



Piccadilly
PRESS

HOT
KEY
BOOKS

RIGHTS GUIDE

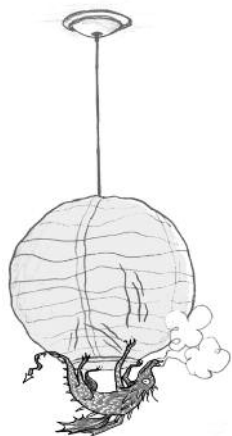


Winter
2017



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THE DISTANCE BETWEEN ME AND THE CHERRY TREE



Publication: September 2018

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: Catalan, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Turkey.

Extent: 144pp with b&w illustrations

Film rights: Marianne Gunn O'Connor

PAOLA PERETTI lives in Verona and teaches immigrant children. She studied Philosophy and Literature and graduated in 2011. Fifteen years ago, she was diagnosed with a rare genetic illness called Stargardt Disease which causes progressive vision loss, and eventually blindness. There is no known cure.

A story of heart-breaking courage as a young girl negotiates her new life in an ever-darkening world

‘And now here is my secret, a very simple secret: It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye.’

THE LITTLE PRINCE

Mafalda is nine and there is one thing she knows with absolute certainty: sometime in the next six months she will lose her sight. She will have to give up doing some of the things she loves the most, she will have to move house and perhaps not be able to take her beloved wayward cat with her. If only she could find a way to avoid all this. She could just climb up the cherry tree at school, like her favourite character in a book, and not come down from it until everything is over. But Mafalda is not a character in a book and the challenge life has dealt her will not go away. Can Mafalda find a way to face her darkening future and maybe discover new possibilities that are invisible to the eye?

With evocative references to *THE LITTLE PRINCE* and Italo Calvino's *THE BARON IN THE TREES*, this gently powerful and richly textured novel speaks to all – from 9 to 99 years – with an innocence and spontaneity that has universal resonance.

Dear Sirs, dear Madams,

I'm writing in the hope of explaining who I am. With my brown, rather ordinary eyes, I see only a fifth of what other people can see. I'm going blind.

Ever since I learned that one day in the not-so-distant future I wouldn't be able to see anymore, my every morning contains a brand new light. I'm not a wise, heroic person. I'd much rather be able to see well. But since I can't, I've decided to let go of the doubts and fears that have constrained me for too long.

Now, I throw myself head-first into life. I ski, (following my friends). I play the piano (by ear).

At night I sit by my window and stare at the star-filled sky. I beg it to burn into my retinas so that if I had a daughter and she asked me about the last thing I saw before losing my sight completely, I wouldn't have to say it was a street curb or a trash bag. I could tell the truth. . .

I want to write. I can't wait any longer. I have eyes inside my hands, and when I'm writing I even see better inside my head. Before my light goes out I want to tell this story.

Thank you for listening.

Paola



YOUNG ADULT

Robert Muchamore **KILLER T**

Publication: September 2018

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: France, Portugal

Extent: 416pp

Film rights: The Artists Partnership

ROBERT MUCHAMORE worked as a private investigator for thirteen years before becoming a full-time writer. He has written the global bestselling series *CHERUB* and *YA* series *HENDERSON'S BOYS* and *ROCK WARS*. *KILLER T* is his first stand-alone novel.



Our world is about to change in ways we can barely imagine. Two teenagers will have to be ready for anything in order to survive.

Charlie (Charlotte) is a geeky science genius from the dregs of society who is unfairly sent to jail for designing a bomb. Harry is a talented aspiring journalist, whose ambition and morals don't always run on the same track. Misfits of society in their own ways, the two are dangerously and irresistibly drawn together at a time when gene-editing technology is starting to explode.

Now, with a lab in the garage, anyone can beat cancer, enhance their brain to pass exams, or tweak a few genes for a year-round tan and perfect beach body. But in the wrong hands, gene editing is the most deadly weapon in history.

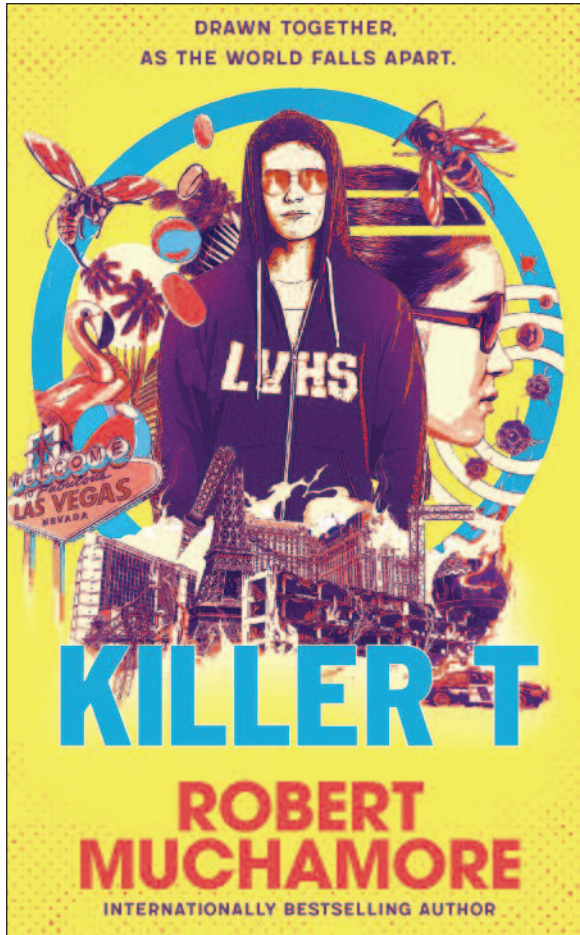
Killer T is a synthetic virus with a ninety per cent mortality rate, and the terrorists who created it want a king's ransom before they'll release an antidote . . .

Spanning ten years and asking profound (often terrifying) questions, *KILLER T* is an unsentimental love story, a rollercoaster tale of human resilience, and most of all a novel for our times.

Epic, bold, uncompromising, this is master storyteller Muchamore as you have never seen him before.

**'Muchamore has done something I'd failed to do;
he's turned my son into a reader'**

THE TIMES



CHERUB series:

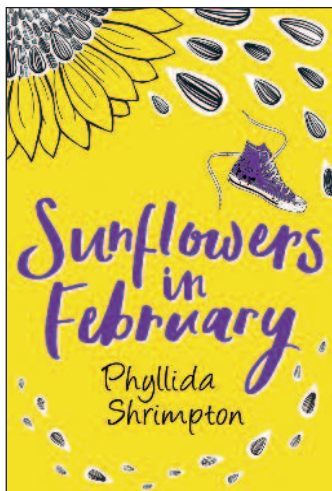
13.5 million copies sold worldwide

Translated in 24 languages

#1 Bestseller in 8 countries

Phyllida Shrimpton

SUNFLOWERS IN FEBRUARY



Publication: February 2018

WORLD RIGHTS

Extent: 352pp

PHYLLIDA SHRIMPTON is a
teacher and an artist.

