



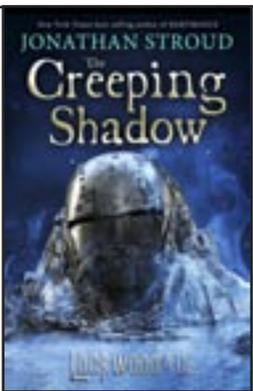
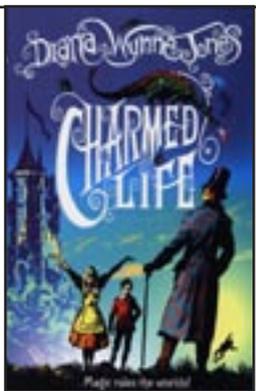
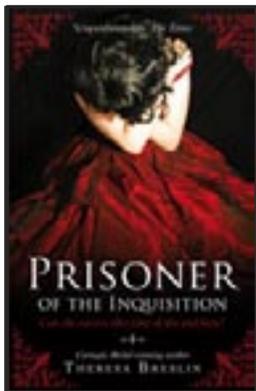
Celebrating 45 Years of
LAURA CECIL

LITERARY AGENT
FOR
CHILDREN'S BOOKS

17 Alwyne Villas
London N1 2HG

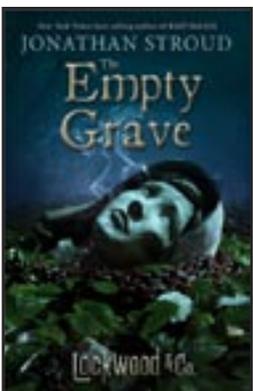
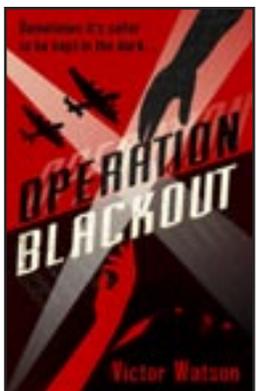
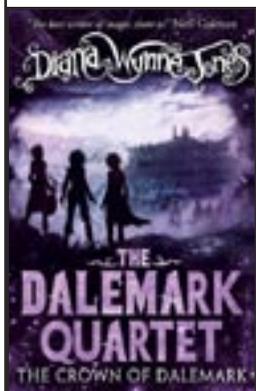
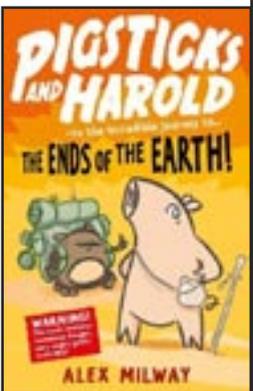
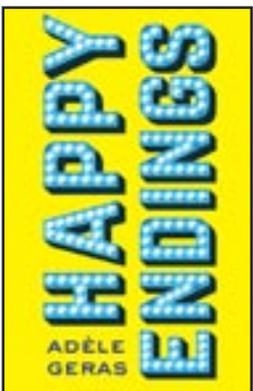
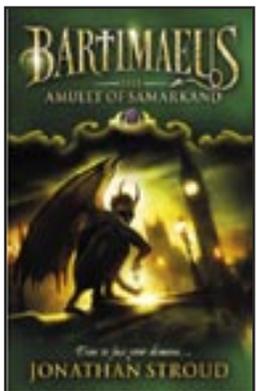
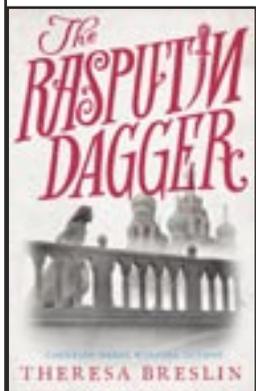
(0044) (0) 20 7354 1790
info@lauracecil.co.uk

www.lauracecil.co.uk



LAURA CECIL

LITERARY AGENT FOR CHILDREN'S BOOKS
New Writing & Fiction: Autumn 2017



NEW WRITING

Anneka Freeman	
<i>The Electric Detective</i>	2
Alex Milway	
<i>Werewolf</i>	4
<i>Pirate Island</i>	6
<i>Hotel Flamingo</i>	8
Victor Watson	
<i>Time After Time</i>	10

17 Alwyne Villas, London N1 2HG, England
(44) (0) 20 7354 1790
info@lauracecil.co.uk
www.lauracecil.co.uk



Anneka Freeman

Anneka was raised in Northern Virginia, in a Pre-Revolutionary log cabin. Writing was her first love and continues to be her main obsession (followed closely by Lord of the Rings, Star Wars and British Literature).

She got her BA from Randolph-Macon Woman's College and majored in Political Science and Creative Writing with Honors.

After that, Anneka ran her own small antiques business before moving to the UK, where she got her MA in Writing for Young People from Bath Spa University. Since then, she has returned to North Virginia.



THE ELECTRIC DETECTIVE

Victoria City is a metropolis in the clouds; the solar-powered heart of human civilization, but to a newly arrived immigrant like Hana Moss, it's just overwhelming. The struggling med student from the Red Colony is desperate for a roommate, and she finds one in Hols Keller.

Unfortunately, Keller turns out to be a difficult roommate: she hogs the data cloud, plays music at all hours, and as a student detective, she sometimes invites murderers into their living room. Plus, she's a cyborg.

Moss soon gets swept up in her roommate's crime-solving adventures, which carry the odd pair up to luxury resorts in outer space, and down into the haunting, sunken ruins of Old London. But living life on the edge soon catches up with Keller in a big way, and Moss is the only one who can save the detective from herself.

This gripping sci-fi/detective adventure is a fresh take on the familiar Sherlock-Watson characters. Anneka Freeman envisions a bright but dangerous solar-punk future that gleefully blurs the line between human and machine and, imagines a London of the future that literally rises above the ruins of an environmental disaster.

Extract from THE ELECTRIC DETECTIVE

Mrs. Troy whirled on me and I took a step back. But she was fast — faster than me. I had to jump to keep the couch between us. Mrs. Troy stalked forward. She looked like some ancient hag of vengeance, righteous, but terrifying with her face set in a deep scowl and her iron-grey hair haloed around her head. I wondered if this was the last thing that Thurston Marra saw too. I wondered if he deserved it.

"You shouldn't use your cybernetic enhancements like this," I said, still breathless from that punch. "Dialling up the strength like that is hell on your spine and your joints."

