



DAVID FICKLING BOOKS  
SPRING 2022  
RIGHTS GUIDE





# DEAR FRIEND OF DFB

It's that time of year again, where we unveil our new books – stories that we hope will delight, thrill, move and enthrall you. We think they are the epitome of what makes DFB a great independent publisher, and we hope you feel the same.

So, if you'd like to read anything you see here, whether frontlist or backlist, please don't hesitate to get in touch. We'd be delighted to add to your 'to read' piles.

All the best,

Bronwen.

Bronwen Bennie, Rights Director  
bron@davidficklingbooks.com  
01865 339 000  
31 Beaumont Street, Oxford, OX1 2NP  
[www.davidficklingbooks.com](http://www.davidficklingbooks.com)  
[www.thephoenixcomic.co.uk](http://www.thephoenixcomic.co.uk)  
@DFB\_storyhouse  
@dfb\_storyhouse

# PICTURE BOOKS



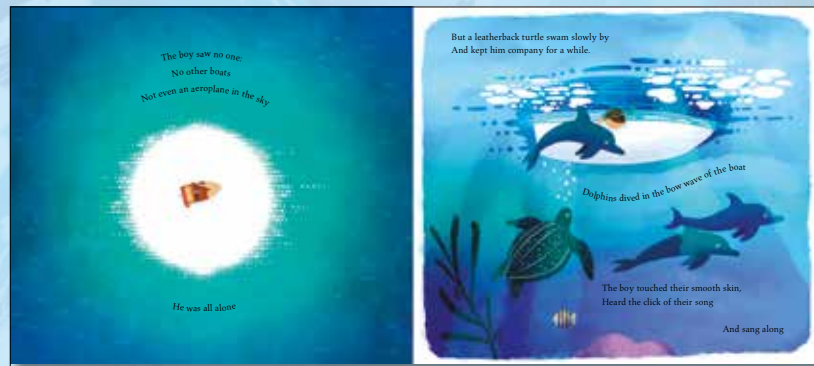
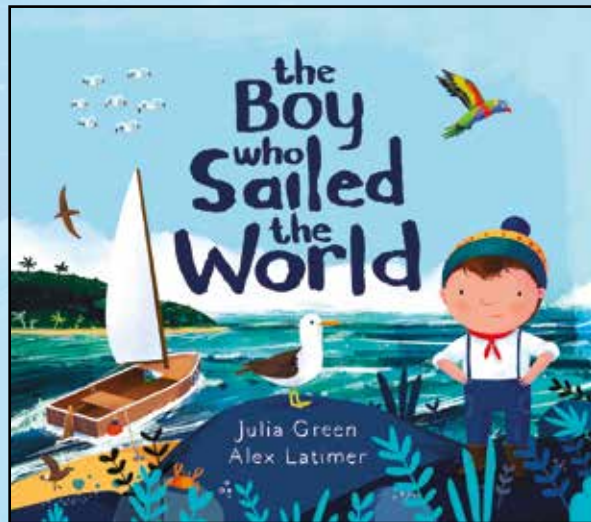
# THE BOY WHO SAILED THE WORLD

JULIA GREEN AND ALEX LATIMER

Beautifully written, this is a story about a boy who follows his dreams and sails around the world in a boat he has built himself.

Filled with the wonder of the natural world and the joy of adventure, this picture book is about dreaming big – and about the qualities you need to achieve your dreams: resilience, self-reliance, perseverance, preparation, curiosity and joy.

- Highly-acclaimed author's first picture book; the story is inspired by Julia's own son's real-life voyage around the world
- Alex Latimer is published in dozens of foreign languages
- A strong and empowering message



Rights sold: Bulgarian, Serbian  
PICTURE BOOK · 3+ · MAY 2022 · PB · 32pp · 245 x 278mm

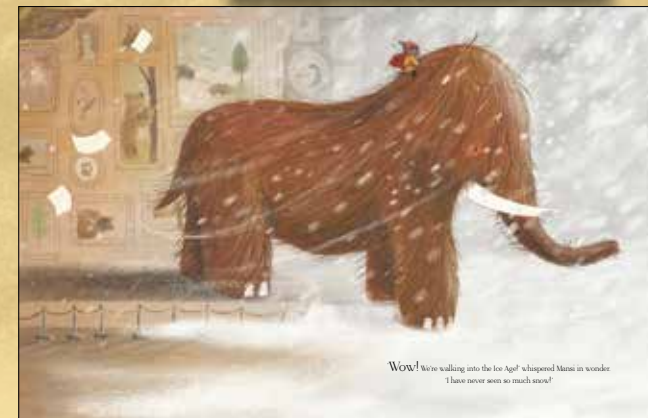
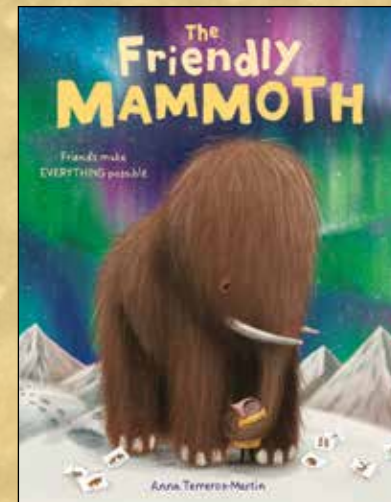
# THE FRIENDLY MAMMOTH

ANNA TERREROS-MARTIN

A sprinkle of imagination, and a whole lot of snow, will transport you into this stunning author/illustrator debut picture book, by exciting new talent Anna Tererros-Martin.

Join Mansi and her favourite museum exhibit, Woolly Mammoth, as they explore the world as it once was; meet the animals that have long-since disappeared and learn the simple secret to making friends.

- Stunning author/illustrator debut picture book from Cambridge MA student
- Beautiful painterly illustrations with real warmth and expression
- The story is very topical, touching on animal extinction and the power of the individual to change things
- Inspirational messages layered within a gorgeous story



Rights sold: Serbian  
PICTURE BOOK · 3+ · JUNE 2022 · PB · 32pp · 290 x 225mm



# CHILDREN'S FICTION

## ARMADILLO AND HARE

WRITTEN BY JEREMY STRONG  
ILLUSTRATED BY REBECCA BAGLEY

JEREMY'S  
LIFE SALES  
EXCEED  
7 MILLION  
COPIES!

Armadillo and Hare are an unlikely pair, but they are the best of friends. Their life in the Big Forest is never dull, not when there are drumming bears and diva flamingos to keep them entertained!

A collection of charming and whimsical stories about finding joy in the ordinary and sharing what we love with new friends. Funny and warm, these are perfect bedtime stories.

