Scallywag Press
Rights Guide
FRANKFURT 2023
Picture Books
Chapter Books
A poignantly collaboration between author and artist, celebrating the importance of community and the power of hope.

Grandpa, tell me the story again of when we went to sea. That’s a BIG story, One-Button. How does it begin? It begins with the uprooting . . .

And so Grandpa tells the story of how he and One-Button and their whole community were uprooted from their everyday lives, and how they all had to take to sea in different boats.

Sometimes the sea was dangerous and they were frightened, sometimes it was calm and they felt peaceful, sometimes they had fun watching films, singing and knitting . . .

But always they helped each other – and always they kept their spirits up together.

Until one day, the ‘change’ happened and they were able to return home and resume their previous lives...different, but the same.

• Going to sea is a metaphor for a trauma that has been lived through together – it could represent something physical or mental
• Powerful, quirky and moving
• A wonderful tool to help enable a conversation about a difficult topic
• Can be understood at any level, depending on the response of the reader
• Poetic use of language, full of metaphor
• Illustrated with wild, evocative but also reassuring and humorous pictures by a prize-winning illustrator

VIVIANE SCHWARZ has written and illustrated many picture books. Her books have been translated and published internationally and won awards including two shortlistings for the CILIP Kate Greenaway, winner of the 2016 Little Rebels Award and UK IBBY Honour List nominee for illustration in 2018.
When a small group of children befriend a stray dog, the entire community is inspired to become involved.

Elki does not have a home – she is a stray dog who finds kindness in the company of a little group of children. They play together during the day, but Elki must stay alone outside every night because dogs are not allowed in their block of flats. One day Elki disappears and is found injured. Who will look after her and how?

• Shows how one act of kindness can change the attitude of other people
• An uplifting book about feeling empathy for someone in need and taking action to help
• An example of how good citizenship should work, where the duty of caring is owned by everybody

• Gentle illustrations set the scene and beautifully show the bond between Elki and her found family
• Elena wrote the story for her fellow artist and friend Tonka Uzu whose childhood memory this is

Sometimes even the smallest voice can make a big difference.

Whisper is a quiet dragon who notices everything. When he sees that his family’s fires are damaging their forest neighbourhood, he knows he must persuade them to change their ways. But nobody will listen to him. How will he get his message across?

It will take all Whisper’s resourcefulness and courage, and some help from his friends, to save the mountainside in time.

• Highlights the value of perseverance and co-operation
• Shows the usefulness of creativity to help get a message across – in this case the power of pictures
• Themes of environmentalism, and the need to be open to new ideas
• The importance of supporting your friends to do what is right

ELENA AREVALO MELVILLE
is originally from Guatemala and now lives in Cambridge. Elena is the author and illustrator of the prize-winning picture book Umbrella.

TONKA UZU was born and raised in Sofia, Bulgaria and lives in Cambridge. Her book Olga and Olaf in Spiaggia was a finalist in the Nati per Leggere Award 2020.

Since her debut in 2019, Rose Robbins is fast making a name for herself as a creator of appealing and mainstream books about differently abled characters. Rose is an Inclusion Ambassador for Inclusive Minds, and her books have been shortlisted and nominated for major awards. Rose’s brother is autistic and she teaches autistic young people.
A confidence boosting tale where being kind along the way is shown to be equally important as personal success.

Catz is determined to prove himself as a detective – but nothing seems to be going his way. He decides he has failed, but he has also failed to notice all the good he has done along the way!

Luckily our hero does not give up, and, cheered on by his friends, a combination of new evidence and new determination enable him to focus and fulfil his dream!

• All the fun of being a detective with magnifying glasses, searching for clues, hiding, and mystery solving
• Empathy and kindness: noticing something is wrong and putting it right
• Shows that success may be measured in different ways
• Teaches about patience, determination and self-confidence in an uplifting way
• Visual literacy as the reader follows sub-plots in the colourful and energetic pictures
• Henrich’s previous titles sold in 14 languages

Rabbit doesn’t want to listen to his mum telling him to get up, get dressed, have breakfast, play outside, come inside and least of all... have a bath! NO, NO, NO! he says. But at last they hit on something they both love – cuddle time.

• Perfectly pitched and re-assuring for parents whose child is being contrary

‘A picture book that really does work.’

5/5 stars.’

BOOKS FOR KEEPS

‘With charming illustrations and lots of interactive fun, No! Said Rabbit is perfect for sharing.’

BOOKTRUST

Shortlisted for the BookTrust Story Time Prize
Longlisted for the Klaus Flugge Prize

Rabbit and Dad are going to the park. But will they ever be ready to leave the house?

