



# The Text Publishing Company



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**For additional information, please contact:**

**Lara Shprem**

**Rights Coordinator**

The Text Publishing Company

[lara.shprem@textpublishing.com.au](mailto:lara.shprem@textpublishing.com.au)

Wurundjeri Country

Level 6, Royal Bank Chambers

tel: +61 3 8610 4511

287 Collins Street

Melbourne Victoria 3000 Australia

**Anne Beilby**

**Rights and Contracts Director**

The Text Publishing Company

[anne.beilby@textpublishing.com.au](mailto:anne.beilby@textpublishing.com.au)

Wurundjeri Country

Level 6, Royal Bank Chambers

tel: +61 3 8610 4535

287 Collins Street

Melbourne Victoria 3000 Australia

The Text Publishing Company acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the country on which we work, the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation, and pays respect to their Elders past and present.

# Recent Acquisitions

## Children and Young Adult

Gale, Emily & Weetman, Nova	<i>Outlaw Girls</i>	World	Authors
He, Joan	<i>Strike the Zither duology</i>	UK & Comm (ex Canada)	The Rights People
Laguna, Ingrid	<i>Kasia</i>	World	Curtis Brown Australia
Laguna, Ingrid	<i>Come On, Otto</i>	World	Curtis Brown Australia
Levithan, David	<i>Answers in the Pages</i>	ANZ	United Agents on behalf of the Clegg Agency

## Adult

Angel, Libby	<i>Where I Slept</i>	World	Author
Calaby, Tara	<i>Untitled historical novel</i>	World	Author
Darrieussecq, Marie	<i>Pas Dormir</i>	UK & Comm (ex Canada)	Editions P.O.L.
Halloran, Jacinta	<i>Resistance Is Futile</i>	World	Curtis Brown Australia
Ísberg, Friðða	<i>Merking / The Mark</i>	ANZ	RCW Literary Agency
Jones, Gail	<i>Salonika Burning</i>	World	Jane Novak Literary Agency
Kwaymullina, Ambelin	<i>Liar's Test and its untitled sequel</i>	ANZ	Jill Grinberg Literary Management
Malcolm, Janet	<i>Pictures</i>	ANZ	Farrar, Straus and Giroux
Morrissey, John	<i>Autoc</i>	World	Author
Morrissey, John	<i>Bird Deity Alpha</i>	World	Author
Salasc, Emmanuelle	<i>Hors Gel / Alarm</i>	UK & Comm (ex Canada)	Editions P.O.L.
Schwartz, Selby Wynn	<i>After Sappho</i>	ANZ	Galley Beggar Press
Wilson, Kevin	<i>Now Is Not the Time to Panic</i>	UK & Comm (ex Canada)	Abner Stein in association with The Book Group

# Recent Publications

## Children and Young Adult

Arnold, David	<i>The Electric Kingdom</i>	Writers House USA
Dabos, Christelle	<i>The Storm of Echoes: The Mirror Visitor, Book Four</i>	Gallimard Juenesse
Kelly, Erin Entrada	<i>Those Kids from Fawn Creek</i>	The Rights People
King, A. S.	<i>Switch</i>	Penguin Random House USA
Meyer, Marissa	<i>Gilded</i>	Jill Grinberg Literary Management
Meyer, Marissa (editor)	<i>Serendipity: Ten Romantic Tropes, Transformed</i>	Jill Grinberg Literary Management
Obama, Barack	<i>Dreams From My Father: Adapted for Young Adults</i>	Abner Stein
Saeed, Aisha	<i>Omar Rising</i>	Penguin Random House USA
Smith, Mark	<i>If Not Us</i>	Author

