

BOLOGNA 2025

Simon & Schuster
Children's Publishing

US RIGHTS GUIDE



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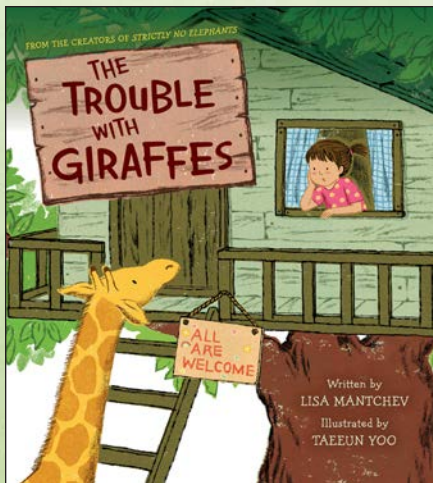
13 Fiction

43 International Co-Agent Contacts



PICTURE BOOKS

The Family Tree,
Page 10



THE TROUBLE WITH GIRAFFES

By Lisa Mantchev
 Illustrated by Taeun Yoo
 Imprint: Paula Wiseman Books

A companion to the internationally beloved *Strictly No Elephants*, now ten years old!

Friends can be more different than alike and still be friends. The most important part of being a friend is to take care of your friend. That's what friends do.

The Trouble with Giraffes is a universal and empowering story by the author and illustrator of *Strictly No Elephants*, which will celebrate its ten-year anniversary in 2025. The beloved and perennially bestselling book has been published in eighteen languages.

Publication Date: September 2025

Page Extent: 32 pp

RIGHTS SOLD: Korean

RIGHTS SOLD FOR *STRICTLY NO ELEPHANTS*: Chinese (complex), Chinese (simplified), Dutch, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese (Brazil), Portuguese (Portugal), Slovak, Slovenian, Thai, Vietnamese





AGGIE AND THE GHOST

By Matthew Forsythe
Imprint: Paula Wiseman Books

From Matthew Forsythe, the creator of the acclaimed and beloved *Pokko and the Drum*, comes a surprising and pleasing picture book about rules and sharing—and an epic game of tic-tac-toe.

Aggie is very excited to live on her own—until she finds out her new house is haunted. But no fear, the situation is nothing that can't be fixed with a carefully considered list of rules: No haunting after dark. No stealing socks. No eating all the food.

But the ghost doesn't like playing by the rules, and it challenges Aggie to an epic game of tic-tac-toe. The winner gets the house.

PRAISE FOR *POKKO AND THE DRUM*:

- ★ "Extraordinary." — *Publishers Weekly*, starred review
- ★ "Inspirational." — *Booklist*, starred review
- ★ "Laugh-out-loud funny." — *Shelf Awareness*, starred review
- "Will tickle kids and adults alike." — *Kirkus Reviews*
- ★ "An instant classic." — *Quill & Quire*, starred review

PRAISE FOR *MINA*:

- ★ "Beautifully illustrated and full of unexpected details." — *Shelf Awareness*, starred review
- ★ "Wickedly humorous." — *School Library Journal*, starred review
- ★ "Uproarious." — *Booklist*, starred review
- ★ "Humorous." — *Bulletin for the Center of Children's Books*, starred review
- ★ "More please of Forsythe's richly imagined forest worlds." — *Horn Book Magazine*, starred review

Publication Date: August 2025

Page Extent: 64 pp

RIGHTS SOLD: Catalan, Dutch, French, Japanese, Portuguese (Brazil), Spanish

RIGHTS SOLD FOR *POKKO AND THE DRUM*: Chinese (complex), Chinese (simplified), Dutch, French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese (Portugal), Spanish





THE DARK IS FOR

By Jane Kohuth

Illustrated by Cindy Derby

Imprint: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers

Magic comes to life when night arrives in this lyrical and gorgeously illustrated picture book about embracing the beauty of darkness.

The dark is for flying.

The dark is for shining.

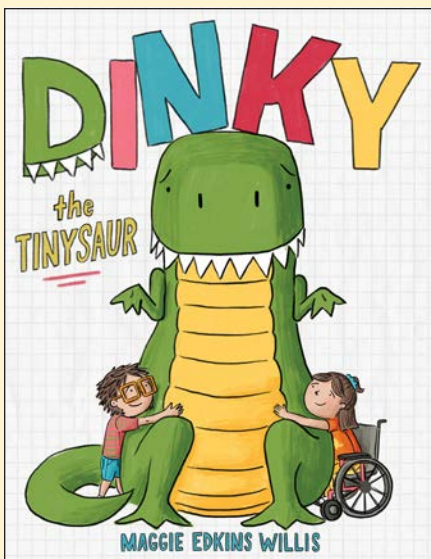
The dark is for dreaming. . . .

Though darkness can be scary, beauty can be found in the stillness of the shadows. This stunning book filled with poetic words and gorgeous art celebrates the darkness. From the creatures dancing in the blackness of the deep sea to those that awake when night falls in the forest, there's so much magic to discover!

Jane Kohuth's musical text and Caldecott Honor recipient Cindy Derby's stunning illustrations take us on an unforgettable journey to all the spectacular wonders that can only be found in the darkest of places.

Publication Date: September 2026

Page Extent: 40 pp



DINKY THE TINSAUR

By Maggie Edkins Willis
Imprint: Beach Lane Books

An oversized dinosaur named Dinky helps two siblings discover that a person's heart matters more than their appearance in this delightful picture book perfect for fans of *Clifford the Big Red Dog* and *Dragons Love Tacos*.

Twin siblings have their heart set on adopting a dinosaur. But not just any dinosaur—they want a pocket-sized *tinsaur*! They find the perfect one and name her Dinky.

Life with Dinky is lots of fun . . . until one day when the twins start to notice that Dinky is *growing*.

When Dinky's new size causes trouble at their birthday party, the twins get angry, and Dinky runs away. Except it turns out that life without Dinky is no fun at all. Could it be that the real reason they love Dinky has nothing to do with her size? Now it's up to the twins to find Dinky and bring her back home.

Publication Date: October 2025

Page Extent: 40 pp

RIGHTS SOLD FOR *LITTLE GHOST MAKES A FRIEND*: Catalan,
Portuguese (Portugal), Spanish



PICTURE BOOKS

IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR . . . HALLOWEEN! IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR . . . CHRISTMAS!

By Maisha Oso

Illustrated by Tom Knight

Imprint: Margaret K. McElderry Books

These laugh-out-loud rhyming picture books celebrating the excitement leading up to big holidays are perfect for fans of the *How to Catch* and *The Night Before* series!

From crafting creative costumes to decorating the Christmas tree with glittering ornaments, there are endless ways to celebrate the holidays and many traditions to explore! But not everyone can read the signs of the highly anticipated holiday on the way.

The *It's Almost Time for . . .* series is a perfect blend of festive fun and read-aloud humor that will have young readers giggling while they identify the misunderstanding at play before the characters catch on.

Publication Date: *Halloween:* July 2025; *Christmas:* September 2025

Page Extent: 32 pp



THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

By Candice Bradley
Imprint: Simon & Schuster
Books for Young Readers

In this adaptation of Clement C. Moore's beloved Christmas poem, a young Black girl wakes up on Christmas Eve to find Santa placing gifts for her family underneath the tree, and to her delight, Santa looks just like her.

*I drew a bit closer,
my eyes not believing
this wondrous,
magical Christmas Eve being.
He encompassed us all, the man by the tree.
Who'd imagine that Santa could look just like me.*

Since it was published more than two hundred years ago, Clement C. Moore's poem has enchanted readers young and old with the story of jolly old St. Nicholas and the child who discovers him on Christmas Eve.

In this reimagining of the holiday classic, a young Black girl patiently waits for Christmas morning with her family, when, to her surprise, she chances upon Santa with his red suit, hot-cocoa-colored cheeks, and snowy white beard.

Publication Date: September 2025

Page Extent: 40 pp



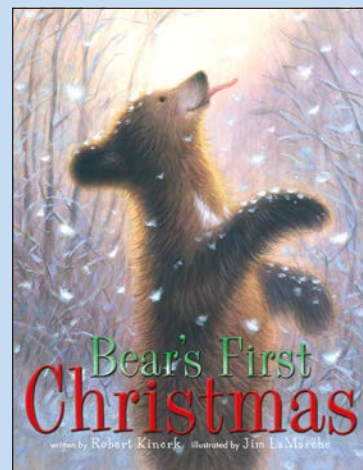
BEAR'S FIRST CHRISTMAS

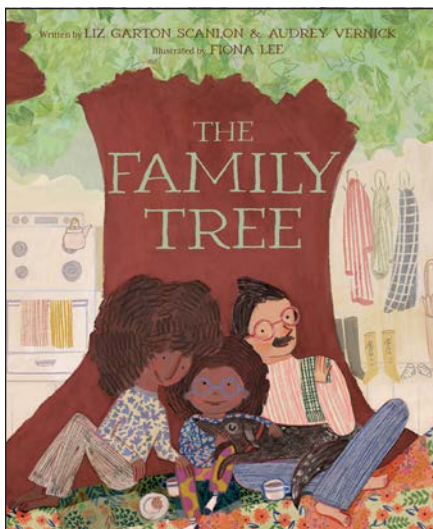
By Robert Kinerk
Illustrated by Jim LaMarche
Imprint: Paula Wiseman Books

When Bear is awakened from his winter's nap by a strange sound, he makes friends and discovers the true meaning of Christmas.

Publication Date: October 2007

Page Extent: 32 pp





THE FAMILY TREE

By Liz Garton Scanlon and Audrey Vernick
Illustrated by Fiona Lee
Imprint: Beach Lane Books

A whimsical meditation on what makes a home, what makes a family, and how a magical tree can hold everything together

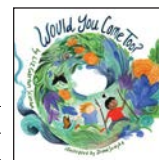
Nothing ever really happens at Penny's house. It's all hurry in and hurry out again. But then something happens, something that gets everyone's attention. It starts out small. A seed! Then it grows until it's simply too big to ignore. A tree!

Every day the tree gets a little taller, a little leafier, and a lot more special. And as they care for the tree, Penny's family starts to hurry out less and stay in more. Could something else be shifting in Penny's house, something much more than a tree?

Publication Date: September 2025

Page Extent: 48 pp

RIGHTS SOLD FOR *WOULD YOU COME TOO?*: Indonesian



TOGETHER WE BUILD

By Susan Vaught
Illustrated by Kelly Murphy
Imprint: Beach Lane Books

A diverse community of animals and humans work together to rebuild the farm after a storm causes damage in this companion picture book to *Together We Grow* by award-winning author Susan Vaught and acclaimed illustrator Kelly Murphy.

*Flee and gather,
holding tight,
helping friends
survive the night.*

When a flood sweeps through, the animals take shelter in the barn. The next morning, they emerge to find their farm and woods in disarray.

As they start to tidy up and make repairs, tensions run high. Can the animals work together to rebuild their homes?

Publication Date: January 2026

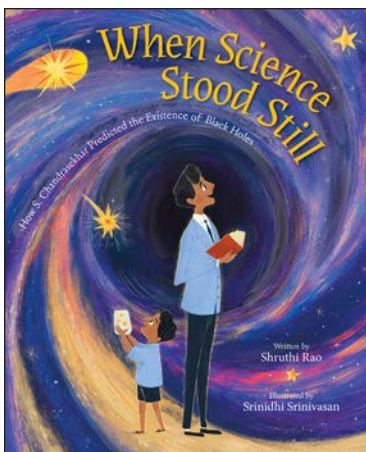
Page Extent: 40 pp

RIGHTS SOLD FOR *TOGETHER WE GROW*: French, German



PREVIOUS COVER





WHEN SCIENCE STOOD STILL

By Shruthi Rao

Illustrated by Srinidhi Srinivasan

Imprint: Margaret K. McElderry Books

Discover the remarkable story about the man who discovered the science of black holes and persisted in his theories against the disbelief of the scientific community—perfect for fans of *Counting the Stars* and *What Miss Mitchell Saw*.

