





MELISSA de la CRUZ STUDIO



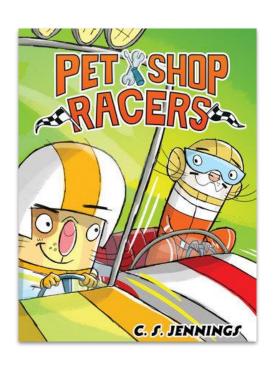


Rights Guide London Book Fair 2025

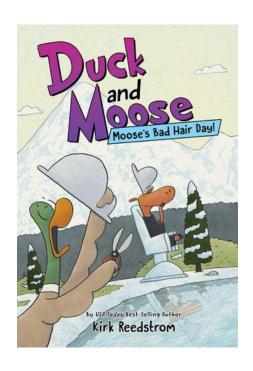
Linda Kaplan

linda@defliterary.com 212 925 7744 x 106

# PICTURE BOOKS/EARLY READERS







## NORMAN AND THE SMELL OF ADVENTURE

## **Ryan T. Higgins**

Disney Hyperion, July 2025



New York Times best-selling creator Ryan T. Higgins follows up the much-lauded NORMAN DIDN'T DO IT! with this hilarious sequel about answering the call (and smell) of adventure.

Norman is a porcupine.

Norman's best friend is Mildred.

Mildred is a tree.

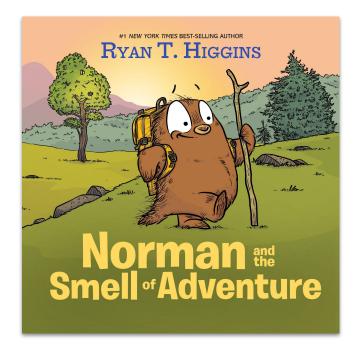
They have favorite things they do together, day after day.

When Norman wakes one morning and wants to try something new, he's frustrated to learn that Mildred has *other plans*.

So Norman storms off. On his own. Without Mildred.

Can their friendship survive?

With his signature humor and heart, Ryan T. Higgins explores the joy of independence and the power of best friendship.



Ages Material: 3-5

Sold to:

Albin Michel Jeunesse (French)

fal: PDF, 48 pages

# **BUNDLE UP, PENELOPE REX!**

## **Ryan T. Higgins**

Disney Hyperion, March 2025



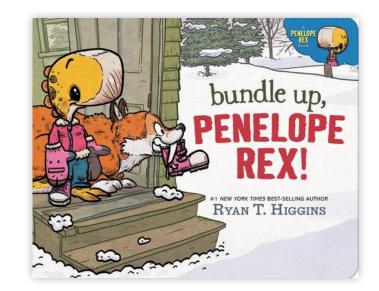
#1 New York Times best-selling author-illustrator Ryan T. Higgins presents everyone's favorite dinosaur Penelope Rex in her board book debut, perfect for winter time.

Penelope Rex wants to play in the snow. Her pet saber tooth cat wants to help her get ready.

Join Penelope and Mittens the saber tooth cat as they prepare to play in the snow in this cozy and funny wintertime entry in the Penelope Rex canon.

#### Read all of the Penelope Rex books!

- We Don't Eat Our Classmates
- We Will Rock Our Classmates
- We Don't Lose Our Class Goldfish
- Penelope Rex and the Problem with Pets



Ages Material: 3-5

PDF, 48 pages

Format:

Board book

# **BRUCE SAVES THE PLANET**

Ryan T. Higgins

**Disney Hyperion, February 2025** 

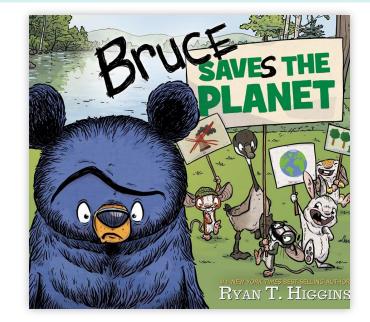
From unwitting mother to unwitting ... environmental activist?

Save the planet with #1 *New York Times* best-selling author-illustrator Ryan T. Higgins's beloved Mother Bruce.

Bruce was a bear who liked to be by himself. But that wasn't easy for him, as mother to four geese and three mice. Luckily, he could enjoy a day of peace and quiet while fishing.

But his quiet haven is full of beetles stealing his lunch. And protestors loudly trying to save the forest from the construction of a factory. Will Bruce and the residents of Soggy Hollow manage to save the planet?

This book is part of the Disney Planet Possible Books program, aiming to inspire and empower young readers to take care of planet Earth through amazing stories and kid-friendly environmental activities.



Ages Material: 3-5 PDF, 48 pages

Sold to:

Albin Michel Jeunesse (French)

# **DUCK AND MOOSE: MOOSE'S BAD HAIR DAY!**

## **Kirk Reedstrom**

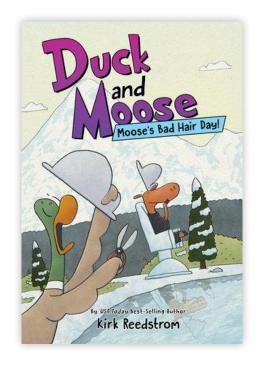
**Disney Hyperion, September 2025** 



The fourth book in a laugh-out-loud early graphic novel series perfect for fans of Narwhal and Jelly! Quiet-loving Moose's life is turned upside down by free-wheeling Duck. The two will need to put their differences aside if they're ever going to be neighbors...or friends!

Moose is having a bad hair day, so Duck offers to give his pal a haircut. Everything is going smoothly until—POP!—one of Moose's antlers comes off mid-trim! Duck desperately tries to reattach it without Moose noticing, but nothing works, not even disguising the antler as Duck's long-lost cousin! Can Duck find a way to fix his mistake without upsetting Moose?

Filled with zany hijinks and slapstick humor, Kirk Reedstrom's Duck and Moose series showcases unlikely friendships and the power of compromise.



Ages Material: 6-8

PDF, 64 pages

# **DUCK AND MOOSE: DUCK IN THE DARK**

## **Kirk Reedstrom**

**Disney Hyperion, December 2024** 

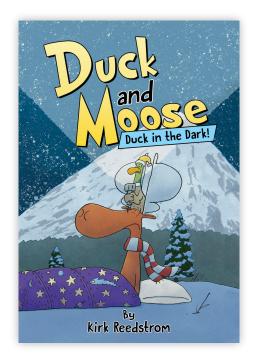
"This cute, funny, and relateable early reader comic, the third in Reedstrom's Duck and Moose series, is a strong choice for Narwhal and Jelly fans." — **Booklist** 

These beloved animal friends continue to guide young children through essential life skills by playing on the bonds of friendship and humor. *–School Library Journal* 

The third book in a laugh-out-loud early graphic novel series perfect for fans of Narwhal and Jelly! Quiet-loving Moose's life is turned upside down by free-wheeling Duck. The two will need to put their differences aside if they're ever going to be neighbors...or friends!

It's time for a best-friends-slash-roommates sleepover! Duck is prepared for everything: he's got snacks, his karaoke machine, and a stack of movies for Moose and him to watch. But is Duck ready for how early it gets dark now that it's winter in Denali? Moose sheds some light on the situation and shows Duck that sometimes things aren't as scary as you imagined.

Filled with zany hijinks and slapstick humor, Kirk Reedstrom's Duck and Moose series showcases unlikely friendships and the power of compromise.



Ages Material: 6-8

PDF, 64 pages

# **DUCK AND MOOSE: MOOSE BLASTS OFF**

## **Kirk Reedstrom**

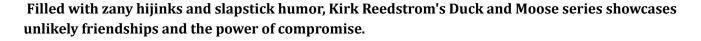
**Disney Hyperion, March 2024** 

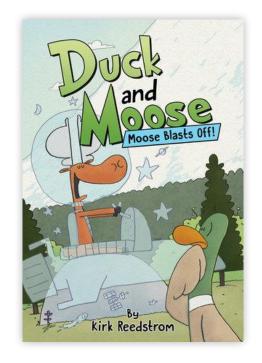
"Not only will this be a book series kids gravitate towards, but it has extensive opportunities for social-emotional lessons on communication, friendship, flexibility, and emotions. VERDICT A must-have series that is among the best that graphic novels have to offer." –*School Library Journal*, starred review

"A worthy proposition that effortlessly achieves liftoff." —*Kirkus* 

The second book in a laugh-out-loud early graphic novel series perfect for fans of Narwhal and Jelly! Quiet-loving Moose's life is turned upside down by free-wheeling Duck. The two will need to put their differences aside if they're ever going to be neighbors...or friends!

Moose loves playing astronaut. Imagining his helmet, his seatbelt, and rocketing off into space are his favorite things to do! One day, Moose invites Duck to play with him. But there's just one problem—Duck doesn't know how to use his imagination! Moose teaches him but soon becomes frustrated because Duck doesn't play astronaut the "right" way. How will these friends learn how to work—and imagine—together?





Ages Material: 6-8

PDF, 64 pages

Sold to:

Yedioth Books (**Hebrew**)

# **DUCK AND MOOSE: DUCK MOVES IN**

## **Kirk Reedstrom**

**Disney Hyperion, March 2024** 

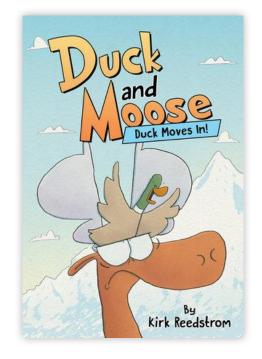
The chapter structure mixed with occasional full-page art will be an instant hit with students who are just beginning their reading journey, as well as with kids who are just getting to know and love graphic novels. VERDICT: A perfect addition to any library, and the start of a beautiful friendship. -School Library Journal, starred review

"...[T]his title is a strong choice for those new to comics. Odd couple animal bros, firmly set in the grand tradition of Frog and Toad." —*Kirkus* 

The first book in a laugh-out-loud early graphic novel series perfect for fans of Narwhal and Jelly! Quiet-loving Moose's life is turned upside down by free-wheeling Duck. The two will need to put their differences aside if they're ever going to be neighbors...or friends!

Moose loves peace and quiet, relaxing, living alone, and spring! He can't wait for the arrival of sun, flowers, and...a new neighbor?! Duck just landed himself a new home. He loves parties, karaoke, and living with—and on—Moose's head. Moose tries everything he can to send Duck away, but he soon finds that this persistent neighbor might just be the best thing spring could bring.

Filled with zany hijinks and slapstick humor, Kirk Reedstrom's Duck and Moose series showcases unlikely friendships and the power of compromise.



Ages Material: 6-8

Sold to:

Yedioth Books (**Hebrew**)

PDF, 64 pages

## THE DAY THE BOOKS DISAPPEARED

## Joanna Ho and Caroline Kusin Pritchard, illustrated by Dan Santat

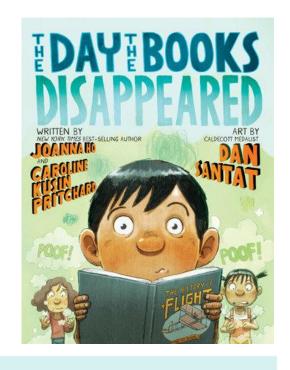
NEW!

Disney Hyperion, July 2025

Caldecott Medalist and National Book Award winner Dan Santat partners with Joanna Ho, author of *Eyes That Kiss in the Corners*, and Caroline Kusin Pritchard to explore themes of acceptance and understanding in this cozy story that celebrates the mind-broadening power of books.

Arnold didn't mean for the books to disappear—not exactly. It all started because he liked *his* book about airplanes best and wanted everyone else to read it, too. He couldn't understand why anybody would want to read about *tomatoes* or *ostriches* or *submarines*. And suddenly. . . *POOF!* The books are gone. It's up to Arnold to figure out how it all happened—and what it will take to bring them back.

Themes of empathy and inclusivity shine in this celebration of a book about books by a standout creative team.



Ages 3-7

Material: PDF, 40 pages

**Joanna Ho** is the award-winning and *New York Times* bestselling author of many children's books, including *Eyes that Kiss in the Corners, We Who Produce Pearls*, and *The Silence that Binds Us*, her debut young adult novel, which received the Young Adult Honor for the Asian/Pacific American Award for Literature. Her passion for equity in books and education is matched only by her love of homemade chocolate chip cookies, outdoor adventures, and dance parties with her kids. Visit her at joannahowrites.com.

**Caroline Kusin Pritchard** is the author of *Gitty and Kvetch* and *Where is Poppy*, which *School Library Journal* called "a perfect story for all ages." She has an MFA in writing for children and young adults from Vermont College of Fine Arts and lives in Virginia with her family. Learn more at CarolineKusinPritchard.com.

**Dan Santat** is the National Book Award-winning, Caldecott Medal-winning, and *New York Times*-bestselling author and illustrator of *The Adventures of Beekle: The Unimaginary Friend* and the road trip/time travel adventure *Are We There Yet?* His artwork is also featured in numerous picture books, chapter books, and middle-grade novels, including Dav Pilkey's Ricky Ricotta series. Dan lives in Southern California with his wife, two kids, and many, many pets.

## I AM BECAUSE WE ARE

## **Allison Matulli**

**Disney Hyperion, August 2025** 



Grounded in African Ubuntu philosophy, this lyrical picture book celebrates community and invites readers to lift up our neighbors.

For fans for ALL THE WORLD and ALL ARE WELCOME comes a new classic that celebrates community.

Your joy is my joy.

My freedom is your freedom.

Me.

You.

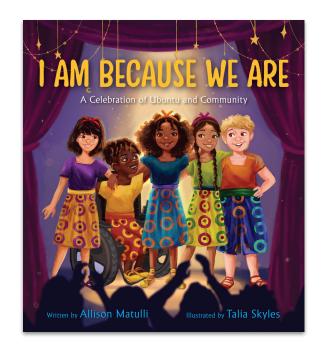
We.

All of us!

That is community.

This is ubuntu.

This rhythmic story follows one child as they dream, perform, and celebrate at the heart of their community.



Ages 3-7

Material: PDF, 40 pages

Allison Matulli is an author, educator, lawyer, and Global Fulbright Scholar as well as the founder of The Little Lawyers—an organization that empowers children to understand their rights and responsibilities in their community. She is the author of *Your Freedom, Your Power: A Kid's Guide to the First Amendment*, and she speaks and consults worldwide on issues of kids' rights, global citizenship, and inclusion to educators and students alike. She lives in Florida with her family. Learn more at www.AllisonMatulli.com.

**Talia Skyles** is a Baltimore-based illustrator and painter. She is currently working towards her BFA in general fine arts and illustration at the Maryland Institute College of Art. When not at her drawing table, Talia enjoys reading fantasy novels, hiking with friends, and making her own candles.

## EMBARRASSED FERRET

## Lisa Frenkel Riddiough, illustrated by Andrea Tsurumi

Disney Hyperion, July 2025



When every *oopsie* is followed by an *uh-oh*, little Ferret's embarrassment grows. How will she survive the day at Forest School?

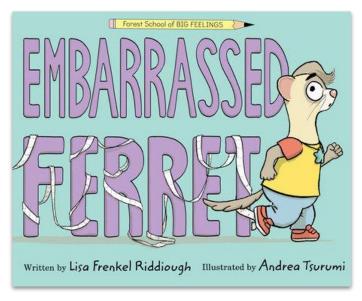
Ferret strolled to school in style, All silky fur and cheerful smile,

Until she tripped on someone's duffle And caused herself a slight kerfuffle.

