

We're 50!



USBORNE
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Fiction
Rights Guide

Autumn 2023



Welcome to the Usborne Fiction Rights Guide for Autumn 2023!

I am thrilled to share with you this stunning line-up of fiction titles from Usborne. In this guide, we invite you to go on incredible adventures and enter amazing worlds with our latest line-up of new protagonists, destined to be children's new favourite characters.

Find your unique spark of magic with two young aspiring and rebellious heroines in Dominique Valente's quirky and magical tale *Witchspark*. Go on an epic quest with Anise Star to save the world's daemons, in Rowan Foxwood's stunning debut *Heartseer*.

Join the titular siblings of Clare Povey's *The Wanderdays* as they set out to save their mum from a villainous lair on a secret island, in a tale about exploration and the wonder of the natural world. Race through Europe in a one-of-a-kind car race with Evie and her dad, solving a mystery along the way, in Jenny Pearson's *Speedwheels 3000*. Visit an alley full of monstrous creatures, enter Fairyland, save the sun, and much more besides, in this fabulous collection of books from a selection of outstanding children's storytellers.

We hope you enjoy your adventures and all the new places they take you — happy exploring!

Rebecca Hill

Fiction Editorial Director
rebecca.hill@usborne.co.uk



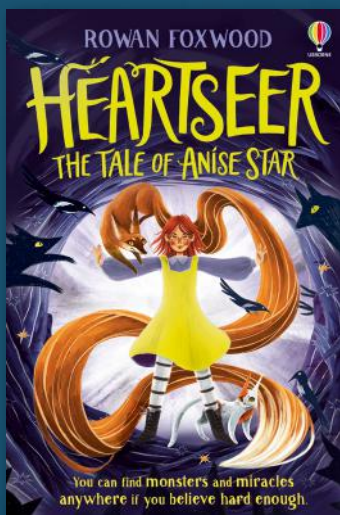
Middle Grade Fiction



Heartseer – The Tale of Anise Star

Rowan Foxwood

- This beautiful and confident debut is the first in a series of standalone adventures set in the same fantasy world.
- Featuring powerful and universal themes of magic, music and story, found family, and the natural world versus industry and innovation.
- For fans of Neil Gaiman, Philip Pullman and Studio Ghibli, it is shaped by Celtic and Asian mythology and the author's childhood travels.



9–12 years

Pub date: 4 Jan 2024

Extent: 320

Rights available: World all languages

EXCLUDING German, Italian

Anise's job is to help humans and daemons live happily together. But when the villainous Mr Babbitt tries to steal her home in the White Woods and drive the daemons out, she is forced to travel to the capital to ask the High King for help. First, though, she'll have to convince him that daemons still exist.

Accompanied by loyal daemon-dog Wolf, Anise sets out on a spellbinding and treacherous journey, meeting musical magician Robin and foxlike deity Whin, and facing the cunning Magpie Queen and a deadly poisonous ink monster. In the midst of her battles she learns that it's not just the daemons of the White Wood she must save, but all the daemons of the world.

**COMING SOON! Magpie Girl:
The Tale of Lavender Wild**



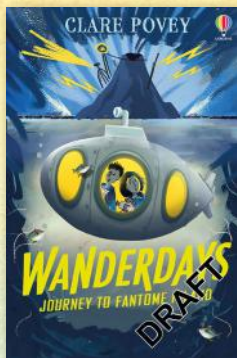
Rowan Foxwood is a Lecturer of Creative Writing, and holds a Masters in Writing for Children. Born into a family of globe-trotters, her world-wide travels as a child inspired a deep love of mythology, fairy tales and folklore that has saturated her writing. Settled now in the south of England, Rowan continues to indulge her wanderlust whenever possible, seeking out new myths and legends wherever she goes. She can be easily ensnared with the promise of books, cats and a nice cup of tea. *Heartseer: The Tale of Anise Star* is her first book for children.

The Wanderdays

Journey To Fantome Island

Clare Povey

- A hugely exciting new middle–grade series from Waterstones Book of the Month author, Clare Povey, perfect for fans of Katherine Rundell and Thomas Taylor.
- Pitched as Spy Kids meets Indiana Jones, *The Wanderdays: Journey to Fantome Island* is a wildly exciting adventure, jam-packed with intrigue, humour and plenty of wonder for the natural world.
- Draws on timely STEM themes such as climate change, environmental action and sustainability.



9–12 years

Pub date: 6 June 2024

Extent: TBC

Rights available: World all languages

Nellie Wanderday, one of the greatest explorers the world has ever known, has gone missing on her latest expedition. When a mysterious stranger appears, Flo and Joseph Wanderday don't expect to discover sinister secrets about the real reason for their mother's trip.

Realising that this was no ordinary expedition, and that supposed Earth-Hero, Sir Frederick Titan, is not all he claims to be, Flo and Joseph must team up with investigative journalist Marianne de la Mer and their friends Funmi and Isaac.

It's time for them to set out on their own quest across the ocean to save their mother, expose Titan's crimes against nature and bring down the Titan empire once and for all.



Waterstones
Children's Book
of the Month



9–12 years

Extent: 352–400 pages

Rights available: World all languages

EXCLUDING Czech, Italian, Turkish



Clare Povey is an author and the editorial and communities manager of the Writers' & Artists' website. She fell in love with France as a child, inspired by the stories in her local library, and by discovering the vocabulary in Usborne's *First Thousand Words in French*. The magic of speaking another language eventually led to her living and working in France, and writing her debut series, *The Unexpected Tale of Bastien Bonlivre*.

Witchspark

Dominique Valente

- A major new magical middle-grade from the acclaimed author of the *Starfell* series, which was a Waterstones Book of the Month.
- *A Pinch of Magic* meets *Pages and Co*, introducing *Witchspark* a spellbinding magical world filled with rebellious hope, quirky magical-fantasy, wondrous adventure and characters kids will love. Features a disabled character written from lived experience.
- Publishing with a lead marketing campaign and a stunning package, featuring gorgeous gatefold artwork and interior illustrations.



Two aspiring witches, one special teacher, a magical living house and a talking dragon-butler fight for what's right, in this major new series from the bestselling author of *Starfell*.

