FOREIGN RIGHTS GUIDE

AUTUMN 2020

PICTURE BOOKS • CHILDREN’S BOOKS
YOUNG ADULT
Irene Zimmermann

Charlie – A School Bus Goes Haywire

With illustrations by Tine Schulz

• Start to a hilarious series
  (volume 2 to be published in autumn 2021)
• Perfect combination of adventure, magic, and humour
• For readers of Sabrina Kirschner, Charlotte Habersack and The Magic School Bus series

Help! Our school bus is taking off – quite literally

Will can’t believe his eyes when caretaker Freddie ploughs into the schoolyard with a bright yellow and very battered old schoolbus. Exhaust fumes mingle with the smell of adventure and so Will hops on the bus with a few more daring pupils. Not only does this bus take every corner on one set of wheels only, it actually does take off like a rocket and flies off on a trip around the world. Charlie – yes, that’s its name – is full of surprises. It speaks, it has a mysterious past and it desperately needs help. And who would be better suited to come to its rescue than Will and his super clever friends from Dreistein boarding school?

This is the start to a hilarious series revolving around Dreistein’s pupils and their adventures – magic and otherwise – told with verve and esprit.
LEA COPLIN worked for several years as a journalist before deciding on a career as an author. The writer lives and writes in Munich, and has already published several successful novels under a pen name.

Only one night to spark great love

When Jonah and Liv meet at a festival in England, their personal desires couldn’t be more different. But then something begins to spark. And although Liv makes it quite clear at the beginning that nothing can happen between them and Jonah convinces himself that everything is just a figment of his imagination, the two of them fall for each other. The only problem is that Jonah is supposed to return to Germany the next day with his friends. All that he and Liv have is this one single night to figure out what this thing is between them. But how close can you get to this realization when everything ends tomorrow?

- The story of a romance – captured in glittering conversations, the smallest of gestures and magical endings
- “It is often the details that transform a good book into a really good book. A Night to Last Forever is one of those books.” Anne Freytag
- For everyone who loves Emma Scott, Jennifer Armentrout or Nick & Norah’s Infinite Playlist

BY THE SAME AUTHOR

Nothing is Good. Without You.

352 Pages
Pub. Date: April 2018

Nothing to Lose. Except for Us.

368 Pages
Pub. Date: September 2018

ANIÉLA LEY always has been a bookworm, even as a child, driven by the confident hope that a door to a fantastic world would open between the covers of each book she read. As an author, she has created numerous literary worlds herself, and she now knows that this door exists wherever books are being read.

SUDDENLY, ELVES!

Eleven-year-old Lia didn’t know that elves actually existed. But now, as the result of a failed magical spell, she is stuck in the body of the air princess Asalia and is forced to search for the location of Spring Water, the famous elf boarding school. Lia’s initial aversion to this idea is quickly forgotten, because Spring Water isn’t only a magical school. It offers all kinds of adventures, such as a flight through the diamond labyrinth or confronting bullies from the position of a genuine princess. However, more than anything else, Lia has to hide her secret about who she actually is, because it has been ages since humans were allowed to even enter Spring Water!

- The first book of an enchanting and charming series about an elf girl (vol. 2 to be published in Spring 2021)
- Aniela Ley is the pseudonym of a well-established fantasy author
- For readers of Tanja Stewner and Jessica Townsend

ENGLISH SAMPLE TRANSLATION AVAILABLE
Emil’s family has been turned upside down since Grandpa’s death. And so Emil decides that the only thing that will help them is a big, beautiful, friendly dog. Luckily Christmas is right around the corner, and Emil is a math ace. According to his calculations, the probability that he will get a dog will be around 100% if this is the only wish he makes. However Emil’s parents don’t place much stock in pets – and they obviously understand nothing about math. And this is why Emil soon finds himself secretly hiding an abandoned pug dog in Grandpa’s old room. This pug isn’t big or beautiful, but he knows how to win hearts. And he has his own secret …

A pug miracle

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- Marvelously entertaining with emotional depth for girls and boys aged 8+
- A pug helps a family to deal with mourning
- Emil and his pug are an endearing and winsome duo
Holly Bluesky lives in the magical Forest of Night Shadows. Along with her chameleon Kralle, she has already experienced countless adventures there. However, there is one thing about sorcery: Holly has had her fill of witch stuff such as enchanted princesses, sensitive fairies, vain unicorns, outrageous witches, and soothsayers.