From there her day gets worse and worse. Embarrassment is Ferret's curse!

Pencils spilled. Stubborn glue. Toilet paper on her shoe!

There is one thing that helps her through. Surprise! She's just like me and you.



Ferret trips while getting off the bus, makes a gigantic glitter mess at craft time, urgently has to pee at recess, and gets toilet paper on her shoe! But when others in the classroom goof up in equally embarrassing ways, Ferret is relieved to discover that nobody's perfect.

The first book in the Forest School of Big Feelings series from Lisa Frenkel Riddiough and Andrea Tsurumi is sure to help little ones, parents, and caregivers navigate the many emotions of life.

Book 2 in the Forest School of Big Feelings series, **FURIOUS TURTLE**, will publish in Fall 2026.

Ages 3-7

Material: PDF, 48 pages

**Lisa Frenkel Riddiough** is the author of LETTERS TO LIVE BY, which *School Library Journal* called, "Creative, humorous, and thought-provoking," in a starred review. Of her second book, PIE-RATS!, *Kirkus* said, "Here be treasure!" Lisa is a graduate of Hamline University's MFAC program in writing for children and young adults, and splits her time between Northern California and Idaho. Learn more at lisariddiough.com.

**Andrea Tsurumi** is an author, illustrator, and cartoonist. Their first book, ACCIDENT!, was named an NPR Great Read, and their second, CRAB CAKE, won the Red Clover Book Award. I'M ON IT!, an Elephant & Piggie Like Reading Book, which was named both a Kirkus and Parents Magazine best book of the year. Andrea lives in Philadelphia with their spouse and very serious dog. Learn more at Andrea Tsurumi.com.

## KITTY VS. KINDERGARTEN

## Martha Freeman, illustrated by Eda Kaban

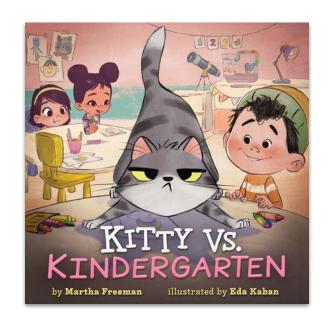
**Disney Hyperion, July 2025** 

NEW!

Kitty knows three things. He is the center of the universe. He likes it that way. Nothing should ever change. But to Kitty's everlasting surprise and annoyance, things continue to change around him!

Kitty has everything he could ever want—breakfast at 7:00, supper at 4:00, and his favorite raggedy mouse toy. When Kitty goes to sleep, he dreams of a so-cozy life exactly the same as his own because *same* is what Kitty likes. But Kitty's world is rocked when his good, nice boy announces that Kitty will be going to kindergarten.

At kindergarten, Kitty is not able to do the things he usually does. He can't watch his nature shows, sharpen his claws, or hunt for snacks. But with the help of his good, nice boy and the teacher, Kitty learns that he can enjoy trying new things...and still get home in time for supper.



Ages 3-7

Material: PDF, 48 pages

**Carrie Kruck** was born and raised in Canada, studied and worked as a psychologist in Australia, and now lives in a cozy house at the edge of the woods in New England. Her home is filled with laughter and love and a lot of Lego, and has a room with built-in bookshelves that she calls "the library," so she has pretty much everything she needs! Learn more at CLKruck.com.

**Erika Meza** is the author-illustrator of *To the Other Side*, which was called "gorgeously rendered" by *Kirkus* in a starred review. She has illustrated many other books for young readers, including *My Two Border Towns* (written by David Bowles) and *Balloons for Papa* (written by Elizabeth Gilbert Bedia). She grew up in Mexico, studied illustration in France, and now resides in the United Kingdom, with her blue cat. Learn more at ErikaMeza.com

# GREEN JOLENE AND THE NEIGHBORHOOD SWAP

## Wendy Mass, illustrated by Billy Young

Disney Hyperion, February 2025

"...artwork appears as full-page and spot illustrations, and it complements Mass' buoyant voice in Jolene. Quirky characters add to the charm, keeping the importance of environmentally conscious decision-making light and digestible for young readers."— **Booklist** 

Meet Green Jolene: a green, clean, climate-conscious heroine.

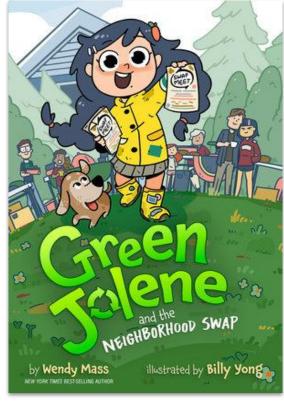
This illustrated chapter book series by *New York Times* best-selling author Wendy Mass is perfect for kids who are inspired by Greta Thunberg and other classics like *Ivy & Bean* and *Clementine*.

It all began (as the best stories do) with a very stinky backpack!

Jolene wouldn't have guessed that the first day of summer vacation would start with her trying to figure out if the squishy object smelling up her backpack was a half-eaten tuna sandwich or a six-month-old plum! (It was both!) While dumping old food in the trash and bringing out the recycling, Jolene sees the huge boxes of stuff her new neighbors got delivered. She realizes how many of her own belongings she doesn't use anymore.

Horrified by the idea of contributing to overflowing landfills and trash-filled oceans, Jolene hatches a big plan to not only deal with her own stuff, but her whole neighborhood's unwanted items as well. Of course, big plans never work out quite the way we think they will!

Clad in her favorite rain boots, Jolene is ready to save the world. Or, at least, to tackle her own neighborhood's stuff and find some surprising new allies along the way. For fans of Ivy & Bean and Clementine comes Jolene, a can-do new hero who is discovering how to take an Earth-first approach to every problem she encounters.



Ages 6-8

Material: 112 pages

**Wendy Mass** is the *New York Times* bestselling author of thirty novels for young people, including EVERY SOUL A STAR, PIE IN THE SKY, and A MANGO-SHAPED SPACE. Her books have been translated into 26 languages and nominated for 91 state book awards. She lives with her family in northwest New Jersey. Visit her at WendyMass.com.

**Billy Yong** lives in Singapore, where he loves drawing the sweet, the brazen, and the nonsensical. When he's not doodling around, he's busy surviving parenthood or fighting against his addiction for bubble tea. Find him online at www.billyyongdraws.com or on Instagram @billyyongdraws.

## **IGGY WHO BREATHES FIRE**

## Carrie Kruck, illustrated by Erika Meza

**Disney Hyperion, October 2024** 

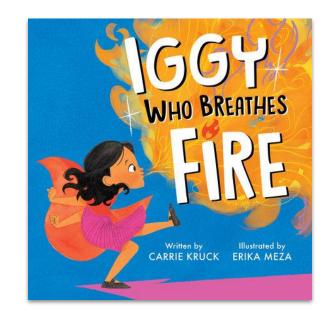
"Featuring characters clad in a Day-Glo rainbow of colors, Meza's warm illustrations pit Iggy's fiery exhalations against flat backgrounds. The layouts are dynamic, while the language is clear and direct; children will easily grasp the metaphor and embrace the message of self-acceptance. IA blazing paeon to self-love." *–Kirkus Reviews* 

Meet Iggy, a fiery new hero who knows exactly what she's about—no matter what others think.

This hilarious picture book celebrates self-awareness and is perfect for fans of *Imogene's Antlers* and *The Paper Bag Princess*.

Iggy was born to set the world on fire—literally. Her parents aren't so sure. They bring in the experts—a professor, fire chief, librarian, and doctor—who suggest everything from eating ice cream to sitting in a cold room, but none can help her tame her fire.

Hilarious and heartwarming (get it?) in equal measure, IGGY WHO BREATHES FIRE celebrates that kids are the true experts when it comes to their own identity, and it's up to them to decide when and how to share themselves with the world.



Ages 3-5

Material: PDF, 40 pages

**Carrie Kruck** was born and raised in Canada, studied and worked as a psychologist in Australia, and now lives in a cozy house at the edge of the woods in New England. Her home is filled with laughter and love and a lot of Lego, and has a room with built-in bookshelves that she calls "the library," so she has pretty much everything she needs! Learn more at CLKruck.com.

**Erika Meza** is the author-illustrator of *To the Other Side*, which was called "gorgeously rendered" by *Kirkus* in a starred review. She has illustrated many other books for young readers, including *My Two Border Towns* (written by David Bowles) and *Balloons for Papa* (written by Elizabeth Gilbert Bedia). She grew up in Mexico, studied illustration in France, and now resides in the United Kingdom, with her blue cat. Learn more at ErikaMeza.com

## IMPOSSIBLE POSSUM FOR MAYOR

## **Justin Colón**

**Disney Hyperion, October 2025** 

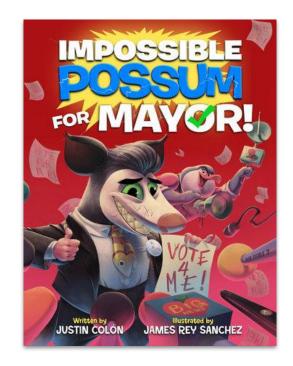


What's badder than using a Possum Populator to create your very own evil penguin sidekick? Running for mayor. Then taking over the world. Lucky for us, Carl the possum isn't quite sure what it takes to win a human election.

Carl the possum is bad. Bad to the bone. And he wants to take over the world. So he decides to run for mayor. The only problem is he has to get people to vote for him first. Hijinx and laughs abound as Carl and his penguin sidekick Philbert try to entice potential voters with guppies, mice cream, and other completely misguided gestures.

Will Carl be elected mayor? Or will chaos rule?

Justin Colón and James Rey Sanchez bring true hilarity and wit to the second book starring Carl and Philbert.



Ages 3-7

Material: PDF, 40 pages

**Justin Colón** is a professional actor and children's book author. This is his second picture book, joining his debut, *The Quacken*. Like Carl, the star of *Impossible Possums*, Justin lives in New York. Unlike Carl, Justin does not live in a sewer or have an evil lair. He invites you to visit him at justincolonbooks.com.

**James Rey Sanchez's** love for art came from many hours of reading comics, playing video games, and watching '90s Saturday morning cartoons. He has illustrated books on subjects ranging from Irving Berlin to trucks, but this is his first about a villainous possum. He lives in Detroit, Michigan. Learn more at JamesReyArt.com.

## **IMPOSSIBLE POSSUMS**

## **Justin Colón**

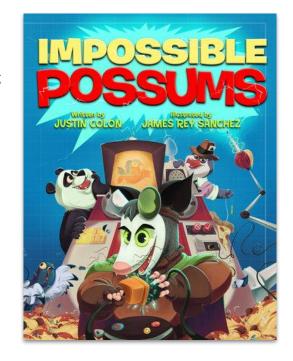
**Disney Hyperion, October 2024** 

Carl is bad. Bad to the bone. The only thing that would make being this *bad* even better would be someone to share it with. Cue the Possum Populator and a whole bunch of bad guys.

Perfect for fans of *Despicable Me* and *Lilo & Stitch*, this exceptionally goofy picture book stars aspiring villain Carl the possum, who is on a mission to create a like-minded conspirator.

Life as an aspiring villain is lonely for Carl the possum, so he's on a mission to create a like-minded conspirator. But when his Possum Populator arrives, it requires assembly (and villains don't have time for that). So, Carl tosses the instructions, leading to a series of outlandish mishaps and mounting frustration as the contraption pops out all the wrong creations.

Hilarious and imaginative, this picture book will have readers laughing and eager for more diabolical misadventures with Carl at the helm.



Ages 3-7

Material: PDF, 40 pages

**Justin Colón** is a professional actor and children's book author. This is his second picture book, joining his debut, *The Quacken*. Like Carl, the star of *Impossible Possums*, Justin lives in New York. Unlike Carl, Justin does not live in a sewer or have an evil lair. He invites you to visit him at justincolonbooks.com.

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# THE TOP SPOT

## Frank Weber

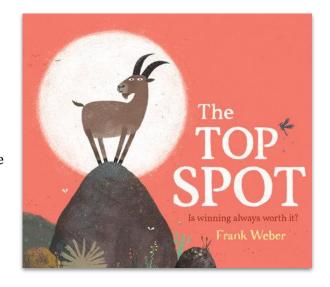
**Disney Hyperion, September 2024** 

"A quirky, inspired parable." -Kirkus Reviews

For fans of MR. TIGER GOES WILD and I WANT MY HAT BACK, author-illustrator Frank Weber presents style, stunning illustrations, and sly humor in THE TOP SPOT, which explores themes of happiness and the why of competing in the rat race called life.

A little ibex is challenged to compete against the bigger ibexes for the top spot in the herd, a contest the little ibex stands no chance of winning. With the help of a wise mountain goat, the little ibex returns home, outsmarts his rivals, and claims the top spot. But is it everything he thought it would be?

Frank Weber's debut, *More Dung!* combined scatological humor with existential angst. *The Top Spot* continues the existential tradition, inviting young readers to continue asking their favorite question: why?



Ages Material: 3-5

PDF, 48 pages

Sold to:

Global Kids (complex Chinese), Citic Press (simplified

**Chinese**), Gottmer (**Dutch**)

**Frank Weber** is an animator and director who specializes in design and animation. He's based in London but originally hails from South Africa, which inspires his work. More examples of his art can be found on newmonday.tv.

## **MORE DUNG! A BEETLE TALE**

## Frank Weber

Disney Hyperion, May 2024

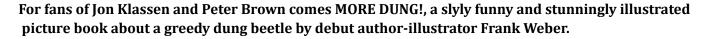
"A sure storytime hit." — Kirkus (starred review)

"The combination of absurd humor and clever social commentary gives the book broad appeal, making it an easy choice for a giggly storytime or a discussion on what and how we decide to commodify things. "

—The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books

"South Africa-born animator and director Weber makes a visually comic picture book debut with this fable about the power of appreciation ... The moral—knowing when enough truly is enough—underscores the folly of greed while playfully reassuring that one mistake doesn't have to last a lifetime." **-Publishers**Weekly

"The efficient text and strong page design result in a briskly paced story, yet subtle narrative flourishes throughout the illustrations will surely be discovered and appreciated through unhurried viewing." -Horn Book Magazine



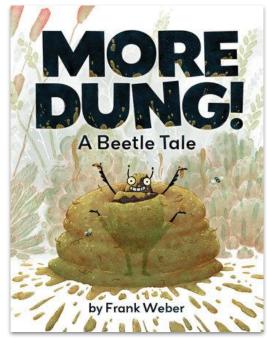
The dung beetle thinks he has everything he needs: the warmth of the sun, a gurgling river, and as much dung as he could ever want. But when a leopard tells him of a farm with even MORE dung, the beetle's world suddenly looks small. And so he sets off to the farm, accruing more and more dung, building a veritable DUNG EMPIRE! But a tower of dung comes with a tower of risk, and soon our insect hero finds himself buried in his greed. (Yes, he's buried in poop.)

Frank Weber seamlessly blends philosophical questions about greed with scatological humor and truly gorgeous artwork to create this special debut.

Ages 3-5 Sold to: Global Kids (complex Chinese), Citic Press (simplified

Material: PDF, 48 pages Chinese)

**Frank Weber** is an animator and director who specializes in design and animation. He's based in London but originally hails from South Africa, which inspires his work. More examples of his art can be found on newmonday.tv.



