

david higham

literary, film and tv agents

Frankfurt
Book Fair
2019
Children's
List

[Contents]

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Agents

UK + US Rights: Veronique Baxter; Georgia Glover; Anthony Goff; Caroline Walsh; Laura West; Jessica Woollard

Film & TV Rights: Clare Israel; Penni Killick; Nicky Lund; Georgina Ruffhead

Translation Rights:
Allison Cole: allisoncole@davidhigham.co.uk

Translation Rights Assistant:
Camille Burns: camilleburns@davidhigham.co.uk

Contact

t: +44 (0)20 7434 5900
f: +44 (0)20 7437 1072

www.davidhigham.co.uk

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Frontlist

Roald Dahl; adapted and illustrated by Pénélope Bagieu



Roald Dahl's darkly enchanting classic is brought to life as a graphic novel for the first time

Witches really are a detestable breed. They disguise themselves as lovely ladies, when secretly they want to squish and squelch all the wretched children they despise. Luckily one boy and his grandmother know how to recognize these vile creatures, but can they get rid of them for good?

This graphic novel adaptation retells this sinister story in a full colour, illustrated graphic novel format, breathing fresh life into a beloved classic.

Roald Dahl has many times been voted Britain's all-time favourite author and was described by *The Times* on his death in 1990 as "one of the most widely read and influential writers of our generation". His writing career began with articles for magazines such as the *New Yorker* and he wrote successful novellas and short stories for adults before concentrating on his outstanding children's stories. A selection of his adult stories was dramatised for television under the title *Tales of the Unexpected* and many of his children's books have been adapted for film and television. His books are translated into more than fifty languages and have sold 200 million copies worldwide.

Pénélope Bagieu is a French illustrator and comic designer, and studied animation at the National School of Decorative Arts in Paris as well as Central Saint Martins College of Art & Design. She is best known for her webcomics *My Quite Fascinating Life* and *Les Culottées*. The latter comprised of 30 stories of amazing women from history, with one entry released each week, and was published in the English language by Ebury under the title *Brazen: Rebel Ladies who Rocked the World*. *Brazen* has been translated into 11 languages.

France: Gallimard - early 2020

UK Rights: DHA

US Rights: DHA

Primary Agent: AG

Translation Rights: DHA

Film/TV Rights: RDSC

Additional Info:

Extent - 300 pages

Illustrations - Full colour graphic novel adaptation

Material Available - Sample spreads available from October 2019

Enquire for All Titles and Previous Publishers

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Jackie Morris



A bridge between the day's work and worries and a peaceful nights dreaming, a litany of lullabies

A counterpoint to the speed of modern life, a catalyst for dreaming, a harbour for lost souls, a spur for storytelling. As the edges of dreams blur, so the book moves into a space opposing the anxiety of modern life. For children who find each day a struggle, with worries and cares weighing their hearts from school, home, the world. For adults in the same boat. A space in these pages to rest, an antidote to dystopia and a small song of hope.

Image rich, full bleed images on alternate pages, beautifully designed words to accompany them. Words to slide the image into minds fractured by the days experiences, by the times we live in, to smooth anxieties, rest the soul, provide escape. Within each painting are tangled many stories, as many stories as there are readers' perspectives, all over the world.

UK: Unbound - Autumn 2020

UK Editor: Lizzie Kaye

US Rights: DHA

Primary Agent: JW

Translation Rights: DHA

Film/TV Rights: DHA (PK)

Additional Info:

Extent - 150 pages

Illustrations - YES (full colour)

Material Available - proposal and final illustrations

Jackie Morris is an internationally best-selling illustrator, artist and author, who has illustrated the work of Ted Hughes and Robin Hobb, among many others. She lives in a small house in west Wales. She is the creator of *The Lost Words* with Robert Macfarlane, published by Hamish Hamilton / Penguin for which she won both the CILIP Kate Greenaway Prize and the CILIP Greenaway Shadows Choice Award in 2019.

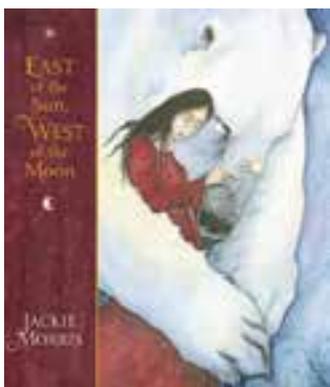
Rights Sold:

All Rights Available

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Japan Uni



[Noah Wild and the Floating Zoo]

Ages 5-7

Alexander McCall Smith



UK: Bloomsbury - August 2020

UK Editor: Lucy Mackay-Sim

US Rights: DHA (CW)

Primary Agent: CW

Translation Rights: DHA

Film/TV Rights: DHA (GR)

Additional Info:

Extent - 120 pages

Illustrations - YES (black-and-white)

Material Available - unedited manuscript

Enquire for All Titles and Previous Publishers

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

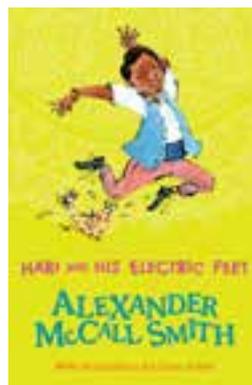
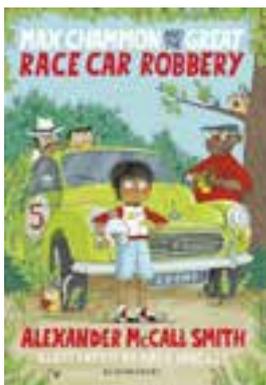
It's full-time monkey business on the high seas in this new family adventure

Noah can't believe it when he finds out his uncle owns a zoo! But the zoo is closing down, and there are animals who need homes. Before he knows it, Noah and his family are setting sail on a round-the-world trip returning the zoo animals to the places they were born. But when they try to return one very cheeky monkey, they're in for a whole boat-load of trouble!

An intrepid adventure story of monkeys, tigers, and the true meaning of family.

Alexander McCall Smith is best-known as the author of the internationally acclaimed *No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency* series but has also written more than fifty children's books including *The Perfect Hamburger*, now a Puffin Modern Classic, the *Akimbo* series and the *School Ship Tobermory* stories.

Also by Alexander McCall Smith:



Joe Berger

A nervous, rule-abiding dog finds himself suddenly taken in by a wild, scruffy family of rock 'n' roll enthusiasts



When he finds himself separated from his human at the funfair, Red has no idea what to do next. He scouts the area as best he can, but all he finds is a clan of – gasp – trolls! It turns out the family of trolls are actually just a regular band of humans, but they're much louder, scruffier and wild than the family Red is used to. Their scruffy, friendly dog George is thrilled to finally have a companion, and enthusiastically introduces Red to his rock'n'roll, fun-loving family. Recognising him as a lost dog, the humans decide to take Red with them on their journey – just to keep him safe while they search for his real owners. At first Red is appalled by the family's wild way of living – but could it be there is more fun to be had in life than his previous owners have led him to believe?

