

ANDERSEN PRESS

*Fiction*

FRANKFURT 2018

RIGHTS GUIDE

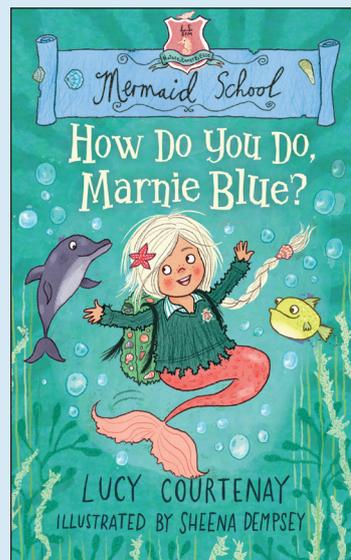


### MERMAID SCHOOL SERIES LUCY COURTENAY ILLUSTRATED BY SHEENA DEMPSEY

**Welcome to Lady Sealia Foam's Mermaid School! Here you will learn siren songs, proper care of sea creatures and how not to fall off your seahorse.**

It is Marnie Blue's very first day at Mermaid School, and she's terrified. What if she can't make any new friends, or if she's asked to ride a seahorse? What's more, her famous diva aunt Christabel was a notorious rebel at the same school, and got up to all sorts of naughtiness. Marnie is soon branded a troublemaker by her grumpy octopus music teacher and quickly gets on the wrong side of the head teacher. But when a fellow pupil finds herself in danger, it's up to Marnie to show that daring runs in the family and swim to the rescue.

- The first in a hilarious new series featuring the adventures of Marnie Blue and friends
- Perfect for fans of *The Worst Witch*, *Dork Diaries* and *Bad Mermaids*
- Featuring illustrations from Sheena Dempsey, the acclaimed illustrator of *Dave Pigeon* and *Fearne Cotton's Yoga Babies*



- Draft cover

**Publication date:** June 2019

**Extent:** 15,000 words, (b+w illustrations)

**Andersen Press:** All rights

**Age group:** 7-9 years

**Agent:** Curtis Brown

Book 2  
coming  
2019

### THE BATTLE OF THE BLIGHTY BLING

RUTH QUAYLE

**Meet the Parrot McScurvys – the oddest, most bonkers family on the high seas.**

Vic and her younger brother and sister have been left alone at home, which means they will surely get into mischief. But not just any ordinary kind of mischief, because Vic and her family are PIRATES.

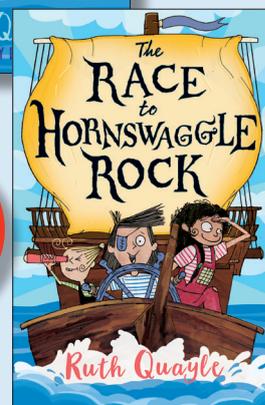
Since Dad sunk the family pirate ship the McScurvys have had to live in a caravan by the sea. In this adventure, the kids take to the high seas to get it back along with the legendary pirate treasure the Blighty Bling.

But their adventure runs into a few problems when they meet their old pirate enemy, Captain Guillemot, and Vic discovers a few home truths along the way...

- Nicely observed friendship and rivalry between the pirate brother and sisters and their know-it-all neighbours who accompany them on their adventure
- An exciting debut fiction series for middle grade readers
- *'Perfect for seven- to nine-year-olds, this is a brilliant, fast-paced adventure for those of us who love mischief'* – Evening Standard
- Perfect for fans of *The Accidental Pirates* series, *Abi Elphinstone* and *My Brother is a Superhero*