'Strong is excellent on friendship dynamics while being funny and thoughtful'

*The Times* Children's Book of the Week

'Bagley's charismatic illustrations add character, movement, comedy and style'

*Sunday Times* Children's Book of the Week



BRILLIANT  
FOR DEVELOPING  
READERS BUT ALSO  
PERFECT BEDTIME  
STORY READS

Rights sold: US, Czech, Dutch, German, Korean, Romanian, Slovak

BOOK 1: PB APR 2020 | BOOK 2: PB MAY 2021 | BOOK 3: PB MAR 2022 · ILLUSTRATED FICTION · 5-8 · PB · 160pp · B FORMAT



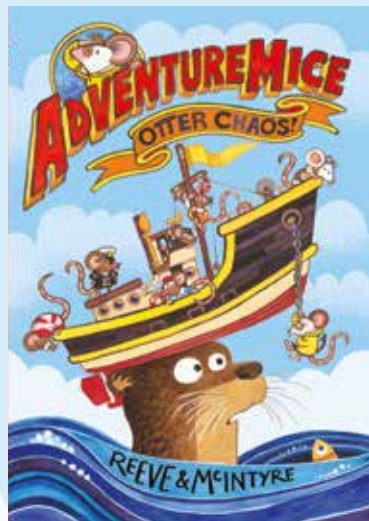
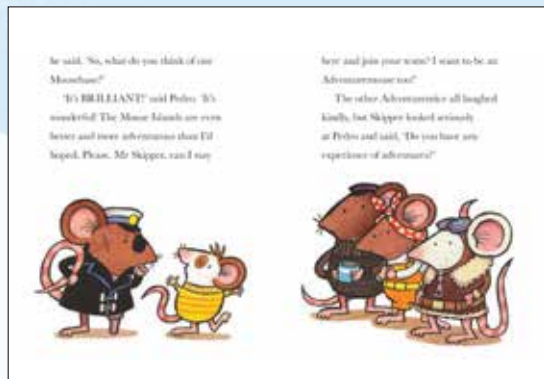
# ADVENTUREMICE

## 4-BOOK SERIES!

OVER  
**135,000** COPIES  
SOLD TO DATE OF  
REEVE & MCINTYRE  
TITLES!

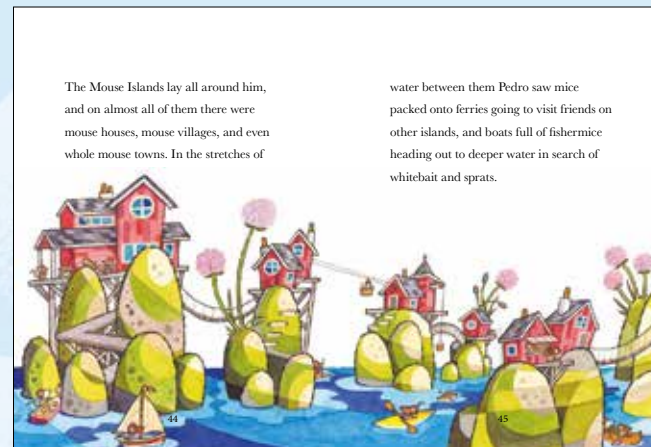


The first titles in a new full-colour series by the world-wide mega-selling, multi-award-winning duo of *Pugs of the Frozen North*, the *Roly-Poly Flying Pony* and *Oliver and the Seawigs* fame.



Rights: World (inc. audio)

ILLUSTRATED FICTION · 5-7 · BOOK 1 & 2: SPRING 2023 · PB · 128pp · 178 x 126mm



Pedro is a tiny mouse, looking for a BIG adventure. So he sets off in search of excitement – and very soon becomes swept up in the escapades of the ADVENTUREMICE! A brave, determined team, the Adventuremice keep the Mouse Islands safe from danger. Will Pedro be able to prove that he has a kind enough heart, and a strong enough nerve, to join the crew?

*Adventuremice* is a major new series from adored creators Philip Reeve and Sarah McIntyre, which combines the child-friendly thrills and fun of programmes like *Paw Patrol* or *Octonauts* with the beautiful writing, illustration, heart and design values of a children's classic. Like Pedro, once you meet the Adventuremice, you'll never want to leave them.

Rights: World (inc. audio)

ILLUSTRATED FICTION · 5-7 · BOOK 1 & 2: SPRING 2023 · PB · 128pp · 178 x 126mm

Reviews for  
Reeve & McIntyre:

'Reeve and McIntyre are a classic team . . . The climax is moving and beautifully judged'  
Alex O'Connell,  
Children's Book of the  
Week in *The Times*

'As the story dashes along so, too, do the illustrations, which are a delight on every page'  
Julia Eccleshare, *Guardian*

'Another delight from the Reeve and McIntyre dream team' *The School Librarian*

THE  
ROLY-POLY  
FLYING PONY  
SERIES SOLD IN  
14 LANGUAGES!

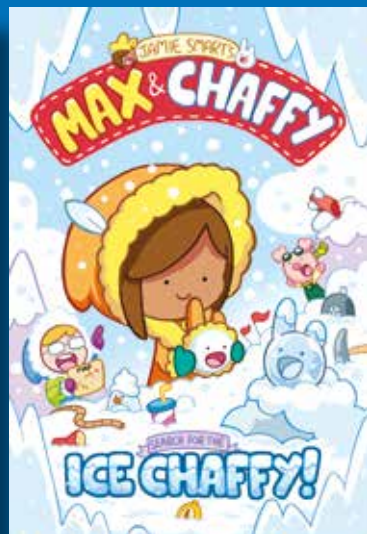
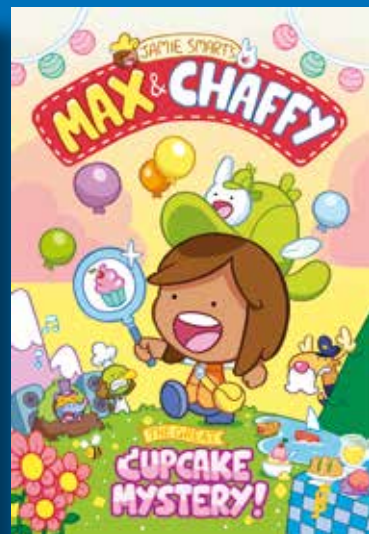






## THERE'S A SPECIAL CHAFFY FOR EVERYONE JUST WAITING TO BE FOUND!

Warm, friendly, character-led full colour story books packed with fun and adventure with an emotional core of being your best self.



JAMIE'S  
SALES EXCEED  
300.000  
COPIES!



Jamie Smart is the mega-talented creator of the bestselling *Bunny vs Monkey* and *Looshkin* graphic novel series as well as the middle-grade fiction series *Flember*.



Max Boggle's family have moved to the incredible Animal Island, where all the inhabitants are animals, and Max is keen to make some new friends there. On arrival, Max finds a special creature called a Chaffy and after discovering it is lost, Max is determined to find out where it belongs. Max travels all over Animal Island with Chaffy, meeting kindly animals along the way and having fun adventures. It turns out they make a great team and Max has made lots of friends with Chaffy's help.

But will they find where Chaffy belongs?



