Witches*, was released by UCLan Publishing in the UK in 2022, Simon Kids US in 2023 and is the first book of the ‘A Month of Magic’ trilogy, contemporary retellings of Arthurian legend. Jennifer is Writer in Residence at Mayfair Library and Human in Residence at Ministry of Stories where she works with 8–12 year-olds to tell their own stories. She also teaches creative writing to slightly more grown-up writers at City Lit and artsdepot theatre. Jennifer studied literature and theatre at a few universities and most recently programmed ‘Write for Joy’, an inclusive literary festival for Waltham Forest and was shortlisted in the Polka Playwriting Prize. She currently lives in Walthamstow with her partner, two young daughters, thousands of books and a very rusty yellow bike.

THE GREEN KINGDOM

CORNELIA FUNKE



Twelve-year-old Caspia has to spend the entire summer with her parents in Brooklyn. She hates big cities, especially New York - too many people, too loud, too dirty. In a room of the apartment the family rents, there is a chest of drawers in which Caspia discovers letters from a girl who traveled the world with her botanist father in the 50s and 60s. The girl, Rosalinde, who is blind, describes the plants she discovers in her own unique way to another girl, Minna, who lived in the apartment.

Each letter opens with a plant puzzle. So Caspia finds herself on a quest to solve the puzzles - and in the process comes across a wide variety of plants: rose, cinnamon, dandelion, bamboo and many more growing in the city around her.

Along the way, she gets to know the places and people in her new neighbourhood... and little by little she puts down roots in a place she would never have imagined would feel like home.

Publisher:

UK - Dorling Kindersley
Germany - Dressler

Publication Date: 06-Mar-25

Available Material: Copedited MS

Length: 208pp

Primary Agent: Jenny Savill

Rights Sold:

Brazil - HarperCollins Brasil
China - United Sky
Italy - Giunti
Japan - Asunaro
Russia - Azbooka Atticus
Spain - Destino/Planeta
Taiwan - Commonwealth
Education Media

‘A verdant, enchanting read’
- **Kirkus**

‘Cornelia Funke brings her Green Kingdom to life and I honestly feel that this will become a modern classic. Between the author’s beautiful prose and the illustrator’s delicate artwork, this is a book to be treasured. It’s heartwarming and innocent but still dealing with modern times and attitudes and the author never patronises her target audience.’
- **5 star Netgalley review**

‘It’s a perfect read for curious minds but it’s also a great read to remind children about power of friendship and also love to nature.’
- **5 star Netgalley review**

Author of the New York Times bestselling *Inkheart* series, Cornelia Funke was born in 1958 in the small town of Dorsten in Germany. In a career as a writer and illustrator spanning 35 years, Cornelia has been published in 53 languages and her books, including the *Dragonrider* series (*Drachenreiter*, Dressler 1997) and *The Thief Lord* (*Herr Der Dieber*, Dressler 2000) have sold well over 22 million copies, worldwide. Her books have won many awards, such as the German Youth Literature Award, the Bachelder Award in the US, the Silver Quill in the Netherlands, amongst others. *The Green Kingdom* (*Das Grune Konigreich*) was published in Germany by Dressler in April 2023. It has so far sold in excess of 25,000 copies and spent 5 months in the *Der Spiegel* Top Ten. The long-awaited, brilliant, fourth instalment in the *Inkheart* series, *The Colour Of Revenge* (*Die Farbe Der Rache*), was published by Dressler in October 2023 and became an instant No.1 *Spiegel* bestseller. It was published in the UK by Chicken House and in the US by Scholastic in October 2024.

THE COLOUR OF REVENGE

CORNELIA FUNKE



Publisher:

UK - Chicken House
 US - Scholastic
 Germany - Dressler

Publication Date: 01-Oct-24

Available Material: Final MS

Length: 352 pp.

Primary Agent: Jenny Savill

Rights Sold:

Brazil - Companhia das Letras
 France - Gallimard Jeunesse
 Iran (Farsi) - Ofoq
 Italy - Mondadori
 Poland - Wydawnictwo Kropka
 Russia - Azbooka-Atticus
 Ukraine - RM Books

Vengeance awaits in the follow up to the epic, award-winning, *New York Times* bestselling *Inkheart* trilogy by internationally acclaimed author Cornelia Funke.