Book 2  
coming  
May 2019



**Published:** August 2018

**Extent:** 224 pages (b+w illustrations)

**Andersen Press:** All rights (except film)

**Rights sold:** Audio

**Age group:** 7-9 years

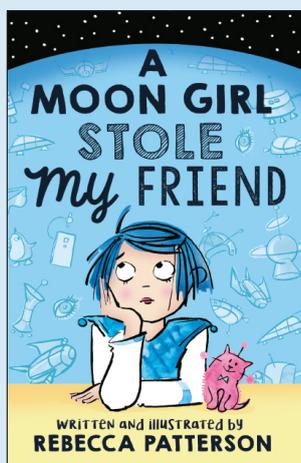
**Agent:** Holroyde Cartey Limited

**A MOON GIRL STOLE MY FRIEND**

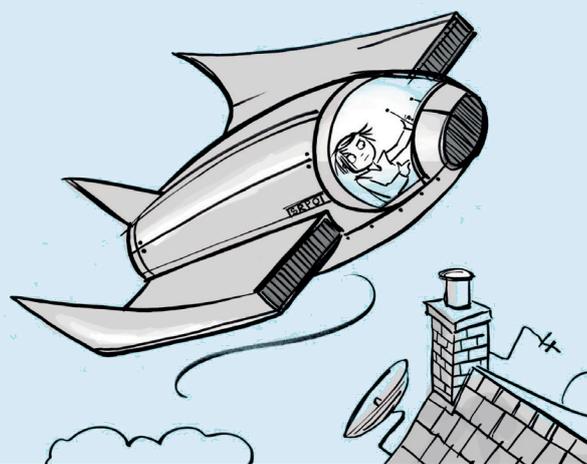
WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY REBECCA PATTERSON

**It's 2099. Lyla lives in a world of robocats, flying sweets and instant snow, but some things never change. Little brothers are still annoying, schoolteachers make you cringe, and, when your best friend deserts you for the new girl, it still HURTS.**

Lyla and Bianca are best friends, they are as close as sisters. But when Petra Luna arrives at their school, things start to change. Bianca deserts Lyla for the new girl and Lyla has to hang out with her annoying little brother and Louis, a boy who is always in trouble. But Lyla's problems lead her into unexpected adventures. . .



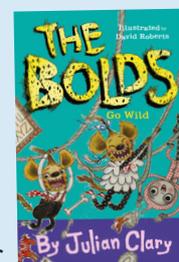
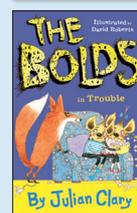
- Rebecca Patterson won **The Roald Dahl Funny Prize** with *My Big Shouting Day*
- A funny and brilliantly observed story of a friendship crisis with a science fiction twist
- An exciting new debut fiction series for middle grade readers
- 2019 is the 50th anniversary of the moon landing

**THE BOLDS** JULIAN CLARY ILLUSTRATED BY DAVID ROBERTS

Fabulously funny children's series from comedy king Julian Clary.

Mr and Mrs Bold are just like you and me: they live in a nice house (in suburbia), they have jobs (like writing jokes), they have two children and they love to laugh. One slight difference: they're hyenas!

- *The Bolds on Holiday* was Sunday Times Children's Book of the Week
- Themes of fitting in and accepting cultural differences
- UK sales have reached over **300,000 copies**
- The Bolds series has been hugely successful and was part of the World Book Day 2018 £1 book scheme with *The Bolds' Great Adventure*
- Will appeal to fans of best-selling comedy from the likes of David Walliams and Roald Dahl
- Promotional material available for translation including bookmarks, posters, activity packs and stickers
- 'Silliness and fun' – Nicolette Jones, Sunday Times
- 'Wildly original and very funny' – Kirkus, starred review
- 'Joyful' – Telegraph



- Draft cover

Publication date **Book 5**: April 2019

Extent: 320 / 288 pages (b+w illustrations)

Andersen Press: All rights (except film)

Age group: 7-11 years

Rights sold in: Albania, Arabic, Audio, Azerbaijan, Brazil, China, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Iran, Italy, Korea, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Spain, Turkey and USA

Agent: Furniss Lawton

**Book 5**  
coming  
April 2019

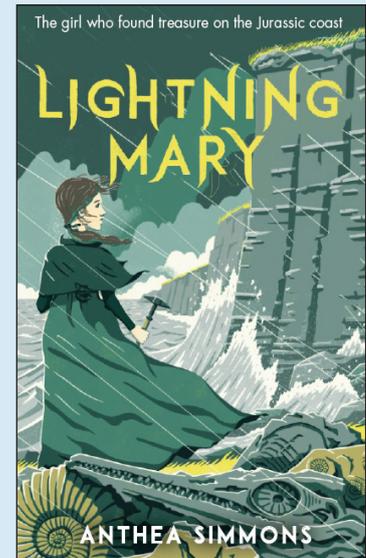
**LIGHTNING MARY** ANTHEA SIMMONS

**The tale of Mary Anning, the 19th century fossil finder who defied convention to become a scientist in a man's world.**

*Ordinary is what most people are and I am not. I am not ordinary at all. I am a scientist.*

Struck by lightning as a baby, Mary grows up bright but poor and with little schooling in her small coastal town. One day her father takes her fossil hunting on the beach, and a spark is lit within Mary. Braving landslips and storms, she develops a keen eye for fossils which she sells to keep her family afloat. It is a time of change and possibility, when new ideas about the earth and its creatures are coming to the fore. But tragedy is never far away...

