

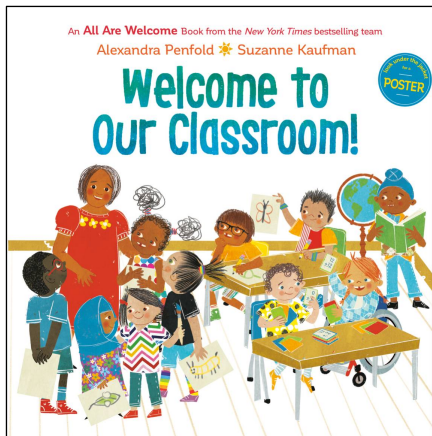


UPSTART CROW
LITERARY

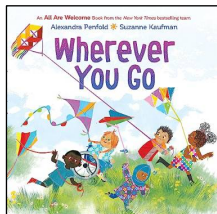
**New & Recent
Titles of Interest**

**Bologna Book Fairs
Spring 2026**

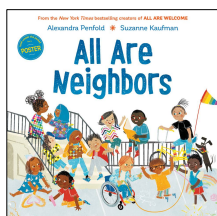
Upstart Crow Literary
& The Inkhouse
594 Dean Street, Office 47
Brooklyn, NY 11238 212.686.5834
Inquiries: michael@upstartcrowliterary.com



June 2026 • Picture book
Knopf/PRH (US)
HC ISBN 978-8-217-03050-7



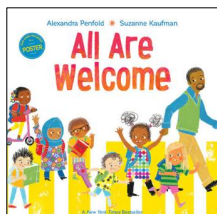
March 2024 • Knopf/PRH (US)
HC ISBN 978-0-593-43001-9



August 2022 • Knopf/PRH (US)
HC ISBN 978-0-593-42998-3



March 2021 • Knopf/PRH (US)
HC ISBN 978-0-525-57974-8



July 2018 • Knopf/PRH (US)
HC ISBN 978-0-525-57964-9

The latest entry in the New York Times–bestselling franchise takes readers into a vibrant schoolroom

WELCOME TO OUR CLASSROOM!

Alexandra Penfold (*represented by Writers House*)
illustrated by Suzanne Kaufman (*represented by Upstart Crow*)

Capping off the picture books in this series, this lyrical entry celebrates the many ways a classroom is like a family, introducing them to the many milestones over the course of a school year—from conquering math to making friends—all told in the reassuring voice of a caring and beloved teacher.

About *All Are Welcome*, the first entry in the series:

**A year on the *New York Times* bestseller list!
Well over a million copies sold!**

★ “Penfold and Kaufman have outdone themselves in delivering a vital message in today’s political climate.”—*Kirkus Reviews*, starred review

“A great read-aloud selection to start the year and revisit time and again.”—*School Library Journal*

**And also extended into bestselling
board books & easy readers**

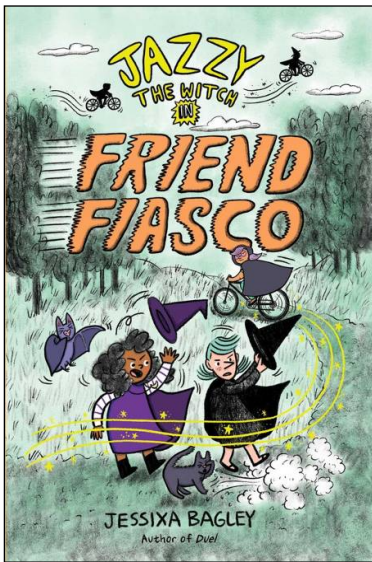


Alexandra Penfold is the author of a half-dozen pictures books. She lives in Brooklyn, New York, with her family. www.alexpenfoldbooks.com

Suzanne Kaufman has created art for many books, including several she’s written—most recently, *A Friend for Ghost*. She lives in Seattle.

Rights Information for other entries in the series: PRH/Knopf (US), Bloomsbury (UK/ANZ), Scholastic (Canada), Alba (Catalan), Double Spiral (Simplified Chinese), Alba (Spain), Nova Frontiera (Brazil), Psychogios (Greece), Il Castoro (Italy), Suzuki (Japan), KIZM (Korea), Kim Dong (Vietnam).

