

GREGORY MAGUIRE

Cress Watercress

illustrated by David Litchfield

A sumptuously illustrated woodland tale with a classic sensibility and modern flair from the fertile imagination behind Wicked

224 pages • March 2022 • Rights sold: Romanian Candlewick Press

"A clear-eyed lesson in picking up and moving forward, living with unanswered questions, and making new friends. I will recommend this beautifully written (and perfectly illustrated!) book to everyone."

Ann Patchett, New York Times best-selling author of The Dutch House



★ Kirkus Reviews

★ Publishers Weekly

★ The Horn Book

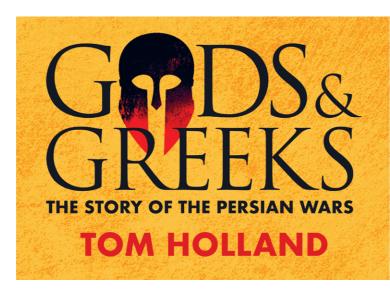
TOM HOLLAND

Gods and Greeks

A blockbuster retelling of the Persian War 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 author Tom Holland expertly weaves myth and history in a compelling and dramatic retelling of Herodotus, boldly evoking vast ancient landscapes, mighty battles and enthralling tales of gods and Greeks.

176 pages • September 2023 • World rights available • Walker Books



The definitive version of one of the most momentous events in history, to be treasured by all ages.



Once upon

a time.

there was

a book...



MEG MEDINA

Merci Suárez Plays it Cool

In a satisfying and heartfelt finale to her trilogy, Newbery Medalist Meg Medina follows Merci Suárez into an eighth-grade year full of changes - evolving friendships, new responsibilities, and heartbreaking loss.

352 pages • September 2022 • Candlewick Press

BACKLIST:

Merci Suárez Changes Gears Rights sold: Complex Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Romanian, Simplified Chinese, Spanish, Vietnamese

Merci Suárez Can't Dance

RICHARD AYOADE

THE BOOK THAT NO ONE WANTED TO READ

illustrated by Tor Freeman

What makes you want to read a book? A story to get young readers howling with laughter at everything we thought we knew about books, stylishly illustrated in two-colour

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: French, Simplified Chinese • Walker Books



"Meg Medina is the author I studied, and still study, to learn how to write for children. Few people get the balance of writing about and for teens right."

Elizabeth Acevedo, New York Times bestselling author

JANET COSTA BATES



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

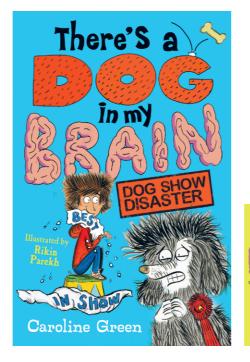
illustrated by Gladys Jose

In a rich and amusing story that will appeal to fans of Judy Moody, a sincere and creative protagonist navigates friend and family relationships from funny to frustrating, endearing to insightful.

Rica's very best friend is moving away. How can she convince her parents to let her get a pet so she won't be lonely? Friendship and family shine in this engaging young chapter book, illustrated in black-and-white throughout.

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

CAROLINE GREEN



There'S a

There's a Dog in My Brain: Dog Show Disaster

illustrated by Rikin Parekh

Second in a bodyswap comedy series containing canine chaos and doggy disasters

When Dudley the dog wishes he could steal cakes without getting caught, he isn't expecting to transform into a boy! Danny – his owner – certainly isn't expecting to find himself back in Dudley's body. Will the combination of Danny's boy-brain in Dudley's dog-body prove a winning combination at the local dog show the next day? Or will it land both of them in Very Big Trouble?

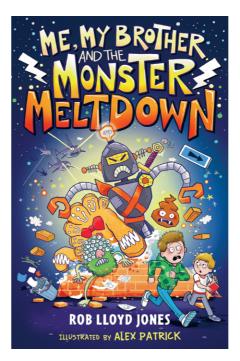
144 pages • August 2022 • World rights available • Walker Books

Praise for There's a Dog in My Brain

"Dog-lovers with a taste for slapstick will relish this riotous body-swap with outrageous consequences."