**The saddest and funniest novel you
will read this year.**

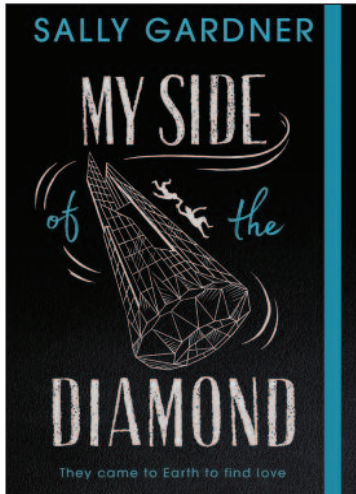
Teenage Lily wakes up on the side of the road one crisp Sunday morning. She has no idea how she got there but all is peaceful, and in fact very beautiful. Until a police car, and then an ambulance arrive, and she sees her own body. Suddenly it hits her that she is in fact ... dead. But what is she supposed to do now? Lily has no option but to follow her lifeless body and helplessly observe her parents and her twin brother Ben fall apart.

Then one night Ben gives her a once in a death-time opportunity – to use his own body for a while. Lily is now in the body of a fifteen-year-old boy and the awkwardness of the experience is mindboggling. In no time she starts to really enjoy being Ben and ultimately being alive again ... But she really needs to find why she is stuck in this limbo in order to give her brother his body back. The trouble is, she is really not at all sure if she wants to 'move on'...

A moving story of death and a wryly funny body-swap tale.

'I'd call it a triumph absolutely ... Lily's voice carries through more than one life, and leaps from the page fully formed. Funny, tough, smart and infuriating; her voice demands to be heard even from beyond the grave ...' – **MATTHEW CROW**, author of *IN BLOOM*

Sally Gardner

MY SIDE OF THE DIAMOND

Publication: October 2017

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: Turkey

Extent: 224pp

SALLY GARDNER has sold over two million books in the UK and won several book awards, including the Costa Children's Book Prize and the Carnegie Medal for *MAGGOT MOON* (translated into two dozen languages).

An intricate and gripping tale of friendship, loss and extraordinary love by the multi-award-winning author of *MAGGOT MOON*.

Jaz has been tormented ever since the day her best friend Becky disappeared. Jaz was quickly dismissed as an unreliable witness, her version of events too crazy.

Becky was inseparable from her black Moleskine notebook, where she obsessively wrote her stories, marvels of an imagination which was not of this world. Then she fell in love with an eerily ever-youthful man named Icarus. One day they had climbed the tallest building in London and jumped off ... their bodies were never found.

What on (or off) earth happened? Was Becky's disappearance something to do with Jaz? Or is the truth more disturbing and other-worldly than anyone would like to believe?

With echoes of *THE HUMANS* and delivered with stunning immediacy, this is an ambitious, memorable story about the power of love from the most unexpected points of view by an author who defines her own genre.

'Sally Gardner is quite possibly my favourite children's author of all time. Her poetic prose and seemingly effortless ability to flit from genre to genre never ceases to astonish me.'

— **INDEPENDENT**

YOUNG ADULT

M.A. Bennett
S.T.A.G.S.



Publication: August 2017

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, Netherlands, Poland, Russia, Serbia, Spain, Turkey, USA
Extent: 304pp

MARINA FIORATO, writing as M. A. Bennett, is half Venetian and was raised in the Yorkshire Dales. She is a history graduate of Oxford University and the University of Venice where she specialised in the study of Shakespeare's plays as a historical source. She has worked an illustrator, actress and film reviewer. She has also designed tour visuals for rock bands including U2 and The Rolling Stones.

There are some invitations you just shouldn't accept. Greer MacDonald doesn't know that. Yet.

It is the autumn term and Greer MacDonald is struggling to settle into the sixth form at the exclusive St Aidan the Great boarding school, known to its privileged pupils as S.T.A.G.S.

Just when she despairs of making friends, Greer receives a mysterious invitation with three words embossed upon on it: *huntin' shootin' fishin'*. When Greer learns that the invitation is to spend the half-term weekend at the country manor of Henry de Warlencourt, the most popular and wealthy boy at S.T.A.G.S., she is as surprised as she is flattered.

But when Greer joins the other chosen few at the ancient and sprawling Longcross Hall, she realises that Henry's parents are not at home; the only adults present are a cohort of eerily compliant servants.

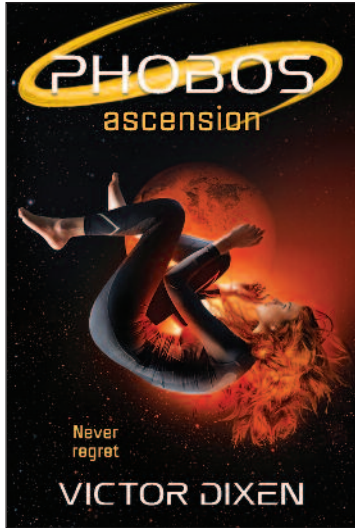
Over the next three days Greer comes to the horrifying realisation that those being hunted are not wild game, but the very misfits Henry has brought with him from school . . .

FILM RIGHTS OPTIONED TO CHERNIN ENTERTAINMENT/ FOX 2000.

'This is a darkly compelling examination of the allure of privilege, and the unscrupulous means by which it preserves itself'

– **GUARDIAN**

Victor Dixen

PHOBOS**ASCENSION / COLLISION / DISTORTION**

Publication: June 2018 / October 2018 /
February 2019

US RIGHTS

Extent: 384pp

VICTOR DIXEN is the author of three series for children and teenagers: THE STRANGE CASE OF JACK SPARK, ANIMALE and PHOBOS. He twice won the Grand Prix de l'Imaginaire, the most prestigious science-fiction and fantasy award in France. His father is Danish and his mother is French, and as a child he travelled throughout Europe. He lives in New York with his family and two inquisitive cats.

A one-way ticket to Mars and six minutes to choose your partner for life.

Six girls, six boys. Each in the two separate bays of a single spaceship. They have six minutes each week to seduce and to make their choices, under the unblinking eye of the on-board cameras. They are the contenders in the Genesis programme, the world's craziest speed-dating show ever, aimed at creating the first human colony on Mars.

Leonor, an eighteen-year-old orphan, is one of the chosen ones.

She has signed up for glory.

She has signed up for love.

She has signed up for a one-way ticket.

Even if the dream turns to a nightmare, it is too late for regrets?

Originally published in French.

