

# **Books For Young Readers**

Frankfurt 2023



Young Adult

# The Judgement of Yoyo Gold

Young Adult

Isaac Blum

Penguin / Philomel

Fall 2024 (North American)

As the rabbi's daughter, Yoyo Gold is supposed to set a good example for the other girls in her Orthodox community. She keeps kosher, does her schoolwork, cares for her younger siblings, and organizes the food distribution for Jewish Hunger Relief each week. She's also in charge of making sure her friends don't break any of the numerous rules observant Jews live by. It's no easy task, given that her best friend, Esti Saperstein, seems bent on breaking every rule there is.

When Esti goes too far and gets shipped across the country as punishment, Yoyo is left behind without her closest confidant. Suddenly, she's finding it much more difficult to be the model rabbi's daughter. The community's expectations feel more like burdens, her responsibilities more like chores. Plus, there are new distractions. There's a Reform girl, Mickey, volunteering at Jewish Hunger Relief, who makes TikTok videos and kisses boys. Then there's the handsome Shua Holtzman, a friend of Yoyo's older brother who has just been unceremoniously kicked out of boarding school for his loose interpretations of their faith.

What is Yoyo supposed to do with the feelings she has for Shua, or the thrills she gets from scrolling through social media with Mickey? And why should she be the only one abstaining from the modern world, when seemingly everyone else in her community is breaking one rule or another? Yoyo makes a gossipy anonymous TikTok account putting the hypocrites she knows on blast, but when it goes unexpectedly viral, she finds herself caught in a scandal that might cleave her from her community forever.

Isaac Blum's sophomore novel is a smart, witty examination of community, faith, and the difficult balance of old tradition in a new world.



## The Life and Crimes of Hoodie Rosen

Young Adult

Isaac Blum

Penguin / Philomel

October 2022 (North American)

National Book Award Finalist!  
Morris Award Winner!

The Chosen meets Adam Silvera in this irreverent and timely story of worlds colliding in friendship, betrayal, and hatred.

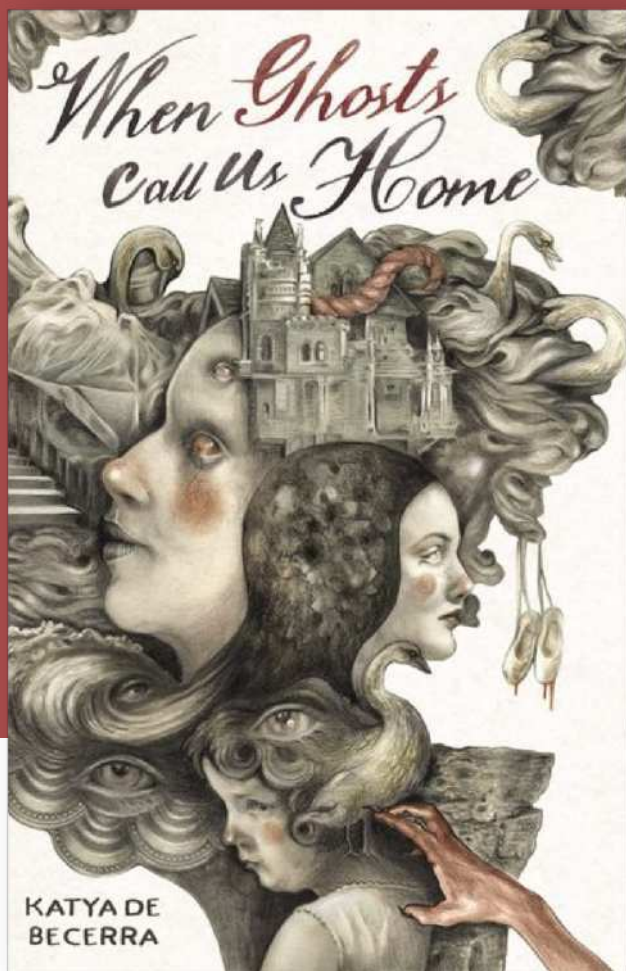
Hoodie Rosen's life isn't that bad. Sure, his entire Orthodox Jewish community has just picked up and moved to the quiet, mostly non-Jewish town of Tregaron, but Hoodie's world hasn't changed that much. He's got basketball to play, studies to avoid, and a supermarket full of delicious kosher snacks to eat. The people of Tregaron aren't happy that so many Orthodox Jews are moving in at once, but that's not Hoodie's problem.

That is, until he meets and falls for Anna-Marie Diaz-O'Leary—who happens to be the daughter of the obstinate mayor trying to keep Hoodie's community out of the town. And things only get more complicated when Tregaron is struck by a series of antisemitic crimes that quickly escalate to deadly violence.

Hoodie finds himself caught between his first love and the only world he's ever known.



Isaac Blum holds an MFA in Creative Writing from Rutgers University, Camden. His stories and essays have appeared in The New York Times, The Iowa Review, and One Teen Story. He's taught writing at several colleges and universities, and he served as the Emerging-Writer-In-Residence at Penn State Altoona. He currently lives with his wife in Philadelphia, where he teaches English language arts at an Orthodox Jewish high school.



# When Ghosts Call Us Home

Katya de Becerra

Page Street Teen

October 2023 (World English)

**Rights Sold:**

Russia: Eksmo

UK: Macmillan

**Two starred reviews!!**

**"Haunting, intense, and eerily spooky."  
—Kirkus Reviews, starred review**

**"De Becerra's narrative is both dreamy and tight,  
creating a disorienting, nightmarish atmosphere."  
—Booklist, starred review**

When Sophia Galich was twelve, she starred in her older sister Layla's amateur horror movie *Vermillion*, which recorded raw footage of her very real reactions to scenes her sister concocted in their old Californian house on the coast—Cashore House.

In the years after the film's release, Sophia's relationship with her sister became more strained, while her memories of the now-infamous house fueled her nightmares. *Vermillion* amassed an army of fanatical fans who speculated about the film's hidden messages, and it was rumored that Layla made a pact with the devil—her soul in exchange for fame and arcane knowledge. Sophia dismissed this as gossip...until Layla disappeared.

Now, Sophia must study the trail of clues Layla has left behind, returning to the very place where it all began. As she gets closer and closer to Cashore House's haunted heart, she must once again confront the ghosts of her childhood. But the house won't reveal its secrets without a fight.



Katya de Becerra is the author of genre-bending young adult fiction. Critics called her debut *What The Woods Keep* (Imprint/2018) "a thoughtful and compelling horror fantasy" (*The Bulletin*) and "a narrative that will keep readers enthralled" (*Booklist*), while her second novel *Oasis* (Imprint 2020) earned a starred review from *Booklist*. Born in Russia, Katya studied in California and now lives in Melbourne with her husband. After earning a PhD in Cultural Anthropology from the University of Melbourne, Katya spent the last ten years as a lecturer and a scholar researching technologies & inequalities in education.





# The Devourer

Alison Ames

Page Street Teen

Fall 2024 (World English)

**Alison Ames' previous two YA horror novels earned both starred reviews and film options!**

**An exciting new Pirate Horror from the author of IT LOOKS LIKE US and TO BREAK A COVENANT**

Adra Dantes always knew she'd inherit her father's pirate ship, the Worldeater, and its captancy. What she didn't expect was that it would happen when she was only sixteen. When her half-brother Cameron attacked their father, tried to sink his ship, and stole a priceless treasure map leading to the first pirate king's grave, her father was left a shell of a man. Adra took possession of the Worldeater with one thing in mind: revenge. Her only goal is to find and kill Cameron, retrieve her father's map, and claim the treasure.

Her plans are thwarted by an unexplained surplus of magic in the world, noticed by Adra's best friend and quartermaster, Merrin, who is also the crew's mage. The flood of magic causes all kinds of disruption, from sea monsters born of nightmares to strange weather and haunting visions. The source of it is a creature known as the Devourer, and her lair lies under the sea. Adra and her crew must descend into the depths to strike a deal with her, then make a treacherous journey to recover what the Devourer has lost.

When Adra comes across an abandoned ship, she thinks she's found her brother, but the only soul left alive is a girl named Quinn. She's been impersonating Cameron for almost six months. She is both infuriating and beautiful, and Adra hates herself for being drawn to her. She ignores her feelings--anger, hatred, perhaps something a little more complex--hoping she can convince Quinn to help them.

But if she wants the Devourer to fix the damage she's done, Adra must return the treasure to her, not claim it as her father wished. She cannot ever regain the future he wanted for her. But she can help save the world, and she can still have her revenge. And she does--for a price.



Alison Ames lives in Boulder, Colorado with a lot of animals and her almost-wife. She loves birds, comics, and the rule of three. To Break a Covenant is her first novel. You can find her on twitter @2furiosa, and if you know (or are) Harry Styles she actually insists that you do so.

Middle Grade



# Something Maybe Magnificent

R. L. Toalson

Aladdin / Simon & Schuster

May 2024 (North American)

**Judy Blume meets Barbara Dee in the second book of  
this tender middle grade series!**

Thirteen-year-old Victoria Reeves is determined to make this summer magnificent, especially since last summer didn't quite work out how she had hoped. She has her "No Fail Plan for the Perfect Summer Vacation" in place, complete with ambitious goals like getting published and forgetting all about her dad, and fun goals like reading as much Sylvia Plath as possible and keeping in shape with long runs (possibly some that include a certain cute new someone in the neighborhood).