Germany: Mixtvision - Spring 2020

UK Rights: DHA

US Rights: DHA

Primary Agent: CW

Translation Rights: DHA

Film/TV Rights: DHA (CI)

Additional Info:

Extent - 240pp

Illustrations - YES (two colour)

Material Available - full synopsis and sample spreads due October 2019

Option Publishers:

Dutch - Uitgeverij Kluitman

French - Editions Larousse

German - Mixtvision

Korean - SowonNamu

Norwegian - Fontini Forlag

Portuguese - 20/20 Editora

Turkish - Indigo Kitap

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

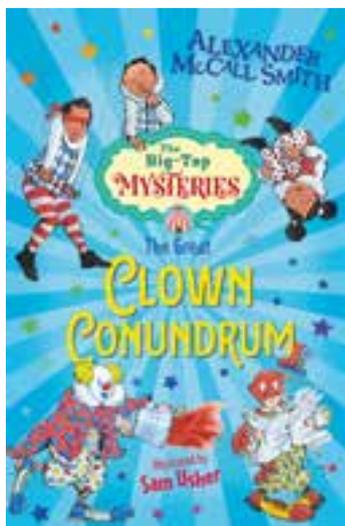
Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Joe Berger grew up in Bristol, where he did an Art Foundation at Bower Ashton. He spent the next 16 years working as a freelance illustrator for a large number of international magazines and newspapers, self-publishing comic books, illustrating and designing book covers, making award-winning animated shorts, title sequences and commercials. His first picture book, *Bridget Fidget*, was published by Puffin, followed by *Bridget Fidget: Hold On Tight!* Joe has also collaborated with writer Timothy Knapman on the *Superhero Dad* picture books and with Tracey Corderoy on *Hubble, Bubble, Granny Trouble*. His recent highly illustrated fiction series for 7+, *Little Lies* (Simon & Schuster), has been translated into 8 languages. Joe was chosen as the World Book Day Illustrator in 2010.

[The Great Clown Conundrum]

Ages 7-9

Alexander McCall Smith



UK: Barrington Stoke - October 2019

UK Editor: Ailsa Bathgate

US Rights: DHA (CW)

Primary Agent: CW

Translation Rights: DHA

Film/TV Rights: DHA (GR)

Additional Info:

Extent - 128pp

Illustrations - YES (black-and-white illustrations by Sam Usher)

Material Available - final manuscript with illustrations

Enquire for All Titles and Previous Publishers

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg

Associates

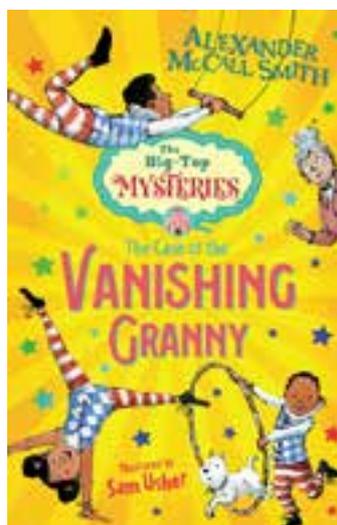
Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

The second adventure in the *Big Top Mysteries* series following the Shortbread family – professional circus folk and now amateur sleuths!

Billy, Joe and Fern Shortbread are busy working on their acts for the new show – Billy’s aerial skills, Fern’s gymnastics and Joe’s dogs are keeping the crowds happy. But life in the circus isn’t going so well for everybody. Longstanding clown Mr. Birdcage seems to be out of luck. A new thing keeps going wrong with his act every night of the opening week and people aren’t laughing anymore. How can an unfunny clown keep his act alive? When his assistant Paddy Broadfoot announces his plan to leave, it seems like it will be the end of Mr. Birdcage’s career too. But Billy, Joe and Fern are convinced these mishaps are no ordinary occurrence - someone is behind them. Someone who wants to see Mr. Birdcage fail. And if they want to keep Mr. Birdcage with the Shortbread Circus, it’s going to be up to the kids to track down the culprit...

Alexander McCall Smith is best-known as the author of the internationally acclaimed *No. 1 Ladies’ Detective Agency* series but has also written more than fifty children’s books including *The Perfect Hamburger*, now a Puffin Modern Classic, the *Akimbo* series and the *School Ship Tobermory* stories.

Enjoy the first title in The Big-Top Mysteries series, *The Case of the Vanishing Granny*



Tom McLaughlin

What's a royal family to do when they find themselves down on their luck and suddenly expected to be... normal?



UK: Barrington Stoke - June 2020

UK Editor: Ailsa Bathgate

US Rights: DHA

Primary Agent: CW

Translation Rights: DHA

Film/TV Rights: DHA (CI)

Additional Info:

Extent - 7,500 words

Illustrations - YES (black-and-white)

Material Available - unedited

manuscript due October 2019

Rights Sold:

All Rights Available

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

The Montgomeries – better known to the general public as The Royal Family – were once revered, loved and idolised. But after Uncle Bertie lost the family fortune in a high-stakes game of Happy Families, they find themselves penniless and out of options. It's time for the royal family to move out of Buckingham Palace to a two-up two-down on King Street. Suddenly they're expected to find work and make an honest living, but what career options are open to a former Queen of England, her husband, and her sister's unruly family? The locals are none too keen on the new additions to their tight-knit community either. But the Montgomeries are nothing if not adaptable – and maybe both sides have important life lessons they can learn from each other...

Tom McLaughlin studied illustration at Falmouth College of Arts, after which he worked as a political cartoonist at the *Western Morning News*. He began illustrating picture books and eventually pursued writing and illustrating full time. Tom is best-known now for his 'Accidental' series for OUP which has been translated into 10 different languages. Titles so far include *The Accidental Prime Minister*, *Secret Agent*, *Billionaire* and *Rock Star* and they have been nominated for over a dozen awards. He's also been nominated for the Greenaway Medal for his picture book, *The Story Machine*. As well as writing middle grade chapter books for Walker, Tom has illustrated for Simon & Schuster, Egmont, Scholastic and Bloomsbury.

David Edmonds & Bertie Fraser



Watch out, Brussels Academy – this robot will outwit you all!

If super-high-tech android Dotty can spend an entire year masquerading as a twelve-year-old schoolgirl, she could win a multimillion-pound prize that will enable her creators to continue their ground-breaking work in the development of AI. Easy-peasy, right? As Dotty navigates the social expectations of Year 7 she gets into a series of hilarious scrapes, and encounters numerous ethical dilemmas both at school and at home.

Then a boy in her class discovers there's a reward for outing the robot, and becomes intent on proving that Dotty is not who – or what – she says she is. To prevent herself from being discovered, Dotty needs to put into practice everything she has learned about being human. But will it be enough...?