'A bloodcurdling plot ... a captivating YA novel' – **L'EST REPUBLICAIN**

'A new addictive trilogy by a very promising author' – **METRONNEWS**



Sebastien de Castell

SPELLSLINGER

**SPELLSLINGER, SHADOWBLACK, CHARMCASTER,
SOULBINDER, QUEENSLAYER, CROWNBREAKER**

Publication: May 2017–May 2020

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: Czech Republic,
Denmark, France, Germany, Israel, Italy,
Netherlands, Poland, Turkey
Extent: Extent: 416pp / 352pp

*SEBASTIEN DE CASTELL is smart
and funny and Canadian. He also
happens to be a bit of a whizz with a
fencing foil.*

**Magic, mayhem, myth and intrigue
... and a cocky talking squirrel cat.**

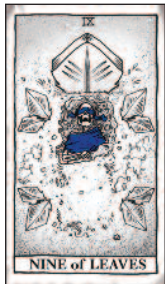
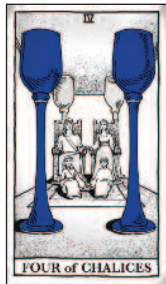
Fifteen-year-old Kellen is moments away from facing his first mage's duel and the start of four trials that will make him a spellcaster. There's just one problem: his magic is gone.

When you're a Jan'Tep initiate approaching your sixteenth birthday, you'd better be ready to prove your worth as a mage. Either that or have a miracle on the way to avoid being relegated among the Sha'Tep servants. And Kellen isn't counting on either. So when the sassy, straight-talking Ferius Parfax arrives in town and offers to help, Kellen is all ears. She can't teach him to spark his bands and access the seven magics, but with the hand that Kellen's been dealt, he needs all the help he can get ...

Will Kellen find his path in life even if that means leaving his family behind and becoming an outcast? And what will happen when his greatest fear becomes true and the Shadowblack plague starts to creep up on him?

A compelling six-book fantasy series packed with wise-cracking humour, larger-than-life characters and non-stop action.

Nominated for the 2018 CILIP Carnegie Medal





'Magic with a wild west flavour, served with flair ...'

FINANCIAL TIMES

'It has cliffhangers, pace, humour, life lessons, and a memorably feisty squirrel cat ...'

SUNDAYTIMES

'Compelling, filmic storytelling in the first of a new fantasy series ...'

BOOKSELLER

'There's room for wit and playfulness amid the high-stakes duels and death matches, and Kellen's career is likely to run and run.'

OBSERVER

'This is one of the best young-adult novels I've seen in a long time – larky, clever and slick.'

LITERARY REVIEW

'The first book in a beautifully refreshing young adult series ... Sebastien de Castell treats the reader to short punchy chapters that make it easy to read "just one more" time after time ... there is a clever message here which hopefully will strike a chord.'

SCI-FI NOW

Julie Mayhew

THE ELECTRICAL VENUS



Publication: April 2018

WORLD RIGHTS

Extent: 304pp

JULIE MAYHEW is the author of *RED INK* (shortlisted for the 2014 Branford Boase Award), the critically acclaimed *THE BIG LIE*, set in an imagined contemporary Nazi England, and *MOTHER TONGUE*.

THE MINIATURIST meets **THE NIGHT CIRCUS**.

In a lowly side-show fair in eighteenth-century England, teenager Mim is struggling to find her worth as an act. Not white, but not black enough to be truly exotic, Mim knows her pet parrot who speaks four languages is a bigger draw than her. But Alex, the one-armed boxer boy, sees her differently. And she, too, feels newly interested in him.

But then Dr Fox arrives with his scientific kit for producing 'electricity' – feats of electrical magic these bawdy audiences have never seen before. To complete his act, Fox chooses Mim to play the 'Electrical Venus'. Her popularity – and the electric-shocking kisses she can provide for a penny – mean takings are up, slop is off the menu and this spark between her and Fox must surely be love.

But is this starring role her true worth, or is love worth more than a penny for an electrifying kiss?

A heady and atmospheric coming-of-age story set in the grime and glitter of a travelling show during the height of the Georgian Enlightenment.

Praise for THE BIG LIE:

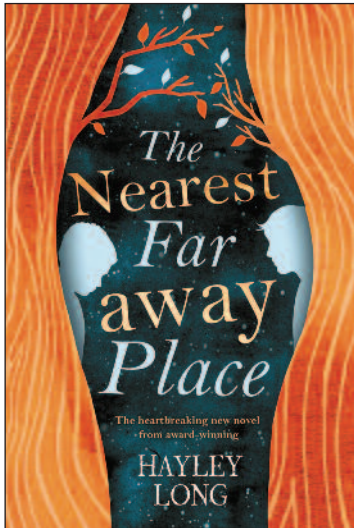
'A genius idea, executed flawlessly.' – **RED**

'A thought-provoking and chilling coming-of-age novel exploring loyalty, love and morals.'

– **BOOKSELLER**

'A powerful coming-of-age story, *THE BIG LIE* deftly takes on the big guns of dystopia, including sexism, feminism, sexuality, loyalty, propaganda, freedom and protest.' – **STYLIST**

Hayley Long

THE NEAREST FARAWAY PLACE

Publication: July 2017

WORLD RIGHTSRights sold: China, France, Germany,
Netherlands, Mexico, Spain, Turkey

Extent: 320pp

HAYLEY LONG has published two previous books with Hot Key: *SOPHIE SOMEONE*, shortlisted for the Costa Children's Book Award 2015, and a non-fiction title, *BEING A GIRL*.



A poignant and heartbreaking tale about two brothers dealing with grief – with a twist.

Griff and Dylan are returning from a holiday with their parents, about to cross into Manhattan.

And then there is a terrible car accident. Dylan and Griff's parents are killed. The boys are suddenly orphans with nowhere to go until a kind aunt and uncle give them a new home in Wales. Now Dylan and Griff have everything they need – love, a happy home and future. But Dylan is worried about Griff: whether he is OK, how he is coping with the terrible loss. He doesn't seem to speak about it or really acknowledge it. And Dylan has something else that he needs to come to terms with too.

'The best tear-jerkers are often novels where pain goes hand-in-hand with humour, and Hayley Long's *THE NEAREST FARAWAY PLACE* offers up a superb example ...' – **IRISH TIMES**

'Heartbreaking and heart-warming. A welcome and important addition to teen literature.' – **READING ZONE**

'As I turned the final page, tears streaming down my face... A beautiful, lyrical story of love and brotherhood and loss and moving on.'
– **MUCH ADO ABOUT BOOKS**

Nominated for the 2018 CILIP Carnegie Medal

Winner of the East Anglia Book Award

YOUNG ADULT

Kerry Drewery

CELL 7

CELL 7 / DAY 7 / FINAL 7



Publication: September 2016 / June 2017 /
January 2018

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: Brazil, Bulgaria, Denmark,
France, Germany, Hungary, Korea, Latvia,
Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Turkey,
Taiwan

Extent: 400pp / 448pp / 464pp

KERRY DREWERY is the author
of two highly acclaimed YA novels:
A BRIGHTER FEAR and A DREAM
OF LIGHTS.

