

# Mould you \* like to be involved in a future issue \* Of Paper Bound?

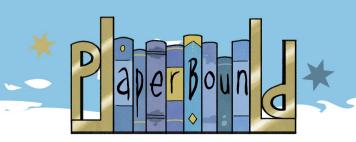
WRITE FOR US: WHETHER IT'S FICTION, POETRY, SCRIPTS, OR ARTICLES
ABOUT WRITING OR BOOKS — WE LOVE IT ALL. (HE(K OUR SUBMISSION GUIDELINES
FOR MORE DETAILS.

(REATE ART FOR US: WE ARE ALWAYS ON THE LOOKOUT FOR ARTWORK TO DE(ORATE EA(H ISSUE. (HE(K OUT OUR SUBMISSION GUIDELINES TO SEE WHAT WE ARE (URRENTLY LOOKING FOR.

BE INTERVIEWED BY US: IF YOU'RE AN AUTHOR OF MG OR YA FICTION, AND HAVE A BOOK (OMING OUT, WE WANT TO KNOW! GET IN TOU(H!



YOU (AN FIND OUT MORE ON OUR WEBSITE: WWW.PAPERBOUNDMAG.(OM IF YOU HAVE ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS, REA(H OUT ON SO(IAL MEDIA OR (ONTA(T US AT PAPERBOUNDMAGAZINE@OUTLOOK.(OM





© Copyright 2022 PaperBound Magazine

All works of writing and art © Copyright 2022 retained by contributors.

All rights reserved. No part of this magazine may be used or reproduced in any manner without written permission, except in an educational setting where attribution must be given to PaperBound Magazine and the contributor (exception below\*).

\*The creative writing and artwork included in PaperBound Magazine may not be used or reproduced in any electronic or print medium, outside of this issue, without the consent of the writer / artist.

PaperBound Magazine is a quarterly online magazine for the young, and the young at heart. It is dedicated to showcasing authors and illustrators of children's and young adult fiction. It strives to deliver inspiring content, new and exciting writing, book recommendations and top tips for aspiring young writers. PaperBound has been created by Emily, Lucy and Rayan who met while studying an MA in Writing for Young People at Bath Spa University.

If you are interested in contributing to the magazine please see full submission details on our website.

Website: www.paperboundmag.com Email: paperboundmagazine@outlook.com Twitter: @paperboundmag Instagram: @paperboundmagazine Facebook: @paperboundmag

Edited by Emily Ould, Lucy Mohan and Rayan Phillips.

Masthead design by Carys Tomos Cover Illustration by Gabbie Benda

Additional images have been sourced from Pixabay.

PG/ YA — some stories may include content that could be unsuitable for some younger readers, and that parents / guardians might want to check first. Please look out for these symbols in top corner.

We are dedicating a very small amount of space in each issue to adverts. For information on advertising in PaperBound Magazine, please email:

paperboundmagazine@outlook.com



### Pear Readers.

Happy Summer! And welcome to our super-bumper **DISCOVERY** issue! We hope you discover lots to love within its pages! It is jam-packed full of brilliant new writing and illustrations, book reviews, author interviews and inspiring articles.

We've had a busy couple of months, attending Pontypridd Children's Book Festival, Anthony Burt's book launch, and having a mini-reunion (first time the team have met up in over two years—pics below). We have also been busy arranging our Competition for Young Writers and we are thrilled to be able to share the shortlisted writing and reveal the winner—as selected by our fabulous judge, YA author Sarah Daniels—in this issue!

As always, thanks so much to all of our summer contributors, and to the publishers and publicists who help put us in touch with the awesome authors and books you see featured in this issue. We couldn't do any of it without all of your help.

If you'd like to be a part of a future issue, please get in touch. We're always on the look out for new writing and illustrations as well as interviews, articles and book reviews. Check out our website for more details.

We hope you enjoy the summer issue!

Happy reading!

### Emily, Lucy and Rayan

If you would like to contribute to a future issue, tell us what you thought of this one, or contact us about anything else, we'd love to hear from you.



The PaperBound Team were thrilled to meet up for the 1st time in over two years. We were lucky enough to attend not only Anthony Burt's book launch for *The Animal Lighthouse*, but also **Pontypridd Children's Book Festival** which, among other things, launched **The Mab Trail** - story stones depicting the tales of *The Mab*, a new bilingual book for children, reimagining the ancient stories of the Mabinogi. We also ran an event as part the festival at Storyville Books, celebrating the release of Tracy Darnton's brilliant new thriller, *Ready or Not.* Plus, we bumped into some other fantastic children's authors too, including Claire Fayers, Eloise Williams and Lesley Parr!!!

## Regular Features

## 19 Book Review Corner-Middle Grade 71 Book Review Corner-Teen/Young Adult

Here you'll be able to find reviews of new releases, those coming soon and reader favourites.

### 23 Printable Writing Prompts

#### 68 Quizzes

### 81 Piscovery Bookshelf

This issue's bookshelf is packed full of books about discovery, perfect for middle grade and young adults. Happy Reading!

Once downloaded, this contents page is interactive. To jump to a page just click on the article you The cover and contents page have been illustrated by the brilliant

### Gabbie Benda

ind out more about Gabbie on page 82



### Special Features

#### JEAK DEEK

### 15 Discovering the Stories Beneath Our Feet

Author **Barbara Henderson** shares the inspiration behind her latest novel, *The Reluctant Rebel – A Jacobite Story* – and also gives us a sneak peek inside...

### 36 Tips on Writing a Trilogy

Holly Race, author of the *Midnight's Twins* trilogy, shares her experiences writing a trilogy. Plus, an exciting giveaway.

### 43 PaperBound's Competition for Young Writers 2022—the shortlist

Read this year's shortlist, and discover our 2022 winner!



### Anne Cassidy

### Interviews

Anne Cassidy tells us all about her fab new novel, The Drowning

### 26 Alex Evelyn

We caught up with Alex Evelyn to chat about her brilliant debut novel, The Secret Wild.

### 32 Ciannon Smart

Hear all about the brand-new sequel to Witches Steeped in Gold. We spoke to author Ciannon Smart all about her gorgeous new novel, Empress Crowned in Red.

### Katie Clapham

Katie Clapham tells us all about her new heart-warming novel, Three Girls, full of unlikely friendships.

### 56 Sarah Paniels

Meet the Judge! We had a quick chat with Sarah Daniels judge of this year's Competition for Young Writers - about her page-turning new novel, The Stranded!

### 62 Natasha Pevon

We interviewed Natasha Devon about the themes and inspiration behind her very important upcoming novel, Toxic.

# New Discovery Writing & Illustrations

by Attie Lime

by Florianne Humphrey

by Sue Lancaster

by Lyndsey Croal

by Rhiannon Oliver

by Sarah Ziman

by Lisa Allen

Read all about this issue's featured artists and illustrators: Gabbie Benda, Felicity Tattersall, David Oates and Clemency Crow.





## ATTIE LIME

Attie Lime likes walking in fields, writing with colourful pens, and making children laugh. She has children's poetry featured/forthcoming in Northern Gravy,
Little Thoughts Press, Parakeet Magazine,
Buzgaga, The Dirigible Balloon and

You can follow Attie on Twitter: @AttieLime

www.attielime.co.uk

Balloons Lit Mag.





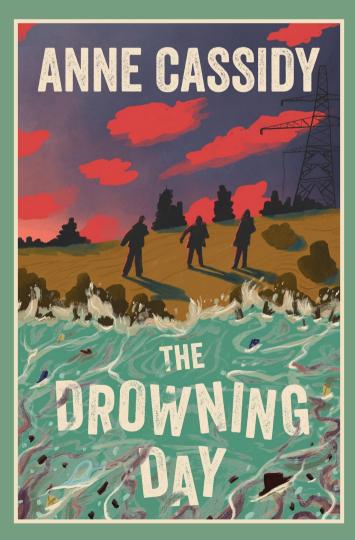


### CAN YOU TELL US A LITTLE ABOUT YOUR BOOK, THE DROWNING DAY?

The Drowning Day is a story set in the future. Jade, Bates and Samson are living in a dangerous world. There are floods which make their lives precarious but the society they live in is divided and harsh. Jade finds out that her sister needs her help and she and her friends need their courage to help her. It's an adventure. Three young people trying to make things right in a broken world.

# THE DROWNING DAY IS SET IN A DYSTOPIAN FUTURE THIRTY YEARS FROM NOW. WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO TELL THIS STORY?

I had been watching a dystopian pandemic drama based on television and enjoyed the idea of people surviving a disaster and trying to make a decent society again. It seemed that the biggest danger wasn't so much the disease but what the other survivors were like. Instead of creating a good society they looked after themselves. I wondered what it would be like to be children in this kind of world.



IT SEEMED THAT THE
BIGGEST DANGER WASN'T
SO MUCH THE DISEASE
BUT WHAT THE OTHER
SURVIVORS WERE LIKE.

THEME THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE BOOK. HOW IMPORTANT DO YOU THINK FRIENDSHIP IS WHEN IT COMES TO WRITING, AND REAL LIFE?

Friendship is probably the most important thing after family. In all the books I've written for teenagers, friendship has always been crucial to the plots and the themes. Friends can become as close (if not closer) than family members and the plus is you get to choose them for yourself. In *The Drowning Day* families are split up because of the need to work, poverty or death. Finding a new family among friends is very important. Jade, Bates and Samson find this connection during the events of the book.

GLOBAL WARMING, ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES AND NATURAL DISASTERS ARE ALSO AT THE FOREFRONT OF THIS BOOK IN A VERY REAL AND IMPACTFUL WAY. WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO YOUNG PEOPLE WHO WANT TO HELP SAVE OUR PLANET?

I wouldn't give advice to other people because I think it's important for people to come to their own conclusions. All I would say is look around, listen to the arguments and think about what is right for the future. Then make your mind up and see what things you can do tomorrow to help.

### DO YOU HAVE ANY TIPS FOR ASPIRING WRITERS?

I have two tips. Read a lot; books, comics, newspapers, online blogs or forums. Write a little every day (15 mins) – a diary, journal, poem, opinion piece, letter, beginning of a story. Think of writing a bit like being an artist. They have sketchbooks and are always drawing or painting. Little and often.

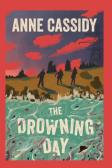
CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT ANY NEW BOOKS YOU MIGHT BE WRITING, OR ARE ON THE WAY?

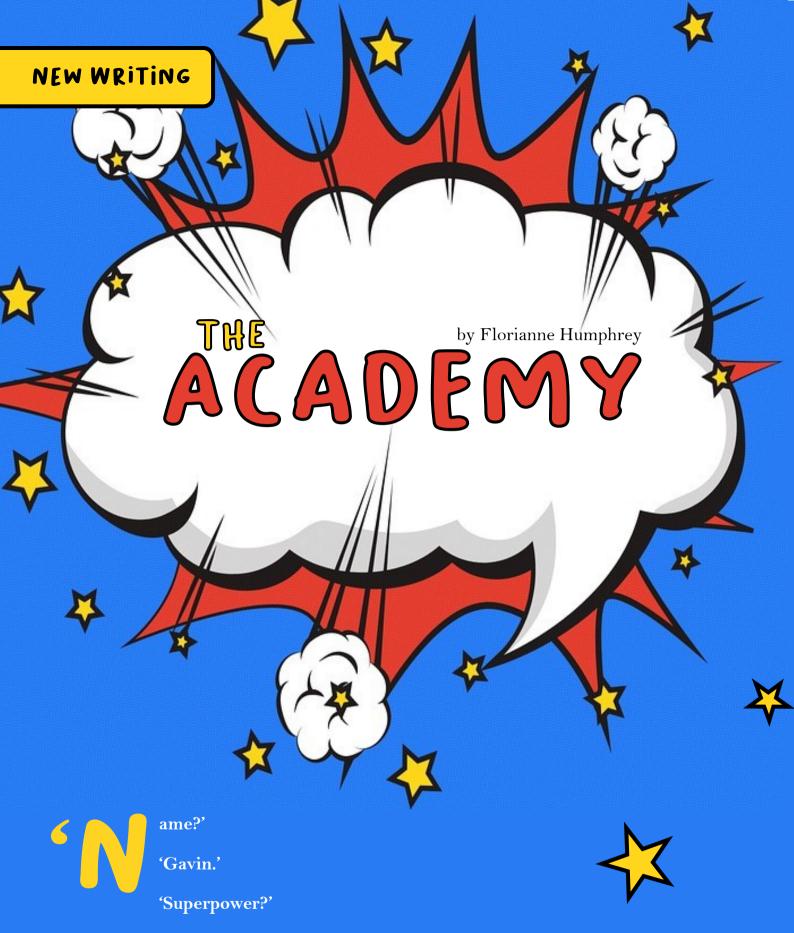
Currently I'm writing an adult book. This is new for me so it's trial and error – but I'm enjoying the challenge. It's a crime novel.

### **ANNE CASSIDY**

Anne Cassidy worked in a bank and as a teacher before she was a writer. She has written over ninety books for children and teenagers. She lives in East London and has two dogs.

The Drowning Day is out now and published by UCLan Publishing





'At first, I thought supersonic farts, but my farts aren't supersonic, they just stink. Then one day I was so busy eating a chocolate chip cookie that I fell out of a tree, and I was like, *uh-oh, it's Gavin jam time*. But instead, I ended up with my feet, like—,' he holds his pointing finger and thumb centimetres apart, '—this far above

the ground.'

The teacher makes a note in his file. 'Flying. Possibly only while eating. We'll do controlled tests using different food types during the training session. Next!'

The girl ahead of Nora is wearing sunglasses, even though it's grey and cloudy.

'Laser beams,' says the teacher. 'Do not take those off.'

The girl folds her arms. 'They're so gross.'

'Next!'



Nora steps up. Stress has unravelled the sleeves of her jumper and made time slow and sludgy. It seems like years since Mum and her girlfriend Kerry dropped Nora off at the Academy, but Kerry's perfume still clings to her jumper after the big, long hug.

'Name?'

'Nora Byrne.' She whispers her surname, hoping no one can hear her.

'Superpower?'

