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# Well Soon Julie Halpern

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Southern Cross the Dog  
Hello, Neighbor!  
The F- It List  
Maternity Leave  
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Wolf in the Snow  
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Chitty Chitty Bang Bang Flies Again  
Cornbread and Poppy  
Annie's Baby  
Honey and Me  
How to Get Your Child to Love Reading  
Don't Stop Now

*Well Soon* [ftp.bonide.com](http://ftp.bonide.com)  
*Julie Halpern* *by guest*

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## **GIANNA MADELINE**

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### Southern Cross the Dog Penguin

A poetic, gifty offering that combines first love, friendship, and persistent courage in this lyrical immigration story told in verse. Carrying just a suitcase and an old laundry bag filled with clothes, Kasienska and her mother are

immigrating to England from Poland. Kasienska isn't the happiest girl in the world. At home, her mother is suffering from a broken heart as she searches for Kasienska's father. And at school, Kasienska is having trouble being the new girl and making friends. The only time she feels comforted is when she's swimming at the pool. But she can't quite shake the feeling that she's sinking. Until

a new boy swims into her life, and she learns that there might be more than one way to stay afloat. *The Weight of Water* is a coming-of-age story that deftly handles issues of immigration, alienation, and first love. Moving and poetically rendered, this novel-in-verse is the story of a young girl whose determination to find out who she is prevails.

**Hello, Neighbor!**

Harvard University Press

"Propulsive . . . Good books sometimes cut to the bone, and this one feels like a scythe." —The New York Times Book Review "This wise, brilliant novel is so special, so overflowing with honesty and love—about motherhood,

sisterhood, what it's like to be a woman—that every paragraph feels like an epiphany. Hanna Halperin knows the fierce love that can exist especially among broken things. *Something Wild* moved me deeply." —Glennon Doyle, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *Untamed* A searing novel about the love and contradictions of sisterhood, the intoxicating desires of adolescence, and the traumas that trap mothers and daughters in cycles of violence One weekend, sisters Tanya and Nessa Bloom pause their respective adult lives and travel to the Boston suburbs to help their mother pack up and move out of their childhood home. For

the first time since they were teenagers sharing a bunk bed over a decade ago, they find themselves in the place where long-kept secrets were born, where jealousy, comfort, anger, forgiveness, and repulsion coexist with the fiercest love and loyalty. What they don't expect is for their visit to expose a new, horrifying truth: their mother, Lorraine, is in a violent relationship. As Tanya urges Lorraine to get a restraining order, Nessa struggles to reconcile her fondness for their stepfather with his capacity for brutality. Their differing responses to the abuse bring up the sisters' shared secret—a traumatic, unspoken experience from their adolescence

has shaped their lives, their sense of selves, and their relationship with each other and the men in their life. In the midst of this family crisis, they have no choice but to reckon with the past and face each other in the present, in the hope that there's a way out of the violence so deeply ingrained in the Bloom family. Told in alternating perspectives that deftly interweave past and present, *Something Wild* is a magnetic, unflinching portrait of the bond between sisters, as well as a psychologically acute exploration of the legacy of divorce, the ways trauma reverberates over generations, and how it might be possible to overcome the past.

### The F- It List

Candlewick Press  
Buckle your seatbelt for the first-ever follow up to Ian Fleming's only children's story. When the Tooting family finds an old engine and fits it to their camper van, they have no idea what kind of adventure lies ahead. The engine used to belong to an extraordinary car . . . and it wants its bodywork back! But as the Tootings hurtle across the world rebuilding the original Chitty, a sinister baddie is on their trail — one who will stop at nothing to get the magnificent car for himself. Fueled by wry humor, this much-anticipated sequel to the children's classic by Ian Fleming, creator of James Bond — featuring a

contemporary family and a camper van with a mind of its own — is driven by best-selling, award-winning author Frank Cottrell Boyce and revved up by Joe Berger's black-and-white illustrations. Maternity Leave Little, Brown Books for Young Readers  
With new life comes infinite possibility in this companion to *Wish and Hope*, by Caldecott Award-winner Matthew Cordell. In this stunning picture book, a gorilla family celebrates their young child by dreaming of everything their baby will encounter, who he will be, and what dreams he will eventually have. The simple but touching story perfectly expresses the emotions that parents often find difficult to

put into words.

**Black Heart** Harper  
Collins

Thirty six year old  
Annie Schwartz-Jensen  
thinks she's ready for a  
baby but her maternity  
leave proves  
otherwise. As Annie  
navigates life with her  
new baby, she realizes  
that not all Mommies  
are created equal. But  
she is determined to  
find her way, love her  
baby, her husband,  
herself.

**The Weight of Water**  
Macmillan

Lonely after his best  
friend moves away,  
Toby finds new  
playmates in the  
talking snowflakes that  
begin to fall.