‘This powerful thriller oozes
suspense and offers a sharp satire
on media and celebrity’
– **BOOKSELLER**

‘A ticking time bomb of a book,
and you’re counting down to an
electrifying end’ – **MAXIMUM POP!**

Should she live? You decide.

Sixteen-year-old Martha Honeydew from the disadvantaged Rises estate is the youngest murder suspect to be tried in the popular *Death is Justice*, the only TV show that gives the power of life and death to the general public. Nothing could be more democratic or fair – or could it?

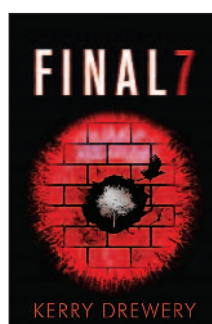
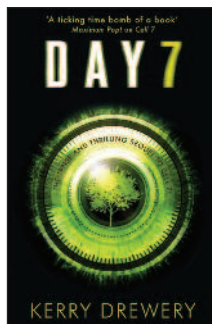
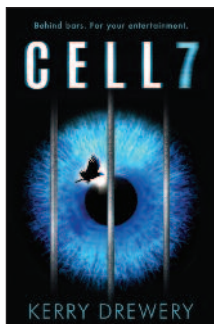
Martha has admitted to the crime. But is she guilty? Or is reality more complicated than the images we are shown on TV? Her secret lover Isaac is the only one who might be able to save her, but not without sacrificing his own life.

With corruption seeping into the TV show, and Trump-like walls going up in the real world, will the star-crossed lovers ever be reunited and win their fight for a better world?

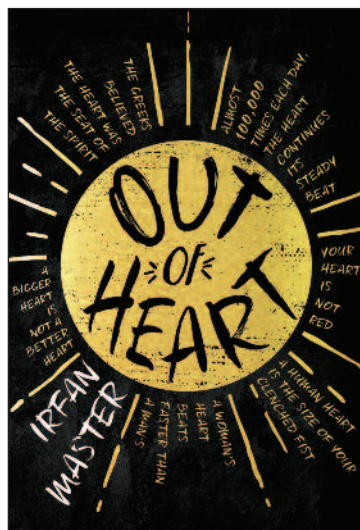
Nominated for the 2018 CILIP Carnegie Medal

CRIMEFEST BEST YA CRIME 2017

‘An adrenaline-packed roller coaster of a novel.’
– **SUN**



Irfan Master

OUT OF HEART

Publication: April 2017

WORLD RIGHTS

Extent: 272pp

IRFAN MASTER's first novel, *A BEAUTIFUL LIE*, was shortlisted for the Waterstones Children's Book Prize 2011 and nominated for the Branford Boase Award 2012, as well as a slew of regional awards. It also featured on the 2013 USBBY Outstanding International Book Honor List.

Donating your heart is the most precious gift of all.

Adam is a teenage boy who lives with his mum and younger sister. His dad has left but lives close by. His sister no longer speaks and his mum works two jobs. Adam feels the weight of the world upon his shoulders.

Then Adam's grandfather dies and in doing so he donates a very precious gift – his heart. William is the recipient of Adam's grandfather's heart. He has no family and feels rootless and alone. In fact, he feels no particular reason to live. And then he meets Adam's family. William has received much, but it appears that he has much to offer Adam and his family too.

A powerful tale of love and strength in adversity.

'Cleverly constructed and thought provoking coming of age story, rich in metaphor, offering the reader much to reflect upon'

– **GUARDIAN**

'Lyrical and moving, this is an intimate picture of a small family coming to terms with their past and learning to fight for their future'

– **SCOTSMAN**

'Thoughtfully conceived and beautifully executed.' – **ANNA PARERA**, author of **GUANTANAMO BOY**

'A novel of exquisite artistry and contemporary storytelling' – **NUDGE MAGAZINE**

Nominated for the 2018 CILIP Carnegie Medal

Rutendo Tavengerwei

HOPE IS OUR ONLY WING

Publication: May 2018

WORLD RIGHTS

Extent: 208pp

RUTENDO NOMSA TAVENGERWEI

lived and studied in Zimbabwe until the age of eighteen. She then continued her studies in South Africa and Switzerland. She is currently carrying out an internship at the World Trade Organization in Geneva.

An extraordinary debut novel about hope – and its power to heal a family, a friendship or even a nation.

For fifteen-year-old Shamiso, struggling with grief and bewilderment following her father's death, hope is nothing but a leap into darkness. For Tanyaradzwa, whose life has been turned upside down by a fearful diagnosis, hope is the only reason to keep fighting.

As the two of them form an unlikely friendship, Shamiso begins to confront her terrible fear of loss. In getting close to another person, particularly someone who's ill, isn't she just opening herself up to more pain? And underpinning it all – what did happen to her father, the night of the fateful car crash?

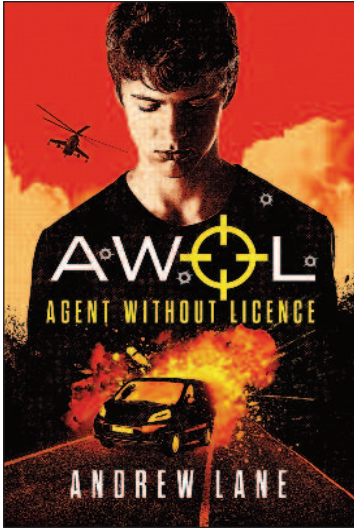
Delicately weaving themes of corruption in contemporary Zimbabwe and bringing to life its sights, smells, faraway beauty, this unforgettable novel takes an honest look at hope, and the grit and courage it takes to hang on to it.

'The trees in the distance whispered to her. The sky painted the frame of the mountains in dim yellow and thick red. She could see a lot from here. Her grandmother's farm lay on top of a plateau, surrounded by a host of banana trees and overlooking the valley where the fields were.

The land had been allocated to her during the land reformation process. The valley beamed with life, generous in colour and soaking up the water that flowed from a ravine close by. It was remarkable how in this dry weather little corners of heaven still hid in the country.'



Andy Lane

A.W.O.L.**AGENT WITHOUT LICENCE**

Publication: July 2018–January 2019

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: Germany

Extent: 288pp

ANDREW LANE is the author of the *YOUNG SHERLOCK HOLMES* series, which has been published in forty-four countries and of three adult crime novels. Before becoming a writer, Andrew worked for twenty-seven years for the Ministry of Defence on the fringes of the intelligence and counter-terrorism communities. He has also worked on the popular BBC TV programme *DOCTOR WHO*.