Nora tugs at her jumper as her face blazes red-hot. The eyes of the queue of kids burn into her back.

'Nora?'

She clears her throat but shakes her head.

'Come on, tell me. I need to register you.'

She whispers again. 'I don't – I don't know.'

'Not everyone knows for sure, not at first. But you've had clues, right?'

'No. Nothing. I'm sorry.'

The teacher sucks breath through his teeth. 'Oookay.' He makes a very long note in his file. 'You have least one super parent?'

'Both.'

The teacher isn't listening. Instead, he mutters her surname under his breath until his eyes widen, like everyone else who puts two and two together to make –



'Byrne the Bonfire! Wow. Your father is very -'



'Famous,' sighs Nora. 'I know.'

High on tiptoes, the teacher peers around her. 'Is he here?'



'No. He and Mum split up when I was three.'

Thudding back down to earth, the teacher sighs as deeply as Nora, and points to the building in the distance that's the same colour as the sky.

'Lunch is in one hour and then training out on the grounds. Keep away from the girl wearing sunglasses, especially if that jumper is flammable.'

Nora practically runs from the registration stand in case a kid in the queue overheard her. She can't decide what terrifies her more – someone else putting two and two together to make Byrne the Bonfire, or everyone discovering that she's a dud superhero.

After a chaotic lunch where all the kids show off their powers, like the one who unscrambles eggs and makes them hatch chickens, Nora reluctantly follows the crowd to the training ground.

That long note written next to Nora's name at registration earns her a one-toone with a trainer, while the other students are placed in groups. The laser beam girl is the only other student isolated from the others, paired with a trainer who leaks carbon dioxide from their hands.

Nora's trainer – a woman with pink hair who introduces herself by pulling 50 pence out of Nora's ear, a superpower that has made her rich but only very slowly – claps her on the back. 'I do like a challenge. Let's start up there.'

Shaking with fear, Nora is hauled up a tower of wobbly scaffolding and, before she can scream, her trainer drops her.

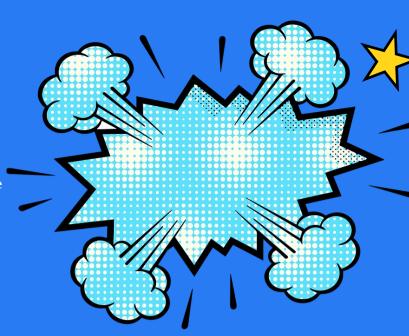
Seconds before she faceplants into the grass, she stops,

suspended in the air.

'I can fly!' she shouts, sick with relief.

But the relief turns to dread when she feels the grip of hands and, when she cranes her neck, her vision is filled with Gavin's freckled face.

He lowers her down until her feet touch the ground. I saved my first



person! Thanks for falling.' Crushing a cookie into his mouth, he springs up and zooms back to his group to loud applause. 'You were right!' he shouts to his trainer. 'It is chocolate chip!'

Nora bites her bottom lip to stop herself from crying and embarrassing herself – and her dad's famous name – even more.

But there's no time to feel sorry for herself. Her trainer drags her from test station to test station but, no, she doesn't have nails of steel; she can't read the minds of people taller than her; she can't rotate her head 360 degrees; she doesn't have acid tears; she can't make people dissolve into unstoppable giggles with one look; and she doesn't shoot laser beams from *anywhere*, not even her belly button.

By the time Nora's trainer stops smiling, the training ground is empty. 'Nothing. This is a career first. Not even a *suggestion* of a power.' She taps her pencil, that has been scribbling very long notes, hard against Nora's head. 'Not even an egg head. That was my last idea. I'm sorry, Nora. You've squeezed me dry.'

Nora's throat aches and eyes itch. Her trainer will phone her mum and her mum will tell her dad and her dad will never speak to her again because what's worse than Byrne the Bonfire having a dud daughter? Nora has spent years excited to start the Academy, to follow in her parents' footsteps, and now she wants to shut her eyes and turn back time and never sign up in the first place.

When Nora opens her eyes, she's not standing in the empty training ground. Her pink-haired trainer has vanished. She's standing in a very familiar queue of kids; in the distance, there's a building the same colour as the sky; and in front of her is the teacher from earlier, talking to the girl with sunglasses.

'Laser beams,' says the teacher. 'Do not take those off.'

The girl folds her arms. 'They're so gross.'

'Next!'

Nora steps up.

'Name?'

'Nora.' She lifts her head high. 'Byrne the Bonfire's daughter.'

'Superpower?'

Nora rolls up the sleeves of her jumper and smiles.







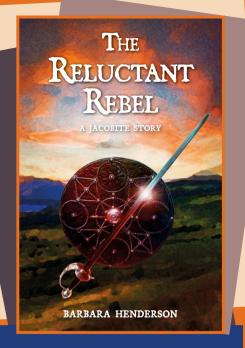
Florianne Humphrey's writing has been published by
Popshot Magazine and Northern Gravy, and shortlisted for the Bridport
Prize. Working alongside Founder Stuart White and author Melissa
Welliver, Florianne supports the growth of WriteMentor, an
organisation for writers of children's fiction, while also producing its
quarterly magazine.

Follow Florianne on Twitter: @flohumphrey3





# Discovering \_the Stories Beneath Our Feet



AUTHOR BARBARA HENDERSON SHARES THE INSPIRATION BEHIND HER LATEST NOVEL, THE RELUCTANT REBEL - A JACOBITE STORY - AND ALSO GIVES US A SNEAK PEEK INSIDE...

herever we live the very soil is steeped in stories.

I had no intention to become a writer

of historical fiction at all. I was writing fantasy, dystopia, contemporary stories set in schools until I stumbled across a historical tale I really wanted to tell.

herever we live

the very soil is

steeped in stories.

centuries long gone was strong.

Take my new historical adventure *The* Reluctant Rebel, for example. I have lived in

> Inverness for much of the last quarter of a century and \_\_this is Jacobite country: the site of Britain's last

land battle

which spelled the end of the rebellion which sought to place the Stuart dynasty on the throne. The battlefield at Culloden itself is a compelling site, beautifully restored by the National Trust for Scotland and inevitably the first stop on the itinerary of any visitor to our household. I

It's not because I don't love history, you understand. I adore the treasure-huntaspect of tracking the past – I simply thought I was not well suited to doing this - being more of a broad brush-stroke, quick ideas sort of girl, less of a meticulous researcher. But the lure of

began reading about the Jacobites and quickly became fascinated with the risktakers, rebels and rascals who had inhabited these parts less than three centuries before I did. Could my next book be about the Jacobites?

I researched children's fiction set in the era, but there was almost nothing – certainly nothing recent. How could this be? As a teacher I knew that most Scottish

That's the beauty of

history – this is our

world. This land is our

land. The very places we

walk day by day.

schools study the
Jacobites. *Right*, I
thought – *I'll write*about this. But the more
I read, the more I
became obsessed not
with the military highs
and lows but their
aftermath. The

Jacobites were comprehensively defeated at Culloden on 16<sup>th</sup> April 1746. The Stuart Prince at the centre of the Rising fled. Almost as an afterthought, many of the sources stated that the romantically named Bonnie Prince Charlie spent the next five months on the run across the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, often only narrowly escaping his pursuers, until he finally escaped to France in September.

How could this be? The victorious government Redcoats were everywhere, punishing the clans for their Jacobite £30,000 reward for information about the whereabouts of the Prince, and yet he was not betrayed, despite hundreds of people involved in guiding, supplying and sheltering him on his long flight. A deadly game of hide-and-seek – for me, that's where the story was! The Prince's companions changed frequently throughout these summer months, and none of those

recorded to be with him then were children.
Problem: as a children's author I needed a child \_\_narrator. But wait, was there a place where the Prince passed through several times?
Bingo! Borrodale in

Lochaber was a perfect fit. It was where the rebellion began, and the MacDonalds of Borrodale where the staunchest of allies. What if a stableboy and a maid became crucial to the Prince's escape? Archie and Meg were born in my imagination.

And so, the story follows Archie's rebellion – his enthusiasm, grief, disillusion and resilience, always with his cousin Meg at his side. It's an adventure without doubt. But I do hope that young (and older) readers will allow themselves to be absorbed in a world of high stakes with no

safety nets. That's the beauty of history—
this is *our* world. This land is *our* land. The
very places we walk day by day. Bayonets
and targes and broadswords clashed here
amid cannon fire and the gallop of charging
horses. But it is the land of the quiet,
creeping escape of a fugitive prince and his

friends too.

The feats and failures beneath our feet can be the most fascinating discovery of all.

### BARBARA HENDERSON

Inverness-based Barbara Henderson is the author of historical novels Fir for Luck, Punch, Black Water, The Siege of Caerlaverock (for which she won a Young Quills Award from the Historical Association) and The Chessmen Thief as well as the eco-thriller Wilderness Wars. Her energetic school visits have taken her across the country - and as a Drama teacher, she loves to get young people on their feet. Barbara shares her home with one teenage son, one long-suffering husband and a scruffy Schnauzer called Merry.

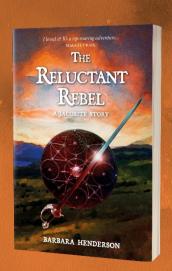
<u>barbarahenderson.co.uk</u>



THIS PHOTO WAS TAKEN ON A BEACH NEAR WHERE THE RELUCTANT REBEL IS SET (NEAR ARISAIG)!

THE
RELUCTANT
REBEL
A JACOBITE STORY

Barbara Henderson May 2022



TURN OVER TO READ THE OPENING OF BARBARA'S NEW NOVEL, THE RELUCTANT REBEL.

# SNEAK PEEK INSIDE BARBARA HENDERSON'S NEW NOVEL THE RELUCTANT REBEL

### Glenfinnan, 19 August 1745

e hear the bagpipes first.

Excitement pulses through the crowd and Father

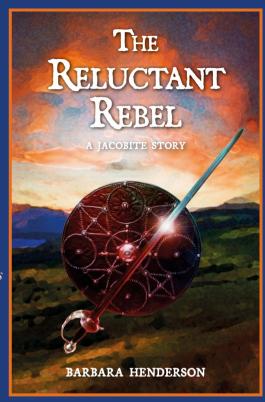
places a hand on my shoulder. We waited long enough for it,

but finally they have begun to arrive: The Morar MacDonalds

and the Gordons first, a handful of MacGregors. Once the

afternoon sun is high, a larger number of Camerons.

About 700 I reckon,' Father whispers into my ear before shaking hands with Iain Mòr, our master's oldest son.



Smiles slice the tension away. Three hundred Keppoch MacDonalds next, with their leader ahead on his chestnut stallion. At last: here is an army.

Father ruffles my hair and rushes off to give the standard-bearer a hand to unfurl a large banner. The priest blesses the cloth and then it flutters in the wind, majestic with its crimson and white, high above the heads of the assembled Jacobites.

The Prince raises a hand and immediately, a hush settles. Not the awkward hush of a funeral. Nor the good-natured hush of a nursery. No, this is a hush of hope.

The Prince's speech is short, and not even in Gaelic, but it rouses the masses, this much I can tell. Shouts and cheers echo up and down the glen, the like of which I have never heard, and probably never will again. I myself yell until my voice gives out. I cannot help it.

Wait till I return tonight to tell Mother about all of this! I am so grateful that I was here, to take word of the raising of the standard home. Imagine I had missed it!

Our country will never be the same again.

Of that I'm sure as I run, mile after mile, towards Borrodale and home, even as my father marches south for the Cause.

THE RELUCTANT REBEL IS OUT NOW AND PUBLISHED BY LUATH PRESS

# THANKS SO MU(H TO ALL OUR REVIEWERS. IF YOU'D LIKE TO WRITE A REVIEW FOR OUR NEXT ISSUE, (HECK OUT THE DETAILS ON OUR WEBSITE: WWW.PAPERBOUNDMAG.(OM/SUBMIT

# YESTERDAY CRUMB AND THE STORM IN A TEACUP

### BY ANDY SAGAR



REVIEWED BY WILL DOBSON TWITTER @WYDOBSON1

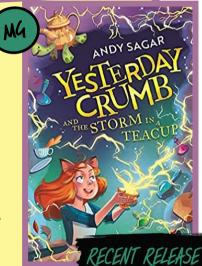
If Lewis Carroll entered Bake Off, the result might well be Yesterday Crumb. Not only boasting the best MG title of the year, the book introduces readers to the titular heroine, a trapped circus girl with fox ears, who is an instantly lovable protagonist. Along with Miss Dumpling (tea witch extraordinaire), best mate Jack (part wolf), the redoubtable Widdershins (automaton) and snarky

Madrigal (not-raven familiar), Yesterday sets off on an adventure of life and death, to reverse an icy curse which has taken hold inside her heart, cast by the wicked Mr Weep.

Andy Sagar's debut novel is a story of ingenious invention, full of wit, charm and marvellous characters, unfolding in a sumptuously imagined world of mayhem and patisserie carnage.

Put the kettle on, chill off the milk, grab your favourite biscuit. This book will warm you to the core.

YESTERDAY CRUMB AND THE STORM IN A TEACUP IS OUT NOW AND PUBLISHED BY ORION CHILDREN'S BOOKS



MORE REVIEWS

### HEDGEWITCH BY SKYE MCKENNA

REVIEWED BY PAPERBOUND

Hedgewitch is an enchanting fantasy tale, about Cassie, a young girl who escapes her boarding school into a world of magic!

Cassie runs away from her grim life to find out what really happened to her mother. But the world she finds outside her school is not quite what she expected. Full of magic, Cassie discovers a family she never knew she had, including the brilliantly grouchy talking cat, Montague.



She soon learns that she is descended from witches and is enrolled in a new school, learning the craft herself. But not everything goes to plan. There are plenty of trials, secrets, a mysterious forest, not to mention the children that keep going missing.

First of a series, *Hedgewitch* is guaranteed to grab your heart. Perfect for children and adults alike. This series promises to be utterly spellbinding.

HEDGEWITCH IS OUT NOW FROM WELLBECK FLAME



### PLEASE WRITE SOON BY MICHAEL ROSEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY MICHAEL FOREMAN REVIEWED BY PAPERBOUND

Paired with Michael Foreman's illustrations, *Please Write Soon* by Michael Rosen, the author who brought us *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*, is an absolutely beautiful book that will move the hearts and minds of readers, both young and old alike, set during the perils of World War II.