## Adult

Collette, Katherine	<i>The Competition</i>	Jacinta di Mase Management
Disher, Garry	<i>The Way It Is Now</i>	Jenny Darling & Associates
Down, Jennifer	<i>Bodies of Light</i>	Author
Durastanti, Claudia	<i>La Straniera / Strangers I Know</i>	Casanovas & Lynch Literary Agency
Fenster, Gigi	<i>A Good Winter</i>	High Spot Literary
Garner, Helen	<i>How to End a Story: Diaries Volume 3</i>	Jane Novak Literary Agency
Holbe, Julia	<i>Unsere glücklichen Tage / Our Happy Days</i>	Penguin Random House Germany
Jones, Kimberly	<i>How We Can Win: Race, History and Changing the Money Game That's Rigged</i>	Farrar, Straus and Giroux
Macrae Burnet, Graeme	<i>Case Study</i>	Blake Friedmann Literary Agency Ltd
McGirr, Michael	<i>Ideas to Save Your Life: Philosophy for Wisdom, Solace and Pleasure</i>	Curtis Brown Australia
Melchor, Fernanda	<i>Páradais / Paradais</i>	Literarische Agentur Michael Gaeb
Sherborne, Craig	<i>The Grass Hotel</i>	Jane Novak Literary Agency
Simsion, Graeme	<i>The Novel Project</i>	Author
Simsion, Graeme & Buist, Anne	<i>Two Steps Onward</i>	Authors
Tokarczuk, Olga	<i>Księgi Jakubowe / The Books of Jacob</i>	RCW Literary Agency
Wang, Weike	<i>Joan Is Okay</i>	David Higham Associates

# *Sugar* by Carly Nugent

*Some people get exactly what they deserve. And, as it turns out, I deserve to be called Persephone. No simple-to-sound-out Pride-and-Prejudice-style name like Elizabeth or Jane for me. Nope. Demi had to go Greek. Define Persephone. Bringer of destruction. That pretty much sums it up.*

Persephone is angry. Angry that her life revolves around finger-prick tests, carbohydrate counts and insulin injections. Angry at Alexander Manson. Angry with her mum for lots of things, for nothing and for everything.

But most of all, she's angry with herself. For deserving it all. Because one year ago she did something and her dad died.

But then Persephone finds a body on a bush path, a young woman she doesn't know but feels a strong connection to. And as she tries to find out what happened to Sylvia, Persephone begins to understand her own place in the complex interconnectedness of the universe.

*Sugar* is the story of a sixteen-year-old girl trying to make sense of the life-changing events that have sent her world into a spin, her search for a reason behind it all, and ultimately her acceptance of life's randomness.

Praise for *Sugar*:

*'Sugar is dark, hopeful, mesmerising—an extraordinary novel that builds and breaks like a perfect storm.'* Vikki Wakefield, author of *Friday Brown* and *This is How We Change the Ending*

*'A deeply affecting novel about loss, guilt and the fraught search for truth and certainty; the passion and ferocity of this story will stay with me for a long time.'* Leanne Hall, author of *The Gaps*

**Carly Nugent** lives in Bright in Victoria. Her short fiction has featured in numerous publications, including the *Bellevue Literary Review* and *Award Winning Australian Writing*. Her first novel, *The Peacock Detectives*, won the Readings Children's Book Prize, was a CBCA Honour Book, and was shortlisted for the Text Prize, the Australian Book Design Awards and the Sisters in Crime Davitt Awards. *Sugar*, inspired by her own experience of having diabetes, is her first book for young adults.

**Rights Held:** World

Young Adult Fiction

April 2022

Finished pages available

# *All the Little Tricky Things* by Karys McEwen

It's the start of the summer holidays and twelve-year-old Bertie is worried. Next year she's going to a high school in the city, while all her friends stay behind in Merri, the small town she's lived in all her life.

To help her feel better prepared for high school, her best friend, Claire, makes a list of tasks Bertie has to complete over the summer. They start working through the list together, only to find that some of the cracks in their friendship are beginning to show. Soon, Bertie's not even sure she'll have one friend by the end of the summer.

*All the Little Tricky Things* is a charming, heartfelt novel about a time when everything is changing, and a girl who's trying to make sense of it all.

Praise for *All the Little Tricky Things*:

'A warm, relatable and reassuring read, this book is a must for anyone embarking on secondary school.' Jane Godwin, author of *When Rain Turns to Snow* and *Today We Have No Plans*

'A sweet and hopeful slice of country-town life in the final summer before high school.' Nova Weetman, author of *The Edge of Thirteen* and *Elsewhere Girls* (with Emily Gale)

'A big warm hug of a book, tender and true. McEwen writes perceptively about the emotions of growing up and maybe growing apart from everything and everyone you've always known. I loved it.' Danielle Binks, author of *The Year the Maps Changed* and *The Monster of Her Age*

**Karys McEwen** is the current president of the Victorian branch of the Children's Book Council of Australia. She is also a school librarian, and she is passionate about the role libraries and literature play in the wellbeing of young people. She has been a columnist for *Books+Publishing* and her work has appeared in library journals such as *Synergy*, *Incite* and *Connections*. *All the Little Tricky Things* is her debut middle-grade novel.