Eglantine Bury is desperate. Her family and their magical house are being threatened by a terrifyingly powerful Whistlewitch. Eglantine must learn to use magic to save them, but she can't seem to find her spark.

Across the land, Princess Victoria faces her own danger, as her secret magical powers start to spiral out of control and cause chaos in the palace.

Eglantine and Victoria both turn to the disgraced Miss Hegotty's Correspondence Course for help. Miss Hegotty's lessons are powerful, but are they a match for the dangers these two aspiring witches must face...

9-12 years

Pub date: 12 Sept 2024

Extent: TBC

Rights available: World all languages

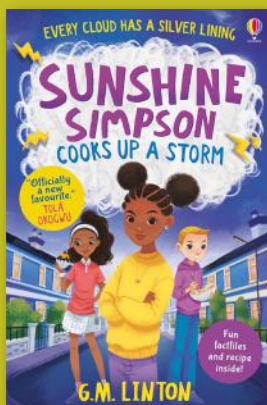


Dominique Valente is the author of the bestselling *Starfell* series, and her unique voice and brand of quirky magic has found fans amongst readers and booksellers across the globe. She lives in Suffolk, in a (sadly non-magical) house with her husband and dog.

Sunshine Simpson Cooks Up A Storm

G.M. Linton. Illustrated by Fuji Takashi and Asma Enayeh

- Won in a seven-way auction, G.M. Linton's Sunshine Simpson series is a classic in the making. Sunshine is a 21st century Anne of Green Gables, perfect for fans of Jacqueline Wilson.
- G.M. Linton effortlessly weaves in themes of transition to secondary school, grief and racism to the second instalment of a series that is warm, gently funny and beautifully child-centred.
- Includes engaging endmatter on Black History Month and celebrating amazing Black heroes.



Sunshine Simpson's life has never been so busy! She feels like she's on a ROLLERCOASTER.

At school everyone is talking about preparing for the big move to SCARY secondary. Plus, there's a Charity Bake Sale to plan for.

But with Sunshine's Dad travelling for work, Mum forgetting how to smile, a surprise family guest in the mix, and her BFFs and bake-sale classmate Riley CLASHING, Sunshine needs a DARING PLAN to stop the storm clouds from settling!

Will Sunshine's foolproof plan prove to be a piece of CAKE...or a recipe for disaster?

8-10 years
Pub date: 28 Sept 2023
Extent: 352 pages
Rights available: World all languages

"An utterly brilliant book that had me laughing and crying in equal measure. G.M. Linton has created a truly radiant heroine. It is officially a new favourite." – Tola Okogwu, author of Onyeka and the Academy of the Sun



8-10 years
Extent: 320 pages
Rights available: World all languages
EXCLUDING Welsh

BOOK 3 COMING SOON!



G.M. Linton found her way back to her first loves of reading and creative writing after decades of ignoring the two – and now enjoys nothing better than snatching time to read a good book and losing herself whilst imagining characters and storylines. She is particularly inspired by her parents, who arrived in Britain from Jamaica as part of the Windrush generation in the 1950s. G.M. Linton lives with her family in the West Midlands. She can be found happily snacking on stuffed green olives and may be partial to a slice of cake or two.

The Light Thieves Search for the Black Mirror

Helena Duggan

- Helena's bestselling *A Place Called Perfect* series has sold over 230,000 copies in the UK and been translated into 14 languages.
- A new action-packed eco-adventure series that illuminates the importance of the sun and the natural world to our survival.



The energy from the sun is being stolen. It's a catastrophe for the planet and every living thing on it! Friends Grian, Jeffrey and Shelli are desperately trying to work out how it's happening. But they know tech genius Howard Hansom is somehow behind the theft. So they must not use any of Hansom's smart technology because it will track them wherever they go.

The three young heroes need to find a strange black mirror to help with their mission. But time is running out and the world is getting darker...

9–12 years

Pub date: 3 August 2023

Extent: 336 pages

Rights available: World all languages
EXCLUDING Audio, Bulgarian,

Eason
Children's Book
of the Month

"The Light Thieves is a feast of fun, fiction, fantasy and fear. Opens with a bang and never lets up until the last page. I loved it." – Eoin Colfer

Also from this author



14
languages
sold

Book 3
coming
April 2024

9–12 years

Extent: 352–384 pages

Rights available: World all languages

EXCLUDING Bulgarian, Czech, French, Galician, German, Hungarian, Indonesian, Korean, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Thai, Turkish, Ukrainian



Helena Duggan is a children's author, graphic designer and illustrator from Kilkenny, a medieval town in Ireland, which was the inspiration for *A Place Called Perfect*. She writes in a treehouse built by her husband Robbie and his brother in the bottom of their garden. She lives in a small house with Robbie, their daughters Jo and Bobbie and dog Tinker.

Glassborn

Peter Bunzl

- An epic adventure full of riddles, tricks and magic, with shades of *Narnia* and *Alice in Wonderland*.
- A standalone adventure from the world of critically acclaimed *Magicborn*, perfect for fans of Philip Pullman and Katherine Rundell.
- Peter Bunzl's debut, *Cogheart*, was a Waterstones Children's Book of the Month, and the series has sold nearly half a million copies worldwide.



9–12 years

Pub date: 9 November 2023

Extent: 352 pages

Rights available: World all languages

Fairy Tree tall and grand, open a path to Fairyland.

The year is 1826, and the four Belle siblings arrive at their new home – Fairykeep Cottage. Here Acton, the youngest member of the family, discovers a hidden key that opens a door into Fairyland. But when he ventures through, he's kidnapped by the Fairy Queen's servants.

Cora, Elle and Bram set out on a quest to rescue their brother. But Fairyland is full of dangers...and to overcome the Fairy Queen they will need all their courage, cunning and a great deal of hope.



Peter Bunzl grew up in South London in a rambling Victorian house with three cats, two dogs, one sister, an antique-dealer dad and an artist mum. He is a BAFTA-winning animator, as well as a writer and film-maker. Peter's debut novel, *Cogheart*, has been shortlisted for lots of awards, including the Waterstones Children's Book Prize.



The Curse is changed. You'll never know. The truth is lost. The lie will grow.