When scientists get things right, science leaps forward. When they get things wrong, they learn from their mistakes, and science still marches forward. But sometimes, even when scientists get it right, nobody pays attention. Then, for a while, science stands still.

Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar was a brilliant scientist with eyes fixed toward the stars. As a young man, he developed the theory that would eventually lead to the discovery of black holes. But when he presented his findings to the world's leading scientists, they scoffed at his ideas. Chandra knew he was right. But would anyone listen?

Learn the true story of a relentless scientist and a cosmic discovery that had to wait for science to change its mind.

Publication Date: October 2025

Page Extent: 40 pp



WHAT MISS MITCHELL SAW

By Hayley Barrett

Illustrated by Diana Sudyka

Imprint: Beach Lane Books

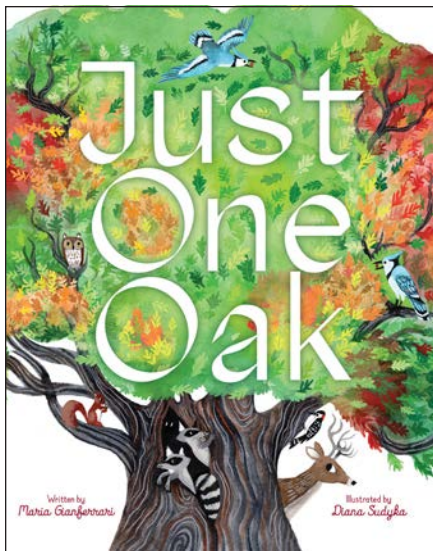
Discover the amazing true story of Maria Mitchell, America's first professional female astronomer.

Publication Date: September 2019

Page Extent: 40 pp

RIGHTS SOLD: Chinese (simplified)





JUST ONE OAK

By Maria Gianferrari
Illustrated by Diana Sudyka
Imprint: Beach Lane Books

Would you be surprised to learn how much just one oak tree can do? Find out in this enlightening nonfiction picture book companion to the award-winning *Fungi Grow*.

An oak tree is so much more than meets the eye. Stretching from its leafy crown to its roots belowground, this amazing tree contains a whole world within it. Insects make their homes in its leaves and branches, and all kinds of creatures feast on the thousands of acorns it produces. And if some of those acorns are buried, they may one day become a whole new grove of oaks. Learn how many things a single oak tree can be and how it helps its environment flourish.

Publication Date: February 2026

Page Extent: 40 pp



MARY MORLAND IN THE TIME OF DINOSAUR DISCOVERY

By Jane Kurtz
Illustrated by Giselle Potter
Imprint: Beach Lane Books

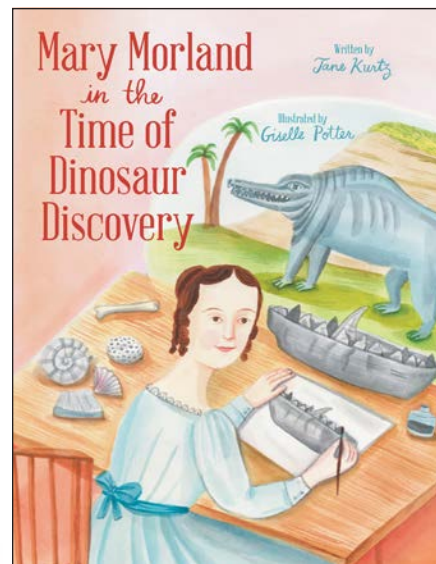
Before STEM fields were available to women, paleontologist Mary Morland dedicated her life to pursuing her passion. Find out how Mary collected, studied, and drew fossils in this fascinating picture book biography.

While other little girls were sipping tea perched on their chairs, Mary Morland was outside exploring. After her mother died, her father sent her to live with a professor who taught Mary how to examine plants, animals, rocks, and fossils. She soaked up all the knowledge she could and captured her discoveries in her journals.

Mary continued studying and drawing fossils into adulthood, eventually marrying William Buckland, England's best fossilist, after bonding over their love of paleontology. Though William is usually credited for their accomplishments, this story shines a spotlight on Mary, celebrating her endless, enthusiastic pursuit of prehistoric knowledge.

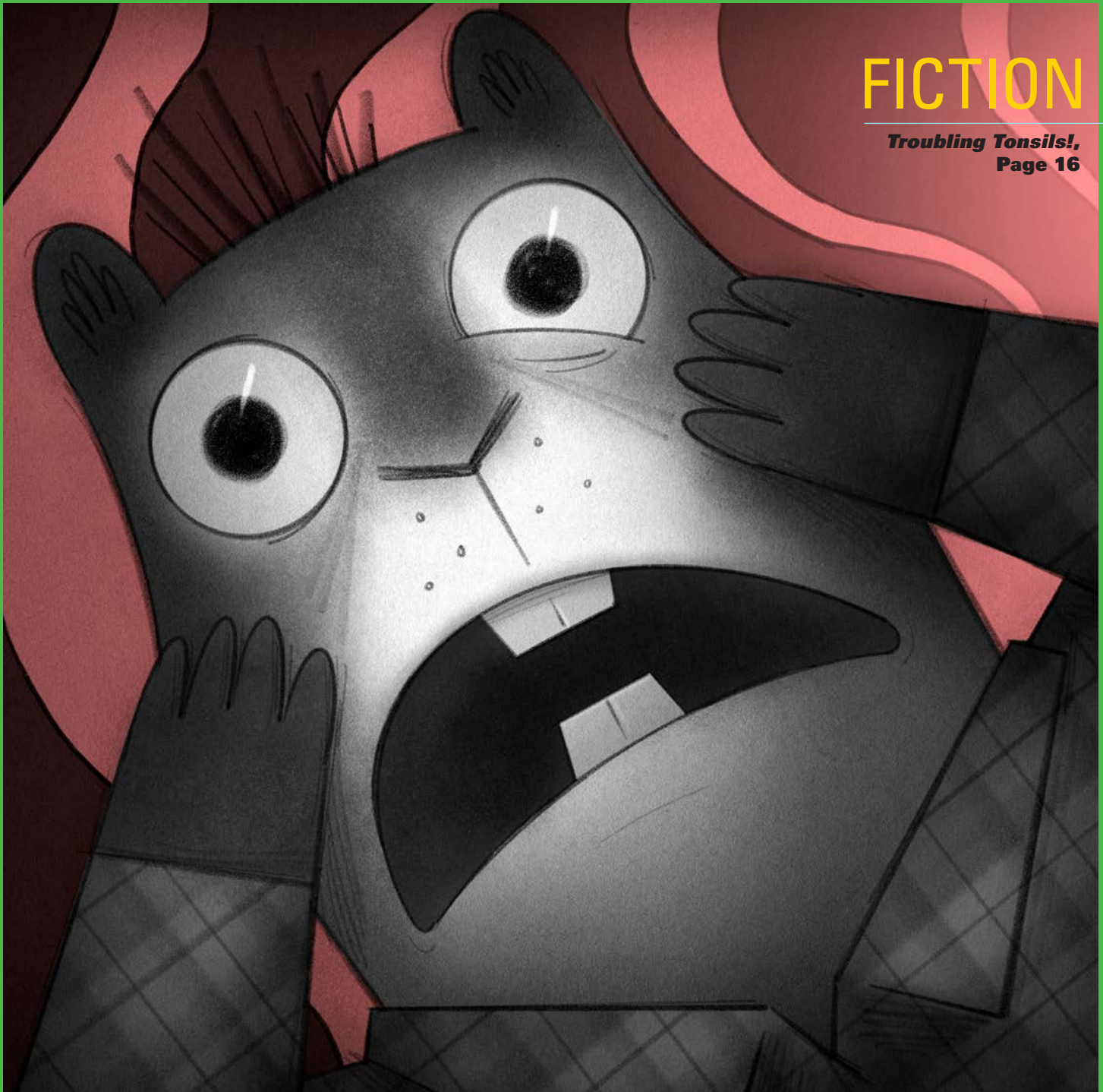
Publication Date: February 2026

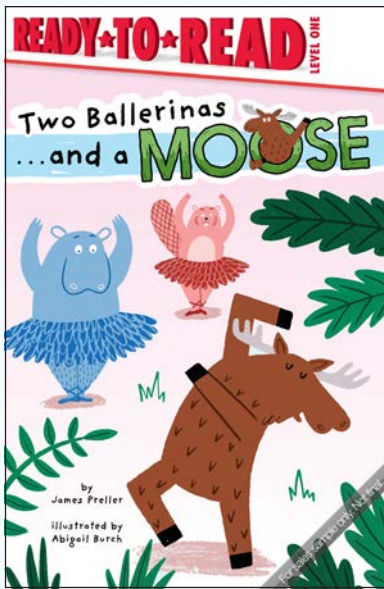
Page Extent: 48 pp



FICTION

Troubling Tonsils!,
Page 16





... AND A MOOSE: TWO BALLERINAS ... AND A MOOSE

By James Preller
Illustrated by Abigail Burch
Imprint: Simon Spotlight

A friendly moose encounters all sorts of animals on his adventures in this Level 1 Ready-to-Read series from award-winning author James Preller.

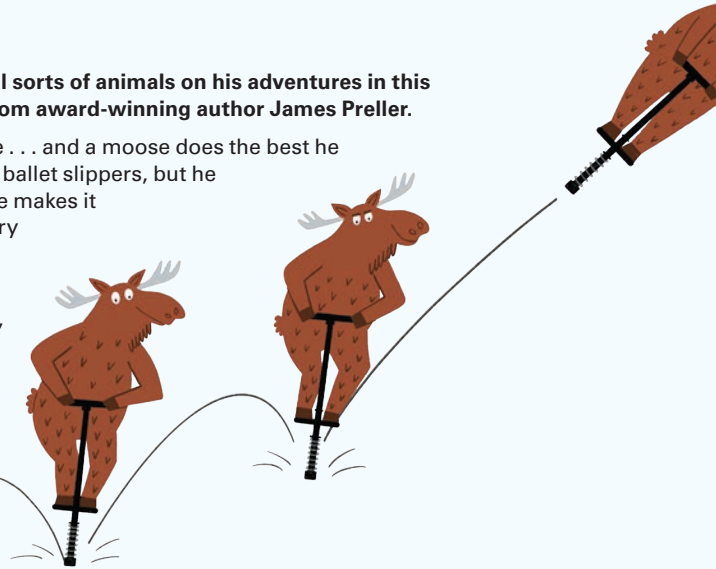
Two ballerinas dance with grace . . . and a moose does the best he can. Moose does not even have ballet slippers, but he will not give up! Find out how he makes it work in this delightfully silly story about a moose on a mission!

The illustrious author James Preller—well known to teachers, librarians, booksellers, parents, and children—joins our Ready-to-Read list.

Publication Date: August 2025

Ages: 4–6

Page Extent: 32 pp



DON'T WASTE THE POOP!

