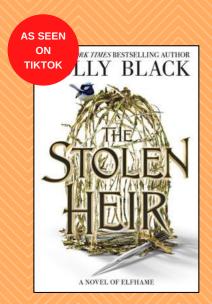
With a new year comes so many new possibilities!

2023 is starting off strong with some fantastic titles, including the highly anticipated new novels by Holly Black and Holly Jackson. As always, please do contact me for interview or extract requests. Happy New Year (almost)!

All the best, Mieke Gottsche

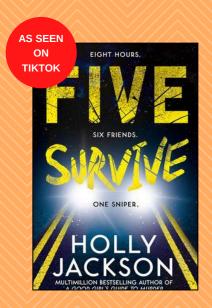
Jan & Feb Spotlight



The Stolen Heir by Holly Black

9781471413629 / Hot Key Books / PB / R215

Suren, child queen of the Court of Teeth, and the one person with power over her mother, fled to the human world, where she lives feral in the woods. Lonely, and still haunted by the merciless torments she endured in the Court of Teeth, she bides her time by releasing mortals from foolish bargains. She believes herself forgotten until the storm hag Bogdana chases her through the night streets. Suren is saved by none other than Prince Oak, heir to Elfhame, to whom she was once promised in marriage and who she has resented for years. Now seventeen, Oak is charming, beautiful and manipulative. He's on a mission that will lead him into the north, and he wants Suren's help. But if she agrees, it will mean guarding her heart against the boy she once knew and a prince she cannot trust, as well as confronting all the horrors she thought she had left behind.



Five Survive by Holly Jackson

9780008592622 / Farshore / TPB / R230

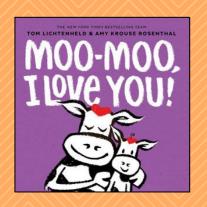
Eighteen-year-old Red and her friends are on a road trip in an RV, heading to the beach for Spring Break. It's a long drive but spirits are high. Until the RV breaks down in the middle of nowhere. And as the wheels are shot out, one by one, the friends realize that this is no accident.

There's a sniper out there. He's watching them and he knows exactly who they are. One of the group has a secret that the sniper is willing to kill for.

As a game of cat-and-mouse plays out, the group desperately tries to get help. Buried secrets are forced to light and tensions within the group reach deadly levels. Only one thing is for sure. Not everyone will survive the night . . .

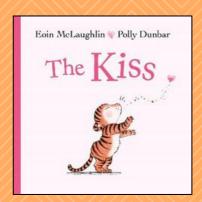






Moo-Moo, I Love You! by Amy Krouse Rosenthal & Tom Lichtenheld 9781419761799 / Abrams / BRD BK / R210

From the bestselling team behind I Wish You More comes a moo-ving ode to the love between parent and child—now in board bookThe New York Times bestselling pair Tom Lichtenheld and Amy Krouse Rosenthal present udderly perfect expressions of affection to share between any cow and calf: I love you no matter your moo-d. I love giving you a big s-moo-ch. My love for you is as big as . . . a MOO-SE! With a universal message and warm, funny text that families will read and reread together, this exuberant book from two children's book superstars at their best is a moo-velous choice for gifts year-round, especially for fans of I Love You to the Moon and Back and Guess How Much I Love You.



The Kiss by Eoin McLaughlin & Polly Dunbar

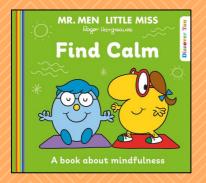
9780571361892 / Faber & Faber / PB / R200

Tiger and Crocodile are both looking for a goodnight kiss in this clever flip-book story. But the animals along the way don't seem very forthcoming!

Perhaps it's those sharp little teeth that they can see when Tiger and Crocodile yawn. Then they see a sharp-toothed shadow... eek!

But don't worry it's just Daddy Croc and Mummy Tiger, come to kiss their little one's goodnight.

A delightful, snuggly bedtime story that celebrates blended families and kindred spirits.



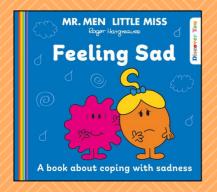
Discover You: Find Calm by Mr. Men & Little Miss

9780008533892 / Farshore / PB / R130

Little Miss Busy is always very busy, dashing here and there with many things to do, while Mr Calm takes a calmer, more mindful approach to life. Can he help Little Miss Busy to do the same?