The year is 1726 and the Royal Sorcerer of England is on the hunt for those who are Magicborn. When Tempest is captured, she is taken to Kensington Palace alongside a boy like her, Thomas.

Trapped, Tempest and Thomas find their magic flickering to life and, with it, long-buried memories. For they are the lost prince and princess of Fairyland, bound by a deadly curse. But now the fairies are coming to get them, and with the truth revealed... can they both survive?

“A magnificent tale of courage, faith and friendship.” – Piers Torday

9–12 years
 Pub date: 26 May 2022
 Extent: 368 pages
 Rights available: World all languages
 EXCLUDING Polish, Ukrainian

Also from this author



9–12 years
 Extent: 368–432 pages
 Rights available: World all languages
 EXCLUDING English language US, Canada, Philippines, Chinese in simplified characters, Croatian, Czech, Danish, Georgian, German, Indonesian, Korean, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Swedish, Turkish, Ukrainian, Vietnamese, Italian

20
 languages
 sold

The Super-Miraculous Publishing Journey of Jenny Pearson

Usborne's QUEEN of LAUGH-OUT-LOUD stories that are as HEARTFELT as they are HILARIOUS! She has been TRANSLATED INTO 20 LANGUAGES and has sold over 80,000 COPIES IN THE UK!

Winner at the Laugh Out Loud Book Awards Shortlisted for the Costa Book Award
Waterstones Children's Book of the Month



"Miracles may or may not happen, although coincidences do, but the laugh-out-loud story is, in the end, heartwarming about all kinds of families." – *The Sunday Times*

"One of the funniest books you'll read this year, with bundles of heart to boot."
– *The Bookseller*

"Breaks records for funny and touching storytelling."

– *David Baddiel, author of The Parent Agency*

"A laugh-out-loud and smashing adventure, following Lucy and Sandesh's journey to happiness. Pearson is a rising star." – *The Bookseller Buyer's Guide*



"This story handles loss and loneliness lightly, believes families should support and forgive each other, and offers lots of cheekiness and giggles."

– *The Sunday Times, Children's Book of the Week*

"Pearson deals with tricky subjects with her customary blend of poignancy and humour." – *The Mail on Sunday*

"Exuberantly silly, irresistible festive caper." – *The Guardian*

"All I want for Christmas is for everyone to read this book. Equal parts hilarious, festive and heartwarming – Jenny Pearson has gifted us a new seasonal story to adore." – *A.F. Steadman, author of Skandar and the Unicorn Thief*



"Visionary! A glorious, hilarious, and touching triumph of a book. No one writes humour and heart quite like Jenny Pearson." – *Katya Balen, author of October, October*

AND COMING SOON...

Speedwheels 3000: The Race Against Crime
February 2024

Speedwheels 3000

The Race Against Crime

Jenny Pearson. Illustrated by Katie Kear

- A non-stop, laugh-out-loud adventure with an unforgettable cast of characters, and a touching father-daughter relationship at its heart. Hilariously illustrated throughout by Katie Kear.
- Jenny Pearson has fast cemented herself as the queen of storytelling with bags of heart and humour, perfect for fans of Frank Cottrell-Boyce, David Baddiel and Jacqueline Wilson.
- Jenny Pearson has been shortlisted for the Costa Children's Book Award and the Waterstones Children's Book Prize, and was the winner of the Laugh Out Loud Book Award.



Evie Clutterbuck is ready for the adventure of a lifetime! She's joining her dad on the Speedwheel 3000 – the most exciting, most famous, most bonkers car race in the whole world, driving through seven countries and competing in challenges in their trusty car, Toots.

There are just a few small problems:

- * Evie's not supposed to have snuck into the car boot.
- * She's picked up a very stinky dog along the way.
- * She and her dad have been accused of stealing £4 million worth of gold.
- * Their car is currently dangling off the edge of a cliff.

Can Evie solve the mystery of the gold robbery, get the race back on track and connect with her distant dad, so that together, they can become the Ultimate Speedwheel Racing Champions?

9–12 years

Pub date: 29 Feb 2024

Extent: 352 pages

Rights available: World all languages



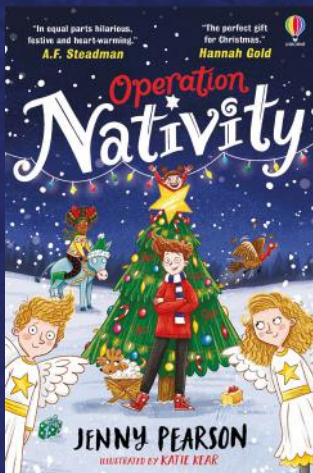
Jenny Pearson has been awarded six mugs, one fridge magnet, one wall plaque and numerous cards for her role as Best Teacher in the World. When she is not busy being inspirational in the classroom, she would like nothing more than to relax with her two young boys, but she can't as they view her as a human climbing frame. Her debut novel, *The Super Miraculous Journey of Freddie Yates*, was shortlisted for the Costa Children's Book Award and selected as a Waterstones Book of the Month.

Operation Nativity

Jenny Pearson. Illustrated by Katie Kear

Now in paperback!

“All I want for Christmas is for everyone to read this book.”
– A.F. Steadman, author of *Skandar and the Unicorn Thief*



When Oscar and Molly rush outside to investigate a crash in the night, they're not expecting to find a dazed Angel Gabriel wandering around their grandparents' back garden. And they're certainly not expecting to find themselves in a race to save Christmas.

But if they don't track down a missing shepherd, wise man, donkey and the actual Mary and Joseph, who've all crash-landed in Chipping Bottom, not only will Christmas cease to exist, but they will too. Operation Nativity is on.

Featuring fun festive activities to try with your family!

