

Everyone can be a reader

Barrington



Stoke

from Collins

2026 Rights Guide



Barrington Stoke is an award-winning imprint with over 25 years' experience of publishing top-quality short novels by the UK's best writers, expertly edited and produced to ensure they are accessible to all – as a quick engaging win for confident readers and a satisfying achievement for those who have to work harder. Our specially designed font, layout and paper colour ensure titles are super-readable as well as dyslexia-friendly, to enable every child to become a reader and enjoy the myriad benefits that reading for pleasure brings.

Recent years have shown that there is a greater need for our books than ever, with an increasing attainment gap and larger numbers of children experiencing difficulty with reading. We remain committed to reaching these young people with shorter, expertly edited and designed books that are appropriate for their age and get them hooked with stories that are gripping, exciting, heartfelt and funny, offering something for everyone.

To help us do this we have always aimed to work with the very best authors and illustrators in the business, who are internationally renowned and recognised by readers all over the world. Our books have been translated into more than 20 languages and our aim is to reach even more struggling readers across the world with our carefully crafted accessible books.

With best wishes from

The Barrington Stoke Team





VIKING, TIME-SLIP, ADVENTURE

Pub: Jan 2026
 Illustrator: Anneli Bray (UK)
 9780008748500 | 7+ | Reading age 7
 80pp | 7,750 words | 198x130mm

The Accidental Vikings

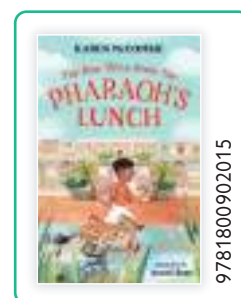
Karen McCombie

HISTORICAL FICTION

Alfie and Kat's school trip takes an unexpected turn when they're whisked back to a Viking village in this exciting time-slip adventure from bestselling author Karen McCombie.

Things become strange for Alfie and Kat when they get separated from the rest of their group on a school trip to the Viking Museum. The models around them start to come to life and at first Kat is sure they're being pranked for a TV game show. She urges Alfie to play along, and they take part in Viking village life but will they ever be able to find their way back home?

KAREN McCOMBIE is the bestselling author of over 90 books for children and teenagers including the Carnegie Medal-nominated *Little Bird Flies*, *How to be a Human*, and series *St Grizzle's School for Girls* and *Indie Kidd*. Karen is also the author of the bestselling and much-loved series *Ally's World*.



9781800902015



CINDERELLA, BALL, FAIRNESS

Pub: Jan 2026
 Illustrator: Ashley King (UK)
 9780008760465 | 7+ | Reading age: 7
 72pp | 4,000 words | 198x130mm

Sadie Jones and the Ball

Sally Nicholls

HUMOROUS CINDERELLA RETELLING

Sadie Jones, the smallest kitchen maid in the palace, is determined that no one should be left out of Prince Charming's ball in this fun Cinderella retelling from Sally Nicholls.

Everyone knows the story of Cinderella and how she and Prince Charming danced the night away at the ball. But what happened to all the other girls who were invited? Sadie Jones, kitchen maid at the palace, is furious when everyone else is left standing around with no one to dance with while Prince Charming and Cinderella have a wonderful evening. So when Cinderella disappears and Prince Charming flounces off in a huff, Sadie invites everyone else in town to enjoy the party!

SALLY NICHOLLS is a highly acclaimed writer for children, best known for her sensitive portrayal of difficult subjects for a younger age group. Her books have been translated into over 20 languages and her YA novel about the suffrage movement, *Things a Bright Girl Can Do*, was shortlisted for the Carnegie Medal.



THE ISLAND VET Storm Bird Magic

Gill Lewis

WILDLIFE & ENVIRONMENTAL FICTION

Amidst island tales of long-lost fairies and pirate chickens, Tia discovers the true magic of the elusive storm petrel in this uplifting tale of conservation from Gill Lewis.

With a summer storm brewing, the Tall Ship racers seek shelter in the bay of Gull Haven Island, and Tia's mum is called in to care for the captain's cat. On board, Tia listens sceptically to the sailors' tales of long-lost fairies hiding near the lighthouse. But when Nat's dad takes Tia and Nat to the fairy stones, they unravel the truth behind all the stories in the shape of tiny storm petrels who desperately need their help. Will they find a way to restore the magic of their island home and protect the seabirds?

SEABIRDS, CONSERVATION, ISLAND-LIFE

Pub: Apr 2026
Illustrator: Irina Avgustinovich (UK)
9780008770013 | 7+ | Reading age 7
72pp | 5,000 words | 198x130mm

GILL LEWIS is the bestselling author of more than 20 books for children and young people. She has won numerous prizes for her novels, including the UKLA Book Award and the Little Rebels Award. Before she was an author, Gill worked as a vet in the UK and across the world.

Sixth Island Vet Adventure: *Night of the Whales* coming in 2027

Other titles in the series



The Winter Snow Goose

Gill Lewis

WINTER, STORM, COMMUNITY

Published: 2025
978008770006 | 7+
Reading age: 7 | 72pp
5,700 words | 198x130mm

RIGHTS SOLD: Turkey (Tudem)



Devil Bird Island

Gill Lewis

CONSERVATION, ANIMALS, ISLAND LIFE

Published: 2025
9781800902787 | 7+
Reading age: 7 | 72pp
5,300 words | 198x130mm

RIGHTS SOLD: Turkey (Tudem), Poland (Muza)



Rescue at Seal Bay

Gill Lewis

NATURE, CONSERVATION, FRIENDS

Published: 2024 |
9781800902770 | 7+
Reading age: 7 | 64pp
5,000 words | 198x130mm

RIGHTS SOLD: Turkey (Tudem), Poland (Muza), Wales (Carreg Gwalch), Czechia (Grada)



Pirates and Sea Monsters

Gill Lewis

VET, ANIMALS, ISLAND LIFE

Published: 2024
9781800902763 | 7+
Reading age: 7 | 72pp
5,300 words | 198x130mm

RIGHTS SOLD: Turkey (Tudem), Poland (Muza), Wales (Carreg Gwalch), Czechia (Grada)



WOLVES, CREATIVITY, SELF-DISCOVERY

Pub: Jul 2026

Illustrator: Nikola Aranova (Slovakia)

9780008800772 | 7+ | Reading age: 7

64 pp | 4,700 words | 198x130mm

When I was a Wolf

Liz Flanagan

EMOTIONAL FICTION

In this poignant tale from award-winning author Liz Flanagan, Jasmine uncovers the magic of creativity while navigating the complexities of friendship and family.

Jasmine loves wolves, her mum and her best friend, Ella. But Jasmine's mum has fallen ill, and Ella is busy with Layla, the new girl at school. Everything has changed. At a new art club, Jasmine learns to channel her worries and sadness into creativity, building a magnificent wolf lantern for the town parade. But when a moment of anger threatens to undo all her progress, can Jasmine find a way to control her emotions and repair her friendships?

LIZ FLANAGAN is the award-winning writer of numerous books for children and young adults, including *Dragon Daughter* and *Rise of the Shadow Dragons*. Her debut novel, *Eden Summer*, was nominated for the Carnegie Medal and the first instalment of her *Wildsmith* series was shortlisted for *The Week Junior Book Awards* and won the UKLA Award.



FOOTBALL, EQUALITY, SIKHISM

Pub: May 2026

Illustrator: Daniel Duncan (UK)

9780008773069 | 9+ | Reading age: 8

96pp | 8,000 words | 198x129mm

Bobby Bains Ain't Playing

Bali Rai

EQUALITY FICTION

When the girls are banned from the five-a-side tournament, young Sikh footballer Bobby Bains rallies his teammates to make a stand.

When Bobby's friend Maisie announces that a five-a-side tournament is coming to Wigby, he's as excited as she is to get stuck in. His team has a solid chance of winning and Maisie manages to pull a girls' team together in time to sign up. But then the tournament's organisers tell the girls they can't play and Bobby knows he can't just sit back. Inspired by the Sikh story of Guru Hargobind, Bobby rallies his friends to stand in solidarity with one another and protest for equality on the pitch.

BALI RAI was born in Leicester where he grew up in a multicultural community dreaming of playing football for Liverpool FC, or becoming a writer. He writes the books he would have enjoyed as a teenager and his book *Rani and Sukh* is a set-text for GCSE English. His novel, *Killing Honour*, won the North East Teenage Book Award.





SCI-FI, SURVIVAL, WORMHOLE

Pub: Feb 2026
 Illustrator: Charlotte Grange (UK)
 97800087500515 | 9+ | Reading age: 7
 88pp | 6,600 words | 198x129mm

Nova

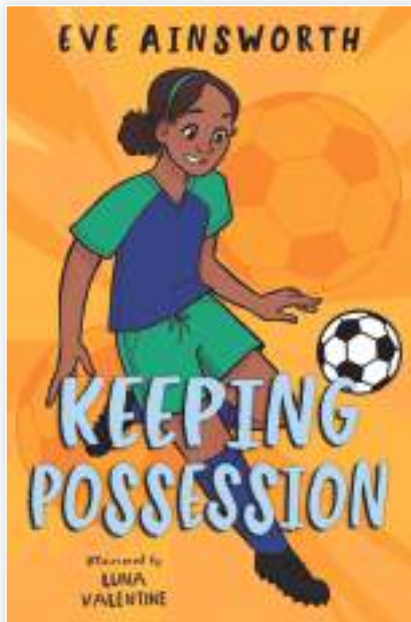
Chris Bradford

SCIENCE FICTION ADVENTURE

When Max’s life-craft is pulled into a wormhole, he needs a whole galaxy of luck to return to safety ... Chris Bradford crafts *Interstellar* for kids in this space-bending survival story.

Max Nova is headed to Mercury with his father, a space trucker, when their ship is suddenly diverted. They have a new urgent mission. An abnormal gravity reading has been detected near the sun. There are fears that this could signal the start of a supernova! But what Max and his father discover is much more dangerous – and far stranger – than any supernova. Flung to the outer reaches of the universe, Max must navigate a galaxy of dangers to find his way home before time runs out!

CHRIS BRADFORD is a multi-million-copy bestselling children’s author, best known for his *Young Samurai* and *Bodyguard* series, the former of which was nominated for the Carnegie Medal. His *Jake and Jen* series is now read in thousands of primary schools across the UK as part of the Little Wandle programme.