## IF YOU FIND A FAWN

## Kellie DuBay Gillis, illustrated by Wazza Pink

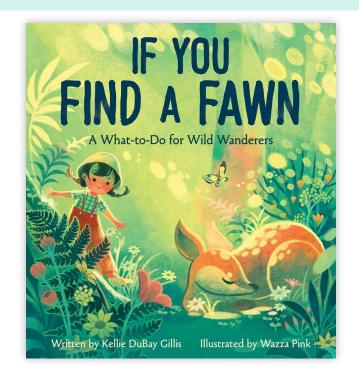
Disney Hyperion, February 2025

When you wander in the wild, you might find . . . a baby animal. Would you know what to do?

Perfect for nature lovers and curious kids, *If You Find a Fawn* pairs instructive text with lush illustrations for a beautiful picture book adventure.

When we find someone we think is in trouble, our instinct is to help. But the baby animal you find might not be in trouble at all. Come along, wild wanderer, and learn through this lyrical journey and informative backmatter.

This book is part of the Disney Planet Possible Books program, aiming to inspire and empower young readers to take care of planet Earth through amazing stories that celebrate advocacy, conservation, and stewardship, kid-friendly environmental activities, and books manufactured with care in the United States.



Ages 3-5

Material: PDF, 40 pages

**Kellie DuBay Gillis** grew up in Bay City, Michigan, with kids who loved to make things and to share neighborhood adventures on an old purple tandem bike. She writes stories about things you find in nature, things you might not find in nature unless you know the magical places to look, things that happen to most kids, and things most kids wish would happen. Kellie is an environmental scientist and communications specialist with over 25 years of experience blending her passion for protecting the planet with storytelling. She lives just outside of Cleveland, Ohio, with her family.

**Wazza Pink** lives in Ha Noi, Vietnam. She's loved to read comics and picture books ever since she was a kid, and learned to draw by mimicking the styles of her favorite comic book artists. She kept practicing and learning through books, the internet, and her artist friends. Wazza likes to listen to music while working. It helps her focus, and some tunes really inspire great ideas for her art pieces. She love cats and has two kitties at home. She believes that having a pet is truly a way to perfect your life.

## HARD HAT HANK AND THE SKY-HIGH SOLUTION

## Charlotte Gunnufson, illustrated by Brian Biggs

Disney Hyperion, February 2025

"A cheerful reminder that even meticulous planners can benefit from flexibility and creativity" – **Publishers Weekly** 

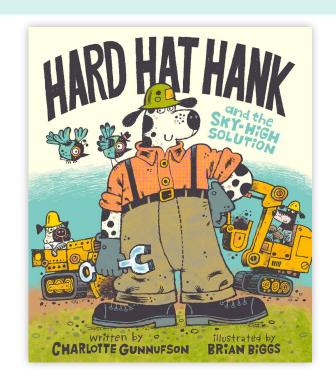
*Mighty Mighty Construction Site* meets *The Best Nest* in this rollicking, rhyming celebration of teamwork, and the ways we can live in harmony with the natural world.

Hard Hat Hank and his hardworking crew are ready to build!

With blueprints in hand, Hank knows just what to do, but it isn't long before the plans go awry. Fortunately, Hank has solutions for just about everything—until two birds decide to make their home on the construction site. There's no nest in the plan! The birds need to go!

But after several humorous attempts to get the birds to leave, Hank realizes that it's time for a new plan—one in which builders and birds can *both* enjoy their new home.

This book is part of the Disney Planet Possible Books program, aiming to inspire and empower young readers to take care of planet Earth through amazing stories that celebrate advocacy, conservation, and stewardship, kid-friendly environmental activities, and books manufactured with care in the United States.



Ages 3-5

Material: PDF, 40 pages

**Charlotte Gunnufson** is the author of *Halloween Hustle* (Two Lions, 2013) and *Prince and Pirate* (Putnam, 2017), which *Kirkus* called "a godsend to pirate-themed storytimes" in its starred review. Her lyrical ocean-themed bedtime book, DREAM SUBMARINE, is forthcoming from Candlewick in Spring 2024.

**Brian Biggs** is an author, illustrator, and designer in Philadelphia. He's currently writing and illustrating books, constantly drawing pictures, and teaching illustration at Tyler School of Art/Temple University. He has written or illustrated more than seventy books, some of them *New York Times* bestsellers. The books he has written and illustrated have been read by many imaginative adults and clever children all around the world. Find him online at www.BrianBiggs.com.

## **PARTY ANIMALS**

## Tara Lazar, illustrated by Anna Raff

Disney Hyperion, March 2025

Any time is party time with the Party Animals!

A delightful picture book that is equal parts silly and thoughtful, perfect for read-aloud parties and library-going parties and learning-to-be-friends parties.

Meet Beatrix, Theodore, and Phoebe: the Party Animals!

They can make a party out of anything.

Sour milk? PARTY!

Hole in your pants? PARTY!

Now meet Horace. He's a party pooper. "You can't have so many parties!" he says.

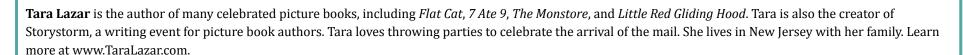
SCREEEECH.

Could Horace be right?

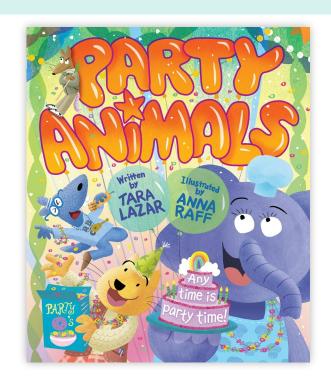
Join the Party Animals in this whimsical celebration of friendship and empathy.

Ages 3-5

Material: PDF, 48 pages



Anna Raff is an award-winning illustrator of many picture books, including World Rat Day, If I Were a Kangaroo, You Make Me Sneeze!, and The Day the Universe Exploded My Head—a Kirkus Best Book of the Year and New York Public Library Best Book—as well as a series of science picture books with author David A. Adler. A descendant and longtime friend of party animals, Anna lives, works, and parties in New York City. Learn more at www.AnnaRaff.com.



## THE GOBBLING GOBLINS

## Maika Llaneza, illustrated by Ara Villena

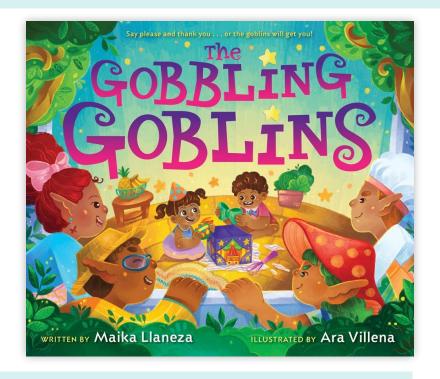
Disney Hyperion, April 2025

Gobble up this new picture book inspired by Filipino mythology featuring trinket-stealing goblins whose knack for thievery just might save the day.

#### Mind your manners; hang on to your toys (and pineapples?)

When Caden and Cailyn forget to say thank you to Lola Mi for their gifts, the famous gobbling goblins come to take the children's treasures. *Gobble gobble gobble*. It's all in a day's work.

But then a band of mischievous elves swipes some curious VIPs (Very Important Pineapples) from the house . . . pineapples that look suspiciously like Caden and Cailyn. Not saying thank you is one thing, but turning children into fruit? Talk about impolite! Now the goblins are on a rescue mission to get those pineapple-kids back from the elves. Can their latest gobble save the day?



Ages 3-7

Material: PDF, 40 pages

**Maika Llaneza** is a 1.5 generation Filipina American whose interests include pre-Philippine history and folklore monsters in the Philippines. She has worked with students with disabilities and is currently a special education teacher in New Orleans. Her work can be found in *Sojourners* magazine, *Inheritance* magazine, on the website *HelloGiggles*, on the *Stories With Sapphire* podcast, and more. She was a 2018–2019 State of Formation Writing Fellow and has presented at the Biennial Filipino American National Historical Society Conference. She is an avid reader, writer, and monster fanatic.

**Ara Villena** is a freelance illustrator and art director, specializing in children's book illustrations. She has created children's books and related content for Save the Children Philippines, the Department of Education, and USAID. From time to time, she also creates illustrations for motion graphic videos and animated films.

## **NO CAT LIKE TAC**

## Alliah L. Agostini, illustrated by Charles Santoso

Disney Hyperion, March 2025

Meet Tac, an unusual cat! Her pounce shakes the house, her zoomies are a doozy, and her hairballs are . . . well, *fireballs*. But she'll always be family. Right?

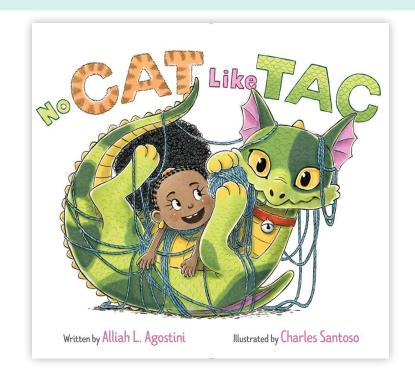
Perfect for fans of dragons and in the tradition of *Not Quite Narwhal*, this laugh-out-loud picture book shows that love can overcome even the biggest, most unlikely differences!

When Tyra finds a box labeled "free kittens," Dad says she can pick just one to adopt. So Tyra chooses Tac: a BIG kitten who's a *little* different from other cats.

Tyra makes sure Tac has tons of toys to play with, lots of cozy places to cuddle, and plenty of love and affection. But everything about Tac, from her zoomies to her hairballs, is bigger, louder, and *fierier* than other cats.

Then one day, Tac's mischief gets out of control, and Dad says "ENOUGH!" Can Tyra find a way to prove Tac is part of the family, differences and all?

With spare, sweet text and humorous illustrations that tell another, more dragon-y side of the story, *No Cat Like Tac* sends the funny but heartfelt message that family is about being yourselves, but choosing each other.



Ages 3-7

Material: PDF, 40 pages

**Alliah L. Agostini** has marketed everything from beauty to tech, but motherhood helped her return to her first love: children's literature. She is the author of Junior Library Guild Selection *Big Tune: Rise of the Dancehall Prince, Oprah Winfrey: A Little Golden Book Biography, Great Idea Malia, The Juneteenth Story, The Juneteenth Cookbook, and more joyful books for children and families. A Buffalo, NY, native, Alliah now lives in New Jersey with her husband and children but, sadly, no cuddly, fire-breathing pets. Join Alliah online at www.AlliahAgostini.com and @alliago on Instagram and X.* 

**Charles Santoso** is the creator of *Happy Hippo* and has illustrated many books, including *Dandy* by Ame Dyckman, *Dear Unicorn* by Josh Funk, the *New York Times* bestseller *Odder* and *Wishtree* books by Katherine Applegate, and *Ida, Always* by Caron Levis, which was mentioned in the *New York Times* as "an example of children's books at their best." He moves around between different countries to live and work. He is currently working in sunny Singapore. You can visit him at www.CharlesSantoso.com.

## WE'RE ALL GONNA DIE-NOSAUR!: ESCAPE OF THE APES

### **Kon Tan**

Disney Hyperion, October 2025



Pterry the pterodactyl has lots of nightmares—and they always come true! Can Pterry face his fear of monkeys? If not... we're all gonna DIE-nosaur!!!

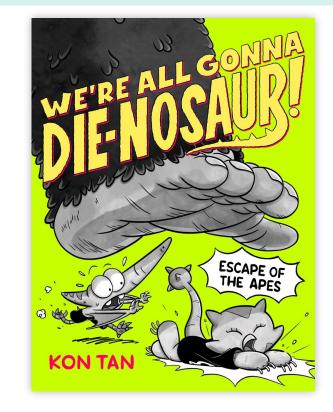
With exciting black-and-white illustrations on every page, this subversively hilarious chapter book series is perfect for young fans of *The Bad Guys*, *Dog Man*, and *Captain Underpants*.

Pterry the pterodactyl has the sc-sc-scariest dreams—the kind that come true!

Last night, Pterry dreamed about terrifying creatures with big eyes, lots of hair, and long creepy fingers.

Then, on his first-day-of-school field trip, Pterry comes face to face with the horrible beasts: *monkeys*. And they escape! Can Pterry find the courage to save himself and his new classmates? Or will his banana-shaped head be his downfall?

Kon Tan's hilarious, heart-filled early graphic novel series shows kids it's okay to be scared—and that fears can be overcome.



Ages Material: 5-8

PDF, 160 pages

Format:

**Graphic Novel** 

**Kon Tan** was raised in the Bronx and from an early age he was obsessed with dinosaurs, monster movies, and superheroes. Unfortunately, one day he grew up, but he was lucky to find work as a teacher, bookseller, and animator. He is afraid of the ocean but proud to have conquered his fear of heights and riding a bike. He lives and dreams in Los Angeles with his wife and chihuahua mix. You can see more of his art on his website www.KonsComics.com or follow him on Instagram @KonsComics.

## WE'RE ALL GONNA DIE-NOSAUR!

#### **Kon Tan**

Disney Hyperion, April 2025

"A delightful tale of impending doom!" —**John Patrick Green**, *New York Times* best-selling author of InvestiGators

Pterry the pterodactyl has lots of nightmares—and they always come true! Can Pterry face his fear of flying? If not . . . we're all gonna DIE-nosaur!!!

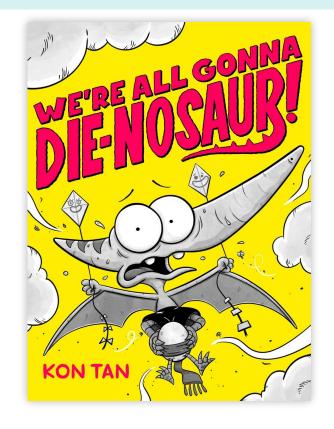
With exciting black-and-white illustrations on every page, this subversively hilarious chapter book series debut is perfect for young fans of *The Bad Guys*, *Dog Man*, and *Captain Underpants*.

Pterry the pterodactyl has the sc-sc-scariest dreams—the kind that come true!

Last night, Pterry dreamed that dinosaurs will go extinct.

Pterry's parents tell him that there's no danger a pterodactyl can't fly away from. But Pterry doesn't know *how* to fly! Will Pterry learn in time to protect himself and his family? Or will the smell of his nervous farts be all he leaves behind?

Kon Tan's children's book debut kicks off a hilarious, heart-filled early graphic novel series that shows kids it's okay to be scared—and that fears can be overcome.



Ages Material: 5-8

PDF, 160 pages

Format: Graphic Novel

**Kon Tan** was raised in the Bronx and from an early age he was obsessed with dinosaurs, monster movies, and superheroes. Unfortunately, one day he grew up, but he was lucky to find work as a teacher, bookseller, and animator. He is afraid of the ocean but proud to have conquered his fear of heights and riding a bike. He lives and dreams in Los Angeles with his wife and chihuahua mix. You can see more of his art on his website www.KonsComics.com or follow him on Instagram @KonsComics.

## **PET SHOP RACERS**

## C.S. Jennings

Disney Hyperion, October 2025



Narwhal and Jelly meets The Mouse and the Motorcycle in this action-packed, hilarious graphic novel series starter perfect for early and reluctant readers ages 5-9.

Can Ham the hamster and Shelby the ferret become the greatest racecar drivers—and the greatest friends—of all time?

Ham and Shelby meet in the pet shop and become fast friends. But who is the fastest? Who will become the greatest racer in the world?

