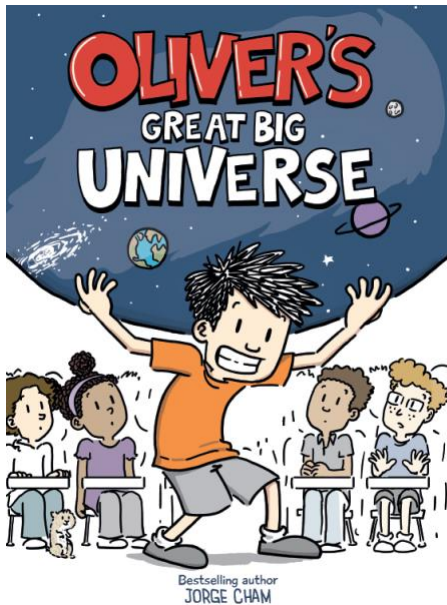


THE GERNERT COMPANY

Middle Grade / Young Adult Rights Guide

Bologna 2023



Jorge Cham: **OLIVER'S GREAT BIG UNIVERSE**

Diary of a Wimpy Kid meets *Cosmos* in an engaging, illustrated book about an eleven-year-old who wants to become an astrophysicist.

Amulet Books – September 25, 2023

Material: ARC

Middle Grade

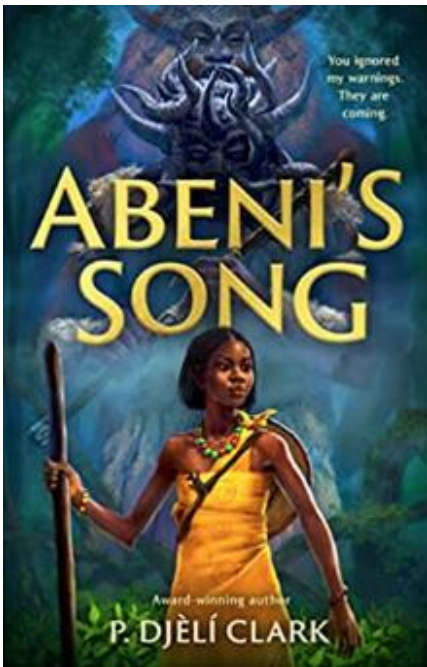
**Sold in a 3-book deal, for a six-figure advance, at auction, North American rights only •
Sold in 11 foreign territories**

Oliver has a lot going on starting his first year of middle school: new friends, new classes, new everything. But at least there's one thing that still makes sense: science ! Determined to be an astrophysicist one day, Oliver explains everything he learns - like how the sun burps, how ghost particles fly through you, the uncanny similarities between Mercury and cafeteria meatballs, and most important, how the Big Bang is basically just like a fart in the school hallway. (Also, there are time-bending black holes, exploding supernova stars, and aliens! Well, there could be aliens.)

Oliver finally feels like he's starting to figure things out . . . but can he stay out of the principal's office, or catch a break from his annoying sister? With laugh-out-loud humor and cartoon-style illustrations from bestselling writer and the creator of PHD Comics Jorge Cham, *Oliver's Great Big Universe* is a STEM-themed, diary-style series following an eleven-year-old who's taking on the whole universe—if he can survive middle school first.

Jorge Cham is the author (along with Daniel Whiteson) of *WE HAVE NO IDEA* and *FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE UNIVERSE*. He is the creator of the popular web comic phdcomics.com and is also a co-creator of the PBS Kids show "Elinor Explains Why", which is one of the highest rated shows on PBS's Kids. He obtained his Ph.D. from Stanford University in Robotics and taught at Cal Tech.

Sold to: S&S (UK), Otzwarte (Poland), Mirae N (Korea), Metaichmio (Greece), United Sky (China), MIF (Russia), Oceano (World Spanish), B. Wahlstroms (Sweden), Znanje (Croatia), Bookzone (Romania), DeAgostini (Italy)



P. Djèlí Clark, ABENI'S SONG

The enchanting beginning of an epic West African and African Diaspora-inspired fantasy adventure for middle-grade readers about a reluctant apprentice to magic and the stolen villagers she sets out to save.

