



2023 RIGHTS GUIDE

# Fall Catalog





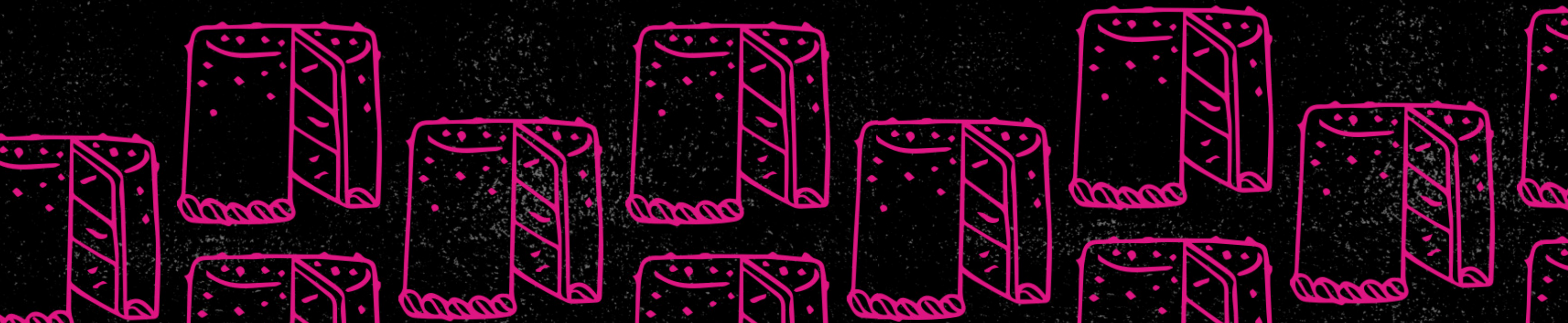


# CAKE

*creative*

Cake Creative Kitchen is an IP company dedicated to bold and diverse storytelling across publishing, books, audio, podcasts, film and television.

Cake Creative focuses on children's, middle grade and teen stories, while its edgier sister company, Electric Postcard Entertainment focuses on adult and young adult crossover works. Both are dedicated to acting as launchpads for creators whose backgrounds and experiences have long been marginalized by entertainment industries. The team is dedicated to diversifying media with positive representation and commercial appeal – creating compelling narratives and epic blockbusters for all.







# Futureland: The Nightmare Hour

H.D. HUNTER

A near-future action series about a group of friends and their adventure in a floating theme park—*Black Panther* meets *Artemis Fowl*.

## BOOK INFORMATION

**Publisher:** Random House

**Pub Date/Season:**

November 7, 2023

**Market:** Middle Grade Adventure

**UK/ANZ Rights:**

Available via Random House

**Foreign Sales:**

Czech Republic/Albatros

**Approximate Word Count:**

75,000

**Manuscript:** Available

**List Comp Titles:**

*Artemis Fowl* by Eoin Colfer;

*Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in*

*the Sky* by Kwame Mbalia



## SALES POINTS

- Sold at auction in a major deal.

## MORE IN THE SERIES

*Futureland: The Nightmare Hour* (Book 2 - November 7, 2023)

In book 2 of the Futureland series, the action picks up after the holidays— the Walkers are preparing to leave Atlanta for a fresh start. They got a new PR team who has them doing the rounds to renew the world’s faith in Futureland, and Uncle Trey has also pioneered a cool new feature of the overall park experience – The Alter Ego – where kids can design their own rev-alter egos and rev-pets to engage with during their park visit.

Then, Cam discovers a stowaway – Yusef. Once in New York City, Futureland faces even more obstacles: new rival technology wrist-bands sweep the city, the pet revs go missing from the park, and Yusef doesn't want to return home. When a lot of folks seem to be acting weirdly, following the instructions from someone called the Architect, and Cam receives strange messages from a jailed Southmore, it'll be up to Cam, his friends from ATL, and Uncle Trey to make things right. With Rich, Earl, and Angel joining the investigation this time, Cam and his family will not be messed with again.

*Futureland: Battle for the Park* (Book 1 - November 8, 2022)

*Futureland: Untitled* (Book 3 - 2024)



INGREDIENTS FOR  
the future

## REVIEWS FOR FUTURELAND 1: BATTLE FOR THE PARK

- “Hold on tight, *Futureland* will be the ride of your life...and maybe the last!” – Kwame Mbalia, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author
- “FUTURELAND is the sci-fi, Afro-futurist adventure you’ve been looking for. Readers will instantly root for Cam Walker as he and his amazing friends take on the forces determined to steal Futureland. Funny, heartbreaking, and thrilling all at once!” – Mark Oshiro, author of *THE INSIDERS*
- “FUTURELAND sits at the intersection of thrills, mystery, cool sci-fi, and heart. If you’re like me, and these are all of your favorite things, you need a ticket to this stunning attraction ASAP!” – Lamar Giles, author of *The Legendary Alston Boys* series
- “An imaginative and ambitious not-so-distant future tale with a lot to say about the present.” – *Kirkus Reviews*



# The Spindle of Fate

AIMEE LIM

New!

COVER  
COMING SOON

## A Chinese *Percy Jackson* meets *Amari and the Night Brothers*

### SUMMARY

Twelve-year-old Evie Mei Huang has had to learn the hard way that adults are weird about death. Ever since her mother’s funeral three days ago, her family’s landline has been ringing off the hook with adults offering their “helpful” sympathies. With the phone going off every few seconds, it’s like they won the lottery. Only not, because everything is horrible and, well, they didn’t actually win the lottery now, did they?

Evie never did like helping in her mom’s tailor shop. She hates helping to dye and spool the thread, how the measuring tape gets all twisted up, and how pushy her mother’s clients are. Most of all, she hates that now her mother isn’t here anymore, and that her dad is drowning in orders, and that she can’t help because she’s so terrible at it. But look, when the universe sends a life preserver, Evie knows to grab it. So yes, it’s weird when a talking monkey shows up and tells her that her plain, hardworking tailor mother was actually the head of a Guild of magical weavers who control the fate of humanity. But he also comes bearing the information that her mother is trapped in Diyu, the Chinese underworld, and that only Evie, her heir, can get her back.

