



LORA FOUNTAIN & ASSOCIATES LITERARY AGENCY

THE BOOK GROUP

Frankfurt 2018 Hotlist

MIDDLE GRADE FICTION

Jake Burt, THE RIGHT HOOK OF DEVIN VELMA
(Feiwel & Friends, October 2018; *Feiwel has World English rights)

When Addison Gerhardt's best friend, Devin Velma, suggests that they try to achieve social media fame by pulling a stunt at a national basketball game, Addi knows he's doomed. Doing anything in front of anybody except Devin and their families is difficult for Addison, an introvert who suffers from anxiety. Devin, on the other hand, can't resist an opportunity to become a viral sensation.

Addi's not sure why Devin is bent on pulling off this feat. Maybe it has something to do with Devin's dad's hospital bills. Maybe it all goes back to the Double-Barreled Monkey Bar Backflip of Doom. Or maybe it's something else entirely. No matter what, though, it's risky for both of them, and when the big day finally comes, Devin's plan threatens more than just their friendship.

Laura Tucker, ALL THE GREYS ON GREENE STREET (Viking, Summer 2019)

Twelve-year old Olympia is good at lots of things. Drawing, for one. Navigating the streets of downtown Manhattan by herself. And holding it together when everything else is falling apart.

It's May 1st, 1981. Ollie's dad has run off to France with a woman she and her mom call Vouley Voo. Her mom has gone to bed, and she's not getting up. Her friend Apollo is nobody's idea of a responsible grownup, but at least he's still around—for now. Ollie's got lots to keep her busy: being a friend, making art, and figuring out whether she's a dog or cat person, all while keeping her mom's depression a secret. But something's got to give, and when it does, Olympia eventually finds herself inside a happy ending she could never have predicted.

Laura Tucker is a *New York Times*-bestselling ghostwriter of adult nonfiction and the owner of two Brooklyn restaurants.

Sold at auction with seven houses bidding

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Karen Romano Young, illustrated by Jessixa Bagley, A GIRL, A RACCOON AND THE MIDNIGHT MOON (Chronicle Books, Fall 2019) *Chronicle has World English rights

11-year-old Pearl is the daughter of the head librarian at a New York City public library that's struggling to keep its doors open. Pearl isn't the well-behaved, hushed daughter you'd expect, but instead a budding activist with a very loud cry for help. She rallies the library staff, the cops, local shopkeepers, homeless people, opportunistic real estate barons — and new friends — some with two feet, some with four — to help save the library. It turns out that the story Pearl's mother has been telling her for years, the one about the reading and writing raccoons who live in the library basement and publish their own newspaper for a nocturnal readership, is true!

Pearl joins forces with a young raccoon, an up-and-coming reporter named Mary Ann, and together they create a drama and performance that change their neighbors' thinking about books, their homes, and what it means to be an individual, unique part of a city. The result is a rollicking coming-of-age comedy with a gentle heart and a strong point of view about who you have to be in order to fully become yourself.

**Praise for Karen Romano Young's HUNDRED PERCENT:
2016 Parents' Choice Silver Award Winner
2016 Amazon Best Book
2016 Kirkus Reviews Best Book**

"Karen Romano Young must be twelve. There's no other way she can possibly know what she knows about sixth grade in all its weirdness and glory. Seen and felt and conveyed with unbelievable freshness and acuity..." --Annie Barrows, New York Times bestselling author of the Ivy & Bean series

"Hundred Percent is a brilliant and irresistible book about the sharp pains and joys of real life. Karen Romano Young is a writer like no other. She always finds the truest, most interesting paths to the heart." --Rebecca Stead, Newbery Award-winning author of When You Reach Me

YOUNG ADULT FICTION

Natalie C. Anderson, LET'S GO SWIMMING ON DOOMSDAY (Putnam, January 2019)

When Abdi's family is kidnapped by US forces in Somalia, he's forced to do the unthinkable: infiltrate ruthless jihadi group Al Shabaab and embed himself as a spy within their ranks, gathering information on the next planned attack. The members of Al Shabaab trust Abdi immediately because his older brother, Dahir, is already one of them, protégé to General Idris, aka the Butcher. If Abdi's duplicity is discovered, he will be killed.

For weeks, Abdi trains with them, witnessing atrocity after atrocity, becoming a monster himself, wondering if he's even pretending anymore. He only escapes after taking part in an attack that leaves him missing two fingers and his brother near death. Eventually, he finds himself on the streets of Sangu City, Kenya, stealing what he can find to get by, sleeping nights in empty alleyways, wondering what's become of the family that was stolen from him. But everything changes when Abdi's picked up for a petty theft, which sets into motion a chain reaction that forces him to reckon with a past he's been trying to forget.

A haunting, thrilling tale of loss and redemption for fans of *A LONG WAY GONE*, in this riveting, unflinching tale of sacrifice and hope, critically-acclaimed author Natalie C. Anderson delivers another tour-de-force that will leave readers at the edge of their seats.

