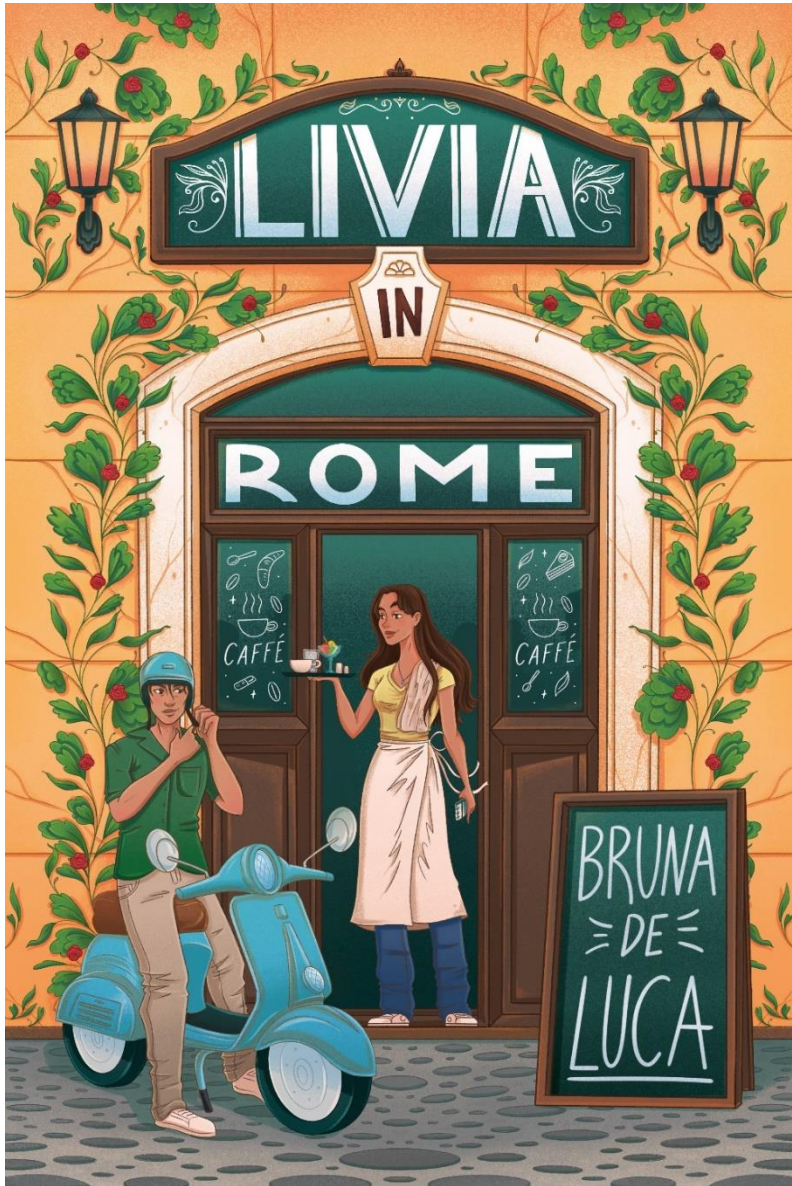


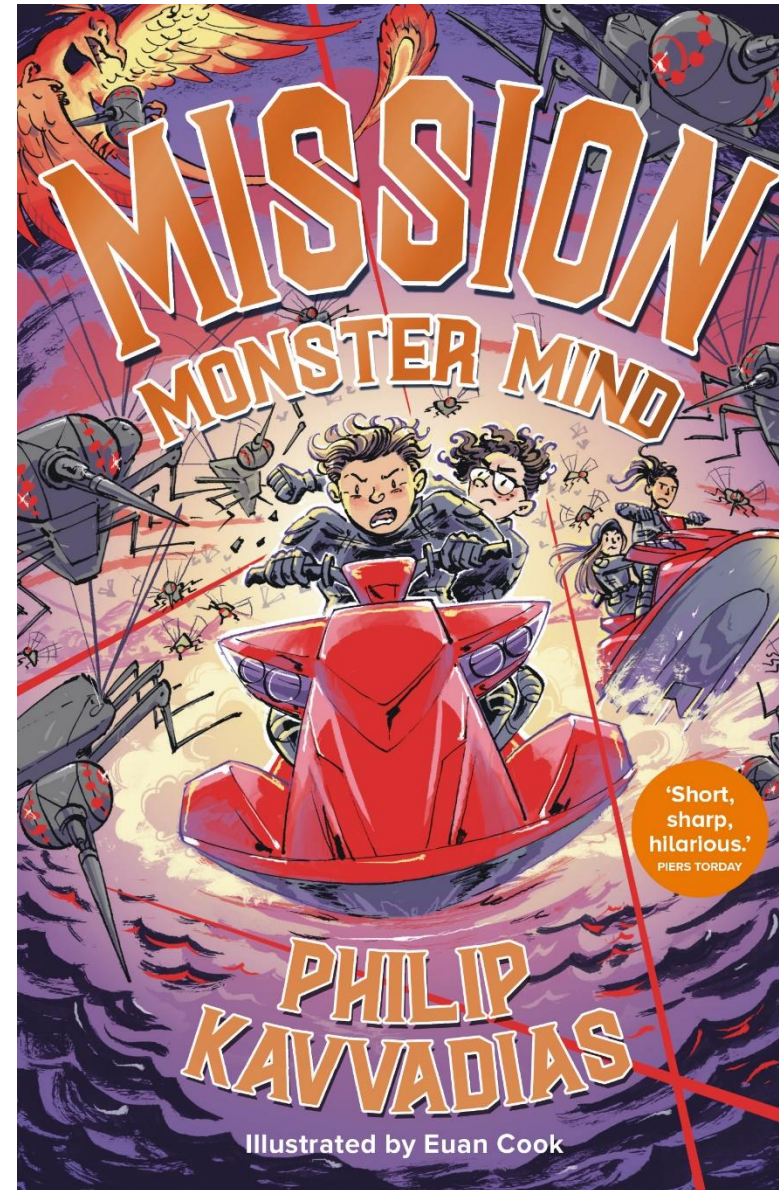
Chicken House



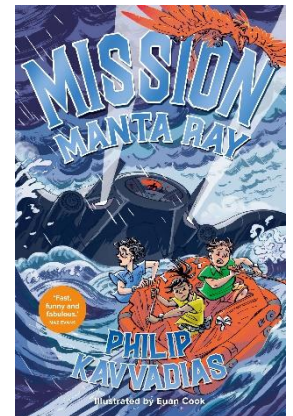
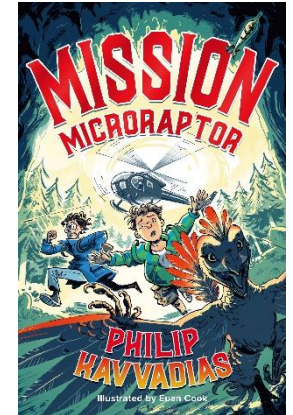
JULY



