

Fall 2026

MIDDLE GRADE & YA

Rights Guide



DROPCAP[®]



A grieving boy and a mysterious neighbor's cryptic final puzzle.

Left Field Publishing

March, 2027

Age Range: 10-12

Page Count: 354

Retail Price: \$10.00

Trim Size: 5 x 7 in

ISBN: 9781966883180

Middle Grade Fiction

THE FINAL PUZZLE OF MR. P

A strange old neighbor. A grieving boy. One final puzzle that could change everything. Twelve-year-old Jim Hawkins is tired of starting over. Since his father died, he and his mother have moved for the third time in three years because of his mother's struggles and Jim would rather disappear into his phone than risk getting attached to anyone again.

Then he meets Mr. Passeris.

Their newest next door neighbor is a mysterious Greek recluse with a love of puzzles and a crumbling, neglected house. What begins as a miserable summer job mowing Mr. P's lawn slowly turns into an unlikely friendship and the start of Jim finally finding people who understand him.

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THE SECRET PUZZLE SOCIETY, BOOK 1

The Westing Game meets *The Goonies* in a heartfelt middle-grade mystery about grief, friendship, and the puzzles that bring people together, with clues woven into the story so readers can solve alongside the characters.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Len Vlahos

Len Vlahos is the author of six traditionally published novels for young adults, including *The Scar Boys* (Lerner), a finalist for the ALA's William C. Morris Award; *Life in a Fishbowl* (Bloomsbury), published in 10 languages and 18 countries; and *Hard Wired* (Bloomsbury), praised by *The New York Times* as combining nerdy humor with scary science.



An eleven-year-old detective uncovers a wartime mystery in Cornwall.

The Candy Jar Group

September, 2025

Age Range: 10-12

Page Count: 260

Retail Price: £8.99

Trim Size: 13 x 12 cm

ISBN: 9781917022224

Middle Grade Fiction

THE SHELL SECRET

For eleven-year-old budding detective Alice Clark, summers in Trevellen used to mean roaming the beaches and rock pools, collecting shells with her sister, Poppy. But this year is different. A year after Poppy's death, Alice returns alone – determined to build a shell memorial in her honour, and desperate to ensure her sister is never, ever forgotten. Forbidden from visiting the beach by herself, Alice reluctantly strikes a deal with Jasper – the annoying boy who's just moved in next door. But the arrangement quickly becomes more complicated than she expects.

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WINNER OF THE HOLYER AN GOF PUBLISHERS' AWARDS 2026

WINNER OF THE GORSEDH KERNOW ANN TREVENEN JENKIN CUP 2026

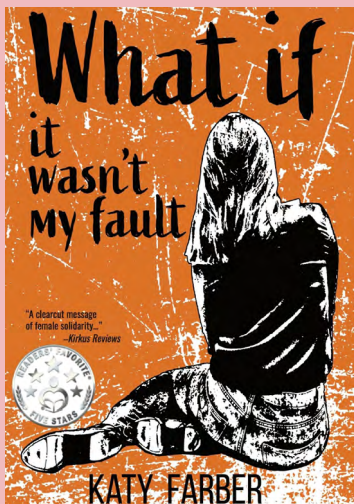
The Shell Secret is a gripping middle-grade mystery filled with adventure, friendship and courage. At its heart is a moving story about family, loss, healing and finding hope in the most unexpected places.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Sue Palmer

Sue Palmer (S.Y. Palmer) writes adventure stories for 7-12 year olds, where ordinary children display extraordinary traits as they search for answers and chase their dreams. She is passionate about outdoor adventure and loves throwing her characters into perilous situations, from collapsing cave tunnels to the vacuum of space. Sue runs KS2 workshops on habitats, space, and writing.



A #MeToo verse novel about friendship, feminism, and finding your voice.

Rootstock Publishing

March, 2026

Age Range: 13-17

Page Count: 239

Retail Price: \$16.99

Trim Size: 5 x 8 in

ISBN: 9781578692354

Young Adult Fiction

WHAT IF IT WASN'T MY FAULT

Seventeen-year-old soccer star Indie Watson loves her team and her family. At home, she is the glue—the one who holds her family together. But when Indie wakes up sore and foggy after a party, unsure of exactly what happened, she knows one thing: she didn't consent.

