

# BAROR INTERNATIONAL



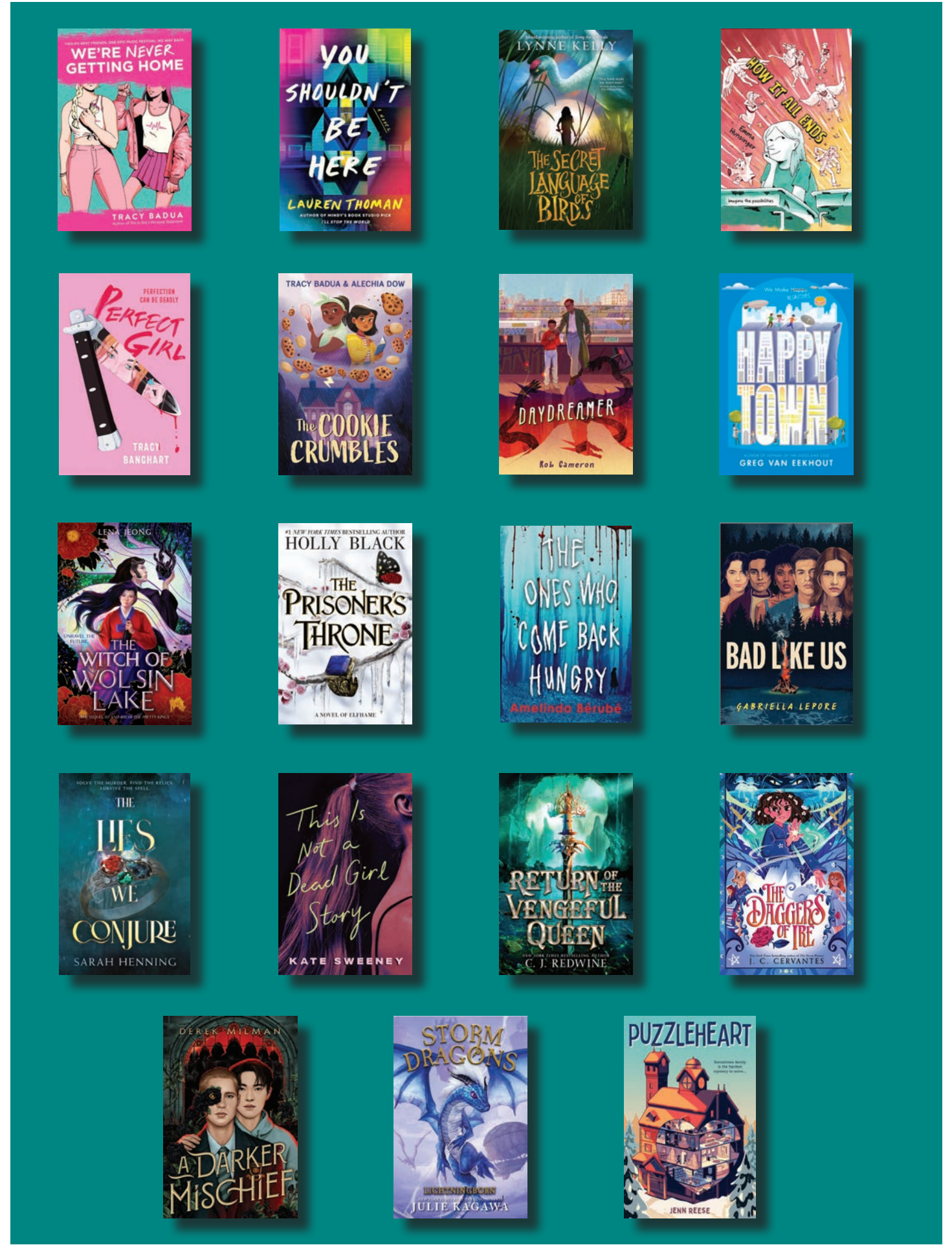
## ***Rights Guide***

***Spring 2024***

***YOUNG ADULT & CHILDREN'S***

**table of contents**

- BADUA, TRACY - WE'RE NEVER GETTING HOME (1)
- BADUA, TRACY - THEA AND THE MISCHIEF MAKERS (2)
- BADUA TRACY & ALECHIA DOW - THE COOKIE CRUMBLES (3)
- BANGHART, TRACY - THE PERFECT GIRL (4)
- BERUBE, AMELINDA - THE ONES WHO COME BACK HUNGRY (5)
- BLANKENSHIP-KRAMER, CAREY - GHOST SCOUTS HONOR (6)
- BLACK, HOLLY - THE PRISONER'S THRONE (7)
- CAMERON, ROB - DAYDREAMER (8)
- CERVANTES, J.C. - THE DAGGERS OF IRE (9)
- FOODY, AMANDA - WILDERLORE: THE NIGHT COMPASS (10)
- HENNING, SARAH - THE LIES WE CONJURE (11)
- HUNSINGER, EMMA - HOW IT ALL ENDS (12)
- JEONG, LENA - THE WITCH OF WOL SIN LAKE (13)
- KAGAWA, JULIE - STORM DRAGONS: LIGHTNINGBORN (14)
- KELLY, LYNNE - THE SECRET LANGUAGE OF BIRDS (15)
- LEPORE, GABRIELLA - BAD LIKE US (16)
- LEWIS, JESSICA - NAV'S FOOLPROOF GUIDE TO LOVE (17)
- MILMAN, DEREK - A DARKER MISCHIEF (18)
- MONTBLANC, C.L. - PRIDE OR DIE (19)
- REESE, JENN - PUZZLEHEART (20)
- REDWINE, C.J. - RETURN OF THE VENGEFUL QUEEN (21)
- SWEENEY, KATE - THIS IS NOT A DEAD GIRL STORY (22)
- THOMAN, LAUREN - YOU SHOULDN'T BE HERE (23)
- UPPERMAN, KATY - EVERYTHING I PROMISED YOU (24)
- VALLDEPERAS, RJ - THEIR WILL UNDONE (25)
- VAN EEKHOUT, GREG - HAPPY TOWN (26)



# WE'RE NEVER GETTING HOME

## Tracy Badua

Quill Tree Books, April 2024

HBO's *Insecure* meets *Dazed and Confused* in this messy, tender YA novel about a friendship breakup, set against the backdrop of a chaotic night at a music festival, from rising talent Tracy Badua.

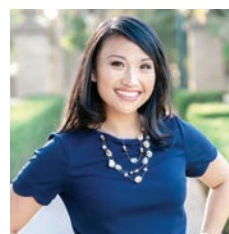
Jana Rubio and her best friend, Maddy Parsons, have an epic senior year finale queued up: catching their favorite band at the Orchards, an outdoor music festival a two-hour drive away. When a blowup over Maddy's time-sucking boyfriend exposes a rift that may have already been growing between them, Jana calls off their joint trip and gets a lift to the festival from her church friend Nathan...only to realize Maddy and her boyfriend are along for the ride, too.

All Jana wants is to enjoy the concert and get home as soon as possible. But then Nathan loses his car keys crowd-surfing, and it's up to Jana and Maddy to find them. As they navigate stolen phones and missing friends, scale Ferris wheels and crash parties, the two of them are forced to reckon with the biggest obstacle of all: repairing their friendship.

Will Jana and Maddy find their way home—and also back to each other?



**Tracy Badua** is an award-winning Filipino American author of books about young people with sunny hearts in a sometimes stormy world. By day, she is an attorney who works in national housing policy and programs, and by night, she squeezes in writing, family time, and bites of her secret candy stash. She lives in San Diego, California, with her family.



# THEA AND THE MISCHIEF MAKERS

## Tracy Badua

Clarion Books, October 2024

In this magical middle grade adventure that's perfect for fans of Lisa Yee and Erin Entrada Kelly, star athlete Thea must face her worst fears when two mischievous duwendes, Filipino goblins, threaten to wreak havoc on her life—and destroy her town.

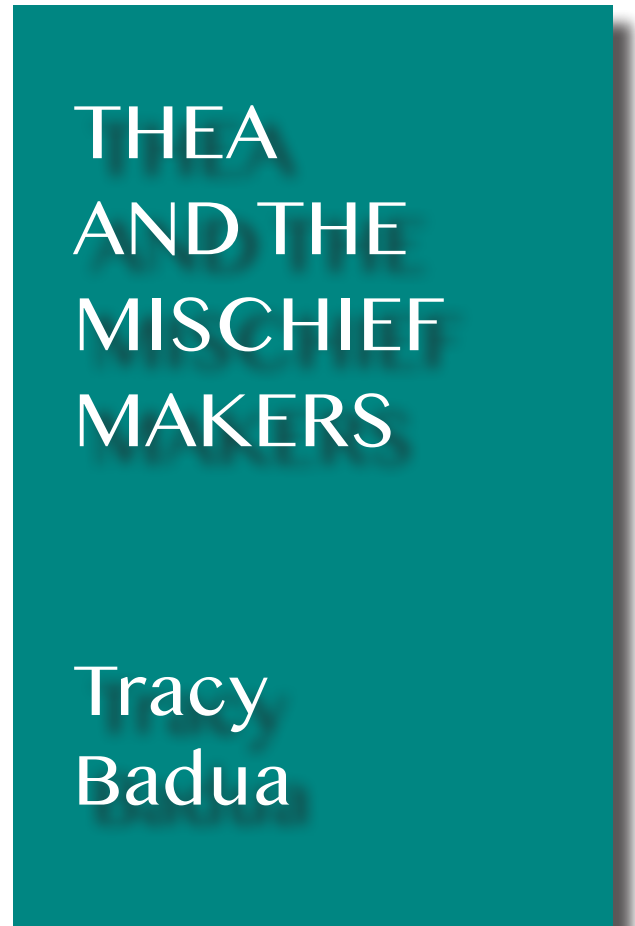
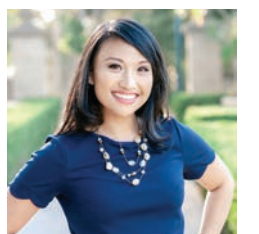
Thea gets a chance to begin anew at Coastview Academy. There, she's a star athlete, someone with friends and popularity.

But disaster strikes at Junior Stunt Warrior summer camp with her new friends: Her extremely uncool former best friend, Evan, shows up too, and she discovers that stunt class is the one activity she's not good at. Actually, it's something she's terrified of. It all reminds Thea of the shy, invisible version of herself she's determined to leave behind.