RECENT RELEASE

Told through the moving letters of two cousins; Solly, a young English evacuee, and his teenaged cousin, Bernie, who must flee Poland to escape the invasion of Nazis, readers are swept up in the troubles and turmoil of World War II from the perspectives of both boys – one of life in war torn Britain, and another in Russian concentration camps, travelling across fighting Europe.

We read this book slowly because it was so heart breaking yet fulfilling and inspiring, and when we finished it, we read it all over again.

PLEASE WRITE SOON IS PUBLISHED BY SCHOLASTIC AND OUT NOW

### RUN FOR YOUR LIFE BY JANE MITCHELL

REVIEWED BY PAPERBOUND

Told through the eyes of Azari, a young asylum seeker grappling with the accommodation system in Ireland after fleeing the country she was born in, Run for Your Life is the moving story of a girl who must escape her past, find her own voice in a country she doesn't know, and take care of herself and her mum when no one else can, and all else seems lost. But hope is still tangible.

RECENT RELEASE Written in a raw yet delicate way, Jane Mitchell shows the desperation and turmoil that many young people face when placed through this accommodation system and tells Azari's story with rich authenticity that blooms right across the page in bewitching detail. Heart-breaking, absorbing and honest, this book is a must-read for any bookworm, and an inspiration for change.

RUN FOR YOUR LIFE IS PUBLISHED BY LITTLE ISLAND BOOKS AND OUT NOW!







### MAX EINSTEIN: THE GENIUS EXPERIMENT BY JAMES PATTERSON AND CHRIS GRABENSTEIN

REVIEWED BY MADDISON ME MADDOX, SOUTH WALES (AGE 11)

Max Einstein is a book about a clever orphaned girl who plans to change the world. She is 12 years old but already goes to college every day. One day when she goes to play speed chess, she is brought to a foster home by the evil organisation called The Corp.

JAMES PATTERSON READER FAVOURITE

M4

She is rescued by the good members of the CMI and is one of the contestants to become the chosen one. Working with fellow genius kids, and creating solutions to help people all over the world, she settles and finds herself a permanent home.

I would recommend this book because it is full of new exciting words, the story line is good and even gives instructions to scientific experiments e.g. to create slime.

MAX EINSTEIN: THE GENIUS EXPERIMENT IS PUBLISHED BY ARROW AND OUT NOW!

### THE WONDER GIRLS AND THE WONDER GIRLS RESIST BY J.M. CARR

REVIEWED BY ULRIKE DURAN BRAVO, CORNWALL

The Wonder Girls and The Wonder Girls Resist by J.M. Carr are swashbuckling middle grade novels with rebellion and resistance at their heart.

Set in fictional Nettlefield, just outside Southampton, in 1936, a gang of independent and diverse girls work together to expose the fascist Blackshirts that are up to no good. The first book takes inspiration from the horrible historical facts involving the Lebensborn, whereby blonde children were



kidnapped to raise a pure Aryan race. Parts of the plot are chilling but the characters navigate the corrupt world of grown-ups with such playful optimism and bravery, that it is a wonderful introduction to the darker side of that episode of history. The gang of girls, headed by Baby, are not only feisty, determined and kind-hearted but also diverse: from an Indian orphan to 'the Goldilocks girl' to a character with down-syndrome, there is a real effort to be all inclusive with a heart-warming result.

In the sequel, *The Wonder Girls Resist*, the girls help refugee children fleeing the Spanish Civil War. Despite the story being set over eighty years ago, the subject and attitudes presented are amazingly topical and echo current situations.

Both books bring pre-WW2 Britain to life with almighty fun and vindicating girl-power. These books are not afraid to tackle complicated issues, making them accessible and encouraging us to speak up for what is right. And ultimately, they are thoroughly enjoyable adventure stories full of cat-and-mouse chases, delectable villains, and satisfying plot twists.

THE WONDER GIRLS AND THE WONDER GIRLS RESIST ARE BOTH OUT NOW

### YOU CAN FIND OUR BOOK REVIEWS FOR TEENS AND YOUNG ADULTS ON PAGE 71

IF YOU'D LIKE TO REVIEW A BOOK FOR PAPERBOUND, WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU. SEE HOW YOU CAN GET YOUR REVIEW IN THE NEXT ISSUE ON OUR WEBSITE: WWW.PAPERBOUNDMAG.COM

IF YOU'RE A PUBLISHER OR AUTHOR, AND WOULD LIKE US TO REVIEW A NEW RELEASE, WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU TOO. PLEASE GET IN TOUCH: PAPERBOUNDMAGAZINE@OUTLOOK.COM

# PRINTABLE DISCOVERY WRITING PROMPTS



# MAKING A DISCOVERY



Choose one of the following scenarios:

	Choose one of the following section ios.
1.	You find a secret map, and follow it to the point marked X
2.	You rummage around in the attic, and find what looks like an old treasure chest, complete with dried seaweed
3.	Looking through an old photo album, you find a folded photo, when you unfold it you discover
	Continue the story from this point. What happens next?

# PRINTABLE DISCOVERY WRITING PROMPTS

# FREEWRITING

Felicity Tattersall has shared this wonderful discovery inspired illustration with us (next page). Using it as a starting point, set a timer (1, 2, 5 minutes – you decide) and begin writing and don't stop until the timer has run out. You could choose to look at the whole image, or zoom in on a small section, it's totally up to you! See where it takes you.
You can find out more about Felicity on page 82.



### Interview



# Can you tell us about your book, The Secret Wild, and what inspired you to write it?

The Secret Wild is about a girl called Fern who is sent away from her parents' planting hunting trip in the Amazon after she gets in trouble one too many times. She is unhappy about being sent to London to stay with her eccentric uncle, but when she finds a magical plant and then makes friends with the boy next door, things start looking up. There are some very strange things going on in London however; a guerilla gardener is planting enormous

plants in the strangest of places, and it looks like Fern's special little plant might just be at the heart of the growing mystery.

I was inspired to write about the relationship between a child and a plant when I helped at a plant sale at my daughter's primary school. The children were queueing up to buy tiny cacti plants and were discussing what they were going to call them and where they were going to put them in their bedrooms. As I stood there listening to them, the idea of a relationship between a girl and a special

plant popped in to my mind and *The Secret Wild* grew from that moment, in a slow and very tangled way. The story is also about friendship, family and being brave even when you are scared. Woody suffers from horrible anxieties, inspired by my own journey with anxiety, and I really hope that children who struggle with this difficulty find themselves represented in the story. I have always found the natural world to be the best tonic to any mental health moments I have had, and I hope that in *The* 

Secret Wild I have managed to convey the joy I feel when I am at my most wild.

The natural world is a huge theme in The Secret Wild.

How important do you think the natural world is to young people right now?

I think the natural world has always been where children

feel a real freedom to play and explore. The difference now is the overwhelming worry that some of them feel towards what is happening to it. Climate anxiety is a growing concern in children and I worry that when us adults see their generation to be the answer to the planet's issues, we heap a huge responsibility on them before they have a chance to connect to the natural world in a carefree way. Yet if we don't teach them that how we live now is threatening the health of our planet then

they will grow up to make the same mistakes that we have. Worrying about this conundrum keeps me up at night!

When I read that less young people were studying plant science at a time when we really need botanists, I felt compelled to try and turn my story about a girl and a plant into a madcap botanical adventure that introduced children to some of the incredible wonders of the plant world in a way that left them feeling entertained and

hopeful. My way of dealing with my own feelings of powerlessness about the planet was to drop an imaginary green bomb on London and I had so much fun doing it!

London and I had so much fun doing it!

Apart from London, are there any other places in real life that

helped inspire the

story for The

Secret Wild?

adults see [the next]
generation to be the
answer to the planet's
issues, we heap a huge
responsibility on them
before they have a
chance to connect to
the natural world in a
carefree way.

I worry that when us

For sixty years my grandparents lived next to the Garden City in Rhiwbina in Cardiff, which was created in 1912 to try and bring the benefits of countryside living to the city. My grandfather was a passionate gardener and when we visited them you would barely have time for a rifle in the biscuit tin before you were being dragged around the garden to look at his plants (sadly, just like Fern, I could never remember the Latin names that he would

teach me as we went round!) His enthusiasm was infectious and he only grew more passionate about nature as he aged. He was still gardening when they were in their late eighties and my granny would often remark that she felt like Sleeping Beauty as she could hardly see out of their windows for enormous plants.

### What are your favourite things to do when you're not writing?

My husband and I have three daughters so life is pretty busy! I like to walk our dog

...there are many

stories lurking in

cardboard boxes

that I only half

finished.

Coco with friends and we are lucky to live near Westonbirt
Arboretum so we spend lots of time \_\_\_\_\_
there. I work parttime at a toddler forest school nestled amongst the roots of the incredible

Westonbirt trees which brings two of my loves together – working with children and being outdoors. We have chickens, fluffy bantams and elegant bluebells, and I love watching them forage around the garden (destroying any plants in their wake.) I still feel a sense of awe every time they lay us an egg! Having lived in some very tropical places in my childhood I am now passionate about the British coastline and am partial to a bit of sea swimming – brrrrr!

### What has your writing journey been like so far?

I originally worked in journalism and PR,

but when my husband and I moved to a very rural area and then had our own children I changed direction, working with children first at a preschool, then running cookery clubs for schools and Surestart centres, and now as a Brownie leader. My writing grew out of these happy times. When I have had difficult moments along the way I remind myself of my original aim which was to try and write fun and engaging stories for the children I met.

Writing for publication is a tough journey - I don't think that I have ever heard a

published author say 'well that was easy wasn't it!' In some ways it doesn't get any easier the further along the path you get. I have been very lucky so far though as I have adored working with Walker Books who put so much time and energy

into the editing process, and I have a fabulous agent in Clare Wallace of Darley Anderson who has helped me draw out the heart of my latest story.

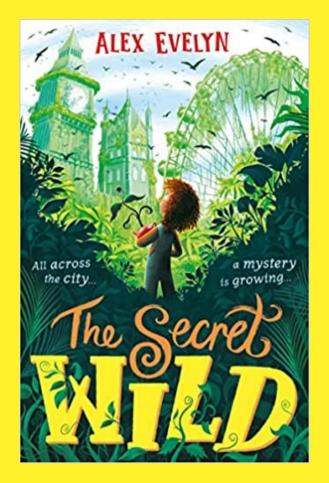
However there are many stories lurking in cardboard boxes that I only half finished. Making the decision to do the Golden Egg Academy foundation course back in 2017 changed my writing journey – it gave me writing 'colleagues' who became friends and who I am still in touch with every week. I also learnt some much needed plotting skills (I am a pantser at heart) and helped me work out how to get a story beyond a 'soggy middle' and over the

finishing line.

### Are you writing anything new at the moment that you can tell us about?

Yes! I have dived in to something new that I am very excited about, I can't say too much, but I can say that I am still writing about plants, but in a setting that couldn't be *more* different than *The Secret Wild*.





The Secret Wild is published by Walker Books and is out now!



FREELANCE WRITER
PROOFREADER
MARKETER
EDITOR

emily charlottee ditorial @outlook.com



### **Services:**

- Proofreading
- Copyediting (line edits, sentence structure, writing style, clarity, etc.)
- Developmental editing (structural suggestions, character development, continuity, etc.)

# CANNOT WRITE POEMS AT ALL

Our teacher has asked us to write her a verse, The best will get hung on the wall, I totally feel like this homework's the worst; I cannot write poems at all!

She's asked us to think about meter and rhyme, To make sure the rhythm sounds right, But I cannot tell if my beat is in time, and I don't know the right rhymes to write.

She said we should use at least one metaphor, Her heart must be made out of stone! I don't even know what a metaphor's for, I'm a cloud in the sky, all alone. She suggested a simile might make her smile, The word is as clear as dense fog, If only I listened just once in a while, My mind's like a big murky bog.

Also, she said add some alliteration, The meaning's a mystery to me, I cannot concoct a quirky creation, I'm sharper at science, you see.

She lastly said use repetition in verse,
Apparently, that can sound cool,
I've said it before, but this homework's the worst;
I cannot write poems at all!

Yet swirly blue pen strokes have filled up the lines Are those my words that I see?
Oh, wow...! I've discovered that if I just try I CAN in fact, write poetry!





### FOR ANYONE WHO HASN'T READ YOUR FIRST BOOK. WITCHES STEEPED IN GOLD. COULD YOU TELL US A LITTLE ABOUT IT. AND WHERE THE INSPIRATION CAME FROM?

Sure! Witches Steeped in Gold follows two enemy witches from rival orders, who are forced to unite in order to take out a common enemy. Much backstabbing ensues as they work together for their shared goal, and a few sneaky secret goals they keep to themselves. It's set in a Jamaican-inspired magical world, and features many of the

favourite monsters I learnt about when I visited the island as a teenager—which is when I was inspired to write this story. — My family visited Rose Hall in Jamaica the summer I turned twelve. There, I learned that my

culture has witches of its own entrenched in the island's history, and they used a taboo branch of magic that's still spoken about reticently today. As a huge Sabrina the Teenage Witch fan, I was hooked, and remained so for a long while after that holiday, enough that, years later when I asked myself what sort of book I wanted to write next, the answer was a Jamaican-inspired fantasy—with certain liberties, of course. It's not a historical novel—set against the backdrop of a perilous world, with the witches I learned about that summer, and a host of hallmarks I've picked up along the way, like those twists.

# AND WHAT CAN READERS EXPECT FROM THE SEQUEL. EMPRESS CROWNED IN RED?

Empress Crowned in Red took me the best part of a year to write; it kicks off with action, and doesn't really slow down from that point onward!