Starscape – July 25, 2023

Material: 2nd Pass Pages

Middle Grade

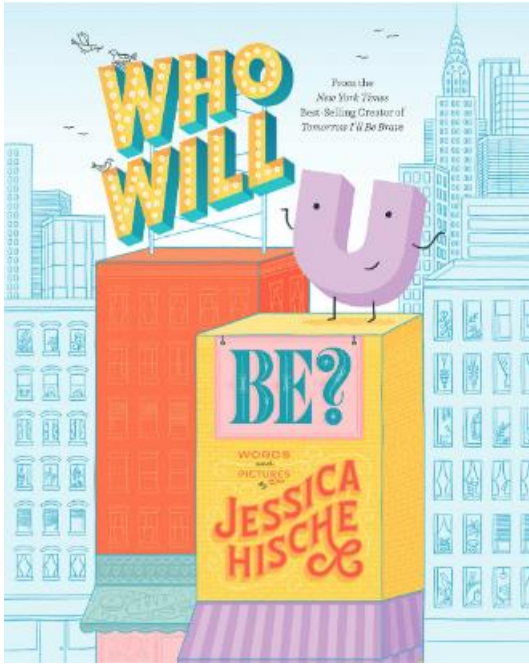
Sold to Starscape in a 3-book deal, in a major deal • P. Djèlí Clark is the winner of the Nebula, Alex, Locus, and British Fantasy Awards

- "A lush and magical fantasy that will leave readers craving more of Abeni's adventure."—**Kwame Mbalia, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of the *Tristan Strong* series**
- "*Abeni's Song* is simply unlike anything else in the field. An astonishing adventure that managed to thrill, scare, and delight, all while telling a story that is beautifully complicated and moving. Middle grade readers, meet your new favorite author." — **Mark Oshiro, award winning author of *The Insiders***

On the day of the spirits festival, the old woman who lives in the forest appears in Abeni's village with a terrible message: *You ignored my warnings. It's too late to run. They are coming.* The old woman hasn't come to save them, only to collect one child as payment for her years of service and protection. When warriors with burning blades storm the village and a man with a cursed flute plays an impossibly alluring song, everyone Abeni has ever known and loved is captured and marched toward far-off ghost ships set for even more distant lands.

But not Abeni. Abeni escapes the warriors in the clutches of the old woman, magically whisked into the forest away from all she's ever known. And there she begins her unwanted magical apprenticeship, her journey to escape the witch, and her impossible mission to bring her people home. *Abeni's Song* is the beginning of a timeless, enchanting fantasy adventure about a reluctant apprentice, a team of spirit kids, and the village they set out to save from the evil Witch Priest who stole away Abeni's people.

P. Djèlí Clark is the author of the novel *A Master of Djinn* and the novellas *Ring Shout*, *The Black God's Drums*, and *The Haunting of Tram Car 015*. He has won the Nebula, Locus, and Alex Awards and been nominated for the Hugo, World Fantasy, and Sturgeon Awards.



Jessica Hische, WHO WILL U BE?

A delightful picture book by *New York Times* bestselling author-illustrator Jessica Hische that follows an inquisitive little letter "u" as she goes on a class field trip.

Penguin Workshop – April 11, 2023
Material: Final pages
Picture Book

A new picture book from the *New York Times* bestselling author !

It's the annual "Find Yourself Field Trip" at Ms. Bracket's School of Little Letters, and "u" couldn't be more excited. She can't wait to see all the ways letters are used in the world -- they're on everything from books to boats, from sidewalks to spaceships! And it's starting to make her wonder one important question: Who will she be when she grows up?

