



PEACHTREE

Books for Young Readers

Fall 2025



PeachtreeBooks.com



Peachtree
9781682638279
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\$8.99
Trade Paperback

32 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Family
10.3 in H | 10.3 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

The Littlest Yak and the New Arrival

Lu Fraser, Kate Hindley

Summary

Gertie is going to be a big sister! But is there room in Mummy's heart for the little yak—and an even littler new arrival?

Gertie the littlest yak is getting ready to welcome a new arrival to the family, and that means big sister planning and big sister sharing. She can't wait to share all her favorite things — like her curly-wool comb for important back-scratching, or her pinecones for playing yak throwing and catching — because the newest yakling will have so much to learn!

But how does Gertie feel about sharing Mummy? Is there enough room in Mummy's heart to love both Gertie AND the new arrival?

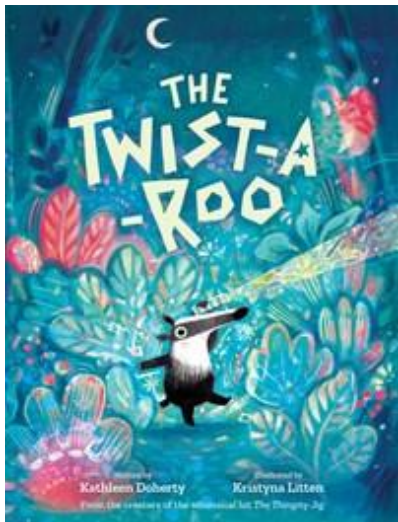
This adorably warm and reassuring story from the award-winning creators of *The Littlest Yak* shows readers that there will always be room for families, and hearts, to grow.

Contributor Bio

Lu Fraser has been helping other people tell stories for years, but she has never been brave enough to share her own—until now. Lu lives in Hampshire with her husband and daughter and writes her best stories in a little shed in her backyard. Follow her on Twitter @_lufrazer.

Kate Hindley is an illustrator who has brought many bestselling picture books to life, including *You Must Bring a Hat*, winner of the Sainsbury Children's Book Award. She is also the author of the lift-the-flap book series *Treacle Street*. Kate lives in England.

- Yak-enthusiasts and readers who love unique animal protagonists
- Children who want to celebrate the joys of being young and small
- Families with new arrivals on the way



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32 Pages
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Juvenile Fiction / Fairy Tales &
Folklore
12 in H | 9 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

The Twist-a-Roo

Kathleen Doherty, Kristyna Litten

Summary

A modern spin on “The Ant and the Grasshopper,” this warm-spirited, woodland tale celebrates the power of community and coming together to share in times of need.

Winter is fast approaching the forest and everyone is storing food for a long hibernation, except Badger who is determined to find something fun to play with during the cold months ahead. After poking around in people town, Badger finds a Twist-a-Roo. It makes flashy shapes, splashy shapes, and shapes that slide and slip! It’s perfect for brightening Badger’s den with lots of color. But when the snow starts piling on deeper and deeper, Badger’s cupboards go bare! All that razzle dazzle can’t fill her belly. Then...*knockity-knock*. Someone’s at the door!

From the creators of *The Thingity-Jig*, this cozy, cuddle-up tale from Kathy Doherty is lovingly illustrated by Kristyna Litten with enchanting details for little ones to discover.

Contributor Bio

Kathleen Doherty is a Reading Specialist and holds an Ed. S. Degree in Curriculum and Instruction. She's written standardized test items for Pearson, Inc. Her love of learning has led her to graduate from four different universities. A former teacher of elementary school for over 30 years, Kathleen's work has appeared in numerous magazines. She lives in Indiana.

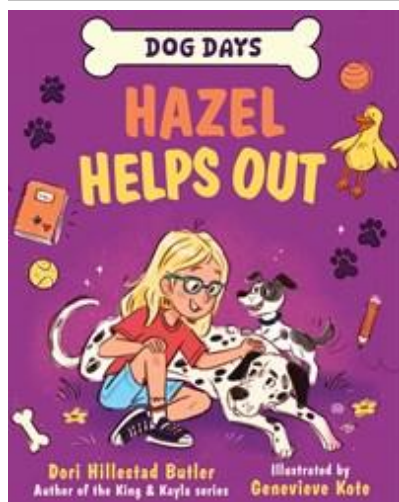
Author Residence: Indiana

Author Hometown: Indiana

Kristyna Litten studied Illustration at the Edinburg College of Art. Having been raised with illustrative and animated influences from Eastern Europe, Kristyna often references Miroslav Šašek, Zdeněk Miler, and Marc Boutavant in her work. Exercising a sophisticated color palette, she prefers to draw quickly to give an energetic line to her work and is heavily reliant on a good old pencil and a great big cup of tea to keep her going. She lives in a beautiful village in England.