### Spoilers ahead . . .

Ira and Jazmyne are both dealing with their respective fallouts from the end of *Witches Steeped in Gold*. For the former, she was made aware that there's a greater threat

THERE, I LEARNED THAT

MY CULTURE HAS

WITCHES OF ITS OWN

ENTRENCHED IN THE

ISLAND'S HISTORY.

standing between her and the life of peace she wanted, after avenging her parents; Ira has to shine a — light on this shadow, before her home is cast in perpetual darkness. For Jazmyne, as always, she's a little

misguided in thinking that her biggest problem is Ira. Matters soon become far more *monstrous*, shall I say. In order to secure their island's safety, Ira and Jazmyne might have to meet in the middle . . . of a battlefield, where someone else awaits them too.

YOUR BOOKS CHALLENGE THE IDEA OF HERO AND VILLAIN. SHOWING US MUCH MORE COMPLEX CHARACTERS. HOW DO YOU GO ABOUT PLANNING THE CHARACTERS IN YOUR BOOKS?

Thank you! I can't tell you how many

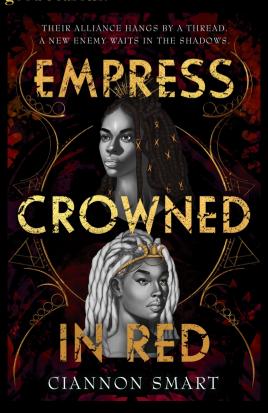
headaches I gave myself with my characters and their various feelings.

I'm both a planner and a pantser, so I know my fundamentals — Ira is driven versus Jazmyne who is more cautious – and then I dive in with those foils in mind. The complexity comes from the theme of perception versus reality; a hallmark for me with characters is definitely leading readers one way, only to switch up how my

characters will
react. That comes
from giving
every character
motivation. They
need to complete a task, and
will go about
doing that
however they can.
Grey characters

THAT I GET TO WORK
IN MY DREAM
CAREER. I HOPE
FOREVER.

have more paths to take, as opposed to either a purely good or evil character, which is more enjoyable for me. I like writing about girls who get up to bad things for good reasons.



### DO YOU HAVE ANY TIPS FOR ASPIRING WRITERS APPROACHING THE TASK OF WORLDBUILDING AND MAGIC SYSTEMS?

Brandon Sanderson's *Laws of Magic* are invaluable. They'll help establish the rules of your world, which anchor your storytelling. And worldbuilding is difficult at the best of times. I used Victoria Aveyard's blog to help me establish mine,

including drawing a map. Ultimately, research, and cobble together something that works for you.

COULD YOU SHARE A LITTLE ABOUT YOUR JOURNEY TO PUBLICATION?

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE THING ABOUT BEING AN AUTHOR? AND ALTERNATIVELY, IS THERE ANY THING YOU DON'T LIKE?

I wanted to be a writer the moment I realised it was an actual career option, at 15. I wrote my first book immediately, all 100,000 words of it. Yes, it was terrible. But it was complete. I knew then that I could finish a book. I wrote more, and eventually entered Pitch Wars in 2017. I got in, but I wasn't able to finish my book on time; regardless, I kept working on it and queried in 2018 at which time I signed with my first agent. We did a few rounds before submission that same year, and I sold my Pitch Wars book at auction to Harper in the US, and later Hot Key Books in the UK. It was a total whirlwind experience, and

taught me a lot about expectation versus reality in publishing.

My favourite part of being an author is connecting with readers who've enjoyed my book. My least favourite thing is likely time, there never seems to be enough of it! I want to write all day, or spend all day on social media answering DMs, but my schedule has become so crazy it's a juggling act between one or the other at the moment. No complaints though, I'm very grateful that I get to work in my dream career. I hope forever.

# CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT ANYTHING ELSE YOU'RE WORKING ON AT THE MOMENT?

I'd love to — one of the hardest parts of publishing is keeping secrets about things that are SO exciting. I have a MG Fantasy releasing next June, Rayleigh Mann In the Company of Monsters. And I have something different in the YA space out later next year—this one I do have to keep quiet about for a little longer, but you have it here first. It's coming, and I can't wait for the announcement.

Witches Steeped in Gold is out now, and Empress Crowned in Red was published on June 7th 2022 both by HarperTeen in US and Hot Key Books in UK



### CIANNON SMART

Ciannon Smart is a YA author of Witches Steeped in Gold, and its Sequel, Empress Crowned in Red. Of Jamaican heritage, she lives in a small town in the south-east of England. In fiction, she loves her heroines exactly as she likes her villains: willful, wily, and unpredictable.



Sireaway





# by Holly Race

Author of the Midnight's Twins series, Holly Race, shares her top tips for anyone thinking about writing a trilogy

he idea for *Midnight's Twins*, and the two books that follow it, came from a single 'what if?' *What if*our dreams were real?

It seems amazing, when I write that down, that an entire trilogy – 1194 pages, to be exact – could spin out from that single question. Once I started pondering it, though, I couldn't stop. I've always had very vivid dreams and nightmares; the ones that sometimes wake you up in the early hours, heart hammering, mind racing,

and refuse to let you go back to sleep for ages. I loved wondering what might have happened to me if that pack of werewolves had genuinely attacked me – if I hadn't woken up in time, would I have simply... failed to wake up at all?

My real breakthrough came, though, when I combined that what if? with my lifelong interest in mythology and folklore – in particular, Arthurian legend. I grew up reading T. H. White's *The Once and Future King* and watching all of the films

and TV shows made about King Arthur and Merlin, Guinevere and Lancelot. In giving Arthurian legend one foot in reality (and taking a lot of liberties with it too!) I was able to flesh out my dream-world and hang the story of my twins, Fern and

Ollie, off a different piece of Arthurian legend in each book.

If you're going to write a trilogy (or any book series), my first piece of advice is – make sure you

absolutely adore your plot, world and characters. By the time you've completed multiple rounds of edits and proofreads of your work, you'll have probably read the same story about a million times. Multiply that by three in my case, and that's a lot of time spent in my dream-world! Luckily, I love doing research – in a former job I used to be a researcher for films and TV series, so I spent a lot of time looking up things like, 'Why did Mary Queen of Scots keep a lion in the moat of Edinburgh castle?' and, 'What would happen if a Texan Sheriff became a police officer in Liverpool?'

For Midnight's Twins, I had fun reading lots of the lesser-known Arthurian legends, finding out what jobs were going in Medieval castles, and understanding exactly what it means when your teeth fall out in your dreams (disappointingly, it's about something mundane like money worries). Some of this found its way into my books, and some is special information that only I will ever know. It's easy to

Make sure you

absolutely

adore your

plot, world and

characters

imagine that you can include all your world-building in a series — there's so many pages, — of course there's going to be space! — but I've had to remove quite a bit from my drafts, because it didn't

serve the plot or the characters, which always have to take priority. In a very early draft of *Midnight's Twins* I included a subplot about the quest to find Excalibur. An agent told me that it was making the book feel unwieldy, so the Excalibur quest became the key focus of my second book, *A Gathering Midnight*, instead.



It's a fine balance to strike between making your world feel full and rich, and packing it so tightly that your characters and plot don't have room to breathe.

Speaking of plot – whether you're a 'plotter' or a 'pantser', when you're writing a trilogy it's necessary to have some idea of where you want your story to end up.

Trilogies – especially fantasy trilogies – tend to follow a set structure: the first book is usually more contained, so it could potentially be read as a standalone; the second ends on an 'all is lost' note; and the final book gives us closure. Add in the fact that each separate book has to have its own internal structure, and you'd be well advised to at least have a rough idea of what

you want to happen across the course of the series and in each book, otherwise you make a lot of work for yourself at the back end! While my three book plan has changed a little since I wrote *Midnight's*Twins, the central

thrust of it has remained the same. Having that knowledge of what's coming down the line has enabled me to seed some Easter eggs in the first two books, for eagle-eyed readers to pick up on as they hunt for clues as to what happens in the final instalment.



Between plotting and researching, you might think that there's no room for anything else in creating a fantasy trilogy, but I've saved the best and most crucial

I've found that

the best moments

in my books have

always been as

much a surprise to

me as they end up

being to my

readers.

element for last: the
element of surprise.
No matter how much
we work out before we
start writing, I've
found that the best moments in my books
have always been as
much a surprise to me
as they end up being to

my readers. I learned this the hard way when, after spending five years plotting what would become *Midnight's Twins*, I reached the end of my first chapter and

realised that the story would be so much more interesting if it was my heroine's twin brother, Ollie, who was chosen to enter the dream world instead of Fern herself! It meant completely reshaping everything I'd so intricately planned, but it was worth it. I now always make sure to keep space in my plans to be surprised, and when those moments occur to me in a rush

of exhilaration, I've learned to abandon the route I'd mapped out and step onto the road less travelled – it almost always leads to a far more exciting book, even if it does mess up your plans for the remaining thousand pages!

The final instalment of Holly's trilogy, *A Midnight*Dark and Golden, is published by Hot Key Books

on 23rd June 2022

Find out how you can win the whole trilogy below!

#### Holly Race

Holly worked as a development executive in the film and TV industry for nearly a decade. These days, when she isn't writing, she can usually be found either script editing or baking. She is a Faber Academy graduate, and the first book in this trilogy, *Midnight's Twins*, was her debut novel. Holly used to live in Fern and Ollie's neck of the woods, but now resides in Cambridge with her husband and daughter. You can find out more about her and keep up to date with her book news at



www.hollyrace.com

# To celebrate the release of A Midnight Dark and Golden, we've teamed up with Hot Key Books to giveaway a copy of Holly Race's entire trilogy! To win, make sure to follow us on Twitter (@PaperBoundMag), and check out our post on 23rd June!





# KATIE CLAPHAM

WE CAUGHT UP WITH BOOKSELLER-TURNED-AUTHOR,
KATIE CLAPHAM, WHO CHATTED WITH US ABOUT HER
DEBUT TEEN NOVEL, *THREE GIRLS*, A COMING OF
AGE STORY ABOUT FRIENDSHIP, UNLIKELY HOBBIES
AND DISCOVERING WHO YOU ARE.

COULD YOU SHARE A LITTLE ABOUT YOUR BOOK, *THREE GIRLS*, AND THE INSPIRATION BEHIND IT?

Three Girls is about ... well, you know what I'm going to say here, don't you? But it really is about three girls, who get forced to pose together as friends for a school photo when they're nothing of the sort. They don't think they have much in common, but each of them is about to go on a little journey of self-discovery and they meet each other again along the way.

The idea came when I took up running. I had this idea I was doing it in secret,

even though I was always running in public in the town I grew up in. I think a lot of people feel that way when they start a new hobby or try something new; that it has to be practised in secret before you can admit you're doing it to other people. I thought it would resonate with a lot of readers, not just in relation to running or exercise – trying on a new personality in private and seeing if it suits you. All three of my girls go through a version of that in secret before they find friendships they feel they can truly be themselves in.

THIS BOOK IS CENTRED AROUND FEMALE FRIENDSHIPS, TRIALS OF ADOLESCENT SCHOOL YEARS, AND PROMOTES A LOVE OF RUNNING FOR PLEASURE. DID YOU KNOW YOU WANTED TO FOCUS ON THESE THINGS WHEN YOU STARTED WRITING?

I knew I wanted it to be about being a work-in-progress, and being ok with that. I think everyone wants to pigeonhole you in high school - what type of person you are - and it's unfair because you're only just working that out for yourself.

As someone who discovered exercise for pleasure as an adult, I felt like 'not being sporty' had stopped me before, and school is quite unhelpful when it doesn't allow you to explore the idea of exercise beyond competition. Or it didn't when I was in school! And yes, female friendships are as important as family to me. That was always going to be at the centre of the book because, again, I think there's this idea that you have to stay loyal to friendships - even when they're not serving you well, and I just wanted to show that it doesn't have to be like that, even when you're at school. It isn't 'falling out' if it's for good. I think when you're exploring who you are, new friendships can be a really exciting part of that.

THE VOICES CAME VERY

NATURALLY TO ME AND I HOPE

THEY'RE AS DISTINCTIVE

TO THE READER AS THEY

ARE TO ME. 22

Journey to publication for this book has been quite long and strange. The book went out on submission through my agent and had a lot of nice feedback about the characters and the writing but it didn't get picked up. I had a meeting with an editor who gave me some useful notes that helped me with a re-write and, even though it didn't get picked up then either, it was bought by a German publisher. The book came out in German before it even had a deal in the UK with a lovely title that translates as 'Friendship Comes on Light Feet'. It was sometime after that UCLan made an offer. I was delighted because I had assumed it would only ever be available in German - and I wouldn't even be able to read it! I think it was fate in the end that UCLan bought the book because they're based in the North West, just like me!

WHAT MADE YOU WANT TO WRITE THIS BOOK FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF THREE CHARACTERS? WERE THERE ANY CHALLENGES WHEN IT CAME TO WRITING EACH CHARACTERS' VOICE?

The voices came very naturally to me and I hope they're as distinctive to the reader as they are to me. Alice is funny and a bit chaotic. She's the most fun to write because she could say anything at any time. Lena is quite sharp and to the point. Her sentences are a lot shorter and she can be a bit aggressive in earlier parts of the book when she's carrying a lot of frustration. Minnie is the doubter;

she's quite an anxious person even though she seems so successful in everything she does. She questions herself a lot and is quite inward looking. I felt I really knew the characters, and because I understood their motives it made sense to write from their individual points of view. I also really like it when we can see the same scene from different viewpoints. So much of the book is about thinking you know what people are thinking, or what they think of you and then being proven entirely wrong!

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT WRITING YOUNG ADULT FICTION?

The thing I love about writing for young people is the same thing I love about writing for tiny kids and full-grown adults; it's just that someone might read something you wrote and \*feel\* something - some connection between you and that person even though you can't see them and you don't know it's happening. You might make them laugh or smile or think about something differently. That's all I want really - to make a connection. I've always been a reader and I know how important those moments can be. I hope I can make some of my own.

DO YOU HAVE ANY TIPS FOR ANYONE WANTING TO WRITE YOUNG ADULT FICTION?

Don't wait as long as me to do it. I put it off for ages, feeling like there'd be some perfect time when I'd have more headspace to focus or something. I've learned that those windows never really show up and it's just about getting on with it. And with regards to young adult fiction specifically, I'd say try and remember how momentous everything can feel. My plot is very domestic and fairly quiet – but the emotions are big. It's ok to feel big feelings about things that seem small to other people. Lean into that.