By Marilyn Singer
Illustrated by Heather Fox
Imprint: Simon Spotlight

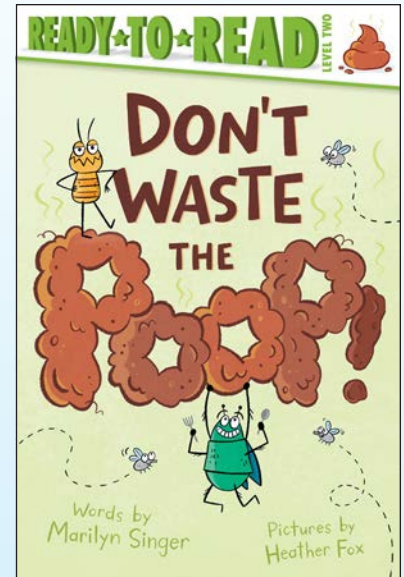
Perfect for kids who are curious about everything adults say “ew” to, this nonfiction Level 2 Ready-to-Read will teach readers about how animals use poop for defense, shelter, and even food!

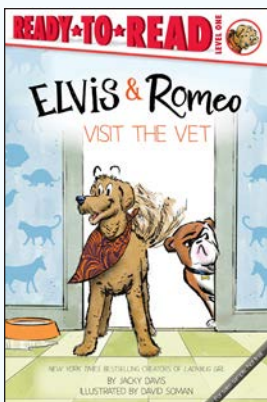
Ew . . . poop. Poop is gross. Poop is funny. But did you know that poop is really important to lots of animals? Some animals use it to build homes, some use it for protection, and some even eat it! Read this book to find out all about the many uses for poop!

Publication Date: August 2025

Ages: 5–7

Page Extent: 32 pp





AN ELVIS & ROMEO BOOK: ELVIS & ROMEO VISIT THE VET

By Jacky Davis
Illustrated by David Soman
Imprint: Simon Spotlight

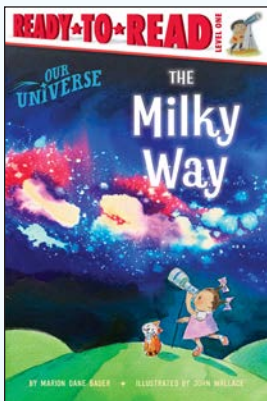
Elvis and Romeo visit the vet in this adorable new Level 1 Ready-to-Read!

Elvis and Romeo are going to the vet for checkups, and Elvis does NOT want to go or even to talk about it. Romeo loves the vet. He loves getting his ears and eyes checked—and getting a treat at the end. Now Elvis is more interested. Maybe visiting the vet is not such a bad idea after all!

Publication Date: August 2025

Ages: 4–6

Page Extent: 32 pp



OUR UNIVERSE: THE MILKY WAY

By Marion Dane Bauer
Illustrated by John Wallace
Imprint: Simon Spotlight

The sixth book in this Level 1 Ready-to-Read series about the universe is perfect for kids who love science and space!

Earth lies within the solar system that is part of a spiral galaxy. Look up and see all that there is in the galaxy we live in, the Milky Way.

Publication Date: August 2025

Ages: 4–6

Page Extent: 32 pp

RIGHTS SOLD FOR WEATHER SERIES: Korean



MOUSE AND SPOON: RABBIT TEA

By Cynthia Rylant
Illustrated by Janna Mattia
Imprint: Simon Spotlight

Newbery Medalist and prolific author of the Henry and Mudge series Cynthia Rylant returns with a new Level 2 Ready-to-Read series starring three determined mice who run a small bakery and work hard fulfilling orders big and small!

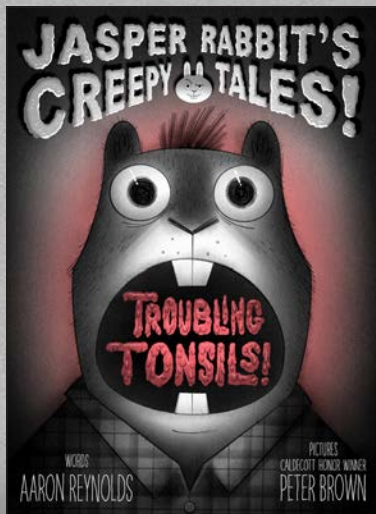
Meet Ginger, Tom, and Piper—three sibling mice who run the popular Mouse and Spoon Bakery! In the third book in the series, a rabbit is having a tea party and needs lots and lots of treats! Will Ginger, Piper, and Tom be able to bake enough carrot cakes in time?

Publication Date: August 2025

Ages: 5–7

Page Extent: 32 pp





**JASPER RABBIT'S CREEPY TALES!:
TROUBLING TONSILS!
UNSETTLING SALAD
YARN IS EVERYTHING**

By Aaron Reynolds
Illustrated by Peter Brown
Imprint: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers

From the team behind the *New York Times* bestselling *Creepy Carrots!*, *Creepy Pair of Underwear!*, and *Creepy Crayon!* comes a new chapter book series of creepy tales that are guaranteed to inspire chills and chuckles galore!

Jasper the Rabbit is back! Now he's a little older and he's ready to share new creepy tales with everyone. Are you ready for some chills? Are you ready for some chuckles? Well, then let Jasper tell you about Charlie Marmot and a particular pickle he found himself in.

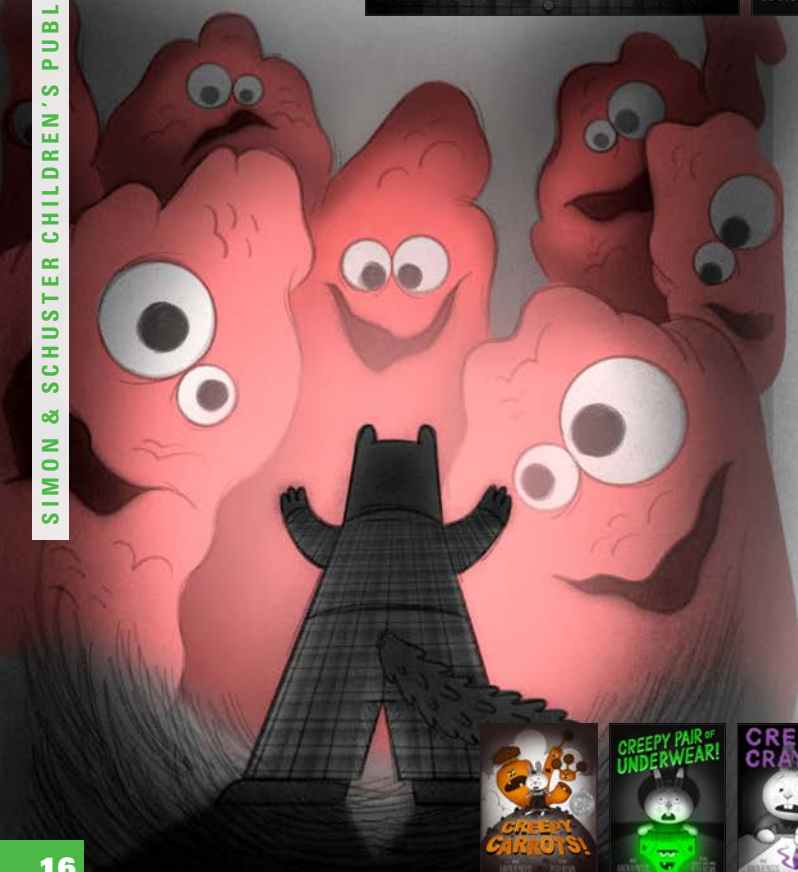
See, Charlie here had a problem: his tonsils had become infected and would have to come out. No biggie, right? But when he decides he wants to keep them in a jar for show-and-tell, well . . . let's just say things get creepy.

Join Jasper and Charlie in this first creepy tale, and perhaps you might learn from Charlie's mistakes before it's too late!

Publication Date: *Troubling Tonsils!*: September 2025;
Unsettling Salad: February 2026; *Yarn Is Everything*: July 2026
Pages: 6–9

Page Extent: 88 pp/4K words

RIGHTS SOLD FOR *CREEPY CARROTS*: Catalan, Chinese (complex), Chinese (simplified), Dutch, Finnish, French, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese (Portugal), Spanish



Little Simon Chapter Books Are Filling the Gap!

Easy-to-read text and illustrations on almost every page make these chapter book series perfect for newly independent readers.

RATNIP

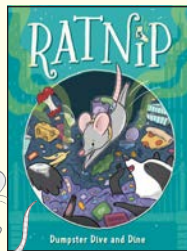
#5: DUMPSTER DIVE AND DINE

By Cam Higgins

Illustrated by Allison Steinfeld

In this sweet and silly series, a young rodent named Ratnip scurries around the city looking for food and adventure.

Publication Date: September 2025



DESMOND COLE GHOST PATROL

#25: DOUBLE CREATURE FEATURE

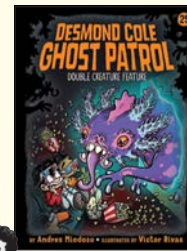
By Andres Miedoso

Illustrated by Victor Rivas

A fearless eight-year-old runs his own ghost patrol, looking for ghosts, monsters, and mischief makers in this adventure-filled chapter book series.

Publication Date: July 2025

RIGHTS SOLD: Danish, French, Russian



GOOD DOG

#15: HOW TO SPY A SPY

By Cam Higgins

Illustrated by Ariel Landy

Meet Bo Davis, a good dog with a heart of gold. Bo lives on a lively farm along with his loving family, a cast of barnyard characters, and plenty of puppy adventures.

Publication Date: June 2025

RIGHTS SOLD: Czech, Lithuanian, Norwegian



THE VERY WORST EVER

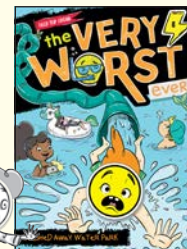
#8: FLUSHED AWAY WATER PARK

By Andy Nonamus

Illustrated by Amy Jindra

Meet a totally normal kid who will never show you his face or tell you his name because his bad-luck adventures are just too *cringe* in this illustrated chapter book series.

Publication Date: May 2025



LUCY LANCASTER

#5: LUCY LANCASTER IT'S OPPOSITE DAY!

By Willow Coven

Illustrated by Priscilla Burris

Lucy Lancaster, Heidi Heckelbeck's best friend, sprinkles magical mishaps into everyday childhood adventures in this charming series.

Publication Date: October 2025



THE KINGDOM OF WRENLY

#22: GUARDIAN OF THE SEA

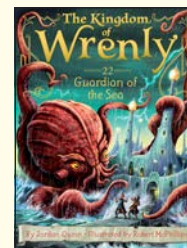
By Jordan Quinn

Illustrated by Robert McPhillips

Welcome to the Kingdom of Wrenly, a mystical land with dragons, trolls, wizards, mermaids, and fairies!

Publication Date: July 2025

RIGHTS SOLD: German, Mongolian



For all chapter books:
Ages: 5–9 **Page Extent:** 128 pp



MY MAD SCIENTIST MOM #2: NO MORE MR. MICE GUY

By Jarrett Lerner
Imprint: Aladdin

Ari helps a neighbor who accidentally gets shrunk by Ari's mom's latest invention in the next installment of this new chapter book series from acclaimed author-illustrator Jarrett Lerner.

Ari's life is filled with school, video games, and his pet turtle, Fred—run-of-the-mill stuff. But not anywhere near run-of-the-mill is Ari's mom, who's a mad scientist. That's right, a MAD scientist. Sure, she strives to make people's lives better with her inventions, especially at home. But all of Mom's inventions seem to go just the slightest bit off-kilter.

His mom puts a new invention to the test to help clean up the clutter in their house: a magnimizer, which can shrink or enlarge anything! Pretty amazing, right? Well, not if you happen to be Mr. Jakes, their neighbor who comes face-to-face with this gizmo and becomes the size of a cockroach—and a potential tasty morsel for the resident basement mouse! Can Ari save the day and teeny-weeny Mr. Jakes?

