

# London Book Fair 2024 Young Adult & Middle Grade Rights Guide

Abigail Koons Executive Director of Foreign Rights Akoons@parkfine.com

Kathryn Toolan Foreign Rights Agent Ktoolan@parkfine.com Ben Kaslow-Zieve Foreign Rights Associate Bkaslow-zieve@parkfine.com

## **Table of Contents**

Co-agents	2
New titles	3
THE GREATEST HEIST IN JOVIALA by Adi Alsaid	3
KEEP DANCING THROUGH by by Allison Holker Boss and Stephen "tWitch" Boss .	
THE GHOST OF YOU by Michael Gray Bulla	
LOOKING FOR SMOKE by K. A. Cobell	
WISTERIA by Adalyn Grace	7
BRING ME YOUR MIDNIGHT by Rachel Griffin	8
ADIA KELBARA AND THE CIRCLE OF SHAMANS by Isi Hendrix	9
NOT ABOUT A BOY by Myah Hollis	10
SPICE ROAD by Maya Ibrahim	11
BEHOLDER by Ryan La Sala	12
QUEEN OF FACES by Petra Lord	13
ONE LAST BREATH by Ginny Myers Sain	14
THE WRONG WAY HOME by Kate O'Shaughnessy	15
NIGHT ENDS WITH FIRE by K. X. Song	16
BLOOD AT THE ROOT by LaDarrion Williams	17
DARK STAR BURNING, ASH FALLS WHITE by Amelie Wen Zhao	18
Did You Miss?	19
Future Publications	20



#### **CO-AGENTS**

**ARABIC** 

**Bears Factor** 

**BRAZIL** 

Agência Riff

BULGARIA, ROMANIA, & SERBIA

Andrew Nurnberg Associates Sofia

CHINA, INDONESIA, TAIWAN, THAILAND & **VIETNAM** 

The Grayhawk Agency

CZECH REPUBLIC, SLOVAKIA & SLOVENIA

Andrew Nurnberg Associates Prague

ESTONIA, LATVIA, LITHUANIA & UKRAINE

Eastern European and Asian Rights Agency

**FRANCE** 

Agence Eliane Bénisti

**GERMANY** 

Mohrbooks Literary Agency

**GREECE** 

JLM Literary Agency

**HUNGARY & CROATIA** 

Katai & Bolza

**ITALY** 

Daniela Micura Literary Services

**JAPAN** 

English Agency Japan

**KOREA** 

Danny Hong Agency

**NETHERLANDS** 

Marianne Schönbach Literary

Agency

**POLAND** 

**Graal Literary Agency** 

**RUSSIA** 

Andrew Nurnberg Literary Agency

**SCANDINAVIA** 

Andrew Nurnberg Associates

**SPAIN & PORTUGAL** 

The Foreign Office

**TURKEY** 

AnatoliaLit Agency

## THE GREATEST HEIST IN JOVIALA

### by Adi Alsaid

A girl fights to free her sister from a curse while a beautiful mountain is at risk of being turned into a theme park in this giggle-worthy yet heartfelt middle grade adventure set in the world of THE BRAVEST WARRIOR IN NEFARIA.

Having grown up in Nefaria, a land where evil schemes abound, Candelabra is thrilled to take a school trip to Joviala, a land that's prone to natural disasters but has virtually no evil in it. All her life, she's dreamt of a place where everyone is caring and happy and without malicious intent, and now it's coming true for her.

But Jovialan Schmebecca isn't so sure her country's reputation is earned. A company has just been approved to move her beloved mountain to install a theme park, and that sounds pretty evil to her. She enlists the help of veteran evil-scheme-thwarters Candelabra and Bobert, and together, they work to uncover the possible evil scheme-but when a twist pits their goals against each other, the fight against evil becomes a lot more complicated.



"Fresh, humorous, and fun"

-Kirkus Reviews

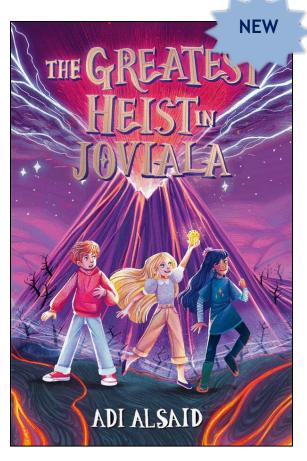
"This goofy middle grade debut from Alsaid (Actually Super) possesses a simmering humor drawn from the premise and setting's thoroughly absurd trappings, and its goodintentioned protagonists lend it an upbeat tone."

- Publishers Weekly

"Delightfully wacky, hilariously absurd, and perfectly relatable. It's just plain fun!"

- Chris Rylander, author of THE LEGEND OF GREG

Adi Alsaid was born and raised in Mexico City, where he spilled hot sauce on things. Along with writing and traveling the world, Adi has coached high school and elementary school basketball. In addition to Mexico, he has lived in Tel Aviv, Las Vegas, Monterey, and Chicago.



## S&S/Aladdin (WE) September 2023

Format: Manuscript

## KEEP DANCING THROGH A BOSS FAMILY GROOVE

by Allison Holker Boss and Stephen "tWitch" Boss

Celebrity dancer and TV personality Allison Holker Boss and her late husband Stephen "tWitch" Boss's first picture book is a heartfelt celebration of family and their motto: Keep dancing through.

Mom, Dad, Weslie, Maddox, and Zaia groove through the ups and downs of a typical day, from spilled milk at the breakfast table to a tough day at school to a rained-out game. A reminder of the power of dance, this Boss Family Groove embodies the importance of spreading love and kindness with every song.

Instant USA Today bestseller!

#### Praise for previous title IF I CAN GIVE YOU THAT:

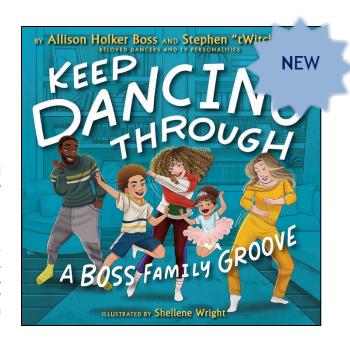
"A wonderful book that honors the spirit of my dear friend Stephen 'tWitch' Boss and his beautiful family. It will make you want to get up and dance."

-Ellen DeGeneres

Allison Holker Boss is a pro dancer, on-air personality and Emmy-nominated choreographer on Dancing with the Stars. Best known to television audiences for her amazing performances as a competitor, All-Star dancer and choreographer on FOX's hit dance competition series So You Think You Can Dance, she also hosted Design Star: Next Gen on HGTV. Prior to that, Allison worked alongside her late husband, Stephen "tWitch" Boss as co-host for Disney's Fairytale Weddings. KEEP DANCING THROUGH is her first picture book.