• Tolerance and patience are needed on both sides as each waits for the other
• Another universal topic that adults and children will all relate to
• Wonderful handling of mounting tension with a happy ending

MARJOKE HENRICHS graduated from the MA Children’s Book Illustration course at Cambridge School of Art in 2019. She is also a theatre designer and a painter. She was born in the Netherlands and now lives in Suffolk.
There once was a bear who had nothing to wear
And normally, teddy bears don't really care,
They're happy to dress how you want them to dress
But Albie was not, I'm ashamed to confess.

Albie insists on choosing his own outfits, but which
one will suit him? On Monday he's dressed as a
baby, on Tuesday as a prince, on Wednesday
a fairy queen, on Thursday a cowboy... but he
doesn't feel right in anything!

Albie eventually realises that the most
comfortable outfit is the most natural one – his
own fur.

- Celebrates all the fun of dressing up and
trying out different identities
- Life-affirming as Albie eventually discovers that he prefers just to be himself
- Teaches the days of the week
- Hints at the waste caused by buying too much
- Hilarious and energetic illustrations

February 2023
275 x 240mm, 32pp, Age 3+

Bouncy Bo and Little Smudge live in a sombre
castle with their serious father. They are full of
laughter and mischief, but it seems as if all the
adults have forgotten how to smile... until an
eye-opening visit to their grandparents proves
otherwise!

- Celebrates the value of play
- Fun role reversals challenge our traditional
expectations
- Shows that people don't always behave
the way we expect them to
- Repeatable catch phrase will get children really engaged
- Illustrations that are funny and packed with sub stories
- Second title by a prize-winning illustrator whose debut
  The Tale of the Whale was shortlisted for
  the 2022 Klaus Flugge Prize.

‘A refreshing take on grandparents.’
BOOKTRUST

June 2023
275 x 240mm, 32pp, Age 3+

Jeanne Willis and Brian Fitzgerald

JEANNE WILLIS’S texts have
sold in many languages,
and won awards including
the Smarties Prize (Silver),
Sheffield Children’s Book
Award and Red House
Children’s Book Award.

BRYAN FITZGERALD is an
Irish illustrator studied at
the National College of
Art and Design in Dublin
and won the Bologna Fair
International Silent Book
Competition in 2014.

PADMACANDRA grew up in Scotland, lives in Norfolk
and graduated from the Cambridge School of art.
She is a buddhist, works part time with the elderly,
and teaches meditation

PICTURE BOOKS
A little girl hears a bird which is frightened away by some cats fighting. As she searches for her bird, she encounters many other intriguing animals and insects. Then, after sitting down to listen to and enjoy the sounds of nature all around, suddenly her bird comes back!

- Mindfulness and meditation will be appreciated by adults and children alike
- Wellbeing – via the sights and sounds of the natural world
- A simple text using poetry and repetition which will be a joy to re-read many times
- Brings together the themes of this collection: being at one with nature, observing, being patient, keeping your senses receptive

Three titles already available:

‘Perfect for encouraging little ones to find their green fingers get their knees muddy and have a wonderful time.’
NORTH SOMERSET TEACHERS BOOK AWARD REVIEW

‘Effectively simple...conveys its crucial environmental message without a hint of preachiness.’
BOOKS FOR KEEPS

‘With short rhythmic text and glowing illustrations it is set to be a story read over and over again.’
ANGELS AND URCHINS

Longlisted for the Klaus Flugge Prize

‘This simple look at a sunflower life cycle and the seasons is again pitch perfect for the very young.
A small piece of brilliance.’
RED READING HUB

‘A superb little book for early years kids, encouraging them to try growing their own things.’
READ IT DADDY

‘Follow the journey of a tiny seed to a big, fat, orange pumpkin!
This book shares with young readers the delight of working with nature, and shows the need to be patient.’
READING ZONE

‘A gorgeous book to share with the young and likely to be the start of many adventures in the garden.’
LOVE READING 4 KIDS

Shortlisted for the Teach Early Years Awards 2021

Rob Ramsden lives and works in Suffolk as an illustrator and educator. He’s the dad of the boy who saw a bee! As a keen gardener, Rob has become the student, and the pollinators have become his teachers; his type of gardening is strictly about the wildlife.

IN THE GARDEN: A collection of titles which encourage young children to relate to the natural world.

I heard a bird. I breathed in – listening.
I heard my breathing, my heart beating . . .

April 2023
240 x 240 mm, 32pp, Age 2+

PICTURE BOOKS
FOLLOW MY FOOD is a stylish, narrative non-fiction series to help children understand and appreciate where their food comes from. The books encourage environmental awareness and respect for the animals and people who produce food.

Being able to buy fruit to eat is something we take for granted, but what if we had to grow our own?

In the fourth book of this quartet, a little girl helps Granny Pip as she plants fruit bushes, feeds them with fertiliser, prunes and then harvests.