UK: Walker Books - July 2020

UK Editor: Denise Johnstone-Burt

US Rights: Walker Books

Primary Agent: VB

Translation Rights: DHA

Film/TV Rights: DHA (CI)

Additional Info:

Extent - 45,000 words

Illustrations - NO

Material Available - revised manuscript due October 2019

Rights Sold:

All Rights Available

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Japan Uni

David Edmonds is a multi-award-winning BBC journalist and a Distinguished Research Fellow at the Uehiro Centre for Practical Ethics at Oxford University. He is the author or editor of a dozen books including – with John Eidinow – the international best seller *Wittgenstein's Poker* (shortlisted for The Guardian First Book prize). He hosts several podcasts one of which, *Philosophy Bites* (co-host Nigel Warburton), has had nearly 40 million downloads. He lives in London with his wife and two kids.

Bertie Fraser is the founder of Storynory – the children's story podcast. He studied Classics at Oxford University and is still fascinated by the ancient world. He has worked in Russia as a freelance journalist, and as a producer for the BBC World Service. In 2005, he founded Storynory. Bertie writes the stories which are read by actors and have a worldwide following.

Julia Golding



A dashing historical adventure that brings to life the Tower of London and its royal menagerie

1830. Sahira, the daughter of deceased animal collector, Richard Clive, and his Indian wife, Chandra, arrives alone in London. She wants to stay with her tigers, but is refused and dispatched to an orphanage. There she meets a diverse group, including the dangerous Newton Twins, sons of the king of the thieves. Her deadly feud with them is interrupted by the menagerie's head keeper, Alfred Cops, who needs her to keep her tigers alive. All is not well in the menagerie – the Constable of the Tower, the Duke of Wellington, wants to close it. Soon Sahira is fighting enemies from the highest to the lowest in the land. What future do her tigers have when she is not even sure of her own?

UK: Lion Hudson

UK Editor: Deborah Lock

US Rights: DHA

Primary Agent: CW

Translation Rights: DHA

Film/TV Rights: DHA (GR)

Additional Info:

Extent - TBC

Illustrations - NO

Material Available - unedited manuscript

Rights Sold:

All Rights Available

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Julia Golding is a multi-award winning writer for adults and young adults. Former British diplomat and Oxfam policy adviser, she has now published over fifty books in genres ranging from historical adventure to fantasy. *The Diamond of Drury Lane*, went on to win the Waterstones Children's Book Prize and the Nestle Children's Book Prize. Over three-quarter of a million of her books have been sold worldwide in many languages.

[The Mask of Aribella]

Ages 8-12

Anna Houghton



UK: Chicken House - January 2020

UK Editor: Rachel Leyshon

US Rights: Chicken House

Primary Agent: CW

Translation Rights: DHA

Film/TV Rights: DHA (CI)

Additional Info:

Extent - 65,000 words

Illustrations - NO

Material Available - final manuscript due October 2019

Rights Sold:

All Rights Available

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Japan Uni

Aribella lives in a floating city of mystery and masks, but she is about to discover that the biggest mystery of all is hidden in her past

Aribella never feels like she fits in on Burano island, where she lives with her silent, mourning Papa and kind-hearted, best friend Theo. On her thirteenth birthday, she does the unbelievable – and creates fire with nothing but her bare hands. That night, a man in a star mask appears and whisks Aribella away to initiate her into the secret world of the Cannovacci. A centuries-old society of people with special powers who protect Venice, they live at the enchanting Halfway Hotel. There's a guard lion, gondolas galore, magical masks, powerful friends, never-ending pastries, and a curious door in the dungeons...

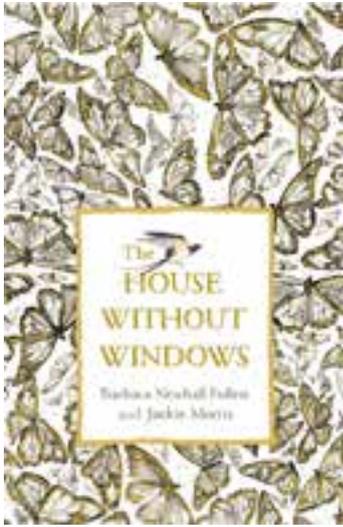
Aribella is delighted to have found a home there but, under the glittering surface, a great darkness threatens Venice, and the Cannovacci are the only ones powerful enough to stop it. Can Aribella prove the threat to Venice is real and protect innocent people like Theo and Papa? And what happens when she uncovers secrets that even she would rather were left in the depths of the lagoon?

Anna Houghton has an MA in Writing for Young People from Bath Spa University and has worked as a bookseller. She was nominated for the Lancelot Andrewes Poetry Award by Carol Ann Duffy and, in 2016, she was one of fifteen leading U.K. poets commissioned by Bristol Festival of Ideas. Anna is also a filmmaker (writer/director), and her latest environmental-action short film, 'Never Land' won 'Best Narrative' in the shorts category at the 2018 Women in Film and Television International film festival.

[The House Without Windows]

Ages 8-12

Barbara Newhall Follett; introduction & illustrations by Jackie Morris



UK: Hamish Hamilton - October 2019

UK Editor: Hermione Thompson

US Rights: DHA

Primary Agent: JW

Translation Rights: DHA

Film/TV Rights: DHA (PK)

Additional Info:

Extent - 205 pp

Illustrations - YES (black and white)

Material Available - final manuscript with illustrations

Rights Sold:

Spanish - Novona

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg

Associates

Japanese - Japan Uni

A dazzling lost classic of nature writing written by a twelve year old girl - an irresistible paean to the natural world and its transcendent effect on the human heart

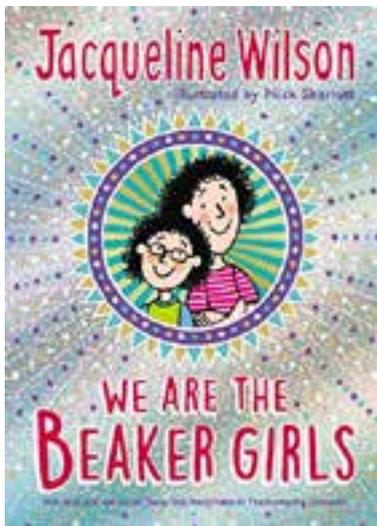
Barbara's extraordinary feminist fable was written over a century ago yet it speaks with a clarity and urgency that the next generation of escapees and wild souls will surely recognize. Eepersip doesn't want to live in a house with doors and windows, her heart calls for the smell of the earth and the wind rushing through wild branches, the gentle buzz and hum of midsummer insects. So she runs away to live in the wild, first in the Meadow, then by the Sea and finally in the Mountain.

Her heartbroken parents try to bring her back to 'safety' but she slips away once more, following her wild heart out of the door and far away.