But there's a gigantic wrench in her plan for perfection: Kyle Moreland. Her mom's new boyfriend. The guy who's stuck around much longer than anyone else (33 dates longer, to be exact). As Kyle starts to make himself at home—cooking for them, bringing them food, even joining their family outings—Victoria resolves to run him off—whatever it takes. Enlisting the help of her brother and sister, she hatches a plan that includes unwarranted blame, devious pranks, and generally making Kyle miserable until he decides to give up and go.

Despite Victoria's efforts, things get more serious between Kyle and her mother—but she refuses to give up. She can't let her family—or herself—get hurt again. As her efforts become more and more desperate and less and less like her, Victoria starts to realize that sabotaging Kyle doesn't feel good...it just makes her feel hollow inside. Part of her wonders if she's ruining something that could maybe, just maybe, actually be magnificent. But she's just speeding up the inevitable by getting rid of him before he can leave...right?



R.L. Toalson hates camping (unless she gets to sleep in a spider-proofed, air-conditioned cabin), though she does enjoy day trips to local parks and daily walks or runs in the wilderness behind her house in San Antonio, Texas, where she lives with her husband and six children. Her first middle grade novel, *The Colors of the Rain*, won the Arnold Adoff Poetry Honor Award in 2018, and her second middle grade novel, *The Woods*, was named to the International Literacy Association Children's Choices 2020 reading list.



# The First Magnificent Summer

R. L. Toalson

Aladdin / Simon & Schuster

May 2023 (North American)

**Judy Blume meets Barbara Dee in this tender middle grade novel told in journal entries and poetry about a young writer on the verge of becoming a woman whose summer with her estranged father doesn't turn out the way she'd hoped.**

Twelve-year-old Victoria Reeves is all set for her “First Magnificent Summer with Dad,” even though it’s been more than two years since she last saw him. She’s ready to impress him with her wit, her maturity, and her smarts—at least until he shows up for the long road trip to Ohio with his new family, The Replacements, in tow.

But that’s not the only unpleasant surprise in store. She’s forced to eat bologna even though it’s her least favorite food in the world. And has to sleep outside in a tent while The Replacements rest comfortably inside the family RV. But the worst thing is when she begins to suspect that Dad treats her as “less than” is for one simple reason: she’s female.

As Victoria captures every moment of her less than magnificent summer in her journal, she discovers that the odds are stacked against her in the contest-no-one-knows-is-a-contest: Not only does her wit begin to crumble around Dad’s multiple shaming jabs, but she gets her first period. And when Dad does the worst thing yet, she realizes she has a decision to make: will she let a man define her?



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# Monster Tree

Sarah Allen

Macmillan / FSG

Fall 2024 (World English)

**Acclaimed author of *What Stars Are Made Of*  
and *Breathing Underwater*!**

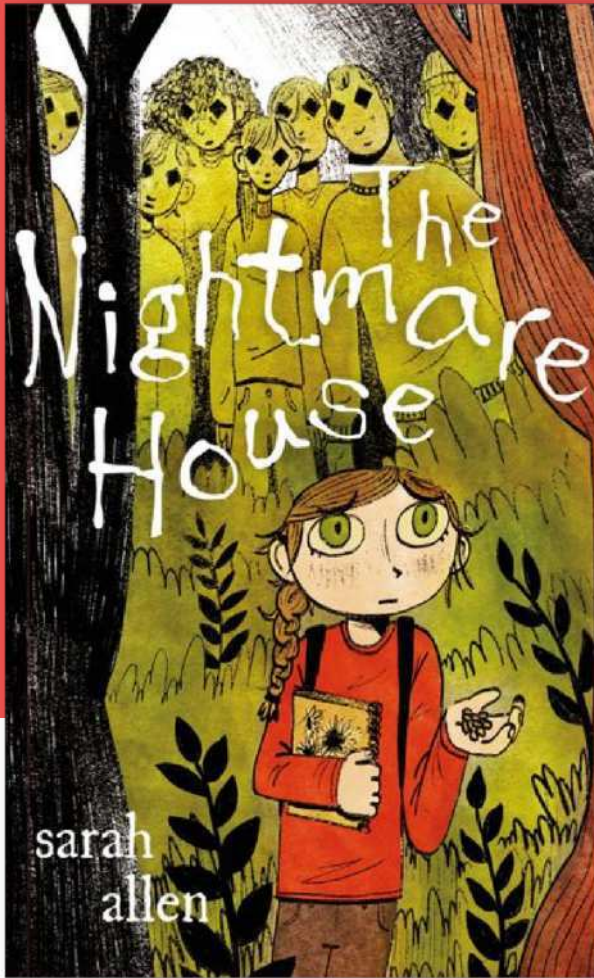
Linus Hyde is a color-blind, asthmatic 11-year-old from the suburbs of Kansas City. It's a year after his dad died in a car wreck, and Linus and his mom have moved across town to a new house, seeking a fresh start. Linus carries immense anger about losing his dad, but feels most connected to him as he picks up his art supplies for the first time since Dad died — art was the thing they did together.

Across the back fence of their new house is a creepy, monstrous looking tree owned by new neighbor Maude. Strange things start to happen — mysterious scratches, mauled animals, missing pets, terrorized neighbors. Linus and his two best friends (one old, one new,) realize all the weirdness is happening to people Maude knew in high school. They're convinced something unnatural is going on, and Maude and her strange tree are at the root.

Then a monster attacks. It has bark-like skin and comes from Maude's tree, confirming all their suspicions. By sheer luck, Linus has his sketchbook on hand and they see their next supernatural occurrence — but then his drawing traps the monster. Linus and his friends have to figure out why his artwork has such power, how Maude turned her tree into monsters, and how to stop them for good. But now, Maude is on to them. And the monsters just keep getting bigger.



Sarah Allen's first book, *What Stars Are Made Of*, was an ALA Notable Book of 2020 and her second, *Breathing Underwater*, was a Jr. Library Guild Selection for 2021. Kirkus Reviews called it "a heartfelt, multifaceted treasure hunt." Born and raised in Utah, she's currently a poetry MFA candidate and graduate instructor at the University of South Florida, Tampa, and spends her non-writing time watching David Attenborough documentaries and singing show-tunes too loudly. Lover of Pixar, leather jackets, and Colin Firth.



# The Nightmare House

Sarah Allen

Macmillan / FSG

August 2023 (World English)

**Rights Sold:**

Russia: Eksmo

**In this spooky middle grade novel perfect for fans of *Small Spaces*, *Doll Bones*, and V. E. Schwab, a young girl's deepest fears take on terrifying new life when she confronts a supernatural foe who can manipulate her nightmares.**

Penny Hope used to be brave, but that was before she met the Fear Maker. Years later, he still haunts her dreams—a tall, thin man with red eyes, in a haunted house in the woods, who devours human souls and leaves his victims' eyes hollow and empty. Penny's beloved grandma tells her to write down these nightmares as poems in her notebook. But then Penny starts seeing blank-eyed people in the waking world, too. She's the only one who notices.

As more people around her fall prey to the Fear Maker, Penny must gather her courage once and for all to save the souls of those she loves. With the help of her notebook and a new friend, she ventures to the Fear Maker's house. But the house is a labyrinth of nightmares and tricks—and the Fear Maker's fun is just beginning.

In this just-scary-enough monster story that's also about dealing with relentless anxiety, see how far a penny's worth of hope will take you when you enter Sarah Allen's *The Nightmare House*.



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# When Grandpa Jonah Was Just a Kid

Yannets Levi

Kinneret, Zmora, Dvir, 2017-2023, 4 volumes

**"Compelling, touching, funny, even bold, it depicts humiliating poverty without holding its nose."  
- Haaretz**

**FULL ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF VOL 1 AVAILABLE!**

Jonah has nothing: no TV, no toys or games, no bed, not even a blanket. But if you think he's miserable, think again! A kid as smart and kind as Jonah will always be able to seek out adventure and make the world around him that little bit better, despite all odds. Through resourcefulness, creativity, and, ultimately, generosity of spirit, Jonah finds his way out of any pickle he or his parents end up in, be it his mother's overbearing prejudiced employer, his father's untreated illness, their family's eviction or their perpetual lack of money and food.