FOOTBALL, FRIENDS, ACCEPTANCE

Pub: Mar 2026
 Illustrator: Luna Valentine (UK)
 9780008744717 | 9+ | Reading age: 8
 104pp | 10,500 words | 198x129mm

Keeping Possession

Eve Ainsworth

FOOTBALL & FRIENDSHIP

Talented defender Eboni navigates balancing new friendships with her passion for football in this sensitively told tale from acclaimed author Eve Ainsworth.

Eboni’s decision to join the Lightmoor Lionesses has led to a falling-out with her closest friends on her old team. They feel betrayed and Eboni is iced out at school. Feeling isolated, she’s delighted when she forms a new friendship with popular Olivia, quickly realising they have loads in common. But there’s one problem. Olivia isn’t interested in football and can’t understand Eboni’s dedication to the sport that she loves. Will Eboni stay true to herself or will she sacrifice her footballing dreams for friendship?

EVE AINSWORTH is the award-winning author of several bestselling novels, including the award-winning and Carnegie Medal nominated *7 Days*, and the acclaimed *Dick, Kerr Girls* series.





MURDER, MYSTERY, PARTY

Pub: Jul 2026
 Illustrator: Hannah Peck (UK)
 9780008712792 | 9+ | Reading age: 8
 120pp | 12,600 words | 198x129mm

Murder on a Midsummer Night

Lucy Strange

LIGHT-HEARTED MURDER MYSTERY

As guests gather for Sir Percy's summer party, a murderer stalks the grounds of Mulberry Hall in this cosy midsummer mystery from bestselling author Lucy Strange.

Preparations for Sir Percy's summer party have transformed Mulberry Hall into an enchanting wonderland, and siblings Eliza and Bram Rose are thrilled to be part of the festivities. As guests mingle in whimsical costumes and the air fills with excitement, Eliza can't help but overhear snippets of conversations that hint at secrets and tensions among the grown-ups. But the evening takes a dark turn when a guest is found dead, plunging the party into chaos. Eliza must use her wits to unravel the means, motive and opportunity behind the murder. But with a host of quirky characters in attendance – from the grumpy gardener to the scorned singer – everyone becomes a suspect.

LUCY STRANGE is the best-selling children's author of titles including *The Secret of Nightingale Wood*, a Waterstones Children's Book of the Month, and *Our Castle by the Sea*, which was nominated for the Carnegie Medal, shortlisted for the Waterstones Book Prize 2020 and was the first Independent Booksellers' Children's Book of the Month.



TIMETRAVEL, HISTORY, MATHS

Pub: May 2026
 Illustrator: Kristina Kister (Germany)
 9780008727451 | 9+ | Reading age: 8
 112pp | 10,800 words | 198x129mm

The Time Engine

Lindsay Galvin

SCI-FI & HISTORY FUSION

Catapulted back in time by a mysterious machine, Eric joins forces with a young Ada Lovelace to find a way home in this time-slip adventure from acclaimed author Lindsay Galvin.

Returning early from school one day, Eric hears a mysterious thump in the attic. It quickly becomes clear that his brilliant mathematician mother is hiding something from him, and when Eric investigates, he discovers a mysterious machine, the purpose of which isn't clear. When Eric manages to get the machine to work, he finds himself whisked back in time to the nineteenth century, where he meets his famous ancestor, Ada Lovelace. But will she be able to help him return to the future before the fabric of time is damaged with possibly terrifying consequences?

Former teacher LINDSAY GALVIN is the acclaimed author of numerous books for children, including her middle-grade titles *Darwin's Dragons*, *My Friend the Octopus*, *Call of the Titanic* – an Indie book of the month – and *The Great Phoenix of London*, all of which brilliantly blend historical fact and fiction, combining meticulous research with page-turning storylines.



9780008724504



Ben's Gargoyle

Keith Gray

FAMILY DYNAMICS & BULLYING

Critically acclaimed author Keith Gray masterfully grapples with the difficult dynamics of a tumultuous family environment in this compelling and bittersweet tale.

When Ben sees a monstrous gargoyle creeping across the midnight rooftops, he's desperate to tell someone. But Ben feels alone in his new home and is finding it hard fitting in at his new school. Ben's dad doesn't believe him. He's always angry. He says Ben needs to act his age, stand up to the school bullies and "be a man". But can Ben find the courage to stand up to the biggest bully of all? And every night the gargoyle creeps closer.

ISOLATION, ANXIETY, PROTECTION

Pub: Jun 2026
 Illustrator: Keith Robinson (UK)
 9780008774615 | 9+ | Reading age 8
 104pp | 11,200 words | 198x129mm
 Author location: Austria

KEITH GRAY'S debut novel *Creepers* was published when he was only 24 and was shortlisted for the Guardian Children's Fiction Prize. *Ostrich Boys* was shortlisted for the Carnegie Medal as well as the Costa Children's Book Award and has been adapted for the stage, and *The Climbers* was longlisted for the Carnegie Medal.

ILLUSTRATION EXAMPLE



Other titles by the same author



The Climbers

Keith Gray

STATUS, FRIENDSHIP, RIVALRY

Published: 2021 | 9781781129999 | 11+
 Reading age: 8 | 120pp
 15,500 words | 198x129mm

RIGHTS SOLD: North America (Union Square), China (CITIC), Germany (Beltz), Sweden (Argasso)



The Den

Keith Gray

ESCAPE, BETRAYAL, FRIENDSHIP

Published: 2023 | 9781800901919 | 11+
 Reading age: 8 | 120pp | 19,000 words
 198x129mm

RIGHTS SOLD: North America (Union Square), Sweden (Argasso)



The List

Keith Gray

RELOCATION, COMICAL, FRIENDSHIP

Published: 2024 | 9781800903203 | 11+
 Reading age: 8 | 120pp | 19,000 words
 198x129mm

RIGHTS SOLD: North America (Union Square), Germany (Beltz), Italy (Mondadori)



MYSTERY, DEMON, SURVIVAL

Pub: Jun 2026
 Illustrator: Marina Vidal (Spain)
 9780008741150 | 9+ | Reading age: 8
 104pp | 10,500 words | 198x129mm

Soul Feeder

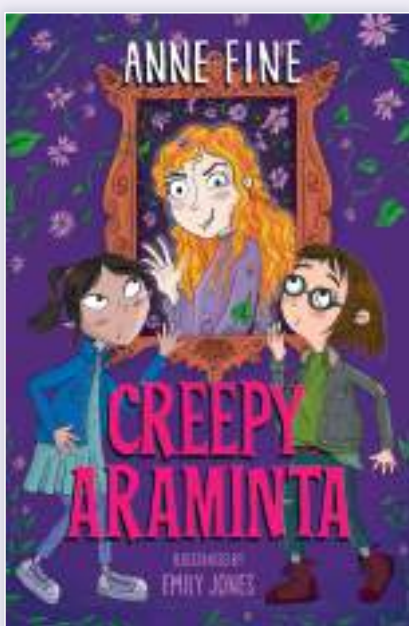
Jennifer Killick

HORROR

Caiden and Sam find themselves trapped and alone in a vast warehouse with a soul-feeding demon in this hair-raising horror from bestselling and award-winning author Jennifer Killick.

Caiden and his best friend Sam are used to coming across some pretty weird stuff while helping Caiden's dad in his house-clearing business, but nothing like the grotesque mounted heads of bizarre, other-worldly creatures they find in Sasha Kinski's home. It's clear that something awful has happened here, and it's not over yet ... Alone in the family warehouse that evening, the boys make the terrifying discovery that they have brought an uninvited, evil passenger back with them from the Kinski house. With their very souls in peril, can Caiden and Sam unravel the mystery in time to save themselves ...

JENNIFER KILLICK is the award-winning author of the *Dread Wood*, *Crater Lake* and *Alex Sparrow* series. She regularly visits schools and festivals, and her books have three times been selected for the Reading Agency's Summer Reading Challenge. Her favourite stories to write are horror-comedies, often with a science-fiction twist, and she is heavily influenced by anime and manga, and creepy TV shows like *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* and *Stranger Things*.



HAUNTING, PORTRAIT, DREAMS

Pub: Jun 2026
 Illustrator: Emily Jones (UK)
 9780008806323 | 9+ | Reading age: 7
 64pp | 4,100 words | 198x129mm

Creepy Araminta

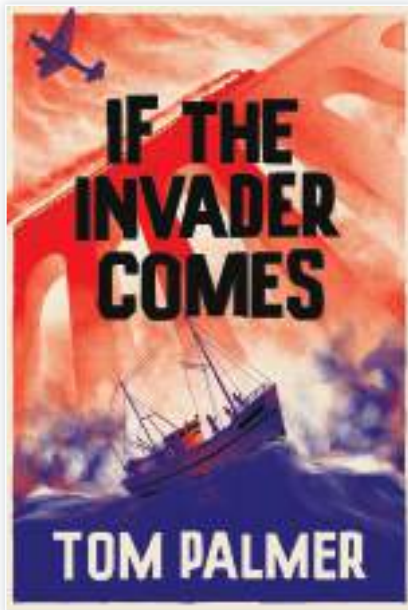
Anne Fine

GHOST STORY

The portrait of a beautiful girl with tumbling red hair takes on sinister undertones in this unnerving tale from much-loved, multi-award-winning author Anne Fine.

Jess's mum is furious when she discovers a muddy, football-shaped splodge on her bedroom wall and sends Jess on a mission to find something to cover it up. Luckily, Jess manages to bag a bargain in her local charity shop: a beautiful portrait of a girl with tumbling red hair in a frame exactly the right size. But when she hangs it in her room, Jess is plagued by disturbing nightmares featuring the young Araminta from the portrait. At first Jess's mum and her friend Tina think that she is making it up, but they're soon in for a shock when they experience the power of the painting for themselves ...

ANNE FINE is one of Britain's most distinguished writers for both adults and children. She has twice won both the Carnegie Medal and the Whitbread Children's Book of the Year Award, as well as the *Guardian* Children's Fiction Prize, the Smarties Prize and numerous other regional and foreign awards. She has twice been voted Children's Author of the Year.



WWII, INVASION, FRIENDSHIP

Pub: May 2026
 Illustrator: Paul Blow (UK)
 9780008802226 | 9+ | 224 pp
 25,300 words | 198x129mm

If the Invader Comes

Tom Palmer

WORLD WAR II FICTION

With the spectre of a Nazi invasion looming over Britain, three children are forced into an unlikely allyship in this gripping wartime tale from multi-award-winning author Tom Palmer.

