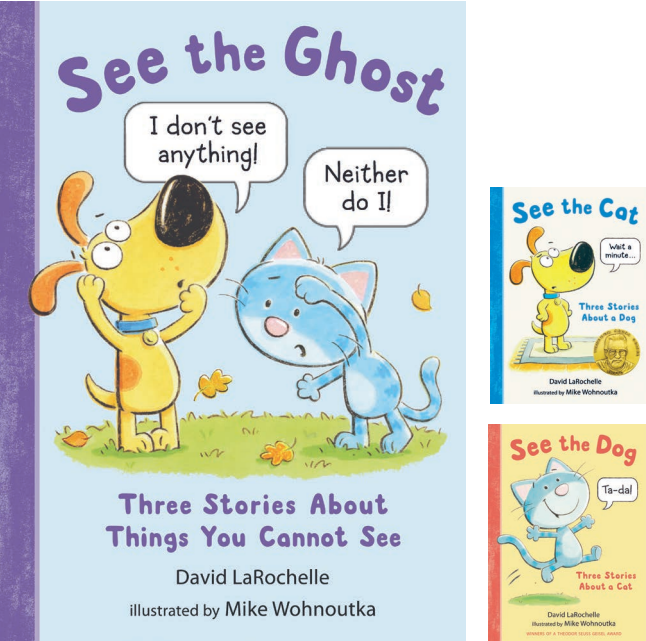


THE
WALKER BOOKS
GROUP

FICTION RIGHTS

FRANKFURT & SHANGHAI
2022

DAVID LAROCHELLE



See the Ghost: Three Stories About Things You Cannot See

illustrated by Mike Wohnoutka

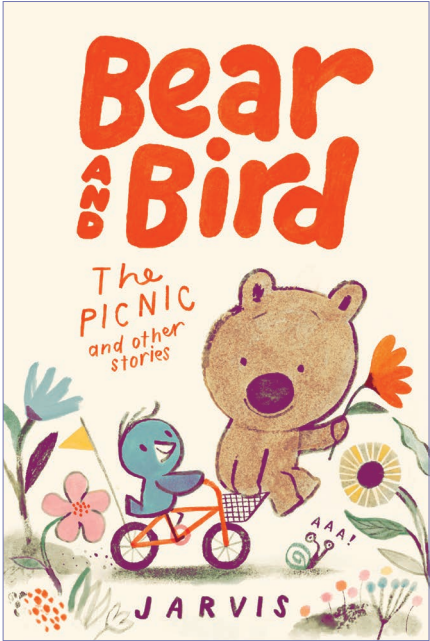
The Geisel Award–winning creators return for a comical new spoof on primers

What happens when Max the dog and Baby Cakes the cat meet three things they cannot see: a ghost, the wind, and a teeny-tiny fairy? The results will have you laughing out loud, no matter which way you look at it! Discover the third book in this hilarious series of early readers.

64 pages • July 2023 • Rights sold: French Canadian, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Romanian, Simplified Chinese, Spanish • Candlewick Press

Praise for *See the Cat*
“With short, simple words and a keen sense of comedic timing, LaRochele sets up this battle of wits but leaves space for Wohnoutka to work his magic.”
Booklist (starred review)

JARVIS



BOOK 2
OCTOBER
2023

Bear and Bird: The Picnic and Other Stories

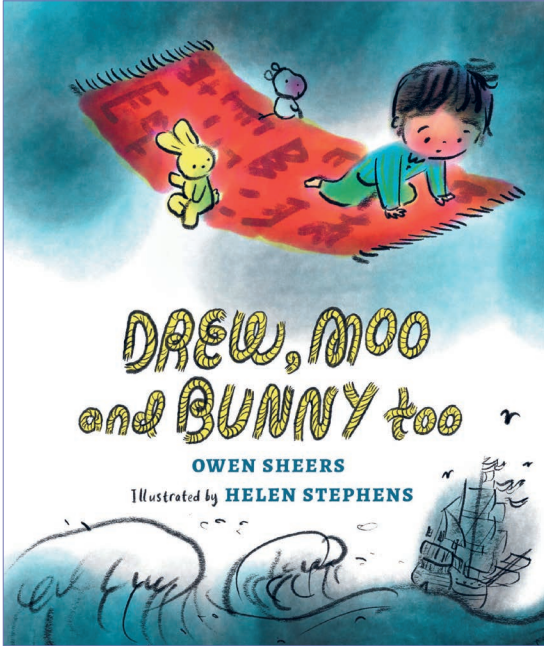
An award-winning and bestselling author-illustrator makes his fiction debut with the first of four laugh-out-loud Bear and Bird books

Bear and Bird are best friends! And while they don't always understand each other, they both agree: all they want is to make the other happy. Full of funny mix-ups and comic misunderstandings, as well as genuine warmth and affection, the four stories included in this chapter book mark the start of an irresistibly charming new series.

64 pages • March 2023
Rights sold: French, German, Italian, Portuguese
Walker Books



OWEN SHEERS



Drew, Moo and Bunny, Too

illustrated by Helen Stephens

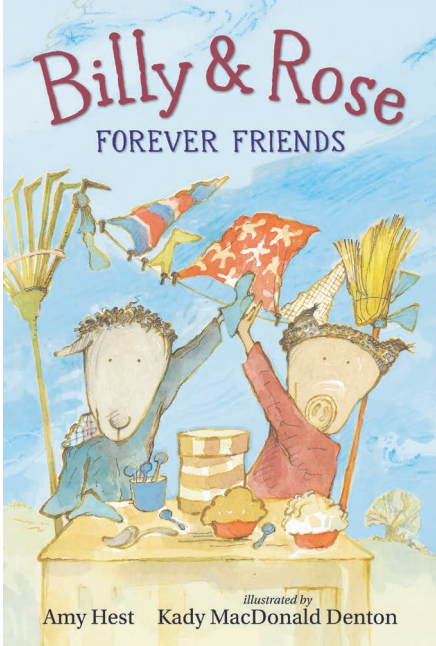
A magical adventure story about friendship, pirates and a flying carpet

Poet Owen Sheers and award-winning illustrator Helen Stephens have beautifully imagined the story of a little boy named Drew who sets off on an adventure with his best friends, Bunny and Moo. As the three fly around the world on a magic rug, powered by the friendship they share, they run into pirates and trouble on the dark sea. Can the three best friends find what they need to get home? This sumptuous gift book will be a sure family favourite.