Inquiries: rights@upstartcrowliterary.com



July 2026

Middle Grade fiction (8 and up)
Simon & Schuster Books FYR (WE)
HC 978-1-66-592235-7

Review materials: PDF

Jazzy gets competitive with a new girl in this second book about a young witch who struggles to find where she fits best

JAZZY THE WITCH in FRIEND FIASCO

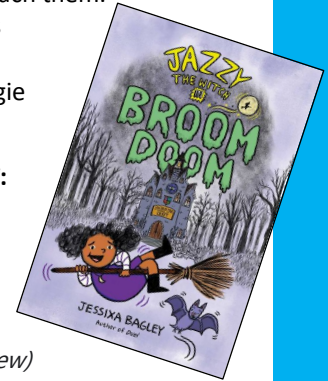
Jessixa Bagley

Ever since Jazzy shared her love for cycling with her town, all the other witches want to learn how to ride a bike, and Jazzy is excited to teach them. She is the best cyclist around, after all... until a mysterious newcomer shows up who's a total whiz on a bike! On top of that, the new kid just might have Jazzy's best friend Aggie beat as the smartest witch in school.

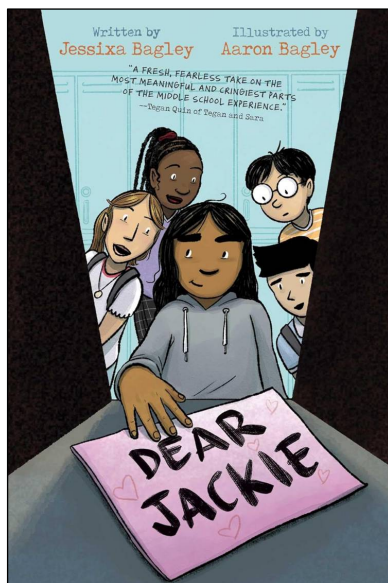
Praise for book one, JAZZY THE WITCH in BROOM DOOM:

★ "Whimsy abounds in this playful series open[er]."
—*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

★ "[A] delightful middle-grade graphic novel about the magic of finding a passion."—*Shelf Awareness* (starred review)



Jessixa Bagley is an award-winning creator of many picture books and, with her husband, Aaron, the graphic novels *Duel* and *Dear Jackie*.



Fall 2025

Middle Grade fiction (8 and up)
Simon & Schuster Books FYR (WE)
HC 978-1534496583
PB 978-1534496576

Review materials: PDF of interior

A fake love letter sets off a hilarious cycle of middle-school gossip about a non-existent secret admirer

DEAR JACKIE

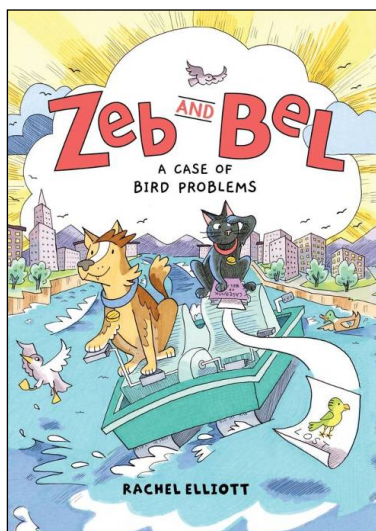
Written by Jessixa Bagley, Illustrated by Aaron Bagley

When Jackie's lifelong best friend Milo grows apart from her, she finds herself lost in the stressful world of middle school. Her new friends want to make her over into someone she's not, and worse, want to help her find her "crush." To get them to back off, Jackie does something unthinkable: sends herself a very public but very anonymous love letter. But if anything, this makes the pressures worse: Soon Jackie's secret admirer is all anybody at school can talk about. Now she's wondering: *Dear Jackie, how are you going to get out of this mess?*

"Smart, sweet, and sophisticated, *Dear Jackie* is a fresh, fearless take on the most meaningful and cringiest parts of middle school. You'll swoon, squeal and cheer in that order."—Tegan Quin (of pop super-duo Tegan and Sara)

