

THE GERNERT COMPANY

Middle Grade / Young Adult Rights Guide

Bologna 2024



Lee Bacon: FALL OF THE ROBOTS

A thrilling and hilarious sequel to The Last Human which is in the works to be a major motion picture.

Amulet Books – April 30, 2024

Material: Final pages

Middle Grade

A sequel to THE LAST HUMAN, which sold in 23 territories, and is currently in the works to be a major motion picture from the producers of *Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse*.

It's been a few months now since XR_935 met Emma, a human girl who wasn't supposed to exist. Robots thought they'd eliminated all humans, but some have survived all these years. Now, robots and humans live side by side, and the world is so much better for it. They've formed a new society, living together as equals.

Even if XR doesn't always understand humans, it is impressed by their creativity and ingenuity--especially considering all the terrible things that robots did to humans all those years ago. But some humans are not so quick to forgive. A group known as the Machine Breakers has emerged. They won't stop until they've destroyed every robot on earth--and any human who stands in their way. Can XR and Emma stop them? Or could this be the end of the robots--and the world as they know it?

Lee Bacon is the author of several books for young people, including *The Last Human*, *Imaginary*, and the *Joshua Dread* series, as well as the original audio stories *The Mystery of Alice* and *Interview With The Robot*. His books have been translated into 23 languages. Lee grew up in Texas and now lives in New Jersey.

Sold to: DreamLitt (Denmark), Kirmizi Kedi (Turkey), Maxim (Hungary)

Foreign publishers of THE LAST HUMAN: Urano (Spain), La Martiniere (France), Van Holkema & Warendorf (Netherlands), Random House Korea (Korea), Mondadori (Italy), Loewe (Germany), Tindur (Iceland), Publicat (Poland), Atticus-Azbooka (Russia), Vivat (Ukraine), V&R Editoras (Brazil), B. Wahlstroms (Sweden), Grup 62 (Catalan), Jota (Czech), WSOY (Finland), Patakis (Greece), Keter (Israel), Hayakawa (Japan), Kagge (Norway), Ideas Beyond Borders (Arabic)



Kate Beaton: SHARK GIRL

The hilarious and charming new picture book from the acclaimed #1 NYT bestselling of *Ducks* and *Hark! A Vagrant*.

Roaring Brook – February 25, 2025
Material: 1st pass pages
Picture Book

A new picture book from the acclaimed #1 NYT bestselling author of *DUCKS*, *THE PRINCESS AND THE PONY* and *HARK! A VAGRANT* !

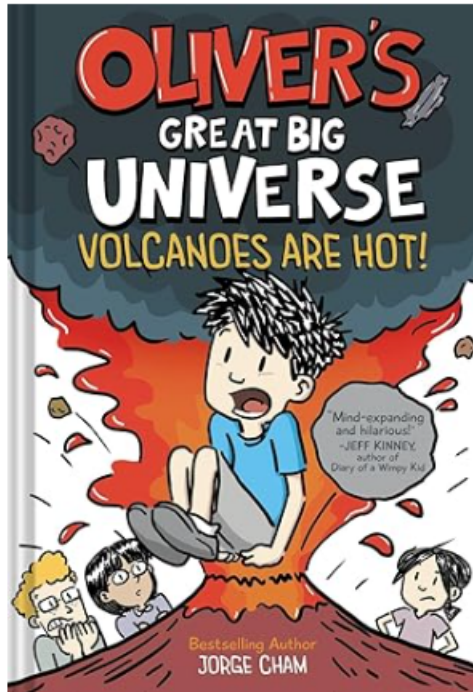
Shark Girl, part human and part shark, is living a peaceful existence in the ocean when she gets caught in the net by a mean fishing captain.

She manages to escape and decides to take revenge by adopting a fully human form, getting a job on the fishing boat, and then attempting to inspire a mutiny (!) that leads to unanticipated consequences.