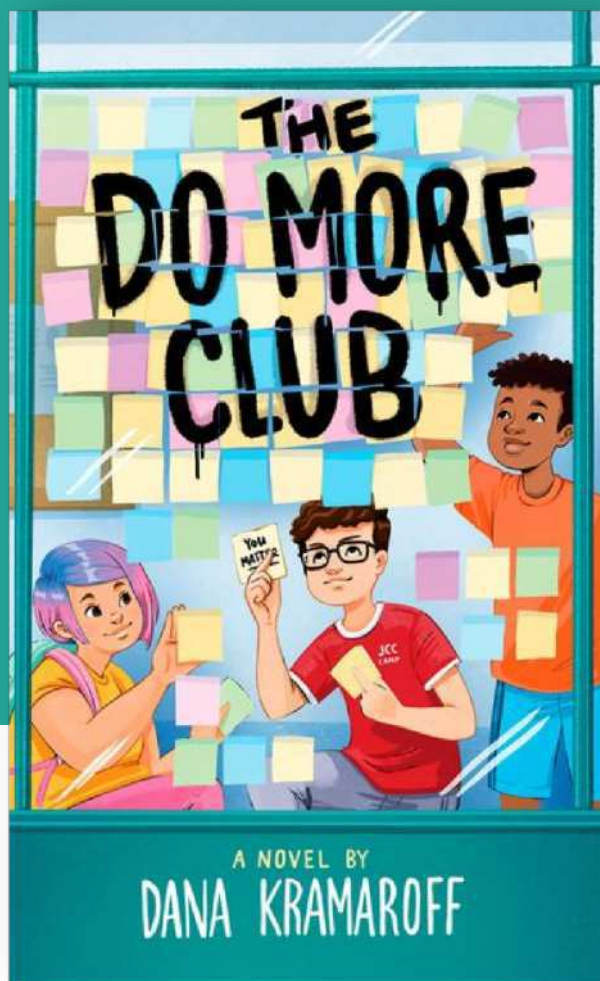
WHEN GRANDPA JONAH WAS JUST A KID is a universal and timeless story about the gap between the poor and the rich. Depicting the life of one marginalized family, the series is written with Levi's signature compassion, wit and ingenuity. All four volumes hit Israeli bestseller lists immediately after publication.

Though a work of fiction, WHEN GRANDPA JONAH WAS JUST A KID is based on a true story – the childhood experiences of the author's father, Elijah Levi. Growing up in Israel in the 1920s and 1930s, Elijah, who was of Yemenite decent, endured dire poverty at home and savage bullying at school because of his Mizrahi origins. Elijah later became a journalist and was also a member of the Lehi underground. That part of his life inspired the series CARTHAGO, written by Yannets and his brother Reshef Levi and recently awarded two prizes at Canneseries.



Yannets Levi is a writer of books and drama, a TV host and a performer. He is one of Israel's most popular writers for children and adults with 13 bestsellers in a row. He was awarded the 2010 Public Library Award, the 2016 Dvora Omer Award for Children's Literature and the 2021 Prime Minister's Prize.





# The Do More Club

Dana Kramaroff

Rocky Pond Books / Penguin

August 2023 (North American)

**"Through carefully balanced moments of pathos and heart-wrenching descriptions of casual cruelty, Kramaroff weaves a gently compelling narrative of self-acceptance and beginner's advocacy."**

**—Publishers Weekly**

**A Jewish boy's bravery and kindness are tested after an antisemitic attack on his middle school in this rousing novel-in-verse.**

Ever since twelve-year-old Josh Kline found an antisemitic note in his family's mailbox in third grade, he has felt uncomfortable about his Jewish identity. At a new school where he's pretty sure he's the only Jew, he's hoping to just keep religion out of everything . . . until the morning someone sprays swastikas all over the building. That's when everything changes.

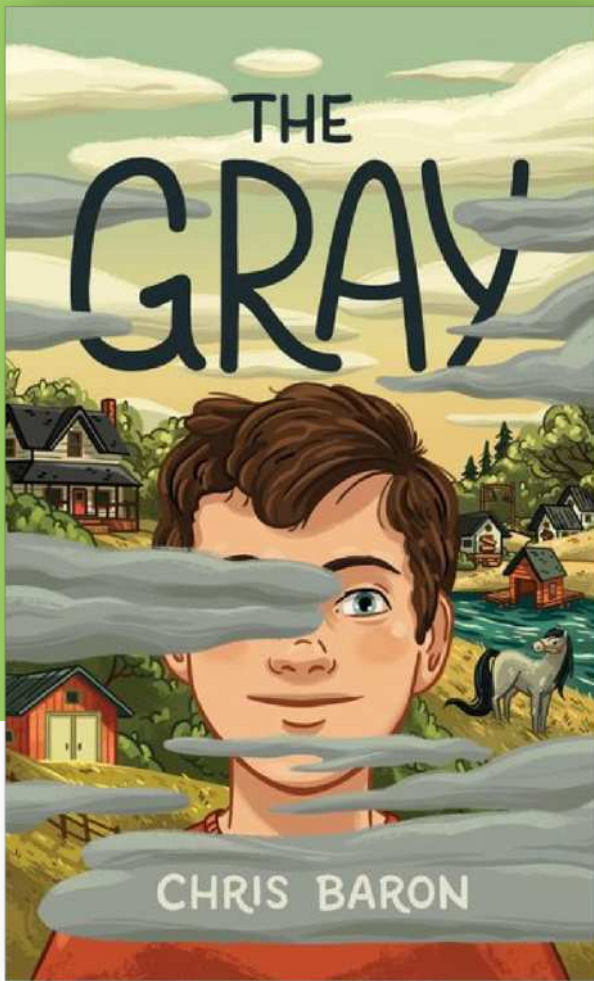
In one of the school counseling groups set up in response to the attack, Josh finally reveals that he is Jewish, and quickly finds out there's more to the other kids in his grade too: All of them have their own struggles. Maybe Josh can do something to help—to "repair the world" as his rabbi teaches, by starting a Do More club to spread kindness. But making a difference is never simple, even when you have new friends by your side.

Fast-paced and conversation-starting, Josh's story is an empowering examination of prejudice, bullying, and how to take the first step toward change.



Dana Kramaroff is a mom, a fifth-grade teacher, and a fellow of the National Writing Project. Her publishing credits include multiple articles about parenting on Scary Mommy. She hails from rural Pennsylvania (where her kids are often the only Jews in their schools as well) and is easily impressed by stickers, washi tape, colorful pens, and notebooks.





# The Gray

Chris Baron

Feiwel & Friends / Macmillan

June 2023 (North American)

**"The central idea—that, since water can slowly change a rock, any person on Earth can also change, a concept connected to Uncle Lou's beloved story from the Talmud about Akiva and the Stone—is one of enormous importance." —  
Kirkus Reviews**

**The Gray is a sensitively told middle grade story from Chris Baron about living with anxiety and finding ways to cope.**

It's been a tough year for Sasha—he's been bullied at his middle school and his anxiety, which he calls the Gray, is growing. Sasha's dad tells him to "toughen up"—and he does, but with unfortunate, hurtful results. His parents and therapist agree that a summer in the country with his aunt might be the best medicine, but it's the last place he wants to be. He'll be away from his best friend, video games, and stuck in the house that reminds him of his beloved uncle who died two years earlier.

His aunt is supportive, and there are lots of places to explore, and even some potential new friends. When Sasha is introduced at a local ranch to a horse coincidentally--incredibly--nicknamed the Gray, he feels he's found a kindred spirit.

But his own Gray is ever-present. When one of his new friends disappears, Sasha discovers that the country is wilder and more mysterious than he imagined. He tries to muster enough courage to help in the search . . . but will the Gray hold him back?



Chris Baron is the award winning author of *All of Me*, an NCTE Notable Book, and *The Magical Imperfect*, a Sydney Taylor Book Award Notable Book/ a SLJ Best Book of 2021 & the forthcoming novels, *The Gray* (2023) *Forest Heart* (2024) all from Feiwel & Friends/Macmillan. He's a contributor to the Young Adult Anthology, *Everybody Shines* (Bloomsbury, 2021) and the author of *Lantern Tree: (poetry)* (2012) from CityWorks Press, winner of San Diego Book Award. He is a Professor of English at San Diego City College and the director of the Writing Center. He completed his MFA in Poetry in 1998 at SDSU. He lives in San Diego with his family.



# The Secret of the Dragon Gems

Chris Baron & Rajani LaRocca

Yellow Jacket / Little Bee

August 2023 (North American)

**Rights Sold:**

Russia: Eksmo

**Co-written by Newbery Honor Winning Author  
Rajani LaRocca and Sydney Taylor Honor  
author Chris Baron!**

Eleven-year-olds Tripti Kapoor, a feisty "word nerd" from Massachusetts, and Sam Cohen, a shy, imaginative, budding geologist from California, are both miserable at Camp Dilloway, a summer camp in upstate New York. On the last night of camp, they follow a shooting star to a creek. There they find silvery rocks glowing in the night. They each take one home, and a long-distance friendship begins.

It's soon clear that these are no ordinary rocks. They seem to move on their own, get strangely hot, and even take over Tripti and Sam's thoughts! Inspired by their mutual love of their favorite book series, The Dragon Gems, they dub the rocks Opal and Jasper, after the Dragon Gems in the books.

But others are interested in the stones too - including the owner of Camp Dilloway, who hides a secret of his own. Tripti and Sam must crack the Dragon Gems' code and keep them out of Dilloway's clutches, all while navigating middle school friendships and learning to stand up for what's right.



**Rajani LaRocca** is a Newbery Honor middle grade and picture book author, was born in India, immigrated to the U.S. when she was a baby, and grew up in Louisville, Kentucky. A graduate of Harvard College and Harvard Medical School, she practices medicine and lives outside Boston with her family.



**Chris Baron** is the author of All of Me, an NCTE Notable Book, and The Magical Imperfect, a Sydney Taylor Book Award Notable Book/SLJ Best Book of 2021, and the novels, The Gray (2023) and Forest Heart (2024) all from Feiwel & Friends/Macmillan. He lives in San Diego with his family.