The Guardian

ROB LLOYD JONES



Me, My Brother and the Monster Meltdown

illustrated by Alex Patrick

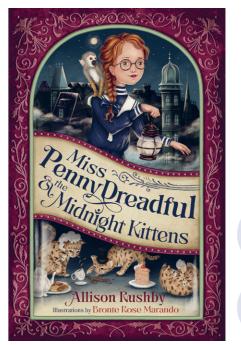
Comedy chaos breaks loose when two brothers' imaginary monsters come to life

Monsters are smashing up supermarkets everywhere, and all the adults are freaking out! A colossal six-headed gingerbread man, a massive emoji poo, a gigantic bouncing bum... Scientists have no idea where they come from – but nine-year-old Otis does. The creatures are exactly the same as drawings by his little brother, Jago. Has he somehow brought his crazy creations to life?

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

High-energy comic fiction from the prize-winning author of the Wild Boy and Jake Atlas series, for fans of Dog Man and Pamela Butchart.

ALLISON RUSHBY



Miss Penny Dreadful and the Malicious Maze **April 2023**

Miss Penny Dreadful and the Mermaid's Locks **September** 2023

Miss Penny Dreadful and the Midnight Kittens

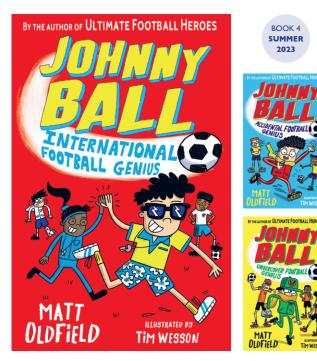
illustrated by Bronte Rose Marando

The first in a new series starring plucky young Penny, who uses her enquiring mind to solve mystical mysteries

It's 1872 and Penny Pickering dreams of her famous authoress aunt turning up at her boarding school and whisking her away. So when Aunt Harriet appears and asks if she would like to join her on an adventure, Penny knows exactly what to say – yes please! Penny soon finds herself headed for a strange place called Mr Toddington's Museum of the Curious and Absurd. But all is not as it seems...

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

MATT OLDFIELD



Johnny Ball: International Football Genius illustrated by Tim Wesson

Johnny Ball goes on tour to Europe in his third footballmad adventure!

Johnny Ball, assistant manager, has taken the Tissbury Tigers all the way to the national play-offs – next stop the Worldies! But are the Tigers ready to go on tour? And is Europe ready for the Tigers?! Luckily, not much could go wrong, apart from airport disasters, rubbish hotels, team-mate troubles, sunburn, family meltdowns... and that's before the tournament kicks off.

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

Written by the bestselling author of the Ultimate Football Heroes series, which has sold 400,000 copies.

SOPHIE DEEN



Agent Asha: Operation Cyber Chop illustrated by Priyanka Sachdev

A brand-new mission in the next installment of this action-packed STEM spy adventure series

Asha Joshi is a top coder and spy for the super-secret Children's Spy Agency. She's suspicious when evil teenage trillionaire Shelly Belly proposes to cut down trees to make room for CyberOaks: the new tech trees. Asha must face robot security parrots, navigate a suspicious internship and travel to Shelly's confidential base in Scotland to crack the case. Will Asha and her robo-hamster sidekick Tumble save the day?

240 pages • June 2022 • Rights sold: Korean • Walker Books

Praise for Agent Asha: Mission Shark Bytes

"Excellent storytelling ... It's important for girls of all backgrounds to be encouraged to take part in science."

Sharna Jackson, author of High-Rise Mystery

IORDAN KOPY



Theodora Hendrix and the Snare of the **Shadowmongers** illustrated by Chris Jevons

Theodora, Sherman and Dexter are off to the Big Apple for the holidays, and they cannot wait! However, if Dracula and Mummy thought an overseas trip would keep Theodora safe from bad monsters with sinister intentions, they were wrong. For New York is teeming with Shadowmongers – sly, shadowy creatures controlled by the most sinister foe of all. A foe who wants nothing more than to see the Monstrous League of Monsters brought down ... and Theodora with it.