A sweet, offbeat and charming story about friendship and doing the right thing, all in the uniquely wonderful style of Kate Beaton.

Kate Beaton is the #1 NYT bestselling author of the graphic memoir *Ducks*, which was a *New York Times* Notable Book and one of Barack Obama's favorite books of 2022. She is also the author of the comic collections *Step Aside*, *Pops* and *Hark! A Vagrant*, as well as the picture books *The Princess and the Pony* (made into a series on Apple TV+) and *King Baby*.

Option publishers: Walker (UK), Editions Scholastic (French Canada), CITIC (China), Cambourakis (France), Reprodukt (Germany), Norma Editorial (Spain)



Jorge Cham: OLIVER'S GREAT BIG UNIVERSE: Volcanoes Are Hot ! (Book 2)

Earth science meets *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* in Book 2 of the acclaimed illustrated series about an eleven-year-old who wants to become an astrophysicist.

Amulet Books – September 17, 2024
Material: Awaiting final pages
Middle Grade

**“Mind-expanding and hilarious! – I got smarter reading this!”—Jeff Kinney,
author of the international bestselling series *Diary of a Wimpy Kid***

After writing his first book, eleven-year-old Oliver is kind of a celebrity around school—no big deal. But when he gets caught in a cafeteria catastrophe, he quickly goes from being the “funny science kid” to one of the “Epic Barf Kids”, the result of too much explosive cherry pie in the lunchroom. Oliver is desperate to restore his reputation—and winning the science fair sounds like the perfect way for everyone to forget about the whole barf thing. There’s just one obstacle standing in his way: Ana Lía Quintero, who wins the science fair every year.

Luckily, Oliver has the help of his geoscientist aunt, even though she’s a little, um, quirky (scratch that: really quirky). If Oliver has any chance of defeating his archnemesis, he’ll have to learn all about volcanic burping and bacteria farts, how Earth’s layers are basically like boba tea, and how school cliques and the solar system have a lot in common.

With laugh-out-loud humor and cartoon-style illustrations from bestselling writer and the creator of PHD Comics Jorge Cham, *Oliver’s Great Big Universe* is a STEAM-themed, diary-style series following one kid who’s taking on the whole universe—if he can survive middle school first.

Jorge Cham is the author (along with Daniel Whiteson) of *WE HAVE NO IDEA* and *FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE UNIVERSE*. He is the creator of the popular web comic phdcomics.com and is also a co-creator of the PBS Kids show “Elinor Explains Why”, which is one of the highest rated shows on PBS’s Kids.

Sold to: S&S (UK), Otwarte (Poland), Mirae N (Korea), Metaichmio (Greece), United Sky (China), B. Wahlstroms (Sweden), Rocco (Brazil), Znanje (Croatia), Larousse (France), Bookzone (Romania), Pelckmans (Netherlands)

Option publishers: DeAgostini (Italy), Asunaro (Japan), MIF (Russia), Oceano (Spanish), Indigo (Turkey)



Adam Gidwitz: MAX IN THE HOUSE OF SPIES (Book 1 in a duology)

A fast-paced and affecting historical novel by a New York Times bestselling author and Newbury Honor award winner.

Dutton Books for Young Readers -
February 27, 2024
Material: Final pages
Middle Grade

NYT Bestseller ! • Blurb fom R.J. Palacio and 4 starred reviews !