Barbara Newhall Follett was an American child prodigy born in 1914. She published this, her first, novel, aged 12. Shortly before Christmas in 1939 she walked out of her house with \$30 in her pocket and was never seen again. The mystery of her disappearance remains unsolved.

Jackie Morris is an internationally best-selling illustrator, artist and author of over forty children's books, including the bestselling critically acclaimed modern classic, *The Lost Words* for which she won both the CILIP Kate Greenaway Prize and the CILIP Greenaway Shadows Choice Award in 2019. She has collaborated with writers such as Robert Macfarlane, Ted Hughes and Robin Hobb.

Jacqueline Wilson



Tracy and Jess Beaker are happily settled in a new home by the sea, but history has a way of repeating itself...

Jess and Tracy Beaker have found happiness in The Dumping Ground. Not that Dumping Ground – the children’s home that Tracy grew up in – but a seaside antique shop full of treasures, along with Flo, the owner, and Alfie, their dog.

Jess is looking for a fantastic new boyfriend for her mum (mostly because Tracy’s awful ex, Sean, is back on the scene). But Jess has bigger problems of her own – she’s being picked on by a local kid who’s got it in for her. But when Jess uncovers the truth about her new enemy, it means big changes for the Beaker Girls...

UK: Penguin Random House - October 2019

UK Editor: Kelly Hurst

US Rights: DHA (CW)

Primary Agent: CW

Translation Rights: DHA

Film/TV Rights: DHA (GR)

Additional Info:

Extent - 400pp

Illustrations - YES (black and white illustrations by Nick Sharratt)

Material Available - final manuscript

Enquire for All Titles and Previous Publishers

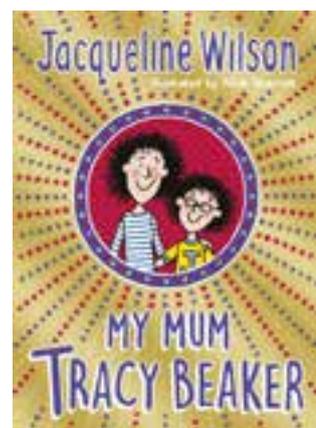
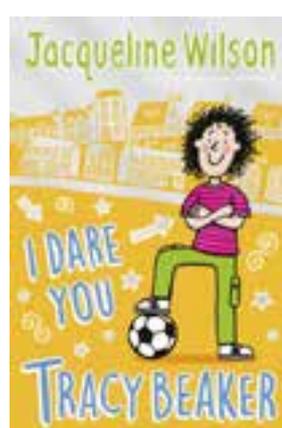
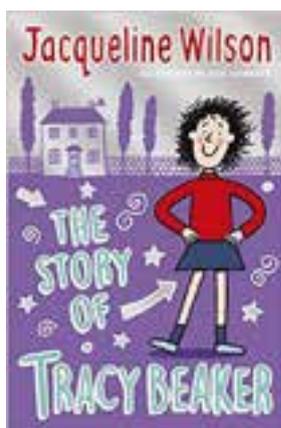
Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

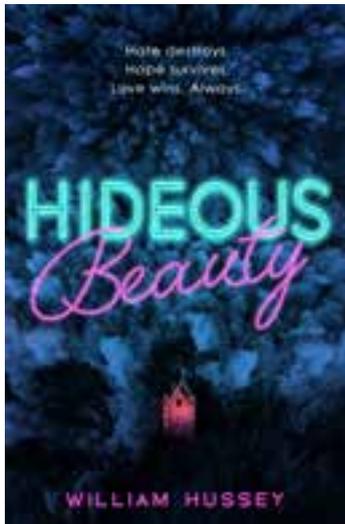
Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Dame Jacqueline Wilson is a multi-award-winning author and consistent favourite with children and critics. A former Children’s Laureate, Jacqueline has won the Guardian Children’s Fiction Award and the Children’s Book of the Year Award. The CBBC adaptation of *The Story of Tracy Beaker* is one of the channel’s highest-rating shows ever. Jacqueline is a visiting professor of creative writing at Roehampton University and was appointed a Dame for services to children’s literature. The author of over 100 titles, Jacqueline has sold more than 40 million books worldwide.

Nick Sharratt has now illustrated close to 250 books. He’s worked with a number of exceptional authors including Julia Donaldson, Jeremy Strong, Michael Rosen, Giles Andreae, Kaye Umansky and most notably, Dame Jacqueline Wilson. He’s also written around 40 of his own books and was the official World Book day illustrator in 2006. He’s also the proud recipient of a gold Blue Peter badge.



William Hussey



UK: Usborne - June 2020
UK Editor: Stephanie King
US Rights: DHA (VB)
Primary Agent: VB
Translation Rights: DHA
Film/TV Rights: DHA (CI)

Additional Info:
 Extent - 288pp
 Illustrations - NO
 Material Available - unedited manuscript

Rights Sold:
 German - dtv junior
 Italian - Mondadori

Subagents:
 Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates
 Japanese - Japan Uni

A blockbuster thriller, this is *Love Simon* meets *13 Reasons Why*

When Dylan and Ellis' secret relationship is exposed on social media, Dylan is forced to come out. To Dylan's surprise they are met with support and congratulations, and an amazing reception at their high school dance. Perhaps people aren't as narrow-minded as he thought?

But Dylan's happiness is short-lived. Ellis suddenly becomes angry, withdrawn, and as they drive home from the dance, he loses control of the car, sending it plunging into Hunter's Lake. Barely conscious, Dylan is pulled free of the wreck, while Ellis is left to drown. Grief stricken, Dylan vows to discover what happened to Ellis that night and piece together the last months of his boyfriend's life - and realises just how little he knew about the boy he loved.

A love story that will prove stronger than either grief or hatred.

William Hussey is the award-winning author of six books for children and Young Adults. As a gay man and a visiting author, he has spoken to hundreds of LGBTQ+ students, both in UK schools and worldwide. Hearing their stories of modern intolerance, prejudice and the tragic consequences this has can lead to, he has written what he hopes is not only a moving love story but a raw and powerful reflection of the experience of gay teens today.

'A very addictive read, all of it woven together really cleverly. And such a poignant ending!'

Michelle Harrison, author of *The Thirteen Treasures*

'Bloody brilliant. The writing is very assured, and the characters are fantastic. Dylan is a wonderful creation. The twists and turns kept me guessing throughout. The YA world will welcome it with open arms!'

Jo Cotterill, author of *Jelly*

'I thought I'd read the first couple of chapters of your book this morning, and the next thing I knew it was lunchtime and my partner was asking why I was crying! I spent the rest of the day finishing it. I loved it! I think it's a wonderful novel. Honest and raw and powerful, as well as compulsively readable.'

