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LITERARY MANAGEMENT

## LONDON 2026 RIGHTS GUIDE: YOUNG ADULT & MIDDLE GRADE RIGHTS GUIDE

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# YA/MIDDLE GRADE FANTASY: HIGHLIGHTS

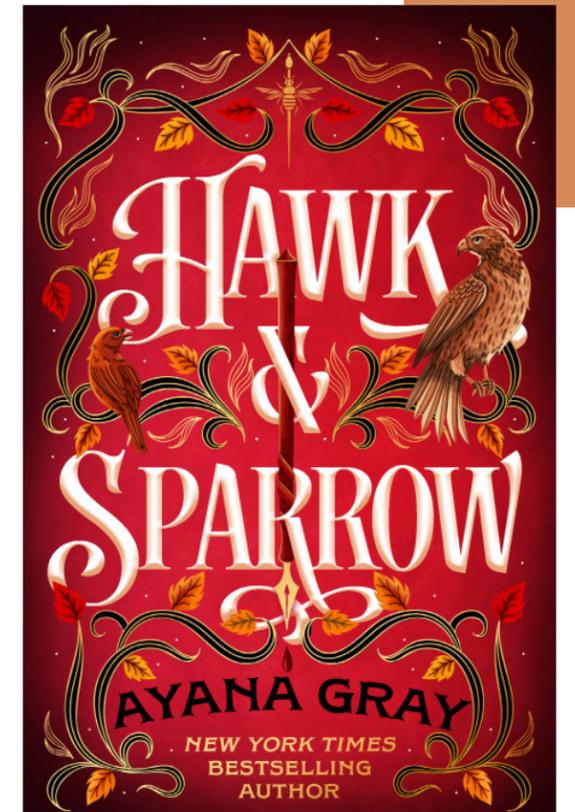
## HAWK & SPARROW

Ayana Gray

A Gilded Age fantasy romance novel from New York Times bestselling author Ayana Gray, perfect for readers who love *DIVINE RIVALS* and *BELLADONNA*.

In the industrious city of Basalton at the height of the Gilded Age, highborn families use enchantments to flaunt power and status. The lower classes dabble in cheap counterfeit enchantments that, if misused, can prove deadly.

Seventeen-year-old orphan VESPER EVANS doesn't trust magic, or the sorcerers who wield it. Instead, she commits herself to her job as a writer for the Basalton Herald. But when her newspaper finds itself under threat of permanent closure, Vesper will do anything to save it. Then, when she witnesses a murder first-hand, everything changes. MAXIMILIAN KITE is not only the heir to one of Basalton's wealthiest families, he's also a sorcerer, and one with a bold proposal for Vesper. If she can use her investigative skill to help him solve that murder (and prove his innocence) he'll pay her more money than she's ever seen in her life. Max is everything Vesper despises—but his offer is too good to pass up. And to infiltrate the upper class, Vesper must pretend they are courting. What ever could go wrong?



US Publisher: **Balzer + Bray/  
Macmillan**  
UK Publisher: **Macmillan**  
Release Date: **September 1, 2026**  
Genre: **YA Fantasy Romance  
Standalone**

Territories Sold: **Germany**

Rights Contact: **Kathryn Toolan**  
Primary Agent: **Peter Knapp**



*Ayana Gray is a New York Times bestselling author. Her works have been translated in a dozen languages across five continents and have received critical acclaim at the state and national level. Originally from Atlanta, Georgia, she now lives and writes in Arkansas.*

# THE SUN AND THE STARMAKER

Rachel Griffin

From the New York Times bestselling author of *THE NATURE OF WITCHES* comes a whimsical and sweeping romantic fantasy. Nestled deep in the snowy mountains of the Lost Range, the village of Reverie is a small miracle. Beyond the reach of the Sun, Reverie is dependent upon the magic of the mysterious Starmaker: every morning, he trudges across a vast glacier and pulls in sunlight over the peaks, providing the village with the light it needs to survive.

AURORA FINCH grew up on tales of the Starmaker's magic, never imagining she'd one day meet him. But on the morning of her wedding, a fateful encounter in the frostbitten woods changes everything. The Starmaker senses a powerful magic within her and demands she come study under his guidance. With her newfound abilities tied to the survival of the village, Aurora is swept away to his ice-covered castle and far from everything she's ever known.

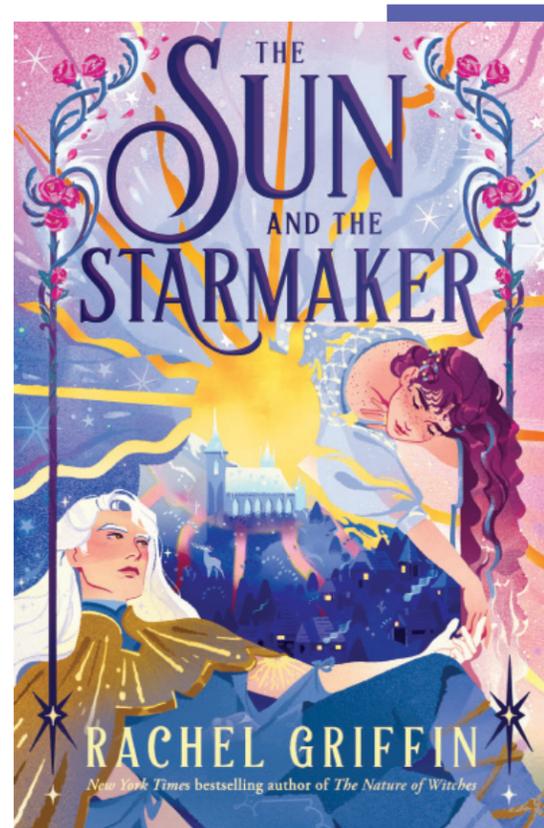
The Starmaker is as cold and distant as the mountain itself, leaving Aurora to explore his enchanted castle alone. Yet the more she discovers about the sorcerer, the stronger their attraction grows, pulling her closer to the secrets he refuses to share. But a deadly frost approaches and Aurora must uncover what the Starmaker is hiding before she is left in an endless winter that even the Sun cannot touch.

#### Praise for *THE SUN AND THE STARMAKER*:

"A whimsical and wondrously clever fairytale with a brightly burning romance that will leave you breathless." —Stephanie Garber, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *ONCE UPON A BROKEN HEART*

"Utterly enchanting. Rachel Griffin's latest is a spell spun from whimsy." —Adalyn Grace, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *BELLADONNA*

"Achingly romantic, undeniably swoony, and completely enchanting, Griffin has spun a fairytale for a new generation." —Sasha Peyton Smith, New York Times bestselling author of *THE ROSE BARGAIN*



Publisher: Sourcebooks  
Release Date: February 17, 2026  
Genre: YA Romance Fantasy  
Standalone

Territories Sold: Germany, Spain, Ukraine

Rights Contact: Olivia Malesco  
Primary Agent: Peter Knapp

• Instant #1 New York Times Bestseller and Indie Bestseller



Rachel Griffin is the New York Times bestselling author of *THE NATURE OF WITCHES*, *WILD IS THE WITCH*, and *BRING ME YOUR MIDNIGHT*. When she isn't writing, you can find her wandering the Pacific Northwest, reading by the fire, or drinking copious amounts of coffee and tea. She lives in the Seattle area with her husband, dog, and growing collection of houseplants.

# SPIRIT LANDS

Maiya Ibrahim

The epic, highly anticipated conclusion to the Sunday Times bestselling *SPICE ROAD* trilogy.

New monsters have appeared after the collapse of the Spirits Lands, roaming the desert under a shattered sun and spreading into the Sahir, ruthless and hungry in their attacks. No matter how much IMANI and QAYN battle the monsters, it has become clear that combat will not be enough to stop the violent onslaught and other magical mysteries plaguing their land.

To Imani's surprise, Qayn determines that there is only one way for them to find a solution: they must venture to the home of the monsters themselves, the Everlasting Tower.

Reaching the realm of the monsters and the residing Tower Lord might be Imani's most dangerous undertaking yet, but she would never let Qayn go in alone. As Imani, Taha, and their group head toward their final battle, they will find that someone from Qayn's past is seeking revenge—and secrets of love turned to madness could leave a legacy of scars if they survive—or destroy them all.