#### KATIE'S WRITING PROMPT

Write a scene meeting a character for the first time. Maybe you can have a short conversation with them or do something together, but try and describe how you feel about the character.

Now write the same scene from the other character's point of view. How does that character feel about YOU? Make it as dramatic or funny as you can by giving both voices something to get wrong.

#### KATIE CLAPHAM

Katie Clapham is a writer and bookseller from Lytham St. Annes in Lancashire. She runs the independent



bookshop, Storytellers, Inc., with her mum. Katie's first book, *The Missing Bookshop* was published in 2019 with Stripes Publishing. *Three Girls* is her first teen novel.

Three Girls is OUT NOW from UCLan Publishing. Also available in Germany, in German, published as 'Freundschaft kommt auf leichten Füßen' by Carlsen. PAPERBOUND MAGAZINE WOULD LIKE TO INTRODUCE THE

#### 2022 COMPETITION FOR YOUNG WRITERS

# SHORTLIST

Thank you to everyone who entered our competition.

It was so difficult to choose our shortlist, but after much deliberation, we are thrilled to share the entries from the five shortlisted writers, followed by the reveal of our 2022 winner, chosen by YA author Sarah Daniels.

You'll find yourself jumping from poems about growing up and goddesses, to short stories about magical creatures, conflict and creepy family secrets.

So get ready to turn the page.

We hope you enjoy reading these entries as much as we did!

Huge thanks to our judge, YA author Sarah Daniels, and also to Crowvus for being this year's sponsors.

We couldn't run this competition without your support!



**Note:** please check the age rating on the top left corner of the page, as some of the writing is not suitable for younger readers.

ot so far away was an island surrounded by calm water. Many creatures lived on this island, mythical creatures. There were unicorns, fairies, dinosaurs, centaurs, cyclops and many more. Although dragons could not be seen on the island. Why was it that there were no dragons?

The sun was shining this particular day, normally many of the creatures would go and play in the sea. Even though it was boiling hot, they sat in a circle to figure out the question on everybody's mind.

Where were the dragons?

'Maybe they just want peace and quiet,' said Fiona the fairy.

Danny the dinosaur piped in that, 'Maybe they want us to forget about them.'

'Or...' interrupted Ursula the unicorn, 'maybe they are getting ready to attack!'

Ursula had had suspicions about the location of the dragons for a while. She didn't think they had gone for good. However, her friends thought different. They thought the dragons were friends and could be trusted.

Suddenly, George the griffin soared above Ursula.

'Hi, George,' sighed Ursula.

'Hey, Ursula. I think they are coming,' George spat out.

'You saw them?'

'Prepare for war!' George shouted as he came towards Ursula.

All the creatures came together to form a battle plan. They all wanted to defend their island. They would not rest until they were safe. Danny and Fiona still refused to believe the dragons were going to bring evil and destruction.

'Danny!' said Ursula. 'Go up to the waterfall and blow into the leaf horn. Go quickly!' Danny did as he was instructed.

Between Ursula and George, everything was ready within half an hour.

Just in time too. The dragons had arrived.

Ursula saw Kelsie the kraken grab a fire spitting dragon out of the sky. They saw dragons emerge from every corner.

'Fire!' she heard Charles the cyclops roar.

All at once the creatures fired knocking the dragons out of the air, they fell like dominoes. The dragons seemed to be multiplying. This was an absolute nightmare. Some of their own fell. But with all the creatures on the island, with different and various strengths and skills, they prevailed and were unstoppable. One little rock launcher dragon aimed a stone at Ursula but she managed to dodge it by using a backfire spell. The rock flew back towards the little dragon and knocked it clean off his feet.

'Together!' Ursula yelled. 'FIRE!' They all blasted everything they had towards the dragons. They had won.

A little while later a dragon approached them. 'Hi, I'm Darla,' she spoke shyly. 'Hi, Darla. I'm Ursula,' the unicorn spoke softly.

'Can we talk? Please. We want a truce. We want to join you all on the island.' Darla spoke quickly, her words tumbled out of her mouth.

The group all huddled together and quickly decided that they had had enough of war and wanted peace.

Speaking for everyone as usual, Ursula said, 'OK truce. Let's talk and be friends.'





average family and I over to his over average rich mansion for a party. As adults they would have their own party in the main dining room whilst my cousin Amy and I were sent upstairs to do whatever we pleased. As we are both teenagers now, Amy and I explored his grand corridors and rooms. We found ourselves exploring our uncle's bedroom.

'Olivia, look!' Amy called. She had found a secret room under his rug.

Naturally we couldn't help ourselves but to explore the room. We found tons of photos of our parents, photos that looked hundreds and hundreds of years old. Amy found a box, within it was a key. Ahead of us was a door. Amy tried the key and successfully opened it. We reluctantly went inside the room. Shockingly, we found two boys down there - Rupert and Ryan, they looked our age.

They explained to us how this was an old witch's hut and our uncle, who was also their uncle, had this mansion built on top of it, in hopes to keep his life and wealth eternally. The cost was two souls. Uncle Normand decided that Rupert and Ryan would be the two unlucky ones, however they too would have eternal life for however long they would be in that room. They had been there for twenty years and hadn't even aged a minute since they first entered the room. So, you can imagine their excitement on seeing us show up.

'Who are you?' Ryan shouted excitedly.

Amy told them we are cousins and our parents are Normand's sisters here to celebrate his birthday.

'Don't tell me, as they do every year,' Rupert said.

'Yes,' both Amy and myself answered at the same time.

'You two are like angels,' Ryan said. 'Show me the key, let me hold it. Honestly you don't know what this means. You've freed us.'

Amy handed Ryan the key.

'You see that drawer by the bed. In it is a book that explains everything,' Rupert told us, pointing to the chest.

We both went to investigate, only turning when we heard the door shut, realising they had both slipped out behind us and locked the door. Ensuring they placed the key in the same box where Amy had found it.

Rupert and Ryan are still 15, the same age they were when they first got trapped in the room. It has been a decade since Amy and I entered this room and never once has anyone ever come, besides Uncle Normand with delicious food and tasty beverages for us. Even though we have a cosy room and a game console and generally we are kept well, we hope we are freed soon. If nothing else just to yell at our parents. As the book that was in the drawer really did explain it all.

I dream of placing the key in the box.

"Wow, what a creepy story! It's an unusual idea that I've not read before, and it shows great imaginative

Words from our judge, Sarah Daniels:

talent."

# GROWING BY EVELYN LIU (13) BISHOPS STORTFORD

When I first opened my eyes, I was blinded by light
After a while, I adjusted, and I saw a woman staring at me with delight
Even though she looked exhausted and tired
She still considered me as everything she desired...

Opposite me were my parents kneeling on the floor Both were tempting me with treats until I couldn't take it no more Using all my courage, I waddled over to my prize And that was the day I became a genius in their eyes...

My mother was encouraging me to say 'car'
She did it for a while waiting for something bizarre
I gathered up my strength and said what she wanted me to say
Then she started dancing like crazy, she wasn't ok...

My parents were sending me off to school

How could they do such a thing that was so cruel

I was all alone until I met a girl who had a lot of problems and was such a strife

But I found her interesting so when we talked, I knew we would be friends for life

Next thing I know I was leaving my old school Luckily, I still had my best friend, so it was pretty cool We both had the same classes which we were both so happy about And sometimes we'd talk so much we'd get kicked out!

Before I knew it I was doing my GCSE's
I chose languages (Chinese and Japanese)
And of course, me and my best friend were there for each other
I really don't know what I'd do without her

To my surprise, I passed with flying colours
Then went to the college that filled all my desires
This is where me and my best friend parted and we cried so much
But we eventually promised to always keep in touch

I met a lovely man who filled my heart with joy
Before I knew it I was head over heels for this boy
Soon after we started dating and he treated me like a queen
One day, he proposed, and that was the happiest I'd ever been

The wedding was on a lovely summer's day
And the amazing pictures we took were on display
That was the most joyful day ever
As this was the man I wanted to be with forever

A year later we had a beautiful baby
I was as happy as one could be
She got her father's ocean blue eyes
And she grew up to be so smart and wise

Before I knew it, she was moving out
And she was such a kind loving girl without a doubt
She soon found a lovely man who she started dating
And when he proposed they both came over to ask for our blessing

My time of being an adult soon passed
But I was happy as I achieved all my goals at last
My life was filled with sadness, happiness and laughter
But it all ended with a happily ever after

Words from our judge,
Sarah Daniels:

"What a beautiful, moving entry. This had me smiling all the way through."

#### THE SHORTLIST

**YA**—Not suitable for younger readers

BY CHIDI EMECHEBE (13) ESSEX

haos. Death. Destruction. Fire. I could hear rapid gunfire and knives protruding through flesh. The cries of innocent men women and children as the people surrounding them were massacred, dropping to the ground like flies. The shrieks of mothers pleading for their children to be spared only for them to be slaughtered before their eyes. The maniacal laughter of deranged men throwing grenades and burning buildings to the ground. It all echoed through my eardrums as if I was standing in a deep cave as I stood and watched it all.

I had positioned myself crouched on top of a dilapidated building as I witnessed a group of people known as The Wolves ravage and burn the city I once lived in to the ground. Throwing lit torches and cans of gasoline lighting up the sky. They murdered my parents, brother, friends, and the rest of my home. I desired revenge. The bloodthirsty intent that resided within me left me with two choices. I could either end my suffering and join the rest of my family or I could attempt to murder the men and women destroying my home. I had enough experience in this war to learn how to fight. Two years of running and fighting. Nonstop.

It ended here.

I wrenched my sword from the rubble. It was on the brink of snapping in two, but I had to manage. I began to trek down the demolished building and onto the blood-stained street, tripping occasionally on rotting corpses and fresh blood. I then witnessed The Wolves turning on each other; the population of North America

dropping from thirteen to ten and finally to eight. I watched as the leader of the group—Axton—raised his weapon high in the air to bring it down on a female member of his group. The weapon glinted in the moonlight, as he brought it crashing down on her. She let out a scream of agony before her life was cut short. Axton raised his weapon again and brought it down once more, he repeated this several times, blood spurted, sprayed and gushed out of the girl's body and onto Axton's face.

I slowly strode towards him. Axton lifted his weapon from the girl's body. It was dripping with blood and other things that looked like her guts. He slowly turned around and grinned. He then proceeded to lick his face and wipe off every trace of the girl's insides.

"Has the little evening boy come out to finally play?" he roared.

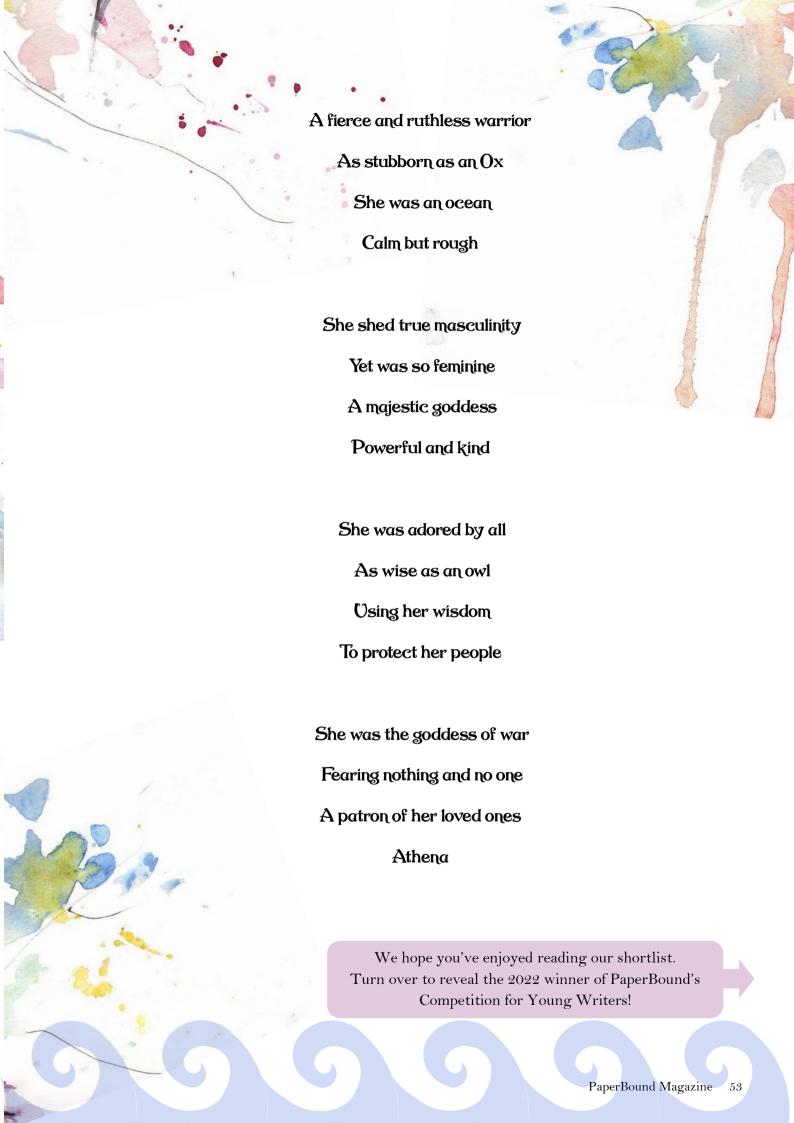
My name was Dusk which is also the word for evening and Axton has called me that ever since his group murdered my parents twelve years ago. He then crouched down and ripped off a strip of clothing from a dead man that lay next to him. He then proceeded to wipe all the blood from his weapon with it. I was finally going to avenge my parents. I gripped my sword.

This ended here. Right now. 18

Words from our judge, Sarah Daniels:

"CONFLICT IS A HIGH STAKES, HIGH PACE, STORY THAT DOESN'T SHY AWAY FROM ITS SUBJECT MATTER, IT'S A HEART POUNDING READ!"

# by Omaira Hasib (13), Essex 'This is a beautiful ode to the goddess Athena. I love your similes and metaphors, which are crafted with skill."



# AND THE WINNER IS...



### CONGRATULATIONS, GEORGIA!

YOUR PRIZES WILL BE ON THEIR WAY TO YOU SOON!