"You telling me that as a medic?" She dodged to one side, and I reacted without thinking. I stepped away from the couch, towards the wall, and then she was there, right in front of me.

"No," I said. I felt my back hit the wall. "As a patient." I struck up, hitting her under the chin with a hard undercut from my left hand. My left hand being the one I lost in the war. The one that was fully cybernetic, shoulder to fingertips. Her head snapped back and she dropped, back of her head cracking on the floor. I stared down at her, shock already numbing my limbs — 'cept the left one. I could already feel the reaction — an ache radiating out from my shoulder and down across my back. I'd hurt for days for that punch. Like I said, dialling up the strength on a prosthetic like that is hell on your spine. But I couldn't think much about that. Had I really just punched out someone's grandma? Samran's grandma?

Stars above — had I killed her? Had she killed Keller? I tore my eyes away from the old lady lying on the floor and staggered across the room to the shattered clock face. The hole was jagged with shards of glass like knives, and the minute hand was bent from where it had slashed through Keller's side. But not bloody. For a hysterical moment, I thought that maybe it had just caught her clothes — like the fall wouldn't have killed her.

I leaned out, careful to not touch the sharp edges of the hole. I looked down. There was Keller, lying on the street with her limbs all splayed out. I clapped my hand over my mouth — her arm had come clean off like a broken doll's. And there was a gash in her side, a clean slice through clothes and skin, exposing the red underneath, but —

But it wasn't blood, or guts.

It was wires.

Age: Teen

Alex Milway

Alex Milway attended art college in Shrewsbury when he was 16, followed by completing an art degree in Cheltenham, where he won a David Murray Landscape Award from the Royal Academy. He then moved to London and worked in the world of magazines, where he discovered his love of writing.

Alex burst on to the children's book scene with his highly original THE MOUSEHUNTER TRILOGY, published by Faber & Faber.



He has gone on to write and illustrate two series for Walker Books: THE MYTHICAL NINTH DIVISION for ages 7-11, and PIGSTICKS AND HAROLD for ages 5-7.

Alex is a co-founder of the This Book is Funny campaign. @ThisBooksFunny

WEREWILF



When young Wilfred Strong is bitten by a scratty little ratdog in the local park, he's thrown into a hilarious canine adventure.

The bite changes Wilfred in many ways. Now, when he is overcome by strong emotions or sensations, he transforms into a useless little lapdog, too small to even climb the stairs.

Sure, he gets a whole new

range of dog-like superskills, such as amazing hearing and excellent smell. But these skills come at a price when he can't control his changing.

With the help of his friends, Wilfred Strong must learn to cope with his new canine condition. He'll need to survive school while keeping his changing a secret, as well as find the dog that bit him. If he's ever going to get back to normal, he'll need to use all of his wits and new skills to solve that mystery.

But this is no normal boy we're talking about. This is WEREWILF!

Extract from WEREWILF

Amit's focus was back on the game. He passed the ball to Meg, who passed to Ed. They were trying to baffle me, but I stood firm. My eyes were locked on the ball. Was he going to shoot?

Just as his foot connected with the ball, that little terrorist dog pelted into view. No longer carrying the yoga mat, it leapt into the air and caught our ball between its teeth, shaking it left and right in a deathgrip.

"Hey!" said Ed, running after it. "Give it back! That was going in!"

"Fat chance," I cried.

"Don't chase the dog!" said Meg, "It'll think you're playing with it."

"Here doggy!" said Amit. "Here!"

The dog wasn't listening. The little ball of furry fury turned to me. I sensed it wanted to score. Like a bull to a red rag, it charged.

"Come on then, doggy," I said. "Nothing gets past me."

But the dog was quick and nimble. It ducked and weaved, and tied my legs in knots. And it ran straight into the goal. Beaten by a dog!

"That dog's better than you, Ed," said Meg laughing.

"NO WAY!" I cried. I wasn't having that. I ran after the tiny mutt and dived, catching the ball in my fingers. It was a head-to-head battle. The dog pulled. I pulled back.

"FIGHT!" cried Ed.

"Use your muscles!" said Amit.

And I did. I snatched that ball right out of the mouth of that dog like a sweet from a baby. And that's when IT happened.

The ratdog clearly wasn't happy at losing the ball. It started to foam at the mouth, growling. Its lip lifted above its pin-sharp fangs, its jaw opened wide and then it bit me on the leg. IT BIT ME!

I yelped a pathetic little yelp, as it didn't hurt much, but the dog wouldn't let go. I started dancing like an idiot, with my legs and arms spinning around like windmills, and that creature clung on despite flying about the place. I looked to my friends for help, but they were rolling on the floor in hysterics.

"Help me!" I pleaded. "Get it off!"

"I can't... I can't get up," said Amit, crying with laughter.

With a bit of a firmer shake, the dog eventually released its grip and shot off through the air like a hairy meteor. It hit the ground at pace and never looked back as it vanished into the woods. My friends eventually picked themselves up off the ground, struggling to breathe from laughing so hard.

PIRATE ISLAND: THE TREASURE HUNT CHALLENGE



When all young deckhands are of seafaring age, they are sent off to Pirate Island, the place where piratical dreams are made!



Pirate Island follows the lives of a group of young wannabe pirates as they learn the ropes on the infamous colony.

There'll be class bullies, angry parrots, treasure hunts, shipbuilding competitions and hazardous games of Walking the Plank.

PIRATE ISLAND: THE TREASURE HUNT sees young Jim arrive on Pirate Island for the first time, where he is greeted by his teammate Rats, who is not happy to be lumped with a landlubber.

The pair's first task is to complete the Treasure Hunt challenge, and the team who fails will be banned from pirating...forever!



But Rozilla the Red - the most fearless pirate on the waves - is determined to steal all the treasure for herself. If there's none left to be won, all the students will be sent home. Jim and Rats must persuade the other teams to join forces to defeat Rozilla.

But first, Jim must head to Parrotier Flynn Macaw's shop to see which parrot fancies being his...



Extract from PIRATE ISLAND: THE TREASURE HUNT CHALLENGE

Jim rang the bell, and Flynn Macaw welcomed them in.

"My final new recruit," said Macaw, cheerfully. "Come on in! I love pairing pirates with parrots."

He showed Jim a line of parrots, all different sizes, all happily sqwarking and chattering.

"Do I just choose one?" asked Jim, liking the look of a bright green bird with a tuft of red feathers on its head.

"Oh no, my young deckhand," said Macaw tutting. "So much to learn..."