Illustrator Residence:England

Illustrator Hometown:England



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128 Pages
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Juvenile Fiction / Animals
7 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Hazel Helps Out

Dori Hillestad Butler, Genevieve Kote

Summary

Can Hazel find a new home, a place for herself, and a way to contribute to the family doggy daycare business?

Nine-year-old Hazel and her mother are facing some big changes. Grandma has been running Dog Days, a dog day care, all by herself for a long time, but now she needs some help—help that she doesn't really want to accept. Fortunately, Mom's best friend Amanda and her kids, KC and Jonah, live nearby. Amanda and Mom dreamed of running the business when they grew up. That time could be coming.

Hazel and Mom arrive for a visit that might turn into a long-term stay. First, they have to figure out what's going on. It's hard to get prickly Grandma to tell them anything, about the business or her health. There are a lot of dogs to keep track of, including Houdini, who keeps them on their toes by repeatedly escaping. Hazel knows KC and Jonah, but they aren't friends—at least not yet. And Hazel's elderly dog Spot is having a hard time keeping up with the younger, more active dogs.

Mom and Amanda don't want to tell Grandma about Houdini. Grandma doesn't want to tell Mom and Amanda the truth about her health. All Hazel knows is that she doesn't like keeping secrets. If only there was a way to get everyone, young and old, to work together.

Series Overview: Dog Days is a spin-off from King & Kayla, perfect for readers who are outgrowing the original series but still want appealing stories about dogs and the humans who love them.

Contributor Bio

Dori Hillestad Butler has published magazine stories, educational materials, plays, book reviews, characters for a board game, and over sixty children's books. A two-time Geisel Honor Book winner, she has also been nominated for children's choice awards in nineteen different states and won the 2011 Edgar Award for the best juvenile mystery for Buddy Files: Case of the Lost Boy.

Author Residence: Seattle, Washington

Author Hometown: Fairmont, Minnesota

Genevieve Kote is a French Canadian illustrator and comic book artist based in Montreal. She loves drawing characters and animals and bringing their adventures to life. Kote's work includes the Animal Rescue Friends series, the Agents of H.E.A.R.T. series and *Hike on Haunted Hill*. In her free time she can be found reading novels, baking or exploring the city and other parts of the world. She shares her studio with her cat Clara and many plants.

Illustrator Residence: Montreal, Canada

The Old Dogs Club

Dori Hillestad Butler, Genevieve Kote

Summary

Hazel's exciting new plan for the Old Dog's Club might be in trouble before it even starts. Can she find a way to get everyone to agree?

Hazel, KC, and Jonah have convinced their mothers and Hazel's grandma to let them start an old dogs club at the Dog House. Senior dogs (like Hazel's own dog, Spot) who are still up for some social interaction, mental stimulation, and exercise but can't handle the intensity of the full daycare environment will attend the old dogs club for a few hours a couple times a week.

Everyone is very excited. The kids will plan the activities and Grandma will oversee it. But as they start to plan, Hazel, KC and Jonah realize they all have very different ideas about how to run the old dogs club and they can't seem to agree on much of anything.

Is the old dogs club doomed before it ever gets off the ground?

Series Overview: Dog Days is a spin-off from King & Kayla, perfect for readers who are outgrowing the original series but still want appealing stories about dogs and the humans who love them.

Contributor Bio

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Author Residence: Seattle, Washington

Author Hometown: Fairmont, Minnesota

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Illustrator Residence: Montreal, Canada

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Available

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144 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Sports & Recreation
Series: Fred Bowen Sports Story Series
7.5 in H | 5.3 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Special Teams

Fred Bowen

Summary

A football book full of on the field action perfect for middle grade readers.

In football, most touchdowns are scored in two ways. First, give the ball to a player and let him run. Second, the quarterback throws the ball to a receiver who takes it in for the score. Leo wants to be a wide receiver—the player that catches passes and scores touchdowns.

But his coach isn't so sure that the position is right for Leo. He must figure out how to help his team in other ways by learning other ways to score. In *Special Teams*, Leo's team is counting on him to know his strengths and make the right play.