- Perfect for readers aged 9-12 who love books like *Goodnight Stories for Rebel Girls* and the fiction of Lucy Worsley and Emma Carroll
- *Lightning Mary* gives credit to an early rebel woman scientist who was overlooked in her own lifetime
- An irresistible first-person narrative from a unique historical character who defied convention
- Includes a factual section about Mary Anning, her life and work, and the famous fossils she discovered including the first full ichthyosaur skeleton



**Publication date:** April 2019  
**Extent:** 272 pages  
**Andersen Press:** All rights  
**Age group:** 9-12 years

**MOSSBELLY MACFEARSOME AND THE DWARVES OF DOOM**

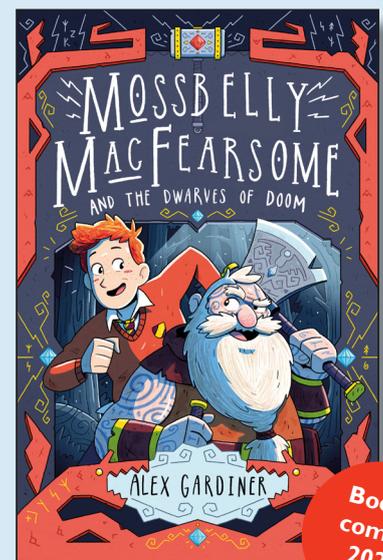
ALEX GARDINER

**Roger is just an ordinary boy in an ordinary world – or so he thinks until a grumpy dwarf warrior, Mossbelly MacFearsome, appears from nowhere and saves him from the school bully.**

Moss decides that Roger must join him on his daring quest to defeat his arch-enemy Leatherhead Barnstorm and his horrifying horde of monstrous (but very polite) gorefiends. If Roger doesn't help Moss, the world as we know it will be destroyed. If he does help, he will be late for his tea.

A Highland castle, a trainee witch who knows karate, and an ancient curse to be broken – just what has Roger got himself into?

- A fast-paced middle grade comic fantasy adventure series, perfect for fans of Terry Pratchett's *Discworld* series and Neil Gaiman's *Fortunately, The Milk*
- Science fiction and fantasy readers will love this comic spoof of the genre
- 'Fast-paced, smart, and very, very amusing. Alex Gardiner mixes myth with modernity and makes a unique world' – Sam Gayton
- Heroic boy and girl characters, lots of action and madcap humour makes this series an irresistible package



**Publication date:** January 2019  
**Extent:** 240 pages  
**Andersen Press:** All rights  
**Age group:** 9-11 years  
**Rights sold:** Audio

**Book 2  
coming  
2020**

**LOST FOR WORDS** AOIFE WALSH

**A touching family tale about grief and growing up. Can Dallas save her local library from closure?**

Dallas's life was turned upside down the day her mum was killed in a traffic accident. Now she lives with her brothers, step-sister and her mum's partner Gemma in a too-small house filled with arguments and grief. As the end of primary school approaches, Dallas learns that the local library has run out of money and will soon be closing. Dallas decides she cannot lose another thing that she loves. Together with her friends Aiza and Ruby, and her unconventional American aunt Jessi, she starts a campaign to save the library for everyone.

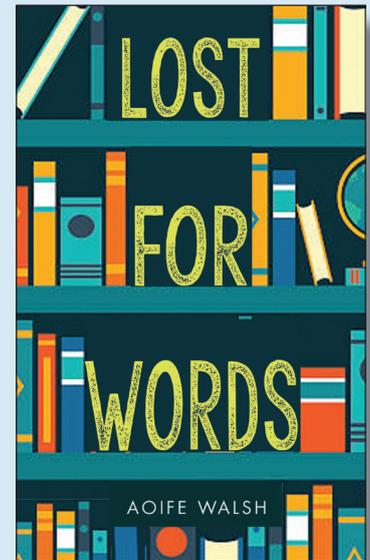
Praise for *'Too Close to Home'*

• *'Dialogue-driven family drama written in an engaging, authentic voice. Tons of insight and good humour'* – The Scotsman

Praise for *'Look After Me'*

• *'Enormously engaging, funny, and thought-provoking... A compulsive read celebrating the rich variety of family life'* – BookTrust

