Children’s
HarperCollins Australia
SUBSIDIARY RIGHTS GUIDE
middle grade

OCTOBER 2010
LET ME WHISPER YOU MY STORY

Moya Simons

An old evil seen through young eyes – Rachel’s moving story

Rachel is German and Jewish. She lives in Leipzig just before the outbreak of World War II with her doctor father, mother and older sister Annie. Life is comfortable, revolving around Sabbath meals shared with uncles, aunts and cousins.

When the Nazis arrive, the family is ‘relocated’ elsewhere in the city, and then taken away to a labour camp. Rachel’s father saves her by making her hide in a kitchen cupboard, forbidding her to speak. The damage is done. Rachel remains mute – for years – as a result.

Rachel is discovered by a neighbour, Gertrude, who conceals her in her own home until Rachel is taken into care by the Red Cross and sent to an orphanage in England. But where is Rachel’s family?

From the author of Hello God, a beautifully written and moving story that looks at one of the most horrifying episodes in our world’s history through the eyes of a young girl.

• A beautifully written novel, that brings this story afresh to a new generation
• Comparisons: Hitler’s Daughter, The Boy In The Striped Pyjamas

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:
Moya Simons has been writing for children for over ten years and has published twenty-five books. She has been shortlisted in the Young Australian Best Book Awards twice and has been published in the USA, UK, Germany, France and Malaysia

BACKLIST TITLE: HELLO GOD
Sometimes in life there are just no answers to the questions we ask …

‘Good food for thought on philosophical issues – as well as an entertaining read’ Australian Bookseller and Publisher

‘Although profound in content, the story is told with a light touch’ Magpies # 22

HELLO GOD
July 2007
9780732285340
180 x 128mm PB
144pp, b&w illustrations
Rights: World
Rights sold: Korean (Kookminbooks), Japanese (Kumon)
Ages: 8+
Alistair has been kidnapped!

Alex, Alice and Alistair think they are just three ordinary mice, until Alistair mysteriously vanishes. Then Alex and Alice learn a secret about their family: a secret which means Alistair’s life is in danger – unless Alex and Alice can find him first ...

So begins a hair-raising journey as Alex and Alice try to outrun enemy agents in a desperate race against time.

‘Spies! … Rebels!’

Meanwhile, Alistair is astonished to find himself in a far-off land where everyone – except his new friend Tibby Rose – is his enemy. But why? Pursued at every turn, the pair must try to unravel the mystery. And when they do, they discover that it is not only their own lives which are in peril … the future of an entire country is at stake.

Says Frances Watts: ‘When I first started writing The Song of the Winns, I set out to write the kind of book that I loved as a child: something fast paced and full of adventure, with characters that I would get to know and love. A book which was funny but could also move me. I wanted it to be a BIG story, too, a story to make the reader think – about power and its exercise, about responsibility, about injustice (the book was fast becoming a trilogy!). As Uncle Ebenezer says, ‘All that is necessary for evil to prosper is for good mice to do nothing.’
‘It’s only me — Bella,’ she said, as if the mad animal cared. ‘I won’t hurt you. Please, don’t hurt me.’

Featherston in the Second World War is a tough and bleak place for fourteen-year-old Bella. Her father is away fighting overseas, while his family fight to save their farm from ruin and keep his dreams alive.

Bella, her mother and older sister have to cope with a herd of dairy cows, an unscrupulous neighbour who covets the farm, and a crazy, bad-tempered racehorse called Gipsy. Bella is terrified of the horse and doesn’t know where to turn.

When help is offered from an unlikely source, will she have the courage to accept it or will Gipsy destroy her father’s dreams?

• ‘Horse fiction’ at its best
• Ideal for boy and girl readers
• Addresses ‘real-life’ issues facing many young adults, such as trust, family problems and love.
• [www.susanbrocker.com](http://www.susanbrocker.com)

### DREAMS OF WARRIORS

* Susan Brocker

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### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

* Susan Brocker lives with her husband and many pets, including horses, on a small farm near Tauranga. She has written over fifty books, including *Restless Spirit* and the NZ bestseller *Saving Sam*. She also wrote the true story of the Anzac horses in *Brave Bess and the Anzac Horses*. 