80 pages • September 2023
World rights available
Walker Books



AMY HEST



BOOK 2
SEPTEMBER
2023

Billy and Rose: Forever Friends

illustrated by Kady MacDonald Denton

Billy and Rose, friends with different ideas, always end up coming together in these charming stories from two masterful creators

Billy the goat and Rose the pig are two friends who live on opposite sides of the farmyard. In these four gently funny stories, they take different approaches to doing their chores, compromise in a game of catch, try to sell ice cream in the snow, and meet in the middle about where to have a sleepover. Even though they don't always do things the same way, they always agree it's better to do things as friends.

48 pages • October 2022
World rights available
Candlewick Press



CHRISTINE PLATT



Frankie and Friends: Breaking News

illustrated by Alea Marley

Frankie has learned a lot about journalism from her mama, and now she's ready to report on news of her own. When Mama goes out of town on assignment, Frankie gathers her stuffed animals and family cat to form her very own news crew. Their first story? An investigative piece about where the crying noise in their house might be coming from!

80 pages • October 2023 • World rights available • Walker Books US

An early chapter book about journalism and the news, in which a young Black girl and her stuffed animal news crew follow in the footsteps of her successful journalist mother.

BOOK 2
MARCH
2024



KIRBY LARSON

Shermy and Shake, the Not-So-Nice Neighbor

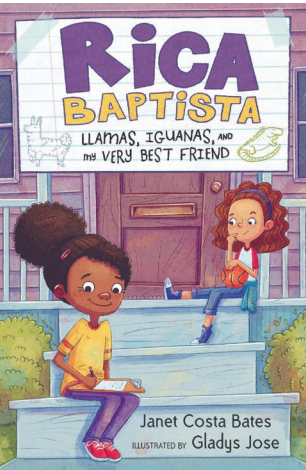
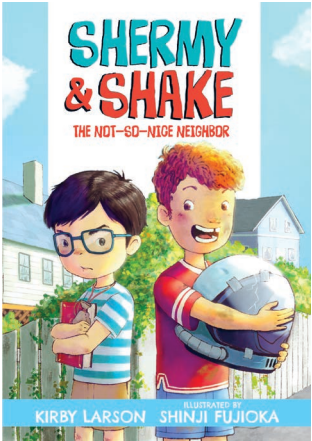
illustrated by Shinji Fujioka

Will summer break be a drag or a blast for meticulous Shermy when rambunctious Shake moves in next door? From Newbery Honor recipient Kirby Larson and debut illustrator Shinji Fujioka comes a bighearted chapter book about two boys' unlikely friendship.

96 pages • May 2023 • World rights available • Candlewick Press

An authentic look at an unlikely friendship between two kids who seem to have little in common but are forced to find ways to get along.

BOOK 2
MARCH
2024



JANET COSTA BATES

Rica Baptista: Llamas, Iguanas, and My Very Best Friend

illustrated by Gladys Jose

Sincere, creative, and ever-determined, Rica Baptista always has a plan! In this amusing series perfect for fans of Judy Moody, Jasmine Toguchi, and Ivy and Bean, Rica navigates friends and family in all their funny, frustrating, and endearing forms.

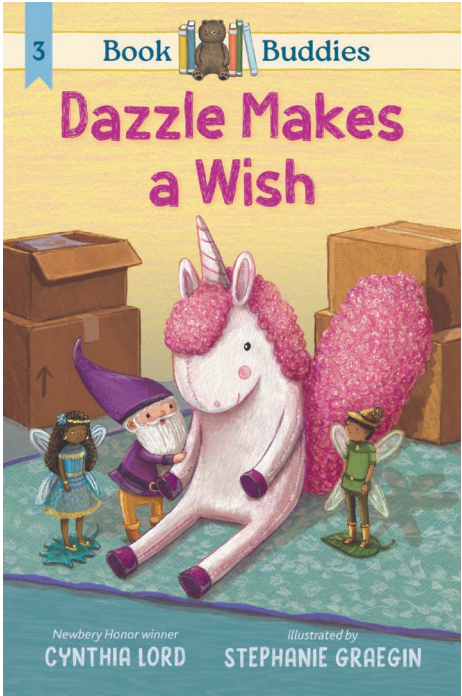
128 pages • October 2022 • World rights available • Candlewick Press

“You’ll be sorry if you wait to meet big-hearted Rica, who discovers the joy of family, friendship, pets, and the power of finding her own voice.”
Megan McDonald

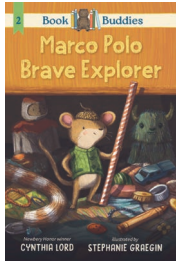
BOOK 2
MARCH
2024



CYNTHIA LORD



BOOK 4
MARCH
2024



Book Buddies: Dazzle Makes a Wish

illustrated by Stephanie Graegin

Can a girl and a toy unicorn help each other make their wishes come true?

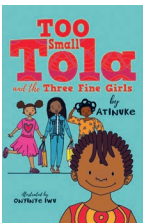
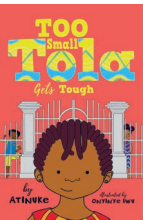
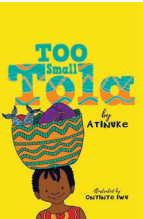
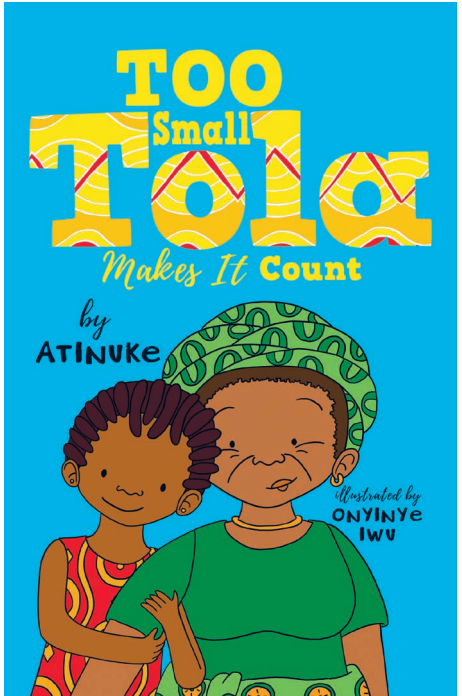
From Newbery Honor winner Cynthia Lord and celebrated artist Stephanie Graegin comes the third title in the heartwarming Book Buddies series. Dazzle, a snow-white unicorn, wants nothing more than a home of his own. Meanwhile, Maya has just moved to town and is worried about finding new friends. When Maya borrows Dazzle from the toy library, can they help make each other's wishes come true?

