



David Fickling Books

# SPRING 2024

**RIGHTS GUIDE**



Image from  
graphic novel  
*Tosh's Island*

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have missed:  
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**Susannah Lloyd**  
Illustrated by Nici Gregory



An hilarious, heartfelt story following lovable Lulu Whifferton's first top-secret mission. Susannah Lloyd's witty, perfectly pitched writing and Nici Gregory's standout illustrations combine to make an unforgettable reading experience . . .

Lulu Whifferton-Rear loves to mind her own badgery business, but when she discovers that important humans are actually BOPs (Badger Operated Persons), she is thrust into the world of the Rumpington Academy of Badgering. There, her catastrophic training leads to the most dramatic of first missions . . . SAVE THE WORLD!

A madcap, heart-warming adventure story about badgers, cheese-and-tomato sandwiches, staying true to yourself and how 'too much welly' might just be the perfect amount.

#### ILLUSTRATED FICTION

September 2024  
7-9 • PB • 256pp • 178x126mm

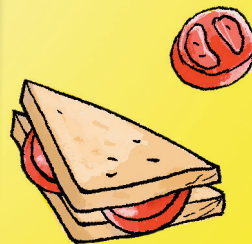
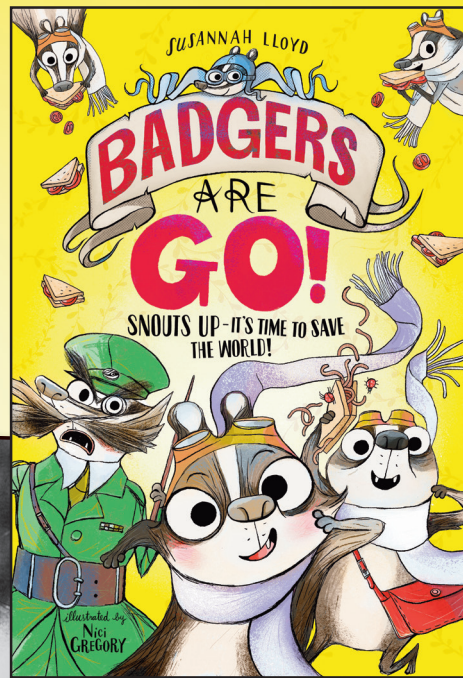
**Themes:** friendship • self-belief  
• standing out / not fitting in  
• defeating the odds • courage  
• the underdog • imagination



Praise for  
Susannah Lloyd

'Like a  
Pixar cartoon in  
book form'

*Children's Books  
Ireland*



**Mark Forsyth**

Illustrated by Matthew Land

# A RIDDLE FOR A KING

Mark's  
life sales  
exceed

**230K**

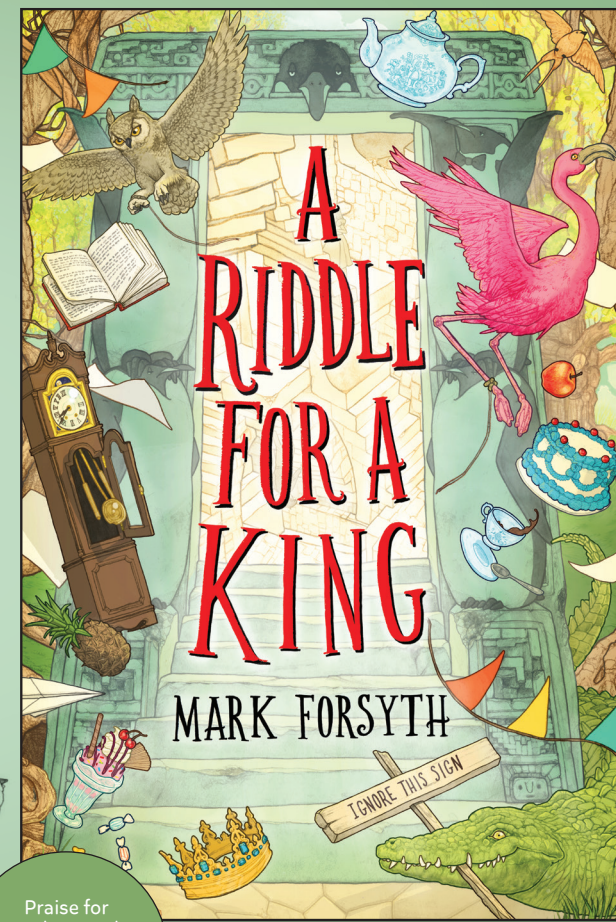
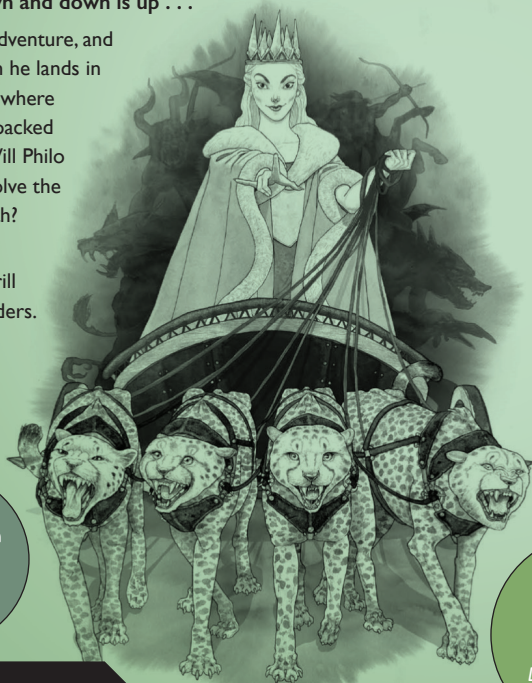
From best-selling adult non-fiction author Mark Forsyth, this is an exciting adventure, filled with magic, fun, friendships, and weird and wonderful creatures! The story introduces readers to some brain-bending puzzles and might just convince you that up is down and down is up . . .

Philo longs for freedom and adventure, and he most certainly gets it when he lands in the strangest of lands: a place where nothing makes sense, a place packed with riddles and paradoxes. Will Philo ever make it home? Will he solve the conundrums that litter his path?

An addictive, delightfully bamboozling story sure to thrill and intrigue puzzle-loving readers.

Praise for  
Mark Forsyth  
'Highly  
entertaining'  
*Guardian*

Praise for  
Mark Forsyth  
'Addictive'  
*The Times*



Praise for  
Mark Forsyth  
'Sparkling'  
*Daily Telegraph*

**Themes:** humour • puzzles  
• adventure • friendship • silliness •  
home • magic • paradoxes

**ILLUSTRATED FICTION** September 2024  
9-11 • PB • 256pp • B Format



Thiago De Moraes

# LET SLEEPING GODS LIE

When there's a sudden worldwide blackout, Trixie embarks on the adventure of a lifetime, gathering up trickster gods and searching for the stolen electricity . . .

A gorgeously written and illustrated novel from award-winning author/illustrator, Thiago de Moraes.

*Old Gods New Tricks* celebrates myths from different cultures, as well as the life-changing power and joy of stories and believing in magic.

In book two, When Trixie's grandma's magical cauldron goes missing, she is thrust into the underworld, and the only friends she can call on are the hardest to keep in line: Loki, the Monkey King and some of the most devious gods on this or any other planet.

**Themes:** adventure • courage  
• different cultures • friendship  
• loyalty • power • determination  
• myths and legends • teamwork

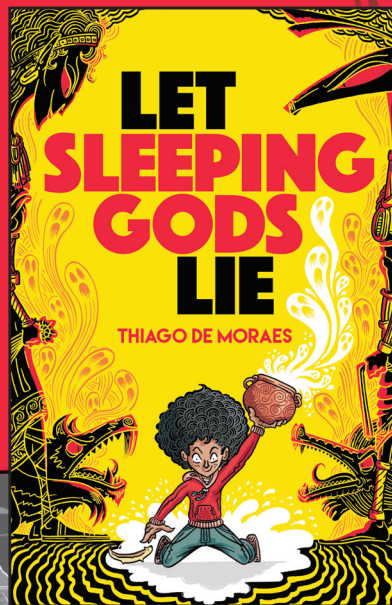
## ILLUSTRATED FICTION

9–11 • PB • 272pp • B Format

Book 2 August 2024

**RIGHTS SOLD:** Audio

'A romp  
through world  
legends'  
*Guardian*



Perfect  
for fans of  
*Who Let the Gods Out*  
by Maz Evans,  
*Percy Jackson* by  
Rick Riordan and  
*Skandar* by  
A.F. Steadman.