Then, in the midst of building a practice obstacle course, Thea wrecks a tree that a pair of grumpy duwendes—Filipino goblins—call home. She's shocked that not only are duwendes real, but the two in her backyard want revenge.

Now Thea must team up with friends new and old to fend off the duwendes before they destroy her entire neighborhood. But can she pull it off while saving her cool-girl image, too?

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# THE COOKIE CRUMBLES

## Tracy Badua & Alechia Dow

Quill Tree Books, June 2024

*The Great British Bake Off* meets *Knives Out* in this fun and propulsive middle grade novel following two best friends who must solve the mystery behind a baking competition gone awry.

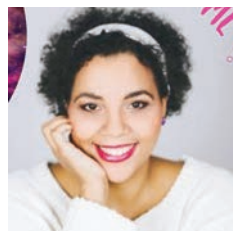
Laila gave Lucy a cupcake on the second day of kindergarten, and they've been inseparable ever since. But the summer before eighth grade, they find out that since they live on opposite sides of town, they'll go to different high schools. Yuck!

Then Laila's invited to compete at the Golden Cookie competition, which awards its winner admission and a full ride to the prestigious Sunderland boarding school, and it's the perfect opportunity. Sunderland doesn't just have an elite culinary program; it's also home to an elite journalism track, if only newscaster-hopeful Lucy could build up a strong enough portfolio to impress the scholarship committee.

But when one of the celebrity judges collapses after sampling Laila's showpiece, rumors of foul play swirl, with Laila rising to the top of the suspect list. Even worse, a major storm has effectively cut off all access to the outside world.

Can the girls find the real culprit and clear Laila's name before it's too late?

**Tracy Badua** is an award-winning Filipino American author of books about young people with sunny hearts in a sometimes stormy world. By day, she is an attorney who works in national housing policy and programs, and by night, she squeezes in writing, family time, and bites of her secret candy stash. She lives in San Diego, California, with her family.



**Alechia Dow** is a former pastry chef, a librarian, and an award-winning author of acclaimed young adult sci-fi fantasies, several short anthology pieces, and magical (sometimes mysterious) middle grade stories. When not writing, you can find her having epic dance parties with her family, baking, reading, taking teeny adventures, and exploring her local food scene.



# PERFECT GIRL

## Tracy Banghart

Feiwel & Friends, November 2024

A fabulous new young adult suspense novel!

Jessa has been raised to be the “perfect girl.” She is unfailingly polite, never rocks the boat, and always follows the rules—no matter what. Her friends love to give her a hard time for being such a goody two-shoes, but Jessa likes it this way. She knows what's expected of her, and she's happy to be the person her parents (and society) want.

When a freak storm takes out the power during a sleepover at Jessa's creepy, old house, things go south before the pizza gets cold. Her friends are at each other's throats, unexpected guests keep showing up (some more welcome than others), and it's not just her brother serving up jump scares. A killer looking for the perfect girl has targeted Jessa, and she'll have to reject everything she's been taught if she wants to keep herself—and her friends—alive until sunrise.

Who knew perfection could be so dangerous?

**Tracy Banghart** grew up in rural Maryland and spent her summers on a remote island in northern Ontario. All of that isolation and lovely scenery gave her the time to read voraciously and the inspiration to write her own stories. Always a bit of a nomad, Tracy now travels the world Army-wife style with her husband, son, cat, and sweet pupper Scrabble.



# THE ONES WHO COME BACK HUNGRY

## Amelinda Berube

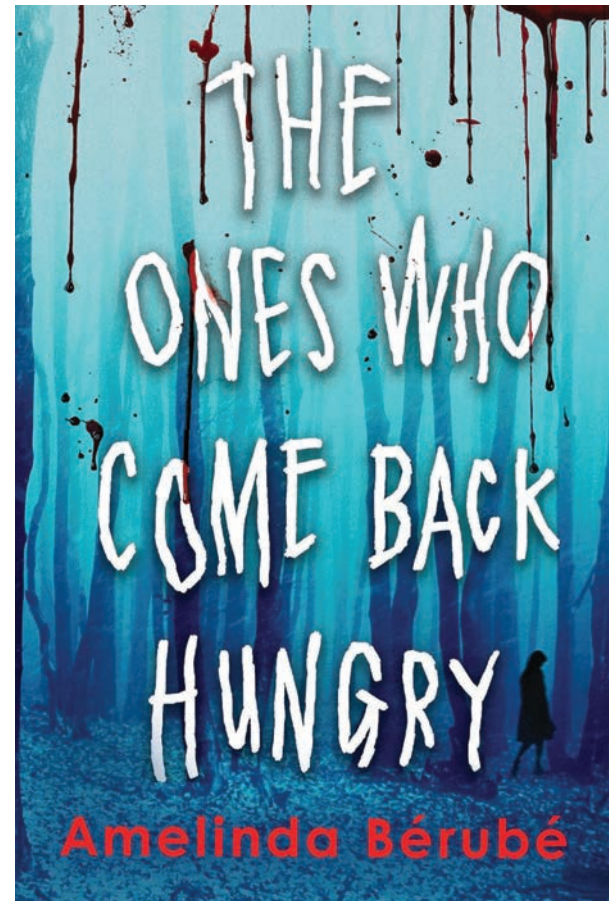
Sourcebooks Fire, July 2024

From the author of *Here There Are Monsters* comes a chilling supernatural horror that is part terrifying vampire legend and part modern exploration of toxic relationships wrapped up in a novel about hunger, yearning, and loss.

After the sudden death of her perfect, popular older sister, Jo and her family feel empty. But days after crying at Audrey's graveside, Jo stumbles on the impossible: Audrey, standing barefoot in the snowy backyard. But Audrey isn't breathing. She's still marred with the evidence of an autopsy. She's decaying. And worst of all, Audrey is hungry, and only human blood can curb her relentless appetite.

Jo knows she can put her family back together; she just has to figure out how to fix Audrey. She hides her sister and sustains her with her own blood, determined to figure out how to keep Audrey with them. When her search takes her to her sister's grieving inner circle of friends, Jo finds herself drawn into their fold—and to Audrey's boyfriend, Sam.

As Jo slips further into her sister's old life, Audrey's hunger and jealousy grow more insatiable. She's not going to sit back and let Jo replace her or, worse, discover the secrets hidden beneath her golden girl facade. As Jo struggles to juggle everything she will be forced to decide which of her loved ones needs her the most—and who she's willing to sacrifice to save them.



**Amelinda Bérubé** has been a writer and editor with a small department in the Canadian public service. She holds a bachelor of humanities from Carleton University and a master of arts from McGill. Amelinda is also the author of *The Dark Beneath the Ice* and can be found on Twitter @metuiteme. Visit [amelindaberube.com](http://amelindaberube.com).



# GHOST SCOUTS HONOR

## Carey Blankenship-Kramer

Scholastic, January 2025

A spooky middle grade!

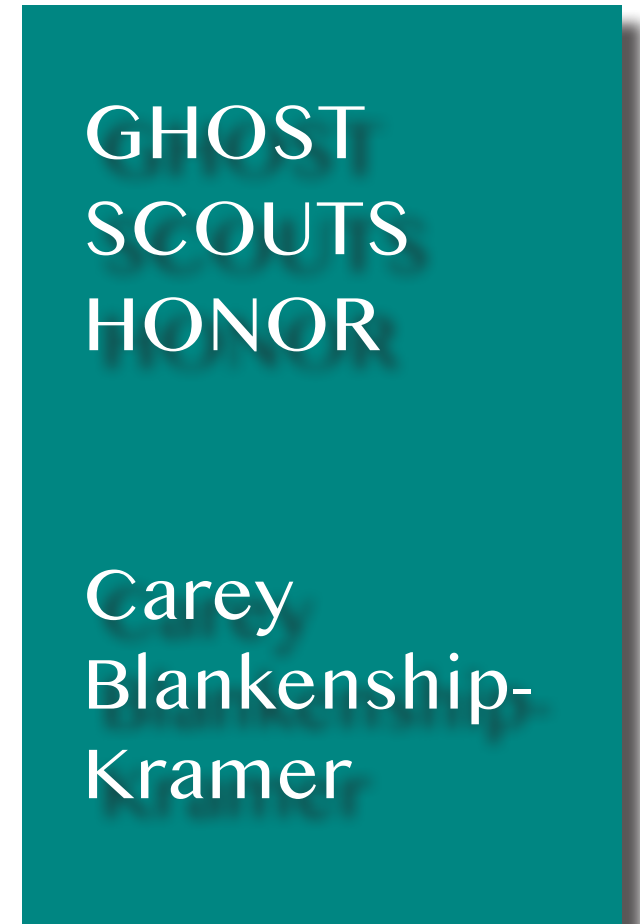
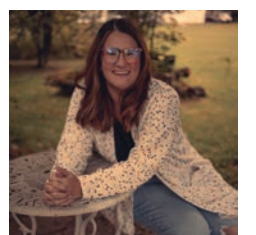
*The Babysitters Club* meets *Ghostbusters* with queer and neurodiverse characters.

12-year-old Evey lives in Savannah, Georgia, where ghosts have haunted the city since 1866. Only children see the rotting corpses that haunt dark corners of houses, so The Ghoul Scouts were created to patrol the city at night, watch over haunted houses, and stop the ghost from terrorizing the city.

After a nasty friendship break-up, Evey swears off anything that isn't getting her closer to winning Blanchard Middle School's student of the year award. If she can earn that, she'll prove to her ex-best friend Laura that she's fine without anyone's help. That is until, thanks to dwindling volunteer numbers, anyone wanting the student of the year award is required to volunteer with the Ghoul Scouts. Unfortunately for Evey, Laura is the head of the Ghoul Scouts. To make matters worse, she's paired with Matilda, her school rival and her main competition for the award.

While Evey tries her best to guarantee her win by taking charge at every haunted babysitting gig, she uncovers information about a secret ghost that is threatening to destroy the town and the unexpected conspirators working to cover it up. But the ghost's story holds the key to a darker, deeper mystery that could explain why spirits haunt Savannah in the first place. She'll have to decide if she can lean on her Ghoul Scout group to help and forget the promise she made to never trust others again or risk the lives of everyone in Savannah- including her own.

**Carey Blankenship-Kramer** is a writer and publishing professional. She works full time as a senior accountant manager, junior agent at Belcastro, and kidlit author, crafting stories to promote education and allow children the opportunity to see themselves represented.