Publication Date: July 2025
Ages: 5–8
Page Extent: 128 pp/11K words



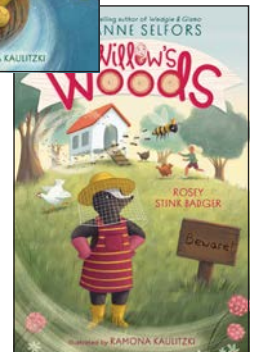
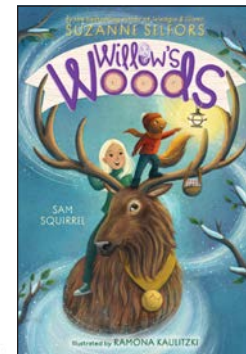
WILLOW'S WOODS #1: SAM SQUIRREL #2: ROSEY STINK BADGER

By Suzanne Selfors
Illustrated by Ramona Kaulitzki
Imprint: Aladdin

A new charmingly whimsical chapter book series from the bestselling and award-winning author of *Wedgie & Gizmo*, Suzanne Selfors

This sweet, quaint series tells the stories of the woodland creatures who live in the Quiet Woods and the young girl, Willow, who has been tasked with taking care of them.

Publication Date: #1: January 2025; #2: April 2025
Ages: 6–9
Page Extent: 96 pp/11K words





CUPCAKE DIARIES: THE NEW BATCH #6: NATALIE'S SPRINKLE OF LIGHT

By Coco Simon
Illustrated by Manuela López
Imprint: Simon Spotlight

A younger sister to the original Cupcake Diaries, this chapter book series follows a group of friends tackling a baking business while facing the usual challenges of elementary school.

Meet the New Batch: four new girls and their friend Ethan who are younger than the main characters in the original Cupcake Diaries series but still full of fun! They are ready to start their own baking business while juggling elementary school problems like fitting in, maintaining friendships, making new friends, and navigating family drama. These stories are told with the same sweetness and humor of the original Cupcake Diaries series.

Publication Date: August 2025

Ages: 5–9

Page Extent: 96 pp/4K words



CUPCAKE DIARIES: THE GRAPHIC NOVEL #8: ALEXIS COOL AS A CUPCAKE

By Coco Simon
Imprint: Simon Spotlight

The bestselling Simon Spotlight middle-grade series Cupcake Diaries, which has sold over two-and-a-half million copies and counting, is now available in graphic novel format!

Cupcake Diaries graphic novels are chock-full of the middle school angst and humor that emerging readers are looking for, and they have a sweetness that makes them ideal for younger readers who are just getting into graphic novels. With age-appropriate text, perfectly paced storytelling, and fresh, bright, exciting illustrations, Cupcake Diaries graphic novels look as good as they read!

Over 300,000 copies sold since the graphic novel series launched in 2022!

PRAISE FOR BOOK ONE:

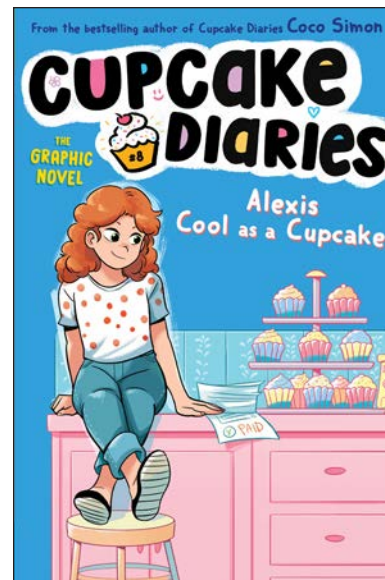
“A delightful story of friendship and starting middle school.” —*Kirkus Reviews*

Publication Date: August 2025

Ages: 8–12

Page Extent: 160 pp

RIGHTS SOLD: French, Hebrew, Spanish





SPIRITED

#6: IT CAME FROM THE DEEP

By Liv Livingston
Imprint: Little Simon

This graphic novel chapter book series follows Liv Livingston, the only living girl in a ghost town, as she learns to fit in and make friends.

Publication Date: January 2026

Ages: 5–9

Page Extent: 144 pp

RIGHTS SOLD: Danish, Russian



THE EXPETS 2

By Mark Tatulli
Imprint: Caitlyn Dlouhy Books

Ginormous Gerbil, Laser-Eye Kitty, Wonder Guppy, and Stanky Dog return in the second installment of The eXpets, this time to take on the most fearsome feline in the galaxy . . . KittyKahKah.

When Professor Foozypinz looks out his enormo'scope at the moon one day, the last thing he expects to see is a ginormous evil . . . kitten!? And yikes! The kitten is ready to wreak havoc on earth, as if it were a giant yarn ball!

This definitely looks like a job for the eXpets! But the only way to save the day is to team up with their nemesis, the Skunk. (Well, that sure stinks!)

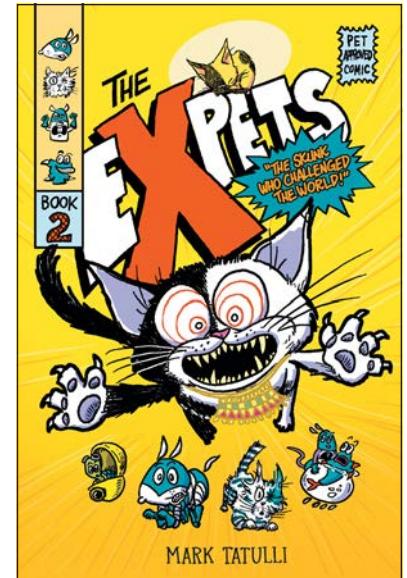
While Stanky Dog and Laser-Eye Kitty think they've convinced Skunk to help them, Skunk double-crosses them and skunk-naps Stanky Dog's human. Now the eXpets are divided, and time is ticking as KittyKahKah gets closer to earth. Can the supercritters unite in time to save the day?

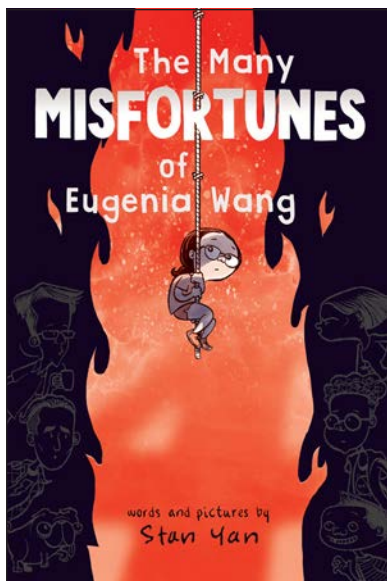
Publication Date: November 2025

Ages: 7–12

Page Extent: 208 pp/6K words

RIGHTS SOLD: German, Slovak





THE MANY MISFORTUNES OF EUGENIA WANG

By Stan Yan
Imprint: Atheneum Books for Young Readers

Turning Red meets Goosebumps in this hilarious and heartfelt debut graphic novel about a girl who begins receiving visions of impending doom on her thirteenth birthday.

Twelve-year-old Eugenia Wang has never celebrated her birthday on her actual birthday, 4/4, because of Mom's belief in the Chinese superstition that 4 is an unlucky number. What's worse, Mom won't even let her go to a summer comic art camp because she thinks art is a waste of time. But this year, Eugenia is determined to defy her mom, even if that means applying for the camp, having her birthday on her actual birthday, and inviting her crush Enrique while she's at it too!

But then Eugenia gets hit in the head with a sneaker during PE, and she starts getting unnerving visions of impending doom and the destruction of her house and everyone she cares about on her upcoming birthday. Maybe she's just anxious about turning thirteen, but as the visions get worse, it becomes apparent that an unseen force is sending Eugenia messages through her comic artwork. If her artwork is cursed after all, she may have to do the unthinkable: admit Mom was right.

Publication Date: September 2025

Ages: 8–12

Page Extent: 264 pp



WILLOWWEEP MANOR: THE NEFARIOUS NIGHTS OF WILLOWWEEP MANOR

By Shaenon K. Garrity
Illustrated by Christopher Baldwin
Imprint: Margaret K. McElderry Books

Haley returns to Willowweep to solve the mystery when her friends vanish in this witty sequel to the young adult graphic novel *The Dire Days of Willowweep Manor*.

Haley is summoned back to the Willowweep pocket universe to deal with a huge crisis: another pocket universe is collapsing, and the survivors are seeking refuge in Willowweep. Haley and her friends discover that the newcomers are from a mystery-themed universe, complete with a blustery colonel, a sweet old spinster, and a butler.

But shortly after their arrival, strange things start happening to Willowweep—the once Gothic pocket universe is transforming into a whodunit! As the tropes of a detective story start to multiply, a murder rocks Willowweep. And when Haley searches for the culprit, she begins to suspect that one of the newcomers is trying to eradicate Willowweep. One by one, all her friends disappear, and it's up to Haley to get to the bottom of this mind-boggling mystery. Can she grow past her Gothic romance roots to become a new kind of heroine?

PRaise for Book One:

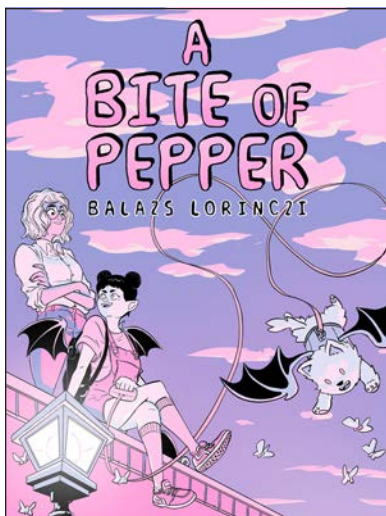
“Well-paced and humorous . . . delightfully spirited.” —*Kirkus Reviews*

Publication Date: August 2025

Ages: 12 up

Page Extent: 224 pp





A BITE OF PEPPER

By Balazs Lorinczi
Imprint: Margaret K. McElderry Books

A skilled skateboarding vampire falls for a struggling human artist as they combine their talents to create a successful skating brand in this lightly paranormal, coming-of-age YA graphic novel romance for fans of the graphic novels *Squad* and *The Girl from the Sea*.

Pepper Mint might be a born vampire, but she's pretty much your average teenager—she loves skateboarding and her dog, Shroom, and she is the polar opposite of her business-minded but annoying brother, Jeb. What she doesn't love is her mother's continuous efforts to find her and Jeb a human-born vampire bride so that they can become fully immortal.

One night, at the glamorous Vampire Ball, Pepper meets Ana: a charming art student, part-time waitress, and—oh yeah—*definitely* human. Ana's presence changes everything, as the two girls' instant chemistry seems to provide the perfect opportunity for Pepper to finally commit to becoming the immortal creature of the night her mother desperately wants her to be.

Will Pepper's relationship (with a human) and her promising new skateboard business be able to withstand the pressure from her family as the inevitability of immortality looms closer and closer?

Publication Date: August 2025

Ages: 14 up

Page Extent: 224 pp



STEAM

By Shaenon K. Garrity
Illustrated by Emily Holden
Imprint: Margaret K. McElderry Books

A genius humanoid escapes the university lab where she was made and gets a job at a local coffee shop in this quirky misfit, young adult graphic novel perfect for fans of the *Giant Days* series and *Heartstopper*.

Grown in a secret lab at the local university, Ruby was created to solve science's greatest problems. But she suspects she can't fulfill her function while trapped inside, so she breaks out.

Now living among humans, Ruby attempts to lie low and fit in as a barista at the university coffeehouse, Inkcup. Working there gives her plenty of opportunity to figure out what problems people need solving. And as far as she can tell, most humans' biggest problem is struggling to find happiness. And what makes them happy? Love! So Ruby uses her superpowered brain to play Cupid.