80 pages • March 2023 • Rights sold: Simplified Chinese • Candlewick Press

Praise for *Book Buddies: Ivy Lost and Found*

“An engaging story of insecurity overcome by hope, courage, and love.”
Booklist (starred review)

ATINUKE



Too Small Tola Makes It Count

illustrated by Onyinye Iwu

Too Small Tola may be small ... but she is mighty!

Lockdown is over and Too Small Tola has returned to the crowded family flat in Lagos, Nigeria. Even though she is back home and safe, there are still plenty of problems for Tola to solve – including her own. She may be small, but she is also thoughtful and kind and clever – and there really is no problem too big for Too Small Tola.

96 pages • February 2023 • World rights available • Walker Books

Praise for *Too Small Tola*

“Adventure, joy and wonder from the comfort of your own home.”
The Scotsman

VIVIAN FRENCH



The Wizards’ Banquet

illustrated by Marta Kissi

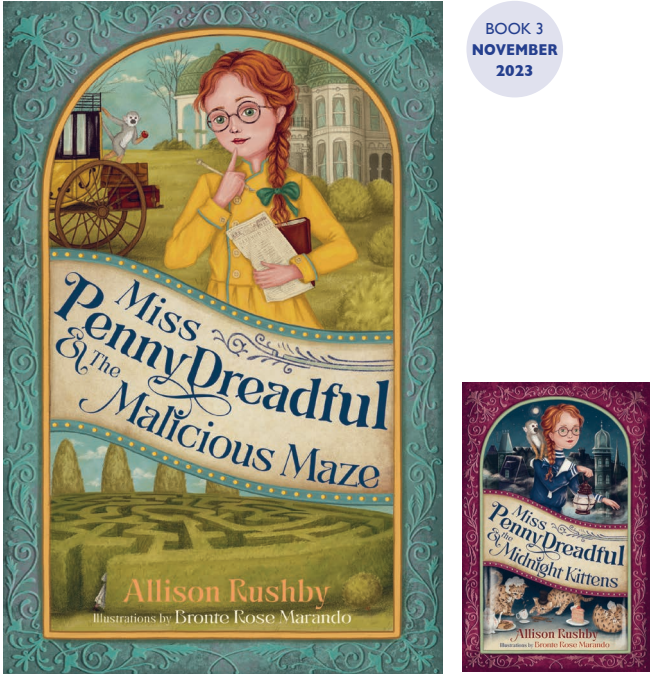
Another rollicking fairy-tale adventure full of magical mayhem

Pippin Potts is looking for a job – and an adventure! – so he can't quite believe his luck when he meets 173-year-old wizard Abacus Peridot, who is looking for an assistant. Abacus sets Pippin straight to work plotting a route to the magical Centenary Banquet in a race against the other wizards, but the journey will be a difficult one. Can Pippin guide Abacus through the Nine Hen Hills, cross the Rumbling Rocks, pass the Neverending Forest and reach the Banquet in time?

176 pages • June 2022 • Rights sold: Italian, Slovak • Walker Books

“French reminds us how fresh a fairy tale can feel in the right hands.”
New York Times

ALLISON RUSHBY



BOOK 3
NOVEMBER
2023

Miss Penny Dreadful and the Malicious Maze

illustrated by Bronte Rose Marando

An impeccably researched Victorian mystery inspired by real-life penny dreadfuls

From the moment Penny steps into her family's Hyde Park Square townhouse, she can sense something terrible has happened. But before she can find out any more, Penny is whisked away with her authoress aunt to Harewood Hall in the countryside, where a malicious maze is rumoured to be gobbling up servants. Miss Penny Dreadful has yet another mystery to solve. And nothing, absolutely nothing, is as it seems!

204 pages • April 2023 • World rights available • Walker Books Australia

JOSEPH COELHO



Creeping Beauty: Fairy Tales Gone Bad

illustrated by Freya Hartas

A one-of-a-kind twist on *Sleeping Beauty* from the newly appointed UK Children's Laureate

Eshe and her twelve sisters are Fairy Godmothers, honoured for the incredible gifts they can bestow. But Eshe's special abilities are a little different – she can glimpse into the future! And, one day, Eshe foresees something terrifying: a world blanketed in creeping vines and a girl covered in thorns. Eshe needs to stop her vision becoming true, but it will require old and powerful magic. And she won't be able to do it alone...

208 pages • September 2022 • Rights sold: Italian, Spanish, Swedish
Walker Books

A subversive, funny –
and deliciously prickly! –
tale for the young reader
looking for a book with bite.



Once, there was a king. And a wolf. And a girl with a shepherd's crook. And a boy with a bow and arrow. And also, there was an owl. . . They were puppets, and they were waiting for a story to begin.

SPELHORST'S TRUNK

KATE DiCAMILLO

illustrated by JULIE MORSTAD



In this new work of short fiction by two-time Newbery Medalist Kate DiCamillo, exquisitely illustrated in black and white by Julie Morstad, five puppets who find themselves in a trunk together are carried off into an adventure.

160 pages • October 2023 • World rights available • Candlewick Press

There is a Walter Benjamin quote that I love: "The wisest thing—so the fairy tale taught mankind in olden times, and teaches children to this day—is to meet the forces of the mythical world with cunning and with high spirits."

I had just finished writing SPELHORST'S TRUNK as we all entered the strange new world of the pandemic in 2020, and I thought about the puppets—how they never knew what was going to happen to them, how they had to believe they were in a story and the story would somehow unfold.

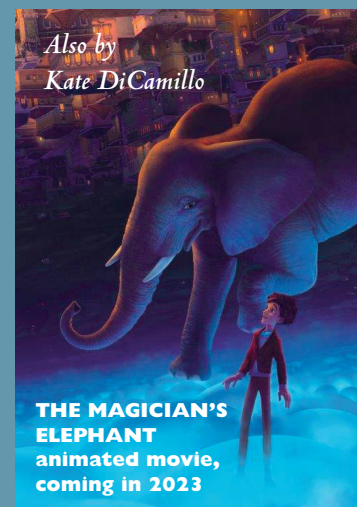
I realized that to survive in this new world, I would need cunning and high spirits. I would need a fairy tale.