- A beautifully told tale about family, grief and growing up
- Aoife Walsh's previous novels have received acclaim and *Too Close to Home* was nominated for the **Carnegie Medal**



• Draft cover

**Publication date:** July 2019

**Extent:** 60,000 words

**Andersen Press:** All rights (except film)

**Age group:** 11+ years

**Agent:** Caskie Mushens

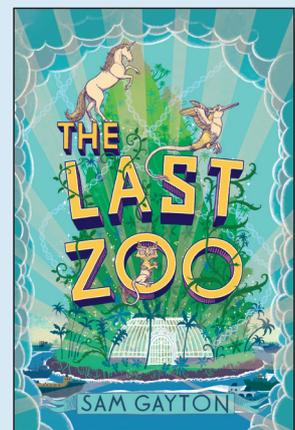
**THE LAST ZOO** SAM GAYTON

**Pia is no ordinary zoo keeper. Instead of animals she looks after spirits, devils, angels and genies – oh, and a pair of ghosts who happen to be her parents.**

She spends her days trimming genie-beards, trying to avoid being tricked into selling her soul, and waiting for the angels to make a miracle big enough to save the world.

Then the angels go missing. Can she solve the riddles of the mysterious haloes the angels have left behind? Is the zoo's devil really trying to help her? And what does all this have to do with her best friends, the Rekkers? Pia needs to solve the mystery fast, because everything around her seems to be ending: her friendships, her childhood, and maybe even the world itself.

- A new world for Sam Gayton, set on an Earth which is facing mass extinction. Perfect for fans of Terry Pratchett and Douglas Adams
- Sam Gayton has been nominated for the **Carnegie Medal**, and is the winner of the **West Sussex Children's Story Award, Parents' Choice Gold Award, Tower Hamlets Book Award** and **Somerset Book Award**
- *'Gayton conjures worlds far beyond your imagination and characters that grab you by the hand and pull you with them, headlong into adventure.'* – Gill Lewis
- Praise for *His Royal Whiskers*: *'An outstanding story packed with magic and mayhem'* – Abi Elphinstone
- Praise for the author: *'Gayton [writes] with a light touch and fertile inventiveness.'* – Children's Book of the Week, Sunday Times



**Publication date:** March 2019

**Extent:** 320 pages

**Andersen Press:** All rights

**Age group:** 10+ years

**Agent:** Lindsay Literary Agency

**A WOLF CALLED WANDER** ROSANNE PARRY  
ILLUSTRATED BY MÓNICA ARMIÑO

*'The wolf star, brightest of all in the summer sky, shines over my home ground. I know every hidden lake and rocky ridge, but if my pack is not in the mountains, then it is no home to me. I feel a howl deep inside, but dare not let it out.'*

Swift lives with his pack in the mountains, until one terrible day his family is killed. Alone and starving, Swift must make a choice: stay and try to survive on the borders of his old hunting grounds, or venture out and find a new place to call home. Will he find the courage to survive all by himself?

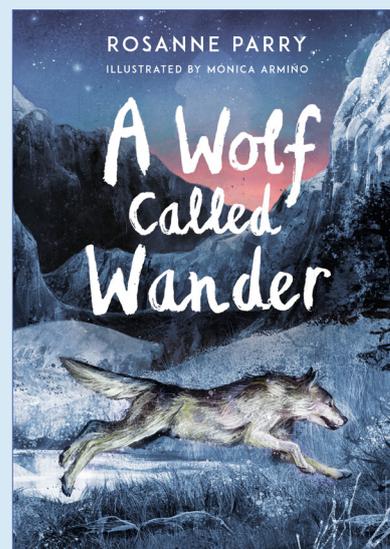
- Inspired by a true story of a wolf that travelled 1,200 miles across America
- With beautiful illustrations from artist Mónica Armiño, and a factual section about wolves and their environment.
- A 21st-century *White Fang*, ideal for fans of Michael Morpurgo and Katherine Rundell

Praise for previous novels:

- 'A touching, heartwarming story' – Booklist, starred review
- 'This affecting work of realistic fiction is one to be savored' – SLJ, starred review

Awards for *Heart of a Shepherd*:

- **Kirkus Reviews Best Books of the Year 2009, Horn Book Fanfare Best Books of 2009, Washington Post Best Children's Books of 2009, 2010 Oregon Spirit Book Award**