9–12 years

Pub date: 9th November 2023

Extent: 352 pages

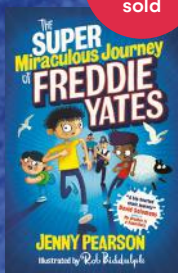
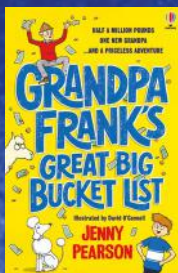
Format: Paperback

Rights available: World all languages
EXCLUDING German, Polish, Ukrainian,
Hungarian

“A gorgeous, heartwarming story full of hope, humour and love. The perfect gift for Christmas.” – Hannah Gold, author of *The Last Bear*

Also from this author

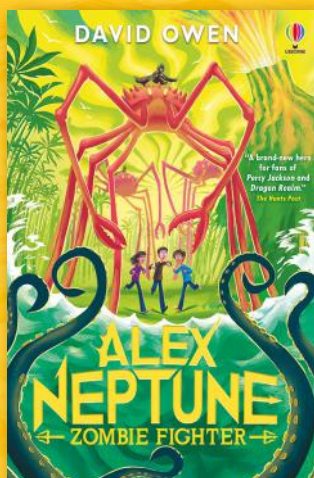
20
languages
sold



Alex Neptune Zombie Fighter

David Owen

- This fourth adventure adds a spooky new twist alongside all the funny animal characters, sea magic, high-octane adventure and strong friendship and eco themes loved by fans of the series.
- The first Alex Neptune adventure was Waterstones Children's Book of the Month August 2022; the fifth and final instalment in the series, *DRAGON CHAMPION*, will publish Christmas 2024.



Things are about to get seriously spooky for Alex Neptune in his fourth action-packed adventure – perfect for fans of *Percy Jackson* and *Dragon Realm*!

When an ominous sea fog rolls in to Haven Bay, Alex, Zoey and Anil are ambushed by mysterious crab-legged creatures, searching for the glowing skull of the notorious pirate Brineblood.

Escaping to crumbling Argosy Manor with the skull, the friends must enter three magically trapped and deadly dangerous bottled worlds, to retrieve the prongs of a powerful trident that can stop Brineblood's zombie army. All they have to do is face a cataclysmic eruption, a flood of evil and a forsaken town – while trying not to die horribly. Oh, and if they fail Brineblood will rise from the dead...

9 – 12 years
Pub date: 11 Apr 2024
Extent: 304 pages
Rights available: World all languages



A Waterstones
Children's Book
of the Month

Rights available: World all languages EXCLUDING Audio, French, Polish, Romanian, Turkish, Ukrainian



Rights available: World all languages EXCLUDING Audio, French, Polish, Romanian, Ukrainian



5th and
FINAL adventure
coming Jan
2025

Rights available: World all languages EXCLUDING Audio



Having worked as a freelance games journalist and taught on a BA Creative Writing course for three years, David Owen's debut novel, *Panther*, was longlisted for the Carnegie Medal, and was followed by three further highly acclaimed YA novels. *Alex Neptune* is his first series for younger readers, born of his love for nail-biting heists, fantastical monsters and heartfelt friendships.

The Spirit Snatcher

Cat Gray

- A magical monster mystery set at Halloween, full of delicious spooky detail and colourful characters.
- Explores the irresistible idea of secret pockets of magic hiding in the real world.
- Perfect for fans of Michelle Harrison, Catherine Doyle and Diana Wynne-Jones.



9–12 years

Pub date: 28 September 2023

Extent: 272 pages

Rights available: World all languages

EXCLUDING Danish, Turkish



9–12 years

Pub date: 7 July 2022

Extent: 288 pages

Rights available: World all languages

EXCLUDING Turkish



Cat Gray is an author and journalist, based in London and Ireland. She started her journalism career at the age of 19, interviewing musicians and celebrities in between attending classes, then went on to be an editor at a series of glossy magazines, including *Harper's Bazaar* and *Town & Country*. Since she was very young, she's always believed that there's an adventure just around the corner, and this is reflected in her magical fantasy stories.

Pip always worries about fitting in — which is tougher than usual when his new neighbours are vampires, banshees and ghosts. Worst of all is the mysterious spirit snatcher, which appears out of nowhere and sucks away people's personalities. When it attacks Pip's parents, the only way to save them is to destroy it. But first Pip has to find it.

Along with his new friend Fliss and her dog Splodge, they set out to solve the monstrous mystery, facing murderous ghouls, werewolf attacks and an incredibly mouldy cheese along the way. Because if he and Fliss can't stop the creature by their thirteenth birthdays, they'll be spirit-snatched too.

“This is a perfectly magical, mystical investigation, fun and thrilling in equal measure, with a heart of spookiness and danger.” – Nicki Thornton, author of *The Last Chance Hotel*

“Magical, thrilling, and mysterious, *The Spirit Snatcher* is a race against time like no other.” – Sinéad O'Hart, author of *The Eye of the North*

21% Monster Serpent Strike

P.J. Canning

- The final instalment in this fun, fast-paced, high-octane action adventure series with a strong superhero slant.
- Perfect for fans of Anthony Horowitz, Rick Riordan and Eoin Colfer.



For once, 21% monster teenage-boy Darren Devlin thinks he has the upper hand over Xastris, the secret organisation that transformed him into a genetically-modified superhuman. Since joining forces with 19% alien boy Marek Masters, 17% sabre-tooth polar-bear Aurora Valero, and now 16% alien girl Genie, Darren has never been in a stronger position... but neither have Xastris.

For they are planning an attack on the world's greatest superpowers, with the fate of millions at stake. Can Darren and the team intercept Operation Serpent Strike...or will Xastris land their deadliest bite yet?

10–13 years

Pub date: 6 July 2023

Extent: 336 pages

Rights available: World all languages

“Canning is a sure-footed storyteller, not sacrificing character to his fiendish plot.”

– The Observer



10–13 years

Extent: 288 pages

Rights available: World all languages

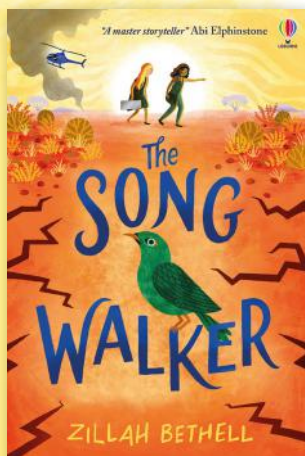


P.J. Canning has a PhD in Chemistry and works in Cambridge. He is married with three children, all of whom are brutal critics of his work. P.J. heard someone say “write about what you know”, but he prefers to write about aliens and monsters instead.