The next morning, I began work on a second tale. And when I finished that story, another one was waiting to be told.

These three tales—THE NORENDY TALES—led me through a dark forest. They comforted me. They made me brave.

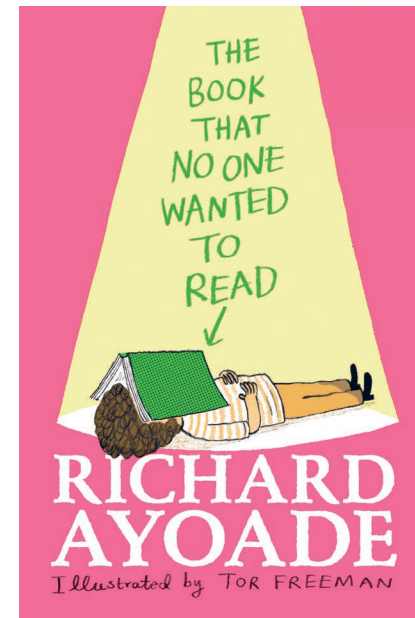
I'm hoping with the whole of my heart that they give the same gift to the reader.

Kate DiCamillo



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RICHARD AYOADE



"Laugh out loud funny and full of heart."
Noel Fielding

The Book That No One Wanted to Read

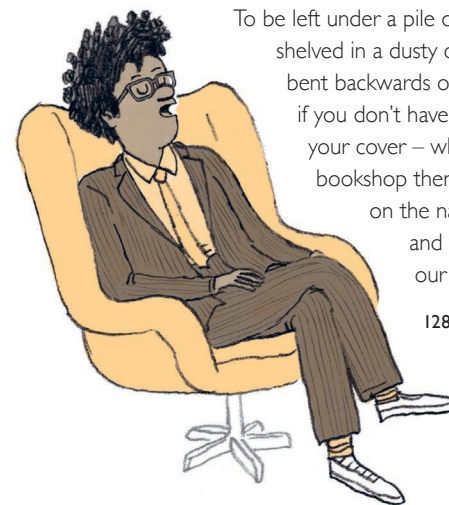
illustrated by Tor Freeman

A story to get readers howling with laughter by a BAFTA-winning comedian and actor

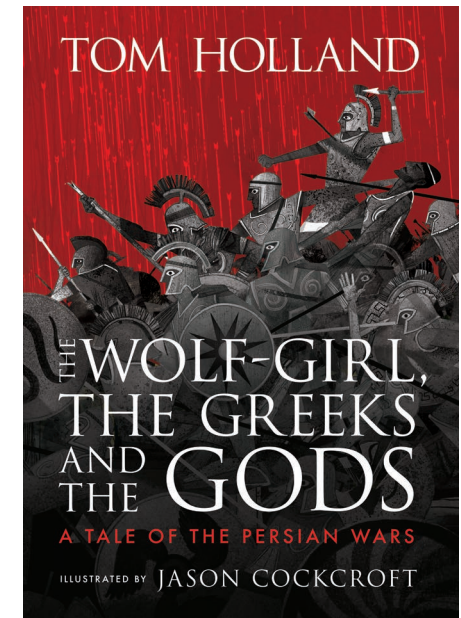
Have you ever thought about how it feels to be a book?

To be left under a pile of smelly underpants or shelved in a dusty corner? To have your pages bent backwards or your spine BROKEN? What if you don't have a sparkly unicorn adorning your cover – who will pick you out of the bookshop then? A hilariously subversive take on the nature of books and reading, and finding the courage to tell our own stories.

128 pages • October 2022 • Rights sold: Dutch, French, Simplified Chinese • Walker Books



TOM HOLLAND



A lavishly illustrated gift book of one of the most momentous events in history, to be treasured by all ages.

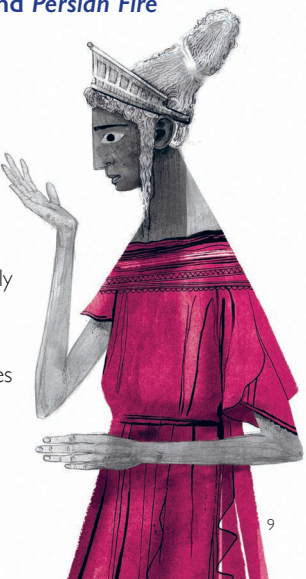
The Wolf-Girl, the Greeks and the Gods: A Tale of the Persian Wars

illustrated by Jason Cockcroft

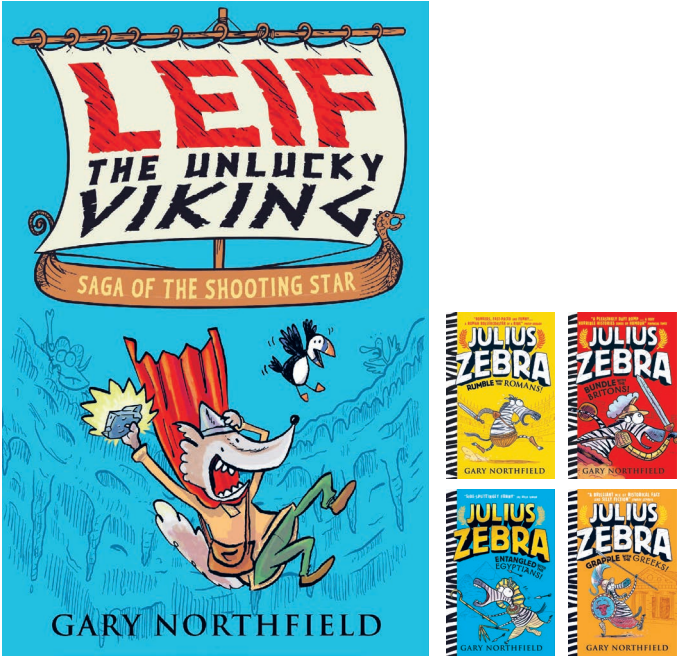
A blockbuster retelling of the Persian Wars from multi-award-winning author of *Rubicon* and *Persian Fire*

"The Persians are coming..." With her mother's dying words, ten-year-old Gorgo of Sparta is plunged into a dangerous world of vengeful gods, invincible heroes and an empire that threatens to sweep across the globe. With extraordinary and masterful prose, internationally acclaimed historian, broadcaster and author Tom Holland expertly weaves myth and history in a compelling and dramatic retelling of Herodotus. Jason Cockcroft's astonishing artwork boldly evokes vast ancient landscapes, mighty battles and enthralling tales of gods and Greeks.

