

david higham

literary, film and tv agents

**Children's
Rights
Guide
Spring 2020**

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For more information please go to our website to browse our shelves and find out more about what we do and who we represent.

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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

Direct: Brazil; Denmark; Finland; France; Germany; Iceland; Italy; the Netherlands; Norway; Portugal; Spain and Latin America; Sweden

Co-agented: China (Roald Dahl only); Japan (Roald Dahl only)

Olivia Hickman: oliviahickman@davidhigham.co.uk

Direct: Arab World; Albania; Bulgaria; Croatia; Estonia; Greece; Israel; Latvia; Lithuania; Macedonia; Slovenia; Vietnam; all other markets

Co-agented: China, Czech Republic; Hungary; Indonesia; Japan; Korea; Poland; Romania; Russia; Serbia; Slovakia; Taiwan; Thailand; Turkey; Ukraine

Translation Rights Assistant:

Camille Burns: camilleburns@davidhigham.co.uk

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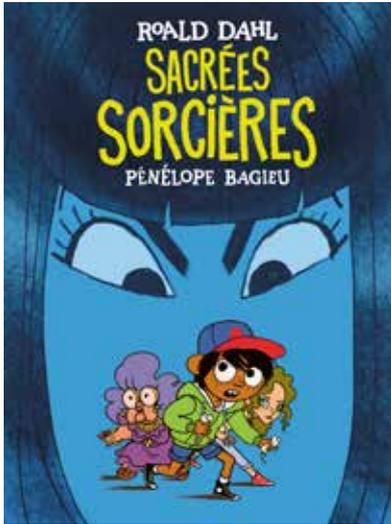
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www.davidhigham.co.uk

[The Witches Graphic Novel]

Illustrated

Roald Dahl; adapted and illustrated by Pénélope Bagieu



France: Gallimard - January 2020
UK Rights: Scholastic
US Rights: Scholastic
Primary Agent: AG
Translation Rights: DHA
Film/TV Rights: The Roald Dahl Story Company

Additional Info:

Extent - 300 pages
Illustrations - Full colour graphic novel adaptation
Material Available - Final files

Rights Sold:

English - Scholastic
German - Reprodukt
Italian - Adriano Salani
Korean - Sigongsa
Norwegian - Gyldendal
Spanish - PRH
Ukrainian - Zhorzh

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media
Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

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

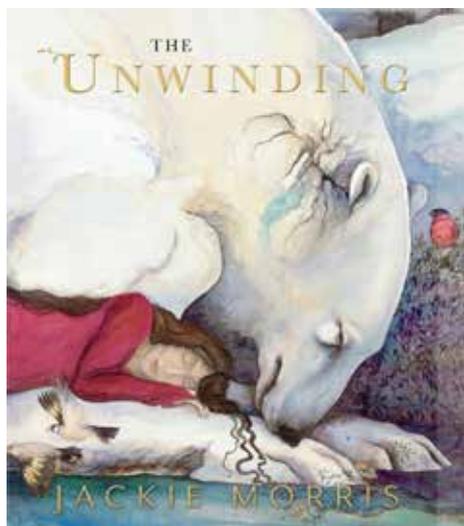
Witches really are a detestable breed. They disguise themselves as lovely ladies, when secretly they want to squish and squelch all the wretched children they despise. Luckily one boy and his grandmother know how to recognize these vile creatures, but can they get rid of them for good?

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 over 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.

Jackie Morris



A bridge between the day's work and worries and a peaceful night's 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 (JW)

Primary Agent: JW

Translation Rights: DHA

Film/TV Rights: DHA (PK)

Additional Info:

Extent - 150 pages

Illustrations - YES (full colour)

Material Available - Proofs available

Rights Sold:

All Rights Available

Enquire for All Titles and Previous Publishers

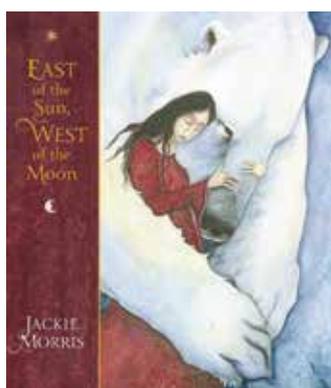
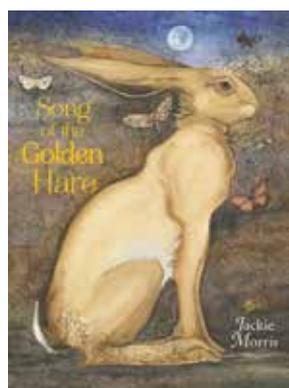
Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg

Associates

Japanese - Japan Uni

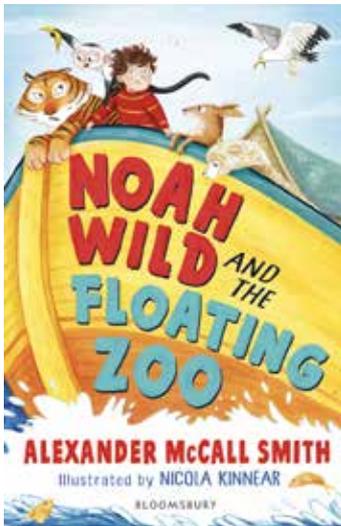
Jackie Morris is an internationally best-selling illustrator, artist and author, who has illustrated the work of Ted Hughes and Robin Hobb, among many others. She lives in a small house in west Wales. She is the creator of *The Lost Words* with Robert Macfarlane, published by Hamish Hamilton / Penguin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



[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 - 144pp

Illustrations - YES (black-and-white)

Material Available - Layout files due March 2020

Rights Sold:

All Rights Available

Enquire for All Titles and Previous Publishers

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg

Associates

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

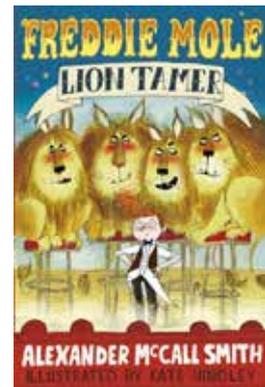
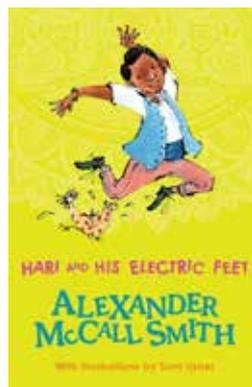
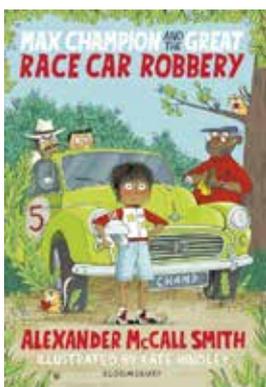
It's full-time monkey business on the high seas in this new family adventure

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.

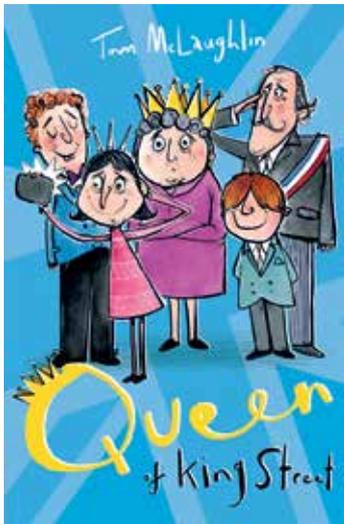
Also by Alexander McCall Smith:



[The Queen of King Street]

Ages 7-9

Tom McLaughlin



UK: Barrington Stoke - June 2020

UK Editor: Ailsa Bathgate

US Rights: DHA (CW)

Primary Agent: CW

Translation Rights: DHA

Film/TV Rights: DHA (CI)

Additional Info:

Extent - 104pp

Illustrations - YES (black-and-white)

Material Available - Illustrated manuscript due March 2020

Rights Sold:

All Rights Available

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

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

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.



Berlie Doherty



From the twice Carnegie Medal-winning author comes a chilling and moving story about life, loss and healing.

The lost lad, they call me. If they see me, that is. I hesitate to tell you my tale, in case it gives you fright, but it's a true one, you see. Everyone round these parts knows about me, whether they believe in me or not...

When Carl visits the Peak District with his parents to try to recover from the fallout of a horrific accident, he becomes caught up in the mysterious tale of the Lost Lad. Are these hills actually haunted or is Carl being chased by his own demons? Could unlocking the secrets of The Lost Lad help him deal with his own grief?

As past and present collide, Carl must come to terms with the loss of his best friend, Jack, and find a way to move on.