Alex Bell, author of *Frozen Charlotte*

Geraldine McCaughrean

Dark, satirical, funny and disturbing in equal measure, Geraldine has triumphed in creating a world that is completely her own and yet so relevant to our present times



When the rain doesn't stop and floods engulf the state of Afalia, disaster strikes in the countryside and in the cities. No one and nothing is immune to the ever-rising floodwater. In the countryside swarms of refugees find their way to Rose, a city of relative safety. In the capital Praesto it's decided the city gates must be closed in an attempt to hold back the flood and keep the factories at its heart running.

Fearing she will be blamed for the crisis, Afalia's head of state, Madame Suprema, runs away incognito – taking the last train out of Praesto before the gates are closed. Trying to cover up this monumental act of cowardice, Madame Suprema's young maid Gloria steps into her shoes. Taking on Suprema's mantle of wearing a black veil in public, and coached by Suprema's husband, Gloria suddenly finds herself thrust into a world of corrupt and desperate men trying to turn the disaster to their advantage.

As the people look to 'Suprema' for the leadership they crave, fifteen-year-old Gloria finds herself making suggestions and solutions that are down to earth and sensible. But in the political sphere, self-interest and self-promotion are rife. And some people will stop at nothing to turn the national crisis into personal gain...

Born in 1951 in North London, **Geraldine McCaughrean** took an education degree but worked instead in magazine publishing for ten years before becoming a full-time writer. In addition to nine children's and six adult novels, Geraldine has written many picturebooks, fiction for young readers, retellings of classics, myths and legends from around the world. In 2018, Geraldine won the CILIP Carnegie Medal and the IBW Book Award with *Where the World Ends*.

UK: Usborne

UK Editor: Anne Finnis

US Rights: Flatiron Books

US Editor: Sarah Barley

Primary Agent: VB

Translation Rights: DHA

Film/TV Rights: DHA (PK)

Additional Info:

Extent - 78,000 words

Illustrations - NO

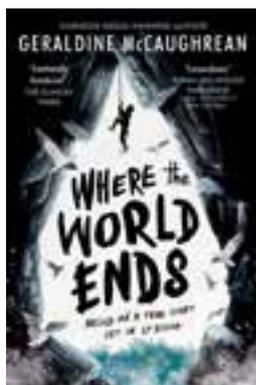
Material Available - draft manuscript

Enquire for All Titles and Previous Publishers

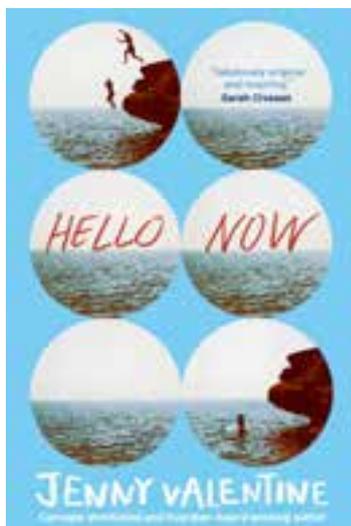
Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori



Jenny Valentine



UK: HarperCollins - Spring 2020
UK Editor: Nick Lake
US Rights: Philomel Books
US Editor: Liza Kaplan Montanino
Primary Agent: VB
Translation Rights: DHA
Film/TV Rights: DHA (GR)

Additional Info:

Extent - 45,000 words
 Illustrations - NO
 Material Available - edited manuscript

Enquire for All Titles and Previous Publishers

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media
 Japanese - Tuttle-Mori



'11.33 was the quiet before the storm, the lull before the penny dropped, the last in-breath of life, as I knew it anyway. And then the miracle. Then Novo.'

Jude doesn't believe in love, or magic. Life is little more than ordinary. That is, until Jude's mother loses her job and moves them to a little town by the sea to live with Henry Lake – an eccentric old man with rooms to rent. Henry is odd, the town is dull, and worst of all, Jude feels out of place and alone.

So when Novo turns up in the house across the street, dressed all in black and looking unbearably handsome, Jude's summer takes an immediate turn for the better. But Novo isn't all that he seems to be – or maybe he's more than Jude can possibly understand. Novo is pure magic – someone who can bend and stretch the bounds of time. Someone who wakes up in different places and at different points in history with utter regularity. He knows that each Now is fleeting, that each moment is only worth the energy it expends on itself, and that each experience he has will be lost to him before long.

But Jude and Novo form a bond that shifts reality for both of them. Jude begins to question what forever really means – only to find out that Novo knows that forever isn't real. And when things go horribly wrong, Jude and Novo are faced with an impossible question that may change both of their lives irreparably – what is worth sacrificing for love?

Jenny Valentine's previous careers include salesperson in a wholefood shop, teaching assistant and jewellery maker. Her debut novel, *Finding Violet Park* (2007), was awarded the annual Guardian Children's Fiction Prize, was shortlisted for the Carnegie Medal, and sold into 16 territories. She followed this with *Broken Soup* (2008) which was shortlisted for the Waterstone's Children's Book Prize and the Costa Children's Book Award. She lives with her singer/songwriter husband and two children in Glasbury-on-Wye in Wales.

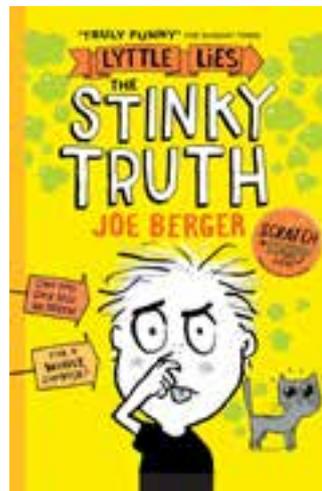
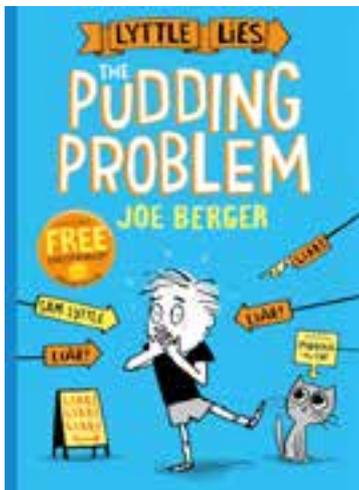
'fabulously original and inspiring'
 Sarah Crossan, author of *Toffee* and *One*

david higham

literary, film and tv agents

**Recent
Highlights**

Joe Berger



UK: Simon & Schuster (#1: January 2017, #2: April 2018)

US: Simon & Schuster

Primary Agent: CW

Translation Rights: DHA

Film/TV Rights: DHA (CI)

Additional Info:

Extent - 240pp

Illustrations - YES (black and white)

Material Available - final PDF

Rights Sold:

Dutch - Uitgeverij Kluitman

French - Editions Larousse

German - Mixtvision

Korean - SowonNamu

Norwegian - Fontini Forlag

Portuguese - 20/20 Editora

Turkish - Indigo Kitap

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

A laugh-out-loud highly-illustrated series for fans of Tom Gates and Wimpy Kid.