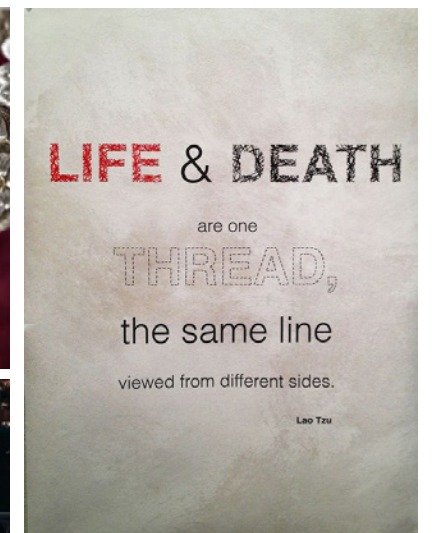
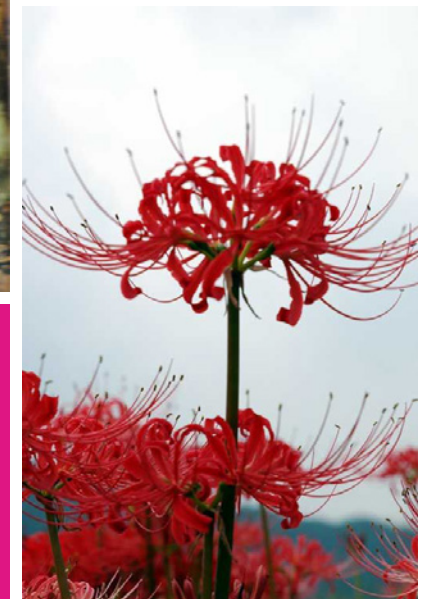
She knows this is the best chance to help her family—and herself. The only thing is, helping means learning the rare magical arts The Guilds have been preserving and mastering for centuries—and let’s not forget the inevitable trip to the Netherworld while she’s at it. But the important thing is that Evie’s mom isn’t dead. And if she’s got this one shot to bring her back and save her family, she’s got to take it. But can she rise to the challenge?

### MORE IN THE SERIES

*Spindle of Fate 2: Untitled* (Book 2 - 2025)



INGREDIENTS FOR  
death



### BOOK INFORMATION

**Publisher:**

Macmillan/Feiwel & Friends

**Pub Date/Season:**

Spring 2024

**Market:** Middle Grade Fantasy

**UK/ANZ Rights:**

Available via

Macmillan/Feiwel & Friends

**Approximate Word Count:**

65,000

**Manuscript:** Available

**Comp Titles:**

*Percy Jackson and the Lightning*

*Thief* by Rick Riordan, *Zachary*

*Ying and the Dragon Emperor* by

Xiran Jay Zhao







# How to Save a Unicorn

MEG CANNISTRA

To save her family, she'll have to make a dangerous bargain and tip the scales off balance in this magical adventure for fans of *Fablehaven* and *The Spiderwick Chronicles*.

## BOOK INFORMATION

**Publisher:** Harper Children's

**Series:** Giada the Healer series

**Pub Date/Season:**

October 3, 2023

**Market:** Middle Grade Fantasy

**UK/ANZ Rights:**

Available via Harper Children's

**Approximate Word Count:**

40,000

**Manuscript:** Available

**Comp Titles:**

*Fablehaven* by Brandon Mull,

*The Spiderwick Chronicles* by

Holly Black & Tony DiTerlizzi

## SERIES SALES POINTS

- Sold in a six-figure pre-empt
- A 2022 Kids' Indie Next Pick!

## MORE IN THE SERIES

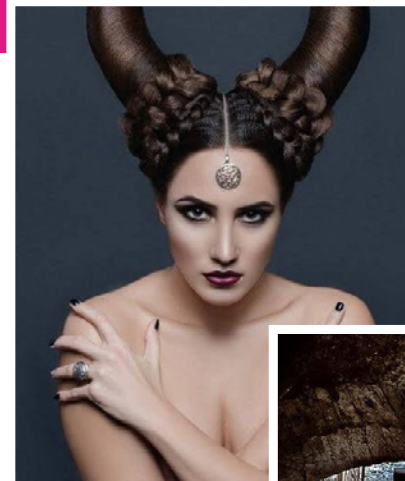
*How to Save a Unicorn* (Book 2 - October 3, 2023): Giada's been with the Calamoneri family, her magical host family in New Jersey, for three weeks, and has the routine down pat: every day, she goes into the neighborhood with Mr. Calamoneri, where his son Moss will sometimes come, depending on how his body's feeling, and heal local animals. And Giada's excelling, healing animals, growing more and more beloved by the neighbors, and impressing Mr. Calamoneri in a way she never impressed her family back home.

When she gets a call from Alessia that her host family is going to be transporting a unicorn at the Teterboro and offers for Giada to come see it, she jumps at the opportunity. But when she arrives, the unicorn is missing! Giada sees all the signs—there's more Streghe del Malocchio here, and they must've taken the unicorn.

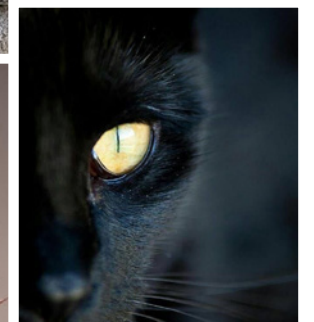
Teaming up with Alessia, Moss, Sinistro, and Moss's companion Fi, Giada heads into a new streghe city under New York City to get the unicorn back before it's too late.

*How to Heal a Gryphon* (Book 1 - October 4, 2022)

*How to Free a Leviathan* (Book 3 - 2024)



INGREDIENTS FOR  
unicorns



## REVIEWS FOR HOW TO HEAL A GRYPHON

- “Via a world where magic and modern medicine coexist, and a secret spell-casting community lives undetected year-round, Cannistra writes a compassionate quest that interrogates tradition, legacy, and humans’ effect on the natural world.” – *Publisher's Weekly*
- “Cannistra’s entertaining narrative features wonderful descriptions of places and events that will transport readers. Stupenda!”– *Kirkus Review*
- “Cannistra's wonderfully engrossing and atmospheric story is replete with intriguing Italian folklore, locations, and language... Giada is a joy to befriend; she’s aware of her shortcomings but also confident in her magic, and she unapologetically delights in her fat body and all that it’s capable of. It’s worth a trip to this enchanting (and enchanted) Italian coast. ” – *Booklist*
- “A funny, fantastical mystery with nods to Italian history and mythology. Perfect for fans of Rick Riordan.” – Laura Ruby, Two-time National Book Award Finalist and author of the YORK trilogy





#### BOOK INFORMATION

**Publisher:** Balzer + Bray

**Pub Date/Season:**

August 2023

**Market:** Middle Grade

Contemporary Fantasy

**UK/ANZ Rights:** Available

via Balzer + Bray

**Approximate Word Count:**

60,000

**Manuscript:** Available

**Comp Titles:**

*Ghost Squad* by

Claribel A. Ortega;

*City of Ghosts* by Victoria

Schwab; *Love Sugar Magic*

by Anna Meriano



# Totally Psychic

BRIGID MARTIN

A Cuban-American tween medium navigates friends, family and ghosts.