UK: Catnip - August 2020
UK Editor: Frances Moloney
US Rights: DHA (VB)
Primary Agent: VB
Translation Rights: DHA
Film/TV Rights: DHA (PK)

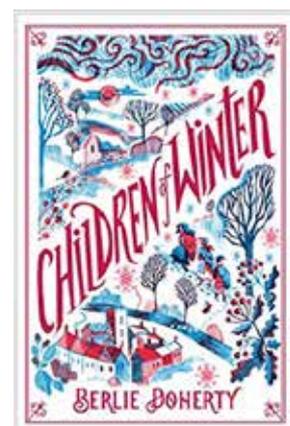
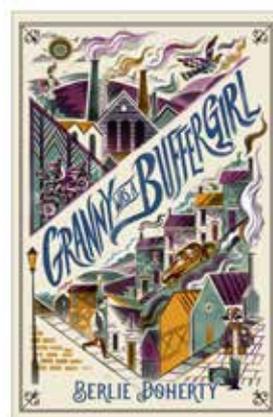
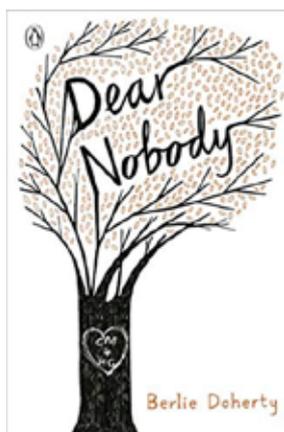
Additional Info:
Extent - 50,000 words
Illustrations - NO
Material Available - draft due March 2020

Rights Sold:
All Rights Available

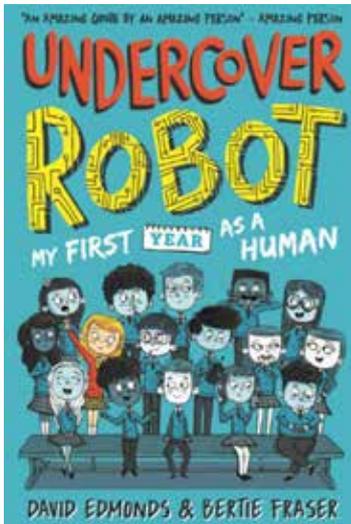
Enquire for All Titles and Previous Publishers

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

Also by Berlie Doherty:



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: Emma Lidbury

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 - Fully edited manuscript available

Rights Sold:

German - arsEdition

Hungarian - Pagony

Italian - Giunti Editore

Ukrainian - A-Ba-Ba-Ha-La-Ma-Ha

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Japan Uni

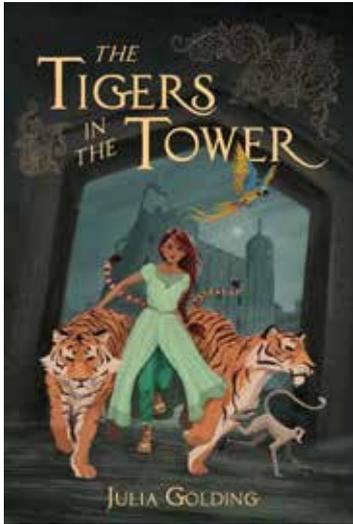
David Edmonds is a multi-award-winning BBC journalist and a Distinguished Research Fellow at the Uehiro Centre for Practical Ethics at Oxford University. He is the author or editor of a dozen books including – with John Eidinow – the international best seller *Wittgenstein's Poker* (shortlisted for The 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.

[Tigers in the Tower]

Ages 8-12

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 - September 2020

UK Editor: Colin Forbes

US Rights: DHA (CW)

Primary Agent: CW

Translation Rights: DHA

Film/TV Rights: DHA (GR)

Additional Info:

Extent - 304pp

Illustrations - NO

Material Available - Final manuscript due June 2020

Rights Sold:

All Rights Available

Enquire for All Titles and Previous Publishers

Subagents:

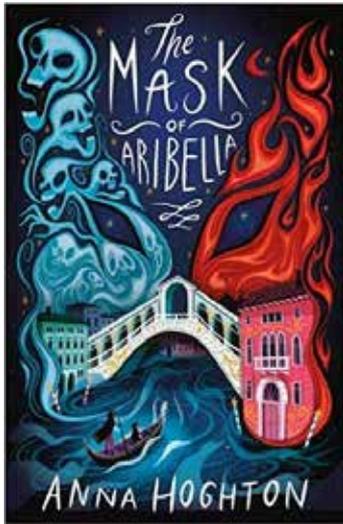
Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

[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 - 352pp
Illustrations - NO
Material Available - Final files

Rights Sold:

German - dtv
Ukrainian - Zhazh

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 and 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...