Only one can be the best. So as they race again and again, with better and better cars, Ham is determined to cross the finish line first every time.

But when disaster strikes, Ham will have to learn that some things—like friendship—are even more important than winning.



Ages Material: 5-9

PDF, 96 pages

Format:

**Graphic Novel** 

**C.S. Jennings** is the illustrator of over two dozen books for kids; working with publishers such as Penguin Books for Young Readers, Scholastic, Clarion, and Union Square Kids. His specialties are character design, middle grade, and humor in storytelling. He's the author of Animal Band; Hello, Texas!; and Too Close Panda, and he illustrated the Texas Library Association's Bluebonnet 2020-2021 Master List book, From an Idea to Disney: How Imagination Built a World of Magic (Clarion). A Texas native, he makes his home in Austin where he bikes and hikes, exploring the hill country for inspiration. See more of his work at https://csjennings.com/.

# PET SHOP RACERS: THE FAST AND THE FURRIEST

C.S. Jennings

Disney Hyperion, October 2025

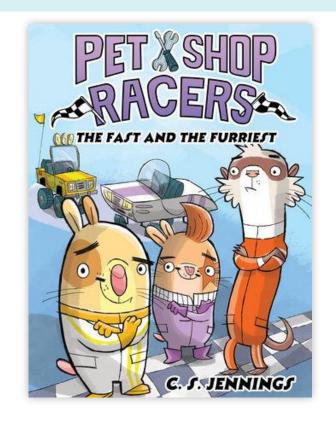


Book two in the action-packed, hilarious graphic novel series that's *Narwhal and Jelly* meets *The Mouse and the Motorcycle*, perfect for early and reluctant readers ages 5-9.

Shelby and Ham are the world's best racing team—until Ham teams up with somebody *else*. Can Shelby go back to driving solo?

Shelby and Ham are the greatest team in pet shop racing history, well on their way to becoming the greatest racers in the world!

But when Ham's long-lost sister returns to the pet shop and Ham wants to race with her instead, Shelby is suddenly a third—er, *fifth*—wheel. Will the pet shop pals' friendship survive?



Ages Material: 5-9

PDF, 96 pages

Format: Graphic Novel

**C.S. Jennings** is the illustrator of over two dozen books for kids; working with publishers such as Penguin Books for Young Readers, Scholastic, Clarion, and Union Square Kids. His specialties are character design, middle grade, and humor in storytelling. He's the author of Animal Band; Hello, Texas!; and Too Close Panda, and he illustrated the Texas Library Association's Bluebonnet 2020-2021 Master List book, From an Idea to Disney: How Imagination Built a World of Magic (Clarion). A Texas native, he makes his home in Austin where he bikes and hikes, exploring the hill country for inspiration. See more of his work at https://csjennings.com/.

# **OUT COLD**

### A LITTLE BRUCE BOOK

Ryan T. Higgins

Disney Hyperion, October 2023

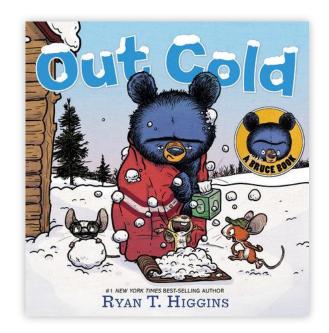
"As always, Higgins' signature cartoon illustrations are a delight, using exaggerated expressions and body language to convey a range of emotions. (This book was reviewed digitally.) Silly mix-ups for the younger set are sure to bring a smile." – *Kirkus* 

#1 New York Times best-selling author Ryan T. Higgins celebrates the joys of winter in this bite-sized Little Bruce Book perfect for fans of the Mother Bruce board books.

It's wintertime in Soggy Hollow and the mice are doing all their favorite outdoor things, like ski jumping, building a snow family, and ice skating. But not Bruce. He's inside with a cold. So the mice decide to bring the winter fun indoors! Lucky Bruce!

Read the other Little Bruce Books!

- Spring Stinks
- Thanks for Nothing!



Ages 3-5

Material: PDF, 48 pages

## PENELOPE REX AND THE PROBLEM WITH PETS

## Ryan T. Higgins

**Disney Hyperion, March 2024** 

Clad in her trademark pink overalls, Penelope experiences a range of emotions (disgust when Mittens uses the bathtub as a litter box, anger over a torn backpack, remorse at losing her temper) in exaggerated, snout-quivering style. A first-pet tale bursting with personality. — *Kirkus Reviews* 

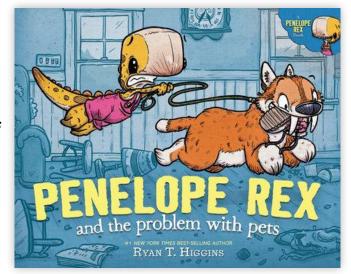
Penelope Rex might finally have bitten off more than she can chew—a pet saber tooth tiger!—in this companion to the #1 *New York Times* bestselling *We Don't Eat Our Classmates* by Ryan T. Higgins.

Most kids have dogs and cats and fish and guinea pigs. Penelope Rex has Mittens.

Penelope wasn't sure she even wanted a pet when Mittens came into her life. But now that he's here, she is determined to make the best of it.

Pets, however—especially ones that are six hundred pounds with six-inch-long teeth—can cause very big, very messy problems.

In this companion to *We Don't Eat Our Classmates*, Penelope Rex discovers the challenges and rewards (but mostly challenges) of pet ownership.



Ages Material: 3-5

PDF, 48 pages

# **BEACH BUMMER**

### A LITTLE BRUCE BOOK

Ryan T. Higgins

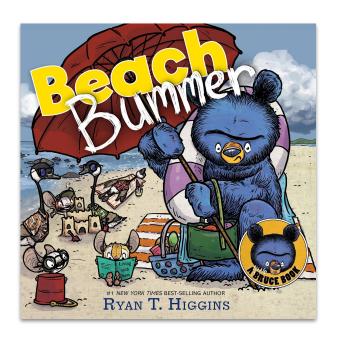
Disney Hyperion, March 2024

Delightful illustrations capture emotion with great humor... Fans of the "Mother Bruce" series will not be disappointed, and newcomers will want to read more of the adventures of this grouchy bear and his friends. **-John Scott,** *School Library Journal* 

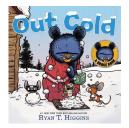
"Young readers will enjoy the antics of the expressive mice and geese, and adults will recognize (and sympathize with) Bruce's tireless schlepping and entertaining. Hilarious proof that a caregiver's work is never done." – *Kirkus* 

#1 New York Times best-selling author Ryan T. Higgins celebrates the delights of summer in this bite-sized Little Bruce Book perfect for fans of Mother Bruce.

It's beach day in Soggy Hollow! Everyone is enjoying fun in the sun – everyone, that is, except for Bruce. It's too hot, too sandy, and too windy! Bruce's favorite thing about summer? Doing nothing. In the shade. Where it's cool. Bruce's second favorite thing about summer? When it turns to fall.



#### ALSO AVAILABLE: OUT COLD



It's wintertime in Soggy Hollow and the mice are doing all their favorite outdoor things, like ski jumping, building a snow family, and ice skating. But not Bruce. He's inside with a cold. So the mice decide to bring the winter fun indoors! Lucky Bruce!

Ages 3-5

Material: PDF, 48 pages

# WE DON'T LOSE OUR CLASS GOLDFISH

## **Ryan T. Higgins**

Disney Hyperion, March 2023

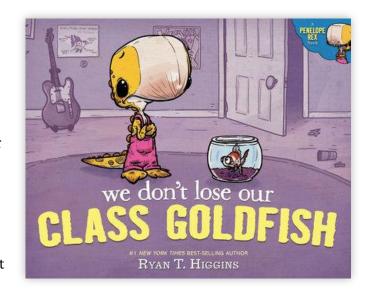
"Another hugely successful outing with Penelope and highly recommended for purchase." **-School Library Journal** 

"Higgins . . . knows how to make big, scary animals seem vulnerable, lovable and funny."

—The New York Times Book Review

Penelope Rex faces her biggest (and fishiest) fear in this companion to the #1 New York Times best-selling We Don't Eat Our Classmates by Ryan T. Higgins.

Penelope Rex has one fear: Walter, the class goldfish. So when Mrs. Noodleman tells the kids that they'll be taking turns bringing Walter home, Penelope gets carried away by her anxious imagination. The weekend has a rocky start—from Walter ominously licking his lips to a sleepless night where the fish's bowl appears to move closer and closer to Penelope's bed. But then Walter goes missing! Penelope must face her fear to find him and realizes along the way that there's more to Walter than his chomping jaws.

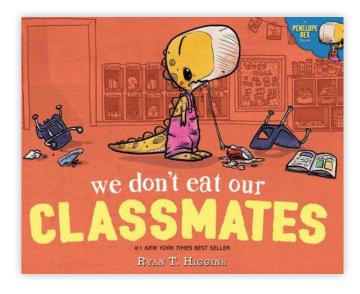


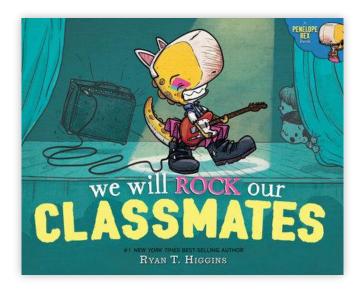
Ages 3-5

Material: PDF, 48 pages

Sold to: Albin Michel (North American French)

# WE DON'T EAT OUR CLASSMATES WE WILL ROCK OUR CLASSMATES





#### Rights sold:

WE DON'T EAT OUR CLASSMATES: Beijing Yuanliu Classic Culture Ltd (**Chinese Simplified**), Forlaget Carlsen (**Danish**), Gottmer Uigevers Groep (**Dutch**), Into Publishing (**Finnish**), Albin Michel Jeunesse (**French**), Windy Verlag (**German**), Sefer Lakol (**Hebrew**), Salani (**Italian**), Prooni Books (**Korean**), Gradiva (**Portugual**), RBA Libros (**Spanish**), Marti Yayin (**Turkish**)

WE WILL ROCK OUR CLASSMATES: Albin Michel Jeunesse (French), Windy Verlag (German), Sefer Lakol (Hebrew), RBA Libros (Spanish)

#### WE DON'T EAT OUR CLASSMATES

It's the first day of school for Penelope Rex, and she can't wait to meet her classmates. But it's hard to make human friends when they're so darn delicious! That is, until Penelope gets a taste of her own medicine and finds she may not be at the top of the food chain after all.

#### WE WILL ROCK OUR CLASSMATES

Penelope is a T. rex, and she's very good at it. She also likes to rock out on guitar! With the school talent show coming up, Penelope can't wait to perform for her classmates. But sharing who you are can be show-stoppingly scary, especially when it's in front of the whole school.

Praise for WE WILL ROCK OUR CLASSMATES:

Higgins perfectly captures Penelope's seesawing emotions, the highest highs and the lowest lows.—Kirkus (starred review)

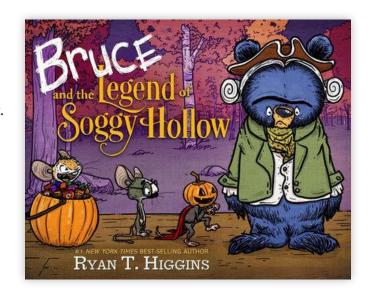
# **BRUCE AND THE LEGEND OF SOGGY HOLLOW**

## **Ryan T. Higgins**

Disney Hyperion, July 2023

"Higgins' quirky sensibility is as comical and appealing as ever, and his illustrations are full of kid-friendly and engaging details. Bruce's unwilling foray into acting—which involves a meetup with a possible ghost and an attempt to escape the amorous moose playing his love interest—will have readers dissolving into giggles. They'll delight in the humor of Bruce's less-than-enthusiastic participation, and the story wraps up with a ghostly—but fun—twist. This is a feel-good and funny choice, perfect for Halloween or any time of the year. Laughter abounds in this spirited tale with a sprinkle of spookiness."—*Kirkus* 

This tongue-in-cheek retelling of Washington Irving's "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" is cleverly faithful to the source material and an excellent addition to the Mother Bruce series. Amusing speech-bubble dialogue, animated character reactions, and seasonally-hued action-packed panels help build Higgins's story to a spirited ending for all involved, including readers. –*The Horn Book Magazine* 



# Celebrate all things spooky with #1 *New York Times* best-selling author Ryan T. Higgins's beloved Mother Bruce.

Bruce is a bear who does not like holidays, and he *really* doesn't like Halloween. His family of mice and geese decide the only way to get Bruce excited about Halloween is to tell a scary story.

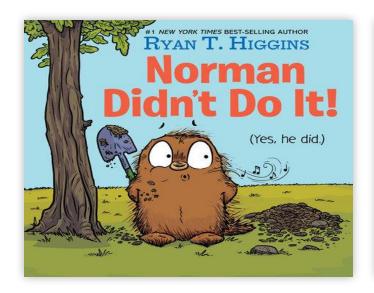
But their campfire tale takes a turn when a ghostly visitor appears. Will Bruce get in the Halloween spirit? Or will the Halloween spirit get Bruce?

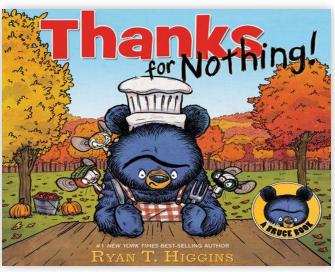
Ages 3-5

Material: PDF, 48 pages

Sold to: Albin Michel (North American French)

# NORMAN DIDN'T DO IT THANKS FOR NOTHING





#### A delightful story that delivers a contemporary tale of friendship.

Norman is a porcupine. Mildred is a tree. Norman and Mildred are best friends. Just the two of them. And only the two of them. But when a surprise pops up, life will never be the same again.

Ryan T. Higgins' signature wit, whimsy, and humor brilliantly explore the depths and complexities of friendship.

Ages 3-5

Material: PDF, 48 pages

Sold to: PS-Kustannus (Finnish), Albin Michel Jeunesse (French), Edizioni, Gribaudo (Italian) Totobook Publishing (Korean)

It's autumn in Soggy Hollow, and the mice have a lot to be thankful for. But Bruce the bear is not so thankful for all the thanking.

This bite-sized Little Bruce Book is perfect for fans of the Mother Bruce board books.