Rights: World

ILLUSTRATED FICTION · 5-8 · BOOK 1: MAY 2023 | BOOK 2: AUG 2023 | BOOK 3: FEB 2024 · PB · 128pp · 210 x 140mm

Rights: World

ILLUSTRATED FICTION · 5-8 · BOOK 1: MAY 2023 | BOOK 2: AUG 2023 | BOOK 3: FEB 2024 · PB · 128pp · 210 x 140mm



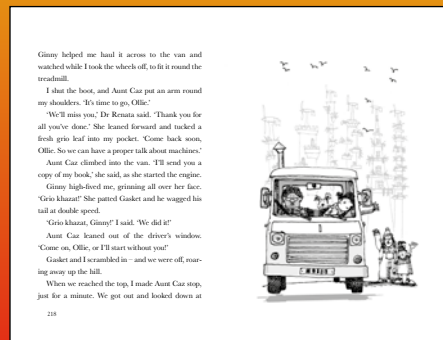
# OLLIE SPARK

WRITTEN BY GILLIAN CROSS,  
ILLUSTRATED BY ALAN SNOW

The first two books in a black-and-white  
illustrated fiction series aimed at 7-9's.

Welcome to Ollie Spark's immersive world, full of machines, mechanics, intriguing locations and multiple mysteries to solve! A highly appealing boy protagonist with hugely readable, pacy stories by multi-award-winning Gillian Cross, coupled with amazingly detailed art, diagrams and cross-sections from bestselling illustrator Alan Snow.

Ollie Spark LOVES fixing things, so when his eccentric aunt Caz asks him to convert her ramshackle mobile library into a camper van, he's in heaven! Little does he know that it will result in him being accidentally whisked up into the craziest of adventures, involving a dog called Gasket, a kidnap, eco-warriors and a race against time through secret underground tunnels . . . on a QUAD BIKE!



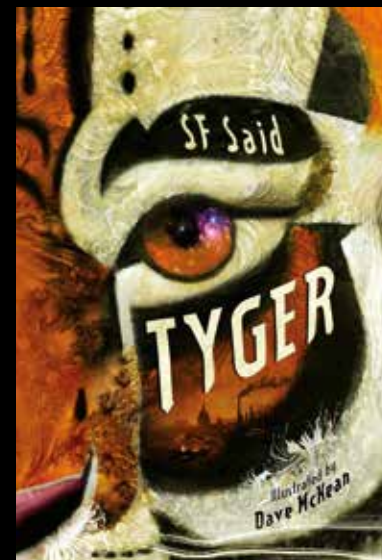
# TYGER

WRITTEN BY SF SAID AND ILLUSTRATED BY DAVE MCKEAN

SF's first children's book, multi-award-winning *Varjak Paw*, has been in print for 15 years and is more relevant today than ever. Now, in 2022, the Year of the Tiger, DFB are publishing SF's latest story illustrated by genius Dave McKean.

In a strange alternate world, where the British Empire is still a cruel ruling force, a young boy called Adam has uncovered something incredible in a rubbish dump – a mysterious, mythical animal. A TYGER.

The Tyger is in danger, and Adam and his friend Zadie are determined to help. However, they soon realise it isn't just the Tyger's life at stake: the world they live in is also on the precipice of darkness. Luckily, the two children have great powers within them, and the Tyger can show them how to harness what's inside . . .



'Stylish, original and inventive, *Varjak Paw* is a modern children's classic'  
Jacqueline Wilson

'Combines a riveting, action-filled story with the timeless wisdom of the philosophers of the Far East . . . the effect is dazzling' *New York Times*

'The cat magic mystique is brilliant'  
Richard Adams, author of *Watership Down*

'Imagine *The Karate Kid* directed by David Lynch' *bookmunch.co.uk*



Rights: World

ILLUSTRATED FICTION · 7-9 · BOOK 1: JAN 2022 | BOOK 2: FEB 2023 · PB · 240pp · B FORMAT

Rights: World (inc. audio)

ILLUSTRATED FICTION · 9-12 · OCTOBER 2022 · HB · 304pp · 208 x 135mm

# MOONFLIGHT

GILL LEWIS

Tilbury is the seventh-born rat of the seventh-born litter and that means he is a rat with a huge destiny. But he is also a tiny, weak ratling and his mother is determined to keep him safe and away from danger. So he leads a very sheltered life – until the day he ventures into a place he shouldn't be, and encounters the Cursed Night . . . the priceless diamond which can show you the very depths of your own soul. What happens that night leads Tilbury into an epic adventure – across the high seas, battling the cat-riding rats of Felingrad, and even into the realm of the dreaded White Death . . .

Can Tilbury survive the dangers on his journey, return the Cursed Night to its rightful home, and along the way discover the ultimate truth about himself?

- A departure for Gill, this is a thrilling, fantasy adventure on an epic scale, full of humour and heart. Expect excitement, intrigue and fun!
- Perfect for fans of *The Legend of Podkin One-Ear*, *Frostheart*, *The Strangeworlds Travel Agency* and *The Train to Impossible Places*.
- Strong themes underlying the exciting narrative, including feminism; whose stories are remembered and whose forgotten, and bravery and finding yourself . . .



Rights: World (inc. audio)

ILLUSTRATED FICTION · 9-11 · JANUARY 2023 · PB · 304pp · B FORMAT

# THE LUCKY BOTTLE

CHRIS WORMELL

A wonderful adventure story full of classic elements, but with a unique and magical twist.

Ten-year-old Jack is stranded on a desert island with no way to get home. He's been very lucky: he's survived a terrible storm and the mysterious island he has found himself on has a kindly if unusual inhabitant, fresh water and plenty of food. But Jack needs to find his way home, and as he uncovers incredible hidden treasures on the little island, he starts to formulate a plan.

A plan that will involve witchcraft, sea monsters and pirates! But if Jack's going to succeed he will need to be very, very lucky.



SOLD IN 8 LANGUAGES

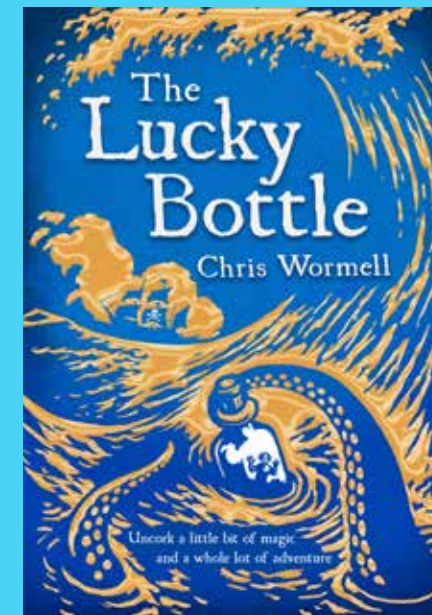
'Outstanding' a *Sunday Times* Children's Book of the Year

'Beautiful' a *Guardian* Children's Book of the Year

'Perfect for reading aloud' *Books for Keeps*

'Brimming with detail and dazzling perspective' Chris Mould

'An extraordinary piece of work' David Tazzyman



Rights: World (inc. audio)

ILLUSTRATED FICTION · 9-12 · SEPTEMBER 2022 · HB · 304pp · B FORMAT



# UTTERLY DARK

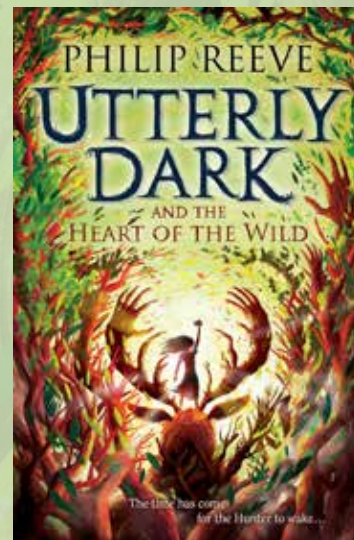
## PHILIP REEVE

A trip to a neighbouring island should be a breeze for Utterly, an opportunity to see something new. But all is not as it seems. Something old and dangerous is stirring. And who is the antlered figure haunting her dreams? To uncover the answers, Utterly will have to face endless perils and battle a foe with ancient and terrible powers . . .