- Starts in autumn and moves through the year, showing what plants do in each season
- We see how much hard work it is all year round to grow fruit
- We experience the joy of harvesting fruit, eating it fresh and preserving what is left over.
- Encourages children to get engaged and ask questions

About the Follow My Food series
- Each title is introduced by a different child who observes the production of the milk, honey, eggs and fruit.
- Full of information and new vocabulary, but presented in a simple and stylish way using colourful paper cut art
- Quiz and fun facts at the end, to challenge both young children and their parents to find out more together

Follow Shelly Hen as she searches for food, hangs out with her flock and lays a tasty fresh egg.

‘The series would be a wonderful addition to discussions on sustainability.’
THE SCHOOL LIBRARIAN

‘A perfect introduction to how milk is produced…There is rich vocabulary: herd, parlour, dusk, bulge, guzzles, and a word quiz and milk facts reinforce new word learning.’
JUST IMAGINE

‘Bright, clean, papercut illustrations create some striking spreads…the text is fact-filled but never dull.’
BOOKS FOR KEEPS

‘The simple, bold illustrations are attractive and informative, and there’s just the right level of detail to enable young people to understand how a jar of honey is produced.’
BOOKTRUST

‘A really gorgeous, engaging and colourful non-fiction book for young children.’
THE BOOK DELI

Deborah Chancellor has written over a hundred books for children, from toddlers to teenagers, and been shortlisted for the Little Rebels Award.

Julia Groves has designed and illustrated a range of baby books and picture books, and been nominated for the Progressive Pre-School Awards.
John Agard and Satoshi Kitamura

PICTURE BOOKS

China Ronshin
Japan Iwanami Shoten
US and Canada Scallywag Press

‘This is a book which invites quite young children to consider the importance of language, and how difficult, or even impossible, life would be if it were denied to us.’

SCHOOL READING LIST
‘A powerful picture book about communicating emotions and relating to fellow creatures, from an award-winning duo.’

CENTRE FOR LITERACY IN PRIMARY EDUCATION

John Agard is a poet, playwright and short story writer who grew up in Guyana. He has won many prizes, including the Smarties Book Prize, the CLPE Award and the Queen’s Gold Medal. He has been a writer-in-residence at the BBC, the South Bank and the National Maritime Museum, and he tours widely giving performances and speaking to students.

Currently living in Japan, Satoshi Kitamura has created over 20 of his own picture books, and illustrated the work of many prominent authors. His books have been translated into more than 20 languages and won awards including the Mother Goose Award, Silver Award for the Smarties Prize, and the National Art Library Illustrations Award.

China Ronshin
Romania Pandora
Spanish Oceano
Taiwan Taosheng
Korea Montessori

‘A surreal and dramatic story that shows the power of imagination - with the most beautiful illustrations! I cannot recommend it highly enough!’

I TEACH THINGS
‘We loved the quirky, slightly surreal feel of this imaginative night-time encounter with a giant octopus.’

DANDELION LONDON

‘Before each page turn is a visual clue as to who will pop out of the hat next, providing lots of interaction opportunities and making reading the book an adventure for both little ones and their parents.’

LANCASHIRE EVENING POST
‘A masterfully crafted story for tots, impeccable in its apparent simplicity, yet with all the elements of tension, resolution and surprise needed in a good story. Perfection!’

CAROUSEL

Satoshi Kitamura

‘A beautiful book to share and use to remind us that money isn’t necessary to be happy, and that kindness costs nothing but makes the world a nicer place to be a part of.’

WHAT I READ
‘A book to ponder upon and discuss across a wide age range.’

RED READING HUB
‘A captivating and surprising picture book packed with intricate illustrations and a strong message - that kindness is more important than money.’

BOOK TRUST

Nominated for the Kate Greenaway Award

‘The juxtaposition of child and dog’s divergent perceptions of the same journey taken together is done with Kitamura’s genius mix of the real and surreal.’

RED READING HUB
‘A perfect introduction to childhood fears. It provides an opportunity for children to discuss the things that frighten them at home, in school or when they are out and about.’

JUST IMAGINE

China Ronshin
Romania Pandora
Taiwan Taosheng
Korea Montessori

260 x 230, 32pp, Age 4+

216 x 216, 28pp with gatefold
Age 3+
China Ronshin
Romania Pandora
Spanish Oceano
Taiwan Taosheng
Korea Montessori

240 x 275mm, 32pp, 2+

Shortlisted for the BookTrust Storytime Prize
Nominated for the Kate Greenaway Award

France Gallimard
Dutch De Vier Windstreken
Slovakia Fortuna Libri
Japan BL Shuppan
Korea Interpark
Spanish Oceano
USA Peachtree
China Folio
Hebrew Steimatzky

China Ronshin
Romania Pandora
Taiwan Sun Color
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216 x 216, 28pp with gatefold
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Hebrew Steimatzky
Abigail can’t concentrate in class, and gets bored and naughty! Luckily the teacher knows just what to do, and Abigail ends up finding a special voice of her own.