The Song Walker

Zillah Bethell

- From the winner of the Edward Stanford Children's Travel Book of the Year 2022 comes an extraordinary new story of friendship, discovery and courage.
- In the best tradition of Katherine Rundell, Eva Ibbotson and Geraldine McCaughrean, *The Song Walker* is set to become a modern day classic.
- With key themes of friendship, of finding oneself — and finding strength, courage and companionship.



9–12 years
Pub date: 2 February 2023
Extent: 368 pages
Rights available: World all languages
EXCLUDING Audio, Indonesian

When a young girl wakes up in the middle of the desert, she has no idea who she is. She's wearing one shoe, a silky black dress, and she's carrying a strange, heavy case.

She meets Tarni, who is on a mysterious quest of her own. Together, the two girls trek across the vast and ever-changing Australian Outback in search of answers. Except both are also hiding secrets...

A Sunday
Times
Children's Book
of the Week

“Compelling... A tense and twisty story about friendship and music, and how we might all find out who we really are.” – The Sunday Times, Children's Book of the Week



9–12 years
Pub date: 4 February 2021
Extent: 368 pages
Rights available: World all languages
EXCLUDING Audio, Chinese (Simplified Characters), Indonesian, Ukrainian

Winner
of Wales
Children's Book
of the Year
2022



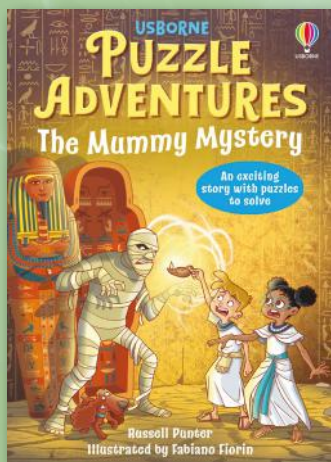
Zillah Bethell was born in the shadow of the volcano Mount Lamington in Papua New Guinea. She grew up without shoes, toys or technology. Consequently she spent a lot of time in the sea swimming and in canoes. Zillah's family returned to the UK when she was ten, and she now lives in South Wales with her family. Zillah is a storyteller and has written numerous stories for all ages.

Puzzle Adventures

The Mummy Mystery

Russell Punter. Illustrated by Fabiano Florin

- The second in a brand new series of puzzle adventures.
- A wide variety of puzzles adds an interactive element to the story.
- Extra clues to help you if you get stuck, plus all the answers at the back.



Jade and Jack are ready for another trip back in time. An Ancient Egyptian scarab beetle transports them to 1250 B.C. where they investigate plots, pyramids and a mummy that seems to have come to life.

This second title in the brand new Puzzle Adventures series is packed with all sorts of problems to solve from picture puzzles to cryptic codes, with all the answers in the back.

7-10 years
Pub date: 4 July 2024
Extent: 80 pages
Rights available: World all languages



7-10 years
Pub date: 12 October 2023
Extent: 80 pages
Rights available: World all languages
EXCLUDING Brazilian Portuguese,
Chinese (simplified characters), Dutch French,
German, Italian, Korean, Spanish



Russell Punter was born in Bedfordshire, England. From an early age he enjoyed writing and illustrating his own stories. He trained as a graphic designer at art college in West Sussex before entering the world of publishing. He has written over one hundred books for children of all ages, ranging from original stories to adaptations of classic novels.

The Goblin's Revenge

Sarah Crofton. Illustrated by Tom Knight

- The fourth instalment in a gripping new series of illustrated adventure gamebooks.
- A fantasy with a difference – because the hero of the story is YOU.
- Intricate picture puzzles to solve, full of secrets and mysteries to unravel.



Prepare for menacing monsters, ghostly magic and a thrilling race against time in this spectacular fantasy adventure gamebook where the hero of the story is YOU. An evil sorcerer has the kingdom in his grip and the only hope of stopping him is a treacherous quest to try and find the last remaining rebels and help them end his reign.

With a horde of undead warriors on your trail and a series of blood-curdling dangers ahead of you, it would be a terrifying task for anyone – but you're just a goblin, which makes things even more challenging. Beautifully crafted picture puzzles to solve, an exciting dice-based combat system and an epic story full of emotion and humour create a unique gamebook that will have you gripped from beginning to end.

9–12 years
Pub date: 1 Feb 2024
Extent: 288 pages
Rights available:
World all languages



9–12 years
Extent: 288 pages
Rights available: World all languages EXCLUDING Brazilian Portuguese, Catalan, Dutch, French, Italian, Korean, Polish



9–12 years
Extent: 288 pages
Rights available: World all languages EXCLUDING Brazilian Portuguese, Catalan, Dutch, English, French, Italian, Korean



9–12 years
Extent: 288 pages
Rights available: World all languages EXCLUDING Brazilian Portuguese, Catalan, Dutch, English, French, Korean



Sarah Crofton and W.J. Tattersdill are best friends who used to while away evenings playing gamebooks with cups of tea in their shared flat in South London. They've always loved the idea of writing a gamebook of their own and they're thrilled that so many years after they began battling monsters and seeking treasure together, they've had a chance to create a new adventure for children to share.

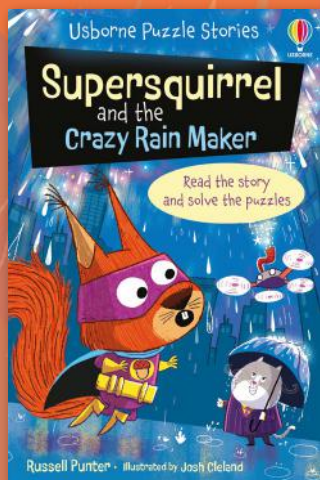
Younger Fiction



Supersquirrel and the Crazy Rain Maker

Russell Punter. Illustrated by Josh Cleland

- The first in a new series of puzzle stories for beginner readers, with easy-to-read text and fun comic strip illustrations.
- A story packed with fun puzzles to solve as you read.
- These quirky animal superheroes have surefire appeal for young readers.



6–8 years

Pub date: 6 June 2024

Extent: 80 pages

Rights available: World all languages

EXCLUDING Brazilian Portuguese, Chinese (simplified characters), Dutch, French, Italian, Korean, Spanish

Solve the puzzles to help Supersquirrel save the world from disaster.

