

THE GERNERT COMPANY

Middle Grade / Young Adult Rights Guide

Bologna 2025



Kate Beaton: SHARK GIRL

The hilarious and charming new picture book from the acclaimed #1 NYT bestselling of *Ducks* and *Hark! A Vagrant*.

Roaring Brook – February 25, 2025
Material: Final pages
Picture Book

Indie Bestseller !

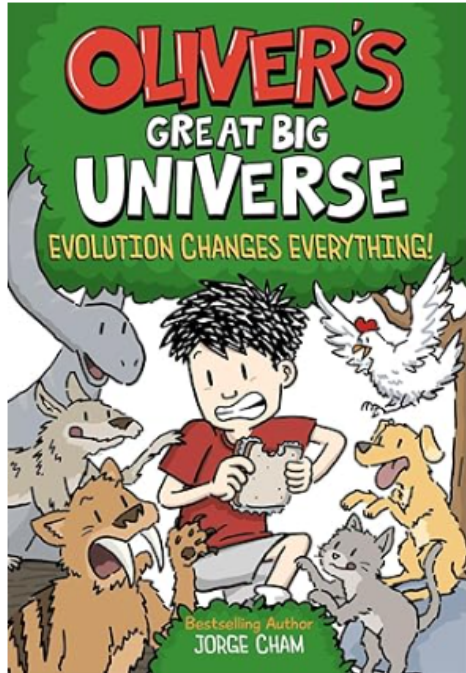
The new picture book from the acclaimed #1 NYT bestselling author of *DUCKS*, *THE PRINCESS AND THE PONY* and *HARK! A VAGRANT* !

- "Themes of conservation and workers' rights sit comfortably alongside a story about being accepting and finding strength in community in this gleefully biting fable." –*Booklist*, starred review
- "Stand aside, little mermaids. The true, pointy-toothed protector of the seas is here!... A scaly new hero sure to save the day—and to endear herself to readers." –*Kirkus*

Shark Girl, part human and part shark, is living a peaceful existence in the ocean when she gets caught in the net by a mean fishing captain. She manages to escape and decides to take revenge by adopting a fully human form, getting a job on the fishing boat, and then attempting to inspire a mutiny (!) that leads to unanticipated consequences. A sweet, offbeat and charming story about friendship and doing the right thing, all in the uniquely wonderful style of Kate Beaton.

Kate Beaton is the #1 NYT bestselling author of the graphic memoir *Ducks*, which was a *New York Times* Notable Book and one of Barack Obama's favorite books of 2022. She is also the author of the comic collections *Step Aside*, *Pops* and *Hark! A Vagrant*, as well as the picture books *The Princess and the Pony* (made into a series on Apple TV+) and *King Baby*.

Sold to: Editions Scholastic (French Canada), Cambourakis (France), Astronave (Spain)



**Jorge Cham:
OLIVER'S GREAT BIG
UNIVERSE:
Evolution Changes Everything !
(Book 3)**

Science meets *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* in Book 3 of the acclaimed illustrated series.

Amulet Books – September 16, 2025
Material: Awaiting final pages
Middle Grade

**“Mind-expanding and hilarious! – I got smarter reading this!”—Jeff Kinney,
author of the international bestselling series *Diary of a Wimpy Kid***

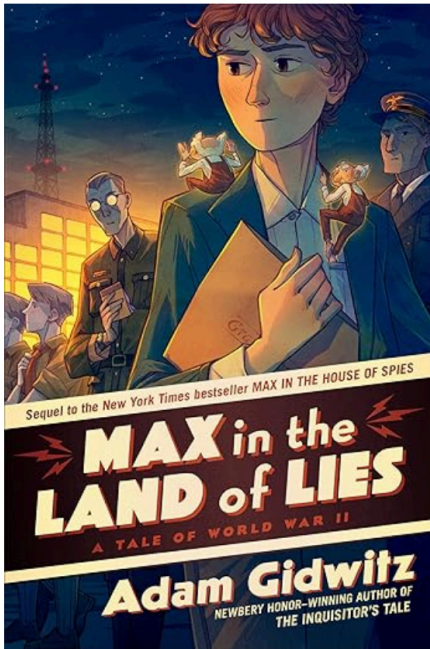
Oliver needs a new computer because nobody wants to play with him as every move and save takes way too long. To raise money, he has the brilliant idea to write another book and sell it at school. So, he picks a topic he thinks lots of kids will like—animals. But when he starts to think about it, he wonders where do animals come from, and that leads him to wonder where life comes from and how animals evolve. Subjects range from the origins of life (primordial soup and life in early Earth—mostly scum/bacteria) to small organisms and fish to dinosaurs, of course! Mass extinctions. Cats, dogs, horses and chickens. And oh yes, people!