# Picture Books



# Kisses From Space

Anna Menon and Keri Vasek

Illustrated by: Andy Harkness

Random House, June 2024 (North American)

## Rights Sold:

USA: Random House

Korea: Hyejiwon

Germany: Bastei Lübbe

**"You see, even when we're apart,  
we're not really alone.  
I'll send kisses from space,  
and I'll always come home."**

"There once was a dragon named Gravity..." This line was recited almost daily by Anna and Anil Menon, as they entertained their children during long commutes. Their family's tale took an exciting turn when Anna was offered the chance to become an astronaut on Polaris Dawn, the first of the Polaris Program's three human spaceflight missions. The opportunity would fulfill Anna's dream of going to space, but it would put the largest distance ever between her and her kids. Anna considered how she would connect with them as she orbited 1,400 km above their heads. It became clear what this extra-long commute called for: a story about a dragon.

Mama dragon has come home from an adventure like no other! Snuggling her baby dragons close, she tells them of her journey and how she thought of them all along the way. This heartwarming story, beautifully written in fun, lyrical rhyme and illustrated with stunning imagery, follows a dragon family's passion for adventure and their unwavering bond, even when they're separated...

KISSES FROM SPACE will fly to space on the Polaris Dawn mission and be read aloud to kids here on Earth. This story speaks to the duality so many mothers experience when they have to be separated from their children. Inspired by Polaris Program's enthusiastic support of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital®, Anna's proceeds from the book will be donated to benefit their efforts to cure cancer.



Anna Menon is an American engineer and crewmember of Polaris Dawn, the first human spaceflight mission of the Polaris Program. Anna worked at NASA as a flight controller before joining SpaceX in 2018 as a space operations engineer. She lives with her family in Houston.

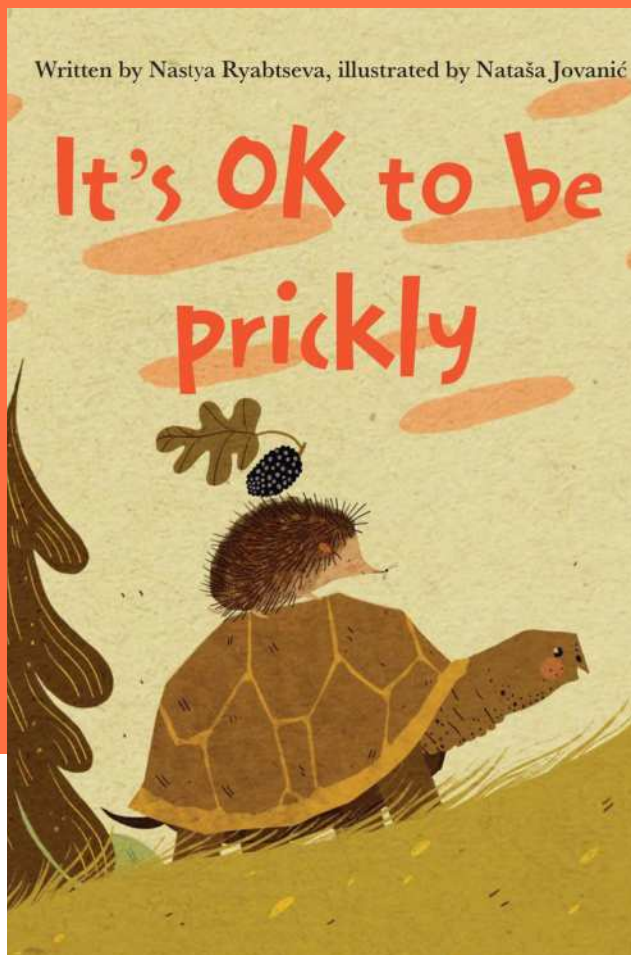


Keri Vasek was born and raised in Denver, where a creative writing class in high school first got her dreaming about authoring children's books. She lives in Houston, where she homeschools her four children and works in social media community management.



Andy Harkness is a children's book author and illustrator. His most recent solo work, Wolfboy, is published by Bloomsbury. An accomplished production designer, he spent 25 years at Disney Feature Animation, involved in such films as Pocahontas and Moana. Today, Andy works at Skydance Animation Studios.





# It's OK To Be Prickly

Nastya Ryabtseva

Illustrated by:

Nataša Jovanić

**Rights Sold:**

**Brazil:** Mundo Benvirá

**China:** Shanghai Juvenile

**Korea:** DajeongDagam

It is hard to make friends when you are covered in prickly needles. Theodor the Hedgehog is so lonely, he is prepared to do anything – even turn himself inside out, quite literally – to make other animals like him.

But when he meets Sofia the Tortoise, Theodor discovers that a real friend will appreciate you for who you are – and that only when you celebrate your true self instead of fighting against it will you be able to realize your full potential.

The Jerusalem-based educator and journalist Nastya Ryabtseva has never met Nataša Jovanić, an artist from Bosnia and Herzegovina. Yet, after having been introduced online by mutual acquaintances, Nastya and Nataša created this sweet and wise picture book about the freedom and joy that come with self-acceptance.



Nastya Ryabtseva is a Saint Petersburg-born, Jerusalem-based journalist and educator who has worked for various NGOs and covered social issues such as homelessness, adoption, disability etc. In March 2022, Ryabtseva founded Wild Walks, an initiative offering healing community experiences to Ukrainian- and Russian-speaking teens who moved to Israel because of Russia's invasion of Ukraine.



Nataša Jovanić is an artist and illustrator from Bosnia and Herzegovina. A graduate of the Academy of Arts, Banja Luka and the University of the Arts, Berlin, Jovanić has worked on magazine illustration (Bloom, UK; Honest History, USA), winning the Ilustrofest's First Prize. Jovanić has also illustrated books for children, including Patrick Kellegher's "A Witch and a Wizard Live Here."



# Every Wrinkle Has a Story

David Grossman & Ninamasina  
Translation by Jessica Cohen

# Every Wrinkle Has a Story

David Grossman

illustrated by NINAMASINA

Groundwood

February 2024 (North American)

## Rights Sold:

Brazil: Companhia das Letras

Italy: Mondadori

Germany: Hanser

Holland: Uitgeverij Cossee

Korea: Samtoh

Israel: Am Oved

Romania: Signatura

Spain: Sexto Piso

UK: Andersen Press

Every Tuesday, Yotam's grandfather takes him to a coffee shop after kindergarten, where Grandpa Amnon drinks coffee and Yotam likes to draw. One day, Yotam has a question: "Grandpa, what's on your face?"

Grandpa Amnon explains that the lines on his face are wrinkles, and they are something that grownups get. He tells Yotam the stories of how he got each of his wrinkles. Some reasons for Grandpa's wrinkles are sad, like when Grandma Dina was sick. But some reasons are happy, like the wrinkle Grandpa got when Yotam was born. Yotam looks closely at the circles and lines on Grandpa's face, thinks hard ... and then expresses what he's just learned about the beauty of aging in his own special way.

Every Wrinkle Has a Story is a pro-aging story of curiosity, intergenerational storytelling and quiet contemplation through artwork.

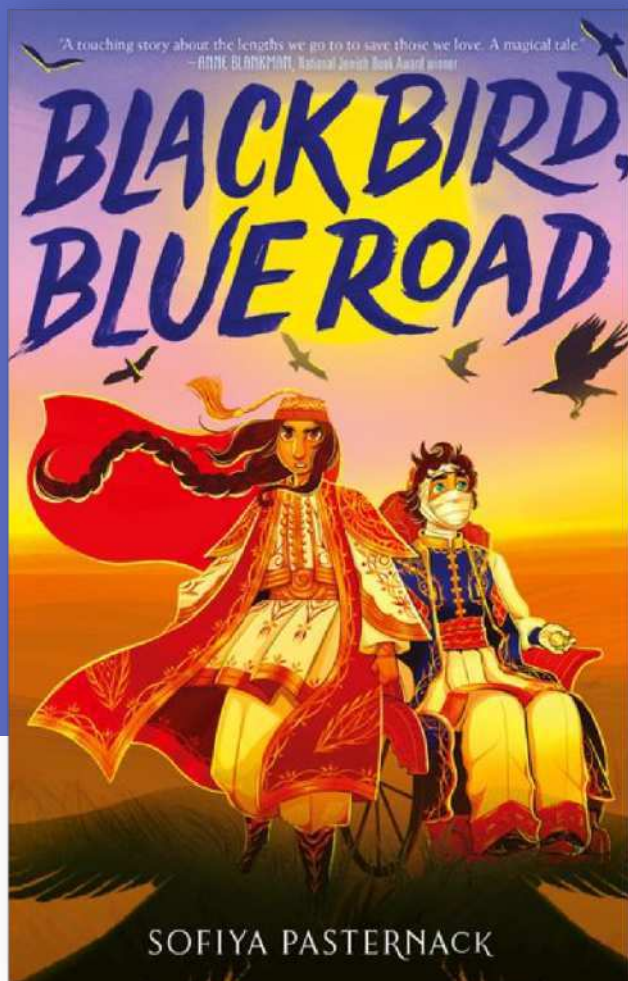


David Grossman is one of Israel's most celebrated writers, winner of countless awards, the only Israeli ever to win the Man Booker International Prize, for his novel *A Horse Walks into a Bar*. Several of his books have been adapted to international stage and screen productions. Grossman is the author of 17 books translated into 45 languages.