- "Max in the House of Spies is everything you could hope for in a book,"
-R. J. Palacio, #1 New York Times bestselling author
- "An exciting mixture of triumphs and perils, leading up to a cliffhanger ending that will have readers clamoring for the sequel." -PW, starred review
- "Brilliant, funny, and full of twists and turns that engage both the heart and the mind."-School Library Journal, starred review
- "This heartfelt historical novel explores big questions of autonomy and allegiance with an admirable protagonist readers will respect and adore."
-Booklist, starred review
- "Max's training as a spy is described in riveting detail, with readers rooting for the determined boy even as we know the dangers awaiting him if he passes the test."-
The Horn Book Magazine, starred review

Max Bretzfeld doesn't want to move to London. Leaving home is hard and Max is alone for the first time in his life. But not for long. Max is surprised to discover that he's been joined by two unexpected traveling companions, one on each shoulder, a kobold and a dybbuk named Berg and Stein. Germany is becoming more and more dangerous for Jewish families, but Max is determined to find a way back home, and back to his parents. He has a plan to return to Berlin. It merely involves accomplishing the impossible: becoming a British spy.

Adam Gidwitz is the author of the New York Times bestselling Grimm series including *A Tale Dark & Grimm*, *In a Glass Grimmly* and *The Grimm Conclusion*. He is also the author of *The Inquisitor's Tale*, which won the Newbery Honor, and *The Unicorn Rescue Society* series.



Yoon Ha Lee: MOONSTORM (Book 1 in the Lancers series)

A new YA SciFi trilogy by the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Dragon Pearl*.

Delacorte – June 4, 2024

Material: 2nd pass pages

Young Adult

**Sold to Delacorte in a 3-book deal, in a major deal,
NA rights only • Yoon Ha Lee’s middle grade novel *Dragon Pearl* was a NYT
bestseller and sold more than 150,000 copies in the US**

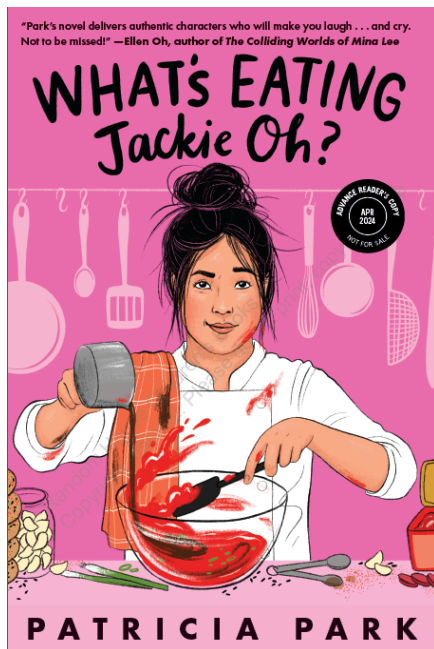
- “Lee....continues infusing the vast world of science fiction with Korean-inspired adventure....thrilling.” —***Booklist*, starred review**
- “Via probing prose, Lee (*Ninefox Gambit*) addresses issues of colonialism and revolution in a high-concept space adventure narrative.”—***Publishers Weekly***
- “Action-packed space battles and strong worldbuilding will draw readers in.” —***Kirkus***

Hwa Young was just ten years old when imperial forces destroyed her rebel moon home. Now, six years later, she is a citizen of the very empire that made her an orphan. Desperate to shake her rebel past, Hwa Young dreams of one day becoming a lancer pilot, an elite group of warriors who fly into battle using the empire’s most advanced tech—giant martial robots. Lancers are powerful, and Hwa Young would do anything to be the strong one for once in her life.

When an attack on their boarding school leaves Hwa Young and her classmates stranded on an imperial space fleet, her dreams quickly become a reality. As it turns out, the fleet is in dire need of pilot candidates, and Hwa Young—along with her brainy best friend Geum, rival Bae, and class clown Seong Su—are quick to volunteer. But training is nothing like what they expected, and secrets—like the fate of the fleet’s previous lancer squad and hidden truths about the rebellion itself—are stacking up. And when Hwa Young uncovers a conspiracy that puts their entire world at risk, she’s forced to make a choice between her rebel past and an empire she’s no longer sure she can trust.

Yoon Ha Lee is the author of the Hugo Award nominated *Machineries of Empire* series and the *New York Times* bestselling *Thousands Worlds* series that includes *Dragon Pearl* and *Tiger Honor*.