272 pages • October 2022 • Rights sold: Spanish • Walker Books

"An action-packed spooky mystery full of ghoulish characters and offbeat humour, ideal for independent young readers." BookTrust

LUCINDA GIFFORD

The Wolves of Greycoat Hall: **Boris in Switzerland**

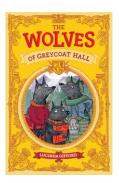
A romp of a read, with an ingenious mystery to solve and endearing illustrations

Boris is attending the Institute of International Excellence, a fancy Swiss boarding school, while his parents are staying with Great Aunt Orifilia. Although worried about being the only wolf, and having to navigate around the rude vice principal, he guickly makes friends, learns how to "log in" and heli-board, and has a plentiful supply of cake. Yet Boris can't shake the idea that something funny is going on...

224 pages • February 2023 • Rights sold: Russian • Walker Books Australia

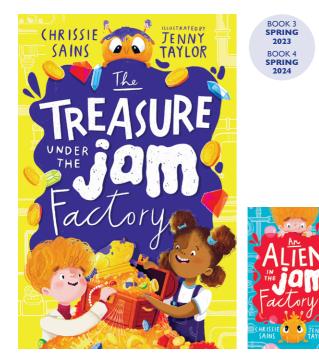
The third in the brilliantly funny series about an ordinary girl brought up by monsters, perfect for fans of Amelia Fang and A Series of Unfortunate Events

Praise for Theodora Hendrix and the Monstrous League of Monsters:





CHRISSIE SAINS



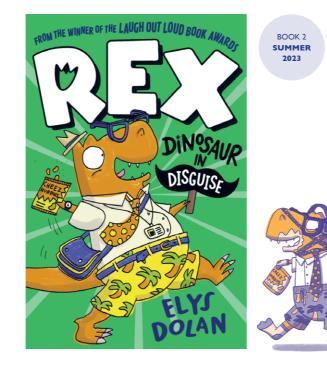
The Treasure Under the Jam Factory illustrated by Jenny Taylor

Scooter has cerebral palsy. He also has a hypercreative brain fizzing with ideas, and when he pairs up with Fizzbee the alien, his inventions are out of this world!

McLay's jam factory has a Grand Re-Opening planned TONIGHT. But Scooter's nemesis, Daffy Dodgy, is back to reveal her name is still on the deeds! Scooter must either hand over all his best ideas, or buy back the factory. Luckily Cat Pincher turns up with a treasure map, revealing a hoard of gold buried under the factory. But Cat's evil uncle and his loot-sniffing ferret are also after the treasure.

224 pages • April 2022 • World rights available • Walker Books

ELYS DOLAN



Rex: Dinosaur in Disguise The first book in a fantastically funny series from a Lollies Prize winner with stylish two-colour illustrations

Rex rules the prehistoric world, until a pesky ice age comes along and he finds himself frozen solid in a glacier. When he wakes up 65 million years later, things have changed - and to survive in the human world, he'll need a good disguise, the help of some other undercover creatures and ... a job!

240 pages • June 2022 • Rights sold: Simplified Chinese • Walker Books



The creator of the internationally bestselling picture books Weasels and Mr Bunny's Chocolate Factory has devised a hilarious new fiction series for beginner readers.

LOUIE STOWELL

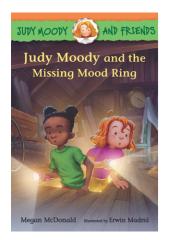
who the real thief is... That is, if his jealousy over Valerie's new friend, Georgina, doesn't cloud his judgement.

Portuguese, Romanian, Serbian, Slovenian, Spanish • Walker Books

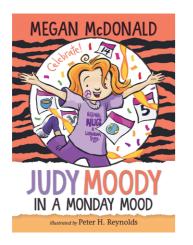
- for Waterstones, Independent **Bookshops and WHSmithTravel**



MEGAN MCDONALD



The Judy Moody And Friends series for newly independent readers is just the right steppingstone to the Judy Moody and Stink books.