### SAVING SAM

* February 2009
* 9781869507435
* 198 x 128mm PB
* 192pp
* Rights: World

### RESTLESS SPIRIT

* March 2007
* 9781869506230
* 180 x 128mm PB
* 172pp
* Rights: World
THE GHOSTS OF IRON BOTTOM SOUND

Sandy Nelson

A moving and exciting insight into the US, Australia and New Zealand’s Pacific War at sea

Why is Savo Sound known as Iron Bottom Sound?

Paddy, a young schoolboy, becomes so obsessed with a book about the wrecks of warships sunk in World War Two battles at Guadalcanal that he’s lucky not to be killed in a traffic accident. His parents ban him from reading the book.

But Paddy can still hear the voices of men who died during the Battle of Savo Island, one of the battles depicted in the book. He is horrified ... and fascinated. Whose voices are they? Why are they reaching out to him? Are they dangerous? Gradually he realizes that some of voices are Australian, like his grandfather. His grandfather had served in HMAS Canberra, an Australian ship sunk in the battle. While Paddy’s Grandfather survived, they didn’t ... and cannot rest.

- The Guadalcanal Campaign was a significant strategic combined arms victory by Allied forces (US, Australia and New Zealand) over the Japanese in the Pacific theatre
- The U.S. Navy suffered such high personnel losses during the campaign that it refused to publicly release total casualty figures for years. But as the campaign continued, and the American public became more aware of heroism of the American forces on Guadalcanal, more forces were dispatched to the area
- ‘Ironbottom Sound’ is the name given by Allied sailors to Savo Sound, the stretch of water between Guadalcanal, Savo Island, and Florida Island of the Solomon Islands because of the huge number of ships and planes that sunk there.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Sandy Nelson lives in Twizel, where she is a busy primary school teacher and mother. With a fascination for the stories of her own family’s wartime experiences, she has researched the Battle of Savo Strait and interviewed survivors to bring authenticity to her writing.
Funny and poignant female coming-of-age story about the consequences of conscience.

Anna is the well-behaved and obedient child of professional parents. Her mother Penelope is a leading research scientist and her father a doctor – and she’s been raised in a politically correct non-smoking vegetarian home, with a solid foundation of firmly held beliefs she has inherited from her parents.

However, Anna is shaken to the core when she organises a school trip to her mother’s work and discovers that she experiments on live animals. A sheep is being held on the fourth floor away from all the things that make life good for a sheep – and he will be killed and dissected when the experiment is finished.

Horrified with what she now knows, she is further rocked to discover that her father is a secret smoker – despite lecturing his patients on the evils of smoking.

What follows is her way of dealing with her own moral dilemma – exciting, funny, poignant and probably illegal.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:
Leonie Thorpe’s inspiration comes from the Port Hills in New Zealand, which are steep enough to get her sweating so she can retire to one of the coffee shops in Lyttelton. Busy raising her three daughters, writing and very involved in the local community, Leonie is the author of the Archie books.

ARCHIE’S ADVENTURES (2007)
9781869506568

ARCIE SAVES THE DAY (2009)
9781869507220
THE HORSE WHO BIT THE BUSHRANGER

Jackie French

A story of survival, second chances … and a dance with danger.

Young Billy Marks is a pickpocket, transported to the penal colony of New South Wales. He and his mate reckon they’ll become bushrangers – but that’s before Billy’s had a chance to see the bush up close. And when he buys the big white brumby stallion, covered with scars but refusing to bend to any man’s will, he knows he made the right choice.

Billy’s daughter Mattie Jane thinks her father can ride any horse who ever lived … and so can she! But when tragedy strikes, the Marks clan, including Mattie and her beloved horse, Rebel Yell, will need all the courage they can find to keep the family together.