"Offers a fresh, loving perspective on middle school drama."—*Shelf Awareness*

Jessixa and Aaron Bagley are a married pair of artists who live in the Pacific Northwest and the creators of the award-winning graphic novel *Duel*. She is the award-winning writer-illustrator of many picture books, he is a well-published cartoonist, and together they are the creators of *Vincent Comes Home*. www.jessixa.com



January 2026

Middle Grade fiction (8 and up)

160 pages

Harper Collins (WE)

HC 978-0-06-335430-2

PB 978-0-06-335429-6

Review materials: [PDF of interior](#)

An utterly charming graphic novel series starter about a pair of animal detectives, from an award-winning comics creator

ZEB AND BEL (#1): A CASE OF BIRD PROBLEMS

Rachel Elliott

Zeb and Bel aren't your typical brother and sister mystery-solving duo. For one thing, Zeb is a *dog* and Bel is a *cat*. Zeb is warm-hearted, fearless, and imaginative, while Bel is the brains behind the operation.

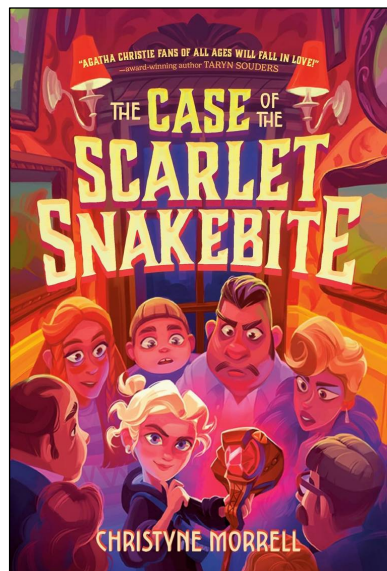
In this first book in the series, Zeb and Bel get to work when their parrot neighbor goes missing. Is it murder most fowl? Has this bird flown the coop? Zeb and Bel will get to the bottom of it!

"Lively and energetic... delightful."—*The Horn Book*

Praise for *The Real Riley Mayes*:

- *A New York Public Library Best Book of 2022*
- *Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection*
- *A Book Riot Best Comic 2022*
- *A Comics Journal Best Comic of 2022*

Rachel Elliott is the award-winning creator of *The Real Riley Mayes*. She lives in Lexington.



February 2026

Middle Grade fiction (10 and up)

Delacorte/PRH

HC ISBN 978-0-593-90486-2

Review materials: [PDF](#)

An avid fan of Agatha Christie whodunits finds herself smack-dab in the middle of a mystery when a priceless gem goes missing

THE CASE OF THE SCARLET SNAKEBITE

Christyne Morrell

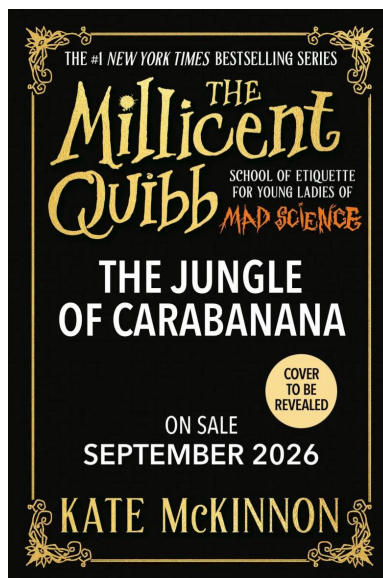
Amber Adler is only twelve, but she knows a thing or two about solving mysteries. For one thing, she has read all of Agatha Christie's novels, several of them twice. Second, she herself is the observant daughter of a famous detective, and everyone knows such talents run in the family.

So when the wealthy Willoughby family stays at her mother's bed-and-breakfast and the priceless Scarlet Snakebite ruby goes missing, Amber hits the ground running. And a good thing, too, as her mother is the chief suspect! It is up to Amber and her singular mystery-solving skills to find the *real* culprit before the police send her mother to the slammer.