Thiago  
de Moraes is the  
best-selling author  
of *Myth Atlas*, sold  
in 18 different  
languages

book against the windowill and began to read. She had barely got halfway through the story about the god who tricks two friends into killing each other before falling asleep.

Trixie woke up the next morning as sunlight spread slowly through the open curtains in her room. The sky outside was a bright grey-blue and she could hear all sorts of noises in the woods behind the house. For a moment, she didn't remember anything about the day before, until she saw the torch.

She tried turning her bedroom lights on. Nothing happened. She got up and went downstairs, with lorgi weaving between her feet and nipping at her ankles. Her parents were already up, dressed and talking around the dining table.

'Good morning, darling,' said her father, but he didn't sound like he thought it was a good time to be at all.

'Hi, guys,' said Trixie. 'No news, then?'

'Not much, just more government tests about staying home and sitting tight,' said her



'Powerful, haunting and incredibly atmospheric ... told with all Julia Green's great skill and shot through with a vein of dark mystery. A truly special boo'

Nicola Davies, author of *The Song That Sings Us*

'a bold, beautiful and haunting book'

David Almond, author of *Skellig*

From one of the finest writers in the UK today: Julia Green brings us this stunningly lyrical and evocative novel.

When Ettie meets Cora, she discovers she wants more than just the rural solitary life she has previously lived. And when Cora leads her to a hidden quarry pool – deep, beautiful and dangerously inviting – Ettie is ready to jump straight in. But the quarry itself has secrets. A poignant and evocative novel, accompanied by Pam Smy's stunning artwork, about family stories and how some can be difficult to hear. It asks the question 'What does it mean to have a happy life?'

**Themes:** family stories • courage • friendship  
• darkness and light • big questions • adventure

**ILLUSTRATED FICTION** June 2024  
9–11 • PB • 256pp • B Format



'... a heartfelt and earnest read! I was rooting for Kam all the way through!'

Maisie Chan, author of *Danny Chung Does Not Do Maths* and *Keep Dancing* Lizzie Chu

Praise for Nansubuga Isdahl  
'This imaginative international tale will delight readers of all ages'

Kirkus starred review

Kamaria Kessy is 13, independent, confident and loving life. But BIG change is coming! She's fallen out with her best friend, Odie, and she has no idea how to talk to him about it. Plus, her Tanzanian aunty is about to become her new roommate – NIGHTMARE!

All Kam wants to do is focus on winning big with her relay team (and best girlfriends)! But to fly down the race track she's going to need to learn what truly makes her soar. With the help of her friends and family, Kam eventually discovers that maybe winning isn't everything and sometimes the magic you need has been there all along.

**Themes:** deep heart connections  
• universal bonds • winning and losing • family • finding yourself  
• coming of age

**FICTION** April 2024  
9–11 • PB • 352pp • B Format



T.K. Hall

## THE BLIND BOWMAN

SHADOW OF THE WOLF  
DARK FIRE  
WILDWOOD RISING

## ROBIN HOOD IS TRANSFORMED.

Blinded by the Sheriff of Nottingham, he takes refuge in the ancient heart of Sherwood Forest, where primal powers and forgotten magic reach out to him. But the wildwood itself is under threat, and the old gods face extinction. Only the blind bowman, Robin Hood, together with his soulmate, Marian, can stand against the forces of darkness ...

Robin Hood as you've never seen him before; in a dark fantasy epic filled with ancient woodland magic, brutal surprises, beautiful writing and strongly environmental themes.

## FICTION

Shadow of the Wolf February 2024

12+ • PB • 448pp • B Format

Dark Fire October 2024

Wildwood Rising May 2025

## RIGHTS SOLD: US

Translation rights: Watson, Little Ltd.

## Themes: fantasy

- deep heart connections
- action • environmentalism
- darkness and light
- courage • magic • myth

**'Breathless.  
Haunting.  
Wild. Magic'**

Jackie Morris,  
author of *The  
Lost Words*

**'It's dark and  
violent, a gory  
fantasy mashup  
with Game of  
Thrones and X-Men  
in its DNA'**

*Guardian*

**'My favourite  
book of the year.  
Beautiful writing, a  
stunning mix of action  
and mystical folklore.  
A brilliant story'**

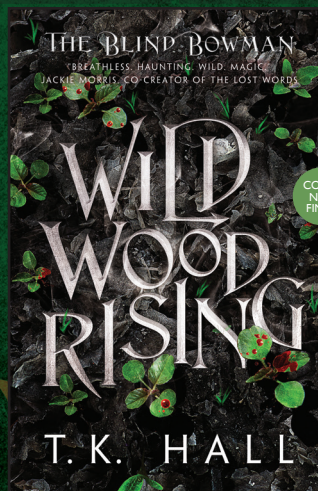
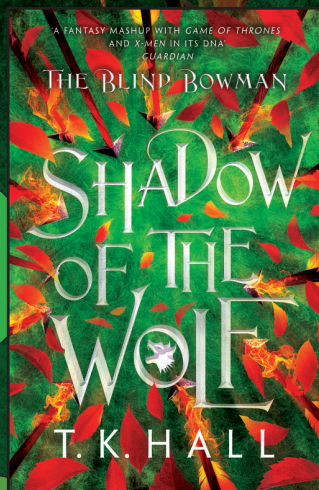
Sally Green, author  
of *Half Bad*

**'Mesmerising,  
don't miss it!'**

*The Bookseller*

**'Original,  
savage, powerful and  
incredibly moving. [Hall]  
captures the harshness and  
darkness of the ancient  
woodland so vividly; it is  
like the author himself has  
slid back in time. Robin and  
Marian are like you have  
never seen'**

Jilly Cooper, author  
of *Riders*



**'Astonishingly  
good. 5\*'**

*The Sun*

**'A bold  
interpretation  
that's weird, wild  
and wonderful ...  
Game of Thrones  
-style'**

*SFX Magazine*



Philip Reeve &amp; Sarah McIntyre

## ADVENTUREMICE

MICE ON THE MOON  
THE GHOSTLY GALLEON

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

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!

In the two newest installments, Pedro and his friends investigate some ghostly goings-on at sea, and blast into space for an out of this world adventure!

**Themes:** teamwork • friendship  
• bravery • adventure  
• kindness • second chances  
• determination • never too small  
to make a difference • effort

## ILLUSTRATED FICTION

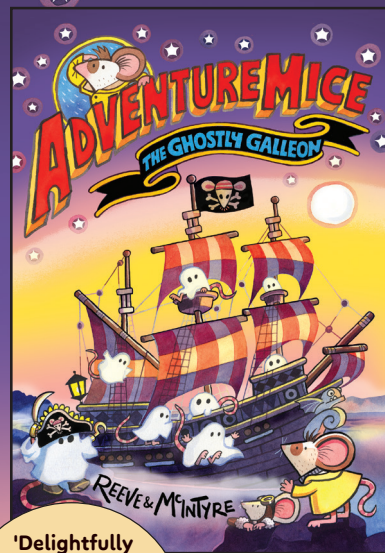
Book 4 March 2024

Book 5 September 2024

5-7 • PB • 128pp • 178x126mm

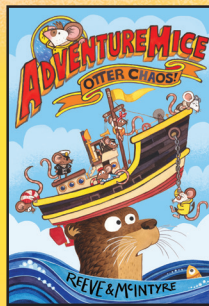
**RIGHTS SOLD:** US, Audio,  
Chinese simplified, Hebrew, Italian, Polish

Over  
**135K**  
Reeve & McIntyre  
sold to date



'Delightfully  
illustrated,  
beautifully written,  
full of adventure  
and heart'  
Through the  
Bookshelf

Praise for  
Reeve & McIntyre  
'As the story dashes  
along so, too, do the  
illustrations, which  
are a delight on  
every page'  
Julia Eccleshare MBE,  
*Guardian*





# Jamie Smart

Jamie's  
life sales exceed  
**1 million**



Max and Chaffy's interactive adventures continue in this latest installment from the best-selling Jamie Smart.

A treasure hunt and a secret cove are adventure enough, so imagine Max and Chaffy's delight when they discover a Puffa-Chaffy, who can blow bubbles that allow them to go on an undersea adventure that leads them to ... GOLD!