# THE PRISONER'S THRONE

## Holly Black

From the #1 New York Times bestselling author Holly Black comes the stunning blood-soaked conclusion to the Stolen Heir duology.

*An imprisoned prince. A vengeful queen. And a battle that will determine the future of Elfhame.*

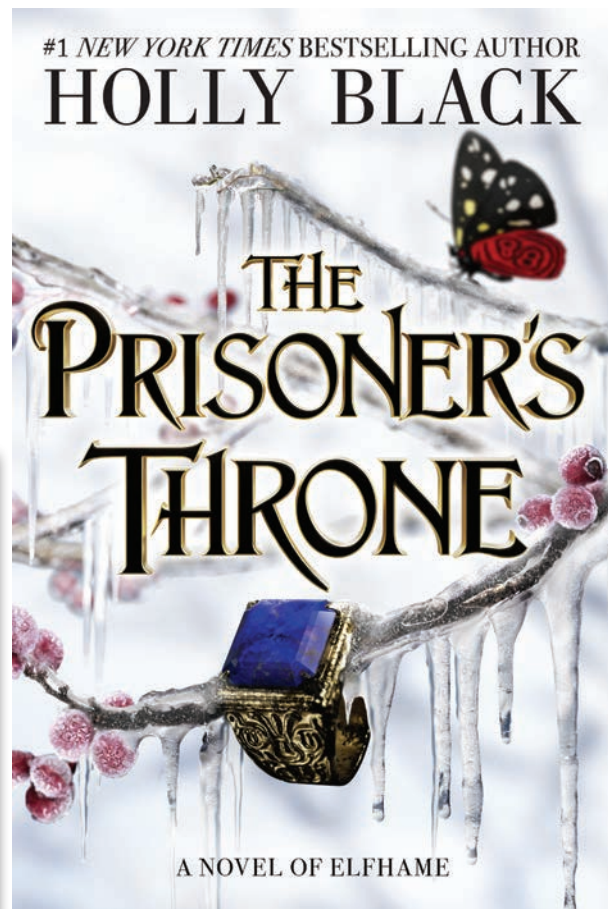
Prince Oak is paying for his betrayal. Imprisoned in the icy north and bound to the will of a monstrous new queen, he must rely on charm and calculation to survive. With High King Cardan and High Queen Jude willing to use any means necessary to retrieve their stolen heir, Oak will have to decide whether to attempt regaining the trust of the girl he's always loved or to remain loyal to Elfhame and hand over the means to end her reign—even if it means ending Wren, too.

With a new war looming on the horizon and treachery lurking in every corner, neither Oak's guile nor his wit will be enough to keep everyone he loves alive. It's just a question of whom he will doom.

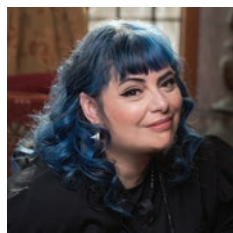


Little, Brown Books for Young Readers  
March 2024

CBJ/PRH, German	IBIS, Bulgarian
Mondadori, Italian	Dogan, Turkish
Puck/Urano, Spanish	Dioptra, Greek
FactInForm, Ukrainian	Rageot, French
PRH Grupo, Portuguese	Carlsen, Danish
Storia Books, Romanian	Modan, Hebrew
Meulenhoff Boekerij, Dutch	Albatros, Czech
Mladinska Knjiga Zalozba, Slovak	Stanek, Croatian
Konyvmolykepzo	Kiado, Hungarian
Galera/Record, Brazilian Portuguese	



**Holly Black** is the #1 New York Times bestselling author of fantasy books, including the Novels of Elfhame, *The Coldest Girl in Coldtown*, the *Spiderwick Chronicles*, her adult debut, *Book of Night*, as well as an Arthuriana picture book called *Sir Morien*. She has been a finalist for an Eisner Award and the Lodestar Award, and the recipient of the Mythopoeic Award, a Nebula, and a Newbery Honor. Her books have been translated into 32 languages worldwide and adapted for film. She currently lives in New England with her husband and son in a house with a secret library. She invites you to visit her online at [blackholly.com](http://blackholly.com).



# DAYDREAMER

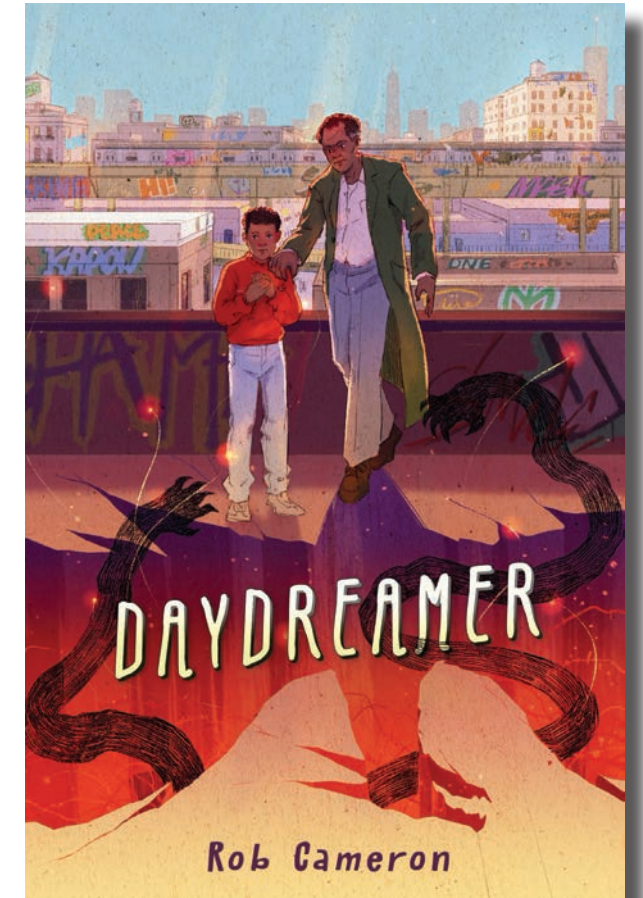
## Rob Cameron

Labyrinth Road/PRH, August 2024

An eleven-year-old boy copes with the challenges of his city life by weaving his reality into a magical realm of dragons, foxes, and trolls—until he must use the power of his creativity to save both of his worlds from destructive forces. This stunning debut is a profound exploration of imagination, community, and how the stories we tell both comfort us and challenge us to grow.

Charles' life is split between two worlds: one real and one fantasy. In the real world, he is a lonely, bullied kid who can't keep up with school when the letters refuse to stay still on the page, and is constantly in trouble for getting distracted. He lives with his mom in an apartment building, where Glory, the grumpy old superintendent, fills his head with stories about the Dream Folk.

In his fantasy world, the Sanctuary, Charles adventures with faeries and sprites and his two imaginary best friends. There, Charles's bullies become ogres, and Glory opens his arms wide to transform into a dragon. But when trolls move into Charles' apartment building and bring with them a terrible secret, the stories he has been told and the ones he brings to life grow more complicated. To protect everyone he cares about, Charles must harness his imagination in ways he never dreamed, in this unique story of the spaces and narratives we create for ourselves, and the ways in which fantasy and reality collide and blur.



**Cameron Roberson**, who writes under the pen name Rob Cameron, is a teacher, linguist, and writer. He has poetry, stories, and essays, in *Star\*Line*, *The Magazine of Fantasy & Science Fiction*, *Foreign Policy Magazine*, *Tor.com*, *New Modality*, *Solarpunk Magazine*, *Clockwork Phoenix Five*, and others. *Daydreamer* is his debut middle grade novel. Rob is also lead organizer for the Brooklyn Speculative Fiction Writers and executive producer of *Kaleidocast.nyc*.



# THE DAGGERS OF IRE

## J.C. Cervantes

“J.C. Cervantes is a powerful bruja. That’s the only explanation for how she can produce so many wonderful books. The Daggers of Ire is a perfect blend of magic, humor, adventure, and heart!”

–Rick Riordan

*New York Times* #1 Best-selling Author of *Percy Jackson and the Olympians*

A rich and exciting new Latine middle grade fantasy about sisterhood, magic, and the power of kids to face what grown-ups refuse to see—by J. C. Cervantes, *New York Times* bestselling author.

Perfect for fans of *Witchlings* and *Amari and the Night Brothers*!

Esmerelda Santos is a rare bruja, born with Chaos magic in her veins. She and her family are direct descendants of one of the four original witches—a mysterious legend about the night magic was born in San Bosco. But since the death of her mother, Esme is more concerned about healing their father’s spiraling grief.

When Esme finds a heart spell in a forbidden grimorio, she thinks it could be the answer to making her dad whole again. But before she can try, she and her best friend, Tiago, discover that their families and all the town’s witches have vanished—along with their magic, which keeps San Bosco alive. The only way to save them and the town is to find an original witch—impossible, since no one has actually ever seen one.

With a witch hunter on their tail, Esme and Tiago journey to a banished realm where forbidden magic runs wild. Here the two must embrace their powers and confront the legend’s terrible truths . . . or risk losing their families and their magic forever.

**J. C. Cervantes** is the *New York Times* bestselling author of the Storm Runner series as well as other books for young people and adults. She currently resides in the Land of Enchantment with her family and spoiled pups but keeps part of her heart in Southern California, where she was born and raised. When she isn’t writing, she is haunting bookstores and searching for magic in all corners of the world.



Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins  
September 2024



# WILDERLORE: THE NIGHT COMPASS

## Amanda Foody

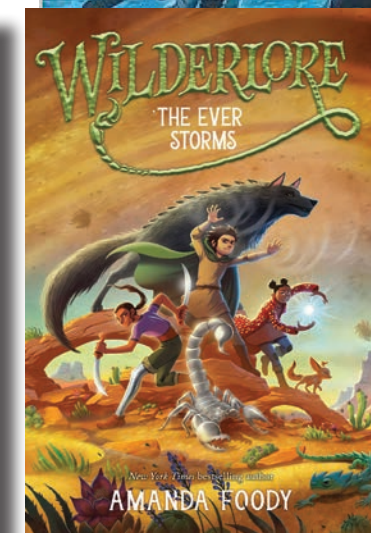
Margaret K. McElderry Books  
Simon & Schuster  
March 2024

The action-packed fourth book in the *New York Times* bestselling *Wilderlore* series!

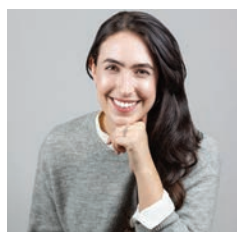
Barclay and his friends race to find a legendary beast in the Wilderlands before their enemy.