"Pirate Law says that only a parrot can choose its owner," said Rats. "You have to wait and see which one chooses you!"

"And how do I know?" asked Jim.

"You'll know," said Rats, grinning.

Macaw shooed his parrots into the air and they circled the room in a whirlwind of colour. Jim quickly lost track of the parrot he'd wanted. And then, like being hit by a very wet snowball, Jim was struck by a dollop of goopy parrot poo.

"There we have it!" cried Macaw, excitedly.

All the parrots flew back to their perches except for one giant blue bird, who swept down and landed on Jim's head.

"Ah," said Macaw, in a worrying tone. "It would seem that you've been picked by Polly."

"What's wrong with Polly?" asked Jim, who was struggling to see the bird on his head. She felt heavy, that was for sure.

"Oh...nothing really," said Macaw, as though he was quite pleased to be seeing the back of the bird. "It's often said that a pirate gets the parrot they deserve, not what they want!"

"What does that mean?" asked Jim worriedly.

"Try training her," said Macaw. "Read your guide, and keep her entertained."

"I'll give it a go," said Jim.

Jim and Rats left the store and Macaw offered a few final words of help.

"Parrots like wormy treats. Keep a few in your pocket at all times! They'll do anything for a treat," said Macaw, passing Jim a handful of soggy worms.

Macaw gave Polly a worm to eat, but she spat it onto the floor in disgust.

Jim heard the door click shut behind them, and he tried to prise Polly's claws off his head. She wasn't keen on moving.

"Are they always like this?" he asked.

Rats wandered off with a smile on her face. Her parrot, Spot, was behaving herself beautifully.

HOTEL FLAMINGO



When young Anna inherits a dilapidated once-glorious hotel, she's determined to return it to its former glory. The only issue is that her staff and guests are all animals, each with their own particular needs.

Can Anna make the Hotel Flamingo a success once more? And can she please all her visitors all the time?

Anna quickly learns that running an animal hotel is no easy task, especially when the building needs as much care as the guests.

There would be four books in the Hotel Flamingo series, with each book representing a different season, charting the exploits of Anna and her staff, and their changing fortunes and guests.

Extract from HOTEL FLAMINGO: SPRING

Before long, the queue of animals stretched through the foyer and out into the dining room. To save time Lemmy called them, two-by-two, into Anna's office. The interviews were as concise as Anna could manage, and she very quickly had a good idea of who she wanted working for her. She asked the successful candidates to stay behind after the others had left.

The chosen few were:

Eva Koala, who was cheerful and keen to work in the restaurant.

Madame le Pig, a famous chef who was terrifying, but brilliant.

Squeak, a quiet and retiring mouse, who was a fully trained elevator operator.

Hilary Hippo, a very precise cleaner and laundry specialist.

And of course, with the revolving door now revolving with ease, Geraldine the Giraffe was on the books.

Anna asked everyone to line up.

"Welcome to Hotel Flamingo!" she said, walking up and down the line like an officer addressing her troops. "This is the hotel where memories are made! And all of you are now here to help make them."

Lemmy's smile couldn't have been wider. He loved his hotel more than anything. T.Bear stood staring proudly at his newly fixed revolving door. Getting in and out was all he ever cared about, and now it would be a lot easier for everyone. Everything was going to plan.

"SO! Where is my kitchen?" demanded Madame le Pig. "I have a menu to create!"

Everyone started to quiver. Her snort was that scary.

"Over there..." said Anna, pointing.

"I will say this only once," added Madame le Pig, stomping off. "DO NOT DISTURB ME!"

"Can I go and stand in the elevator?" asked Squeak, nervously shuffling backwards.

Anna nodded in approval.

"And look at the dust in here!" said Hilary Hippo. "I need to start right away before we all sneeze to death! Where is the vacuum cleaner?"

Anna frowned. She'd spent hours cleaning the foyer and was dismayed by the very thought she'd done a bad job. However, this was exactly the attitude she wanted in her staff: perfection. She pointed to a cupboard and Hilary started work.

Victor Watson

PARADISE BARN, the first book in the Paradise Barn series, was shortlisted for the Branford Boase Award for Outstanding First Novel.

Victor's follow-up to the Paradise Barn series was EVERYONE A STRANGER, which won the children's category of the **East Anglian Award**.

Reviews of the Paradise Barn series:

"Well imagined and cleverly plotted."
Nicholas Tucker, IBBY

"A terrific mixture of mystery and adventure."
Julia Eccleshare, LoveReading4Kids

"A cracking series which I thoroughly enjoy and genuinely get excited about reading when a new book is released. Looking forward to the next instalment." **Goodreads**



TIME AFTER TIME

There are three children, each in a different historical period. The Anglo-Saxon girl, Saewara, travels through an empty countryside where danger lurks behind every tree. Young Thomas, in Napoleonic England, travels bravely by himself to the local town, hoping to buy cheap children's stories from the mysterious travelling dealer. And Zara, freely texting her best friend on her smartphone, longs to overcome the crippling shyness which makes it almost impossible for her to speak.

They all encounter loneliness, uncertainty and fear, strangely baffling adults, and sometimes stark danger. They know nothing of each other – but their stories are linked by some mysterious stones from a Roman mosaic, by a wood with a quiet forgotten crossroads at its heart, and by story-tellers everywhere.

TIME AFTER TIME shows how we are all linked to history, that it is everywhere around us and often literally under our feet. How different peoples and cultures have come and left their stamp on Britain, all blending over years to make one story. Victor Watson's book recalls Alan Garner's Stone Book quartet in its vision of the past's connection with the present, but has a unique flavour of its own.

Extract from TIME AFTER TIME

I moved away into the shadows. I moved like a weasel. Or a fox in the darkness. I hid Guthlac's leather bag of gold-gifts inside my tunic, and hung the wooden box with his harp on my shoulder. The gold-hoard was small and light. The harp-chest hindered my running.

Inside the wood there was a tree, leaning with age. Its boughs were steps rising into the stars. I hid the bags and the harp in the undergrowth and climbed.

Girls do not climb trees in midwinter woods. But I was a girl in boy's clothes.

I heard their words, in greeting, Guthlac and the strangers. Then Guthlac grunted. I looked back and saw him in the light of the fire. His tall body bent at the knees and at the waist. Guthlac fell, his life-blood gushed from his throat, and his spirit fled to its long home. I saw Guthlac, the brave minstrel, cut down by thieves.