In this shocking finale to the Spice Road series, Maiya Ibrahim masterfully shows the monstrosities of a war-torn country and the dangers of power in a fantasy allegory of our time, destined to be a classic.

#### Praise for the *SPICE ROAD* series:

"A beautifully written, surprise-filled page-turner." —Kirkus Review, Starred Review

"[T]his high-octane adventure maintains a steady clip toward a scintillating conclusion." —Publishers Weekly, Starred Review

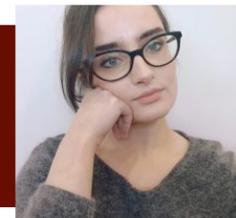
"Spellbinding magic, lush description and whirlwind action define Maiya Ibrahim's YA debut." —Shelf Awareness, starred review



US Publisher: Delacorte  
UK Publisher: Hodderscape  
Release Date: December 1, 2026  
Genre: Fantasy  
Book 3 in the *SPICE ROAD* series

Territories Sold: Russia, Turkey

Rights Contact: Kathryn Toolan  
Primary Agent: Peter Knapp



Maiya Ibrahim is the Sunday Times bestselling author of the *SPICE ROAD* series. She graduated with a bachelor of laws from the University of Technology Sydney. When she isn't writing, reading, or spending time with her family, Maiya enjoys playing video games, gardening, and expanding her collection of rare trading cards. She lives in Sydney, Australia.

# QUEEN OF FACES

Petra Lord

A dark academia fantasy about a desperate girl at a cutthroat magical academy who faces a choice between life and death: become an assassin for the enchanted elite or watch her decaying body draw its last breath. For fans of Brandon Sanderson and R.F. Kuang.

ANABELLE GAGE is trapped in a male body, and it's rotting from the inside out. But Ana can't afford to escape her tattered form, even as the wealthiest in Caimor buy and discard expensive designer bodies without a thought. When she fails the entrance exam to the prestigious Paragon Academy, her last hope of earning a new body implodes. Now without options, Ana must use her illusion magic to try to steal a second chance at life.

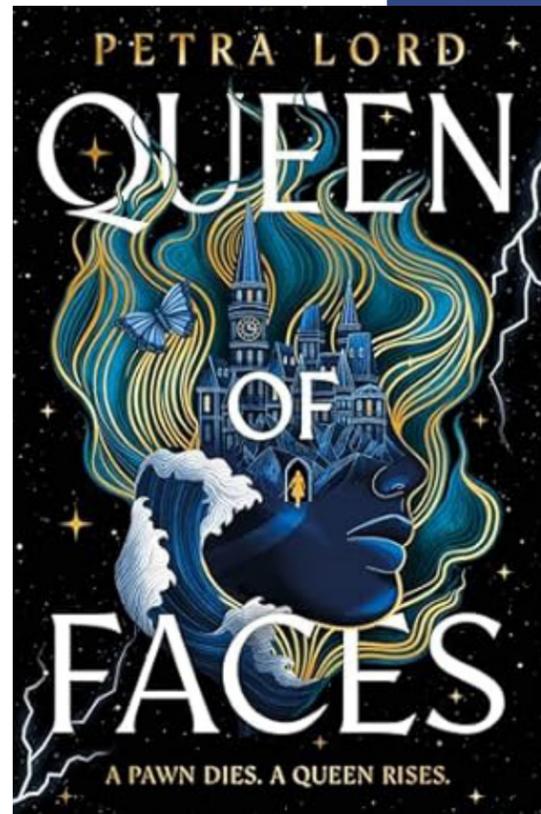
But Ana is caught by none other than the headmaster of Paragon Academy, who poses a brutal ultimatum: face execution for her crime or become a mercenary at his command. Revolt brews in Caimor's smog-choked underworld, and the wealthy and powerful will stop at nothing to take down the rebels and the infamous dark witch at their helm, the Black Wraith.

With no choice but to accept, Ana will steal, fight, and kill her way to salvation. But her survival depends on a dangerous band of renegades: an impulsive assassin, a brooding bombmaker, and an alluring exile who might just spell her ruin. As Ana is drawn into a tangled web of secrets, the line between villain and hero shatters—and Ana must decide which side is worth dying for.

**Praise for QUEEN OF FACES:**

"The ruthless, remarkable world you've been waiting for." —Chloe Gong, #1 New York Times bestselling author of THESE VIOLENT DELIGHTS

"A twisty, dark academia fantasy full of heart, with rich worldbuilding and a heroine whom you want to succeed in every way." —Marie Lu, #1 New York Times bestselling author of SKYHUNTER



US Publisher: Henry Holt Books for Young Readers  
 UK Publisher: Harper Fire  
 Release Date: February 3, 2026  
 Genre: YA Fantasy  
 Book 1 in QUEEN OF FACES Trilogy

Territories Sold: Brazil, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Spain, Ukraine

• Instant New York Times Bestseller and Indie Bestseller

**Rights Contact: Olivia Malesco**  
**Primary Agents: Stuti Telidevara / Peter Knapp**



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

# SONG OF THE YELLOW DRAGON

Ying Ping Low

Two children search for a legendary dragon's magic in this enchanting middle grade fantasy.

There is a secret that every child knows: Magic is real. But by the time children turn thirteen, they forget that magic is anything but make-believe.

MENGYAO wants to remember. Born in a village nestled in a secluded vale, Mengyao wants to hold on to magic and become a Divine Healer. But with her thirteenth birthday fast approaching, she is losing hope.

Young emperor KAI is on the run from traitorous advisors. He's searching for the fabled Dragon's Pulse, a magic capable of defeating his enemies. On the brink of his thirteenth birthday, Kai doesn't have much longer. So when he meets Mengyao—the girl whose name is mentioned in his legend—he forces aside his instinctual distrust and recruits her to help him on his quest.

On their perilous journey, Kai and Mengyao find aid in unexpected forms like a jade hare, a moon goddess, and a handful of promises. But as enemies close in and time runs out, secrets that will reshape the fate of their kingdom forever come to light.

**Praise for SONG OF THE YELLOW DRAGON:**

"With masterful storytelling and lush, lyrical prose, Low spins a tale that feels at once fresh and timeless, creating a world that readers will never want to leave."—Katie Zhao, author of THE DRAGON WARRIOR and the WINNIE ZENG series

"This book is breathtaking! From jaw-dropping twists to heart-wrenching moments, every page drew me in. SONG OF THE YELLOW DRAGON is immersive, creative, and full of life lessons that stay with you long after you've turned the last page. I laughed, I cried, and I gasped more than once—an absolute masterpiece!"—Isi Hendrix, author of the ADIA KELBARA AND THE CIRCLE OF SHAMANS series



Publisher: Putnam Books for Young Readers  
 Release Date: May 12, 2026  
 Genre: Middle Grade Fantasy Standalone

**Rights Contact: Olivia Malesco**  
**Primary Agent: Peter Knapp**



Ying Ping Low (published as Low Ying Ping in Singapore) studied English Literature at the University of Leeds in the UK because she wanted to do nothing but read books all day long. She later pursued a Master's at the University of Warwick for pretty much the same reason. While her motivations were questionable, her English degrees nonetheless came in handy as she worked for twenty years in the field of education before turning to writing full-time. She is an NIE-certified teacher (PGDE) and MOE-registered instructor. SONG OF THE YELLOW DRAGON will be her first novel published into the US market.

# TWICE THE TROUBLE

Sarena & Sasha Nanua

The girls of Spirit Service get involved in a heated competition with a rival, all-boy group in this second book in the sweet and spooky Spirit Service middle grade series that's Ghostbusters meets THE BABY-SITTERS CLUB.

Spirit Service is booming, and with "Halloween" night approaching, guiding spirits to the afterlife has never been easier. But all is not well. RAVEENA GILL and her besties have come across an impossible creation: another phantom phone! Worse, this phone belongs to a boys-only group of paranormal fanatics, and the boys seem bent on using its darker abilities to trap spirits for their own gains.