Stephen "tWitch" Boss made a splash in the entertainment world with his multitude of talents. The memorable contestant, All-Star, and judge of So You Think You Can Dance fame was a staple on The Ellen DeGeneres Show as its resident dancer, DJ, and Co-Executive Producer. He was also host of Clash of the Cover Bands on E! Network and The Real Dirty Dancing on FOX.

Shellene Wright is a Toronto-based illustrator with a passion for illustrating experiences and emotions through the various stages of life. Her characters are often closely tied to personal experience. From the time she was a small child, she was influenced by the art around her, which helped to build her understanding about art and creativity. Illustration and storytelling have been one of the many avenues that she uses to express her own unique ideas.



Hachette/Disney Hyperion (NA)

January 2024

## THE GHOST OF YOU

## by Michael Gray Bulla

A heartbreakingly beautiful exploration of grief, and a highly unusual pathway to healing, from the author of IF I CAN GIVE YOU THAT.

Caleb's world broke the day his brother died of a drug overdose. Now in the throes of grief, Caleb hardly ever sees his friends anymore, and school isn't much better. He's on the verge of failing his songwriting class, never mind that music used to be his greatest passion. Even Tanya, his best friend, is growing tired of trying to push him out of the door and back into his life.

But perhaps most concerning of all: a black cat has been following Caleb around... a cat that only he can see. A cat that may just be a ghost.

Then, Caleb is assigned a songwriting partner in class: Emmett, the nonbinary lead singer of a local punk band. The cat takes a liking to Emmett-and maybe Caleb does, too. As they write together, Caleb begins opening up about his grief, and the two realize they have more in common than expected. Now, Caleb will have to decide if he is ready to heal with Emmett's help—or to recede in life and become as invisible as the ghostly cat at his heel.

#### Praise for previous title IF I CAN GIVE YOU THAT:

"Bulla handles complex topics such as consent, gender and sexuality, and mental illness with nuance, and Gael's sensitive first-person narration believably renders his internality and gradual growth in this confidently written portrait of a young queer person finding his way." -Publishers Weekly

"Sweet and powerfully compassionate, IF I CAN GIVE YOU THAT explores the power of family--the ones we choose and the ones chosen for us."

—Z.R. Ellor, author of MAY THE BEST MAN WIN

"Bulla deftly weaves joy and sorrow, sweetness and hardship in this delightful debut."

-Adi Alsaid, author of BEFORE TAKEOFF

"Michael Gray Bulla's IF I CAN GIVE YOU THAT offers an emotional and deeply honest depiction of queerness and mental health. At times heartwarming and at times heartbreaking, this remarkable debut novel will remind you that loving fearlessly and letting other people in is the best way to live—especially when times get tough."

-Daniel Aleman, author of BRIGHTER THAN THE SUN

"A deeply realized trans coming-of-age story that's more of a glorious coming-of-self. This book takes no easy exits and provides no simple answers in exploring family, first love, and the power of self-and it soars! Debut author Michael Gray Bulla is a voice to watch."

- Adam Sass, award-winning author of SURRENDER YOUR SONS and THE 99 BOYFRIENDS OF MICAH SUMMERS

Michael Gray Bulla is a young adult novelist and poet from Franklin, Tennessee. He was named the 2017 Nashville Youth Poet Laureate with Southern Word. His first poetry collection, LETTERS TO HOME, was published in 2019.



## Harper/Quill Tree (WE) September 2024

Material: Manuscript

### LOOKING FOR SMOKE

#### by K.A. Cobell

Set against the backdrop of the North American Indian Days—an annual celebration in Browning, Montana on the Blackfeet Nation—a group of four teenagers find themselves in the middle of a murder investigation after a classmate is found dead.

Since moving to the Blackfeet Reservation with her parents, Mara Racette has felt like an outsider, taunted by her tight-knit classmates for growing up far away. So, when a local girl includes Mara in a traditional Blackfeet Giveaway to honor her missing sister, Mara thinks she'll finally make some friends.

Instead, a girl from the Giveaway, Samantha White Tail, is found murdered.

Because the members of the Giveaway group were the last to see Samantha alive, each becomes a person of interest in the investigation: New-girl Mara, who hated Samantha for being particularly cruel; grief-stricken Loren Arnoux, who was Samantha's best friend until her sister's disappearance drove a wedge between them; class-clown Brody Clark, whose unreciprocated crush on Samantha is an open secret; and tough-guy Eli First Kill, who has his own complicated history with Samantha.

Despite deep mistrust, the four must now take matters into their own hands and clear their names. Even though one of them may be the murderer.

Sold in a major 2 book, seven-figure deal at auction.

#### Advance Praise for LOOKING FOR SMOKE:

"A stunning debut, as beautiful as it is bold. Cobell has woven an aching examination of grief in an Indigenous community with a thriller brimming with so many secrets and twists, it'll leave you breathless."

-Diana Urban, award-winning author of ALL YOUR TWISTED SECRETS

"A gripping debut thriller with dynamic characters who leap off the page and demand to be heard."

 Jessica Goodman, NYT bestselling author of THE COUNSELORS AND THE LEGACIES

"An absolute thrilling mystery, that's beautifully told! LOOKING FOR SMOKE completely blew me away."

— Nick Brooks, author of PROMISE BOYS

"... a heartbreaking window onto the ongoing plague of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, exploring its real-world costs. These unforgettable young characters give voice to this ever-growing trauma. Their stories will leave you with a richer understanding of what it means just to survive, as a young Indigenous person today."

Eric Gansworth, award-winning author of APPLE (SKIN TO THE CORE)

"A breathtaking debut thriller filled with raw emotions, life-like characters, and a vivid setting that centers on the all-too-real epidemic of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women."

Liz Lawson, NYT bestselling author of THE LUCKY ONES

**K.A. Cobell, Staa'tssipisstaakii,** is an enrolled member of the Blackfeet Nation. She currently lives in the Pacific Northwest, where she spends her time writing books, chasing her kids through the never-ending rain, and scouring the inlet beaches for sand dollars and hermit crabs. LOOKING FOR SMOKE is her debut novel.



### HarperCollins/Heartdrum Penguin Random House June 2024

Rights Sold:

Brazilian Portuguese - VR Editora

#### **WISTERIA**

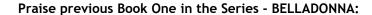
#### **BELLADONNA SERIES: BOOK THREE**

by Adalyn Grace

#1 New York Times bestselling author Adalyn Grace delivers a sensational conclusion to the deathly and decadent BELLADONNA trilogy, with dramatic twists and a seductive new romance that will set readers' hearts ablaze.

Blythe Hawthorne has never let anyone tell her what to do—not society, not her overprotective father, and certainly not the man she's bound herself to, no matter how rude and insufferable he is. In fact, she's determined to be a thorn in his side for the rest of her days, even as he ensures that her life in his palace is anything but a fairytale. But as Blythe discovers a new side of herself linked to his past, she'll have to decide if she's willing to let an unexpected spark ignite...and to discover the truth about who she really is.