A rollicking four-book series with high-octane adventure, great James Bond settings, mind-blowing gadgets and lots of action and explosions ...

Kieron and his friend Sam are shocked to see a man kidnapped in a Newcastle shopping centre right in front of their eyes. The boys quickly realise that the kidnapped man left something behind in the scuffle – an earpiece and glasses. Kieron puts them on and realises he sees not what is in front of him, but a busy, tourist city, somewhere very hot – Mumbai ...

Kieron has accidentally stumbled upon the undercover world of Rebecca 'Bex' Wilson – a freelance agent working for the British Secret Intelligence Service. And without her handler Bradley (the man who was kidnapped), Bex is in trouble. She doesn't know which of her usual contacts she can trust, and, like it or not, she is going to have to use teenage Kieron to get her out of danger. Before Kieron and Sam know it, they are part of a mission to stop a Weapon of Mass Destruction from falling into the wrong hands ...

'Don't worry, I am not supposed to be here either' – James Bond



Chloe Coles

BOOKSHOP GIRL



Publication: June 2018 / September 2018

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: Korea

Extent: 224pp

Originally from Northampton, CHLOE COLES studied Illustration at Cambridge School of Art before moving to London. She has worked in bookselling since the age of sixteen and she is now a Children's Specialist and Assistant Buyer at Foyles Charing Cross Road. All of her hair is her own. People ask her about that. A lot.

What do we want? BOOKS! When do we want them? FOREVER.

Bennett's Bookshop has always been a haven for sixteen-year-old Paige Turner. It's a place where she can escape from her sleepy hometown, hang out with her best friend, Holly, and also earn some money.

But, like so many bookshops, Bennett's has become a 'casualty of the high street' – it's strapped for cash and going to be torn down. Paige is determined to save it, but mobilising a small town like Greysworth is no mean feat. Time is ticking – but that's not the only problem Paige faces. How is she going to fend off the attractions of beautiful fellow artist, Blaine? And, more importantly, will his anarchist ways make or break her bookshop campaign?

NOTTING HILL meets ANGUS, THONGS AND FULL-FRONTAL SNOGGING, this is the first in a laugh-out-loud sparky two-book teen series that will make you want to rush off and start your own bookshop campaign..



Jess Vallance

YOU ONLY LIVE ONCE: IT'S TIME TO MEET GRACIE DART



Publication: April 2018 / August 2018 /

February 2019

WORLD RIGHTS

Extent: 192pp

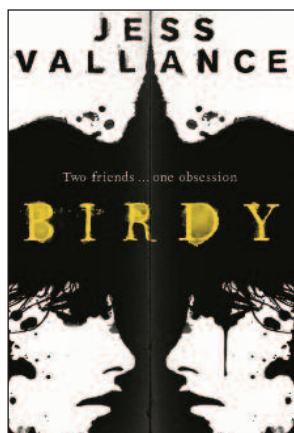
JESS VALLANCE works as a freelance writer specialising in educational materials and has written articles on everything from business accounting to embalming a body. Her YA novels for Hot Key Books are *BIRDY* and *THE YELLOW ROOM*. *BIRDY* has just been optioned for film.

Cringe and blush ... but never hide.

Gracie Dart is your classically studious, responsible, clearheaded, career-focused girl. The sort of girl whose exam revision timetable is fully colour-coded and always triple-checked. But now GCSEs are behind her – and suddenly Gracie starts thinking **WHAT IS THE POINT?** And then she accidentally thinks she is dying of some terminal illness (the perils of believing all you read on Google).

One super embarrassing A&E visit later (no, Gracie, you are not dying of some fatal skin disease, you've simply overdone it with the fake-bake lotion), Gracie starts to rethink her life. And when she decides to do something, just like her fully colour-coded revision timetable, Gracie does nothing by half measures. Gracie Dart is about to live it large ...

A thoughtful exploration of the meaning of life? Well, no ... It's actually an exuberant, witty, hilarious three-book series about the trials and embarrassing tribulations of an unforgettable teenager.



BIRDY

A deliciously dark, haunting teen novel about friendship and obsession.

Frances Bird has been a loner for so long that she's given up on ever finding real friendship. But when she meets eccentric, talkative Alberta the two strangely click immediately, and it's not long before they are inseparable. But as Frances finds out more about her new best friend – her past, her secrets, her plans for the future – she starts to realise that perhaps it is all just too good to be true ...

FILM RIGHTS SOLD TO LOOP PRODUCTIONS.

Publication: July 2015

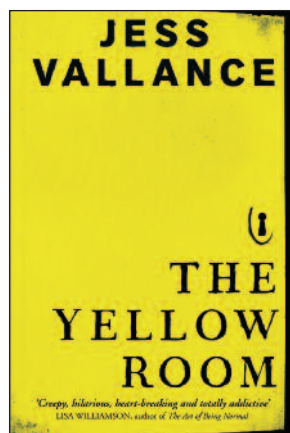
Extent: 272pp

Rights sold: Spain

THE YELLOW ROOM

Sixteen-year-old Anna lives with her ambitious, unemotional scientist mother. One day she receives a letter from her estranged father's current girlfriend, Edie, with some shocking news: her father has died. Anna is warned by everyone to steer away from Edie. But Anna is drawn to her: her warmth, her character, her ability to rustle up delicious meals ... and the way she can tell Edie the secret that is buried inside her; that she cannot bring herself to tell her mother or her best friends.

'Creepy, , heart-breaking and totally addictive'
– Lisa Williamson, author of *THE ART OF BEING NORMAL*



Publication: July 2016

Extent: 272pp

Rights sold: Israel

Jay Jay Burridge

SUPERSAURS

**RAPTORS OF PARADISE / THE STEGOSORCERER /
CASH KINGSLEY'S RODEO / THE SECRET ORDER
OF THE SAURS / THE LAST SPINOSAURI /
THE STYRACO CIRCUS**

Publication: September 2017–February
2020

WORLD RIGHTS

Extent: 352pp

Rights sold: Catalan, China, Denmark,
France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Portugal,
Russia, Spain, Turkey

***JAY JAY BURRIDGE** studied Fine Art Sculpture at Central Saint Martin's College of Art and Design. For his degree show he made a 40-foot, self-assembled dinosaur skeleton out of MDF. In 1994 he took over writing and co-presenting the TV show SMART for the BBC. In the summer of 2010 he returned to his favourite subject of dinosaurs and exhibited his supersaurs sculptures in a one-man show in Beverly Hills, LA. Along with chef Jamie Oliver, he created the Dinosaur Diner pop-up, in Piccadilly Circus. Jay lives in Oxfordshire with his family and a life-sized triceratops called Trevor.*