As the election for Grand Keeper looms closer, the villainous Audrian Keyes returns. He claims he has the secret to finding Navrashtya, the Legendary Beast of the Tundra who’s been missing for centuries. And so a team of specialized Lore Keepers must undertake a desperate mission: find her first, no matter the cost.

But the uncharted regions of the Tundra hold countless dangers, from the monstrous Beasts to the brutal cold, yet far more chilling mysteries await them out on the ice caps. Like why Navrashtya went missing in the first place. Or the truth behind this strange Lore that only Barclay can feel, whose power might very well save the mission—or doom it.



**Amanda Foody** is a *New York Times* and indie bestselling author of YA and children’s fantasy novels, including the *Wilderlore* series, the *All of Us Villains* duology, the *Shadow Game* series, and more. She lives in Massachusetts with her partner and their feline Beastly companion, Jelly Bean. Visit her at [AmandaFoody.com](http://AmandaFoody.com) or on Instagram @AmandaFoody.



Casterman, French

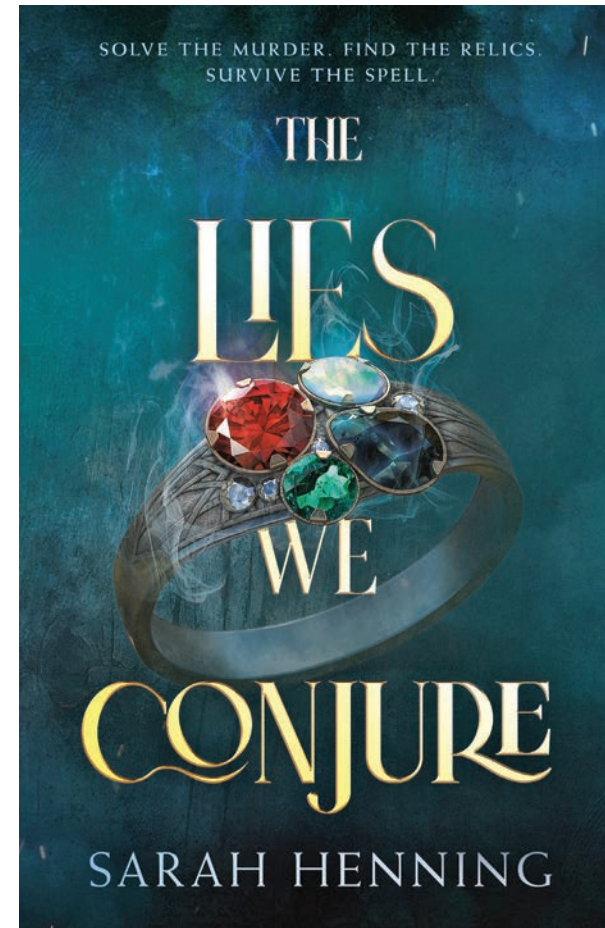
# THE LIES WE CONJURE

## Sarah Henning

Tor Teen, September 2024

Ravensburger, German

*Knives Out* meets *The Inheritance Games* with magic in this standalone supernatural thriller by Sarah Henning: thirteen witches, a locked-room murder, and two non-magical sisters trapped in a deadly game of Clue



Ruby and her sister, Wren, are normal, middle-class Colorado high school students working a summer job at the local Renaissance Fest to supplement their meager college savings.

So when an eccentric old lady asks them to impersonate her long-absent grandchildren at a fancy dinner party at the jaw-dropping rate of two grand—each—for a single night... Wren insists it's a no-brainer. Make some cash, have some fun, do a good deed.

But less than an hour into the evening at the mysterious Hegemony Manor, Ruby is sure she must have lost her mind to have agreed to this.

The hostess is dead, the gates are locked, and a magical curse ensures no one can leave until they solve both her murder and the riddles she left behind—in just three days. Because everyone else at this party is a powerful witch. And if the witches realize Ruby and Wren are imposters? The sisters won't make it out of Hegemony Manor alive.

**Sarah Henning** is the author of several books for young adults, including *The Lies We Conjure*; the Indies Introduce selection, Indie Next List pick, and Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection *Sea Witch*, and its sequel, *Sea Witch Rising*, *The Princess Will Save You*, *The Queen Will Betray You*, and *The King Will Kill You*, as well as *Throw Like A Girl* and its companion book, *It's All in How You Fall*. She is also the author of the middle grade fantasy *Monster Camp*, and appears in the girls-in-sports anthology, *Out of Our League*. When not writing, she runs far too much with her friends, chases her two kids, and hangs out with her husband Justin, who doubles as her long-suffering IT department. Henning lives in Lawrence, Kansas, hometown of Langston Hughes, William S. Burroughs, and a really good basketball team.



# HOW IT ALL ENDS

## Emma Hunsinger

Greenwillow Books, August 2024

A funny and disarming middle grade graphic novel.

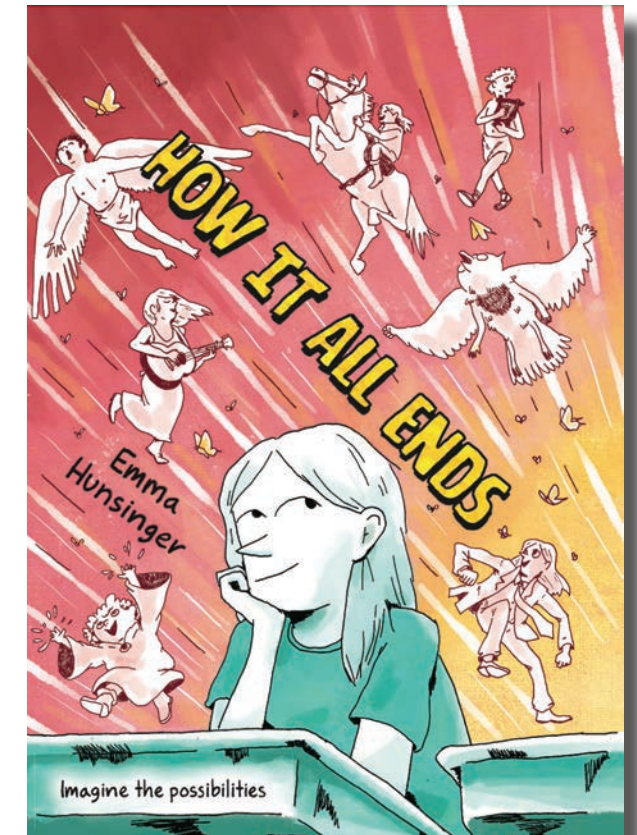
For fans of *Snapdragon*; *The Magic Fish*; *Heartstopper*; and *New Kid*.

Thirteen-year-old Tara lives inside the nonstop adventure of her imagination. It's far more entertaining than dull, everyday life. But when she's bumped from seventh grade directly to high school, she gets a dramatic jolt to reality.

Now, Tara is part of a future she doesn't feel at all ready for. She's not ready to watch the racy shows the high school kids like, or to listen to the angsty music, or to stop playing make-believe with her younger brother. She's not ready to change for PE in front of everyone, or for the chaos of the hallways, or for the anarchy of an English class that's overrun with fourteen-year-old boys.

But then there's Libby.

Tara doesn't know whether she's ready for Libby. She can't even explain who Libby is to her because she doesn't know yet. She just knows that everything's more fun when she and her new classmate are together. But what will happen next? How will it all end?



**Emma Hunsinger** is the creator of the autobiographical comic “How to Draw a Horse,” which was nominated for an Eisner Award and included in the prestigious annual “Cartoon Takeover” print edition of the *New Yorker*. Emma Hunsinger graduated with an MFA from the Center for Cartoon Studies. She lives with her family in Vermont.





# THE WITCH OF WOL SIN LAKE

Lena Jeong

HarperCollins, October 2024

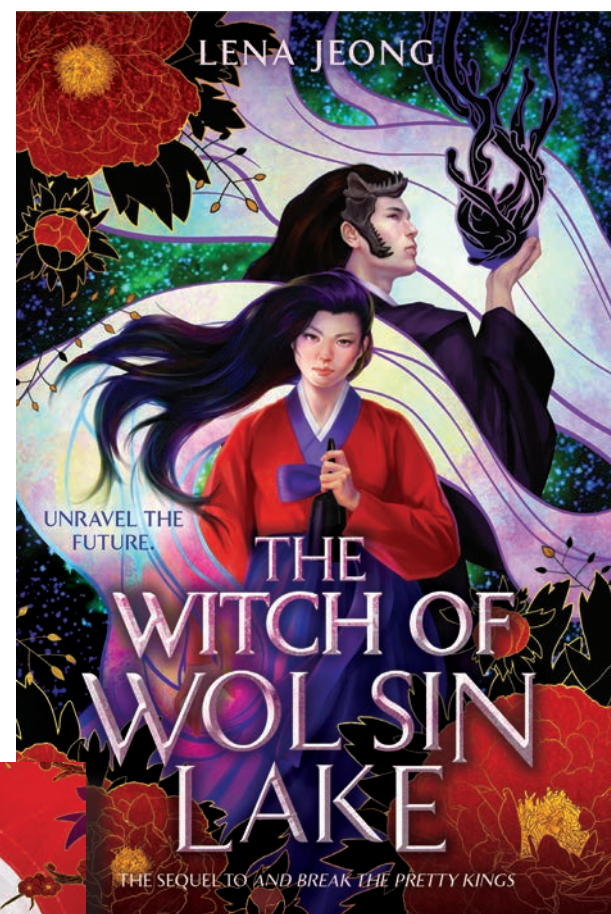
The Netherking is finally back in his dark cage.

But his imprisonment brings Mirae no peace because he managed to possess her beloved older brother, Minho, and it is Minho's body that languishes in the Deep, tormented by his possessor.

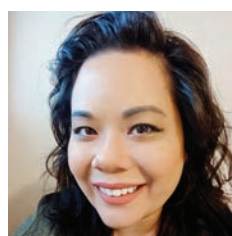
Mirae is determined to free her brother and destroy the Netherking once and for all. But when the Netherking steals the all-powerful pearl of Seolla, Mirae's careful plans are destroyed. She must set out once more to stop him, slipping in and out of the future with her divine powers as she races a path to the heavens.

When she discovers the truth about the Netherking's intentions and learns that the only way to destroy him is with a sacrifice larger than she can bear, Mirae begins to doubt her free will and even the fate of the entire peninsula and the gods beyond.