208 pages • May 2023 • Rights sold: Spanish Walker Books



GARY NORTHFIELD



Leif the Unlucky Viking: Saga of the Shooting Star
From the creator of Julius Zebra comes a hilarious new series about an unlucky viking wolf

Leif is not unlucky. Yes, he does split his trousers at least once a week. And yes, he's always tripping up. But he's determined to become a true viking hero, just like his father. Can he unravel the riddles of a witch to find the shard of rock that has fallen from a shooting star and wield its magical powers? He will have to journey deep into the heart of polar bear country, outwitting all kinds of mythological creatures along the way. Thankfully, he has Olaf, the annoying duck, Toki, the nincompoop Puffin, and Flora, the incredibly smelly Muskox, for company. He's going to need all the luck he can get!

240 pages • March 2024 • Rights sold: Dutch • Walker Books

LOUIE STOWELL



Praise for
Loki: A Bad God's Guide to Being Good

"Tom Gates and Wimpy Kid fans need look no further than this laugh-out-loud offering from Stowell."
The Mail on Sunday

Loki: A Bad God's Guide to Ruling the World
The third book in 2022's bestselling new middle-grade series, continuing Norse god Loki's madcap schoolboy adventures on Earth

When Heimdall and Hyrrokkin abandon their "children" to go on holiday, Odin sends Thor's half brother Baldur to babysit. As Baldur and Thor bond, Loki's attempts to prove he's good become desperate – not helped by the fact that he's cast as the villain in the school play. Then Loki discovers a rather unusual ring among the props that looks suspiciously like the cursed ring of Andvari. A ring that promises Loki the world if only he gives in to his deepest, darkest desires...

240 pages • June 2023 • Rights sold: Albanian, Bulgarian, Catalan, Danish, Dutch, Finnish, French, German, Hebrew, Hungarian, Icelandic, Italian, Korean, Polish, Portuguese, Norwegian, Romanian, Serbian, Simplified Chinese, Slovenian, Spanish, Swedish, Turkish • Walker Books

ALASDAIR BECKETT-KING



Montgomery Bonbon: Murder at the Museum
illustrated by Claire Powell

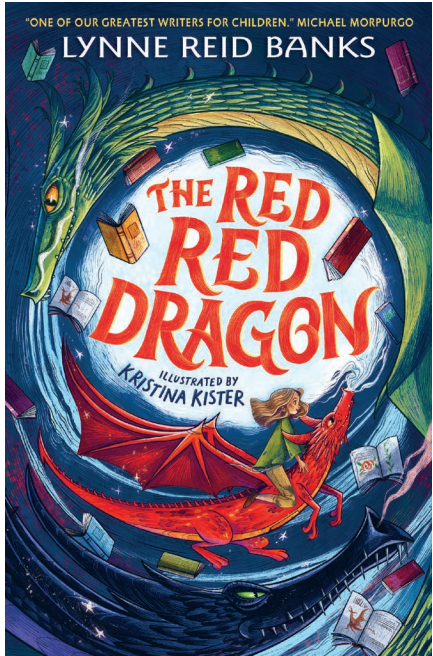
A brilliantly funny and clever young murder mystery from a stand-up comedian, podcaster and filmmaker

Many people go their whole lives without ever experiencing that toe-tingling, stomach-twisting sensation that a mystery is about to unfold. Not Bonnie Montgomery – the world's best detective. Not that anyone (other than Grampa Banks) has heard of her... But they might have heard of the great Montgomery Bonbon, the well-dressed gentleman detective who (apart from the hat and moustache) looks suspiciously like a 10-year-old girl. Their newest case: solving the mystery surrounding a death at the Hornville Museum.

288 pages • February 2023 • Rights sold: Norwegian • Walker Books

Playful typesetting and black and white illustrations throughout, including Bonnie's notes, clues and suspect lists.

LYNNE REID BANKS



The Red Red Dragon
illustrated by Kristina Kister

The humorous and warm-hearted adventure of a family of dragons in a world where humans have always been a myth

Red is a rare red dragon who lives with his Mag and Dag in a world where dragons and Uprights are sworn enemies. Then Red meets his first Upright, a girl called Lou, who is nothing like he had imagined: she's smart, and funny... and kind! As the pair become friends, Red learns that not only can the two species live in harmony – but it is his destiny to bring them back together.

368 pages • November 2022 • World rights available • Walker Books

A brand-new novel from a long-established and multi-award-winning author of the 10-million-copy-selling The Indian in the Cupboard.

THOMAS TAYLOR

AN EERIE-ON-SEA MYSTERY

MERMEDUSA

Mermedusa
Herbie and Violet’s fifth and final gripping adventure in the internationally bestselling Eerie-on-Sea series

It is Midwinter once again, and a group of cryptozoologists have descended on the town to investigate the unresolved mystery of the malamander’s long-lost mate. Herbie and Vi don’t see what harm they can do, but as the monster-hunters begin to make new discoveries, the pair become uneasy. Then the fury of the malamander is roused, and the two friends experience a terrifying encounter deep beneath the earth. One that may finally lead them to the Deepest Secret of Eerie-on-Sea...

304 pages • September 2023 • Rights sold: Czech, Danish, Dutch, Finnish, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Japanese, Lithuanian, Norwegian, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Slovak, Spanish, Swedish, Turkish, Ukrainian • Walker Books



Praise for *Malamander*

“Wonderfully imaginative and atmospheric, rich in myth and legend and with a delicious gothic edge.”

The Bookseller



AMY SPARKES



The Bookshop at the Back of Beyond
Adventurous, magical and brilliantly funny third book in the House at the Edge of Magic series

Nine and her friends have cured the house’s hiccups and are off to the strange and utterly unpredictable Back of Beyond in search of Professor Dish – Spoon’s partner in alchemy. When they find Dish trapped by the greedy witch Ophidia in the basement of a particularly marvellous shop, it soon becomes clear they’re going to need something more than Flabberghast’s dicey magic and Nine’s quick thinking to triumph this time. What they really need is a rather clever witch – one particularly good at curses...