Contributor Bio

Fred Bowen was a Little Leaguer who loved to read and is still a lifelong sports fanatic. He is the author of the action-packed Fred Bowen Sports Story series, currently totaling more than twenty titles. For thirteen years, Bowen coached kids' baseball and basketball teams. He has also written a weekly sports column for kids in the Washington Post since 2000. He was a lawyer for many years before retiring to become a full-time children's book author. Bowen lives in Silver Spring, Maryland, with his wife Peggy Jackson. They have two grown children.

Author Residence: Silver Spring, Maryland

Author Hometown: Marblehead, Massachusetts



Peachtree
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144 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Sports &
Recreation

7.5 in H | 5.3 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Special Teams

Fred Bowen

Summary

A football book full of on the field action perfect for middle grade readers.

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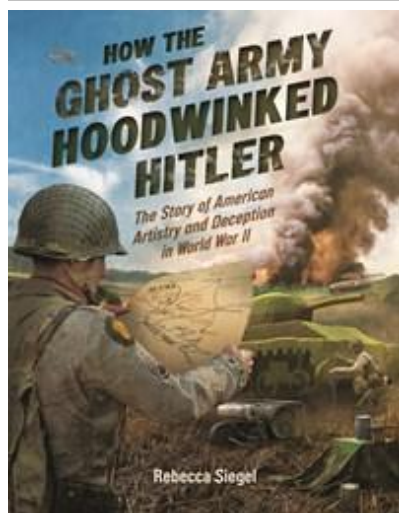
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Author Residence: Silver Spring, Maryland

Author Hometown: Marblehead, Massachusetts



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176 Pages
Ages 10 And Up, Grades 5 And Up
Juvenile Nonfiction / History
9 in H | 7 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

How the Ghost Army Hoodwinked Hitler

The Story of American Artistry and Deception in World War II

Rebecca Siegel

Summary

The unbelievable true story of the American soldiers who used inflatable tanks and fake radio broadcasts as weapons in World War II.

Right around D-Day of World War II, a small, unarmed American army unit deployed to Nazi-occupied France. Instead of artillery, this unit fought with stagecraft, artistry, and deception. Their “weapons” included inflatable rubber tanks and giant speakers broadcasting fake military maneuvers. The soldiers called themselves the Ghost Army. Many of them had creative backgrounds in fashion, theater, and music, and they used their talents to trick and confuse the enemy. Often, their mission was to draw enemy fire away from other soldiers and toward themselves.

One of the most stunning parts of this story is just how effective the Ghost Army was. They successfully carried out mission after mission and undeniably helped secure Allied victory. Rebecca Siegel uses original research, declassified records and photos, and a boots on the ground narrative style to tell the incredible experiences of these heroic soldiers.

Contributor Bio

Rebecca Siegel is the author of well over 200 nonfiction books and essays for audiences ranging from early readers to adults. Her book *To Fly Among the Stars* was named a 2020 *Mighty Girl's* Book of the Year and was a National Science Teaching Association's Outstanding Science Trade Books for Students. She lives in Chicago with her husband and two daughters. Visit her at <https://www.rebeccasiegel.org/>

Author Residence: Chicago, Illinois

Author Hometown: Des Moines, Iowa



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40 Pages
Ages 7 to 9, Grades 2 to 4
Juvenile Fiction / Mysteries &
Detective Stories
Series: King y Kayla
9 in H | 6 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

King y Kayla y el caso del diente perdido

Dori Hillestad Butler, Nancy Meyers

Summary

King & Kayla are on the case in this laugh-out-loud mystery from the Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor Award-winning series.

Kayla lost a tooth. She put it in the special pocket in her tooth fairy pillow and now her tooth is missing! If she can't find it, the tooth fairy won't come.

Analytical Kayla retraces her steps, searches everywhere, and questions Mason, who rode home from school with her. Sensitive King wonders why Mason smells like a tooth. Could he have Kayla's lost tooth? Or should King take another look at the tooth fairy pillow?

Series Overview: With simple, straightforward language and great verbal and visual humor, the *King & Kayla* series is perfect for newly independent readers. King and Kayla model excellent problem-solving skills, including working as a team, gathering facts, making lists, and evaluating evidence.

Contributor Bio

Dori Hillestad Butler has published magazine stories, educational materials, plays, book reviews, characters for a board game, and forty-two children's books. A two-time Geisel Honor Book winner for *King & Kayla* and the *Case of the Missing Dog Treats* and *King & Kayla* and the *Case of the Lost Tooth*, she has also been nominated for children's choice awards in nineteen different states and won the 2011 Edgar Award for the best juvenile mystery for *Buddy Files: Case of the Lost Boy*.