Praise for CITY OF SAINTS AND THIEVES:

An Amazon Best Book of the Month – January 2017

A Barnes & Noble Discover Great New Writers Pick

A Barnes & Noble Most Anticipated YA Debut of 2017

An Apple iBooks Best of January 2017 Pick

Winter 2016-2017 Kids' Indie Next Pick

Indies Introduce Winter/Spring 2017 Pick

A Teen Vogue Best New Young Adult Book – January 2017

A Bustle Best YA Book – January 2017

A 2017 Chicago Public Library's Best Teen Fiction Pick

A Seventeen Magazine Best Book Pick of 2017

A 2017 B&N Best Young Adult Book

An NPR 2017 Best Book

CITY OF SAINTS AND THIEVES *Foreign rights sold to: dtv (Germany – at auction); Pocket Jeunesse (France); INITIUM Patryk Lubas (Poland); Albatros Media (Czech Republic); Penguin Kitap (Turkey); OneWorld (UK); Planeta (Spain for Spanish and Catalan); Vulkan (Serbia)*

Film deal with Universal Pictures.

Kristin Cashore, JANE, UNLIMITED (Kathy Dawson Books/Penguin, September 2017)

One house. Five choices. *Limitless* possibilities.

Jane has lived a mostly ordinary life, raised by her recently deceased aunt Magnolia, whom she counted on to turn life into an adventure. Without Aunt Magnolia, Jane is lost. So she's easily swept away when a glamorous, capricious, and wealthy acquaintance from years ago asks Jane to accompany her to a gala at the extravagant island mansion called Tu Reviens. Jane remembers her aunt telling her: "If anyone ever invites you to Tu Reviens, promise me that you'll go."

What Jane doesn't know is that the house will offer her five choices that could ultimately determine the course of her life. One choice leads Jane into a heist mystery. Another takes her into a spy thriller. She finds herself in a gothic horror story, a space opera, and an extraordinary fantasy realm. She might fall in love, she might lose her life, she might come face-to-face with herself. Every choice comes with a price. But together, all the choices will lead her to the truth.

Foreign rights sold to: Semic (Sweden); AZBOOKA-ATTICUS Publishing Group (Russia); V&R Editoras (Spanish language in Latin America); Wydawnictwo Jaguar (Poland); V&R Brazil (Portuguese language in Brazil)

*****An instant *New York Times* bestseller*****

*****An IndieNext Top Ten Pick*****

Chicago Public Library for Best Teen Fiction 2017

Brooklyn Public Library Best Book of 2017

Barnes & Noble Teen Blog Best YA Book 2017

"A genre-obliterating book...all but rewires your brain as you read it," —*The New York Times Book Review*

"Absolutely addictive and fascinating, *Jane, Unlimited* is storytelling at its best. Filled with spies, stolen artwork, new worlds, and delicious romance, this book is everything you could hope for and more than you can imagine."—**Marie Rutkoski, author of *The Winner's Curse***

Jennifer De Leon, DON'T ASK ME WHERE I'M FROM (Caitlyn Dlouhy Books/Simon & Schuster, January 2020)

Fifteen-year-old Liliana Cruz moves between worlds and constantly crosses over walls, some she puts up for herself and some built by others. Her father has disappeared—gone one night without any warning—and her mother's depression is growing worse. From her family's apartment in Boston to her fancy high school in the suburbs, and from speaking Spanish with her family to honors French at school, Lili is pulled in many directions and begins to find some barriers unscalable.

When racial tensions at Lili's high school force people to choose sides, she must figure out how to stay true to her identity and finds herself more involved in issues of social justice than ever before. Her struggle comes to a head when Lili realizes that her father's absence isn't a voluntary one, but that he has been deported and is struggling to get back to his family. When the news spreads she decides to push through walls, translating her words into action. What Liliana does—or doesn't do—could alter the fate of her community, her family, and her future.

Sold at auction with eight houses bidding

Foreign rights sold to: Il Castoro (Italy – in a preempt); Lectura Collaborativa (Spanish language in North America)

Andrew Simonet, WILDER (FSG, Fall 2018)

Jason Wilder, a senior at Unionville High, is broke and isolated after a town feud has flared into something serious, and he desperately needs to tell you his story.

I was in the Rubber Room for my own protection. Meili got there by breaking Laura Fenton's middle finger.

The high school's "Rubber Room" is delinquent-proof: plastic windows, stubby pencils, and near-constant supervision. When Meili – or Melissa, as she calls herself - walks in, Jason's life is dramatically altered. As Jason and Meili pass notes and steal moments of conversation, he learns fragments of her past: her father, a witness in a corruption case in Hong Kong, sent her to hide in rural Unionville. Jason shares his own secrets - he is on probation for arson, and his alcoholic mother has taken off to Florida with her boyfriend. No one is supposed to know he lives alone.

Jason falls for Meili warily, then fiercely. When her identity is exposed, Jason hides her at his rundown house. As she plots a dangerous path back to her family and her affluent life abroad, Jason dreams of leaving, too, escaping his enemies, his past, his poverty and his crushing loneliness. But when menacing people from Meili's world come looking for her, Jason is forced to confront his true self and the limits of violence.

Twisty, authentic, and flawlessly written, **WILDER** combines the palpable longing of **ELEANOR & PARK** with the razor-sharp focus of **GONE GIRL**. This novel is, ultimately, a blow to the heart.