Anna Masini (Ninamasina) lives and designs in Milano, where she creates illustrations for paper and textile. She mainly works with brushes, inks, and manual printing techniques. She has received various awards for her books and illustrations, both in Italy and abroad. Ninamasina is her nom de plume, a game of letters that mixes and merges first name and surname into a single word. Ninamasina is represented by Daniela Bonerba of the Children's Book Factory.

Backlist



# Black Bird, Blue Road

Sofiya Pasternack

Versify / HarperCollins

September 2022 (North American)

**Rights Sold:**

Israel: Yediot

**Sydney Taylor Honor Book!**

**Five Starred Reviews!**

**"Best Book of 2022" Lists:**

**Publisher's Weekly, Kirkus,**

**Washington Post, Horn Book and Tablet!**

In this historical fantasy novel, praised as a "rich, omen-filled journey that powerfully shows love and its limits" and "propulsive, wise, and heartbreaking," Ziva will do anything to save her twin brother Pesah from his illness—even facing the Angel of Death himself. From Sydney Taylor Honor winner and National Jewish Book Award finalist Sofiya Pasternack.

Pesah has lived with leprosy for years, and the twins have spent most of that time working on a cure. Then Pesah has a vision: The Angel of Death will come for him on Rosh Hashanah, just one month away.

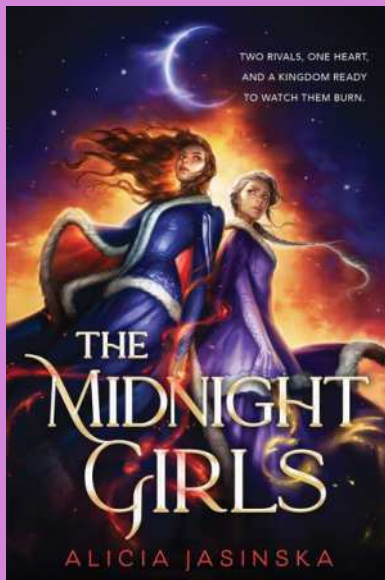
So Ziva takes her brother and runs away to find doctors who can cure him. But when they meet and accidentally free a half-demon boy, he suggests paying his debt by leading them to the fabled city of Luz, where no one ever dies—the one place Pesah will be safe.

They just need to run faster than The Angel of Death can fly...



Sofiya Pasternack is a nurse whose fondest childhood memories involve her pet goats wrecking the house. When she's not at the hospital, she can be found enjoying Utah's wild places, teaching her kids to make challah, and writing whatever new story has taken up residence in her brain. She is a three-time Sydney Taylor Honor winner and National Jewish Book Award finalist for her first two books, *Any and the Dragon* and *Any and the Nightingale* (Versify, 2019/2020).





# The Midnight Girls

Young Adult

Alicia Jasinska

Sourcebooks Fire

December 2021 (North American)

In a snow-cloaked kingdom, two wicked rivals secretly compete for the pure heart of a prince, only to discover they might be falling for each other.

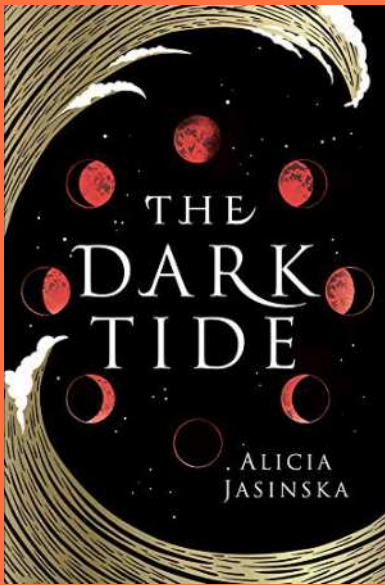
Karnawał season is a time for mischief and revelry. For the next few weeks, all will be wintry balls, glittery disguises, and nightly torch-lit sleigh-parties. Two uninvited girls join the fun. Zosia and Marynka are drawn to each other the moment they meet, until they discover they're rivals, who both have their sights set on the prince's heart. Marynka plans to bring the prince's back to her patron in order to prove herself. While Zosia is determined to take his heart and its power for her own.

Their ambition turns into a magical contest with both girls vying to keep the prince out of the other's grasp, even as their attraction to one another grows. But their attempts on his life draws the attention of the city that would die for him, and suddenly their escalating rivalry might cost them not just their love for each other, but both their lives.

Rights Sold:

ANZ: PRH Australia

Poland: Wydawnictwo Kobiectwo



# The Dark Tide

Young Adult

Alicia Jasinska

Sourcebooks Fire

August 2020 (North American)

A gripping, dark enemies to lovers LGBTQ+ YA fantasy about two girls who must choose between saving themselves, each other, or their sinking island home.

Every year on St. Walpurga's Eve, Caldella's Witch Queen lures a boy back to her palace. An innocent life to be sacrificed on the full moon to keep the island city from sinking. Lina Kirk is convinced her brother is going to be taken this year. To save him, she enlists the help of Thomas Lin, the boy she secretly loves, and the only person to ever escape from the palace. But they draw the queen's attention, and Thomas is chosen as the sacrifice.

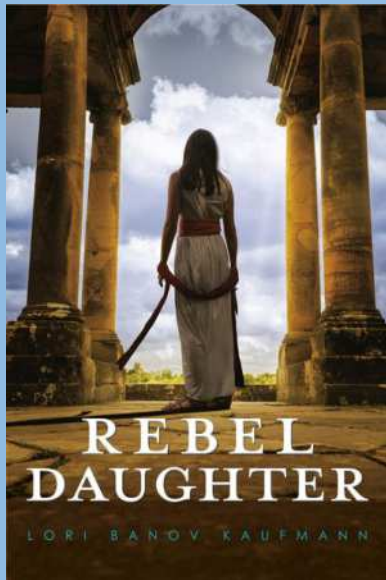
Queen Eva watched her sister die to save the boy she loved. Now as queen, she won't make the same mistake. She's willing to sacrifice anyone if it means saving herself and her city. When Lina offers herself to the queen in exchange for Thomas's freedom, the two girls await the full moon together. But Lina is not at all what Eva expected, and the queen is nothing like Lina envisioned. Against their will, they find themselves falling for each other as water floods Caldella's streets and the dark tide demands its sacrifice.

Rights Sold:

ANZ: PRH Australia



Alicia Jasinski works as a library technician and is an aerialist in her spare time. She hails from Sydney, Australia. She is the author of *The Dark Tide* and *The Midnight Girls*. Visit her online at [aliciajasinska.com](http://aliciajasinska.com)



# Rebel Daughter

Lori Banov Kaufmann

Random House / Delacorte

February 2021 (World English)

Young Adult

**National Jewish Book Award!  
Christy Award Finalist!**

A young woman survives the unthinkable in this stunning and emotionally satisfying tale of family, love, and resilience, set against the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 CE.

Esther dreams of more than the marriage her parents have arranged to a prosperous silversmith. Always curious and eager to explore, she must accept the burden of being the dutiful daughter. Yet she is torn between her family responsibilities and her own desires.

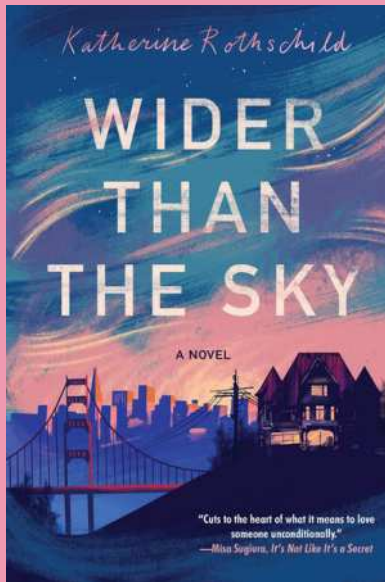
Meanwhile, turmoil threatens to tear apart not only her beloved city, Jerusalem, but also her own family. As the streets turn into a bloody battleground between rebels and Romans, Esther's journey becomes one of survival. She remains fiercely devoted to her family, and braves famine, siege, and slavery to protect those she loves.

**Rights Sold:**

Czech: Euromedia Group



Lori Banov Kaufmann was a strategy consultant for high-tech companies before she became a writer. She has an BA from Princeton University and an MBA from the Harvard Business School. When she learned about the discovery of a first-century tombstone, she wanted to know more. She was captivated by the ancient love story the stone revealed, which served as the inspiration for this book. *Rebel Daughter* is her debut novel. She lives in Israel with her husband and four adult children.