As her classmates post about her on social media, assigning judgment and blame, she falls into a spiral of self doubt and denial and can't hold it all together anymore. Instead of facing the truth, she runs away. It is through music, memory, and the kindness of strangers that Indie learns to face what happened, and to redefine who she is now: a survivor who won't be silenced simply because they exist.

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AN ESSENTIAL READ FOR SURVIVORS
AND THOSE WHO LOVE THEM— AND
FOR ALL TEENS WHO NEED TO KNOW
THEY ARE NOT ALONE.

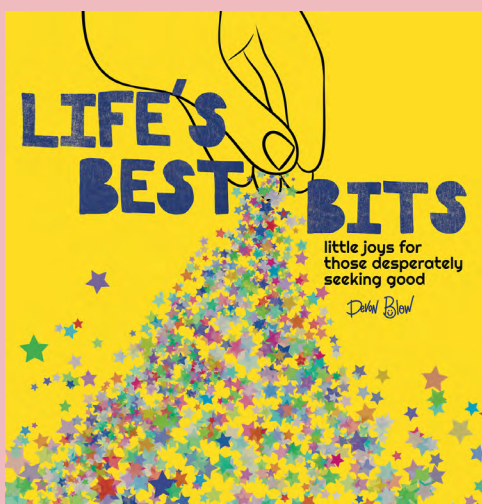
"The narrative favors a clearcut message of female solidarity...this work offers a solid primer on the topic of sexual assault for a YA audience. An accessible and ultimately hopeful tale that explores one girl's resonant response to trauma." — *Kirkus Reviews*



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Katy Farber

Katy Farber is an Assistant Professor of Education at Saint Michael's College with 20+ years of public education experience. Prolific author across YA, children's, and adult genres, she holds an Ed.D. from Northeastern University. Her work focuses on empowering teachers, parents, and students through personalized, authentic learning, action research, and environmental and health advocacy.



An illustrated gift book celebrating life's small, joyful moments.

Familius

September, 2026

Age Range: 11-14

Page Count: 192

Retail Price: \$12.99

Trim Size: 7 x 7 in

ISBN: 9798893961188

General Nonfiction

LIFE'S BEST BITS

Celebrate life's best bits—like extra-crispy bacon and tacos on Tuesdays—with this colorful gift book of gratitude and joy from artist and Instagram creator Devon Blow. Between all of life's big surprises are the tiny pleasures that make life worth living: life's best bits. In this illustrated homage to over 150 of life's best bits, artist and writer Devon Blow offers a powerful message of gratitude for the little things—like that one chip in the bag that's loaded with flavor dust or canceled plans (because you didn't really want to go anyway). Honest and heartfelt, *Life's Best Bits* is a reminder that you deserve every bit of happiness.

WORLD WIDE RIGHTS AVAILABLE

A THOUGHTFUL COMPANION FOR BIRTHDAYS, HOLIDAYS, OR EVERYDAY MOMENTS THAT DESERVE A SMILE.

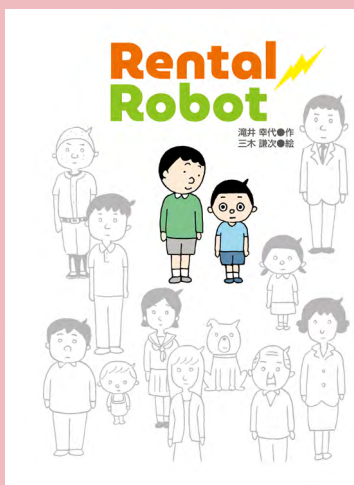
Celebrate life's best bits—like extra-crispy bacon and tacos on Tuesdays—with this colorful gift book of gratitude and joy from artist and Instagram creator Devon Blow.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Devon Blow

Devon Blow is a dynamic artist from Los Angeles specializing in illustration, design, writing, and social justice advocacy. Her art passionately supports marginalized communities and celebrates cultural diversity. Blow's client roster includes Netflix, the Los Angeles Rams, Oprah's Book Club, Adidas, Adobe, Penguin Random House, *The Los Angeles Times*, and the United Nations.



A boy's rented robot brother teaches him about sibling love, and family.

Gakken

September, 2011

Age Range: 7-9

Page Count: 160

Retail Price: \$48.00

Trim Size: 6 x 9 in

ISBN: 9784052034046

Illustrated Picture Books; Juvenile Fiction; Middle Grade Fiction

RENTAL ROBOT

A heartwarming and educational story about nine-year-old Kenta, who has always wanted a little brother and one day "rents" one instead.