He was an old man. I heard his death-ghost whisper as it passed over me on its way.

They searched among the cooking pots, seeking gold-hoard. They spoke in anger, finding nothing. There was a boy! He had a boy!

My grass-marks were clear in the hoar-frost. They saw my foot-prints running to the trees. In my fear I know that when the story-teller reaches his end the story goes on.

I was the story.

I jumped down from the stair-tree. I grabbed the gift-bag and the harp, and ran in the darkness. There was a chase, ruthless and deadly, in the leafless winter wood. Twigs snapped and dead frozen leaves rustled at my feet. I could not run quietly. We crashed through the trees, the boy-girl in flight, the robber-killers in chase. Guthlac's harp swung and thumped on my back, and the wires twanged inside its case. Breath rasped and heart hammered. Fear filled me. I tripped, I fell, low branches whipped my face.

I was a girl. I was not fast enough. I carried a leather bag and the thin wooden box with straps.

I heard them following, cruel and bloody, the five thieves who had murdered Guthlac, crashing through trees. Their blood was up. They were behind me, breathing hard, with sharp knives drawn.



FICTION FOREIGN RIGHTS

Theresa Breslin	14
Adele Geras	16
Diana Wynne Jones	18
Philippa Pearce	22
Jonathan Stroud	24
Robert Westall	28
Backlist	30



Theresa Breslin

Theresa's debut novel won the **Kathleen Fidler Award**, and she went on to win the **Carnegie Medal** with *WHISPERS IN THE GRAVEYARD*, her remarkable story about a boy with dyslexia.



Her work has been sold in more than ten languages and dramatised for TV and radio. Her novel *DIVIDED CITY* has been adapted as a musical and staged by the Glasgow Citizens Theatre.

"A palpable sense of place and of history informs all of Breslin's novels, including those which hurl their protagonists into distant realms and eras."

Books for Keeps

*"Breslin's ability to weave a well-researched, page turning plot around sympathetic, believable characters has been displayed before in *The Medici Seal* and *The Nostradamus Prophecy*."* **The Times**

"(Breslin's) writing is expertly paced, never self-indulgent or pretentious"
Linda Buckley-Archer, The Guardian

"One of the best contemporary writers for young adults" **Literature for Lads**

THE RASPUTIN DAGGER

As a child, Stefan is rescued by Dr Konstantin from the massacre outside the Winter Palace in St Petersburg 1905. Now a young and idealistic apprentice to the doctor, he wants change for Russia and to free its people from the hated Romanoff dynasty.

Nina Ivanovna's world has just collapsed. Her father is dead, her only hope is to travel to St Petersburg, to escape the past and find a future.

Amidst the chaos of a city in revolt, the two meet and...slowly, being to fall in love.

But soon Nina finds herself drawn into the lives of the Russian royal family and their mysterious monk - Grigori Rasputin. The ruby-studded dagger he carries, beautiful and deadly, will save her and Stefan from a cursed life...or condemn them to it.

In the centenary year of the Russian Revolution, Theresa Breslin's epic drama brings to life the turbulent and complex times leading up to the events of 1917.

"...a thrilling tale of political action and love...Breslin evokes compassion for the hapless Imperial family, without losing sense of the crisis facing Russia's people, and seamlessly inserts her characters into the events leading to the rise of the Bolsheviks." **Financial Times**

"Breslin's young adult book takes on some big themes from Russian history and makes them accessible to all." **Irish Independent**

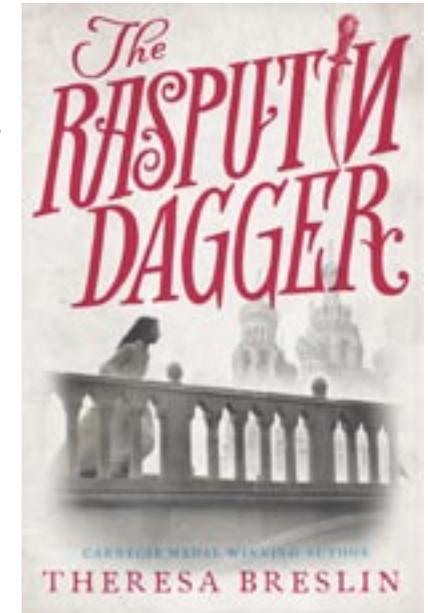
"A wonderful historical novel, filled with fear and violence, starvation and romance." **The Bookwitch**

"Rich with historical detail, this fascinating and epic tale will sweep you away whilst reminding us of the chaos and turmoil of the Russian revolution."

South Wales Evening Post

Age: Teen

Published by Penguin Random House (UK)



Adele Geras

Adele Geras is one of Britain's most acclaimed writers for young people. Her work, ranging from young adult fiction to ghost stories and picture books, includes TROY (shortlisted for the Whitbread Award, the Carnegie Medal and the Guardian Award), and the EGERTON HALL trilogy.

Her young adult novel ITHAKA, a companion volume to TROY was selected by New York Public Library as one of its 'Books for Teen Age'.

"Geras has a wonderful knack of creating characters who walk off the page."

The Guardian

"Geras writes with imagination and grace."

Kirkus Review

Praise for TROY:

"Powerful, clear and compassionate."

Philip Pullman

"A brilliantly imagined tale..not to be missed."

The Sunday Times



HAPPY ENDINGS

A Sixteen-year-old Mel expects a dull summer - until she gets the part of Natasha in a student production of Chekhov's Three Sisters. At the first rehearsal the director predicts, "You'll begin to feel as though the rest of the world has never existed and does not exist."

And it's true; suddenly Mel is consumed with rehearsing, running lines backstage, painting sets, and hanging out with the cast and crew.

She grows especially close to Clare, a beautiful set and costume designer who has a complicated past. And then there's Mike, who plays the dutiful, philosophical Vershinin. His kind smile and quiet presence intrigue Mel, but he never spends time with the other actors, and as the weeks pass, she wonders what he's hiding.