#### SUMMARY

Paloma Ferrer is psychic. In fact, everyone in her family line has “the gift.” Now that Paloma has come into her powers, she dreams of a famous medium to celebrities, being just like her beloved grandma.

When Paloma’s parents move them from Miami to Los Angeles, she hatches a plan to get her career as a medium up and running:

- Host seances at her new school and stream on social media
- Build her profile and make a name for herself
- Avoid detection from her tattletale of a little sister

But when a reading gone awry leaves Paloma in a sticky situation with a new friend, she’ll need more than a crystal ball to find her way out of this mess.

#### MORE IN THE SERIES

*Totally Popular* (Book 2 - 2024)

*Totally Crushed* (Book 3 - 2025)



INGREDIENTS FOR  
psychics

#### SALES POINTS + REVIEWS

- “*Totally Psychic* is a fun, thrilling adventure full of friendship, self-discovery, and hilarious ghostly mischief. I want to join Paloma’s loyal, magical family!”  
—Nina Moreno, author of *Join The Club*, *Maggie Diaz*
- "A sweet ghostly adventure with a magical family you won’t soon forget, *Totally Psychic* is a colorful bouquet of hijinks that will have you rooting for every character, human and ghost alike! Paloma’s powers are a delight even when they’re causing a pile of problems."  
—Anna Meriano, author of the *Love Sugar Magic* series
- “Readers will love following Paloma’s journey as she realizes it’s OK not to have all the answers when it comes to the future and that there’s value in taking things one day at a time. She also shows personal growth as she learns to be more humble and recognizes that love and trust must be earned.”  
—*Booklist*





# Too Many Interesting Things Are Happening to Ethan Fairmont

NICK BROOKS

*E.T.* meets *Stranger Things* in this middle-grade adventure series about a group of friends who save an alien that has descended on their hometown.

## BOOK INFORMATION

**Publisher:** Union Square Kids

**Pub Date/Season:**

November 14, 2023

**Market:** Middle Grade Adventure

**UK/ANZ Rights:**

Available via Union Square

**Approximate Word Count:**

50,000

**Manuscript:** Available

**Comp Titles:**

*The True Meaning of*

*Smekday* by Adam Rex,

*The Wild Robot* by Peter Brown



## MORE IN THE SERIES

In book #2 of the Ethan Fairmont series, the action picks up at the start of the next school year where Ethan, Kareem, and Juan Carlos are back at it. But this year, new girl Fatima shows up in Ethan's science class and they immediately start trying to one up each other.

For his major project this year, Ethan wants to build a communication device so he can message with Cheese and stay in touch. But after several failed attempts, he relents and asks Fatima for help—and the machine works!

Meanwhile, the People in Gray return to Ferrous City, having kept an eye out on the town. They know Cheese might still be in contact with the trio. And now they're using their insidious powers to gather information—including threatening Juan Carlos's family, putting his parents' citizenship applications in jeopardy.

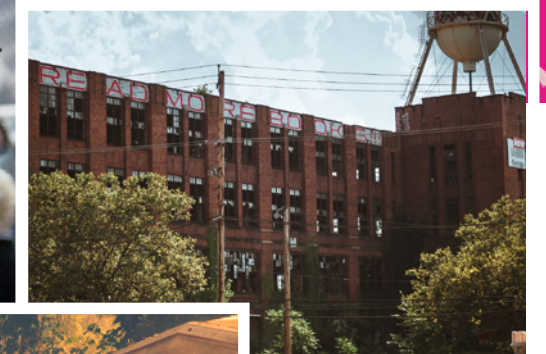
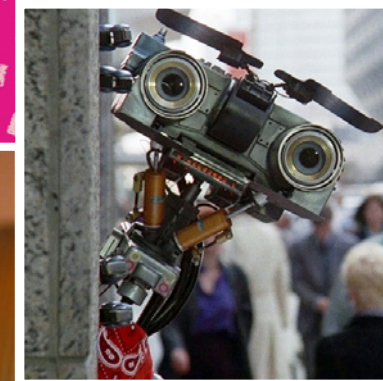
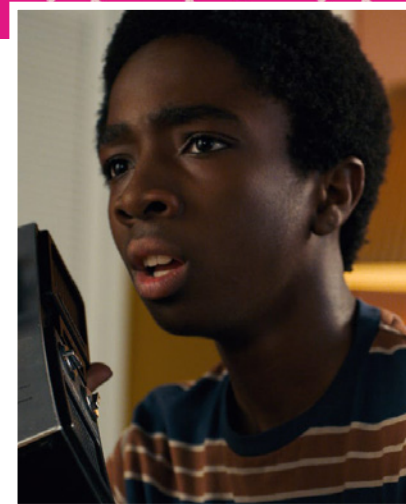
When Ethan and Fatima start communicating with Cheese, it's only a matter of time before the People in Gray and FBI get word. They ask Ethan to lure Cheese, and other aliens, offering Ethan and his family a *lot* of money if he agrees. Ethan's faced with a tough choice—Cheese or his family. And communicating with Cheese might not be as simple as it was last time...There might be someone else out there.

*Nothing Interesting Ever Happens to Ethan Fairmont*

(Book 1 - October 4, 2022)

*Everything Interesting Keeps Happening to Ethan Fairmont*

(Book 3 - Fall 2024)



INGREDIENTS FOR  
aliens



## SALES POINTS + REVIEWS FOR NOTHING INTERESTING EVER HAPPENS TO ETHAN FAIRMONT

- Sold in a six-figure pre-empt
- “Flashy science-fiction elements are paired with authentically kidlike attention to social realities as Ethan reflects on the value of connections in the face of confusing threats. An inventive story with a lot of heart.”  
– *Kirkus Review*
- “NOTHING INTERESTING EVER HAPPENS TO ETHAN FAIRMONT is the book I wish I had growing up as a kid. Nick Brooks has crafted an epic world full of mystery and adventure that kids will enjoy for generations to come.” – Matthew A. Cherry, Academy Award-winning filmmaker and *New York Times* bestselling author of *Hair Love*



# Lola Reyes Is SO Not Worried

CINDY RODRIGUEZ



COVER  
COMING SOON

*The Doll People* meets *The Care and Feeding of a Pet Black Hole* in which a horde of Guatemalan worry dolls wreak havoc on a small town after a young girl makes an unintentional wish.