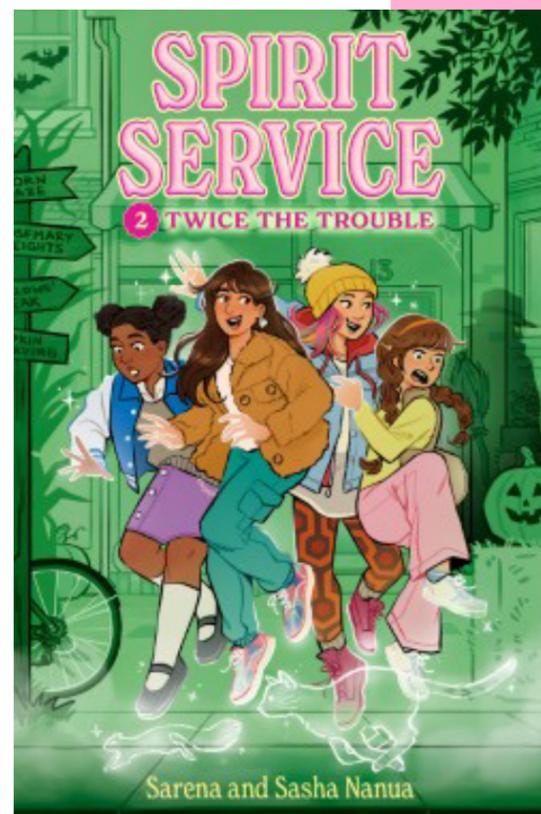
To keep the copycat phone out of the boys' hands, Raveena proposes a wager. The first to vanquish fifty spirits by Halloween will get to keep both phones. If Raveena fails, she'll lose Spirit Service; if she succeeds, she'll stop the twin phone from being used for evil.

As tensions between and within the clubs rise, a sinister threat stirs in the shadows. To stop it, they will have to band together to uncover the darker origins of the phones themselves...and this time, both the lands of the living and the dead are at stake.

**Praise for SPIRIT SERVICE:**

"An entertainingly spooky series opener with appealing camaraderie among its characters."—*Kirkus Reviews*

"With moments of sparkling friendship, well-timed humor, and supernatural twists, SPIRIT SERVICE is the middle grade ghostbusting story we've all been waiting for!"—*Katie Zhao, author of the WINNIE ZENG series*



Publisher: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers  
 Release Date: July 14, 2026  
 Genre: Middle Grade Fantasy  
 Book 2 in SPIRIT SERVICE Series

**Rights Contact: Olivia Malesco**  
**Primary Agents: Stuti Telidevara / Peter Knapp**



Sarena and Sasha Nanua are twin sisters who love stories about friendship, ghosts, and all things magical. Born on Diwali ten minutes apart, they began writing books together at the age of nine. They are graduates of the English and professional writing programs at the University of Toronto and are the authors of SPIRIT SERVICE, SISTERS OF THE SNAKE, and DAUGHTERS OF THE DAWN.

# GEORGIE SUMMERS AND THE SCRIBES OF SCATTERPLOT

Isaac Rudansky

In a world where fiction is forbidden and truth is a matter of life and death, one young boy must write a story to save humanity...

GEORGIE SUMMERS has three priorities: survive middle school, perfect his slingshot skills, and take care of his dad. But when Georgie's father is mysteriously abducted, Georgie is determined to find him... even if he has to leave this realm entirely. He finds himself in the fantastical world of Scatterplot, a hidden land where trained Scribes record human memories to safeguard the truth and order. But not all is well in Scatterplot: an evil force threatens to corrupt those memories and plunge the world into chaos. Teaming up with an unlikely group of friends, Georgie must navigate forests full of thieves to night markets selling illicit magical wares in order find his father, save Scatterplot, and preserve the minds and lives of every person on Earth.

Perfect for fans of PERCY JACKSON and IMPOSSIBLE CREATURES, Isaac Rudansky's GEORGIE SUMMERS AND THE SCRIBES OF SCATTERPLOT spins a magical, heart-pounding tale about the importance of courage, hope, and storytelling.

**Praise for GEORGIE SUMMERS:**

"GEORGIE SUMMERS AND THE SCRIBES OF SCATTERPLOT is a rip-roaring adventure through a wildly imaginative world. Percy Jackson meets Inside Out in an action-packed story that brings the world of emotions and memories to vivid life. Mind-bending in the best way, and tackling powerful themes about the duality of good and evil in us, author Isaac Rudansky gives us in a classic tale about the power of friendship, with authentic characters that are spunky and fun to read. With a surprisingly dark cliffhanger ending, Rudansky is sure to surprise young readers and leave them wanting more from this new and exciting fantasy world."  
 —*Soman Chainani, New York Times bestselling author of THE SCHOOL FOR GOOD AND EVIL*



US Publisher: Sourcebooks  
 Release Date: November 2026  
 Genre: Middle Grade Fantasy  
 Book 1 in GEORGIE SUMMERS Series  
 Territories Sold: Spain

**Rights Contact: Olivia Malesco**  
**Primary Agent: Peter Knapp**



After earning his master's in industrial psychology, Isaac Rudansky decided to focus all that training on the meaningful work of selling products and services to consumers who mostly don't need them. AdVenture Media, the ad agency he founded, has managed campaigns for AMC Networks, Asurion, Hearst, Sports Illustrated, Nasdaq, and many others. His online courses have attracted over 300,000 students worldwide. GEORGIE SUMMERS is the result of years of delusional thinking and a belief that children's books should only do one thing: entertain. Isaac and his wife live in Long Island with their anarchist children.

# THE GODS WE BURIED

Elle Tesch

Indiana Jones meets **DIVINE RIVALS** in this rollicking YA adventure-fantasy about an archaeologist's daughter who must find her enigmatic patron goddesses' fabled artefact in order to rescue her missing mother.

When JESSIE SINCLAIR's archeologist mother is abducted, none of her treasure-hunting colleagues in Prioria will help solve the mystery of her disappearance. Jessie is certain Helen's kidnapping has something to do with the Alectikos, a legendary artefact created by the infamous twin goddesses that Helen has dedicated her life to studying. Friends, colleagues, and even Jessie's godmother know better than to risk going after the Alectikos, given how many have died trying—leaving Jessie with nowhere to turn. Nowhere...except RILEY PORTER, her ex-best friend and only crush, who abandoned her a year ago.

The last thing Jessie wants is to trust the boy who betrayed her, but she has little choice. Together, the pair must use all the wit and ingenuity they learned from Jessie's mother on a perilous journey through dusty, trap-filled tombs in pursuit of Helen and the Alectikos, even as a shadowy organization warns them to stay away—or else. But as Jessie gets ever closer to understanding her enigmatic divine patrons, the more secrets she unearths, upending everything she thought she knew about her mum—and risking a fatal blow to her already-bruised heart.

**Praise for previous novels:**

*"Moody, fun, and wholly original."*—Allison Saft, *New York Times* bestselling author of *A FRAGILE ENCHANTMENT*

*"A bone-chilling delight."* —IV Marie, *New York Times* bestselling author of *IMMORTAL CONSEQUENCES*

*"There is much to love in this inventive adventure, including the clever setting, ominous atmosphere, and complex character relationships."*—Publishers Weekly



Publisher: **Delacorte**  
 Release Date: **Summer 2027**  
 Genre: **YA Fantasy Standalone**

**Rights Contact: Olivia Malesco**  
**Primary Agents: Stuti Telidevara / Peter Knapp**



Elle Tesch has lived just east of Vancouver, British Columbia her entire life. Surrounded by forests and mountains, it was inevitable that she would daydream about what might lurk in those trees. She twists places she loves and writes what she knows best: hungry monsters, casually cruel villains, and ace-spec girls in the stories they deserve. When not writing, Elle can be found reading whatever she can get her hands on, wrestling with her current cross-stitch project, or re-watching *Pride & Prejudice* (2005) for the 72nd time.

# THE NEON SKY

Alyssa Villaire

For fans of Stephanie Garber and Maggie Stiefvater comes the bewitching sequel to **THE GLITTERING EDGE**, where magic is real, witches make irresistible boyfriends, and keeping secrets is dangerous—but not as dangerous as the truth.