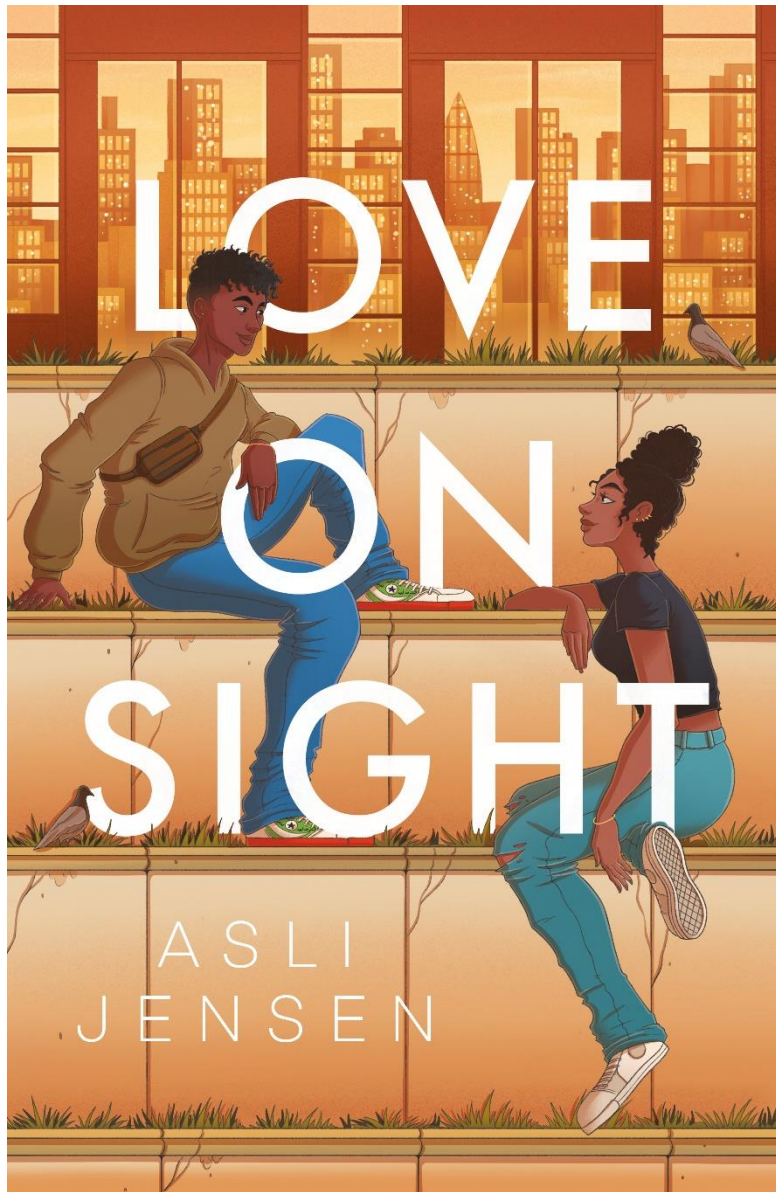
LIVIA IN ROME (12+)
Bruna de Luca



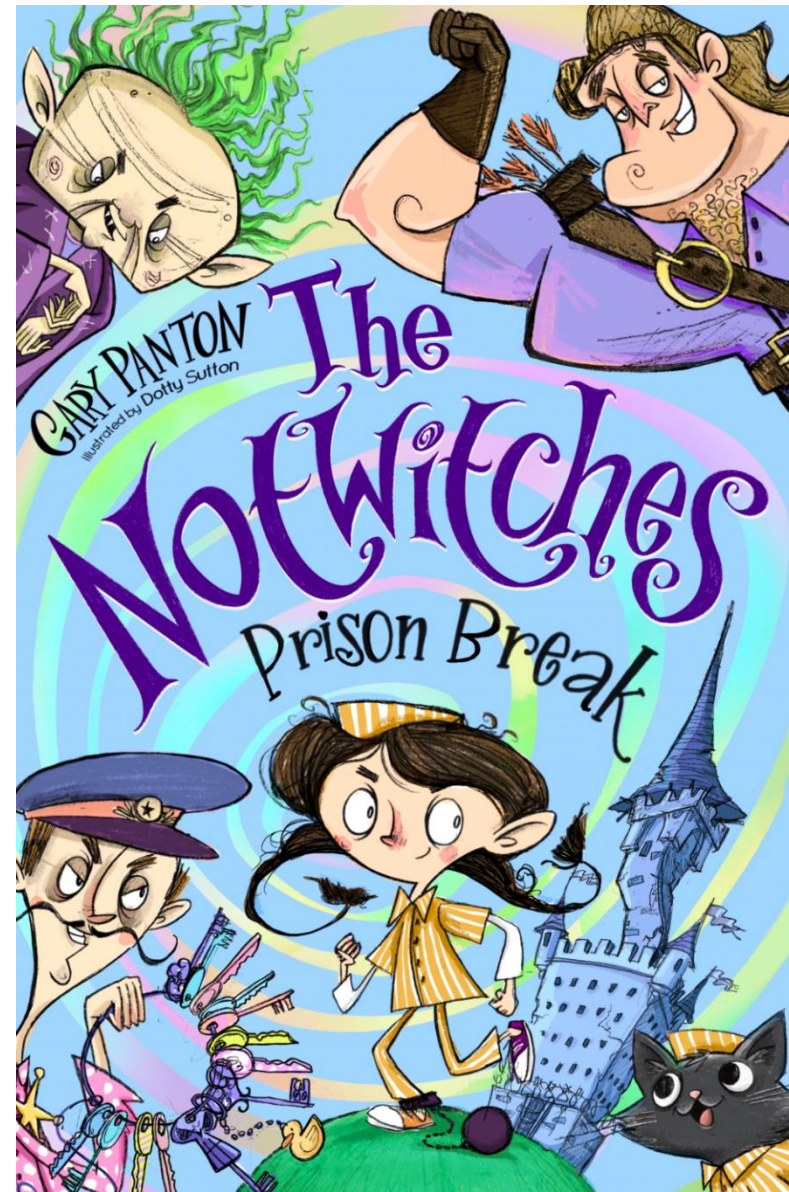
MISSION: MONSTER MIND (8+)
Philip KAVVADIAS