# Wider Than The Sky

Katherine Rothschild

Soho Teen

January 2021 (North American)

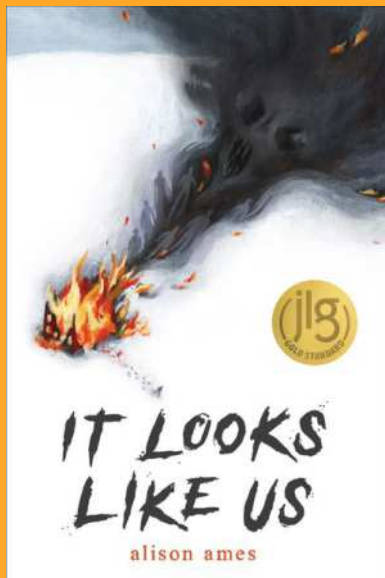
Young Adult

In the wake of sudden tragedy, twin sisters uncover a secret that rips open their world. Katherine Rothschild explores the pain and power of forgiveness in a stunning debut novel that will shatter your heart and piece it back together, one truth at a time.

Sixteen-year-old Sabine Braxton doesn't have much in common with her identical twin, Blythe. When their father dies from an unexpected illness, each copes with the loss in her own way. Neither can offer each other much support - at least not until their emotionally detached mother moves them into a ramshackle Bay Area mansion owned by a stranger named Charlie. Soon, the sisters unite in a mission to figure out who Charlie is and why he seems to know everything about them. They make a life-changing discovery: their parents were hiding secrets about their sexual identities. Sabine chooses to learn all she can about the father she never knew. Ultimately, she must decide if she can embrace his last wish for a family legacy--even if it means accepting a new idea of what it means to be a family.



Katherine Field Rothschild is a TBI (Traumatic Brain Injury) survivor, a ceramicist, and a dancer. She is also a Lecturer in the Program in Writing and Rhetoric at Stanford University, a former Arabic dance instructor, and an obsessive food truck follower. She's the recipient of a Vermont Studio Center artist's grant, and her personal essays have been published on KQED/NPR, in the San Francisco Chronicle, and in several other publications. She graduated from UC Irvine's creative writing program and earned an MFA in fiction writing at St. Mary's College of California.



# It Looks Like Us

Young Adult

Alison Ames

School Library Journal Starred review!

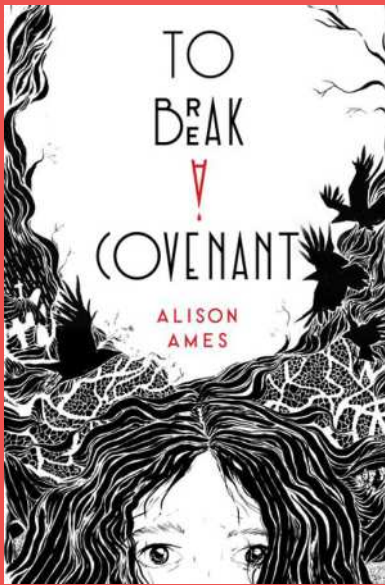
Page Street

September 2022 (World English)

An edge-of-your-seat read that will leave your heart pounding!

Riley Kowalski joined a team of four other teens for an internship on climate change research in the Antarctic, sponsored by one of the world's largest tech companies. It was just the opportunity she had been searching for—an escape from the ridicule she'd received after a panic attack at school, a fresh start. But their small team isn't alone in the remote, frozen reaches of the polar south.

In the eerie haze of evening sunlight, Riley sees something out of the corner of her eye—something that's watching them. She writes it off as the effects of her anxiety, but when their expedition leader begins to change—her limbs elongating, her body contorting—and grow violent, Riley knows the danger she feels is real. Something is stalking them, infecting them, and slowly infiltrating the team. There is more to this research trip than any of them bargained for, and if they aren't careful, none of them will make it out alive.



# To Break A Covenant

Young Adult

Alison Ames

Page Street

September 2021 (World English)

A chilling, feminist thriller, perfect for fans of Wilder Girls and Sawkill Girls. Moon Basin has been haunted for as long as anyone can remember. It started when an explosion in the mine killed sixteen people. The disaster made it impossible to live in town, with underground fires spewing ash into the sky. But life in New Basin is just as fraught. The ex-mining town relies on its haunted reputation to bring in tourists, but there's more truth to the rumors than most are willing to admit. The mine still has a hold on everyone who lives there.

Clem and Nina form a perfect loop--best friends forever, and perhaps something more. Their circle opens up for a strange girl named Lisey with a knack for training crows, and Piper, whose father is fascinated with the mine in a way that's anything but ordinary. The people of New Basin start experiencing strange phenomena--sleepwalking, night terrors, voices that only they can hear. And no matter how many vans of ghost hunters roll through, nobody can get to the bottom of what's really going on. Which is why the girls decide to enter the mine themselves.

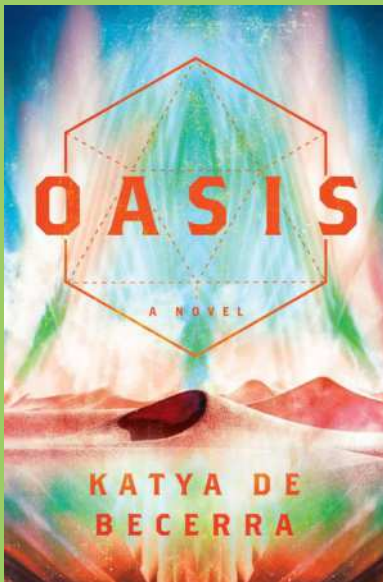
Film Rights Optioned!



Alison Ames lives in Colorado with a lot of animals and her almost-wife. She is the author of two YA horror novels - *To Break a Covenant* (Page Street Teen, 2021) and *It Looks Like Us* (Page Street Teen, September 2022) - which is a Junior Library Guild Gold selection. She loves birds, comics, and the rule of three. Find her on social media @2furiosa, and if you know (or are) Harry Styles she insists you do so.



Young Adult



# Oasis

Katya de Berra

Macmillan / Imprint

January 2020 (North American)

In this young adult thriller for fans of *Lost* and *The Twilight Zone*, a group of teens are saved when they come across a mysterious oasis. But who will save them from the oasis?

Alif had exciting summer plans: working on her father's archeological dig site in the desert with four close friends ... and a very cute research assistant. Then the sandstorm hit.

Their camp wiped away, Alif and the others find themselves lost on the sands, seemingly doomed ... until they find the oasis. It has everything they need: food, water, and shade—and mysterious ruins that hide a deadly secret. As reality begins to shift around them, they question what's real and what's a mirage.

The answers turn Alif and her friends against each other, and they begin to wonder if they've truly been saved. And while it was easy to walk into the oasis, it may be impossible to leave ...



# What the Woods Keep

Katya de Berra

Macmillan / Imprint

September 2018 (North American)

Combines mystery, science fiction, and dark fantasy in a twisty story that will keep you mesmerized right up to the final page.

On her eighteenth birthday, Hayden inherits her childhood home—on the condition that she uncover its dark secrets.

Hayden tried to put the past behind her, and it worked. She's getting ready for college, living in a Brooklyn apartment, and hanging out with her best friend and roommate Del. But now it's all catching up with her: her mother's mysterious disappearance a decade before, her father's outlandish theories about a lost supernatural race, and Hayden's own dark dreams of strange symbols and rituals in the Colorado woods where she grew up.

As soon as Hayden arrives at her hometown, her friend Del in tow, it begins: Neighbors whisper secrets about Hayden's mother; the boy next door is now all grown-up in a very distracting way; and Hayden feels the trees calling to her. And among them, deep in the woods, Hayden will discover something incredible—something that threatens reality itself.

Rights Sold:

ANZ: Allen & Unwin



Katya de Berra is the author of genre-bending young adult fiction. Critics called her debut *What The Woods Keep* (Imprint/2018) “a thoughtful and compelling horror fantasy” (*The Bulletin*) and “a narrative that will keep readers enthralled” (*Booklist*), while her second novel *Oasis* (Imprint 2020) earned a starred review from *Booklist*. Born in Russia, Katya studied in California and now lives in Melbourne with her husband. After earning a PhD in Cultural Anthropology from the University of Melbourne, Katya spent the last ten years as a lecturer and a scholar researching technologies & inequalities in education.





# This Appearing House

Middle Grade

Ally Malinenko

BRAM STOKER FINALIST!

HarperCollins / Katherine Tegen

August 2022 (North American)

From the author of *Ghost Girl* comes another standalone spooky middle grade for fans of *Nightbooks* and *Ghost Squad*, about a terrifying house and the girl haunted by her experience with cancer, grief, and healing. Are you brave enough to step inside?

For as long as anyone could remember there wasn't a house at the dead end of Juniper Drive - until one day there was. When Jac first sees it, she's counting down to the five-year anniversary of her cancer diagnosis, when she hopefully will be declared NED, or "no evidence of disease." But with a house appearing, her hands shaking, and a fall off her bike, Jac wonders if these are symptoms—or if something stranger's happening.

Two classmates dare Jac and her friend Hazel to enter the House. Walking through the front door is the way in. It's definitely not the way out. There's something off - Jac can feel it. The same way she knows it's no coincidence that the House appeared. It wants something from her. And she won't be able to get out until she figures out what.



# Ghost Girl

Middle Grade

Ally Malinenko

HarperCollins / Katherine Tegen

August 2021 (North American)

Perfect for fans of *Small Spaces* and *Nightbooks*, Ally Malinenko's debut is an empowering and triumphant ghost story—with spooky twists sure to give readers a few good goosebumps.