The deeds and disputed stories of Jackie French’s own ancestors inspire another novel – a novel of proud and gutsy horses, trailblazing farmers and their resilient wives, and desperate men forced to break the law to survive.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Jackie French is a prolific and award winning full-time writer, whose rights have been sold to Korea, France, Portugal, Germany, Italy, Japan, Norway, China, the Netherlands, Brazil, Sweden, US and UK.

In 2000, HITLER’S DAUGHTER (9780207198014) was awarded the CBC Younger Readers’ Award.

TO THE MOON AND BACK (9780207200090) won the Eve Pownall Award in 2005.

Most recently, A ROSE FOR THE ANZAC BOYS (9780732285401) was named an Honour Book in the 2009 CBCA awards.
The hilarious, madcap diary of eleven-year-old Blue Weston, during a year filled with pig chariots, leech attacks, dust storms and drought.

Blue Weston’s life is spiralling out of control.

Her parents are sending her to boarding school next year.

Her mad twin brothers are building pig chariots in the back shed.

Her best friend has been abducted by aliens and replaced with a boy-crazy tween.

And then there’s the drought that’s showing no signs of ending soon …

It’s New Year’s Day, and Blue has resolved to keep a diary of the year’s events. It will be a year full of madness and fun – with the odd leech attack and bagpipe-loving pig thrown in for good measure. But it will also be yet another hard year of dust storms and drought.

Red Dirt Diary is the hilarious tale of tomboy Blue Weston, who lives with her family on a property outside Dubbo. Illustrated with black-and-white diary doodles throughout, it’s the perfect book for fans of Robin Klein’s Penny Pollard series and of Louise Rennison’s Georgia Nicolson series.

• Funny, easy to read, and provides a child’s view of rural life in Australia.
• Fans of Georgia Nicholson will love Blue Weston.
• Illustrated with doodles and graphic elements to make the book look like a child’s diary.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:
Katrina Nannestad grew up in central-western NSW. After studying arts and education at the University of New England in Armidale, she worked as a primary school teacher. Her first teaching job was at a tiny two-teacher school in the bush. Katrina now lives near Bendigo with her husband and two sons. Her first book, Bungaloo Creek, was published by ABC Books in 2001.
Ashleigh and her horse-mad friends find themselves facing new challenges at school – from a nasty cyber-bully pushing an anti-horse campaign to a redevelopment plan of their favourite Shady Creek Riding Club.

Ash recovers from her accident and discovers natural horsemanship – or horse whispering. In doing so, she learns to understand not only Lightning, the horse she was so badly injured by, but horses in general.

Meanwhile, Ash is up against a nasty cyber bully, and the anti-horse campaign at Linley is growing. Ash must speak out for Lightning at a meeting to save him from destruction. Overcoming her fear of riding, she finishes the term triumphantly moving to Level A. It looks like her scholarship is finally secure.

But her friend Becky is desperate for help – the land that Shady Creek Riding Club uses has been earmarked for development and lots of the boys have quit horses for football. Ash, Becky and Pree come up with a brilliant plan – starting a polocrosse club and kicking off a regional competition. Will it be enough to save Shady Creek Riding Club?

• The latest instalment in a wonderful series about horses, riding and friendship, perfect for girls aged 9–12.
• Horse series never lose their appeal – particularly with young girls, and Horse Mad has the perfect combination of friendship dramas and accurate stories about horses.
• Comparison Titles: Saddle Club and The Silver Brumby.
JADE AND THE STRAY

Amy Brown

Jade loves reading about beautiful, clever horses and their young riders. It takes her mind off her real-life troubles ...

It must be Fate. After a family tragedy, eleven-year-old Jade Lennox has moved to tiny Flaxton to live with her grandfather. A whole year in the middle of nowhere, and the future looks bleak.

Until, that is, she finds someone else who’s lonely and despairing – a pony under a death sentence.

Jade can’t let the black pony die. But what can she do? She has no money, no land for grazing, and doesn’t know the first thing about looking after horses.

What she does know is that she must save the stray ...