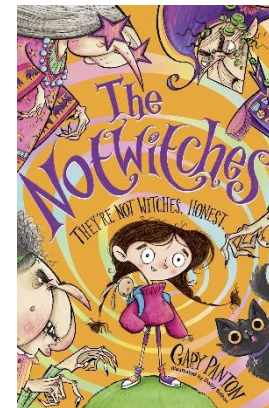
AUGUST

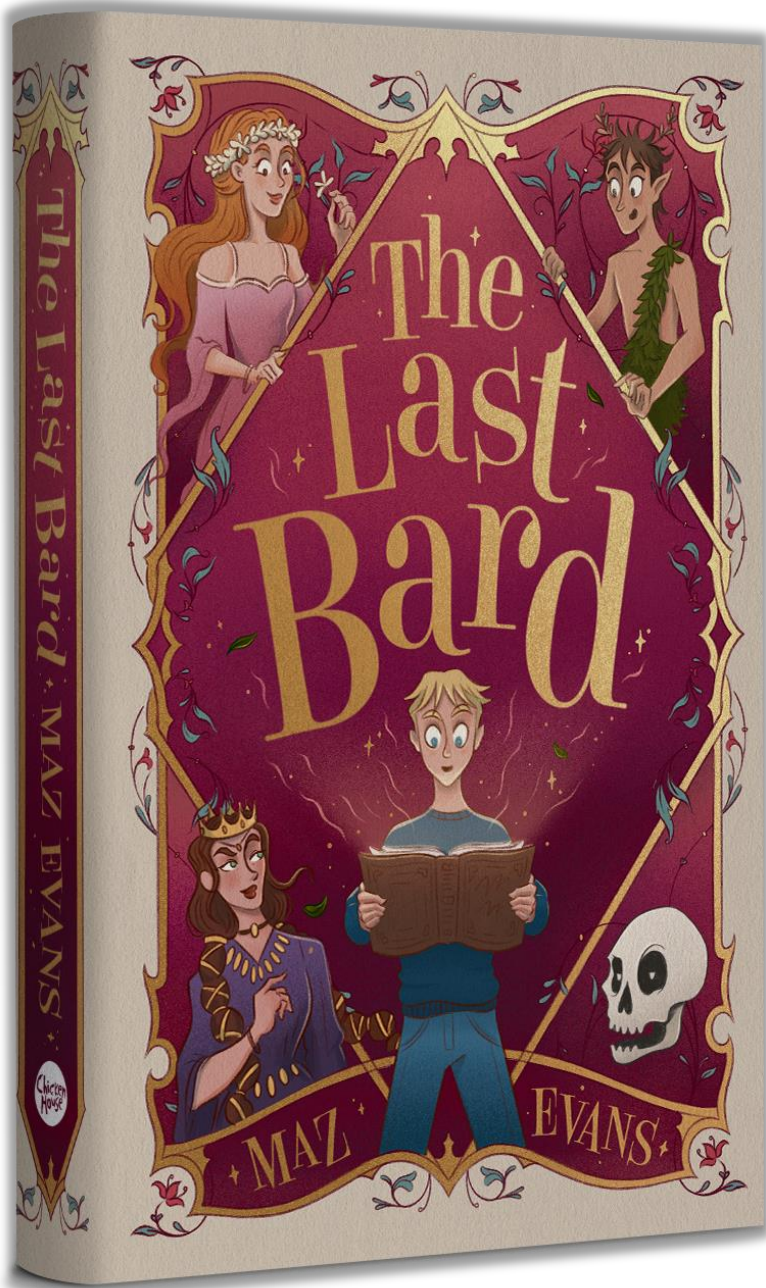


LOVE ON SIGHT (14+)
Asli Jensen



THE NOTWITCHES: PRISON BREAK (7+)
Gary Panton





THE LAST BARD

Maz Evans

9781913696900, £12.99, ages 9+
Publishing in HB September 2025

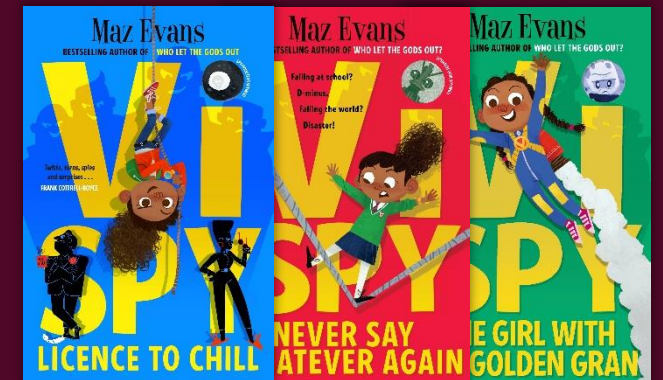
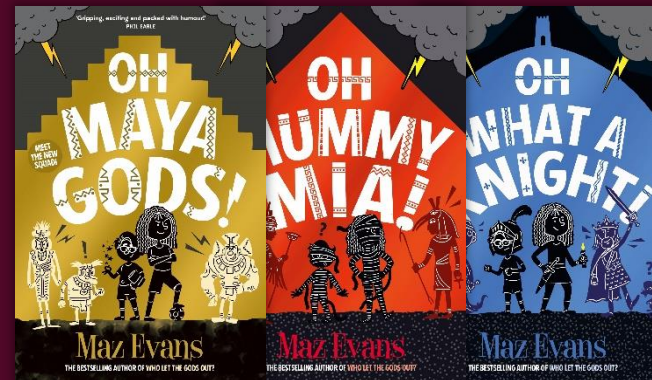
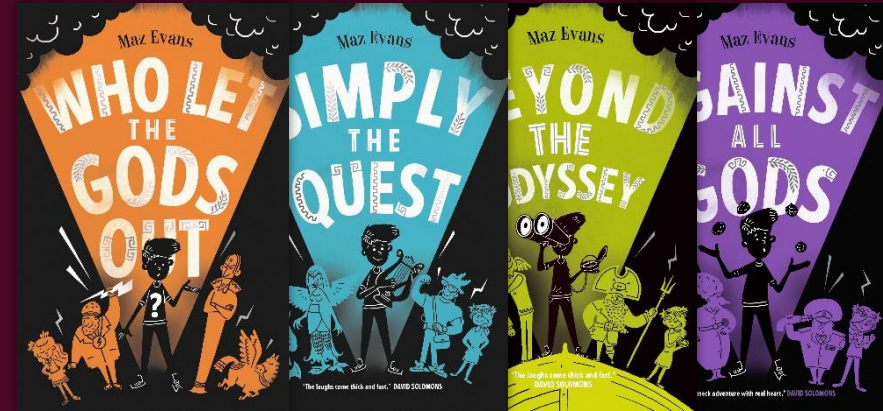
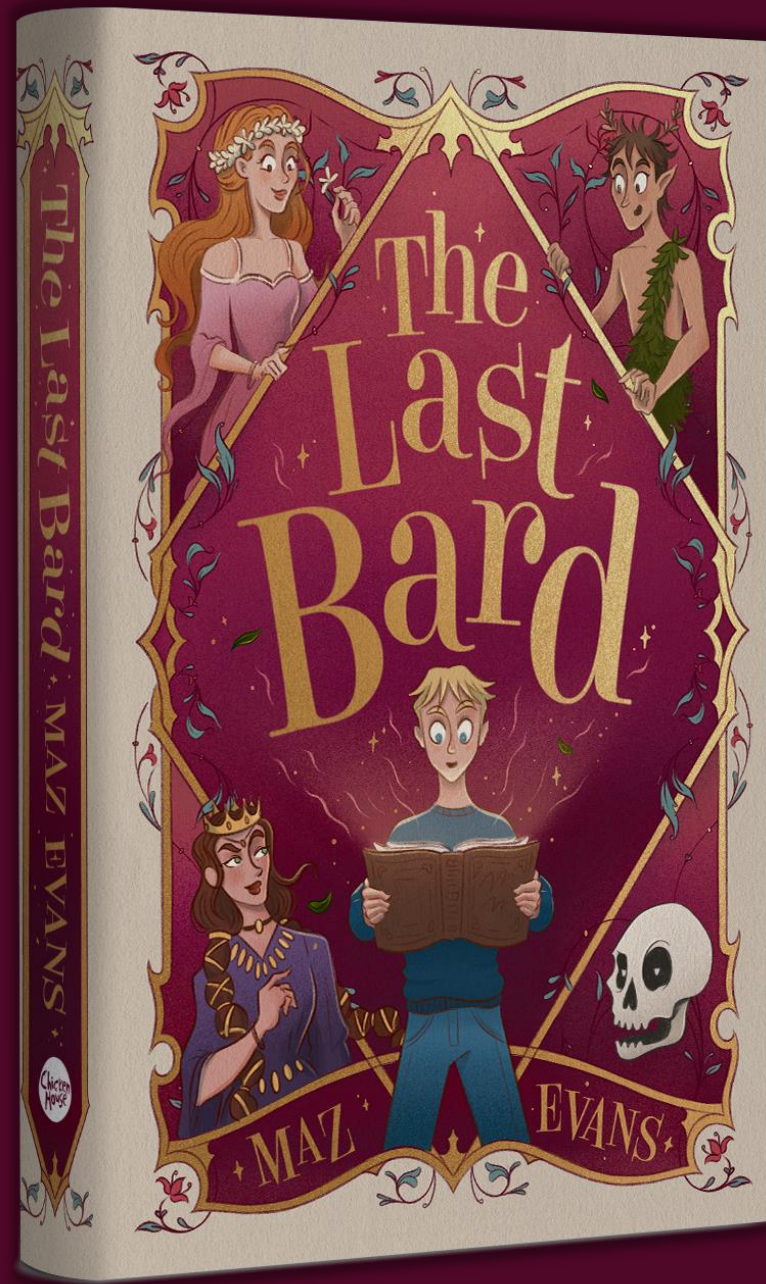


While clearing out his late grandfather's flat, Will Davenport discovers a surprising copy of the *Complete Works of Shakespeare*.

When he opens the book, a group of characters tumble out: the murderous Lady Macbeth, Juliet without Romeo, a mumbling skull, and a fairy called Puck. Will is the last descendant of the legendary bard, William Shakespeare, and he's accidentally summoned them to help with some neighbourly troubles.

