



JILL HUGHES FOREIGN RIGHTS

**CHILDREN'S BOOKS – SPRING2014**

*on behalf of The Agency, Laura Cecil, Jennifer Luithlen, Caroline Sheldon,  
Martell Agency, MNLA, Can of Worms*

**Michael Bond PADDINGTON**

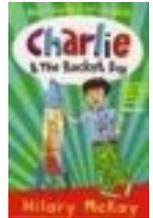
*StudioCanal film due out in 2014 – all star cast including Colin Firth & Nicole Kidman*

- UK rights: HarperCollins – Age 5+
- Published in 25 languages – including Latin!
- 'One of the great bears of English children's literature.' [The Teacher]

**CHARLIE Series by Hilary McKay**

Charlie is an irresistibly funny character and has adventures with his friends; from sleepovers, to spooky houses, to trying to run away. It all happens when Charlie's around! Starting with an introductory title – HELLO, CHARLIE there are a further eight Charlie adventures.

- UK rights: Hachette will reissue in 2014 - Age 6+ [www.hilarymckay.co.uk](http://www.hilarymckay.co.uk)



**THE OUTFIT Series by Robert Swindells**



These popular mysteries by award winning author Robert Swindells will be re-issued by Award in May 2014.

*'The gang of country children plus dog have adventures stuffed with ghosts and baddies which remain deliciously scary while morally irreproachable'* [Daily Telegraph]

- UK: Award – approx. 20,000 words – Age 7-9

**Pete Johnson MY PARENTS ARE OUT OF CONTROL**



*Question:* What do you call people who embarrass you in front of your friends?

*Answer:* Parents

Louis' agonies with his folks continue in another hilarious story - the long awaited and exciting sequel to *HOW TO TRAIN YOUR PARENTS*

- UK/US rights: Random House – 38,000 words – Age 9-12
- Translation rights sold in 22 languages
- Other funny books include: *RESCUING DAD*, *TRUST ME I'M A TROUBLE-MAKER* and *HELP! I'M A CLASSROOM GAMBLER*

**Pete Johnson THE VAMPIRE BLOG, THE VAMPIRE HUNTERS, THE VAMPIRE FIGHTERS and THE VAMPIRE BEWITCHED**

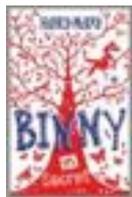
- 'I'd just finished breakfast when Dad handed me a little bottle of blood.
- 'Now we'd like you to take this to school with you. I expect you're wondering why.'
- 'Is it to pour over my chips?'

So Marcus discovers he's a half vampire in this rollicking series, packed full of adventure, laughs and suspense – and scary too ....

- UK rights: Random House – Age 9-12
- Other scary books include: *AVENGER*, *PHANTOM FEAR*, *GHOST DOG*, *TRAITOR* and more [www.petejohnsonauthor.com](http://www.petejohnsonauthor.com)



### **Hilary McKay *BINNY IN SECRET***



Binny catches a glimpse of the wild animal that has taken her brother's chicken and knows she must protect it. This is not her only problem. Binny starts at her new school and makes an instant enemy in Lissa. But do Binny and Lissa have more in common than they think?

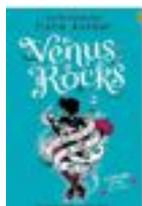
• **BINNY FOR SHORT** was published in 2013 and by popular demand this enchanting seaside series continues.

• UK rights: Hachette – Age 9-12

• 'More Binny Please' [Daily Mail]

- Backlist includes Award-winning *SAFFY'S ANGEL* (Carson family series) – [www.hilarymckay.co.uk](http://www.hilarymckay.co.uk)

### **Fiona Dunbar *KITTY SLADE Adventures: VENUS ROCKS***



Hey, Kitty Slade here. Just hanging out, doing *ordinary* things. You know, like *seeing ghosts*. It's been happening for a while now, but this time - this time is different...

When Kitty sees a ghost ship, she knows her spooky powers are growing stronger. Plunged into a dark mystery from long ago, she soon encounters Beth, a lost soul who drowned on board. Kitty must uncover the secrets buried at the bottom of the sea - before it's too late... The thrilling sequel to *Divine Freaks* and *Fire and Roses*.

• UK rights: Orchard (6 book series) – Age: 9-12

- 'Great central character; fabulous voice - great read. Recommended for older children and younger teens (and adults too!)