When a top secret formula is stolen, it's a job for Supersquirrel. Using her amazing superpowers, she tracks down the culprit, the ruthless Dr Drizzle, who has a plan to make a fortune. Help Supersquirrel to solve a variety of puzzles and put a stop to Dr Drizzle's evil scheme.



Russell Punter was born in Bedfordshire, England. From an early age he enjoyed writing and illustrating his own stories. He trained as a graphic designer at art college in West Sussex before entering the world of publishing. He has written over one hundred books for children of all ages, ranging from original stories to adaptations of classic novels.

Izzy the Inventor and the Time-Travelling Gnome

Zanna Davidson. Illustrated by Elissa Elwick

- An exciting new chapter book series, packed full of illustrations, comic strips and beautifully written text.
- A laugh-out-loud adventure story for aspiring scientists and fans of fairy tales.
- Includes fun step-by-step science experiments and a QR code for more experiments and science videos online.



Henry the unicorn is trapped in a tall tower in Fairytale Land and it's up to Izzy to save him. She comes with all her latest inventions – water balloons, catapults, musical instruments – but this time, her inventions alone can't save Henry.

She's going to have to learn how to travel through time with the help of a bad-tempered gnome!

5–8 years

Pub date: 4 Jan 2024

Extent: 128 pages

Rights available: World all languages
EXCLUDING Chinese (simplified characters),
Dutch, French, Italian, Korean, Spanish



5–8 years

Extent: 128 pages

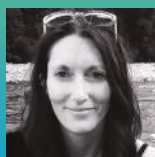
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Catalan, Chinese (simplified and
traditional characters), Dutch,
French, Italian, Korean, Spanish,
Romanian, Greek, Ukrainian



5–8 years

Extent: 128 pages

Rights available: World all languages
EXCLUDING Chinese (simplified
and traditional characters), Dutch,
French, Greek, Italian, Korean,
Romanian, Spanish



Zanna writes fiction and non-fiction for Usborne. Her favourite things to write about are small monsters and talking animals. She used to live in London but now lives in a cottage on the edge of some woods. She is only sorry there are no bears or witches in them.

Tiny, the Secret Adventurer

The Mystery Visitor

Aisha Bushby. Illustrated by Kübra Teber

- Our fascination with miniature things never grows old. Introducing another tale of our relatable, bold and tiny character for a new generation of young readers to get to know and love.
- Tiny is all about belonging, finding friends, and looking out for each other – messages that are more vital than ever.



6–8 years

Pub date: 14 March 2024

Extent: 112 pages

Rights available: World all languages

EXCLUDING Romanian



6–8 years

Pub date: 6 July 2023

Extent: 128 pages

Rights available: World all languages

EXCLUDING Romanian



Aisha Bushby was born in Bahrain and has lived in Kuwait, England and Canada. The first novel she ever worked on was a piece of fan fiction, based on her favourite book series, which she stayed up all night to write when she was thirteen. She now writes children's books and this series is her first for younger children.

The second story in a brand new inclusive series full of heart-warming adventure, perfect for young readers.

One day a scary mystery visitor with large paws, sharp fangs, and shining eyes arrives in the school garden where Tiny lives with her animal friends. The animals are scared, but brave Tiny realizes this young creature needs help...

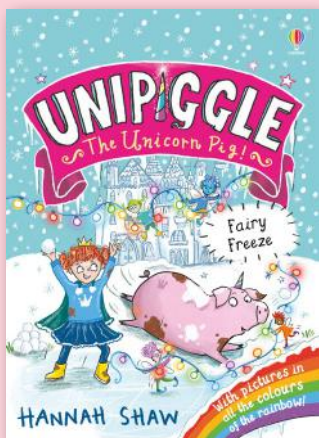
The second book in a brand new series full of heart-warming adventure, perfect for fans of *The Naughtiest Unicorn* and *Hotel Flamingo*. With gorgeous black and white illustrations by Kübra Teber.

Book 3
coming in
July 2024

Unipiggle the Unicorn Pig Fairy Freeze

Hannah Shaw

- From award-winning author-illustrator Hannah Shaw.
- Perfect for everyone who loves unicorns, pigs, princesses and giggles!
- A gorgeous full-colour package with extra material.



Princess Pea and Unipiggle are thrilled when it snows! They can't wait to party at the Twinkleland Palace Snow Ball.

But the Festive Fairies haven't delivered their usual sparkle and cheer across the kingdom. And without it, the Snow Ball can't go ahead.

Where could the fairies be? It's up to Princess Pea and Unipiggle to find out and save the Snow Ball!



6-9 years

Extent: 128 pages

Rights available: World all languages EXCLUDING Bulgarian, Danish, Russian, Swedish



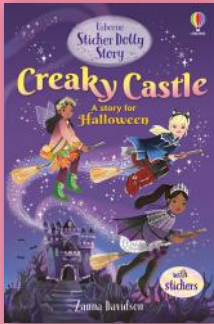
Hannah Shaw is an award-winning author and illustrator. When she was little she wanted to be a gymnast, a champion roller-skater or a penguin keeper but instead she picked up a pen and began to draw. Hannah now lives in Gloucestershire with her messy family. One day she hopes to meet a magical pig, but until then, she's very happy bringing Unipiggle to life with her words and pictures.



Sticker Dolly Stories

Zanna Davidson. Illustrated by Heather Burns, Kat Uno and Katie Wood

- Exciting fiction series inspired by the internationally bestselling Sticker Dolly Dressing books.
- Starring diverse, strong and aspirational female characters.
- High-spec package, with a sticker sheet to dress the Dolls, illustrations throughout and collectability elements.



It's Halloween and there's trouble on the Midnight Isle... There are strange goings on at Creaky Castle, with bumps in the night, ghostly sightings and eerie moaning noises echoing down the castle corridors. Can the Halloween Dolls, Meera, Zoe and Lily, solve the spooky mystery?