**You Have Seven  
Messages** Algonquin  
Books

Alex and Becca have  
always been best  
friends. But when  
Becca does something

nearly unforgivable at  
Alex's dad's funeral,  
Alex cuts ties with her  
and focuses on her  
grieving family. Time  
passes, and Alex finally  
decides to forgive  
Becca. Then she's hit  
with another shocker:  
Becca has cancer. It  
also turns out Becca  
has a bucket list, one  
she doesn't know she'll  
be able to finish now.  
That's where Alex  
comes in, along with a  
mysterious and  
guarded boy who just  
may help Alex check a  
few items off her own  
bucket list. Julie  
Halpern writes about  
illness, loss, love, and  
friendship with candor  
and compassion. Here  
is an unforgettable  
book about living fully,  
living authentically,  
and just . . . living.

**The Earth, My Butt,  
and Other Big,  
Round Things**

Macmillan  
For fans of Julie Halpern and Morgan Matson comes a summer road trip story about adventure, sisters, and finding out who you truly want to be. Anna's always idolized her older sister, Storm. So when Storm dies in a tragic car accident on the night of her high school graduation, Anna is completely lost and her family is torn apart. That is, until she finds Storm's summer bucket list and decides to honor her sister by having the best summer ever--which includes taking an epic road trip to the coast from her sleepy Iowa town. Setting out to do everything on Storm's list along with her sisters best friend Cameron--the boy next door--who knew that

Storm's dream summer would eventually lead to Anna's own self-discovery?

*Babies* Running Press Kids

Grandparents express their hopes for their young ones in this companion to *Wish and Dream*, by Caldecott Award-winner Matthew Cordell. As a family grows, so does its capacity for love, for dreams, and for hope. Two lions celebrate their grandchild and express all the ways this new life has expanded their world and the hope they hold for his future. This sweet story expresses the joy grandparents feel when their children have children and shares how deeply those grandchildren are loved.

Long May She Reign  
Candlewick Press

Feeling like she does not fit in with the other members of her family, who are all thin, brilliant, and good-looking, fifteen-year-old Virginia Shreves tries to deal with her self-image, her first physical relationship, and her disillusionment with some of the people closest to her. 10,000 first printing. *Hope* Henry Holt and Company (BYR) Life for Davy was glorious as long as he had his mother and father to himself. But then he got a brother, Petey. When Davy sang, Petey cried. When Davy created a masterpiece, Petey spat up on it. And then he got another brother, Mike! And another, Stu! And another, Gil! Until he had TWELVE LITTLE BROTHERS! And that was only the

beginning!  
*How To Be Gay*  
 Bloomsbury Publishing USA  
 The second in New York Times bestselling author duo Amie Kaufman and Meagan Spooner's sweeping science fiction *Starbound Trilogy* is an unforgettable story of love and forgiveness in a world torn apart by war, a "sci-fi Romeo and Juliet" (Booklist). Jubilee Chase and Flynn Cormac should never have met. Lee is captain of the forces sent to Avon to crush the terraformed planet's rebellious colonists, and she has her own reasons for hating the insurgents. Whereas Flynn is leading the rebellion against the powerful corporate conglomerate that make their fortune by



terraforming uninhabitable planets across the universe and recruiting colonists to make the planets livable, and rule with an iron fist and unrealized promises. Desperate for any advantage against the military occupying his home, Flynn does the only thing that makes sense when he and Lee cross paths: he returns to base with her as prisoner. But as his fellow rebels prepare to execute this tough-talking girl with nerves of steel, Flynn makes another choice that will change him forever. He and Lee escape base together, caught between two sides in a senseless war.

**Toby and the Snowflakes** Little, Brown Books for Young Readers  
Julie Halpern's

Maternity Leave tells the profane, profound and just plain funny story of a professional woman who thinks she's ready for a baby but her maternity leave proves otherwise. Thirty six year old Annie Schwartz-Jensen is a middle school teacher on maternity leave-a time she imagined as uninterrupted, blissful bonding with her baby. Instead she is dealing with her body leaking from every possible orifice, a baby who won't sleep, a husband who still wants to have sex with her (is he nuts??), single friends who are clueless, and a mother who picked now to take a vacation. The only people who REALLY understand Annie are the wonderful people she spends sleepless

nights with on QVC: Keep those velveteen table runners and non-jiggle stretch pants coming! As Annie navigates life with her new baby, she realizes that not all Mommies are created equal. But she is determined to find her way, love her baby, her husband, herself---even if she has to wear nipple protectors for the rest of her child-bearing life.

*Bad Paper* Simon and Schuster

A charming first look at the soft and sweet world of babies.

Dream Farrar, Straus and Giroux

The testimonies of six survivors of the Holocaust are presented in comics form, aimed at teenage readers. Some of them were children then, and are still alive to tell

what happened to them and their families. How they survived. What they lost--and how you keep on living, despite it all. Jessica Bab Bonde has, based on survivor's stories, written an important book. Peter Bergting's art makes the book accessible, despite its difficult subject. Using first-person point of view allows the stories to get under your skin as survivors describe their persecutions in the Ghetto, the de-humanization and the starvation in the concentration camps, and the industrial-scale mass murder taking place in the extermination camps. When right-wing extremism and antisemitism are being evoked once again, it's the alarm-bell needed

to remind us never to forget the horrors of the Holocaust.