#### FROM OUR JUDGE, SARAH DANIELS



MASSIVE THANKS TO SARAH FOR
JUDGING THIS YEAR'S COMPETITION.
YOU CAN READ A LITTLE MORE ABOUT
SARAH AND HER DEBUT NOVEL, THE
STRANDED, ON THE NEXT PAGE.
FIRST. HERE'S WHAT SHE HAD TO SAY
ABOUT THE WINNING ENTRY.

#### TWO SOULS

Wow, what a creepy story! It's an unusual idea that I've not read before, and it shows great imaginative talent.

I love how you've crafted the part where the girls get locked in. They're distracted by curiosity, so they don't realise (even though you've given enough clues!) that they're about to suffer the same fate as the boys.

The last line is perfect. "I dream of putting the key in the box" perfectly shows the reader the character's desperation and desire to be freed without telling us directly. 'Showing' instead of 'telling' is a skill that can take a long time for any writer to master, but this story shows that you can achieve it.

This is a well conceived story with a really interesting plot and plenty of unanswered questions that make the reader want to know more. What happens next?

And, I love the title.

#### THE SHORTLIST

Sarah has kindly provided individual feedback for all five of the shortlisted entries which we will be emailing to the writers soon. On top of the prize bundle for Georgia, we will also be sending out a small prize to each of the shortlisted entrants, which has been made possible by the generous sponsorship from **Crowvus!** Keep an eye on those emails for more information.

Congratulations to Georgia and all the shortlisted writers!

We have thoroughly enjoyed reading the writing from everyone who entered the competition. We want to thank you all for taking part and hope you keep on writing, and that we hear from you again next year!









WE WERE ABSOLUTELY THRILLED WHEN SARAH OFFERED TO BE OUR JUDGE THIS YEAR.

YOU CAN FIND OUT A BIT MORE ABOUT SARAH AND HER BRAND NEW, UPCOMING YA NOVEL.

THE STRANDED, BELOW.

# YOUR DEBUT NOVEL THE STRANDED IS PUBLISHED IN JULY. WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT IT AND THE INSPIRATION BEHIND IT?

The Stranded is a near future thriller set aboard a derelict cruise ship. Everybody on board is descended from people who fled an apocalyptic virus outbreak in Europe forty years before the book opens. Almost no one is allowed to leave the ship. Life on board's a struggle, with a brutal police force, not to mention the lawless criminal gangs. But our main characters - Esther and Nik - each have their own plans for escaping.

### COULD YOU TELL US A BIT MORE ABOUT YOU. AND YOUR WRITING JOURNEY?

I've been writing for a long time, but *The Stranded* is my first finished novel. I decided in 2017 that writing books was what I really wanted to do and so I

enrolled on a novel writing course. This was the turning point for me. It's where I met my fabulous critique partners (who I speak to most days and who aren't afraid to tell me when something I've written isn't working!). Soon after the course finished I signed with my agent, we worked on the book again, and finally we went on submission to publishers a couple of weeks before the first lockdown.

#### WHAT ARE YOUR TOP THREE TIPS FOR ASPIRING YOUNG WRITERS?

- 1. It doesn't matter if you're bad. The only way to be a writer is to write. Get the words down, as many or as few as you can manage. It doesn't matter if your first attempt is bad you can fix it all afterwards.
- 2. Find your people. Writing can't be done without feedback and it's the only way you're going to get better.

3. It's crucial to find the right moment to start your story. Whether it's a short story, a novel, or even just a chapter, inserting the reader at just the right moment is a skill. Play around with different starting points. Often the reader can be dropped into a story much later than you might expect, which can make a more interesting and engaging opening.

## SARAH DANIELS

Sarah Daniels writes fast-paced YA books set decades in the future. Before she was a writer she was an archaeologist, a bookseller, and worked in IT. She finally decided writing books was the job for her in 2017 when she took the Curtis Brown Creative online novel writing course.

Sarah is represented by Felicity Blunt at Curtis Brown. Her first book, *The Stranded*, will be published by Penguin Random House in July 2022. It's the first book in a duology.

THE STRANDED IS PUBLISHED BY PENGUIN ON 21ST JULY 2022

READ OUR REVIEW HERE



# THE STRANDED BY SARAH DANIELS

REVIEWED BY PAPERBOUND

We were blown away by *The* Stranded. Set aboard a cruise ship that hasn't docked for decades due to a deadly virus, this addictive YA is sure to burst onto shelves and excite readers with plenty of twists and turns that had us racing towards the end.

With multiple POVs from characters whose journeys intertwine, Sarah Daniels has created a complex world that shines and hooks readers with every chapter - with stakes literally to die for. There are lies, shock twists, hints of romance, and betrayal. But who will come out on top in the end?

We couldn't put this book down - and can't wait for the next book in the duology.





#### Days in Transit: 1460

Four years. That's how long I've been frozen. Stored in a glass pod, tubes stuck to my body, barely aging a day. If I'd stayed on Earth, I'd be turning twenty soon. It feels strange to write all of this down, but Commander Ellis says that writing things down will help us process the days we've lost. Though we were told we wouldn't dream, part of me didn't believe it. But the last thing I remember was being loaded into my pod, next to Isobel and Ari from Crew Two – my crew – before lift-off.

Next thing, Elena – my Crew One equivalent – was waking me up. She looks so different now. During training, we'd stay up late in our dorms together, talking about future adventures in space. When she was chosen as Crew One, we promised it wouldn't stop us being friends. But it feels different now. She's grown up, and I'm still sixteen. Maybe once I've done my rounds, and we wake together on New Earth as adults, we'll be friends again.

#### Days in Transit: 1471

It was the last changeover day today. Crew One gave us final systems run through. They speak to us now as if they're lecturers from training – as if they're better than us. As Crew Two's assigned Botanist, I'll be in charge of vertical farms, and Elena has been through everything over and over as if she thinks I'll ruin her good work. We have full crops now – spinach, tomatoes, even asparagus, though I hate asparagus. But I can't complain. Crew One had to survive on a diet of freeze-dry food for

two years. From the way Elena speaks about those first months, it seems she resents the luxuries they're leaving to us – that we have it too easy. I wonder how we'll feel about Crew Five, the last crew, when we arrive. Will every portion of the journey get easier? Though I tell myself we'll all have the same challenges, that we all have to persevere through the same hardships: rationing, isolation, missing our families, potential lifethreatening disasters, though I try not to think too much about that one. We'll all arrive on New Earth, roughly the same age, but will some of us feel we've worked harder than others? Will Crew One continue to feel they're superior? I asked Commander Ellis if she's worried about it, and she said that my job isn't to worry about these things. She means that the Council will worry about it – the specially chosen prodigies to start our new society. They'll remain frozen for the whole journey to avoid unnecessary aging and maximum time output on arrival. They'll probably act the most superior of all of us. What hardships will they have had to face?



#### Days in Transit: 1532

I harvested my first courgette today. It was smaller than the ones I remember eating at home, but it tasted just as good when Matt mixed it up with tomatoes and powdered cheese. Better, maybe, because of the scarcity of it. I wonder if it was the first ratatouille in space. I like to think about the firsts. First courgette, first pea, first game of scrabble – Ari made the board with the 3D printer last week, and we've been playing every night. When we're eighteen in a couple of years, I might even have my first drink in space – we'd try it sooner, but the ship was designed to only unlock the drink stores when all of us are "of age". Ari tried to override Commander Ellis's algorithms, but she only showed up in her holo-form at the door and gave him a scolding. It seems ridiculous to me that they're happy to let a group of teenagers fly a spaceship to another planet but won't let us have a drink at the end of a long day. Or maybe that's exactly why – because we're a group of teenagers flying a spaceship. Maybe Commander Ellis is right. She's always right. Als are purely logical after all.



#### Days in Transit: 1560

It's our 100-day anniversary. Only 1,360 days to go. We've been doing job shadowing this week. Each of us have a Second, so that if something happens to one of us, or we're ill, we have a backup. Matt and I are grouped together, because apparently food production and consumption are the same skillset. They're not. I'm a terrible cook. Everyone has complained about every meal I've made. Although, I guess last night wasn't too bad – the potatoes were cold, but the others liked my vegetable stew at least. Progress. Matt, on the other hand, is annoyingly fast at picking up vertical farming. My mum would say he has "green fingers". But I don't let him know how good he is, because then he might want to become First Botanist, instead of Second. And no way I'm cooking for the next three years. Thank the stars I get to go back to full-time Botanist tomorrow. Although, it has been nice spending more time with Matt.

#### Days in Transit: 1670

I'm seventeen today. My first birthday in space. I got a message from my parents back home – they asked Commander Ellis to save it as a present

for me, and she did, even if that isn't technically a logical thing to do. Maybe she's learning from us. Turns out my family have been assigned to one of the colony ships in four years, so they'll arrive when I'm in my mid-twenties, which doesn't seem so far away. It was the best birthday present. That, and the chocolate cake Matt made. It was nice to have a reason to celebrate with Ari, Matt, the others, and even Commander Ellis – they're like family now. I've mostly stopped worrying about Crew One, and how they'll be when we're all together again in fifteen years' time, approaching New Earth. Because even if there will be new challenges to discover, at least we're facing them together.



### LYNDSEY CROAL

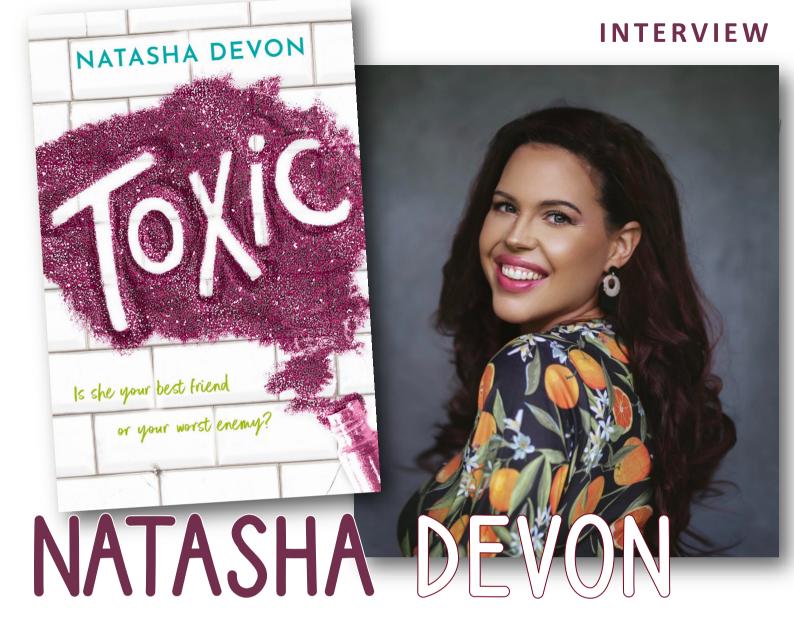
Lyndsey is an Edinburgh-based writer of speculative and strange fiction. She is a Scottish Book Trust New Writers Awardee for YA, and her work has been published in several anthologies and magazines, including Mslexia's Best Women's Short Fiction 2021 and Northern Gravy. Her debut audio drama was produced by Alternative Stories & Fake Realities in 2021, and she currently has a number of longer projects on the go.



www.lyndseycroal.co.uk

You can follow Lyndsey on Twitter: @writerlynds





WE CAUGHT UP WITH AUTHOR NATASHA DEVON TO CHAT ALL ABOUT HER YA DEBUT, *TOXIC*. READ ON TO DISCOVER MORE ABOUT NATASHA, HER WRITING, AND WHAT SORT OF SITUATIONS WE CAN FIND OURSELVES WHEN IT COMES TO TOXIC RELATIONSHIPS AND FRIENDSHIPS.

# CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT *TOXIC,* AND WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO WRITE IT?

I visit an average of three schools or colleges every week, delivering talks and conducting research on mental health and related issues. The research involves focus groups with 13-18 year olds and a theme that emerged just before I wrote *Toxic* was how to navigate difficult friendships. I thought fiction was an ideal format to explore this because it's a very nuanced and complex phenomenon.

As kids, we're taught life is divided into heroes and villains, that good always

triumphs over evil. But as you grow up you realise the world is just full of flawed people doing their best. Sometimes two people create a dysfunctional dynamic, and it's OK to extract yourself from the harmful situation without holding a grudge, or encouraging others to 'pick a side'. That's the central theme of Toxic: it's about a young woman learning how to have boundaries.

YOUR MAIN CHARACTER. LLEWELLA, STRUGGLES WITH ANXIETY AND PANIC ATTACKS, WHICH THE WRITING CAPTURES SO WELL.

DID YOU HAVE TO DO ANY RESEARCH WHEN WRITING ABOUT THESE TOPICS?

WE ARE OFTEN KINDER, MORE

FORGIVING AND UNDERSTANDING

TO THE PEOPLE WE LOVE THAN

WE ARE TO OURSELVES.

I actually have a panic disorder and, with the knowledge I now have about the condition, I realised I've been having panic attacks since I was ten. Back then, mental health wasn't acknowledged or spoken about in the same way it is now, so I was misdiagnosed with asthma and allergies as a child – I didn't receive the correct diagnosis until much later. So, writing about panic and anxiety came very easily to me.

Having said that, panic attacks vary

massively from person to person. When I'm talking to young people who experience them, I encourage them to plot how their panic manifests from stages 1-10, so they can identify them early. This is actually a technique I learned from my therapist and Llewella uses it in the book.

FRIENDSHIP CAN OFTEN BE TRICKY TO NAVIGATE WHEN YOU'RE A TEEN. WHAT ADVICE DO YOU HAVE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

> STRUGGLING WITH TOXIC **RELATIONSHIPS?**

This applies to many struggles we face, not just friendships: think about advice you would give someone if they told you they were in the same situa-

tion. This is a technique I learned from one of my best friends, Shahroo, who wrote a book called *The Kindness* Method. She noticed that we are often kinder, more forgiving and understanding to the people we love than we are to ourselves.

Chances are, you'd tell someone you really cared about that being in a difficult friendship dynamic is not a reflection of their value and you wouldn't judge them at all for taking a step back for their own emotional safety. The same applies to you!