Dark and thrilling, this action-packed sequel to *And Break the Pretty Kings* pulls readers deeper into its captivating world of lavish, fantastical magic and dangerous secrets, as Mirae faces overwhelming odds to save her queendom—and an impossible choice.



**Lena Jeong** wrote her first novel in the fifth grade—complete with a dude in distress, a heroine named Macaroni Pizza, and a dragon that is allergic to men. When she's not working on novels inspired by her Korean heritage, Lena is doing everything in her power to remain the favorite auntie among her adorable nieces and nephews. You can also find her endlessly experimenting on new ways to make the perfect matcha latte. Lena has an MFA in creative writing. *And Break the Pretty Kings* was her debut novel.



# STORM DRAGONS: LIGHTNINGBORN

Julie Kagawa

Disney Hyperion, April 2024

In a world in the clouds where only the rich own dragons, a poor boy named Remy finds a wild baby dragon—believed to be extinct—and becomes the focus of an evil pirate's vengeance.

CBJ/PRH, German  
Gallimard Jeunesse, French

REMY spends his days trying to survive the mean streets of Cutthroat Wedge—one of the many islands floating in the gravitational pull of the magical Maelstrom raging below. But his life changes forever when a violent storm brings a baby dragon to his doorstep, and he feels a bond he has never felt with anyone. Remy names the dragon Storm and vows to protect this new friend, no matter the cost.

GEM longs for the day when she call herself a true mage. That is, if she can convince her teachers and peers that just because she's a princess doesn't mean she's lazy and spoiled. But when Gem learns that the floating islands that make up her kingdom are rapidly sinking into the Maelstrom, she makes it her mission to save her world. Against the king's wishes, she accesses forbidden research and discovers the secret to saving humanity may lie in a True Dragon—a dragon capable of intelligent thought and able to cast and use magic. But True Dragons are extinct . . . aren't they?

Remy's and Gem's lives will never be the same when their fates collide, thanks to Storm. With an evil pirate mage named Jhaeros determined to claim the rare dragon for himself, the two must learn to trust in each other as they team up with a shifty pirate captain and her crew, stand together against impossible odds, and embark on the adventure of a lifetime.

**Julie Kagawa**, the New York Times best-selling author of the *Iron Fey*, *Blood of Eden*, *Talon*, and *Shadow of the Fox* series, was born in Sacramento, California. But nothing exciting really happened to her there, so at the age of nine she and her family moved to Hawaii—which she soon discovered was inhabited by large carnivorous insects, colonies of huge geckos, and frequent hurricanes. She spent much of her time in the ocean, when she wasn't getting chased out of it by reef sharks, jellyfish, and the odd eel. Julie now lives in North Carolina with her husband, two obnoxious cats, and a pair of Australian shepherds. She loves video games, and has recently started streaming on Twitch and putting out videos on YouTube.



# THE SECRET LANGUAGE OF BIRDS

Lynne Kelly

Delacorte Press, April 2024

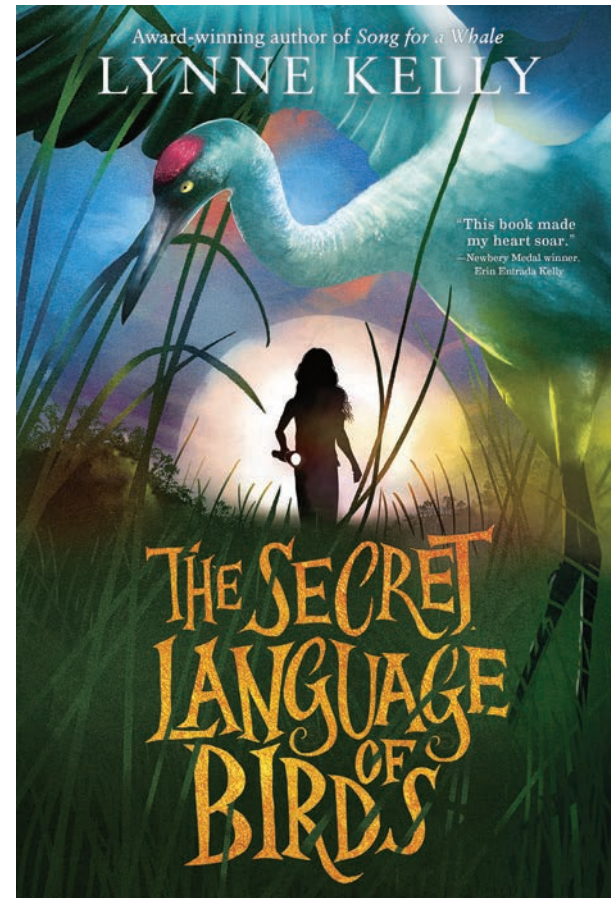
From the award-winning author of *Song for a Whale* comes a poignant and heartwarming tale about a girl who discovers a pair of endangered birds about to lay eggs in the marshes of her summer camp—and the secret plan she hatches to help them.

Nina is used to feeling like the odd one out, both at school and in her large family. But while trying to fit in at summer camp, she discovers something even more peculiar: two majestic birds have built a nest in the marsh behind an abandoned infirmary. They appear to be whooping cranes, but that's impossible—Nina is an amateur bird-watcher, and all her resources tell her that those rare birds haven't nested in Texas for over a hundred years.

When Nina reports the sighting to wildlife officials, more questions arise. Experts track all the endangered birds, but they can't identify the female bird that Nina found. Who is she, and where did she come from?

With the help of some fellow campers, Nina sets out to discover who the mystery bird really is. As she gets closer to the truth, will she find a flock of her own?

This instant classic from award-winning author Lynne Kelly captures the coming-of-age moment of learning to spread your wings in a way you'll never forget.



**Lynne Kelly** is the award-winning author of *Song for a Whale* which won the 2020 Schneider Family Book Award and was named one of the best books of the year by New York Public Library. She lives near Houston, Texas with her dogs, Abigail and Eloise.



# BAD LIKE US

Gabriella Lepore

Inkyard Press, March 2024

Two friend groups collide when someone turns up dead over spring break in this heart-thumping YA thriller for fans of *One of Us Is Lying* and *We Were Liars*

*Spring break is a vibe—until someone gets murdered*

Partying with popular classmates they barely know is not what Eva and her BFFs had in mind for their spring break. But things have been off ever since Miles' academic career took a turn for the worse (they don't talk about it), so a trip to a private beach lodge might be exactly what they need. And Eva won't admit it, but the chance to reconnect with Colton is worth putting up with Piper's constant livestreams to her thousands of "besties."

At first, it's all sand and waves, but tensions run high when an anonymous letter shakes up an already-flailing love triangle.

When someone turns up dead, Eva can't even trust her closest friends—but she thinks she can trust Colton. As they get closer to the truth, they uncover secrets that upend everything they thought they knew about their fellow spring breakers.



*"Gabriella Lepore's Bad Like Us is a juicy, claustrophobic entry into the canon of contemporary young adult thrillers. Short chapters, alternating points-of-view, interview snippets, and saved video confessions will have you racing through the pages of Bad Like Us, piecing together and peeling back the layers of this intricate who-done-it on a spring break gone wrong."*

—Sarah Henning, best-selling author of the *Sea Witch* duology

**Gabriella Lepore** is a YA author from South Wales in the United Kingdom, where she lives with her husband and two kids. When she isn't reading or writing, she can usually be found exploring the coastline or perusing a bookstore. She enjoys autumn days and cups of tea and is always searching for the next mystery.



# NAV'S FOOLPROOF GUIDE TO FALLING IN LOVE

## Jessica Lewis

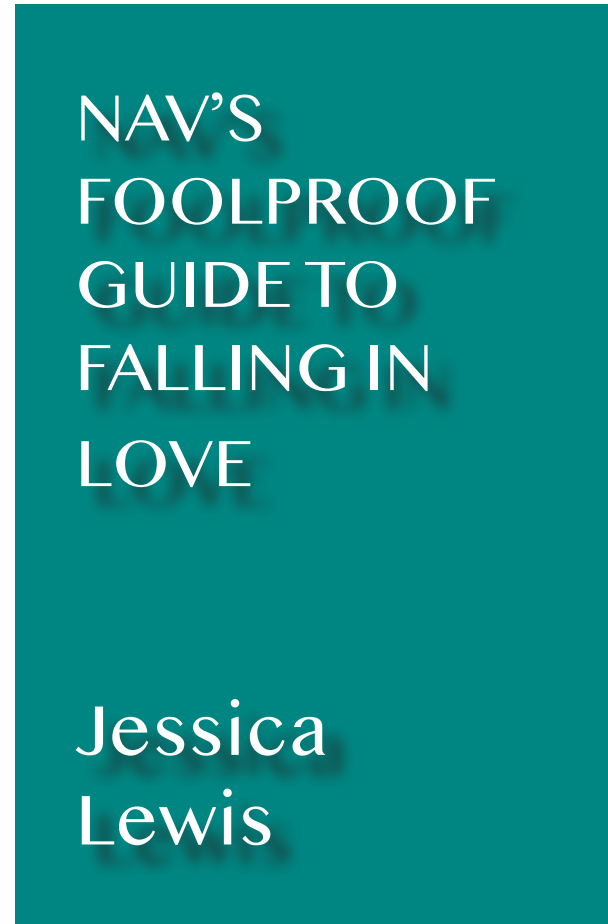
Harper Inkyard, Winter 2025

Il Castoro, Italian

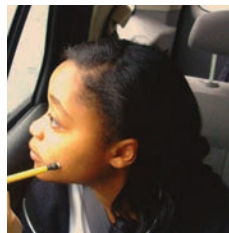
Giving the new girl lessons in romance so she can woo your best friend couldn't possibly go wrong—right? Perfect for fans of Becky Albertalli and Casey McQuiston, this romantic comedy from Jessica Lewis is packed with heart.

Nav knows how to flirt, but she also knows love is a messy, losing proposition. She doesn't need her best friend, Hallie, the serial monogamist, to demonstrate it to her over and over. So when shy new girl Gia asks Nav for help getting Hallie's attention, Nav makes sure she seems genuine—she doesn't want to add another heartbreak to Hallie's never-ending list. They strike a bargain, and Nav agrees to give Gia lessons in romance. If it works, maybe Hallie can date someone decent for a change.