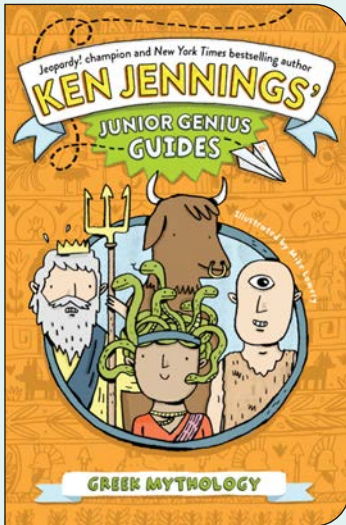
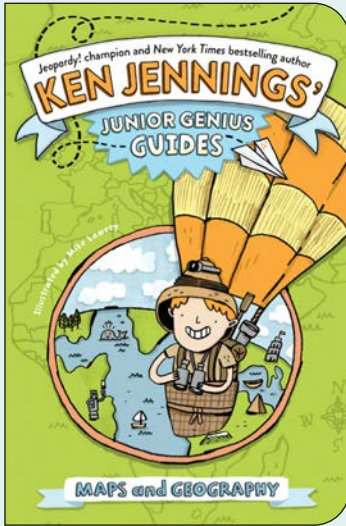
As Ruby sets to work pairing up the staff and regulars at Inkcup, she feels more and more human herself: she's got a community now, maybe even a crush. But the lab believes she's dangerous, and it wants her back. When pursuing her own happiness leads Ruby straight into a trap, she'll need her new motley crew of coffeehouse friends to save her from the scientists who only want to use her.

Publication Date: February 2026

Ages: 14 up

Page Extent: 224 pp





KEN JENNINGS' JUNIOR GENIUS GUIDES: MAPS AND GEOGRAPHY GREEK MYTHOLOGY

By Ken Jennings
Illustrated by Mike Lowery
Imprint: Simon Spotlight

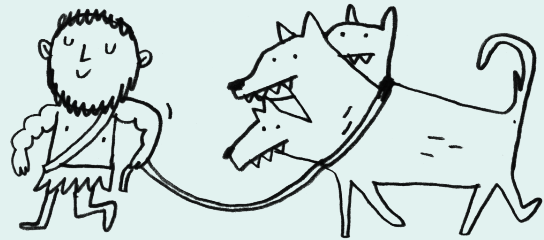
Journey across the globe and become a junior genius with this fact-filled series from the *Jeopardy!* host and champion and *New York Times* bestselling author, Ken Jennings—now with a refreshed logo, foil on the cover, and updated facts!

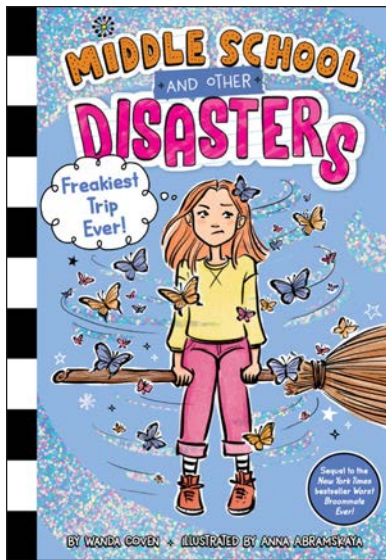
Discover incredible facts about our world in this series featuring great illustrations, cool trivia, brainteasers, and fun activities.

In *Maps and Geography*, you will learn that the biggest desert is actually covered in snow and that Christopher Columbus wasn't the first to think the Earth was round.

In *Greek Mythology*, you will find out that there is a rainbow goddess named Iris and that most of our eighty-eight constellations are based on what Greeks and Romans imagined thousands of years ago.

Publication Date: August 2025
Ages: 8–10
Page Extent: 160 pp/25K words
RIGHTS SOLD: Romanian, Slovak





MIDDLE SCHOOL AND OTHER DISASTERS #6: FREAKIEST TRIP EVER!

By Wanda Coven
Illustrated by Anna Abramskaya
Imprint: Simon Spotlight

Sequel to the *New York Times* bestseller *Worst Broommate Ever!*

In this middle-grade series, Heidi Heckelbeck attends a boarding school for witches and tackles relatable problems with her signature magical flair!

When a new student comes to Broomsfield Academy, Mrs. Kettledrum informs the students that she is an extra-talented witch-in-training. At first Heidi is intrigued and wants to be friends, but when Jodi tells Heidi she intends to be the best witch ever, a real competition brews. And a field trip to a museum ends up being more dangerous than either girl ever imagined!

Publication Date: August 2025

Ages: 8–12

Page Extent: 352 pp/25K words

RIGHTS SOLD FOR *WORST BROOMMATE EVER!*:

Arabic, Bulgarian, Catalan, French, Greek, Hebrew, Hungarian, Portuguese (Brazil), Russian, Slovak, Spanish, UK, Ukrainian



THE WAND KEEPERS #2: THE MUMMY SNATCHER CURSE

By Tiffany McDaniel
Imprint: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers

Spella the young witch must save her friends from a dangerous mummy snatcher in this second book in the whimsical Wand Keepers middle-grade fantasy series perfect for younger fans of *Witchlings* and *Eva Evergreen*.

After Spella and her friends rescued her magical hat-making aunt from the dangerous Dragon King, Spella heads off to relax and have some fun with her aunt and best friend, Tolden, in the vibrant and colorful Mummy City. But all is not as calm and weirdly wonderful as it seems in this magical place. After the defeat of the Dragon King, another threat has appeared—the terrorizing mummy snatcher!

It's up to Spella to stop this monster from kidnapping any more mummies—including Spella's mummified talking cat, Egypt—before the worst happens. If the mummy snatcher succeeds, it will awaken the slumbering giants beneath Mummy City, throwing the entire city into chaos! To save the city and her friends, Spella must out-magic her bullies and call upon her skills to defeat the mummy snatcher and get Mummy City back to its unique self. But doing so means confronting a hard truth—the terrifying Dragon King may not be gone for good.

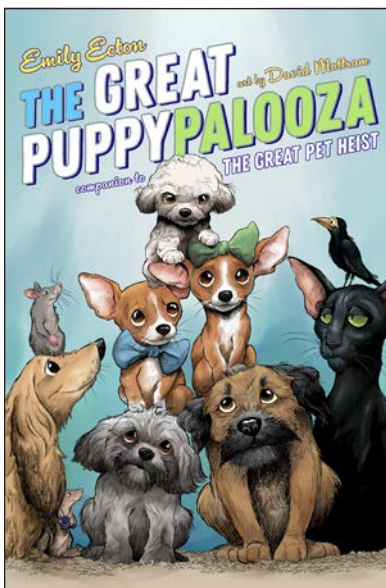
Publication Date: September 2025

Ages: 8 up

Page Extent: 224 pp/46K words

AGENT CONTROLLED TERRITORIES: French, Italian, Japanese, UK





THE GREAT PET HEIST: THE GREAT PUPPYPALOOZA

By Emily Ecton
Illustrated by David Mottram
Imprint: Atheneum Books for Young Readers

In this laugh-out-loud companion to *The Great Pet Heist*, Butterbean and her friends rescue a group of street puppies and try to find them new homes—with hilarious results.

Butterbean is in a funk. After watching a documentary of famous dogs in history, she wants to be a real dog. Real dogs have jobs. Real dogs are heroes. But Butterbean? Butterbean is nothing but a house pet. Never mind that she and her friends are superspies, ghost hunters, and part of an International Crime Syndicate. There's nothing to spy on, no more ghosts to hunt.

A chance to be a real dog comes when Butterbean rescues a puppy cornered by the nefarious Animal Control Man. But she may have gotten more than she bargained for when that one puppy turns out to be a whole pack. Now it's up to Butterbean and the gang to find these puppies new homes before it's too late—or before their owner, Mrs. Food, finds out that they've been hiding their new furry friends in the apartment!

Publication Date: September 2025

Ages: 8–12

Page Extent: 288 pp/49K words

RIGHTS SOLD FOR *THE GREAT PET HEIST*: Czech, Romanian, Russian



THE GLADE

By Naseem Jamnia
Imprint: Aladdin

Ellen Oh's *Spirit Hunters* meets Katherine Arden's *Small Spaces* in this middle-grade supernatural mystery following a girl whose discovery of a magical clearing near her summer camp ends up putting her best friend in danger.

Pina's first trip to summer camp is a chance to escape her overbearing parents and finally go on an adventure with her best friend, Jo. But Camp Clear Skies hides a secret: a clearing in the deep woods the older kids call "the Glade." After falling asleep in the Glade, Pina and Jo are able to enter each other's dreams, transform into superheroes and knights in shining armor, and fight their nightmares in epic adventures.

At first, the friends think they've discovered a secret more exciting than any video game—until Pina's nightmares start leaking out into waking life. Worse, something seems to have followed them back from those dreams, and whatever it is, it's taking over Jo. Jo has always been the superhero in their friendship, but Pina can't just abandon them to their fate.

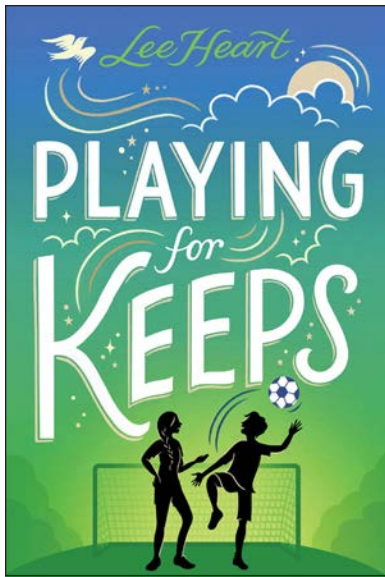
To save her friend, Pina journeys deeper into the Glade than she ever has before, facing the worst of her own fears and Jo's. There, she must confront the consciousness trying to steal her friend's body and learn what happened twenty years ago that shut down Camp Clear Skies and changed the Glade forever.

Publication Date: May 2025

Ages: 9–13

Page Extent: 272 pp/52K words





SPOTLIGHT SPRINKLES: PLAYING FOR KEEPS

By Lee Heart
Imprint: Simon Spotlight

A girl starts to like-like her best friend and feel jealous of the girl he's hanging out with in this next book in the new tween middle-grade rom-com Spotlight Sprinkles series!

Although she's bummed that summer is over, Willow is excited for school to start. She hasn't seen her best friend, Travis, all summer! But when they reunite, Travis looks different—taller and . . . kind of cute.

It's different spending time with him too because now all he talks about is soccer! And he's been hanging out with Harlee, like, a lot. And she's much prettier and cooler than Willow. Can Willow get her best friend back? And does she maybe like him as more than a friend?

Publication Date: August 2025

Ages: 8–12

Page Extent: 160 pp/25K words



TEAM AWKWARD #2: LEAH VS. ART

By Joy McCullough and Veeda Bybee
Imprint: Aladdin

Leah's ambitious extracurricular plans cause trouble in the next book in the Team Awkward middle-grade series that's the Baby-Sitters Club meets Dork Diaries.

How organized, driven Leah was born into her family, she'll never know. They're as different as can be. For example, while she's trying to finish unpacking boxes from their move and get to bed at a decent time, her parents are listening to indie rock records and eating ice cream sundaes. Sometimes it feels like she's the only responsible one in the house!

So when her parents sign her up for art club—to “loosen her up” and “get her creative juices flowing”—Leah decides to ditch in favor of Quiz Bowl, which meets at the same time. But as she secretly attends Quiz Bowl and lies to her parents, her competitive spirit begins to take over, threatening her scheme and her friendships.

Publication Date: June 2025

Ages: 8–12

Page Extent: 176 pp/30K words

RIGHTS SOLD FOR JOJO VS. MIDDLE SCHOOL: Czech





RUNNING BACK TO YOU

By Sarah Henning
Imprint: Aladdin

Never Been Kissed meets **Tall Girl** in this tween novel about a girl trying to get her first kiss to save face in front of her classmates.