"Clever, humorous, and endearing.... just like its narrator."—*Kirkus Reviews*

"For anyone who appreciates a great mystery along with a good laugh."—*Booklist*

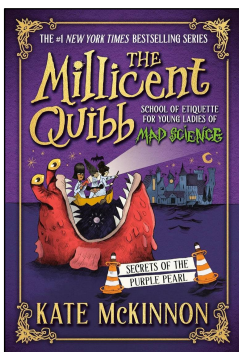
Christyne Morrell is the author of *Curse of the Dead Man's Diamond*, *Trex*, and *Kingdom of Secrets*. christynewrites.com



September 2026

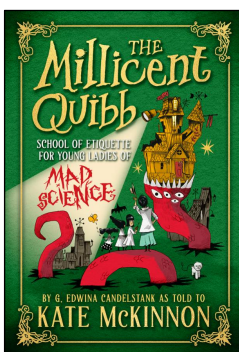
Middle Grade fiction (8 and up)
Hachette (US)/Harper Collins (UK)
HC ISBN 978-0-316-55581-4

Review materials: PDF, finished books



September 2025

Middle Grade fiction (8 and up)
Hachette (US)/Harper Collins (UK)
HC ISBN 978-0-316-55529-6



October 2024

Middle Grade fiction (8 and up)
Hachette (US)/Harper Collins (UK)
HC ISBN 978-0-316-55473-2

The blockbuster #1 New York Times–bestselling series concludes!

THE JUNGLE OF CARABANANA

The Millicent Quibb School of Etiquette for Young Ladies of Mad Science, Book 3

Kate McKinnon

The Porch sisters are going on a trip—this time, to the beautiful almost-French city of ParisToo. Between baguettes, berets, and one very big bug—what could go wrong?

Everything, of course. You see, there’s just one problem with ParisToo: it’s where the evil KRA is planning to execute their most dastardly plan yet!

It’s up to Gertrude, Eugenia, Dee-Dee, and their dear mentor Millicent Quibb, to stop those nefarious mad scientists from taking over the world.

About Kate McKinnon’s *Millicent Quibb* series:

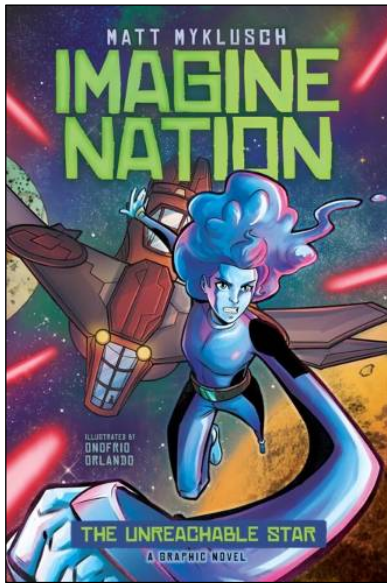
- *more than a quarter-million copies sold
- *Half a year on the New York Times bestseller list
- *Sold in a massive, multi-house auction

Supported by a high six-figure marketing & publicity plan
Including: multi-city author tour, television and online press, and unparalleled outreach to influencers, gatekeepers, and readers



Kate McKinnon is an award-winning performer and writer who is celebrated globally for her work in film and television. She recently played Weird Barbie in Greta Gerwig’s worldwide blockbuster *Barbie*. *The Millicent Quibb School of Etiquette for Young Ladies of Mad Science* was her debut novel.

Rights Information: Hachette/Little, Brown (US), HarperCollins (UK/ANZ), Poche (France), Duomo (Spain), Knigolove (Ukraine), Salani (Italy), V&R (Brazil)



August 2026

Middle Grade fiction (8 and up)
Simon & Schuster (US)
HC 978-1-665-92821-2
PB 978-1-665-92820-5

Review materials: PDF, finished books

A bold defender of justice has her convictions challenged in this second entry set in the world of the acclaimed Jack Blank series

THE UNREACHABLE STAR

Imagine Nation, Book 2

Matt Myklusch

Following the destruction of her home world, a girl named Allegra found her people: the fearless Valorian Guard, defenders of justice throughout the galaxy. It's a reputation Allegra hopes to live up to. But when a mysterious figure from her past reappears, Allegra finds herself breaking the law to help a notorious space pirate called Fallon. Together with her friend Jack Blank, they blast off on a desperate mission.