All Holly is wishing for is an unmagical friend who will stick by her side through thick and thin. One day, the absolutely unmagical, unwitchy Isa appears out of the blue. At that moment, Holly knows this is her future best friend. But Isa has a mind of her own. And then Kralle finds himself in great danger...

- Funny, magical and warm-hearted
- By the successful author & illustrator duo behind Fletcher
- For readers of Petronella Apple Witch and Meja Mermaid

**Unmagical Friend Wanted (vol. I)**

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**Ruffle in Need (vol. II)**

Excitement in the Forest of Night Shadows: The ruffles are coming! No one has ever seen one, but their bad reputation precedes them.

This suddenly changes, at least for Holly, when her friend Isa secretly takes one of the small, stray ruffles under her wing. It is simply cute – and completely harmless. The two girls now want to do everything they can to keep the ruffles here. But that is a bit tricky since nobody is supposed to know about Isa.

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Life has turned into a total disaster!!! Thanks to her mother’s sudden flash of romantic insanity, Lisa (13), a formerly happy only child, has moved to a backwater town out in the country. And her family has expanded with the addition of a rosily naive stepsister, an eight-year-old wannabe rapper, and a crazy New Age grandma.

Lisa isn’t sure which of them is the worst. She wants her old life back, but running away wouldn’t work. Then Ilkan, a kebab stand owner, gives her a new idea: Since she can’t convince her mother to move back to the city, Lisa will have to convince the others to kick them out! Inspired by the rumors of a falafel mafia gang, Lisa cooks up the perfect plan.

Leonie Below  
Greetings from Pink Hell – Lisa’s Crazy Diary

Leonie Below, born in 1990, studied European Media Culture in Weimar and Lyon, as well as Media Studies at the Babelsberg Film University in Potsdam. She currently works as a screenplay author and writes children’s books.

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Greetings from Pink Hell – Lisa’s Crazy Diary

REGINE BIELEFELDT writes screenplays for film and television. She also gives lectures at the Munich Screenplay Workshop, the Hamburg Media School, and the Konrad Wolf Film University. Regine Bielefeldt lives with her family in Baden-Baden.

FLORENTINE PRECHTEL was born in Mönchengladbach and studied classical painting and sculpture. Since 1996 she has been illustrating children’s books. After having spent some time in Rome, Berlin and Barcelona, she now lives in Freiburg with her family.

Paula Prima series

Regine Bielefeldt  
Paula Prima series

The Class Thief (vol. I)

Along with her friends Sissi, Kim and Oleg, Paula goes to the best school in the world. And they have the sweetest teacher ever. Ms. Plum is so nice, and she often writes encouraging notes on homework sheets with her glitter pens. But one day, her glitter pens disappear. Stolen? As Paula and her friends search for the thief, something much worse happens in their beloved school...

Chaos in the School Kitchen (vol. II)

Along with her friends, Paula is about to start third grade at the best school in the world, which usually offers some of the best cafeteria meals in the world too. But recently the food has taken a turn for the worse. It now seems to always be lukewarm and somehow gummy. When the children complain, nothing happens. And so they decide to take the matter into their own hands – with unforeseen results...

Pub. Date: April 2020

Pub. Date: October 2020

• Here comes Paula Prima, third grader and budding detective!
• A warm-hearted series about friendship, sticking together, and dealing with conflicts
• For readers of Kirsten Boie and Sabine Ludwig

Pub. Date: August 2020

Age 10 and up

Pub. Date: October 2020

Age 10 and up

208 pages  
With b/w-illustrations by Nicole El Salamoni

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NICOLE EL SALAMONI studied communication design and was the co-founder of an advertising agency. After spending several years in South Africa, she decided to dedicate herself completely to her passion and to make illustration her full-time career.