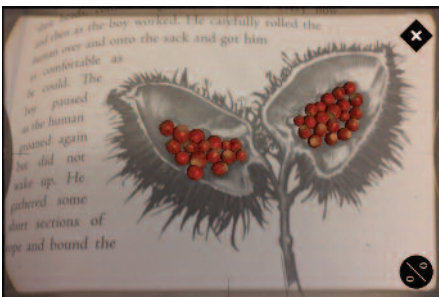
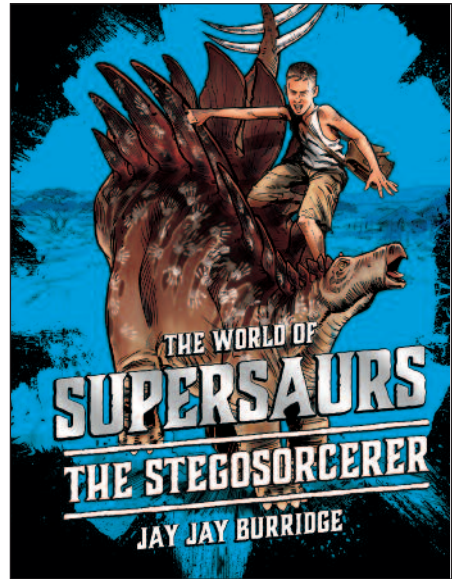
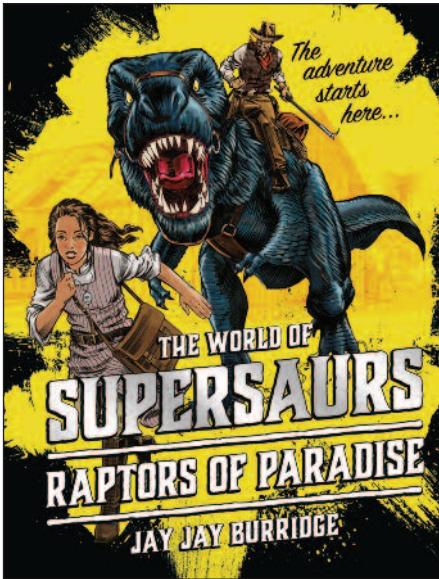
**What if dinosaurs had never died
out and lived alongside humans?
Welcome to the world of SUPERSAURS.**

This is the world that Bea Kingsley lives in. She is the daughter of explorer parents who went missing when she was just a baby. So when her grandmother suddenly takes her on a trip to the remote Indonesian islands of Aru, Bea starts asking some big questions. But the more questions Bea asks, the more trouble she and her grandmother find themselves in. Was the journey to the islands a big mistake?

THE ADVENTURE STARTS HERE ...

RAPTORS OF PARADISE is the launch of a major new six-book series for readers aged 8+, illustrated throughout with black-and-white artwork.

FILM RIGHTS SOLD TO WORKING TITLE



Jon Claydon and Tim Lawler

THE STIG

THE STIG PLAYS A DANGEROUS GAME / THE STIG DRIVES AGAIN / THE STIG AND SOMETHING WICKED / THE STIG AND THE SILVER GHOST



Publication: March 2018 – March 2019

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: Czech Republic

Extent: 272pp

JON CLAYDON and TIM LAWLER's collaboration began at university in Edinburgh where they wrote sell-out shows. They then embarked on different successful careers in the UK and abroad until one day they were both mysteriously summoned by The Stig. He non-verbally communicated that it was high time someone wrote a book for his many younger fans, and it is thus that they went back to the career they'd always thought they should have had.

Cars and races ... and a taciturn man in a white suit

The first in a highly commercial, funny, illustrated action series for 8–11 year-olds, featuring the legendary TOP GEAR racing driver The Stig.

EPISODE I

SETTING: Bunsfold, an unremarkable English town, and its local school Bunsfold High

PROTAGONISTS: the junior Top Gear gang: Sam Wheeler, Minnie Cooper, Ford Harrison and Buster Mustang (later joined by a reformed Cabriola Cruiser)

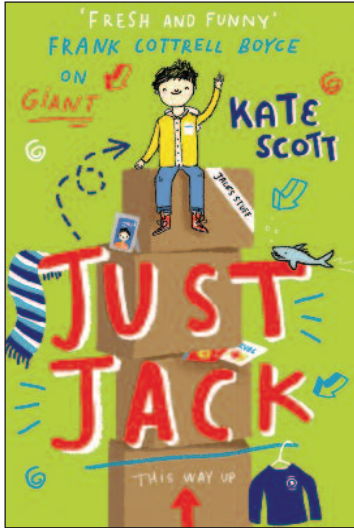
VILLAIN: PT Cruiser, inventor of the vicious computer game Xenon

MISSION: Saving Bunsfold from the most malicious cyber-attack known to mankind

PLOT: The sleepy town of Bunsfold is in the thrall of the local billionaire and inventor PT Cruiser. With his devilish, highly addictive video-game creation, Xenon, he controls the residents and has a plan to launch the game globally. Sam Wheeler and his new gang of friends must race against time to stop him and there is only one person who can help them: THE STIG.

THE GOONIES meets **ALEX RIDER** in this four-book series which introduces a feisty junior 'Top Gear Gang' embarking on exciting missions in the most diverse locations, from the Wild West of America to even under the Ocean.

Kate Scott JUST JACK



Publication: April 2018

WORLD RIGHTS

Extent: 240pp

Rights sold in **GIANT**: Korea, Vietnam

KATE SCOTT has lived in Hong Kong, Paris, Scotland and two tiny villages in France, but now lives in Dorset. Her first published children's novel was *BOY IN TIGHTS* which developed into the three-book series, *SPIES IN DISGUISE*. She also published the standalone novel *GIANT* in 2016.

A warm and funny story about making new friends and being yourself.

It's not easy fitting in at a new school. It's even harder to be yourself.

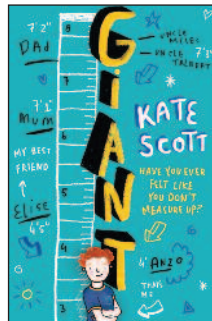
Jack knows LOTS about starting a new school. Since Dad left, he and his mum have moved house five times.

He also knows all about fitting in. The trick is to act exactly like everyone else and make sure no one ever notices him. But it's hard work trying to be something he isn't, and Jack doesn't have any good friends. That is, until Tyler comes along.

Tyler is funny and different and might be the key to getting Jack to realise that although he is brilliant at pretending to be other people, the very best thing he can be is ... **JUST JACK**.