Praise for book one, *The Blood of Kings*:

"Readers' imaginations will soar in this fantasy action series."—*School Library Journal*

"Briskly paced, expertly crafted, and stocked with surprising twists and nuanced characters."
—*Kirkus Reviews*



Matt Myklusch is the author of the acclaimed Jack Blank trilogy, as well as a half-dozen other books. He lives in New Jersey with his family.



March 2025

Middle Grade fiction (10 and up)
Candlewick Books
HC ISBN 978-1-536237-7-88

Review materials: PDF

Rights Information: Candlewick (WE), Eksmo (Russia)

A starving girl scales the walls of a grand estate's kitchen garden to steal a peach—with life-changing consequences

THE PEACH THIEF

Linda Joan Smith

Desperately hungry, Scilla risks everything to scramble over the wall into the Earl's garden to steal something to eat. What Scilla craves most of all is a peach, a fruit she's tasted once before. She's caught—and because she looks like a boy in her trousers and cap, head gardener Mr. Layton takes her on as an apprentice. Now going by Seth, Scilla dreams of becoming a permanent employee and, eventually, a gardener. But her growing breasts and bodily changes, as well as her unfamiliar romantic feelings for gardener-in-training Phineas Blake, threatens to expose her secret and get her expelled from the garden forever.

★ "Exceptional ... [a] vivid story of struggle and loss spearheaded by hope."—*Booklist*, starred review

★ "Smith's debut serves up a historical fiction tale not to be missed."—*School Library Journal*, starred review

★ "[A] deeply layered novel. Nuanced, richly atmospheric, and exquisitely written."—*Kirkus Reviews*, starred review

Linda Joan Smith is a former magazine editor and a lifelong lover of libraries and children's literature. She lives in California. *The Peach Thief* is her first novel.



Winter 2027

Teen fiction (14 and up)
Macmillan(US)/Scholastic (UK)
HC ISBN TK

Review materials: complete
manuscript

A tongue-in-cheek meta-fantasy à la The Princess Bride, in which a teen of romantasy finds herself in the world of her favorite series

ROMANCING THE THRONE

Caitlin Cooper

Find the princess. Tame the dragon. Fall in love. Don't die.

Sixteen-year-old Cyd is obsessed with the romantic fantasy epic *The Splintered Heart*: a tale of big magic and bigger romance. When Cyd chances to meet the author, she is accidentally swept up into the pages of the novel itself. Only Cyd can rescue the princess and restore her to the throne. Not because Cyd has any particular powers or is part of a prophecy, but simply because she is this story's Number One Fan.

Packed with humor, adventure, and romance, ROMANCING THE THRONE is a saga for readers who love smart heroines, heroes with extremely tight pants, wicked smart fantasy, and books that celebrate the power of storytelling.

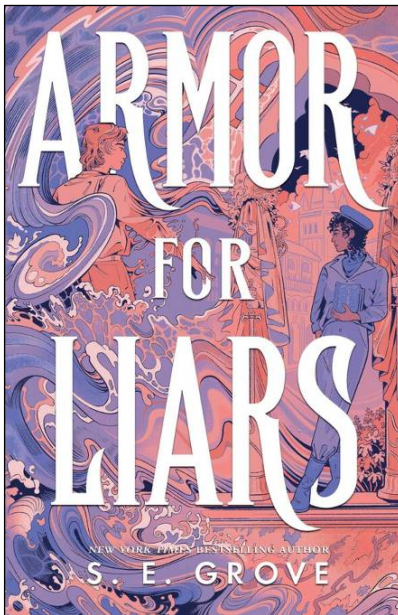
***Sold in a six-figure/book pre-empt in the US**

***Sold at auction in the UK**

Caitlin Cooper, a lifelong fan of fantasy and romance, lives outside Boston.

Rights Information: Feiwel & Friends/Macmillan (US), Scholastic (UK/ANZ), Oceano (Spain), Ciranda (Brazil).