Five years have passed since the events of *Inkdeath*. At last, peace reigns in Ombra where Meggie, Mo, Dustfinger and all the other residents lead a happy, carefree life. But it has been a different story for Orpheus, who after fleeing to the north, has spent his days living a meager and deprived existence fueled only by his thirst for revenge against Dustfinger and all those who betrayed him.

Now Orpheus is willing to use any means necessary to take revenge. Even the darkest spell the ink world has to offer.

When Dustfinger's deepest fears come true, he'll have to figure out whether the words still obey him. Or is he the one who should be afraid of the pictures this time...

‘This fascinating follow-up to the *Inkheart* trilogy shakes up the happily-ever-after formula, and though many familiar faces are sidelined, others finally get the chance to shine, and new characters slip in seamlessly. Split narrative duties give intriguing insights into Orpheus’ misguided machinations, and a helpful recap and list of characters ease readers back into the delightful, if at times dark, world. A distinguished return to a compelling and complicated kingdom where love is the supreme form of power.’

— Emily Graham

Author of the *New York Times* bestselling *Inkheart* series, Cornelia Funke was born in 1958 in the small town of Dorsten in Germany. In a career as a writer and illustrator spanning 35 years, Cornelia has been published in 53 languages and her books, including the *Dragonrider* series (*Drachenreiter*, Dressler 1997) and *The Thief Lord* (*Herr Der Dieber*, Dressler 2000) have sold well over 22 million copies, worldwide. Her books have won many awards, such as the German Youth Literature Award, the Bachelder Award in the US, the Silver Quill in the Netherlands, amongst others. *The Green Kingdom* (*Das Grune Konigreich*) was published in Germany by Dressler in April 2023. It has so far sold in excess of 25,000 copies and spent 5 months in the *Der Spiegel* Top Ten. The long-awaited, brilliant, fourth instalment in the *Inkheart* series, *The Colour Of Revenge* (*Die Farbe Der Rache*), was published by Dressler in October 2023 and became an instant No.1 *Spiegel* bestseller. It was published in the UK by Chicken House and in the US by Scholastic in October 2024.

NOA IM NACHTGEBIRGE (NOA IN THE NIGHT MOUNTAINS)



SOPHIE HARDACH

Noa can't wait to visit her aunt in the mountains, especially since things aren't going too well at school. All she wants is to get away from it all. On her way, she meets Sepp, a village boy who gives her an urgent warning – things aren't quite as they seem up there on the mountain. Noa brushes aside all her doubts and throws herself into her new life with great enthusiasm, but it isn't long before she, too, encounters something uncanny: a pale face in the stream, voices she can't identify – and finally, an old-fashioned seeming boy only she can see. Between breathtaking thunderstorms, death-defying climbs, and almost supernatural experiences, Noa undergoes a personal transformation.

Publisher:

Austria - Jungbrunnen Verlag

Publication Date: 04-Feb-26

Available Material: German MS

Length: 200pp

Primary Agent: Sabine Pfannenstiel

Sophie Hardach is a German-born journalist and writer. Every summer, she takes the night train to the Alps to go hiking, and it was there that Noa's story was born. Sophie lives in London with her family.

BE SOMEBODY

(BOOK 1 IN THE MAGIC DOG SERIES)

CHEN JIATONG



Publisher:

China - Beijing Dandelion
Children's Book House Co. Ltd

Publication Date: 01-Aug-26

Available Material: Chinese MS

Primary Agent: Jackie Huang

The first title in a gripping five-book urban animal adventure series about prejudice, belonging, and chosen kin This story asks what it truly means to have a home - and what must be sacrificed to protect it....

Brindle has never looked like anyone's idea of a hero. Big, scarred, and fierce-faced, the mixed-breed stray has spent his life being judged for how he looks. After losing his mother, he wanders the city alone, unsure who his father is and certain only of one thing—no one sees the good inside him.

Everything changes the day he narrowly escapes a dog-meat shop and rescues a yellow stray with one eye. Soon after, they meet Firefly, a clever white cat with lightning-fast reflexes and secrets of her own. Bound by hunger and chance, the three become unlikely friends, roaming the city together.

Brindle dreams of having a home. One-Eye just wants a full belly. Firefly is searching for answers.