## SUMMARY

Lola Reyes is sad to leave her grandma's house in San Marco, Guatemala after a summer of family and fun with her (deceased) father's family. She's an only child, so when she leaves her cousins behind and heads back to Sunnyside, Connecticut, it means lonely days filled with school work and chores, and very little time with her Mama, who's a working single mother and principal at her school. But as she's packing to leave, Lola and her cousin Maria Elena find an old suitcase full of worry dolls, or quitapenas. The box says "no abrir," but given they're Lola's mom's, she figures it's okay and hides them in her suitcase for the journey home.

But when Lola takes the worry dolls out and complains to them about her upcoming math exam and how her rival Chance spent the summer at math camp, she finds that the worry dolls are alive! As they grow big and out of control absorbing all the worries of other kids at school, Lola has to work with an unlikely friend to fix it.

## BOOK INFORMATION

### Publisher:

HarperCollins Children's

### Pub Date/Season:

Summer 2024

### Market:

Middle Grade  
Contemporary Fantasy

### UK/ANZ Rights:

Available via

HarperCollins Children's

### Approximate Word Count:

60,000

### Manuscript:

Available

### Comp Titles:

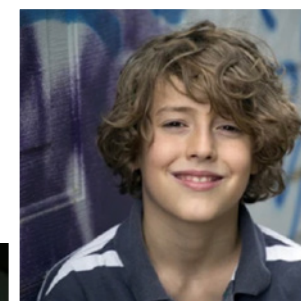
*The Doll People* by Ann M. Martin;

*The Care and Feeding of A Pet*

*Black Hole* by Michelle Cuevas



INGREDIENTS FOR  
dolls





# Where There Be Monsters *New!*

ALBY C. WILLIAMS

COVER  
COMING SOON

*Nevermoor* meets *Lovecraft Country* for kids where 12-year-old Glory Brown yearns to leave her quiet inn-turned-home to become a spherinaut—one who travels the multiverse. So when a junior spherinaut kid shows up with a magical package that needs delivering, Glory defies her parents and jumps at the chance. But traversing the monster-filled Outersphere might be more than she bargained for.

## SUMMARY

*Don't forget to follow the Brown Book because where there be monsters ... there's trouble.*

Twelve-year-old Glory Brown helps her family run the legendary Light Inn in the Seam, a stretch of monster-filled universe between the worlds of the Outersphere. Generations of their family have been stewards of this quaint hotel and shop, providing much needed supplies to the spherinauts passing through the timeless twilight. Their orreries, gear, and expert Brown Book—a magical travel guide—have aided generations in navigating turbulent universe travel.

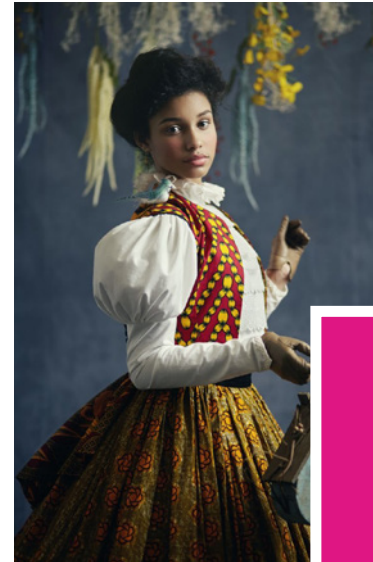
Glory wants nothing more than to become a spherinaut like her mother, world hopping to gather information for their popular guides instead of always helping her chef father run the family business. Between the inn's high maintenance magical rooms and garden, Glory is tired of her dad's exhaustive to-do lists. But, Mama always says she's too young to travel.

When Glory finds a lone boy, full of adventure, in the garden, he tells her about the world he's come from, one where kids are world messengers and part of the Parliamentarium of Junior Spherinauts. Marcus needs Glory's help to deliver a magical package. Desperate for adventure, Glory asks no questions, taking the rare opportunity to hit the road while her mother is out on one of her guide trips.

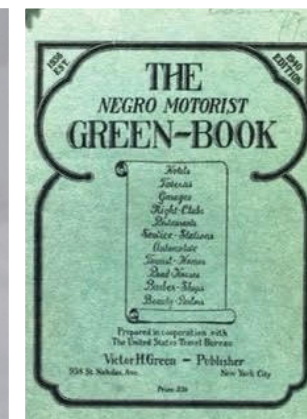
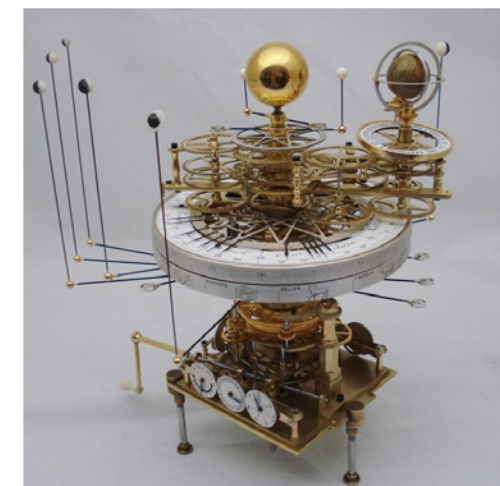
But when Glory discovers something is chasing Marcus (and now her), she must figure out what to do, and how to survive being so far from home.

## MORE IN THE SERIES

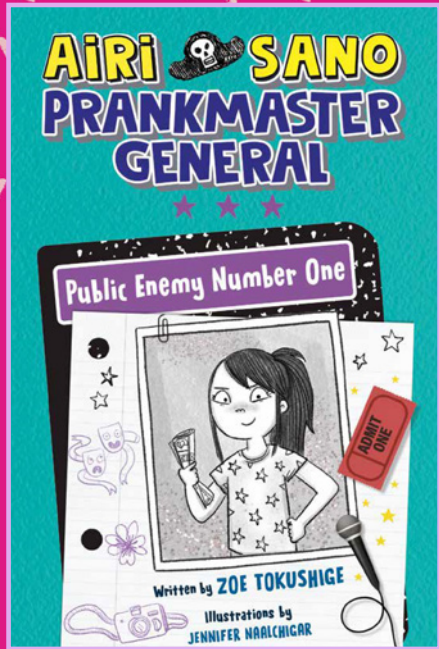
*Where There Be Thieves* (Book 2 - Winter 2026)



INGREDIENTS FOR  
travel







# Prankmaster General: Public Enemy Number One

ZOE TOKUSHIGE

*A Diary of a Wimpy Kid* meets a Japanese military brat with a penchant for pranks.



