

Press release

HarperCollins Children's Books Snap Up World Rights for Debut Series by Illustrator John Bond

London: 21 March 2018. HarperCollins Children's Books have acquired the world rights to a spectacular picture book series *Mini Rabbit* from debut author and illustrator, John Bond. The three-book deal was negotiated by Alice Blacker, Publishing Director Picture Books directly with John Bond.

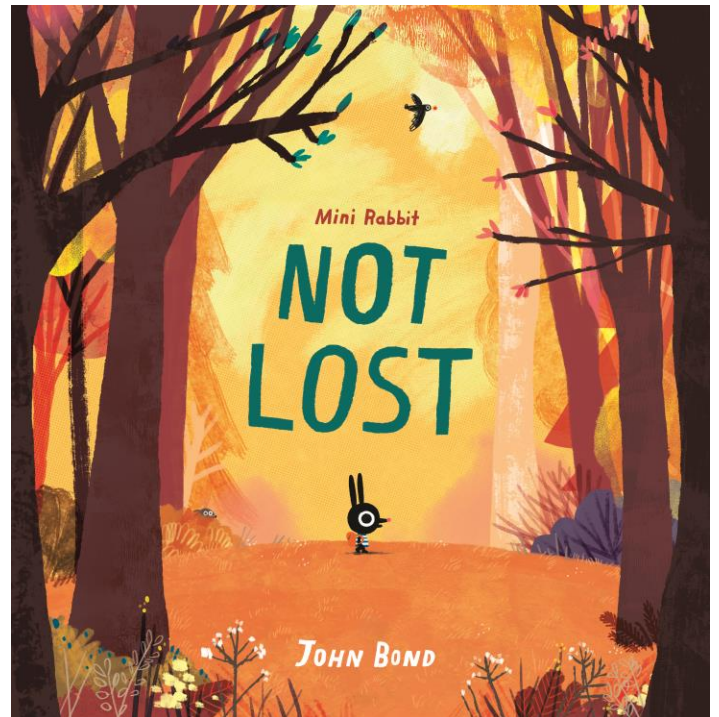
John Bond is an award-winning illustrator, animator and designer, who has garnered a massive online fan base for his art via social media with over 100K followers on Instagram. The first book in the series ***Mini Rabbit: Not Lost*** will be published in hardback (£12.99) in September 2018 with simultaneous eBook and audiobook publication.

With utterly unique and stylish illustrations, and a delightfully funny text, *Mini Rabbit* and creator John Bond are destined to take the picture book world by storm.

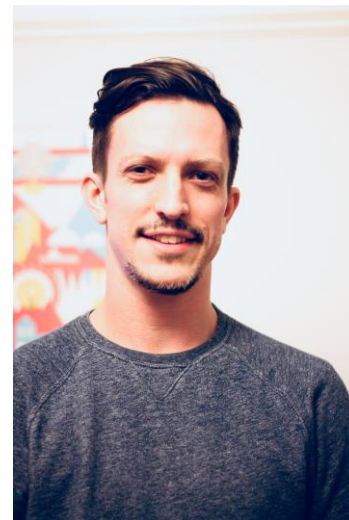
Small, but intrepid, *Mini Rabbit* is searching for berries to make a cake. Unaware of the enormous danger all around, he crosses oceans, climbs mountains and treks through eerie forests. He doesn't need help and he's not lost... Or is he? As night falls, *Mini Rabbit* finds himself very far away. How will he ever find his way back home for cake?

Alice Blacker, Publishing Director Picture Books said: "It's a rare thing to come across talent as brilliant as John Bond's. He's a true original whose artwork and characters have such lightness of touch, wit and appeal. I couldn't be more thrilled to welcome him to the HarperCollins picture book list – and introduce his work to a generation of picture book readers."

John Bond said: "It's an incredible honour for me to enter the world of picture books with HarperCollins. I'm really excited to be developing *Mini Rabbit* across a full series of books and have been made to feel totally at home with the HarperCollins team."



John Bond studied Illustration at Kingston University and worked for 7 years at an award-winning creative agency before becoming a full-time illustrator and designer. John collaborated with Ohh Deer and Mister Men to create a range of Mister Men and Little Miss greetings cards, launched in January 2017, available in Paperchase. His own 'Creatures' birthday card range for Paperchase and Ohh Deer was nominated for 'Best Children's range' at the prestigious Henries awards for greetings card publishers. His clients include: BBC, British Gas, Channel 4, Disney, Historic Royal Palaces, King's College London, Mars, Mister Men, MTV, Nickleodeon, NHS, Ohh Deer, Open University, Paperchase, Starbucks, Tate, Utility Warehouse, Winsor and Newton. John is married and has two young children. He lives and works by the coast in West Sussex. You can follow John on www.instagram.com/iamjohnbond www.twitter.com/iamjohnbond



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NOTES TO EDITORS:

- HarperCollins Children's Books, unprecedented three times winner of Children's Publisher of the Year (2014, 2015, 2016), is one of the leading publishers of children's books, recognised for nurturing new talent as well as boasting a reputable list of established bestselling authors. Respected worldwide for its tradition of publishing quality, award-winning books for young readers, HarperCollins is home to many children's classics, including the Chronicles of Narnia, the Paddington stories, *The Cat in the Hat* and *The Tiger Who Came to Tea*, and to some of the biggest names in children's literature past and present, including David Walliams, Judith Kerr, David Baddiel, Lauren Child, Oliver Jeffers and Michael Morpurgo.
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