June 1940 – after the devastating defeat of the British forces at Dunkirk, the terrifying prospect of a Nazi invasion of Britain seems ever more likely. In these dark days, the parents of Bobble, Cadan and Cilla are involved in vital but top secret war work, and they need their children’s help to keep their activities hidden. The unlikely trio initially struggle to trust one another, but when Cadan spots a German E-boat during a river patrol and Cilla discovers a crashed Stuka, they realise the menace is closer than they thought. With danger lurking at every turn, can they band together to protect their home and each other.

TOM PALMER was a reluctant reader as a child and credits articles about football with getting him into reading. He is now the multi-award-winning author of many books including the Young Quills Award winner *After the War* and FCBG Children’s Book Award winners *Armistice Runner* and *D-Day Dog*. In 2019 Tom was awarded the National Literacy Trust’s Ruth Rendell Award in recognition of his significant contribution to literacy work in the UK.



CRICKET, COMMUNITY, FAMILY

Pub: Sept 2026
 Illustrator: Robin Boyden (UK)
 9780008695712 | 9+ | 80 pp
 6,000 words | 198x129mm

Front Foot

Tom Palmer

SPORT, FAMILY & COMMUNITY

Navigating life in England, Azeem hopes to share his passion for cricket with his new friends in this action-packed sports story from award-winning author Tom Palmer.

Azeem’s father dreams of one day seeing his son play cricket on an English cricket pitch wearing English cricket whites. Getting to grips with his new life in the UK, Azeem can’t understand why the children on his estate would rather kick a ball than bowl one. As he anxiously awaits news from his mum and sister, who are stuck in a refugee camp in Pakistan, Azeem distracts himself with teaching his new friends how to play cricket. He takes a chance by inviting some intimidating, older boys in the local park to play with them and soon enough, a team is formed. But with worry for his family worsening, will Azeem be able to play on his Front Foot?





CLI-FI, DYSTOPIA, THRILLER

Pub: Jan 2026
 Illustrator: Chris King (UK)
 9780008735371 | 11+ | Reading age 8
 120pp | 16,500 words | 198x129mm

New You For Ever

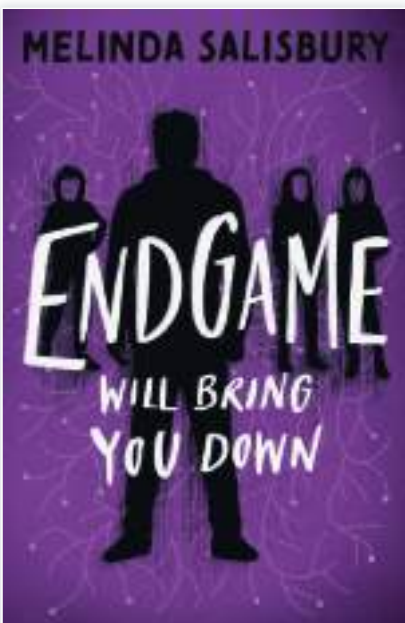
Steve Cole

DYSTOPIAN ADVENTURE

Can you save the world by living for ever? Anders uncovers the sinister truth about Pleekas in this gripping dystopian thriller from award-winning author Steve Cole.

The New You Foundation's unique solution to the climate crisis is the chance to upload your memories and personality into a Pleeka – a replica of your own body that can live for ever without needing food or creating waste. Millions are taking up the offer at an ever younger age, but are New You's promises too good to be true? A chance meeting with eco-influencer Tera Helstrom leads trainee journalist Anders Jones to the dark truth behind the New You Foundation's expensive marketing campaigns, but is it already too late for those who have made the choice to turn Pleeka?

STEVE COLE is an internationally bestselling author who has written over 150 books and sold over 3 million copies. He has written *Doctor Who* fiction and succeeded Charlie Higson as the *Young Bond*. *Drowning in My Bedroom* won the 2024 Dudley Children's Book Award: Short & Sweet Category.



TECH, THRILLER, JUSTICE

Pub: Feb 2026 9780008750350 | 11+ |
 Reading age: 8 136pp | 21,400 words |
 198x129mm

Endgame

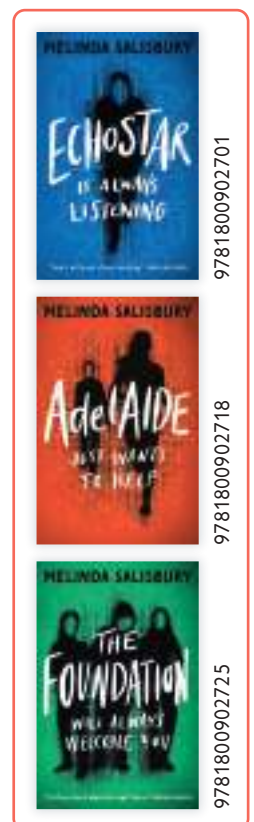
Melinda Salisbury

TECH THRILLER

Bestselling YA author Melinda Salisbury delivers a hair-raising thriller as Ruby, Freya and Ivy team up to take down the Ash Tree Foundation once and for all.

Ruby, Freya and Ivy are all survivors of the Ash Tree Foundation, an organisation that claimed to help teenagers deal with technology addiction but which was a front for a dangerously addictive augmented-reality platform. Novo Reality was the brainchild of tech-baroness Dagmar Nilsson, who disappeared without trace when the Foundation was busted. But now, a year after their ordeal, just as the girls are all preparing to start a new chapter of their lives, it becomes clear that Dagmar is continuing with her aim of world domination. Can the three friends draw her out of hiding and shut down the Foundation for good?

MELINDA SALISBURY is the bestselling author of multiple YA novels. Her books have been published in 15 countries to date and been nominated for numerous awards, including the Waterstones Children's Book Prize, the YA Book Prize, the Branford Boase, and the Carnegie Medal.



9781800902701

9781800902718

9781800902725



HORROR, GHOST TOWN, MYSTERY

Pub: May 2026
 Illustrator: Luke Brookes (UK)
 9780008790905 | 11+ | 208pp
 22,800 words | 198x129mm

The House of Horrors

Dan Smith

HORROR

Master of sci-fi Dan Smith delivers an action-packed thriller as secret organisation The Night House exposes the bloodcurdling truth of what lurks inside Dr Kilgore’s House of Horrors.

Deep in the Chihuahuan desert, the Slade family’s trip of a lifetime takes a terrifying turn when their car crashes on the highway. Stranded and alone, they’re picked up by passing trucker Sam, who leads them to a long-abandoned ghost town, Coyote Creek. There the family are forced to enter Dr Kilgore’s House of Horrors, a nightmarish maze filled with sinister, all-too lifelike waxworks and bone-chilling secrets. Will they find a way to escape or will they become the latest victims of the horrors that await?

DAN SMITH is the award-winning and bestselling author of books for both children and adults. His children’s titles, which include *The Wall Between Us*, *Nisha’s War*, *Below Zero* and the *Crooked Oak* series, have won him numerous accolades, including the Coventry Inspiration Book Award, the Essex Book Award, and nominations for the Carnegie Medal, the Branford Boase Award and the Young Quills Award.



HORROR, HAUNTING, MYSTERY

Pub: Oct 2026
 Illustrator: Luke Brookes (UK)
 9780008790912 | 11+ | 192pp
 20,100 words | 198x129mm

The Ghosts of Grey Towers

Dan Smith

HORROR

ILLUSTRATION EXAMPLE

What evil is lurking in the shadows of Grey Towers? Secret organisation The Night House unravels the horrifying truth in this chilling mystery from master of sci-fi Dan Smith.

A storm rages across the moors the night that Damien Cooper arrives at the gates of Grey Towers Boarding School for Boys. As he struggles to settle in, tormented by his peers and the intimidating rule of Headmaster Grady, Damien also grappled with his unique ability to see the tragic destinies of those he touches. He quickly realises he is not just battling the harsh realities of school life but also dark forces within the house itself. With a history steeped in tragedy, and supernatural forces at play, Damien must confront the malevolence that haunts Grey Towers and fight for his survival against an evil that seeks to claim him for ever.





FRIENDS, BETRAYAL, RECONCILIATION

Pub: Mar 2026 | 9780008789848 11+ |
 Reading age 8 | 120pp
 18,100 words | 198x129mm

Big Words

Luke Palmer

EMPATHY

Award-winning author Luke Palmer masterfully captures the intricate dynamics of teenage friendship in this compelling tale of misadventure, resentment and reconciliation.

Biggest goes first – always. That’s one of the unspoken rules of Kiln, the forbidden waste ground where Shaun and his mates hang out. So when Shaun comes up with a plan to go sledging on the rust-ridden bonnet of a rotting car, he goes first. To show the others how it’s done. His mates aren’t so keen. But there’s no complaining. No backing down. Those are the other rules of Kiln. Even when they lead to disaster. Will their friendship survive the consequences?

LUKE PALMER is an award-winning YA author, poet, and secondary school teacher. His debut novel, *Grow*, was recognized as a *Sunday Times* Children’s Book of the Year and earned nominations for prestigious awards including the Branford Boase and Carnegie Medals. His follow-up novel, *Play*, further solidified his reputation, being shortlisted for the Carnegie Medal



SHARKS, PERIL, SCHOOL TRIP

Pub: Feb 2026
 Illustrator: Melania Badosa (Spain)
 9780008758943 | 11+ | Reading age 7
 96pp | 6,000 words | 198x129mm

Escape

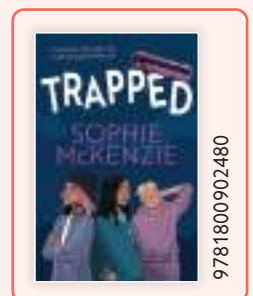
Sophie McKenzie

ACTION ADVENTURE

When her school trip takes a perilous turn, Bernice must channel all of her knowledge to survive in this gripping drama from the queen of teen thrillers, Sophie McKenzie.

A dream school trip to a sea-life sanctuary turns into a nightmare for ocean-loving Bernice when she finds herself in a race against the tide. When her friends’ reckless behaviour plunges them all into the freezing waters of Shark Bay, Bernice has to confront her fears and summon all her knowledge of marine life to find a way to safety. But in shark-infested waters, can she act quickly enough to save the day?

SOPHIE MCKENZIE is the internationally beloved and award-winning author of the million-copy selling *Girl, Missing*, as well as hit titles *Sister, Missing, The Medusa Project* series, and *Blood Ties*, which was the winner of the national Children’s Book Award.