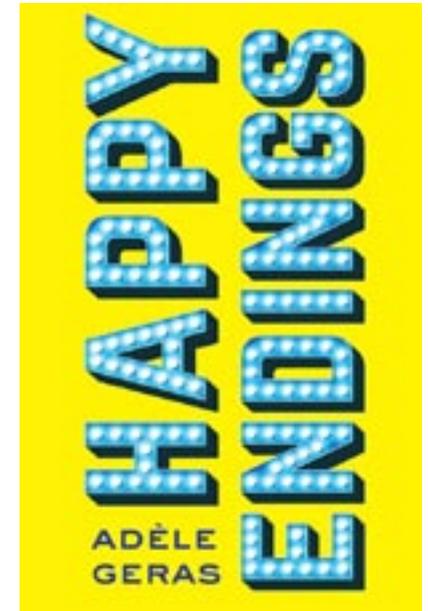
More and more, her life in the theatre is all that matters to Mel. But when she witnesses an intimate encounter between the director and actress with more ambition than compassion, Mel fears that her new-found world - and the production itself - may fall apart.

Set in the early 1960s, Adele Geras' novel brings alive the unique excitement of being part of a theatre company and being on stage.

"A glimpse of what it's really like to be on stage." **Kirkus Reviews**

"An engrossing depiction of the grit and glamour of the theatre."

Publishers Weekly



Age: YA

Paul Dry Books (US)

Diana Wynne Jones

Diana Wynne Jones is recognised internationally as a major writer of fantasy and in 2008 received the **Life Achievement Award** at the World Fantasy Convention. Diana died in March 2011 after a long illness.



Her books have been translated into nearly thirty languages. Awards she has won include the **Guardian Award** and the **Mythopoeic Fantasy Award** (twice). *HOWL'S MOVING CASTLE* was made into an animated film by Japanese director Hayao Miyazaki, and nominated for an Oscar.

"Wynne Jones belongs to an elect clan of the most treasured of British children's authors, creating her own unique brand of fantasy." **The Guardian**

"One of this country's most talented and inventive writers of speculative fiction... At her death her status as the doyenne of fantasy writers was not in dispute." **Charlie Butler, Independent**

"Her hallmarks include laugh-aloud humour, plenty of magic and an imaginative array of alternate worlds. Yet, at the same time, a great seriousness is present in all of her novels, a sense of urgency that links Jones' most outrageous plots to her readers' hopes and fears." **Publishers Weekly**

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF

CHARMED LIFE

- * Won Guardian Award
- * Highly Commended for Carnegie Medal
- * Silver Pencil Award

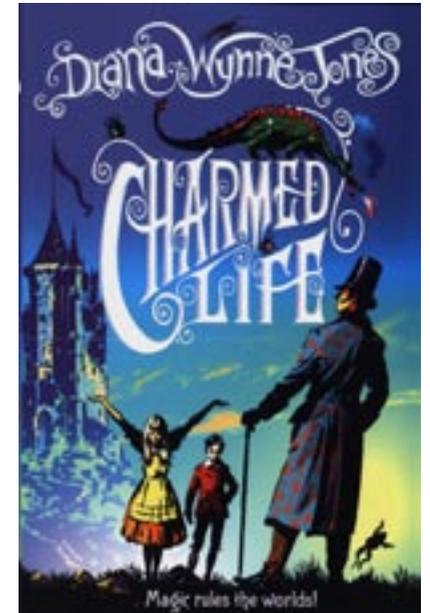
Everybody says that Gwendolen Chant is a gifted witch with astonishing powers, so it suits her enormously when she is taken to live with the enchanter, Chrestomanci. Her brother Eric (better known as Cat) is not so keen, for he has no talent for magic at all.

However, life with the great enchanter is not what either of them expects and sparks begin to fly!

"Set in a time vaguely reminiscent of Edwardian England, the novel resumes the existence of numerous worlds - past, present and future - each with its own history. The concept is ingenious...and shy small Cat intimidated by his selfish sister, is a particularly appealing character."

The Horn Book

"Outstandingly inventive and entertaining." **Times Literary Supplement**



CHARMED LIFE is the first book in the Chrestomanci series, followed by:

THE PINHOE EGG
THE LIVES OF CHRISTOPHER CHANT
CONRAD'S FATE
THE MAGICIANS OF CAPRONA
WITCH WEEK
MIXED MAGICS

"The Chrestomanci chronicles fall beautifully into that 'after Harry Potter, what next?' slot, and pre-dating Potter as they do, are no mere read-alikes...exciting, surprising and hugely enjoyable." **The Bookseller**

Age: 10 - 12 years

HarperCollins (UK), Greenwillow, HarperCollins (US), Artline (Bulgaria), Gallimard (France), Salani (Italy), Tokuma Shoten (Japan), Moonhakedogne (Korea), Azbooka-Atticus (Russia), Anaya (Spain), Ithaki (Turkey), Vydavnytstvo Staroho Leva (Ukraine)

The Dalemark Quartet

For centuries, Dalemark has been a land divided by the warring earldoms of the free North and the tyrannized South. Now, with the help of the Undying, the mysterious gods of Dalemark, four extraordinary young people - from the past, present, and future - must join forces to reunify their beloved land.

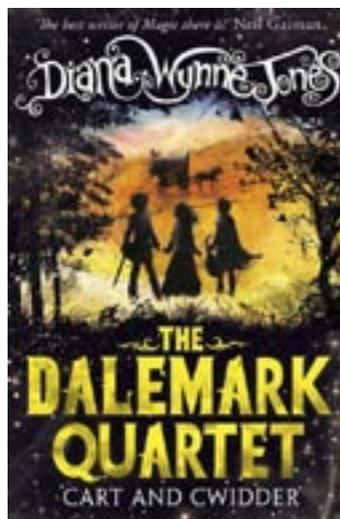
CART AND CWIDDER

Moril and his family are travelling musicians journeying through Dalemark, but when a mysterious stranger joins them, their carefree world quickly falls apart.

Who is the stranger and why is Moril bequeathed an ancient magical cwidder?

"One more highly individual piece from a writer always surprising, always impressive."

Sunday Times

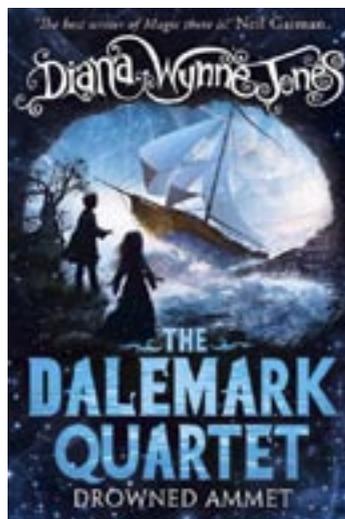


DROWNED AMMET

When the Freedom Fighters plot to kill the tyrannical ruler of Holand, Mitt is keen to take the chance to get his revenge on the people who killed his father. But when the plot goes horribly wrong, Mitt finds himself alone and on the run in a dangerous place, full of enemies...