NEW TITLE



Summer 2026

Teen fiction (14 and up)
Simon & Schuster (US)
HC ISBN 978-1-66598370-9

Review materials: PDF of interior

A girl infiltrates a secret society of enchanters with help from the ghost of one of their victims in this historical dark academia novel

ARMOR FOR LIARS

S.E. Grove

In a world where magic is drawn from the realm of the dead, enchanters—always men—go to great lengths to steal it. When Sam—the son of immigrants of modest means—dared to use magic, it cost him his life. Now a spirit, he's determined to avenge his murder and uncover the secrets of the enchanters society from beyond the grave.

When Sam encounters Clementine Quinn, a young woman disguised as a male student, it becomes clear that his past and her fate are inextricably entwined. To avenge his murder and prevent hers, they'll need to help one another and thereby prove, ultimately, that friendship and love can transcend everything—even death.

"Twisty, dark, and dangerous, this wildly original, death-defying fantasy held me spellbound."—Julie Berry, *New York Times* bestselling author

S.E. Grove's *New York Times* bestselling *The Glass Sentence* was the first book in the Mapmakers series. She lives in Massachusetts and teaches at Boston College.

Rights Information: S&S (US), Bayard (France).

Inquiries: rights@upstartcrowliterary.com



NEW TITLE



*From the author of the forthcoming **WHITE LIGHTS** romantasy trilogy, the original series about fallen angels*

FALLEN the television series is a winner of an International Emmy for Outstanding Live Action Kid's Television

FALLEN

The spellbinding sequence of FALLEN novels, worldwide number one bestsellers, in which angels and demons battle over the fate of the earth—and one girl's heart.



The internationally bestselling series

FALLEN, TORMENT, PASSION, RAPTURE, FALLEN IN LOVE & UNFORGIVEN

FALLEN (Book 1)
December 2009

Hardcover 978-0385738934
Paperback 978-0385739139

TORMENT (Book 2)
September 2010

Hardcover 978-0385739146
Paperback 978-0385739153

PASSION (Book 3)
June 2011

Hardcover 978-0385739160
Paperback 978-0385739177

FALLEN IN LOVE (Book 3.5)
January 2012

Hardcover 978-0385742610
Paperback 978-0385742627



RAPTURE (Book 4)
June 2012

Random House/Delacorte (US)
Hardcover 978-0385739184
Paperback 978-0385739191

UNFORGIVEN (Book 5)
Fall 2015

Teen fiction (12 and up)
Random House/Delacorte (US)
Hardcover ISBN tk



Rights Information: Brazil (Editora Record), Bulgaria (Intense/Locus Books), Catalan language (Grup Editorial 62, China (Citic), Croatia (Zansje), Czech Republic (Euromedia), Denmark (Tellerup), Estonia (Pegasus), Film/Television (Mayhem Pictures/Inferno), Finland (WSOY), France (Bayard), Germany (Bertelsmann), Greece (Psichogios Publications), Hungary (Könyvmoly), Indonesia (PT Gramedia Pustaka Utama), Israel (Hakibbutz Hameuhad), Italy (Rizzoli), Japan (Softbank), Korea (Random House Korea), Latvia (Zvaigzne ABC), Lithuania (Media Incognito), Macedonia (Prosvetno Delo), Netherlands/Dutch language (Van Goor), Poland (MAG), Portugal (Planeta), Romania (Editura Litera), Russia (Eksmo), Serbia (Evro-Giunti), Slovak Republic (IKAR), Slovenia (Zalozba Alicia), Spain (RH/Mondadori), Taiwan (Sun Color Culture), Thailand (Post), Turkey (Epsilon), UK Audio (RHUK), US Audio (Listening Library), UK (RHUK (Doubleday), Vietnam (Tan Viet)



Fall 2026

Teen fiction (12 and up)

432 pages

Delacorte/PRH (US)

HC 979-8-21702766-8

Review materials: [PDF of interior](#)

In this sweeping WWII historical romance threaded with magic and myth, two star-crossed Japanese American teenagers find love

THE GODS WILL SING OUR SONG

Autumn Krause

Inspired by the author's true family history of internment

1942. War rages, gods stir in the wind, and two lives are set on a collision course that will change them forever. Seventeen-year-old Ren has always been defined by his troubled past, while Violet has only ever worried about keeping her straight-A grades. They have little in common beyond an old magic that thrums in their family relics—and the fact that they're Japanese American in a country determined to cast them as the enemy.