Another entrancing novel full of mystery and spellbinding nature, from bestselling, award-winning author Philip Reeve. As the deep magic of the woods stirs and awakens, so your heart will be stirred by this breathtaking, powerful story.

Utterly Dark has a special connection to the sea. But it is tested more than ever before, this autumn on the island of Summertide. Accompanying her uncle as he explores mysterious Summertide, Utterly is witness to strange happenings in the woods. Deep, old magic abounds, and threatens to steal those she loves most. Utterly must face truths about what lies beneath the land, and in her own past, if she is to save anyone. And she must make a sacrifice to the sea . . .

Book 1 selected as one of the 'Best Children's Books of 2021' by *The Times* and *Guardian*.



SOLD 14K  
COPIES IN  
UK ALONE

# WISHED

## LISSA EVANS

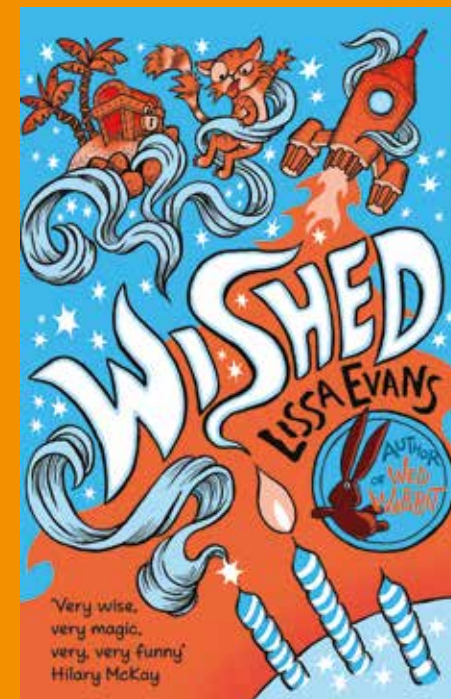
LISSA IS A  
TOP 10  
SUNDAY TIMES  
BESTSELLER

New from the twice Carnegie Medal and Costa Award-shortlisted author Lissa Evans, *Wished* is a hilarious misadventure about how the biggest wishes can come true, in the most unexpected ways. Ed and his sister, Roo, are faced with the most boring half-term holiday in history: five days spent in the company of their 'elderly' neighbour, Miss Filey, and her ancient, smelly cat. But when they find a box of birthday candles in a cupboard in Miss Filey's house, their world is changed completely.

These are no ordinary candles — every single one of them comes with a wish. There's only one problem: some of those wishes actually belong to someone else . . .

'If Joan Aiken (on a skateboard) with E Nesbit chipping in, wrote the story of a young Stephen Hawking, extra heroes & a cat, & Arthur Ransome advised, & Frank Cottrell-Boyce put in jokes, you might get a book like this. But it seems Lissa Evans did it all by herself' Hilary McKay

'It seems that @LissaKEvans only writes instant classics. Which makes her sound worthy, but Lissa Evans one of the funniest writers for any age. *Wished* is every bit as good as *Wed Wabbit*, which was utter genius' Anthony McGowan



'A wise and superbly funny misadventure'  
*The Bookseller*, Editor's Choice



# THE AWESOME ROBOT CHRONICLES

## NEILL CAMERON

FULL OF  
ACTION,  
HUMOUR AND  
EMPATHY

Meet Freddy – the most super-awesome superhero robot ever! But there's BIG TROUBLE ahead . . . Can he stay true to himself, stay in school and save his friends?!

A smart, fun and yet multi-themed series for fans of *Wimpy Kid* and *My Brother is a Superhero*, featuring immersive black-and-white illustrations by the author.



'This hilarious novel is perfect for readers who enjoy fast-paced journal-style stories' *Kirkus*

'Funny, light-hearted chapter book examines what it feels like to be different' a *BookTrust* Books We Love pick



A mysterious island. A strange and mystical power called FLEMBER. A boy inventor called Dev, who uncovers a long-forgotten secret.

And a GIANT RED ROBOT BEAR?!

There's mayhem, anarchy and inventions galore in this fully illustrated in black and white, riotous adventure series!



'A funny tale of friendship, inventiveness, and, ultimately, about taking responsibility for your mistakes' *The Bookbag*

JAMIE'S LIFE  
SALES EXCEED  
300,000  
COPIES!

# CHILDREN'S GRAPHIC NOVELS

Rights sold: US, Audio, Korean  
ILLUSTRATED FICTION · 7 – 11 BOOK 1: JAN 2021 | BOOK 2: JUL 2021  
BOOK 3: JUN 2022 · PB · 224pp · B FORMAT

Rights sold: Russian  
ILLUSTRATED FICTION · 7–11 · BOOK 4: OCT 2022 · 288pp · PB · B FORMAT





## LAURA ELLEN ANDERSON

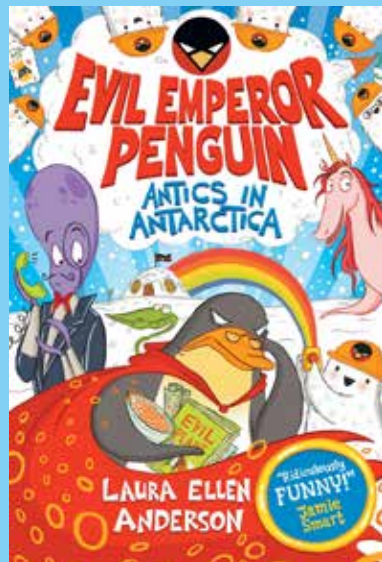
Cute and cuddly? Not this penguin. This is Evil Emperor Penguin!

This penguin wants to take over the world and will stop at nothing to achieve his dastardly ambition. Don't expect it to go smoothly . . . but DO expect a LOT of laughs!

In the icy, snow-covered depths of Antarctica is the secret lair of an extraordinary penguin. Evil Emperor Penguin! From the bottom of the world, he's got his sights set on taking the whole thing over! Unfortunately, he's really not very good at it. Especially when his rival, Evil Cat, is trying to beat him at his own world-domination game! With his lovable assistant Eugene, and octopus butler Number 8, Evil Emperor Penguin is the most devious, cutest and funniest evil mastermind ever to waddle the Earth! Just not the most successful . . .