### **Joan G. Robinson *WHEN MARNIE WAS THERE***



A gripping ghost story telling of Anna's strange encounter and friendship with a shadowy girl called Marnie, among the wild and watery sand dunes of the Norfolk coast. Is Marnie real? A classic ghost story, with truths to tell about friendship, family and loneliness.

• Joan G. Robinson (1910-88) is an author of timeless classics. Among her works currently available are the *TEDDY ROBINSON* stories published by Macmillan and the *MARY MARY* series published by Hot Key Books

• UK rights: Harper Collins, first published 1967

• with decorative illustrations by Peggy Fortnum

- Age: 9+ Length: 60,000 words
- Now to be made into a **major film** by the Japanese anime giant, **Studio Ghibli**, creators of the Oscar-winning *SPRITED AWAY*, *HOWL'S MOVING CASTLE* and *ARIETTY* (based on *The Borrowers*). The film is set for release in Japan and Asia in 2014 and is coming to Europe and the USA by early 2015.
- Translation rights sold: Japanese, Chinese (simple & complex), Korean, Bulgarian



### **Joanna Cotterill *LOOKING AT THE STARS***



'*We are all in the gutter, but some of us are looking at the stars*' - Oscar Wilde

Amina thinks her country has been liberated from an oppressive regime, only to witness the so called liberators brutally murder her father in the street. Separated from the rest of their family, Amina and her sister Jenna are forced to travel to a savage refugee camp, where they endure great hardships, surviving through the power of story telling.

A potential award-winner, Joanna's latest work is a deeply-moving stand alone literary novel about the misery and horror facing so many children living in war-torn countries.

• UK: Random House Children's Publishing, February 2014

- Age: 11+ Length: 71,000 words
- Jo has written two full-length YA novel for Faber and Faber, several titles for the reluctant reader market with Barrington Stoke and is the author behind the Sweet Hearts series at Random House.
- 'Beautifully told in simple but elegant prose...a truthful story' The Bookbag
- RED TEARS, written under the name Joanna Kenrick, was shortlisted for the Lancashire Children's Book of the Year award 2008

### **Lily Hyde DREAMLAND**



It was meant to be like coming home .... All her life Safi's parents have dreamed of returning to grandpa's native village in Crimea. But exchanging their sunny Uzbekistan house for a squalid camp is more like a nightmare. Will the return to a country where no-one welcomes them tear Safi's family apart or can this strange land ever become home.

A compelling story about the Crimean Tatars' struggle to reclaim the land from which they were evicted during WWII.

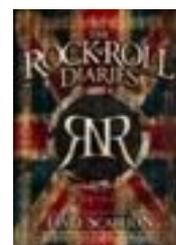
•UK rights: Walker Books

•'Great background reading for understanding what is happening in Crimea today ... '

- Lily Hyde is a journalist who has lived and worked in Ukraine. Her first novel is *RIDING ICARUS*.

### **Rob Sprackling BORN AGAIN, BEN**

The hilarious story of eleven-year-old Ben, whose strongest passion in life is being a bully. Nothing makes Ben feel as good as making other people feel bad. That is, until he is hit by a bus. When Ben wakes up, it turns out he's died and been reborn as a cockroach. He now lives under a fridge with former bank robber Ron as his only friend. Ron explains to Ben that when good people die, they are reborn as humans – but when bad people die, they end up at the bottom of the food chain. During his transformation into every-thing from a frog to a gorilla, Ben comes to realise that the only hope he has of ever returning to his former life is to mend his ways. A modern day fable that will have the whole family in stitches.



- UK rights: Can of Worms Press – publication 2014

- Film rights: acquired by Peter Safran for animated film

- Rob Sprackling is a screenwriter of work including *GNOMEO & JULIET*, *MIKE BASSETT: ENGLISH MANAGER*, *MARIAH MUNDI* & *THE MIDAS BOX* and the forthcoming *DANGER MOUSE* TV series.

### **Jamie Scallion THE ROCK 'N' ROLL DIARIES Series**

When Burt decides he must start a rock band to win the love of Bex, the hottest girl in the school, he is forced to assemble a group who wouldn't normally be seen dead together. The RockAteers must work, and not just for Burt. Egg has spent his life on the outside looking in, Tea needs to avoid becoming part of his criminal family and Clipper yearns for more than a place at football academy. When Egg reveals his song-writing genius, the only way is up... Who will win the race to sign them? And who will get the girl?