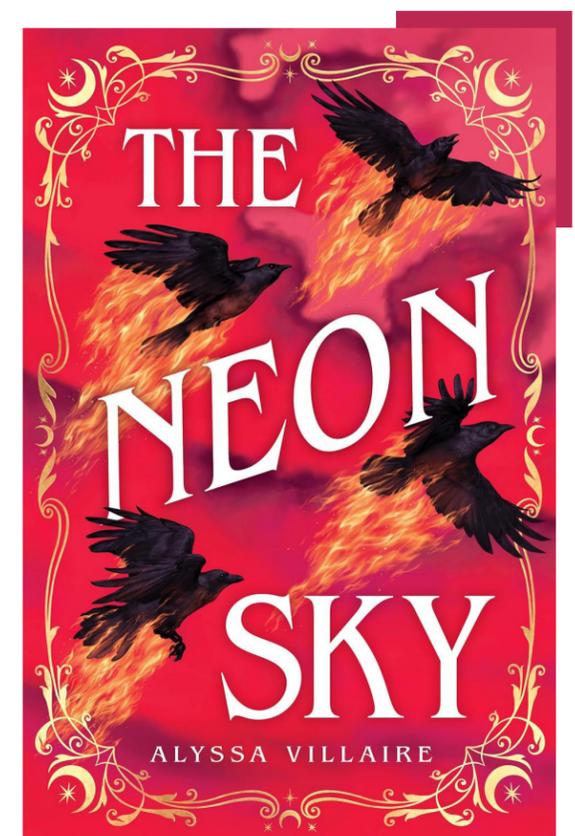
PENNY EMBERLY didn't expect to fall head over heels for ALONSO DE LUCA last summer—or to discover that he's a witch. Together with their friend COREY BARRION, they managed to save her mother from a deadly spell. Now autumn has arrived, and Penny believes they can take on anything.

But darkness is descending on the small town of Idlewood. Corey is desperate to undo the bloody legacy that made his family rich. The price, however, is steep: to unravel the magical bargain made by his grandfather, Corey must take a life. As Corey wrestles with an impossible choice, Alonso begins to change. The more he pushes the limits of his magic, the more volatile, violent, and possessive he becomes. When tragedy strikes one of their classmates, the trio is forced to confront a terrifying question: is Alonso being consumed by something that's bent on the destruction of everyone around him—especially Penny and Corey?

As supernatural forces drive them apart, Penny, Corey, and Alonso must decide what they're willing to sacrifice before more blood is spilled—even if it means losing each other.

**Praise for THE GLITTERING EDGE:**

*"A brilliant combination of deadly secrets and curses, twisty romance and fast paced surprises, THE GLITTERING EDGE is everything I want in a paranormal romance!"* —Stephanie Garber, #1 *New York Times* Bestselling Author



US Publisher: **Little, Brown Young Readers**  
 UK Publisher: **Penguin**  
 Release Date: **May 19, 2026**  
 Genre: **YA Fantasy**  
**Book 2 in THE GLITTERING EDGE series**  
 Territories Sold: **France, Germany, Ukraine**

**Rights Contact: Olivia Malesco**  
**Primary Agents: Stuti Telidevara / Peter Knapp**



Alyssa Villaire is the #1 *Sunday Times* bestselling author of *THE GLITTERING EDGE*. She writes fantasy books with eerie magic, complicated friendships, and lots of yearning. She's based in Los Angeles, where she lives with her husband and a steadily growing library.

# THE DRAGON AND THE SUN LOTUS

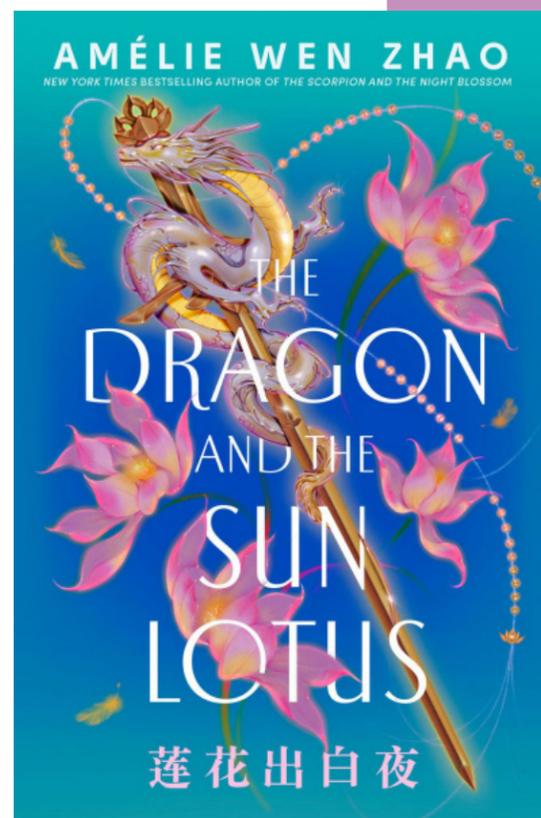
Amélie Wen Zhao

In the breathtaking sequel to *THE SCORPION AND THE NIGHT BLOSSOM*, the battle has just begun. With Ànyīng's kingdom teetering on the brink of destruction, and amidst a budding forbidden romance, she must now risk everything to protect her world.

A decade ago, the Kingdom of Night began the war against the Kingdom of Rivers, ravaging the lands and releasing mó—beautiful, ravenous demons—to roam free, drinking the souls of mortals. Now the mó have made it beyond the magical wards of the immortal realm—the Kingdom of Sky—and will not stop until the entire world falls to darkness.

ÀNYĪNG is determined to banish the mó to their realm and return the mortal realm to peace. But a stunning betrayal has turned the tides of this war: Her handsome rival from the Immortality Trials and the man she was falling in love with, Yùchén, is now the enemy. Yùchén is half mó, his mother none other than Sansiran, the Demon Queen of the Kingdom of Night... and the monster responsible for killing Ànyīng's father.

There is one hope for the future, though. The boy in the jade—Ànyīng's lifelong mystery guardian and heir to the last mortal Emperor—Hào'yáng. Together, Ànyīng and Hào'yáng must join forces to rally an army that stretches across realms, from the Four Seas of the Dragons to the Phoenixes of the Golden Desert. But first she must awaken to the immortal power slumbering in her own veins.



US Publisher: **Delacorte Press**  
 UK Publisher: **Harper Voyager**  
 Release Date: **March 3, 2026**  
 Genre: **YA Fantasy Romance**  
**Book 2 in the THREE REALMS Duology**  
 Territories Sold: **France, Germany, Russia, Spain**

**Rights Contact: Olivia Malesco**  
**Primary Agent: Peter Knapp**



*Amélie Wen Zhao is the New York Times, Sunday Times, and internationally bestselling author of THE SCORPION AND THE NIGHT BLOSSOM, THE SONG OF THE LAST KINGDOM duology, and the BLOOD HEIR trilogy. She was born in Paris and grew up in Beijing, where she spent her days reenacting tales of legendary heroes, ancient kingdoms, and lost magic at her grandmother's courtyard house. She attended college in the United States and now resides in New York City, working as a finance professional by day and fantasy author by night. In her spare time, she loves to travel with her family in China, where she's determined to walk the rivers and lakes of old just like the practitioners in her novels do.*

## YA/MIDDLE GRADE THRILLERS/MYSTERIES: HIGHLIGHTS

# YOUNG WORLD

Soman Chainani

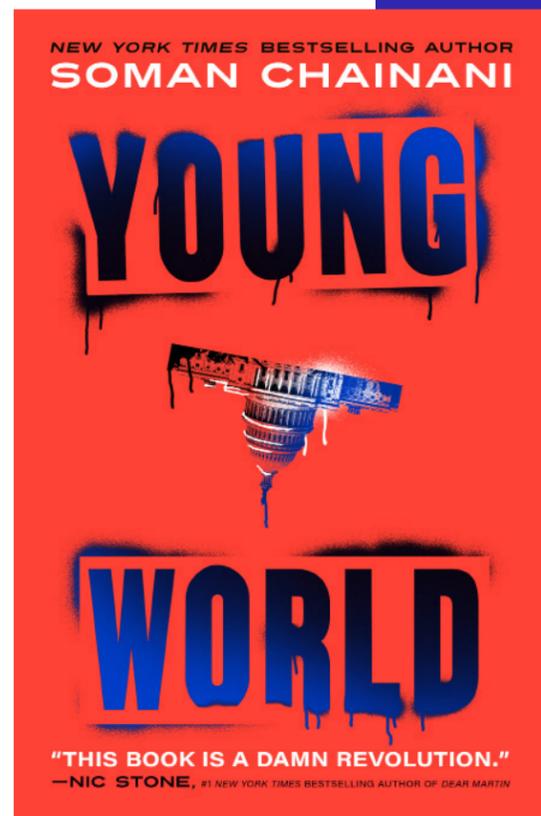
From the New York Times bestselling author of THE SCHOOL FOR GOOD AND EVIL series comes a renegade thriller, about a teenager elected President of the United States, sparking a global revolution of young leaders—until one of them is murdered and he's the prime suspect. Presented in brilliant neon color, with over 150 nuke-orange visuals, fizzy orange and blue stained edges, full-color designed endpapers and a neon-orange cover case.