Author Residence: Seattle, Washington

Author Hometown: Fairmont, Minnesota

Nancy Meyers is the illustrator of the *King & Kayla* and the *Language Together* series. When she's not busy drawing, she loves spending time with her daughters, visiting dogparks, or going for a nice long hike. She lives in Minnesota, where she is known to be a spoiled-dog enabler.

Illustrator Residence: Minneapolis, Minnesota

Illustrator Hometown: Cincinnati, Ohio



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48 Pages
Ages 7 to 9, Grades 2 to 4
Juvenile Fiction / Mysteries &
Detective Stories
Series: King y Kayla
9 in H | 6 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

King y Kayla y el caso de los premios desaparecidos

Dori Hillestad Butler, Nancy Meyers

Summary

King & Kayla are on the case in this laugh-out-loud mystery from the Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor Award-winning series.

Kayla made peanut butter treats for Thor, Jillian's new puppy. But now the treats are missing, and King is under suspicion.

Analytical Kayla notices that King's breath doesn't smell like peanut butter, so he didn't eat them. Sensitive King detects the presence of an intruder in their house. Is it Jillian's little brother Adam? Or someone else? Who took the missing dog treats?

Series Overview: With simple, straightforward language and great verbal and visual humor, the *King & Kayla* series is perfect for newly independent readers. King and Kayla model excellent problem-solving skills, including working as a team, gathering facts, making lists, and evaluating evidence.

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Nancy Meyers is the illustrator of the *King & Kayla* and the *Language Together* series. When she's not busy drawing, she loves spending time with her daughters, visiting dog parks, or going for a nice long hike. She lives in Minnesota, where she is known to be a spoiled-dog enabler.

Illustrator Residence: Minneapolis, Minnesota

Illustrator Hometown: Cincinnati, Ohio



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Hardcover

400 Pages
Ages 14 And Up, Grades 9 And Up
Young Adult Fiction / Fantasy
8 in H | 5.3 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Grave Flowers

Autumn Krause

Summary

A twisty, dark royalcore fantasy that takes the courtly intrigue of Hamlet and infuses it with the vicious ambition of the Boleyn family. For readers who love Holly Black and Sarah J. Maas.

"A sumptuously dark tale of revenge and atonement that beautifully explores the ties both duty and family use to claim us. From the first page to the last, I was dazzled."

—Erin A. Craig, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Thirteenth Child*

Marry the prince, then kill him.

Princess Madalina and her twin sister, Inessa, were born attached at the hand and separated right after. That's the only time the sisters ever held hands. The girls' personalities have been shaped in the Sinet family's drive to make their kingdom more than what it is: unrespectable and loathsome, a damp place where deceit fills the palace walls like mold.

Madalina is different from her family. She's considered the weak one and only finds peace in the garden, tending her magical flowers, which are pejoratively called grave flowers because they are ideal for torture and torment. Secretly, she dreams of escape and a new life.

Then Inessa, who was betrothed to the heir of a wealthy kingdom—Prince Aeric—gets trapped in Bide, a terrifying purgatory, and begs Madalina to set her free. Now, not only must Madalina take her sister's place as Aeric's bride-to-be, but she also must finish Inessa's secret mission: Inessa wasn't just sent to marry Prince Aeric, but to kill him, too, and solidify a profitable pact with his traitorous uncle.

On behalf of her family, Madalina will need to resist the infuriatingly clever prince—as well as her own heart—if she's to free her sister and finish the job.

Perfect for fans of:

- Enemies to lovers
- Royal rivalry
- Arranged marriage
- Deadly games
- Dark royalcore
- Reluctant ruler
- Bloodstained family

Contributor Bio

Autumn Krause is the critically acclaimed author of the YA novels *A Dress for the Wicked* (Harper) and *Before the Devil Knows You're Here* (Peachtree Teen). She currently lives in Orange County, CA with her husband and three children. Most of the time she can be found wearing a black lace dress and refinishing old vintage frames. Other times, she can be found—in the tradition of Emily Dickinson—out with lanterns, looking for herself and stories. Find her on social media @Autumn__Krause.