#1 The Pudding Problem

To Sam Lyttle, the truth is like an elephant. It's heavy, worrying and wrinkly. And when it's sitting in your way, you can't go under it or over it. But you CAN skirt round it...

So Sam does, every now and then, tell the odd porky-pie, much to the annoyance of his family. But is there more to Sam's occasional streeeetching of the truth than meets the eye?

#2 The Stinky Truth

It's the school holidays and Sam and his best friend can't wait to see Cry Wolfe, the first movie starring their favourite crime-fighting hero. But Sam's mum has set him a challenge. He can only go and see the movie IF, and only if, he can make it through the entire holiday without telling a single fib. Can Sam go six whole weeks, without a single porky!?

WARNING: contains fibs, farts and zumba-dancing mums

Joe Berger has written two children's picture books featuring Bridget Fidget and illustrated many more including *Hubble Bubble*, *Granny Trouble* by Tracey Corderoy, *Dot* by Randi Zuckerberg and *Girl and Gorilla* by Rick Walton. Joe was chosen by the Ian Fleming Estate to illustrate Frank Cottrell Boyce's three new stories featuring *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*. He also writes and draws comic strips and cartoons, many in collaboration with Pascal Wyse as Berger & Wyse.

[The Boy Who Biked the World]

Ages 7-9

Alastair Humphreys



‘But it was a funny thing: the more that people told him he couldn’t do it, the more Tom found himself wanting to prove them wrong.’

Tom really wants to be an explorer. His favourite book is an atlas and he follows adventurers not footballers. His schooldays are spent daydreaming about travelling from Tibet to Timbuktu. A private wish blurted out loud started his freewheeling adventure: I’m going to cycle round the world. His classmates laughed. No one believed him, least of all his teacher. The mountains will be too high! The desert is too hot! Everyone shouted their reasons why his dream was impossible. But it was a funny thing, the more that people told him he couldn’t do it, the more Tom found himself wanting to prove them wrong.

UK: Eye Books
UK Editor: Dan Hiscocks
US Rights: DHA
Primary Agent: JW
Translation Rights: DHA
Film/TV Rights: DHA

Additional Info:

Extent - 120 pages
Illustrations - YES (black-and-white illustrations by Tom Morgan-Jones)
Material Available - final manuscript with illustrations

Rights Sold:

All Rights Available

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates
Japanese - Japan Uni

Alastair Humphreys trained as a teacher and then spent four years cycling around the world, 46,000 miles, 60 countries. He has written books on the experience for adults *Moods of Future Joys* and also for children *The Boy who Biked the World* parts 1, 2 & 3. Since then, he has undertaken numerous other adventures, not least; rowing the Atlantic, crossing Iceland on foot and packraft and taking part in an expedition to the Arctic which included creating digital content and uploading to the internet from a tent. He made a film of his journey trekking across The Empty Quarter in the footsteps of Wilfred Thesiger which was highly regarded at Banff. More recently he has pioneered the concept of Microadventures, also published as a book of the same name by HarperCollins.

Susie Day



UK: Penguin Random House - September 2019

UK Editor: Ruth Knowles

US Rights: DHA (CW)

Primary Agent: CW

Translation Rights: DHA

Film/TV Rights: DHA (PK)

Additional Info:

Extent - 256pp

Illustrations - NO

Material Available - final PDF

Enquire for All Titles and Previous Publishers

Rights sold:

Italian - Mondadori

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Meet Max. He's got three little sisters, a missing dad, and now he has to slay a dragon...

Max is always in trouble. At school, it's for fighting, and at home he's always getting blamed by his younger sisters. Even his best mate's posh mum (her with the second home in Wales) thinks he's a bad influence. Only his bruiser of a Dad understands him. Dad's proud that Max is a proper boy's boy. Now Mum's gone (knocked down by a car less than a year ago), Dad says Max has to step up; look after the girls. But then Dad gets involved in handling stolen goods and has to disappear – leaving Max with a roll of cash and a promise to be back soon. When social services come knocking, Max takes off with the girls to his mate's Welsh holiday cottage: no one will look for them there.

A damp little house in a tiny village isn't quite what he'd pictured, but with help from the locals they settle in. And Max has a plan: he's heard about the legend of the dragon that lives on the local mountain, guarding a lake of gold. Max will climb the mountain, slay the dragon, and scoop up the gold. His Dad will be so proud.

What could possibly go wrong?

Susie Day grew up by the seaside in Penarth, Wales, and has a BA and Masters in English Literature from Oxford University. Her first book, *Whump!...In which Bill Falls 632 Miles Down A Manhole*, won the BBC Children's Fiction Prize and was serialised on Radio 4. She has since written many novels for middle grade, including the *Pea's Book of Best Friends* series and *The Secrets of the Superglue Sisters* series, both published by Random House. She has also written for teenagers, including *Big Wool!*, *Girl Meets Cake* and *The Twice-Lived Summer of Bluebell Jones*.

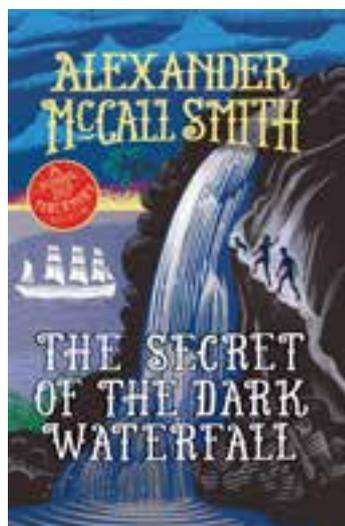
"A beautifully written, emotional story to make you laugh and cry." – Jacqueline Wilson

"Immensely satisfying – a runaway adventure with strong, complex feelings." – The Guardian

"A stirring story about the impact of grief and loss, delivered through a narrative that has tension, excitement and humour." – Books for Keeps

"If Jacqueline Wilson ganged up with Alan Garner and remixed A Monster Calls, with dragons. Powerful and deep." – Louie Stowell

Alexander McCall Smith



UK: Birlinn

#1 October 2015

#2 September 2016

#3 April 2018

#4 August 2019

Editor: Neville Moir

Primary Agent: CW

Translation Rights: DHA

Film/TV Rights: DHA (GR)

Additional Info:

Extent - 240pp

Illustrations - YES (black-and-white illustrations by Iain McIntosh)

Material Available - final PDF

Enquire for All Titles and Previous Publishers

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

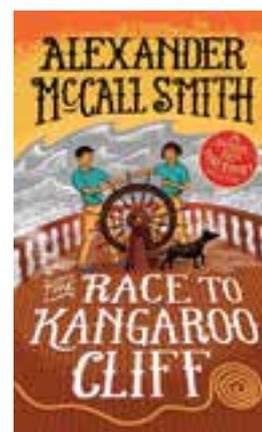
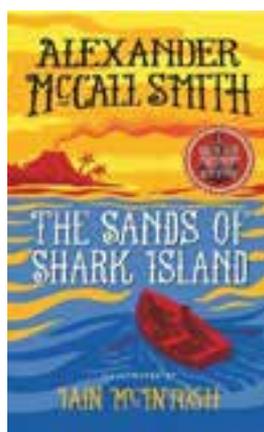
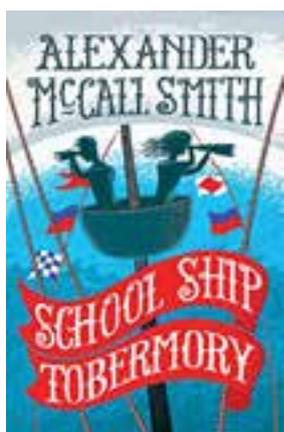
The next instalment in the *School Ship Tobermory* series - follow the exploits of the children who go to a most unusual sail-powered school!