- Book One in the series BELLADONNA was a Der Spiegel bestseller in Germany
- Barnes & Noble and Waterstones "Exclusive Edition"
- Book Two in the series, FOXGLOVE, was an instant #1 NYT bestseller, Indie and Wall Street Journal bestseller and a Cosmo "Best Young Adult Book of 2023"



"Darkly twisted and deliciously gothic, BELLADONNA is the kind of wicked fairy tale I've loved for most of my life. Grace's world is vivid and sexy"

Renée Ahdieh, #1 NYT bestselling author of THE WRATH & THE DAWN

"A deliciously deadly gothic romance. Full of poisonous deeds, spectacular secrets, and dark mysteries. BELLADONNA is a hauntingly atmospheric read, with an absolutely fantastic ending that will leave readers begging for

-Stephanie Garber, #1 NYT bestselling author of ONCE UPON A BROKEN **HEART** 

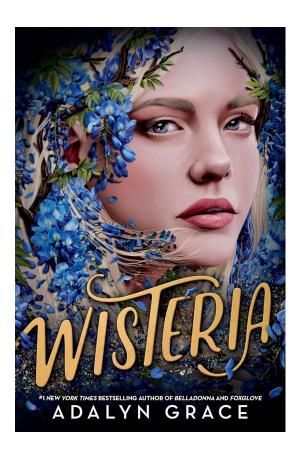
"Decadently atmospheric. This gothic romance is filled with desire, betrayal, and of course, Death."

- Kerri Maniscalco, NYT bestselling author of KINGDOM OF THE WICKED

"BELLADONNA effortlessly weaves mystery, magic, and romance together into a gothic-infused masterpiece sure to become YA's new obsession. Every page drips with atmosphere and will leave readers wishing that they, too, could roam the halls of haunted Thorn Grove. Utterly original and completely addictive, BELLADONNA is a fantasy to die for."

Rachel Griffin, NYT bestselling author of THE NATURE OF WITCHES

Adalyn Grace is the #1 New York Times, indie, Wall Street Journal and USA Today bestselling author of the BELLADONNA series and the ALL THE STARS AND TEETH duology.



Little, Brown Books for Young Readers Hodder & Stoughton August 2024

#### Rights Sold:

Arabic - Senan

Bulgarian - Ciela

French - De Saxus

German - ARS

#### BRING ME YOUR MIDNIGHT

## by Rachel Griffin

From the *New York Times* bestselling author of THE NATURE OF WITCHES and WILD IS THE WITCH; comes a lush romantic fantasy about forbidden love, the choices we make, and the pull between duty and desire.

Tana Fairchild's fate has never been in question. Her life has been planned out since the moment she was born: she is to marry the governor's son, Landon, and secure an unprecedented alliance between the witches of her island home and the mainlanders who see her very existence as a threat.

Tana's coven has appeased those who fear their power for years by releasing most of their magic into the ocean during the full moon. But when Tana misses the midnight ritual—a fatal mistake—there is no one she can turn to for help...until she meets Wolfe.

Wolfe claims he is from a coven that practices dark magic, making him one of the only people who can help her. But he refuses to let Tana's power rush into the sea, and instead teaches her his forbidden magic. A magic that makes her feel powerful. Alive.

As the sea grows more violent, her coven loses control of the currents, a danger that could destroy the alliance as well as her island. Tana will have to choose between love and duty, between loyalty to her people and loyalty to her heart. Marrying Landon would secure peace for her coven but losing Wolfe and his wild magic could cost her everything else.

An instant New York Times and USA Today Bestseller!

#### Praise for BRING ME YOUR MIDNIGHT:

"Griffin crafts a richly detailed world that leaves vivid sensory impressions. A subtly magical and romantic story of personal growth." — Kirkus Reviews

"Prepare to be bewitched. Achingly beautiful, devastatingly romantic, and deliciously atmospheric, BRING ME YOUR MIDNIGHT casts a powerful spell. Readers who pick up this book will feel the sea spray of the ocean, the heart pounding romance, and the impossible choices that Tana must make."

- Stephanie Garber, #1 NYT bestselling author of ONCE UPON A BROKEN HEART

"Mesmerizingly atmospheric, achingly tender, and fiercely passionate, BRING ME YOUR MIDNIGHT holds the depths of an ocean within its spellbinding pages. Griffin weaves enchantment with lyrical prose that is at once intimate and bold, vulnerable and sweet, in a magical, romantic masterpiece."

Amélie Wen Zhao, NYT bestselling author of SONG OF SILVER, FLAME LIKE
 NIGHT

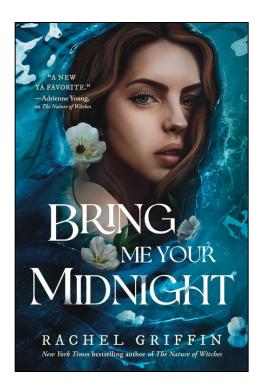
"Darkly enchanting and lush, BRING ME YOUR MIDNIGHT—with its forbidden romance and gorgeous atmosphere—is sure to cast a spell on you."

- Kerri Maniscalco, #1  $\it NYT$  bestselling author of KINGDOM OF THE WICKED

"Griffin's best work yet! BRING ME YOUR MIDNIGHT is a beautiful exploration of first love, the familial ties that bind us, and trusting your own heart's desires. Steeped in Griffin's signature lush atmosphere and a deeply romantic tone, this dazzling fantasy is bound to be a new favorite."

- Adalyn Grace, #1 NYT bestselling author of BELLADONNA

Rachel Griffin is the *New York Times* bestselling author of BRING ME YOUR MIDNIGHT, THE NATURE OF WITCHES and WILD IS THE WITCH.



## Sourcebooks (WE) August 2023

#### **Rights Sold:**

Portuguese Brazilian - Astral

Czech - Bookmedia

French - Bragelonne

German - Oetinger

Italian - Gribaudo

Spanish - Urano

Polish - Proszynski

Turkish - Destek

8

## ADIA KELBARA AND THE CIRCLE OF SHAMANS Adia Kelbara and the Circle of Shamans: Book One by Isi Hendrix

An unputdownable story about carving your own path out in the world, for fans of SCHOOL FOR GOOD AN EVIL and ARU SHAH AND THE END OF TIME.

Life is tough for twelve-year-old orphan Adia. Her aunt and uncle believe she's an ogbanje, a demon-possessed child that brings misfortune wherever they go, and Adia can't disagree—especially when she suddenly manifests mysterious powers that she can't control, causing an earthquake in her village.

So when Adia is offered a kitchen apprenticeship at the faraway Academy of Shamans, she flees with nothing but a pouch of change, her cat Bubbles, and the hope that someone there can figure out what's wrong with her—and fix it. But just as she's settling in, Adia stumbles upon a shocking secret. Darian, the emperor of Zaria, really is possessed, by a demon more wicked than any other. And he's on his way to the Academy for a visit.