'Candy-coloured  
interactive romp  
... Adorably  
addictive'  
*Guardian*

**Themes:** interactive

- empathy • fun • joy • friendship
- adventure • be your best self

## ILLUSTRATED FICTION

Book 4 August 2024  
5-7 • PB • 128pp • 210x140mm

**RIGHTS SOLD:** US, Basque,  
Catalan, Spanish



'Engaging,  
funny and  
charming'  
*BookTrust*



# Graphic novels

**850K**

JAMIE SMART  
TCM LIFETIME  
SALES!



pickling  
d.b  
David Fickling Books

THE  
PHOENIX

**GRAPHIC  
NOVELS**

— LEADING UK PUBLISHER  
IN THE MARKET

**445K**

2023 JAMIE SMART  
VOLUME SALES  
84% INCREASE YOY  
(242K IN 2022)



**57K**

2023 LOOSHKIN  
VOLUME SALES  
125% INCREASE YOY  
(25K IN 2022)



**650K**

BUNNY VS MONKEY  
TCM LIFETIME  
SALES!



**361K**

2023  
BUNNY VS MONKEY  
VOLUME SALES  
81% INCREASE YOY  
(200K IN 2022)

**18K**

MAX AND CHAFFY  
VOLUME SALES



**46K**

FLEMBER SERIES  
VOLUME  
SALES





Jamie Smart

Jamie's  
life sales exceed  
1 million

# BUNNY VS MONKEY

The forest is alive with the most massive of arguments – WHO is the funniest animal in the Woods?

So begins the fiercest of contests – one that will brighten ALL our days. Join Bunny, Monkey and Co. for the craziest joke book ever published, bursting with hilarious side-splitting gags to make you and your friends fall about with laughter.

**Themes:** humour • friendship  
• teamwork • empathy • zany • joy  
• silliness • surreal

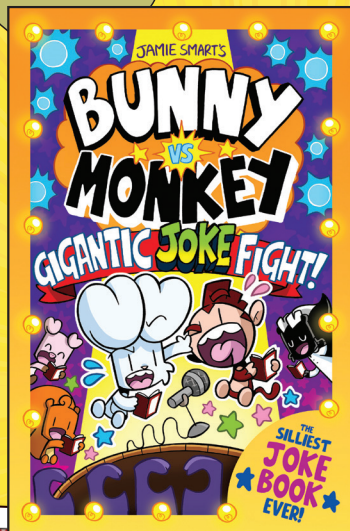
## GRAPHIC NOVEL

7-11 • PB • 256pp • 210x140mm

Book 10 October 2024

Joke book October 2024

**RIGHTS SOLD:** US, Albanian, Dutch, Finnish, German, Greek, Hebrew, Latvian, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese (world exc. Brazil), Portuguese in Brazil, Spanish and Catalan, Ukrainian



'Jamie  
Smart is a  
comics genius'  
Philip  
Reeve





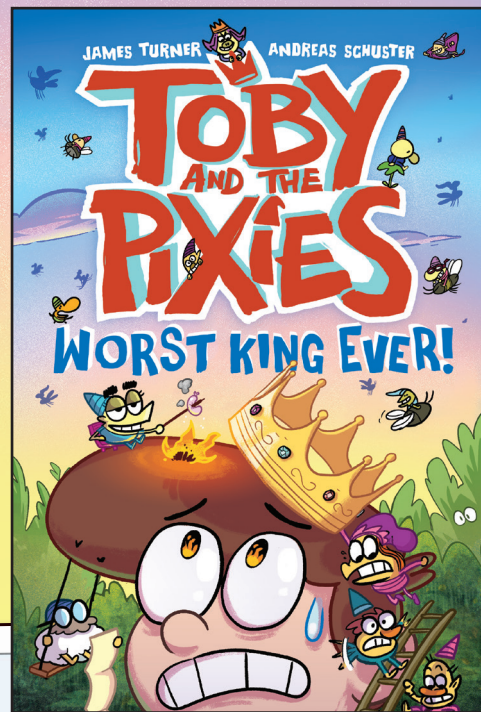
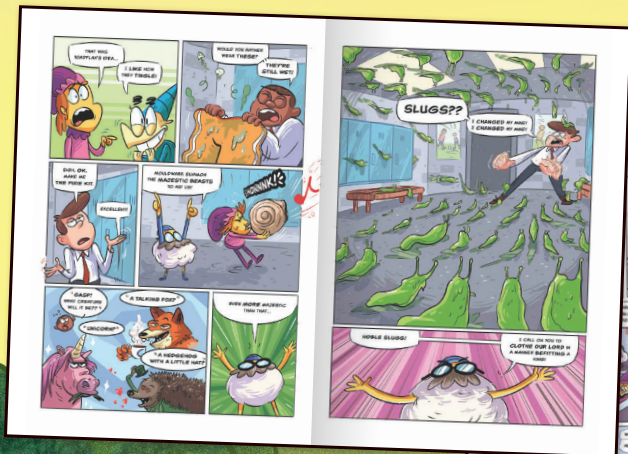
James Turner &amp; Andreas Schuster

# TOBY AND THE PIXIES

Shy and anxious schoolboy Toby accidentally becomes king of a pixie kingdom at the bottom of his garden!

These chaos-creating magical critters cause havoc at home and at school with their ridiculously silly powers (despite them only trying to help!), much to Toby's embarrassment and frustration. But when his extrovert friend Mo discovers Toby's secret double life, Toby realises that maybe being king of the pixies isn't so bad after all ...

Relentlessly hilarious and full of zany slapstick, this new series will be loved by readers of *Bunny vs Monkey*, *Dog Man*, *Star Cat*, and *Evil Emperor Penguin*.



Book 2  
coming  
soon

Themes: graphic novel • comedy  
• friendship • magical realism  
• silliness • courage • anxiety

GRAPHIC NOVEL June 2024  
7-11 • PB • 208pp • 210x140mm





Jamie Smart

Jamie's  
life sales exceed  
**1 million**

# LOOSHKIN

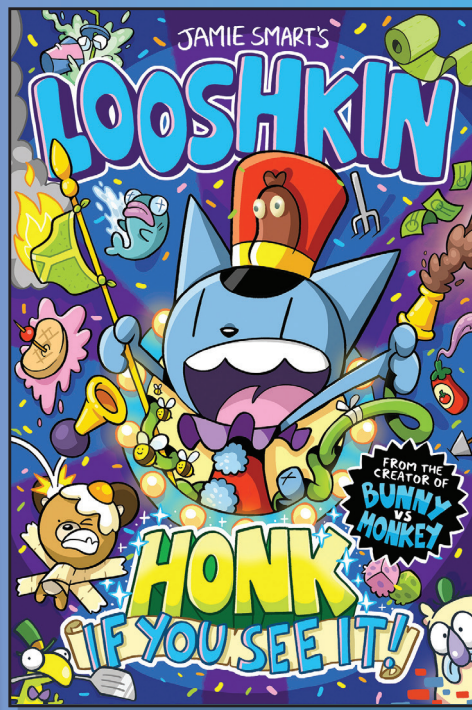
Pure madness in the form of a blue cat, Looshkin creates chaos wherever he goes. This beloved comic from best-selling Jamie Smart has inspired everything from costumes to cakes, and even a few real cats named Looshkin.



## GRAPHIC NOVEL

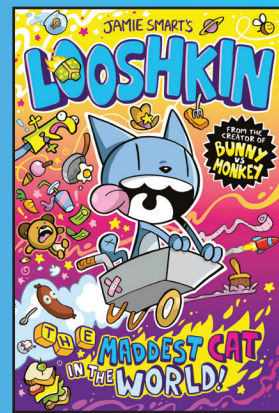
Book 3 April 2024  
7-11 • PB • 208pp • 210x140mm

RIGHTS SOLD: Polish



You never know what to expect from Looshkin – except that it will be very, very funny! Follow the continuing adventures of the maddest cat in the world as he defeats vampires with chicken nuggets, accidentally turns into a duck, becomes a high-flying entrepreneur and gets caught in a time warp. Sometimes all at the same time! It's an explosion of pure comic joy!

**Themes:** humour • friendship • teamwork  
• empathy • zany • joy • silliness • surreal





Neill Cameron

Over  
**50K**  
copies sold

# MEGA ROBO BROS

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!