JADE AND THE STRAY
BOOK 1 IN THE PONY TALE SERIES
August 2010
9781869508425
198 x 128mm PB
240pp
Rights: World
Ages: 8+

• Book one in the Pony Tales series, a proposed 4-book series
• Engaging, vivid writing for young readers who love reading about horses and ponies
• Exciting, life-or-death situation as Jade befriends and rescues an abandoned pony

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:
From age five to sixteen, Amy Brown belonged to Flaxmere Pony Club and competed in regional and national showjumping events. An avid reader of pony fiction, when she left home she gave up riding and took up writing. This is the first book in an exciting new series called Pony Tales, about Jade and her riding adventures.
It’s almost Christmas in Cameron’s Creek and it’s a time for wishes, big and small.

But Scarlet, the oldest of the Rainbow Girls, is not so sure if wishes can come true.

The kitchen at the Kingdom of Silk is warm and sweet with the smell of buttery shortbread and steamed plum puddings. And in the kitchen of the Colour Patch Café, Scarlet has made a new friend, Anik.

When Anik tells Scarlet about his home far away and of all the things he has lost, Scarlet is determined to make a difference. And so she decides to declare peace on Cameron’s Creek, and maybe even the world …

In Plum Puddings and Paper Moons, the fifth book in the Kingdom of Silk series, the focus is on Scarlet, the oldest Rainbow girl, who is pondering the biggest question of all – how can she change the world? This is a book about making new friends, finding out if wishes can come true, and discovering that even a small change is still a step in the right direction.

Kingdom of Silk is a wonderful series for young readers who are just discovering the joys of independent reading. It has the power to transport the reader to a land of whimsy and to connect with them on a deeper level. Plum Puddings and Paper Moons will be read and loved by readers who have followed the series from the beginning, and those who have only just discovered it.
FAIRY REALM
Emily Rodda

A truly enchanting series from award-winning Australian author Emily Rodda – now in stunning new paperback editions

THE CHARM BRACELET
When Jessie visits her grandmother’s house, Blue Moon, she discovers an amazing secret and enters the Realm for the first time. Fairies, elves, tiny horses and all kinds of magical beings live in the Realm, and a noble Queen in a great golden palace rules them all.

But the Realm is in terrible danger, and Jessie must outwit an evil enemy to save the land before it is destroyed forever!

THE FLOWER FAIRIES
Jessie’s friends from the Realm beg her to return and help them with a problem – the terrifying griffins that guard the Realm’s treasure house are out of control!

THE THIRD WISH
Jessie has helped the magic people of the Realm to escape danger twice now. But now her world is in danger …

‘Rodda tells a suspenseful, well-knit tale, enlivened by humour and heroism’ Kirkus Reviews

• Perfect for fans of the Rainbow Fairies and Magic Ballerina series
• Emily Rodda is one of Australia’s most treasured children’s authors, and this enchanting series will delight fans old and new.
• Emily’s Deltora Quest series has sold nearly 15 million copies worldwide.
• Emily has won the Children’s Book Council of Australia’s Book of the Year (Younger Readers) Award a record five times!
• 10 books in series
• Rights sold: Japan (Doshinsha), Korea (Gipun), Portugal (Fundamento), Sweden (Wahlstroms), Germany (Freis Geistesleben & Urachhaus), Russia (Omega), UK (Catnip), Israel (Kinneret), US (HarperCollins), Italy (Piemme)

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:
Emily Rodda is one of the most successful children’s authors in Australia and around the world. Her books include the phenomenally successful Deltora Quest series, which has sold nearly 15 million copies worldwide, across 25 different languages, and is one of the most popular children’s fantasy series ever written. She has won the Children’s Book Council of Australia’s Book of the Year (Younger Readers) Award a record five times. Emily seems to know instinctively what children want to read.
**THE STRANGEST ADVENTURE TRILOGY**

*Alexandra Adornetto*

‘Fans of *Harry Potter* and *Lemony Snicket’s Series of Unfortunate Events* will delight in a new … series that offers a similar blend of adventure, fantasy and humour.’