Ages 3-5

Material: PDF, 32 pages

# RIGHTS SOLDS ON RYAN T. HIGGINS BACKLIST TITLES

#### BE QUIET!

Beijing Green Beans Book Co., Ltd (Chinese Simplified), Kuraldisi Yayincilik Eg. Dan. Ltd. Sti. (Turkish)

#### **BRUCE'S BIG MOVE**

Grupo Anaya, S.A. (Catalan); Beijing Green Beans Book Co., Ltd (Chinese-Simplified); Forlaget Carlsen (Danish); PS-kustannus (Finnish); Albin Michel Jeunesse (French); Grupo Anaya, S.A. (Spanish)

#### **HOTEL BRUCE**

Grupo Anaya, S.A. (**Catalan**); Beijing Green Beans Book Co., Ltd (**Chinese-Simplified**); Forlaget Carlsen (**Danish**); PS-kustannus (**Finnish**); Albin Michel Jeunesse (**French**); Windy Verlag (**German**); Grupo Anaya, S.A. (**Spanish**), Albin Michel Jeunesse (**French**)

#### MOTHER BRUCE

Grupo Anaya, S.A. (Catalan); Beijing Green Beans Book Co., Ltd (Chinese-Simplified); Forlaget Carlsen (Danish); PS-kustannus (Finnish); Albin Michel Jeunesse (French); Windy Verlag (German); Sefer Lakol (Hebrew); Totobook Publishing Co. (Korean); Act si Politon (Romanian), Grupo Anaya, S.A. (Spanish); Beyaz Balina Yayin (Turkish)

#### PEEK-A-BRUCE

Forlaget Carlsen (Danish)

#### SANTA BRUCE

Grupo Anaya, S.A. (Catalan); Beijing Green Beans Book Co., Ltd (Chinese-Simplified); Forlaget Carlsen (Danish); PS-Kustannus (Finnish); Albin Michel Jeunesse (French); Grupo Anaya, S.A. (Spanish)

#### THE BRUCE SWAP

Beijing Green Beans Book Co., Ltd (Chinese-Simplified); Forlaget Carlsen (Danish); PS-Kustannus (Finnish); Albin Michel Jeunesse (French)

#### WE DON'T LOSE OUR CLASS GOLDFISH

Windy Verlag (German); Albin Michel (NA French)

#### BRUCE'S BIG STORM

Beijing Green Beans Book Co., Ltd (Chinese); Forlaget Carlsen (Danish); PS-Kustannus (Finnish); Albin Michel Jeunesse (French)

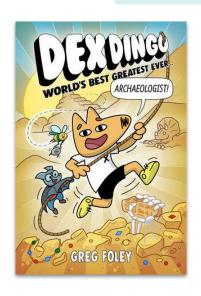
#### **GRUMPY BRUCE**

Forlaget Carlsen (Danish)

# RYAN T. HIGGINS BACKLIST TITLES



## **MIDDLE GRADE**







# Melissa de la Cruz Studio

With the MDLC Studio, *New York Times* bestselling author Melissa de la Cruz acts as an incubator to develop original content, working together with diverse new and established authors to create high concept books and create big platforms for writers of color and up-and-coming talent. The MDLC Studio core audience ranges from picture book to middle grade to YA and Adult/Crossover titles (18+).

## **Rick Riordan Presents**

Rick Riordan Presents is a line of books that is curated, edited, and promoted by internationally best-selling author Rick Riordan. Our goal is to publish great authors from underrepresented cultures and backgrounds and to let them tell their own stories inspired by the mythology and folklore of their heritage.

## THE GIRL AND THE ROBOT

## Claribel A. Ortega, Oz Rodriguez

Disney Hyperion, March 2025

"In the vein of other classic tales of extraterrestrial encounters, this fresh novel puts a contemporary spin on the story of a child who befriends and rescues an alien, highlighting the plight of refugees, immigrants, and asylum seekers from both nearby and galaxies far away." -**Kirkus** 

An out-of-this-world story about friendship, empowerment, and ... running from federal agents?

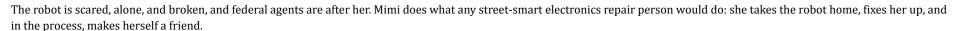
E.T. meets cult classic *The Iron Giant* in this middle grade light sci-fi from Emmy Award-winner Oz Rodriguez and *New York Times* best-selling author Claribel A. Ortega, perfect for fans of *Witchlings*.

With a little heart, you can fix anything.

Mimi Perez fixes things. Phones, tablets, speakers, printers. She gets it from her dad—helping him at the family e-repair shop was always one of Mimi's favorite things to do. But ever since Papi was deported, there's a lot more than electronics that need fixing in Mimi's world. Things too big for any twelve-year-old to handle on her own.

Mimi hustles around her Brooklyn neighborhood trying to earn enough money to finally fix her family. There's no time for school or friends, but Mimi knows it will all be worth it the day Papi comes home. Then her ex-friends approach her with a proposition: enter a robotics competition with them, and they could win \$50,000. It could be her chance.

Not part of the plan? A mysterious robot crashing to earth. From space.



Suddenly, Mimi is anything but alone. She's part of a robotics team. She's sheltering a robot. She's dodging federal agents. And keeping all of it a secret from her mom.

Join a girl and a robot of their life-changing sci-fi adventure in this coming-of-age story that celebrates kids in STEM, first-gen communities, and the power of friendship.

Ages 8-12

Material: PDF, 320 pages

Emmy-winning director **Oz Rodriguez** has written and directed video shorts since he got his start at Funny or Die. As a creative force in the sketch comedy world, Oz worked his way up to segment director and producer at *Saturday Night Live* and has been with the show for nearly a decade. He also wrote and directed the Netflix original film *Vampires vs. the Bronx*. This is his debut novel.

New York Times best-selling and award-winning author **Claribel A. Ortega** is a former reporter who writes middle-grade and young adult fantasy inspired by her Dominican heritage. When she's not busy turning her obsession with eighties pop culture, magic, and video games into books, she's co-hosting her podcast Bad Author Book Club. Claribel is a Marvel contributor and has been featured on Buzzfeed, Bustle, Good Morning America and Deadline. You can find her on Twitter, Instagram and Tiktok @Claribel\_Ortega, on Twitch as Radbunnie and on her website at claribelortega.com.



# JAX FREEMAN AND THE TOURNAMENT OF SPIRITS

NEW!

Freedom Fire
Kwame Mbalia

Disney Hyperion, October 2025

All Aboard! The sequel to Jax Freeman and the Phantom Shriek has pulled into the station!

From the award-winning author of the best-selling Tristan Strong trilogy comes a magical series about a special boy who is granted summoning powers from his ancestors.

Seventh grader Jackson "Jax" Freeman recently learned two important facts: one, he's a summoner—someone who can call on the magical powers of his ancestors to help him do amazing things—and two, he isn't the only person with this ability.

After much training, Jax and four of his summoner classmates from DuSable Middle school in Chicago are thrust into a competition called the Tournament of Spirits where they'll face the most skilled summoners from around the world.

But while everyone is focused on winning, Jax is given a special side quest by the elders of the four magical families: he has to spy on each of the competitors—including his own teammates—in order to uncover who is releasing endangered, and very dangerous, cryptids into the arena.

Can Jax take the top spot in the tournament and save himself and his friends from a mysterious foe?

Kwame Mbalia's incredible imagination and world-building talents are on full display in this thrilling adventure that's packed with magic, friendship, non-stop action, and a lot of heart.



Ages Material: 8-12

PDF, 368 pages

Tristan Strong series

sold to:

Art Editura (Romanian), Ravensburger (German), Beta

(Turkish), Galeria Ksiazki (Polish)

**Kwame Mbalia** is a #1 *New York Times* best-selling author and the publisher of Freedom Fire, an imprint of Disney Hyperion devoted to stories about the Black diaspora by Black creators. His debut middle-grade novel, *Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky,* was awarded a Coretta Scott King Author Honor, and it was followed by *Tristan Strong Destroys the World* and *Tristan Strong Keeps Punching*. Kwame lives with his wife and children outside Raleigh, North Carolina, where he is currently working on the next Jax Freeman adventure. For more information, go to www.KwameMbalia.com.

## JAX FREEMAN AND THE PHANTOM SHRIEK

Freedom Fire

**Kwame Mbalia** 

Disney Hyperion, October 2024

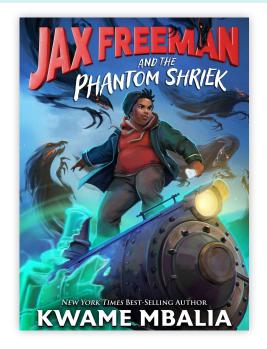
"Jax Freeman is my new best friend. I loved everything about this book—the characters, the humor, the page-turning adventure. I'm glad Kwame Mbalia is such a prolific writer because I will be bugging him for the sequel immediately."—**Rick Riordan**, New York Times #1 best-selling author of the *Percy Jackson and the Olympians series* 

"Funny, fast-paced, and full of heart and adventure. You'll be laughing and cheering and racing through the pages—and guessing right up to the end."—**Shannon Messenger**, New York Times best-selling author of the *Keeper of Lost Cities series* and *Sky Fall series* 

The award-winning author of the best-selling Tristan Strong trilogy has created a secret world where kids can wield magic by summoning the power of their ancestors.

What do you get when you combine Kwame Mbalia's incredible imagination and world-building talent with trains, history, and ghosts? Nothing less than middle grade magic.

On his twelfth birthday, Jackson "Jax" Freeman arrives at Chicago's Union Station alone, carrying nothing but the baggage of a scandal back in Raleigh. He's been sent away from home to live with relatives he barely knows. But even worse are the strangers who accost him at the train station, including a food vendor who throws dust in his face and a conductor who tries to steal his skin.



At his new school, Jax is assigned to a special class for "summoners," even though he has no idea what those are . . . until he accidentally unleashes an angry spirit on school grounds. Soon Jax is embroiled in all kinds of trouble, from the disappearance of a new friend to full-out war between summoning families.

When Jax learns that he isn't the first Freeman to be blamed for a tragedy he didn't create, he resolves to clear his own name and that of his great-grandfather, who was a porter back in the 1920's. By following clues, Jax and his schoolmates unlock the secrets of a powerful Praise House, evade vengeful ghosts, and discover that Jax may just be the most talented summoner of all.

A unique magic-school fantasy from the best-selling and award-winning author of the Tristan Strong trilogy has just pulled into the station.

Ages 8-12 Tristan Strong series Art Editura (Romanian), Ravensburger (German), Beta

Material: PDF, 480 pages sold to: (Turkish), Galeria Ksiazki (Polish)

**Kwame Mbalia** is a #1 *New York Times* best-selling author and the publisher of Freedom Fire, an imprint of Disney Hyperion devoted to stories about the Black diaspora by Black creators. His debut middle-grade novel, *Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky*, was awarded a Coretta Scott King Author Honor, and it was followed by *Tristan Strong Destroys the World* and *Tristan Strong Keeps Punching*. Kwame lives with his wife and children outside Raleigh, North Carolina, where he is currently working on the next Jax Freeman adventure. For more information, go to www.KwameMbalia.com.

## DEX DINGO: WORLD'S BEST GREATEST EVER ARCHAEOLOGIST

**Greg Foley** 

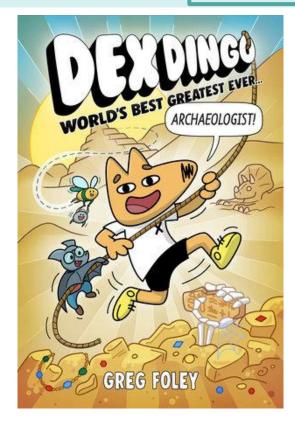
**Disney Hyperion, September 2025** 

**NEW!** 

After a school assignment challenges Dex to be whatever he wants, Dex decides he wants to be the WORLD'S BEST GREATEST EVER...at something. Filled with clever humor and touching insight, this chapter book graphic novel series follows Dex's misadventures as his attempts at the "coolest jobs" go awry.

With the whole "inventor" debacle behind him, Dex decides to try being the next best thing: an archaeologist! Dex knows that archaeologists make discoveries that help solve mysteries about ancient people. So if he's going to be the GREATEST archaeologist, he'll need to solve the BIGGEST mystery by making the COOLEST discovery EVER.

Dex, his best friend, Buckley, and Nono the rogue nanobot head back to the Infinity Room and venture through a doorway to the desert to find the lost treasure of the Forgotten Dino-sty. Together, the trio decodes riddles, navigates mazes, and finds a reward beyond their wildest dreams. But they soon learn that all that glitters isn't gold when they face the wrath of an angry mummy. It'll take teamwork and the help of a new friend if Dex is going to make it out of the desert and become the WORLD'S BEST GREATEST EVER ARCHAEOLOGIST.



Category:

Middle Grade Graphic Novel

Sold to:

Susaeta Hellas (Greek)

Ages

8-12

Material:

PDF, 320 pages

**Greg Foley** is the designer and creative director of Visionaire, V, and VMAN. Born in the Philippines, raised in Texas, and now living in New York City, Foley's intention is to make books for children worldwide. And clearly it's working; *Thank You Bear* won the prestigious Charlotte Zolotow Award.

## **DEX DINGO: WORLD'S BEST GREATEST EVER INVENTOR**

## **Greg Foley**

**Disney Hyperion, September 2024** 

### Praise for Dex Dingo: World's Best Greatest Ever Inventor:

"Full of imagination and inventiveness, Dex Dingo is a blast!" —**John Patrick Green,** author of the *New York Times*-bestselling InvestiGators series

"An inspired graphic novel series bursting at the seams with fun ideas and creativity...just like its relatable hero, Dex Dingo himself!" —**Dave Roman**, creator of *Unicorn Boy* 

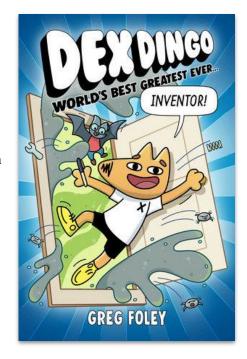
"Strega Nona meets the singularity in this zany comic....[E]nergetic illustrations and off-the-wall story brim with action and humor; kids will be eager for more of Dex. Frenetic, funny, fantastic, relatable—this dingo is a wild dog!"—*Kirkus* 

"An all's-well-that-ends-well resolution sows anticipation for the next installment of this brightly hued graphic novel series opener." —*Publishers Weekly* 

Dex Dingo isn't the BEST at anything. He's not the SMARTEST, the FUNNIEST, the STRONGEST, or the NICEST. But he wants to be the WORLD'S BEST GREATEST EVER...at something. So when Dex's teacher asks, "If you could be anything when you grow up, what would you be," Dex decides that he's going to be the best at one of the "best jobs ever."

First on his list: an inventor! Dex is able to create an awesome lab and an amazing team of nanobots, but things immediately go wrong when the nanobots start to multiply and form a gray goo that threatens to take over his neighborhood. It'll take some quick thinking and a rogue nanobot named Nono for Dex to stop the nanobots, save his best friend, and become the WORLD'S BEST GREATEST INVENTOR.

Filled with clever humor and touching insight, this chapter book graphic novel series follows Dex's misadventures as his attempts at the "coolest jobs" go awry.



Book 2 coming Fall 2025

Category: Middle Grade Graphic Novel Susaeta Hellas (Greek)

Ages 8-12

Material: PDF, 320 pages

**Greg Foley** is the designer and creative director of Visionaire, V, and VMAN. Born in the Philippines, raised in Texas, and now living in New York City, Foley's intention is to make books for children worldwide. And clearly it's working; *Thank You Bear* won the prestigious Charlotte Zolotow Award.

# THE SUPER-SECRET MISSION TO THE CENTER OF THE MOON (PIE)

An Octagon Valley Adventure

## Melissa de la Cruz

Disney Hyperion, February 2025

"De la Cruz continues to braid together two storylines of equal heft in this middle volume. Nonstop lunar lunacy." **-Kirkus** 

In the second book in Melissa de la Cruz's wacky new middle grade adventure series, the Octos find themselves on a mission to the moon. Which might not be made out of cheese after all.

After discovering in book one that they had every reason to feel a little bit different than their peers, Edwin Edgefield and the rest of his alien-on earth crew are primed and ready to learn all they can about their home planet. Unfortunately, that planet has been destroyed, and the one person who can help them find out where they came from—Maureen (yuck)—has no intention of helping. In fact, she has just taken off in a rocket ship bound for the moon, where the enemy Yaks awaits with a new version of her planet-destroying machine, this time aimed at earth.