Through his relationship with his new robot brother, Tsutomu, and his parents, Kenta experiences a full range of emotions — joy, loneliness, anger, and jealousy — as the story explores what true siblinghood and family really mean.

INQUIRE ABOUT RIGHTS

19TH MIMET OGAWA LITERARY AWARD (2010) *MIMEI OGAWA IS THE JAPANESE CHILDREN'S LITERATURE GIANT ALSO KNOWN AS JAPAN'S ANDERSEN.

The manuscript earned the prestigious Grand Prize at the 19th Ogawa Mimei Literature Award, one of Japan's most respected honors for new children's literature. The story was officially published by Gakken in 2011 and has since become a moving long-seller.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Sachiyo Takii

Sachiyo Takii is an acclaimed Japanese children's book author and screenwriter.

Takii initially gained recognition in the short film industry. She wrote the music video/short film *Slow Life*, which won the Excellence Award at the Fujieda Short Movie Festival in 2009. She made a significant transition into children's literature with her debut long-form story, *Rental Robot*.



A boy genius's superpower-granting gadget causes unpredictable chaos.

Indigo River Publishing

March, 2026

Age Range: 10-12

Page Count: 96

Retail Price: \$9.99

Trim Size: 5 x 8 in

ISBN: 9781964686899

Fiction; Science Fiction

PHOTO PHINISH

Phillip McCoy, boy genius, invents the Automatic People Projector (APP) to bestow superpowers on the Guardians, a team of middle graders supporting his cause. Yet the superpowers supplied by this handy device are unpredictable. When toymaker Reginald Mueller creates innocent-looking, limited-edition spyware robotic teddy bears to steal on his behalf, Phillip unknowingly accepts a free bear, threatening his own safety.

Join Phillip on a story filled with ingenuity, teamwork, and fun chaos, featuring unpredictable powers that will entertain middle-grade readers looking for an exciting book to enjoy.

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A STORY FILLED WITH INGENUITY,
TEAMWORK, AND FUN CHAOS.

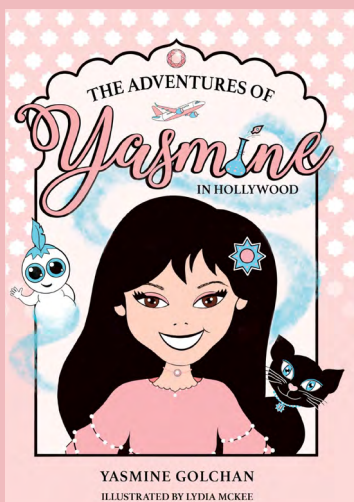
Spy Kids meets Jimmy Neutron with a superpowered twist when a boy genius invents a device with powers to keep others safe.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Randall Freeman

Dr. Randy Freeman is a retired kindergarten teacher with a PhD in early childhood education. He and his wife, Karen, live in Menifee, California, fifty miles east of Disneyland. They have four wonderful daughters. Dr. Freeman enjoys writing and bowling. He is a past master in the Freemasons of California.



First in a globe-trotting series
where every city, hides a secret.

Yasmine Golchan

September, 2024

Age Range: 7-9

Page Count: 96

Retail Price: \$24.99

Trim Size: 5.7 x 8.7 in

ISBN: 9798990258907

Animals; Middle Grade Fiction

THE ADVENTURES OF YASMINE IN HOLLYWOOD

On her tenth birthday, Yasmine leaves her palace in the ancient land of Laajmir to travel the world with her mother, a Goodwill Ambassador — beginning in Los Angeles. With her devoted protector Majid, her sapphire-eyed cat Hiram, and Jinn Jinn, a grumpy genie-in-training whose wishes go awry, Yasmine discovers her grandmother's treasured pink diamond pendant has vanished. Too proud to admit it, she enlists newly adopted local boy Steven to help solve the mystery, racing across Beverly Hills, Hollywood Boulevard, and Paramount Studios.

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ALSO AVAILABLE IN FRENCH

THE FIRST BOOK IN A GLOBE-TROTTING
SERIES WHERE EVERY DESTINATION HIDES
A NEW SECRET.