The Mr Men and Little Miss are the perfect characters to help children understand a bit more about their own emotions and how to manage them. With engaging questions to encourage conversations and some helpful tips from favourite characters to help children develop their emotional intelligence.



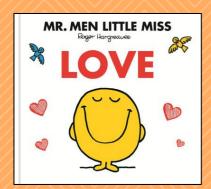


Discover You: Feeling Sad by Mr. Men & Little Miss

9780008533885 / Farshore / PB / R130

Little Miss Curious approaches life with many questions and some confusion, while Mr Jelly is scared to engage with much of what life has to offer. They both feel sad sometimes, but with help from their friends, they'll understand more about their different emotions

The Mr Men and Little Miss are the perfect characters to help children understand a bit more about their own emotions and how to manage them. With engaging questions to encourage conversations and some helpful tips from favourite characters to help children develop their emotional intelligence.



Mr. Men Little Miss: Love by Roger Hargreaves

9780008533878 / Farshore / HB / R180

This Mr Men Little Miss gift book will help you show that special someone just how much they mean to you.

Enjoy this warm and witty celebration of love and friendship featuring the Mr Men and Little Miss.

Following the bestselling My Mummy and My Daddy books, this delightful gift book pairs Roger Hargreaves classic artwork with affectionate and humorous new text to help children and adults share the love on Valentine's Day or at any time they want to say I love you.

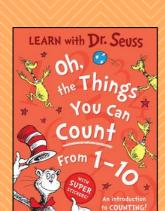


The Kindness Club by Kate Bullen-Casanova & Dave Petzold

9781761210440 / Hardie Grant / HB / R210

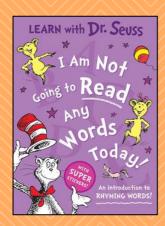
The Kindness Club is a gorgeous story that depicts a group of kids engaging in kind, friendly, non-gender-specific play. It challenges those age-old assumptions that boys will be boys and girls will be pretty.

Say hello to The Kindness Club! A diverse cast of friendly characters welcome a new kid to their preschool and show them how all types of fun and emotions are for everyone. The Kindness Club depicts familiar activities and scenarios that readers can expect at preschool or kindergarten, but challenges age-old assumptions that boys will be boys and girls will be pretty.



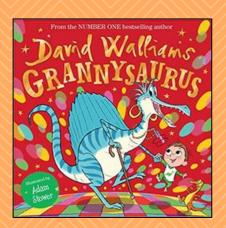
Oh, the Things You Can Count From 1-10 by Learn with Dr. Seuss 9780008592219 / HarperCollins / PB / R180

Learn how to count with The Cat in the Hat in this fun-filled learning activity book, complete with stickers!Come and join the Cat in the Hat and have lots of fun with counting! With numbers to draw and easy-to-follow counting - and loads of stickers -you'll soon be on your way to counting to 10, and beyond!The Learn With Dr. Seuss books have been specially designed to combine learning with fun. A range of zany characters and hilarious rhymes work together to introduce your child to counting and writing activities, building up the numerary and literacy skills they'll need for school.



I Am Not Going to Read Any Words Today! by Learn with Dr. Seuss 9780008592196 / HarperCollins / PB / R180

Learn all about rhyming words with The Cat in the Hat in this fun-filled learning activity book, complete with stickers!Come and join the Cat in the Hat and have lots of fun with words that rhyme! With simple text and loads of stickers, you'll soon realise how easy it is to spot words that look and sound the same.The Learn With Dr. Seuss books have been specially designed to combine learning with fun. A range of zany characters and hilarious rhymes work together to introduce your child to counting and writing activities, building up the numerary and literacy skills they'll need for school.



Grannysaurus by David Walliams

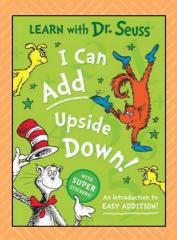
9780008305765 / HarperCollins / HB / R330

A boisterously funny new picture book from David Walliams and Adam Stower, perfect for young dinosaur fans!

One night, Spike creeps downstairs in his pyjamas to find that his granny has turned into a dinosaur – GRANNYSAURUS! There are dinosaurs BOOGYING in the living room. With Brontosaurus, Stegosaurus and Giganotosaurus, it's a DINO DISCO! Spike wants to stay up and party too! How will Grannysaurus ever get him back to bed? Perhaps her next guest, Tyrannosaurus Rex, can help? Children will love to dance their way to bedtime with this exciting story full of spectacular surprises!