It will take every bit of Edwin, Julie, Kimmy and Dilip's super abilities—both mental and physical—to stop Maureen this time. Can they pass through the gauntlet of tests Maureen has set for them and infiltrate the Yaks' secret moon base before the bad guys can power up their earth-blaster, or will Maureen and the Yaks succeed in their vengeful mission?

Grab a moon pie and cuddle up with this unputdownable sequel to the book PW called "energetic" "fast-paced" and "imaginative!"



Ages Material: 8-12

terial: PDF, 304 pages

**Melissa de la Cruz** (www.melissa-delacruz.com) is the author of the #1 *New York Times* best-selling *Descendants* series, as well as many other best-selling novels, including *Alex & Eliza*, the Never After series and the Blue Bloods series. She recently launched her own imprint, Melissa de la Cruz Studio, which publishes fun, fabulous, feel-good stories for children. She lives in Los Angeles, California, with her husband and daughter.

# THE (SUPER-SECRET) SOCIETY OF OCTAGON VALLEY Melissa de la Cruz

Disney Hyperion, September 2023, paperback September 2024

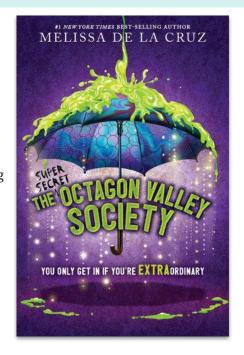
"A series opener that successfully combines emotional intelligence and page-turning adventure."-Kirkus

"De la Cruz (the Chronicles of Never After series) marries a Charlie and the Chocolate Factory plot with a Nickelodeon adventure vibe in this entertaining series opener. ... With its fast pace and imaginative scenarios, this novel has plenty of appeal." –*Publishers Weekly* 

"Diverse in race, culture, and family situation, the young folk, behind reluctant brainiac leader Edwin, throw off years of being variously ostracized, bullied, and coddled to survive fire, flood, piranhas, ninjas, a siren (of the singing sort), and other trials by learning how to be friends and teammates—and, not to be sneezed at, discovering that besides being smart or at least athletic, they all have actual superpowers.— *Booklist* 

This new series from #1 New York Times best-selling author Melissa de la Cruz is *The Mysterious Benedict Society* for reluctant readers, chockful of humor, adventure and mischief, and set at an exclusive, secluded, high-tech institute *everyone* wants to get into.

A handful of sixth-graders have been chosen to attend an exclusive weekend at the Octagon Valley Institute, the mysterious, high-tech lab of the uber famous multimillionaire, genius, recluse Onassander Octagon. What will they do there? No one is telling. Which just makes everyone want to get in.



Edwin has high hopes for the weekend—hopes he'll meet other kids like him—kids who will accept him even though he's got a photographic memory, genius level math skills and some very specific personality quirks. But when he meets the other kids, he starts to wonder if they're all in the right place. There's amateur rapper Kimmy, who's obsessed with TikTok, violin-player Julie, who has zero social skills, and surfer dude Dilip, who's well, a surfer dude. And then, strange things start to happen. An escape room challenge, a zero-gravity chamber, a river full of piranhas and . . . some ninjas? Octagon Valley is all about using teamwork to make the dream work, and these normally isolated kids might not all survive. But those who do will be treated to the greatest prize—and the biggest surprise—of their lives—a chance to be truly EXTRAordinary.

*Ages* 8-12

Material: PDF, 320 pages

**Melissa de la Cruz** (www.melissa-delacruz.com) is the author of the #1 *New York Times* best-selling *Descendants* series, as well as many other best-selling novels, including *Alex & Eliza*, the Never After series and the Blue Bloods series. She lives in Los Angeles, California, with her husband and daughter.

## SIMON SORT OF SAYS

## **Erin Bow**

Disney Hyperion, January 2023, paperback September 2024

### A Newbery Honor Book Longlisted for the National Book Award for Young People's Literature

Simon O'Keeffe's biggest claim to fame should be the time his dad accidentally gave a squirrel a holy sacrament. Or maybe the alpaca disaster that went viral on YouTube. But the story the whole world wants to tell about Simon is the one he'd do anything to forget: the one starring Simon as a famous survivor of gun violence at school.

Two years after the infamous event, twelve-year-old Simon and his family move to the National Quiet Zone—the only place in America where the internet is banned. Instead of talking about Simon, the astronomers who flock to the area are busy listening for signs of life in space. And when Simon makes a friend who's determined to give the scientists what they're looking for, he'll finally have the chance to spin a new story for the world to tell.

Simon Sort of Says, the Newbery Honor-winning novel by Erin Bow, is a breathtaking testament to the lasting echoes of trauma, the redemptive power of humor, and the courage it takes to move forward without forgetting the past.

This paperback includes discussion questions and an interview with the author.



Ages Material: 8-12

PDF, 320 pages

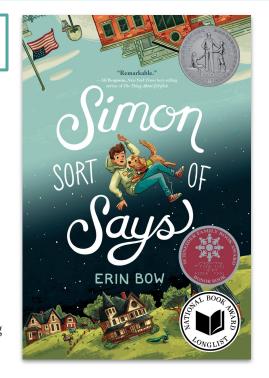
Sold to:

Reihe Hanser bei DTV (**German**), Balgeunmirae (**Korean**),

Grupul Editorial Art (Romanian), Thinkingdom Media (simplified

Chinese)

**Erin Bow** was trained as a physicist, so naturally now spends her days writing children's fiction in a tiny (heated) garden shed in Ontario, Canada. Her books—which include the Governor General's Award-winning *Stand on the Sky, Plain Kate, Sorrow's Knot*, and the science fiction duology *The Scorpion Rules* and *The Swan Riders*—have won a fistful of awards. Erin lives with her husband (also a novelist), two teenage kids, a dangerously smart small tabby, and an agreeably stupid labradoodle. Visit her online at ErinBow.com and @ErinBowBooks.



## PRAISE FOR SIMON SORT OF SAYS

A Junior Library Guild Selection

An Amazon Editors' Best Book of 2023

An Indie Next Selection

A National Education Association's Read Across America Recommendation

A Kirkus Reviews Best Book of 2023

A Publishers Weekly Best Book of 2023

A School Library Journal Best Book of 2023

A Shelf Awareness Best Book of 2023

A Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books Blue Ribbon Book

An Amazon Editors' Pick January 2023

"A perfectly paced, layered novel that never speaks down to its readers and handles difficult situations with remarkable sensitivity. Bow hits all the right chords and delivers a story that is funny, poignant and—most important—hopeful." —*The New York Times* 

"Adroit, sensitive, horrifying, yet hilarious." **-Kirkus Reviews, starred review** 

"Funny and heartfelt in equal measure, this book tackles some tough topics, but the humor keeps readers engaged." – **School Library Journal** (*SLJ*)

"A compassionate and refreshingly hopeful novel." —*Publishers Weekly*, **Starred Review** 

"Bow's storytelling brims with vitality." - The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books (BCCB), starred review

"A tribute to the power of friendship and the courage it takes to pursue joy in a world of violence." —National Book Foundation, National Book Award for Young People's Literature Longlist

"A perfect balance of fun and meaning. A remarkable achievement." —Ali Benjamin, New York Times best-selling author of The Thing About Jellyfish

"A near-perfect novel that features quirky friendships, wild astronomy exploits (that almost work!), zany animal capers and plenty of humor amidst the darkness." —**Shelf Awareness** 

"Blunt as trauma, delicate as healing, and hilarious and tragic as middle school can be—each piece of *Simon Sort of Says* snaps together like the most satisfying jigsaw puzzle. This book is as close to everything as one book can be."—*Kyle Lukoff, Newbery Honor-winning author of Too Bright to See* 

"Fast-paced and full of quirky characters, *Simon Sort of Says* presents a tragedy stitched up with humor, sensitivity, and rare humanity."—*Jack Gantos,*Newbery Award-winning author of Dead End in Norvelt

## **Rick Riordan Presents**

# SERWA BOATENG'S GUIDE TO SAVING THE WORLD

Serwa Boateng Book 3

## Roseanne A. Brown

Disney Hyperion, April 2025

"Rosie writes her characters with such lyrical power, wit, and empathy that you can't help falling in love with Serwa Boateng, her family, and her friends." —Rick Riordan, New York Times best-selling author of the Percy Jackson and the Olympians series

Serwa Boateng has gone head-to-head with vampires, witches, and even a death god. But now, with the fate of the magical world at stake, she'll have to face her toughest foe yet: her own grandmother.

Finally free after decades of being trapped inside the Midnight Drum, the dreaded obayifo Nana Bekoe seeks the destruction of the Abomofuo. Even worse, she has Serwa's father under her thrall. Now, the hunters have become the hunted, as the Slayers' defenses are powerless in the face of an enemy who has access to all their secrets.

Serwa's only chance of saving her father might just lie with the Keepers, an organization whose powers exist outside the normal rules of magic. But the Keepers are even more secretive than the Abomofuo, and finding them will require Serwa to trek across the United States. At least she has her friends by her side for the journey . . . friends who currently hate her guts. The survival of everything and everyone Serwa has ever loved hinges on her completing this final hunt without losing herself in the process. Serwa Boateng has been a Slayer. She's been a vampire. But now, it's time for her to become something else entirely: a hero.

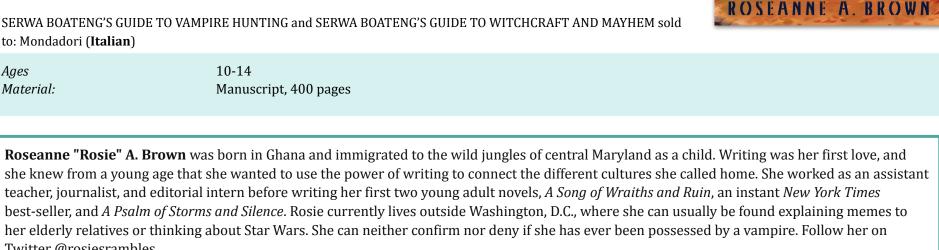
SERWA BOATENG'S GUIDE TO VAMPIRE HUNTING and SERWA BOATENG'S GUIDE TO WITCHCRAFT AND MAYHEM sold to: Mondadori (Italian)

10-14 Ages

Twitter @rosiesrambles.

Manuscript, 400 pages Material:

RICK RIORDAN PRESEN



# SERWA BOATENG'S GUIDE TO WITCHCRAFT AND MAYHEM

Serwa Boateng Book 2

## Roseanne A. Brown

Disney Hyperion, September 2023, paperback March 2025

"This sequel to Brown's explosive Ghanaian contemporary fantasy brings all the action and heart of the first book and turns it up to an eleven."—**Booklist** 

"Serwa continues to be a humorous narrator and an accessible guide to life, reluctant middle school crushes, the joys of tasting mumbo sauce for the first time, and return trips to the underworld of Asamando. Joyful, unexpected reunions give Serwa firmer footing for a high-stakes deal with Owuo, the god of death ... Family means everything in this thrilling, heart-wrenching sequel." –*Kirkus* 

Best-selling author Rick Riordan presents the highly anticipated sequel to Rosanne A. Brown's explosive novel about a preteen vampire slayer, inspired by Ghanaian folklore

After accidentally unleashing a storm of black magic on her town, Serwa's only ally is her aunt Boahinmaa, an obayifo who urges Serwa to embrace her vampire side. Boahinmaa is on the hunt for the Midnight Drum, from which she hopes to free Serwa's powerful grandmother. When the forces of black magic learn that the Abomofuo have hidden the Drum deep within the Smithsonian Museum in Washington, DC, what do they do? Stage a heist to steal it, of course. Joining in might just force Serwa to confront truths about herself she's tried hard to deny.

Endorsed by Rick Riordan, author of Percy Jackson and the Olympians, now a hit series on Disney+.



Ages Material: 10-14

Sold to:

Mondadori (Italian)

Material: PDF, 304 pages

**Roseanne "Rosie" A. Brown** was born in Ghana and immigrated to the wild jungles of central Maryland as a child. Writing was her first love, and she knew from a young age that she wanted to use the power of writing to connect the different cultures she called home. She worked as an assistant teacher, journalist, and editorial intern before writing her first two young adult novels, *A Song of Wraiths and Ruin*, an instant *New York Times* best-seller, and *A Psalm of Storms and Silence*. Rosie currently lives outside Washington, D.C., where she can usually be found explaining memes to her elderly relatives or thinking about Star Wars. She can neither confirm nor deny if she has ever been possessed by a vampire. Follow her on Twitter @rosiesrambles.

## PRAISE FOR SERWA BOATENG'S GUIDE TO VAMPIRE HUNTING

Also available: SERWA BOATENG'S GUIDE TO VAMPIRE HUNTING (Book 1)

Rights sold: Mondadori (Italian)

"This textured, richly mythological story will keep the pages turning as readers are drawn into Serwa's world. A superb, action-packed series starter"—*Kirkus, starred review* 

"Via Serwa's savvy narration, Brown (A Song of Wraiths and Ruin) melds Ghanian folklore, smart action, thoughtful commentary about liminal spaces, and a healthy dose of tween hijinks, making for an exhilarating introduction to Serwa Boateng's magic-filled world.—*Publishers Weekly, starred review* 

"Despite her unconventional life, Serwa's struggles with feelings of powerlessness, abandonment, and an overwhelming emotion that she refers to as the "Big Feeling" will resonate with many young readers, as will her attempts to understand who she is and where she came from. Her diverse, ragtag group of friends simultaneously provide depth and levity to the story."--Booklist

"Serwa Boateng's Guide to Vampire Hunting is a thrilling middle grade adventure with a fresh take on vampires and characters that you will not only root for but love with all your heart. This novel had a hold on me from page one. Roseanne really knocked it out of the park!"—Claribel A. Ortega, New York Times best-selling author of Witchlings

"Move over, Buffy! Slide aside, Van Helsing! There's a new slayer in town. Sharp wit and sharp swords will have readers rooting for Serwa!"—Kwame Mbalia, New York Times best-selling author of Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky

"Rosie writes her characters with such lyrical power, wit, and empathy that you can't help falling in love with Serwa Boateng, her family, and her friends."—*Rick Riordan, New York Times best-selling author of the Percy Jackson series* 



# Melissa de la Cruz Studio

# **BILLIONS TO BURN**

## **Taylor Banks**

Disney Hyperion, May 2025

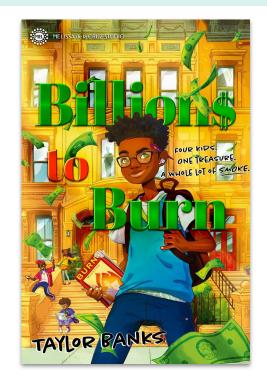
*National Treasure* gets a Harlem Renaissance twist in this epic adventure through New York City, filled with history, humor, and heart

Twelve-year-old Zeus Jones is just about the only person in the world who believes in his grandfather's stories about the Harlem Renaissance. To be fair, they are a bit far-fetched. After all, what are the chances that there was a renowned magazine called *Burn!* whose headquarters literally burned down, destroying almost every single copy? And who would believe that a secret page was actually hidden amongst the ashes, said to be the key to unlocking a lost fortune? No one, that's who.