272 pages • January 2023 • Rights sold: German, Italian, Russian • Walker Books

Praise for *The House at the Edge of Magic*

“This energetic, inventive romp has a touch of the late, great Diana Wynne Jones.”

The Guardian

M. G. LEONARD



Clutch
The third thrilling wildlife mystery for this internationally bestselling author’s gang of birdwatching detectives, perfect for climate-conscious kids

It’s spring, and the Twitchers discover that eggs are going missing from the nests of wild birds. Suspecting a thief, the Twitchers set up a stakeout, only to be caught in their own trap. Can they work together to prove their innocence and uncover the real criminal before any more birds get hurt? Inspired by real events, this is an unputdownable mystery adventure with protecting the environment at its heart.

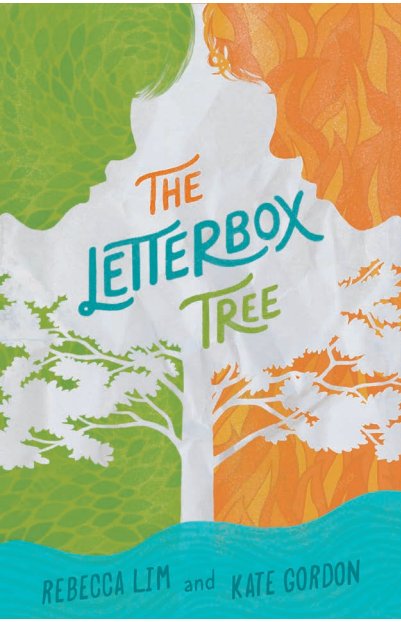
304 pages • April 2023 • Rights sold: Dutch, German • Walker Books

Praise for *Twitch*

“A lively, twisty crime drama as well as a persuasive story about friendship and protecting nature.”

The Sunday Times

REBECCA LIM
AND KATE GORDON



COVER NOT FINAL

The Letterbox Tree
A stunning timeslip novel about hope, connection and climate change, co-authored by two of Australia’s most acclaimed and high-profile writers

Nyx lives in 2091, where the oceans have turned acidic and bushfire season is all year round. The only way she can find to express her frustration at the world is to leave a furious note in her favourite tree. Seventy years in the past, Bea, who is also facing losing her home for very different reasons, finds Nyx’s note and replies. Through each message passed through the Letterbox Tree, their friendship grows – and both their futures are changed forever.

176 pages • May 2023 • World rights available • Walker Books Australia

ANDY JONES



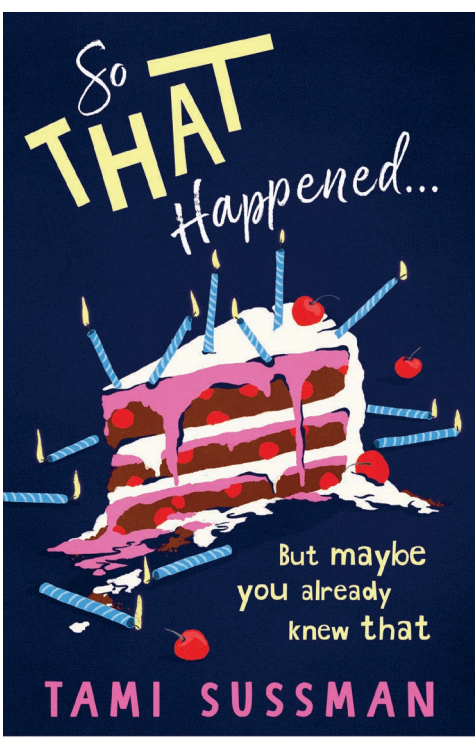
Wishes Come in Threes

An insightful and uplifting story about a girl who learns how to channel her hopes and fears into something wonderful

Eleven-year-old Phyll confides in her journal that she longs for a dog of her own and for her mum’s depression to disappear. But wishing is easy – it’s magic that’s in short supply. At least, that’s what Phyll thinks until she meets the elderly Mr Djinn. He’s a firm believer in the power of wishes and his magical outlook on life soon starts to rub off on Phyll.

272 pages • July 2022 • World rights available • Walker Books

TAMI SUSSMAN



So That Happened . . . But Maybe You Already Knew That

A hilarious and heart-warming middle-grade debut for fans of Judy Blume

Natalie (Nutty to her friends) knows turning twelve is a big deal, and even though she doesn’t like change AT ALL, she’s prepping for:

- a) having the best bat mitzvah party anyone has ever been to
- b) graduating from primary school
- c) hopefully getting a boyfriend.

But there’s more headed her way that might change everything, and only Nutty can keep her family, her friendships and her party from falling apart.

256 pages • March 2023 • World rights available • Walker Books Australia

LAUREN MYRACLE



Incredibly Penelope

Inspired by *A Little Princess*, this novel is a lively, thoughtful exploration of goodness and what shape it takes in shifting circumstances

Nine-year-old Penelope Goodheart has had the good fortune to travel all over the world with her mother and her famous godmother before she finally convinces her mom to enroll her at Idlewild Academy, a small boarding school on an isolated coastal island. But when her mom dies in an adventure gone wrong, Penelope is left penniless and must rely on newfound friends and her own good nature to navigate the world as an orphan. Is she still a Goodheart if she no longer has the money to be so generous?

240 pages • October 2023 • World rights available • Walker Books US

KAREN LAMB



The Mooncatcher’s Rescue

illustrated by Lia Visirin

A quirky, tender and imaginative adventure about searching for lost treasure and finding friendship along the way

River likes to go mooncatching, sweeping his net across the reflection of the night sky in the village pond. But when he accidentally wakes the ghost of Mona Brightly, whose bones rest beneath the water, River must find Mona’s lost treasure before the ghost of the dastardly pirate Dashbuckle gets there first. Beautifully illustrated in black and white by Lia Visirin, this is classic children’s storytelling at its best, with lively characters and a whole lot of heart.