Author Residence: Fullerton, California

Author Hometown: Los Angeles, California



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Hardcover

352 Pages
Ages 14 And Up, Grades 9 And Up
Young Adult Fiction / Thrillers & Suspense

8 in H | 5.3 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

A Feast for the Eyes

Alex Crespo

Summary

***Sawkill Girls* meets *Twin Peaks* in a page-turning queer supernatural thriller, where four teens must track down a local cryptid that's feeding off secrets, before their own hidden truths are exposed.**

"Alex Crespo thrills with a meticulously crafted page-turner. A feast of twists, tension and secrets." —**C.S. Pacat, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Dark Rise***

On the dreary Oregon coast, an all-seeing beast—known as the Watcher—lies in wait. When Shay and her girlfriend, Lauren, get into a fight over whether to go public with their clandestine relationship, they awaken the creature. Although Lauren is badly injured, the girls escape with their lives but can't shake the feeling of the creature's eyes tracking them.

Meanwhile, aspiring photographer Zoe is desperate to put together a portfolio worthy of earning a scholarship to attend art college. Her photography teacher praises her skill but urges her to select more daring subjects for her submissions—a tall task when Zoe's camera acts as a barrier between herself and the rest of the world.

As rumors swirl about Lauren's injuries, Shay remains steadfast in that the Watcher is to blame, not her. She asks for Zoe's help in snapping a photo of the local legend. Proof would help Shay clear her name and certainly be daring enough for Zoe's scholarship. Together with their friends Jack and Parker, they set out to expose the Watcher before its ever-creeping eyes cast the secrets they're all keeping from the town—and one another—into the light.

Eerily atmospheric and as piercing as a pair of eyes on the back of your head, Alex Crespo's LGBTQ+ supernatural thriller is a poignant story about the prices we pay to keep our secrets hidden—sometimes for good reason. Through creeping tension and mounting horror, readers will furiously turn the pages with their breaths held.

Perfect for readers who love:

- **Sapphic yearning**
- **Popular girl/ Unpopular girl romance**
- **Slow Burn**
- **Secret Relationship**
- **Small Town with a Dark Secret**
- **Found Family**
- **Eldritch Abomination**
- **Hunter Becomes the Hunted**

Story Locale:Coastal Oregon

Contributor Bio

Alex Crespo writes about queer love, magic, and all the ways they intersect. When not writing, you can find him making art or daydreaming about Mothman. He currently lives in Chicago with an endless anime watchlist and his black cat, Hex. Find him on social media @ByAlexCrespo.

Author Residence: Chicago, Illinois

Author Hometown: Cleveland, Ohio



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8 in H | 5.3 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

A Fate Unwoven

Rachael A. Edwards

Summary

A heretical storyteller partners with an ancient spirit to undo the magic that subjugates her to the crown, in this chilling debut fantasy filled with monsters, forbidden rituals, and corrupted deities.

The Emperor of Wyrecia is dying, and 17-year-old Lena has just gained the power to control fate itself, binding her to the young prince Dimas as the empire's next Fateweaver. Hunted by the empire's most ruthless soldiers, Lena escapes with a handsome smuggler toward enemy territory. But a former lover betrays Lena, and her magic becomes agony—compelling Lena to submit to a gilded cage.

Still, an ancient spirit offers hope: to sever her bond to the throne, Lena must unroot a ritual hidden beneath the palace. As Prince Dimas struggles to forge friendship with Lena and bring his empire under peaceful rule, sinister cultists unveil a twisted plan to unleash an ancient evil that could tear the realm asunder. With every step Lena takes on her quest to freedom, she uncovers a troubling imperial past that tarnishes the nation's matron goddess. Perhaps the oral histories passed down to Lena are not foolish heresy, after all.

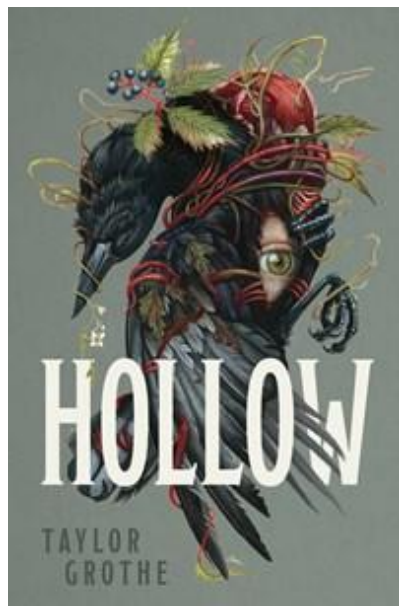
Written with captivating mystery, queer romance, and a dual point of view narrative, this gothic fantasy features a gorgeously detailed map and roots its magic system in mythological lore. An enchanting selection for young adult readers who don't mind a little terror with their adventure!