But when Zeus accidentally stumbles upon the secret page on the same day that his grandfather disappears without a trace, he finally has proof that his grandfather's stories are more than just stories—they're real. And now he knows that the secret page is more than just a secret page—it's a treasure map, leading to a prize beyond all imagining.

Follow the map, find the treasure, save his grandfather. Seems simple enough. But as Zeus and his friends work to solve the riddles of the map, long-buried secrets about the Harlem Renaissance, Black history, and Zeus's own family are unraveled. And what's more, they aren't the only ones intent on seizing this prize. . .

Filled with interactive clues and puzzles, young readers will love solving this mile-a-minute mystery right alongside Zeus!



*Ages* 8-12

Material: PDF, 336 pages

**Taylor Banks** is a recent graduate of the New Writers Project at UT Austin where she received her MFA and worked under the tutelage of Elizabeth McCracken and Claire Vaye Watkins. Her short fiction has received awards from both the L. Ron Hubbard Writers of the Future contest and Glimmer Train's Fiction Open Contest. She is currently part of the Futurescapes Writers Workshop where she has worked with author Elizabeth Bear and agent/editor Deidre Knight.

# **Rick Riordan Presents**

## THE LAST FALLEN REALM

The Gifted Clans Book 3

## Graci Kim

Disney Hyperion, June 2023, paperback April 2025

# Best-selling author Rick Riordan presents the thrilling conclusion to Graci Kim's best-selling Gifted Clans trilogy.

Riley Oh wasn't born into her family. Instead, as she recently discovered, she tumbled down to the earth many years ago as the last fallen star. Riley Oh also wasn't born to be a witch. Like, at all—even her status as a divine celestial being comes with *zilch* in the magical powers department. And Riley Oh *definitely* wasn't born to be a leader. But now the entire magical community thinks she and her soul-twin, Dahl, are meant to lead the world into the Age of the Final Eclipse (or whatever it is that the Haetae keeps saying they're "destined" to do). Greeeat.

But ever since Riley killed the Cave Bear Goddess, she's been a bit preoccupied with one thing: waiting for the goddess's sisters to get their revenge. And it looks like her wait is finally over—because as witches from around the world prepare for war, it seems as though the goddesses are preparing for something much worse. Something that will lure Riley and her friends deep into the realm of the gods. Into a world of humongous, talking moon bunnies; life-or-death mini-golf competitions; and...magical gummy candies?

And in order to save the world, Riley must do the one thing she was born to do: believe in herself.

Also Available: THE LAST FALLEN MOON (Book 2) THE LAST FALLEN STAR (Book 3)

THE LAST FALLEN MOON (BOOK 2)

THE LAST FALLEN STAR (Book 3)

Ages

10-14

Sold to:

Edel Kids (German) - Books 1 & 2, Beta Publishing (Turkish) Books 1 & 2, Galeria Ksiazki (Polish), Gallucci (Italian) - Books
2 & 3

**Graci Kim** is the national best-selling author of *The Last Fallen Star*, the first book in the Gifted Clans trilogy. A Korean-Kiwi diplomat turned author, Graci writes about the magic she wants to see in the world. In a previous life she used to be a cooking show host, and she once ran a business that turned children's drawings into cuddly toys. When she's not lost in her imagination, you'll find Graci drinking flat whites, eating ramyeon, and most likely hugging a dog (or ideally, many). She lives in New Zealand with her husband and daughter. Find her at www.gracikim.com and follow her on Twitter @gracikim and Instagram @gracikimwrites

RICK RIORDAN PRESENTS

GRACI KIM

## PRAISE FOR THE GIFTED CLANS SERIES

### PRAISE FOR THE LAST FALLEN STAR

"[In this] fast-paced adventure, unique clan identities are cleverly imagined, and Riley's emotional arc and journey to self-acceptance shine through."—*Publishers Weekly* 

"Exploring familial bonds, belonging, and community, this is a fast-paced urban fantasy drawing on Korean mythology. Complications and twists keep the plot engaging and snappy. A fun, new magical world that promises more adventures to come."—*Kirkus Reviews* 

"Full of humor and thrills, this bewitching fantasy blends Korean mythology into an empowering adventure."—*School Library Journal* 

"From a compelling and endearing supporting cast to the rich and tantalizing Korean cuisine explored in its pages, this pays homage to traditional Korean magic and mythos while infusing it with a contemporary story line and characters readers will fall in love with in an instant. Riley's unmistakable voice and her relatable search for and exploration of her identity will connect with readers at their cores, offering a truly promising start to a fantastical series."—*Booklist* (starred review)

"Reading *The Last Fallen Star* is like taking a course in Korean mythology taught by your favorite teacher ever--while riding a gigantic roller coaster beneath a sky filled with shooting stars! I loved following Riley's thrilling adventure, and pass the bulgogi tacos, please."—*Linda Sue Park, Newbery Medalist for A Single Shard* 

"The Last Fallen Star folds Korean culture as well as diaspora feelings into a magical adventure. The way Graci Kim takes traditions and lore and incorporates them into an exciting contemporary fantasy setting makes my heart soar as a Korean reader. This fantastical story is filled with heart and humor. Readers who love magical adventures, complex family relationships, and sisterhood--not to mention food!--should pick up The Last Fallen Star immediately!"—Kat Cho, internationally best-selling author of Vicious Spirits

# New York Times Bestsellers Optioned by The Disney Channel for a series!

### PRAISE FOR THE LAST FALLEN MOON

"Folklore enthusiasts will rejoice at the return to monster-filled lands and new whimsical worlds where anything can happen, and Riley's signature fun attitude and relatable voice will captivate readers who are just meeting her here, as she continues to search for a sense of belonging in a world that constantly challenges her identity."

-Booklist (starred review)

"With dry humor and rough-and-tumble theatrics, Riley's story continues as she grapples with guilt, belonging, and her own identity and self-confidence. The novel deftly balances the fun and the serious. The stakes are high, though Riley simply wants to do the right thing for her family and her community. A nonstop, Korean-inspired fantasy adventure that also tackles darker emotions." —*Kirkus Review* 

### PRAISE FOR THE LAST FALLEN REALM

"The worlds-shattering conclusion to the Gifted Clans trilogy...With higher stakes, even more creatures from Korean mythology, and plot points from earlier installments finally addressed, this is an intense, satisfying series finale. Funny and heartfelt; a compelling tale featuring a sympathetic cast of characters." -Kirkus Reviews (Starred)





## RICK RIORDAN PRESENTS

## **FOX SNARE**

A Thousand Worlds Novel

## Yoon Ha Lee

Disney Hyperion, October 2023, paperback October 2025

"Beloved characters from the first two books come together one last time in this Thousand Worlds trilogy closer ... A grand space opera grounded in Korean culture." -Kirkus

"This story is as captivating as its predecessors, incorporating a blend of science fiction and Korean mythology. Fans of this series won't want to miss the epic conclusion to this space adventure." - Michelle Ortega, Booklist

While on a mission to cement peace between the Sun Clans and the Thousand Worlds, Min the fox spirit and her ghost brother Jun get stranded on a death planet with Haneul the dragon spirit and Sebin the tiger spirit. To survive, the young cadets will have to rely on all their wits, training, and supernatural abilities. And let's not forget the Dragon Pearl . . .

This thrilling conclusion of the Thousand Worlds trilogy, told in alternating points of view, will put you under a delightful spell as it transports you to worlds full of both danger and wonder.

Also available:

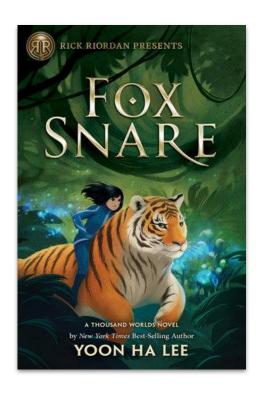
DRAGON PEARL (Book 1) - Please contact The Gernert Company.

Rights sold to: Rights to Dragon Pearl were sold to: Noura Books (Indonesian); Giunti Editore (Italian); Sakyejul Publishing (Korean); Galeria Ksiazki (Polish) Editor ART (Romania), Dogan Egmont (Turkish); Publishing House Zhorzh (Ukrainian)

10-14 Ages

Material: PDF, 256 pages

**Yoon Ha Lee** is a *New York Times* best-selling author, winner of the Locus Award and the Mythopoeic Award. He has also published several books for adults, including a stand-alone fantasy entitled *Phoenix Extravagant* and the Machineries of Empire space opera trilogy: *Ninefox Gambit, Raven* Stratagem, and Revenant Gun. Yoon draws inspiration from a variety of sources, such as Korean history and mythology, fairy tales, higher mathematics, classic moral dilemmas, and genre fiction.



## RICK RIORDAN PRESENTS

# **TIGER HONOR**

A Thousand Words Novel

## Yoon Ha Lee

**Disney Hyperion, January 2022** 

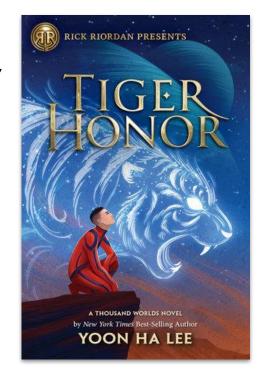
"With a delightful mix of Korean mythology and science fiction, Lee expands on the intriguing world of his previous novel to create another exhilarating adventure with a new precocious protagonist." – **Booklist** 

"With crisp dialogue, a winning protagonist and a propulsive plot, this tale is enormously entertaining." *–New York Times Book Review* of DRAGON PEARL

Sebin, a young tiger spirit from the Juhwang Clan, wants nothing more than to join the Thousand World Space Forces and, like their Uncle Hwan, captain a battle cruiser someday. But when Sebin's acceptance letter finally arrives, it's accompanied by the shocking news that Hwan has been declared a traitor. Apparently the captain abandoned his duty to steal a magical artifact, the Dragon Pearl, and his whereabouts are still unknown. Sebin hopes to help clear their hero's name and restore honor to the clan.

Nothing goes according to plan, however. As soon as Sebin arrives for orientation, they are met by a special investigator named Yi and Yi's assistant, a girl named Min. Yi informs Sebin that they must immediately report to the ship Haetae and await further instructions. Sebin finds this highly unusual, but soon all protocol is forgotten when there's an explosion on the ship, the crew is knocked out, and the communication system goes down. It's up to Sebin, three other cadets, and Yi and Min to determine who is sabotaging the battle cruiser. When Sebin is suddenly accused of collaborating with the enemy, the cadet realizes that Min is the most dangerous foe of all...

Yoon Ha Lee brilliantly turns the tables on DRAGON PEARL in another unputdownable sci-fi adventure about what honor really means.



Ages Material: 10-14

PDF, 248 pages

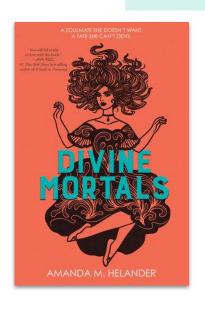
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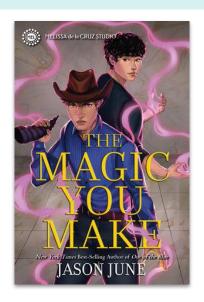
Changbi Publishers (**Korean**), Beta Publishing Co.

(Turkey)

**Yoon Ha Lee** is a *New York Times* best-selling author, winner of the Locus Award and the Mythopoeic Award. He has also published several books for adults, including a stand-alone fantasy entitled *Phoenix Extravagant* and the Machineries of Empire space opera trilogy: *Ninefox Gambit, Raven Stratagem*, and *Revenant Gun*. Yoon draws inspiration from a variety of sources, such as Korean history and mythology, fairy tales, higher mathematics, classic moral dilemmas, and genre fiction.

## **YOUNG ADULT**







## Melissa de la Cruz Studio

With the MDLC Studio, *New York Times* bestselling author Melissa de la Cruz acts as an incubator to develop original content, working together with diverse new and established authors to create high concept books and create big platforms for writers of color and up-and-coming talent. The MDLC Studio core audience ranges from picture book to middle grade to YA and Adult/Crossover titles (18+).

## **Rick Riordan Presents**

Rick Riordan Presents is a line of books that is curated, edited, and promoted by internationally best-selling author Rick Riordan. Our goal is to publish great authors from underrepresented cultures and backgrounds and to let them tell their own stories inspired by the mythology and folklore of their heritage.

# Melissa de la Cruz Studio

# THE SACRED AND THE DIVINE



## **Kate Christensen and Melissa Henderson**

Disney Hyperion, May 2025

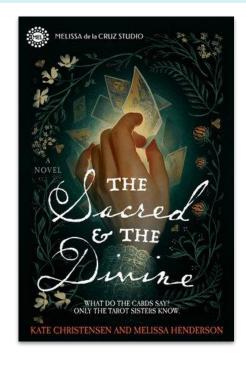
History, romance, and the occult come together in a mesmerizing tale of sisterhood, fate, and the darkness lurking in our world.

Past, Present, Future. What do the cards say? Only the Wolfson sisters know.

The year is 1848, and Daisy, Morrigan, and Avery Wolfson are skilled in the supernatural, particularly tarot readings. Daisy has insights about the future, Morrigan has ties to the past, and Avery has a special connection to the present. Although Massachusetts is known for its hostility to such talents, the village of Redcliffe is eager to use the sisters' abilities for its own gain.

Then Daisy meets Harvard medical student and occult skeptic Jasper Fitzwilliam, as well as handsome newcomer Nate Winthrop, whose fiery nature might just rival Daisy's. Caught up in the throes of first love, Daisy grows distracted, which is only further muddled by a mysterious feud between the girls' mother and their spiritual tutor.

But when the sisters accidentally unleash a bloodthirsty demon on their sleepy town, the lines between friend and enemy get blurred. Will Daisy, Morrigan, and Avery escape unscathed, or is an unfortunate fate written in the stars?



*Ages* 12-18

Material: PDF, 366 pages

**Kate Christensen** has published nine novels, including *The Great Man*, which won the PEN/Faulkner Award for fiction, and most recently *Welcome Home, Stranger* and *The Arizona Triangle*, as well as two food-centric memoirs, *Blue Plate Special* and *How to Cook a Moose*, which won the Maine Literary Award for Memoir. She lives in Taos, New Mexico, with her husband and their two dogs.

**Melissa Henderson** was born in Boston and spent summers digging for clams in Gloucester and Cape Cod. Her work has appeared in *The Los Angeles Times, Sports Illustrated*'s *The Cauldron*, and *Brand X*. She lives in the Scottish hills with her husband and their two catbeasts.

# **WAYWARD GODS**

## Amanda M. Helander

**Disney Hyperion, October 2025** 



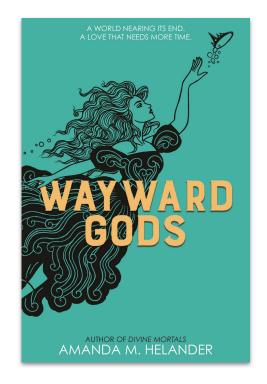
This sequel to Divine Mortals, which Kirkus Reviews recommended for fans of Sarah J. Maas and Rebecca Yarros, delivers sizzling romance and epic stakes.

Mona is tasked with saving the world and everyone she loves—but what can she do when even the *gods* have failed?

Soothsayer Mona Arnett never even wanted a soulmate, and now she's been forced to marry the king, parting from the man she truly loves.

Worse, though Mona has delayed the prophesied end of the world, she hasn't stopped it. The gods have turned their backs, the castle is besieged by demons, and Mona is the only one who can seek help.