Millie hates liars. Ever since her mom lied to the family about the six-month affair she was having, ninth grader Millie Ashford has pledged to always tell the truth, even when it hurts. But when her classmate Logan asks her—in the middle of study hall with everyone listening—whether she’s kissed anyone, she panics. She panics and *lies*.

Afterward, Millie is sent into a spiral. She’s broken her most important rule, and it was painfully clear she was fibbing. Total social nightmare. So now Millie needs to make things right (and save face) by changing her kissing status ASAP to retroactively negate the lie. But as Millie tries to get her first kiss, Logan seems to be there at every turn. Is he trying to sabotage her? Or is there something more to his interest in her first-kiss status?

Publication Date: September 2025

Ages: 10 up

Page Extent: 304 pp/70K words

SCHOOLED

By Jamie Sumner
Imprint: Atheneum Books for Young Readers

A bighearted, compulsively readable novel from acclaimed author Jamie Sumner about new schools, unexpected friendships, and overcoming a devastating loss

As part of the brand-new experimental Copernican School, Lenny and four other students are starting sixth grade on a university campus, where they’ll be taught by the most brilliant professors and given every resource imaginable. This new school is pretty weird, though. Instead of hunkering down behind a desk to study math, science, and history, Lenny finds himself meditating, auditing university classes, and spying on the campus population in the name of anthropology.

But Lenny just lost his mom, and his Latin professor dad is better with dead languages than actual human beings. Lenny doesn’t want to be part of some learning experiment. He just wants to be left alone. Yet grief grows in solitude. If Lenny is going to make it as a middle schooler on a college campus, he’s going to need help. Is a group of misfit sixth graders and one particularly quirky professor of fairytales enough to pull him out of his sadness and back into the world?

Publication Date: August 2025

Ages: 10 up

Page Extent: 224 pp/47K words

RIGHTS SOLD FOR *ROLL WITH IT*: French, Italian, Japanese





BLIGHT HARBOR: PENNIES

By Lora Senf
Illustrated by Alfredo Cáceres
Imprint: Atheneum Books for Young Readers

One hundred years prior to the events of *The Clackity*, four best friends are drawn into a deadly scheme when they set out to investigate the strange disappearances taking place in the eerie town of Blight Harbor.

It's June 1921 and best friends Mae, Lark, Brigid, and Claret have plans for the perfect summer. Between riding their bikes to the enchanted lake and decorating their fort for its resident ghost, the girls are a busy bunch. But when they discover a door in the forest floor that leads into an alternate world with purple skies and fearsome creatures, everything takes a turn for the worse. Someone else has already been through that door, and it's triggered something incredibly dangerous. Maybe deadly.

Back in Blight Harbor, strange disappearances keep taking place. The most worrisome being that of Brigid's cousin, who has been spending an awful lot of time with the unusual and untrustworthy John Jeffrey Pope. As the girls uncover the eerie world that lives right beneath their feet, will they find their missing friend, or will the most treacherous man in Blight Harbor get to them first?

Publication Date: September 2025

Ages: 10 up

Page Extent: 256 pp/87K words

RIGHTS SOLD FOR *THE CLACKITY*: French, Turkish



EVIL VILLAINS INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE #2: KEEPER CHANCE AND THE DUBIOUS DOPPELGÄNGER

By Alex Evanovich
Imprint: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers

For graduates of the Percy Jackson & the Olympians series and fans of Alex Rider comes the second book in this adventure-filled series about good and evil, growing up, and making your mark on the world.

In the sequel to *Keeper Chance and the Conundrum of Chaos*, a villain has gotten himself into a heap of trouble. What did he steal? Why did he steal it? And most important, where is he? It's the type of problem that requires a villainous hero to save the day, and the head of E.V.I.L.'s chapter 626 thinks Keeper Chance is the boy for the job. Time is of the essence, but people who can loop time, stop time, and are always on time are going to be tough to beat. And what's the deal with the dubious doppelgänger?

In the world of villainy, or any other world for that matter, things are not always what they seem. Keeper better brace himself as secrets are gradually revealed and the world he thought he knew begins to unravel. On the plus side, when one is an E.V.I.L. villain and something unravels, it's a wonderful opportunity to knit yourself a flashy scarf. Mischief and mayhem guaranteed along the way.

Publication Date: September 2025

Ages: 10 up

Page Extent: 256 pp/70K words





LOST ON DOLL ISLAND

By Cassandra Ramos-Gomez

Imprint: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers

Rick Riordan meets R.L. Stine in this fast-paced horror-adventure, about a Mexican American boy who starts being haunted by the voice of a mysterious doll.

Once you visit the Island of the Dolls, there's no going home. . . .

Diego feels trapped. He's trapped in an arm cast, he's trapped with his tía and tío for a week in Mexico City, and he's trapped with the sickening fear that he's the one who really caused his parents' divorce. Even more so, Diego feels trapped in his own secret. Because ever since he got to Mexico City, he's started having these strange dreams . . . of a doll . . . calling his name.

And that's when Diego learns of La Isla de las Muñecas, an island full of powerful magic that can make children's wishes come true. If Diego can harness the magic there, maybe he could fix everything that has gone wrong in his life. Maybe he doesn't have to move to Mexico City, and his parents don't have to separate, and he could go back to the way things were.

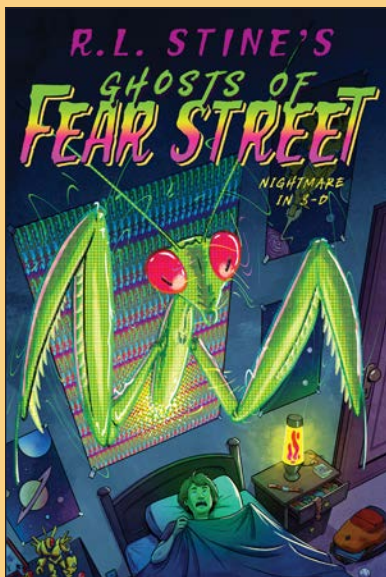
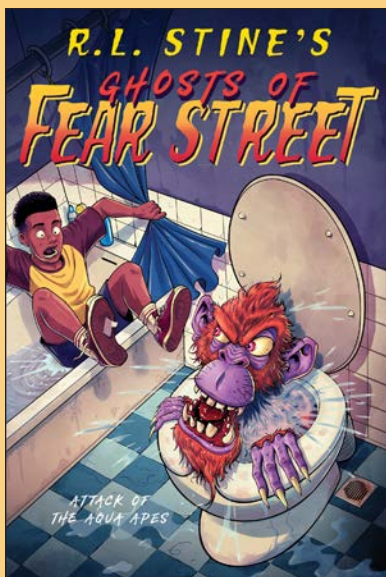
Joined by his neighbor Itzel and his classmate Jandro, he takes a boat to the legendary island where nothing is as it seems, and dolls seem to appear and reappear in the blink of an eye. Suddenly Diego is trapped in an entirely new way, and as the night goes on, he's not sure he can ever escape.

Publication Date: August 2025

Ages: 8–12

Page Extent: 208 pp/42K words





A new look for this classic middle-grade series from the master of children's horror himself, R.L. Stine!

**GHOSTS OF FEAR STREET
#3: ATTACK OF THE AQUA APES
#4: NIGHTMARE IN 3-D**

By R.L. Stine
Imprint: Aladdin

All the thrills and chills of the bestselling Fear Street series, for a younger audience

Do you believe in ghosts? Don't say no until you take a walk down Fear Street: past the woods—where no birds sing; past the lake—where something lurks beneath the water; past the cemetery—where everyone is dying to meet you.

In *Attack of the Aqua Apes*, Scott and Glen decide to use water from Fear Street Lake to grow their Aqua Ape, but they had no idea that the tiny creature would keep growing . . . and growing . . . and growing. And its teeth keep getting sharper and sharper. Will Scott and Glen be able to contain their destructive new pet before it's too late?

In *Nightmare in 3-D*, take a peek in Sal's Five and Ten. He sells great stuff. Wes Parker bought a 3-D poster there. He spent hours trying to see the hidden picture. Then he wished he hadn't. Because the thing inside the poster saw Wes, too. Now it wants out . . . and it wants Wes.

This series flew off shelves when it was first published, with each of the 27 books that Simon & Schuster published selling over 100,000 copies. Perfect for fans of Goosebumps who aren't quite ready for Fear Street, these books have all the satisfying scares without getting too graphic.

R.L. STINE invented the teen horror genre with Fear Street, the bestselling teen horror series of all time. He also changed the face of children's publishing with the mega-successful Goosebumps series, which went on to become a worldwide multimedia phenomenon. Guinness World Records cites Stine as the most prolific author of children's horror fiction novels. He lives in New York City with his wife, Jane, and their dog, Lucky.

Publication Date: September 2025

Ages: 8–12

Page Extent: 144 pp/18K words



Coming to
Netflix in
Fall 2025!



**FEAR STREET:
THE PROM QUEEN**

By R.L. Stine
Imprint: Simon Pulse

When prom queen candidates start turning up dead, it's a race against the clock to find the culprit in this classic Fear Street title from master of horror R.L. Stine.

It's 1988 in Shadyside. A spring night, soft moonlight, five beautiful prom queen candidates, dancing couples at the high school prom—these should be the makings of a perfect, romantic night. But Lizzie McVay realizes someone is brutally killing the prom queen candidates one by one, and she may be next on the list.

Can she stop the murderer before the big dance is over . . . for good?

This classic Fear Street book is being reissued with a brand-new cover just in time for the Netflix movie in Fall 2025.

Publication Date: July 2025

Ages: 12 up

Page Extent: 176 pp/33K words

RIGHTS SOLD: German, Italian, Portuguese (Brazil)



MINDWORKS

By Neal Shusterman
Imprint: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers

From the incomparable mind of award winner Neal Shusterman, *New York Times* bestselling author of the *Arc of a Scythe* series, comes a collection of uncanny and unforgettable short stories.

Compiled for the first time in one epic volume, these stories both classic and brand-new will stretch your imagination from terror to the sublime and back again. Explore a world where bats block out the sun, where soup is a trap for your soul, or where the life-force of a glacier can bring back the dead. Journey to a place where the wind can be captured, time can be crafted into infinite attic space, or a hot tub can house an ancient monster. And revisit the *Arc of the Scythe* universe for two all-new tales of gleaming.

In this collection, featuring stenciled, sprayed edges, the only thing that is truly certain is that nothing is certain.

Publication Date: November 2025

Ages: 12 up

Page Extent: 592 pp/153K words

AGENT CONTROLLED TERRITORIES: German, Italian, Japanese

ALL BETTER NOW

By Neal Shusterman
Imprint: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers

From *New York Times* bestselling author Neal Shusterman comes a young adult thriller about a world where happiness is contagious but the risks of catching it may be just as dangerous as the cure.

A deadly and unprecedented virus is spreading. But those who survive it experience a long-term effect no one has ever seen before: utter contentment. More and more people begin to revel in the mass unburdening. But not everyone. People in power—who depend on malcontents, and who prey on the insecure to sell their products and convince others they need more, new, faster, better everything—know this new state of being is bad for business. Campaigns start up to convince people that being eternally happy is dangerous. The race to find a vaccine begins. Meanwhile, a growing movement of *Recoverees* plan ways to spread the virus as fast as they can, in the name of saving the world. Everyone has an agenda and it’s nearly impossible to determine the truth—especially for three teens at the center of this power play that could change humanity forever.

The story will continue in *All Over Now*, the second book in this duology, tentatively scheduled for November 2027.