Contributor Bio

Rachael A. Edwards first discovered her love of storytelling at a young age, when she got lost in tales of witches, fairies, and magical realms. She hails from northwest England and spends most of her days writing fantasy novels about morally gray characters in worlds filled with mythology, corruption, and magic. She has an MA in Creative Writing for Children and Young Adults from Manchester Metropolitan University. *A Fate Unwoven* is her debut novel.

Author Residence: Chester, United Kingdom

Author Hometown: Chester, United Kingdom



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Hollow

Taylor Grothe

Summary

***Don't Let the Forest In* meets *The Whispering Dark* in a queer YA cult horror following a recently diagnosed autistic teen who becomes enmeshed in a community of outcasts harboring sinister secrets.**

"One of the best horror novels of the year, full stop. Haunting, heartfelt, and downright creepy." —**Kamilah Cole, bestselling author of *So Let Them Burn***

After a meltdown in her school cafeteria prompts an unwanted autism diagnosis, Cassie Davis moves back to her hometown in upstate New York, where her mom hopes the familiarity will allow Cassie to feel normal again. Cassie's never truly felt normal anywhere, but she does crave the ease she used to have with her old friends.

Problem is that her friends aren't so eager to welcome her back into the fold. They extend an olive branch by inviting her on their backpacking trip to Hollow Ridge, in the upper reaches of the Adirondacks. But when a fight breaks out their first night, Cassie wakes to a barren campsite—her friends all gone.

With severe weather approaching and nearing sensory overload, Cassie is saved by a boy named Kaleb, who whisks her away to a compound of artists and outcasts he calls the Roost. As Kaleb tends to her injuries, Cassie begins to feel—for the first time in her life—that she can truly be herself. But as the days pass, strange happenings around the Roost make Cassie question her instincts. Noises in the trees grow louder, begging the question: Are the dangers in the forest, on the trail, or in the Roost itself?

In a world where autistic characters rarely get to be the hero of their own stories, Cassie Davis's one-step-back, two-steps-forward journey to unmasking makes *Hollow* as much a love letter to neurodiversity as it is a haunting tale you'll want to read with the lights on.

Read if You Love:

- **Don't Go in the Woods**
- **Deadly Road Trips**
- **CottageGORE**
- **Malevolent Masks**
- **Cults**
- **Nerd-core**
- **Wound-tending**
- **First Love**

Story Locale:Upstate, New York, Adirondacks

Series Overview: "One of the best horror novels of the year, full stop. Haunting, heartfelt, and downright creepy, this punched me in the face and stole my lunch money and all I could say was thank you." —**Kamilah Cole, bestselling author of *So Let Them Burn***

"An eerie and unsettlingly atmospheric debut, Taylor Grothe balances the tension of slow creeping horror with the distressing experience of unmasking, asking us to confront who we truly are when we strip away the weight of other's expectations—no matter how painful." —**K. M. Enright, *Sunday Times* bestselling author of *Mistress of Lies***

"Both heartfelt and haunting, Taylor Grothe strikes the perfect balance between an immersive coming-of-age story and a chilling horror. Cassie is a heroine who you cannot help but love, protect, and root for— and who I would definitely follow into the shadowy woods" —**Lyndall Clipstone, author of *Lakesedge* and *Tenderly, I am Devoured***

"Bone-chilling, haunting, and hopeful, *Hollow* is the kind of book that will leave you wanting to sleep with the lights on while simultaneously holding your hand in the dark. Cassie Davis may not think she's a hero, but she will be one for teen readers for years to come." —**De Elizabeth, author of *This Raging Sea* and *A Shared Haunting***

Contributor Bio

Taylor Grothe is a neurodivergent (ASD) NB horror writer with an MFA from Fairfield University. Their work has appeared in *Haven Speculative*, *Shortwave Magazine*, *Coffin Bell*, *Parents*, *Verywell Family*, *Brevity's* writing craft blog, and an anthology published by Bag of Bones Press. Taylor acted as a special editor for the *Brevity* special issue *Trans Experience* in 2022. They live with their spouse, two daughters, a Portuguese Water Dog, and two cats. *Hollow* is their debut novel.