"Yasmine Golchan has created a delightful children's book. The enchanting storytelling and whimsical pink and blue illustrations make it a treasure for readers of all ages. I look forward to Yasmine's next adventures."

— Lily Tomlin, actress, comedian, singer, and producer

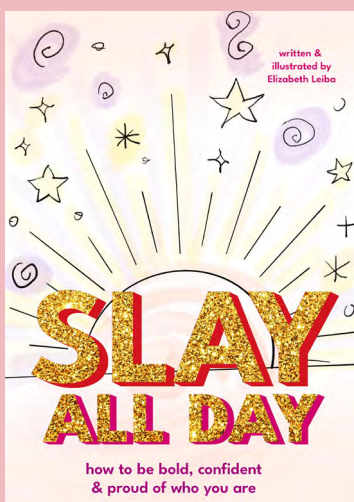
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Yasmine Golchan



Yasmine Golchan is a producer, director, and writer. Born in Belgium and raised between Paris and Los Angeles, she brings a cinematic imagination and a distinctly international perspective to children's literature.

Her credits include *The Painted Veil* and the award-winning short film *Next Stop, Eternity*, winner of the Stream Search Internet Film Festival.



How to Be Bold, Confident, and Proud of Who You Are

Books That Save Lives

December, 2025

Age Range: 8-12

Page Count: 144

Retail Price: \$9.19

Trim Size: 6 x 9 in

ISBN: 978-1684818921

Character Development

SLAY ALL DAY

Slay All Day is the empowering, interactive workbook every young Black girl—and the women who love them—have been waiting for. Bursting with affirmations, coloring pages, and hands-on activities, this vibrant guide helps girls ages 8–12 claim their brilliance, build unstoppable confidence, and celebrate their unique magic.

Every girl deserves to feel seen, celebrated, and powerful. *Slay All Day* bridges generations, inviting moms, aunties, mentors, and big sisters to pour love and encouragement into the next wave of world-changers. With culturally resonant illustrations, affirming language, and real-world wisdom, this book is a joyful toolkit for self-esteem and sisterhood.

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FROM BESTSELLING AUTHOR ELIZABETH LEIBA

EMPOWERMENT FOR EVERY GIRL, EVERY DAY

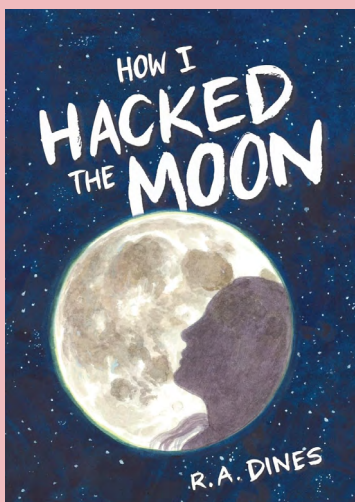
Elizabeth Leiba delivers an interactive experience that mirrors Black girlhood, uplifts voices, and makes confidence tangible through journaling, reflection, and creativity.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Elizabeth Leiba

Elizabeth Leiba is a professor, bestselling author, business consultant, and passionate social advocate for Black women and girls. Recognized as a LinkedIn Top Voice, Elizabeth has inspired and empowered audiences through her dynamic platforms, including the Black History & Culture Academy and Black Women Handle Business.



A thrilling adventure for pre-teens to adults.

Macky Mountain Press

September, 2025

Page Count: 194

Retail Price: \$13.99

Trim Size: 5.5 x 8.5 in

ISBN979-8998625312

Science Fiction
Coming of Age

HOW I HACKED THE MOON

Life at the Lunar Coding Complex is boring, not that thirteen-year-old Moon Girl cares. She finds comfort in its predictability—her first real friend and her love of AI coding keep her anxiety in check. When a harmless prank with her charismatic bestie attracts the attention of rebel hackers led by Moon Girl's crush Dovrin, she's thrilled to join their crew. But as they uncover Big Smile Corp's dangerous secrets, Moon Girl faces impossible choices: her friendship, her crush, or everyone's safety. Even if they crack the system, do they want to escape back to Earth? And if they fail, what will the sinister corporation do to silence them?