The *Amelia Fang* series was Laura's first fiction series as author and illustrator, which has now been published in over 20 languages. *Amelia Fang* has been a Waterstones Book of the Month and won various awards. Laura has also illustrated a range of book covers for Terry Pratchett's backlist; the relaunch of Enid Blyton's *The Famous Five* series, and Cornelia Funke's *Dragon Rider* series.

LAURA'S  
BOOKSCAN  
SALES EXCEED  
250,000  
COPIES!



# JAMIE SMART'S BUNNY VS MONKEY

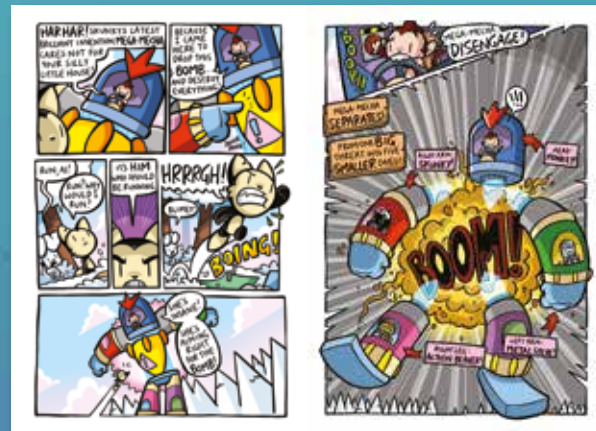
JAMIE'S  
LIFE SALES  
EXCEED 300,000  
COPIES!

**THE BREAKOUT GRAPHIC NOVEL BESTSELLING SERIES THAT IS TAKING THE UK BY STORM!**

'High jinks, cuteness, and giggle-worthy sight gags; it all has an easy feel, similar to network cartoons' *Kirkus*

'Perfect for fans of *DOG MAN*' Jamie Littler

'Smart's brand of humour is very much like that of Dav Pilkey's blockbuster *Captain Underpants* series' *Booklist*



Rights sold: US

FICTION · 8-12 · SEPTEMBER 2022 · PB · 240pp · 210 x 140mm

Rights sold: German (4-book deal)

GRAPHIC NOVEL · 7-11 · BOOK 5: JULY 2022 | BOOK 6: OCTOBER 2022 · PB · 256pp · 210 x 140mm



# JAMIE SMART'S LOOSHKIN

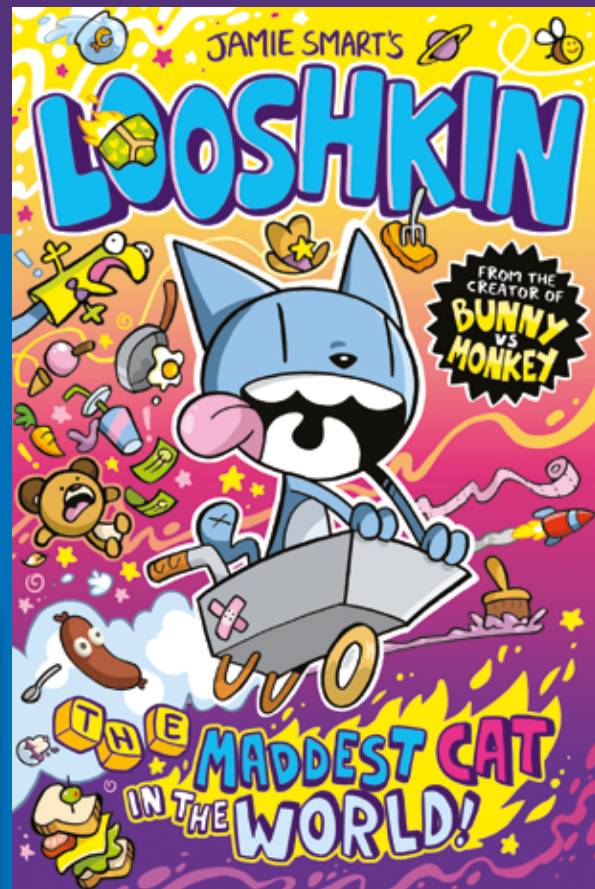
JAMIE'S  
LIFE SALES  
EXCEED 300,000  
COPIES!

Much-loved character from *The Phoenix* comic now comes to life in a reformatted longform graphic novel. Prepare yourself for laugh-out-loud crazy, silly antics that the whole family will enjoy!

Looshkin might look like a cute blue cat, but you've never met a feline like him before. Look away for just a moment and your house will be full of foamy bubbles, there will be pigs on your roof and a portal to a hell will have opened in your loft.

Life is never going to be boring while Looshkin is around . . . but it will be very, very funny!

'You will cry with laughter' Stephen Holland, UK Comics Laureate reviewing for *LoveReading4Kids*



Rights: World

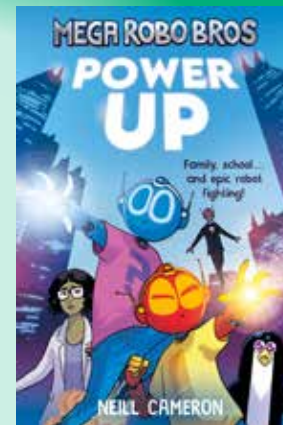
GRAPHIC NOVEL · 7-11 · APRIL 2022 · PB · 208pp · 210 x 140mm

# MEGA ROBO BROS NEILL CAMERON

Brothers. Robots. Superheroes. Alex and Freddy are super-powered robots, juggling school with saving the day. But being robot superheroes isn't easy, especially when there's a new enemy in town!

- A *Sunday Times* Children's Book of the Week!
- 'Exudes energy and excitement . . . funny, compelling and a celebration of diversity' *BookTrust*
- Best Books for Kids selection 2018 by New York Public Library

20,000  
COPIES  
SOLD!



'It is vivid, well told and made me laugh out loud' *The Times* Children's Book of the Week

'Masterful and immersive . . . immensely smart, fun, and nuanced' *Kirkus*

Rights: World

GRAPHIC NOVEL · 7-11 · BOOK 4: AUGUST 2022 · PB · 208pp · 210 x 140mm



# STAR CAT

JAMES TURNER AND  
YASMIN SHEIKH

In the deepest depths of space, there is only one crew brave enough to take on the universe's most dangerous villains . . . Unfortunately, they weren't available for this book, so you'll have to make do with the crew of the . . . STAR CAT!



'Space adventures don't come more comic than this, and comic strip adventures don't come better than *Star Cat* . . . guaranteed to have you on the edge of your seat one minute, rolling on the floor laughing the next' *LoveReading4Kids*

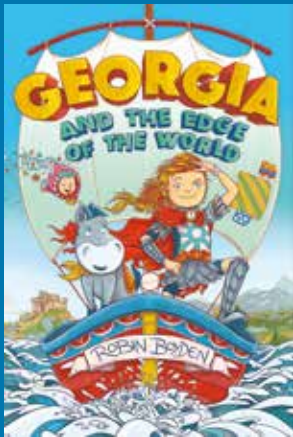
WINNER OF  
THE BRITISH  
COMIC AWARD FOR  
BEST COMIC FOR  
CHILDREN

# GEORGIA AND THE EDGE OF THE WORLD

ROBIN BOYDEN

A stunningly illustrated graphic novel tale, about the inspiring power of stories and how the only person who can tell you what to do with your life, is yourself!