Zee Puckett loves ghost stories. She just never expected to be living one. It all starts with a dark and stormy night. When the skies clear, everything is different. People are missing. There's a creepy new principal who seems to know everyone's darkest dreams. And Zee is seeing frightening things: large, scary dogs that talk and maybe even . . . a ghost.

When she tells her classmates, only her best friend Elijah believes her. Worse, mean girl Nellie gives Zee a cruel nickname: Ghost Girl. But whatever the storm washed up isn't going away. Everyone's most selfish wishes start coming true in creepy ways.

To fight for what's right, Zee will have to embrace what makes her different. Zee, Elijah, and Nellie will have to work together if they want to give their ghost story a happy ending.

**Rights Sold:**

Russia: Eksmo



Ally Malinenko, a long time Brooklyn resident, works as a research librarian at the Brooklyn Public Library's Central branch - which has more floors underground than above. Her previous work includes the poetry books *The Wanting Bone* (Six Gallery Press), *How to be An America* (Six Gallery Press) and *Better Luck Next Year* (Low Ghost Press) as well as the children's fantasy *Lizzy Speare* and the *Cursed Tomb* (Antenna Books) and the YA novel *This Is Sarah* (Bookfish Books).



# The Magical Imperfect

Middle Grade

Chris Baron

**SYDNEY TAYLOR HONOR BOOK!**

Macmillan / Feiwel & Friends

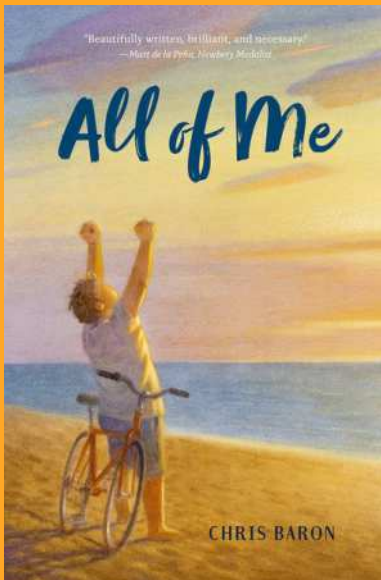
June 2022 (North American)

For fans of Wonder, Chris Baron's *The Magical Imperfect* is an affecting middle grade story of two outcasts who become friends...

Etan has stopped speaking since his mother left. His father and grandfather don't know how to help him. His friends have given up on him.

When Etan is asked to deliver a grocery order to the outskirts of town, he realizes he's at the home of Malia Agbayani, also known as the Creature. Malia stopped going to school when her acute eczema spread to her face, and the bullying became too much.

As the two become friends, other kids tease Etan for knowing the Creature. But he believes he might have a cure for Malia's condition, if only he can convince his family and hers to believe it too. Even if it works, will these two outcasts find where they fit in?



# All Of Me

Middle Grade

Chris Baron

**Southern California Independent Booksellers Association BESTSELLER!**  
**BookRiot Best Children's Books 2019**  
**Nerdy Book Club 2019 Award**  
**NCTE Notable Book!**

Macmillan / Feiwel & Friends

June 2021 (North American)

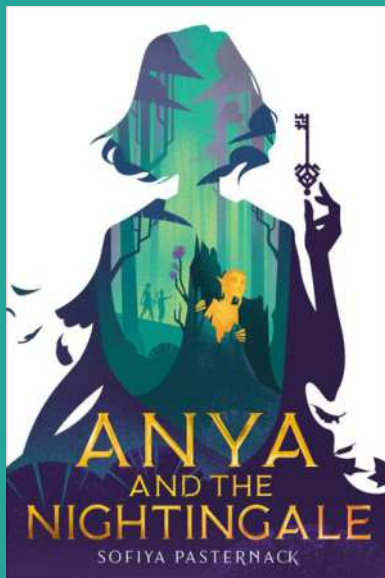
Ari has body-image issues. After a move across the country, his parents work selling and promoting his mother's paintings and sculptures. Ari's bohemian mother needs space to create, and his father is gone for long stretches of time on "sales" trips.

Meanwhile, Ari makes new friends: Pick, the gamer; the artsy Jorge, and the troubled Lisa. He is also relentlessly bullied because he's overweight, but he can't tell his parents—they're simply not around enough to listen.

After an upsetting incident, Ari's mom suggests he go on a diet, and she gives him a book to help. But the book—and the diet—can't fix everything. As Ari faces the demise of his parents' marriage, he also feels himself changing, both emotionally and physically. Here is a much-needed story about accepting the imperfect in oneself and in life.



Chris Baron is the award winning author of *All of Me*, an NCTE Notable Book, and *The Magical Imperfect*, a Sydney Taylor Book Award Notable Book/ a SLJ Best Book of 2021 & the forthcoming novels, *The Gray* (2023) *Forest Heart* (2024) all from Feiwel & Friends/Macmillan. He's a contributor to the Young Adult Anthology, *Every Body Shines* (Bloomsbury, 2021) and the author of *Lantern Tree: (poetry)* (2012) from CityWorks Press, winner of San Diego Book Award. He is a Professor of English at San Diego City College and the director of the Writing Center. He completed his MFA in Poetry in 1998 at SDSU. HE lives in San Diego with his family.



**Rights Sold:**

Russia: Knizhniki

# Anya and the Nightingale

Middle Grade

**Sofiya Pasternack**

HarperCollins / Versify

November 2020 (North American)

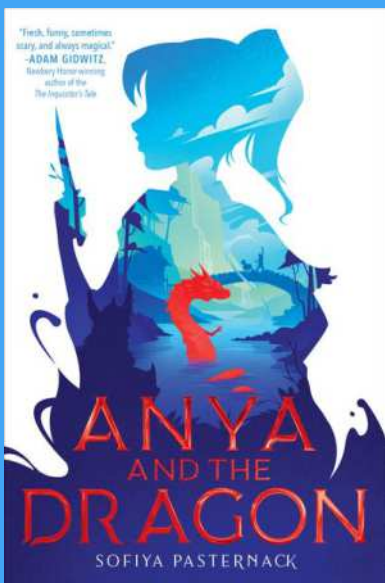
**2021 Sydney Taylor Honor Book!**  
**National Jewish Book Award Finalist!**  
**BookRiot Best Children's Book of 2020!**

It's been a year since a violent Viking terrorized the small village of Zmeyreka and Anya and her foolish friend Ivan saved a friendly dragon from being sacrificed for his magic.

But things still aren't safe in the kingdom of Kievan Rus'.

After embarking on a journey to bring her papa home from war, Anya discovers a powerful forest creature terrorizing travelers. But she soon learns that he's not the monster the kingdom should fear. There's an even greater evil that lurks under the city.

Can Anya stop the monster, save her papa, and find her way home? Or will the secrets of Kiev leave Anya and her friends trapped beneath the city forever?



**Rights Sold:**

Russia: Knizhniki

# Anya and the Dragon

Middle Grade

**Sofiya Pasternack**

HarperCollins / Versify

September 2019 (North American)

**2020 SYDNEY TAYLOR HONOR BOOK!**

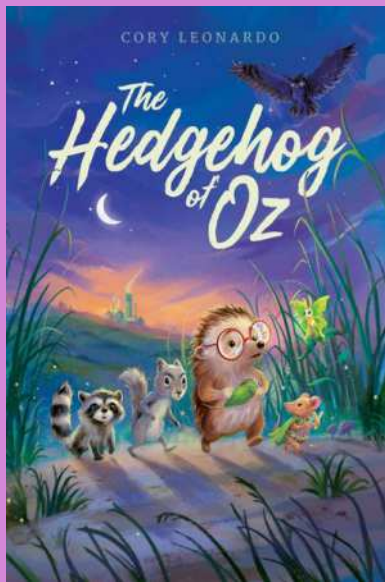
This lush tale of magic and dragons is a gem for any adventure-seeking middle grader and perfect for fans of Aru Shah and the End of Time.

Anya and the Dragon is the story of fantasy and mayhem in tenth century Eastern Europe, where headstrong eleven-year-old Anya is a daughter of the only Jewish family in her village. When her family's livelihood is threatened by a bigoted magistrate, Anya is lured in by a friendly family of fools, who promise her money in exchange for helping them capture the last dragon in Kievan Rus. This seems easy enough, until she finds out that the scary old dragon isn't as old—or as scary—as everyone thought. Now Anya is faced with a choice: save the dragon, or save her family.



Sofiya Pasternack is a nurse whose fondest childhood memories involve her pet goats wrecking the house. When she's not at the hospital, she can be found enjoying Utah's wild places, teaching her kids to make challah, and writing whatever new story has taken up residence in her brain. She is the Sydney Taylor Honor winner and National Jewish Book Award finalist for her first two books, Anya and the Dragon and Anya and the Nightingale (Versify, 2019/2020).