**Rights Held:** World

Middle Grade Fiction

May 2022

Finished pages available

# *The Sugarcane Kids and the Red-bottomed Boat* by Charlie Archbold

*Bernie mutters to me. 'No way. Who'd go into the mangroves at night?'*

*I swallow. Not me. Not into Sebastian land. No one would head into crocodile heartland in the middle of a dark night. No one, unless they had a very good reason.*

Andy and his best friend Eli live in a small coastal town in far north Queensland.

When Eli's cousin Jacob is arrested for a jewellery theft, Andy and Eli both know he is innocent.

The police have evidence. But something is not right, and Andy and Eli need to work out what, and fast, or Jacob will end up in jail.

So, with the help of twins Bernice and Fletcher (AKA Bernie and Fletch) and Andy's trusty sausage dog, Washington, they set out to hunt for clues to what really happened. The trail points to a mysterious red-bottomed boat rumoured to be hidden deep in the mangroves.

Does it hold the evidence they need to prove Jacob's innocence?

Can they find it without getting lost forever?

And how will they outwit Sebastian, the legendary gigantic saltwater crocodile?

Charlie Archbold's action-packed new middle-grade adventure is a fun story of sleuthing, courageous deeds, the triumph of good over evil—and the power of friendship.

Praise for Charlie Archbold:

'[An] author to follow with much pleasure.' Clare Rhoden, *Aurealis*

'Charlie Archbold has shown she possesses the talent to produce many more books to entertain her waiting audience.' Carl Delprat, *Compulsive Reader*

**Charlie Archbold** is an educator and writer. Her first novel, *Mallee Boys*, was a CBCA older readers honour book. *The Sugarcane Kids and the Red-bottomed Boat*, her first middle-grade novel, was shortlisted for the Text Prize.

**Rights Held:** World

Middle Grade Fiction

June 2022

Finished pages available

# *The Museum of Broken Things* by Lauren Draper

*I didn't always live here. Not so long ago I was living in a thriving metropolis with more than one coffee shop on each block and four full bars of reception. I went to Heathmont High School, home to one thousand students, two best friends, a deeply average orchestra, and one cursed statue. Well, allegedly.*

Reece still isn't used to living in the small beachside town of Hamilton: she misses her old school, her old friends and her old life. She can't go back and she can't move: nothing feels right anymore. Not that she's trying very hard—she hasn't even unpacked yet, and the only new friend she's made is a middle-aged barista.

But when Reece inherits a strange artefact that belonged to her beloved grandmother, she begins to unravel a mystery that might change the way she feels about everything around her, including her charismatic classmate Gideon...

A lively, witty novel about letting go of the past and finding your place in the world, *The Museum of Broken Things* introduces a dazzling new voice in contemporary fiction.

Praise for *The Museum of Broken Things*:

'A clear-eyed, absorbing and atmospheric story of loss (and love) that pulls you in, then warmly holds you there.' Rhiannon Wilde, award-winning author of *Henry Hamlet's Heart*

'Lauren Draper's *The Museum of Broken Things* is a warm, heartfelt debut that masterfully explores the lingering pain of grief and the power of love, family and friendship.' Gabrielle Tozer, award-winning author of *Can't Say It Went To Plan*, *Remind Me How This Ends* and *The Intern*

**Lauren Draper** is a writer based in Melbourne. Her work has appeared in *Dumbo Feather* and *Kill Your Darlings*, and her commercial-fiction manuscript was longlisted in the 2019 Richell Prize. She has worked in the publishing industry for the past five years and is currently the marketing manager at Hardie Grant Egmont.

**Rights Held:** World

Young Adult Fiction

June 2022

Manuscript available

# *The Not So Chosen One* by Kate Emery

Lucy is just a regular teenager with regular worries: homework, friends, getting home for dinner on time. Oh, and there's the small matter of how she's going to tell her mother about her unplanned pregnancy.