America is on the brink of collapse and the youth have lost all faith in their leaders. As a pivotal election approaches, BENTON YOUNG, a high school senior trying to impress a girl, impulsively uploads a video, daring everyone to interfere with the vote and write him in for President. The video explodes online, igniting election chaos and a national revolt, until the Supreme Court intervenes to put Benton in the White House. Galvanized by Benton's rise, more global youth take to the streets, and more governments fall, until eight of the world's most powerful nations are led by teenagers.

When these young leaders convene at their first summit in Sweden, they face the monumental task of setting a new course for history. But the first night, their unity is shattered when a leader is murdered in cold blood... and Benton is the only suspect. Hunted by enemies young and old, he must untangle a deadly web of secrets, betrayal, and power plays — while the future of the world hangs in the balance.

With globe-spanning action, stunning twists, and an electric new brand of storytelling, YOUNG WORLD is a heartstopping thriller that asks: what happens when the future really does belong to the young?

*"This book is a damn revolution."* —Nic Stone, #1 New York Times bestselling author of DEAR MARTIN



US Publisher: **RH Childrens Books**  
 UK Publisher: **Simon & Schuster Children's**  
 Release Date: **May 5, 2026**  
 Genre: **YA Mystery/Thriller Standalone**  
 Territories Sold: **Czech Republic, Hungary, Spain, Turkey**

**Rights Contact: Kathryn Toolan**  
**Primary Agent: Peter Knapp**



Soman Chainani's six novels in the SCHOOL FOR GOOD AND EVIL series each debuted on the New York Times bestseller list. The series has sold over 4.5 million copies, has been translated into 33 languages, and has been adapted into a film by Netflix that debuted at #1 in over 80 countries. His collection of retold fairy tales, BEASTS AND BEAUTY: DANGEROUS TALES, was also an instant New York Times bestseller and is in development to be a television series from Sony 3000. Soman is a graduate of Harvard University and received his MFA in film from Columbia University.

# THORNBIRD

E. Kennedy

The highly anticipated young adult thriller about a serial killer's daughter and her race to solve the crimes of her family's twisted past before it's too late—from E. Kennedy, aka New York Times bestselling romance author Elle Kennedy!

The world is hunting for answers—but what if the truth leads straight to you?

Ten years after her father—the infamous serial killer Gabriel Thorn—was caught, RYAN SHIPLEY is back in Starling, Tennessee, trying to lay low. No one can know who she really is. No one can know the truth about her past.

But as fresh eyes dig deeper into the case, old secrets refuse to stay buried. Cryptic texts, eerie coincidences, and a chilling note leave everyone wondering—does Ryan know more than she's letting on? As the truth unravels, one thing becomes clear: in a town full of secrets, Ryan might be the biggest mystery of them all.

Perfect for fans of Holly Jackson and Jeneva Rose—get ready for a thriller packed with twists you won't see coming.



US Publisher: **Delacorte**  
 UK Publisher: **Electric Monkey/Harper UK**  
 Release Date: **June 30, 2026**  
 Genre: **YA Mystery/Thriller**  
**Book 1 in the THORDBIRD Series**  
 Territories Sold: **Brazil, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Netherlands, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Norway, Poland, Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Ukraine**

**Rights Contact: Kathryn Toolan**  
**Primary Agent: Celeste Fine**



E. Kennedy is a true crime enthusiast and devoted bookworm. When she's not plotting twisty thrillers, you'll find her deep in a true crime doc rabbit hole. She lives in Toronto.

# THESE TWISTED HEARTS

Ginny Myers Sain

A romantic gothic thriller steeped in storm magic, buried sins, and ferocious longing, **THESE TWISTED HEARTS** is a supernatural romance that's perfect for fans of **THE RAVEN BOYS** and **HOUSE OF HOLLOW**.

In Promise, Oklahoma, the secrets are as dark and twisted as the storms that terrorize this prairie town.

Seventeen-year-old JUBILEE CALLAHAN lost her first love, EZRA WINSLOW, when he disappeared during a catastrophic tornado. Everyone believes he's dead. Jubilee refuses to accept he's gone.

When another monster twister touches down and a strange, beautiful boy walks out of the wreckage alive, Jubilee knows she should run. Instead, she's drawn in like lightning to ground. STAR HOLLOWAY is marked by storms and secrets. He claims he can stop the cursed weather. And that Jubilee is destined to help him.

As Jubilee searches for answers about Ezra's disappearance, the land begins to turn against itself: the prairie grass grows wild, animals flee, and something old stirs beneath the soil, hungry and awake.

Caught between grief and a dangerous, electrifying pull towards Star, Jubilee uncovers the blood-soaked secrets that built her town—and the ancient force determined to reclaim it. To save Star, and herself, Jubilee must choose whether to let the past claim her...or unleash a storm powerful enough to tear everything apart.



US Publisher: Putnam Books for Young Readers  
 Release Date: Spring 2027  
 Genre: YA Thriller  
 Standalone

Rights Contact: Olivia Malesco  
 Primary Agent: Peter Knapp



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

# DARKLY

Marisha Pessl

\*NEW AUTHOR TO AGENCY\*

#1 NATIONAL BESTSELLER • A powder keg of dark secrets and mind-bending puzzles, this must-read thriller is "addictively suspenseful" (The Washington Post) and "full of atmospheric thrills" (Los Angeles Times)—from the New York Times bestselling author of *Night Film*.

Your favorite game has come to life. And you don't want to find out what happens if you lose...

ARCADIA "DIA" GANNON has been obsessed with Louisiana Veda, the game designer whose obsessive creations and company, Darkly, have gained a cultlike following. Dia is shocked when she's chosen for a highly-coveted internship, along with six other teenagers from around the world. Why her? Dia has never won anything in her life.

Darkly, once a game-making empire renowned for its ingenious and utterly terrifying toys and games, now lies dormant after Veda's mysterious death. The remaining games are priced like rare works of art, with some fetching millions of dollars at auction.

As Dia and her fellow interns delve into the heart of Darkly, they discover hidden symbols, buried clues, and a web of intrigue. Who are these other teens, and what secrets do they keep? Why were any of them really chosen? The answers lie within the twisted labyrinth of Darkly—a chilling and addictive read by Marisha Pessl.

This summer will be the most twisted Darkly game of all.

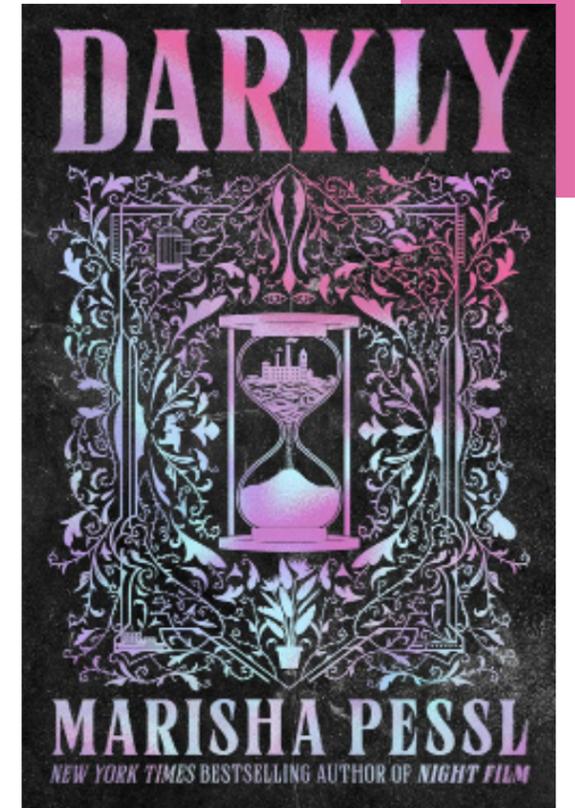
**Praise for DARKLY:**

"Pessl is gargantuan: wildly smart, extremely surprising, a wordsmith, a queen. Read her." —E. Lockhart, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *WE WERE LIARS*

"Complex and captivating." —Erin A. Craig, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *HOUSE OF SALT AND SORROWS*



Marisha Pessl is the author of *NIGHT FILM* and *SPECIAL TOPICS IN CALAMITY PHYSICS*, which won the John Sargent Sr. First Novel Prize (now the Center for Fiction's Flaherty-Dunn First Novel Prize) and was selected as one of the 10 Best Books of the Year by The New York Times Book Review. Pessl grew up in Asheville, North Carolina, and currently resides in New York City.