'Masterful  
and immersive  
... smart, fun  
and nuanced'

Kirkus



GRAPHIC NOVEL

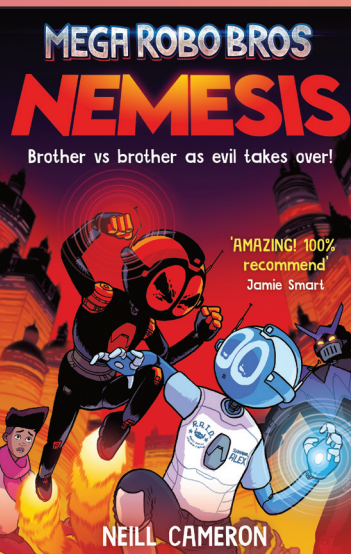
7-11 • PB • 208pp • 210x140mm

Book 7 May 2024

Themes: adventure •  
family • action • friendship  
• joy • empathy • courage

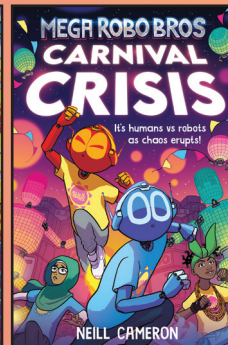
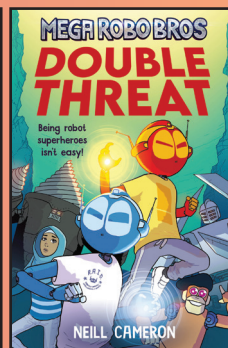
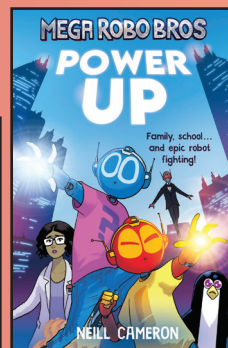
'Vivid,  
well told and  
made me laugh  
out loud'

The Times  
Children's Book  
of the Week



'Exudes  
energy and  
excitement ...  
funny, compelling  
and a celebration  
of diversity'

BookTrust



NEW

GRAPHIC NOVEL

Anna Terreros-Martin

## CAN YOU SEE THE STARS TONIGHT?

A gorgeous bedtime story that will encourage readers to look up at the night sky and question if they can see the stars where they live, whilst empowering them with the knowledge of why they might not be able to AND what they can do to help.

The second sumptuous picture book from Cambridge MA graduate Anna Terreros-Martin.



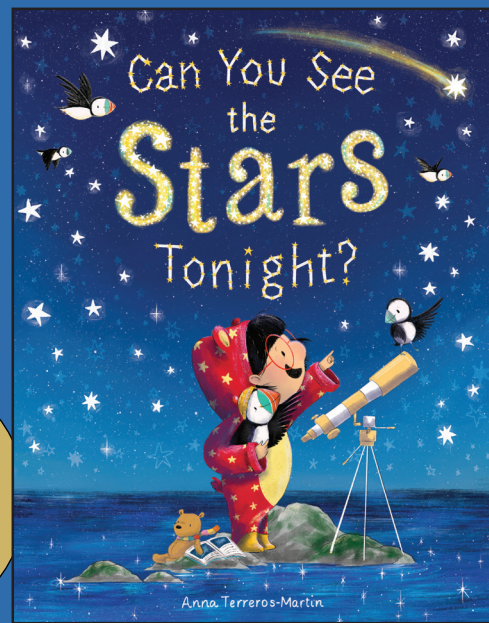
**Themes:** adventure • joy • family • friendship  
• action • environment • empathy • courage

**PICTURE BOOK**

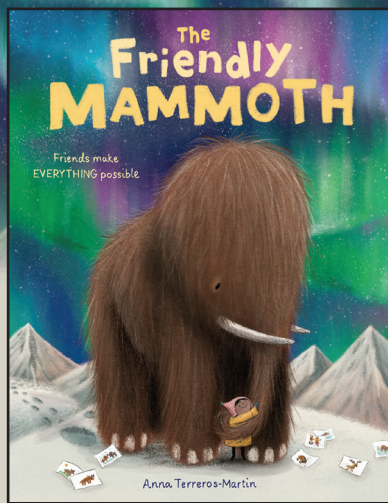
3+ • PB • 32pp • 290x228mm

**RIGHTS SOLD:** Korean

Activity  
and resource  
materials available  
to tackle this book's  
important themes  
in a gentle and  
engaging way.







'A warm-hearted picture book' Books for Keeps

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.

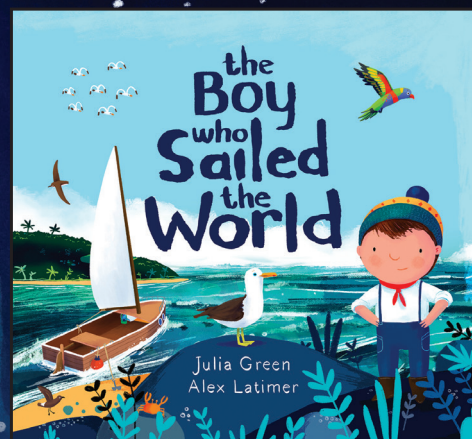
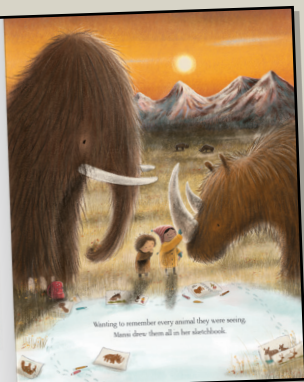
'Captivating ... perfect for primary classrooms' Just Imagine

Children's Book of the Month in BBC Wildlife magazine

When it stopped snowing, the three of them set off to see which animals they could find.

I wish these animals were still alive in my time!

Starting to remember every animal they were seeing, Mansi drew them all in her sketchbook.



'A gentle and inspirational tale about all the adventurous possibilities the world holds for children' Guardian

Alex Latimer is published in dozens of foreign languages

Filled with the wonder of the natural world and the joy of adventure, this is a story about dreaming big – and about the qualities you need to achieve your dreams.



## PICTURE BOOK

3+ • PB • 32pp • 290x228mm

RIGHTS SOLD: Korean, Polish, Serbian

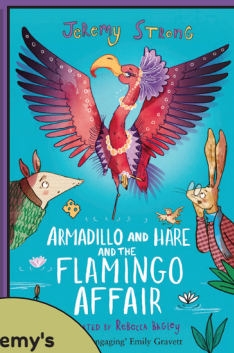
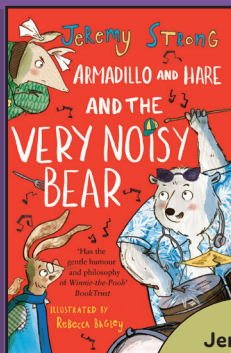
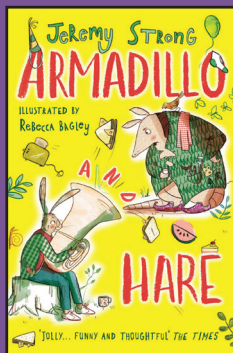
**Themes:** creativity • museums • kindness • environmentalism • extinction • friendship • shyness • time travel • adventure

## PICTURE BOOK

3+ • PB • 32pp • 245x278mm

RIGHTS SOLD: Bulgarian, Chinese complex, Greek, Serbian

**Themes:** inspiring courage • wonder of the natural world • daring to dream



Jeremy's  
life sales exceed  
**7million**

'Bagley's  
charismatic  
illustrations add  
character, movement,  
comedy and style'  
Sunday Times  
Children's Book of  
the Week

'Strong is  
excellent on  
friendship dynamics  
while being funny  
and thoughtful'  
The Times  
Children's Book of  
the Week

**Themes:** friendship  
despite differences  
• wisdom • humour  
• heartfelt

#### ILLUSTRATED FICTION

5-7 • PB • 160pp • B Format

**RIGHTS SOLD:** US, Audio, Czech,  
Dutch, German, Slovak



If Peter Pan had been a girl . . . with a beard . . .  
then she'd probably have been called King Coo!

In book three, something has landed in the woods  
and a top-secret organisation called the MIC  
(Men In Caps) is starting to investigate and invade  
Coo's land. Our heroes are going to need their  
wildest and most brilliant plan yet to outwit all  
their foes and save the Thing from Space.

**Themes:** funny • inventions • adventure • friendship  
• bullying • perfect for reluctant readers

#### ILLUSTRATED FICTION

7-9 • PB • 176-256pp • 178x126mm

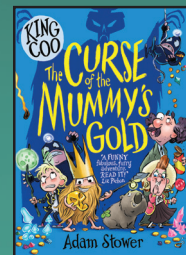
**RIGHTS SOLD:** Audio, Film & TV, Dutch, French, Galician,  
German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Polish, Portuguese  
(world exc. Brazil), Romanian, Spanish, Ukrainian, Vietnamese

'Told in  
words and  
pictures, Adam  
Stower's hilarious  
story is beautifully  
presented'

Julia Eccleshare  
MBE

'A FUNNY  
fabulous, furry  
adventure.  
READ IT!'

Liz Pichon, author of  
the Tom Gates  
series







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 best-selling illustrator Alan Snow.