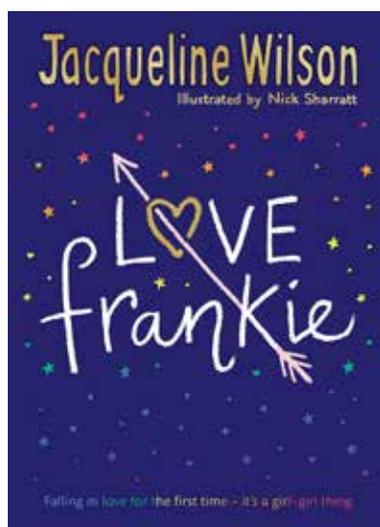
Aribella is delighted to have found a home there but, under the glittering surface, a great darkness threatens Venice, and the Cannovacci are the only ones powerful enough to stop it. Can Aribella prove the threat to Venice is real and protect innocent people like Theo and Papa? And what happens when 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 Mask of Aribella* was chosen as the Children's Book of the Month by Dubray Books chain of bookshops in Ireland.

'This enthralling adventure will make readers yearn for their own masks and powers.' – *The Guardian*

'Houghton's exciting premise is enriched by the Venetian setting, where the deceptive cobbled streets, maze of rivers and idiosyncratic islands make it easy to slip between a realist register and fantasy.' – *The Irish Times*

Jacqueline Wilson



GROWING UP. FALLING IN LOVE. COMING OUT.

Frankie is nearly fourteen and teenage life certainly comes with its ups and downs. Her mum is seriously ill with MS and Frankie can feel herself growing up quickly, no thanks to Sally and her gang of bullies at school.

When Sally turns out to be not-so-mean after all, they strike up a friendship and are suddenly spending all of their time together. But Frankie starts to wonder whether these feelings she has for Sally are stronger than her other friendships. Might she really be in love?

Frankie doesn't want Sally to just be her friend. She wants her to be her girlfriend. But does Sally feel the same?

UK: Penguin Random House - April 2020

UK Editor: Kelly Hurst

US Rights: DHA (CW)

Primary Agent: CW

Translation Rights: DHA

Film/TV Rights: DHA (GR)

Additional Info:

Extent - 432pp

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

Material Available - Proofs

Rights Sold:

All rights available

Enquire for All Titles and Previous Publishers

Subagents:

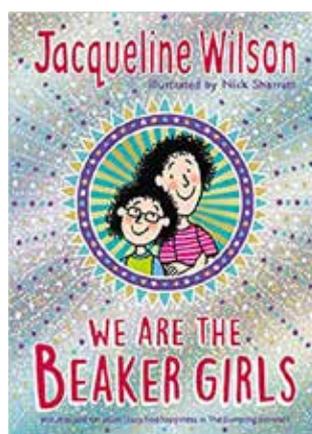
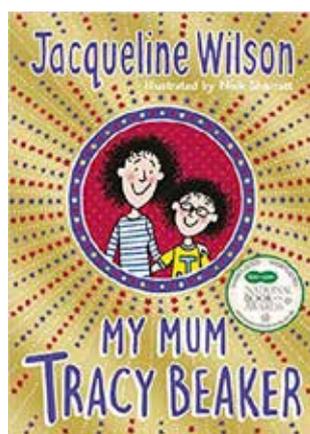
Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

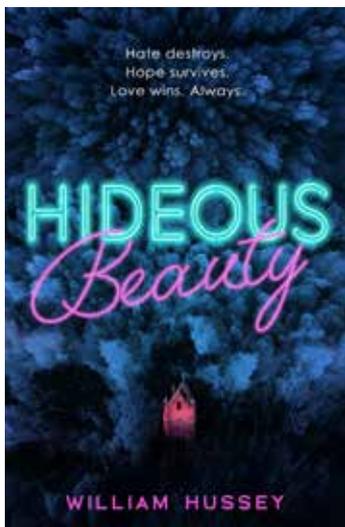
Dame Jacqueline Wilson is a multi-award-winning author and consistent favourite with children and critics. A former Children's Laureate, Jacqueline has won the Guardian Children's Fiction Award and the Children's Book of the Year Award. The CBBC adaptation of *The Story of Tracy Beaker* is one of the 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, most notably, Dame Jacqueline Wilson. He's written around 40 of his own books and was the official World Book day illustrator in 2006.