Publisher: Random House  
 Release Date: November 4, 2025  
 Genre: YA Mystery/Thriller  
 Book 1 in the DARKLY Series

Territories Sold: Czech Republic, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Ukraine

Rights Contact: Kathryn Toolan  
 Primary Agent: Celeste Fine

# YA/MIDDLE GRADE CONTEMPORARY: HIGHLIGHTS

## EVERY REASON TO STAY

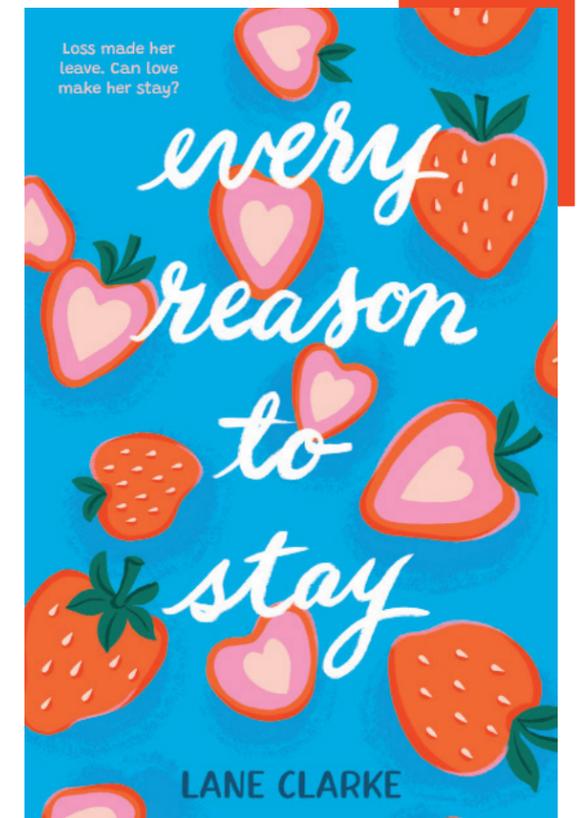
Lane Clarke

A heartbreaking yet hopeful novel about one girl's journey through grief and the family, first love, and shocking truths she finds on the other side—perfect for fans of Jandy Nelson and EVERY LAST WORD.

All her life, it's just been sixteen-year-old SKYLAR and her rockstar dad against the world. But this year, a horrible accident cuts the summer short and upends her life.

As Skylar grieves her dad, she discovers a huge secret: her mother is still alive. Now, Skylar is uprooted from her home and thrust into a family of strangers on the other side of the country. Furious with the mother who deserted her, she seeks comfort in her baking and decides to enter a local competition with a dazzling prize of a trip to a Parisian pastry school. As she gains her footing in the contest and her new town, she befriends a girl who seems just as lost as her, and she also finds more than friendship in the frustratingly irresistible boy next door. But as Skylar bakes her way to a brighter future, she'll uncover truths about the past in the last place she expected.

Filled with heaps of emotion, a spoonful of hope, and an unexpected twist of fate, this is a powerful story about the true meaning of home.



Publisher: **Little, Brown Books for Young Readers**  
Release Date: **July 7, 2026**  
Genre: **YA Contemporary Standalone**

Rights Contact: **Kathryn Toolan**  
Primary Agent: **Peter Knapp**



Lane Clarke is an author, lawyer, and associate literary agent with Ultra Literary. She writes and represents books that make you laugh, cry, and dare to dream. When not eating Cocoa Pebbles for dinner, she can be found re-watching Schitt's Creek, making corny jokes, and taking an obnoxious amount of photos of her fur babies. She lives in Virginia with her husband, daughter, and fur babies.

# A SEASON FOR FALLING

Kate O'Shaughnessy

A swoony, heartfelt, and evocative standalone story of first love, second chances, and finding yourself in the season of change—perfect for fans of Misty Wilson's *FALLING LIKE LEAVES* and anyone looking for their next *Gilmore Girls*-esque fall read.

Five years ago, CLAIRE HOPPER LAFAYETTE—then known by her stage name, CeCe Lafayette—was a child star, the Erkel-esque punchline of one of America's cheesiest sitcoms. She dedicated half her childhood to the show, to chasing her dreams—until a series of devastating betrayals by her manager-father left her broke, humiliated, and desperate to just... disappear. Now she's just Claire Hopper, a high school senior living quietly in postcard-perfect Glenridge, Connecticut, where gossip eddies in the breeze as readily as the autumn leaves. No one—not even her best friend—knows who she used to be, or that she's saving every spare dollar for her secret dream to attend NYU, which is far beyond her now-single mother's budget.

Then a movie shoot lands in Glenridge—and with it, her former co-star and ex-best friend, LUKE CORDOVA. His arrival threatens to stir up not only her past, but also the dizzying, all-consuming crush she once had on him. When Luke recognizes her upon running into her, he offers her a deal: let him shadow her to research his next role, and he promises to pay enough to make her college dreams possible. She can't afford to say no, even if it means risking letting him back in—and her past out. As pumpkins are carved and the woodsmoke-tinged October air grows colder, old feelings flare. As she falls for Luke (again), Claire begins to confront what really drove her to hide—and whether she can step back into herself without being consumed by everything she's tried to forget.



Publisher: **Storytide**  
Release Date: **September 22, 2026**  
Genre: **YA Contemporary Standalone**

**Rights Contact: Olivia Malesco**  
**Primary Agent: Peter Knapp**



*Kate O'Shaughnessy is the award-winning author of middle grade novels THE WRONG WAY HOME, LASAGNA MEANS I LOVE YOU, and THE LONELY HEART OF MAYBELLE LANE. Her books have won numerous distinctions and awards, including a Newbery Honor, the Northern California Book Award, and the Vermont State Book Award. Her work has been nominated for over thirty state award reading lists and recognized on best-of lists by places and publications such as the New York Public Library, Booklist, and Kirkus Reviews. When she's not writing, Kate can be found attempting to grow vegetables in her container garden, hiking in the woods with her dog, and chronically mispronouncing words.*

# BRITTLE MAGIC

Kate O'Shaughnessy

Newbery Honor winner Kate O'Shaughnessy gives us a moving, magic-tinged story about family, friendship, forgiveness . . . and fortune-telling pickles!

Nearly every member of the Brittle family has an extraordinary talent—except SHILOH.

Her aunt makes pickles that tell your fortune. Her great-aunt brews tea that gives you good dreams. Her sister can grow pumpkins the size of a small house. And her older brother—who died before Shiloh was born—had a gift no one will talk about. Her mom says Shiloh doesn't need a talent to be special. But Shiloh knows she's destined for greatness. And with the Brittle family reunion coming up, she's determined to prove it to all her relatives.

When Auntie Dee's fortune-telling pickles reveal that Shiloh does have a talent—and that it's somehow connected to her late brother—Shiloh feels more confused than vindicated. Why would her mom have kept this from her?

The pickles' prophesy offers cryptic clues for finding her talent—something involving an oven? and a new friend?—and Shiloh throws herself into the search. But discovering the truth about herself means digging up secrets her mom would rather keep buried.

This year's family reunion may well be the most dramatic one yet...



Publisher: **Knopf Books for Young Readers**  
Release Date: **October 20, 2026**  
Genre: **Middle Grade Contemporary Standalone**

**Rights Contact: Olivia Malesco**  
**Primary Agent: Peter Knapp**

# RAVENMINDER

Lindsay Cummings

## IN CASE YOU MISSED IT: YA/MIDDLE GRADE FANTASY

Your new romantic fantasy obsession awaits in this captivating epic adventure, perfect for fans of Jennifer L. Armentrout and Sarah J. Maas.

The sky is a dangerous place for a girl without wings.

In the war-torn kingdom of Lordach, EZER has spent two years as the Ravenminder of Rendegard. Chained in a prison tower's aviary, she pays the debts of the man she calls uncle, who rescued her after shadow wolves killed her parents. With three glittering scars on her cheek and mystical 'strangeties' unlike any magic in their world, Ezer is haunted by dreams of her death at the hands of an unknown warrior.