I Can Add Upside Down! by Learn with Dr. Seuss

9780008592202 / HarperCollins / PB / R180

Learn to add with The Cat in the Hat in this fun-filled learning activity book, complete with stickers! Come and join the Cat in the Hat and have lots of fun with adding numbers! With strange animals and peculiar items to count - and loads of stickers - you'll soon realise how easy it is to complete simple addition.

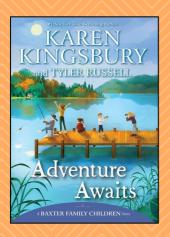
The Learn With Dr. Seuss books have been specially designed to combine learning with fun. A range of zany characters and hilarious rhymes work together to introduce your child to counting and writing activities, building up the numerary and literacy skills they'll need for school.



JoJo's Sweet Adventures: The Terrific Time Twist by JoJo Siwa 9781419758560 / Abrams / PB / R290

Nickelodeon superstar JoJo Siwa's Sweet Adventures continue in graphic novel form! On a trip to the science center, JoJo was shocked to discover the time machine wasn't just an exhibit. Whoops, it actually works! JoJo and friends end up skipping throughout time-meeting icons of history like Japanese haiku legend Basho and playing ball with All-American Girls Professional Baseball League. But how can they ever get back to their correct time period? Can important scientists like Ada Lovelace or Katherine Johnson help JoJo and her friends? But first, can they also take a peek at some dinosaurs before they get home? Because . . . dinosaurs!!!!!

10-12 years

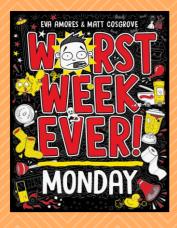


Baxter Family Children: Adventure Awaits by Karen Kingsbury & Tyler Russell 9781665908030 / Simon & Schuster / PB / R230

In the fourth book in Karen Kingsbury and Tyler Russell's beloved series about the Baxter children, Kari and Ashley go through the ups and downs of summer camp. School science camp is a few weeks away, but Ashley and Kari Baxter have very different feelings about going. With the help of their siblings, Kari and Ashley prepare for wild experiments and the challenges of the great outdoors, and together they learn what it means to plan for an experience they won't forget.

In the process, all five Baxter Children learn how to make new friends and that adventure awaits in the everyday. They just have to look for it!





Worst Week Ever!: Monday by Eva Amores & Matt Cosgrove

9781398521889 / Simon & Schuster / PB / R180

Could your worst week be funny too? Start Monday with a bang in the hilarious new series taking the world by storm.

Justin Chase is having the WORST WEEK EVER! His Mum has just married a vampire. His Dad is driving a giant toilet on wheels. His cat has probably been abducted by aliens.

A bully is making his first day at a new school miserable. And right now, he's hanging off the edge of a 10-metre-high diving tower in front of his entire class wearing nothing but rapidly disappearing crocheted swimmers! And it's only...

MONDAY!



Alice Eclair: A Spoonful of Spying by Sarah Todd Taylor

9781839940972 / Nosy Crow / PB / R205

Baker by day, spy by night - Alice Éclair leads an exciting double life!
Inventors and artists from all nations have gathered in Paris for the World Fair. All eyes are on the aeroplane exhibition - these incredible machines will take humanity to new heights! Alice suspects that some of these inventors are in terrible danger, but no one will believe her. Surrounded by enemy spies, Alice will need to use every trick in the recipe book if she's to keep her friends safe and stop France's greatest invention from falling into the wrong hands.

With a half-baked plan and a dash of daring, Alice must foil the enemy's plot before the whole thing boils over...

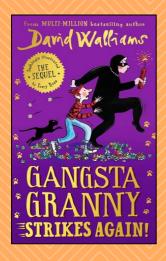


A Tricky Kind of Magic by Nigel Baines

9781444960266 / Simon & Schuster / PB / R190

Cooper is brilliant at magic tricks. Card tricks, clever illusions - he can do them all. His dad, also known as the Great Eduardo, taught him the tricks of the magical trade before he passed away. But the one thing Cooper can't do is see his dad again. So, when a talking rabbit appears from his dad's top hat and reveals there is a place where Cooper might find him, he jumps at the chance. Magic is about believing the impossible, after all. And Cooper desperately wants to believe that he can see his dad once more. But what, and who, is waiting for them in the land where magic goes wrong?