9781800902480



COVER COMING SOON

INFLUENCERS, EXPLOITATION, STALKING

Pub: Sept 2026
9780008760472 | 11+ | Reading age 8
tbcpp | tbc words | 198x129mm

Dangerous Influence

Sally Nicholls

BULLYING & SOCIAL MEDIA

Acclaimed author Sally Nicholls delivers a gripping yet sensitive portrayal of the complex dynamics of influencer culture and the dangers of oversharing online.

Ever since she was little, Anna and her sister Josie have been the main feature of her mum's vlogs and social media posts, which have documented every moment of their lives, from family dinners to temper tantrums. While Josie seems to enjoy the attention, Anna has always felt uncomfortable with her entire life being laid bare online. But then it becomes clear that Josie is being stalked by one of her followers, and both girls decide that enough is enough. They refuse to allow their mum to film them any more, but will she finally take them seriously when her entire livelihood depends on Anna and Josie being content for her followers?

SALLY NICHOLLS is a highly acclaimed writer for children, best known for her sensitive portrayal of difficult subjects for a younger age group. Her books have been translated into over 20 languages and her YA novel about the suffrage movement, *Things a Bright Girl Can Do* was shortlisted for the Carnegie Medal.



COVER COMING SOON

GAMING, SURVIVAL, THRILLER

Pub: Oct 2026
9780008800765 | 11+ | Reading age 7
tbcpp | 5,000 words | 198x129mm

Life Hack

SJ Wills

TECH THRILLER

Jay is thrust into a fight for survival as the virtual world of *Apocalypta* begins to leak into reality in this heart-pounding teen thriller from award-winning author SJ Wills.

Apocalypta is the hardest game Jay has ever played, so when a cheat link pops up on his screen mid-battle he can't resist downloading it. With the help of Life Hack, Jay races ahead of his friends to the final level. But when he spots an NPC acting strangely, an unsettling feeling sinks in. At school the next day, reality twists: teachers talk about XP, Grub replaces pizza and the injury his character suffered in-game appears on Jay's own leg. As the wound worsens, Jay realises that Apocalypta has merged with his world and he must find a cure quickly. Can he level up before it's too late?

SJ WILLS is an award-winning children's author best-known for her teen horror-thriller series *Bite Risk*, which won the Juniper Book Awards, was a Guardian "best children's and YA books of 2023" and has been optioned for TV.



DRAFT COVER ONLY

CHRISTMAS, GHOSTS, REDEMPTION

Pub: Aug 2026 | 9780008797188
11+ | Reading age 9 | 72pp
12,400 words/ 198x129mm

A Christmas Carol

Tanya Landman

CLASSICAL FICTION

Carnegie Medal winning author Tanya Landman delivers captivating and accessible retellings of classic fiction to engage a modern audience.

Master storyteller Tanya Landman is a bestselling author for teens, making her the perfect choice to bring these classic tales and compelling characters to life. Capturing the narrative of the classic text in a concise format without compromising on the impact of the original, immersing even more readers in the thrill and atmosphere of the classics.

CLASSIC RETELLINGS from Barrington Stoke are produced with our specialist design features and offer an accessible entry point to students who may struggle with the length or language of the original text. Retold by award-winning authors, incorporating key themes and scenes but in a more concise format.



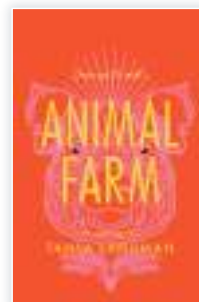
The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde

Tanya Landman



Dracula

Tanya Landman



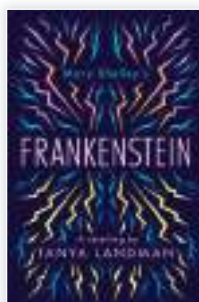
Animal Farm

Tanya Landman



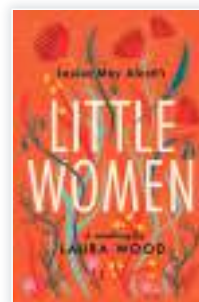
Great Expectations

Tanya Landman



Frankenstein

Tanya Landman



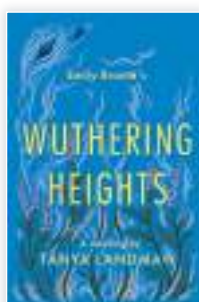
Little Women

Laura Wood



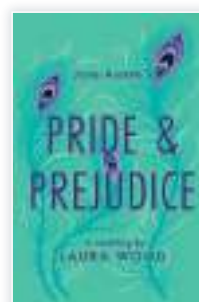
Jane Eyre

Tanya Landman



Wuthering Heights

Tanya Landman



Pride & Prejudice

Laura Wood

RIGHTS SOLD: North America (Union Square)

Starting their reading journey



SPECIAL FEATURES:

- Child-friendly chunky format perfect for small hands
- Easy-read font to help reading flow
- Well-spaced, appealing layouts with lots of illustrations
- Activities and jokes to reinforce reading for pleasure

“Outstanding.”
THE TIMES



Spread from *Lottie the Little Wonder*

15-MINUTE READS



Spread from *The Guinea-Pig Party*

- Support newly emergent readers with fully illustrated first chapter books for ages 5 to 8
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ANIMAL STORIES



HISTORICAL FIGURES



EMPATHY BUILDERS

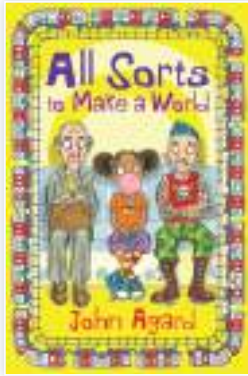


FUNNY FICTION

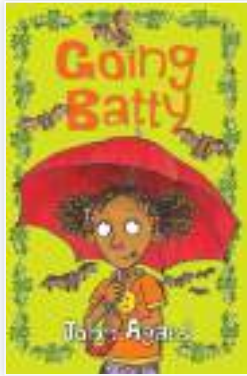


ADVENTURE STORIES

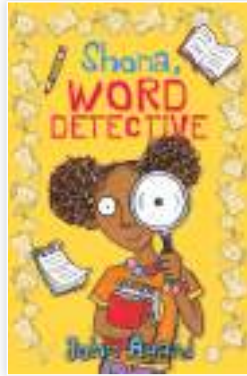




JOURNEY, LEARNING, DIFFERENCES



BATS, NATURE, FAMILY

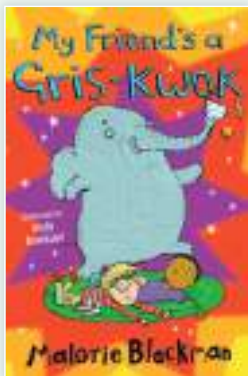


FUN, LANGUAGES, STRONG GIRLS

Warm and charming tales of diversity, language and the shared cultures that make up modern life.

John Agard | Illustrator: Michael Broad | 64–80pp
up to 6,000 words | 198x129mm

RIGHTS SOLD: *Shona*, Scotland (Storlann)



MAGIC, BABYSITTING, SIBLINGS



CATS, MAGIC, FRIENDSHIP

Much loved and best-selling author, Malorie Blackman delivers winning combinations of adventure, friendship and a little bit of magic.

Malorie Blackman | 72–80pp | up to 7,700 words | 198x129mm

RIGHTS SOLD: *Gris-Kwok*, China (CITIC); *Ellie*, Poland (Dwukropek)



SPORT, TRAINING, FRIENDSHIP



FOOTBALL, DREAMS, FUN

Fun and light-hearted football stories from reluctant-reader favourite, Tony Bradman.

Tony Bradman | Illustrator: Michael Broad | 64pp | up to 4,600 words | 198x129mm

RIGHTS SOLD: *Football*, Sweden (Argasso); *One-Nil*, Italy (Biancoenero)



MAGIC, MISHAPS, MISUNDERSTANDING



WITCH, QUEST, FRIENDSHIP

An accidental luggage swap with a witch conjures a series of mishaps and a shop-witch and a hero must work together to fulfil an important quest in these magical adventures.

Aisha Bushby | 72–80pp | up to 7,900 words | 198x129mm

RIGHTS SOLD: *Suitcase*, Poland (Dwukropek)



SADNESS, FAMILY, FUNNY

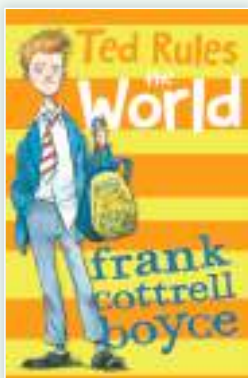


NOËL, POLAND, GRANDPARENTS

Thoughtful and playful storytelling exploring empathy, kindness and mental health from global bestselling author Eoin Colfer.

Eoin Colfer | 64pp | up to 3,300 words | 198x129mm

RIGHTS SOLD: Anna, Romania (Litera), Turkey (Tudem)



FUNNY, POLITICS, POWER

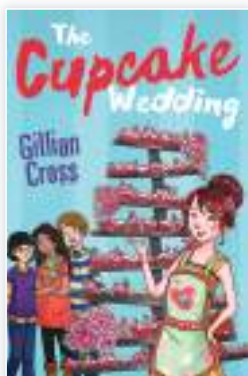
When the Prime Minister begins making Ted's great ideas a reality, he suddenly has a lot of responsibility on his shoulders in this hilarious comedy caper.

Frank Cottrell Boyce | Illustrator: Cate James | 64pp | 3,900 words | 198x129mm

RIGHTS SOLD: China (CITIC)



FAMILY, BABIES, MUSIC



BAKING, LOVE, LAUGHTER



NEW SCHOOL, FITTING IN, FRIENDS

Charming stories of bandmates and babies, baking and weddings, and friendship and confidence from one of the UK's most beloved authors.

Gillian Cross | 64–72pp | up to 6,000 words | 198x129mm

RIGHTS SOLD: Amber, Turkey (Tudem); Cupcake, Scotland (Storlann); Five, Germany (Beltz), Turkey (Tudem)



SPOOKY, BATS, COMMUNITY



MYSTERY, FUN, TRICKS



SNOW, SCARY, ADVENTURE

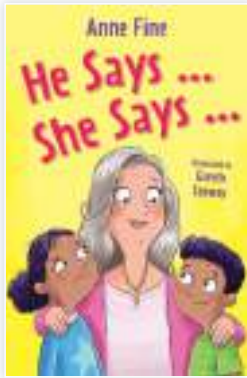
Gentle, spooky fun saving bats, tackling bullies and the scariest snowman brought to life by beloved author Gillian Cross.