Georgia is on the lookout for excitement! One day a pixie arrives with a message that changes everything, triggering adventures wilder than anything Georgia's ever dreamed.



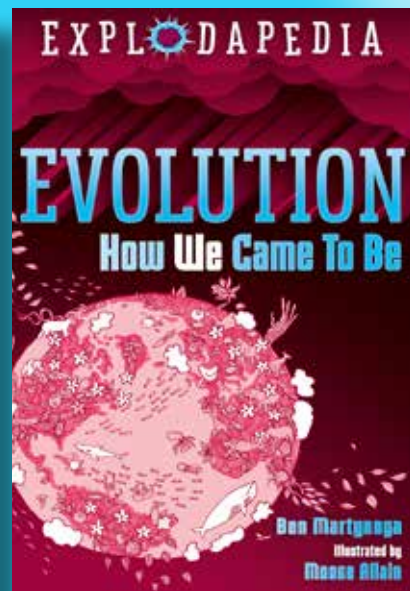
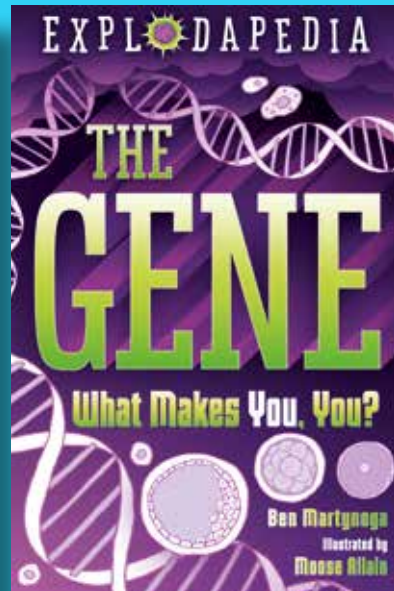
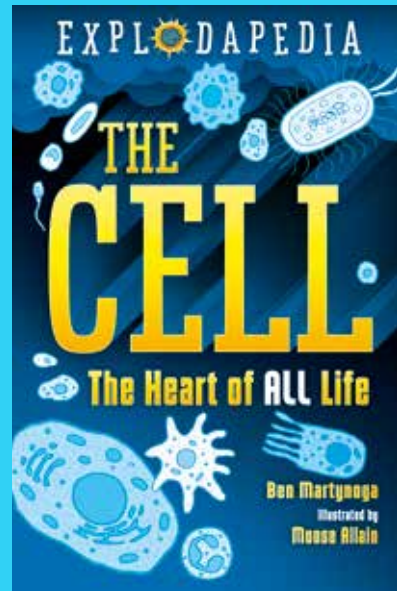
'This is pure fantasy. A rollicking, seaborne romp . . . Boyden's boisterous art suggests the influence of Tove Janson but his fictional world is unique, creating its own rules' *Financial Times*

# CHILDREN'S NON-FICTION



# EXPLODAPEDIA

WRITTEN BY BEN MARTYNOGA, ILLUSTRATED BY MOOSE ALLAIN



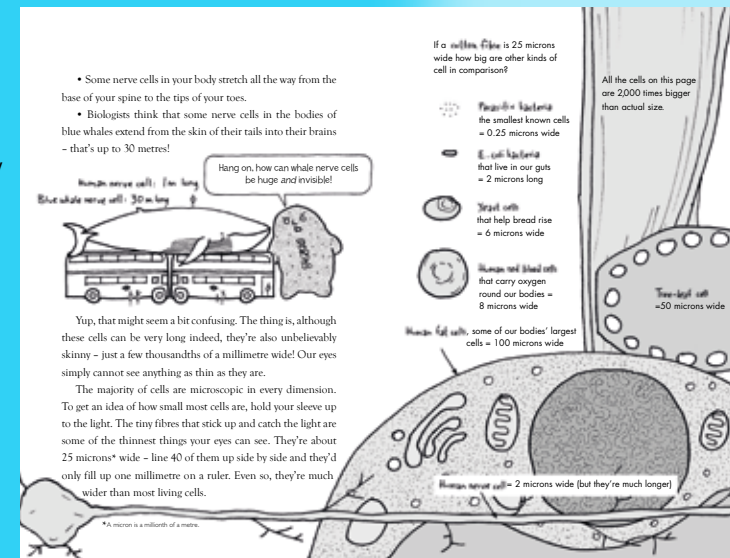
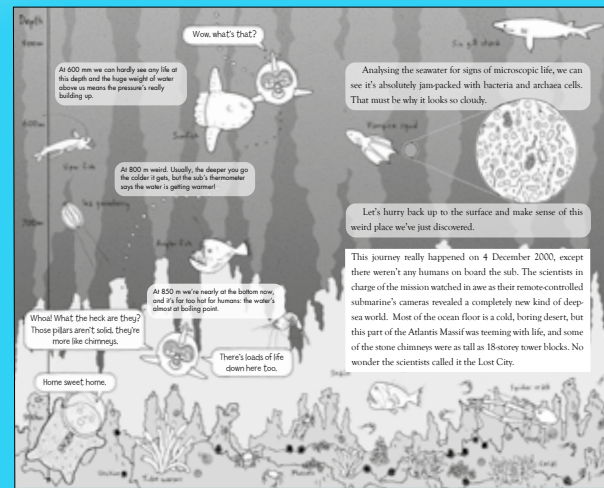
STARTING  
WITH 6 BOOKS  
OVER 2 YEARS

HUGELY  
ENTERTAINING  
AND READABLE

A brand-new series that tells you everything you need to know about the fundamentals of science!

Explodapedia will . . .

- Excite and inspire the scientists of the future
- Show those who think they aren't good at science that they too can enjoy and retain fascinating facts and theories
- Give the gifts of awe and understanding of the world around them to eager young readers
- Fill a very real gap for teachers, librarians and educators as well as for parents and young readers



Join science expert Dr Ben Martynoga and illustrator extraordinaire Moose Allain for a series of books that will truly become . . . everything you need to know, one book at a time!

Rights sold: Chinese simplified (full series), Japanese (*The Virus*), Spanish (*The Virus*)

NON-FICTION · 12+ · THE CELL AND THE GENE: APRIL 2023 | EVOLUTION: NOVEMBER 2023 | REWILDING: JANUARY 2024 | THE BRAIN: JULY 2024,  
THE VIRUS: NOVEMBER 2024 · HB · 160pp · B FORMAT

Rights sold: Chinese simplified (full series), Japanese (*The Virus*), Spanish (*The Virus*)

NON-FICTION · 12+ · THE CELL AND THE GENE: APRIL 2023 | EVOLUTION: NOVEMBER 2023 | REWILDING: JANUARY 2024 | THE BRAIN: JULY 2024,  
THE VIRUS: NOVEMBER 2024 · HB · 160pp · B FORMAT



# CORPSE TALK

ADAM AND LISA MURPHY

Twice Blue Peter Award-shortlisted, super-talented and super-funny Adam and Lisa Murphy give us the ultimate history lesson by interviewing the dead famous!