# TOXIC ALSO EXPLORES RACIAL IDENTITY AND PERSONAL CHALLENGES. DID THIS CHANGE HOW THE STORY DEVELOPED?

The racial dynamics within the story definitely add another layer of complexity. I was inspired to create Llewella when I watched a Channel 4 documentary called 'The School That Tried to End Racism'. One of the contributors was called Farrah and she

IT'S IMPORTANT NOT TO THINK

OF YOUR CHARACTERS AS BLANK

CANVASSES THAT JUST HAVE

STUFF HAPPEN TO THEM.

was of mixed
heritage with one
white parent and
one from Sri-Lanka.
Like Llewella, Farrah
was light-skinned
and you wouldn't
necessarily assume
she was mixed.
When her class
were split into racial

affinity groups, she didn't know whether to join the white or racialised group. There was this moment of pure panic on her face and, as a viewer, I found myself wondering if this was a reflection of not knowing where she fitted in generally, not just in the context of the exercise.

Aretha (who is the other half of the toxic friendship in the book) is also mixed. Her mother is white and her very present, supportive and loving father is Black. Aretha both experiences and demonstrates racism towards darker Black people in *Toxic*. She also uses elements of critical race theory to bully Llewella into doing what she wants. The

point I'm trying to make is that you can't cherry pick aspects of CRT when it suits your agenda, or throw around terms like 'privilege' without properly understanding them (both of which I see a LOT of on social media).

# DO YOU HAVE ANY TIPS FOR ASPIRING WRITERS?

I read an incredible book when I was in

the early stages of writing

Toxic called 'Story Genius'. It posits that all engaging stories are about a protagonist who is trying to avoid something which the audience knows is inevitable. It also talks about how we, as the reader, actually join the story part way through. The

characters have already had experiences, challenges and triumphs which have shaped them before the reader ever meets them. It's important *not* to think of your characters as blank canvasses that just have stuff happen to them.

# CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT ANYTHING ELSE YOU'RE WORKING ON?

I have a non-fiction book called Yes You Can: Ace School without Losing Your Mind coming out in August. It's about how you don't have to choose between your academic performance and your mental health. Looking after your brain

makes you cleverer (because mental health and cleverness both happen in your brain).

# NATASHA DEVON

Natasha Devon is a writer, broadcaster & activist. She tours schools and events throughout the UK and beyond, delivering talks and conducting research on mental health, body image, gender & equality. She presents on LBC Radio every Saturday and writes regularly for Grazia Magazine.

#### NATASHA'S WRITING PROMPT

Once you've read *Toxic*, write the dinner scene, where
Llewella meets Aretha's family for the first time, but from Steph's perspective (chapter 8).

Follow Natasha
on Twitter and
Instagram:

@\_NatashaDevon

NATASHA DEVON

Is she your best friend

or your worst enemy?

Toxic is published on 7th July by UCLan Publishing. Available in UK & on audiobook soon.

# How to: STARTA JAR OF

# CHOCOLATE SPREAD\*

by Rhiannon Oliver



- 1. Find jar, untwist lid, set lid to side
- 2. Check shiny gold seal (should glint with pride)
- 3. Fetch spoon (small fine, but big makes more sense)
- 4. Shake out your hands (best not to be tense)
- 5. Pick up spoon, raise high, plunge through seal (It's fine at this point to release a small squeal)
- 6. Hold jar tight and really wiggle that spoon (For best results don't remove spoon too soon)
- 7. Take a moment to discover how this makes you feel (As there's no better way to start any meal, You should feel joy, delight, some anticipation As you prepare for a chocolate sensation)
- 8. Pull spoon back through seal, go slow, take care It's likely there'll be chocolate spread everywhere
- 9. Then open mouth wide and push spoon in whole Feel the sugary rush warm up your soul
- 10. Eat spread (I would hope that this step was clear) When done, you should find that you grin ear from ear
- 11. Nothing will match the very first taste
  But as it's a shame to see good food go to waste
  Find a fresh spoon and repeat from step three
  Just please, save a couple of spoonfuls for me!

\* To add the joy of discovery to your every day Further food products may be started this way, Peanut butter works well (any brand that you please) Or try stabbing the seal of a tub of cream cheese.

#### RHIANNON OLIVER

Rhiannon Oliver is an actress, writer, and mum from Cardiff. As an actress, she has worked at Shakespeare's Globe, The National Theatre and many other theatres. She has played princesses, nuns, nurses and an angry tree! Her poetry for children appears in The Dirigible Balloon, Northern Gravy and Little Thoughts Press. In June 2021, Rhiannon was named Spoken Word Runner-Up in Poetry for Good, a national poetry competition celebrating key workers. She loves chips and fresh air, preferably together.

Follow Rhiannon on Twitter: @rhicatjam





3. COUNTERSIGNS FAKES

4. SHIFTY VOGUE ART

# WORDSEARCH

We have a great selection of interviews and articles from some fantastic authors in this issue. Can you find the titles of their most recent books?

A MIDNIGHT DARK AND GOLDEN
EMPRESS CROWNED IN RED
THE DROWNING DAY
THE RELUCTANT REBEL

THE SECRET WILD
THE STRANDED
THREE GIRLS
TOXIC

C R F F J I P S L R I G E E R H I M V U J K D

W Y A D G N I N W O R D E H I U Y V Q L J J D L

K F I H E R E L U C I A N I R E B E L L I Q P I

C S K J I H I J A Z D O I X D K K V G K F P W

L R C R Z S K Y G W Q F A E W E A B H I P X E

K H P E N I W D A B R U E Z S U Y S V N U M K A U E

S Z B F K A I O J R F W Y O W M B U K N E F S

G U D E R N I D E N W O R C S S E R P M E F S

S Q M Z J D O N K B W H C Z S V Q K Y X P G I

S Q M Z J D O N K B W H C Z S V Q K Y X P G I

D B I D W J H W F H I D L C I X O I Y R

# Timetable



D.E.

by Sarah Ziman

Oh no! I dropped this timetable poem and all the subjects got mixed up. Can you work out the right order? There's a clue in every line.

Please lend me your <i>notes</i> from	FRENCH
(My mum wrote a note for)	LUNCH
I'm <i>praying</i> there's no homework	LUSTORY
J'ai oublié que c'est aujourd'hui. ()	HISTORY
test! I need the <i>solutions</i>	MATHS
Please take these lessons away!	COMPUTERS
again? Well, that's <i>novel</i>	HOME TIME
Yay, — shall I have chips today?	
More <i>chips</i> to <i>byte</i> in	MUSIC
Then just goes on for YEARS	R.E.
Thank goodness — the final bell's ringing,	ENGLISH
And / is greeted with cheers!	SCIENCE
/ \/ \\X//	

X/

#### Sarah Ziman

Sarah Ziman was born and brought up in South Wales and currently lives in Hertfordshire with her husband, two sons and daft cat. She enjoys boring her children in antique shops, laughing at her own jokes, playing loud music, nature and visiting new places. She won the YorkMix Poems for Children prize in 2021, and has poems in various anthologies, online journals and print magazines around the world.

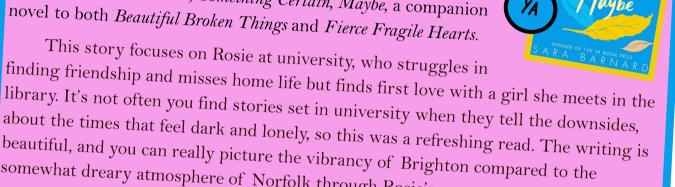
www.sarahziman.co.uk
Follow Sarah on Twitter: Twitter: @BardyMum

# THANKS SO MU(H TO ALL OUR REVIEWERS. IF YOU'P LIKE TO WRITE A REVIEW FOR OUR NEXT ISSUE, (HECK OUT THE DETAILS ON OUR WEBSITE: WWW.PAPERBOUNDMAG.(OM/SUBMIT

## SOMETHING CERTAIN, MAYBE BY SARA BARNARD

REVIEWED BY CAITLYN, CORNWALL

Sara Barnard has been a favourite author of mine ever since I picked up *Beautiful Broken Things*, so I jumped at the chance to review her newest book, *Something Certain*, *Maybe*, a companion novel to both *Beautiful Broken Things* and *Fierce Fragile Hearts*.



somewhat dreary atmosphere of Norfolk through Rosie's eyes.

The real heart of the story is about friendship and family, with a strong focus on what it means to be a good friend, and how we can struggle with knowing how to help our friends and ourselves at the same time.

Sara Barnard captures mental health in such a way that never glorifies depression or anxiety, treating it in a realistic way which is something I've not seen many other people do, and she has the understanding that having depression isn't just about feeling sad at all. She portrays this beautifully through Rosie.

I will never not love Barnard's writing, and I am anxiously awaiting the next book, no matter what the story, setting or character. This book can also be read as a standalone.

SOMETHING CERTAIN, MAYBE IS PUBLISHED BY MACMILLAN CHILDREN'S BOOKS AND RELEASED 7TH JULY 2022.



COMING SOON

## THINGS I KNOW BY HELENA CLOSE

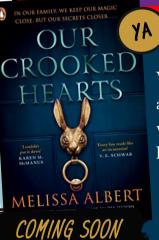
REVIEWED BY PAPERBOUND

TW: Suicide, grief, anxiety, depression.

Set in a small town in Ireland, Saoirse is struggling with the death of her mother when, out of nowhere, her ex-boyfriend, Finn, dies by suicide. Guilt, grief and severe anxiety spiral out of control and threaten to rule Saoirse's life while she longs only to feel normal again. She must deal with the fallout of her friendship circle, attempt to keep her family strong, and try not to buckle under the weight of everything pulling her down, all while finding herself liking a boy who she also deems to be entwined with her guilt.

A truly captivating read that will touch and inspire readers, *Things I Know* is written in a clear cut, arresting way that sensitively handles grief, mental health and the overwhelming sense of other people's perceptions - and expectations - and attempting to cut free of their ties, and come to terms with their own grief.

THINGS I KNOW IS PUBLISHED BY LITTLE ISLAND BOOKS AND OUT NOW



## OUR CROOKED HEARTS BY MELISSA ALBERT REVIEWED BY PAPERBOUND

things i know

helena close

RECENT RELEASE

With strong crossover appeal, *Our Crooked Hearts* will bewitch young adults and adults alike with its spellbinding story and beautiful writing. Every line is pure magic, from the first page to the very last line.

This is the story of seventeen-year-old Ivy and her mother, Dana.

Right now: After a series of strange events, and after some fragmented memories resurface, Ivy starts to wonder if there's more to her mother, and both their pasts, than she first thought.

Back then: Sixteen-year-old Dana and her friends dive head first into the world of magic without wondering who was showing them the way.

This is a story about bad choices, messing with unknown forces, and the consequences that can last a lifetime.

Our Crooked Hearts will have you racing towards an end where past and present collide and long-past secrets are blown wide open. Full of complicated characters and relationships, you won't be able to put this one down. If you haven't read anything by Melissa Albert before, you'll most definitely be reaching for her back catalogue after this. Dark, delicious and dangerous!

OUR CROOKED HEARTS IS PUBLISHED BY PENGUIN ON 30TH JUNE 2022

Note: this book deals with some mature issues and themes.

### THE SILVER CHAIN BY JION SHEIBANI

REVIEWED BY STEVE BLACKMAN - TWITTER: @66BLACKMAN

Like The Lark Ascending - the poem that gives it its name - The Silver Chain by Jion Sheibani takes the reader on a flight filled with song.

At the heart of the story is Azadeh Shaw, the sixteen-year-old daughter of an English mum and Iranian dad. She has a musical scholarship to Darlington College, an expensive private school her family could never otherwise afford. But if you're thinking you've read stories like this before, think again.

The Silver Chain is beautifully constructed with short verse of every kind, from traditional Persian ghazal to rhyming couplets and rap. And like a poem, it slowly unwraps to reveal so many precious things.

It's a meditation on the healing power of art.

It's a statement about privilege and innocence and honesty.

It's an observation of the complexity and importance of enduring friendship.

It's a tale of **family**, and the complicated love that grows between parents and children.

It's an account of identity and displacement, and the struggle to fit in when you feel different in society,

at school. at home.

It's a study of mental health: harrowing and sensitive and authentic, and an acknowledgment of the shame and confusion it can cause.

It's an extraordinary marriage of typography and illustration, amplifying the tunes and textures and beats and melodies that carry Azadeh through her experiences and propel her to a profoundly moving climax. It's an essential and uplifting work of art that deserves to be on the syllabus,

in people's hands

and in their hearts.

The Lark Ascending has been celebrated as a masterpiece for nearly 150 years. I'm confident the same will be true for The Silver Chain.

THE SILVER CHAIN WILL BE PUBLISHED IN HARDBACK BY HOT KEY BOOKS ON 23RD JUNE



### WELCOME TO ST. HELL BY LEWIS HANCOX

REVIEWED BY PAPERBOUND

Welcome to St. Hell is a funny and honest graphic novel, full of northern wit and relatable teenage problems. The author, Lewis Hancox, retells his childhood of coming out as trans, dealing with friendships, relationships, fitting in, and keeping connected with family.

RECENT RELEASE AY

We loved the down-to-earth nature of all the characters, the use of local dialect that you could clearly hear. It felt personal, just as all good autobiographical books should be.

*Welcome to St. Hell* will be loved by teens who enjoy the cheeky humour of *Love* is For Losers and who are looking for fun LGBTO graphic novels after Heartstopper.

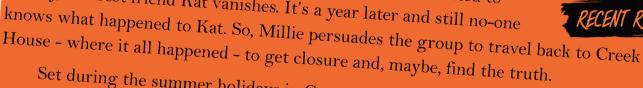
WELCOME TO ST. HELL IS PUBLISHED BY SCHOLASTIC AND OUT NOW



## READY OR NOT BY TRACY DARNTON

Ready or Not is an edge of your seat YA thriller with an ending you won't see coming, and won't be able to stop thinking about long after reading.