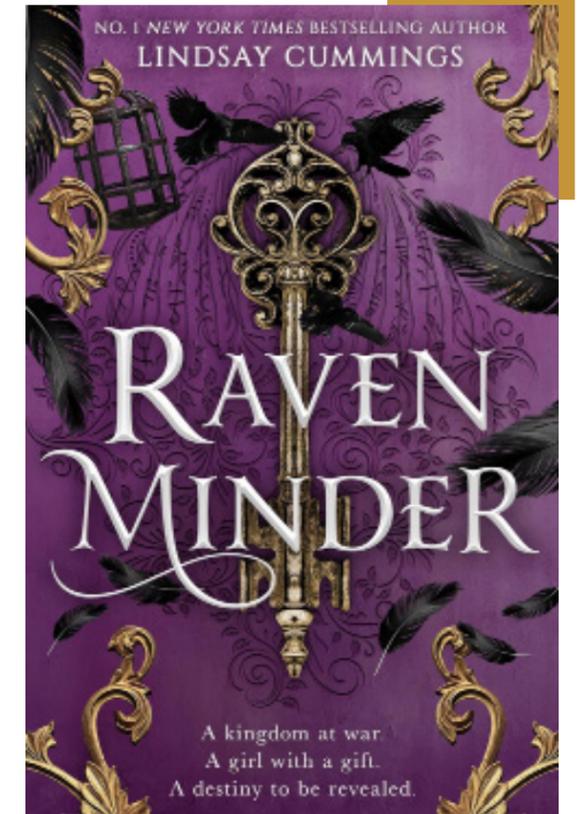
Then a Sacred Knight arrives to recruit Ezer for the fight against the enemy, the Acolyte. When her affinity with birds reveals itself on the journey to the Citadel, she is given a new mission: to help the Prince of Lordach tame one of the Acolyte's captured raphons. Half giant raven, half black panther, these creatures are as loyal to the Acolyte as his strongest darksoul soldiers...and only they can make the flight to infiltrate his lair.

While Ezer forges an unbreakable bond with the raphon, her heart becomes torn between the loyal Knight and the mysterious Prince. But as her dreams take on new clarity, she finds herself faced with a choice and a question: has the darkness been her destiny all along?

### Praise for Lindsay Cummings:

*"Had me hooked from the very first pages." —#1 international bestselling author Sarah J. Maas*

*"Unique world-building, a bold heroine with a heartbreaking past, and awe-inspiring magic that simply cannot be caged." —New York Times bestselling author Andrea Stewart*



UK Publisher: **HQ**  
Release Date: **October 23, 2025**  
Genre: **YA Fantasy**  
**Book 1 in the RAVENMINDER series**

**Rights Contact: Olivia Malesco**  
**Primary Agents: Stuti Telidevara / Peter Knapp**



Lindsay Cummings is the #1 New York Times Bestselling author of 7 novels for HarperCollins and Harlequin Teen, including ZENITH, THE MURDER COMPLEX, THE DEATH CODE, and THE BALANCE KEEPERS trilogy. She lives in Texas, where she writes full time, does freelance editorial work for aspiring authors (Author Crash Course), and YouTubes on her channel, @LindsayCummings.

# HOLLY

Adalyn Grace

From #1 New York Times bestselling author Adalyn Grace comes a mysterious and magical holiday novella set in the romantic, Gothic-infused world of BELLADONNA.

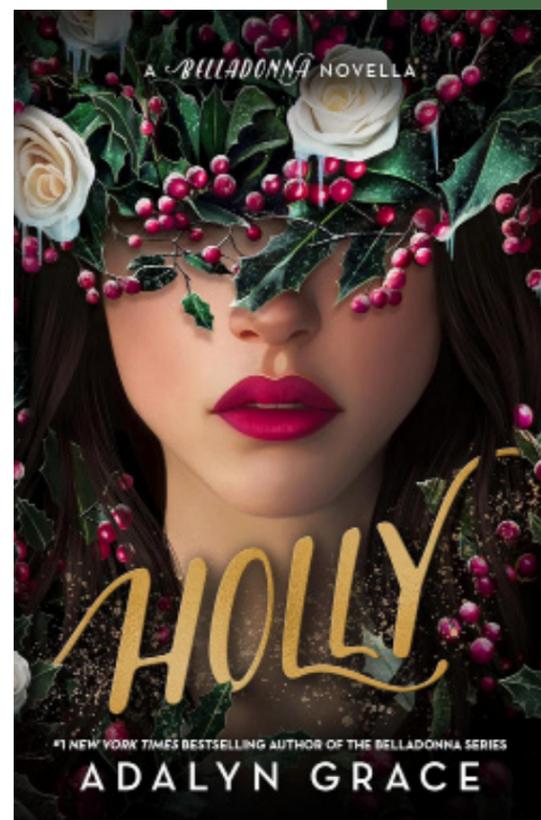
Something strange is happening at Wisteria Gardens, the manor that BLYTHE and ARIS call home. All they want is a peaceful holiday season with their family, but a group of restless spirits is determined to threaten their festivities. With a new mystery to solve, Signa, Death, Blythe, and Fate must uncover what happened to Wisteria's ghostly inhabitants and help the spirits move on...before it's too late.

**Praise for the BELLADONNA series:**

"Darkly twisted and deliciously gothic, BELLADONNA is the kind of wicked fairy tale I've loved for most of my life. Grace's world is vivid and sexy." —Renée Ahdieh, #1 NYT bestselling author of THE WRATH & THE DAWN

"A deliciously deadly gothic romance. Full of poisonous deeds, spectacular secrets, and dark mysteries. BELLADONNA is a hauntingly atmospheric read, with an absolutely fantastic ending that will leave readers begging for more." —Stephanie Garber, #1 NYT bestselling author of ONCE UPON A BROKEN HEART

"Decadently atmospheric. This gothic romance is filled with desire, betrayal, and of course, Death." —Kerri Maniscalco, NYT bestselling author of KINGDOM OF THE WICKED



US Publisher: Little, Brown Books for Young Readers  
 UK Publisher: Gollancz  
 Release Date: September 30, 2025  
 Genre: YA Romance Fantasy  
 Book 4 in BELLADONNA Series

Territories Sold: Brazil, Czech Republic, Netherlands, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Poland, Russia, Spain, Turkey, Ukraine

Rights Contact: Kathryn Toolan  
 Primary Agent: Peter Knapp



Adalyn Grace is the #1 New York Times, USA Today, and internationally bestselling author of the BELLADONNA series and the ALL THE STARS AND TEETH duology. Prior to becoming a writer, Adalyn studied storytelling as an intern on Nickelodeon Animation's popular series The Legend of Korra. Local to San Diego, she spends her nonwriting days watching too much anime and playing video games with her two dorky dogs.

# BREAK WIDE THE SEA

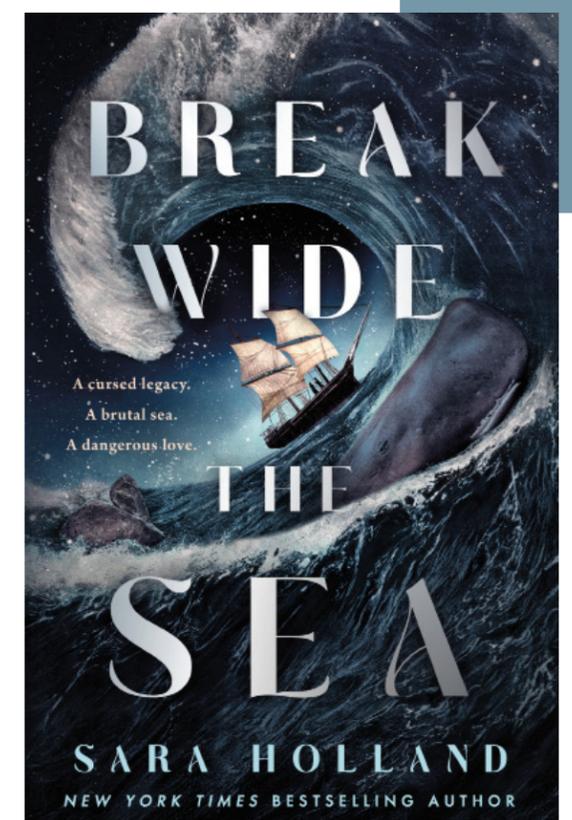
Sara Holland

In New York Times bestselling author Sara Holland's new novel, BREAK WIDE THE SEA, a young woman cursed with a fatal heartbreak-induced sickness must race against time to find a cure and protect her family legacy from the ancient finfolk that would destroy it, the fiancé that would kill her for it, and the boy who would love her if she forsook it.