5–8 years

Extent: 130 pages

Rights available: World all languages EXCLUDING Brazilian Portuguese, Catalan, Dutch, Finnish, French, German, Italian, Korean, North American, Spanish, Swedish, Turkish

Billy and the Mini Monsters

Zanna Davidson. Illustrated by Melanie Williamson

- Original series of laugh-out-loud fiction for newly independent readers with easy reading text and full-colour illustrations.
- Packed with comic strips, maps and speech bubbles, with an action-packed plot, to appeal to even the most reluctant reader.
- Selected for The Reading Agency's Summer Reading Challenge for three years in a row.



Meet Billy as he overcomes everyday fears, including the fear of swimming, fear of the dark and bullying at school, with the help of some very tiny monsters.



Over 831K
copies sold!



5-8 years

Extent: 80 pages

Rights available: World all languages

EXCLUDING Albanian, Bulgarian, Chinese (simplified characters), Dutch, Faroese, Finnish, German, Greek, Hebrew, Icelandic, Italian, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Spanish, Swedish, Turkish, Ukrainian, USA



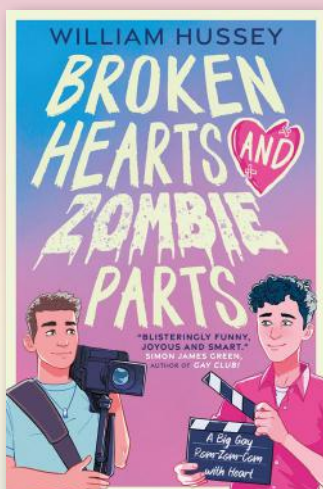
World English Fiction



Broken Hearts and Zombie Parts

William Hussey

- *Sex Education* meets *Heartstopper* — with fake zombies — in this savagely funny gay YA romance about body image, self-acceptance and falling in love.
- A love letter to classic horror cinema, packed with Easter eggs and references that make this perfect for the TikTok generation.
- Perfect for fans of Alice Oseman, Ciara Smyth and Adam Silvera.



13–18 years

Pub date: 11 May 2023

Extent: 400 pages

Rights available: English language USA, Canada, Philippines

Jesse Spark has a broken heart and in a few short weeks he'll require major surgery to repair it — which means he only has a month to accomplish two almost-impossible tasks.

- 1) Shoot his epic zombie movie on a shoestring budget if he has any hope of getting into film school.
- 2) Fall in love before this surgery lands him with a huge scar — because how will anyone ever fancy him after that?

“I loved this brave, hilarious, impossibly tender book with my whole zombie heart.”
– Becky Albertalli, author of *Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda*



“Dystopia at its absolute best... A timely and important novel.”
– Reading Zone

Rights available: English language USA, Canada, Philippines



Shortlisted
for the
Diverse Book
Awards
2021

Rights available: English language USA, Canada, Philippines



William Hussey is an award-winning author of books for children and young adults. As a gay man and a visiting author, he has spoken to hundreds of LGBTQ+ students worldwide. Hearing their stories of modern intolerance, prejudice and the tragic consequences this has can lead to, inspired him to write his first LGBTQ+ book, *Hideous Beauty*. Fusing real LGBTQ+ stories with classic genre writing, Will is a dazzling new voice in UKYA.

What the World Doesn't See

Mel Darbon

- This is the second powerful contemporary teen/YA novel from Mel Darbon, about grief, healing and first love; a story about getting lost and finding yourself.
- Addressing the huge lack of disabled representation in books for children and teens, this novel offers an important and accessible insight into life with learning disabilities and caring for someone who has them, inspired by the author's own experiences with her brother.



13–17 years
Pub date: 2 Mar 2023
Extent: 384 pages
Rights available: English language
USA, Canada, Philippines



14–18 years
Pub date: 6 September 2018
Extent: 336 pages
Right available: English language, Philippines



Mel Darbon spent a large part of her childhood inventing stories to keep her brother, who had learning disabilities, happy on car journeys. Having worked as a theatre designer and freelance artist, as well as teaching young adults with learning disabilities and running creative workshops for teenage mums, young offenders and toddlers, Mel now writes young adult novels. She is a graduate of Bath Spa's MA in Writing For Young People, where she found a channel to give voice to young people who otherwise might not be heard. Her first book, *Rosie Loves Jack* was a World Book Night and Empathy Lab selection.

Run away from what they see. Discover who you are.

Maudie and Jake's family is falling to pieces – their mum's been struggling with her grief since they lost Dad and one night she vanishes. When Jake is put into care, Maudie can't take it any more. She comes up with a wild plan to pull their family back together – by kidnapping Jake.

On the run in Cornwall, Jake and Maudie each find something they hadn't expected – freedom and love. But can they find Mum and a way to heal together?

“Eye-opening, heart-wrenching, and ultimately so uplifting. A hug of a book that holds the reader tight and says sometimes the world is too much and it's ok not to be ok.” – Rashmi Sirdeshpande, author of *How to Change the World*

Witchstorm

Tim Tilley

- Stunning black and white illustrations throughout from author and illustrator Tim Tilley.
- Tim's debut *Harklights* was the winner of the Junior Design Awards Best Children's Book and the Joan Aiken Future Classics Prize.
- An epic tale of witches perfect for Halloween, with an ecological twist.



8 -12 years

Pub date: 29 September 2022

Extent: 336 pages

Rights available: English language
USA, Canada, Philippines

Will believes in witches and the stories he's grown up with — of mythical storm-lions, disappearing villages, and secret songs. Most of all, he believes the tales of magical treasure hidden in the Fens centuries ago. Treasure that he has to find, to solve the mystery of his Ma's disappearance.

Then, in the eye of a storm, a witch arrives. She holds the key to finding the lost treasure — a powerful magical stone that can summon storms. But someone else is searching for it too. If it falls into the wrong hands, Will's beloved home could be destroyed, and with it, his chances of ever finding his Ma.

Join Will on an epic quest filled with riddles, ruined towers, and broomstick chases, on a journey to save everything he loves before time runs out.



“A magical, nature-loving narrative with a fairytale quality.” – The Times

8 -11 years

Pub date: 13 May 2021

Extent: 304 pages

Rights available: English language USA, Canada, Philippines

Over 23.5K
copies sold

A Waterstones
Children's Book
of the Month



Tim Tilley grew up on the outskirts of Leicester, and studied Illustration at Anglia Ruskin University and Central Saint Martins. He works as a freelance illustrator for editorial and design clients and teaches children's book illustration at City Lit in London.