*Magpies #22*

Drabville is a model town, where Milli Klompet lives with her slightly offbeat family and spends her time longing for adventure. Then one day, along with her cautious best friend and amateur geologist, Ernest Perriclof, Milli discovers ‘Hog House’. But the afternoon’s entertainment takes a different turn when they are held prisoner by the wacky Mr and Mrs Mayor and a cohort of evil magicians, led by the sinister Aldor …

Milli and Ernest must evade the Shadow Keepers and outwit the sinister Aldor before the shadows are swallowed and Drabville loses its soul forever …

‘Clearly [Adornetto] is already an Australian literary phenomenon …’ *The Courier-Mail*

‘... an impressive debut ... a wonderful fantasy story, full of adventure and scary, dark shadows.’ *The Australian Women’s Weekly*

‘... a fantastic achievement ...’ *The Sunday Age*

‘... a comic fantasy full of magic.’ *The Sydney Morning Herald*

‘A fast-moving plot full of menace and thrills, amply seeded with a magnificently precocious vocabulary’ *The Courier Mail*

- In the bestselling tradition of Christopher Paolini, Sonya Hartnett and Flavia Bujor, the first fantastical trilogy from a talented Melbourne student.
- Received an ‘honourable mention’ in the 2007 Aurealis Awards
- The Strangest Adventures series has sold over 40,000 copies in Australia alone
- Rights sold to Spain (Espasa) and Turkey (Pegasus)

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR:**

*Alexandra Adornetto* was only thirteen when she wrote her first book, *The Shadow Thief*, followed by two other titles. She has won various awards for her writing and in 2006 won the State Legacy Public Speaking competition. She has since written the highly successful HALO series translated into 16 languages.

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The fat boy strikes back in an exciting and satisfying action adventure.

Cory is an overweight, shy young high-school student, who spends all his spare time playing CounterStrike on the computer. Concerned about Cory’s weight and his isolation, his mum finally gives him an ultimatum: join a school sports team or broadband will be cancelled.

Realizing that for once he cannot get his own way, Cory surfs the net to research the sports options on offer. Orienteering, he reads, can be ‘like a stroll in the park’ – Cory’s idea of adequate exercise. Match!

But when Cory joins the school orienteering club, he finds quite a bit more than strolling is required. Competing alone in the back of beyond, Cory discovers he needs to learn to work with Nature if he is to win … and indeed survive. So he harnesses all of his CounterStrike experience to become a ‘cunning runner’ and try to finish the race against the odds.

The title refers to the two vital pieces of information the orienteer needs to know: which way is North, and which way is up, something Cory has to learn in every sense of the word.
'This is the sort of book that whispers to readers “pick me”… it promises to deliver something special. A visual feast, the digital illustrations are unsettling, yet compelling, while the story (Tim Burton meets Diana Wynne-Jones) will keep older readers enthralled.' Sunday Age

In the streets of Bankertown, where children are threatened with the grey and forbidding walls of The Institution, a young girl called Alice rebels by daring to show imagination. Is she the child destined to save Bankertown and bring colour, light and imagination back into the world? Determined not to take any chances, The Banker sends his vermin-infested lieutenant, the terrifying Catcher, through the clouds to hunt down Alice and her companions.

The story continues in THE CLOUDCHASERS: THE EAST WIND: When Alice, Thomas and Spinner discover they must find the Banker’s father to complete their quest, their search takes them to terrifying and fantastic worlds. On their travels through the peril of the Lopper’s world to the freezine, desolate waste of Tebbit’s land of nightmares, they encounter the Wandering Seers, a sand monster bureaucrat, Mad King George and the daffy Forgetmeknot and his homemade flying craft. Will Alice ever find the Banker’s Father? Can she and her companions avoid the relentless Catcher and his minions? And what secret does Spinner hold that will decide the fate of them all?

About the authors:
Steve Hunt is an award-winning designer, illustrator and animator. This is his first picture book for children.
David Richardson has worked in advertising and film. This is also his first book.
The lead designer from bro’Town hits the big-time with his new graphic novel.