# The Hedgehog of Oz

Middle Grade

Cory Leonardo

Simon & Schuster / Aladdin

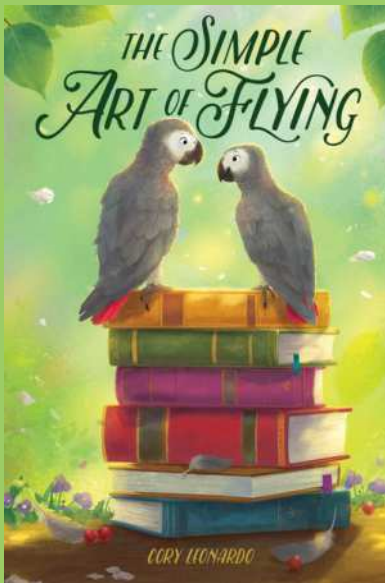
February 2022 (North American)

**The Wizard of Oz meets  
The Wind in the Willows!**

A theater-dwelling, Oz-loving hedgehog goes on the journey of a lifetime to find his way home. Marcel the hedgehog used to live with his owner Dorothy, but since getting lost, he's tried to forget the happy home he left behind. Now, Marcel lives a quiet life in the abandoned balcony of The Emerald City Theater where he subsists on dropped popcorn and Saturday showings of The Wizard of Oz.

But when he's discovered, Marcel is taken far away from everything he knows. His quest to return to The Emerald City Theater leads him to Mousekinland, where he meets Scamp, a tiny mouse armed with enormous spirit (and a trusty sling-shooter). Before long, they're joined by an old gray squirrel, Ingot, and Tuffy, a baby raccoon. The travelers attract the attention of an owl named Wickedwing, who stalks them as they search for the theater.

From field to forest, glittering theater to the gutter, the animals' road home is a dark and winding journey. But sometimes you need to get a little lost before you can be found.



# The Simple Art of Flying

Middle Grade

Cory Leonardo

Simon & Schuster / Aladdin

February 2019 (North American)

**A Parents' Choice Silver Award Winner!**

Perfect for fans of *The One and Only Ivan*, this irresistible debut novel combines plucky humor and a whole lot of heart in a story about the true meaning of family.

Sometimes flying means keeping your feet on the ground... Born in a dismal room in a pet store, Alastair the African grey parrot dreams of escape to bluer skies. He'd like nothing more than to fly away to a palm tree with his beloved sister, Aggie. But when Aggie is purchased by twelve-year-old Fritz, and Alastair is adopted by elderly dance-enthusiast and pie-baker Albertina Plopky, the future looks ready to crash-land.

In-between anxiously plucking his feathers, eating a few books, and finding his own poetic voice, Alastair plots his way to a family reunion. But soon he's forced to choose between the life he's always dreamed of and admitting the truth: that sometimes, the bravest adventure is in letting go.

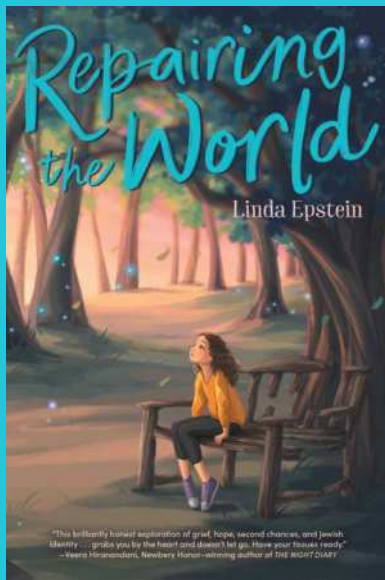
**Rights Sold:**

UK: Scholastic



Cory Leonardo grew up believing she'd replace Vanna White on *Wheel of Fortune*, but when that didn't pan out, she decided she'd turn letters and phrases in a different way (but minus the glittery dresses, sadly). A born and bred upstate New Yorker, she currently lives in the Syracuse area with her husband and three plucky children. Her debut Middle Grade novel, *The Simple Art of Flying*, was a Parents' Choice Silver Award Winner, also published by Simon and Schuster.





# Repairing the World

Linda Epstein

Simon & Schuster

July 2022 (North American)

Twelve-year-old Daisy and Ruby are totally inseparable. They've grown up together, and Daisy has always counted on having Ruby there to pave the way, encourage her to try new things, and to see the magic in the world. Then Ruby is killed in a tragic accident while on vacation, and Daisy's life is shattered.

Now Daisy finds herself having to face the big things in her life—like starting middle school and becoming a big sister—without her best friend. It's hard when you feel sad all the time. But thanks to new friends, new insights, and supportive family members, Daisy is able to see what life after Ruby can look like. And as she reaches beyond that to help repair the world around her, she is reminded that friendship is eternal, and that magic can be found in the presence of anyone who chooses to embrace it.



Linda Epstein is a senior literary agent at Emerald City Literary, representing picture books, middle grade, and young adult novels. In 2018 she received her MFA from The New School in writing for children and young adults. She lives on the north shore of Long Island, New York, where her story is set. *Repairing the World* is her debut novel.



# The Dollmaker of Krakow

R.M. Romero

Random House / Delacorte

October 2017 (North American)

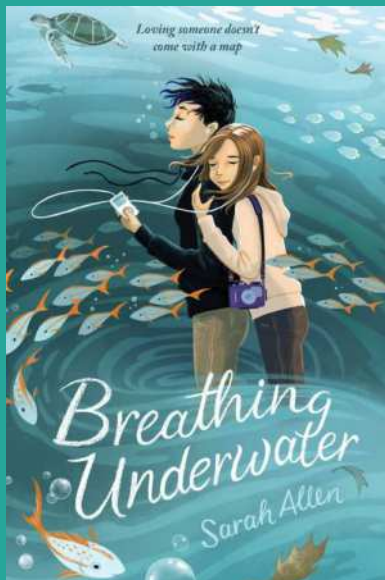
A timeless fantasy set in the Second World War that weaves together magic, folklore and history, perfect for fans of *The Book Thief*, *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas* and *Goodnight Mister Tom*. One night a little doll named Karolina comes to life in a toyshop in Krakow, Poland, in 1939 and changes the life of the gruff, broken-hearted Dollmaker. And when the darkness of the Nazi occupation sweeps over the city, Karolina and the Dollmaker must bravely use their magic to save their Jewish friends from a terrible danger, no matter what the risks. This powerful story is about finding friendship in the darkest of places and the importance of love in times of great pain.

## Rights Sold:

Belgium/The Netherlands: Van Halewyck; Bulgaria: Ciela Norma AD; Czech Republic: Argo; France: Éditions Gallimard; Hungary: Maxim; Italy: De Agostini Editore; Poland: Wydawnictwo Galeria; Portugal: Editorial Presenca; Romania: Editura Rao; Russia: Family Leisure Club; Serbia: Vulcan; Spain: Roca Editorial; Turkey: Pegasus Yayincilik U.K.: Walker Books.



R. M. Romero is a Jewish Latina and author of fairy tales for children and adults. She lives in Miami Beach with her cat Henry VIII and spends her summers helping to maintain Jewish cemeteries in Poland. You can visit her online at [RMRomero.com](http://RMRomero.com)



# Breathing Underwater

Middle Grade

Sarah Allen

A Junior Library Guild Selection!

Macmillan / FSG

March 2022 (North American)

A sparkly, moving middle grade novel from Sarah Allen, and a big-hearted exploration of sisterhood, dreams, and what it means to be there for someone you love.

Olivia is on the road trip of her dreams, with her trusty camera and her big sister Ruth by her side. Three years ago, before their family moved from California to Tennessee, Olivia and Ruth buried a time capsule on their favorite beach. Now, they're taking an RV back across the country to uncover the memories they left behind. But Ruth's depression has been getting worse, so Olivia has created a plan to help her remember how life used to be: a makeshift scavenger hunt across the country, like pirates hunting for treasure, taking pictures and making memories along the way.

All she wants is to take the picture that makes her sister smile. But what if things can never go back to how they used to be? What if they never find the treasure they're seeking? Through all the questions, loving her sister, not changing her, is all Olivia can do—and maybe it's enough.

**Rights Sold:**

Spanish (world): Roca



# What Stars Are Made Of

Middle Grade

Sarah Allen

A Mighty Girl Best Book of 2020!  
ALA Notable Book!

Macmillan / FSG

March 2020 (North American)

A pitch-perfect, heartwarming middle grade novel about growing up, finding yourself, and loving people with everything you're made of.

Twelve-year-old Libby Monroe is great at science, being optimistic, and talking to her famous, accomplished friends (even if only in her head). She's not great at playing piano, sitting still, or figuring out how to say the right thing at the right time. Libby was born with Turner Syndrome, and that makes some things hard.

When her big sister tells her she's pregnant, Libby is thrilled—but worried. Libby knows that babies aren't always born healthy. So she strikes a deal with the universe: She'll enter a contest with a project about Cecilia Payne, the first person to discover what stars are made of. If she wins the grand prize, she will give all the money to her sister, then the baby will be perfect. But can she care for the sister that has always cared for her?

**Rights Sold:**

UK: PRH UK

France: Milan

Italy: Garzanti

Turkey: Panama Publishing

China: Beijing Yutan (Simplified Chinese rights)



Sarah Allen's first book, *What Stars Are Made Of*, was an ALA Notable Book of 2020 and her second, *Breathing Underwater*, was a Jr. Library Guild Selection for 2021. Kirkus Reviews called it "a heartfelt, multifaceted treasure hunt." Born and raised in Utah, she's currently a poetry MFA candidate and graduate instructor at the University of South Florida, Tampa, and spends her non-writing time watching David Attenborough documentaries and singing show-tunes too loudly. Lover of Pixar, leather jackets, and Colin Firth.

# Sub-Agents

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