## BOOK INFORMATION

**Publisher:** Philomel

**Pub Date/Season:**

September 19, 2023

**Market:** Middle Grade

Contemporary

**UK/ANZ Rights:**

Available via Random House

**Approximate Word Count:**

40,000

**Manuscript:** Available

**Comp Titles:**

*Diary of a Wimpy Kid* by Jeff Kinney, *Frazzled* by Booki Vivat, *Dork Diaries* by Rachel Renee Russell

## SALES POINTS

- Sold in a significant deal

## SUMMARY

**This time, there's drama!**

It's the spring semester, and Airi Sano is on top of the world! Her grades are up, she has real friends at her side, and she's joined the school play. She's even keeping out of trouble and toning down the pranks!

But when the play falls victim to some truly awful pranks, everyone immediately suspects that Airi is behind them. As suspicion mounts, it's up to her to solve the mystery and clear her own name before the imposter strikes again. Sounds like a job for Airi and her crew!

## MORE IN THE SERIES

*Prankmaster General: New School Skirmish*

(Book 1 - September 20, 2022)

*Prankmaster General: International Menace* (Book 3 - 2024)



INGREDIENTS FOR  
mischief







# Tristan Strong Keeps Punching

KWAME MBALIA

Thirteen-year-old Tristan Strong accidentally rips a hole in the sky and into the Midpass, a world where ancient gods clash with heroes from Black folklore and legends.

## BOOK INFORMATION

**Series:** *Tristan Strong series*

**Publisher:**

Disney/Rick Riordan Presents

**Pub Date/Season:**

Fall 2019, Fall 2020, Fall 2021

**Market:** Middle Grade

Contemporary Fantasy

**UK/ANZ Rights:** Available via

Disney/Rick Riordan Presents

**Foreign Sales:** Poland/Galeria

Ksiazk; Turkey/Beta Publishing;

Romania/Art Editura; Germany/

Ravensburger

**Approximate Word Count:** 88,000

**Manuscript:** Available

**Comp Titles:** *Percy Jackson and*

*the Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan,

*Aru Shah and the End of Time* by

Roshani Chokshi

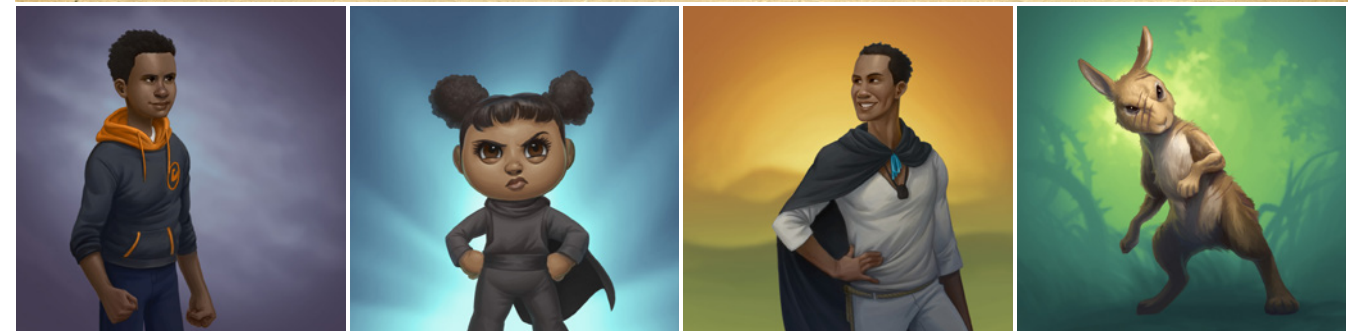
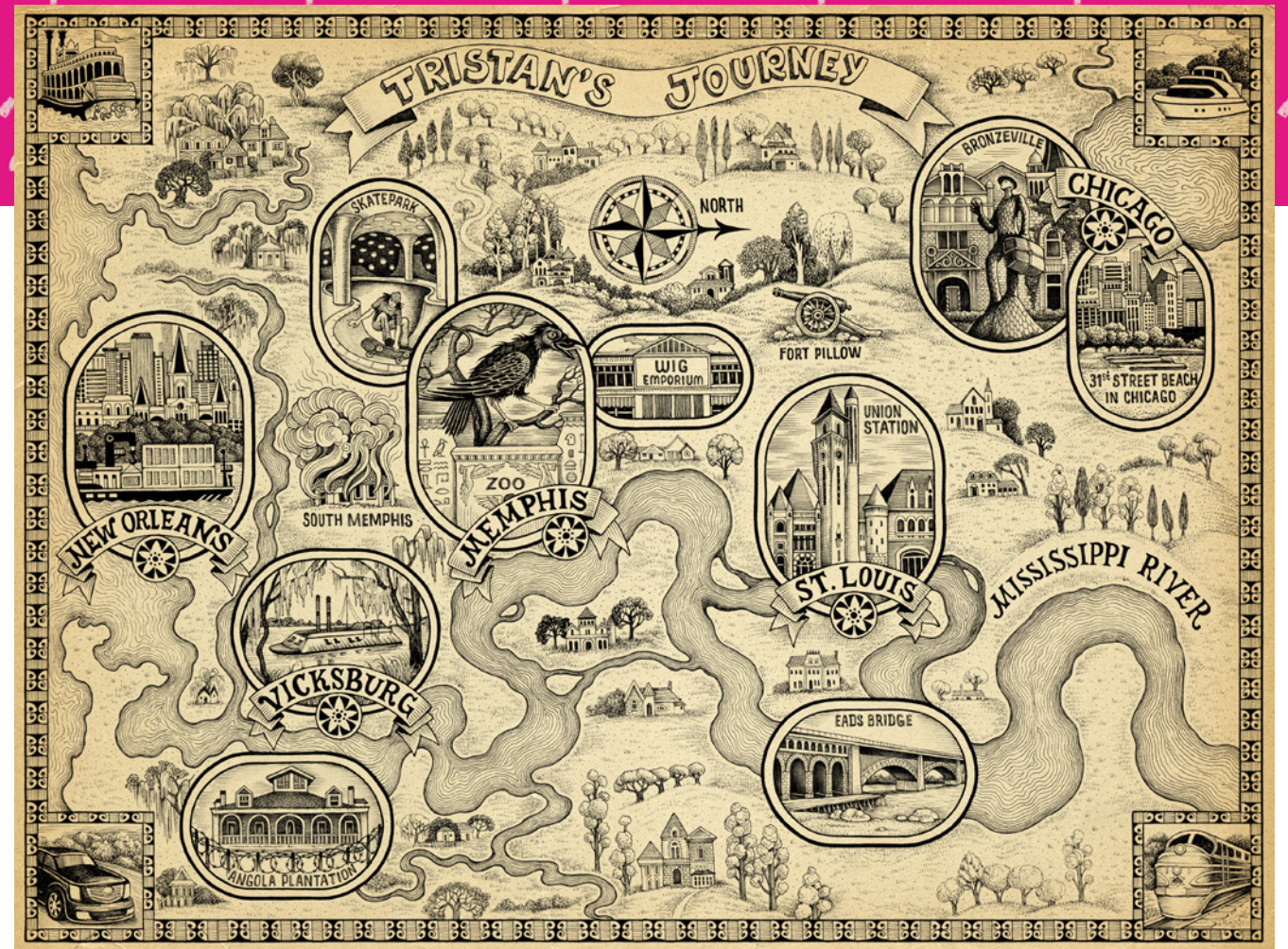
## SALES POINTS + REVIEWS