Joining forces with a snarky Goddess, a 500-year-old warrior girl, and an annoying soldier-in-training, Adia must travel through hidden realms to exorcise Darian and save her kingdom. But to succeed, she first must come to understand the mysterious powers inside her...

The fate of the world hangs in the balance.

 Sold in a heated US auction for mid six-figures & in the UK for six figures, in a three-book deal

#### Praise for ADIA KELBARA AND THE CIRCLE OF SHAMANS:

"Adrenaline-fueled action and inventive worldbuilding personify this captivating Afrofantasy, a series-starting debut by Hendrix... Fully fleshed out characters—including a snarky goddess and several effervescent allies—populate this clever adventure, which teems with smartly rendered twists and oodles of hope and heart."

- Publishers Weekly

"Hendrix's skillfully built, West African-inspired fantasy is populated with multidimensional characters ... An engrossing and layered series opener."

Kirkus Reviews

"Hendrix's awe-inspiring debut novel is a truly masterful addition to the afrofantasy genre, [intertwining] the cultural richness of African mythology with the visceral history of colonization in a package that will entice middle-grade readers... This immersive fantasy, the start of a planned trilogy, deserves to be on every shelf."

- Booklist, starred review ★

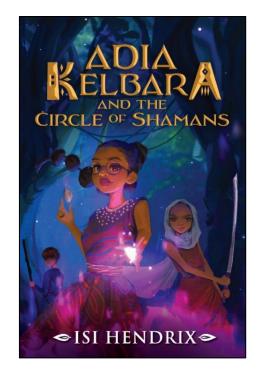
"This book is incredible! With a dazzling cast of characters wrapped up in a rich, imaginative afro-fantasy world, Adia's thrilling journey will have you eager to turn the next page!"

- B.B. Alston, #1 NYT bestselling author of AMARI AND THE NIGHT BROTHERS

"Deep, piercing, and urgent, ADIA KELBARA AND THE CIRCLE OF SHAMANS marries historic heft with the soaring possibilities of magic to tell a spellbinding story of empowerment and liberation."

- Soman Chainani, NYT bestselling author of THE SCHOOL FOR GOOD & EVIL series

**Isi Hendrix** is a Nigerian American children's book author who has been lucky enough to live and work all over the world, from the Himalayas to the Amazon rainforest, during her past life as an anthropologist. Now she's based in her hometown of Brooklyn, NY, where she lives with a rotating roster of foster kittens and a stubborn refusal to accept that she is highly allergic to cats.



## Harper/Balzer + Bray Usborne September 2023

Rights Sold:

French - Seuil

Russian - Eksmo

ADIA KELBARA AND THE CIRCLE OF SHAMANS BOOK TWO:

ADIA KELBARA AND THE HIGH QUEEN'S TOMB

Forthcoming Winter 2025



### **NOT ABOUT A BOY**

### by Myah Hollis

A girl struggling with a traumatic past and a new relationship has her life turned on its head when a twin she has no memory contacts her out of the blue. For fans of *Skins* and *Girl in Pieces*.

Amélie Cœur has never known what it truly means to be happy.

She thought she'd found happiness once, in a love that ended in tragedy and nearly sent her over the edge. Now, at seventeen, Mel is beginning to piece her life back together. Under the supervision of Laurelle Child Services, the exclusive foster care agency that raised her, Mel is sober and living with a new family among Manhattan's elite. It's her last chance at adoption before she ages out of the system, and she promised, this time, she'll try.

But a casual relationship with a boy is turning into something she never intended for it to be, causing small cracks in her carefully constructed walls. Then the sister she has no memory of contacts Mel, unearthing complicated feelings about the past and what could have been.

As the anniversary of the worst day of her life approaches, Mel must weather the rising tides of grief and depression before she loses herself, and those close to her, all over again.

#### Advance Praise for NOT ABOUT A BOY:

"Beautiful, raw, poignant. NOT ABOUT A BOY is a searing debut full of humor, heart, and the expansive range of emotions that rage within us all. Read this book to remember why feelings come first. Myah Hollis is a breath of fresh air."

- Danielle Parker, author of YOU BET YOUR HEART

"NOT ABOUT A BOY feels like a good cry with your best friend. Heartbreaking but ultimately hopeful, Myah Hollis's writing is a breath of fresh air in the YA space."

- Elise Bryant, author of HAPPILY EVER AFTERS

"Myah Hollis is a superb new talent who captures Amélie's story with honesty, wit, and heartrending prose. Not About A Boy explores overcoming our inner and outer demons with precise finesse, Hollis's pen as sharp as an exacto knife. This book will live in your bones as an unforgettable masterclass on the teen mind, mental health, and found family. Hollis is a talent for the ages."

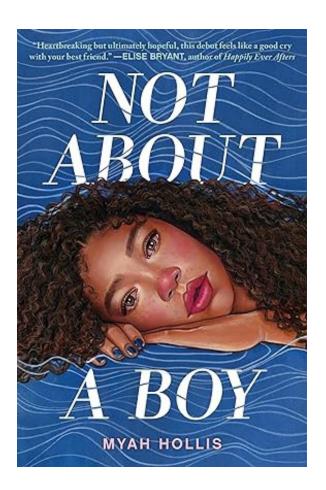
- Lane Clarke, author of LOVE TIMES INFINITY

"Staggeringly honest and emotionally-complex, NOT ABOUT A BOY paints a portrait of a girl on the cusp of adulthood with tenderness and tenacity. Deftly intertwining lyrical prose and searing wit, Hollis writes for the girls who've been lost and understand the grueling task of finding oneself all over again."

- Jade Adia, author of THERE GOES THE <code>NEIGHBORHOOD</code>

**Myah Hollis** is a Pennsylvanian writer living in Los Angeles. She specializes in "Sad Girl Lit", mainly due to her chronic fascination with psychology. NOT ABOUT A BOY is her debut novel.





## HarperCollins/Clarion (WE) July 2024

Manuscript

## SPICE ROAD SPICE ROAD TRILOGY: BOOK ONE

#### by Maiya Ibrahim

The first book in an epic fantasy series for fans of Sabaa Tahir, Hafsah Faizal and Elizabeth Lim, set in an Arabian-inspired land, Raised to protect her nation from the monsters lurking in the sands, seventeen-year-old Imani must fight to find her brother whose betrayal is now their greatest threat.

In the hidden desert city of Qalia, secret spice magic awakens affinities in those who drink the misra tea. With an affinity for iron, seventeen-year-old Imani wields a dagger like no other warrior, garnering her the reputation as the next greatest Shield for battling the dangerous djinn, ghouls, and other monsters that lurk in the sands beyond city limits.

Her reputation has been overshadowed, however, by her brother who tarnished the family name after he was discovered stealing their nation's coveted spice a tell-tale sign of magical obsession. He disappeared soon after, believed to have died beyond the Forbidden Wastes, and leaving Imani reeling with both betrayal and grief.