#1 School Ship Tobermory: When a film crew arrives in Tobermory Bay, Ben is invited to be an extra. But their suspicions are soon aroused - is the film crew genuine, or are they up to something sinister? Ben and Fee soon discover the truth when they uncover a dastardly plan masterminded by a South American businessman...

#2 The Sands of Shark Island: It's not long before Ben and Fee find themselves, their fellow students and the crew of the Tobermory embroiled in another adventure. This one leads them thousands of miles from Mull to a small island in the Caribbean, where they learn extraordinary details about Captain Macbeth's past and come face to face with modern-day pirates...

#3 The Race to Kangaroo Cliff: The School Ship Tobermory crew head down under to take part in a tall ships race, but after a good start the Tobermory drops out to rescue a local boy, Will, stranded on the rocks. When the ship's dog Henry disappears, Will helps Ben, Fee and their friends find him. But as the trail leads them deeper into the Outback, they begin to realize that a missing dog is the least of their problems...

#4 The Secret of the Dark Waterfall: The students of School Ship Tobermory set sail for some remote Scottish islands. The mystery they uncover surrounds the fate of a long lost sunken Spanish galleon. Hundreds of years may have elapsed since it went down, but interest in the treasure it was carrying is far from over. The excitement is intense as we rejoin Ben and Fee and their friends on The Tobermory.



Kate O'Hearn



The hotly anticipated new opus from the author of the six-book *Pegasus* series

Fifteen years after Olympus was destroyed, there is peace between the Titans and Olympians – but it is shaky. So a new school to educate both Titan and Olympian students together is built. Could this be the solution?

Arcadia is about to open and hopes are high. But not everything is as it seems. Astraea, the strong willed granddaughter of Hyperion, overhears her parents talking – Hyperion has been seen with a human woman. But all routes to Earth are closed and humans are banned on Titus. How did the woman get there and are there more?

With her friends, Zephyr (Pegasus’s niece) and Jake, (a young human who appears on Titus with no idea how he got there) they uncover a deadly plot that could destroy everything unless they find a way to stop it. Titus has a new enemy. But is it an outsider, or a conspiracy from within?

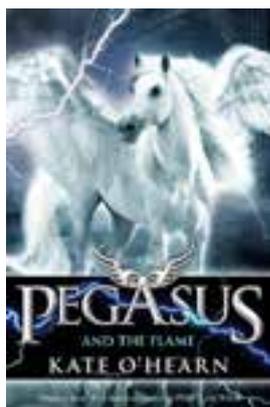
Kate O'Hearn is the author of twelve novels which include the *Pegasus* series, the *Valkyrie* trilogy and the *Shadow of the Dragon* duology. The *Pegasus* series has sold over 700,000 copies to date in the English-language alone and been translated into nine languages. *Pegasus and the Flame* has over 6,000 ratings on Goodreads with an average of 4.24 stars; *Pegasus and the New Olympians* was chosen as part of the Richard and Judy Children’s promotion in 2012; *Pegasus and the Origins of Olympus* was shortlisted for the Rotherham Children’s Book Award in 2013 and *Valkyrie* won the Wirral Schools Library Service Award.

US: Simon & Schuster Children’s July 2019
Editor: Fiona Simpson
Primary Agent: VB
Translation Rights: DHA
Film/TV Rights: DHA (PK)

Additional Info:
 Extent - 352pp
 Illustrations - NO
 Material Available - final PDF

Rights Sold:
 Czech - Albatros
 Indonesian - Bhuana Ilmu Populer

Subagents:
 Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media
 Japanese - Tuttle-Mori



david higham

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News

[Cressida Cowell: Children's Laureate 2019-21]

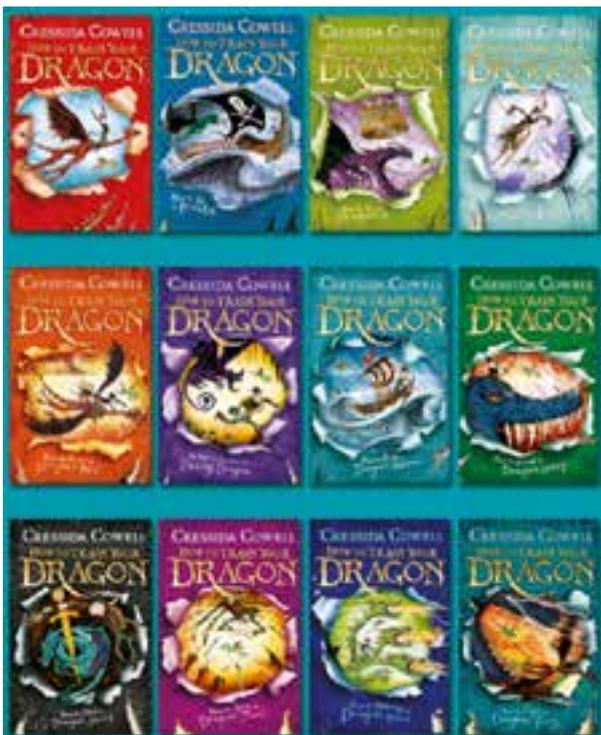
DHA represent the audio translation rights for several of our big brands, including the below bestselling series



Cressida Cowell is the globally-renowned author *How to Train Your Dragon*, a series of highly illustrated books about a young Viking and his dragon for 7+ year olds. These have been translated into over 40 languages and adapted into a trilogy of boxoffice-breaking animated films by Dreamworks Studios. Most recently she has been working on a new series called *The Wizards of Once*. The third title, *Knock Three Times* will be published this Autumn in the UK.

This year Cressida was appointed the UK's new Children's Laureate - a prestigious position appointed on a biannual basis to authors or illustrators of children's books. In the laureateship's two decade history, previous appointees have included Jacqueline Wilson, Michael Morpurgo and Quentin Blake. The Laureate campaigns for children's books to be made as accessible as possible across the UK, and to foster and encourage a love of reading in young people.