Publication Date: February 2025

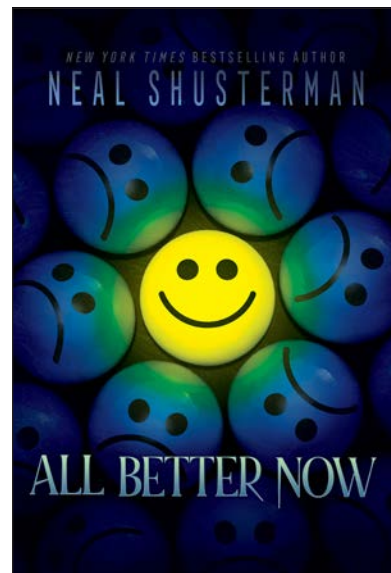
Ages: 12 up

Page Extent: 528 pp/128K words

AGENT CONTROLLED TERRITORIES: German, Italian, Japanese

RIGHTS SOLD: Chinese (complex), Czech, Hebrew, Polish, Slovak, Spanish, UK

RIGHTS SOLD FOR *SCYTHE*: Arabic, Bulgarian, Chinese (complex), Czech, Dutch, French, Hebrew, Indonesian, Korean, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese (Brazil), Portuguese (Portugal), Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Slovak, Spanish, Thai, Turkish, UK, Ukrainian





THE ART OF EXILE

By Andrea Max
Imprint: Margaret K. McElderry Books

Legendborn meets *The Da Vinci Code* in this captivating contemporary fantasy following a teen who must infiltrate a secret school for the descendants of exiled Renaissance masters to steal their long-lost creations in the arts and sciences.

Ada Castle is a total disappointment, a fact her high-achieving family has made clear by excluding her from their secret ancestral order. But she has finally been given an opportunity to enter the fold, using the one thing that makes her special—a power she’s been told her whole life to suppress.

Sent on a mission to Florence, Ada is recruited and goes undercover as a student at the Genesis Institute, a utopian school for marvelous science and medical development, that is also unjustly hoarding its resources. She is determined to steal technology that will revolutionize the world while also proving herself to her family. But Genesis is the first place to make her feel accepted exactly as she is, and she can’t help but fall for it—and maybe also for her frustratingly off-limits recruiter-turned-mentor. However, when a close friend is kidnapped, Ada is forced to team up with a dangerous (and dangerously hot) classmate to find her. And if she wants to save her friend, she’ll have to choose who to betray: the family she loves or the school that has given her a home.

This is Andrea Max’s debut novel and the first book in a planned trilogy. The second book, tentatively titled *The Blood of Muses*, is scheduled for Summer 2026.

Publication Date: May 2025

Ages: 14 up

Page Extent: 448 pp/129K words

RIGHTS SOLD: Spanish

TILL DEATH

By Kellan McDaniel
Imprint: MTV Books

Two gay men—one a teenager, one an ageless vampire—sink their teeth into reclaiming their lives and identities from those who would silence them in this romantic horror novel from Hugo Award and Nebula Award nominee Kellan McDaniel.

Howard is biding his time until he can finally leave for college, where he has been promised that things get better. The last thing he expected was to meet a beautiful young man who will change everything.

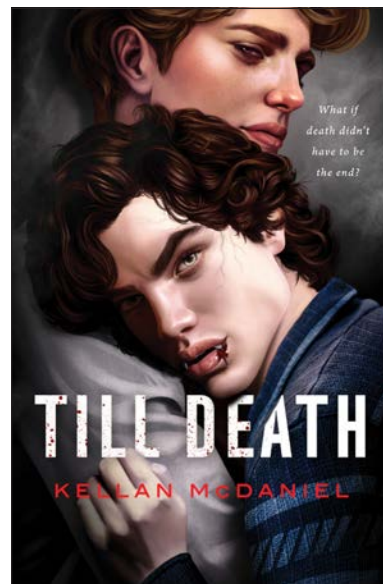
After decades together, George is about to lose his life partner, James. George will live forever, trapped in the body of a nineteen-year-old, but James is dying and going somewhere beyond George’s reach.

After so many years of loving one person, George can see a future with Howard . . . one that doesn’t include death. And for the first time, Howard stops imagining himself always being alone—even if companionship comes at the cost of his mortality.

Publication Date: March 2025

Ages: 14 up

Page Extent: 304 pp/75K words





IF LOOKS COULD KILL

By Julie Berry

Imprint: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers

From Printz Honoree and *New York Times* bestselling author Julie Berry—a nail-bitingly tense and refreshingly funny literary mashup that pits Jack the Ripper against Medusa

True crime meets timeless myth: history's most notorious killer goes head-to-head with mythology's most compelling monster in a gripping, atmospheric thriller. It's autumn 1888, and Jack the Ripper is on the run. As London police close in, he flees England for New York City, seeking new victims. But a primal force of female vengeance has had enough. With serpents for hair and a fearsome gaze, an awakened Medusa is hunting for one thing: Jack.

And other dangers lurk in Manhattan's Bowery. Salvation Army volunteers Tabitha and Pearl discover that a girl they once helped has been forced to work in a local brothel. Tabitha's a city girl with a wry sense of humor and a thirst for adventure while farm girl Pearl takes everything with stone-cold seriousness. Their brittle partnership is tested as they team up with an aspiring girl reporter and a handsome Irish bartender to mount a rescue effort, only to find their fates entwined with Medusa's and Jack's.

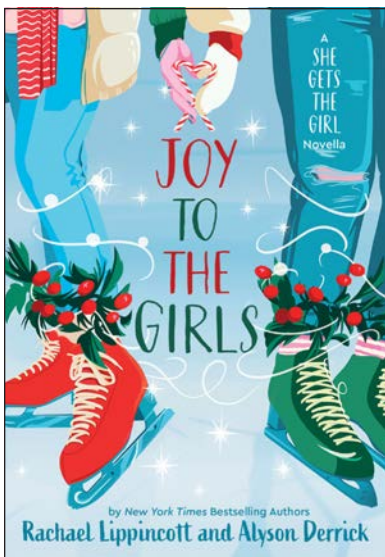
A love song to sisterhood and a survivors' battle cry, *If Looks Could Kill* is a ferocious, heart-pounding, romantic page-turner.

JULIE BERRY is the *New York Times* bestselling author of the 2020 NCTE Walden Award and SCBWI Golden Kite Award winner *Lovely War*, the 2017 Printz Honor and *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize—shortlisted *The Passion of Dolssa*, the Carnegie Medal— and Edgar Award—shortlisted *All the Truth That's in Me*, the Odyssey Honor *The Scandalous Sisterhood of Prickwillow Place*, and the Wishes and Wellingtons trilogy. Her picture books include *The Night Frolic*, *Happy Right Now*, and *Cranky Right Now*.

Publication Date: September 2025

Ages: 12 up

Page Extent: 448 pp/100K words



JOY TO THE GIRLS

By Rachael Lippincott and Alyson Derrick
Imprint: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers

Getting the girl was easy, but can they keep each other when they're both keeping secrets? Find out in this cozy holiday novella companion to *She Gets the Girl*!

For Alex and Molly, the last three years have felt like Christmas every day. So, what better way to celebrate winter break of their senior year than a romantic holiday getaway in a town right out of a Christmas card?

Aside from sampling all the holiday cheer that Barnwich has to offer, Alex and Molly have an important mission this weekend: to help their friend, Cora, get her crush to fall for her. But in between ice-skating, snowball fights, and matchmaking schemes, it becomes obvious that Alex and Molly have another mission this weekend: to not reveal the huge secrets they're each keeping from the other. Secrets about their post-college plans that just might threaten to tear them apart.

Will these two be able to help Cora get the girl *and* keep theirs—or will this be the last Christmas of Alex and Molly's love story?

Publication Date: September 2025

Ages: 14 up

Page Extent: 176 pp/33K words

RIGHTS SOLD: Portuguese (Brazil), UK

RIGHTS SOLD FOR *SHE GETS THE GIRL*: Czech, French, German, Italian, Polish, Portuguese (Brazil), Portuguese (Portugal), Spanish, UK



LOVE GOES VIRAL

By Camille Stochitch, Alexander Berman, and Estelle Laure
Imprint: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers

Simultaneously in development for the big screen!

An internet star falls for a small-town boy in this sweeping romance that's *Notting Hill* for Gen Z—perfect for fans of Lynn Painter!

Love Thompson has it all—fifty million followers, brand deals, PR packages at her Hollywood mansion doorstep—until . . . she doesn't.

After Love takes the blame for her influencer boyfriend's mistake, the fallout goes more viral than the video that skyrocketed her to fame. And even though she's technically innocent, by the next morning she's already lost sponsorships and ten million followers. Love needs to rehab her image. Fast. And that means dating someone a little more homegrown.

Enter Austin Grey. Austin is about as homegrown as it gets, and his only followers are the regulars at his family's struggling diner that he's doing his best to save. But everything changes when he gets a DM from an internet star he never expected to cross paths with again.

When Love walks back into Austin's life, they both think this is a purely online scheme with an expiration date. But as genuine feelings start to develop that keep them coming back to each other again and again, will either of them be willing to take a chance on something real?

Publication Date: January 2026

Ages: 12 up

Page Extent: 320 pp/75K words

RIGHTS SOLD: Hungarian





FAKE SKATING

By Lynn Painter

Imprint: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers

From the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Better Than the Movies*—childhood sweethearts reunite in a hockey-loving town where romance is about to heat up the ice.

Growing up, Dani couldn't help but follow around the adorable son of her mom's best friend. Funny, kind of nerdy, and a little soft, Alec was always down to hang with Dani when they were little. From playdates on the playground to sneaking into movie theaters, Dani and Alec were inseparable. Until Dani moved away.

Flash forward to years later and Dani is back in Minnesota with her mom after her parents' devastating divorce. Dealing with the fallout of her parents' breakup, Dani wouldn't mind a nerd-out with the cozy and comforting Alec (and maybe a chance to confront him on his MIA status all these years). But teenage Alec is nothing like the kid Dani remembers. He is the hockey STAR in a town where hockey players are worshiped as gods. Alec has a line of female fans drooling all over him. And he LOVES it.

But when one thing leads to another and Dani and Alec find themselves thrown together and playing the role of boyfriend and girlfriend, "complicated" becomes an understatement. Their fake relationship will unearth complex family secrets and force the duo to face their true feelings toward each other—along with the real reason why Alec had been pushing Dani away for all these years.

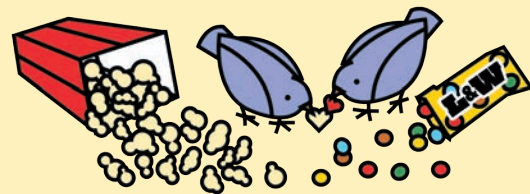
Publication Date: September 2025

Ages: 14 up

Page Extent: 432 pp/104K words

OPTION PUBLISHERS: Bulgarian, Croatian, Czech, Dutch, French, Georgian, German, Greek, Hebrew, Hungarian, Italian, Lithuanian, Polish, Portuguese (Brazil), Portuguese (Portugal), Romanian, Serbian, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish, Swedish, Turkish, UK, Ukrainian





New York Times bestselling author with 2 million copies sold!

LYNN PAINTER



BETTER THAN THE MOVIES

Imprint: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers

Perfect for fans of Kasie West and Jenn Bennett, this “sweet and funny” (Kerry Winfrey, author of *Waiting for Tom Hanks*) teen rom-com follows a hopelessly romantic teen girl and her cute yet obnoxious neighbor as they scheme to get her noticed by her untouchable crush.

Publication Date: May 2021

Ages: 12 up

Page Extent: 368 pp/85K words



NOTHING LIKE THE MOVIES

Imprint: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers

Wes and Liz are back in this sequel to the phenomenal *New York Times* bestseller, *Better Than the Movies*.