But when Imani uncovers evidence her brother may be alive and spreading their nation's magic beyond the desert, she strikes a deal with the Council to find him and bring him back to Qalia before he can reveal the city's location. Accompanied by Qayn, a roguish but handsome djinni, and Taha, a powerful beastseer whose magical talents are matched only by his arrogance, they set out on their mission.

Imani will soon discover there are many secrets that lie beyond the Forbidden Wastes—and in her own heart—but will she find her brother before his betrayals endanger the fate of all of Qalia?

In this epic and action-packed fantasy, one young heroine navigates the treacherous road between protecting the ones you love and staying loyal to the place you call home.

Instant Sunday Times bestseller!

#### Praise for SPICE ROAD:

"Overflowing with culturally specific details and set in a fictional, Arabianinspired world, this high-octane adventure maintains a steady clip toward a scintillating conclusion." -Publishers Weekly, starred Review ★

"Spellbinding magic, lush description and whirlwind action define Maiya Ibrahim's YA debut, SPICE ROAD." - Shelf Awareness, starred review ★

"A beautifully written, surprise-filled page-turner."

- Kirkus, starred review ★

"With an enchanting world of tea magic and desert monsters and a thrilling quest helmed by a girl whose wit is sharper than her blades, Maiya Ibrahim's SPICE ROAD is a fantasy you don't want to miss."

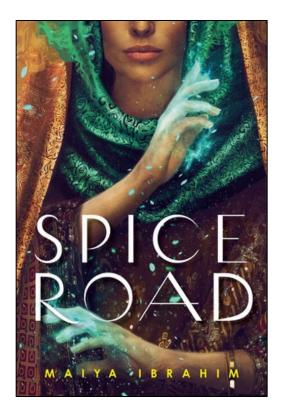
-Amelie Wen Zhao, New York Times bestselling author of SONG OF SILVER, FLAME LIKE NIGHT

- Sold to Delacorte at auction in a mid six-figure, three book deal
- UK rights sold, with a major subscription box on board

Maiya Ibrahim is a writer and reader born and raised in Sydney. When she's not writing or reading, Maiya can be found indulging in Lebanese food with her family, playing Skyrim, watching Game of Thrones, or swimming with friends at one of Sydney's many spectacular beaches. SPICE ROAD is her debut novel.







## Delacorte Hodder & Stoughton January 2023

#### Rights Sold:

Bulgarian - Lutiche

German - Panini

Italian - Gallucci

Russian - Eksmo

Turkish - Olimpos

SPICE ROAD TRILOGY **BOOK TWO:** 

**SERPENT SEA** 

Forthcoming September 2024

## **BEHOLDER**

#### by Ryan La Sala

From Ryan La Sala, author of the tantalizingly twisted THE HONEYS and riotously imaginative REVERIE, comes a chilling new contemporary fable about art, aesthetic obsession, and the gaze that peers back at us from behind our reflections.

No one survived the party at the penthouse. Except Athan.

Athanasios "Athan" Bakirtzis has made it far in life relying on his charm and good looks, even securing an invitation to a mysterious penthouse soiree for New York City's artsy elite. But when he sneaks off to the bathroom, he hears a slam, followed by a scream. Athan peers outside, only to be pushed back in by a boy his age. The boy gravely tells him not to open the door, then closes Athan in.

Outside the door, the party descends into chaos. Through hours of howls, laughter, and sobs, Athan stays hidden. When he finally emerges, he discovers a massacre where the corpses appear to have arranged themselves into a disturbingly elegant sculpture—and Athan's mysterious savior is nowhere to be found. Athan—the only known survivor—is now the primary suspect.

In a race to prove his innocence, Athan is swept up in a supernatural mystery, one of secret occult societies and deadly eldritch horrors with rather distinctive taste. Something evil is waking up in the walls of New York City, and its compelling victims toward violence, chaos, and self-destruction. Bound to him by a mysterious hereditary power, Athan has felt this evil hiding behind his reflection his entire life, watching him. Waiting. Now, it's taking over.

Part paranormal thriller, part urban Gothic, and all wall-to-wall horror, Beholder is a novel as rich as it is spellbinding. It explores the monstrous side of beautyand what it can do to us when we're caught up in its web.

#### Praise for BEHOLDER:

"La Sala balances inventive gruesomeness with thematic depth in this bewitching horror novel, a tale laced with spine-chilling gore... [A] queer-positive narrative that unflinchingly tackles hard questions about perception and aesthetic obsession. The result is a top-notch horror novel and a tearjerker."

- Publishers Weekly, starred review ★

"[A] gruesome and heart-wrenching thrill ride featuring ancient magic, secret societies, bizarre deaths, murderous wallpaper, and eyes everywhere."

- Booklist

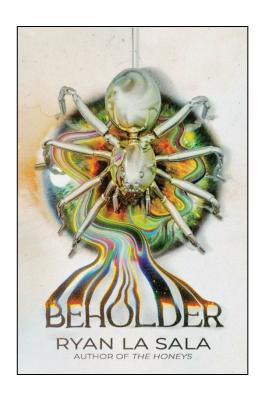
"[D]arts quickly from shadow to shadow, picking at a distorted reality... La Sala spins a devastatingly unsettling web with razor-sharp insight."

- School Library Journal

"Beholder is a stunning, strange, sinister horror that forces you to face your inner demons like never before. No one frightens, captivates, and enchants all at once like Ryan La Sala."

- Adam Silvera, #1 NYT bestselling author of THEY BOTH DIE AT THE END

Ryan La Sala writes about surreal things happening to queer people. He is the author of THE HONEYS, REVERIE and BEDAZZLED and lives in New York City.



## Push/Scholastic (WE) October 2023

Rights Sold: Ukrainian - Fabula

## **QUEEN OF FACES**

## QUEEN OF FACES SERIES: BOOK ONE by Petra Lord

In this astonishing YA debut, set in a world where the rich buy and switch designer bodies like clothes, a teen girl of no means must use only her illusion magic and quick thinking to earn a new body before the decaying, male form she's been stuck in takes its last breath.

Anabelle Gage is trapped in a boy's body, and it's rotting from the inside out.

In the nation of Caimor, the wealthy buy and swap fabricated bodies like clothes. But Ana, a mere scullery maid, can only afford a grey, withering form for herself, and by her seventeenth birthday, it's already falling apart. Attending Paragon Academy, Caimor's elite magic school, is her last shot at a new body—but when Ana fails the entrance exam for the third time, she puts her illusion magic to the task of stealing one instead.

Except Ana is caught, and by no less than the Paragon headmaster. He offers her a choice: die for her crime, or become a mercenary under his command, working secretly against those who would see the nation's magical elite toppled. Desperate, Ana accepts. No matter how dangerous or illegal the job is, if she earns enough money, she just might be able to escape her body before it kills her.