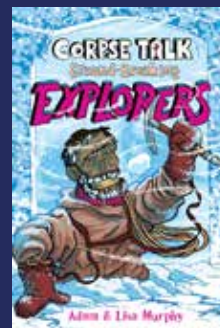
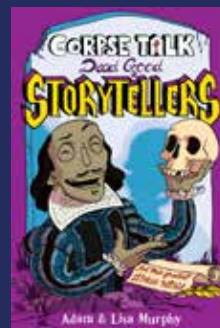
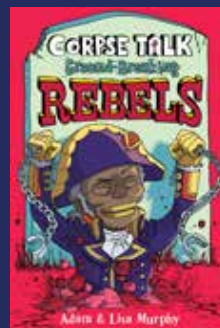
'Filled with wit and puns galore... Murphy makes history come alive – in more ways than one' *Booklist*

'Smart, irreverent, funny and splendidly factual throughout' *Comics Review*

'A must for any classroom and library' *Cartoonists' Club of Great Britain*



'Corpse Talk is funny, it's entertaining, it's educational and information packed. What more could you possibly want?' *Forbidden Planet*



'FUNNY AND  
INFORMATIVE'  
TELEGRAPH

# ROAR LIKE A LION

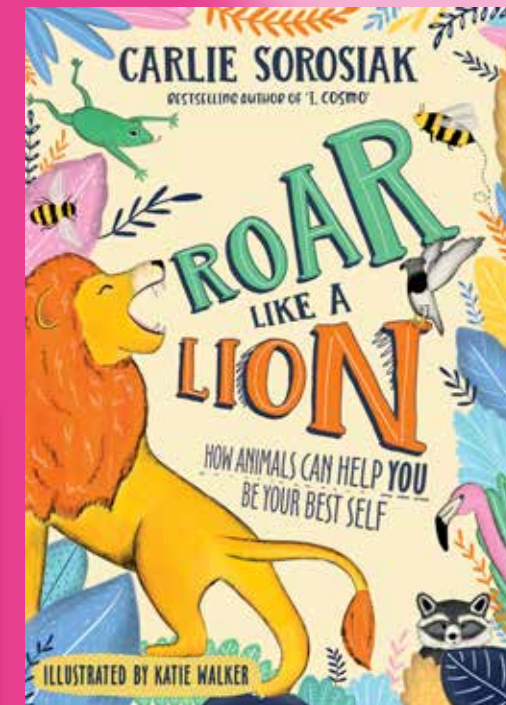
WRITTEN BY CARLIE SOROSIAK, ILLUSTRATED BY KATIE WALKER

An inspirational guide to living your best life – with a twist!

- From the bestselling author of *I, Cosmo* (Waterstones Children's Book of the Month; *Kirkus* starred review)
- This charming book perfectly hooks into the growing and vital children's self-help market. The ultimate feel-good guide for young readers
- With a message about self-appreciation and the brilliance of uniqueness, be inspired by the confidence of a lion, the bravery of a hedgehog or kindness of a wombat
- Will delight fans of Matthew Syed's *You Are Awesome*

'Full of facts and remarkable true stories  
... wise and uplifting'  
*The Bookseller* Editor's Choice

'Full of heart, wisdom and humour ...  
packed full of inspiration'  
Hannah Gold, author of *The Last Bear*





# YA, CROSSOVER AND ADULT

## HER DARK WINGS

MELINDA SALISBURY

This is unmissable YA, from the award-winning author of *The Sin Eater's Daughter*.

A beautiful Greek-mythology influenced YA story about a teenage girl. Passionate and powerful, a story to sit up and take notice of. A modern-day take on the Persephone myth, infused with the intense potency of teenage passions. When betrayal in love leads to lustful revenge, Corey is thrust into a journey of self-discovery that will take her beyond the bounds of the world she's always lived in.

A novel that will greatly appeal to teens and young adults alike thanks to its many relatable themes. From self-discovery; the thin line between love and hate, friendship and betrayal, obsession and attraction and the wonder of being seen; to the importance of nature and healing through caring for it. This story is incredibly accessible yet thought provoking and pacy.

'Melinda Salisbury is a lush, magical writer – who isn't afraid of the dark. *Her Dark Wings* captures the glory of having a real best friend, and the mythic pain of being betrayed by one' Rainbow Rowell

'All the hallmarks of Salisbury at her best: raw emotion, searing prose and a darkly imagined world' Non Pratt



'Full of friendship and fury' Deirdre Sullivan

'Strange, elegant and chilling: I devoured it' Sarah Maria Griffin

Rights sold: Audio, Russian  
Fiction · 12+ · JULY 2022 · PB · 352pp · B FORMAT



# SHADES OF SCARLET

ANNE FINE

An insightful, sharply funny look at the complexity of teenage emotions and the power of self-expression.

Scarlet's parents have split up, and her best friend's brother has been in a life-changing accident. As her world implodes, she pushes away the people who could help her most.

Only one thing's for sure – Scarlet is not the kind of girl to do what anyone else would expect.

'A brilliant as well as a timely novel' *Books for Keeps*

'Anne Fine captures the nuanced teenage psyche through deft and accessible vignettes. Highly recommended' *School Reading List*

'This rite-of-passage story is compelling, entertaining, insightful and kind' *Sunday Times* Children's Book of the Week

'The perfect novel for young teens . . . An absolute triumph of a novel' *BookTrust*

ANNE'S  
LIFE SALES  
EXCEED 800,000  
COPIES!

ANNE FINE:  
TWICE WINNER OF THE  
CARNEGIE MEDAL,  
2 WHITBREAD AWARDS,  
A SMARTIES PRIZE AND  
A HOLLYWOOD FILM  
TO HER NAME



# CRUSHING

SOPHIE BURROWS

A stunning meditation on loneliness, heartache – and the joy of human connection.

'This book is STUNNING. A masterpiece' Holly Bourne

'A beautifully drawn tale of 21st century urban loneliness, told with warmth and humour' Steven Collins

'Beautiful, funny, touching, original and utterly unique' David Walliams

'A tender and real modern love story told via sad-sweet illustrations' Matt Haig

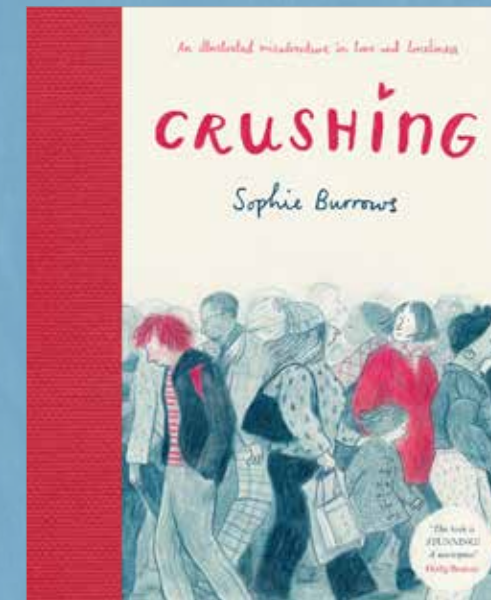
'Charming, expressive' Kirkus

'A sensitive and drily humorous narrative' *Publishers Weekly*

'An exquisitely painful portrait of loneliness' *New York Journal of Books*

'A gorgeous graphic . . . hopeful rather than hopeless, *Crushing* is a new kind of love story' *Red* magazine