Publication Date: October 2024

Ages: 14 up

Page Extent: 448 pp/104K words



THE DO-OVER

Imprint: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers

In this “unequivocally hilarious and delightful” (*Kirkus Reviews*) young adult romp for fans of *Recommended for You* and *A Cuban Girl’s Guide to Tea and Tomorrow*, a teen girl has the worst Valentine’s Day ever—only to relive it over and over again.

Publication Date: November 2022

Ages: 14 up

Page Extent: 304 pp/71K words



BETTING ON YOU

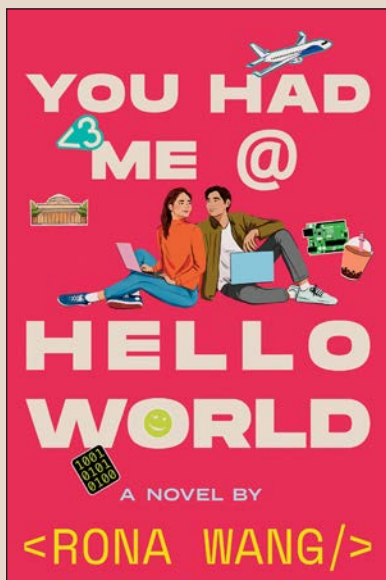
Imprint: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers

This entertaining rom-com in the vein of *She’s All That* and *10 Things I Hate About You* follows a teen girl who unwittingly finds herself at the center of a bet while working at a waterpark.

Publication Date: November 2023

Ages: 14 up

Page Extent: 432 pp/100K words



YOU HAD ME AT HELLO WORLD

By Rona Wang

Imprint: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers

Slay meets Silicon Valley in this drama-packed YA about a Chinese American teen who navigates a high-stakes coding competition, sabotage, and cute boys when she's invited to a summer hackathon at MIT.

When sixteen-year-old Charise "Char" Tang is invited to a highly selective hackathon at MIT with other high school students from across the country, it seems like a fluke. As a small-town, low-income student who attends a school that doesn't really offer computer science classes, she knows this is her one chance to prove herself and show that she's got what it takes to code with the best of them.

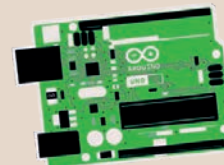
But when she arrives, she unwittingly lands herself in a one-on-one partnership with Khoi Astor, a programming prodigy and creator of the previous year's biggest mobile game app. Together, they create Hello World, an app designed to help new immigrants form connections in America, inspired by their families.

As the competition heats up, so do things between Char and Khoi. But the course of true love and true innovation never did run smooth, and when you're in a room full of ambitious, hungry, MIT hopefuls, sabotage lurks around every corner.

Publication Date: November 2025

Ages: 12 up

Page Extent: 352 pp/75K words





FALLING LIKE LEAVES

By Misty Wilson

Imprint: Margaret K. McElderry Books

***Gilmore Girls* meets Jenny Han in this fall-themed YA romance about a girl whose parents' separation causes her to move to quaint Bramble Falls, forcing her to confront the truth of her future while rekindling an old flame.**

Ellis has a lot of expectations for her senior year, but moving from Manhattan to Bramble Falls, Connecticut, is not one of them. Yet in the wake of her parents' separation, that's exactly where she and her mother are headed. Bramble Falls might be charming, but it's also full of distractions. Like local barista Cooper Barnett, Ellis's one-time best friend—and first kiss—who has not only majorly glowed up but wants nothing to do with Ellis.

Then there's the Bramble Falls Falling Leaves Festival, a month-long tourist attraction run by Ellis's aunt, celebrating all things autumn. Dragged to each event, Ellis can't stop bumping into Cooper, the one person she'd hoped to avoid.

But the longer she spends in Bramble Falls, the harder it is to pretend she's not falling for this town and the people in it. As her return to Manhattan gets pushed further and further out, Ellis is forced to confront exactly what she wants from her future and what that means for her present. . . .

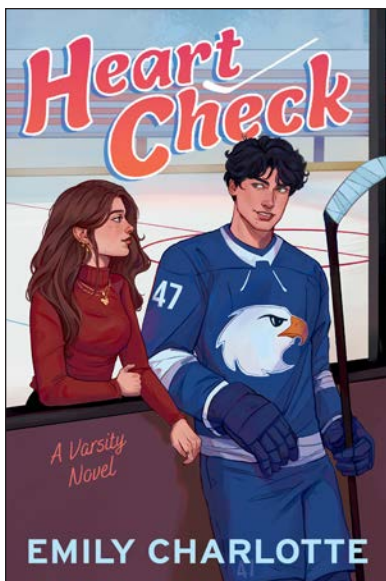
COMING SOON: a Bramble Falls story for every season! We have plans to release three more titles in this series set in winter, spring, and summer through Spring 2028.

Publication Date: September 2025

Ages: 14 up

Page Extent: 352 pp/78K words

RIGHTS SOLD: Catalan, Czech, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Polish, Portuguese (Brazil), Portuguese (Portugal), Russian, Spanish, UK



VARSITY: HEART CHECK

By Emily Charlotte
Imprint: Margaret K. McElderry Books

Friday Night Lights meets ice hockey in this feel-good YA romance about a star hockey player and his biggest critic who are determined to believe the worst about each other. Can working the same afterschool job break the ice between them?

Luke Dawson and Harper Braedon could have been friends. They trade shifts at the same diner and share classes at school, and their lives are dictated by their greatest passions: hockey for Dawson, and jewelry-making for Harper. But some things aren't meant to be. Harper thinks Dawson is a self-centered jock, a perfect fit for a team that seems to absorb all the budget and attention at their sports-obsessed high school. Dawson thinks Harper is stuck-up, turning her nose up at anything resembling school spirit.

When their beloved hockey coach gets fired for misallocation of funds, Dawson is terrified that all his plans for impressing scouts are about to vanish before his eyes. A rumor goes around that Harper is the one who got him fired, and suddenly she's public enemy number one. But even with their mutual dislike at an all-time high, Harper and Dawson can't escape splitting shifts forever. Can forced proximity help them find some common ground, or will long-held grudges finally succeed in bringing them both down?

While Dawson and Harper's story stands alone, we are developing other stories in the athletics-obsessed world of Hamilton Lakes!

Publication Date: November 2025

Ages: 14 up

Page Extent: 304 pp/85K words

MEET ME ON LOVE STREET

By Farah Heron
Imprint: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers

From Farah Heron, the critically acclaimed author of adult rom-com *Accidentally Engaged*, comes an opposites-attract romance between two teens who are trying to save their quickly gentrifying neighborhood.

Seventeen-year-old Sana Merali is a *hopeless* romantic. But that's inevitable—she literally lives on Love Street, a quiet side street in downtown Toronto filled with mom-and-pop shops. Sana expects that any second now, an epic meet-cute on Love Street will happen for her. But when Sana's idyllic neighborhood is threatened by developers, Sana and her neighbors plan a community festival to make Love Street the Toronto destination it should be. And what better place for her to find love than at a festival for Love Street?

Unfortunately, also on the festival committee is the quick-to-disagree, stick-in-the-mud Miles Desai. Miles is grumpy, cynical, and doesn't believe in love—which sunny Sana simply can't stand. So Sana has a new, additional goal this summer: matchmake Miles and knock the cynicism right out of him. But when her setup for Miles starts to actually work, Sana realizes that she might want Miles to fall for *her* more than anyone else.

Publication Date: June 2025

Ages: 14 up

Page Extent: 352 pp/94K words





A TRAITOROUS HEART

By Erin Cotter

Imprint: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers

A noblewoman in the scandalous French court of Catherine de' Medici finds herself in danger when she falls in love with the handsome king betrothed to her former lover in this bisexual *Three Musketeers* by way of *Bridgerton* and F.T. Lukens.

Paris 1572. Seventeen-year-old Jacqueline "Jac" d'Argenson-Aunis is lady-in-waiting to her best friend and former lover, the French princess Marguerite "Margot" de Valois, but she dreams of more. If Jac plays her cards right, one day she'll become a full member of the Societas Solis, a secret society of spies.

But it's hard to think about her own ambitions while France is on the brink of war, and the only thing that might save the country is an alliance—a marriage between the Catholic princess Margot and Henry, the brazen and arrogant son of the Huguenot queen. Who would be the *perfect* person to play matchmaker? Jac, of course.

The more time Jac spends in the French Court's clandestine corners, though, the more she starts to wonder if Henry is . . . not as terrible as she once believed. And the Societas Solis may not be what they seem.

Politics. Spies. Chaos in the French court. Perhaps even witchcraft? Everything's more dangerous when love is involved.

Publication Date: January 2025

Ages: 14 up

Page Extent: 464 pp/108K words



SOLVING FOR THE UNKNOWN

By Loan Le

Imprint: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers

In this sweet, heartfelt companion to *A Pho Love Story*, Việt and Evie juggle family expectations with their desire to forge their own path in between classes and falling in love.

To his friends back home, Việt Hò is calm and collected and a lovable oddball. He's relieved to head off to UC Davis and escape from being in the middle of his bickering immigrant parents. Yet, on campus and with the school year unfolding at an overwhelming pace, Việt struggles to belong and to keep his depression hidden.

Evie Mai is a biology major who has never trod far off the beaten path. She has everything: good grades, a solid group of friends, and a smart, ambitious boyfriend. But their busy schedules, as well as their interests, no longer align.

When a clumsy accident brings Việt and Evie together, they bond over their shared hometown and similar history—and their orbits and friends overlap. The more time they spend together and support each other, mentally and emotionally, the more their relationship deepens, and the more they realize the answers they've been searching for may have been right in front of them all along.

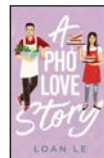
Publication Date: March 2025

Ages: 14 up

Page Extent: 336 pp/72K words

RIGHTS SOLD: French

RIGHTS SOLD FOR *A PHO LOVE STORY*: French, Portuguese (Brazil), UK





© JACKIE HALL PHOTOGRAPHY

WE WERE NEVER HERE

By Sophia Hannan

Imprint: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers

Four teens went into the manor, three came out. Now, two months and a broken friendship later, they're sent back in to retrieve the painting they were meant to steal—a painting that may have killed before.

In July, Georgia Perry and Jules Park—cohosts of a popular YouTube ghost-hunting show, secret girlfriends, and covert art thieves—step into the most haunted house in Michigan to steal a painting. A few short hours later, there's a knife in Jules's chest, and Georgia is waking up in a pool of blood with no memory of how she got there. No one knows what happened, no one can account for the lost time, and only one thing is certain: four teens walked into De Lys Manor, and only three came out alive.

Now it's September, and Georgia feels like she's underwater. She hasn't been to class in weeks, her friendship with the two remaining members of their heist crew is in shambles, and the darkness that's taken over her body since Jules's death is threatening to consume her. So when the crew gets a call from their fixer—the man who paid a hefty sum to keep them out of jail—demanding that they return to finish the job by stealing the painting they'd been sent there to steal, she's less than enthused.

It's not just the fact that her best friend—their tech wiz James—isn't talking to her or that Jules's best friend, Circe—their forger and the girl Georgia's always carried a torch for—is trying too hard to talk. It isn't the fact that Georgia is plagued by the memory of Jules and hounded by the guilt that she was never willing to go public with their relationship. It's not even the endlessly prying eyes of their viewers. It's the painting, *The Lady, Drowned*, which a once-pragmatic Georgia is now convinced is haunted, which she now thinks killed Jules Park, and which may now be coming after the three who remain.

Publication Date: February 2026

Ages: 14 up

Page Extent: 384 pp/85K words

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