But revolt brews in Caimor's smog-choked underworld, and at its helm is Khaoivhe, the most infamous outlaw mage in history. As Ana steals, fights, and kills for the school of her dreams, she is drawn into the dark, tangled web of Khaoivhe's machinations...and she discovers secrets that will upend her idea of who the heroes of her story are—and that threaten to leave her world in ruins.

- Sold in a high six-figure pre-empt for UK/Commonwealth rights
- Sold in a six-figure pre-empt for German rights

**Petra Lord** is a biracial trans author. She has a BFA in TV Writing from New York University, which she uses to recommend Netflix shows to her parents and predict the endings of Marvel movies. She's currently based in Los Angeles, where she feeds her dual addiction to Sweetgreen and Korean barbecue and sustains herself off videos of her cat. QUEEN OF FACES is her debut novel.



Macmillan HarperCollins UK 2025

#### **Rights Sold:**

French - Lumen German - Heyne Italian - Mondadori Polish - Otwarte Portuguese Brazilian - HarperCollins Brazil Spanish - Urano

## ONE LAST BREATH

## by Ginny Myers Sain

The New York Times bestselling author of DARK & SHALLOW LIES delivers another chilling supernatural thriller filled with murder, romance, and a decades long mystery that haunts a small Florida town.

True love never dies. It just stays buried.

Mount Orange, Florida, is famous for two things: Cerulean freshwater springs, perfect for free divers who aren't afraid of lurking gator, and the gruesome cold case murder of best friends, Bailey and Celeste, twenty years ago.

The spectre of Bailey and Celeste's murders cast a permanent darkness over sunny Mount Orange. Tru has always lived in that shadow. Sometimes, it seems like she knows the long-dead Bailey, feels the dead girl in her bones. Now she's supposed to head to FSU in the fall with her boyfriend, but those unsolved murders -- and the death of her own sister -- invade her every thought. It's only in the shadowy deep, 100 feet below the surface of Hidden Glen Springs, that she can breathe.

When Rio, a strange girl, rolls into town, hell-bent on figuring out who killed Bailey and Celeste, Tru can't resist entangling herself in the thrill of solving the decades old mystery any more than she can resist her familiar, aching attraction to Rio.

As the summer heat ignites, so does the spark between Tru and Rio...along with their other-worldy connection to Bailey and Celeste. But when someone begins stalking them, the girls become convinced the killer is back in town. And if they keep digging into the past, Tru and Rio know this time, it could be their blood that makes the springs run red.

#### Advance Praise for ONE LAST BREATH:

"Fast paced and thrilling... Suspense drips from every scene, and the alarming and scary elements build expertly toward a thrilling climax that will surprise even devoted fans of the genre... [F]ull of spine-tingling pining, lust, and love."

- Kirkus

Ginny Myers Sain lives in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and has spent the past twenty years working closely with teens as a director and acting instructor in a program designed for high school students seriously intent on pursuing a career in the professional theatre. Having grown up in deeply rural America, she is interested in telling stories about resilient kids who come of age in remote settings.



PRH/Razorbill **Farshore** March 2024

## THE WRONG WAY HOME

## by Kate O'Shaughnessy

A huge-hearted story about a girl learning to question everything, and to trust in herself.

Twelve-year-old Fern believes she's living a noble life--but what if everything she's been told is a lie?

Fern's lived at the Ranch, an off-the-grid, sustainable community in upstate New York, since she was six. The work is hard, but Fern admires the Ranch's leader, Dr. Ben. So, when Fern's mother sneaks them away in the middle of the night and says Dr. Ben is dangerous, Fern doesn't believe it. She wants desperately to go back, but her mom just keeps driving.

Suddenly Fern is thrust into the treacherous, toxic, outside world. At first, she thinks only about how to get home. She has a plan, but it will take time. As that time goes by, though, Fern realizes there are things she will miss from this place—the library, a friend from school, the ocean-and there are things she learned at the Ranch that are just...not

Now Fern will have to decide. How much is she willing to give up to return to the Ranch? Should she trust Dr. Ben's vision for her life? Or listen to the growing feeling that she can live by her own rules?



"O'Shaughnessy succeeds in raising awareness by bringing the abuse of cult communities to light through a gripping storyline and beautifully imperfect supporting characters... A strong, emotionally intelligent story." - Kirkus, starred review ★

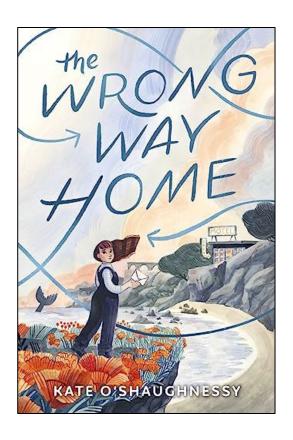
"This new middle grade story by Kate O'Shaughnessy shines bright in its exploration of identity, family, and community. Young readers will cheer for Fern as she finds the courage to confront the troubling doctrines she has been raised with and reinvent her ideas of home anew."

-Jacquetta Nammar Feldman, author of WISHING UPON THE SAME STARS and THE PUTTERMANS ARE IN THE HOUSE

"Kate O'Shaughnessy is an extraordinarily talented author. I have loved every book I've read by her. THE WRONG WAY HOME is an engrossing story about a girl who is forced out of a cult and then must decide if she wants to return. O'Shaughnessy's gift is an innate understanding of the inner life of twelve-year-olds."

-Gennifer Choldenko, Newbery Honor Winner for AL CAPONE DOES MY **SHIRTS** 

Kate O'Shaughnessy's love of reading and writing stories began in early childhood and only grew stronger. She has been a chef, earned a fellowship with the Yale Sustainable Food Program, and backpacked around the world. She is the author of LASAGNA MEANS I LOVE YOU and THE LONELY HEART OF MAYBELLE LANE.



## **Knopf BFYR (WE)** April 2024

Manuscript

#### THE NIGHT ENDS WITH FIRE

## THE NIGHT ENDS WITH FIRE DUOLOGY: BOOK ONE by K. X. Song

Infused with magic and romance, this sweeping fantasy adventure inspired by the legend of Mulan follows a young woman determined to choose her own destiny—even if that means going against everyone she loves. Perfect for fans of R. F. Kuang and Rin Chupeco.

The Three Kingdoms are at war, but Meilin's father refuses to answer the imperial draft. Trapped by his opium addiction, he plans to sell Meilin for her dowry. But when Meilin discovers her husband-to-be is another violent, ill-tempered man, she realizes that nothing will change for her unless she takes matters into her own hands.

The very next day, she disguises herself as a boy and enlists in her father's place.

In the army, Meilin's relentless hard work brings her recognition, friendship—and a growing closeness with Sky, a prince turned training partner. But has she simply exchanged one prison for another? As her kingdom barrels toward destruction, Meilin begins to have visions of a sea dragon spirit that offers her true power and freedom, but with a deadly price.