So when she first hears about Drake's College, a school for students with magical talent, she's sure someone's messing with her. But despite her scepticism, she's soon swept up into a world beyond her wildest imaginings—and now she's got something else to hide.

At Drake's, Lucy befriends the handsome Jack, a teacher's assistant who has secrets of his own. More concerningly, Lucy's 'talent' doesn't seem to be materialising, and one of the other students collapses in a mysterious incident. There's danger in the air...

Populated with charming characters, and laugh-out-loud funny at times, *The Not So Chosen One* is a clever, rollicking ride.

**Kate Emery** lives in Perth and works as a senior reporter for the *West Australian*. *The Not So Chosen One* is her first book and was shortlisted for the 2020 Text Prize.

**Rights Held:** World

Young Adult Fiction

July 2022

Manuscript available

# *The Brink* by Holden Sheppard

A group of school-leavers: free at last, ready to party, expectations high. And even though a remote island on the Western Australian coast wasn't exactly the plan, they're not going to let that hold them back.

Leonardo, geeky, asthmatic, shy and prone to anxiety, has landed with them. He's terrified—he's definitely not part of this cool gang. Super high-achiever Kaiya is trying to forget her frustration with her drug-addicted sister as well as dealing with pressure from the popular girls to lose her virginity. Mason, footy jock with the physique to match, is coming to terms with his secret desire for his best mate, Jared. And Jared wants a week off from his relationship with Val so he can have sex with as many girls as possible.

But the party takes a dangerous turn when Val is drugged and a man is found dead on the beach. Blame, fear, mistrust, coverups, power plays and dark secrets tear the group apart and expose the deadly tensions beneath the surface. And each teen is forced to confront demons that will lead them either to devastating tragedy or transformative triumph.

Whoever survives the week will never be the same again.

*The Brink* is a raw, powerful novel that pulls no punches in its authentic exploration of masculinity, sexuality, mental health, drug and alcohol use, relationships and sex. Holden Sheppard takes the teenage experience to the next level.

Praise for Holden Sheppard:

'The characters leap off the page, warts and all, and Sheppard writes with complexity and realism about sexual discovery, family and social rejection, coming of age (and coming out).'

*Sydney Morning Herald on Invisible Boys*

'Sheppard writes with unflinching honesty and an eye for authentic detail.'

*Weekend West on Invisible Boys*

**Holden Sheppard** is an award-winning author born in Geraldton, Western Australia. His debut novel, *Invisible Boys* (Fremantle Press, 2019), was published to both critical and commercial success. *Invisible Boys* won the WA Premier's Prize for an Emerging Writer, was shortlisted for the Victorian Premier's Literary Awards and was named a Notable Book by the Children's Book Council of Australia. The novel is currently in production as a television series.

**Rights Held:** World

Young Adult Fiction

August 2022

Manuscript available

# *Sadie Starr's Guide to Starting Over* by Miranda Luby

Sadie Starr is obsessed with starting over. A new year, a new diet, a new social media identity. Anything that gives her a chance to be a better version of herself.

So when her dad's job moves the family interstate, Sadie's excited for a fresh start. It's also the perfect excuse to leave behind the mess she's made with her best friend and secret crush, Daniel, whose advances she rejected—for fear of screwing things up.

But at her new school, life gets complicated fast.

She meets glamorous Alexa and her pink-badged girl gang, on a mission to 'support women', and outcast Jack, who the girls say has been stalking fellow student Loz.

But Loz has a different story, one that changes everything.

Sadie's torn. She wants to be popular. She wants to keep Loz's secret. She wants to fix everything. But she'll have to make choices. And the wrong ones could throw her perfect new life into complete chaos.

*Sadie Starr's Guide to Starting Over* is an engaging, funny-serious look at the downsides of aiming too high, the dangers of black-and-white thinking—and the journey to realising imperfections are part of being human.

**Miranda Luby** is an author, freelance journalist and copywriter living on Victoria's Surf Coast. She has won several awards for her short stories, and her journalism features in publications such as *National Geographic*, the BBC and the *New York Post*., *Sadie Starr's Guide to Starting Over* (previously titled *Therefore I Am*) is her debut novel. It was shortlisted for the Text Prize, awarded an Australian Society of Authors Award Mentorship and an ACT Writers Centre HARDCOPY fellowship.