Judy Moody's enthusiasm, individuality, and abundant curiosity make her a perfect companion for readers learning to navigate school, family, and friendships.



Stink Moody is a fact freak, a math maniac, a science star, and an encyclopedia enthusiast who questions, investigates, and discovers the world around him. **Judy Moody** and Friends: Judy Moody and the Missing Mood Ring

illustrated by Erwin Madrid March 2023

Judy Moody: In a Monday Mood illustrated by Peter H. Reynolds September 2021

Stink: Superhero Superfan illustrated by Peter H. Reynolds March 2023





KATE DICAMILLO

The Beatryce Prophecy

AN INSTANT #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER A #1 National Indie Bestseller

- ***** Booklist
- **★** Kirkus Reviews
- ★ Publishers Weekly
- * The Horn Book
- ★ The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books
- ★ Foreword Reviews
- ***** Bookpage

256 pages • September 2021 • Rights sold: Brazilian Portuguese, Complex Chinese, Dutch, French Canadian, German, Greek, Japanese, Korean, Lithuanian, Romanian, Russian, Simplified Chinese, Slovak, Spanish, Swedish, US Spanish • Candlewick Press

EUGENE YELCHIN

The Genius Under the Table

With a masterful mix of comic timing and disarming poignancy, Newbery Honoree Eugene Yelchin offers a memoir of growing up in Cold War Russia

An Association of Jewish Libraries Sydney Taylor Honor Winner

- * Booklist
- **★** Kirkus Reviews
- ★ Publishers Weekly
- ★ The Horn Book
- ★ The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books
- ★ School Library Journal
- ★ Shelf Awareness



Windsnan

Z KESSLER IOANIE STON



Welcome to the World of Emily Windsnap, a sparkling, charmingly illustrated series of readers bringing half-mermaid Emily Windsnap - star of the New York Times best-selling series - to a younger audience.

> **Shona Finds Her Voice** Illustrated by Joanie Stone September 2022





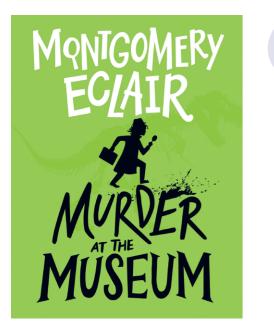
Blackall comes a fantastical meditation on fate, love, and the power of words to spell the world

ALASDAIR BECKETT-KING

BOOK 2

October

2023



Montgomery Éclair: Murder at the Museum

illustrator to be announced

A brilliantly funny 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 Claire 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 Éclair, 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.

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

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

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

Perfect for fans of Harklights and The House with Chicken Legs.

THOMAS TAYLOR



Festergrimm

The fourth in the internationally acclaimed Eerie-on-Sea Mystery series, in which a giant clockwork robot returns from the depths

When Herbie and Violet's arch-enemy Sebastian Eels turns up in Eerieon-Sea, seemingly back from the dead, it can only spell bad news. The townspeople may welcome his entrepreneurial scheme to resurrect Festergrimm's Waxworks, a dusty and defunct gallery of spooky characters from Eerie legend, but Herbie and Violet are suspicious of his motives. And when they discover the story of Ludo Festergrimm the clockmaker, creator of a vast mechanical robot that wrought havoc in the town two centuries ago, their suspicions are confirmed.

304 pages • September 2022 • Rights sold: Czech, Danish, Dutch, Finnish, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Japanese, Lithuanian, Norwegian, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Slovak, Spanish, Swedish, Turkish, Ukrainian • Walker Books

Malamander was Waterstones Children's Book of the Month in the UK and has sold over 150,000 copies in the English language. Middle-Grade Fiction

NERIDAH McMULLIN



Evie and Rhino

Mermedusa

September

2023

illustrated by Astred Hicks

When Evie finds a fully-grown rhinoceros washed up on a beach, she feels an immediate connection and knows she has to help him. When Rhino wakes, he knows that the small, golden-haired child in front of him will save his life. Side-by-side, these unlikely friends form a bond capable of overcoming the tragedies that saw one in chains and the other lose her parents and unable to speak.