Leonie Below, born in 1990, studied European Media Culture in Weimar and Lyon, as well as Media Studies at the Babelsberg Film University in Potsdam. She currently works as a screenplay author and writes children’s books.
Haven and David are the perfect couple – until David unexpectedly breaks up with her. Haven now urgently needs a new roommate and a job. Unfortunately the café job she is offered comes with a huge catch: Jackson, an arrogant and extremely dislikeable former classmate who, nonetheless, gave Haven the most exciting kiss of her life.

For Jackson, love is a castle in the air in which people like Haven and David rot away instead of living their lives to the fullest. Until he is kicked out of his apartment, and it is Haven of all people who invites him to move in with her ...

• Just the right combination of depth and romance joining topics important to young women: love and family, independence and responsibility
• Deep emotions, tingly love scenes, authentic characters
• For fans of Colleen Hoover, Mona Kasten and Laura Kneidel

Nevya’s dreams are as real to her as her waking life. It’s more than that, though. She feels at home in her dreams. There she has friends. There she knows what to do with herself. This is different from her reality. But one day, her fantasy world seems to vanish. Someone has stolen her dreams and blocked her path back into the world of dreams. On her search to get them back, Nevya finds herself caught in a vortex of secrets, betrayal and misdeeds. In the end, she learns a painful lesson about the power that nightmares have.

• An atmospheric urban fantasy novel from a young, up-and-coming author
• A fascinating and multifaceted dream world whose secrets will rob the readers’ sleep
• For fans of Kerstin Gier and Emily Bold

BY THE SAME AUTHOR

The Light of a Thousand Stars

384 Pages
Pub. Date: March 2020
A foreign exchange year in Australia. Jannik hopes that everything is going to change when he travels to the other side of the world. Himself, first and foremost. If he could reinvent himself, Jannik would like to be as mysterious as Sienna, who loves the sea and her independence. Although she grows close to Jannik, she keeps leaving him high and dry, full of unanswered questions. Or at least half as laid-back as his host brother Neil Maden, who seems to do everything with ease. Neil is a good guy, but damned secretive. The entire family guards its problems like arcane treasures – until Ruby, the youngest Maden daughter, runs away. Along with Sienna, Jannik sets out in search for her, and one family's speechlessness finally comes to an end …

This story tastes like wanderlust

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- A novel about travel, being an outsider, and arrivals
- A marvelously written debut: language, themes and emotions coincide powerfully with the experiences and self-concepts of the target group
- For readers of Anne Freytag and Adriana Popescu
Attention please!

Books to read aloud

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**Alex Rühle: Zippel**

Zippel is a little keyhole ghost. Who said that ghosts actually had to haunt spooky old castles? Not true! Zippel lives with Paul and his family – in one of the keyholes in their old apartment. When Paul discovers him, it is the start to the most hilarious time of his life. After all, Zippel keeps coming up with the funniest nonsense. Spending time with Zippel is so exciting that Paul quickly grows very fond of his new little friend. But what will happen when the door’s entire locking mechanism needs to be replaced – and Zippel’s home is suddenly jeopardized?

- Rights sold: English language (UK & Commonwealth), Greece, Italy, Russia, Turkey, Ukraine
- Warm-hearted, witty and achingly lovely – with illustrations by Axel Scheffler
- Vol. 2 to be published in Autumn 2021

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**Friedbert Stohner: Minzi Monster Goes to School**

“Oh, isn’t she cute!” – That’s what everyone says when they see Minzi, and she can’t stand to hear it one more time. Even Ole, the fright of the kindergarten, calls her “little cuddle monster,” and when Minzi gets upset, he just rolls his eyes and looks smitten. But fortunately, Minzi is starting school now. This is where little monsters learn to be wild and dangerous. Minzi is so excited! Once she is wild and dangerous, Ole will get what’s coming to him!

- A wonderfully funny story about a world turned upside down

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**Alexander von Knorre: Juli & August**

8-year-old August is happily bobbing on an inflatable rubber crocodile in the middle of the sea. There he meets Juli, who is nonchalantly paddling around on her float. The float is well stocked with a hammock, a chicken, and a seawater shower. August would gladly join Juli’s crew, but Juli doesn’t let just anyone board her float. He must first prove that he is worthy. Gradually, they become friends and together they experience the adventures, dangers, and joys of a vagabond life on the high seas.