- ★ “Well-paced—just like the previous installment—this sequel focuses on themes such as the meaning of diaspora and the effects of trauma, making for a more nuanced and stronger story than the first. Packs a punch.” – *Kirkus* (starred review)
- “Mbalia’s universe continues to excite through sheer conceptual brilliance, nonstop action and adventure, and – let’s be honest – the comical aggression of sidekick god Gum Baby.” – *Booklist*
- “Part of the ‘Rick Riordan Presents’ series, this debut novel offers a richly realized world, a conversational, breezy style, and a satisfying conclusion that leaves room for sequels.” – *School Library Journal*
- “A brilliant action adventure rooted in African American lore.” – *New York Times* best-selling author Jason Reynolds

## SUMMARY

Seventh grader Tristan Strong feels anything but strong ever since he failed to save his best friend when they were in a bus accident together. All he has left of Eddie is the journal his friend wrote stories in. Tristan is dreading the month he's going to spend on his grandparents' farm, where he's being sent to heal from the tragedy. But on his first night there, a sticky creature shows up in his bedroom and steals Eddie's notebook. Tristan chases after it and in the fight to get it back, Tristan accidentally rips open

a chasm into the MidPass, a volatile place with a burning sea, haunted bone ships, and iron monsters that are hunting the inhabitants of this world. Tristan finds himself in the middle of a battle that has left folk heroes John Henry and Brer Rabbit exhausted. In order to get back home, Tristan and these new allies will need to entice the god Anansi, the Weaver, to come out of hiding and seal the hole in the sky. But bartering with the trickster Anansi always comes at a price.



## MORE IN THE SERIES

*Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky*  
(Book 1 - October 2019)

*Tristan Strong Destroys the World*  
(Book 2 - October 2020)







# Love Sugar Magic: A Mixture of Mischief

ANNA MERIANO

Eleven-year-old Leonora Logroño discovers her family’s bakery isn’t just serving up Mexican treats in her small Texas town, but also, problem-solving magic.

## BOOK INFORMATION

**Series:** Love Sugar Magic series

**Publisher:** Walden Media/  
HarperCollins

**Pub Date/Season:** Winter 2018,  
Winter 2019, Winter 2020

**Market:** Middle Grade  
Contemporary, Fantasy

**UK/ANZ Rights:**

Available via  
Walden Media/HarperCollins

**Foreign Sales:** German/cbj; Mixture  
of Mischief: Bulgarian/Lutiche

**Approximate Word Count:** 54,000

**Manuscript:** Available

**Comp Titles:**

*Just Add Magic* by Cindy Callaghan,  
*Bliss* by Kathryn Littlewood

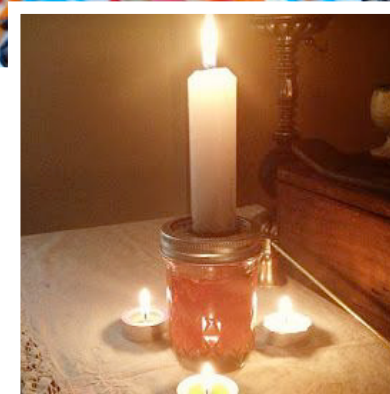
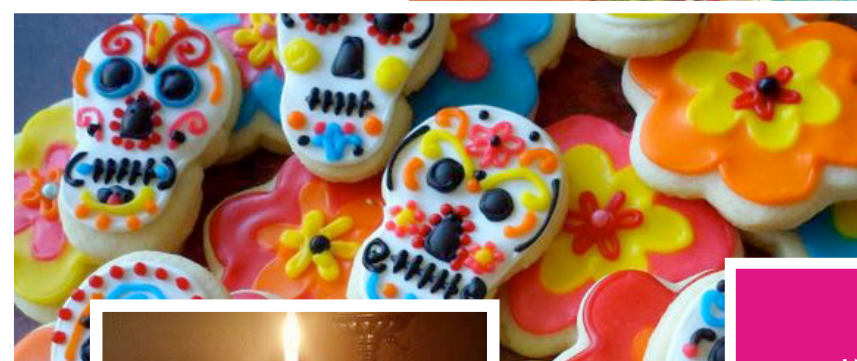
## SALES POINTS + REVIEWS

- ★ “Meriano builds a wonderful contemporary world in small-town Texas, full of diverse characters, where magic feels right at home and muggles will feel equally welcome. A series opener that’s proof that windows and mirrors can be magical ingredients.” – *Kirkus Reviews* (starred review)
- ★ “A delectable debut with wide appeal.” – *School Library Journal* (starred review)
- ★ “Full of spirit and humor, A Dash of Trouble truly is love, sugar and magic.” – *Shelf Awareness* (starred review)
- “Meriano’s first novel is steeped in Mexican culture, family lore, and delicious baked goods. Readers who don’t speak Spanish will share in Leo’s confusion (the magical recipes are all written in Spanish), and those who do will enjoy being in on the family’s secrets. A warmhearted read that will satisfy readers and leave them eager for a second helping.” – *Publisher’s Weekly*
- “Charming and delectably sweet.” – Zoraida Córdova, award-winning author of the *Brooklyn Brujas* series
- “Buen Provecho! Meriano smoothly incorporates pre-adolescent issues of friendship and family relationships, as well as including a poignant scene in which the spirit of Caroline’s mother discusses the grieving process.” – *HornBook*

## MORE IN THE SERIES

*Love Sugar Magic: A Dash of Trouble* (Book 1 - January 2018)