Sold to: Rebellion (UK & BC)



Patricia Park: WHAT'S EATING JACKIE OH?

A hilarious and heartfelt coming-of-age YA novel about competitive cooking from the acclaimed author of *Imposter Syndrome* and *Other Confessions of Alejandra Kim*.

Crown Books for Young Readers -
April 30, 2024
Material: Final pages
Young Adult

- "Park's novel delivers authentic characters who will make you laugh...and cry. Not to be missed!" —**Ellen Oh**
- "An engrossing tale full of appealing characters, foodie elements, and heart." —**Kirkus, starred review**
- "A perfect fit for teens obsessed with food tv or grappling with the pressure of parental expectations." —**Booklist**

Jackie Oh is done being your model minority. She just hasn't told her second-gen Korean American parents yet. They would never understand her unconventional dream to become a professional chef. Just ask her brother Justin, who hasn't heard from them since he was sent to Rikers Island. For now, when she isn't avoiding studying for AP World History, Jackie is improving her French cooking techniques and working at her grandparents' Midtown deli Melty's. Then the most unexpected thing happens: Jackie gets recruited for a casting audition for the teen edition of *Burn Off!*, her favorite competitive cooking show. Even more unexpected, Jackie becomes a contestant.

Jackie is thrown headfirst into the cutthroat competitive TV show world filled with psych outs, picky mom critiques, and dreaded microaggressions to lean into her heritage. All Jackie wants to do is cook her way. But is her way to cook traditional French cuisine? Lean into her heritage? Or is it something more? To advance through the competition, Jackie must prove who she is on and off the plate.

Patricia Park is the acclaimed author of *Imposter Syndrome and Other Confessions of Alejandra Kim* and *Re Jane*.

Option publisher: Seosawon (Korea)

Raphael Simon and Phillip de León: DON'T TELL ME WHAT HAPPENS

A YA graphic novel by NYT bestselling author Raphael Simon (and his husband, the illustrator Phillip de León) that is a tender love story, a queer coming-of-age and a gripping mystery all wrapped into one.

Roaring Brook – Summer 2026

Material: Proposal

Young Adult

Sold to Roaring Brook in a 2-book deal for six-figures
• Sold in the UK, Italy and Brazil in preempts •
Raphael Simon is the real name of Pseudonymous Bosch
whose Secret Series has sold more than 2.8M (!) copies worldwide.

Two queer love stories. Two time periods. One mystery.

Fifteen-year-old Noah lives with his father in New York but is spending the summer with his mother in Venice, CA. An indoor, city sort of person, a RuPaul fanatic, he's miserable in the sun – until he meets Tomo, a surfer who works in his father's vintage store. Tomo hands Noah an old composition-style notebook, filled with steamy diary entries by its teenaged owner, Diego, in addition to ephemera from the 1980s. Noah reads about Diego playing footsie in history class with closeted surfer (another surfer!) Casey until one day after school it becomes something more. Noah is enthralled. And there's one more notebook at the store, but that's it – Noah and Tomo have no idea what happened to Diego and Casey. And as they set off to find the much older surfer, the two boys find romance of their own...but can Noah keep from sabotaging the first good thing in his life?

Better known as Pseudonymous Bosch, Raphael Simon is the not-so-secret author of two bestselling middle-grade series, the Secret Series and the Bad Books, as well as the ALA Rainbow-Listed Unbelievable Oliver chapter-book mysteries. Most recently, Raphael published *The Anti-Book*, the first novel to appear under his own name.

Textile designer and illustrator Phillip De León began drawing as soon as he could hold a pencil. First working as a creative in the advertising world, Phillip joined forces with his design partner and sister Nicole and their father Marcus to form the De León Design Group, and to direct the Los Angeles-based textile house, Alexander Henry Fabrics, Inc.

Sold to: Puffin (UK & BC), Il Castoro (Italy), Seguinte (Brazil)

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