Except...Gia's not just bad at flirting, she's terrible. She's too anxious to even speak to Hallie, never mind date her. But somehow, every awkward joke and catastrophic practice date makes Nav like Gia a little bit more. And not in a friend way. As the three girls' feelings get spun around, Nav will have to question if she's as much of an expert as she thought...or if love might be worth every bit of trouble after all.



**Jessica Lewis** is a Black author and receptionist. She has a degree in English Literature and Animal Science (the veterinarian plan did not work out). She lives with her way-funnier-than-her grandmother in Alabama. When she isn't writing or working she enjoys watching cooking or HGTV-type home shows. She writes both young adult and middle grade fiction, the latter under her pen name Jazz Taylor.



# A DARKER MISCHIEF

## Derek Milman

Scholastic, July 2024

Puck/Urano, Spanish

*The Honeys* meets *The Secret History* in a work of dark academia like no other -- a boarding school thriller about a queer teen from Mississippi who finds himself swept into a world of old money, privilege, and the secret society at the heart of it all.

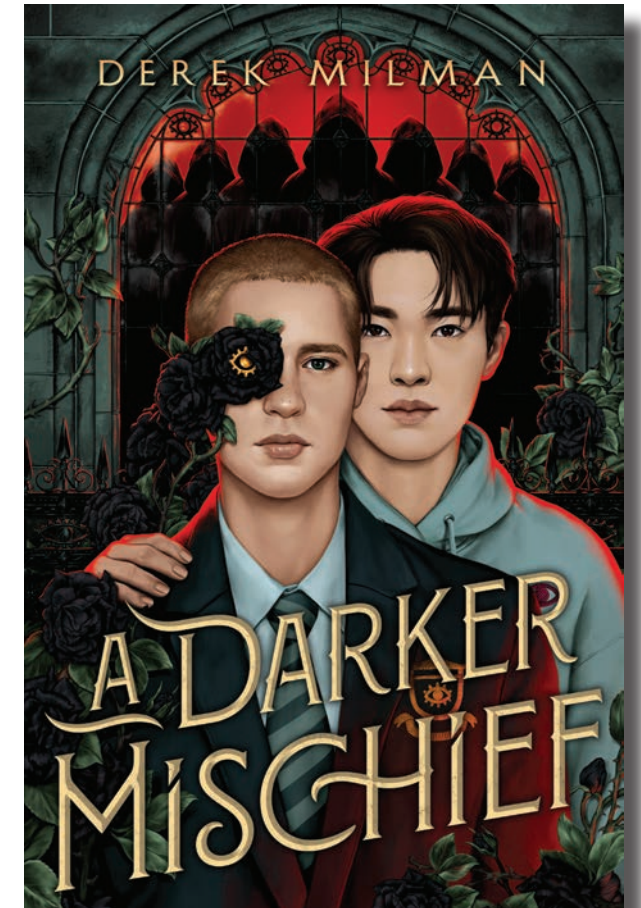
When Cal Ware wins a scholarship to an elite New England boarding school, he's thrilled to leave his past behind. Back home in Mississippi, he was the poor, queer kid who never fit in. But at Essex Academy, he'll be able to reinvent himself. Or so he hopes...

But at Essex, Cal's classmates only see his cheap clothes and old iPhone. They mock his accent, and can't believe he's never left the country, or heard of The Hamptons. Cal, at his breaking point, is about to give up and return to Mississippi when he learns about a secret society on campus -- the key to becoming Essex royalty.

Cal knows he's not exactly secret society material, but to his surprise, he finds an unlikely champion in the handsome, charismatic, and slightly dangerous Luke Kim. As they get swept up in the mystery and glamour of the Rush process, Cal finds himself falling in love for the first time.

But as the initiation rituals grow riskier -- and increasingly nefarious -- Cal must decide how far he's willing to go, and how much of himself he's willing to sacrifice, to save everything and everyone he cherishes most. Because nothing at Essex -- not even Cal's first love -- is quite what it seems.

**Derek Milman** is the author of *Scream All Night* (HarperCollins) and *Swipe Right for Murder* (Little Brown / Jimmy Patterson). A graduate of Yale Drama School, Derek has performed on stages across the country, and appeared in numerous TV shows and films, working with two Academy Award-winning film directors. He lives in Brooklyn.



# PRIDE OR DIE

## C.L. Montblanc

Wednesday Books, January 2025

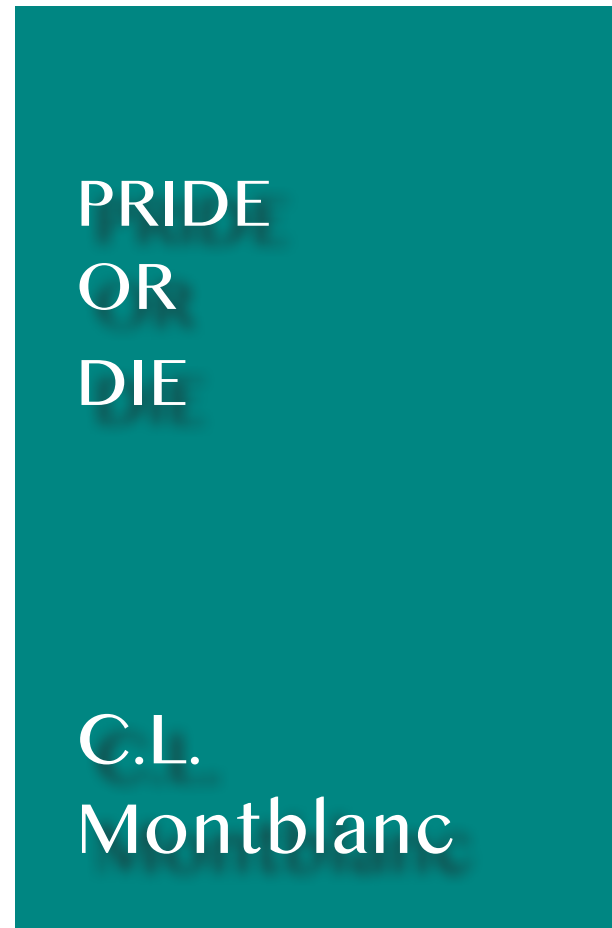
ONE OF US IS LYING  
meets I KISSED SHARA WHEELER

In this delightful young adult dark comedy debut, when the members of an LGBTQ+ club find themselves accidentally framed for attempted murder, it's up to them to clear their names before it's too late.

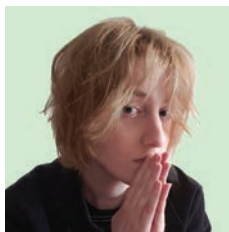
It's kind of hard to graduate high school when you're the prime suspect in an attempted murder.

Seventeen-year-old Eleanora Finkel just wants to finish her senior year and get the hell out of Texas. But when her LGBTQ+ meeting inconveniently coincides with an attack on the school's head cheerleader, she and her friends find themselves in the hot seat.

In order to clear their names and ensure the survival of their club for future queer teens, they'll have to track down the real culprit themselves. But Eleanora is far from a professional detective; she's riddled with anxiety, annoyingly attracted to the case's cute victim, and all the crocheting in the world couldn't prepare her to square up against a criminal. Can this ragtag group of unlikely sleuths find their way out of an entire freaking murder mystery by graduation?



**CL Montblanc** is a writer, producer, and escape room enthusiast. Despite hailing from Texas, CL is intimidated by both horses and very large hats. Their debut novel PRIDE OR DIE will release in early 2025, with another book to follow in 2026.



# PUZZLEHEART

## Jenn Reese

Henry Holt & Co., May 2024

A JUNIOR LIBRARY GUILD  
SELECTION!

Leopold, Dutch  
New Oriental, Chinese Simplified Characters

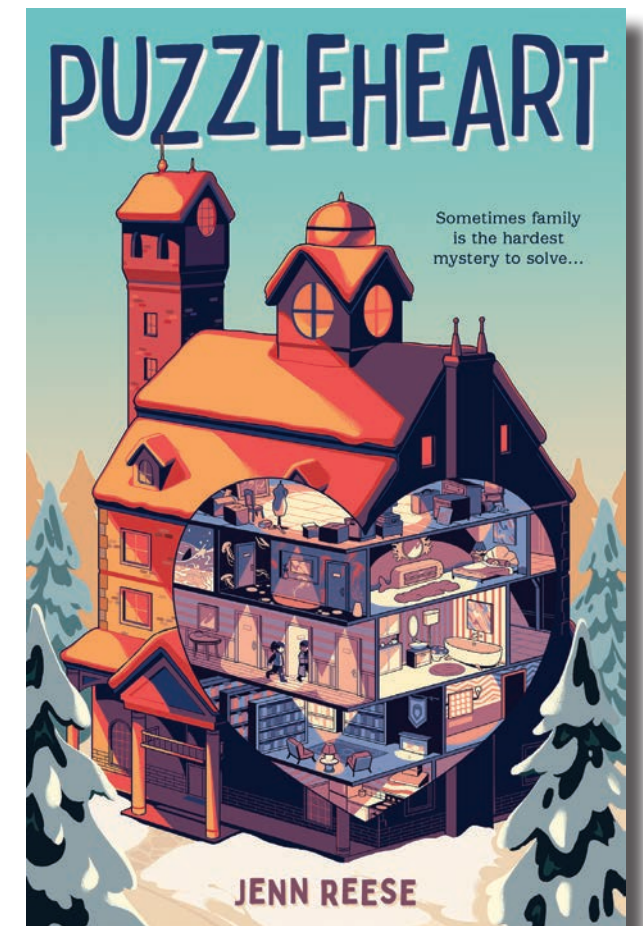
Get ready to solve the mystery at the heart of this captivating new middle grade adventure about family—and a house with a mind of its own—from the award-winning author.

Twelve-year-old Perigee has never met a problem they couldn't solve. So when their Dad's spirits need raising, Perigee formulates the Plan: a road trip to Dad's childhood home to reunite him with his estranged mother. There's something in it for Perigee, too, as they will finally get to visit "Eklunds' Puzzle House," the mysterious bed & breakfast their grandparents built but never opened.

They arrive ahead of a massive storm and the House immediately puts Perigee's logical, science-loving mind to the test. Corridors shift. Strange paintings lurk in the shadows. Encoded messages abound. Despite Perigee's best efforts, neither the House nor Grandma will give up their secrets. And worse, prickly Grandma has outlawed games and riddles of any kind.