'More than words, *Crushing* is a feeling; a comforting, quiet feeling – just a really nice and relatable read for our times' *The Skinny*



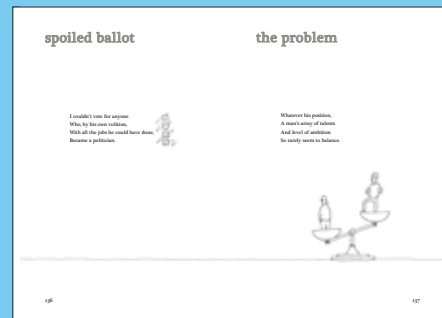


# IGNORE IT ALL AND HOPE IT GOES AWAY

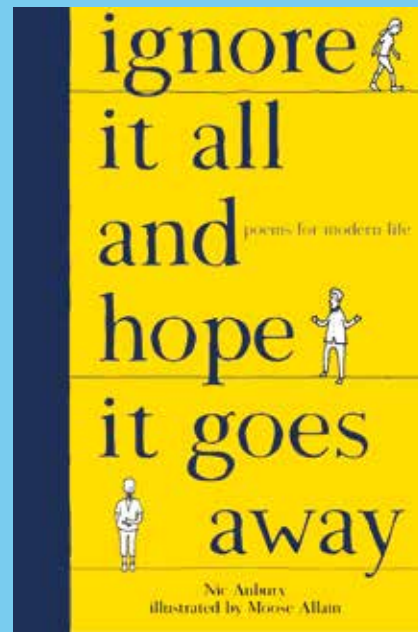
**NIC AUBURY**

A funny and hilariously truthful collection of poems that looks at the irritations and uncertainties of modern life, from a brand-new voice in modern verse. Serves as a completely unhelpful self-help poetry book for those who can't bear self-help! A brand-new voice in modern poetry, Nic Aubury is one to watch.

Accessible, utterly relatable and easy to read, it is an exciting new pairing of comedic voices, with popular comic artist Moose Allain's illustrations enhancing the book brilliantly.



- The poetic equivalent of a duvet to hide under while the world does its worst
- Bang on trend, this is a poetry book to heal all modern woes
- An antidote to all the irritations and uncertainties of modern life



# WHAT IS LIFE?

**SIR PAUL NURSE**

NOBEL PRIZE-WINNING BIOLOGIST Sir Paul Nurse explains what it is to be alive in five simple chapters.

Sir Paul Nurse unveils biology's secrets and what connects us in this entertaining and enjoyable exploration of the living world. Quickly understand the five great building blocks of biology – The Cell, The Gene, Natural Selection, Life as Chemistry and Life as Information. Accessible and easy to read, Paul's disarming and personal tone will make all readers light up with childlike excitement for the science.

*What is Life?* stands alongside Carlo Rovelli's international bestseller *Seven Brief Lessons on Physics*, and in writing this book Sir Paul Nurse has put himself squarely alongside other popularisers of science, such as Stephen Hawking and Richard Dawkins.

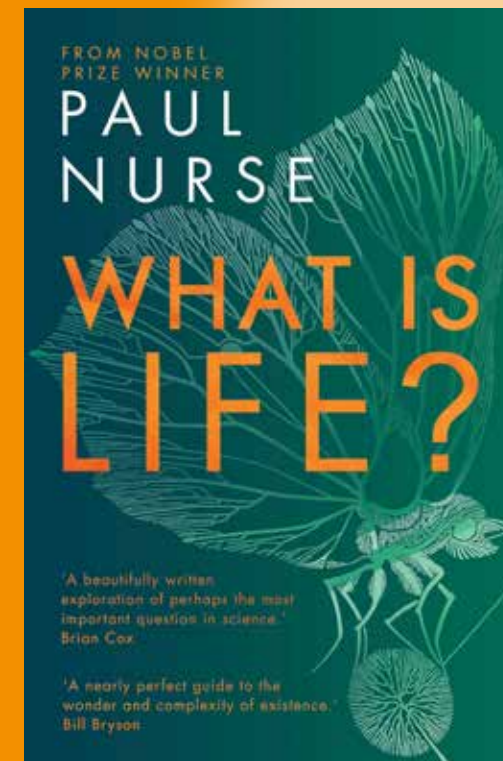
'Eloquent . . . Anyone wondering how life works would do well to pick this up' *Publishers Weekly*

'A book that will inspire a generation of biologists' Siddhartha Mukherjee

*A Financial Times* Best Book of the Year 2020

'A concise, lucid response to an age-old question' Dava Sobel

**25  
LICENCES  
SOLD!**





# CONTACTS

## DAVID FICKLING BOOKS

Bronwen Bennie  
Rights & International Sales Director  
T: 01865 339 000  
E: bron@davidficklingbooks.com

## AUDIO AND GENERAL ENQUIRIES

Jasmine Denholm  
Sales, Rights & Operations Manager  
T: 01865 339 000  
E: jasmine@davidficklingbooks.com

## BOSNIA, BULGARIA, CROATIA, HERZEGOVINA, MACEDONIA, MONTENEGRO, SERBIA & SLOVENIA

Simona Kaleva  
Corto Literary  
E: simona@cortoliterary.com

## BRAZIL & PORTUGAL

Patricia Seibel  
Seibel Publishing Services  
E: patricia@patriciaseibel.com

## CHINA

Carrie Ding  
Bardon-Chinese Media Agency  
E: dingfang@bardonchinese.com

## CZECH REPUBLIC & SLOVAKIA

Kristin Olson  
Kristin Olson Literary Agency  
E: kristin.olson@litag.cz

## ISRAELI/HEBREW

Geula Geurts  
The Deborah Harris Agency  
E: geula@thedeborahharrisagency.com

## JAPAN

Solan Natsume  
Tuttle-Mori  
E: solan@tuttlemori.com

## KOREA, THAILAND, VIETNAM, MALAYSIA & INDONESIA

Sue Yang & Jilly Lee  
Eric Yang Agency  
E: sueyang@eyagency.com  
E: eya-child@eyagency.com

## POLAND

Magda Kabajewska  
& Kamila Kanafa  
Macadamia Literary Agency  
E: magda@macadamialit.com  
E: kamila@macadamialit.com

## HUNGARY

Orsi Mészáros  
Katai & Bolza  
E: orsi@kataibolza.hu

## ROMANIA

Andreea Focsaneanu  
Simona Kessler Agency  
E: andreea@kessler-agency.ro

## SPAIN & LATIN AMERICA (EX. BRAZIL)

Beatriz Coll  
RDC Agencia Literaria  
E: beatriz.coll@rdclitera.com

## TAIWAN

Cynthia Chang  
Bardon-Chinese Media Agency  
E: cynthia@bardonchinese.com

## TURKEY

Begüm Ayfer  
Akcali Copyright  
E: begum@akcalicopyright.com