**Themes:** taking responsibility for your mistakes  
• inventiveness • importance of family and friendship  
• laugh-out-loud • empathy

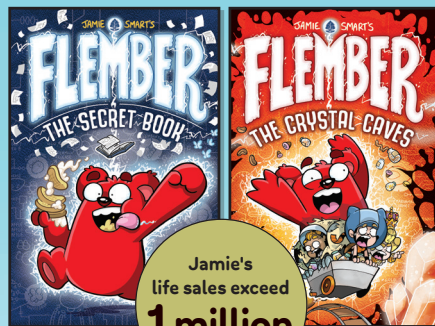


'This entertaining chapter book is full of intrigue and humour... Lively black-and-white drawings will help readers to visualise the unusual landscape and imaginative characters'

BookTrust

**ILLUSTRATED FICTION**

7-9 • PB • 240-256pp • B Format



Jamie's  
life sales exceed  
**1 million**



A mysterious island. A strange and mystical power called FEMBER. A boy inventor called Dev, who uncovers a long-forgotten secret. And a GIANT RED ROBOT BEAR!!

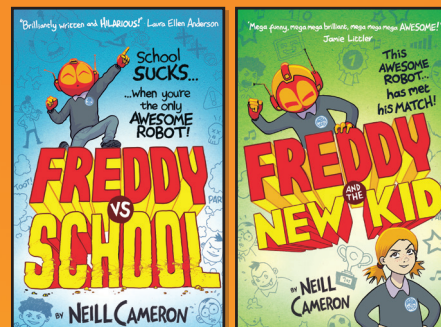
There's mayhem, anarchy and inventions galore in this fully black-and-white illustrated, riotous adventure series!



**ILLUSTRATED FICTION**

9-11 • PB • 304-336pp • B Format

**RIGHTS SOLD:** Russian



Meet Freddy – the most super-awesome superhero robot ever!

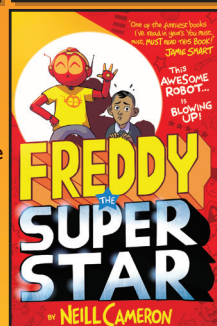
But there's BIG TROUBLE ahead... Can he stay true to himself, stay in school and save his friends?!

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



**Themes:** siblings

• integration and empathy  
• standing out • fast-paced  
• family • superhero • funny  
• behavioural problems



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

Kirkus



**ILLUSTRATED FICTION**

9-11 • PB • 224pp • B Format

**RIGHTS SOLD:** US, Audio, Korean



'Lavishly illustrated... *Moonflight* harks back to animal classics such as *Watership Down*'

*The Bookseller*

'Rollicking adventure... Lewis shows how heroes can be born and the ordinary can become extraordinary. Squeaks of approval'

*The Times*  
Children's Book  
of the Week

Multi award-winning and shortlisted author Gill Lewis as you've never read her before, with lavish illustrations by Pippa Curnick, making this an irresistibly commercial package.

A thrilling, heartfelt adventure story about the value of real and found family, the importance of telling your own story and understanding what true treasure is.

Can a timid rat ever become a hero? Tilbury is about to find out on the adventure of a lifetime, journeying across the sea to the realm of the dreaded White Death, to return a priceless diamond to its rightful owners.

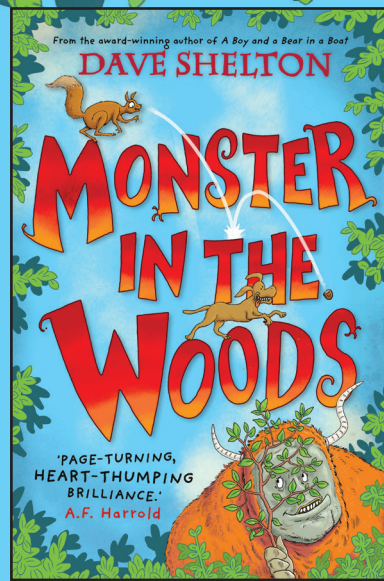
A marvellous adventure begins, and a truly intrepid hero is born...

#### ILLUSTRATED FICTION

9-11 • PB • 320pp • B Format

**RIGHTS SOLD:** Audio, French

**Themes:** feminism • finding yourself  
• courage • first impressions • greed •  
generosity of spirit • honesty and deceit  
• friendship • family • adventure



'A riotous romp which leaves a lasting impression'

Philip Ardagh,  
author of the  
*Eddie Dickens*  
series

'A delight'

Philip Reeve,  
author of  
*The Mortal Engines*

'Quirky and imaginative... a warm and appealing story about the nature of friendship'

*BookTrust*  
praise for  
Dave Shelton

Rumour has it that there's a monster in the woods. But why doesn't anyone do something about it?

Frith is determined to save the day, and with her hard-working dad, younger brother, Spuggy, and dog (called Cabbage), Frith will travel to the big city to convince the king that Something Must Be Done. Along the way, she'll encounter a Big Wise Head, a mysterious squirrel, and discover that, perhaps, not all is as it seems...

Full of wit and wisdom, *Monster in the Woods* is a future classic tale about family, friendship, and first impressions.

**Themes:** family • friendship •  
adventure • witty • imaginative

'Funny and exciting tale by modern master Dave Shelton. Every page holds delights'

Anthony McGowan,  
author of *The Truth of Things* series

#### ILLUSTRATED FICTION

9-11 • PB • 336pp • B Format





'It seems that Lissa Evans only writes instant classics'

Anthony McGowan, author of *The Truth of Things* series

'The magic adventure is a wish come true'

*The Times* Children's Book of the Week

'A wise and superbly funny misadventure'

*The Bookseller* Editor's Choice

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.

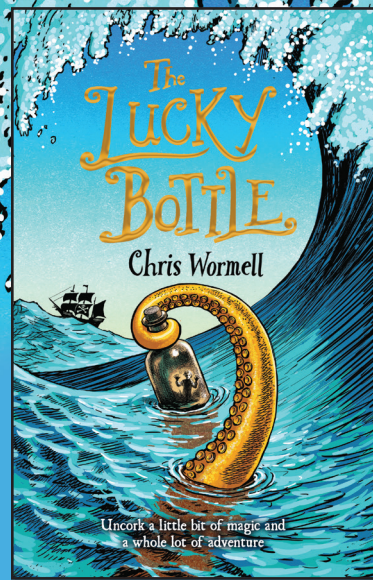
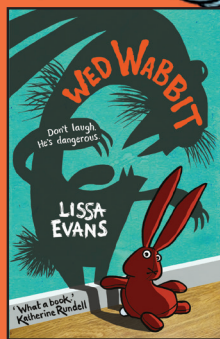
These are no ordinary candles – every single one of them comes with a wish. There's only one problem: some of those wishes actually belong to someone else ...

**Themes:** disability • magic • heartwarming • humour • adventure • time travel

## FICTION

9–11 • PB • 272pp • 208x135mm

**RIGHTS SOLD:** Audio, German, Hungarian, Korean



The Booksellers Association Indie Book of the Month

'Celebrated author-illustrator Chris Wormell has created a stunning story that will grip 8+ year olds hook, line and sinker'

*LoveReading*

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

Ten-year-old Jack is stranded on a desert island and needs to find his way home. As he uncovers incredible hidden treasure he starts to formulate a plan that will involve witchcraft, sea monsters and pirates! If Jack's going to succeed he will need to be very, very lucky.

**Themes:** adventure • humour • love of books • magical

## ILLUSTRATED FICTION

9–11 • PB • 304pp • B Format

**RIGHTS SOLD:** Audio, Catalan, Italian, Japanese, Spanish





'An absorbing, brilliant book. A glorious read. I loved my journey to Wildsea.'

Lisa Thompson, author of *Goldfish Boy*

'I can't think of anybody who does worldbuilding the way Philip Reeve does'

Ross Montgomery, author of *Alex, the Dog and the Unopenable Door*

A best children's book of 2021 in *The Times*, *Sunday Times*, *Guardian*, *Books for Keeps*, *Literary Review* and a *Blackwell's Book of the Month*

From the boundless imagination of Philip Reeve, the *Utterly Dark* series explores old magic, the majesty of nature and the power of found family.

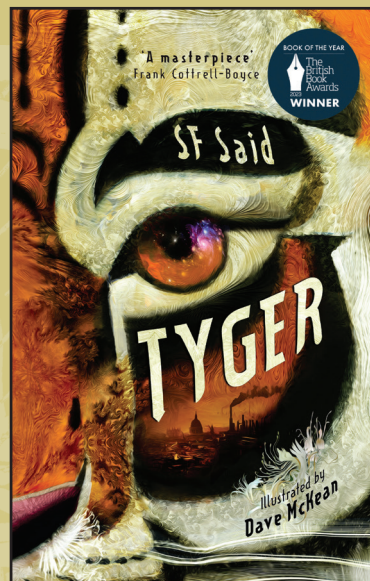
*Utterly Dark* washed up on the shores of the island of Wildsea when she was just a baby, and nobody knew where she came from. Raised by the Watcher of Wildsea – Andrew Dark, who kept guard over the island – Utterly has always been curious about what lies beyond her home. When Andrew mysteriously drowns, Utterly gets her chance to find out. Exploring the unfathomable depths of the sea, and the ancient, wild woods, Utterly and her found family get ever closer to the truth of Utterly's heritage, but every answer brings up more questions ...