Filled with filled with humour and emotion, this is an action-packed graphic novel about finding magic when you need it the most.



Gangsta Granny Strikes Again! by David Walliams

9780008581404 / HarperCollins / PB / R170

Ben is getting used to life without his beloved granny. She was a cabbage enthusiast, a Scrabble partner... and an international jewel thief known as The Black Cat. Now, only the memory of their extraordinary adventure to steal the Crown Jewels lives on. Then something inexplicable happens. World-famous treasures are stolen in the dead of night and the clues point to none other than The Black Cat? But that's impossible...?

Expect the unexpected in this wonderfully entertaining and laugh-out-loud adventure, which will have readers on the edge of their seats as they join Ben on his quest to unravel the mystery of the return of The Black Cat.

This first ever sequel from David Walliams will delight new fans, as well as the millions of readers that have loved *Gangsta Granny*.



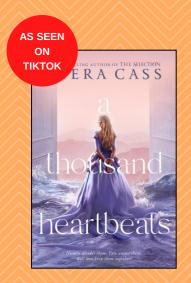
Let Down Your Hair by Bryony Gordon

9781800785472 / Piccadilly / PB / R190

Eleven-year-old Ella Durand is the first Conjuror to attend the Arcanum Training Institute, a magic school in the clouds for Marvellers from around the world. Ella discovers that being the first isn't easy, but she finds friendship in fellow misfits Brigit, a girl who hates magic, and Jason, a boy with a fondness for magical creatures and support from her Elixirs teacher, Masterji Thakur.

Then the notorious Ace of Anarchy escapes prison, supposedly with a Conjuror's aid, and Ella finds herself as the prime suspect. Worse, Masterji Thakur mysteriously disappears while away on a research trip. With the help of her friends and her own growing powers, Ella must find a way to clear her family's name and track down her mentor before it's too late.

Teen Fiction



A Thousand Heartbeat by Kiera Cass

9780008158859 / HarperCollins / PB / R230

Annika has lived a life of comfort and luxury as the Princess of Kadier—but now, after the death of her mother, she's weighted under the looming threat of a loveless marriage arranged by her cold father.

Far outside the palace walls, on the outskirts of the land Annika's family has long ruled over, Lennox is waiting for his moment. His people displaced, his father gone, Lennox knows that it's up to him to lead his people into a battle to overthrow the Kadierian monarchy.

After Annika and Lennox's worlds collide, they can't stop thinking of each other. Annika has waited her whole life to find out what love truly feels like—but could it be that she's found love with someone she can never have?





Winter, White & Wicked by Shannon Dittemore

9781419740244 / Abrams / PB / R270

Twice-orphaned Sylvi has chipped out a niche for herself on Layce, an island cursed by eternal winter. Alone in her rig, she trucks over the frozen mountains and perilous icy passes that the boldest men fear to cross, and she takes comfort from two things: the safety that solitude offers and the favor of Winter. Sylvi likes the road, where no one asks who her parents were, or what she thinks of the rumors of rebels in the north, or what she wants from her life. But when her best friend, Lenore, runs off with the rebels, Sylvi finds herself making a haul too late in the season for a smuggler who she never would've done business with under normal circumstances—the infamous Mars Desden. Alongside Desden's team—Hyla, a giant warrior woman, and Kyn, a boy with skin like stone—Sylvi will do whatever it takes to save her friend. But when the time comes, Sylvi will have to choose: safety, anonymity, and the favor of Winter—or the future of the island that she calls home?

Young Adult



The Folk of the Air Boxset by Holly Black

9781471409943 / Hot Key Books / PB / R640

Bestselling Holly Black boxed set of the Folk of Air trilogy.

Newly available as a boxed set for the first time, these stunning paperback editions of the bestselling Folk of the Air trilogy will be sure to delight both existing fans and new readers.



City of Nightmares by Rebecca Schaeffer

9781399712118 / Hachette / TPB / R355

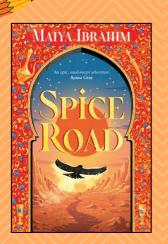
Ever since her sister became a man-eating spider and slaughtered her way through town, nineteen-year-old Ness has been terrified—terrified of some other Nightmare murdering her, and terrified of ending up like her sister. Because in Newham, the city that never sleeps, dreaming means waking up as your worst fear.