Even the greatest of plans can crumble, and as new arguments fill the air, the House becomes truly dangerous. Deadly puzzles pop up at every turn, knives spin in the hallways, and staircases disappear. The answer lies at the heart of the House, but in order to find it, Perigee and their new friend Lily will need to solve a long-lost, decades-old riddle... if the House itself doesn't stop them first.

**Jenn Reese** (they/she) writes speculative fiction for readers of all ages. Jenn is the author of Every Bird a Prince, the Oregon Book Award-winning A Game of Fox & Squirrels, and the Above World trilogy. They also write short stories for teens and adults. Jenn lives in Portland, Oregon where they make art, play video games, and build cardboard forts for their cats.



# RETURN OF THE VENGEFUL QUEEN

## C.J. Redwine

Perfect for fans of *These Violent Delights*,  
*And I Darken*, and *Ash Princess*!

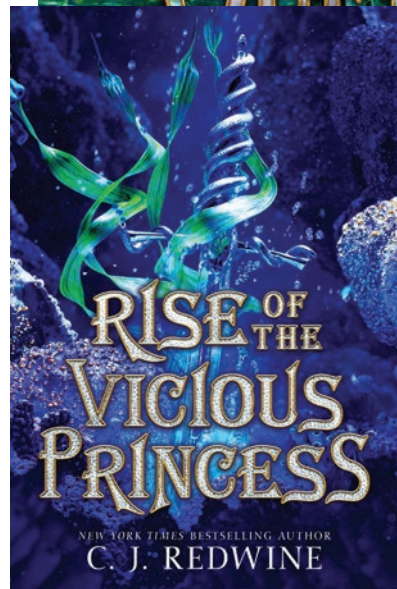
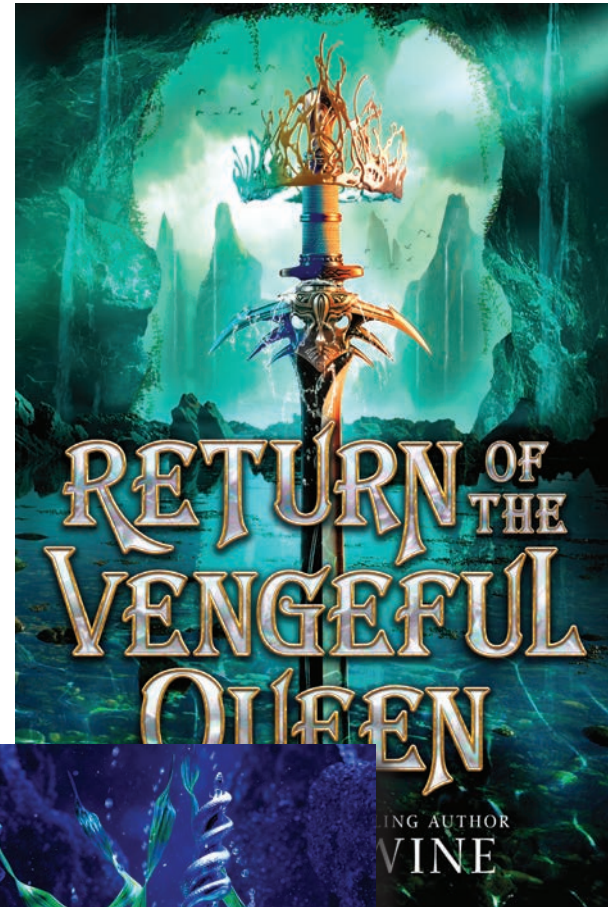
Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, April 2024

Charis Willowthorn is a queen without a throne. A Rakuuna invader holds Charis's kingdom of Calera captive, leaving her desperate—and ruthlessly committed to vengeance. But with her allies reluctant to intervene and her enemies hunting her across the open sea, Charis is left with only one choice: forge a temporary alliance with Tal Penbyrn, the boy who betrayed her—and, at all costs, keep him out of her heart.

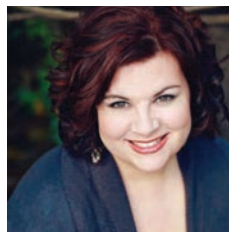
Tal is imprisoned, both by the Rakuuna and the weight of his guilt. Though he once betrayed his love, he knows that he can help turn the tide in Charis's favor, if only he can regain her trust. But the Rakuuna have an ally of their own—one who knows Charis's every move and will stop at nothing to see her destroyed.

With threats closing in and every allegiance in doubt, Charis must be stronger, faster, and more vicious than her enemies to reclaim her kingdom—and her future.

*Praise for RISE OF THE VICIOUS PRINCESS:*  
"Redwine skillfully crafts well-rounded characters and an action-packed plot, resulting in a nuanced political fantasy that's rife with court intrigue. Charis—fierce and formidable, yet altruistic—is exquisitely drawn, and her tender, developing relationship with bodyguard Tal adds emotional complexity to the breathlessly paced tale."  
— Publishers Weekly (starred review)



**C.J. Redwine** is a New York Times bestselling author of speculative fiction, a diehard lover of going to the movies, and a believer in fairytales. She keeps a six-foot tall Loki figure in her office and will argue the merits of Batman vs. Superman with anyone she meets. She once accidentally punched herself in the face on a ride at Disneyland. She doesn't recommend it.



# THIS IS NOT A DEAD GIRL STORY

## Kate Sweeney

Viking Books for Young Readers  
August 2024

A dark and powerful mystery perfect for fans of Courtney Summers and true crime podcasts, in which a teen girl must do whatever it takes to find her missing cousin—who everyone else thinks is dead.

Remy Green is missing. Eight days after the death of her boyfriend, River O'Dell, the magnetic, golden-haired girl disappeared in the dead of night.

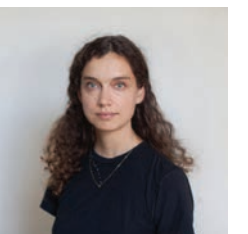
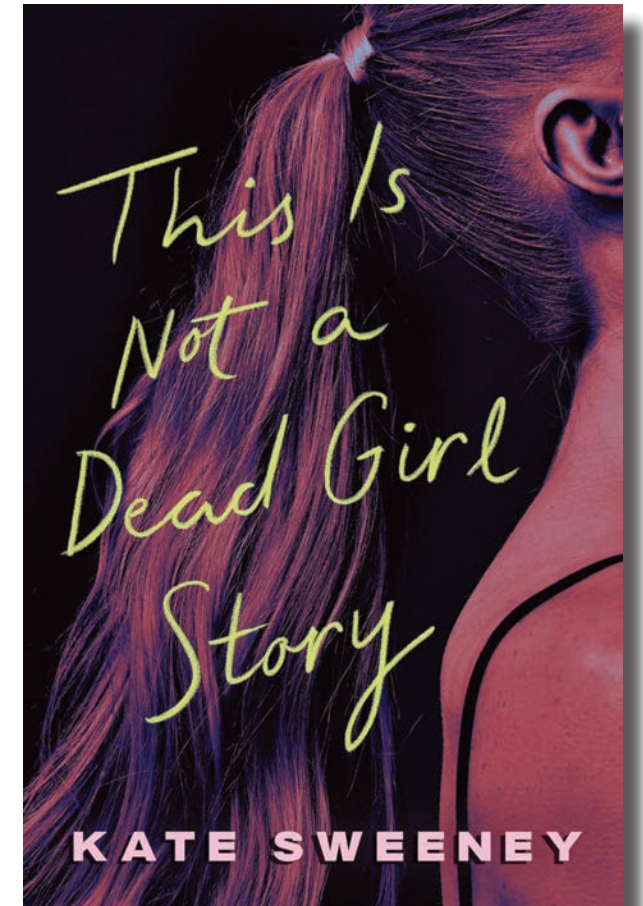
Jules Green, Remy's cousin, is her opposite in every way: awkward, shy, and a bit strange, never feeling at home in the small town of Black Falls, NY. The only place she has ever belonged is with River and Remy. Now she's on her own—and everyone around her believes that Remy is dead.

But Jules can still hear Remy's voice in her head, urging her to keep looking. With the help of River's cousin Sam, a troubled and mysterious boy, Jules starts untangling the truth of what exactly happened. Through her search, Jules must delve into the dark corners of her hometown—unearthing family secrets and hidden truths about the two people she thought she knew most.

Who was Remy, really, behind the popular-girl façade she wore? What trouble was she involved in? And can Jules find a way to save her from it? Or is this a dead girl story after all?

**Kate Sweeney** was born in Athens, GA and has since lived many places, including Los Angeles, CA, Cambridge, NY, New York, NY and Salt Lake City, UT. She began writing when she was sixteen. Her father—a novelist and screenwriter—had died five years prior, and in writing she found a way of bringing his voice back to her ears.

For the past ten years she has resided in the Bay Area where she spends her time making music with her bands, Magic Magic Roses and July, teaching literacy, and working with her husband at the family art-framing business.



# YOU SHOULDN'T BE HERE

Lauren Thoman

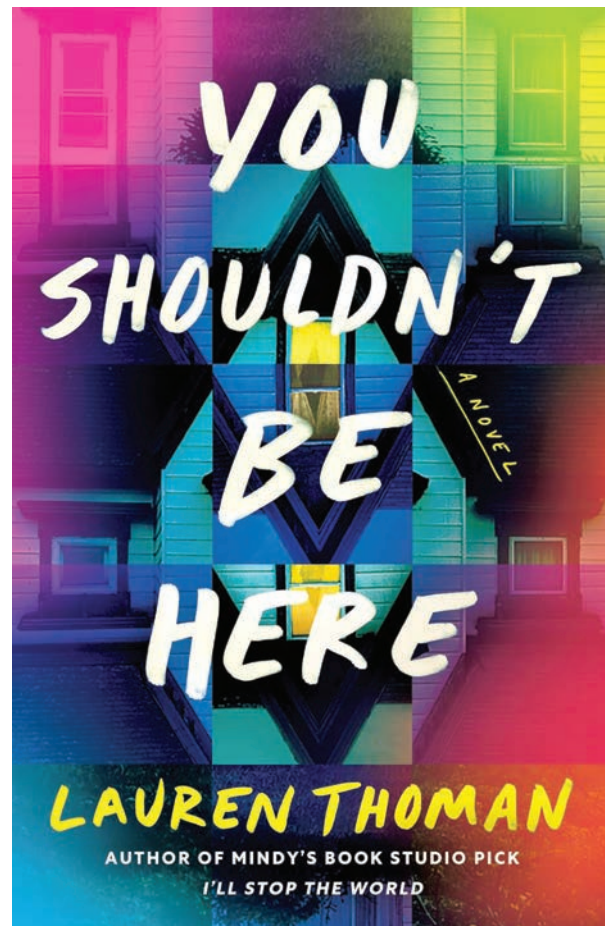
Thomas & Mercer, July 2024

Two strangers search for the truth behind bizarre occurrences no one else dares to discuss—only to discover that they're connected by secrets that could destroy them both. A thrilling and twisty novel by the acclaimed author of the Mindy's Book Studio pick *I'll Stop the World*.