**Rights Held:** World

Young Adult Fiction

August 2022

Manuscript available

# *Dancing Barefoot* by Alice Boyle

Winner of the 2021 Text Prize for Young Adult and Children's Writing

*Evie Vanhoutte is a teachers' pet, a basketball star and the most beautiful girl in the year level. Evie Vanhoutte is tall, has long dark hair, a great smile, and for the past four years, Evie Vanhoutte has been the object of my most ardent, heartfelt, and passionate affection. Unrequited affection, of course.*

Patch is out of place at Mountford College: she wears the wrong clothes, she's not sporty or popular, she lives in a small flat above her dad's record shop a world away from the leafy suburb where she goes to school. And she has a secret long-term crush on basketball star Evie Vanhoutte. Evie barely knows Patch exists until an accident involving a bottle of ink and Patch's school uniform sparks a friendship that's equal parts exhilarating, terrifying, and very, very confusing.

As if that weren't enough, Patch is also trying to deal with a jealous school bully, forgetting to be supportive of her transitioning best friend, Edwin, and worrying about how a potential new stepmother could throw everything off course.

*Dancing Barefoot* is a feel-good romance about growing up queer, figuring out your place in the world, staying true to yourself and your friends, finding love, and learning to embrace the obstacles life throws in your path.

**Alice Boyle** is an English teacher and author living in Naarm/Melbourne. She's written for *SBS Voices* and the *Stella Prize*, and her short story 'The Exchange' was published in the Black Inc. anthology *Growing Up Queer in Australia*. In 2019 she was highly commended for the Wheeler Centre's Next Chapter program, and in 2021 she won the Text Prize for her debut novel *Dancing Barefoot*.

**Rights Held:** World

Young Adult Fiction

September 2022

Manuscript available

# *Unnecessary Drama* by Nina Kenwood

Brooke likes order, she likes lists, she likes rules.

The first and only rule of her new sharehouse is ‘no unnecessary drama’. Which means no fights, no tension, and absolutely no romance with housemates Penny and Jesse. That’s fine by Brooke, because she has plans. This is going to be her year: her first year of university, the year she’s moved to Melbourne, and the year she’s going to live up to all of her potential.

But things get off to a bad start: university isn’t what she thought it would be; she’s desperately homesick, chronically anxious and, to add to her problems, Brooke might be developing inconvenient romantic feelings for off-limits housemate Jesse.

*Unnecessary Drama* follows Brooke as she navigates friendship, romance, ex-best friends, ex-boyfriends, housemates, her own overly anxious tendencies and what it means to find a home away from home.

Praise for Nina Kenwood:

‘A sweet, funny and relatable account of the dramas of those grappling with late adolescence.’ *Age on It Sounded Better in My Head*

‘The novel perfectly captures the terror of being in-between, caught both in the liminal space between adolescence and adulthood, and in that befuddling period where a friendship might be turning into something more. A perfect pick for fans of Jenny Han’s *To All the Boys I’ve Loved Before* who are looking for their next quirky romantic heroine.’ *Booklist on It Sounded Better in My Head*

‘I am all-caps OBSESSED with this achingly insightful, utterly charming, beautiful heart-punch of a book. Instant favourite.’ Becky Albertalli, bestselling author of *Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda*

**Nina Kenwood** is a writer who lives in Melbourne. She won the 2018 Text Prize for her debut young adult novel, *It Sounded Better in My Head*.

**Rights Held:** World

**Option Publishers:** France—Pocket Jeunesse; Germany—Carlsen Verlag; Hungary—Móra; Italy—De Agostini; Spain & Catalan—Planeta.

Young Adult fiction

October 2022

Manuscript available May  
2022

# *The Goodbye Year* by Emily Gale

It's the start of 2020 and Harper is filled with anticipation about being in the final year of Riverlark Primary. She wants a leadership role, the comfort of her friendship group, and to fly under the radar of Riverlark's mean-boy.

But one by one things go wrong. When Harper's best friends are made school captains they are consumed by their roles, while her own role—library captain—is considered second-rate. Then something major throws life off course: her parents take overseas jobs as nurses in a war zone. Harper moves in with Lolly, a grandmother she barely knows—and her five pets, vast collection of old trinkets and very different expectations.