Their small adventures - sneaking into a supermarket for food, outsmarting security guards, and pulling off a daring fish-tin heist - accidentally draw the attention of the powerful Meow Guild, the city's largest cat faction. Along the way, they meet abandoned pets still clinging to old hopes, and Brindle briefly believes he has found a human family, only to learn that kindness can sometimes hide jealousy and betrayal.

When winter arrives and the snow begins to fall, the trio shelters in an abandoned house, helping care for a pregnant stray and her puppies. But standing up for others means crossing the city's biggest dog faction, the Hound Union.

By choosing compassion over fear, Brindle, One-Eye, and Firefly earn something greater than reputation. They find each other.

Chen Jiatong was born in 1987 in Shandong Province, China, and grew up in Xinjiang. He earned a Master's degree in Engineering from Beijing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics in 2012 and is known for combining a strong scientific background with an innate literary sensibility. He currently works in international trade. Growing up in Xinjiang, he was deeply influenced by the region's vast landscapes, long rivers, deserts, and dramatic sunsets. Later, his work took him across Asia and Africa, where he developed a profound fascination with the African savannah and its wildlife. His unique observations of animals and his emotional connection to them have become a defining source of inspiration for his writing.

DANCE OF THE BEAST

(BOOK 1 IN THE LITTLE DREAM MAKERS SERIES)

CHEN JIATONG



Designed for readers aged 7-12, *Little Dream Keeper* follows one child's journey from an ordinary student to a true guardian of dreams - and the discovery that protecting goodness in the world often begins with the dreams we dare to keep.

Nine-year-old Xiaoxiao is an ordinary fourth-grade student by day: small for his age, obsessed with animals, and always wearing his blue baseball cap. By night, he becomes something far more extraordinary.

After rescuing a stray tabby cat on his way home from school, Xiaoxiao discovers that the cat is a Dream Guide, sent to lead him into the hidden realm of dreams. There, the ancient Dream Elder appoints him a Dream Keeper - a child chosen to weave dreams for humans, protect their sleep, and earn dream coins that can even alter reality.

Trained by his guide cat, Xiaoxiao learns to travel through people's dreams, creating wonder and hope. But dreams are not always gentle. Dark creatures known as Nightmare Wraiths invade from the Shadow Empire, feeding on human desire and fear, turning dreams into terror.

When Xiaoxiao faces real danger during his first battles, he discovers his true ability: he is a summoner-type Dream Keeper, capable of calling powerful dream beasts into combat. Even more surprising, his closest friend at school, Wu Qi, reveals herself to be a Dream Keeper as well. Together, they form an alliance and begin fighting side by side in the dream world.

Blending fantasy, action, humour, and friendship, *Little Dream Keeper* opens the door to a richly imagined dream universe - where courage is tested at night, and even the smallest child can become a guardian of human hope.

Publisher:

China - CITIC Press Corporation

Publication Date: Autumn 2026

Available Material: Chinese MS

Primary Agent: Jackie Huang

Chen Jiatong was born in 1987 in Shandong Province, China, and grew up in Xinjiang. He earned a Master's degree in Engineering from Beijing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics in 2012 and is known for combining a strong scientific background with an innate literary sensibility. He currently works in international trade. Growing up in Xinjiang, he was deeply influenced by the region's vast landscapes, long rivers, deserts, and dramatic sunsets. Later, his work took him across Asia and Africa, where he developed a profound fascination with the African savannah and its wildlife. His unique observations of animals and his emotional connection to them have become a defining source of inspiration for his writing.

AURELIA PRINCIPESSA CONTROVOGLIA E L'INCANTESIMO DELLA STORIA NOIOSA

(AURELIA THE RELUCTANT PRINCESS AND THE CURSE OF THE TEDIOUS TALE)

CRISTINA MARCONI



Aurelia is a princess... just not that kind of princess.

Born to legendary fairy-tale heroes Edgard and Florabella, she has zero interest in dragons, magic, or epic quests. She prefers geography, chess, and quiet walks in the woods with her dreamy kitten, Clawdius.

At birth, the witch Ametysta placed a very unusual curse on her: Aurelia is destined to be the heroine of a terribly boring story. So far, so good. Until one day Edgard and Florabella are trapped inside an enchanted mirror. Suddenly, boredom is cancelled. Forced into action, Aurelia sets off on a rescue mission with an unlikely team: Odoacer, her father's white horse (much wiser than he looks), and Clawdius.