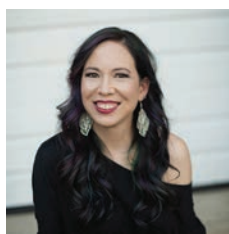
When sixteen-year-old Angie Stewart starts hearing a mysterious voice in her house, she's thrilled at the possibility of a ghost. Finally, something interesting is happening in her boring hometown of East Henderson, Pennsylvania. But why is she the only one who can hear it? And what does it want from her?

Meanwhile, first-year teacher Madelyn Zhao just got the keys to her new home, which is located close to her job, within walking distance of a dog park—and, most importantly, in the town where her cousin went missing several years ago. No one in East Henderson wants to talk about what happened, but Madelyn is determined to find answers.

As the two strangers search for clues, their investigations begin to point toward the same dark place. But by the time they realize that the truth could be deadly, it's too late to turn back. And someone out there will stop at nothing to make sure their secrets stay buried.



**Lauren Thoman** is the author of the Mindy's Book Studio selection *I'll Stop the World*. She lives outside Nashville, Tennessee, with her husband, two children, a fluctuating number of rescue and foster dogs, and a somewhat alarming quantity of fish. Her pop culture writing has appeared in numerous online outlets including *Parade* and *Vulture*. When she's not writing, she's probably on the hunt for tacos or coffee, poking around her flower beds, or buried underneath a pile of dogs.



# EVERYTHING I PROMISED YOU

Katy Upperman

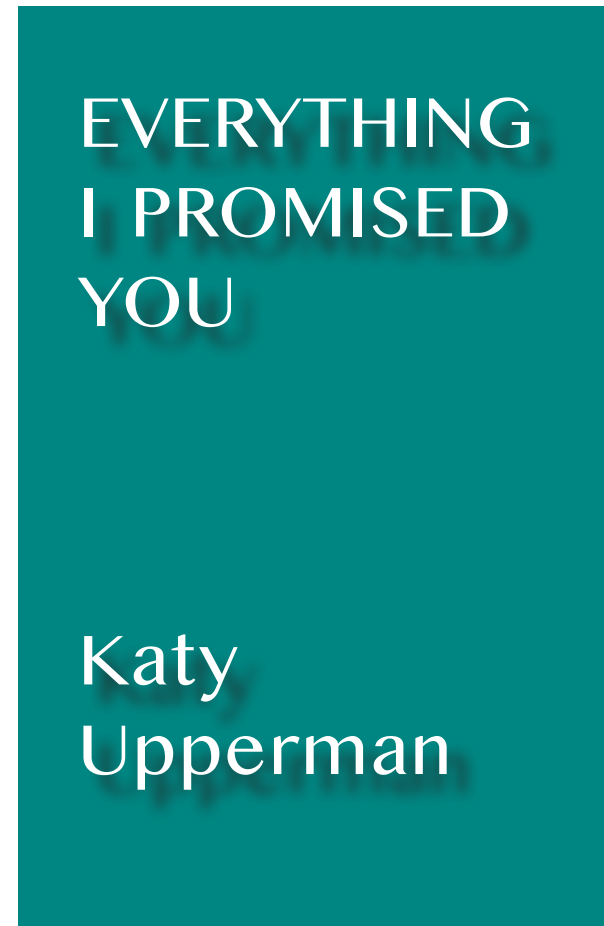
Sourcebooks, Spring 2025

A romantic young adult contemporary novel about fate, love, and fortune telling, for fans of Emma Lord's *Begin Again* and Laura Nowlin's *If He Had Been With Me*.

When Lia's mom was 17, she had her fortune told--including the fact that her only daughter would be fated to fall in love with her best friend's son. Life unfolded exactly as predicted, and despite the army-brat lifestyle bringing them in and out of each other's orbit, Lia and Finnegan were meant to be. Or so they thought. When a freak heart attack steals Finn's life, Lia is left broken and unmoored. She lived her life by her mom's old fortune; if she was fated to be with Finn, and Finn is gone, who is she supposed to be?

Then she meets Isaiah and begins to see how freeing it can be to live without a plan.

Told through dual before-and-after timelines and punctuated with poetic entries from Lia's journal, we follow Lia as she grapples with the loss of a perfectly predictable past and learns to love again while forging her own path into an uncertain future.



**Katy Upperman** is a graduate of Washington State University, a former elementary school teacher, and an insatiable reader. When not writing for young adults, Katy can be found whipping up batches of chocolate chip cookies, or exploring the country with her husband and daughter.



# THEIR WILL UNDONE

## RJ Valdeperas

Quill Tree Books/Harper, 2025

A Latinx young adult/crossover fantasy romance inspired by the Inca empire. For fans of Marie Rutkoski's *The Winner's Curse*, Mary E. Pearson's *Dance of Thieves*, and Tahereh Mafi's *This Woven Kingdom*.

In the Amaru empire, it is an honor to be chosen for the annual harvest—boys conscripted into the army, and girls relegated to a cloistered upbringing behind the stone walls of the Acla, destined to become priestesses, servants, or wives to the powerful and favored nobles in the emperor's ever-expanding territory. Four years ago, seventeen-year-old Nina volunteered to take her sister's place inside that gilded cage, and now she bides her time, waiting for her chance to escape.

The last thing Nina expects is for salvation to arrive in the form of a soldier named Kasik, bringing news from the emperor announcing their betrothal. Guided by her new escort, Nina reluctantly sets off toward the palace where her future husband rules with an iron fist from a palace made of gold.

But Kasik is not just any soldier: he's the emperor's best friend, dutybound to become commander of the army, and the son of the very man who imprisoned Nina within the walls of the Acla all those years ago. There is no reason to trust him, and yet, Nina feels drawn to him. Their chemistry is palpable, but her attraction to Kasik isn't the only thing getting harder to ignore. There's also the tugging sensation in her chest, an awakening of a hidden magic she hasn't encountered since she was nothing more than a farmer's daughter running wild.

As this spark of power inside Nina grows, making her more dangerous and desirable to her enemies, so do the questions that have been eating at her throughout the journey—questions about why the emperor has chosen her, a nobody. Is she truly a bride, or is she a weapon? And when the time comes for Kasik to confront where his true loyalty lies, will he choose his emperor or his heart?

**Raquel Valdeperas** is a Peruvian/Venezuelan writer living in south Florida with her husband and five children. She has experience in academics as a teacher and tutor, and also in the creatives sphere as a photographer, content creator and small shop owner selling custom designed bookmarks. She enjoys writing fantasy and contemporary novels with characters that look like her and live in worlds steeped with culture.



# HAPPY TOWN

## Greg Van Eekhout

HarperCollins, October 2024

*Stay calm and remain HAPPY. Help is on the way.*

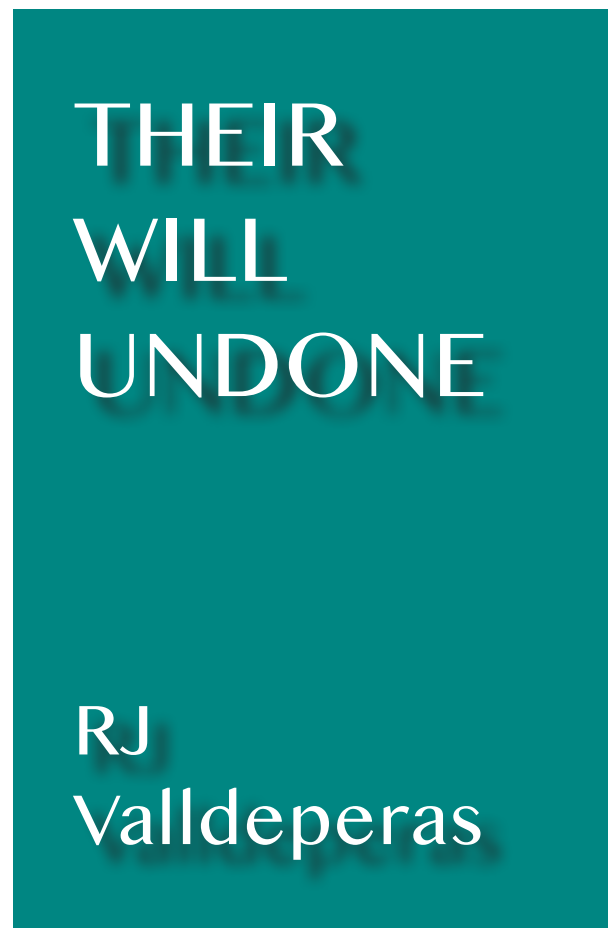
Perfect for fans of Gordon Korman and Jennifer L. Holm, this adventure-packed middle grade story, set in a world not too far from our own, follows a family that moves to a remote company town that seems perfect on the surface....

Keegan knows there's something off about Happy Town.

The isolated, high-tech company town is too perfect—with a dome keeping out bad weather and self-driving vehicles rumbling throughout the town delivering residents to work and school. Still, Keegan is excited to grow his art skills at Happy Town's ultra-modern middle school, even if he has less time to see his mom and stepdad because of their new jobs.

But when the two become obsessed with working and eating Happy Corp Meat Cramwich (the Microwaveable Sandwich Crammed with Meat) and Keegan gets sentenced to Mandatory Work Opportunities for refusing to follow Happy Town's shady rules, he discovers a dangerous glitch in the system that's turning the town's happy residents into zombies. Carnivorous, meat-craving, literal zombies. With his new friends Gloriana and Tank by his side, he'll need to find a way to destroy Happy Town's happy system—before there's nothing left.

**Greg van Eekhout** lives in San Diego, California, with his astronomy/physics professor wife and two dogs. He's worked as an educational software developer, ice-cream scooper, part-time college instructor, and telemarketer. Being a writer is the only job he's ever actually liked. You can find more about Greg at his website: [writingandsnacks.com](http://writingandsnacks.com).



LET'S MAKE SOME  
BESTSELLERS TOGETHER!



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