Just as Harper's getting used to Lolly, the pandemic arrives. She has always been pretty level but is now consumed by worry. Her goodbye year is nothing like she'd hoped it would be. Strange things are happening: she wakes in the night in odd places, fixates on an old army badge that seems to have a mind of its own, and on a visit to the school library during lockdown she's convinced she's seen a ghost.

Who is haunting her?

Can she get through the anxiety of the pandemic without her mum and dad?

And will Harper find a way to be happy with her goodbye year?

*The Goodbye Year* explores all the trickiness and confusion of the end of primary school and a new stage of life that looms with all its uncertainties and possibilities.

**Emily Gale's** books include *The Other Side of Summer* and its companion novel *I Am Out with Lanterns*, *The Eliza Boom Diaries*, *Steal My Sunshine* and *Girl, Aloud*, as well as her recent middle-grade collaboration with friend and fellow author Nova Weetman, *Elsewhere Girls*.

**Rights Held:** World

Middle Grade Fiction

September 2022

Manuscript available May  
2022

# *The Hotel Witch* by Jessica Miller

Sibyl loves possibilities, and at the Grand Mirror Hotel everything seems possible. It might even be possible that one day her grandmother will let her open the *Book of Advanced and Dangerous Magic*.

Sibyl is the apprentice hotel witch. Under the watchful care of her grandmother she is memorising spell patterns to keep the hotel staff and guests happy. But the spells don't always go exactly as planned: sometimes the spell to make the cakes rise works a little too well, and eclairs and chocolate cakes float up to the ceiling.

When Sibyl's grandmother goes missing, other things mysteriously disappear from the Grand Mirror Hotel. At first, the harp doesn't sound quite so 'harp-y', then the grandfather clock loses its 'boooong' and the Golden Nightingale, the world's most wonderful soprano, loses her voice. When Sibyl discovers that something or someone is stealing their shadows, she knows it's up to her to find the right spell to return them before the magic of the Grand Mirror Hotel is lost.

*The Hotel Witch* is a spellbinding tale of determination and love. Its characters sparkle and delight. It's a brilliantly rich magical tale that young readers will fall in love with.

Praise for Jessica Miller:

'By the time I reached the end of the book my heart was racing and I couldn't turn the pages fast enough...a simple, good-old-fashioned scary manor mystery.' *Books+Publishing* on *Elizabeth and Zenobia*

'A truly spellbinding tale...This latest offering from a magnificently talented author is sure to delight any reader who loves getting lost in magical landscapes full of wonder, adventure and enchantment.' Children's Book Council of Australia on *The Republic of Birds*

**Jessica Miller** is a children's writer from Brisbane, currently living in Berlin. She has written for a variety of publications including *Kill Your Darlings* and *Stilts*. Her first novel, *Elizabeth and Zenobia*, was shortlisted for the Text Prize and the Readings Prize. It was also a CBCA Notable Book, as was her second book, *The Republic of Birds*.

**Rights Held:** World (ex. North America)

**Other rights:** Inkwell Management

Middle Grade Fiction

March 2023

Manuscript available May  
2022

# Young Text Classics: Ivan Southall

Ivan Southall was the first Australian author to receive the Carnegie Medal, and was awarded the Australian Children's Book Council Book of the Year on three occasions. An icon of Australian children's literature, he wrote over sixty books in his lifetime and has been published in twenty-three countries. He died in 2008.

## *Ash Road*

The bestselling *Ash Road* is an action-packed adventure story, so evocative of rural Australia you can taste the eucalyptus. It's hot, dry and sweaty on Ash Road, where Graham, Harry and Wallace are getting their first taste of independence, camping, just the three of them. When they accidentally light a bushfire no one would have guessed how far it would go. All along Ash Road fathers go off to fight the fires and mothers help in the first aid centres. The children of Prescott are left alone, presumed safe, until it's the fire itself that reaches them. These children are forced to face a major crisis with only each other and the two old men left in their care.