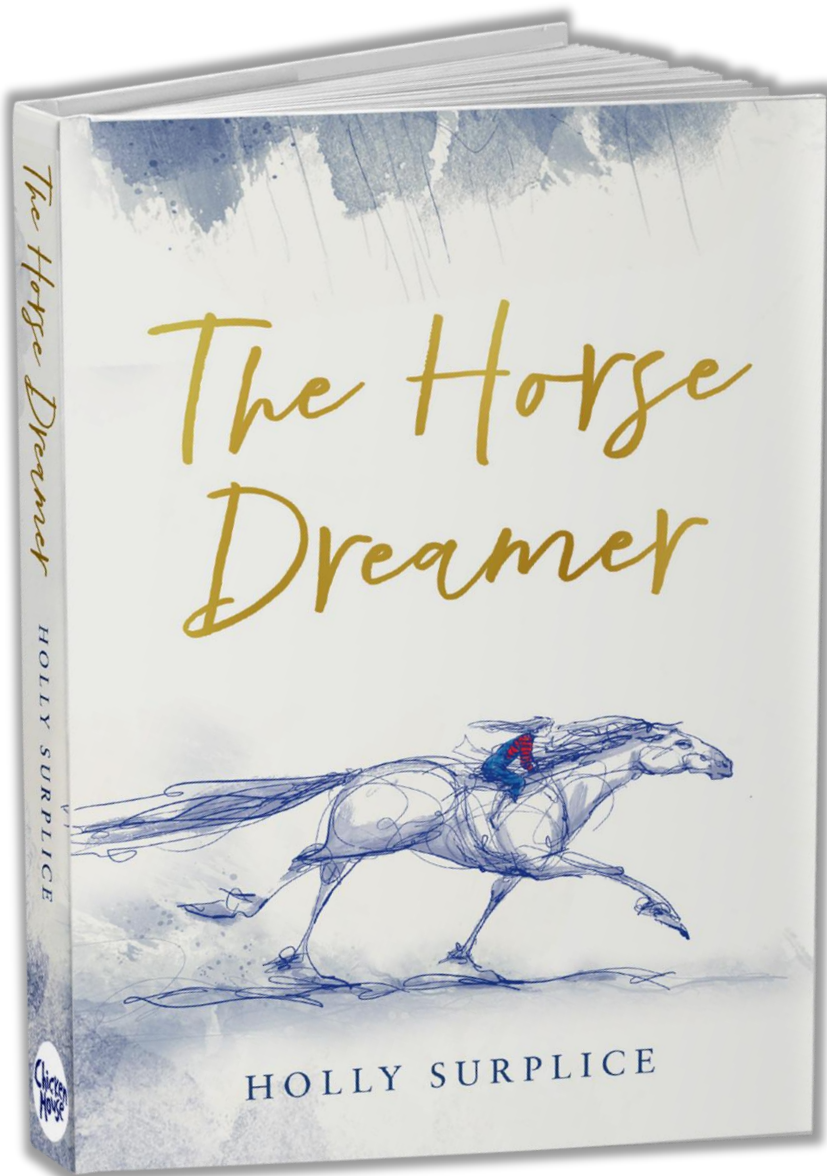
Comedy, tragedy, history: Will's world has it all ...

- **Superstar author Maz Evans is back with a new standalone story, packed with her trademark humour and heart and told with empathy and poignancy.**
- **Introduces readers to some of Shakespeare's best-loved characters in a comic, accessible way.**
- **Over half a million copies of Maz's books sold in the UK alone!**
- **Supported by a major PR and marketing campaign.**



Maz Evans is a bestselling, award-winning author of the **WHO LET THE GODS OUT?**, **VI SPY** and **SCARLETT FIFE** series for children, and **OVER MY DEAD BODY** and **THAT'LL TEACH HER** for adults, which have collectively sold to 24 countries. Her work for children has garnered over 50 nominations, including the Carnegie Medal, Branford Boase, Books Are My Bag, Waterstones Children's Book of the Year and Indie Children's Book of the Year.

Maz is also a scriptwriter and lyricist and is proud to be bringing both skills to the stage adaptation of **WHO LET THE GODS OUT?** which will be produced by Polka Theatre, London in 2026.