**Publication date:** May 2019  
**Extent:** 176 pages (b+w illustrations)  
**Andersen Press:** All rights (except film)  
**Age group:** 9-12 years  
**Rights sold:** China, Czech Rep, France, Germany, Russia, USA  
**Agent:** Transatlantic

**CHINGLISH** WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY SUE CHEUNG

**The hilarious and tragic diary of a girl growing up in a Chinese takeaway. *Chinglish* is a one-of-a-kind illustrated novel about family, food, being different and finding your own way.**

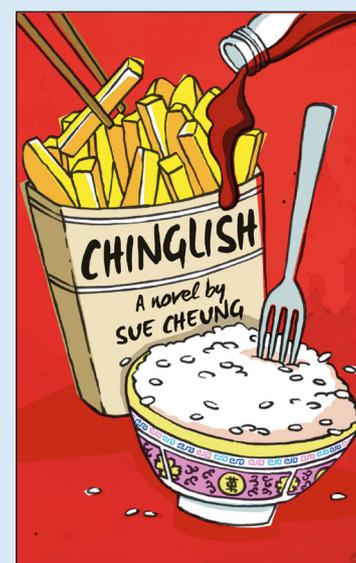
*It is difficult trying to talk in our family cos:*

- Mum hardly speaks any English*
- Me, Bonny and Simon hardly speak Chinese*
- Dad speaks Chinese and good English – but doesn't like talking*

*In other words, we all have to cobble together tiny bits of English and Chinese into a rubbish new language I call 'Chinglish'. It is very awkward.*

Jo Kwan is a teenager growing up with her annoying little sister, too-cool older brother, a series of unlucky pets and utterly bonkers parents. Told in diary entries and doodles, Jo's observations about family life make for a searingly honest portrayal of life on the other side of the takeaway counter.

- Based on the author's own life, a funny, touching and incredible true story of a teenage girl growing up in a Chinese takeaway
- Tackles hardhitting themes including family violence and racism with honesty and humour



**Publication date:** September 2019  
**Extent:** 50,000 words approx, (b+w illustrations)  
**Andersen Press:** All rights (except film)  
**Age group:** 11+ years  
**Agent:** The Catchpole Agency

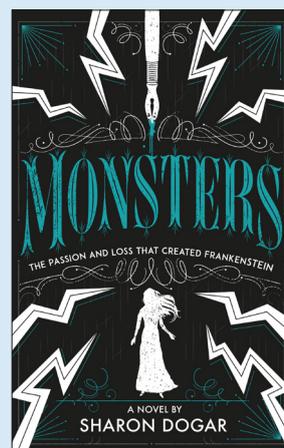
**MONSTERS** SHARON DOGAR

From the acclaimed author Sharon Dogar comes a re-imagining of Mary Shelley's young adulthood: her passionate love affair, her tragedies and her creation of the greatest ever Gothic science fiction novel: *Frankenstein*.

It's 1814: Mary Godwin, the sixteen-year-old daughter of radical socialist and feminist writers, runs away with a dangerously charming young poet - Percy Bysshe Shelley. From there, the two young lovers travel a Europe in the throes of revolutionary change, through high and low society, tragedy and passion, where they will be drawn into the orbit of the mad and bad Lord Byron. But Mary and Percy are not alone: they bring Jane, Mary's young step-sister. And she knows the biggest secret of them all. . .

Told from Mary and Jane's perspectives, *Monsters* is a novel about radical ideas, rule-breaking love, dangerous Romantics, and the creation of the greatest ever Gothic novel.

- 'Sharon Dogar is a writer to watch' – Meg Rosoff
- A Hollywood biopic, *Mary Shelly*, starring Elle Fanning, Maisie Williams and Douglas Booth was released in July 2018
- Sharon Dogar's *Annexed* (a re-imagining of Anne Frank's last years) was shortlisted for the **Costa Children's Book Award** and sold in 11 languages



**Publication date:** February 2019  
**Extent:** 135,000 words approx  
**Andersen Press:** All rights (except film)  
**Age group:** 12+ years

**CHESSBOXER** STEPHEN DAVIES

Leah Baxter exchanges competition chess for the dangerous hybrid sport of chessboxing. Is this her riskiest gamble yet?

Leah Baxter is a genius. She's a few wins away from becoming a junior chess grandmaster, and her life is on course to achieve everything her mum and coach want for her.