Also by Jacqueline Wilson:



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 - Final files

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

Fifteen-year-old Gloria is maid to Afaia's tyrannical Head of State, Madame Suprema. When the country is hit by unprecedented flooding Madame Suprema runs away fearing she will be blamed for the crisis. To cover up this cowardly act Gloria steps into the Suprema's shoes and is thrust into a corrupt world where she must take decisions that will affect the life and death of thousands of citizens of Afaia, including her own...

From twice Carnegie-medal-winning Geraldine McCaughrean comes an extraordinary and timely new novel set in a world paralysed by natural disaster and dangerous politics, for fans of Philip Pullman and Frances Hardinge.

Geraldine McCaughrean is one of today's most successful and highly regarded children's authors. She has won the CILIP Carnegie Medal twice: first in 1988 with *A Pack of Lies* and again in 2018 with *Where the World Ends*. She's won the IBW Book Award 2018, the Whitbread Children's Book Award three times, the Guardian Children's Fiction Prize, the Smarties Bronze Award four times, the prestigious U.S. Printz Award and the Blue Peter Book of the Year Award. She was chosen to write the official sequel to J. M. Barrie's *Peter Pan*, *Peter Pan in Scarlet*, which was published to wide critical acclaim.

UK: Usborne - September 2020

UK Editor: Anne Finnis

US Rights: DHA (VB)

Primary Agent: VB

Translation Rights: DHA

Film/TV Rights: DHA (PK)

Additional Info:

Extent - 78,000 words

Illustrations - NO

Material Available - Final manuscript

Enquire for All Titles and Previous Publishers

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

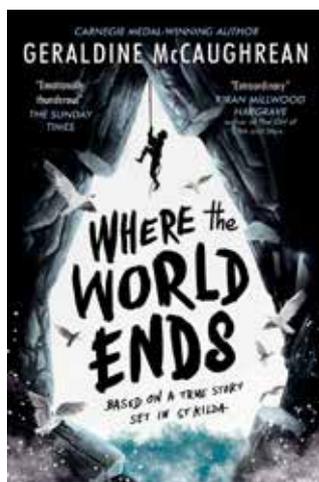
Praise for *Where the World Ends*:

Brilliant, beautiful...as unpredictable as the sea itself. - Philip Reeve, author of *The Mortal Engines*

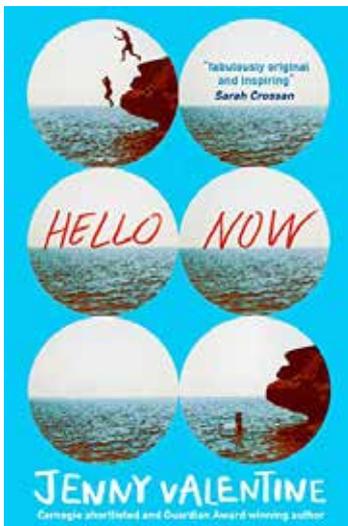
Harshly beautiful, and stark with near-despair, this is an unsettling, deeply original historical novel. - *The Guardian*

This is the best book I've read this year. Extraordinary... - Kiran Millwood Hargrave, author of *The Girl of Ink and Stars*

Everything Geraldine McCaughrean touches turns to gold. - *The Sunday Times*



Jenny Valentine



UK: HarperCollins - April 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 - Final files

Enquire for All Titles and Previous Publishers

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

A beautifully moving, exquisite and utterly original love story from Carnegie-shortlisted author Jenny Valentine.

This is more than one story, more than one **Now**. But I'll tell it as best I can.

Me? I'm Jude – like the Patron Saint of lost causes.
 Him? He's Novo. Like nothing on earth. Literally.

In the beginning, before Novo showed up, my mum and me moved to the seaside. Then the first of July, 11.34am. Novo arrived. I was like an atom in his orbit. Alone with him, feeling the pull. Suddenly in the moment, in the **Now**.

Then a terrible, unthinkable **Now**. One that could tear my family apart. But Nows can be undone, rewritten, changed.

Goodbye to life as I know it.

And **Hello Now**...

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*



[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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