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AGE RANGE: 10-12

SEMI-FINALIST IN THE BOOKLIFE PRIZE BY
PUBLISHER'S WEEKLY
FINALIST IN THE WISHING SHELF AWARDS

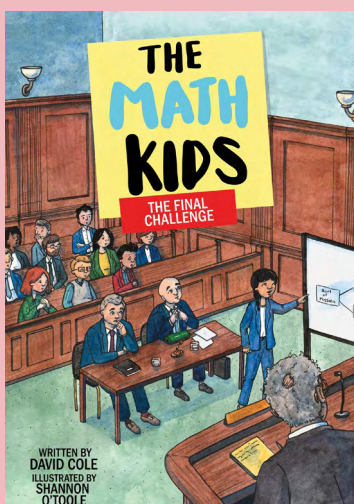
"Moon Girl just turned 13 and is experiencing all that comes with growing up, but she'll need to add saving her home to that list." — *The BookLife Prize* by *Publishers Weekly*



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

R.A. Dines

Ever since she first laid her hands on a keyboard, R. A. Dines has been fascinated with the intersection of art and technology. Dines spent the first two decades of her career in big tech and startups and is now in the second chapter of her career as a full-time author and creative. These days, you can find her reading, writing, coding, and 3D printing with her family outside Boston.



Join the Math Kids as they face their biggest challenges yet!

Common Deer Press

May, 2026

Age Range: 10-12

Page Count: 158

Retail Price: \$12.99

Trim Size: 6 x 9 in

ISBN: 9781998484157

Math; Middle Grade Fiction

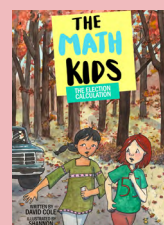
THE FINAL CHALLENGE

In the wake of their last adventure, Stephanie, Catherine, Jordan, and Justin find out their friend Special Agent Carleson has been suspended from the FBI. He's accused of endangering the Math Kids, and if he's found guilty, he could lose his job!

As the quartet tries to find ways to help Agent Carleson, trouble brews at school. In her new role as math club president, Catherine wants to lead the club to the state championship. But when their first preliminary competition goes awry and a strange note appear in her locker, she begins to suspect there's a saboteur on the team. The Math Kids must divide their attention between saving Agent Carleson's job and saving math club.

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BOOK 12 OF 12 *THE MATH KIDS* SERIES

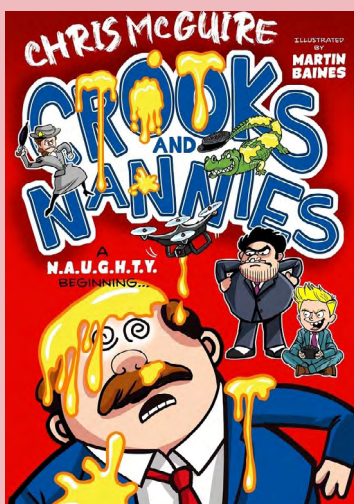


ABOUT THE AUTHOR

David Cole



In his career, David Cole has spent years coaching and teaching math to elementary students. His math camp grew from kids forced by parents to attend into a sold-out program with a waiting list by year four. Through this experience, he learned that storytelling is one of the most effective teaching methods—inspiring *The Math Kids* and *Emily and Sam* series.



A new nanny secretly protects the world from a supervillain's evil plans.

The Candy Jar Group

March, 2025

Age Range: 7-9

Page Count: 80

Retail Price: £6.99

Trim Size: 5.5 x 6.75 in

ISBN: 9781917022859

Juvenile Fiction

CROOKS AND NANNIES

This book is hideous – full to overflowing with banana-flavoured slime, puke, gangsters, yobs and more than one reference to granny knickers! I simply couldn't believe it!

Surely, nobody can find this kind of thing funny? There's nothing amusing about ballet dancers being covered in gunge or the phrase 'bottom burp!' If you think there is, then you need to grow up straight away!

Put this book down straight away and find something nice about flower pressing, algebra, or needlework instead!

You've been warned!

May Dupname

from The League Against Fun in Kids' Books

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LOGLISTED FOR THE SPARK! BOOK AWARDS 2025

"With lots of puns, slime, frilly knickers and general silliness this is a great book for fans of David Walliams and Roald Dahl."