*Meant to Be Dark*  
Horse Comics

Anna Bloom has just come home from a three-week stay in a mental hospital. She feels...okay. It's time to get back to some sort of normal life, whatever that means. She has to go back to school, where teachers and friends are dying to know what happened to her, but are too afraid to ask. And Anna is dying to know what's going on back at the hospital with her crush, Justin, but is too afraid to ask. Meanwhile, Anna's parents aren't getting along, and she wonders if she's the cause of her family's troubles.

**Americanon** Feiwel & Friends

“An elegant, meticulously researched, and eminently readable history of the books that define us as Americans. For history buffs and book-lovers alike, McHugh offers us a precious gift.”—Jake Halpern, Pulitzer Prize winner and New York Times bestselling author

“With her usual eye for detail and knack for smart storytelling, Jess McHugh takes a savvy and sensitive look at the 'secret origins' of the books that made and defined us. . . . You won't want to miss a one moment of it.”—Brian Jay Jones, author of *Becoming Dr. Seuss* and the New York Times bestselling *Jim Henson: The True, Fascinating, and Remarkable History of Thirteen Books That*

defined a nation  
 Surprising and  
 delightfully engrossing,  
 Americanon explores  
 the true history of  
 thirteen of the nation's  
 most popular books.  
 Overlooked for  
 centuries, our simple  
 dictionaries, spellers,  
 almanacs, and how-to  
 manuals are the  
 unexamined  
 touchstones for  
 American cultures and  
 customs. These books  
 sold tens of millions of  
 copies and set out  
 specific archetypes for  
 the ideal American,  
 from the self-made  
 entrepreneur to the  
 humble farmer.  
 Benjamin Franklin's  
 Autobiography, How to  
 Win Friends and  
 Influence People,  
 Webster's Dictionary,  
 Emily Post's Etiquette:  
 Americanon looks at  
 how these ubiquitous  
 books have updated

and reemphasized  
 potent American  
 ideals—about  
 meritocracy,  
 patriotism, or  
 individualism—at  
 crucial moments in  
 history. Old favorites  
 like the Old Farmer's  
 Almanac and Betty  
 Crocker's Picture Cook  
 Book are seen in this  
 new way—not just as  
 popular books but as  
 foundational texts that  
 shaped our  
 understanding of the  
 American story. Taken  
 together, these books  
 help us understand  
 how their authors,  
 most of them part of a  
 powerful minority,  
 attempted to construct  
 meaning for the  
 majority. Their beliefs  
 and quirks—as well as  
 personal interests,  
 prejudices, and often  
 strange  
 personalities—informe  
 d the values and habits

of millions of Americans, woven into our cultural DNA over generations of reading and dog-earing. Yet their influence remains uninvestigated--until now. What better way to understand a people than to look at the books they consumed most, the ones they returned to repeatedly, with questions about everything from spelling to social mobility to sex. This fresh and engaging book is American history as you've never encountered it before. Another Brother Feiwel & Friends  
Cornbread LOVES planning. Poppy does not. Cornbread ADORES preparing. Poppy does not. Cornbread IS ready for winter. Poppy...is not. But Cornbread and Poppy are the best of

friends, so when Poppy is left without any food for the long winter, Cornbrea **Get Well Soon** Feiwel & Friends  
Anna Bloom is depressed -- so depressed that her parents have committed her to a mental hospital with a bunch of other messed-up teens. Here she meets a roommate with a secret (and a plastic baby), a doctor who focuses way too much on her weight, and a cute, shy boy who just might like her. But wait! Being trapped in a loony bin isn't supposed to be about making friends, losing weight, and having a crush, is it? *Get Well Soon*, Julie Halpern's fiction debut, finds humor in the unlikeliest of places, and presents a

character whose voice -- and heart -- will resonate with all of us who have ever felt just a little bit crazy.

**This One Summer**

Simon and Schuster  
Riverdale meets  
Stranger Things in this debut queer YA graphic novel, developed from a hit webcomic. Set in the haunted town of Blackwater, Maine, two boys fall for each other as they dig for clues to a paranormal mystery. "For fans of Heartstopper and Teen Wolf." —School Library Journal  
Tony Price is a popular high school track star and occasional delinquent aching for his dad's attention and approval. Eli Hirsch is a quiet boy with a chronic

autoimmune disorder that has ravaged his health and social life. What happens when these two become unlikely friends (and a whole lot more . . .) in the spooky town of Blackwater, Maine? Werewolf curses, unsavory interactions with the quarterback of the football team, a ghostly fisherman haunting the harbor, and tons of high school drama. Co-illustrated by Jeannette Arroyo and Ren Graham, who alternate drawing chapters in their own unique and dynamic styles, Blackwater combines the spookiness of Anya's Ghost with the irreverent humor of Nimona.