240 pages • September 2022 • World rights available • Walker Books

JAMIE RUSSELL



SkyWake Endgame
The gripping final installment in an exciting and original sci-fi adventure trilogy for the gaming generation

Catapulted forward four years, Casey and her teammates land on a very different Earth from the one they left only a few days before. The Red Eye aliens have taken over, leaving carnage in their wake. To free their families and stop the aliens from succeeding in their quest for intergalactic domination, the gamers team up with a rag-tag bunch of teenagers. Can Casey use her new-found powers to lead the resistance?

288 pages • August 2023 • World rights available • Walker Books

Praise for *SkyWake Invasion*
“If any book can get between kids and their screens, it’s this one.”
The i

LOGAN MACX



Swift and Hawk: Undercover
The unputdownable second book in the action-packed spy series, where cutting-edge tech meets explosive adventure

An undercover mission. A deadly game of war. When the secretive SolTec headquarters are hacked, Swift and Hawk race to shut down the virus, only to discover out-of-control weaponized robots threatening to escape into the street. While Swift uses his AI to defuse the virus, Hawk chases the hacker. But this isn’t a lone attack; a dangerous organization is plotting something even more sinister. Swift and Hawk must go undercover before the hack turns deadly.

352 pages • March 2023 • Rights sold: French, German • Walker Books

Fans of Alex Rider and Young Bond will be hooked on this edge-of-your-seat spy series from critically acclaimed authors Edward Docx and Matthew Plampin.

KATHARINE ORTON



Mountainfell
An adventure about a mountain kingdom and a vengeful witch from a bestselling author

Eleven-year-old Erskin and her family are used to danger. As Guardians of their village, they live in the shadow of Mountainfell, a place of wild creatures and dangerous magic. But when the most powerful and dangerous creature of all – the fearsome cloud dragon – snatches Erskin’s sister away, Erskin must face her true fear and journey onto the mountain itself to bring her back. A terrible power is stirring there, and it is up to Erskin to save both her family and her home.

320 pages • November 2022 • World rights available • Walker Books

Praise for *Nevertell*
“This is fantasy at its best.”
The Daily Telegraph, Books of the Year

PETE HAUTMAN



The Rat Queen
From a National Book Award winner comes a mysterious modern-day fairy tale about developing a moral compass – and the slippery nature of conscience

For Annie’s tenth birthday, her papa gives her a pad of paper, some colored pencils, and the Klimas family secret. It’s called the nuodeema burna, or eater of sins. Every time Annie misbehaves, she has to write down her transgression and stick the paper into a hidey-hole in the floor of their house. But Annie’s inheritance has a dark side. It is only when she travels to her family’s home country of Litvania to learn more about the burna that Annie uncovers the magnitude of the truth. Gripping and emotionally complex, this middle-grade novel draws on magical realism to explore coming of age and the path to moral responsibility.

400 pages • October 2022 • World rights available • Candlewick Press

“Through exemplary storytelling, Hautman builds a fairy tale within a fairy tale.”
Booklist (starred review)

AYA DE LEON

GOING DARK

Going Dark

When fifteen-year-old Amani Kendall's house burns down, she learns that there's more to her seemingly boring mother's past than she ever knew. Suddenly, they're having to flee from a man who her mom claims is a dangerous ex-boyfriend, and Amani is stuck changing her name and trying to fit in amidst constant cat calls at an underfunded public school while hiding her identity from the handsome boy in her capoeira class. But as Amani keeps uncovering more and more lies and half-truths, she starts to wonder what her mother is really hiding.

288 pages • October 2023 • World rights available • Candlewick Press

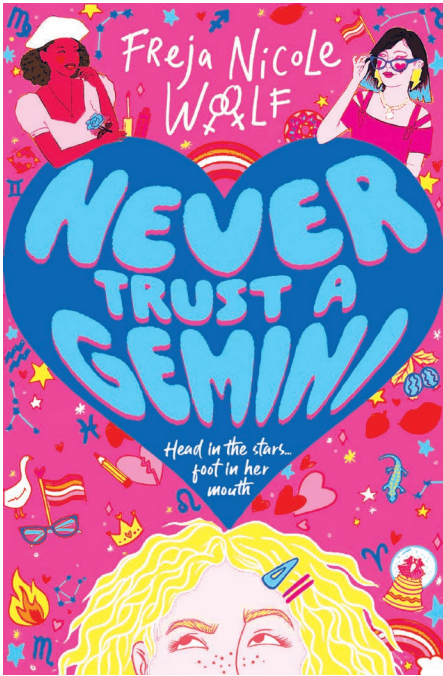


Praise for *Undercover Latina*

“This fast-paced adventure, de León’s first for younger readers, takes audiences on the ride of a lifetime.”

Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

FREJA NICOLE WOOLF



BLAME MY VIRGO MOON
FEBRUARY 2024

COVER NOT FINAL

Never Trust a Gemini

Star-crazed, star-crossed – and starting to fall in love

Life is fraught for fourteen-year-old, zodiac-obsessed Cat. First there's a minor bus-meets-girl accident, then there's a boy-next-door suitor who can't take a hint, and on top of it all is Cat's crush on Alison Bridgewater. Then the uberliciously cool Morgan Delaney catches Cat's eye, and she starts to wonder if her stars might be re-aligning. But Morgan is a Gemini, and if there's one thing Cat's Bible to the Stars has taught her it's that you can never trust a Gemini...

320 pages • June 2023 • Rights sold: Brazilian Portuguese, Finnish, French, Italian, Spanish • Walker Books

“Cat Phillips is the hilarious, no filter, impossible-not-to-root-for heroine we’ve all been waiting for. Pure joy from start to finish!”

Lisa Williamson

REBEKA SHAID



Seven Days

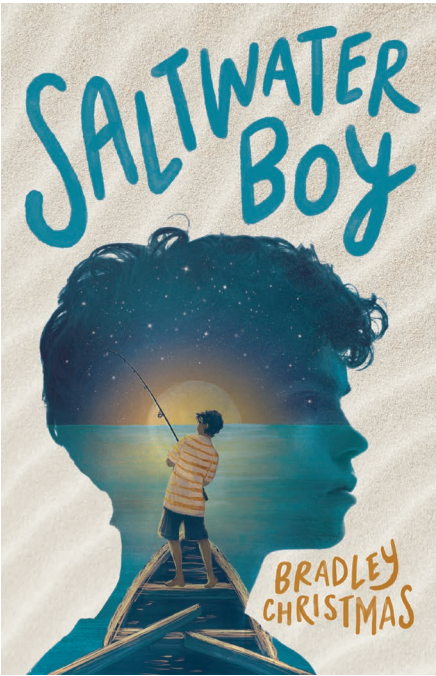
Miracles dwell in the invisible

Noori has it all sussed out. She may only be fifteen and a Bollywood and Rumi fanatic, but she knows a thing or two about real life and its messy heartaches. Then she meets Aamir. He's a scruffy Desi dude with a painful past, and he turns Noori's confused soul completely upside-down. Aamir and Noori may be strangers to each other, but their lives are connected by invisible threads. Will they realize what's at stake, before they finally admit their feelings?