Ant Sang has answered the calls from his growing fan base with the release of Shaolin Burning, a graphic novel about two very different kung-fu fighters whose lives intersect, giving them the opportunity of self-discovery through the wisdom of martial arts.

Set in ancient China, it masterfully weaves well-known kung-fu myths and legends throughout the story.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:
Ant Sang was one of the original key creatives on the massively successful bro’Town animated series. He has a cult following among readers of graphic novels, who have been clamouring for him to partner with a publisher who can take his art to the world …
Amaze your friends and gross out your family!

40 new super scientific, super human body tricks from the Surfing Scientist.

Super cool author and Surfing Scientist Ruben Meerman is back with 40 Super Human Body Tricks that will reveal your inner superhero. All you need is your body, some household items and an appetite for fun science experiments.

• No special equipment needed, step-by-step instructions and photos provided.
• The Surfing Scientist’s TV program is ranked #1 for 5–9 year olds across Australia
• Over 600,000 students and teachers have already participated in Ruben’s creations in Australia and the UK with more in the pipeline
• A highly illustrated design concept

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:
Ruben Meerman decided to study physics at school in an attempt to sit next to a hot girl. Sadly, this didn’t work, but it was the beginning of another beautiful relationship ... with science! Ruben did a Bachelor of Applied Science in Physics at Queensland University of Technology and worked for a while in an optical lab. Things started to head in a different direction when he was accepted into the Graduate Diploma in Science Communication at the Australian National University. Ruben is a regular on Australian television.

THE SURFING SCIENTIST: 40 COOL SCIENCE TRICKS
new edition Feb 2010
9780733328138

THE SURFING SCIENTIST: 40 DIY GIZMOS
new edition Feb 2010
9780733328145

THE SURFING SCIENTIST: 40 SCIENCE MINDBENDERS
August 2010
9780733325700
Welcome to the amazing natural world that surrounds us. A fun, factual, wild and wacky introduction to the animal kingdom.

**GUESS WHO’S COMING TO DINNER**
A tummy-rumbling look at what’s on nature’s menu. Learn all about the wild things some animals eat, how much they eat (super-size me!), the extraordinary ways some animals bring home the bacon and some of the wackiest facts you’ll ever read about animals and their eating habits.

**SKIN DEEP**
In the animal kingdom, it’s not what’s on the inside that counts! Discover everything there is to know about animals and their skin - how they use it to attract, repel, hide and stay cool or warm. Fascinating and fun.

**JUST FOR THE RECORD**
If you think the Olympics are fantastic, wait till you read about the sporting achievements in the animal kingdom. In this world, though, there are prizes for coming dead last! Nature is truly amazing ...

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**LET’S GO WILD**
*Sorrel Wilby, illustrated by Michelle Pike*

Ages: 7-10
Non-Fiction

• A wild and wacky introduction to the animal kingdom.
• Sorrel Wilby is an acclaimed adventurer, filmmaker, author, photographer and artist.

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR:**
*Sorrel Wilby* is an acclaimed adventurer, filmmaker, author, photographer and artist. Her career to date includes a long list of achievements including: the world’s first complete traverse of the Himalaya, a 17,000km solo bike ride throughout Asia and other extreme feats. Sorrel has published numerous books recounting her journeys and was also a roving reporter for high-profile TV show Getaway for over eight years. Sorrel lives on Norfolk Island with her family.
Kids CAN clean with Shannon Lush, every parent’s best friend.

It’s true – kids CAN clean! And if anybody knows how to make it happen, it’s the Domestic Guru, Shannon Lush. This illustrated book for children covers everything from removing the squashed banana in your schoolbag, to tidying up your bedroom, personal hygiene (or why you should take your finger OUT OF YOUR NOSE), to cleaning up after your friends.

Cleaning can be fun with Shannon Lush and her simple but effective tips for children of all ages.

Includes photos and illustrations and written in a lively, bubbly style to appeal to children aged 7 and over.