Along the way, she meets a gallery of wonderfully odd allies: the Yawn Wizard, a powerful magician who can barely stay awake; Chrystallina, a semi-transparent fairy with an over-enthusiastic fan base; toothless crocodiles guarding the moat; and the not-so-terrifying Three Little Sword Mice.

Through half-working spells and very underwhelming dangers, Aurelia discovers that there's more than one way to be brave — even if you'd rather be doing literally anything else. Breaking the curse may not mean becoming a classic fairy-tale hero... but finding her own way to have an adventure

Publisher:

Italy - Rizzoli

Publication Date: 05-Mar-26

Available Material: Italian MS

Length: 112pp

Primary Agent: Giulia De Biase

Cristina Marconi (Rome, 1979), a philosophy graduate from the Scuola Normale Superiore in Pisa, is a writer and journalist. She reported on the United Kingdom for more than ten years for *Il Messaggero* and *Il Foglio*. With her debut novel *Città irreale* (Ponte alle Grazie, 2019), set in London, she won several awards. After *A Londra con Virginia Woolf* and the collection *Come dirti addio*, she published *Stelle solitarie* (Einaudi, 2024), a story of friendship and care. She now lives in Milan, where she writes for newspapers and teaches

SKULKMOOR

HANNEKE TOOKE



Publisher:

UK - Puffin

Publication Date: 30-May-25

Available Material: Final MS

Length: 416pp

Primary Agent: Jenny Savill

Rights Sold:

Taiwan - Omnibook Press

Turkey - Timas

Wednesday meets *The Secret Garden* with a touch of *Knives Out* in this gorgeously gothic and mysterious adventure about family secrets, devilishly bad deeds, and a touch of murder . . .

Once, the great house of Skulkmoor stood proudly on its hillside, commanding the attention of anyone who came by. Now, it is a curious puzzle of a place - not least thanks to the giant wall which cuts it straight in half, separating the two warring families that live inside it.

For you see, many years ago, the Fox family was torn apart by a question of murder - and of inheritance. With no clear heir, the vast family fortune - and the house - has been literally divided in two. But now, two young cousins, one from rival sides of Skulkmoor, must race to solve the crime - or face losing their home forever.

Can Ted and Iris put their differences aside and save their family fortune - or will they play their part in destroying everything?

From the bestselling author of *The Unadoptables* and *The Midnighters*, and perfect for fans of *The Swifts* and *Murder Most Unladylike*.

‘Dark, delicious and extraordinary. An inventive, page-turning story with a fabulous cast of characters.’

- **Hannah Gold**, bestselling author of *The Last Bear*

‘I am a huge fan of Hana’s writing, and Skulkmoor certainly did NOT disappoint - if anything I think it might be her best book yet! Clever plotting, a lovably eccentric cast, and such a richly atmospheric setting. Pacy, exciting, mysterious, adventurous - it’s a deliciously dark adventure that sparkles with wit and wonder. An absolute page-turner that children will love, simply packed with Hana Tooke’s trademark quirkiness, warmth and originality. I was charmed and captivated from gruesome beginning to ghastly end.’

- **Sophie Kirtley**, bestselling author of *The Wild Way Home*

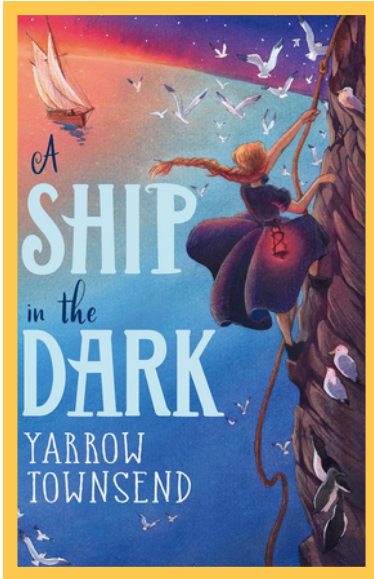
‘A thrillingly twisty mystery packed with gothic atmosphere, a rogues’ gallery of delightfully eccentric characters and absolutely brimming with Hana’s exceptional blend of witty description and heartfelt emotional depth. I loved it!’