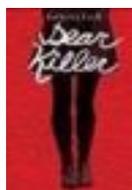
- UK: Mad Notes Media, published Autumn 2013 – YA

- *The book everyone is singing about!* - **READ THE BOOK, HEAR THE MUSIC**

- '11 out of 10' Capital Radio

- **#1 Amazon Hot New Release - Top 25 Kindle Paid**

### **Katherine Ewell DEAR KILLER**



Kit is focused, driven and experienced - a total professional, attributes unusual for anyone, but most especially for a seventeen year old. She is also a paid assassin. People leave anonymous letters along with appropriate payment in an anonymous mailbox and she complies with their wishes. She believes in moral nihilism, nothing is inherently right and nothing is inherently wrong and so she kills mercilessly, without regret or judgment. She is content. But things begin to unravel when she opens a letter one day to find the name of an acquaintance of hers, a classmate ...

- US rights: Katherine Tegen Books / HarperCollin – January 2014) – YA

- Foreign rights: Dutch (Ambo/Anthos), Italian (Salani)

- Katherine Ewell is also 17 years old. Her last novel (unpublished) was one of fifty finalists out of five thousand entries in the Amazon Breakthrough Novel Contest and she has been named a California Arts Scholar and awarded the Governor's Medallion for artistically talented youth.

## **Non fiction:**

### **Nicola Morgan THE TEENAGE GUIDE TO STRESS**



Nicola is something of an expert on teenage brains and this book was born from time spent in schools talking to kids, their parents and teachers. It is divided into three sections: Section One explains what stress is and looks at the ways teenage stress is different. Section Two deals with a number of issues that affect teenagers - from anger, depression and sexual relationships to cyber-bullying, exams and eating disorders - and offers guidance and advice, as well as looking at how pre-existing conditions such as OCD and dyslexia are affected by adolescence. Section Three is concerned with how to deal with and prevent the symptoms of stress, as well as healthy ways of looking after your mind and body. At the back of the book is

a glossary and list of useful resources.

- *UK rights: Walker Books – publication: July 2014*
- *Also available: BLAME MY BRAIN and KNOW YOUR BRAIN – scientific research shows what parents have long suspected – the teenage brain IS special! Cutting edge science that won't make your head spin*

*See also Laura Cecil catalogue for details of Jonathan Stroud's brilliant new LOCKWOOD series, Diana Wynne Jones and more ...*

### **Selected backlist:**

#### **Paul Fleischman SEEDFOLKS – HALF A MOON INN - BULL RUN – SATURNALIA – JOYFUL NOISE**

*Paul was shortlisted for the 2012 Hans Christian Andersen Award*

- *English language rights: Greenwillow*
- *SEEDFOLKS sold in Mexico, Japan, Korea and constantly in print*

*Sid Fleischman – Winner of the Newbery Award (THE WHIPPING BOY), Sid has written more than a dozen books – mainly Age: 8+ 'His storytelling is grandly melodramatic ... outstanding' – Kirkus*

#### **Malorie Blackman BOYS DON'T CRY**

*You're waiting for your exam results – a glittering future lies ahead. But when the doorbell rings it's an old girlfriend carrying a baby, your baby. A dramatic novel of teenage fatherhood.*

- *UK: Doubleday – translation sold: French, German – Age: YA*
- *Also available: THE STUFF OF NIGHTMARES, NOUGHTS & CROSSES, KNIFE EDGE, CHECK-MATE, DOUBLE CROSS, HACKER, etc*
- *'Blackman grapples with contemporary issues without ever letting them overwhelm the story and characterisation. A winner' – Financial Times,*

#### **Siobham Dowd LONDON EYE MYSTERY, A SWIFT PURE CRY, BOG CHILD, SOLACE OF THE ROAD**

*winner of the Carnegie, Branford Boase, CBI Bisto, TES Special Needs awards and more! – 'Dowd ... seduces, absorbs, enchants. Her prose doesn't speak, it sings' Meg Rosoff –*

- *UK rights: David Fickling at Random House*
- *translation rights sold variously include: Brazillian, Bulgarian, Dutch, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Japanese, Slovenian, Spanish*

#### **Michael Stewart KING CROW**

*'Michael Stewart is a fascinating new voice, and King Crow is a fine debut novel. Part action thriller, part psychological drama, part birding manual, I've come across nothing quite like it. It's a fantastic example of modern teenage fiction at its innovative best.' Melvyn Burgess*

- **Winner** of the Guardian *Not the Booker* award – chosen by David Peace as a **World Book** Night title
- *UK rights: Bluemoose – translation rights sold: Bulgarian, Russian – YA / crossover title*