272 pages • October 2022 • World rights available • Walker Books Australia

A moving historical tale about love, connection and the healing powers of friendship.



ZANNI LOUISE



Oueenie in Seven Moves A sensitive and lyrical look at the housing crisis

To Queenie, home is Peachy, the little house where she's lived forever. But when she and her mum have to leave Peachy, Queenie discovers that home isn't a place at all. It's making new friends and reconnecting with old ones, letting yourself be uncomfortable, and finding the courage to share your song with the world.

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

M. G. LEONARD



Spark

A thrilling mystery adventure from the internationally bestselling author of Beetle Boy and the Adventures on Trains series

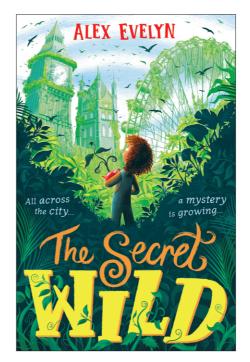
When lack discovers that someone is taking pot shots at local pets with a pellet gun, he is determined that he and his fellow Twitchers will solve the case. But his friends are distracted by news that a rare and endangered bearded vulture has been spotted heading for Aves Wood. Determined to prove himself a detective, lack sets off to investigate, only to find himself in deep water... Will the Twitchers be able to rescue Jack in time?

304 pages • September 2022 • Rights sold: Dutch, German • Walker Books

Praise for Twitch "Leonard knows her audience and the jeopardy comes in flocks." The Times, Children's Book of the Week

"A twist-laden. thriller-like tale." Observer

ALEX EVELYN



The Secret Wild A fantastical, botanical adventure about friendship, bravery - and finding home in a new place

Fern has spent her whole life in the rainforest, and loves nothing more than climbing, exploring and talking to the trees. When she has to leave it all behind and move to London, Fern feels entirely uprooted. But the city is not what she expected: there are giant lily pads on the Thames, monkey vines on the London Eye, and a little plant she finds along the way can understand her every word. Can they solve this growing mystery together - before it's too late?

304 pages • May 2022 • World rights available • Walker Books



The unputdownable second book in the action-packed spy series, where cutting-edge tech meets explosive adventure



Swift and Hawk: Undercover

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 weaponised 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.

TANYA LANDMAN



Midwinter Burning

A gripping time-slip adventure in which a WWII evacuee discovers a dark Stone Age secret, from a Carnegie Medal-winning author

Alfie has never fitted in at home, so when he's evacuated to rural Devon he can't believe his luck. The War seems a long way away and, surrounded by cows and pigs and geese, Alfie learns a new kind of contentment. Best of all, he makes a proper friend, a quiet boy called Snidge who shares Alfie's love of the countryside. But there's a mystery surrounding Snidge: a mystery connected to the ancient Standing Stones, high up on the cliffs. A mystery that threatens to ruin everything.

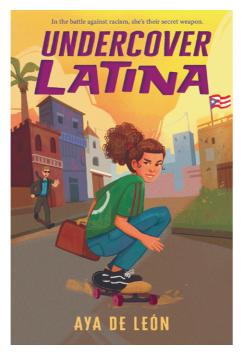
240 pages • November 2022 • World rights available • Walker Books

"Tanya Landman handles a complex, wide-ranging plot with vivacity, verve and skill."

David Almond



AYA DE LEÓN



Undercover Latina

A Latina teen spy goes undercover as a white girl to stop a white supremacist terrorist plot

Fourteen-year-old Andréa Hernández-Baldoquín hails from a family of spies working for The Factory, an international organization dedicated to protecting people of color. But she never imagined that she would have to straighten her hair and go undercover as a white girl to befriend the estranged son of a dangerous white supremacist. Can a proud Latina teen hide her true identity to take down a terrorist?