Each Laureate has had a particular focus to mark their tenure. As part of her agenda, Cressida has unveiled her official Charter (next page) laying out the protected reading rights of every child. She will spend the next two years spearheading initiatives and events designs to enact these points as widely as possible. We are very honoured to support her in this great cause and look forward to two action-packed years ahead.



How to Train your Dragon Cressida Cowell

Published in the UK by Hachette
Complete – 12 book series

'If you haven't discovered Hiccup yet, you're missing out on one of the greatest inventions of modern children's literature' – Julia Eccleshare, Guardian's children's books editor

Enquire for Audio Rights Availability for All Titles

GRESSIDA COWELL'S

Waterstones Children's Laureate Charter



Every child has
the right to...

1. Read for the joy of it
2. Access NEW books in schools, libraries and bookshops
3. Have advice from a trained librarian or bookseller
4. Own their OWN book
5. See themselves reflected in a book
6. Be read aloud to
7. Have some choice in what they read
8. Be creative for at least fifteen minutes a week
9. See an author event at least ONCE
10. Have a planet to read on

[**Antonia Barber: 1932-2019**]

*David Higham Associates regrettably report the passing of beloved children's author
Antonia Barber on 4 April 2019*

Over the course of an almost four decade-long career, **Antonia Barber** penned many award-winning novels and picture books for children of all ages.

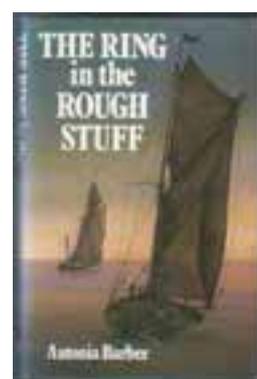
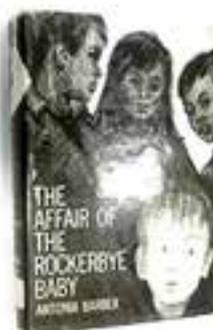
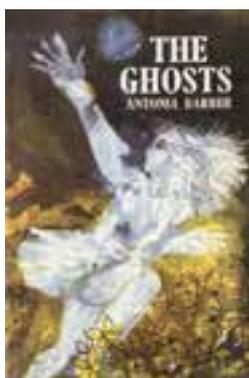
She gained early recognition for her second book, *The Ghosts*, a middle grade novel which was first published in 1969. A time-travelling adventure that moves between England in the First World War and Regency Eras, it was shortlisted for the Carnegie Medal, an award she was later shortlisted for again in 1983 with *The Ring in the Rough Stuff*. *The Ghosts* was adapted for film in 1972 to great success, and released theatrically as *The Amazing Mr Blunden*.

Antonia later ventured into picture books, and won great acclaim for *The Mousehole Cat*, first published in 1990 with illustrations by Nicola Bayley and still in print. It was awarded Illustrated Children's Book of the Year at the British Book Awards, the Children's Choice in the Nestle Smarties Book Prize, and received a commendation for the Kate Greenaway Medal. A perennial favourite, the story has been adapted on multiple occasions, including as a play, musical, puppet show, ballet and an animated film.

David Higham Associates are proud to continue to represent Antonia's work, and to keep her stories available to readers for many more years to come.



Titles by Antonia Barber



Enquire for All Titles and Previous Publishers

[Theresa Breslin awarded OBE]

Theresa Breslin was awarded an OBE (Order of the British Empire) this year for her contributions to literature

Theresa Breslin is the award-winning author of over 30 books for children, and was this year honoured for her services to children's literature and her work with libraries and literacy with an O.B.E. (Order of the British Empire).

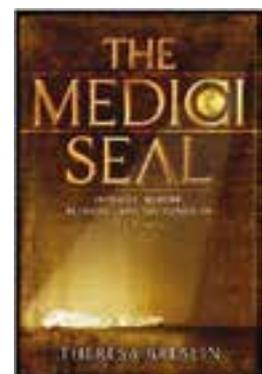
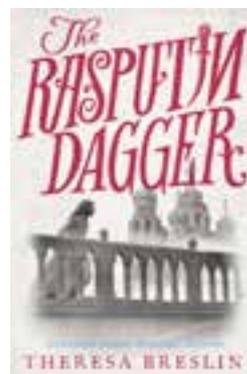
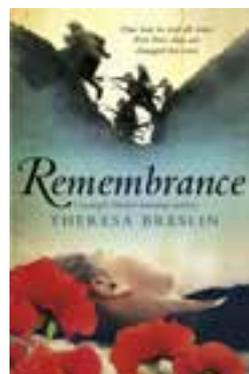
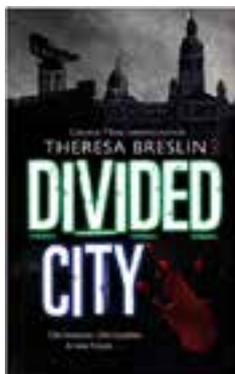
A prolific writer, Theresa's first novel, *Simon's Challenge*, won the Kathleen Fidler Award. This was followed by more prize-winning books, including *Remembrance* – a tale of Youth in WW1, and *Divided City* – exploring traditional tensions between football fans plus the plight of asylum seekers. Her highly acclaimed *Whispers in the Graveyard*, a powerful and insightful story about a dyslexic boy facing bullies, family problems and a vengeful spirit, was awarded the prestigious Carnegie Medal. Theresa's novels has been dramatised for television, stage and radio, and translated into over 25 languages.



A former Youth Librarian, in 2019 Theresa was awarded the Outstanding Achievement Award by Scottish Book Trust, recognising 'an author or illustrator whose body of work meaningfully engages with their audience and the wider community'. A passionate advocate, she has held the position of President of CILIPS (Chartered Institute for Librarians and Information Professionals), is an Honorary Fellow of the Association for Scottish Literary Studies and was project manager of the BAFTA nominated Scottish Writers programme.

Theresa's most recent work brings Scottish traditional tales to life, and the third book in a series illustrated by Kate Leiper, *An Illustrated Treasury of Scottish Castle Legends*, was published this year.

Titles by Theresa Breslin



Enquire for All Titles and Previous Publishers

[SUB-AGENTS]

China: Andrew Nurnberg Associates / Bardon Chinese Media Agency

Czech and Slovak: Kristin Olson Literarni Agentura

Hungary: Katai & Bolza

Indonesia: Maxima Creative Agency

Japan: Tuttle-Mori / Japan Uni

Korea: Eric Yang Agency

Poland: Anna Jarota Agency

Romania: Simona Kessler Agency

Russia: Van Lear Agency

Serbia: Plima Literary Agency

Thailand: The Silkroad Agency

Turkey: AnatoliaLit Agency

US: Adams Literary

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Joe Berger

Pénélope Bagieu

Antonia Barber

Theresa Breslin

Cressida Cowell

Roald Dahl

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David Edmonds

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Geraldine McCaughrean

Tom McLaughlin

Jackie Morris

Kate O'Hearn

Jenny Valentine

Jacqueline Wilson