"Weaves history, magic, and lore into an irresistible love story."—Elana K Arnold, Printz Honoree and National Book Award finalist

"A beautifully rendered story, full of heart and feeling."—Stephanie Garber, #1 *NYT* and internationally bestselling author

Autumn Krause is the author of several novels for teens, most recently *Grave Flowers*. She lives in California.

Rights Information: Delacorte/PR (US), Stone (Ukraine).



September 2025

YA fiction (14 and up)

Candlewick Books (WE)

HC 978-1-536240-35-1

Review materials: [PDF of typeset pages](#)

The hilarious tale of a theater nerd who tackles slut-shaming and learns the power of forgiving others—and herself

REASONS TO HATE ME

Susan Metallo

**Sold at auction for six-figures*

There are countless good reasons to hate Jess Lanza, Stone Bridge High School's premier theater nerd and Champion of Questionable Life Choices—but most people are stuck on last year's life-ruining mistake, the one that earned Jess the title "Boyfriend Stealing Slutbag."

To take back her own story, Jess begins posting online posts about her most ridiculous fails and embarrassing self-owns. But somehow, all of Jess's posts circle back to the friendship her alleged sluttiness pulverized—and the gaping hole she left in Jess's life.

★ "[B]alances acerbic comedy with insightful prose.... A standout."
—*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

★ "Readers will find many reasons to love this book."
—*The Horn Book* (starred review)

Susan Metallo is a youth services librarian. This novel, her debut, won the SCBWI Work-in-Progress Award, among many honors. www.susanmetallo.com



June 2026

YA fiction (12 and up)

Amulet Books/Abrams (US)

HC ISBN 978-1-41978558-0

Review materials: [PDF of interior](#)

A girl pretends to be a psychic to solve a long-ago murder—and starts having real visions of the future

TELL ME MY FUTURE

Eileen M. Ruvane

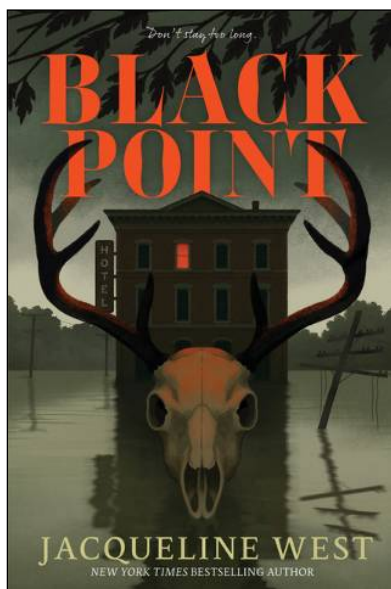
Kess Turner's mom has dragged her all around the country her whole life, never spending longer than a few months in one place. But nothing is normal about their new home—a dusty psychic shop—or the way Kess's mom was summoned when a mysterious accident left the psychic Madame Amalia in a coma. When Kess finds coded messages and cash hidden among the crystal balls and Tarot cards, she knows there's more to the story. Desperate for answers, Kess poses as a psychic in order to pump Madame Amalia's clients for information—only to start experiencing strange visions of events that actually come true. The more she investigates, the more she suspects her mom and Madame Amalia were involved in a murder years ago.

"A powerhouse debut."—Harlan Coben
New York Times bestselling author

Eileen M. Ruvane lives in Pennsylvania. *Tell Me My Future* is her debut.

Rights Information: Amulet/Abrams (WE), Publicat (Poland), Eksmo (Russia), Ciranda (Brazil).

NEW TITLE



Summer 2026

Teen fiction (12 and up)

304 pages

Atheneum/Simon & Schuster (US)

HC 978-1-66598185-9

Review materials: [PDF of interior](#)

In this dark brew of a novel, a town's sinister past resurfaces along with a rising river and a haunted hotel

BLACK POINT

Jacqueline West

Some secrets should never come to light.