- A real adventure book for children, without cell phones and helicopter parents

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144 pages, Age 6 and up
With 4c-illustrations by Axel Scheffler
Pub. Date: 2018

80 pages, Age 6 and up
With 4c-illustrations by Isabel Kreitz
Pub. Date: 2018

128 pages, Age 6 and up
With 4c-illustrations by the author
Pub. Date: 2019
Picture Books
Fiction
Non-Fiction

If someone is in need, you rescue them. Right?

Just imagine ... You are a sheep, and life is going well for you. You live among other sheep on a lovely meadow. You have enough to eat, and there’s no reason for you to ever feel scared. Everything is good.

Then one day, a strange sheep arrives from across the sea. It is in great need. If you don’t help it, it is going to die. What will you and your flock do?

With a strong yet poignant narrative voice, Hans-Christian Schmidt and Andreas Német explore the fundamental theme of humane behavior. They speak to us directly, forcing us to make a decision: If someone is in need, you rescue them. Right?

- A powerful picture book about assistance and responsibility
- This book will inspire children to take a different look at the world around them
- From the authors of The Apple Miracle
Jutta Bücker
One More Time ... With Heinz

You are always told it is time to stop just when everything is perfect. How mean! But if you stubbornly keep demanding “Just one more!”, Mommy or Daddy might give in and listen to your request.

The girl in this board book discovers that this approach is at least worth trying. After all, she absolutely cannot leave the playground without sliding one more time – that is, one time lying down, one time head first, one time with her eyes closed ...

- Perfect for “Just one more!” reading
- Snappy, cheerful illustrations
- From the illustrator of the international bestseller Rosalie and Truffle: sold to more than 20 languages

Jutta Bücker studied illustration, as well as product and graphic design. She has received various awards, including the Austrian Children and Youth Book Prize. Her works, including her bestseller Rosalie and Truffle, have been translated into over twenty languages. She lives with her daughter in Hamburg.

Lena Zeise
The Real Lives of Farm Animals

The lives of farm animals no longer look anything like what is depicted in most picture books. Laughing piglets and joyously frolicking cows on green meadows? Not quite. It is high time for children to have an honest fact book about this very popular topic.

In her masterful photo-realistic painting style, Lena Zeise introduces the major livestock animals. We see cows, pigs and chickens in modern barn facilities as are now typical on conventional farms, as well as animals being raised on more eco-friendly farms. The accompanying text is serious and objective. The book shows not only the living conditions of animals, but also the connections that exist between the animals’ lives and the daily decisions we make about the food we consume.

- Finally an honest picture book about farm life
- Impressive, factually accurate illustrations

Lena Zeise, born in 1992, studied design and illustration at the Polytechnical College of Münster. Since completing her degree, she has worked as an illustrator, designer and author. She primarily focuses on children’s and nonfiction books, and since her childhood, the drawing of animals has been her great passion.
Juli Zeh

Socks and Sophie – How to Speak “Horse”

Sophie’s dream of a pony of her own comes true when she is allowed to take care of abandoned Socrates, whose nickname is Socks. But their first meeting goes sideways when she tries to pet him and he almost bites her! For Socks, things go from bad to worse whenever these two-legged predators are around him. Utterly dangerous and uncivilized! No horse would ever raise a hoof to touch another animal on the head. Better to keep at a distance and to bare your teeth. Humans cannot be trusted.

Sophie is devastated when she realizes how little Socks understands her. Her problem is that she doesn’t “speak” horse – at least not yet. Can she manage to win Socks’ trust before the seemingly difficult pony ends up as “chopped liver,” as her unsympathetic father puts it?

Jan Strathmann

Milla and the Rhino Bus

Some people claim that Milla tells tall tales, but her mum says that Milla is simply imaginative. And yet nobody ever believes the funny things that happen to her all the time. For example, just recently she arrived late at the bus stop, and she missed her schoolbus. But then a large gray rhino appeared and took her to school. Mina discovered that riding on the rhino was quite comfortable, and she started to chat with him. They soon overtook the bus, and Mina reached school right on time.

Jan Strathmann has written six humorous and “imaginative” stories about eight-year-old Milla. For all children who still know how to dream and how to enjoy stories about crazy incidents.