- Over 10,000 copies in print
- Previous adult cleaning books have sold over 650,000 copies in Australia and New Zealand.
- Spotless rights sold to US, UK, Italy, Brazil, Norway, Slovenia

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:
Never stumped for an answer to a domestic disaster, radio personality, wife, mother and grandmother Shannon Lush became a ‘surprise’ celebrity in late 2005 with the publication of her first book Spotless, co-written with Jennifer Fleming. Shannon is now a household name. She appears regularly on TV and radio programs in Australia and New Zealand and she contributes advice columns to several newspapers and magazines.
EXCLUSIVE FOREIGN AGENTS

Italy
Maria Stefania Fietta
Agenzia Letteraria Internazionale
Via Valpetrosa 1
20123 Milano, Italy
T: +39 [0] 2 861572
F: +39 [0] 2 876222
E: fietta@aglettinternazionale.it

France
Eliane Benisti
Agence Eliane Benisti
80, rue des Saints-Pères
75007 Paris, France
T: +33 [0] 1 42228533
F: +33 [0] 1 45441817
E: benisti@elianebenisti.com

Spain
Alicia González Sterling
Bookbank S.L., Agencia Literaria
San Martín de Porres 14
28035 Madrid, Spain
T: +34 91 3733539
F: +34 91 3165591
E: alicia@bookbank.es

Germany
Cristina Bernardi (Children’s)
Michael Müller Agency
Landwehrstrasse 17
80336 München Germany
T: +49 [0] 89 366371
F: +49 [0] 89 366372
E: C.Bernardi@melleragency.com

Greece
Nike Davarinou
Read ‘n’ Right Agency
9 Amazonon St
34100 Chalkida, Greece
T: +30 2 221029798
E: readght@ath.forthnet.gr

Czech Republic, Slovakia
Ilene Stickler Kreshka
Transnet Contracts Limited
Schlossgasse 15/4
A-1050 Vienna, Austria
T: +43 1 545 92 40
F: +43 1 545 92 40
E: kreshka2002@yahoo.co.uk

The Netherlands (Children’s)
Linda Kohn
International Literatuur Bureau BV
Keizersgracht 188-hs
1016 DW Amsterdam, The Netherlands
T: +31 (0) 20-3306658
F: +31 (0) 20-4229210
E: lkohn@planet.nl

Poland
Marcin Biegaj
Graal Literary Agency
ul. Pruszkowska 29/252
02-119 Warszawa, Poland
T: +48 (22) 895 2000
F: +48 (22) 895 2001
E: marcin@graal.com.pl

Israel
Ilana Kurshan
The Deborah Harris Agency
P.O. Box 8528
Jerusalem 91083, Israel
T: +972 (0) 2 5633237
F: +972 (0) 2 5618711
E: ilana@thedeborahharrisagency.com

Bulgaria, Baltic States (Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania), Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia
Nada Popovic
Prava I Prevodi International Literary Agency
Yu-Business Centre, Blvd. Mihaila Pupina 108/1
5th Floor, Suite 4, 11070 Belgrade, Serbia
T +381 11/ 3016141 & 3119880; F: +381 11/ 3119879
E: nada@pravaiprevodi.org

Hungary
Miklos Lekli
Katai & Bolza Literary Agents
Vamhaz krt 15
1093 Budapest, Hungary
T: +36 1 456 0313
F: +36 1 215 4420
E: miki@kataibolza.hu

Scandinavia
Ia Atterholm
Ia Atterholm Agency
PO Box 17615
SE-200 10 Malmö, Sweden
T: +46 (0)40 305 883
E: ia.atterholm@telia.com

Enquiries about all other territories:
Hollie Zondanos
Rights & Co-editions Manager
HarperCollins Publishers Australia
PO Box 321, 25 Ryde Rd
Pymble NSW 2073 Australia
T: +61 2 9952 5475
M: +61 (0)418 426 403
F: +612 9952 5444
E: Hollie.zondanos@harpercollins.com.au
Children's Dentistry is the only correct one. Children is already plural, so you need an apostrophe before the s, meaning "of children" or "for children". Same rule for men (men's health) and women (women's clothing). B.