"The evoking of magical powers is strong, idiosyncratic and interesting...Diana Wynne Jones has always been an exceptionally inventive writer"

Penelope Farmer



THE SPELLCOATS

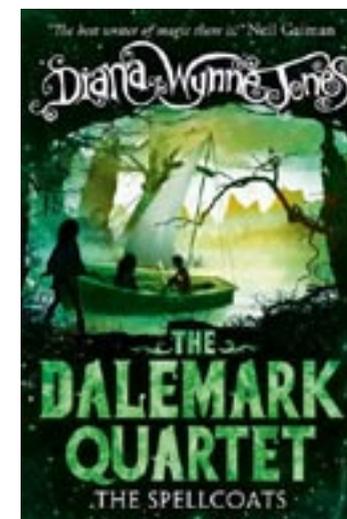
When the villagers turn against them, Tanaqui and her siblings are forced to flee their home for the sea. Along the way, she realises the part she must play in defeating the wicked Kankredin, who lies in wait at their journey's end...

"One of Jones' best books...brilliant."

Twentieth Century Children's Writers

"This is one of those books which goes on in the mind long after the last page."

Junior Booshelf



THE CROWN OF DALEMARK

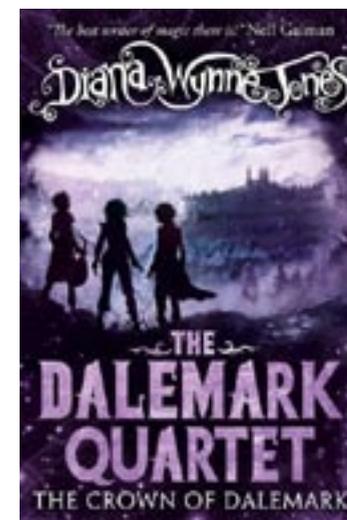
Mitt has fled to North Dalemark, but finds that he can only save the lives of his friends by murdering the heir to the Crown of Dalemark. He must try to unite Dalemark, but will he succeed against the evil forces of Kankredin?

"This is Jones at her most inspired."

Financial Times

"Once read, it's hard to forget...this slice of richly detailed and invented history that confounds any notion of fantasy. This is solidly real in a way few writers can achieve."

Books for Keeps



Age: 10 - 12 years

HarperCollins (UK), Greenwillow, HarperCollins (US), Tokyo Sogen-sha (Japan), Azbooka-Atticus (Russia)

Philippa Pearce

Philippa Pearce is the author of the classic children's book TOM'S MIDNIGHT GARDEN (Oxford University Press), which won the **Carnegie Medal** in 1958, and has remained in print ever since.

"A classic in the front rank of children's literature" **Twentieth Century Children's Writers on TOM'S MIDNIGHT GARDEN**

Philippa's other novels include MRS COCKLE'S CAT, THE WAY TO SATTIN SHORE, A DOG SO SMALL and THE LITTLE GENTLEMAN.

In 1997 she was **awarded an O.B.E** for her services to children's literature.

"Pearce's artistry lay in her ability to see with a child's eye and convey the intense emotions and enlarged perceptions of childhood." **Times Obituary**

"...she had an innate wisdom" **The Guardian Obituary**

"All Pearce's books have this strange, unobtrusive power. They seem like simple fantasy or adventure stories, but somehow they never leave you." **Frank Cottrell-Boyce**



FAMILIAR AND HAUNTING

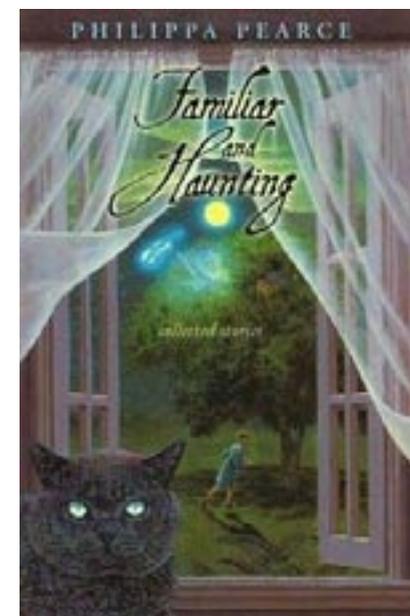
A collection of thirty-seven stories previously published in books or magazines, including tales of animals, ghosts, and everyday life.

Peopled with vivid, unforgettable characters, these stories are by turns mysterious, humorous, strange and sad, but they are always familiar, always haunting and always surprising.

"Fans of Philippa Pearce will savour each of the 37 tales." **Publishers Weekly**

"Philippa Pearce shows that it is possible to mix quality writing with popular appeal." **Books for Keeps**

"Pearce demonstrates her masterful delineation of a territory she has made particularly her own. This child-centred territory is peopled by grandparents, widows and widowers, mysterious neighbours, houses soaked in story, loners and ghosts. The stories are atmospheric, literally: the air in Pearce's world is filled with wind, birdsong, and, most especially, tension." **The Horn Book**



Age: 9 - 12 years

Penguin Random House (UK & Commonwealth incl Canada), Nonjang (Korea)

Jonathan Stroud

Jonathan is the author of the world acclaimed Bartimaeus Trilogy:

THE AMULET OF SAMARKAND

THE GOLEM'S EYE

PTOLEMY'S GATE

The trilogy was sold to 37 countries and featured on the Bestseller lists in the UK, US, Japan and Germany, and was followed by the prequel, THE RING OF SOLOMON.

The series has sold more than 7 million copies worldwide, with individual titles receiving the **Mythopoeic Fantasy Award for Children's Literature** and the **Grand Prix de l'Imaginaire** and the **Corine Youth Award**.



Four books in Jonathan's latest series - Lockwood & Co - have now been published, and the fifth and final book will be published in Autumn 2017.