With the future of the Three Kingdoms hanging in the balance, Meilin will need to decide whom to trust—Sky, who inspires her loyalty and love; the sea dragon spirit, who has his own murky agenda; or an infuriating enemy prince who makes her question everything she once knew—about her kingdom and about her own heart.

#### Advance Praise for THE NIGHT ENDS WITH FIRE:

"THE NIGHT ENDS WITH FIRE is what blessedly happens when the themes of Hua Mulan's legend are combined with wuxia principles and a powerful new voice in adult fantasy. K.X. Song's soaring, emotive prose takes the reader on an unforgettable adventure in a painstakingly realized world, laced with fascinating characters that effortlessly play off of one another and twists that leave us reeling. I devoured every page of this truly epic tale."

-Thea Guanzon, USA Today & NYT bestselling author of THE HURRICANE WARS

"Sweepingly epic and tenderly romantic, THE NIGHT ENDS WITH FIRE is a fiercely feminist adventure about a young woman fighting to shape her destiny in a world of lore, magic, and war."

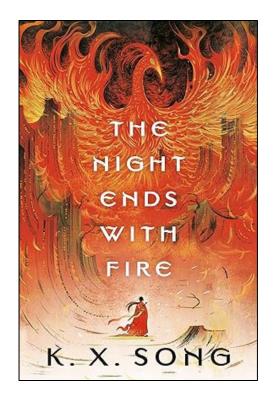
—Amélie Wen Zhao, NYT bestselling author of SONG OF SILVER, FLAME LIKE NIGHT

"Exhilarating and intricately told, THE NIGHT ENDS WITH FIRE is both a breathless adventure and an unflinching portrayal of power, female ambition, and the costs that come with it."

-Grace D. Li, NYT bestselling author of PORTRAIT OF A THIEF

- ". . . a cinematic tale of epic proportions, with jaw-dropping twists and a take-no-prisoners heroine yearning for freedom, recognition, and glory. An explosive start to a captivating new series."
- Axie Oh, NYT bestselling author of THE GIRL WHO FELL BENEATH THE SEA

**K. X. Song** is a diaspora writer with roots in Hong Kong and Shanghai. Raised between cultures and languages, she enjoys telling stories that touch on collective memory, translation, and the shifting nature of memory and history. She is the author of AN ECHO IN THE CITY and the forthcoming THE NIGHT ENDS WITH FIRE, her adult fantasy debut. She currently resides in the San Francisco Bay Area.



## PRH/Ace Books Hodder & Stoughton July 2024

#### Rights Sold:

French - Bragelonne Italian - DeAgostini Hungarian - Anassa Russian - Eksmo

## **BLOOD AT THE ROOT**

## Blood at The Root Duology: Book One by LaDarrion Williams

A teenager on the run from his past finds the family he never knew existed and the community he never knew he needed at an HCBU for the young, Black, and magical. Enroll in this fresh fantasy debut with the emotional power of LEGENDBORN and the redefined ancestral magic of LOVECRAFT COUNTRY.

At just seven years old, Malik's life changed forever the night his mother mysteriously vanished, and he discovered he had uncontrollable powers. For ten years, he kept his abilities hidden, looking out for himself and his younger foster brother, Taye. However, a daring act to safeguard them both reveals an unexpected connection with his long-lost grandmother: a legendary conjurer with ties to a hidden magical university that Malik's mother attended.

At Caiman University, Malik's eyes are opened to a future he never could have envisioned for himself— one that includes the reappearance of his first love, Alexis. His search for answers about his heritage, his powers, and what really happened to his mother exposes the cracks in their magical community as it faces a reawakened evil dating back to the Haitian Revolution. Together with Alexis, Malik discovers a lot beneath the surface at Caiman: feuding covens and magical politics, forbidden knowledge and buried mysteries.

In a wholly unique saga of family, history and community, Malik must embrace his legacy to save what's left of his old family as well as his new one. Exploring the roots and secrets that connect us in ar unforgettable contemporary setting, this heart-pounding fantasy series opener is a rich tapestry of atmosphere, intrigue, and emotion

#### Advance Praise for BLOOD AT THE ROOT:

"[An] exuberant contemporary fantasy series opener... Williams delivers a serpentine, high-intensity celebration of Black culture history, and power." - Publishers Weekly

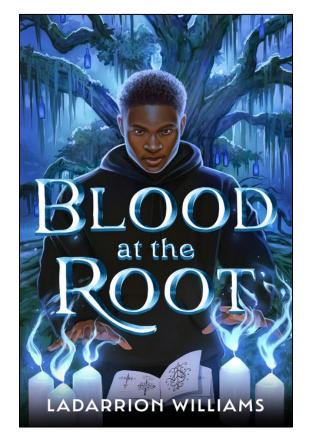
"The extensive worldbuilding incorporates West African, Caribbean, and Black American history and cultures to explain a magical reality hidden from view and relevant to the Black diaspora and Malik's family history... A well-thought-out magical world that provocatively centers Black experiences."

- Kirkus Reviews

A genre-shattering amalgamation of culture, heritage, and magic. Williams's debut is bold, gripping and utterly refreshing."

- -J. Elle, NYT bestselling author of WINGS OF EBONY and HOUSE OF MARIONNE
- Sold in a 2 book, high six-figure deal to Liesa Abrams at Labyrinth Road
- Book deal a result of a viral Tweet and accompanying TikTok!

LaDarrion Williams is a Los Angeles based-playwright, filmmaker, author, and screenwriter whose goal is to cultivate a new era of Black fantasy, providing space and agency for Black characters and stories in a new, fresh, and fantastical way. LaDarrion is currently a resident playwright/co-creator of The Black Creators Collective.



## PRH/Labyrinth Road (NA) May 2024

Format: Manuscript

## DARK STAR BURNING, ASH FALLS WHITE

## SONG OF THE LAST KINGDOM SERIES: BOOK TWO by Amélie Wen Zhao

The epic sequel to the New York Times bestselling SONG OF SILVER, FLAME LIKE NIGHT, this fast-paced, riveting YA fantasy is inspired by the mythology and folklore of ancient China.

The Demon Gods have risen. Skies' End has fallen to the colonizers. And Lan and Zen have chosen sides, but they will not fight together.

Though Lan inherited the power of the Silver Dragon, she understands the path she must take. She believes the Demon Gods to be the cause of war, conflict, and turmoil, and that the future of the Last Kingdom depends on their being eliminated forever. Worse, she knows that if the Elantians manage to bind one of the legendary beings, their army will be unstoppable. To save her kingdom and her people, Lan will need to find the only mythical weapon capable of destroying the Demon Gods: the Godslayer.

Zen is sure that the only way to free the Last Kingdom is to use the power of the Demon Gods. When he bound the Black Tortoise, he paid the ultimate price: to inherit its strength, he will forfeit his body, his mind, and his soul. Yet one Demon God is not enough against the might of the colonizers. In the ruins of the northern Mansorian lands slumbers a magical army of demonic practitioners capable of facing off against the Elantians-but Zen must find the Seal to awaken them to fight by his side.