But Leah is at a stalemate – grieving for her father, and feeling suffocated. She decides to quit chess, burn her chess books and get a tattoo. But chess has not finished with her yet. Leah discovers a new, thrilling side to the game of kings – one which could get her into deep trouble. Determined to rise again, Leah decides on her next gamble: chessboxing – a dangerous hybrid sport which will test her body and mind to their limits.

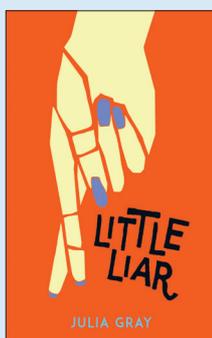
- Chessboxing is a worldwide phenomenon, originating from a French comic book, invented by a Dutchman and particularly popular in Europe, Asia and the USA
- A sports story with a difference: the hybrid sport of chessboxing in which contestants play alternating rounds of chess and boxing
- Told in blog entries, Leah's story is a breathless read with a memorable, strong-willed heroine perfect for teen readers
- A super-fast, emotionally charged novel with the pace and excitement of a thriller

COVER  
COMING  
SOON

**Publication date:** October 2019  
**Extent:** 56,000 words approx  
**Andersen Press:** All rights (except film)  
**Age group:** 12+ years  
**Agent:** AM Heath

**LITTLE LIAR** JULIA GRAY

- Julia Gray has been longlisted for the Branford Boase Award and nominated for the Carnegie Medal
- *'This gripping psychological thriller, crackling with the intensities of female friendship, confirms [Julia Gray] as a highly original new talent in YA fiction'* – The Bookseller
- *'Julia Gray has created an immensely powerful psychological thriller which challenges our whole understanding of behaviour and warns against passing judgement'* – Carousel
- *'Intelligent, gripping, highly original'* – Love Reading
- *'Intense, psychological, gripping; The Talented Mr Ripley for YA'* – Anna McKerrow



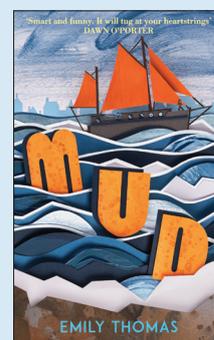
- *'Gray has a sure-footed understanding of the adolescent mind... I genuinely could not stop reading this: a treat for teens and above'* – Literary Review

**Published:** June 2018  
**Extent:** 384 pages  
**Andersen Press:** All rights (except film)  
**Age group:** Young Adult  
**Agent:** Luigi Bonomi Associates Ltd

**MUD** EMILY THOMAS

- *'Historically evocative and full of amusing thoughts, it scoots along with the wind in its sails'* – Sunday Times Children's Book of the Week
- *'This original and tender comic novel is an apparent contradiction: a hugely funny story about grief, parental alcoholism and loneliness'* – The Guardian
- *'A searing and touching portrait of a family overwhelmed by grief and under the shadows of alcoholism and emotional neglect'* – Daily Mail
- *'Poignant tale of a teenage diarist and her flaky father... Lydia's voice - a mixture of protest and reconciliation - is the book's genius'* – Daily Telegraph
- *'Funny and touching'* – HELLO! Magazines book of the week
- *'A coming of age novel that's worth nicking off your teenager'* – Red Magazine

**Published:** July 2018  
**Extent:** 416 pages  
**Andersen Press:** All rights (except film)  
**Age group:** Young Adult  
**Agent:** Aitken Alexander Associates

**THE LOST WITCH** MELVIN BURGESS

**Carnegie Medal-winning author Melvin Burgess returns with a powerful, thrilling fantasy for young adults.**

Bea is being hunted, and she doesn't know who to trust, or where to run. Bea is different – she has the powers of a witch, hearing and seeing things that no one else can – creatures, voices, visions.

Who can Bea trust: these peculiar visitors who call themselves witches? Or Lars, the mysterious boy she meets at the skate park? Or even the doctors on the mental health ward where she is going to be placed?

- *'An arresting, high-octane adventure'* – Daily Mail
- *'The godfather of young adult fiction'* – BBC Radio 4, Front Row
- *'Burgess is a master storyteller'* – The Times, Children's Book of the Week
- *'Melvin Burgess is an original, experimental voice... [a] beguiling thriller.'* – The Observer New Review
- A stunning return to young adult fiction from the winner of the **Carnegie Medal**, the **Guardian Children's Fiction Prize** and the **YA Book Prize special achievement award**



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**Andersen Press:** All rights (except film)  
**Age group:** Young Adult  
**Rights sold:** Audio, France, Italy  
**Agent:** United Agents Ltd

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