With clever storytelling and vibrant, powerful illustrations, bestselling author Jessica Hische has created an enchanting picture book that is not only an accessible introduction to typography for kids, but also a wonderful reminder to embrace one's individuality and curiosity as they grow older.

Option publishers: Hachette Jeunesse (France), Loewe (Germany)

Yoon Ha Lee, GRAVITY FLUX (Book 1 in the Lancers series)

A new YA SciFi trilogy by the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Dragon Pearl*.

Delacorte – Spring 2024

Material: Manuscript

Young Adult

**Sold to Delacorte in a 3-book deal, in a major deal,
NA rights only • Sold in the UK to Rebellion in a 3-book deal •
Yoon Ha Lee's middle grade novel *Dragon Pearl* was a NYT bestseller and sold more
than 150,000 copies in the US**

When Hwa Young's home is destroyed and her family is on the run from enemy forces, she faces an impossible choice. Stay with her family and likely perish or be adopted by a new family connected to the Empire, which is enforcing conformity across the galaxy. She chooses her own survival.

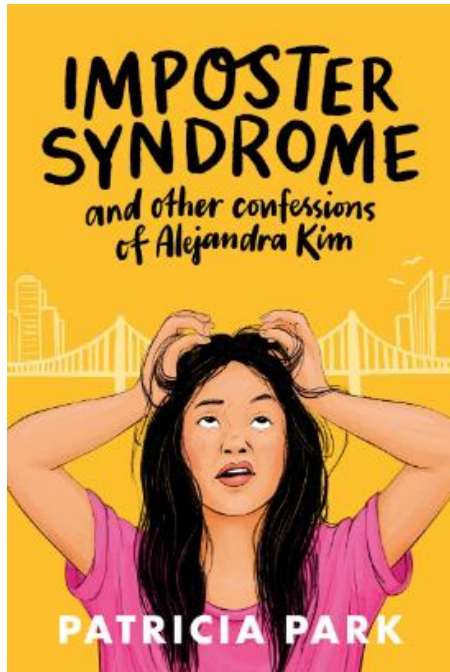
Several years later, Hwa is a talented lancer pilot, manning a mecha robot on missions to planets under the Empire's control, when she discovers the next mission is to destroy her home planet where her mother is still alive.

GRAVITY FLUX is a novel about family, community, conformity, survival and about doing what's right.

Yoon Ha Lee (yoonhalee.com) is the author of several critically acclaimed short stories and the *Machineries of Empire* trilogy for adults: *NINEFOX GAMBIT*, *RAVEN STRATEGEM*, and *REVENANT GUN*. Yoon draws inspiration from a variety of sources including Korean history and mythology, fairy tales, higher mathematics, classic moral dilemmas, and genre fiction. Yoon's Twitter handle is @deuceofgears.

Sold to: Rebellion (UK & BC)

Foreign publishers of the *Dragon Pearl* series: Giunti Editore (Italy), Duomo Ediciones (Spain), Sakyejul (Korea), Galeria Ksiazki (Poland), Editura ART (Romania), Dogan Egmont (Turkey), Noura (Indonesia)



Patricia Park, IMPOSTER SYNDROME AND OTHER CONFESSIONS OF ALEJANDRA KIM

A smart and funny YA debut from an acclaimed Korean-American author about growing pains, grief, best friendship, and identity politics.