- **Tamzin Merchant**, bestselling author of *The Hatmakers*

Half Dutch, half English, Hana Tooke grew up near Amsterdam and moved to the south of England at the age of twelve. After completing a degree in music, and then a PGCE, Hana was a special needs primary school teacher for several years. *The Unadoptables* won the Oxfordshire Book Award primary category, was shortlisted for The Bath Children’s Novel Award and Longlisted for the Branford Boase Award. Hana lives in Bath with two humans and a cat.

A SHIP IN THE DARK

YARROW TOWNSEND



A stunning adventure from the Branford Boase Award-shortlisted author of *The Map of Leaves*.

Anna lives on remote Windrose Island, caring for its birds.

When her stepfather Caleb is arrested for smuggling, she must prove his innocence. The truth may lie on board the Albatross, a missing whaler.

Anna and her friend Mina travel the high seas to find the lost ship before ruthless Society Man, Bartholomew Rime...

But without a map, only migrating birds and the song of whales can show the way.

Publisher:

UK: Chicken House

Publication Date: 06-Jun-24

Available Material: Final MS

Length: 269pp

Primary Agent: Jenny Savill

Rights Sold:

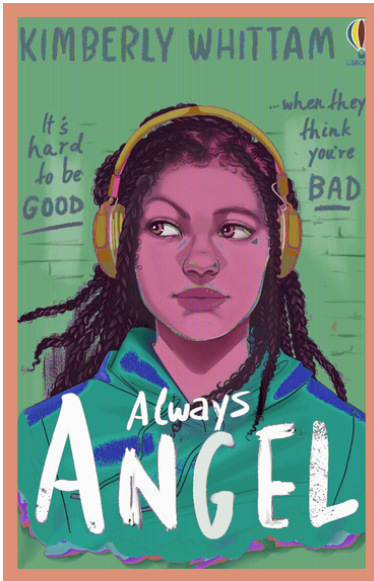
Germany - Thienemann Verlag

Italy - Giunti

Yarrow Townsend spent most of her childhood in the woods pretending to be characters from books. After studying English and French Literature at the University of Oxford, she trained as an English teacher, before returning to the New Forest to work for the RSPB. Since then, she has lived on two different river boats, writing stories about adventures in wild places. Now she lives on dry land in Southampton, where she likes to swim in the River Itchen and teach others how to look after nature in the city. Her first novel, *The Map of Leaves*, was shortlisted for the Branford Boase Award (2023) and for the East Sussex Children's Book Award (2023) and was a Sunday Times Children's Book of the Week in 2022. She has an MA in Writing for Young People from Bath Spa University and runs writing workshops for children and adults in the great outdoors.

ALWAYS ANGEL

KIMBERLY WHITTAM



A powerful novel about second chances, friendship and finding the courage to rewrite your story from the award-winning author of *Quiet Storm*.

Angel is a troublemaker. She gets into fights, she storms out of lessons and she's had more detentions than any other Year 8 student...ever.

With her mum not well enough to look after her, her foster parents try to help her turn things around. Angel is determined to be better, finding some new friends and a talent for baking along the way. But it's hard to be good when everyone expects you to be bad, and Angel is running out of chances...

Publisher:

UK: Usborne

Publication Date: 12-Feb-26

Available Material:

Copyedited MS

Length: 154pp

Primary Agent: Gyamfia Osei

Praise for Kimberly Whittam

'An absolute triumph of a return! Whittam writes with empathy, authenticity and a deep understanding of her readership that solidifies her as one of the most important voices in children's fiction right now.'

- Ashley Thorpe

Praise for Kimberly Whittam's debut, *Quiet Storm*

"I loved the book, and the quiet strong hero will really appeal to children about to start Year 7."

- Cressida Cowell, author of *How to Train Your Dragon*

"A tender 10+ novel about the challenges of shyness in the bold world of school."

- *The Guardian*

"A captivating story about shyness and strength, reassuring and empowering."

- Sophie Anderson, author of *The House with Chicken Legs*

"Kimberly has captured exactly how I felt at that age. I'm so happy for all those quiet children who will finally feel more powerful and see their place in the world."

- Clare Weze, author of *The Lightning Catcher*

Kimberly Whittam is a children's writer from Manchester, UK. She currently works in secondary education and is passionate about giving young people in Manchester space on the bookshelf. *Quiet Storm* was her critically-acclaimed first book.

THANK YOU

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