In the treacherous waters surrounding Kirkrell, sailors hunting magic whales live in fear of the finfolk—bloodthirsty sea fae who sink ships and curse bloodlines. Nineteen-year-old ANNIE, as heir to the city's preeminent whaling company, is determined to carry on her parents' life's work. But she keeps a secret from everyone: she's cursed to transform into a monster, with scales spreading up her arms and claws growing from her fingertips. Her fiancé AUGUST offers comfort, but their love falls apart when Annie discovers his plan to take over the company. Desperate, Annie makes a deal with SILAS PRICE, a young captain rumored to be half-finfolk. He says he knows how to break the curse—but only if Annie promises to stop the practice of whaling forever. As Annie, August and Silas sail north, Annie wrestling with her family's legacy, the threat of the finfolk and August's ambitions increasingly force her to put her trust in Silas. Yet Silas has secrets of his own, and they might be the most dangerous of all.

**Praise for Sara Holland:**

"BREAK WIDE THE SEA is a spellbinding nautical tale of love, grief, and decisions that make us human. With lyrical writing that is as mesmerizing as the tides, Annie's story will not only hold your heart captive and steal your breath—you'll be thinking of it long after that devastating last line." —Rebecca Ross, #1 New York Times bestselling author of DIVINE RIVALS



Publisher: Wednesday Books  
 Release Date: November 11, 2025  
 Genre: YA Fantasy  
 Book 1 in the BREAK WIDE THE SEA Duology

Territories Sold: France, Spain

Rights Contact: Kathryn Toolan  
 Primary Agent: Peter Knapp



Sara Holland is the author of HAVENFALL and the New York Times bestsellers EVERLESS and EVERMORE. She grew up in small-town Minnesota and has held jobs in a tea shop, a dentist's office, and a state capitol building, to name a few. She now lives in New York, where she can be found exploring bookstores or finding new ways to put caffeine in her bloodstream.

# IN CASE YOU MISSED IT: YA/MIDDLE GRADE CONTEMPORARY

## RIGHT AS RAIN

Tashie Bhuiyan

A teenage girl struck by lightning must get rid of the magical raincloud that hovers over her head in this sweet, big-hearted contemporary novel from the author of *COUNTING DOWN WITH YOU*.

Recent high-school graduate MEGH RASHID has plans to escape to the other side of the country for college and leave behind the stormy household she's been trapped in for years. But things are complicated when she gets struck by lightning right before the start of a prestigious summer internship that's key to her getting accepted to her dream university, and she wakes up to a storm cloud that follows her everywhere, seemingly attuned to her every emotion.

Megh's struggles with depression, fear of leaving her home and loved ones, and uncertainty about her future cause the cloud to act up, creating rainstorms that dampen her spirits and her hopes of making an impact at her internship. With the help of fellow intern LEV OSMAN, a boy whose warmth makes her feel less alone, Megh has to find a way to control her feelings and decide what she's willing to sacrifice in order to secure her desired future.

### Praise for RIGHT AS RAIN:

*"An imaginative exploration of mental health and a hopeful narrative of friendship and first love."*—Kirkus

*"A magical and beautifully written story about the struggles of mental health and how we find our way out of it."* —Dustin Thao, #1 New York Times-bestselling author of *YOU'VE REACHED SAM*

*"RIGHT AS RAIN is a story filled with heart, love, and a touch of magic, showing how one of the scariest and bravest things you can do is stand up for and show up for yourself."* —Rachael Lippincott, #1 New York Times-bestselling author of *SHE GETS THE GIRL*



Publisher: FSG Young Readers  
Release Date: March 10, 2026  
Genre: YA Contemporary  
Standalone

Rights Contact: Olivia Malesco  
Primary Agents: Stuti Telidevara /  
Peter Knapp



Tashie Bhuiyan is the author of *COUNTING DOWN WITH YOU*, *A SHOW FOR TWO*, and *STAY WITH MY HEART*. She is a New Yorker through and through, and hopes to change the world, one book at a time. She loves writing stories about girls with wild hearts, boys who wear rings, and gaining agency through growth.

# IN CASE YOU MISSED IT: YA/MIDDLE GRADE THRILLERS

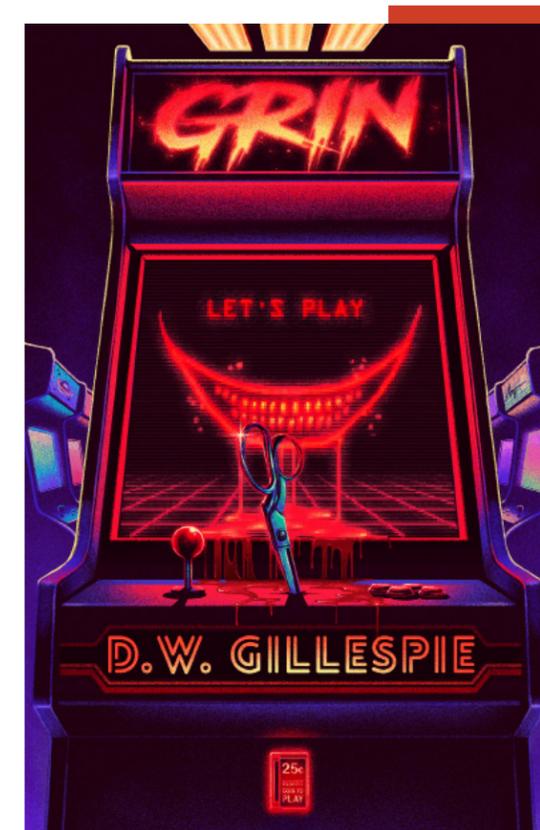
**GRIN**  
D.W. Gillespie

While spending his summer break at his beloved uncle's vintage-inspired arcade, a twelve-year-old boy crosses paths with a sinister game that has an unsettling effect on everyone who encounters it. When he and a new friend realize that this game is not only haunted by an infamous serial killer, but that this murderous spirit has taken over his uncle's body, they'll have to use all their wits—and a bit of luck—to save the day.

Twelve-year-old DANNY can hardly wait to embark on the summer vacation of his dreams: spending a week at his goofy, fun-loving uncle Bill's enormous arcade, Pixelworks. Shortly after he arrives, Bill presents his latest acquisition: a legendary, horror-themed game called GRIN. There is only one copy of Grin which has been passed among collectors for over 40 years, but never stays in one place for long, leading many to consider it cursed. The game itself is truly ominous, as a wide grin appears on the screen and a voice whispers, "you should smile..."

As Danny plays, the game seems to pull him in, and he almost believes he's become the avatar on the screen, fleeing a mysterious killer. Feeling thoroughly freaked out, Danny decides to take a break and runs into JODI, a girl he used to know in kindergarten. They're delighted to be reunited and are soon playing games and hanging around like they've been friends for years.

But strange things are happening in the arcade: fights are breaking out among anyone near the new game, and Bill begins acting strangely, lashing out and wearing a huge, sinister grin. Danny and Jodi suspect something otherworldly, and very evil, is happening and they set out to solve the mystery.



Publisher: **Delacorte Press**  
Release Date: **August 26, 2025**  
Genre: **Middle Grade Horror Standalone**

**Rights Contact: Kathryn Toolan**  
**Primary Agent: Kimberly Brower**



Born and raised in Middle Tennessee, D.W. Gillespie has been daydreaming for as long as he can remember. His first short story was in second grade, and it involved (unsurprisingly) monsters wreaking havoc on some unsuspecting victim. Some things never change, and now D.W. writes a healthy mixture of horror, sci-fi, and supernatural fiction. He began writing seriously in 2002, and after winning the MacDougal Award for his short story "The Home", he's since been published many times in print and online. His body of work includes eight novels and dozens of short stories. He still lives in Tennessee with his wife and two kids.

# OTHER RIGHTS GUIDES

**PFB FICTION**



**PFB AUTHOR  
CATALOG**



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**PFB PAGE & VINE**