Gillian Cross | 64–72pp | up to 6,000 words | 198x129mm

RIGHTS SOLD: Ghost, North America (Union Square); Jason, Turkey (Merakli Tilki), Netherlands (Bontekoe); Snowman, Italy (Biancoenero)



SCHOOL, RECYCLING, REUSE



GRANDPARENTS, RULES, DECEPTION

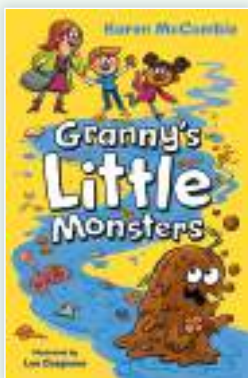


SCHOOL, EFFORT, REWARD

Gentle and humorous tales about recycling, family dynamics and school friendships by multi-award-winning author Anne Fine.

Anne Fine | Illustrator: Vicki Gausden & Gareth Conway
64pp | up to 4,000 words | 198x129mm

RIGHTS SOLD: *Bin & Alice*, Turkey (Tudem)



MUDLARKING, PETS, FAMILY FUN



TREASURE, REPAIRS, FRIENDS



EGYPT, TIME-SLIP, ADVENTURE

Exotic pets, repairing treasures and time-slipping to Ancient Egypt in this trio of adventures from bestselling author Karen McCombie.

Karen McCombie | 64–88pp | up to 8,600 words
198x129mm

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World



SIBLINGS, ILLNESS, LOVE

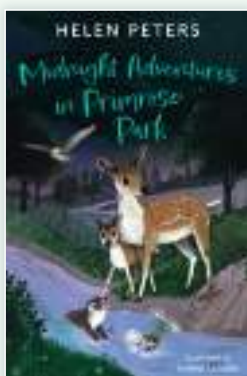
A touching exploration of family love and the challenges of being a younger sibling, especially when your older brother is very sick.

Sally Nicholls | Illustrator: Hannah Coulson | 64pp | 2,300 words | 198x129mm

RIGHTS SOLD: China (CITIC), Germany (Carl Hanser)



FARM, ANIMALS, FRIENDSHIP



URBAN, WILDLIFE, RESCUE

A duo of heartwarming tales in each book introducing us to new farm animals and wild animals straying into the local park.

Helen Peters | Illustrator: Isobel Lundie | 80pp | up to 5,300 words | 198x129mm

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World



New girl Hattie hopes a scarecrow will protect her den at school, but she soon realises she can't control him. A darkly comic tale from acclaimed author Nicola Skinner.

Nicola Skinner | Illustrator: Rebecca Bagley
96pp | 8,400 words | 198x129mm

CREATURE, NEW SCHOOL, CRAFTING

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World

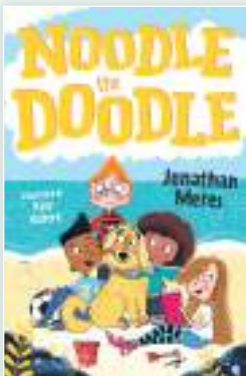


Upper Dab is under attack from a mysterious invasion of toads in this hilarious adventure from award-winning author Patrice Lawrence.

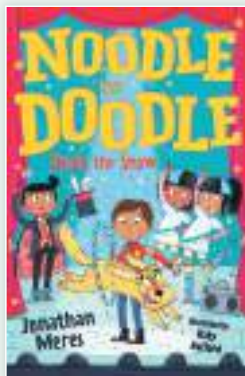
Patrice Lawrence | Illustrator: Becka Moor
80pp | 7,000 words | 198x129mm

FRIENDSHIP, TOADS, TRICKS

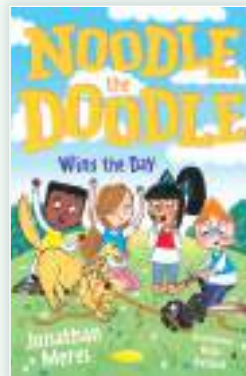
RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World



SCHOOL TRIP, DOG, MAYHEM



NEW PUPIL, TALENT SHOW, FUNNY



SPORTS DAY, DOGS, FUNNY

Noodle the doodle arrives at Wigley Primary, causing canine chaos on the school trip, at the talent show and during sports day.

Jonathan Meres | Illustrator: Katy Halford | 88–96pp
up to 7,500 words | 198x129mm

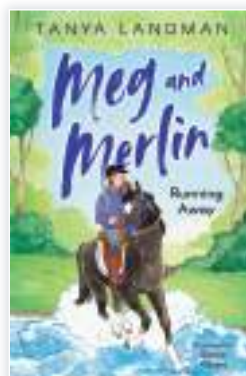
RIGHTS SOLD: Netherlands (Veltman), Wales (Carreg Gwalch)



HORSES, FRIENDSHIP, WISHES



HORSES, FRIENDSHIP, JUDGEMENT



HORSES, PERIL, TRUST



HORSES, LESSONS, PATIENCE

Award-winning author Tanya Landman brings fresh perspective to horse-riding stories with a series of heart-warming tales about friendship and dreaming big.

Tanya Landman | Illustrator: Sonia Albert | 64pp | up to 4,200 words | 198x129mm

RIGHTS SOLD: Slovenia (Zalozba Skrivnost)



Futuristic dramas and a school trip packed with lessons in empathy from bestselling and award-winning author Malorie Blackman.

Malorie Blackman | 64–120pp
up to 12,900 words | 198x129mm

RIGHTS SOLD: *Contact*, France (Rageot), Scotland (Storlann); *Hostage*, Eire (Futa Fata); *Peace Maker*, France (Rageot), Germany (Beltz); *Dangerous Game*, Japan (Shinkoshuppansha)

- # DYSTOPIA, FOOTBALL, SECRETS
- # KIDNAP, ESCAPE, FAMILY
- # DYSTOPIA, CONFLICT, EMOTIONS
- # SCIENCE, FUTURISTIC, ETHICS
- # SCHOOL TRIP, BULLIES, SICKLE CELL



Michael Morpurgo CBE is one of the UK's best-loved authors for children and young people, blending a love of the countryside with real life issues.

Michael Morpurgo | Illustrator: Joanna Carey | 64pp
up to 3,900 words | 198x129mm

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World

- # FARM LIFE, SECRETS, TRAGEDY
- # BRAVERY, BULLYING, DARES
- # BROTHERS, BRAVERY, BULLYING



Light-hearted comedies with colourful illustrations on topics of family, spirits and courage.

Anne Fine | Illustrator: Vicki Gausden | 64pp
up to 4,500 words | 198x129mm

RIGHTS SOLD: *How Brave*, Italy (Biancoenero)

- # ART, FAMILY, HOBBIES
- # FAMILY, FUNNY, SPIRITS
- # ARMY, SCHOOL, BRAVERY



Gentle tales of discovering a hidden talent, getting the better of annoying relatives and sharing some mysterious stories.

Anne Fine | 64–80pp | up to 8,100 words | 198x129mm

RIGHTS SOLD: *Remarkable Ear*, Turkey (Tudem)

- # FAMILY, KINDNESS, MIND GAMES
- # SPOOKY, FORTUNE, FATE
- # MUSIC, TALENT, SELF-BELIEF



Carnegie winning author Katya Balen brings her trademark warmth and empathy to these enchanting novellas about confidence, family and the meaning of home.

Katya Balen | Illustrator: Richard Johnson | 104pp
up to 8,900 words | 198x129mm

RIGHTS SOLD: *Birdsong*, China (Yilin), Germany (Beltz), Italy (Anicia), Japan (Asunaro Shobo), Turkey (Merakli Tilki), Sweden (Argasso); *Nightjar*, Sweden (Argasso)

MUSIC, HEALING, NATURE

NATURE, FAMILY, HEALING

HOME, FAMILY, CRAFTING



Based in reality with a fantasy twist, acclaimed author Peter Bunzl, delivers adventure and suspense to enthrall all.

Peter Bunzl | Illustrator: Lia Visirin & Anneli Bray
104–128pp | up to 13,500 words | 198x129mm

RIGHTS SOLD: *Dragonracers*, China (China South Booky Culture)

CHESS, PERIL, RUSSIA

AVIATION, MYTHICAL, HISTORY

COURAGE, PERIL, MYTHS



Powerful and potent look at environmental issues and exploitation with a gripping narrative from the perspective of young characters across the world.

Steve Cole | Illustrator: Oriol Vidal | 120–128pp
up to 15,100 words | 198x129mm

RIGHTS SOLD: *Trashland*, Sweden (Argasso); *Tin Boy*, Germany (Beltz)

AMAZON, DEFORESTATION, PERIL

RECYCLING, POVERTY, PERIL

DANGER, MINING, SUPERHEROES

FAST FASHION, EXPLOITATION, VIETNAM

CLI-FI, DISABILITY, POVERTY

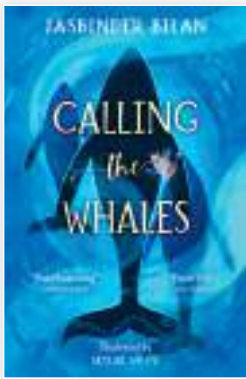


Trapped and alone on the salt marshes, Jodie is troubled by a haunting presence in this eerily atmospheric ghost story from multi-award-winning author Hilary McKay.

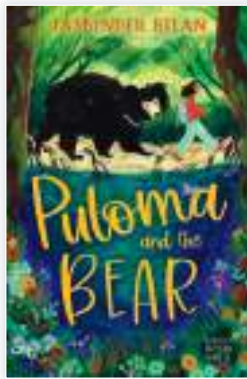
Hilary McKay | Illustrator: Keith Robinson | 104pp | 9,900 words | 198x129mm

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World

GHOSTS, ISOLATION, SCHOOL TRIP



OCEANS, CONSERVATION, COURAGE



INDIA, WILDLIFE, ESCAPE

Thrilling animal adventures with strong themes of conservation and courage.

Jasbinder Bilan | Illustrator: Skylar White | 80–96pp | up to 9,800 words

RIGHTS SOLD: Whales, Poland (Dwukropek)



EAGLES, PERSECUTION, FAMILY



WOLVES, WILDERNESS, SECRETS



MENTAL HEALTH, NATURE, FAMILY



FLOODING, REWILDING, GRIEF

Award-winning author Gill Lewis explores the redemptive power of nature for struggling young people in these touching tales.