During a shared family holiday, Millie persuades her friends to play a game of hide and seek. But, by the time she has counted to twenty, her best friend Kat vanishes. It's a year later and still no-one



Set during the summer holidays in Cornwall, Ready or Not is full of secrets and twists, with characters you'll love and hate in equal measure. Millie is a fantastic narrator, unreliable and naïve. As we discover more about Kat and their friendship, we realise not everyone is as they first seemed, perhaps not even Millie.

This book will keep you guessing until the very last page, and probably long after...

READY OR NOT IS OUT NOW AND PUBLISHED BY LITTLE TIGER



RECENT RELEASE



# CLOCKWORK MAGPIES BY BY EMMA WHITEHALL

# REVIEWED BY DANIELLE ENDICOTT TWITTER @DANSAMEND

This is a real page-turner, a steampunk mystery full of charm and adventure. Whitehall's writing is engaging, captivating and perfectly transports us to the atmospheric Loxport.



RECENT RELEASE

The characters captured my heart - Ida, who's narrative I loved, is a lone wolf. She's a maid by day and infamous thief by night. She likes to stay invisible and, since her Mum's death, feels alone.

Edith is a friendly over-thinker who befriends Ida. Clem is the charismatic gemologist with a penchant for talking and a heart of gold.

It's a story about friendship. Ida realises that it's not a weakness. It's freeing to let her guard down and let others in to share her secrets, have fun with, and allies on her side. All three are in need of a family and home, and it's heart-warming to see them find this in each other.

I loved Ida's character development; the underlining theme is of self-acceptance. Realising you are enough, and not letting others define who you are and what you can do - it's empowering, and a philosophy to be embraced.

As the different parts of Ida's life become connected in unexpected ways, a thrilling heist is planned and they work together as a team. A mystifying powerful gem is discovered which causes undesirable effects.

I breezed through this exciting, ultimate feel-good story bursting with action, history and characters who are the beating heart of the story. I'm hoping to hear more on the escapades of the Clockwork Magpies!

Thank you to PaperBound Magazine, Emma Whitehall and Northodox Press for my copy of the book as part of their amazing giveaway.

CLOCKWORK MAGPLES IS OUT NOW AND PUBLISHED BY NORTHODOX PRESS

IF YOU'D LIKE TO REVIEW A BOOK FOR PAPERBOUND, WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU. SEE HOW YOU CAN GET YOUR REVIEW IN THE NEXT ISSUE ON OUR WEBSITE. WWW.PAPERBOUNDMAG.COM

IF YOU'RE A PUBLISHER OR AUTHOR, AND WOULD LIKE US TO REVIEW A NEW RELEASE, WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU TOO. PLEASE GET IN TOUCH: PAPERBOUNDMAGAZINE@OUTLOOK.COM

# the Deep by Lisa Allen

ttaching the upper jaw was probably a mistake. Until then, it looked like a harmless, green seagull. Ok, so there was an odd growling sound when I attached the wings. That should have warned me off. And the faint orange glow from its belly.

But I was determined to be the first person in the world to build a whole Lego dragon from the millions and millions of pieces that fell off some ship years ago. It was the only reason I still agreed to go to the beach every Sunday with Mum. She picks up rubbish with her group, The Beach Buddies, bags and bags of plastic the tide left behind.

It was also the reason I fell out with my best friend, Sammy, who lives across the street. He said beachcombing was "stupid" and "boring". We had a big fight, stopped talking and would just glare at each other from our bedroom windows.

Admittedly, we mostly found pretty disgusting stuff, so Mum made me wear really thick gloves. There were mouldy trainers, twisted plastic bottles, headless dolls with tiny sea creatures in them. We had to dig through clumps of seaweed, which squelched and slurped, but smelled salty and earthy.

There were so many plastic bricks, although some had been in the sea so long it looked like Superman had squished them in his hands or melted them with his laser eyes. I only kept the best bits and I was always on the lookout for the rare stuff: green dragons; black octopuses, yellow lifeboats.

But I was never going to find the pieces to complete a dragon: its tail, arms, upper

jaw and orange wings. Those were somewhere at the bottom of the ocean because they didn't float.

Mum joined an online group for people who found Lego on beaches and shared our pictures. They all said there was no way you would ever find all the parts of a dragon. Some said it was bad luck if you did. One guy, @LegoLes, reckoned it would release an ancient curse.

But I did it. Piece by piece they all turned up, until one day a complete green dragon - tail, orange wings, upper jaw, the works - was sitting in the middle of my desk by the window. And, well, there's no other way to say this: its belly was glowing orange and there was smoke coming from its nostrils.

I'd cleaned every piece before putting it together, washing them carefully in the kitchen sink ("Callum! Don't do that there!" Oops...) and wiping them with a clean tea towel ("Callum! Use an old rag!!" Oops, again...).

The plastic was shining, looked pristine, just like in the picture I'd found online from the original box. As I watched, it began rocking on its feet, turning to face me. Its wings were beginning to move.

As its tail waved to and fro and the orange wings slowly rose and fell, the dragon's jaw gaped and a small jet of orange flame sprang out. Real, actual, hot, slightly scary fire. I scrunched up my nose at the strange, chemical smell. It reminded me of the time Mum left a plastic spatula on the hob and the handle melted.

The dragon pulsed its wings and took off around the room, circled the lampshade and landed on my bookcase. With jerky movements, it hopped around the shelves, dancing through my ornaments and picture frames.



On a lower shelf sat a rubber dragon, golden skin and fiery breath. I'd bought it at a castle in Wales the last time Mum took me on holiday, before she lost her job. The plastic dragon swept down and came to rest beside its Welsh twin. A long silence, while the Lego dragon's belly glowed brightly and its wings twisted forwards.

With a roar, a flame leapt from its jaws, streaming out in a powerful jet. The tang of burning plastic was joined by the stench of melting rubber. The Welsh dragon was now a gloopy mess of steaming, liquified rubber, spilling over the edge of the shelf, dripping onto the carpet.

"What are you doing?" I shrieked.

"Callum? Are you ok?" Mum called from downstairs. "It's time for lunch."

"Yeah, fine. Just... playing. I'll be down in a minute."

I glared at the dragon, which had started whirling round the ceiling again. I was tempted to open the window, let it fly off. But this was my Lego dragon. My big find. I was going to be famous. I needed to catch it and photograph it. That would show Sammy who was the coolest.

Glancing around, I spotted an empty shoe box on the floor. I'd been using it to store all the best things I'd found on the beach, but tripped over it on my way out this morning. There were bits of plastic strewn across the floor: toy soldiers, bottle tops, animals, Monopoly houses and a pink pony, which I was going to clean up and give to my little sister for her birthday.

I grabbed the box and waited with my back to the door, my neck aching from staring up at the dragon. Eventually, it landed on the desk with a soft clunk. I dashed forwards and threw the box on top, weighing it down with a pile of schoolbooks and a rock I'd brought back from the beach last summer and painted to look like a Poké Ball.

I could hear the dragon bumping against the side of the box with muted roars and thumps. Surely a small plastic dragon would stay trapped long enough for me to wolf down a tuna sandwich.

As I gobbled, Mum cried: "Woah, there! Slow down! Where's the fire?"

Fire.

I hadn't thought of that.



Grabbing a glass of water, I leapt up the stairs two at a time and flung open my door just in time to see the last of my books reduced to a pile of black ash on the desk. The dragon, soot around its jaws, flexed its wings next to the singed rock.

I threw water over the smoking ash that used to be my books and the shoebox. A movement made me glance up and I saw Sammy in his window, mouth wide open like his jaw had come loose. He held up a sheet of paper with words scrawled in thick, black pen: "Do you need help?? Coming round!!!!!"

Before I had a chance to reply, he left the window. His front door opened and he legged it across the street, barely pausing to check for cars.

"Are you ok, Callum?" Mum galloped up the stairs. Panicking, I snatched the dragon in my hand. It felt hot, but just cool enough to hold. With my spare hand, I swept the damp ashes down behind my desk. My eyes darted around the room. Where could I put the dragon?

Mum burst in and I hid my hands behind my back.

"What's that smell? Callum? Have you been burning something in here? I've told you that's dangerous!"

"No, Mum. It was coming from outside. I've just closed the window. Er, Sammy's coming round."

Mum's eyes narrowed as the doorbell rang. She thumped back downstairs.

The dragon had been gradually heating up in my hands and I dropped it back onto the desk. Its belly was glowing brighter than ever and the smell of melting plastic was overpowering. I needed to open the window but still didn't want my life's work to fly out. I couldn't lose it now.

Sammy crashed in and slammed the door.

Standing shoulder to shoulder, we stared as a glow spread from the dragon's belly, down its legs, through its jaw and out to its wing tips. It shone like a green lightbulb.

There was a sizzling and smoke began to pour from every gap.

It started to melt. Slowly at first, dripping all over the desk. My hands over my nose

and mouth, I reached to open the window. It didn't look capable of flying out now.

The wings dropped into a small, orange puddle. The arms drizzled like emerald ink. The dragon's face slid down its body, melting like a bottle green ice cream no one wanted to eat.

The body softened, liquified, until all that was left of my years of patient, obsessive beachcombing, was a shiny, green, stinking puddle, streaked with orange.

My desk was ruined, my homework was destroyed and I was never going to be famous for being the only boy ever to build a dragon from the Lego lost at sea.

"So..." began Sammy. "That just happened."

"It did."

"That was.... AMAZING!!! Do you think you could do it again? Could we find another dragon? Let's go down to the beach now!"

Sammy was pulling on my arm and grinning. I grinned back, relieved to have my friend back, even if my room stank and the dragon was gone.

"Could you help me clean my desk first...?" 📧

#### Lisa Allen

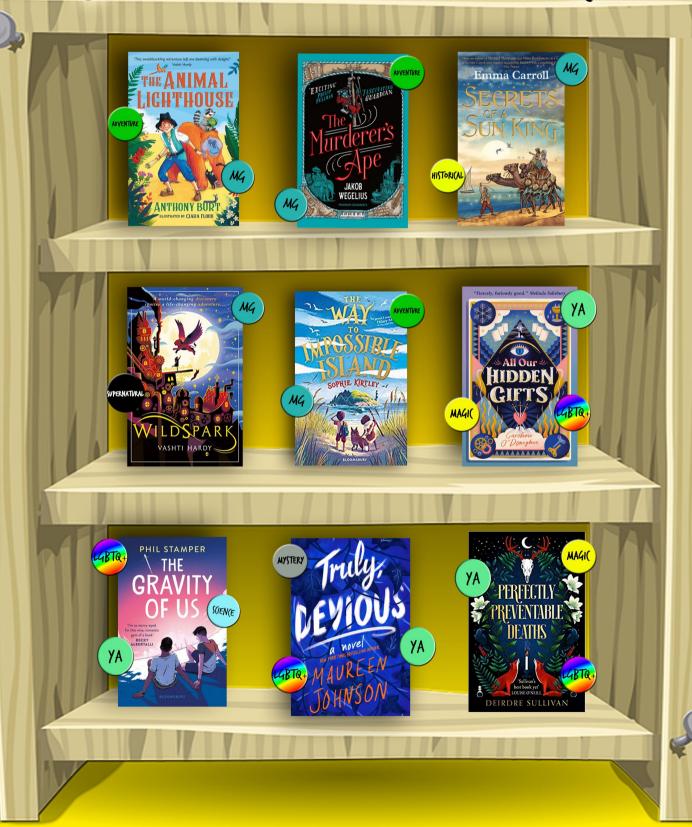
Lisa Allen lives in Liverpool with her husband, two mini bookworms and a perpetually hungry black cat. In a past life, she was a regional business journalist, but more recently enjoyed a brief stint as a college librarian. Her MG fiction usually features baked goods, comedy and mythical, magical mayhem. She is represented by Amberley Louis at The Viney Agency.

Follow Lisa on social media:

Twitter: @Bozzle Instagram: @lisajallenliverpool



# BOOKSHELF







# DAVID DATES

David is a teacher, children's author and illustrator. His first book *The Imagination Thief* was published last year by Emira Press and received positive reviews. His work has featured on poetry website The Dirigible Balloon' and he completed an art project for Suffolk Libraries last year that featured a 'duck' mural. He is currently

working on the second instalment on a sequel to The Imagination Thief called

The Dream Hoarder. David illustrated our Quizzes page!

www.davidoatesartwork.com





# FELI(ITY TATTERSALL

Felicity is a graduate from the Masters Illustration course at Falmouth University. Her first children's book (Cornish Mice and the Treasure Garden) was published by Tor Mark in 2021. She currently works as a freelance illustrator working for museums and cultural organisations to create bespoke illustrations.

or

Felicity illustrated one of the writing prompts in this issue



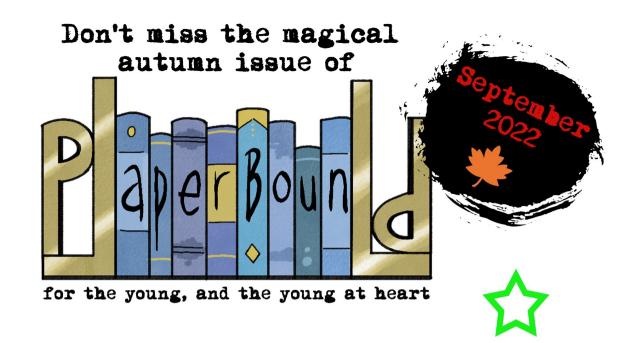
# CLEMENCY CROW

"I'm not very good at art," is what Clemency used to say to the children in her class, to excuse example drawings on the whiteboard. Then she thought enough was enough, and got her finger out to learn a new skill.



Clemency is a primary teacher, author, and illustrator, living in the tip-top north of the Scottish mainland. She lives with her family, including two spaniels, and shares the garden with roe deer, pine martens and hares. When not working, she loves gardening, attempting to sow seeds which the birds and mice will not find. Clemency illustrated the short story - First Days - in this issue.

www.clemencycrow.co.uk
Follow Clemency on Twitter: @MenaceCCFC





17

### New Writing







### Author Interviews

Writing Tips





# Book Recommendations and more...

Don't miss the autumn issue of PaperBound this September

Twitter: @paperboundmag Instagram: @paperboundmagazine Facebook: @paperboundmag

www.paperhoundmag.com