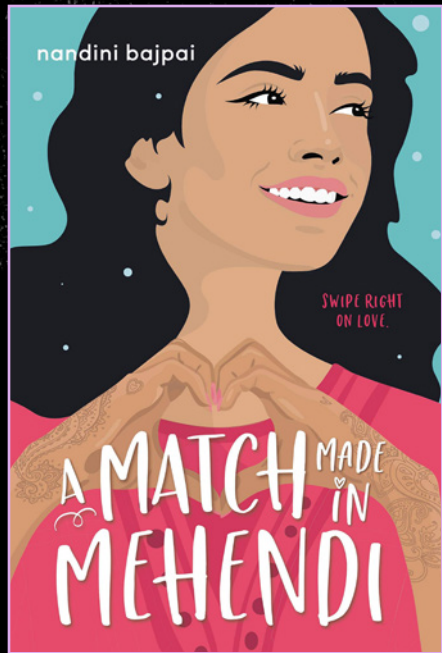
*Love Sugar Magic: A Sprinkle of Spirits* (Book 2 - October 2020)



INGREDIENTS FOR  
magic







#### BOOK INFORMATION

**Publisher:** Little Brown Books for Young Readers

**Pub Date/Season:** September 10, 2019

**Market:** Teen Contemporary

**UK/ANZ Rights:**

Available via Little, Brown

**Approximate Word Count:** 63,000

**Manuscript:** Available

**Comp Titles:**

*When Dimple Met Rishi* by Sandhya Menon, *My So Called Bollywood Life*

by Nisha Sharma



## A Match Made in Mehendi

NANDINI BAJPAI

A freshman girl creates chaos at school when she uses her family’s legendary matchmaking guide to set up the quiet new girl with the star of the soccer team.

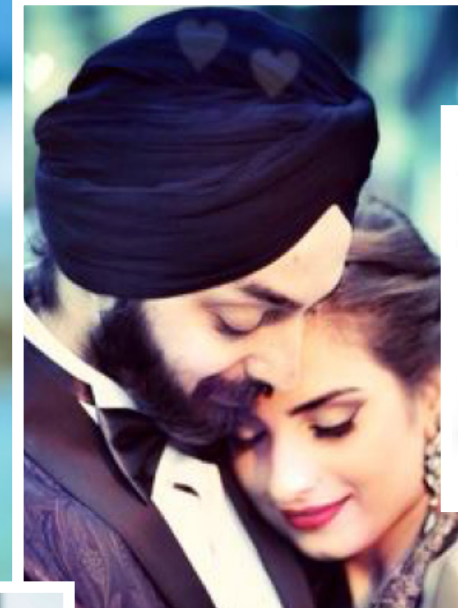
#### SUMMARY

Fifteen-year-old Simran “Simi” Sangha comes from a long line of Indian *vichole* – matchmakers – with a rich history for helping parents find good matches for their grown children. When Simi accidentally sets up her cousin and a soon-to-be lawyer, her family is thrilled that she has the “gift.”

But Simi is an *artist*, and she doesn't want to have anything to do with relationships, helicopter parents, and family drama. That is, until she realizes this might be just the thing to improve her and her best friend Noah's social status. Armed with her family's ancient guide to finding love, Simi starts a matchmaking service via an app.

But when she helps connect a wallflower of a girl with the star of the boys' soccer team, she turns the high school hierarchy topsy-turvy, soon making herself public enemy number one.

**For fans of *When Dimple Met Rishi* comes a lighthearted novel about tradition, high school social hierarchy, match-making, and swiping right (or left!).**



INGREDIENTS FOR  
matchmaking

#### SALES POINTS + REVIEWS

- “A sweet and quirky romance told by a protagonist who will steal readers' hearts.” – *Kirkus Reviews*
- “A breezy, high-spirited novel, full of helicopter parents and high school drama, Simi's story subtly updates familiar tropes while questioning teenage social norms.”– *Teen Vogue*
- “Nandini's delicious story is a match for anyone who ever felt like they needed to question high school norms and prove that they matter.” – Nisha Sharma, author of *My So-Called Bollywood Life*





#### BOOK INFORMATION

**Publisher:** Disney/Freeform

**Pub Date/Season:** March 1, 2022

**Market:** Teen Contemporary

**UK/ANZ Rights:**

Available via Cake

**Foreign Sales:** Hungarian/  
Konyvmolykepzo

**Approximate Word Count:**  
100,000

**Manuscript:** Available

**Comp Titles:**

*Ace of Spades* by Faridah

Àbíké-Íyímídé, *The Truth About*

*Alice* by Jennifer Mathieu,

*That's Not What I Heard* by

Stephanie Kate Stohm



## The Rumor Game

SONA CHARAIPOTRA  
& DHONIELLE CLAYTON

*Ace of Spades* meets *Gossip* where a nasty rumor starts drama among former friends and things spiral out of control.

#### SUMMARY

All it takes is one spark to start a blaze.

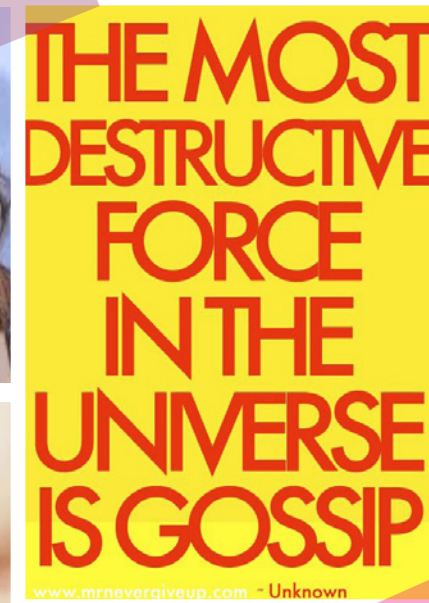
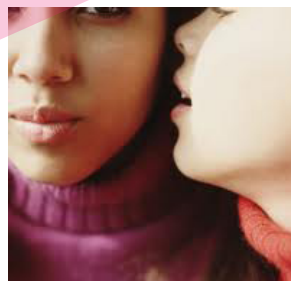
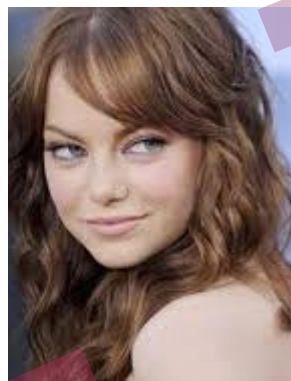
At Foxham Prep, a posh private school for the children of DC's elite, a single rumor has the power to ruin a life.