Bad Influence

Tamsin Winter

- The perfect read for young teens facing those life-changing first years of secondary school.
- Full of humour, poignancy and a dash of romance — for fans of *Geek Girl* and Lottie Brooks.
- Multi-award winning author with a brilliantly fresh and authentic voice.



11–14 years

Pub date: 8 June 2023

Extent: 384 pages

Rights available: English language USA,
Canada, Philippines

Amelia Bright wants to be the best at everything. But when it comes to popularity, she is dead last. No matter what she tries, she can't shake her reputation as a maggotty nobody.

When she meets cute new boy Evan, Amelia wonders if he can help her lose her loser status. And in a moment of hope, she agrees to something she quickly regrets – something that goes viral at school. Now she's not just called "maggot", she's a "bad influence" – and worse. But Amelia's determined not to let one mistake define her...she's so much more than the image everyone sees online.

"A hugely important read for teens, parents and teachers alike. My heart broke for Amelia who's told she's the worst person in the world when actually she's definitely the best. A beautiful, relevant story of courage, strength, and not letting other people decide who you are."

– Kate Weston, author of *Diary of a Confused Feminist*

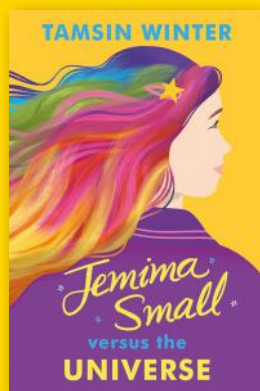


11–14 years
 Pub date: 8 July 2021
 Extent: 352 pages
 Rights available: English language USA,
 Canada, Philippines

Most parents try to limit their kids' online exposure. But not Eva's. Her parents run a hugely successful YouTube channel, All About Eva – and Eva is the star of the show. But Eva is getting sick of being made to pose in stupid mum-and-daughter matching outfits for sponsored posts. The freebies aren't worth the teasing at school. And when an intensely humiliating "period party" post goes viral, Eva is outraged. She's going to find a way to stop the vlog, even if she has to sabotage it herself.

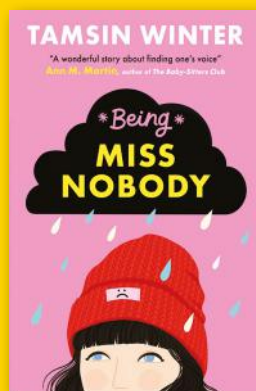
"Tamsin Winter is fast becoming a favourite for younger teenagers."
 – The Observer

"Funny and heartfelt, this is an astute, timely look at the impact of online life and forging your own identity."
 – The Bookseller



Nominated
 for the CILIP
 Carnegie
 Medal

Rights available:
 English language
 USA, Canada,
 Philippines



Shortlisted
 for the
 Waterstones
 Children's Book
 Prize

Rights available:
 English language
 USA, Canada,
 Philippines



Tamsin Winter grew up in a tiny village in Northamptonshire where there was nothing to do. She spent her childhood reading books and writing stories, mostly about cats. She has a degree in English literature and creative writing, and has been teaching, travelling the world and daydreaming for most of her adult life. She currently lives in Leicestershire with her son.

Furthermoor

Darren Simpson

- A powerful anti-bullying book that will resonate with young readers and get them talking.
- A moving examination of grief and one family's journey of healing, this is *A Monster Calls* with the spine-tingling edge of *Coraline*.



10–13 years

Pub date: 3 March 2022

Extent: 320 pages

Rights available: English language USA, Canada, Philippines



“Pacy, profound and original.” – The Observer

11–14 years

Pub date: 5 August 2021

Extent: 320 pages

Rights available: English language USA, Canada, Philippines



**A Guardian/
Observer Best
Book of 2019**

Rights available:
English language USA,
Canada, Philippines

The real world is a hostile place for twelve-year-old Bren, his schooldays stalked by vicious bully, Shaun, and his family life fractured at home. Ever since his sister Evie died in an accident, Bren's only safe space is Furthermoor, an imagined world of mechanised trees and clockwork animals, where Evie is still alive. In Furthermoor, no one can hurt Bren... until the mysterious Featherly arrives.

Now Bren is forced to confront his deepest fears and decide if his place in the real world is worth fighting for?



Darren Simpson lives in Nottingham with his wife and two mischievous boys, and spends most of his time pretending he knows what he's doing. After not quite making it as a drummer in a rock band, Darren turned to writing and discovered that it's a fun way not only to escape reality, but also to explore and confront it in unusual ways. He can usually be found lost in his headphones or eating cake mix with a spoon.

The Infinity Guardians

S.M. Wilson

- The second in a duology featuring a fierce teen girl hero
- Escape into space with this thrilling star-spangled adventure from the author of *The Extinction Trials*.
- Perfect for fans of *Doctor Who*, *Guardians of the Galaxy*, and Amie Kaufman & Jay Kristoff's *Illuminae* and *Aurora* series.



Ash Yang is the youngest ever Guardian of the Infinity Files, responsible for the universe's most powerful and dangerous artefacts. And whether her planet-hopping missions take her to crumbling space ports, volcanic disasters or cloud cities, her new team — loyal Ezra, tech-genius Amara and daring Trik — have got her back.

But when a ruthless enemy tracks them across the galaxies, Ash must protect not just her team and their home, but the whole universe.

11–15 years

Pub date: 3 March 2022

Extent: 320 pages

Rights available: English language USA, Canada, Philippines



“Action-packed, joyously futuristic, Star Trek influenced story.” - Armadillo

12–15 years

Pub date: 4 March 2021

Extent: 416 pages

Rights available: English language USA, Canada, Philippines



S.M. Wilson is obsessed with books – she has read thousands and written over fifty. She wrote her first YA series, *The Extinction Trials*, to try and infect her sons with the same love of reading that she has, and her second, *The Infinity Files*, to channel her love of all things sci-fi. Her day job is as a nurse in public health and she lives with her family on the west coast of Scotland.



USBORNE
Be Curious.

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