- A mainstream book that celebrates Special Needs - readers and families will identify with the protagonist who displays symptoms of ADHD, but with the right encouragement, ends up triumphing.
- Recognises a need for sensitive books about neurodiversity

**ME AND MY SISTER** celebrates the highs and lows of having a much loved but differently abled sibling.

**TALKING IS NOT MY THING** explores the many ways a non-verbal person can communicate, contribute and have fun.

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On a cold afternoon in January, Brian sees a little Christmas tree, stripped of its decorations and discarded by the roadside. He immediately decides to take it home with him and look after it . . . But will it be as easy as he thinks, and will his family be pleased?

- Exciting debut title that is both empathetic and endearing
- Evocative watercolour artwork reminiscent of Posy Simmonds and Raymond Briggs
- Themes of responsibility for your own decisions, and for the environment
- Contains a touch of magic, perfect for Christmas!

Longlisted for the Klaus Flugge Prize 2021
Ivy Newt has a new mystery to solve. Why does the spooky house over the bay only appear for one day every Halloween?

Naturally Ivy’s parents have forbidden her to go investigating the creepy old house, and naturally she sets off just to fly over and have a look! Soon they are wrapped up in a new adventure: a race against time to break a powerful spell and outwit a crazy sorcerer, all before the last stroke of midnight...

Do you like magic? Do you like mysteries and adventure? Then welcome to the world of Ivy Newt – an exciting new chapter book series packed with lively and entertaining illustrations.

Ivy’s parents, the King and Queen of the Sand Witches, have prepared her a show-stopping birthday present – a magic act where they disappear! But hold on, they really have disappeared! Ivy and her friend and familiar Tom must set off on a perilous quest, travelling all over Miracula on broomsticks and flying carpets to rescue Ivy’s parents from the Storm Witch.

• Wonderful world-building from Derek Keilty, author of the acclaimed Flyntlock Bones series
• Complete with magic spells, crystal balls, shape shifting, wizards and witches
• Suitable for boys and girls, with a girl protagonist but 2 strong boy characters
• Fun and adventure, with themes of justice, kindness and helping each other
• Kindly and comical characters, a nasty bully who gets taught a lesson, and fantastical settings are all illustrated with humour, quirkiness and imagination, bringing even more drama and life to every page
• Includes a gallery of characters and map

By accident, Gran’s magic bubble bath creates pesky Ivy and Tom lookalikes, intent on some serious mischief! All too soon, they have made dangerous doubles of the swamp dragons, who launch a fiery attack on Miracula. Can the real Ivy and Tom stop them before everything goes up in smoke?

Book 4 will have a vampire theme

DEREK KEILTY lives in Belfast. Author of many books for children and shortlisted for the Children’s Books Ireland Award Derek takes storytelling and creative writing workshops to local schools.

MAGDA BROL was born in Wroclaw, Poland, and now lives in South London. Her books include When the Crocodiles Came to Town, Storytime, and Pirates Don’t go to School.

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When Flynn applies for the job as cabin boy on the Black Hound, he doesn’t expect it to be a pirate ship. But soon he’s setting sail for the Seven Seas, on a perilous quest to recover ancient treasure bound by a magical curse…

In book two, a priceless golden chalice has been stolen from Fergus McSwaggers, fearsome chief of the squelchy Bog Islands … and he wants it back!

And finally in the last volume, the Countess of Bohemia’s jewels have been stolen by a ghost. Not just any old ghost, but the ghost of Captain Scarletbeard, the scariest pirate who ever lived! Flynn and the crew of the Black Hound descend the murky depths to Davy Jones’s Locker, where they uncover a ghoulish plot that threatens the survival of the Seven Seas…

It’s a brilliant twist on pirate stories, combining all the best bits – think treasure maps, swashbuckling, suitably grumpy pirate cooks, walking the plank, pirate grog – with a mystery thriller narrative’

‘Has a timeless, classic feel … illustrations that really have the wow factor’

‘Combines a fun and imaginative story with some important messages of hope, courage, self-belief, and animal cruelty.’

In a medieval land where dinosaurs still roam, lowly stable boy Henry Fairchild joins the brave Dino Knights and rides into adventure on the back of a T-Rex.

• Combines two popular and child friendly themes – knights on horseback and dinosaurs: Camelot meets Cretaceous!
• For reluctant readers but not only. Themes of equality, kindness, loyalty, bravery and family.
• Dramatic b/w ills by Jeff Crosby with map, gallery of characters, playful chapter headings and dino glossary
• Film option sold, one of the 3 large global streamers is investing in development

‘You like knights? You like dinosaurs? Watch out your head might just explode. A simple but effective mash-up for newish readers and fans of How to Train Your Dragon and the Beast Quest series. Norton imagines the medieval era but with dinos’