## FICTION

9–11 • PB • 288pp • B Format

**RIGHTS SOLD:** Audio, Dutch, French, Polish, Russian

**Themes:** family • adventure • courage • greed • nature • friendship • time travel • escape • power • love • motherhood



'Breathtaking, heartbreaking and achingly beautiful. Perfection'

Sophie Anderson, author of *The House With Chicken Legs*

'Next level excellent. This book is a gem'

Malorie Blackman, author of *Noughts and Crosses*

'A classic in the making'

Foyles Children's Book of the Year 2022

The long-awaited fourth novel from the best-selling, award-winning author of *Varjak Paw*.

In a strange alternate world, where the British Empire is still a 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 ...

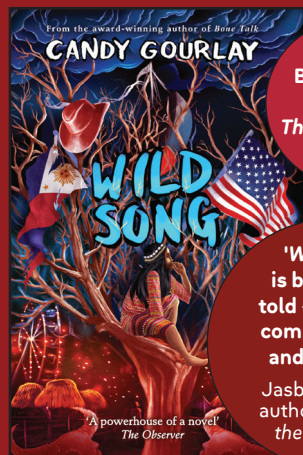
## ILLUSTRATED FICTION

9–11 • PB • 304pp • B Format

**RIGHTS SOLD:** Audio, Stage, US, Chinese simplified, Croatian, German, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Turkish

**Themes:** racism • classism • friendship • adventure • magic • wisdom • poverty • confidence • good and evil • hope





Book of the month in *The Bookseller*

'Wild Song is beautifully told – it is vivid, compassionate and heartfelt'

Jasbinder Bilan, author of *Asha & the Spirit Bird*

The year is 1904. Luki has lived a tribal life in the mountains of the Philippines. Now she's growing up, she is expected to become a wife and a mother, but Luki isn't ready to give up her dream to become a warrior.

When her tribe is offered a journey to America to be part of the St. Louis World's Fair, Luki will discover that the land of opportunity does not share its possibilities equally ...

**Themes:** own voices

- different cultures • courage
- determination • power
- finding yourself
- feminism • historical

'A shocking, refreshingly different coming-of-age story'

*The Times* Children's Book of the Week

## FICTION

12+ • PB • 336pp • B Format

**RIGHTS SOLD:** Audio, US, English in the Philippines, German



'An intoxicating combination of the ancient and modern, full of passion and rage'

*Guardian* Best Children's Books of the Year 2022

'Mythical reimaginings remain a big trend, but this one is special'

*Observer*

*Her Dark Wings* is a modern-day take on the Persephone myth, infused with the intense potency of teenage passions. The richness of Greek myth is vividly brought to life by the immediacy and originality of a fiery, contemporary drama. And iconic mythic figures crackle and change as a modern girl fills the Underworld with new life, caring for nature and the world around us.

**Themes:**

- greek mythology
- love • romance
- healing • betrayal
- self-discovery
- friendship breakdown

'Her Dark Wings captures the glory of having a real best friend, and the mythic pain of being betrayed by one'

Rainbow Rowell, author of *Eleanor and Park*

## FICTION

12+ • PB • 352pp • B Format

**RIGHTS SOLD:** US, Audio, Italian, Russian



Anne's life sales exceed **830K**

'A brilliant as well as a timely novel'

*Books for Keeps*

'The perfect novel for young teens ... an absolute triumph'

*BookTrust*

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.

**Themes:** relationships • self expression • empathy • self-discovery • coming of age

## FICTION

12+ • PB • 288pp • B Format

**RIGHTS SOLD:** Audio, Italian  
World rights ex. French: DFB  
French rights: David Higham Associates

Laura Ellen Anderson

# EVIL EMPEROR PENGUIN

Laura's  
bookscan  
sales exceed  
**370K**

'A captivating  
spree of smart,  
witty adventure,  
which will delight  
readers of all ages'

Comics Review

'A  
fantastic  
comic style  
book'

BookTrust

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!

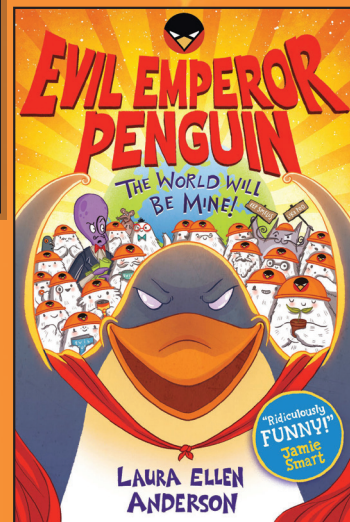
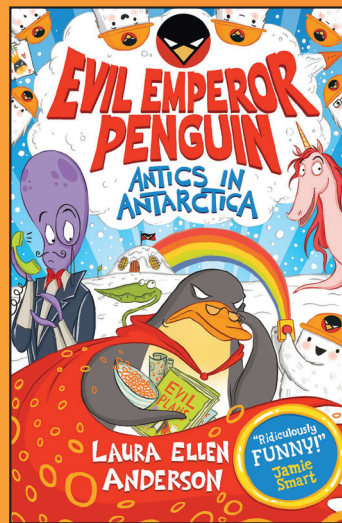
'A mix  
of absolute  
cute with spot on  
funny ... a firm  
favourite'  
Forbidden  
Planet

Themes: humour

- evil genius • fun • family
- silliness • teamwork • friendship

GRAPHIC NOVEL

7-11 • PB • 240pp • 210x140mm



'A  
fantastically  
funny cartoon  
romp'  
Kirkus



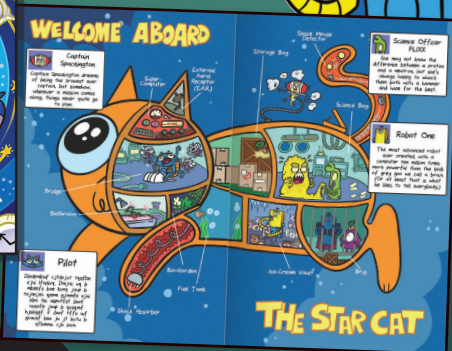




In the deepest depths of space, there is only one crew brave enough to take on the universe's most dangerous villains . . . Unfortunately, they weren't available for this book, so you'll have to make do with the crew of the . . . **STAR CAT!**

Join Captain Spaceington and his team as they blunder across the universe, on a hilarious journey of escapades and disasters, as he tries to prove he's worthy of the Bravest Captain medal!

**Winner  
of the British  
Comic Award for  
Best Comic for  
Children**



## GRAPHIC NOVEL

7-11 • PB • 208pp • 210x140mm

**RIGHTS SOLD:** Chinese simplified, Czech

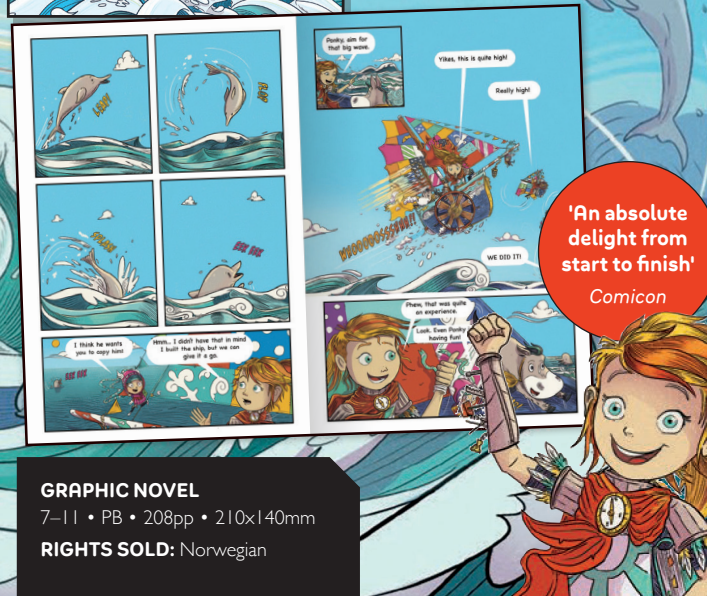
**Themes:** silly • adventure • family  
• action • friendship • joy • empathy  
• courage



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 has ever dreamed.