THE HORSE DREAMER

Holly Surplice

9781915947758, £12.99, ages 9+

Publishing in HB October 2025

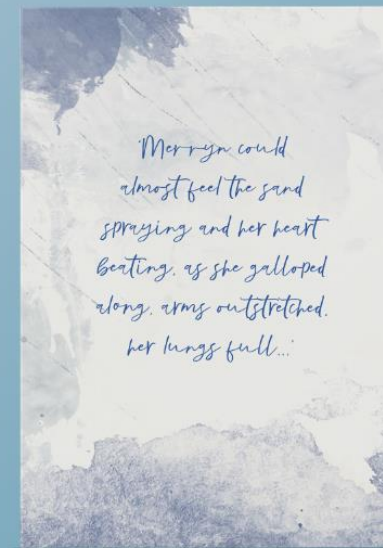
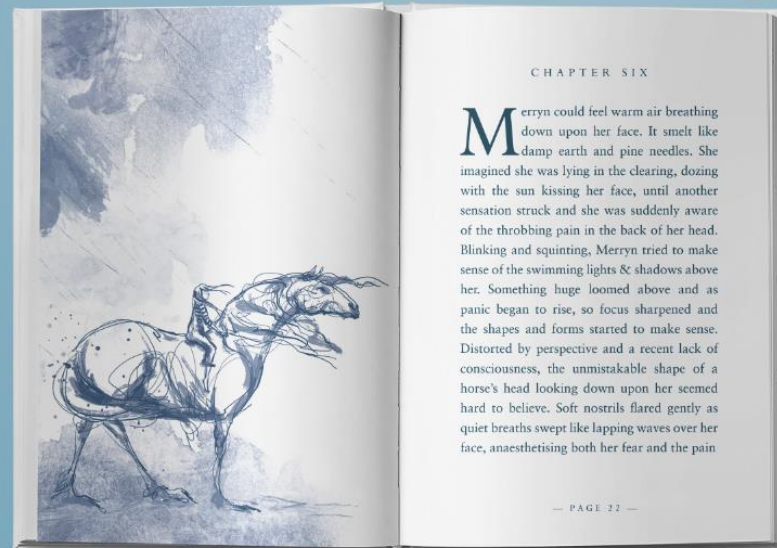
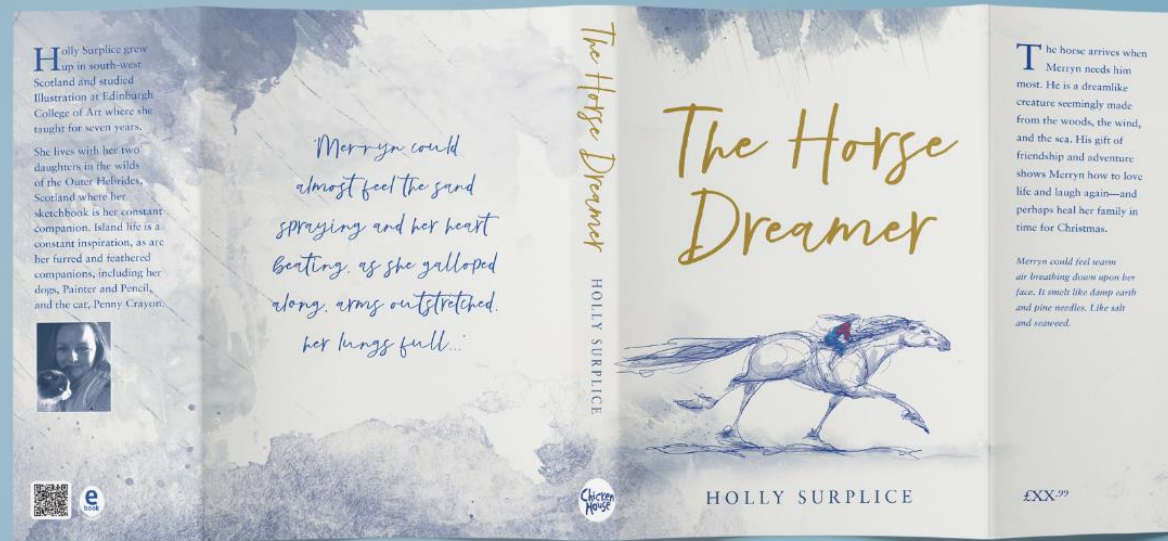
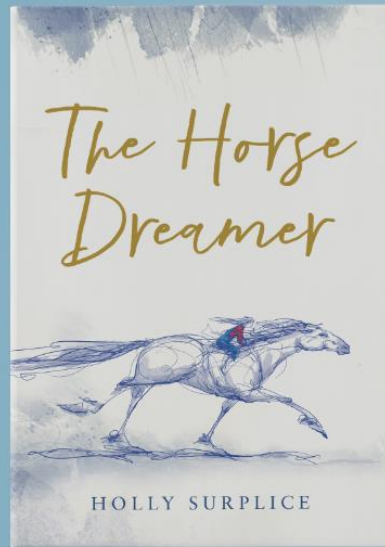


The horse arrives in the storm, when Merryn needs him most, following the loss of her father. Sorrel is a dreamlike creature, seemingly made from the woods and the sea.

Perhaps she wished him into existence.

He becomes her friend and confidant. Throughout the summer and autumn, they ride and play, but as Christmas approaches, it will require all of Merryn's newfound strength to help her mum and her sisters heal too.

- **A stunning, hopeful and poignant middle-grade animal story, written and illustrated by debut author Holly Surplice.**
- **A perfect Christmas gift for readers aged 9 and up.**
- **A beautiful jacketed hardback with blue ink interior printing.**
- **Explores themes of grief, family and healing in an accessible way for young readers.**
- **Shades of Lauren St. John and *The Boy, The Mole, The Fox and The Horse*.**





CHAPTER SIX

Merryn could feel warm air breathing down upon her face. It smelt like damp earth and pine needles. She imagined she was lying in the clearing, dozing with the sun kissing her face, until another sensation struck and she was suddenly aware of the throbbing pain in the back of her head. Blinking and squinting, Merryn tried to make sense of the swimming lights & shadows above her. Something huge loomed above and as panic began to rise, so focus sharpened and the shapes and forms started to make sense. Distorted by perspective and a recent lack of

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consciousness, the unmistakable shape of a horse's head looking down upon her seemed hard to believe. Soft nostrils flared gruffly as quiet breaths swept like lapping waves over her face, anaesthetising both her fear and the pain. Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipi

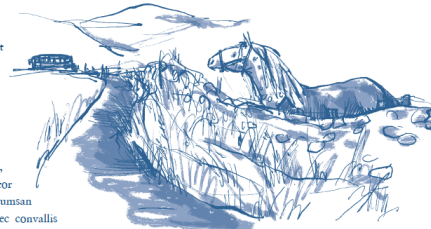


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CHAPTER SEVEN

Warm air breathing down upon her face. It smelt like damp earth and pine needles. She imagined she was lying in the clearing, dozing with the sun kissing her face, until another sensation struck and she was suddenly aware of the throbbing pain in the back of her head. Blinking and squinting, Merryn tried to make sense of the swimming lights & shadows above her. Something huge loomed above and as panic began to rise, so focus sharpened and the shapes and forms started to make sense. Distorted by perspective and a recent lack of Morbi velit

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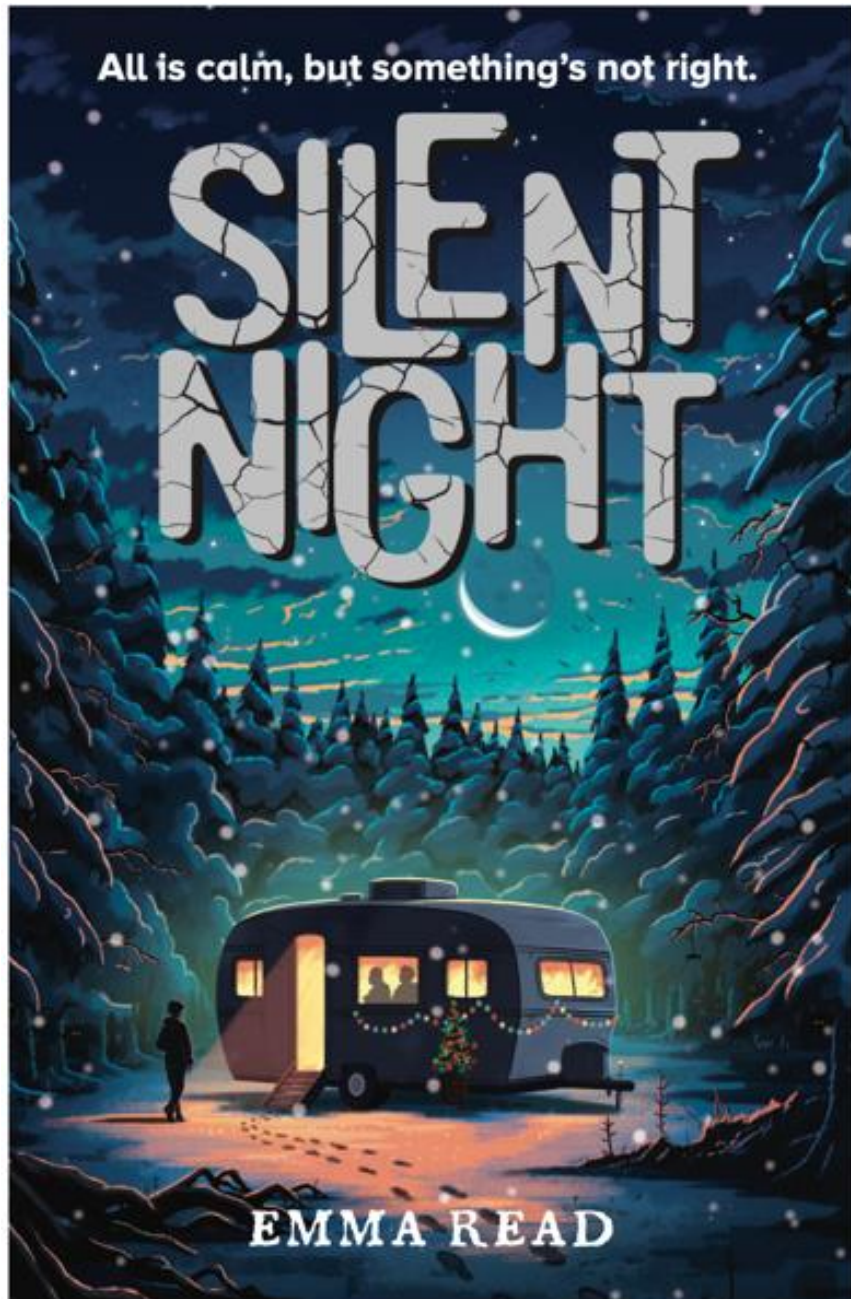
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SILENT NIGHT

Emma Read

9781913322793, £7.99, ages 9+
Publishing in PB November 2025



When Masen, Connor, and Joss wake up on Christmas morning, all is calm and oddly bright. Outside, it's snowing, and their presents are waiting... but where are their parents? Families don't just vanish on Christmas Day. Something's off, but what?

They set out into the village to find everyone. But with the town full of people acting strangely who can they trust? And what exactly are those weird mushroomy Christmas trees...

- **Acclaimed author Emma Read returns with another chilling and mysterious middle grade thriller – perfect for a spooky winter night.**
- **Inspired by the classic Day of the Triffids, this atmospheric and creepy story is perfect for fans of Jennifer Killick.**
- **Explores themes of family and friendship as well as stress and anxiety with Emma's signature heart-warming writing.**



Thank you!



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