'The novel is a chronicle of fire and panic, of intense and remarkable perception, and of almost inexhaustibly vivid descriptive language...unforgettable.' *Wall Street Journal*

**Reading age:** 12+

**Rights Held:** World

**Rights Sold:** Russia—Melik-Pashaev Publishing

## *Hills End*

On a fateful day in Hills End, a timber-milling town in the mountains of Victoria, seven children and their teacher set off to explore caves in the nearby mountains said to contain ancient Aboriginal rock art. While they are deep inside the mountain caves a storm of tremendous violence all but sweeps the town away and threatens to leave them stranded on the mountain.

Tackling flooded creeks and washed-out paths and fallen trees, the children make their way back to Hills End injured and exhausted, only to face a new battle to survive in the denuded town.

'The author has the power to get inside his characters, and through them express his faith in human nature in the goodness of man...a solid work, strong in action, mood and discipline.' *New York Times*

**Reading age:** 12+

**Rights Held:** World

## *To the Wild Sky*

When a pilot dies suddenly mid-flight six teenagers, the only passengers on board, face a terrifying situation. Gerald has had some flying lessons, but he has never flown alone, and he has never landed a plane. Lost and afraid, they fly on as the fuel gauge drops and night closes in. Will they find a clear landing place? Could they land in the sea? If they do somehow land safely how will they find their way back to civilisation?

**Reading age:** 12+

**Rights Held:** World

**Rights Sold:** Russia—Melik-Pashaev Publishing

# Young Text Classics: Robin Klein

Robin Klein was born on 28 February 1936 in Kempsey, New South Wales, into a family of nine children. Leaving school at age 15, Klein worked several jobs before becoming established as a writer, having her first story published at age 16. Klein's books are hugely celebrated, having won the CBCA Children's Book of the Year Award in both the Younger Readers and the Older Readers categories, as well as a Human Rights Award for Literature in 1989 for *Came Back to Show You I Could Fly*. Klein is widely considered one of Australia's most prolific and beloved YA authors.

## *Came Back to Show You I Could Fly*

*Came Back to Show You I Could Fly* is a heartwarming account of an unlikely friendship that shows a very human side of drug addiction. Seymour is bored and lonely, and running from a gang of kids when he opens a back-lane gate. And there is Angie. She is older than Seymour, confident, cool and alluring, and she treats him with the affection of an older sister. Seymour is captivated—through Angie he is awakened to the fun and adventure in life. But Angie has a dark side—a secret that threatens to destroy her. And as Seymour begins to understand that all is not well he knows he has to help her.

**Reading age:** 12+

**Rights Held:** World

## *All in the Blue Unclouded Weather*

*All in the Blue Unclouded Weather* begins the story of the Melling sisters, four girls growing up in an Australian country town in the post-war years. Vivienne is the youngest, always the last to wear the hand-me-down clothes—after Grace and Heather and Cathy—and always longing for something new and special. But although life is hard for the Melling family and the sisters have their tiffs, this is a heartwarming and often humorous story of loyalty and affection—under blue unclouded skies.

'Funny, thoughtful, sometimes painfully sad, this is a book that lingers long in the memory.' *Books + Publishing*

**Reading age:** 12+

**Rights Held:** World

## Text Publishing Agents

### Baltic Region

Tatjana Zoldnere  
Andrew Nurnberg Associates  
PO Box 77, Riga LV 1011, Latvia  
Phone: +371 6 7506 495  
Email: zoldnere@anab.apollo.lv

### Brazil

Laura Riff  
The Riff Agency  
Avenida Calógeras, no. 6, sala 1007,  
Centro, Rio de Janeiro RJ, 20030-070, Brazil  
Phone: +55 21 2287 6299  
Email: laura@agenciariff.com.br

### China and Taiwan

Gray Tan  
The Grayhawk Agency  
14F, No. 63, Sec 4  
Xinyi Road, Taipei 106685 Taiwan  
Phone: +886 2 2705 9231  
Email: grayhawk@grayhawk-agency.com

### Czech Republic and Slovak Republic

Kristin Olson  
Kristin Olson Literary Agency  
Klimentská 24, 110 00 Praha 1  
Czech Republic  
Phone +420 222 582 042  
Email: kristin.olson@litag.cz

### France

Eliane Benisti  
Eliane Benisti Agency  
80 Rue des Saints-Pères  
75007 Paris, France  
Phone: +33 1 42 22 85 33  
Email: eliane@elianebenisti.com