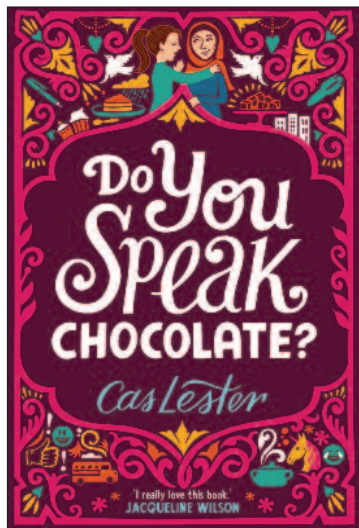
Praise for GIANT:

'GIANT is a fresh and funny meditation on the fickleness of peer pressure, and the pointlessness of trying to conform to its demands ... It's a book that celebrates friendship and the power of being true to yourself.' – **FRANK COTTRELL BOYCE**



Cas Lester

DO YOU SPEAK CHOCOLATE?



Publication: August 2017

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: France, Germany

Extent: 288pp

CAS LESTER worked for many years at CBBC, where she developed and produced several children's programmes. Now Cas writes books for children and among her previous books are the *HARVEY DREW* series and *WILFRED THE UNWISE*.

'I love this book'
JACQUELINE WILSON

Chocolate: what better beginning for a friendship?

'Do you speak chocolate?' Jaz has found the best way to make friends with new girl Nadima, who doesn't speak any English: by offering her a chocolate bar. Nadima grins and offers back some Turkish delight, the ice is broken, and a special friendship begins . . .

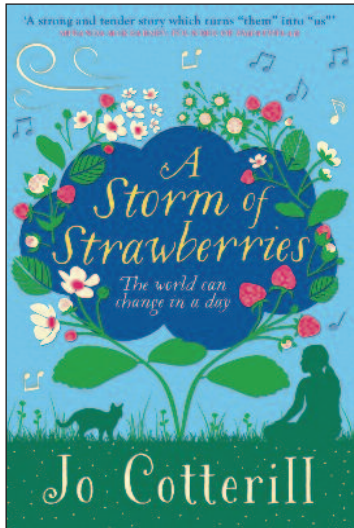
The path of true friendship doesn't run smooth though. Jaz, ever the entrepreneur, cooks up a plan to sell Turkish delight at school, with disastrous results. A drama project with Nadima about family history proves impossible to manage. And Charity Challenge Week puts the icing on the cake as Jaz puts every possible foot wrong. Can she find a way to put things right, and restore the wonderful and unique friendship that she has with Nadima?

In a story of friendship, family and entrepreneurial wizardry, Cas Lester deftly navigates the trials and tribulations of girlhood, and examines with the lightest of touches and gentle humour the thorny and compelling issues of integration, belonging and identity.



Jo Cotterill

A STORM OF STRAWBERRIES



Publication: June 2017

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: China

Extent: 240pp

Rights sold in [A LIBRARY OF LEMONS](#):

China, Finland, France, Germany, Japan,

Korea, Norway, Romania, Sweden, Taiwan,

Turkey



'A story as delicate and delicious as a bowl of freshly picked strawberries.'

– **LANCASHIRE EVENING POST**

Darby's favourite things are listening to music – preferably the Beatles – the annual chocolate hunt on the family's strawberry farm and spending time with her big sister. She is looking forward to doing all three over the long weekend, but when Kaydee has a friend to stay and the sunshine disappears, everything gets turned on its head. When the storm clears, will Darby find everything is back to normal, and what is 'normal' anyway?

A timely, reassuring novel about love in all its different forms narrated by twelve-year-old Darby with Down's syndrome and a passion for music.

Praise and nominations for [A LIBRARY OF LEMONS](#)

Shortlisted for the Leeds Book Awards 2017

Nominated for the CILIP Carnegie Medal

Shortlisted for the Leeds Book Awards 2017

'A story of great warmth and emotional wisdom, focusing on the importance of friendship and loyalty, openness and creativity'

– **LINDA NEWBERY**

'A gorgeously written and profound story about books, grief and friendship'

– **GUARDIAN**

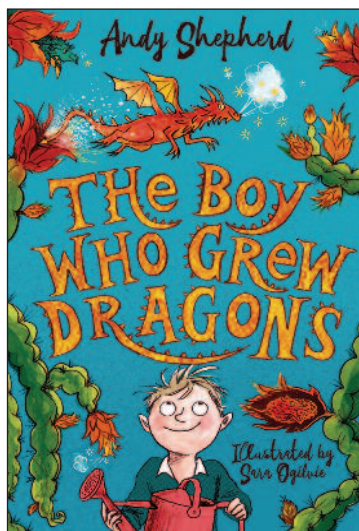
'Believable, memorable, charming and moving, fans of Jacqueline Wilson's domestic dramas will enjoy this bittersweet story of a family finding their feet in the next chapter of their lives'

– **BOOK TRUST**

Andy Shepherd | Illustrator: Sara Ogilvie

THE BOY WHO GREW DRAGONS

THE BOY WHO LIVED WITH DRAGONS / THE BOY WHO FLEW WITH DRAGONS



Who wants to grow dragons?

When Tomas discovers a strange old tree at the bottom of his grandpa's garden, he doesn't think much of it. But he takes one of the funny fruits back into the house – and gets the shock and delight of his life when a tiny dragon hatches! The tree is a dragon-fruit tree – and Tomas has got his very own dragon. But life with Flicker doesn't prove easy – there are the flames and the flammable poo to deal with – and how long can Tomas keep his dragon secret from everyone? And what about all the other dragon fruits on the tree ... what could be hiding inside those?

The series has been optioned by the independent TV company Adastra (*GRANDPA IN MY POCKET* – CBEEBIES).

ANDY SHEPHERD and SARA OGILVIE are huge fans of dragons.

Publication: June 2018 / September 2018 / January 2019

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: Germany, Netherlands, Turkey

Extent: 224 pp



Draco Dormiens Nunquam Titillandus



Joanne Owen | Illustrator: Tony Ross / Mark Beech

MARTHA MAYHEM AND THE WITCH FROM THE DITCH

MARTHA MAYHEM GOES NUTS! / MARTHA MAYHEM'S BARMY BIRTHDAY

Publication: July 2017 / January 2018 /
July 2018

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: Turkey

Extent: 256pp

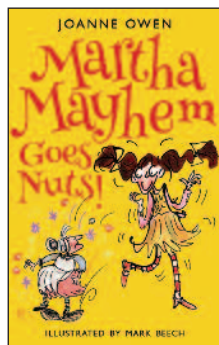
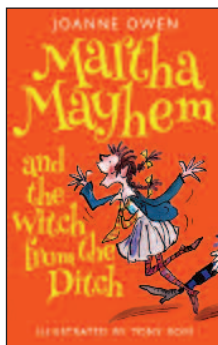
JOANNE OWEN has been longlisted for both the CILIP Carnegie Medal and the Branford Boase Award. She has also written older fiction, including CIRCUS OF THE UNKNOWN, for Hot Key.

A magical, laugh-out-loud trilogy full of witches and mischief.