Ness will do anything to avoid becoming another victim, even if that means lying low among the Friends of the Restful Soul, a questionable organization that may or may not be a cult.

But being a member of this maybe-cult has a price. In order to prove herself, Ness cons her way into what's supposed to be a simple job for the organization—only for it to blow up in her face. Literally. Tangled up in the aftermath of an explosive assassination, now Ness and the only other survivor—a Nightmare boy who Ness suspects is planning to eat her—must find their way back to Newham and uncover the sinister truth behind the attack, even as the horrors of her past loom ominously near.



Jonathan Ball Publishers January & February 2023 Children's Highlights



Spice Road by Maiya Ibrahim

9781399702034 / Hachette / TPB / R355

In the hidden desert city of Qalia, secret spice magic awakens the affinities of those who drink the misra tea. With her affinity for iron, seventeen-year-old Imani can wield a dagger like no other - and for that she has gained a reputation as the next greatest Shield, battling djinn, ghouls, and the other monsters spreading across the sands. But ever since her brother was discovered stealing their nation's coveted spice - a tell-tale sign of magical obsession - and disappeared into the deadly Forbidden Wastes, Imani's reputation has been in tatters. Despite Atheer's betrayal, there isn't a day that goes by that she doesn't grieve him. Then Imani discovers signs her brother may be alive and spreading their nation's magic to outsiders. Desperate to find him and to protect him, she joins the mission sent to hunt him down. Accompanied by Taha, a powerful beastseer, who enthrals and enrages her in equal measure, Imani soon discovers that many secrets lie beyond the Forbidden Wastes - and in her own heart.



Never Ever Getting Back Together by Sophie Gonzales

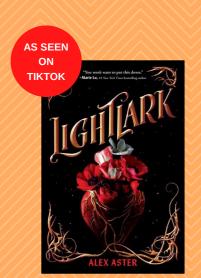
9781444964646 / Simon & Schuster / PB / R190

Maya dumped her cheating ex-boyfriend Jordy two years ago. So, when she receives a call to participate in Second Chance Romance - a reality show in which the now-famous Jordy re-dates his ex-girlfriends - she isn't interested . . . until she realizes she can use this opportunity to exact her revenge. If she can make it to the final spot on the show, she can reject Jordy in front of the nation, and publicly break his heart.

Maya's fellow contestants include Skye, the beautiful, charismatic girl Jordy cheated on Maya with. Skye charms the socks off everyone she meets, except for Maya, who knows that underneath all the sparkle, she's the girl who dated her boyfriend while he was still her boyfriend.

The reality show is a challenging environment. Amidst backstabbing, bickering, and having to see Jordy again, Maya finds herself becoming friends with Skye. Together, they come up with a plan for the ultimate revenge on Jordy.

But as she spends more time with Jordy and Skye, Maya is torn. Is Jordy a good guy who made a mistake? Is there more than friendship between her and Skye? As the season finale approaches, can Maya execute her plan, or will she go off-script?



Lightlark (Special Edition) by Alex Aster

9781419766671 / Abrams / HB / R415

This collectible "romance edition" includes an exclusive bonus chapter told from the POV of the protagonist's love interest and a deluxe case featuring a full-colour, alternate cover design. #BookTok phenomenon and award-winning author Alex Aster delivers readers a masterfully written, utterly gripping YA fantasy novel.

Welcome to the Centennial. Every 100 years, the island of Lightlark appears to host the Centennial, a deadly game that only the rulers of six realms are invited to play. The invitation is a summons-a call to embrace victory and ruin, baubles and blood. The Centennial offers the six rulers one final chance to break the curses that have plagued their realms for centuries. Each ruler has something to hide. Each realm's curse is uniquely wicked. To destroy the curses, one ruler must die.

Isla Crown is the young ruler of Wildling-a realm of temptresses cursed to kill anyone they fall in love with. They are feared and despised, and are counting on Isla to end their suffering by succeeding at the Centennial. To survive, Isla must lie, cheat, and betray...even as love complicates everything.



JonathanBall*Publishers*

NB! Deadline for requests:

Wednesday 21 December 2022

Click here to get your wish lists in!

Thank You.