Author Residence: New York, NY



Lady of Steel and Straw

Erica Ivy Rodgers

Summary

Star-crossed lovers grapple with forbidden attraction and a growing army of ghostly dead in this swashbuckling YA fantasy debut.

After ten years of exile, following regicide in the House of Tristain, an alarming royal edict is delivered to the immortal scarecrow Guardians who once defended the crown: surrender themselves to the church of the Silent Gods, or stand accused of further treason. But with a puppet prince set to take the throne and vengeful wraiths appearing with alarming frequency, something foul and sinister is at work in the kingdom of Niveaux.

Lady Charlotte Sand was born to calm the restless dead. A headstrong heroine, she refuses to relinquish her family's lavender Guardian to the Cardinal's Watch—a rash misstep that costs her brother his life and sets her on a path for revenge.

For pious and handsome Captain Luc de Montaigne, it's an excruciating predicament. His long-lost, childhood love has triggered a faction war that could tear the realm asunder. Now Charlotte and Luc must choose between killing one another and stepping closer to victory—or yielding to the electricity between them.

Heartily inspired by *The Three Musketeers*, this multiple-perspective narrative features a unique system of bone and herbal magic, sultry banter, and a feisty cast of well-rounded supporting characters. This rousing first entry in the Waking Hearts fantasy duology is a gorgeous read and an excellent pick for fans of Rin Chupeco and Margaret Rogerson.

Series Overview: Waking Hearts is a young adult fantasy duology from debut author Erica Ivy Rodgers. Told in varying points of view, this cleverly constructed narrative follows a girl with a dark gift who partners with an ancestral guardian to defy zealots while defending her heart from a handsome enemy.

Contributor Bio

Erica Ivy Rodgers lives in Nashville, Tennessee with her husband, two children, and one very lovable, frenetic pit bull mix. When she isn't writing or driving kids around, you can usually find her starting another DIY home project in the woods, rock climbing, or beneath an ever-growing pile of bookish quilting fabric.

Author Residence: Nashville, Tennessee

Author Hometown: Nashville, Tennessee

Peachtree Teen
9781682638309
Pub Date: 11/4/2025
On Sale Date: 11/4/2025
\$14.99
Trade Paperback

432 Pages
Ages 14 And Up, Grades 9 And Up
Young Adult Fiction / Fantasy
Series: Waking Hearts
8 in H | 5.3 in W | 0.8 lb Wt



Peachtree Teen
9781682636671
Pub Date: 11/4/2025
On Sale Date: 11/4/2025
\$19.99
Hardcover

496 Pages
Ages 14 And Up, Grades 9 And Up
Young Adult Fiction / Fantasy
Series: Waking Hearts
8 in H | 5.3 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Lord of Blade and Bone

Erica Ivy Rodgers

Summary

A harrowing companion to the romantic fantasy adventure, *Lady of Steel and Straw*

The kingdom of Niveaux's most vulnerable are being hanged—their bones mercilessly collected for an arsenal of wraiths. With young Prince Artus locked away and the Order of the Guardians driven from the capital, Cardinal Lorraine the Pure fixes her gaze on conquering bordering nations. To succeed, she'll have to convince Captain Luc de Montaigne to embrace the power he's been running from his entire life.

But even in chains, Luc yearns for the light of Lady Charlotte Sand. Proclaimed an outlaw, Charlotte and her lavender scarecrow Guardian, Worth, are staging rebellion with the underground network, the Broken Bird. Three new Guardians have also woken to aid their cause, but someone in their ranks is not who they seem. And with corruption spreading, the Guardians' hearts are weakening. Can Charlotte trust Luc to abandon his former master and secure peace for the kingdom? Or will the darkness haunting Charlotte's Guardian destroy any chance for reconciliation?

An exhilarating second installment in the Waking Hearts duology, this YA fantasy was inspired by *The Three Musketeers* and offers a beguiling dose of dark magic.

Series Overview: Waking Hearts is a young adult fantasy duology from author Erica Ivy Rodgers. Told in varying points of view, this cleverly constructed narrative follows a girl with a dark gift who partners with an ancestral guardian to defy zealots while defending her heart from a handsome enemy.

Contributor Bio

Erica Ivy Rodgers lives in Nashville, Tennessee with her husband, two children, and one very lovable, frenetic pit bull mix. When she isn't writing or driving kids around, you can usually find her starting another DIY home project in the woods, rock climbing, or beneath an ever-growing pile of bookish quilting fabric.