Martha May is a chaos magnet. She can't help it – somehow chaotic things always seem to happen to her, so she has been nicknamed Martha Mayhem! She lives with her eccentric grandfather, Professor Gramps, and her handsome pet hog, just past Raspberry Road in the picturesque village of Cherry Hillsbottom.

One fine day she discovers an enormous pair of purple polka-dot knickers in a ditch, attached to a bedraggled and rather annoyed witch, and that's when life begins to get a bit overexciting. As Halloween looms, Martha must help grumpy Griselda Gritch find her missing grandfather, cheer up a miserable hog and avoid mean Miss Parpwell. All while being chased by a ghastly ghoul!

A wildly chaotic and hilariously imaginative trilogy with a lovable heroine – for fans of PIPPI LONGSTOCKING and PONGWIFFY.



Rachel Delahaye

JIM REAPER

SON OF GRIM / SAVING GRANNY MAGGOT / THE GLOVE OF DEATH

Publication: April 2017

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: Czech Republic

Extent: 224pp

RACHEL DELAHAYE studied linguistics in Wales, very near a town called Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwllllantysiliogogoch (which is a great word). She then began a career in print journalism. Nowadays, when she's not playing Boggle, Scrabble or Balderdash, she writes children's books.

So Dad's the Grim Reaper ... What next?

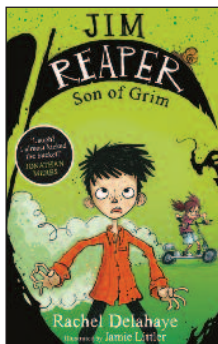
Jim Wimple needs a Bazoom! and fast. The Bazoom! is an amazing new scooter – it's super-speedy, deadly cool (and swoonsome), and Fiona the Fierce, sister of his best friend, Will, has just started riding hers to school and (possibly) out of Jim's life forever.

Jim and Will devise a fiendishly persuasive plan that involves sneaking into his dad's boring accounting firm. But when the boys break into the premises after hours, instead of calculators and maths nerds, they find the walls are lined with ancient portraits, the staff are highly secretive and Jim's dad's office bears the sign 'G. Reaper' on the door ...

What in heaven's name is going on?

'Hilarious and fun and spooky and brilliant – I LOVE Jim Reaper!' – **PAMELA BUTCHART**

'Laugh? I almost kicked the bucket!' – **JONATHAN MERES**, author of *THE WORLD OF NORM*



Dave Lowe | Illustrator: The Boy Fizhammond

THE INCREDIBLE DADVENTURE

THE MUMBELIEVABLE CHALLENGE / THE SPECTACULAR HOLLY-DAY

Publication: April 2017–August 2017

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: Turkey

Extent: 192pp

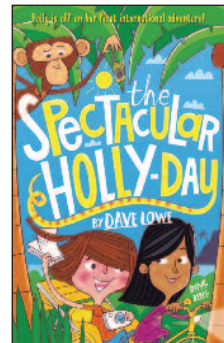
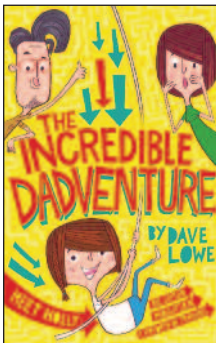
DAVE LOWE spends his days writing books, drinking lots of tea and treading on Lego that his daughters have left lying around. He loved reading Enid Blyton books growing up and now has the chance to write adventurous stories of his own! He is the author of the *Stinky* and *Jinks* books – MY HAMSTER IS A GENIUS: ‘Fab, furry fun!’

Smart and funny, this heart-warming series is perfect for fans of David Baddiel and *THE 13-STOREY TREEHOUSE*.

Holly wants to be an adventurer, just like her dad. He’s an explorer but he’s always off on expeditions, leaving Holly stuck at home with her mum and baby brother. When he is off to Greenland just before her tenth birthday he leaves a special treasure hunt, just for Holly.

In *THE MUMBELIEVABLE ADVENTURE*, Mum has packed Holly and her Dad off to a log cabin for five days with NO technology. Holly meets Zeb, and the two enjoy exploring the forest together. But then Zeb’s dad goes missing and word gets out that there is a bear on the loose!

In *THE SPECTACULAR HOLLY-DAY*, Dad’s finally taking Holly on one of his travel-writing trips – to Malaysia! Holly can’t wait to explore, but Dad doesn’t want to leave their luxury hotel. If Holly wants an adventure, she’s going to have to find it herself.



INTERNATIONAL SUBAGENTS

BRAZIL

TASSY BARHAM ASSOCIATES

Tassy Barham / Helenka Fuglewicz
tassy@tassybarham.com
helenka@tassybarham.com

CHINA

ANDREW NURNBERG ASSOCIATES

Jackie Huang
jhuang@nurnberg.com.cn

CZECH REPUBLIC & SLOVAKIA

KRISTIN OLSON AGENCY

Kristin Olson
kristin.olson@litag.cz

EASTERN EUROPE

(EX CZECH REPUBLIC, POLAND & SLOVAKIA)

PRAVA I PREVODI LITERARY AGENCY

Milena Kaplarevic
milena@pravaiprevodi.com

JAPAN

THE ENGLISH AGENCY

Noriko Hasegawa
noriko@ej.co.jp

KOREA

ERIC YANG AGENCY (Hot Key Books)

Sue Yang / July Lee
eya-child@eyagency.com

PROPONS AGENCY (Piccadilly)

Miran
propons@propons.com

POLAND

GRAAL LITERARY AGENCY

Justyna Pelaska
justyna.pelaska@graal.com.pl

RUSSIA/UKRAINE

THE VAN LEAR AGENCY

Liz Van Lear / Julia Demchenko
evl@vanlear.co.uk
julia.demchenko@vanlearagency.com

SPAIN & PORTUGAL

AGENCIA LITERARIA CARMEN

BALCELLS
Maribel Luque/Ivette Antoni
m.luque@agenciabalcels.com
i.antoni@agenciabalcels.com

TAIWAN

ANDREW NURNBERG ASSOCIATES

Zoe Hsu / Joanne Chan
zhsu@nurnberg.com.tw
jchan@nurnberg.com.tw

THAILAND, MALAYSIA, INDONESIA & VIETNAM

TUTTLE THAILAND

Nawara Hirankan / Pumi Boonyatud
children@tuttlemori.co.th
pumi@tuttlemori.co.th

TURKEY

KALEM AGENCY

Göksun Bayraktar
rights2@kalemagency.com



RUTH LOGAN
RIGHTS DIRECTOR
ruth.logan@bonnierzaffre.co.uk

b BONNIER
Publishing

BONNIER
Zaffre

www.bonnierzaffre.co.uk
80-81 Wimpole Street, London W1G 9RE