Nobody knows that better than Bryn. She used to have it all—the perfect boyfriend, a bright future in politics, and even popularity, thanks to her best friend, cheer captain Cora. Then one mistake sparked a scandal that burned it all to the ground.

But as the school year starts, the spotlight shifts: Now it's geeky Georgie, newly hot after a summer makeover, whose name is on everyone's lips. When a rumor ignites, pitting Georgie and Cora against each other, the gossip rockets Georgie up the school's social hierarchy. It gives her a shot at everything Bryn once had . . . but it also makes her a target.

As the rumors grow and morph, blazing like wildfire through the school's social media, all three girls' lives begin to unravel and burn. But one person close to the drama has the power to stop the gossip in its tracks. The question is—does she even want to?

From Sona Charaipotra and Dhonielle Clayton, authors of the *Tiny Pretty Things* duology (now a Netflix series), comes another edge-of-your-seat social thriller that deftly tackles the toughest issues teens face.



INGREDIENTS FOR  
gossip





**SONA CHARAIPOTRA  
& DHONIELLE CLAYTON**




*Pretty Little Liars* by Sara Shepard,  
*One of Us Is Lying* by Karen  
McManus, *Bunheads* by Sophie  
Flack



## SUMMARY

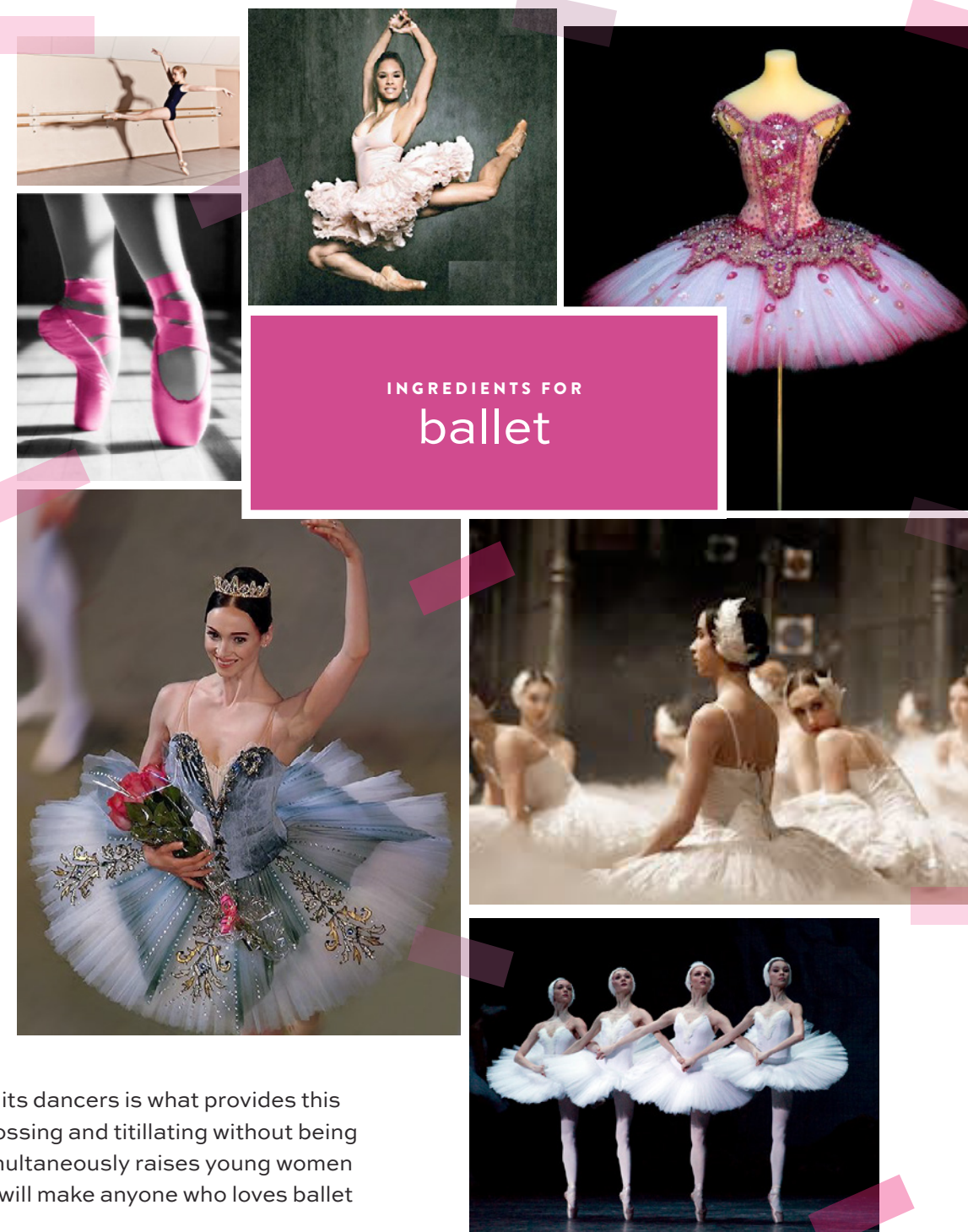
When every dancer is both friend and foe, the girls will sacrifice, manipulate, and backstab to be the best of the best.

## SALES POINTS + REVIEWS

- “Charaipotra and Clayton skillfully craft three distinctive, complex characters. This enticing glimpse into the ballet world is rich with detail and drama as the authors highlight its glamour and darkness.” – *Publishers Weekly*
  - “Diversity is organically spotlighted [in this] fun and fast read.” – *School Library Journal*
  - “A page-turner with a heart” – *Kirkus Reviews*
  - “The book’s astute focus on ballet’s ability to enrich, ennoble, and also consume the lives of its dancers is what provides this story with its delicious spark. Equal parts mystery and social commentary, the novel is engrossing and titillating without being hyperbolic, which is a testament to the authors’ talent and a reflection of an art form that simultaneously raises young women to the highest heights while reducing them to shells of themselves. An addicting thriller that will make anyone who loves ballet clamor for another installment.” – *Kirkus Reviews*
- 

**MORE IN THE SERIES** *Shiny Broken Pieces* (July 2016)

Now a Netflix Original Series!  
*Pretty Little Liars* set in a ballet  
boarding school where three  
girls are willing to do whatever it  
takes to be the best.





“I want to  
create the next  
generation of  
storytellers  
and voracious  
readers.”

**DHONIELLE CLAYTON**  
**PRESIDENT / OWNER**