Gill Lewis | 104–128pp | up to 13,800 words

RIGHTS SOLD: Run, Germany (DTV); Swan, China (Beijing White Horse), Russia (Volchok), Wales (Carreg Gwalch); River, Sweden (Argasso), Germany (Beltz), North America (Union Square)



DOGS, HOSPITAL, FAMILY

Letters from a longed-for pet provide and comfort and entertainment for a lonely boy in a heartfelt and gently humorous story.

Piers Torday | Illustrator: Alice McKinley
80pp | 7,500 words

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World



FAMILY, INCLUSIVE, PETS

A heart-warming festive tale of one boy who struggles with the change and emotions that Christmas brings and the dog that changes his life.

Nicola Davies | Illustrator: Mike Byrne
80pp | 6,900 words | 198x129mm

RIGHTS SOLD: Japan (Asunaro Shobo), Sweden (Argasso)



WWII, PERIL, REFUGEE

Friendship forms during wartime between a young German boy and a Russian bomber-dog, in this poignant and gripping historical adventure.

Tony Bradman | Illustrator: Tania Rex
80pp | 9,100 words

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World



DOGS, FOOTBALL, HOMELESSNESS

With an honest and sensitive portrayal of poverty and homelessness, Phil Earle delivers an inspiring and uplifting story combining family and football themes.

Phil Earle | Illustrator: Eliza Paganelli
112pp | 11,800 words | 192x129mm

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World



Hayley discovers the importance of giving people a second chance in this thought-provoking tale from critically acclaimed author Lesley Parr.

Lesley Parr | Illustrator: Richard Johnson
112pp | 10,700 words | 198x129mm

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World

JUDGEMENT, GRIEF, FRIENDSHIP



A tender, reassuring and vital tale of friendship exploring how to deal with and overcome worry, perfectly pitched for younger readers.

Sita Brahmachari | Illustrator: Jane Ray
104pp | 11,500 words | 192x129mm

RIGHTS SOLD: Wales (Welsh Books Council)

FAMILY, REFUGEE, ART

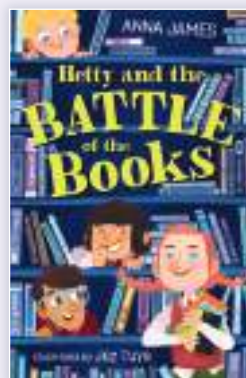


Exploring poverty, grief and ambition with honesty and sensitivity, Eve Ainsworth's books resonate with many and aim to reassure.

Eve Ainsworth
Illustrator: Kirsti Beautyman
80-96pp | up to 9,300 words | 198x129mm

RIGHTS SOLD: Poland (Dwukropek)

RESILIENCE, FOOTBALL, AMBITION

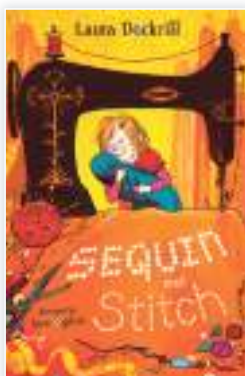


Bestselling author, Anna James, presents a positive story of friendships, misunderstandings and the importance of libraries as a safe space for everyone.

Anna James | Illustrator: Jez Tuya | 80pp
8,100 words | 192x129mm

RIGHTS SOLD: Italy (Garzanti)

LIBRARIES, CAMPAIGN, FRIENDSHIP



Family is at the heart of Laura Dockrill's charming stories of generational expectations, change and imagination.

Laura Dockrill | Illustrator: Sara Ogilvie | 96-104pp | up to 9,100 words
198x129mm

RIGHTS SOLD: Blossom, Germany (Beltz)

RESILIENCE, HOPE, COMMUNITY

LOSS, GROWING UP, FAMILY



Harnessing familiar feelings of frustration for young people dealing with adults in different scenarios, Tony Bradman brings warmth and sensitivity to difficult themes.

Tony Bradman | Illustrator: Tania Rex | 64pp
up to 6,100 words | 198x129mm

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World

WWII, FAMILY, SHORTAGES

ANXIETY, BULLYING, SCHOOL

FATHERS, SEPARATION, FOOTBALL



Inspired by the incredible lives of Matthew Henson, Olaudah Equiano and Josephine Baker, Catherine Johnson beautifully brings their stories to life.

Catherine Johnson | 112–128pp | up to 16,200 words

RIGHTS SOLD: Race, Eire (Futa Fata), North America (Union Square): Journey, Sweden (Argasso)

EXPLORATION, PREJUDICE, HERO

HISTORICAL, TRUE STORY, SLAVERY

HISTORICAL, TRUE STORY, RESILIENCE



Step back in time with Karen McCombie's action-packed historical adventures mixing fact and fiction to bring Victorians and Vikings to life.

Karen McCombie | 80–104pp | up to 10,600 words

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World

SIBLINGS, POVERTY, PERIL

COURAGE, THRILLS, AVIATION

VIKING, TIME-SLIP, ADVENTURE



Nature, myths and villainous plots are expertly woven in these captivating adventures to inspire courage and kindness.



A fusion of medicine, science-fiction and history inspired by real life events involving Isaac Newton and Ada Lovelace.

SECRETS, QUEST, SCRIMSHAW

LEGEND, PERIL, INTOLERANCE

Eloise Williams | 96–104pp up to 10,800 words

WITCHTRIALS, HISTORY, HEALING

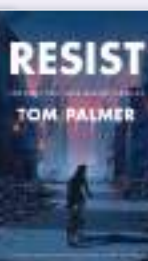
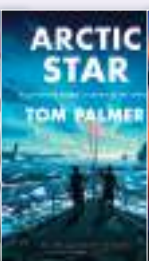
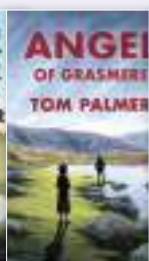
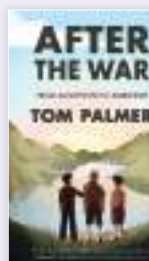
TIMETRAVEL, HISTORY, MATHS

Lindsay Galvin | Illustrator: Kristina Kister | 120pp up to 10,400 words

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World

Heart-wrenching stories of strength, courage and sacrifice through modern and historical characters bringing events of the two World Wars to life with sensitivity and hope.



WWII, HOLOCAUST, SURVIVORS

WWII, DUNKIRK, DESERTION

WWII, ARCTIC, CONVOYS

WWI, MESSENGER, DEMENTIA

WWII, PARAS, HEROISM

WWI, FOOTBALL, FRIENDS

WWII, RESISTANCE, COURAGE

Tom Palmer | 176–208pp | up to 28,300 words

RIGHTS SOLD: After, Sweden (Argasso), Isle of Man (Moonjer Veggey): Angel, Sweden (Argasso): Arctic, China (Beijing White Horse): Dog, Italy (Equilibri): Over, Sweden (Argasso): Resist, Netherlands (Kluitman), Denmark (Gads), Sweden (Argasso)



Bestselling author Vashti Hardy transports us to a world like no other in a steampunk fantasy adventure with family at its heart.

Vashti Hardy | Illustrator: Natalie Smillie
112–120pp | up to 11,900 words

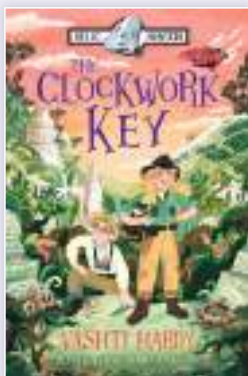
RIGHTS SOLD: *Griffin*, Germany (Beltz), Korea (Dasan), North America (Union Square); *Puffin*, German (Beltz), Korea (Dasan), North America (Union Square); *Raven*, Korea (Dasan), North America (Union Square); *Weather*, Korea (Dasan), North America (Union Square)

ADVENTURE, MYSTERY, TECH

INVENTIONS, FAMILY, MYSTERY

TECH, PREJUDICE, TEAMWORK

INVENTIONS, PARTNERSHIP, MYSTERY



Embark on action-packed quests to find hidden treasures and towns with The Relic Hunters, packed with Vashti Hardy's trademark inventions and steampunk world building.

Vashti Hardy | Illustrator: Rebecca Sheerin | 112pp | up to 11,100 words

RIGHTS SOLD: *Clockwork*, North America (Union Square)

QUEST, MYSTERY, INVENTIONS

QUEST, MYSTERY, DECEPTION



Climate catastrophe leaves the world fighting for oxygen and virtual creature gadgets become the ultimate fighting machine in these gripping sci-fi mysteries.

Alistair Chisholm | 152pp | up to 16,400 words

RIGHTS SOLD: *Reek*, North America (Union Square), Sweden (Berghs); *Blitzers*, Sweden (Argasso)

CLI-FI, DYSTOPIA, GREED

SCI-FI, TECH, AGGRESSION



A stunning prose retelling of *Beowulf* from an author-illustrator dream team.

Brian Patten | Illustrator: Chris Riddell
64pp | 4,400 words

RIGHTS SOLD: North America (Union Square)

LEGEND, HEROES, BRAVERY



Mystery and dark humour in this Willy Wonka-esque tale of toys brought to life.

Alex Bell | Illustrator: Nan Lawson | 120pp
13,000 words

RIGHTS SOLD: Russia (Phoenix)

CREEPY TOYS, MYSTERY, MAGIC



Award-winning master of scary stories Chris Priestley brings a spine-tingling collection of ghostly tales to chill you to the bone.

Chris Priestley | 120–144pp | up to 17,500 words

RIGHTS SOLD: All, North America (Union Square), Russia (Eksmo): *Freeze*, Germany (Beltz), Italy (Biancoenero), Sweden (Berghs): *Seven*, Italy (Biancoenero), Turkey (Beyaz Belina), Sweden (Argasso): *Still*, Sweden (Argasso), Italy (Biancoenero)

- # CHILLS, IDENTITY, WWII
- # SCHOOL, GHOSTS, WINTER
- # CREEPY, HAUNTED HOUSE, MYSTERY
- # CHILLING, BULLIES, WWII



Blending myth and mystery with snippets of history, these atmospheric tales are poignant and eerie.