— Tash Hyde, *Read For Good*

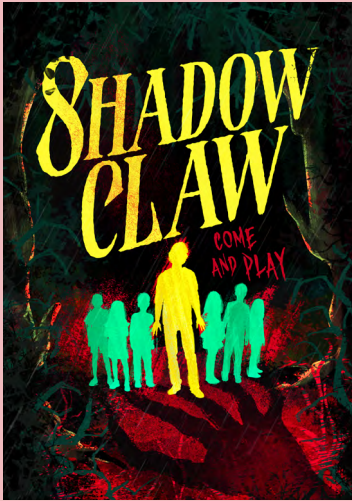


ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Chris McGuire

Chris McGuire wrote for Nickelodeon and created *Hairy Dog Stories*. He produced the *Hannah Montana* spin-off *Hannah-Oke*, launched *Hacker T Dog*, and developed the BAFTA-winning *Me: TV* and Emmy-winning *Pet School* for CBBC. He has written numerous books for Candy Jar Books, including *The Christmas Raccoons*, *The Raccoons: Blast from the Past!*, and *Crooks and Nannies*.

YOUNG ADULT



"Shadowclaw, Shadowclaw,
come and play!"

Quill & Crow Publishing House

August, 2026

Age Range: 13-17

Page Count: 219

Retail Price: \$14.99

Trim Size: 6 x 9 in

ISBN: 9781967911301

Fiction; Horror

SHADOWCLAW

"*Shadowclaw, Shadowclaw, come and play!*" Those were the words Ethan and his friends chanted as children during a slumber party séance to summon a legendary ghoul. It was the night his best friend, Robby, ended up murdered. Years later, Ethan is an anxious and superstitious teenager doing his best to forget the past and convince himself that Shadowclaw was only a story. But when he finds himself transported back in time to that fateful night, he realizes he actually has a chance to change the past and save Robby from a horrific death.

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QUILL & CROW PUBLISHING HOUSE IS AN INDEPENDENT PRESS THAT CHALLENGES TIRED PUBLISHING PRACTICES WHILE KEEPING THE VIBE WONDERFULLY MACABRE.

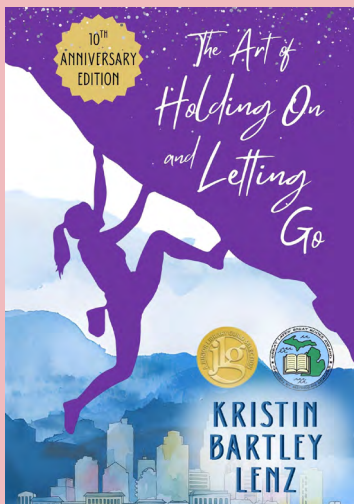
He'll have to face a supernatural entity he's always told himself was just a legend that couldn't hurt him: Shadowclaw.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dylan Roche

Dylan Roche is a writer, journalist, editor, playwright, actor, teacher, and marathon runner based in Annapolis, Maryland. His debut novel, *The Purple Bird*, released in 2019, followed by *The Tide and the Stars* in 2024. When not writing, he can usually be found on a long-distance run or an adventure with his dog, Tyrion the corgi.



A grieving teen climber rebuilds her life, friendships, and first love.

Left Field Publishing

October, 2026

Age Range: 13-17

Page Count: 366

Retail Price: \$18.00

Trim Size: 5.5 x 8.5 in

ISBN: 9781966883111

Young Adult Fiction

THE ART OF HOLDING ON AND LETTING GO

Competitive climber Cara Jenkins feels most at home high off the ground, clinging to a rock wall by her fingertips. She's enjoyed a roaming life with her mountaineering parents, making the natural world her jungle gym, the writings of Annie Dillard and Henry David Thoreau her textbooks. But when tragedy strikes on an Ecuadorian mountaintop, Cara's nomadic lifestyle comes to an abrupt halt.

Starting over at her grandparents' home in suburban Detroit, Cara embarks on a year of discovery, uncovering unknown strengths, friendships, and first love.