Crown Books for Young Readers – Feb 21, 2023

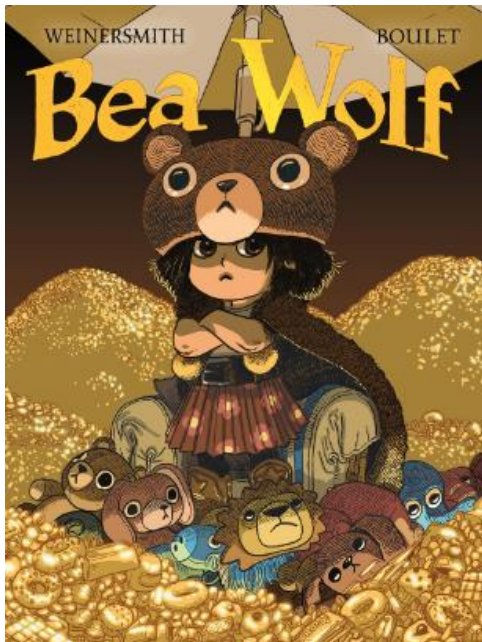
Material: Final pages

Young Adult

- “A dazzling YA debut that is deep, real and scathingly funny.” —**Gayle Forman, *New York Times* best-selling author of *IF I STAY*.**
- “Brimming with insights while being un-put-downable and just plain fun. Simply brilliant!”-**David Yoon, *New York Times* best-selling author of *Frankly in Love***
- “[An] entertaining, well-paced story.... Ale is a thoroughly appealing protagonist.” — ***Kirkus Reviews, starred review***
- “Park’s work paints an educational but entertaining portrait of what it is like to be a person of color in today’s world.... [A] fantastic read.” — ***School Library Journal, starred review***

Alejandra Kim doesn’t feel like she belongs anywhere. At her wealthy Manhattan high school, her super Spanish name and super Korean face do not compute to her mostly white "woke" classmates and teachers. In her Jackson Heights neighborhood, she’s not Latinx enough. Even at home, Ale feels unwelcome. And things at home have only gotten worse since Papi's body was discovered on the subway tracks. Ale wants nothing more than to escape the city for the wide-open spaces of the prestigious Wyder University. But when a microaggression at school thrusts Ale into the spotlight—and into a discussion she didn’t ask for—Ale must discover what it means to carve out a space for yourself to belong. Patricia Park’s coming-of-age novel about a multicultural teen caught between worlds, and the future she is building for herself, is an incisive, laugh-out-loud, provocative read.

Patricia Park is the author of the adult novel *RE JANE*. She received her BA in English Literature from Swarthmore College and her MFA in Fiction from Boston University.



Zach Weinersmith and Boulet, **BEA WOLF**

A retelling of the classic story – involving a group of kids defending their tree house from fun-hating adults - from a bestselling author and acclaimed illustrator.

First Second – March 21, 2023

Material: Final pages

Middle Grade

Five starred pre-publication reviews ! • Blurbs from Lemony Snicket, Neil Gaiman and Mary Roach

- "A joyously lyric, rapid-fire epic that honors the original's intricate linguistic constructions."-- ***Publishers Weekly* (starred review)**
- "It's a madcap adventure that's a sheer delight to read out loud."--***Booklist* (starred review)**
- "[Boulet's] work with texture, moonlight, and distorted faces stuns at every turn." -- ***School Library Journal* (starred review)**
- "Weinersmith's richly evocative turns of phrase run the gamut from hilarious to heart-rending." -- ***Kirkus* (starred review)**
- " [A] magnificent graphic novel."-- ***Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books* (starred review)**

A modern middle-grade graphic novel retelling of Beowulf, featuring a gang of troublemaking kids who must defend their tree house from a fun-hating adult who can instantly turn children into grown-ups.

Zach Weinersmith is the creator of the popular webcomic SMBC, the creator of the nerd comedy show BAHFest, and the co-author of the *New York Times* bestselling popular science book, *Soonish*. He is the artist of First Second's *Open Borders*.

Boulet published a dozen books for young readers before creating bouletcorp.com, his worldwide-renowned website which got adapted in a series of 11 best-selling comic books.

Sold to: Albin Michel (France), Eksmo Children (Russia)

More Opportunities . . .



Nathan Pyle, STRANGE PLANET: The Sneaking, Hiding, Vibrating Creature

The first picture book in the *New York Times* bestselling *Strange Planet* series.