Author Residence: Nashville, TN

Author Hometown: Nashville, TN



Wombat Said Come In

Carmen Agra Deedy, Brian Lies

Contributor Bio

Carmen Agra Deedy, a *New York Times* best-selling author (*14 Cows for America*) and nationally known storyteller. Her books have received numerous awards and honors, including a Pura Belpre Honor, Christopher, Jane Addams Honor, and an E.B.White Read-Aloud Honor. Carmen has presented at many prestigious venues, but children are her favorite audience. Born in Havana, Cuba, she came to the United States as a refugee. She lives in Georgia.

Brian Lies has illustrated over thirty books, including the 2019 Caldecott Honor-winning *The Rough Patch*, which also won a SCBWI Crystal Kite Award, and his *New York Times* bestselling bat series (*Bats at the Beach*, *Bats at the Library*, *Bats at the Ballgame*, and *Bats in the Band*). He now lives in a seaside town in Massachusetts with his wife and two cats. His hobbies are woodworking, cooking, and tending a big vegetable garden behind the house.

Margaret Quinlin Books

9781682638286

Pub Date: 10/21/2025

On Sale Date: 10/21/2025

\$8.99

Trade Paperback

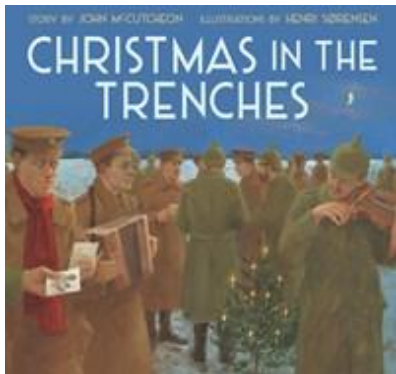
40 Pages

Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3

Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes

9 in H | 11 in W | 0.1 in T | 0.5 lb

Wt



Margaret Quinlin Books
9781682638422
Pub Date: 10/14/2025
On Sale Date: 10/14/2025
\$9.99
Trade Paperback

32 Pages
Ages 7 to 10, Grades 2 to 5
Juvenile Fiction / War & Military
10 in H | 10.6 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Christmas in the Trenches

John McCutcheon, Henri Sørensen

Summary

A story of the WWI unofficial Christmas Truce when the spirit of Christmas propelled the German and British soldiers lining the trenches on both sides of No Man's Land to briefly choose peace. Based on actual events.

WWI began in August of 1914, sending the Allies into battle against a German aggressor. Many people thought it would be a brief war, resolved by Christmas. But this was not to be—the war stretched to 1918.

As the first Christmas of the war approached, troops were dug into muddy trenches on the Western Front with British troops facing their German counterparts, some as few as fifty yards away. The German Kaiser had sent small Christmas trees with candles to the front to cheer the enlisted men, while British families sent gifts of food and clothing to their fathers and brothers and sons praying for their safe return. These were the conditions as Christmas eve approached.

John McCutcheon's haunting story is based on the event known as the unofficial Christmas Truce and on a song that he composed and recorded. John creates a British soldier, Francis Tolliver, who recounts that Christmas eve night to his grandchildren when they ask if he was a hero in the war.

In this story-within-a-story, Tolliver tells of hearing singing coming from the German side, a Christmas carol. The British troops in turn sing "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen." And soon both sides are singing "Silent Night/*Stille Nacht*" in English and German. What follows surprises us, and we glimpse the power of peace. It takes one brave person to step forward and make a meaningful human connection possible.

A QR code connects readers to McCutcheon's song and his rendition of "Silent Night/*Stille Nacht*." An Author's Note and historical note provide additional information about the event and John's inspiration for the song. Henri Sørensen's full-color oil paintings reinforce the emotional power and dignity of the story.

Story Locale:Europe during WWI

Contributor Bio

John McCutcheon is an accomplished instrumentalist, a respected folksinger, and songwriter. He has received multiple Grammy nominations and numerous other awards. John McCutcheon tours extensively across the US and Australia. He lives in Atlanta. The Washington Post described him this way: "He has an uncanny ability to breathe new life into the familiar. His storytelling has the richness of fine literature."

Author Residence: Stone Mountain, GA

Author Hometown: Wausau, Wisconsin

Henri Sørensen has illustrated over twenty books for children, including Peachtree titles *The Yellow Star*, *The Printer*, and *Christmas in the Trenches*. Sørensen lives in Denmark.

Illustrator Residence:Risskov, Denmark

Illustrator Hometown:Århus, Denmark