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JUNIOR LIBRARY GUILD SELECTION
AND GREAT LAKES GREAT BOOKS
HONOR TITLE

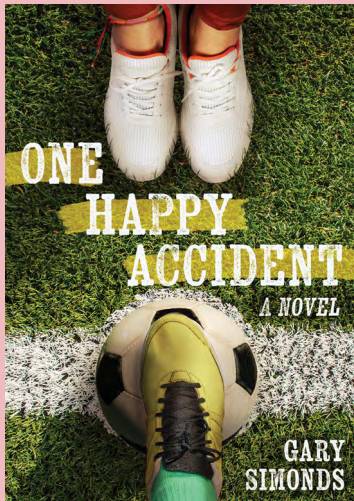
"Cara is an appealing, engaging narrator... A compelling, unusual coming-of-age story." — *Kirkus Reviews*



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Kristin Bartley Lenz

Kristin Bartley Lenz is a writer and licensed clinical social worker who has lived in Michigan, Georgia, and California. Her rock climbing adventures inspired her debut novel, *The Art of Holding On and Letting Go*, reissued as a 10th Anniversary edition in 2026. Her writing has appeared in *The New York Times* and various literary journals and anthologies. She teaches creative writing and writes freelance for Detroit-area nonprofits.



The book is the first in a series with the second book already in development.

Koehler Books

February, 2025

Age Range: 13-18

Page Count: 344

Retail Price: \$19.95

Trim Size: 6 x 9 in

ISBN: 9798888245934

Fiction; Coming of Age

ONE HAPPY ACCIDENT

Would-be soccer star Sean McLaine knows what it's like to still inhabit a child's body in high school. Well into junior year, he remains woefully puberty-challenged, and it's messing with his soccer dreams. Ignored by his coaches, he faces daily embarrassment and bullying. Out on the pitch, he's up against practically full-grown men who don't mind greeting his undeniable talent with repeated pummeling.

At school none of the girls seem to see him at all. He's a nothing, a nonentity. But not in the eyes of brilliant, whimsical Kayleigh McLaughlin, a recent transplant from Ireland. She is hopelessly drawn to Sean's poetic nature, both in class and on the soccer pitch.

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A GUIDE FOR THOSE IN NEED OF HOPE BEYOND OUR CONTEMPORARY POPULARIZATION OF TOXIC MASCULINITY.

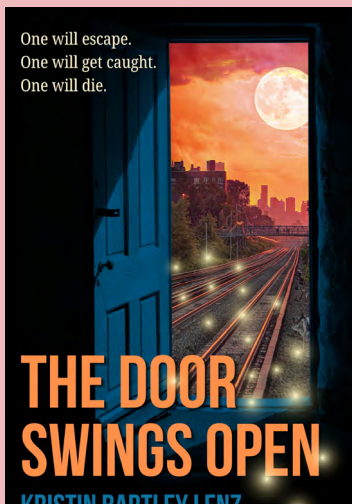
"One Happy Accident is an inspirational story about cheering for the little guy. Literally. And believing in ourselves along the way." — Steve Schafer, author of eMortal and The Border



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Gary Simonds

Lifetime soccer fanatic and neurosurgeon Gary Simonds retired from medicine and now writes, teaches undergraduates and medical students, produces educational materials, and gives frequent talks and seminars. He has written three nonfiction books and a novel, has been featured in related articles, interviews, and podcasts, and is a regular blog contributor to *Psychology Today*.



A Detroit shelter teen hunts for her missing best friend's dark secret.

Left Field Publishing

March, 2027

Age Range: 13-17

Page Count: 385

Retail Price: \$18.00

Trim Size: 5.5 x 8.5 in

ISBN: 9781966883197

Young Adult Fiction

THE DOOR SWINGS OPEN

One will escape. One will get caught. One will die. Sixteen-year-old Charlotte checks into Turning Leaf, a Detroit shelter for runaway teens, telling everyone she is fleeing a home unraveling around her war-haunted father. Her real reason is sharper: her former best friend Ella vanished from this same shelter, and Charlotte means to find out why. Retracing Ella's last days through a city of abandoned houses and thin places, she uncovers a hidden world of grooming, predators, and disappearing girls that the adults around her refuse to see, alongside a magnetic runaway boy who knows more than he admits.

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"Lenz's masterful crafting is on full display throughout this unforgettable and relevant mystery." — Leslie Connor, National Book Award finalist for *The Truth as Told by Mason Buttle*



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Kristin Bartley Lenz

Kristin Bartley Lenz is a writer and licensed clinical social worker who has lived in Michigan, Georgia, and California. Her rock climbing adventures inspired her debut novel, *The Art of Holding On and Letting Go*, reissued as a 10th Anniversary edition in 2026. Her writing has appeared in *The New York Times* and various literary journals and anthologies. She teaches creative writing and writes freelance for Detroit-area nonprofits.



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THESE TITLES, PLEASE GET IN TOUCH!

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