But who do you turn to when the world is ending and even the gods are powerless to stop it? To save all those she's come to love, Mona may have to become even more powerful than the gods . . .



Ages 12-18 Material: PDF

**Amanda M. Helander** is a fantasy author and paralegal from Seattle, Washington. When she's not writing, Amanda can be found watching horror movies, learning to crochet, or eating entire blocks of parmesan in one sitting. Visit her online at www.amandahelander.com or @helander\_amanda on Instagram.

# **DIVINE MORTALS**

## Amanda M. Helander

Disney Hyperion, October 2024, paperback September 2025

"Fans of Rebecca Yarros and Sarah J. Maas need look no further for their next big read." —*Kirkus Reviews,* starred review

A promising debut with many moving parts, Helander's first of a planned series offers entry into an exciting magical world, with more interesting tales to come" **–Booklist** 

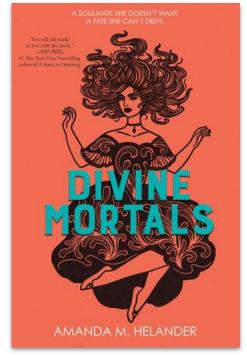
Mona can name anyone's soulmate—but she'll do anything to avoid being matched with her own. Especially when she learns he's the king.

This debut romantasy perfect for fans of Sarah J. Maas and Rebecca Yarros delivers sizzling romance, cutthroat competition, a lush fantasy world, and an unforgettable heroine.

Blessed by the gods, Mona Arnett has the unique ability to divine soulmates, but she refuses to seek out her own—until she learns the king is dying without an heir, threatening the royal line and the world's access to magic. Tasked with naming his future queen, Mona discovers the king's soulmate is . . . her.

A royal match is the last thing Mona wants—especially when she starts falling for the king's closest advisor—so she lies, cheats, and contends with scheming gods to hide the truth. But when this high-stakes game of thrones leads to murder, survival and the fate of the kingdom will depend on her finding the courage to face her destiny.

Delightful wit, spellbinding prose, and a flawed, funny protagonist you'll love from page one make this debut fantasy a must-read.



Ages Material: 12-18 PDF Sold to:

Muza Publishing House (Polish)

**Amanda M. Helander** is a fantasy author and paralegal from Seattle, Washington. When she's not writing, Amanda can be found watching horror movies, learning to crochet, or eating entire blocks of parmesan in one sitting. Visit her online at www.amandahelander.com or @helander\_amanda on Instagram.

## **WISH UPON A K-STAR**

## **Kat Cho**

Disney Hyperion, April 2025

A spin-off to the New York Times best-selling Once Upon a K-Prom, a K-pop idol and an up-and-coming K-drama star must fake date in this fresh and funny romcom that Korean pop culture fans will absolutely swoon over!

Moon Minseok—or Moonster as the WDB fans know him—wasn't born to lead. Even as part of the world's most popular K-Pop group, he found comfort in his role as the jokester, the sidekick, the unserious one (with the cutest smile). But now WDB is drowning in dating scandals, and it's time for Moonster to take charge of the group's image.

Shin Hyeri has been dealing with some scandals of her own. An up-and-coming K-Drama actress, she's been labeled a "nepo baby" (with a famous idol as a big brother) and now, a bully (which couldn't be further from the truth). Desperate to show the world that she's earned her spot, Hyeri is determined not to let her rising star crash and burn.

When these two childhood enemies get caught up in yet another scandal while co-hosting a K-Pop festival, there's only one solution that will save both of their reputations: appear on one of Korea's most popular variety shows, Our Celebrity Marriage (where celebrities pretend to get married and compete in 'newlywed' challenges).

The plan is simple—pretend to get along, win back the fans, then go their separate ways. But what happens when a fake marriage leads to real feelings? Will Moonster and Hyeri bow to the pressures of their famous realities, or will they decide their love is something worth fighting for?



Ages Material: 12-18

*Sold to:* PDF, 336 pages

Konyvmolykepzo Kiado (Hungarian)

**Kat Cho** is a *New York Times* best-selling YA author who loves to incorporate her Korean heritage in her writing, especially if it involves describing food. She's the author of Wicked Fox and Vicious Spirits. Kat lives and works in New York City. Find her online at Twitter @KatCho, Instagram @KatChoWrites, and KatChoWrites.com

## **MAYA IN MULTICOLOR**

## Swati Teerdhala

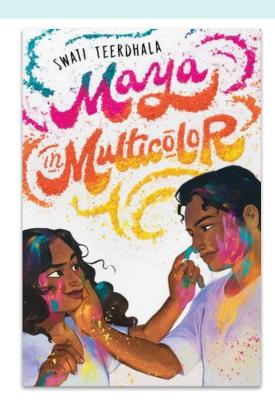
Disney Hyperion, March 2025

"A story of self-discovery and falling in love, with a dash of color and a sprinkle of breeziness". **–Kirkus** 

Fans of *When Dimple Met Rishi* will love this charming, slow-burn YA romance about all the ways you can honor tradition while still giving it a modern flair.

When it comes to romance, Maya still believes in meet-cutes, but she's done with boys wasting her time. After her freshman romance refuses to put a label on their relationship, Maya decides to reclaim her life and completely turnaround her college experience. She's got big plans to throw the most spectacular Holi—a colorful Hindu festival symbolizing rebirth, which Maya feels she desperately needs.

Enter college heartthrob Nishant Rai, an upperclassman, notorious playboy, and well-connected DJ. After the student council makes him Maya's co-planner, she finds herself working closely with the one guy on campus she can't have and definitely doesn't want. He plans to turn the event into #HoliFest, a flashy EDM festival blending old traditions with the fresh new twist of a music festival. As the two grow closer, Maya realizes Nishant is so much more than a pretty face. Is he just wasting her time, or has she finally found her meet-cute?



Ages 12 and up Material: PDF, 304 pages

**Swati Teerdhala** is the author of The Tiger at Midnight series, which has appeared on both Barnes and Noble and Book Riot's Most Anticipated Novels lists. After graduating with a BS in finance and BA in history, she tumbled into the marketing side of the technology industry. She's passionate about many things, including how to make a proper cup of tea, the right ratio of curd-to-crust in a lemon tart, and diverse representation in the stories we tell. She currently lives in New York City.

## ONCE UPON A K-PROM

## **Kat Cho**

Disney Hyperion, May 2022, paperback May 2023

"Once Upon a K-Prom is a fun, swoony, fresh romance. Readers are sure to fall in love with Elena and Robbie!"—Gloria Chao, author of American Panda and Rent a Boyfriend

"A relentlessly charming tale of finding love and finding yourself—this scrumptious blend of sweet romance and tart pop culture commentary is the perfect book-shaped treat!"—*Sarah Kuhn, author of From Little Tokyo, With Love* 

"A love song to first love and second chances, *Once Upon a K-Prom* is a delightful romcom filled with adorable banter and heart-stopping moments. This book should come with a warning: prepare to swoon!"—*Axie Oh, New York Times best-selling author of The Girl Who Fell Beneath the Sea* 

"This book is a total win-win! It has two of my all time favorite things—K-Pop and a prom! What more can you really ask for?! Super fun and totally charming!!"—*Jenny Lee, author of Anna K Away* 

What would you do if the world's biggest K-pop star asked you to prom? Perfect for fans of Jenny Han and Sandhya Menon, this hilarious and heartfelt novel brings the glamour and drama of the K-pop world straight to high school.

Elena Soo has always felt overshadowed. Whether by her more successful older sisters, her more popular twin brother, or her more outgoing best friend, everyone except Elena seems to know exactly who they are and what they want. But she is certain about one thing - she has no interest in going to prom. While the rest of the school is giddy over corsages and dresses, Elena would rather spend her time working to save the local community center, the one place that's always made her feel like she belonged.



So when international K-pop superstar Robbie Choi shows up at her house to ask her to prom, Elena is more confused than ever. Because the one person who always accepted Elena as she is? Her childhood best friend, Robbie Choi. And the one thing she maybe, possibly, *secretly* wants more than anything? For the two of them to keep the promise they made each other as kids: to go to prom together. But that was seven years ago, and with this new K-pop persona, pink hair, and stylish clothes, Robbie is nothing like the sweet, goofy boy she remembers. The boy she shared all her secrets with. The boy she used to love.

Besides, prom with a guy who comes with hordes of screaming fans, online haters, and relentless paparazzi is the last thing Elena wants - even if she can't stop thinking about Robbie's smile...right?

*Ages* 12-18

Material: PDF, 368 pages

Sold to:

Alta Books (**Brazilian Portuguese**), Cross Cult (**German**), Konyvmolykepzo (**Hungarian**), Euro Libris SRL (**Romanian**) Beta Publishing (**Turkish**)

**Kat Cho** is a *New York Times* best-selling YA author who loves to incorporate her Korean heritage in her writing, especially if it involves describing food. She's the author of *Wicked Fox* and *Vicious Spirits*. Kat lives and works in New York City. Find her online at Twitter @KatCho, Instagram @KatChoWrites, and KatChoWrites.com

# RICK RIORDAN PRESENTS THE DARK BECOMES HER

Judy I. Lin

**Disney Hyperion, October 2024** 

"This is sophisticated horror for both fans and non-fans of the genre alike. A superb addition to horror collections that will also satisfy fans of mythology, too. - School Library Journal starred review

In an adventure that explores both inner and outer demons, Lin's spine-tingling Chinese-folklore-inspired novel will appeal to readers looking for scares grounded in realistic emotions. Well-known for her stirring fantasies, Lin proves with this novel that she has true promise as a horror author -Booklist

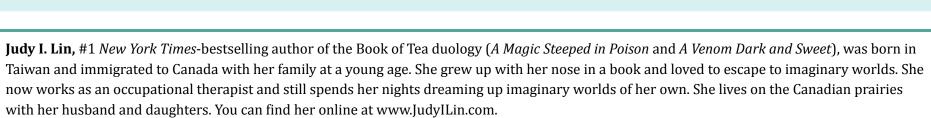
Perfect for fans of Ryan LaSala and Trang Thanh Tran: a sinister tale of the supernatural, sisterhood, and the shadows that rule our darkest desires, New York Times best-selling author Judy I. Lin takes her first foray into horror.

Ruby has always played the part of the dutiful eldest daughter: excelling in school; excelling in piano lessons; excelling at keeping her younger sister, Tina, focused on extracurriculars meant to impress college admissions officers.

But when a ghost from the spirit world attacks Ruby in the middle of Vancouver's Chinatown neighborhood, her life is plunged into a darkness that no amount of duty can free her from. Overnight, Ruby's sister seems to change. There are strange noises coming from her bedroom at all hours; and the once sweet, funny Tina has been replaced by something dark and unnatural.

As Ruby races to save her sister from demonic possession, she is thrown into an ancient battle over the gateway to the underworld. On one side, an evil traveling temple known for making dark wishes come true has returned to Chinatown after many years—intent on breaking down the gateway and unleashing the evil within. On the other side, the guardians who must stop them.

Ages 12 and up PDF, 368 pages Material:





## Melissa de la Cruz Studios

## **RISE**

## Freya Finch

Disney Hyperion, July 2024

"The contemporary setting combined with Norse mythological elements is fresh without being overwhelmed by too much godly interference, leaving room for Bryn to contend with all sorts of magical creatures and make plenty of mistakes along the way...A well-balanced story of both teenage and godly dramas." -Kirkus Reviews

"The boldly drawn, white-cued cast is feisty and funny. Coupled with Bryn's snarky first-person-present narrative, Finch unveils a rollicking, twist-filled plot, which puts a modern spin on ancient folklore while sensitively exploring issues of identity and fate." – *Publishers Weekly, starred review* 

The action and adventure of *Percy Jackson* meets the complex heroines of *The Cruel Prince* as a family of valkyries fight to stop Ragnarök.

For seventeen-year-old Bryn, being the youngest, messiest, most rebellious sister in a family of valkyries isn't easy. Especially considering home is a Renaissance faire in Chicago full of costumed workers who see her as nothing more than a nuisance. When her mother disappears on a mission for Odin, Bryn begins having strange visions about the impending Ragnarök. Bryn senses their mother is in great danger, but her annoyingly perfect older sisters refuse to take her seriously. Their mother is, after all, captain of the valkyries.

Things only take a turn for the worse when a half human, half giant named Juniper crashes the party with a violent zombie in tow, confirming Bryn's worst fears—her visions of Ragnarök are real. If that wasn't enough, the faire's mysterious new addition, Wyatt the Black Knight, just so happens to have a ferocious secret that threatens everyone around him. Determined to survive Ragnarök, Bryn, Juniper, and Wyatt team up to combat the horde of monsters that keeps appearing throughout the faire. But after Bryn ignores the call to deliver Wyatt to Odin's eternal warriors in Valhalla, choosing to save his life instead, she starts to wonder if she'll ever get this valkyrie thing right.



Whispers of divine interference—including sightings of the mischievous Loki—reach Bryn's ears. Soon everyone at the faire becomes a suspect, leaving Bryn, her sisters, and their newfound friends the only ones who can stop the war to end all realms. Whether she's ready or not, Bryn is about to learn how the ties between fate and choice are as interwoven and unbreakable as the bonds between sisters.

*Ages* 12-18

Material: PDF, 384 pages

**Freya Finch** writes about myths, magic, and mischief-makers. Born and raised in Michigan, she earned her MA in writing and publishing from DePaul University in Chicago. Now she lives in the mountains of Poland, where you can find her hiking with her German shepherd or lounging at home with her husband watching their favorite movies. Rise is her first novel. Find her on Instagram @FreyaFinchAuthor or at her website FreyaFinchBooks.com.

## **Praise for RISE**

"A natural pick for fans growing out of Rick Riordan's Magnus Chase books." —**Booklist** 

"A fierce, action-packed debut that keeps you hook until the very last page." —**Alex Aster**, #1 New York Times best-selling author of *Lightlark* 

"Thrilling, magical, and full of heart, this breathtaking Norse fantasy is impossible to put down, with a cast you can't help but adore." —**Marie Lu**, #1 *New York Times* best-selling author of *Stars and Smoke* 

## **Praise for KING CHEER**

"Readers of the first installment will enjoy the same quirky characters depicted in illustrations by Green, who gets the cheerleading motif just right, along with a realistic portrayal of contemporary high school students who happen to attend class with fairies. LGBTQIA+ representation is ubiquitous in the story. VERDICT This graphic novel will fit nicely into the collection that already has graphic novels with LGBTQIA+ characters and where the previous volume is popular." – *School Library Journal* 

## **Praise for Twelfth Grade Night**

A School Library Journal Best Book of 2022

"Magical and full of queer joy—this book is such a dream!" —**Alice Oseman,** *New York Times* best-selling author of *Heartstopper* and *Loveless* 

"Twelfth Grade Night is a heartfelt and expressive graphic novel with memorable characters, emotive art, and an engaging story. I loved it!" —**Kevin Panetta**, author of *Bloom* 

"Twelfth Grade Night cast a spell on me! A winning combination of fantasy, fun, humor, and heart." —**Faith Erin Hicks**, *New York Times* best-selling co-creator of *Pumpkinheads* 

"High school pranks, youthful dialogue, and a bright color palette make for a fun and inviting comedy to dive into, and a charismatic supporting cast offers plenty of material for more Shakespearean hijinks in future volumes." —*The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books,* starred review

## Co-Agents

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