**Themes:** courage • determination  
• adventure • feminism  
• finding yourself



## GRAPHIC NOVEL

7-11 • PB • 208pp • 210x140mm

**RIGHTS SOLD:** Norwegian

Philip Pullman

Art by Fred Fordham

# THE ADVENTURES OF JOHN BLAKE

## Mystery of the Ghost Ship

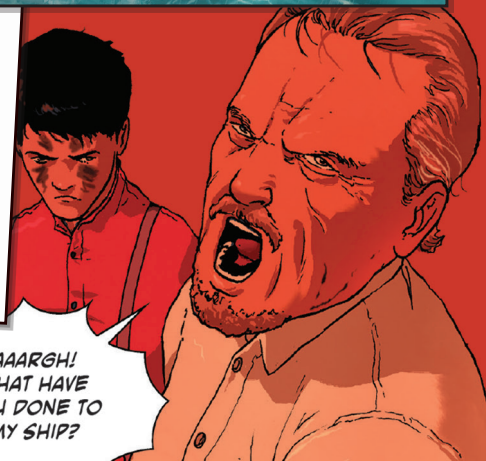
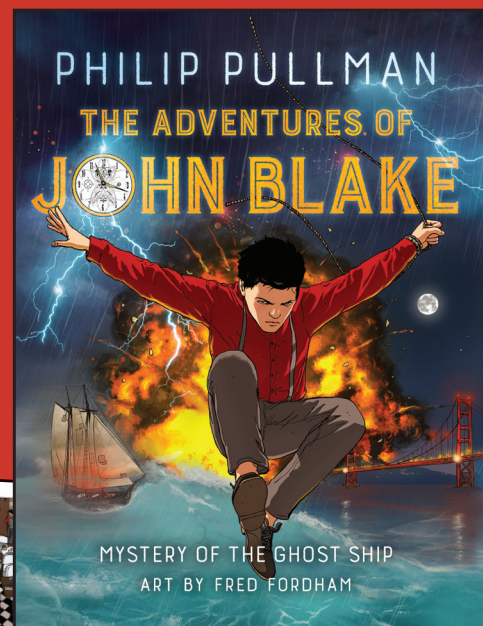
Join Philip Pullman's John Blake and the crew of the *Mary Alice* in an unforgettable time-travelling adventure on the high seas. With art by Fred Fordham.

Far out at sea, and hidden by the fog of time, sails the *Mary Alice* and her crew, searching for a way home. But the mysterious ship is being hunted by a villain who will go to ANY lengths to track her down ...

When a storm hits a small family yacht throwing a young girl overboard, John Blake dives in to save her and brings her aboard the so-called ghost ship. But trying to return her to her own time means going back to the one place where they run the greatest risk of being completely annihilated.

**'A fast-paced, action-packed comic with a plot sure to ensnare the thrill-seeking younger reader'**

TORCH comics



### GRAPHIC NOVEL

9-11 • PB • 160pp • 236x182mm

**RIGHTS SOLD:** US, French, Korean, Russian, Spanish

**Themes:** friendship • adventure • family  
• time travel • mystery • intrigue • secrets

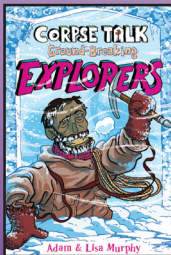
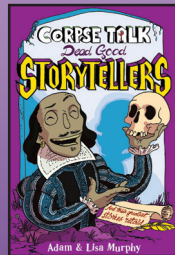


# CORPSE TALK



'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

Now a top-rated YouTube series starring Joe Sugg

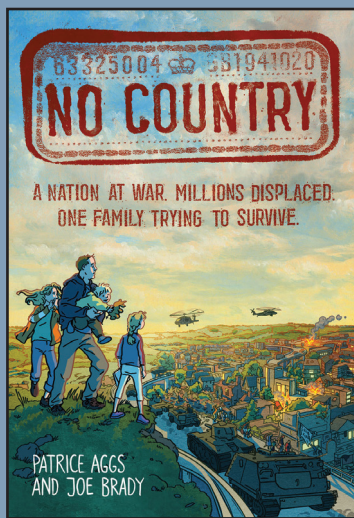


## GRAPHIC NON-FICTION

7-11 • PB • 128pp • 229x152mm

RIGHTS SOLD: US, Polish

Themes: non-fiction • amusing • history • biography • empathy • different cultures • famous and infamous



'A thought and empathy-provoking comic'

Three Peas – a charity that supports refugees and asylum seekers

A graphic novel for our times.

No Country is a family story that shows the challenges faced by refugees and people desperate to escape war-torn countries and find a new home.

Themes: refugees • family

- finding a new home • adventure
- empathy-provoking

Winner of the Leicester Libraries' Best Book Award 2022

Book 2 coming soon



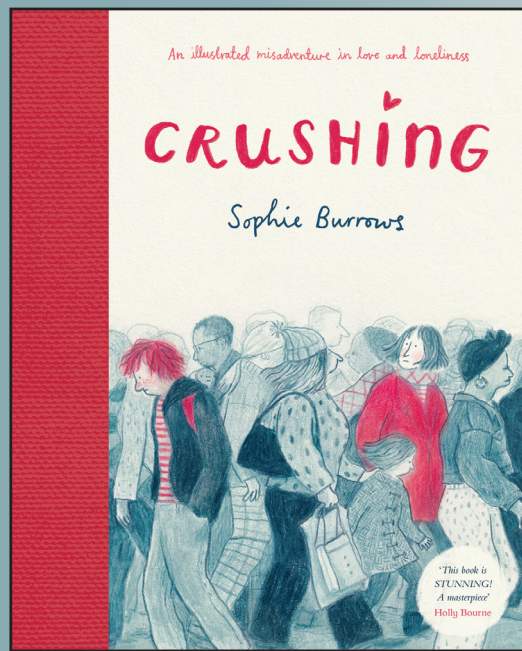
## GRAPHIC NOVEL

7-11 • PB • 208pp • 210x140mm



Sophie Burrows

# CRUSHING



**CROSSOVER GRAPHIC NOVEL**

16+ • HB • 160pp • 265x215mm

**RIGHTS SOLD:** US, Chinese (simplified), French, Italian

**Themes:** love • loneliness

- city life • power of connection
- silence • shame • insecurities
- self-esteem • friendship • kindness



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

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

Stephen Collins,  
author of  
*The Gigantic Beard That Was Evil*

**'An exquisitely painful portrait of loneliness'**

*New York Journal of Books*

**'Beautiful, funny, touching, original and utterly unique'**

David Walliams,  
author of *The Boy in the Dress*

**'This book is STUNNING. A masterpiece'**

Holly Bourne, author of *All the Places I've Cried in Public*

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

*Red magazine*

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

Matt Haig, author of *The Midnight Library*





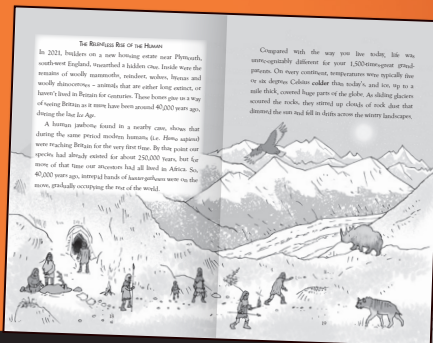
Ben Martynoga  
Illustrated by Moose Allain

# EXPLODAPEDIA

A 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, giving the gift of awe and understanding the world around them to eager young readers.

These books will show those who think they aren't good at science that they too can enjoy and understand fascinating facts and theories.