Lucy Strange | 80–96pp | up to 8,800 words

RIGHTS SOLD: Boy, Italy (Edizioni EL)

- # ADVENTURE, MYSTERY, TECH
- # EERIE, EXPLOITATION, HISTORY
- # HISTORICAL, OPPORTUNITY, PERIL
- # GHOST, GOTHIC, GRIEF



Bored with trick-or-treating, three friends venture into the woods on Halloween night to hunt for the haunted McBride House in this spine-tingling horror story.

Phil Hickee | Illustrator: Oriol Vidal | 96pp | 9,300 words

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World

- # HALLOWEEN, GHOSTS, HORROR



Queen of historical fiction Emma Carroll crafts an evocative and spine-tingling tale of childhood on the brink of war.

Emma Carroll | Illustrator: Kaja Kajfez | 96pp | 9,400 words

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World

- # SPOOKY, FRIENDSHIP, WWI



Creepy science fiction at its best with three brave youngsters caught up in out-of-this-world adventures.

Dan Smith | Illustrator: Chris King | 104–128pp | up to 12,500 words

RIGHTS SOLD: Germany (Beltz), North America (Union Square), Sweden (Hegas)

- # MYSTERY, CREEPY, SCI-FI
- # CREEPY, EXPERIMENT, SCHOOL TRIP
- # MYSTERY, SPIDERS, INVASION
- # HORROR, SCI-FI, EXPERIMENT
- # HORROR, SCI-FI, METEORITE



ALIENS, FRIENDSHIP, FUNNY



MAGIC, FRIENDSHIP, FUNNY



WILDERNESS, FRIENDSHIP, FUNNY

Friendships take a funny turn in these hilarious delightful stories interspersed with lively illustrations.

Jenny Pearson | Illustrator: Aleksei Bitskoff
96–120pp | up to 11,500 words

RIGHTS SOLD: *Bertie*, Poland (Dwukropek), Romania (Gama), Sweden (Berghs), Scotland (Storlann); *Marvin*, Romania (Gama); *Bigfoot*, North America (Union Square)



FAMILY, ADVENTURE, SURVIVAL SKILLS



NEWCOMER, FRIENDS, COURAGE

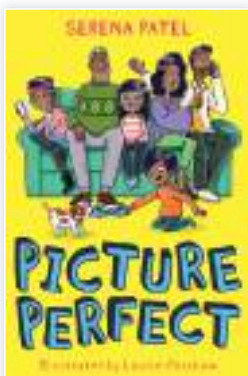


HICCUPS, KNITTING, FUNNY

Warm-hearted, empathetic and fantastically funny adventures with themes of family, friendship and belonging.

Jo Simmons | Illustrator: Lee Cosgrove | 80pp
up to 7,400 words

RIGHTS SOLD: *Family*, Poland (Dwukropek), Turkey (Yapi Kredi); *Hiccups*, Poland (Dwukropek), Turkey (Tudem)



DIGITAL DETOX, CAMPING, FAMILY



TESTS, STRESS, RESILIENCE

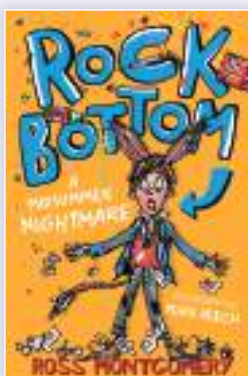


COMPUTING, FOOTBALL, FRIENDS

Humorous and relatable school stories focussing on social media, exam anxiety and peer pressure in a gentle and sensitive way.

Serena Patel | Illustrator: Louise Forshaw | 72–88pp
up to 8,600 words

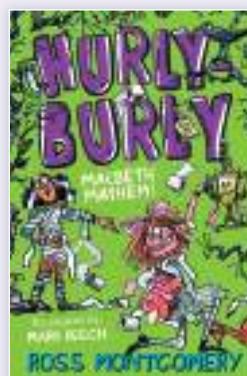
RIGHTS SOLD: *Picture*, North America (Union Square), Turkey (Beyaz Balina); *Test*, Korea (Nikebooks), Turkey (Merakli Tilki)



HUMOUR, SHAKESPEARE, DISASTER



HUMOUR, SHAKESPEARE, MYSTERY



SCHOOL, COMEDY, SHAKESPEARE



RIVALRY, SPORTS, SHAKESPEARE

Laugh-out-loud retellings of Shakespeare classics set against the backdrop of everyday school life.

Ross Montgomery
Illustrator: Mark Beech
72–88pp | up to 8,600 words

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World



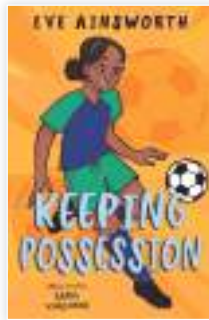
FOOTBALL, ANXIETY, RECONCILIATION



FOOTBALL, FRIENDSHIP, PSORIASIS



FOOTBALL, FAMILY, ANGER



FOOTBALL, FRIENDS, ACCEPTANCE

Footballing friendships come sensitively under the spotlight in this Lightmoor Lionesses series about a soccer team and the challenges faced by some of its players.

Eve Ainsworth | Illustrator: Luna Valentine
80–104pp | up to 10,500 words

RIGHTS SOLD: Feet, Germany (Beltz), North America (Union Square); Net, North America (Union Square)



REFUGEES, PREJUDICE, TEAMWORK



FOOTBALL, FAMILY DRAMA, FRIENDS

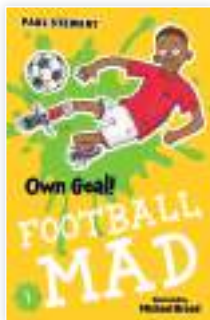


FOOTBALL, ANXIETY, RESILIENCE

Action-packed football stories accompanied by fascinating facts and historical details about famous football players and events.

Alan Gibbons | 72–80pp | up to 8,300 words

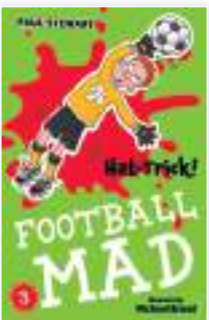
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FOOTBALL, RIVALRY, FRIENDS



FOOTBALL, BETRAYAL, FRIENDS



FOOTBALL, BULLYING, RESILIENCE



DILEMMA, FRIENDSHIP, BETRAYAL

The drama of football and friendship takes to the pitch in this series of fast-paced sporting novellas.

Paul Stewart | Illustrator: Michael Broad | 88pp
up to 8,100 words

RIGHTS SOLD: Sweden (Hegas), Slovenia (Skrivnost)



GHOSTS, ANGLO-SAXONS, ADVENTURE



CHILLS, ROMAN, MYSTERY



CHILLS, IRON AGE, REFUGEE



MYSTERY, CAMPING, GHOSTS



FOOTBALL, FRIENDS, PLANS



FOOTBALL, FRIENDS, COURAGE

Gripping football stories featuring supportive friends and spooky ghost twists.

Tom Palmer | 72–144pp
up to 13,000 words

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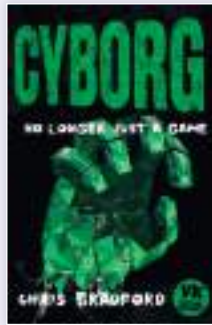
Beloved for his authentic and action-packed adventures, Chris Bradford is a multi-million-copy bestselling author who has a fantastic presence in schools and at festivals across the world, having toured over 25 different countries. Chris is best known for his *Young Samurai* and *Bodyguard* series, the former of which was nominated for the Carnegie Medal. His gripping novellas published by Barrington Stoke are some of our international best-sellers.



GAMING, DYSTOPIA, VR



GAMING, DYSTOPIA, VR



SURVIVAL, DYSTOPIA, AI

A thrilling series as a virtual game becomes a nightmare reality with tightly plotted action and exciting fight scenes, perfect for the computer generation.

Chris Bradford | Illustrator: Anders Frang | 136–144pp up to 14,900 words

RIGHTS SOLD: Germany (DTV), Netherlands (Billy Bones), North America (Union Square), Sweden (Berghs)



SCI-FI, SURVIVAL, TECHNOLOGY



SCI-FI, SURVIVAL, SPACE



SCI-FI, SURVIVAL, WORMHOLE

Fast-moving adventures combining a blend of sci-fi and survival in three standalone companion novellas.

Chris Bradford | Illustrator: Charlotte Grange | 72–88pp up to 6,700 words

RIGHTS SOLD: North America (Union Square), Sweden (Argasso)



NINJAS, TRIAL, THRILLER



SAMURAI, BATTLE, SACRIFICE

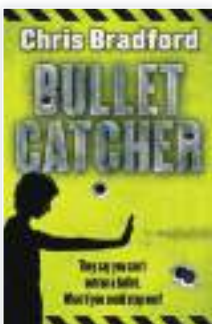


NINJAS, REVENGE, FAMILY

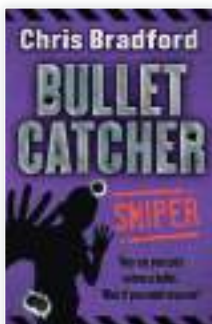
A young ninja warrior faces challenges and attacks as he proves his worth in this action-packed trilogy by martial arts black belt, Chris Bradford.

Chris Bradford | Illustrator: Sonia Leong | 72–80pp | up to 6,600 words

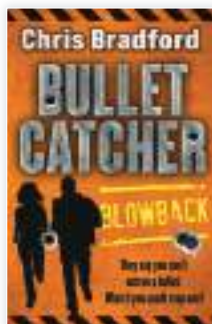
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TERRORISM, LOSS, POWERS



SNIPER, ACTION, POWERS

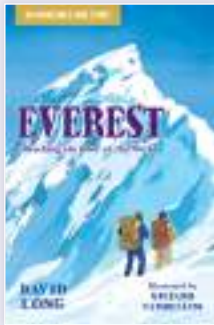


ACTION, REVENGE, TRUST

Exhilarating action meets heart-pounding suspense in this trilogy, as young people with special powers work within a secret agency to defend their city.

Chris Bradford | Illustrator: Nelson Evergreen | 96–104pp up to 10,500 words

RIGHTS SOLD: Germany (CBJ)



EXPEDITION, ENDURANCE, ENVIRONMENT



SPACE, SURVIVAL, RESILIENCE



TITANIC, HISTORY, DISASTER



EGYPT, TREASURE, DISCOVERY

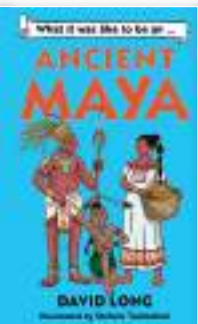
Packed full of astonishing facts, these gripping retellings of historical events will engage young curious minds and inspire the imagination.