At the center of both Lan's and Zen's journeys is one city: Shaklahira, a former stronghold of the Imperial Court that vanished without a trace when the Elantians invaded. Its location is a mystery, and both are sure that it holds the answers they need, but the past it hides might be more dangerous than anything they've faced yet.

The battle for the Last Kingdom rages on. But to win the war, Lan will have to decide: Can she face the boy she loves again? And when she does, can she kill him to free her people?

- An instant NYT bestseller
- Over 105k followers on TikTok

#### Praise for SONG OF SILVER, FLAME LIKE NIGHT:

"Zhao weaves, within the pages of SONG OF SILVER, FLAME LIKE NIGHT, an epic, masterfully rendered tale of reckoning and heritage that draws its readers into a world as rich as it is nuanced, and as intriguing as it is magical."

-Ayana Gray, New York Times bestselling author of BEASTS OF PREY

"Devastatingly gorgeous... [E]ach page of SONG OF SILVER, FLAME LIKE NIGHT unfolds with a deliberate, skilled hand. Amélie Wen Zhao writes with a direct line to my heart."

-Chloe Gong, #1 NYT bestselling author of THESE VIOLENT DELIGHTS

Amélie Wen Zhao (赵雯) was born in Paris and grew up in Beijing, where she spent her days reenacting tales of legendary heroes, ancient kingdoms, and lost magic at her grandmother's courtyard house. She attended college in the United States and now resides in New York City, working in finance by day and fantasy author by night. Amélie is the NYT bestselling author of the SONG OF THE LAST KINGDOM duology and the BLOOD HEIR trilogy.



## Delacorte **HarperVoyager** January 2024

#### Rights Sold:

Brazilian Portuguese - Guntenberg

Bulgarian - Lutiche

German - ARS

Italian - Mondadori

Polish - Rebis

Russian - Eksmo

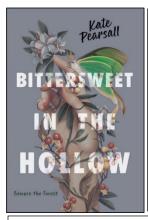
Spanish - Urano

Also from the SONG OF THE LAST KINGDOM SFRIFS: SONG OF SILVER, FLAME LIKE **NIGHT** 



18

## IN CASE YOU MISSED IT ...



## BITTERSWEET IN THE HOLLOW By Kate Pearsall

#### Putnam Books for Young Readers October 2023

In this beautifully dark and enthralling YA, four sisters with unusual talents investigate a mysterious disappearance in their secluded Appalachian town. For fans of HOUSE OF HOLLOW and WILDER GIRLS.

#### Rights Sold:

French - Robert Laffont

Polish - Zielona Sowa

Turkish - Artemis

Praise for BITTERSWEET IN THE HOLLOW:

"Luscious prose and a compelling setting make the book hard to put down as the mystery slowly and steadily unfolds... Complex, well-realized, and engrossing."

> Kirkus, starred review ★

#### Rights Sold:

German - Cross Cult Korean - Books21

Portuguese Brazilian - Editora Nacional

Praise for THE HONEYS:

"La Sala gives real-life fears a supernatural twist, cleverly using folk horror and psychological-thriller elements... The eerily ambivalent conclusion is pure horror gold."

-Booklist, starred review ★

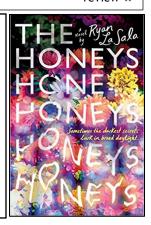
"A sparkling and powerful exploration of grief, gender roles, and escaping the strong grip of expectations."

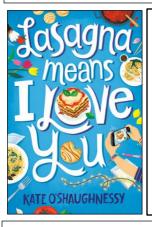
-School Library Journal, starred review ★

#### THE HONEYS By Ryan La Sala

#### Push/Scholastic (WE) August 2022

From Ryan La Sala, the wildly popular author of REVERIE, comes a twisted and tantalizing horror novel set amidst the bucolic splendor of a secluded summer retreat.





#### LASAGNA MEANS I LOVE YOU

By Kate O'Shaughnessy

#### Knopf BFYR (WE) February 2023

What are the essential ingredients that make a family? Eleven-year-old Mo is making up her own recipe in this unforgettable story that's a little sweet, a little sour, and totally delicious.

#### Rights Sold:

Polish - Widnorag

Praise for LASAGNA MEANS I LOVE YOU:

"Readers will laugh, cry, and embrace Mo completely... Deeply moving and tender."

—Kirkus Reviews, starred review ★

"[An] 11-year-old in mourning navigates foster care and seeks connection by collecting families' recipes and stories in this tenderly rendered, character-driven novel... Extremely satisfying.

—Publishers Weekly, starred review ★

#### Rights Sold:

Polish - Proszynski Ukrainian - Laboratory

Praise for THE WITCH AND THE VAMPIRE:

"Expansive and easy to imagine ... a new twist on the classic fairy tale Rapunzel, braiding together a sapphic love story, vampires, and vampire-hating witches."

- Booklist

"This incredible book is full of everything you'll ever need—a lush, interesting world, action, incredible character work, and, of course, witches and vampires galore. I had a fantastic time and I couldn't put it down."

-Jessica Lewis, author of BAD WITCH BURNING

## THE WITCH AND THE VAMPIRE Francesca Flores

#### Wednesday Books (WE) March 2023

A queer Rapunzel retelling where a witch and a vampire who trust no one but themselves must journey together through a cursed forest with danger at every turn.



## **Future Publications**

THE DARK TIMES OF NIMBLE NOTTINGHAM By Ryan James Black

Nancy Paulsen Books (WE) September 2025

Orphan Jack "Nimble" Nottingham - is a wily, street-smart kid who has survived on his own for a very long time - well, aside from his dog Winnie. But when his accidentprone accomplice Mouse extinguishes an ancient candle in a blitzed-out Nimble basement quickly realizes that it wasn't an ordinary candle, and it should have remained lit. For fans of STRANGER THINGS. SERAFINA AND THE BLACK CLOAK and THE GOONIES!



THE GLITTERING EDGE THE GLITTERING EDGE DUOLOGY: BOOK ONE

Little, Brown Books for Young Readers (NA)

#### June 2025

Alyssa Villaire brings to life curses and witchy secrets in a small Indiana town as wallflower Penny Emberly is tossed into an infamous decades-long feud between two families in order to save her mother's life—a quest that will upend everything she knows to be true about her home and risk her heart on the way. For fans of Maggie Stiefvater.



#### WHEN DEVILS SING

Holt Macmillan UK

May 2025

Four teens in rural Georgia find themselves investigating a local boy's disappearance against the backdrop of a periodical cicada festival and the singing competition that accompanies it every thirteen years; but what they discover festering at the core of their town is far more sinister and ancient than they could've ever imagined.



**Rights Sold:** French - Gallimard Jeunesse