## NON-FICTION

12+ • PB • 160-176pp • B Format

Rewild May 2024

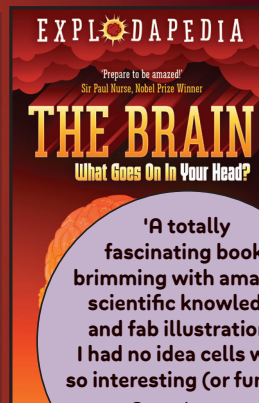
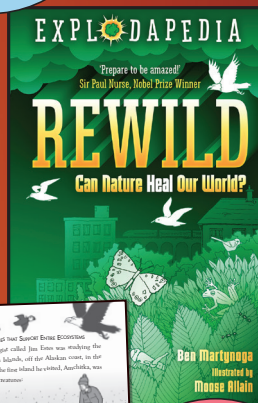
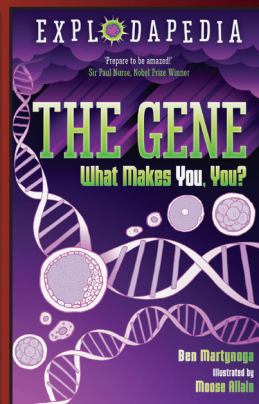
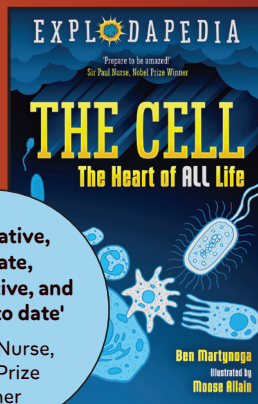
The Brain November 2024

The Virus February 2025

**RIGHTS SOLD:** Chinese simplified,  
Japanese (Virus), Romanian, Spanish (Virus)

'Informative,  
accurate,  
authoritative, and  
right up to date'

Sir Paul Nurse,  
Nobel Prize  
Winner



'A totally  
fascinating book,  
brimming with amazing  
scientific knowledge  
and fab illustrations.  
I had no idea cells were  
so interesting (or funny)!'

Greg Jenner,  
author of  
*Ask A Historian*

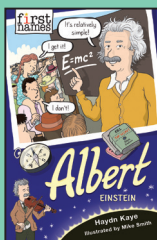
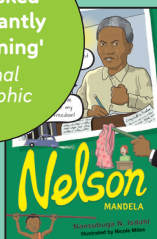
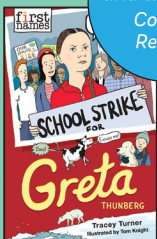
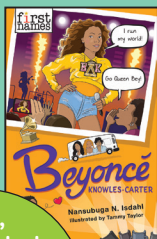
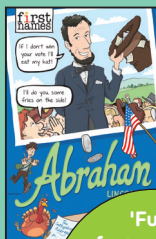
'Accessible  
and funny'

Professor  
Ramakrishnan,  
Nobel Prize  
Winner

More  
books in  
this series  
coming  
soon

# FIRST NAMES

'Topical  
and timeless'  
Comics  
Review



'Fun,  
fact-packed  
... Brilliantly  
entertaining'  
National  
Geographic  
Kids

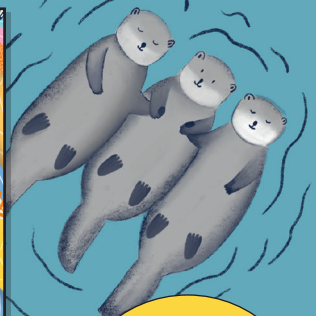
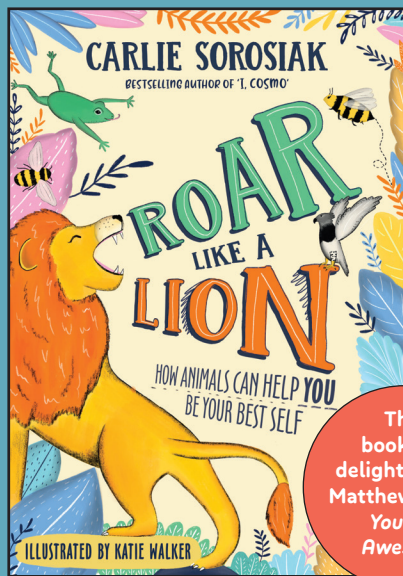
'Exciting  
and original'  
Lancashire  
Post

Get to know some of your favourite heroes and celebrities on First Name terms! These are fun, lively and highly illustrated biographies that introduce you to some truly amazing individuals, who lived truly incredible lives.

## ADULT NON-FICTION

7-9 • PB • 160pp • B format

RIGHTS SOLD: US, Japanese, Vietnamese



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

This  
book will  
delight fans of  
Matthew Syed's  
*You Are  
Awesome*

'Full of  
heart, wisdom and  
humour ... packed  
full of inspiration'

Hannah Gold,  
author of  
*The Last Bear*

'Inspirational,  
uplifting and an utter  
delight. *Roar Like a Lion*  
will give pleasure and  
confidence to all animals  
who read it, both young  
and old. A great family  
book to read together'

MG Leonard, author  
of *Beetle Boy*

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

This charming book perfectly hooks into the  
growing and vital children's self-help market.  
The ultimate feel-good guide for young readers.  
Be inspired by the confidence of a lion, the  
bravery of a hedgehog or kindness of a wombat.

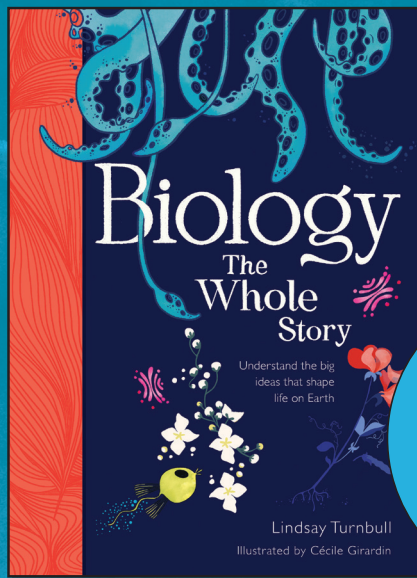
Themes: practical advice • inspirational •  
heart-warming facts • self-help • feel-good  
• self-appreciation • celebrating uniqueness

## NON-FICTION

9-11 • PB • 160pp • 216x152mm

RIGHTS SOLD: US, Audio,  
Chinese (simplified) Italian, Korean





'The best  
biology text I've ever  
read... I wish I'd had  
this book as a student,  
but I am delighted to  
get my hands on it  
as an adult'

Rowan Hooper,  
*New Scientist*

'A truly  
wonderful and  
important book that  
fizzes with excitement at  
the extraordinary forces  
that shape us and all  
living things. A triumph'

Sir Tim Smit KBE,  
Co-founder of the  
Eden Project

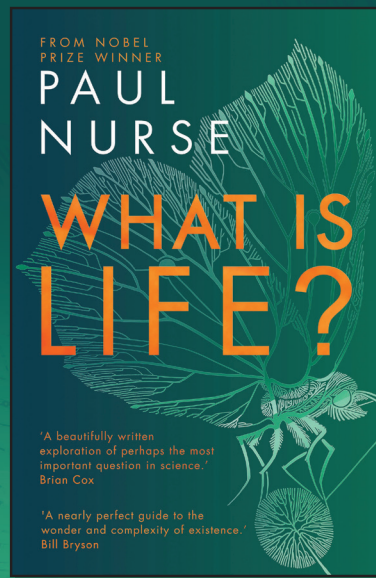
**Biology: The Whole Story** is a new sort of textbook, the kind you want to read again and again. This book fills in the gaps; it contains everything you wanted to know but were never taught. It is the springboard to stepping into studying science from the teacher who knows.

There are lots of great books about specialist areas of biology, but there are few that combine the readability of popular fiction with a comprehensive grounding in the science. Lindsay Turnbull, Associate Professor and Fellow at Queen's College, University of Oxford, wanted to change that. She wanted to give prospective students of biology, future doctors and anyone who felt that they missed out at school, the chance to truly understand the brilliance of biology.

#### ADULT NON-FICTION

12+ • HB • 304pp • 250x180mm

**RIGHTS SOLD:** Chinese simplified, Polish



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

*Publishers  
Weekly*

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

Dava Sobel, author  
of *Longitude*

'A book that  
will inspire a  
generation of  
biologists'

Siddhartha  
Mukherje

**A Financial  
Times Best  
Book of the  
Year 2020**

Nobel prize-winner Paul Nurse has spent his career revealing how living cells work.

In this book, he takes up the challenge of defining life in a way that every reader can understand. It is a shared journey of discovery; step by step he illuminates five great ideas that underpin biology. He traces the roots of his own curiosity and knowledge to reveal how science works, both now and in the past. Using his personal experiences, in and out of the lab, he shares with us the challenges, the lucky breaks, and the thrilling eureka moments of discovery.

#### ADULT NON-FICTION

Adult • PB • 224pp • B Format

**RIGHTS SOLD:** US, Audio, Arabic, Australia & New Zealand, Azerbaijani, Bulgarian, Chinese (complex), Chinese (simplified), Czech, Dutch, Finnish, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Polish, Portuguese (world ex. Brazil), Portuguese in Brazil, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Slovak, Spanish, Swedish, Thai, Turkish, Vietnamese

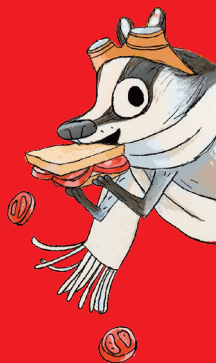
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