HarperCollins Children's – June 1, 2021
Picture Book

**#1 *New York Times* bestseller ! • Sold as part of a 4-book deal to HarperCollins Children's for a six-figure advance, NA rights only •
UK deal with Wildfire / Headline • More than 750,000 copies sold of the *Strange Planet* series worldwide**

Based on his popular Instagram comics, Nathan W. Pyle presents a delightful, heartfelt, and clever picture book that young and old beings alike will enjoy reading together. When the nearest star rises, Lifegiver has an exciting quest planned for Offspring! Follow along as they observe a strange creature that sneaks, hides, and vibrates around their house. Hilarity ensues as the blue beings try to mimic this talented creature.

As always, Nathan W. Pyle draws humor from his unique perspective on human activity and delivers a colorful experience that is an ode to cats and humans alike. This book is a joy to read and share, no matter how many revolutions you've made around the nearest star.

Nathan W. Pyle is the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *Strange Planet*, *Stranger Planet*, *NYC Basic Tips and Etiquette*, and *99 Stories I Could Tell*. He is a former staff writer and illustrator for BuzzFeed.

Sold to: Wildfire/Headline (UK)

THE GERNERT COMPANY INTERNATIONAL CO-AGENTS

UK & British Commonwealth

Mr. Caspian Dennis and Ms. Anna Carmichael

caspian@abnerstein.co.uk

anna@abnerstein.co.uk

German

Ms. Antonia Fritz, Paul & Peter Fritz AG

afritz@fritzagency.com

French

Ms. Aurelie Lefebvre, Agence Eliane Benisti

aurelie@elianebenisti.com

Italian

Ms. Vanessa Maus, Berla & Griffini Rights Agency

maus@bgagency.it

Dutch, Flemish

Ms. Roos Vroonhof, Marianne Schönbach Agency

r.vroonhof@schonbach.nl

Spanish

Ms. Teresa Vilarrubla, The Foreign Office

teresa@theforeignoffice.net

Swedish, Finnish, Danish, Norwegian, Icelandic

Ms. Trine Licht, Licht & Burr Literary Agency

tl@licht-burr.dk

Portuguese

Ms. Tassy Barham, Tassy Barham Associates

tassy@tassybarham.com

Bulgarian, Romanian, Serbian, Macedonia, Bosnian and Albanian

Ms. Mira Droumeva, Andrew Nurnberg Associates Sofia

mira@anas-bg.com

Estonian, Latvian, Lithuanian and Ukrainian

Ms. Tatjana Zoldnere, Andrew Nurnberg Associates Baltic

zoldnere@anab.apollo.lv

Czech, Slovak and Slovene

Ms. Marta Soukopova, Andrew Nurnberg Associates Prague

soukopova@nurnberg.cz

Hungarian and Croatian

Ms. Susanna Vojacsek, Andrew Nurnberg Associates Budapest
rights@nurnberg.hu

Greek

Ms Nike Davarinou, Read n Right Agency
nike@readnright.gr

Russian

Ms. Ludmilla Sushkova, Andrew Nurnberg Associates Moscow
sushkova@awax.ru

Hebrew

Ms. Efrat Lev, The Deborah Harris Agency
efrat@thedeborahharrisagency.com

Polish

Mr. Lukasz Wrobel, Graal Ltd
Lukasz@graal.com.pl

Turkish

Ms. Bengum Ayfer, Akcali Copyright Agency
bengum@akcalicopyright.com

Japanese

Ms. Solan Natsume, Tuttle-Mori Agency, Inc.
solan@tuttlemori.com

Complex and Simplified Chinese

Ms. Chang-Chih Tsai, Bardon-Chinese Media Agency
changchih@bardonchinese.com

Korean

Ms. Sue Yang, Eric Yang Agency
sueyang@eyaagency.com

Thai and Vietnamese

Ms. Jackie Yang, Eric Yang Agency
eya-asia@eyaagency.com

Indonesian

Mr. Santo Manurung, Maxima Creative
santo.maxima@gmail.com