David Long | Illustrator: Stefano Tambellini
88–96pp | up to 7,500 words

RIGHTS SOLD: North America (Union Square), Scotland (Storlann)



HISTORY, CIVILISATION, VIKINGS



HISTORY, CIVILISATION, MAYA



HISTORY, CIVILISATION, ROMANS



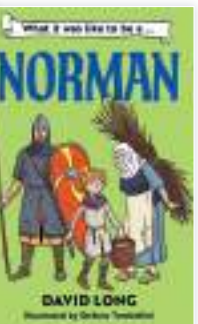
HISTORY, CIVILISATION, EGYPTIANS



HISTORY, CIVILISATION, GREEKS



HISTORY, CIVILISATION, BENIN



HISTORY, CIVILISATION, NORMANS

A fascinating and entertaining look at ancient civilisations with intriguing facts and rich artwork to bring history to life.

David Long | Illustrator: Stefano Tambellini
96–104pp | up to 8,500 words

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World

11+ EASY READERS

BACKLIST

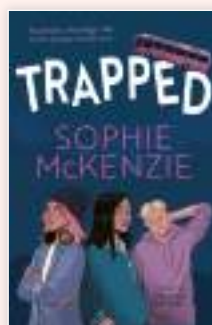


SCHOOL, ANXIETY, UNDERSTANDING

School avoidance and anxiety are empathetically explored offering reassurance and understanding.

Eve Ainsworth | 80pp
up to 5,400 words

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World



PERIL, JUDGEMENT, UNDERSTANDING



SHARKS, PERIL, SCHOOL TRIP

A singing-club outing and school trip go horribly wrong with these gripping dramas full of suspense.

Sophie McKenzie
Illustrator: Melania Badosa
72–96pp | up to 6,000 words

RIGHTS SOLD: *Trapped*, Germany (Beltz), North America (Union Square)



MEMORY, IDENTITY, BULLYING



RELATIONSHIPS, ANXIETY, RIVALRY

Exploring identity, friendships and family rivalry, these touching tales are perfect for teen readers.

Karen McCombie | 72–96pp
up to 5,000 words

RIGHTS SOLD: *Mystery*, Germany (Beltz); *Cousin*, Sweden (Argasso)



FUNNY, FRIENDSHIP, QUEST

A hilarious caper with friendship and forgiveness at its heart.

Simon James Green
Illustrator: Tosin Akinkunmi
88pp | 5,000 words

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World



Tempting teenagers to give up their mobile phone and humorous family dynamics with a touch of body positivity.

Keren David | 128pp | up to 19,200 words

RIGHTS SOLD: *Disconnect*, Sweden (Argasso); *Dress*, North America (Union Square), Sweden (Argasso)

MOBILES, PEER PRESSURE, ONLINE

FAMILY, TRADITION, BODY POSITIVE



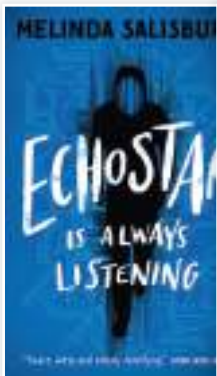
Fantasy science fiction is the backdrop for unlikely friendships and climate crisis in a world of impossible wonders.

Wren James | 120–128pp | up to 19,400 words

RIGHTS SOLD: North America (Union Square)

SCI-FI, MYSTERY, FRIENDSHIP

SCI-FI, CLIMATE, RELATIONSHIPS



Bestselling YA author Melinda Salisbury exposes the dark underbelly of new technologies and online friendships in these standalone but linked gripping thrillers.

Melinda Salisbury | 136–144pp | up to 22,600 words

RIGHTS SOLD: *Echostar*, North America (Union Square); *Adelaide*, Sweden (Argasso),

TECH, THRILLER, MANIPULATION

TECH, THRILLER, ECO-ACTIVISM

TECH, THRILLER, MANIPULATION

TECH, THRILLER, JUSTICE



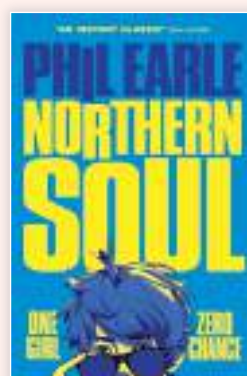
Sally Nicholls applies her trademark sensitivity to gritty topics of family upheaval and fostering.

Sally Nicholls | 72–80pp up to 11,500 words

RIGHTS SOLD: *Shadow*, Germany (Carl Hanser)

FOSTERING, FRIENDS, SUPERNATURAL

STEPFAMILY, CHANGE, CONFLICT



From award-winning author Phil Earle comes the hilariously agonising account of one teenage boy's disastrous attempts to win the heart of the cool new girl at school.

Phil Earle | 10pp | 14,800 words

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World

FIRST LOVE, MUSIC, FUNNY



Packed full of grit, heart and humour, Anthony McGowan's novellas deliver reality and unexpected tenderness. Includes the 2020 Carnegie Medal winning title *Lark*.

Anthony McGowan | 96–152pp | up to 21,800 words

RIGHTS SOLD: China (CITIC & Cite), Italy (Rizzoli Libri), Japan (Tokuma Shoten), Korea (Spring Garden), Mexico (Fondo De Cultura), North America (Union Square), Russia (Volchok) Beck, Japan (Iwanami): *Fall*, North America (Union Square)

- # BETRAYAL, BULLYING, BRUTALITY
- # NATURE, STRUGGLE, GROWING UP
- # SECRETS, FAMILY, PERIL
- # NATURE, LOVE, FAMILY
- # BROTHERS, DANGER, NATURE
- # NATURE, CONSERVATION, FAMILY



Master of sci-fi horror Dan Smith delivers action-packed adventures as secret organisation *The Night House* exposes the terrifying truth behind disasters forgotten in hidden files.

Dan Smith | Illustrator: Luke Brookes
176–208ppup to 22,000 words

RIGHTS SOLD: Sweden (Argasso)

- # HORROR, SCI-FI, TELEPORTATION
- # SCI-FI, MYSTERY, DISAPPEARANCE
- # HORROR, GHOST TOWN, MYSTERY
- # HORROR, HAUNTING, MYSTERY

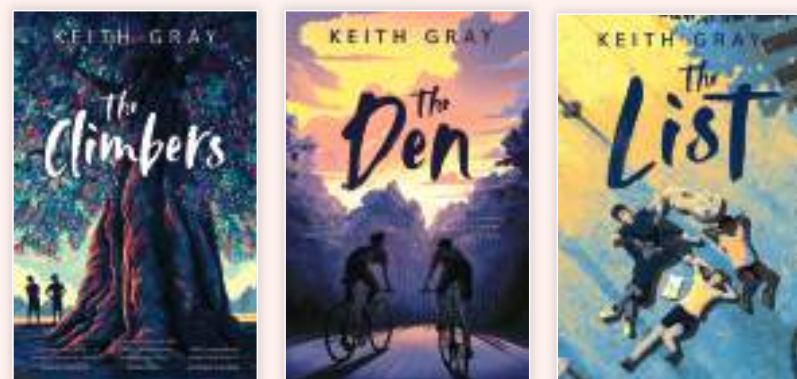


Marcus Sedgwick crafts characteristically unsettling mysteries exploring teen relationships and our connection to the world around us in these suspenseful and eerie dramas.

Marcus Sedgwick | 120–136pp | up to 21,000 words

RIGHTS SOLD: *Wrath*, Germany (Beltz), North America (Union Square): *Ravencave*, Japan (Tokuma Shoten), North America (Union Square)

- # ENVIRONMENT, ANGST, QUEST
- # FAMILY, TRAUMA, GHOSTS



Action-packed, funny, emotive and cleverly plotted novellas on the complexities of teenage (particularly male) friendships.

Keith Gray | 120pp | up to 19,000 words

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- # STATUS, FRIENDSHIP, RIVALRY
- # ESCAPE, BETRAYAL, FRIENDSHIP
- # RELOCATION, COMICAL, FRIENDSHIP



An innocent night out to celebrate a sixteenth birthday turns to tragedy in this powerful story of racial intolerance from award-winning author **Bali Rai**.

Bali Rai | 72pp | 4,600 words

RIGHTS AVAILABLE: World

RACISM, SIKHISM, VIOLENCE



Alfie Parker has bagged the hottest date to prom ... hasn't he? A life-affirming teen romance from bestselling author **Simon James Green**.

Simon James Green | 120pp
15,700 words

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LGBTQ+, ROMANCE, PROM

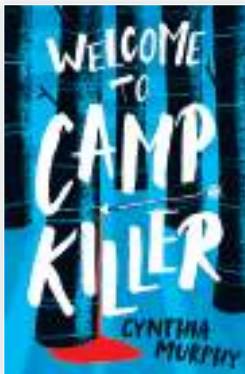


A powerful and heart-rending exploration of a teenager's journey through grief, rage and getting caught in the criminal justice system from award-winning author **Patrice Lawrence**.

Patrice Lawrence | 128pp | 21,200 words

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REMORSE, FOSTER CARE, JUSTICE

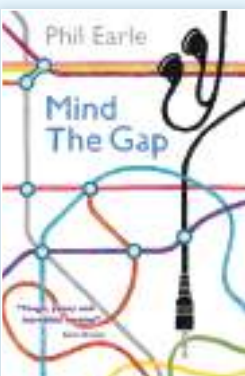


Bestselling YA horror writer **Cynthia Murphy** crafts a spine-chilling thriller about a summer camp gone deathly wrong.

Cynthia Murphy | 128pp | 19,600 words

RIGHTS SOLD: North America (Union Square), Sweden (Argasso)

THRILLER, MYSTERY, HORROR



A powerful drama exploring love, loss, family and friendship from a superstar of UK children's and YA fiction, inspired by a tremendously moving true story.

Phil Earle | 80pp | 13,000 words

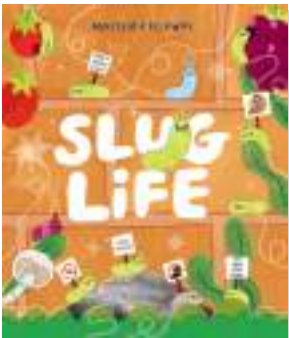
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FRIENDS, LOSS, KINDNESS



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