Along with making his new book, Oliver's also doing chores for neighbors to make money, including odd jobs for the old cat lady down the street, who, as it turns out, is a retired paleontologist. (Not just any paleontologist, but as it's revealed later, a famous one.) As Oliver does chores for her, she fills him in on the history of life on earth. Meanwhile, Oliver is doing great with his group of friends. But as they all get excited to help him with the book, this causes trouble, leading to a mild breakup of the group which Oliver must resolve...

Jorge Cham is the author (along with Daniel Whiteson) of WE HAVE NO IDEA and FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE UNIVERSE. He is the creator of the popular web comic phdcomics.com and is also a co-creator of the PBS Kids show "Elinor Explains Why".

Sold to: S&S (UK), Otzwarte (Poland), Mirae N (Korea), Metaichmio (Greece), United Sky (China), B. Wahlstroms (Sweden), Znanje (Croatia), Bookzone (Romania)

Option publishers: DeAgostini (Italy), Asunaro (Japan), MIF (Russia), Oceano (Spanish), Indigo (Turkey), Rocco (Brazil), Larousse (France), Pelckmans (Netherlands)



Adam Gidwitz: MAX IN THE LAND OF LIES (Book 2 in a duology)

A fast-paced and affecting historical novel by a New York Times bestselling author and Newbery Honor award winner.

Dutton Books for Young Readers –

February 25, 2025

Material: Final pages

Middle Grade

NYT Bestseller ! • Blurb from R.J. Palacio and a starred review from *Kirkus*

- “A magical, historical spy thriller—that’s also spectacularly funny. I couldn’t put it down!—R. J. Palacio, #1 New York Times bestselling author
- “A headlong thriller laced with provocative and topical historical truths.” –*Kirkus*, **starred review**

Max Bretzfeld is back in Berlin where his most dangerous mission is about to begin! The thrilling conclusion to the World War II spy duology.

Max is on a mission. Well, two missions. One has been assigned by his British spymasters: Infiltrate the Funkhaus, the center of Nazi radio and propaganda. The other they have forbidden: Find his parents.

Max Bretzfeld was willing to do anything to return to Germany, even become a British spy. Training complete and forged papers in hand, the radio wunderkind’s missions have begun. But nothing is as he expected. His parents are missing. Nazi intelligence is watching him. And the lines between lies and truth are becoming more blurred every day. Max will need every tool at his disposal, from his radio expertise and spy training to the help of Berg and Stein, the immortal creatures living on his shoulders. Even so, there’s no guarantee he’ll make it out of Berlin alive.

Adam Gidwitz is the bestselling author of *A Tale Dark & Grimm*, *In a Glass Grimmly* and *The Grimm Conclusion*. He is also the author of *The Inquisitor’s Tale*, which won the Newbery Honor, and *The Unicorn Rescue Society* series.

Sold to: Guintina (Italy)



Raphael Simon and Phillip de León: **DON'T TELL ME WHAT HAPPENS**

A YA graphic novel by NYT bestselling author Raphael Simon (and the illustrator Phillip de León) that is a tender love story, a queer coming-of-age and a gripping mystery all wrapped into one.

Roaring Brook – Summer 2026
Material: Awaiting edited manuscript
Young Adult

Sold to Roaring Brook in a 2-book deal for six-figures
• Sold in the UK, Italy and Brazil in preempts •

Two queer love stories. Two time periods. One mystery.

Fifteen-year-old Noah lives with his father in New York but is spending the summer with his mother in Venice, CA. An indoor, city sort of person, a RuPaul fanatic, he's miserable in the sun – until he meets Tomo, a surfer who works in his father's vintage store. Tomo hands Noah an old composition-style notebook, filled with steamy diary entries by its teenaged owner, Diego, in addition to ephemera from the 1980s. Noah reads about Diego playing footsie in history class with closeted surfer (another surfer!) Casey until one day after school it becomes something more. Noah is enthralled. And there's one more notebook at the store, but that's it – Noah and Tomo have no idea what happened to Diego and Casey. And as they set off to find the much older surfer, the two boys find romance of their own...but can Noah keep from sabotaging the first good thing in his life?

Better known as Pseudonymous Bosch, Raphael Simon is the not-so-secret author of two bestselling middle-grade series, the Secret Series and the Bad Books, as well as the ALA Rainbow-Listed Unbelievable Oliver chapter-book mysteries. Most recently, Raphael published *The Anti-Book*, the first novel to appear under his own name.

Textile designer and illustrator Phillip De León worked as a creative in the advertising world before joining forces with his design partner and sister Nicole and their father Marcus to form the De León Design Group, and to direct the Los Angeles-based textile house, Alexander Henry Fabrics, Inc.

Sold to: Puffin (UK & BC), Il Castoro (Italy), Seguinte (Brazil)

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