Most people grow up and leave Black Point, but not Lucia—the teen is determined to stay and carry on her grandfather's Viking Museum, a shrine to their ancestors and their doomed little town. But then some outsiders buy the 150-year-old abandoned hotel and bring new life to the town ... including the owner's teenage nephew, Max. Soon Lucia and Max together are learning about the old hotel and why it has lain empty so long: a run of mysterious guest disappearances tied to the Viking heritage of the town and its bloody traditions and leading right back to Lucia's grandfather's museum.

Praise for Jacqueline West's previous spooky novels:

"Everything I love in a book!"—V.E. Schwab on *Last Things*

★ "A spooky sisterhood mystery that is sure to be a hit."—*School Library Journal* (starred review) on *Long Lost*

"Grab a flashlight and stay up late with this one."—*Kirkus* on *Long Lost*

Jacqueline West is the award-winning, *New York Times*–bestselling author of ten novels for young readers. She lives in Michigan.

NEW TITLE



Fall 2026

Fiction (adult)

Rights sold: Harper Collins (US)/Transworld (UK), Philip Rey (France)

HC ISBN 978-0-tk

Materials available: PDF of edited ms

The wife of a megachurch pastor upends her "rags-to-Rolax" life when her past comes roaring into the spotlight

TRUE CONFESSIONS OF FIRST LADY FREEMAN

Deesha Philyaw

**The debut novel of a multiple award-winning author
Sold in a seven-figure auction in the US**

From the moment Scharisse Freeman married a megachurch pastor, she's been labeled too brash and too "of the world" by church folks—but it seems she'll finally get past all that when she gets an invitation to participate in the First Lady USA pageant. It is the validation she's always longed for. But as the competition nears, a scandal breaks with Schar at its center, and her carefully curated life begins to implode. Schar's past and present collide and she must choose: follow the edicts—and hypocrisies—of the life she's chosen, or embrace her authentic self.

An unflinchingly funny and frank examination of sexual agency and the Black church, this expansive novel weaves together narrative threads from the AIDS crisis of the 1980s to the Obama era of the 2000s in a one-of-a-kind tale of a woman finding the courage to be true to herself.

Early praise for *True Confessions of First Lady Freeman*

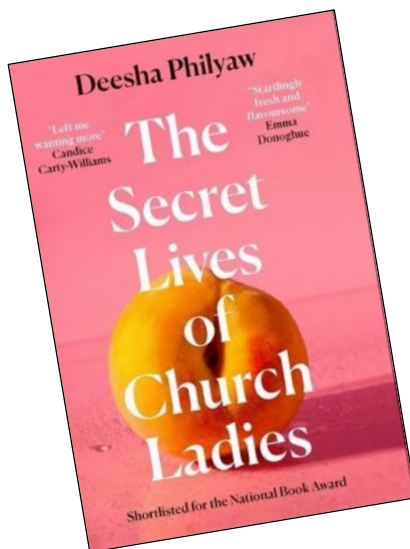
"This book is so damn good. Sexy, messy, funny AF, with a message tucked tight in the satire. It slaps with a perfectly manicured open hand."—Nikese Elise Williams, author of *The Seven Daughters of Dupree*

"Sexy, shocking, and funny as hell."
—Victor LaValle, author of *Lone Women*

"Funny and juicy and sexy... Deesha Philyaw is so good at writing complex characters who feel full and alive—I wanted to live inside this book!"—*NYT*-bestselling author Samantha Irby

Praise for Deesha Philyaw's debut, *The Secret Lives of Church Ladies*

WINNER: 2021 PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction
WINNER: 2020 LA Times Book Prize Award for First Fiction
WINNER: 2020/2021 Story Prize for debut collection
FINALIST: 2020 National Book Award for Fiction
A Kirkus Best Book of 2020



Rights sold: UWVPress (US), Pushkin (UK/ANZ), Czarne (Poland), Ars Vivendi (Germany), Phillipe Rey (France), Societa Editrice Milan (Italy), Booky (China), Keiso Shobo (Japan), MPG (South Korea)