"An author who never disappoints" **The Independent**

"I was instantly captivated by his masterful storytelling and delightful wit and above all his genius for taking desiccated conventions and breathing new life into them." **Science Fiction World**

"Stroud is a genius at inventing an utterly believable world which is very much like ours, but so creepily different." **Rick Riordan**

"I can't think of another modern series that makes for quite such entertaining reading." **Andrea Reece for LoveReading4Kids on Lockwood & Co**

THE EMPTY GRAVE (Lockwood & Co Book 5)

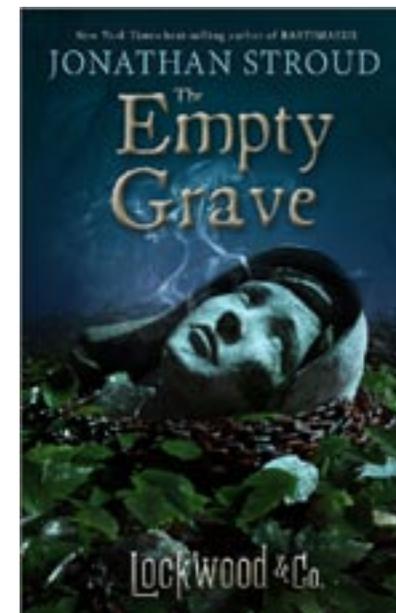
The thrilling climax to the Lockwood & Co series

After their recent escapades, Lockwood & Co deserve a well-earned break...naturally they decide to break into the country's most heavily-guarded crypt.

What they discover there will change everything. So begins a race to uncover the truth behind 'the Problem' - igniting an epic battle against the Fittes agency A battle that will force the team to journey to the Other Side, and pit them against the most terrifying enemy they have ever faced.

Not everyone will make it out alive...

The film and TV rights for the Lockwood series have been optioned by Big Talk Productions, with plans to adapt the books for a television series.



"Stroud's prose is evocative...His humour is also perfectly judged, never undermining the terror, but allowing the reader to bask in the camaraderie of London's smallest, most slapdash and unlikely ghost-hunting agency." **Imogen Russell-Williams for The Times Literary Supplement**

"Stroud has an unmatched ability to mix humour with excitement." **Nicholas Tucker for Books for Keeps**

"An expertly crafted concoction of gut-wrenching fear and side-splitting hilarity." **The Sci-Fi Bulletin**

"A gripping read which will have you laughing and gasping and groaning in equal measures." **The Bookbag**

"A first-rate adventure, full of memorable, original characters." **Carolyn Phelan for Booklist**

"...a fitting and extraordinary end to a remarkable series; I am very envious of those who are yet to discover Lockwood & Co..." **Playing by the Book**

Age: 10 - 12 years

Published by Penguin Random House (UK), Hyperion (US), Albin Michel (France), Bertelsmann (Germany), PT Gramedia (Indonesia), Luitingh- Sijthoff (The Netherlands), Exmo (Russia)

THE SCREAMING STAIRCASE (Lockwood & Co Book 1)

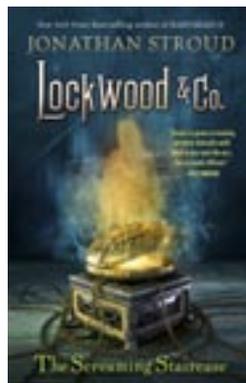
- * Won Cybils Award
- * Won Wereads Prize
- * Won Look Hoos Reading Award
- * Won Paranormal Category of Book Bloggers UKYA Award
- * Won Nevada Young Readers Award
- * Winner of Prix Chimère 2016
- * Shortlisted for Booktrust Best Book Award
- * Finalist for LA Times Book Prize
- * Waterstones Book of the Month

“Assured and nimble.” **New York Times**

“...genuinely spooky and suspenseful...and all shot through with Stroud’s dry wit.” **The Guardian**

“A delicious mixture of bone-dry wit and spooky shocks.”
Suzy Feay, Financial Times (Books of the Year 2013)

“A heartily satisfying string of entertaining near-catastrophes.” **Kirkus Reviews**



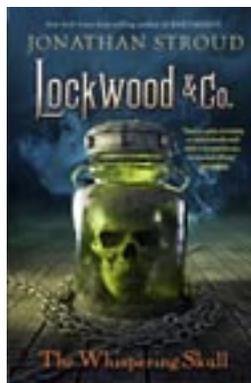
THE WHISPERING SKULL (Lockwood & Co Book 2)

- * Nominated for Carnegie Medal
- * Won PNFI Award (Indonesia)
- * Listed on Guardian Children’s Best Books of the Year
- * Longlisted for UKLA
- * YALSA Amazing Audiobook

“In fine form, Stroud sends Lockwood & Co on a trail that leads from an upper-crust social event to the mucky margins of the Thames and into dust-ups with thugs, rival agents and carloads of ectoplasmic horrors...rousing adventures...” **Kirkus Reviews**

“A blissful read.” **The Evening Standard**

“Plenty of humour alongside the chills.” **The Financial Times**



Age: 10 +

Penguin Random House (UK), Hyperion (US), Artline (Bulgaria), Shanghai Zui Co Ltd (China - Simplified), Euromedia (Czech Republic), Carlsen (Denmark), Pegasus (Estonia), Albin Michel (France), Bertelsmann (Germany), Animus (Hungary), PT Gramedia (Indonesia), HaKursa (Israel), Salani (Italy), Shogakukan (Japan), Garam (Korea), Luitingh-Sijthoff (Netherlands), Schibsted (Norway), Rao (Romania), Exmo (Russia), Slovart (Slovakia), Montena Random House (Spain), Massolit (Sweden), Arkadas (Turkey), Nha Nam (Vietnam)

THE HOLLOW BOY (Lockwood & Co Book 3)

- * Selected for Book Editor’s Choice
- * Won Paranormal & Supernatural Fiction Awards (Indonesia)
- * Nominated for Stora Ijudbokspriset Audiobook (Sweden)

“Younger readers may well have a fight on their hands with older members of the household for first go at a novel that is such a continual pleasure to read.” **Nicholas Tucker, The Independent on Sunday**

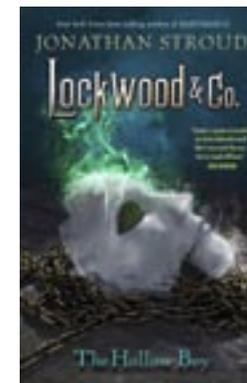
“Excellent pacing, fine descriptive passages, and a wry sense of humor.” **Booklist Starred Review**

“Readers are once again treated to inventive world-building, memorable characters, and edge-of-your-seat pacing.” **The Horn Book**

“Pleasantly nightmare-inducing and as captivating as its predecessors..”
School Library Journal Starred Review

Age: 10 +

Penguin Random House (UK), Hyperion (US), Artline (Bulgaria), Shanghai Zui Co Ltd (China - Simplified), Luitingh-Sijthoff (Netherlands), Albin Michel (France), Bertelsmann (Germany), PT Gramedia (Indonesia), Exmo (Russia), Massolit (Sweden)