### German Language

Christian Dittus [adult titles]  
Antonia Fritz [children's & YA titles]  
Paul & Peter Fritz AG  
Seefeldstrasse 303, CH-8008, Zürich,  
Switzerland  
Phone: +41 1 44 388 4140  
Email: afritz@fritzagency.com  
Email: cdittus@fritzagency.com

### Greece

Evangelia Avioniti  
Ersilia Literary Agency  
Phone: +30 693 8454 332  
Email: info@ersilialit.com

### Hungary

Peter Bolza  
Kátai & Bolza Literary Agents  
H-1056 Budapest, Szerb u. 17-19 Hungary  
Phone: +36 1 456 0313  
Email: peter@kataibolza.hu

### Israel

Beverley Levit  
The Israeli Association of Book Publishers  
29 Carlebach Street  
Tel Aviv, 67132, Israel  
Phone: +972 3 5614121 (ext 123)  
Email: rights1@tbpai.co.il

### Italy

Erica Berla  
Berla & Griffini Rights Agency  
via Gian Giacomo Mora 7, 20123 Milano, Italy  
Phone: +39 02 80 50 41 79  
Email: berla@bgagency.it

### Japan

Maiko Fujinaga  
Japan Uni Agency, Inc.  
Tokyodo Jinbacho, no. 2 Building  
1-27 Kanda Jinbo-cho  
Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 101-0051, Japan  
Phone: +81 3 3295 0301  
Email: maiko.fujinaga@japanuni.co.jp

Hamish Macaskill  
The English Agency (Japan) Ltd. Sakuragi  
Bldg. 4F  
6-7-3 Minami Aoyama,  
Minato-ku  
Tokyo 107-0062, Japan  
Phone: +81 3 3406 5385  
Email: hamish@ej.co.jp

**Korea**

Joeun Lee  
KCC (Korea Copyright Center Inc.)  
Gyonghigung-achim, Officetel Rm 520  
Compound 3, Naesu-dong 72, Chongno,  
Seoul 110-070, Korea  
Phone: +82 2 725 3350  
Email: jelee@kccseoul.com

**The Netherlands & Scandinavia**

Paul Sebes  
Sebes & Bisseling Literary Agency  
Herengracht 623, 1017 CE Amsterdam  
The Netherlands  
Phone: +31 20 616 09 40  
Email: sebes@sebes.nl

**Poland**

Justyna Pelaska  
GRAAL Literary Agency  
Pruszkowska 29 lok. 252  
02-119 Warszawa, Poland  
Phone: +48 22 895 2000  
Email: justyna.pelaska@graal.com.pl

**Romania**

Simona Kessler  
International Copyright Agency Ltd  
Str. banul Antonache 37  
70 000 Bucharest 1, Romania  
Phone: +401 231 8150  
Email: simona@kessler-agency.ro

**Russia**

Olga Zasetzkaya  
Synopsis Literary Agency  
PO Box 114  
Moscow 129090, Russia  
Phone: +7095 781 0182  
Email: oz@synopsis-agency.ru

**Southeast Europe**

Diana Matulić  
Corto Literary Agency  
Braće Domany 8,  
1000 Zagreb, Croatia  
Email: diana@cortoliterary.com

**Spain & Portugal**

Maribel Luque  
Agencia Balcells  
Av. Diagonal, 580  
08021 Barcelona, Spain  
Phone: +34 93 200 8933  
Email: maribel.luque@agenciabalcells.com

**Turkey**

Amy Spangler  
Anatolialit Agency  
Caferaga Mah.  
Gunesli Bahce Sok. no: 48 Or. Ko Apt. B Blok  
D:4 34710 Kadıköy, Istanbul, Turkey  
Phone: +90 216 700 1088  
Email: amy@anatolialit.com

**UK**

Sarah Lutyens  
Lutyens & Rubinstein  
21 Kensington Park Road  
London W11 2EU  
United Kingdom  
Phone: +44 207 792 4855  
Email: sarah@lutyensrubinstein.co.uk

**USA & Canada**

Kim Witherspoon / David Forrer  
InkWell Management  
521 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2600  
New York, NY 10175  
USA  
Phone: + 212 922 3500  
Email: david@inkwellmanagement.com