384 pages • February 2024 • World rights available • Walker Books

Stunning new YA about love, grief and heritage.

BRADLEY CHRISTMAS



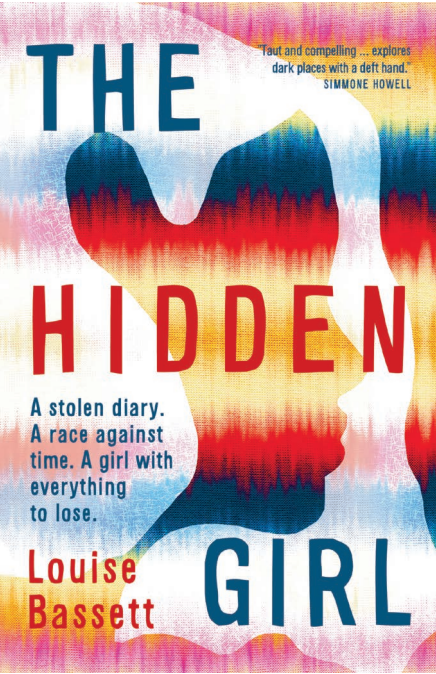
Saltwater Boy

An insightful novel navigating the difficult terrain of fractured families, the lies that break and the ties that bind

Matt is hesitant when his mum suggests they spend the summer before he starts high school at his grandpa's ramshackle place down the coast but, with his dad in jail, they have nowhere else to go. To Matt's surprise, he settles in well and makes a new friend in fellow outsider Old Bill, who shares a connection to the land and sea and teaches Matt how to fish. When Matt's dad comes home, however, everything is thrown violently into chaos. A sensitive and insightful story about identity and connection.

272 pages • March 2023 • World rights available • Walker Books Australia

LOUISE BASSETT



The Hidden Girl

An insightful novel navigating the difficult terrain of fractured families, the lies that break and the ties that bind

Within the pages of a stolen diary, Melati discovers a coded cry for help – the diary belongs to Devi, an Indonesian teenager who is being held by traffickers. Mel races across the island of Java and against the clock to work out Devi’s identity and where she’s being held. Before long the pieces fall into place and Mel must put her own life on the line to save a girl she’s never met.

352 pages • August 2022 • World rights available • Walker Books Australia

Praise for *The Hidden Girl*
“With a labyrinth of plot twists and shocking revelations, Louise Bassett’s debut novel is heart-pounding, hair-raising, spine-chilling and so much more.”

Readings

SHANNON TAKAOKA



The Great and Powerful Gracie Byrne

A compelling novel in which a girl discovers that the stories she’s writing are actually coming true

Sixteen-year-old Gracie Byrnes would give anything for her real life to more closely resemble the lives of the fictional characters she creates. Instead, she’s stuck being awkward and introverted, tasked with helping to look after her grandmother, who has Alzheimer’s. But when Gracie discovers a blank journal in her grandmother’s old hat box and begins filling it with stories, she quickly realizes that what she writes in the journal actually happens in real life. With the ability to become anyone – and to do almost anything – what sort of role will she write for herself?

288 pages • October 2023 • World rights available • Candlewick Press

The ideal read for any teen who’s ever wanted to rewrite their own story and be someone else – at least for a while.

CAROLINE O’DONOGHUE



Every Gift a Curse

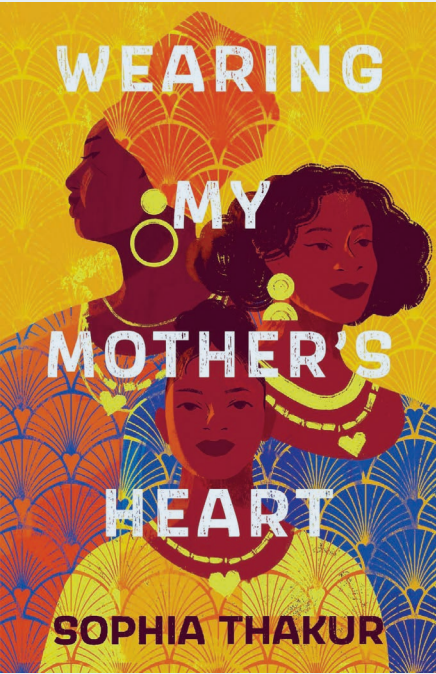
A spellbinding supernatural teen drama and final book in the Gifts trilogy

With the return of the Housekeeper on the cards, Maeve must find out everything she can about the vengeful tarot spirit in order to finally defeat her. Crossing over into a parallel dimension inside the old school building, she explores the history of the Housekeeper – and spends too long in a world and a mind not her own. With the Children of Brigid closing in once more, and Maeve’s friend group now fractured across Ireland, can they hope to ultimately save the town – and Maeve – from the grip of a power greater than they ever imagined?

400 pages • February 2023 • Rights sold: Czech, Danish, French, German, Greek, Italian, Romanian, Russian, Slovak, Spanish, Ukrainian • Walker Books

Praise for *All Our Hidden Gifts*
“Spellbinding... I was utterly bewitched.”
Holly Bourne

SOPHIA THAKUR



Wearing My Mother’s Heart

A powerful collection of poems about what it means to be a woman

From award-winning performance poet Sophia Thakur comes a compelling and heartfelt new collection of seventy poems exploring issues of identity, race, politics, relationships, mental health and self-love. Weaving together the voices of a grandmother, mother and daughter, this collection will resonate with all young women as they approach the joys and pain of adulthood and learn to navigate life.

112 pages • November 2022 • World rights available • Walker Books

“One of the most brilliant and necessary voices... The power of her words will affect generations.”
Angie Thomas