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

Smart, entertaining, and politically astute, this is a fastpaced middle-grade debut from an established author of commercial heist and espionage novels for adults.

PETE HAUTMAN

THE RAT QUEEN

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

A nontraditional coming of age story that is, at once, a suspenseful mystery and a fantasy.

KATHARINE ORTON



Mountainfell

An adventure about a mountain kingdom and a vengeful witch from the bestselling author of Nevertell and Glassheart

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.

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

Praise for Nevertell



The Daily Telegraph, Books of the Year





Teen and Young Adult Fiction

CAROLINE O'DONOGHUE

The Gifts That Bind Us

A spellbinding supernatural teen drama by a new Irish voice in YA

Maeve and her friends have revealed their gifts and banded together as a coven: Roe can pick locks, Lily sends sparks flying, Maeve can read minds and Fiona can heal any injury. And even better than their new-found talents? Roe and Maeve are officially an item. But when strange messages start appearing, it's clear their powers are attracting all the wrong attention. It's not long before Maeve's gift start to wane, drained by someone – or something – that's hiding even from her second sight. With witty, authentic and engaging prose, and flawed but fiercely likeable characters, this is a YA drama that brilliantly combines the magical and the everyday.

416 pages • February 2022 • Rights sold: Czech, Danish, French, German, Greek, Italian, Romanian, Russian, Slovak, Spanish, Ukrainian • Walker Books

"Spellbinding...I was utterly bewitched."

Holly Bourne

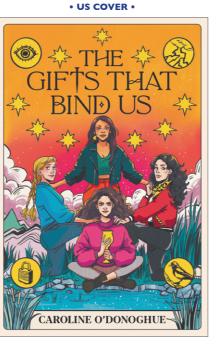
"Grim, gripping and gorgeous."

Deirdre Sullivan

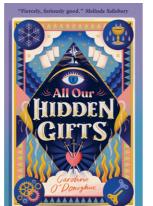
Caroline O'Donoghue returns with another brilliant exploration of teenagehood in her brand-new novel, Skipshock, coming spring 2024.

• UK COVER •





• UK COVER





• US COVER

What does the future hold? Discover ten speculative short stories by leading YA authors in the MITeen anthology Tasting Light.

More information about our MIT list can be found in the Walker Books Group illustrated leaflet.

FREJA NICOLE WOOLF

Can a girl whose head is in the stars come back down to Earth, or will her romantic fantasies ruin everything?

Life is fraught for chaotic lesbian Cat Phillips. 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, Russian, Spanish • Walker Books





Our Gifts Become Us **February**

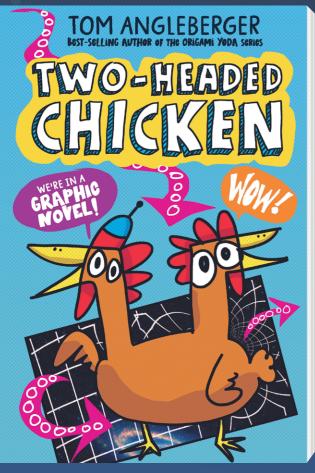
2023

Teen and Young Adult Fiction



Blame My Virgo Moon **February** 2024

Walker Books Group 000 00 GRAPHIC NOVELS



"This book will keep you ON YOUR TOES!"

-JEN WANG. NEW YORK TIMES BEST-SELLING CREATOR OF STARGAZING

"BGAUTIFUL ART AND A COMPELLING STORY OF Self-Acceptance."

000000

-NIDHI CHANANI, AUTHOR OF PASHMINA





AT WALKER, we have always understood the way words and pictures can work together to create a rich reading experience. Our graphic novel programme recognizes the highly visual world young readers inhabit, and their need for books that match their sophisticated visual literacy. Our upcoming graphic novels, from some of the most talented comics creators, have the strong storytelling and writing you expect from a Walker book.

The Moonlit Spiral March 2024 • Walker Books US

by Mike Maihack

Seacritters! The Hunt for the Jigamaree by Kate Milford and Lucy Bellwood

September 2024 • Walker Books US