THE CREEPING SHADOW (Lockwood & Co Book 4)

- * Selected for Good Reads Good Choice Award

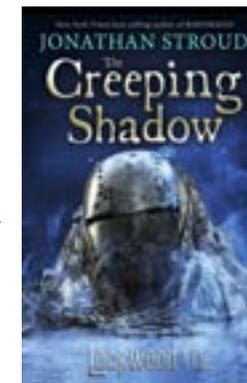
“It’s cozy and terrifying; no matter how ghastly the apparition, Lockwood & Co always find time for tea and cake.” **Suzi Feay for the Financial Times**

“...while there are occasional moments of gruesome horror, overall the abiding atmosphere in this beautifully written story is one of enduring positivity...” **Nicholas Tucker for Books for Keeps**

“In this fourth instalment of the ghost hunting series, you sense that there might be a bigger picture, some plan as yet only hinted at. And that’s exciting.” **Bookwitch**

Age: 10 +

Penguin Random House (UK), Hyperion (US), Shanghai Zui (China - Simplified), Albin Michel (France), Bertelsmann (Germany), PT Gramedia (Indonesia), Luitingh- Sijthoff (The Netherlands), Exmo (Russia), Massolit (Sweden)



Robert Westall

Robert Westall made a sensational debut with *THE MACHINE GUNNERS* in 1975. It won the **Carnegie Medal** and established Westall with an international reputation.

He went on to write several children's classics such as *THE SCARECROWS* (**Carnegie Medal**), *BLITZCAT* (**Smarties Award**), *KINGDOM BY THE SEA* (**Guardian Award**), and *GULF* (**Children's Book Award**).

Robert Westall died in 1993 at the age of 63.

"Westall was a writer of rare talent. We shall miss him, but he has left us such a wonderful legacy."

Michael Morpurgo

"...a writer who managed to combine literary excellence with a talent for capturing the imagination and interest of child, and, in particular, young adult readers."

Julia Eccleshare, Times Obituary



SPECTRAL SHADOWS: THREE SUPERNATURAL NOVELLAS

Spectral Shadows consists of three supernatural novellas by Robert Westall, collected together for the first time.

BLACKHAM'S WIMPEY

Why should three successive crews flying a Second World War bomber - Blackham's Wimpey - be driven to madness, despair, even death, though the plane returns from each mission without a scratch?

"A writer of disturbing brilliance." **Times Educational Supplement**

THE WHEATSTONE POND

Too many deaths, too many suicides. It was more than coincidence. The Wheatstone Pond was a killer. When it's drained, antique dealer Jeff Morgan gets interested, hoping there'll be a few valuable wrecks of model boats down there. He isn't prepared for the horror he will find instead...

"Gutsy and energetic, grippingly plotted." **Guardian**

YAXLEY'S CAT

Sepp Yaxley vanished seven years ago, and no one has seen him since. Rose and her children Tim and Jane thought his vacant cottage, alone by the marshes, seemed like the perfect place for a holiday adventure. But that was before they decided to find out what happened to old Yaxley. Before they started to find strange things in the garden. Before the neighbours began to act weird. Before Yaxley's cat came back...

"Calls to mind Hitchcock's creepiest films." **Publishers Weekly**



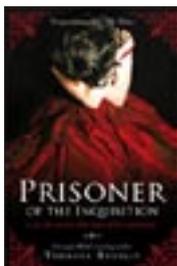
Age: YA/Adult

Valancourt Books (World English)

Backlist

For details of sales in foreign territories consult the website:

www.lauracecil.co.uk



TERESA BRESLIN

PRISONER OF THE INQUISITION

- *Winner of Young Quills Prize
- *Shortlisted for Carnegie Medal
- *Chosen as Top Book by young people shadowing Carnegie Medal
- *Shortlisted for UKLA Children's Book Award
- *Shortlisted for Northern Ireland Book Award

RIGHTS SOLD IN 3 COUNTRIES

PUBLISHED BY RANDOM HOUSE UK

AGE: YA



CECILIA BUSBY

THE SPELL SERIES (FROGSPELL, CAULDRON SPELLS, ICE SPELL AND SWORD SPELL)

- *Richard & Judy Children's Book Club Choice in Partnership with WH Smith

RIGHTS SOLD IN 4 COUNTRIES

PUBLISHED BY BONNIER PUBLISHING

AGE: 7-11



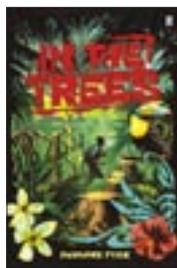
NICHOLAS FISK

GRINNY

PUBLISHED BY BONNIER PUBLISHING

FLIM RIGHTS OPTIONED

AGE: 10-12



PAULINE FISK

IN THE TREES

PUBLISHED BY FABER & FABER

AGE: YA

Backlist

For details of sales in foreign territories consult the website:

www.lauracecil.co.uk



PHILIPPA PEARCE

THE LITTLE GENTLEMAN

RIGHTS SOLD IN 7 COUNTRIES

PUBLISHED BY PUFFIN

AGE: ALL AGES



JONATHAN STROUD

THE BARTIMAEUS TRILOGY

- *Winner Mythopoeic Fantasy Award 2006, Grand Prix d'Imaginaire

THE AMULET OF SAMARKAND

- *Winner of Boston Globe / Horn Book Award

THE GOLEM'S EYE

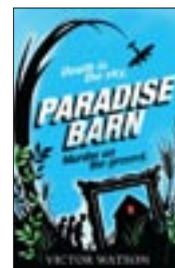
PTOLEMY'S GATE

- *Winner of Corine Award 2006

RIGHTS SOLD IN 37 COUNTRIES

PUBLISHED BY RANDOM HOUSE UK

AGE: 12+



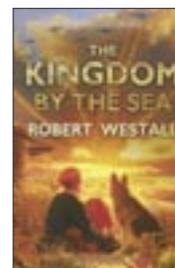
VICTOR WATSON

PARADISE BARN SERIES

- *Shortlisted for Branford Boase Award

PUBLISHED BY CATNIP

AGE: 12+



ROBERT WESTALL

THE KINGDOM BY THE SEA

- *Winner of The Guardian Award

- *Shortlisted for the Carnegie Medal

RIGHTS SOLD IN 7 COUNTRIES

PUBLISHED BY HARPERCOLLINS UK

AGE: 9 +

